



# *Climate Update*

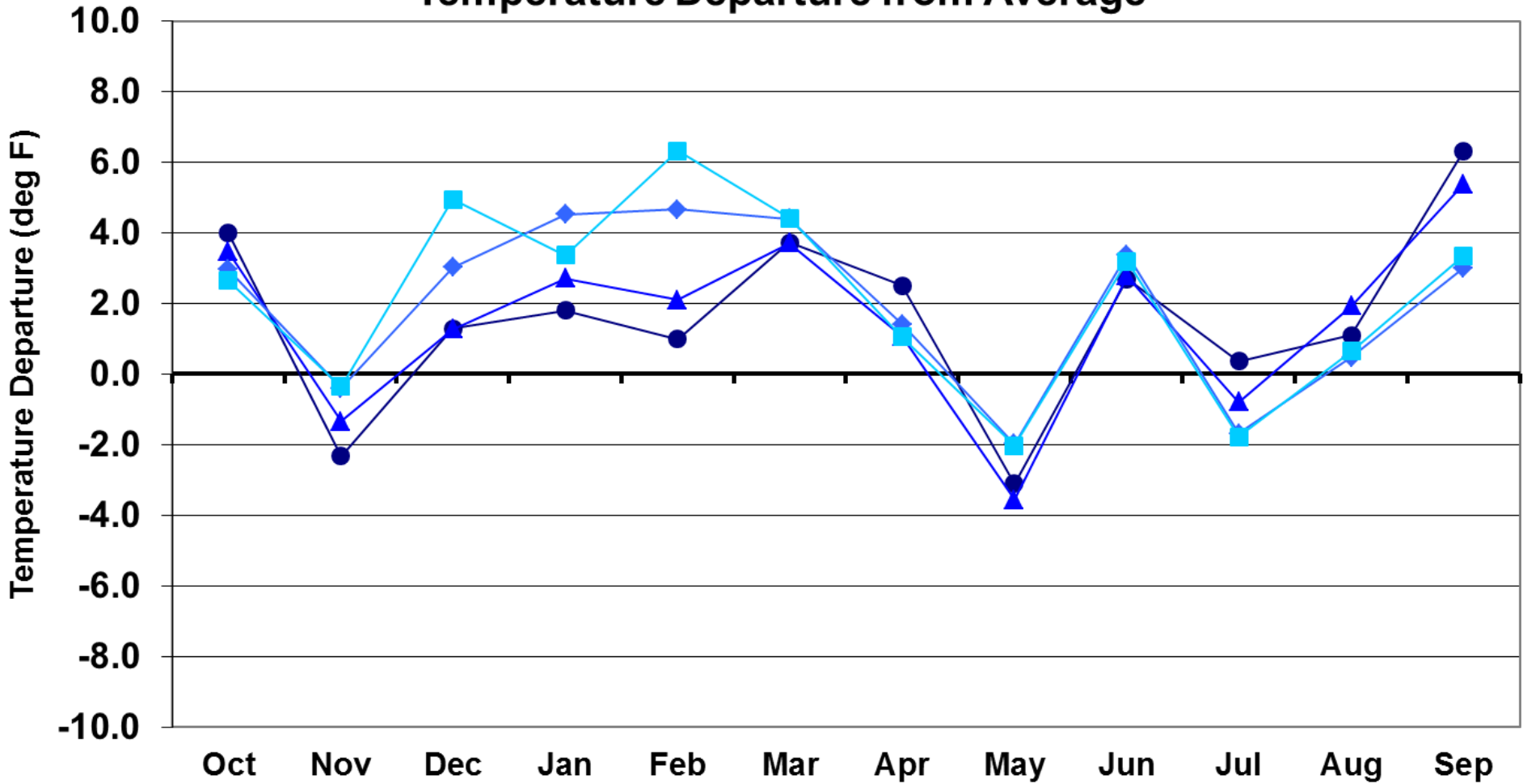


Nolan Doesken  
Colorado Climate Center

Presented to  
Water Availability Task Force  
November 17, 2015  
Denver, CO

# Water Year 2015 Temperature Departures

Water Year 2015  
Temperature Departure from Average



● Eastern Plains

