



# Climate Update

Colorado State University

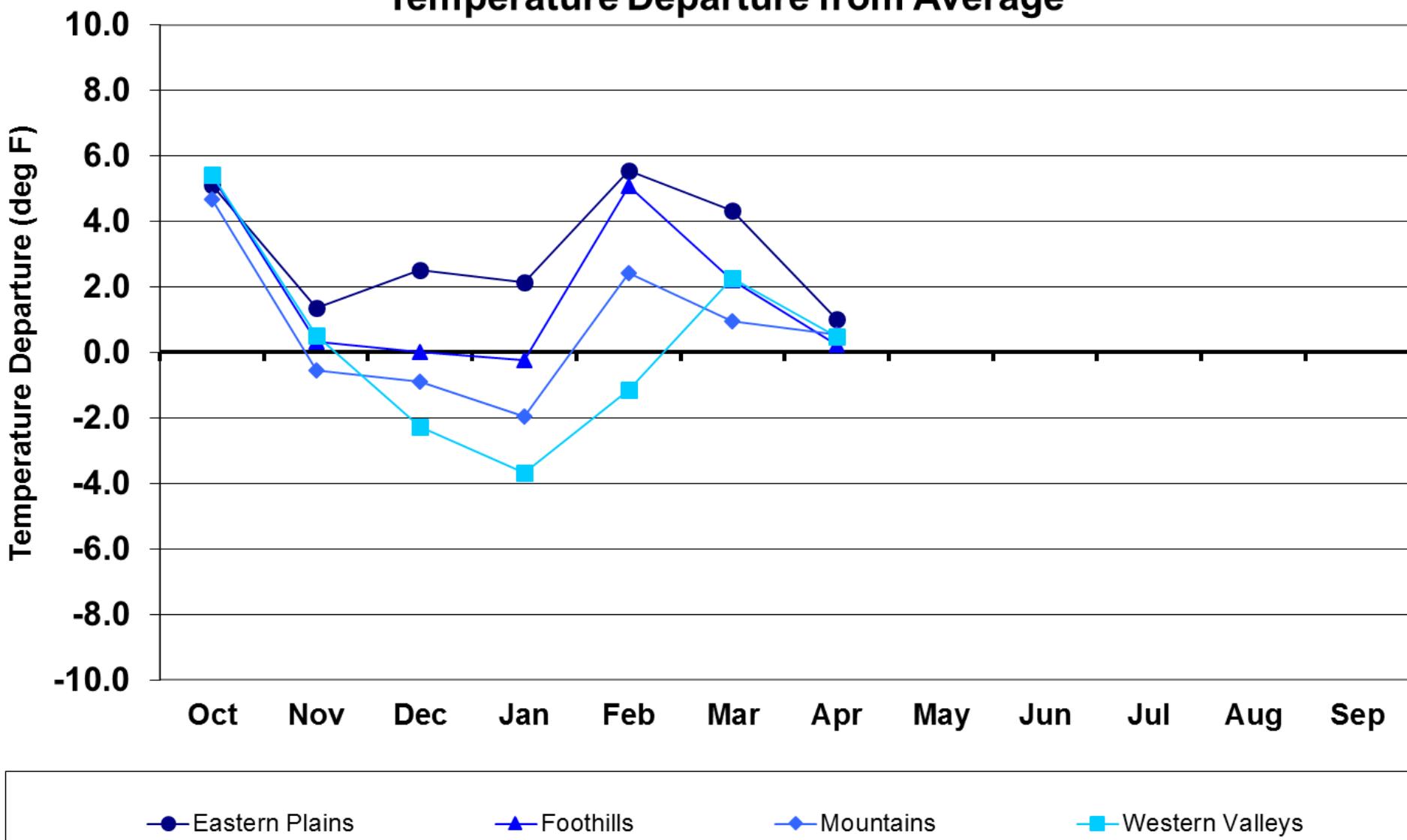


Zach Schwalbe  
Colorado Climate Center

Presented to  
Water Availability Task Force  
May 25, 2016  
Denver, CO

# Water Year 2016 Temperature Departures

Water Year 2016  
Temperature Departure from Average



# April 2016 Average Temperature History for Colorado (NCEI)

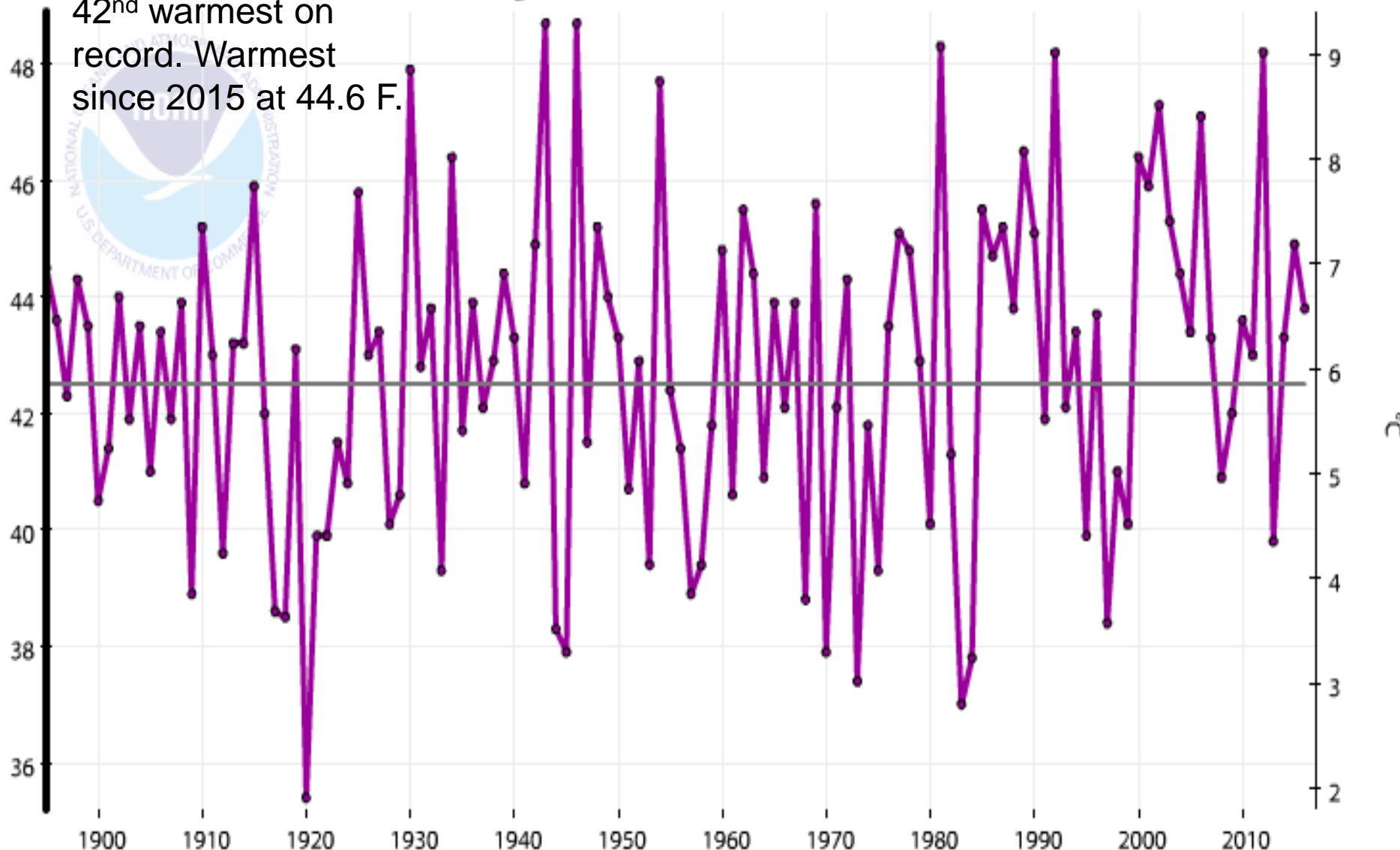
Colorado, Average Temperature, April

43.8 F (+1.3)

42<sup>nd</sup> warmest on record. Warmest since 2015 at 44.6 F.

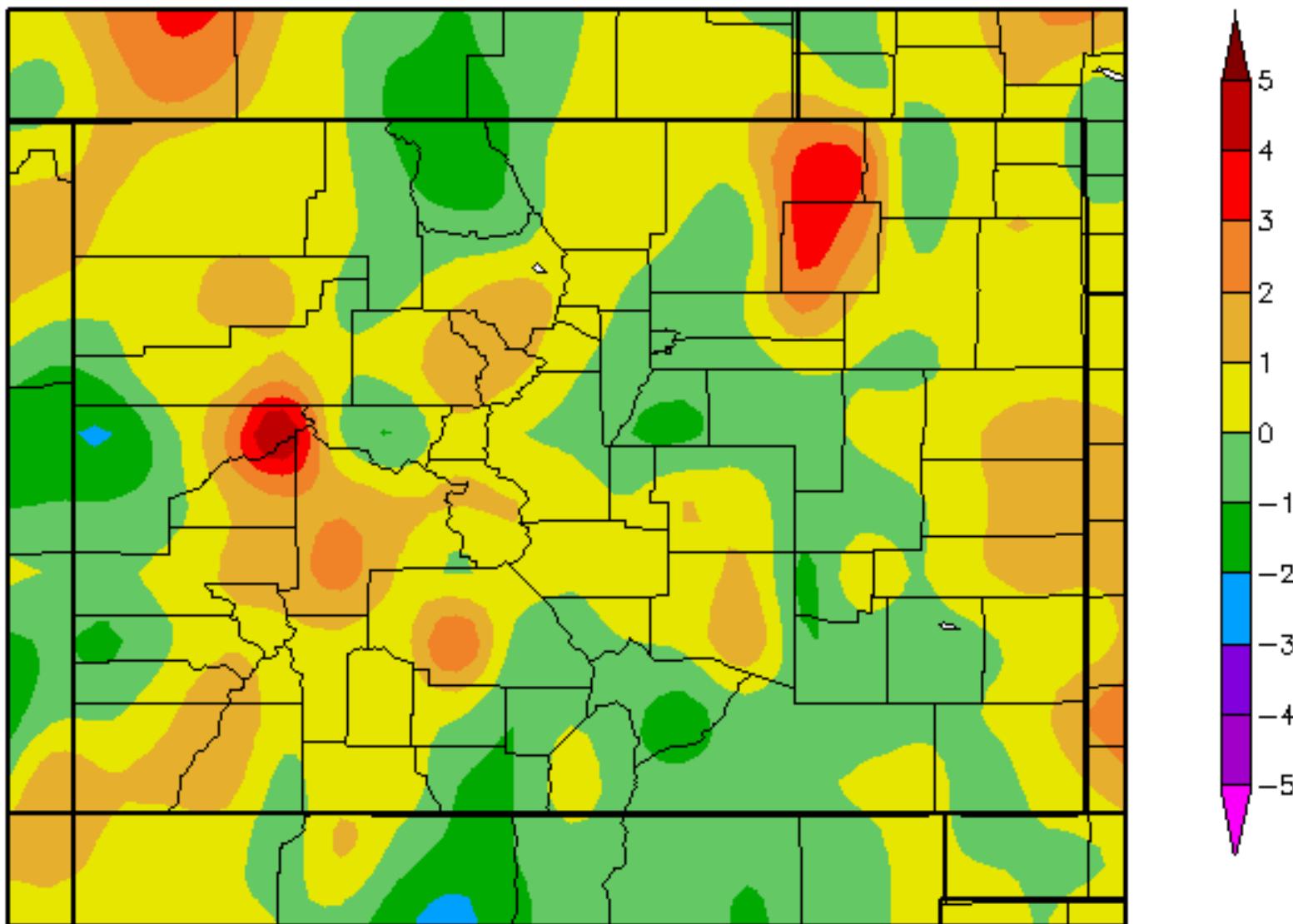
1901-2000  
Avg: 42.5°F

Avg Temperature



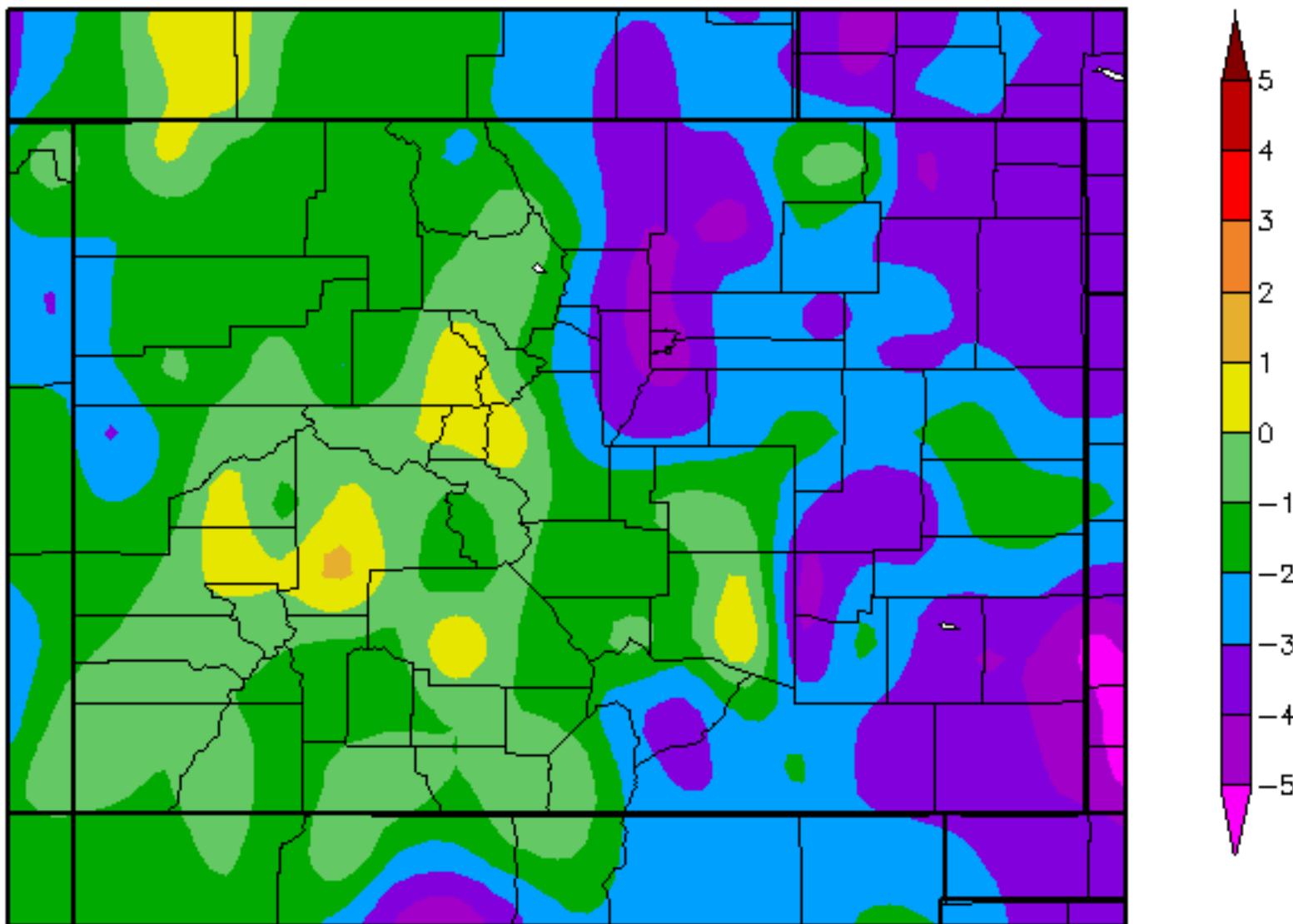
# Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

4/1/2016 – 4/30/2016

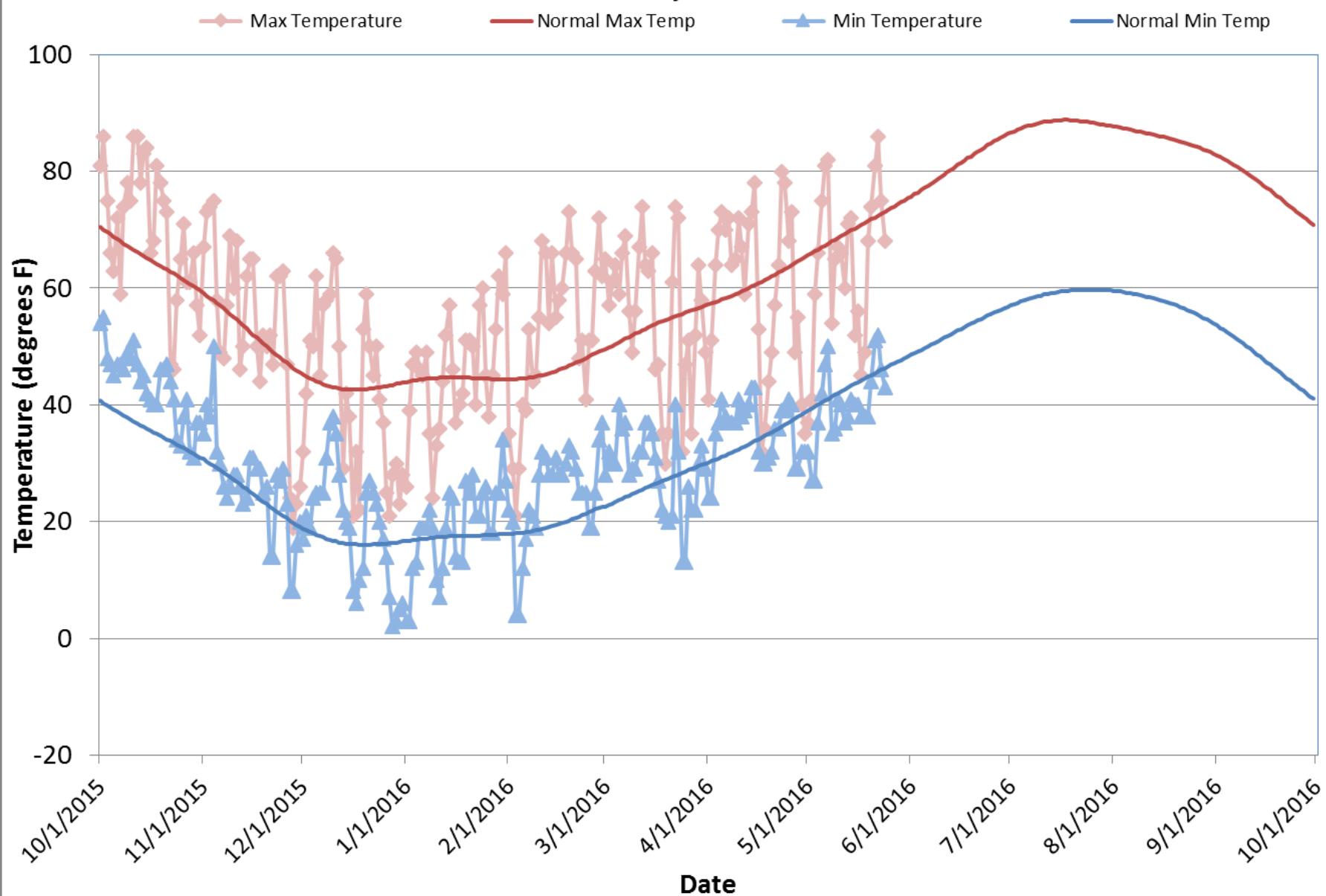


# Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

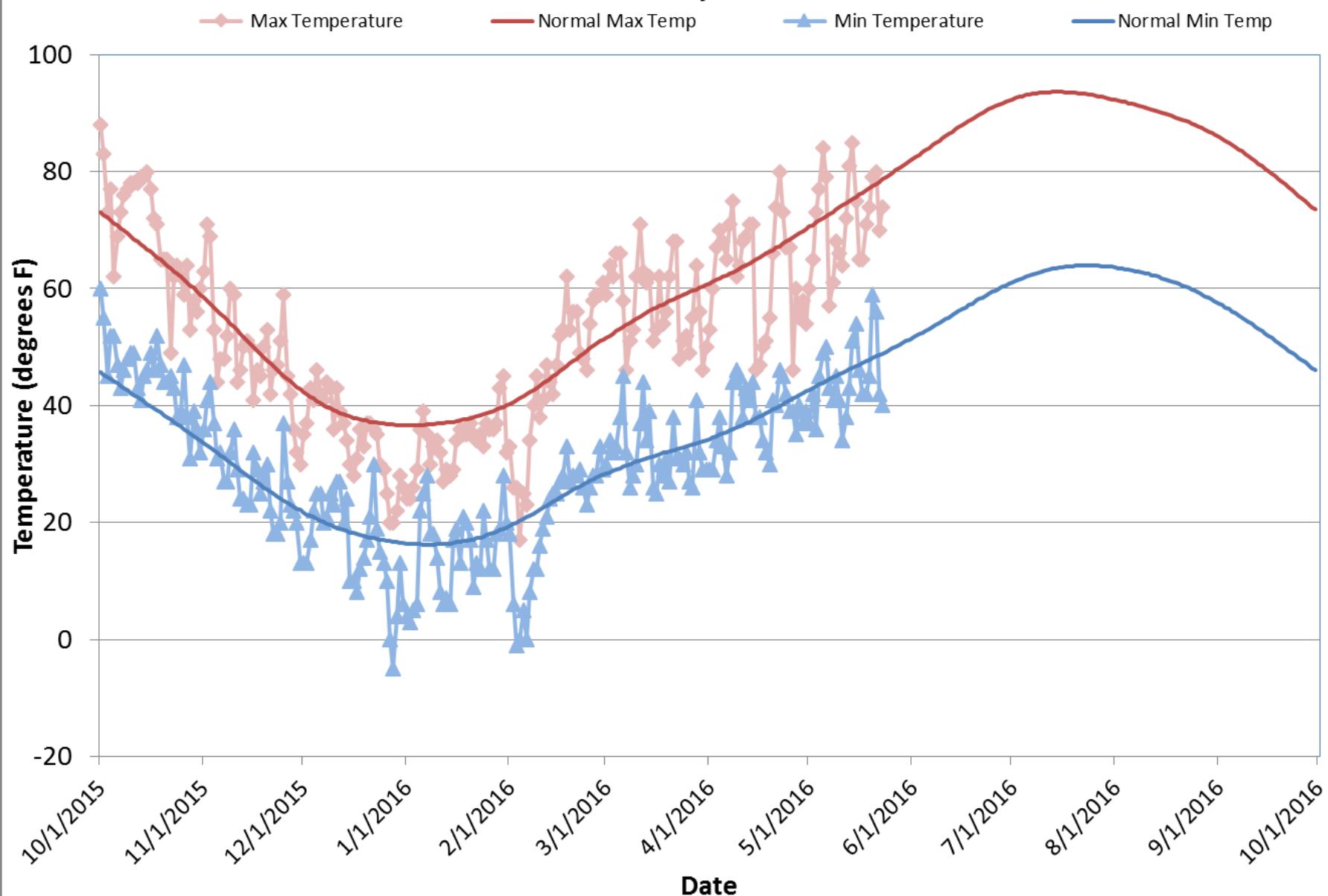
5/1/2016 – 5/24/2016



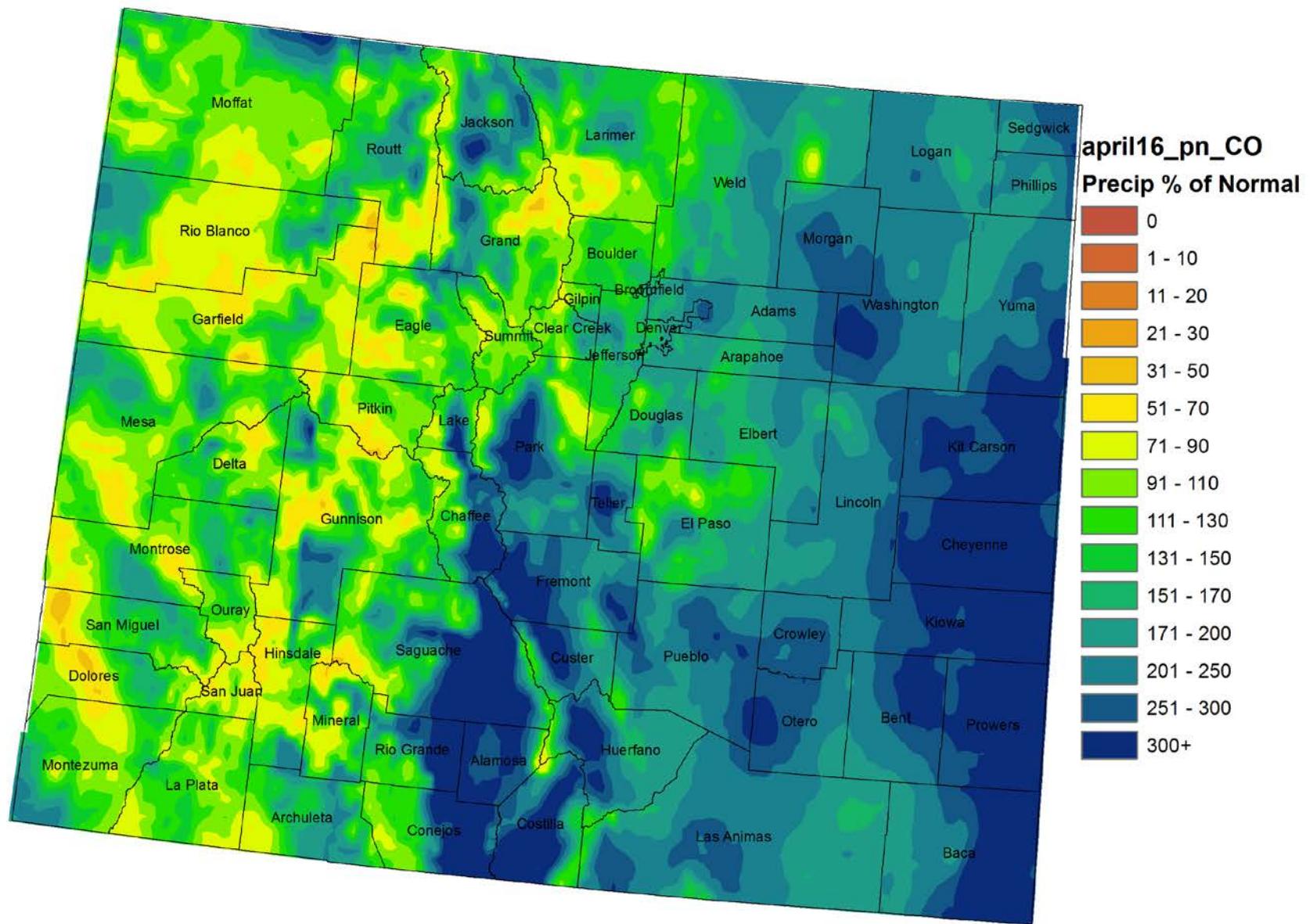
# Denver-Stapleton Daily Max/Min Temperatures with Normals, Water Year 2016



