



Climate Update

**Wendy Ryan
Colorado Climate Center**

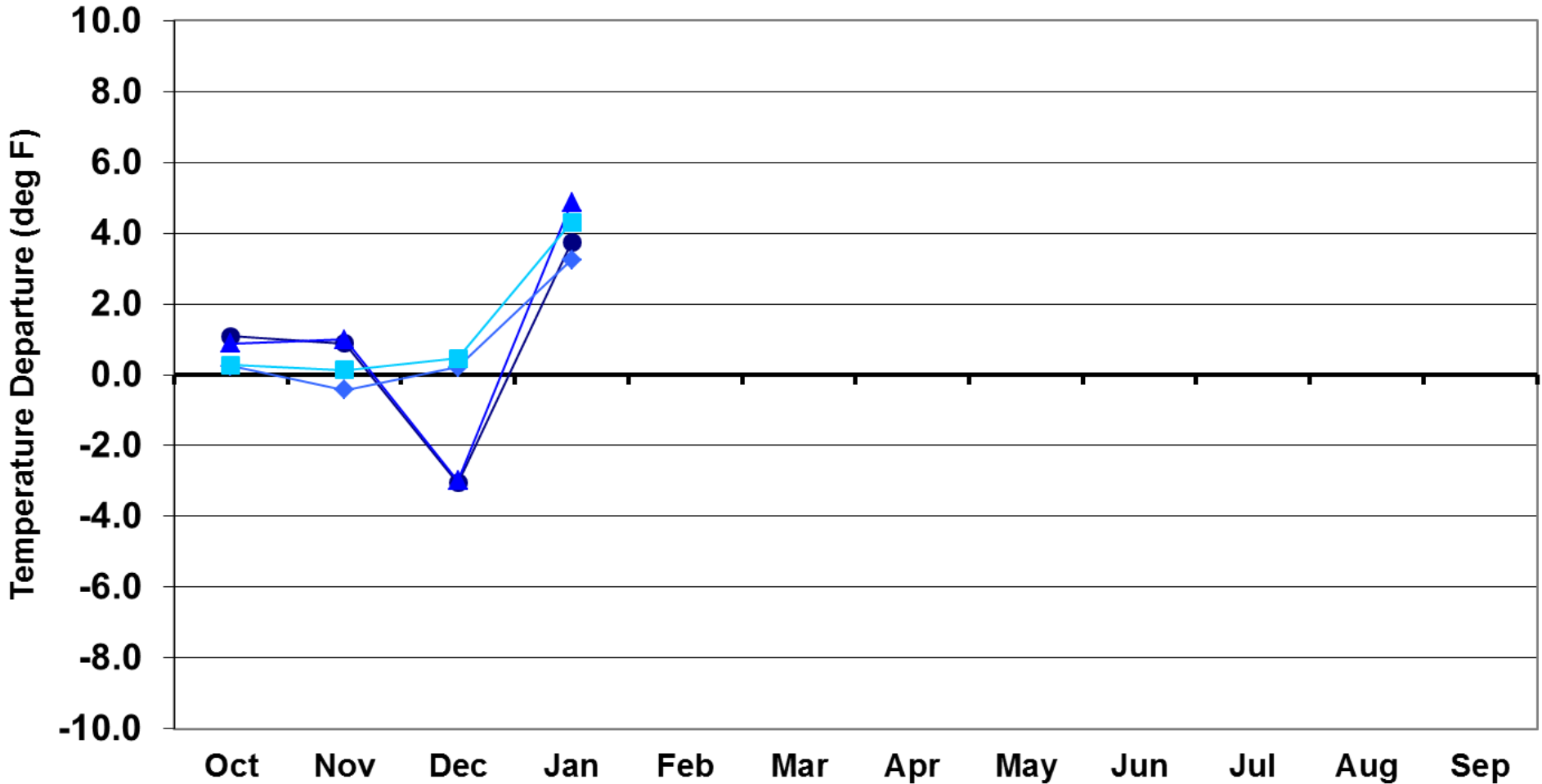
**Atmospheric Science Department
Colorado State University**

**Presented to
Water Availability Task Force
February 16, 2012
Denver, CO**

Prepared by Wendy Ryan

Water Year 2012 Temperature Departures

Water Year 2012



● Eastern Plains

▲ Foothills

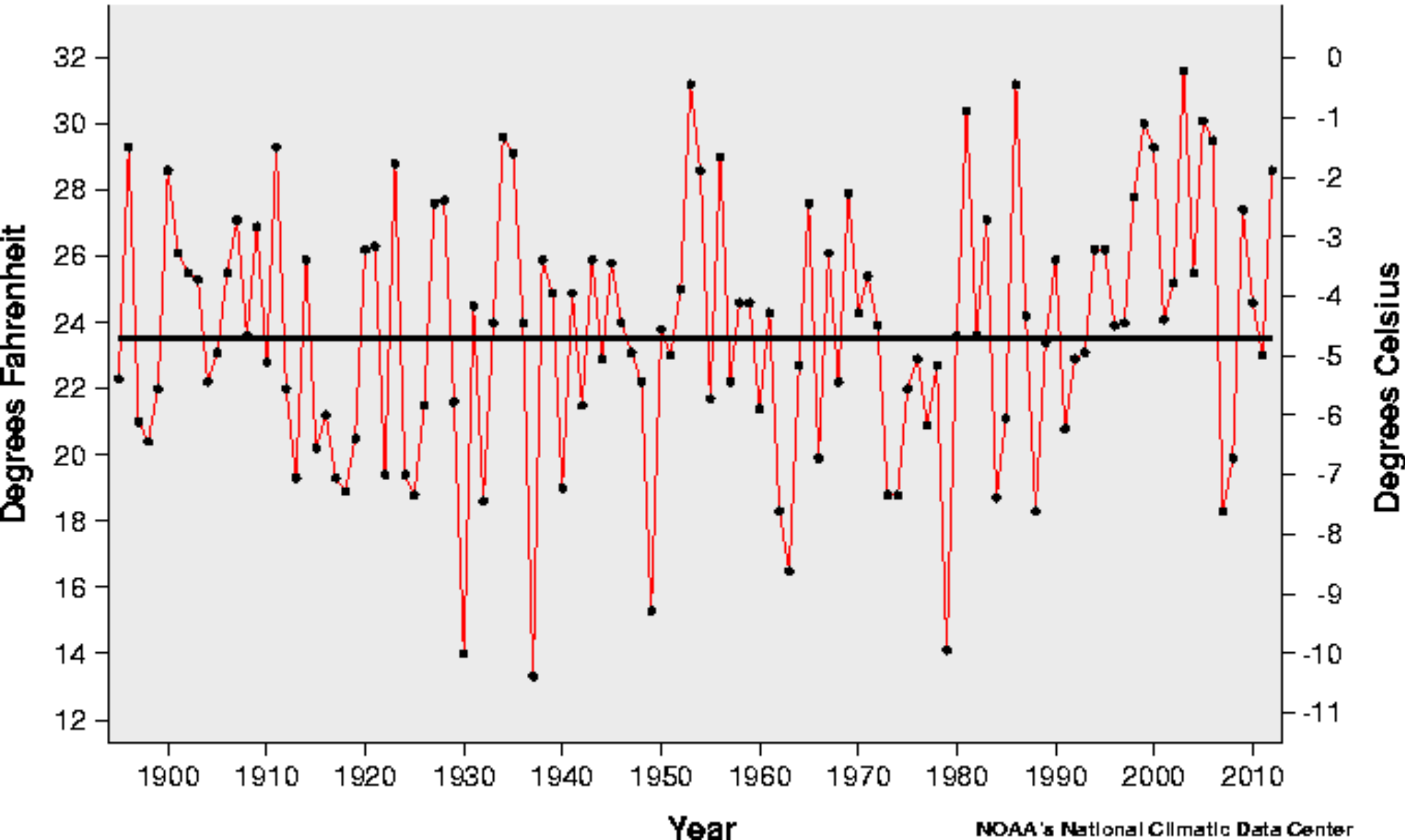
◆ Mountains

■ Western Valleys

January Average Temperature History for Colorado (NCDC)

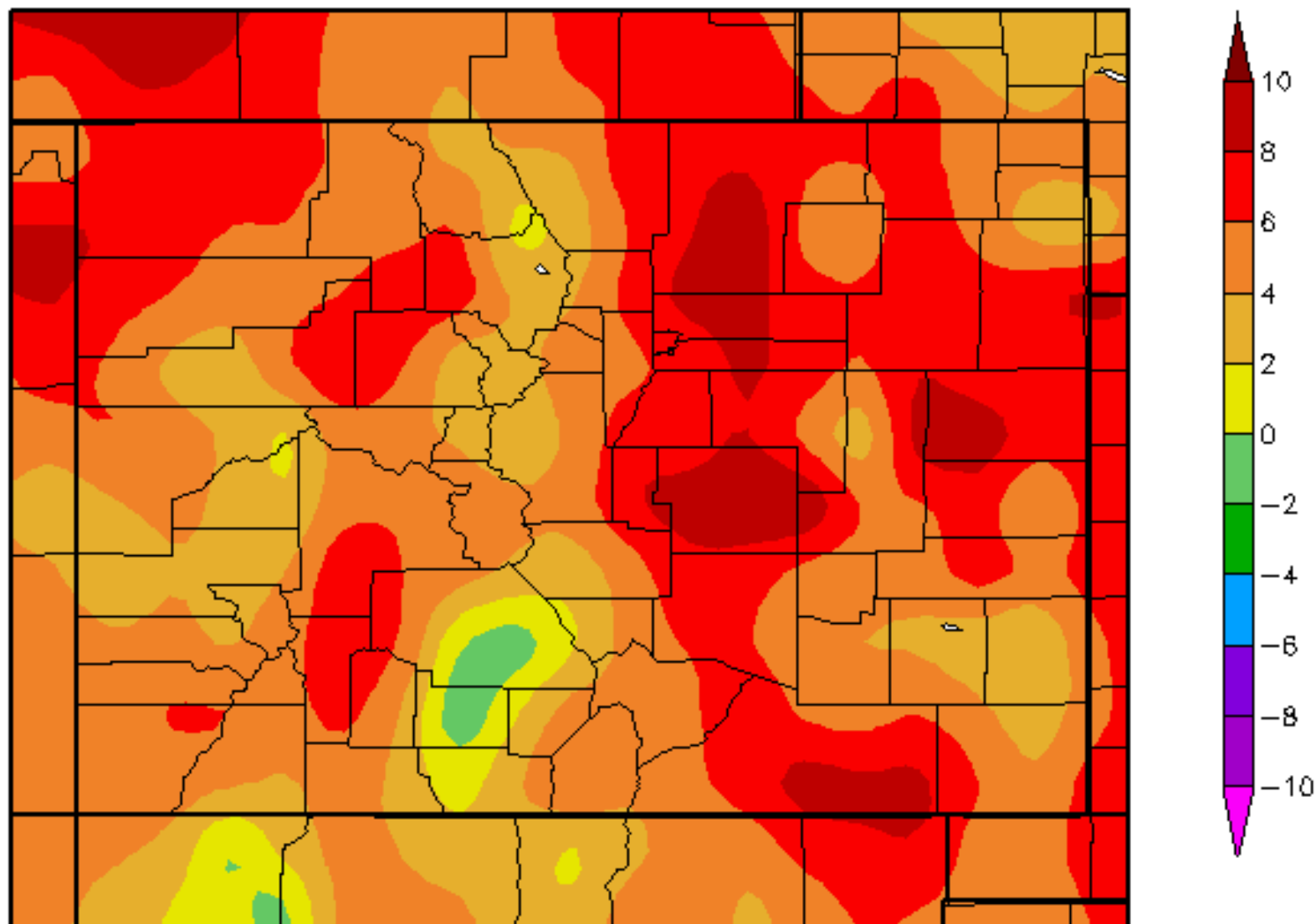
— Actual Temperature
— Average Temperature

