

# MARCH 2015

## Weather Digest

**Weather Summary**

**Significant Events**

**Special Features**

**Temperature &  
Precipitation**

**Severe Weather**

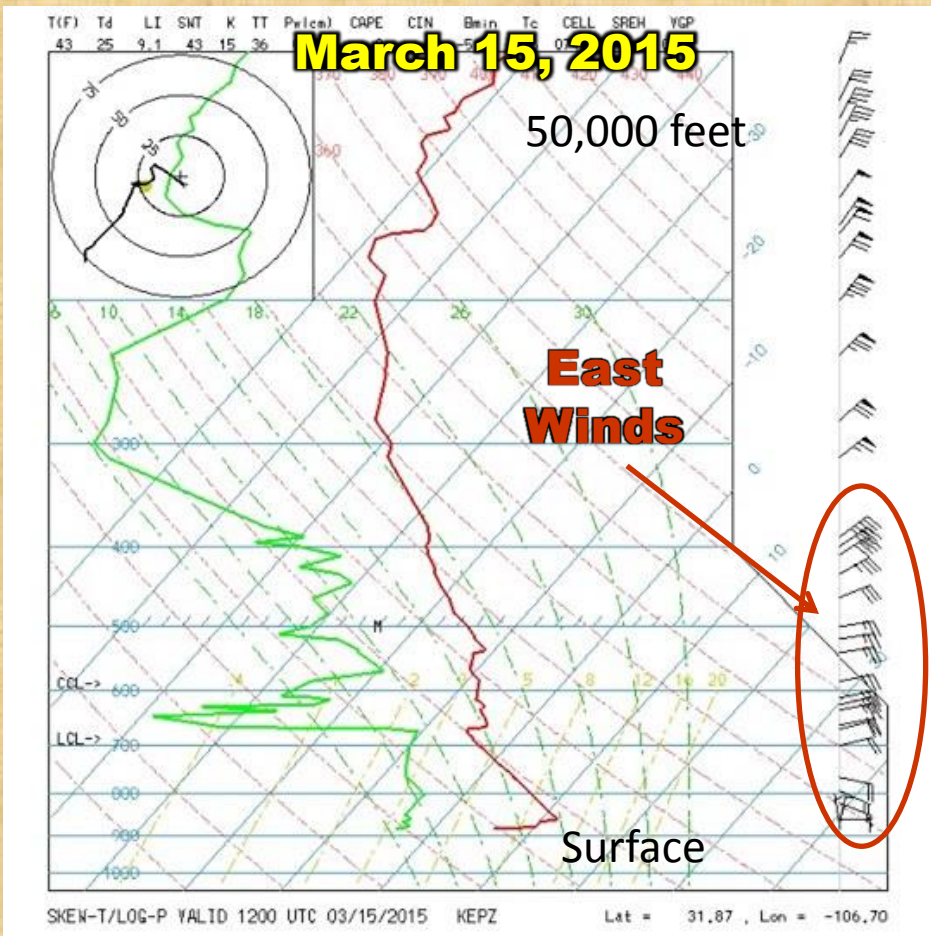
# March 2015 Weather Summary

March around the Borderland behaved anything but like a typical March. March 2015 was wetter than normal for the majority of the area, and no significant wind/blowing dust storms occurred. In fact many of the afternoons, which are typically breezy, reported very little wind at all. The rainfall got off to a good start, as on the 3<sup>rd</sup> widespread rain fell across the entire area. The Sacramento Mountains were particularly hard hit, with a large area of 1 inch plus rain over the western half of the mountains.

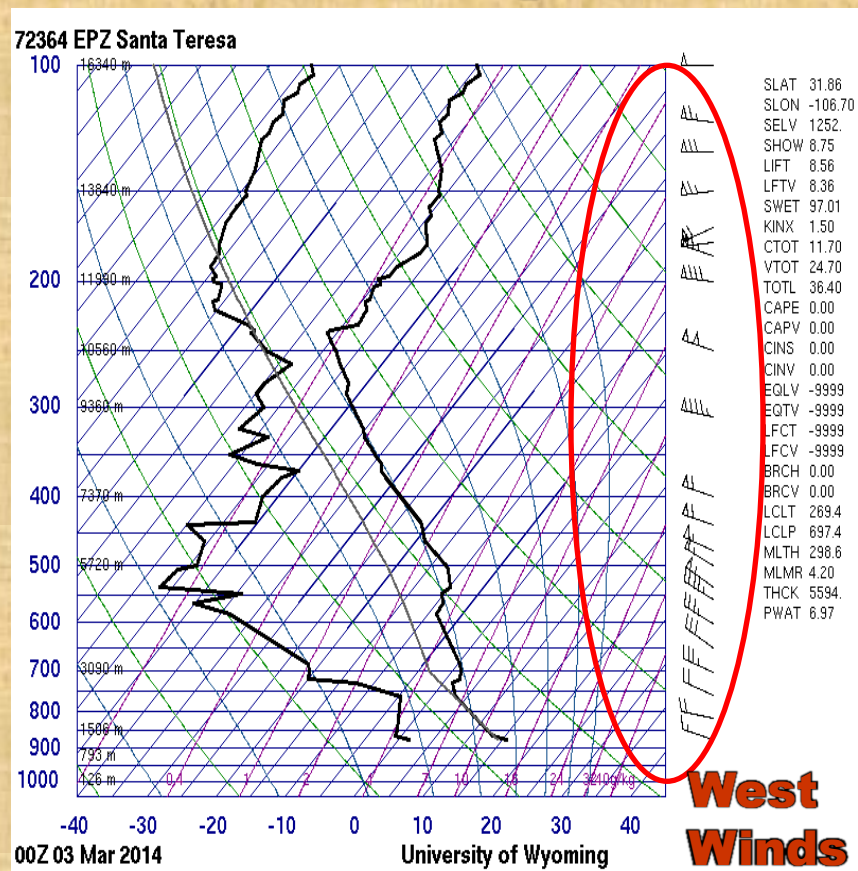
In mid March an upper low near the Baja Peninsula began pushing considerable amounts of sub tropical moisture northward over the area. Again, as March as a whole was very atypical, the streak of days from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> also proved to be unusual. Rarely does our area see a stretch of 5 consecutive days of cool, cloudy, wet days. The upper low finally passed south of El Paso on the 21<sup>st</sup>, ending the stretch of wet weather. Hudspeth seen the most rainfall of this episode, with many areas reporting an inch or more of rainfall.

A large ridge of high pressure then built in over the area after this wet stretch, allowing the month to finish out on a warm note. The last five days of March saw well above normal temperatures, with several sites recording record daily high temperatures during this stretch.

# El Paso sounding on Mar. 15 showing east winds to great depth—much more like the Monsoon season



## Typical March sounding

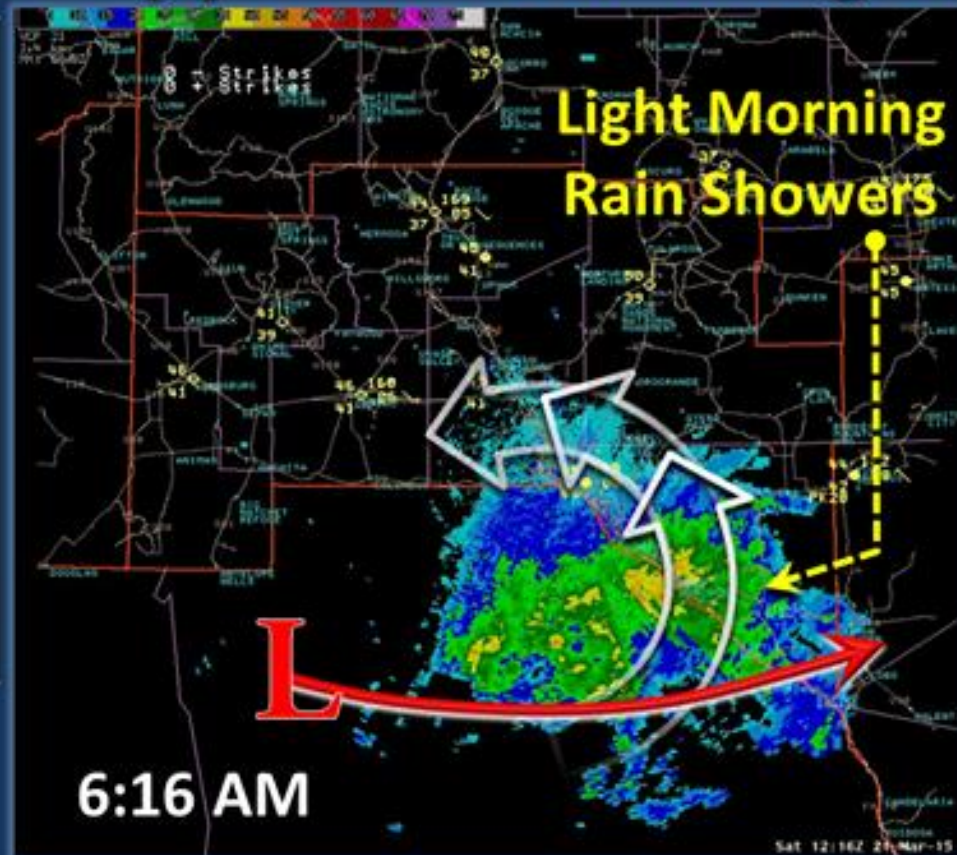


**March 21, 2015**

## El Paso Doppler Radar Image

An Upper-Level  
Storm system  
passing to our south  
will help  
to generate  
showers and  
thunderstorms  
today.