# Grand Junction Daily Max/Min Temperature with Normals, WY 2016



# Colorado April 2016 Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal



# April 2016 Statewide Precipitation

Colorado, Precipitation, April

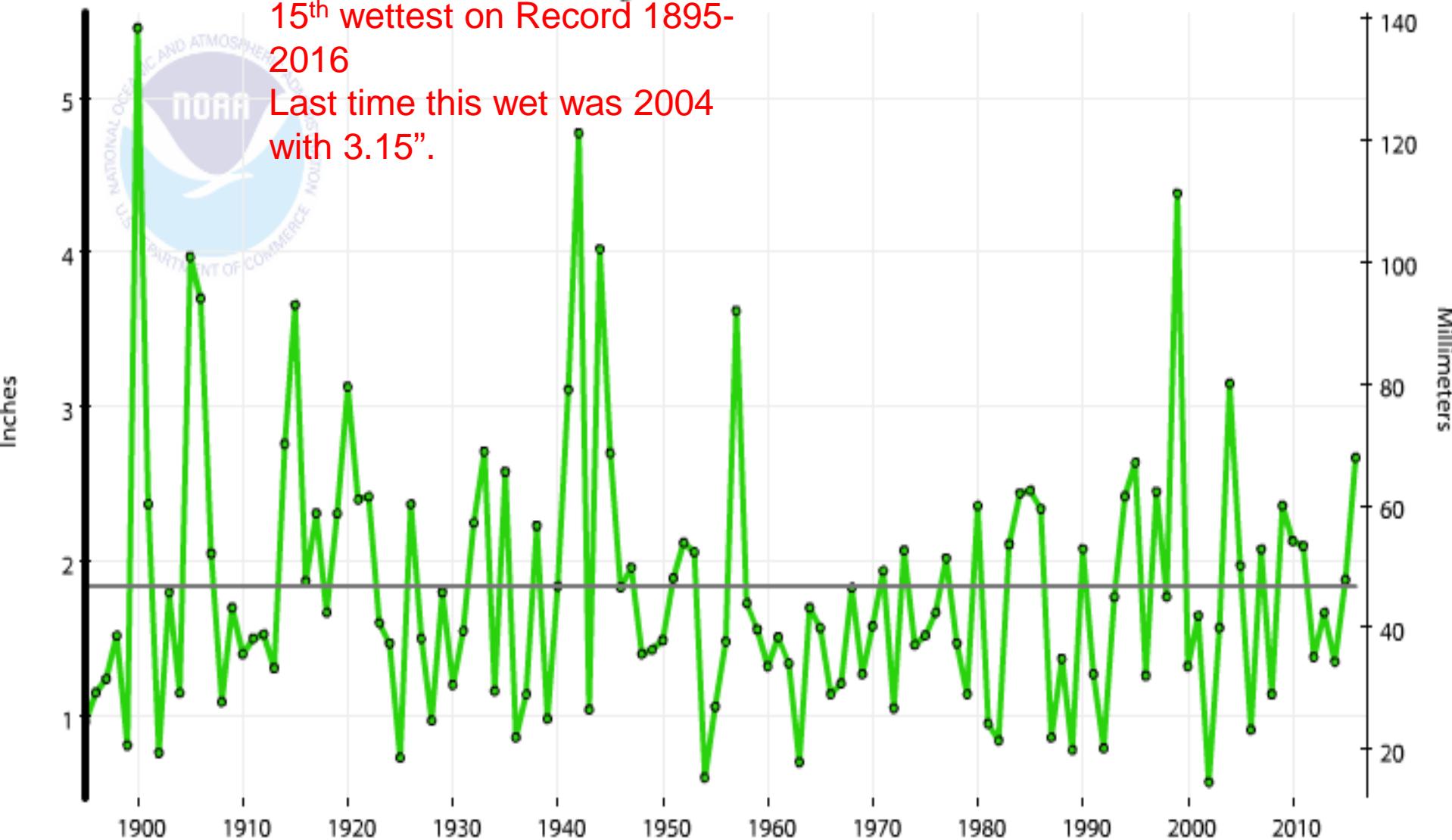
2.67" (+0.83")

1901-2000  
Avg: 1.84"

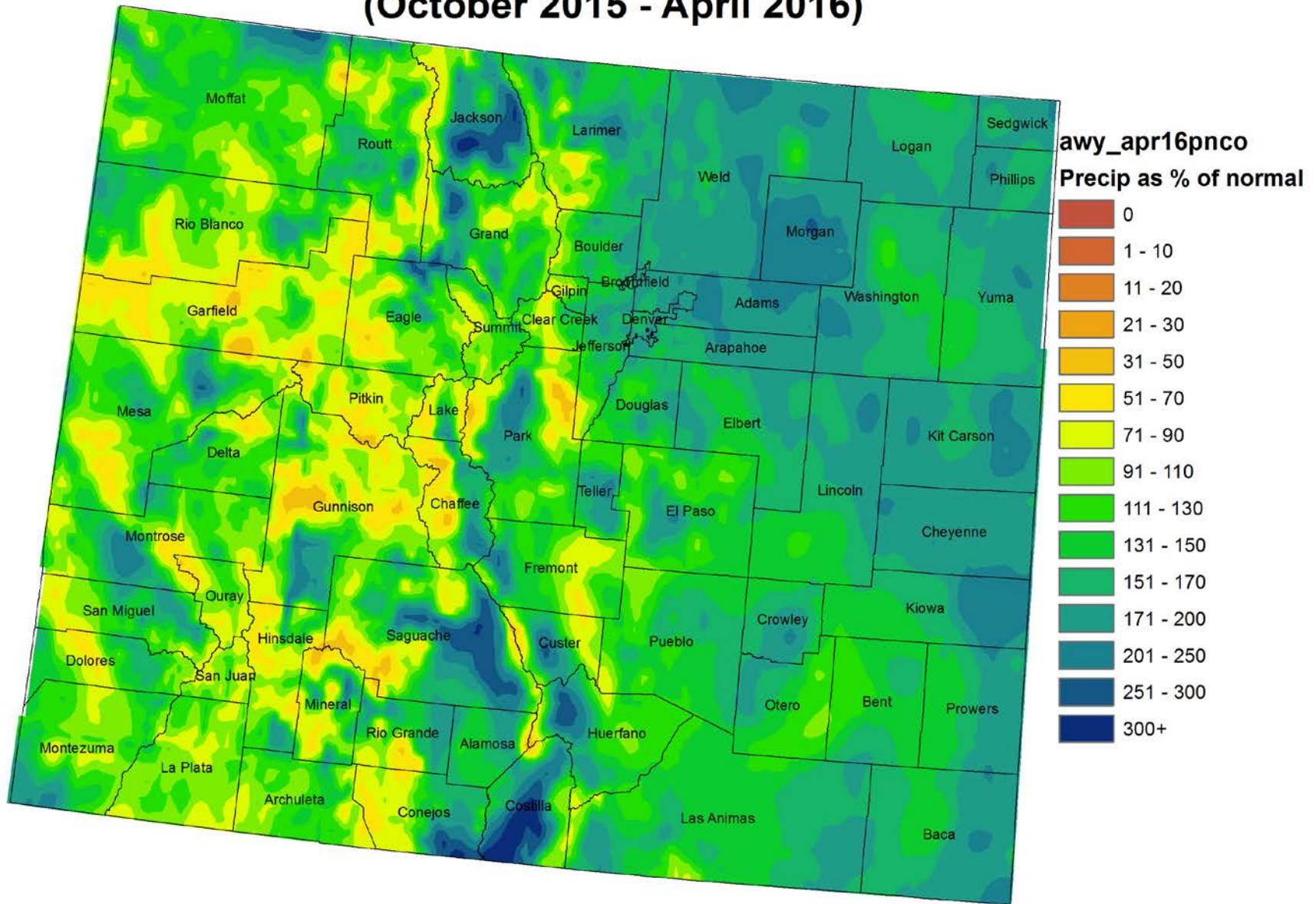
Precip

15<sup>th</sup> wettest on Record 1895-2016

Last time this wet was 2004  
with 3.15".

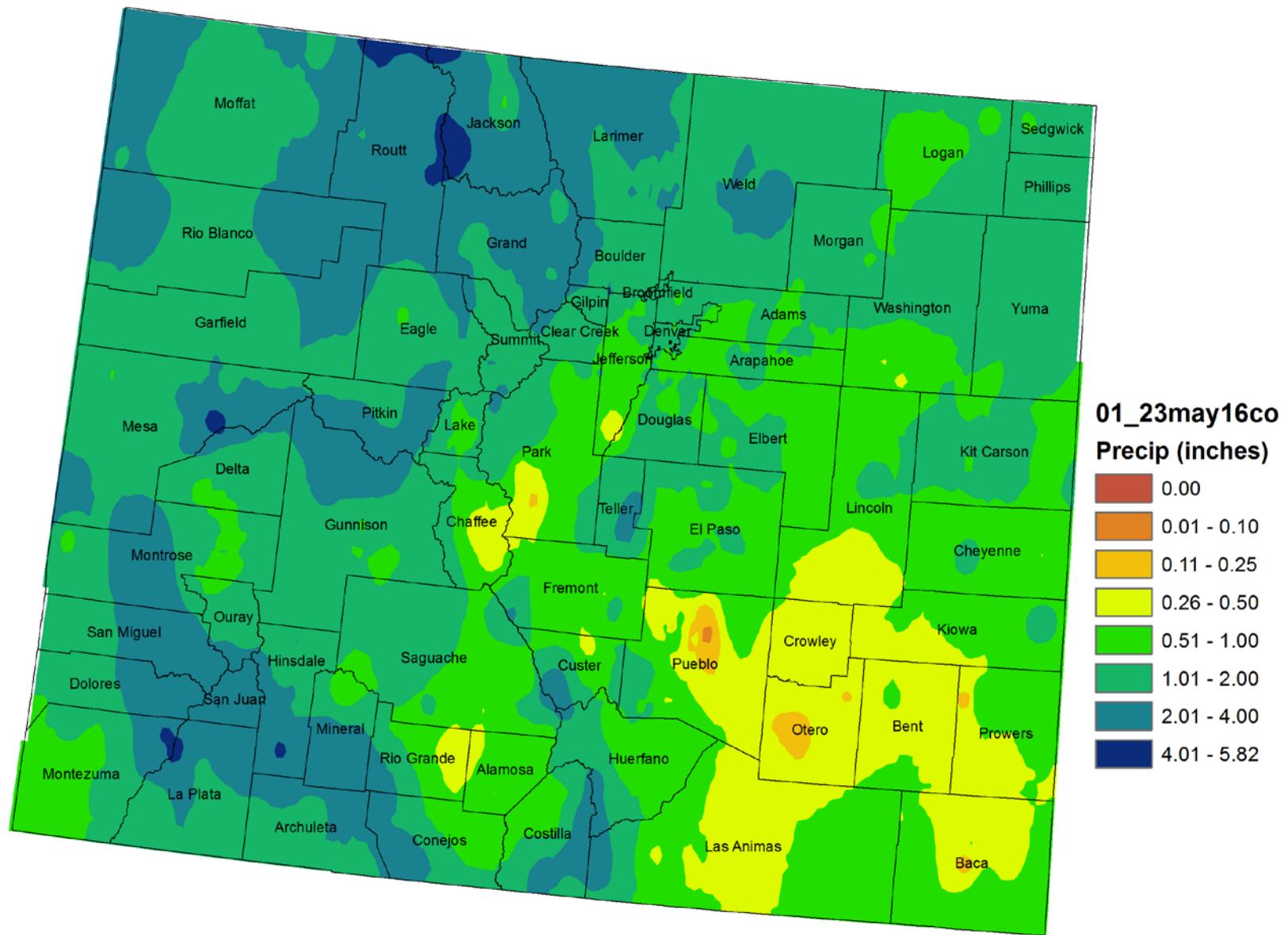


# Colorado Water Year 2016 Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal (October 2015 - April 2016)



# Colorado Month to Date Precipitation

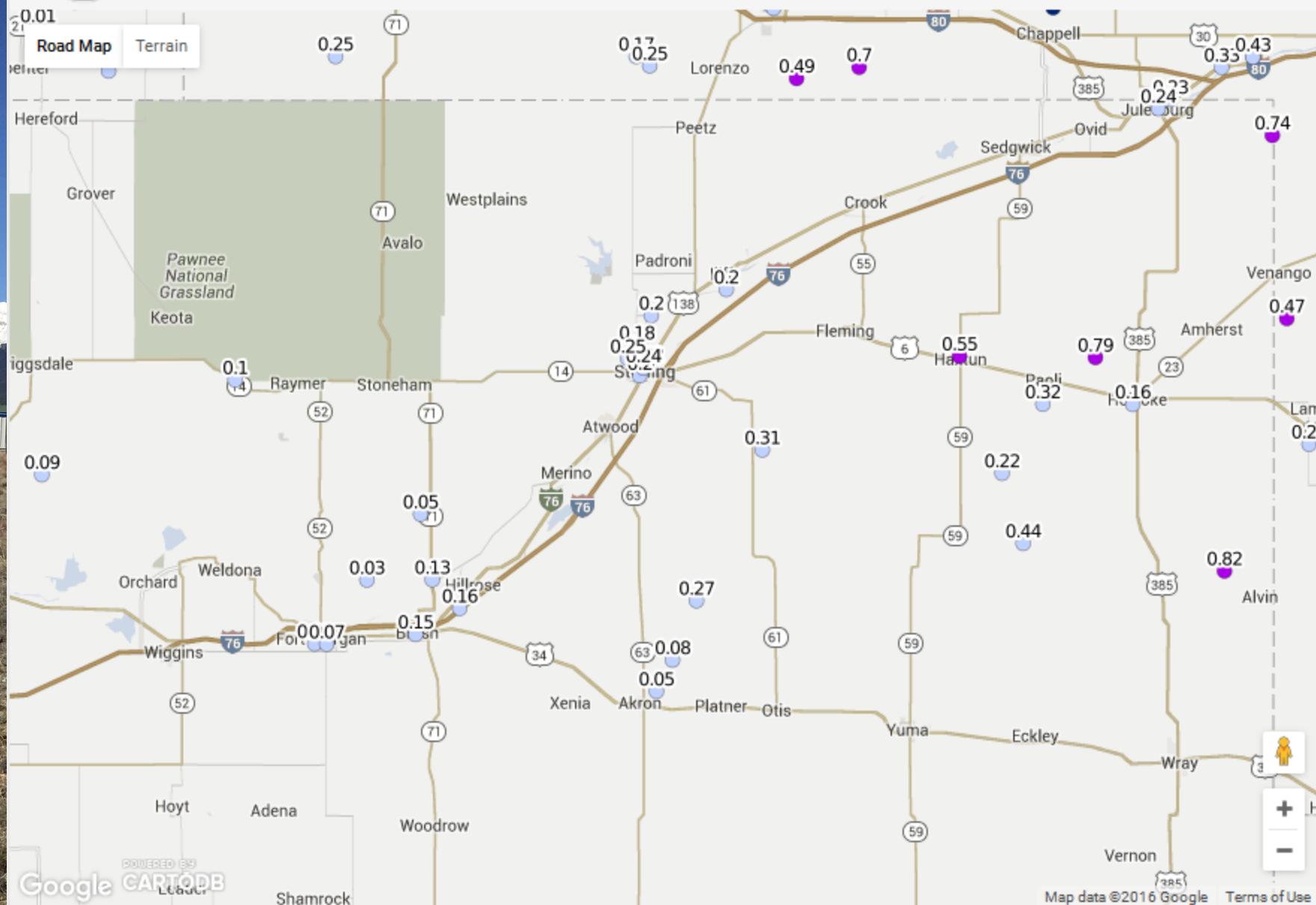
## 1 - 23 May 2016



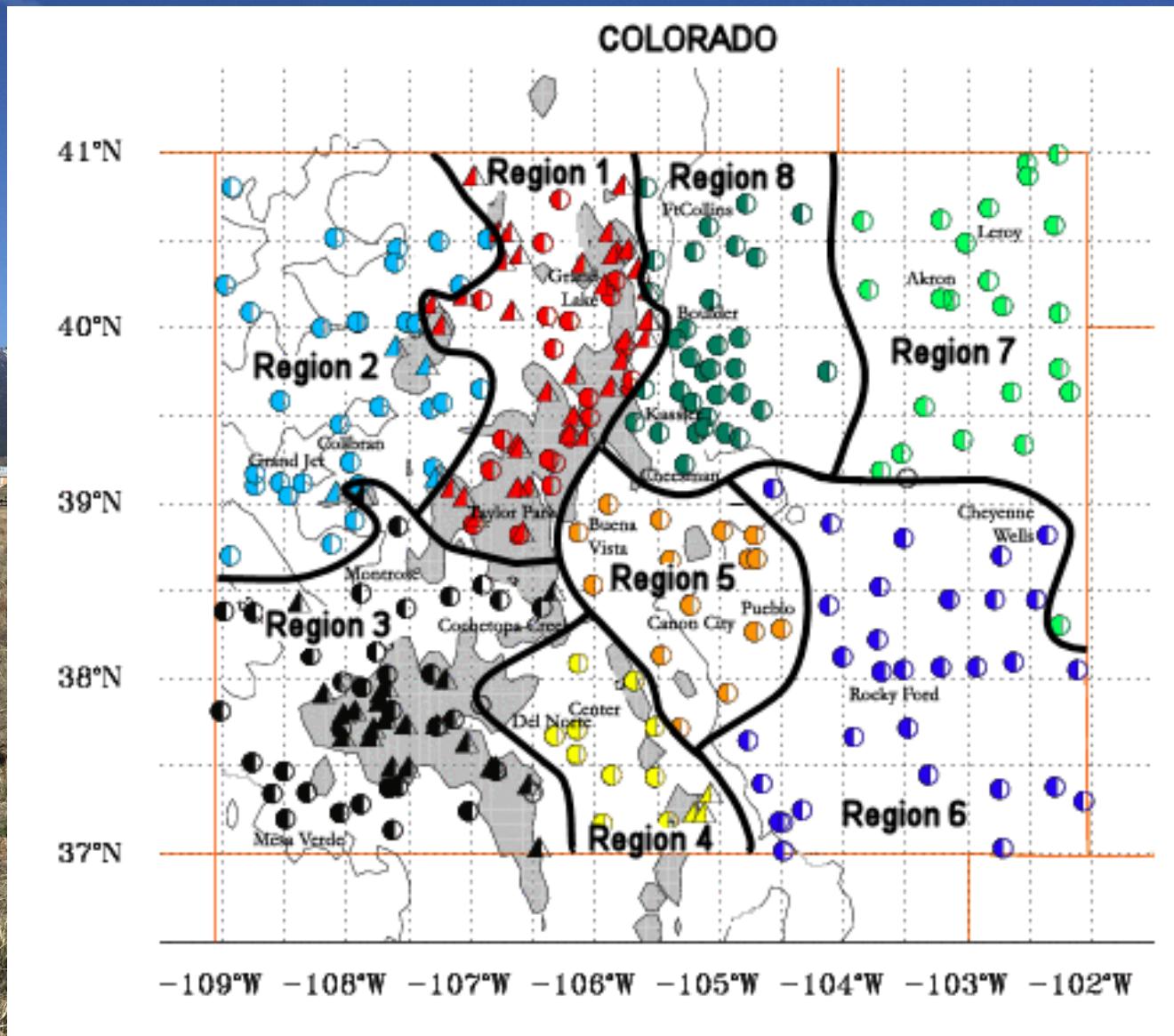


## Precipitation for 2016-05-25 values in inches

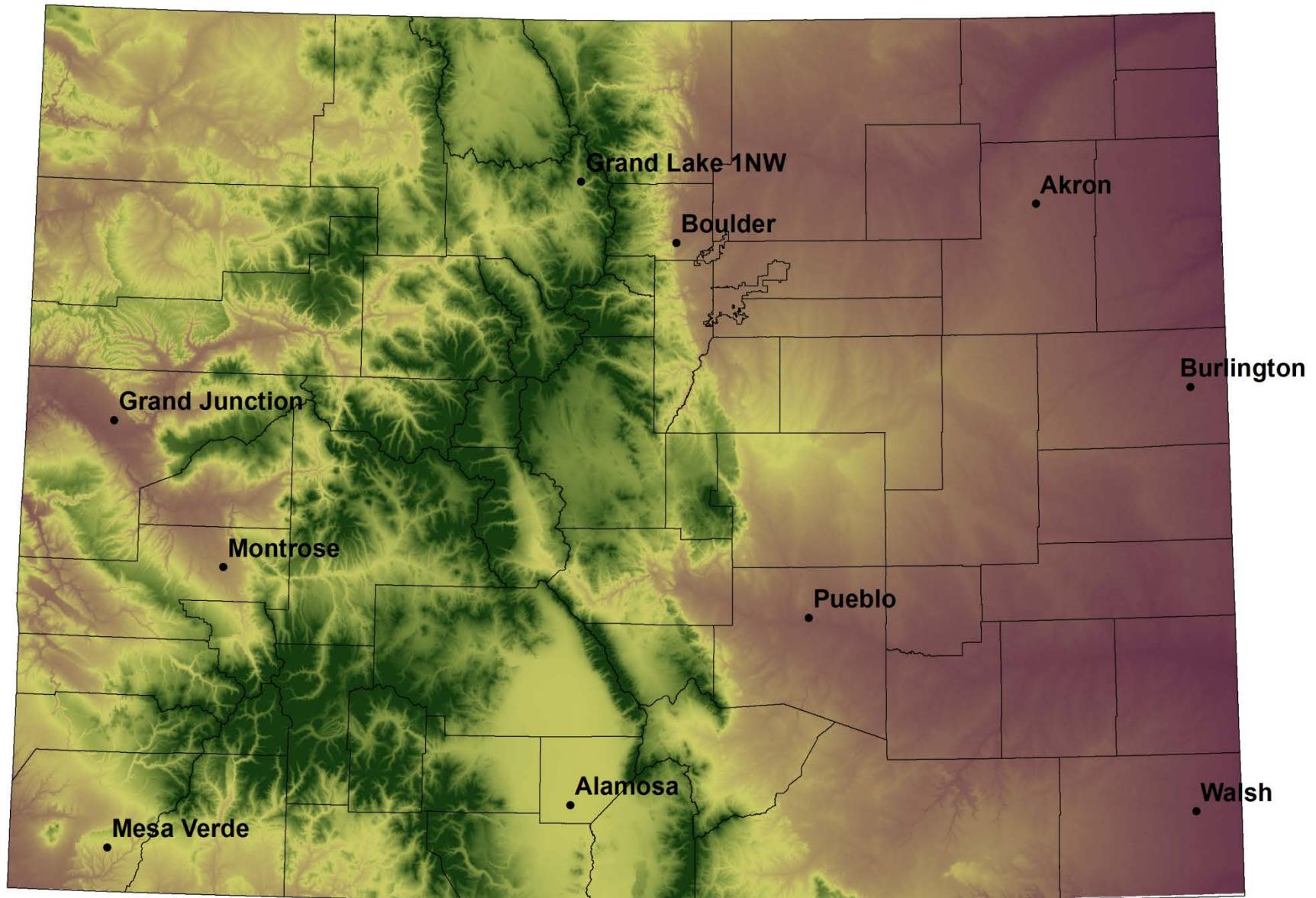
Zero Trace 0.01 - 0.45" 0.46 - 0.90" 0.91 - 2.25" 2.26 - 5.40" 5.41 - 8.10" 8.11 - 9.00"



