

AUGUST 2014

Weather Digest

Weather Summary

Significant Events

Special Features

**Temperature &
Precipitation**

Severe Weather



WE START OUT WITH A BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE !



August 2014 Weather Summary

August turned out to be a pretty good monsoon month with rainfall fairly evenly distributed among much of the territory. West Texas finally got beneficial rain and totaled well above normal rainfall for the month, along with most of Otero and Sierra counties. Only smaller areas west of Deming and Silver City were below normal for the month. August started out quite wet, with widespread moderate to heavy rainfall on the 1st. Several towns such as El Paso, Alamogordo, and Silver City reported minor urban flooding. It wasn't until about August 21st that the monsoon flow shut off enough to tally a day of little or no rain for the entire area, and not until the last three days of the month was there an extended stretch of non-existent monsoon flow and no rain for the area. For the month, only western Grant and western Luna counties were below normal for rainfall, and basically this same area is the only area below normal for the monsoon season. All other areas are just slightly below normal to above normal.

The consistent monsoon pattern also affected temperatures. Although the average daily temperatures were near to just slightly below normal, average high temperatures were about 2 to 4 degrees below normal. This is often the case with wet months as the clouds and rain lower high temperatures, but low temperatures remain a bit above normal.

August 2014 Summary-continued

As is usually the case for the monsoon months, severe weather was at a minimum with just a few reports of severe wind speeds from thunderstorm downbursts. Plenty of hail reports were received but all were of the small pea-size variety.

AUGUST 1 STARTED OUT ON THE WET SIDE



**ALAMOGORDO FLASH FLOOD AUG 1
20 TO 30 HOMES FLOODED !**



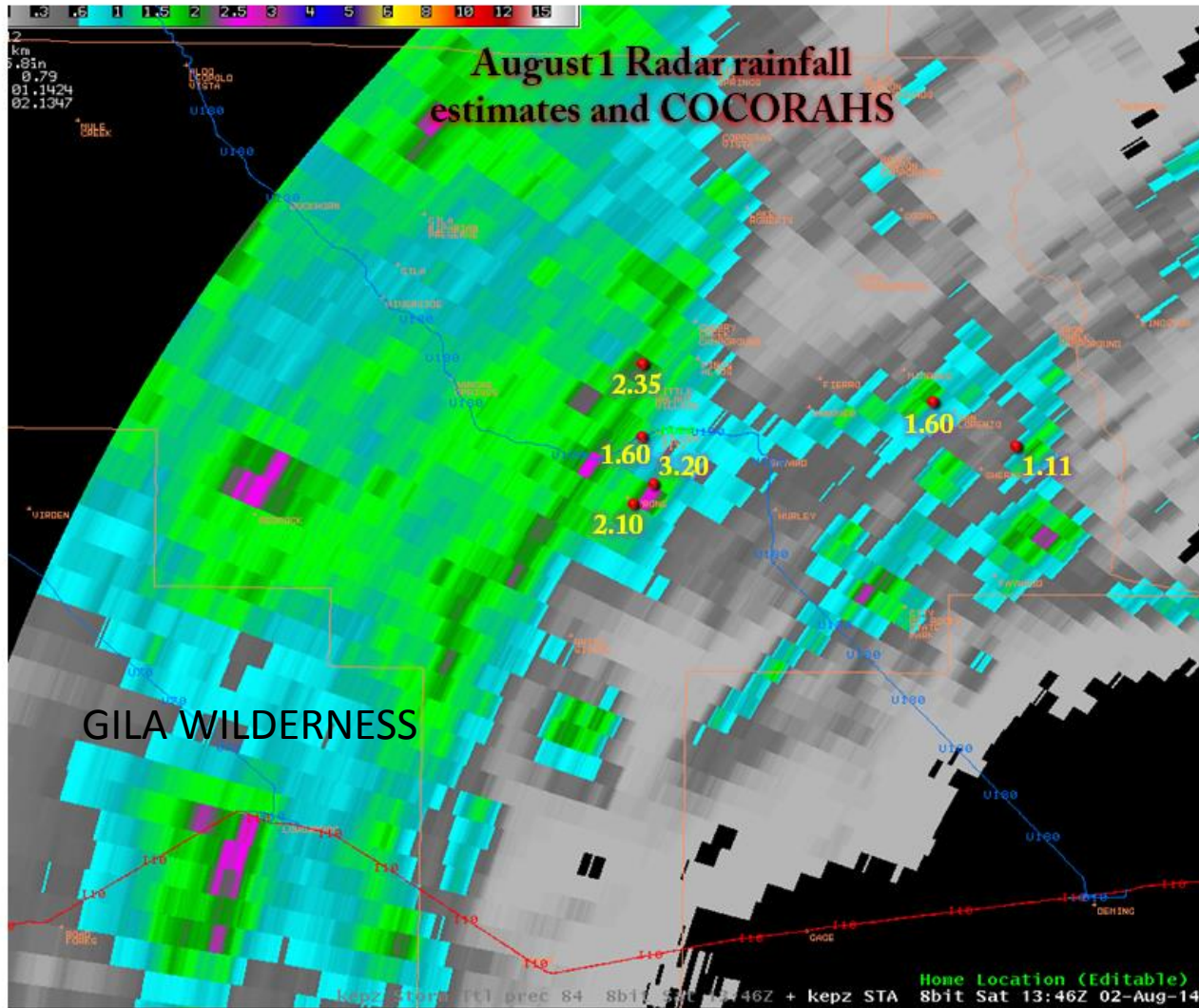
FLASH FLOODING IN El Paso August 1 at Rojas and Joe Battle



**TURN
AROUND
DON'T
DROWN™**

 www.srh.weather.gov 

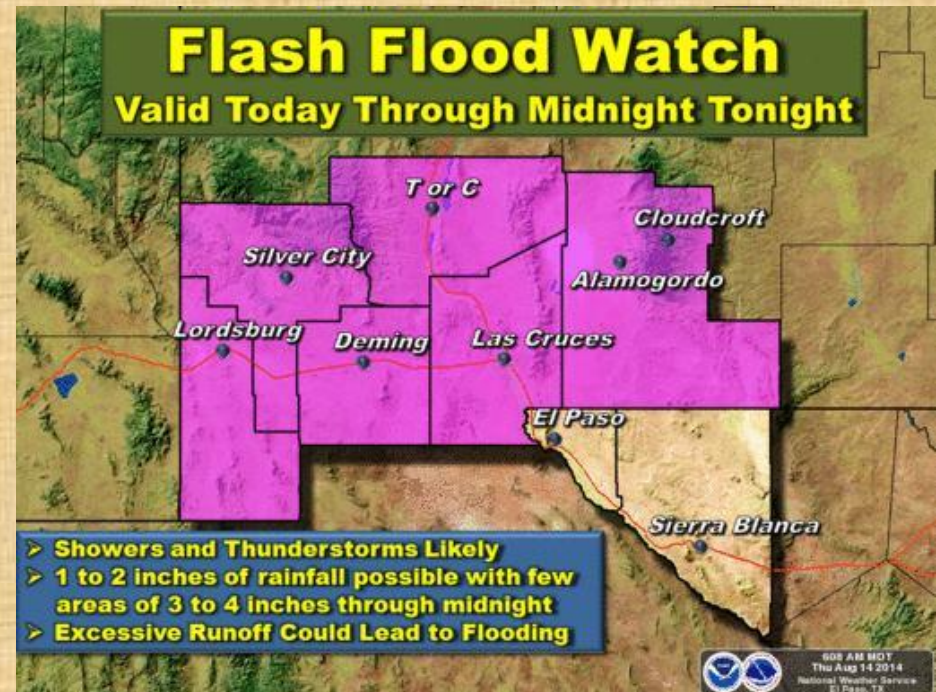
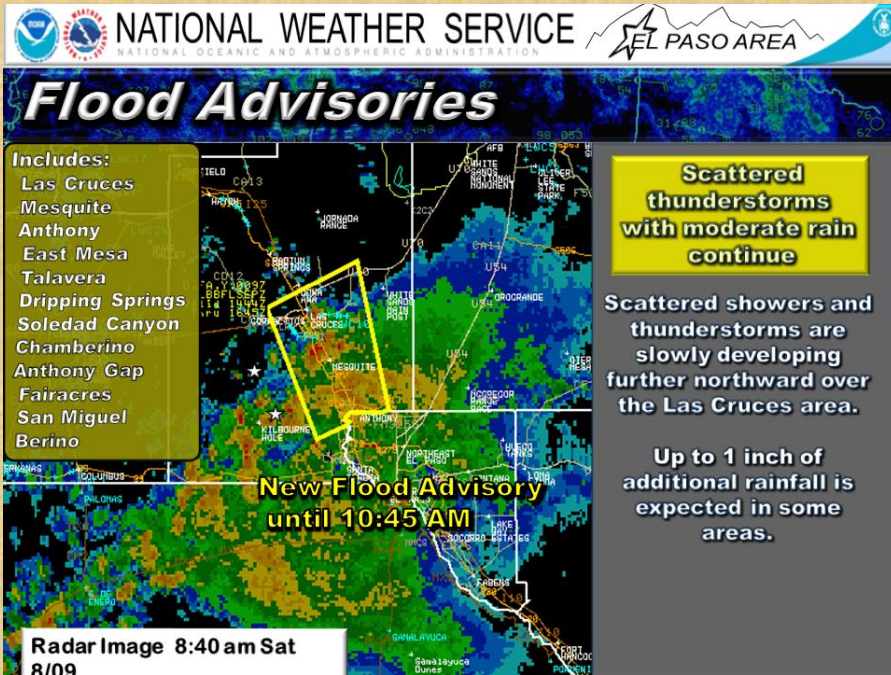
AUGUST 1 WAS A GENEROUSLY WET DAY FOR A LOT OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO AND FAR WEST TEXAS



MORE FLOODING ISSUES ON AUGUST 1 IN EL PASO



AUGUST SAW A LOT OF THESE AROUND THE BORDERLAND !



