August 2025 Weather Digest

August 2025 Weather Summary

The monsoon of August continued the general pattern of July; persistent dry with low rainfall west of the Continental Divide, with higher rainfall to the east. However, even in the east, rainfall was spottier than July. Much of Hudspeth, El Paso, and Dona Ana Counties saw above normal rainfall, but areas such as Luna, Sierra, and Otero Counties saw below normal rainfall. Given this, drought conditions east of the Divide continue to slowly improve, while to the west the exceptional drought continues.

Temperatures for August were a tale of two different stories. A persistent upper high over New Mexico and the Four Corners led to a downtick in rainfall, meaning plenty of sunshine and hot weather through about August 14th. The lowlands saw plenty of triple digit heat, with El Paso recording 9 such events during this period. The last half of the month became active again with thunderstorms, keeping temperatures much more seasonable.

August 2025 Weather Summary

Looking ahead to September, average rainfall begins to decrease as we near the end of the monsoon season comes into full swing. September sees the last of the wet months before we head into Autumn and Winter. This month, on average, will supply about 10-20 percent of annual precipitation for most locations.

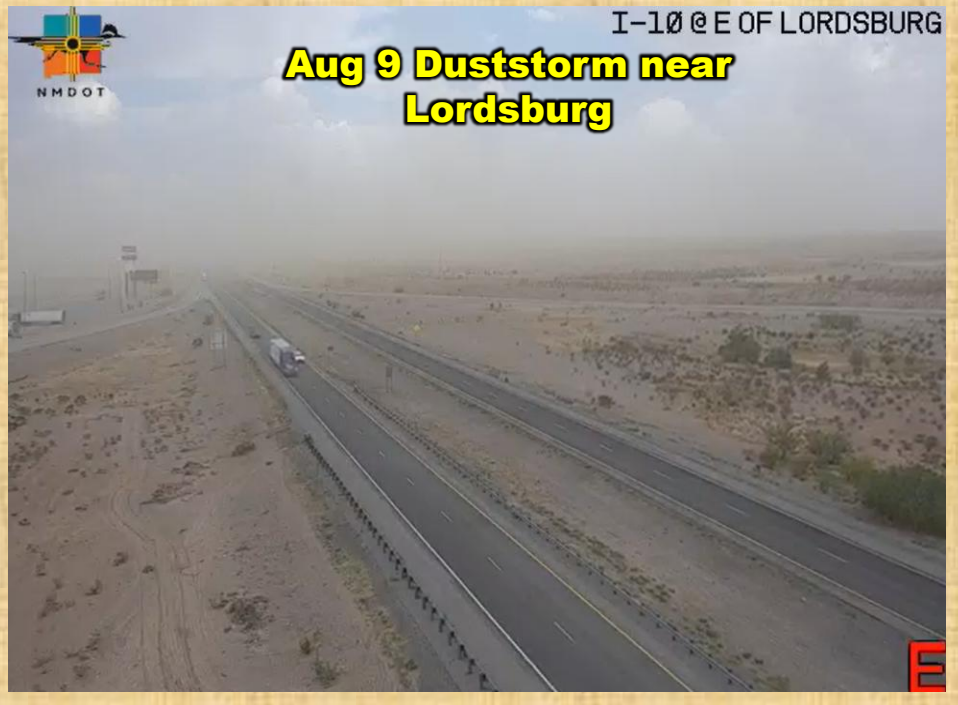
Daylight begins to slowly decrease as we are past the summer solstice. Daylength at El Paso on September 1 is 12 hr, 47 mins, decreasing to 11 hrs, 52 mins of daylength on the last day of the month. The average high temperature at El Paso on September 1 is 92˚, dropping to 85˚ on September 30. Over the last 25 years, El Paso has averaged 31 triple digit readings. We sit at 37 days this year, heading into September. The all-time record high temperature for September in El Paso is 106˚.

For the astronomy fans out there, September's full moon occurs on the 7th and is commonly known as the Corn Moon. The new moon takes place on September 21. There is a full Lunar Eclipse on the 7th, but in the U.S. will only be visible over western Alaska.


Aug 2 near Lordsburg


Aug 2 near Lordsburg


Aug 2 near Silver City

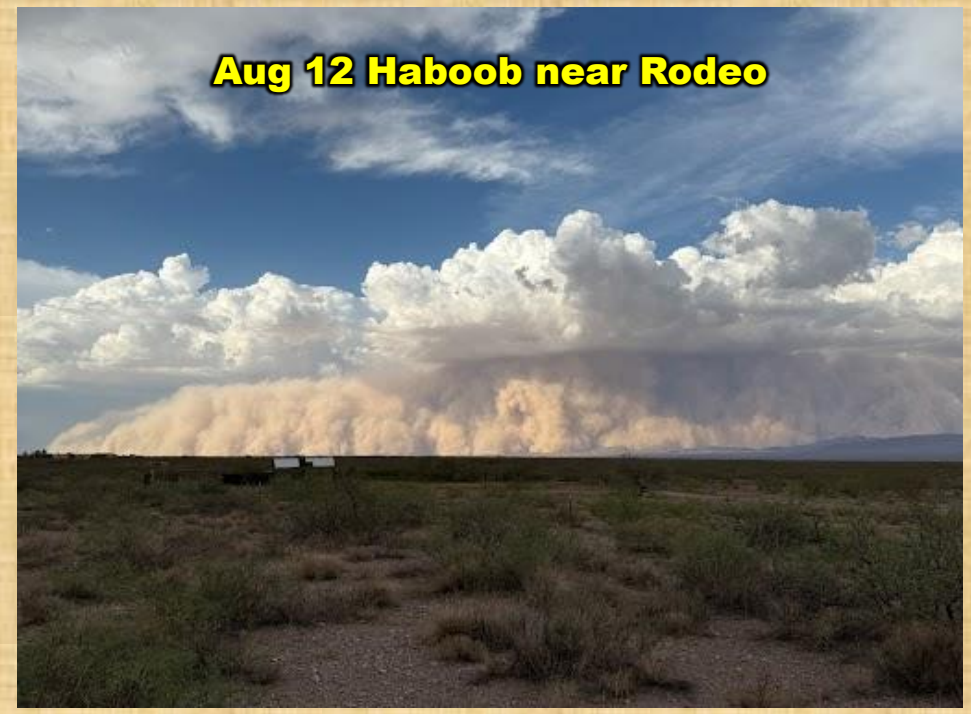

NMDOT
I-10 @ E OF LORDSBURG
Aug 9 Duststorm near Lordsburg


Aug 12 El Paso


Aug 12 Las Cruces


Aug 12 Flooding in El Paso


Aug 12 Flooding in El Paso
US 85 PAISANO EXECUTIVE


Aug 12 Haboob near Rodeo


Aug 12 Haboob near Rodeo


Aug 12 Haboob near Rodeo


Aug 12 Dust near Lordsburg


Aug 12 Dust near Lordsburg


Aug 12 Dust near Lordsburg


Aug 17 Haboob El Paso


Aug 29 Haboob Tularosa Basin


Aug 12 in El Paso


Aug 12 in El Paso


Aug 20 Lightning in the Gila Wilderness


Aug 20 Lightning in the Gila Wilderness


Aug 29 Lightning El Paso


Aug 20 Lightning in the Gila Wilderness


Aug 21 Lightning in the Gila Wilderness


Aug 21 Lightning in the Gila Wilderness


Aug 30 Flooding in El Paso

ENSO Alert System Status:
La Niña Watch

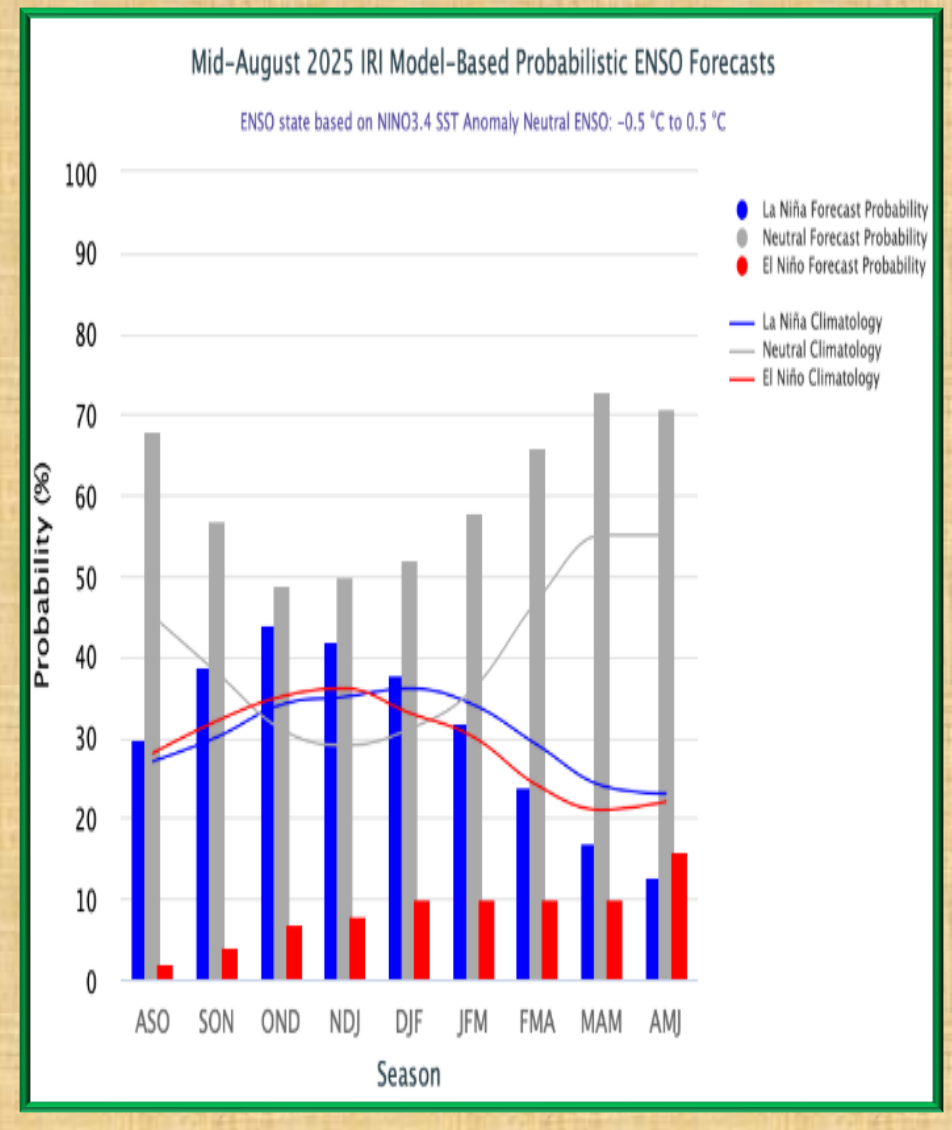
ENSO Alert System

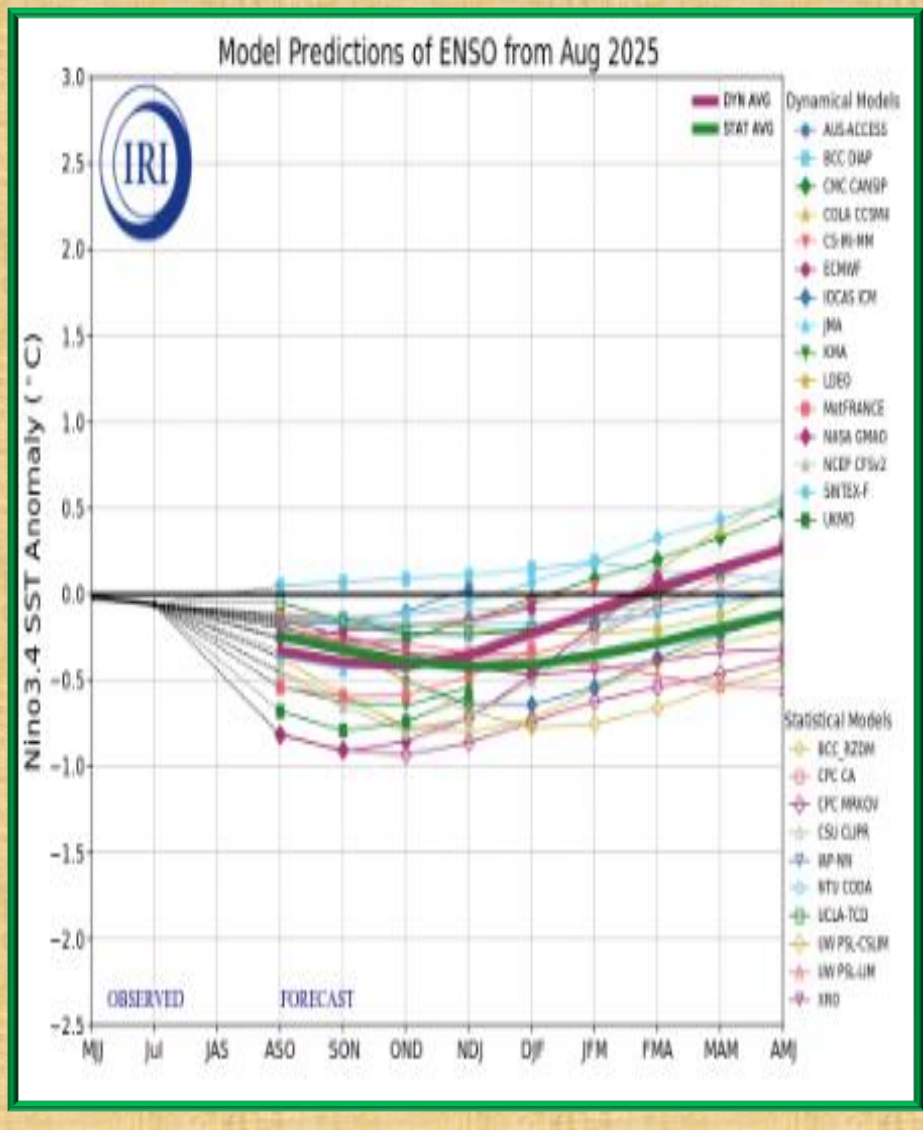
- El Niño or La Niña Watch: Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions in the next six months.

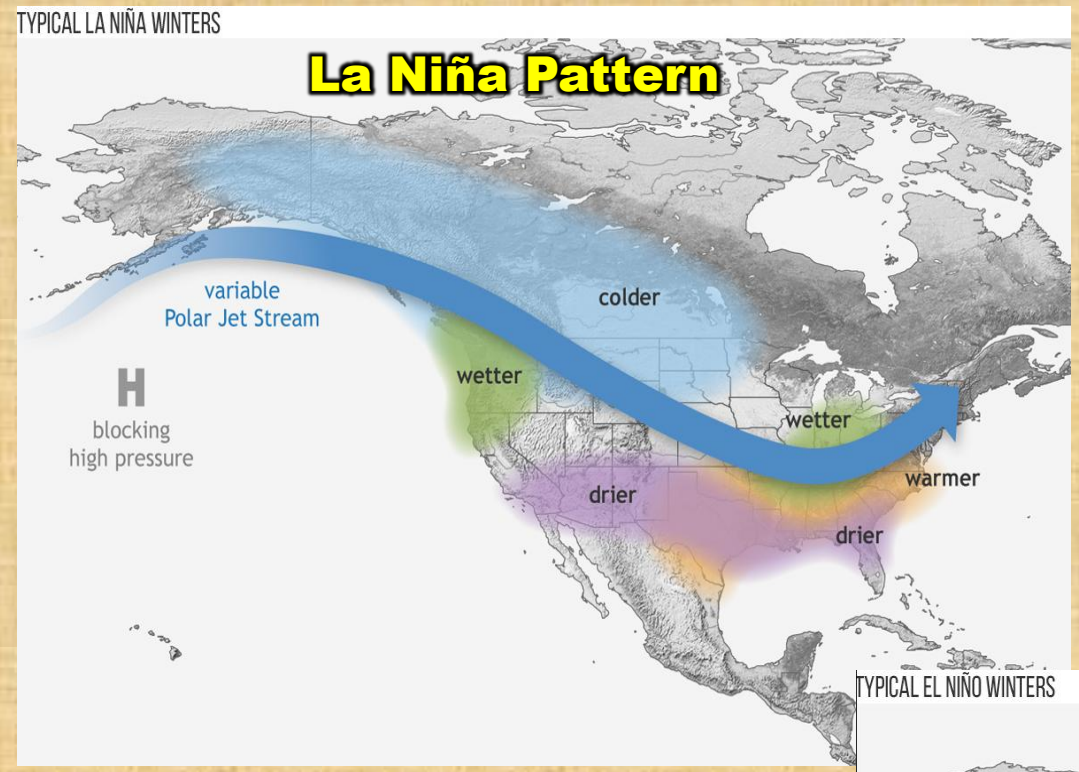
- El Niño or La Niña Advisory: Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.

ENSO Forecast

ENSO is currently in neutral phase and likely to transition to a weak La Niña early this winter.

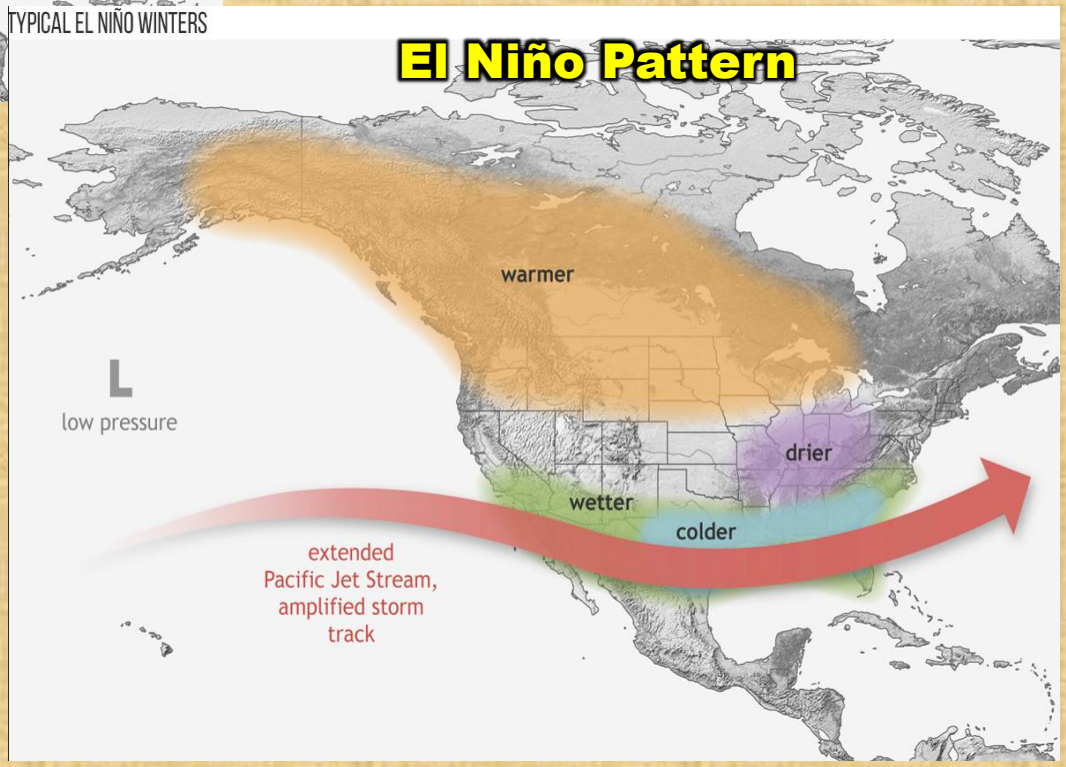






With a La Niña pattern, a ridge of high pressure tends to build off the west coast of the U.S., blocking most of our Pacific winter storm systems. These storms tend to end up moving across the northern Plains and down to the southeastern part of the country. Of course it is important to remember that these patterns are only what typically happens and are not guaranteed to occur.

