

January 2022 Weather Digest



January 2022 Weather Summary

January turned out to display a typical La Nina pattern, with temperatures mostly at or just above normal. Meanwhile, precipitation was at a premium, with only portions of Dona Ana County at or just above normal. In contrast, much of Hudspeth, Otero and Sierra Counties were much drier than normal. This lack of moisture increased drought conditions over most of the area. Areas west of the Rio Grande Valley dropped into severe to extreme drought conditions, while areas to the east slipped into abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions.

The month actually started out on an active note. A large Pacific storm system moved in on the last day of December and continued into January 1. Heavy mountain snow of up to 1 foot fell across the Sacramento Mountains, while strong wind gusts of 40 to 60 mph swept across the lowlands on January 1. Much of the remainder of the month was quiet with warm temperatures and little or no precipitation. Finally, on January 27 and 28, another Pacific system swept across the area, with little in the way of precipitation, but gusty winds of 35 to 55 mph across much of the area. The Sacramento Mountains did end up with above average snowfall. However, the Gila and Black Range were not as fortunate, with snowfall below average.

January 2022 Weather Summary, cont'd

Looking ahead to February, we enter the last month of deep winter, with stretches of cold temperatures still likely. Having said that, daylight continues to increase as we distance ourselves from the Winter Solstice of December. Daylight from the 1st to the 28th increases nearly 50 minutes. Likewise, at El Paso, average high temperatures increase from 61 degrees on the 1st, to 67 degrees on the last day of the month. Precipitation averages continue to decline some from January, transitioning us to the dry season of March through May.

For you lunar fans out there, our full moon for February occurs on the 16th. This full moon is commonly known as the Snow Moon, as February is usually the snowiest month across the U.S. The New Moon occurs on February 1st. There are no lunar or solar eclipses occurring in February.

Jan 1 Cloudfcroft Snow



Jan 1 Cloudfcroft Snow



Jan 1 Silver City Snow



Jan 10 Snow Prep Transmountain



Jan 3 El Paso Sunset



Jan 1 Jornada Rainbow



Jan 1 El Paso Rainbow



Jan 18 El Paso Sunset



Jan 18 Rainbow Santa Teresa

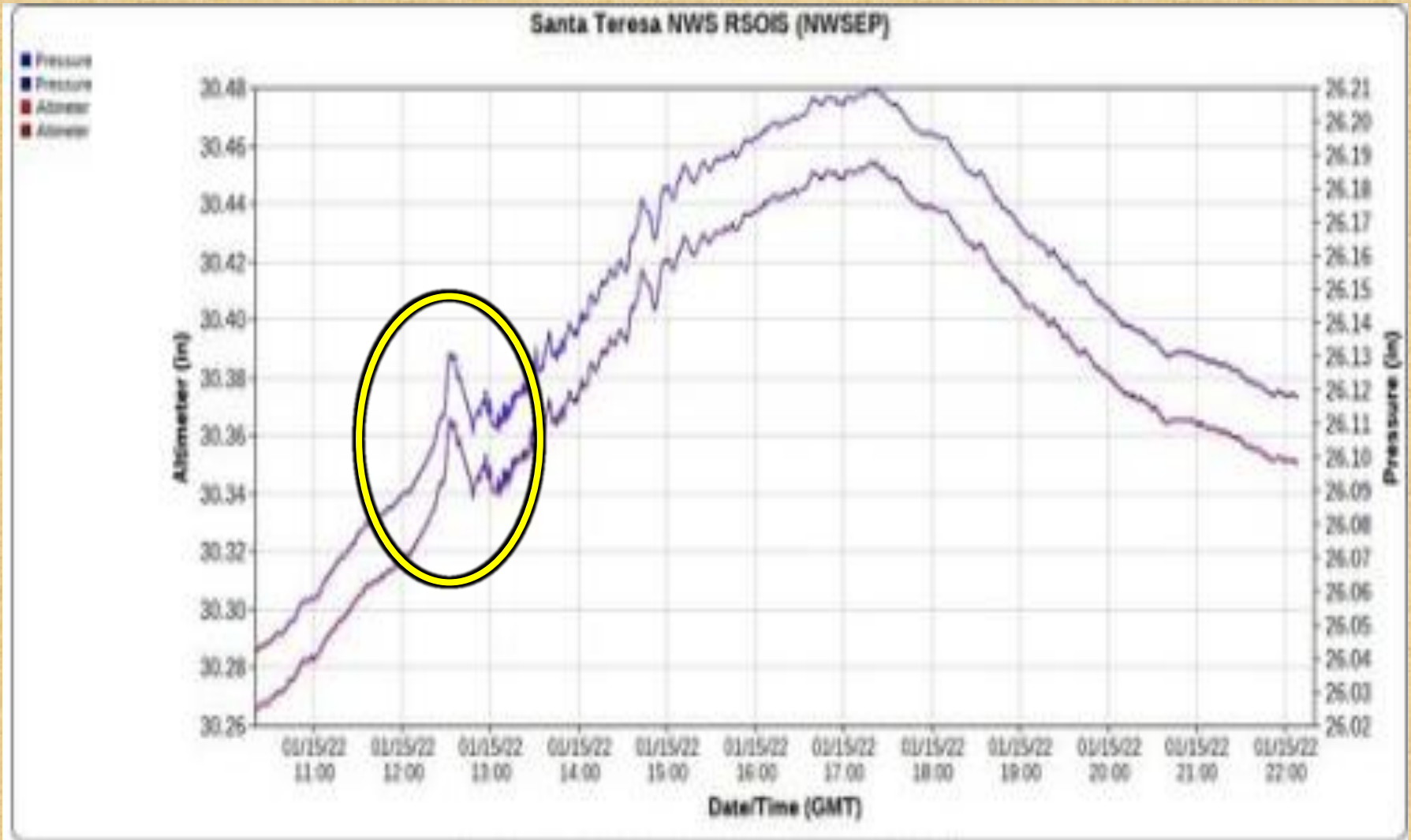


**Jan 14 Lenticular Clouds
Santa Teresa**



Hunga-Tonga Volcanic Eruption

This is the pressure wave fluctuation from the Tonga volcano as recorded by an instrument at the NWS Santa Teresa on Jan 15. The pressure wave traveled around the world and was measured at numerous other sites



ENSO Alert System Status: La Niña Advisory in Affect

ENSO Alert System

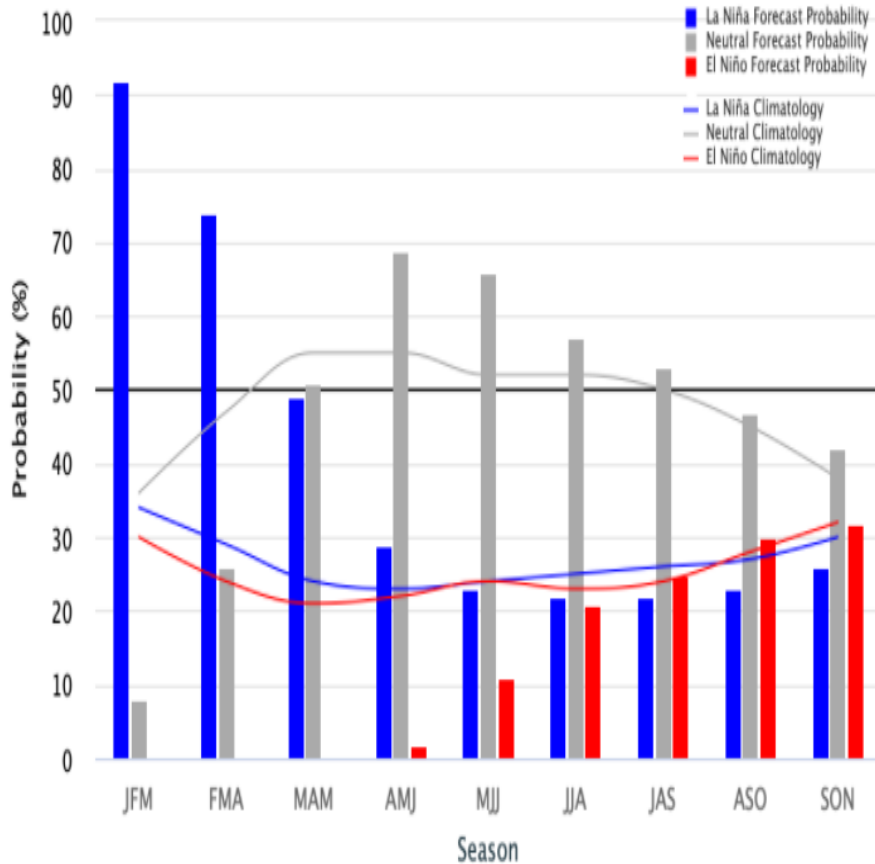
- **El Niño or La Niña Watch:** Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions in the next six months.
- **El Niño or La Niña Advisory:** Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.

ENSO Forecast

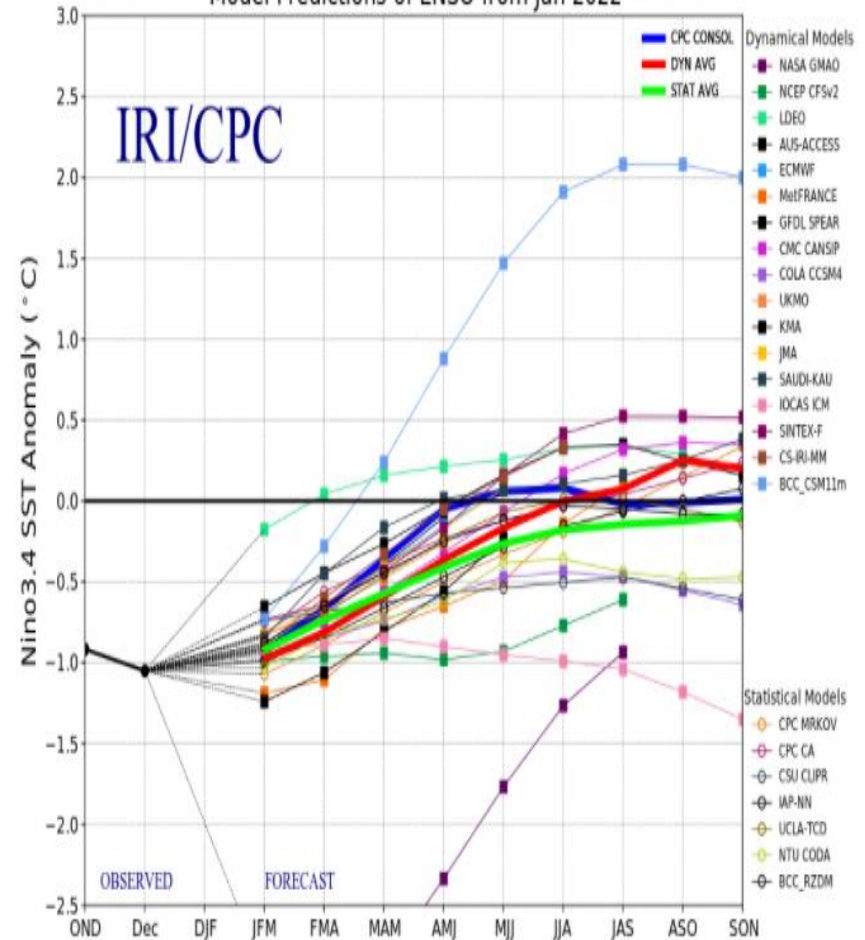
ENSO is in La Niña status, where it is expected to stay into early spring and then gradually shift to neutral by early summer.