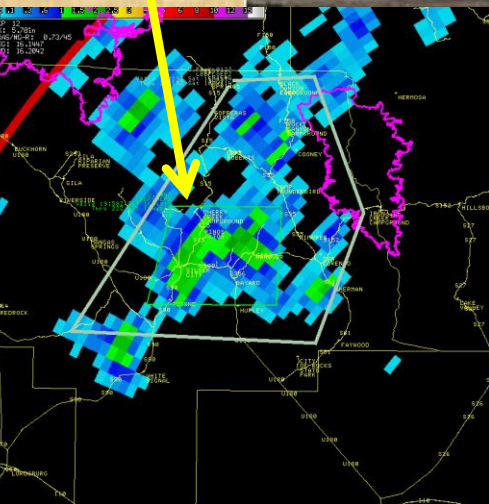
A MONSOON SKY OVER NORTHEAST EL PASO AUGUST 22



**What a 2 inch rain storm (in the silver City New Mexico area)
producer looks like from 50 miles to the south near Animas,
New Mexico 8/16/2014.**

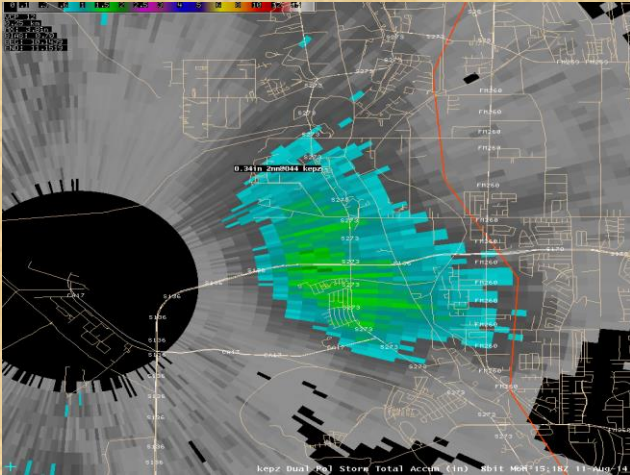


2 INCHES



Significant Events (continued)

Santa Teresa August 10



57 mph wind gust



AUGUST 12...FLOODING HITS CENTRAL EL PASO



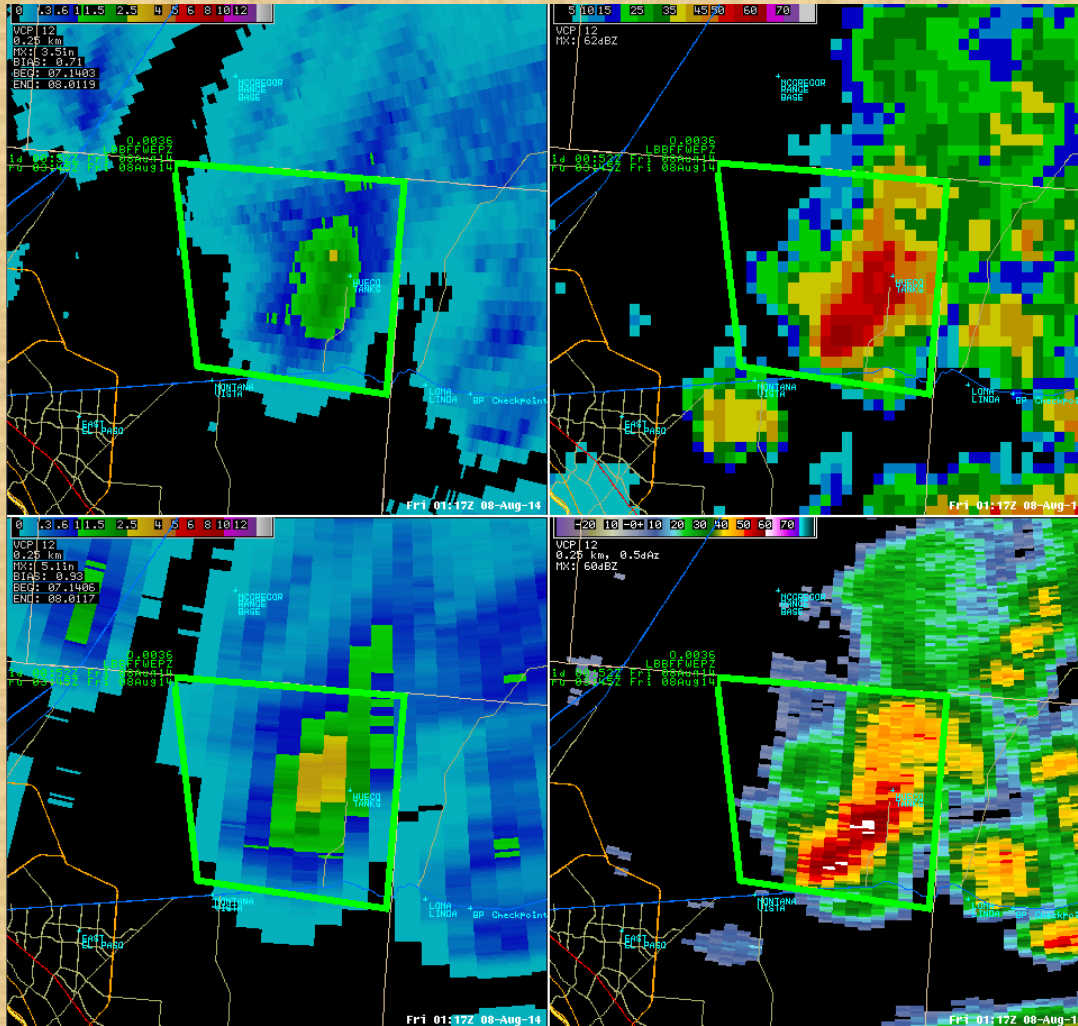
Univ. Med. Center Flooded



AUGUST 12...FLOODING HITS CENTRAL EL PASO AND CLOSES INTERSTATE 10 TEMPORARILY



1.5 TO 3.0 INCHES OF RAIN AT HUECO TAKS JUST EAST OF EL PASO AUG 14...VIEWED BY KEPZ AND KHDX RADARS



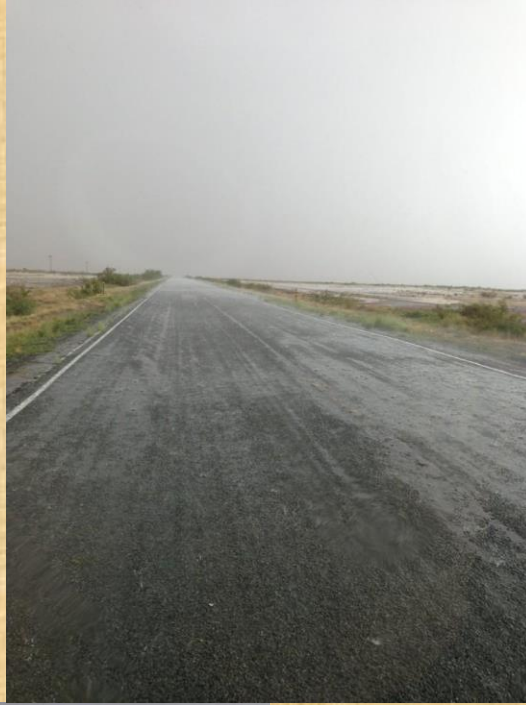
LOW WATER CROSSING NEAR HILLSBORO AUGUST 14
ORIGINATING FROM SILVER FIRE BURN SCAR.



