



Water Availability Task Force Meeting July 20, 2006



THE MONSOON IS HERE!

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Colorado Division of Wildlife
July 20, 2006



John F. Henz, CCM

"the old forecaster"

**Significantly
assisted by:
Bill Badini**

- Senior Project Manager and
National Hydro-Meteorology Group leader
HDR Engineering, Inc. – Denver CO
- Certified Consulting Meteorologist (1980-20??)
- Check it out: www.hdrweather.com
- Email: john.henz@hdrinc.com

Today's laugh



- *Would you settle for a “flood watch”?*

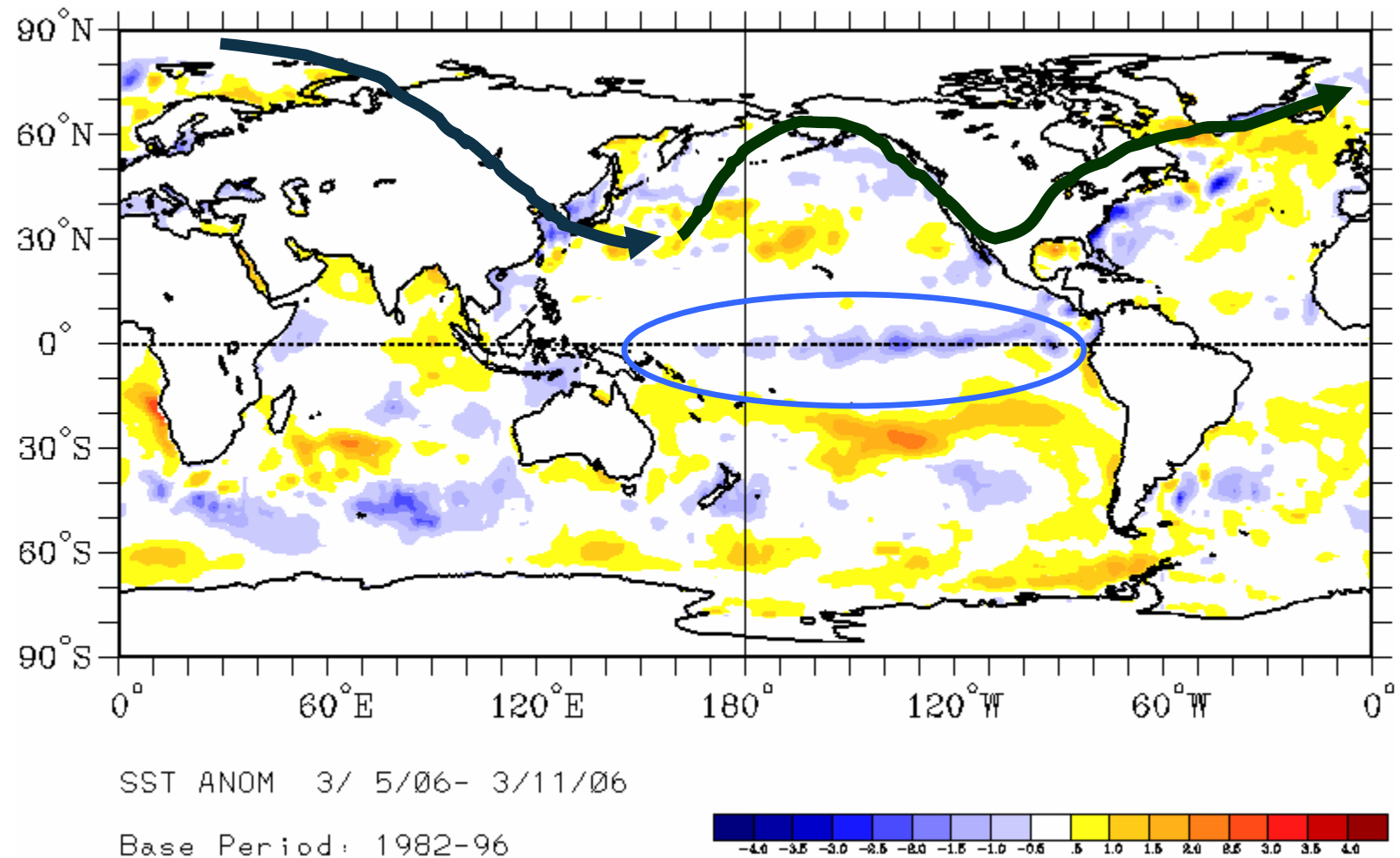
What's going on this summer?



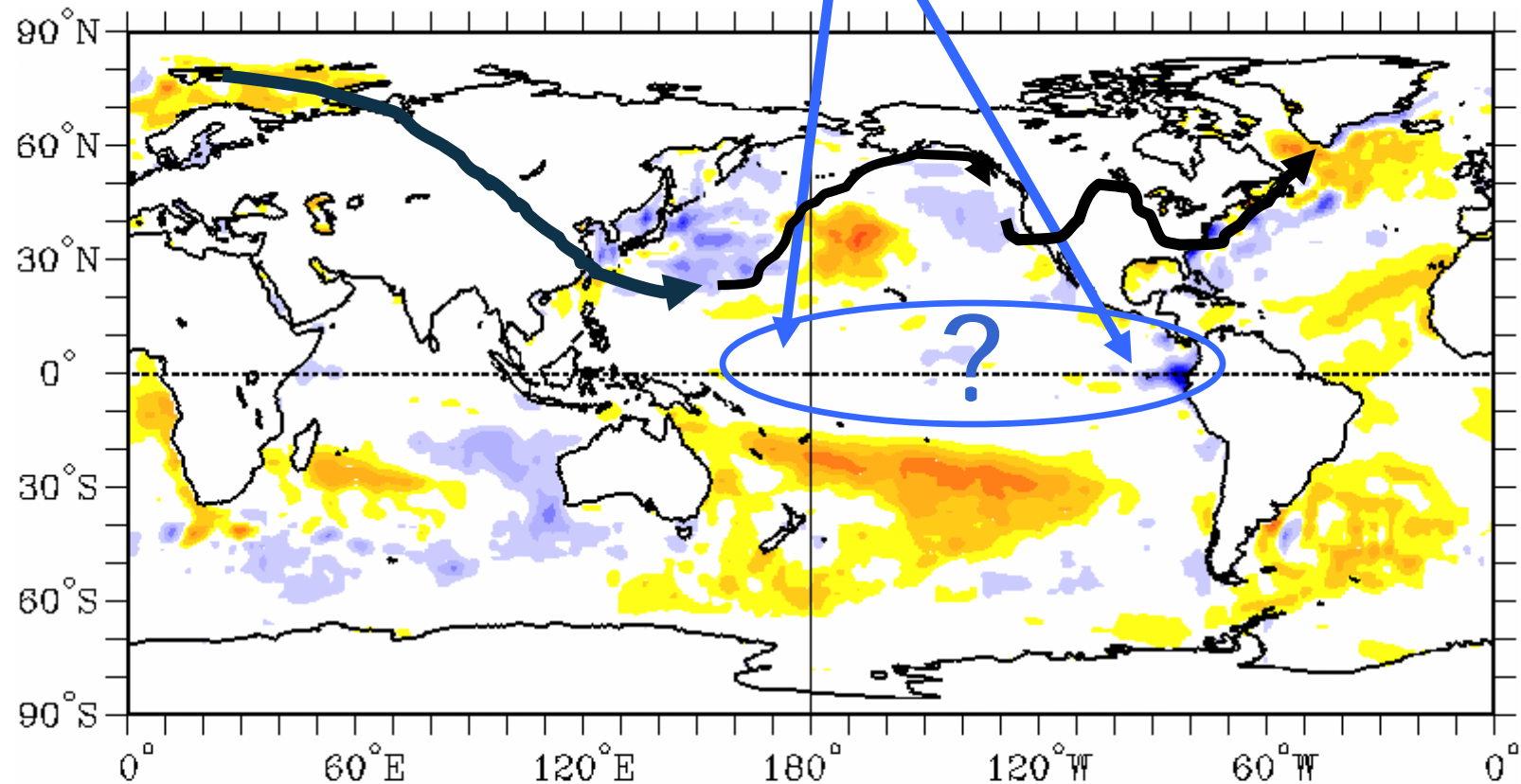


La Nina Becoming El Nino

La Nina, though weak, persisted (Mar 11)

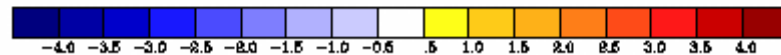


Where did La Nina go? (April 15)

