

February 2019 Weather Digest



February 2019 Weather Summary

February, despite being abnormally dry, saw an active procession of Pacific Ocean storms. These storms were often just a bit too far north of our area for much rain, but did produce extensive cloud cover and slightly below normal high temperatures for many places. A quick look at the radar rainfall estimate maps also shows this as the west slopes of many mountain areas received normal to above normal precipitation, where upslope wind flow aids in production of precipitation. On the other hand many of the east sides of mountains were below normal. This is the result of downslope flow which dries the air and inhibits production of precipitation.

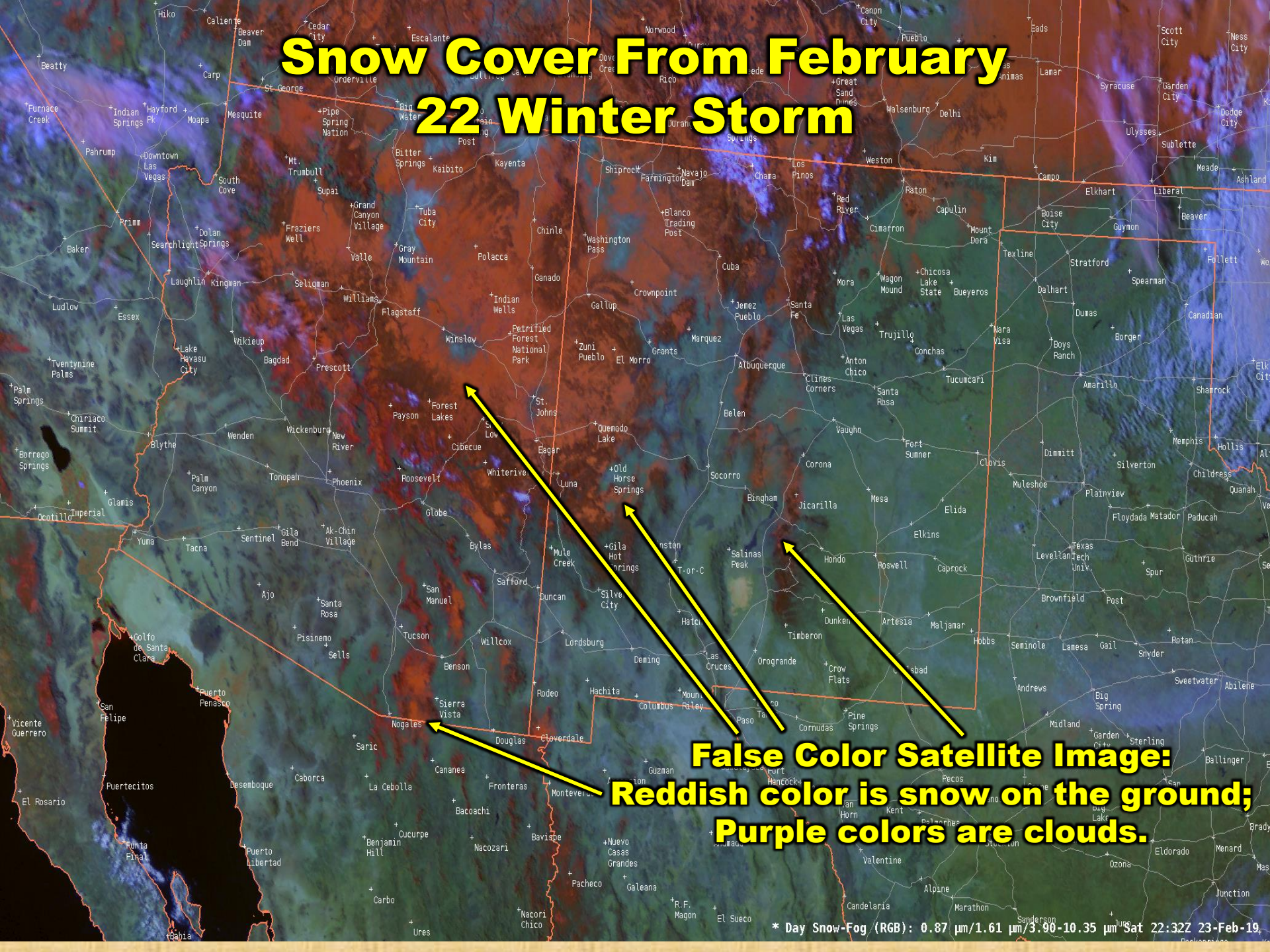
Almost the entire first half of the month was dominated by strong southwest flow, which brought extensive cloud cover to the area, but little in the way of rain. A strong Pacific storm system moved across the area on the 22nd, but dumped most of its heavy snow over Arizona and northern New Mexico (see false color satellite image below).

Looking ahead to March, daylight increases from eleven and one-half hours of daylight on the 1st, to nearly twelve and one-half hours on the last day of the month. Sunset on the 1st is 604 pm and on the 31st it sets at 725 pm. The annual daylight savings time change on the 10th factors in to part of this increase.

February 2019 Weather Summary Contd.

Average high temperatures in El Paso begins the month at 67 degrees and ends the month at 74 degrees. Normal precipitation for March ranges from about one-quarter inch (.26) in El Paso, to over an inch and one-half (1.51) at Cloudcroft.

Snow Cover From February 22 Winter Storm



False Color Satellite Image:
Reddish color is snow on the ground;
Purple colors are clouds.