**ONCE AGAIN I 10 WEST OF LORDSBURG TO THE ARIZONA BORDER
SHOWS BLOWING DUST FROM THUNDERSTORM OUTFLOW ON AUGUST 17**



FLOODING AND GUSTNADO NEAR HACHITA AUGUST 15



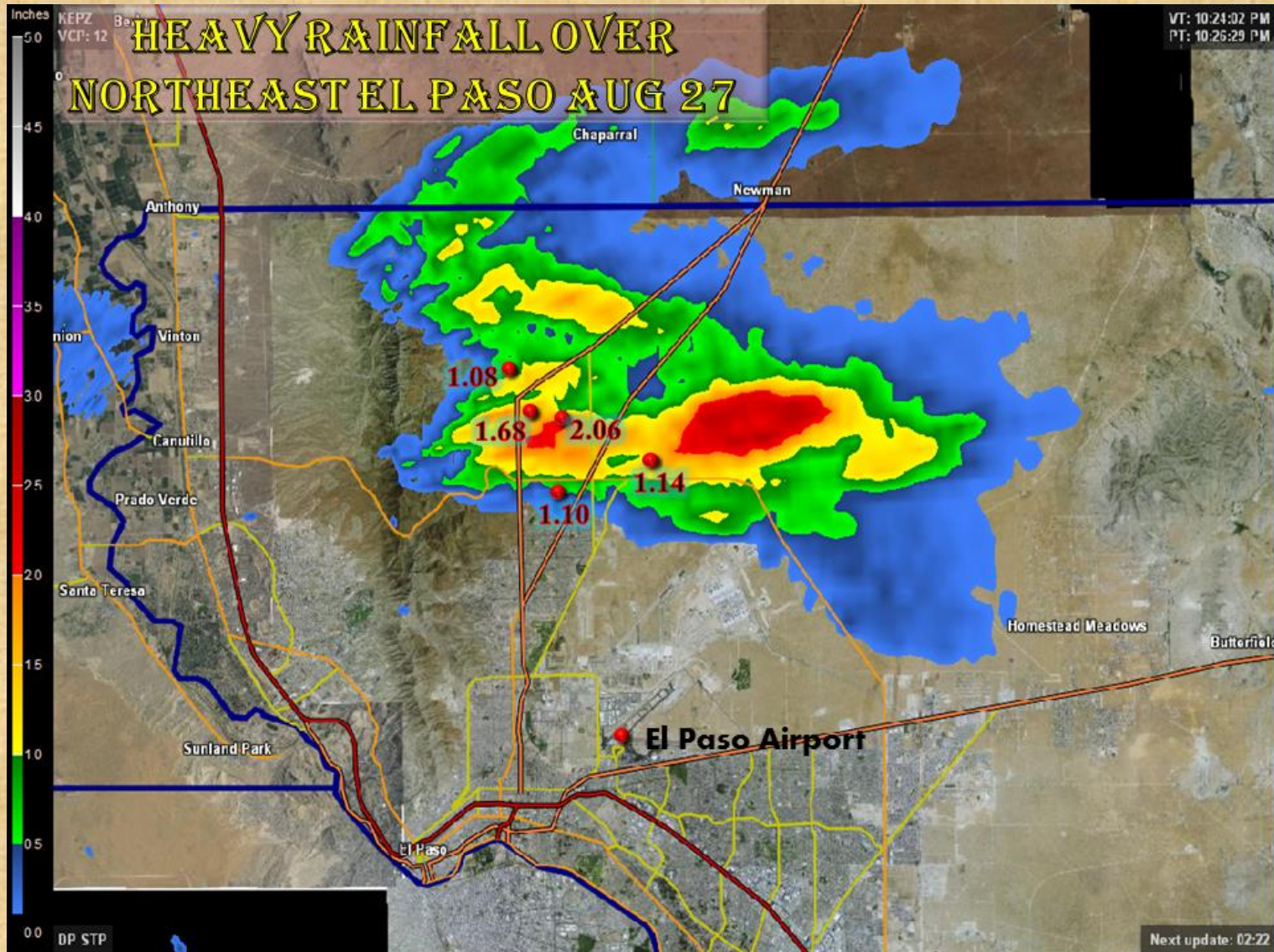
**DANGEROUS LIGHTNING TAKES IT WRATH OUT ON A STONE WALL
IN NORTHEAST EL PASO AUGUST 27.**



**When  Thunder
Roars,
Go Indoors!**



THE NATURE OF CONVECTIVE RAINFALL...THE AIRPORT GOT .08"

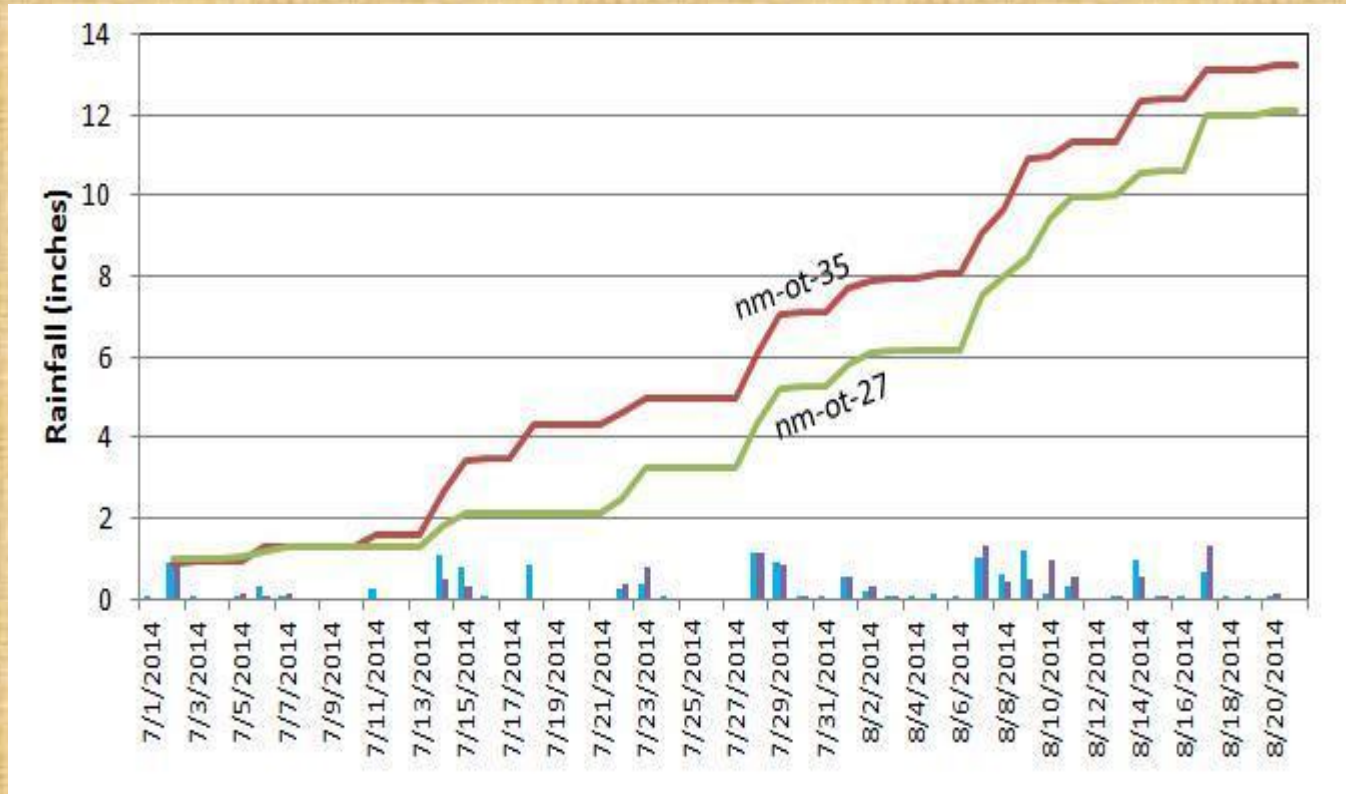


Special Features

AUGUST 10 BROUGHT US A "SUPER MOON" SOME 12% BIGGER THAN USUAL.



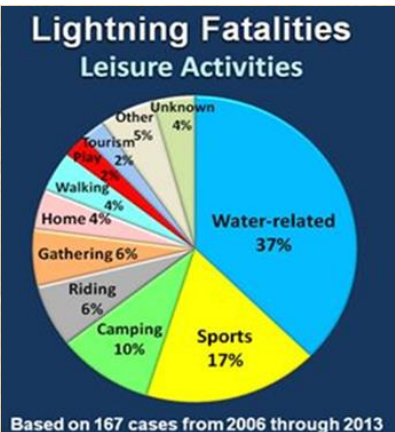
TWO COOPERATIVE WEATHER SITES AT CLOUDCROFT
SHOWING A GOOD MONSOON SEASON SO FAR.





