NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. by NWS Instruction 10-924)	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE** NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)	**Tulsa, Oklahoma (TSA)**
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS	REPORT FOR: MONTH **February** YEAR **2026**
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283	SIGNATURE **Steven F. Piltz** (Meteorologist-in-Charge) DATE **March 5, 2026**

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

[X] An "X" in the box indicates no flood stages were reached in this Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) during the month above.

February 2026 was another dry month across eastern Oklahoma and northwest Arkansas, with worsening drought conditions. Temperatures were 7°-8°F above normal this month as well. Winter 2025-26 ranked in the top four warmest and driest Winters on record. This report, past E-5 reports, and monthly hydrology and climatology summaries can be found at https://www.weather.gov/tsa/climo_summary_e5list.

Monthly Summary

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 1a), rainfall totals for February 2026 ranged from 0.00" to 4" across eastern OK and northwest AR. These rainfall totals correspond to 0% to 140% of the normal February rainfall with a large portion of the area receiving less than 70% of normal (Fig. 1b).

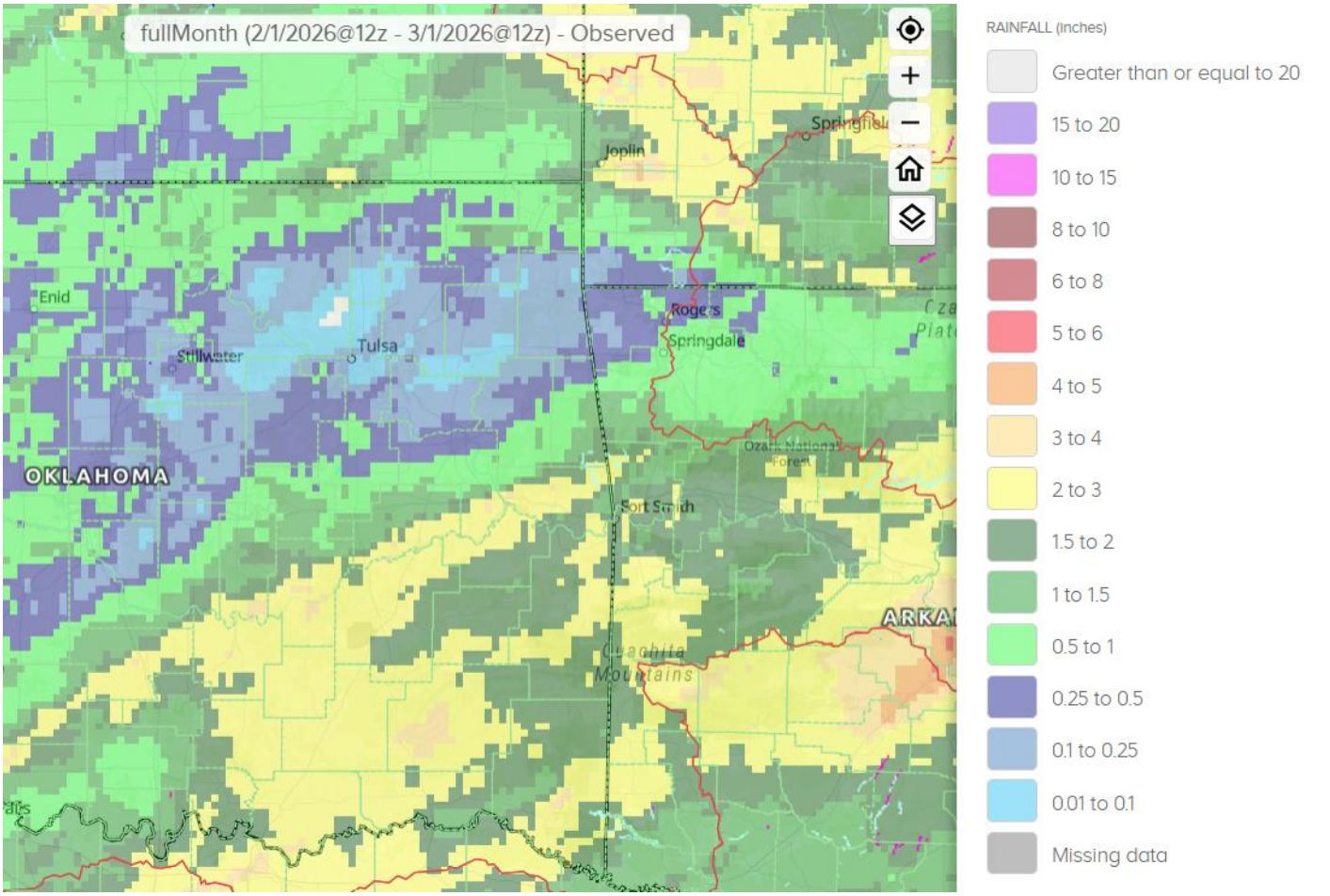


Fig. 1a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for February 2026

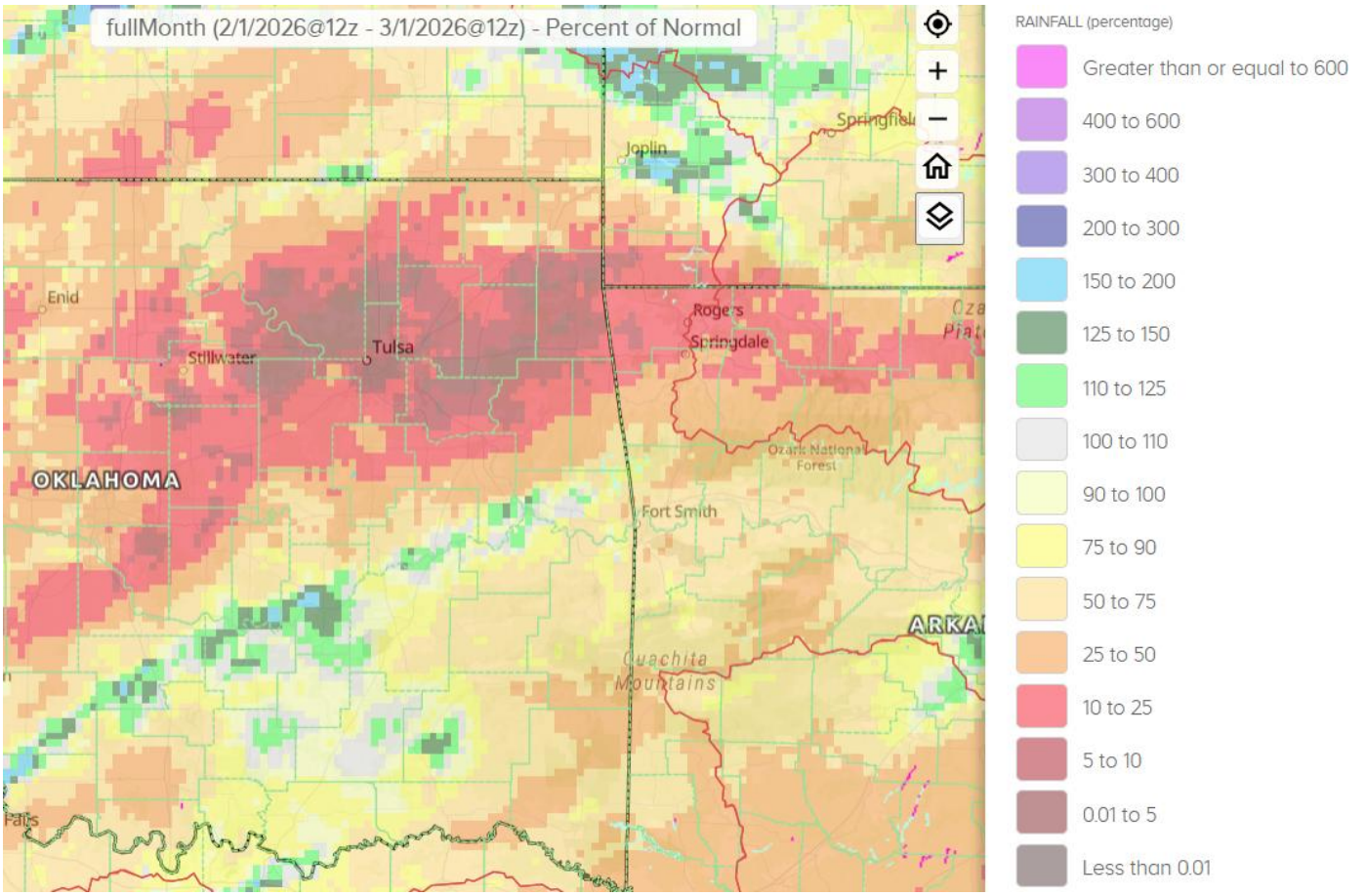


Fig. 1b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for February 2026

In Tulsa, OK, February 2026 ranked as the 2nd warmest February (51.5°F; since records began in 1905) and the 3rd driest February (0.13"; since records began in 1888). Fort Smith, AR had the 4th warmest February (52.6°F; since records began in 1883) and the 38th driest February (1.34"; since records began in 1883). Fayetteville, AR had the 3rd warmest (48.6°F), the 7th driest (0.93"), and the 10th least snowy (Trace) February since records began in 1950.