**Snow in Pinos Altos
Feb 6**



**Snow in Silver City
Feb 19**

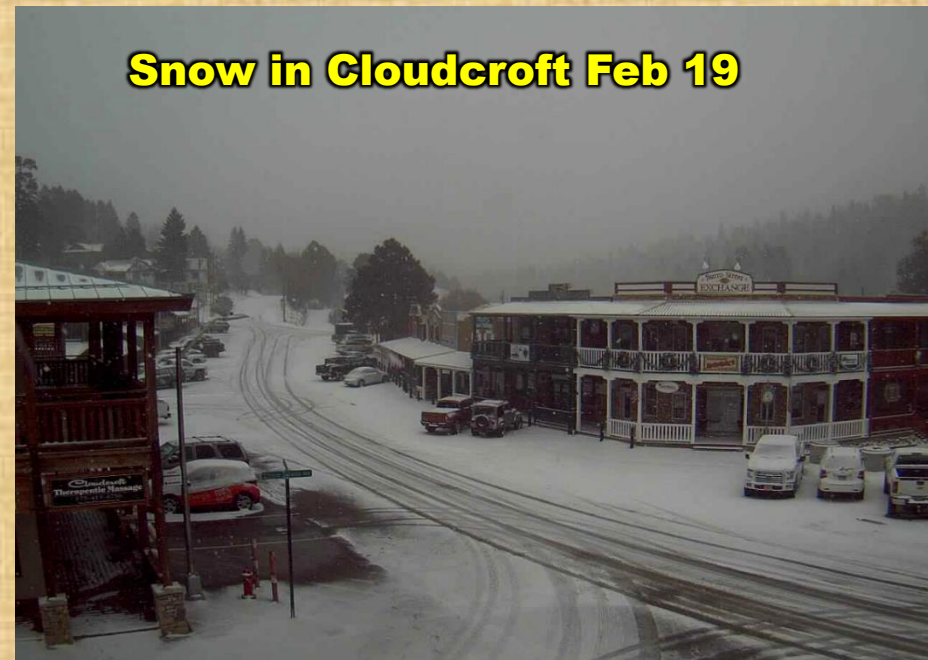


**Snow near Silver City
Feb 19**



South Wind Canyon 02-19-2019 12:01:32

Snow in Cloudcroft Feb 19



**Snow over Franklin
Mountains Feb 2**



**Snow over Franklin
Mountains Feb 2**



**Snow over the Florida Mountains-
Deming Feb 22**



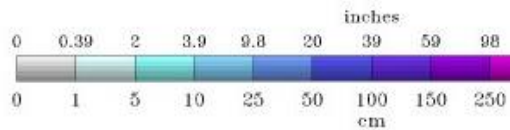
**Snow over Franklin
Mountains Feb 2**



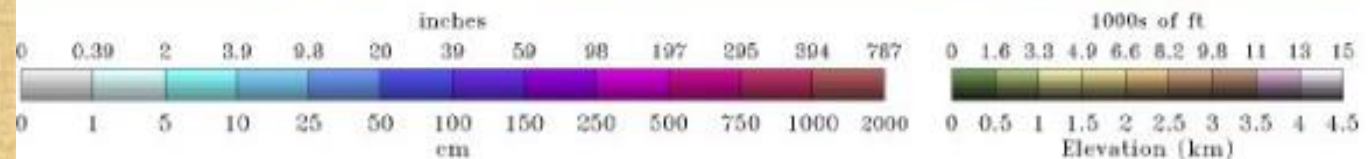
**Blowing Dust Las Cruces
Feb 22**



Snow Cover Jan 31



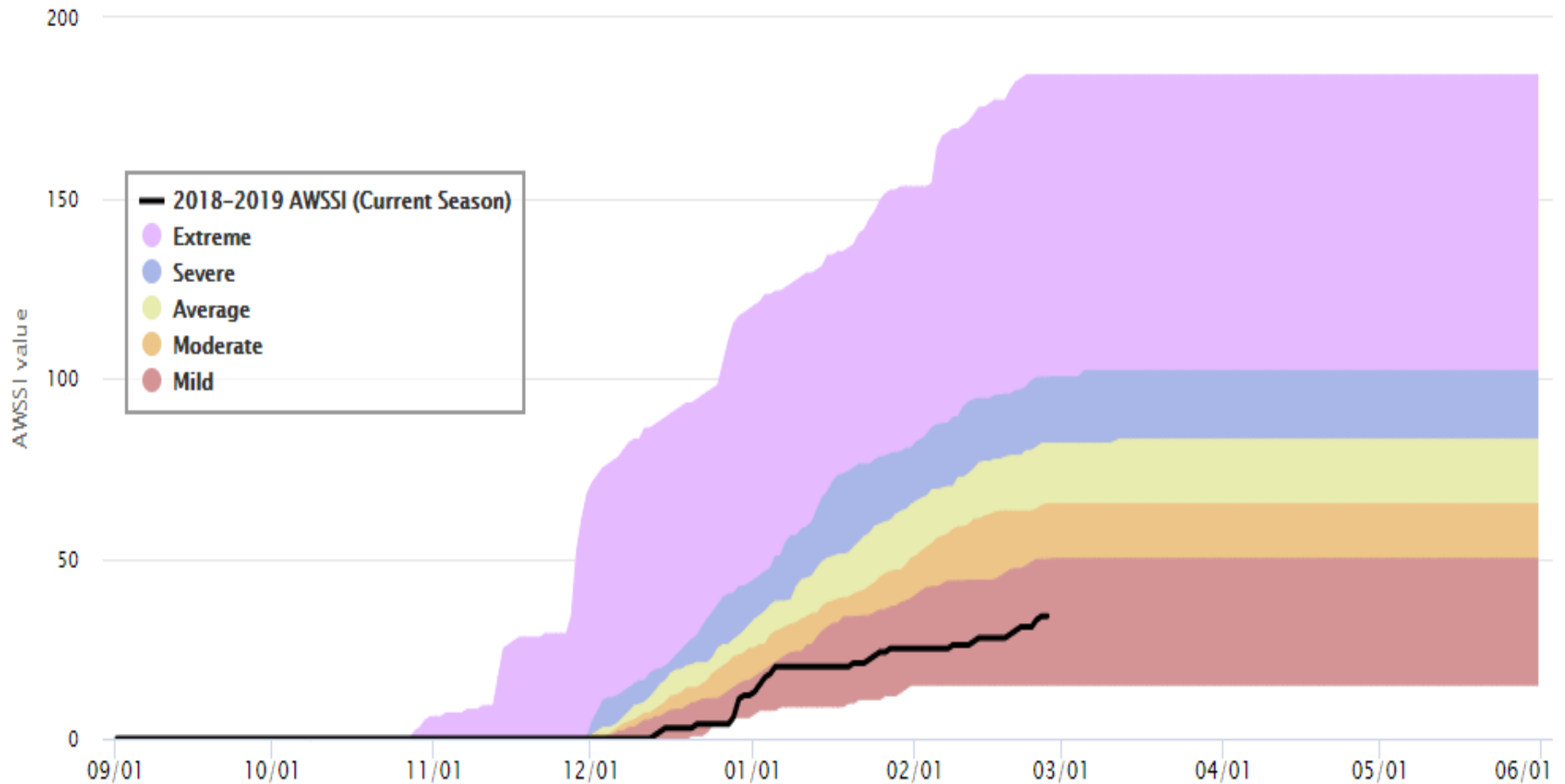
Snow Cover Feb 28



El Paso Winter Severity Index Through Feb 28

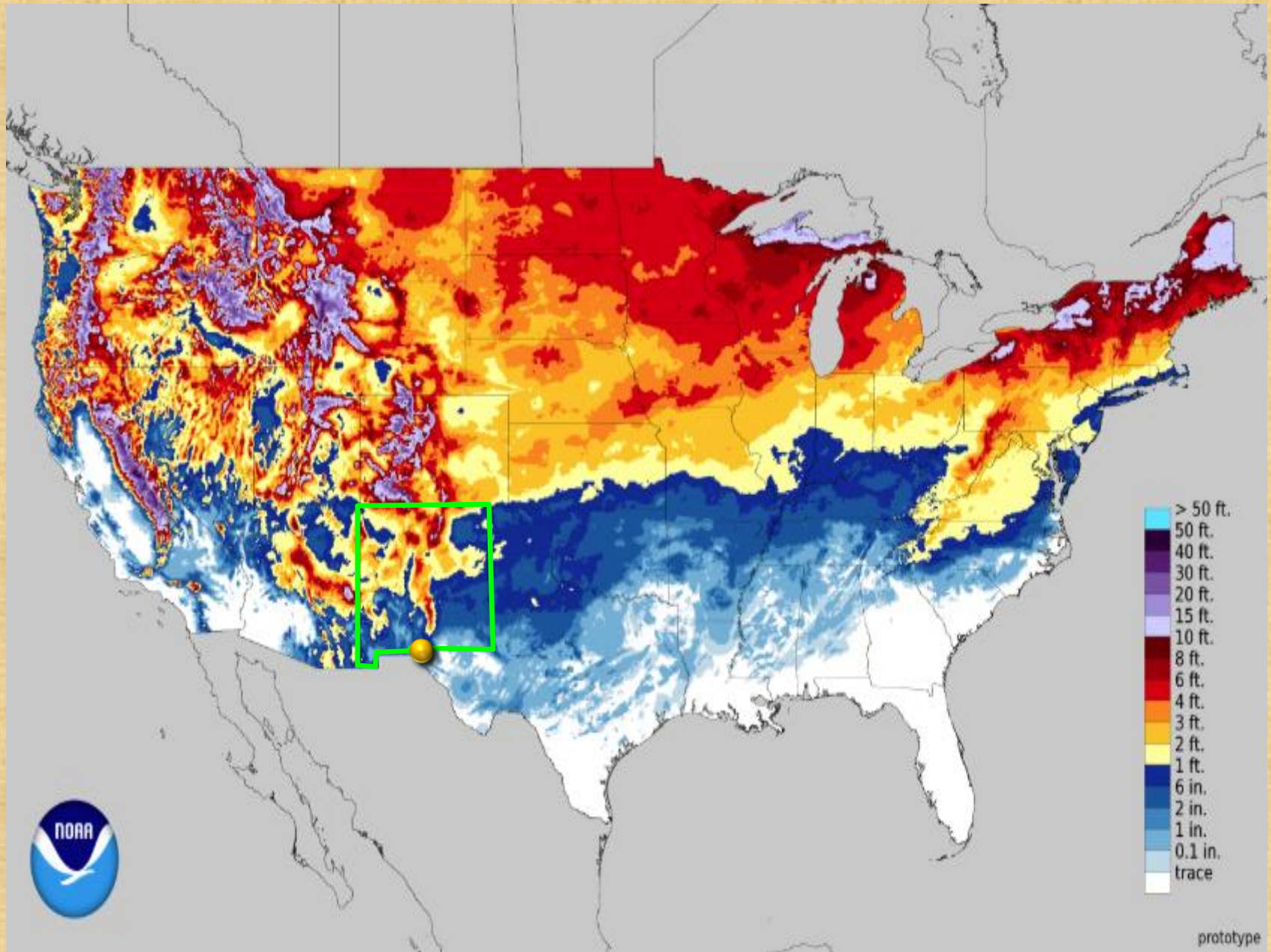
2018-2019 AWSSI: "TX - El Paso"

Season: 2018-12-01 to 2019-02-26, 88 days

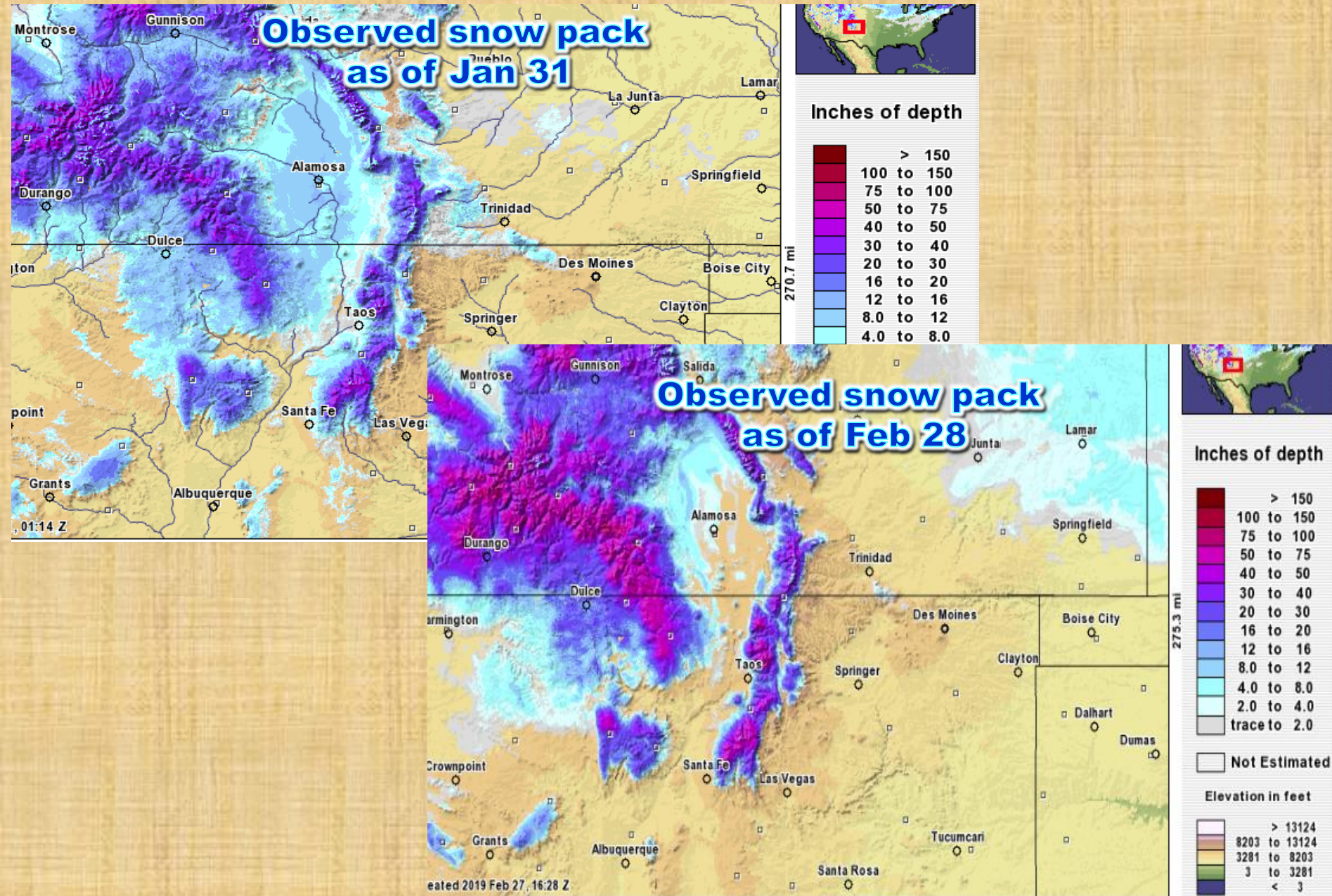


© Midwestern Regional Climate Center

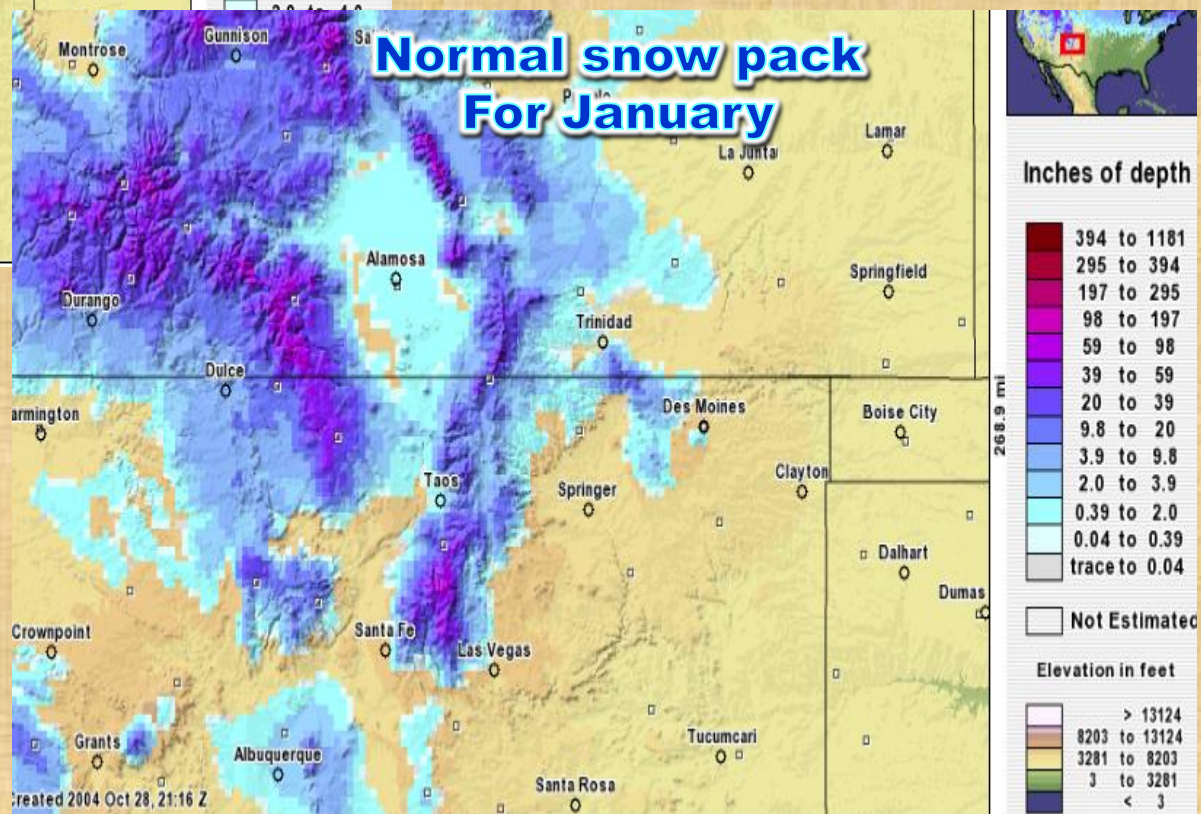
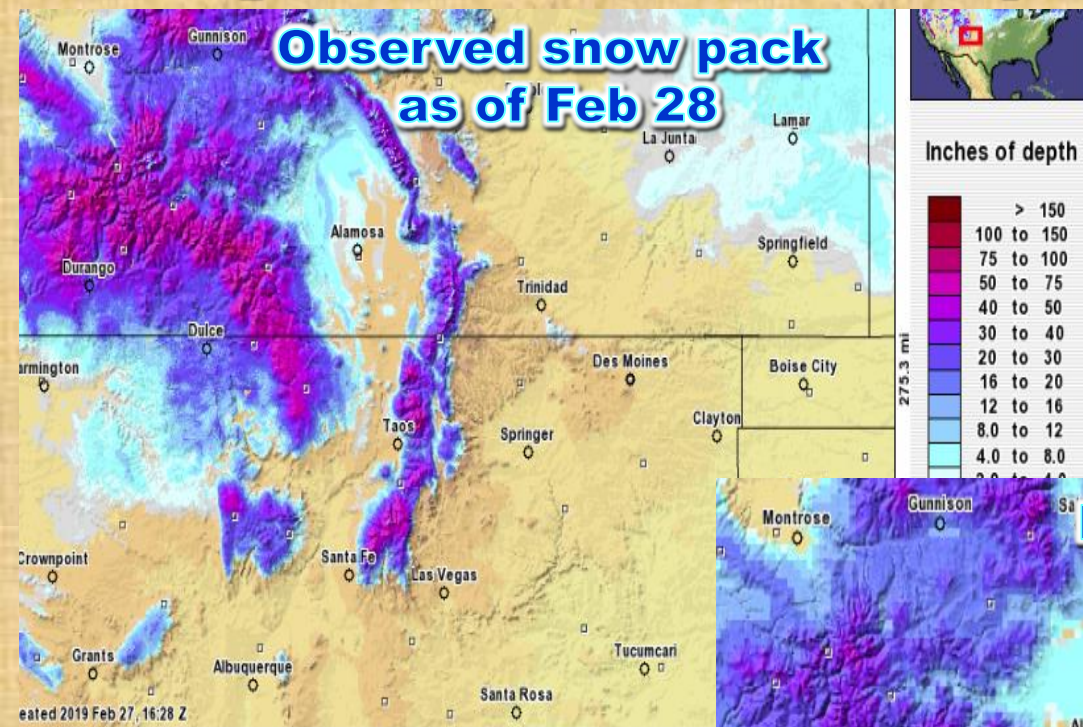
Total snowfall for this season through Feb 28, 2019



