

The background of the slide is a scenic landscape. In the foreground, a river flows through a valley. The middle ground shows a wide, snow-covered plain or meadow. In the background, there are rugged, snow-capped mountains and a prominent, large rock formation on the right side. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

JANUARY 2015

Weather Digest

Weather Summary

Significant Events

Special Features

**Temperature &
Precipitation**

Severe Weather

January 2015 Weather Summary

January began and ended with significant winter storms. On the first a large upper low moved over Arizona, spreading rain to the lowlands and snow to the mountains. Only light amounts of snow fell but some of the western lowlands were able to record an inch or two. January will be remembered as the month that winter did return to the Borderland and made its presence know. Just about every type of winter weather occurred from cold rain, thunderstorms, heavy snow, freezing rain and drizzle, and both fog and freezing fog. Heavy rain at the end of the month (of an inch or more) and some snow melt contributed to a rise in the Gila River but fortunately flood stage was not reached.

There were five instances of upper air cold low pressure systems digging down in the northwest flow aloft spreading cold temps and a wintery mix of precipitation to the area. Overall temperatures for the month ended up about 1 degree F below normal due to these system.

A Brief Chronology of Significant Events:

January 1-3: An Upper low over Arizona and a back door front combined to bring chilly temps to the Borderland. Light lowland rain and light to moderate mountain snow fell on all three days.

Weather Summary (continued)

January 8-10 Again, NW flow aloft and a back door front combined to bring more chilly air to the region. The front brought strong winds to west slopes of terrain—mostly in West El Paso (50 – 60 mph gusts). Only light Mountain snow and isolated lowland rain showers developed from this system.

January 12-14: Another upper low pressure storm system tracking across Arizona and southern New Mexico brought moderate mountain snow and some lowland rain showers. Temperatures dropped well below normal (dropping around 15 degrees F) once again as the back door front pushed through on the 12th. Dense fog formed over the lowlands early on the 15th due to the clearing skies and radiational cooling.

January 22-23: And yet one more upper low moving across Arizona merged with another low dropping south from Colorado over SW New Mexico. This spread showers to much of the area until a cold front pushed west Thursday morning. This then turned the showers to snow by mid morning on Thursday. Snow fell across much of the lowlands, including a band of heavy snow from about Columbus-Las Cruces-White Sands NM.

Weather Summary (continued)

January 29-31: A final upper low over far western Arizona drew in considerable sub tropical moisture from the south, and spread abundant lowland rain showers (record atmospheric moisture for January was noted) and mountain snow showers to the area. However, a warm air mass prevailed so snow levels were high at 7500 ft or higher and snow amounts were only around 5 inches at the higher elevations in the Sacramento Mountains..

Lordsburg NM



Cloudcroft NM



January started with winter weather

Mule Creek NM



01/11/16
12:31 pm
Camera Facing NNE

Timberon NM



Sloppy Conditions



January ended with winter weather



Cloudcroft



Mayhill



Timberon



JANUARY 2015 HAD EVERY TYPE OF WINTER WEATHER IN THE BORDERLAND HERE IS A BRIEF WINTER WEATHER 101 LESSON

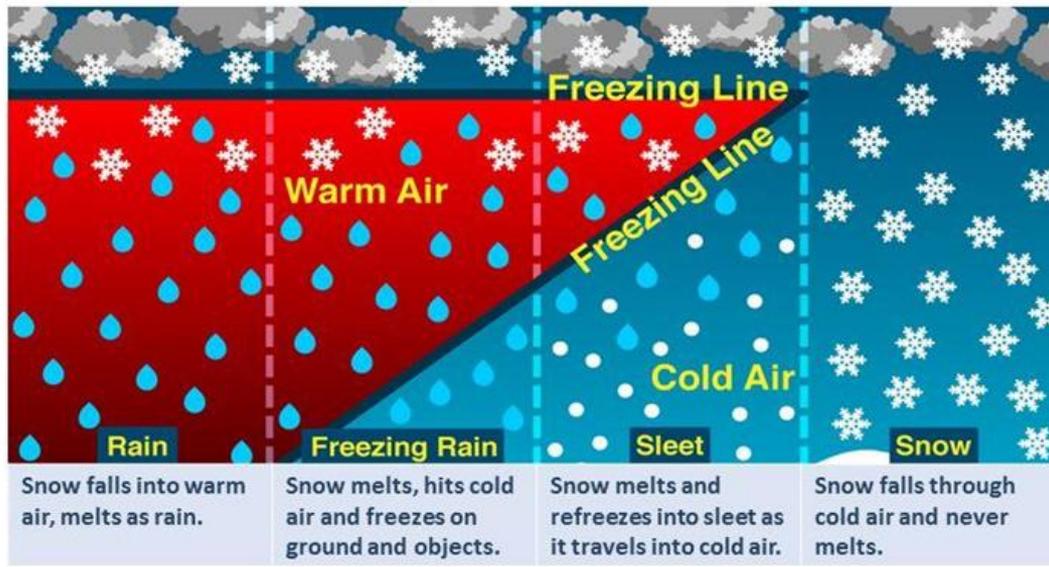


Winter Weather Safety Snow and Ice

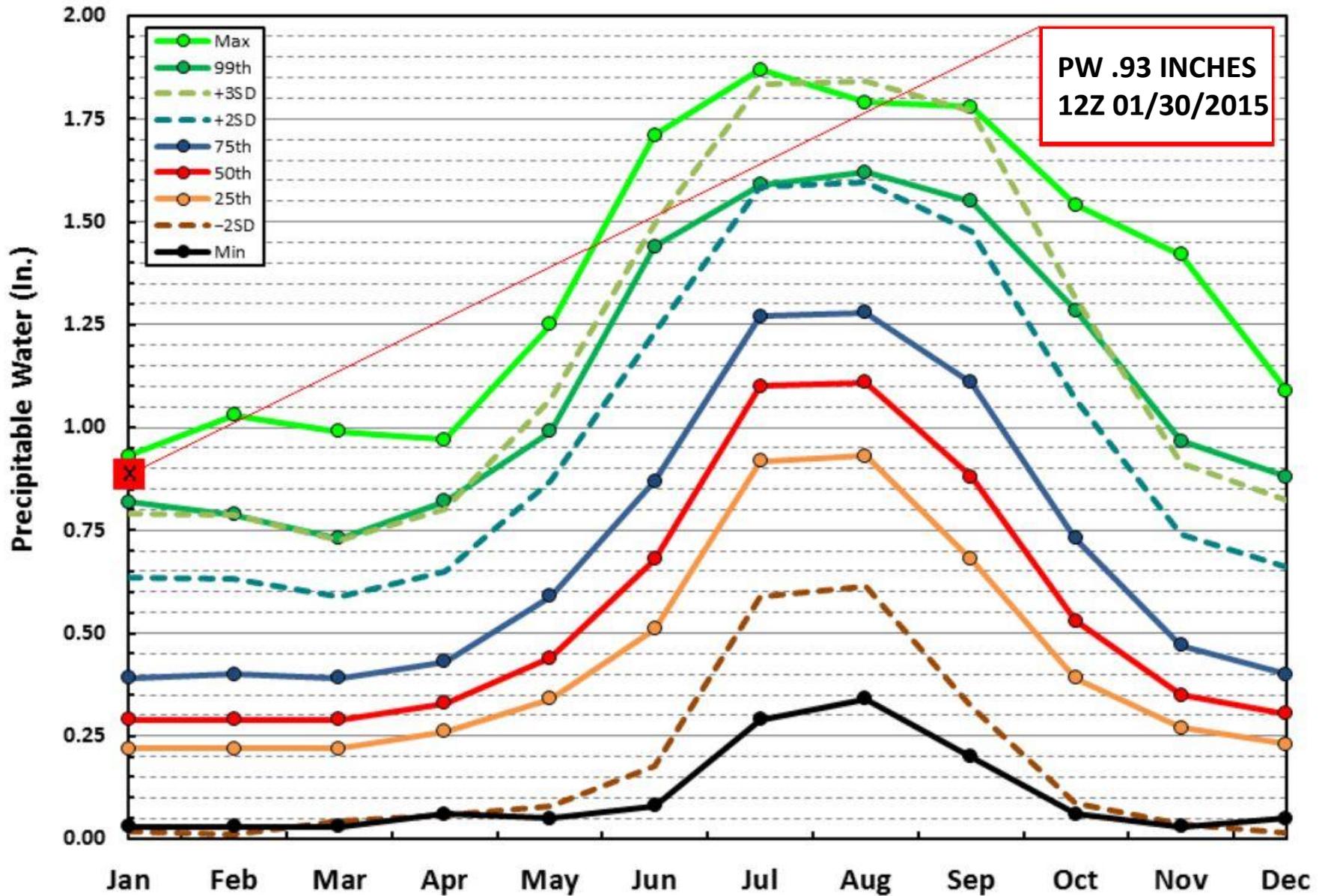


Winter can bring freezing rain, sleet and snow.