Some of the larger precipitation reports (in inches) for February 2026 included:

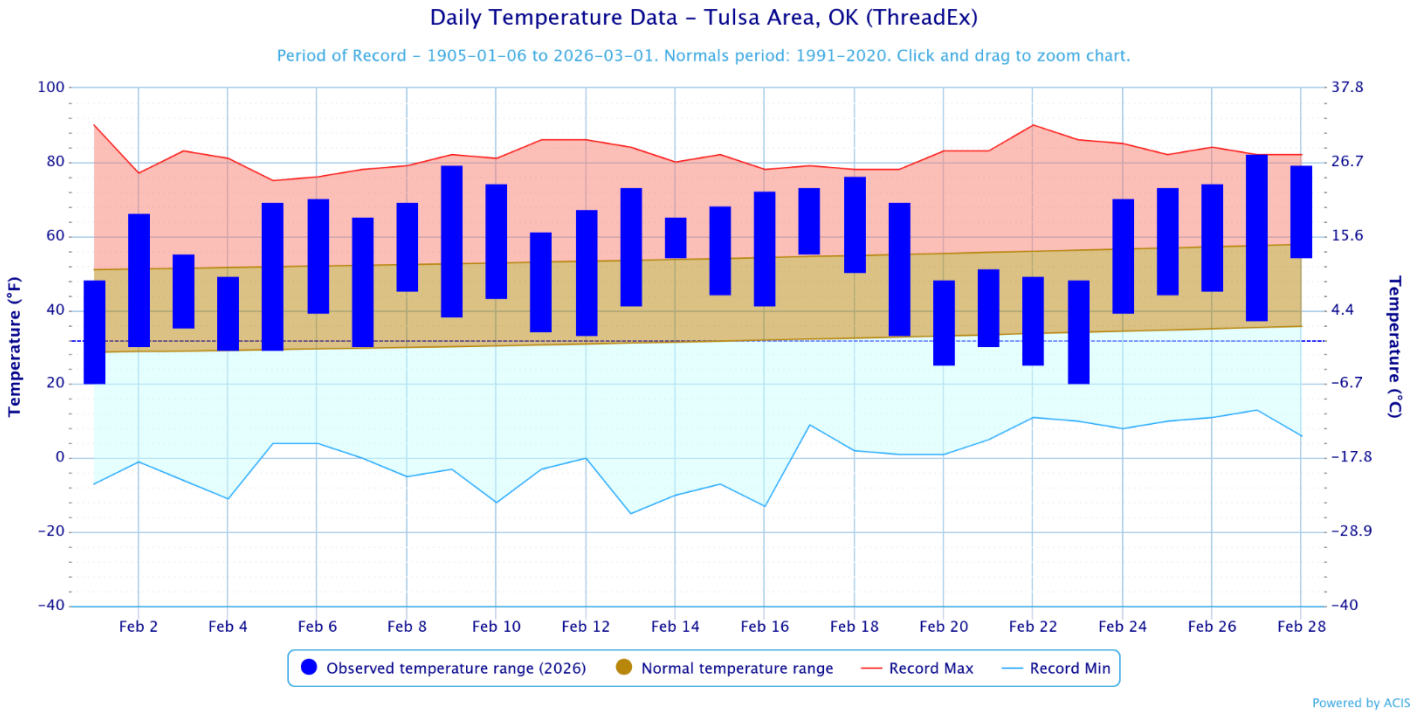
Antlers, OK (meso)	3.09	Sallisaw 0.3SE, OK (coco)	2.90	Stigler, OK (meso)	2.88
Eufaula, OK (meso)	2.72	Hugo, OK (meso)	2.61	Talihina, OK (meso)	2.56
Sallisaw, OK (meso)	2.48	Cloudy, OK (meso)	2.44	Stuart, OK (meso)	2.44

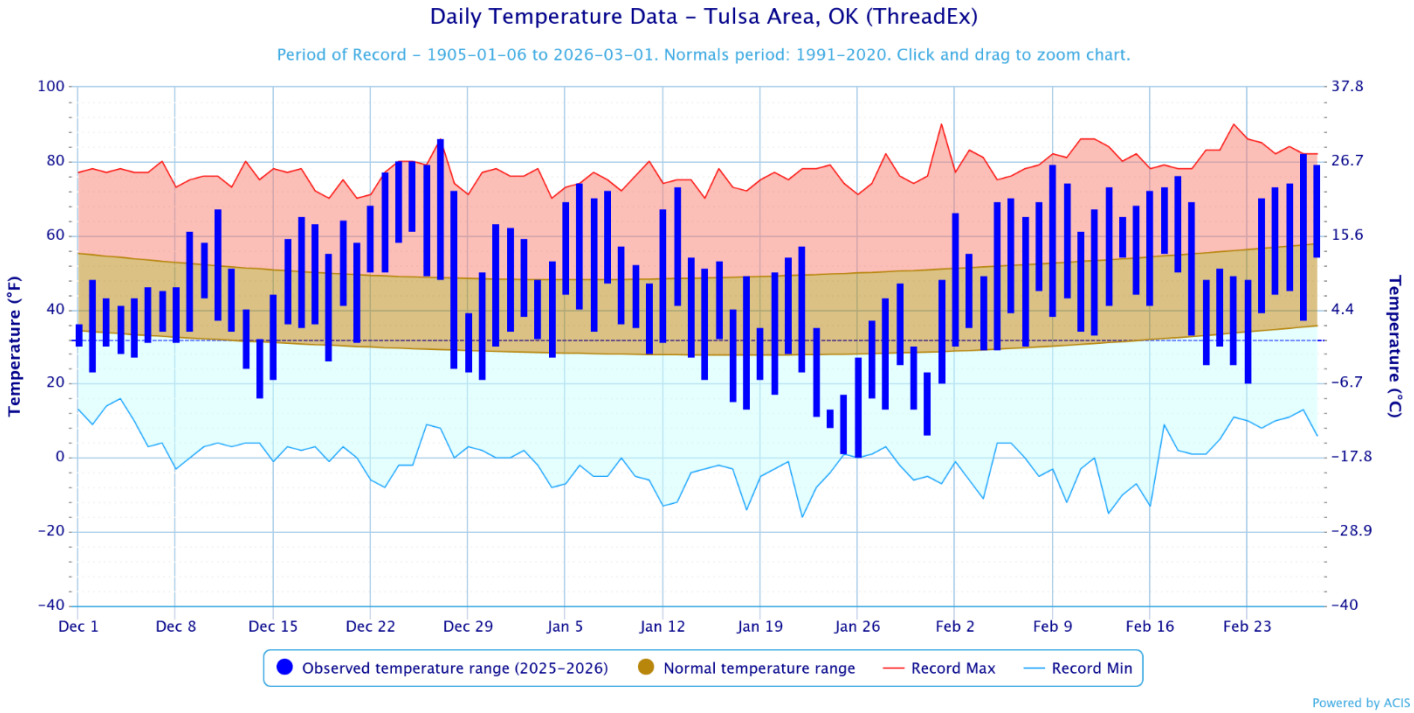
Some of the lowest precipitation reports (in inches) for February 2026 included:

Jennings 3.5NNE, OK (coco)	0.00	Inola 6.7NE, OK (coco)	0.00	Inola 3.3SSE, OK (coco)	0.03
Tulsa 1.4S, OK (coco)	0.06	Collinsville 2.1WSW, OK (coco)	0.06	Oilton, OK (meso)	0.07
Skiatook, OK (meso)	0.08	Jenks Riverside Arpt, OK (ASOS)	0.08	Spavinaw, OK (coop)	0.09

According to statistics from the Oklahoma Climatological Survey (OCS) Mesonet:

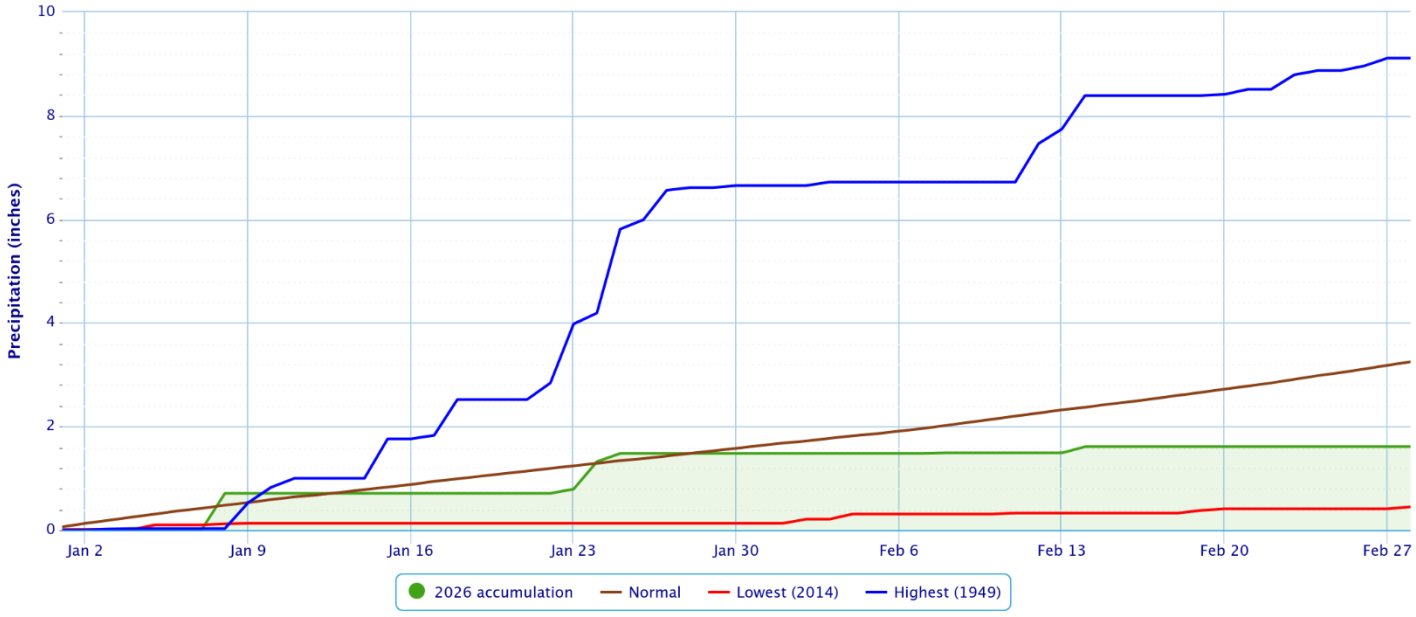
Rank since 1921	Last 30 Days (Jan 30 – Feb 28)	Winter 2025-26 (Dec 1 – Feb 28)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Feb 28)	Last 120 Days (Nov 1 – Feb 28)	Growing Season (Sep 1 – Feb 28)	Water Year-to-Date (Oct 1, 2025 – Feb 28, 2026)	Last 365 Days (Mar 1, 2025 – Feb 28, 2026)
Northeast OK	**8th driest**	**1st driest**	12th driest	**4th driest**	13th driest	13th driest	20th wettest
East Central OK	32nd driest	**4th driest**	26th driest	**3rd driest**	11th driest	18th driest	17th wettest
Southeast OK	37th driest	**3rd driest**	30th driest	15th driest	**7th driest**	15th driest	53rd wettest
Statewide	23rd driest	**4th driest**	24th driest	**8th driest**	**9th driest**	14th driest	22nd wettest


