

NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. by NWS Instruction 10-924)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE		HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)
			Tulsa, Oklahoma (TSA)
	MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS		REPORT FOR: MONTH May YEAR 2026
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283		SIGNATURE Steven F. Piltz (Meteorologist-in-Charge)	
		DATE June 5, 2026	

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

☒ An "X" in the box indicates no flood stages were reached in this Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) during the month above.

Despite a few rounds of heavy rainfall and flash flooding, May 2026 was a drier than average month for most of eastern OK and northwest AR. This report, past E-5 reports, and monthly hydrology and climatology summaries can be found at https://www.weather.gov/tsa/climo_summary_e5list.

Monthly Summary

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 1a), rainfall totals for May 2026 ranged from 1.5" to 12" across eastern OK and northwest AR, with much of the area receiving 2"-4". These rainfall totals correspond to 25% to 185% of the normal May rainfall with a large portion of the area receiving 25%-65% of normal (Fig. 1b).

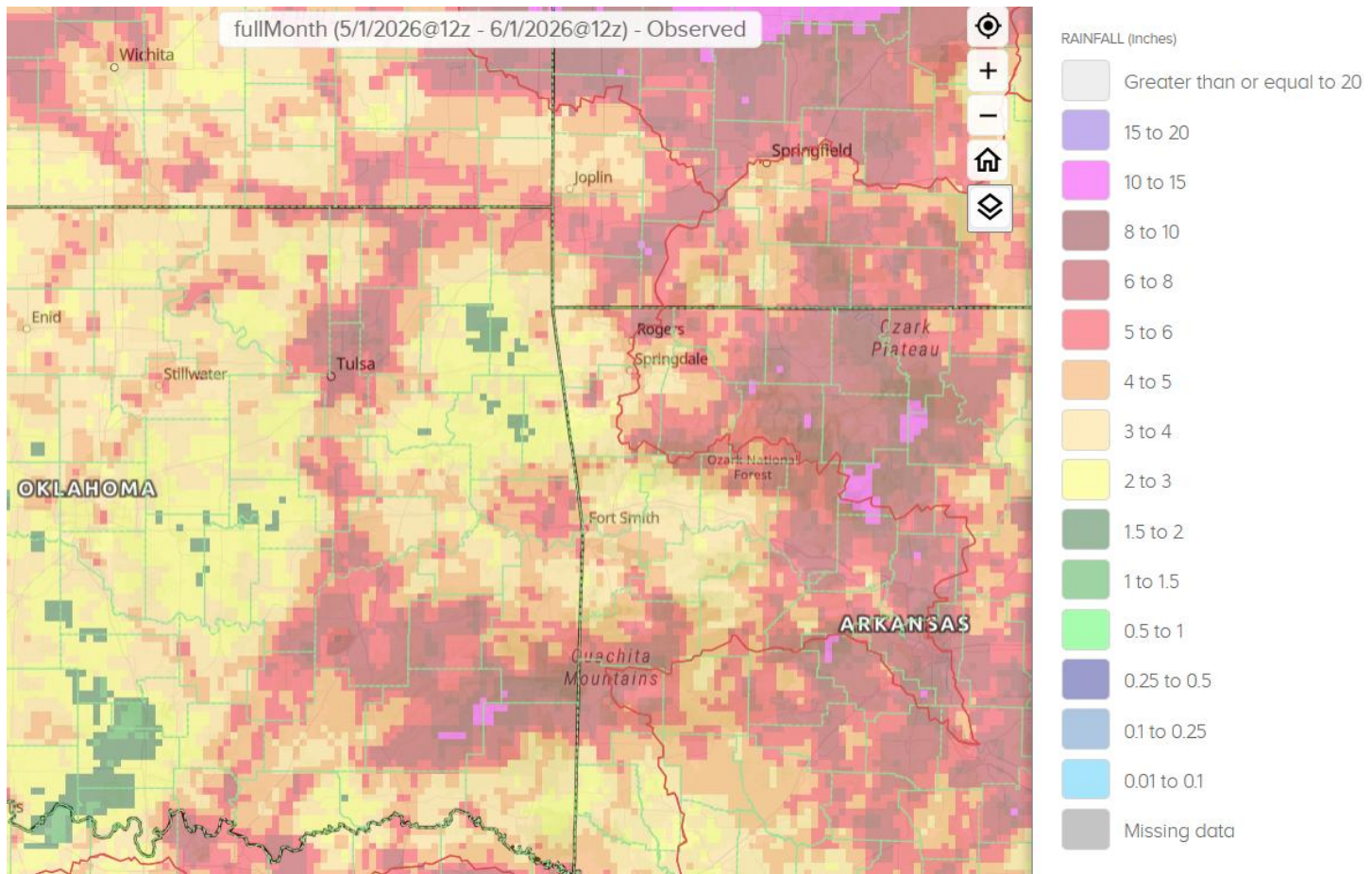


Fig. 1a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for May 2026

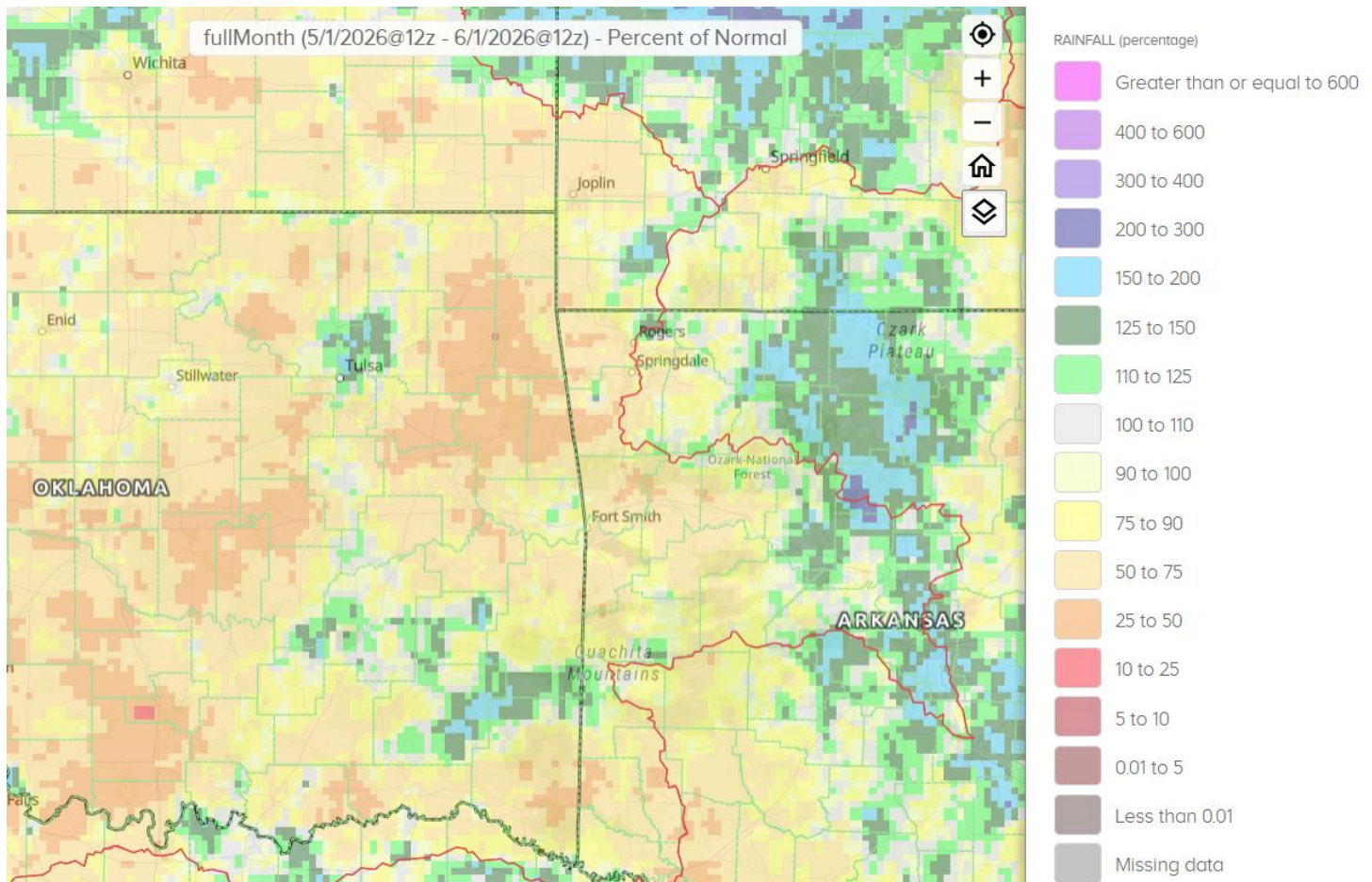


Fig. 1b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for May 2026

In Tulsa, OK, May 2026 ranked as the 47th warmest May (70.0°F; since records began in 1905) and the 28th wettest May (8.08"; since records began in 1888). Fort Smith, AR had the 27th warmest May (72.0°F; since records began in 1883) and the 52nd driest May (3.74, tied 1895"; since records began in 1883). Fayetteville, AR had the 18th warmest (67.5°F, tied 2007, 1975) and the 9th driest (2.78", tied 1969) May since records began in 1950.

Some of the larger precipitation reports (in inches) for May 2026 included:

Sperry 0.7WSW, OK (coco)	9.26	Tulsa 3.4W, OK (coco)	9.19	Collinsville 2.1WSW, OK (coco)	8.75
Tulsa, OK (meso)	8.62	Tulsa 1.5WNW, OK (coco)	8.55	Claremore 7.5W, OK (coco)	8.54
Owasso 1.4NNW, OK (coco)	8.49	Owasso 3.6NNE, OK (coco)	8.47	Tulsa, OK (ASOS)	8.08

Some of the lowest precipitation reports (in inches) for May 2026 included:

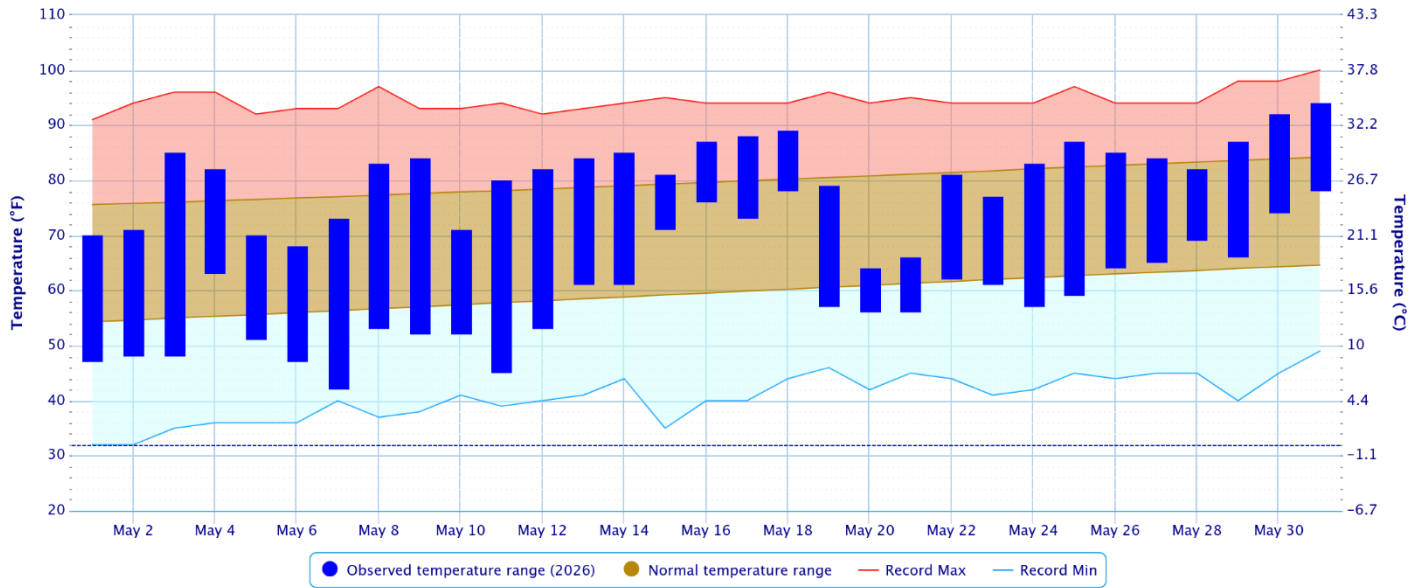
Spavinaw, OK (coop)	1.52	Canehill 0.7SSE, AR (coco)	2.08	Tahlequah, OK (meso)	2.16
Okemah, OK (meso)	2.25	Pawnee, OK (meso)	2.53	Haskell, OK (meso)	2.63
Porter, OK (meso)	2.71	Fayetteville, AR (ASOS)	2.78	Fayetteville 4.2NW, AR (coco)	2.86

According to statistics from the [Oklahoma Climatological Survey](#) (OCS) Mesonet:

Rank since 1921	Last 30 Days (May 2-31)	Spring 2026 (Mar 1 – May 31)	Last 60 Days (Apr 2 – May 31)	Last 180 Days (Dec 3 – May 31)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – May 31)	Water Year-to-Date (Oct 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026)	Last 365 Days (Jun 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026)
Northeast OK	52 nd driest	37 th wettest	27 th wettest	33 rd driest	51 st driest	36 th driest	44 th wettest
East Central OK	40 th driest	42 nd wettest	39 th wettest	20 th driest	45 th driest	29 th driest	49 th driest
Southeast OK	53 rd wettest	47 th driest	44 th wettest	10th driest	33 rd driest	20 th driest	28 th driest
Statewide	30 th driest	25 th driest	38 th driest	10th driest	18 th driest	15 th driest	39 th driest

