



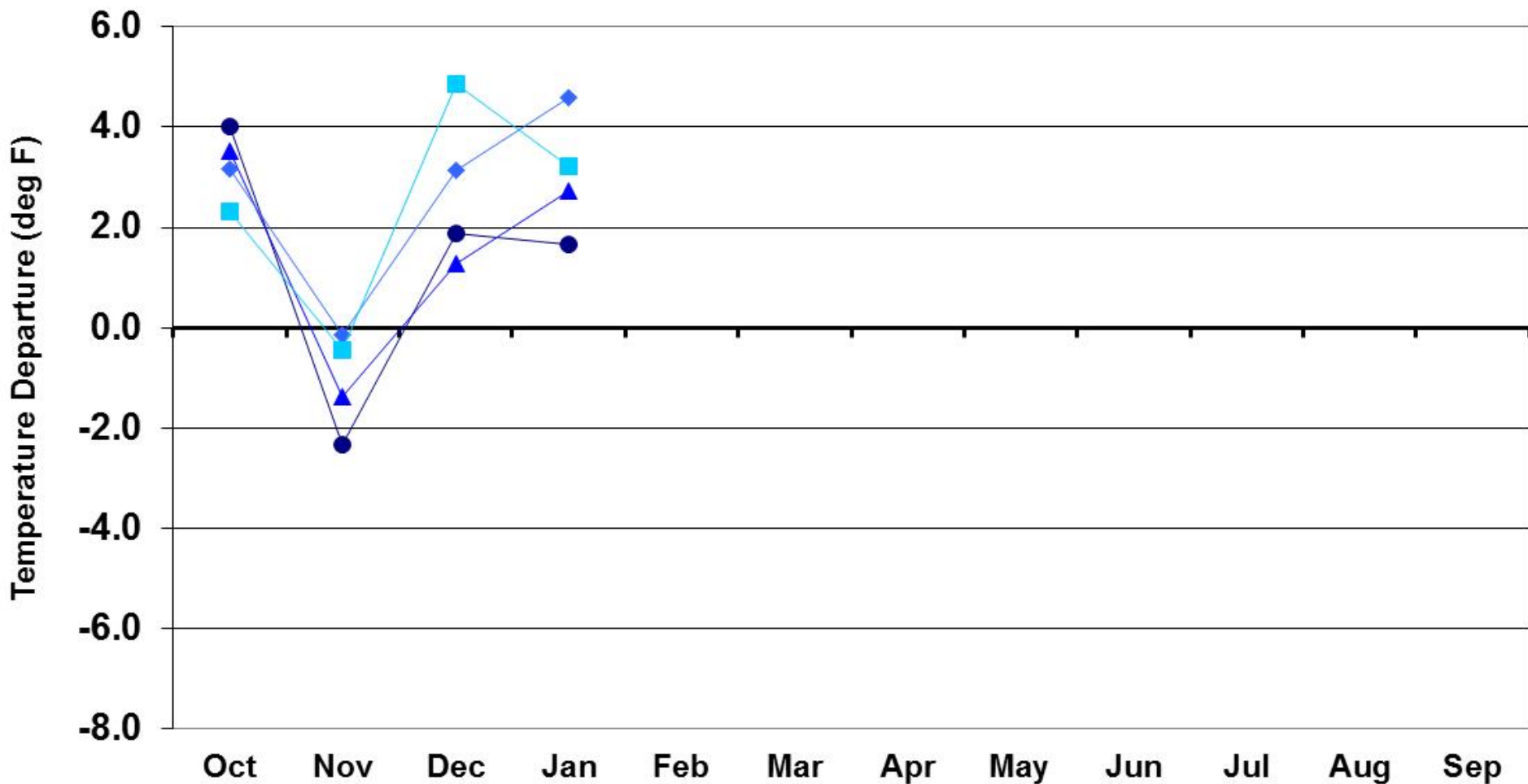
Climate Update



Wendy Ryan
Asst. State Climatologist
Colorado Climate Center

Presented to
Water Availability Task Force
18 February 2015
Denver, CO

Water Year 2015 Temperature Departures



● Eastern Plains

▲ Foothills

◆ Mountains

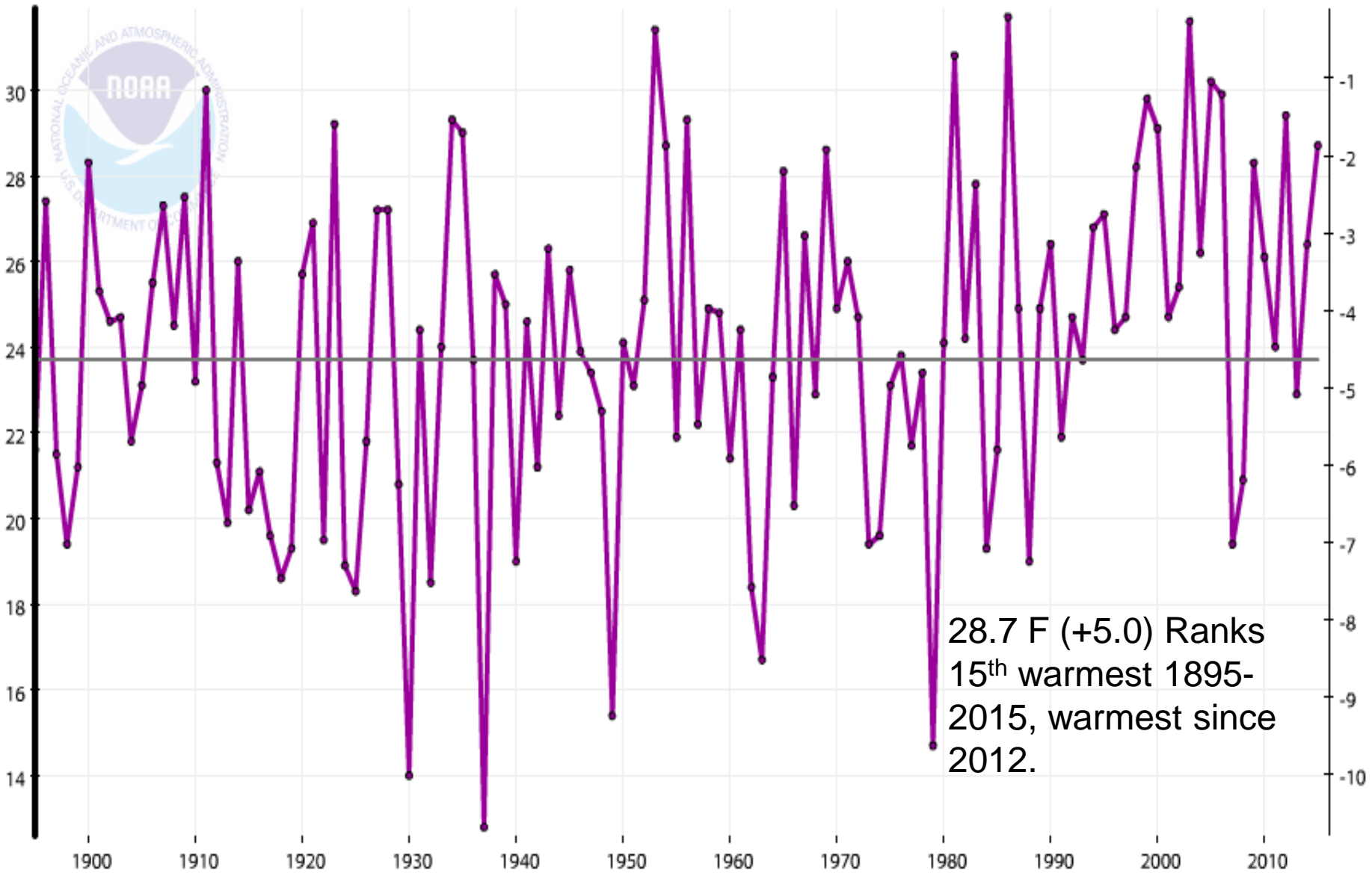
■ Western Valleys

January Average Temperature History for Colorado (NCDC)

Colorado, Average Temperature, January

— 1901-2000
Avg: 23.7°F

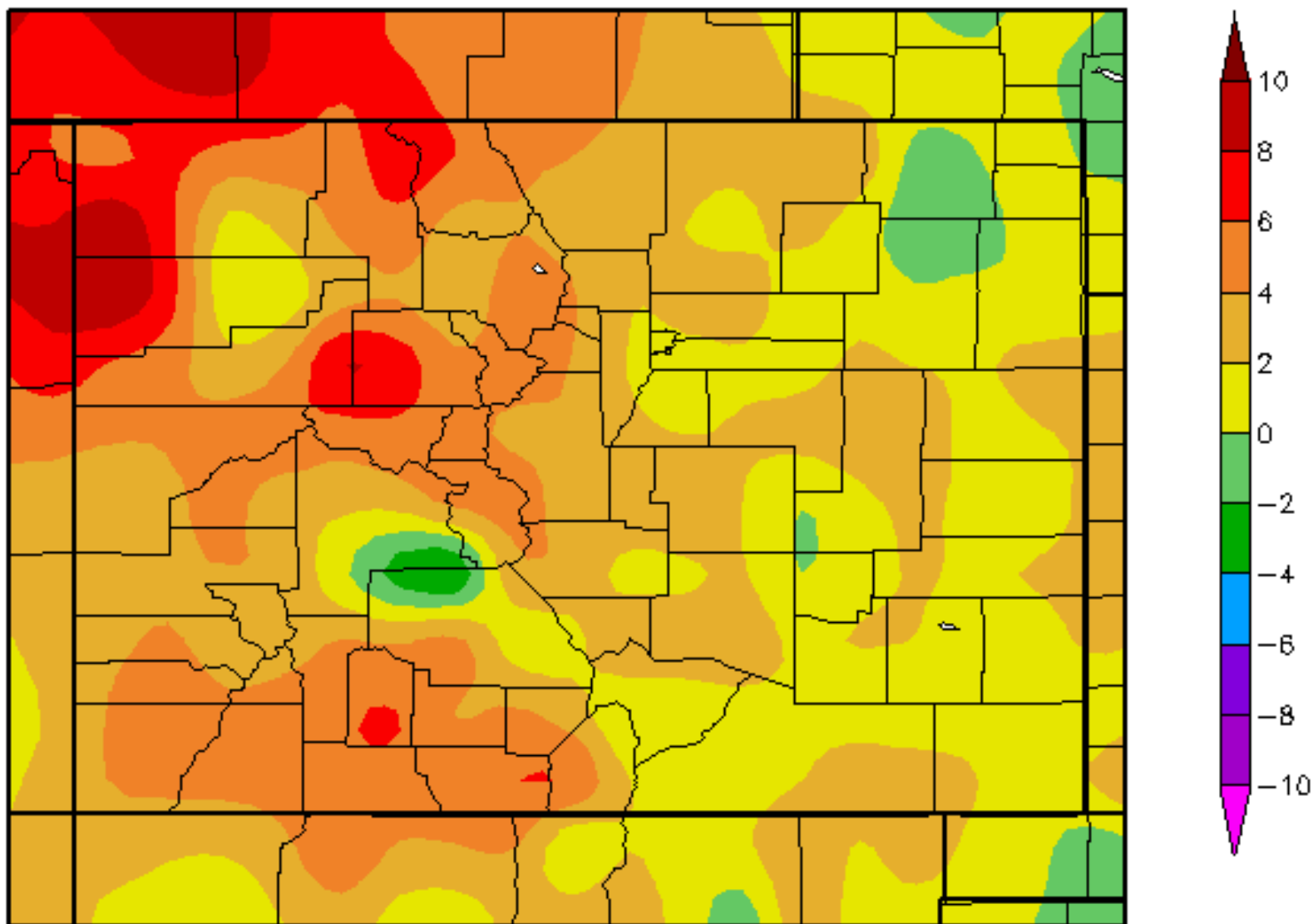
—●— Avg Temperature



28.7 F (+5.0) Ranks
15th warmest 1895-
2015, warmest since
2012.

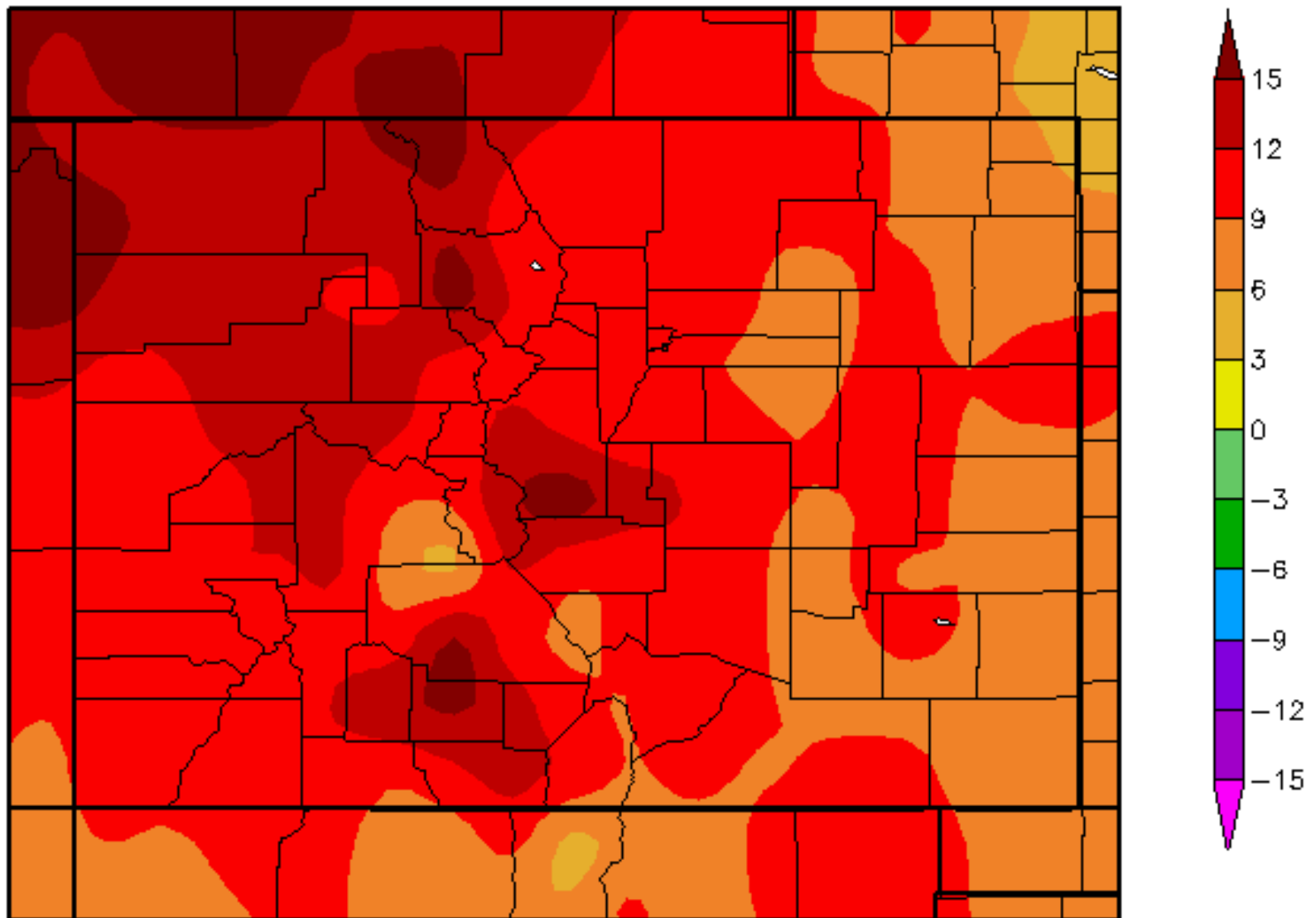
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

1/1/2015 - 1/31/2015



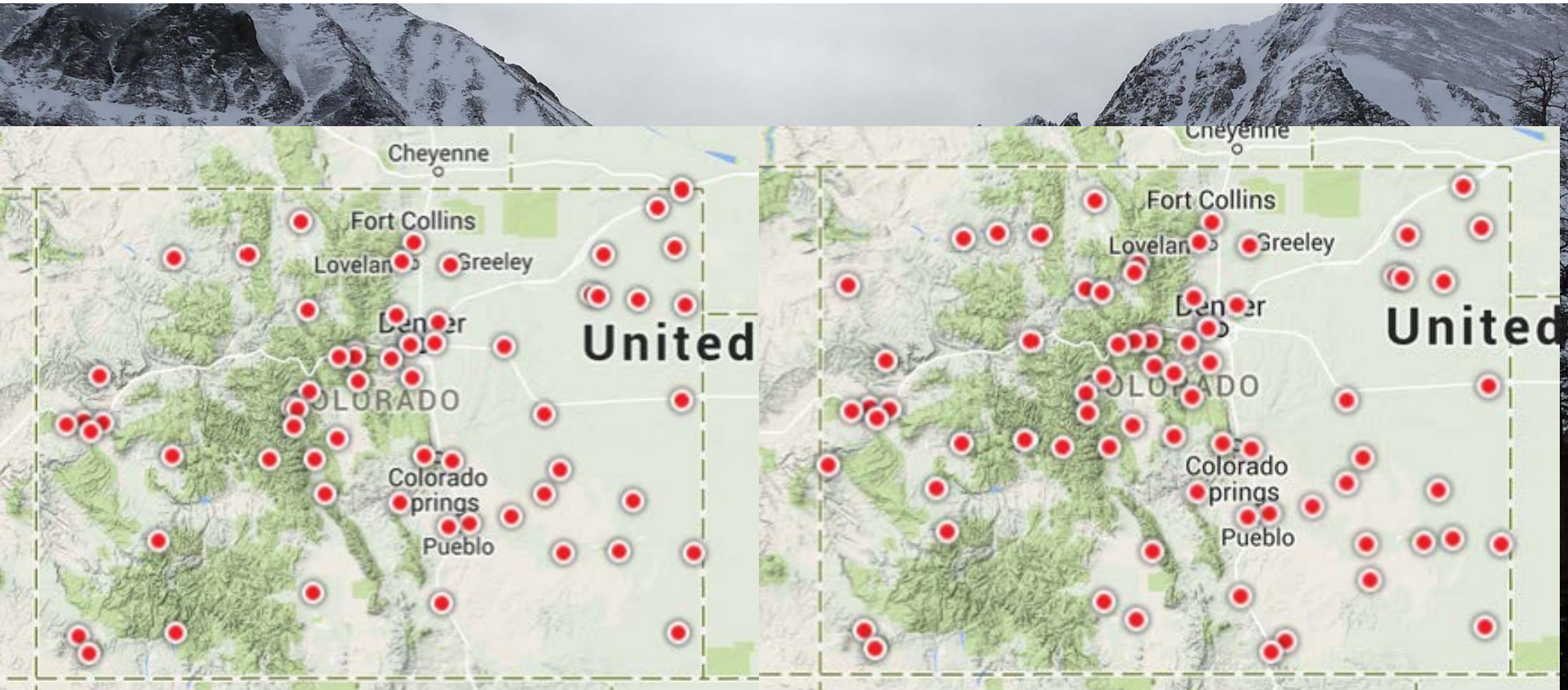
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