Daily Temperature Data – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)
Period of Record – 1905-01-06 to 2026-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.
Temperature (°F)
Temperature (°C)
100
80
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
37.8
26.7
15.6
4.4
-6.7
-17.8
-28.9
-40
Feb 2
Feb 4
Feb 6
Feb 8
Feb 10
Feb 12
Feb 14
Feb 16
Feb 18
Feb 20
Feb 22
Feb 24
Feb 26
Feb 28
Observed temperature range (2026)
Normal temperature range
Record Max
Record Min
Powered by ACIS


Daily Temperature Data – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)
Period of Record – 1905-01-06 to 2026-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.
Temperature (°F)
Temperature (°C)
100
80
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
37.8
26.7
15.6
4.4
-6.7
-17.8
-28.9
-40
Dec 1
Dec 8
Dec 15
Dec 22
Dec 29
Jan 5
Jan 12
Jan 19
Jan 26
Feb 2
Feb 9
Feb 16
Feb 23
Observed temperature range (2025-2026)
Normal temperature range
Record Max
Record Min
Powered by ACIS

Accumulated Precipitation – Tulsa Area, OK (ThreadEx)

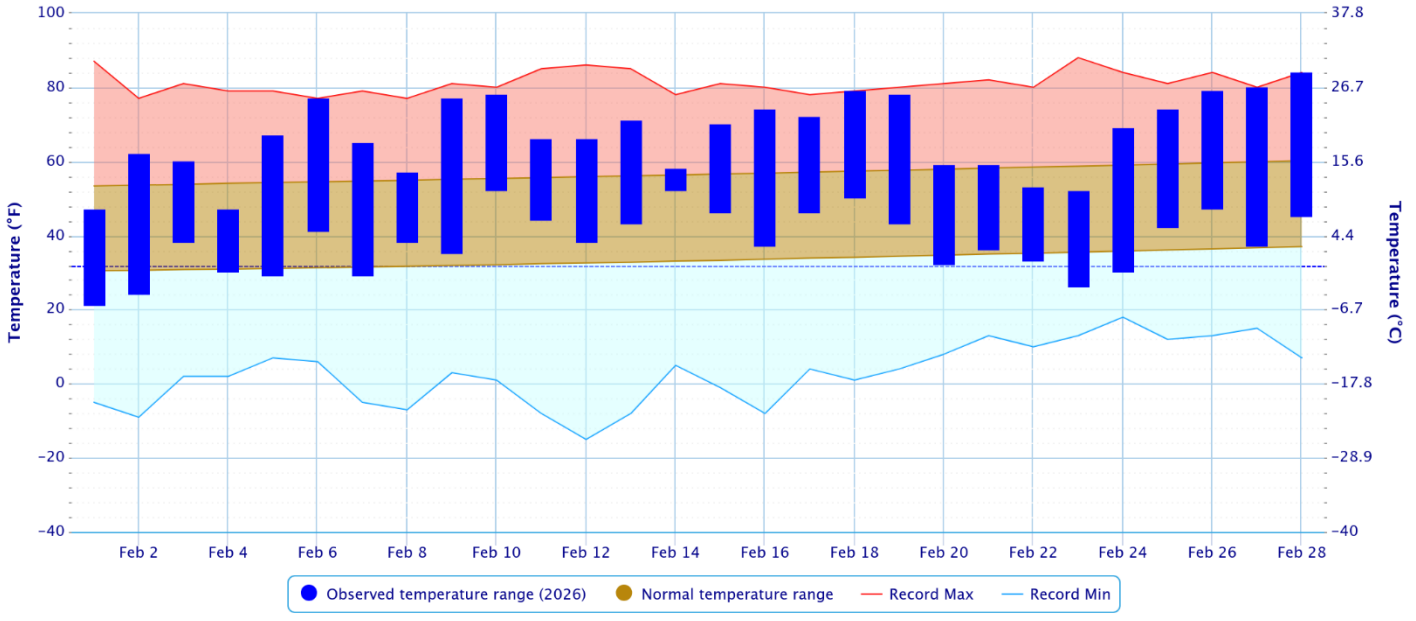
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Powered by ACIS

Daily Temperature Data – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

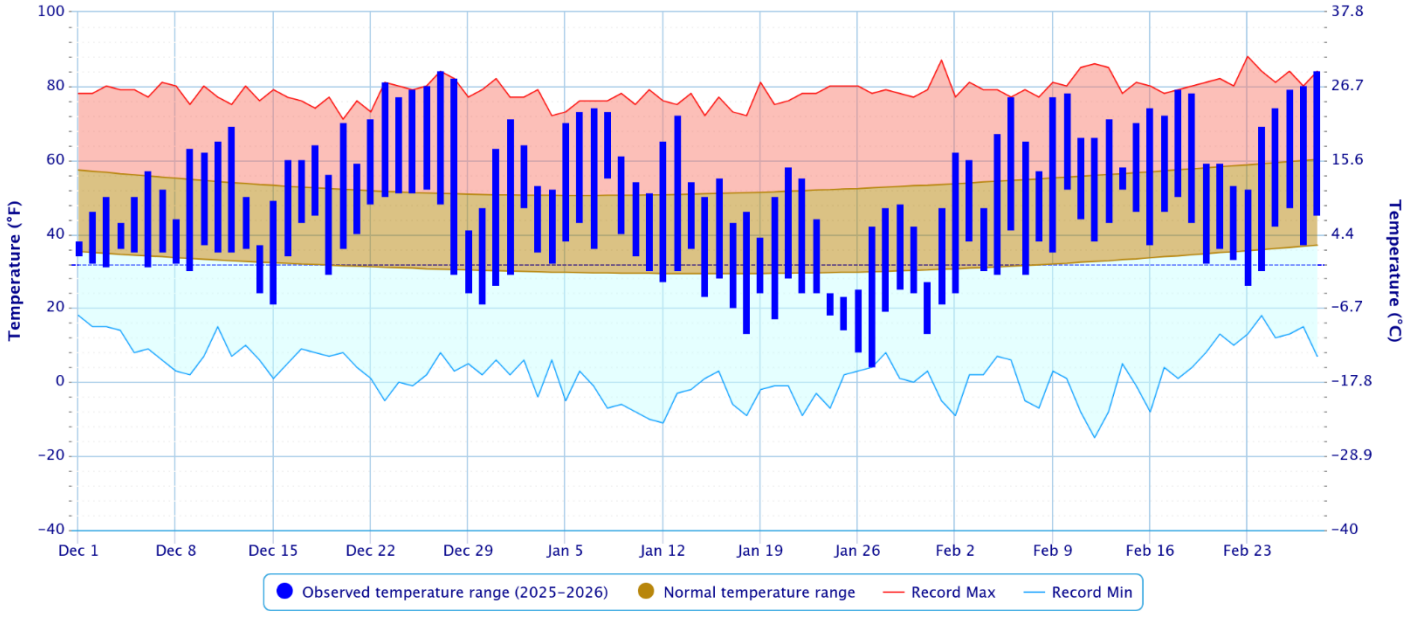
Period of Record – 1882-06-01 to 2026-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Daily Temperature Data – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

