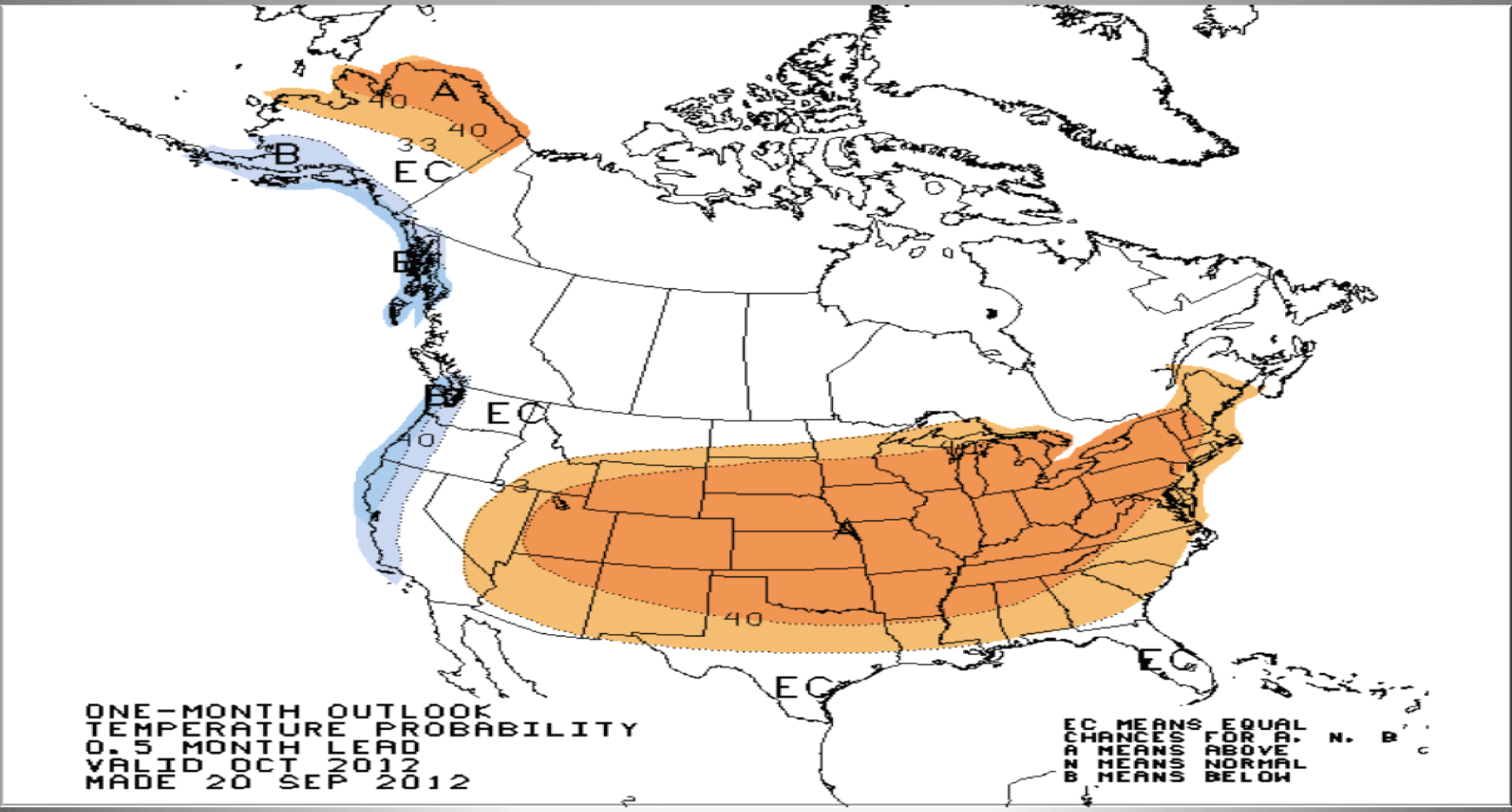
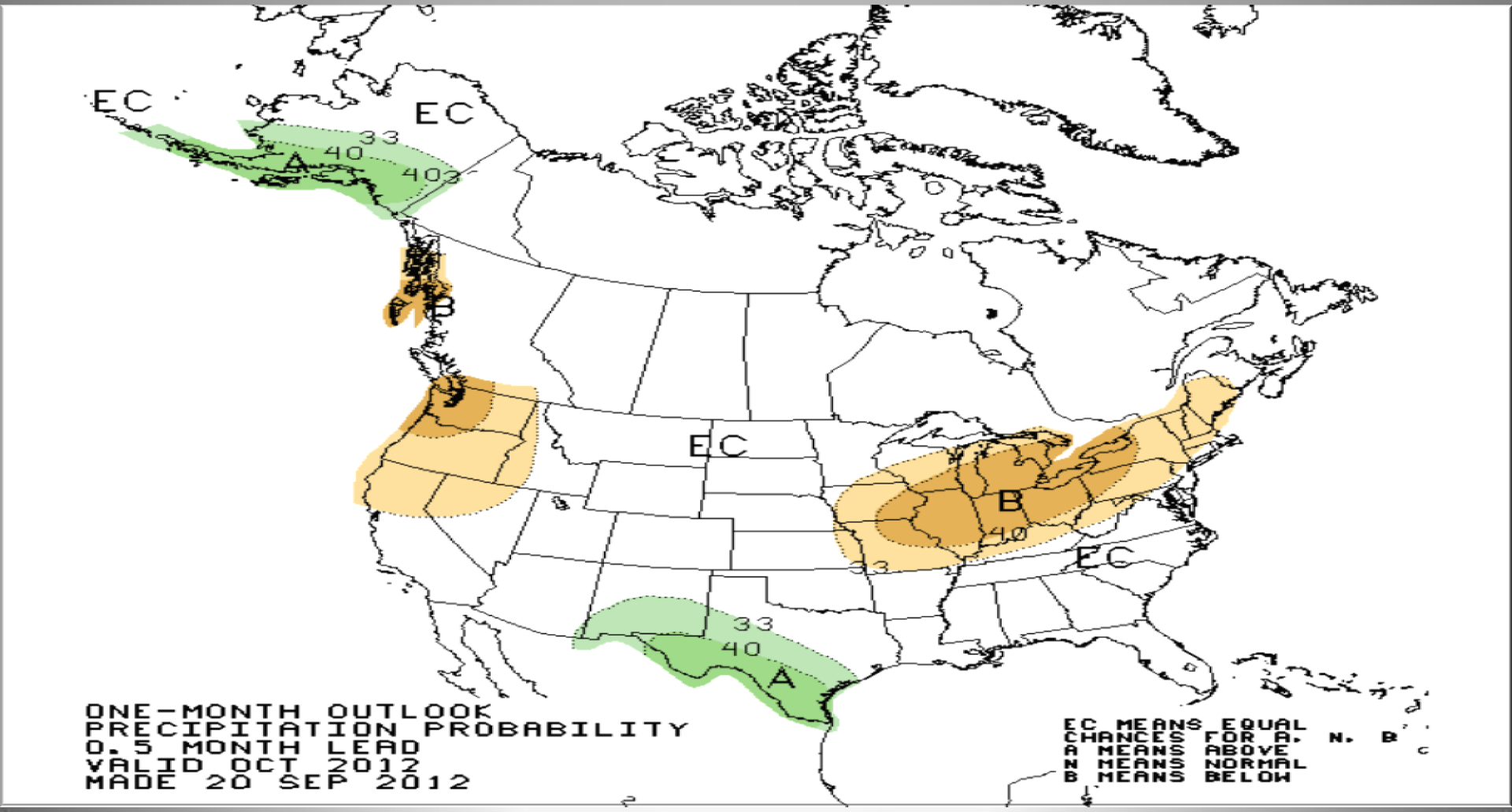
# Fall 2012 Outlook