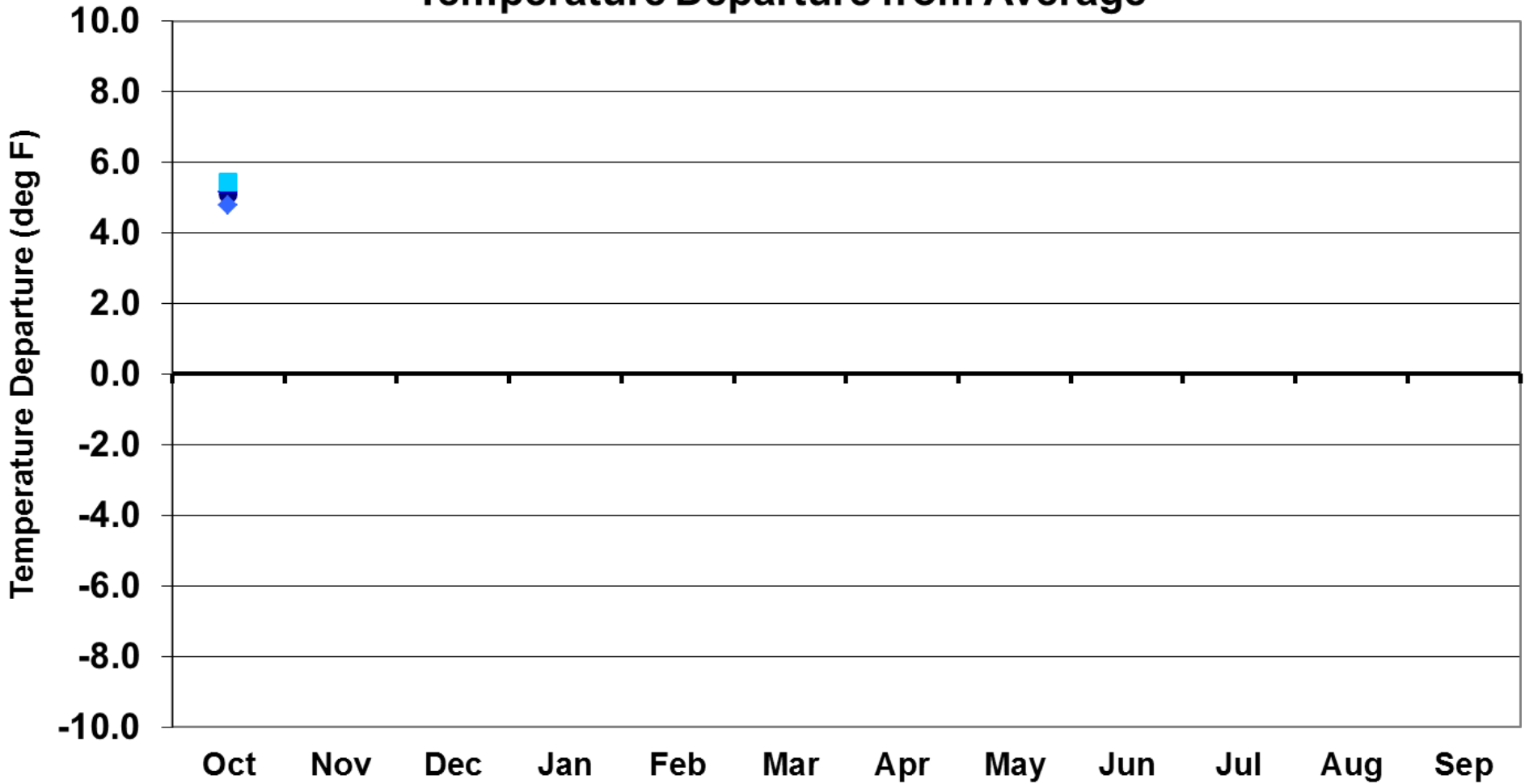
▲ Foothills

◆ Mountains

■ Western Valleys

# Water Year 2016 Temperature Departures

Water Year 2016  
Temperature Departure from Average



● Eastern Plains

▲ Foothills

◆ Mountains

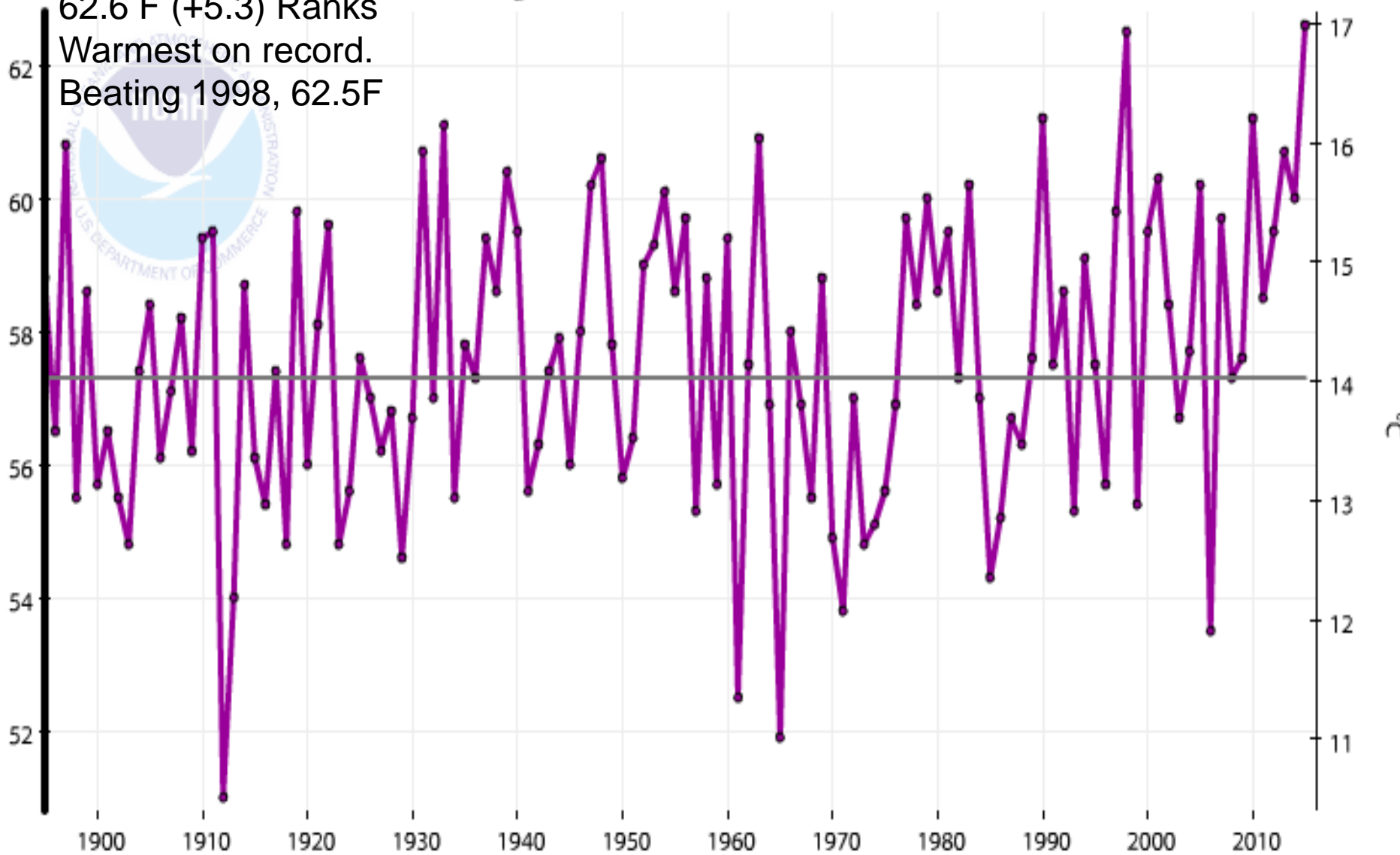
■ Western Valleys

