Short term Weather

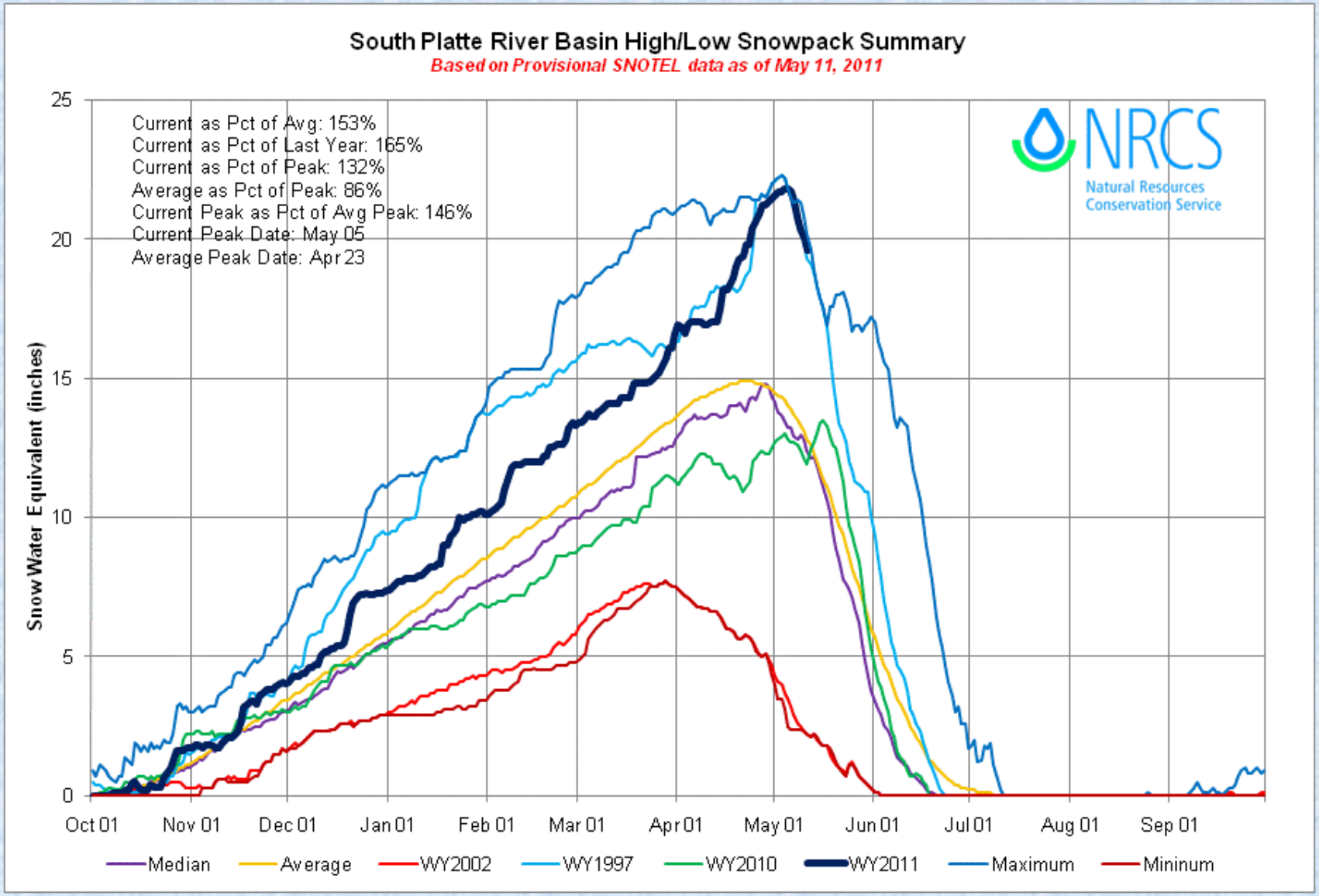
Colorado Flood Task Force

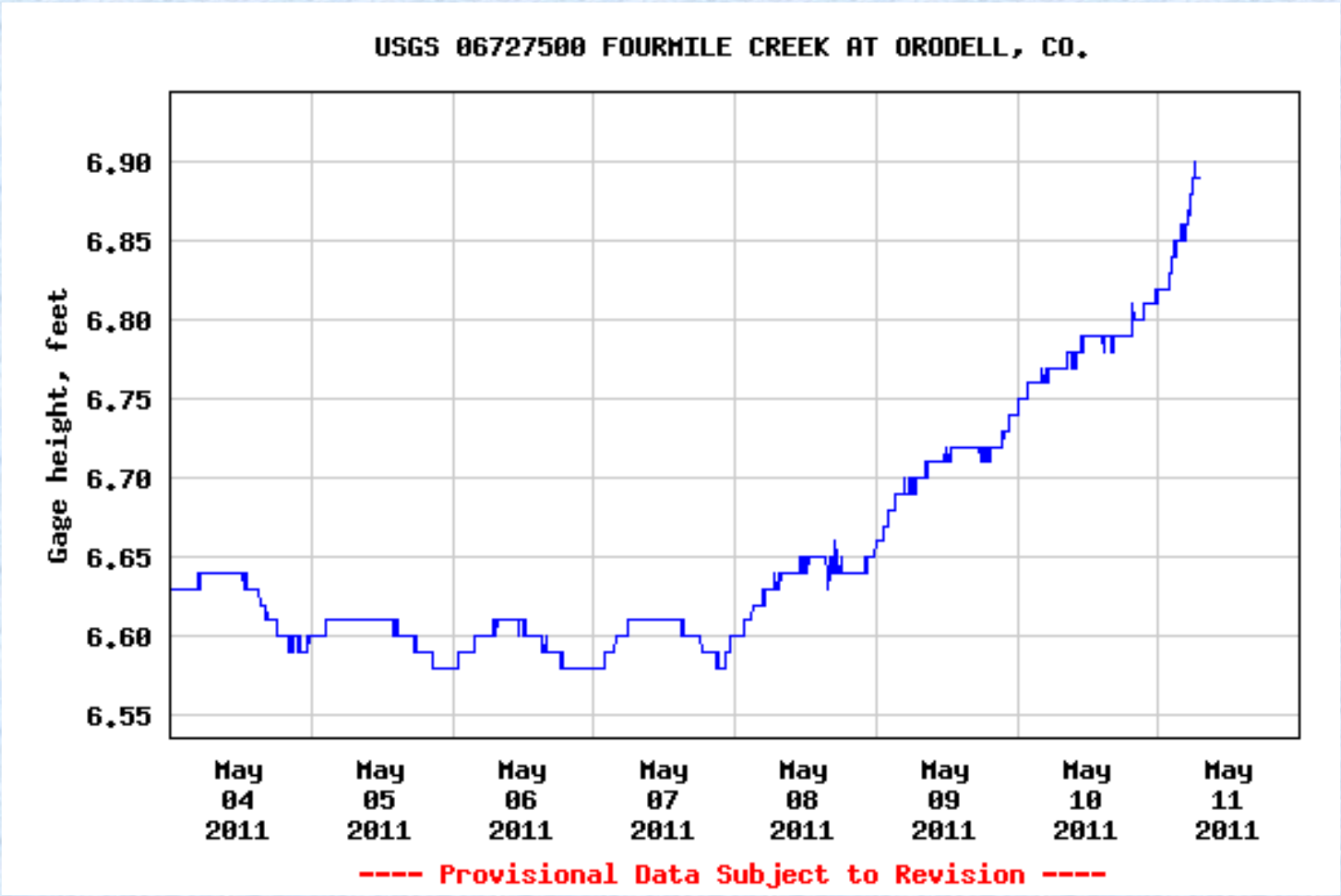
May 11, 2011

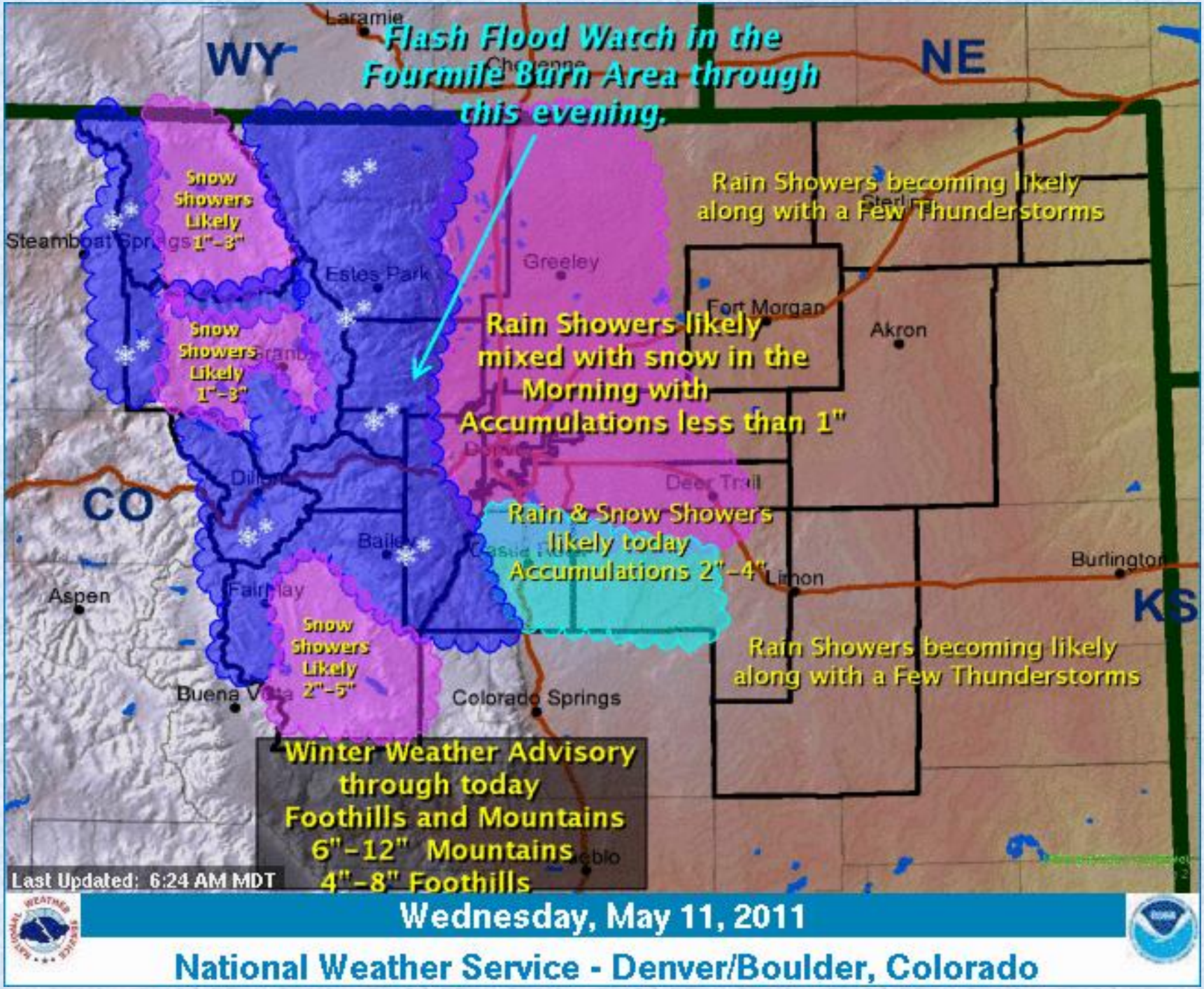
Bob Glancy

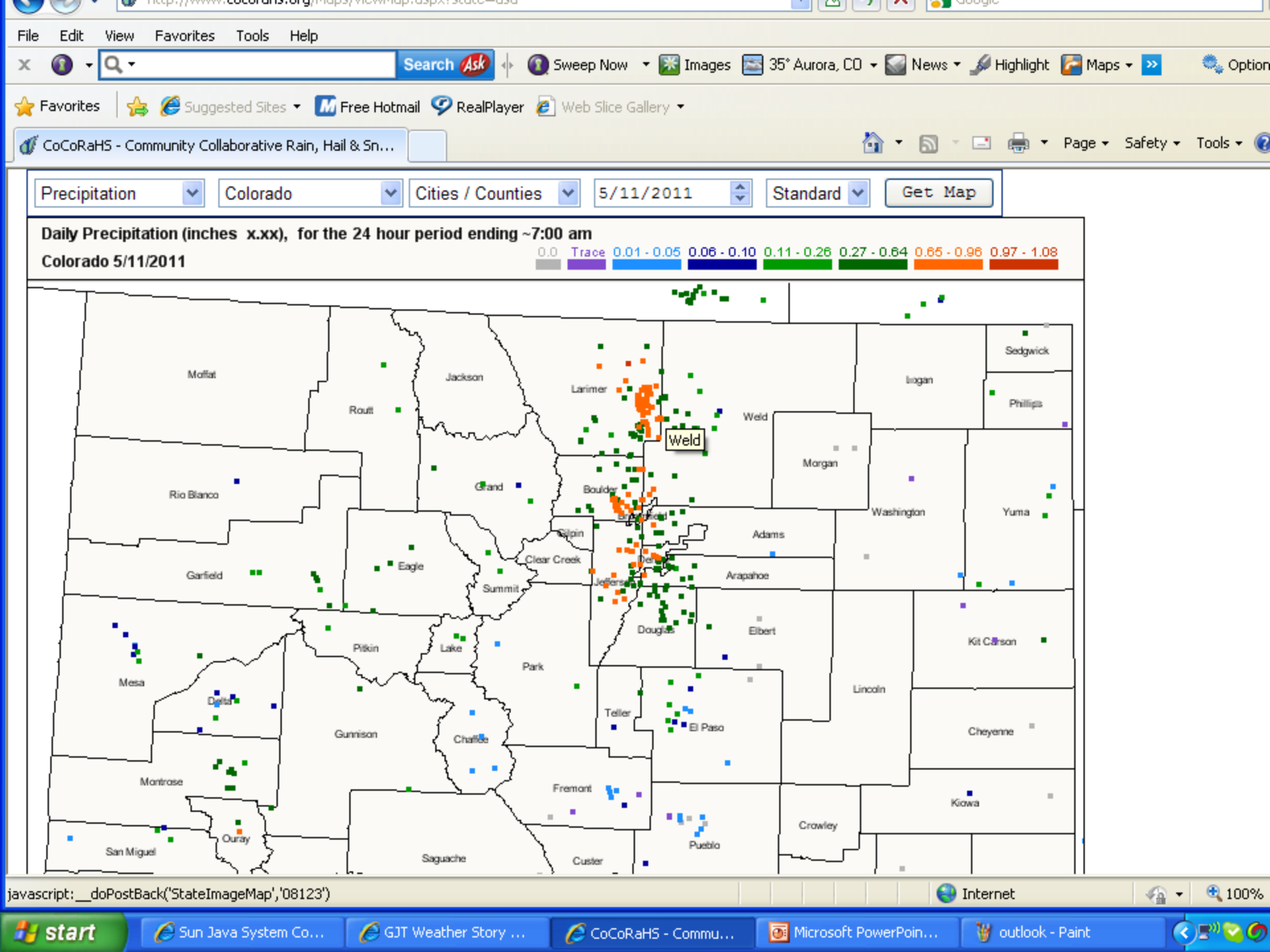
Warning Coordination Meteorologist

National Weather Service, Boulder


South Platte River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of May 11, 2011
Current as Pct of Avg: 153%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 165%
Current as Pct of Peak: 132%
Average as Pct of Peak: 86%
Current Peak as Pct of Avg Peak: 146%
Current Peak Date: May 05
Average Peak Date: Apr 23
NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Snow Water Equivalent (inches)
25
20
15
10
5
0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Median
Average
WY2002
WY1997
WY2010
WY2011
Maximum
Mininum

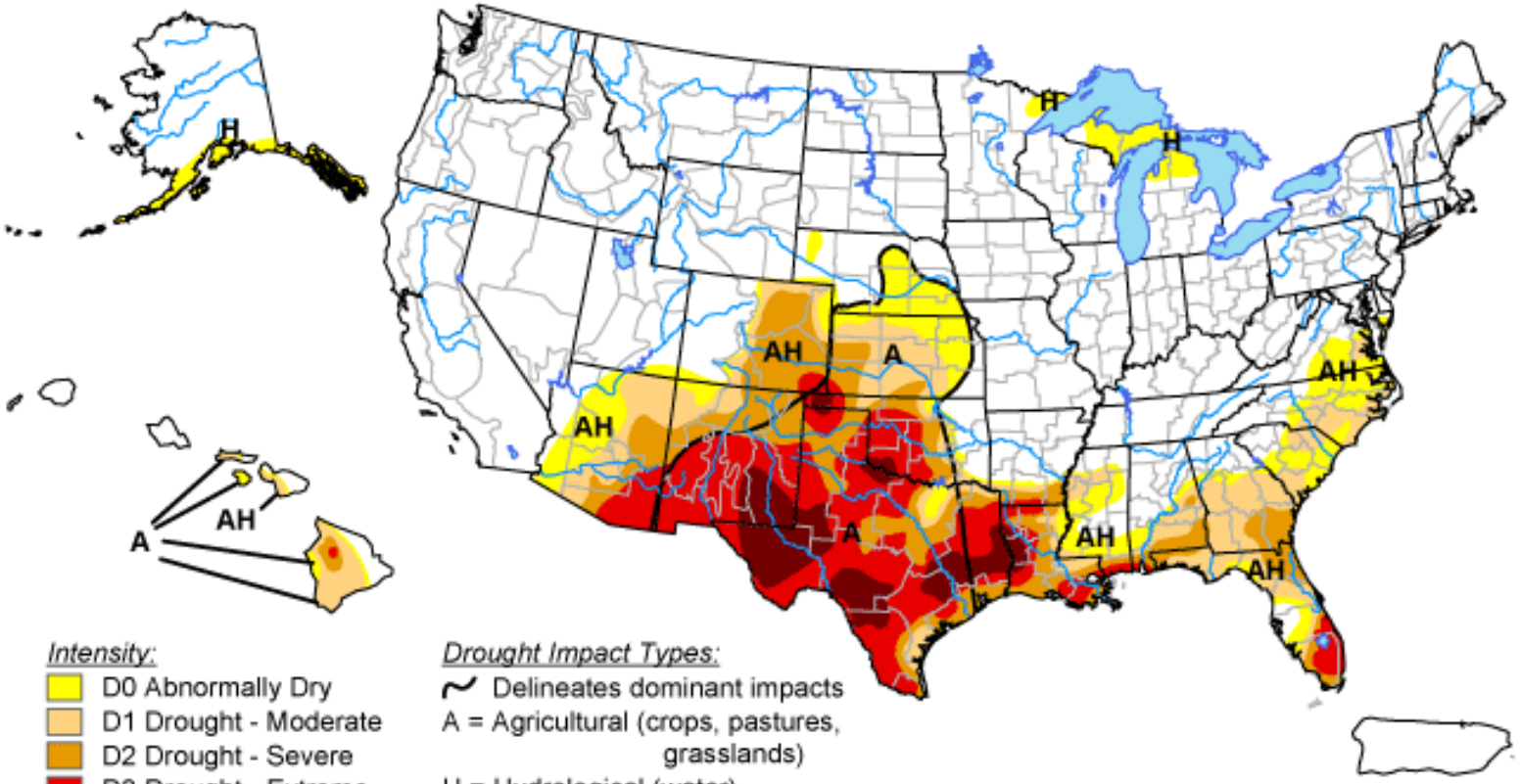

USGS 06727500 FOURMILE CREEK AT ORODELL, CO.
Gage height, feet
6.90
6.85
6.80
6.75
6.70
6.65
6.60
6.55
May 04 2011
May 05 2011
May 06 2011
May 07 2011
May 08 2011
May 09 2011
May 10 2011
May 11 2011
---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----


Flash Flood Watch in the Fourmile Burn Area through this evening.
WY
NE
CO
KS
Laramie
Cheyenne
Steamboat Springs
Estes Park
Greeley
Fort Morgan
Akron
Sterling
Denver
Deer Trail
Limon
Burlington
Aspen
Fairplay
Buena Vista
Colorado Springs
Pueblo
Snow Showers Likely 1"-3"
Snow Showers Likely 1"-3"
Snow Showers Likely 2"-5"