Daily Temperature Data – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

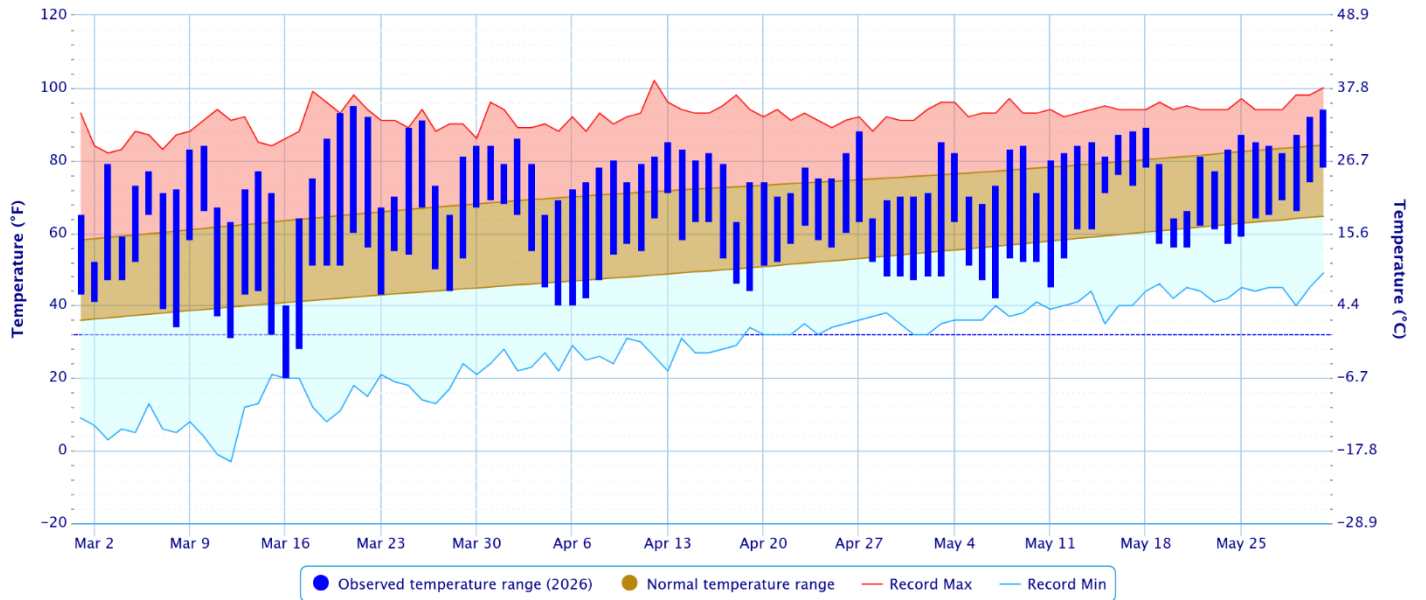
Period of Record – 1905-01-06 to 2026-06-04. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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Daily Temperature Data – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

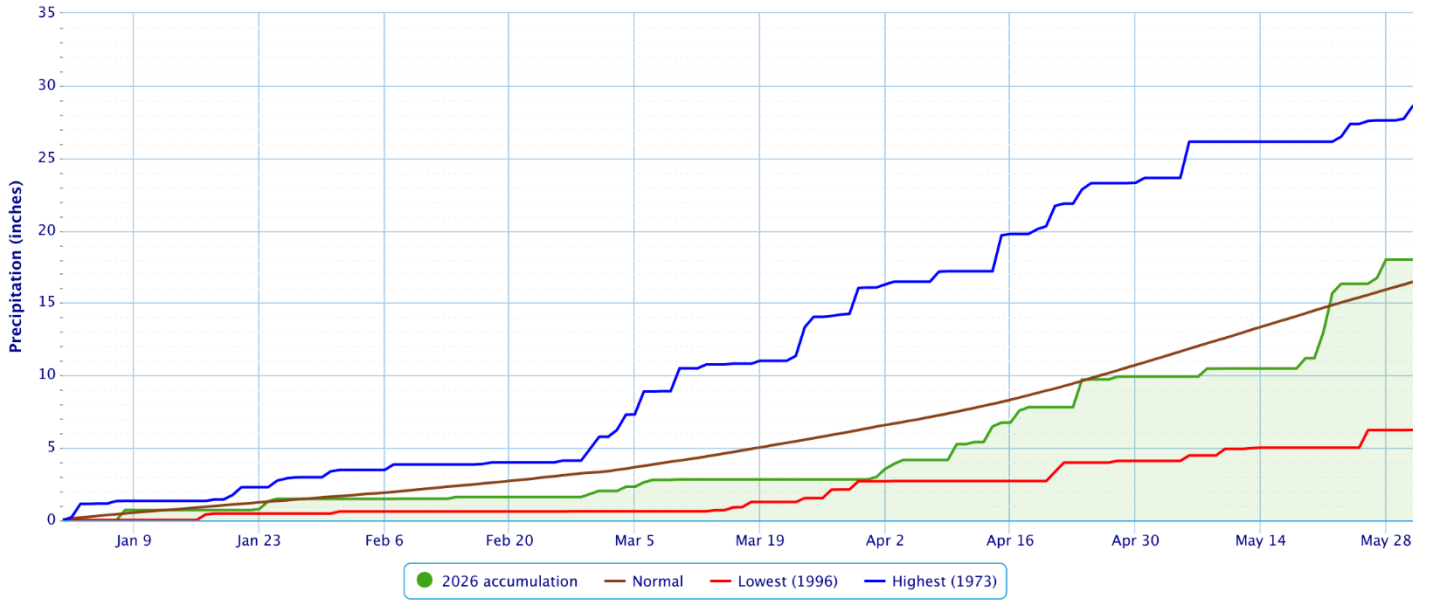
Period of Record – 1905-01-06 to 2026-06-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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Accumulated Precipitation – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

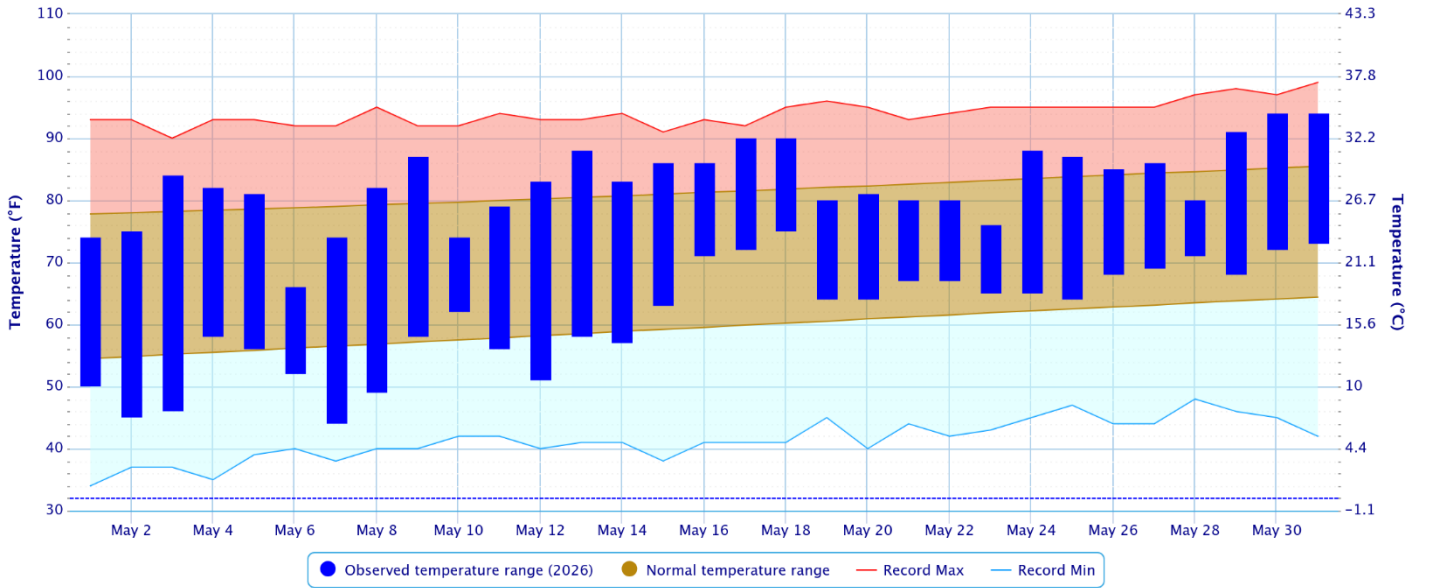
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



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Daily Temperature Data – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

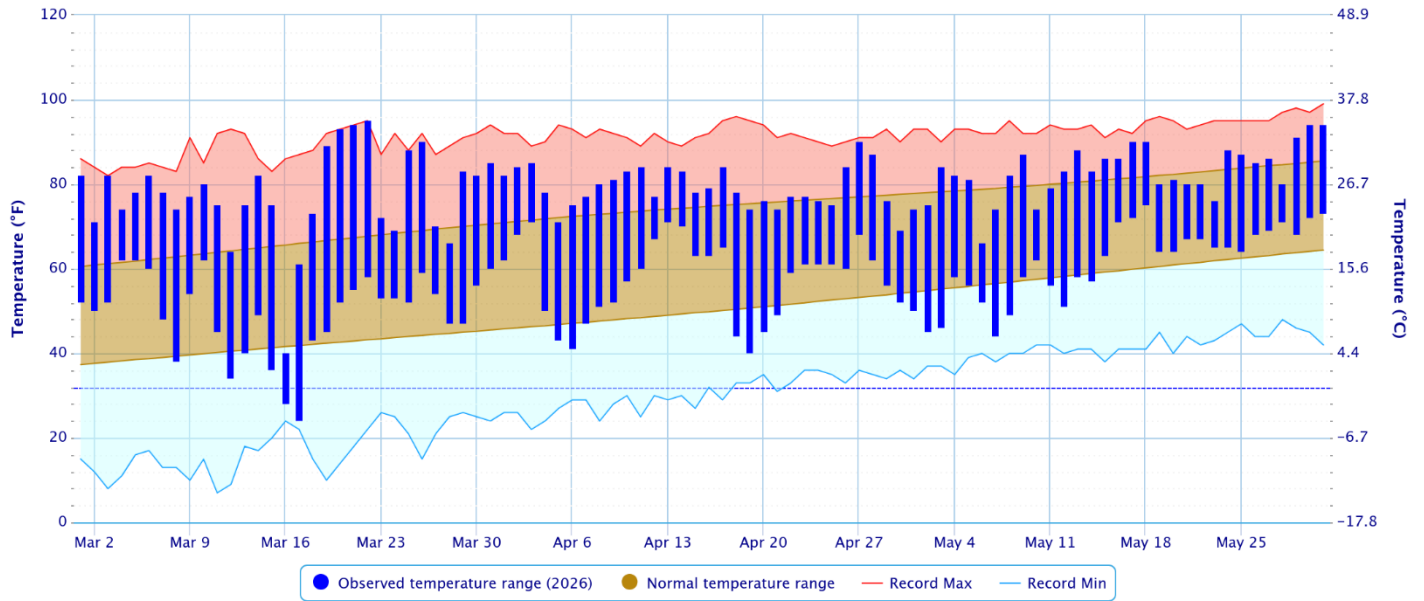
Period of Record – 1882-06-01 to 2026-06-04. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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Daily Temperature Data – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

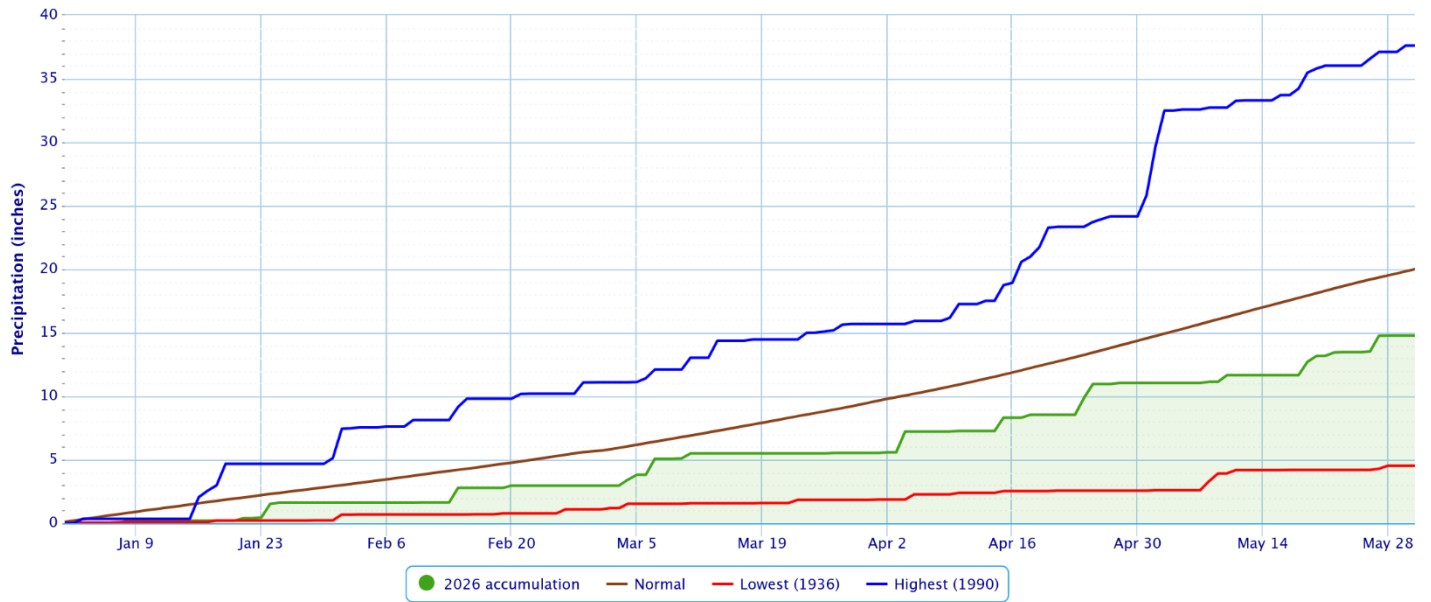
Period of Record – 1882-06-01 to 2026-06-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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Accumulated Precipitation – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