# Sep 2015 Average Temperature History for Colorado (NCEI)

## Colorado, Average Temperature, September

— 1901-2000 Avg: 57.3°F      —●— Avg Temperature

62.6 F (+5.3) Ranks Warmest on record. Beating 1998, 62.5F



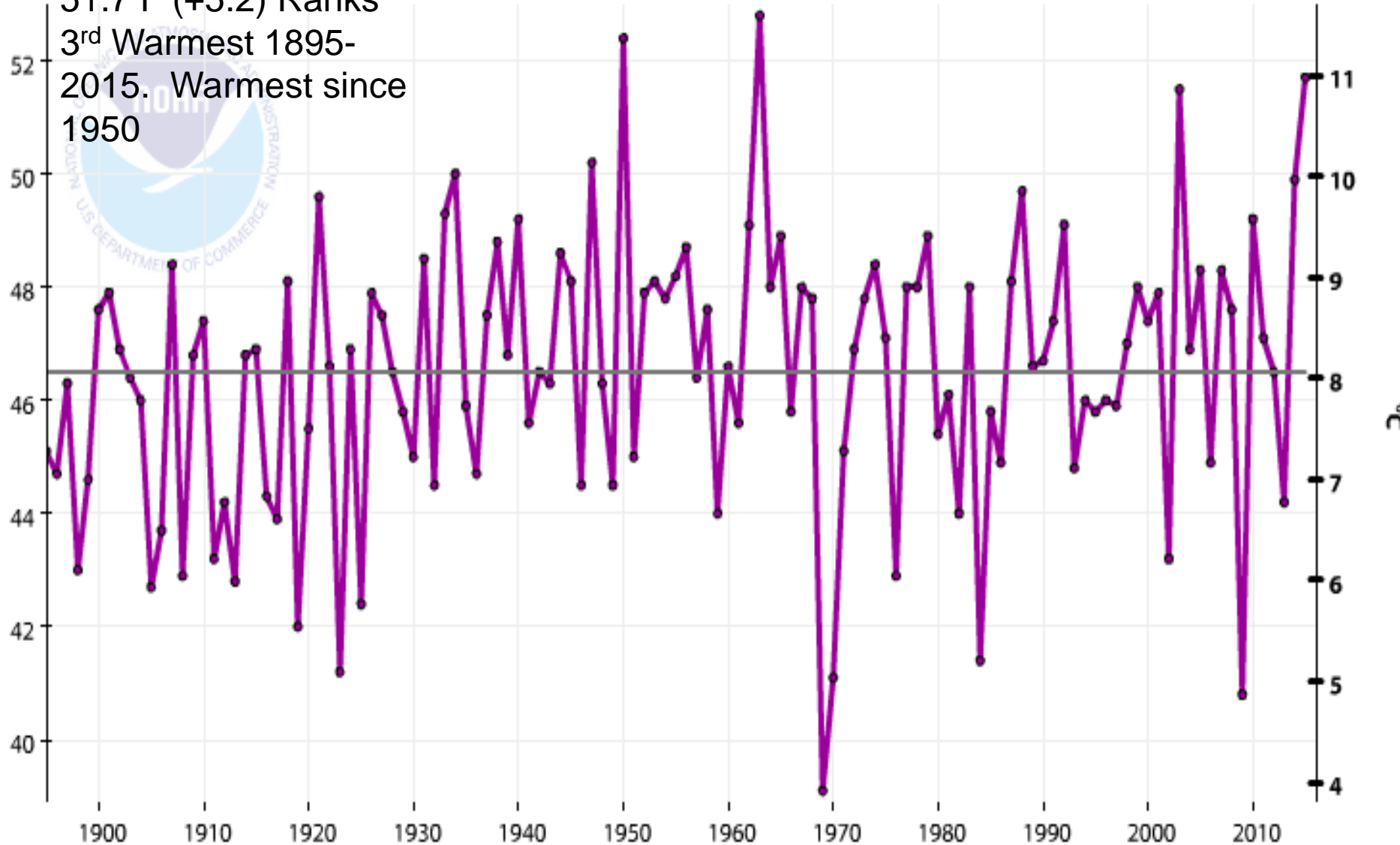


# Oct 2015 Average Temperature History for Colorado (NCEI)