2/1/2015 - 2/16/2015



January 2015 – 103 Daily Tmax Records tied/broken

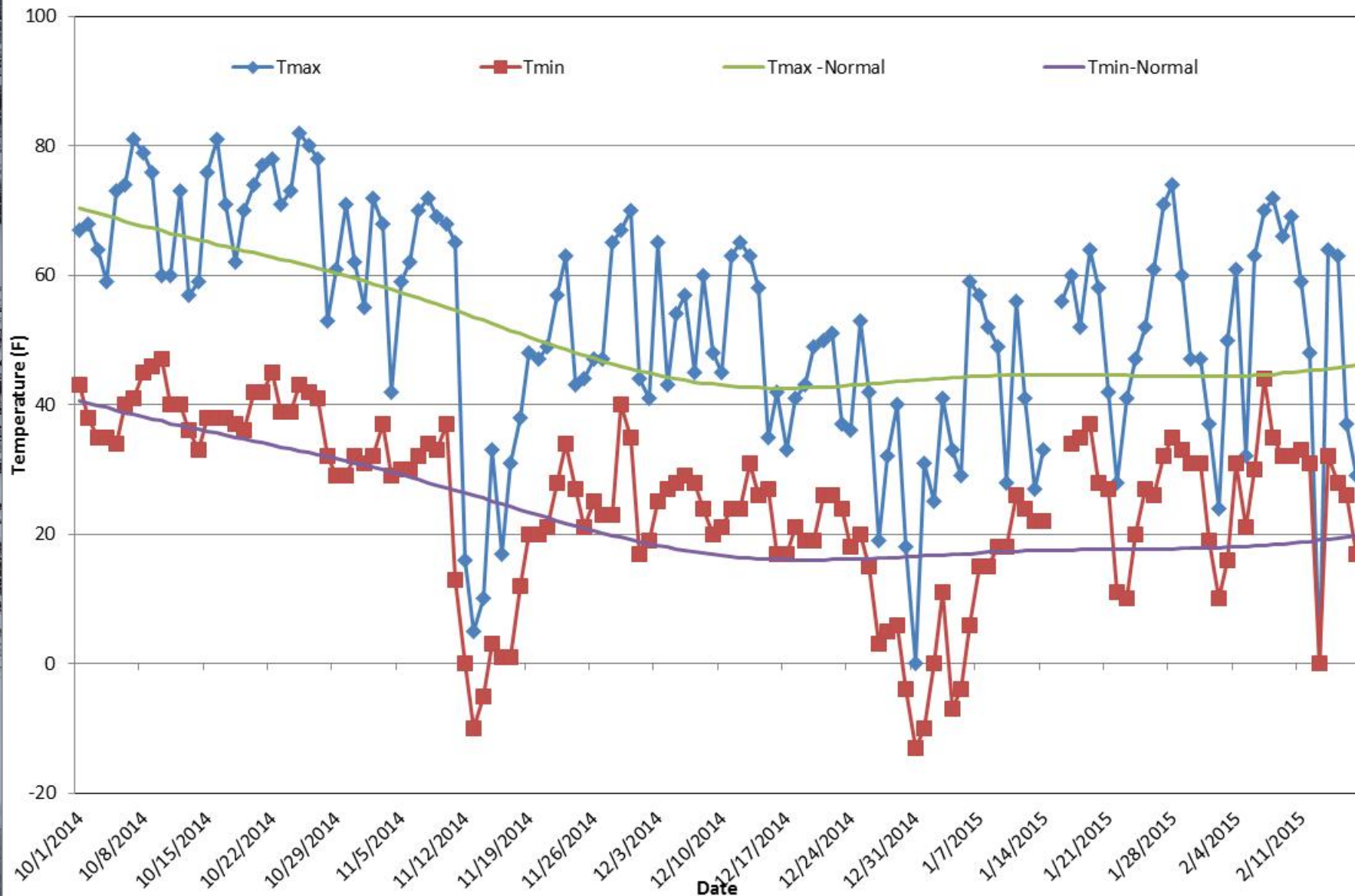
February 2015 (through the 15th) – 199 Tmax Records tied/broken



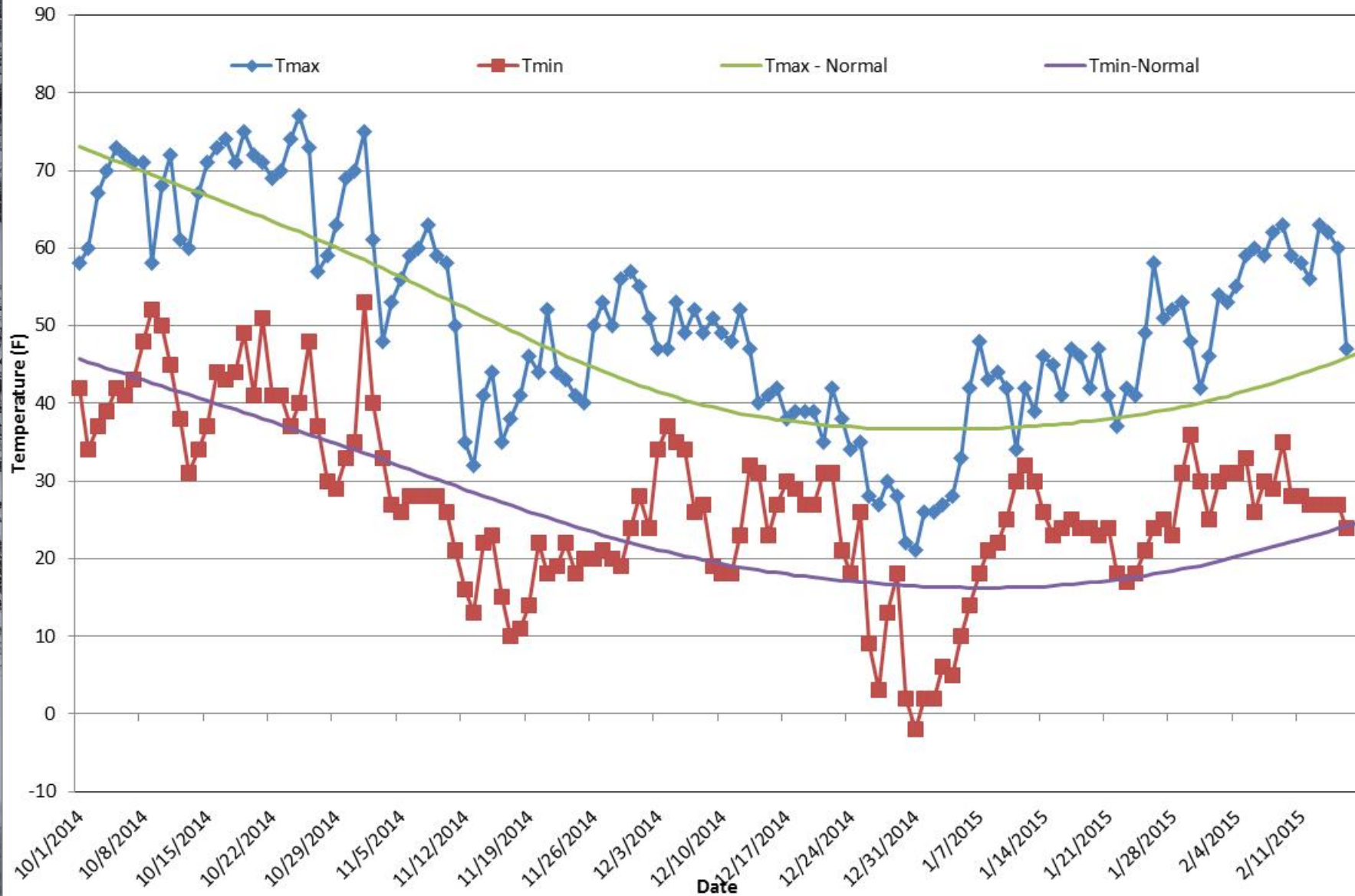
January Records

February Records

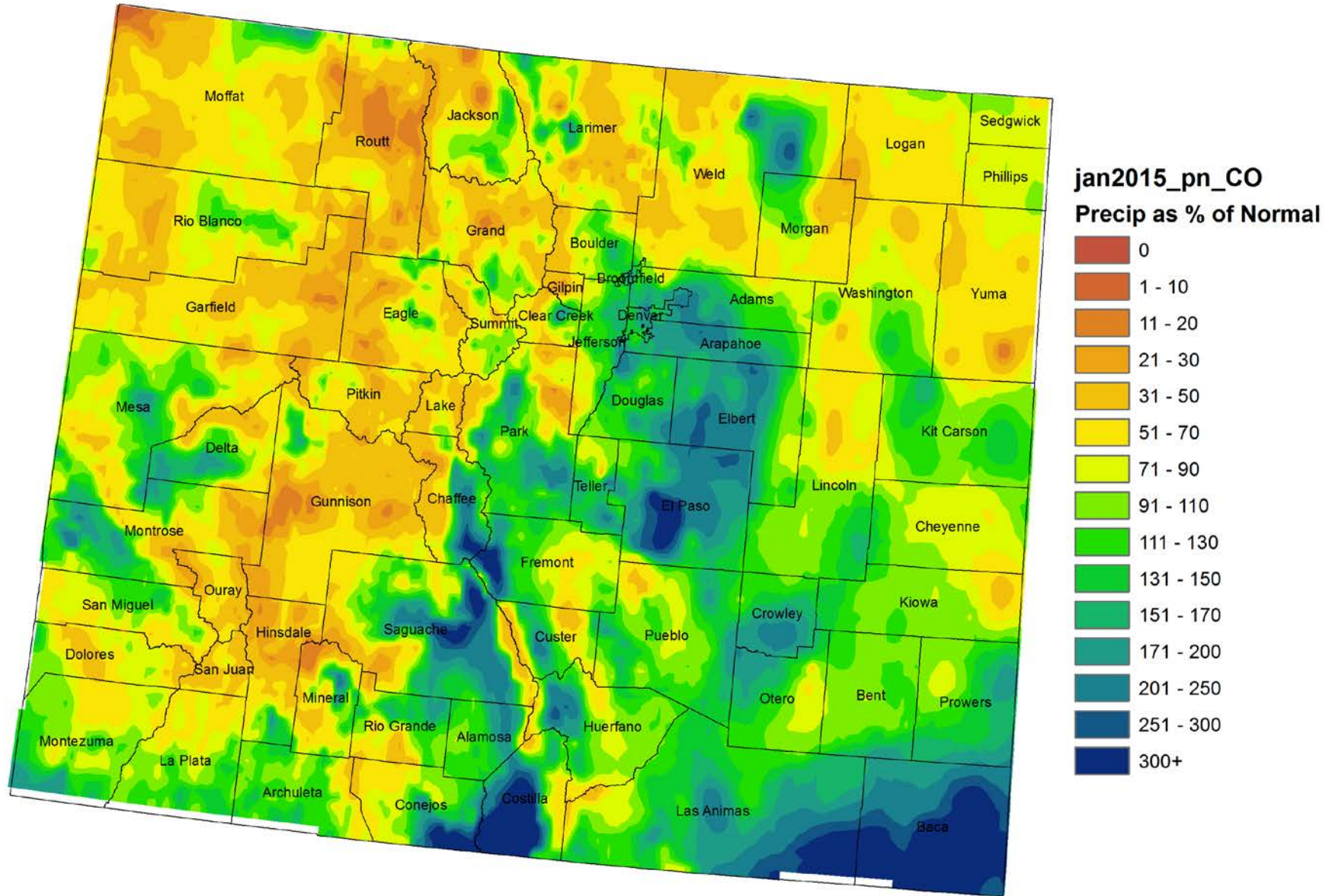
Denver-Stapleton Temperatures Oct 2014-Current



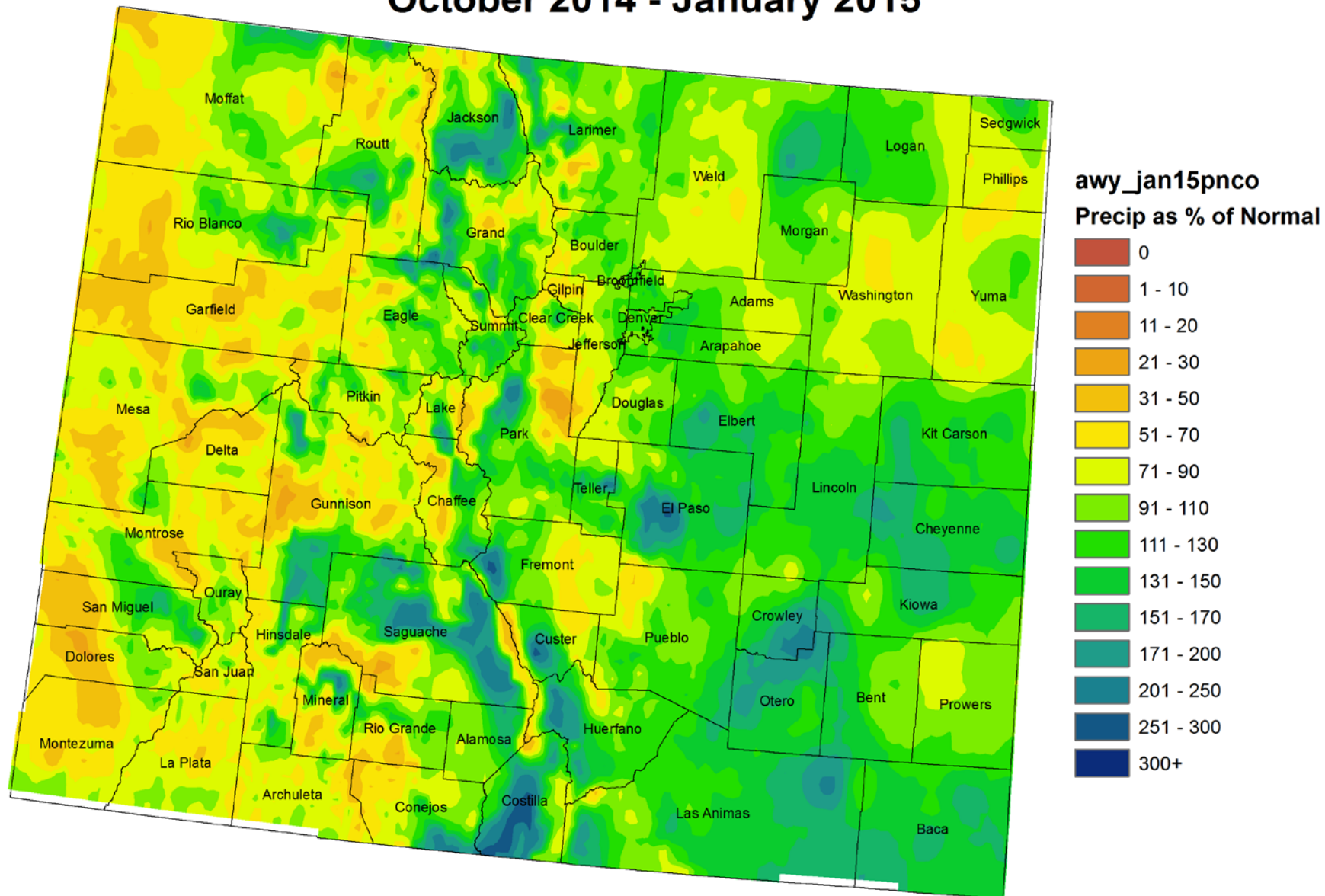
Grand Junction Temperatures Oct 2014-Current



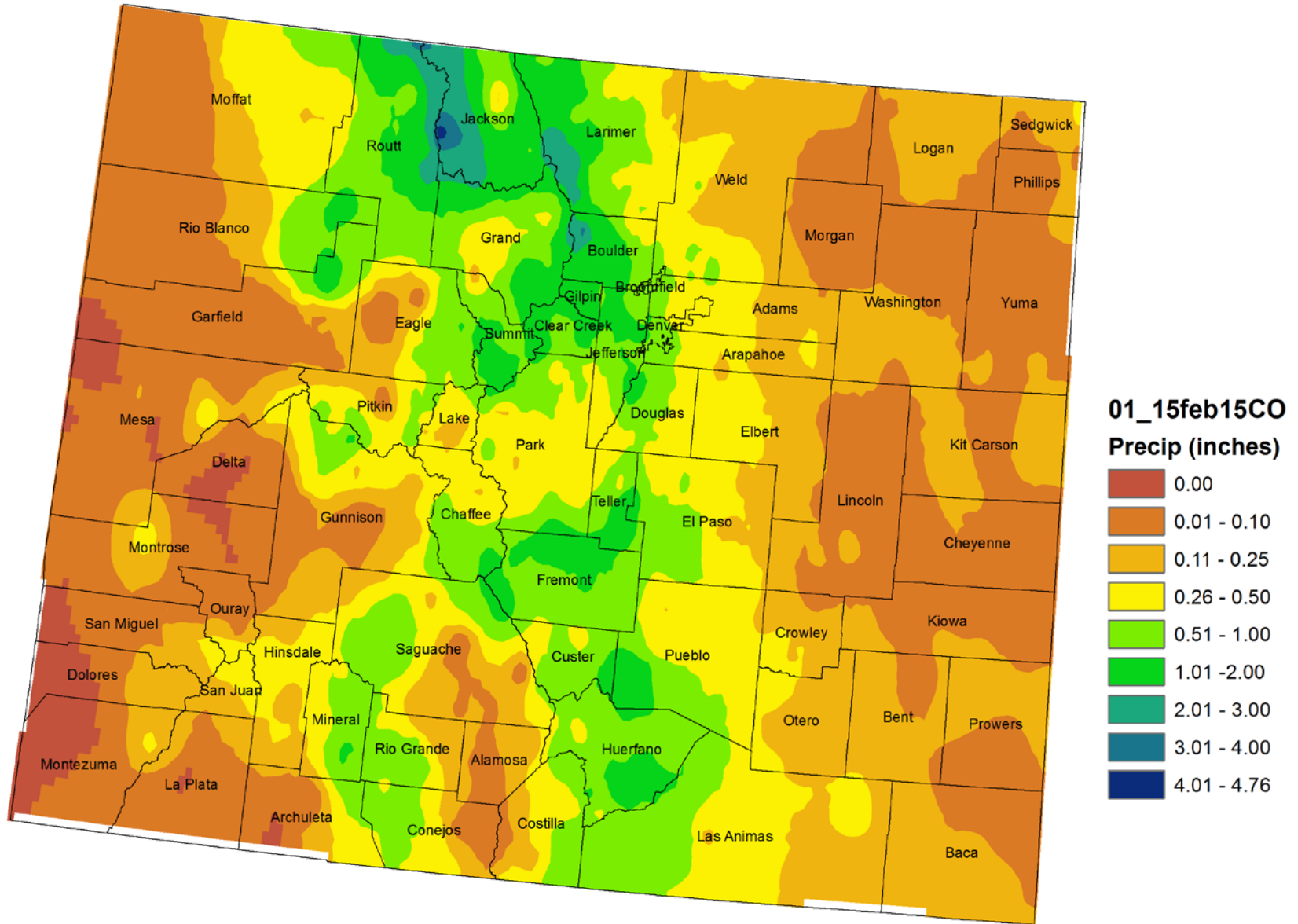
Colorado January 2015 Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal



Colorado Water Year to Date Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal October 2014 - January 2015



