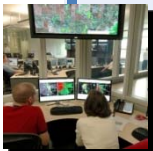
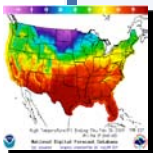


Mississippi River Basin Drainage River Flood Outlook

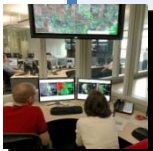
Interagency Recovery Task Force
Regional Flood Risk Management
Workshop

February 22-23, 2012



Agenda

- Recent Weather, Snowpack and River Conditions
- Weather Outlook
- River Outlook
- Questions



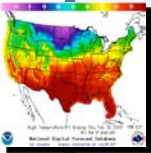
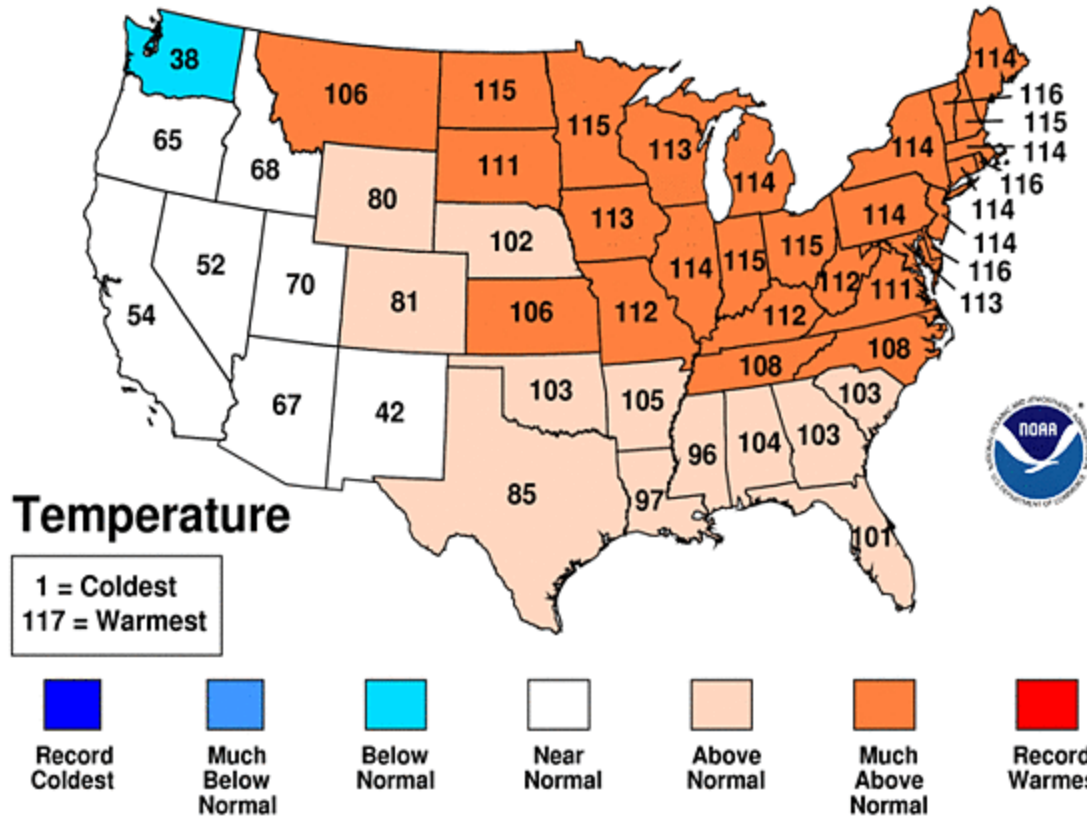
Recent Weather, Snowpack and River Conditions



Nov.-Jan. Temperatures

Nov 2011-Jan 2012 Statewide Ranks

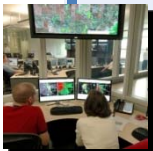
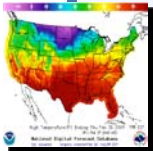
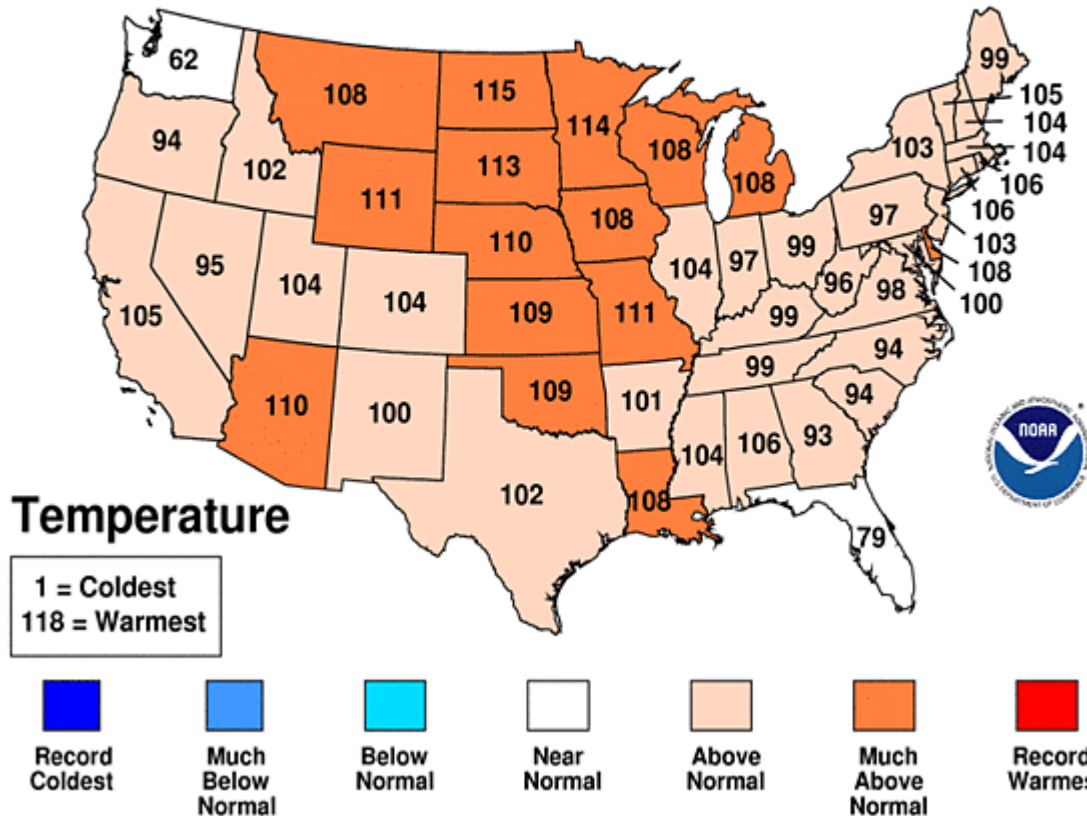
National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



January Temperatures

January 2012 Statewide Ranks

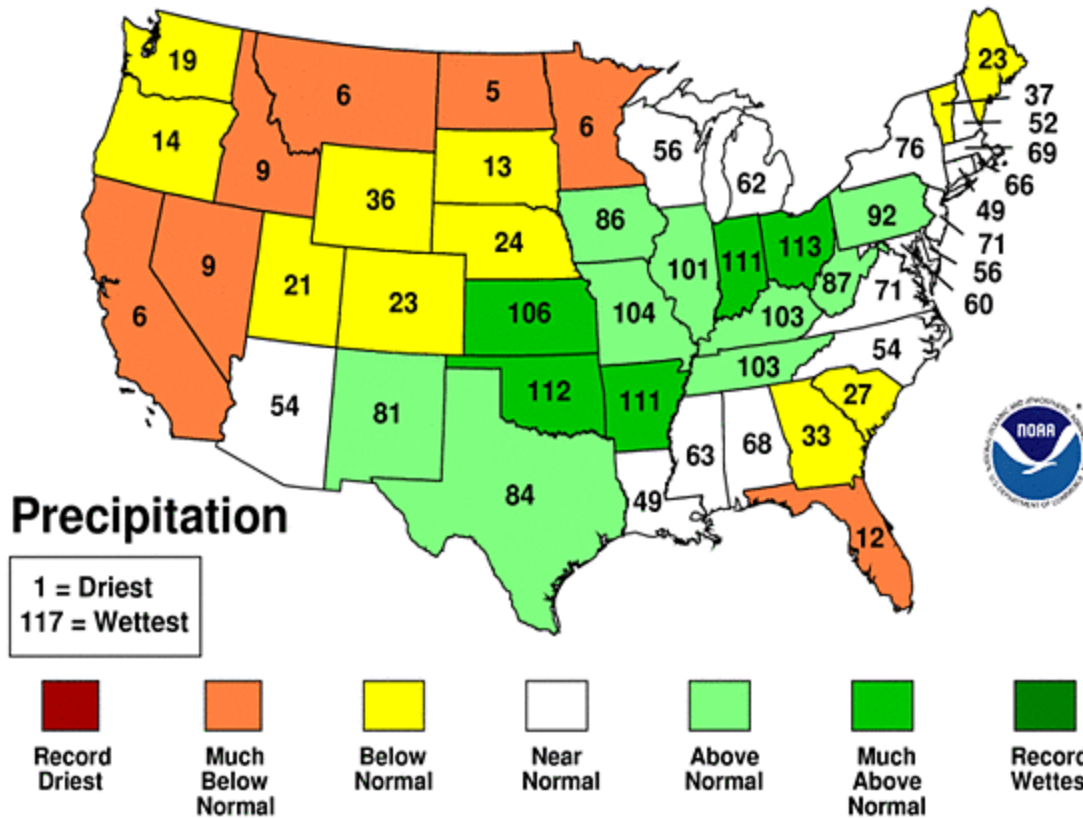
National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



