

Drought Monitoring Technical Committee Update

to the
Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group

April 21, 2009

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National Weather Service
Phoenix



Arizona Drought Monitoring Technical Committee



ARIZONA DIVISION OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA
STATE CLIMATOLOGIST

Local Drought Impact Groups

LDIGs are contributing:

- In *Person* and via Dial-In
- Current Conditions Including Vegetation
- Information on Local Impacts
- Precipitation Variability and Totals
- Verification of Drought Status

MTC Highlights

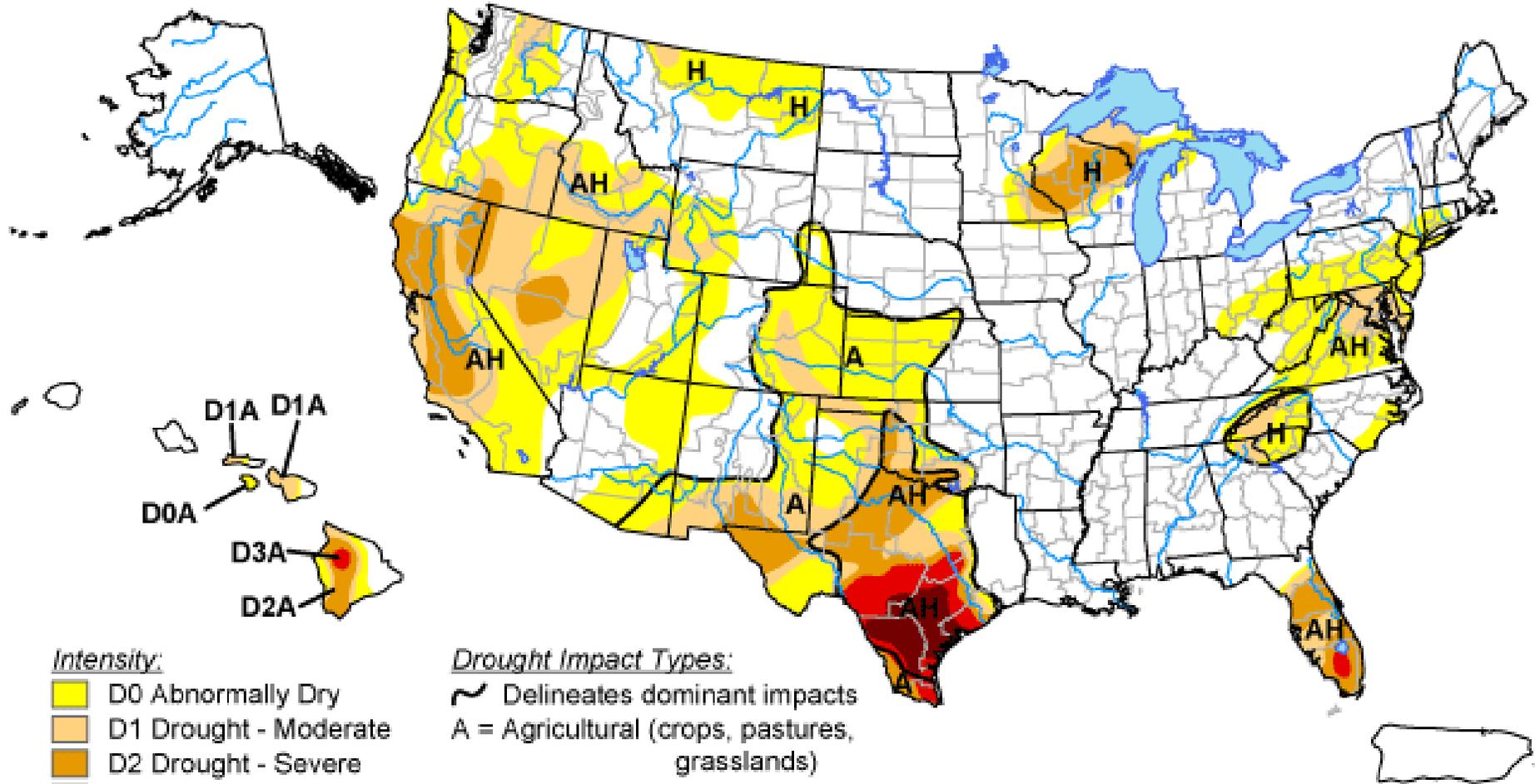
- Monthly Meetings Changed to Quarterly
 - Analyze Data on a Monthly Basis + Provide Status On Line
 - Quarterly Report More Comprehensive
 - LDIG Participation via Tele-conference
 - Solicit “Ground Truth” Input via AZDroughtWatch
- Continued Distribution of Monthly and Quarterly Updates via:
 - Press Release
 - ADWR + AFWS Web sites
 - Local Distribution by LDIGS
 - Solicited Feedback on New Report Format
- On Going Interactions with Established LDIGs (*Cochise, Yavapai, Santa Cruz, Pinal, Pima, Graham/Greenlee, and Mohave Counties*)

The *National* Drought
Perspective...

U.S. Drought Monitor

April 14, 2009

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, April 16, 2009

Author: Richard Heim, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

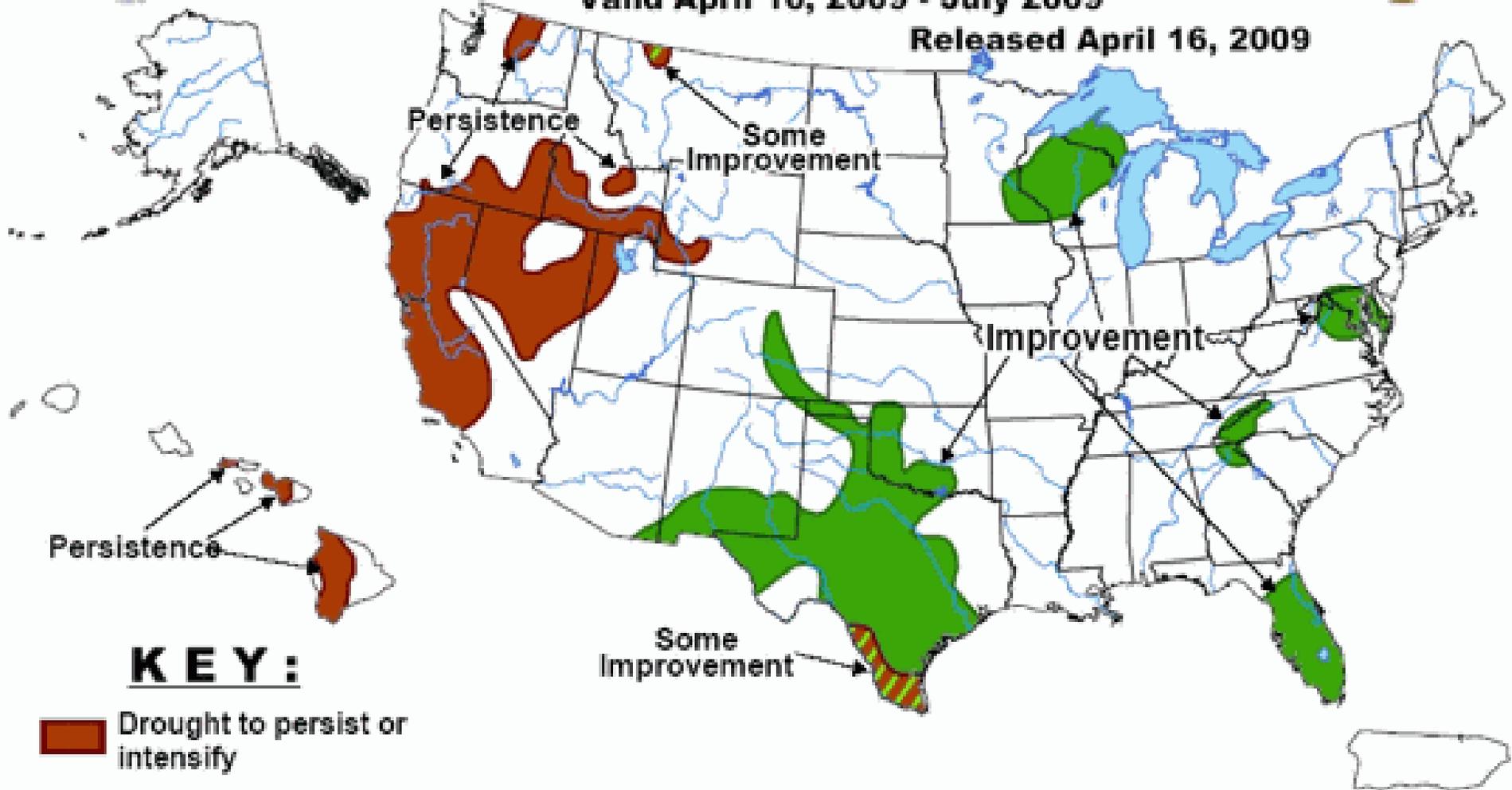


U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid April 16, 2009 - July 2009

Released April 16, 2009



KEY:

-  Drought to persist or intensify
-  Drought ongoing, some improvement
-  Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
-  Drought development likely