A boy waits in an ambulance at Picacho Middle School after a lightning strike at a football field near the school on Tuesday afternoon. Thirteen-year-old Hunter Keffer (not pictured) was rushed to MountainView Regional Medical Center Tuesday afternoon in critical condition before being moved to an El Paso hospital. (Carlos Javier Sanchez Sun-News)

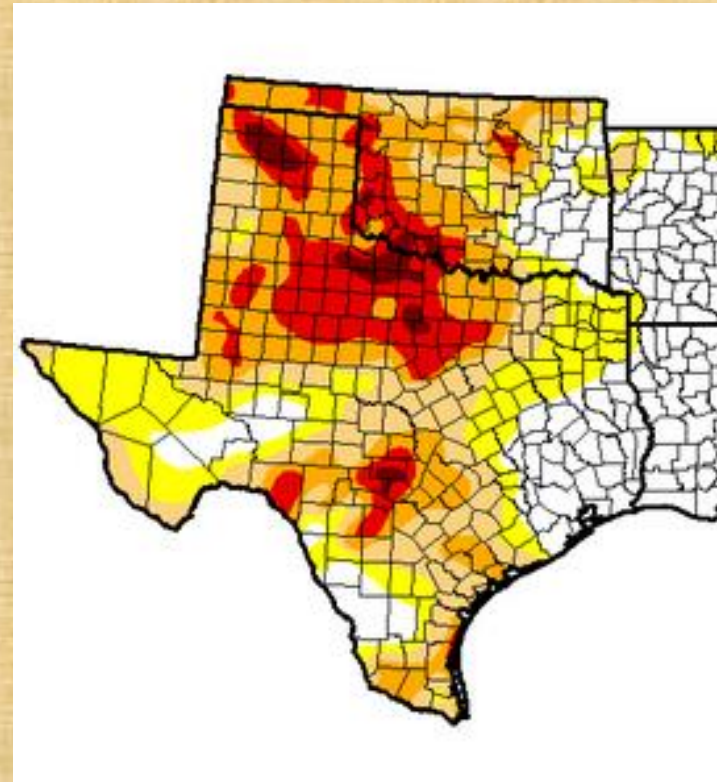
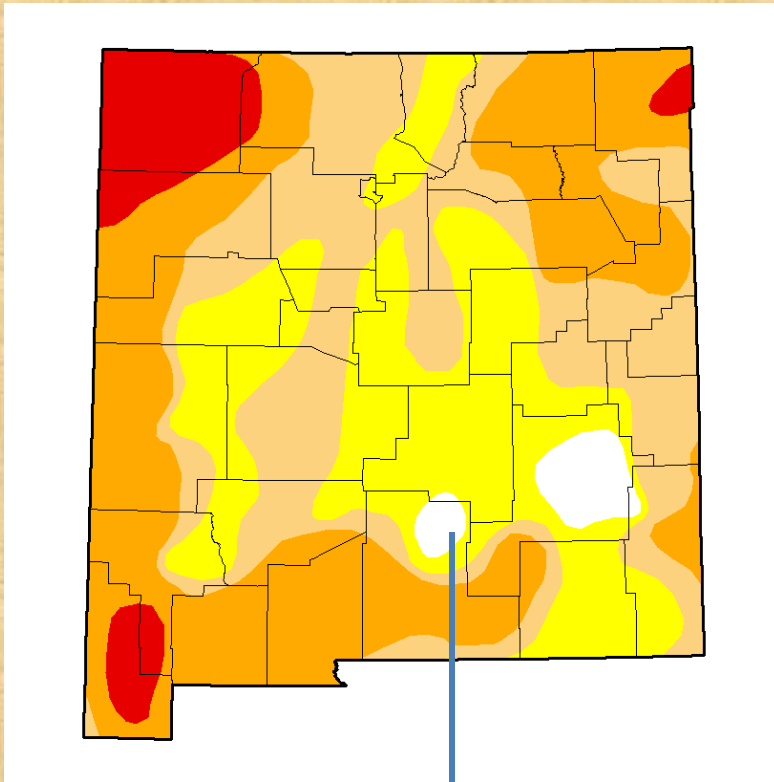
30/30 RULE
If the time between the FLASH of LIGHTNING and the SOUND of THUNDER BANG! is LESS THAN 30 SECONDS TAKE SHELTER for 30 MINUTES after the last thunder is heard



A lightning bolt critically injured a 13-year-old boy and three others suffered minor injuries at about 5 p.m. Tuesday at Picacho Middle School, officials said. Hunter Keffer, a Picacho Middle School eighth-grade football player, was injured the worst after the bolt hit a tree and traveled to where the boys and coaches were nearby. Las Cruces Sun News

Current drought conditions as of 08/26/2014

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



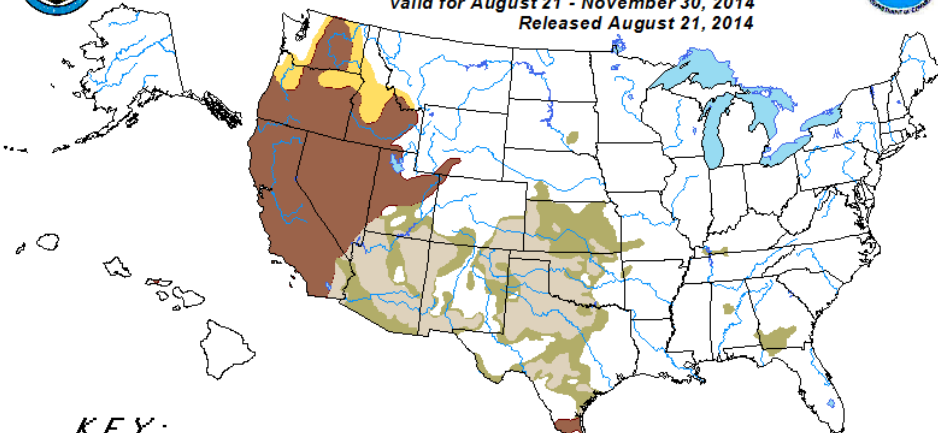
↓
Drought status was removed from Northeast Otero county
Thanks to beneficial monsoonal rains there.



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for August 21 - November 30, 2014
Released August 21, 2014



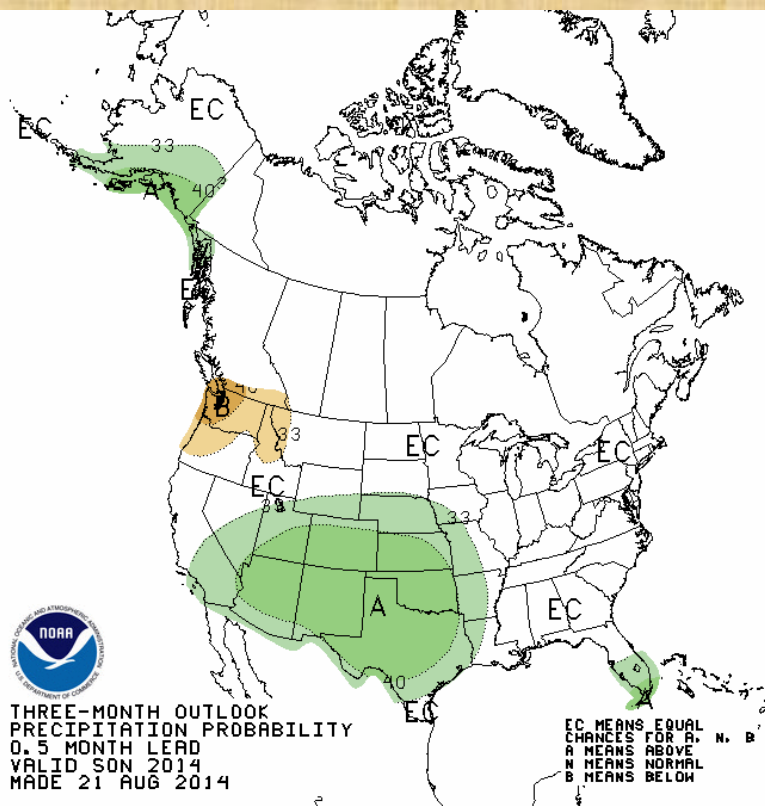
KEY:

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

Author: David Miskus, Climate Prediction Center, NOAA
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/season_drought.html

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity).
For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor.
NOTE: The tan area 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)

FCST FOR SEP OCT NOV 2014



THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
VALID SON 2014
MADE 21 AUG 2014