Rain Showers becoming likely along with a Few Thunderstorms
Rain Showers likely mixed with snow in the Morning with Accumulations less than 1"
Rain & Snow Showers likely today Accumulations 2"-4"
Rain Showers becoming likely along with a Few Thunderstorms
Winter Weather Advisory through today
Foothills and Mountains
6"-12" Mountains
4"-8" Foothills
Last Updated: 6:24 AM MDT
Wednesday, May 11, 2011
National Weather Service - Denver/Boulder, Colorado


File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Search
Sweep Now
Images
35° Aurora, CO
News
Highlight
Maps
Favorites
Suggested Sites
Free Hotmail
RealPlayer
Web Slice Gallery
CoCoRaHS - Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Sn...
Page
Safety
Tools
Precipitation
Colorado
Cities / Counties
5/11/2011
Standard
Get Map
Daily Precipitation (inches x.xx), for the 24 hour period ending ~7:00 am
Colorado 5/11/2011
0.0
Trace
0.01 - 0.05
0.06 - 0.10
0.11 - 0.26
0.27 - 0.64
0.65 - 0.96
0.97 - 1.08
Moffat
Routt
Jackson
Larimer
Weld
Logan
Sedgwick
Phillips
Morgan
Rio Blanco
Grand
Boulder
Washington
Yuma
Adams
Garfield
Eagle
Clear Creek
Summit
Arapahoe
Douglas
Elbert
Kit Carson
Pitkin
Lake
Park
Mesa
Delta
Lincoln
Teller
El Paso
Gunnison
Chaffee
Cheyenne
Montrose
Fremont
Kiowa
Crowley
Ouray
San Miguel
Saguache
Pueblo
Custer
javascript:__doPostBack('StateImageMap','08123')
Internet
100%
start
Sun Java System Co...
GJT Weather Story ...
CoCoRaHS - Commu...
Microsoft PowerPoin...
outlook - Paint