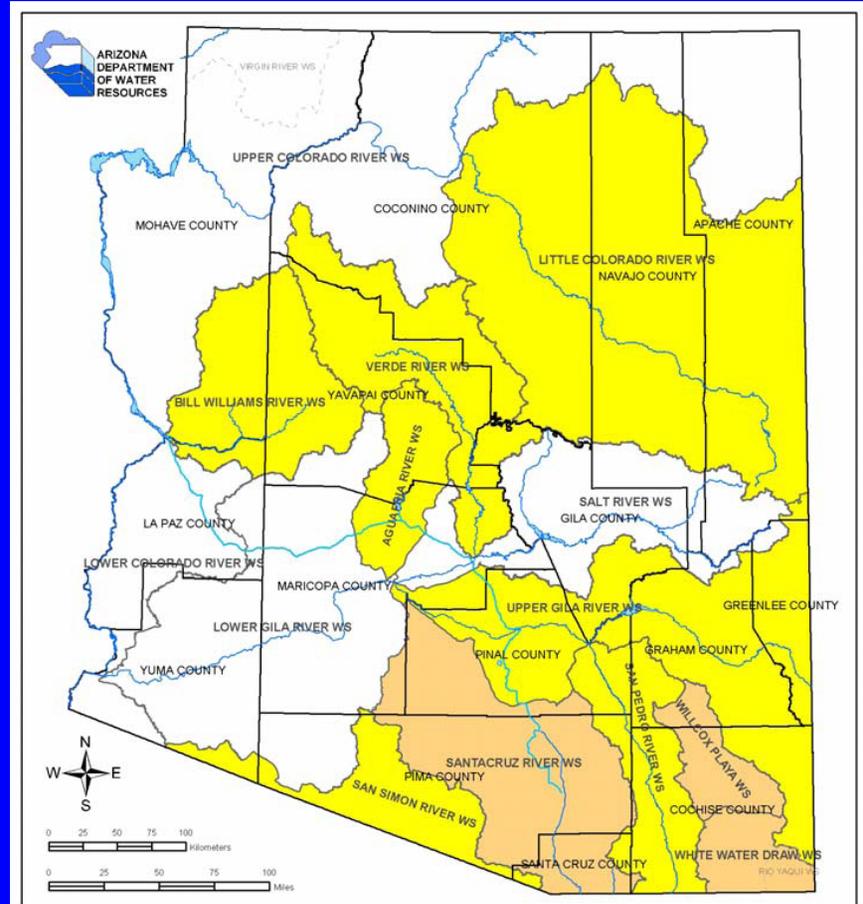
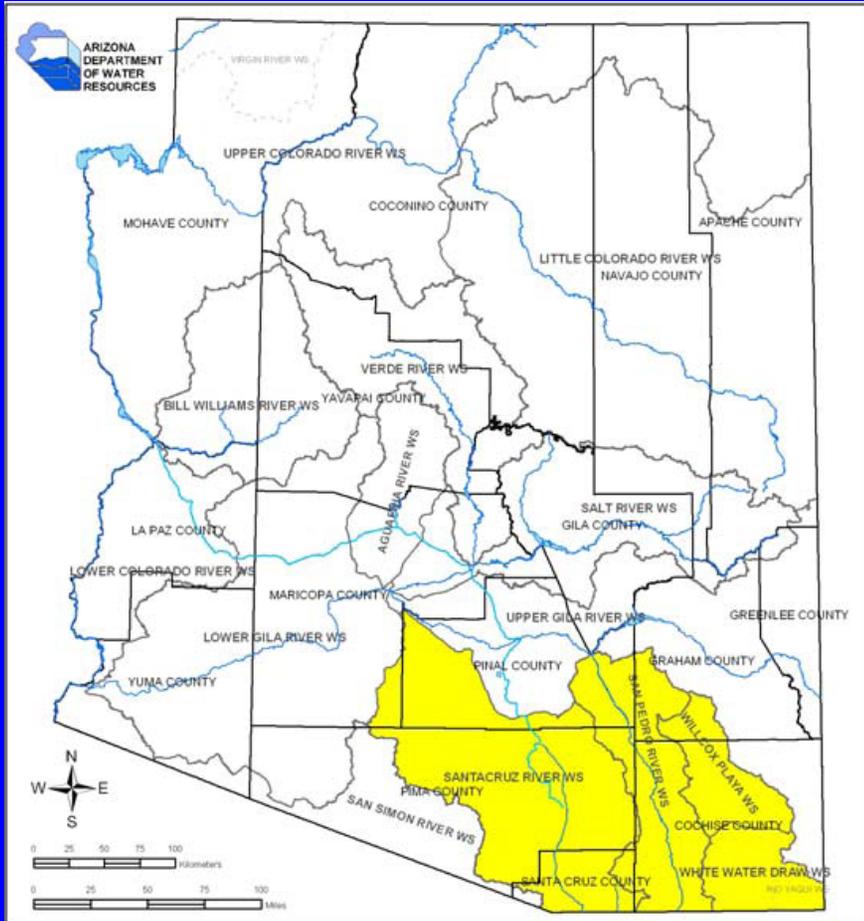
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events – such as individual storms – cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications – such as crops – that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought alleviation.

The Arizona Perspective...

Short Term Status Comparison

March 2008

March 2009



- Watershed Drought Level**
- Normal
 - Abnormally Dry
 - Drought - Moderate
 - Drought - Severe
 - Drought - Extreme

March 2008 Short Term Drought Status
 Data Through February 29th, 2008
 Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan
 Monitoring Technical Committee

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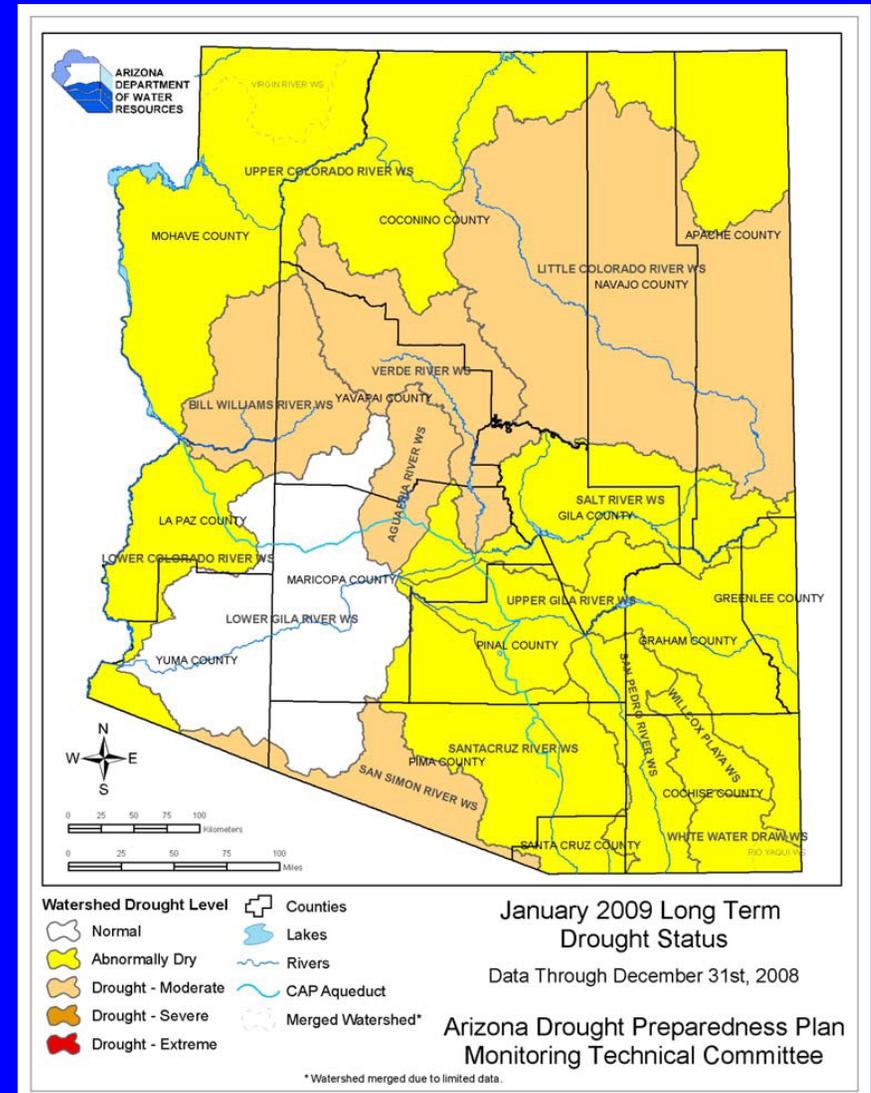
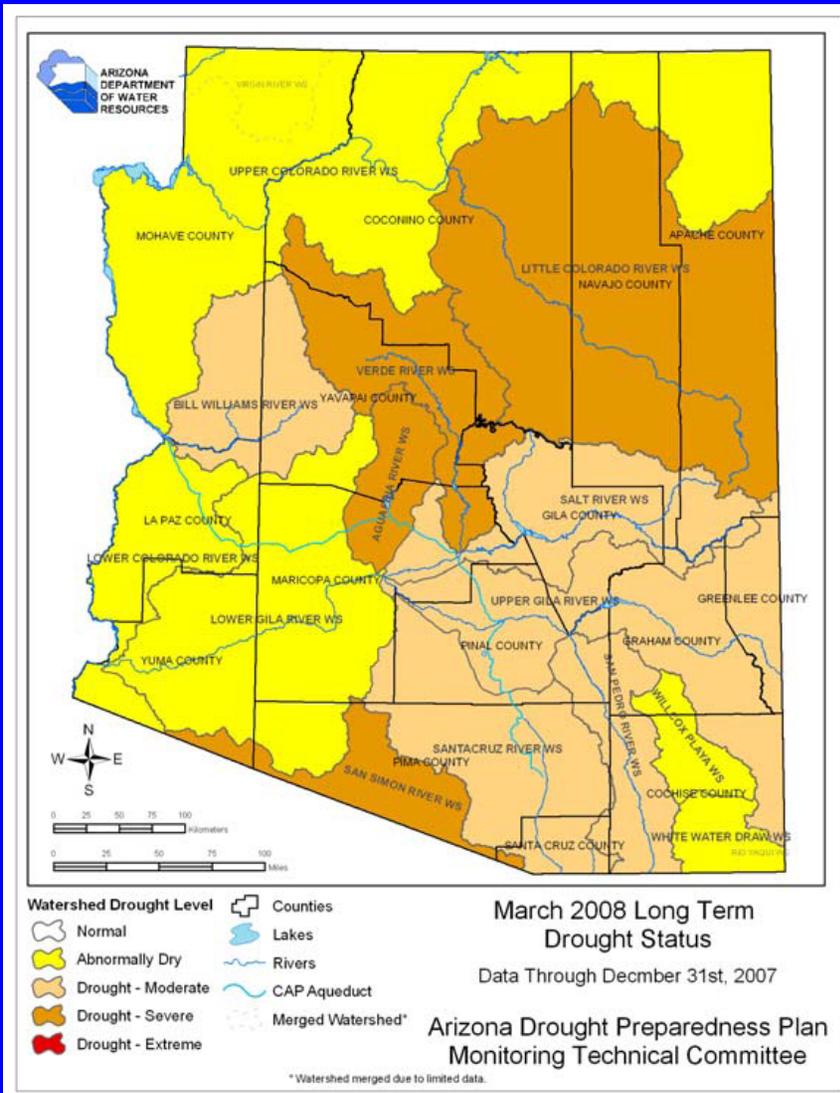
March 2009 Short Term Drought Status
 Data Through February 28th, 2009
 Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan
 Monitoring Technical Committee

* Watershed merged due to limited data.