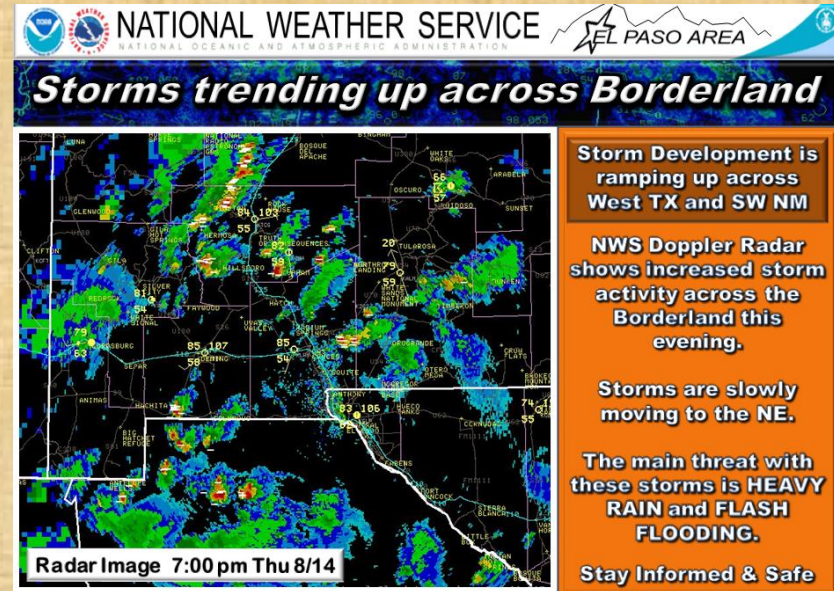
EC MEANS EQUAL CHANCES FOR A, N, B
A MEANS ABOVE
N MEANS NORMAL
B MEANS BELOW

Counting on an El Niño coming soon

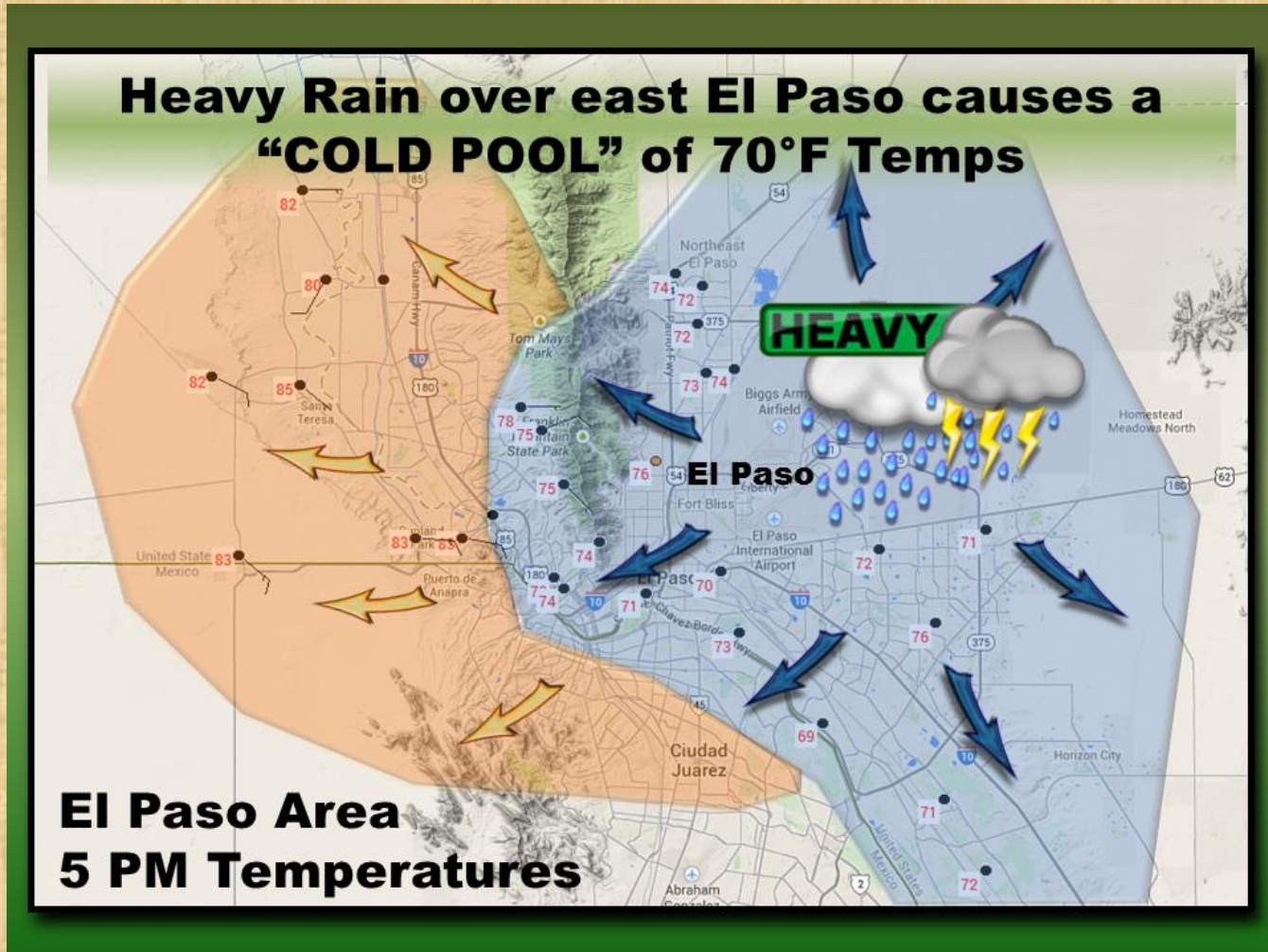
POSSIBLE EL NINO ON THE WAY WITH POTENTIAL WET IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO AND FAR WEST TEXAS.



MONSOON SIGNATURES



RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES IN THE MESO SCALE ENVIRONMENT.



Monsoon season nominally goes through September 30.

Be Prepared for Flooding

Flash Flooding is Dangerous

- Can happen quickly with little warning
- Can occur miles from where rain fell
- Very fast moving water
- One of the leading cause of weather related deaths



Alamogordo Flash Flood
June 2006



Flash Flooding Precautions

- Watch for sudden rises in water levels
- Move quickly to higher ground
- Avoid canyons and arroyos during rainy times
- Do not attempt to cross flooded roads
- Stay out of low lying areas in heavy rains
- Check the local weather forecast



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YouTube



7:12 AM MOT
Tue Aug 26 2014
National Weather Service
El Paso, TX

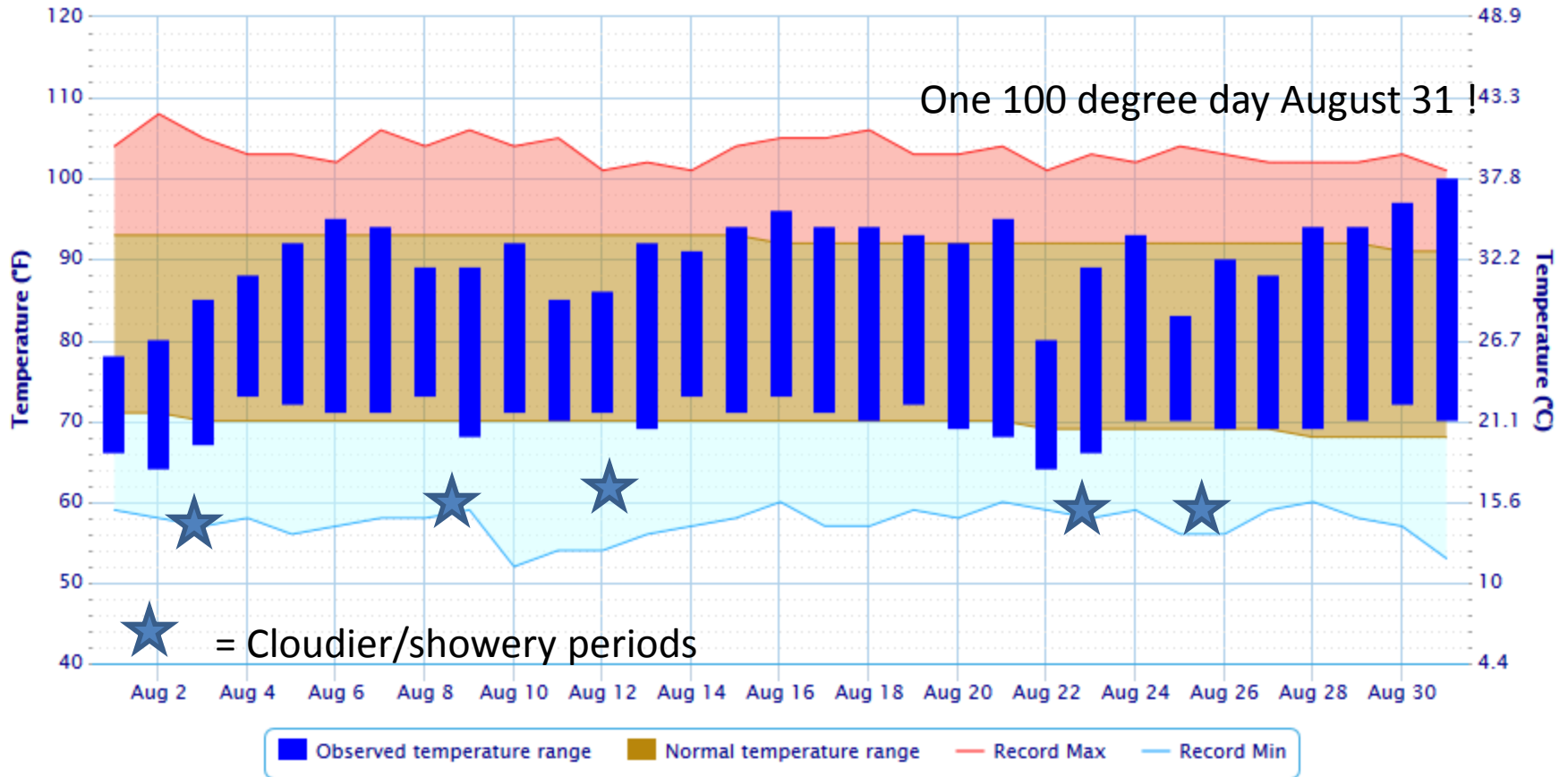
**GILA HOT SPRINGS CAT WALK AUGUST 5 2014.
IN THE LAST 3-5 YEARS BURN SCARS FROM FIRES NEARBY
COMBINED WITH EXCESSIVE RAINFALL RESULTING IN FLASH FLOODS
THAT DESTROYED TWO CAT WALKS.**