Nov.-Jan. Precipitation

Nov 2011-Jan 2012 Statewide Ranks

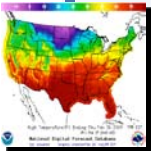
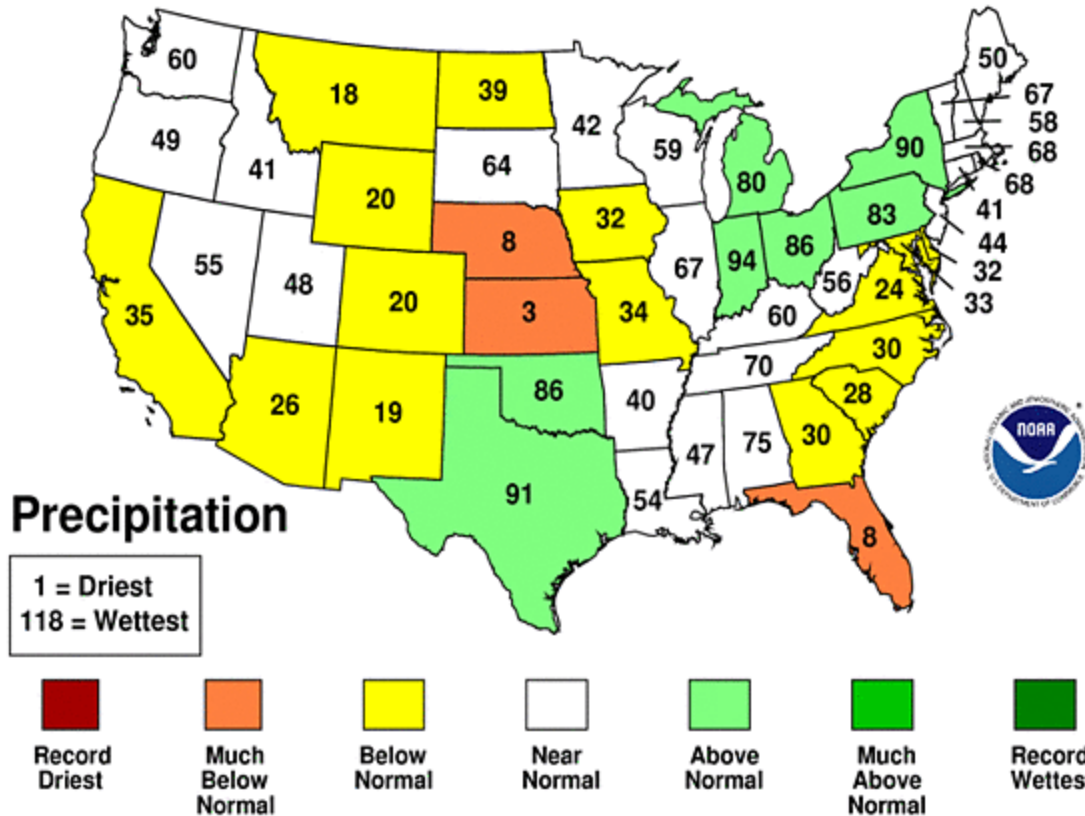
National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



January Precipitation

January 2012 Statewide Ranks

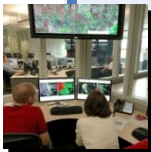
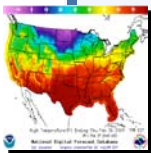
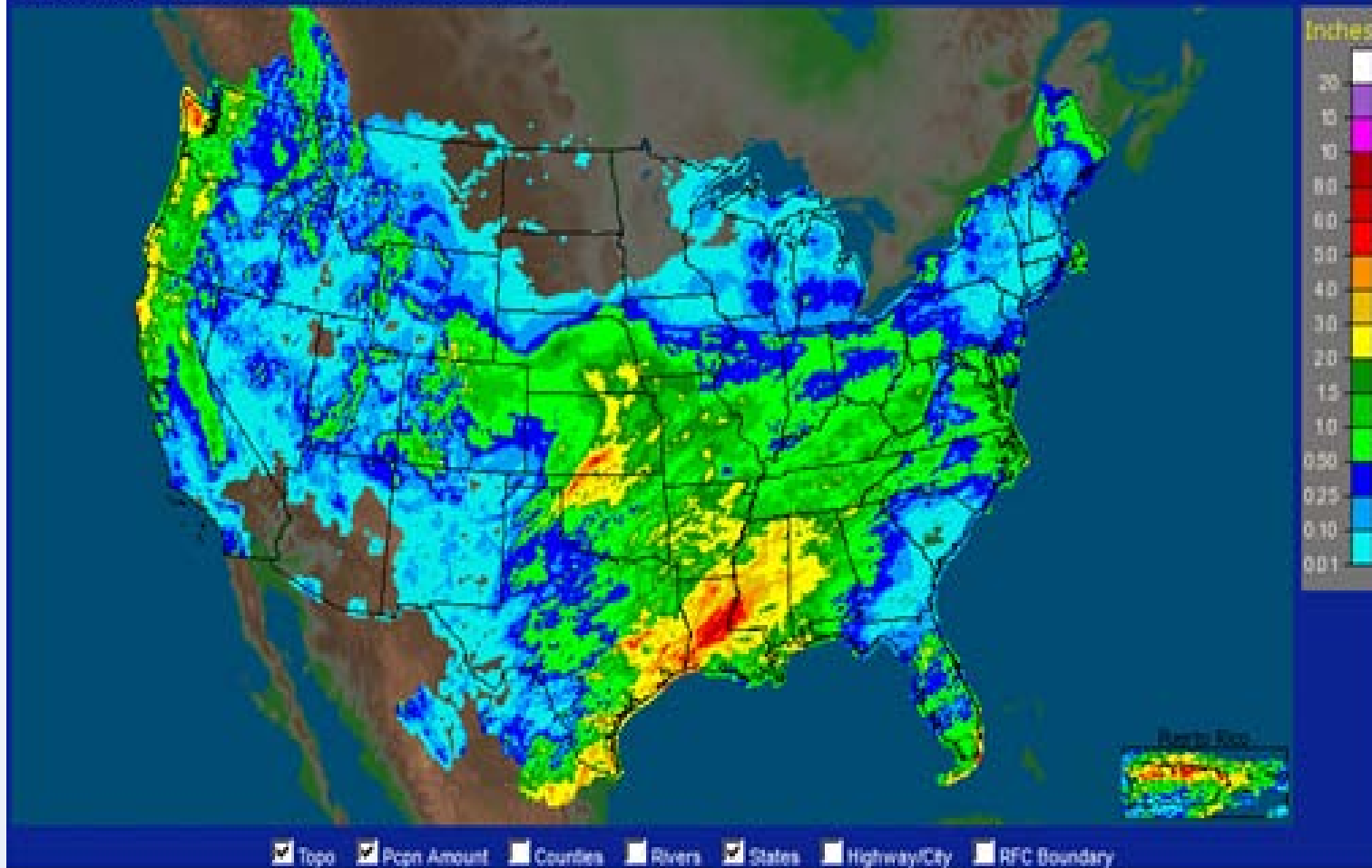
National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