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

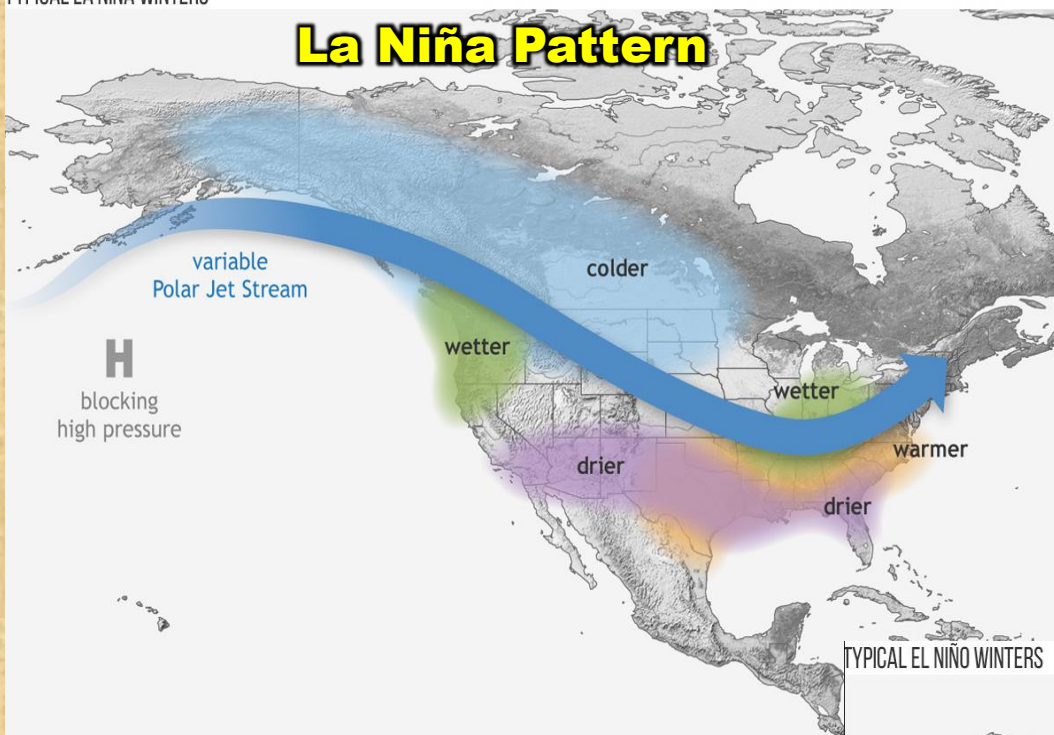
ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly
Neutral ENSO: $-0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



Model Predictions of ENSO from Jan 2022

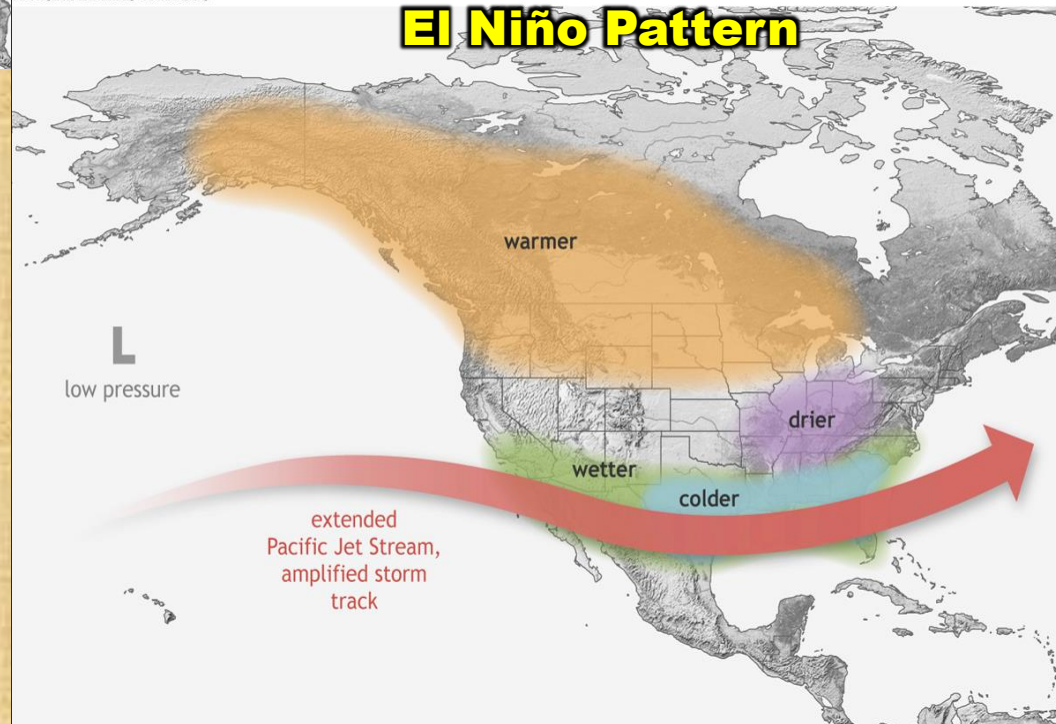


La Niña Pattern



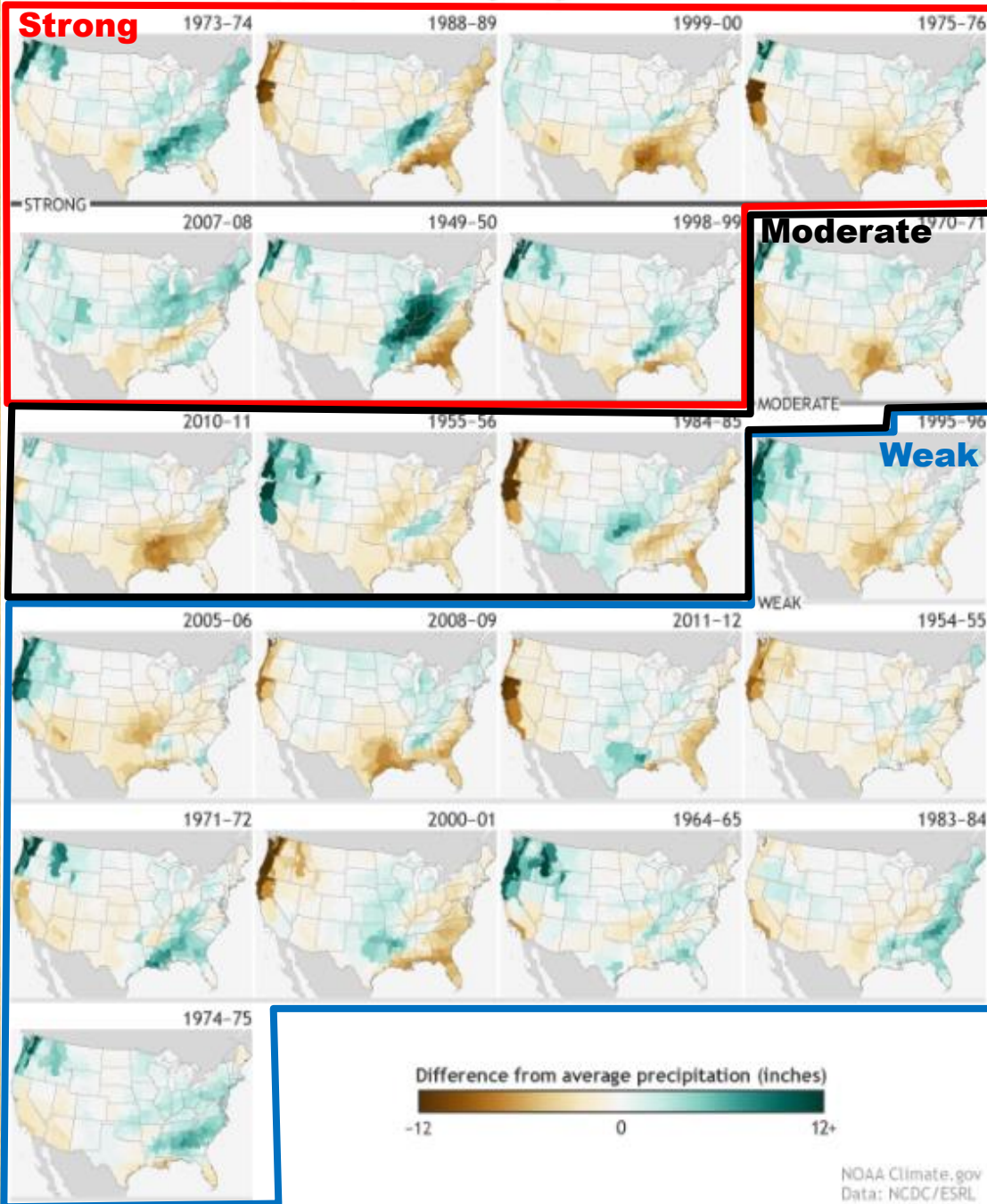
With a La Niña pattern, a ridge of high pressure tends to build off the west coast of the U.S., blocking most of our Pacific winter storm systems. These storms tend to end up moving across the northern Plains and down to the southeastern part of the country. Of course it is important to remember that 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



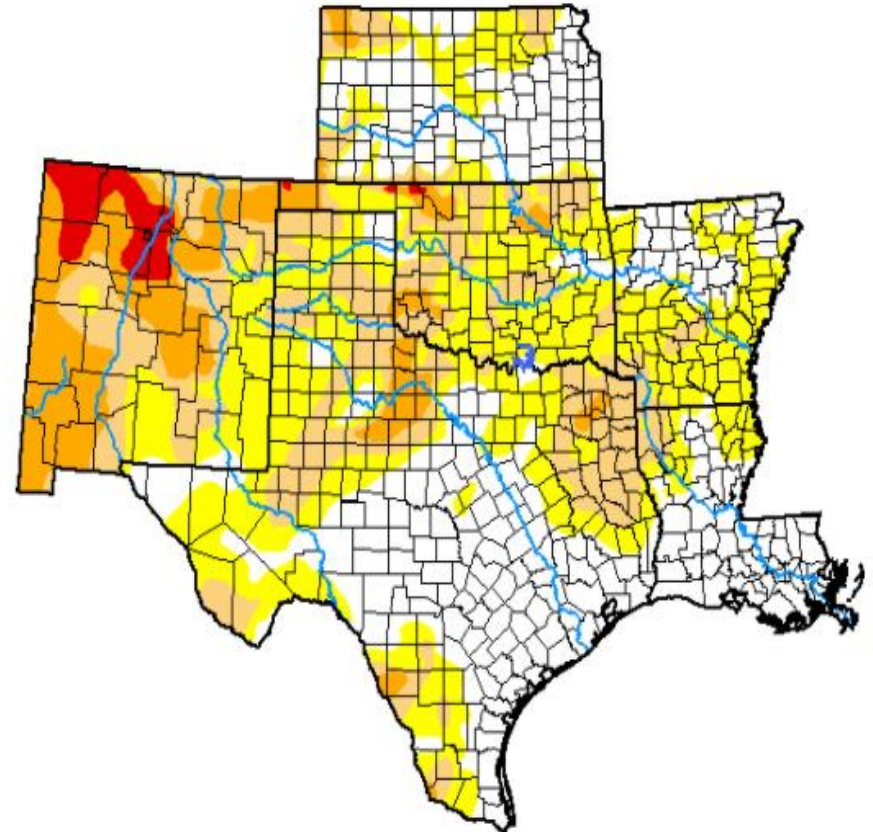
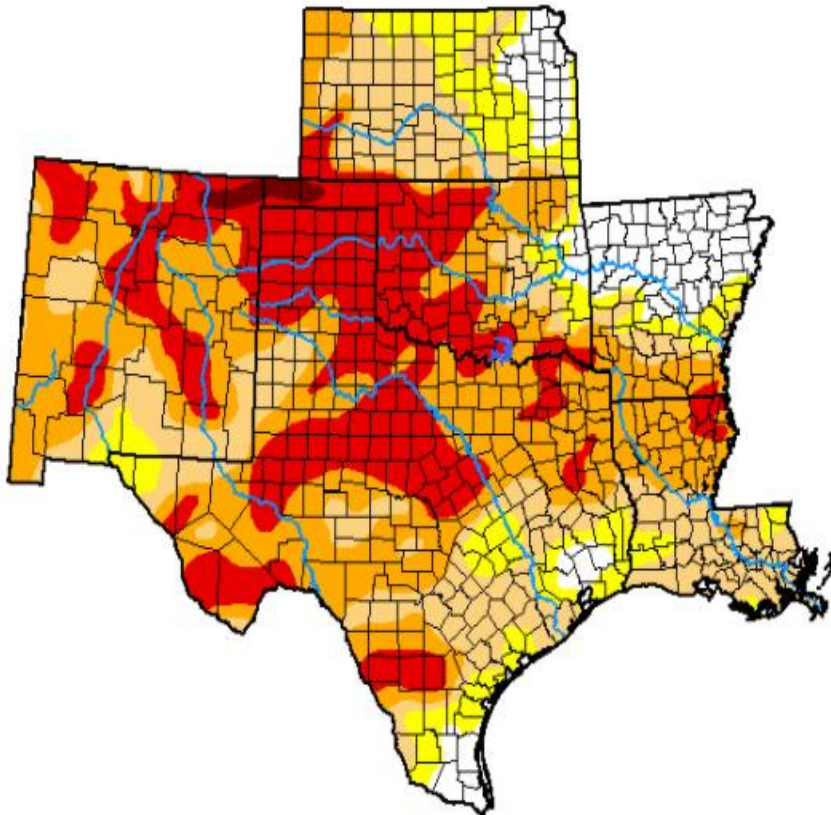
Examples of the numerous La Niña winters since 1950. These maps depict the departure from normal precipitation amounts for a winter.