## Colorado, Average Temperature, October

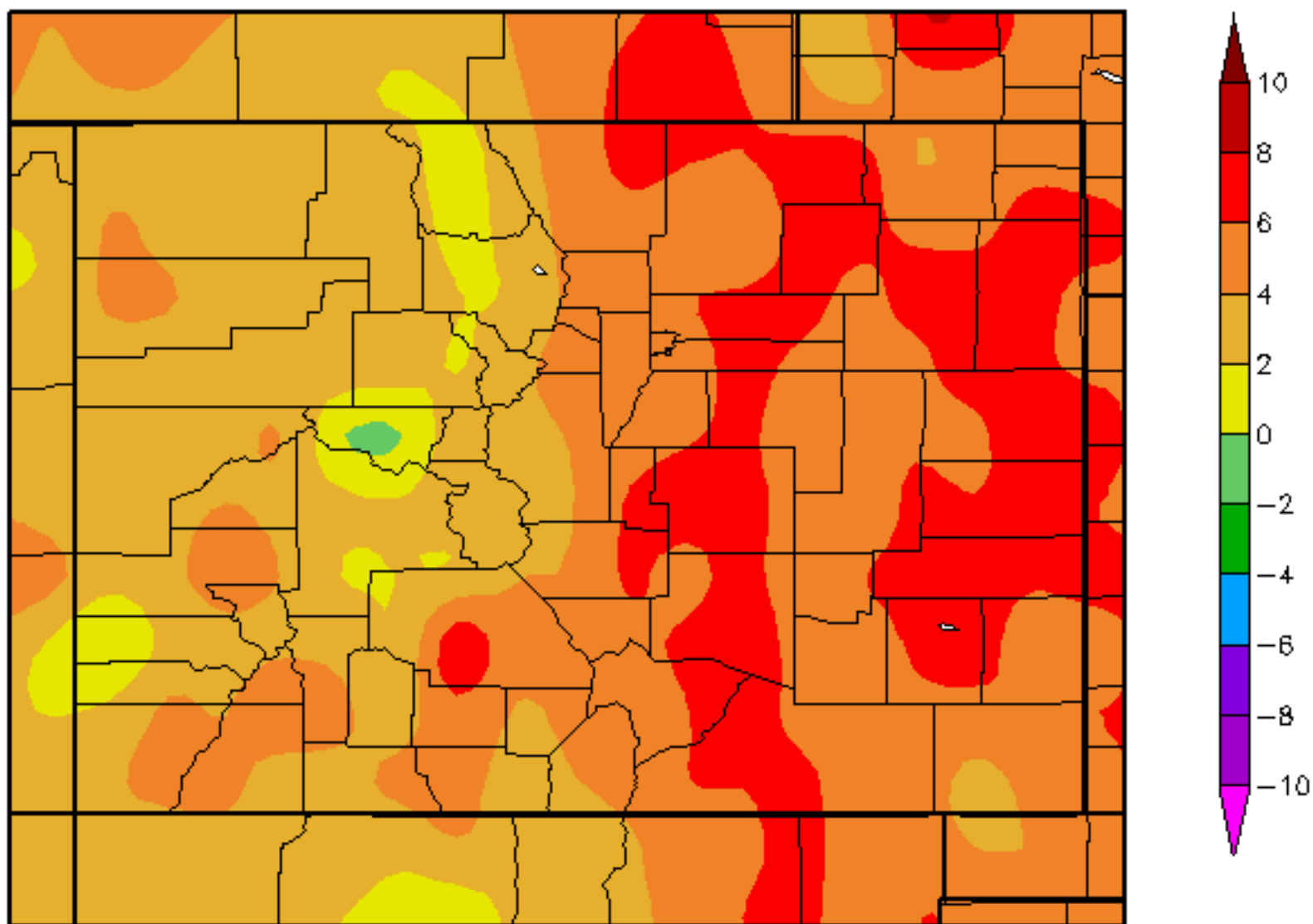
— 1901-2000 Avg: 46.5°F      —●— Avg Temperature

51.7 F (+5.2) Ranks  
3<sup>rd</sup> Warmest 1895-  
2015. Warmest since  
1950



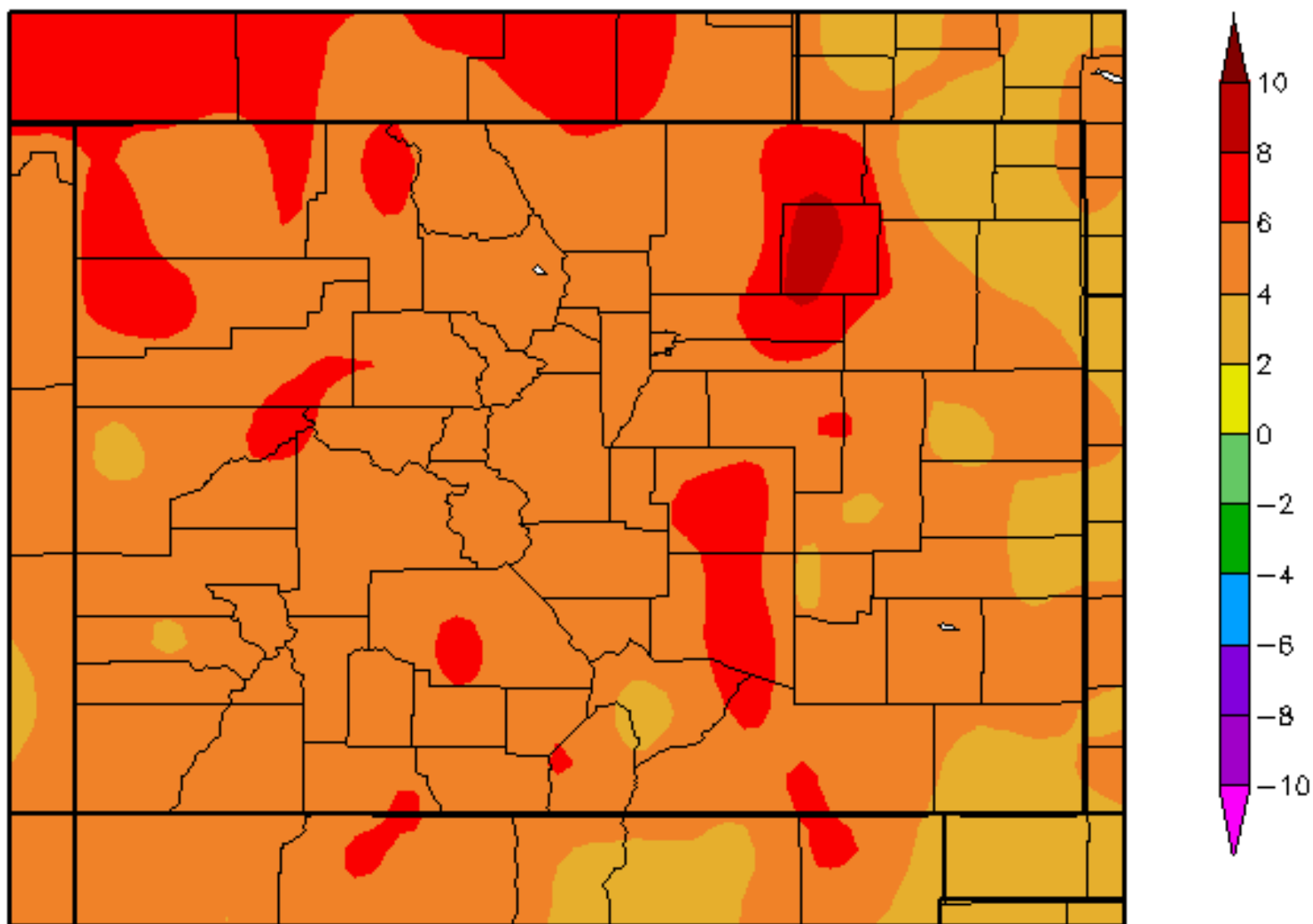
# Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