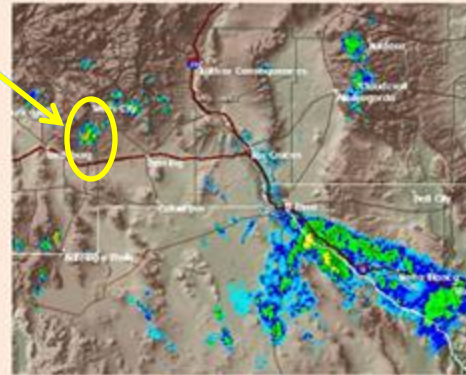
Scattered to  
Numerous east...  
Isolated west.



# Thunderstorm about 100 miles west of Santa Teresa



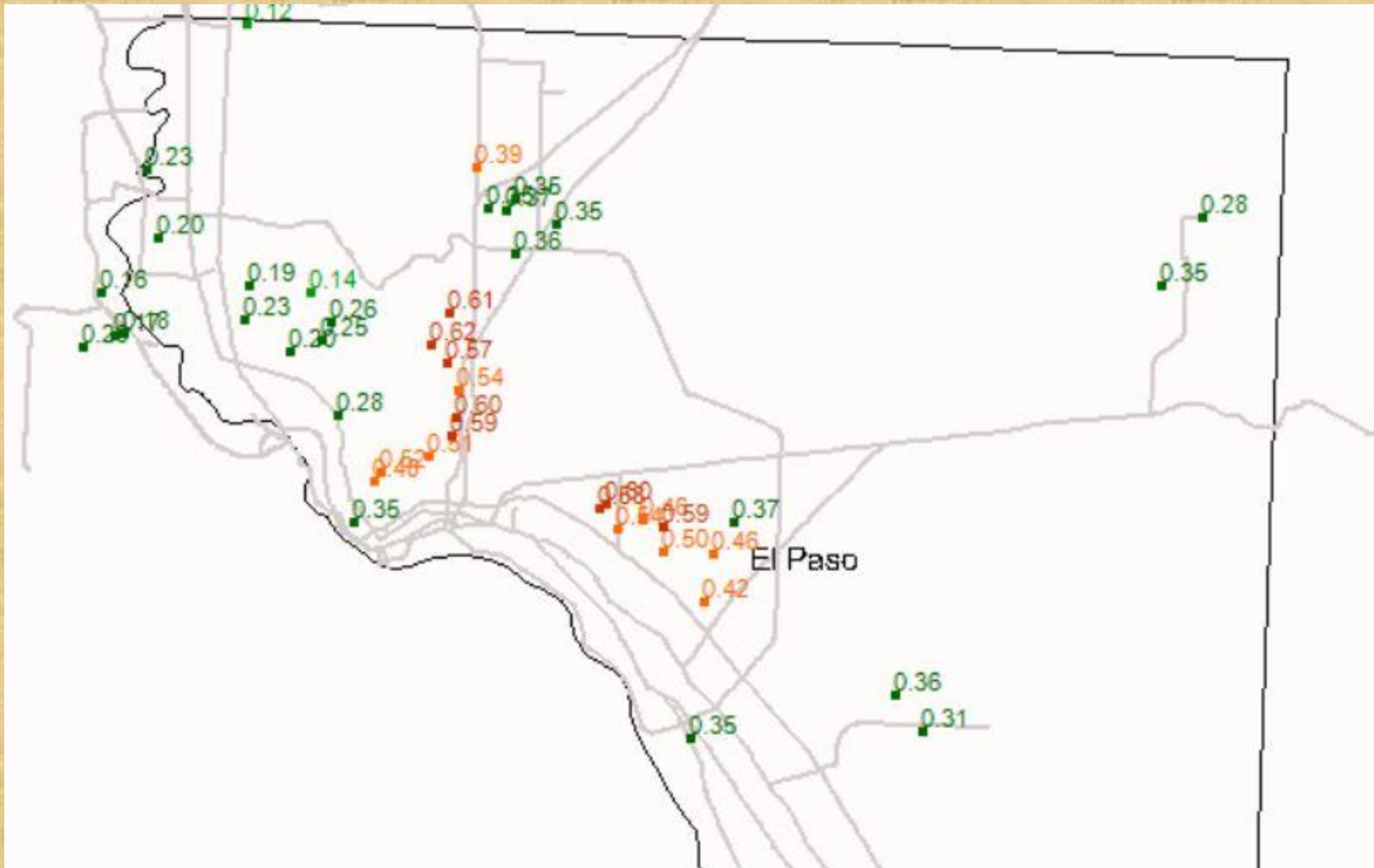
CB/TSTM 1240 MDT 3/21/2015  
Tops 35000 ft  
Bearing  
290 degrees/100 Miles  
From KEPZ  
Santa Teresa Forecast Office



