

March 2021 Weather Digest



March 2021 Weather Summary

March turned about to be fairly typical as far as temperatures go as mean temperatures around the area were very close to normal. Precipitation was a different matter, as the La Niña pattern continues to keep the area dry and in serious drought condition. The majority of the Borderland was at 50% or less of normal. Central Dona Ana County and much of the Black Range did manage to get near to slightly above normal. Despite the lack of precipitation, the mountains still received a fair amount of snow. Cloudcroft was still able to get about 70% of their average snowfall.

March winds came in as they usually do. Strong Pacific storms moved through on the 13th/14th, which also produced very heavy snow over Colorado and northern New Mexico, and again on the 21st/22nd with more strong winds and blowing dust.

Snowpack fared decent during March, remaining above last year's curve and also a bit above normal, but we really needed a significant above normal snow year to make up for last year and the past 10 years in general (excepting 2019's well above average snowfall).

March 2021 Weather Summary, cont'd

Looking ahead to April, normal high temperatures at El Paso start the month at 75 degrees and end it at 83 degrees. Hours of daylight increase from 12 hours and 31 minutes on the 1st, to 13 hours and 24 minutes on the 30th. April is in the middle of our driest stretch of weather, so once again it will be very difficult to break the drought hold on our area. Of lunar interest, our April full moon occurs on the 26th. This full moon is also known as the Pink Moon, and will be the first of two super moons this year.

Mar 13 Blowing Dust El Paso



Mar 13 Blowing Dust El Paso



Mar 13 Storms Lordsburg



Mar 15 Dust Anthony



Mar 15 Dust El Paso



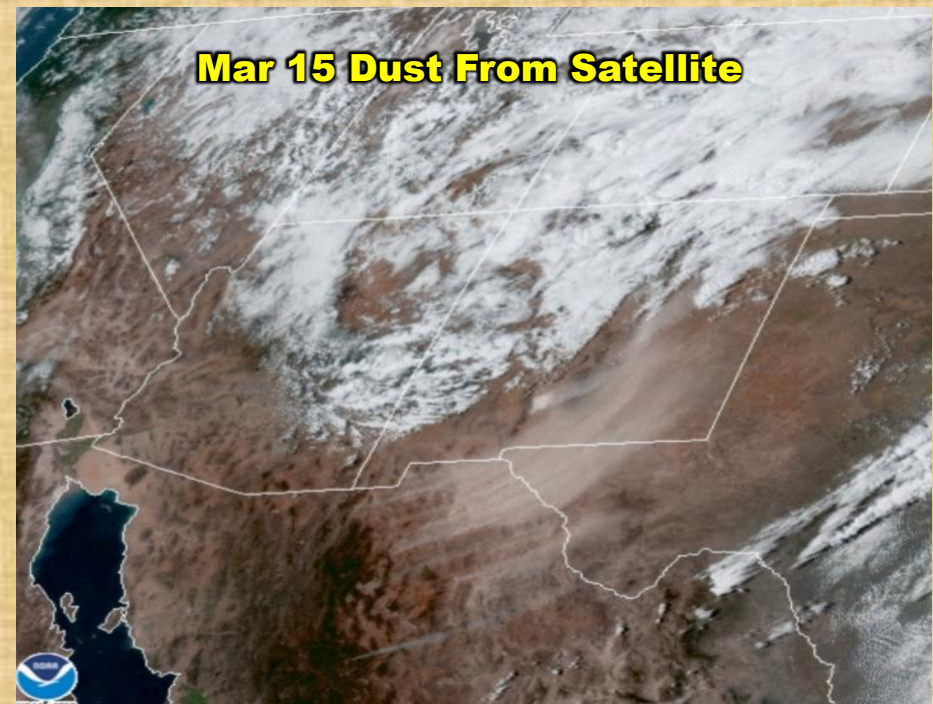
Mar 15 Dust El Paso



Mar 15 Dust Santa Teresa



Mar 15 Dust From Satellite



Mar 15 Wind Damage El Paso



Mar 15 Wind Damage El Paso



Mar 15 Wind Damage El Paso



Mar 22 Wind Damage El Paso



Mar 24 Snow in the Mountains

Lake Mescalero Dam

Cloudcroft

Silver City - Mountain View

NWS El Paso, TX



VILLAGE OF
CLOUDCROFT
NEW MEXICO
9,000 feet above stress level

Mar 22 Snow in Cloudcroft

© 2021, Cloudcroftwebcam.com

03/24/21 03:57:17 PM MDT

VILLAGE OF
CLOUDCROFT
NEW MEXICO
9,000 feet above stress level

Mar 22 Snow in Cloudcroft

Mar 22 Snow in Silver City



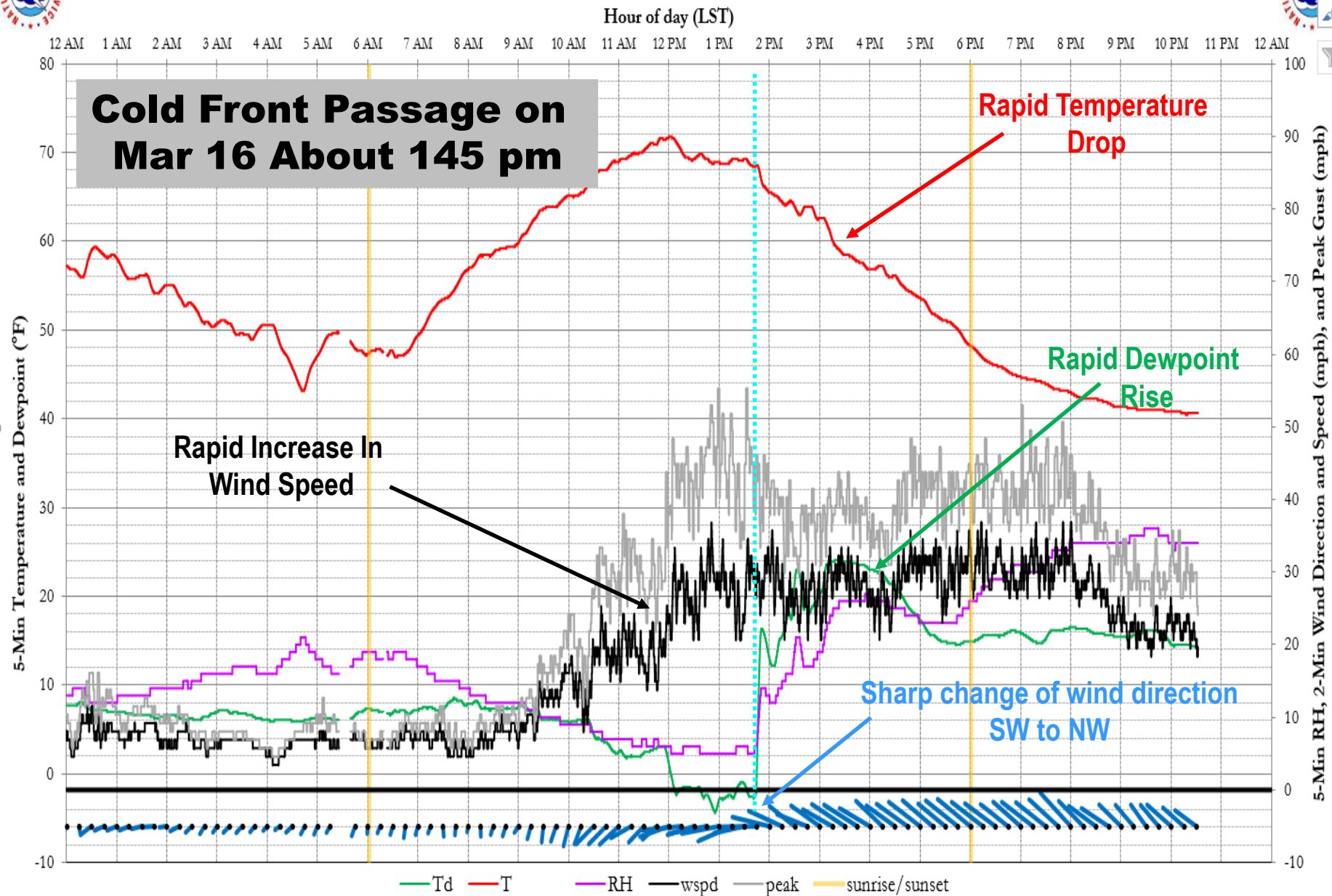
Joe Rogash (L) and Dave Novlan (R) retired



Lead forecaster Joe Rogash retired this month after 37 years of service with the government, including stints at WSMR, Memphis, Cheyenne, Norman (OK) and El Paso. Congratulations Joe, and good luck with the next chapter of your life.



WFO Santa Teresa, NM RSOIS Data (3/16/2021)



ENSO Alert System Status: La Niña Advisory

ENSO Alert System

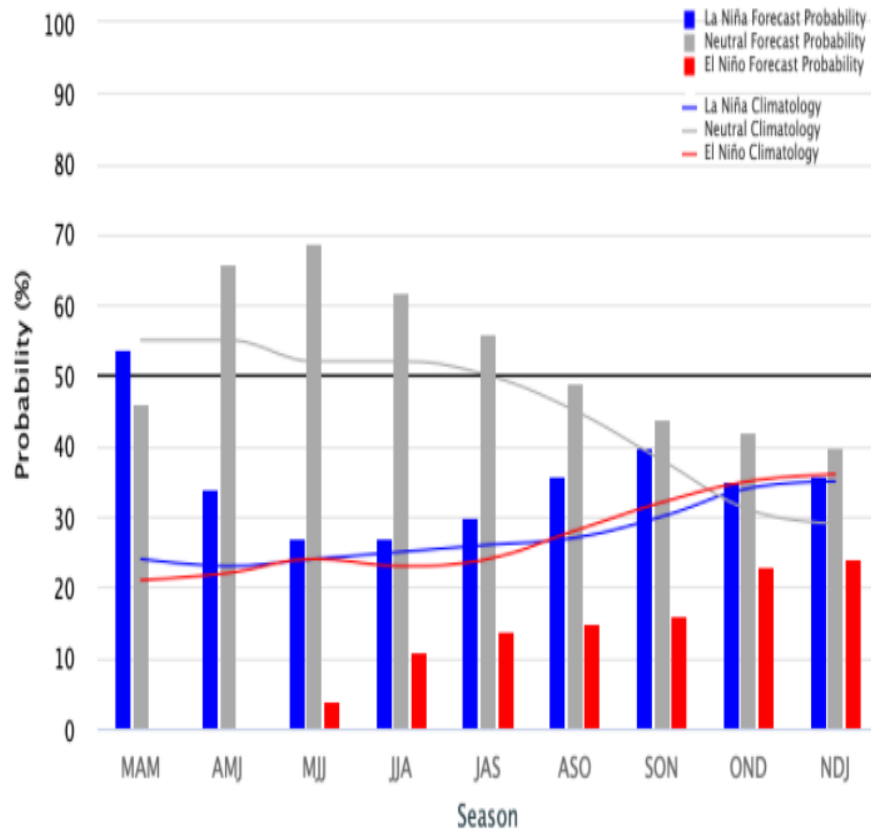
- **El Niño or La Niña Watch:** Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions in the next six months.
- **El Niño or La Niña Advisory:** Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.

ENSO Forecast

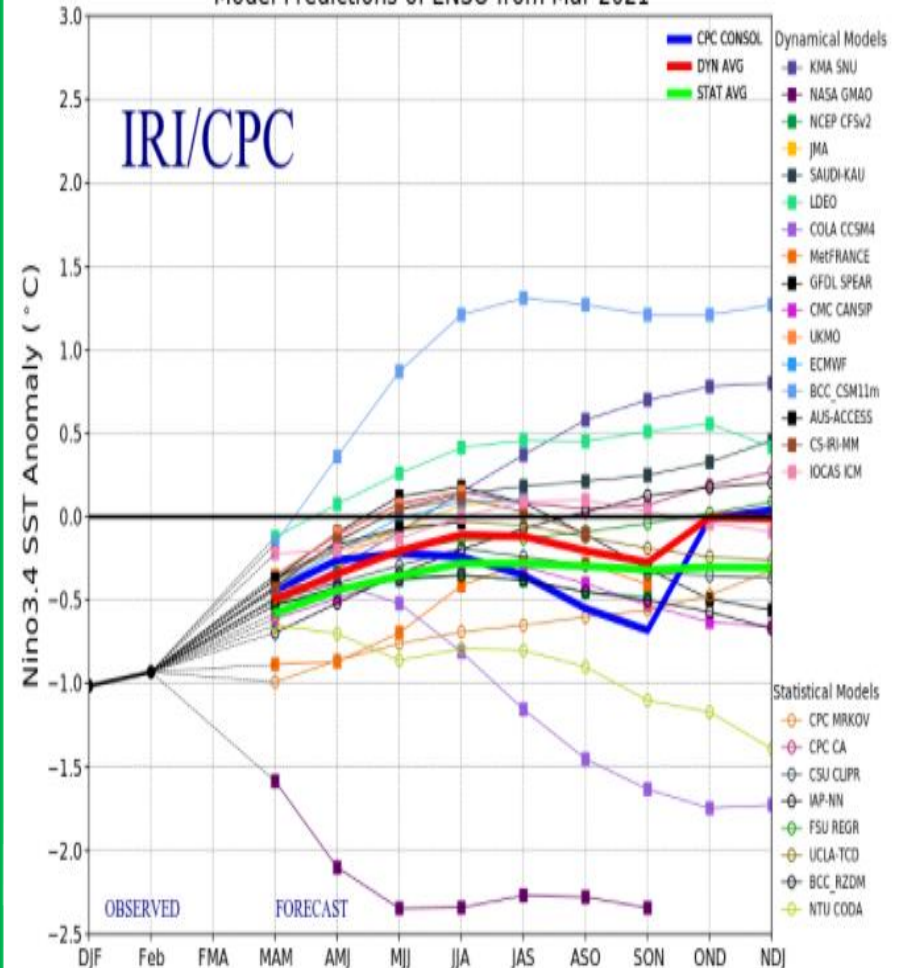
ENSO is now in a weak La Niña phase; likely to persist through early spring, then transition to neutral

