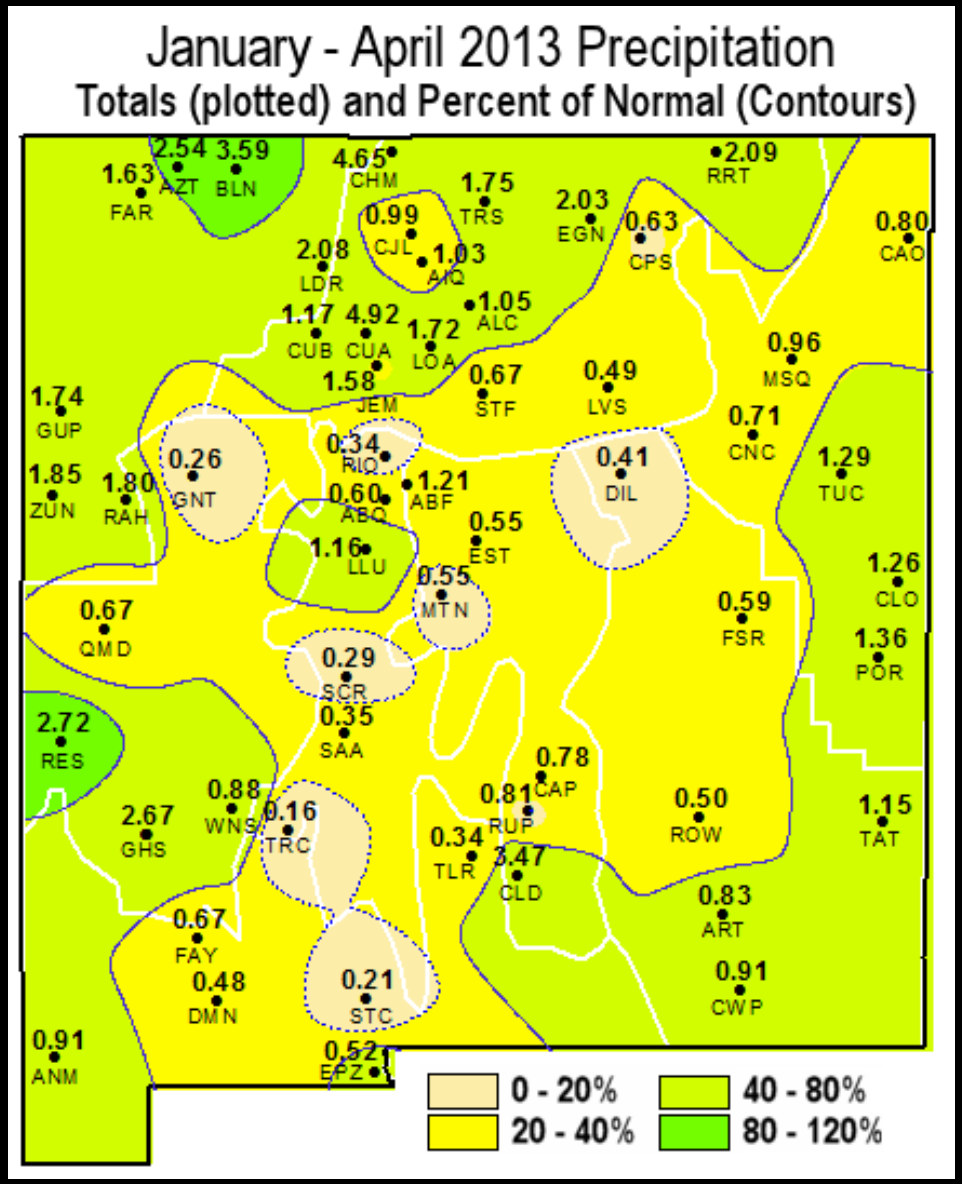
Current Status of Drought Conditions

June 10th, 2013

John Longworth, PE
Office of the State Engineer
with assistance from NWS

Calendar Year (2013) Precipitation
January - April



