

March 2022 Weather Digest



March 2022 Weather Summary

March, despite being in the middle of a La Niña episode, turned out to be slightly cooler than normal and many areas saw near to slightly above normal precipitation. However, the month did not lack in the most common weather event—wind and blowing dust.

The storm track was busy over the Borderland, with numerous Pacific storms moving across the area. The first big storm swept across on the 4th through 6th, spreading strong winds of 40-60 mph and desert blowing dust across the area. Another storm grazed the area on March 11th and 12th, and combined with a strong cold front moving west through the area, dropped 3 to 6 inches of snow across the northern mountains. Another Pacific storm moved in on the 20th through 22nd, bringing winds of 40 to 60 mph across the area, and heavy snow of 8 to 14 inches over the Sacramento Mountains. And finally, one last storm moved in on the 29th, with some of the strongest winds of the month. Many sites reported winds of 50 to 70 mph. Typically during a La Niña event, precipitation is scarce. This March saw respectable rainfall with much of the area from Deming to Truth Or Consequences eastward reporting near normal to as much as 250% of normal. To the west, rainfall was well below normal. In fact this pattern has held true through most of this winter, with areas west of the Continental Divide well below normal, while areas to the east are near to just slightly below normal for fall

March 2022 Weather Summary, cont'd

and winter precipitation. This is also reflected in the latest drought map, which shows areas from the Divide west in severe to extreme drought, while the areas to the east are in the categories of abnormally dry to moderate drought.

Temperature wise, La Niña says temperatures are usually somewhat warmer than normal, but March did not prove this out as most sites showed average temperatures of around 1 to 2 degrees below normal.

Looking ahead to April, we continue to add daylight and warmth to the season. April starts the month out with 12 hours, 31 minutes of daylight on the 1st, and increases to 13 hours, 24 minutes on the 30th. The average high temperature on the 1st at El Paso is 77 degrees, warming to 83 degrees on the final day of April. For you lunar fans out there, our full moon occurs on the 16th, the day before Easter. The new moon occurs on the 30th. There will be one solar eclipse this April, occurring on the 30th. Unfortunately for local residents, the eclipse will only be seen over southern South America.

Mar 7 Sunset El Paso



Mar 7 Sunset Santa Teresa



Mar 11 Snow at Cloudcroft



Mar 11 Snow at Silver City



Mar 11 Snow at Anthony, TX



Mar 11 Snow at El Paso



Mar 11 Snow at Las Cruces



Mar 11 Snow at Transmountain Pass - El Paso



Mar 11 Snow near Deming



Mar 11 Snow near White Sands



© CloudcroftWebcam.com Mon Mar 21, 2022 07:30:38 PM

Mar 21 Snow at Cloudcroft



Mar 21 Snow at Cloudcroft



Mar 21 Snow at Cloudcroft



Mar 21 Snow Organ Mountains



Mar 21 Snow at San Augustin Pass



Mar 21 Snow at Cloudcroft

ENSO Alert System Status: La Niña Advisory in Affect

ENSO Alert System

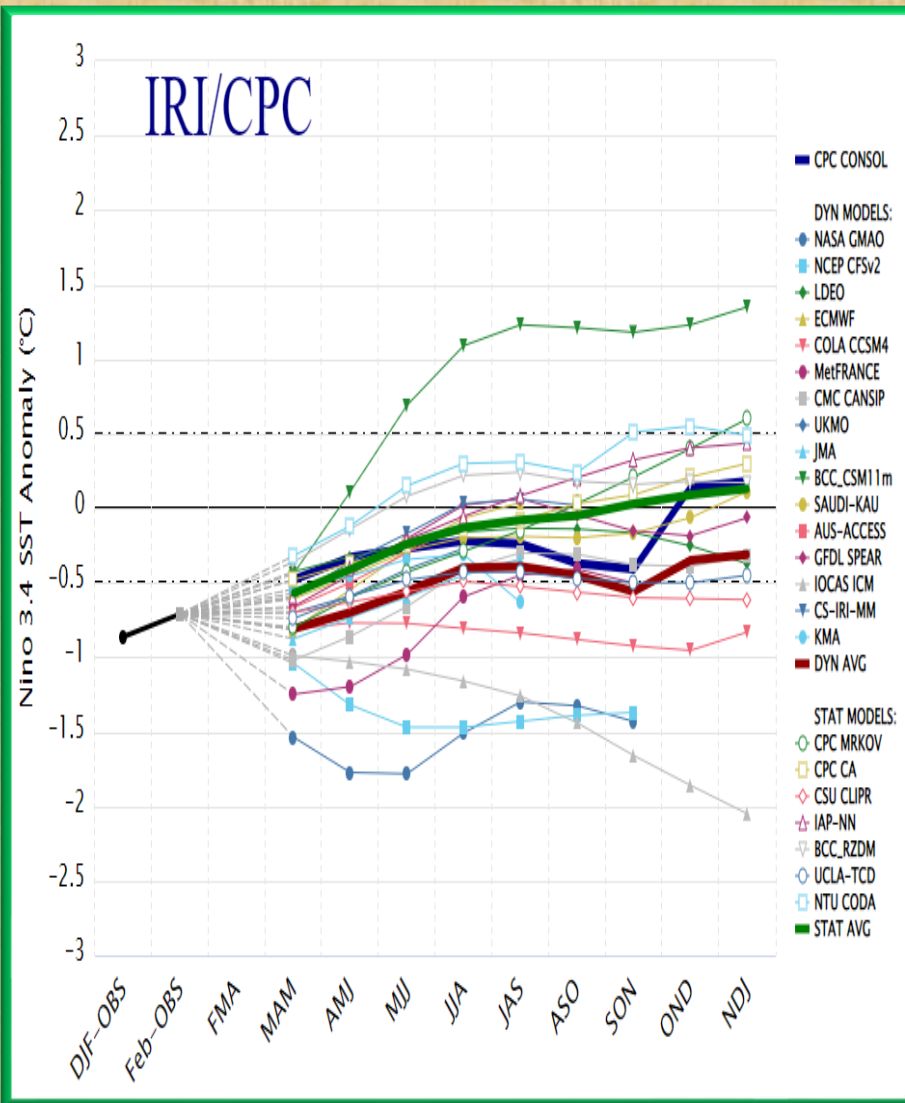
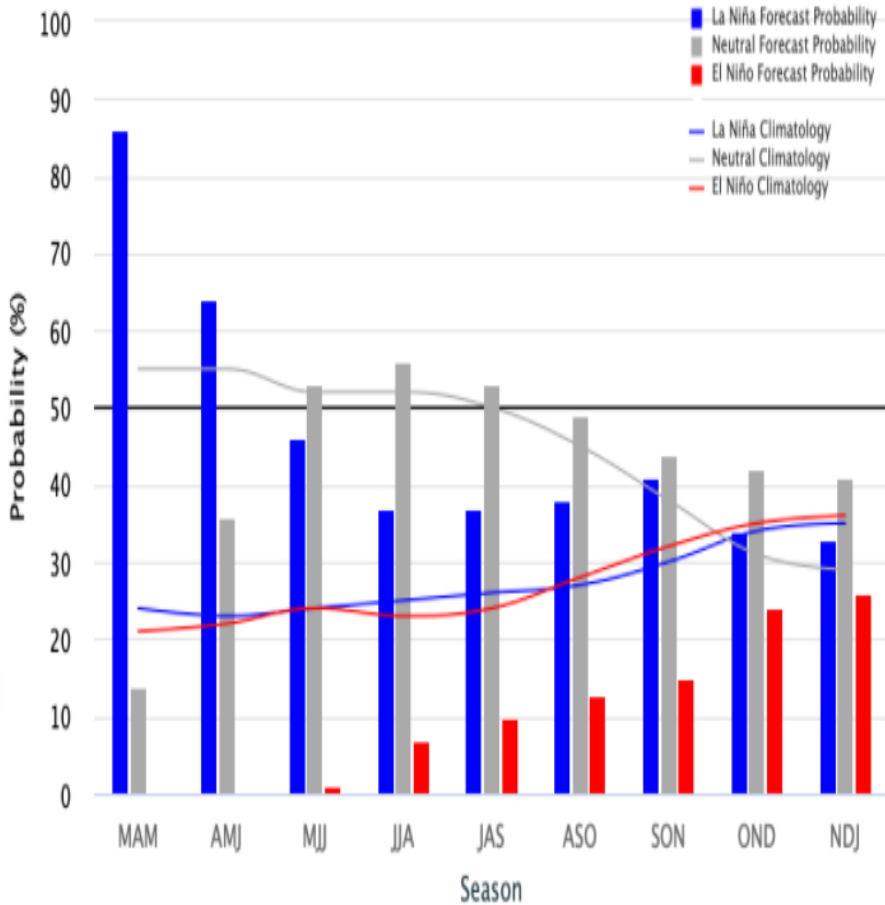
- **El Niño or La Niña Watch:** Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions in the next six months.
- **El Niño or La Niña Advisory:** Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.

ENSO Forecast

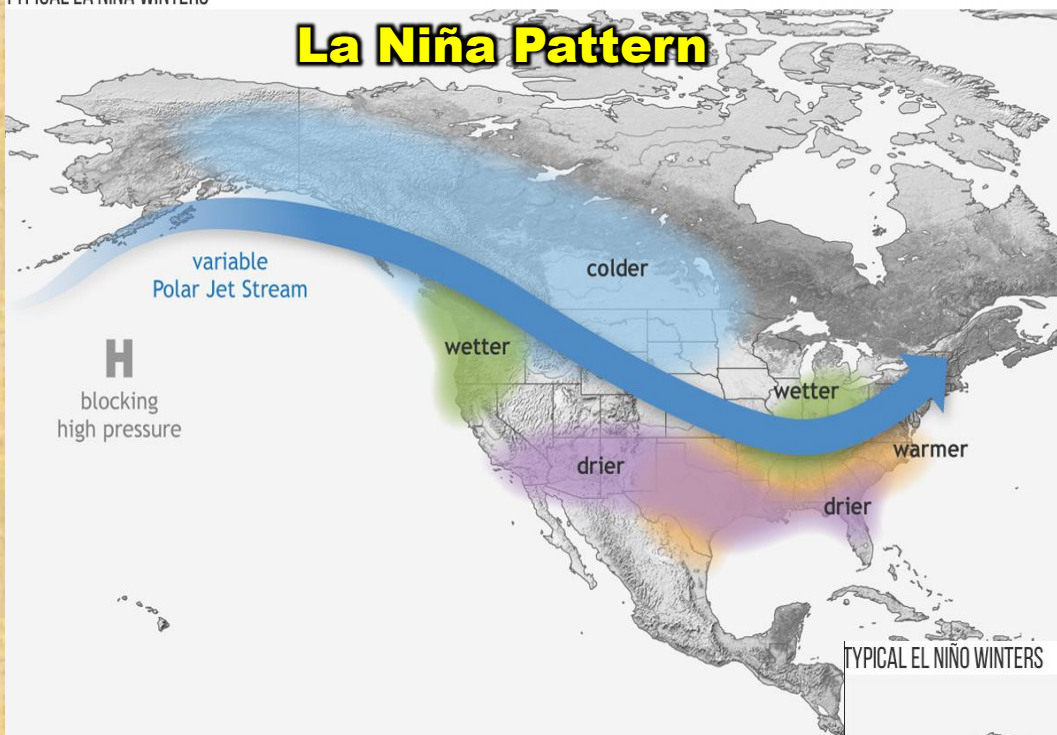
ENSO is in La Niña status, where it is expected to stay through spring and then gradually shift to neutral.