Daily Temperature Data – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)



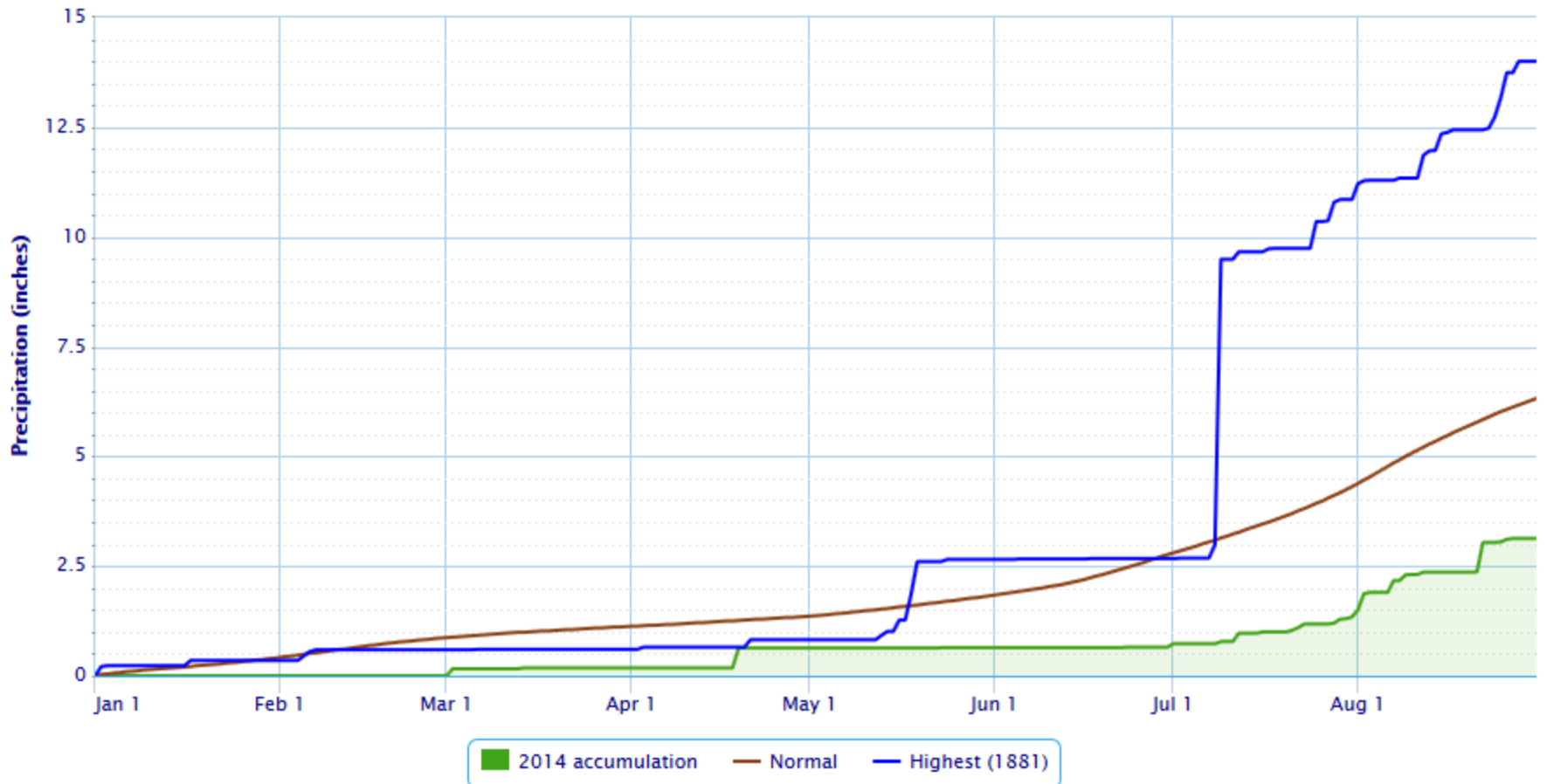
Period of Record – Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2014-09-03; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2014-09-03. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Accumulated Precipitation – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