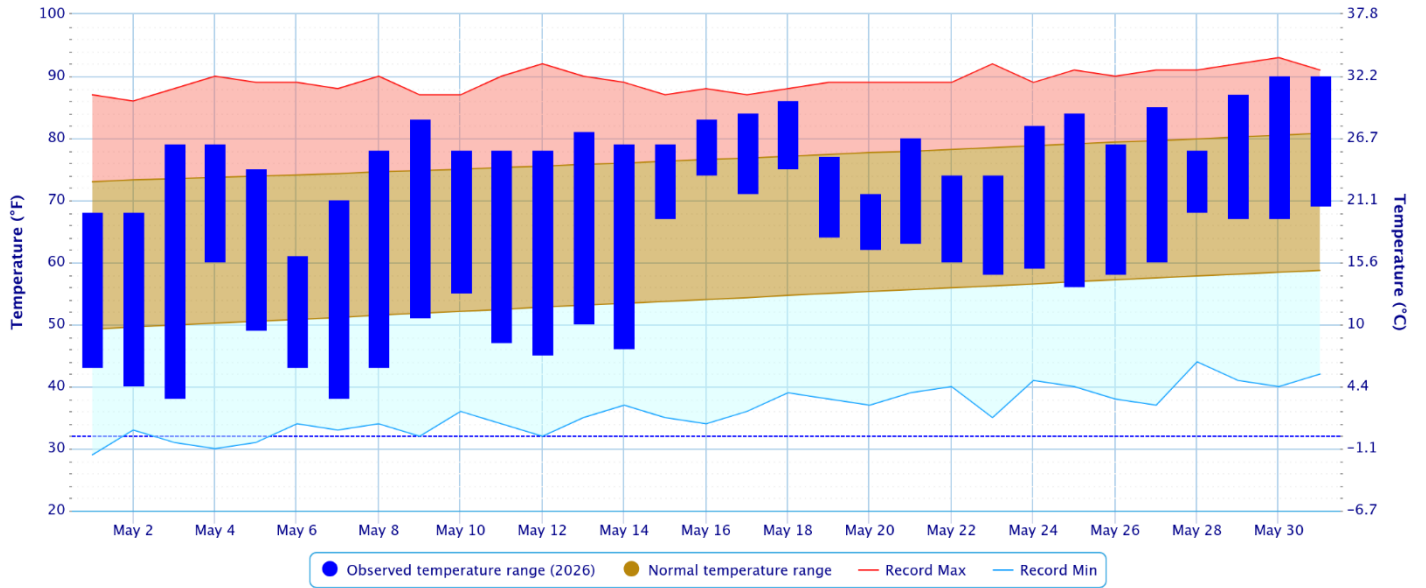
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



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Daily Temperature Data – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

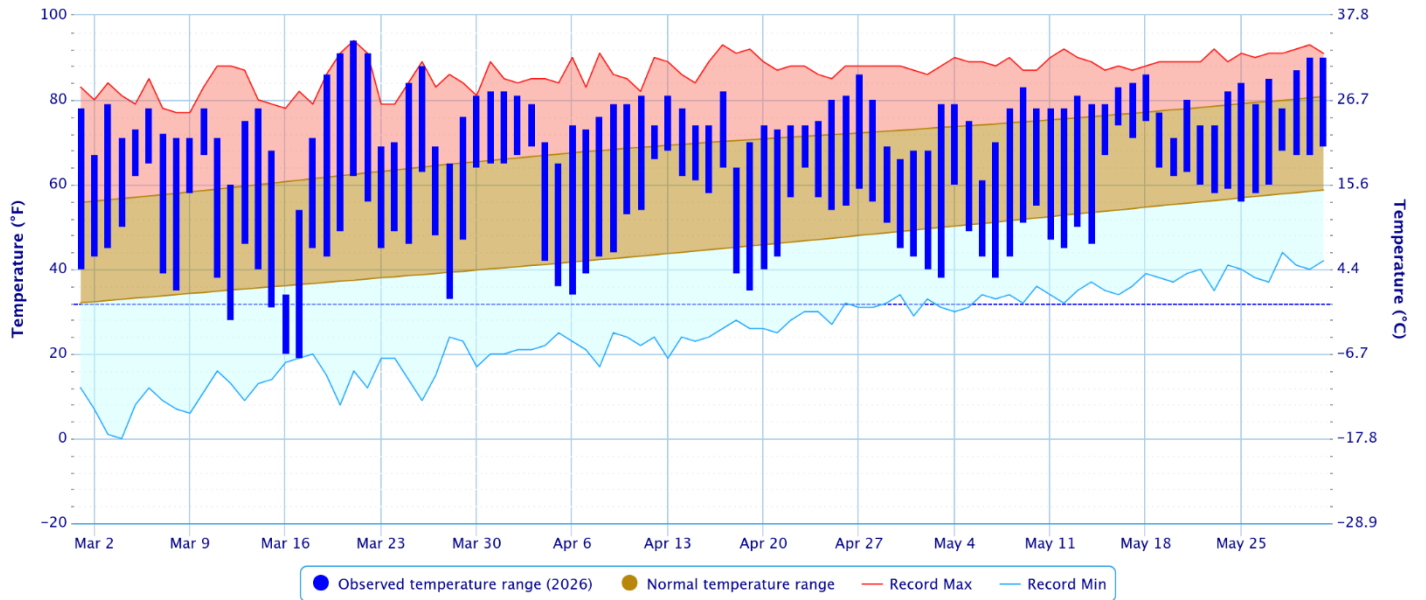
Period of Record – 1949-07-14 to 2026-06-04. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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Daily Temperature Data – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

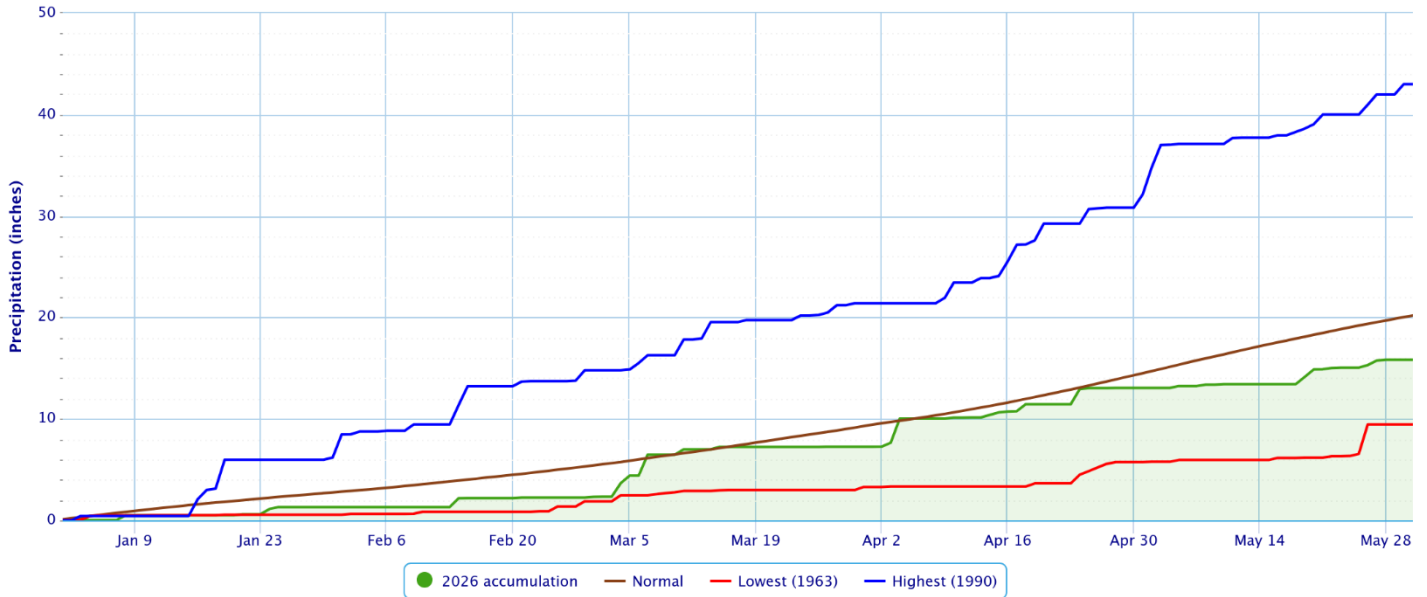
Period of Record – 1949-07-14 to 2026-06-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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Accumulated Precipitation – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

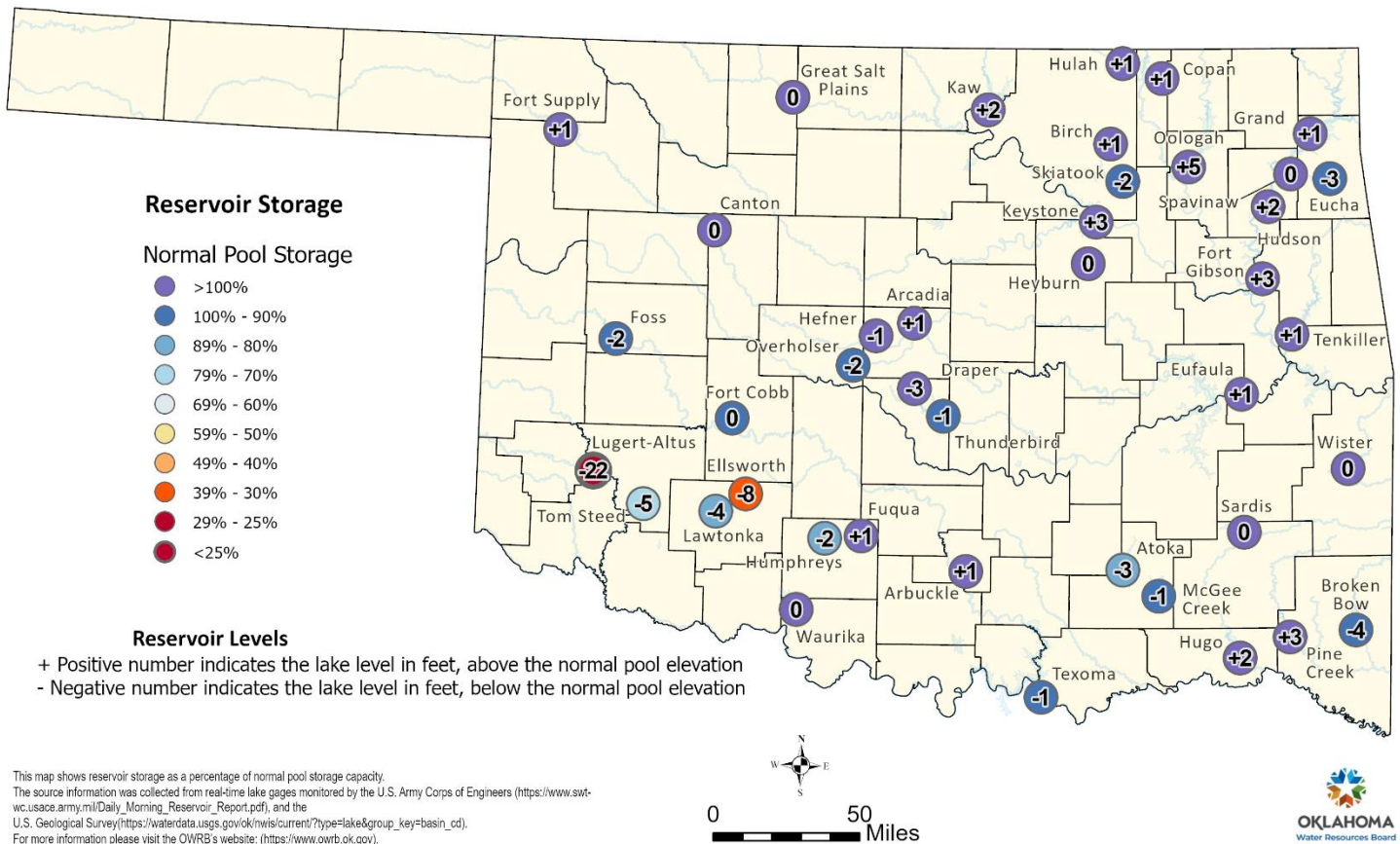
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



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Reservoirs

Oklahoma Reservoir Levels and Storage as of 6/4/2026



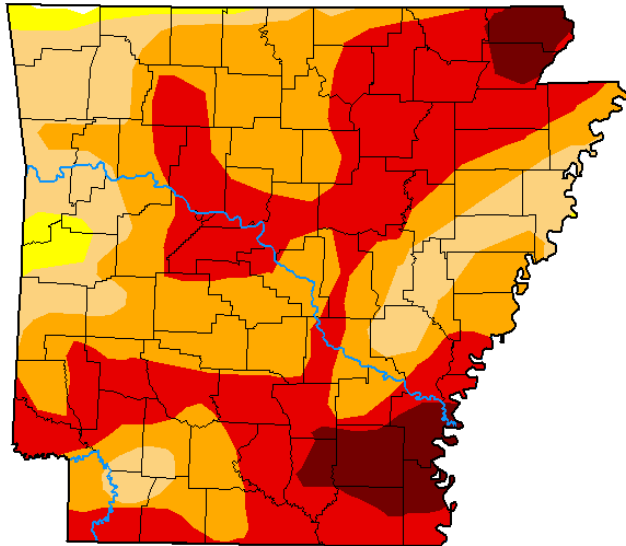
According to the USACE, several lakes in the HSA were above 3% of the top of their conservation pools as of 6/01/2026: Oologah Lake 14%, Sardis Lake 7%, Hugo Lake 5%, Keystone Lake 5%, and Beaver Lake 4%. One lake was more than 3% below the top of its conservation pool: Skiatook Lake 92%.