28.6 Ranks as the 15th warmest on record
1895-2012 tied with 1900 and 1954.



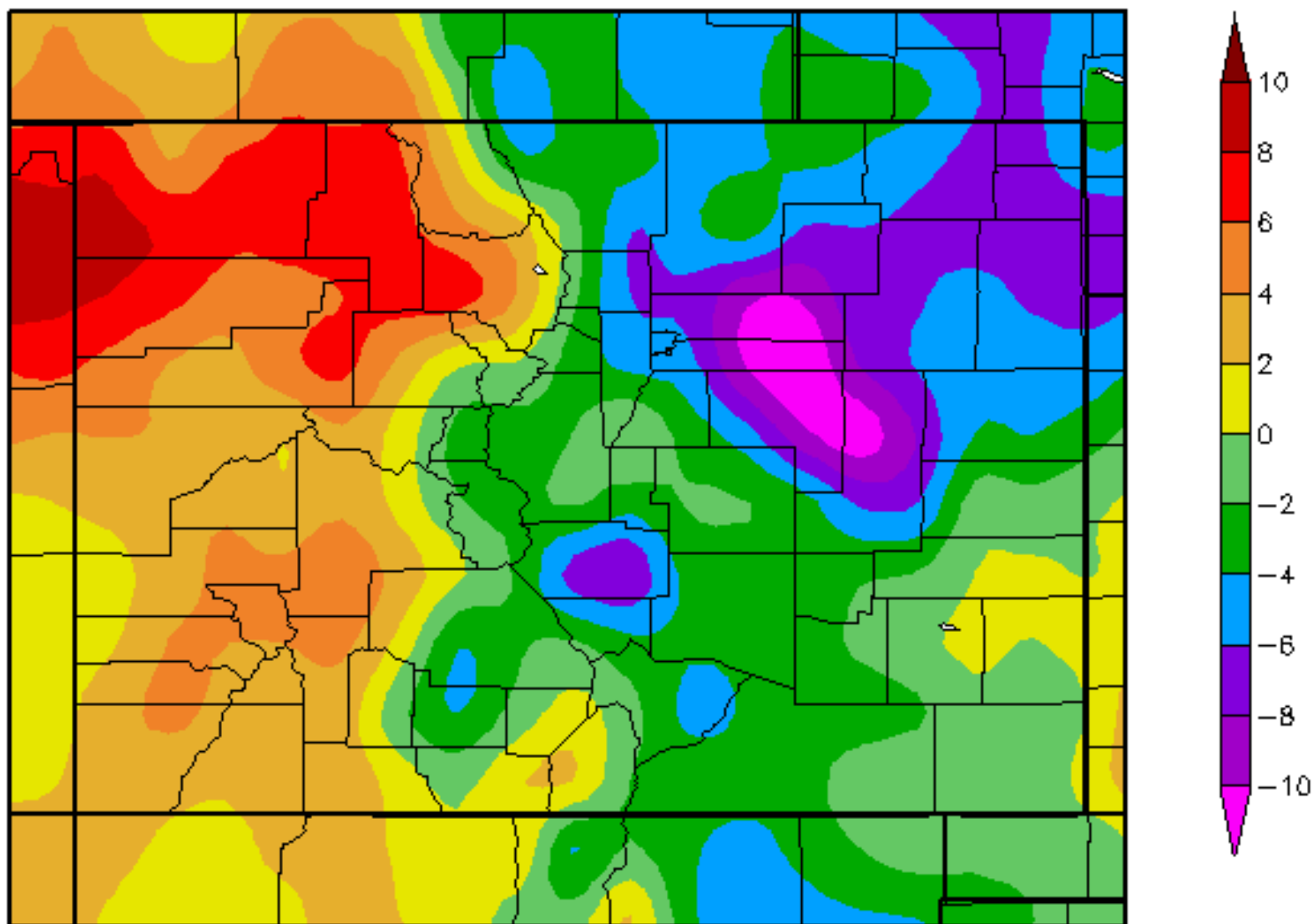
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