# Climate divisions defined by Dr. Klaus Wolter of NOAA's Climate Diagnostic Center in Boulder, CO

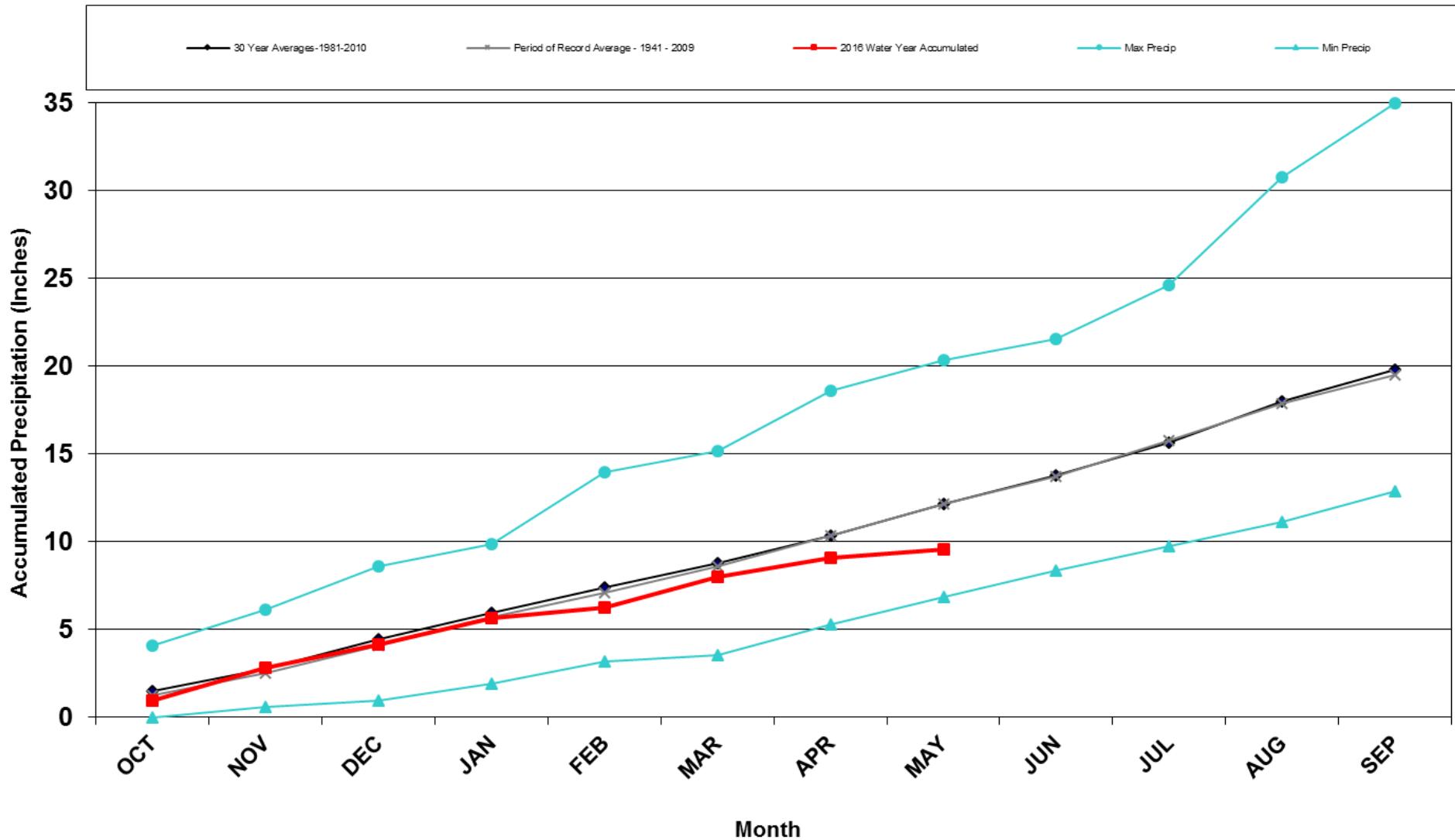


# NWS Cooperative Stations for WATF



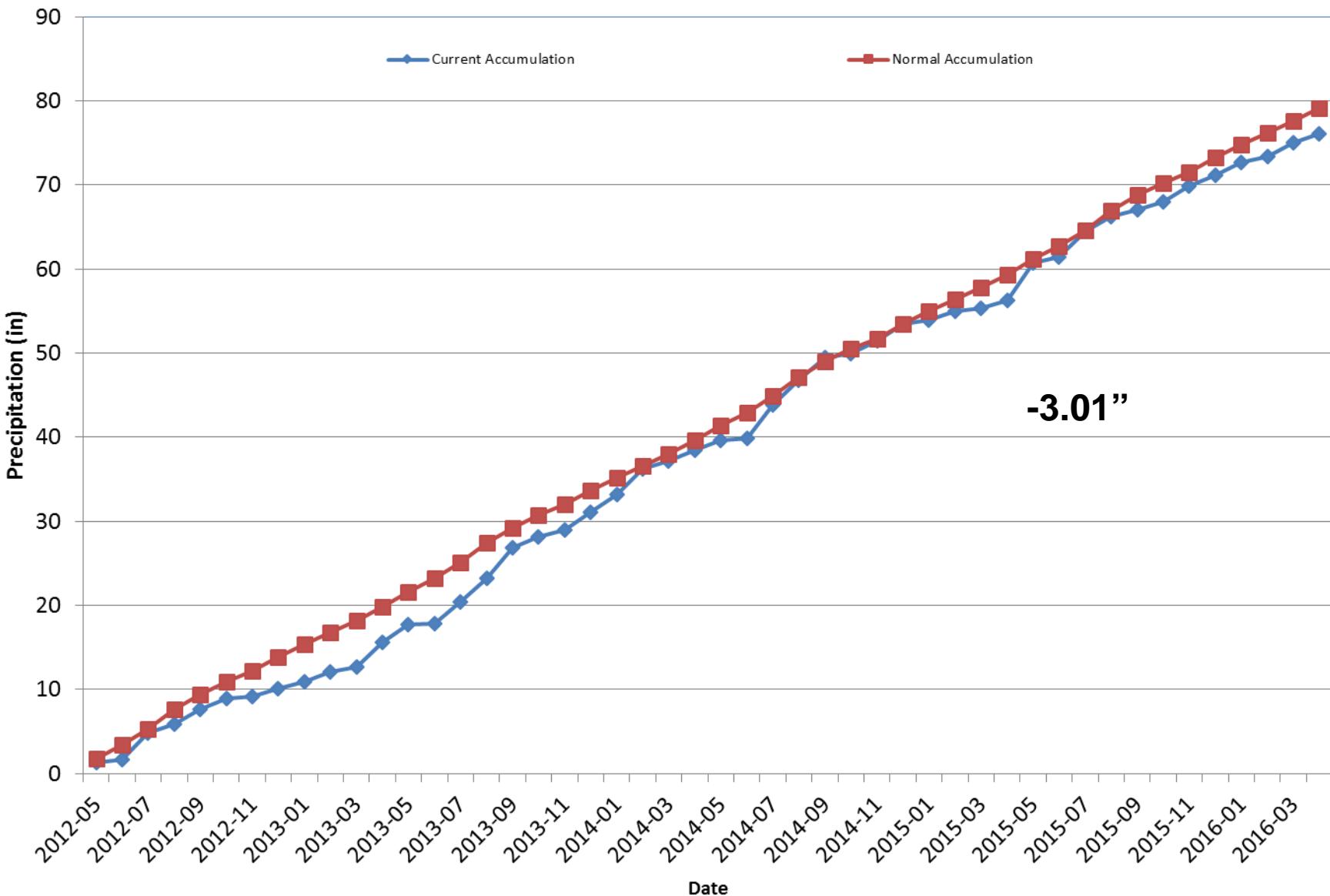
# Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

## Grand Lake 1 NW 2016 Water Year



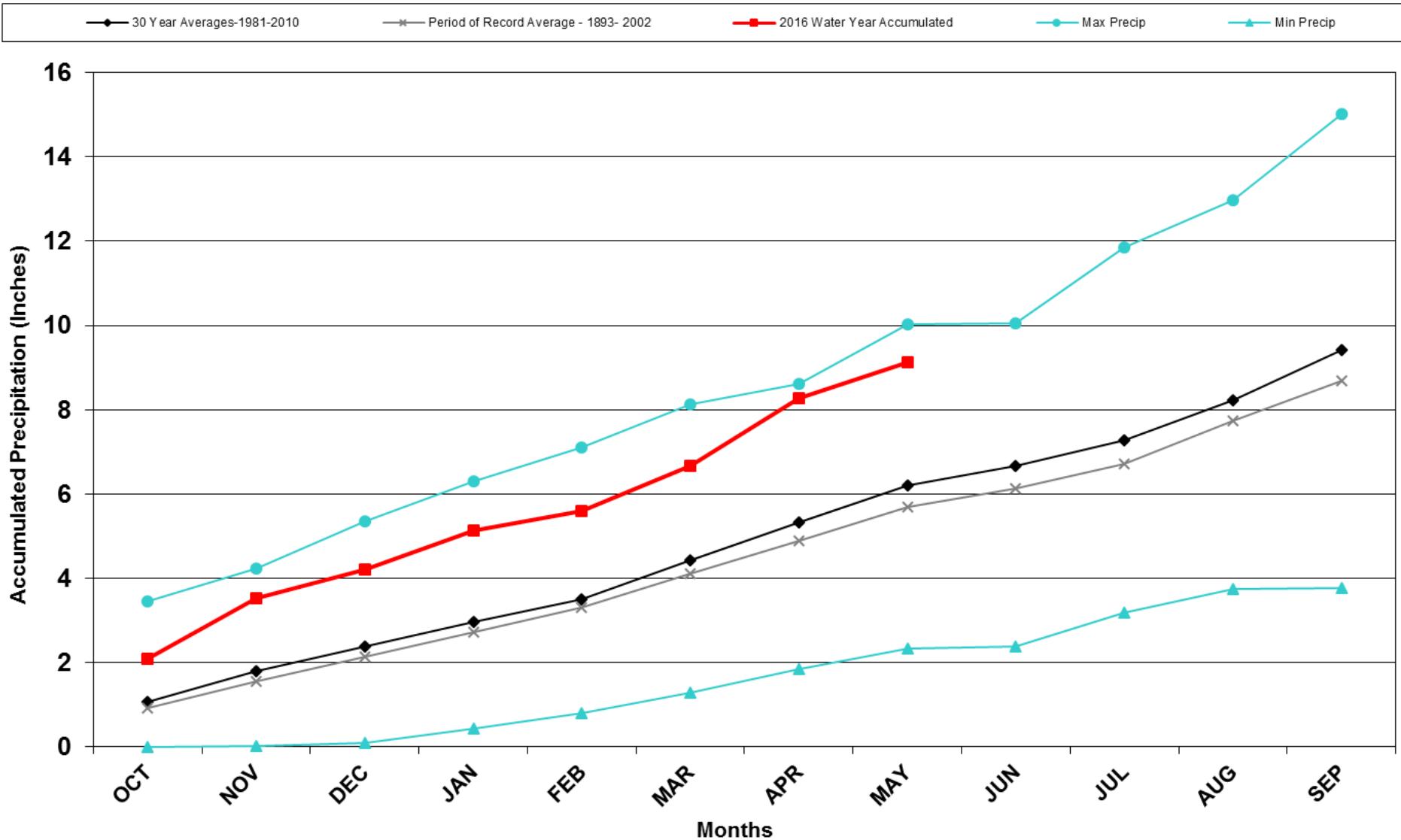
# Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

## Grand Lake 1NW Precipitation Accumulation



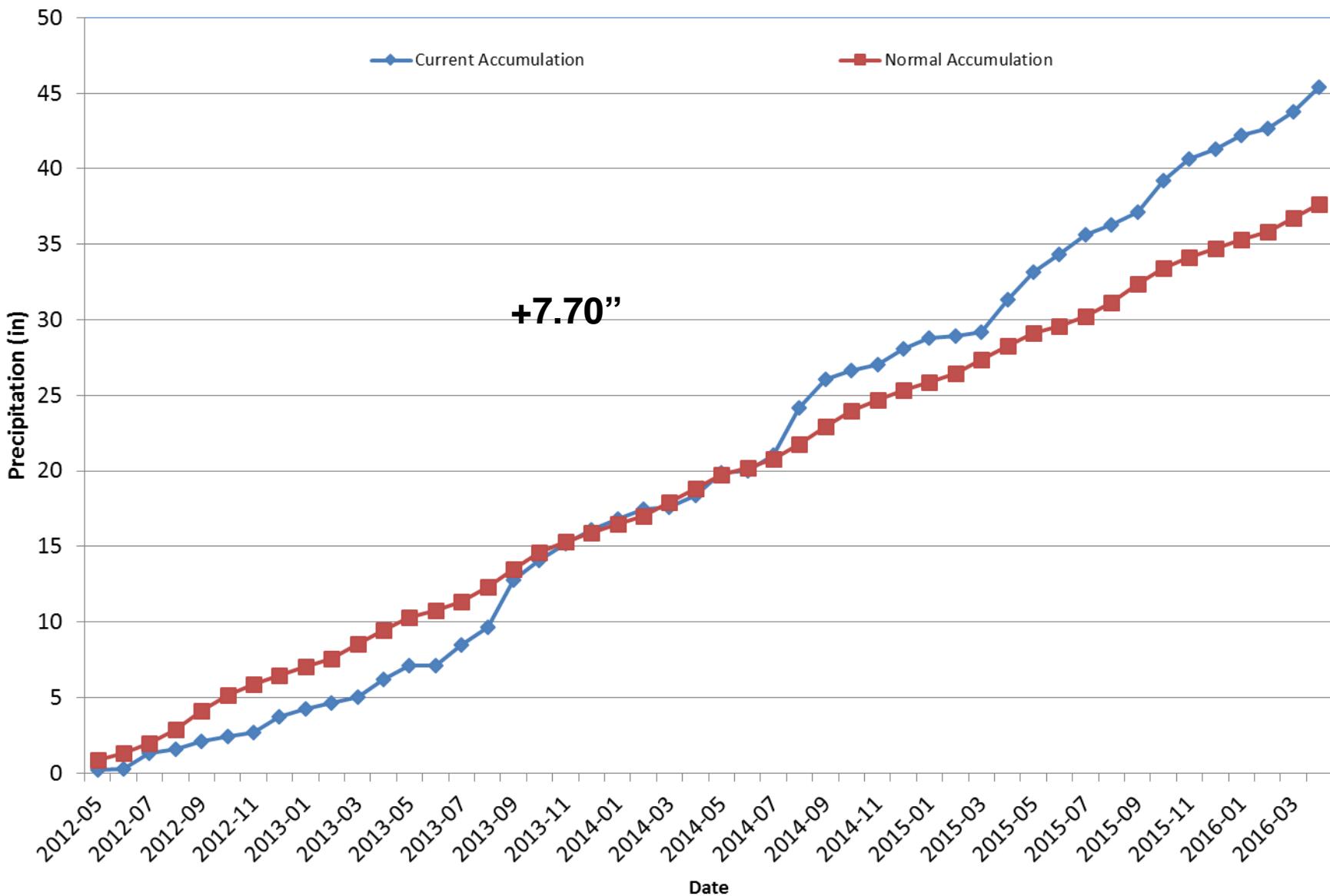
# Division 2 – Grand Junction

## Grand Junction WSFO 2016 Water Year



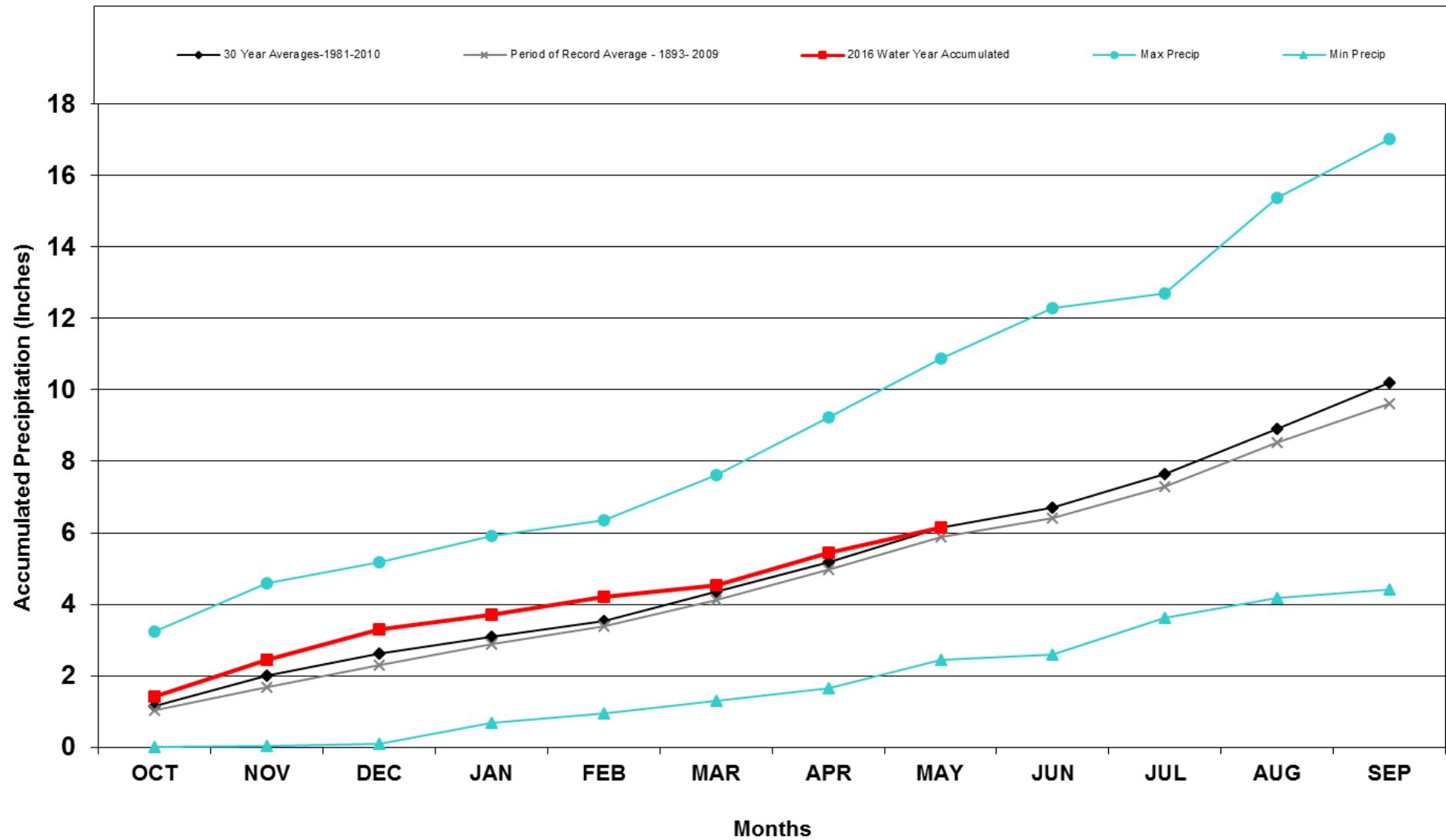
# Division 2 – Grand Junction

## Grand Junction Precipitation Accumulation



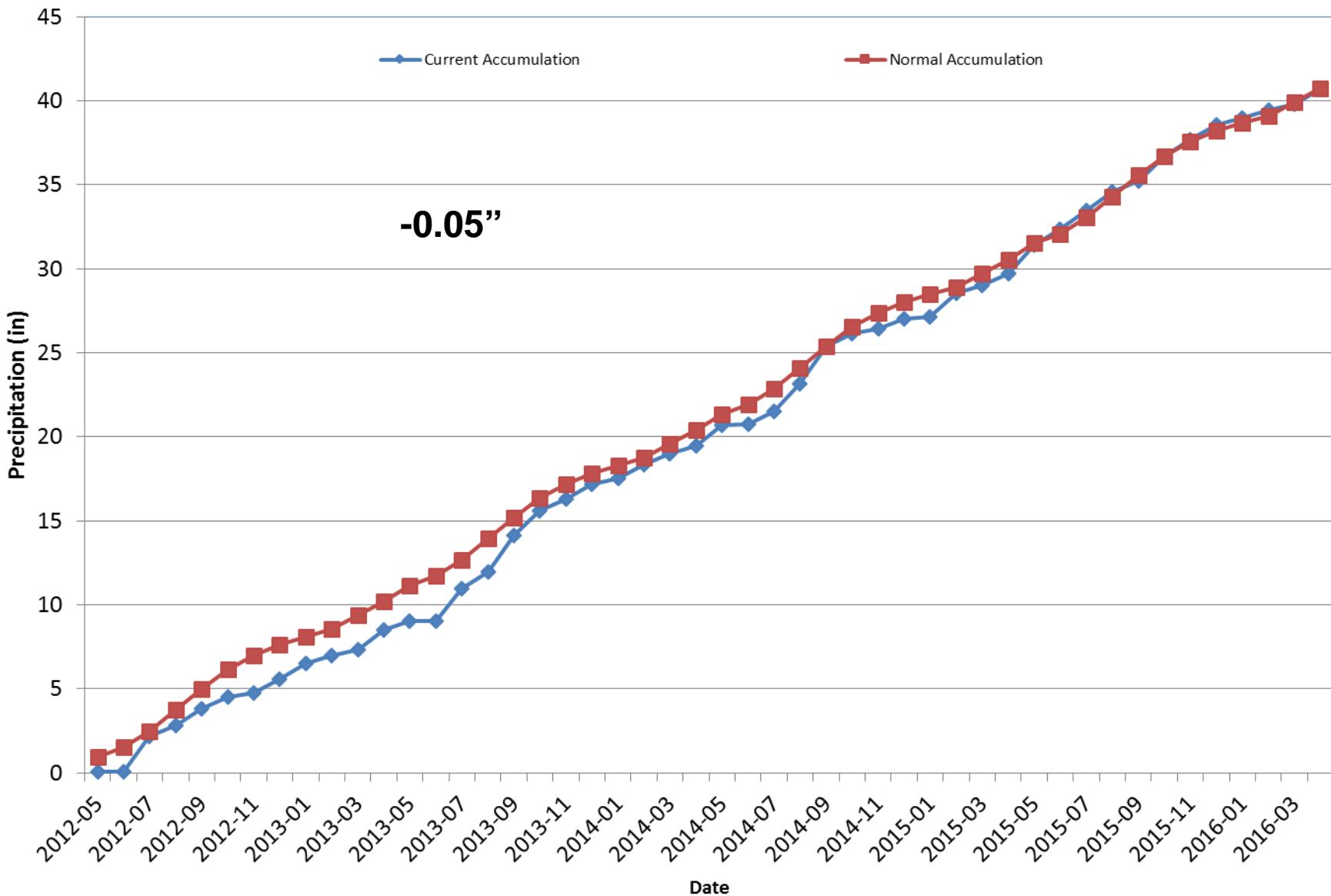
# Division 3 – Montrose

## Montrose #2 2016 Water Year



# Division 3 – Montrose

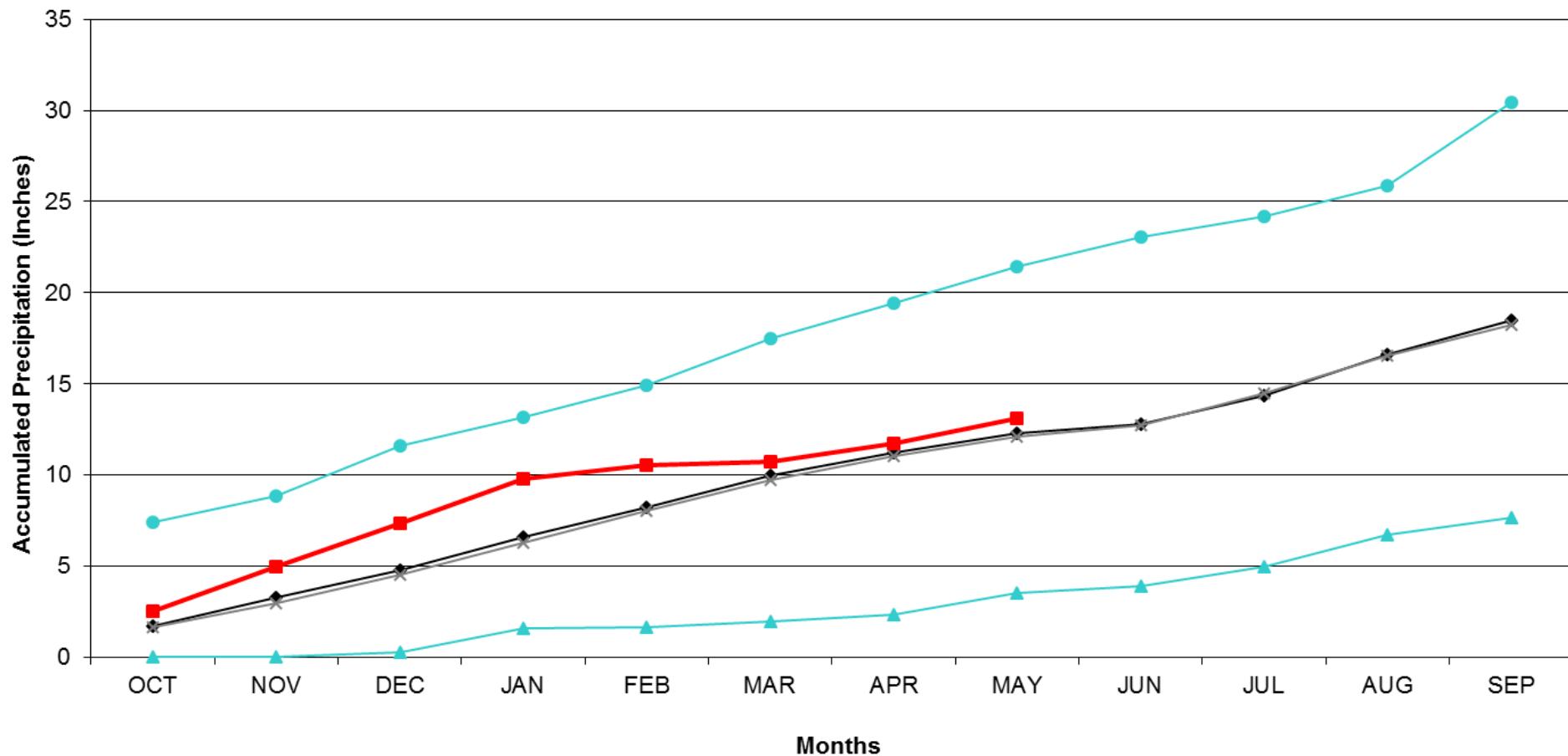
## Montrose #2 Precipitation Accumulation



# Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

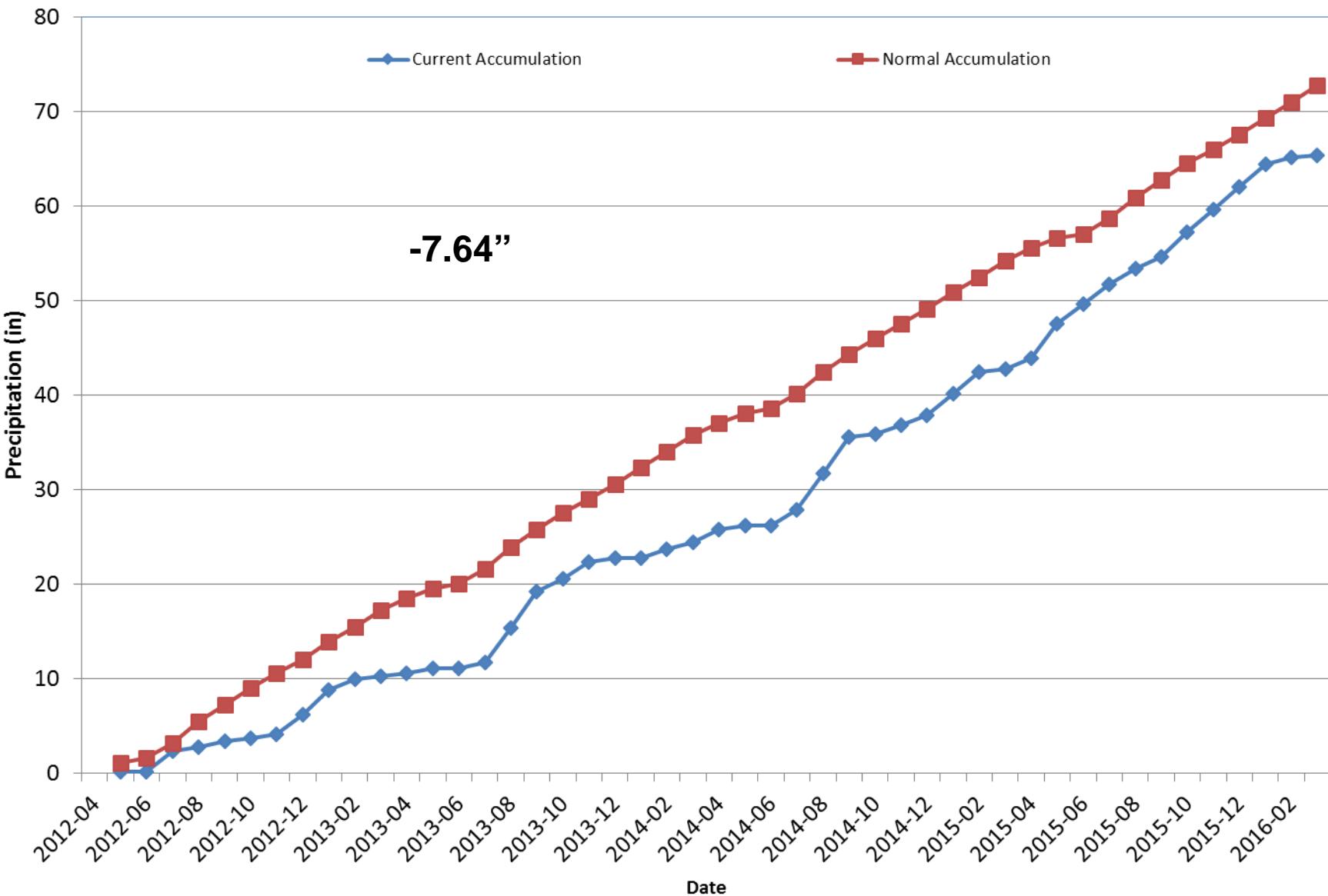
## Mesa Verde NP 2016 Water Year

—●— 30 Year Averages-1981-2010    —★— Period of Record Average - 1893- 2009    —■— 2016 Water Year Accumulated    —●— Max Precip    —▲— Min Precip



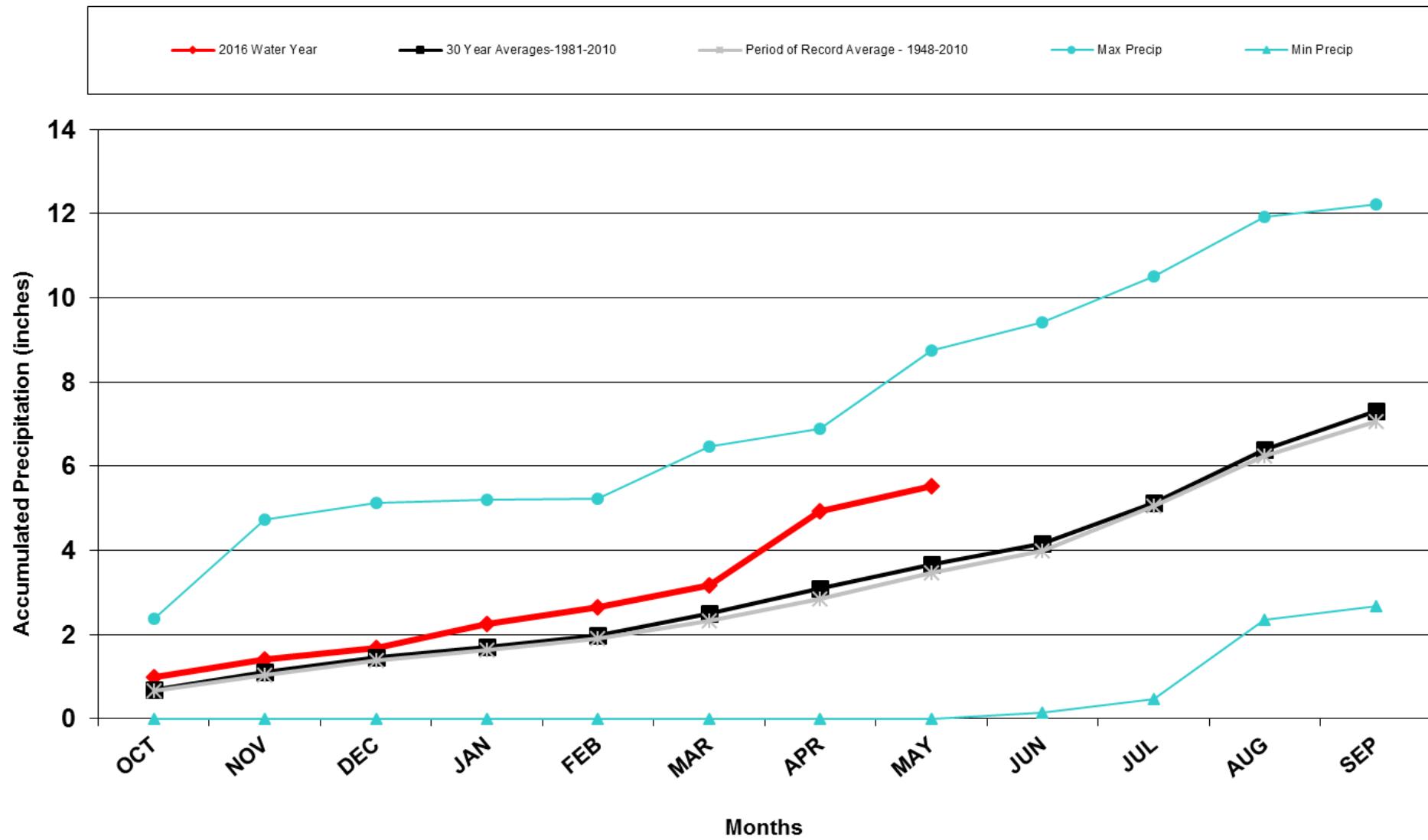
# Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

## Mesa Verde NP Precipitation Accumulation



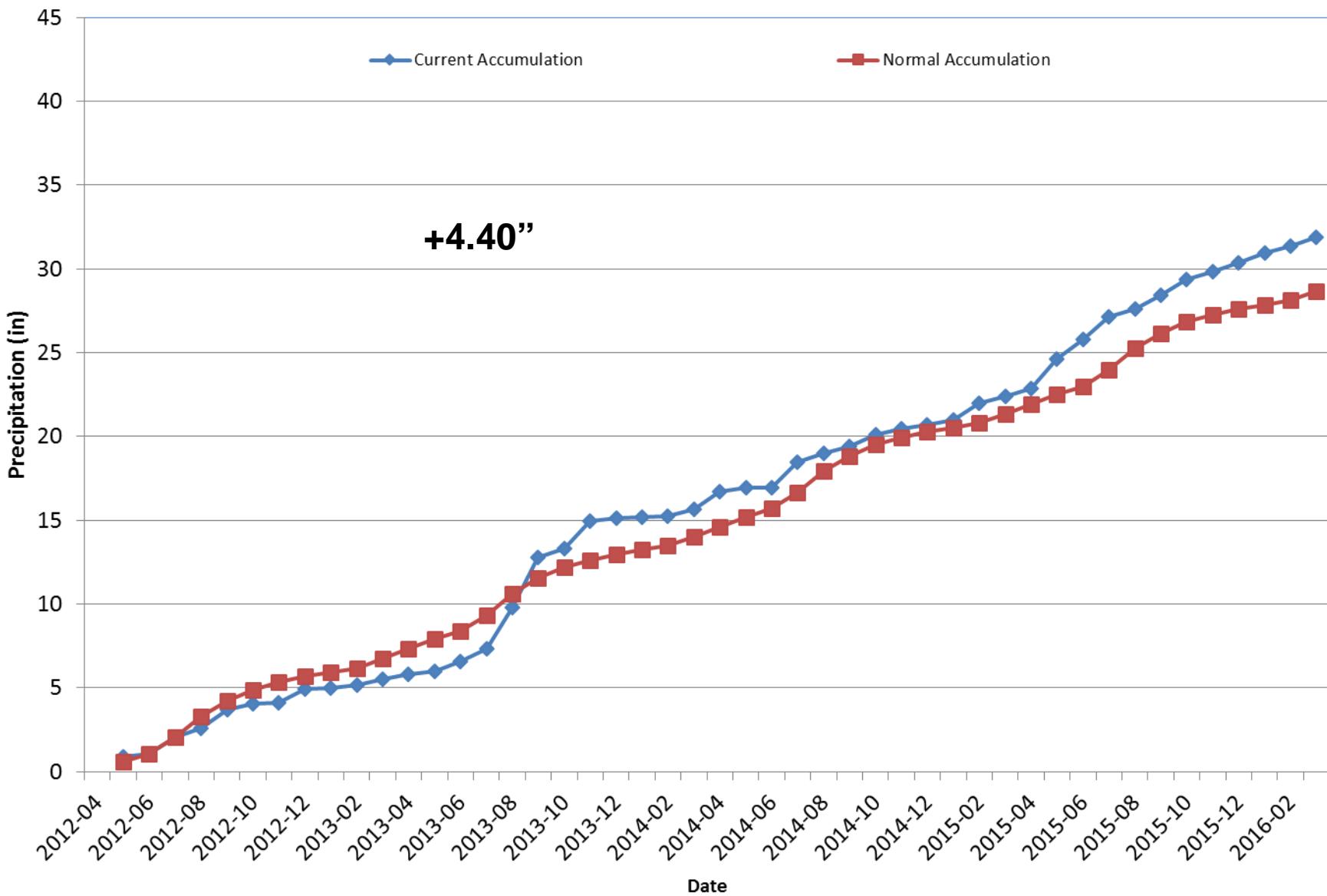
# Division 4 – Alamosa

## Alamosa WSO 2016 Water Year



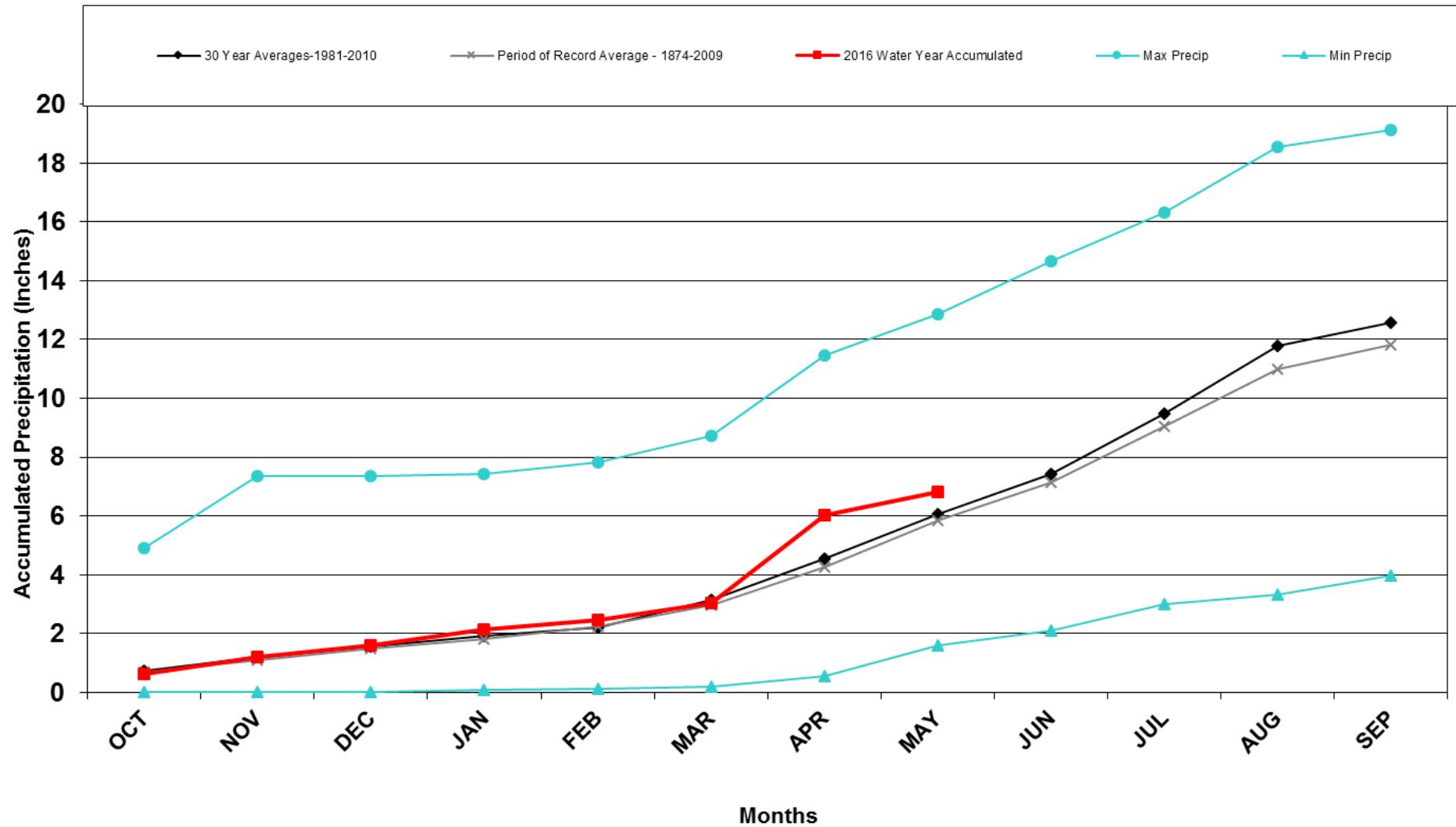
# Division 4 – Alamosa

## Alamosa WSO Precipitation Accumulation



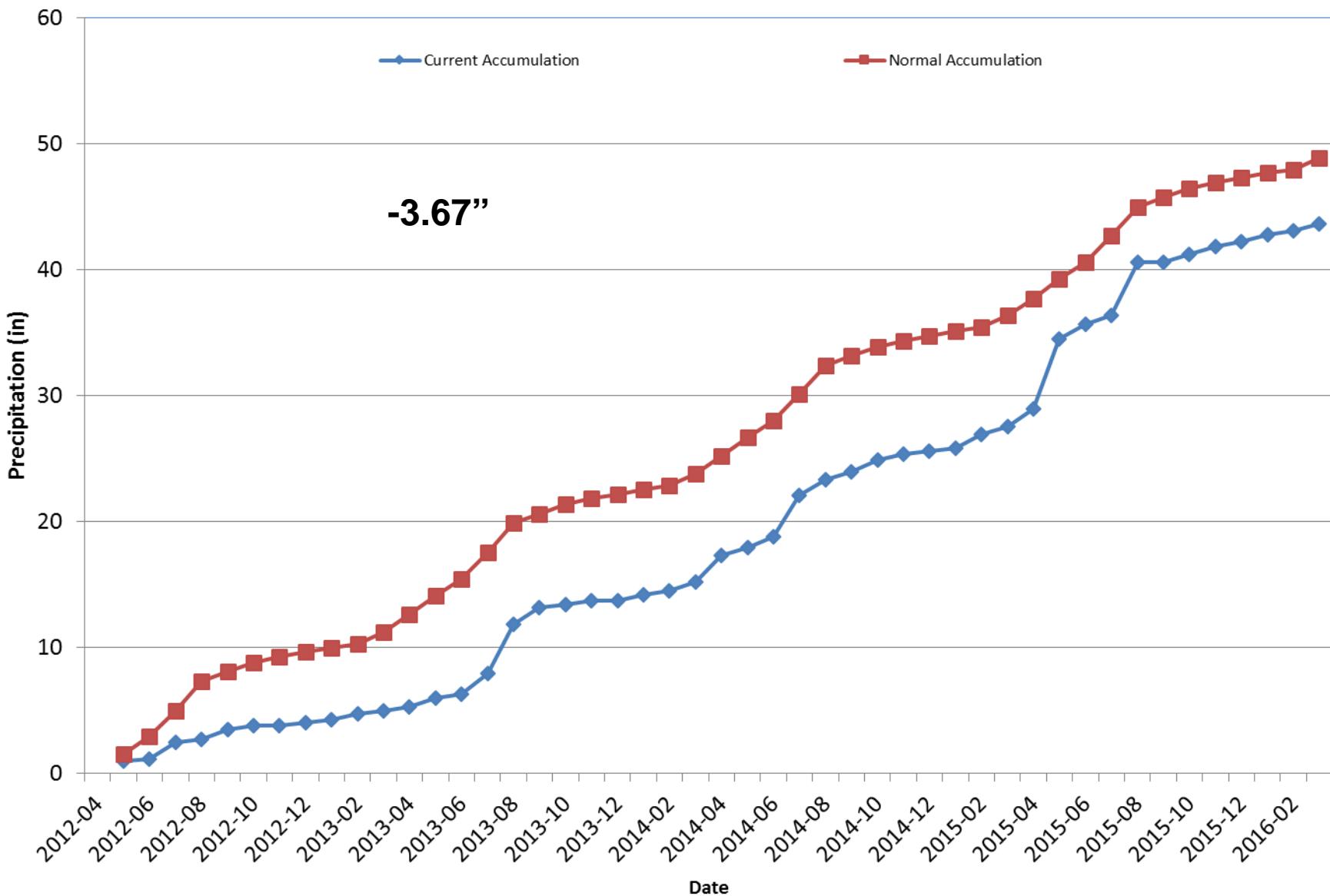
# Division 5 – Pueblo

## Pueblo WSO 2016 Water Year



# Division 5 – Pueblo

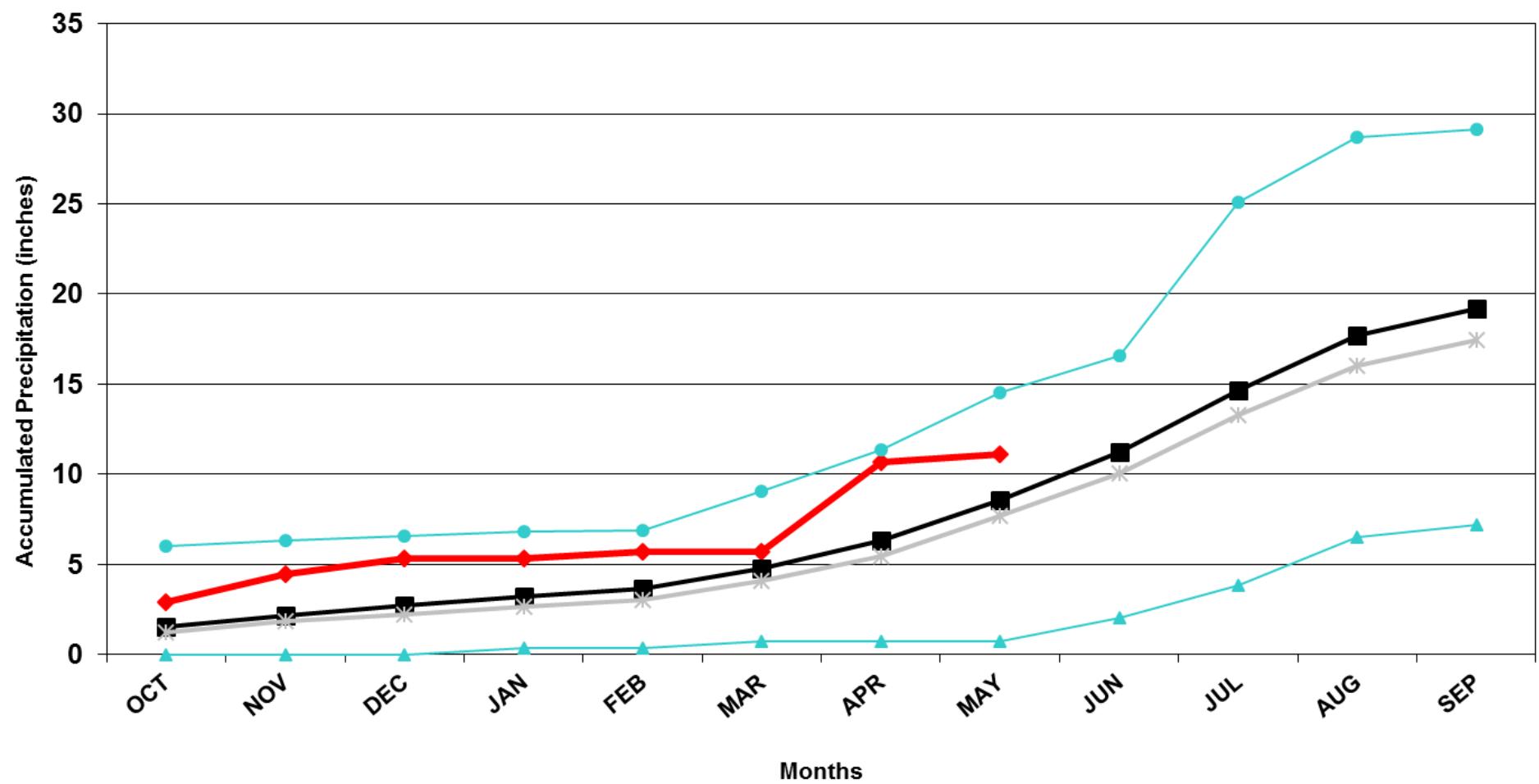
Pueblo Memorial AP  
Precipitation Accumulation