Mid-March 2021 IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

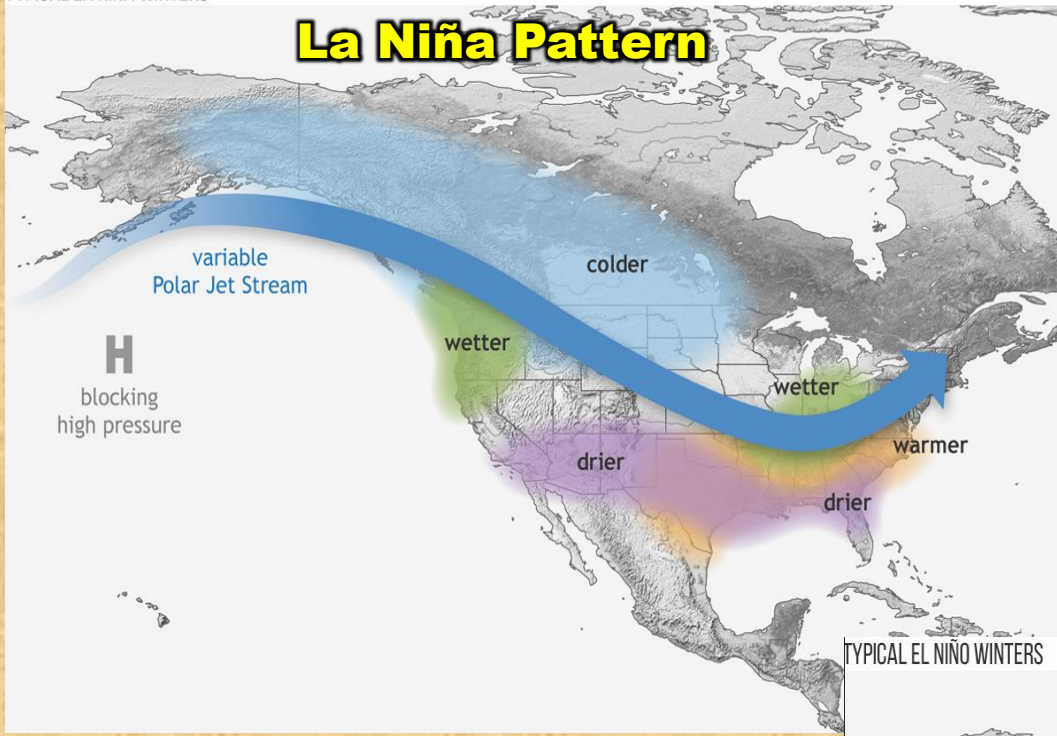
ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly
Neutral ENSO: -0.5°C to 0.5°C



Model Predictions of ENSO from Mar 2021



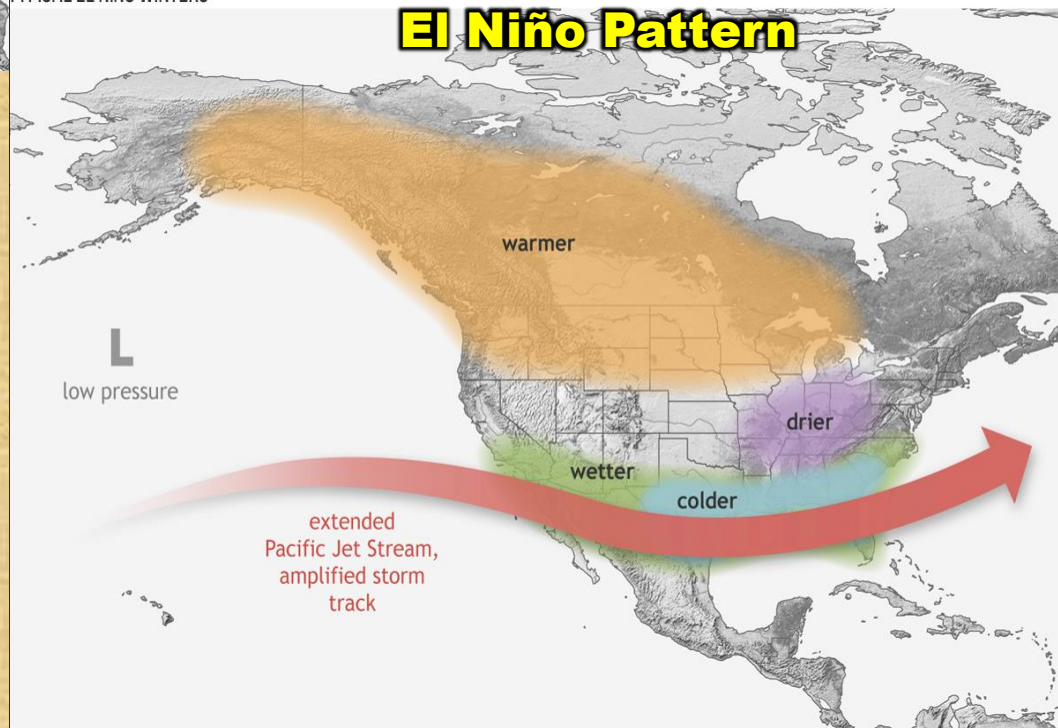
La Niña Pattern



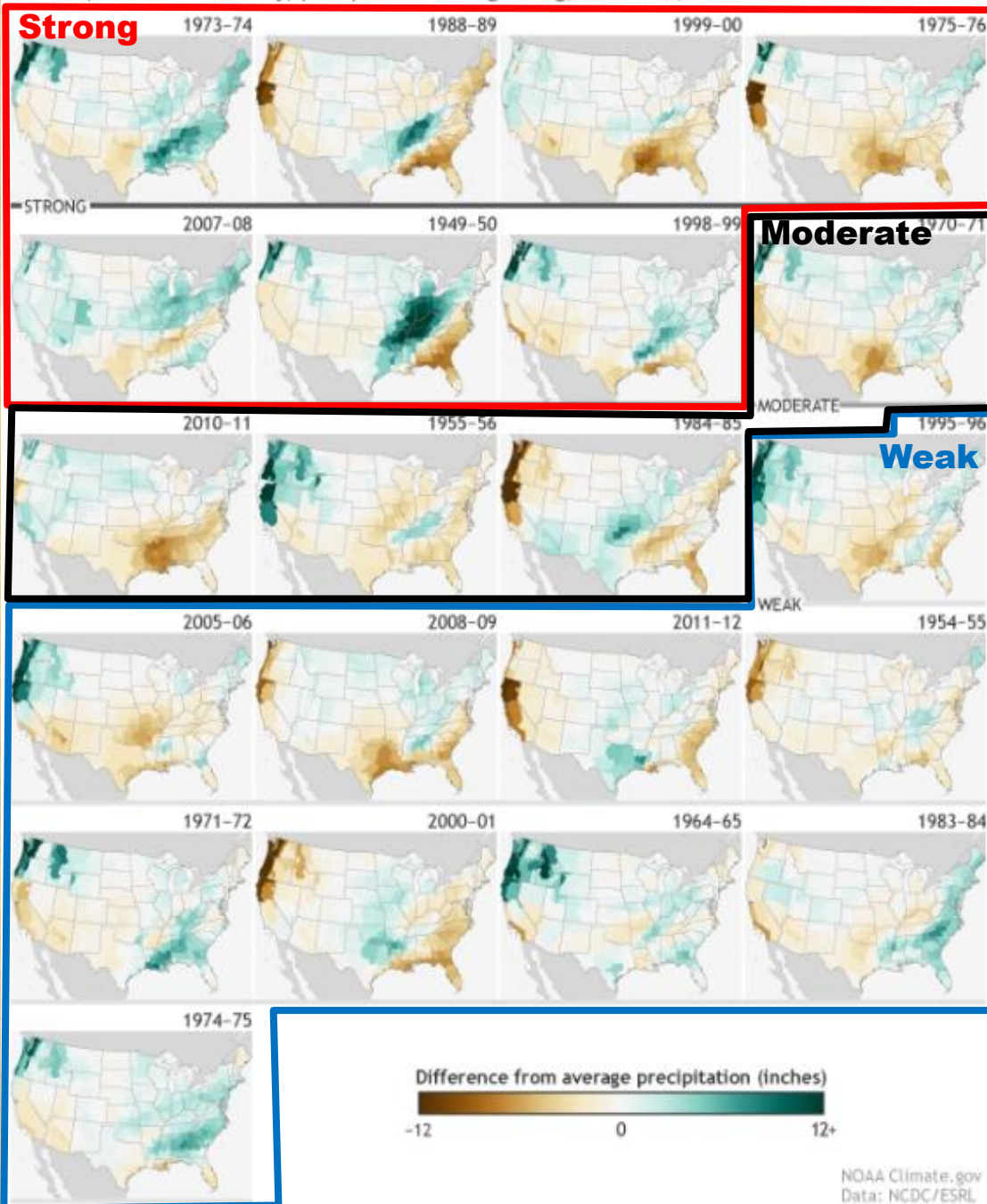
We are heading into a weak to moderate La Niña for much of this winter. As the pattern shows, a ridge of high pressure tends to build off the west coast of the U.S., blocking most of our Pacific winter storm systems. These storms tend to end up moving across the northern Plains and down to the southeastern 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.

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.

El Niño Pattern



Winter (December-February) precipitation during strong, moderate, and weak La Niñas since 1950

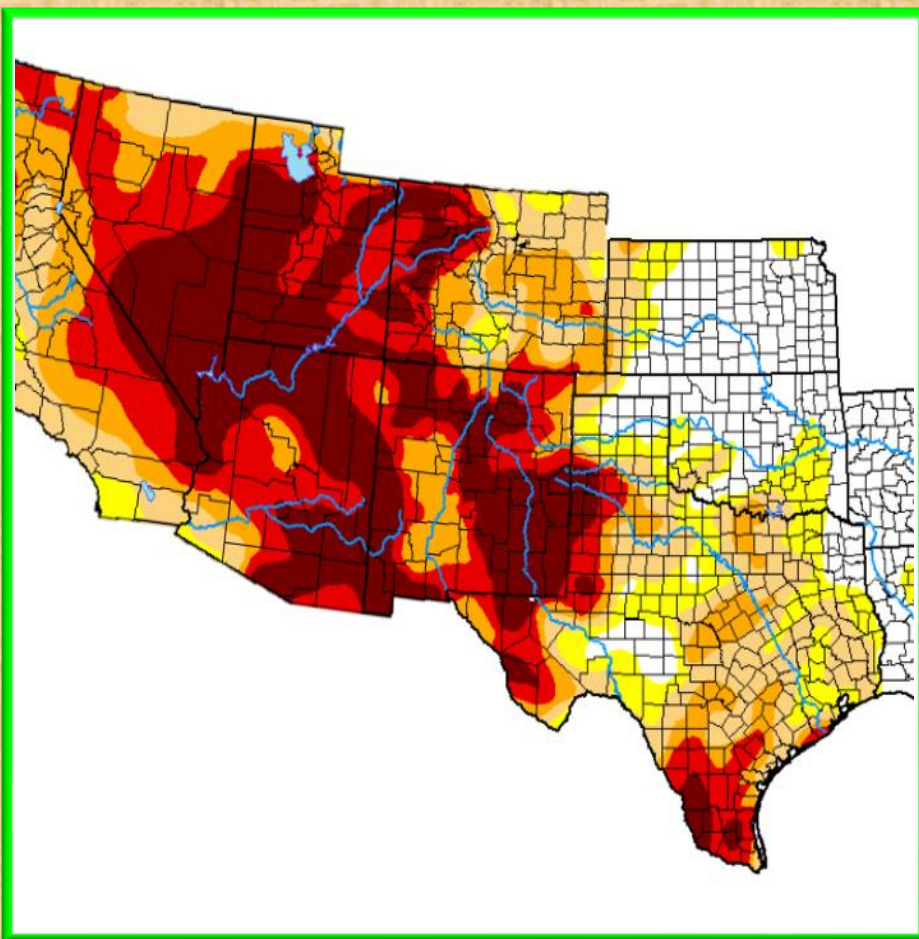


Examples of the numerous La Niña winters since 1950. These maps depict the departure from normal precipitation amounts for a winter.