February Precipitation

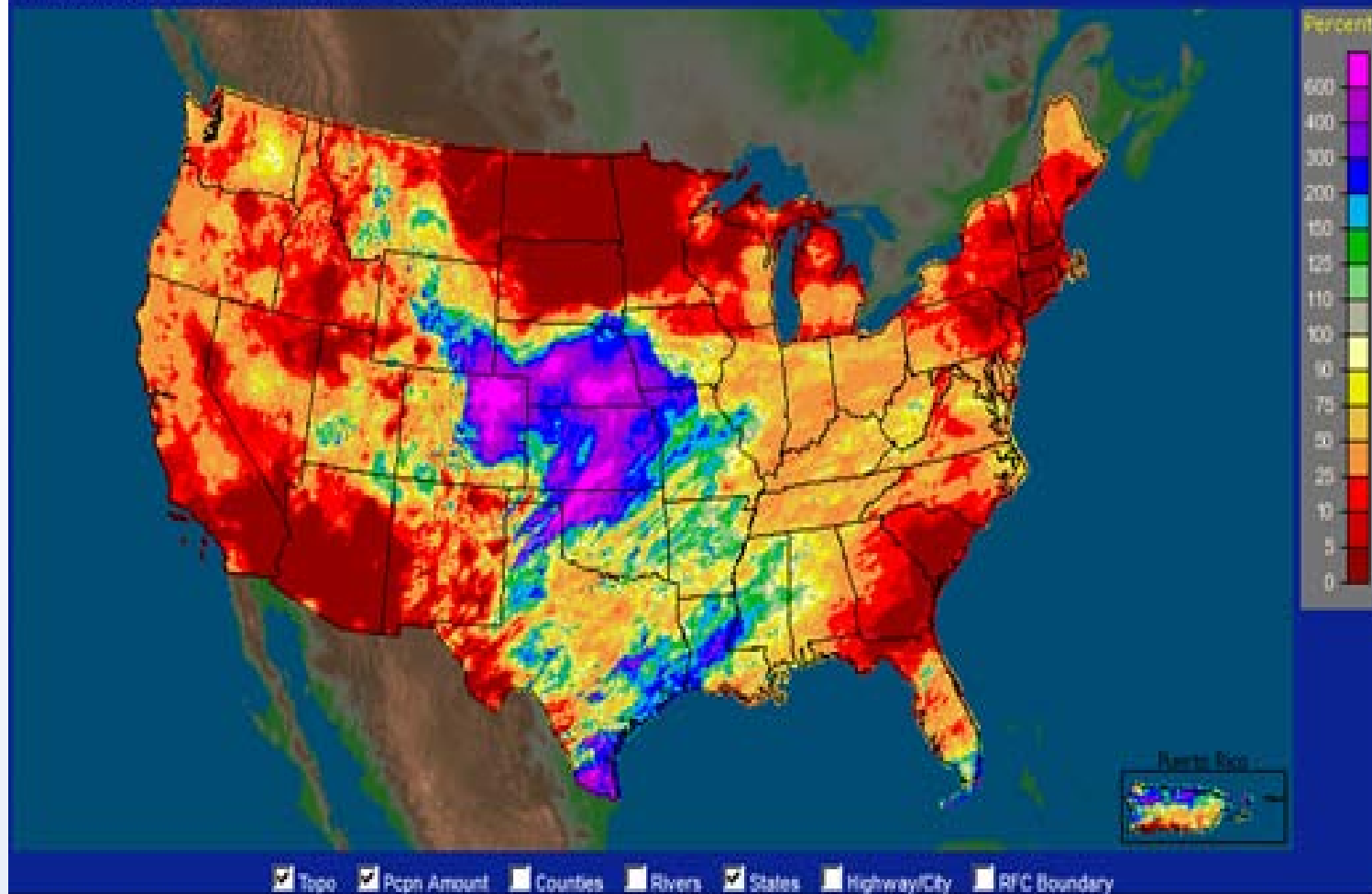
National Weather Service
Protecting Lives and Property

CONUS + Puerto Rico Current 14-Day Observed Precipitation
Valid at 2/14/2012 1200 UTC - Created 2/14/12 23:37 UTC



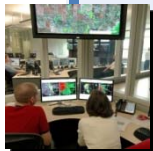
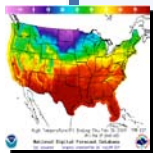
February Precipitation

CONUS + Puerto Rico: Current 14-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation
Valid at 2/14/2012 1200 UTC - Created 2/14/12 23:38 UTC



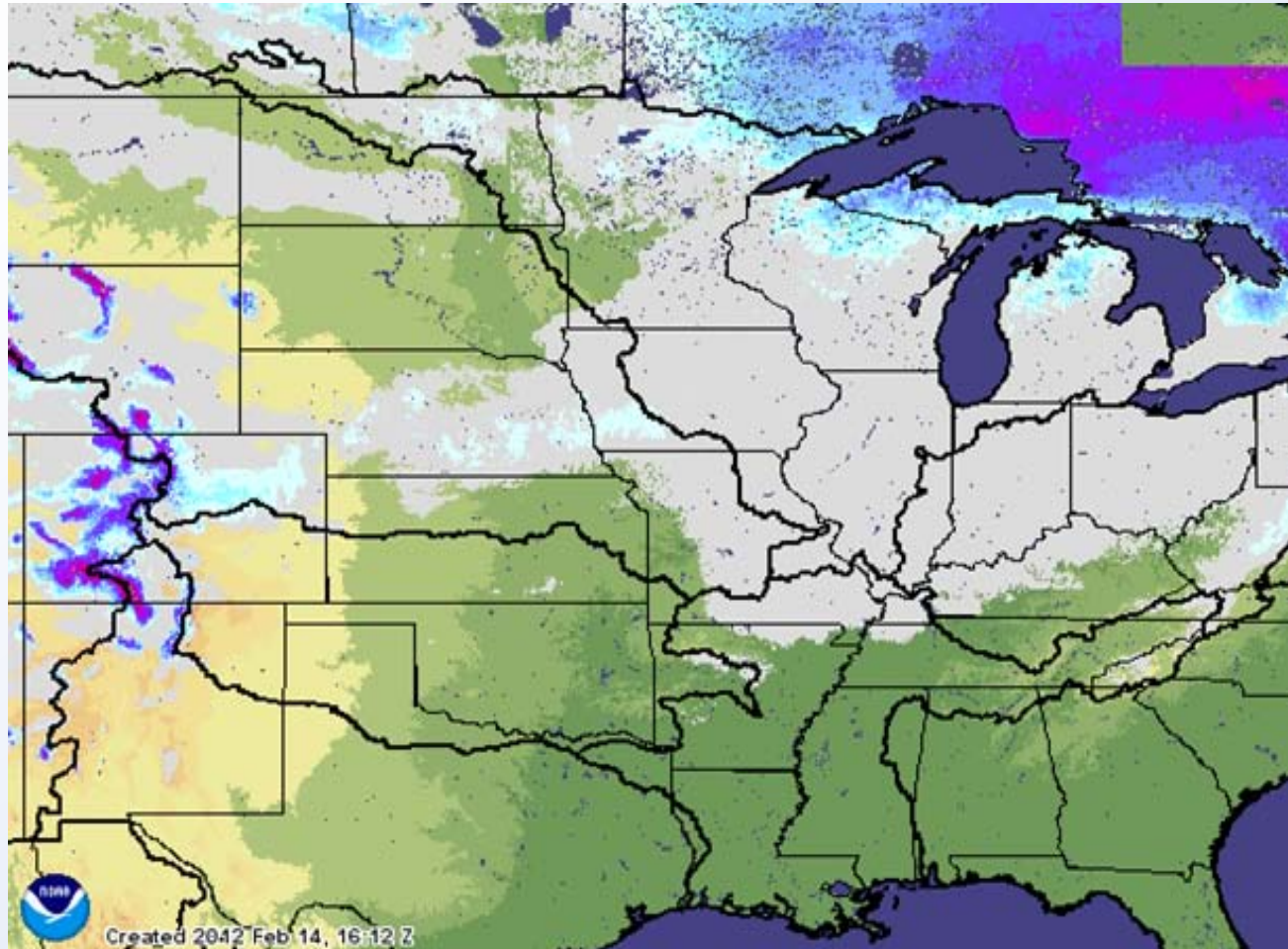
National Weather Service

Protecting Lives and Property

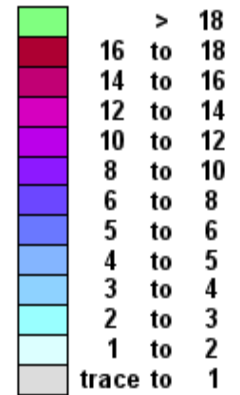


Snowpack Water Content Feb. 15 2011

National Weather Service
Protecting Lives and Property

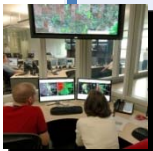
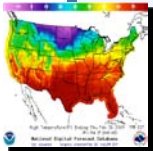