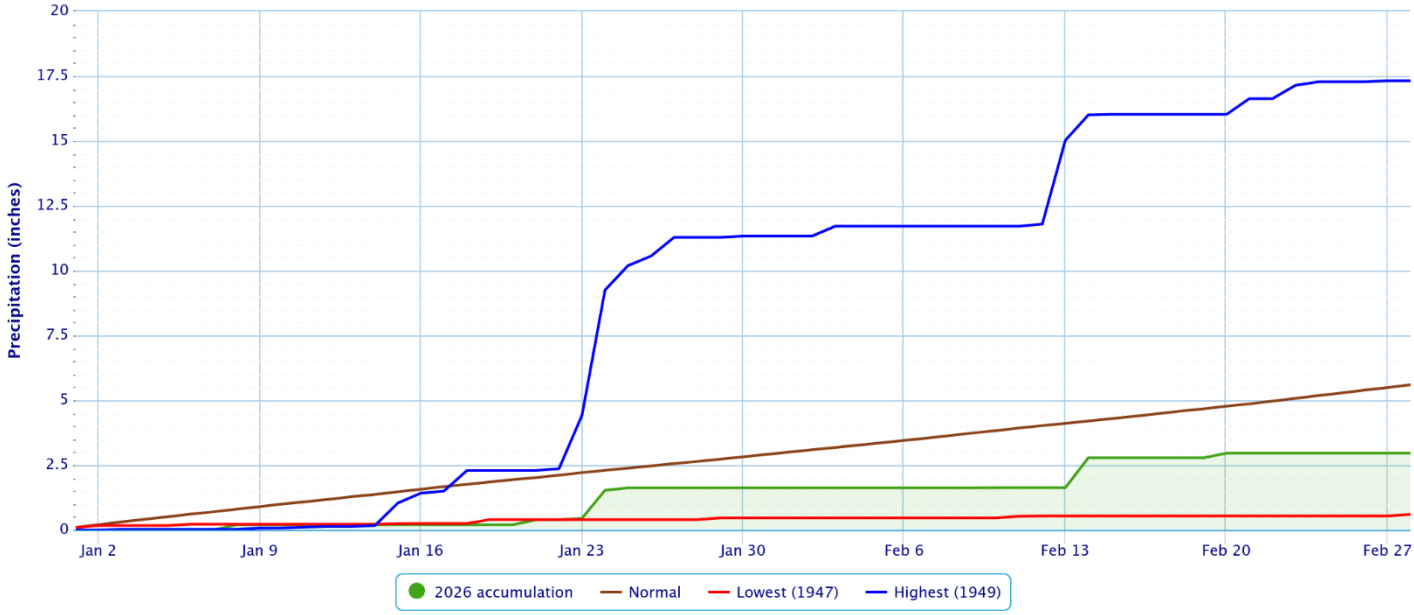
Period of Record – 1882-06-01 to 2026-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Accumulated Precipitation – Fort Smith Area, AR (ThreadEx)

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



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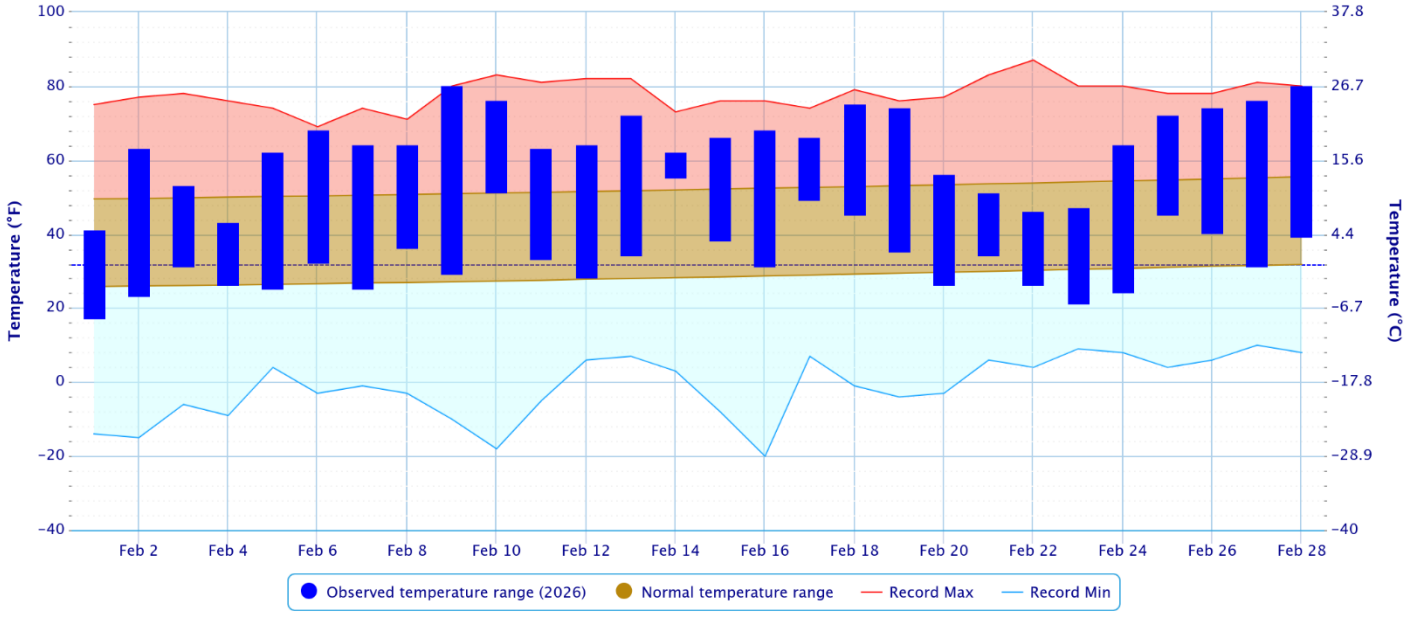
Daily Temperature Data – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

Period of Record – 1949-07-14 to 2026-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



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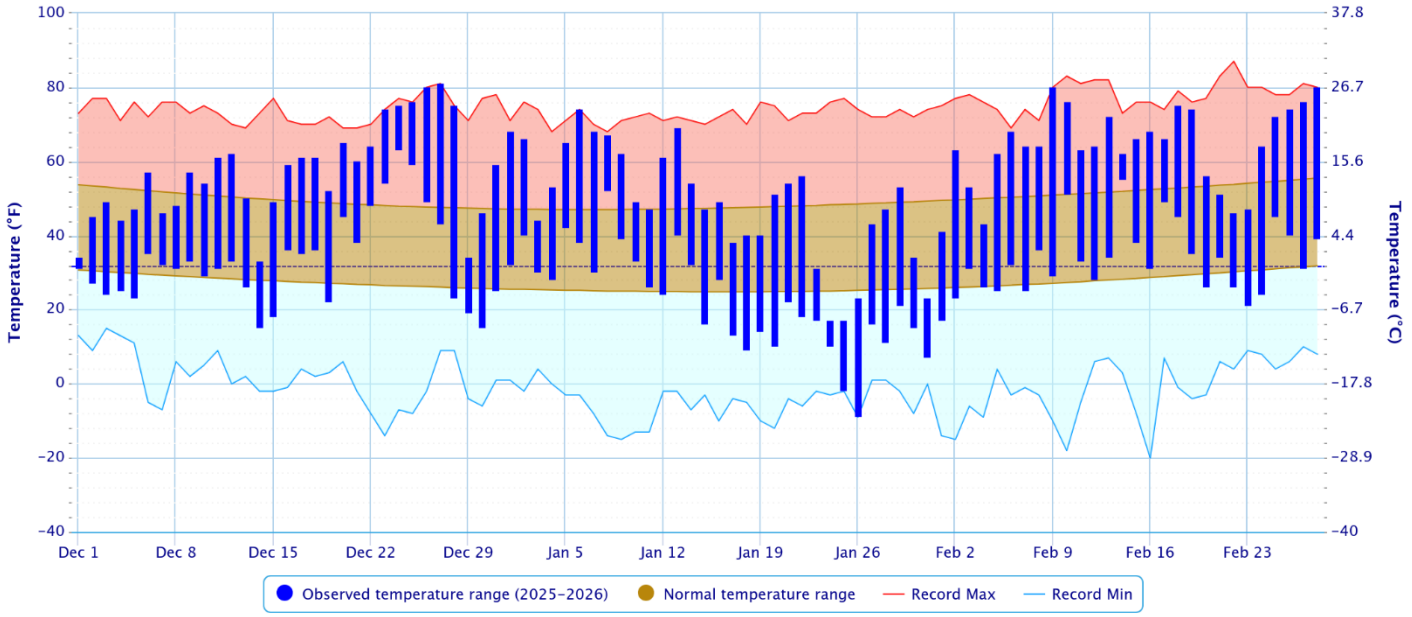
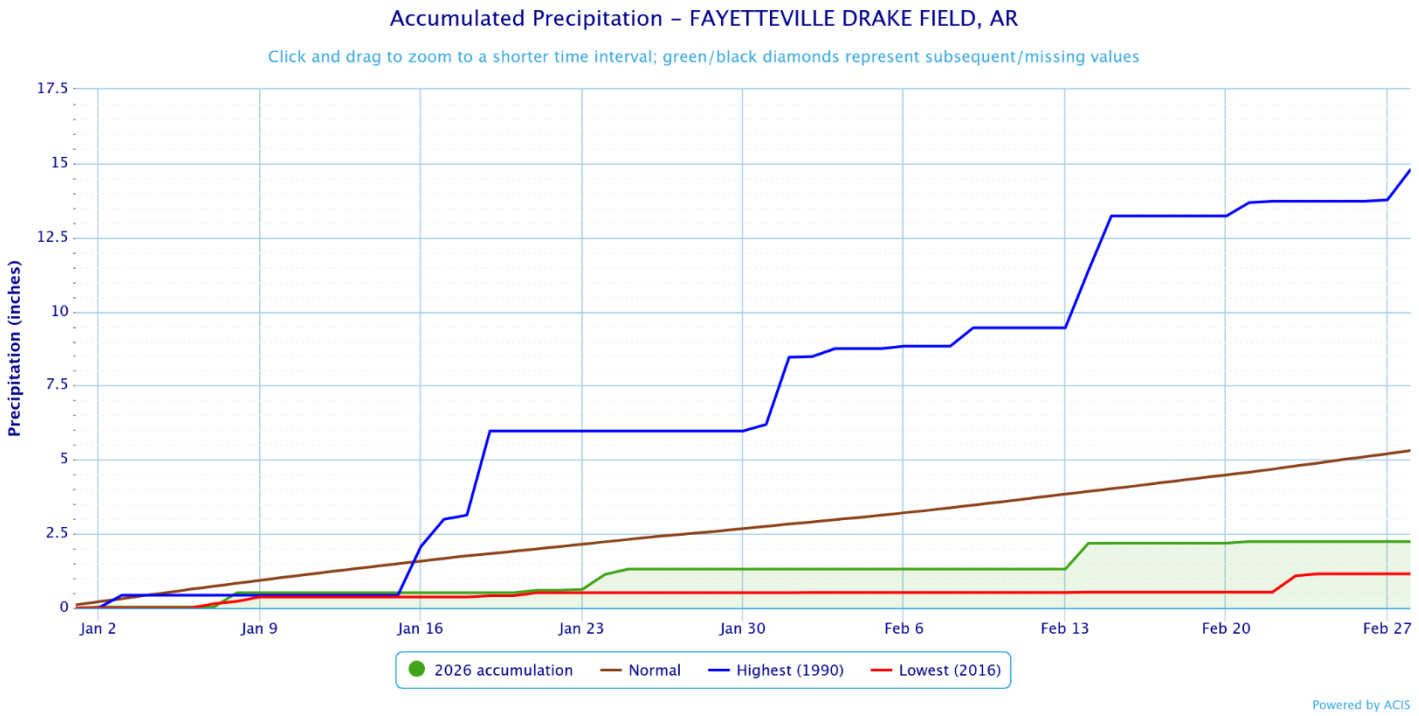
Daily Temperature Data – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR

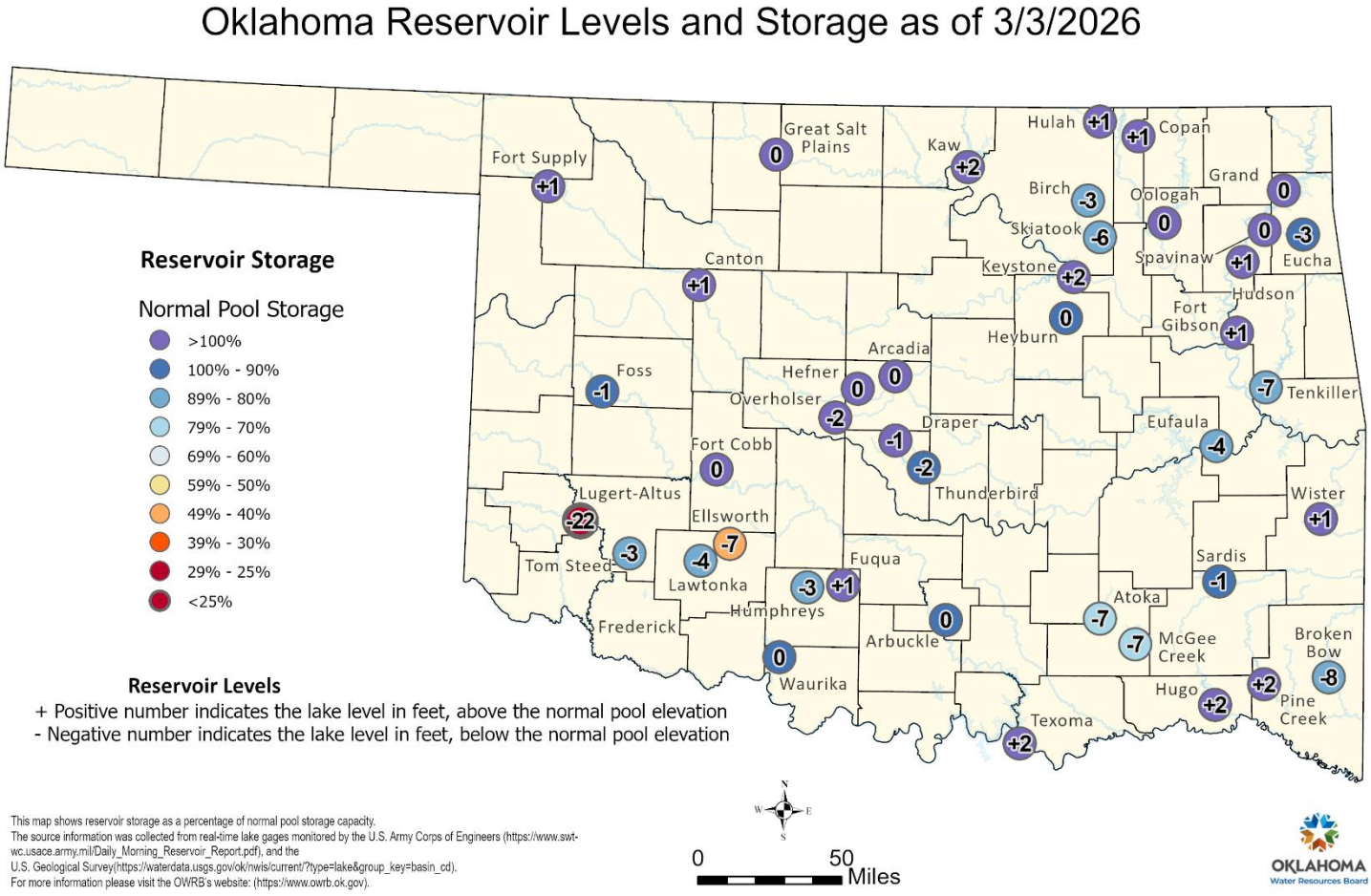
Period of Record – 1949-07-14 to 2026-03-01. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS


Accumulated Precipitation – FAYETTEVILLE DRAKE FIELD, AR
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values
Precipitation (inches)
17.5
15
12.5
10
7.5
5
2.5
0
Jan 2
Jan 9
Jan 16
Jan 23
Jan 30
Feb 6
Feb 13
Feb 20
Feb 27
2026 accumulation
Normal
Highest (1990)
Lowest (2016)
Powered by ACIS

Reservoirs


Oklahoma Reservoir Levels and Storage as of 3/3/2026
Reservoir Storage
Normal Pool Storage
>100%
100% - 90%
89% - 80%
79% - 70%
69% - 60%
59% - 50%
49% - 40%
39% - 30%
29% - 25%
<25%
Reservoir Levels
+ Positive number indicates the lake level in feet, above the normal pool elevation
- Negative number indicates the lake level in feet, below the normal pool elevation
Fort Supply +1
Great Salt Plains 0
Kaw +2
Hulah +1
Copan +1
Grand 0
Birch -3
Oologah 0
Skiatook -6
Spavinaw +1
Eucha -3
Canton +1
Keystone +2
Hudson
Fort Gibson +1
Heyburn 0
Arcadia
Foss -1
Hefner 0
Overholser -2
Draper -1
Fort Cobb 0
Lugert-Altus -22
Ellsworth -7
Tom Steed -3
Lawtonka -4
Fuqua -3 +1
Humphreys
Frederick
Arbuckle 0
Waurika 0
Thunderbird -2
Tenkiller -7
Eufaula -4
Wister +1
Sardis -1
Atoka -7
McGee Creek -7
Broken Bow -8
Hugo +2
Pine Creek +2
Texoma +2
This map shows reservoir storage as a percentage of normal pool storage capacity.
The source information was collected from real-time lake gages monitored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (https://www.swt-wc.usace.army.mil/Daily_Morning_Reservoir_Report.pdf), and the
U.S. Geological Survey(https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ok/nwis/current/?type=lake&group_key=basin_cd).
For more information please visit the OWRB's website: (https://www.owrb.ok.gov).
0
50
Miles
OKLAHOMA
Water Resources Board

According to the USACE, two lakes in the HSA were above 3% of top of their conservation pools as of 3/01/2026: Hudson Lake 7% and Keystone Lake 4%. Several lakes were more than 3% below the top of their conservation pools: Birch Lake 78%, Tenkiller Lake 78%, Beaver Lake 78%, Skiatook Lake 83%, and Heyburn Lake 91%.

Drought

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) from March 3, 2026 (Figs. 2, 3), all of eastern OK and northwest AR was experiencing drought. Extreme (D3) Drought conditions were occurring in parts of Ottawa, Delaware, Mayes, Wagoner, Muskogee, Cherokee, Adair, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK and Benton and Carroll Counties in northwest AR. Severe (D2) Drought conditions existed in portions of Ottawa, Craig, Nowata, Washington, Osage, Tulsa, Rogers, Mayes, Delaware, Adair, Cherokee, Wagner, Muskogee, Sequoyah, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Choctaw, and Pushmataha Counties in eastern OK and Benton, Carroll, Washington, and Madison Counties in northwest AR. Moderate (D1) Drought conditions were present in portions of Washington, Osage, Pawnee, Creek, Tulsa, Wagoner, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Haskell, Adair, Sequoyah, Le Flore, Latimer, Pushmataha, and Choctaw Counties in eastern OK and Benton, Madison, Washington, Crawford, Sebastian, and Franklin Counties in northwest AR.