U.S. Drought Monitor

May 3, 2011
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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

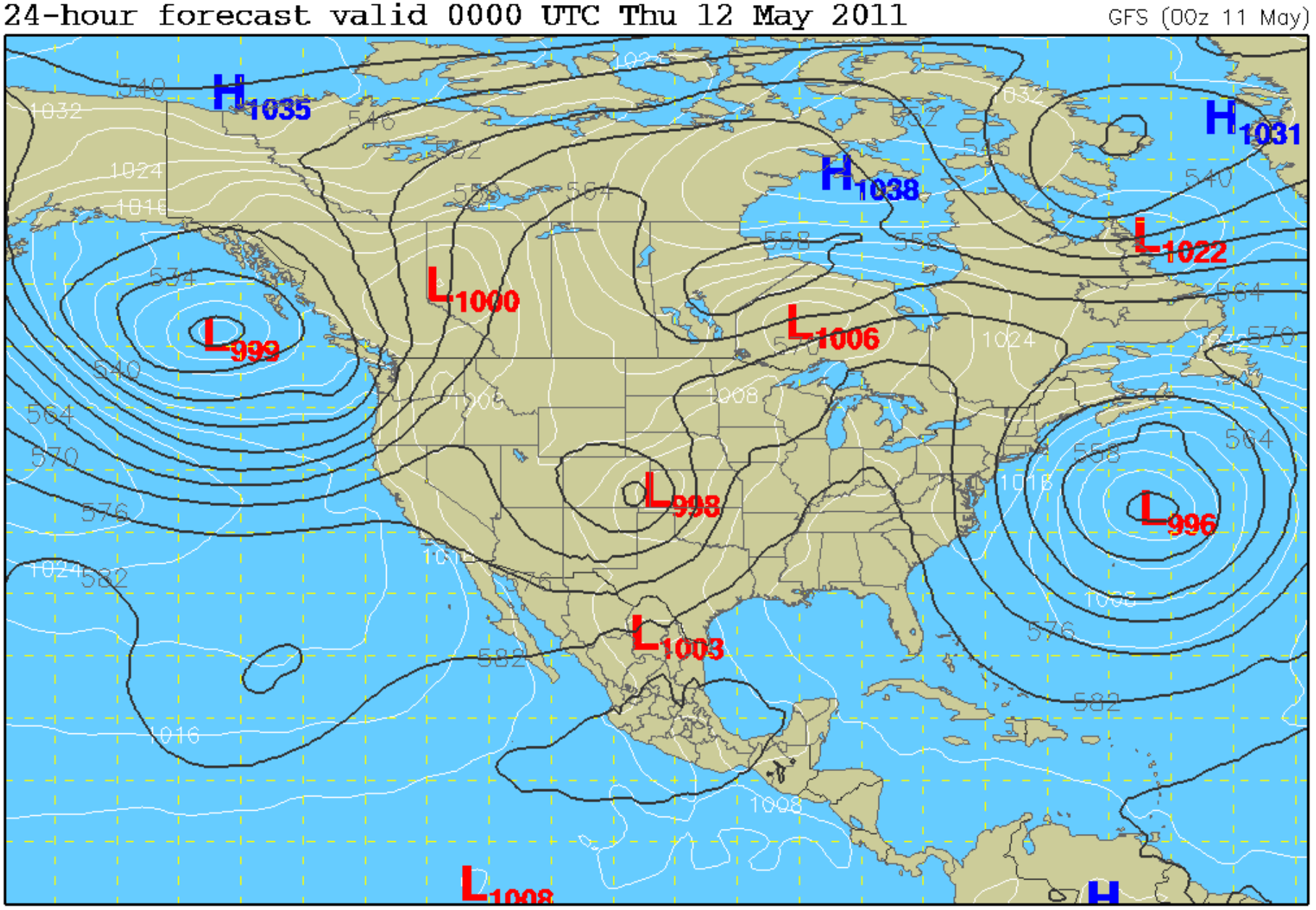
Drought Impact Types:
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

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

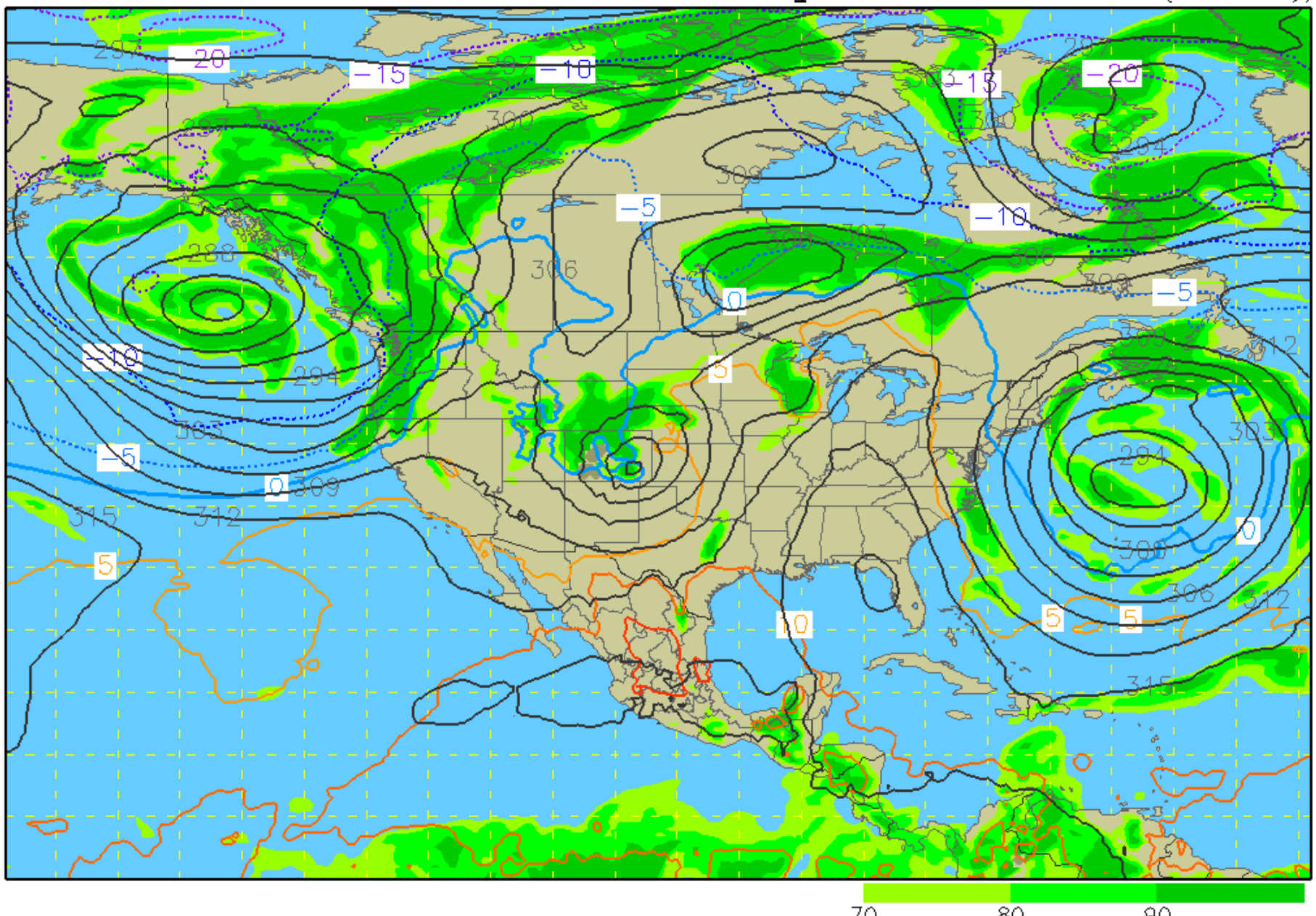
http://drought.unl.edu/dm

Released Thursday, May 5, 2011
Author: Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

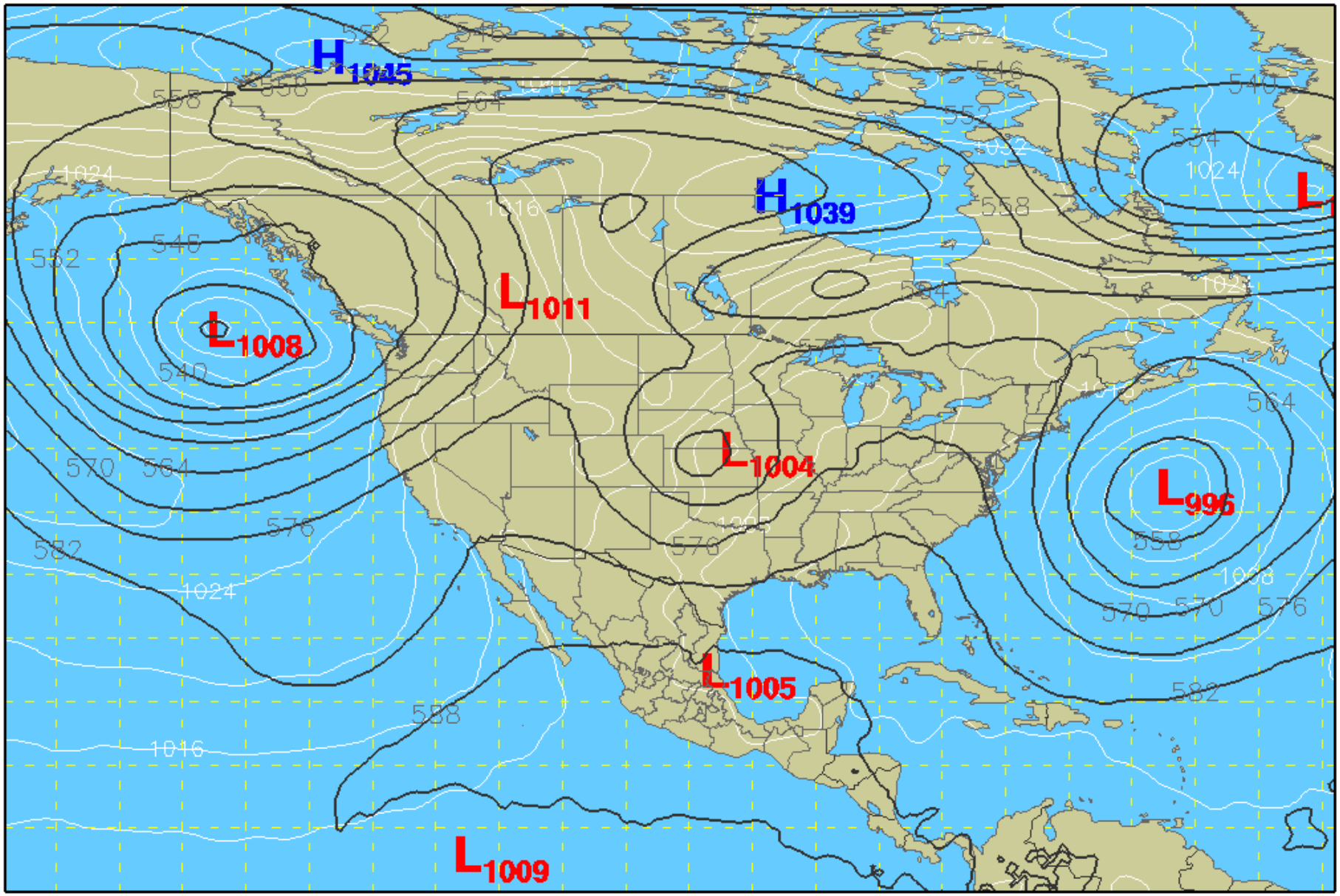
MSLP (mb) / 500 mb Heights (dm)



