

# 2025 Rainfall Augmentation in NM

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Environmental Sciences

Department of Plant and Environmental  
Sciences

Water and Natural Resources Intermin Committee  
meeting, Artesia, NM



October 29, 2025

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# NM State Climate Office

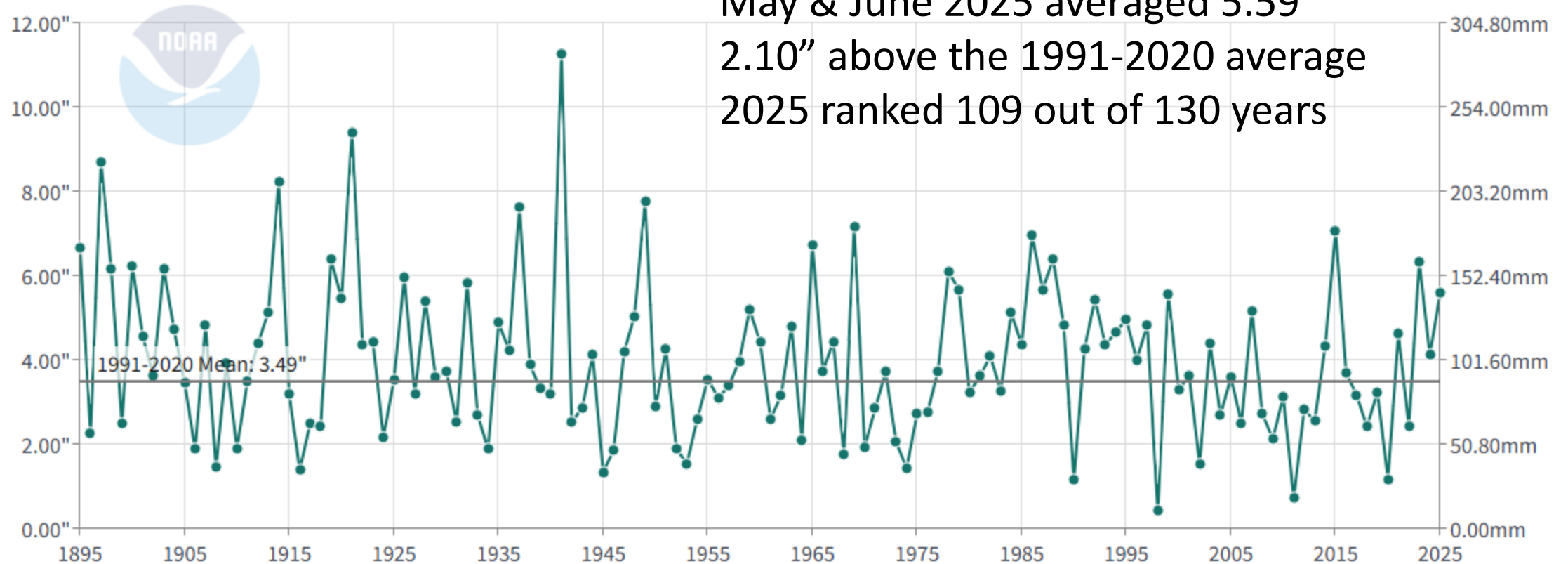


- Situated at New Mexico State University, Plant and Environmental Sciences in Las Cruces
- Operates and maintains the 215 site ZiaMet weather network
- We contribute weekly to the US Drought Monitor with help from National Weather Service Albuquerque
- Our role in cloud seeding project was to act as an observer, record activities, review documents, report to legislators and public, and provide recommendations.