Inches of water equivalent



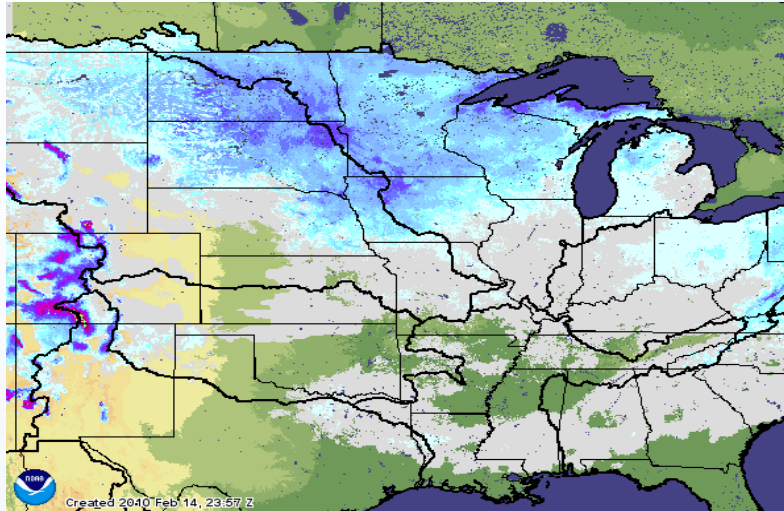
Not Estimated

Elevation in feet

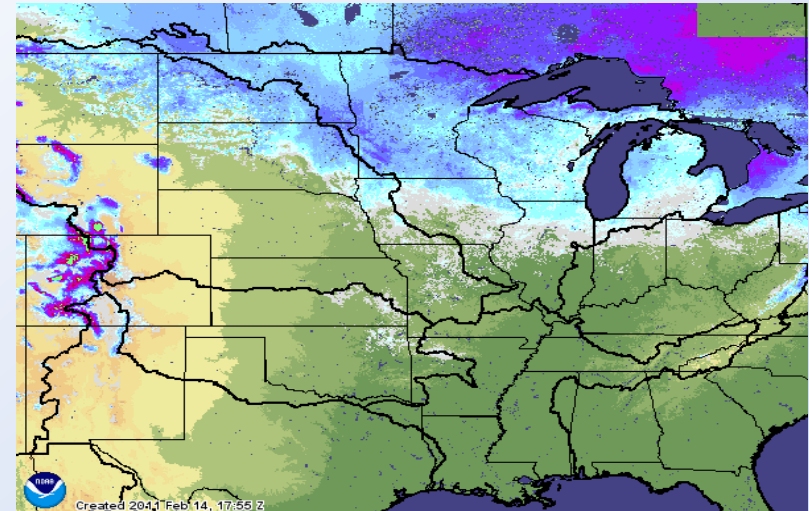


3-Year SWE Comparison

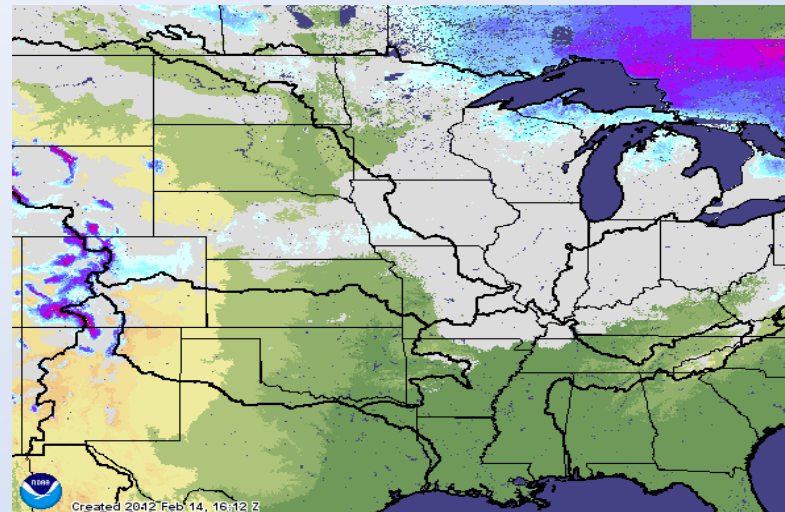
2010



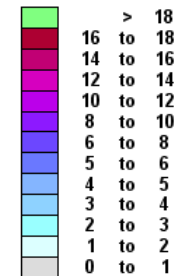
2011



2012



Inches of water equivalent

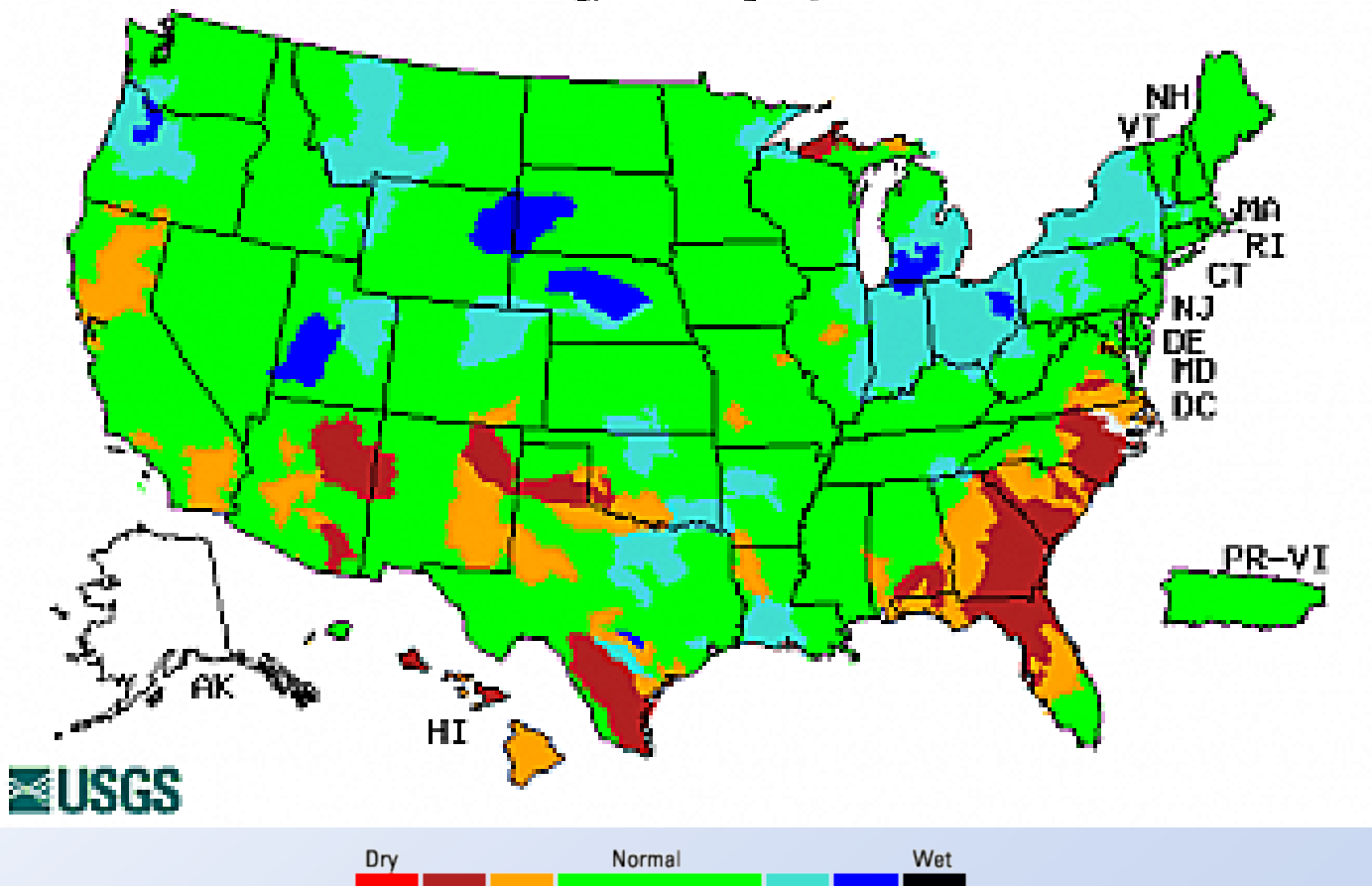


Not Estimated



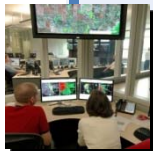
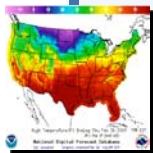
USGS 28-day Streamflows

