

# April 2017 Weather Digest



# **April 2017 Weather Summary**

**Aprils across the Borderland are generally quiet, with just a few days of active weather. This April proved to be no different as the first half of the month was uneventful with slightly above normal temperatures. That changed on the 12<sup>th</sup> however as a dryline moved in from the east and a disturbance aloft moved in from the west. The dryline helped destabilize the atmosphere and by early afternoon strong thunderstorms developed. A few of these became severe, mostly in Hudspeth and Otero Counties, where large hail of one inch or greater were reported by several spotters.**

**Toward the end of the month a series of strong upper lows moved across the area. The first one came from the Pacific and brought strong winds and blowing dust to the area on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. A cold upper low dropped south out of the central Rockies to New Mexico on the 28<sup>th</sup>, initially bringing strong winds and some showers to the area. As the storm exited on the 29<sup>th</sup>, a few thunderstorms rolled across southern New Mexico and into the El Paso area. Brief heavy rain and pea size hail was reported in these areas. High elevations in the Sacramento Mountains, such as Cloudcroft, receive three to six inches of snow.**

**For the month, rainfall once again was below normal for most areas except over Sierra County and parts of the Sacramento Mountains. With two to three consecutive months of dry weather, much of the Borderland is now in the drought category of abnormally dry, and another dry month could tip the area into a moderate drought.**



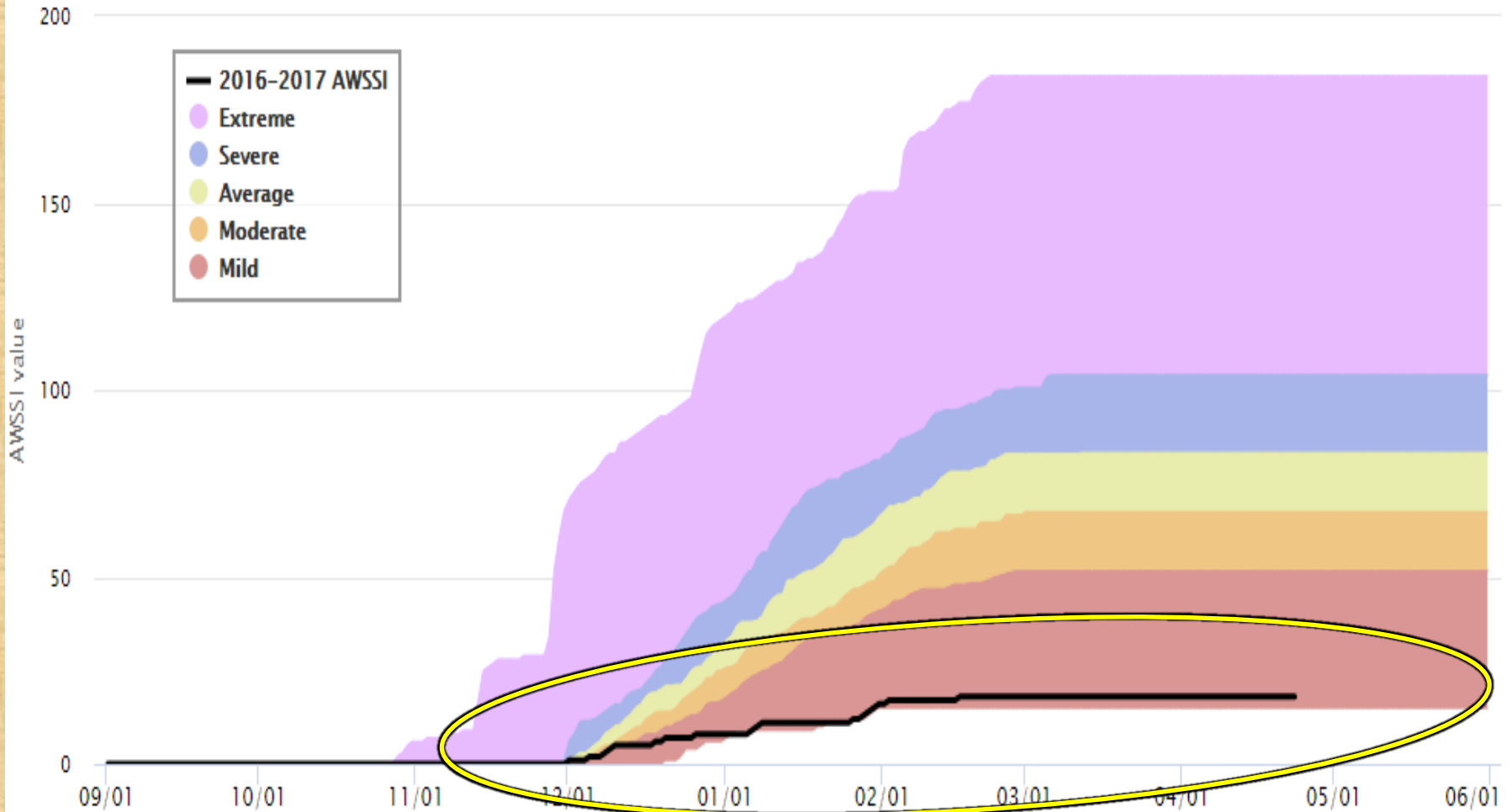
# **April 2017 Weather Summary (cont'd)**

**Temperatures were once again above normal. When combined with the earlier winter season, this winter has proved to be one of the mildest on record (see AWSSI chart below for El Paso).**

# Accumulated Winter Season Severity Index (AWSSI) shows very mild winter in El Paso

2016-2017 AWSSI: "TX - El Paso"