According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) (USDM) from June 2, 2026 (Figs. 2, 3), Extreme (D3) Drought conditions remained in Choctaw County in eastern OK. Severe (D2) Drought conditions existed in portions of Mayes, Cherokee, Wagoner, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK and Crawford, Franklin, Carroll, and Madison Counties in northwest AR. Moderate (D1) Drought conditions were present in portions of Osage, Pawnee, Creek, Tulsa, Washington, Nowata, Rogers, Mayes, Delaware, Wagoner, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Haskell, Cherokee, Adair, Sequoyah, Le Flore, Latimer, Pushmataha, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK and Benton, Carroll, Madison, Washington, Crawford, Sebastian, and Franklin Counties in northwest AR. Abnormally Dry (D0) but not in drought conditions were occurring in parts of Washington, Nowata, Rogers, Craig, Mayes, Ottawa, Delaware, McIntosh, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, Pittsburg, Haskell, Latimer, Le Flore, Pushmataha, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK, and Benton, Carroll, and Sebastian Counties in northwest AR.



U.S. Drought Monitor Arkansas

June 2, 2026
(Released Thursday, Jun. 4, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.11	99.89	97.47	80.77	42.91	6.19
Last Week 05-26-2026	0.04	99.96	99.14	84.31	54.10	15.13
3 Months Ago 03-03-2026	0.00	100.00	99.97	74.47	34.91	3.59
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	0.00	100.00	91.34	21.84	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	19.70	80.30	48.43	20.14	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 06-03-2025	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Adam Allgood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Fig. 3. Drought Monitor for Arkansas

Spring (March-April-May) 2026 Summary

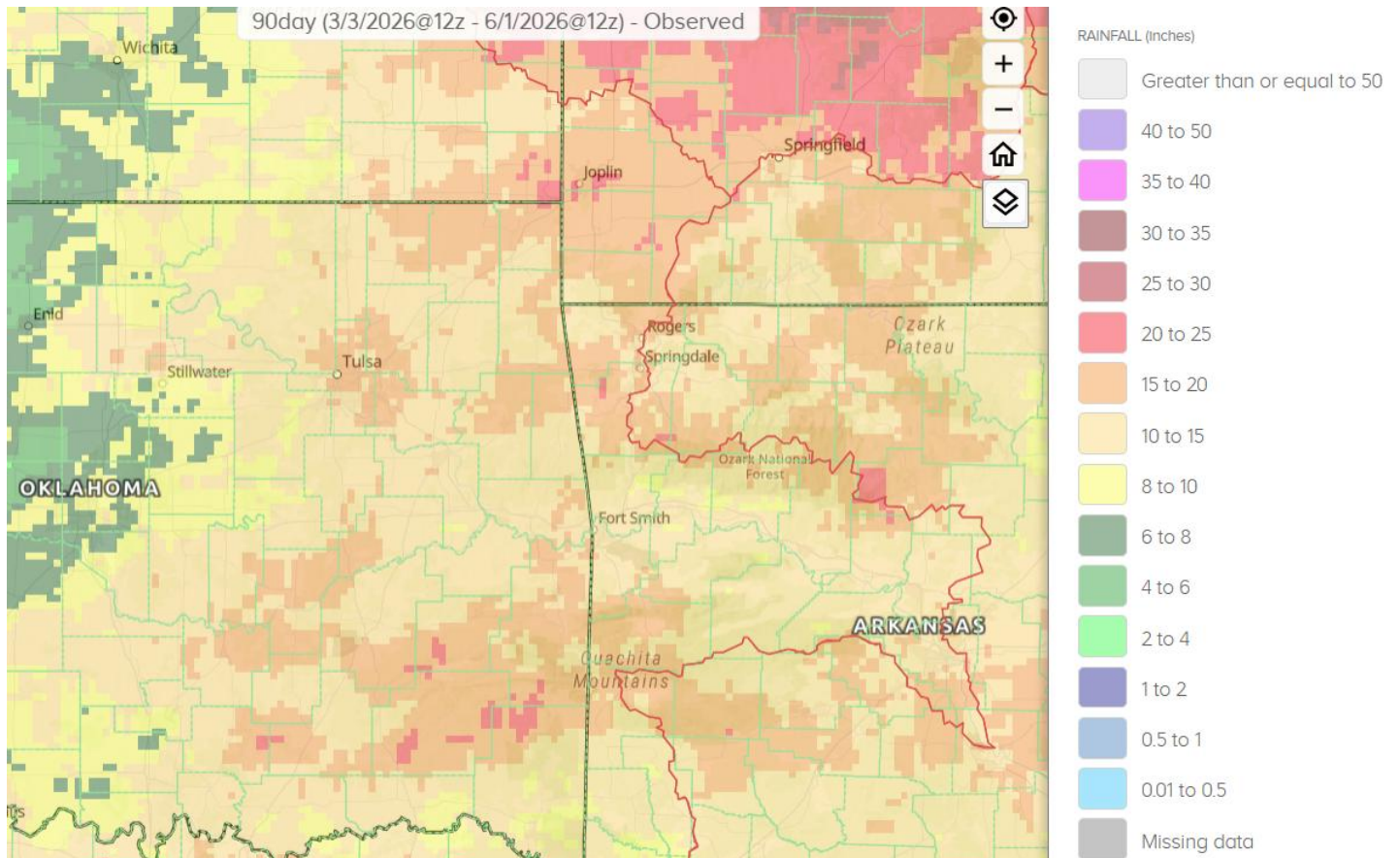


Fig. 4a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for Spring 2026. 90-Days ending at 7am CDT 6/01/2026

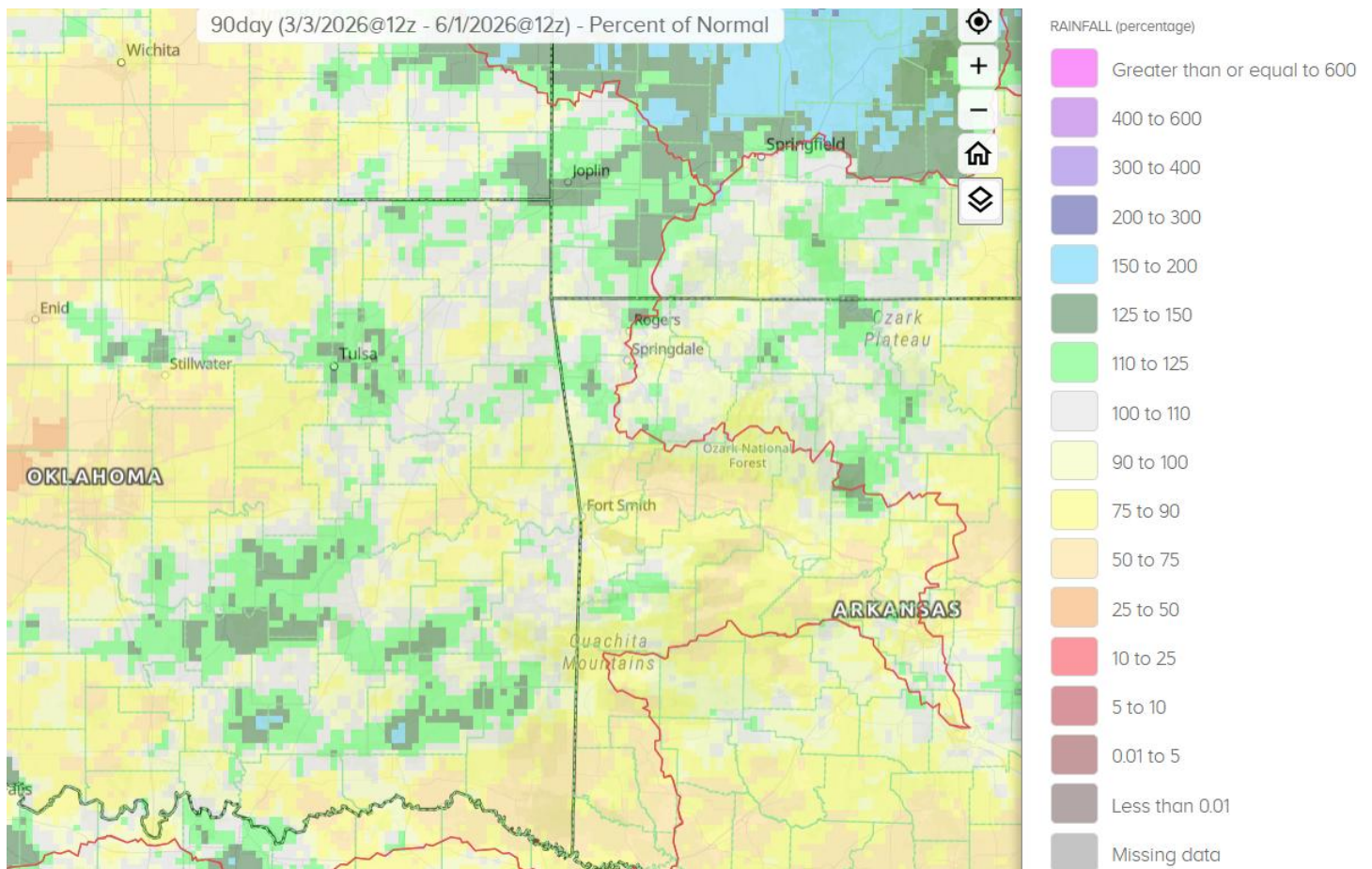


Fig. 4b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for Spring 2026. 90-Days ending at 7am CDT 6/01/2026

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 4a), rainfall totals for Spring 2026 ranged from 8.5" to 22" across eastern OK and northwest AR, with much of the area receiving 10"-15". These rainfall totals correspond to 60% to 160% of the normal Spring rainfall with a large portion of the area receiving 75%-110% of normal (Fig. 4b).

In Tulsa, OK, Spring 2026 ranked as the 2nd warmest Spring (65.6°F; since records began in 1905) and the 26th wettest Spring (16.39"; since records began in 1888). Fort Smith, AR had the 2nd warmest Spring (67.9°F; since records began in 1883) and the 69th driest Spring (11.82"; since records began in 1883). Fayetteville, AR had the Record warmest (64.0°F; previous record 63.0°F in 2012) and the 37th wettest (13.59") Spring since records began in 1950.

Outlooks

The [Climate Prediction Center](#) (CPC) outlook for June 2026 (issued May 31, 2026) indicates an equal chance for above, near, or below normal temperatures and precipitation across eastern OK and northwest AR. This outlook was based on dynamical and statistical model output, and long-term trends.

For the 3-month period June-July-August 2026, CPC is forecasting an enhanced chance for above normal temperatures and an equal chance for above, near, or below median precipitation across all of eastern OK and northwest AR (outlook issued May 31, 2026). This outlook is based on long-term trends, ENSO state, soil moisture, and incorporates a suite of statistical and dynamical forecast tools. According to CPC on May 14, "El Niño is likely to emerge soon (82% chance in May-July 2026) and continue through Northern Hemisphere winter 2026-27 (96% chance in December 2026-February 2027)."

Summary of Heavy Precipitation Events Daily quality-controlled rainfall maps can be found at: http://water.weather.gov/precip/index.php?location_type=wfo&location_name=tsa

Scattered showers and thunderstorms moved east into eastern OK around midnight of the 10th. Most of these storms weakened as they moved east-southeast across the area during the overnight hours; however, a few stronger storms produced heavy rainfall of 1"-3" in portions of east central OK and far west central AR, including much of Sequoyah County (Fig. 5).

A mesoscale convective system (MCS) moved southeast across all of eastern OK and northwest AR, mainly between a cold front to its northwest and an outflow boundary to its southeast, from midnight of the 19th through the evening hours. Pockets of heavy rain occurred due to the slower movement and training of the storms, precipitable water (PWAT) values of 1.5"-1.8", and the parallel orientation of the convection with the south-southwest low-level jet that was feeding moisture into the storms ahead of the cold front. While the more intense leading edge of the MCS exited the area by early afternoon, showers and thunderstorms continued through the evening hours. Shortly after midnight on the 20th, convection developed over Le Flore County in southeast OK. This area of scattered storms expanded across east central and northeast OK and then into northwest AR near an elevated boundary through the overnight hours and dissipated/exited the area by mid-morning. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.25" to near 5", with pockets of 3"-5" occurring in southeast OK and the far northeast corner of OK (Figs. 6-9). Flash flooding was reported in Miami, OK, but no mainstem river flooding occurred.

Widespread showers and thunderstorms moved into northeast OK during the mid- to late-morning of the 21st as an upper-level trough dove into the region and interacted with a mid-level circulation that tracked west to east across OK and into AR. A very moist airmass was in place, with PWAT values around 1.6". Rainfall was most intense through the afternoon hours primarily across northeast OK and isolated spots in northwest AR, through rain continued through much of the evening before shifting to the northeast and out of the area. New convection then developed over southeast OK during the late evening of the 21st as another upper-level disturbance moved into the region. This activity slowly moved north-northwest during the overnight hours. Meanwhile, another area of showers and thunderstorms developed from Okmulgee County through Tulsa County to Nowata and Craig Counties. This activity remained in the same area for several hours, resulting in locally heavy rainfall that caused road closures in Owasso, Oologah, and Collinsville. The precipitation gage located on the Caney River near Collinsville, OK measured 4.49" in 6 hours from 1:30 am to 7:30 am on the 22nd, and 7.15" of rain in the 20 hours from 11:45 am May 21 through 7:30 am May 22. The Caney River rose from this rainfall, but remained below flood stage. Heavy rain also fell over portions of southeast OK due to the slow movement of the rain. By mid-morning of the 22nd, the areas of rain finally began to shift east and weakened before exiting the area during the afternoon. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.25" to around 7" in areas impacted by the rain (Figs. 10-13).