How The Different Types Of Winter Precipitation Form



1948–2014 EPZ/ELP Surface-300 mb Precipitable Water



JANUARY 2015...WHEN FOG MADE ITS PRESENCE KNOWN IN THE TO THE BORDERLAND

El Paso



Santa Teresa



El Paso

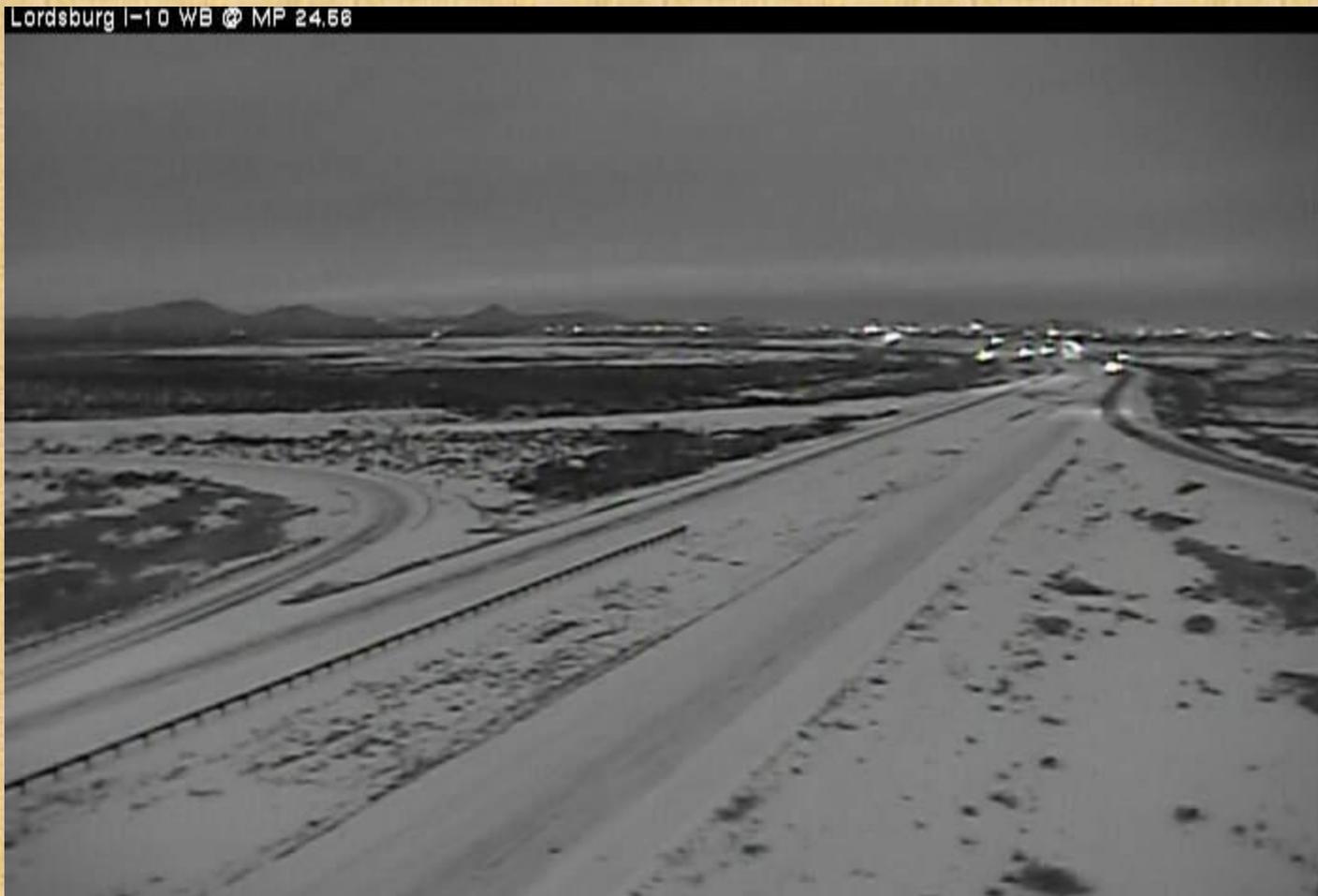


Santa Teresa

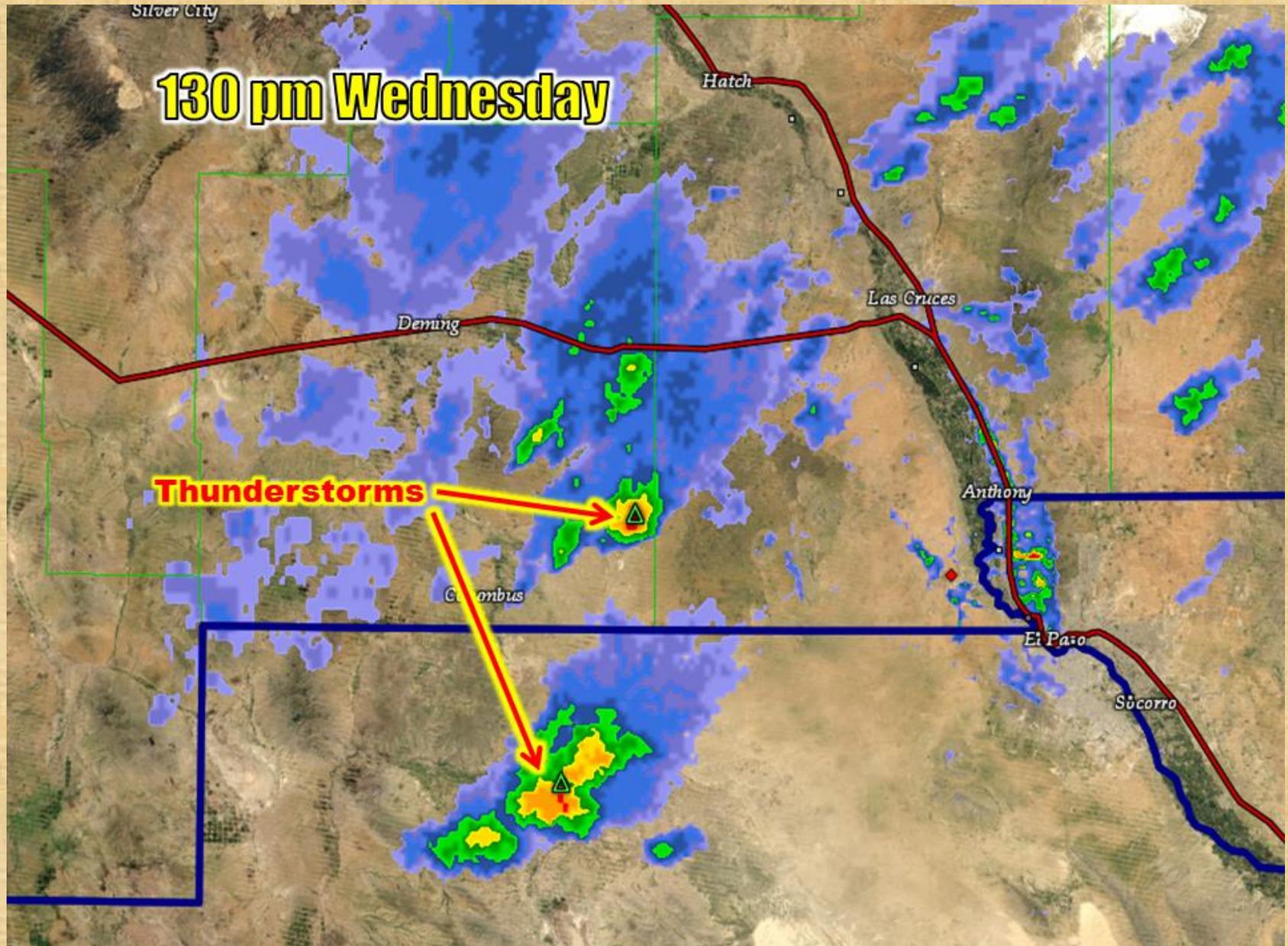


Lordsburg area Jan 1, with 1-2 inches

Lordsburg I-10 WB @ MP 24.56



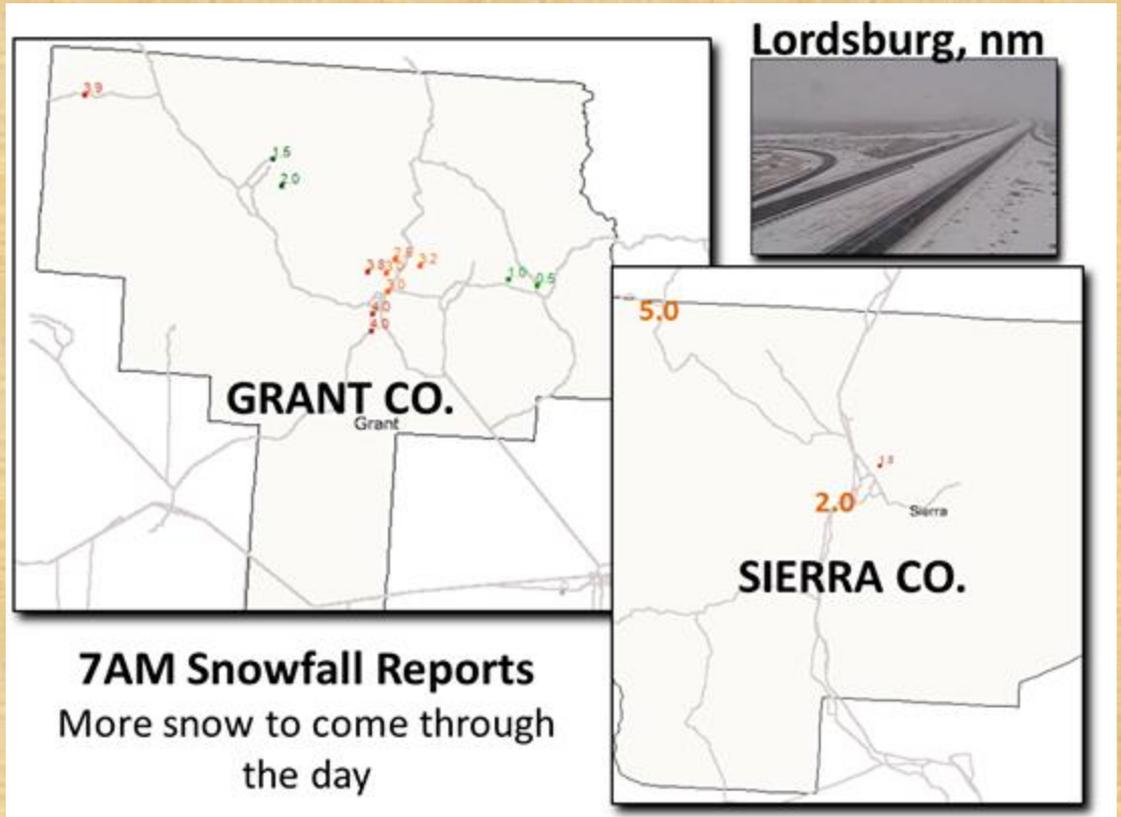