Season: 2016-12-01 to 2017-02-28, 90 days



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



**Strong thunderstorms over  
Hudspeth Co from Santa  
Teresa April 12**



**Strong thunderstorms over  
Hudspeth Co from Santa  
Teresa April 12**



**Sierra Blanca April 12**

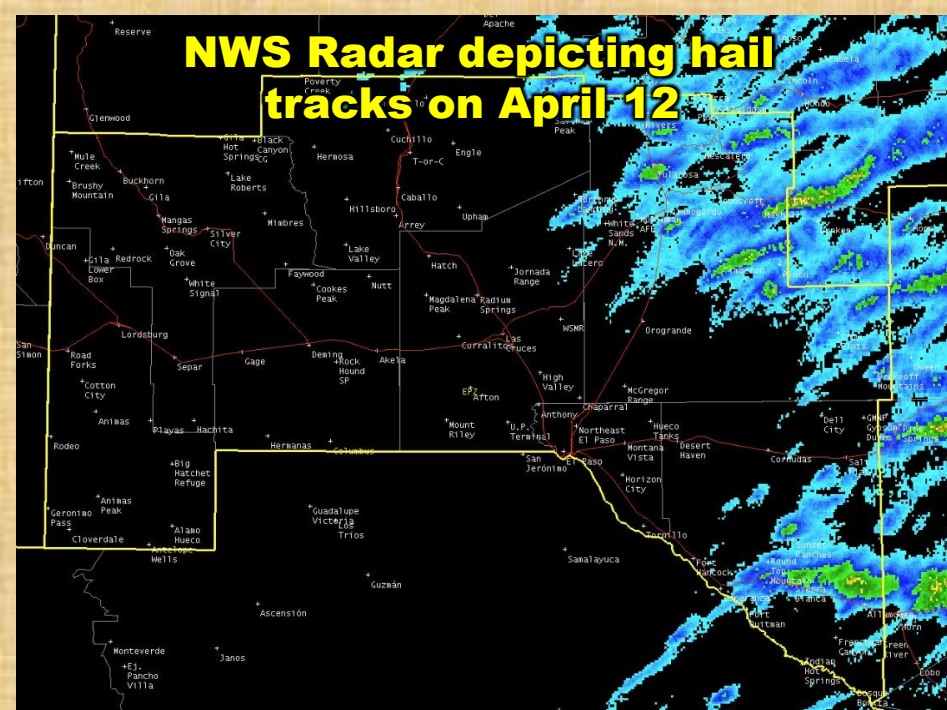


**Sierra Blanca April 12**

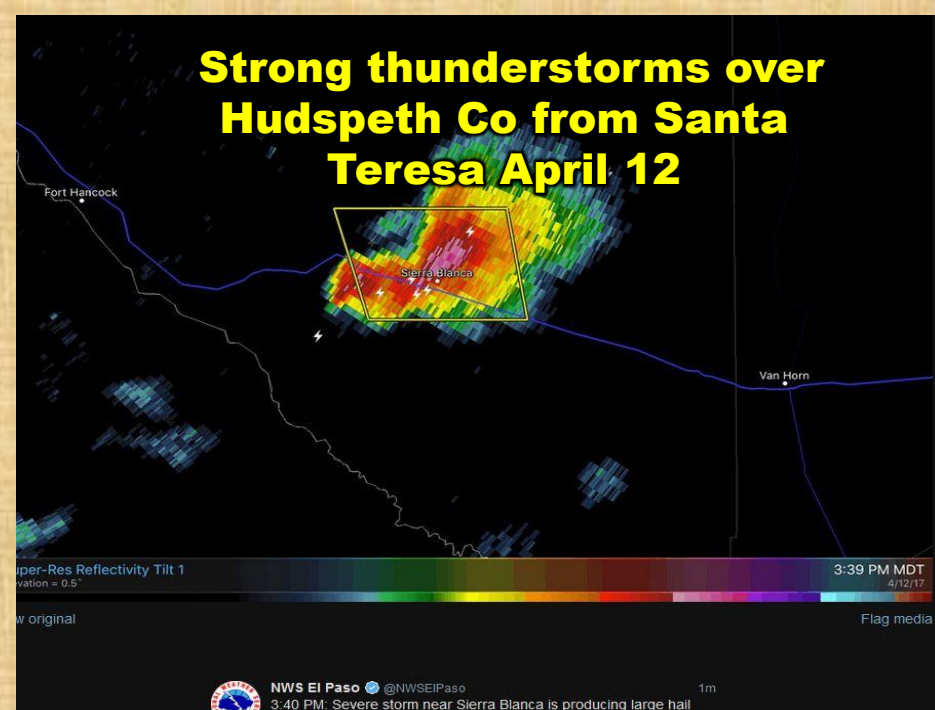




# NWS Radar depicting hail tracks on April 12



# Strong thunderstorms over Hudspeth Co from Santa Teresa April 12



# Hail at Timberon April 12



# Rain over Timberon April 12

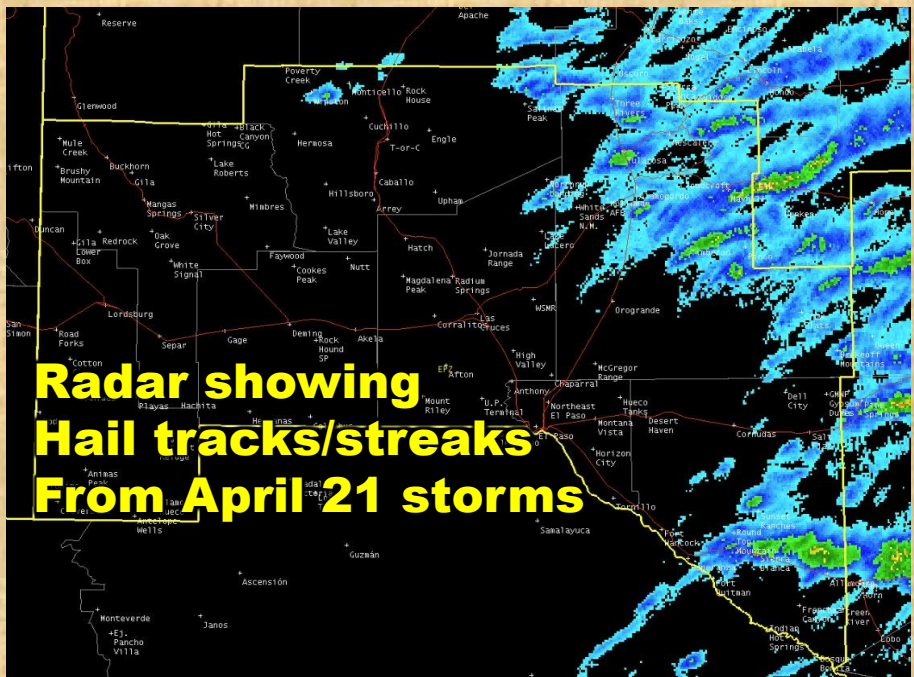




**Rainbow near Alamogordo April 12**



**Flooding near Tularosa April 12**



**Sierra Blanca April 12**

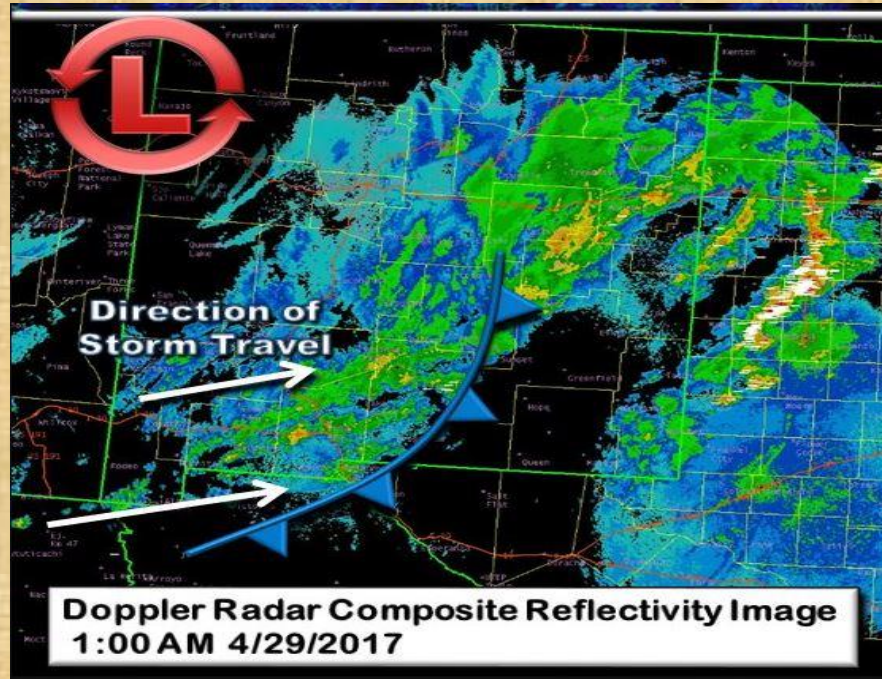




**The start of 6 inches of snow  
in Cloudcroft April 29**



**Dusting of snow on top of the  
Franklin Mountains in El Paso  
April 29**




**1-3 inches of snow early morning  
hours, Cloudcroft April 29**











Freeze damage. Top 4 ft of Locust dead / healthy foliage below. Top of tree is 15 ft above the ground. 25 degrees 4/30/17. Russ Bowen NWS COOP observer Hillsboro NMEX.



# **No Advisory in effect**

## **ENSO Alert System**

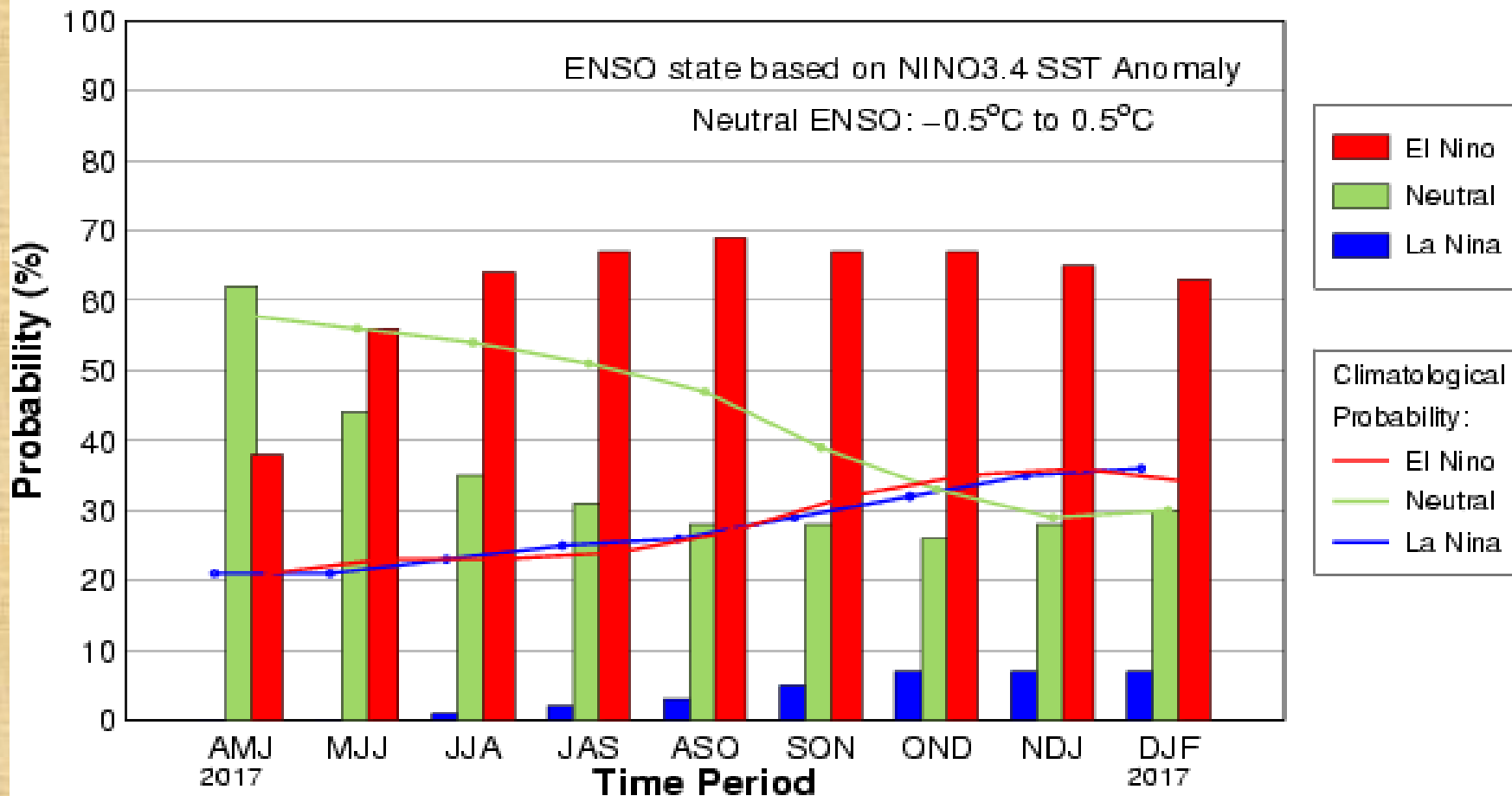
- **El Niño or La Niña Watch:** Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions in the next six months.
- **El Niño or La Niña Advisory:** Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.