# Division 6 - Walsh

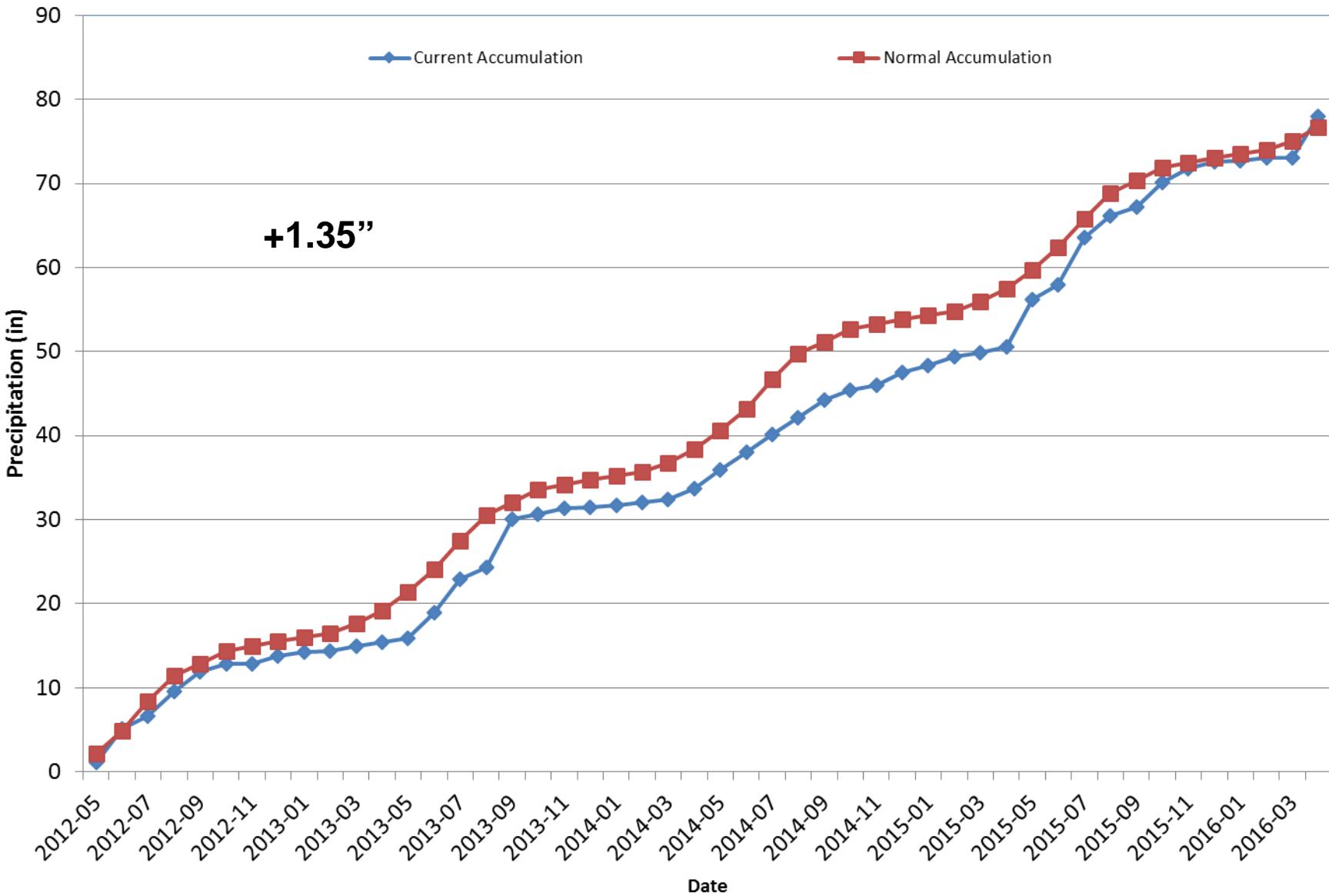
## Walsh 2016 Water Year

—●— 2016 Water Year    —■— 30 Year Averages-1981-2010    —— 1968-2010    ● Max Precip    ▲ Min Precip



# Division 6 - Walsh

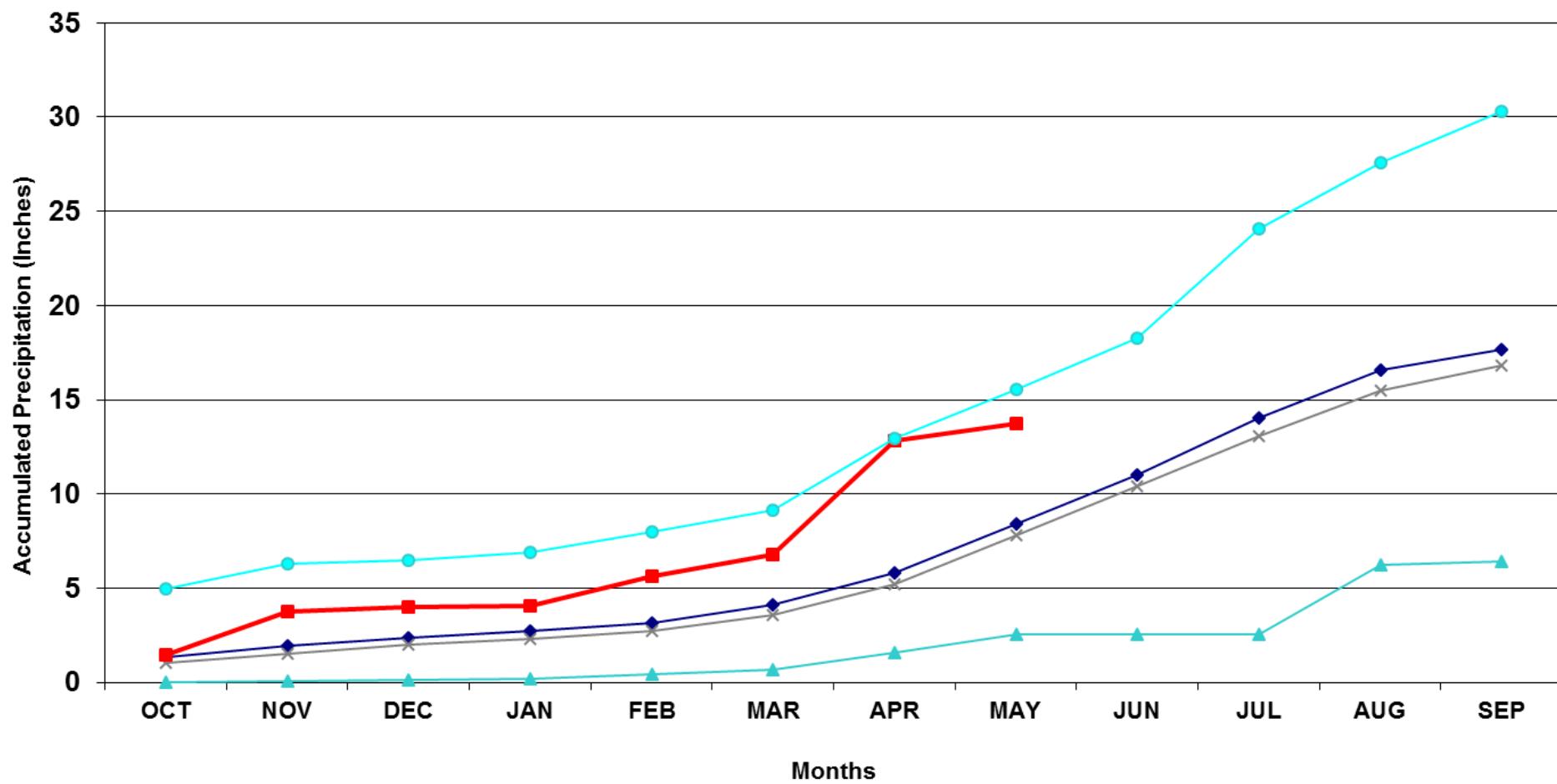
## Walsh 1W Precipitation Accumulation



# Division 6 - Burlington

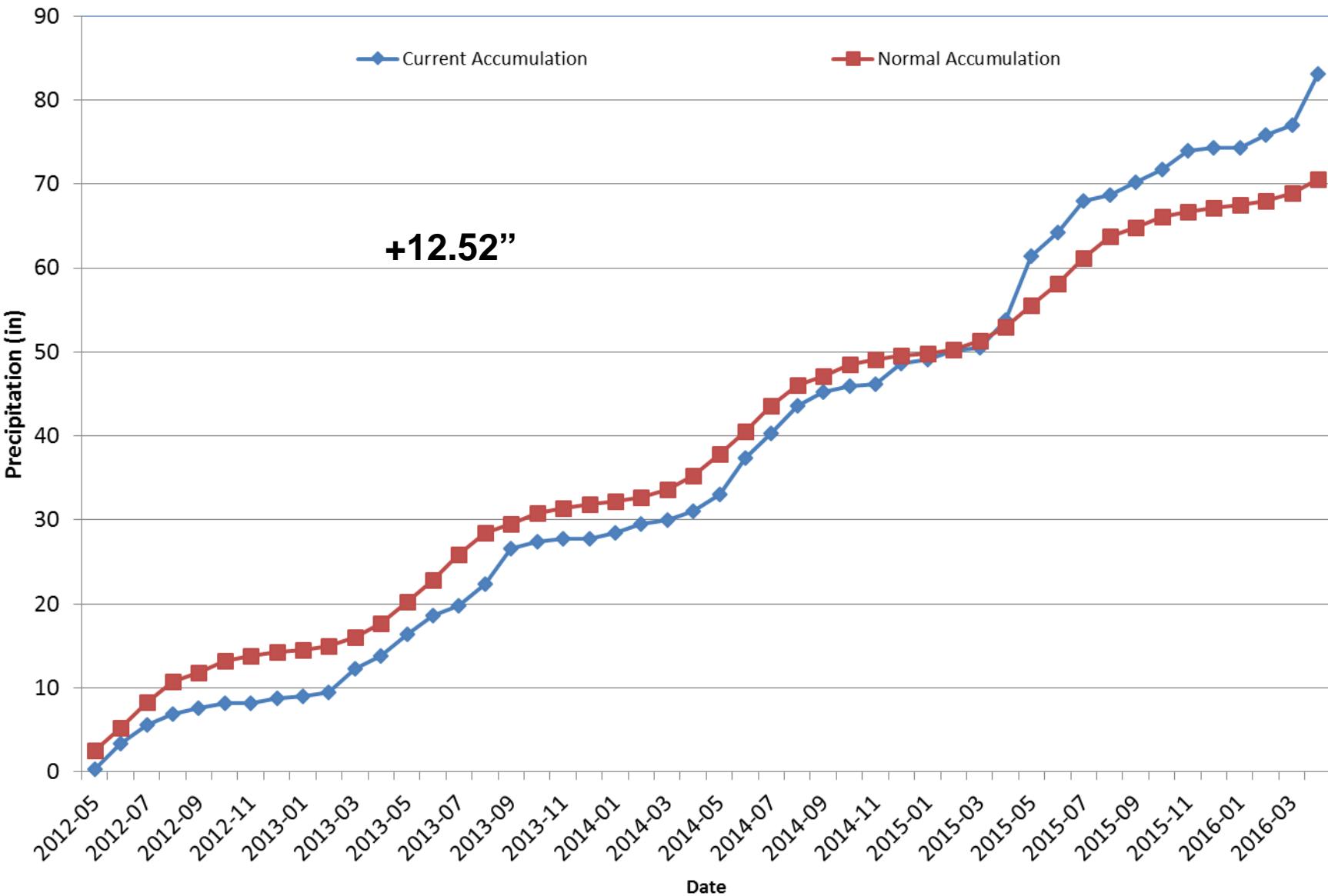
## Burlington 2016 Water Year

—●— 30 Year Averages-1981-2010      —×— Period of Record Average - 1892-2009      —■— 2016 Water Year      —●— Max Precip      —▲— Min Precip