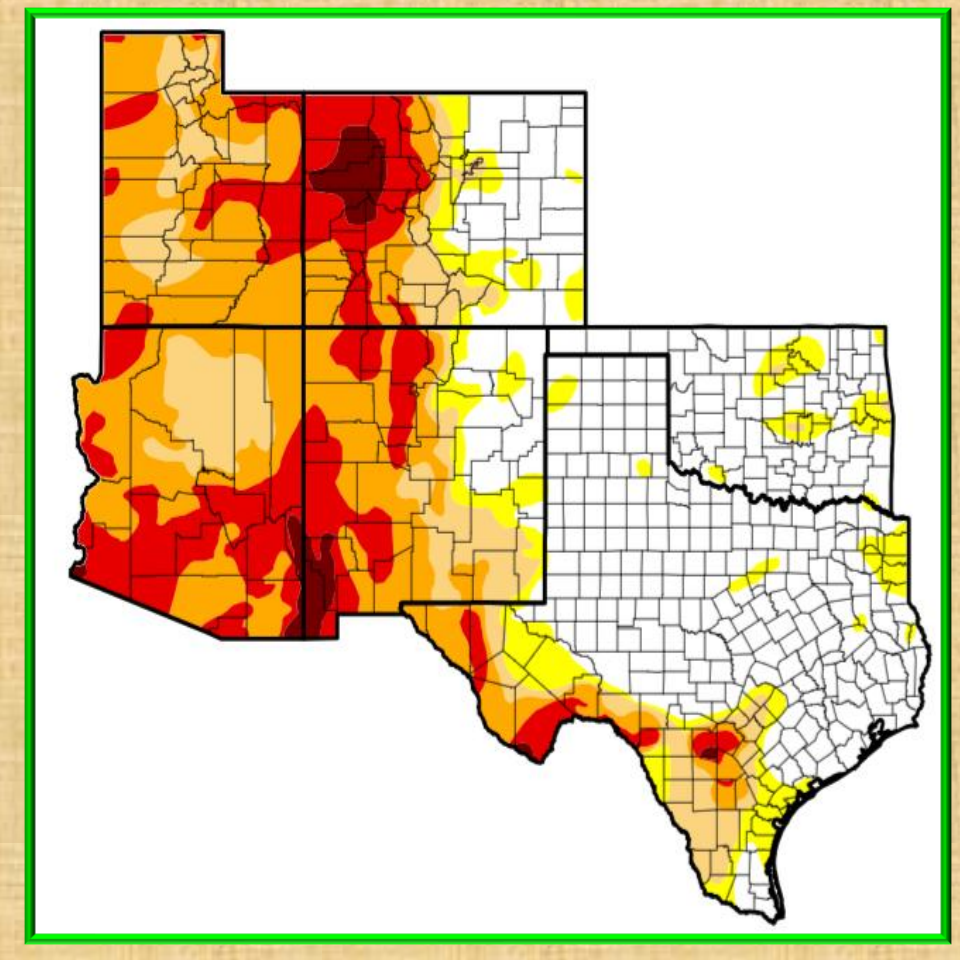
With El Niño, we often see the opposite pattern where the eastern Pacific ridge of high pressure is often weak or non-existent, allowing winter storms to sweep across the southern U.S. This typically will give the south-western U.S. above normal precipitation.



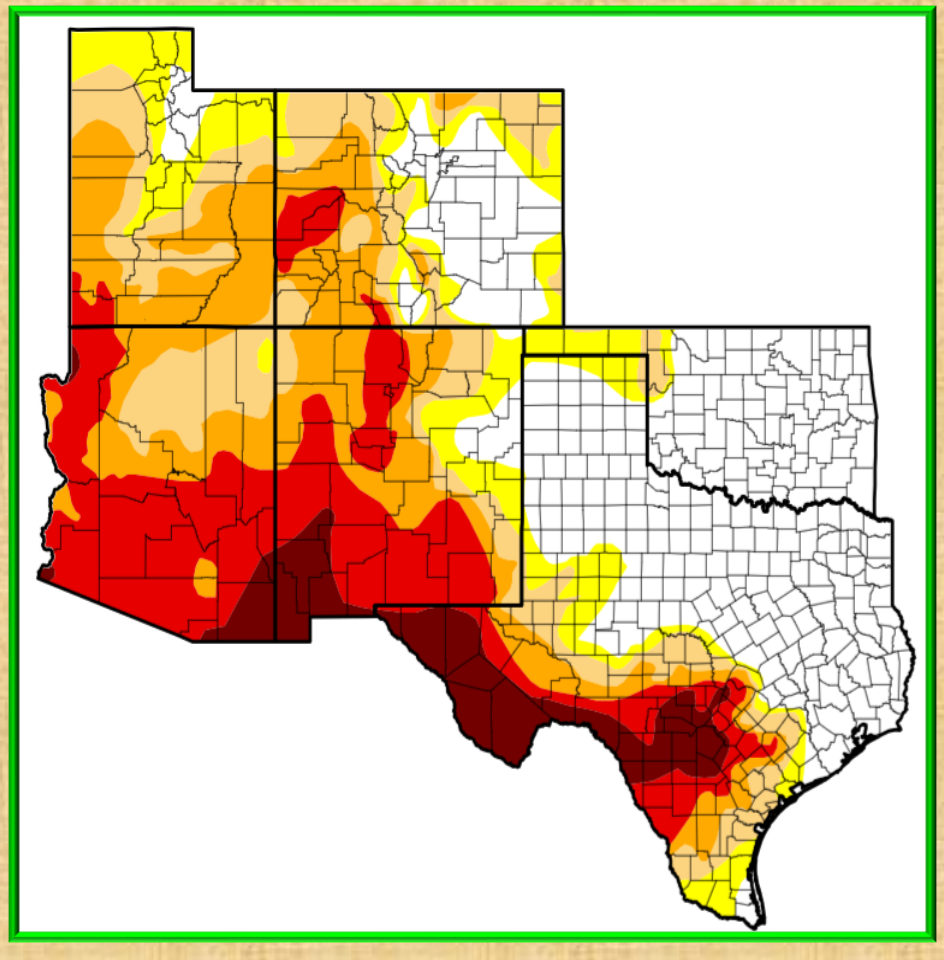
Current drought conditions and 3 month change

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

August 26, 2025

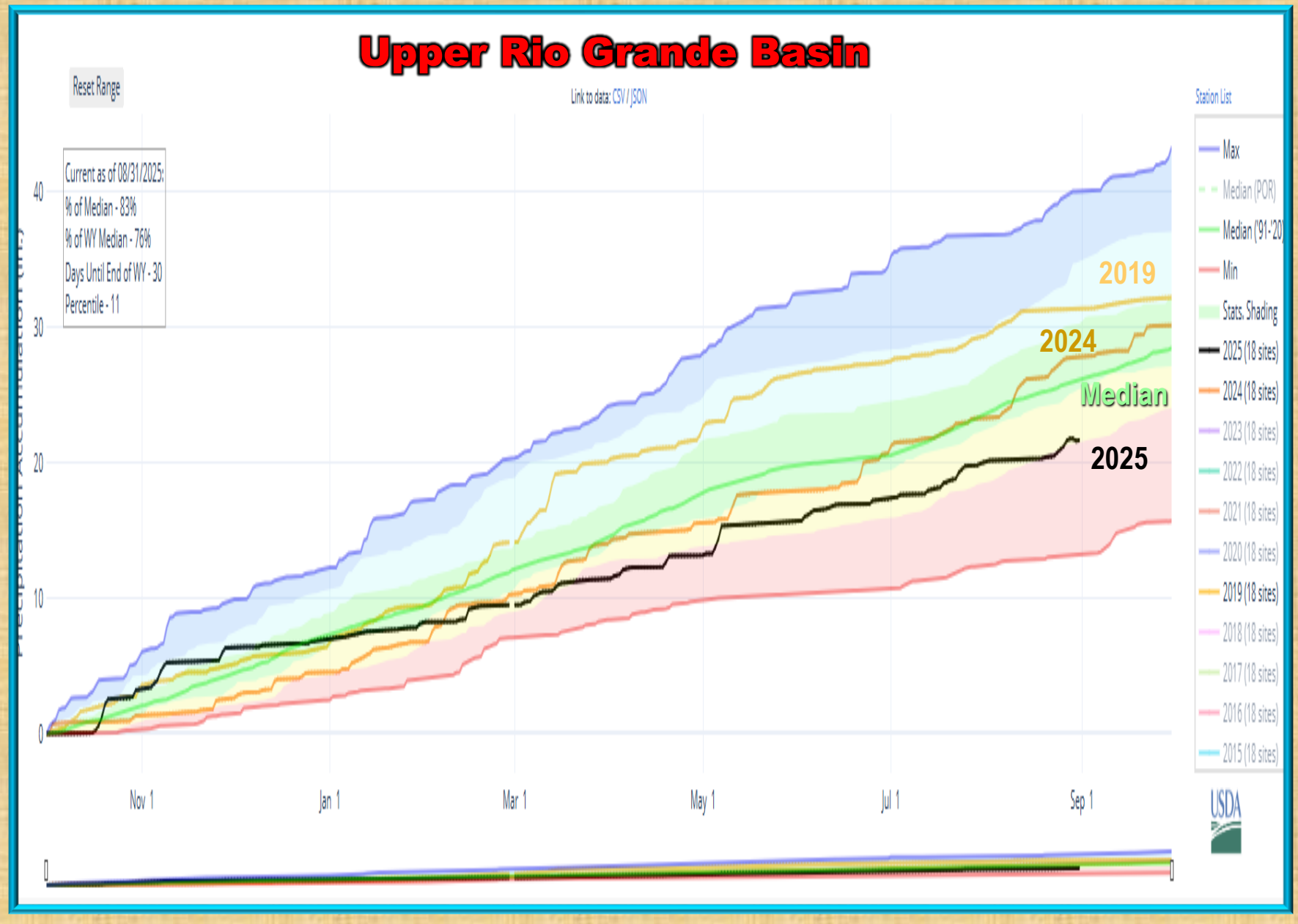


May 27, 2025



Precipitation for the Water YTD Oct 1 – Aug 31, 2025

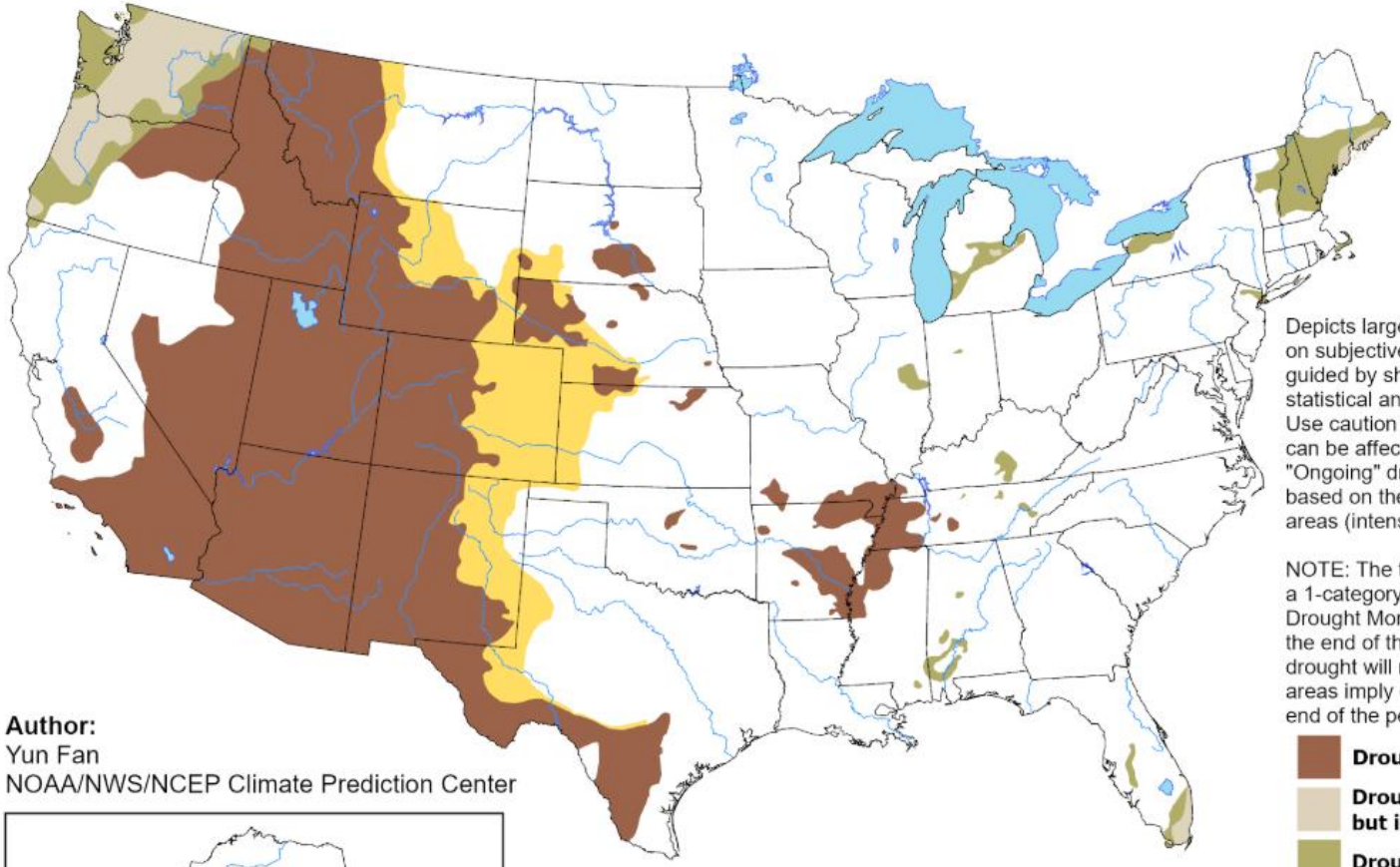
Compare to last few years and average values



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for August 21 - November 30, 2025
Released August 21, 2025

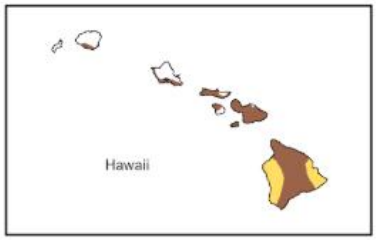


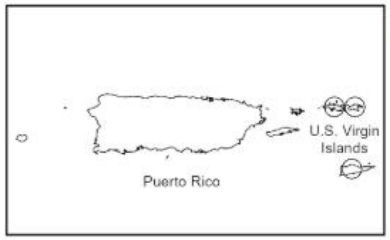
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to 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**
- **No drought**

Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center

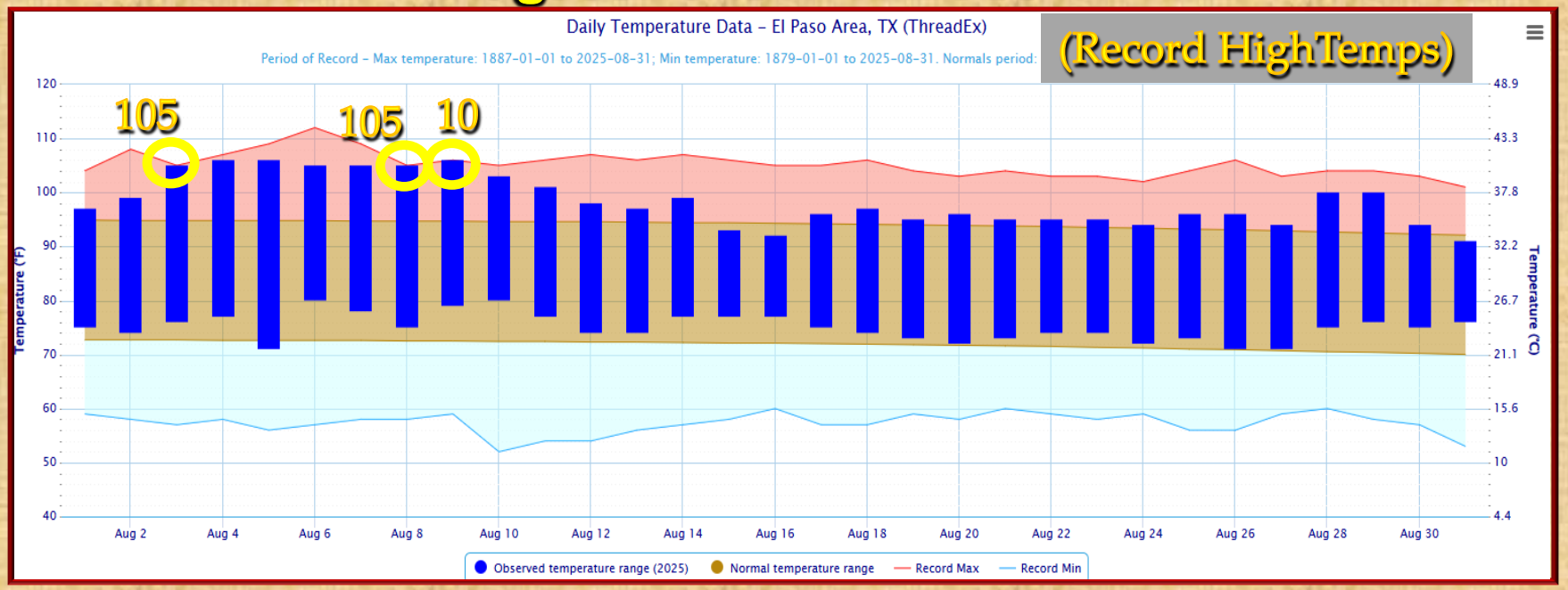


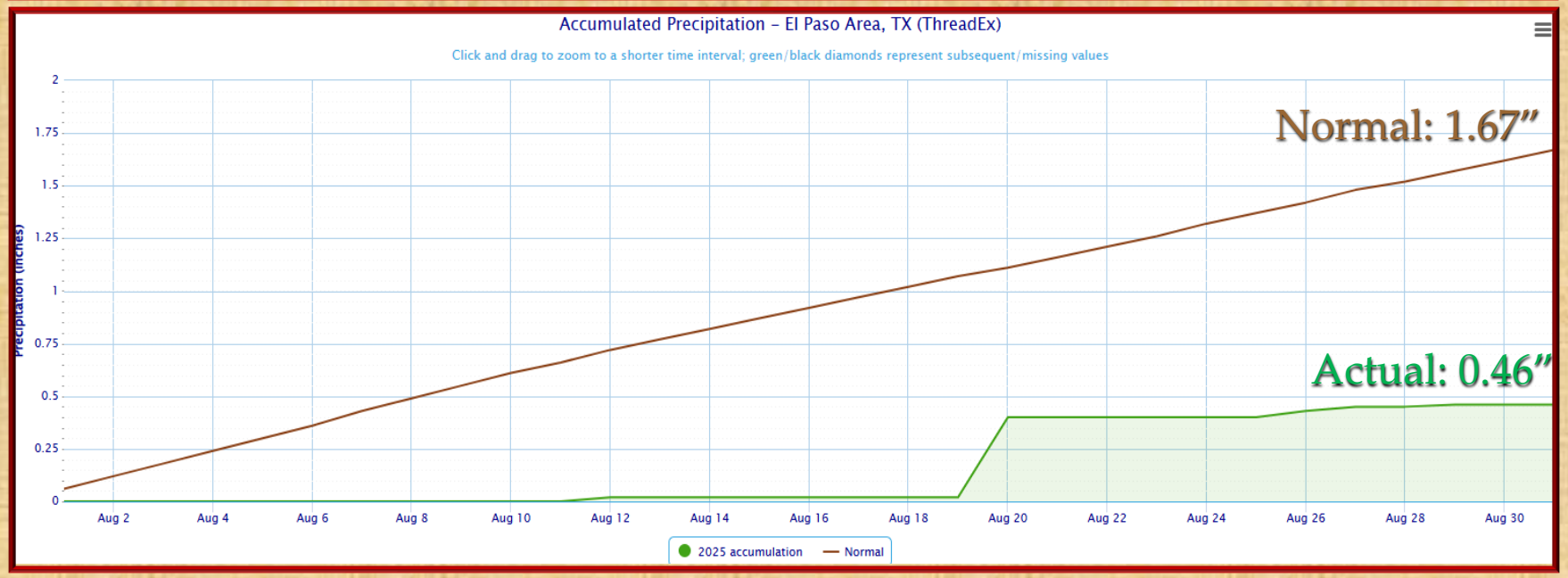


https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73

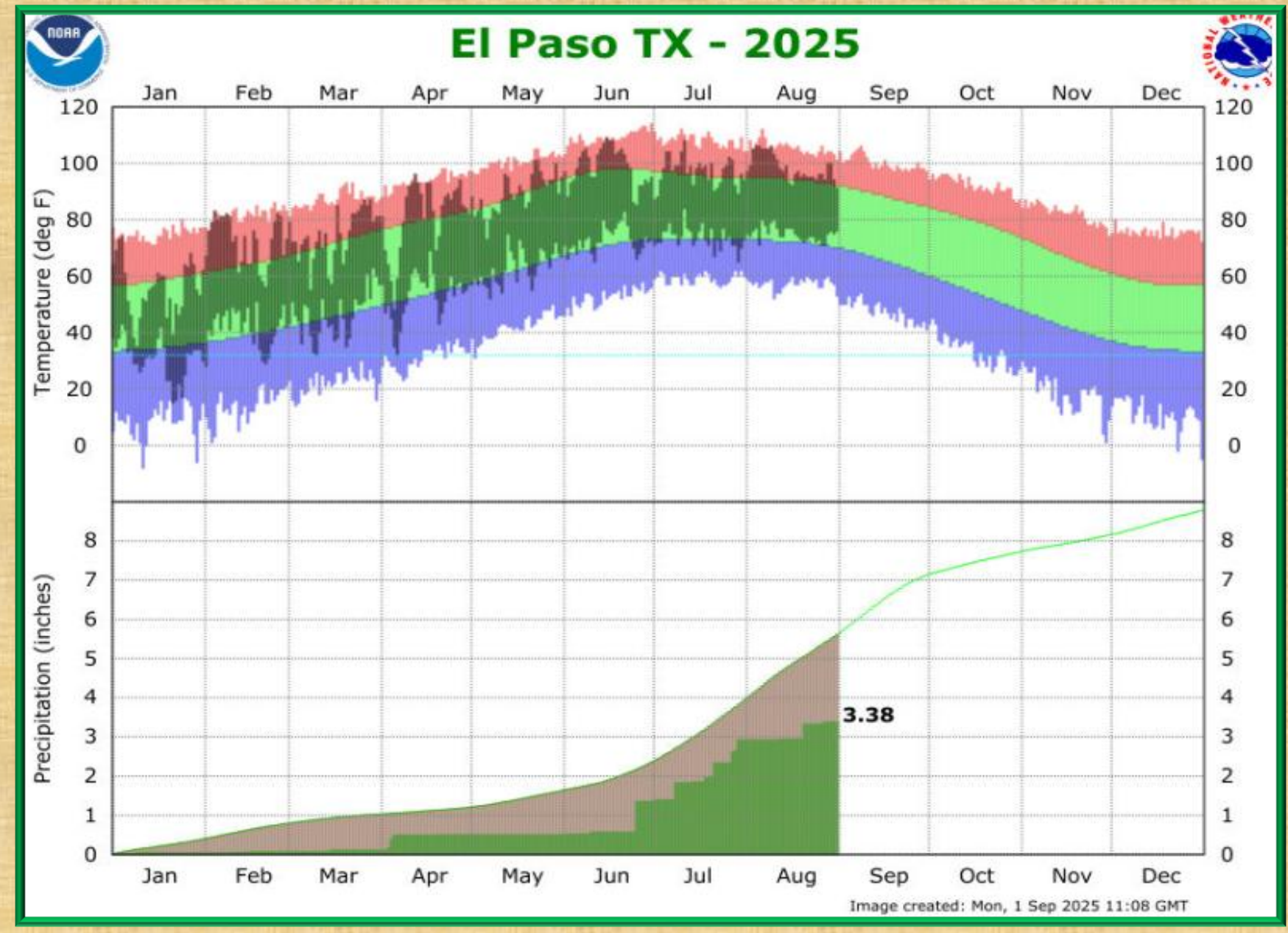
Temperature and precipitation data for August 2025 in El Paso

= record

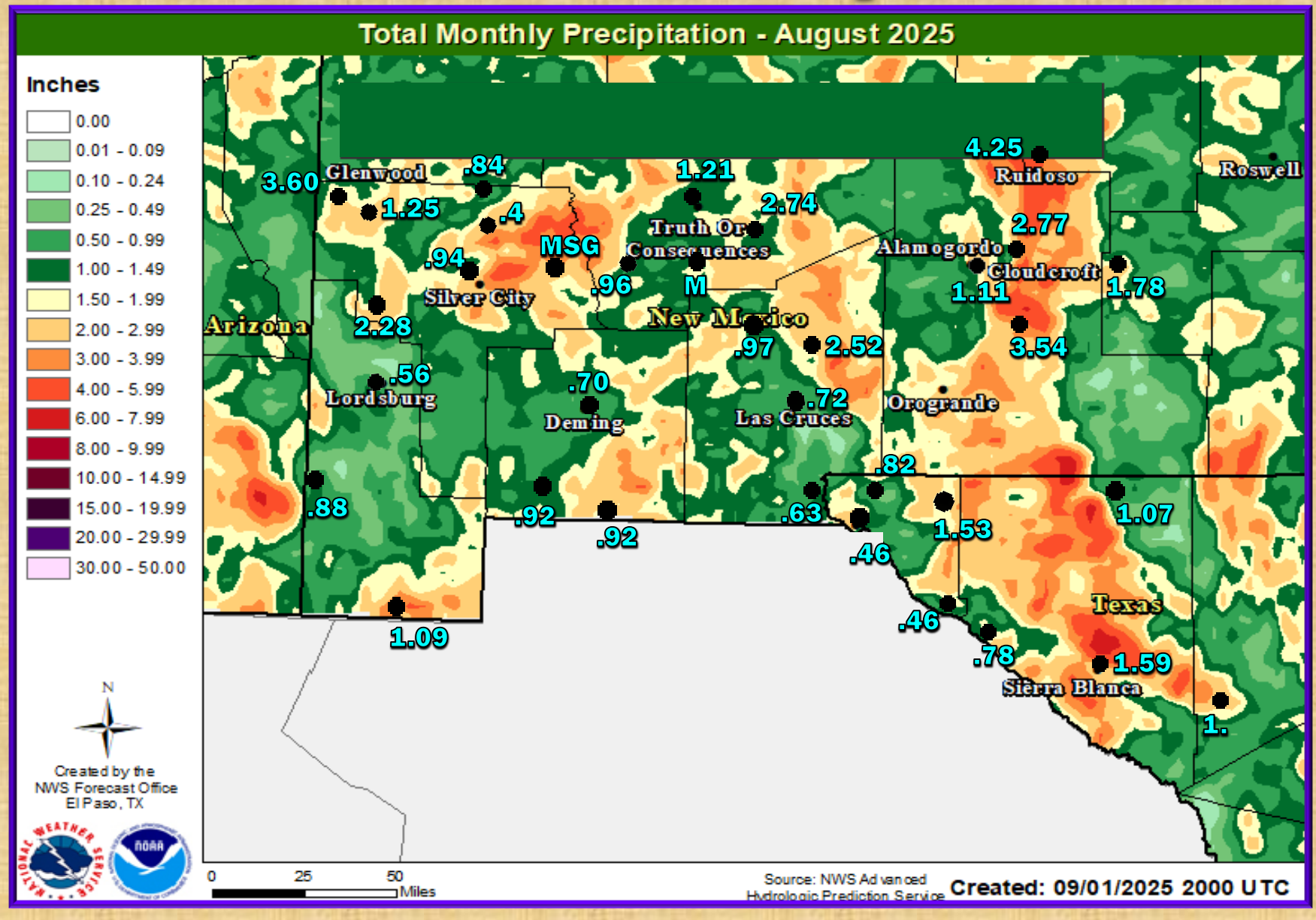




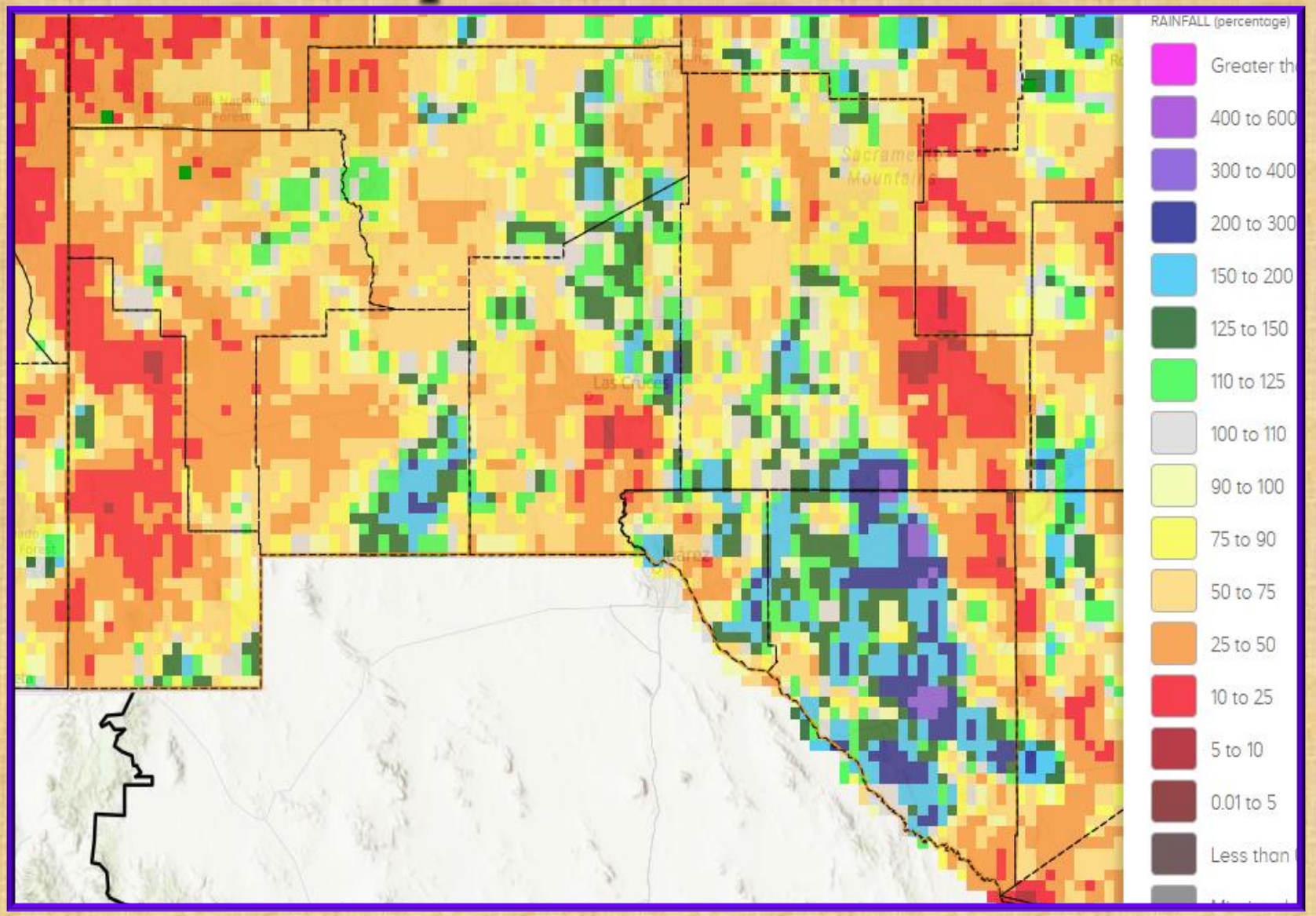
2025 Temperature and Precipitation through August for El Paso



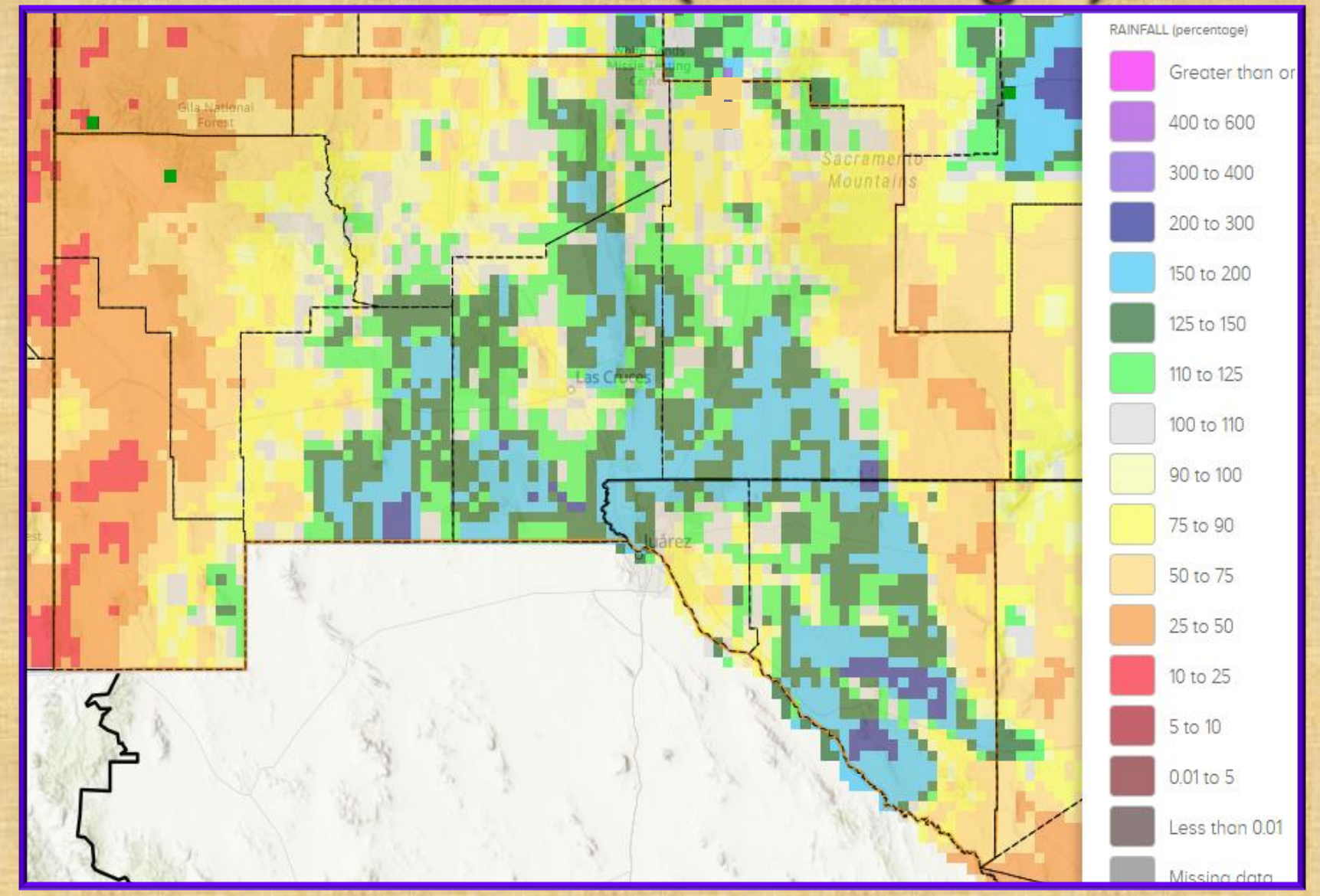
August 2025 rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



August 2025 rainfall estimate percent of normal



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



Tracking the 2025 Monsoon Season across the El Paso Forecast Area

A transition to monsoon flow began around June 20-24 this year with winds shifting to the south and east and bringing in higher humidity. This is about 10-14 days earlier than normal [see fig 1 and 2]. Widespread thunderstorms over northern Mexico and southern New Mexico also began around this same time.