1/1/2012 - 1/31/2012

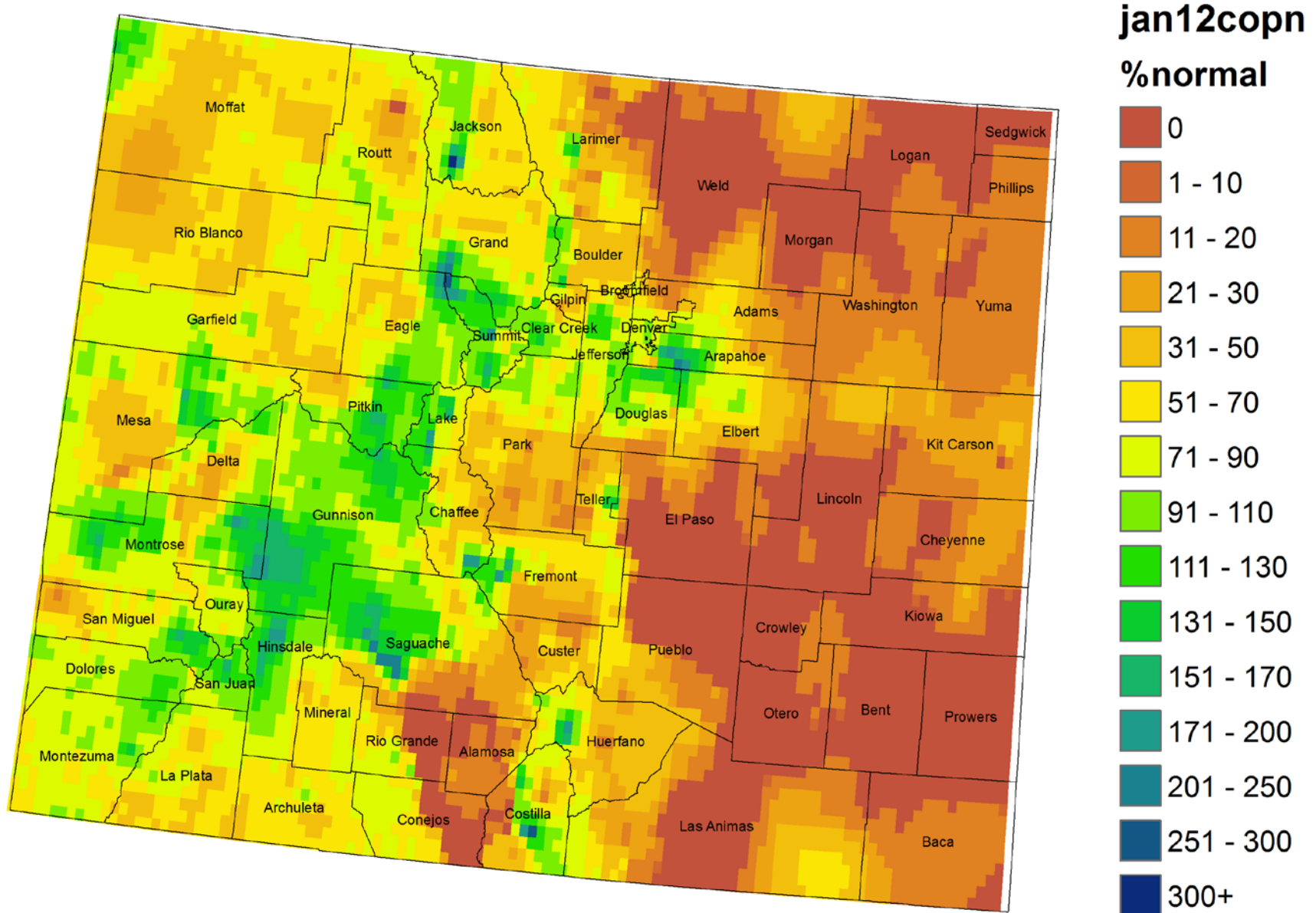


Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

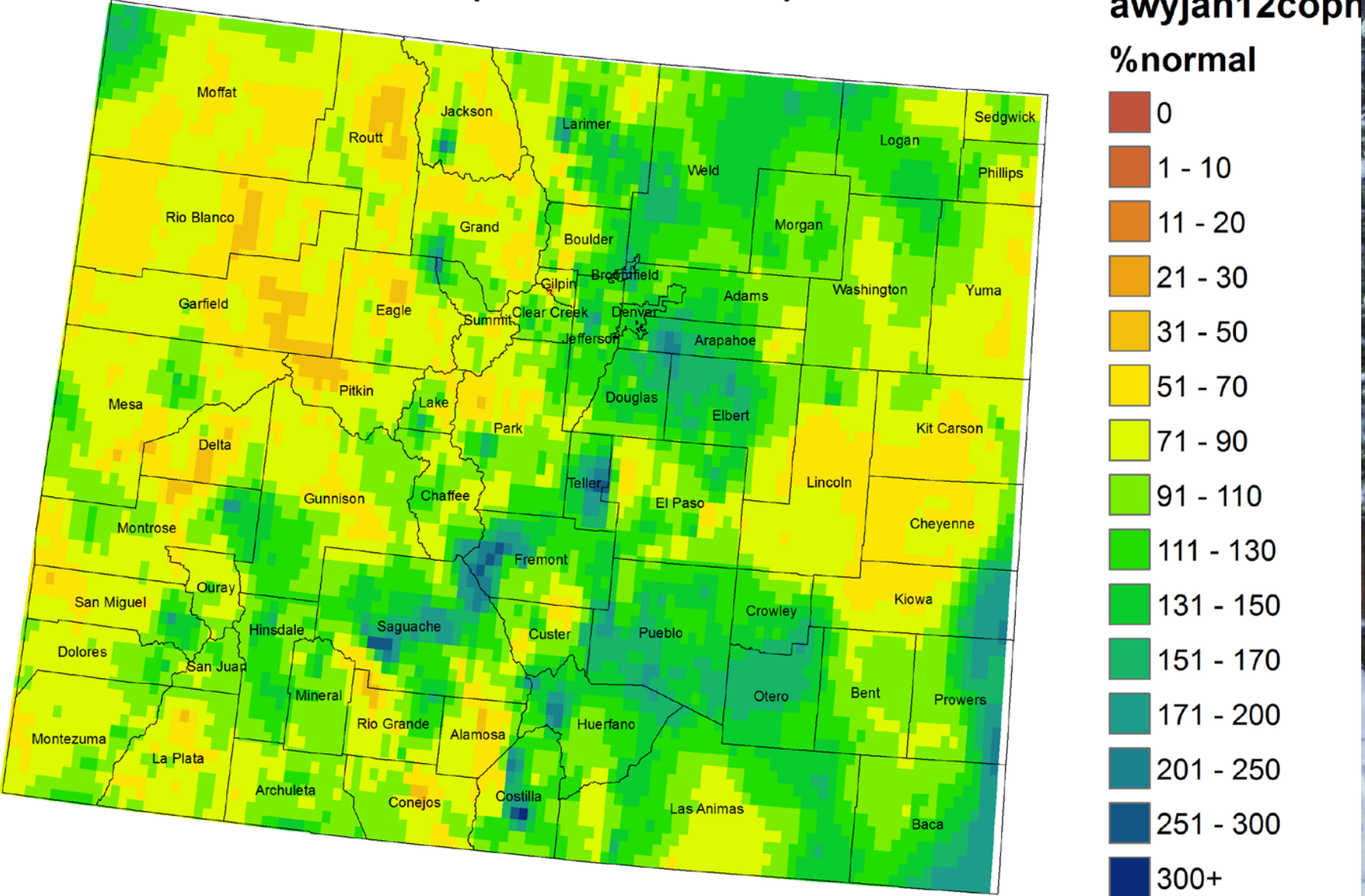
2/1/2012 - 2/14/2012



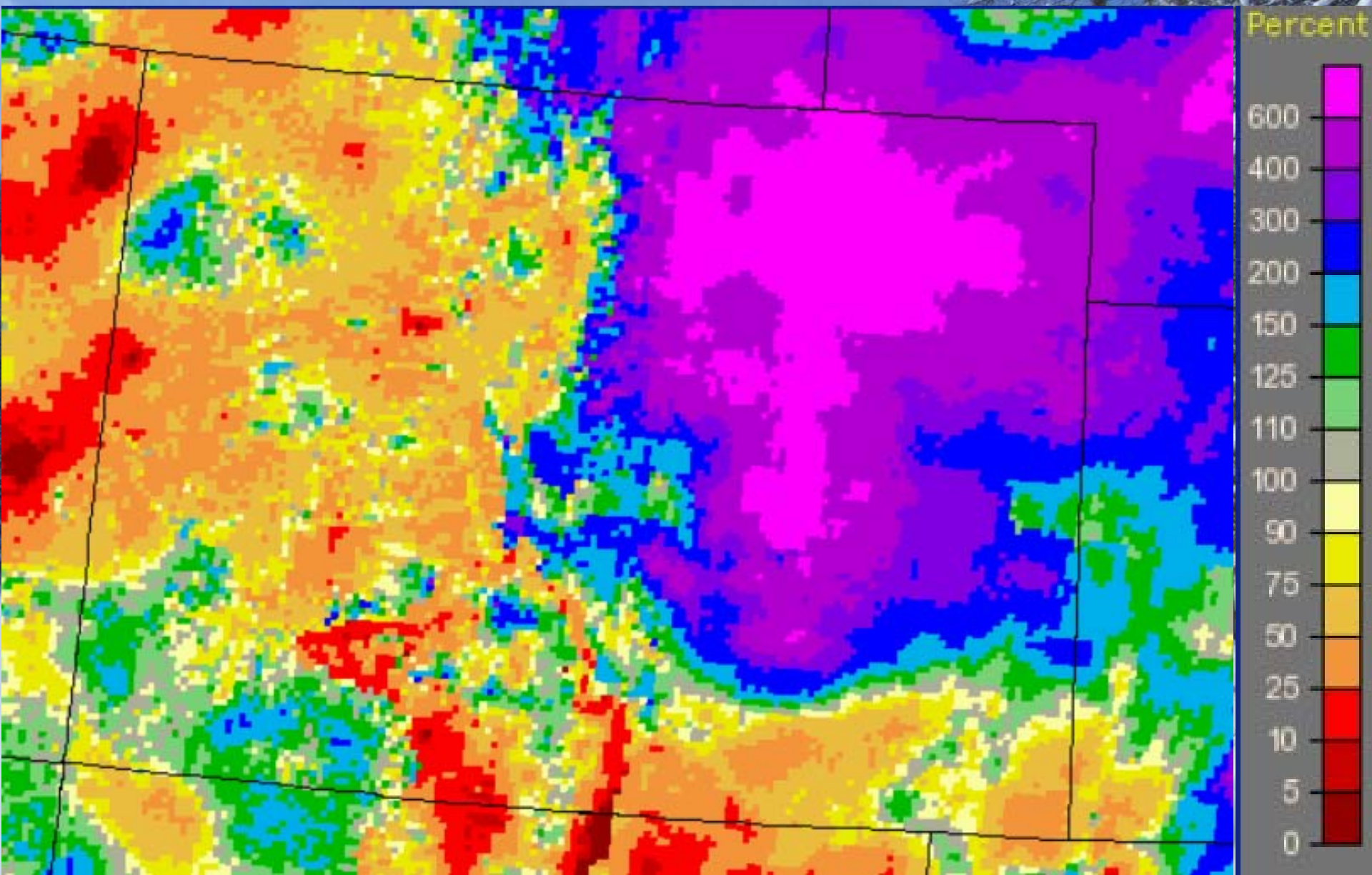
Colorado January 2012 Precipitation as Percentage of Normal



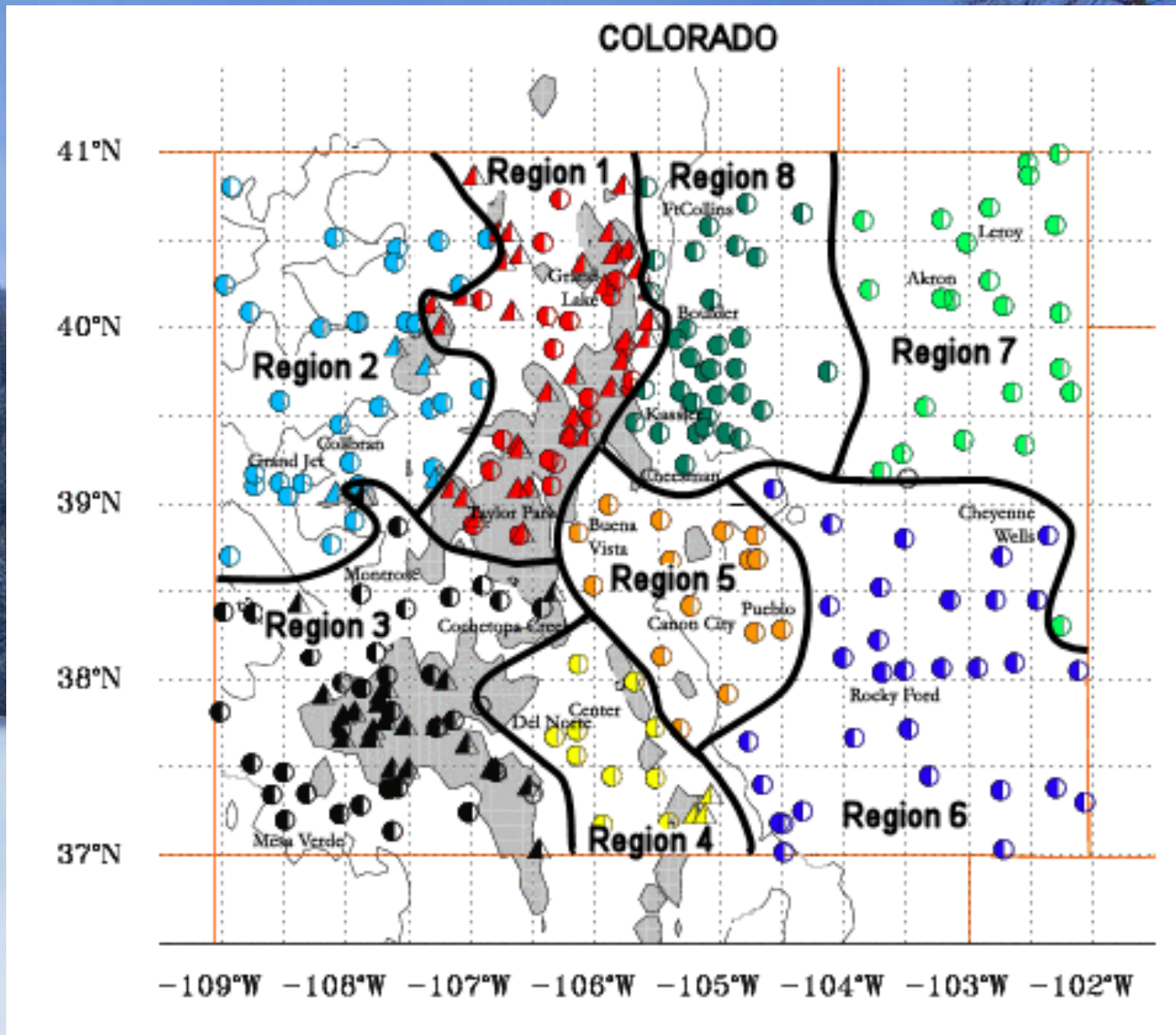
Colorado Water Year 2012 Precipitation as Percentage of Normal (Oct 11 - Jan 12)



February-to-date Percent of Normal

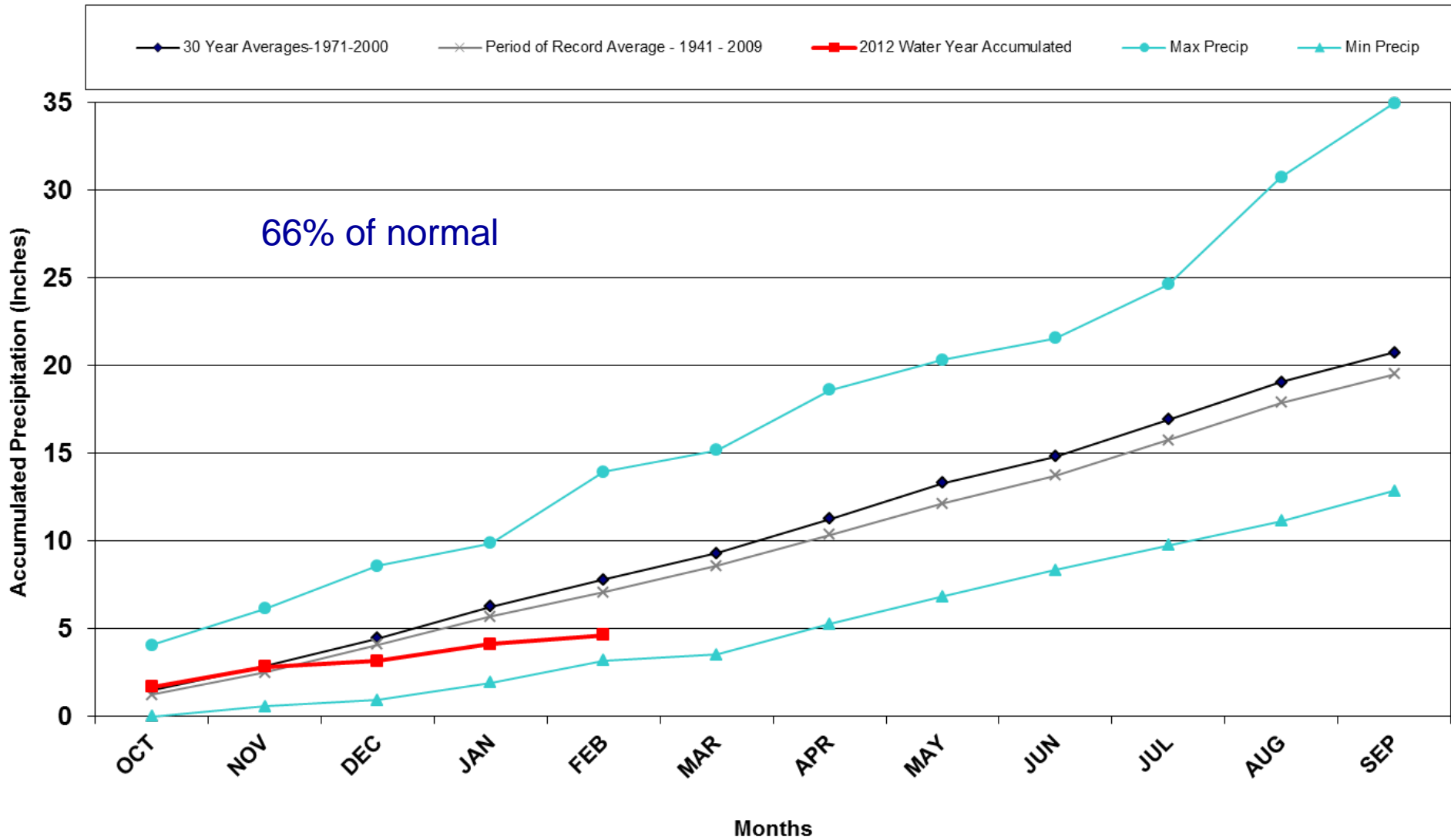


Climate divisions defined by Dr. Klaus Wolter of NOAA's Climate Diagnostic Center in Boulder, CO



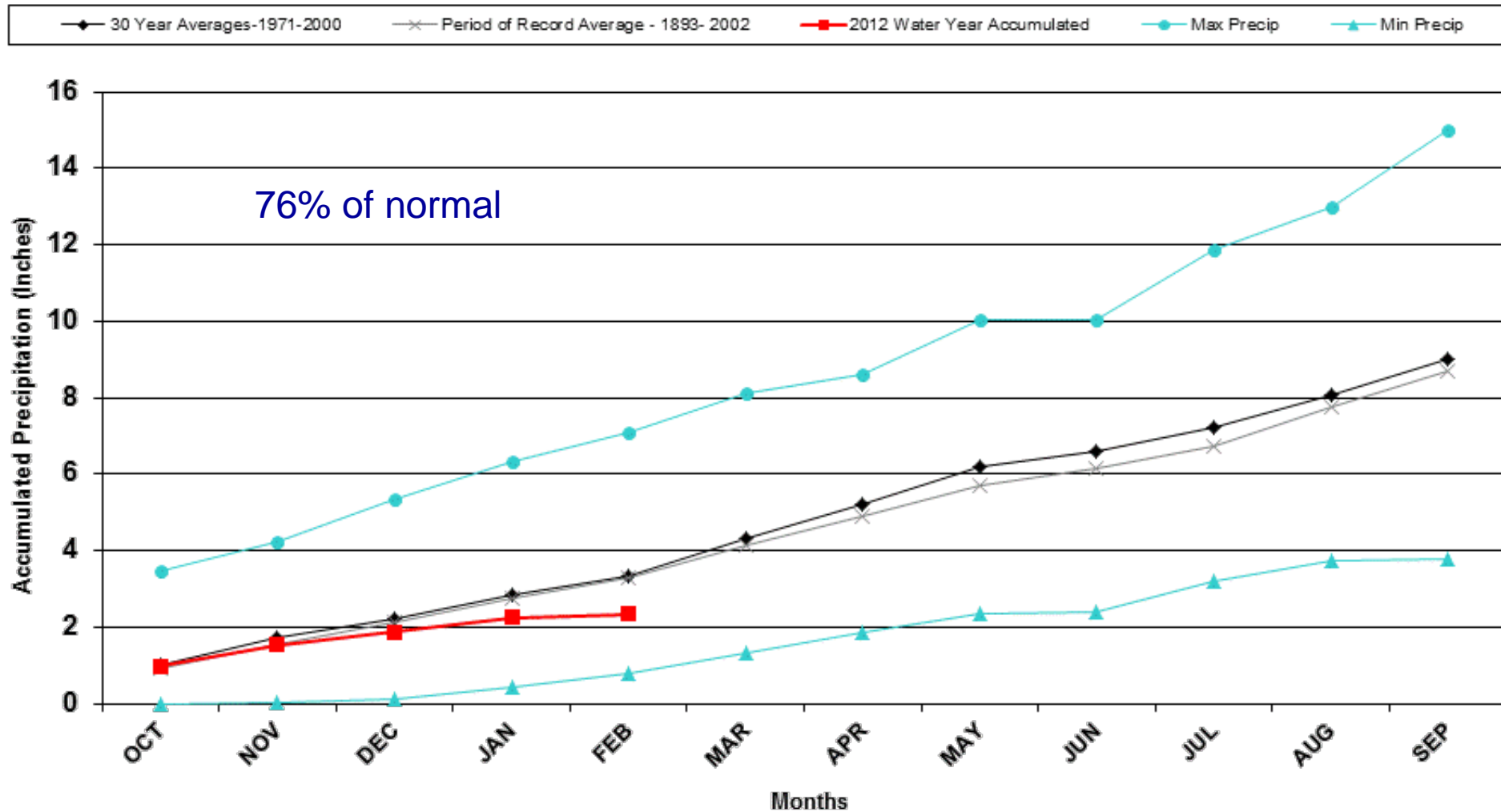
Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