January thunderstorms; Jan 21



January 1, Doña Ana County



January 2, snow on the ground

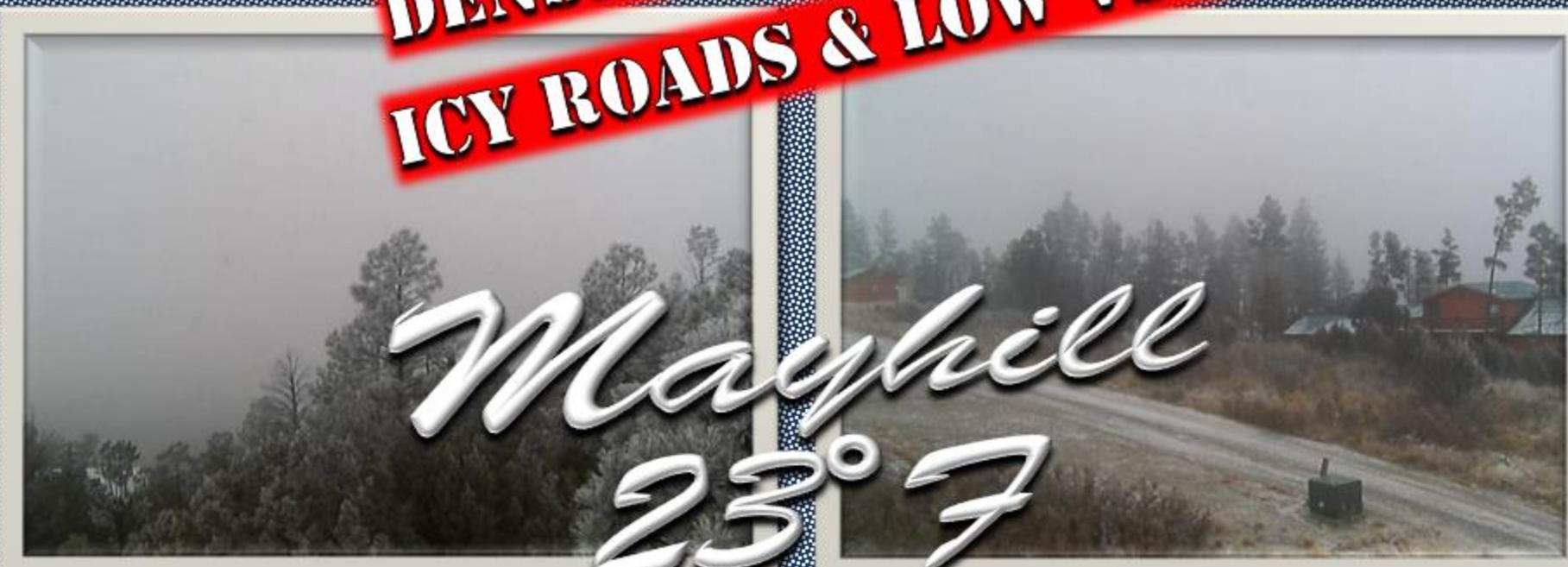




Cloudcroft
25° F

January 9

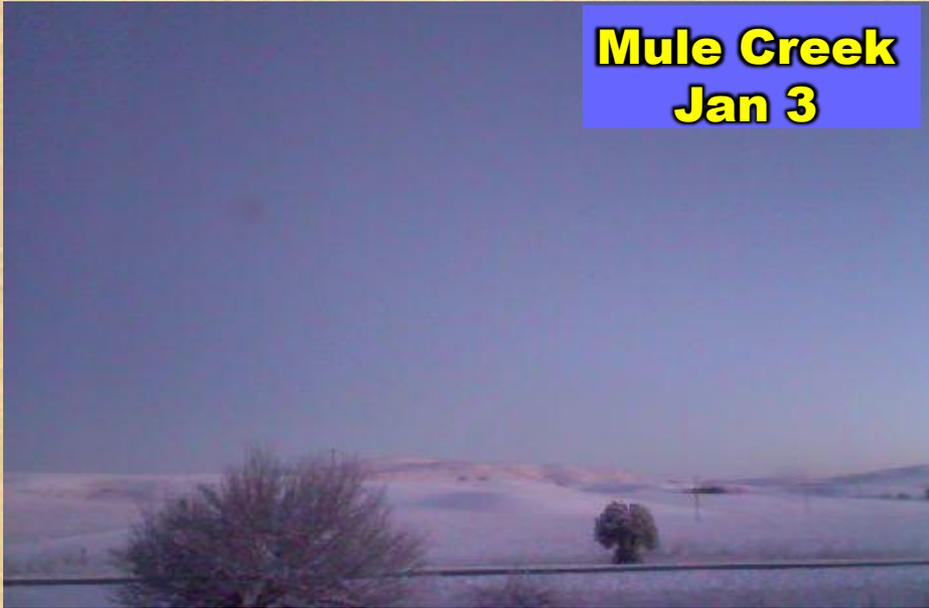
DENSE FREEZING FOG
ICY ROADS & LOW VSBY



Mayhill
23° F

More winter pictures

**Mule Creek
Jan 3**



**El Paso; Trans
Mountain Road
Jan 22**



**El Paso
Jan 23**



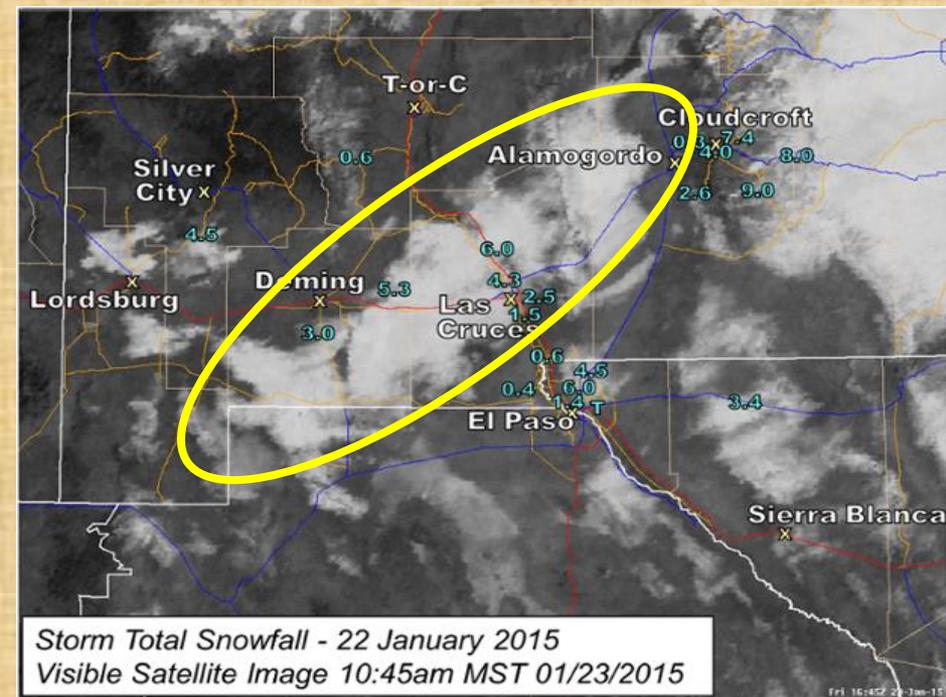
**Piños Altos
Jan 22**