How is the upper Rio Grande Basin snow pack doing? These charts show snow pack is around 100-110% of normal



How is the upper Rio Grande Basin snow pack doing? About Average. These charts show snow pack is around 80-90% of normal



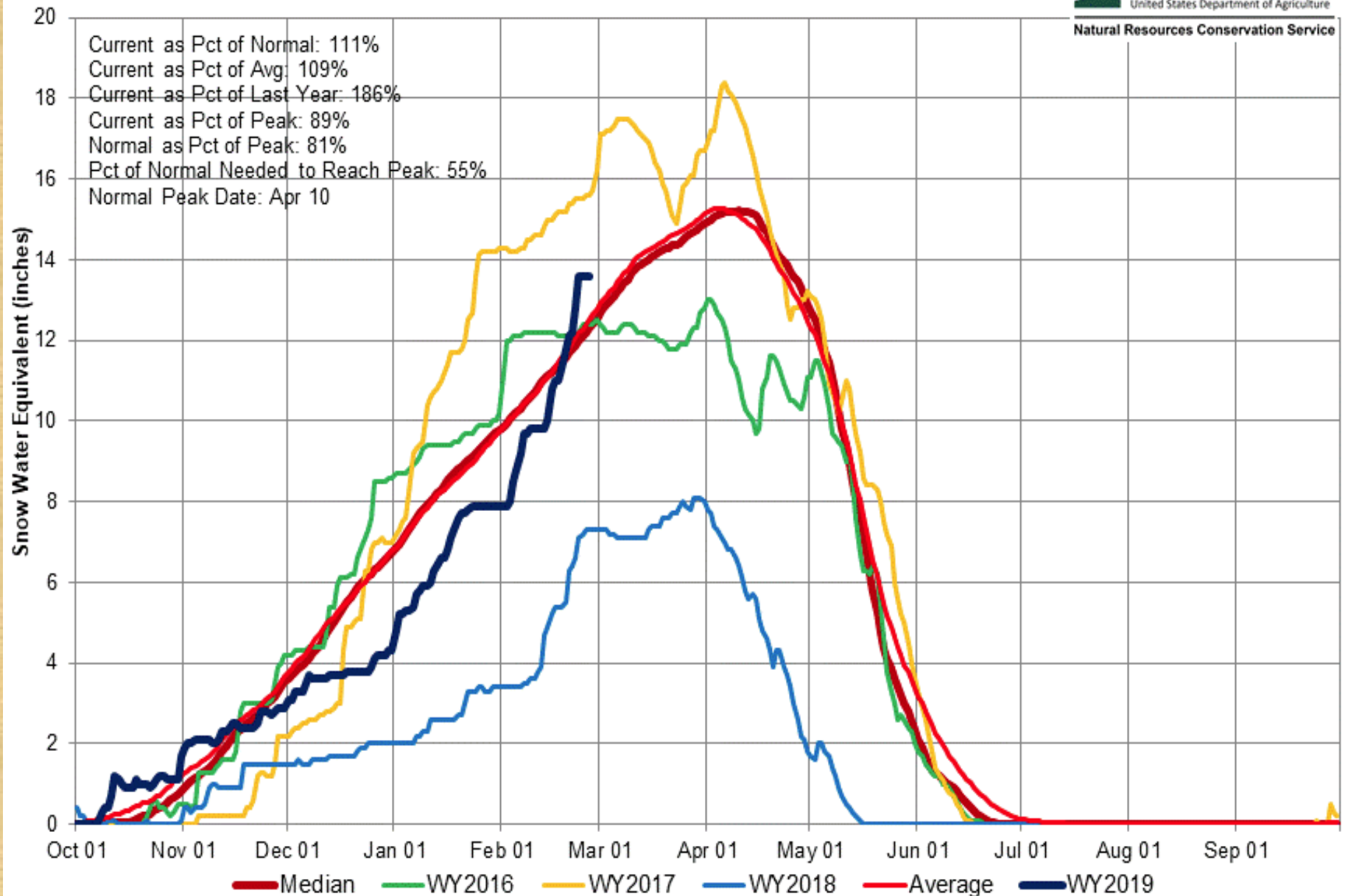
Upper Rio Grande River Basin Time Series Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Feb 26, 2019



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



El Niño 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.

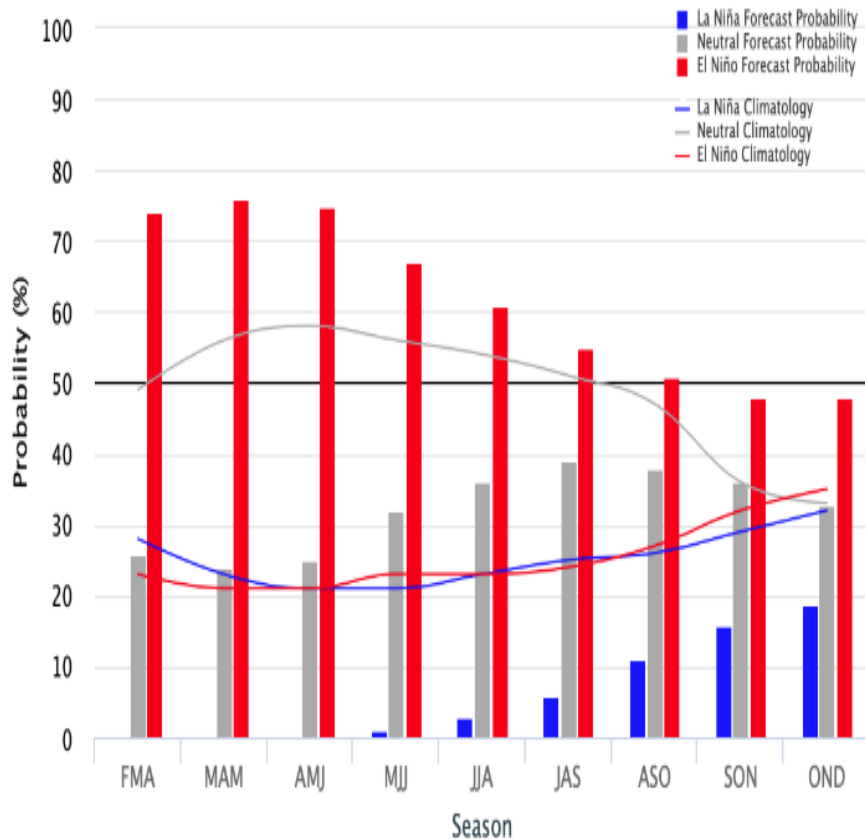
ENSO Forecast

ENSO is now in a weak El Niño phase and should remain there for most of the winter

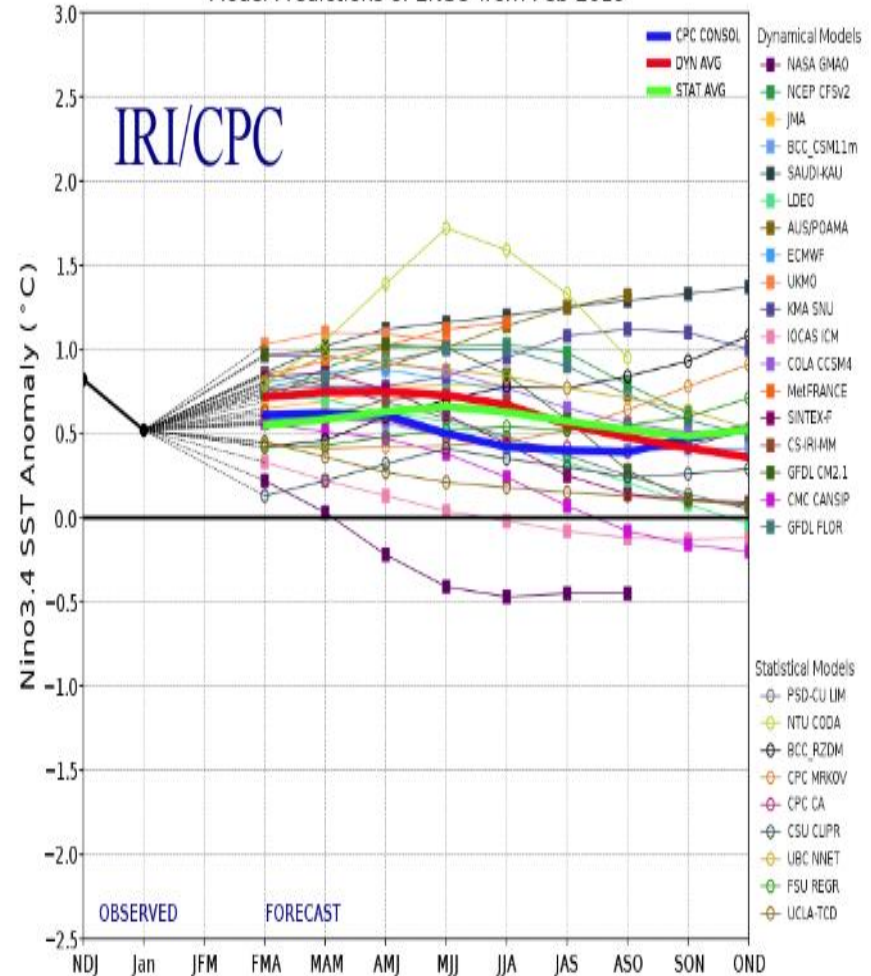
Mid-February 2019 IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly

Neutral ENSO: -0.5°C to 0.5°C



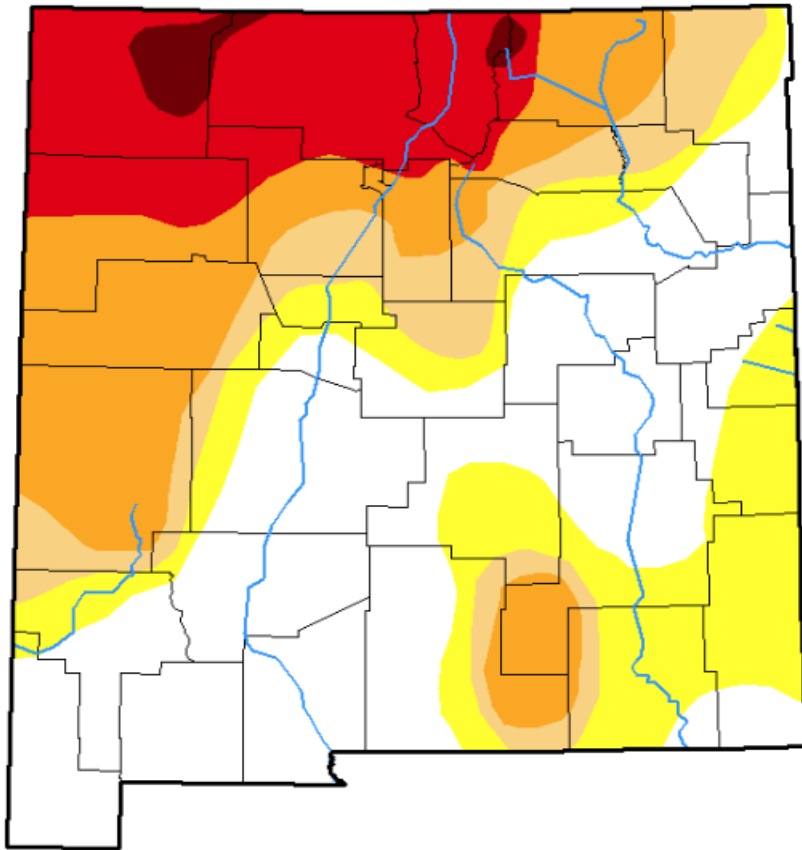
Model Predictions of ENSO from Feb 2019



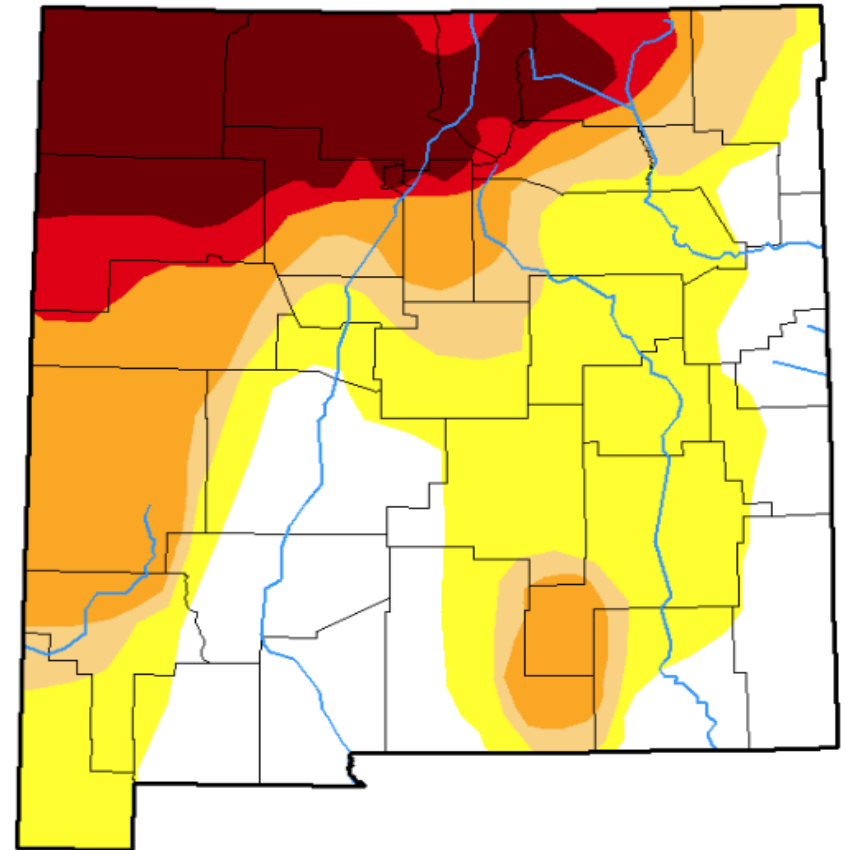
Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

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

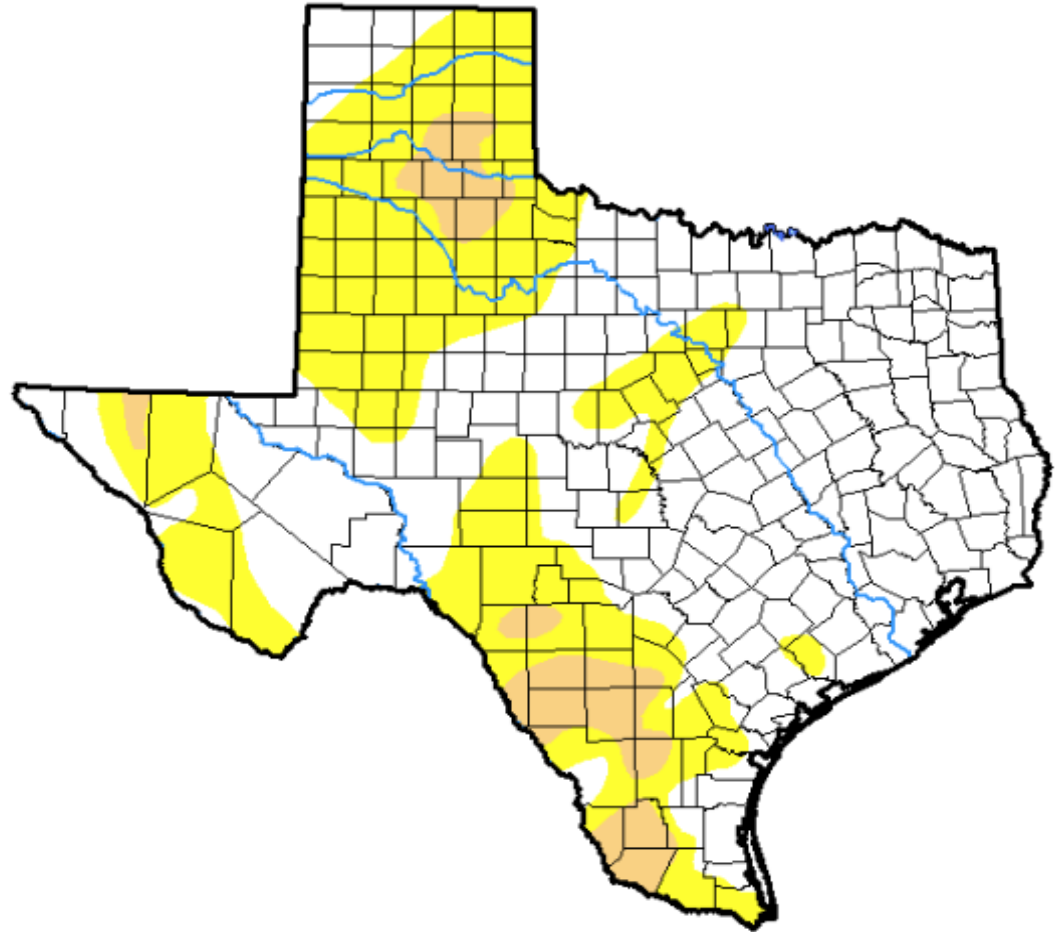
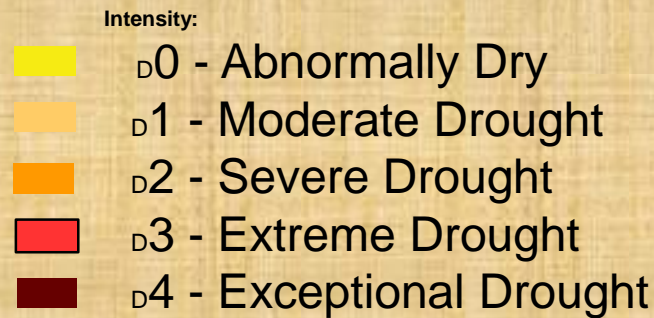
February 19, 2019



November 20, 2018



Current drought conditions for Texas as of February 19, 2019



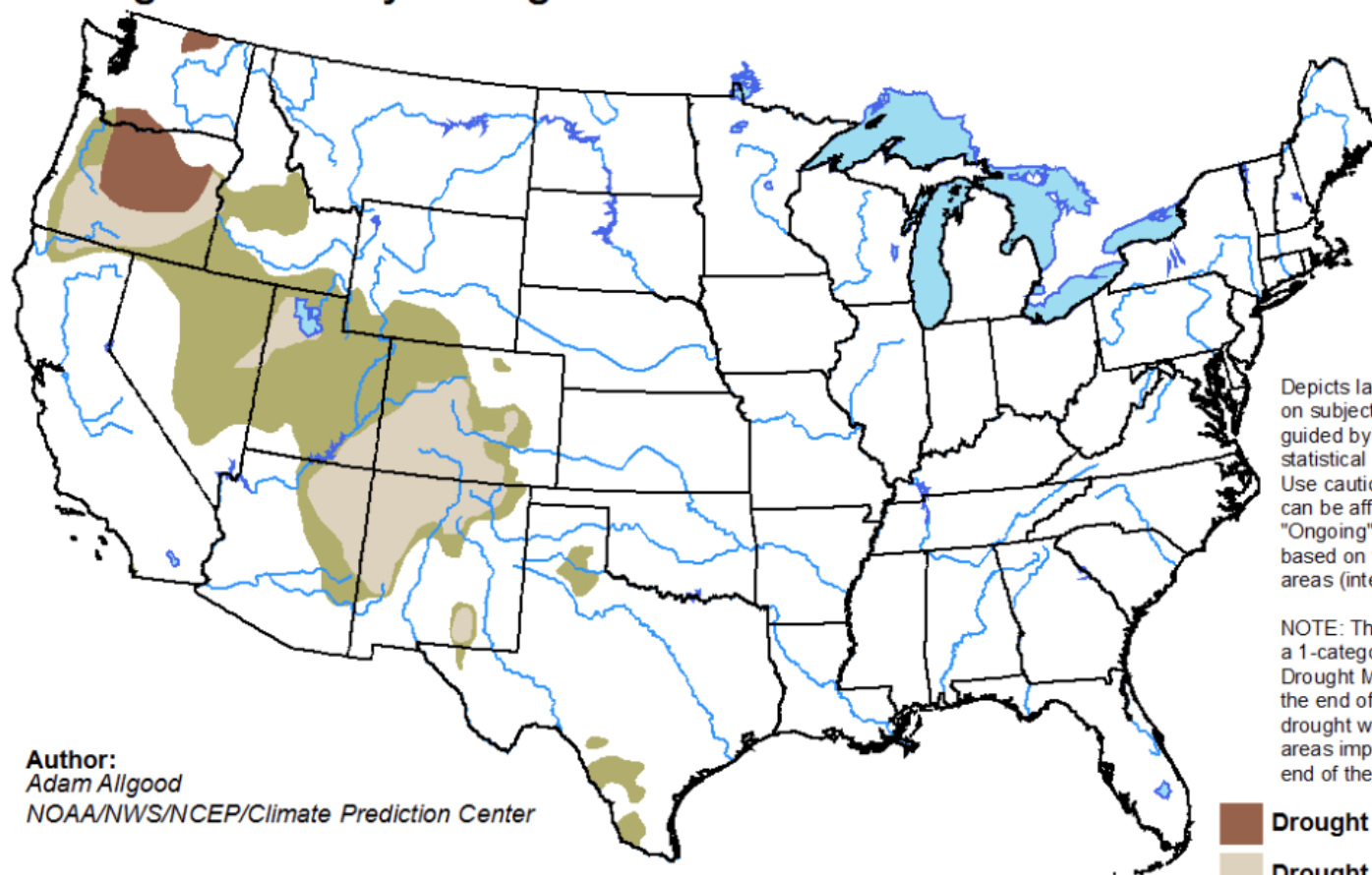
Build your own custom slider maps here at:

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/ComparisonSlider.aspx>

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for February 21 - May 31, 2019
Released February 21

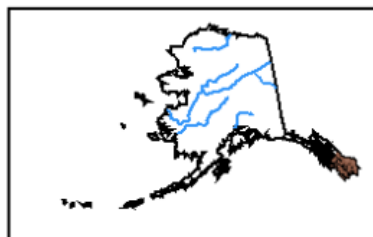


Author:
Adam Allgood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

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 or 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).

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

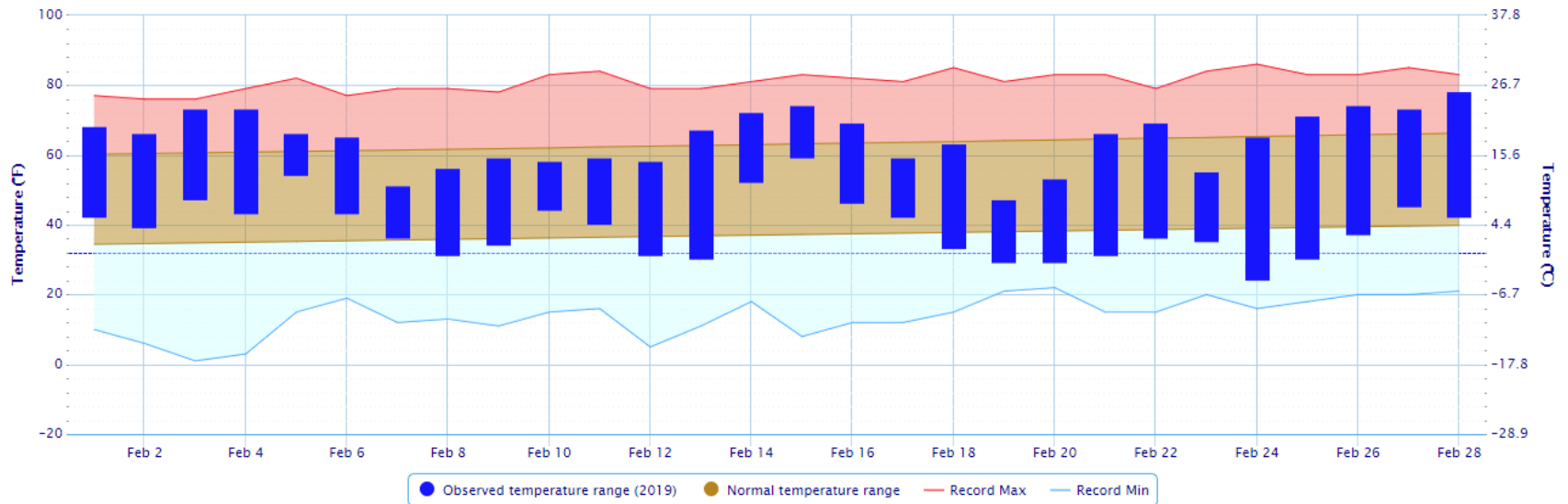


<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Temperature and precipitation data for February 2018 in El Paso