Current drought conditions and 3 month change

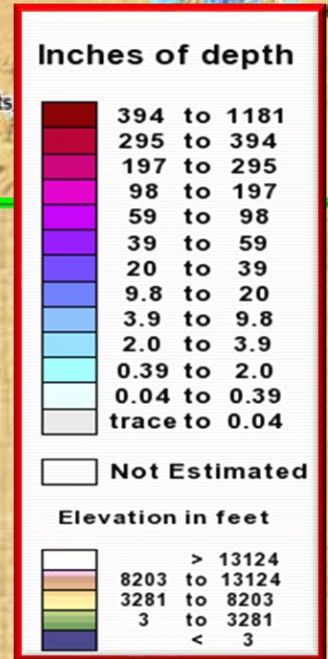
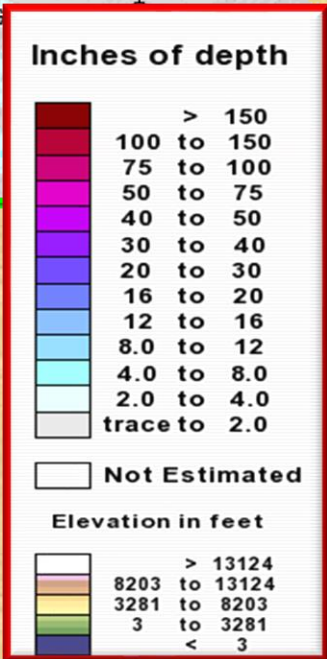
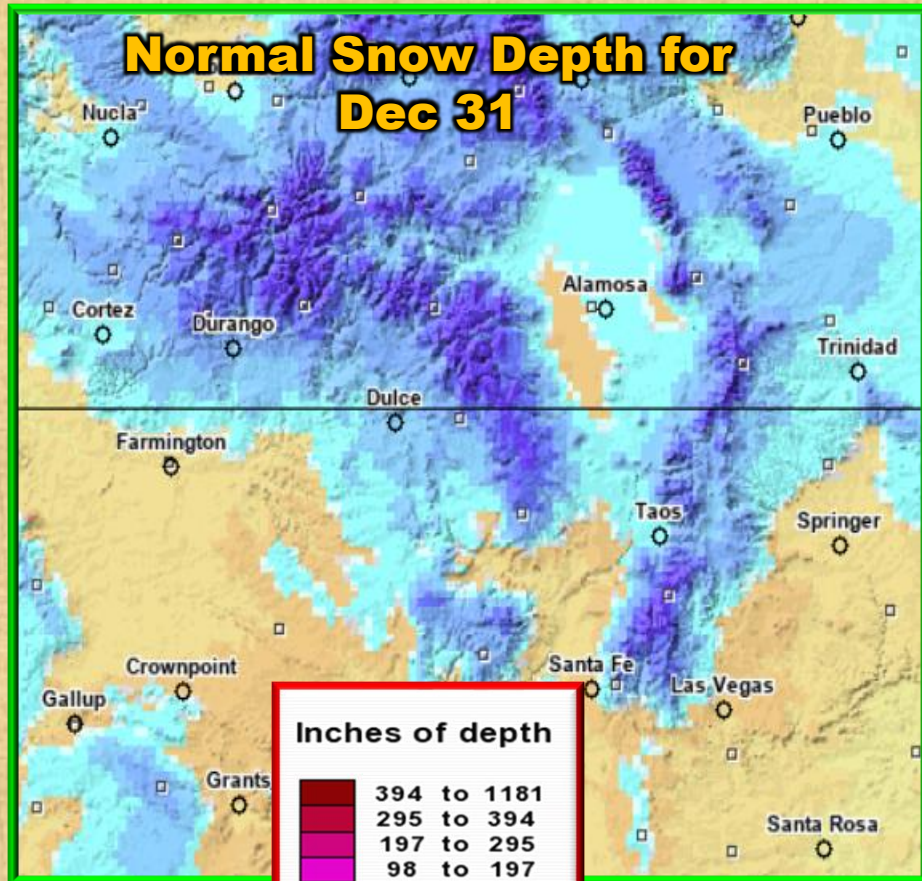
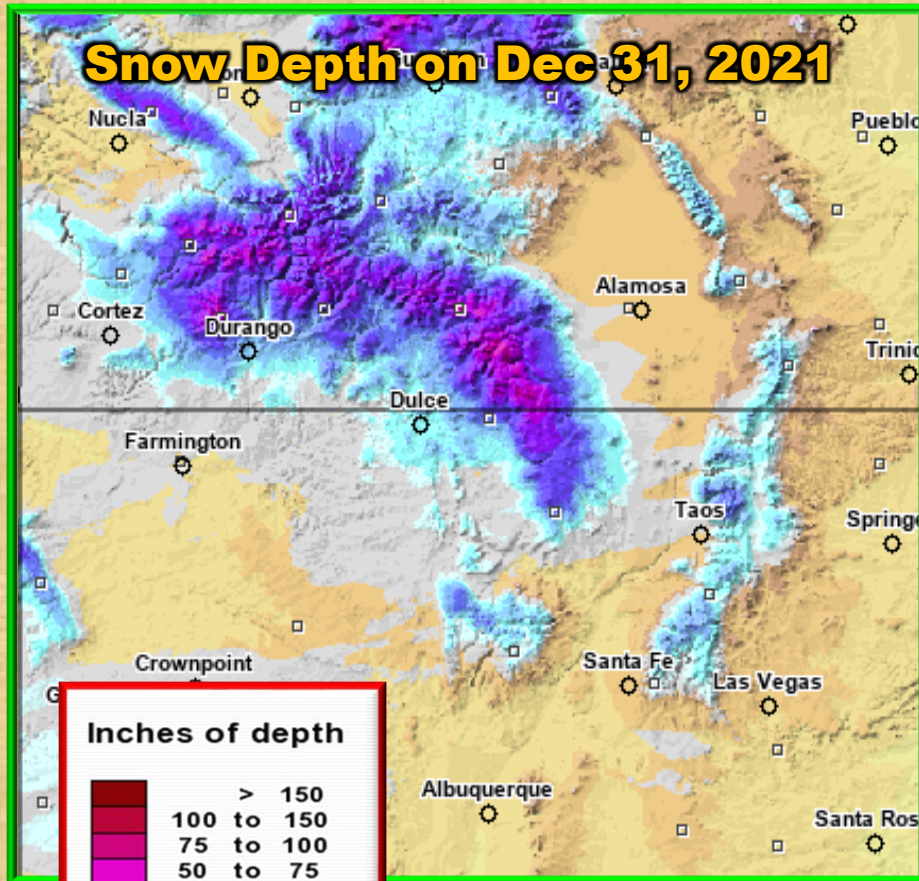
- Abnormally Dry – D0
- Moderate Drought – D1
- Severe Drought – D2
- Extreme Drought – D3
- Exceptional – D4

January 25, 2022

October 26, 2021

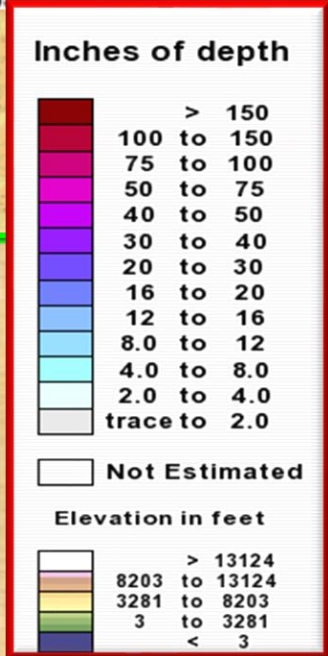
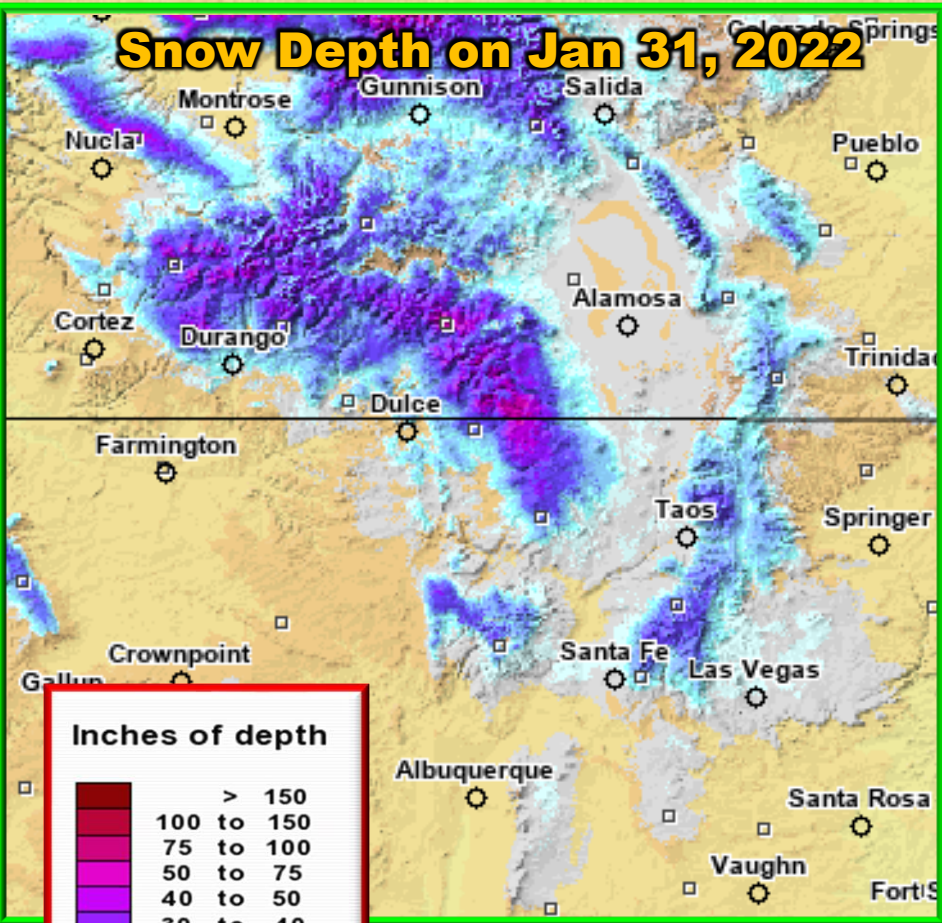


Snow Data Upper Rio Grand Basin as of Dec 31, 2021

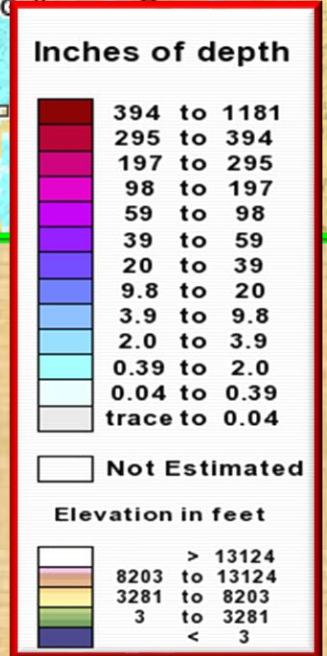
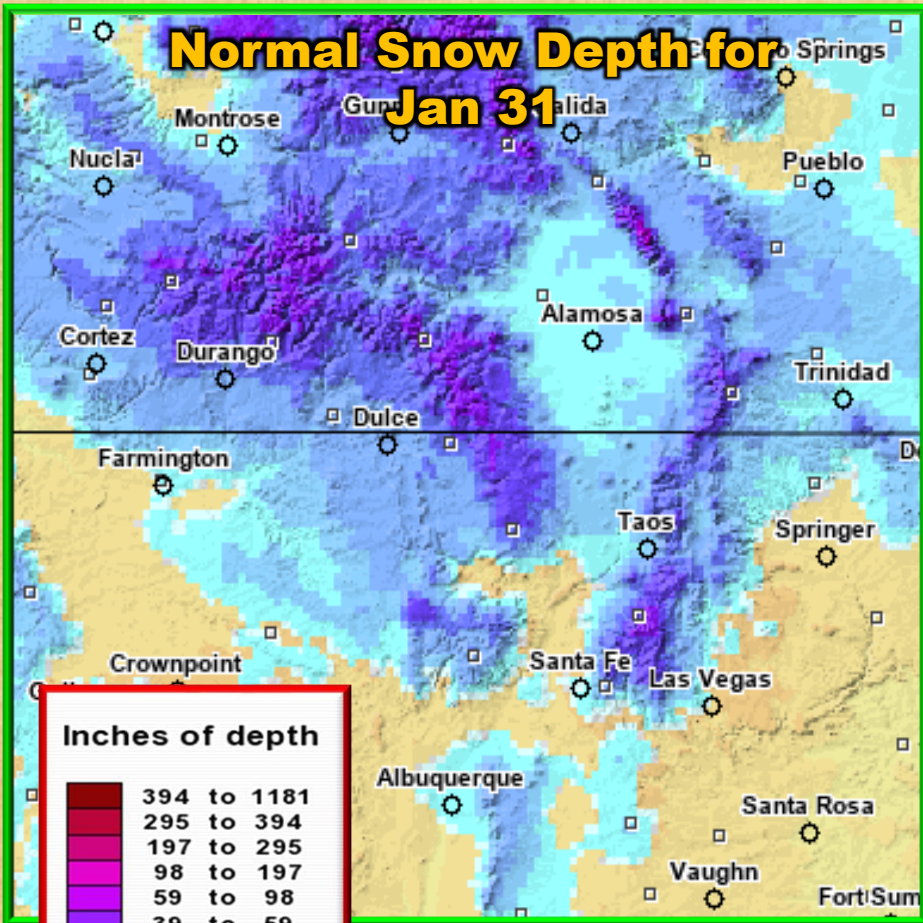