**El Paso
Jan 22**



**Las Cruces
Jan 22**



**El Paso
Jan 22**



**Organ Mtns
Jan 23**

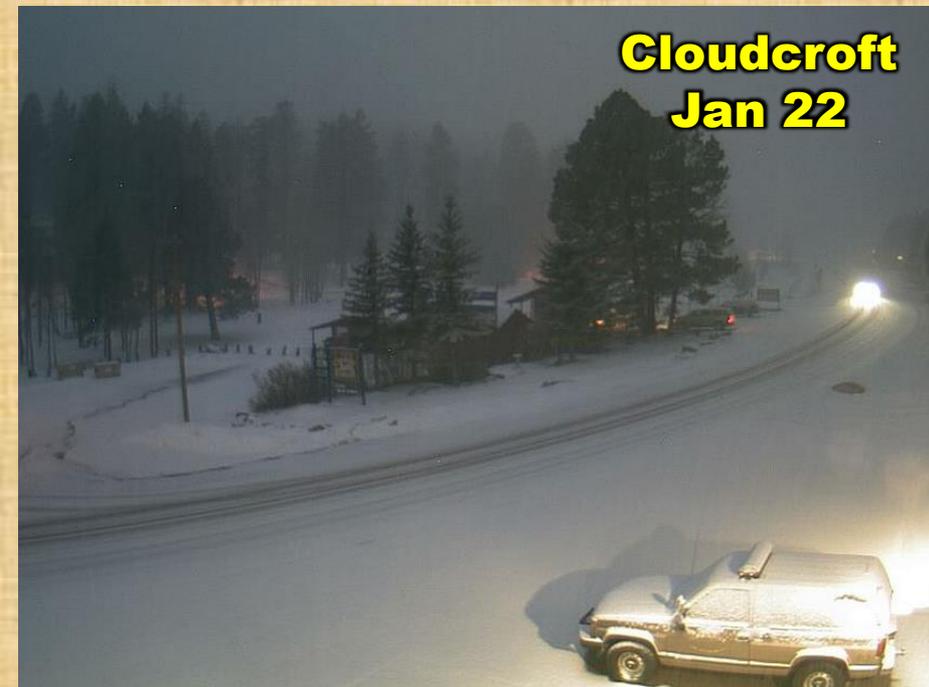


Marcus H. Royo
2015

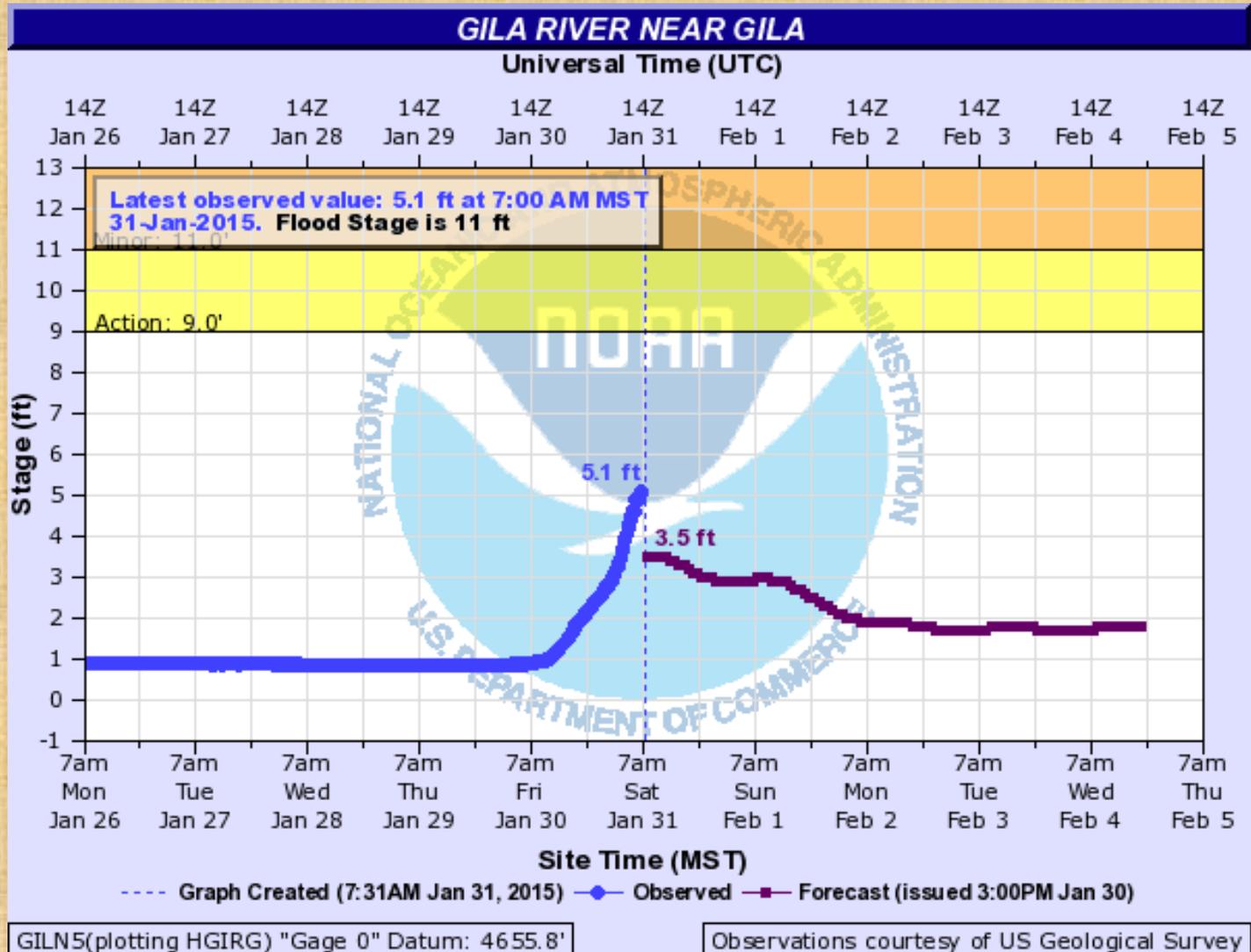
**Ruidoso
Jan 22**



**Cloudcroft
Jan 22**



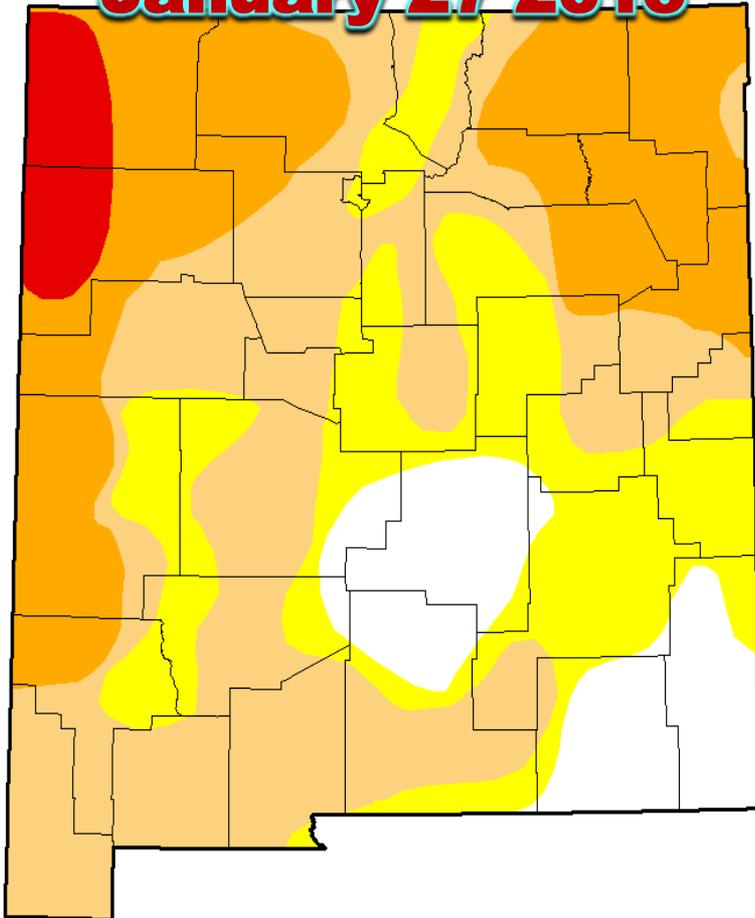
Heavy rains and some snow melt contributed to
 A rise in the Gila River at the end of the month.
 The flood stage was never reached.