Monsoon 2025 is off to a much-needed wet start, with the 23rd-27th period already contributing about one-quarter to one-half of their average monsoon rainfall total. This likely ends most of the wildfire season, and should begin improving the extreme drought conditions that have developed this year.

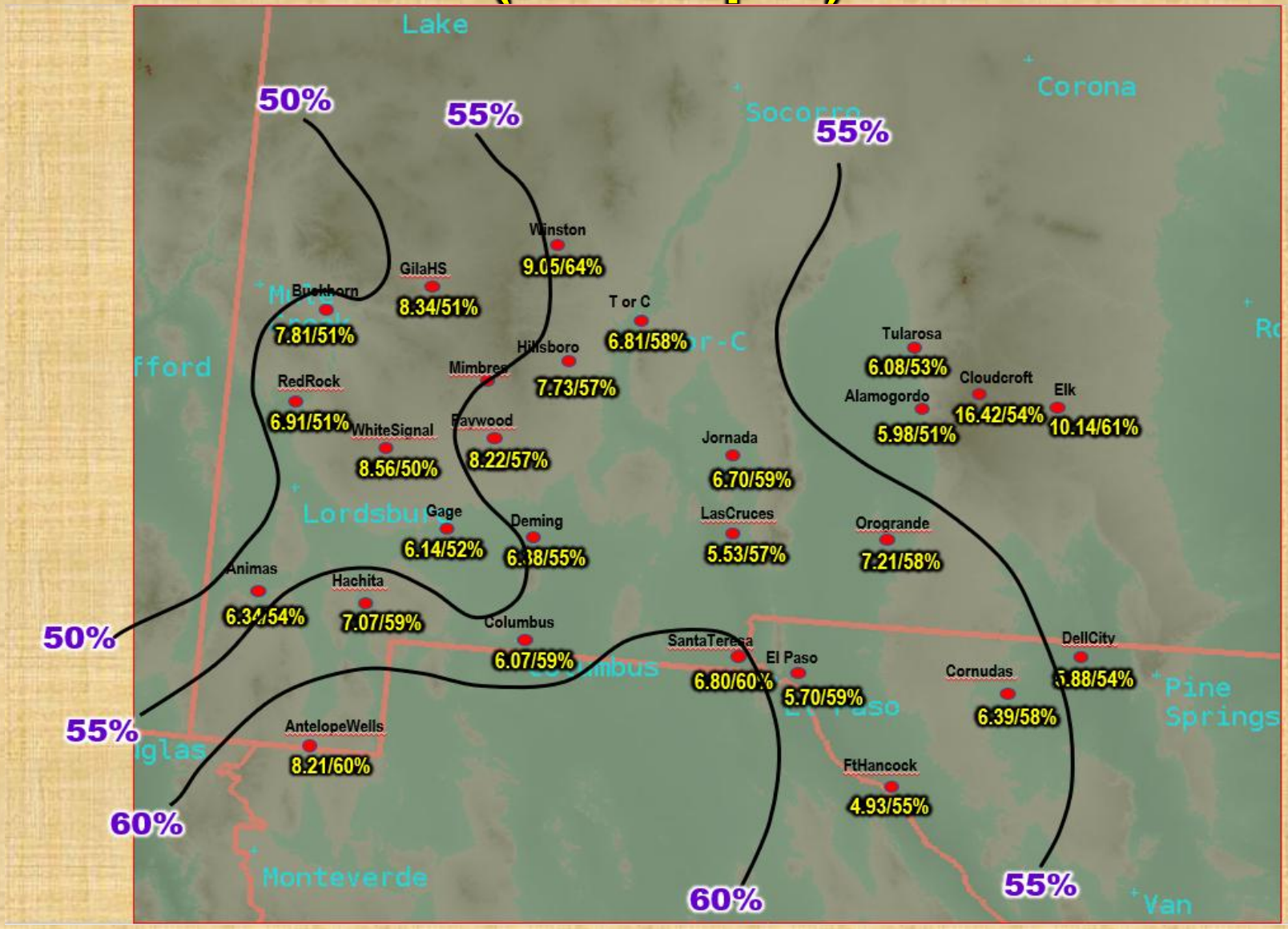
July continued the productive monsoon rain that started in late June. Most areas east of the Continental Divide saw well above normal rainfall, while areas to the west remained dry and below normal. The dewpoint temperatures and upper air patterns remained in a typical monsoon pattern. There were signs at the end of the month of the monsoon high pressure center to move over New Mexico for a stretch of drier, quieter weather leading into the beginning of August.

Tracking the 2025 Monsoon Season across the El Paso Forecast Area

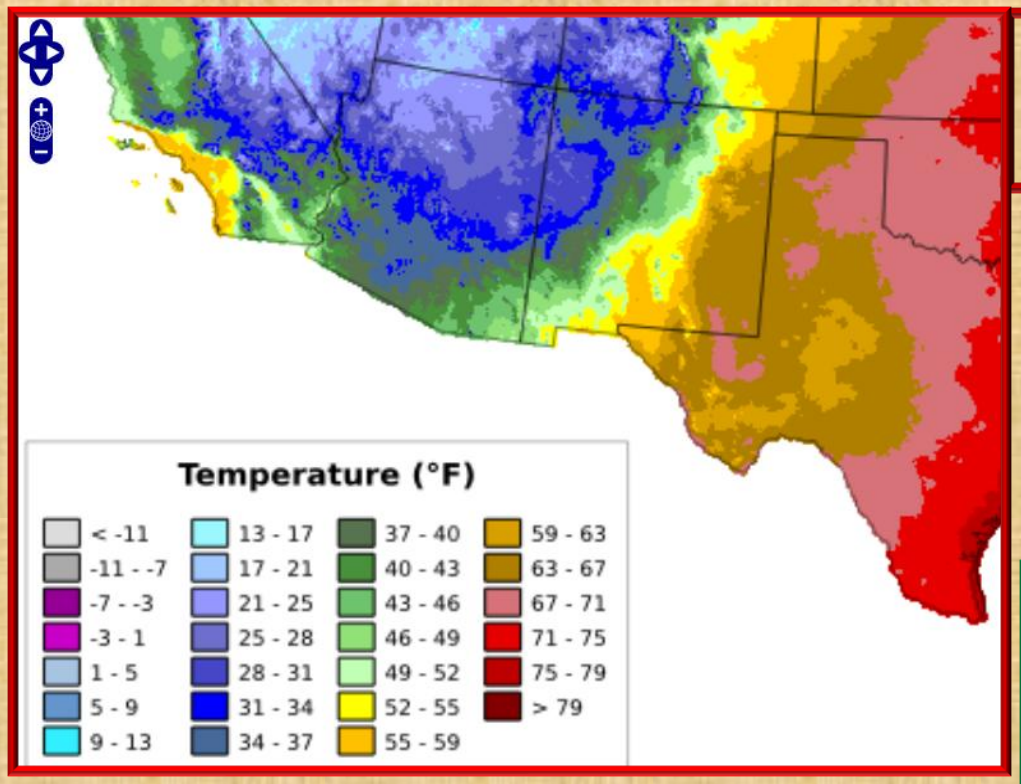
Updating our monsoon season through the end of August; after a relatively wet July, at least east of the Continental Divide, August saw a much spottier rainfall pattern, with areas west of the Divide still well below normal. With the rainfall, areas east of the Divide have seen their drought condition improve significantly. West of the Divide, the extreme drought has seen little or no improvement since June.

As of the end of August, the monsoon pattern was still holding strong, with the large scale high pressure still persisting from the western Atlantic across the Desert Southwest and over to the eastern Pacific [see fig 4].

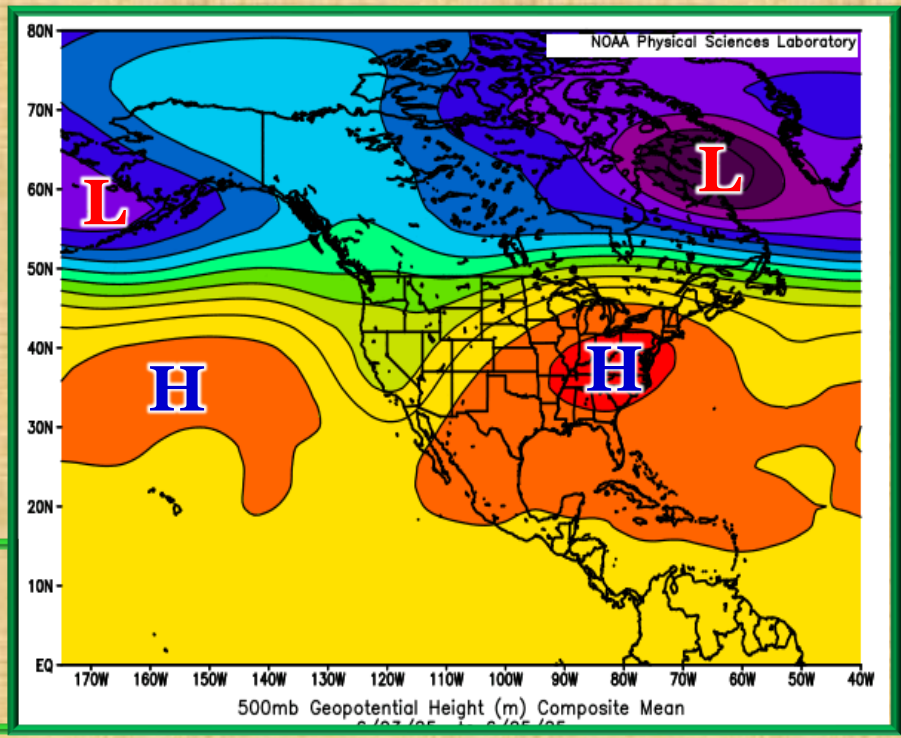
Rainfall Totals and the Percent of Annual Precipitation Falling During the Monsoon Season (Jun15-Sep 30)



Tracking the 2025 Monsoon Season across the El Paso Forecast Area. Fig 1

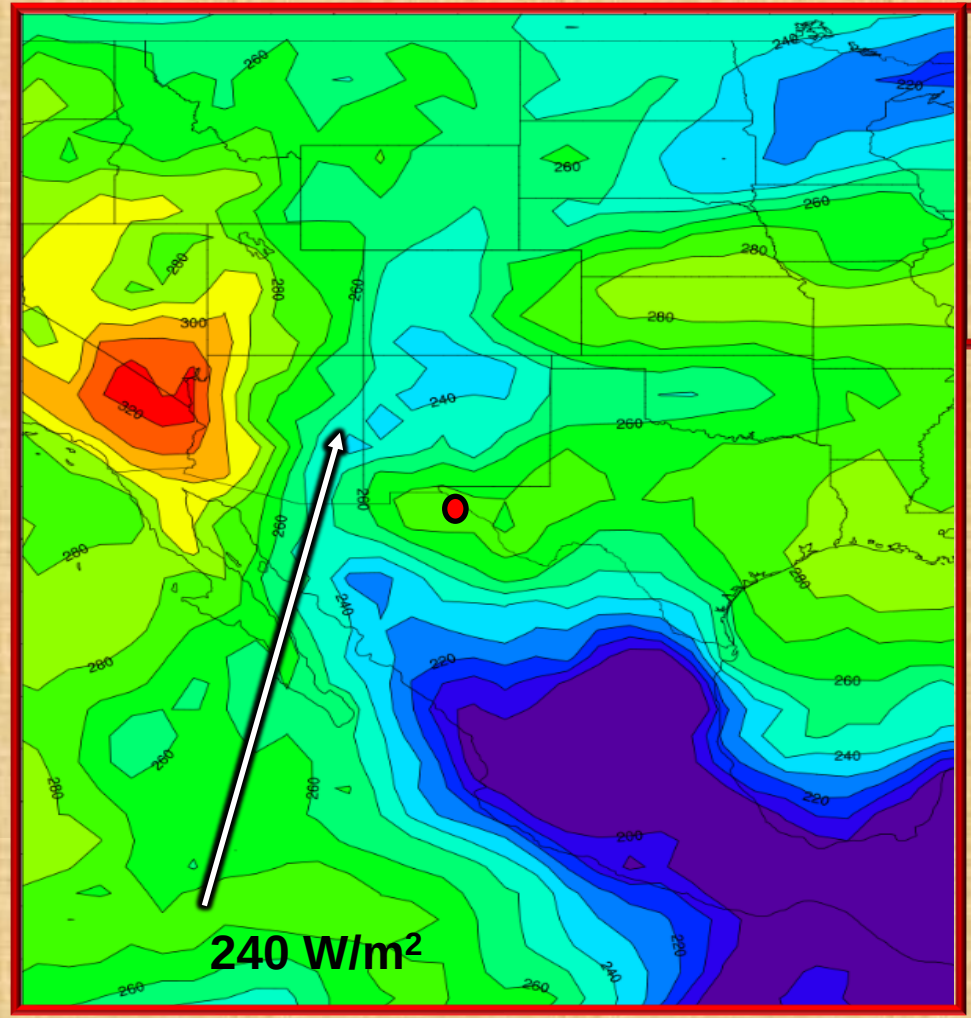


June 24 – Dewpoints in the 50s reach the Borderland and remain in place for the season.

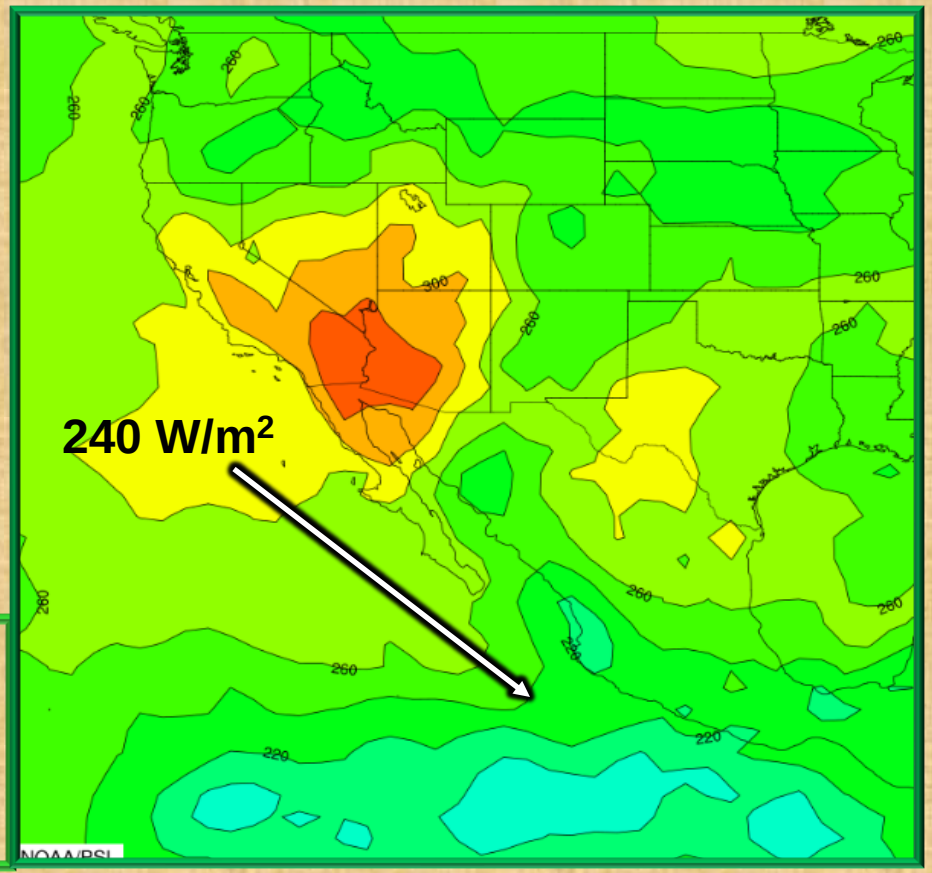


By June 25, 500mb (18,000 ft) sub-tropical high reaches the Desert Southwest as the polar jet stream migrates northward.