Colorado Month to Date Precipitation 1 - 15 February 2015

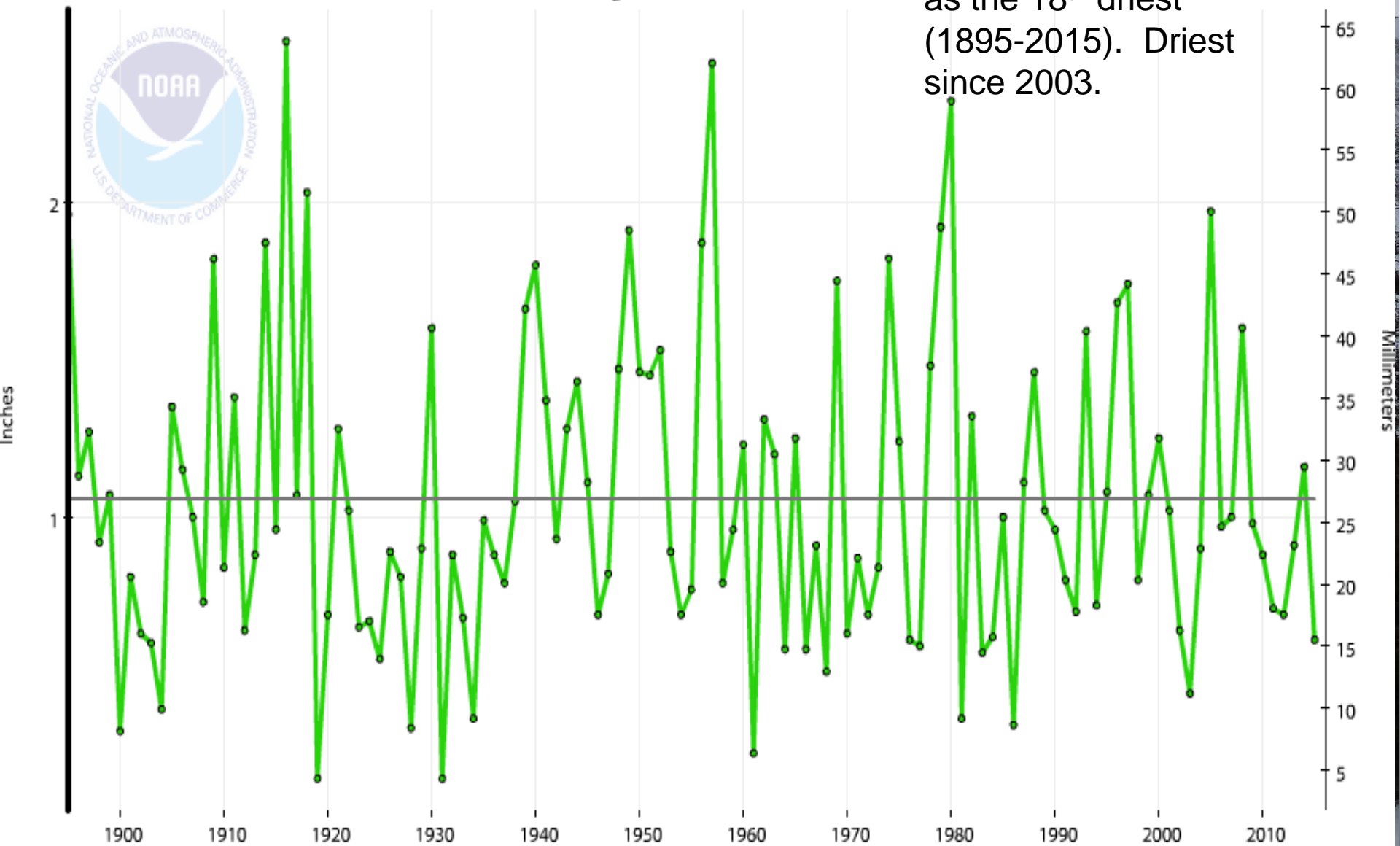


January Precipitation History for Colorado (NCDC)

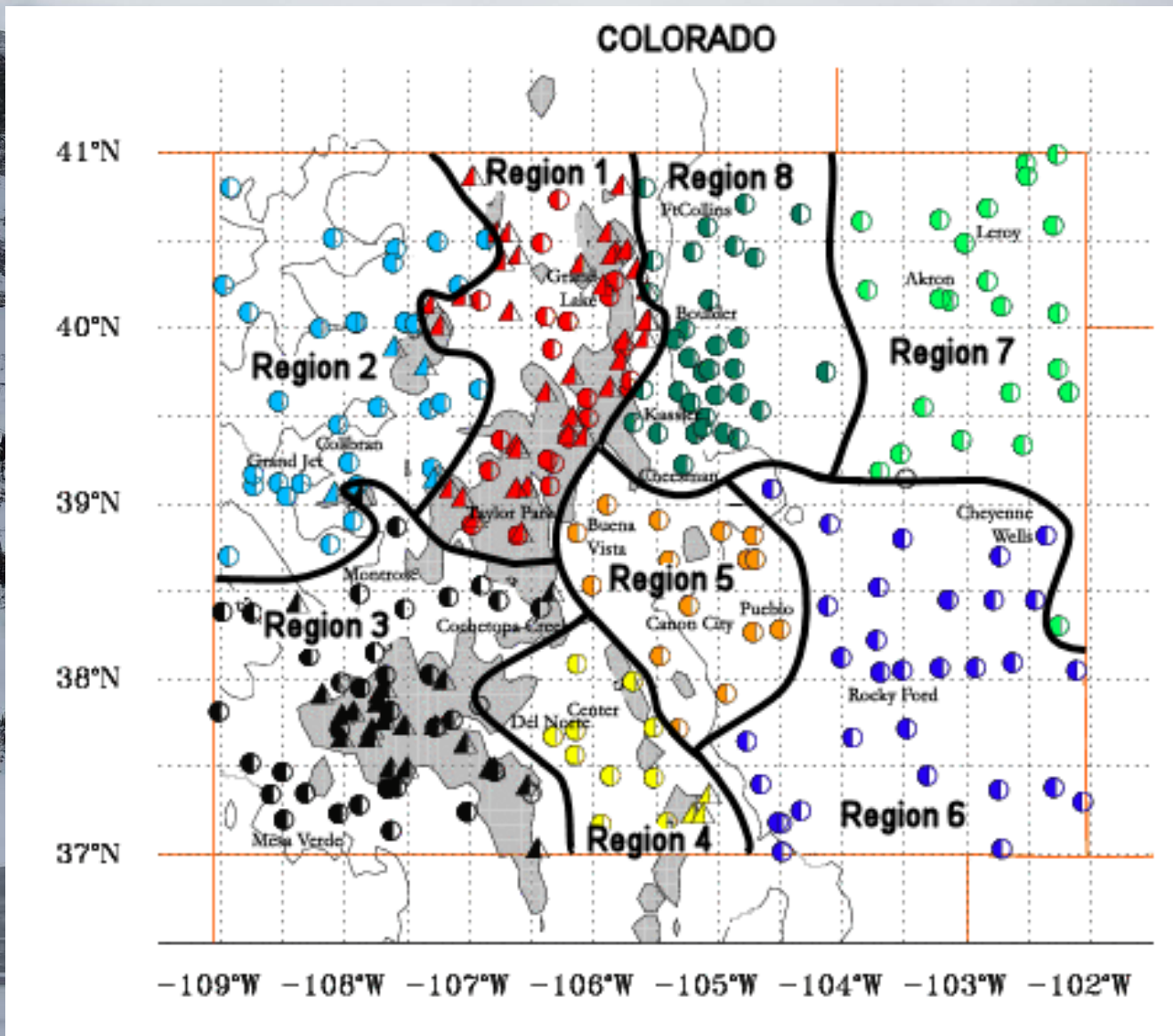
Colorado, Precipitation, January

— 1901-2000 Avg: 1.06" —●— Precip

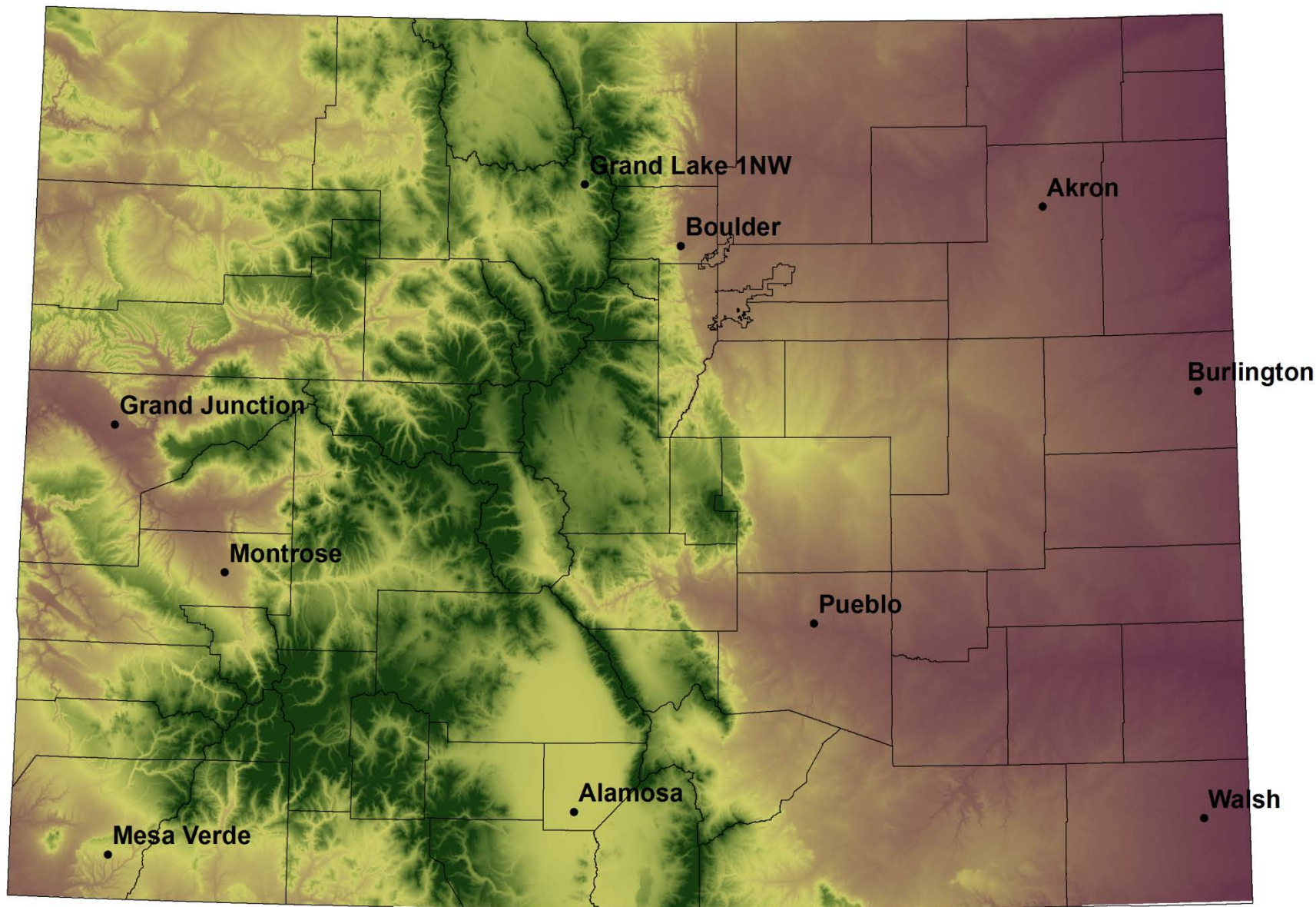
0.61" (-0.45") Ranks as the 18th driest (1895-2015). Driest since 2003.



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

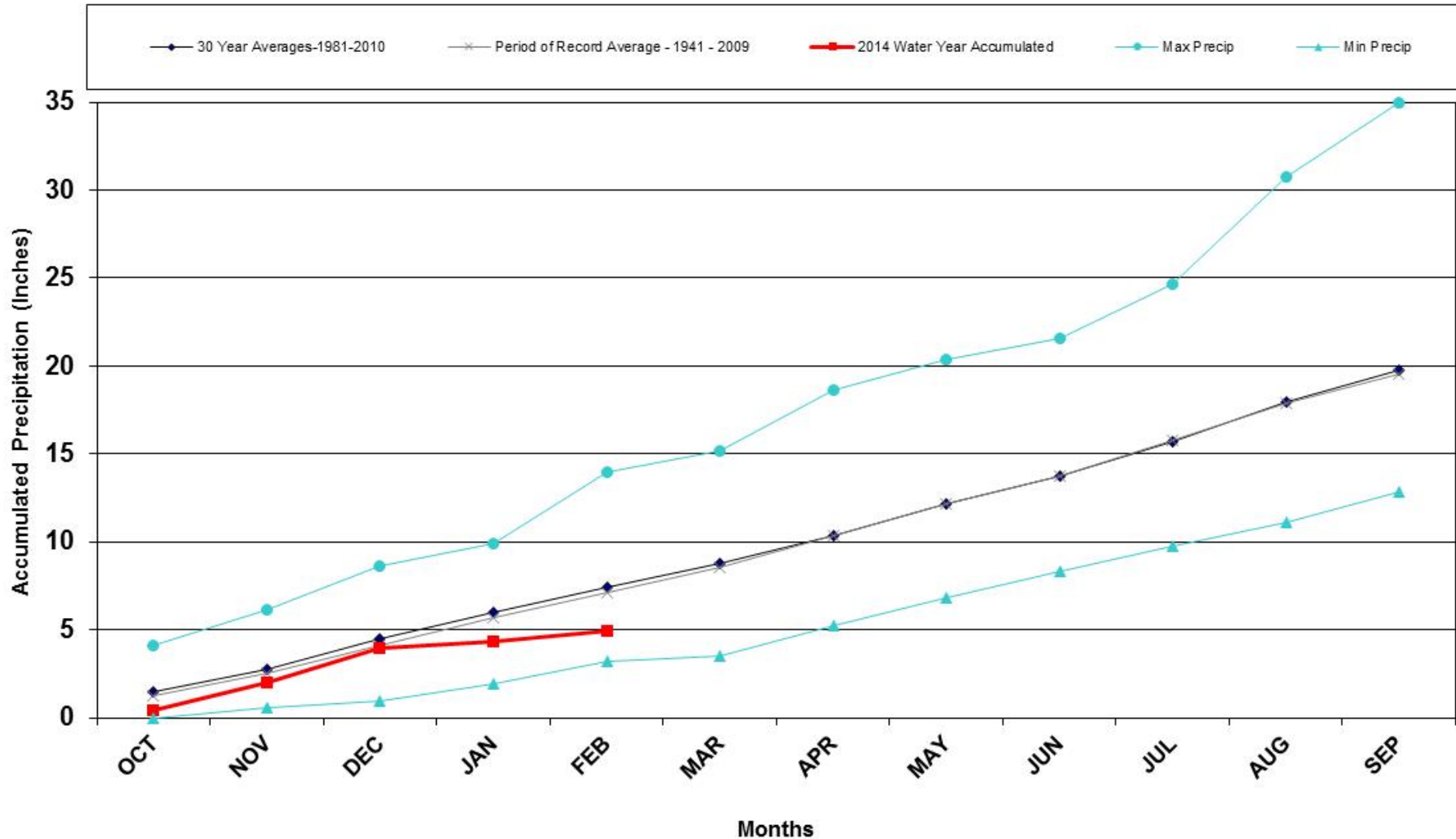


NWS Cooperative Stations for WATF



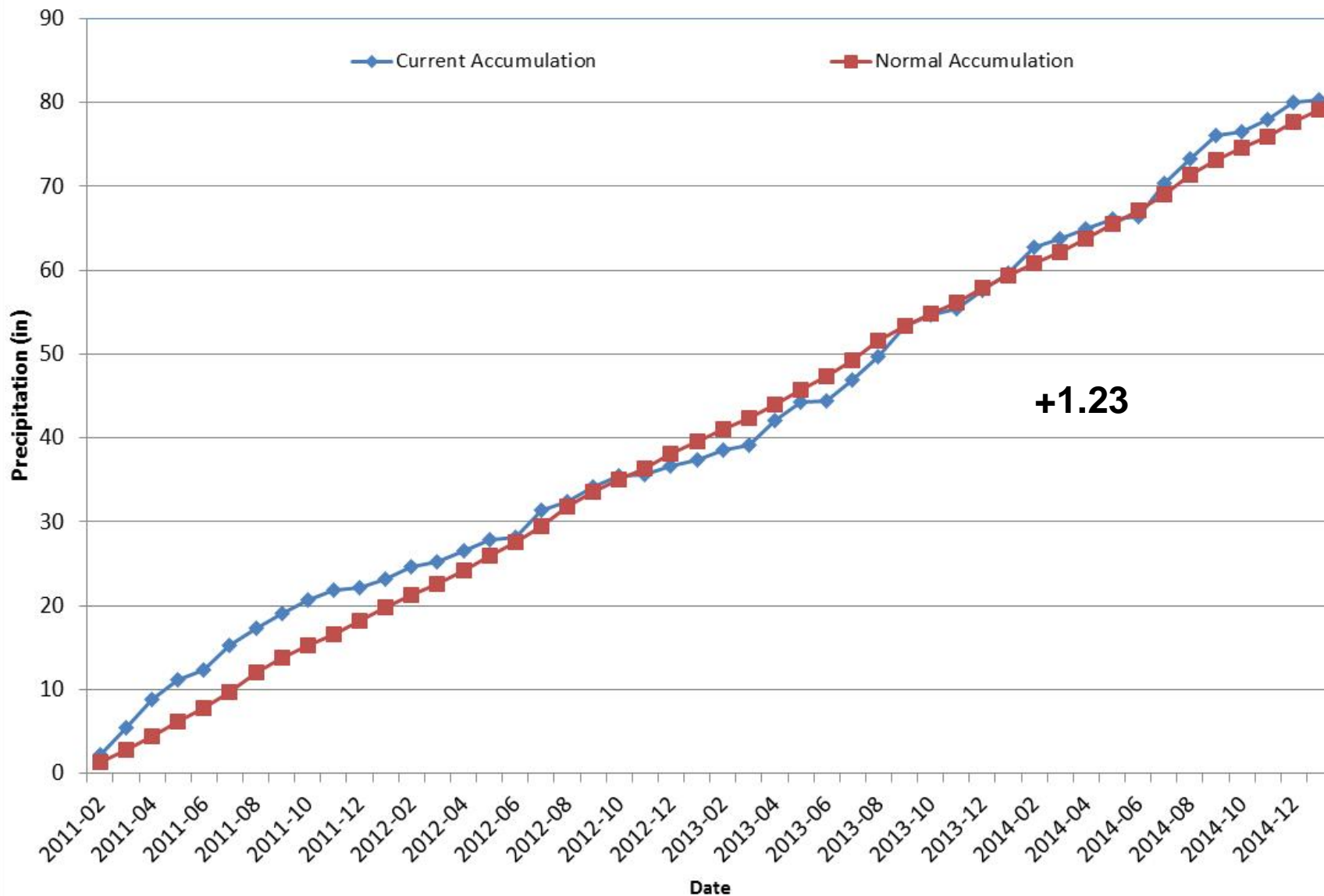
Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

Grand Lake 1 NW 2015 Water Year



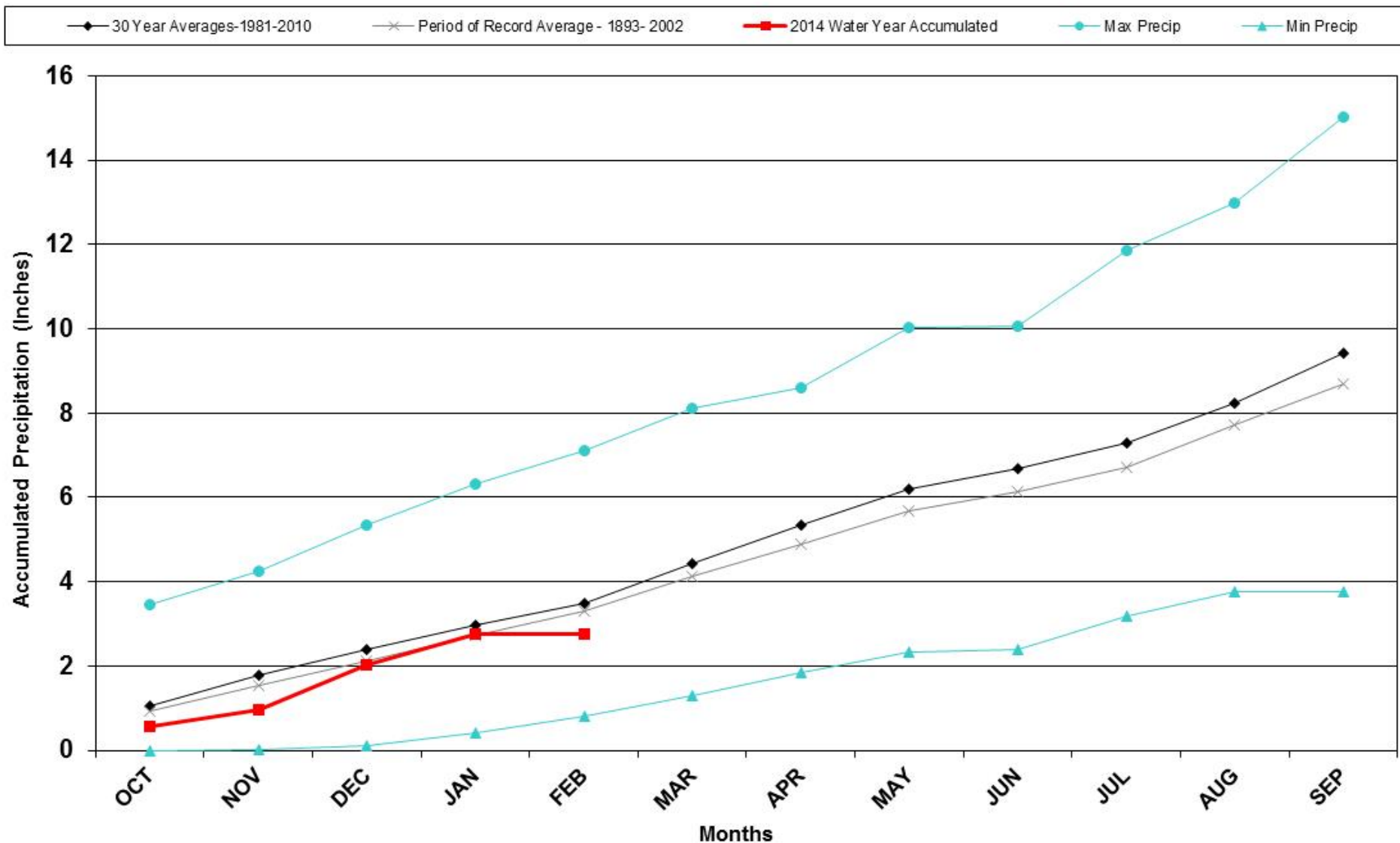
Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