Mid-March 2022 IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly
Neutral ENSO: -0.5°C to 0.5°C

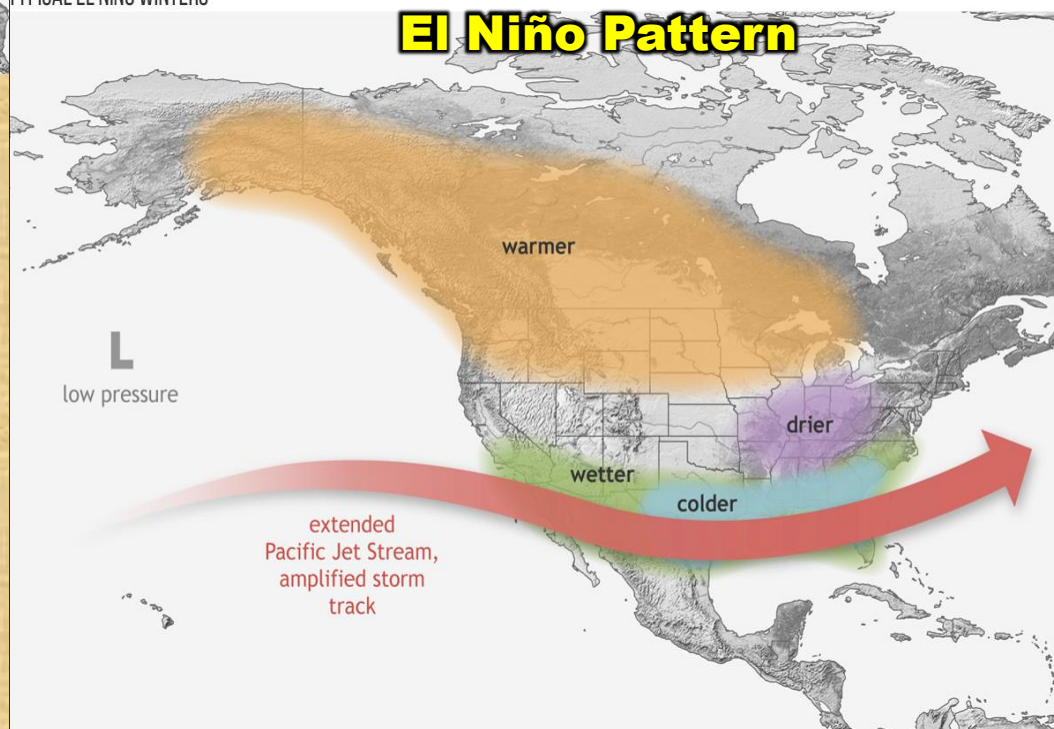


La Niña Pattern



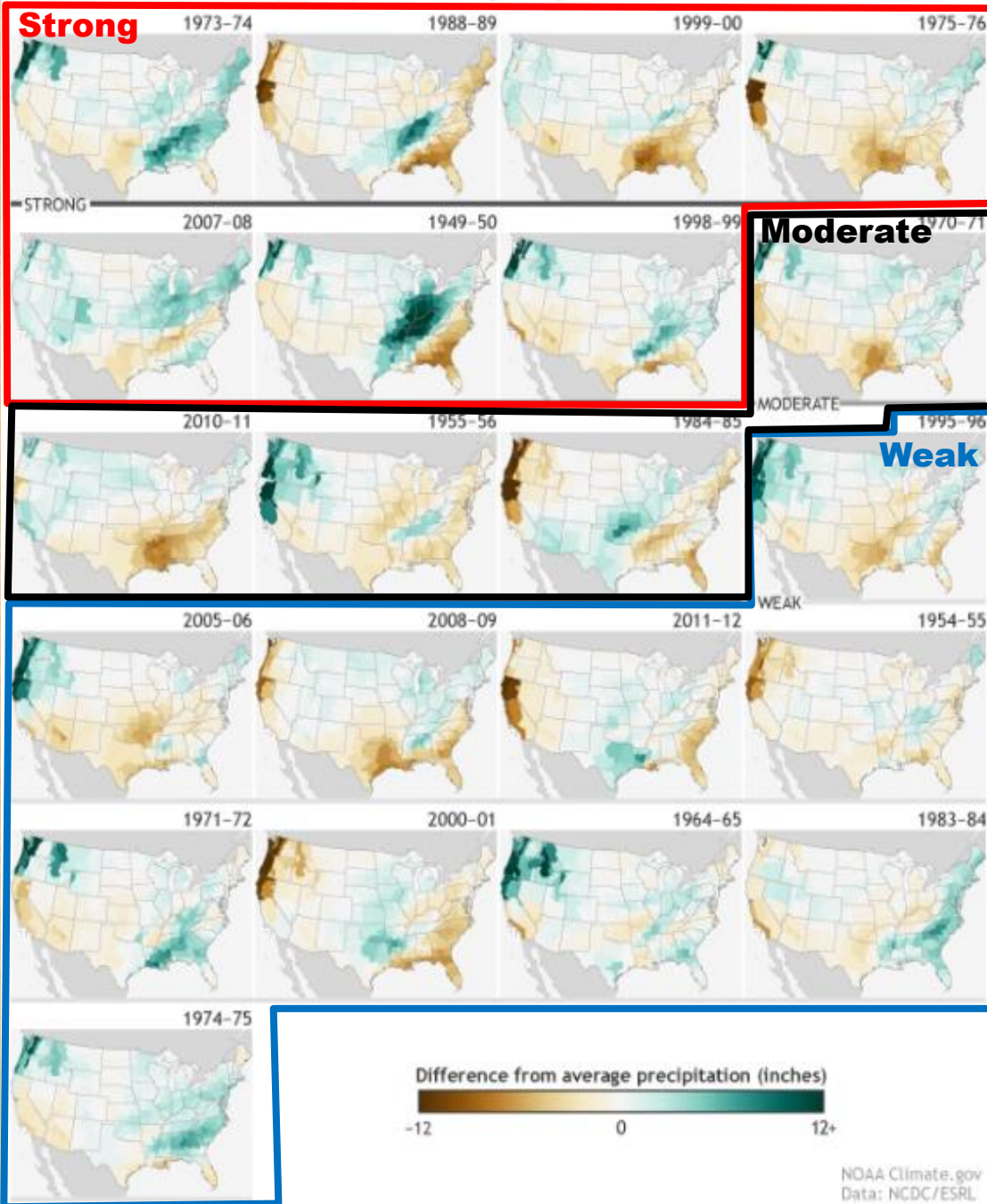
With a La Niña pattern, a ridge of high pressure tends to build off the west coast of the U.S., blocking most of our Pacific winter storm systems. These storms tend to end up moving across the northern Plains and down to the southeastern part of the country. Of course it is important to remember that these patterns are only what typically happens and are not guaranteed to occur.

El Niño Pattern



With El Niño, we often see the opposite pattern where the eastern Pacific ridge of high pressure is often weak or non-existent, allowing winter storms to sweep across the southern U.S. This typically will give the southwestern U.S. above normal precipitation.

Winter (December-February) precipitation during strong, moderate, and weak La Niñas since 1950

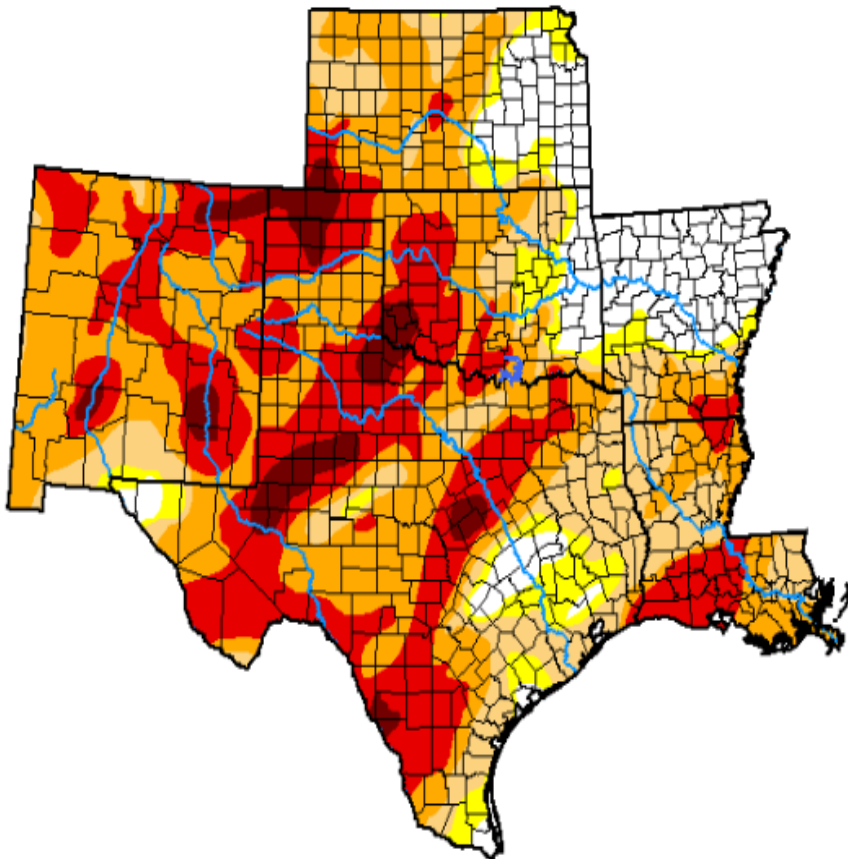


Examples of the numerous La Niña winters since 1950. These maps depict the departure from normal precipitation amounts for a winter.

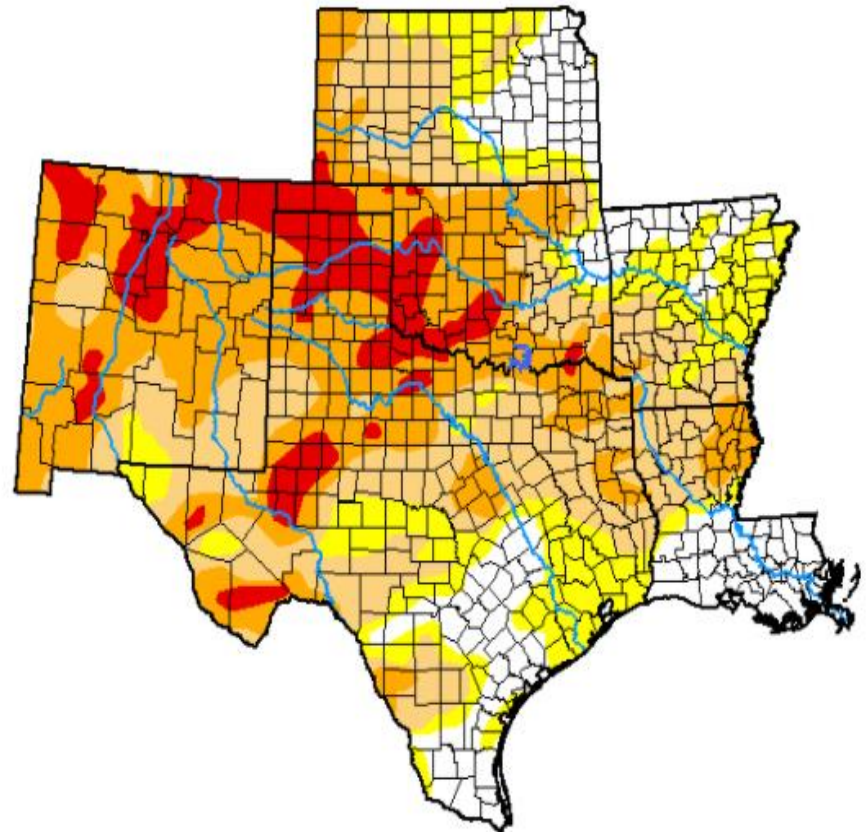
Current drought conditions and 3 month change