Tuesday, February 14, 2012



National Weather Service

Protecting Lives and Property

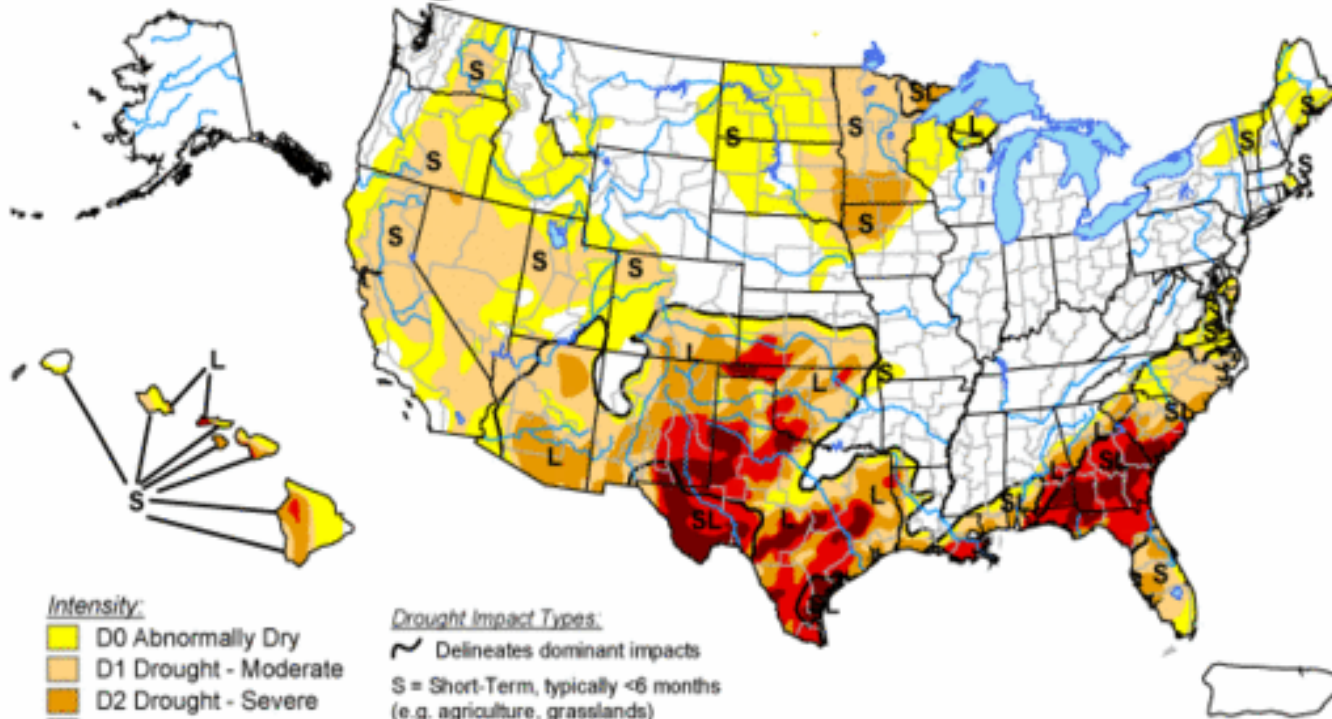


Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

February 14, 2012

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:

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

Drought Impact Types:

- Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

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

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



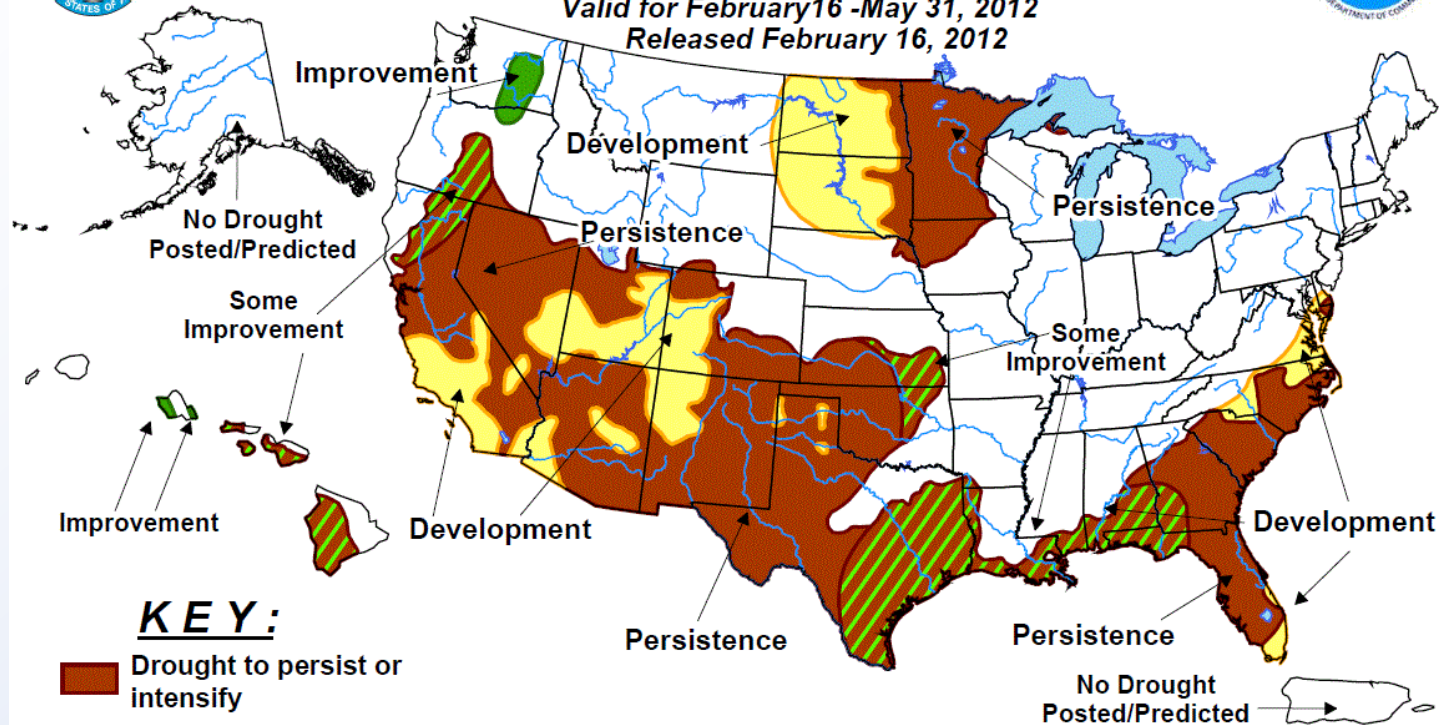
Released Thursday, February 16, 2012

Author: Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

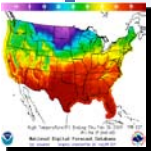
Drought Outlook



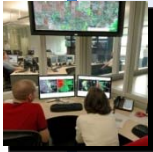
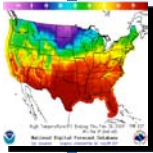
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Valid for February 16 - May 31, 2012 Released February 16, 2012



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).

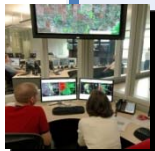
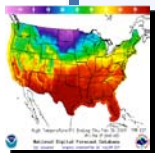


Weather Outlook



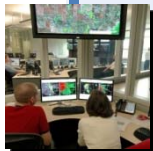
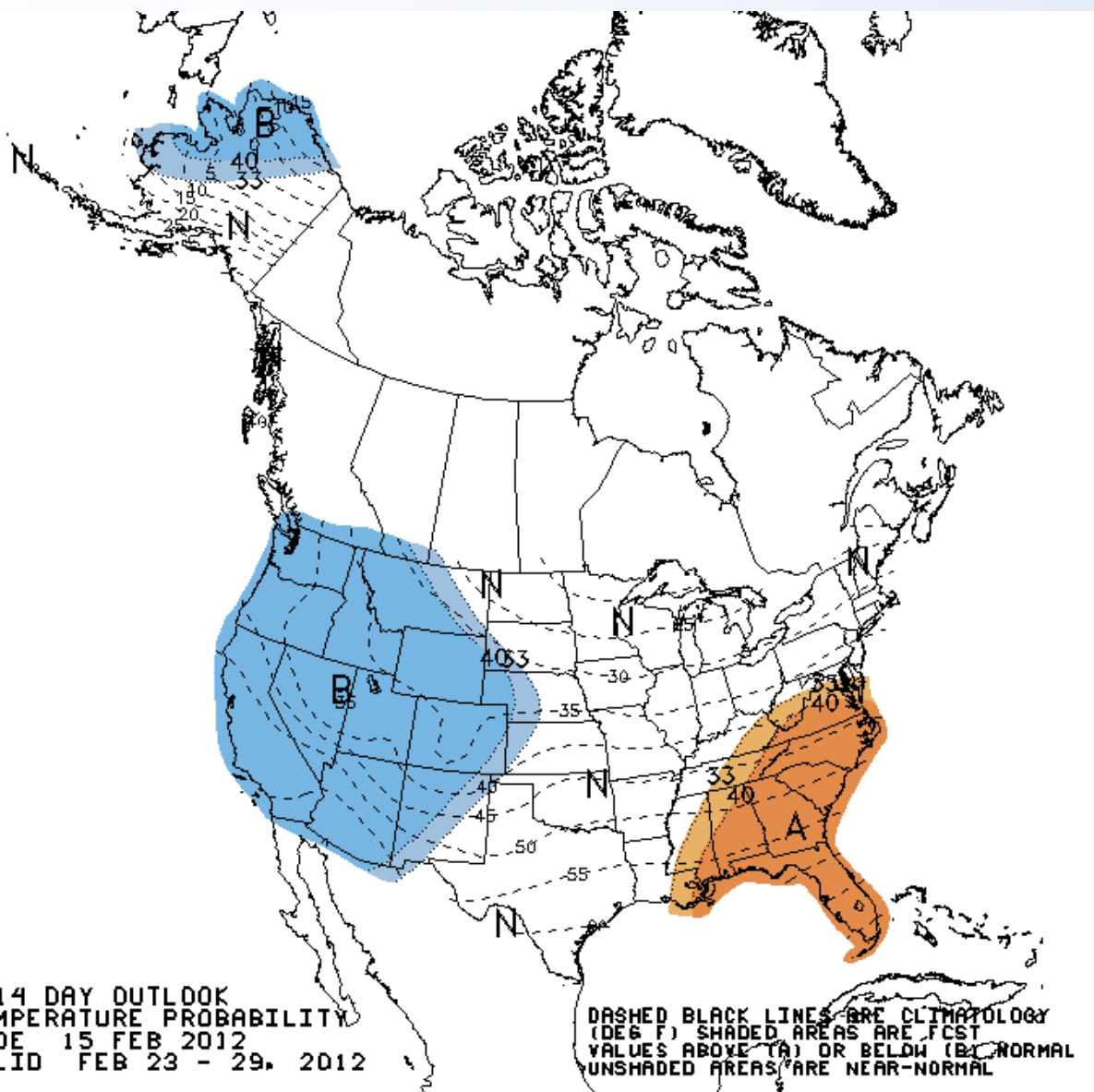
Two Week Weather Outlook