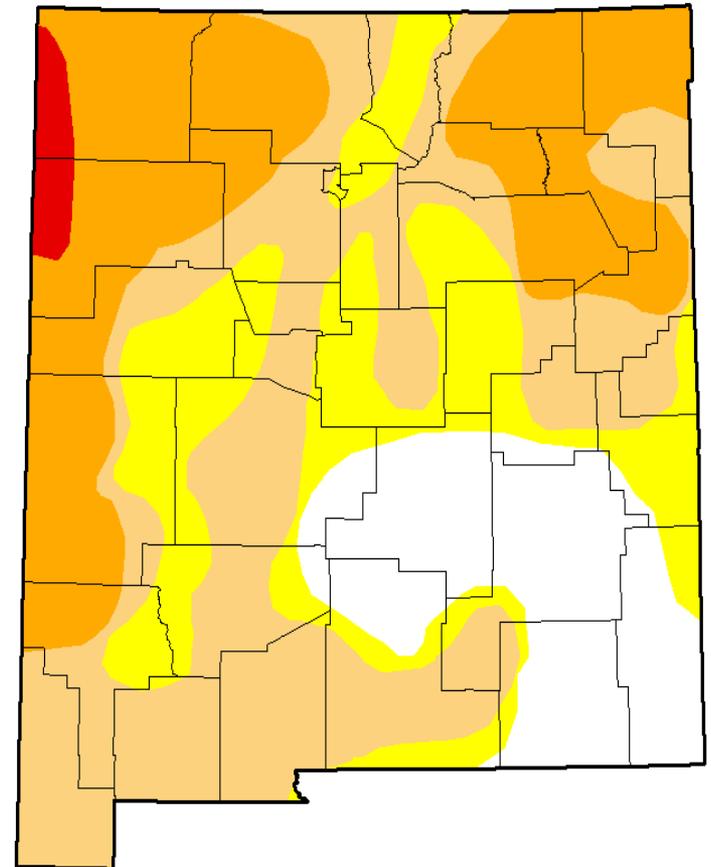
Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

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

January 27 2015



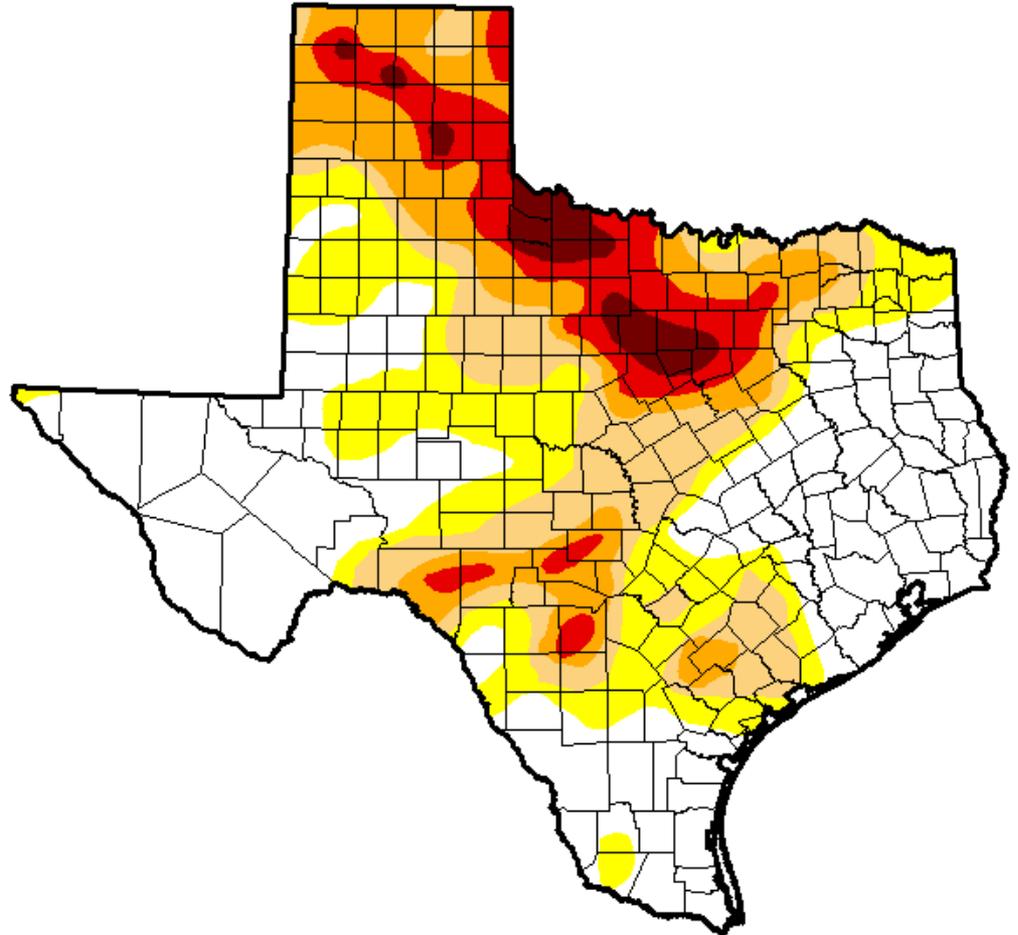
October 28 2014



Current drought conditions for Texas as of January 27.

Intensity:

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





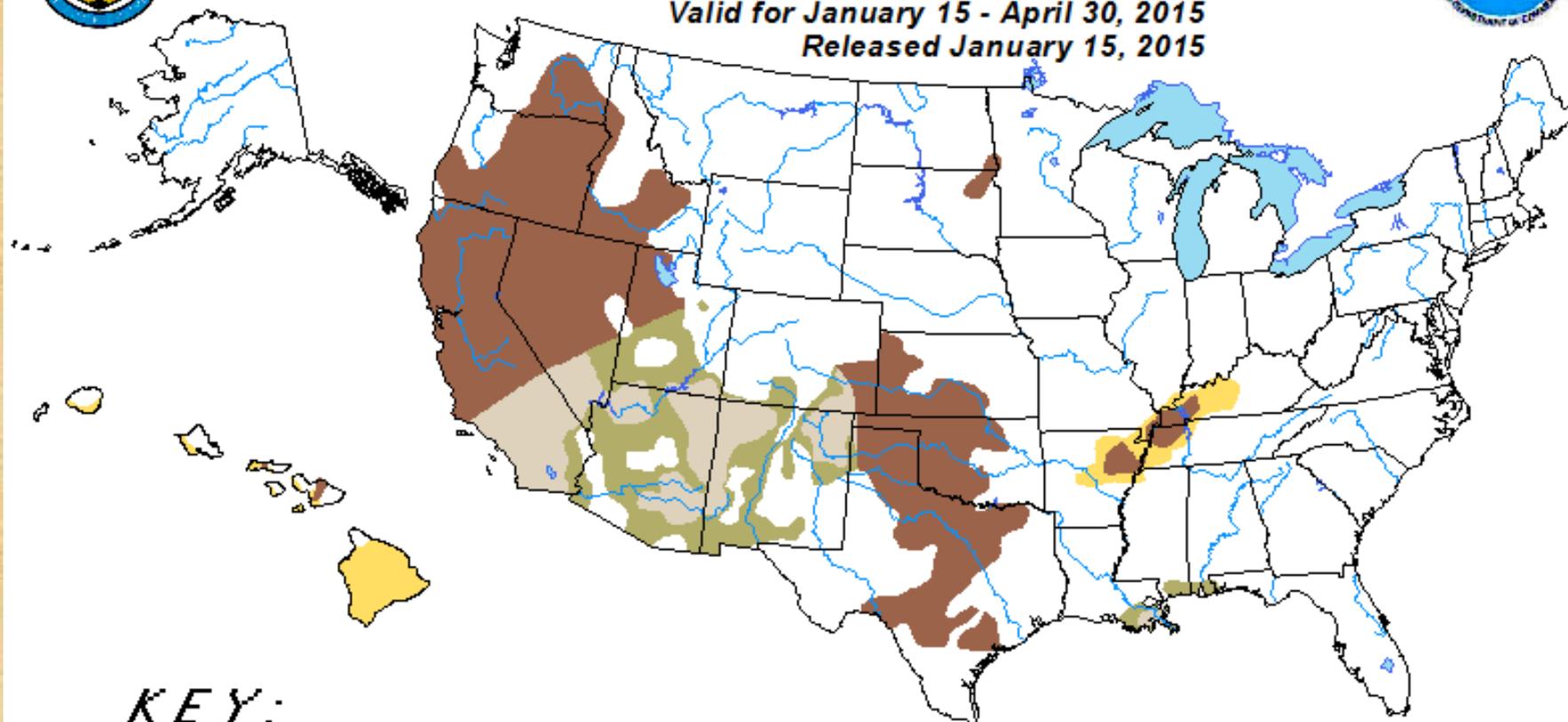
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period