Snow Data Upper Rio Grand Basin as of Jan 31, 2022

Snow Depth on Jan 31, 2022



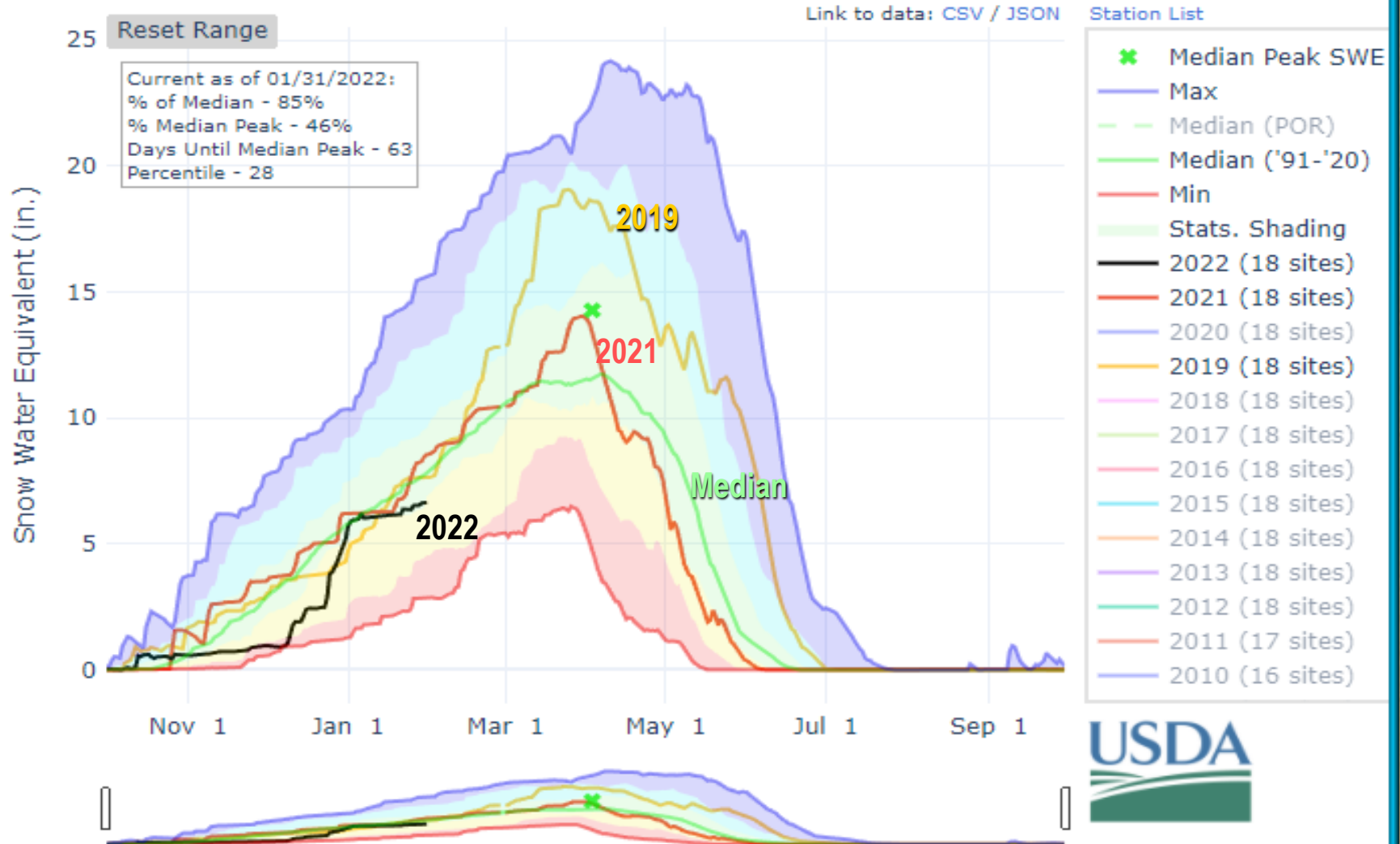
Normal Snow Depth for Jan 31



Snow Water Equivalent as of Nov 30, 2021

Compare to last few years and average values

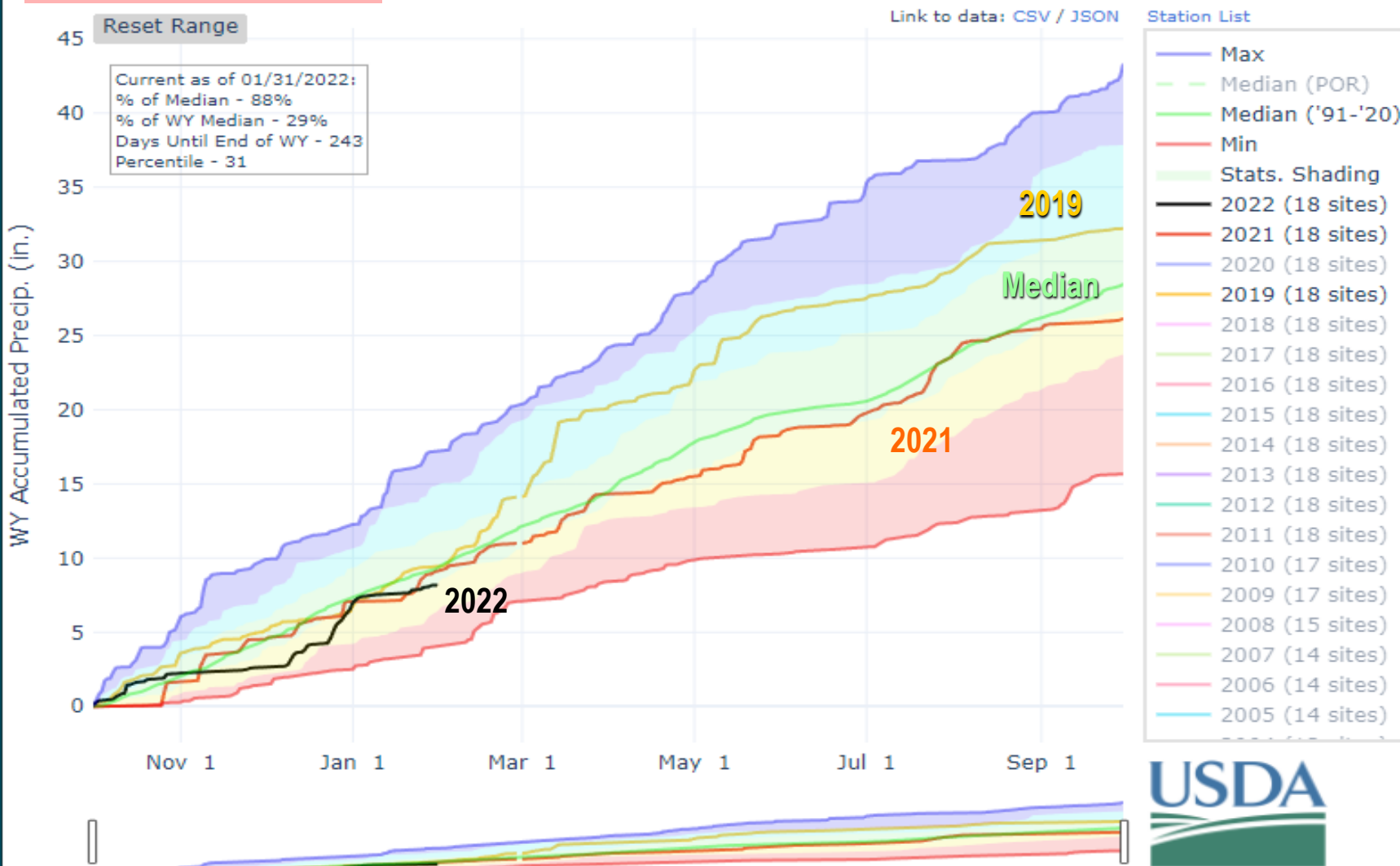
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN UPPER RIO GRANDE



Precipitation for the Water Year Oct 1 – April 30, 2022

Compare to last few years and average values

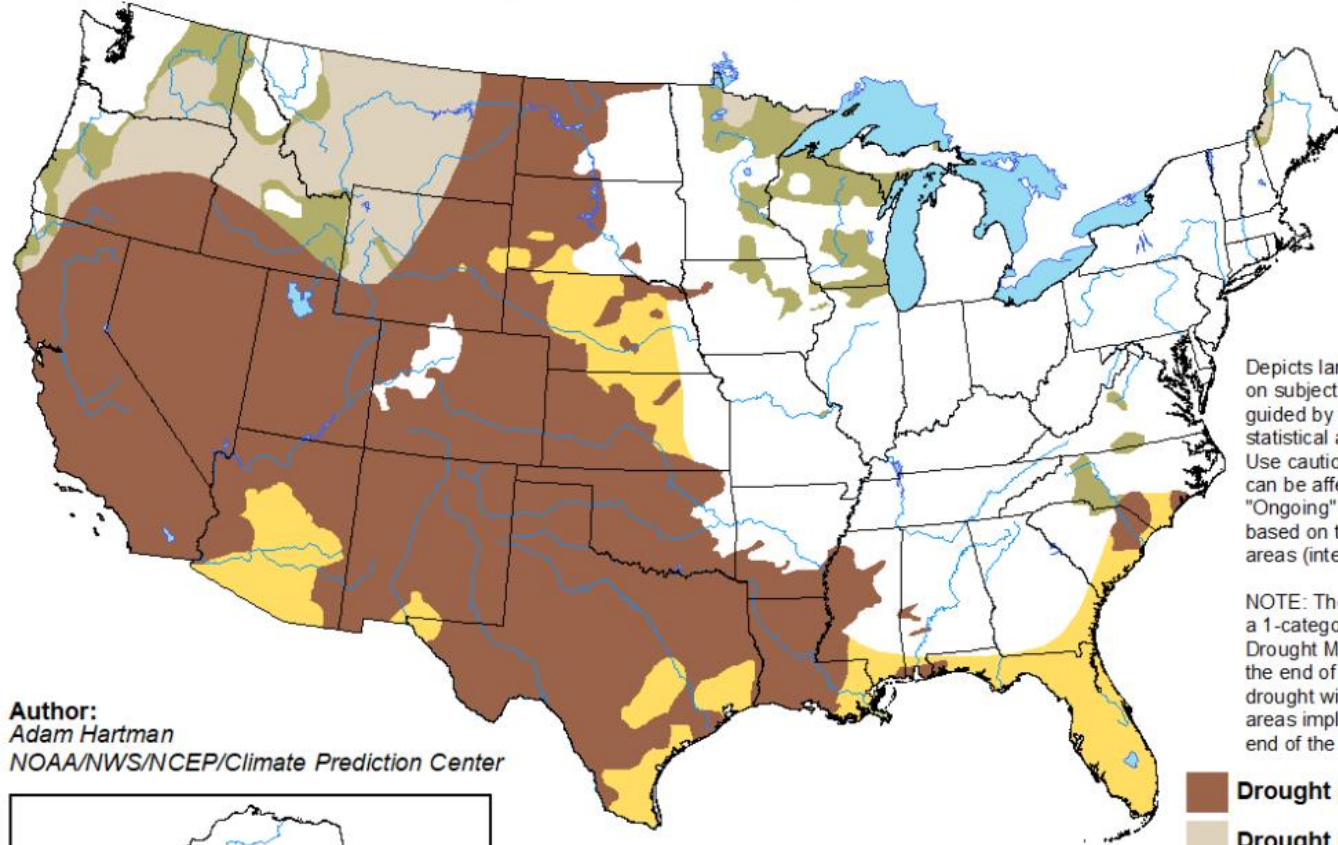
PRECIPITATION IN UPPER RIO GRANDE



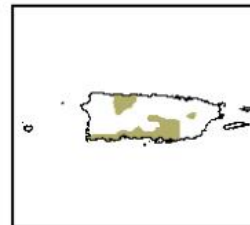
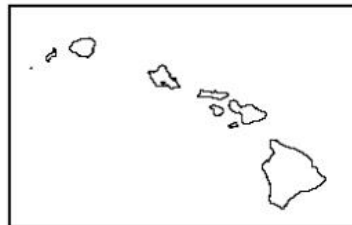
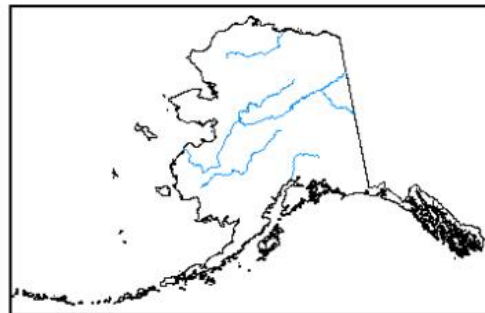
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 20 - April 30, 2022
Released January 20