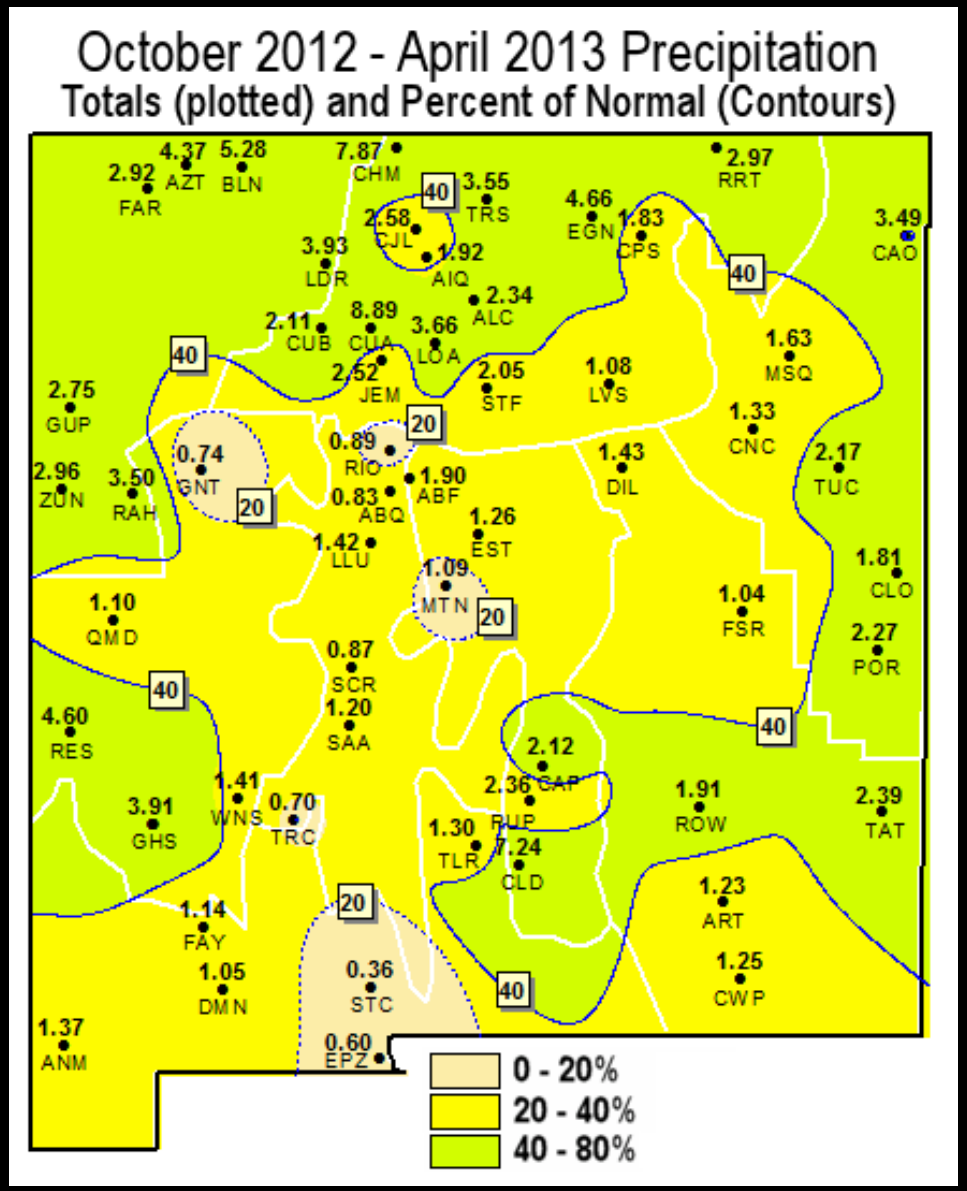
Statewide Avg:
47% of normal

Northwest Plateau:
65% of normal

Southern Deserts:
31% of normal

Central Valley
30% of normal

Water Year 2013 Precipitation
(Oct 2012 – Apr 2013)