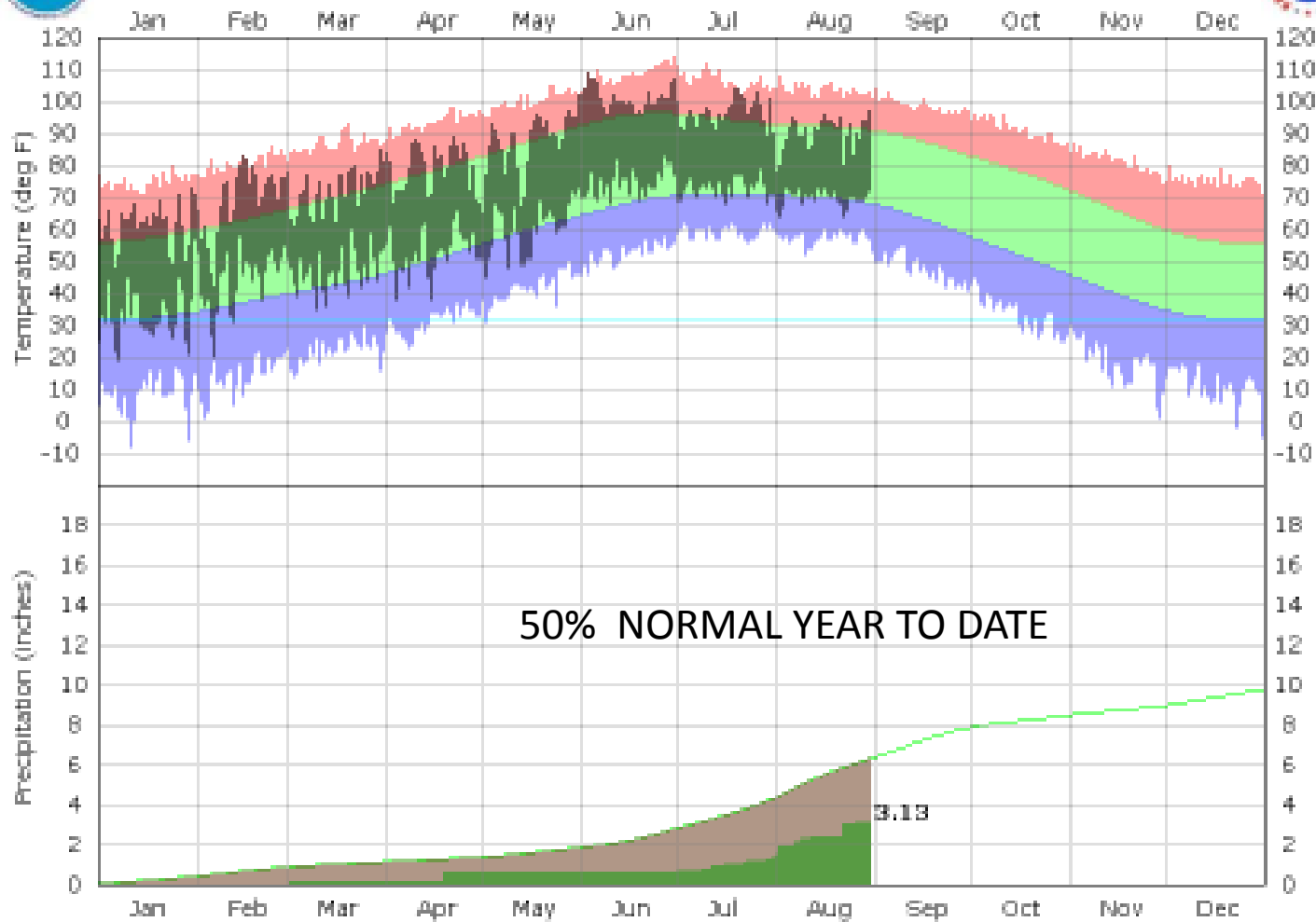


Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



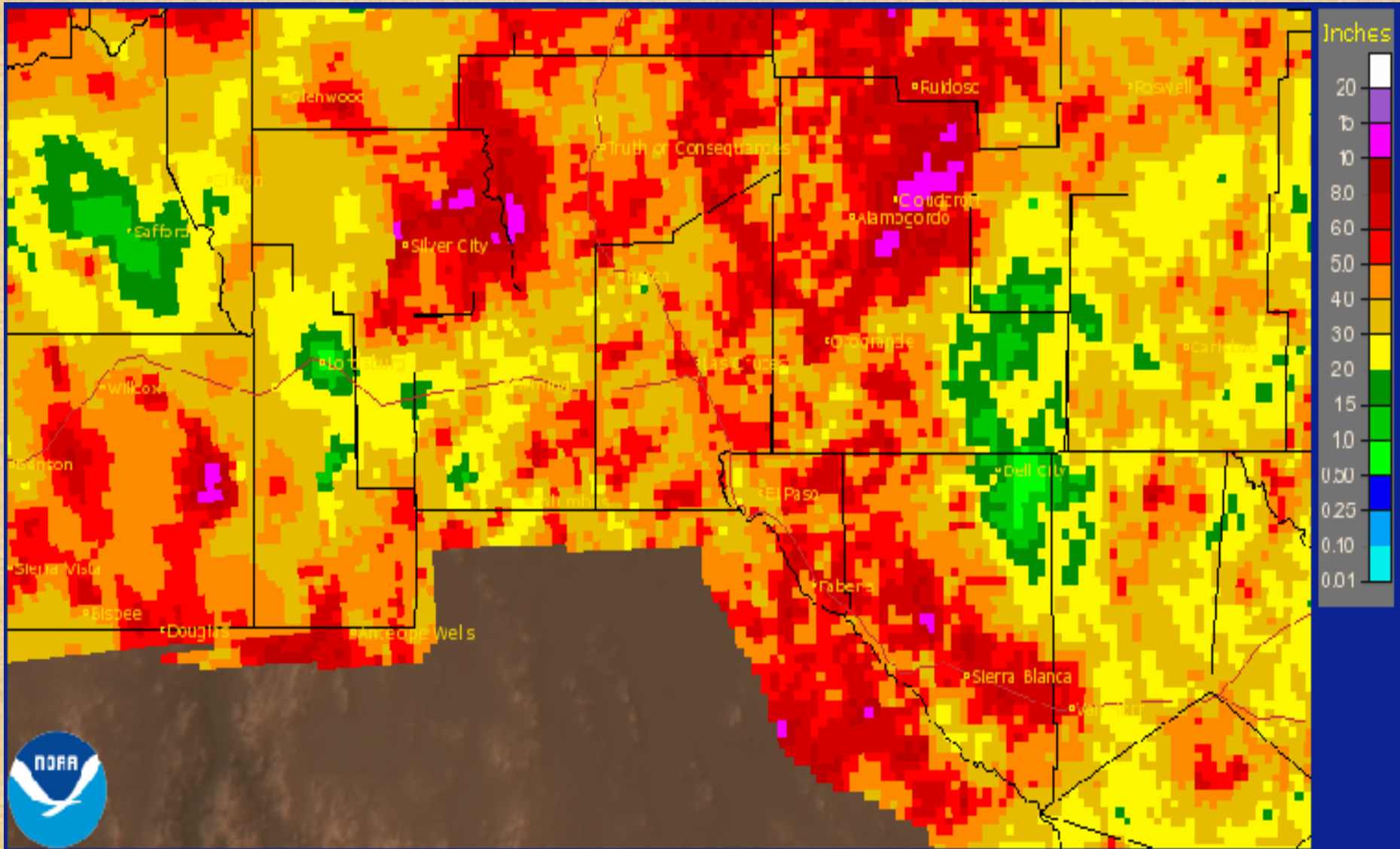


El Paso TX - 2014

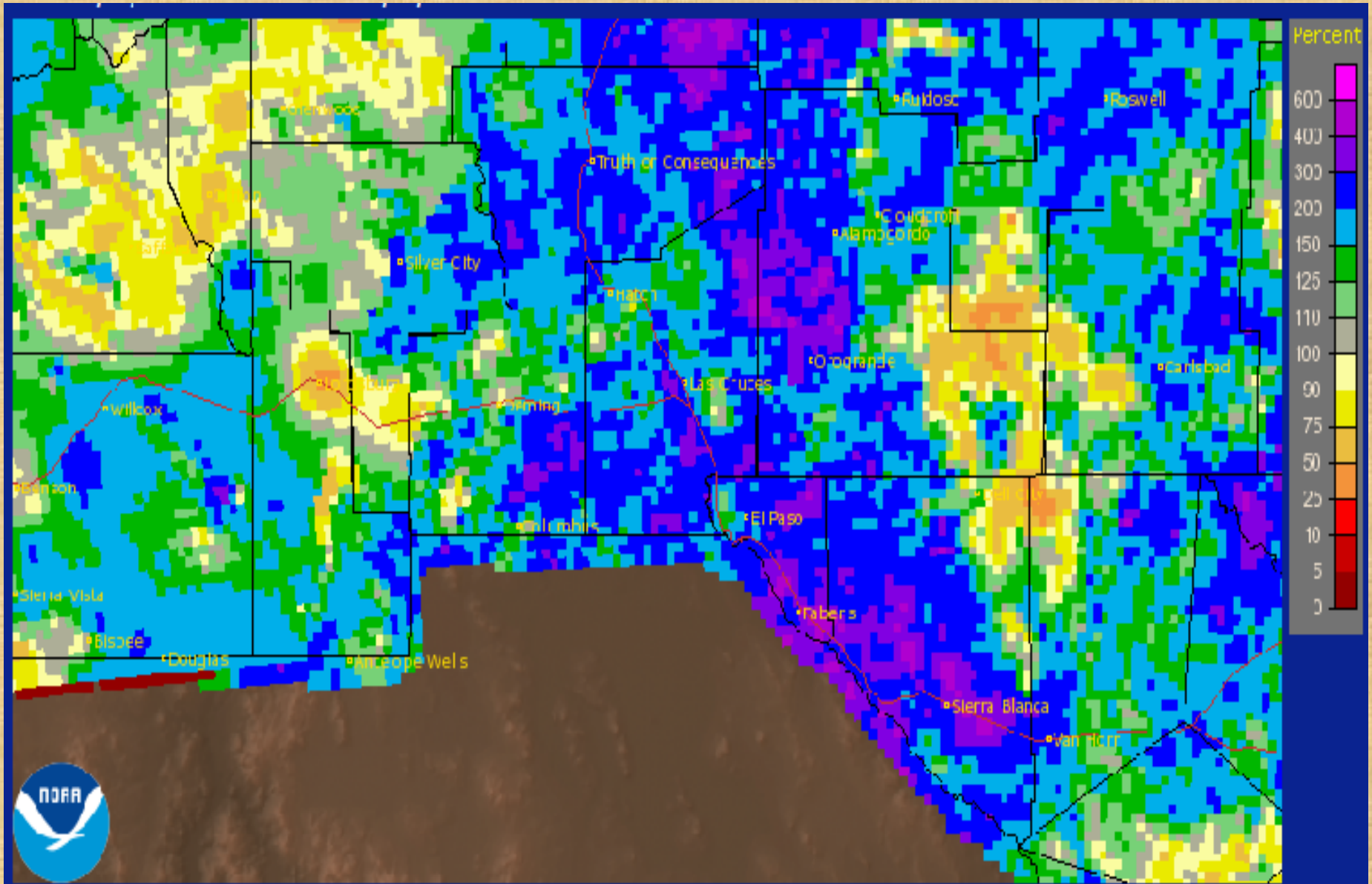


Temperature and precipitation

August 2014 Radar Rainfall Estimate

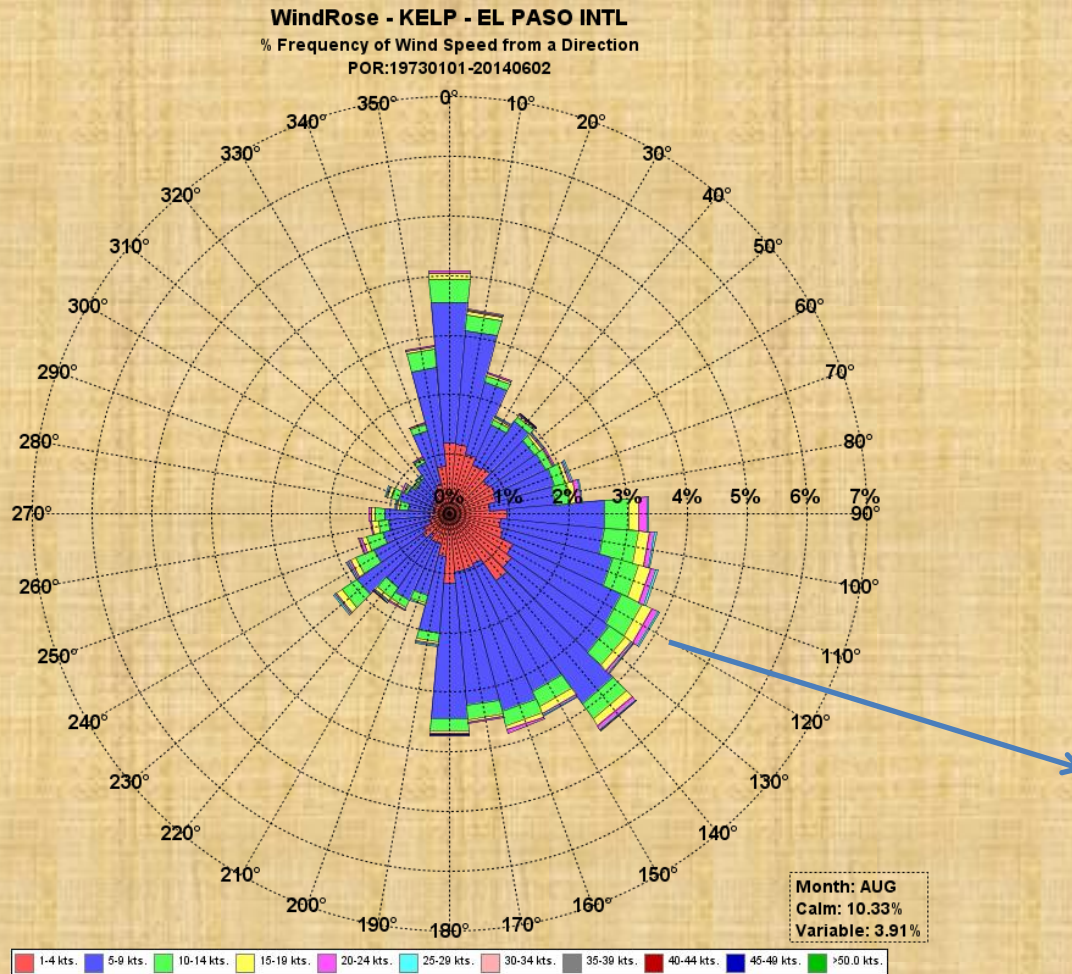


August 2014 Radar Rainfall Estimate (Percent of normal)



Special Features

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



Prevailing
Southeast
Moist monsoonal
Winds.

Significant Storm Reports

Date/Time	Location	Event
8/1/2014 1230 PM	3 NNW DRIPPING SPRINGS	2.57 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/2/2014 700 AM	6 SW EL PASO	1.18 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/2/2014 700 AM	6 N SILVER CITY	2.35 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/2/2014 700 AM	MULE CREEK-GRANT CO	2.12 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/2/2014 648 PM	SAN LORENZO-GRANT CO	1.11 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/2/2014 715 AM	3 NE ALAMOGORDO	1.30 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/2/2014 900 AM	TYRONE-GRANT CO	2.10 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/3/2014 700 AM	WHITE SIGNAL-GRANT CO	1.79 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/4/2014 330 PM	COLUMBUS	STREET FLOODING IN THE AREA
8/4/2014 711 PM	BUCKHORN	1.35 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/5/2014 700 AM	COLUMBUS	2.97 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/7/2014 648 PM	4NE MONTANA VISTA-EL PASO	.25 INCH HAIL
8/8/2014 644 AM	HUECO TANKS-EL PASO CO	2.80 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/9/2014 735 PM	TRUTH OR CONSEQ-AIRPORT	59 MPH CONVECTIVE GUST