Grand Lake 1NW Precipitation Accumulation



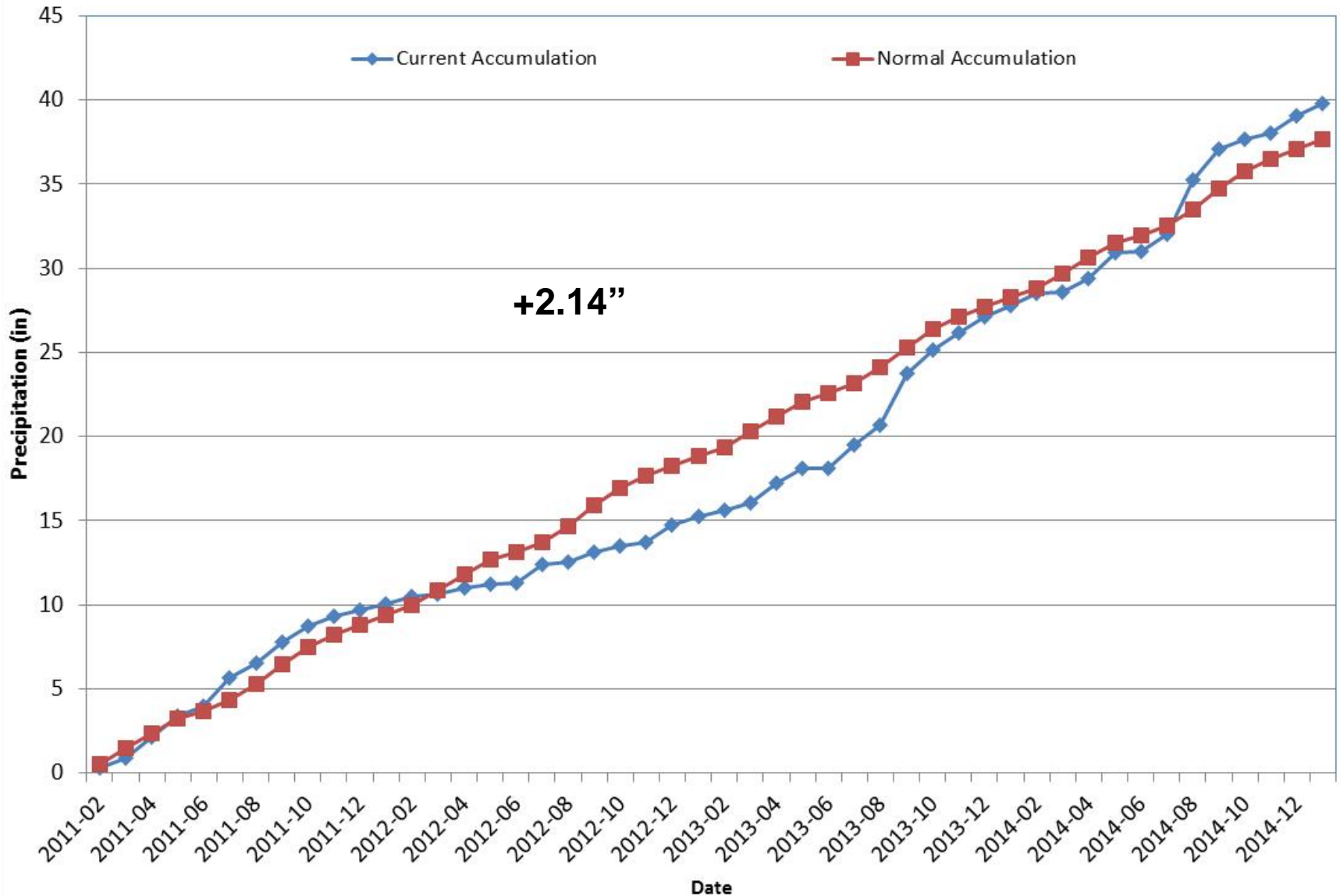
Division 2 – Grand Junction

Grand Junction WSFO 2015 Water Year



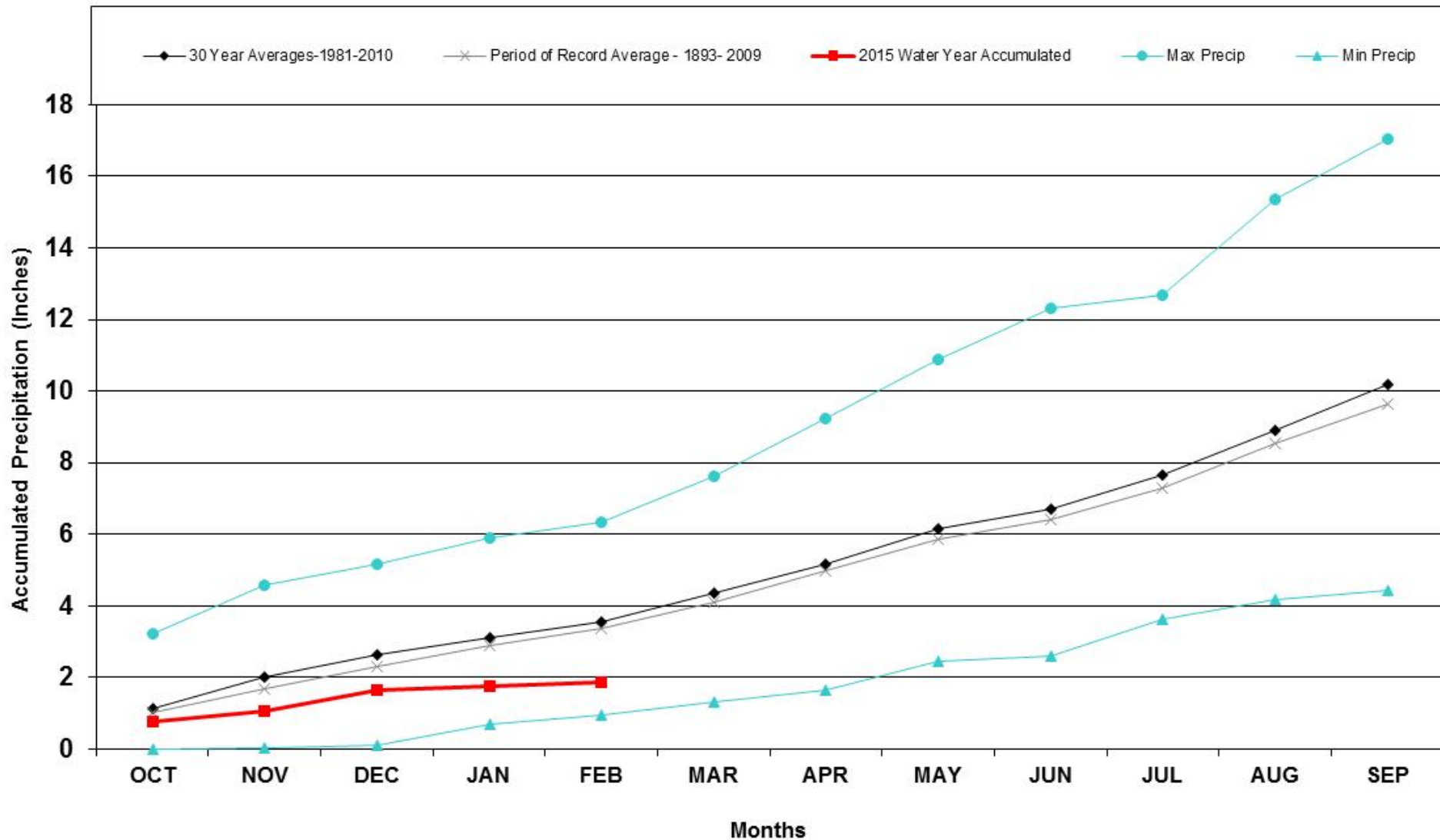
Division 2 – Grand Junction

Grand Junction Precipitation Accumulation



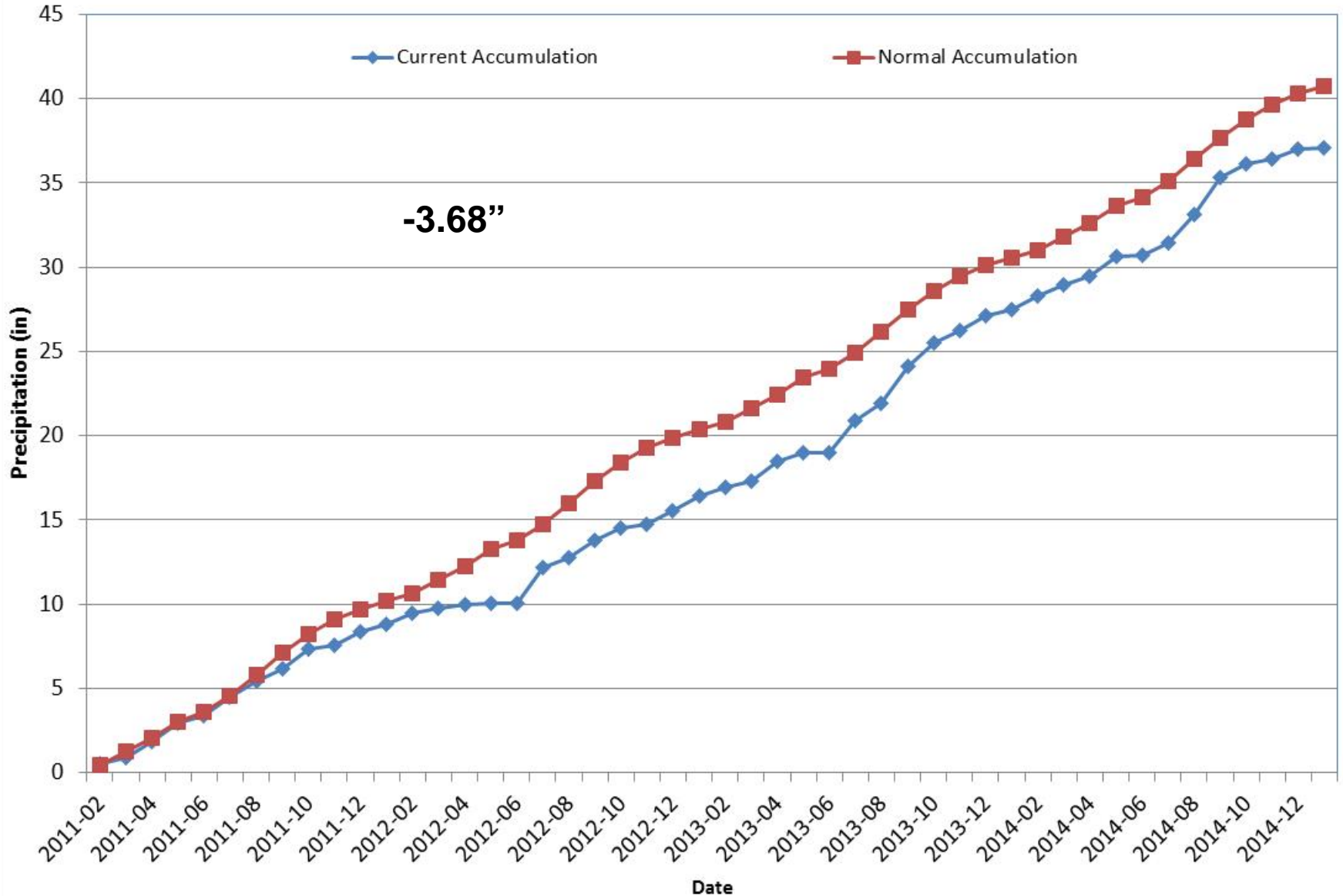
Division 3 – Montrose

Montrose #2 2015 Water Year



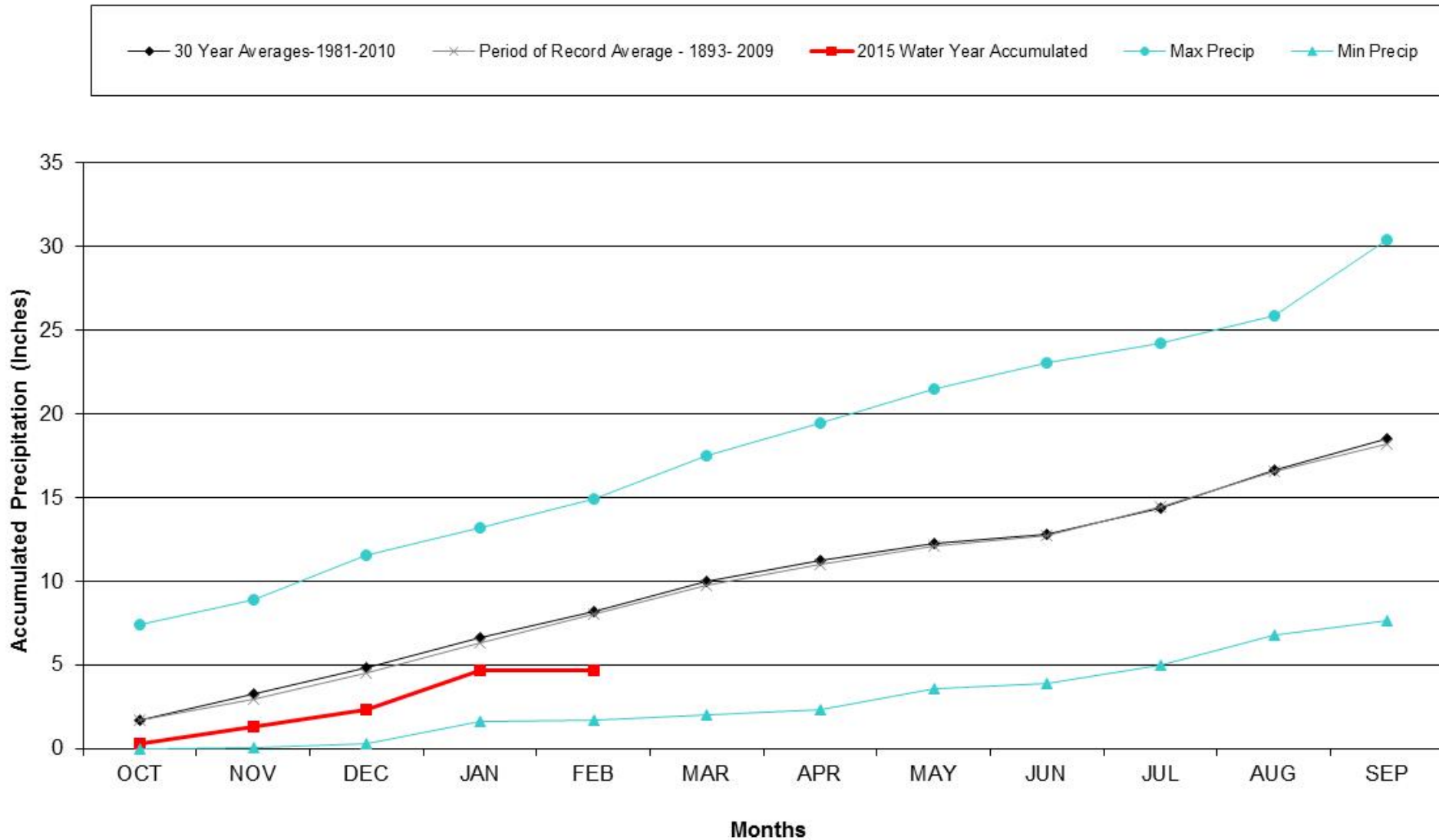
Division 3 – Montrose

Montrose #2 Precipitation Accumulation



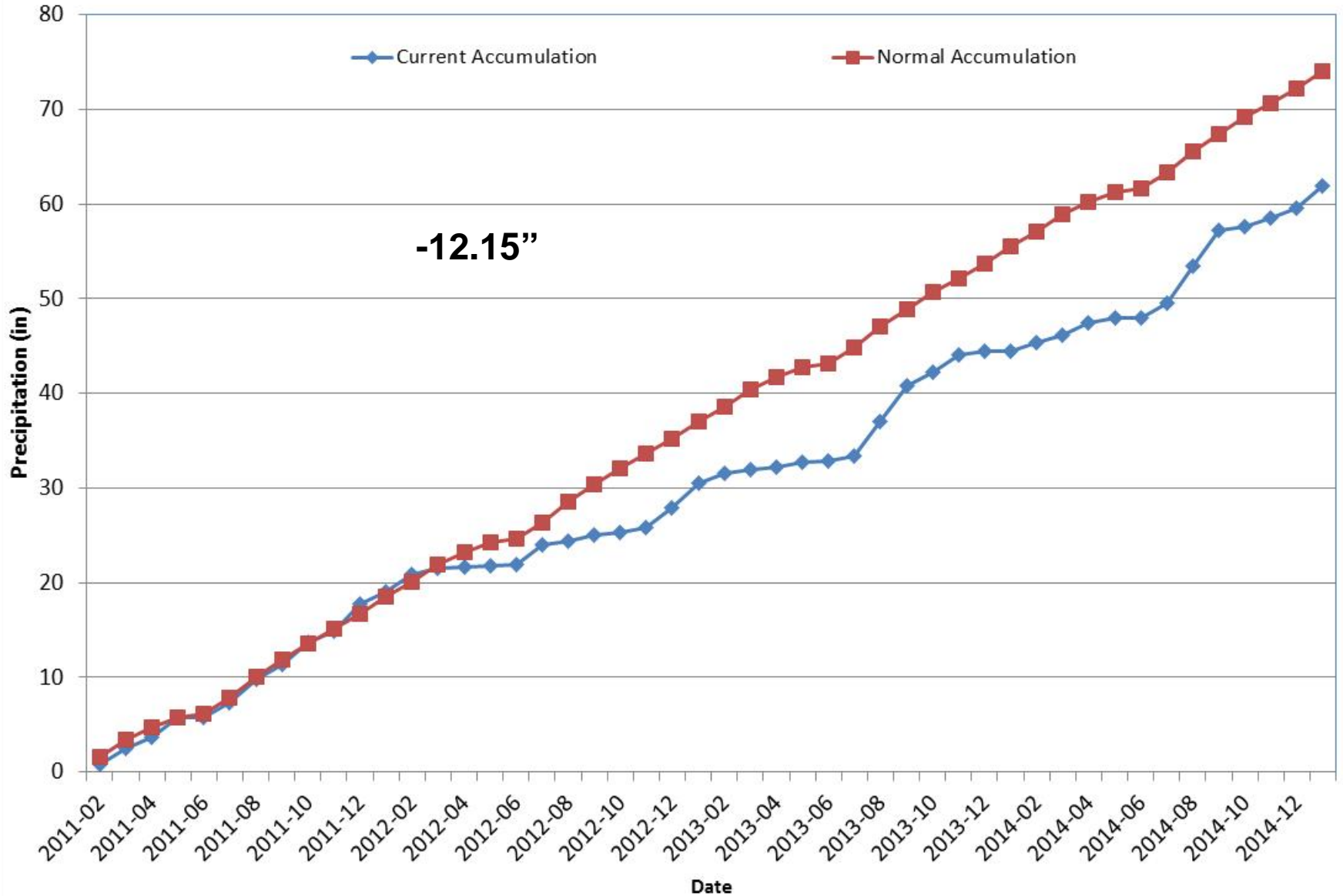
Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