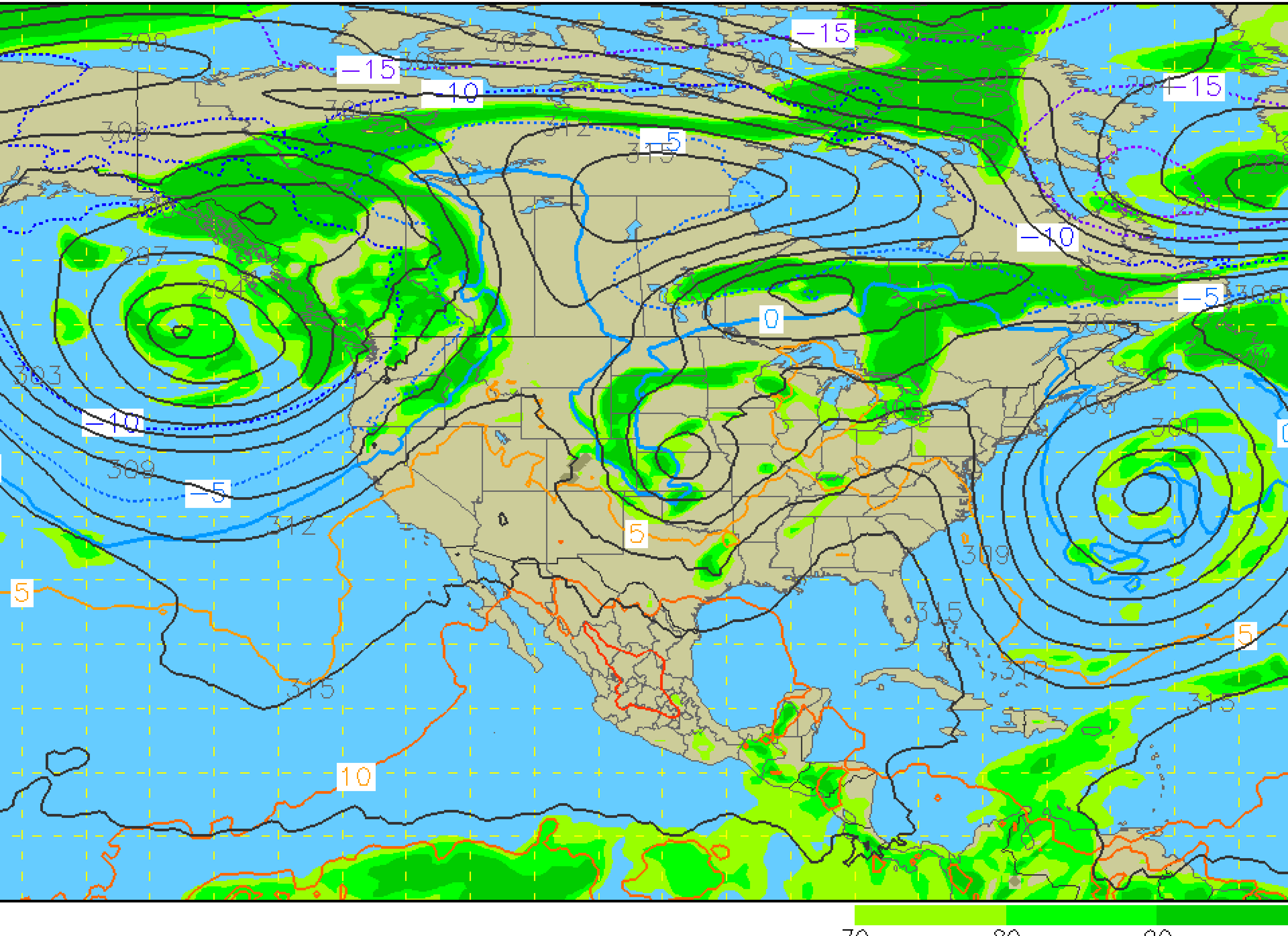
700 mb Heights (dm) / Temperature (°C) / Humidity (%)

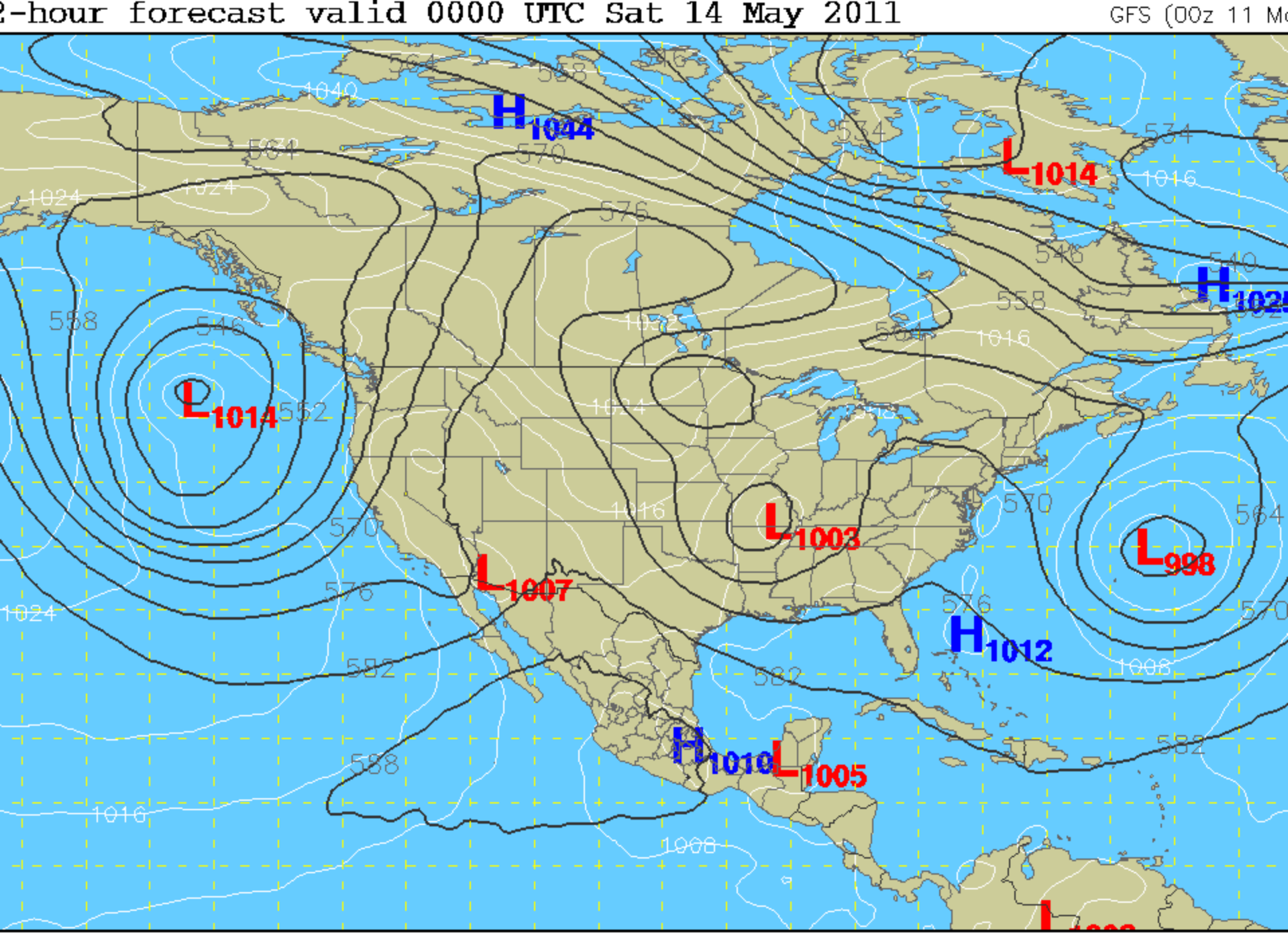


MSLP (mb) / 500 mb Heights (dm)