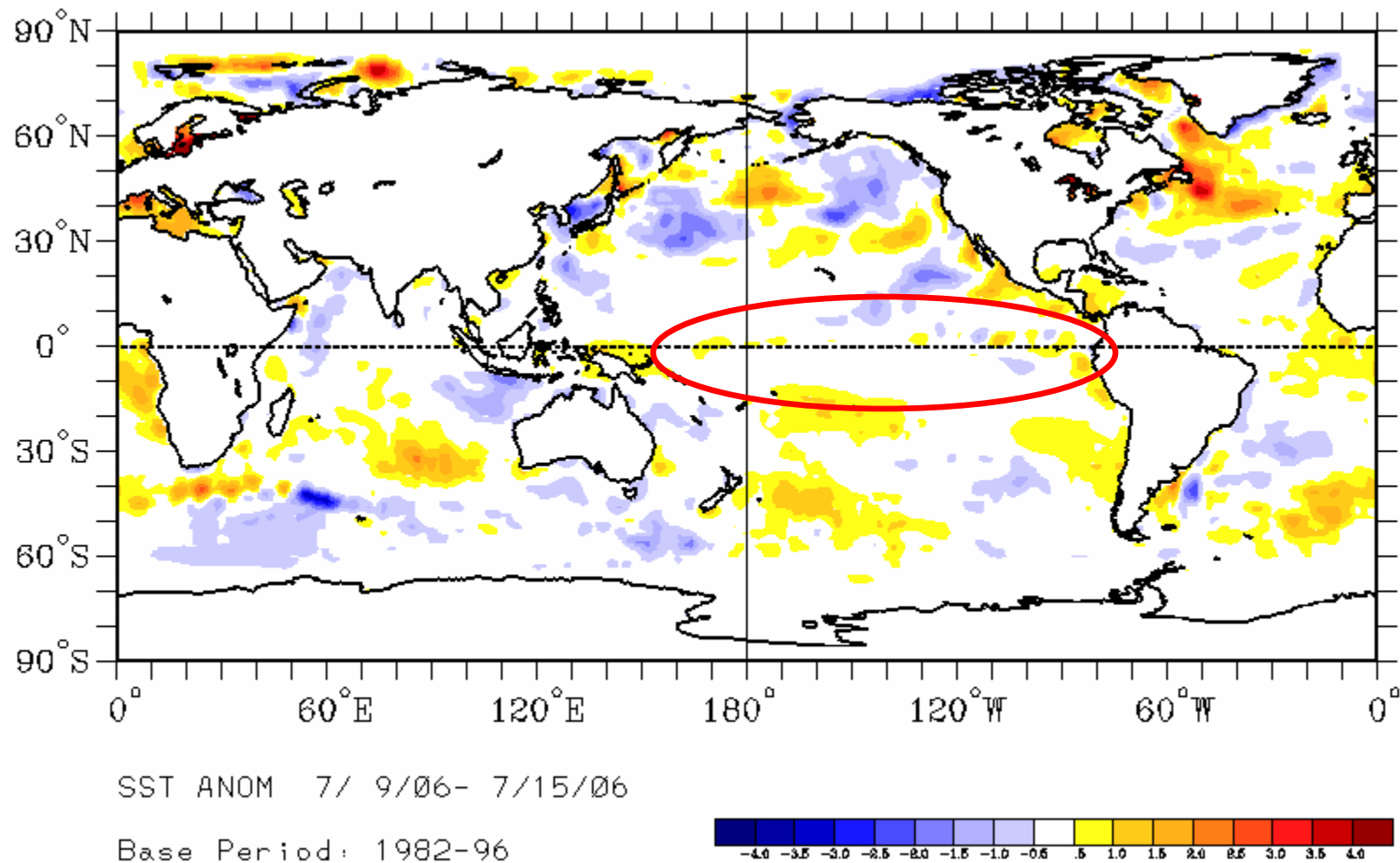


SST ANOM 4/ 9/06- 4/15/06

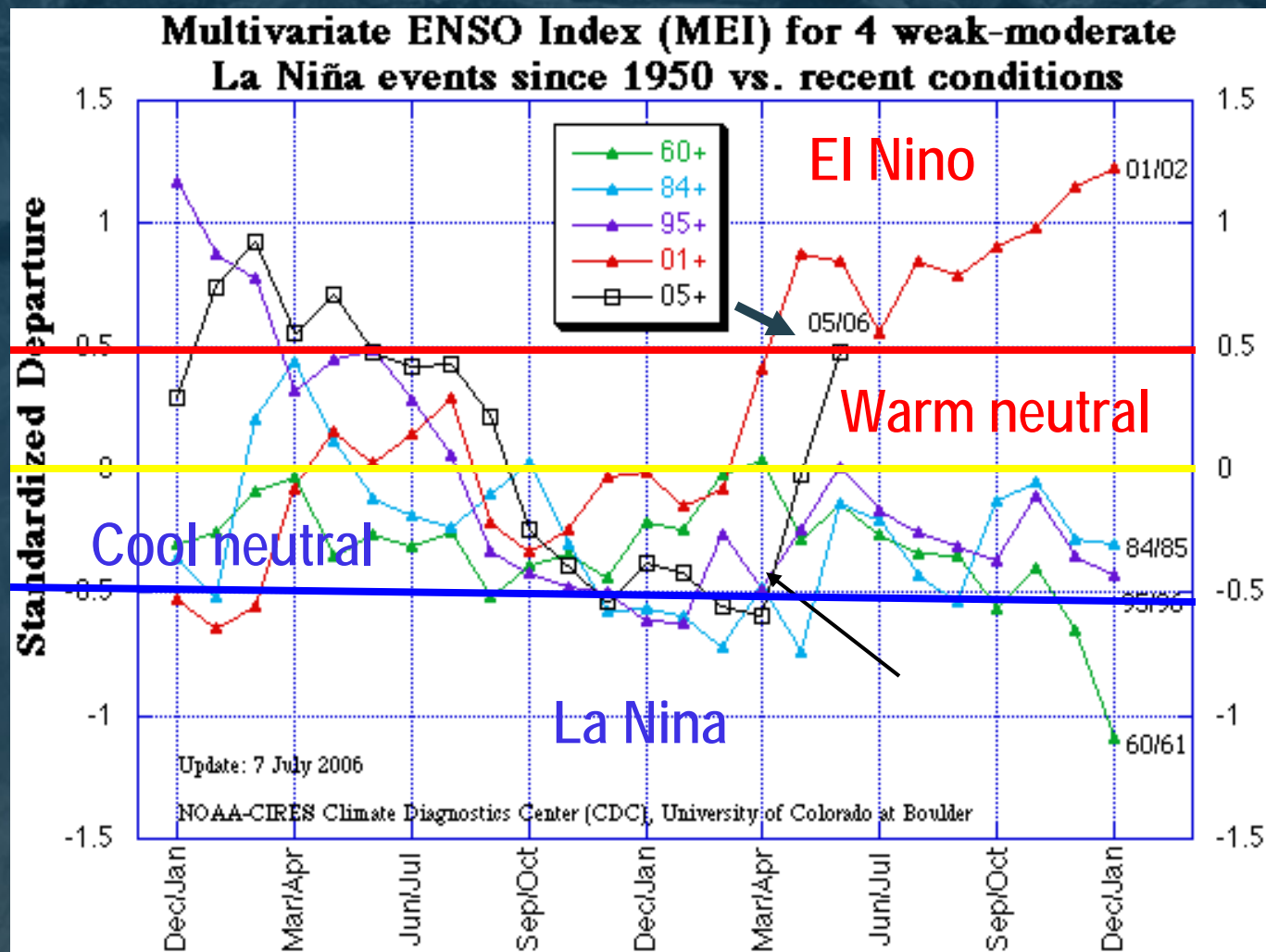
Base Period: 1982-96



Is **El Nino** ready to appear? (July13)



Weak **warm neutral** ocean increasing



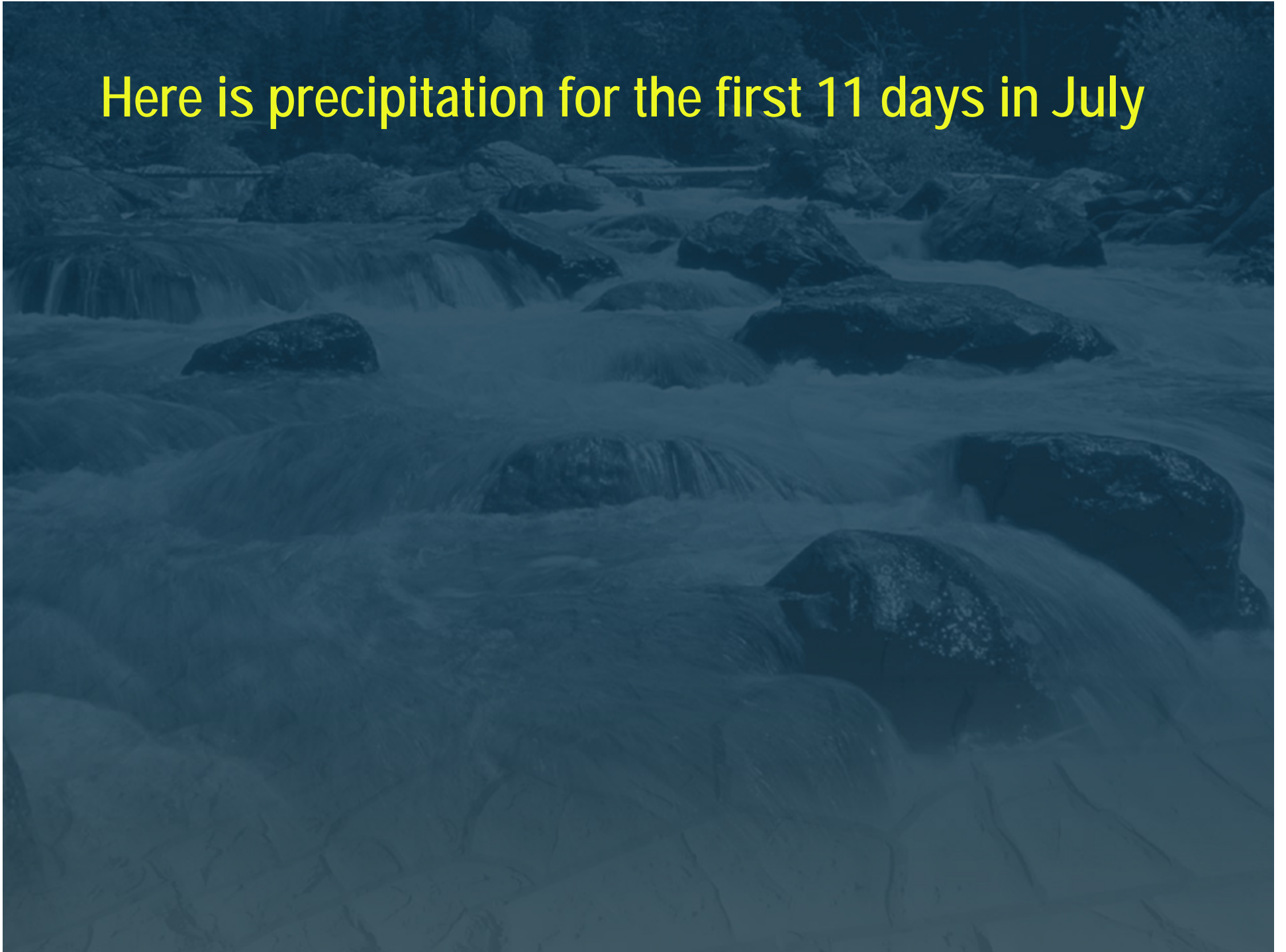
"Changes in storm track" (May 16, 2006 WATF)

- **Annual summer slow down coming. It's here.**
Summer regime of thunderstorms and monsoon looms ahead in the next 3-5 weeks.
- **Does it offer a "last hurrah"? Very Hot dry June**
Looks like Memorial Day weekend could get wet east of Cont. Divide and storm track might send series of weak weather systems into Western US 1-15 June
- **"Monsooner or mon-later"**
Looks like monsoon should arrive in Colorado July 2-10 with increased t-storm activity.