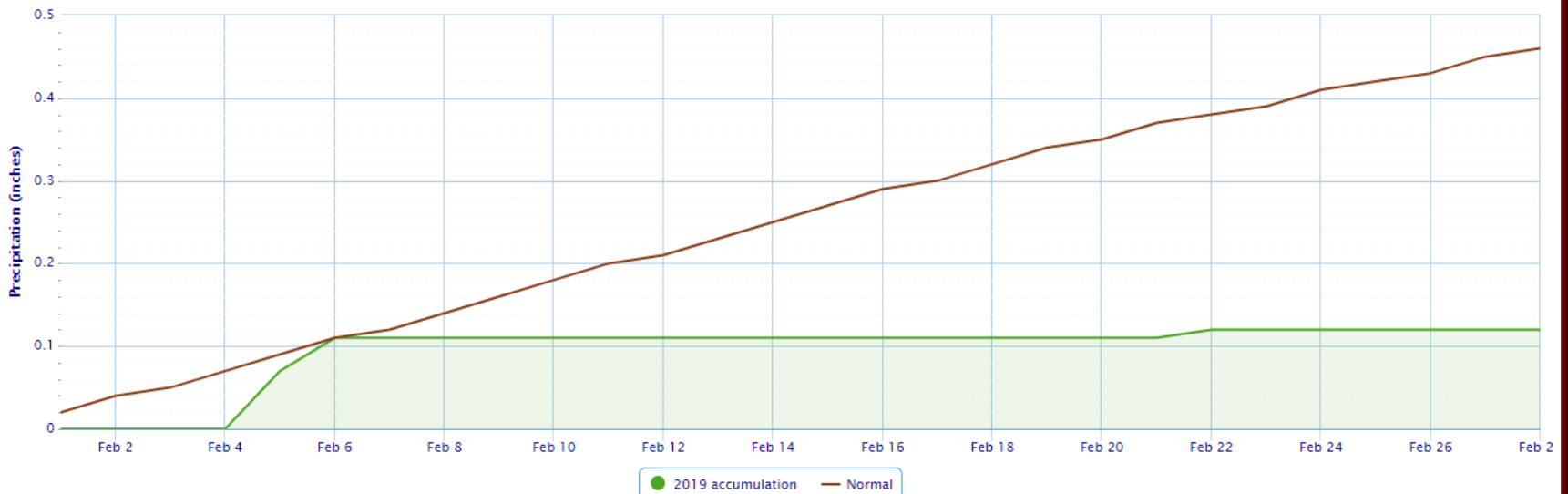
Daily Temperature Data – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2019-03-01; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2019-03-01. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Accumulated Precipitation – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

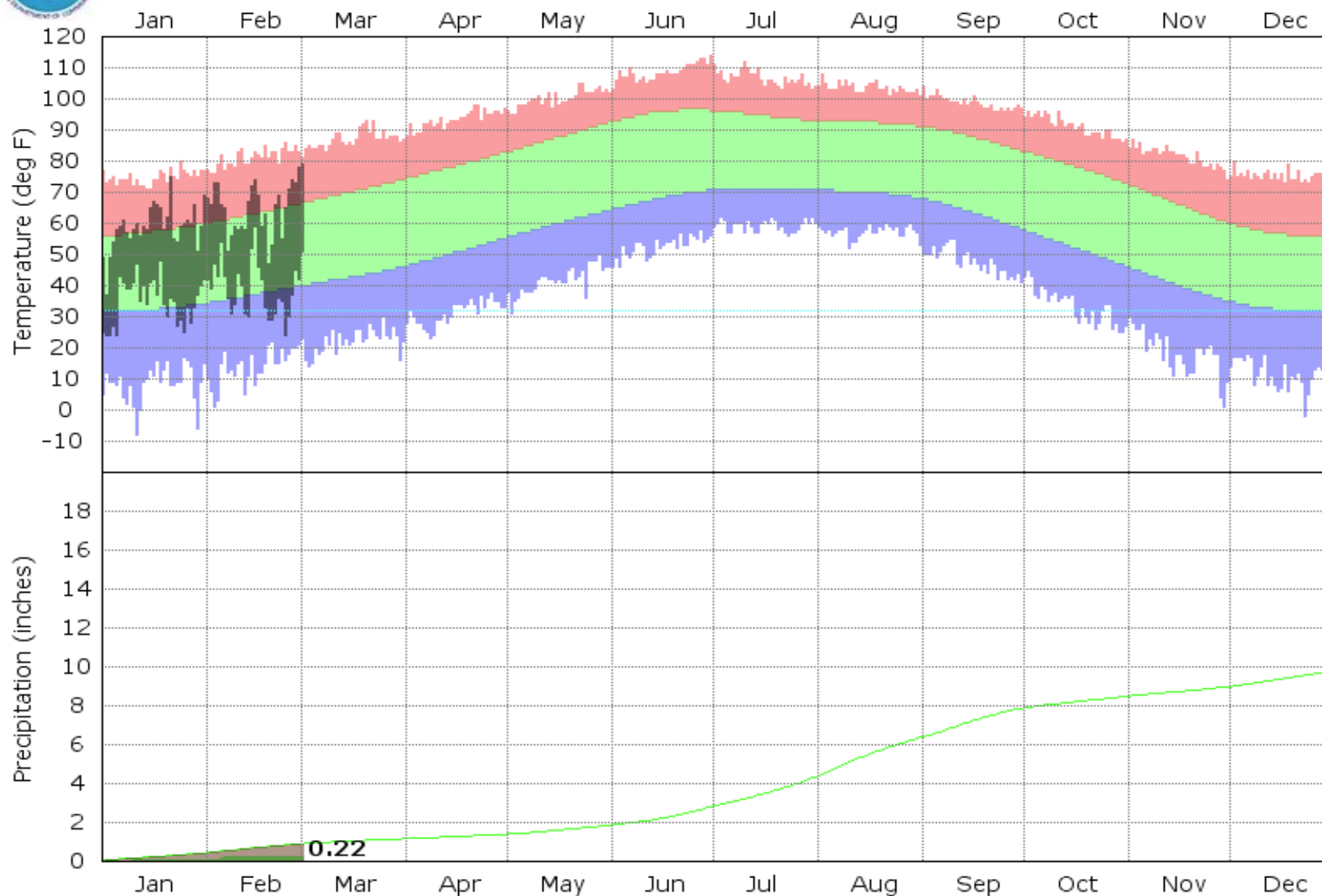
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