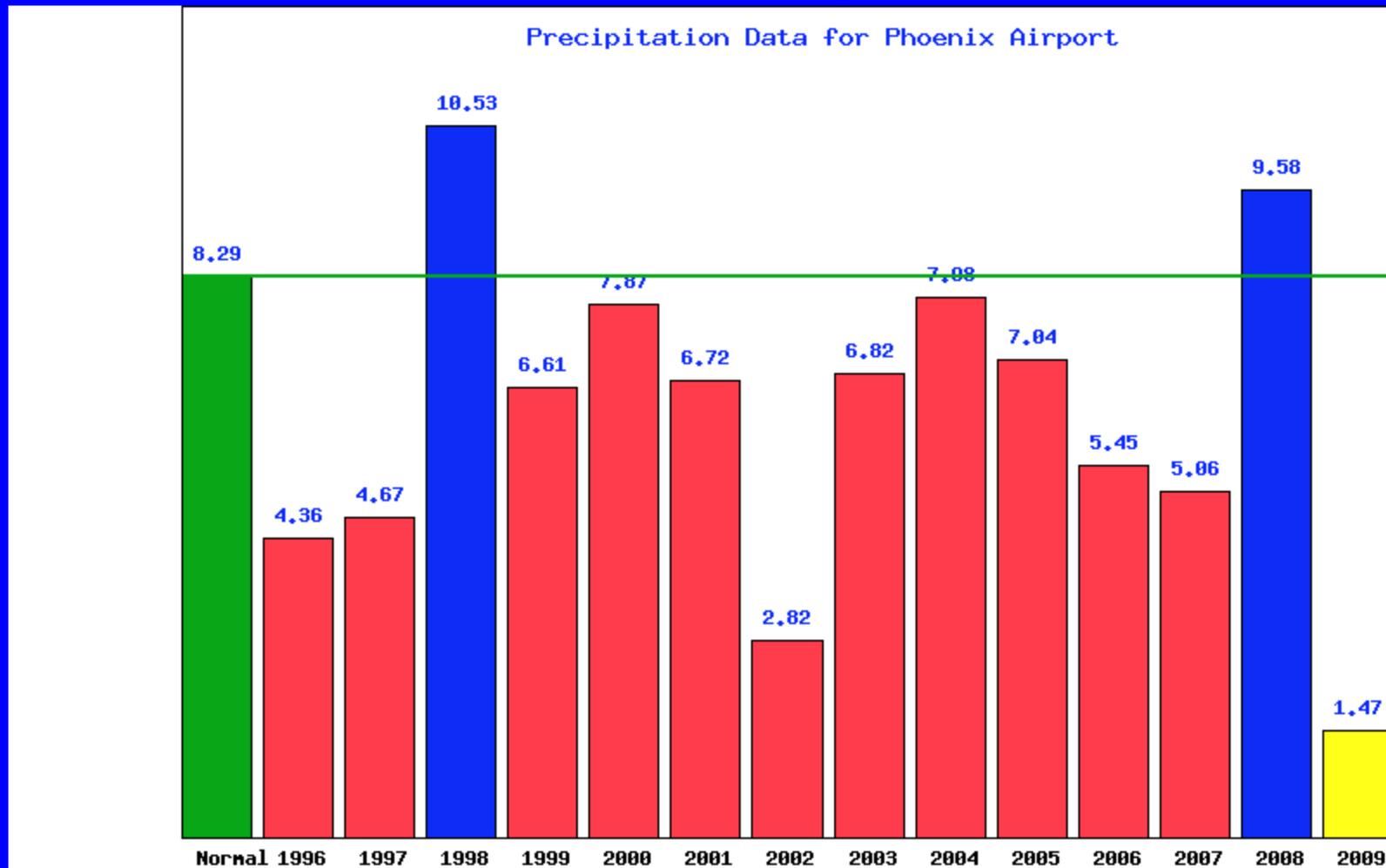
Long Term Status Maps

March 2008

March 2009

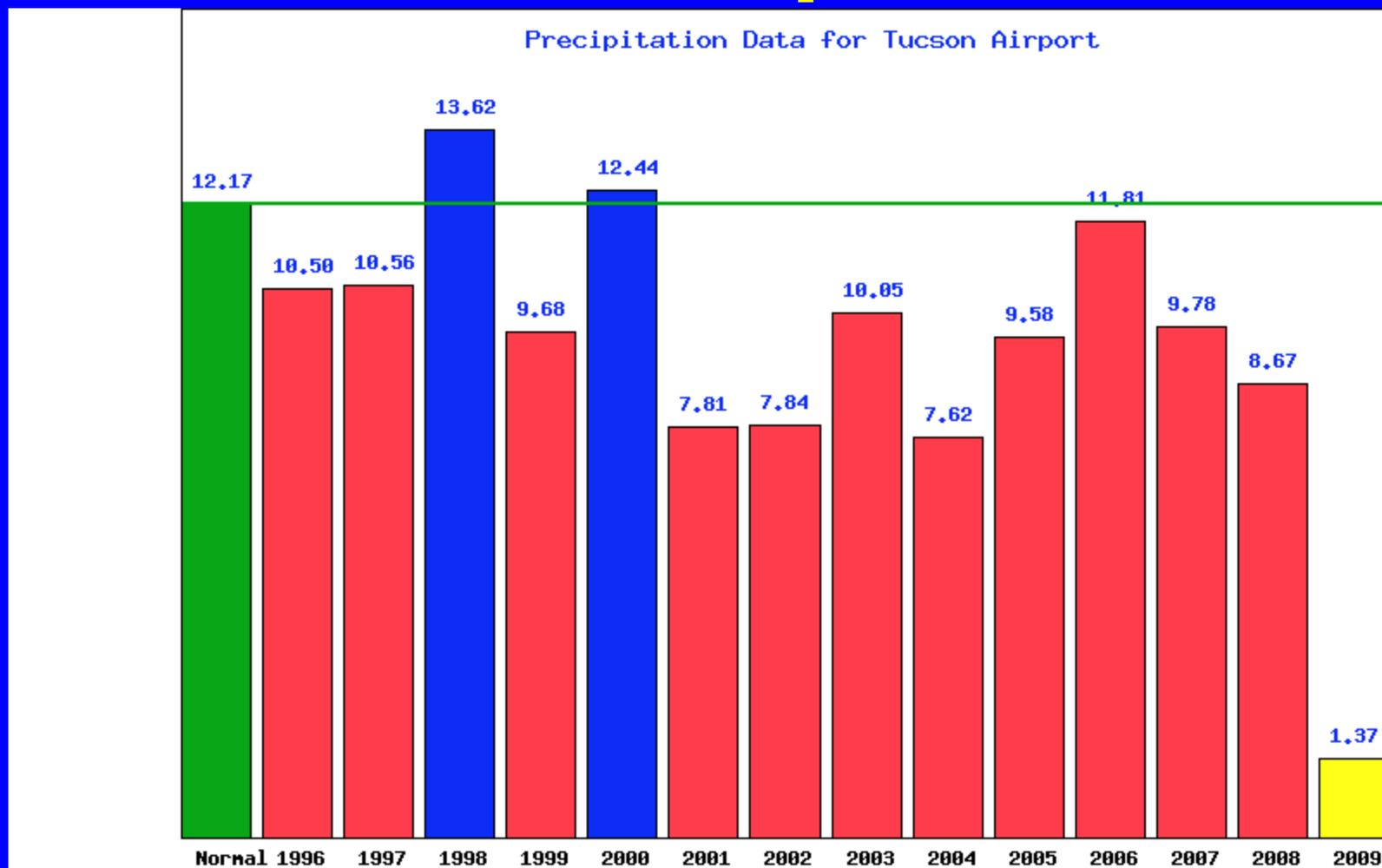


Phoenix Precipitation



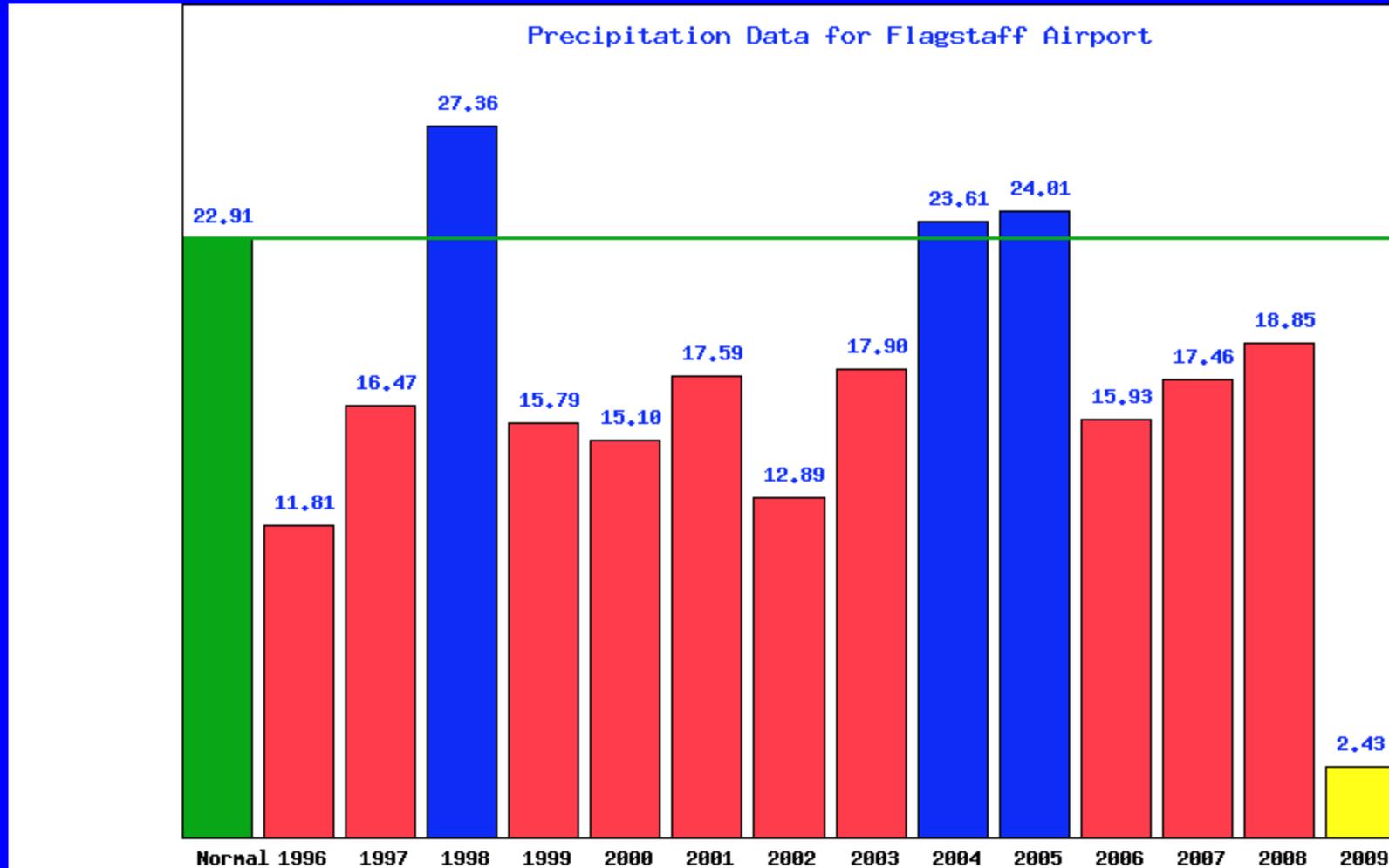
1996 -- 2009

Tucson Precipitation



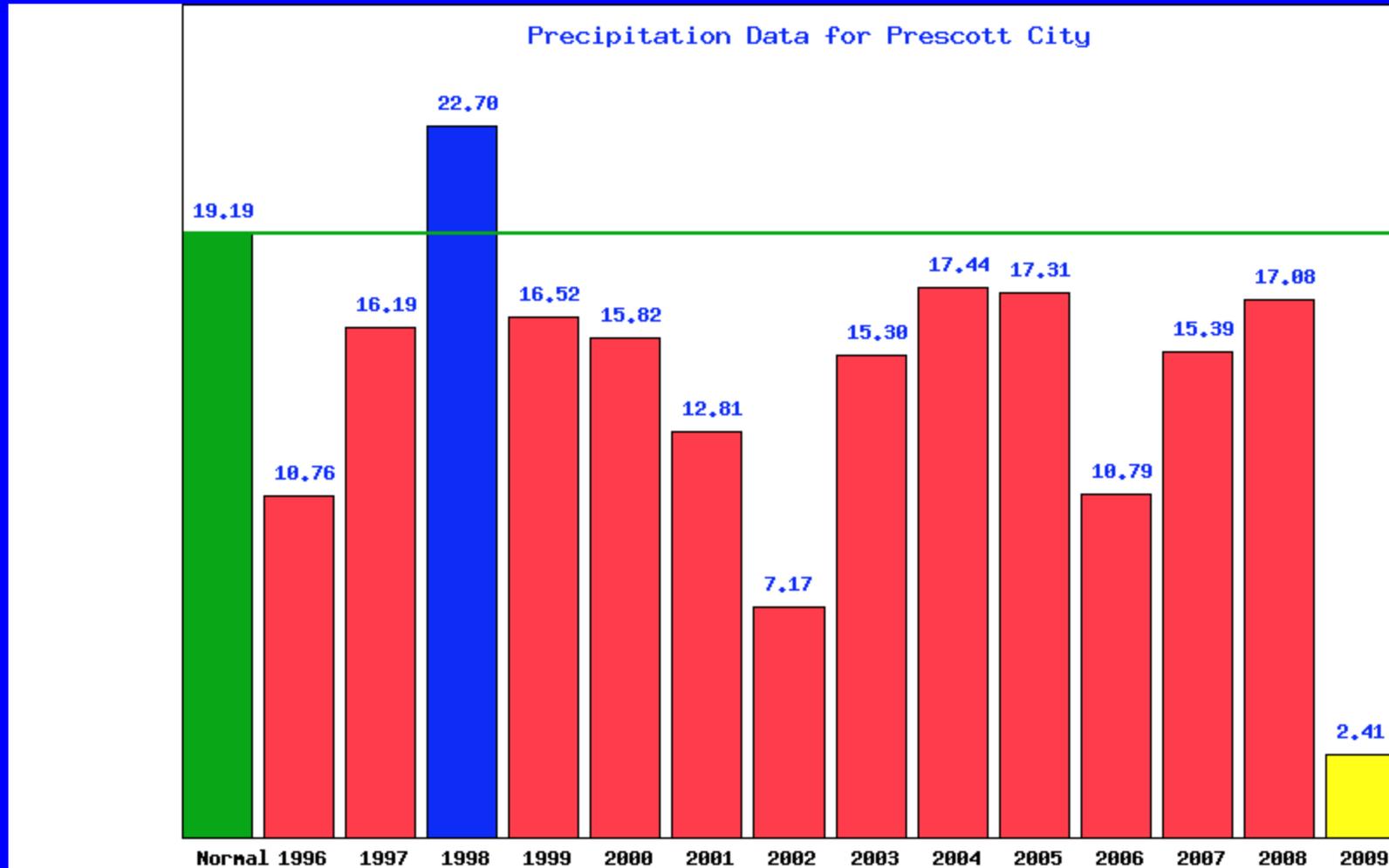
1996 -- 2009

Flagstaff Precipitation



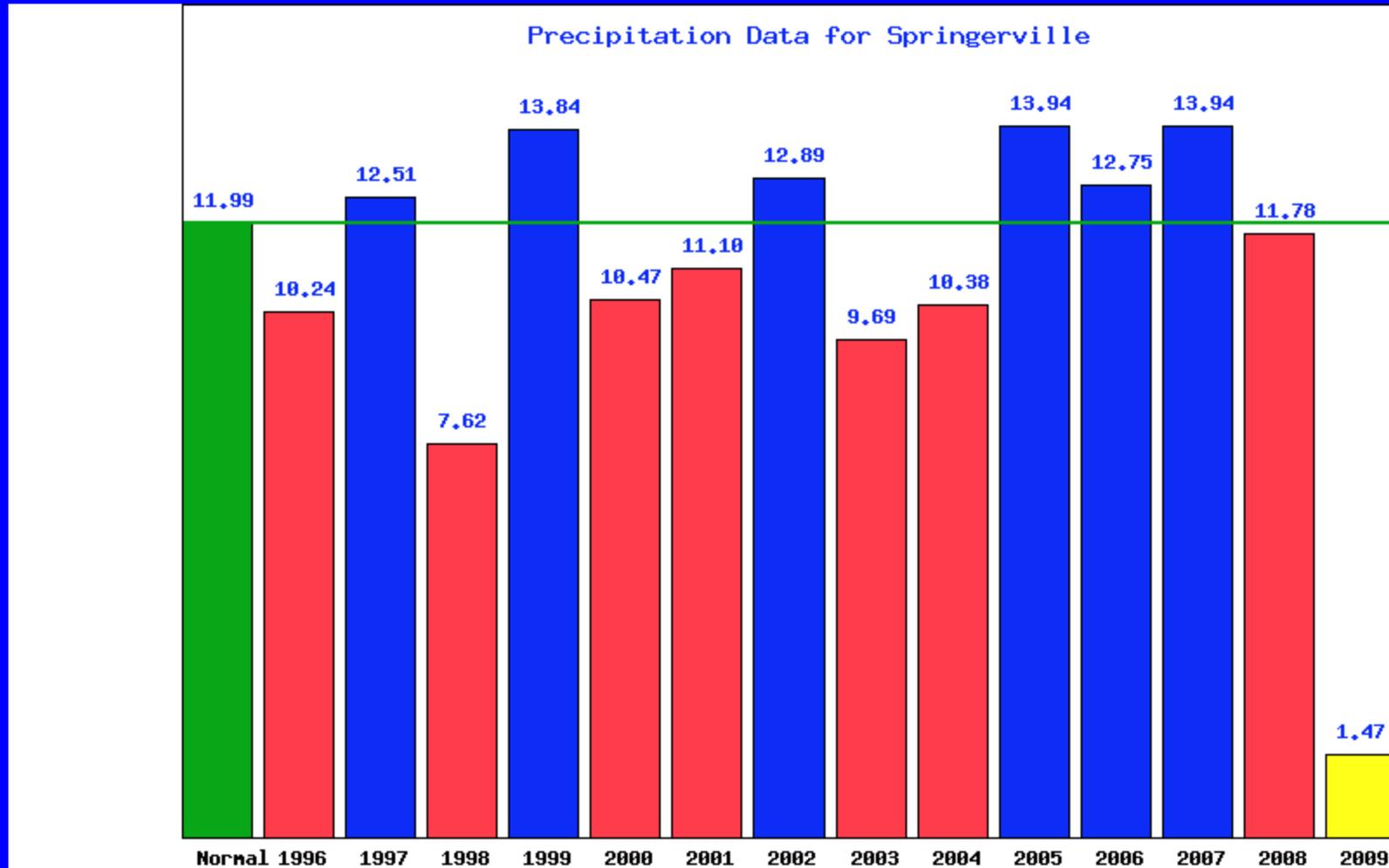
1996 -- 2009

Prescott Precipitation



1996 -- 2009

Springerville Precipitation



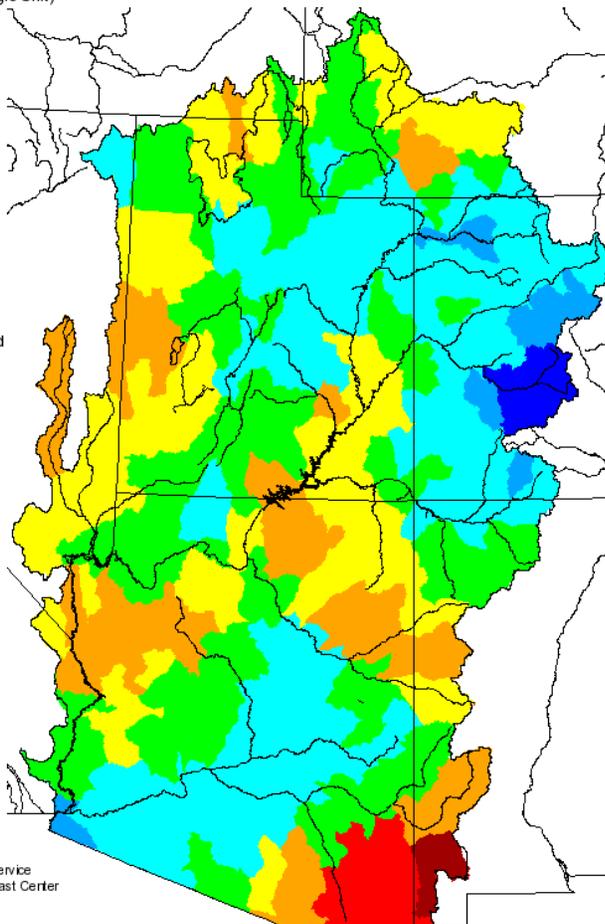
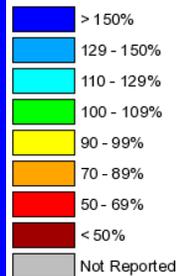
1996 -- 2009

HALF Water-Year Precipitation

Water Year – 2008
(Through March)