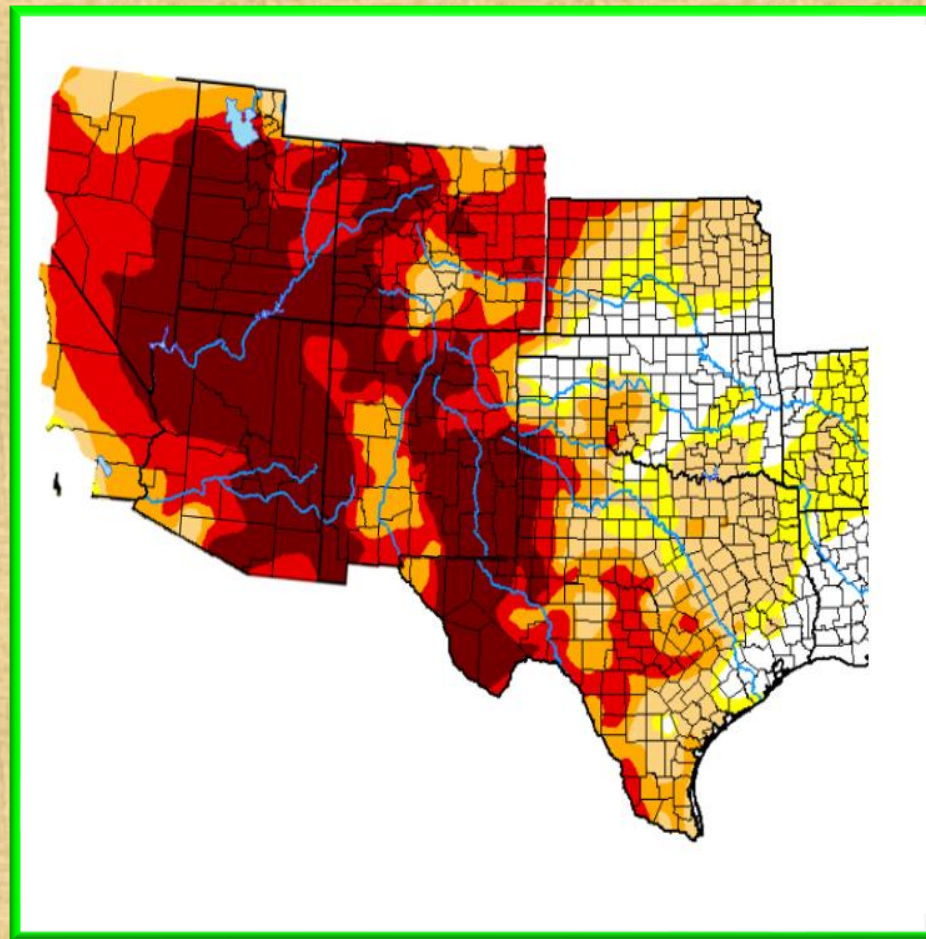
Current drought conditions and 3 month change

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

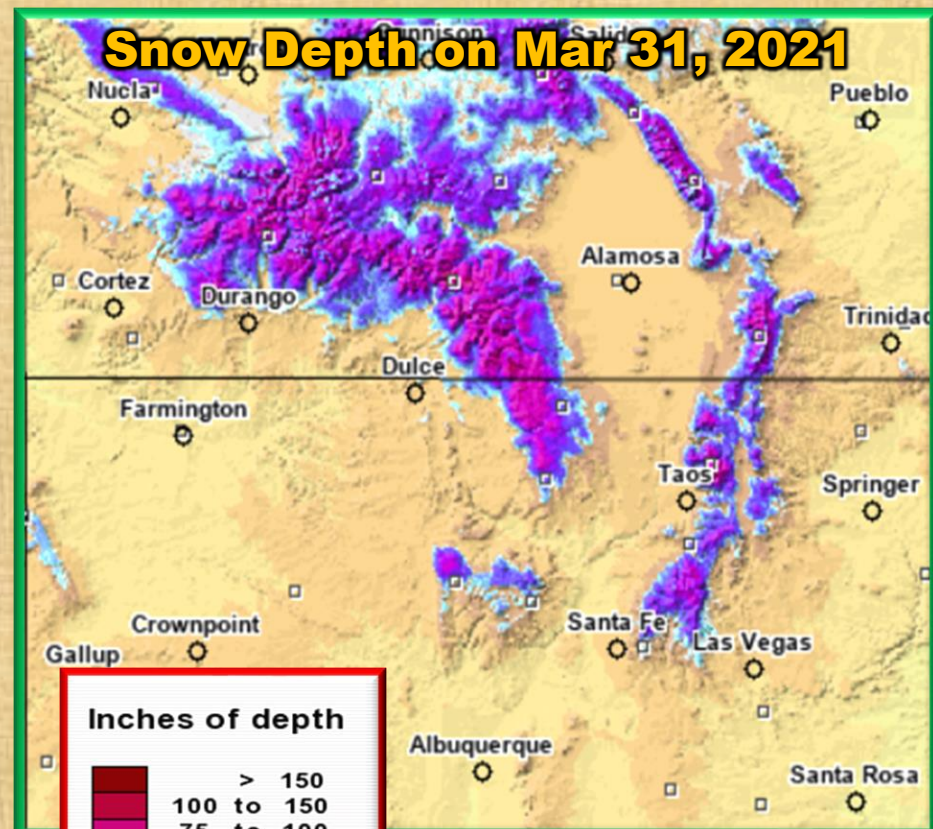
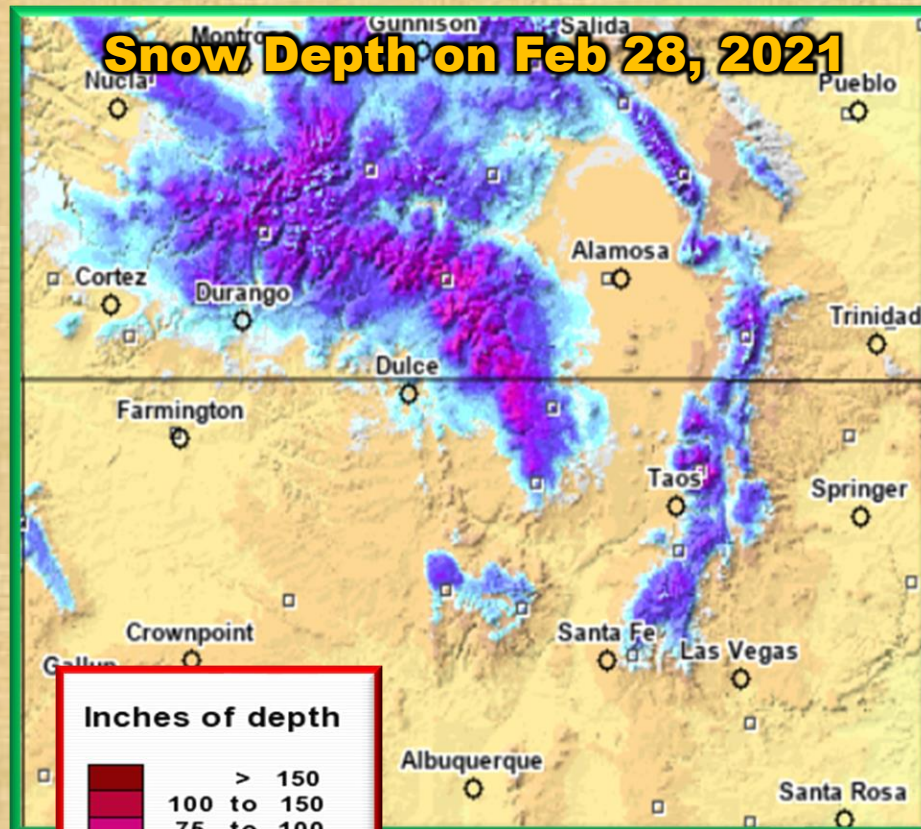
March 23, 2021