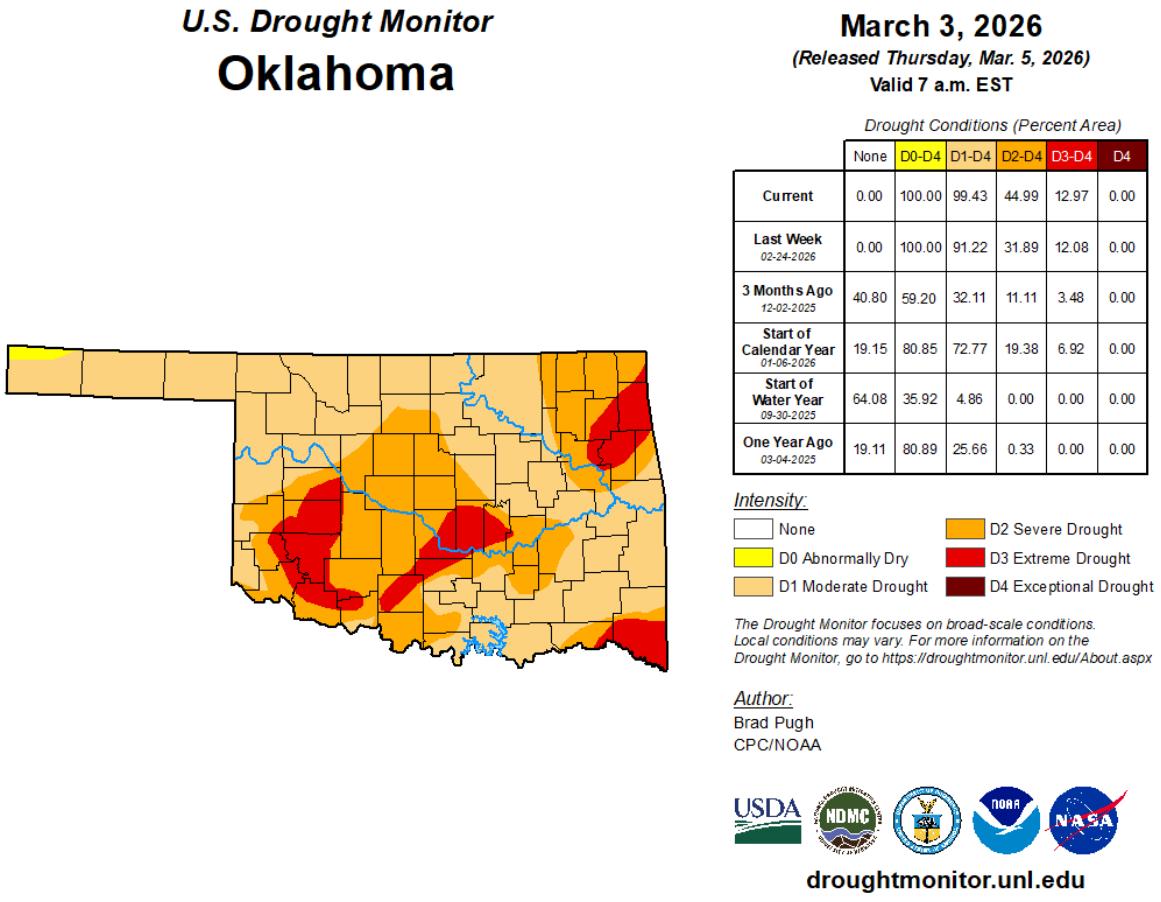


Fig. 2. Drought Monitor for Oklahoma

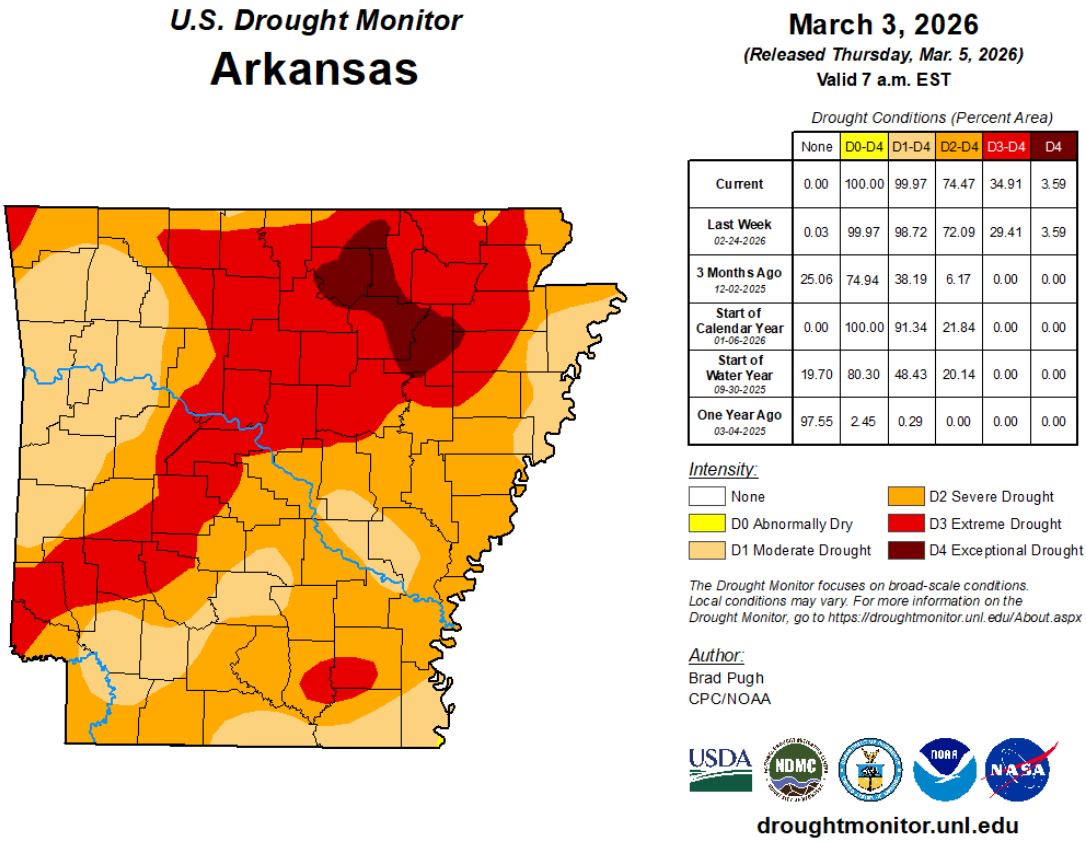


Fig. 3. Drought Monitor for Arkansas

Winter (December-January-February) 2025-26 Summary

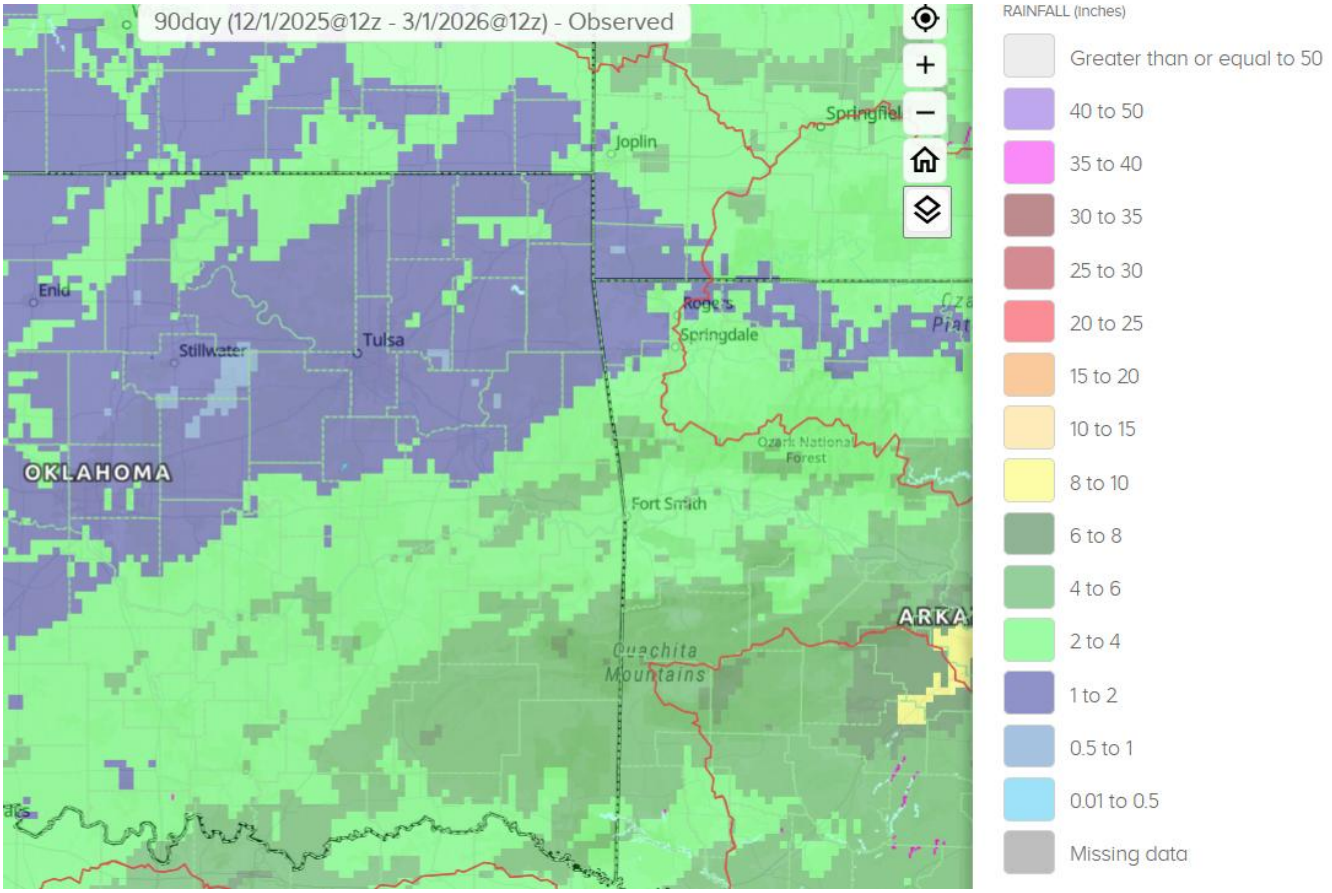


Fig. 4a. Estimated Observed Rainfall for Winter 2025-26 (last 90 days ending at 6am CST March 1, 2026)