# **Double Rainbow- Las Cruces Mar. 3**



# El Paso area rainfall reports March 17, 2015



**El Paso March 21, 2015**  
**Looking like Seattle**



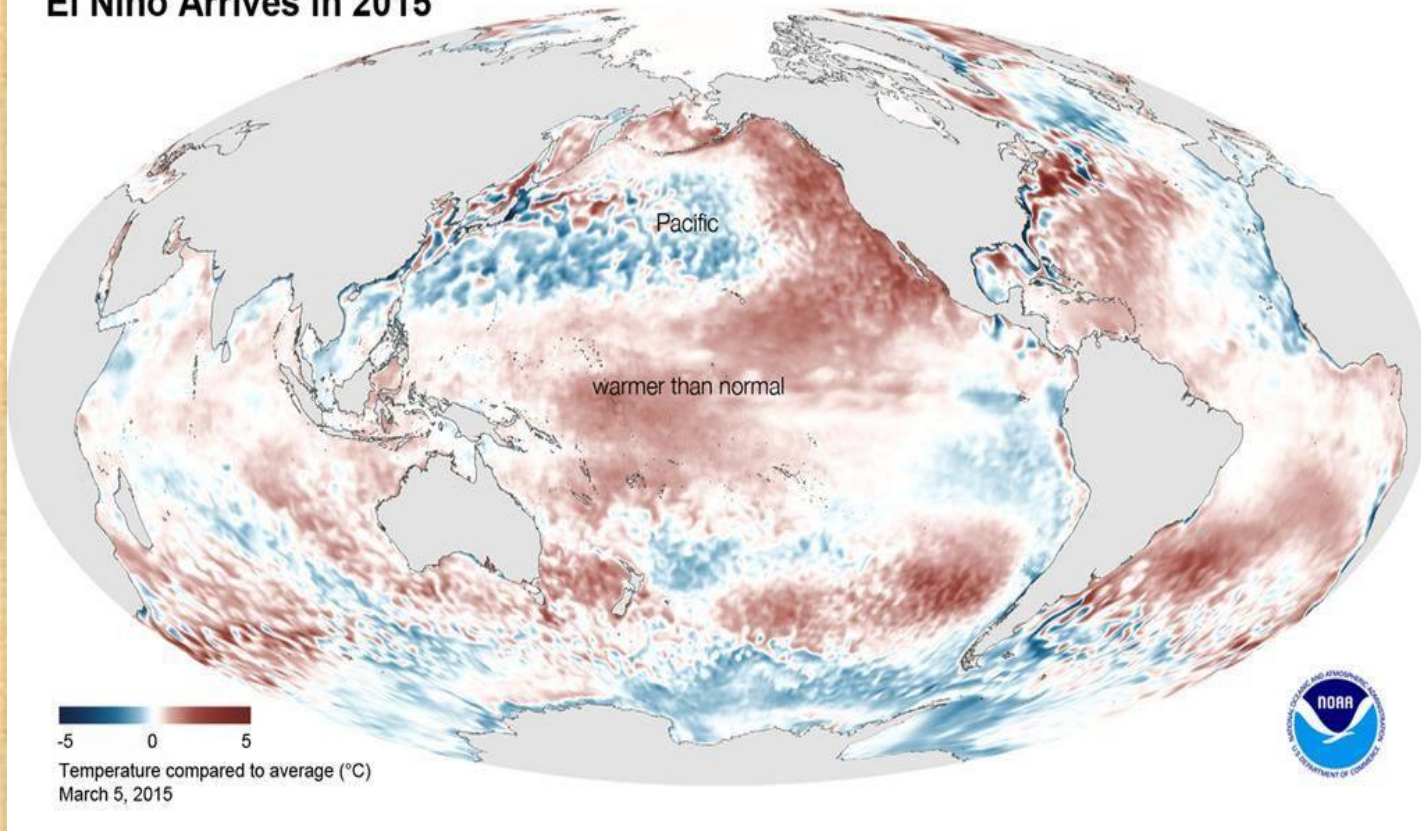


# Trans-mountain Pass, El Paso, March 3, 2015

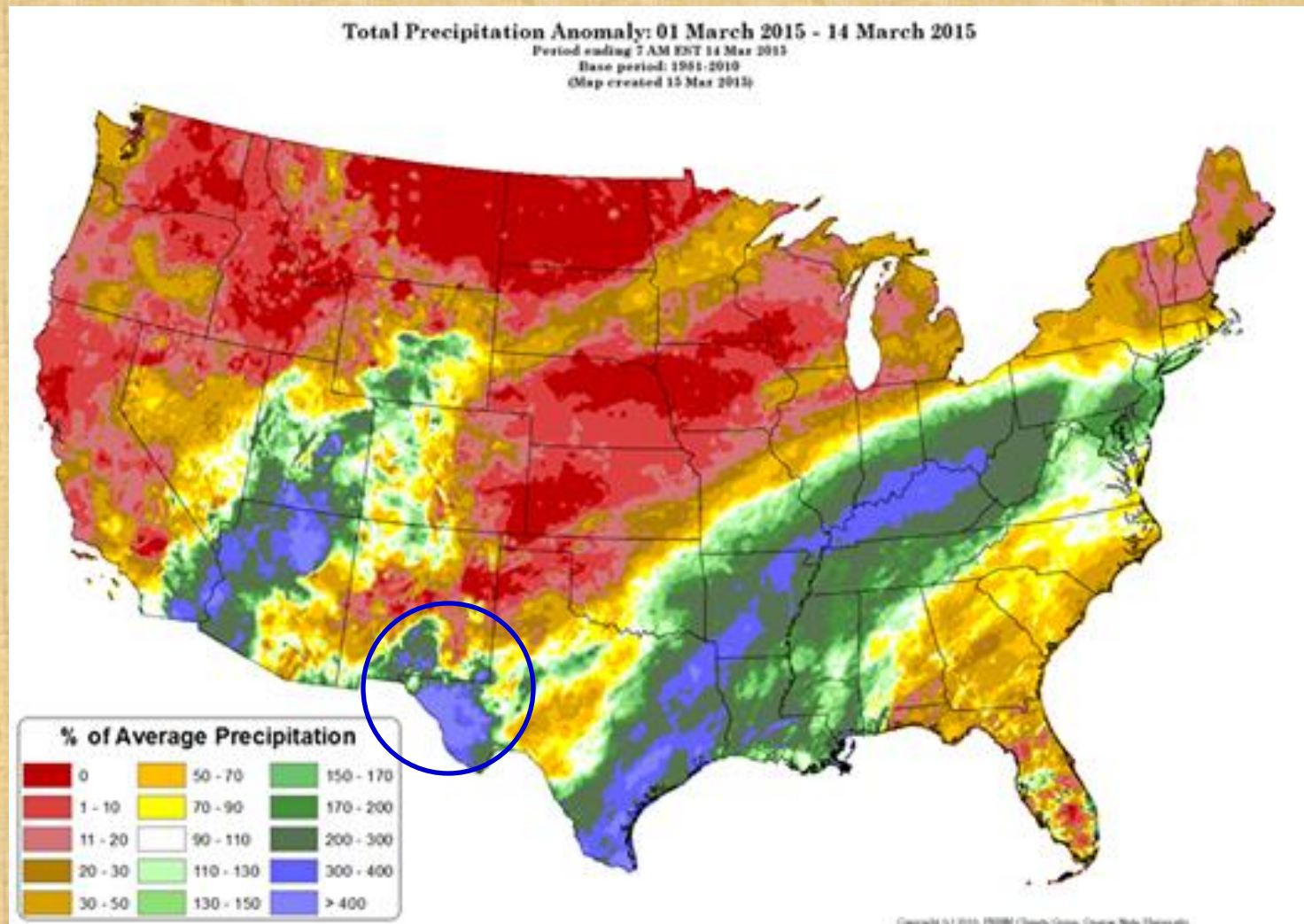


# El Niño finally arrives in March 2015

El Niño Arrives in 2015



# Unusual March rainfall surplus

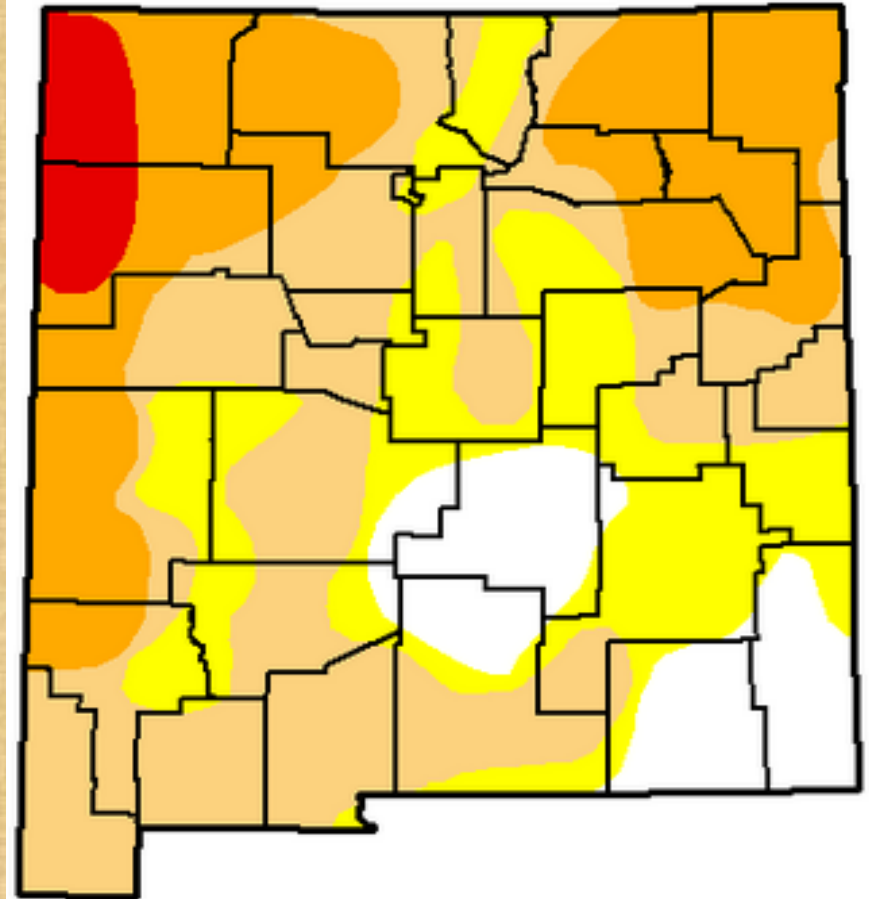
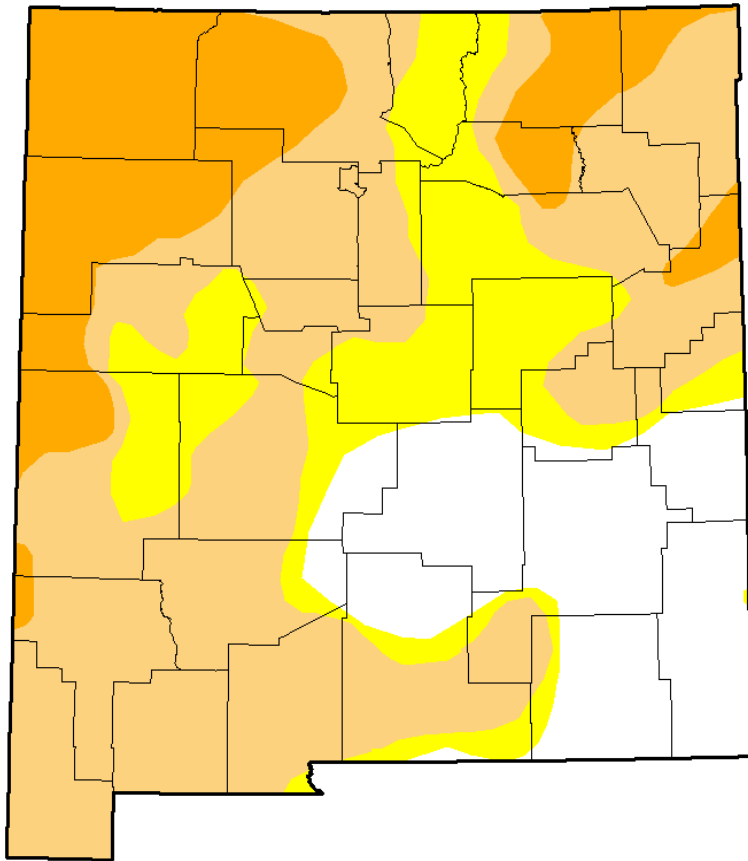


# Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

- Abnormally Dry – D0
- Moderate Drought – D1
- Severe Drought – D2
- Extreme Drought – D3
- Exceptional – D4






**March 24, 2015**

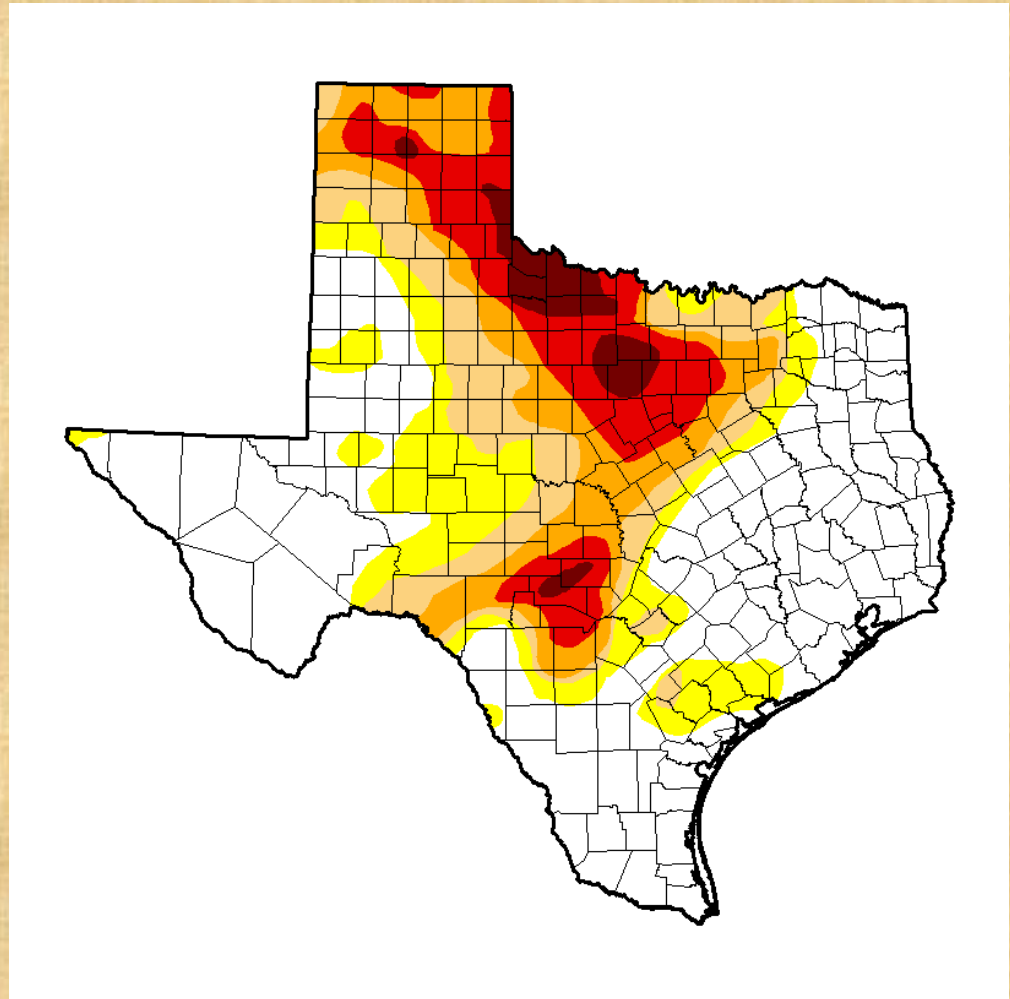
**December 23, 2014**



# Current drought conditions for Texas as of March 24

Intensity:

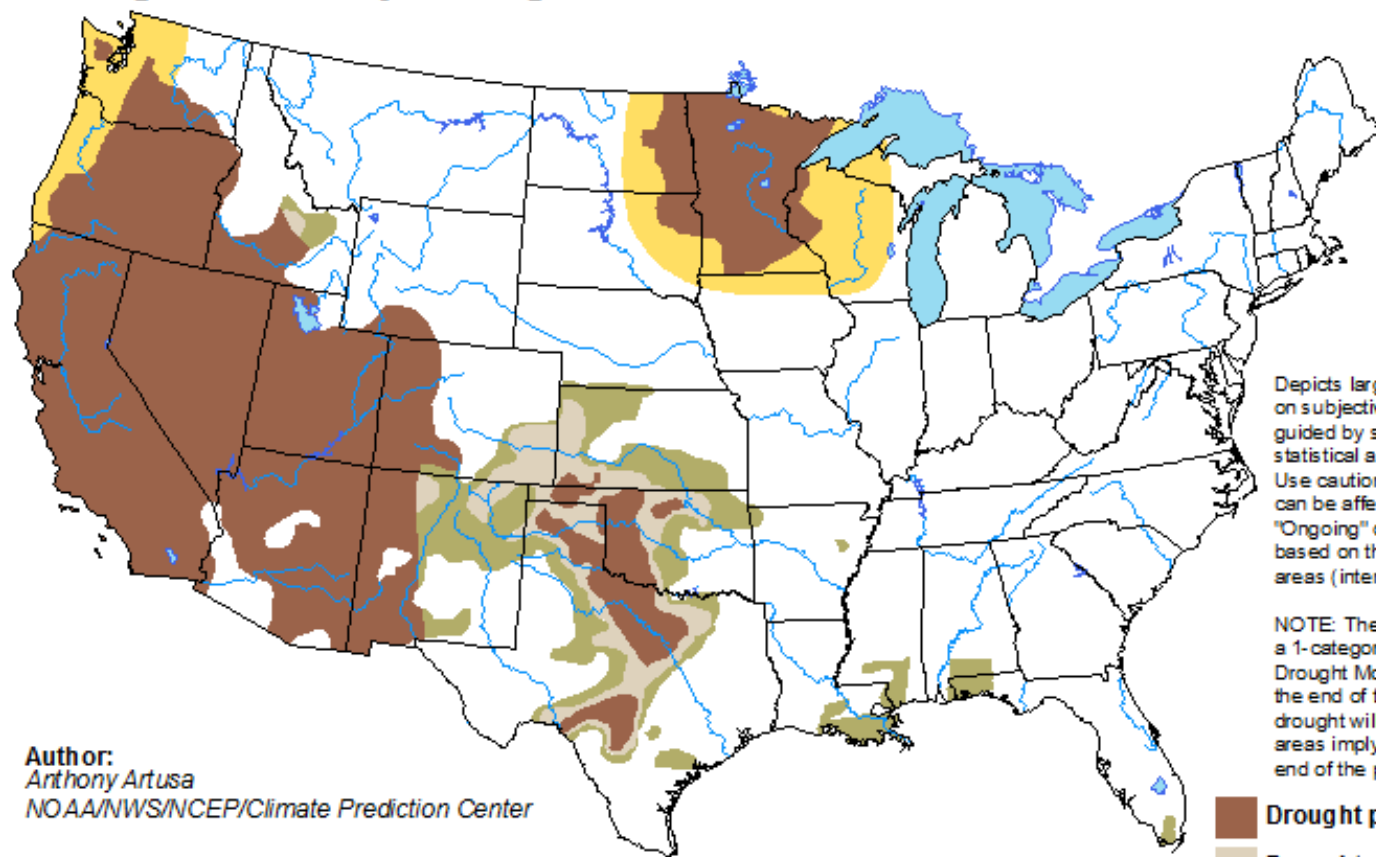
-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought



# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for March 19 - June 30, 2015  
Released March 19, 2015

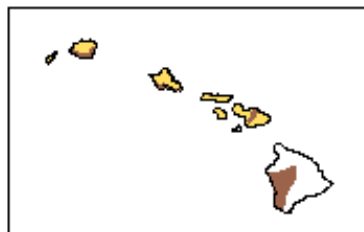
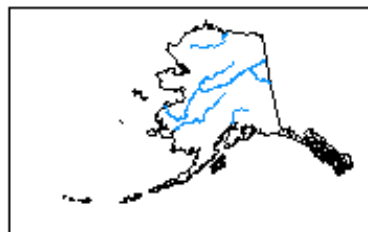


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
Anthony Artusa  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists/intensifies
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely

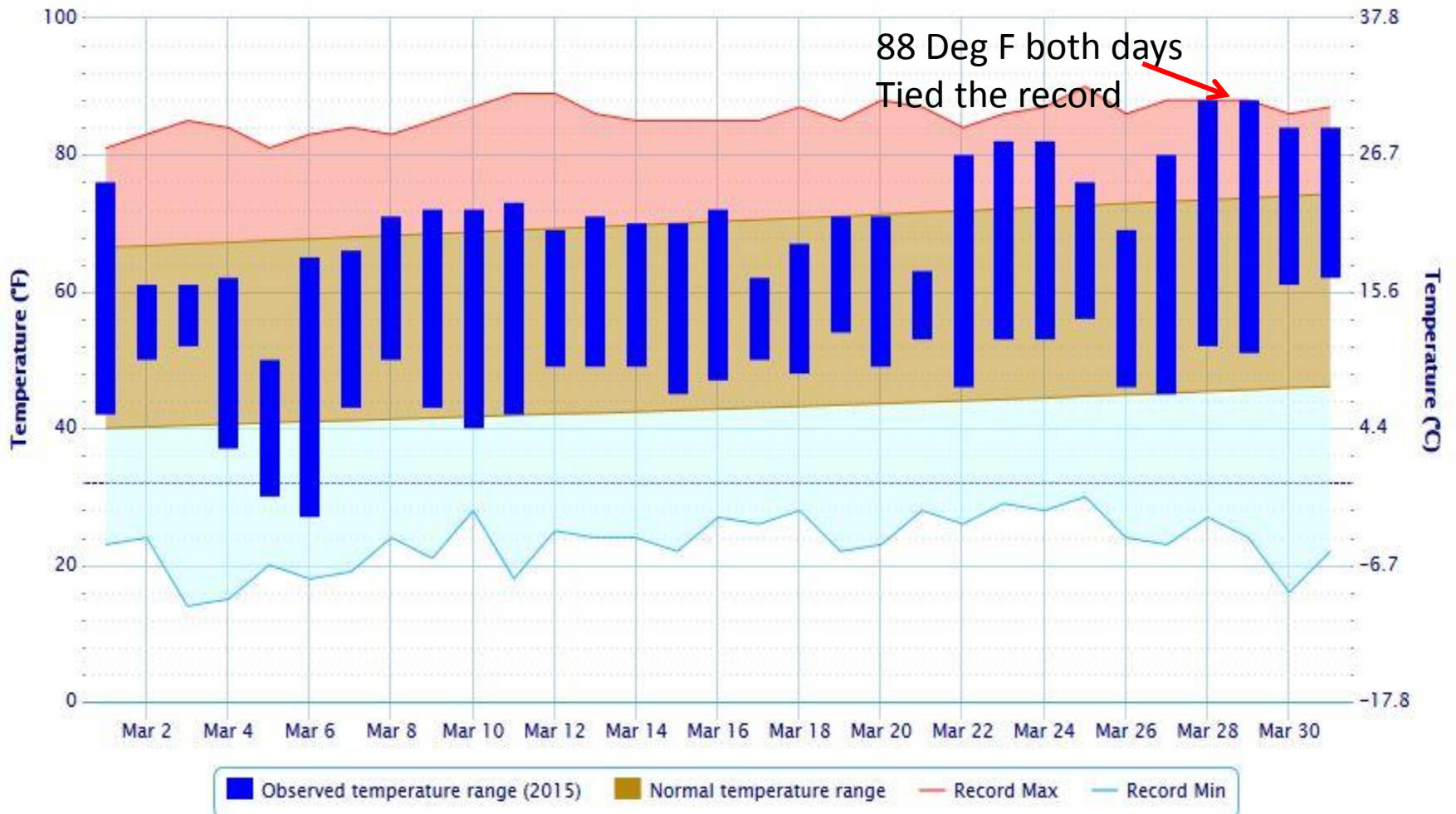


<http://go.usa.gov/hHTe>

# Daily Temperature Data - EL PASO INTL AP, TX

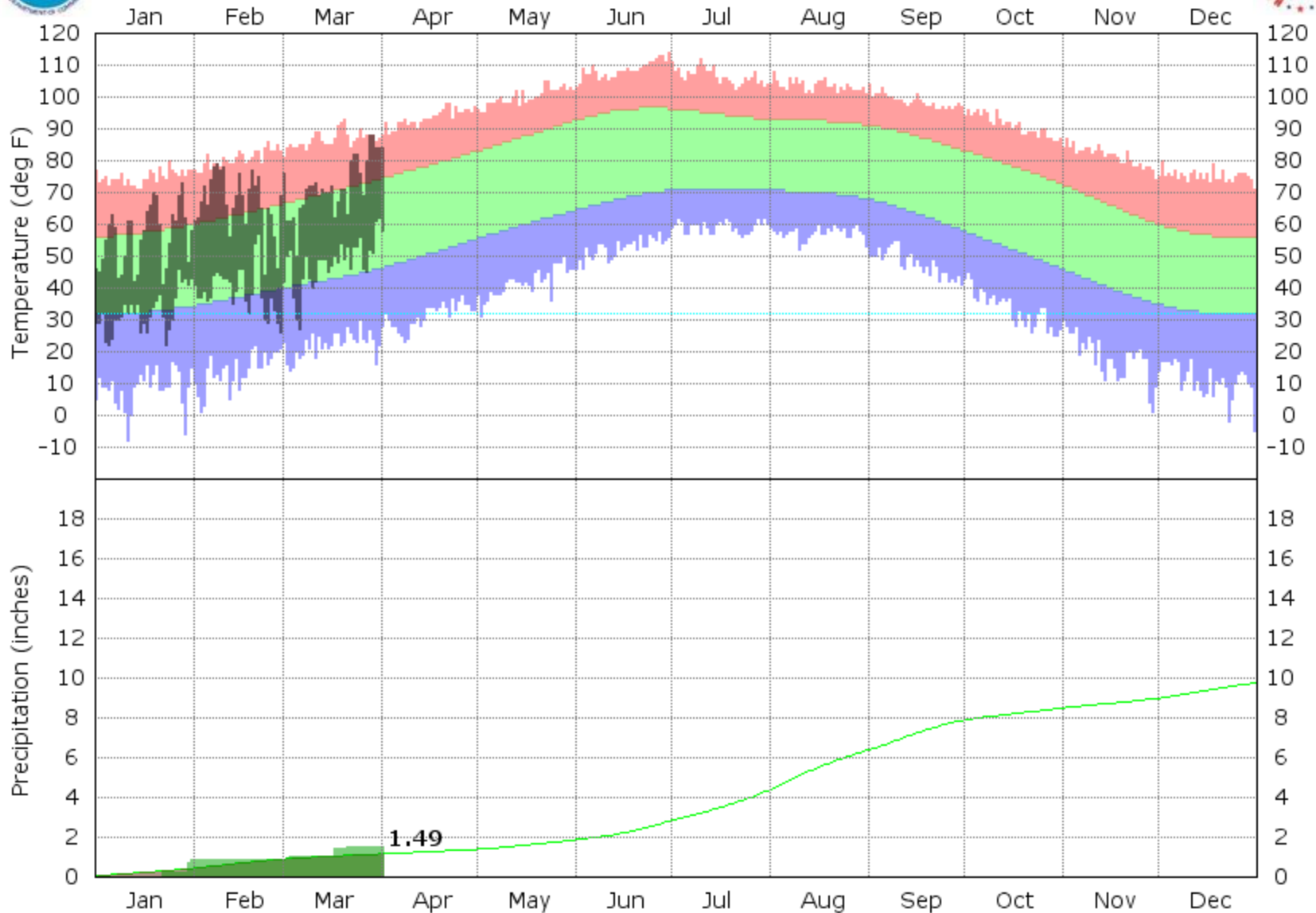


Period of Record - 1942-12-01 to 2015-04-01. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.