# NM May-June rainfall 1895-2025

New Mexico, Climate Division 3 Precipitation  
May-June (covers Roosevelt north to Union)

May & June 2025 averaged 5.59"  
2.10" above the 1991-2020 average  
2025 ranked 109 out of 130 years



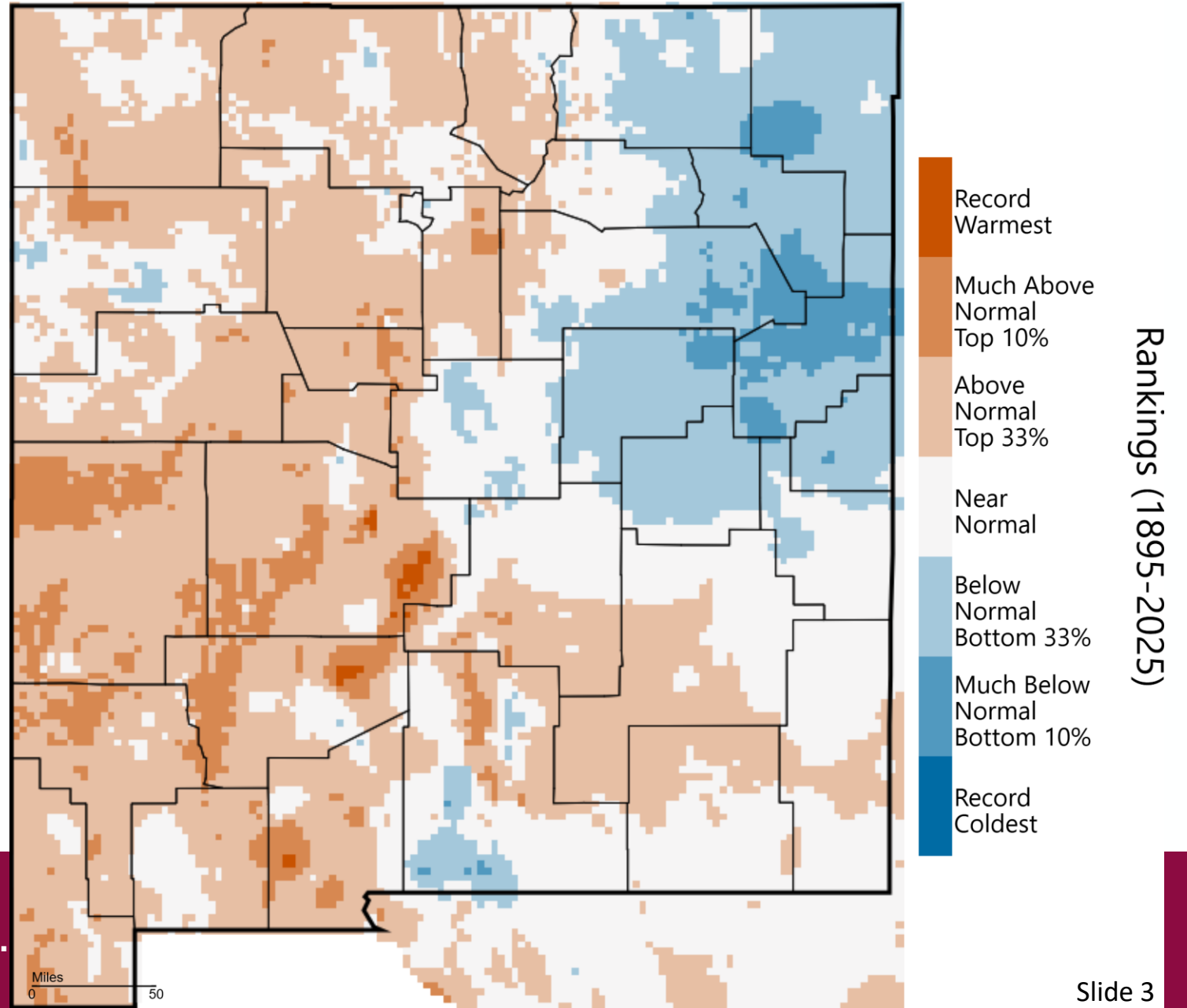
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# New Mexico - Mean Temperature

May - June 2025, Percentile

The May to June average temperature was cooler than average over the northeast.