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

Mar 22, 2022

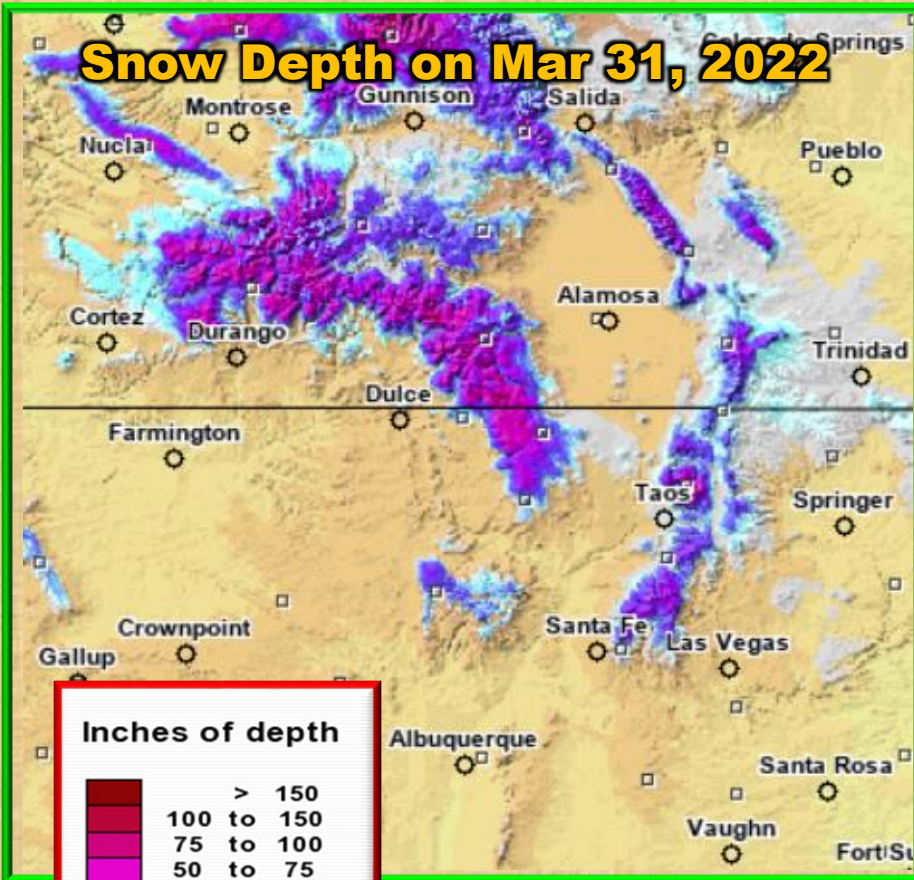


December 28, 2021

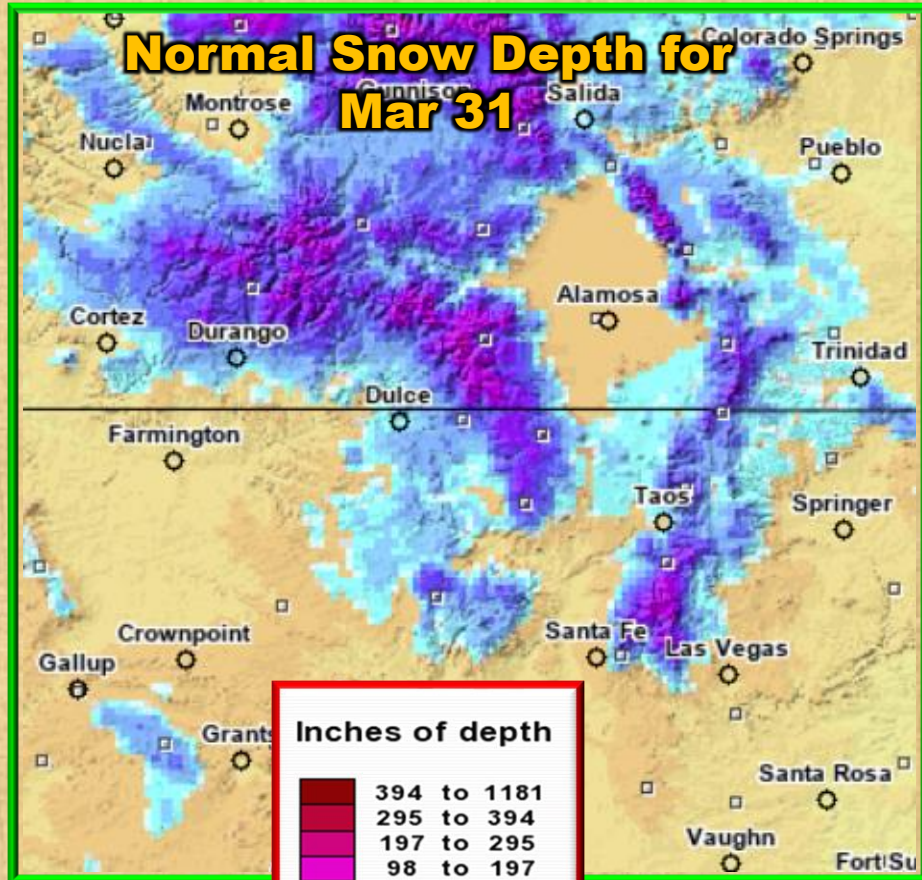


Snow Data Upper Rio Grand Basin as of Mar 31, 2022

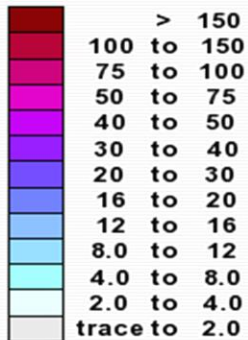
Snow Depth on Mar 31, 2022



Normal Snow Depth for Mar 31

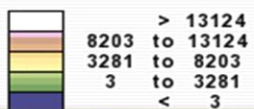


Inches of depth

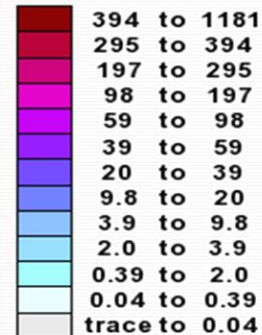


Not Estimated

Elevation in feet

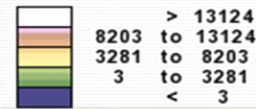


Inches of depth



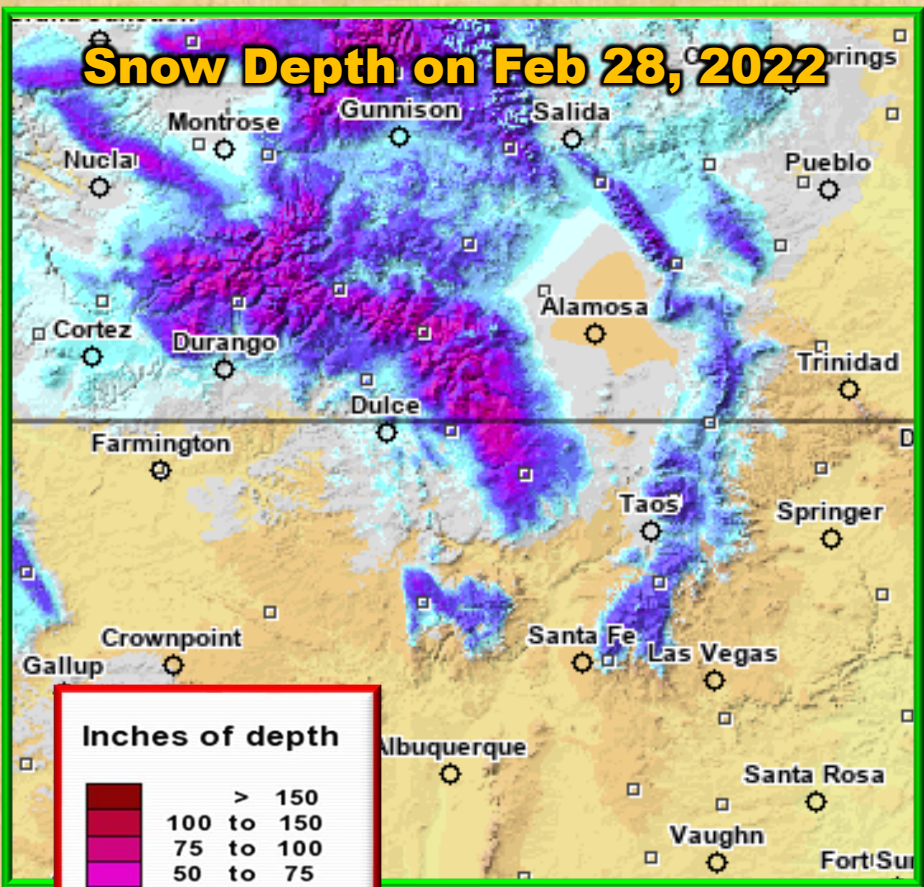
Not Estimated

Elevation in feet

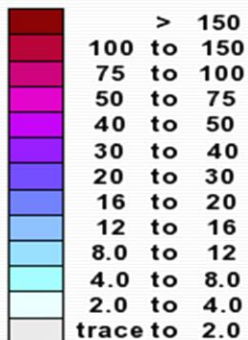


Snow Data Upper Rio Grand Basin as of Feb 28, 2022

Snow Depth on Feb 28, 2022

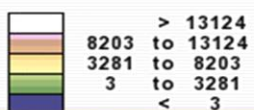


Inches of depth

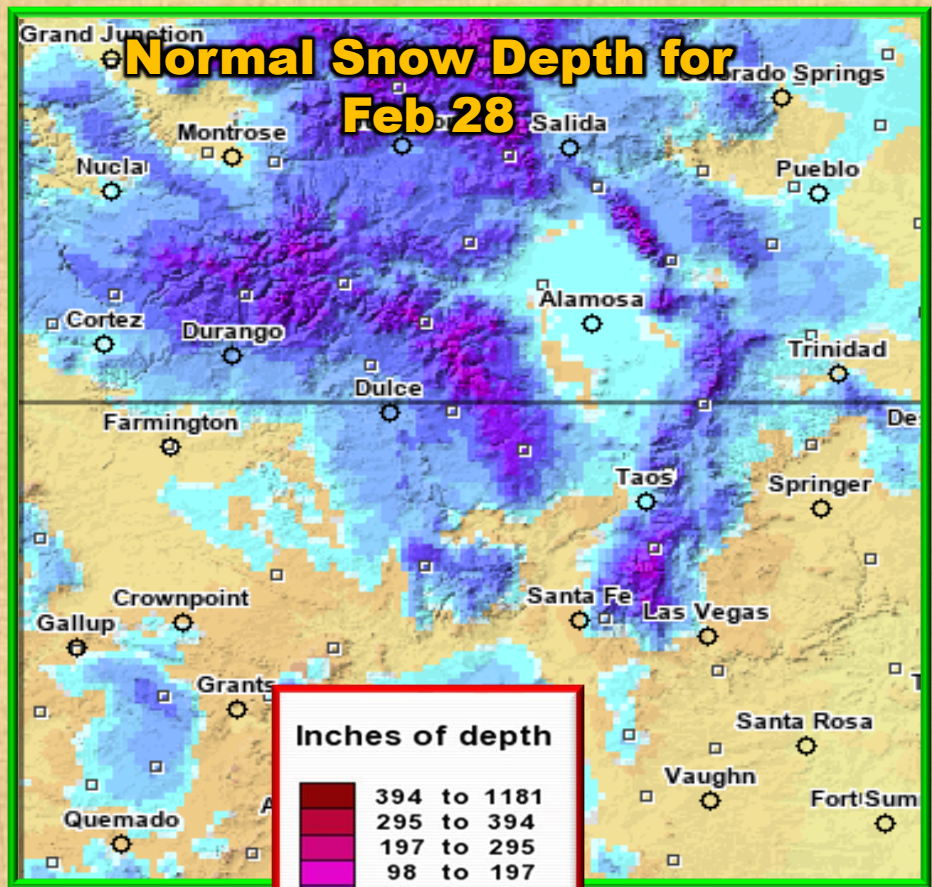


Not Estimated

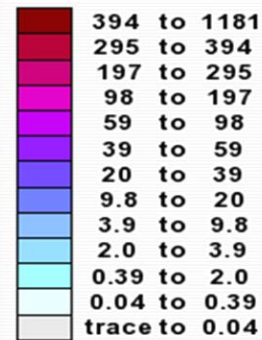
Elevation in feet



Normal Snow Depth for Feb 28

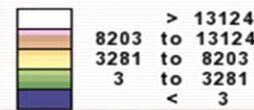


Inches of depth



Not Estimated

Elevation in feet



Snow Water Equivalent as of Mar 31, 2021

Compare to last few years and average values

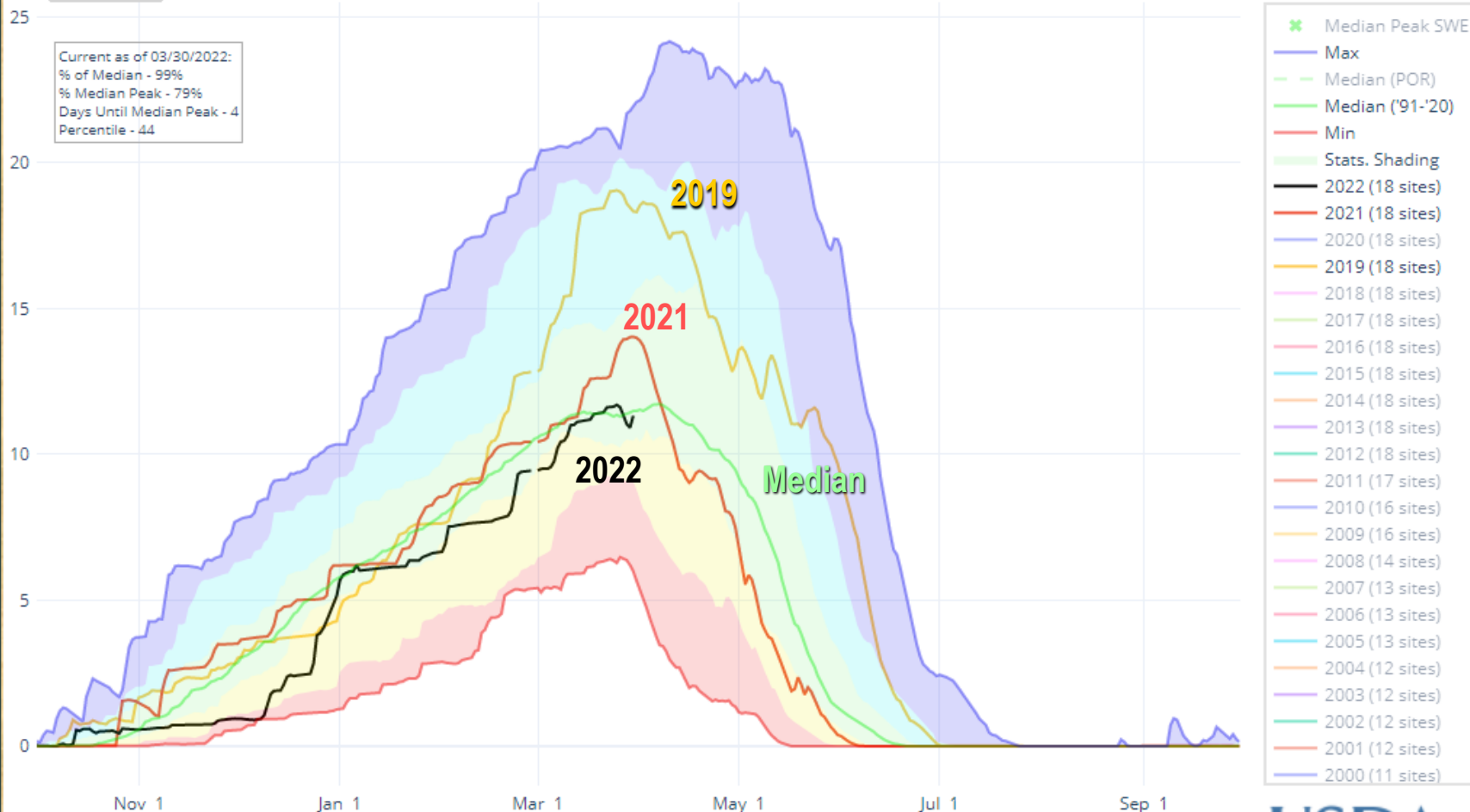
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN
UPPER RIO GRANDE

Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

[Station List](#)

Current as of 03/30/2022:
% of Median - 99%
% Median Peak - 79%
Days Until Median Peak - 4
Percentile - 44