## Exceptional Drought Will Continue

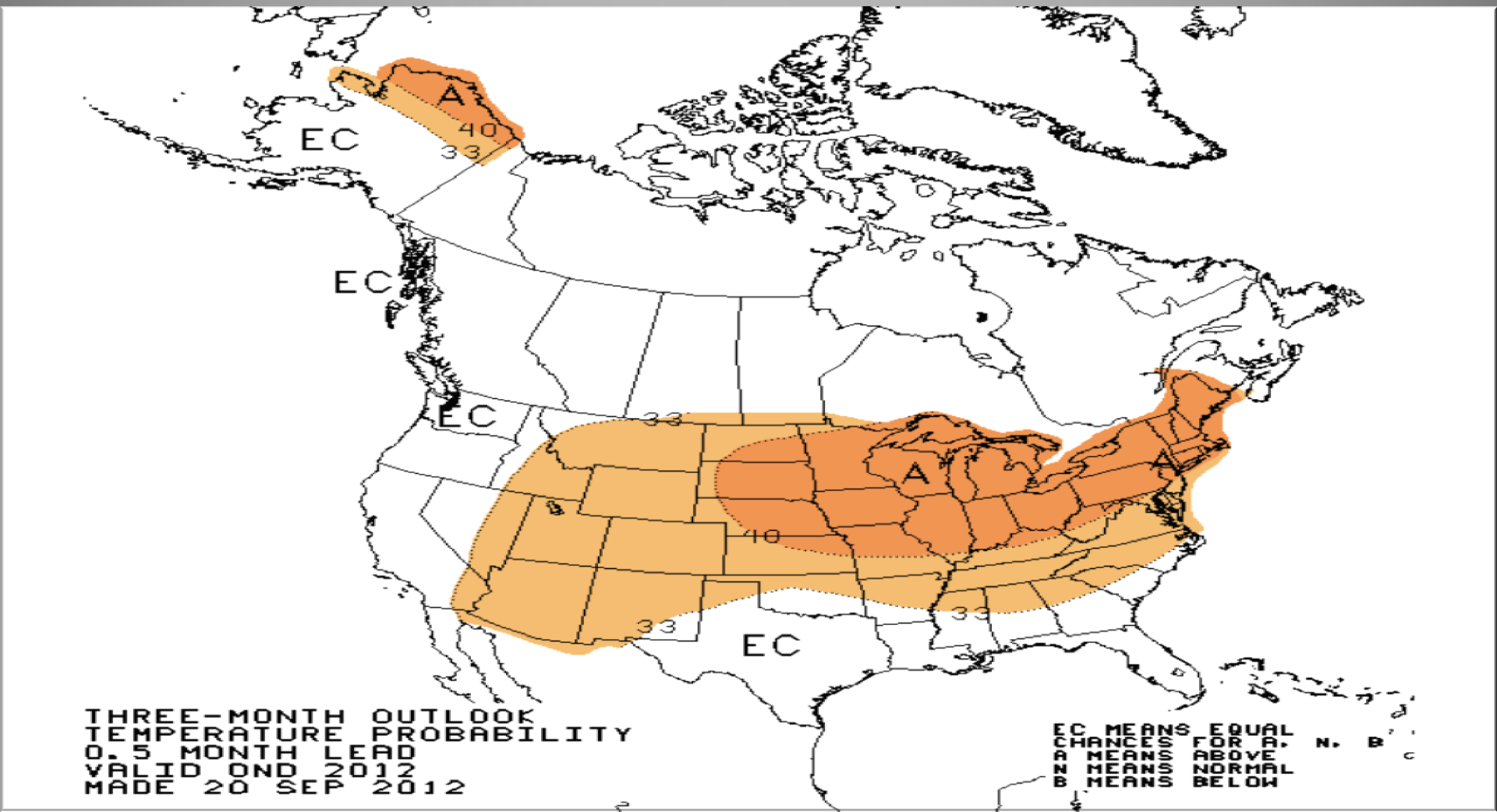
# One Month Temperature Outlook



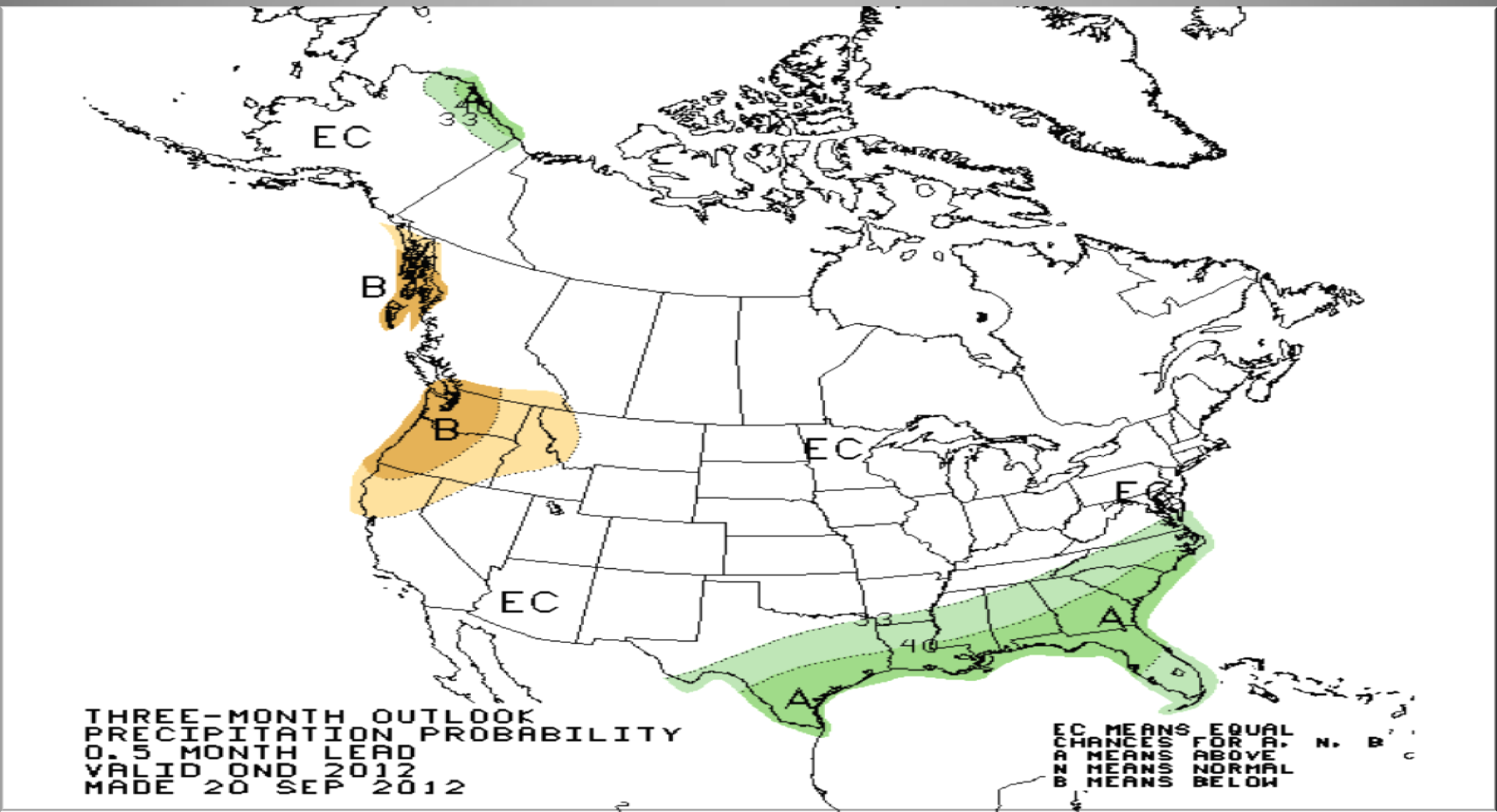
# One Month Precipitation Outlook



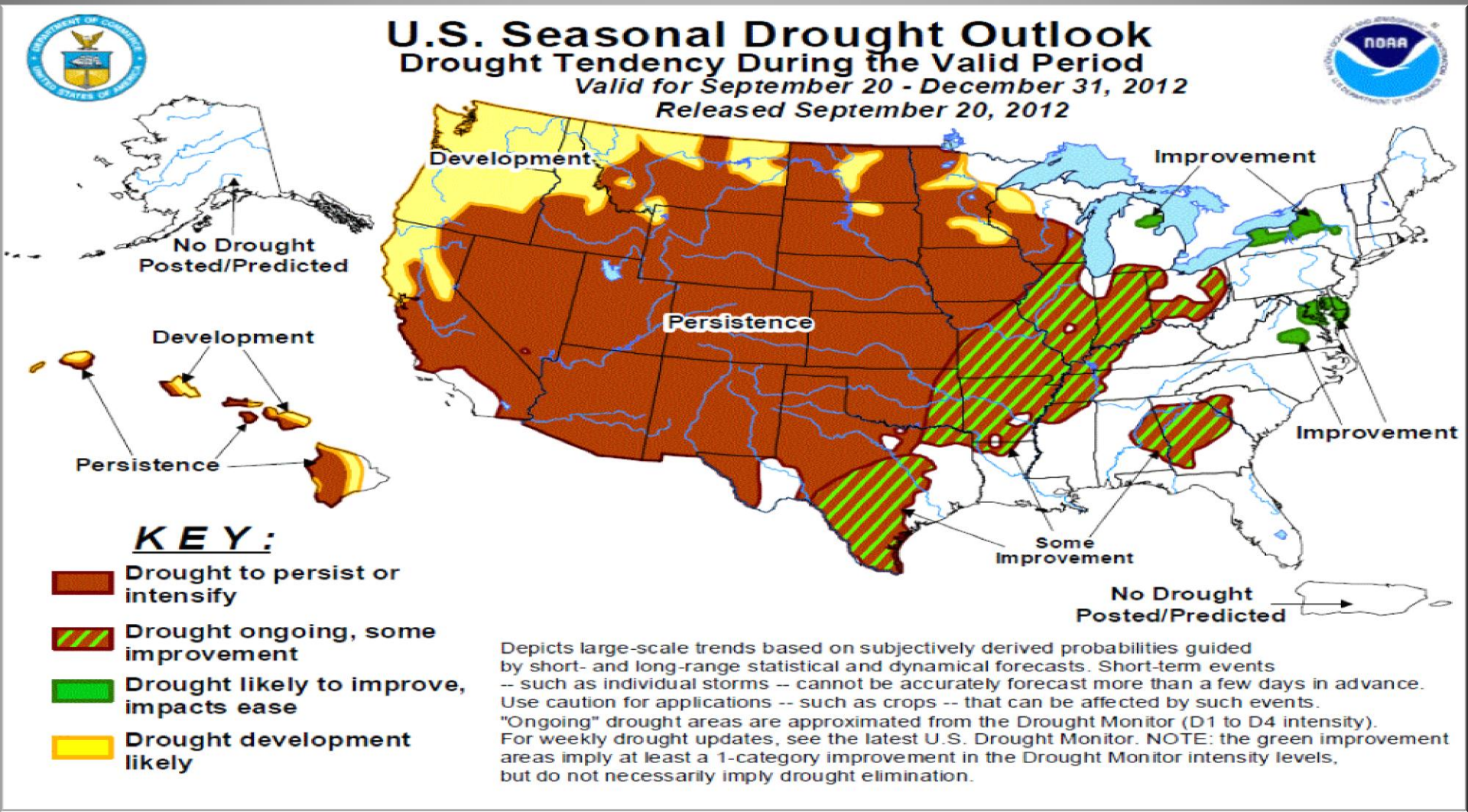
# Three Month Temperature Outlook



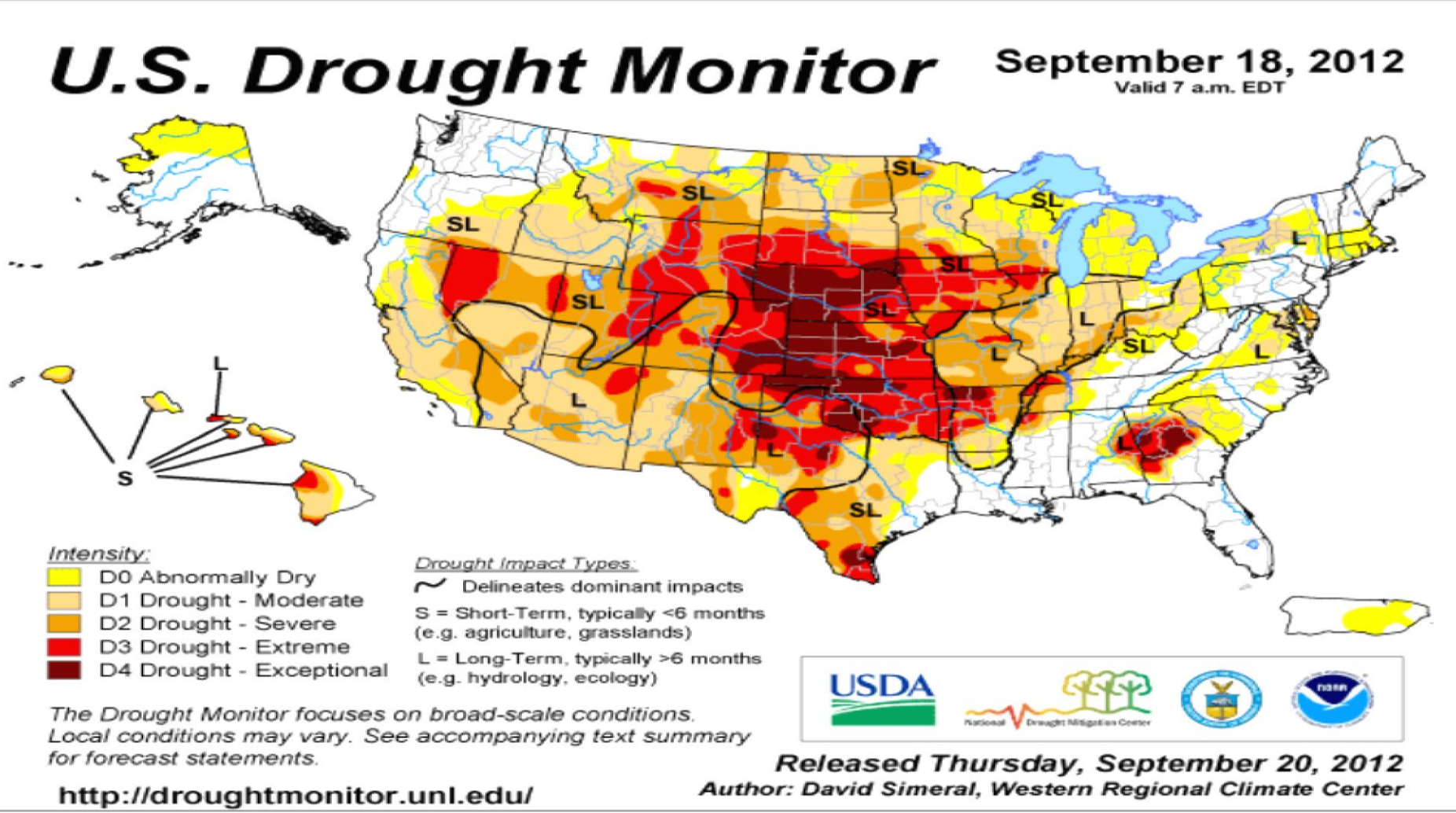
