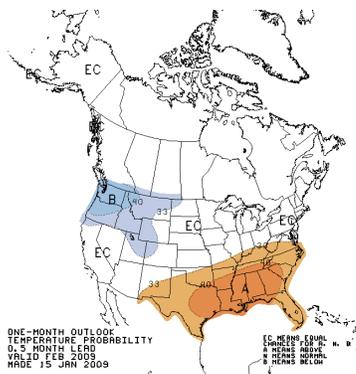


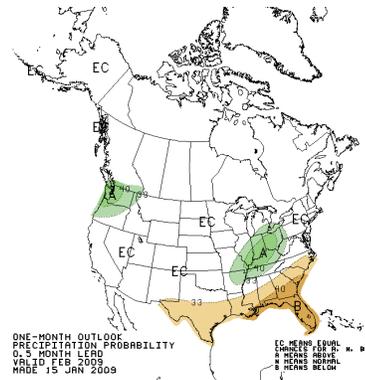
February – April 2009 Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks

Below are the latest official probabilistic outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) for February temperatures and precipitation, and the average for the February through April three month period.

FEBRUARY 2009 OUTLOOKS

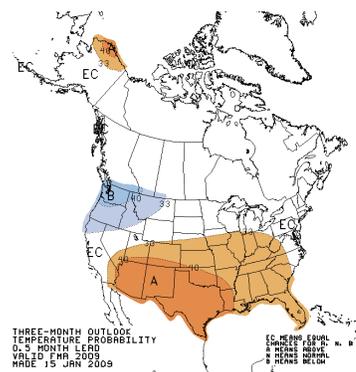


Temperature

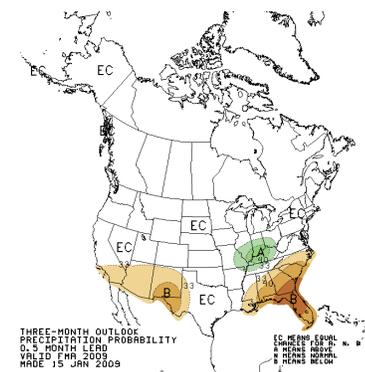


Precipitation

FEBRUARY through APRIL 2009 OUTLOOKS



Temperature



Precipitation

In the above CPC outlooks, there are equal chances (EC) for above normal, normal and below normal temperatures and precipitation for South Dakota and the surrounding portions of Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska in the WFO FSD forecast area (33.3 percent chance of any category happening).

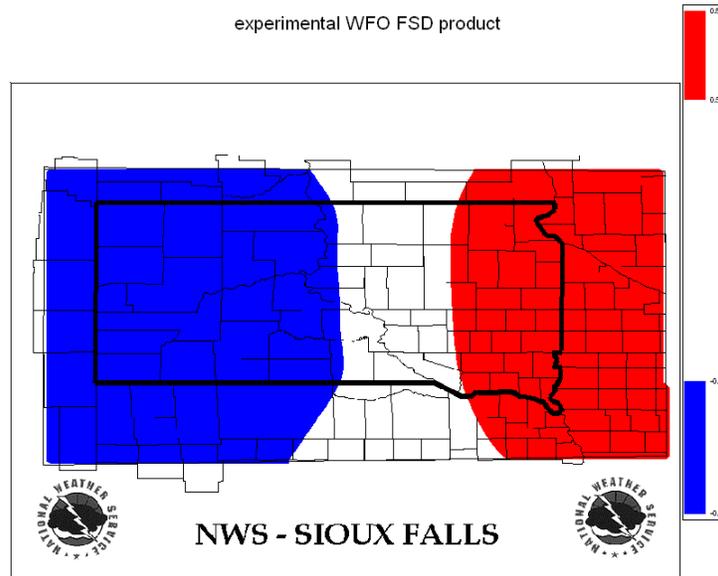
The shaded areas on these maps indicate where there is a higher probability of above normal or below normal values. For example, on the February temperature outlook, there is a 40 percent chance of seeing above normal temperatures along the Gulf Coast. There is still a 33 percent chance of normal temperatures, and a 27 percent chance of below normal temperatures in that region.