# ENSO Forecast from May into early winter of 2017

ENSO IS NOW IN A **NEUTRAL** PERIOD. FAVORING GOING TO EL NINO BY SUMMER

Mid-Apr IR/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecast

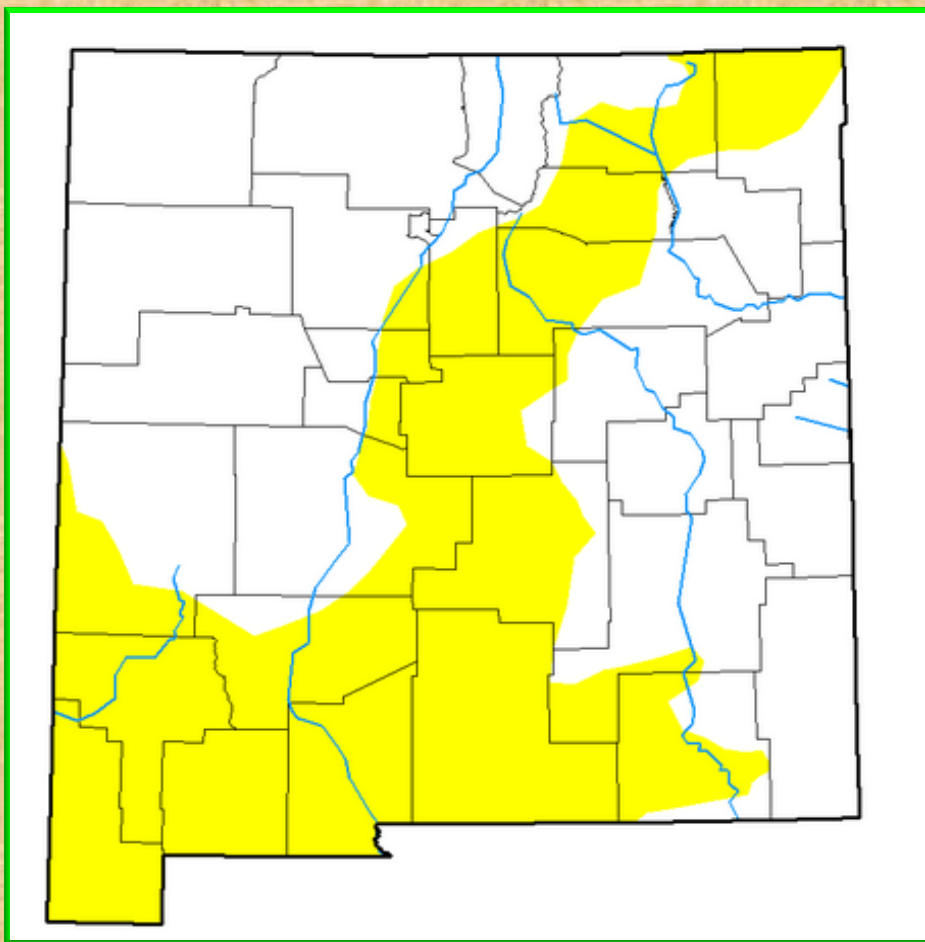




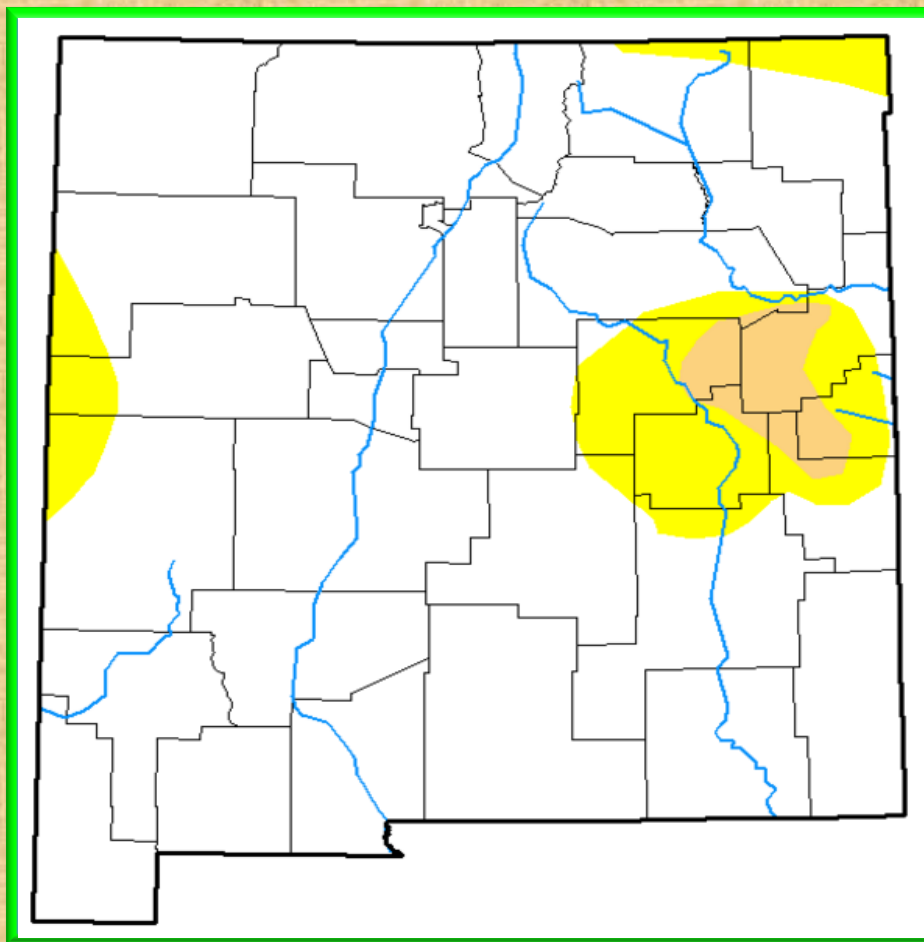
# Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

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

**April 25, 2017**








**January 31, 2017**

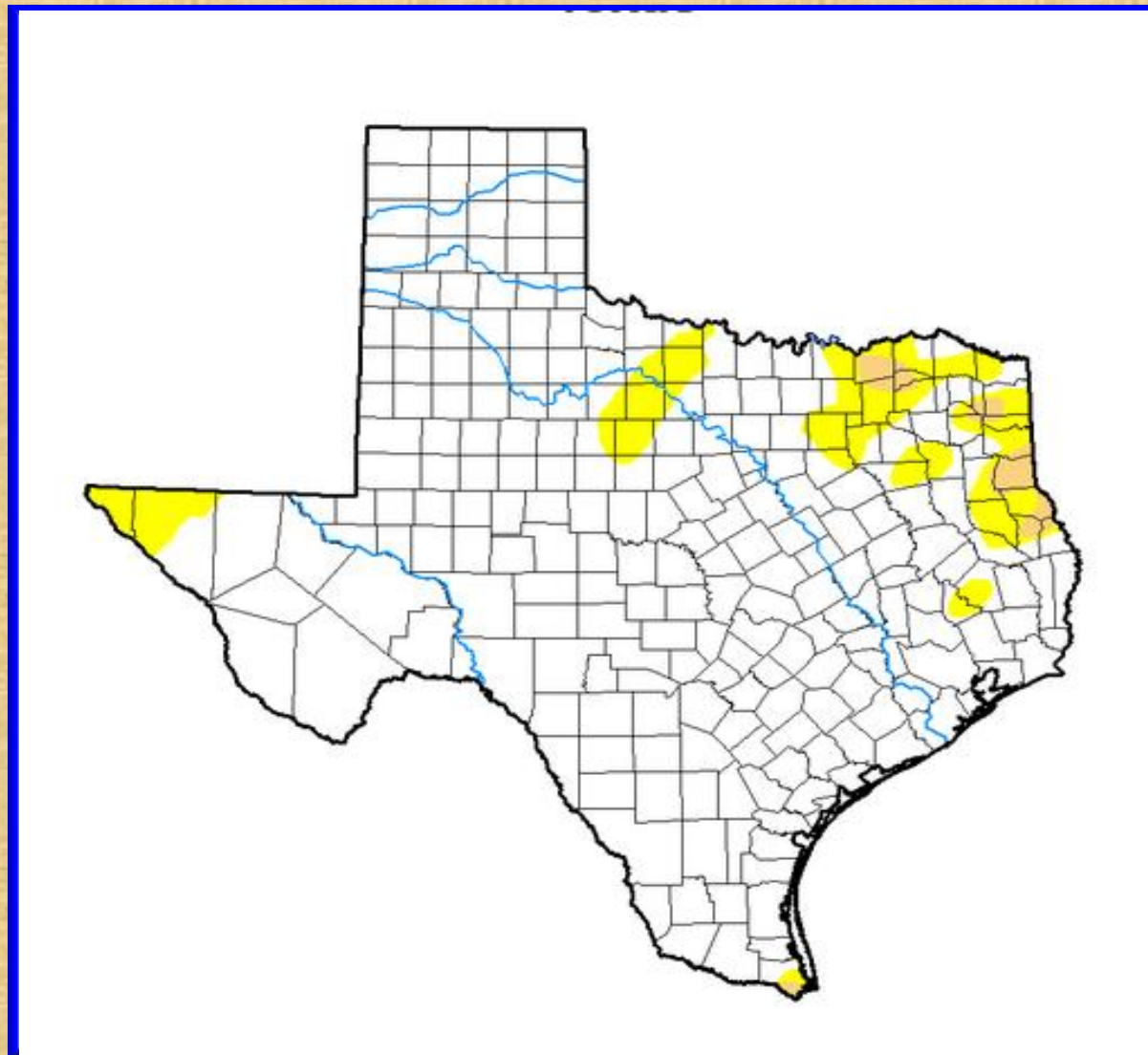




# Current drought conditions for Texas as of April 25, 2016

Intensity:

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



**Build your own custom slider maps here at:**

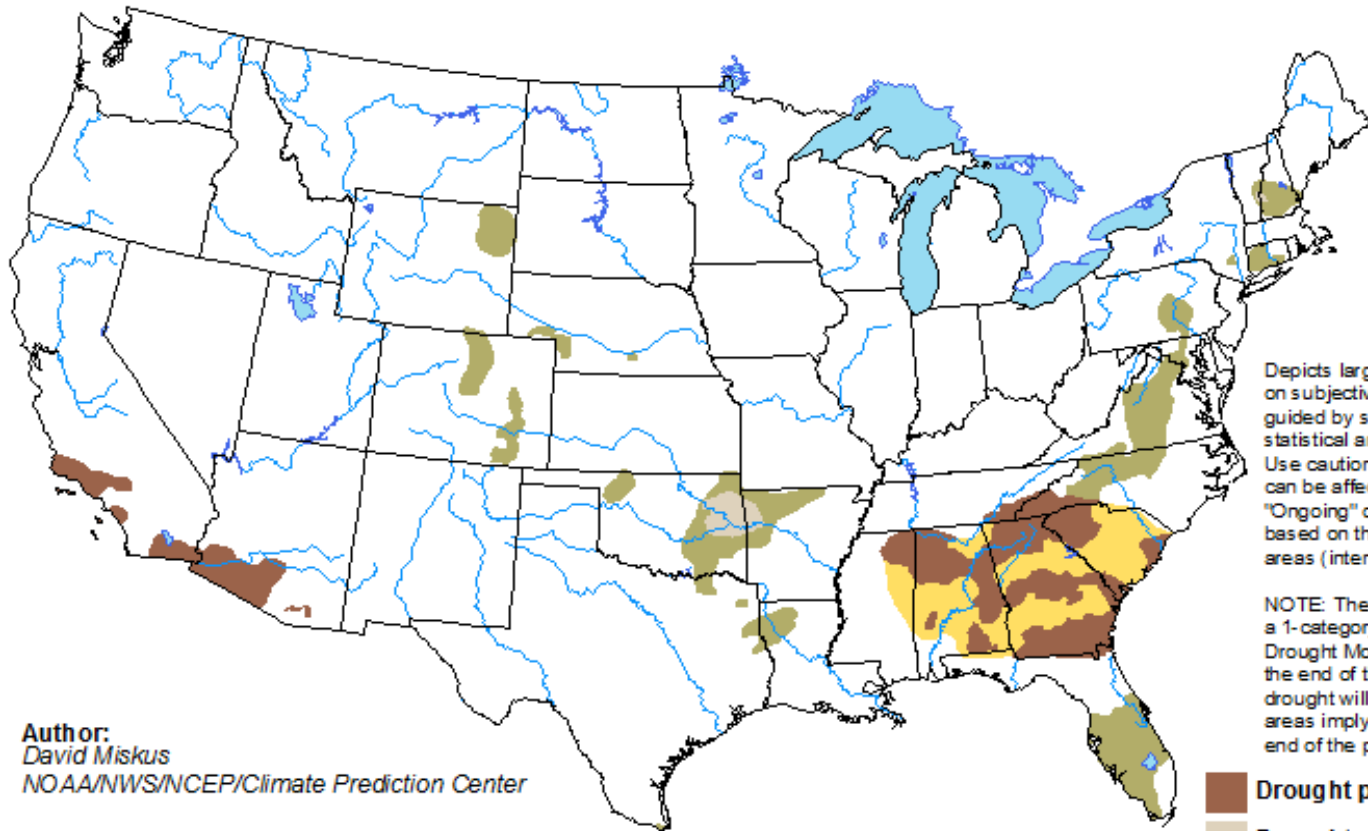
**<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/MapsandData/ComparisonSlider.aspx>**



# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for April 20 - July 31, 2017  
Released April 20, 2017

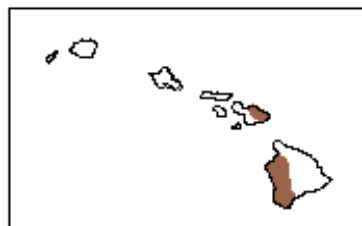
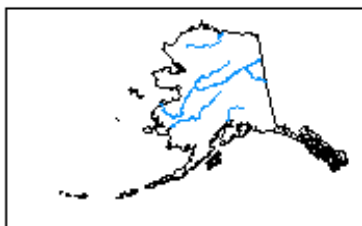


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to 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:  
David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