Mesa Verde NP 2015 Water Year



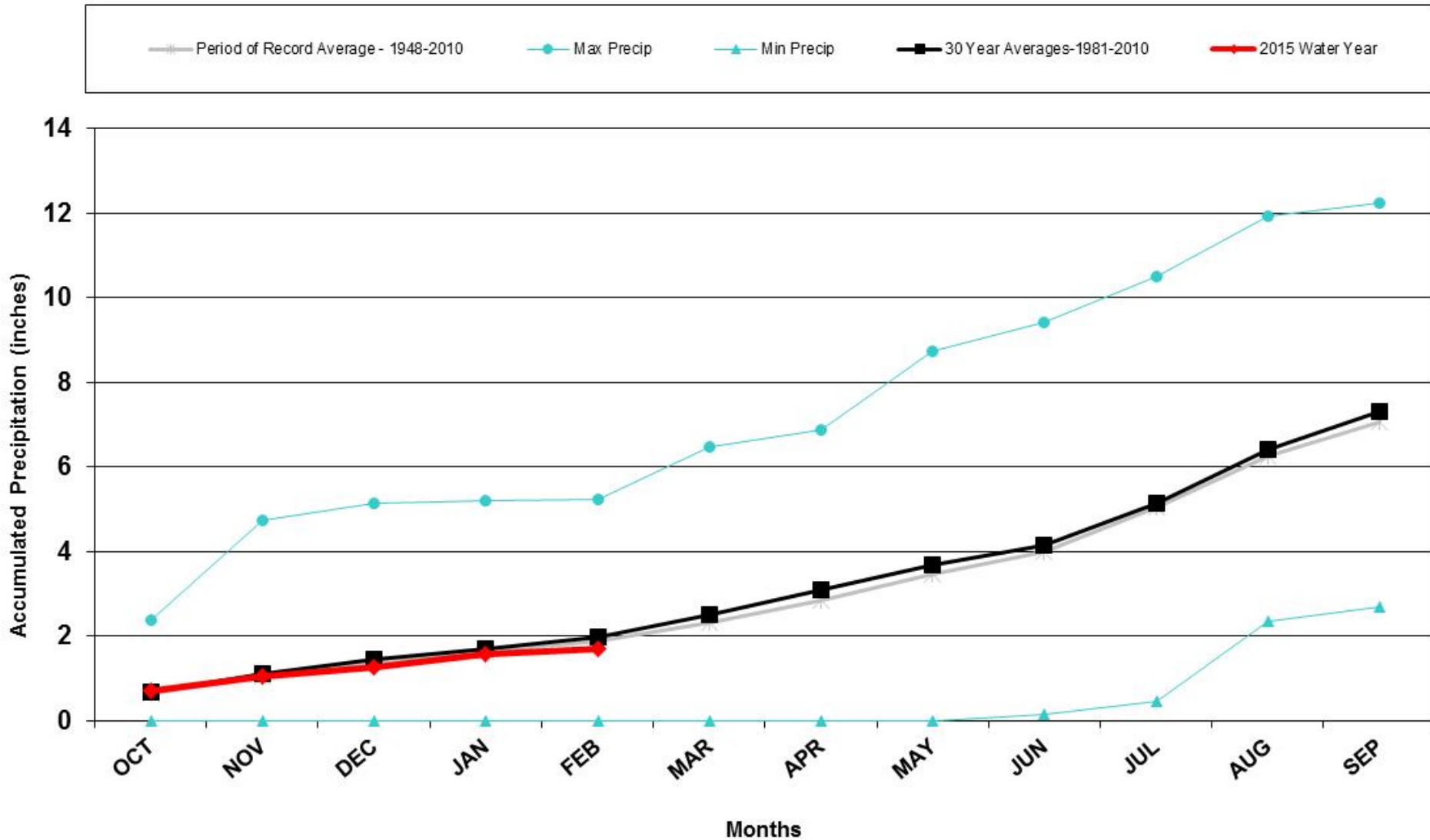
Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