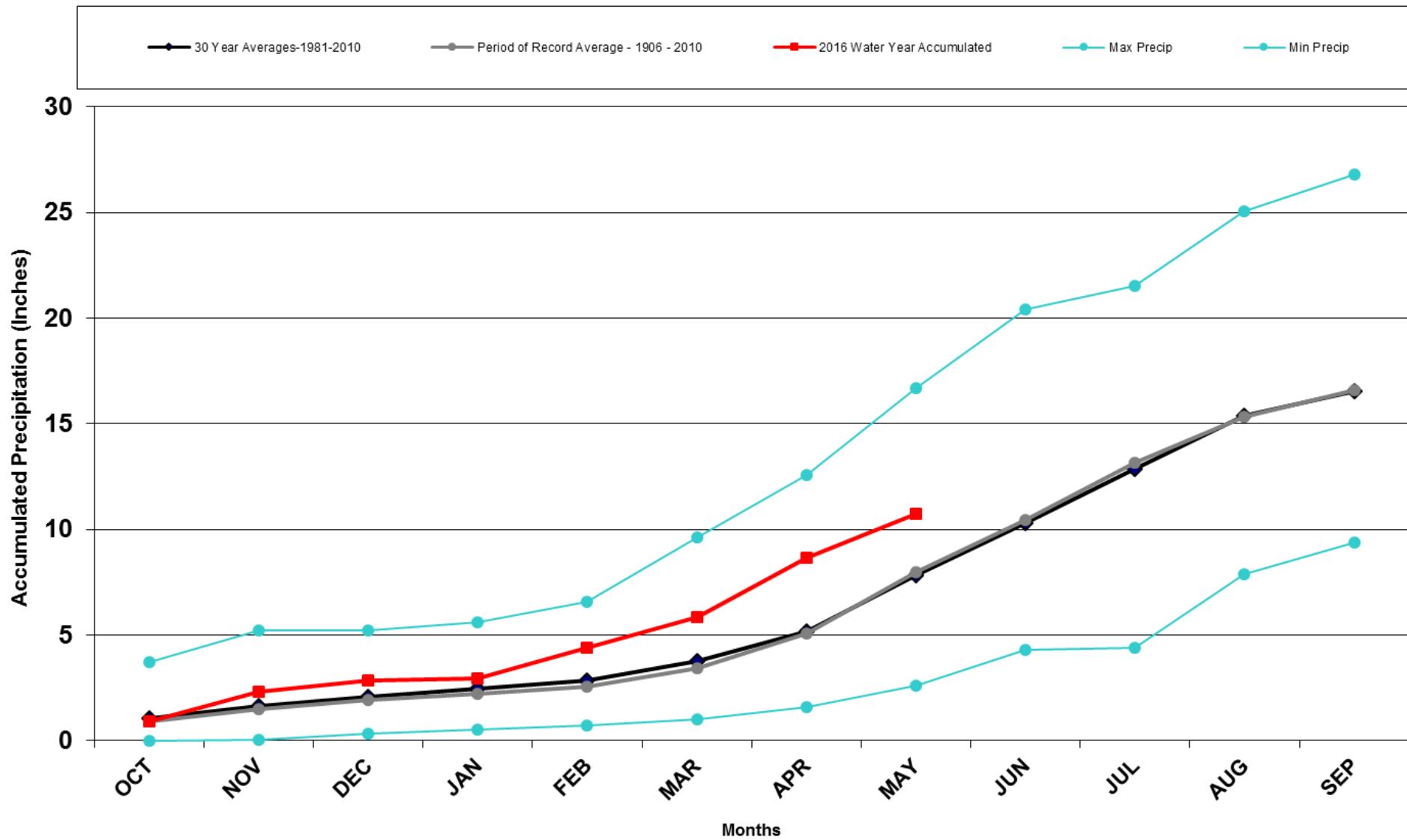
# Division 6 - Burlington

## Burlington, CO Precipitation Accumulation



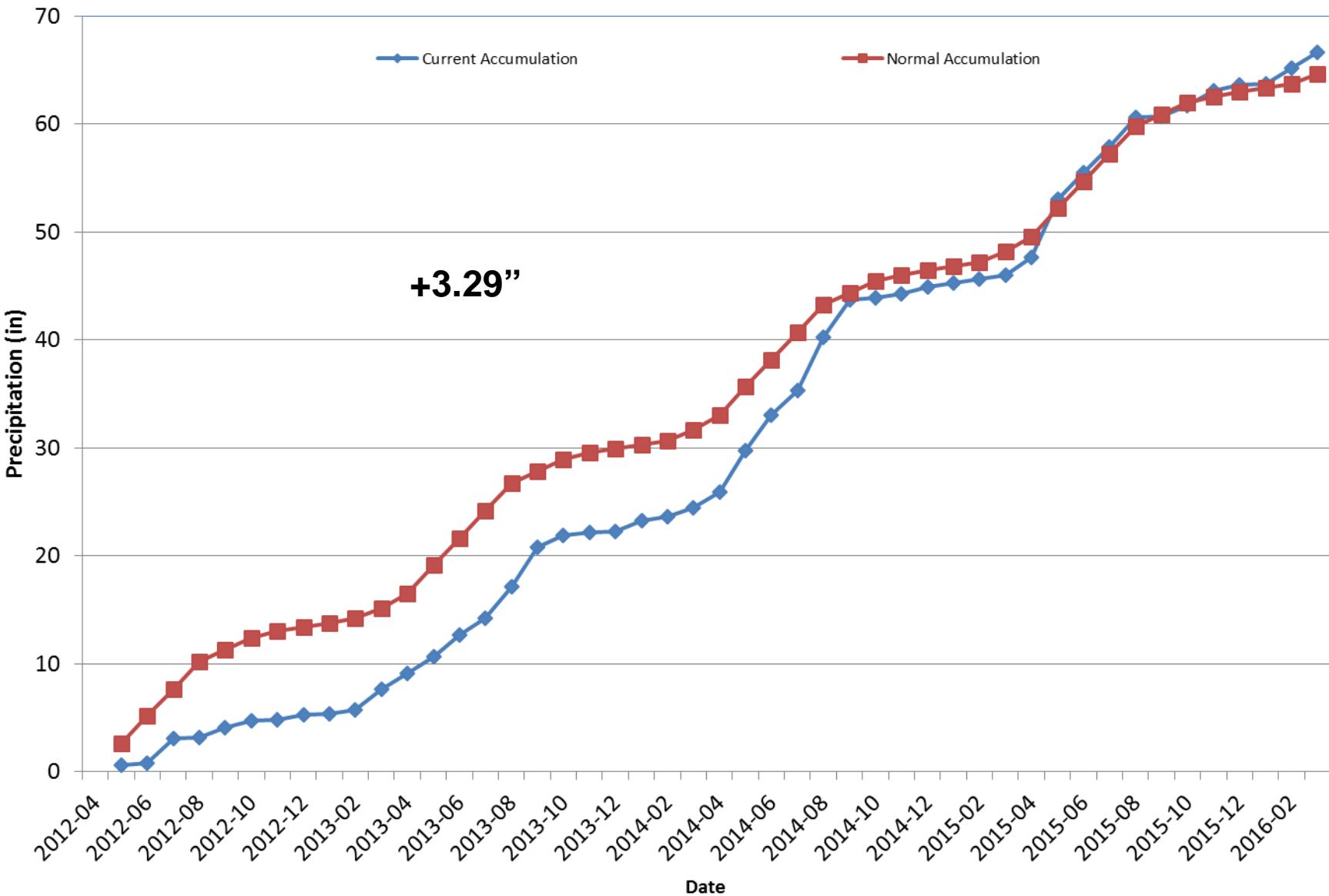
# Division 7 – Akron

## Akron 4E 2016 Water Year



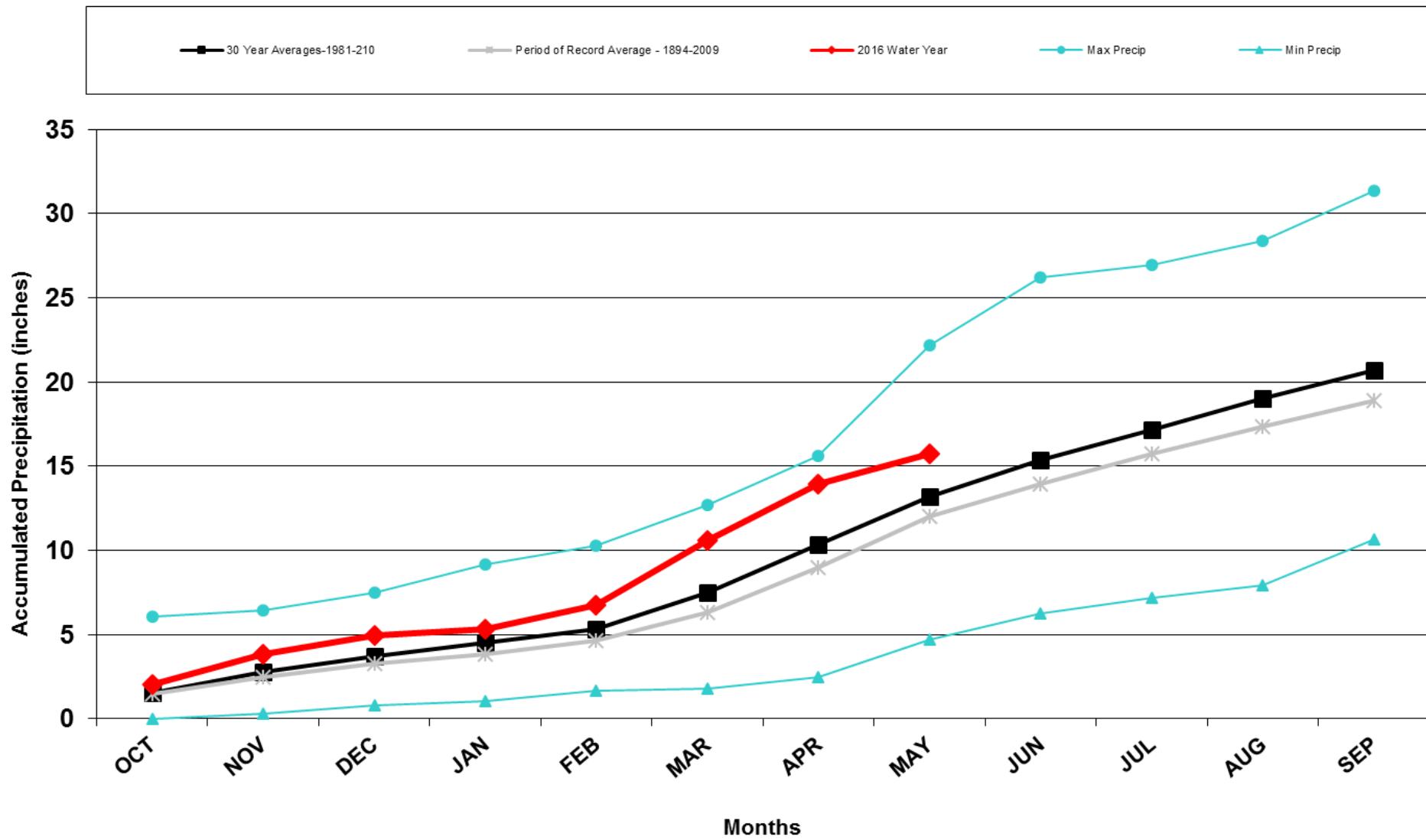
# Division 7 – Akron

## Akron 4E Precipitation Accumulation



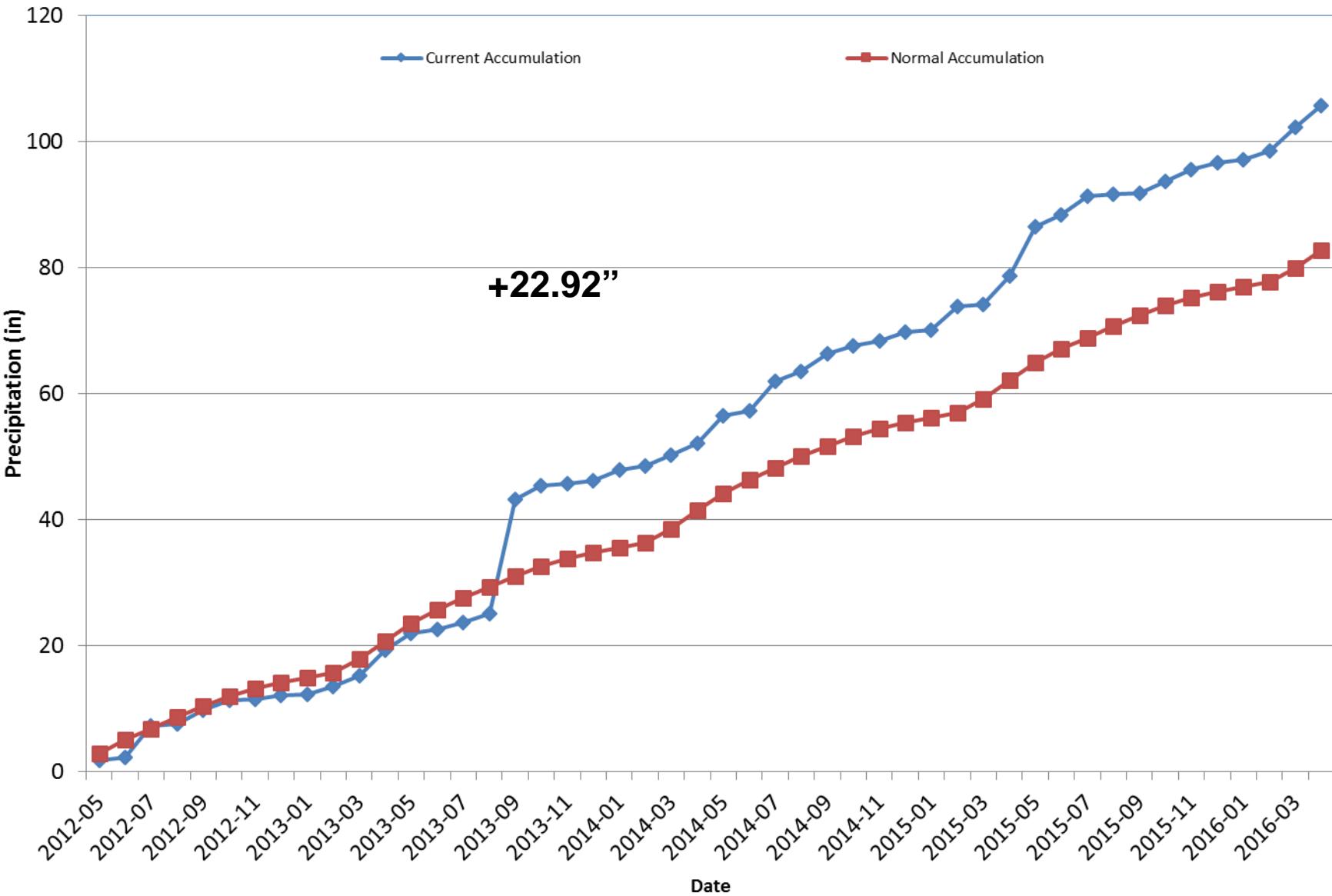
# Division 8 - Boulder

## Boulder 2016 Water Year



# Division 8 - Boulder

## Boulder Precipitation Accumulation

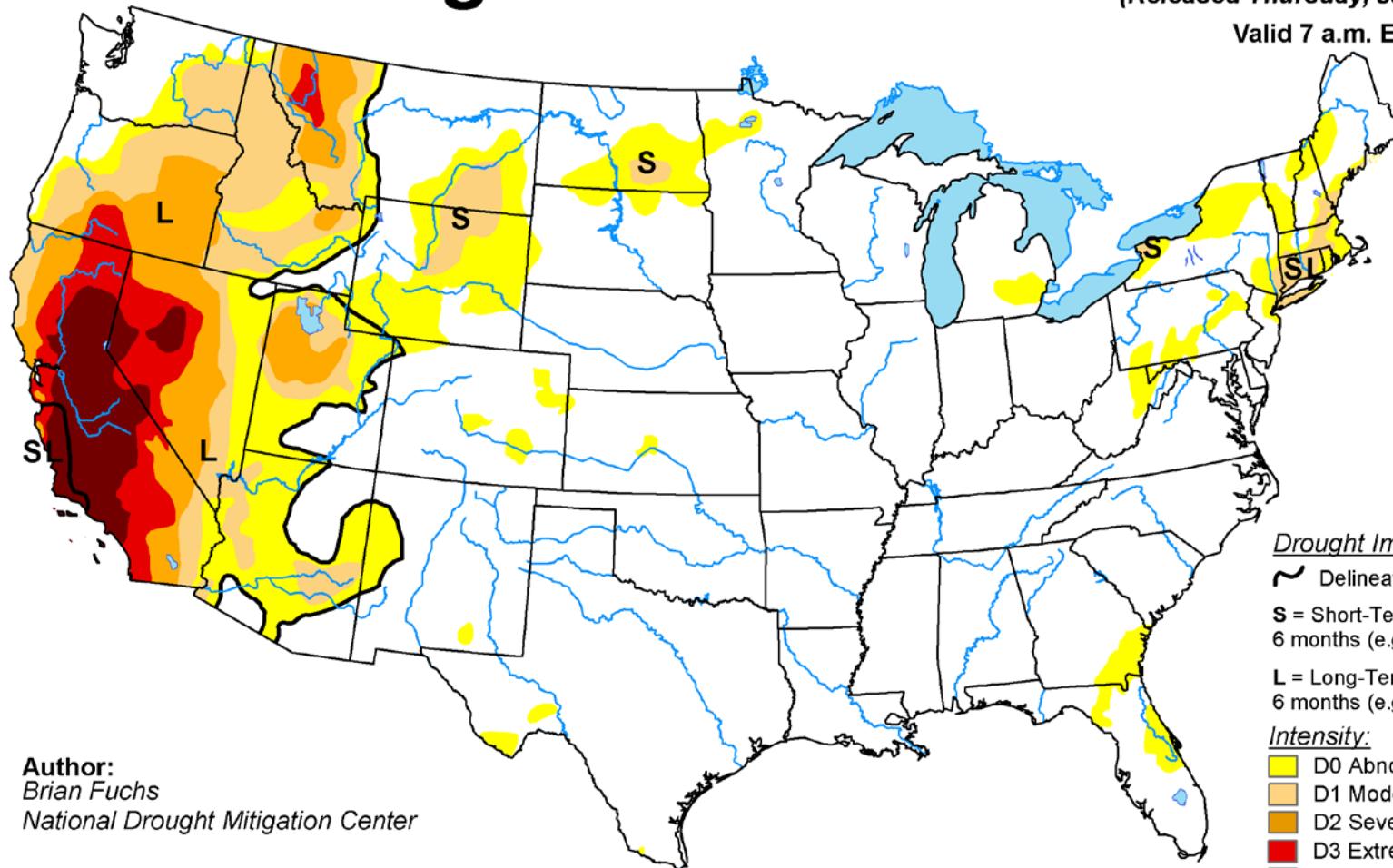


# U.S. Drought Monitor

January 12, 2016

(Released Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:  
Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center

#### Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

#### Intensity:

- Yellow = D0 Abnormally Dry
- Light Orange = D1 Moderate Drought
- Medium Orange = D2 Severe Drought
- Red = D3 Extreme Drought
- Dark Red = D4 Exceptional Drought

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



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

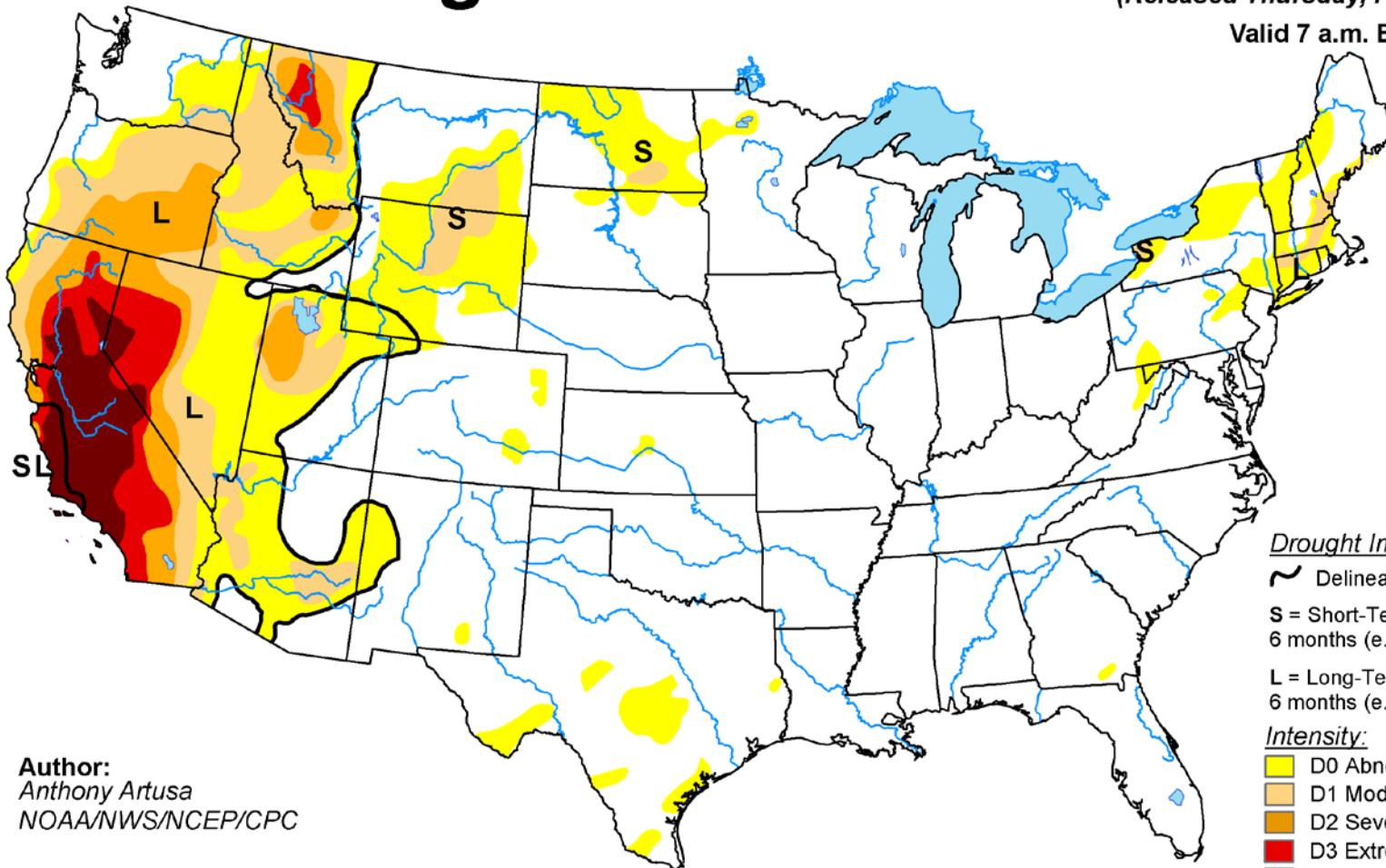


# U.S. Drought Monitor

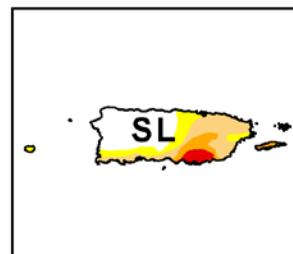
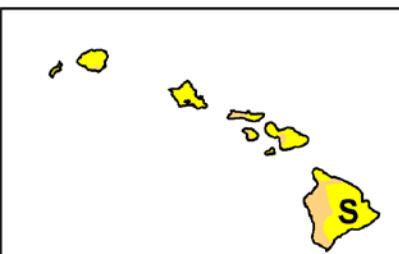
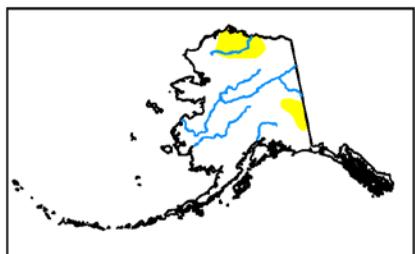
February 9, 2016

(Released Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:  
Anthony Artusa  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



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



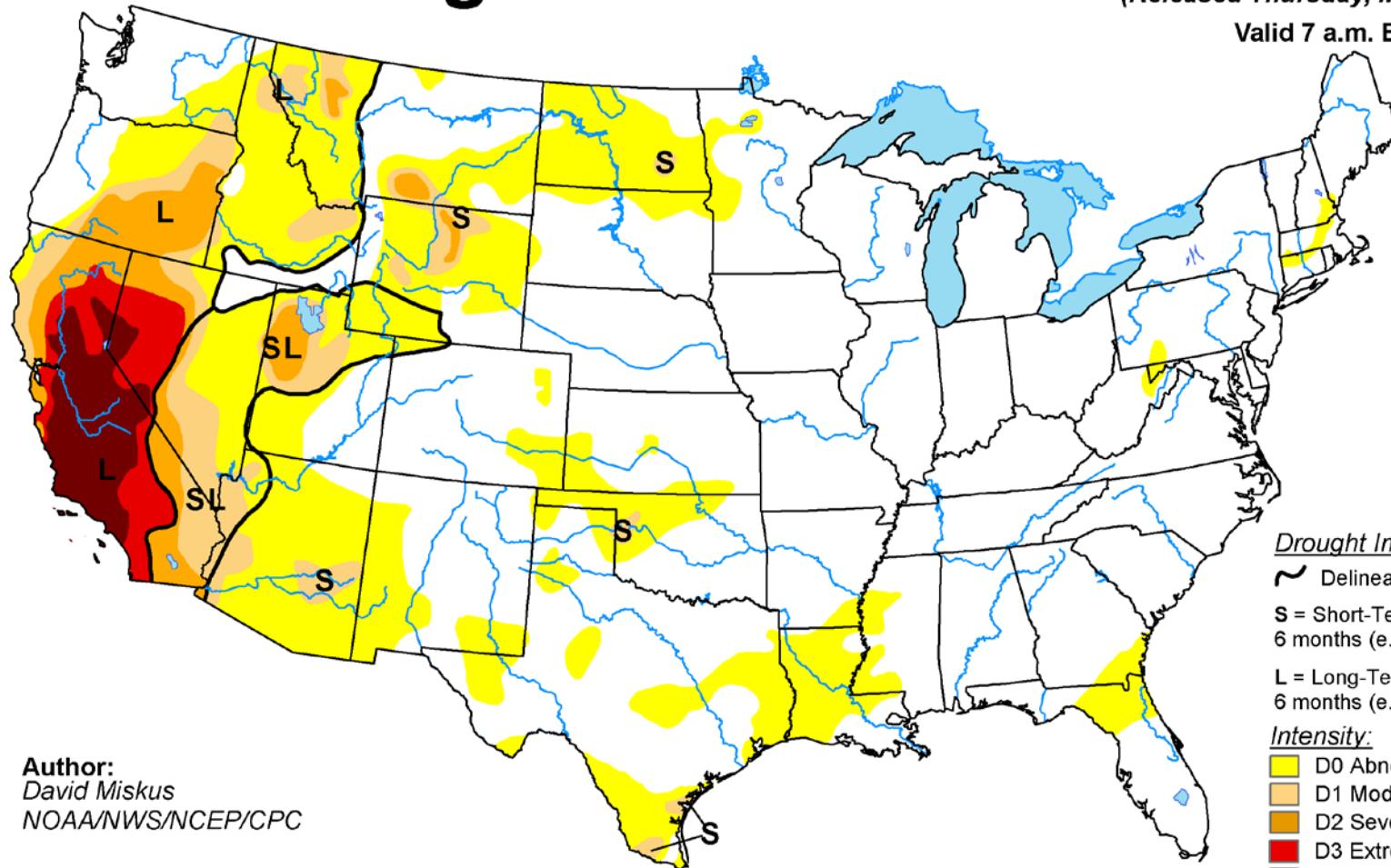
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# U.S. Drought Monitor

March 8, 2016

(Released Thursday, Mar. 10, 2016)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:  
David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

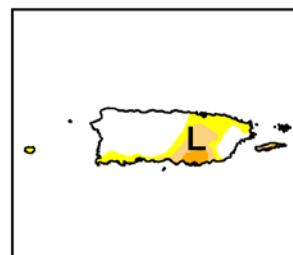
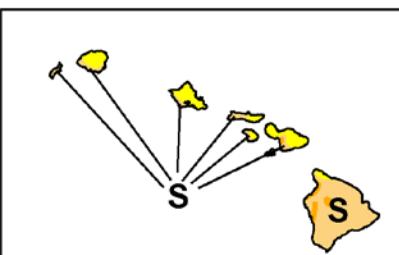
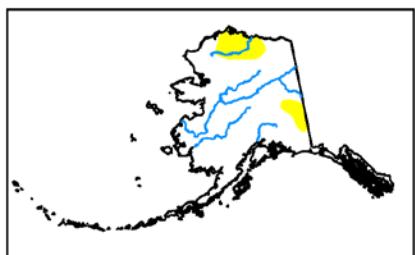
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#### Intensity:

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

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



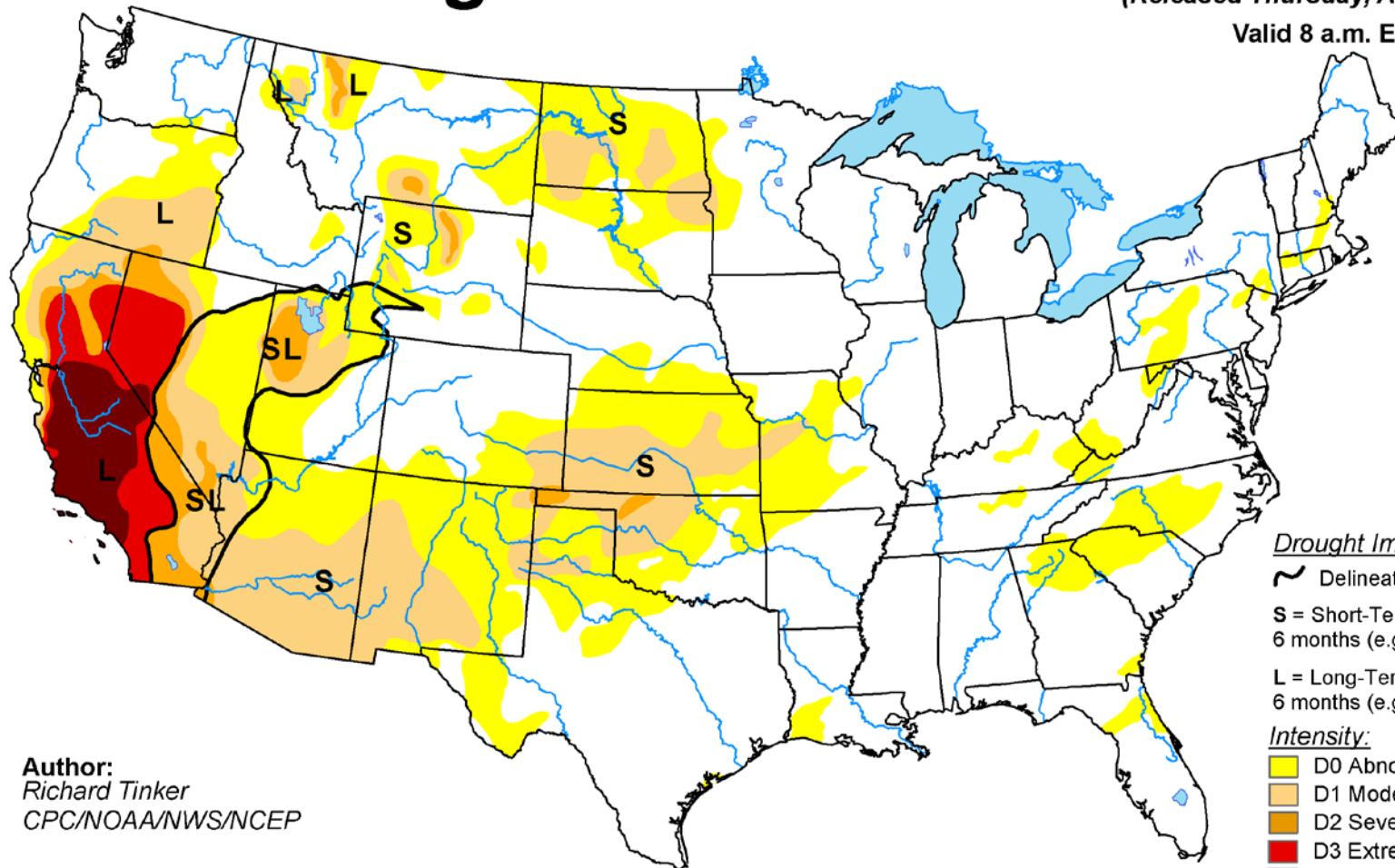
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# U.S. Drought Monitor

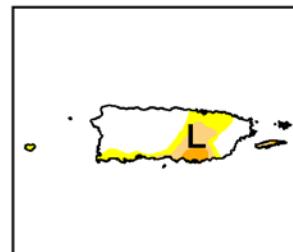
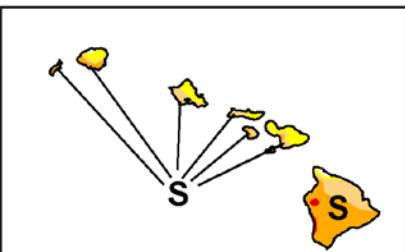
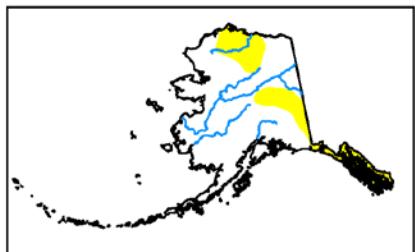
April 12, 2016

(Released Thursday, Apr. 14, 2016)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Author:**  
Richard Tinker  
CPC/N NOAA/NWS/NCEP