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



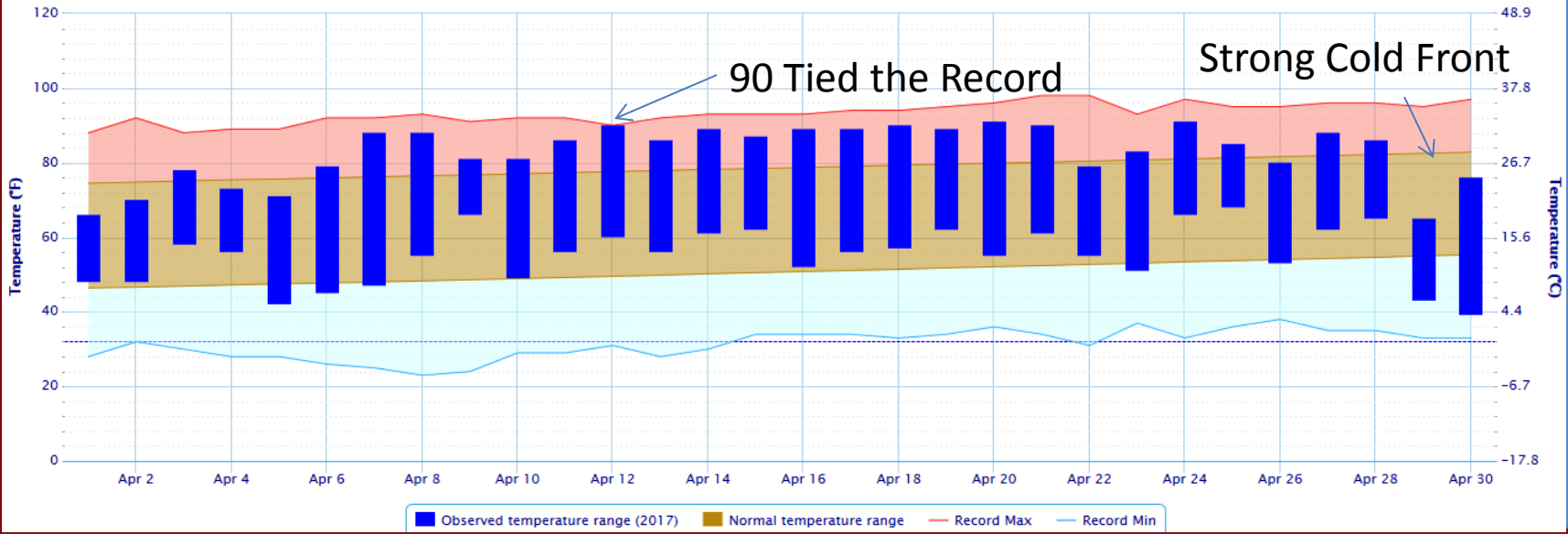
<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>



# Temperature and precipitation data for April 2017 in El Paso

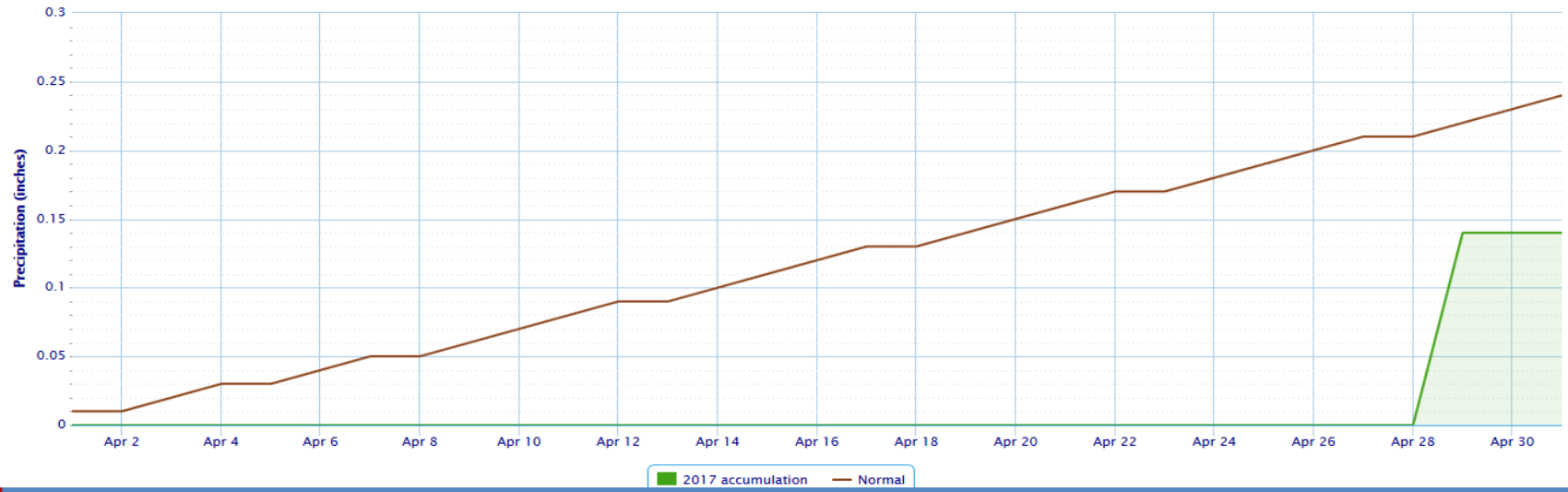
Daily Temperature Data - El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record - Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2017-04-30; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2017-04-30. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



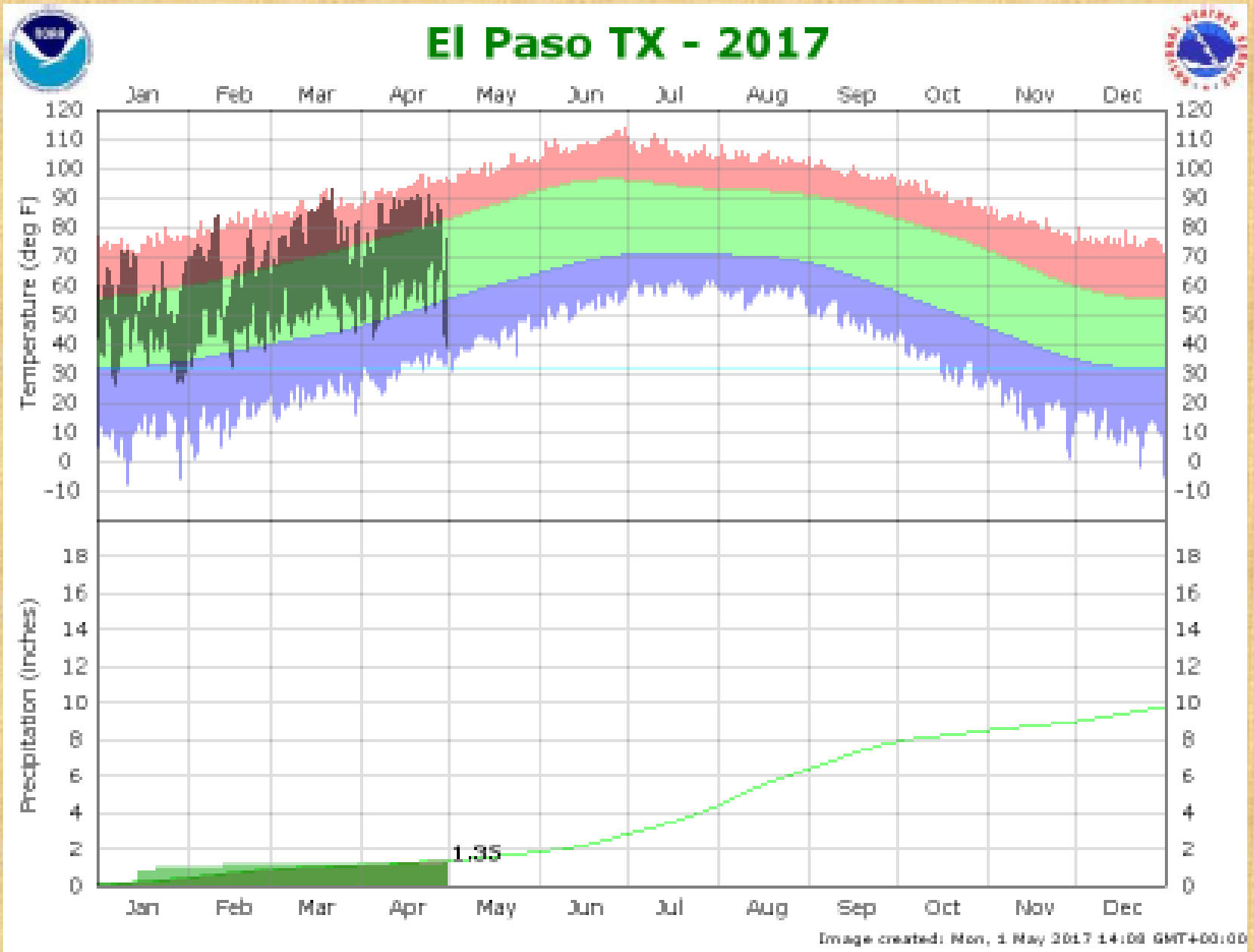
Accumulated Precipitation - El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