Seasonal Precipitation, October 2007 - March 2008
(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

% Average

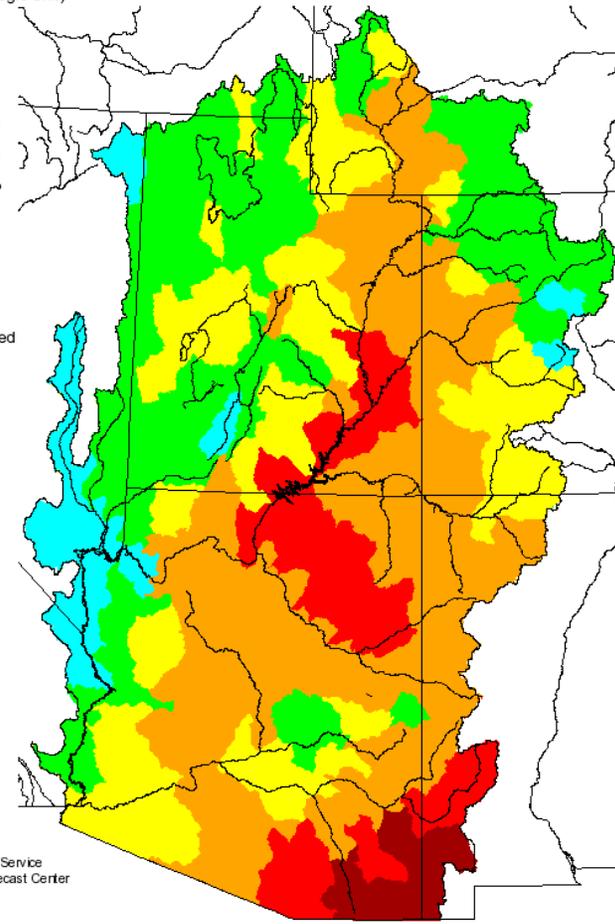
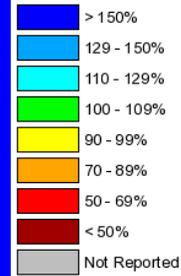


Prepared by
NOAA, National Weather Service
Colorado Bas in River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

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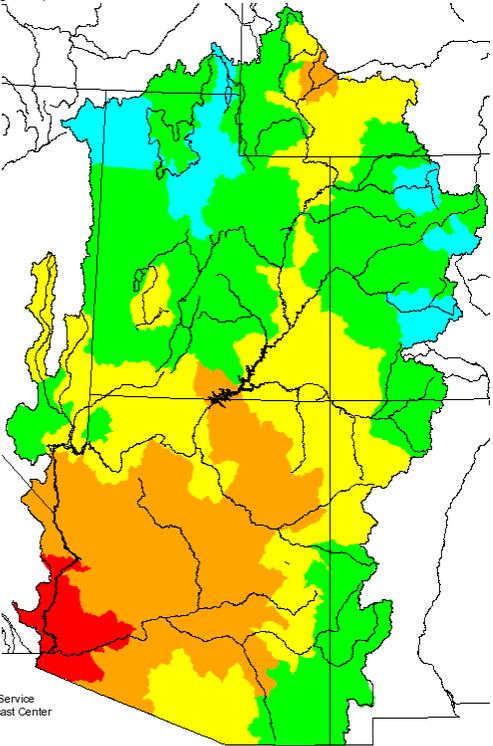
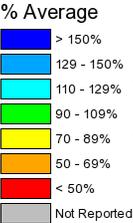


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Last Three Water-Years Precipitation

WY-06

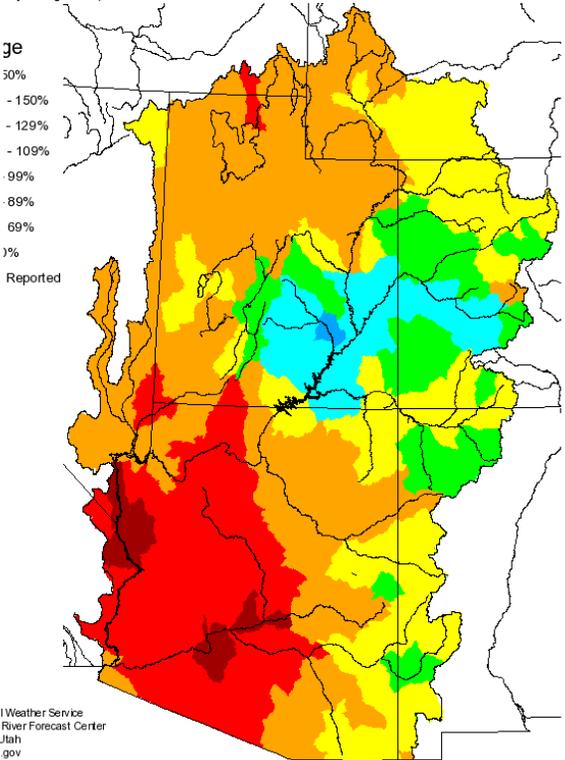