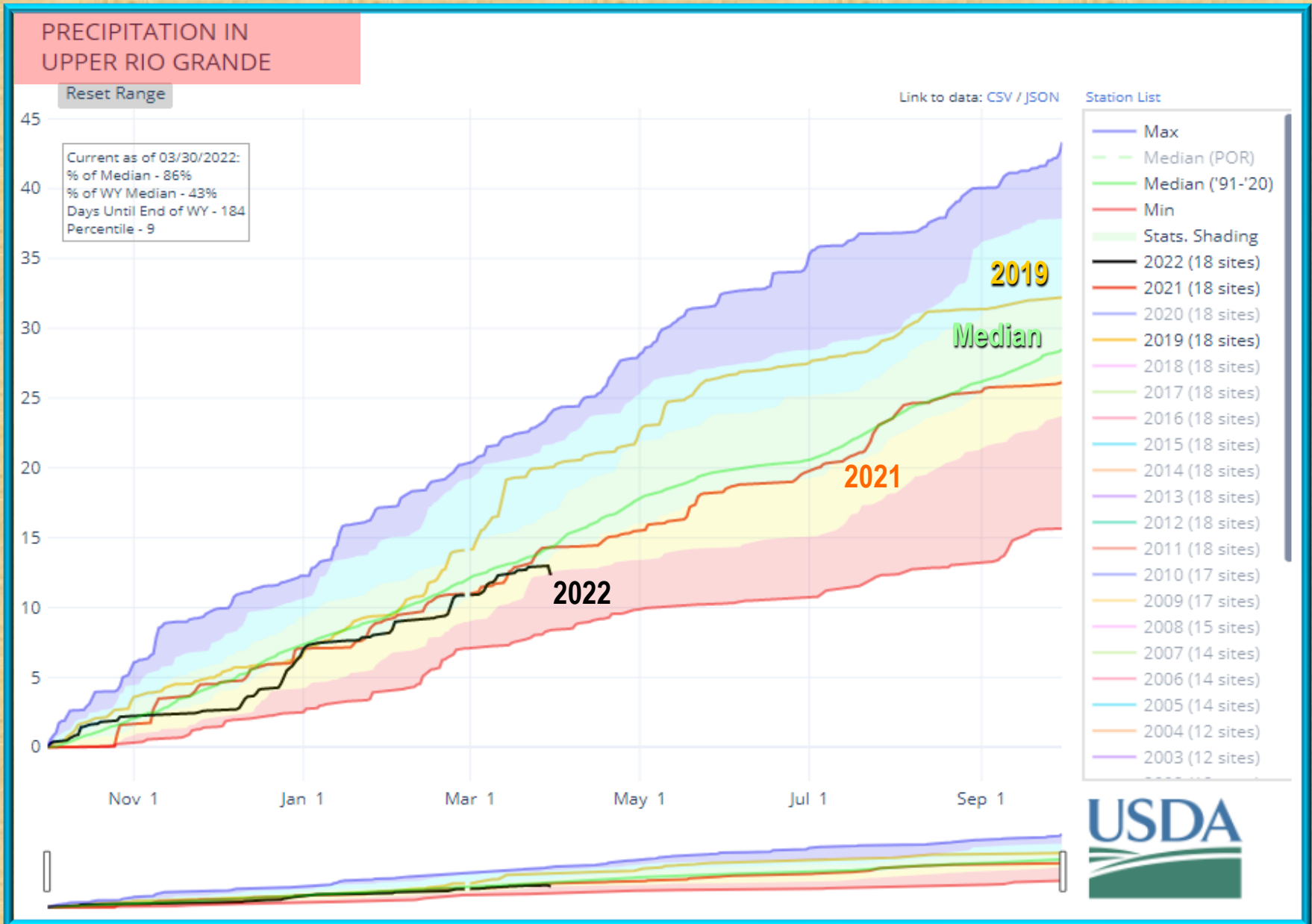


- ★ Median Peak SWE
- Max
- Median (POR)
- Median ('91-'20)
- Min
- Stats. Shading
- 2022 (18 sites)
- 2021 (18 sites)
- 2020 (18 sites)
- 2019 (18 sites)
- 2018 (18 sites)
- 2017 (18 sites)
- 2016 (18 sites)
- 2015 (18 sites)
- 2014 (18 sites)
- 2013 (18 sites)
- 2012 (18 sites)
- 2011 (17 sites)
- 2010 (16 sites)
- 2009 (16 sites)
- 2008 (14 sites)
- 2007 (13 sites)
- 2006 (13 sites)
- 2005 (13 sites)
- 2004 (12 sites)
- 2003 (12 sites)
- 2002 (12 sites)
- 2001 (12 sites)
- 2000 (11 sites)



Precipitation for the Water Year Oct 1 – Mar 31, 2022

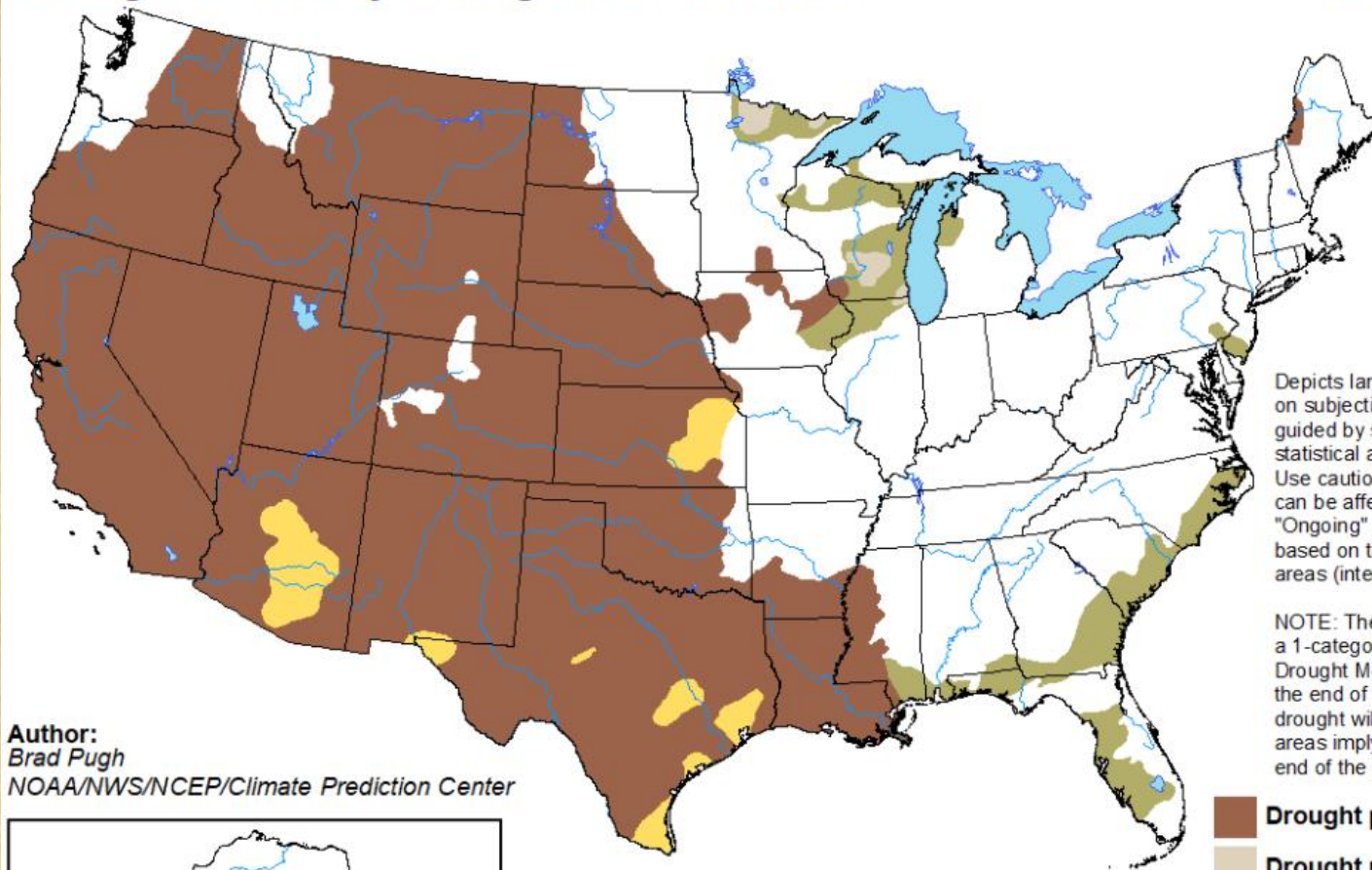
Compare to last few years and average values



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

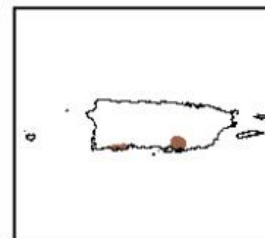
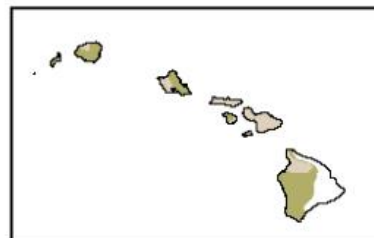
Valid for March 17 - June 30, 2022
Released March 17






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:
Brad Pugh
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



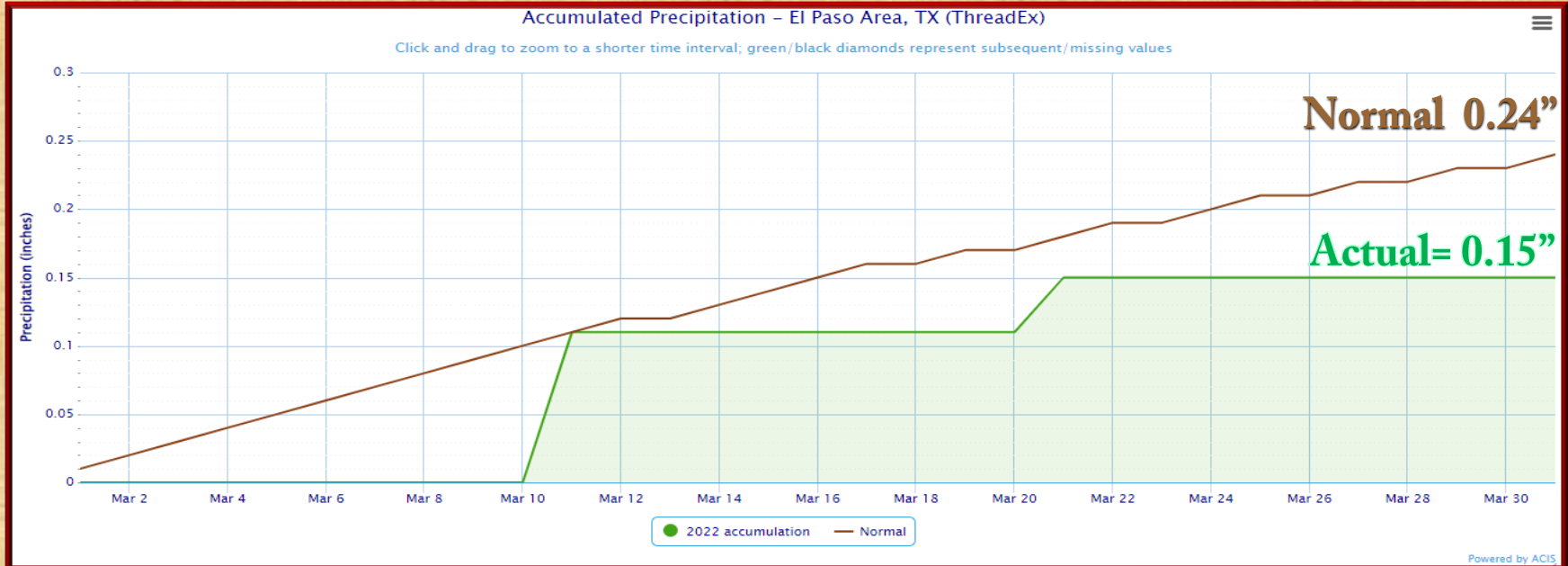
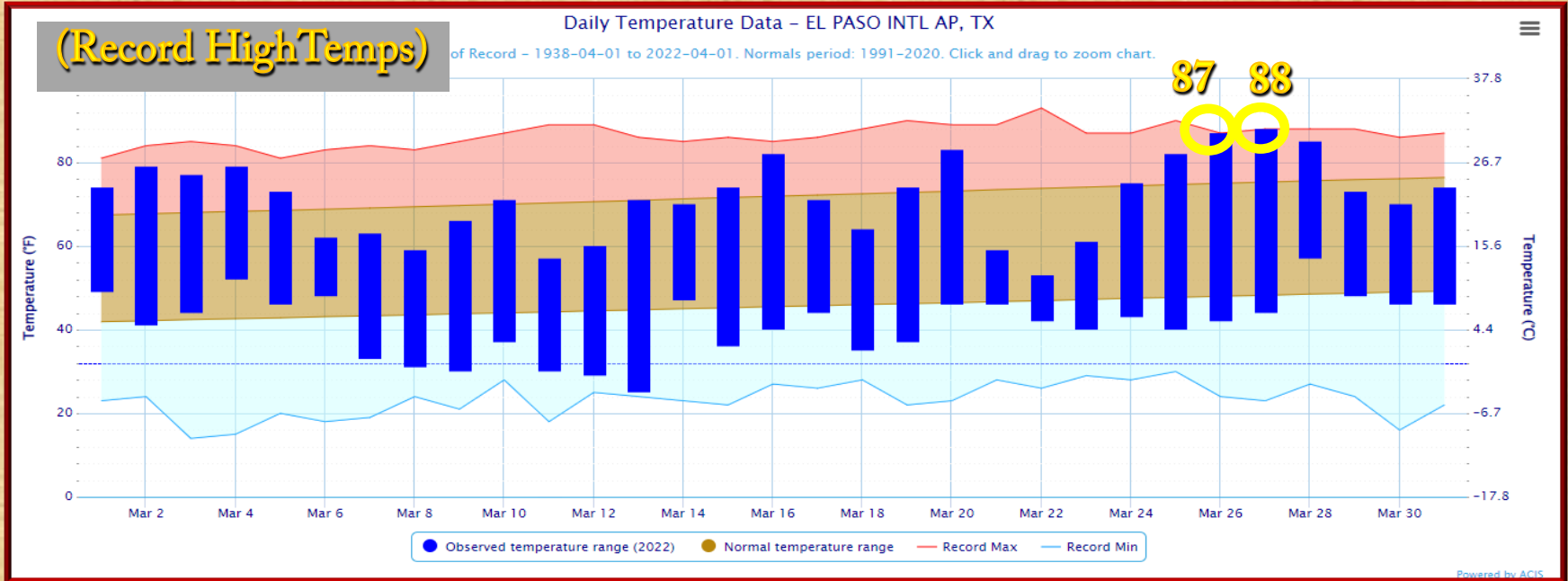
-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improve
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