Statewide Avg:
45% of normal

Northwest Plateau:
60% of normal

Central (Mid RG) Valley:
27% of normal

Southern Deserts:
25% of normal

May 28: New Mexico Drought Status

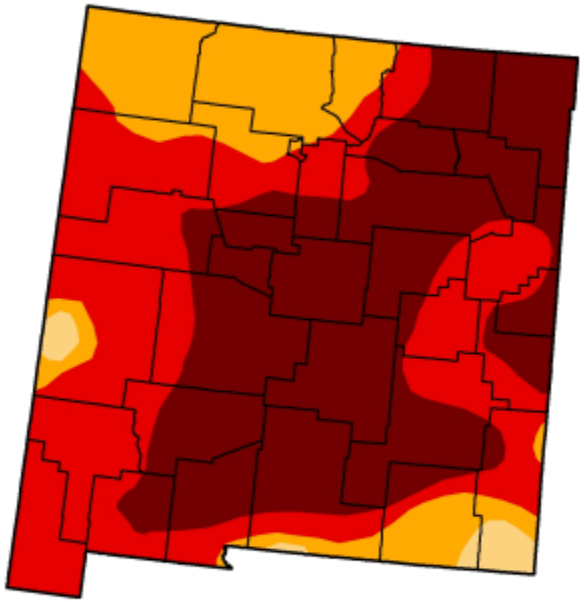
U.S. Drought Monitor

May 28, 2013
Valid 7 a.m. EST

New Mexico

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	98.17	81.79	44.87
Last Week (05/21/2013 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	98.17	81.79	44.87
3 Months Ago (02/26/2013 map)	0.20	99.80	98.46	89.78	49.88	4.39
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 map)	0.00	100.00	98.83	94.05	31.88	0.97
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	62.56	12.25	0.66
One Year Ago (05/22/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	99.09	71.24	23.99	0.00



Intensity:

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

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

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

USDA National Drought Mitigation Center

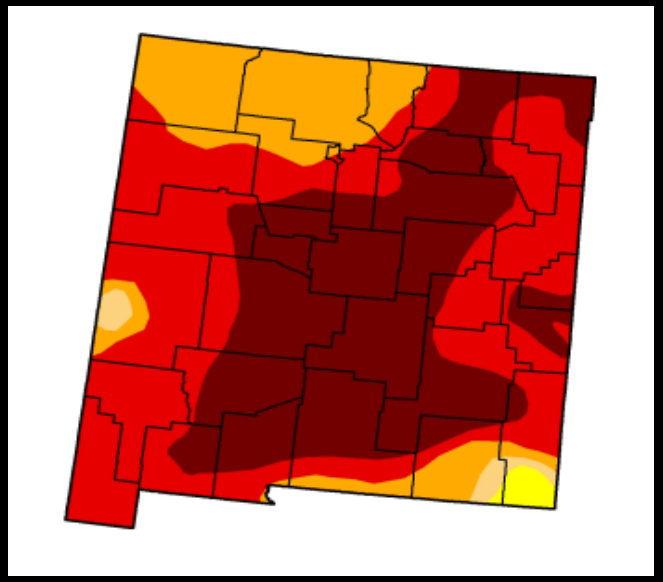
Released Thursday, May 30, 2013
Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