Author:
Adam Hartman
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



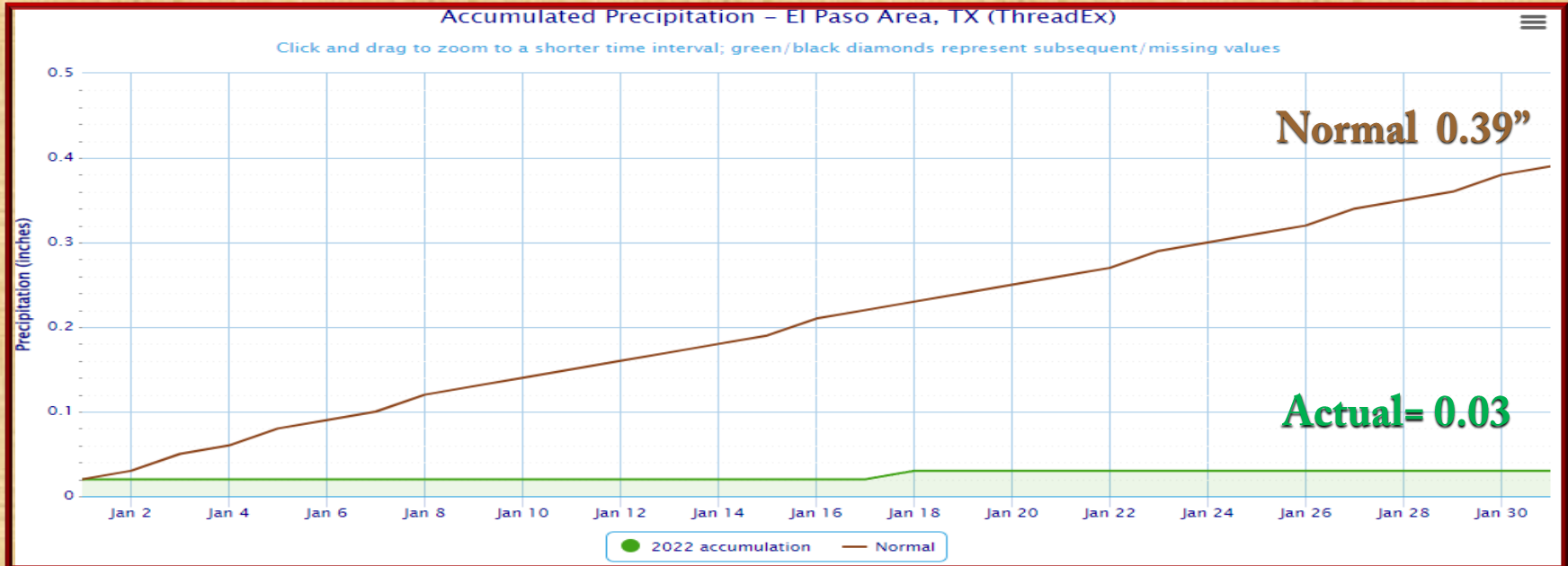
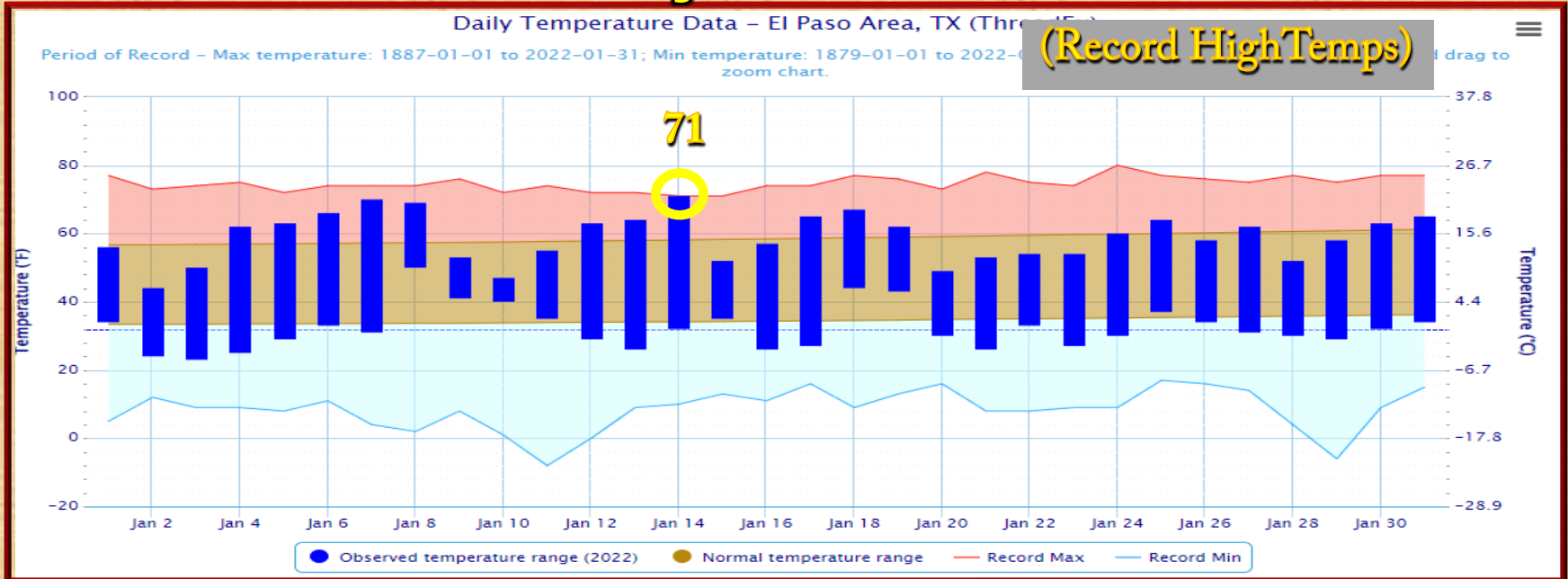
-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



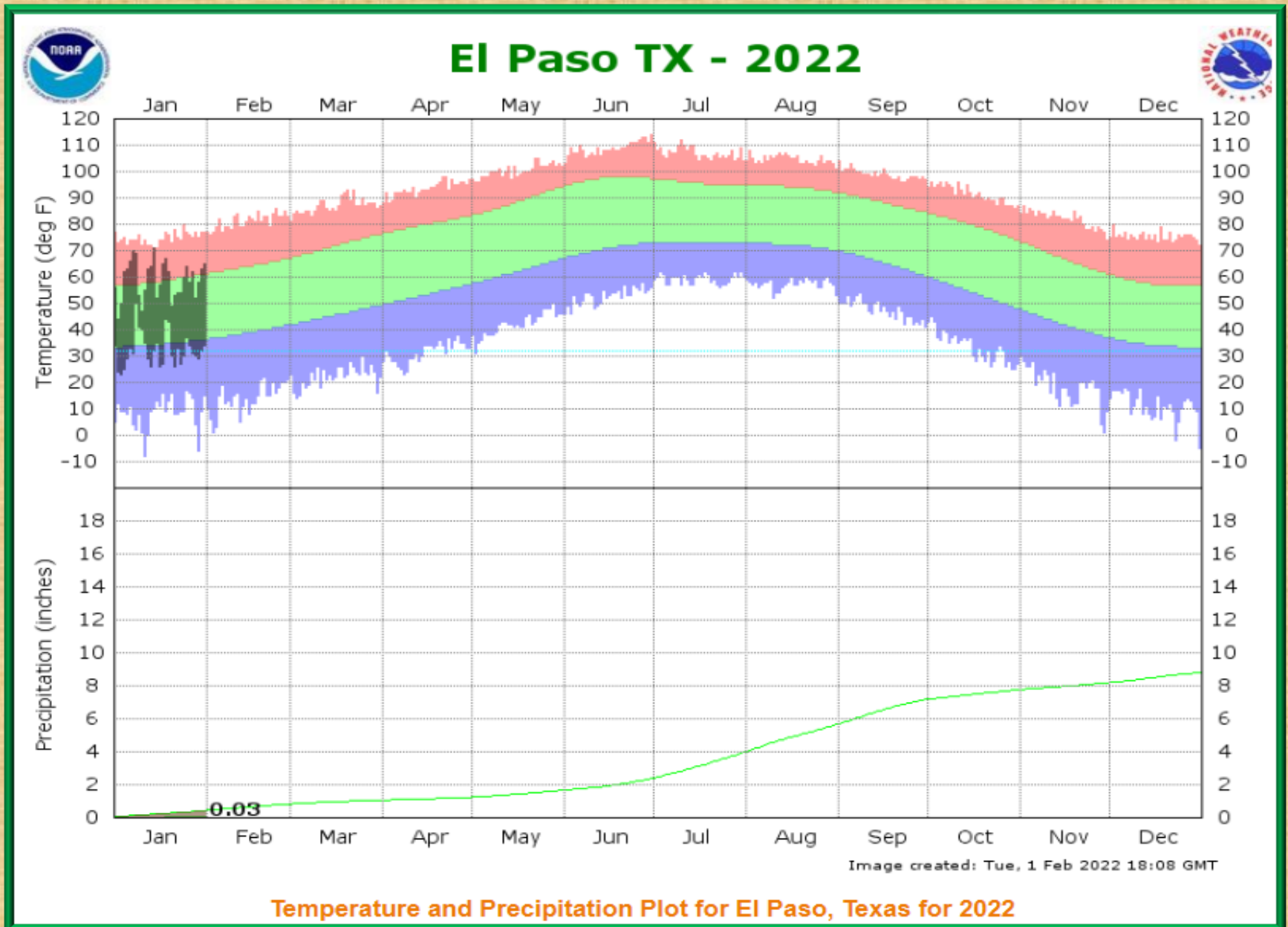
<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Temperature and precipitation data for January 2022 in El Paso