Grand Lake 1 NW 2012 Water Year



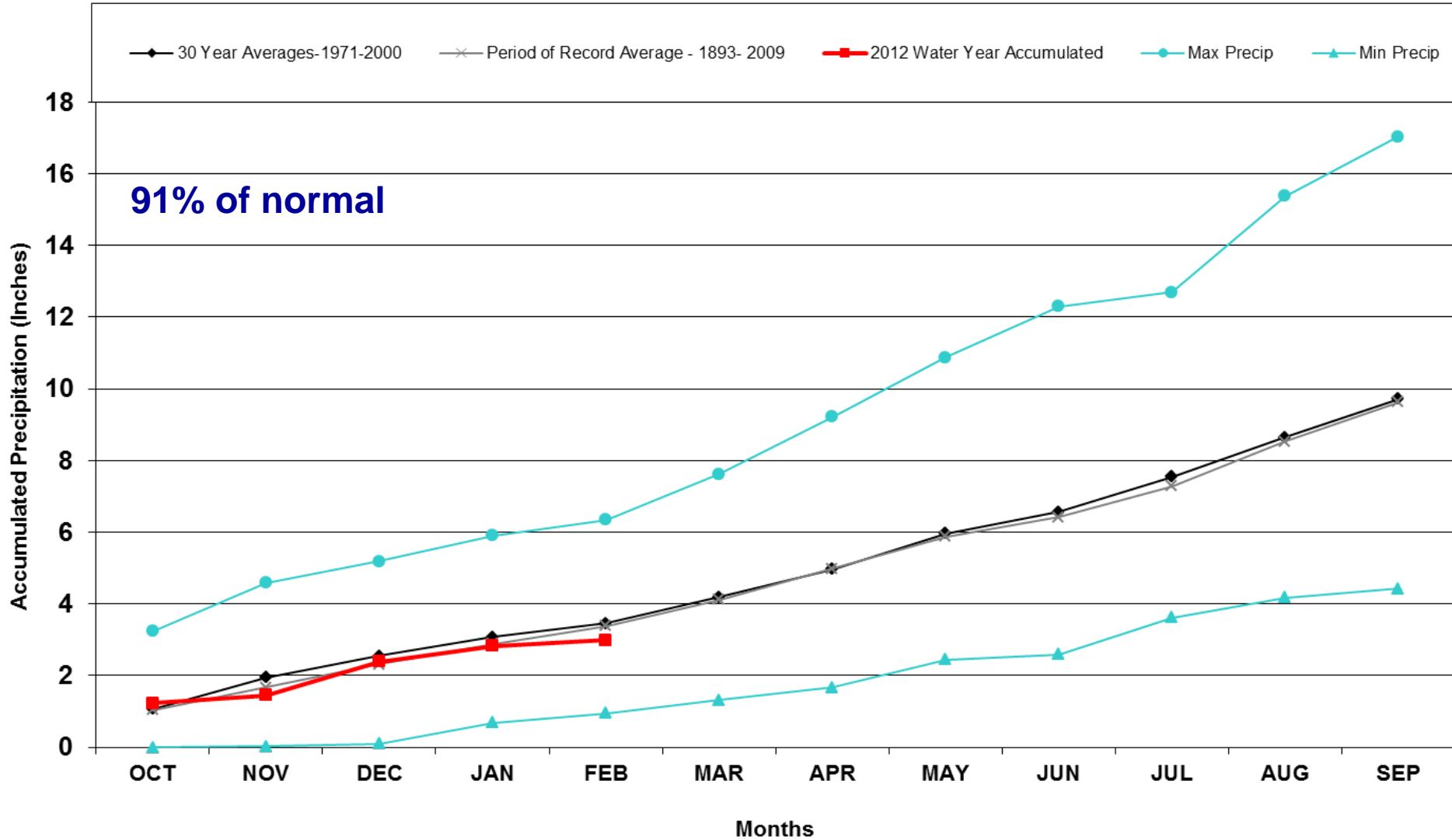
Division 2 – Grand Junction

Grand Junction WSFO 2012 Water Year



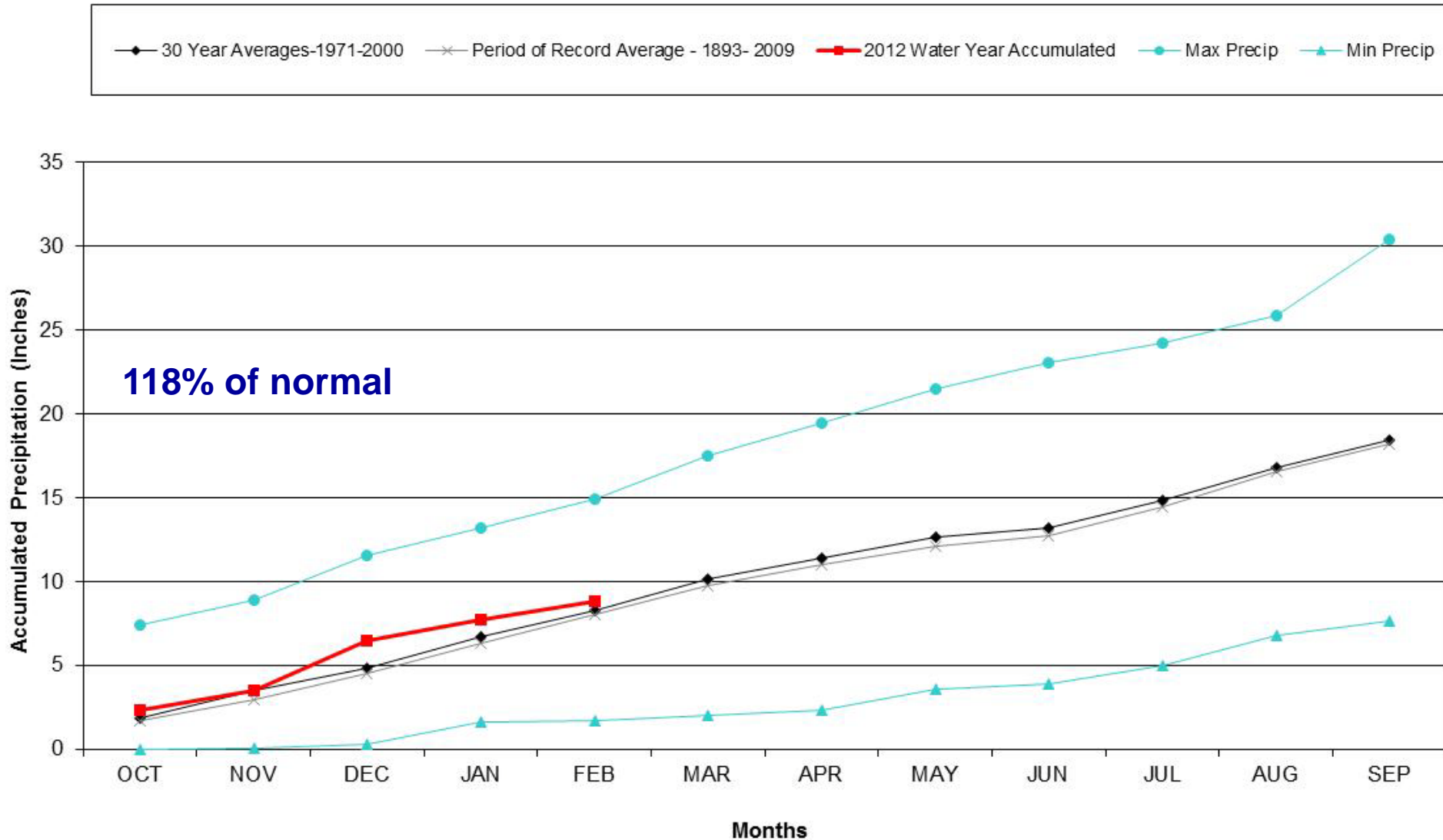
Division 3 – Montrose

Montrose #2 2012 Water Year



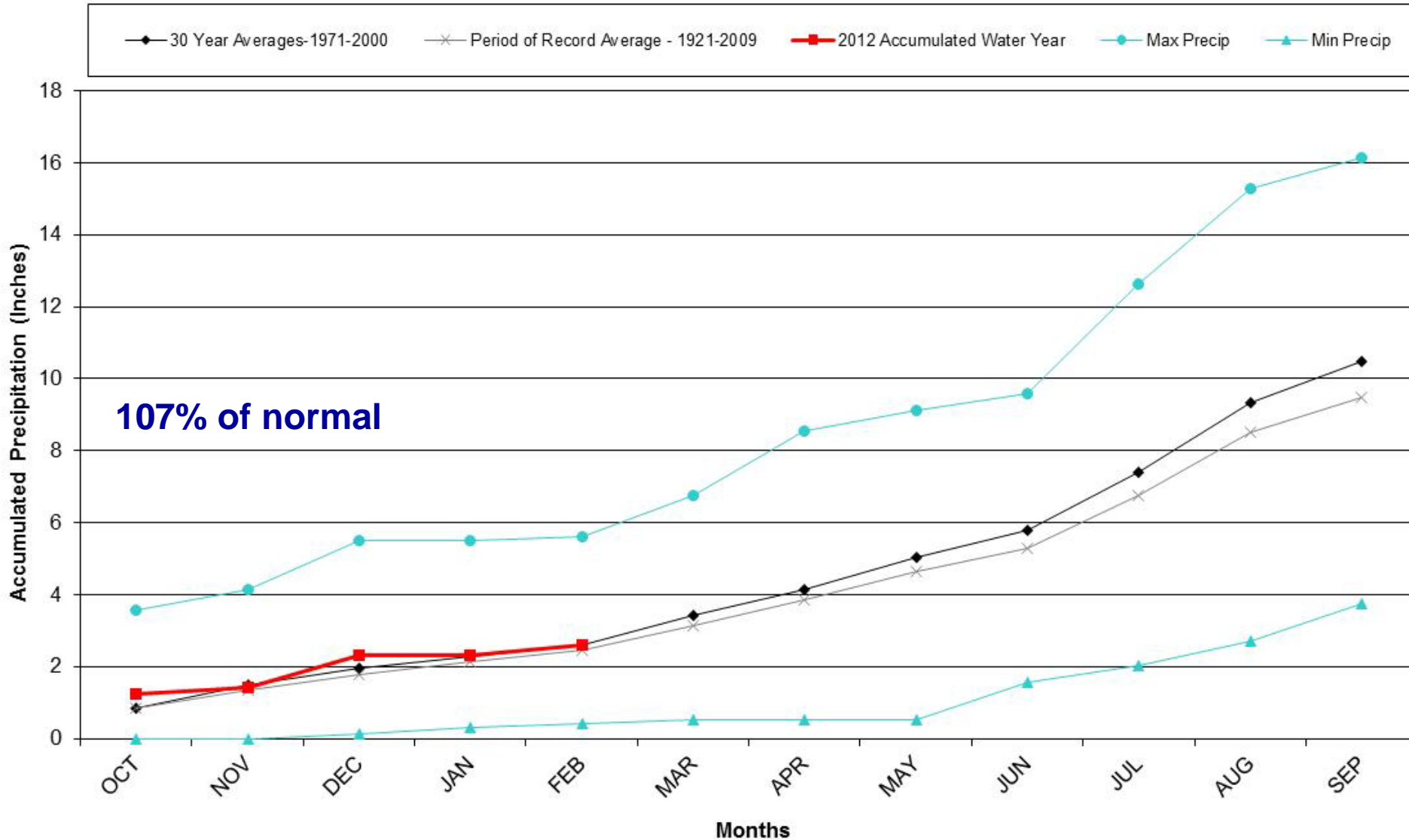
Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