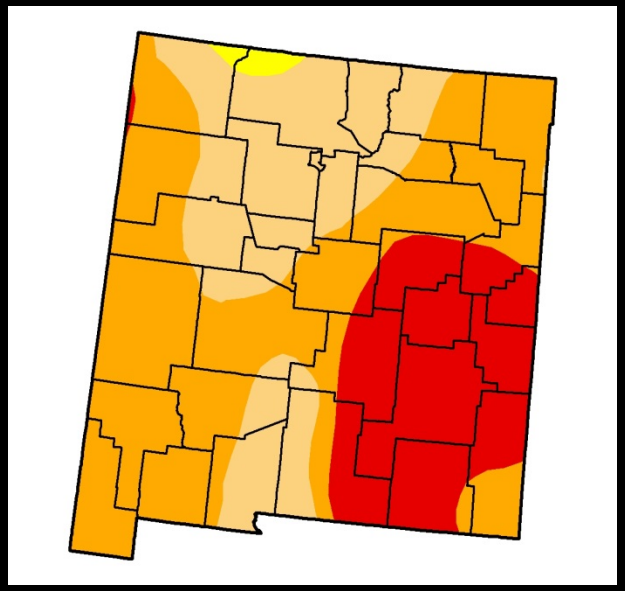
- Extreme to Exceptional Drought: Much of New Mexico!
- Moderate to Severe Drought: Rest of NM except far SE