The southeast was a mix of near normal to slightly above normal.

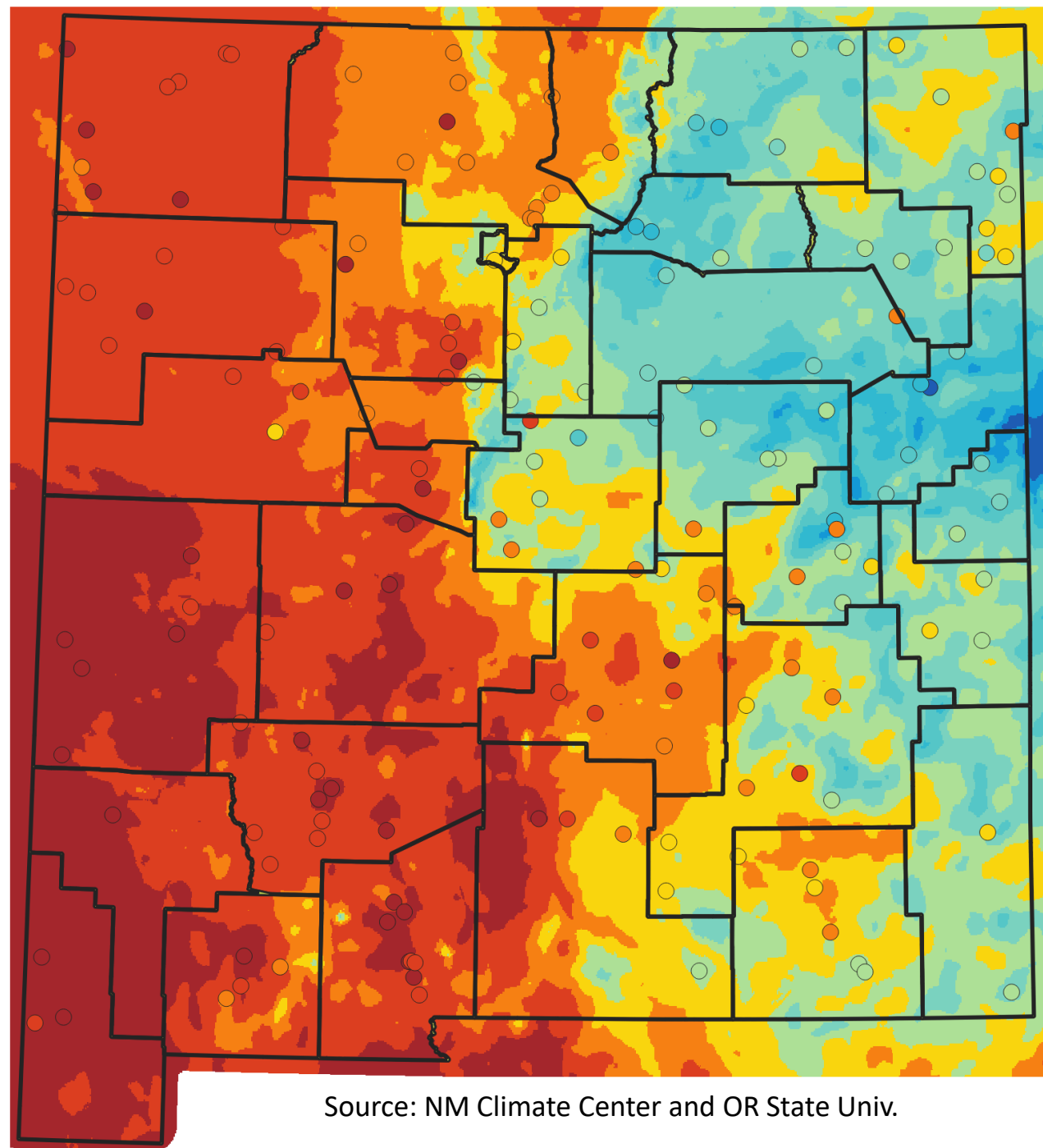


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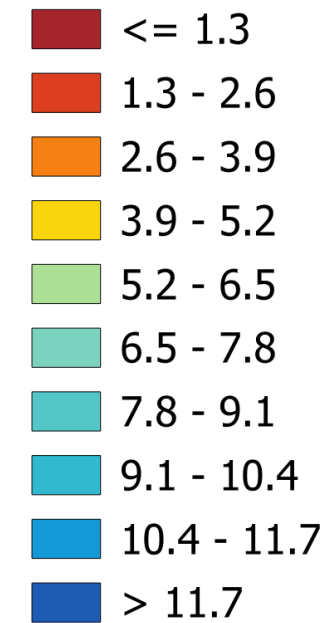