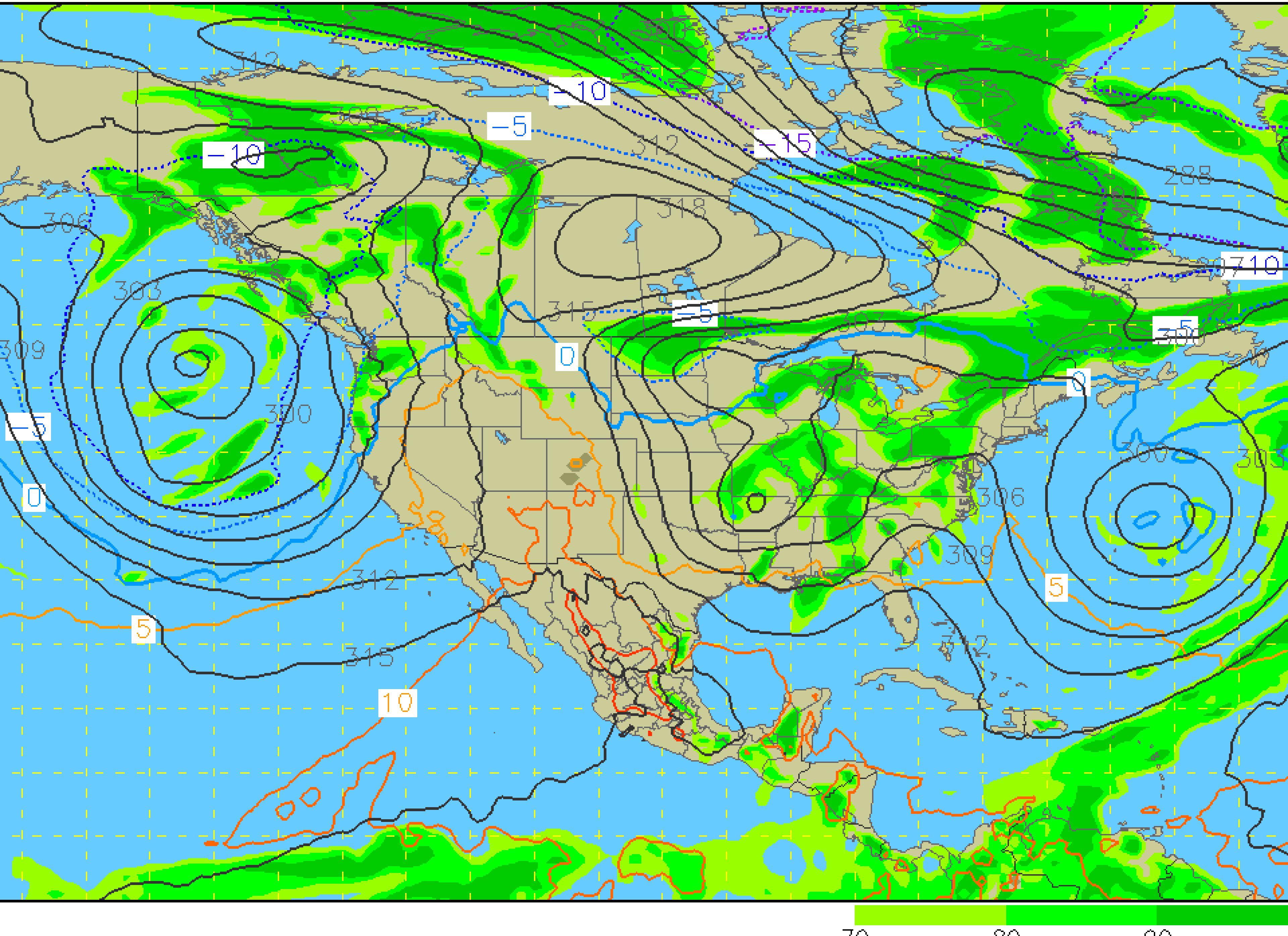


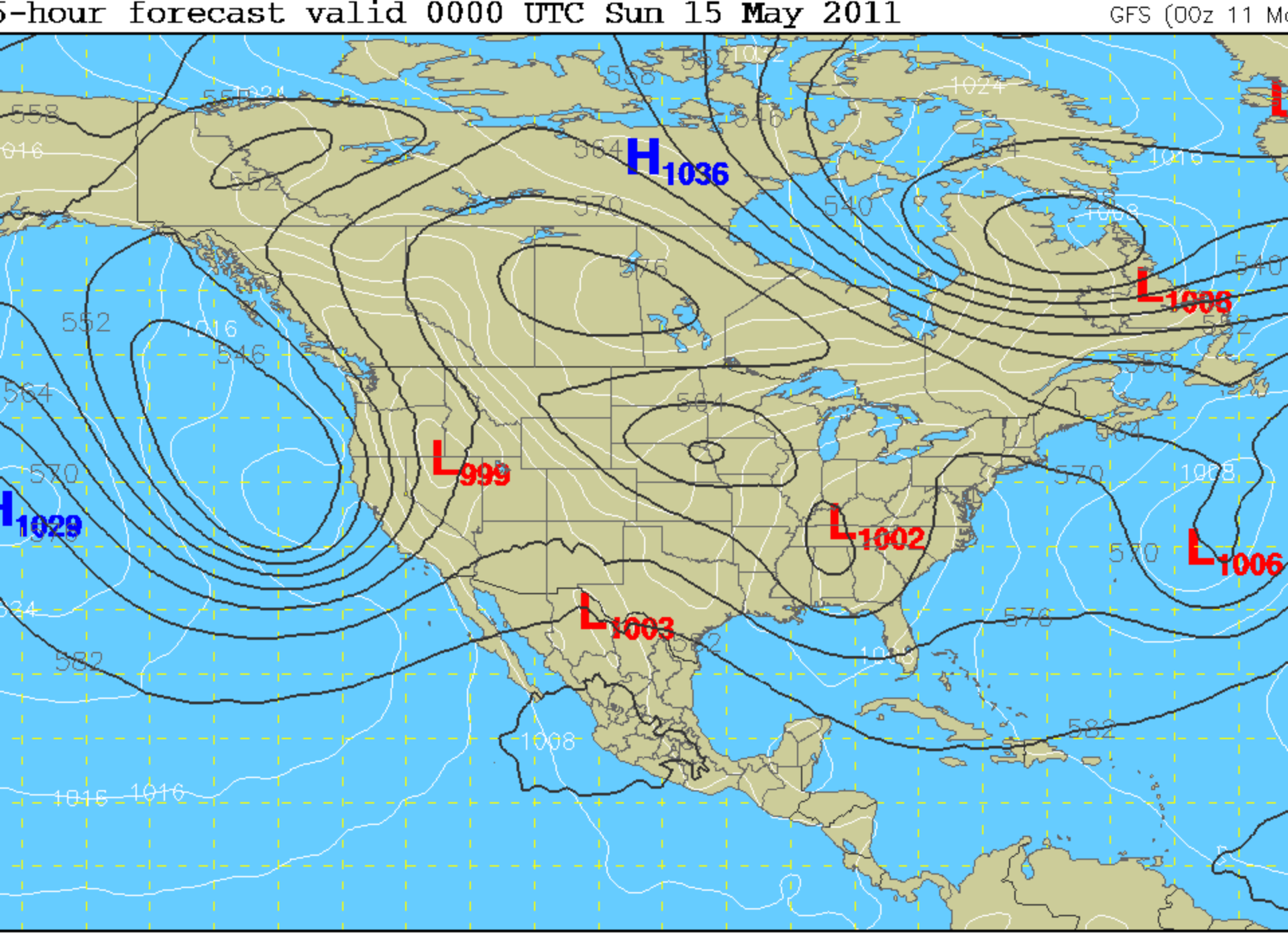
3-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Fri 13 May 2011 GFS (00z 11 Mo



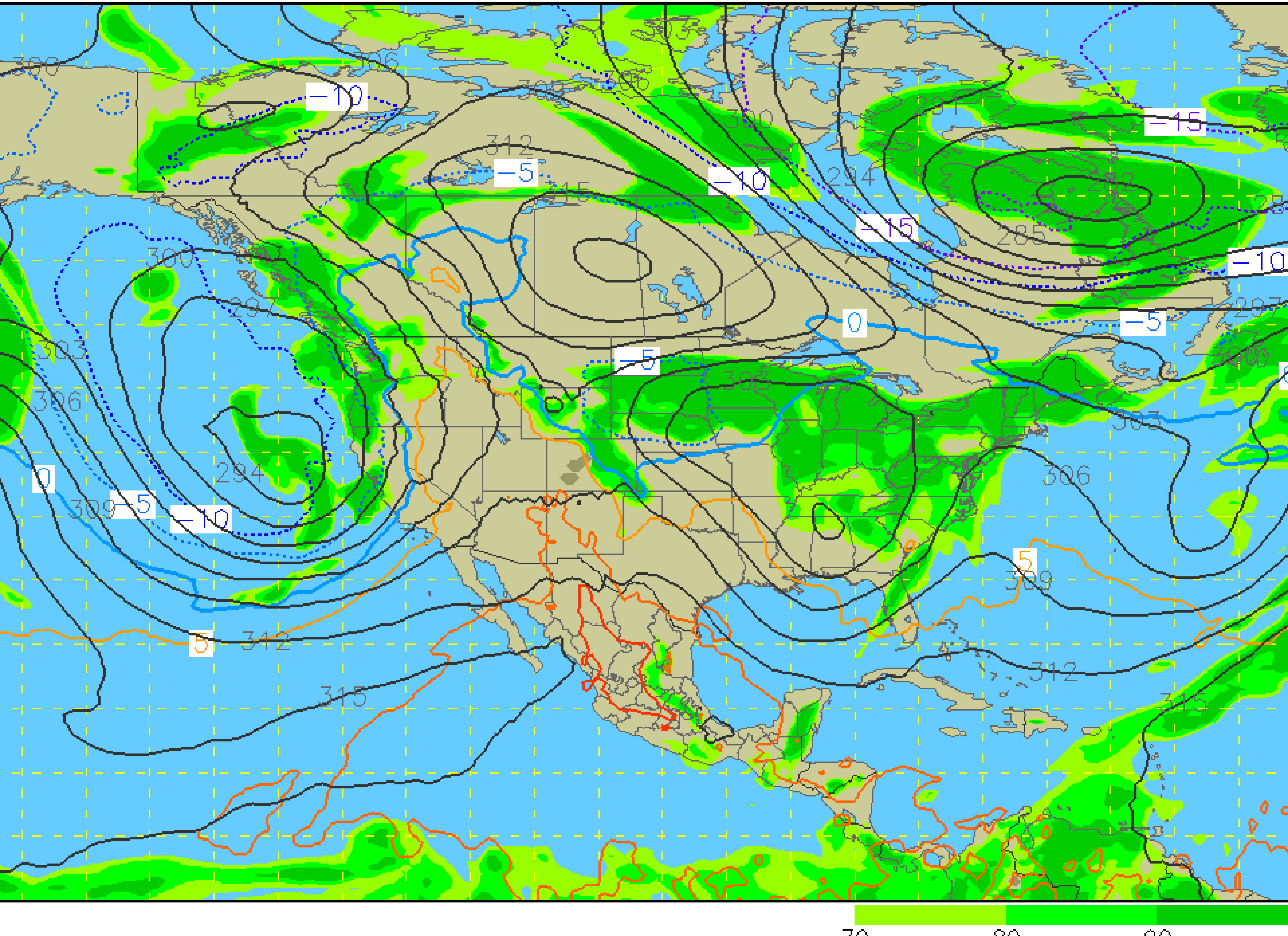

2-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Sat 14 May 2011
GFS (00z 11 M
H1044
L1014
L1014
L1003
L998
L1007
H1012
H1010
L1005