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





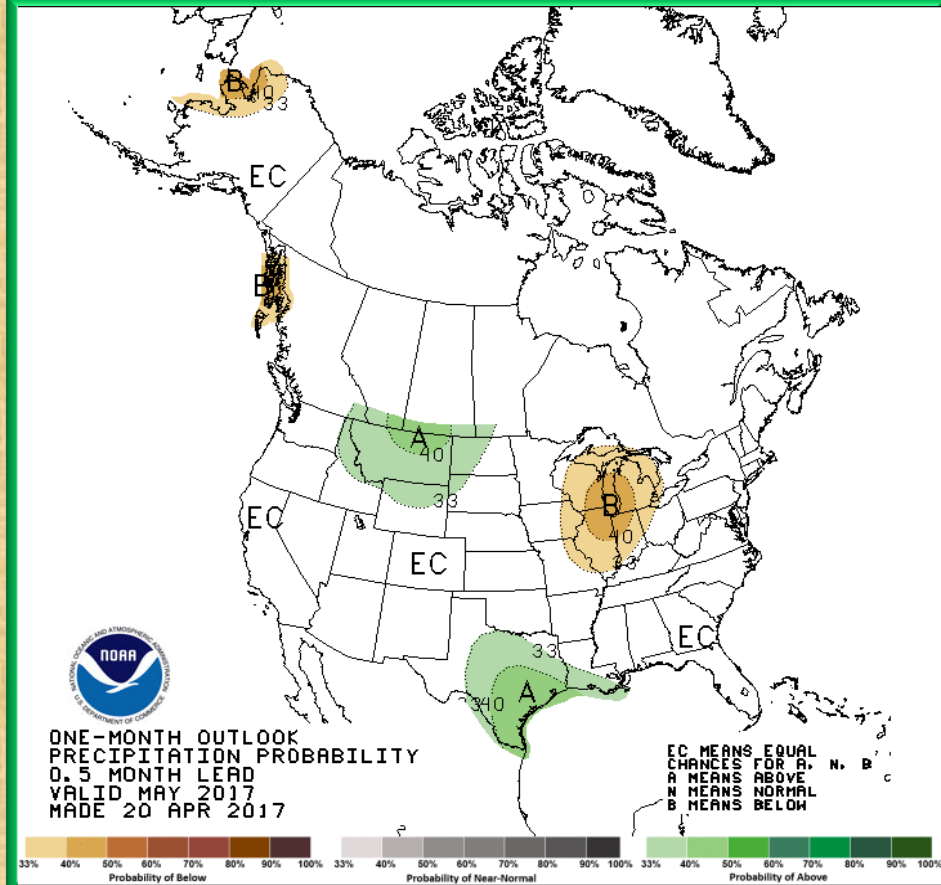
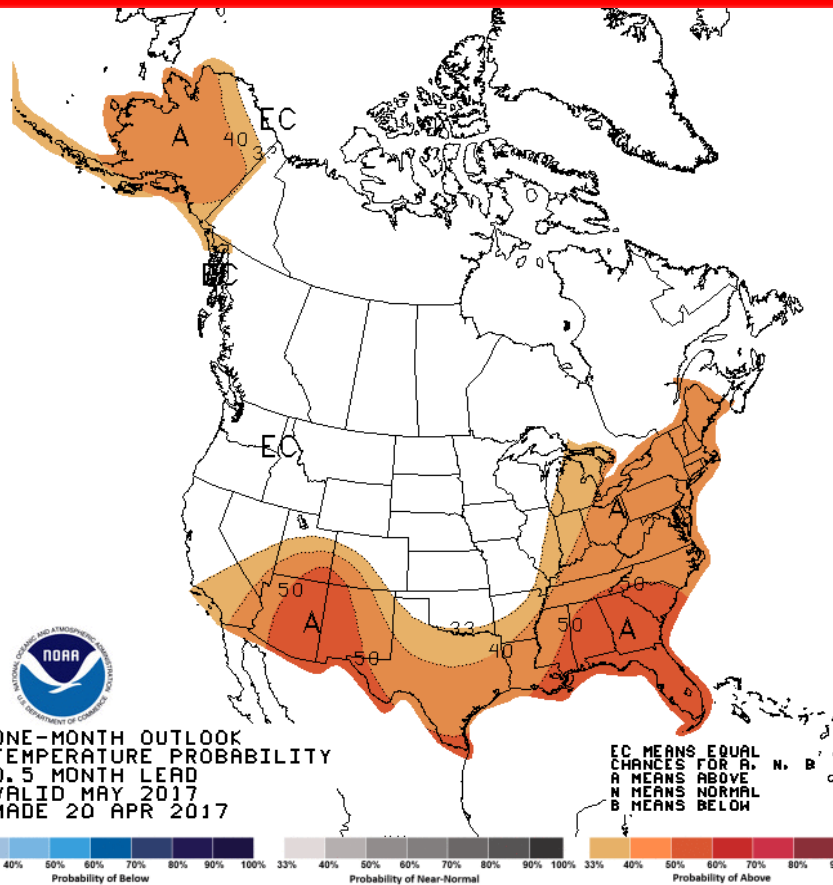
# 2017 year-to-date temperature and precipitation data El Paso



# Temperature and precipitation outlook for May 2017

## Temperature

## Precipitation

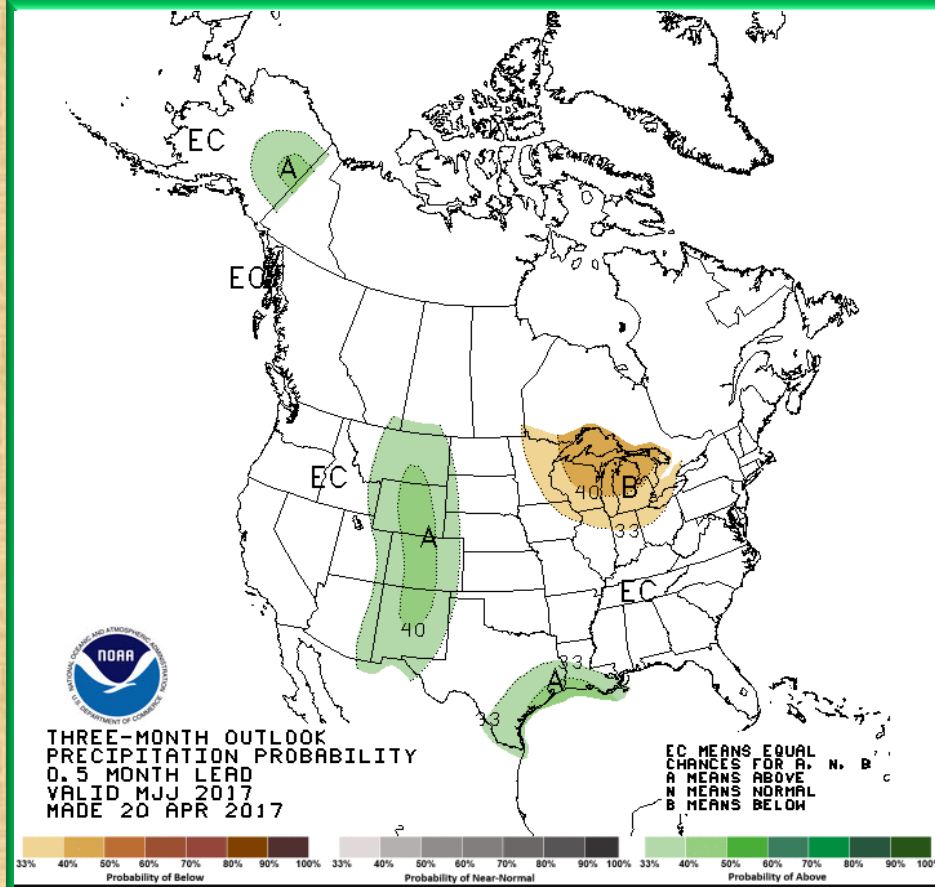
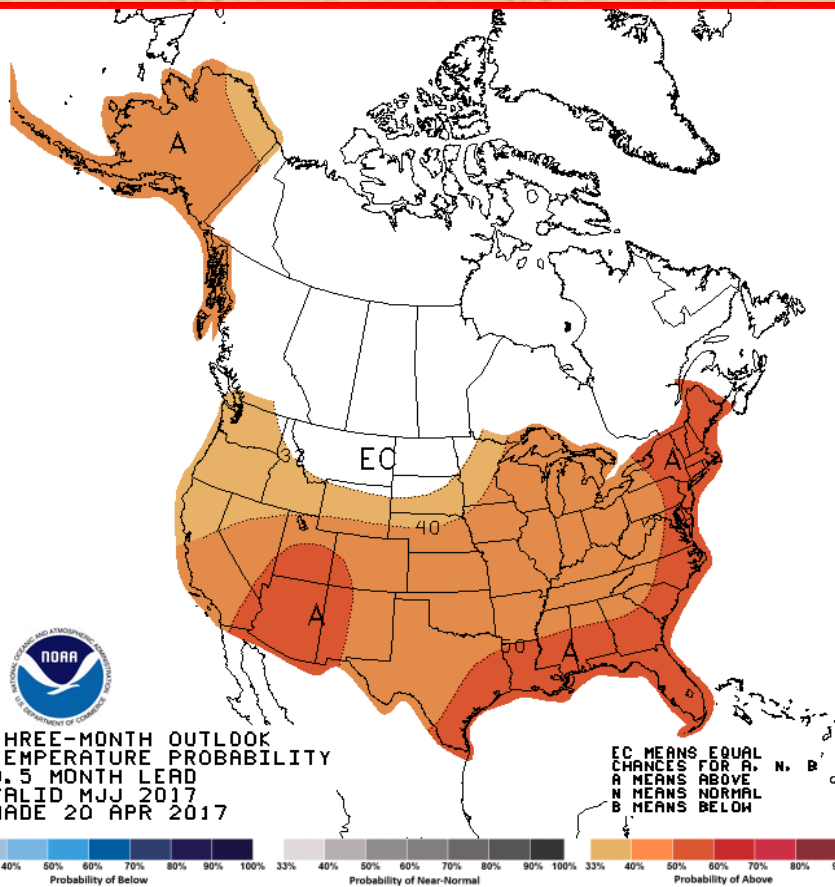




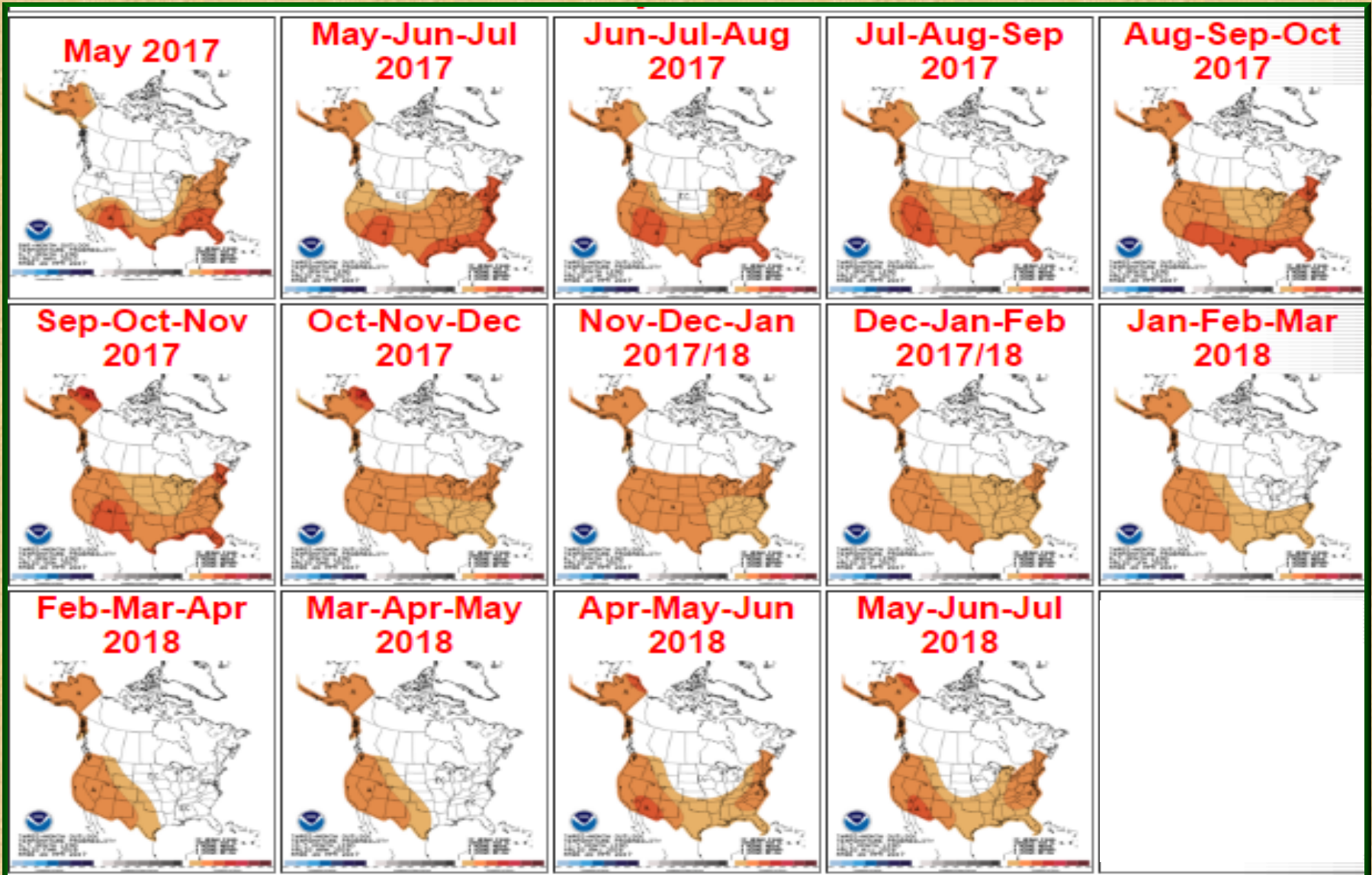
# Temperature and precipitation outlook For May – Jul 2017