Mesa Verde NP 2012 Water Year



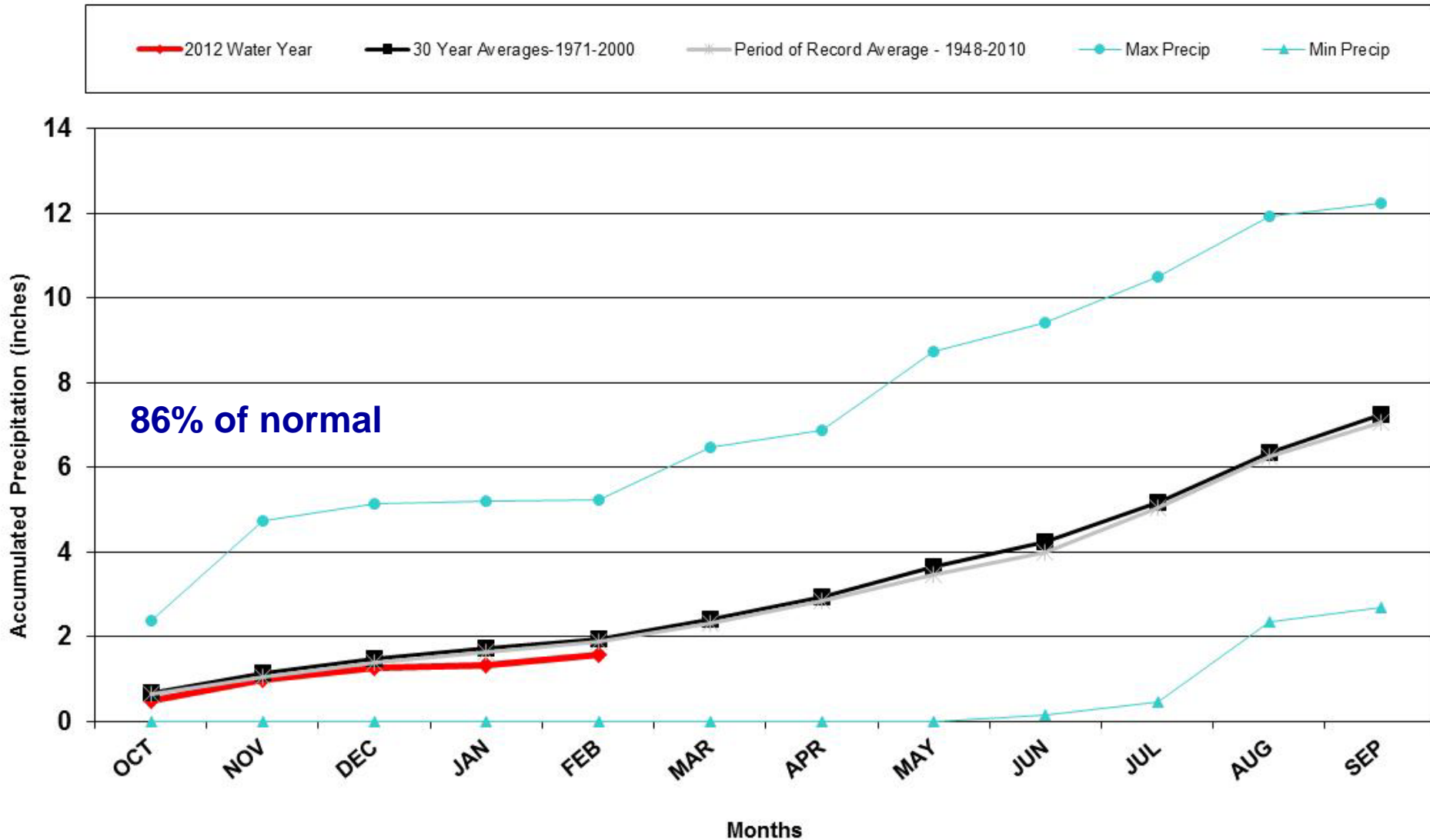
Division 4 – Del Norte

Del Norte 2012 Water Year



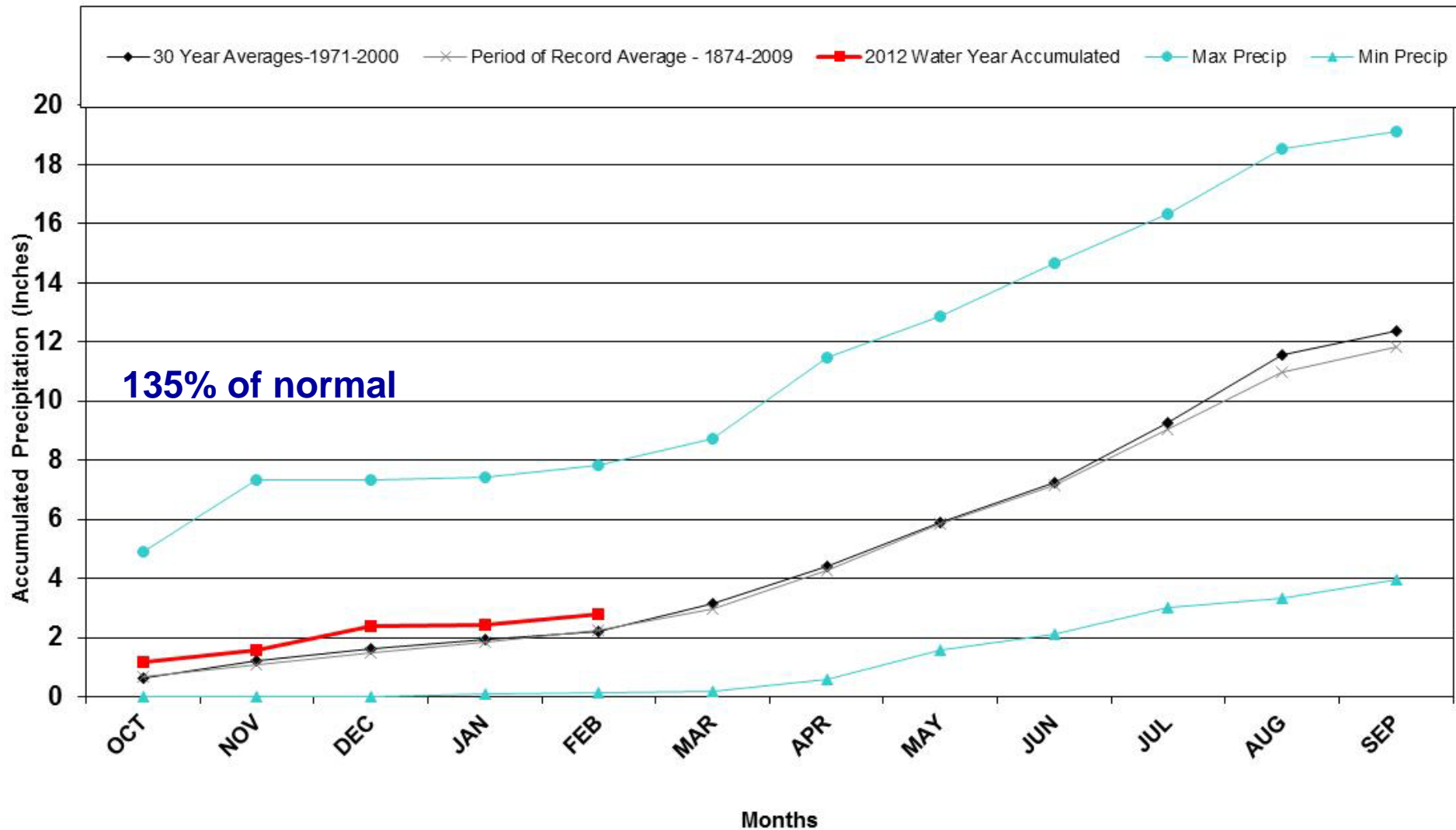
Division 4 – Alamosa

Alamosa WSO 2012 Water Year



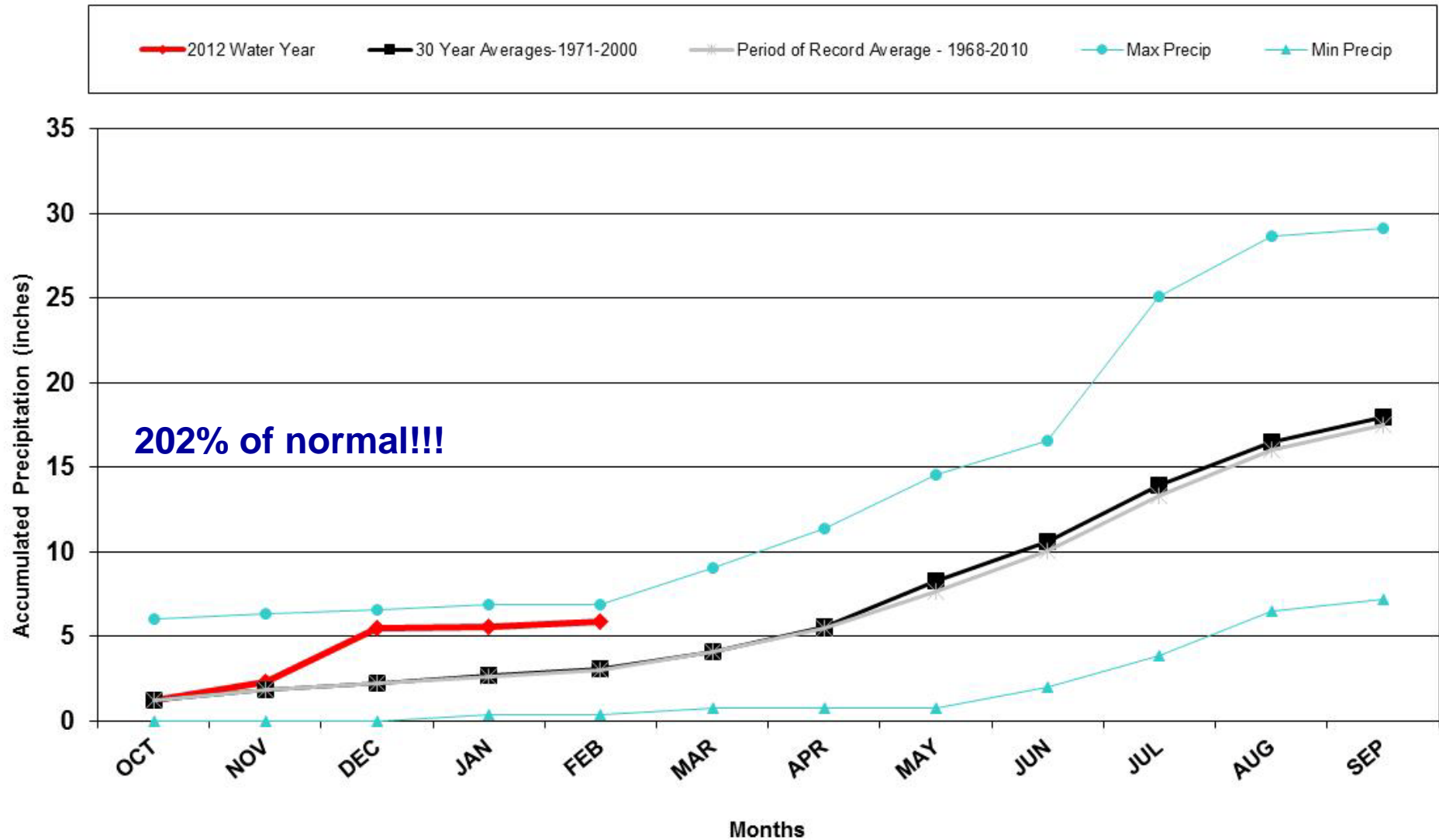
Division 5 – Pueblo

Pueblo WSO 2012 Water Year



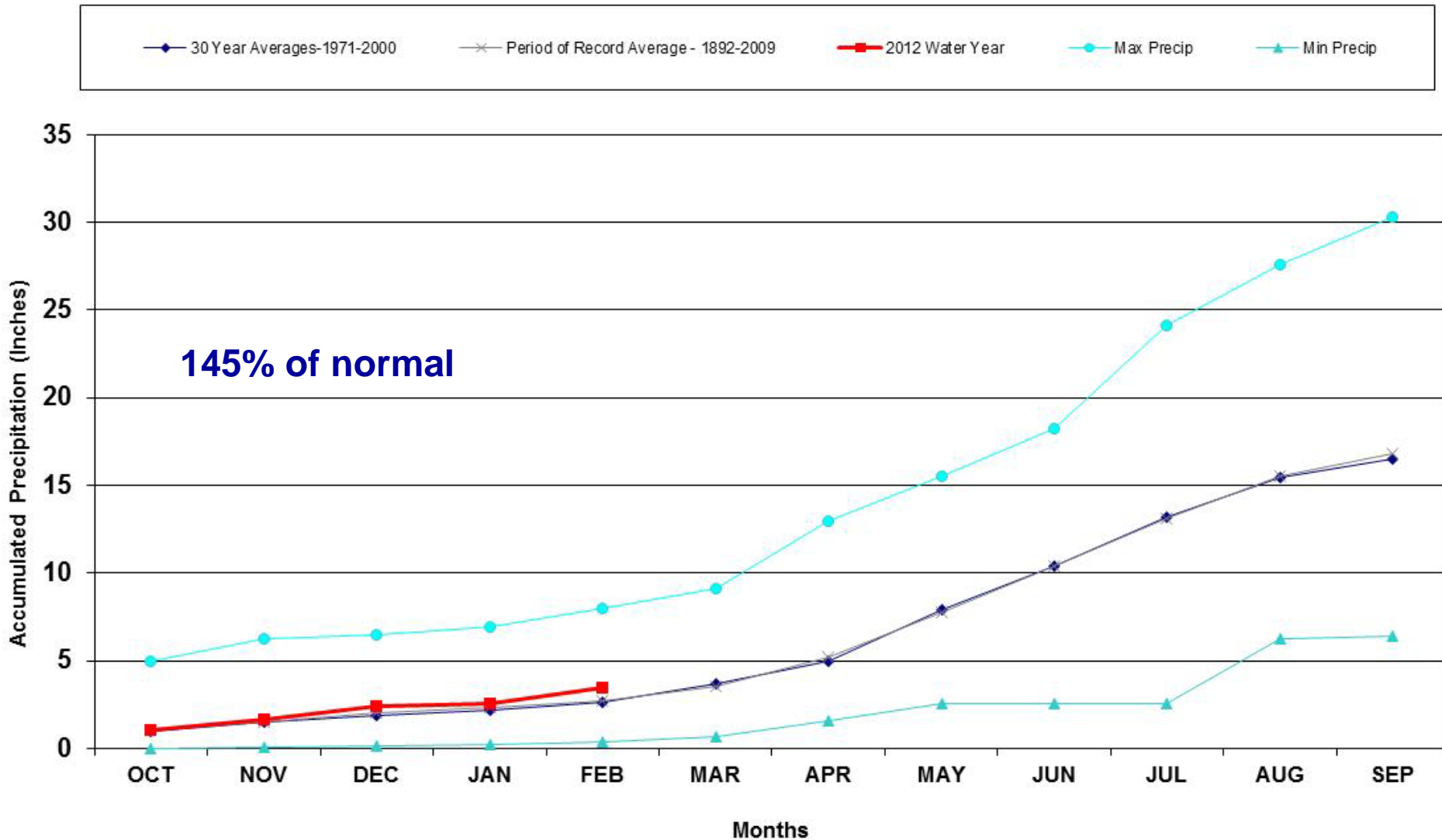
Division 6 - Walsh

Walsh 2012 Water Year



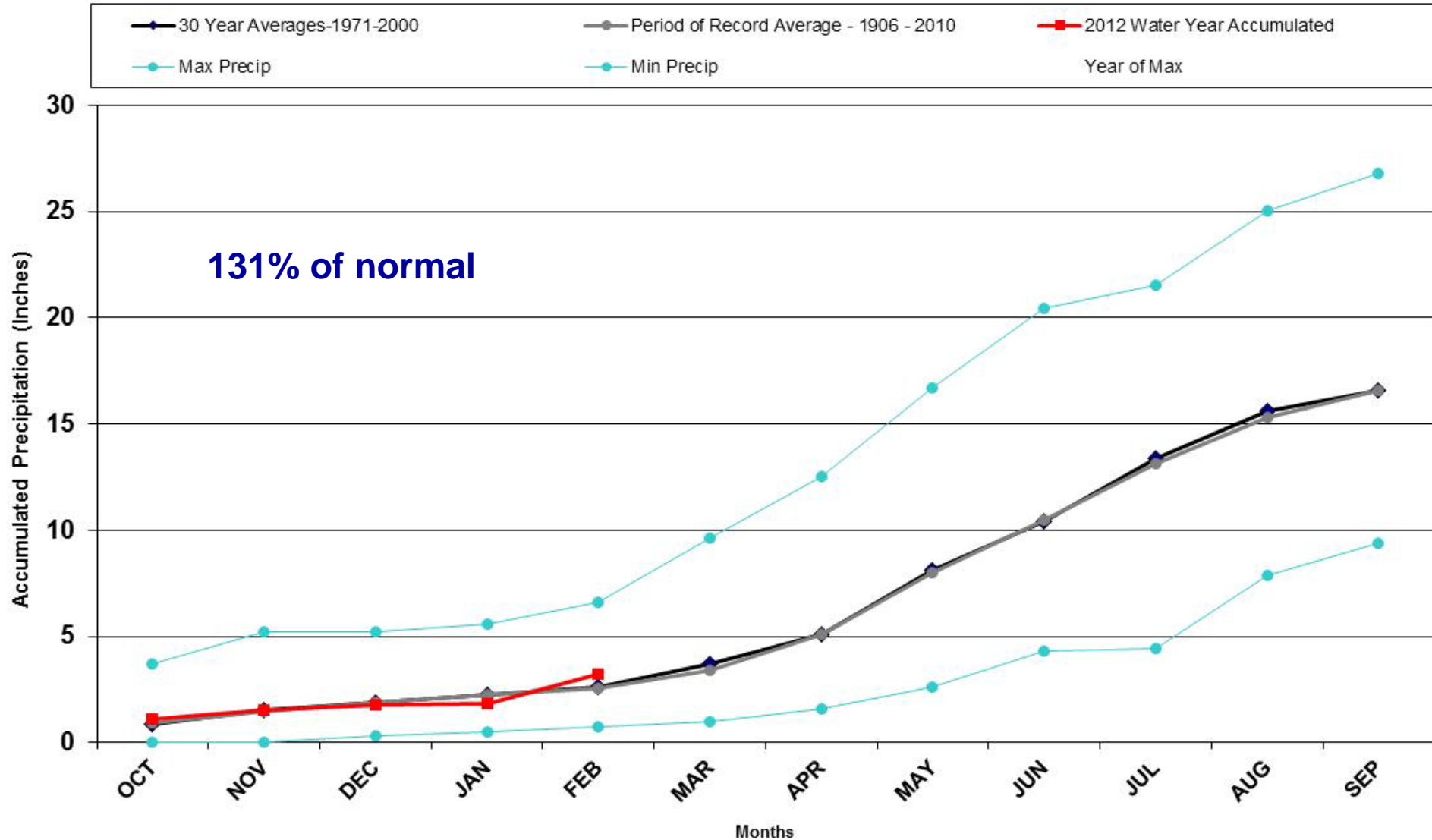
Division 6 - Burlington

Burlington 2012 Water Year