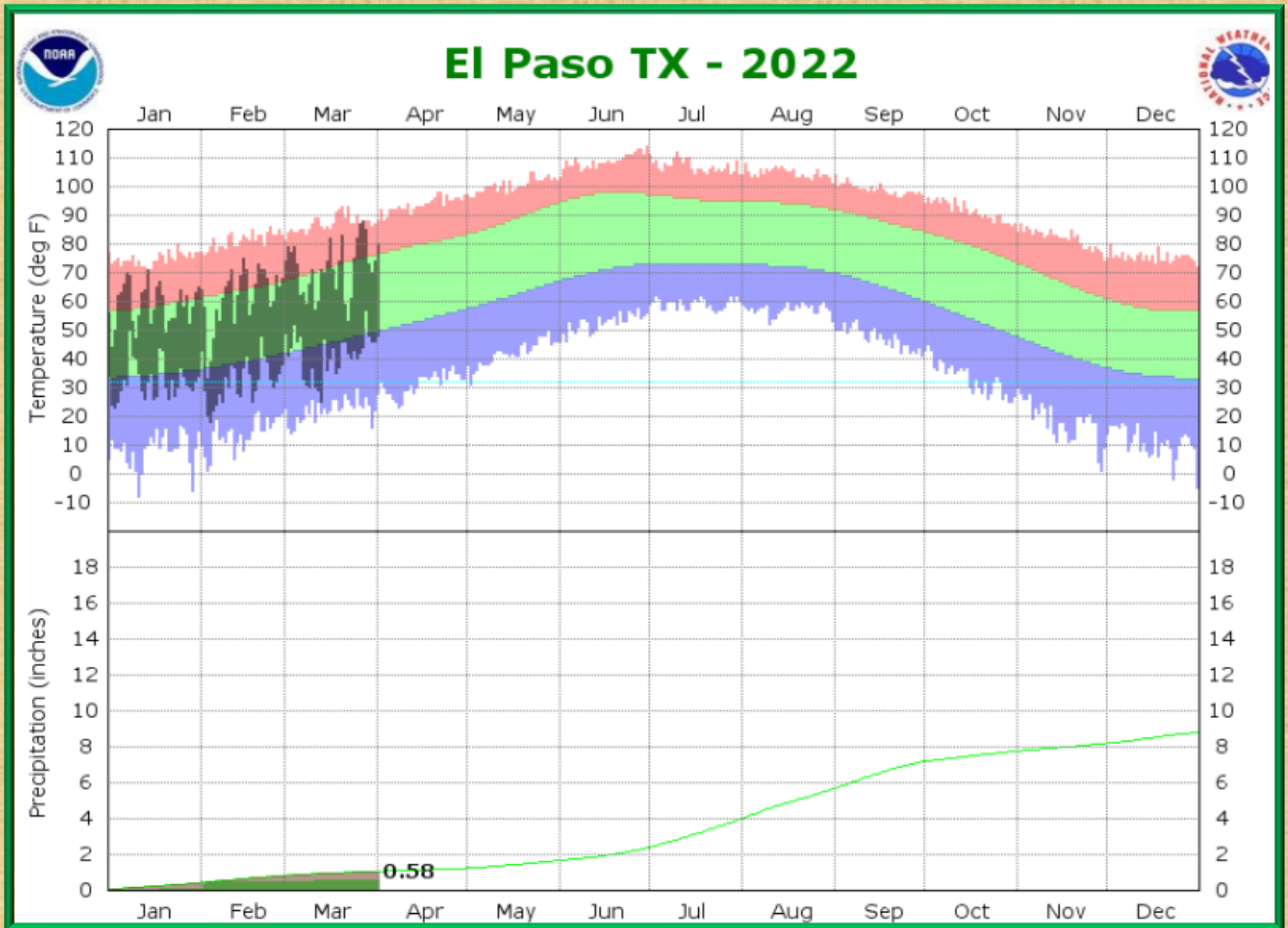
<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Temperature and precipitation data for March 2022 in El Paso

○ = record



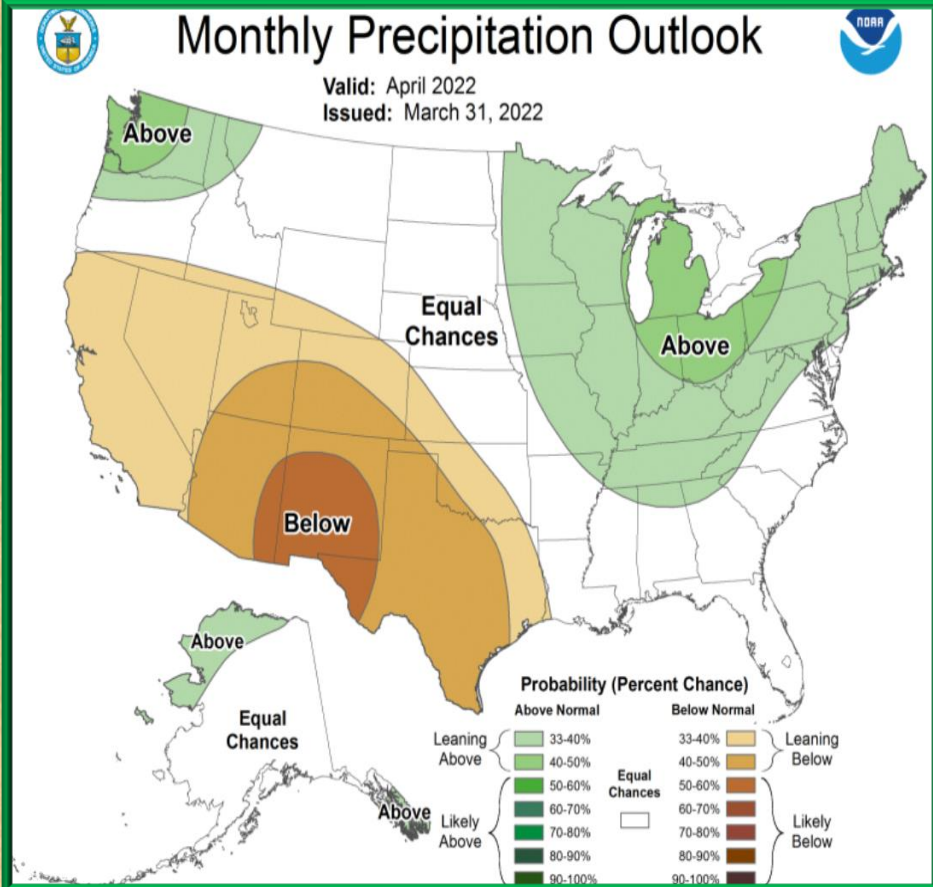
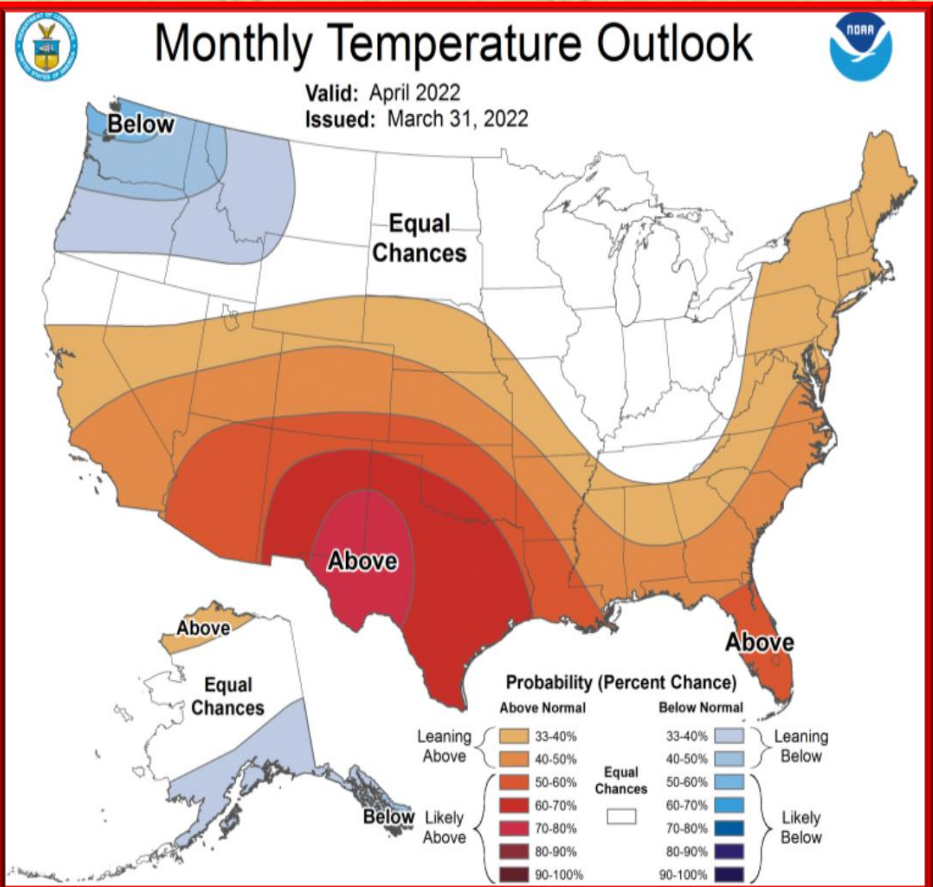
2022: Temperature and Precipitation YTD Data for El Paso