Comparison of Drought Status the past four Mays

Worst spring status 2011 & 2013

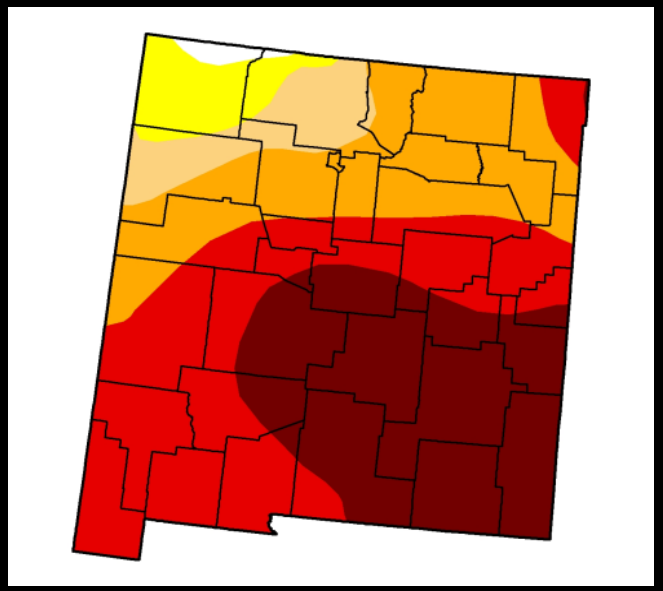
May 2013

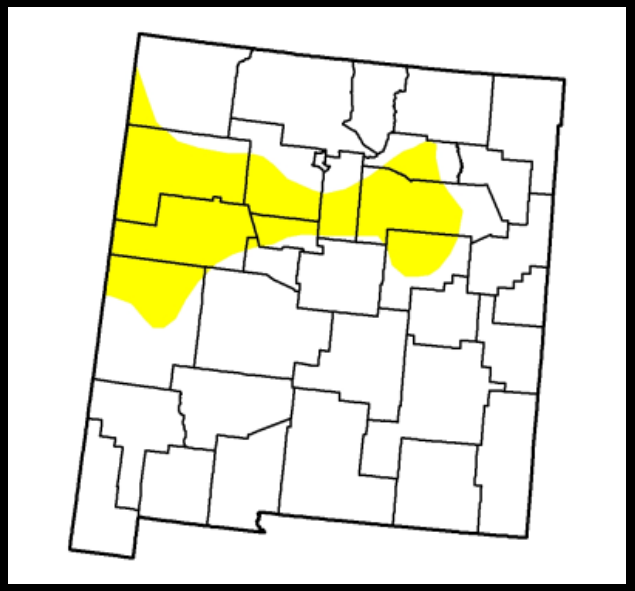




May 2012

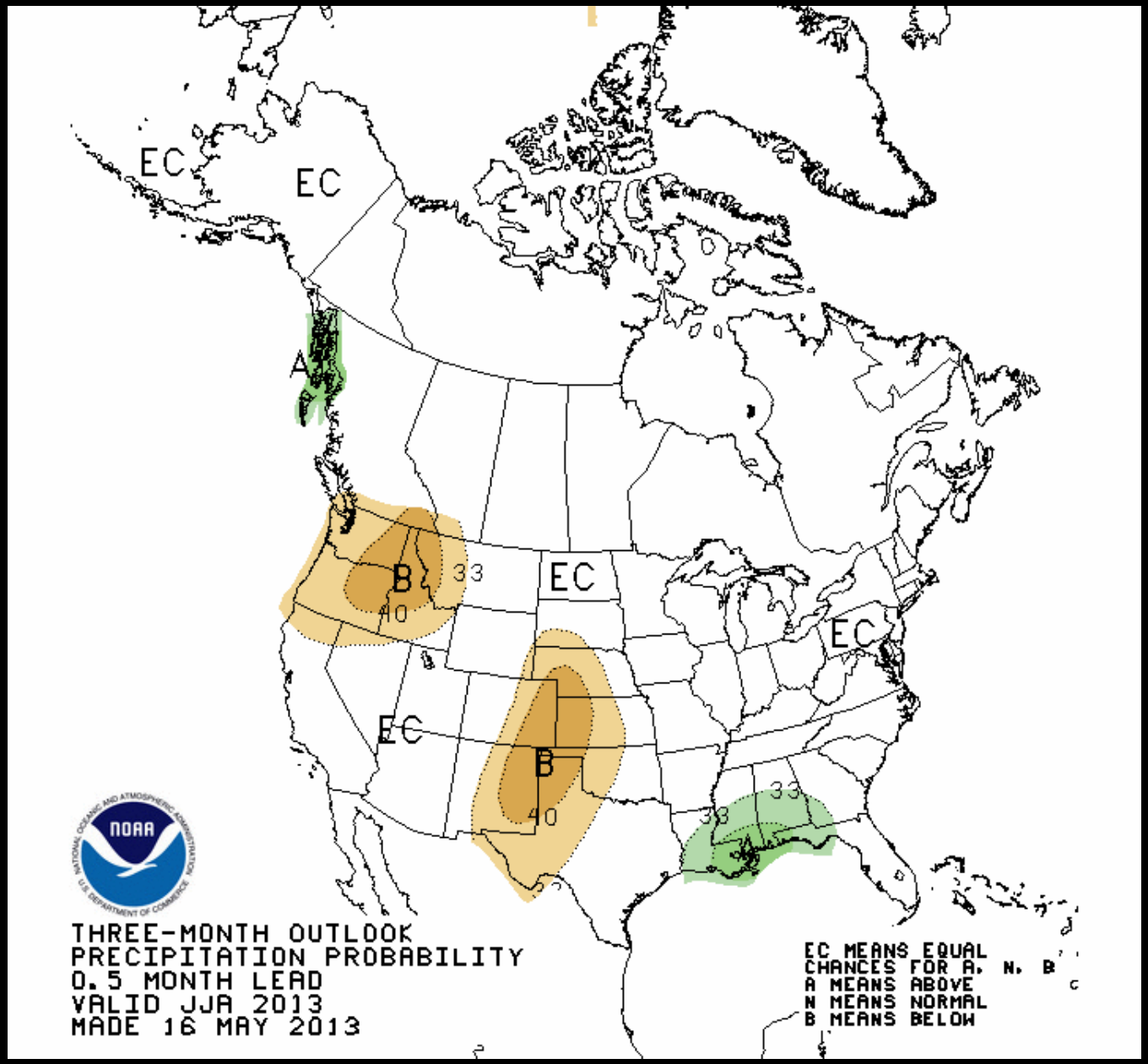