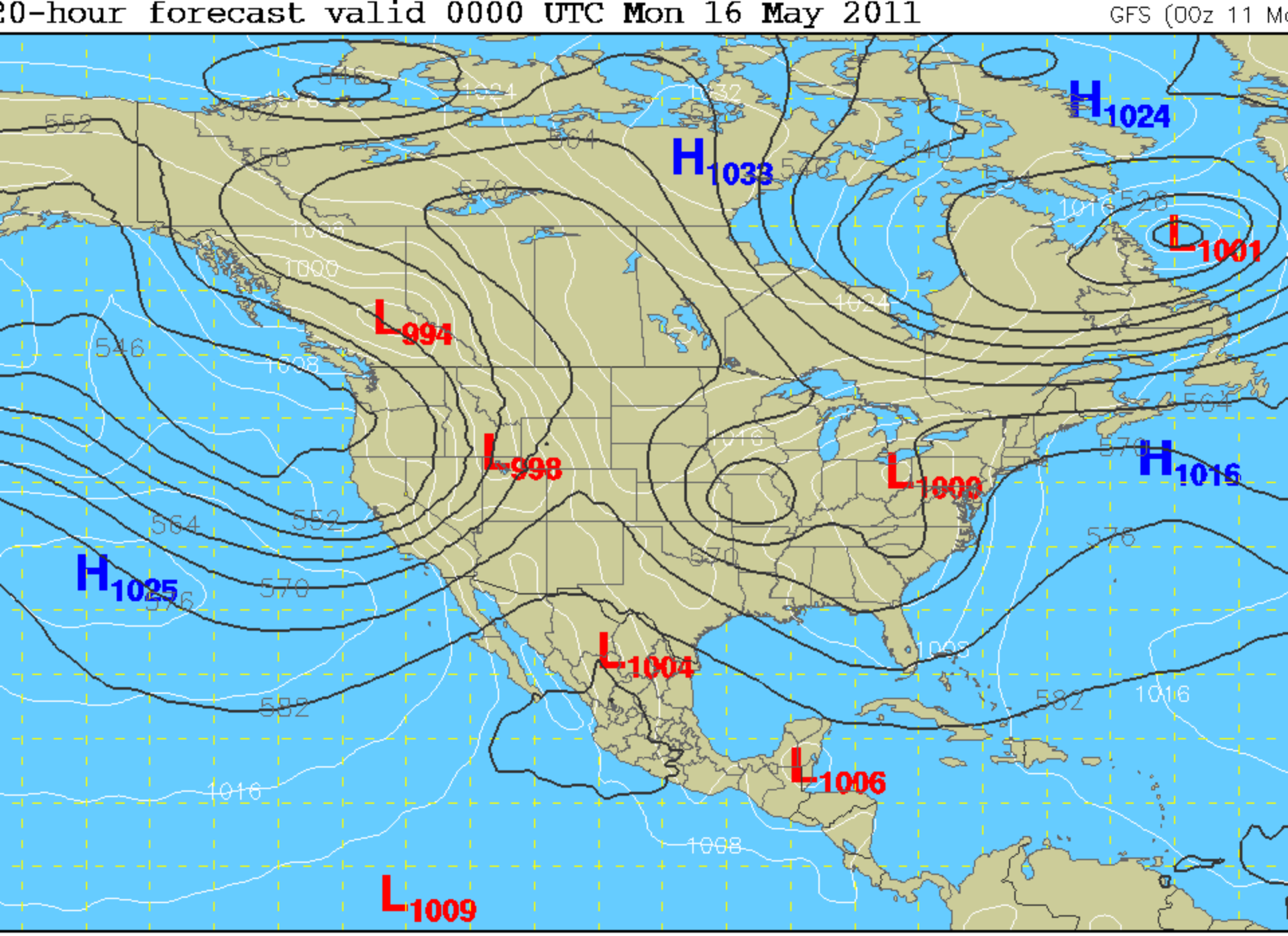
2-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Sat 14 May 2011 GFS (00z 11 M

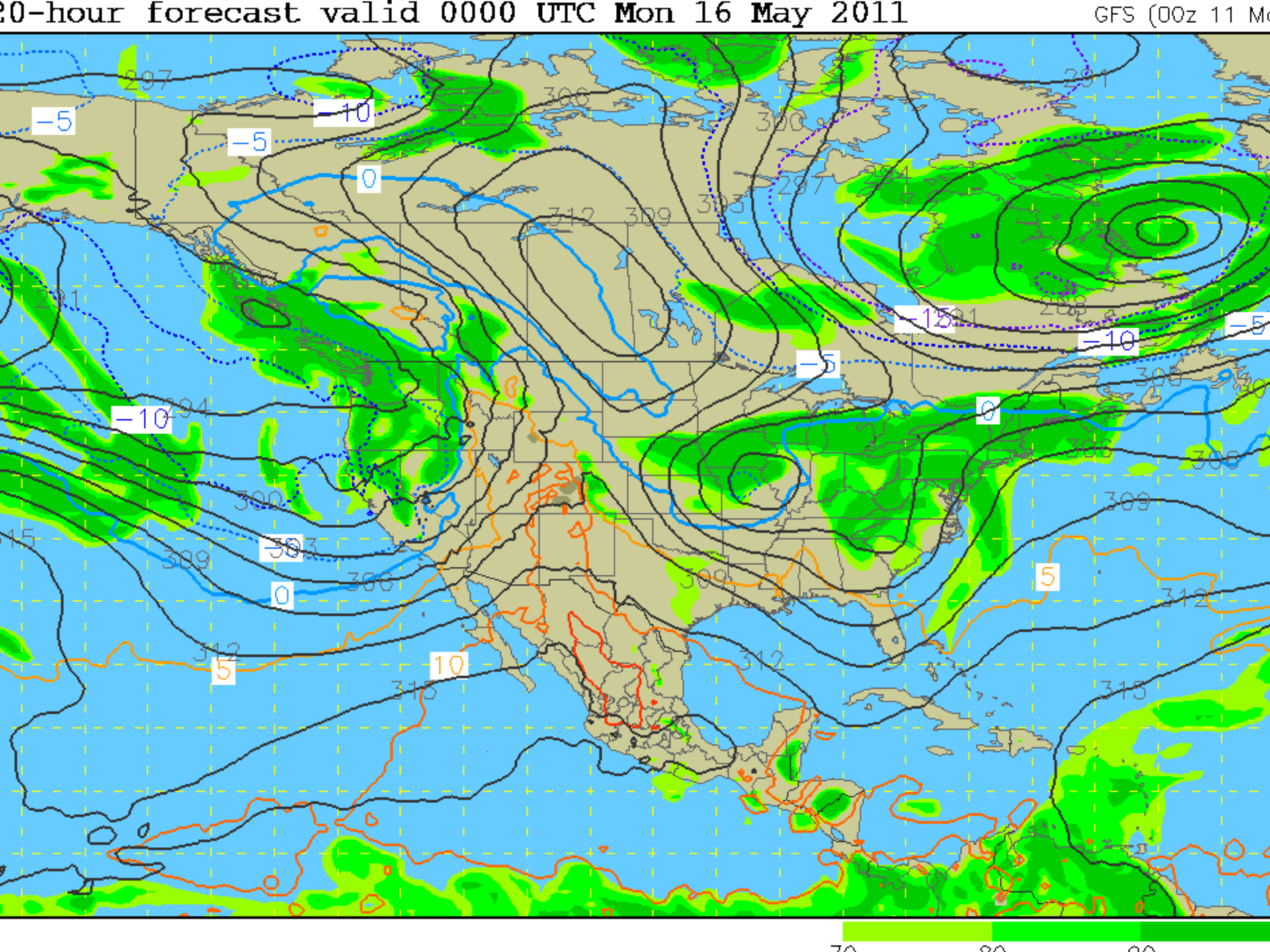


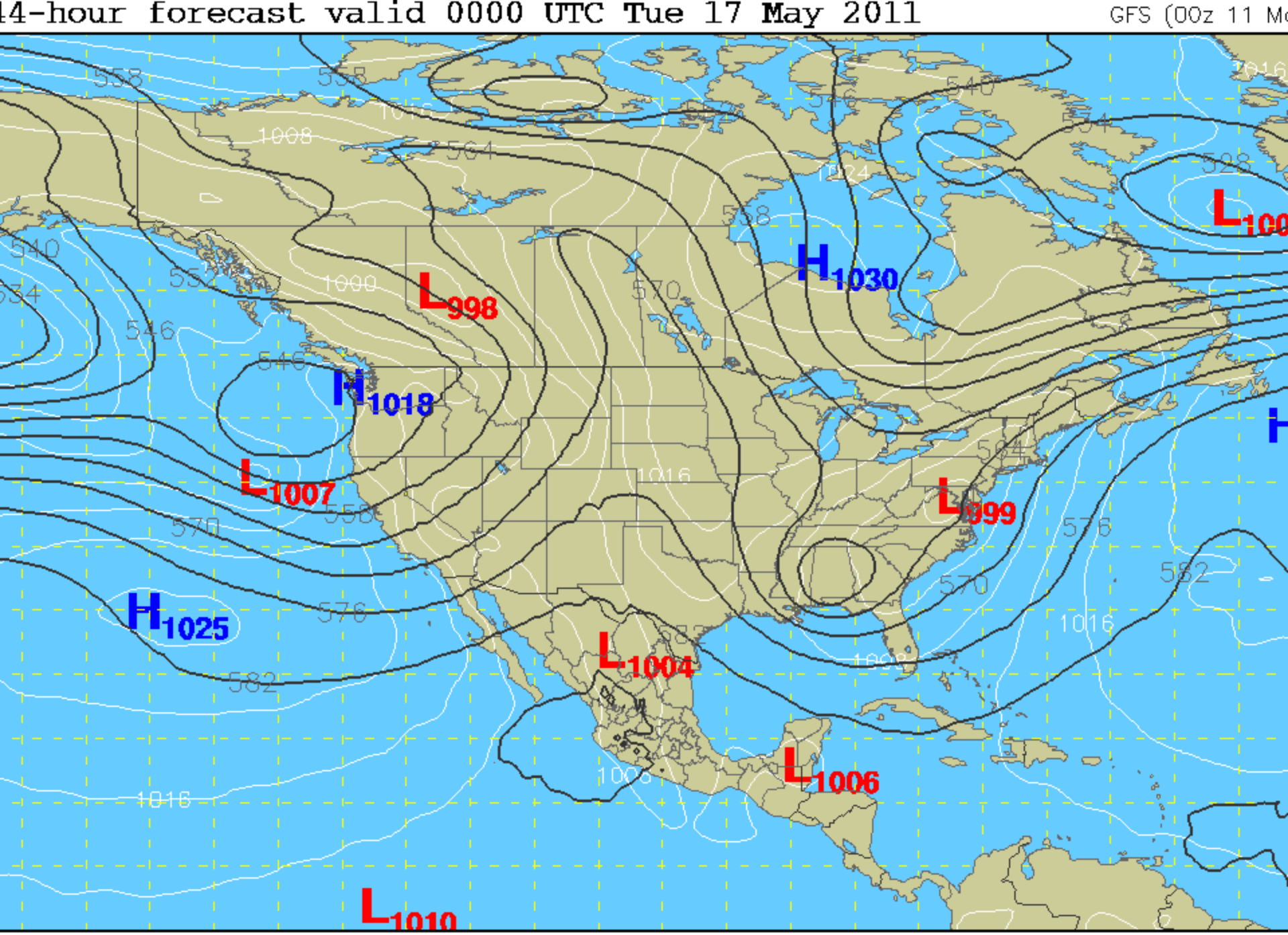

5-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Sun 15 May 2011
GFS (00z 11 M
H1036
L1006
L999
H1029
L1002
L1006
L1003