# Three Month Precipitation Outlook



# Seasonal Drought Outlook



# Drought Monitor



# Regional Viewpoint

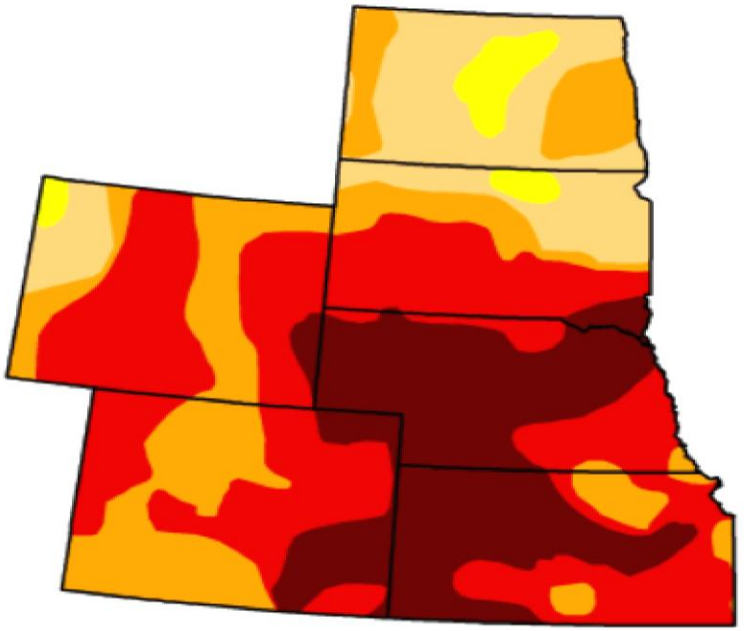
## U.S. Drought Monitor

**September 18, 2012**
Valid 7 a.m. EST

### High Plains

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Current | 0.00 | 100.00 | 97.28 | 82.81 | 60.63 | 23.71 |