Tracking the 2025 Monsoon Season across the El Paso Forecast Area. Fig. 2

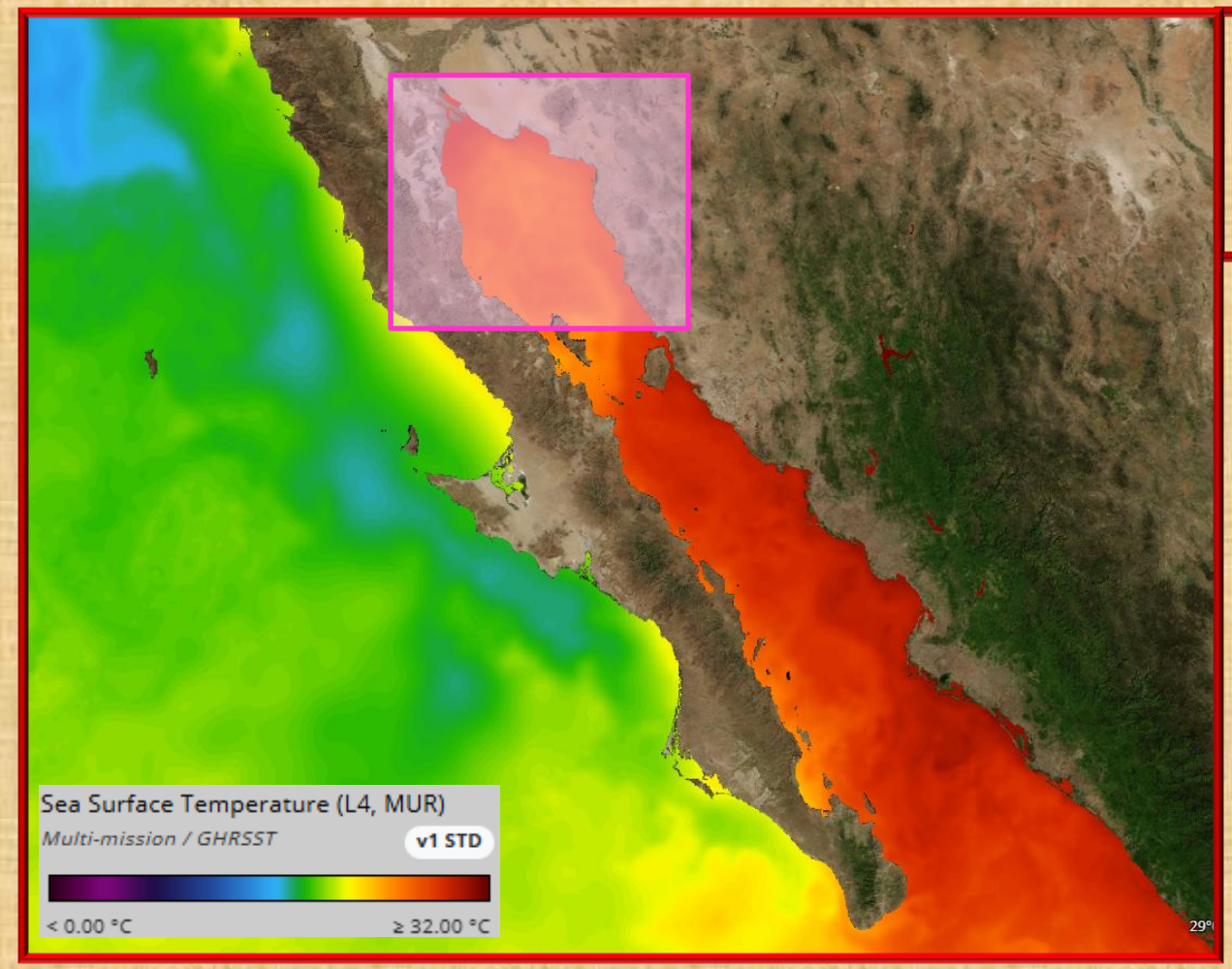


June 20-24 - Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) diminishes to less than 240 W/m^2 in the area though over much of New Mexico. Thick clouds and anvil tops from thunderstorms diminish the OLR values, often indicative of the monsoon moisture and thunderstorms moving into the area. (Pentad data Jun 20-25)



Jul 29-Aug 4 – Outgoing Longwave Radiation increases some to 260-280 W/m2. This denotes slight decrease in overall thunderstorm coverage from beginning of month as we see a stretch of dry, non-active weather starting August off.

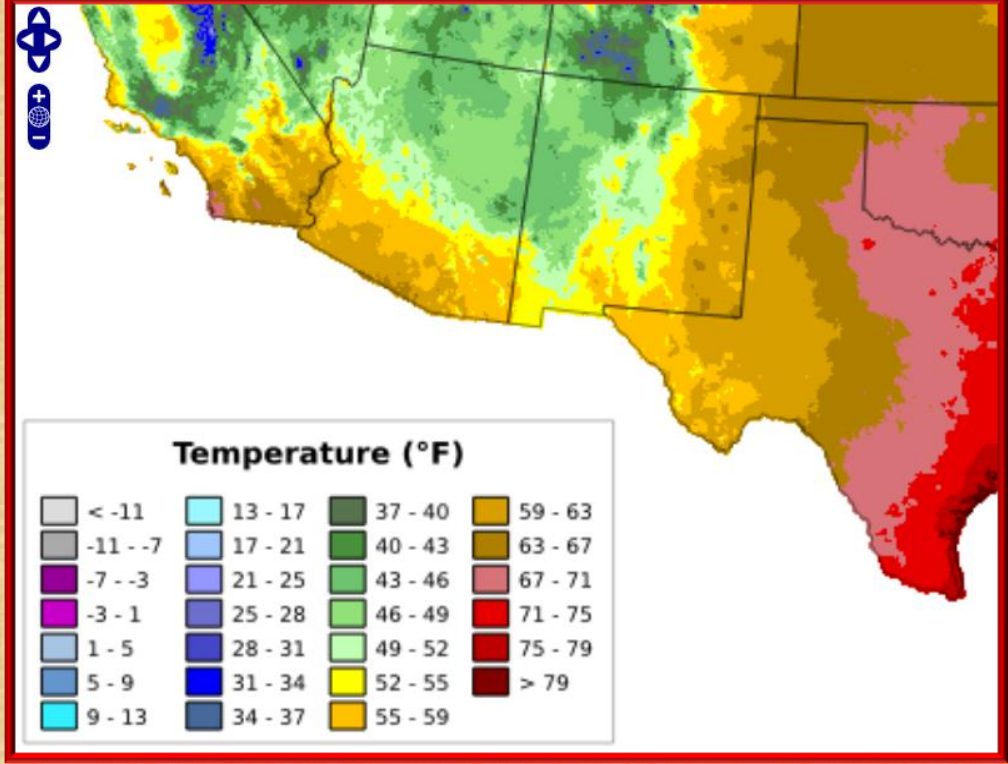
Tracking the 2025 Monsoon Season across the El Paso Forecast Area. Fig. 3



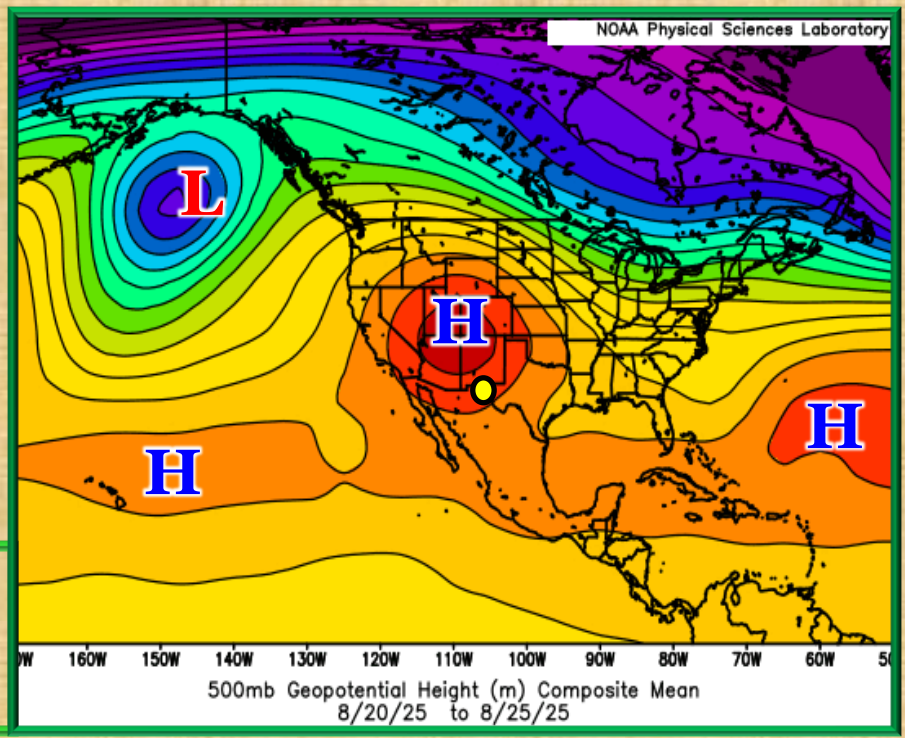
June 19 – Sea surface temperatures in the northern Gulf of California reach 26°C deg (79°F)

Studies have shown that once northern Gulf of California sea surface temperatures reach 26°C, that monsoon rains will begin within about a week. Studies have also shown that when the sea surface temperature reaches 29°C, New Mexico/Arizona will begin receiving the bulk of their rainfall (around 65-70%). This date normally occurs during the last half of July.

As we enter the last few weeks of the 2025 Monsoon Season. Fig 4



Aug 29– Dewpoints remain in the 50s, indicating the monsoon season is still in full swing.



At the end August, the 500mb (18,000 ft) upper flow is still well in the Monsoon pattern.

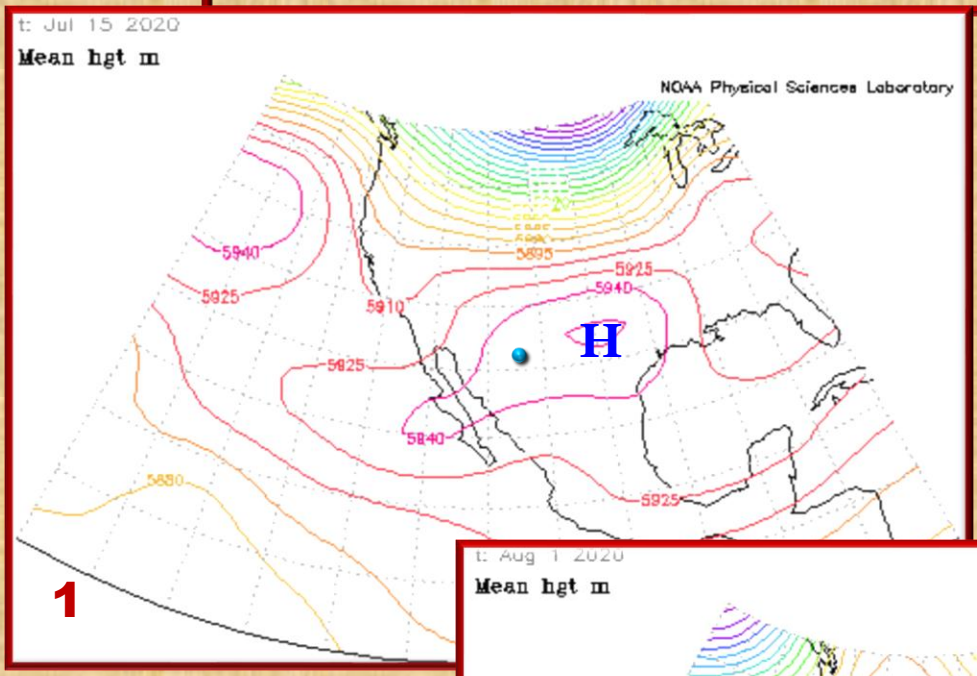
Fig. 6

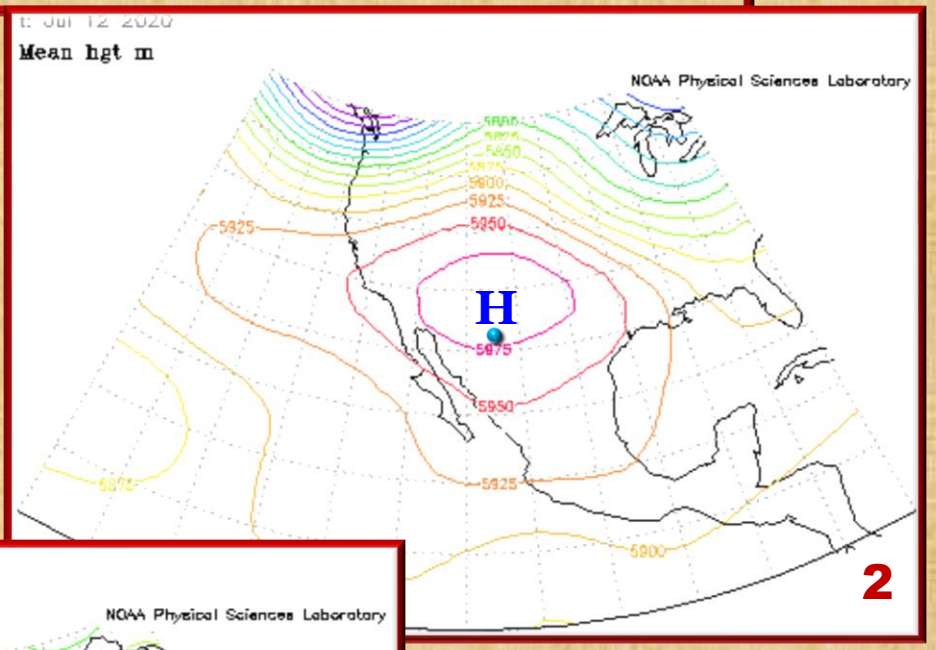
Percent of monsoon rainfall after 29C							
Year	29C Date	ELP	DMN	CLD	TCS	HIL	BKN
2024	Jul 17	41	56	75	33	59	73
2023	Jul 17	89	100	83	97	100	81
2022	Jun 29	85	82	85	67	74	80
2021	Jul 16	51	75	68	60	63	71
2020	Jul 22	88	65	67	98	89	86
2019	Aug 8	83	91	62	67	71	34
2018	Jul 21	59	46	74	80	62	61
2017	Jul 23	58	67	66	88	61	64
2016	Aug 3	93	92	71	79	85	73
2015	Jul 27	63	43	56	53	61	57
2014	Jul 23	92	82	77	91	89	MSG
2013	Aug 8	61	68	61	88	75	MSG
2012	Jul 24	53	64	73	42	52	80
2011	Jul 29	37	90	36	86	62	68
2010	Jul 29	47	31	43	33	47	32
2009	Jul 24	54	61	47	56	65	56
2008	Jul 27	48	39	54	46	58	58
2007	Jul 26	65	62	60	91	72	100
2006	Jul 29	84	81	73	86	85	MSG
2005	Jul 30	95	79	72	83	87	80
AVE	Jul 25	68	68	64	72	69	67

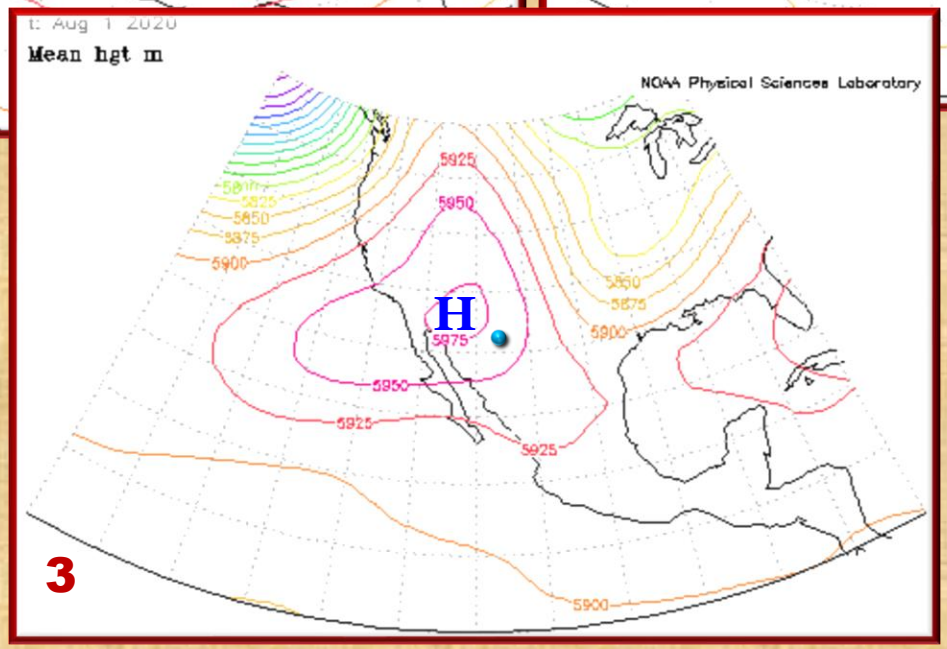
ELP=El Paso Intl Airport
DMN=Deming Airport
CLD=Cloudcroft COOP
TCS=T or C Airport
HIL=Hillsboro COOP
BKN=Buckhorn COOP

The northern Gulf of California sea surface temperature this year reached 29C on July 24. Research has shown that, on average, around 65-75% of the total Monsoon rainfall will fall after that date.

Position of NAM upper high determines our rainfall potential. Blue dot represents El Paso.





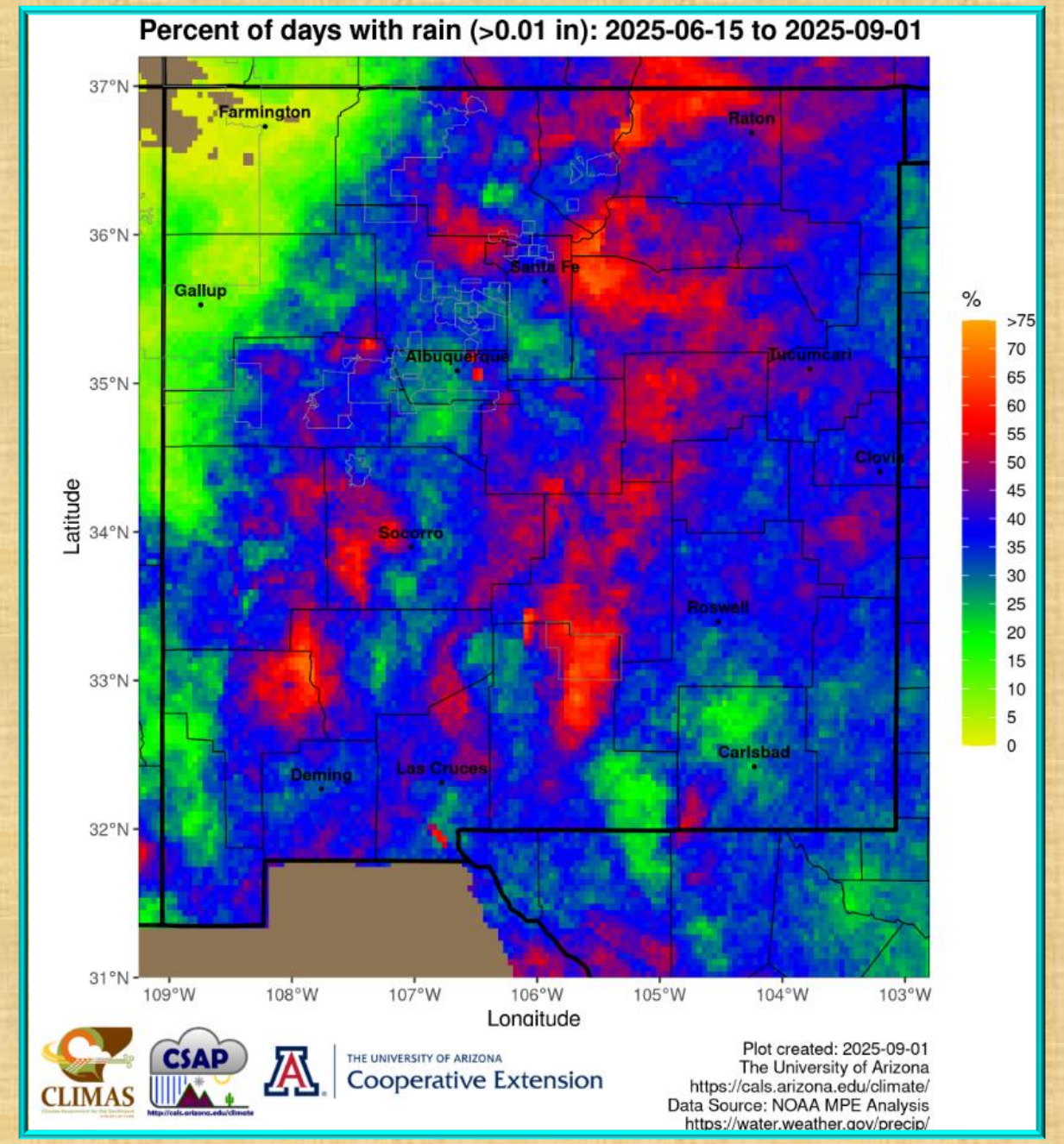


No. 1 High center east of New Mexico. Often brings ample tropical moisture and widespread heavy rain and flooding to the area under southerly flow.