Experimental WFO FSD Outlooks

The following images show the “best-guess” outlooks developed at WFO FSD. They are based on a combination of the output from several neural networks, comparing historical data from years with similar values and trends of multiple climate indices (analogs), and looking at the correlations of several observed climate indices with future observed temperatures and precipitation based on historical data from over 55 years. Red is for above normal temperatures, blue is below normal temperatures, green is above normal precipitation, and brown is below normal precipitation.

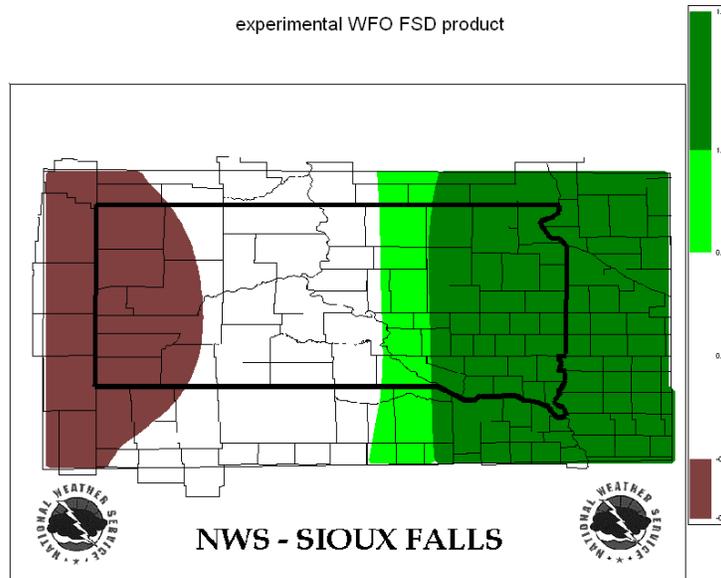
February 2009 Temperature Outloo

created 1/22/2009
experimental WFO FSD product



February 2009 Precipitation Outloo

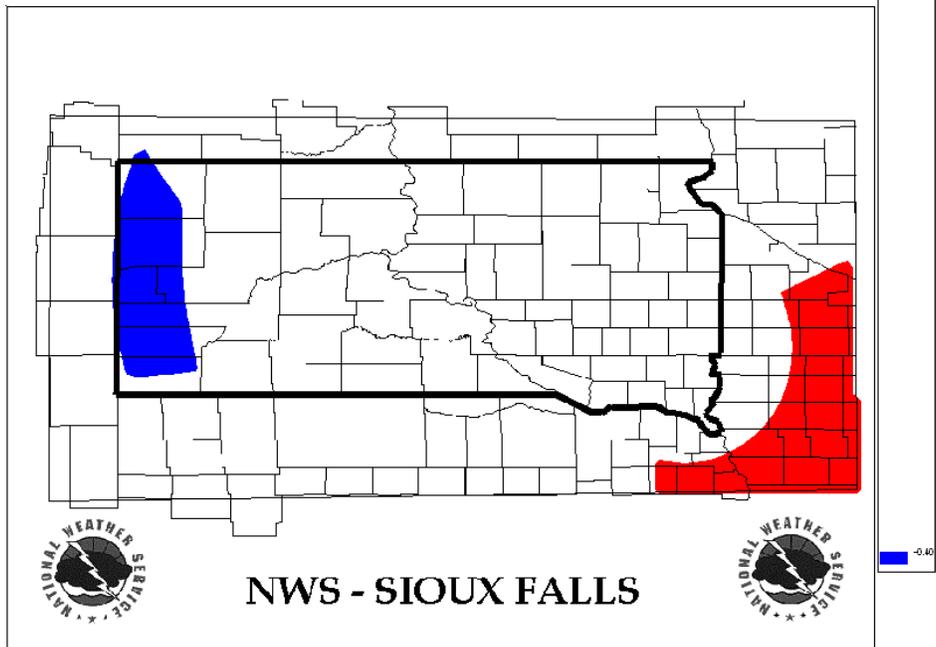
created 1/22/2009
experimental WFO FSD product