Temperature and precipitation outlook for April 2022

Temperature

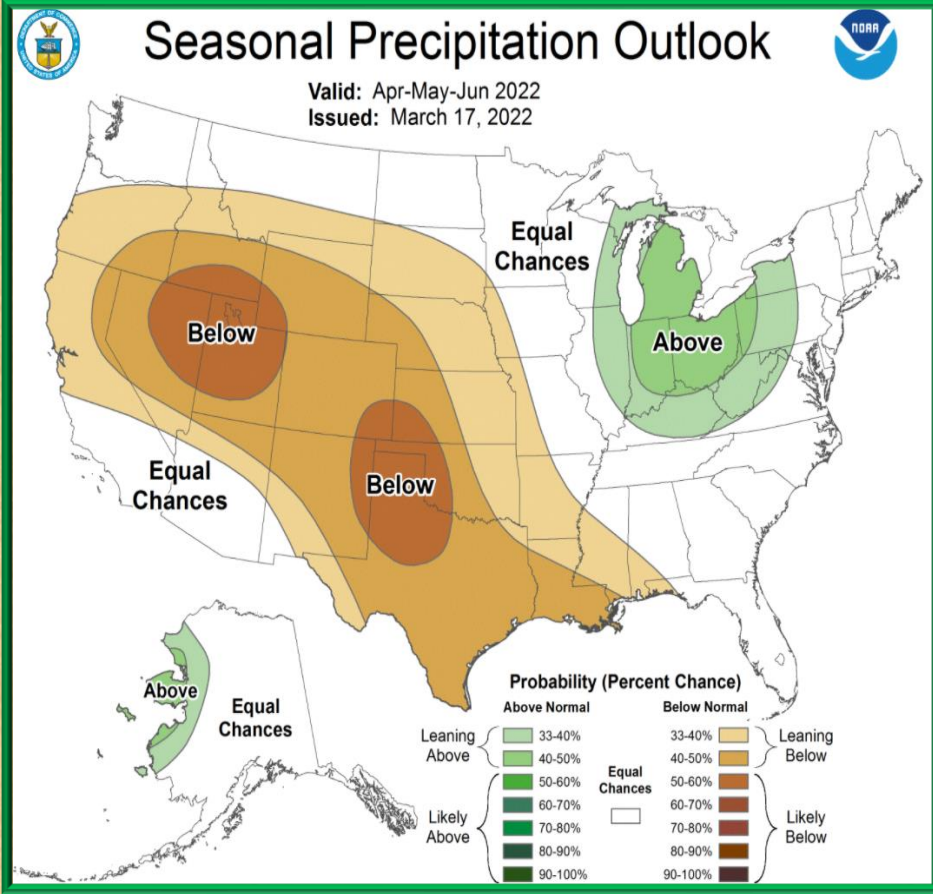
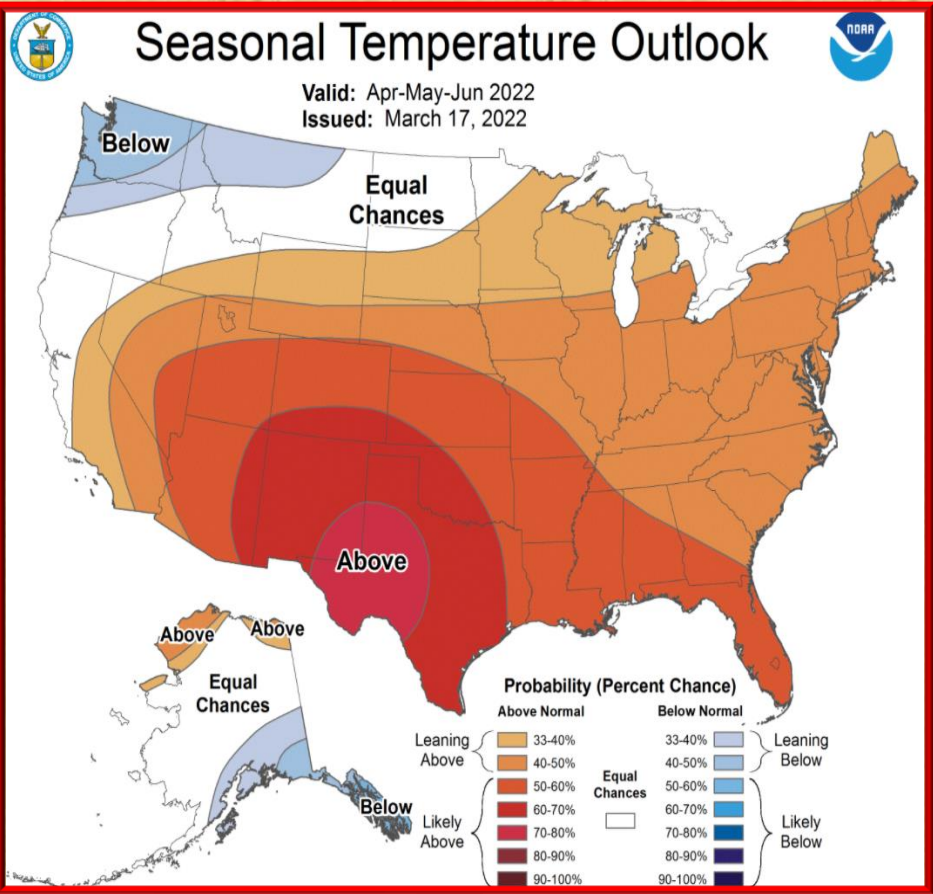
Precipitation



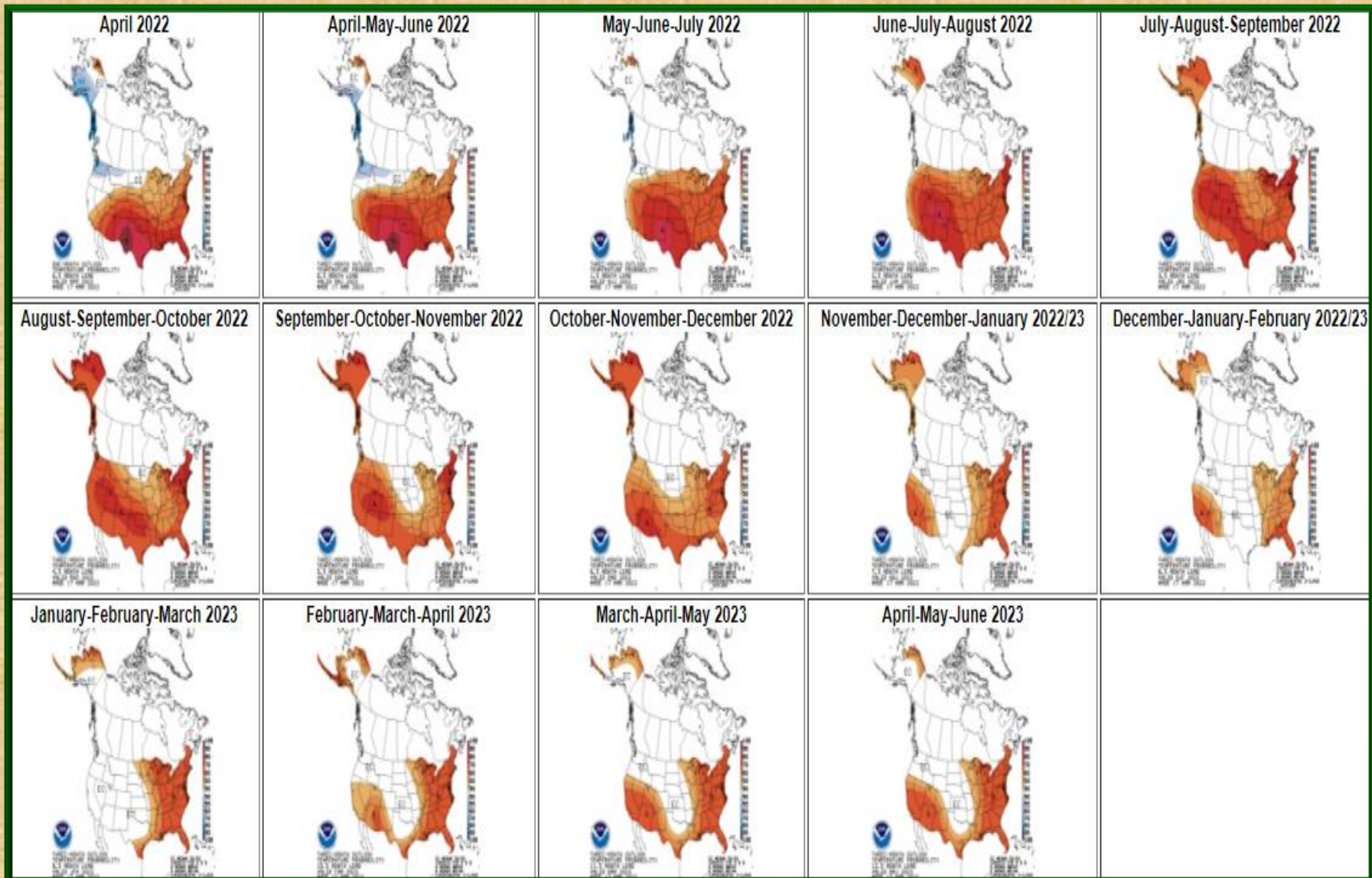
Temperature and precipitation outlook For April-June 2022