9/1/2015 - 9/30/2015



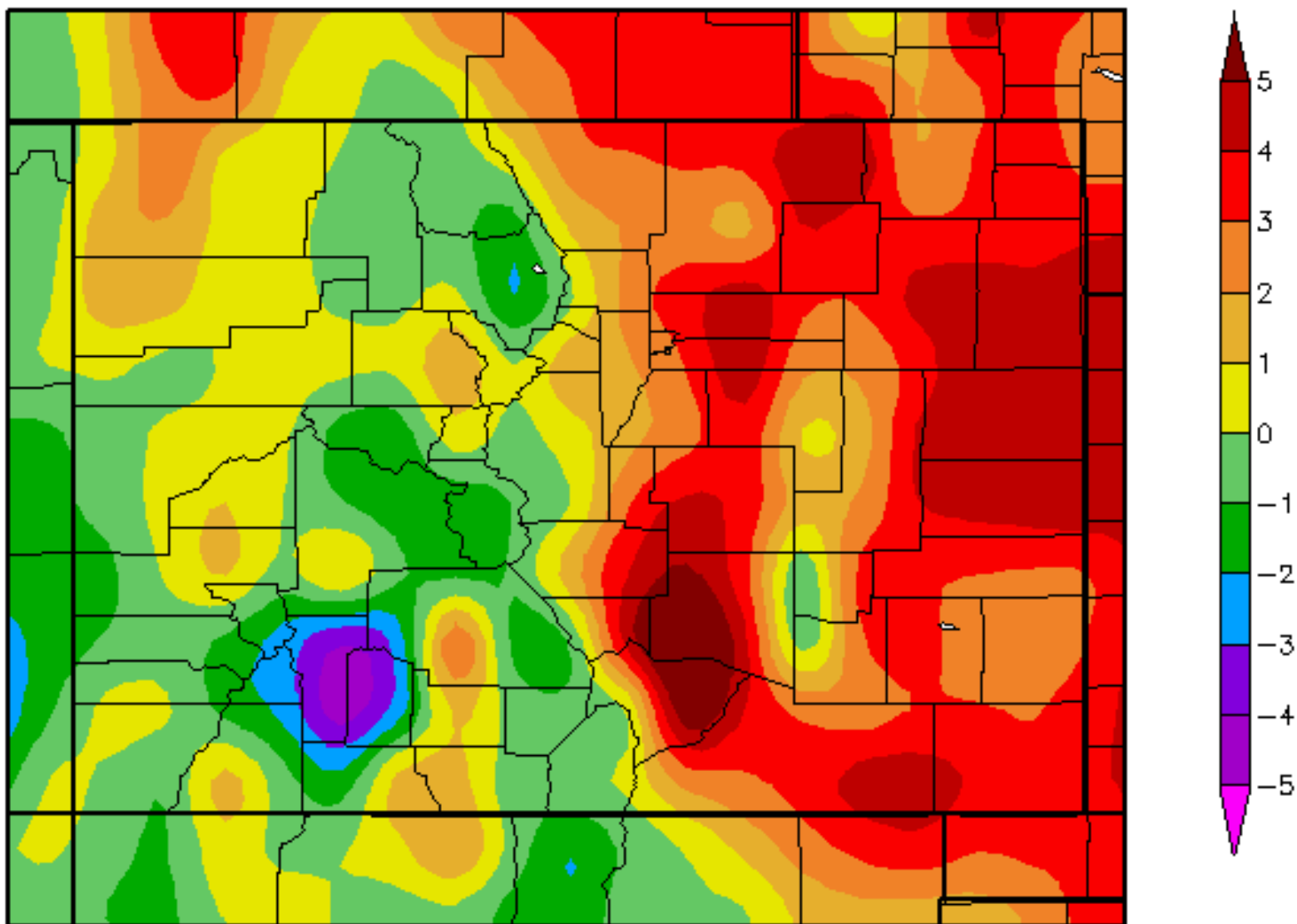
# Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