March 2009 Temperature Outlook

created 1/22/2009

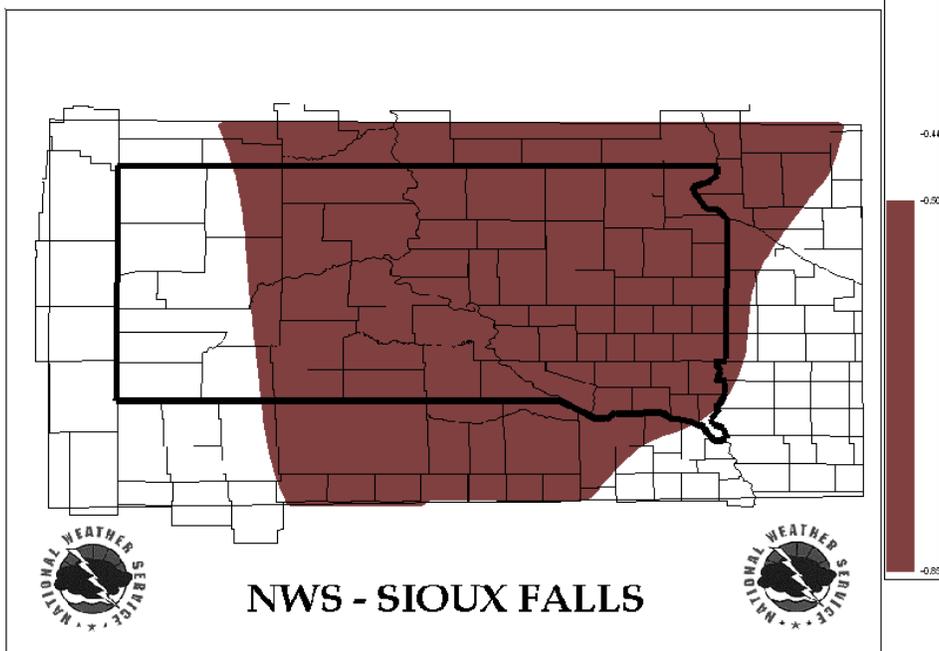
experimental WFO FSD product



March 2009 Precipitation Outlook

created 1/22/2009

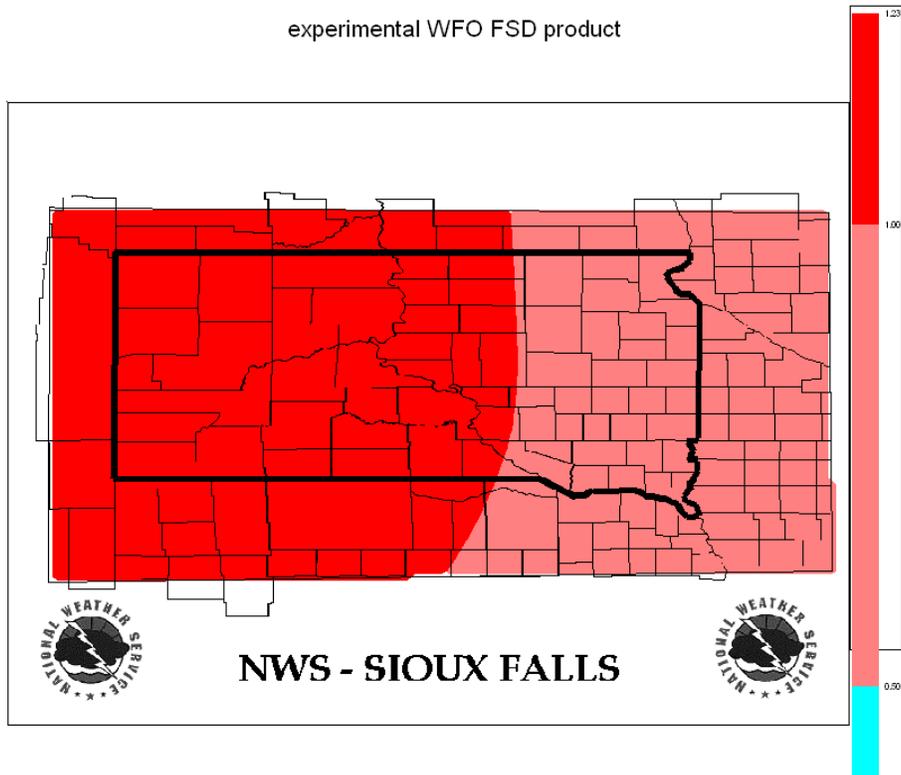
experimental WFO FSD product



April 2009 Temperature Outlook

created 1/22/2009

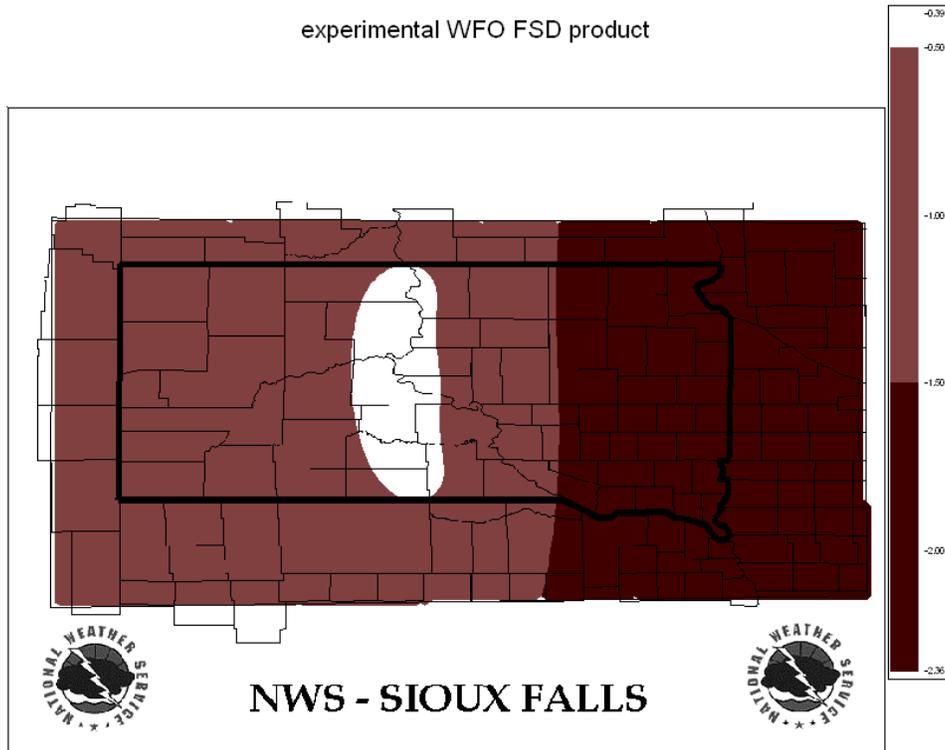
experimental WFO FSD product



April 2009 Precipitation Outlook

created 1/22/2009

experimental WFO FSD product



SUMMARY:

From the above images, the WFO FSD outlooks call for the following:

February Temperatures – Below Normal west and Above Normal east

February Precipitation – Below Normal far west, Near Normal central, and Above Normal east

March Temperatures – Near Normal for most areas

March Precipitation – Near Normal far west and far southeast, Below Normal elsewhere

April Temperatures – Above Normal for all areas

April Precipitation – Below normal for most areas

DISCLAIMER: WFO FSD is developing local 1 to 3 month outlooks of temperature and precipitation. These outlooks are experimental and still being tested and developed. They are being provided to give more details and a more deterministic outlook for South Dakota and the portions of Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska in the FSD forecast area. They are not intended to compete with or replace the official NOAA outlooks issued by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC), which are probabilistic. For more details on how these outlooks are prepared, or if you have any questions concerning these outlooks, please feel free to contact the WFO FSD Climate Services Focal Point [Mike Gillispie](#).