Mesa Verde NP Precipitation Accumulation



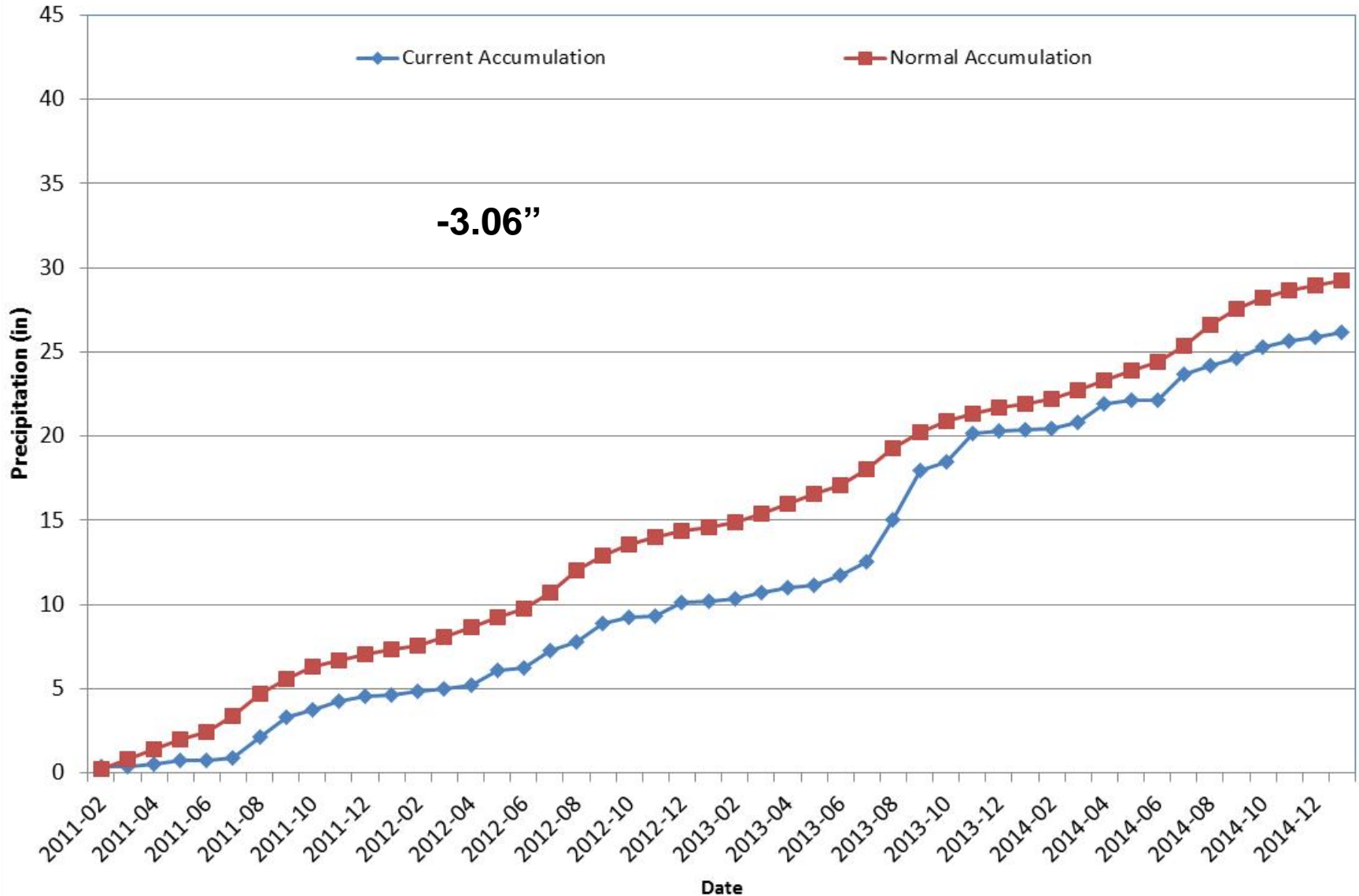
Division 4 – Alamosa

Alamosa WSO 2015 Water Year



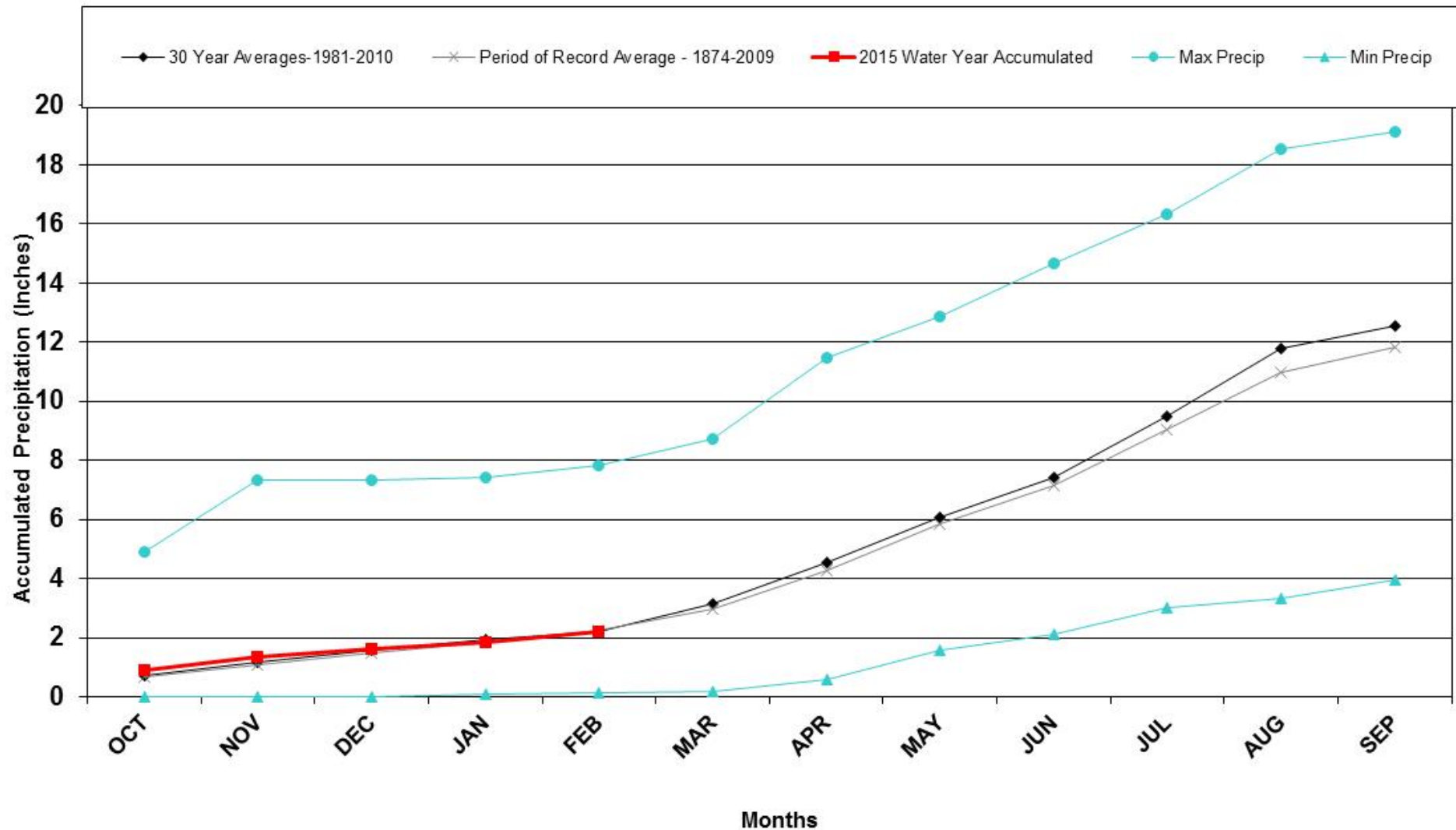
Division 4 – Alamosa

Alamosa WSO Precipitation Accumulation



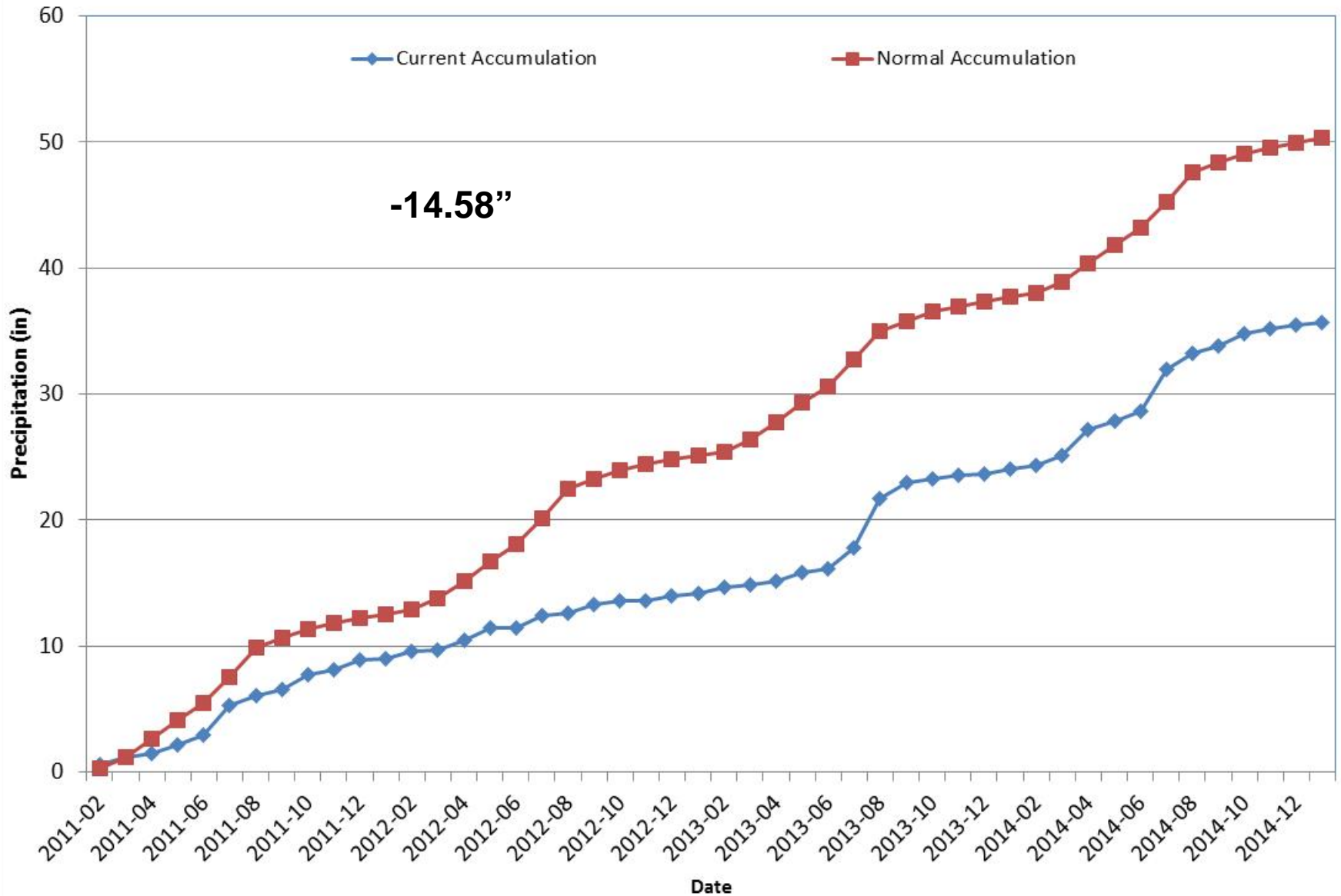
Division 5 – Pueblo

Pueblo WSO 2015 Water Year



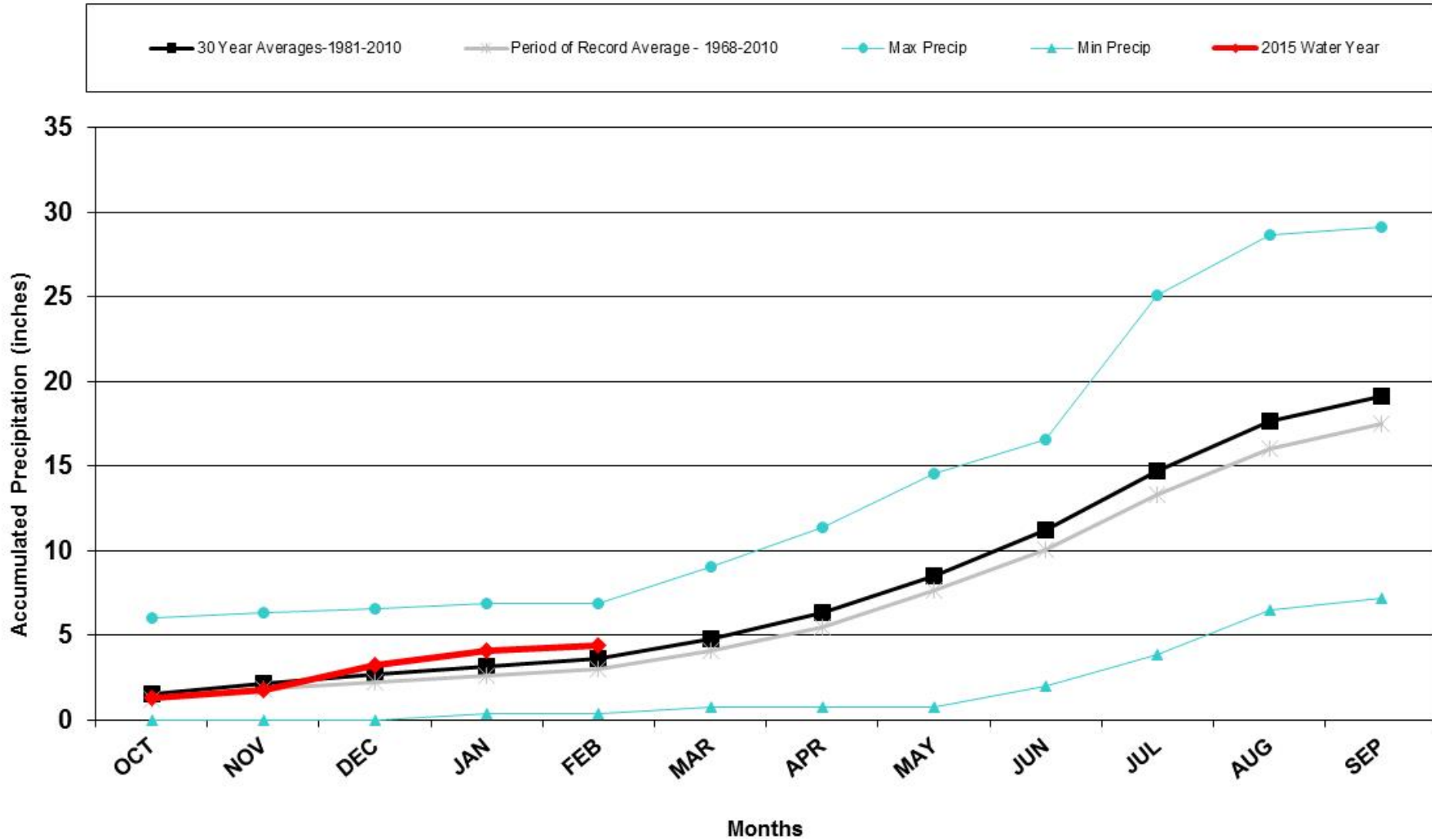
Division 5 – Pueblo

Pueblo Memorial AP Precipitation Accumulation



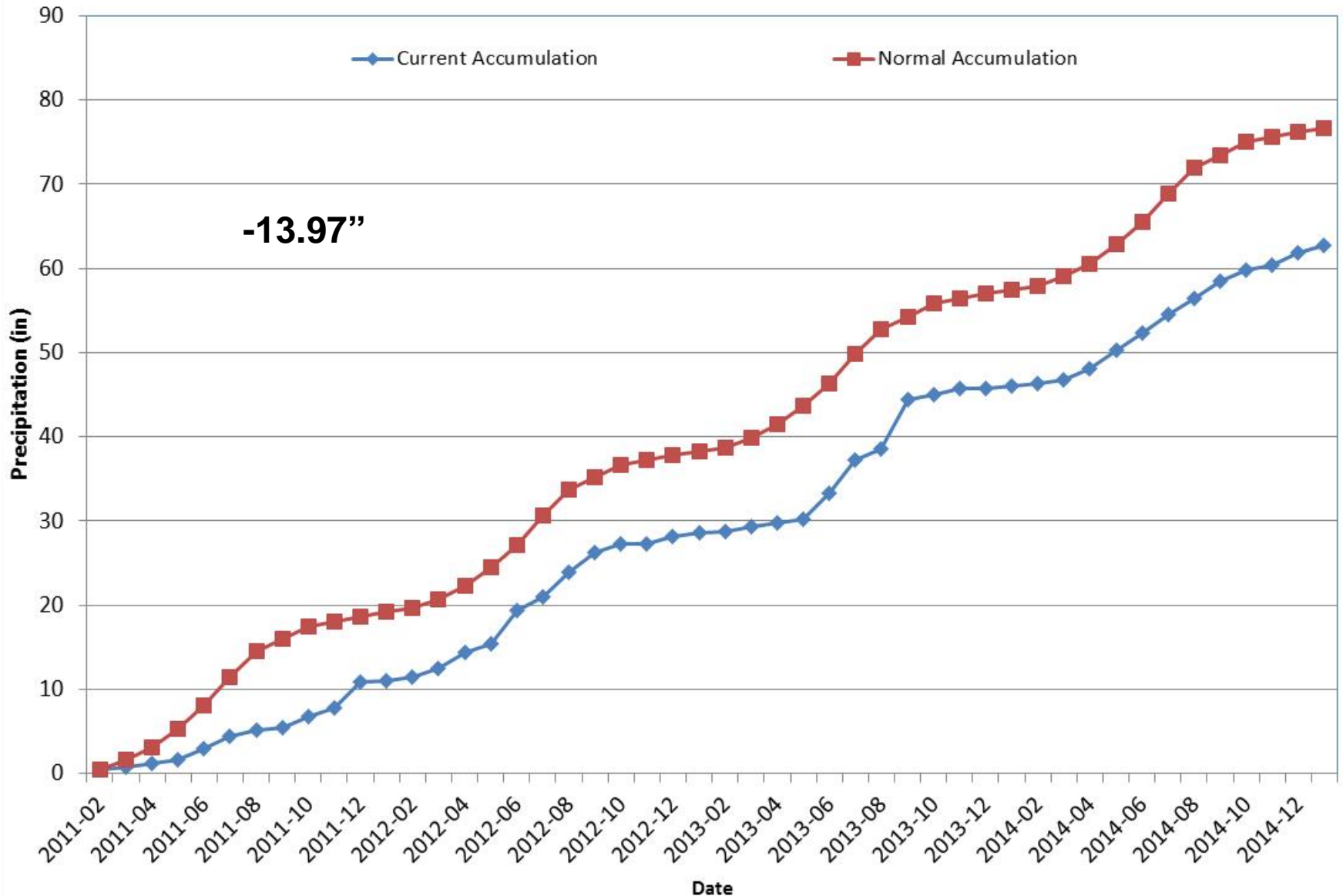
Division 6 - Walsh

Walsh 2015 Water Year



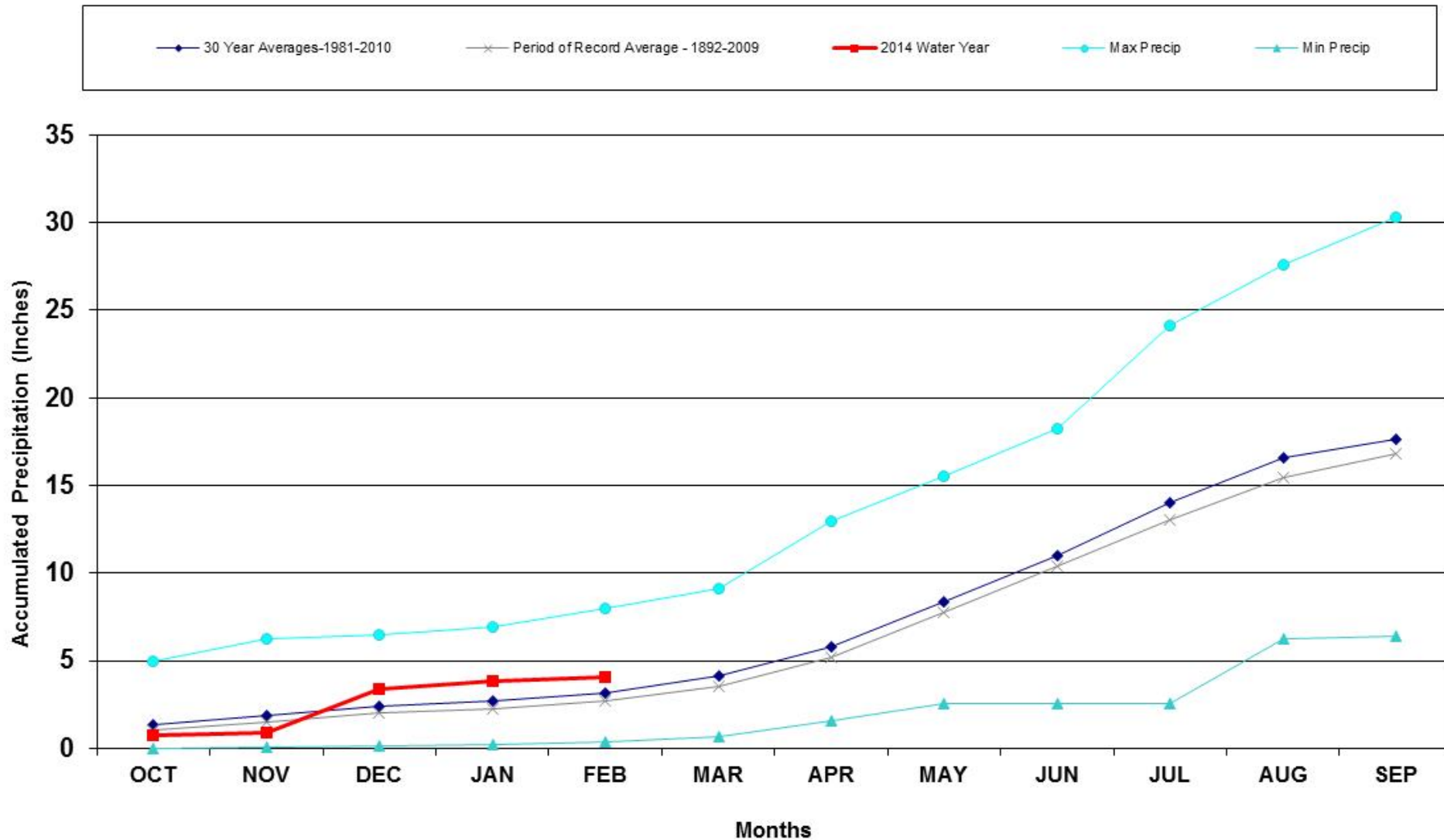
Division 6 - Walsh

Walsh 1W Precipitation Accumulation



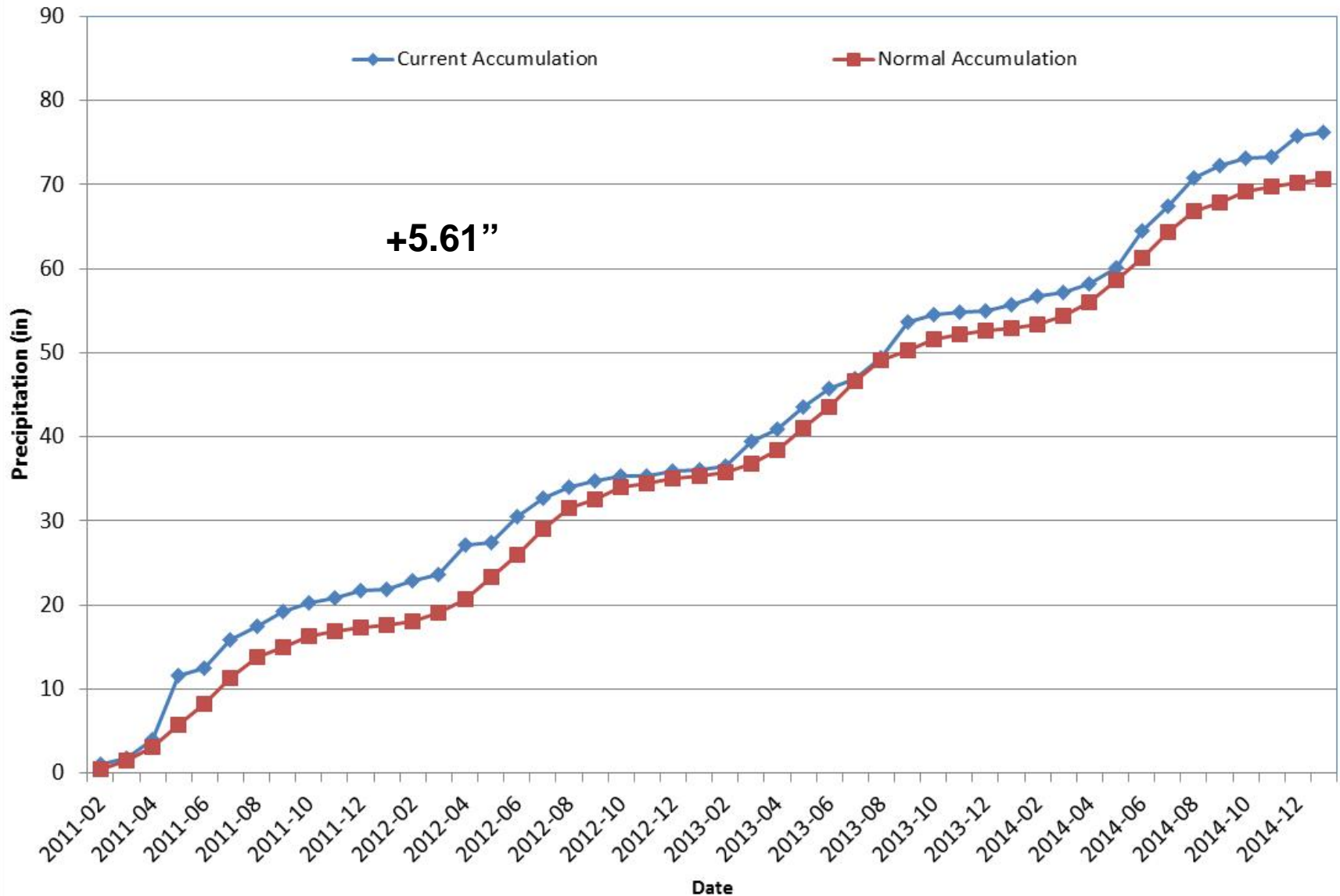
Division 6 - Burlington

Burlington 2015 Water Year



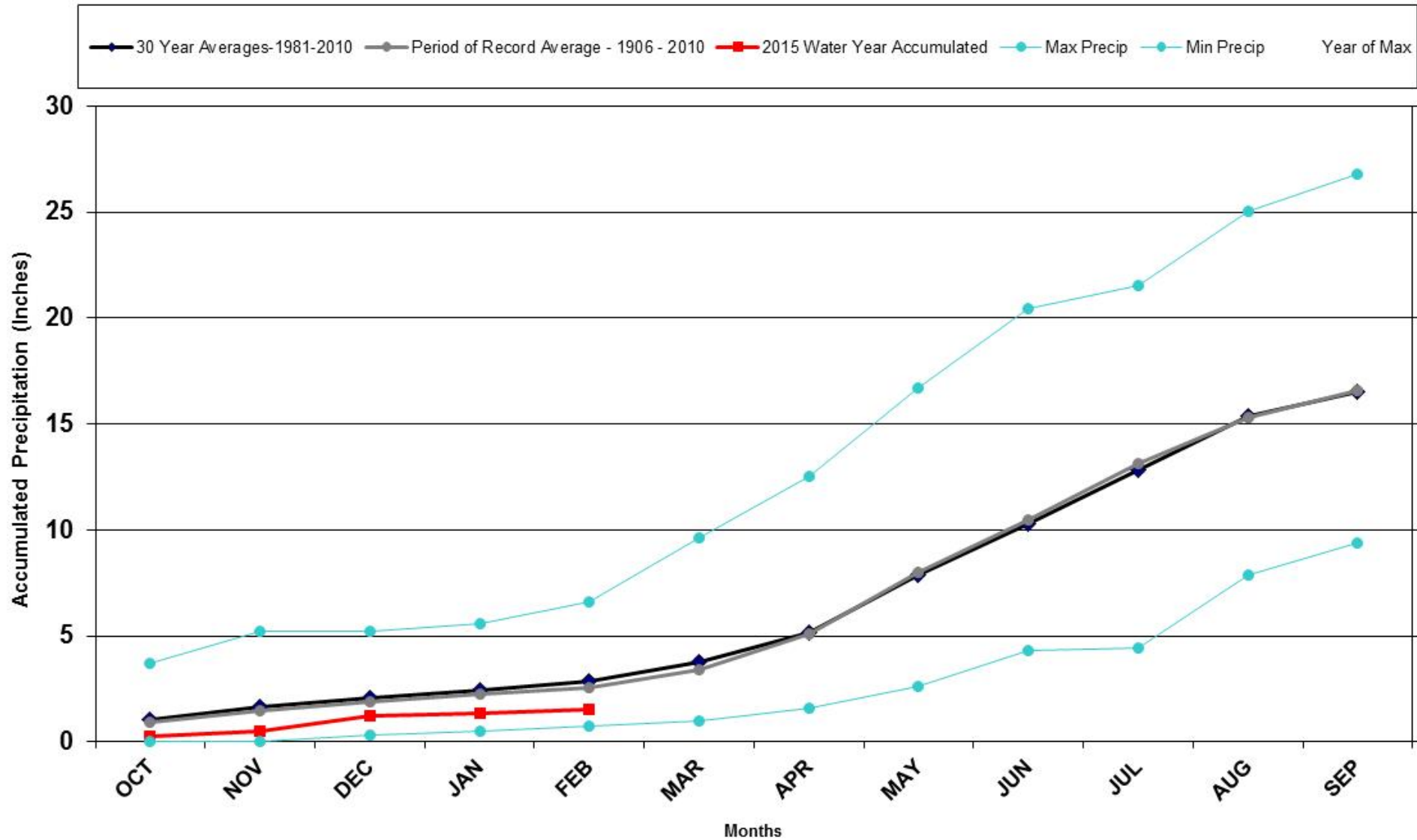
Division 6 - Burlington

Burlington, CO Precipitation Accumulation



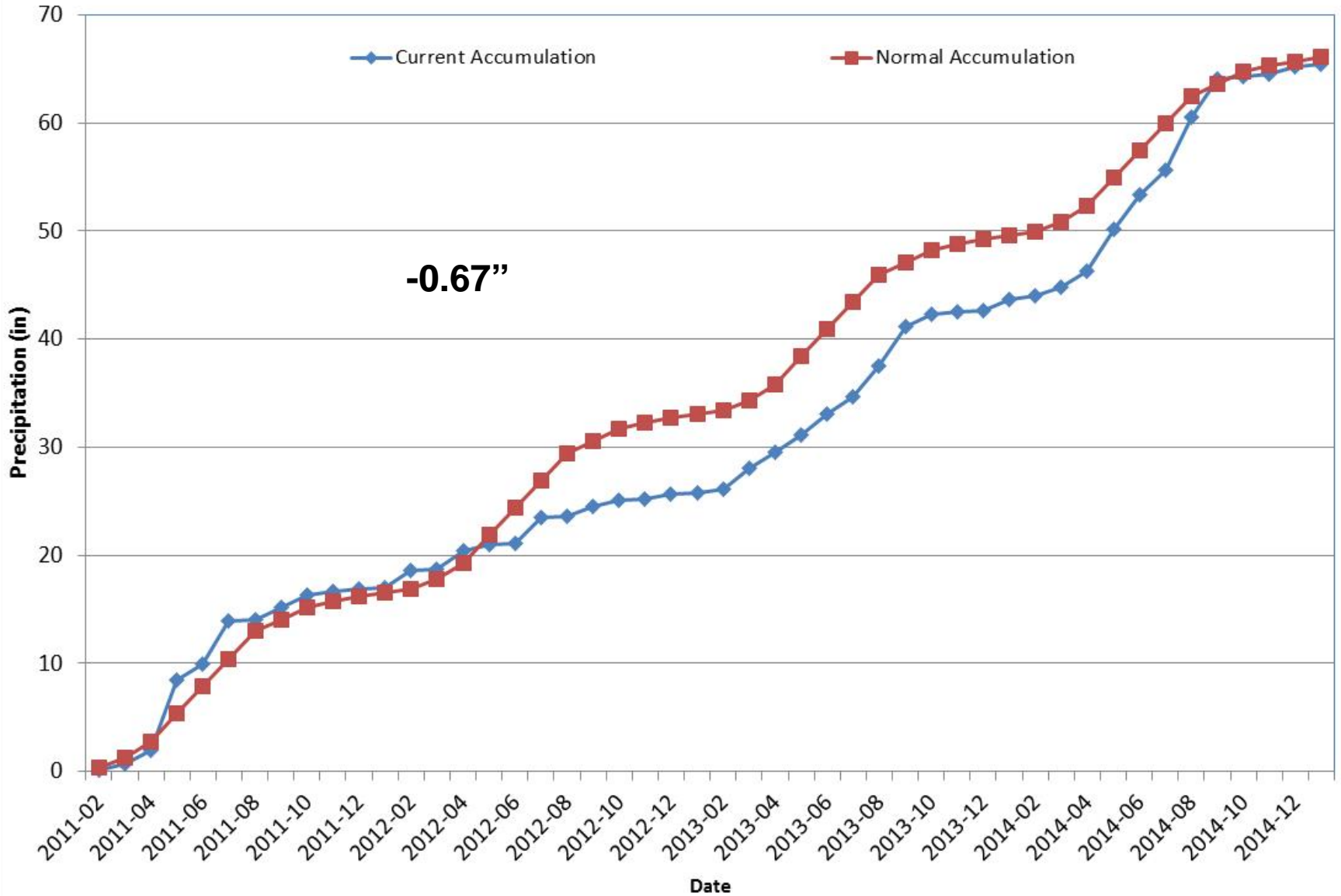
Division 7 – Akron

Akron 4E 2015 Water Year



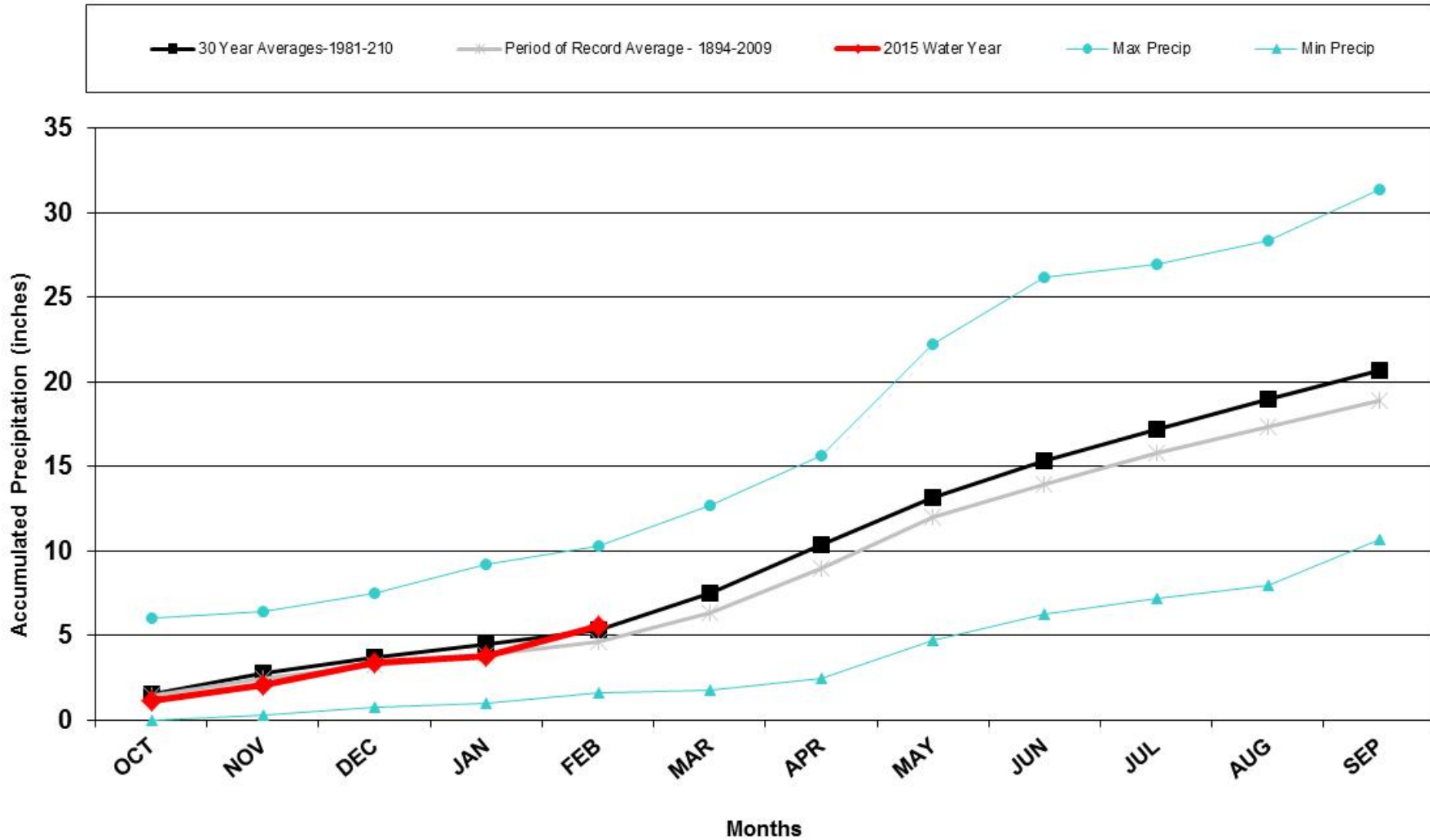
Division 7 – Akron

Akron 4E Precipitation Accumulation



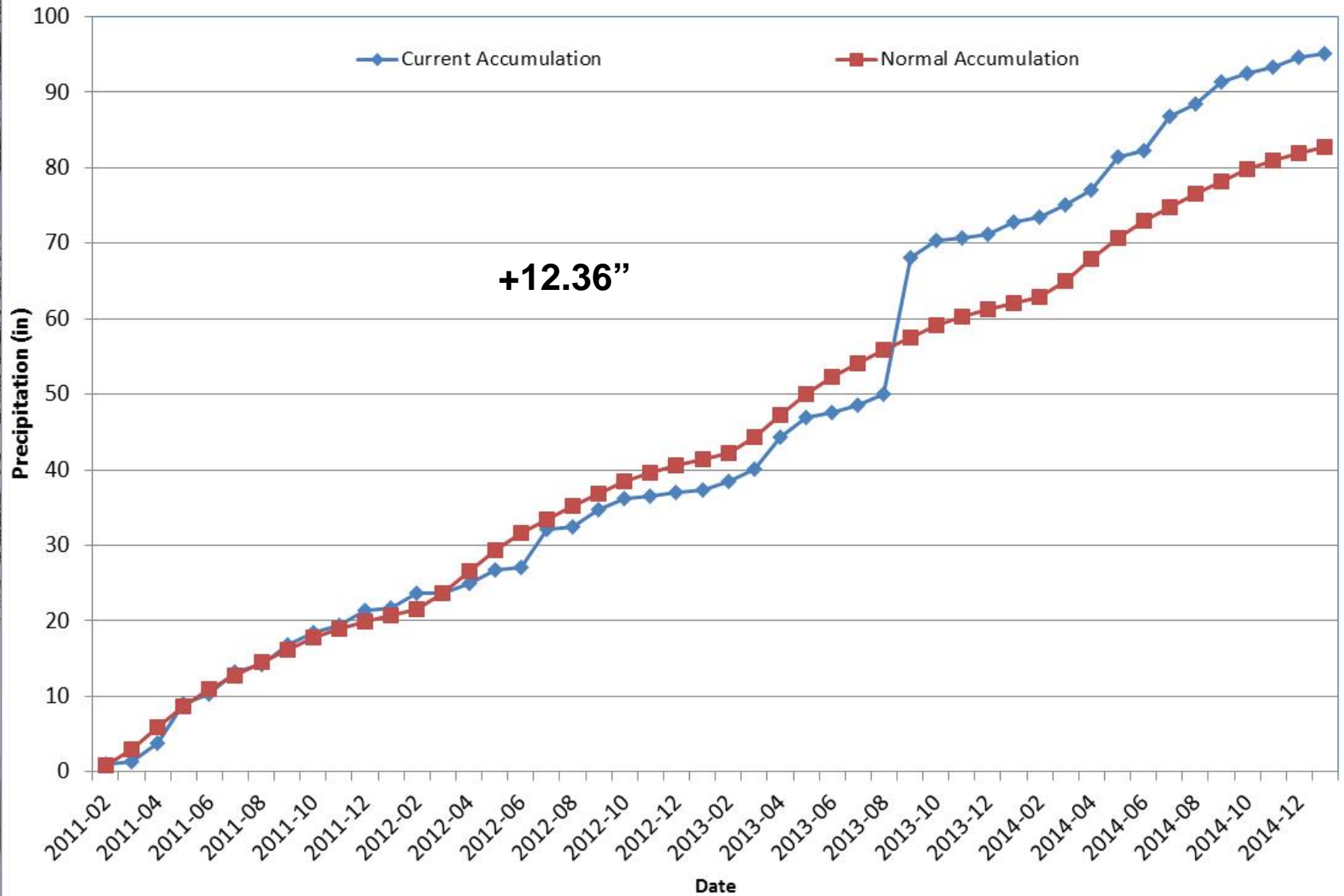
Division 8 - Boulder

Boulder 2015 Water Year



Division 8 - Boulder

Boulder Precipitation Accumulation