2019 year-to-date temperature and precipitation data El Paso

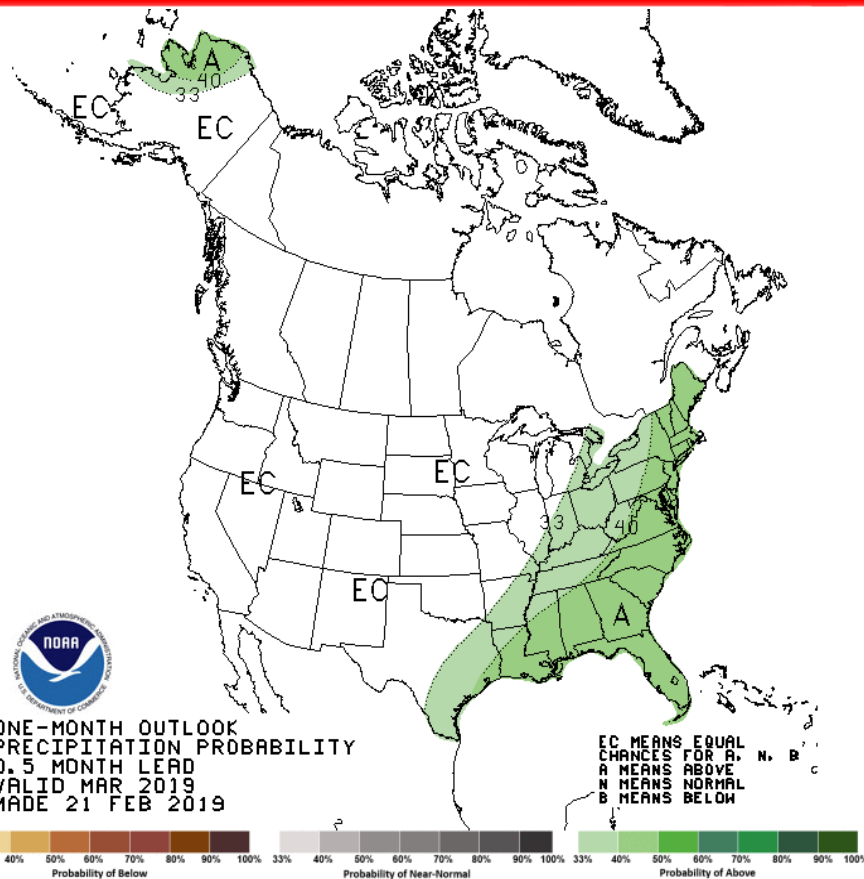


El Paso TX - 2019

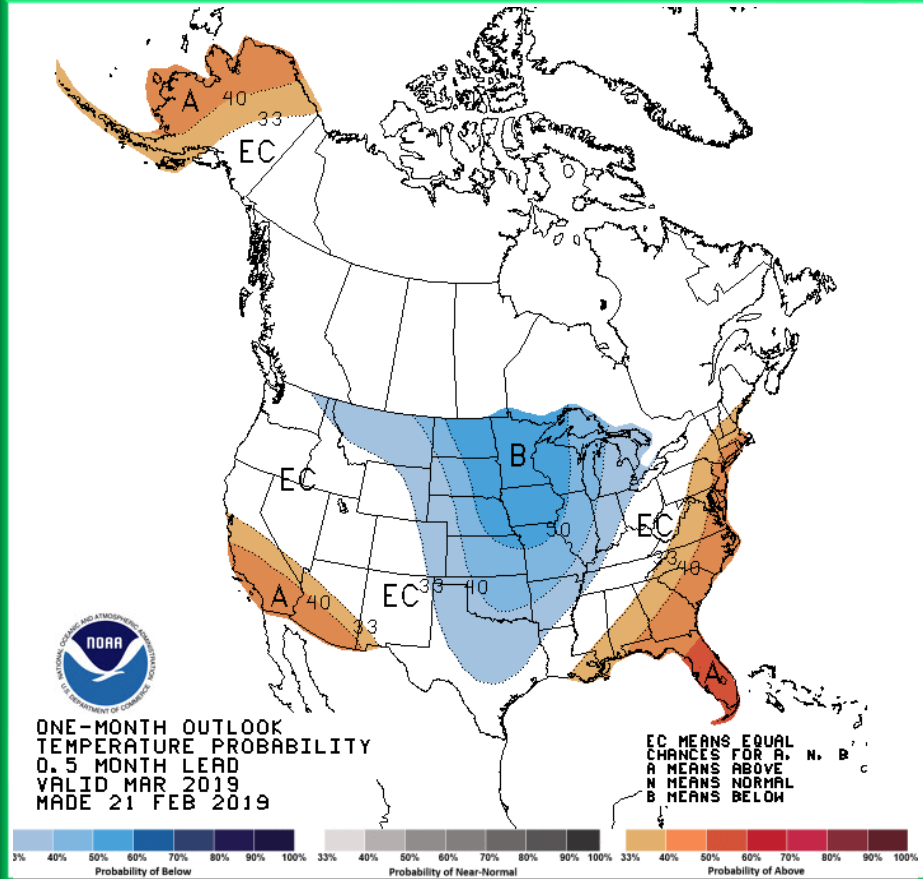


Temperature and precipitation outlook for March 2019

Temperature

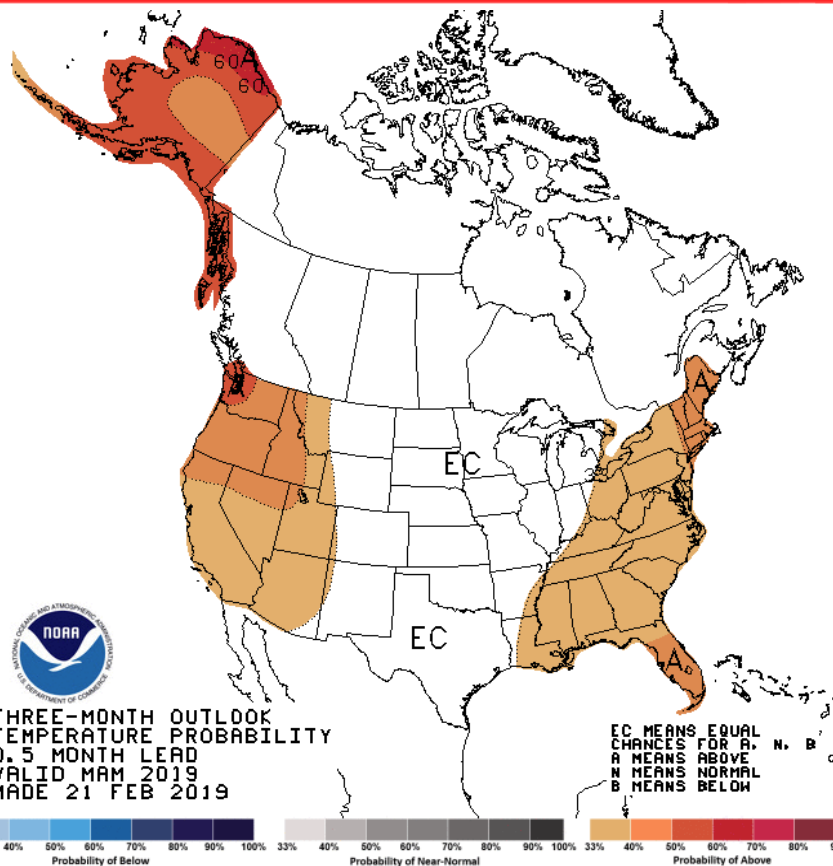


Precipitation

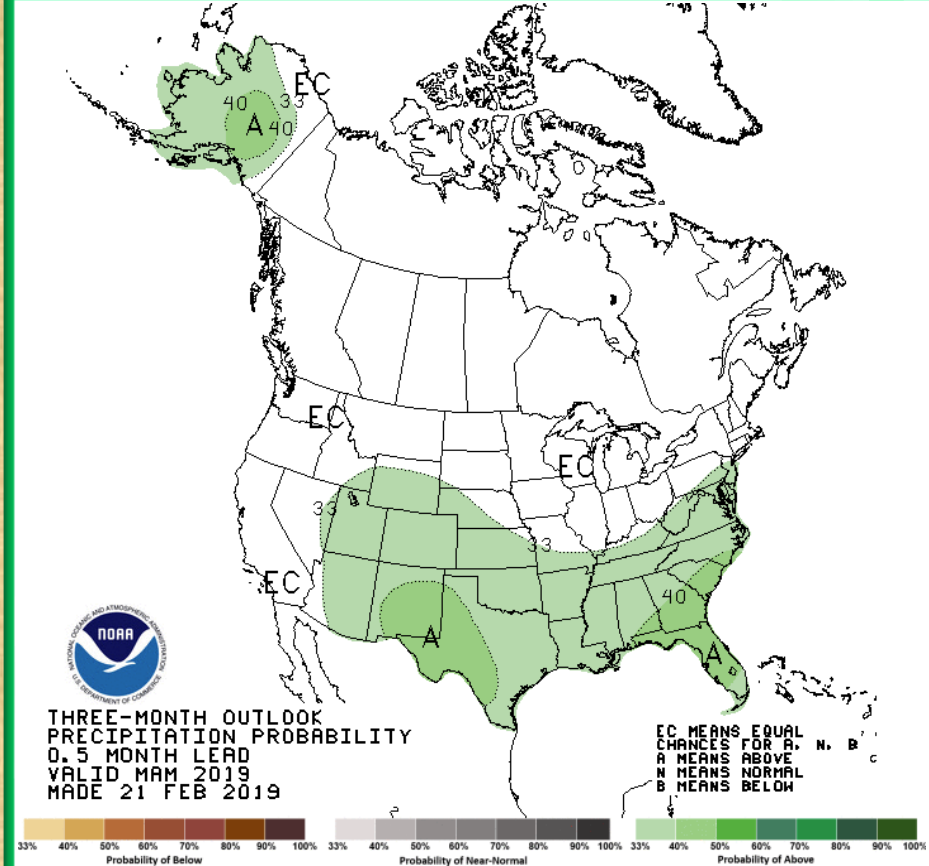


Temperature and precipitation outlook For March-May 2019

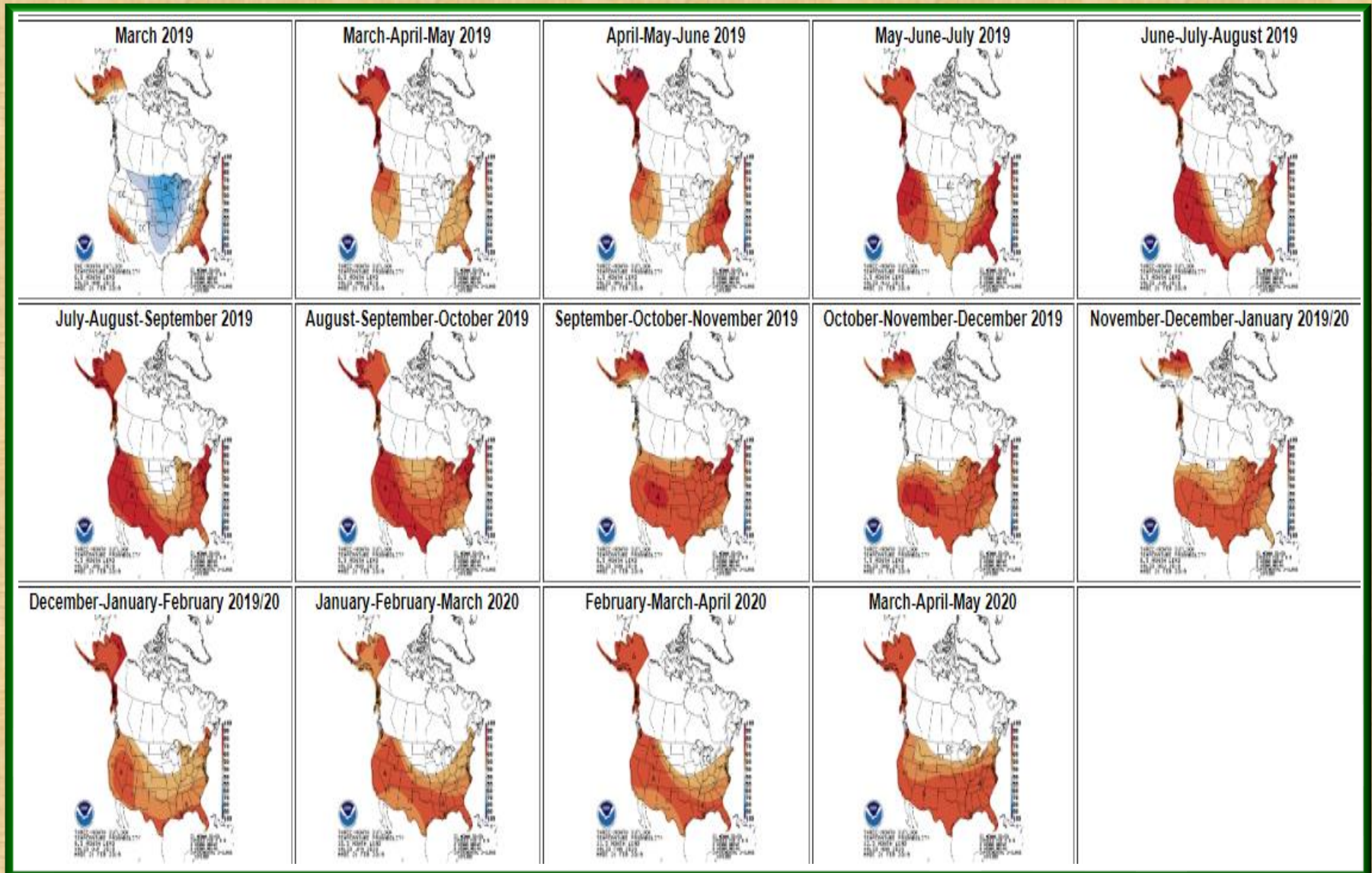
Temperature



Precipitation

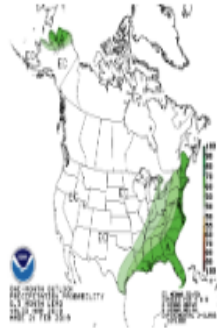


Temperature Outlook Through May 2020

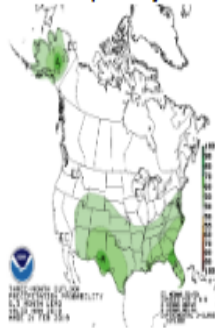


Precipitation Outlook Through May 2020

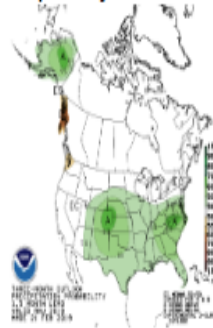
March 2019



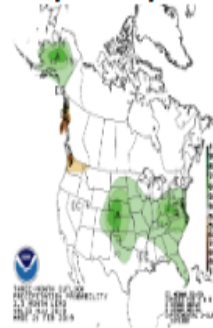
March-April-May 2019



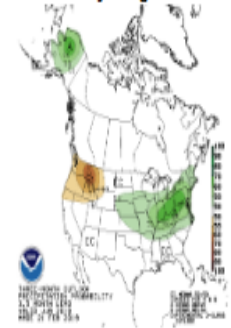
April-May-June 2019



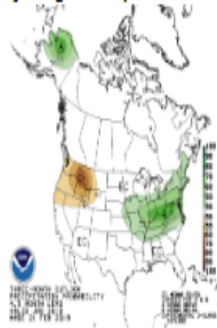
May-June-July 2019