| Last Week (09/11/2012 map) | 0.00 | 100.00 | 95.60 | 82.77 | 60.66 | 25.10 |
| 3 Months Ago (06/19/2012 map) | 18.53 | 81.47 | 59.11 | 21.59 | 6.35 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map) | 61.66 | 38.34 | 18.12 | 7.22 | 2.07 | 0.04 |
| Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map) | 70.09 | 29.91 | 17.44 | 11.97 | 6.22 | 2.96 |
| One Year Ago (09/13/2011 map) | 64.67 | 35.33 | 16.76 | 12.75 | 6.98 | 2.96 |



*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

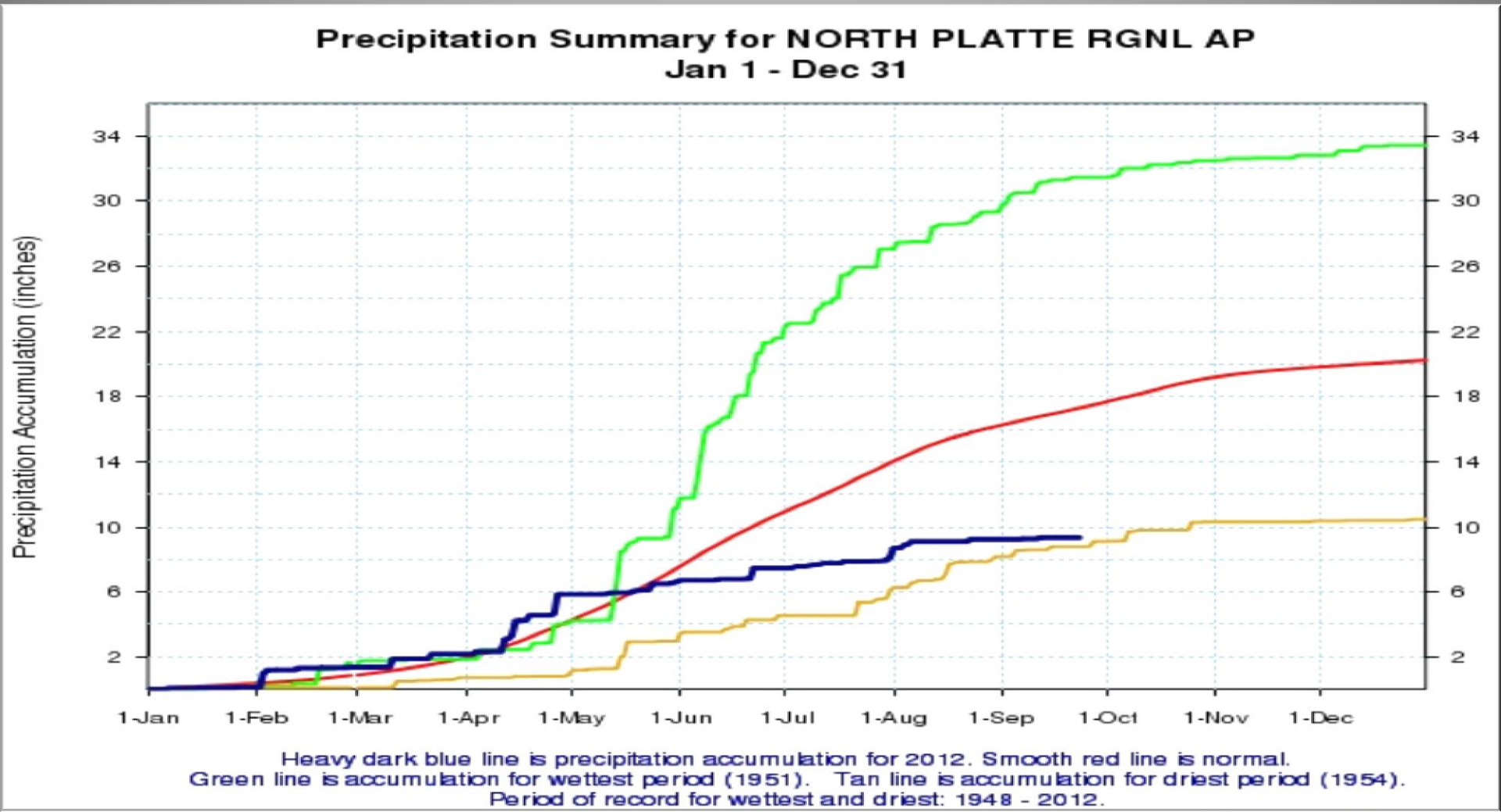
*Released Thursday, September 20, 2012*
*David Simeral, Western Regional Climate Center*