An MCS moved into eastern OK from the west around sunrise of the 23rd and weakened as it continued to move east through the morning hours across eastern OK and into northwest AR. While most of the MCS exited the region during the afternoon, a leftover mesoscale convective vortex (MCV) remained over northeast OK. This resulted in isolated to widely scattered showers and thunderstorms during the afternoon and evening hours across eastern OK and northwest AR. This activity dissipated by midnight with the loss of daytime heating and MCV influence. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.25" to around 3" in the affected locations (Fig. 14).

A slow-moving trough axis gradually lifted north into and across the region on the 27th, and as it did, showers and thunderstorms increased from south to north across eastern OK and northwest AR. As the trough was lifting north, an area of surface low pressure developed. Around noon of the 27th, the first of the showers and thunderstorms lifted north out of TX and into southeast OK, and two weak tornadoes occurred in Pushmataha and Choctaw Counties (see <https://arcg.is/0S1KGa2> for details). This convection continued its northward trek during the afternoon through overnight hours before moving north of the area in the pre-dawn hours of the 28th. These showers and thunderstorms brought around 0.10" to 2.5" of rain (Fig. 17). The surface low remained over northern OK on the 28th, and bands of showers and thunderstorms occurred around the low across eastern OK and northwest AR through the remainder of the day. Rainfall totals ranged from a few hundredths of an inch to around 3.5" (Fig. 18).

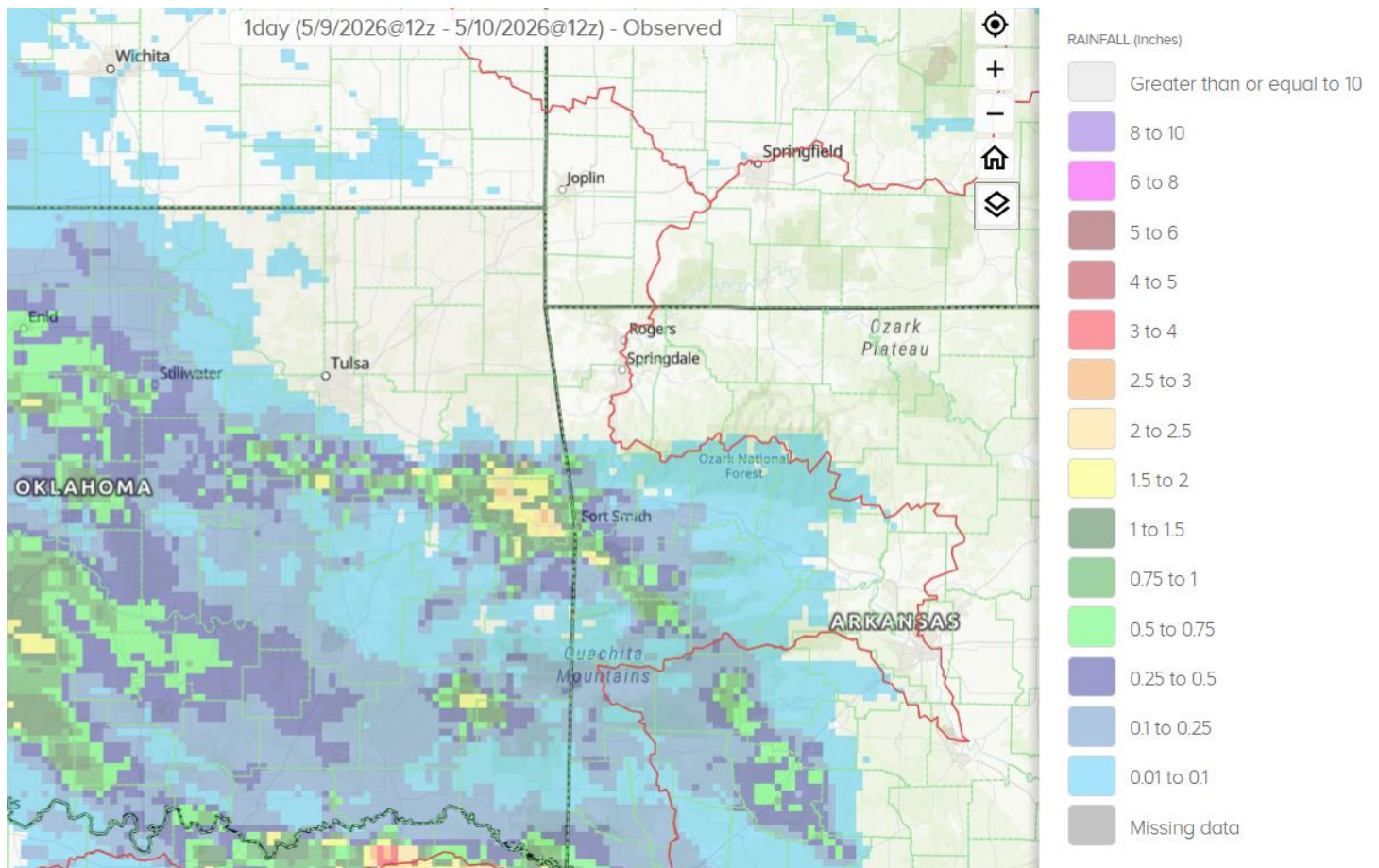


Fig. 5. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/10/2026.

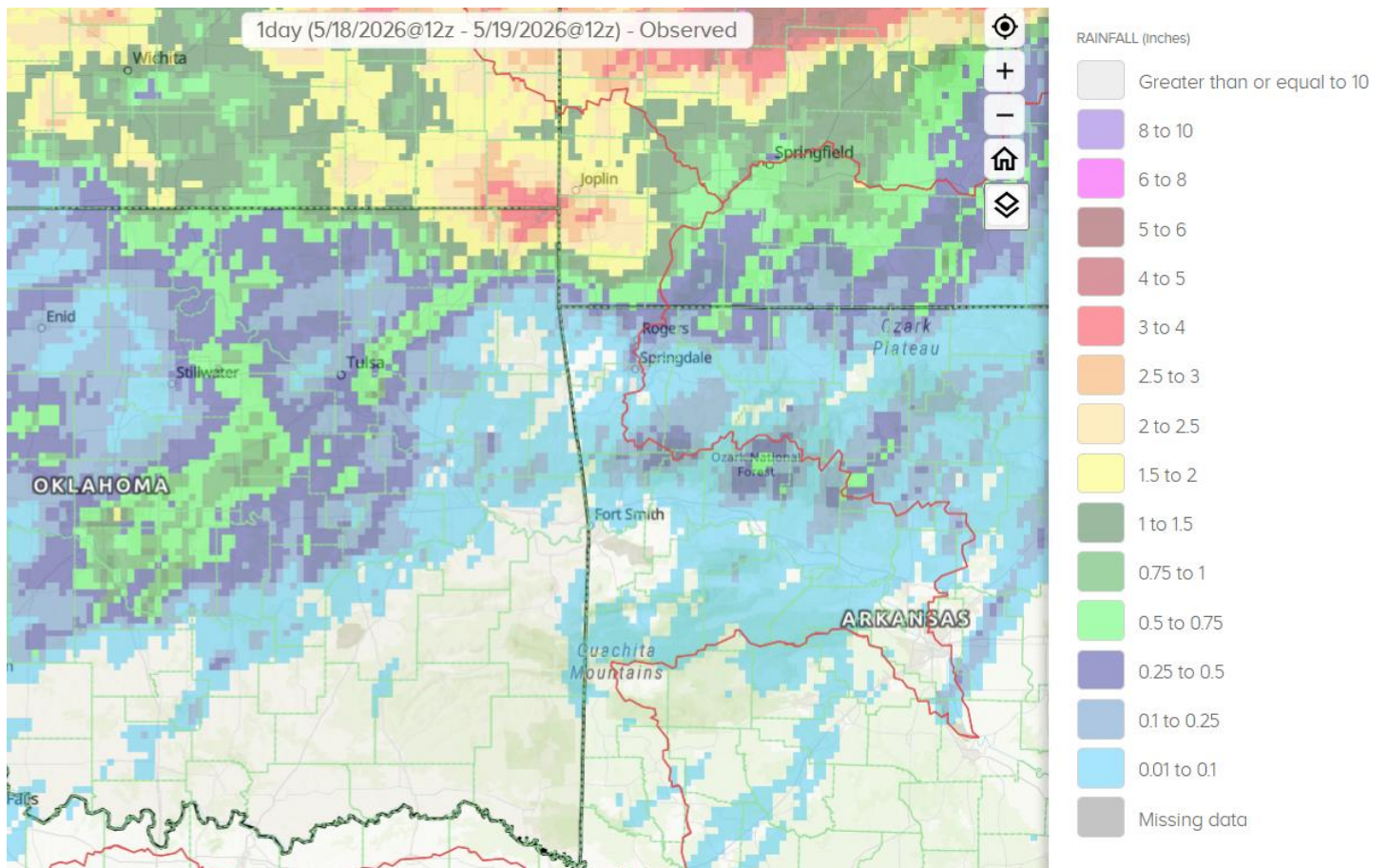


Fig. 6. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/19/2026.

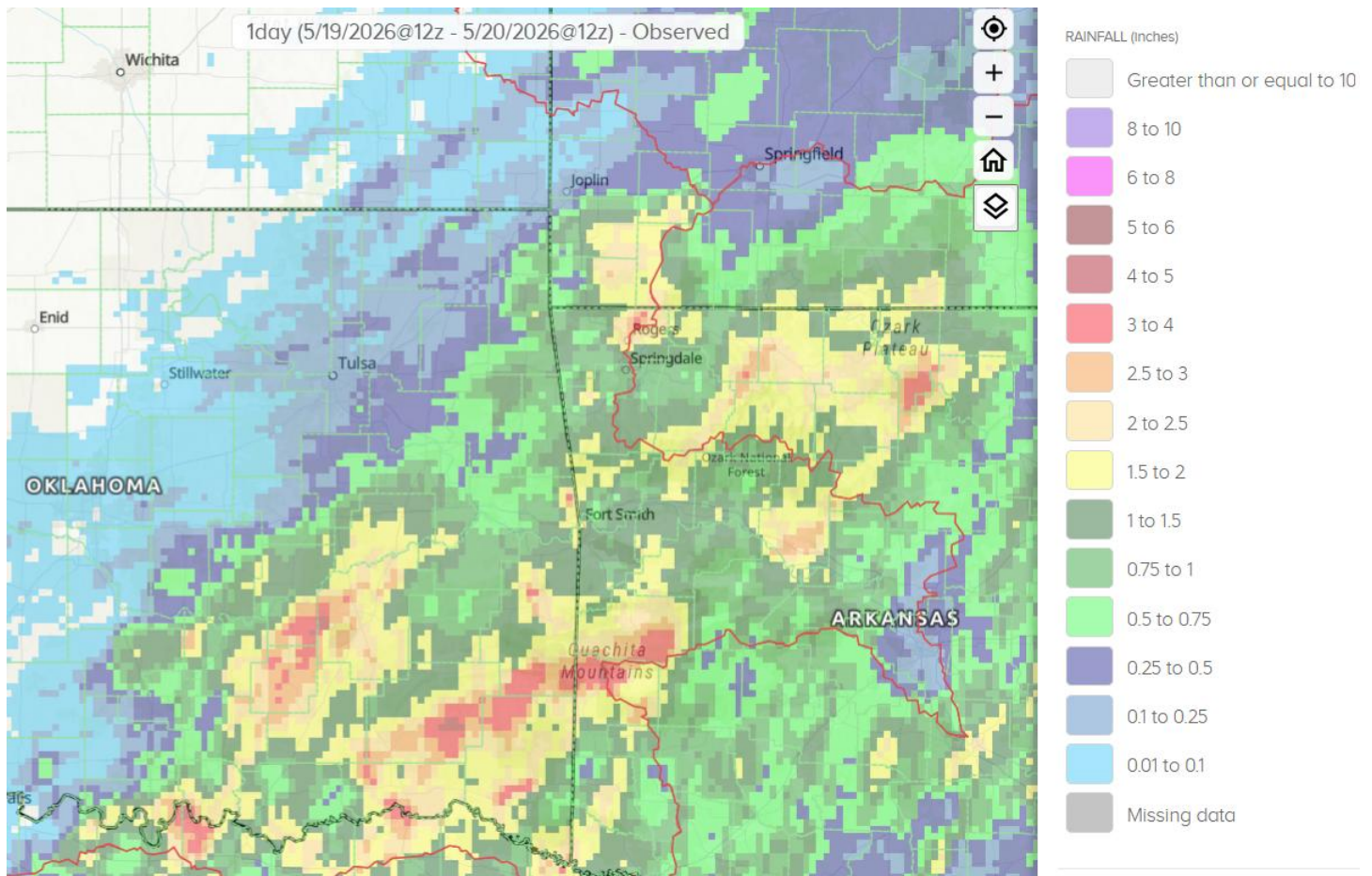


Fig. 7. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/20/2026.