No. 2 High center over New Mexico. Often brings very hot temperatures and little if any rain (usually limited to the mountains).

No. 3 High center north and west of New Mexico. Often brings scattered storms with hit and miss heavy rains and large hail and strong wind potential.

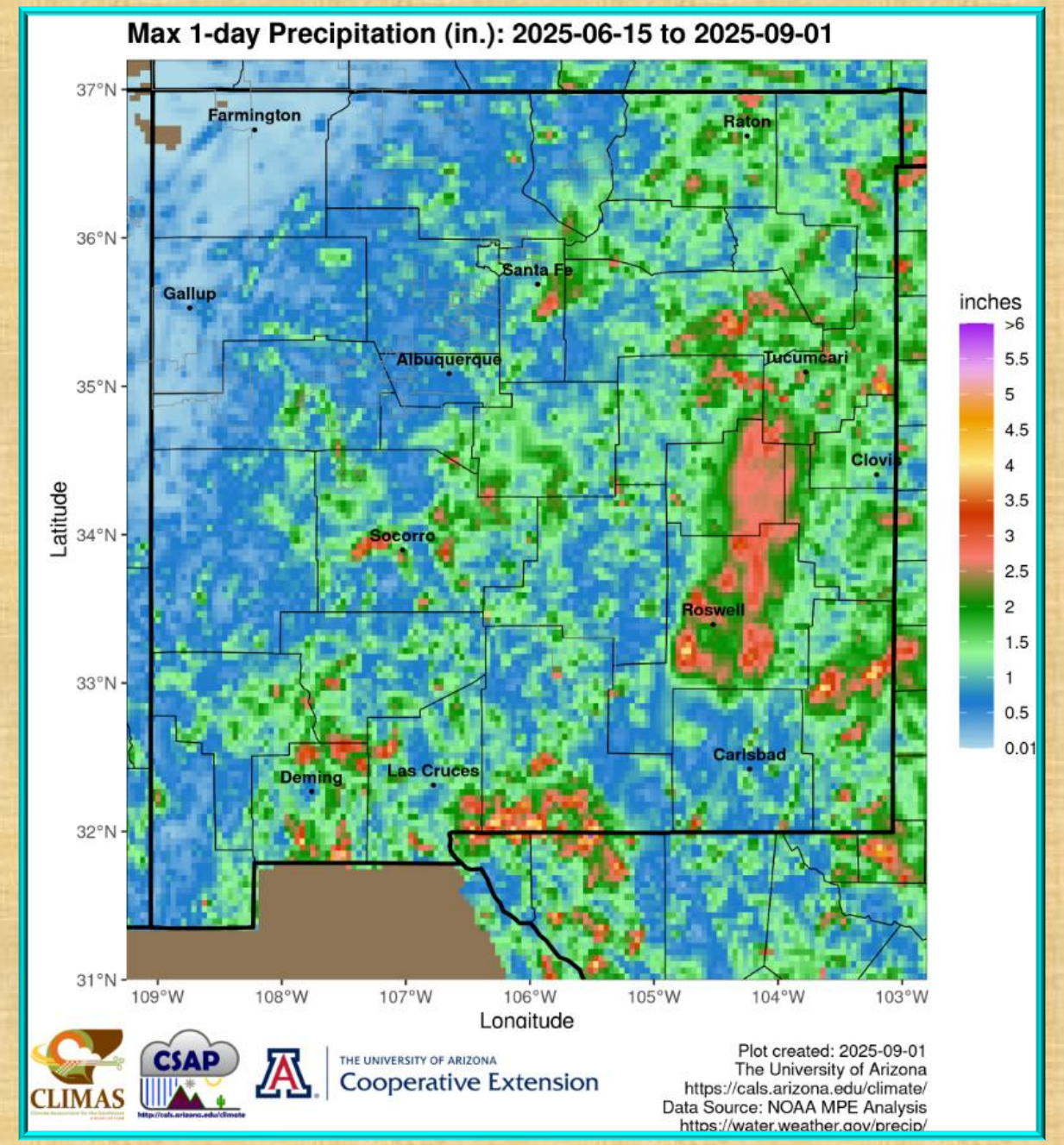
June 15 - August 31



CLIMAS — THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

This map shows the percentage of measurable rainfall days so far during the Monsoon season. Courtesy of Climate Assessment for the Southwest.

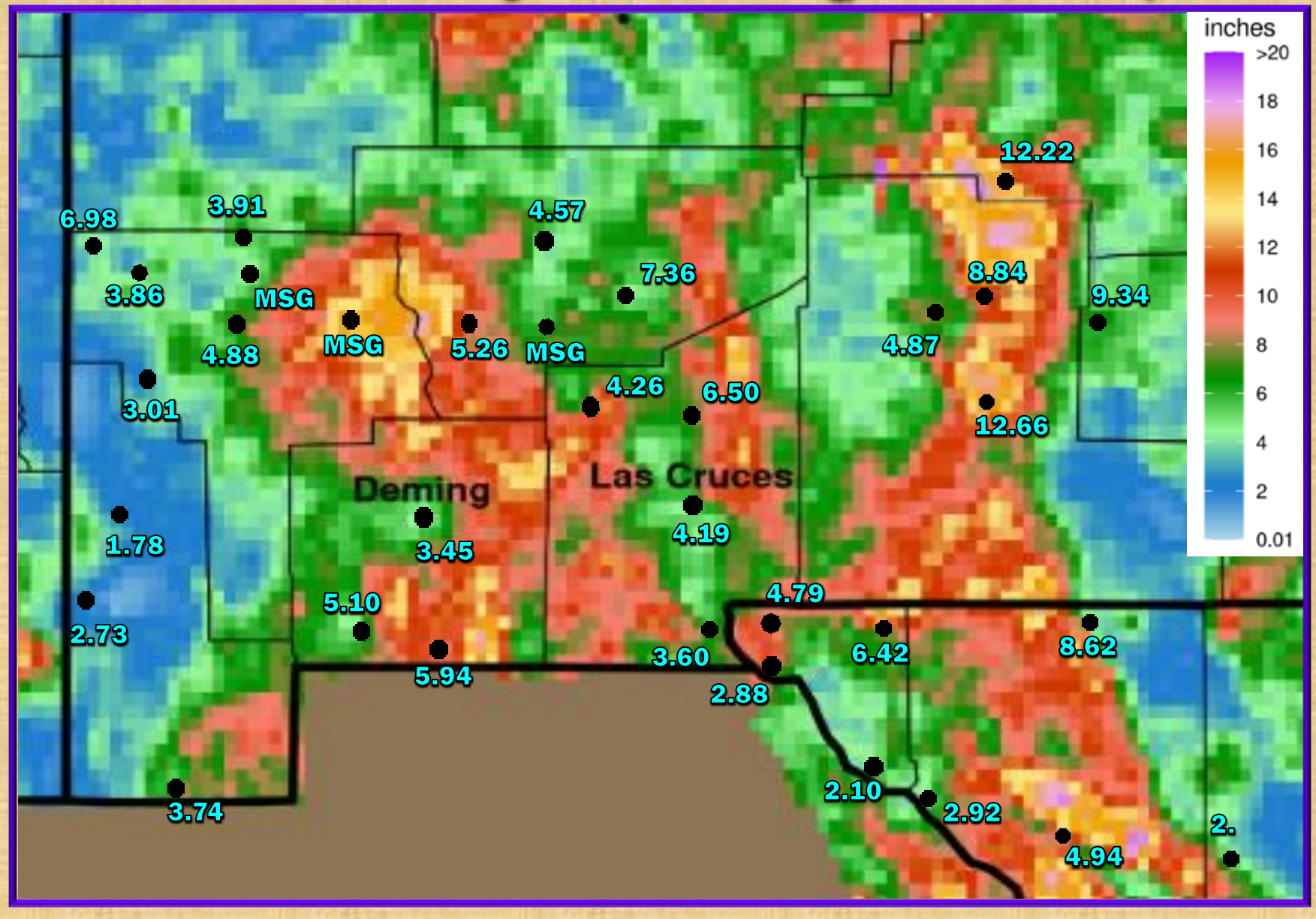
June 15 - August 31



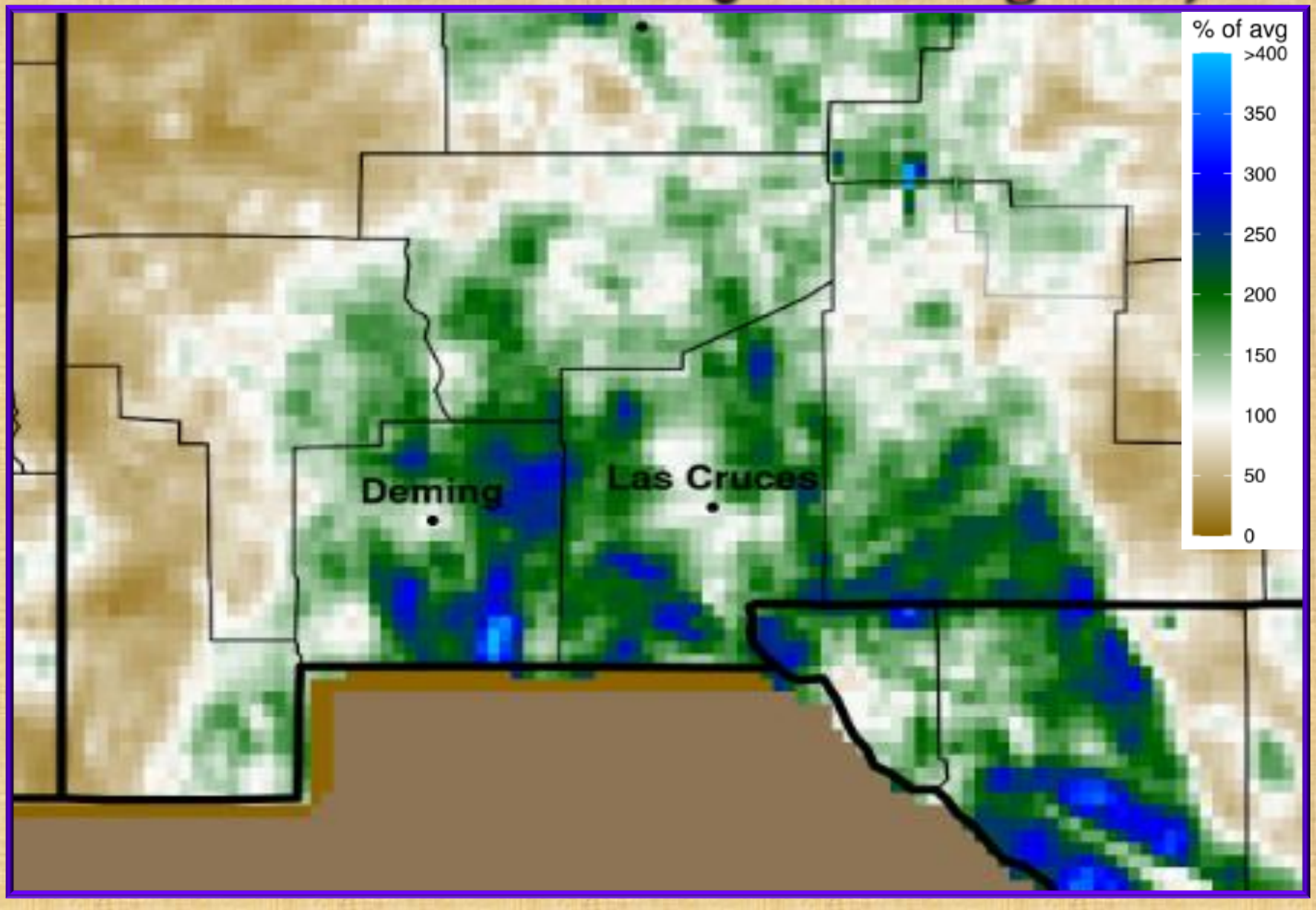
CLIMAS — THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

This map shows greatest one day rainfall total so far during the Monsoon season. Courtesy of Climate Assessment for the Southwest.

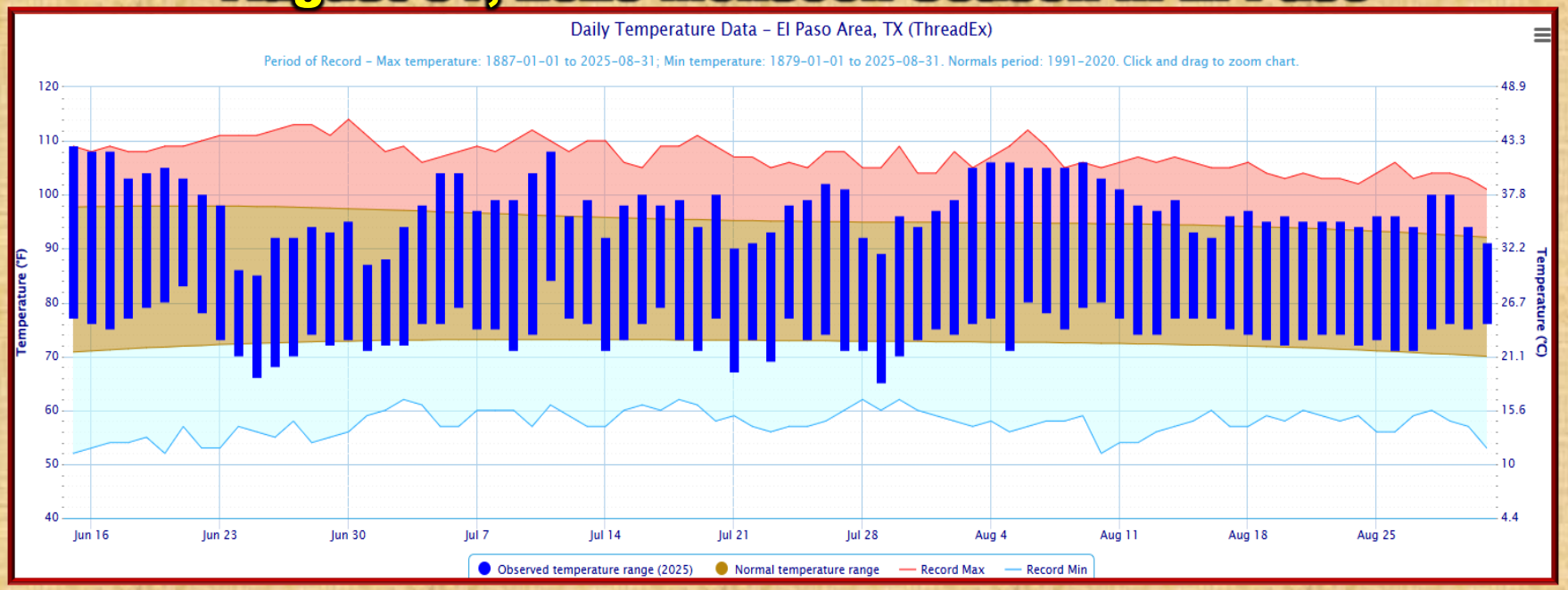
Radar rainfall estimate for the Monsoon Season 2025 (June 15 – August 31, 2025)

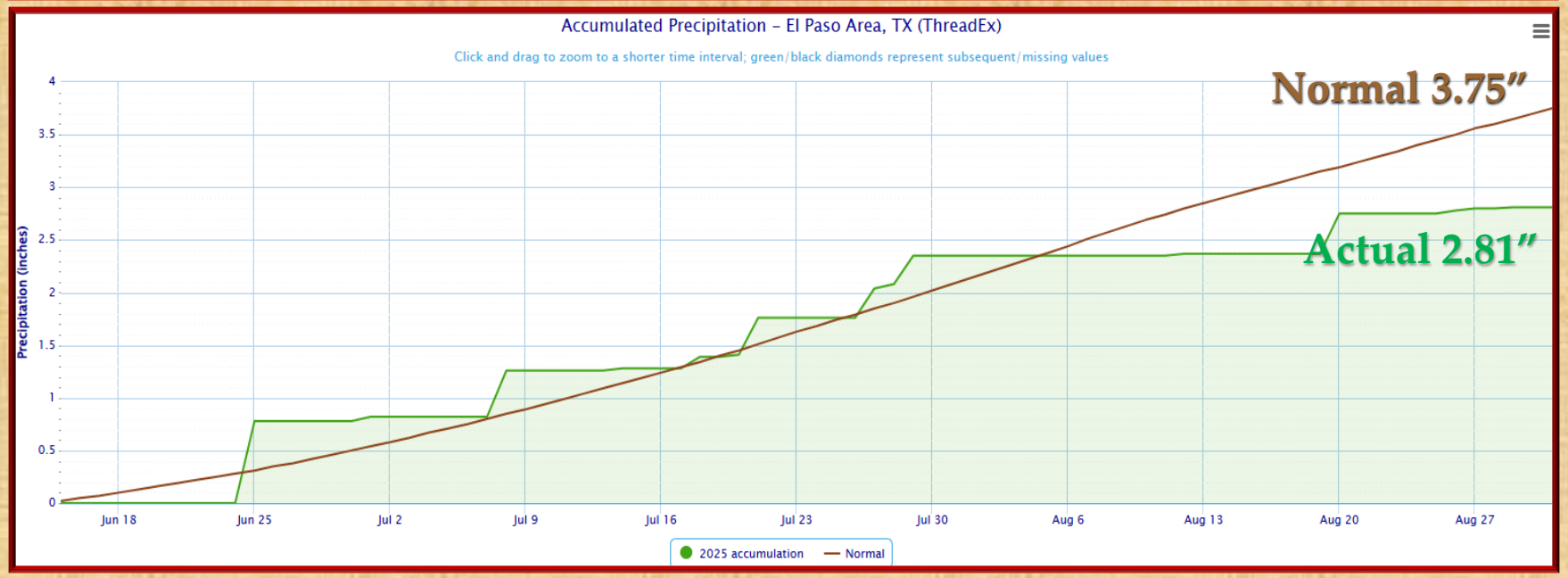


Radar rainfall estimate percent of normal for Monsoon season 2024 (June 15-August 31)