# Drought Talking Points

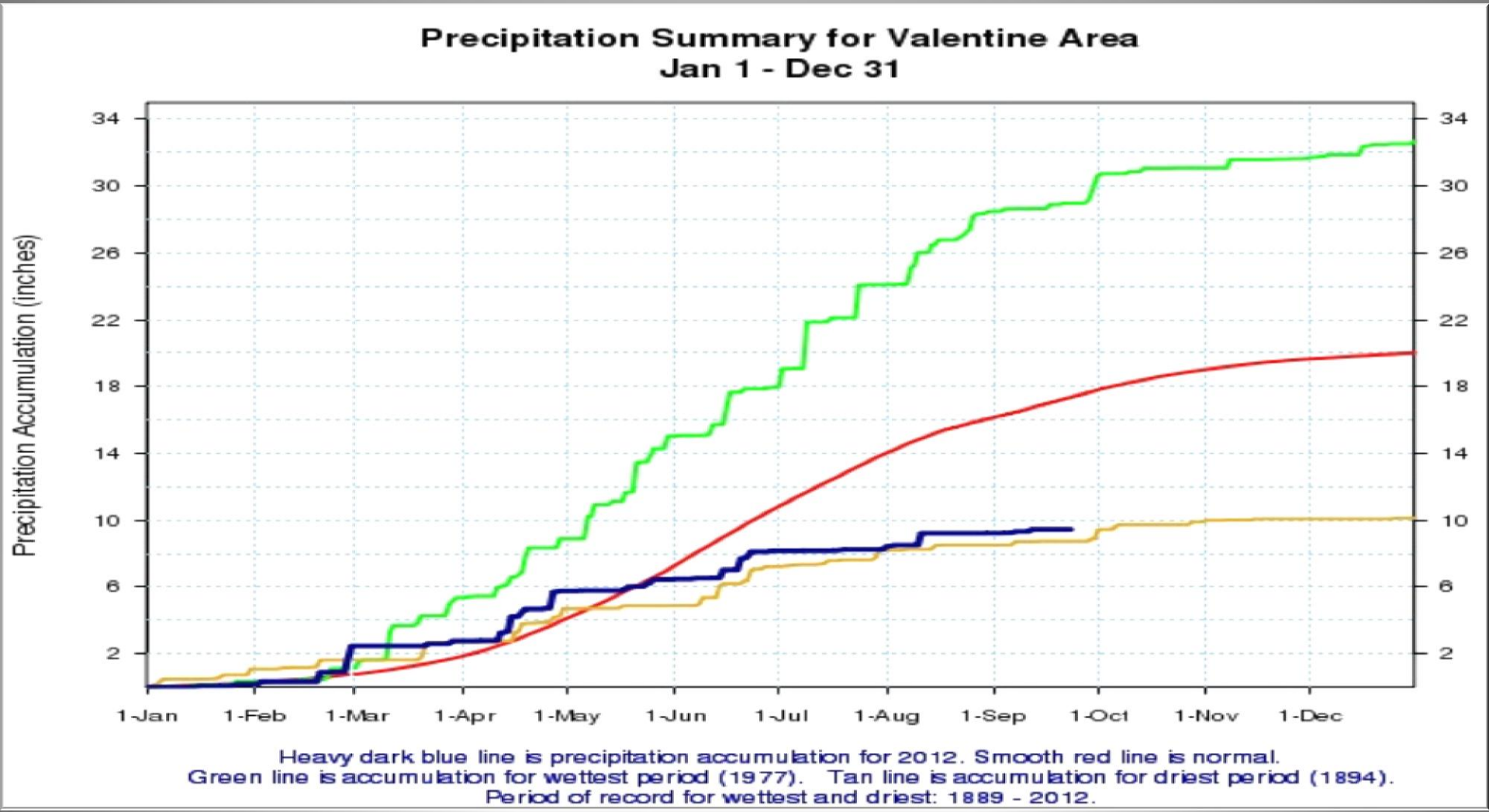
- A vast majority of the Central Plains will continue to experience drought conditions through October, November and December. Parts of the Dakotas, Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin will see drought conditions develop.

- All Central Plains locations are favored for above average temperatures during the October, November and December period.