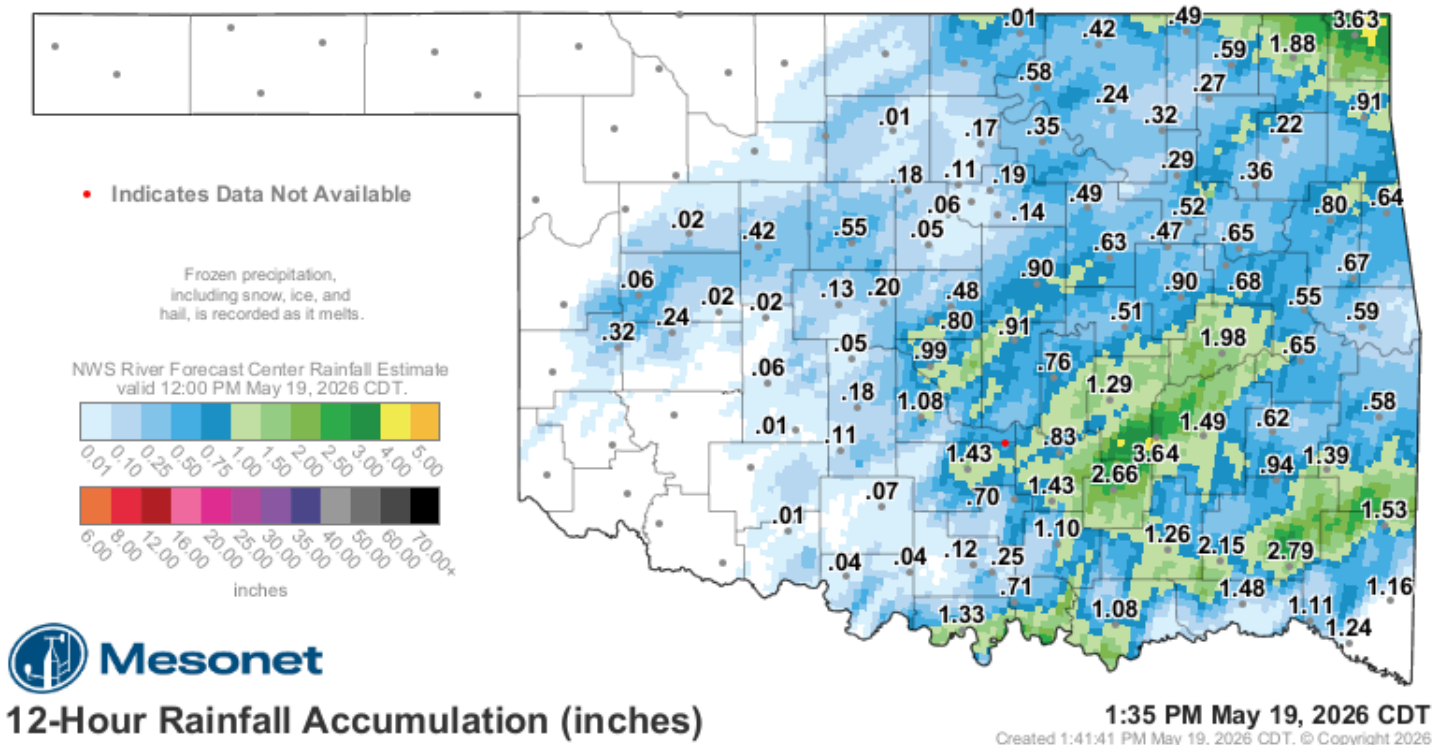


Fig. 8. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 12-hour rainfall ending at 1:35 pm CDT 5/19/2026.

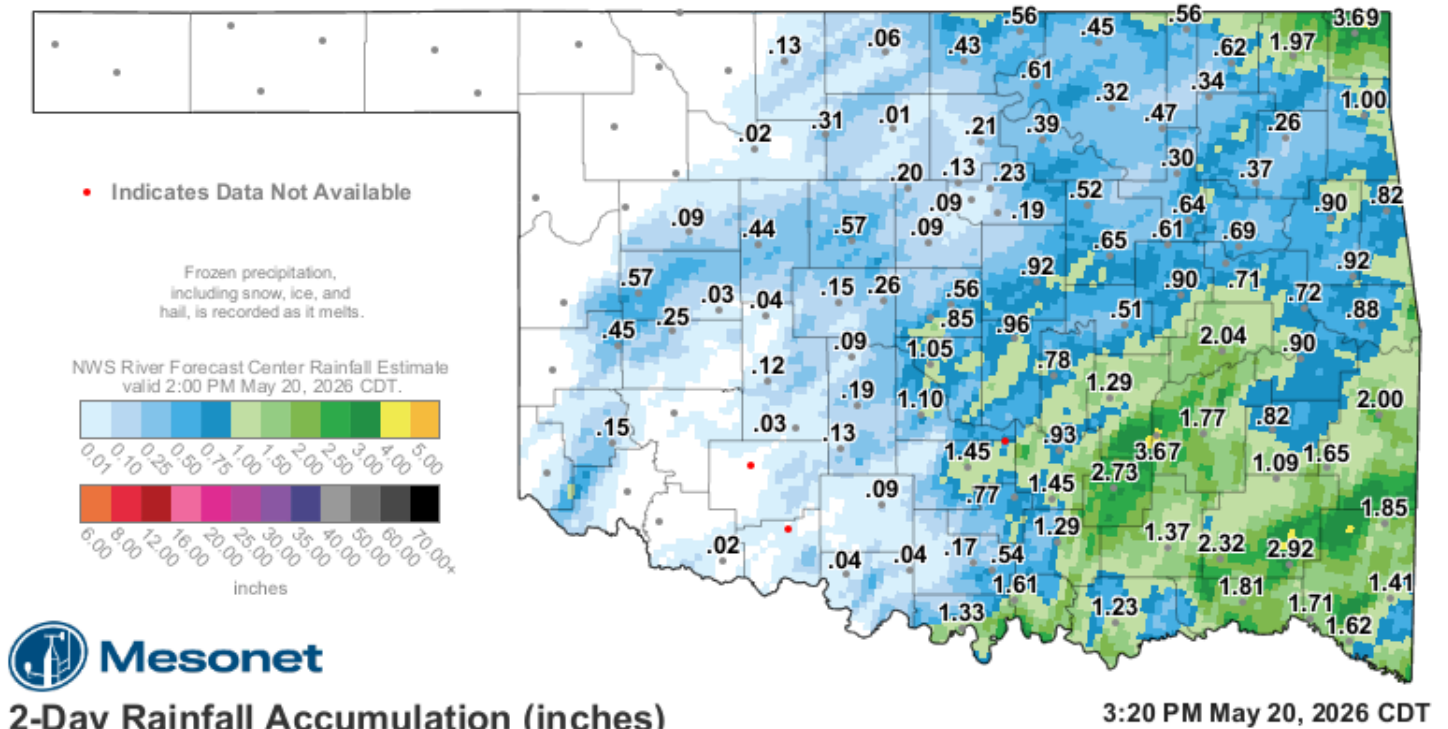


Fig. 9. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 48-hour rainfall ending at 3:20 pm CDT 5/20/2026.

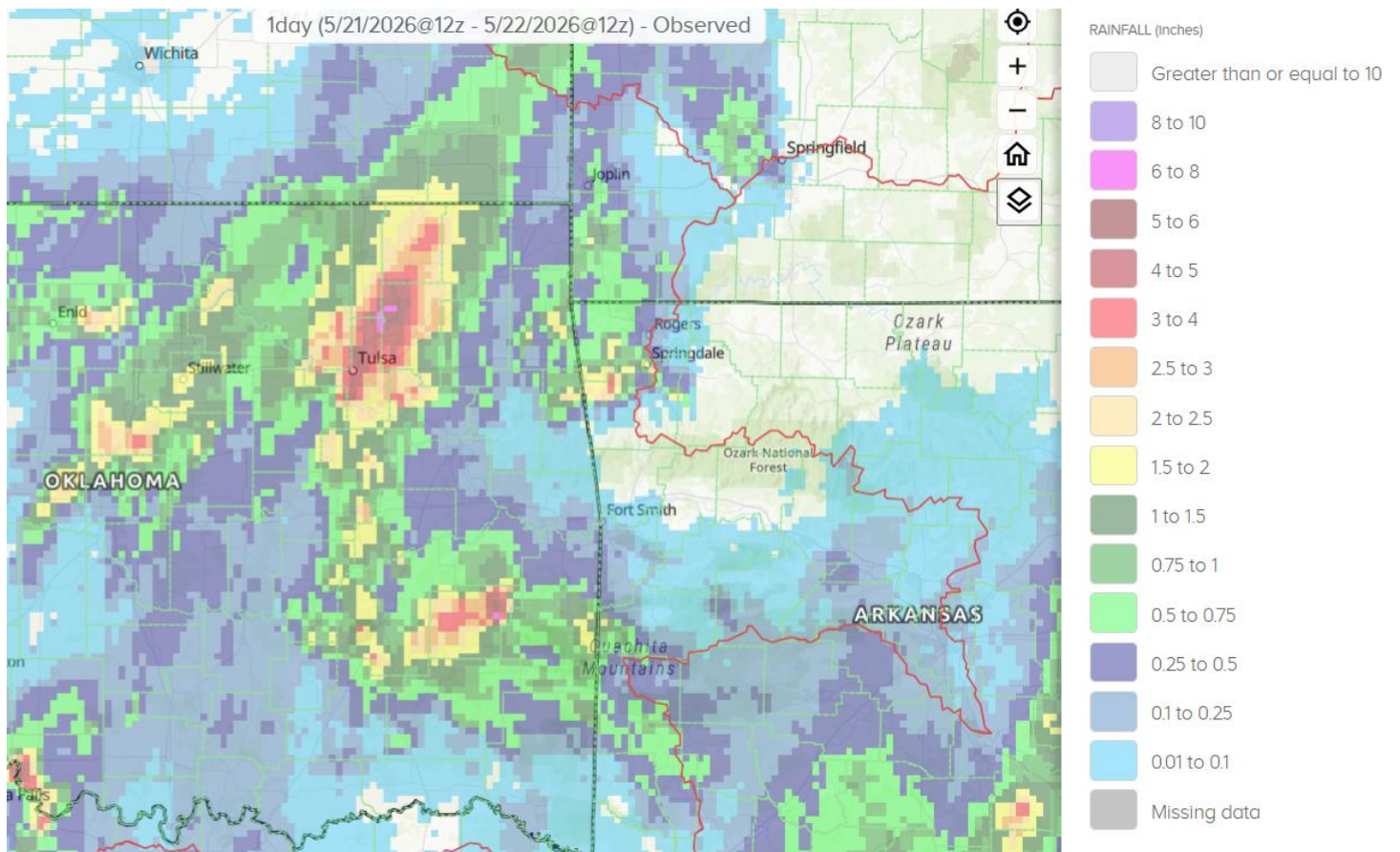


Fig. 10. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/22/2026.

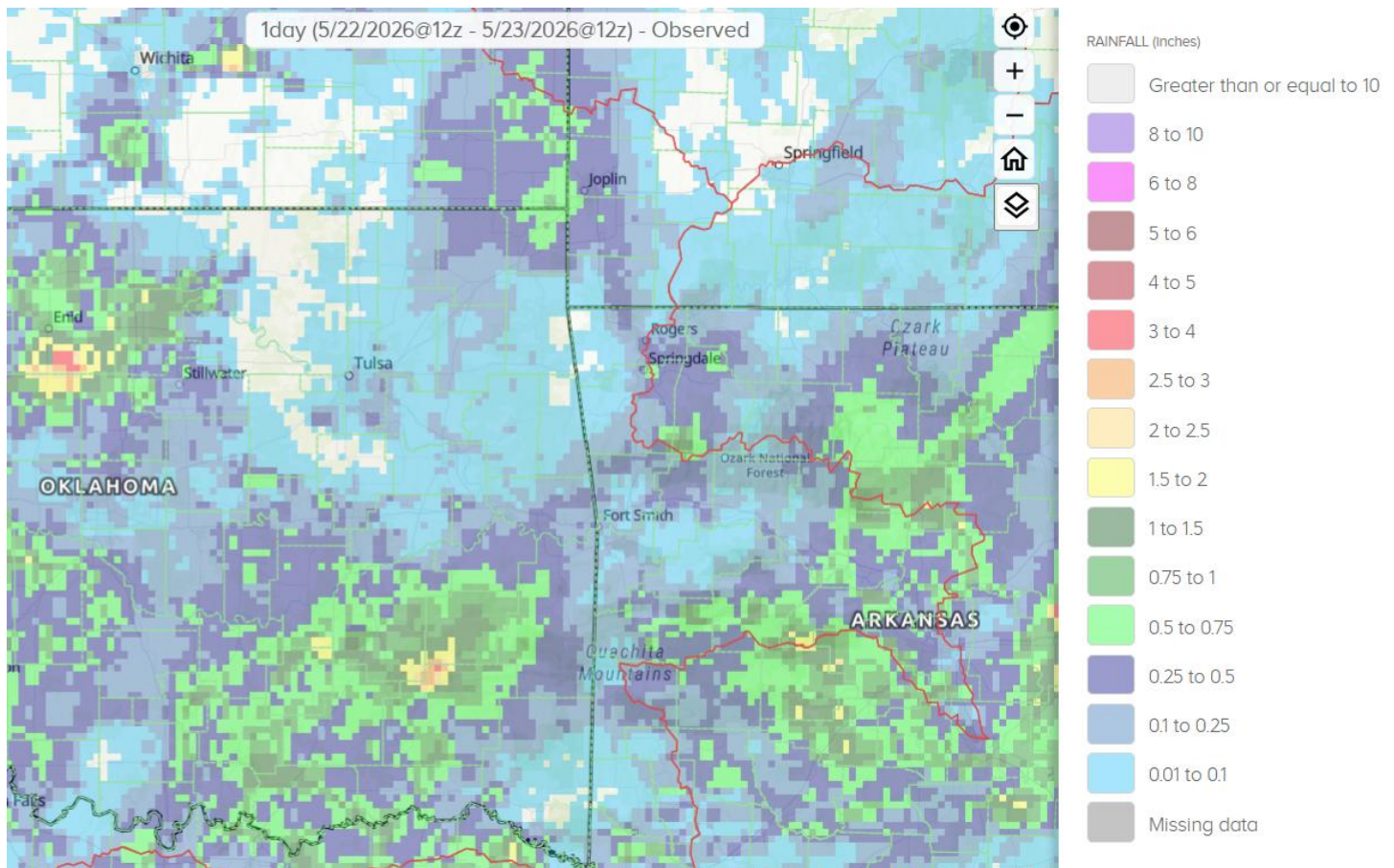


Fig. 11. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/23/2026.