Temperature

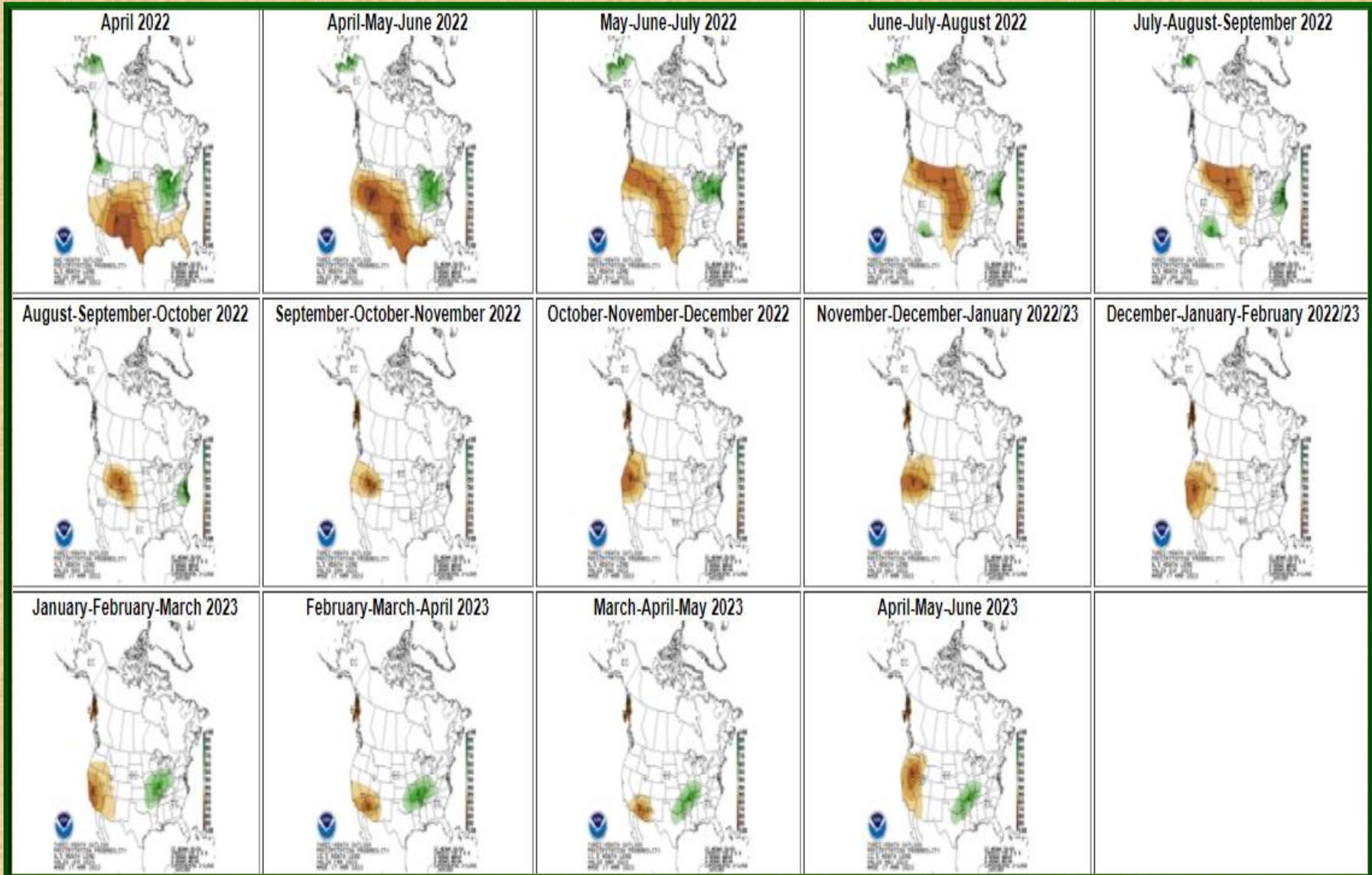
Precipitation



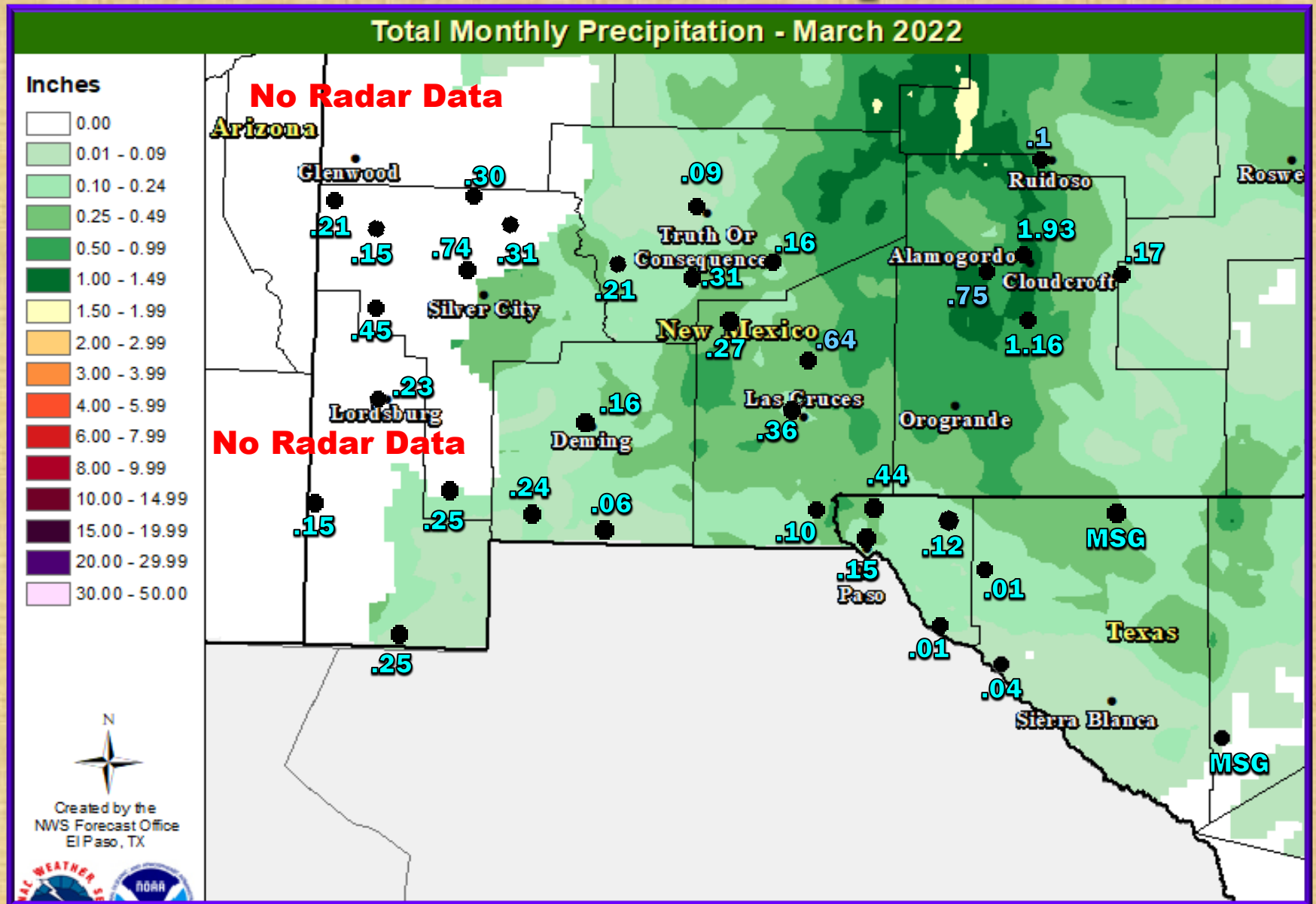
Temperature Outlook Through June 2023



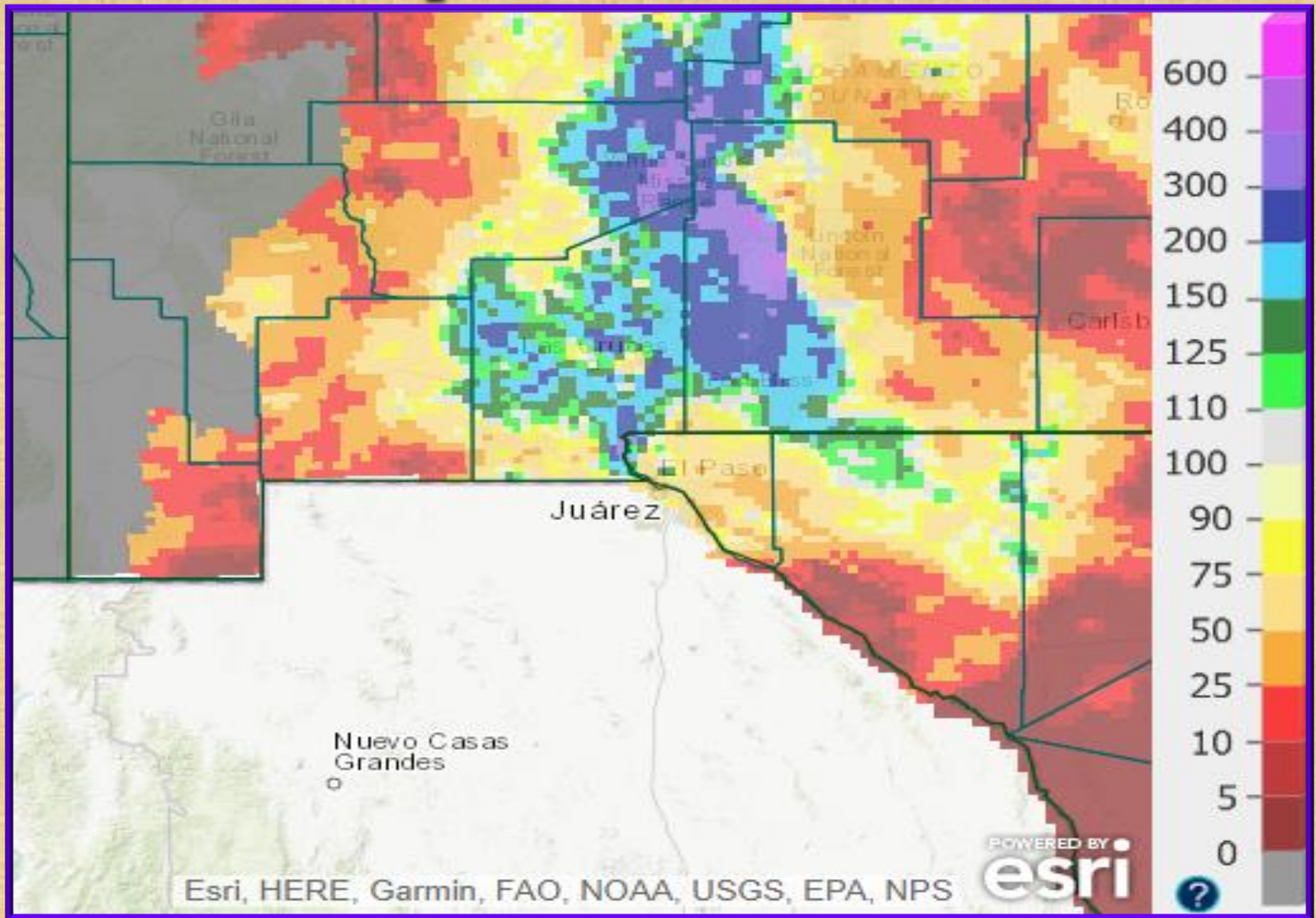
Precipitation Outlook Through June 2023



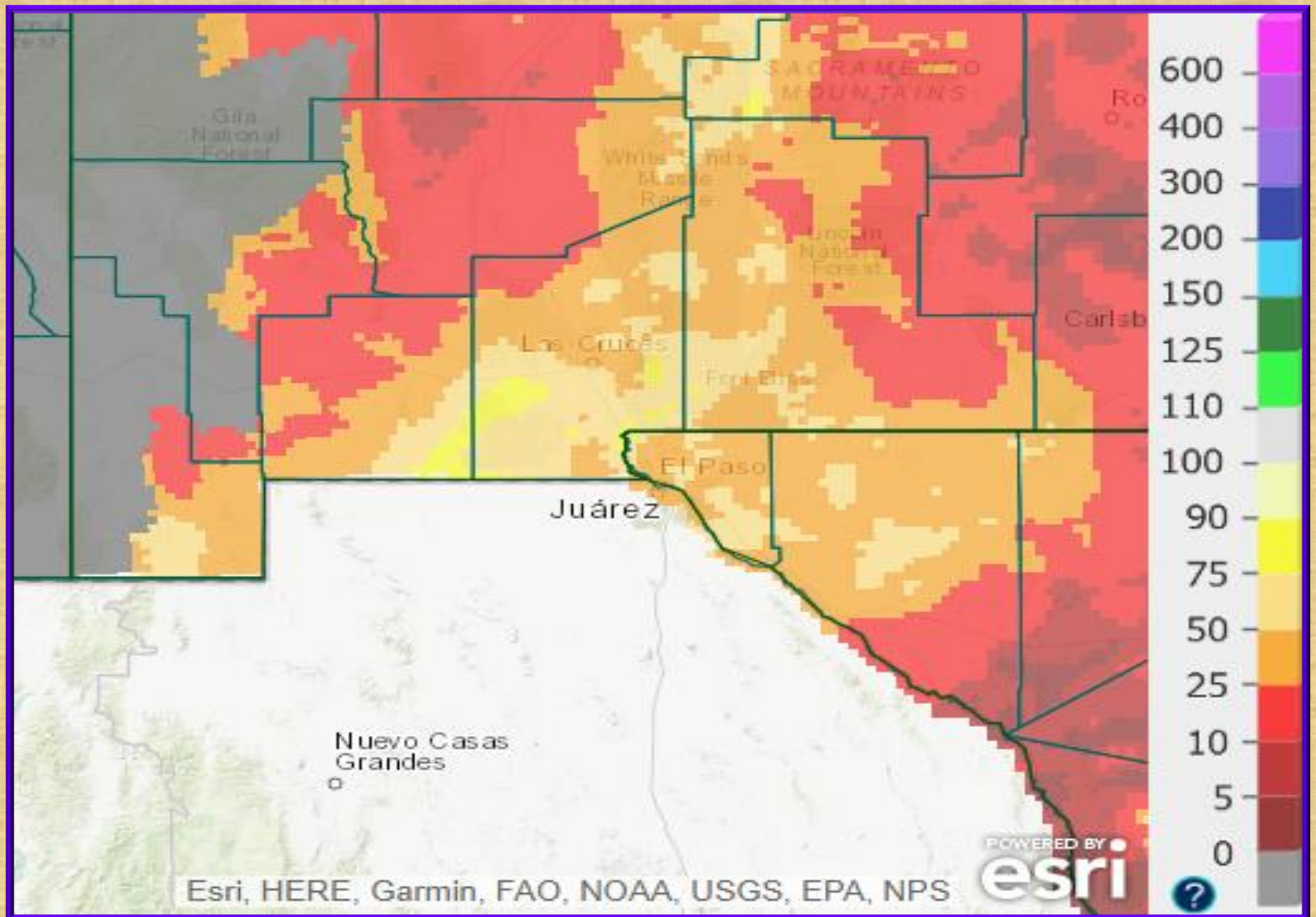
March 2022 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



March 2022 rainfall estimate percent of normal



Radar rainfall estimate percent of normal for the Water Year (Oct 1 – Mar 31)

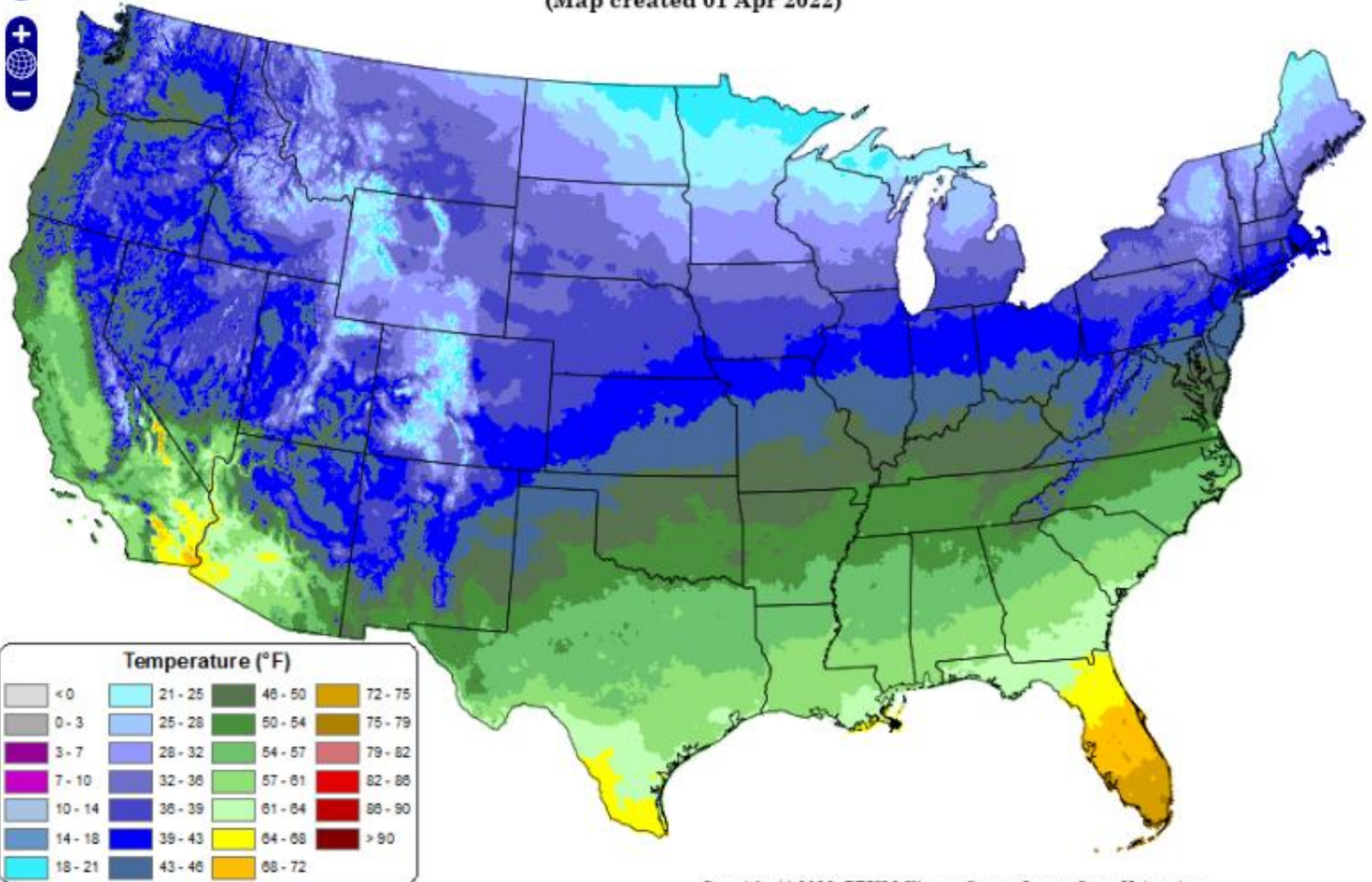


Average Daily Mean Temperature for March 2022

Average Daily Mean Temperature: 01 Mar 2022 - 31 Mar 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2022

(Map created 01 Apr 2022)