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



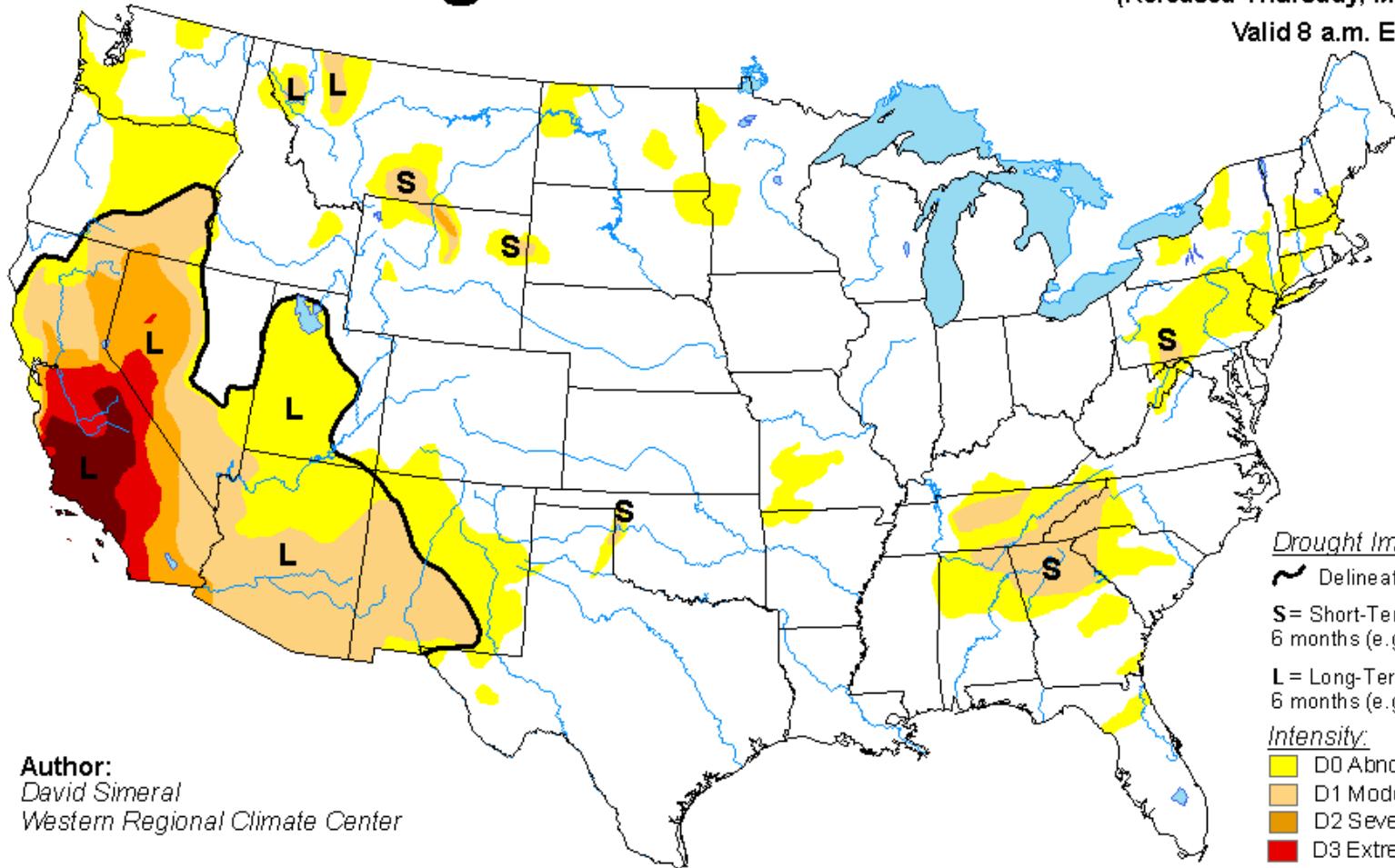
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# U.S. Drought Monitor

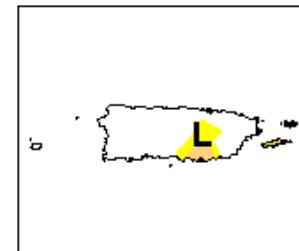
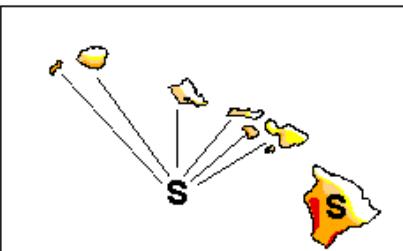
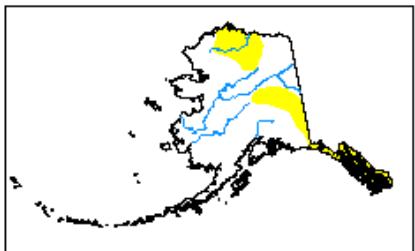
May 17, 2016

(Released Thursday, May 19, 2016)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
David Simmerl  
Western Regional Climate Center



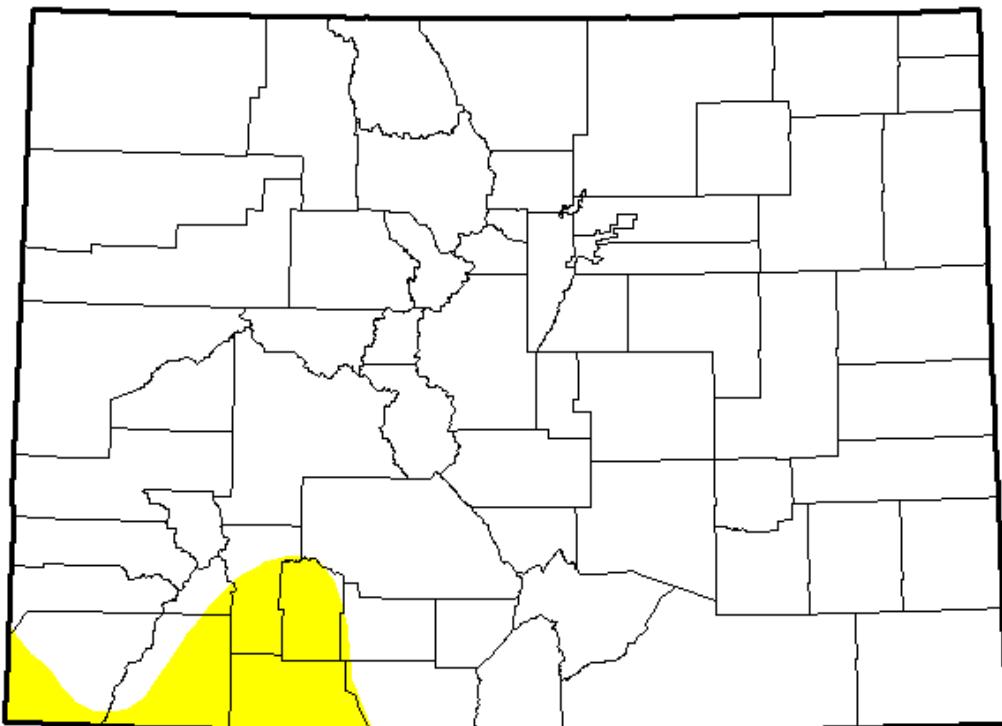
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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# *U.S. Drought Monitor*

## Colorado



May 17, 2016

(Released Thursday, May. 19, 2016)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	95.22	4.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week 5/10/2016</b>	95.22	4.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago 2/16/2016</b>	92.65	7.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year 12/29/2015</b>	90.02	9.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year 9/29/2015</b>	71.49	28.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago 5/19/2015</b>	43.28	56.72	39.64	6.46	0.00	0.00

### Intensity:

<span style="background-color: yellow; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span>	D0 Abnormally Dry	<span style="background-color: red; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span>	D3 Extreme Drought
<span style="background-color: lightbrown; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span>	D1 Moderate Drought	<span style="background-color: darkred; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span>	D4 Exceptional Drought
<span style="background-color: orange; display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px;"></span>	D2 Severe Drought		

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

### Author:

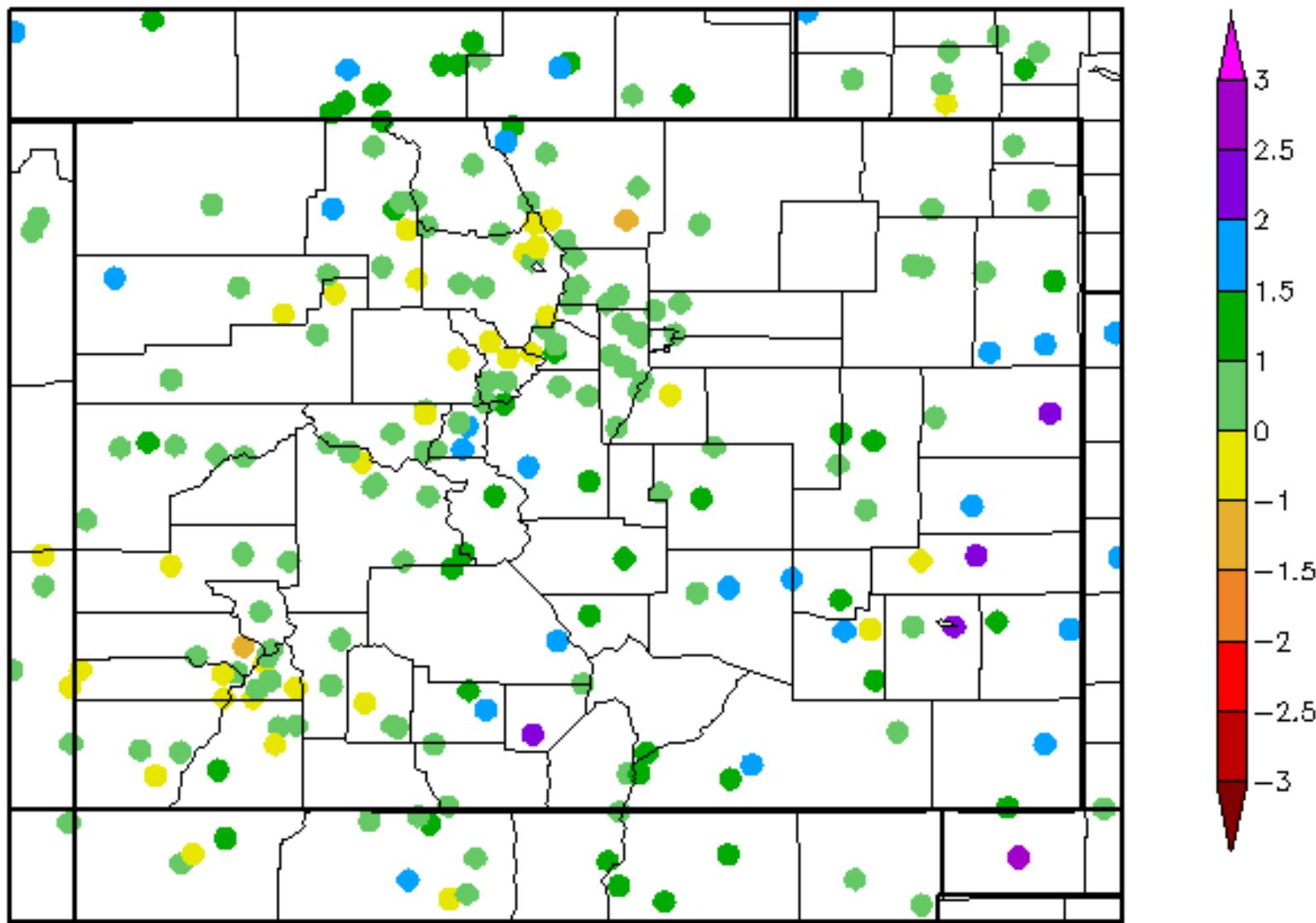
David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center



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

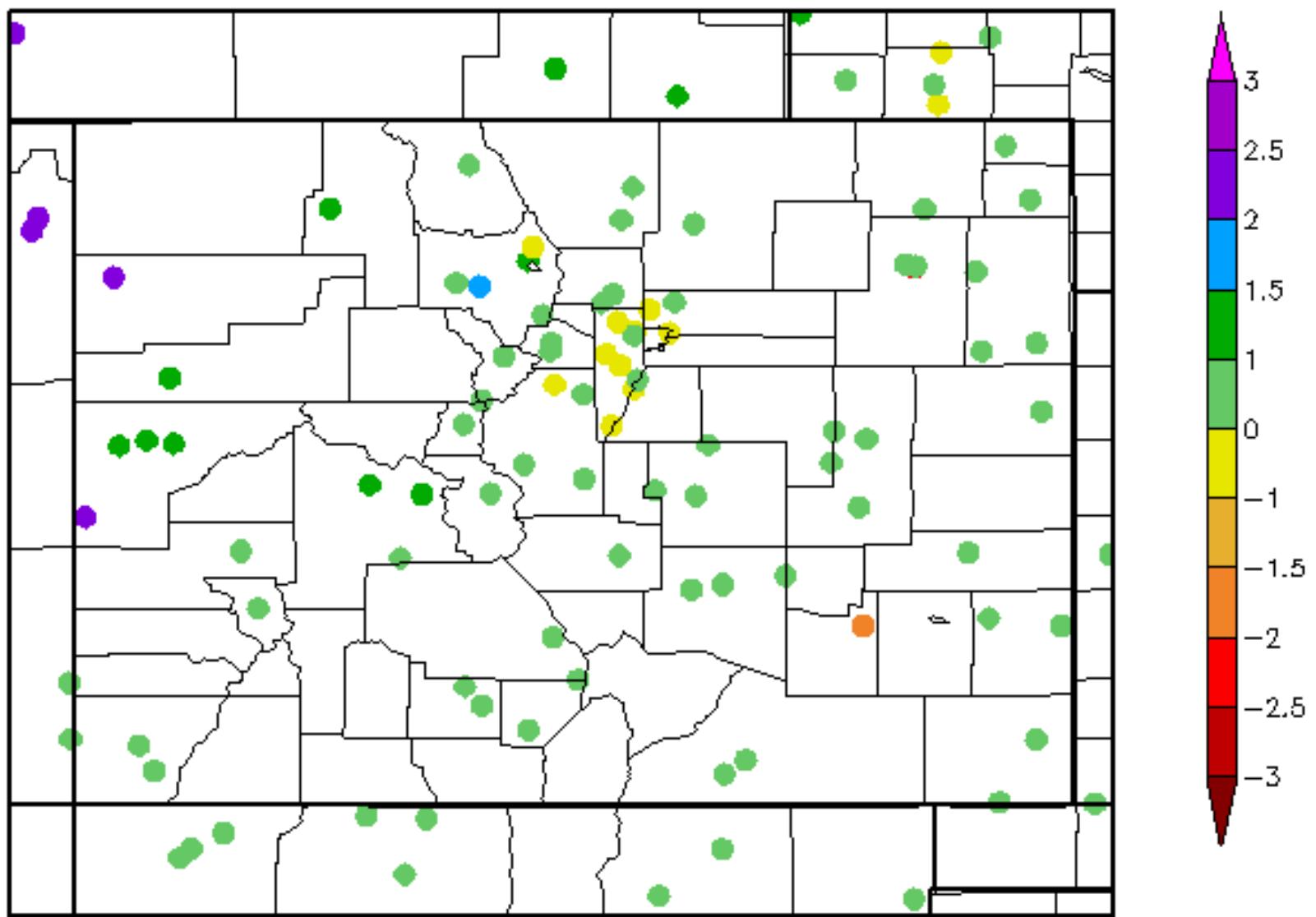
# Monthly SPI

4/1/2016 - 4/30/2016



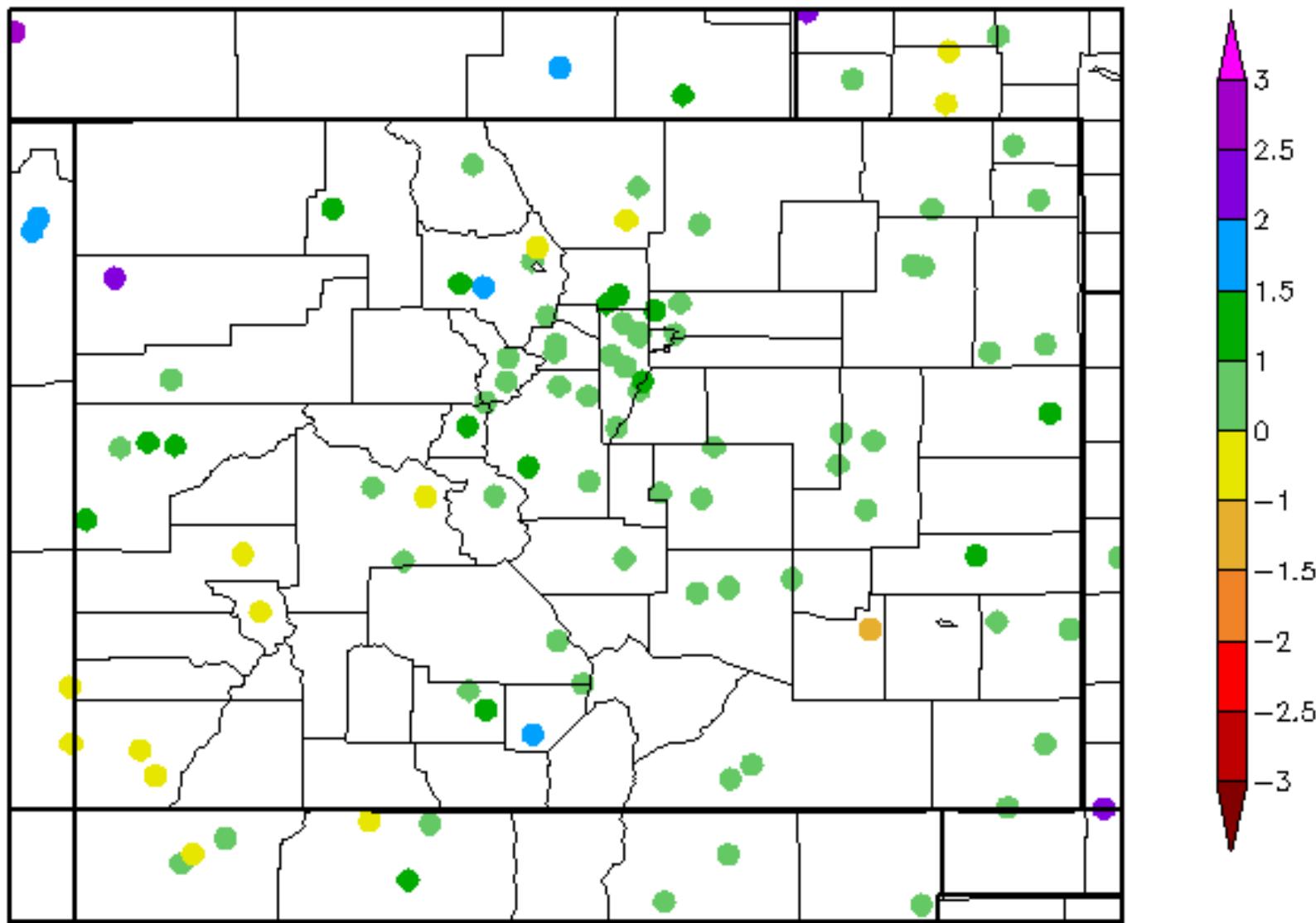
# 30 Day SPI

4/24/2016 – 5/23/2016

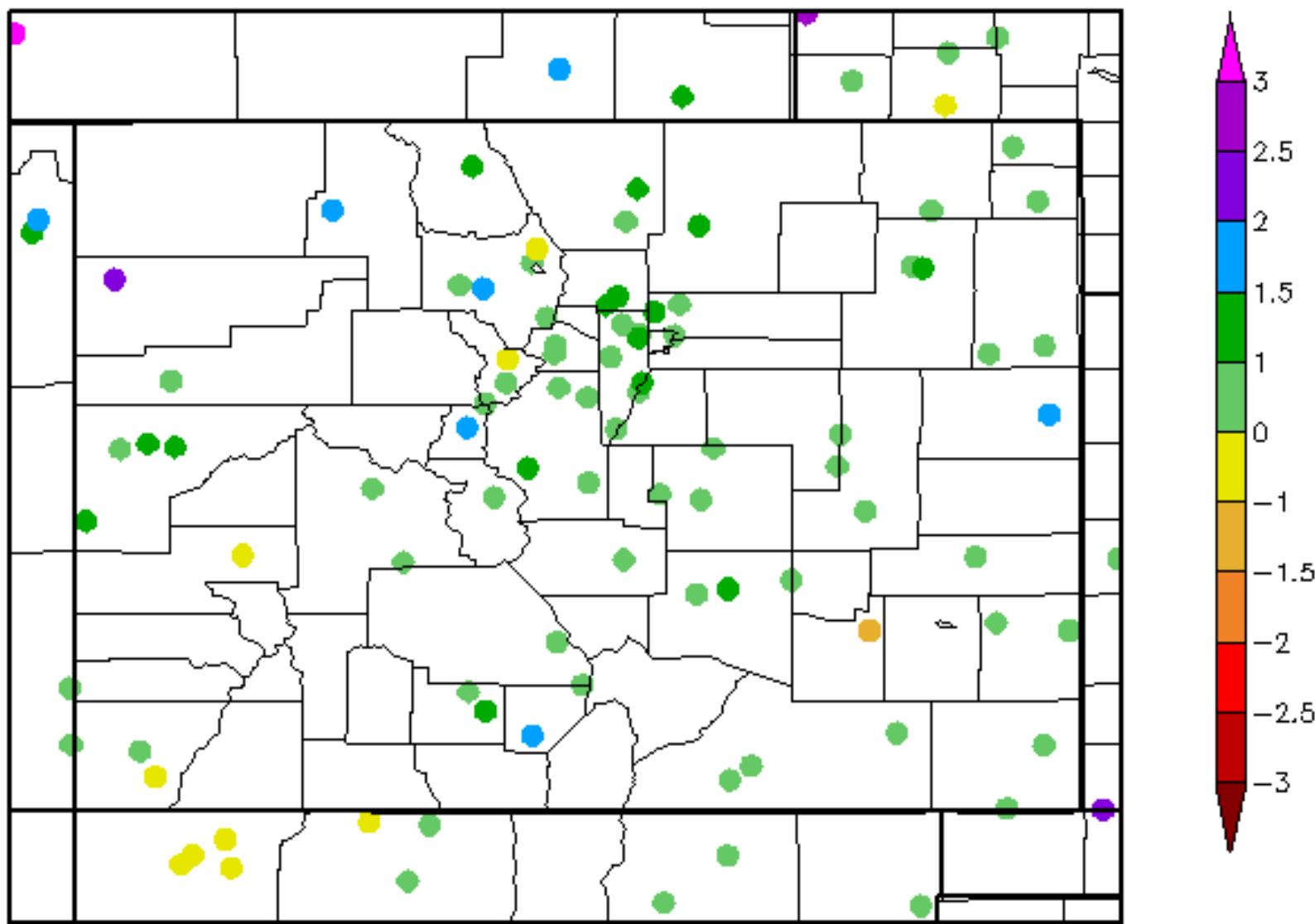


# 90 Day SPI

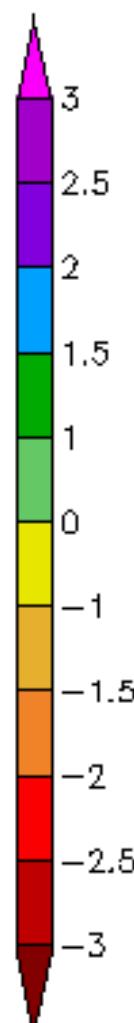
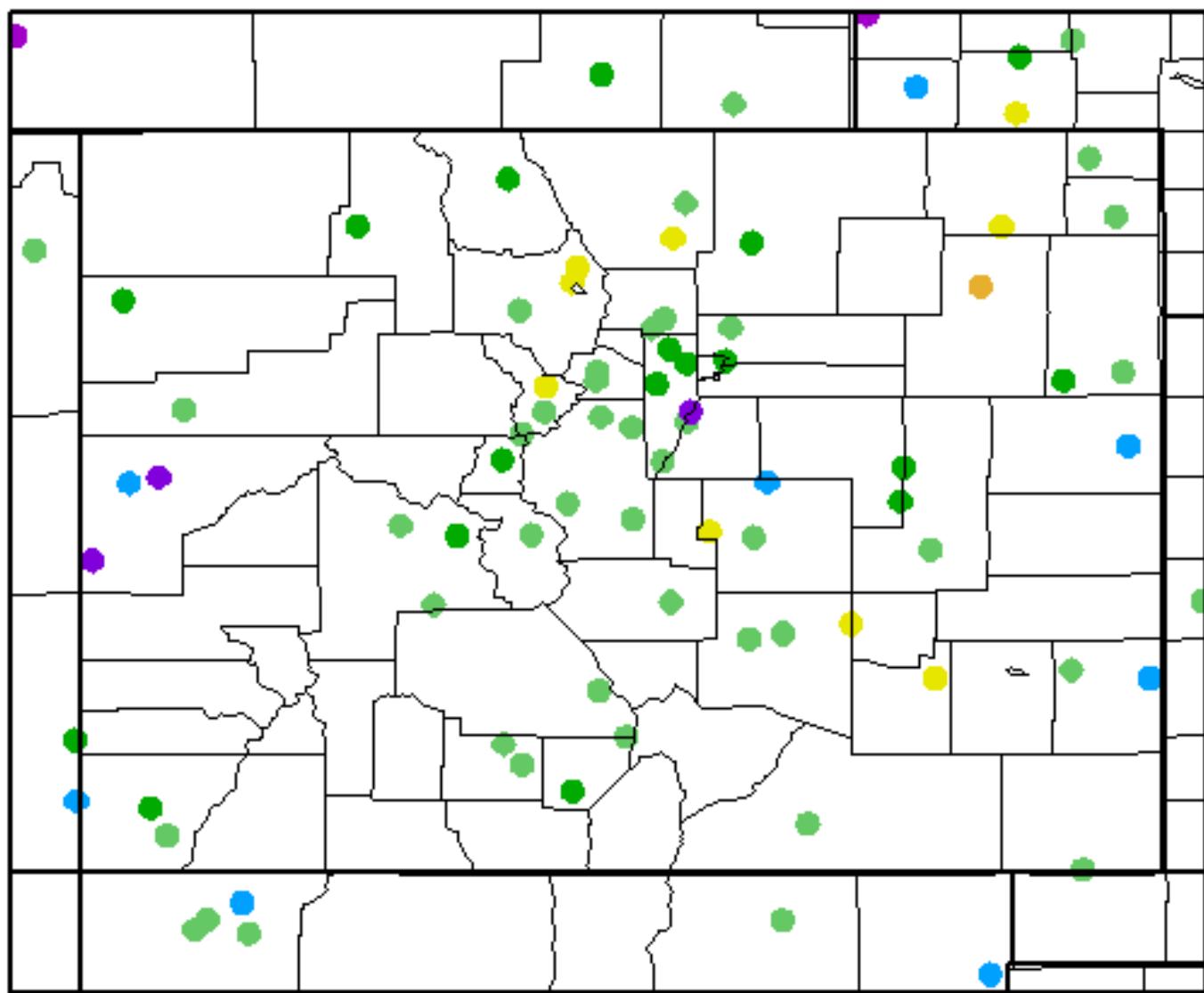
2/24/2016 – 5/23/2016