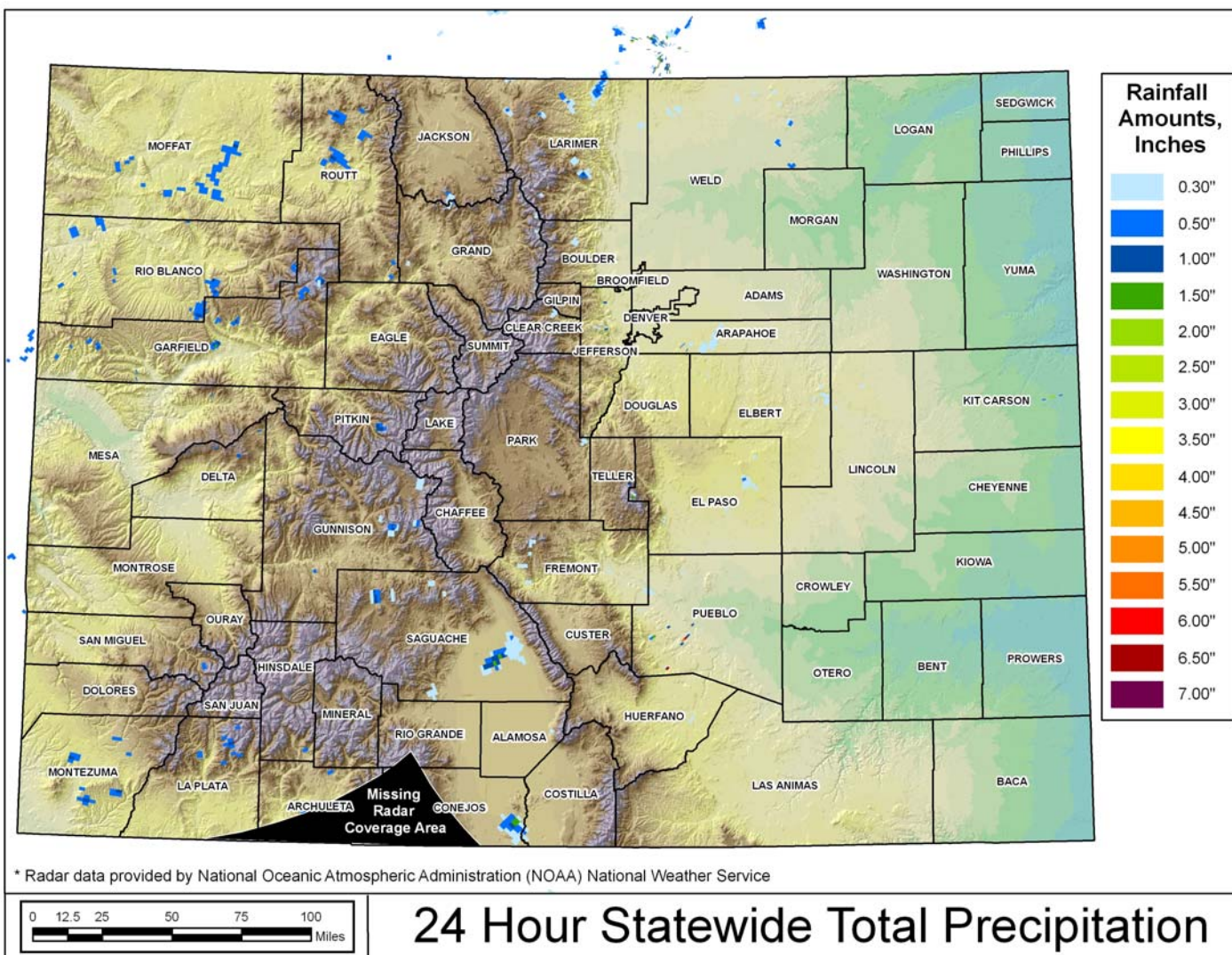
So what does that mean?

- The hot, dry weather of the “La Nina-induced” summer is evolving into a more seasonal, wet “El Nino-induced” summer.
- Monsoon in Arizona officially started on June 28 in Tucson AZ!
- Four of six AZ monsoons starting before 1 July produce wetter than average precipitation in July-September in Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado.

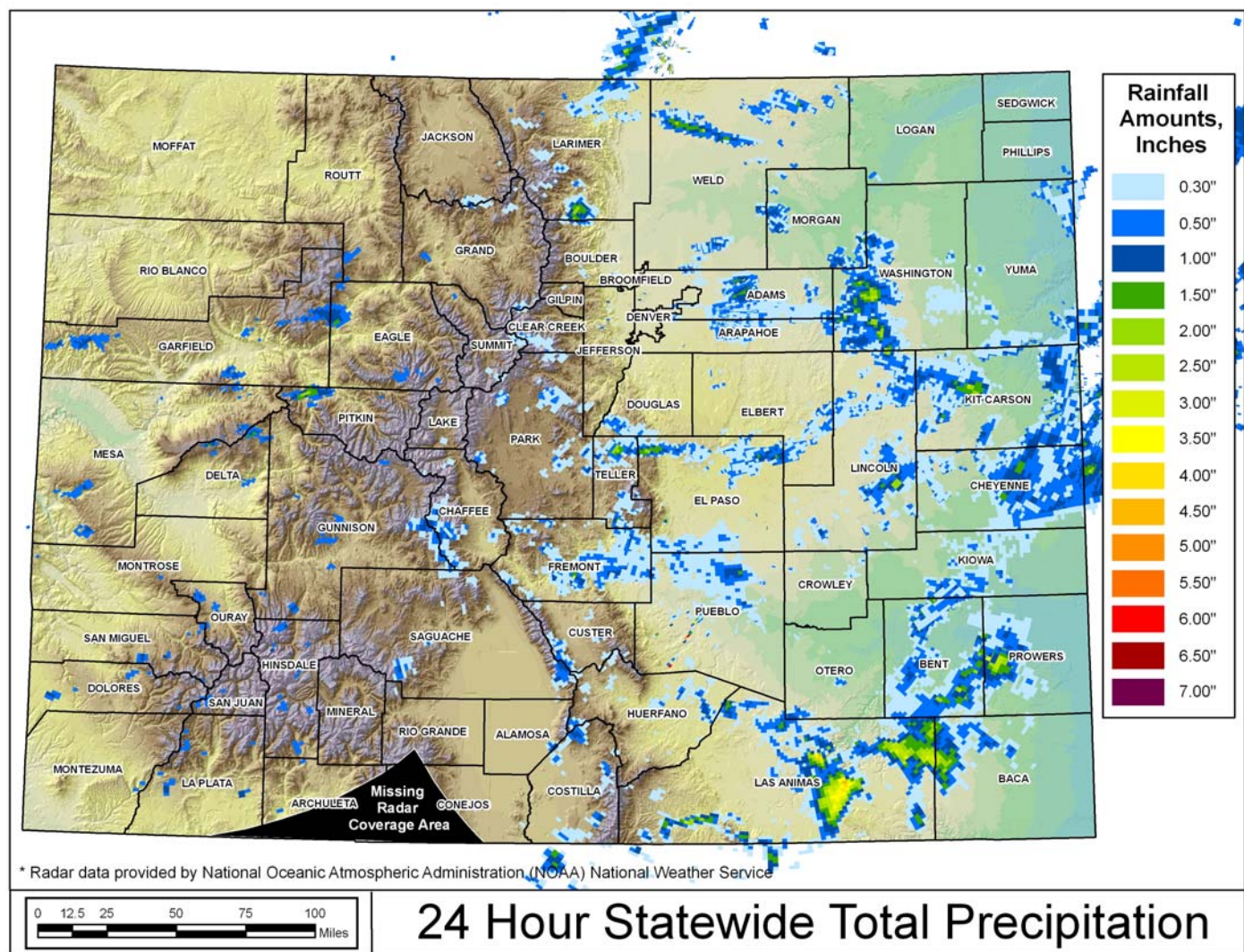
Here is precipitation for the first 11 days in July