8/10/2014 308 PM	SANTA TERESA	57 MPH CONVECTIVE GUST

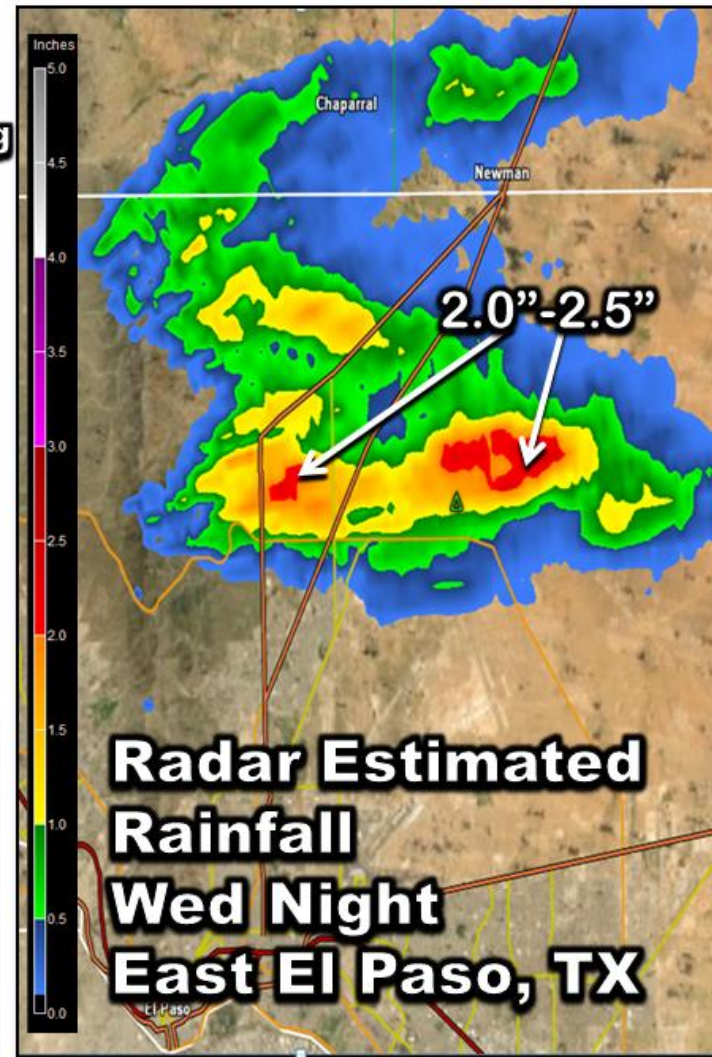
Significant Storm Reports

Date/Time	Location	Event
8/12/2014 635 PM	3 E EL PASO	1.75 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/13/2014 435 PM	2 SW CANUTILLO	50 MPH CONVECTIVE GUST
8/14/2014 745 PM	KINGSTON	2.25 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/15/2014 425 PM	CLOVERDALE-HIDALGO CO.	.25 INCH HAIL
8/16/2014 153 PM	SILVER CITY	2.00 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/17/2014 1230 AM	SANTA CLARA-GRANT CO	47 MPH CONVECTIVE GUST
8/19/2014 529 PM	LAS CRUCES	50 MPH CONVECTIVE GUST
8/19/2014 515 PM	2 N LAS CRUCES	1.29 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/24/2014 723 PM	HATCHITA-GRANT CO	HEAVY RAIN; STREET FLOODING
8/24/2014 740 PM	HATCHITA-GRANT CO	1.12 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/25/2014 342 PM	TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES	1.50 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/26/2014 1230 PM	UPHAM-SIERRA CO	2.00 INCHES HEAVY RAIN
8/26/2014 1214 PM	TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES	FLOODING NEAR SPACEPORT
8/26/2014 1230 PM	RODEY-DONA ANA CO	STREET FLOODING
8/27/2014 810 PM	7 NNW FT. BLISS	.25 INCH HAIL

**GROUND TRUTH FOR EL PASO STORM AUGUST 27.
JOIN COCORAH S AND DISPLAY YOUR PRECIPITATION !**



Date ▲	Station Name	Total Precip in.	State	County
8/28/2014	El Paso 4.7 N	2.04	TX	El Paso
8/28/2014	El Paso 4.7 N	1.67	TX	El Paso
8/28/2014	El Paso 4.6 NNE	1.13	TX	El Paso
8/28/2014	El Paso 3.3 NNE	1.09	TX	El Paso
8/28/2014	El Paso 6.0 N	0.99	TX	El Paso



AND WE END WITH A BEAUTIFUL NEW MEXICO SUNSET