○ = record



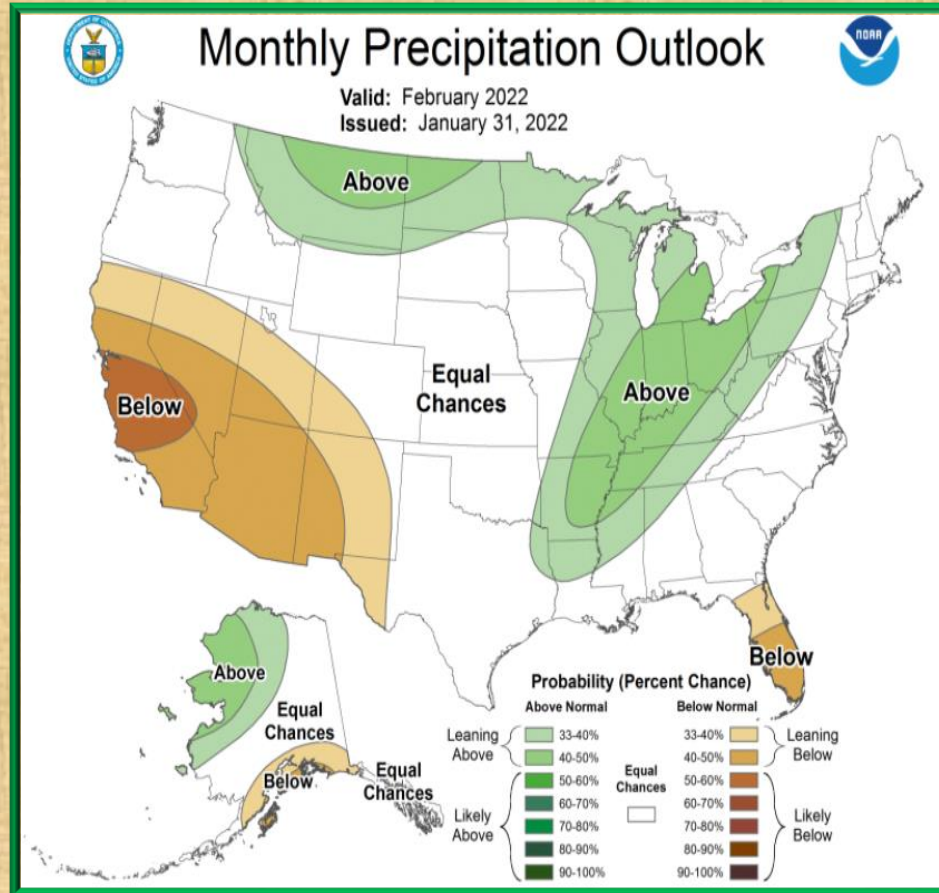
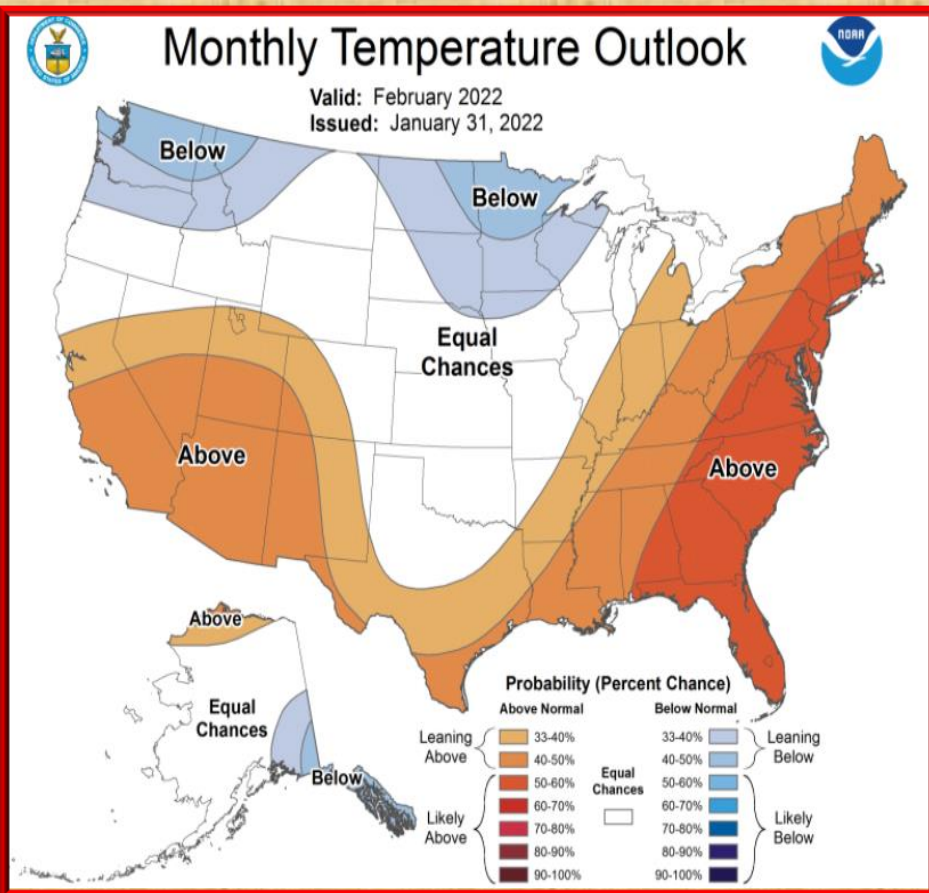
2021: Temperature and Precipitation YTD Data for El Paso



Temperature and precipitation outlook for February 2022

Temperature

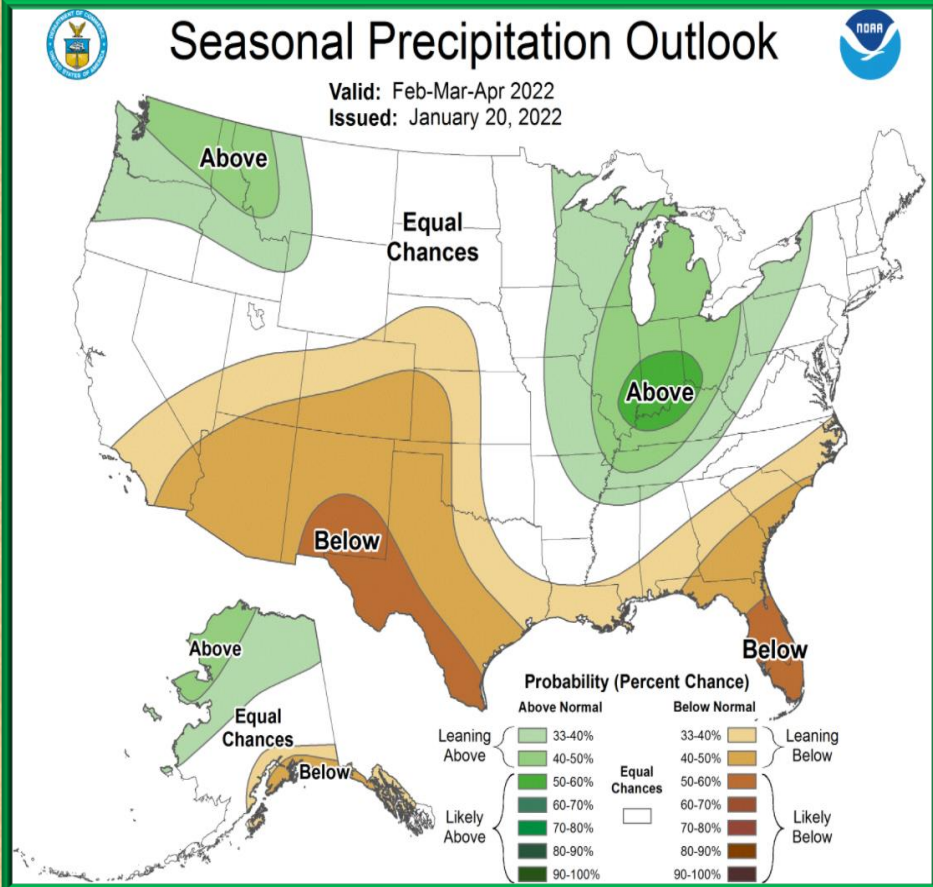
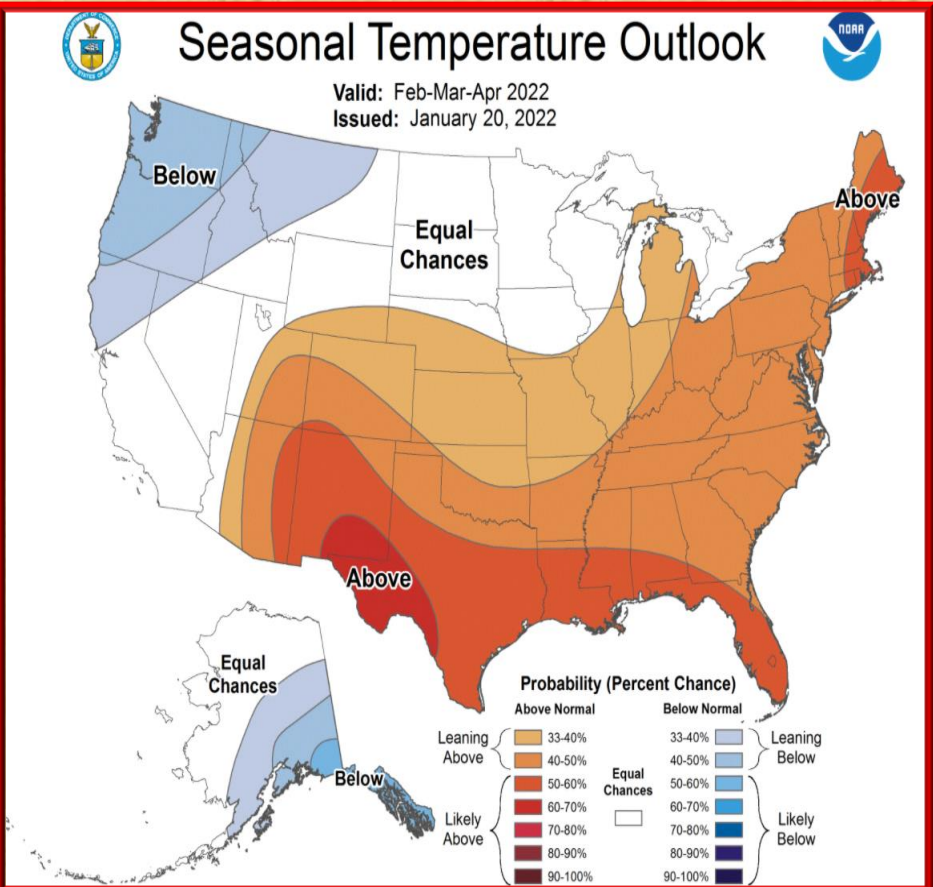
Precipitation



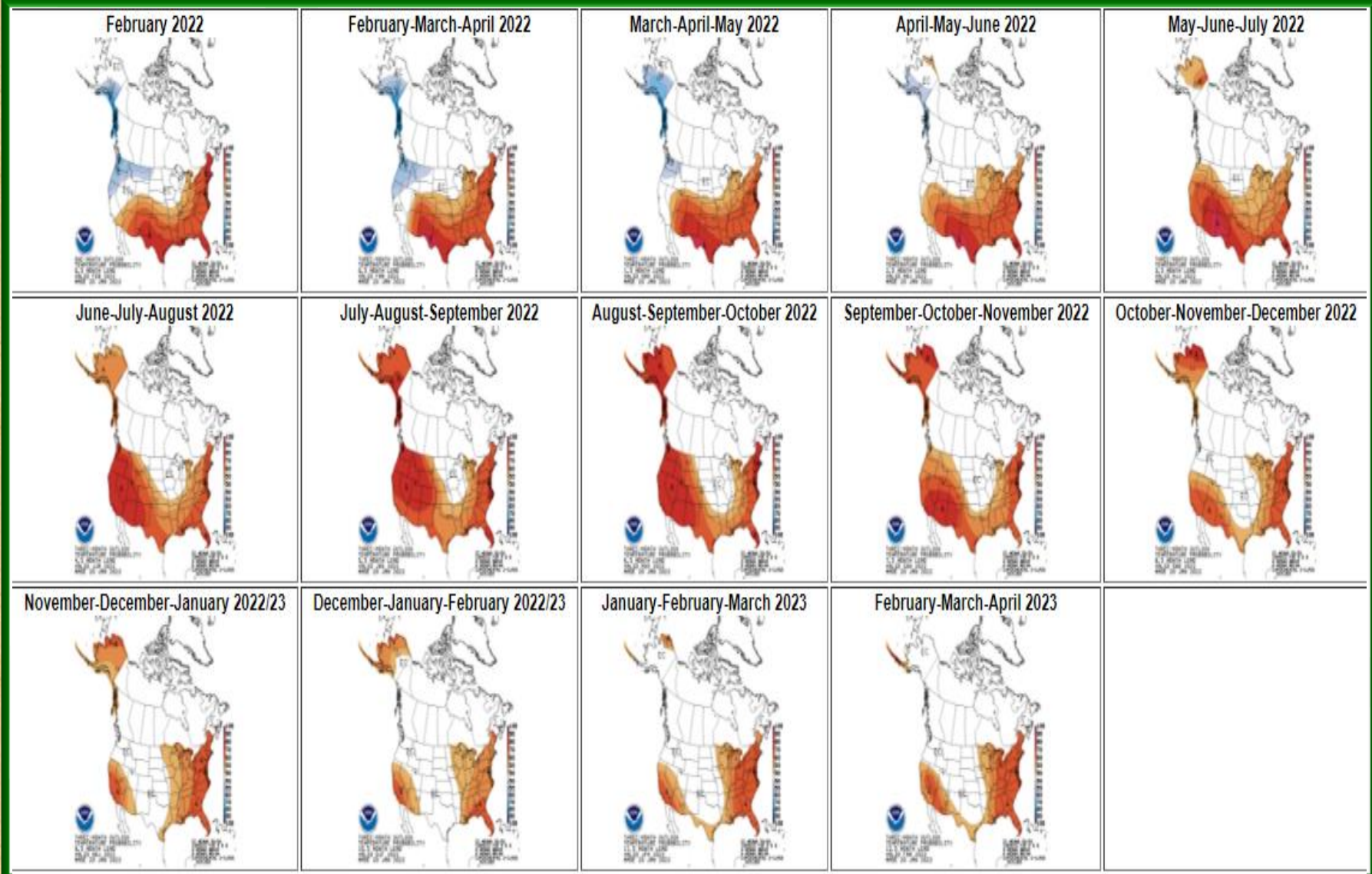
Temperature and precipitation outlook For February-April 2022