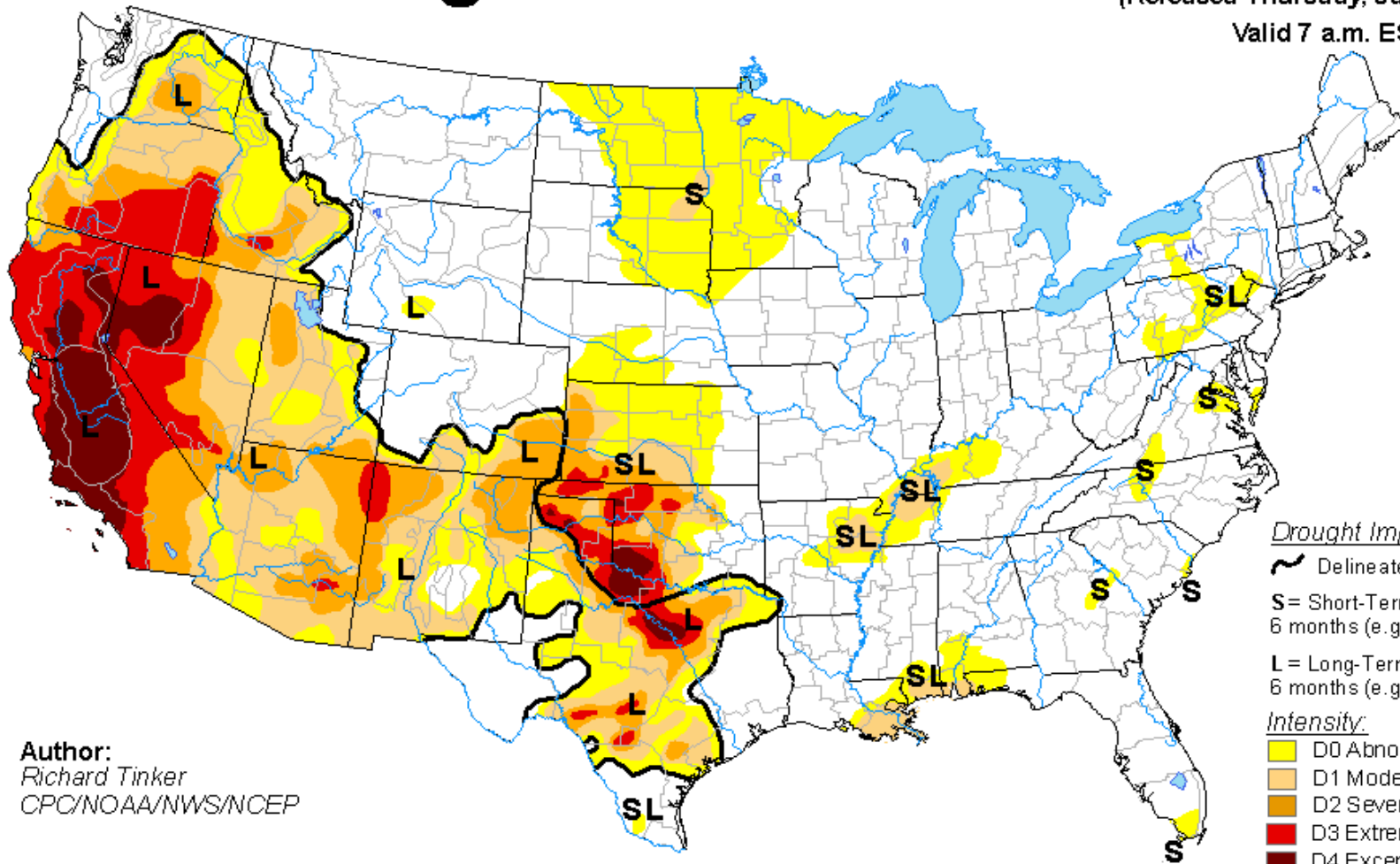


U.S. Drought Monitor

January 13, 2015

(Released Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

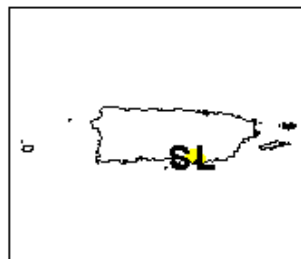
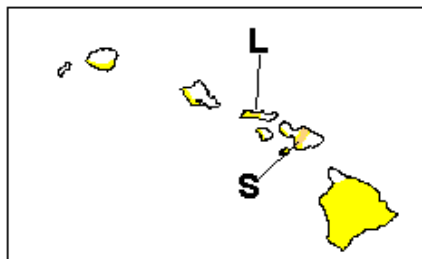
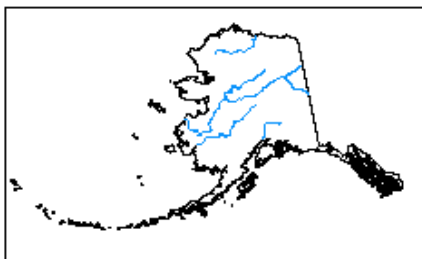
Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

- Yellow: D0 Abnormally Dry
- Light Orange: D1 Moderate Drought
- Orange: D2 Severe Drought
- Red: D3 Extreme Drought
- Dark Red: D4 Exceptional Drought

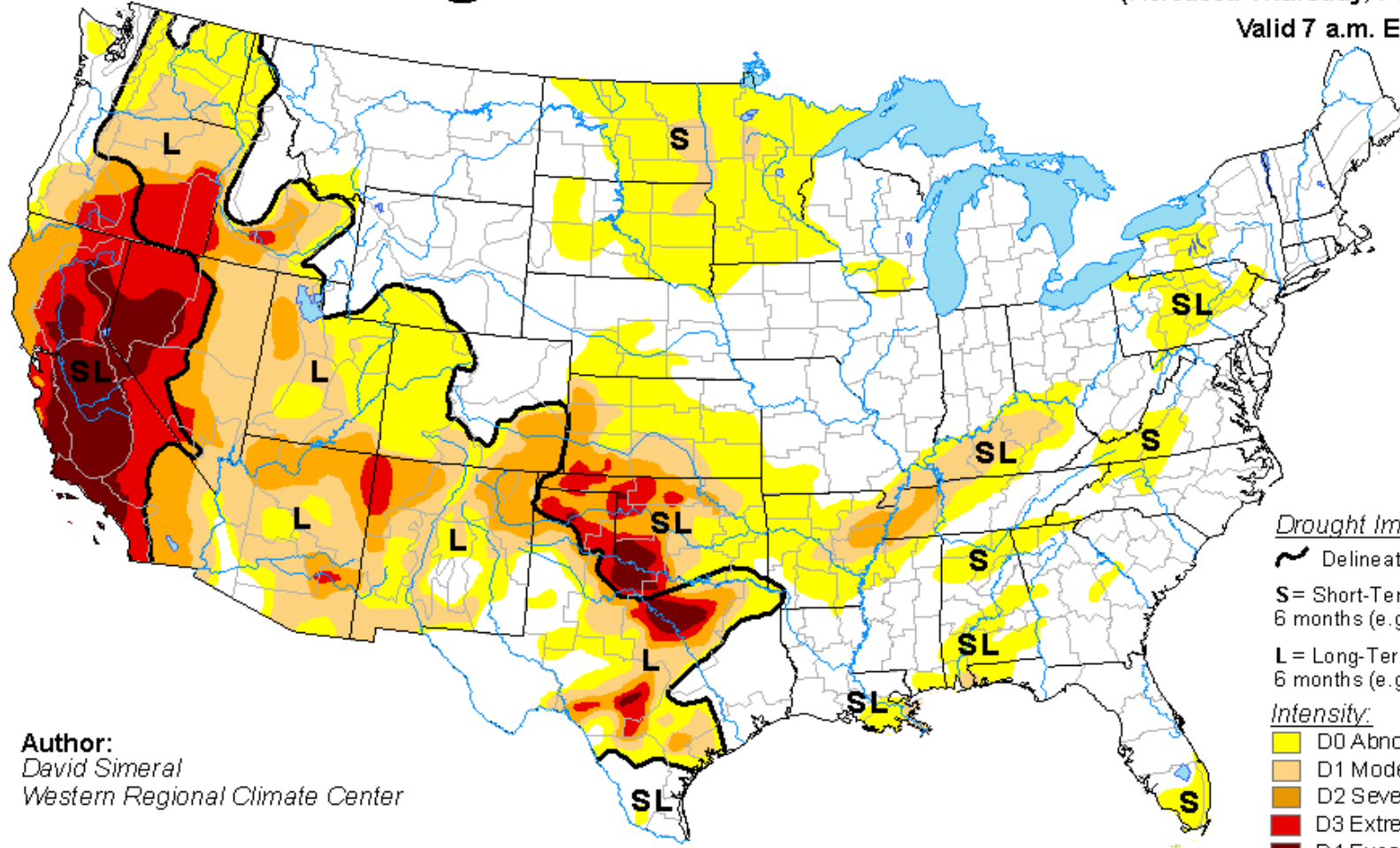
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

U.S. Drought Monitor

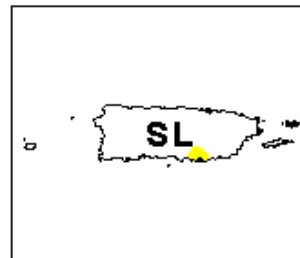
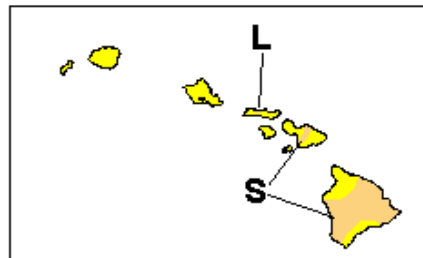
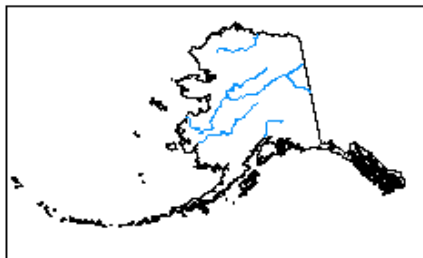
February 10, 2015
(Released Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center

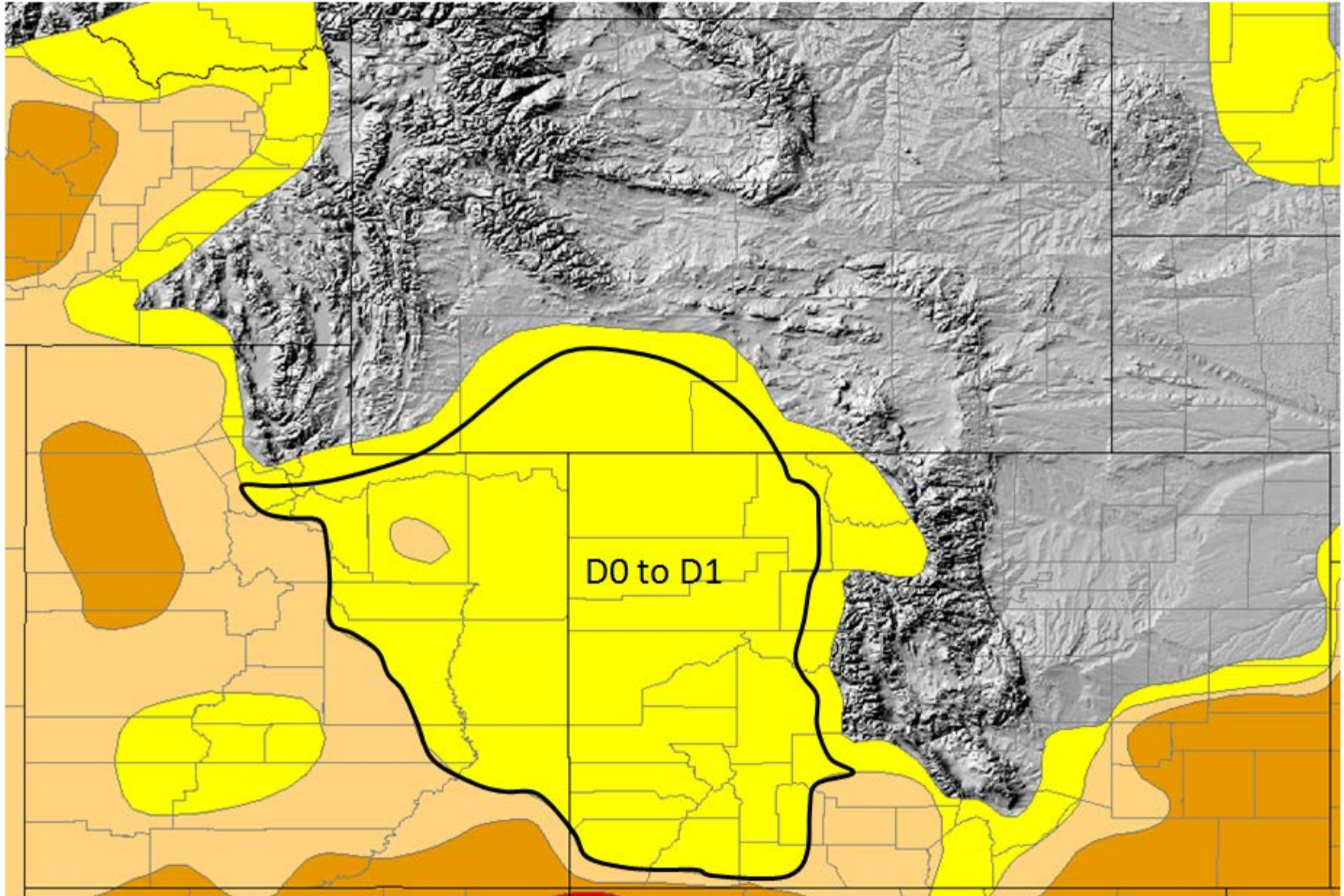
- Drought Impact Types:
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
 - S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
 - L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)
- Intensity:
- D0 Abnormally Dry
 - D1 Moderate Drought
 - D2 Severe Drought
 - D3 Extreme Drought
 - D4 Exceptional Drought