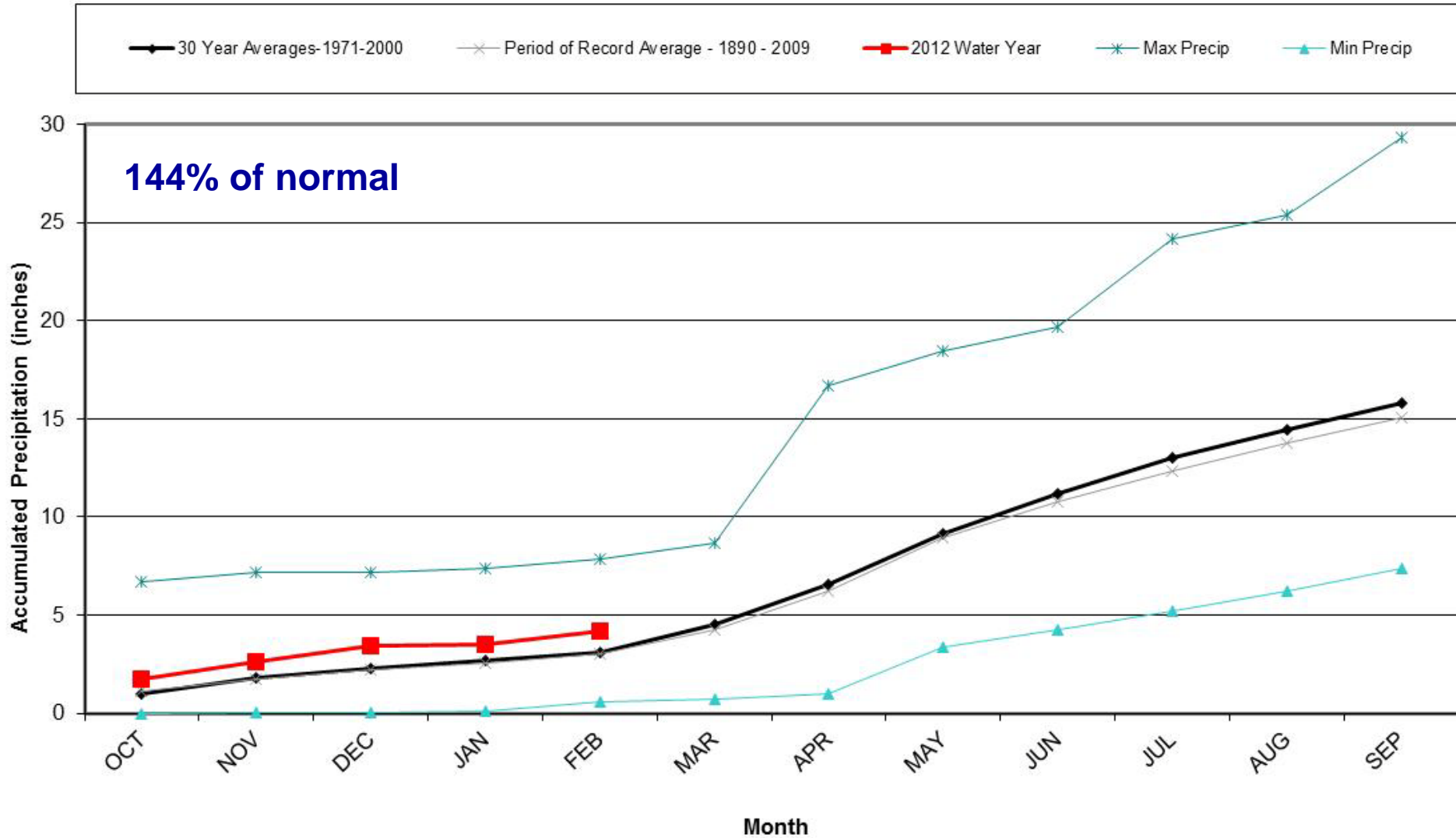
Division 7 – Akron

Akron 4E 2012 Water Year



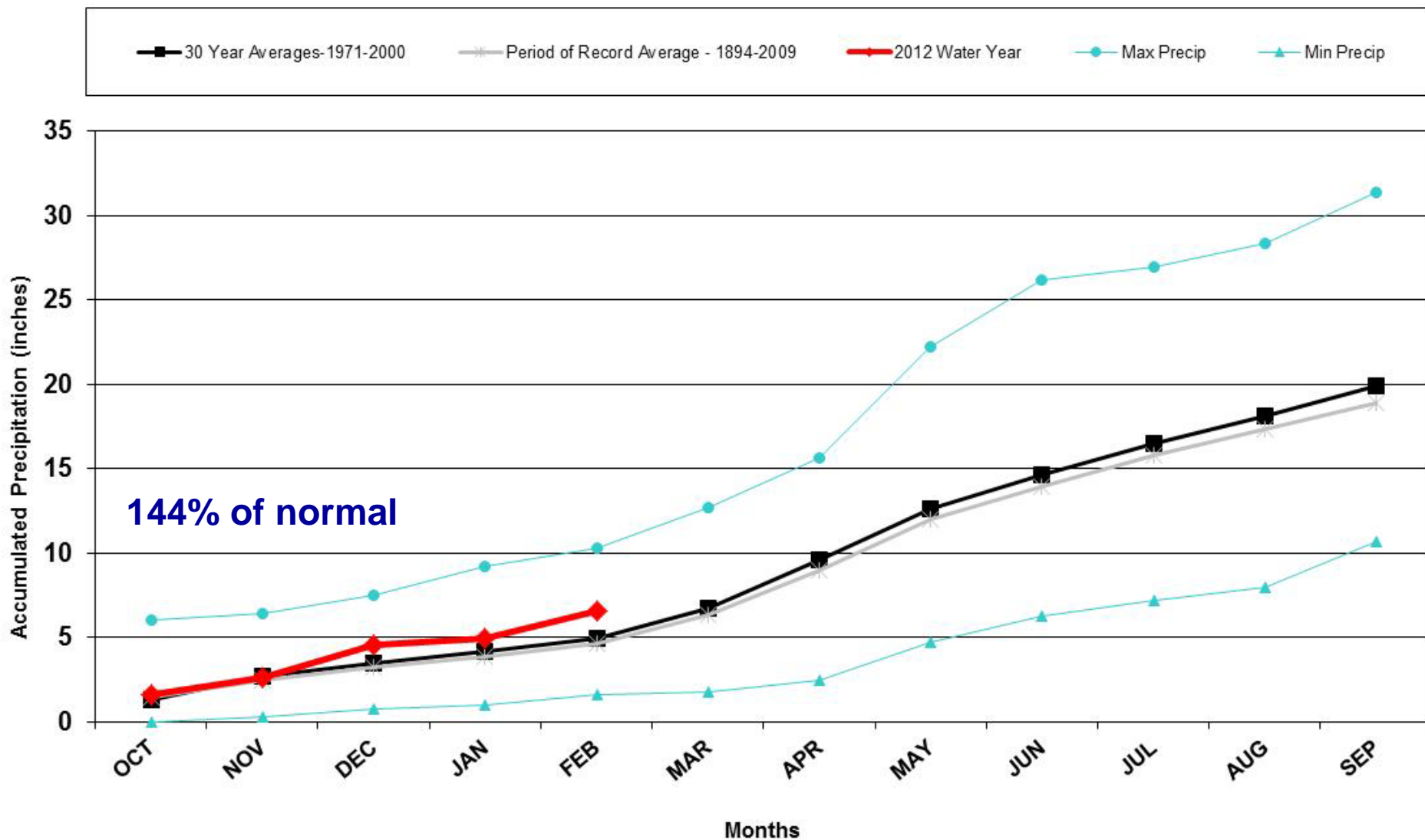
Division 8 – Fort Collins

Fort Collins 2012 Water Year



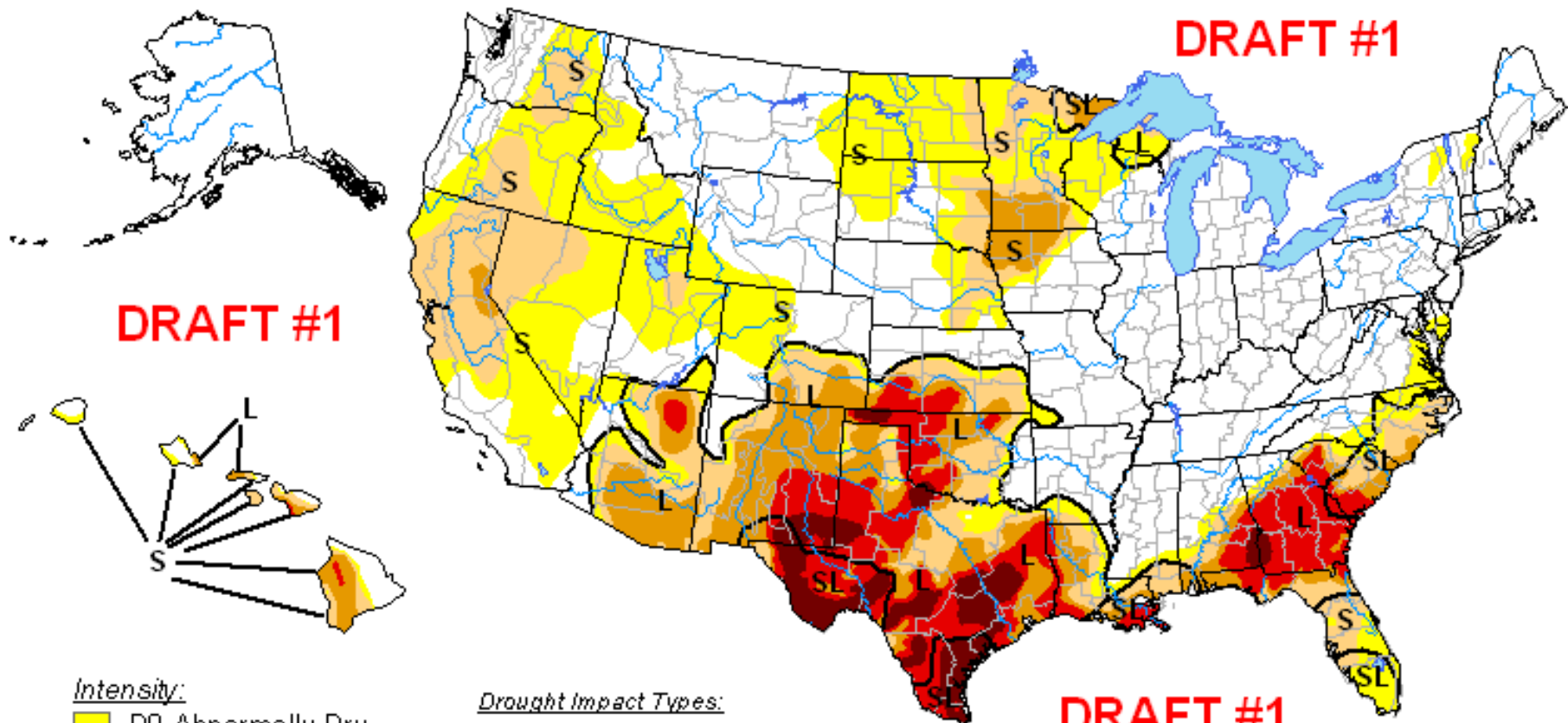
Division 8 - Boulder

Boulder 2012 Water Year








U.S. Drought Monitor


January 17, 2012
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

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

Drought Impact Types:

-  Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