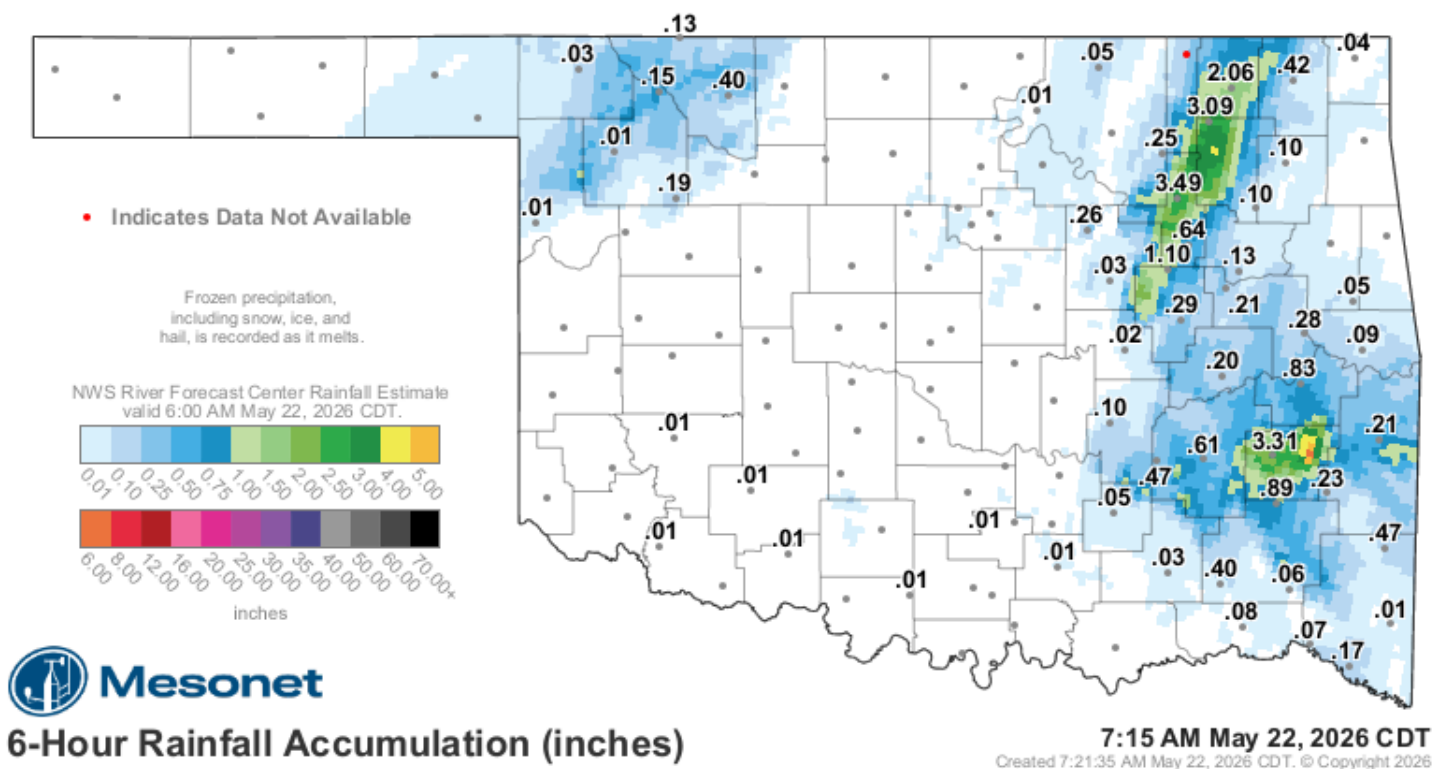
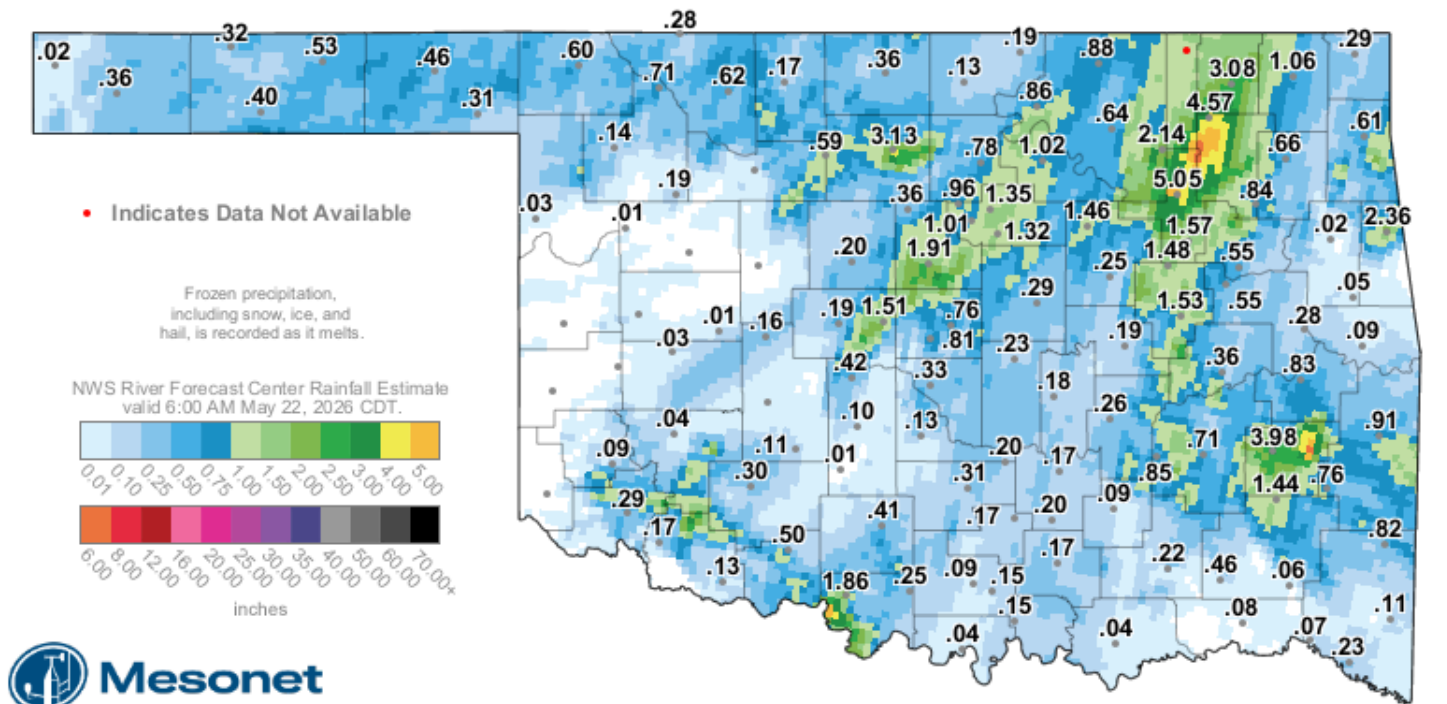


Fig. 12. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 6-hour rainfall ending at 7:15 am CDT 5/22/2026.



24-Hour Rainfall Accumulation (inches)

7:15 AM May 22, 2026 CDT

Created 7:21:35 AM May 22, 2026 CDT. © Copyright 2026

Fig. 13. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 24-hour rainfall ending at 7:15 am CDT 5/22/2026.

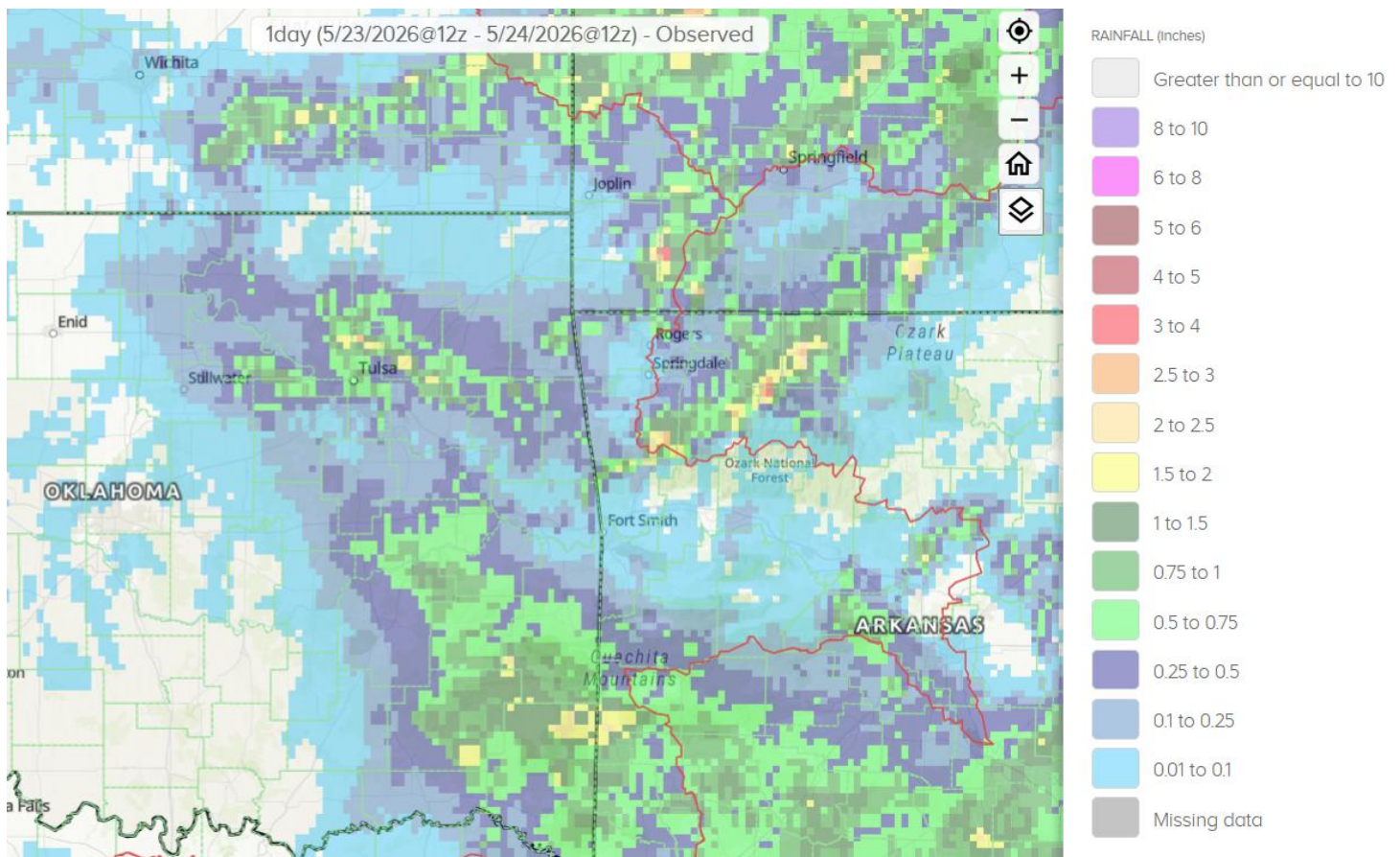


Fig. 14. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/24/2026.

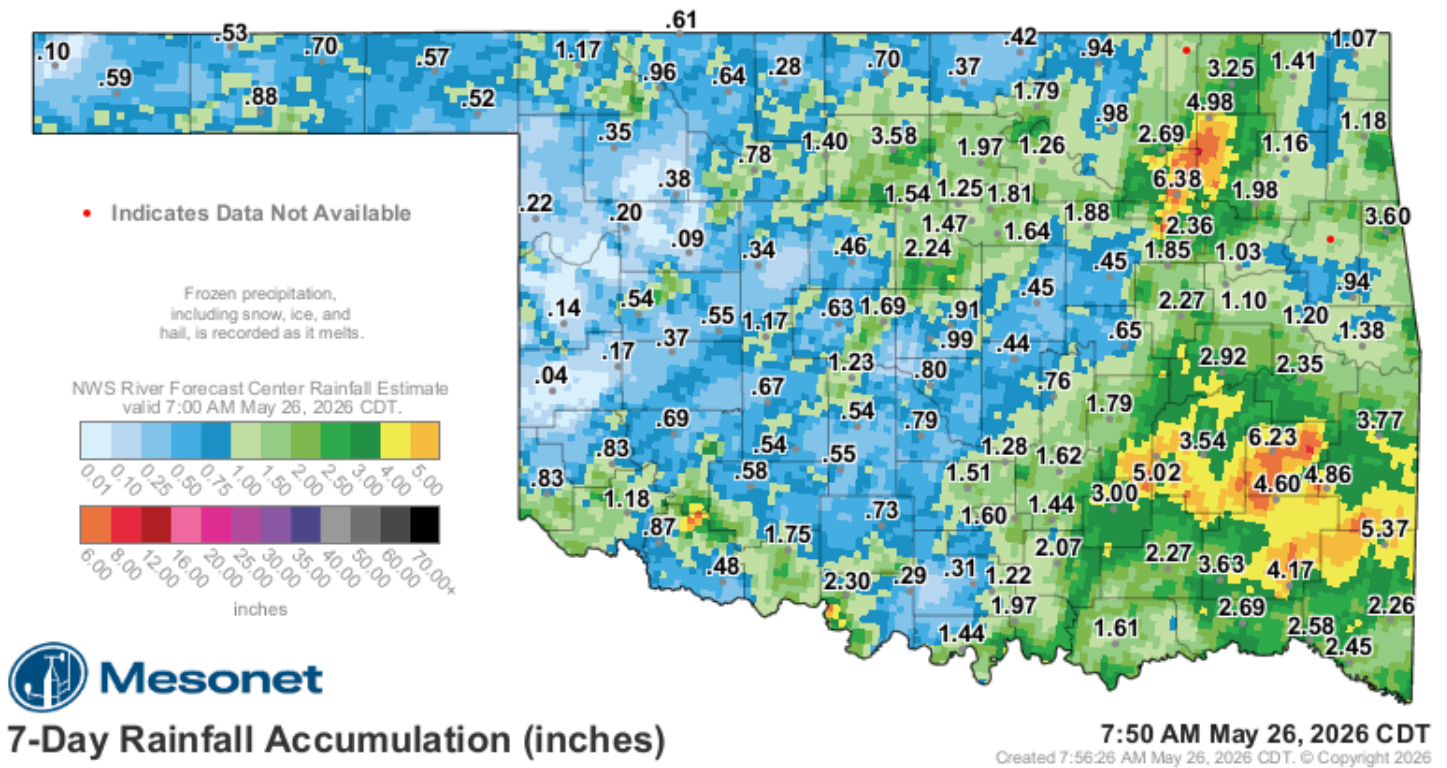


Fig. 15. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 7-day rainfall ending at 7:50 am CDT 5/26/2026.