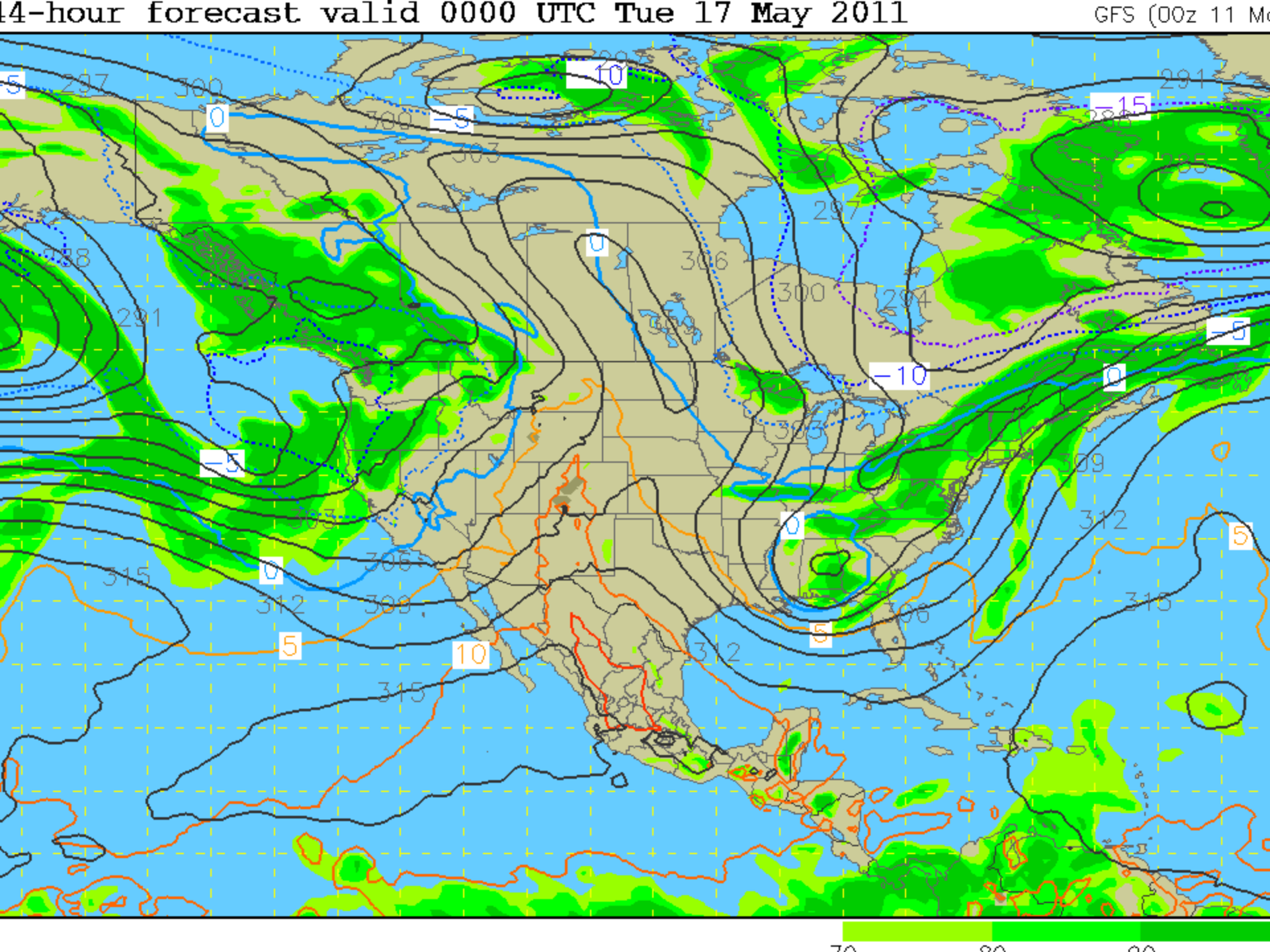
5-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Sun 15 May 2011 GFS (00z 11 Mo

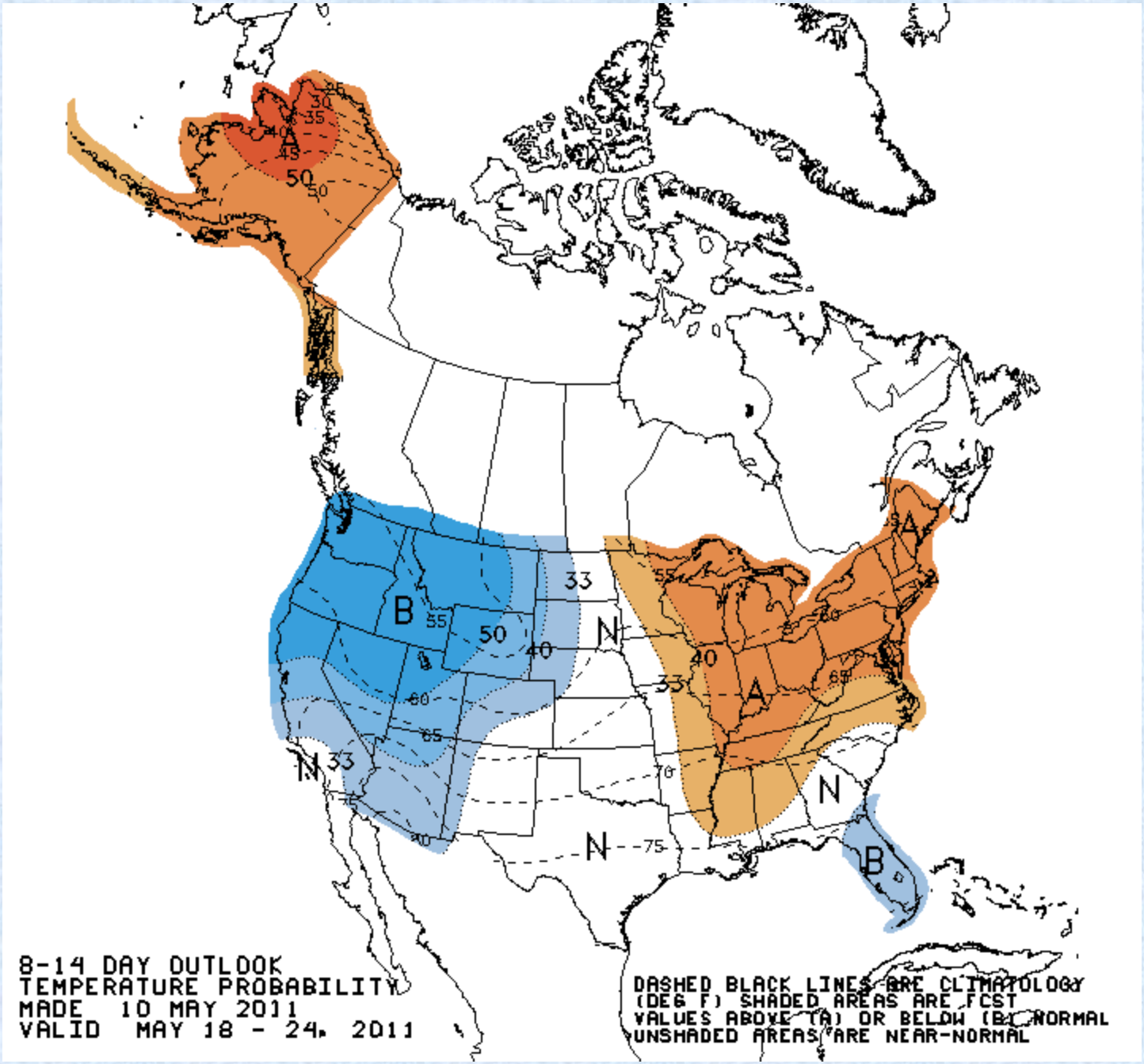


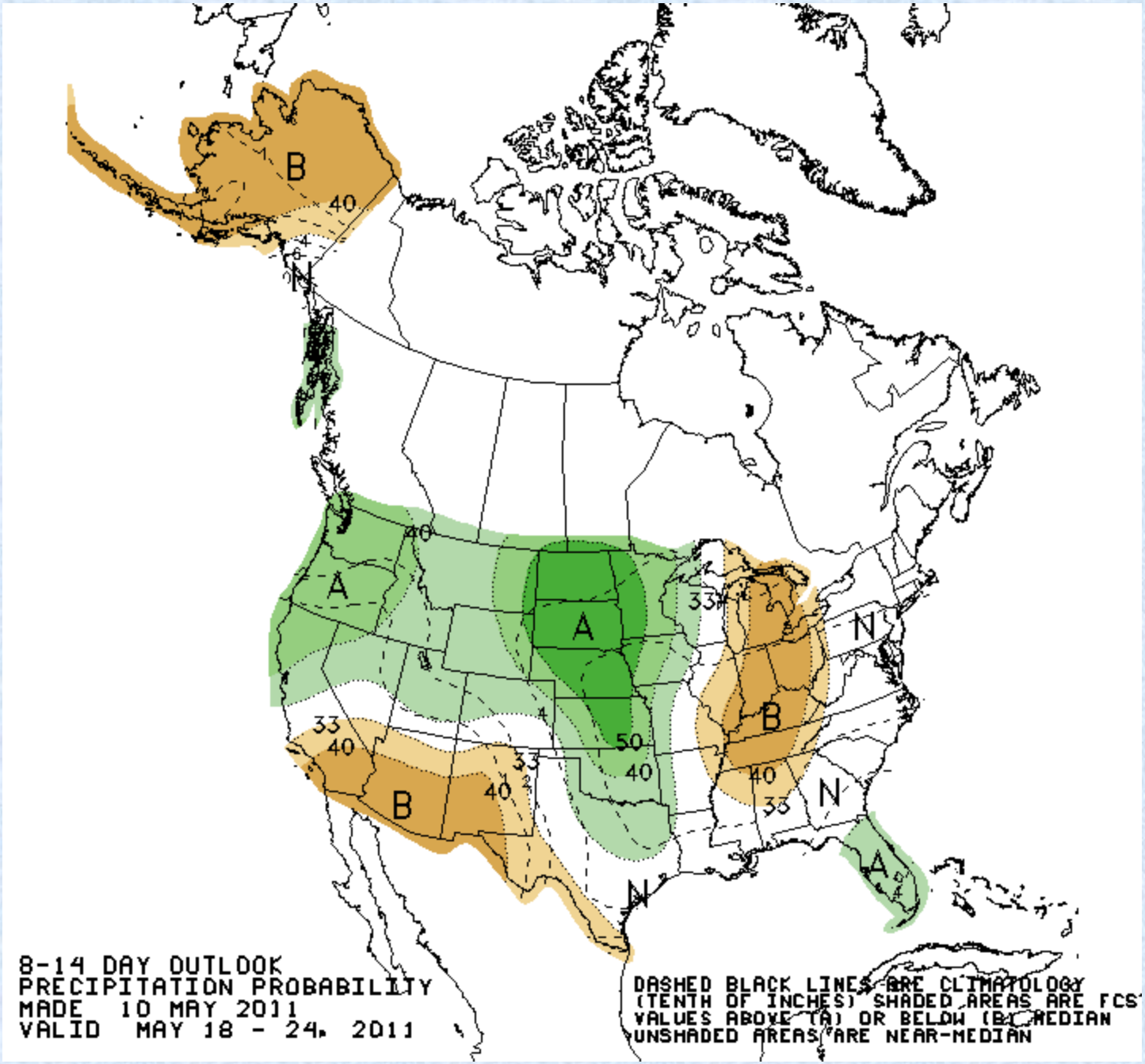

20-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Mon 16 May 2011
GFS (00z 11 M
H1024
H1033
L1001
L994
L998
L1000
H1016
H1025
L1004
L1006
L1009