Total rainfall  
from April 15  
to June 30,  
2025

Background is  
800-m PRISM

Filled circles  
are ZiaMet  
totals



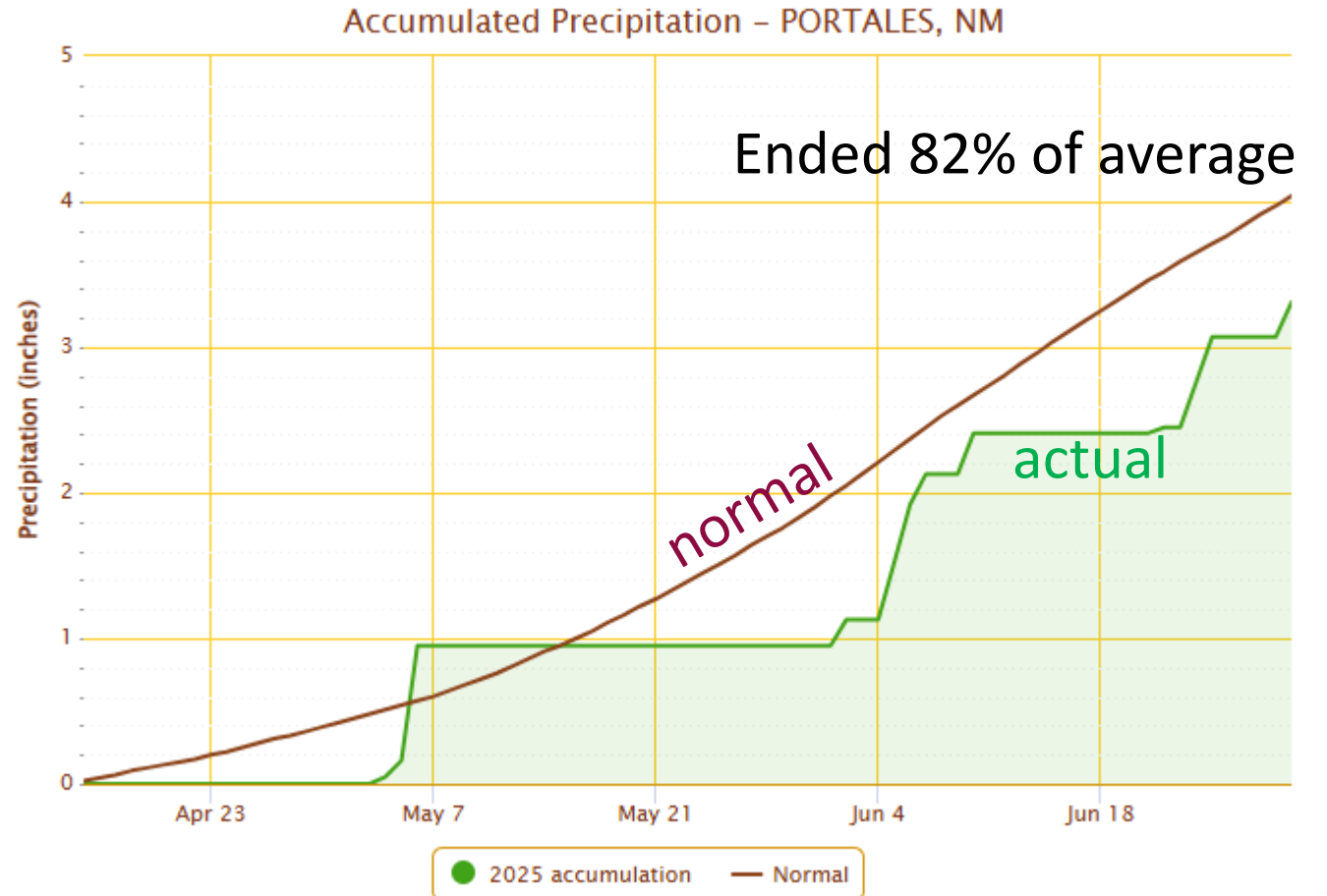
Rainfall (inches)