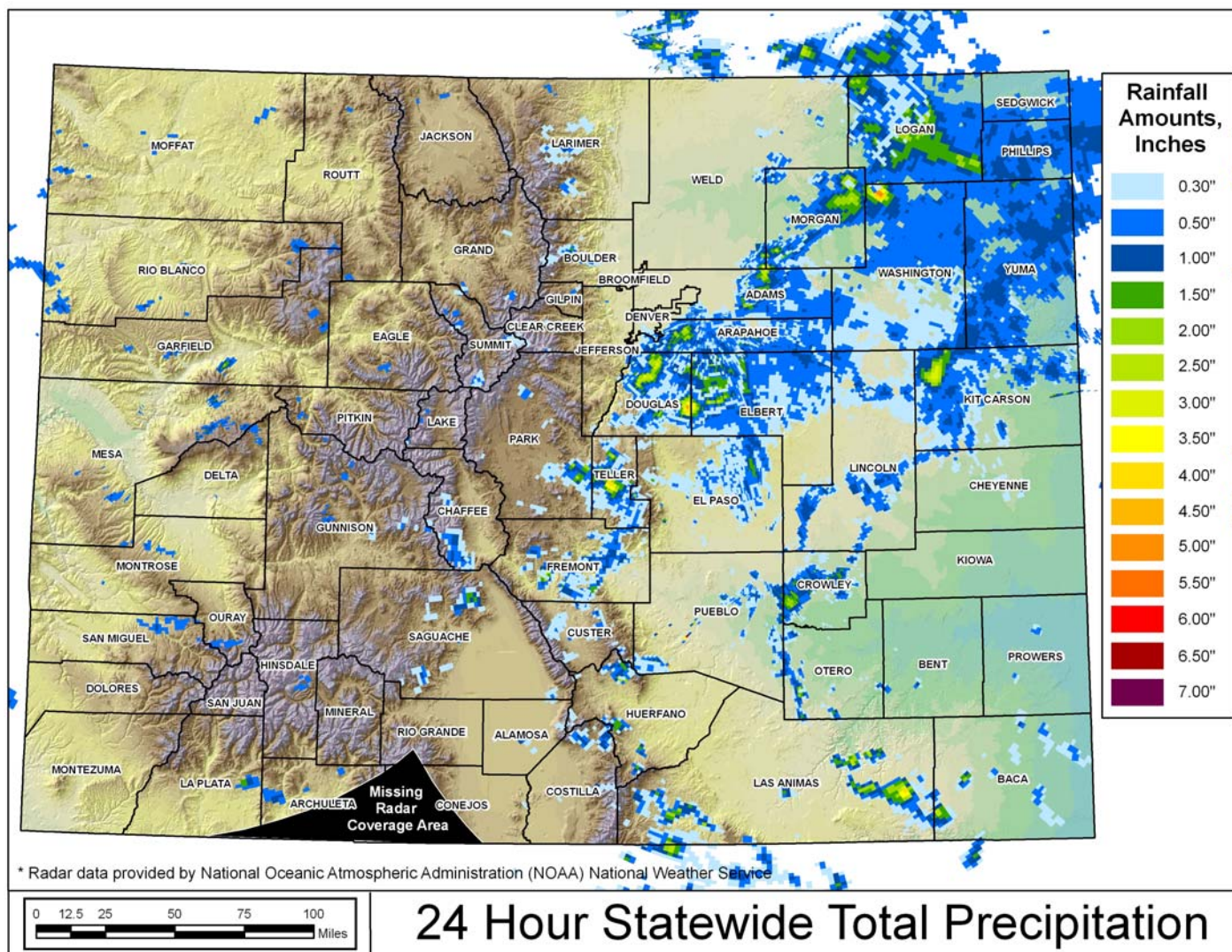
July 1



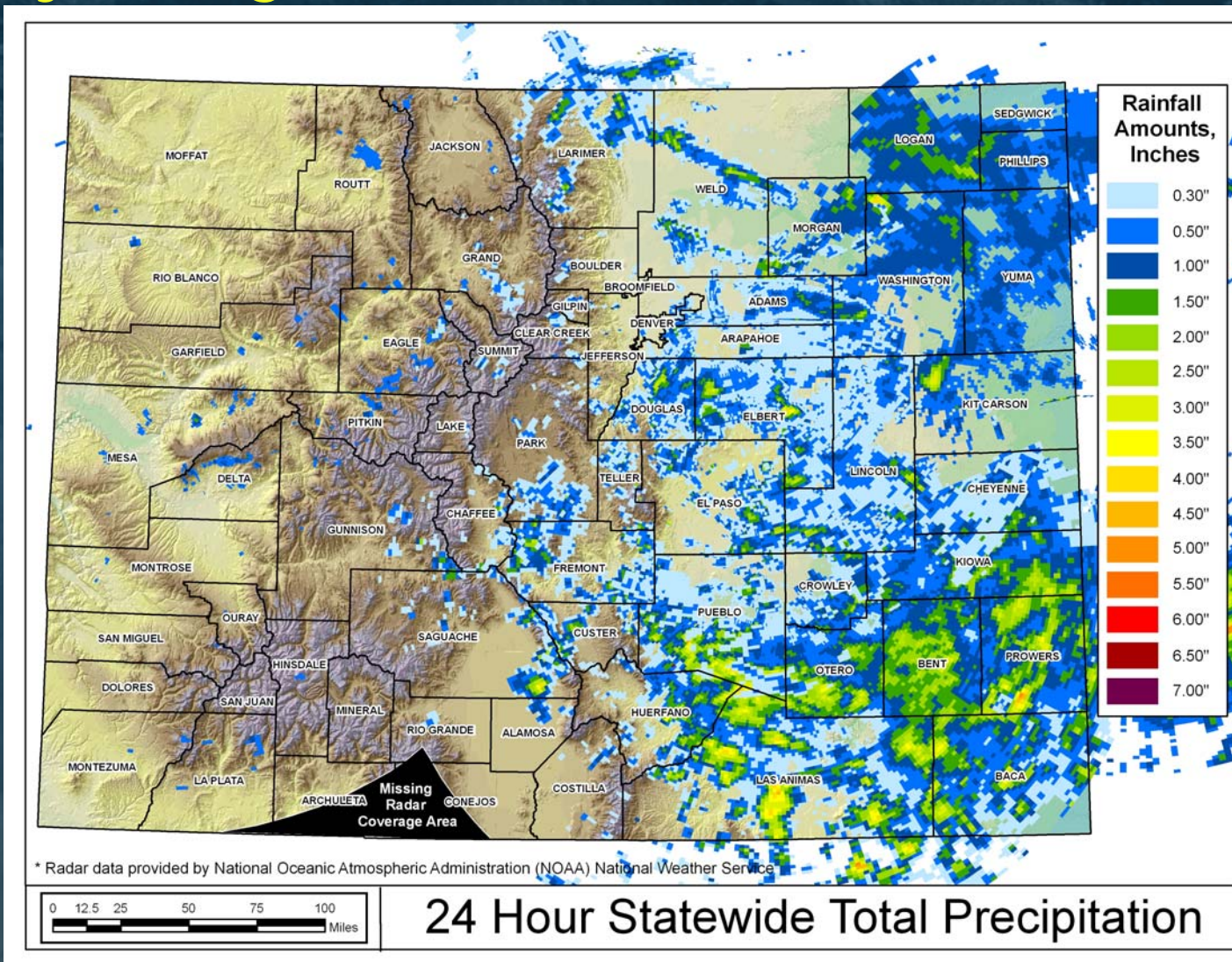
July 2



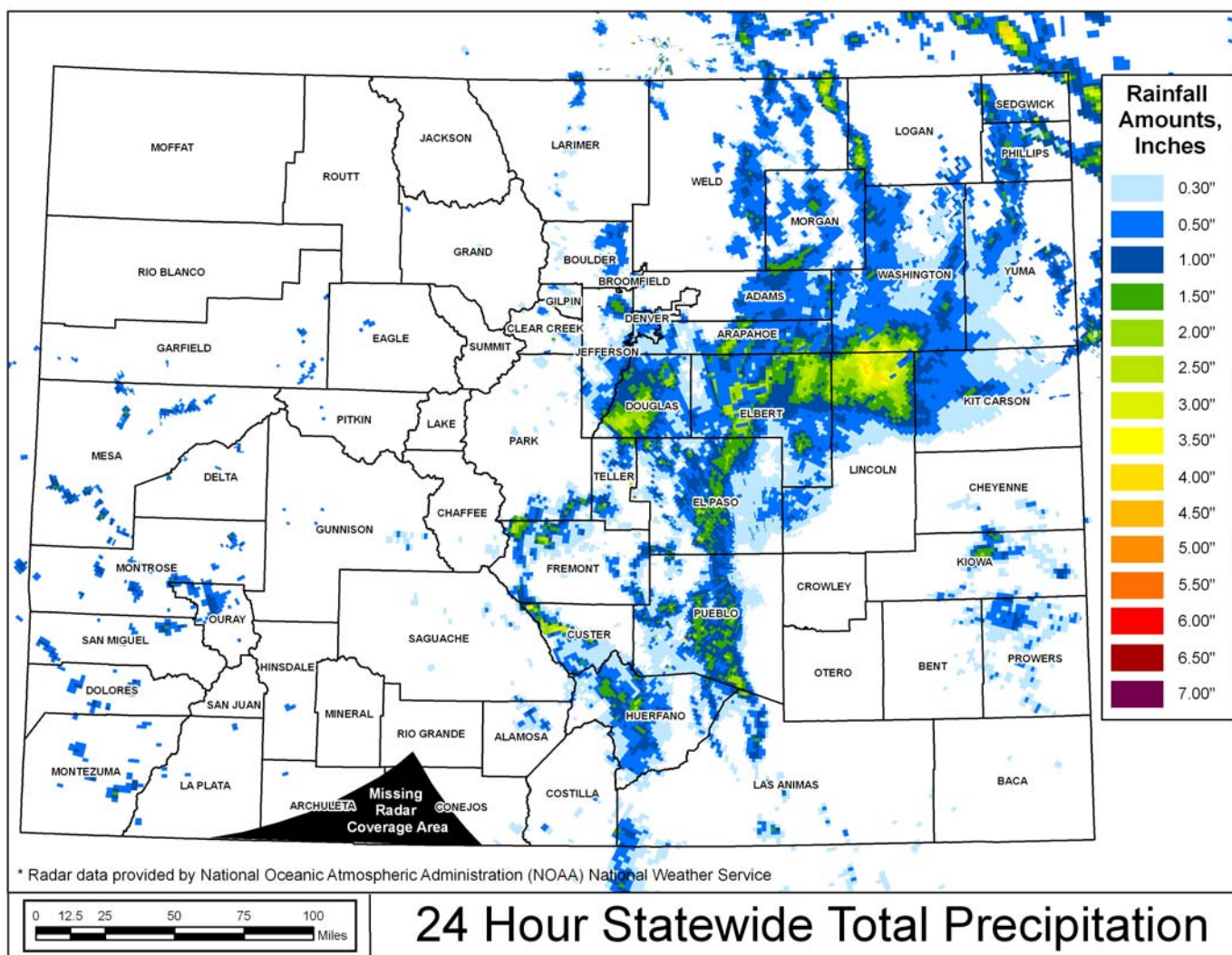
July 3



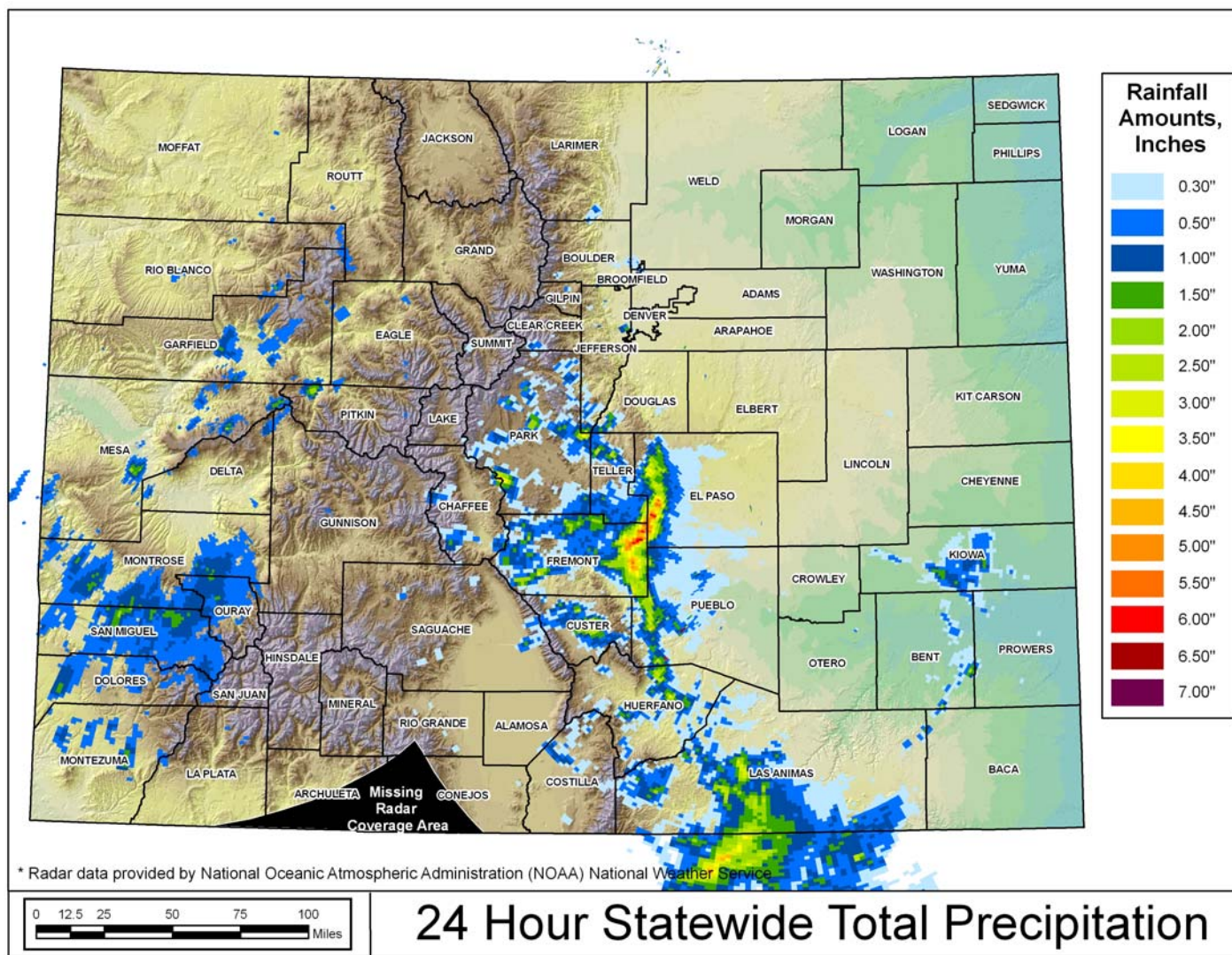
July 4: Big rainers in SE