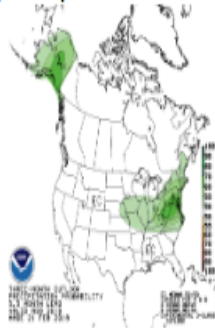
June-July-August 2019



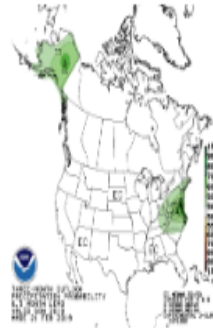
July-August-September 2019



August-September-October 2019



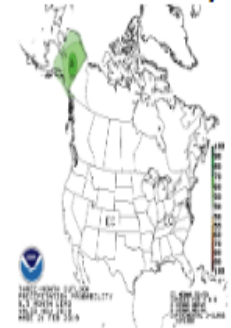
September-October-November 2019



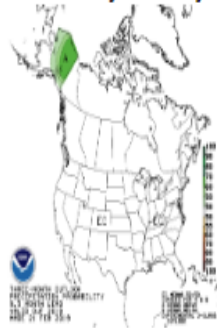
October-November-December 2019



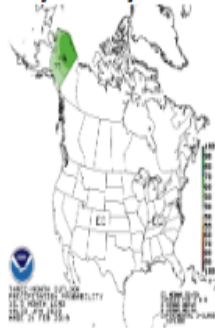
November-December-January 2019/20



December-January-February 2019/20



January-February-March 2020



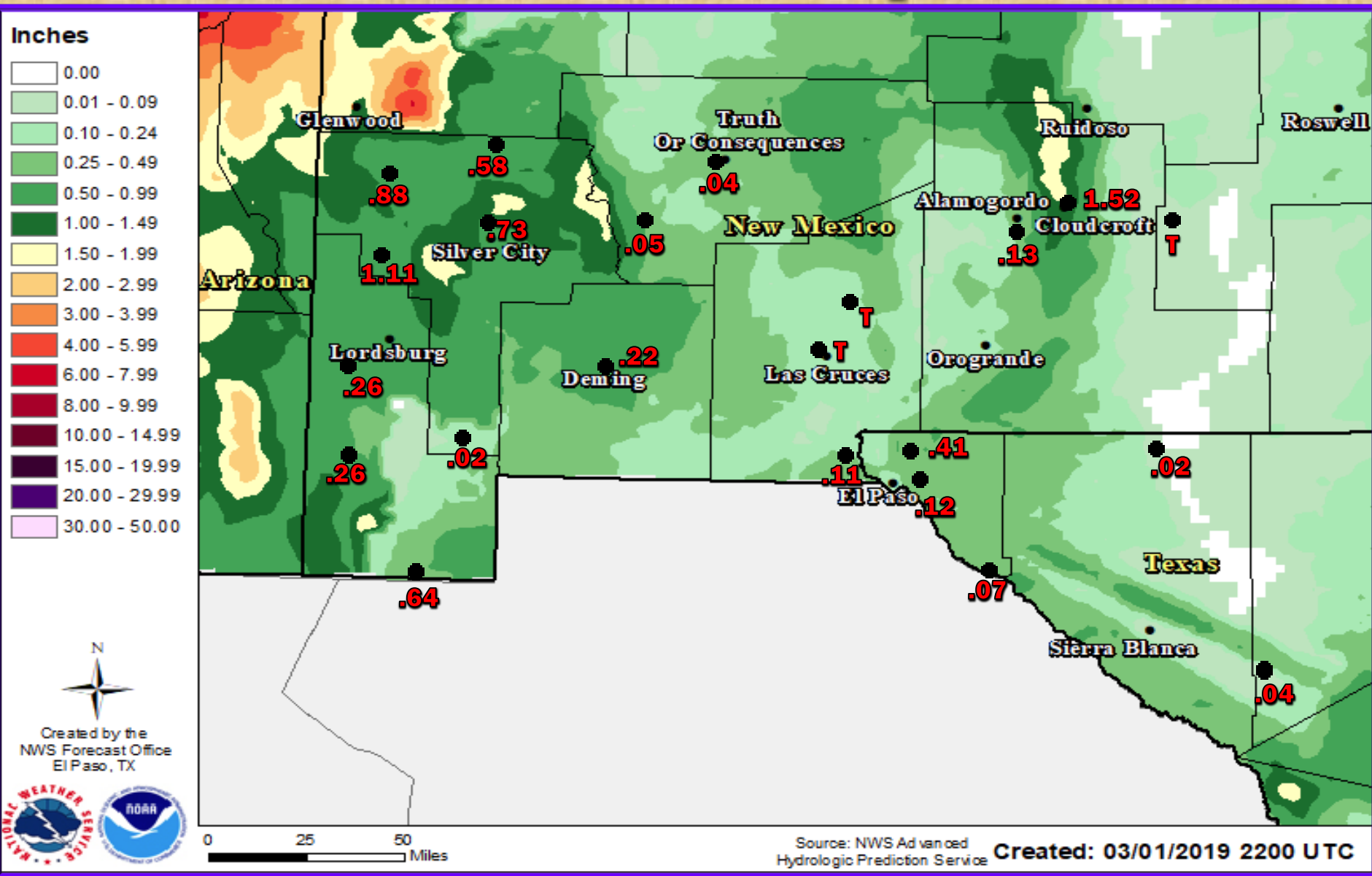
February-March-April 2020



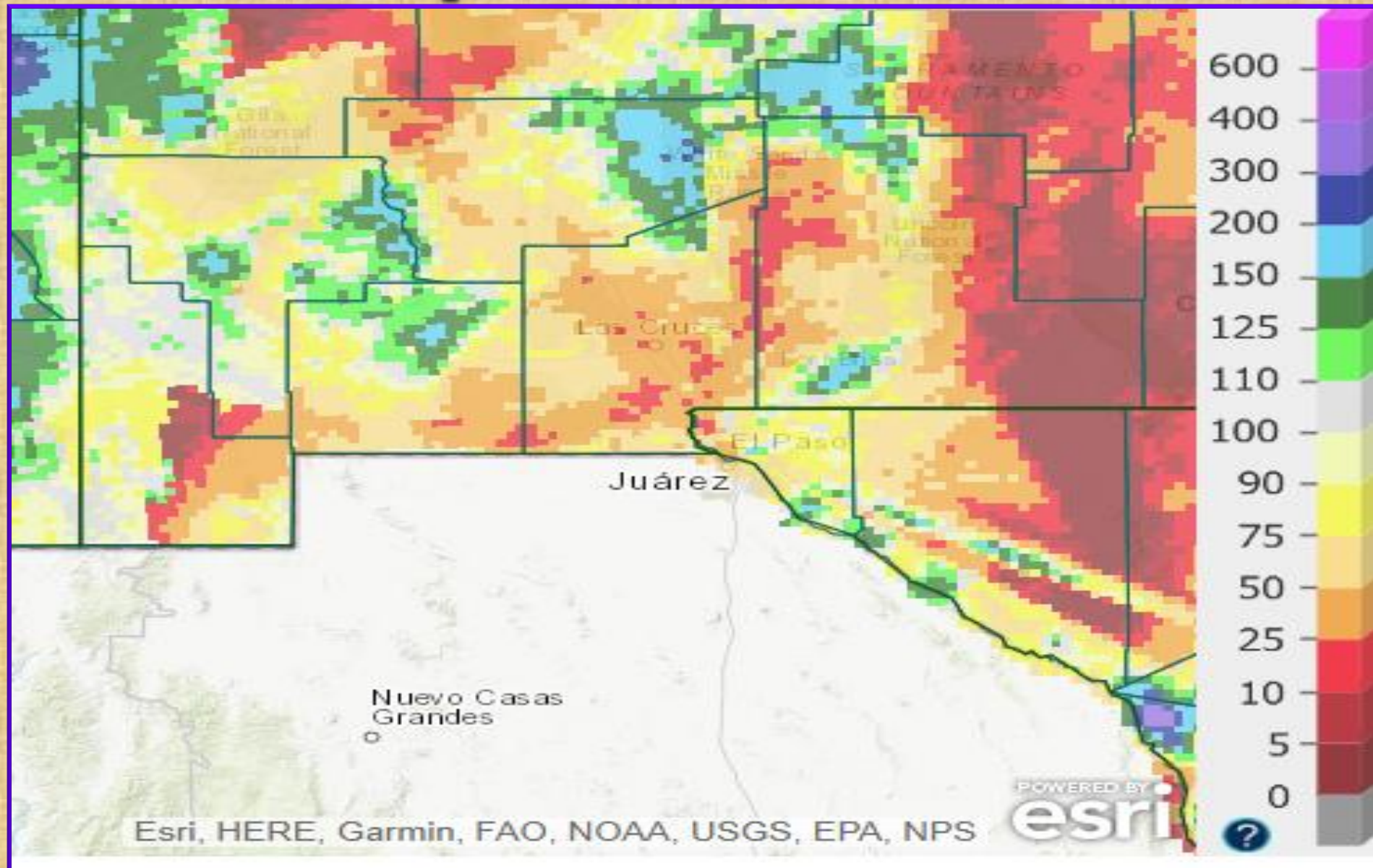
March-April-May 2020



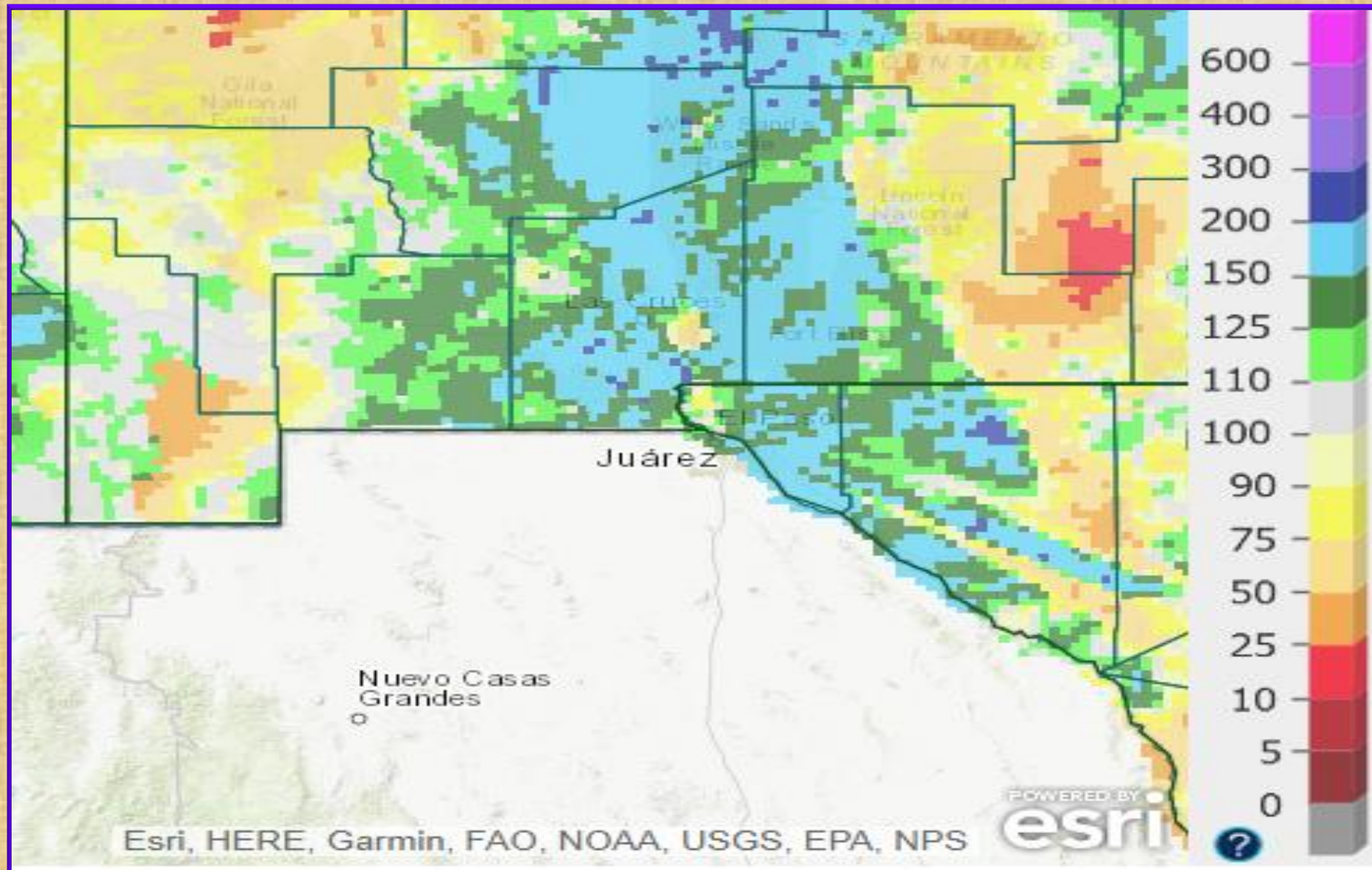
February 2019 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



February 2019 radar rainfall estimate percent of normal

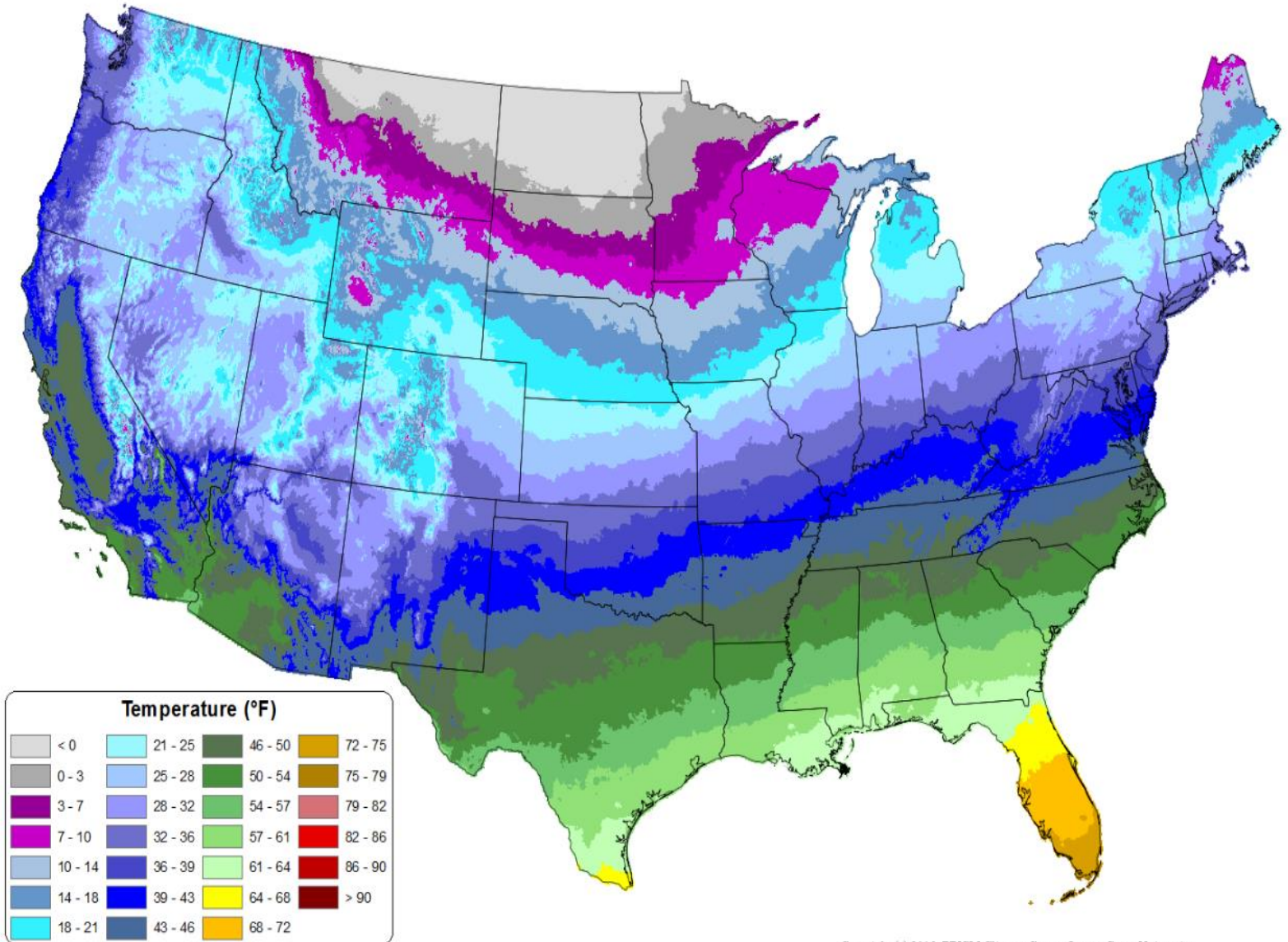


Radar rainfall estimate percent of normal for the Water Year (Oct 1 to Feb 28)