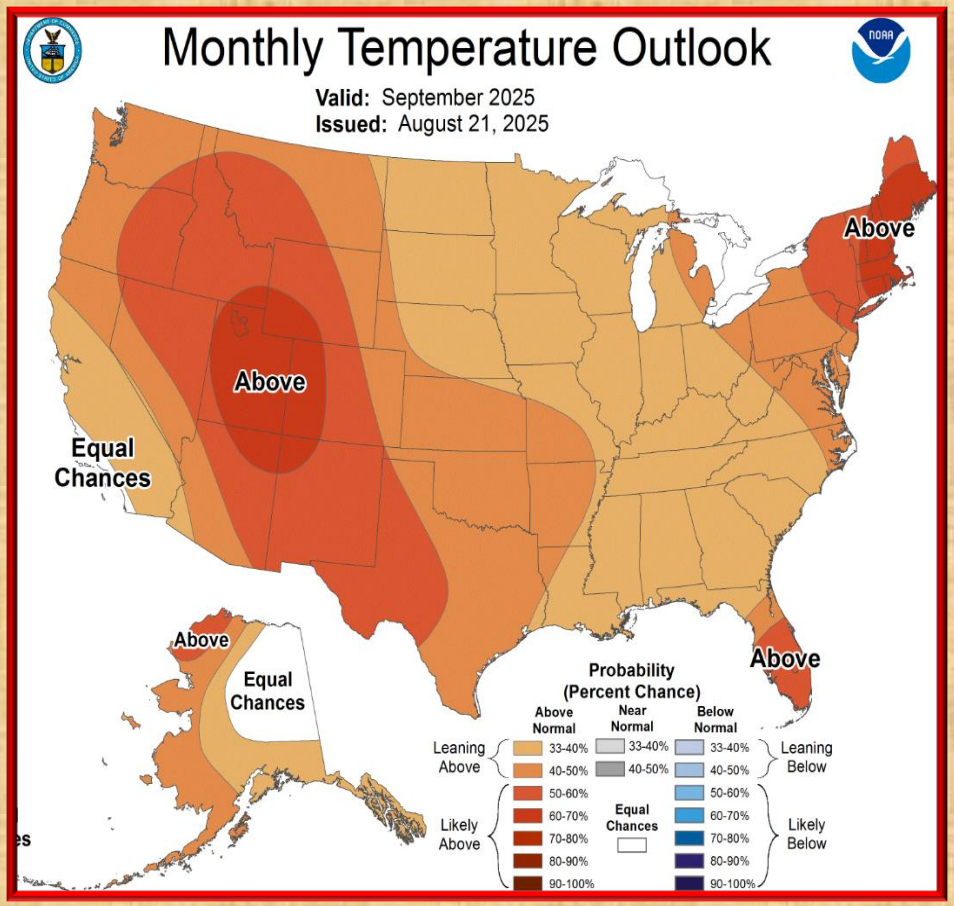
Temperature and precipitation data through August 31, 2025 Monsoon Season in El Paso