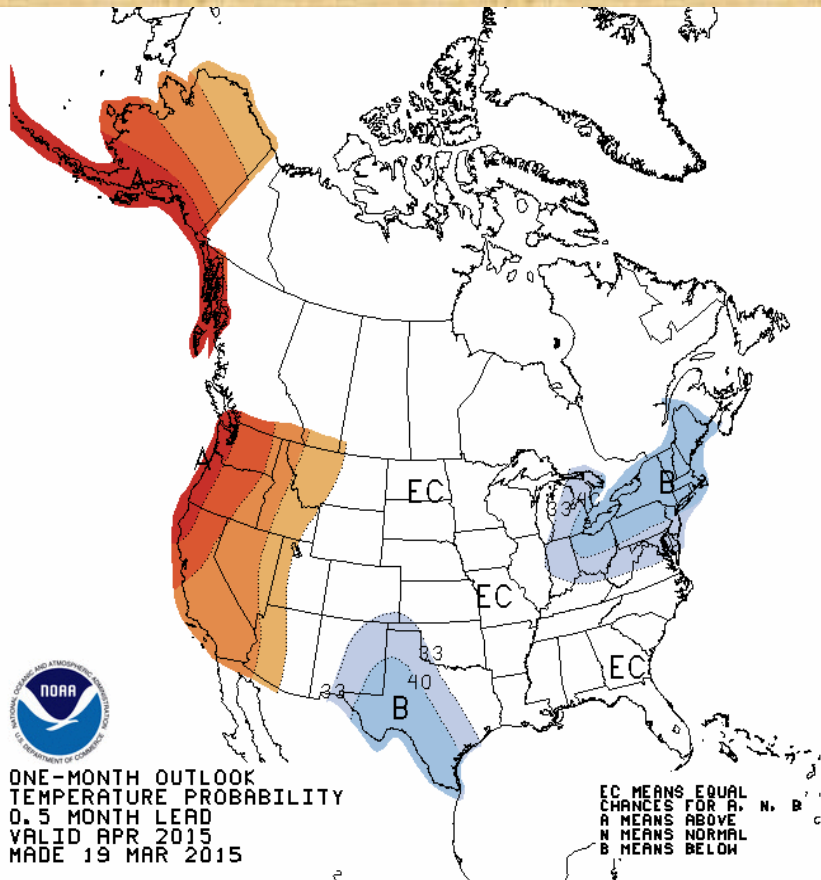
# El Paso TX - 2015



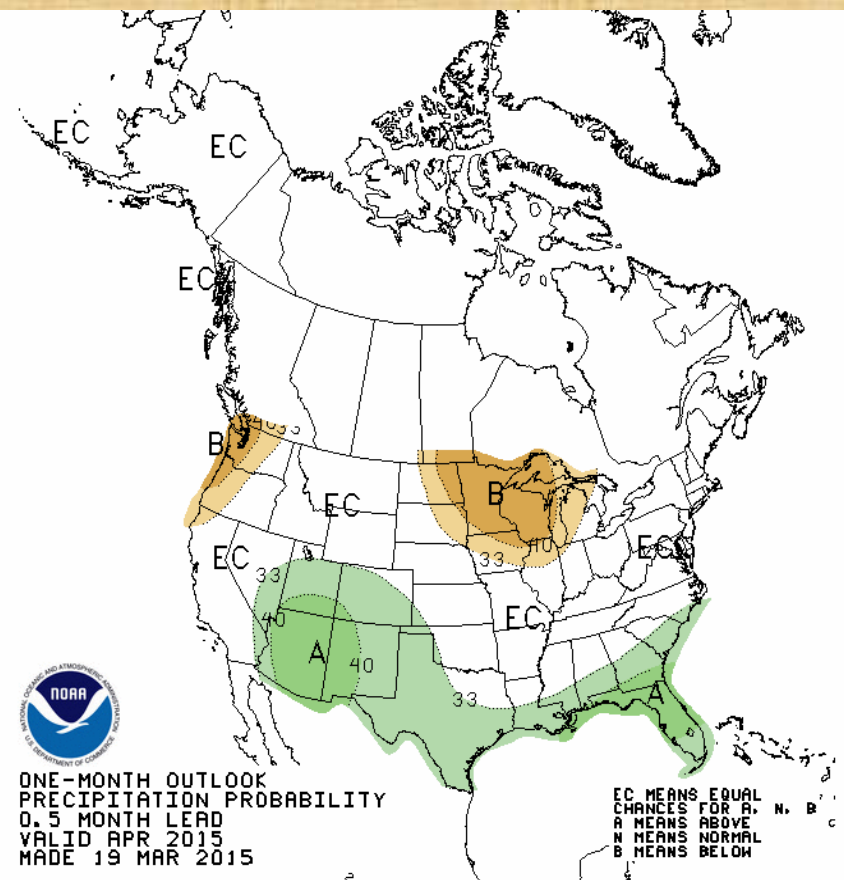


# Temperature and precipitation outlook for April 2015

## Temperature

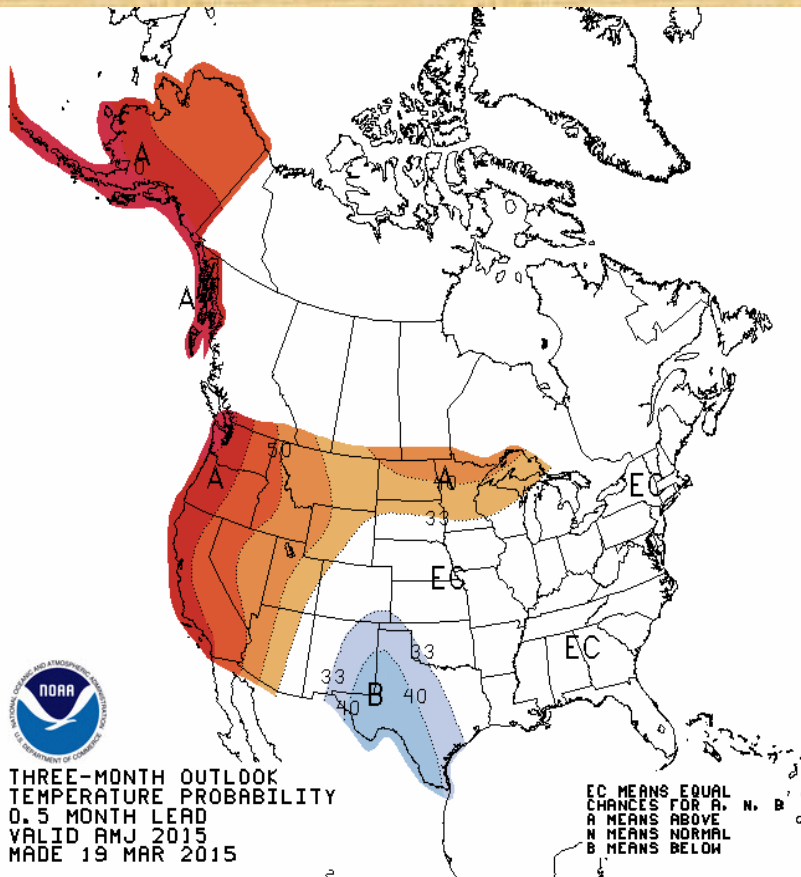


## Precipitation

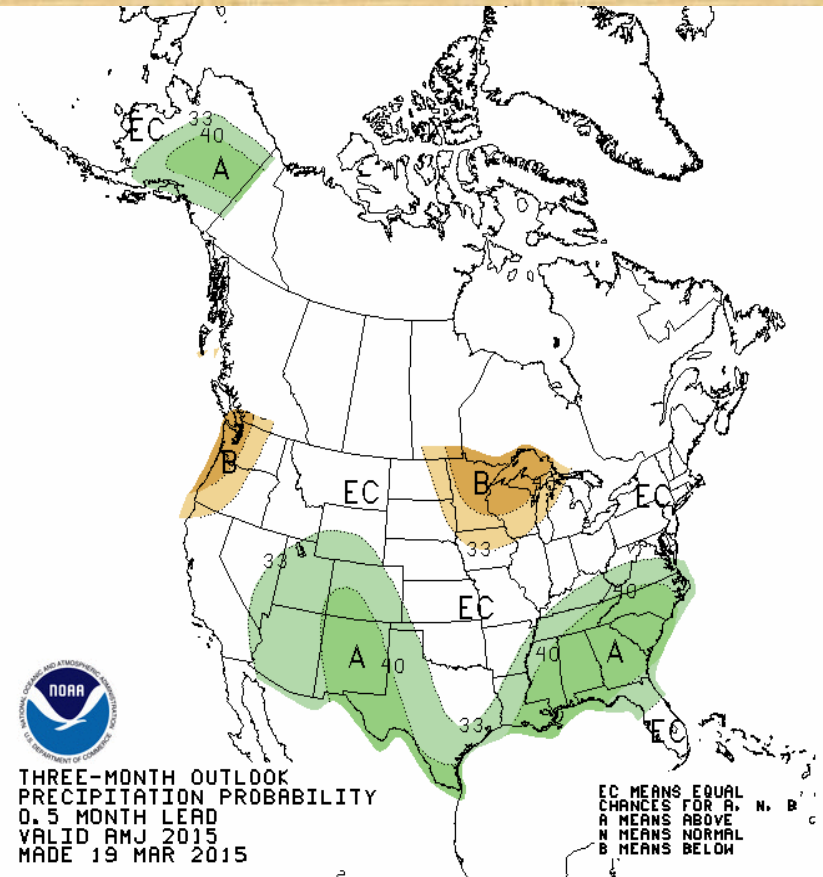


# Temperature and precipitation outlook for April - June 2015

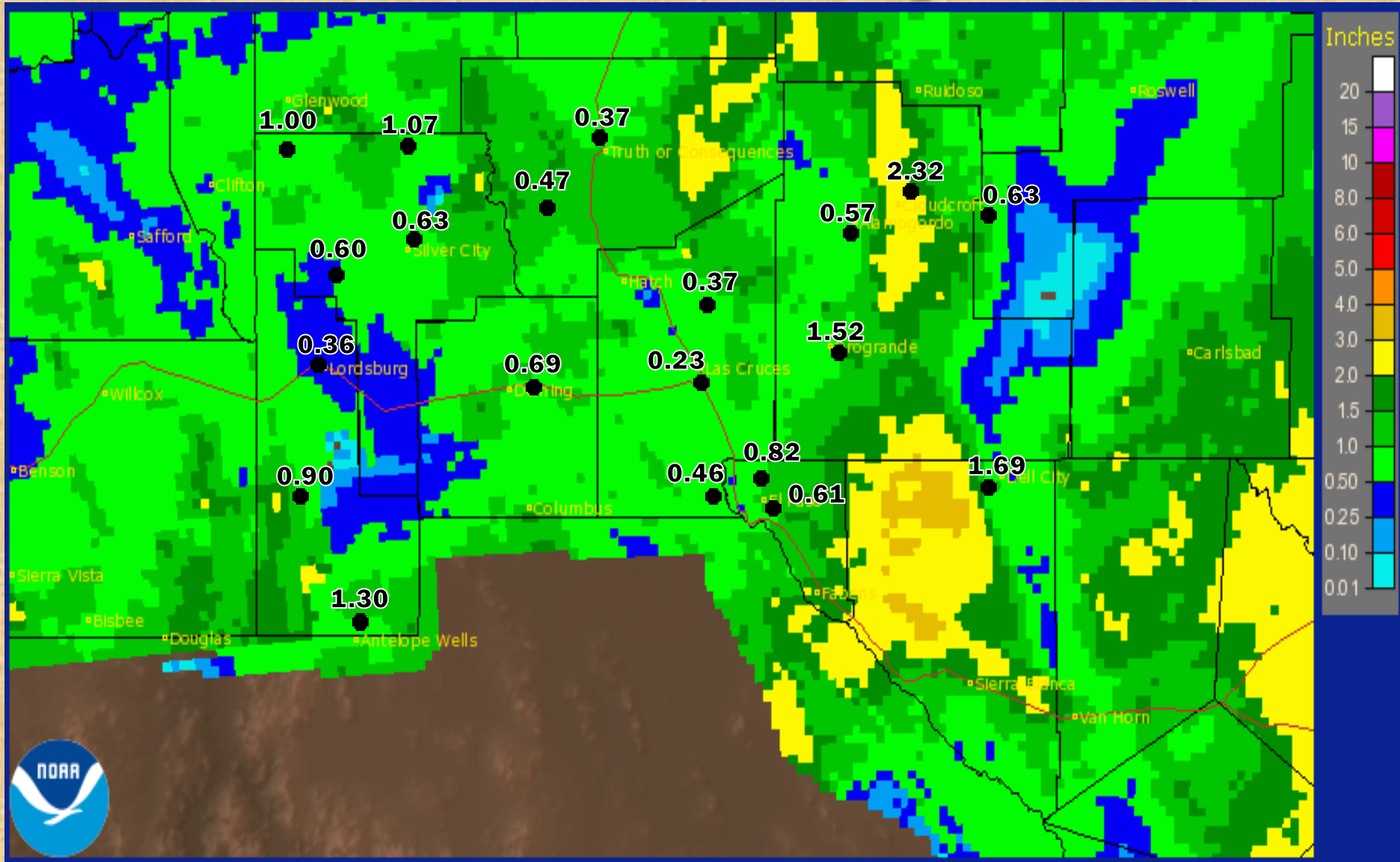
## Temperature



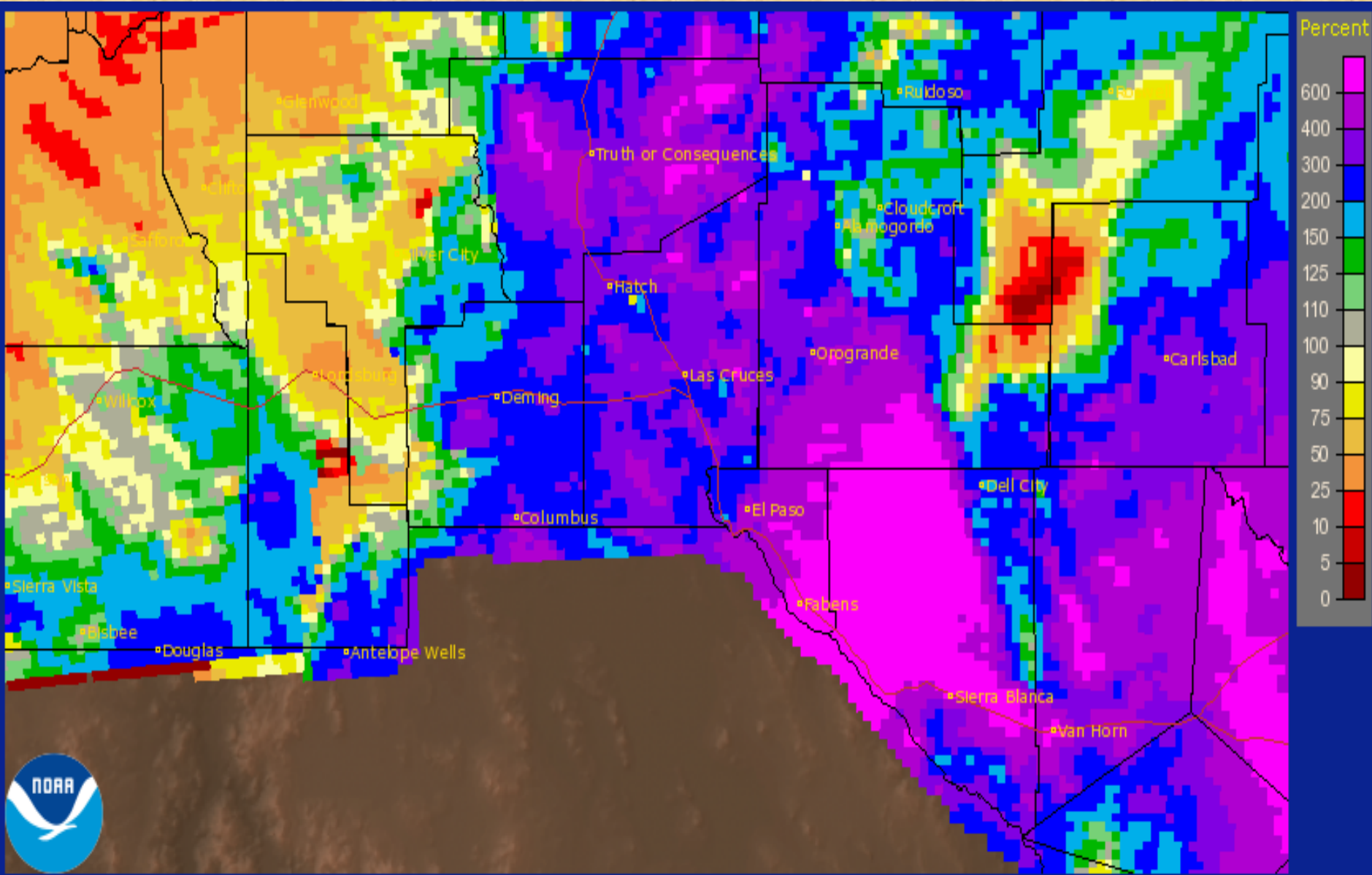
## Precipitation



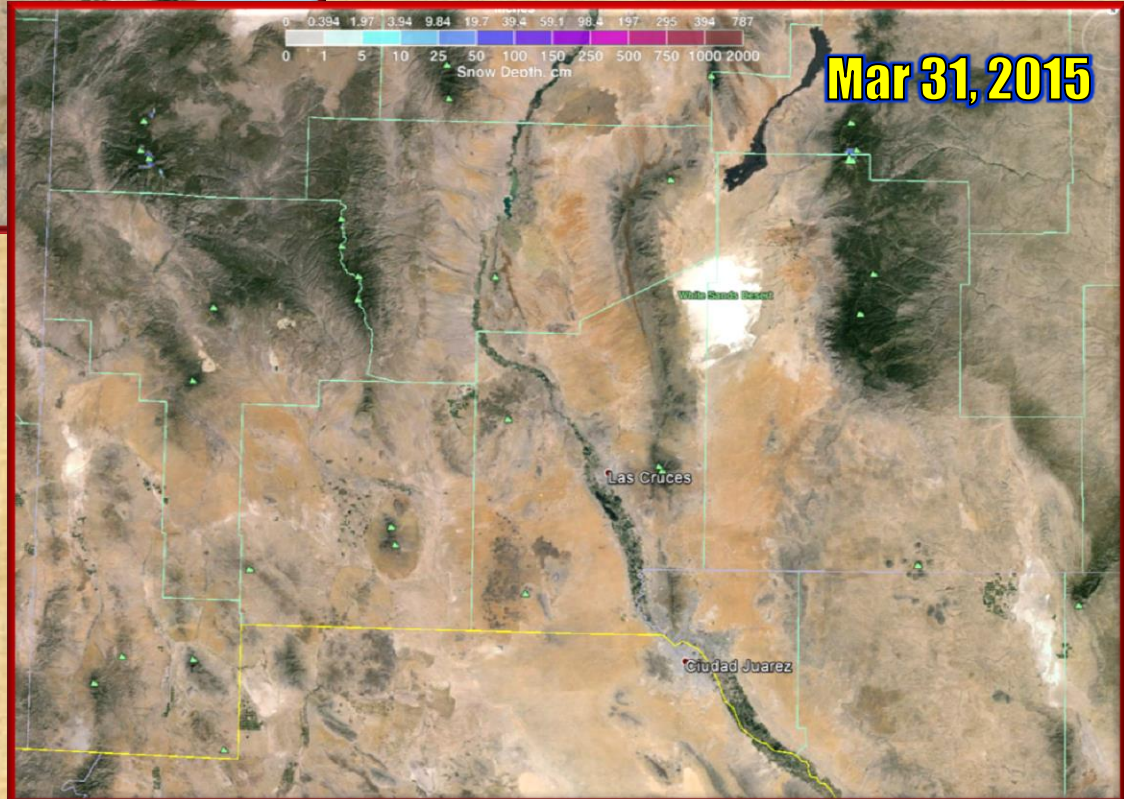
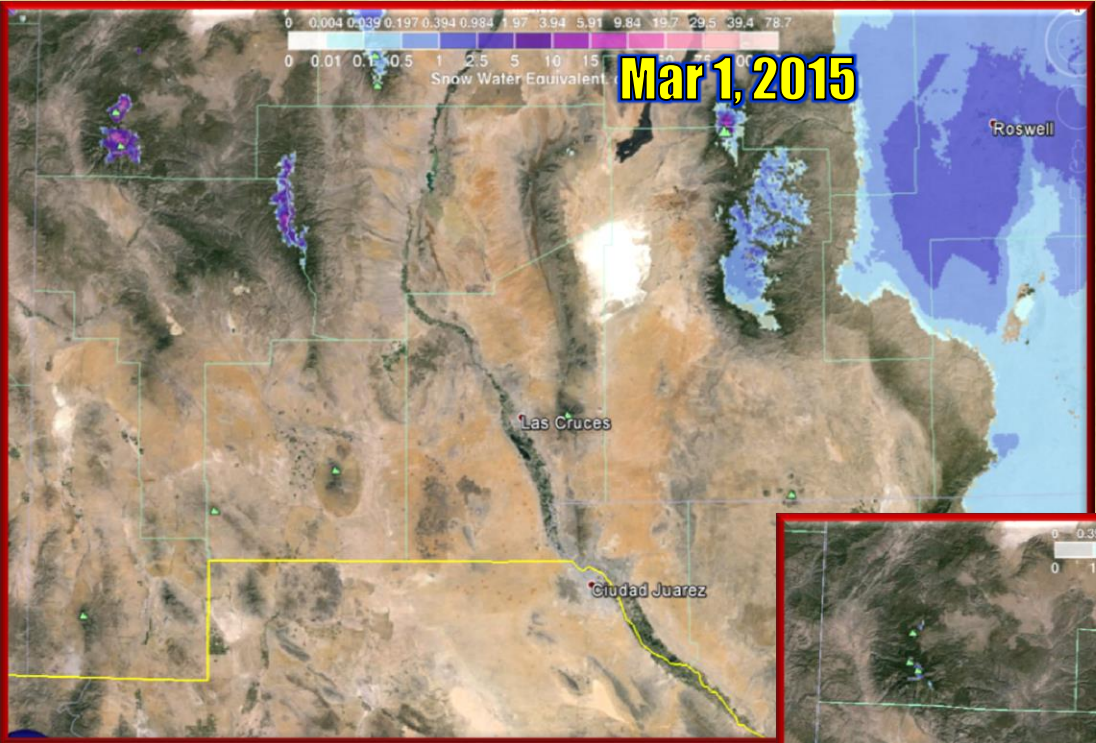