10/1/2015 – 10/31/2015



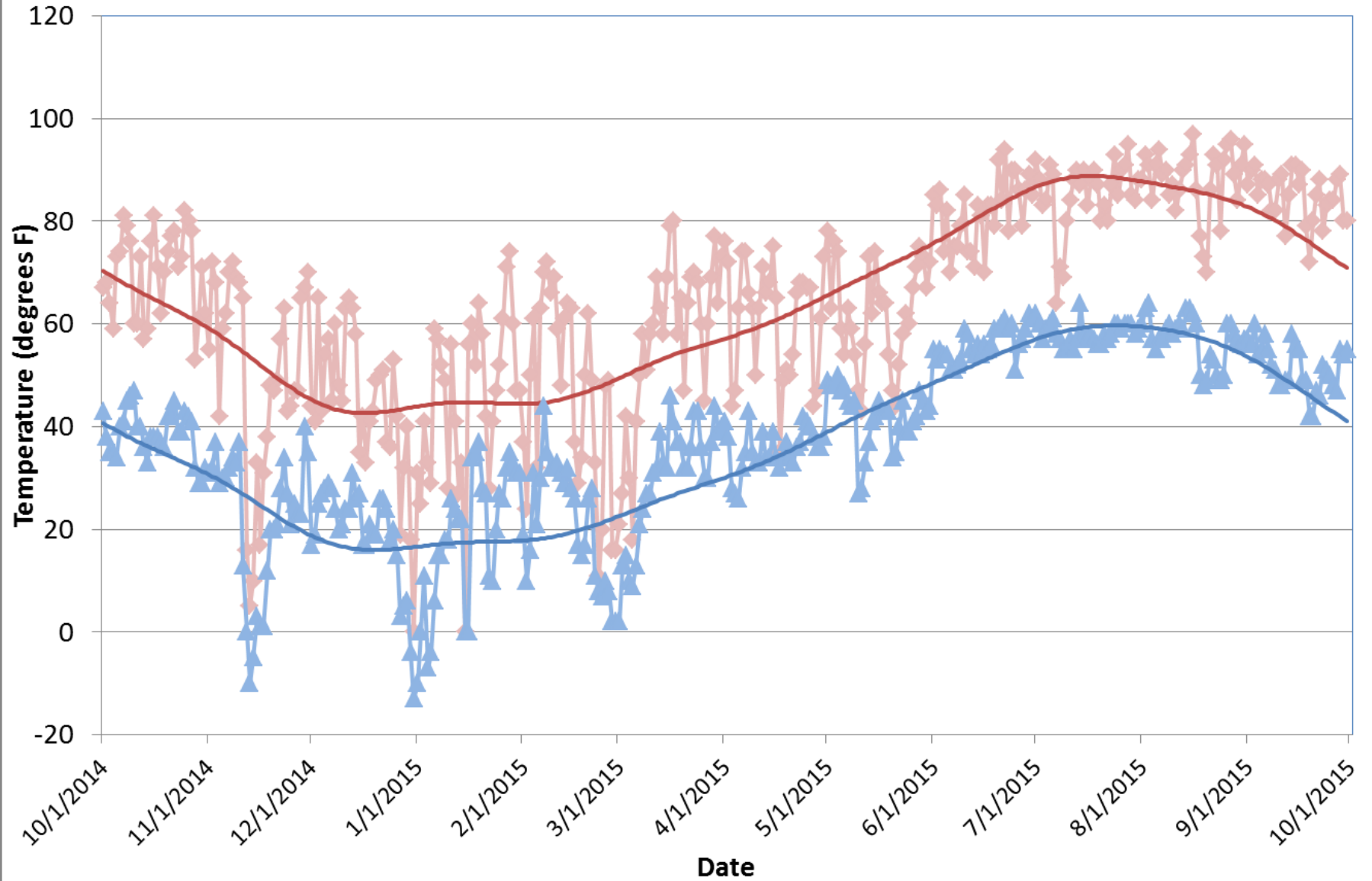
# Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

11/1/2015 – 11/15/2015



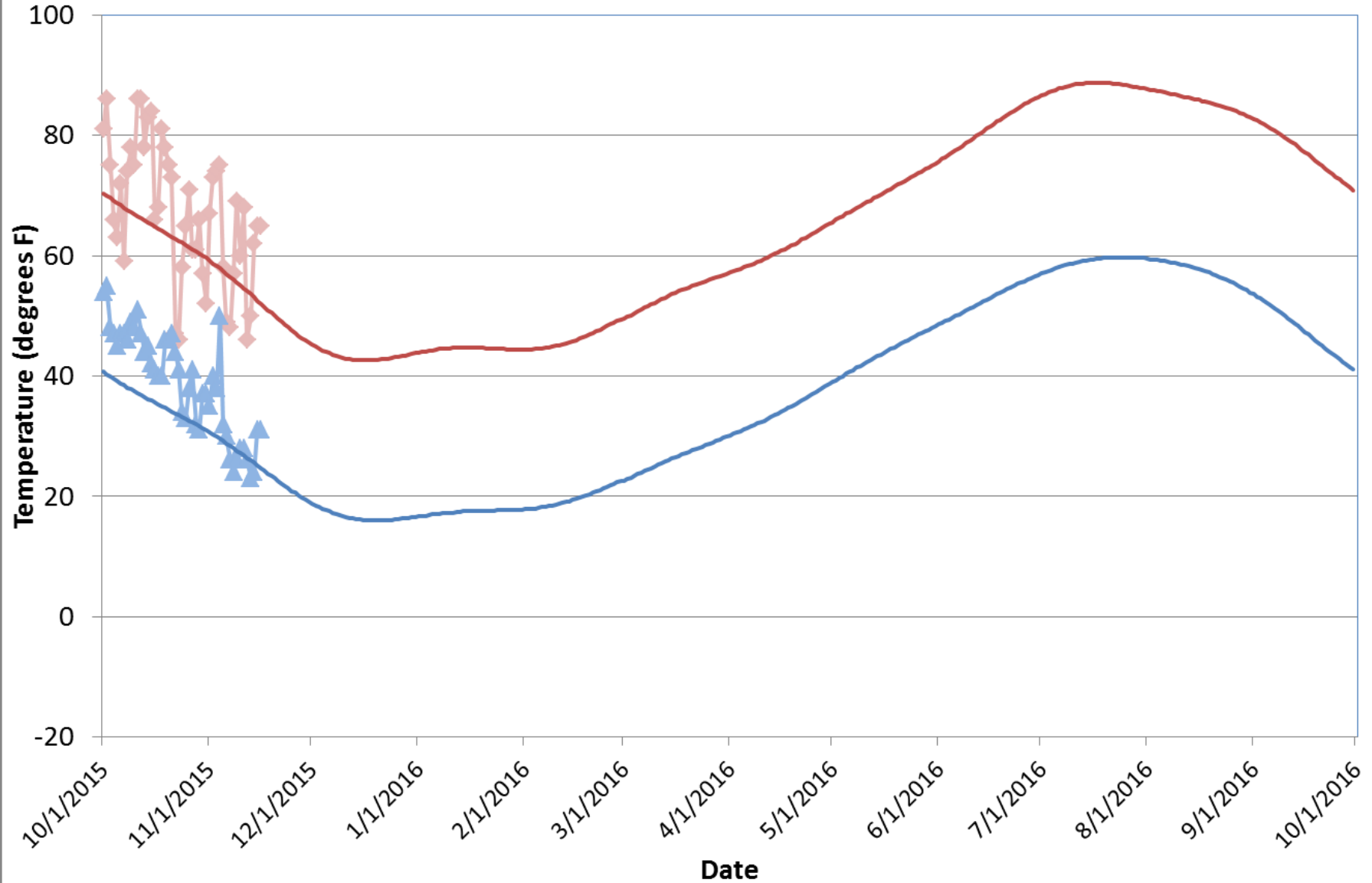
# Denver-Stapleton Daily Max/Min Temperature with Normal for Water Year 2015