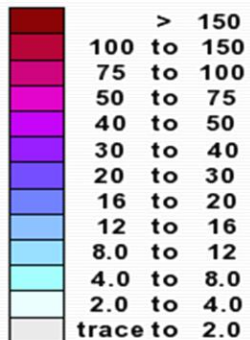
December 29, 2020



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

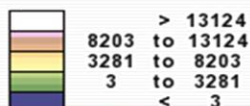


Inches of depth

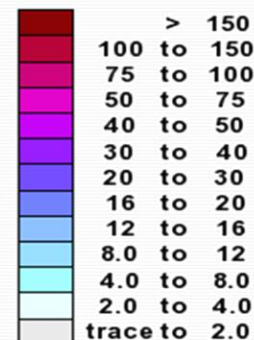


Not Estimated

Elevation in feet

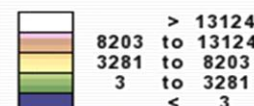


Inches of depth



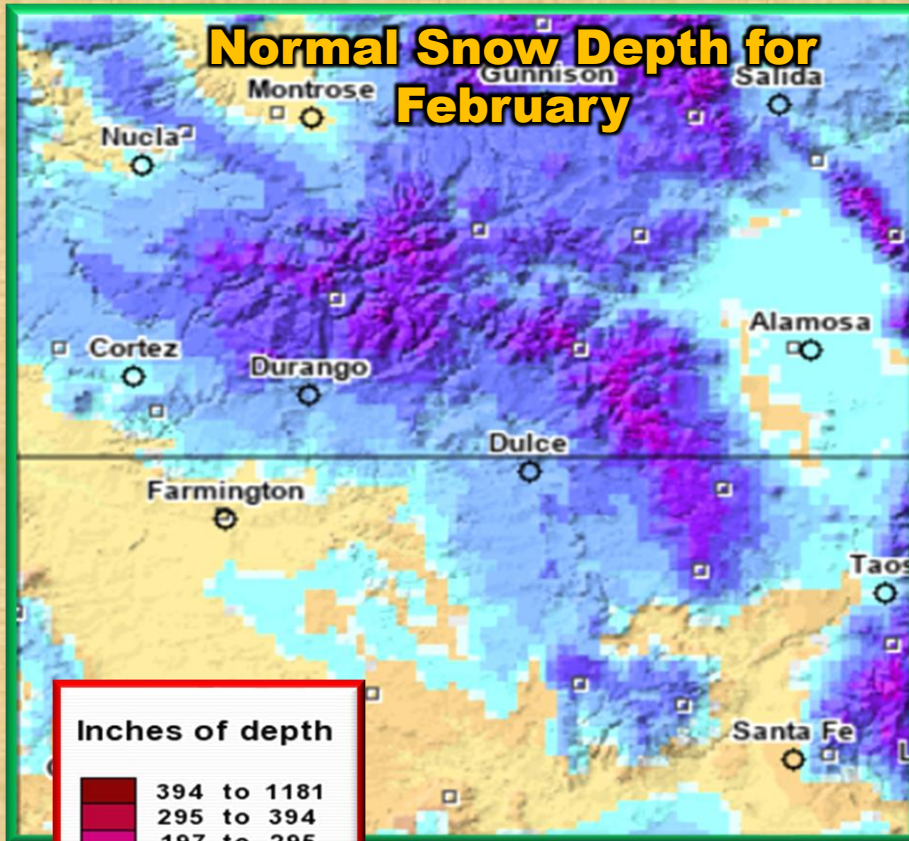
Not Estimated

Elevation in feet

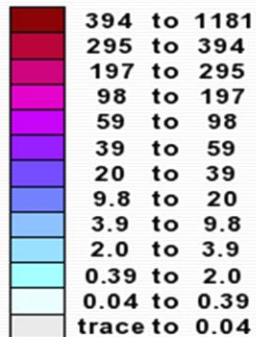


Snow Data Upper Rio Grand Basin as of March 31, 2021

Normal Snow Depth for February

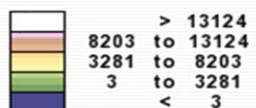


Inches of depth

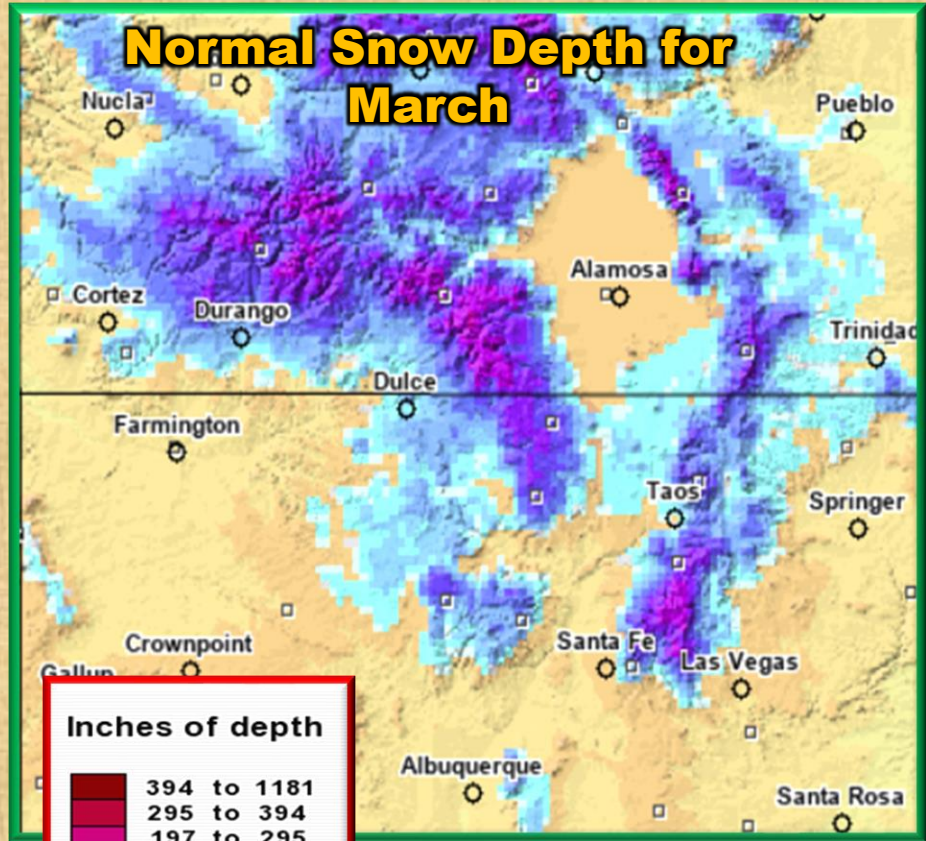


Not Estimated

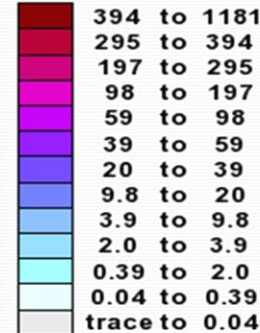
Elevation in feet



Normal Snow Depth for March

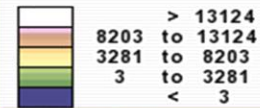


Inches of depth



Not Estimated

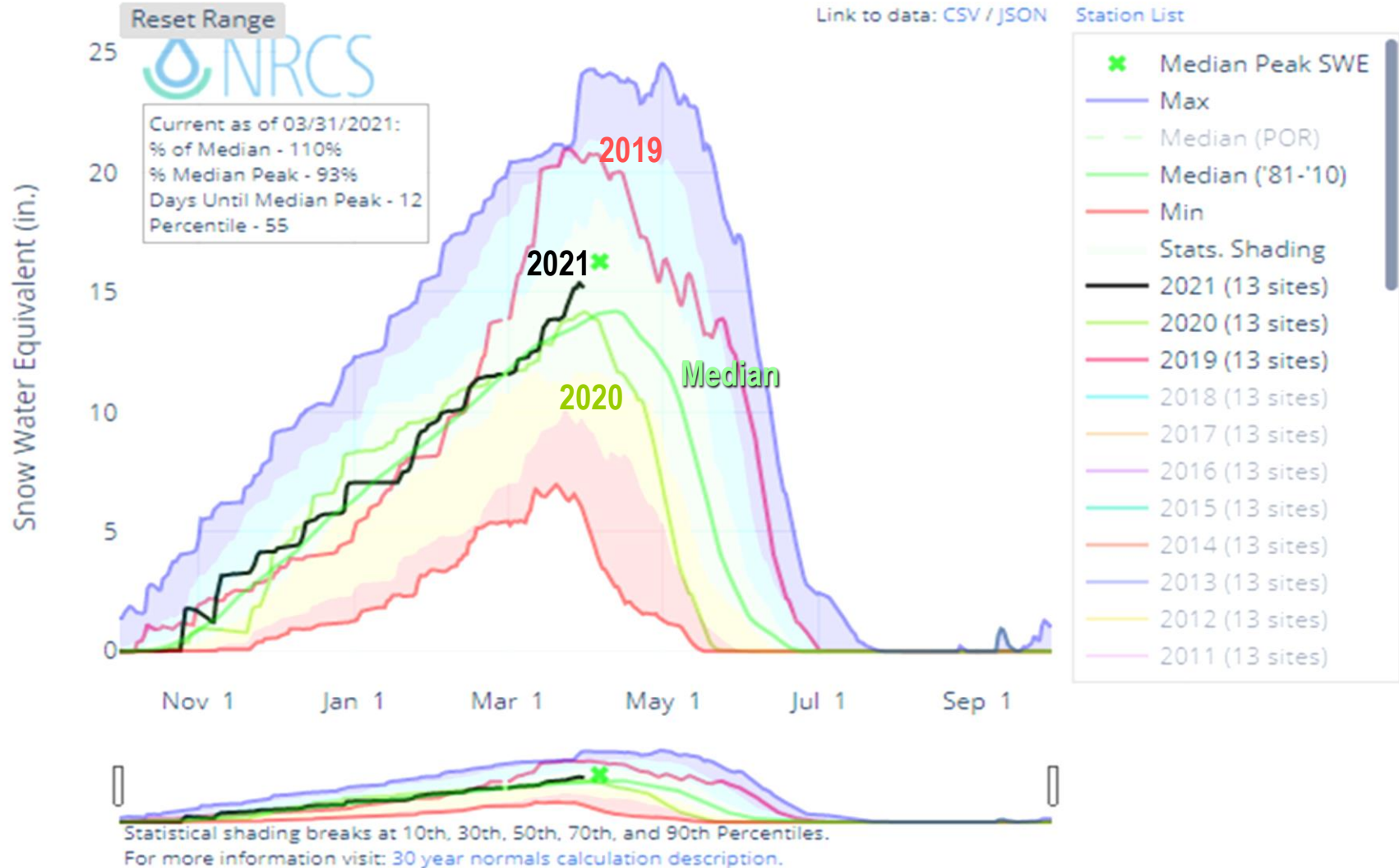
Elevation in feet



Snow Water Equivalent as of Mar 31, 2020

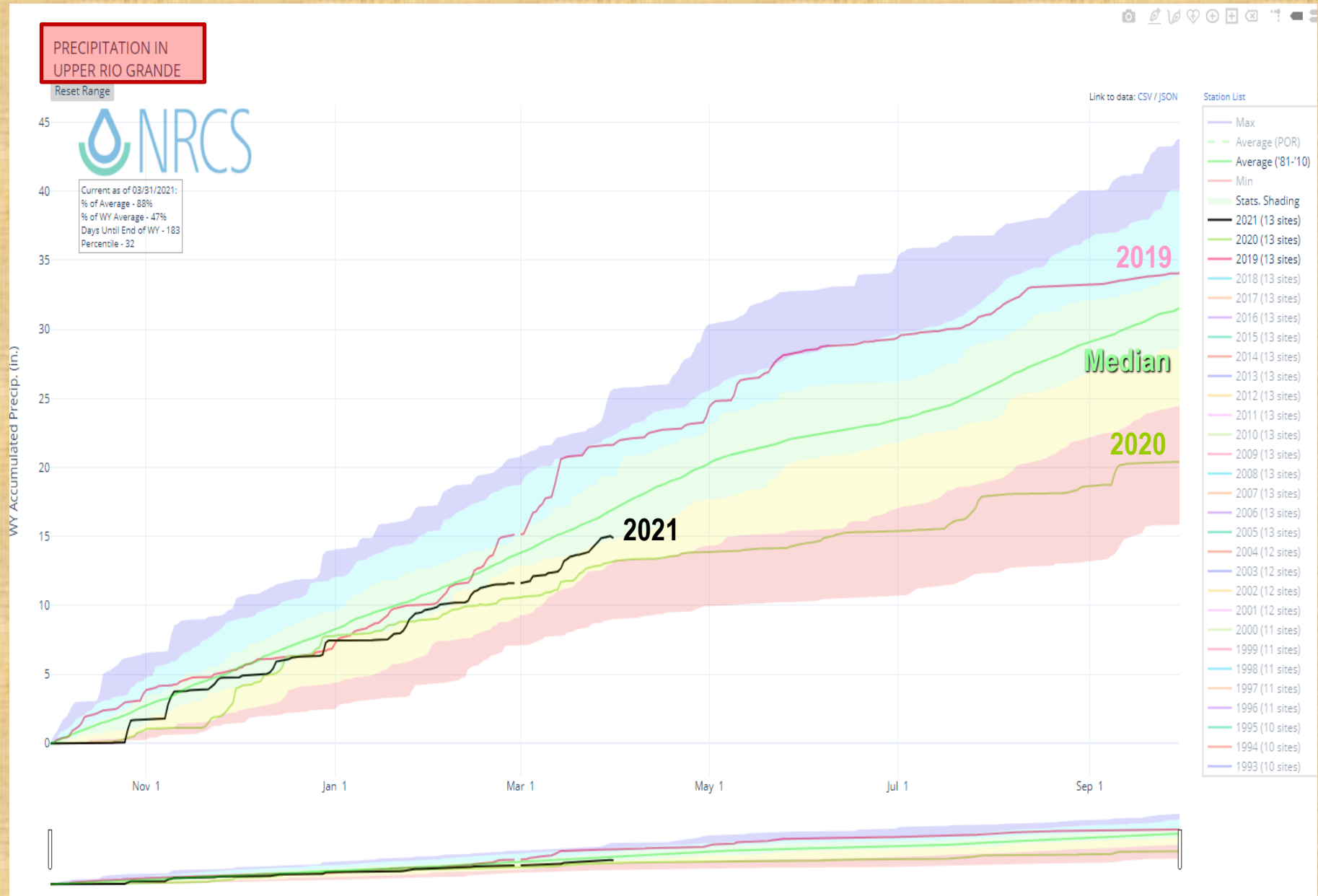
Compare to last few years and average values

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN UPPER RIO GRANDE



Precipitation for the Water Year Oct 1 - Mar 31, 2021

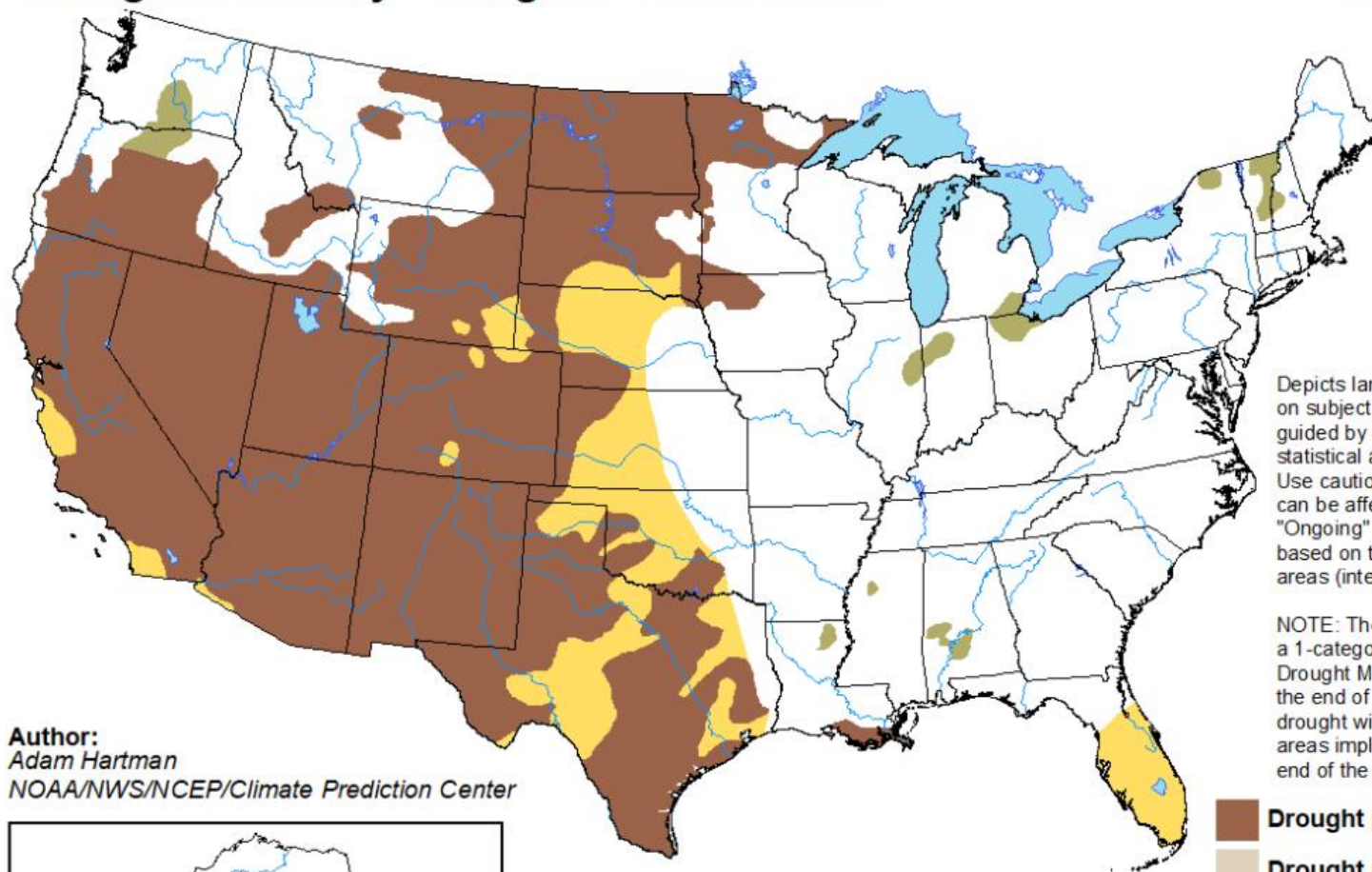
Compare to last few years and average values



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook




Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 18 - June 30, 2021
Released March 18

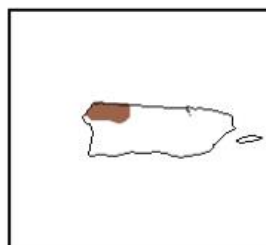
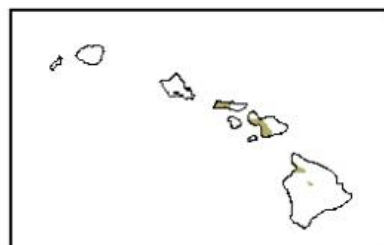