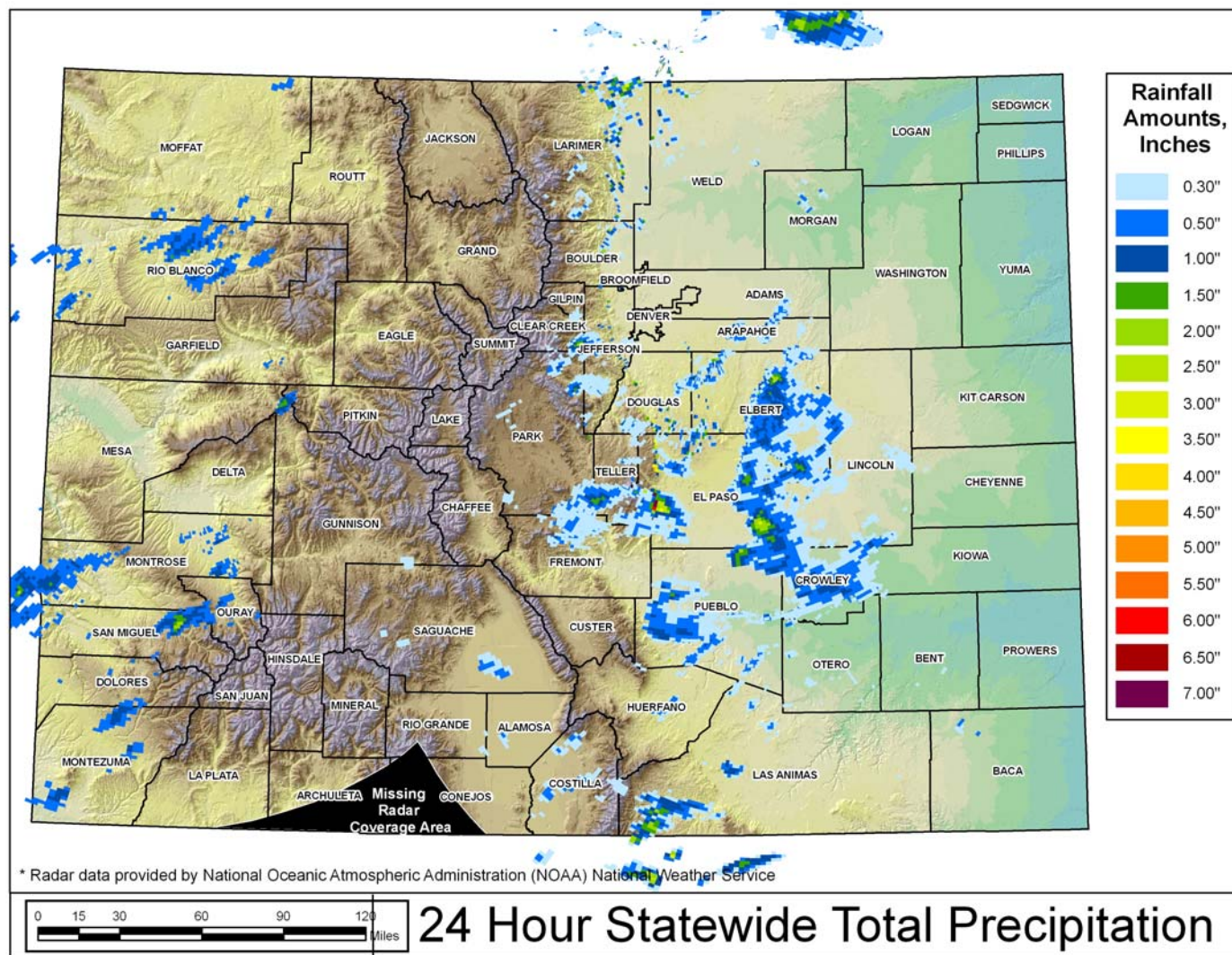
July 5: Big rainers in Palmer Divide



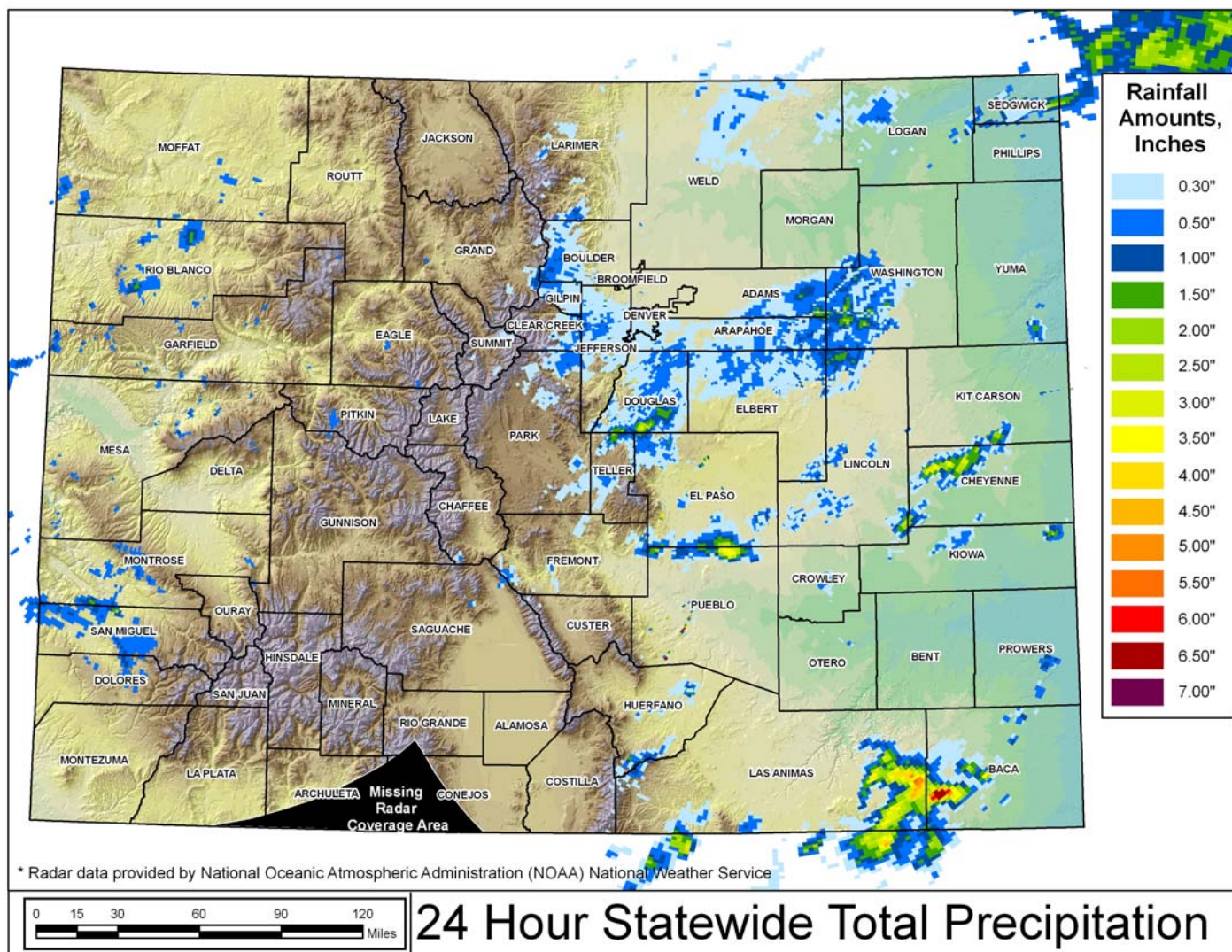
July 6: Big rainers in Fremont County



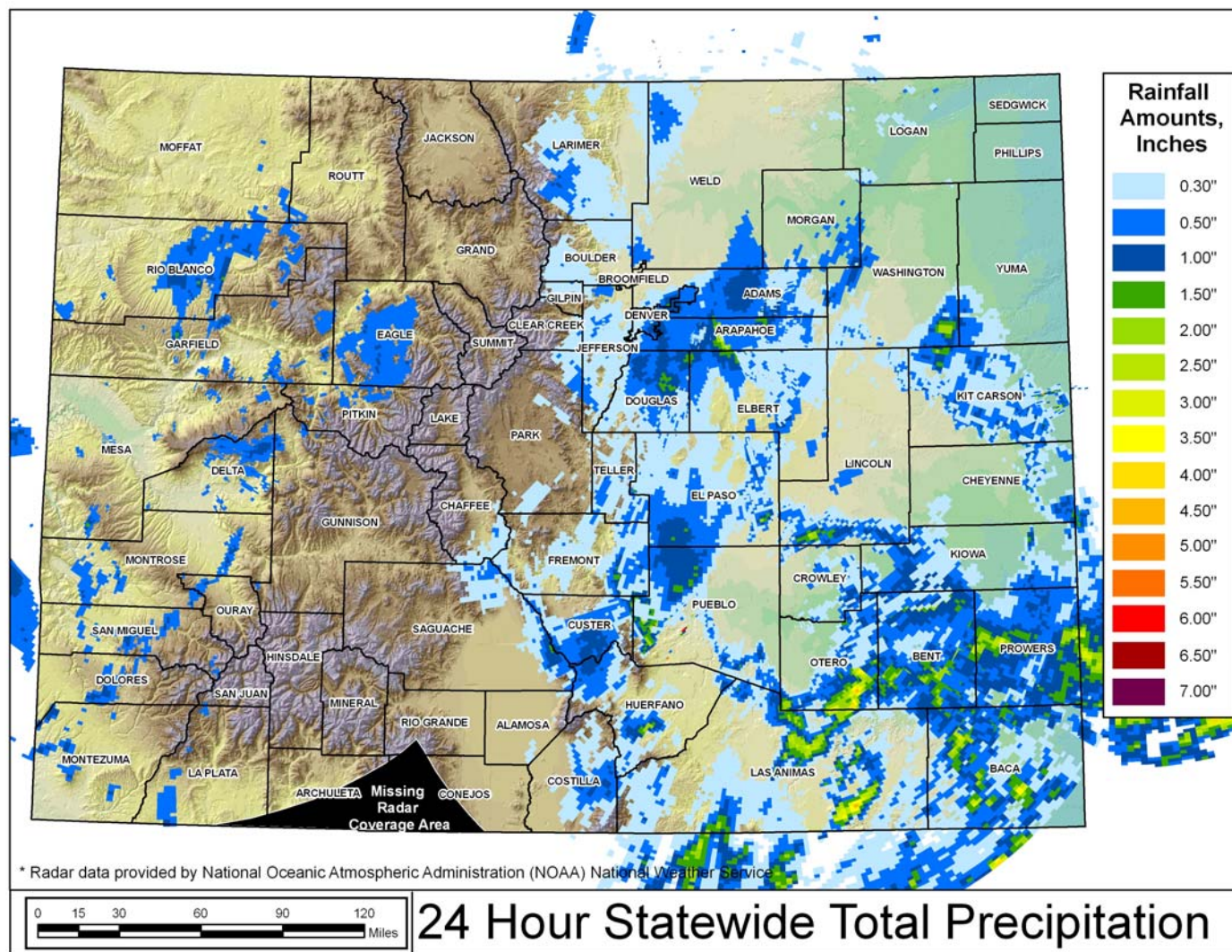
July 7:



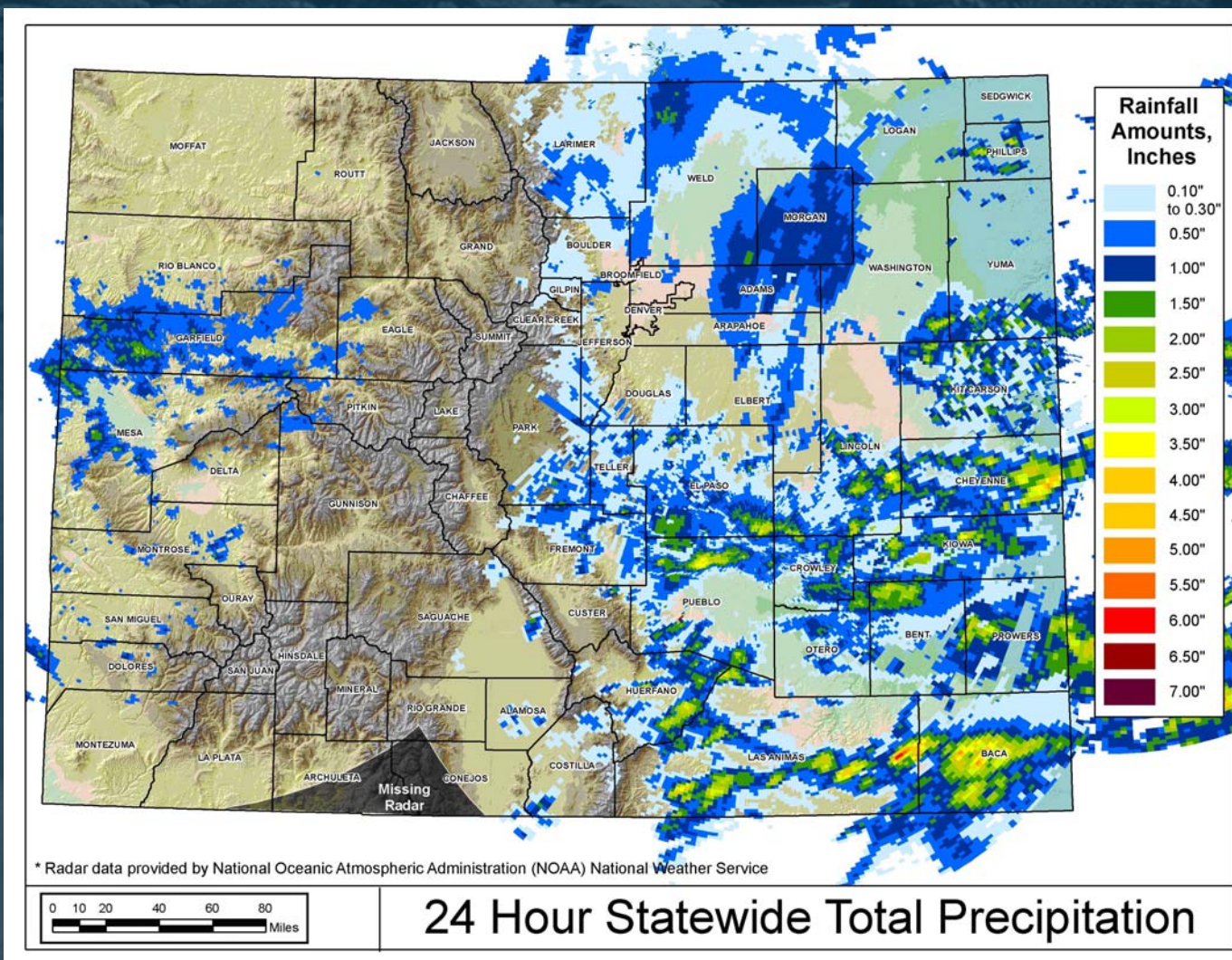
July 8: Las Animas/Baca gully washer



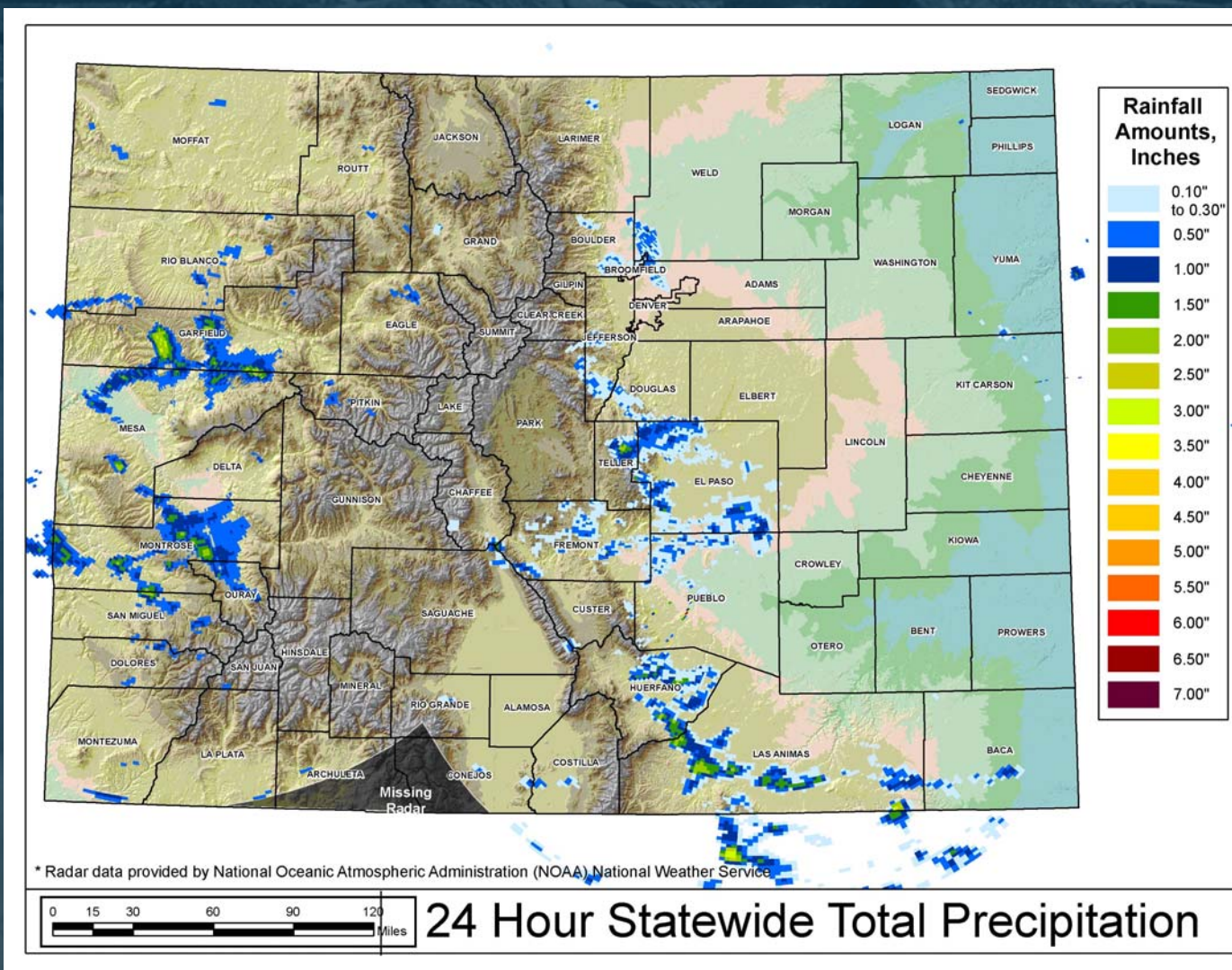
July 9: eastern plains rains



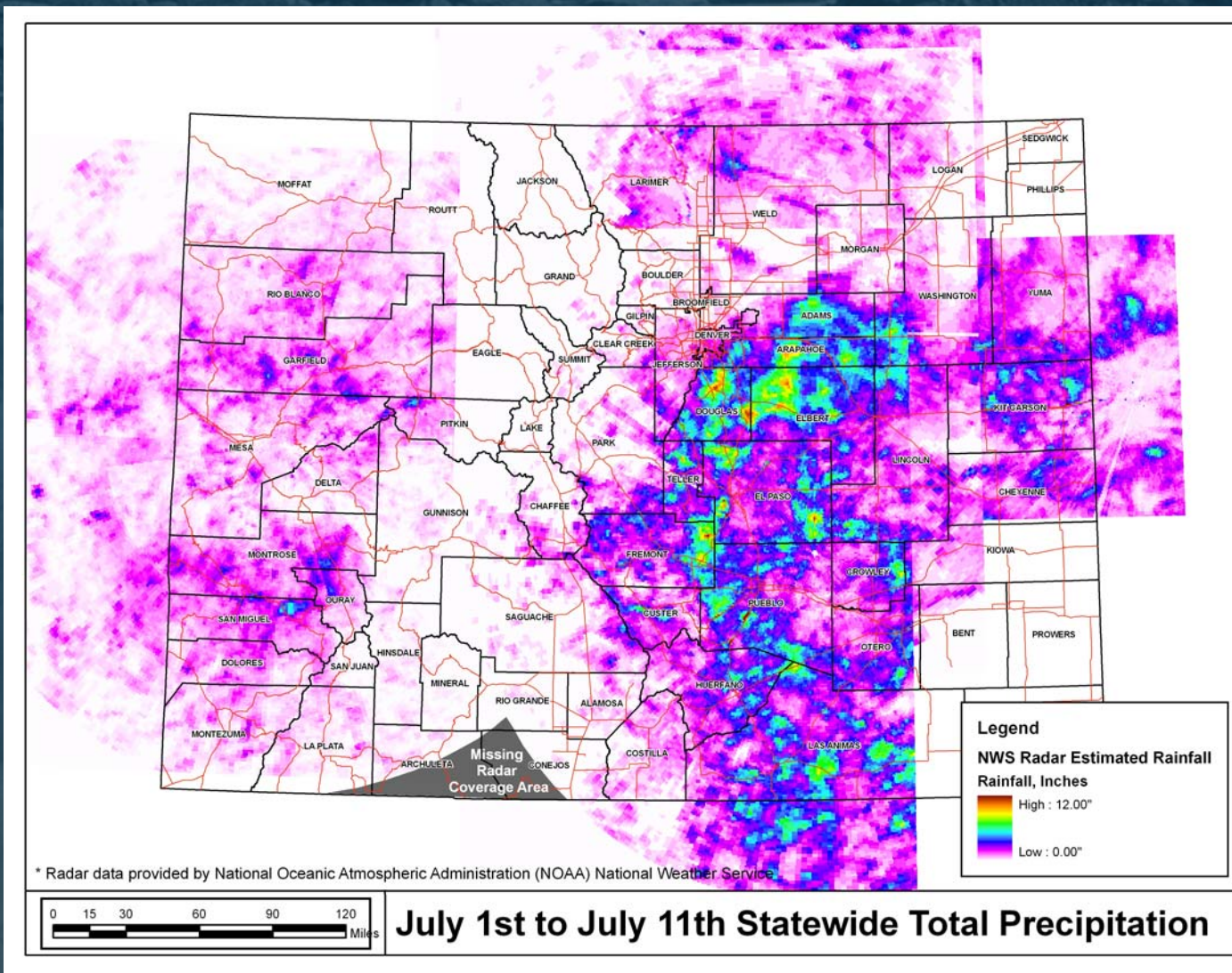