- Most active part of storm track will be suppressed south from lower Mississippi Valley into parts of the Ohio, Cumberland and Tennessee Valley regions
- Rainfall above normal from lower Mississippi River to parts of Ohio River Valley regions
- Greatest threat for flooding next two weeks appears from lower Mississippi Valley into parts of the Ohio Valley
- Temperatures will swing back and forth between above and below normal but overall will average near normal



Temperature Outlook

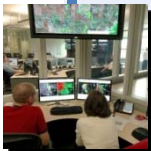
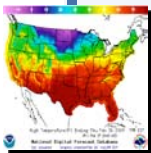
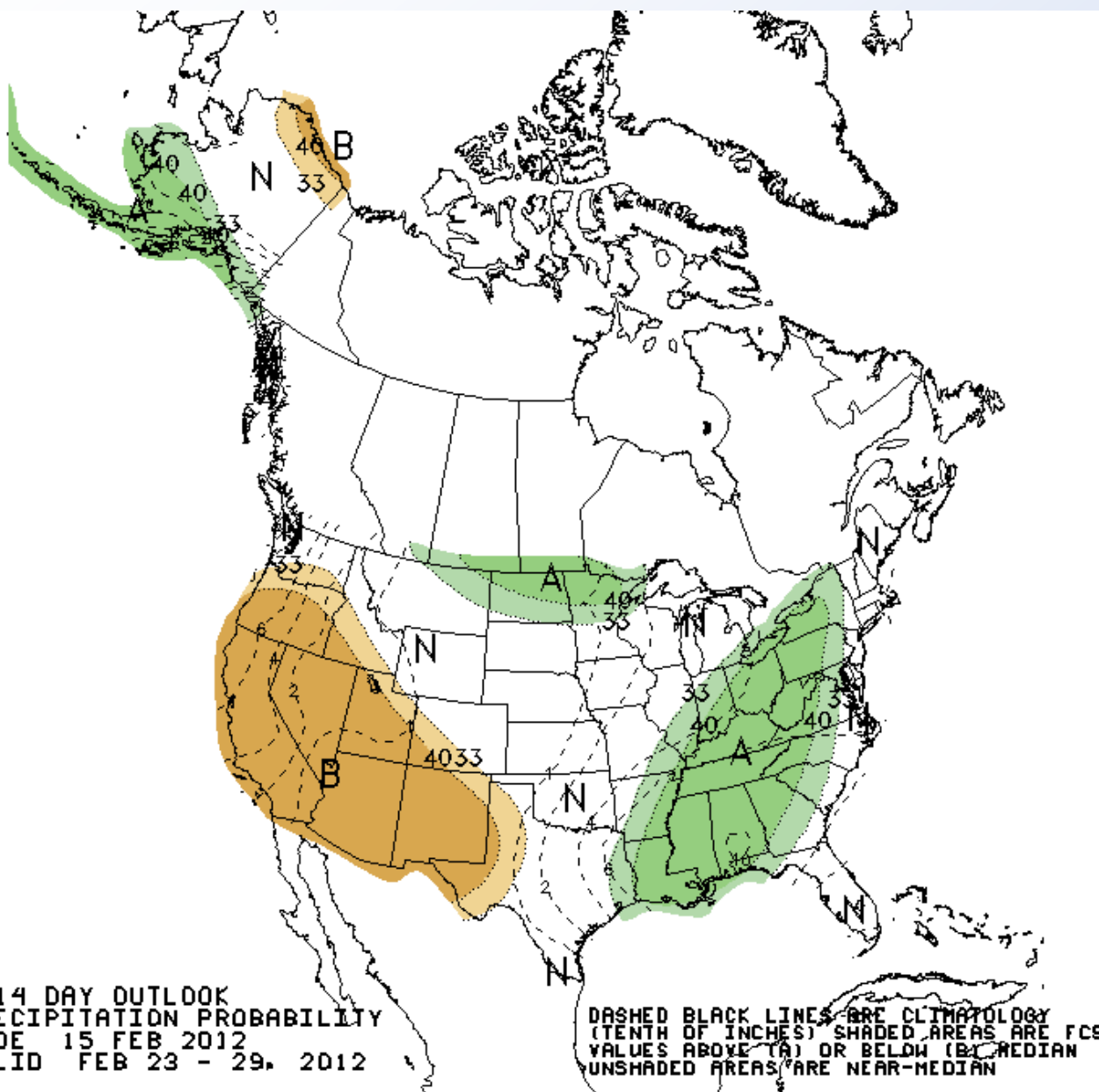
National Weather Service
Protecting Lives and Property