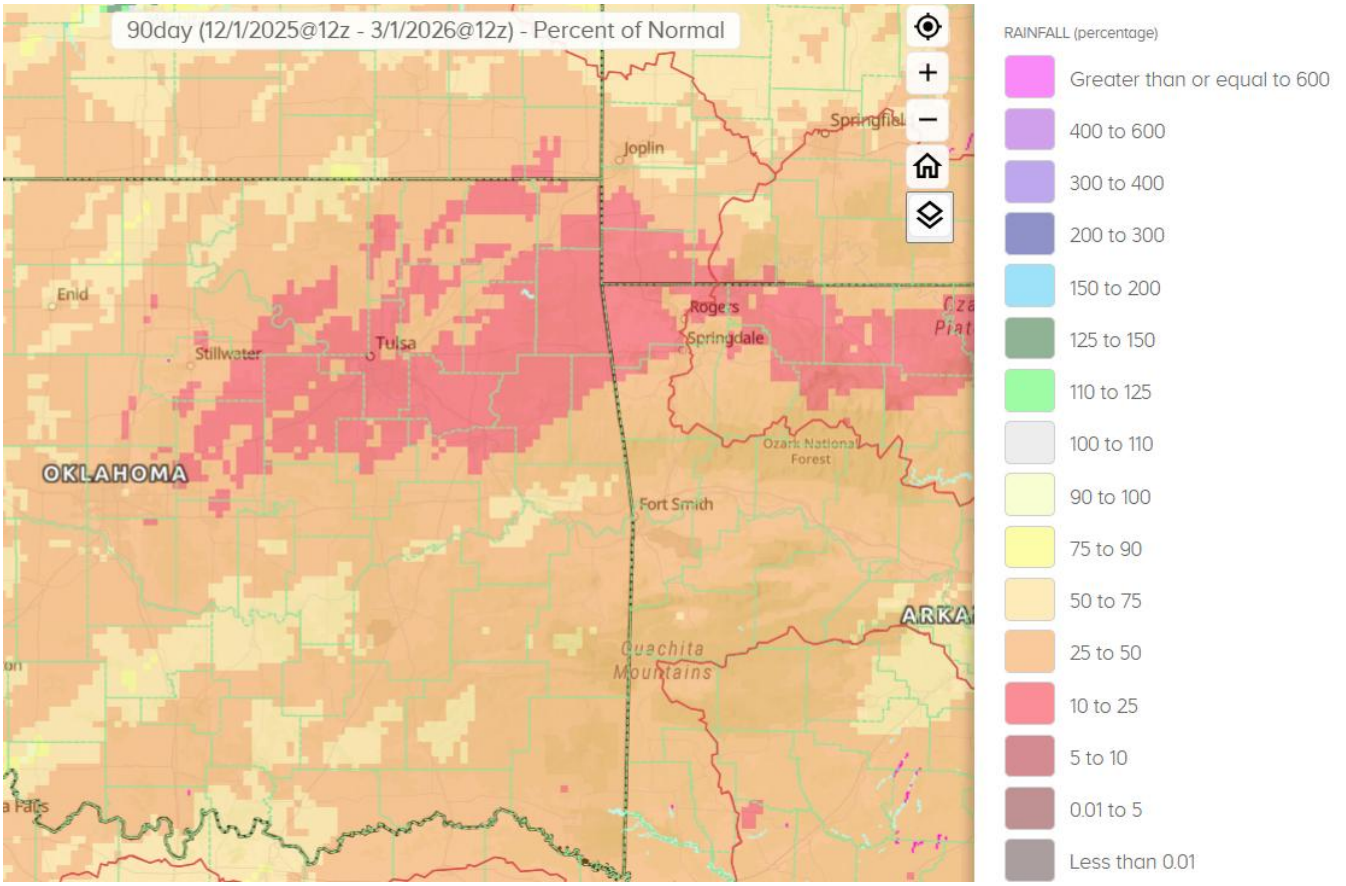


Fig. 4b. Estimated % of Normal Rainfall for Winter 2025-26 (last 90 days ending at 6am CST March 1, 2026)

Using the radar-derived estimated observed precipitation from the RFCs (Fig. 4a), rainfall totals for Winter 2025-26 ranged from 0.80" to 6.5" across eastern OK and northwest AR, with much of the area receiving 1"-3.5". These rainfall totals correspond to 15% to 60% of the normal Winter rainfall with a large portion of the area receiving less than 40% of normal (Fig. 4b).

In Tulsa, OK, Winter 2026 ranked as the 4th warmest Winter (44.3°F, tied 1930-31, 1920-21; since records began in 1905-06) and the 2nd driest Winter (1.62"; since records began in 1888-89). Fort Smith, AR had the 4th warmest Winter (46.4°F; since records began in 1882-83) and the 4th driest Winter (3.03"; since records began in 1882-83). Fayetteville, AR had the 3rd warmest (42.9°F) and the Record driest (2.35", previous record 2.84" in 1958-59) since records began in 1949-50.

Outlooks

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) outlook for March 2026 (issued February 28, 2026) indicates an enhanced chance for above normal temperatures and above median precipitation across all of eastern OK and northwest AR. This outlook was based on impacts from dynamical and statistical model output, the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO), ENSO state, soil moisture, and long-term trends. The March outlook was heavily influenced by the dynamical model guidance, which is strong and consistent for the first half of March.

For the 3-month period March-April-May 2026, CPC is forecasting an equal chance for above, near, or below median precipitation and an enhanced chance for above normal temperatures across all of eastern OK and northwest AR (outlook issued February 19, 2026). This outlook is based on long-term trends, ENSO state, and incorporates a suite of statistical and dynamical forecast tools. According to CPC, "A transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral is expected in February-April 2026 (60% chance), with ENSO-neutral likely persisting through the Northern Hemisphere summer (56% chance in June-August 2026)."

Summary of Heavy Precipitation Events Daily quality-controlled rainfall maps can be found at: http://water.weather.gov/precip/index.php?location_type=wfo&location_name=tsa

Upper-level diffluence spread into the region on the 13th ahead of an approaching upper-level low, while in the lower levels, a strengthening low-level jet increased the warm, moist advection. Showers and thunderstorms developed by late afternoon across far northeast OK and southeast KS. Scattered showers continued through the evening hours across primarily far northeast OK, southeast KS and southwest MO. Additional scattered showers and thunderstorms then spread east into eastern OK during the early morning hours, becoming more widespread by sunrise, as the main upper-level low tracked into the Southern Plains. Through 6 am on the 14th, 24-hour rainfall totals ranged from a few hundredths to 1.7", with 0.50" to 1.7" confined to locations along the OK/KS state line and western Pittsburg County (Fig. 5). By mid-morning on the 14th, widespread showers and thunderstorms were affecting much of eastern OK and northwest AR along and south of Hwy 412. This activity slowly shifted east-southeast through the afternoon and early evening hours, before finally shifting east of the area by late evening. Some isolated to widely scattered showers and thunderstorms continued behind the main precipitation area during the afternoon and evening hours near a frontal boundary located over northeast OK. This activity moved southeast, exiting the area in the pre-dawn hours of the 15th. Precipitable water (PWAT) values were seasonably high, resulting in heavy rainfall across southeast OK and west central AR. The additional 24-hour rainfall totals ranged from a few hundredths to near 4" (Figs. 6, 7). No flooding occurred, likely due to the antecedent drought conditions. The Poteau River did see a large rise, but remained below flood stage.

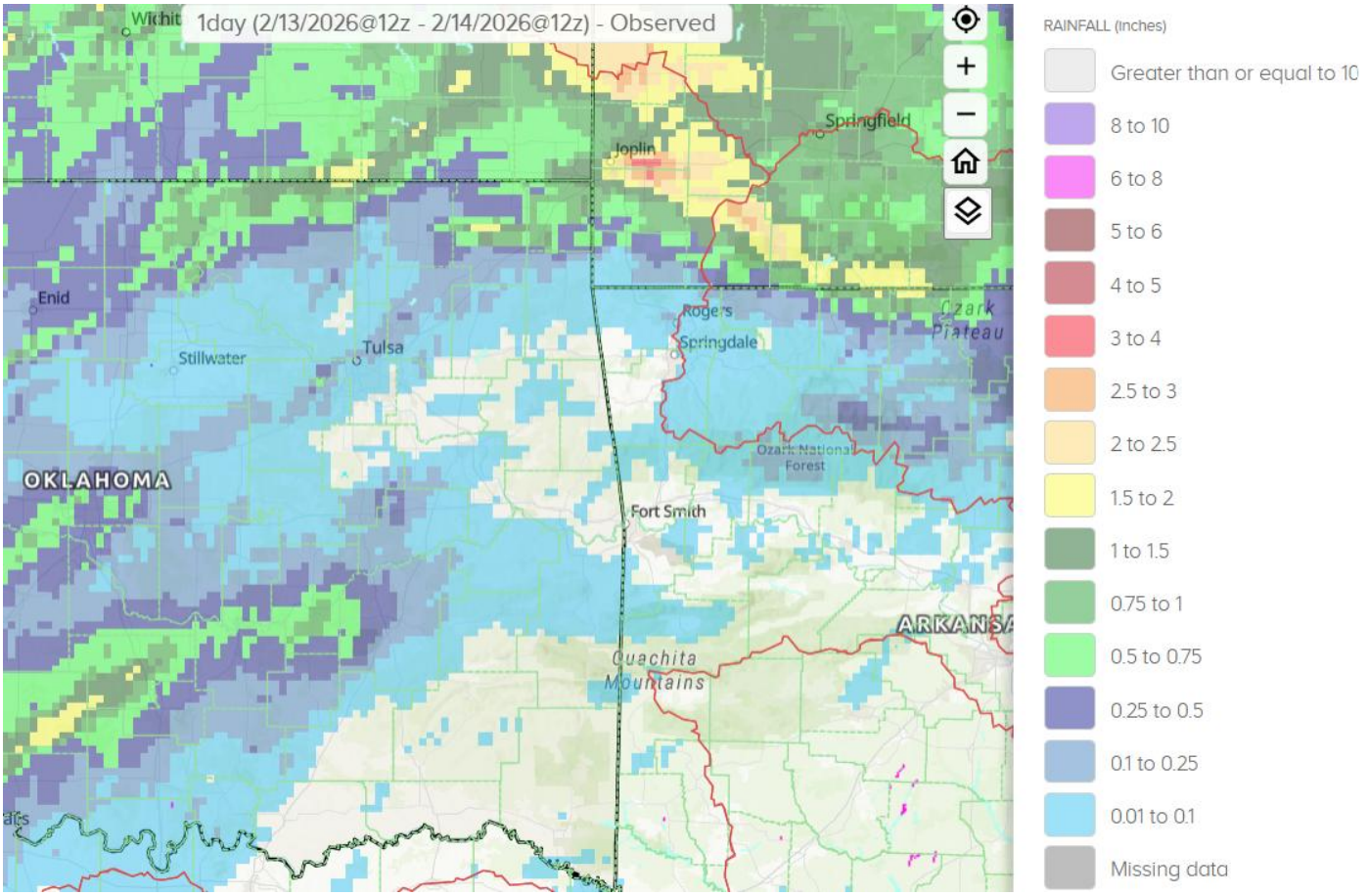


Fig. 5. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 6am CST 2/14/2026.