Source: NM Climate Center and OR State Univ.

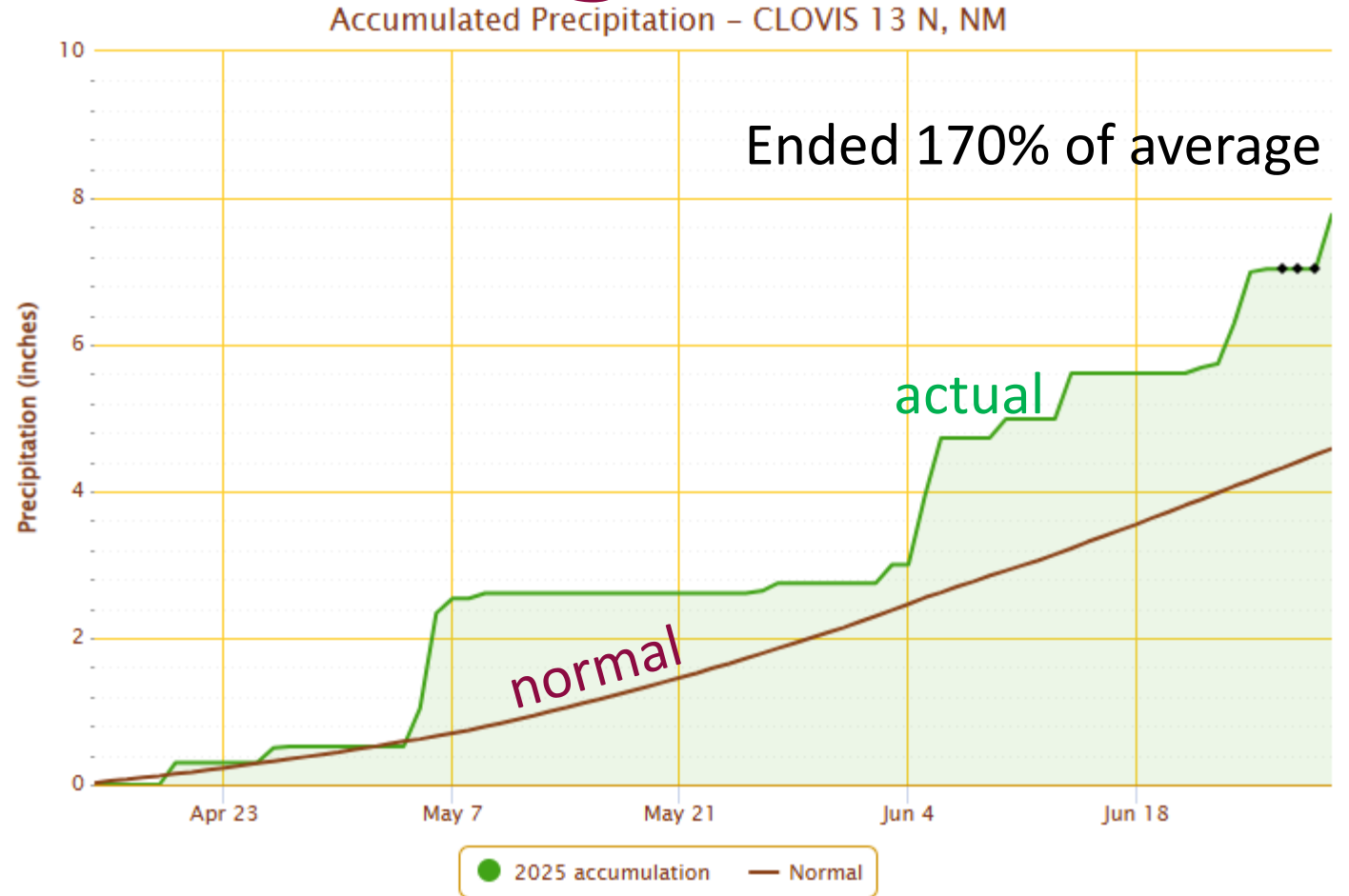
# Precipitation in Portales during RAIN2025