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to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

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

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



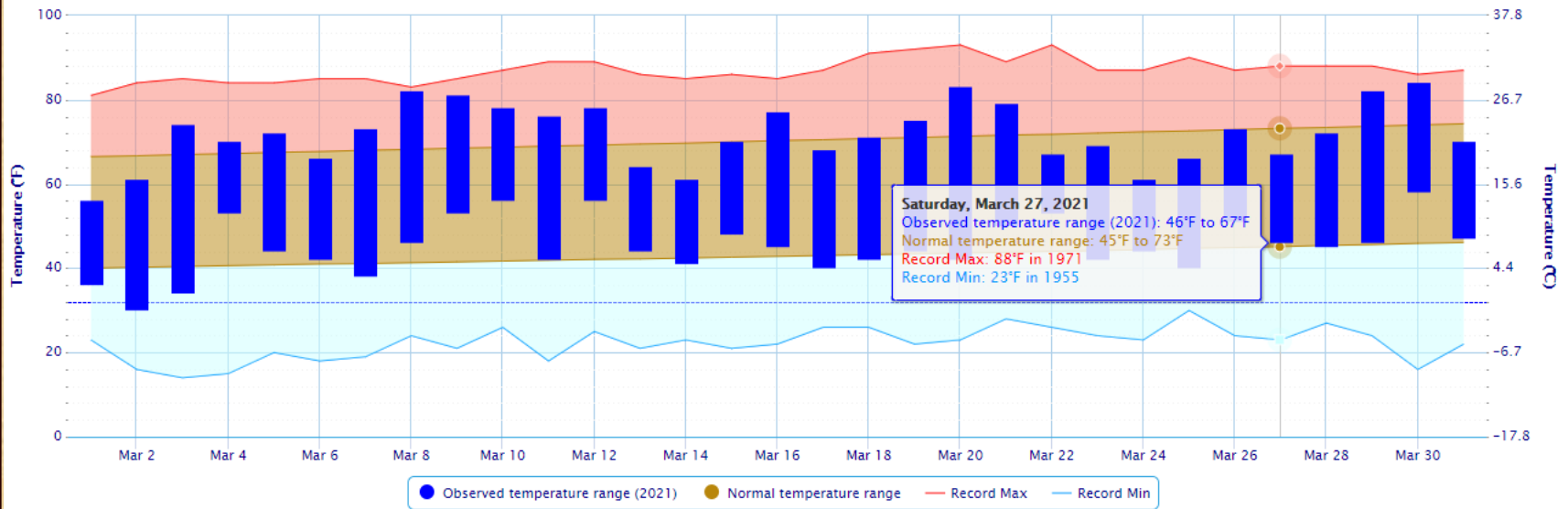
<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Temperature and precipitation data for March 2021 in El Paso

○ = record

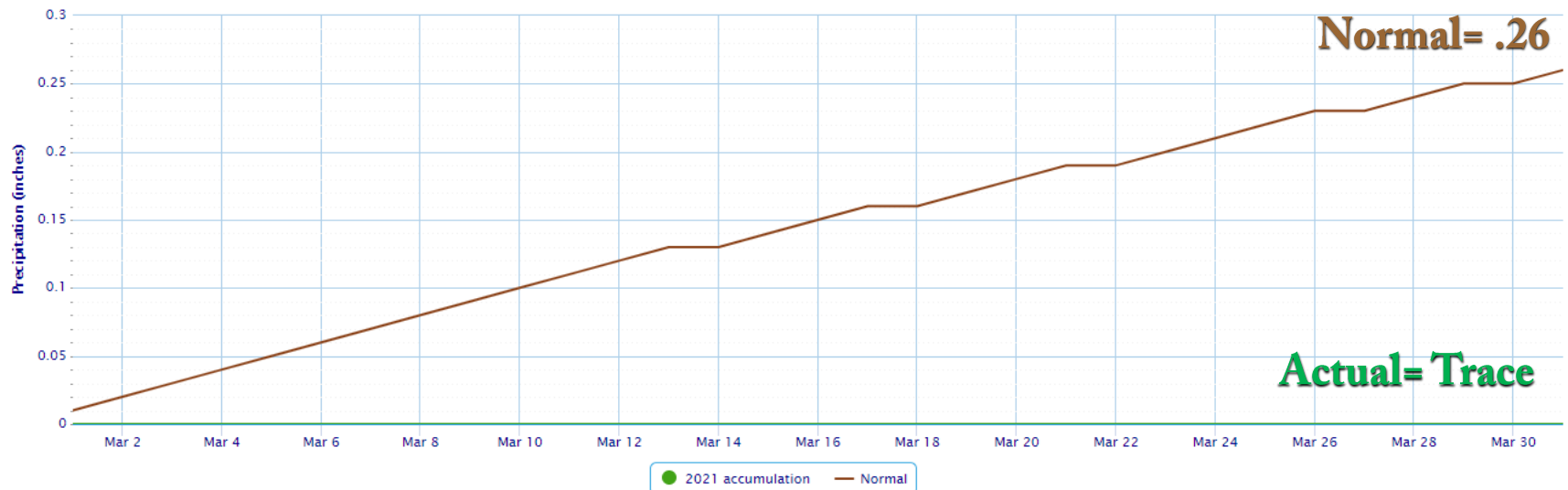
Daily Temperature Data – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2021-03-31; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2021-03-31. 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



2021: Temperature and Precipitation YTD Data for El Paso



El Paso TX - 2021

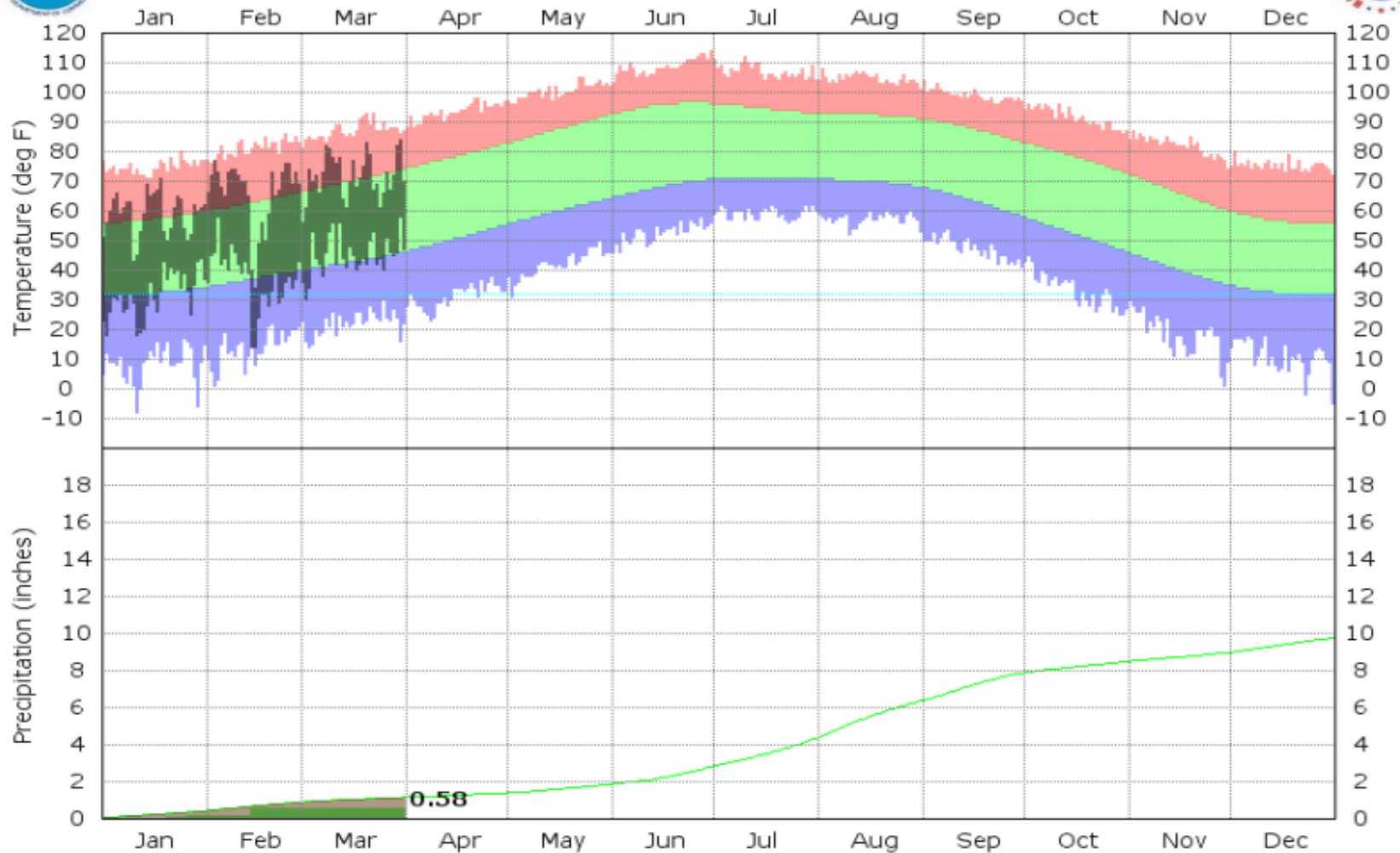
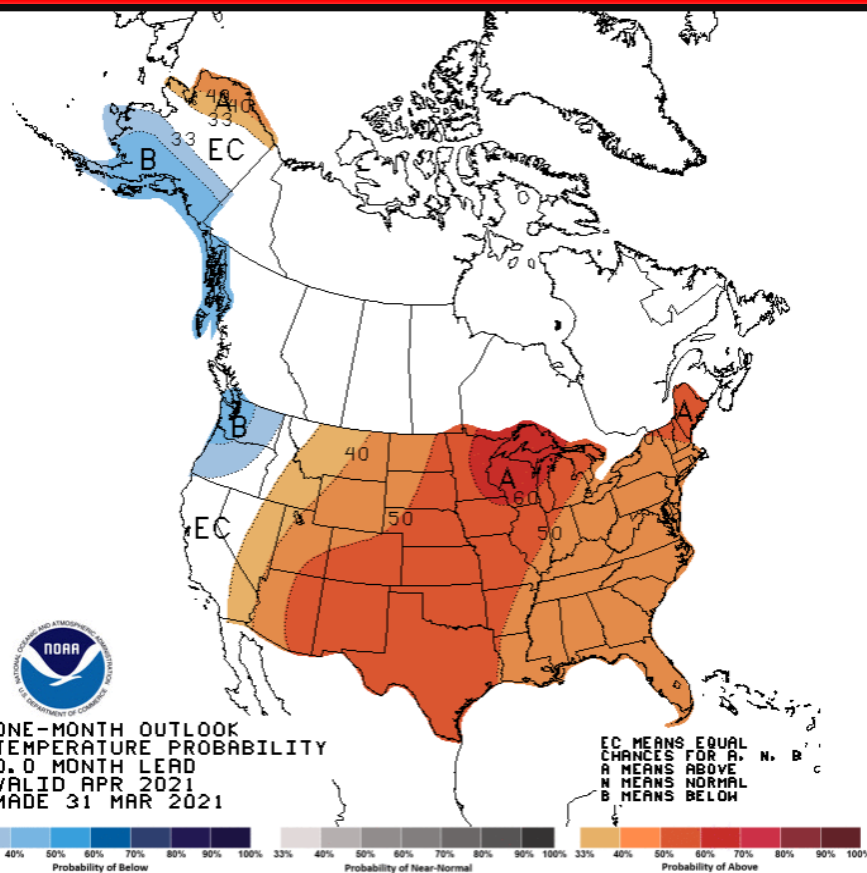


Image created: Thu, 1 Apr 2021 13:08 GMT

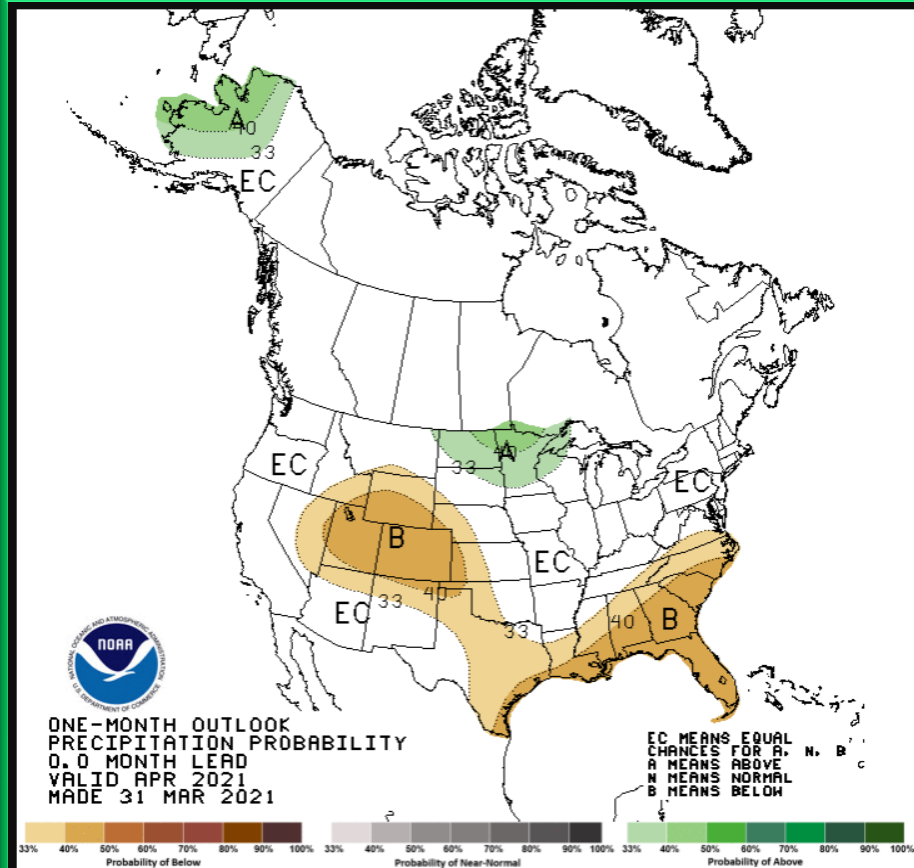
Temperature and Precipitation Plot for El Paso, Texas for 2021