Valid for January 15 - April 30, 2015

Released January 15, 2015



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/sdo_summary.html

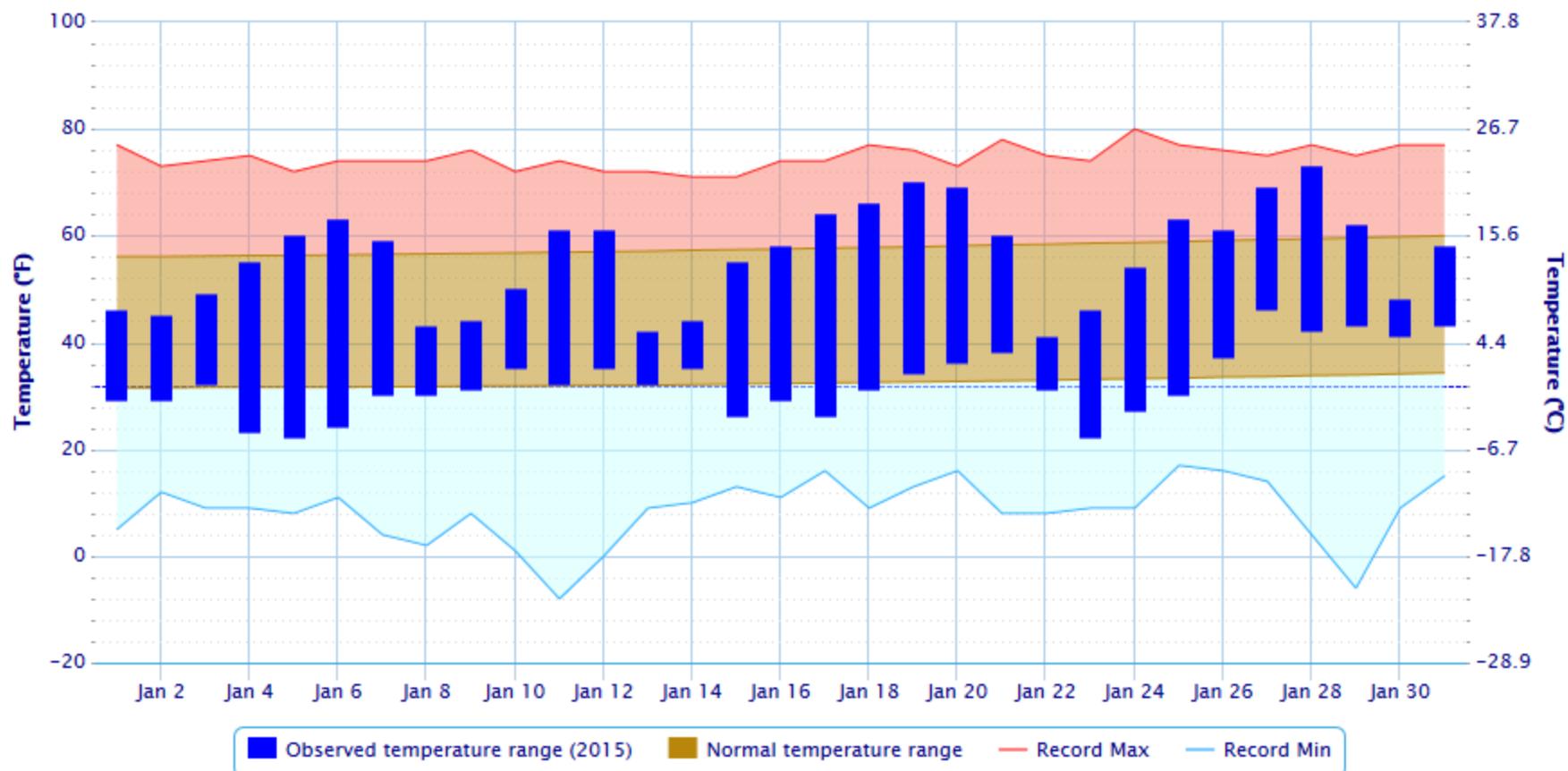
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events – such as individual storms – cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications – such as crops – that 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 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)

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

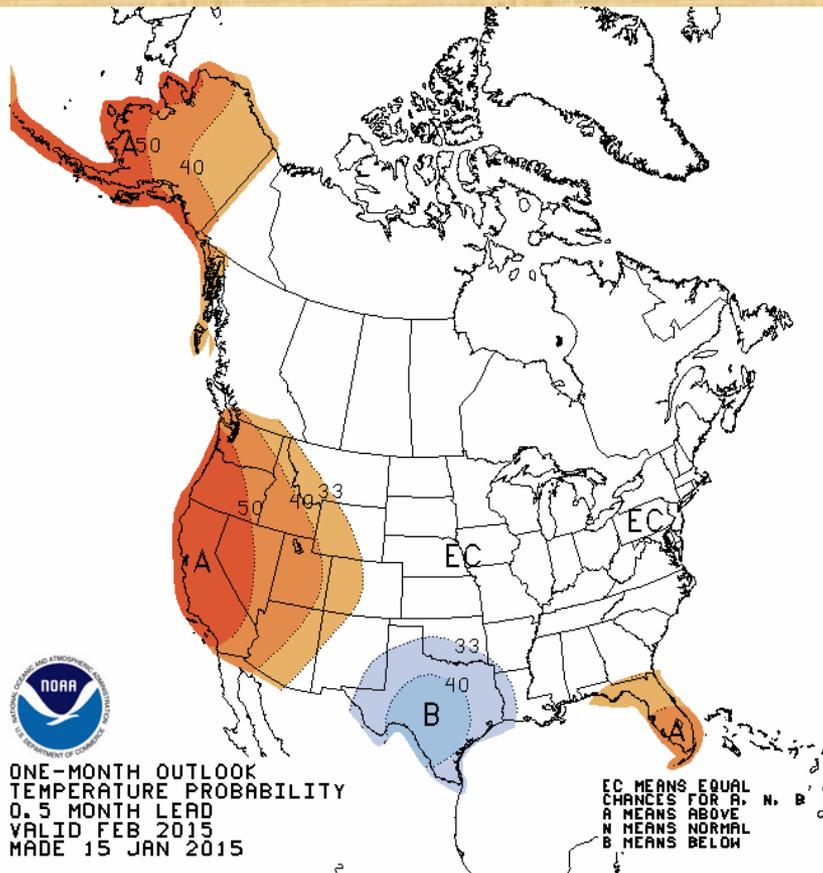


Period of Record – Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2015-01-31; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2015-01-31. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.