- 3.31” of rain fell at the Portales NOAA station
- 0.79” on May 6 to kick off the precipitation at this station



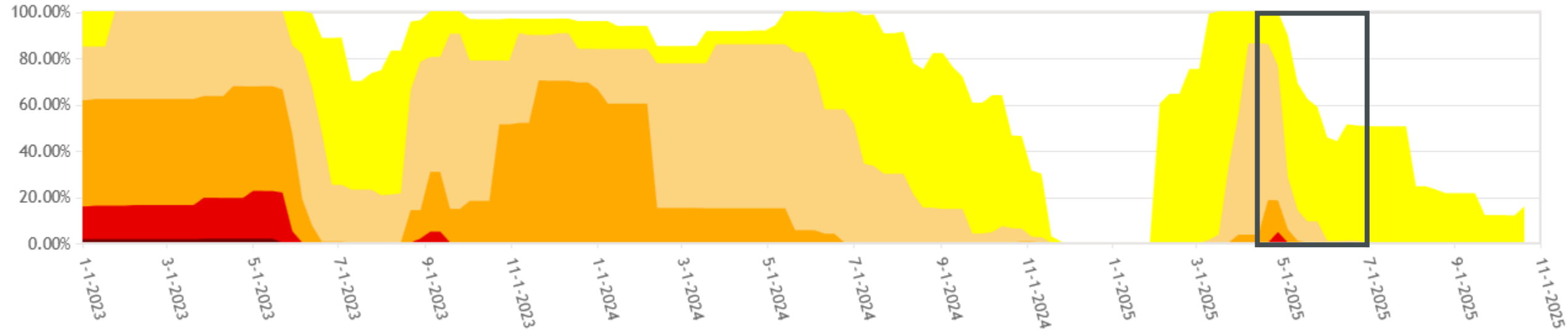
# Precipitation in Clovis during RAIN2025

- 7.77" of rain fell at the Portales NOAA station
- 10<sup>th</sup> wettest at this location since 1950



# NE Plains US Drought Monitor since 2023

Northeastern Plains, NM (2903) Climate Division Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



We use multiple indicators such as SPI, SPEI, EDDI, soil moisture percentiles, and vegetation. Finer scale analysis from station data. We coordinate with TX, CO & AZ. Ultimately USDM author has final say.

## Intensity and Impacts

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data



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# Our Role at the NM Climate Center in 2025

- Followed daily forecasts and weekly seeding operations from April through June 2025
- Received IPRA June 10 on chemical ingredients of the seeding flares
- Received RAIN final report on August 12
- Met with George Bomar and Archie Ruiz to review 2025 operations and provided some feedback on radar analysis
- Reviewed RAIN final report and verified calculations
- Provided update to LFC on August 18
- Met with NMSU agricultural economists on scope of cost benefit analysis
- Will continue to evaluate results, summarize, and provide feedback to team

# Contact Information

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