Precipitation Outlook

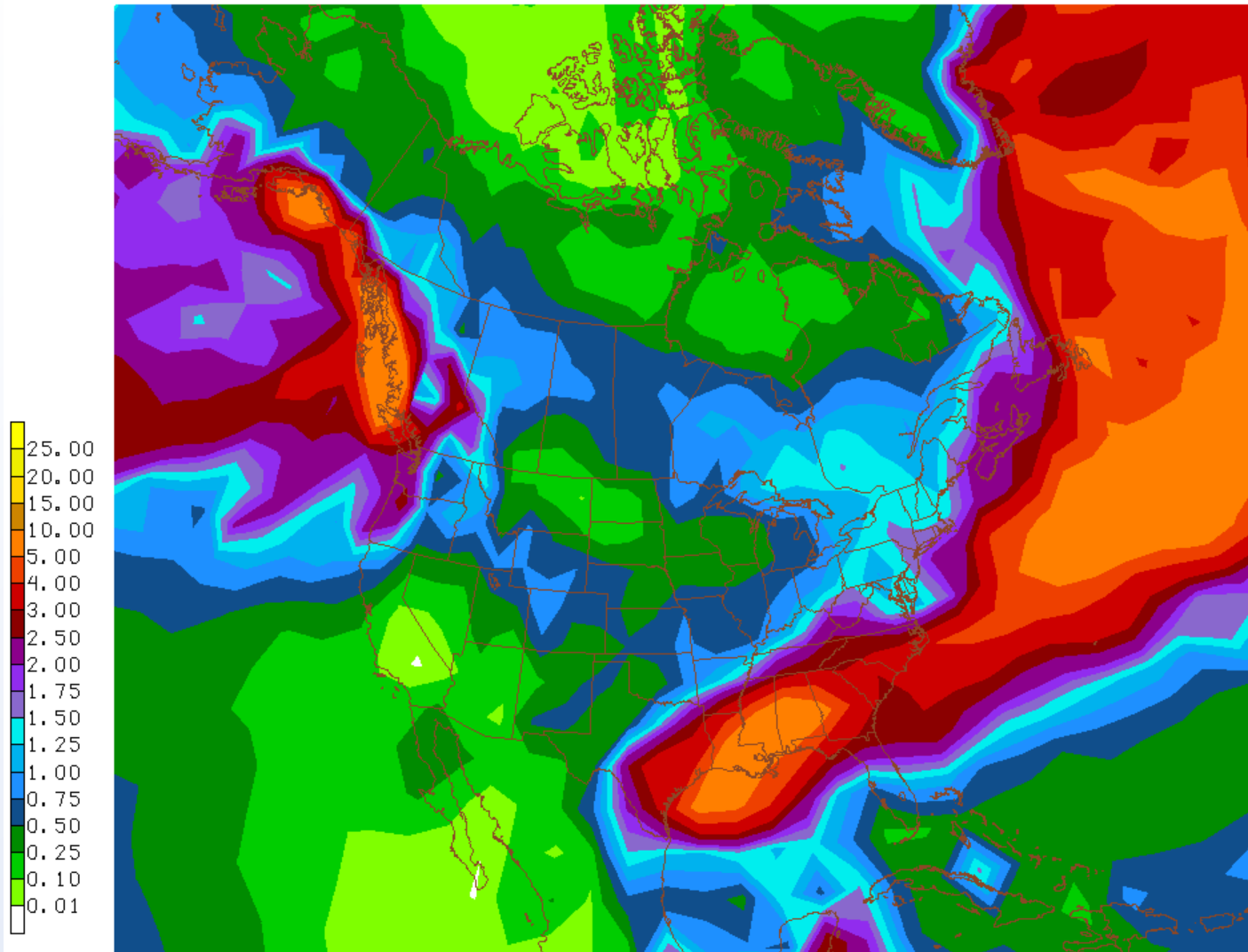
National Weather Service

Protecting Lives and Property



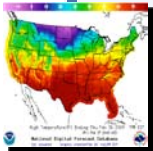
Two Week Precipitation Totals

02/16/12 12UTC 384HR FCST VALID Sat 03/03/12 12UTC NCEP/NWS/NOAA



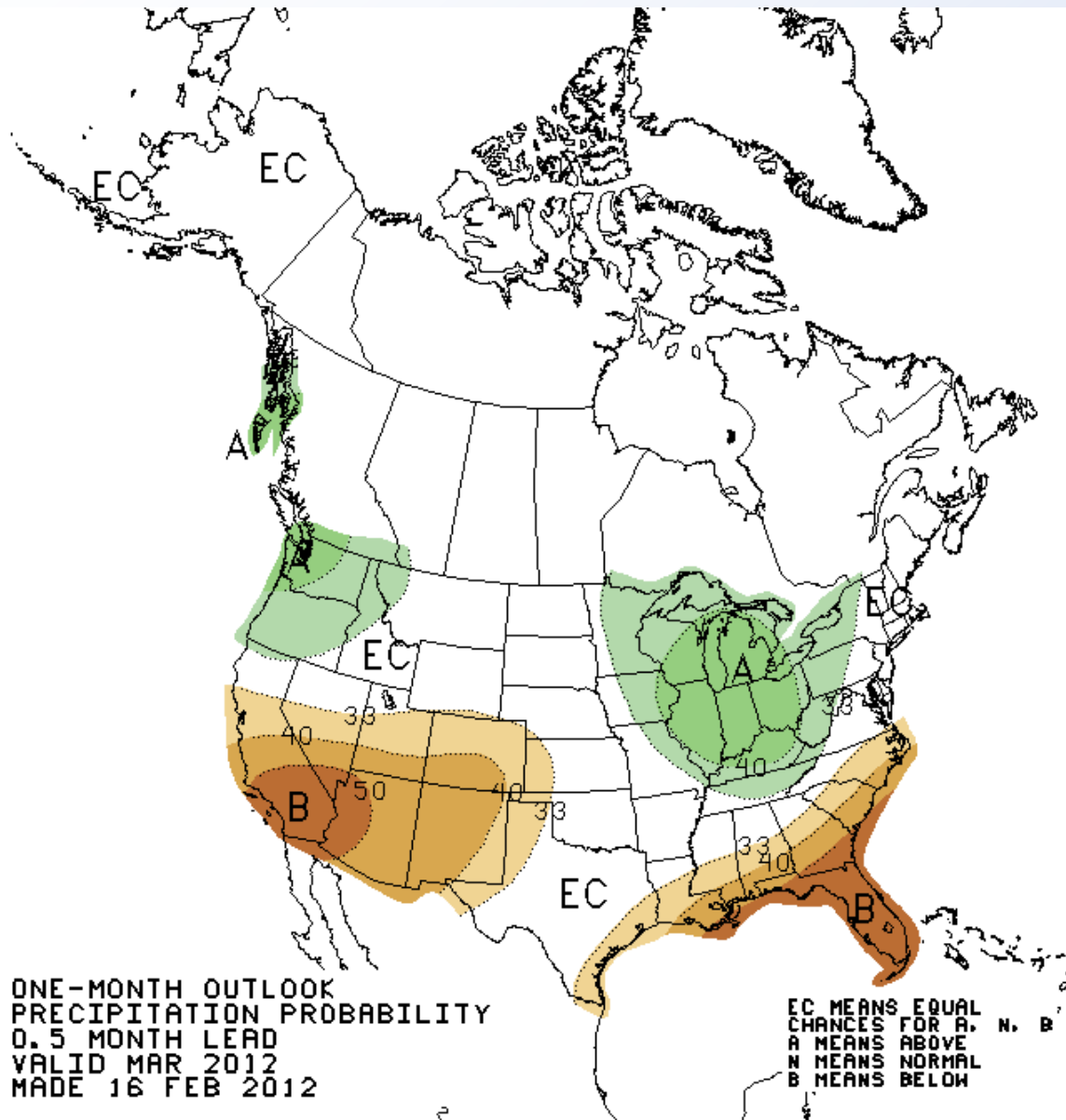
120303/1200V384 6FS 384-HR TOTAL PCPN (IN)

National Weather Service
Protecting Lives and Property



March Precipitation Outlook

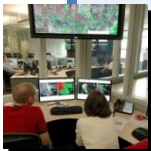
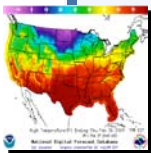
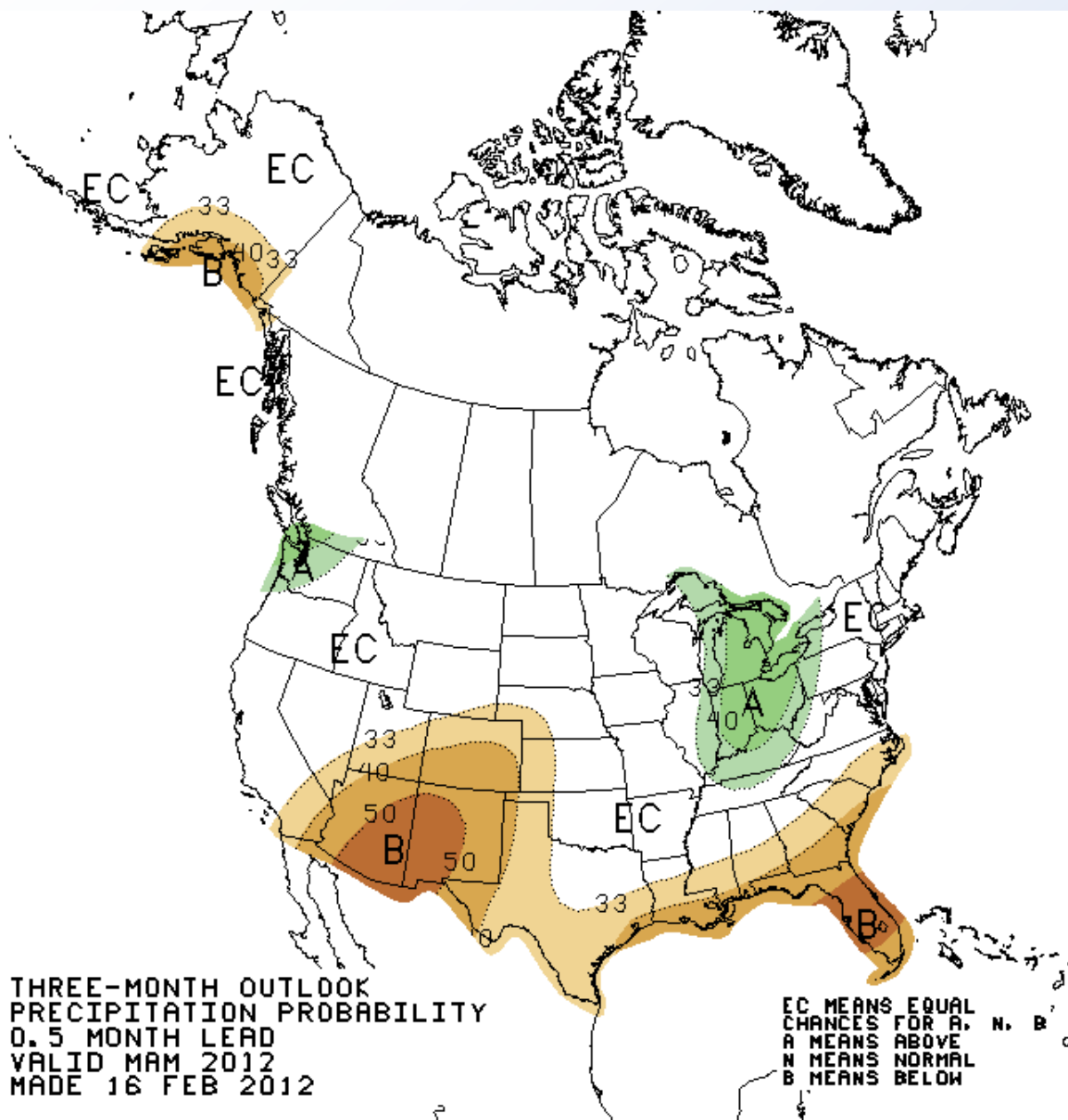
National Weather Service
Protecting Lives and Property