Seasonal Precipitation, October 2005 - September 2006
(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)



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WY-07

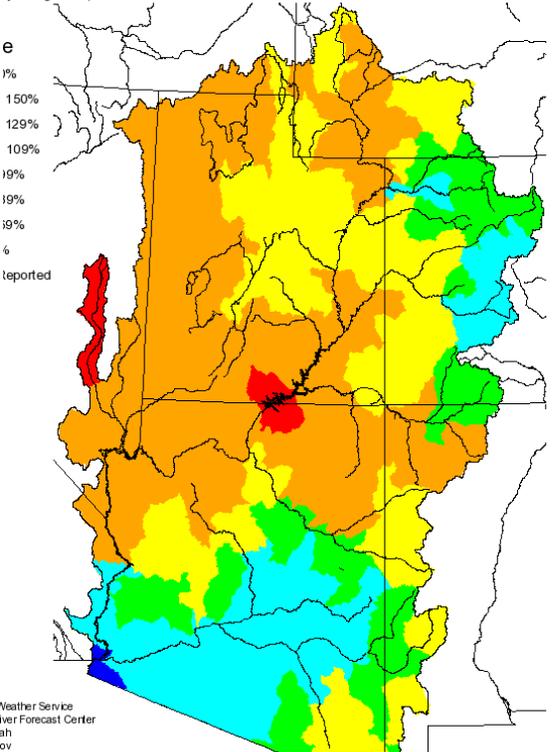
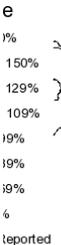
Seasonal Precipitation, October 2006 - September 2007
(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)



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Salt Lake City, Utah
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WY-08

Seasonal Precipitation, October 2007 - September 2008
(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)