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

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



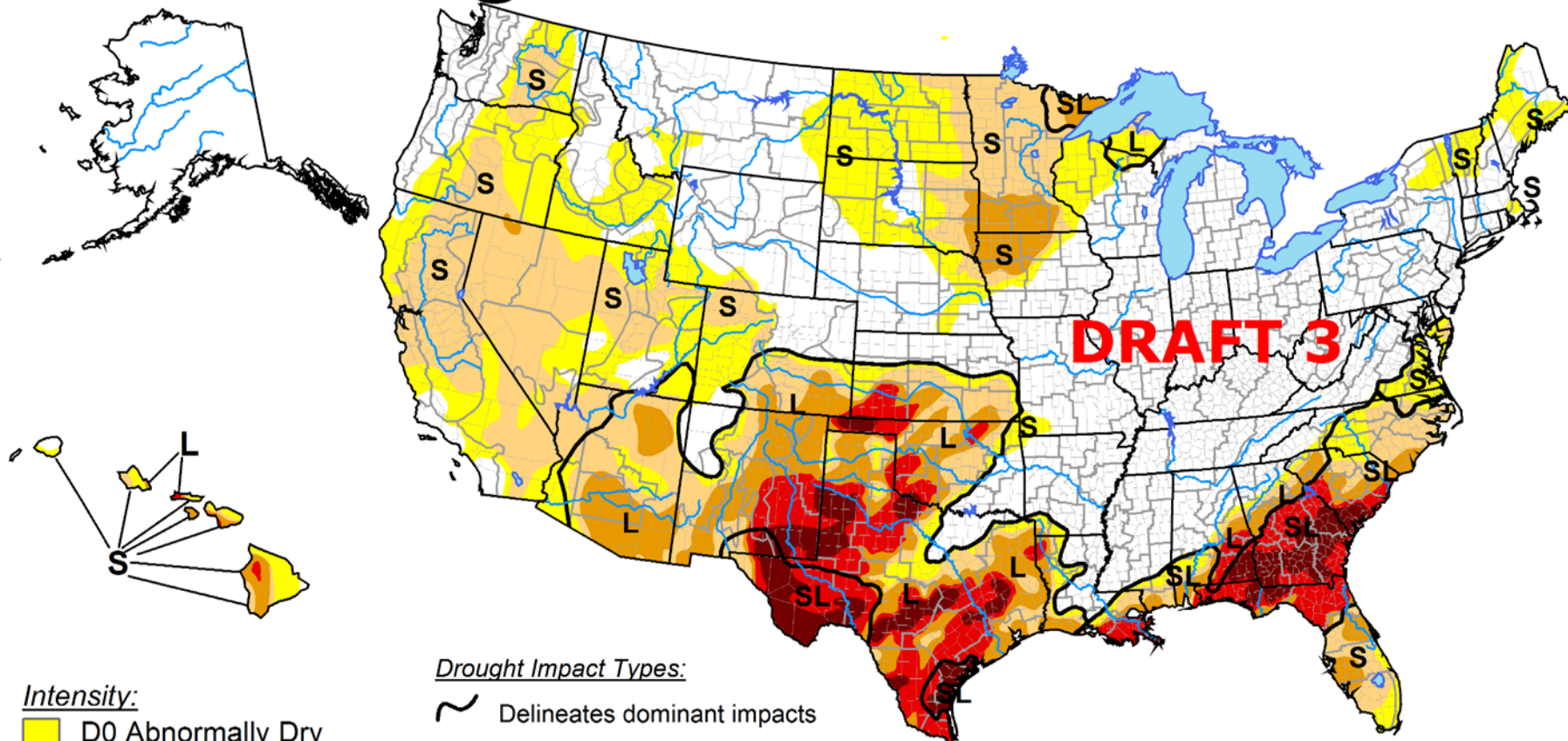
Released Thursday, January 19, 2012

Author: Laura Edwards, Western Regional Climate Center,
South Dakota State University

U.S. Drought Monitor

February 14, 2012

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:

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

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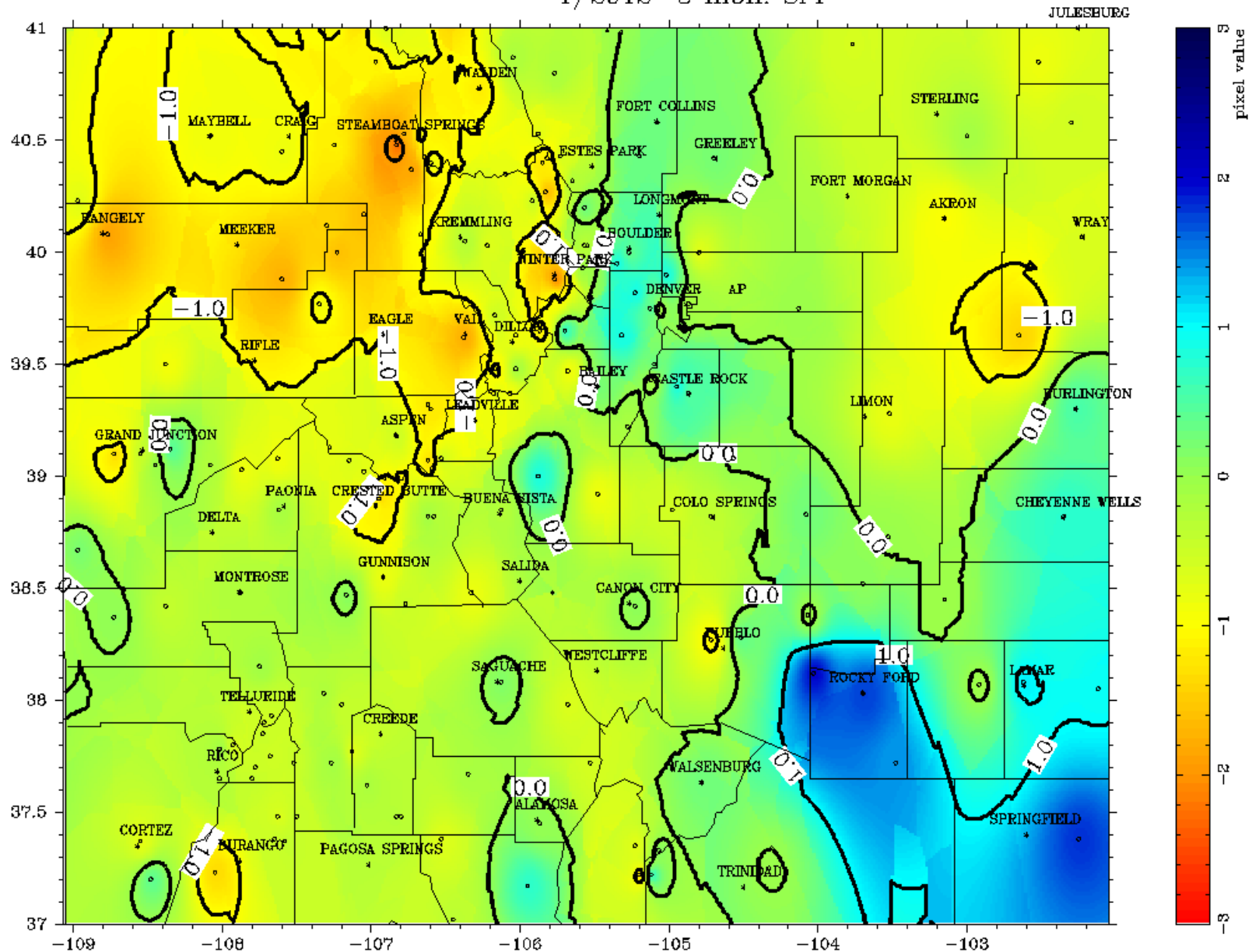