## Temperature

## Precipitation

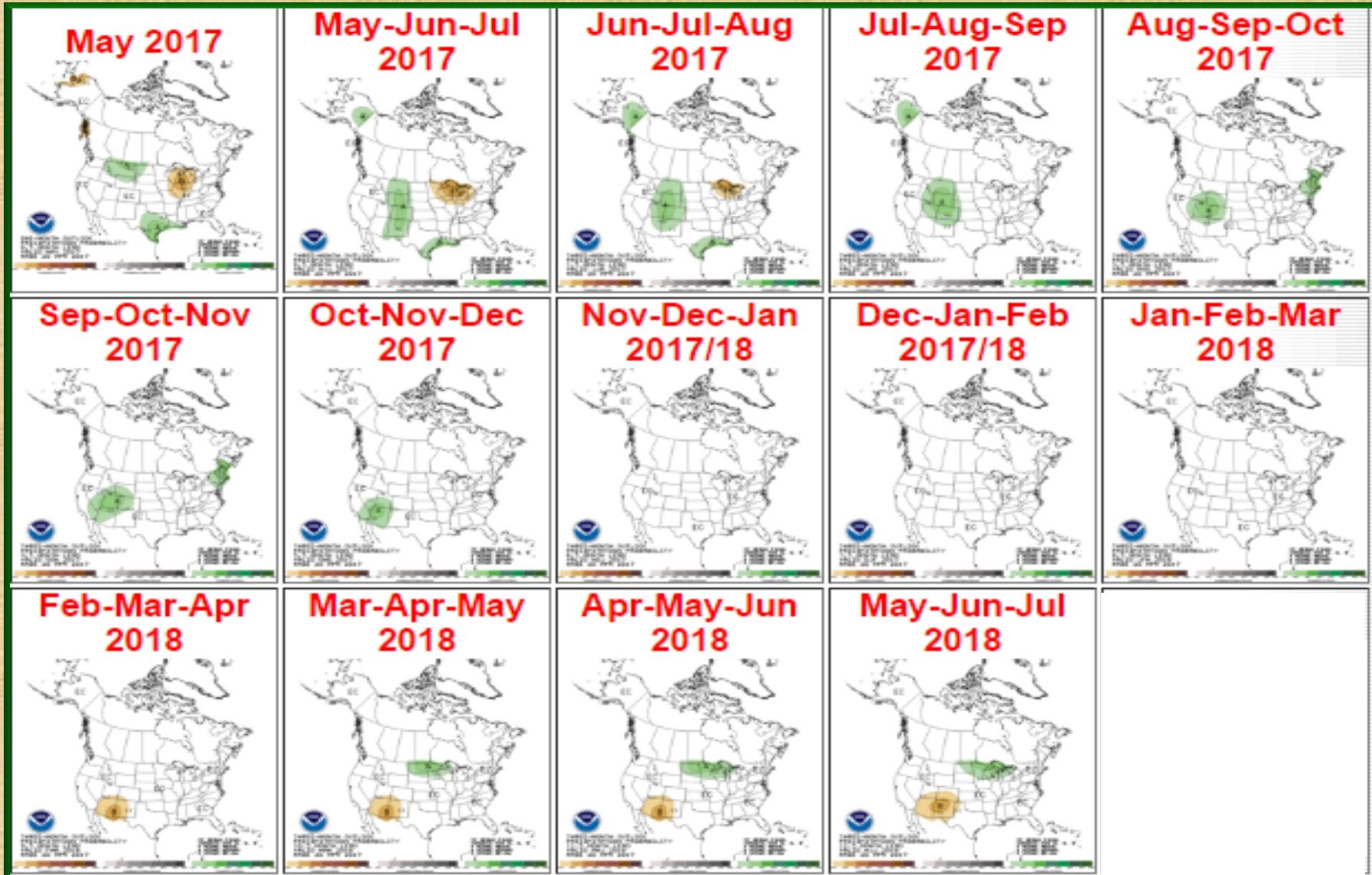


# Temperature Outlook Through July 2018

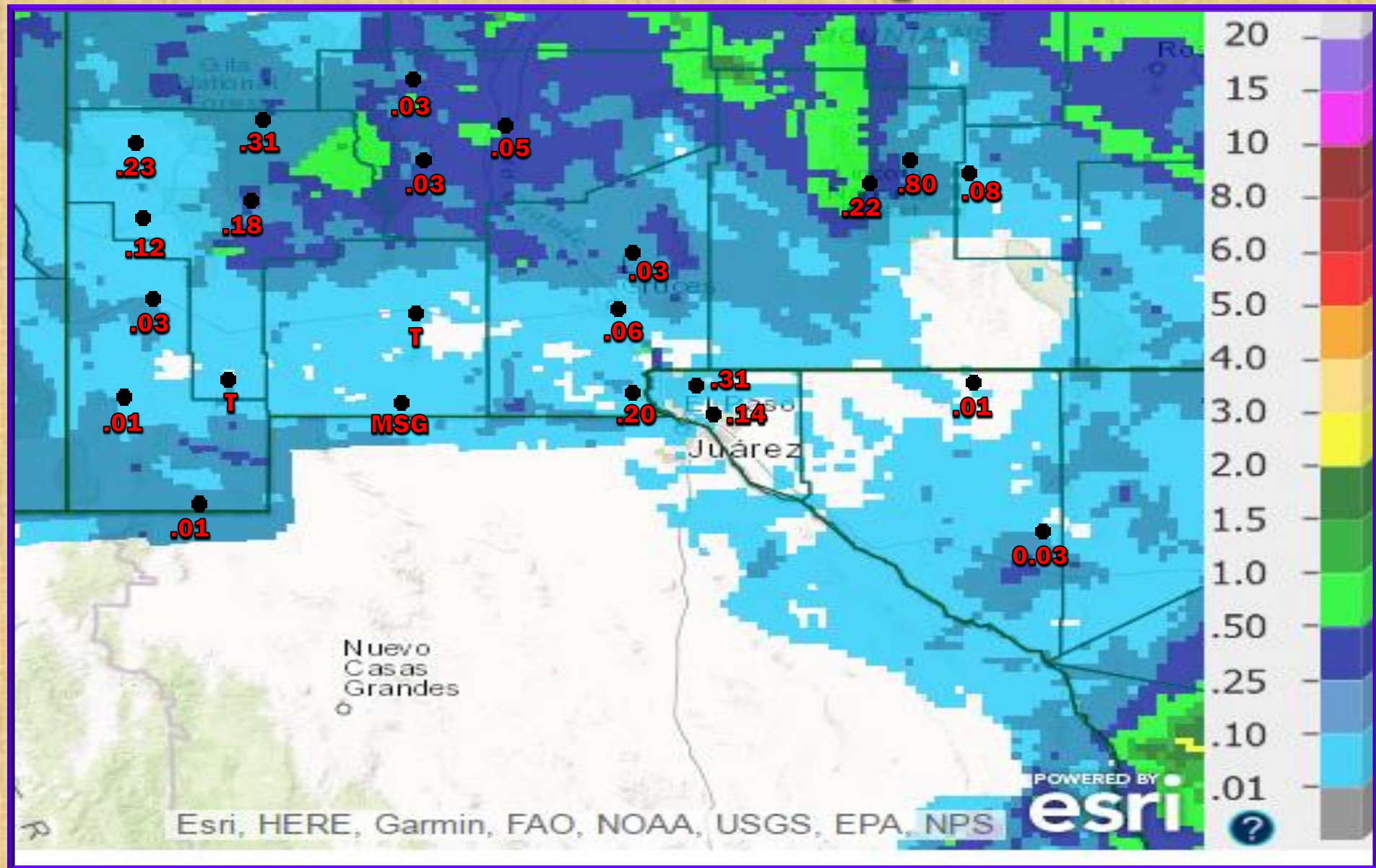




# Precipitation Outlook Through July 2018

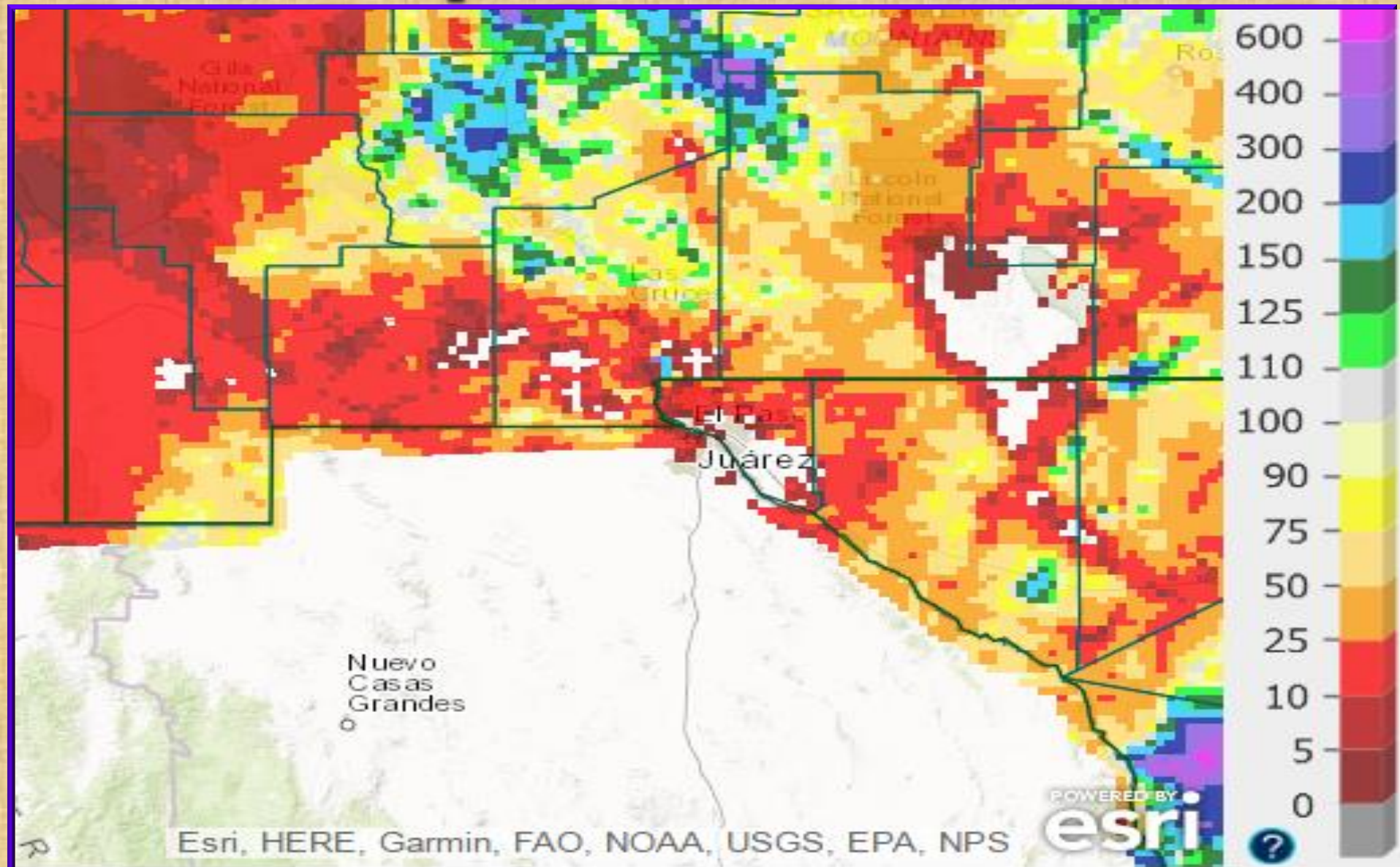


# April 2017 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



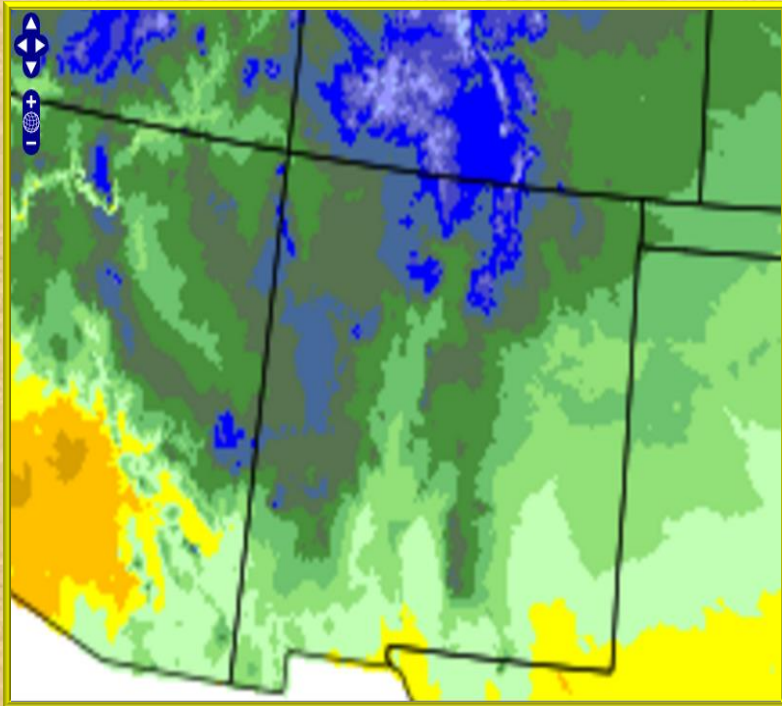