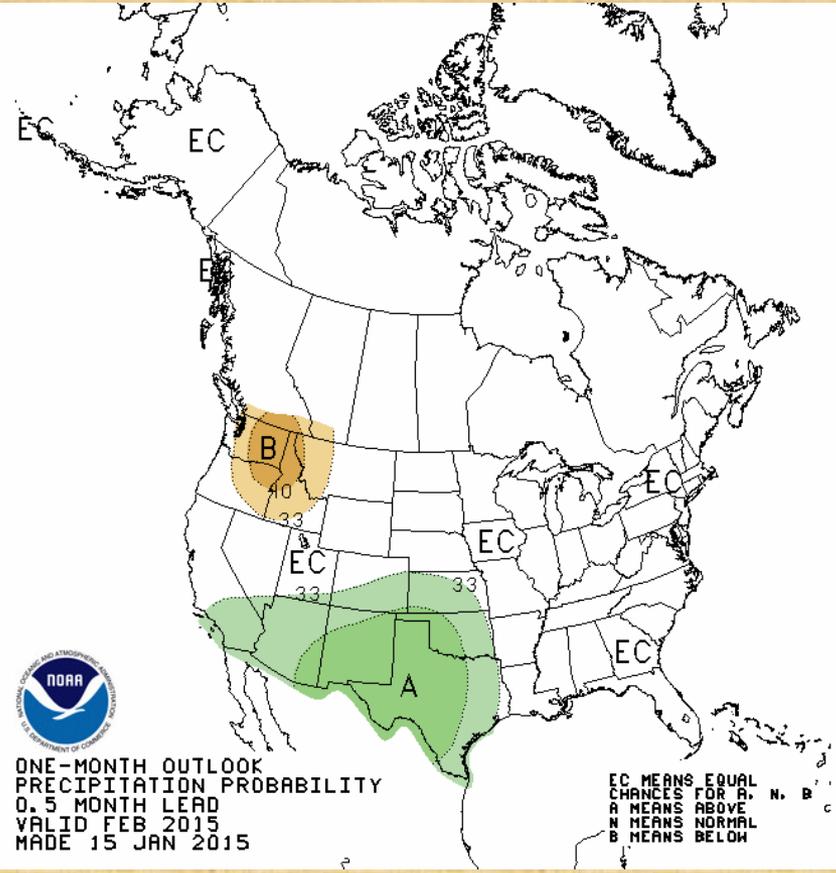


Temperature and precipitation outlook for February 2015

Temperature

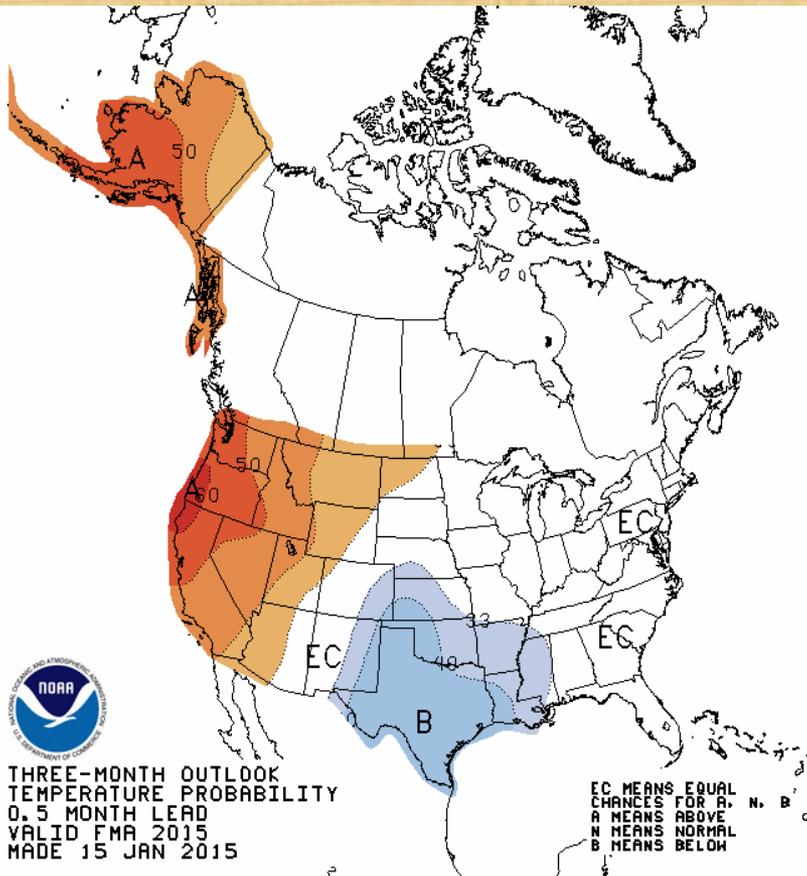


Precipitation

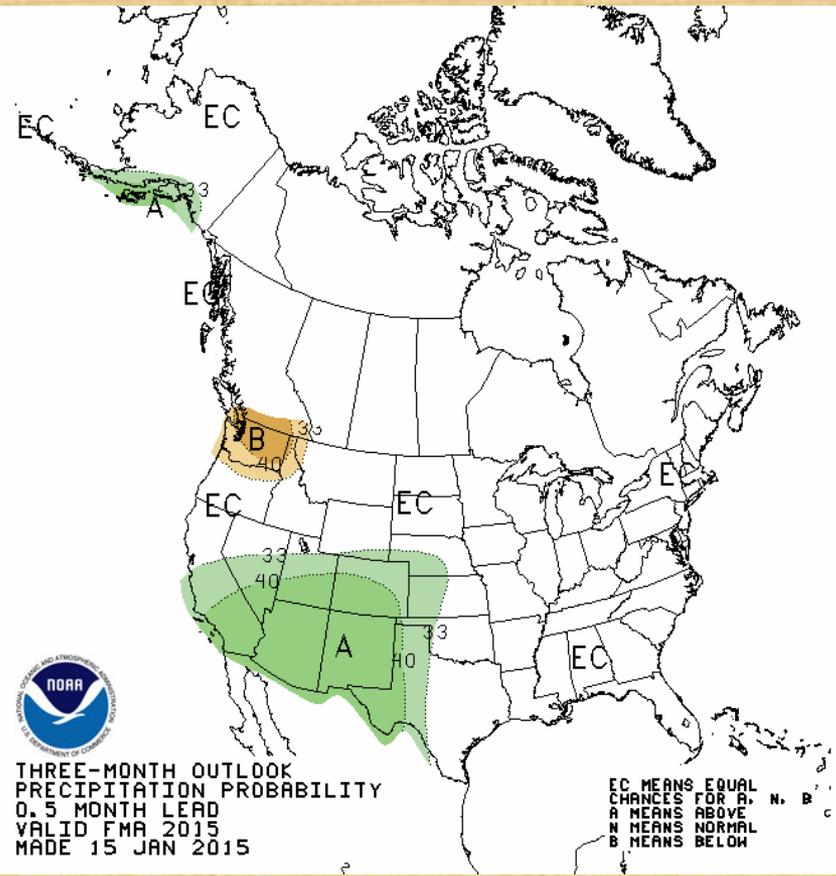


Temperature and precipitation outlook for February - April 2015

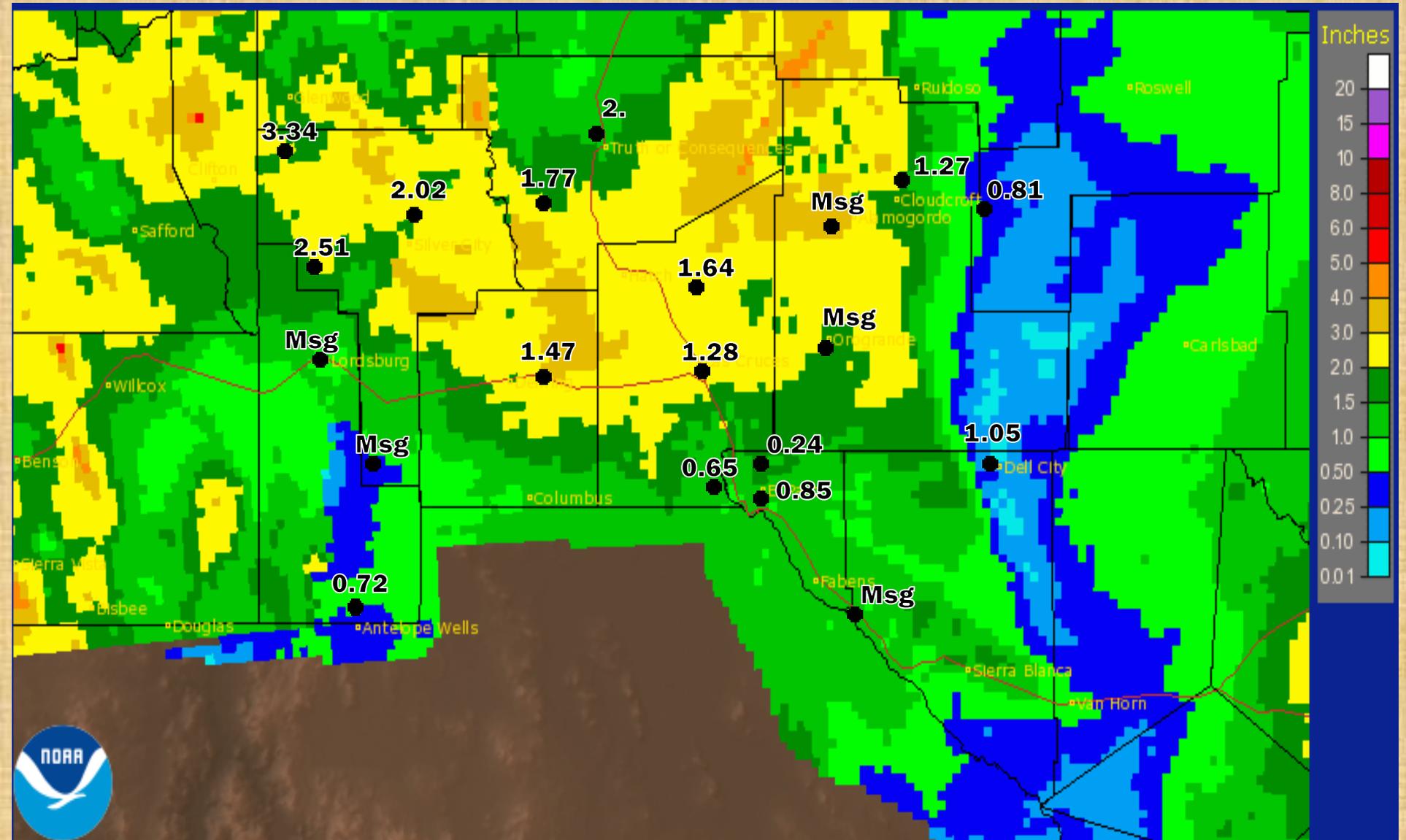
Temperature



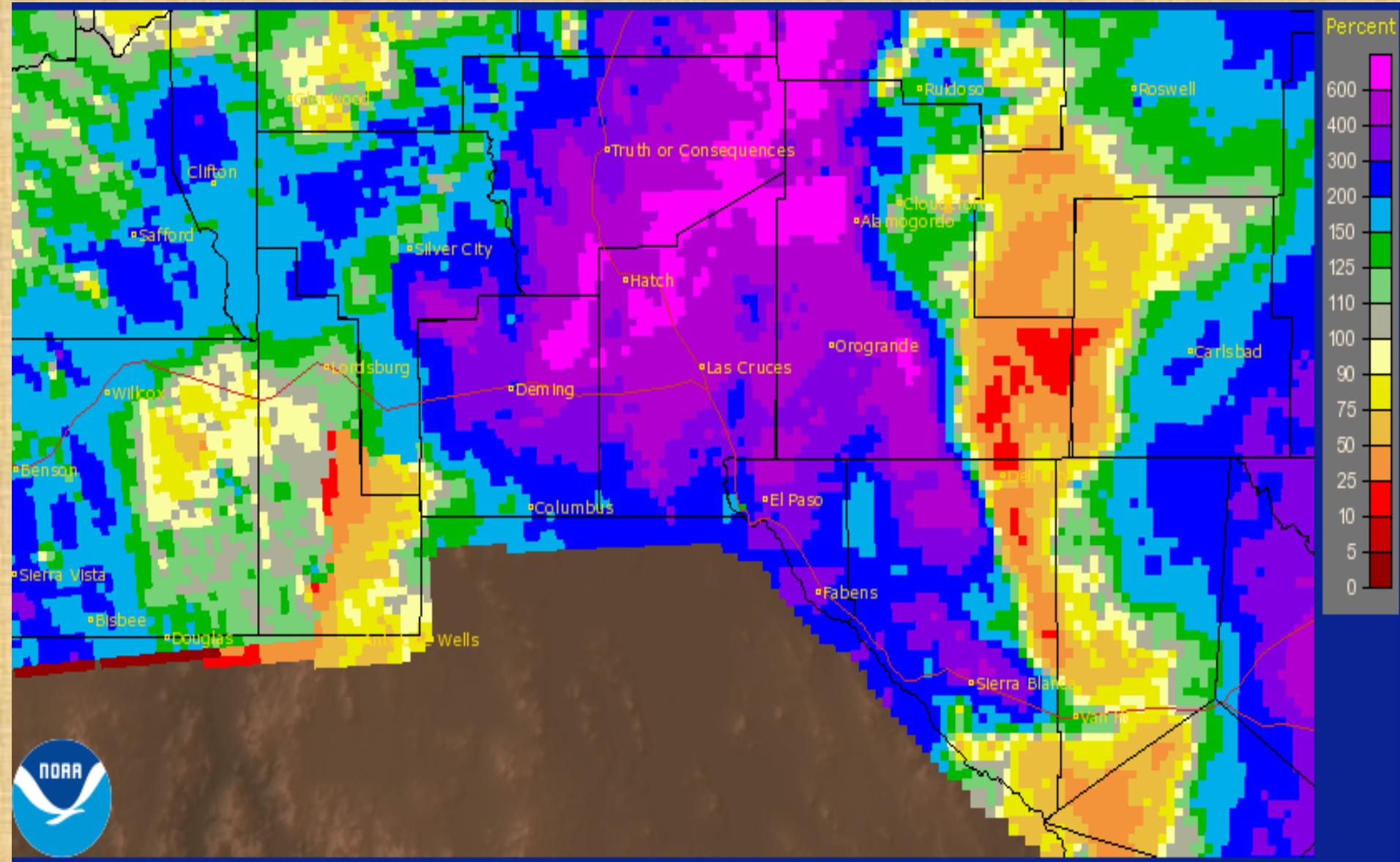
Precipitation



January 2015 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



January 2015 Radar Rainfall Estimate (Percent of normal)



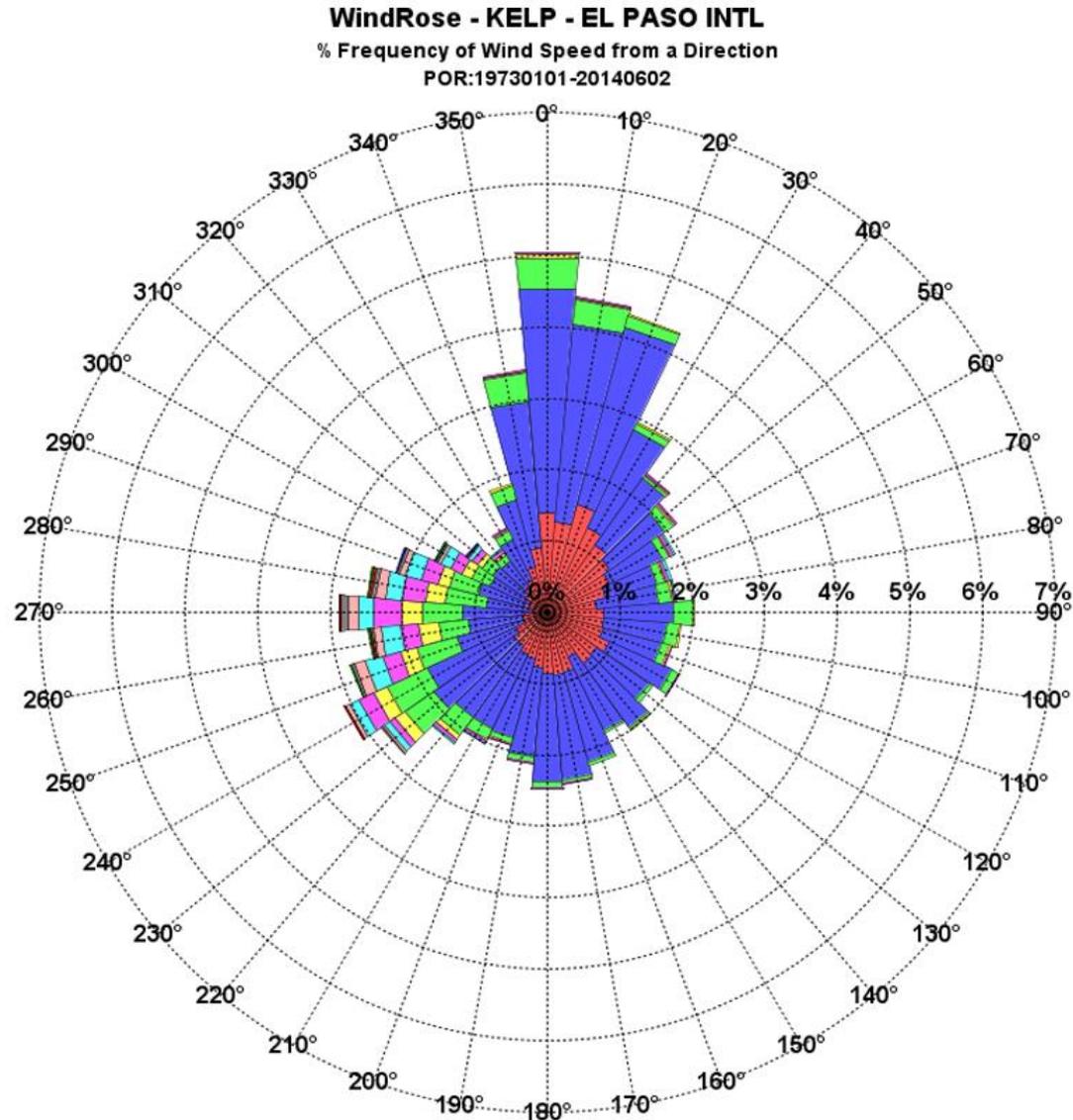
Special Features

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

Month: JANUARY

Calm: 13.27%

Variable: 1.45%



Weather reports January 2015

Date/Time	Location	Event
1/1/2015 630 AM	LORDSBURG-HIDALGO	2.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/1/2015 700 AM	BAYARD-GRANT	1.8 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/7/2015 222 PM	EL PASO 6NNW	60 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
1/7/2015 1055 AM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
1/7/2015 1126 AM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	45 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
1/7/2015 153 PM	DELL CITY-HUDSPETH	45 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
1/7/2015 1042 PM	RODEO-HIDALGO	45 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