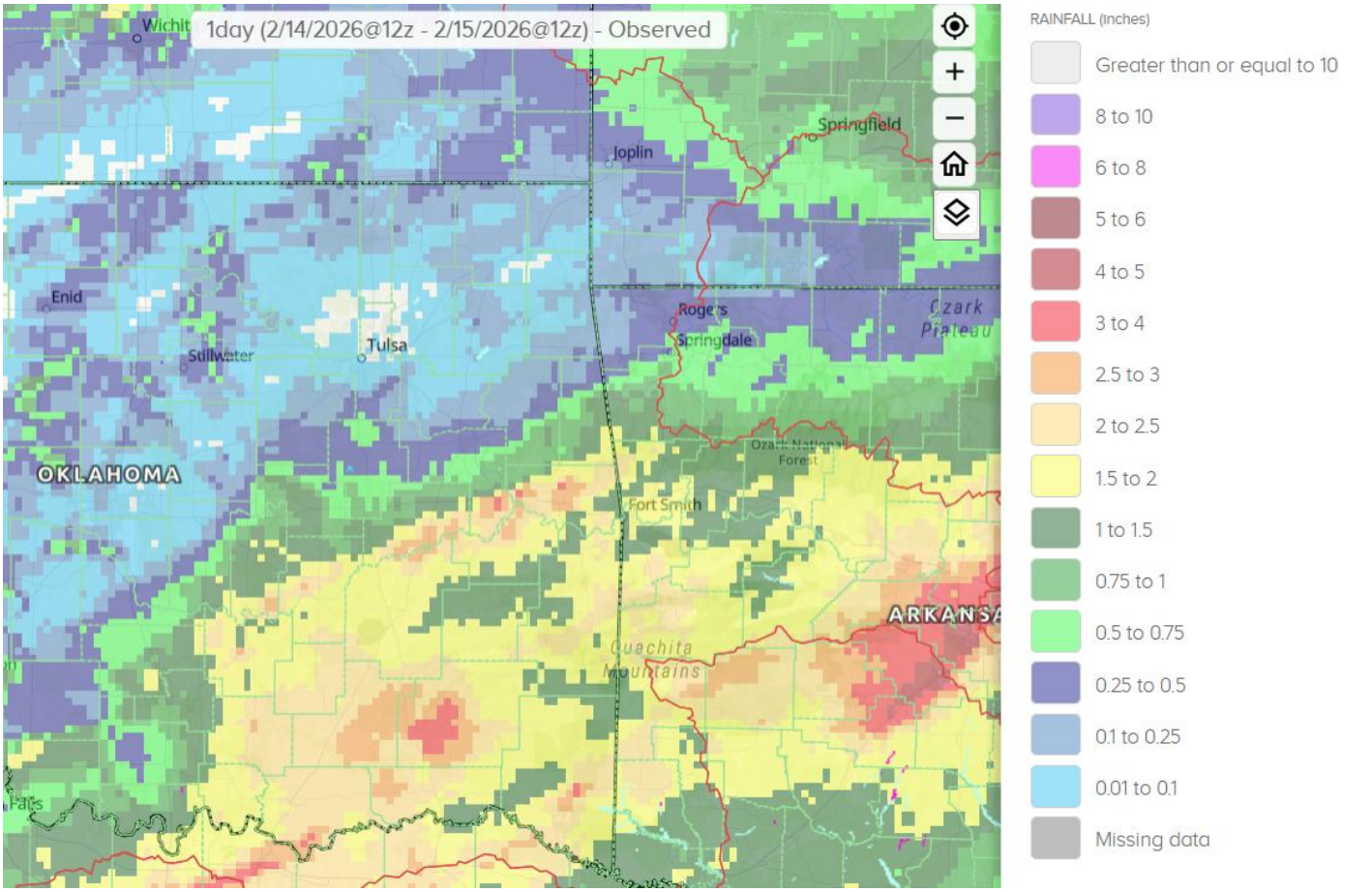


Fig. 6. 24-hour Estimated Observed Rainfall ending at 6am CST 2/15/2026.

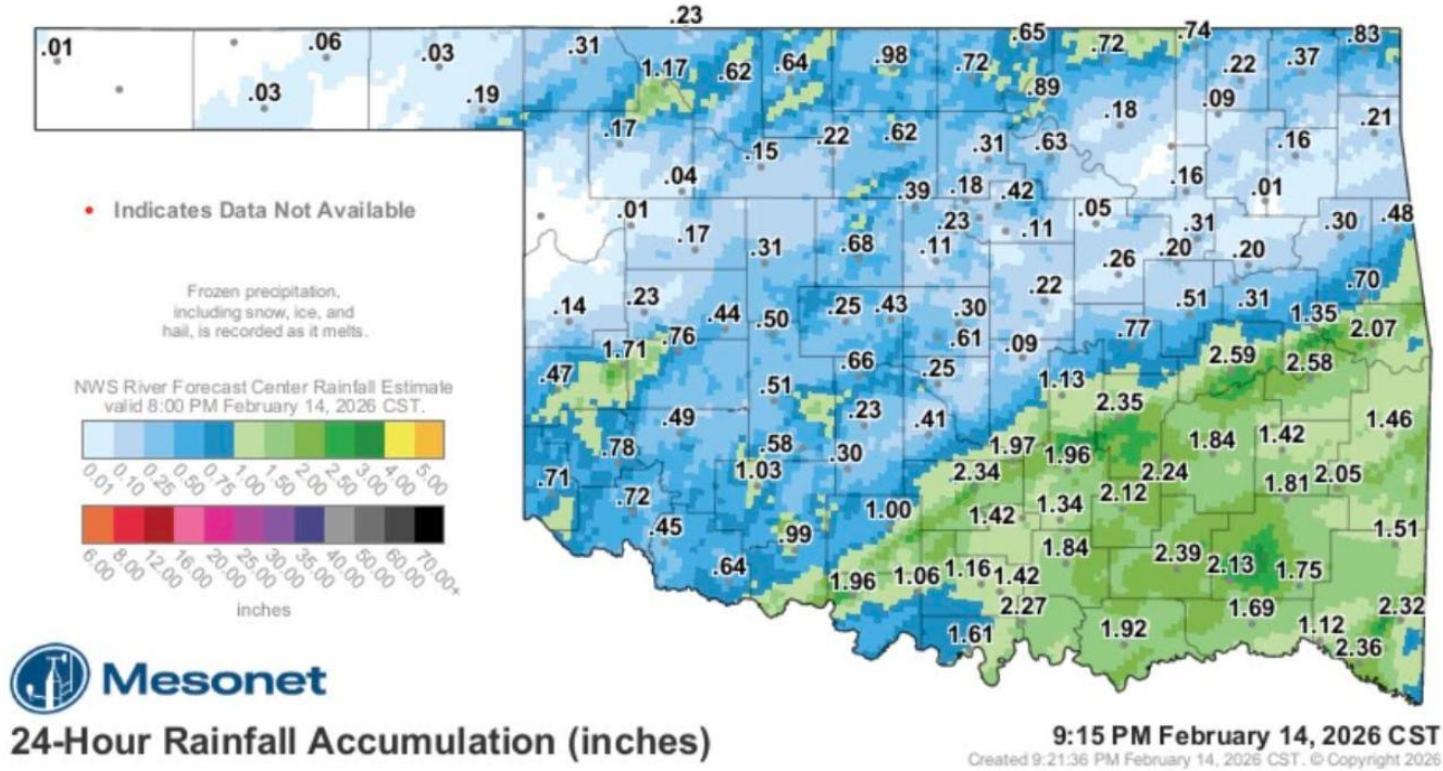


Fig. 7. OK Mesonet (values) and NWS RFC rainfall estimate (image) 24-hour rainfall ending at 9:15 pm CST 2/14/2026.

Written by:
Nicole McGavock
Service Hydrologist
WFO Tulsa

Products issued in February 2026:

0 Flash Flood Warnings (FFW)
0 Flash Flood Statements (FFS)
0 Flash/Areal Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/EXA/EXB/CAN)
0 Urban and Small Stream Advisories (FLS)
0 Areal Flood Warnings (FLW)
0 Areal Flood Statements (FLS)
0 River Flood Warnings (FLW) (includes category increases)
0 River Flood Statements (FLS)
0 River Flood Advisories (FLS) (0 Advisory FLS CON/EXT/CAN)
0 River Flood Watches (FFA) (0 Watch FFA CON/EXT/CAN)
0 River Statements (RVS)
0 Hydrologic Outlooks (ESF)
2 Drought Information Statements (DGT)

Preliminary Hydrographs:
None