Temperature and precipitation outlook for April 2021

Temperature

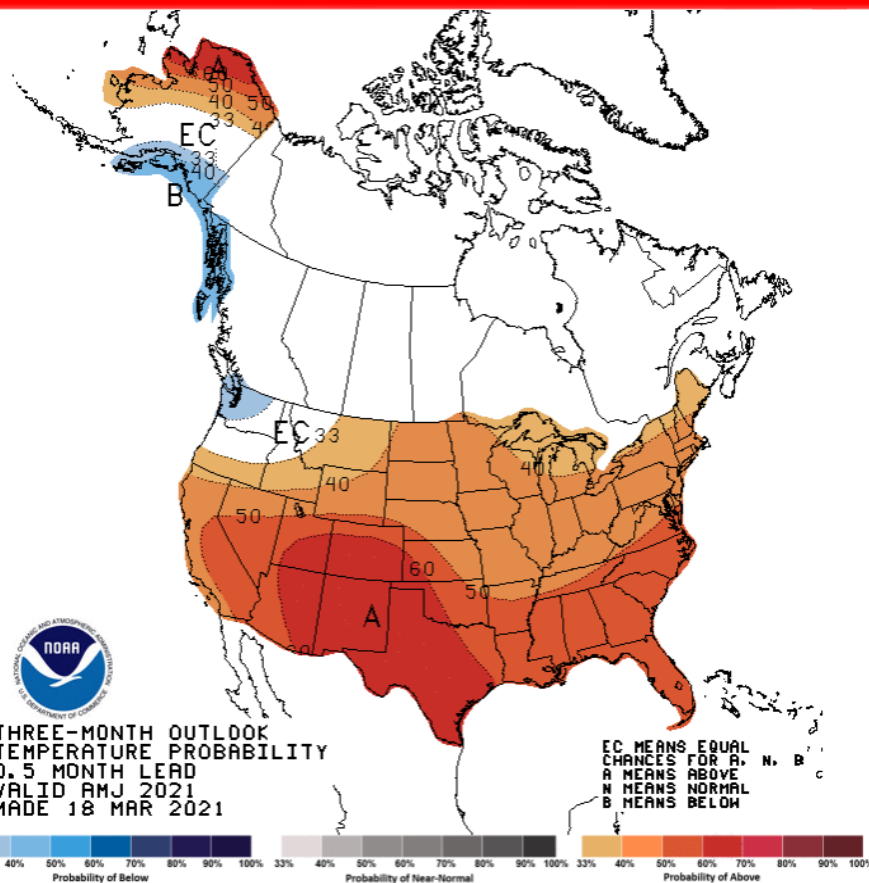


Precipitation

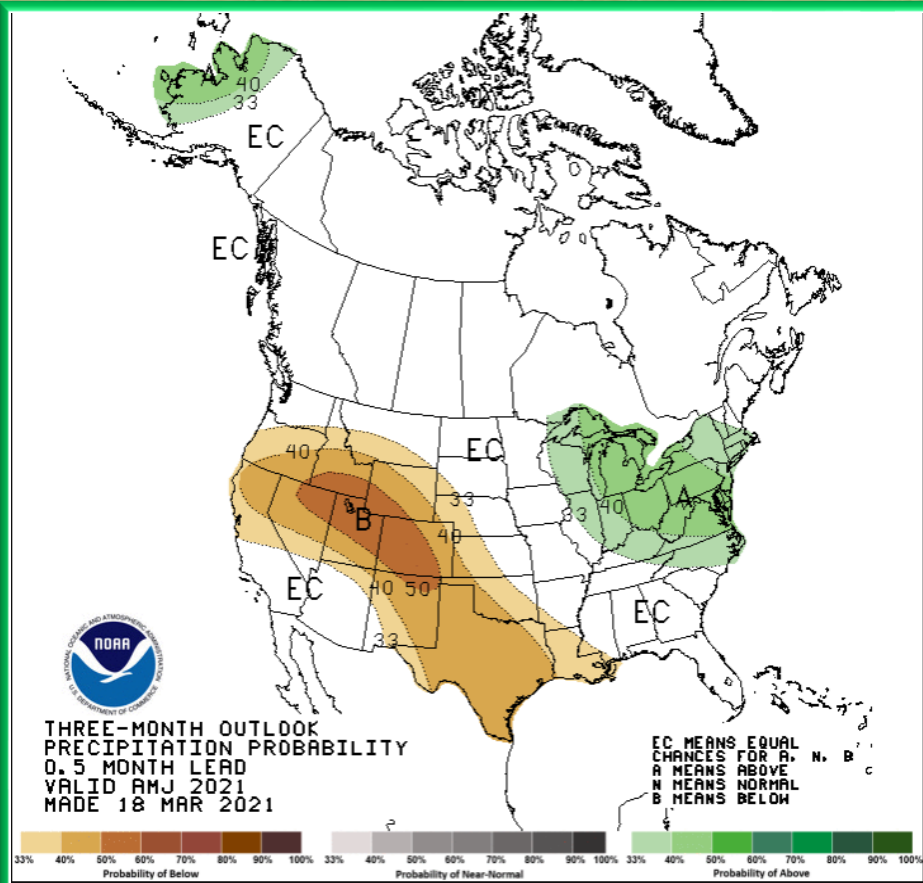


Temperature and precipitation outlook For April-June 2021

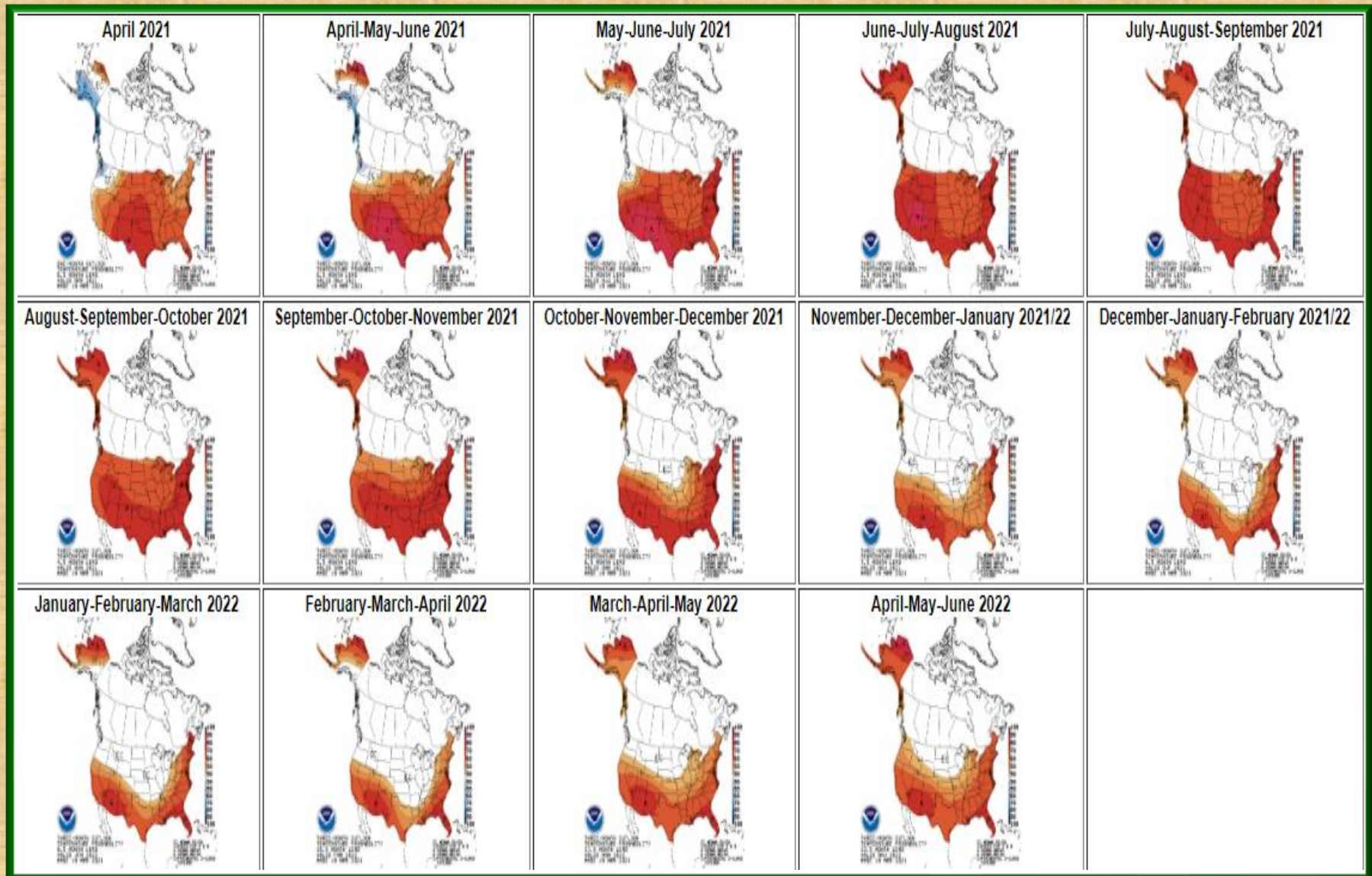
Temperature



Precipitation

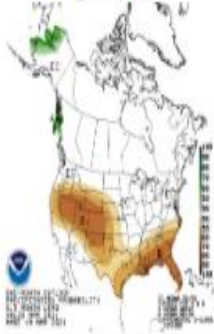


Temperature Outlook Through June 2022

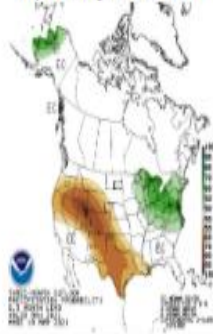


Precipitation Outlook Through June 2022

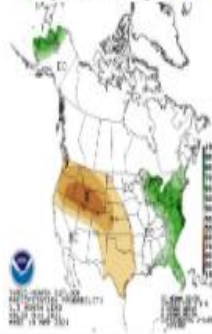
April 2021



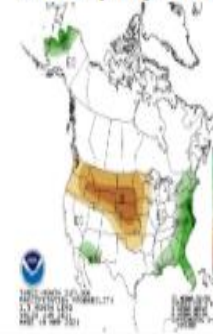
April-May-June 2021



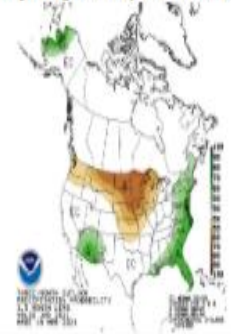
May-June-July 2021



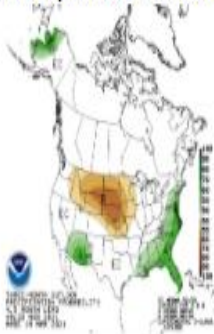
June-July-August 2021



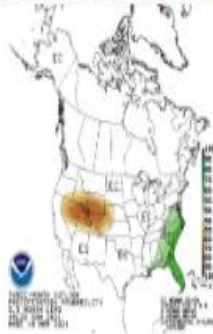
July-August-September 2021



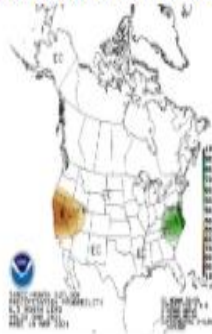
August-September-October 2021