MaxTemperature Normal Max MinTemperature Normal Min



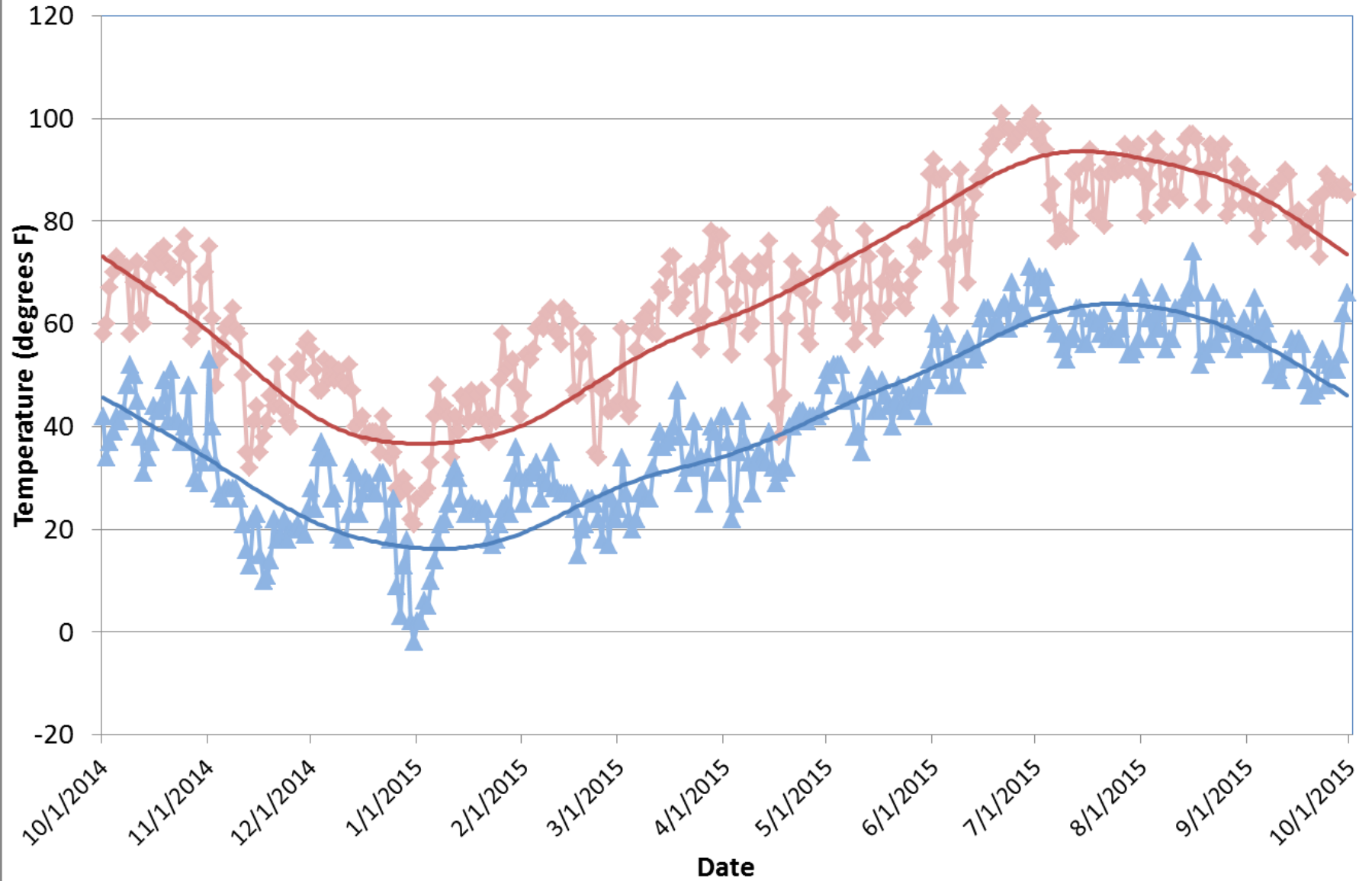
# Denver-Stapleton Daily Max/Min Temperatures with Normals, Water Year 2016