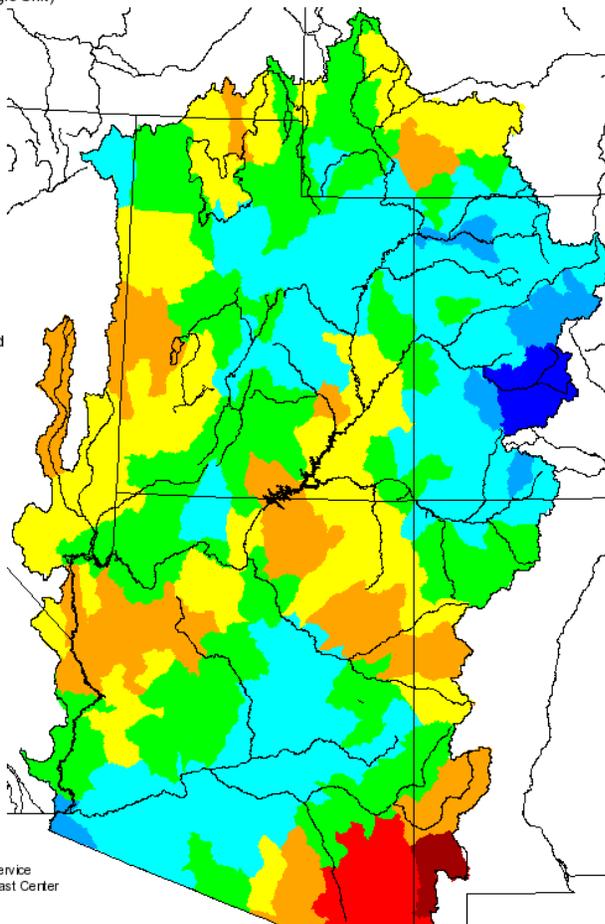
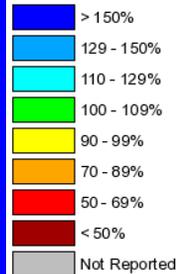
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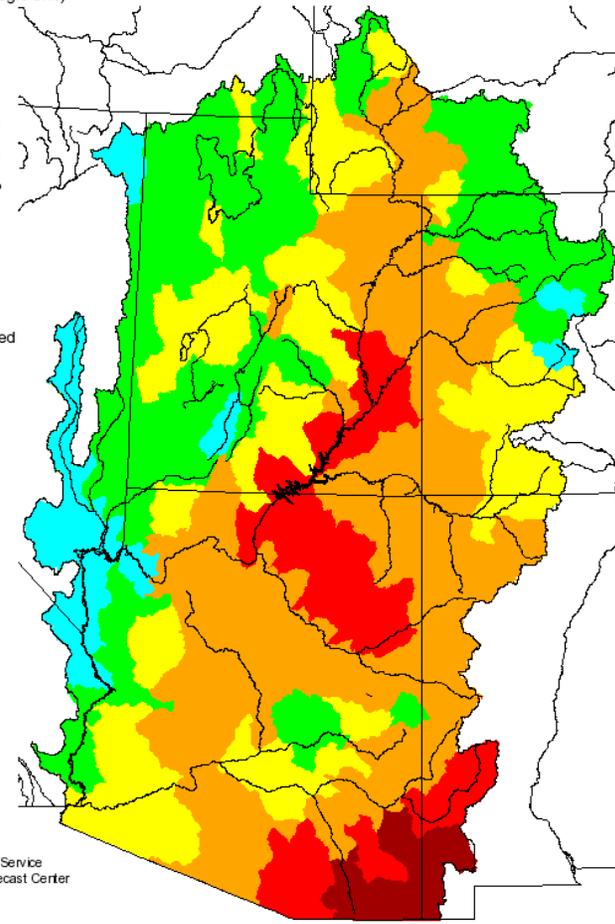
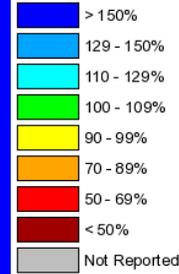


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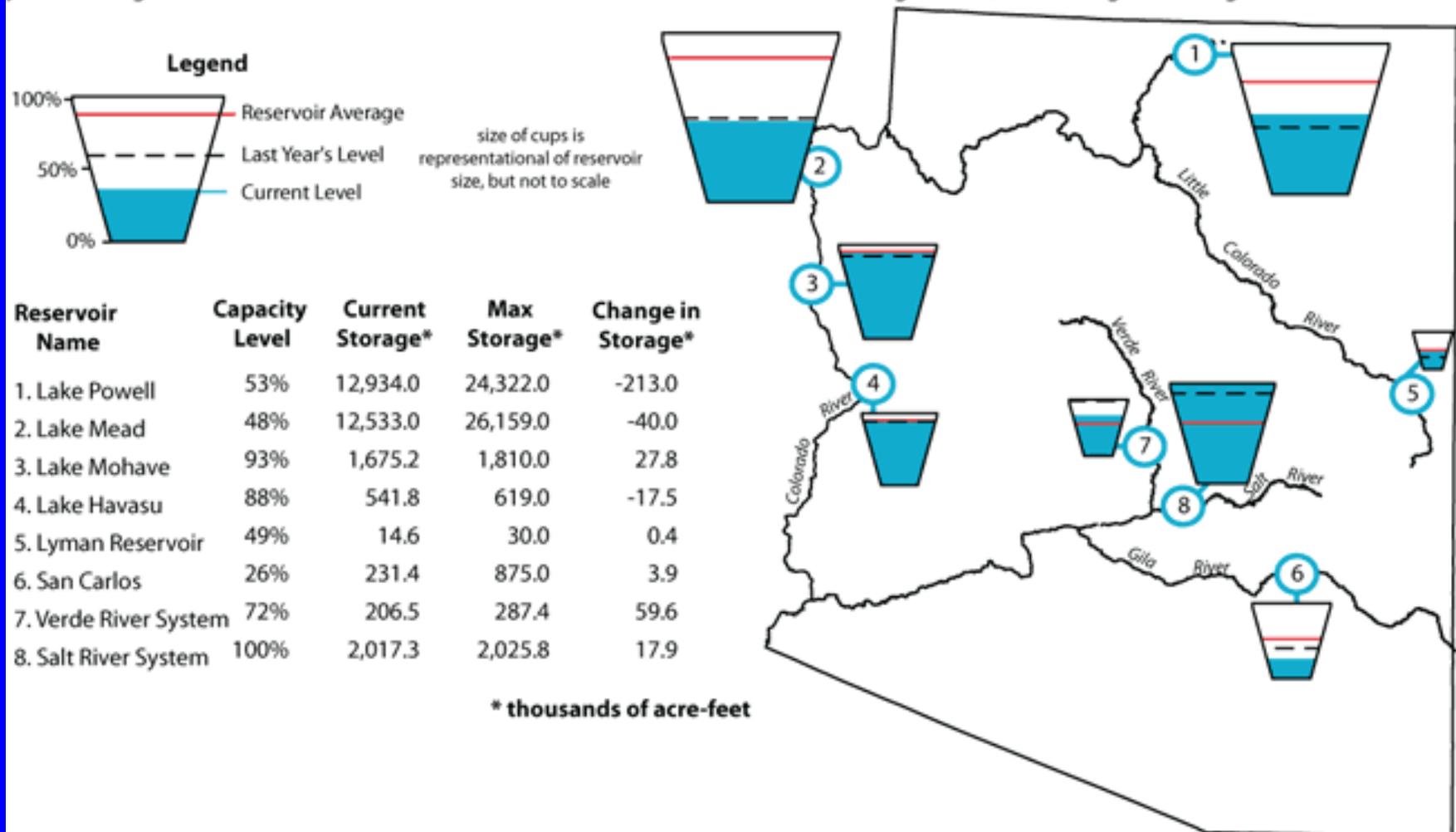
% Average



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Reservoir Status

Figure 6. Arizona reservoir levels for February 2009 as a percent of capacity. The map depicts the average level and last year's storage for each reservoir. The table also lists current and maximum storage levels, and change in storage since last month.



Short Term

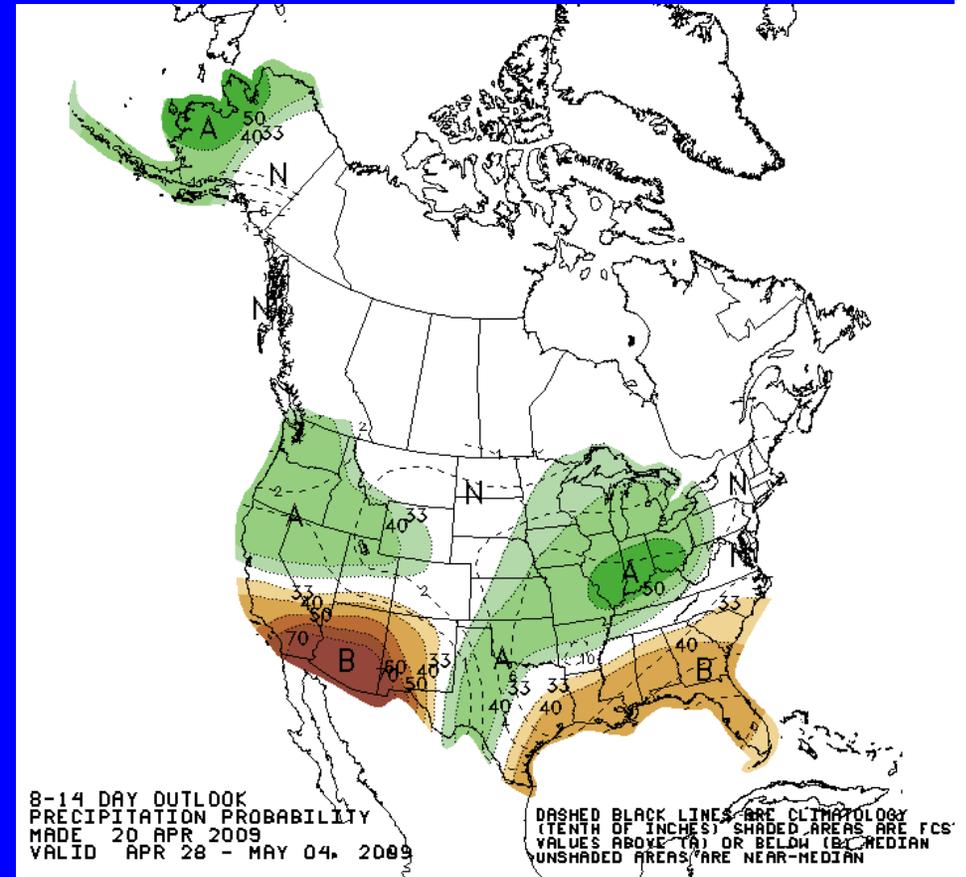
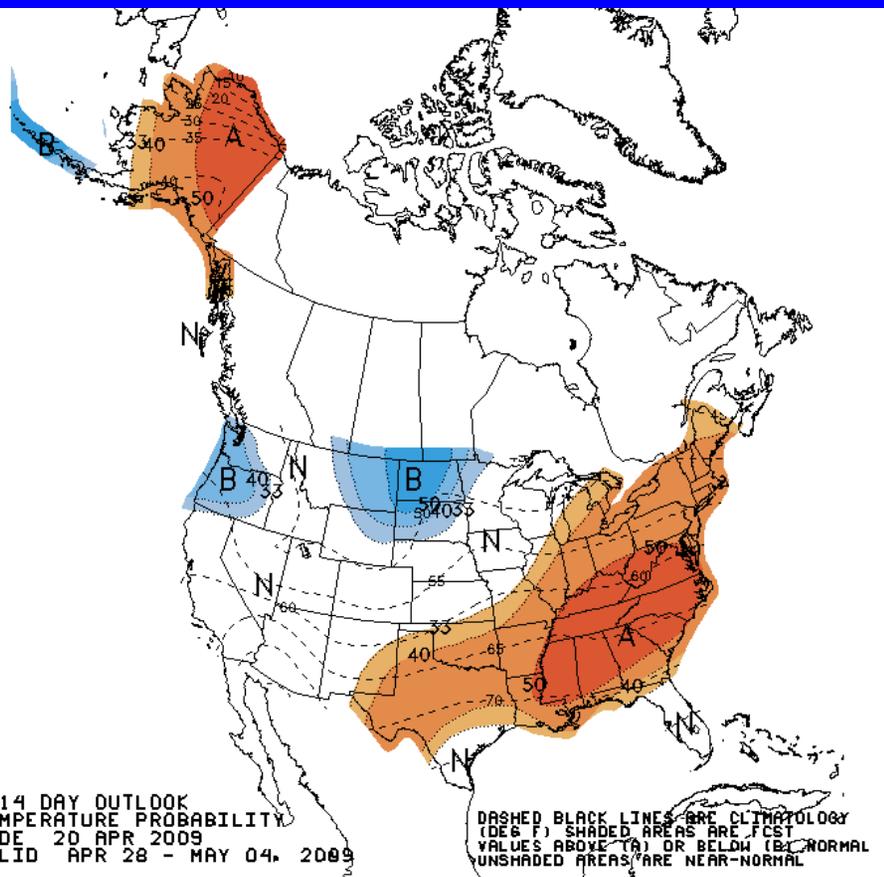
and