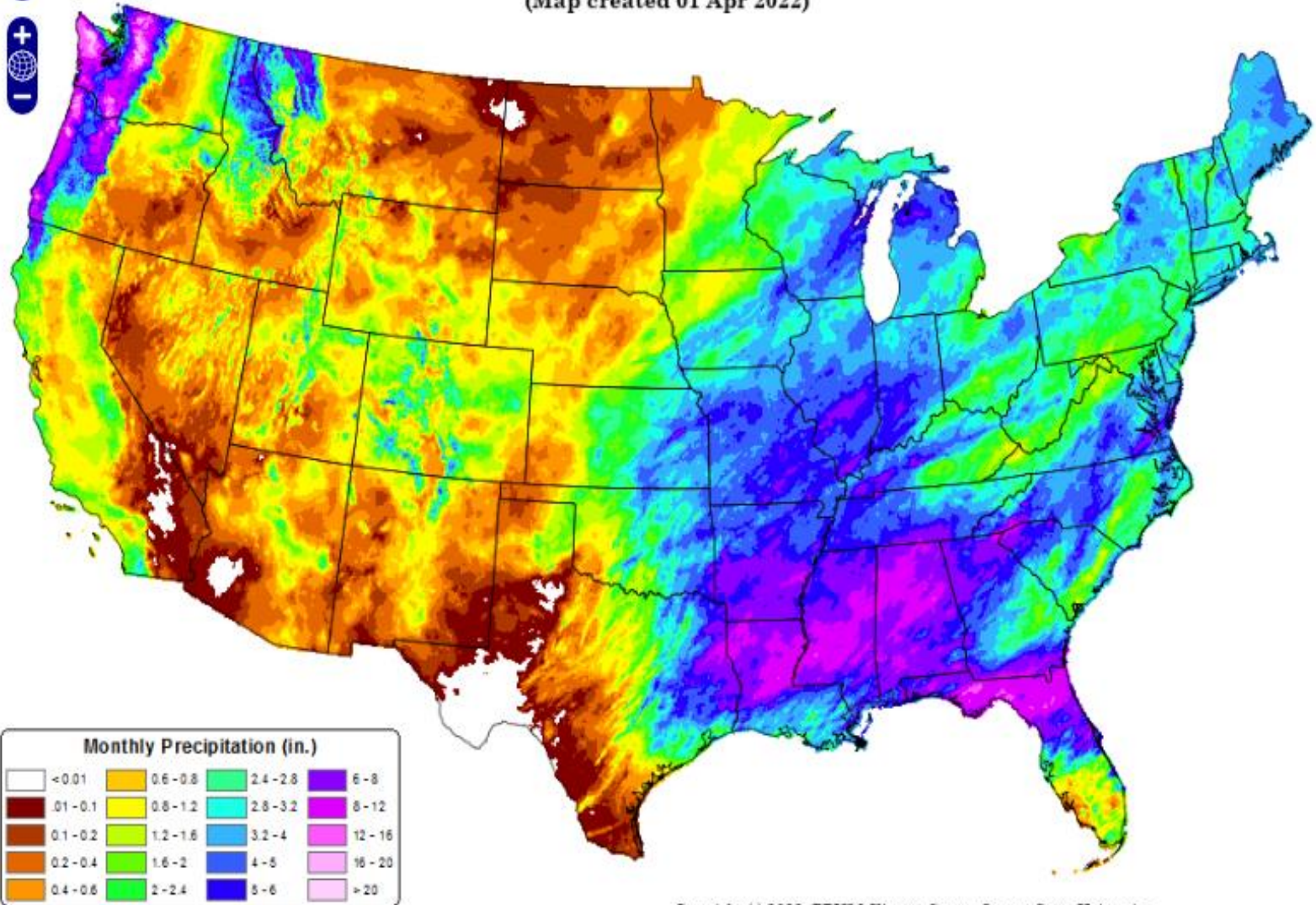


Total Precipitation for March 2022

Total Precipitation: 01 Mar 2022 - 31 Mar 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2022

(Map created 01 Apr 2022)



Selected Weather Reports March 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MAR 4 400 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	73 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 343 PM	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	59 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 215 PM	LORDSBURG PLAYAMP 13-HIDALGO	54 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 317 PM	DEMING AIRPORT-LUNA	54 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 526 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 930 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	50 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 335 PM	GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT-GRANT	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 322 PM	HOLLOMAN AFB-OTERO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 345 PM	ARREY 2N-SIERRA	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 248 PM	WINSTON-SIERRA	48 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 658 PM	BIGGS AIRFIELD-EL PASO	48 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 455 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORTDONA ANA	46 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MAR 4 515 PM	SILVER CITY MTN VIEW-GRANT	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 1040 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 341 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 525 PM	SPACEPORT-SIERRA	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 1023 PM	EL PASO INTL AIRPORT-EL PASO	44 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 4 454 PM	SANTA TERESA NWS-DONA ANA	41 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 1100 AM	EL PASO NE-EL PASO	78 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 1250 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	75 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 345 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	61 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 100 PM	MAYHILL-OTERO	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 110 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	51 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 1226 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	50 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MAR 6 1255 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 208 PM	EL PASO INTL AIRPORT-EL PASO	48 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 1130 PM	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 1258 PM	DELL CITY-HUDSPETH	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 1241 PM	HOLLOMAN AFB-OTERO	44 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 145 PM	LORDSBURG PLAYA MP7-HIDALGO	42 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 6 129 PM	SANTA TERESA NWS-DONA ANA	40 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 12 800 AM	CLOUDCROFT 4E-OTERO	6.0 INCHES SNOW
MAR 12 600 AM	LA LUZ-OTERO	4.0 INCHES SNOW
MAR 12 700 AM	SILVER CITY 4N-GRANT	3.3 INCHES SNOW
MAR 12 700 AM	EL PASO 6N-EL PASO	2.8 INCHES SNOW
MAR 12 700 AM	ALAMOGORDO 8N-OTERO	1.5 INCHES SNOW

Selected Weather Reports March 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MAR 20	CHIRICAHUA MUSEUM-HIDALGO	53 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	SAN AUGUSTIN-DONA ANA	50 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	50 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	LORDSBURG PLAYA MP9-HIDALGO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	EL PASO INTL AIRPORT-EL PASO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	WINSTON-SIERRA	45 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	45 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	SPACEPORT-SIERRA	43 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA AN	43 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 20	DEMING AIRPORT-LUNA	41 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 21	SAN AUGUSTIN-DONA ANA	64 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 21	SANTA TERESA NWS-DONA ANA	55 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MAR 21	LORDSBURG PLAYA MP9-HIDALGO	45 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 21	DEMING AIRPORT-LUNA	44 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 21	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	41 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 21	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	41 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 21	GRANT CO AIRPORT-GRANT	40 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 320 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	84 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 150 PM	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	71 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 116 PM	EL PASO INTL AIRPORT-EL PASO	63 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 1040 PM	WSMR MUSEUM- DONA ANA	58 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 241 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 600 PM	DELL CITY-HUDSPETH	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 426 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	55 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2022

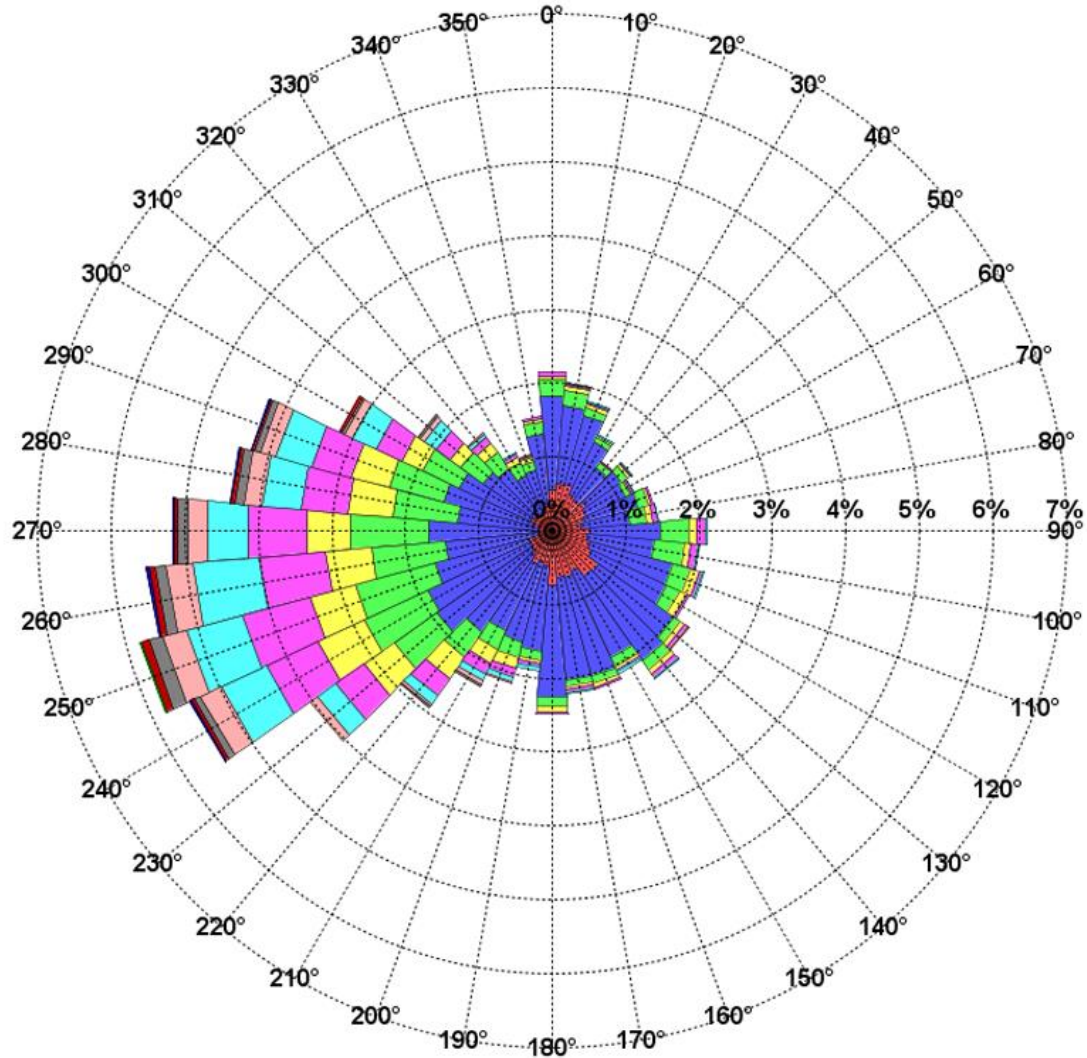
Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MAR 29 124 PM	BIGGS FIELD-EL PASO	54 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 415 PM	SANTA TERESA AIRPORT-DONA ANA	53 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 137 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 1100 AM	MAYHILL-OTERO	51 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 100 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA AN	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 317 PM	ALAMOGORDO-OTERO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MAR 29 1230 PM	SPACEPORT AMERICA-SIERRA	46 MPH PEAK WIND

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



Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code
 Enter location ...
[Location Help](#)

Heavy Rain and Flash Flooding Possible Over Parts of the Eastern United States
 Heavy rainfall is expected over portions of the eastern United States through Thursday. Flooding and flash flooding will be possible in some areas. Click the "Read More" link for excessive rainfall forecasts from the Weather Prediction Center. [Read More >](#)

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Enter Your City, ST or ZIP Code

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NWS El Paso
[Weather.gov > El Paso, TX](#)

El Paso, TX
 Weather Forecast Office

Current Hazards Current Conditions Radar Forecasts Rivers and Lakes Climate and Past Weather **Local Programs**

Today

Wednesday
 Warmer with a Few Afternoon Storms
 Weather Forecast Office
 El Paso, TX
 September 27, 2016 4:43 PM

Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code
 Enter location ...
[Location Help](#)

Heavy rain expected across the Mid-Atlantic region and central Appalachians.
 Heavy rainfall is possible over portions of the eastern United States today, with the highest risk across the Mid-Atlantic and central Appalachians. Click the "Read More" link for excessive rainfall forecasts from the Weather Prediction Center. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are possible over portions of the Southwest and southern Rockies through Friday. [Read More >](#)

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Monthly Weather Digest
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El Paso, TX
 Weather Forecast Office

Current Hazards Current Conditions Radar Forecasts Rivers and Lakes Climate and Past Weather **Local Programs**

Southern New Mexico and Far West Texas has a variety of weather from month to month. Conditions can range from extreme drought, to heavy flooding rains, from record breaking heat to bone chilling cold. Below you will find past weather highlights from the area that the NWS office in Santa Teresa NM covers. This area includes the following counties in New Mexico: Hudspeth, Grant, Luna, Sierra, Doña Ana and Otero and the following counties in Texas: El Paso and Hudspeth.

weather.gov/epz

Don't Forget-Current and past issues of our Weather Digest are available on our website at <http://www.weather.gov/epz/>

Just click on "Local Programs>Weather Digest", then choose which month's Digest to view. Also, though discontinued, don't forget to check out our back issues of Southwest Weather Bulletin.

WEATHER DIGESTS AND BULLETINS	
Weather Digest	Southwest Weather Bulletins
January	2005 Spring Fall
February	2006 Spring Fall
March	2007 Spring Fall
April	2008 Spring Fall
May	2009 Spring Fall
June	2010 Spring Fall
July	2011 Spring Fall
August	2012 Spring Fall
September	2013 Spring Fall
October	2014 Spring Fall
November	
December	