# March 2015 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



# March 2015 Radar Rainfall Estimate (Percent of normal)



# Snow conditions across the Borderland for March



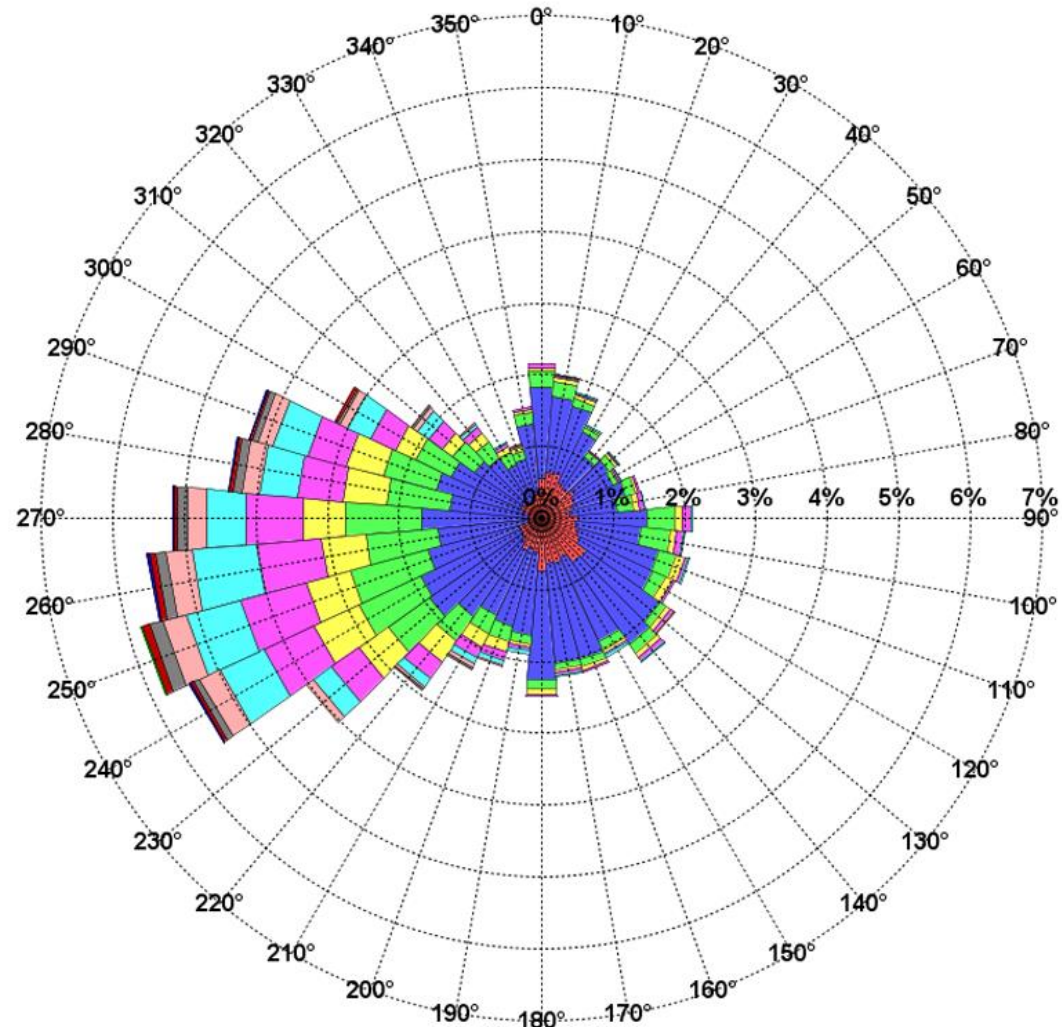
# Special Features

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/epz/?n=elpwindrosedata>

Month: APRIL  
Calm: 6.66%  
Variable: 2.29%

WindRose - KELP - EL PASO INTL  
% Frequency of Wind Speed from a Direction  
POR:19730101-20140602

- 1 - 5 mph
- 6 - 10 mph
- 11 - 16 mph
- 17 - 22 mph
- 23 - 28 mph
- 29 - 33 mph
- 34 - 39 mph
- 40 - 45 mph
- 46 - 51 mph
- 52 - 56 mph
- 57 mph or more



# Selected weather reports March 2015

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Event</b>
3/3/2015 600 PM	CLOUDCROFT COOP-OTERO	1.40 INCHES HEAVY RAINFALL
3/18/2015 700 AM	DEMING 8S-DONA ANA	.99 INCH HEAVY RAINFALL
3/18/2015 800 AM	SUNSHINE-DONA ANA	.51 INCH HEAVY RAINFALL
3/18/2015 700 AM	EL PASO 2W	.62 INCH HEAVY RAINFALL
3/18/2015 350 AM	SOCORRO-EL PASO	.41 INCH HEAVY RAINFALL
3/18/2015 531 AM	CORNUDAS-HUDSPETH	.61 INCH HEAVY RAINFALL
3/18/2015 900 AM	DELL CITY- HUDSPETH	.52 INCH HEAVY RAINFALL