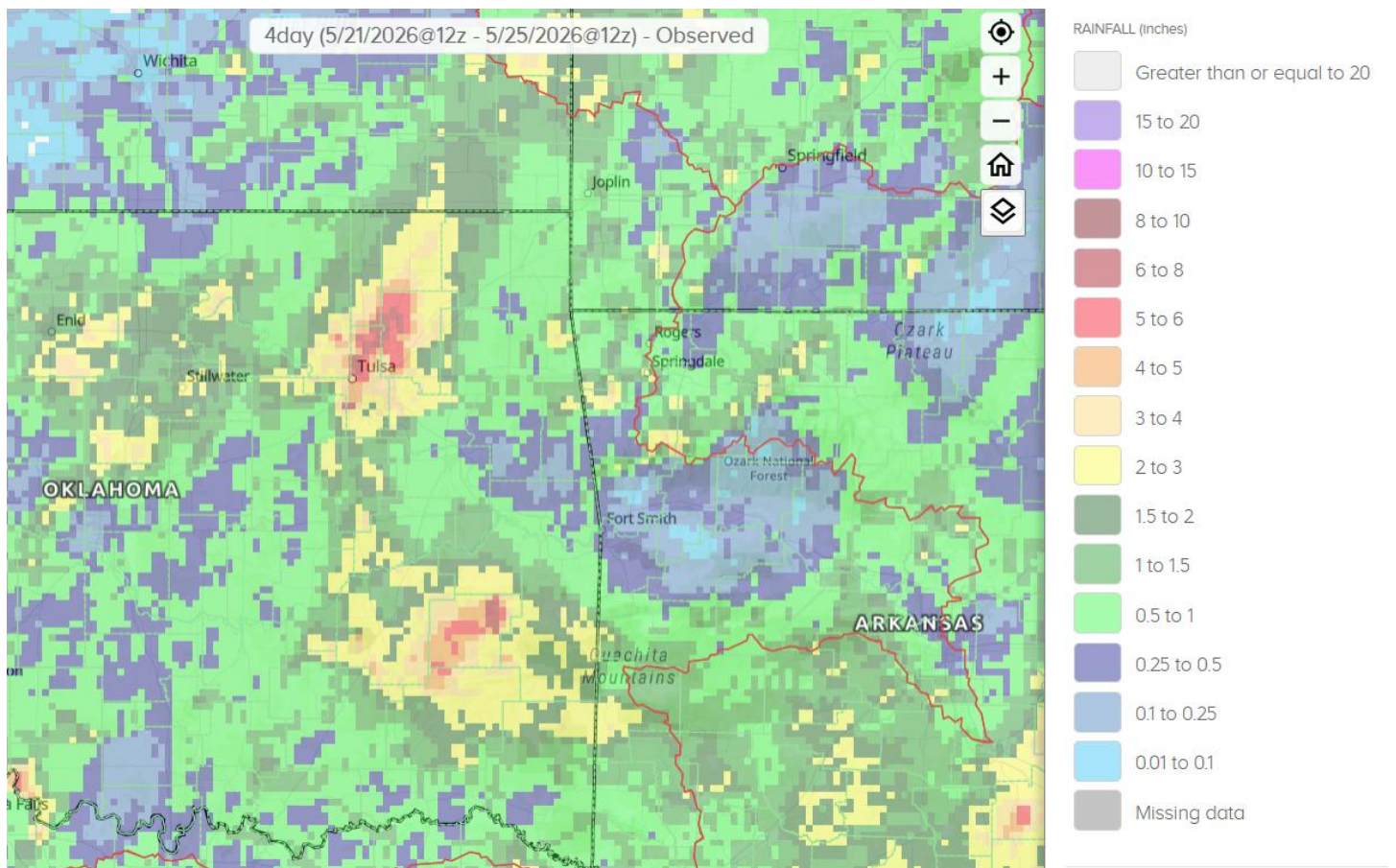


Fig. 16. 4-Day Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/25/2026.

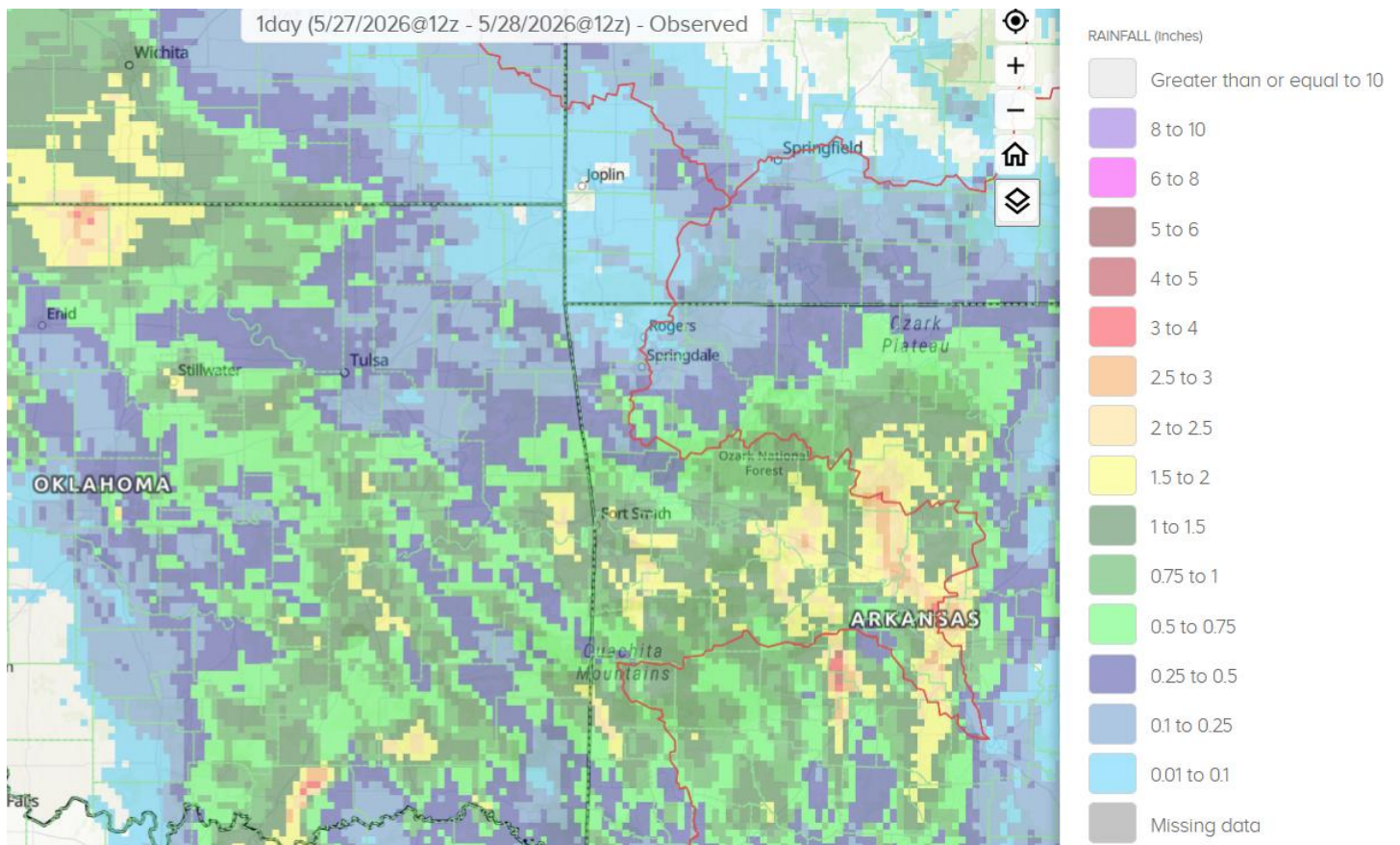


Fig. 17. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/28/2026.

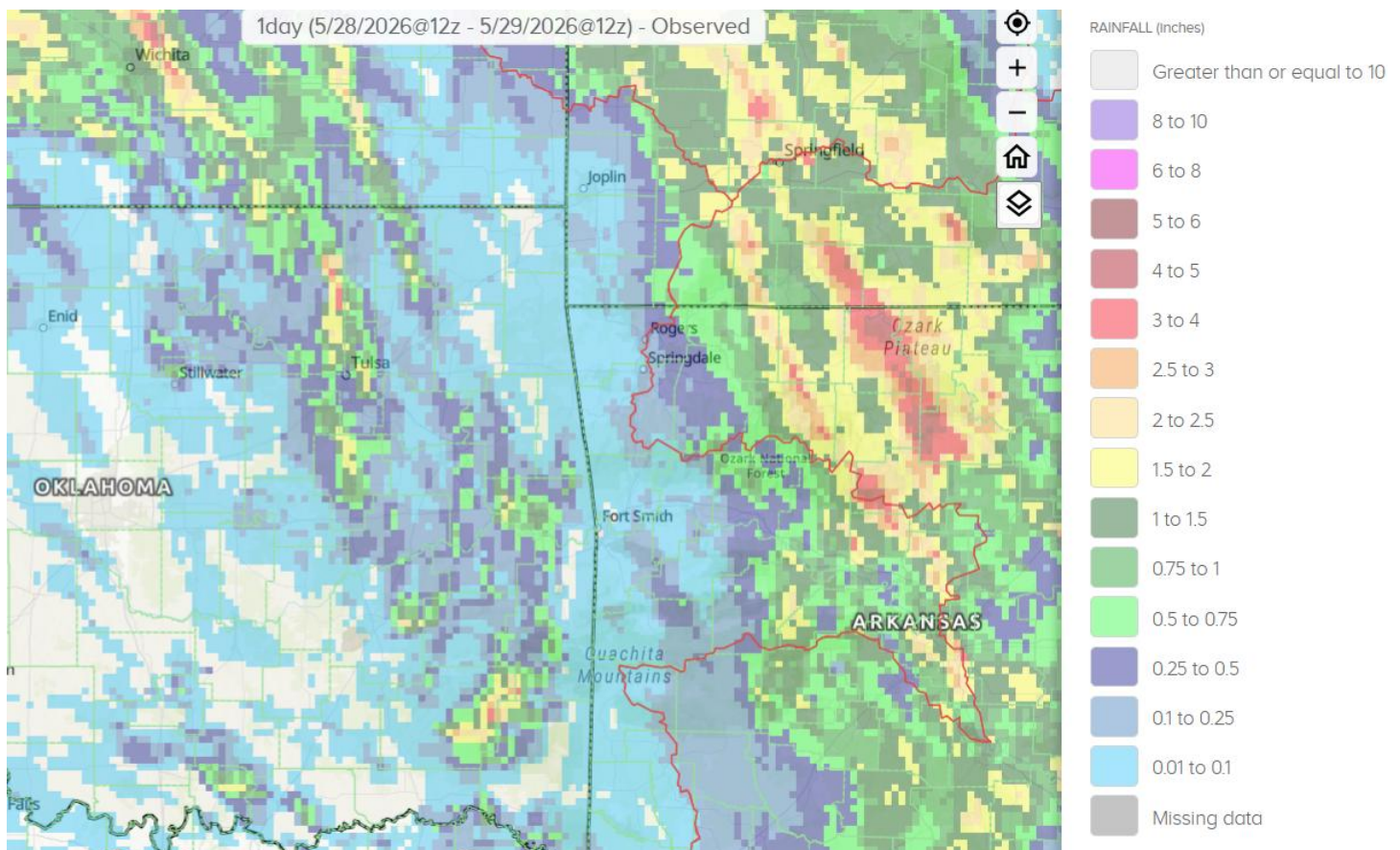


Fig. 18. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 7am CDT 5/29/2026.

Written by:

Nicole McGavock
Service Hydrologist
WFO Tulsa

Products issued in May 2026:

- 11 Flash Flood Warnings (FFW)
- 10 Flash Flood Statements (FFS)
- 0 Flash/Areal Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/EXA/EXB/CAN)
- 42 Urban and Small Stream Advisories (FLS)
- 3 Areal Flood Warnings (FLW)
- 2 Areal Flood Statements (FLS)
- 1 River Flood Warnings (FLW) (includes category increases)
- 2 River Flood Statements (FLS)
- 0 River Flood Advisories (FLS) (25 Advisory FLS CON/EXT/CAN)
- 0 River Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/CAN)
- 0 River Statements (RVS)
- 0 Hydrologic Outlooks (ESF)
- 1 Drought Information Statements (DGT)

Preliminary Hydrographs:

None