July 10: eastern plains rains again



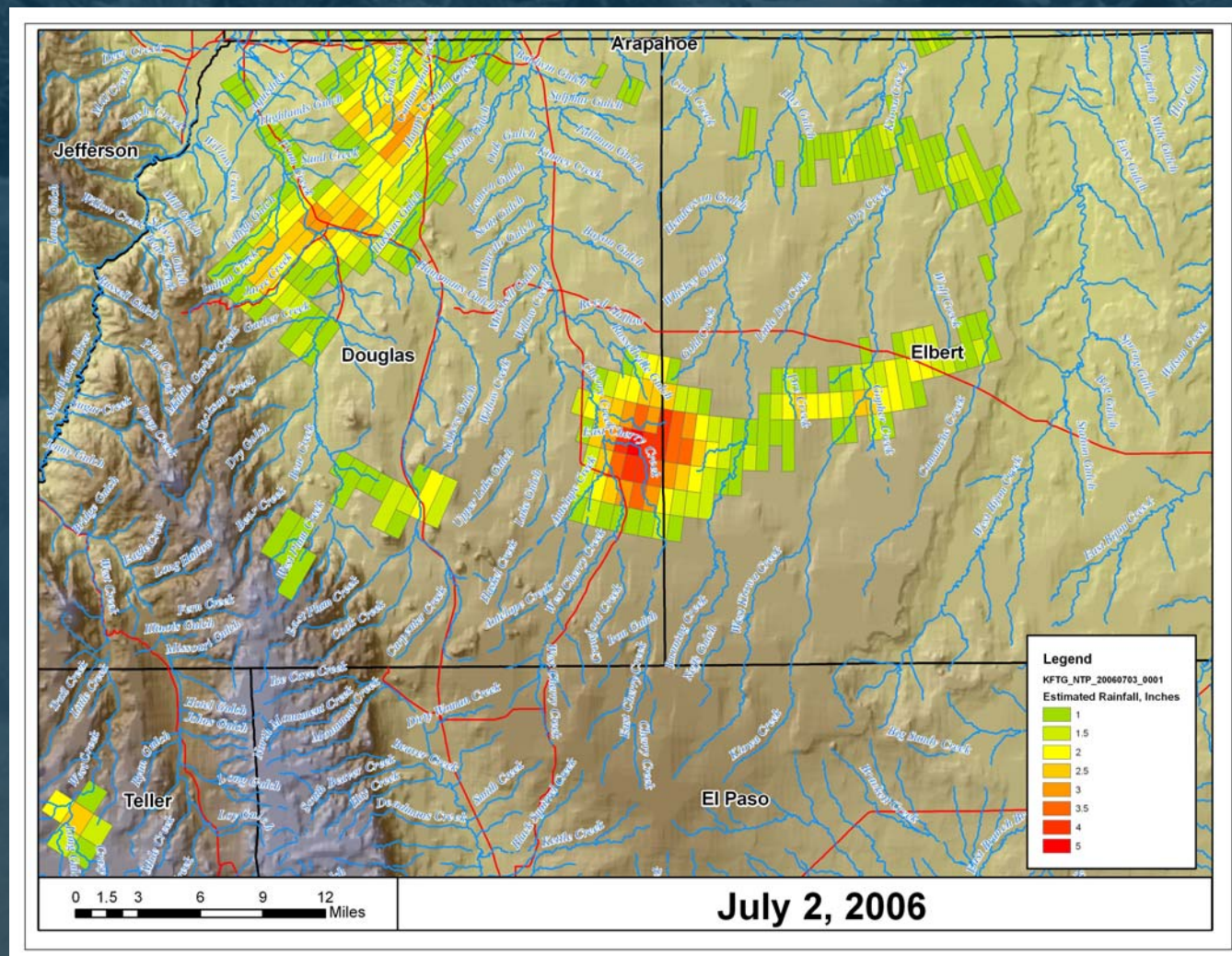
July 11: whew!



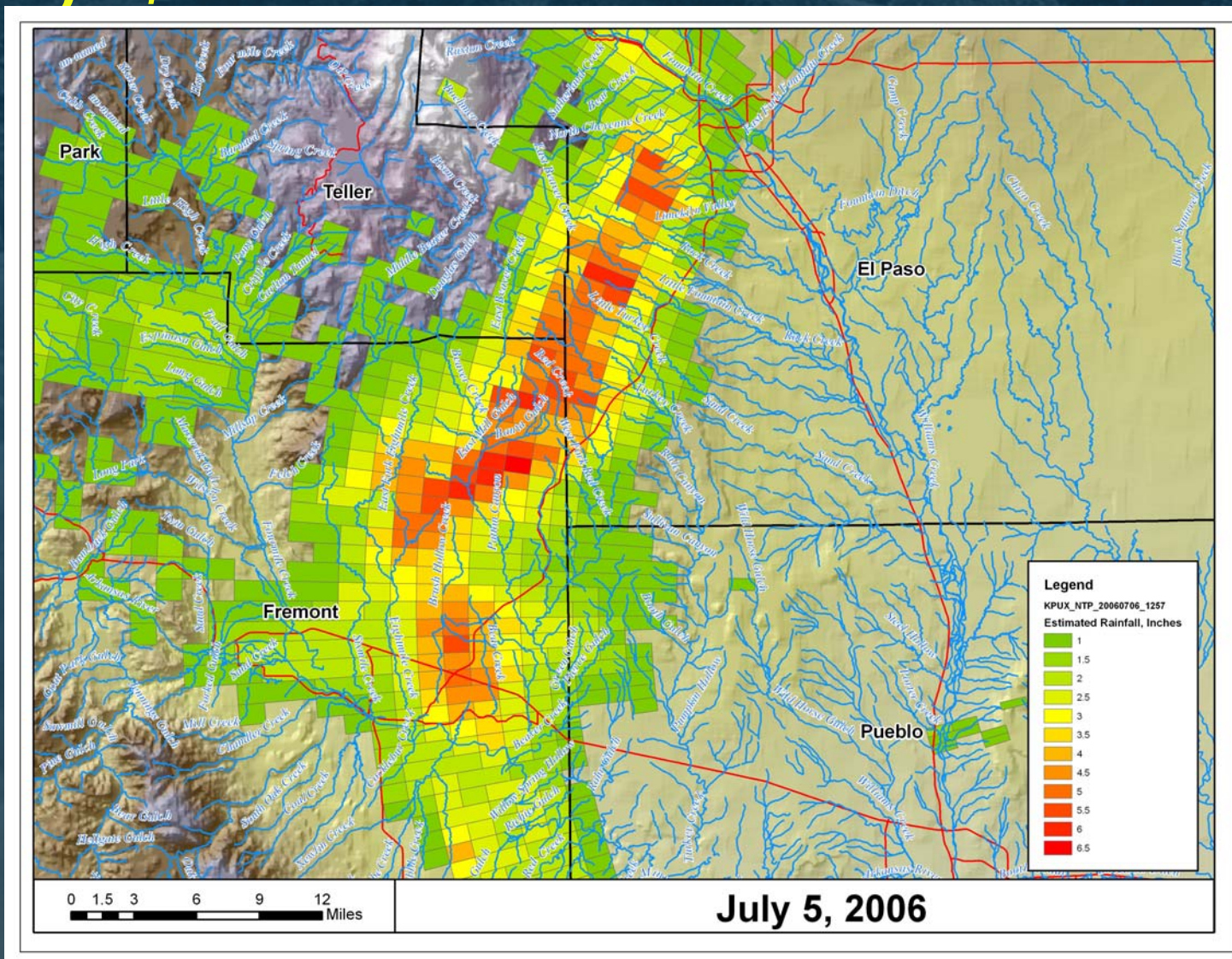
July 1-11 2006 Statewide estimated rains