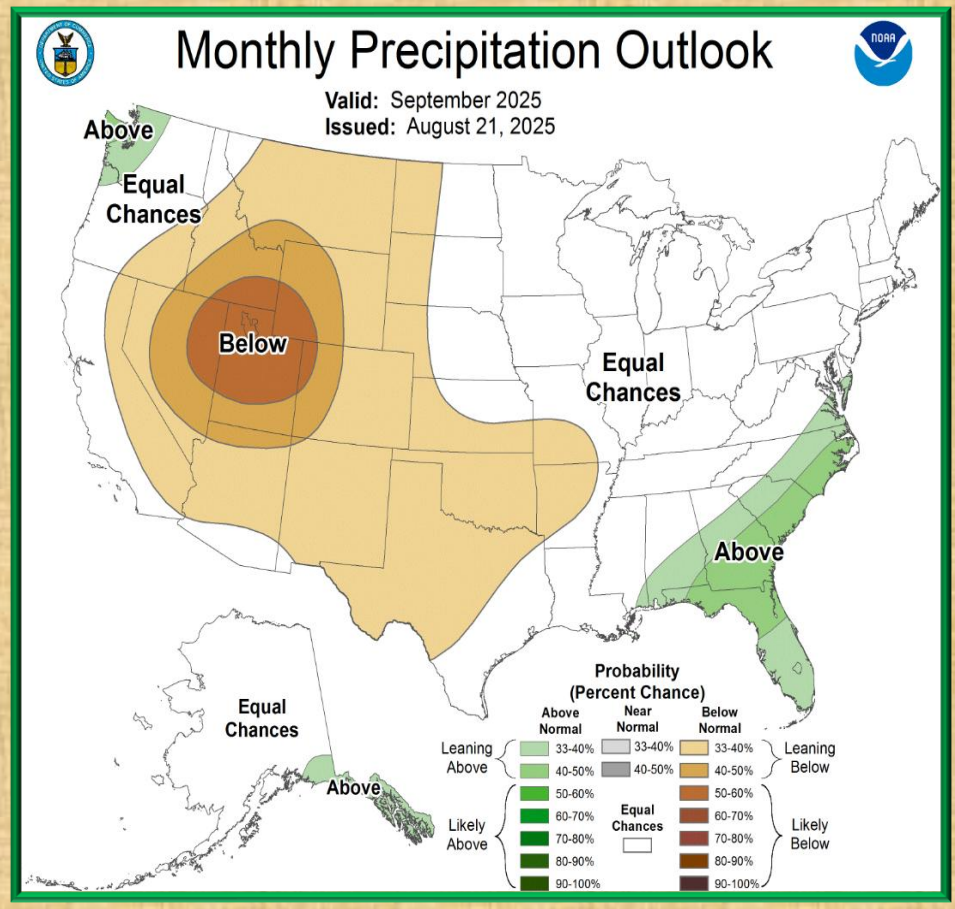


Temperature and precipitation outlook For September 2025

Temperature

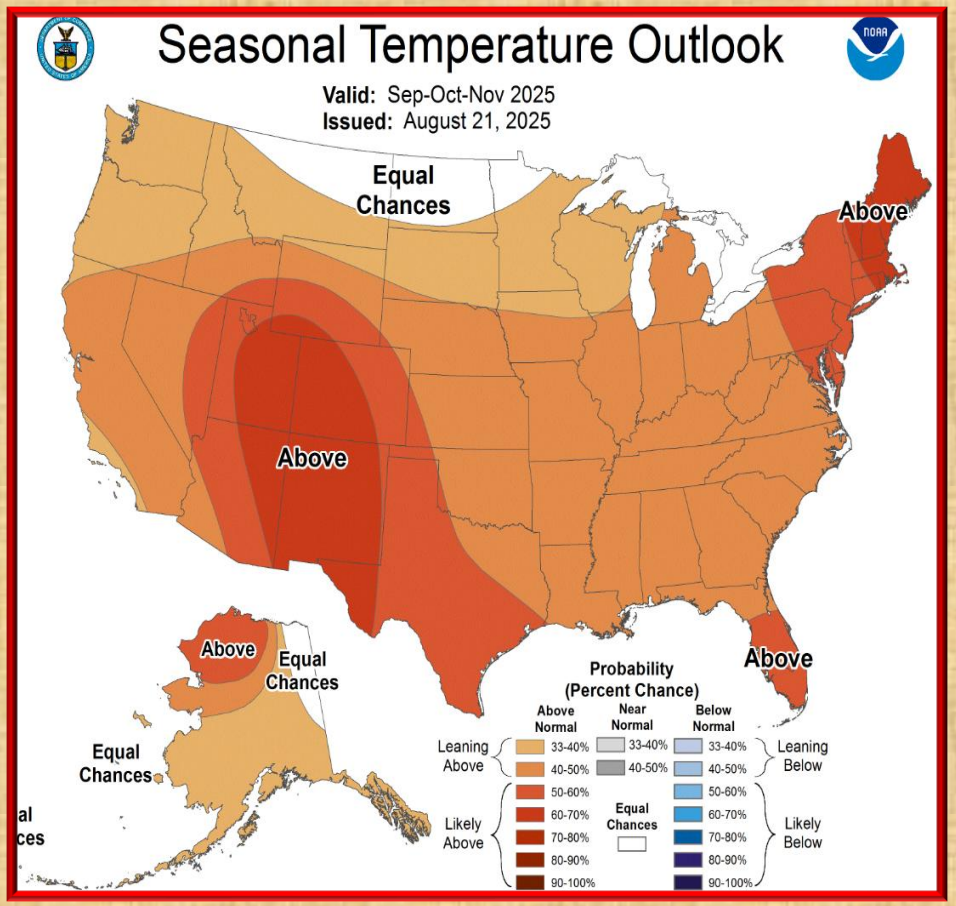


Precipitation

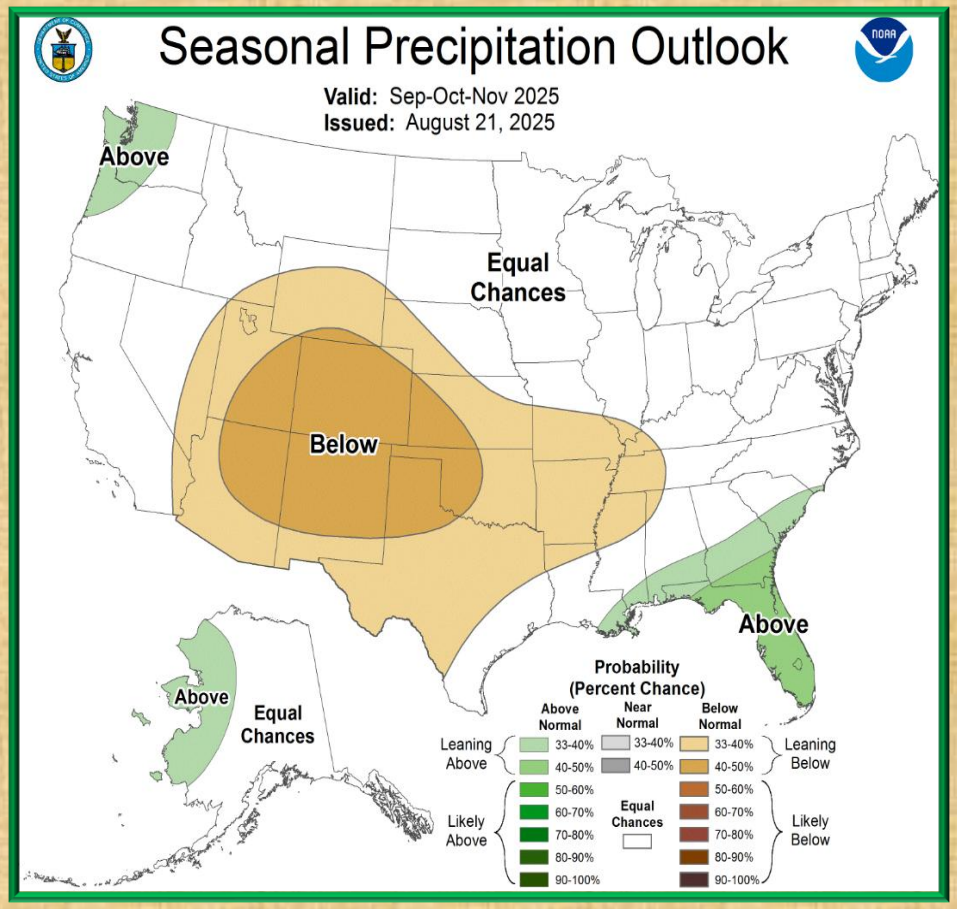


Temperature and precipitation outlook for Sep-Nov 2025

Temperature

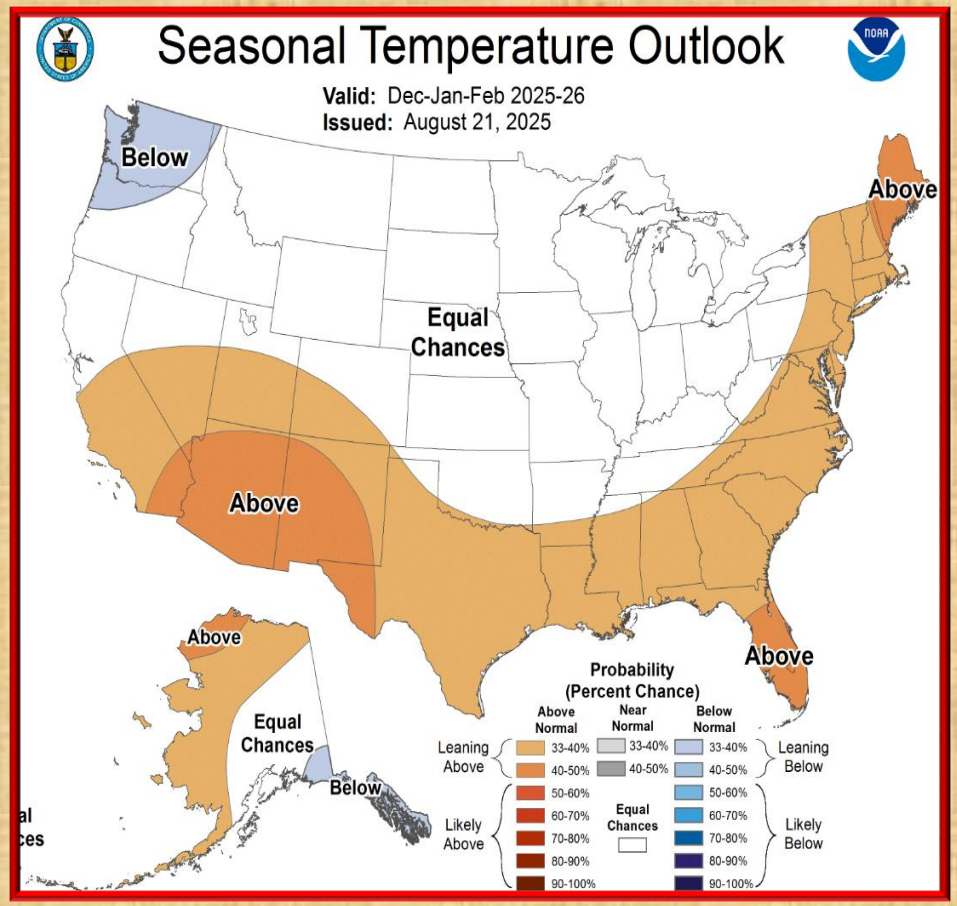


Precipitation

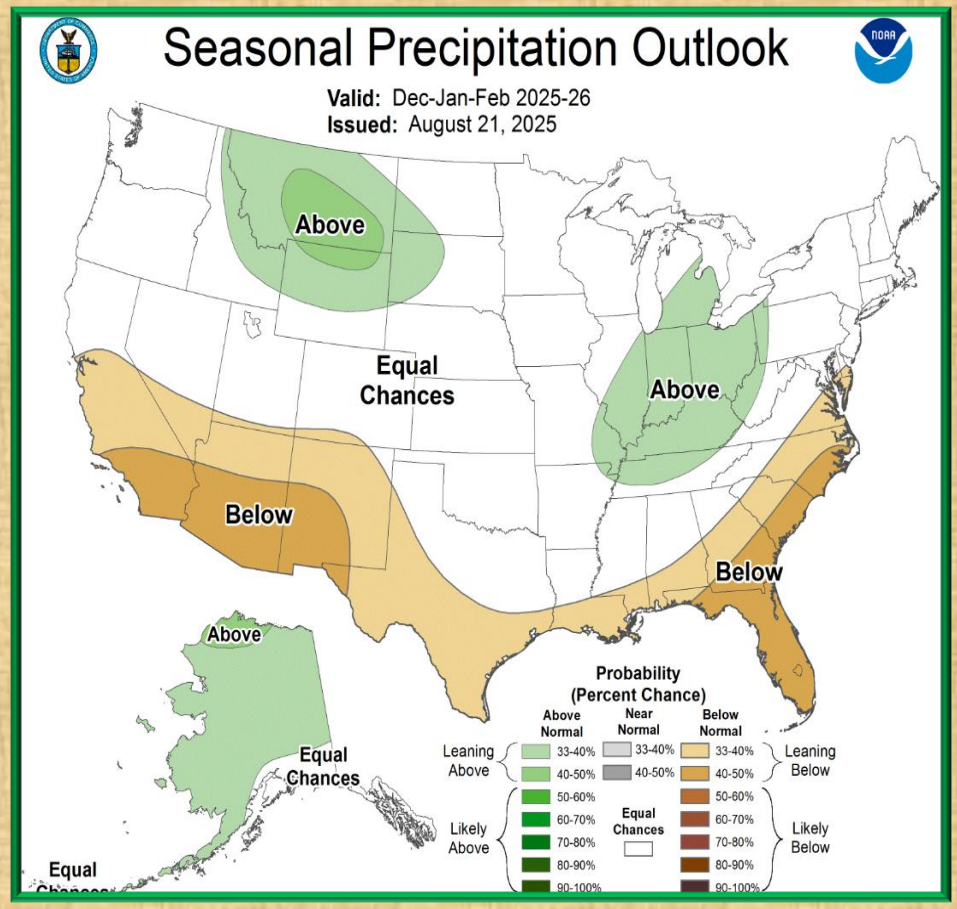


Temperature and precipitation outlook for Dec-Feb 2026

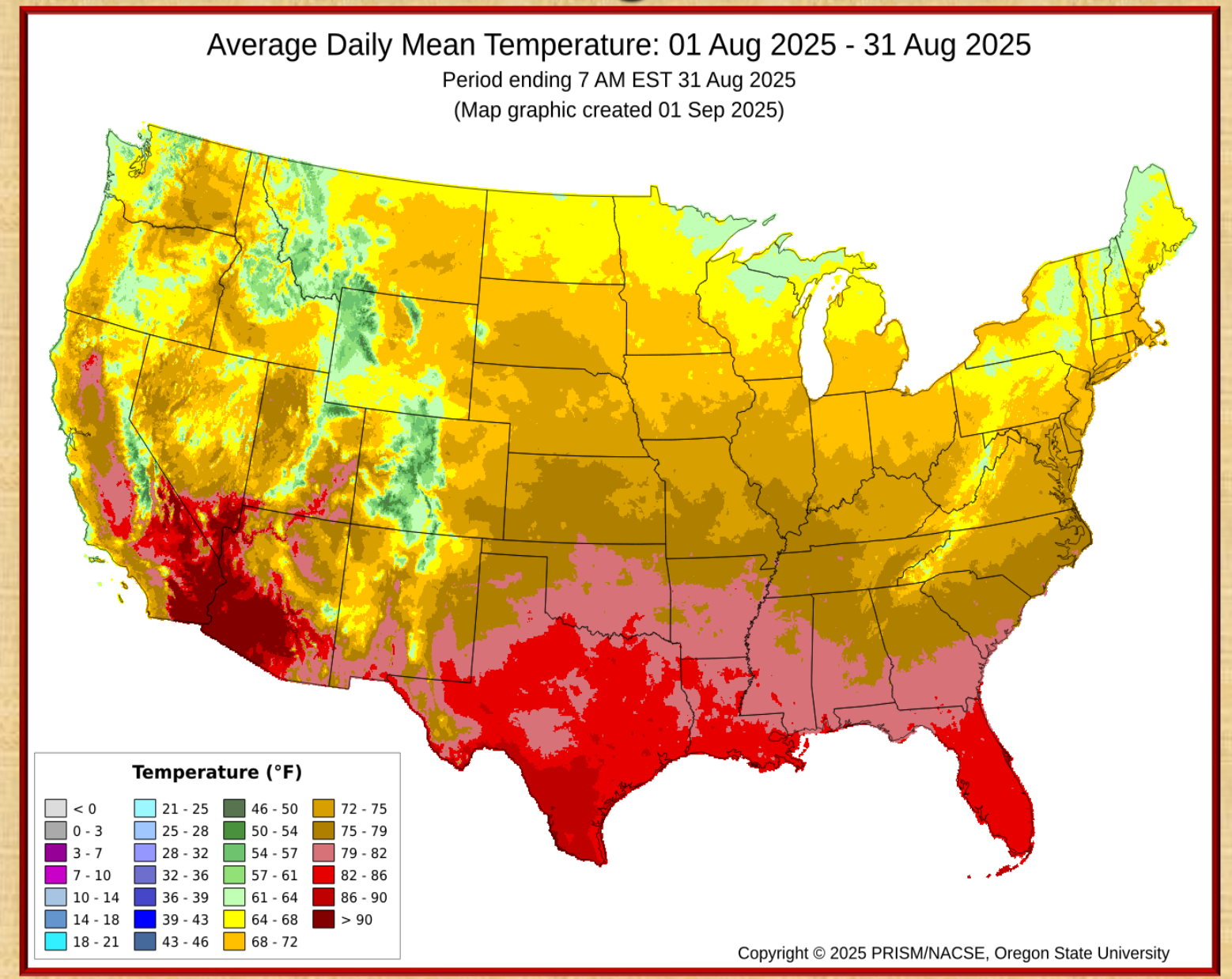
Temperature



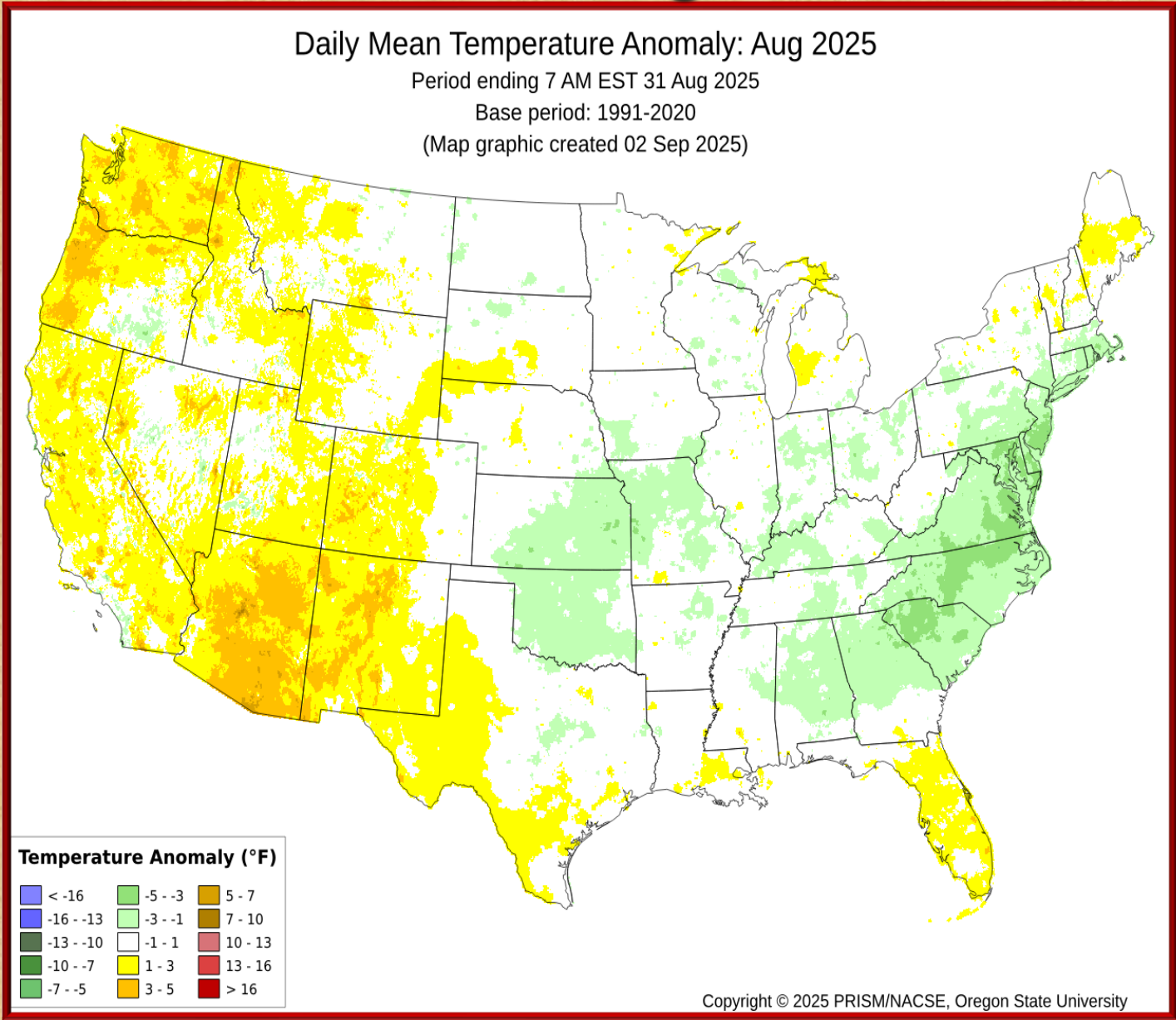
Precipitation



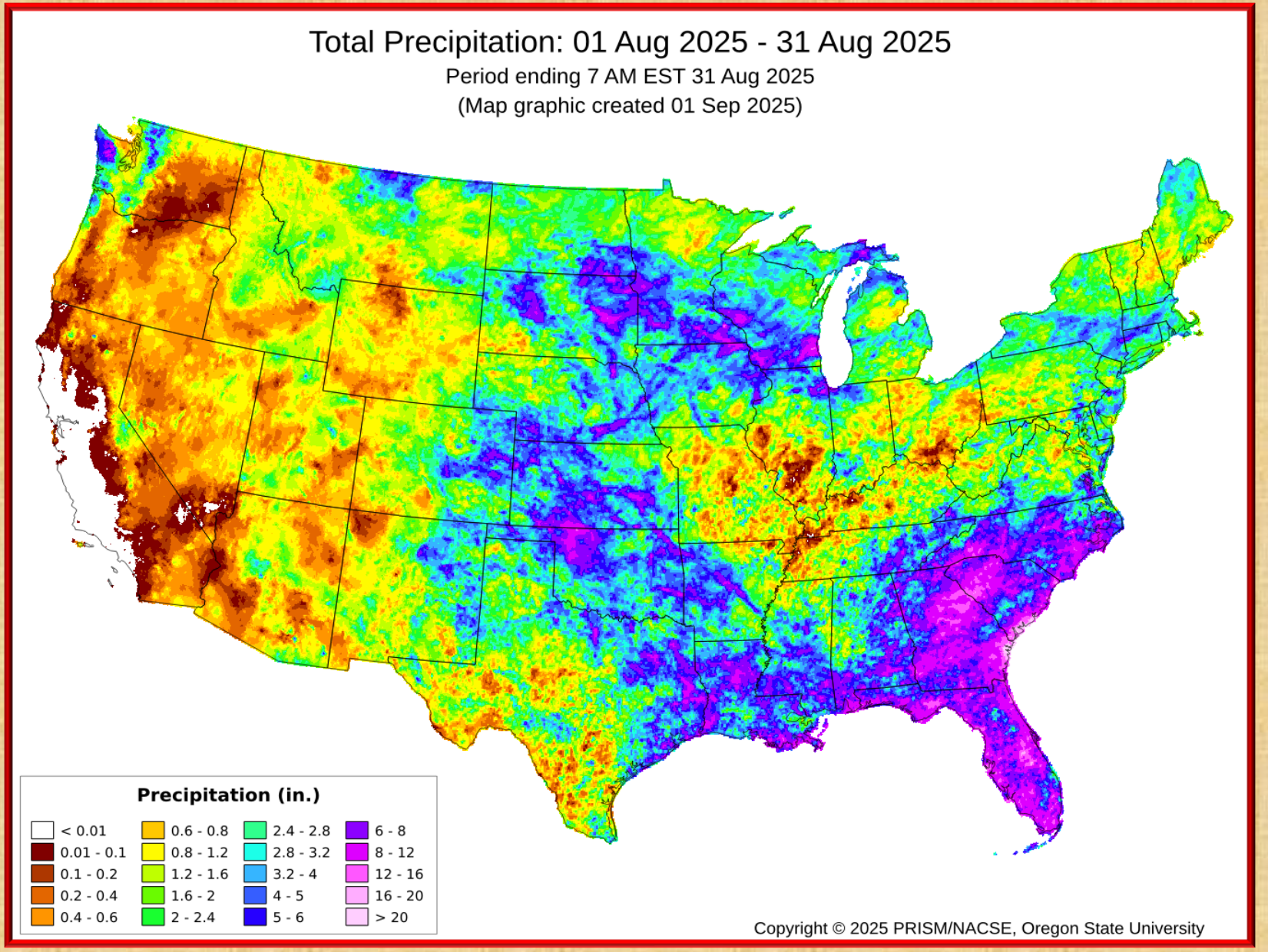
Average Daily Mean Temperature for August 2025



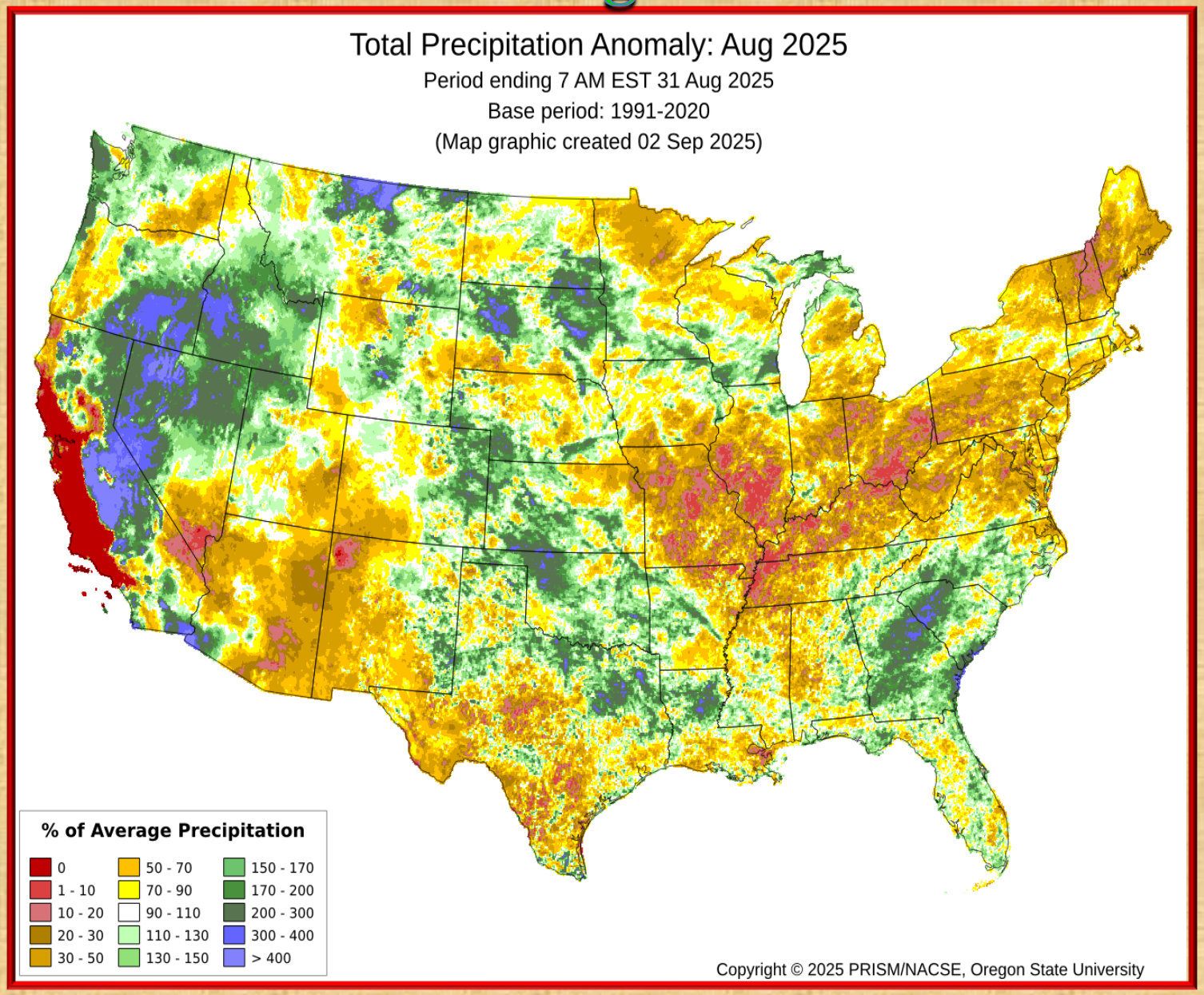
Daily Mean Temperature Departure from Normal, August 2025



Total Precipitation for August 2025



Percent of Normal Precipitation for August 2025



Special Features

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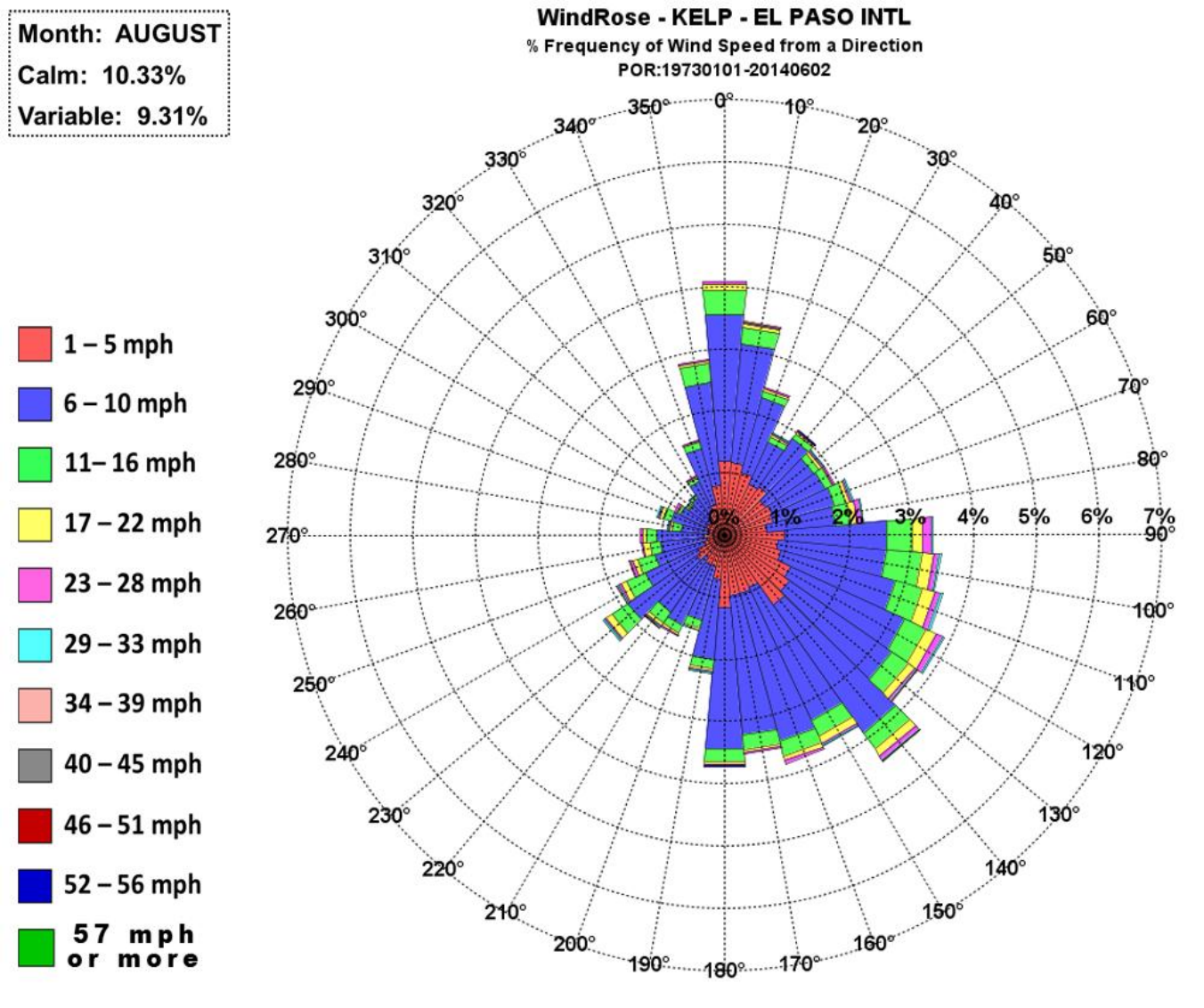

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