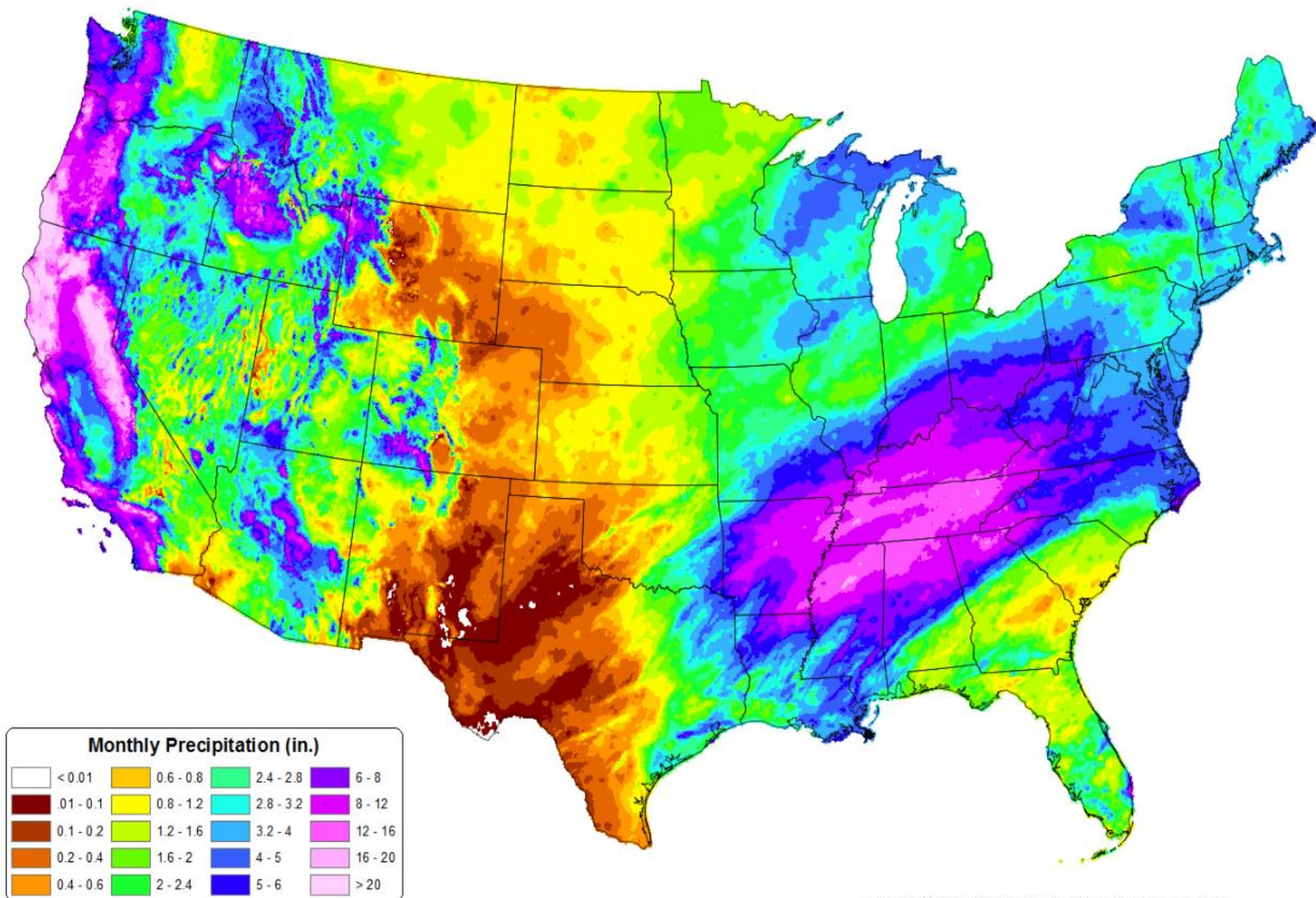
Average Daily Mean Temperature for February 2019

(Map created 02 Mar 2019)



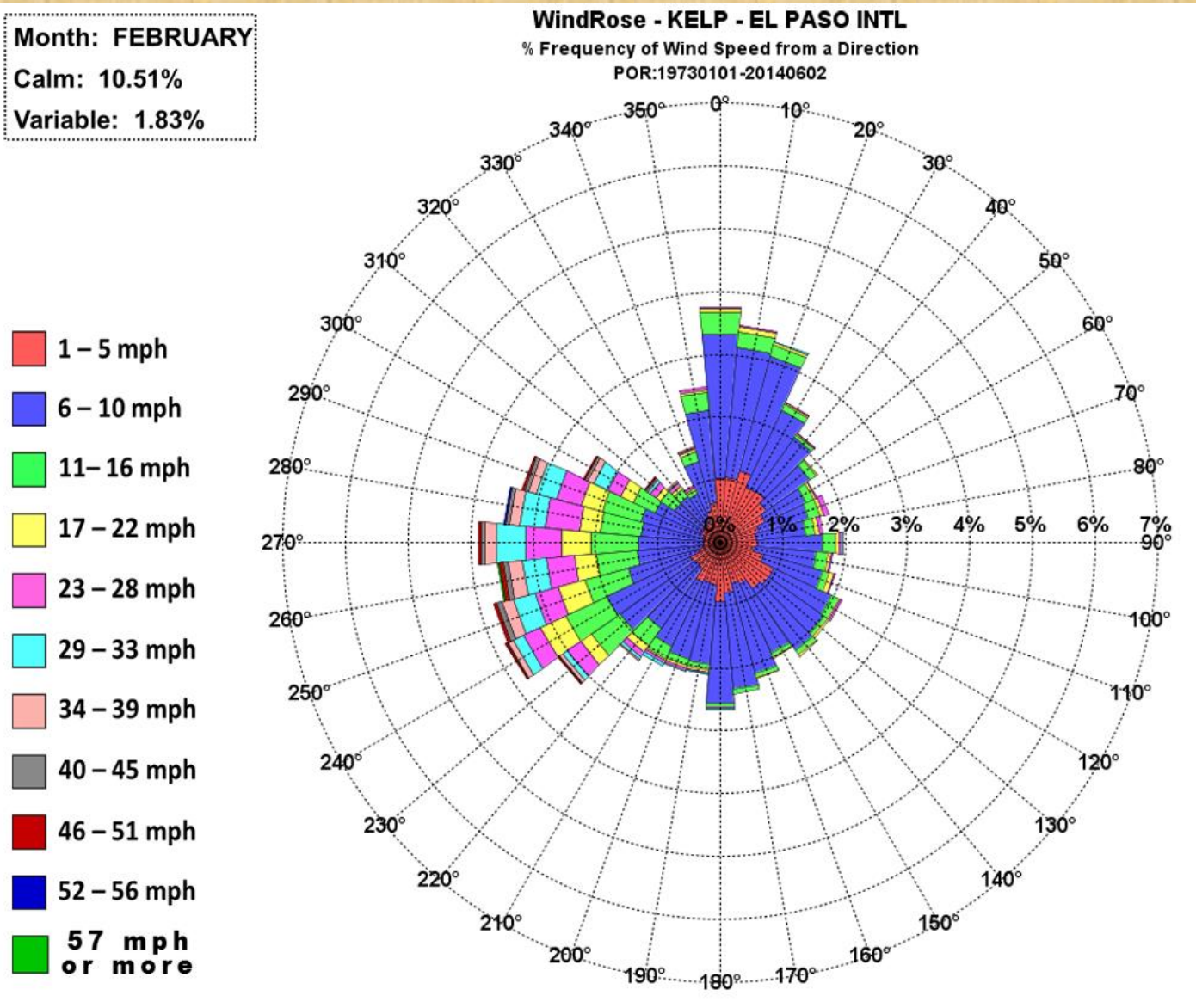
Total Precipitation for February 2019

(Map created 02 Mar 2019)



Special Features

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



Selected weather reports February 2019


Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
FEB 6 140 PM	HACHITA 15SW-HIDALGO	PEAK WIND 77 MPH
FEB 6 105 PM	SAN AGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 71 MPH
FEB 6 333 PM	EL PASO 13NE-EL PASO	PEAK WIND 68 MPH
FEB 6 1140 AM	SPACEPORT AMERICA-SIERRA	PEAK WIND 67 MPH
FEB 6 241 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	PEAK WIND 57 MPH
FEB 6 355 PM	EL PASO AIRPORT-EL PASO	PEAK WIND 53 MPH
FEB 6 240 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	PEAK WIND 52 MPH
FEB 6 305 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	PEAK WIND 51 MPH
FEB 6 304 PM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 51 MPH
FEB 6 316 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 50 MPH
FEB 6 153 PM	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	PEAK WIND 49 MPH
FEB 6 1049 AM	MAYHILL 3NW-OTERO	PEAK WIND 48 MPH
FEB 6 200 PM	CHAPARRAL 2E-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 47 MPH
FEB 6 155 PM	GRANT CO AIRPORT-GRANT	PEAK WIND 46 MPH
FEB 6 1226 PM	DEMING AIRPORT-LUNA	PEAK WIND 45 MPH

Selected weather reports February 2019

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
FEB 11 1230 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 76 MPH
FEB 11 953 AM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 58 MPH
FEB 11 1235 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 55 MPH
FEB 11 1237 PM	OROGRANDE 28NE-OTERO	PEAK WIND 52 MPH
FEB 11 829 AM	MAYHILL 3NW-OTERO	PEAK WIND 50 MPH
FEB 11 1258 PM	MONTANA VISTA-EL PASO	PEAK WIND 50 MPH
FEB 11 1029 AM	RADIUM SPRINGS-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 48 MPH
FEB 11 158 PM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 47 MPH
FEB 11 204 PM	DEMING MUNI AIRPORT-LUNA	PEAK WIND 47 MPH
FEB 11 142 PM	EL PASO AIRPORT-EL PASO	PEAK WIND 47 MPH
FEB 11 1241 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	PEAK WIND 46 MPH
FEB 11 1007 AM	WINSTON-SIERRA	PEAK WIND 46 MPH
FEB 11 126 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 44 MPH
FEB 11 1215 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	PEAK WIND 44 MPH

Selected weather reports February 2019

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
FEB 16 405 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 79 MPH
FEB 16 423 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 63 MPH
FEB 16 303 PM	EL PASO AIRPORT-EL PASO	PEAK WIND 55 MPH
FEB 16 205 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	PEAK WIND 54 MPH
FEB 16 328 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	PEAK WIND 54 MPH
FEB 16 302 PM	CLOUDCROFT-OTERO	PEAK WIND 52 MPH
FEB 16 241 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	PEAK WIND 49 MPH
FEB 16 312 PM	DEMING AIRPORT-LUNA	PEAK WIND 48 MPH
FEB 16 1155 AM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	PEAK WIND 48 MPH
FEB 16 335 PM	ALAMOGORDO-OTERO	PEAK WIND 47 MPH
FEB 16 244 PM	HORIZON CITY-EL PASO	PEAK WIND 45 MPH
FEB 16 340 PM	HACHITA 15SW-HIDALGO	PEAK WIND 45 MPH



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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Local forecast by "City, ST" or ZIP code

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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 >](#)

NWS El Paso

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Weather Forecast Office

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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

[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 >](#)

Monthly Weather Digest

[Weather.gov > El Paso, TX > Monthly Weather Digest](#)

El Paso, TX
Weather Forecast Office


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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 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	



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.

**NWS DOPPLER RADAR
WATCHING THE MONSOON SKIES
OVER EL PASO 24/7**