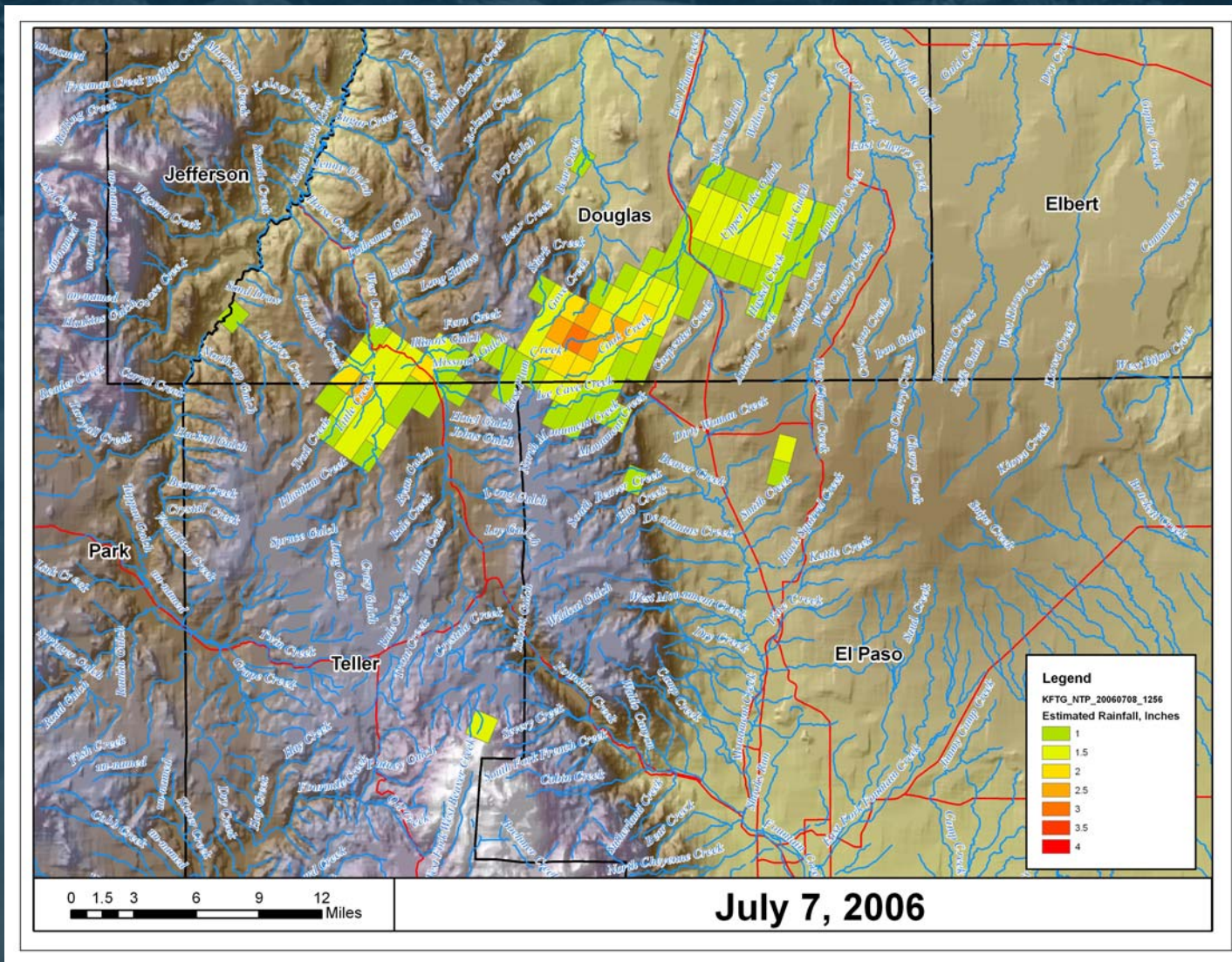
July 2, 2006 Castlewood Canyon 6"+



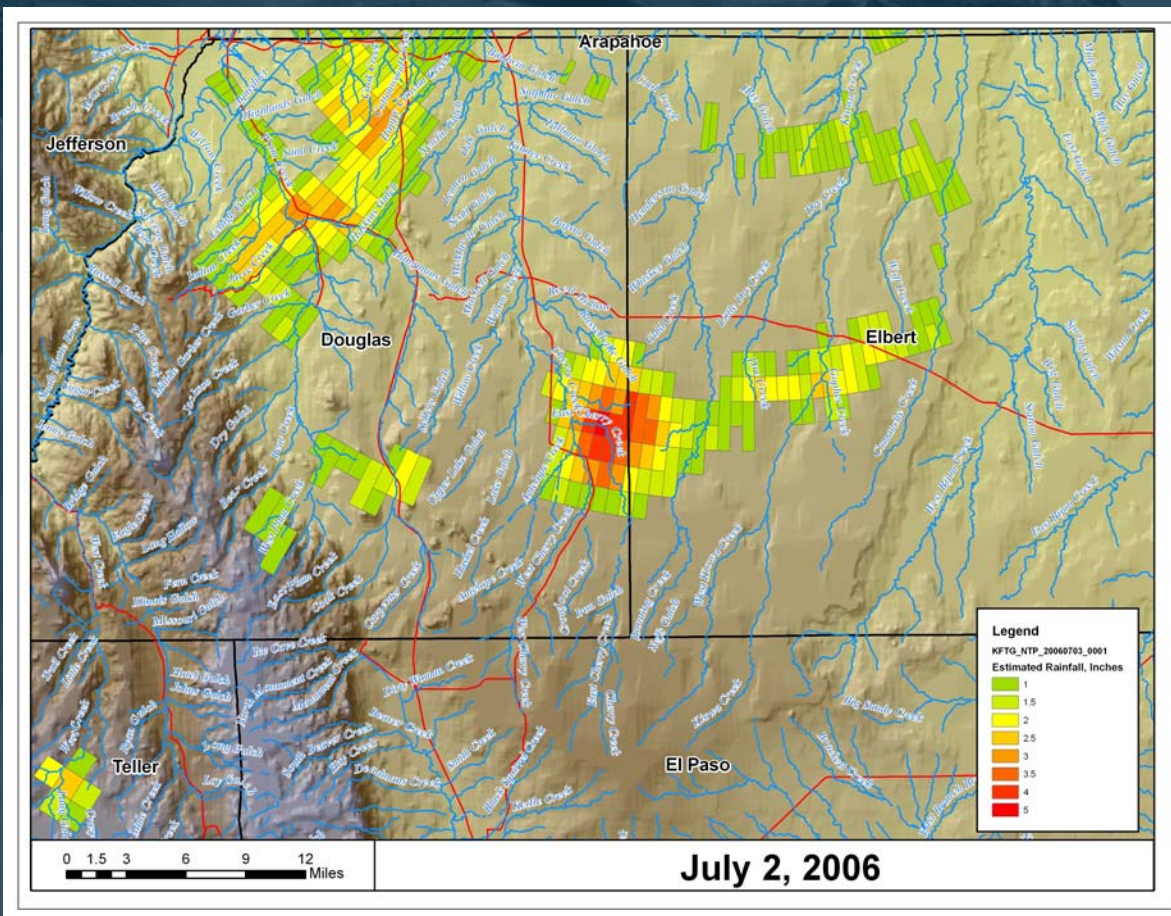
July 5, 2006 Penrose: 6"+



July 7, 2006 West Creek 2"- 3.5"



July 2, 2006 Castlewood Canyon 6"+



More rain on the horizon? Yes!

- Cool easterly upslope thunderstorm/rain events: 21-23 July and 3-5 August
- Monsoon storm events: July 26-31, August 5-15 and, possibly, August 21-25
- May not be reservoir fillers but will significantly reduce demand.
- Likely to see summer heat again in August between monsoon waves 95-105F.

What does it all mean?

Imapct Task Forces	West of Divide	East of Divide
Water Supply	More rain ahead next 5 weeks	Reduced demand as rains increase
Municipal Water	Looks good	Anticipate average summer
Wildfire	Worst may be past	Dry conditions will keep danger high until monsoon sets in west
Agriculture	Summer looks average to dry in NW, moist in central and SW	After hot dry June wet July and August will help
Tourism	Looks like a "Chamber of Commerce" summer	Storminess in July could impact
Energy	Above average demands due to temps	Average due to short "heat waves"

Unknown unknowns:
*"The Rockies will go from first in April
to last in September."* *Self-styled baseball realist*

WEST	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>G</u> <u>B</u>	<u>HO</u> <u>ME</u>	<u>ROAD</u>	<u>RS</u>	<u>RA</u>	<u>STRK</u>	L10
San Diego	50	44	.532	-						
San Francisco	21	17	.505	2						
Arizona	21	18	.500	3						
Los Angeles	20	19	.495	3						
Colorado	19	20	.479	5						



*"Climate is what you expect; weather
is what you get"*

— *Robert A. Heinlein*

Questions?