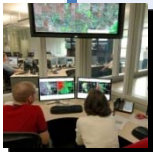
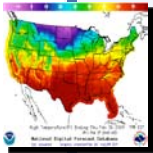
March-May Precipitation Outlook

National Weather Service

Protecting Lives and Property



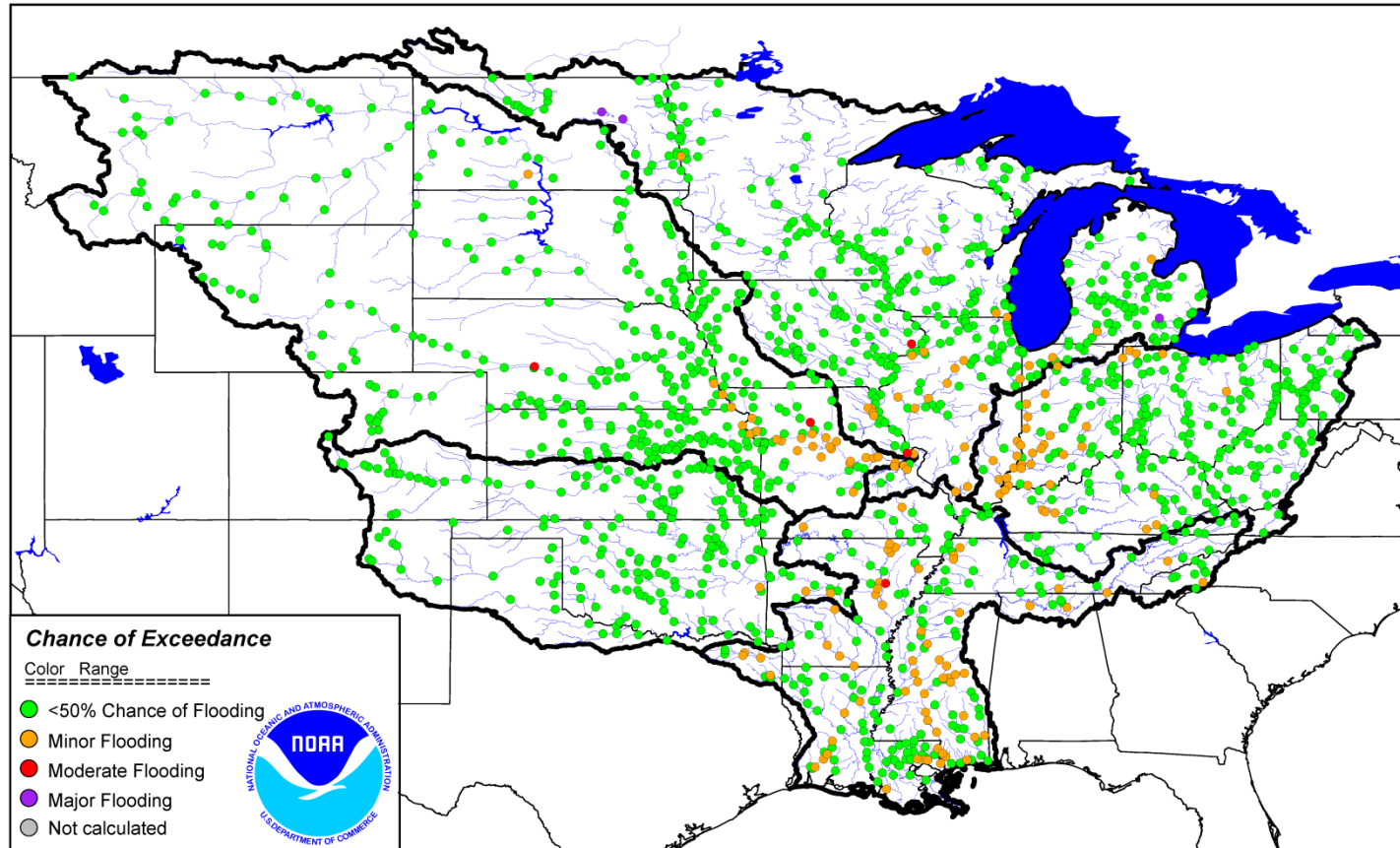
90- Day River Flood Outlook Winter/Spring 2012



2012 90-Day River Flood Outlook

50% or Greater Chance of Flooding

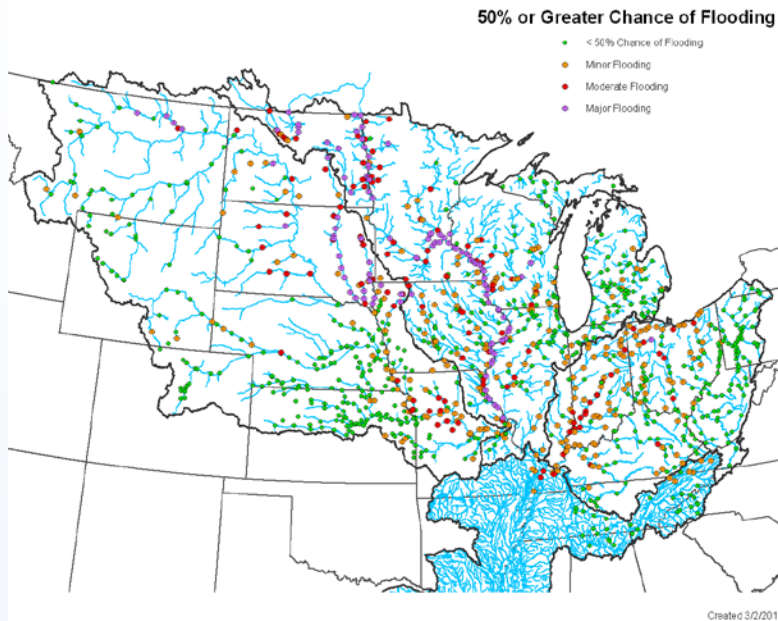
Thu Feb 16 07:04:16 EST 2012
For the period: 02/22/2012 -to- 05/22/2012



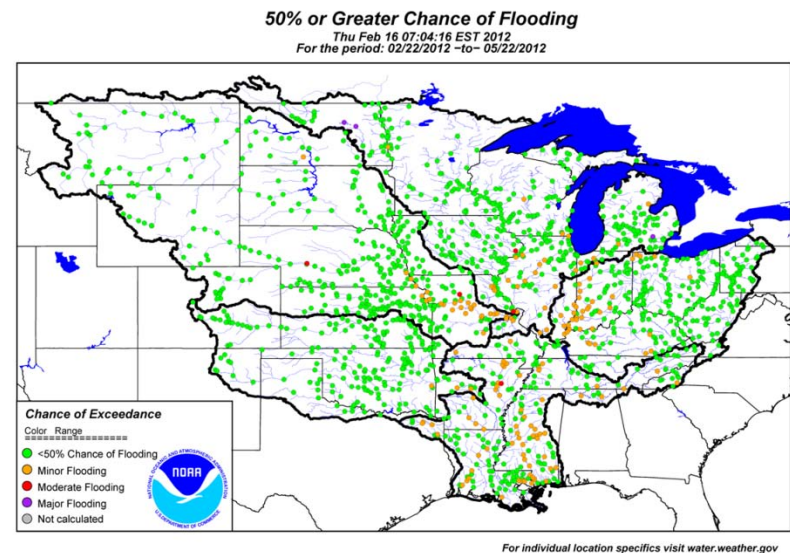
For individual location specifics visit water.weather.gov

Comparison of 2012 to 2011

Late winter/spring 2011



Late winter/spring 2012

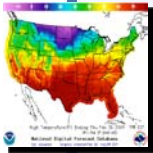


Risk is far less in the upper Missouri, upper Mississippi River, Red River of the North this year than last year based on greatly reduced snow water content.

Greatest flood threat is in the lower Ohio, lower Mississippi, and lower Missouri River regions in 2012, but risk appears to be reduced at this time compared to 2011. Rainfall is primary contributor, so uncertainty remains.

Flood Outlook Summary

- La Nina weaker than 2011 in 2012 meaning influence on weather pattern less than 2011. This allows other climate regimes to have greater influence.
- Heaviest rainfall next two weeks concentrated from lower Mississippi to Ohio Valley regions.
- Primary flood threat into spring appears focused in lower Ohio, lower Mississippi and lower Missouri basins but likely less than 2011.
- Severity still uncertain and will be driven by rainfall this late winter and spring.
- The National Weather Service will provide flood outlook updates in the coming weeks and months.



Questions?

National Weather Service
Protecting Lives and Property