Long Range Outlooks

8 to 14 Day Outlook

Temperature

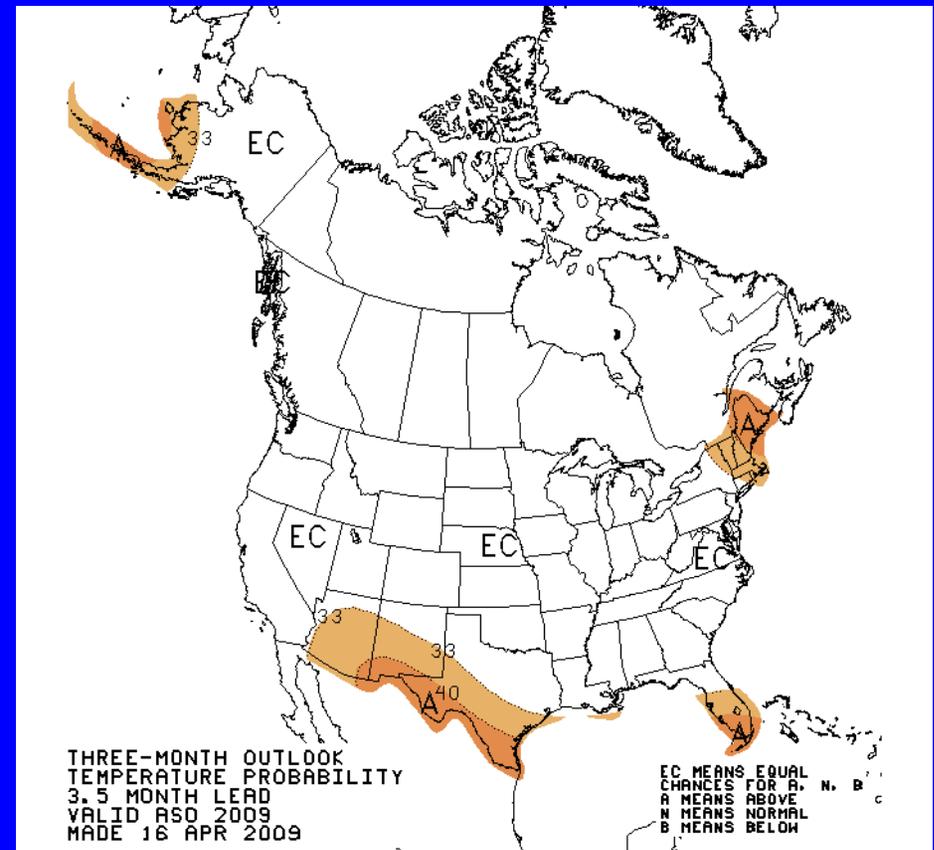
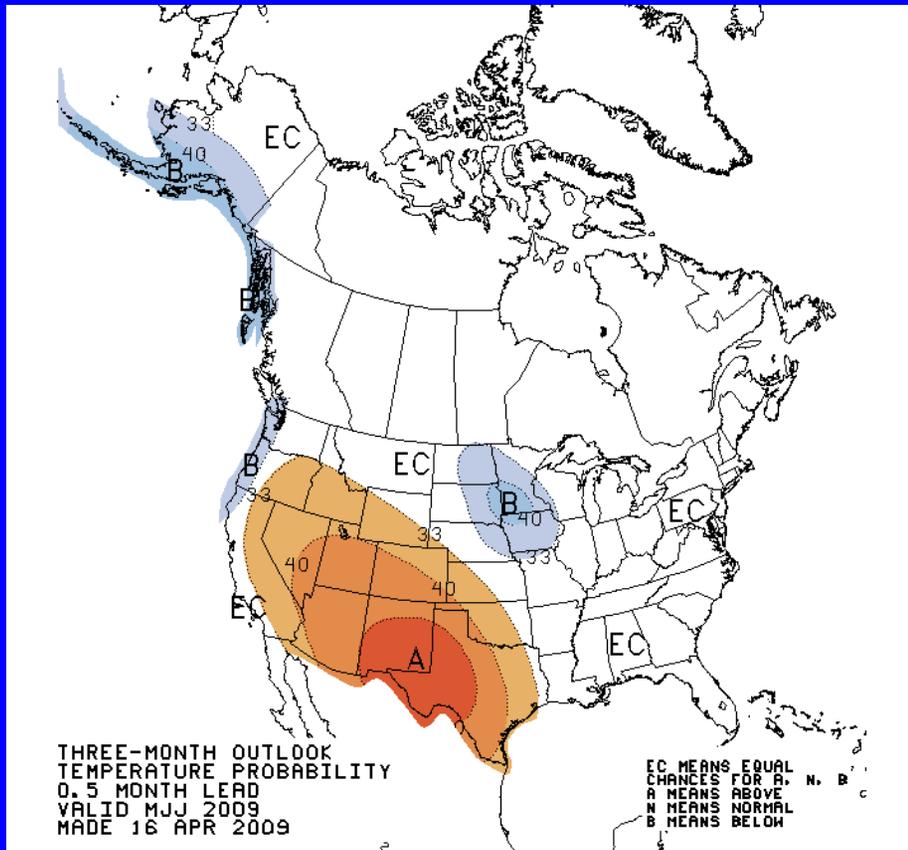
Precipitation



Temperature Outlook

May through July 2009

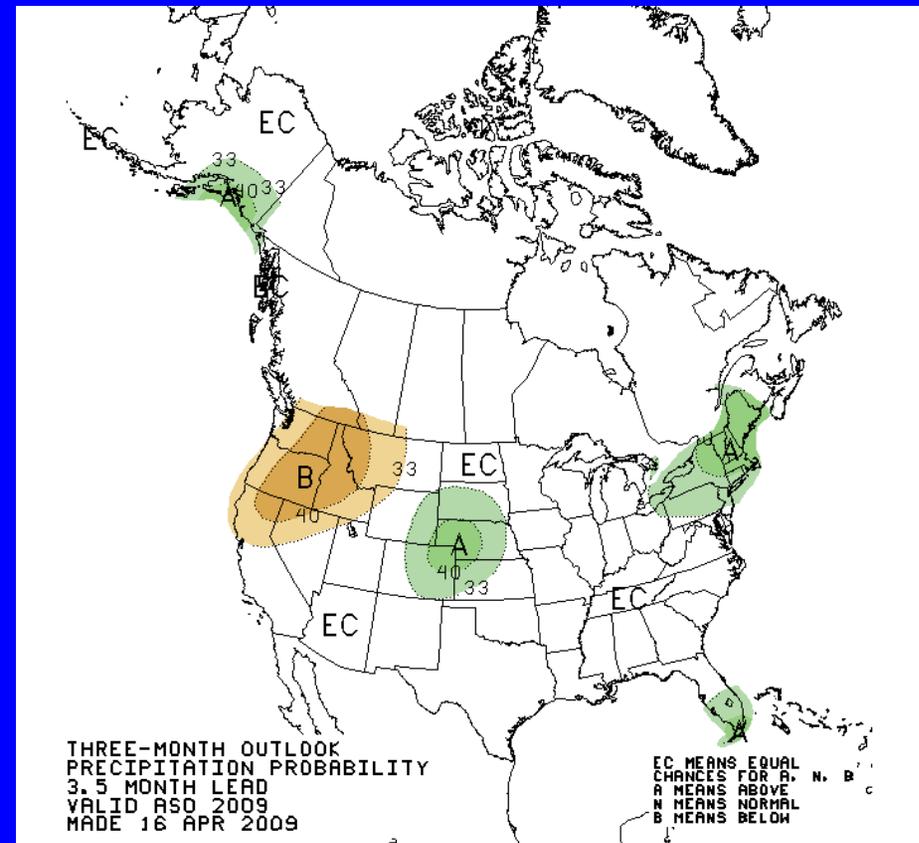
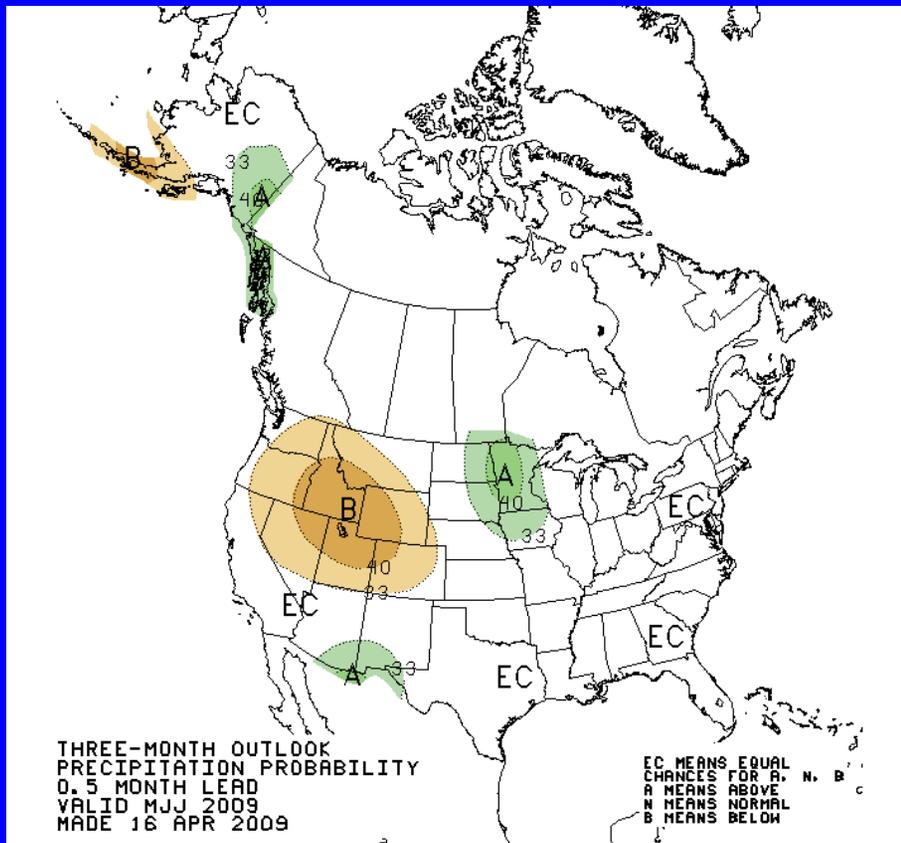
August through October 2009