# April 2017 radar rainfall estimate percent of normal

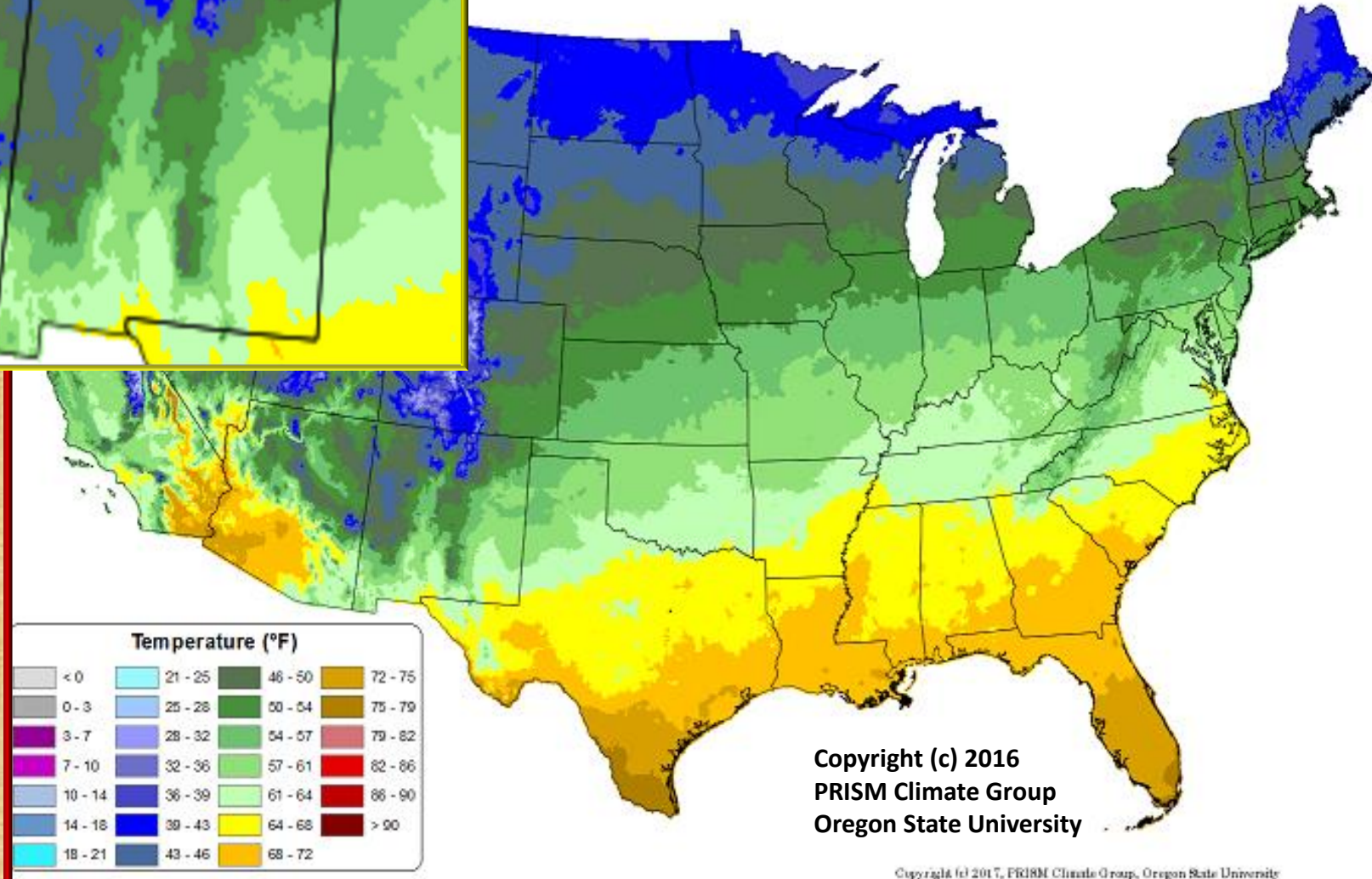




# Average Daily Mean Temperature for April 2017



Average Daily Mean Temperature: April 2017  
Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Apr 2017  
(Map created 02 May 2017)



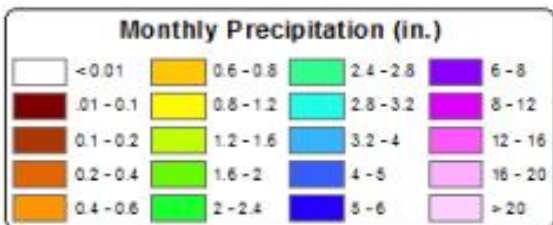
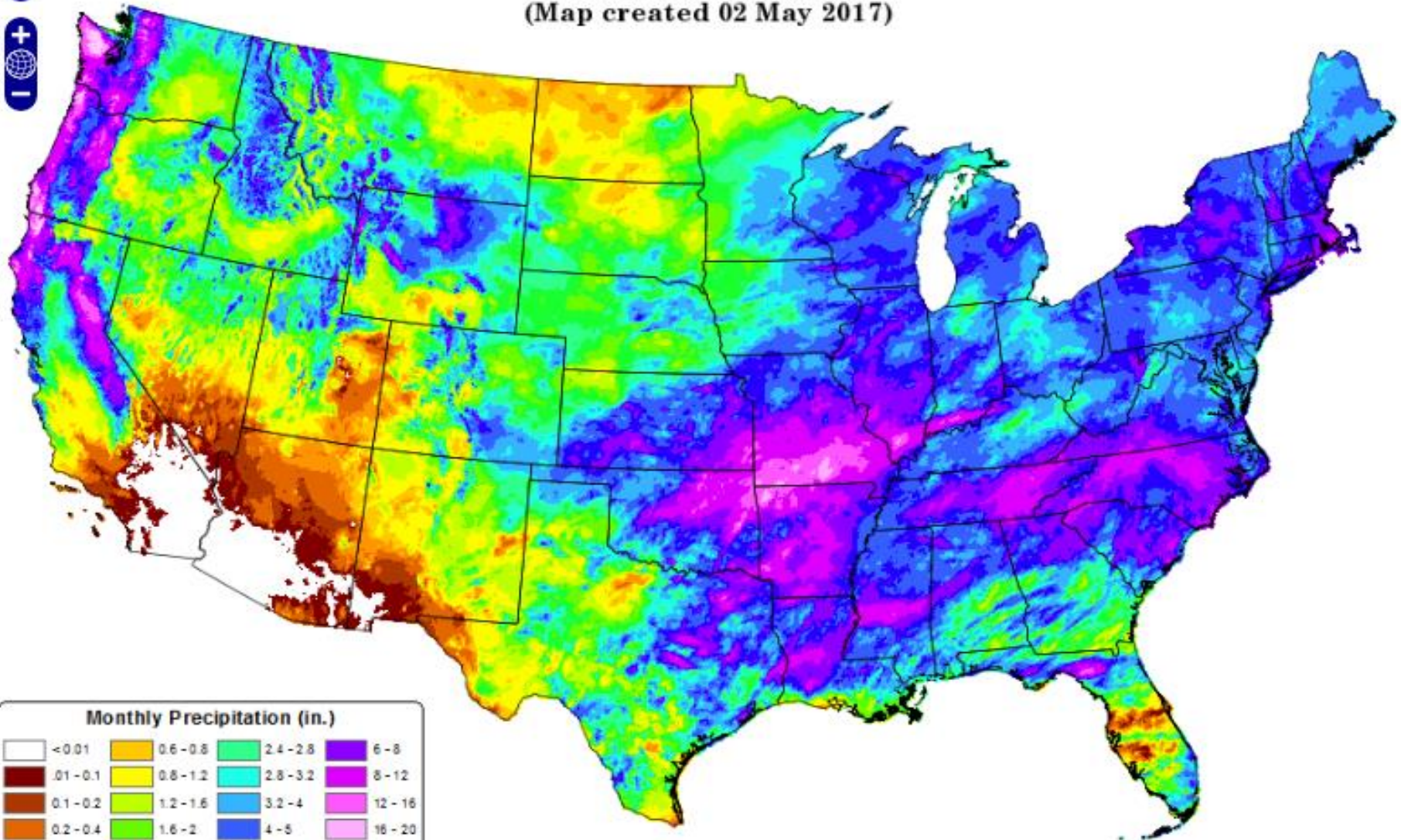