May 2011



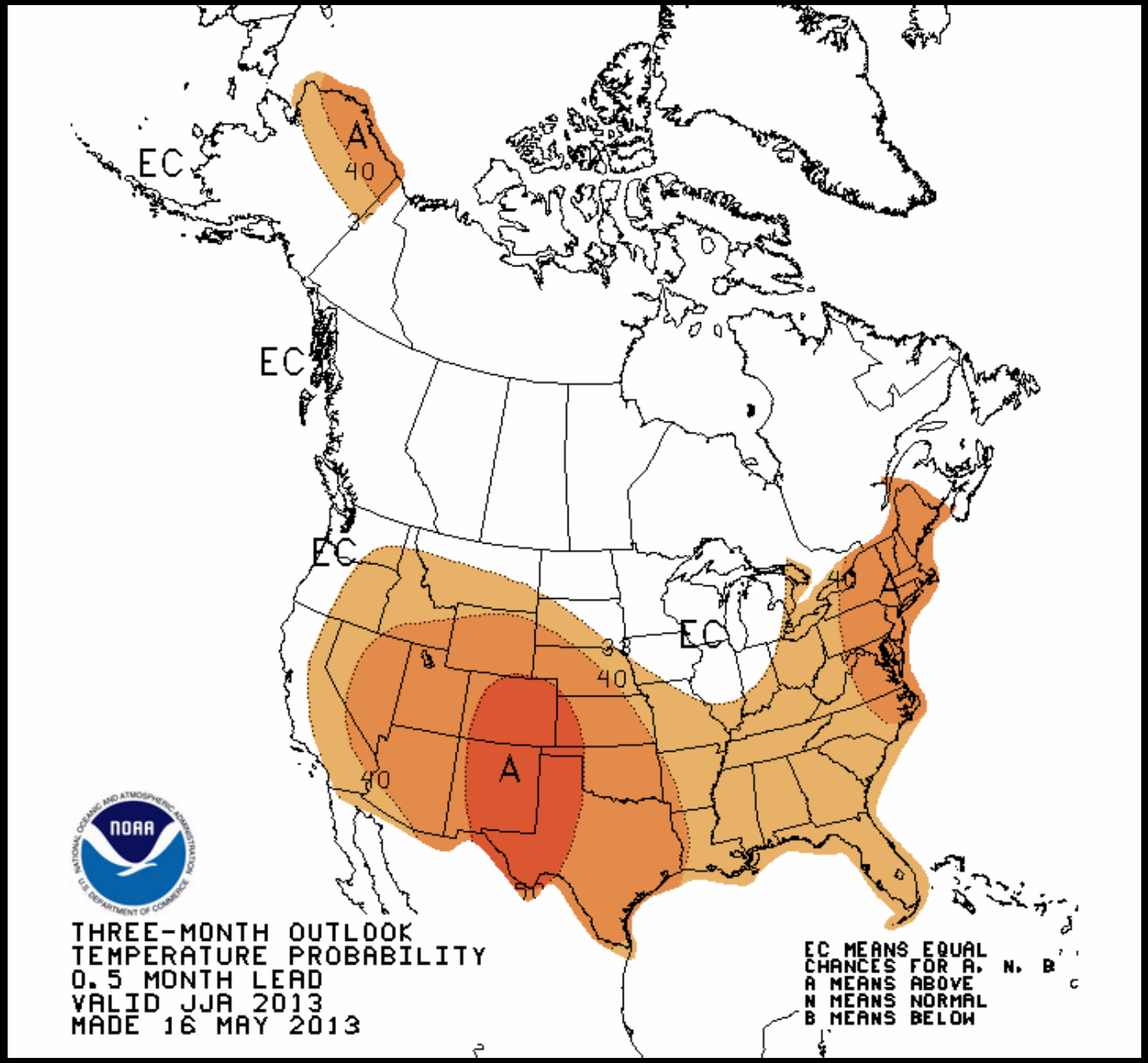


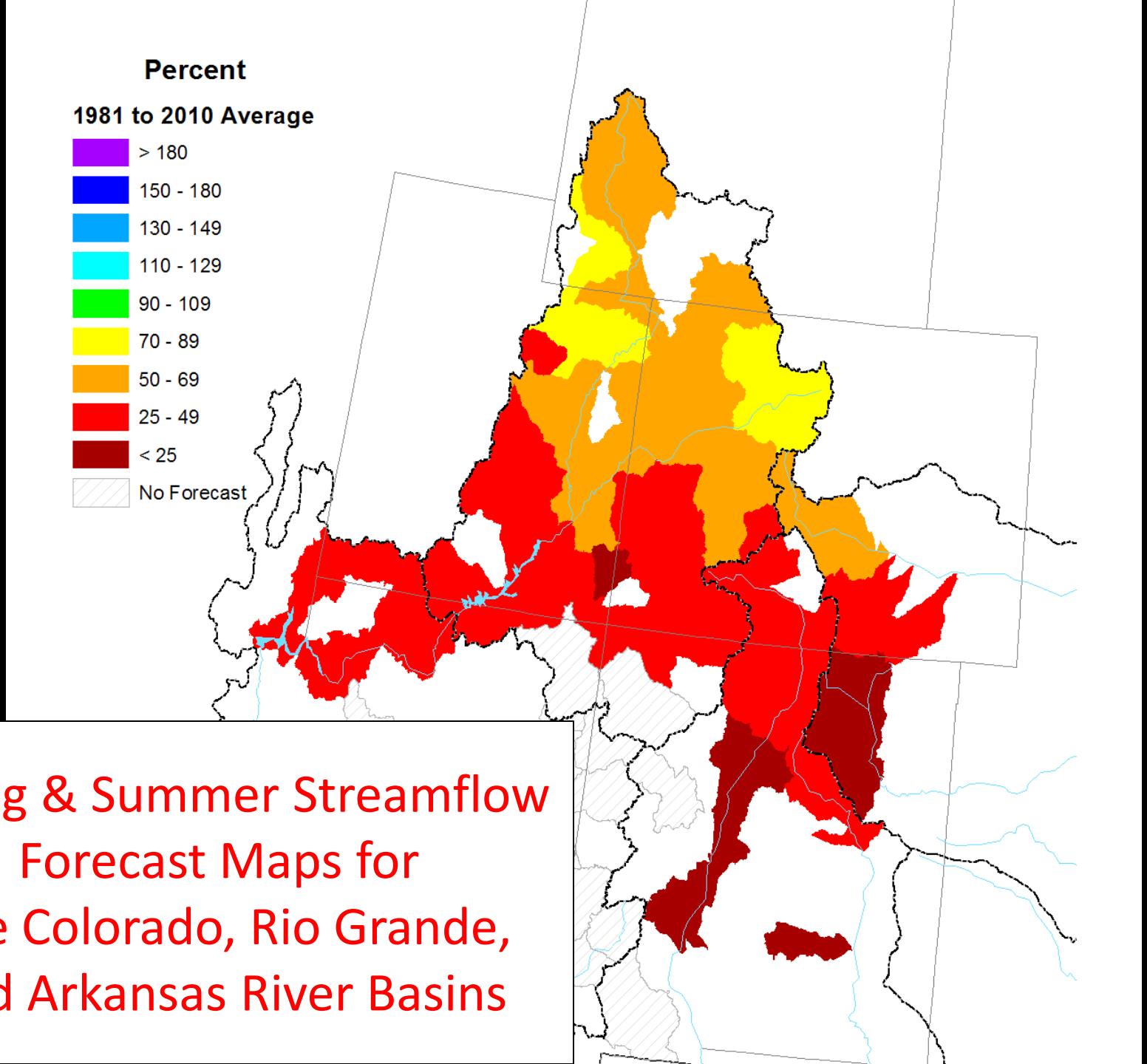
May 2010

June – August 2013 Precipitation Outlook



June – August 2013 Temperature Outlook