September-October-November 2021



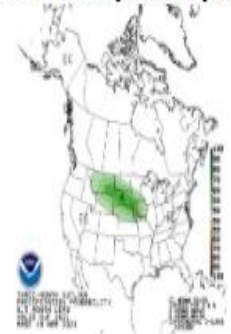
October-November-December 2021



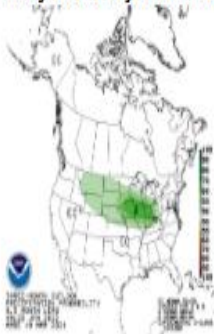
November-December-January 2021/22



December-January-February 2021/22



January-February-March 2022



February-March-April 2022



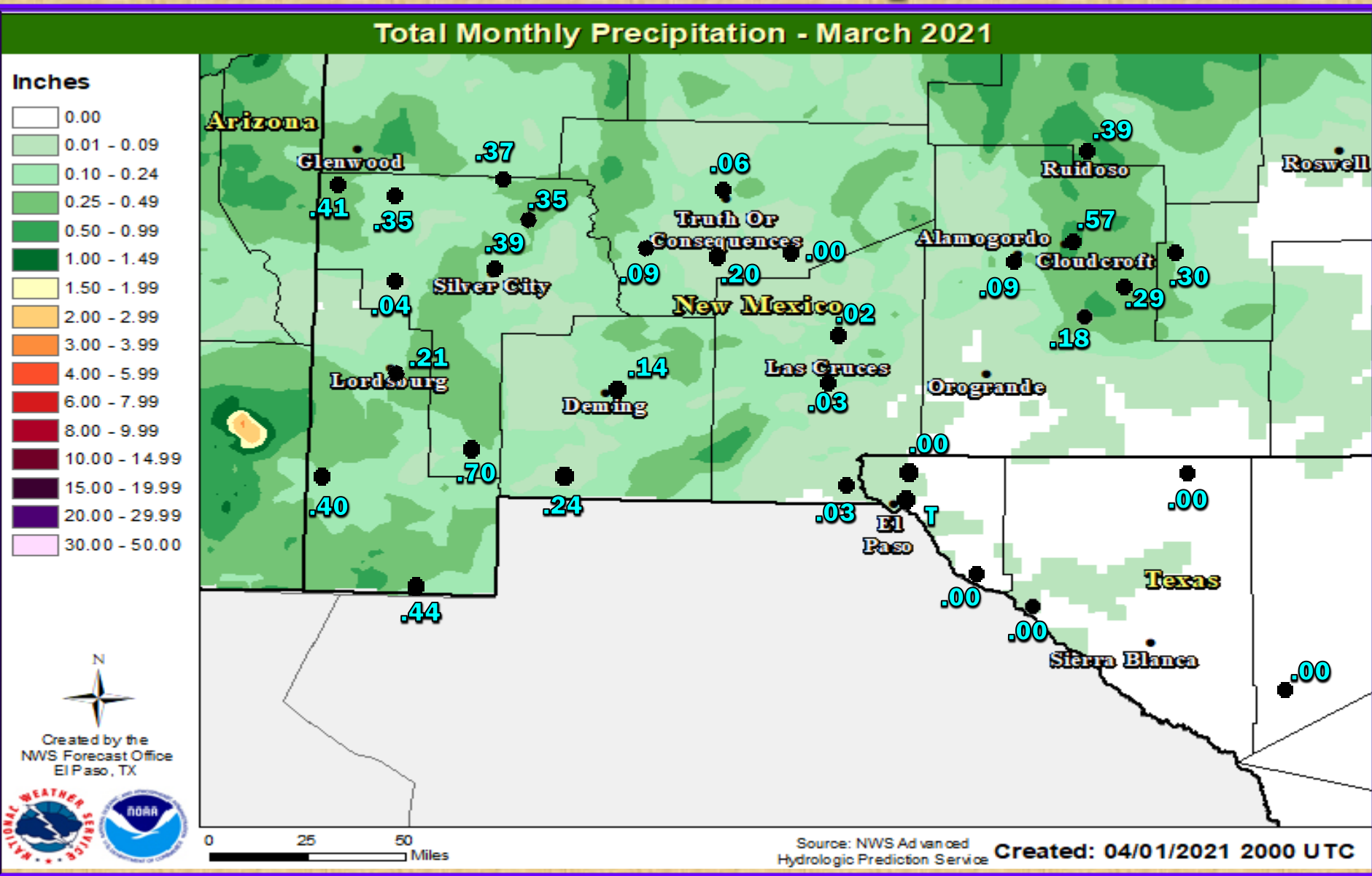
March-April-May 2022



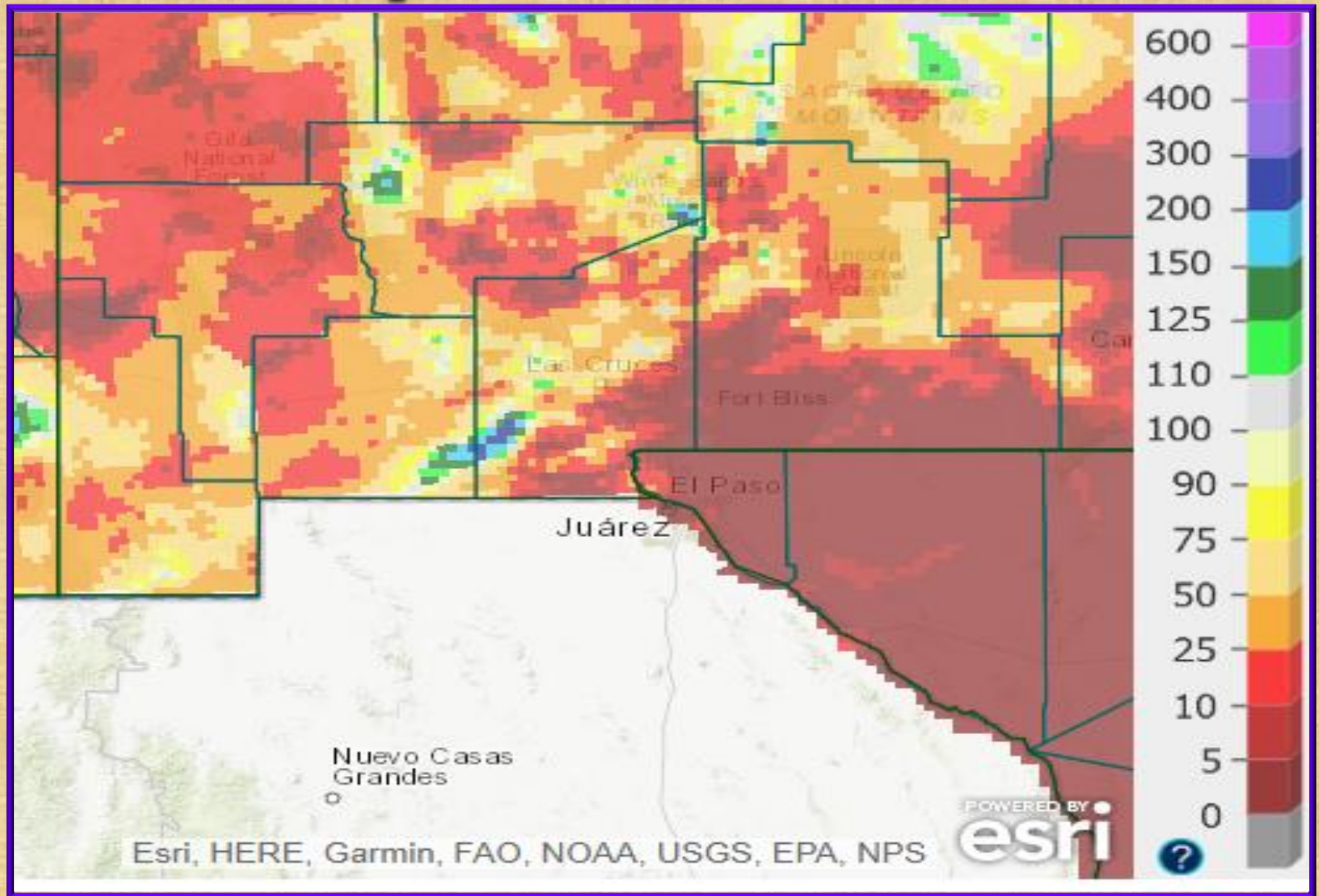
April-May-June 2022



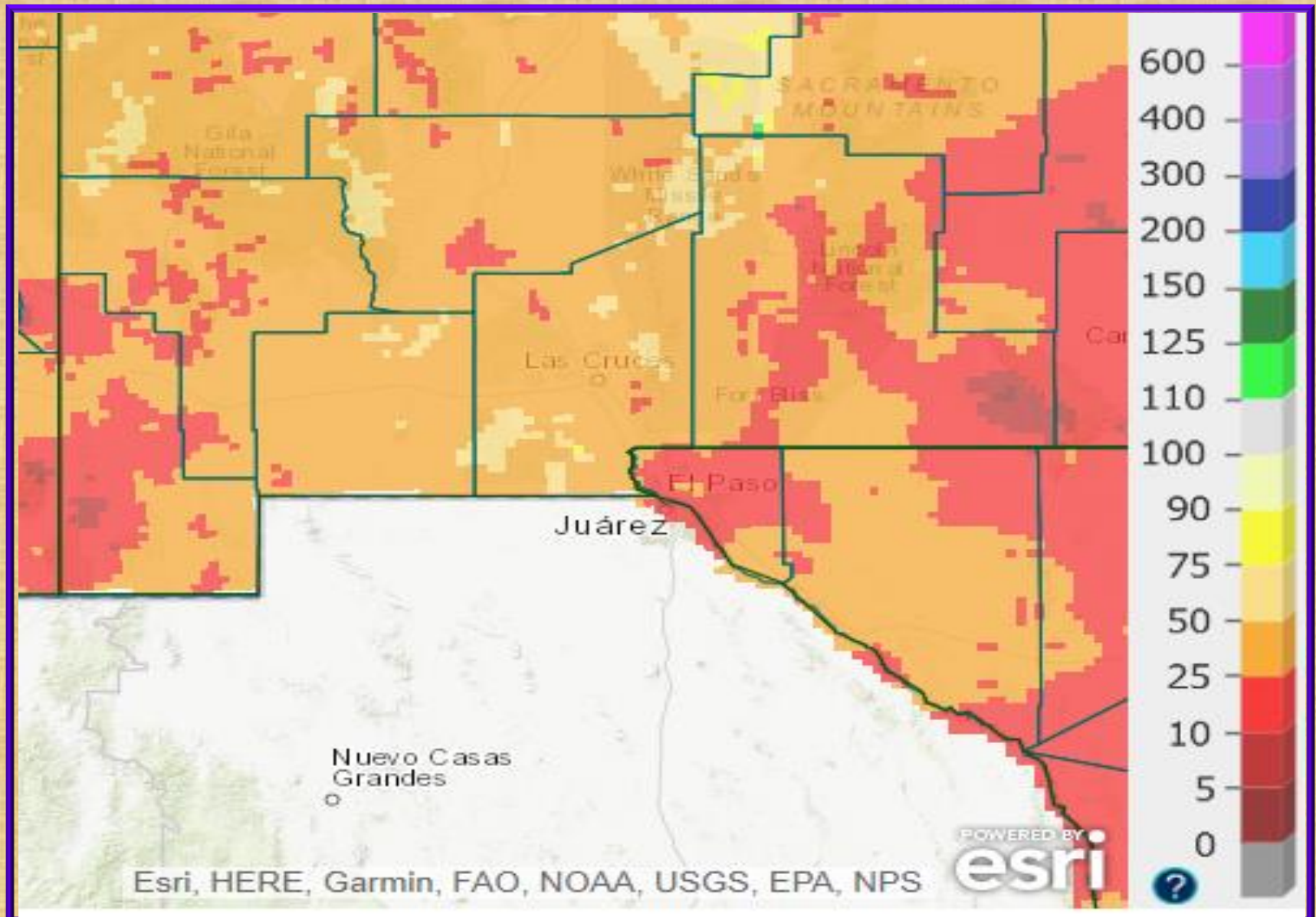
March 2021 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



March 2021 radar rainfall estimate percent of normal



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

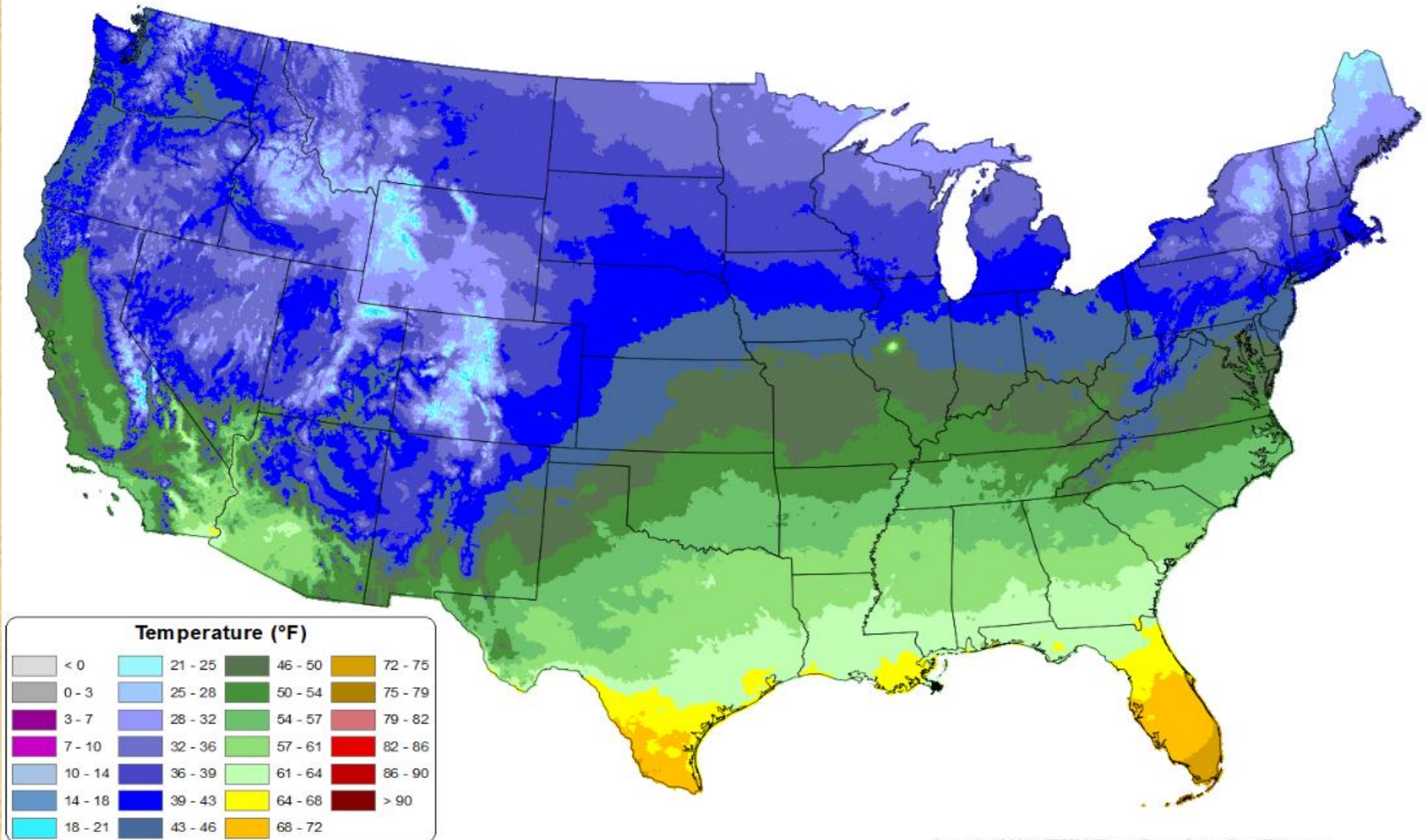


Average Daily Mean Temperature for March 2021

Average Daily Mean Temperature: Mar 2021

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2021

(Map created 02 Apr 2021)