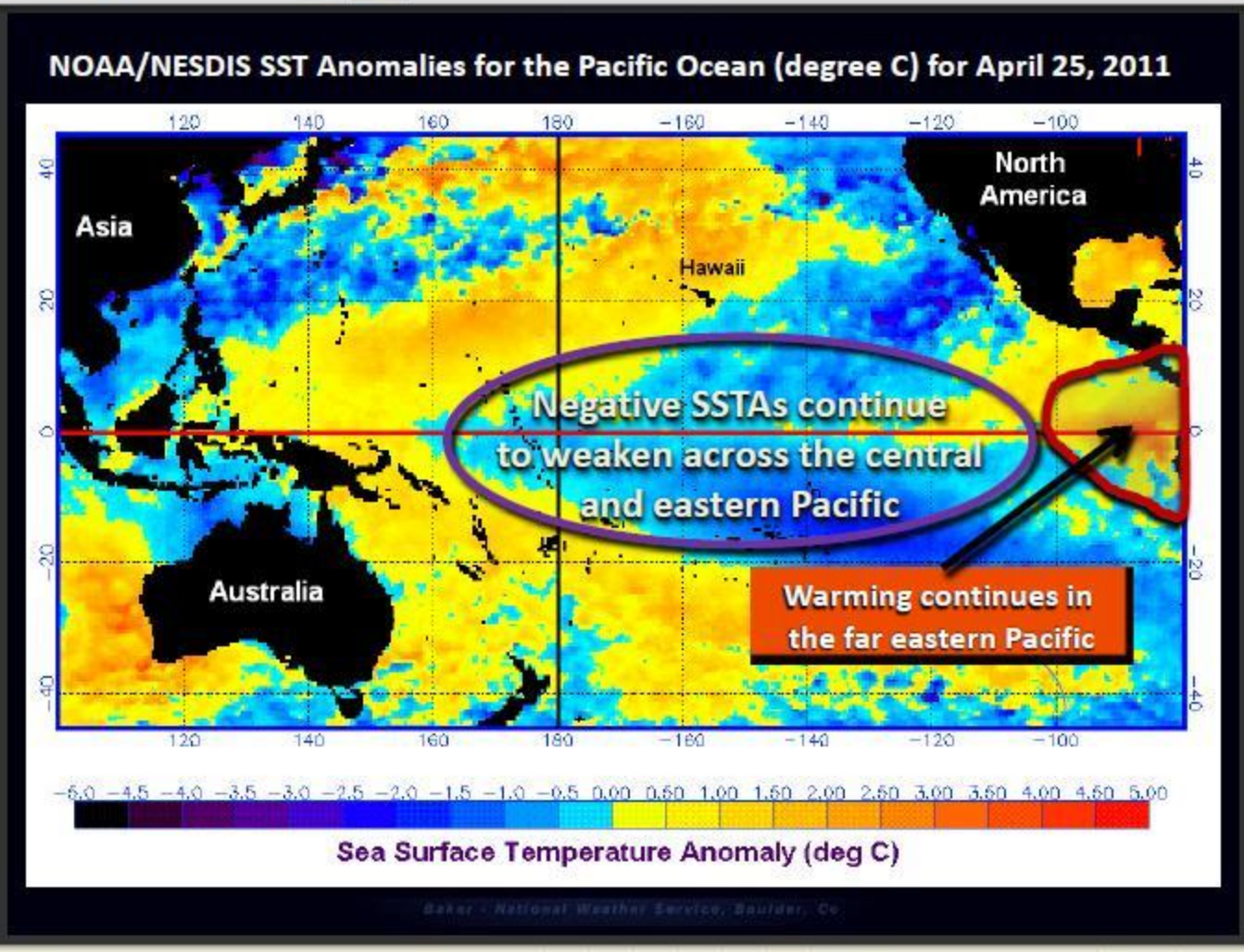

20-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Mon 16 May 2011
GFS (00z 11 M
70
80
90


44-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Tue 17 May 2011
GFS (00z 11 M
H1030
L998
H1018
L1007
H1025
L1004
L1006
L1010
L999


44-hour forecast valid 0000 UTC Tue 17 May 2011
GFS (00z 11 M
70
80
90


8-14 DAY OUTLOOK
TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
MADE 10 MAY 2011
VALID MAY 18 - 24, 2011
DASHED BLACK LINES ARE CLIMATOLOGY (DEG F) SHADED AREAS ARE FCST VALUES ABOVE (A) OR BELOW (B) NORMAL UNSHADED AREAS ARE NEAR-NORMAL
A
B
N
33
40
50
55
60
65
75


B
40
N
A
40
A
33
N
B
50
40
33
40
B
40
40
33
N
N
A
8-14 DAY OUTLOOK
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
MADE 10 MAY 2011
VALID MAY 18 - 24, 2011
DASHED BLACK LINES ARE CLIMATOLOGY
(TENTH OF INCHES) SHADED AREAS ARE FCS
VALUES ABOVE (A) OR BELOW (B) MEDIAN
UNSHADED AREAS ARE NEAR-MEDIAN



Oceanic Niño Index - ONI

Year	DJF	JFM	FMA	MAM	AMJ	MJJ	JJA	JAS	ASO	SON	OND	NDJ
2000	-1.6	-1.4	-1.0	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.7
2001	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0	-0.1	-0.1
2002	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4
2003	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4
2004	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
2005	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.7
2006	-0.7	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.1
2007	0.8	0.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.7	-1.0	-1.1	-1.3
2008	-1.4	-1.4	-1.1	-0.8	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	0	0	0	-0.3	-0.6
2009	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5	-0.1	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.8
2010	1.7	1.5	1.2	0.8	0.3	-0.2	-0.6	-1.0	-1.3	-1.4	-1.4	-1.4
2011	-1.3	-1.2										

Latest ONI

Warm Episodes - El Niños: ONI +0.5 and above (red numbers)

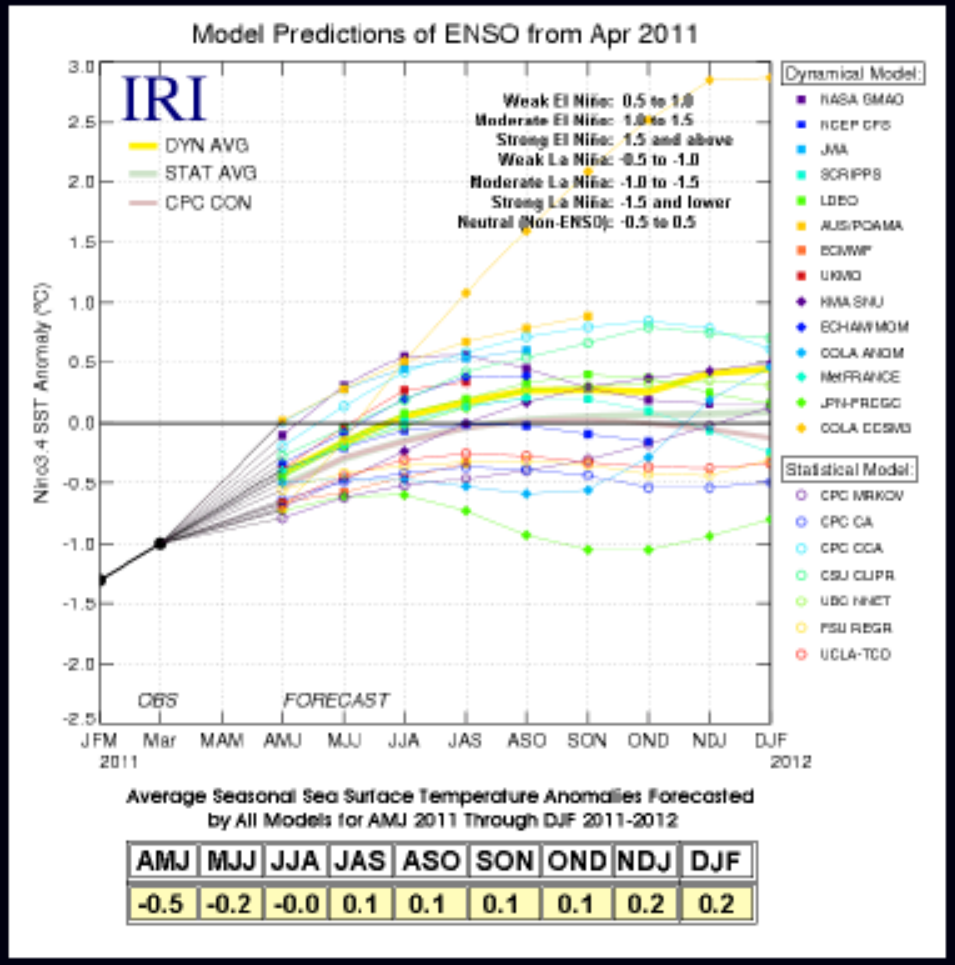
Cold Episodes - La Niñas: ONI of -0.5 and below (blue numbers)

Neutral or non-ENSO Episodes: ONI above -0.5 and below 0.5 (black numbers)

The latest ONI has changed little since its lowest value in January. An ONI of -1.2 means that La Niña was still of a moderate strength through March 2011.

NOA

Pacific Region Niño 3.4 ENSO Outlook



Average Seasonal Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies Forecasted by All Models for AMJ 2011 Through DJF 2011-2012

AMJ	MJJ	JJA	JAS	ASO	SON	OND	NDJ	DJF
-0.5	-0.2	-0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2

- All 23 dynamical and statistical ENSO models continue to indicate further weakening of the negative SST anomalies in the eastern tropical Pacific region Niño 3.4 through the remainder of this spring. By early this summer a large majority of the models forecast that ENSO neutral (+0.5 C to -0.5 C) conditions will exist.

- Model consensus also indicate ENSO neutral conditions in the eastern tropical Pacific through the summer and into next autumn; although a small number of these models are split between weak La Niña and weak El Niño conditions by this fall.

Source: International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) – Updated 4/19/11

Even as La Niña continues to weaken, it may continue to influence the weather across Colorado well into June.

More Heavy Snowfall for the Mountains During May

Continued Drought East – New Drought Southwest

An Increased Risk of Hail Storms on the Plains

An Increased Risk of Damaging T-Storm Winds

Baker - National Weather Service, Boulder, Co