Temperature

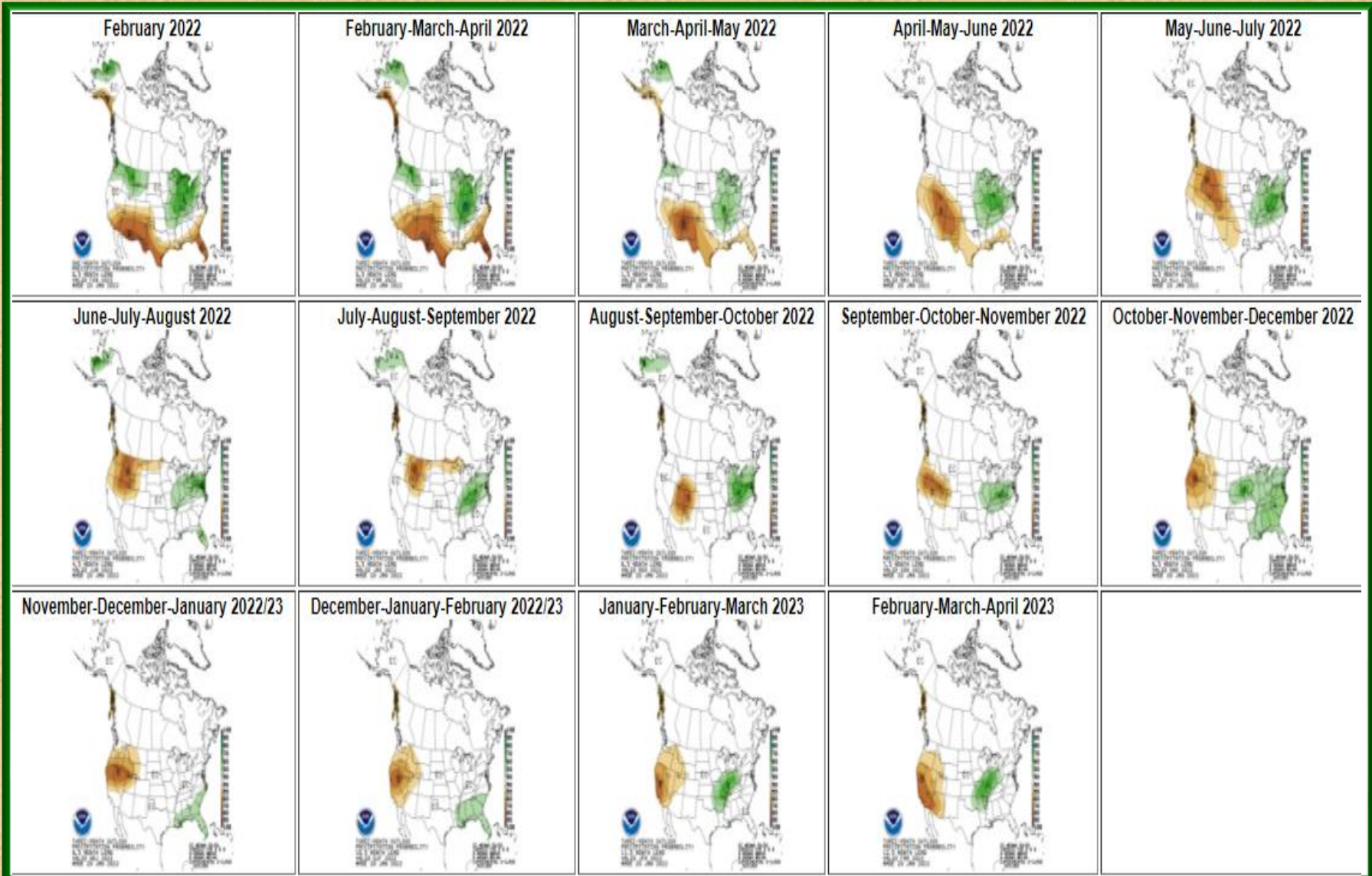
Precipitation



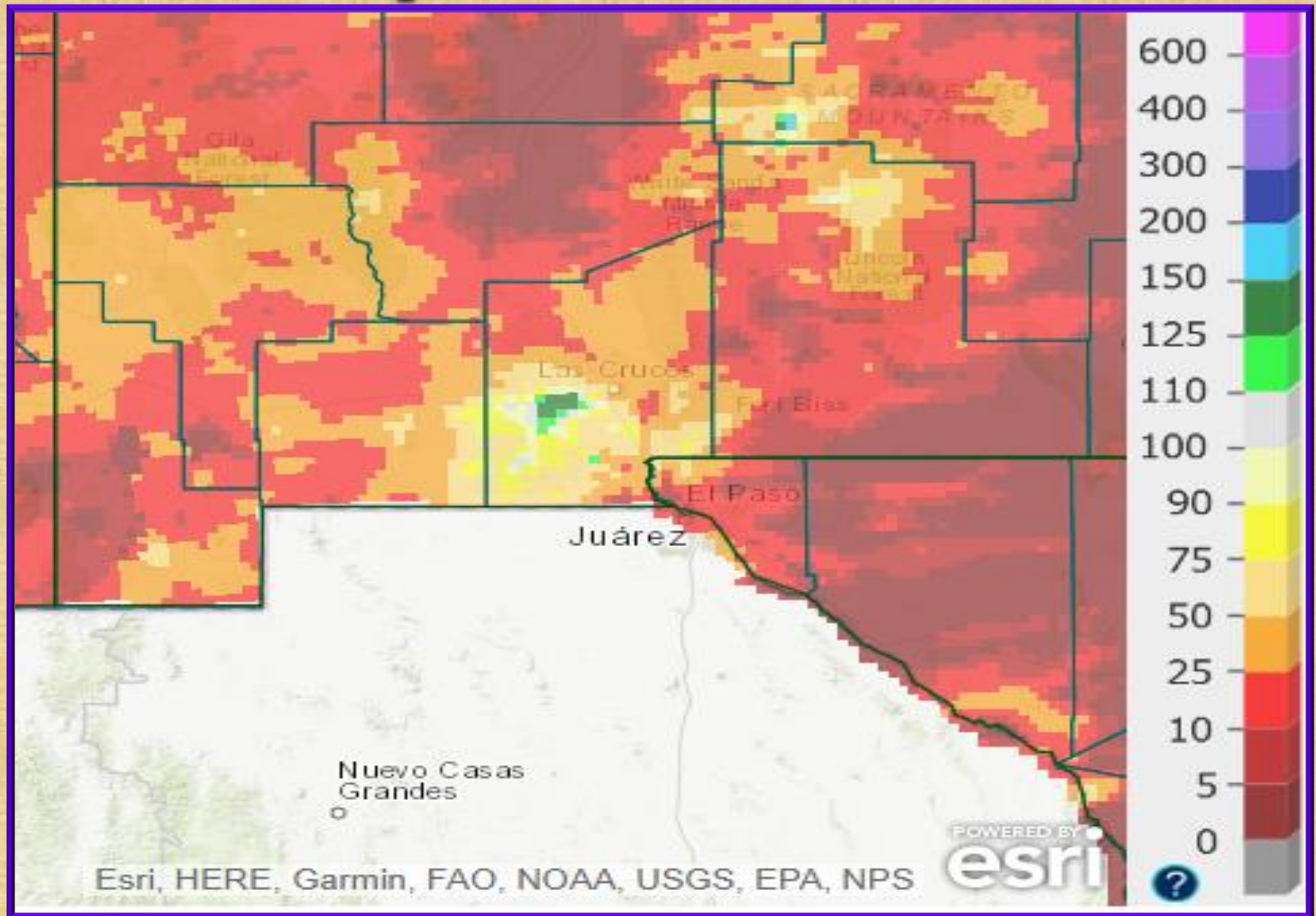
Temperature Outlook Through April 2023



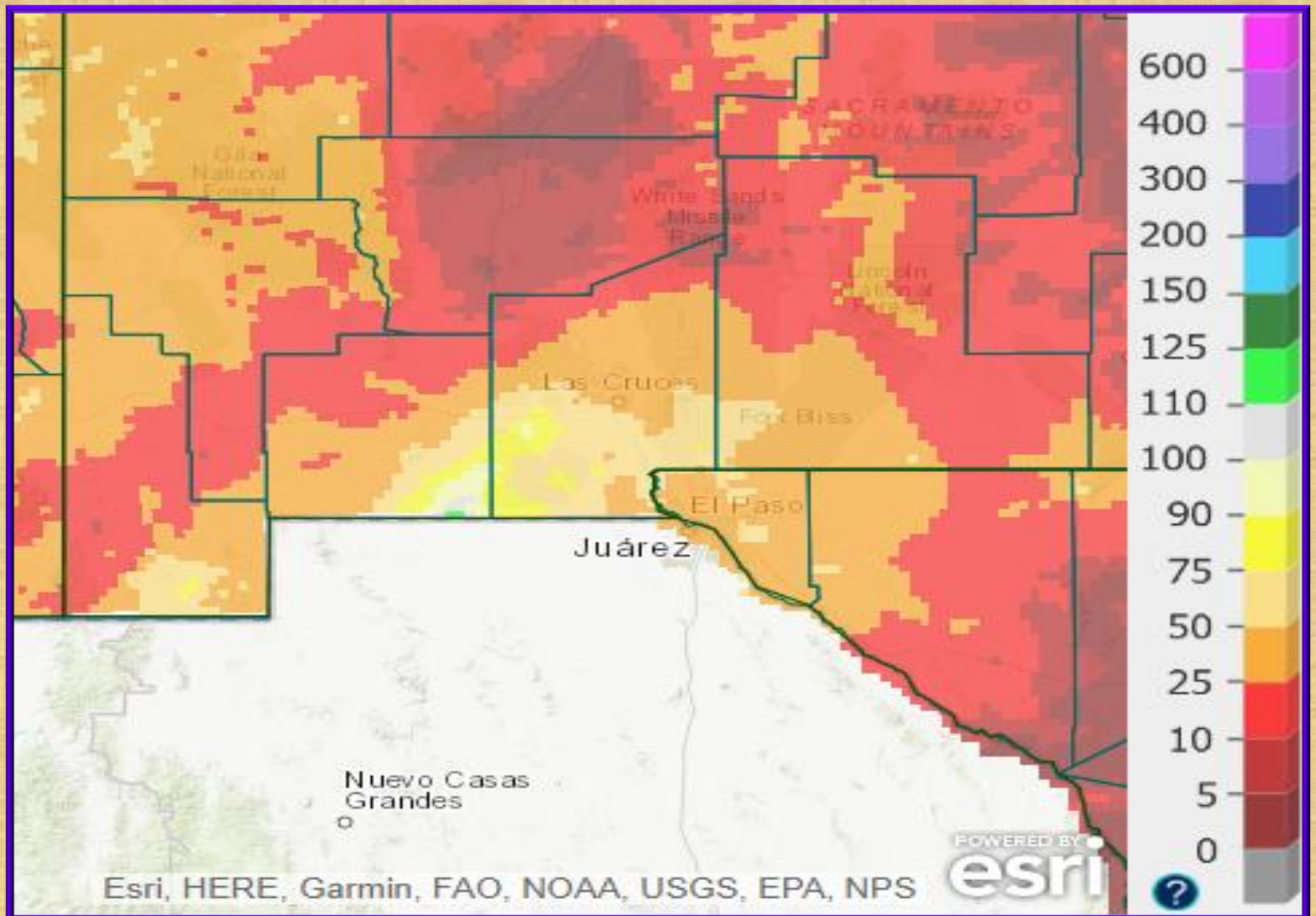
Precipitation Outlook Through April 2023