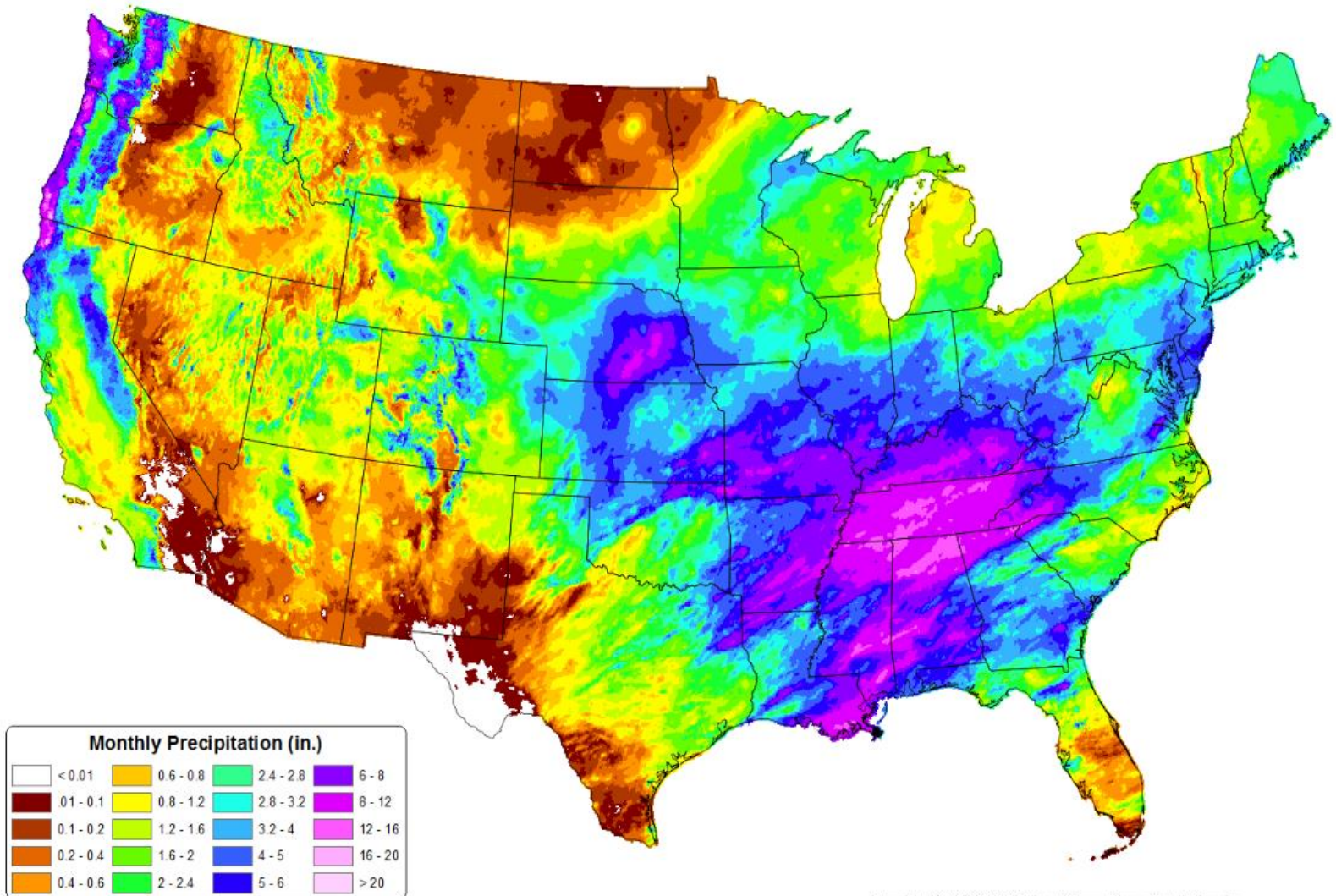


Total Precipitation for March 2021

Total Precipitation: Mar 2021

Period ending 31 Mar 2021

(Map created 02 Apr 2021)



Selected Weather Reports March 2021

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MARCH 9 245 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	70 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 417 PM	SOUTH FRANKLIN PK-EL PASO	60 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 235 PM	GRANT CO MUNI AIRPORT-GRANT	56 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 935 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	54 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 525 PM	SPACEPORT-SIERRA	53 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 940 PM	TULAROSA 19NW-OTERO	49 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 200 PM	LORDSBURG 6SW-HIDALGO	49 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 231 PM	MAYHILL 3NW-OTERO	48 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 335 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	46 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 1015 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	44 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 314 PM	HILLSBORO-SIERRA	44 MPH WIND GUST
MARCH 9 339 PM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	41 MPH WIND GUST

Selected Weather Reports March 2021

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MARCH 10 846 AM	EL PASO 11NE-EL PASO	74 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 335 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	65 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 740 AM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 700 PM	EL PASO 10NE-EL PASO	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 440 PM	HACHITA 15SW-HIDALGO	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 541 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 220 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	45 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 338 PM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	44 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 12 359 PM	REDROCK 12E-GRANT	57 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 12 310 PM	ROAD FORKS 4NE-HIDALGO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 12 128 PM	WINSTON-SIERRA	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 12 1250 PM	OROGRANDE 4NW-OTERO	48 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2021

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MARCH 10 155 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 10 600 PM	EL PASO 10NE-EL PASO	44 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 405 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	81 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 1040 AM	EL PASO 6NE-EL PASO	61 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 1000 AM	WSMR MAIN POST	59 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 551 PM	EL PASO INTL AIRPORT-EL PASO	58 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 400 PM	CHAPARRAL-DONA ANA	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 501 PM	ORGAN 11NE-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 515 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 439 PM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	53 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 329 PM	AKELA 10NE-DONA ANA	53 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 426 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	49 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2021

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MARCH 14 235 PM	GRANT CO AIRPORT-GRANT	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 430 PM	OROGRANDE 4NW-OTERO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 529 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 515 PM	SUNSPOT-OTERO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 345 PM	FAYWOOD 3NE-GRANT	48 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 205 PM	ROAD FORKS-HIDALGO	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 500 PM	DEMING 2SE-LUNA	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 541 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	44 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 14 315 PM	LORDSBURG 6SW-HIDALGO	42 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 110 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	87 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 135 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	70 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 249 PM	HACHITA VALLEY—HIDALGO	66 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2021

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MARCH 16 249 PM	EL PASO INTL AIRPORT-EL PASO	64 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 215 PM	OROGRANDE-OTERO	59 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 131 PM	T OR C AIRPORT-SIERRA	59 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 641 PM	MESCALERO-OTERO	57 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 259 PM	HIGH ROLLS-OTERO	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 446 PM	MAYHILL-OTERO	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 455 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 358 PM	DEMING AIRPORT-LUNA	56 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 1215 PM	LORDSBURG PLAYA MM9-HIDALGO	55 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 200 PM	SANTA TERESA NWS-DONA ANA	55 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 126 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 300 PM	CHAPARRAL-DONA ANA	52 MPH PEAK WIND

Selected Weather Reports March 2021

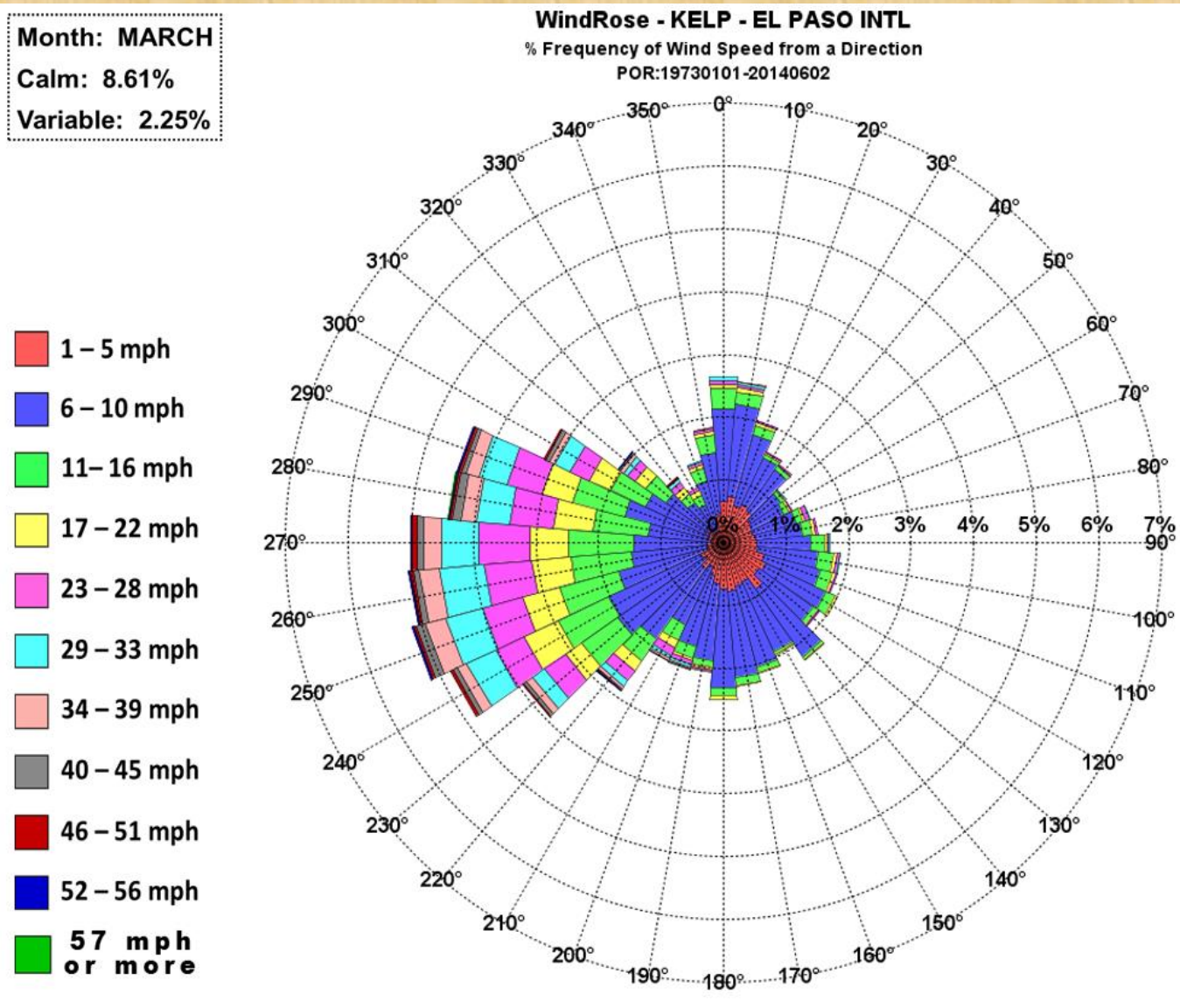
Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
MARCH 16 256 PM	DELL CITY-HUDSPETH	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 442 PM	SIERRA BLANCA-HUDSPETH	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 215 PM	GRANT CO AIRPORT-GRANT	51 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 435 PM	SPACEPORT AMERICA-SIERRA	48 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 200 PM	ANTHONY-DONA ANA	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 300 PM	SAN LORENZO 12SE-GRANT	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 235 PM	ALAMOGORDO AIRPORT-OTERO	47 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 16 300 PM	SUNLAND PARK-DONA ANA	46 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 22 125 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	70 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 22 212 PM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 22 200 PM	LAS CRUCES 6SW-DONA ANA	52 MPH PEAK WIND
MARCH 22 105 PM	ROAD FORKS 4NE-HIDALGO	48 MPH PEAK WIND


Selected Weather Reports March 2021

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Special Features

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





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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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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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Today

Wednesday

Warmer with a Few Afternoon Storms

Weather Forecast Office
El Paso, TX
September 27, 2016 4:43 PM



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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

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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	

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.