Precipitation Outlook

May through July 2009

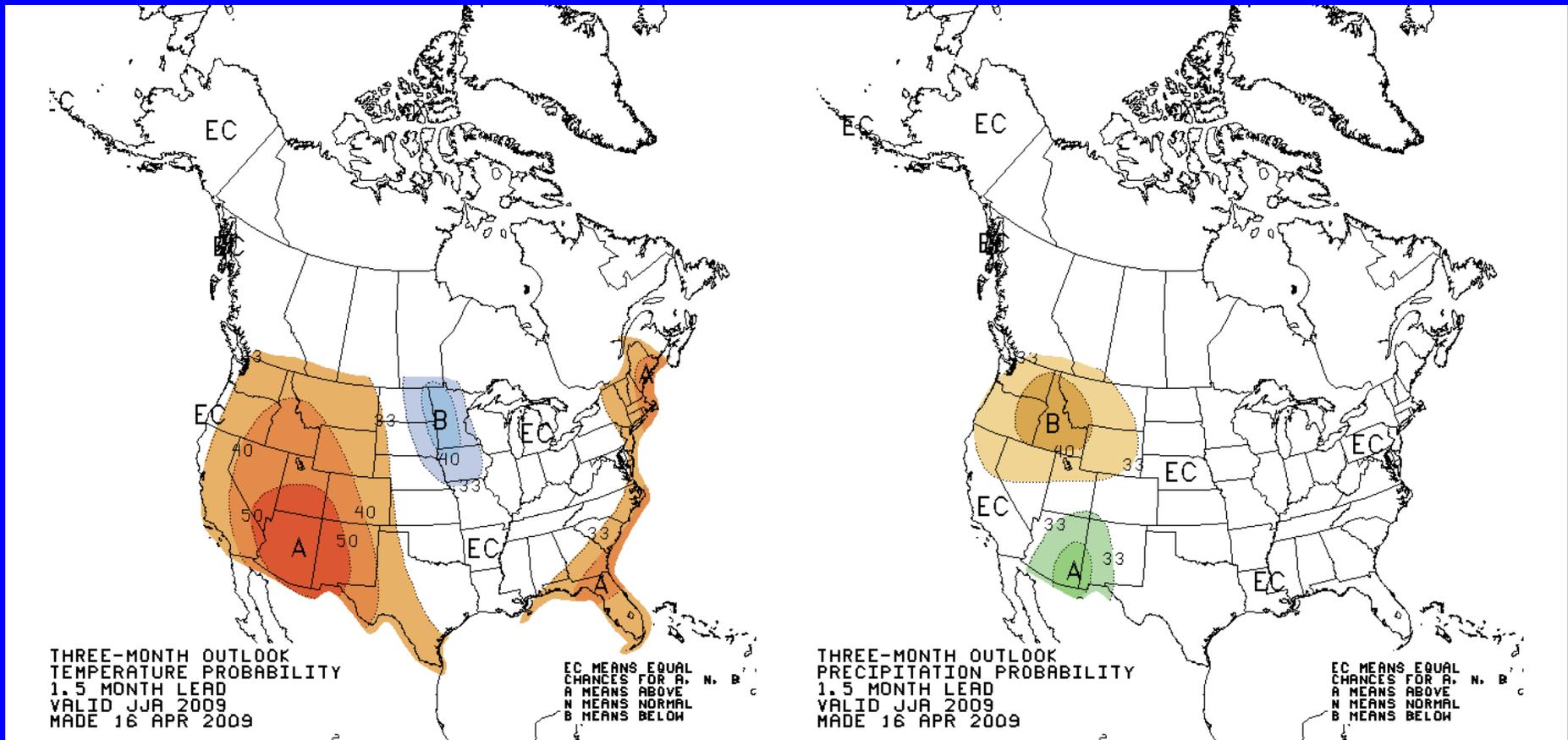
August through October 2009



Water Awareness Month **BONUS!**

The Monsoon Outlook

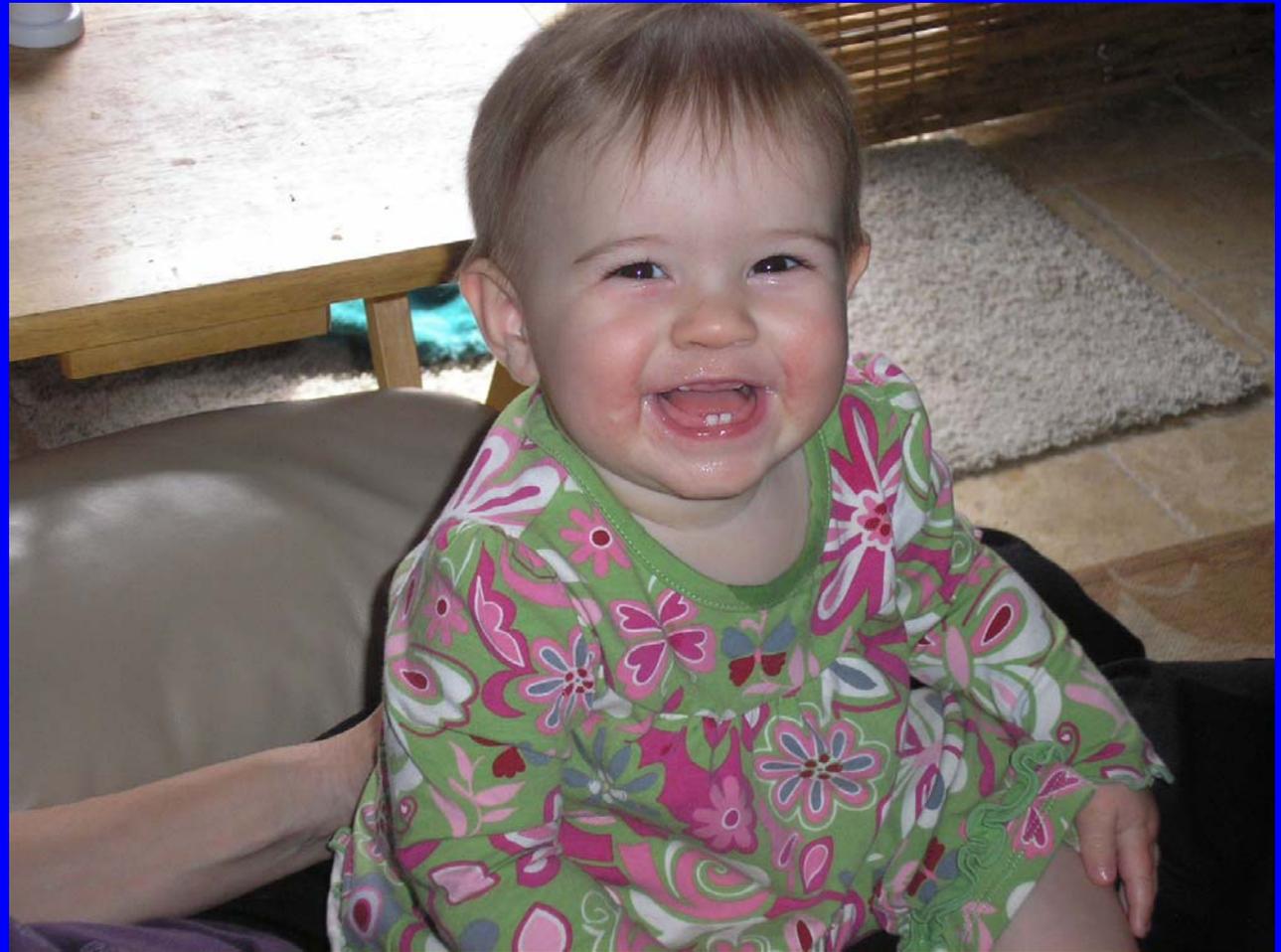
(June through August 2009)



A Closing Thought ...

P-L-E-A-S-E Remember...

What We Do,
Or Don't Do In
Our Drought
Planning Efforts
WILL Affect
HER Generation!



Jade Kathryn Craig

Thank You !!