January 2022 rainfall estimate percent of normal



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

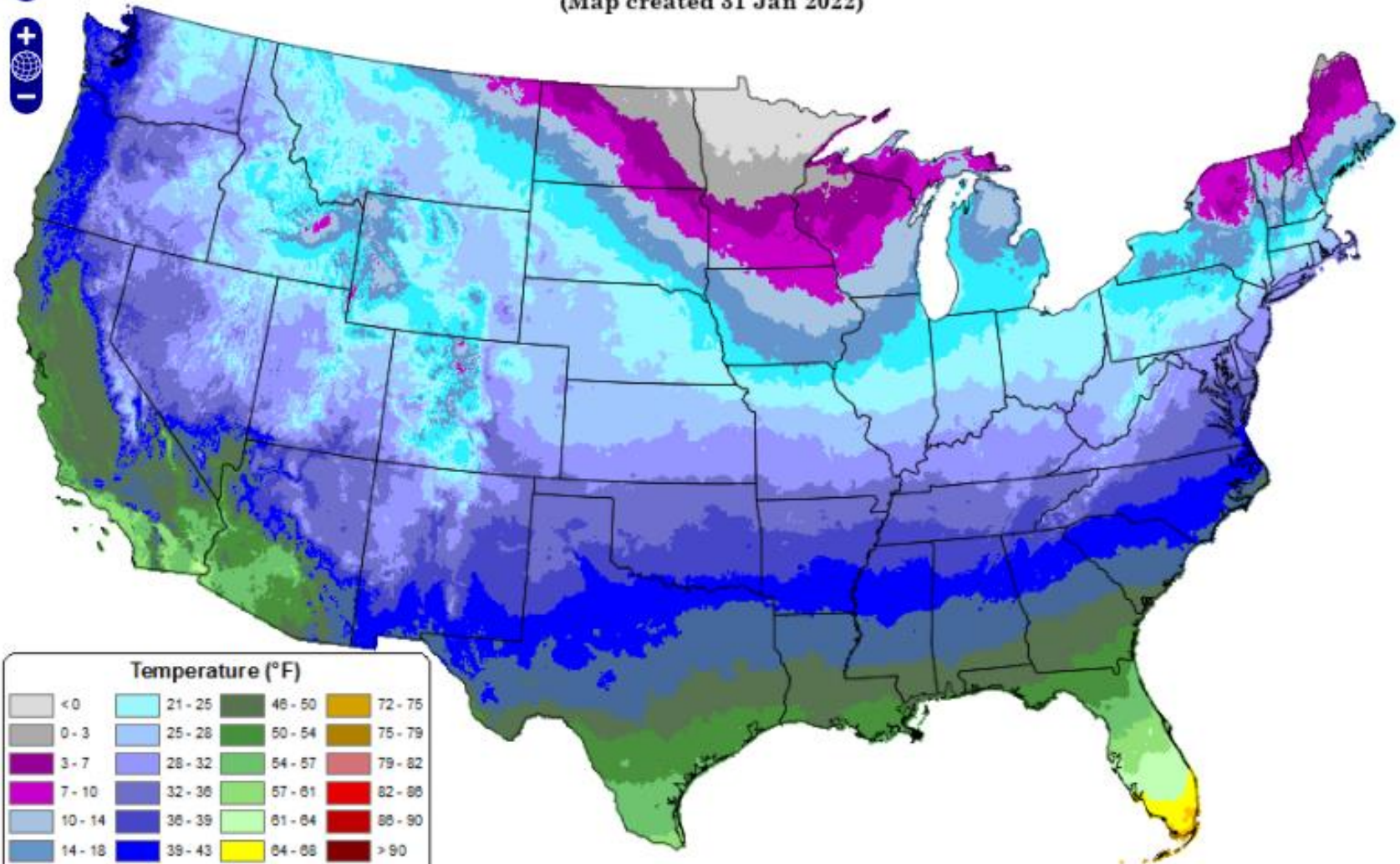


Average Daily Mean Temperature for January 2022

Average Daily Mean Temperature: 01 Jan 2022 - 30 Jan 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Jan 2022

(Map created 31 Jan 2022)



Temperature (°F)

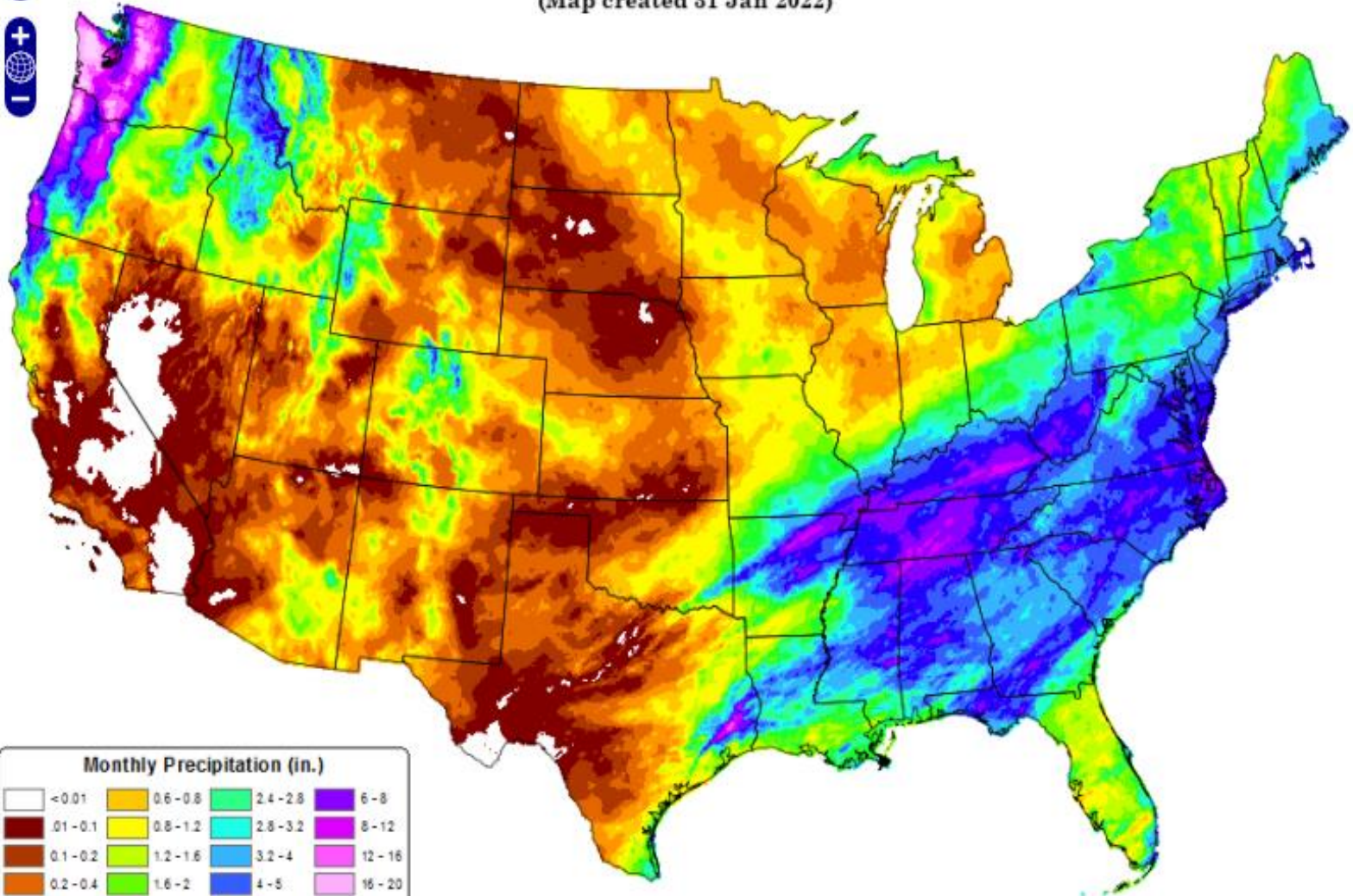
< 0	21 - 25	46 - 50	72 - 75
0 - 3	25 - 28	50 - 54	75 - 79
3 - 7	28 - 32	54 - 57	79 - 82
7 - 10	32 - 36	57 - 61	82 - 88
10 - 14	36 - 39	61 - 64	88 - 90
14 - 18	39 - 43	64 - 68	> 90
18 - 21	43 - 46	68 - 72	

Total Precipitation for January 2022

Total Precipitation: 01 Jan 2022 - 30 Jan 2022

Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Jan 2022

(Map created 31 Jan 2022)



Monthly Precipitation (in.)

-0.01	0.6-0.8	2.4-2.8	6-8
.01-0.1	0.8-1.2	2.8-3.2	8-12
0.1-0.2	1.2-1.6	3.2-4	12-16
0.2-0.4	1.6-2	4-5	16-20
0.4-0.6	2-2.4	5-6	>20

Selected Weather Reports January 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
JAN 1 740 AM	HACHITA 15SW-HIDALGO	59 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 1025 AM	WSMR MAIN POST 6SE-DONA ANA	57 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 235 PM	LAS CRUCES ARPT-DONA ANA	55 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 1040 AM	EL PASO 10NE-EL PASO	55 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 1132 AM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	54 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 326 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	54 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 120 PM	LORDSBURG 6SW-HIDALGO	54 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 215 PM	ALAMOGORDO ARPT-OTERO	51 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 241 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	51 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 435 PM	OROGRANDE 4NW-OTERO	49 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 1113 AM	HOLLOMAN AFB-OTERO	48 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 400 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	47 MPH PK WIND GUST

Selected Weather Reports January 2022

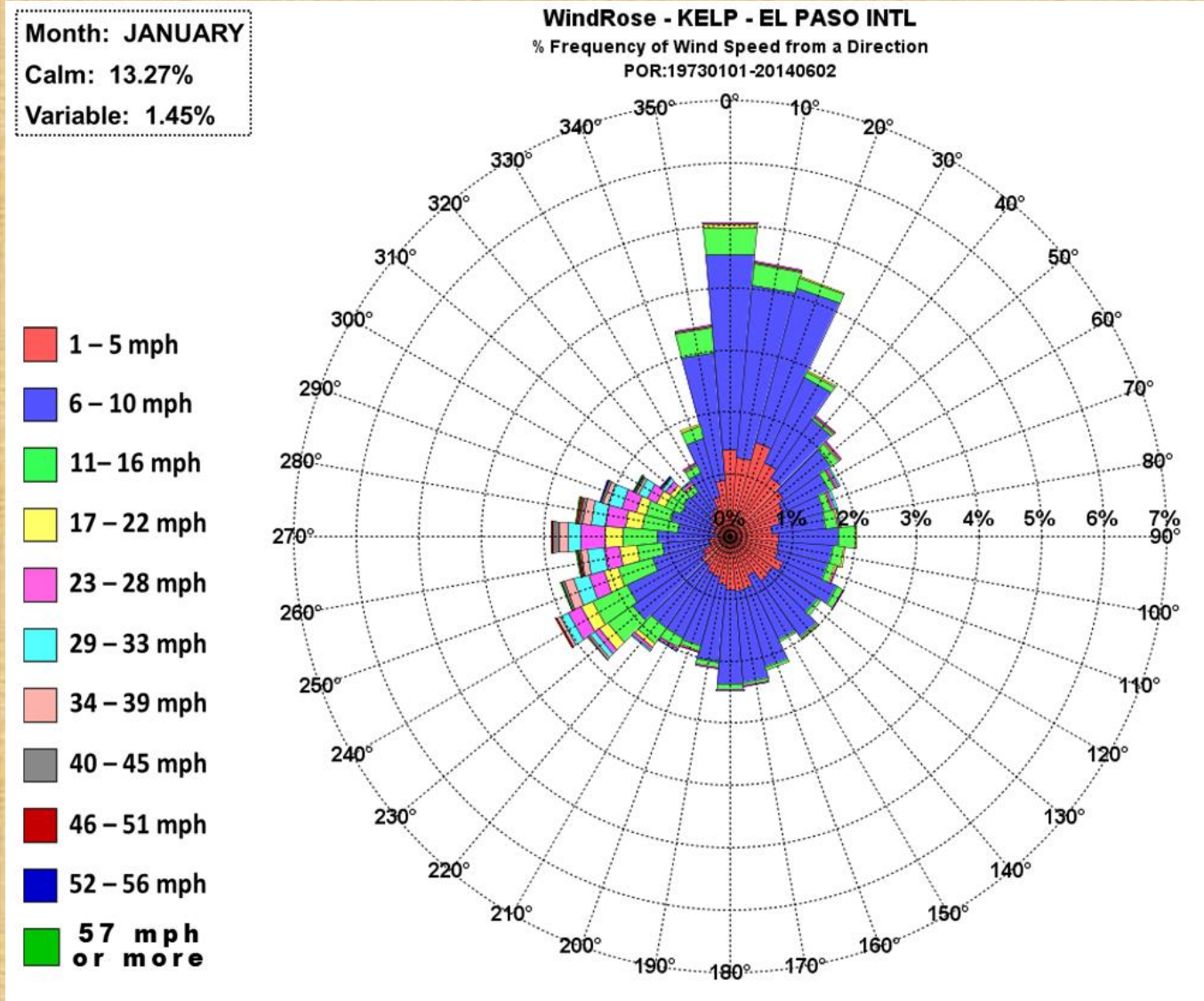
Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
JAN 1 845 AM	SPACEPORT-SIERRA	45 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 235 PM	SILVER CITY ARPT-GRANT	45 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 1000 AM	MAYHILL 3NW-OTERO	43 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 1 1130 AM	WINSTON-SIERRA	42 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 2 700 AM	CLOUDCROFT 1NW-OTERO	11.0 48 HR SNOWFALL
JAN 2 700 AM	SILVER CITY 5 NE-GRANT	5.5" 48 HR SNOWFALL
JAN 2 700 AM	BAYARD 9NE-GRANT	4.7" 48 HR SNOWFALL
JAN 2 700 AM	MAYHILL 3NW-OTERO	1.2" 48 HR SNOWFALL
JAN 28 210 AM	EL PASO 11NW-EL PASO	55 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 28 1221 AM	DEMING ARPT-LUNA	49 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 27 1007 PM	T OR C ARPT-SIERRA	49 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 27 929 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	48 MPH PK WIND GUST

Selected Weather Reports January 2022

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
JAN 28 810 AM	LORDSBURG MP13-HIDALGO	44 MPH PK WIND GUST
JAN 27 1126 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	43 MPH PK WIND GUST

Special Features

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



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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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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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	