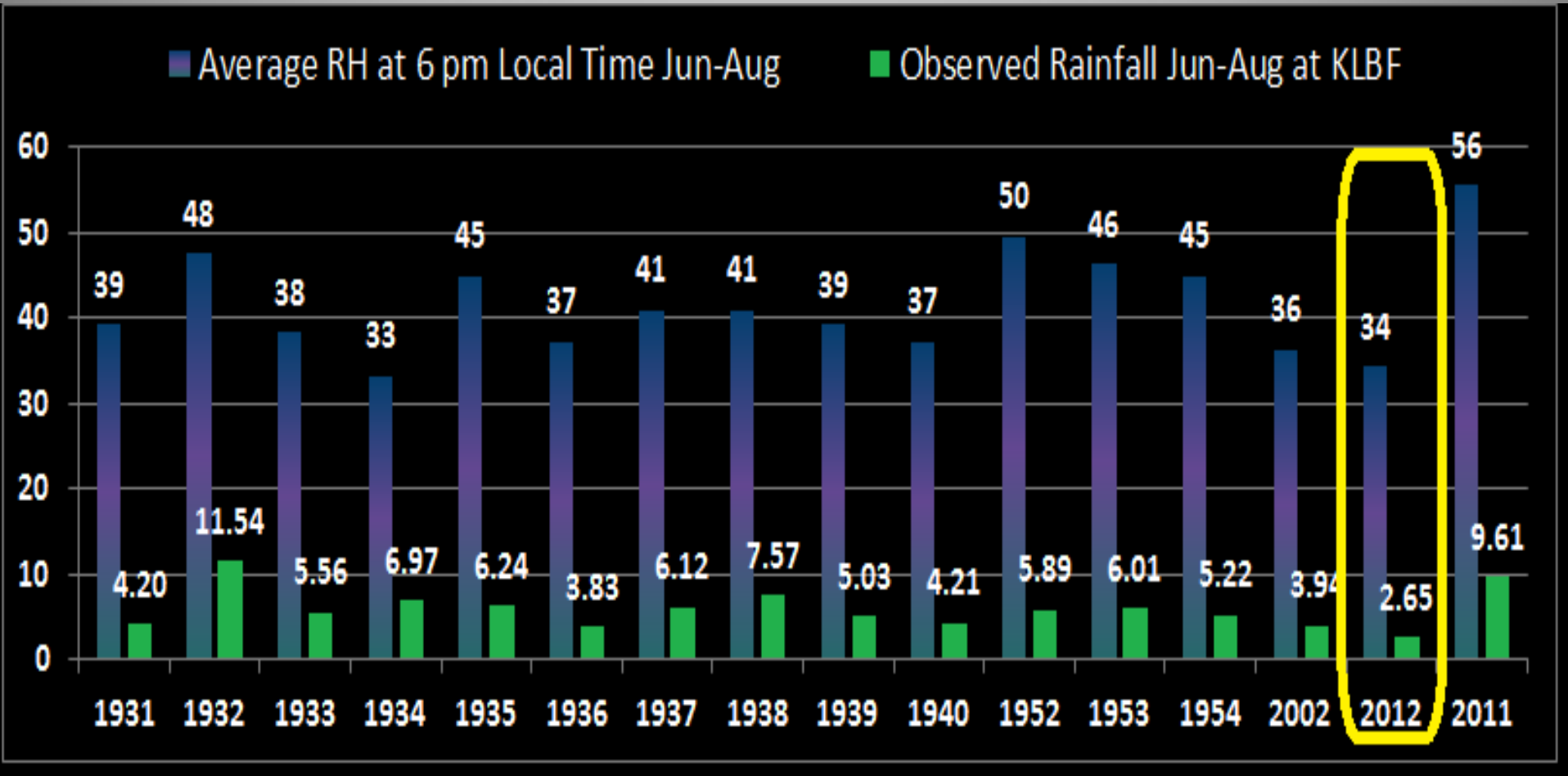
# Precipitation Graph-North Platte



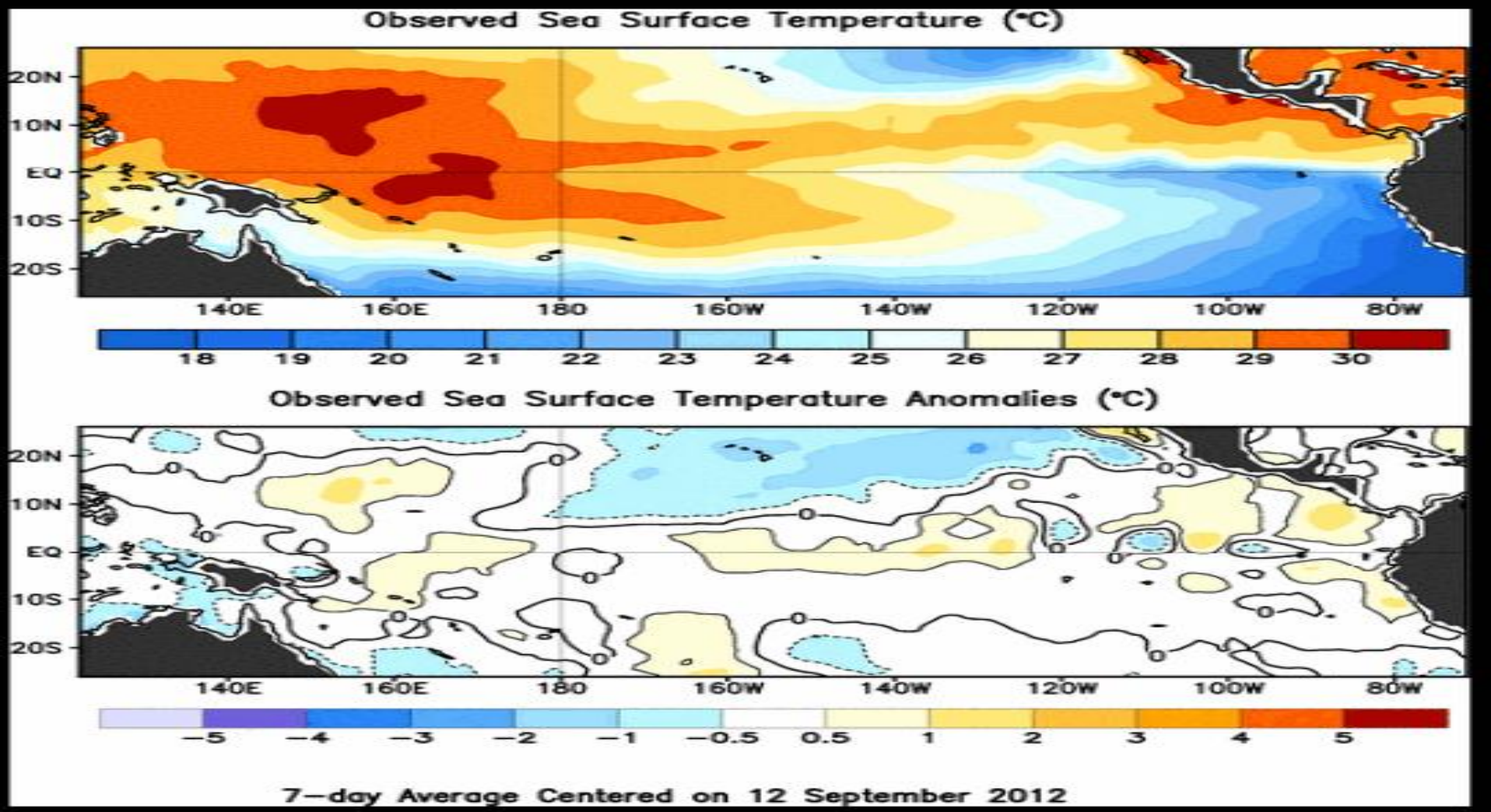
# Precipitation Graph-Valentine



# A Comparative Look At Other Drought Years



# Observed Sea Surface Temperatures

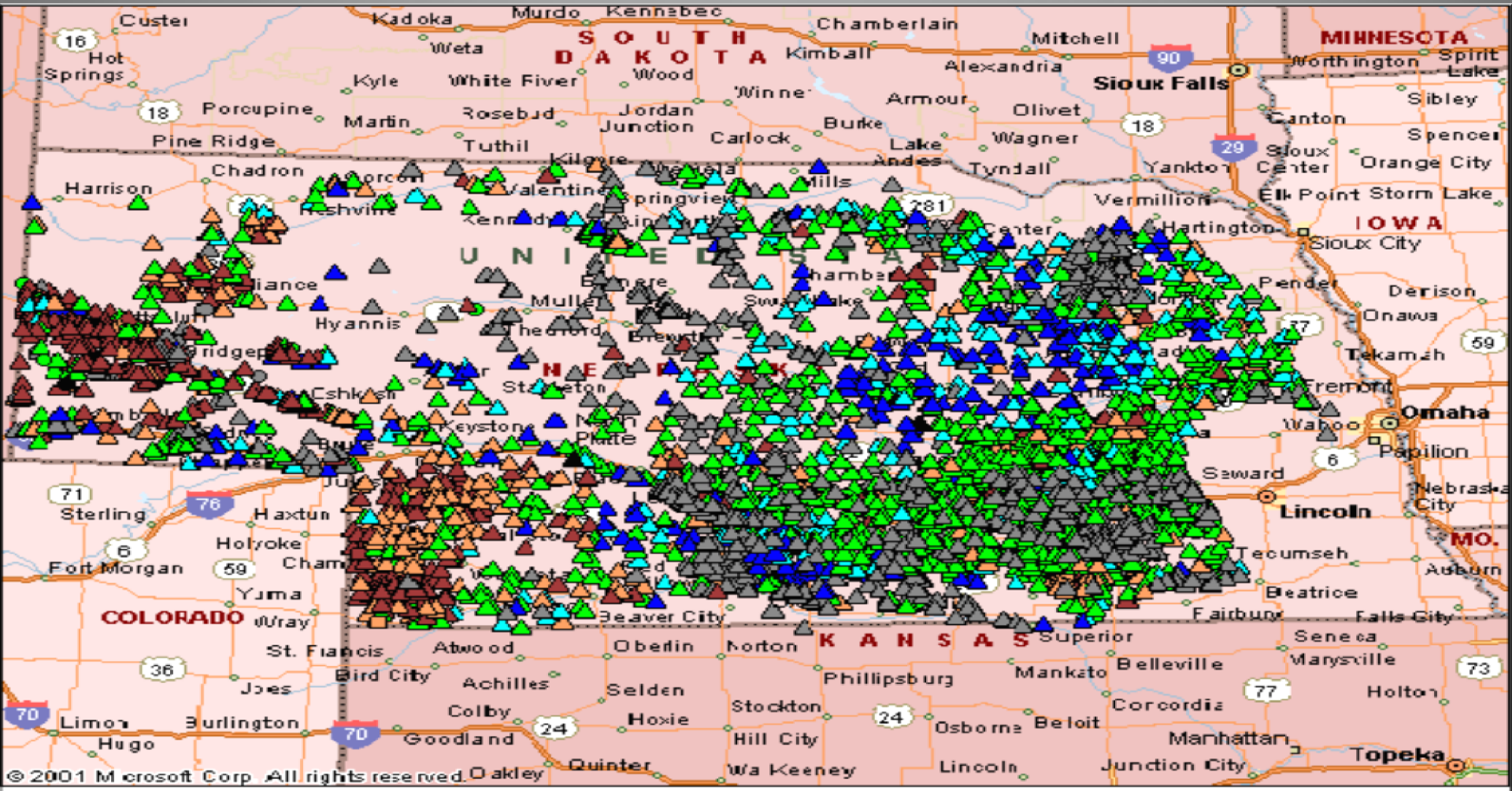


# Weak El Nino Developing

- ENSO Alert System Status: **El Niño Watch**
- Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) continued to warm slightly and are greater than 0.5°C above average across the eastern Pacific Ocean.
- Conditions are currently transitioning to El Niño and will likely meet criteria for a weak El Niño state in October.

# Ogallala Aquifer Draw Down

(Graphic courtesy of the USGS)




| Explanation - Percentile classes (symbol color based on most recent measurement) | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | Real Time |
| Low | <10 | 10-24 | 25-75 | 76-90 | >90 | High | Not Ranked | Continuous |
| | Much Below Normal | Below Normal | Normal | Above Normal | Much Above Normal | | | Periodic Measurements |