# Total Precipitation for April 2017

## Total Precipitation: April 2017

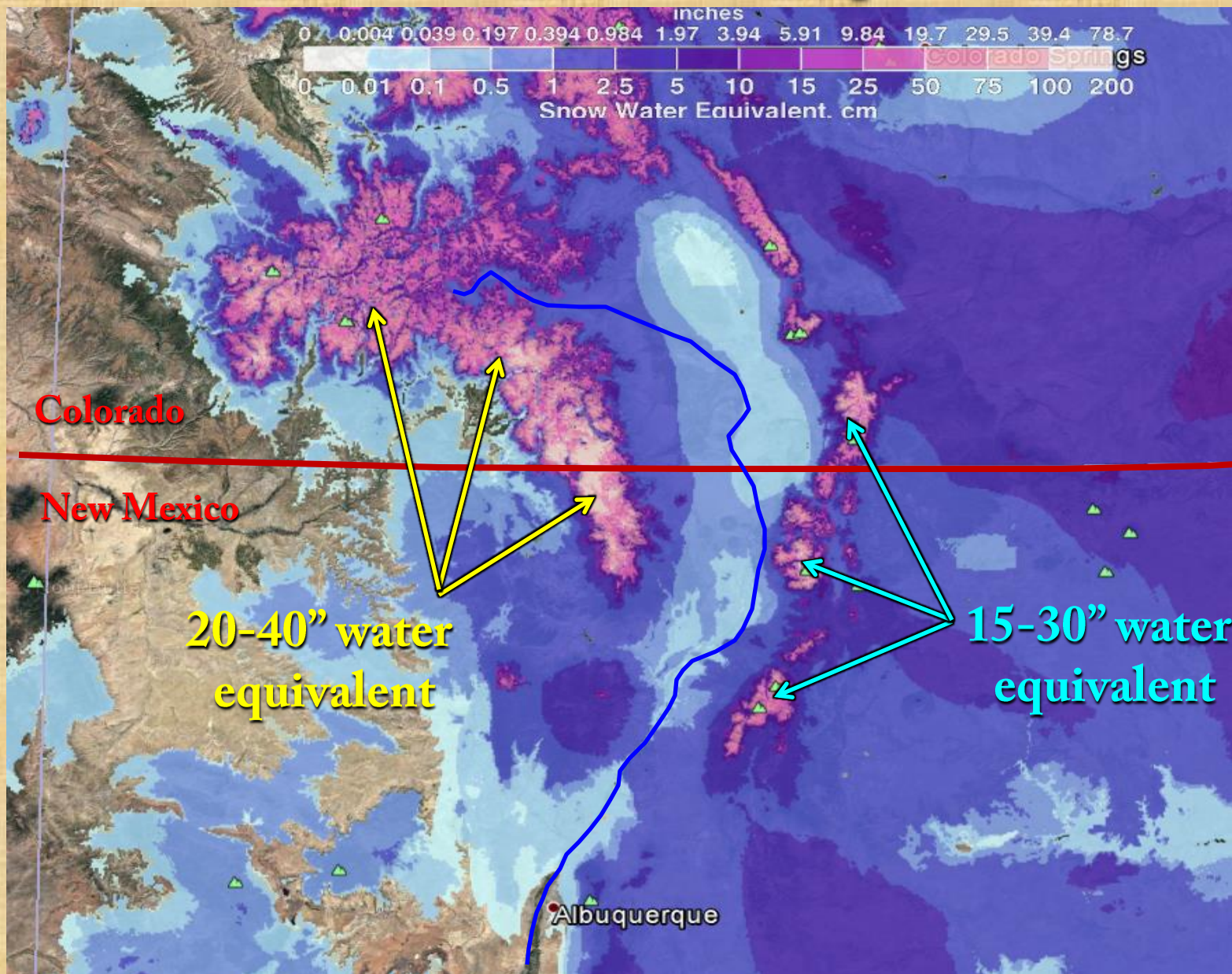
Period ending 30 Apr 2017

(Map created 02 May 2017)





# Snowpack water equivalent for the upper Rio Grande Basin at the end of April

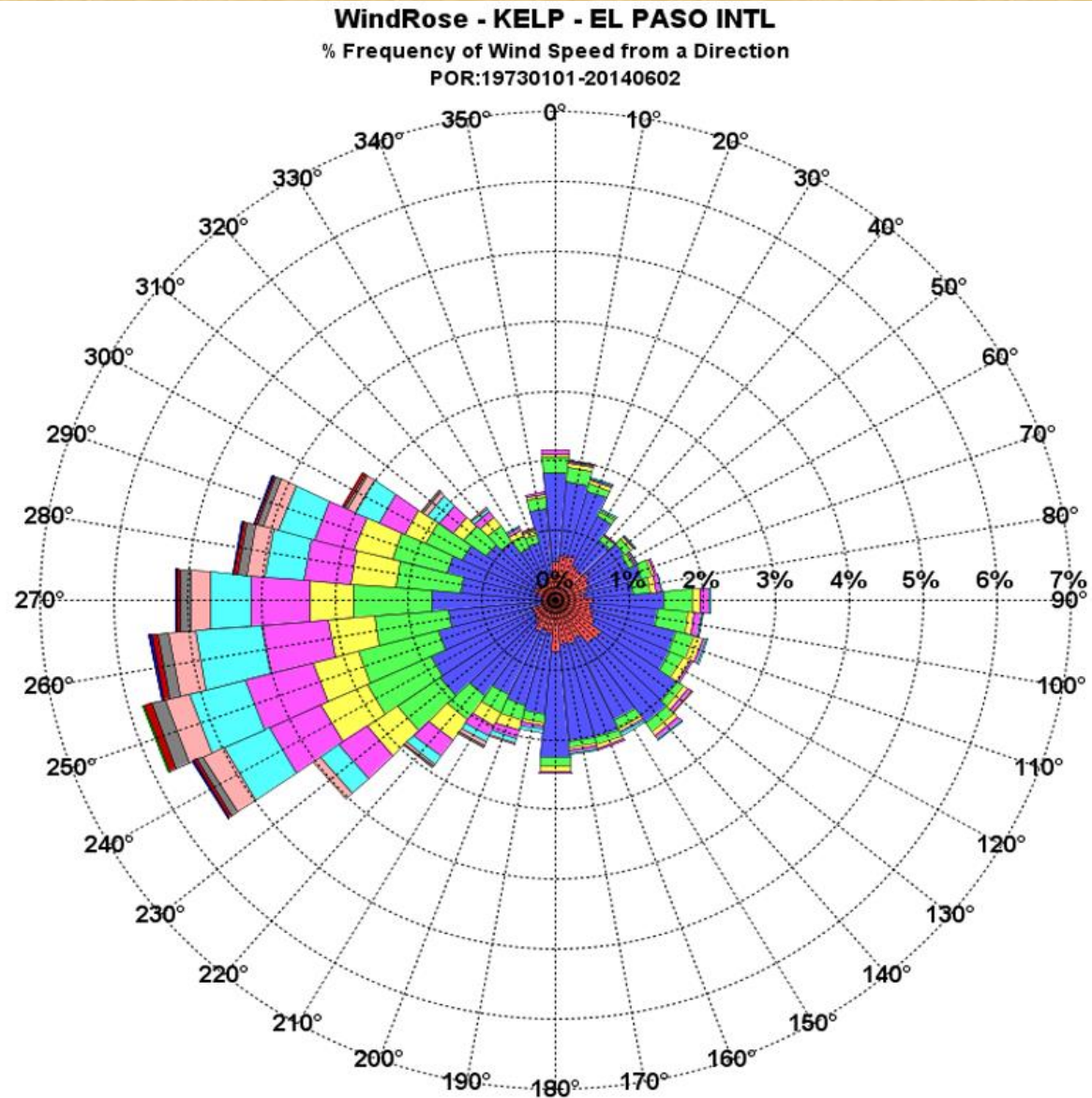




# Special Features

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

Month: APRIL  
Calm: 6.66%  
Variable: 2.29%



# Selected weather reports April 2017

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location (County)</b>	<b>Event</b>
04/04/2017 1050 AM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	68 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 1001 AM	EL PASO AIRPORT-EL PASO	60 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 925 AM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	60 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 136 PM	CLOUDCROFT-OTERO	58 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 1050 AM	TULAROSA 22 NW-SIERRA	56 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 1200 PM	CHAPARRAL 2 E-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 1050 AM	SUNSPOT 1 S-OTERO	53 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 133 PM	DELL CITY 1 N-HUDSPETH	51 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 1015 AM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	51 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 124 PM	SANTA TERESA 5 NW-DONA ANA	51 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 141 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	50 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 104 PM	ROAD FORKS 5 NE-HIDALGO	49 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/04/2017 1235 PM	SILVER CITY AIRPORT-SIERRA	48 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
04/12/2017 349 PM	SIERRA BLANCA-HUDSPETH	2.50 INCH HAIL
04/12/2017 343 PM	SIERRA BLANCA-HUDSPETH	1.75 INCH HAIL



# Selected weather reports April 2017

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location (County)</b>	<b>Event</b>
04/12/2017 640 PM	ALAMOGORDO-OTERO	1.75 INCH HAIL
04/12/2017 355 PM	SIERRA BLANCA-HUDSPETH	1.50 INCH HAIL
04/12/2017 548 PM	BOLES ACRES 2 SE-OTERO	1.00 INCH HAIL
04/12/2017 611 PM	SIERRA BLANCA 9NW-HUDSPETH	1.00 INCH HAIL
04/12/2017 1240 PM	TULAROSA 3 S-OTERO	1.00 INCH HAIL
04/27/2017 400 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	82 MPH PEAK WIND
04/27/2017 420 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	69 MPH PEAK WIND
04/27/2017 534 PM	EL PASO 5NE-EL PASO	58 MPH PEAK WIND
04/27/2017 326 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	52 MPH PEAK WIND
04/27/2017 700 PM	DEMING-LUNA	50 MPH PEAK WIND
04/27/2017 1237 PM	OROGRANDE-OTERO	50 MPH PEAK WIND
04/27/2017 400 PM	CHAPARRAL-OTERO	48 MPH PEAK WIND
04/28/2017 405 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	72 MPH PEAK WIND
04/28/2017 145 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	56 MPH PEAK WIND
04/28/2017 640 PM	HACHITA 15 SW-HIDALGO	56 MPH PEAK WIND







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Photo Credit: John Fausett

Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code  
 Enter location ...   
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**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

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

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**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.**