Released Thursday, February 16, 2012

Author: Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Colorado

1/2012 3 mon. SPI



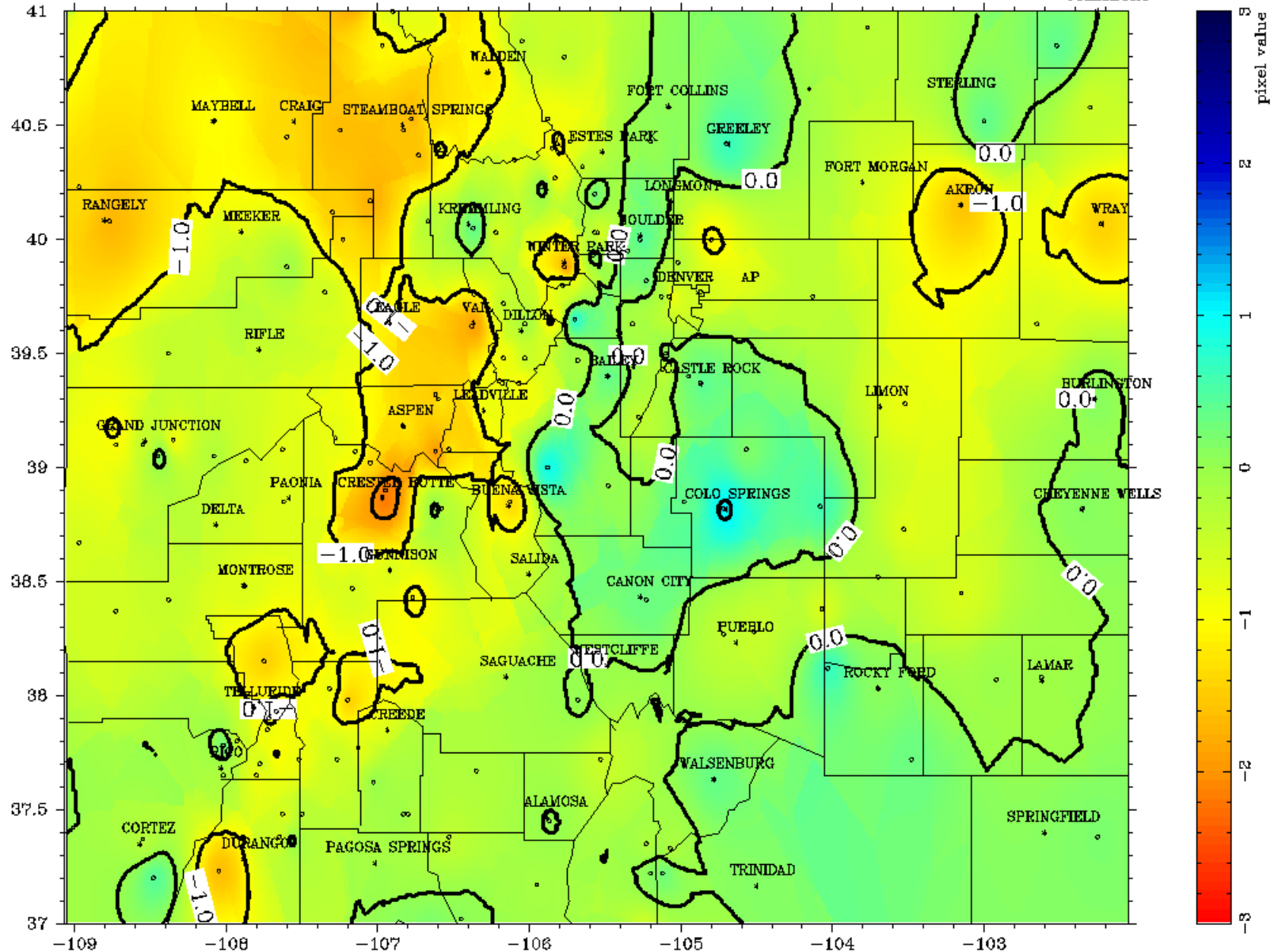
100 % < 2.0	13 % < -1.0
94 % < 1.0	0 % < -2.0
72 % < 0.0	0 % < -3.0

Produced by:
Colorado Climate Center
Fort Collins, CO

Colorado

1/2012 6 mon. SPI

JULESBURG



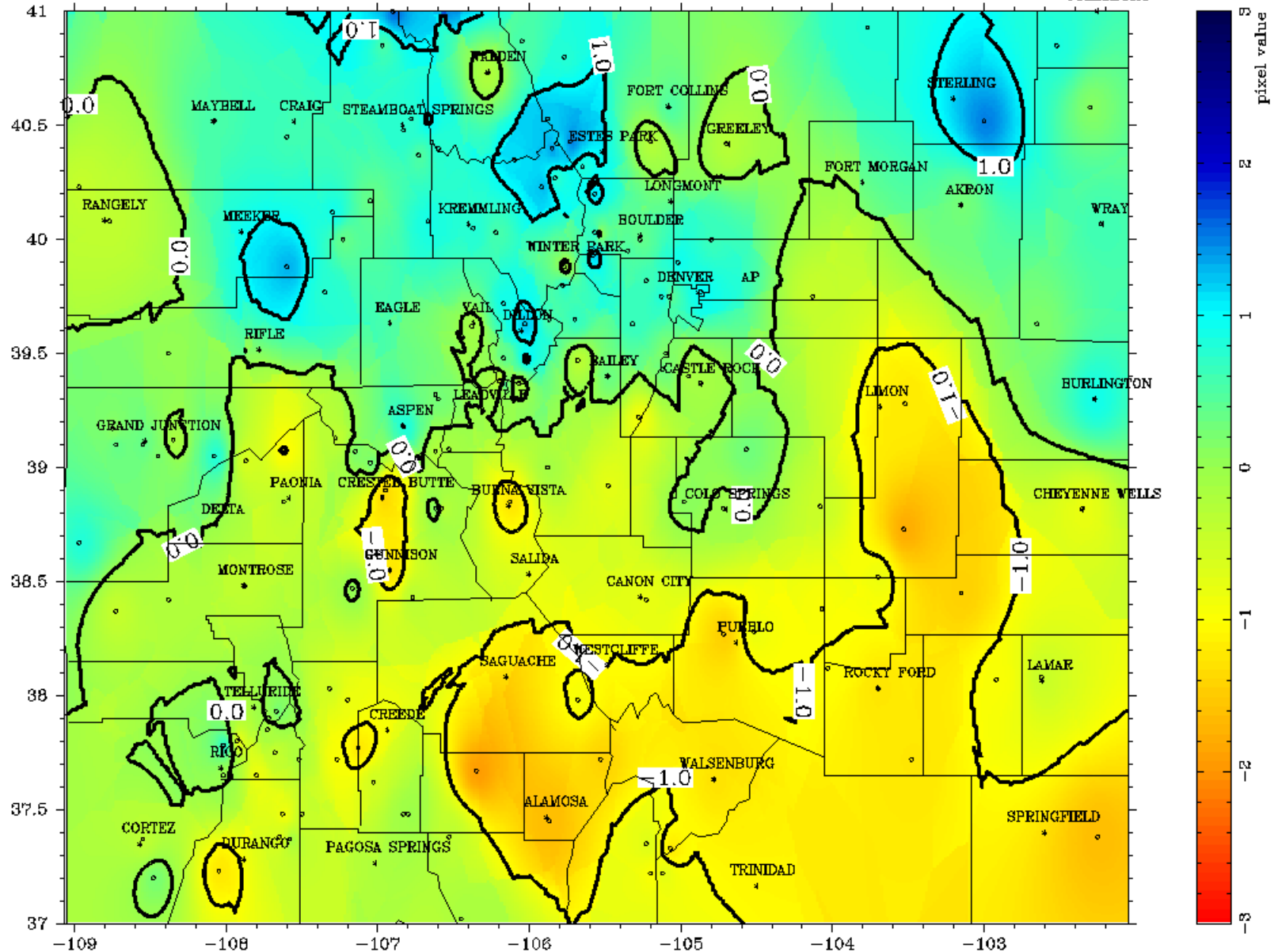
100 % < 2.0	16 % < -1.0
100 % < 1.0	0 % < -2.0
76 % < 0.0	0 % < -3.0

Produced by:
Colorado Climate Center
Fort Collins, CO

Colorado

1/2012 12 mon. SPI

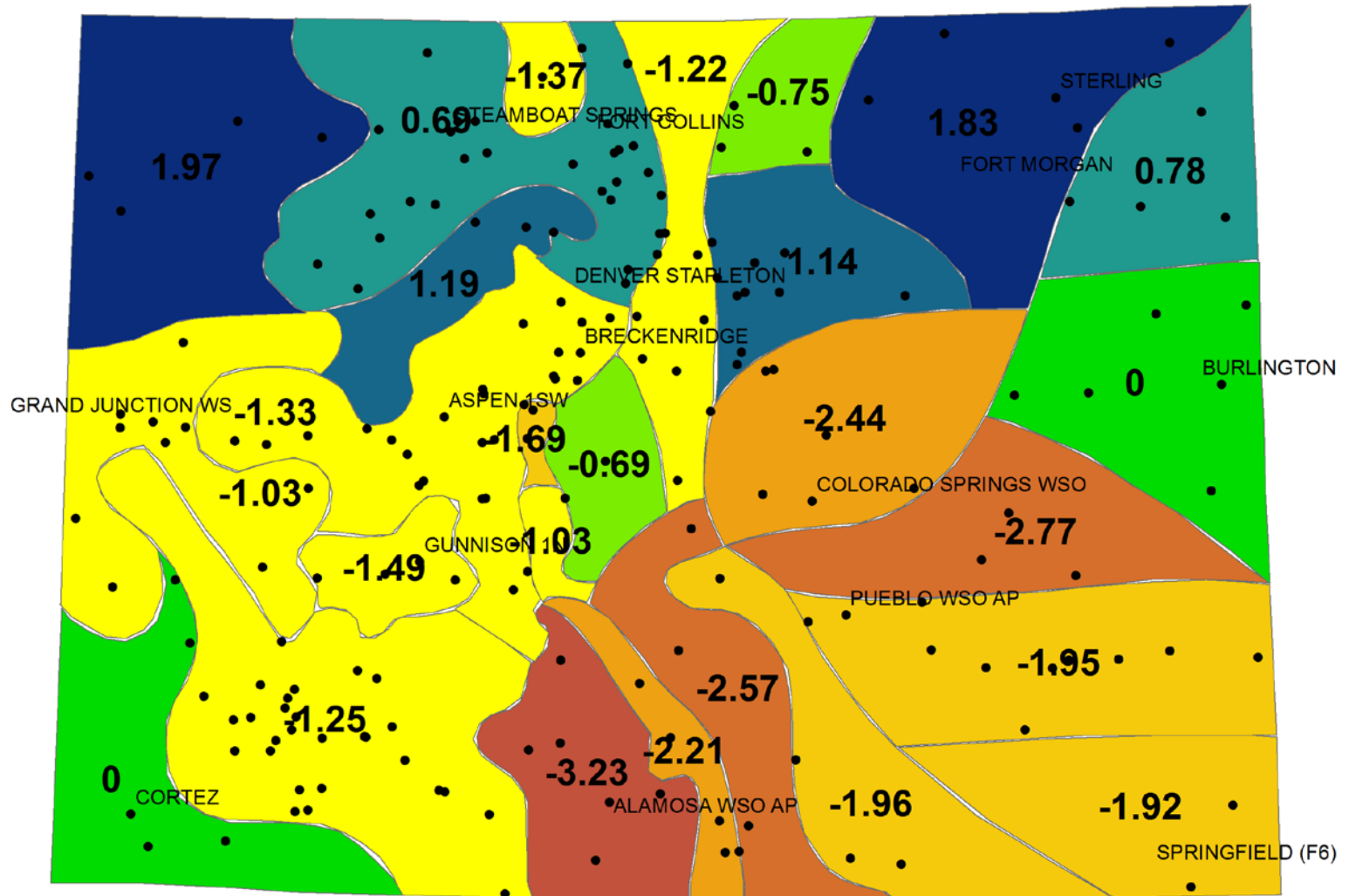
JULESBURG



100 % < 2.0	20 % < -1.0
97 % < 1.0	0 % < -2.0
59 % < 0.0	0 % < -3.0

Produced by:
Colorado Climate Center
Fort Collins, CO

Preliminary Modified Palmer Drought Severity Index for Colorado December 2011



Colorado Climate Center

Data and Power Point Presentations available for downloading

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