# 6 Month SPI 11/24/2015 – 5/23/2016

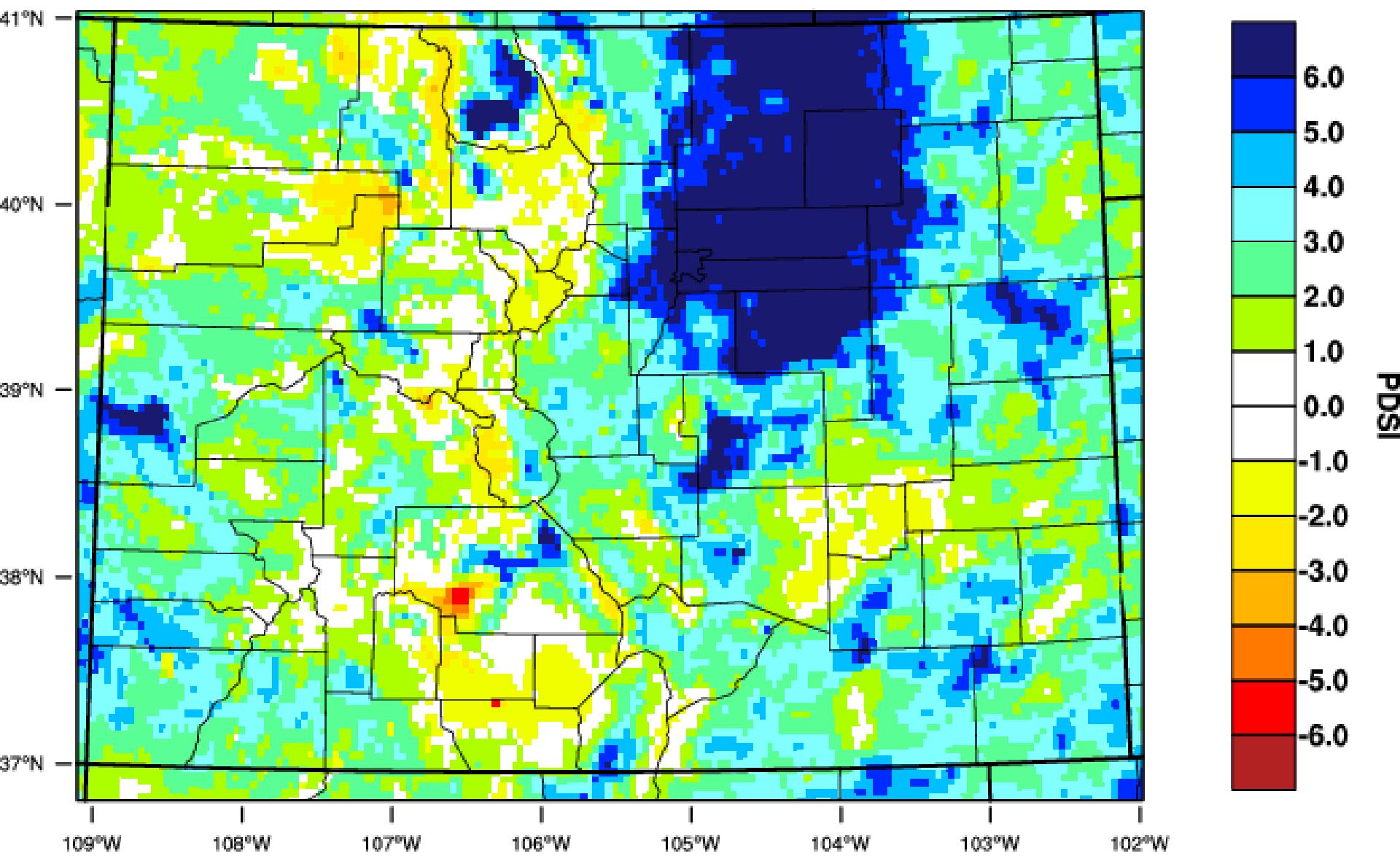


# 12 Month SPI 5/23/2015 – 5/22/2016



# Colorado - PDSI

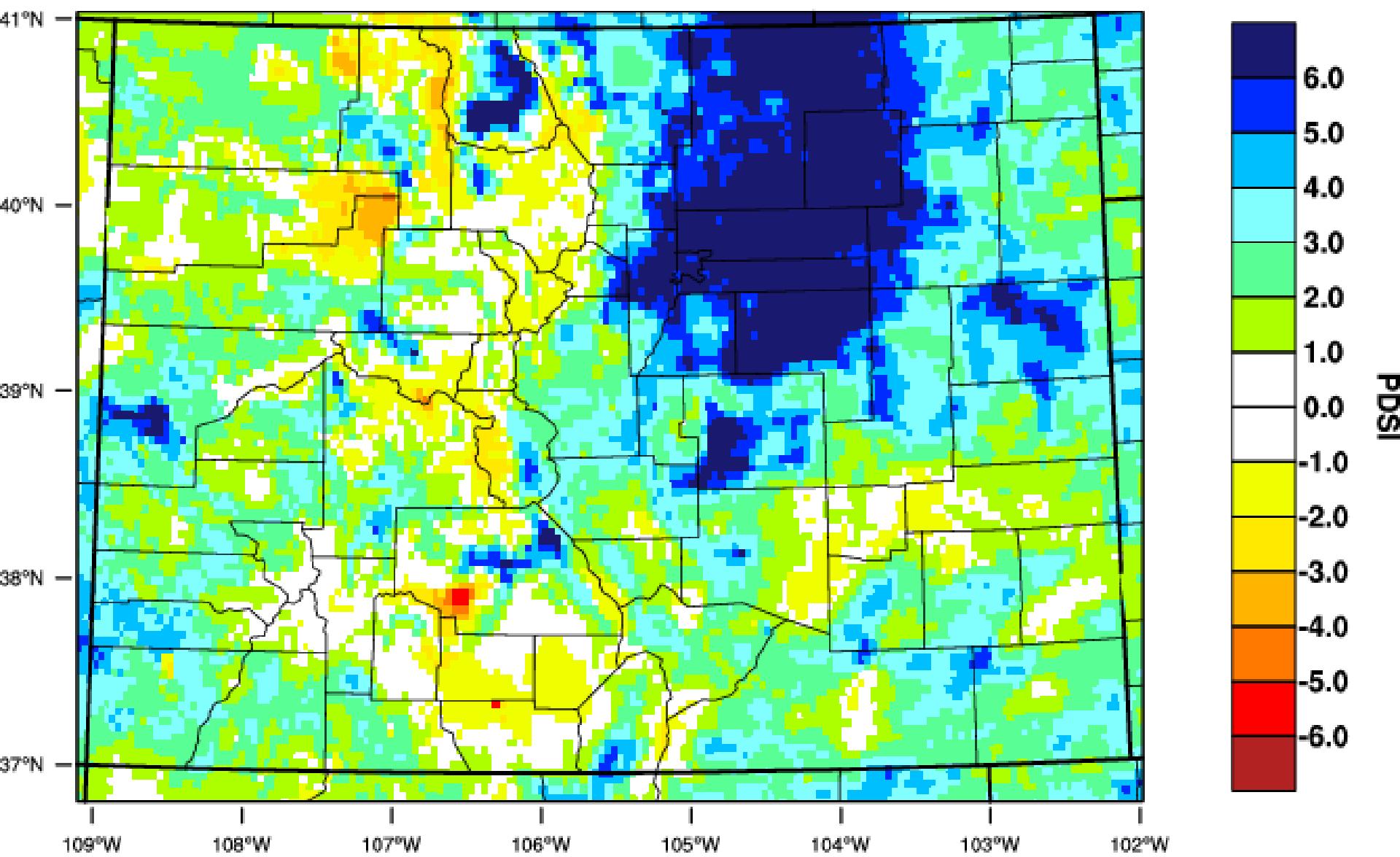
January 2016



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 FEB 2016

# Colorado - PDSI

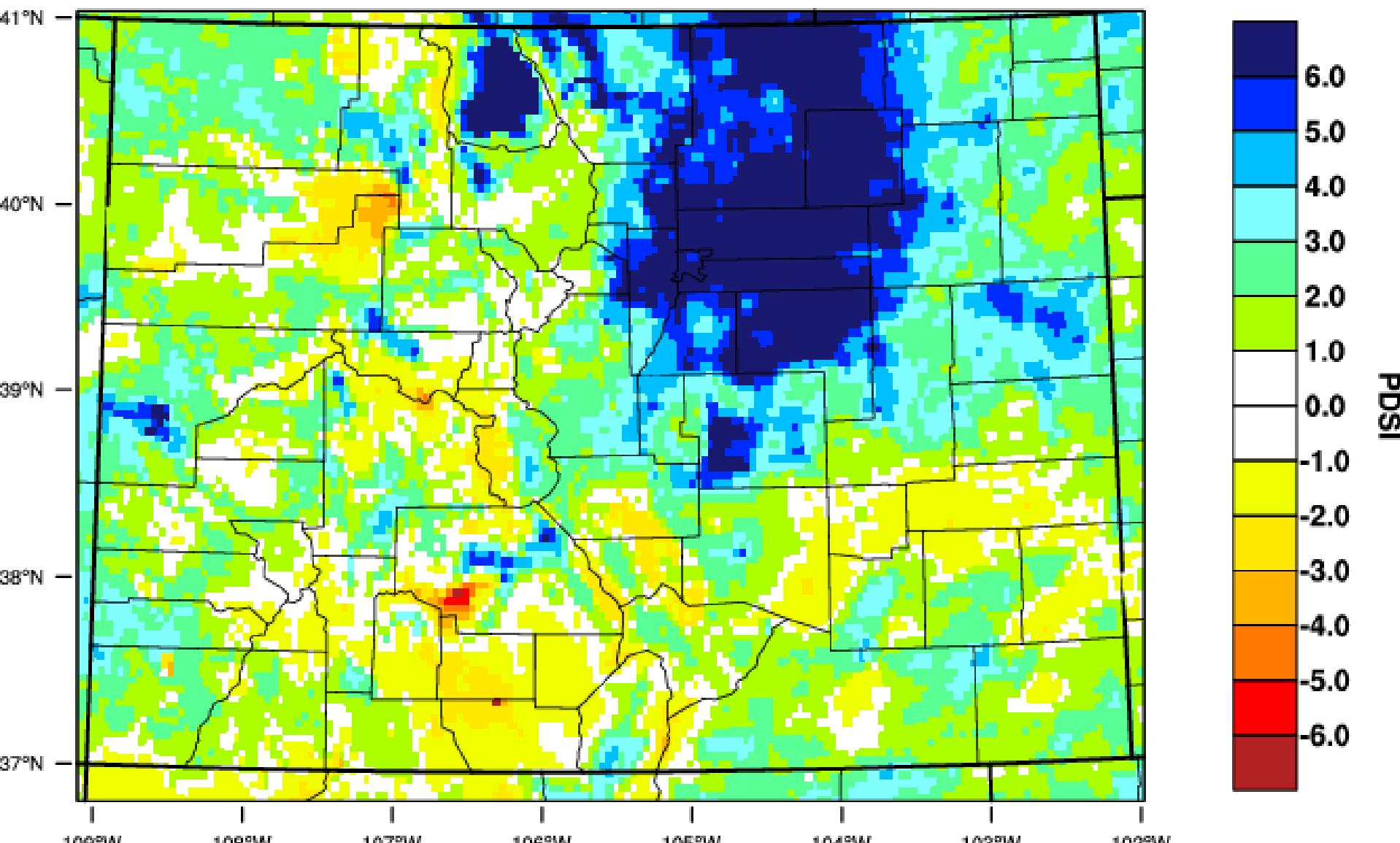
February 2016



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 MAR 2016

# Colorado - PDSI

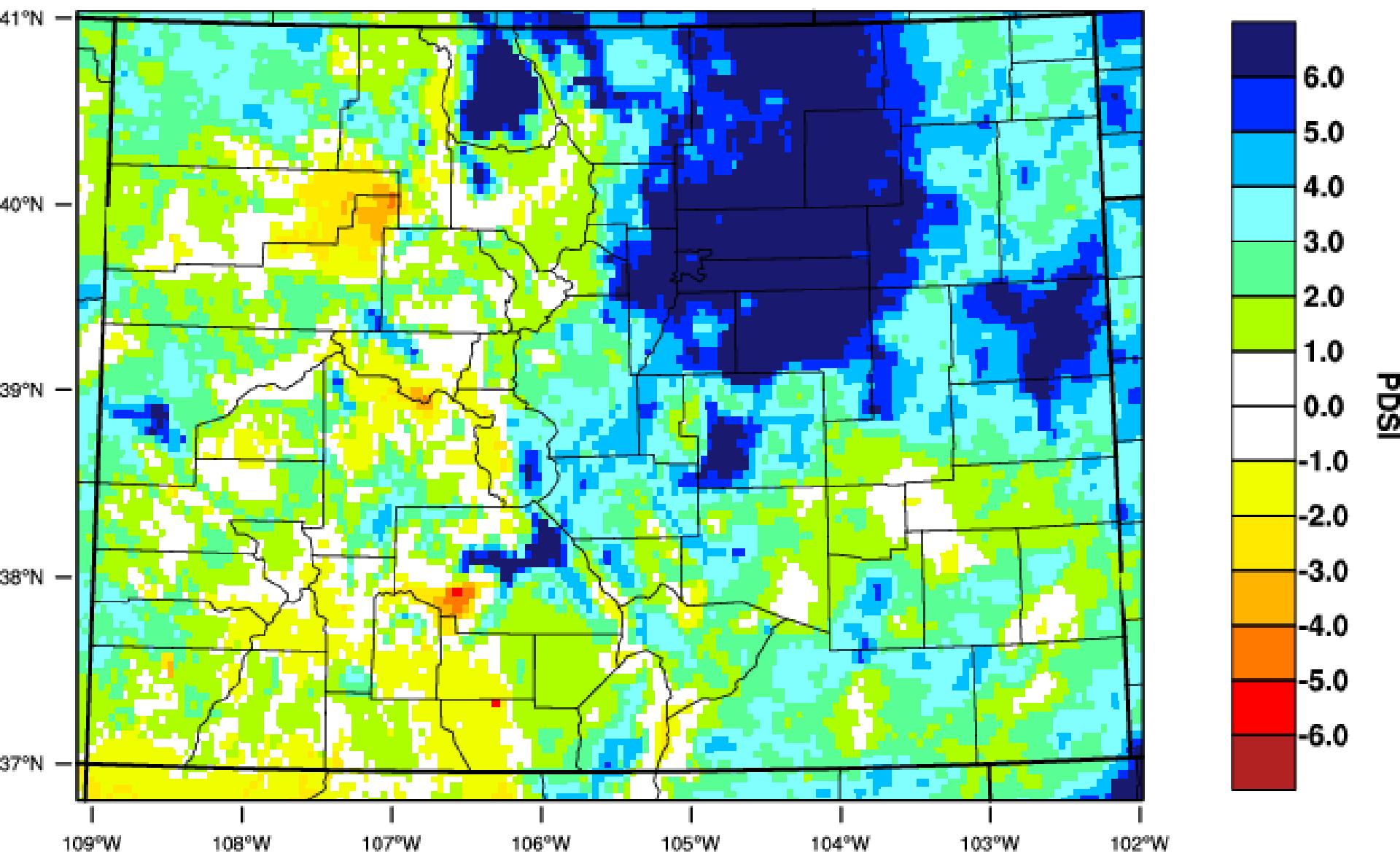
March 2016



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 11 APR 2016

# Colorado - PDSI

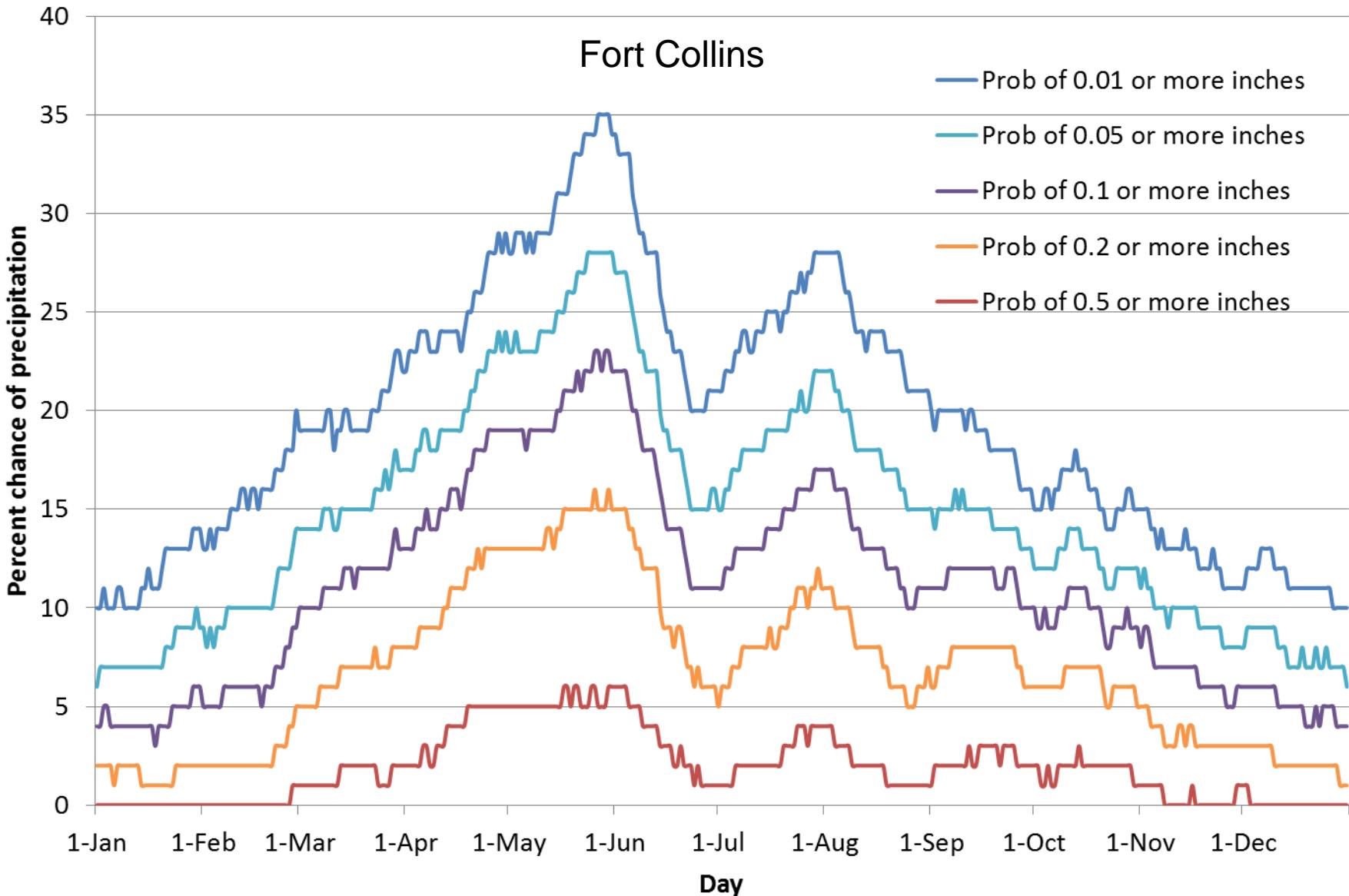
April 2016



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 MAY 2016

# Percent Chance of Precipitation each Day

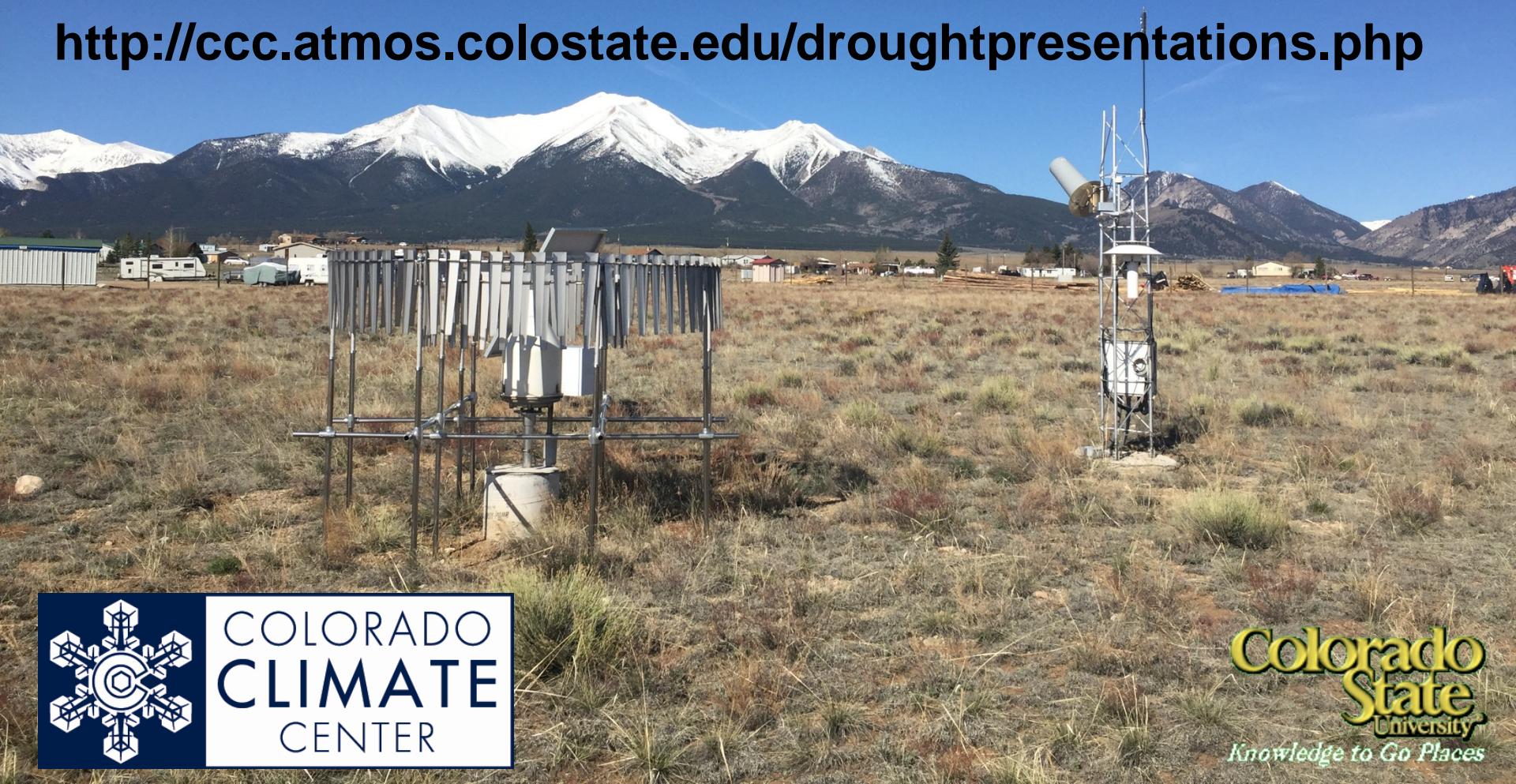
Fort Collins



# Colorado Climate Center

Data and Power Point Presentations available for downloading

<http://ccc.atmos.colostate.edu/droughtpresentations.php>



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