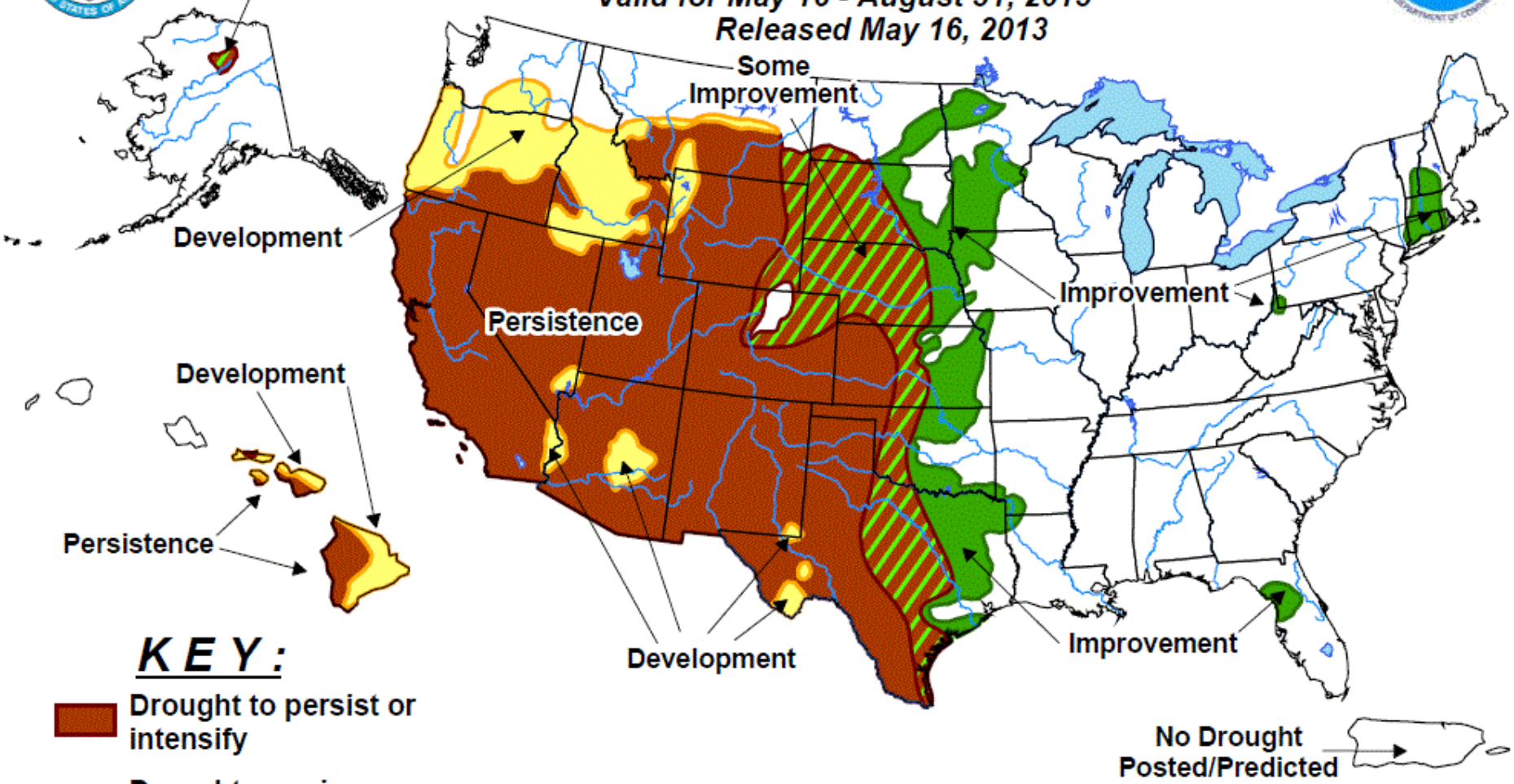
Spring & Summer Streamflow Forecast Maps for The Colorado, Rio Grande, and Arkansas River Basins

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for May 16 - August 31, 2013

Released May 16, 2013



KEY:

- Drought to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
- Drought development likely

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). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.