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



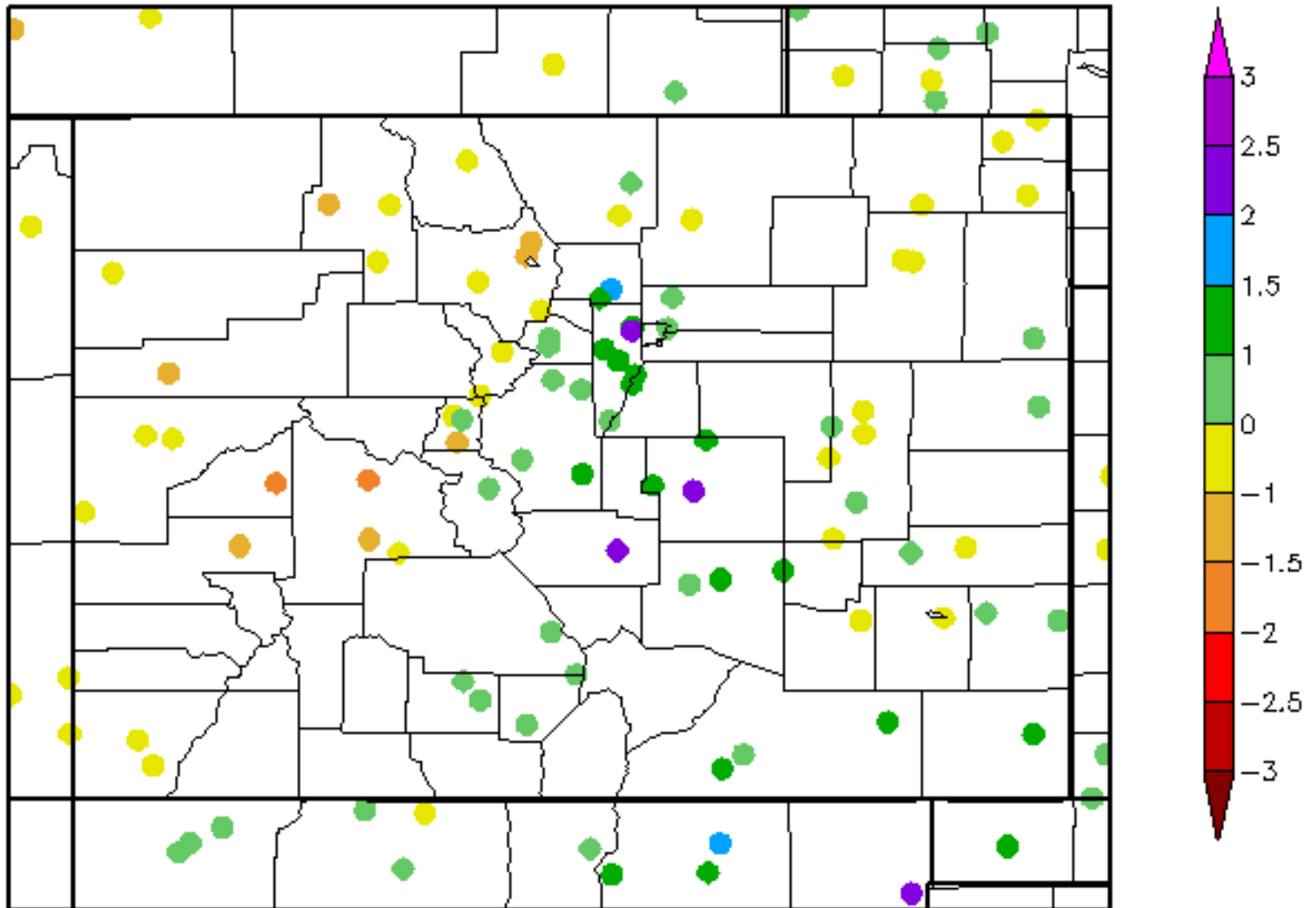
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Recommendations this week



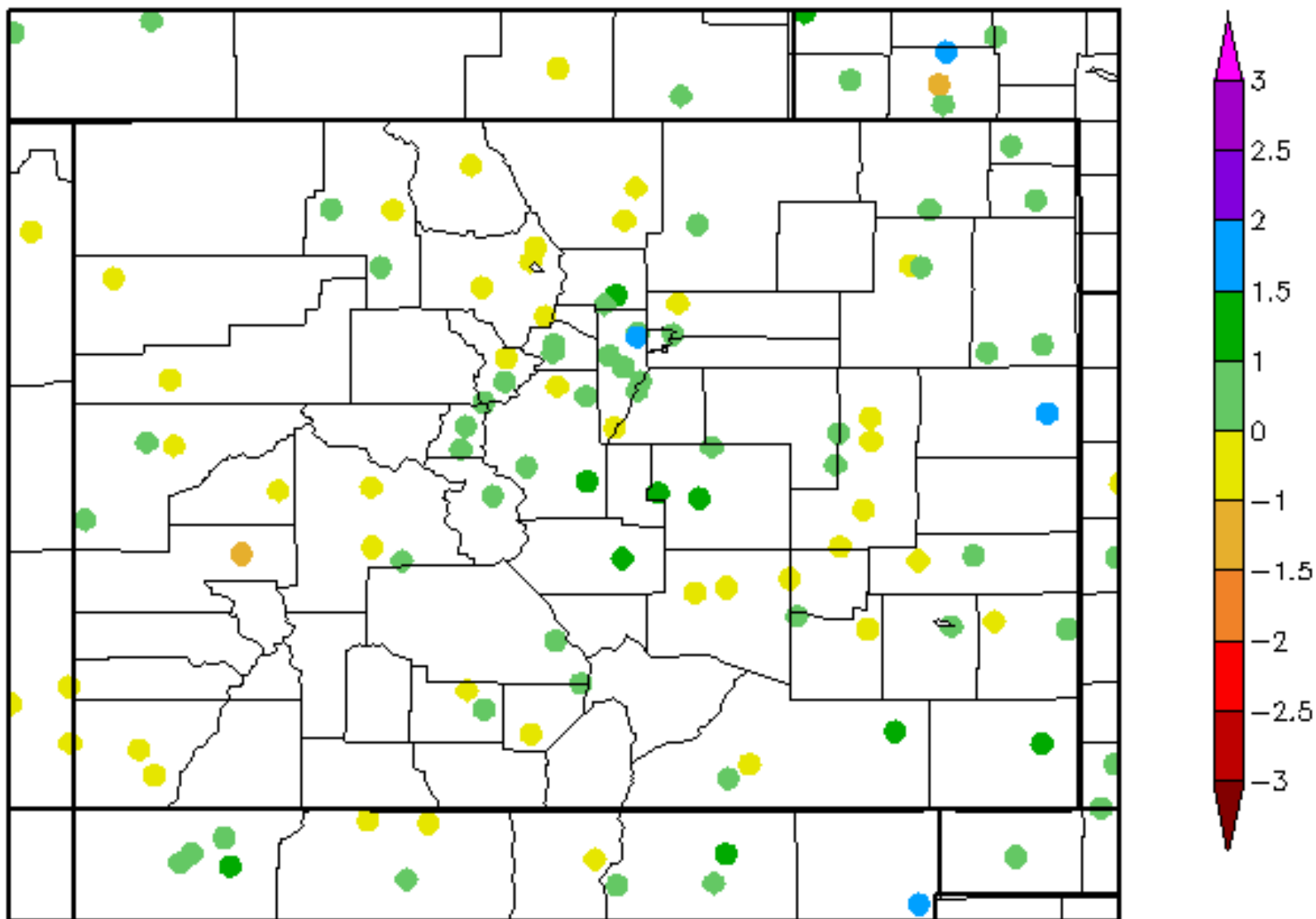
30 Day SPI

1/19/2015 - 2/17/2015



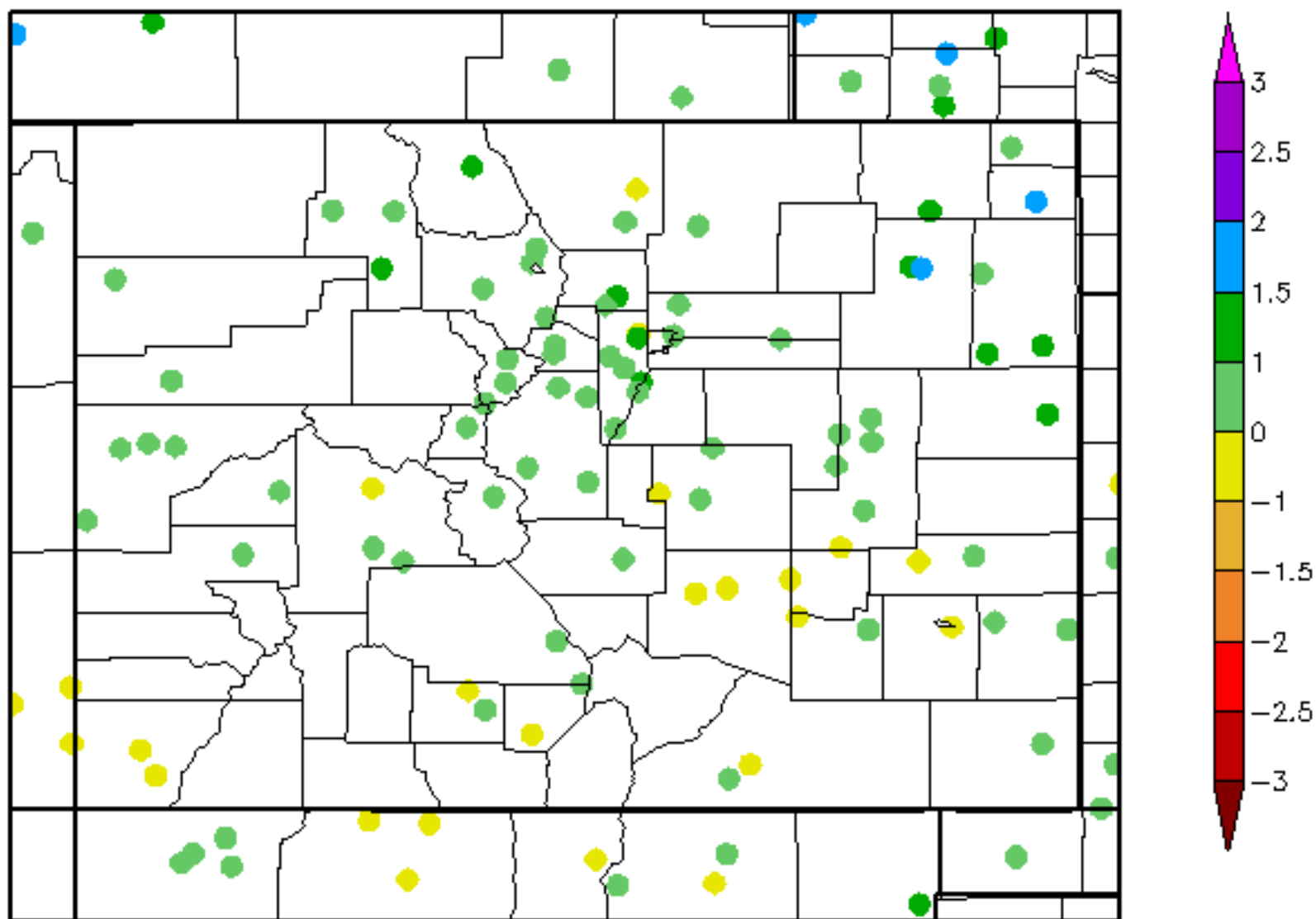
90 Day SPI

11/20/2014 - 2/17/2015



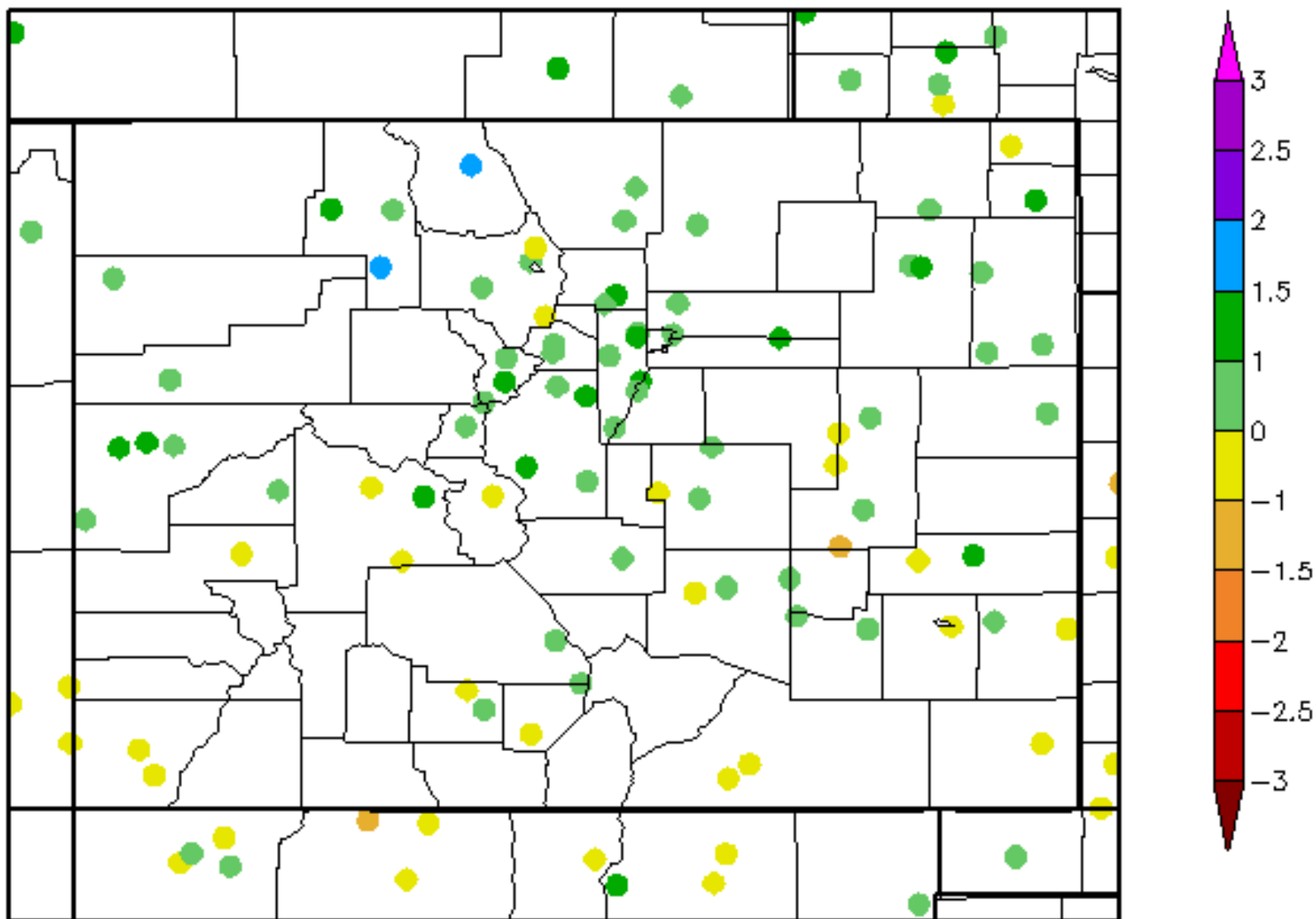
6 Month SPI

8/18/2014 - 2/17/2015



12 Month SPI

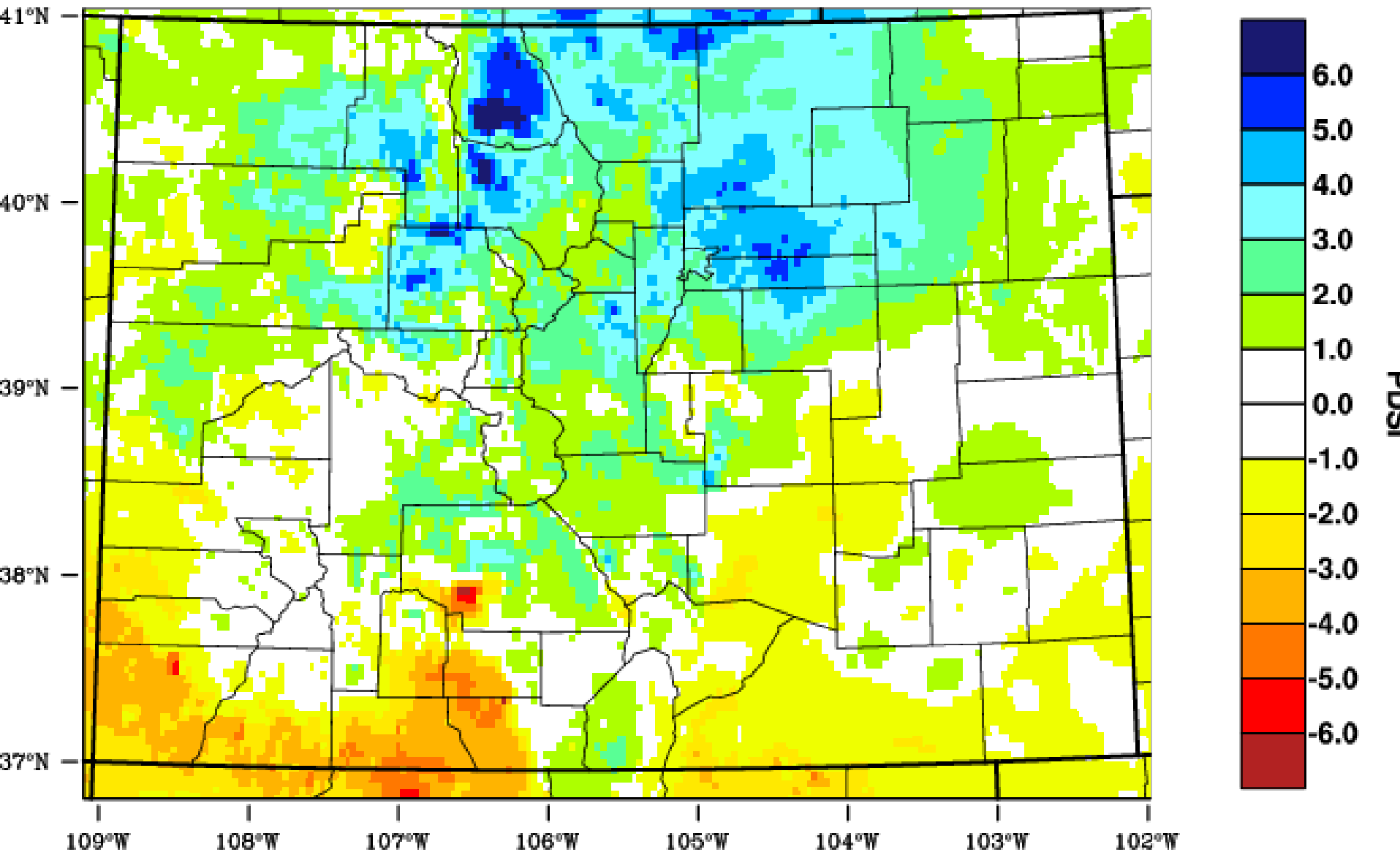
2/18/2014 - 2/17/2015



Palmer

Colorado - PDSI

January 2015



WestWide Drought Tracker - WRCC/UI Data Source - PRISM (Prelim), created 16 FEB 2015

Colorado Climate Center

Data and Power Point Presentations available for downloading

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