1/22/2015 500 PM	SACRAMENTO-OTERO	9.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 700 PM	CLOUDCROFT-OTERO	7.4 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 700 PM	EL PASO 2NW	6.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 1046 AM	RADIUM SPRINGS-DONA ANA	6.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 747 AM	DEMING 19 NNE-LUNA	5.3 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 1050 AM	LEASBURG 2NW-DONA ANA	5.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 745 AM	AKELA 4NNE-LUNA	5.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/22/2015 700 AM	LAS CRUCES 2 WNW	4.5 INCHES SNOWFALL

Weather reports January 2015

Date/Time	Location	Event
1/31/2015 851 AM	SUNSPOT HIGHWAY-OTERO	5.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	SIGNAL PEAK-GRANT	5.0 INCHES SNOWFALL
1/31/2015 704 PM	GILA 3NE-GRANT	2.46 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 703 PM	SILVER CITY 5NNE-GRANT	2.00 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	MULE CREEK-GRANT	1.94 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 600 PM	REDROCK-GRANT	1.94 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	CLIFF 6NE-GRANT	1.78 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	1.50 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 626 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	1.43 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	WHITE SANDS MAIN POST	1.22 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	EL PASO 3NNE	1.13 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 800 PM	RODEO 5NNE-HIDALGO	1.10 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 643 PM	DEMING 6WSW	1.01 INCHES RAINFALL
1/31/2015 700 PM	ALAMOGORDO-OTERO	0.87 INCHES RAINFALL