Max Temperature    Normal Max Temp    Min Temperature    Normal Min Temp



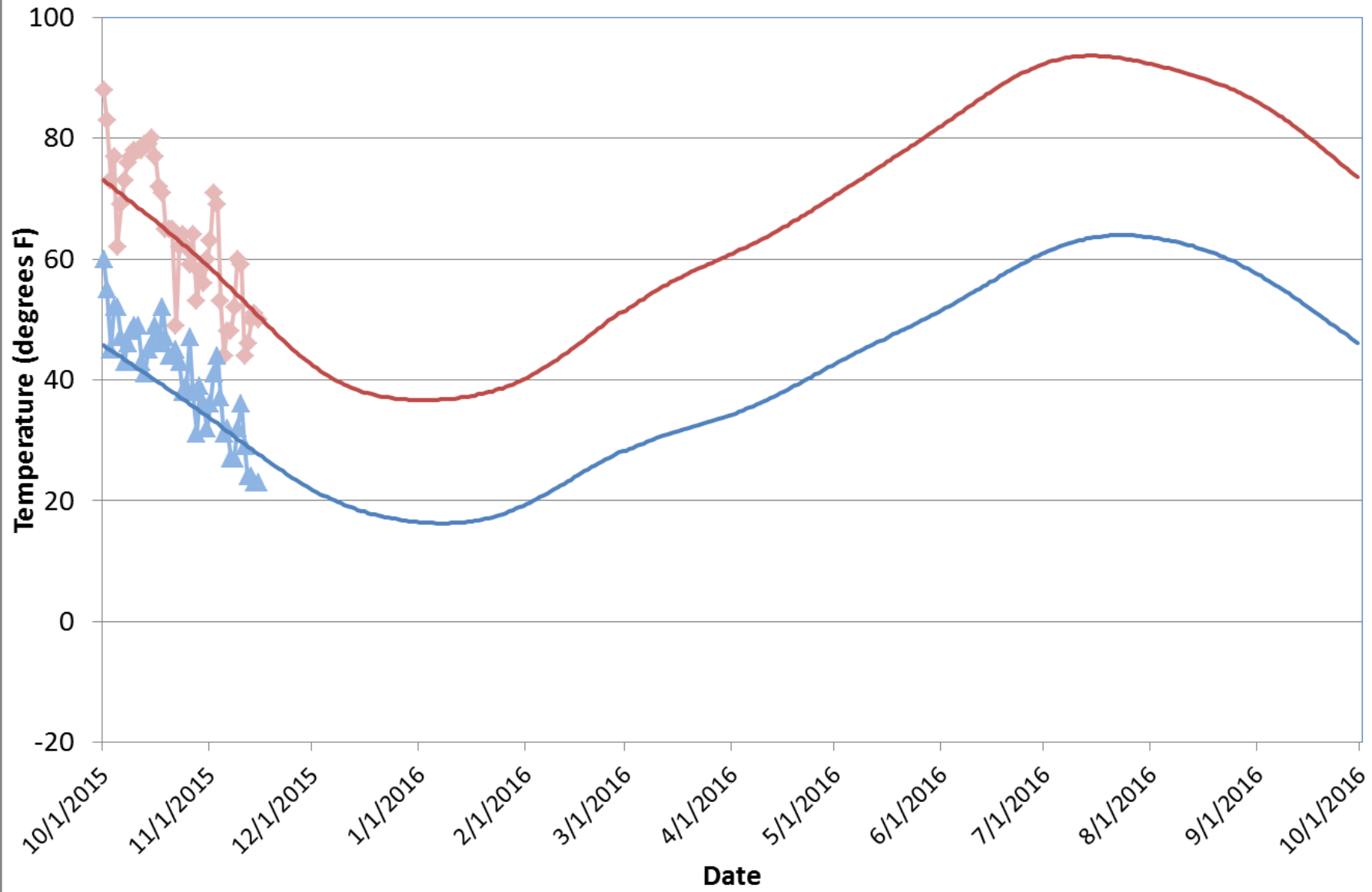
# Grand Junction Daily Max/Min Temperature with Normals for Water Year 2015

Max Temperature      Normal Max      Min Temperature      Normal Min



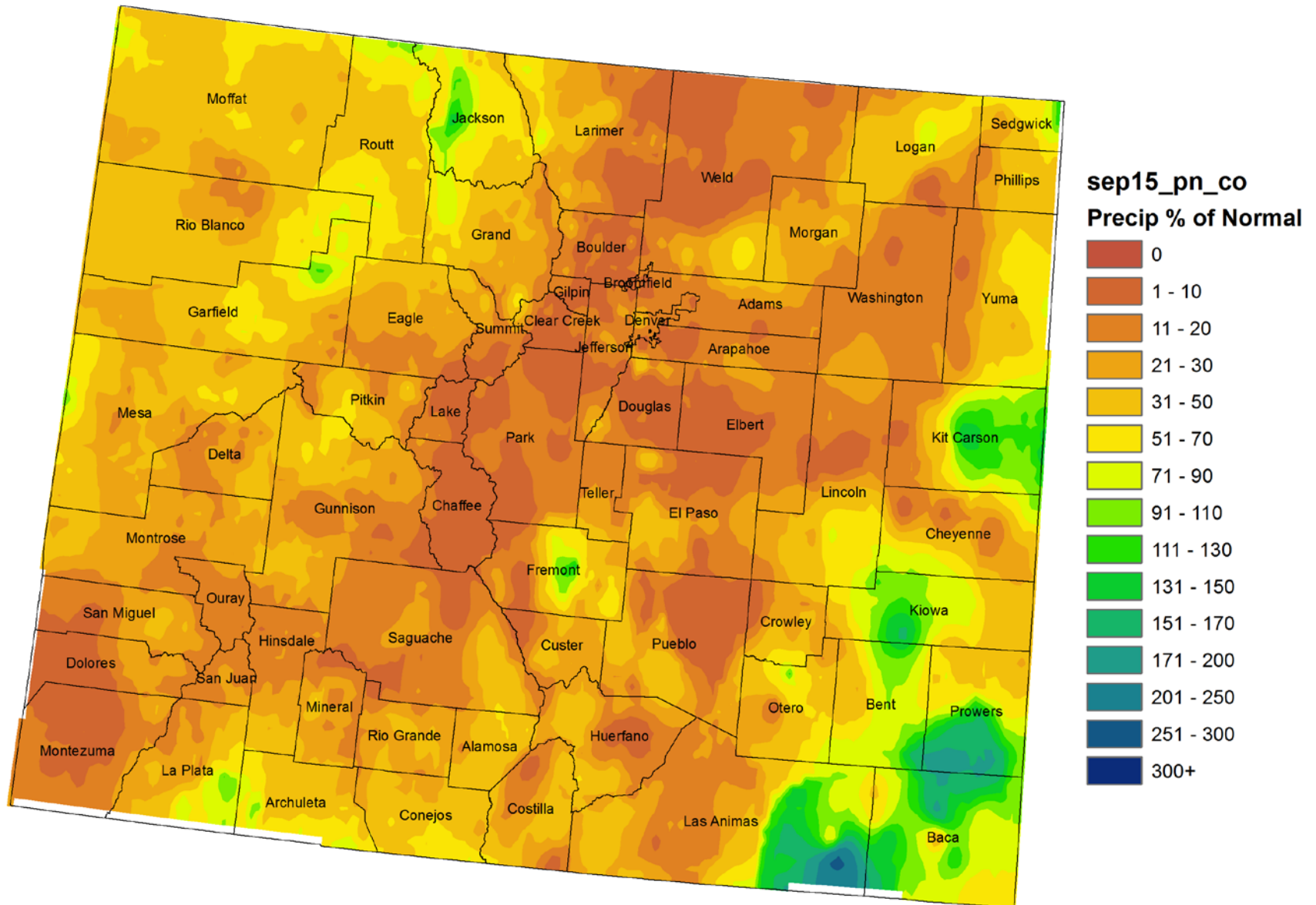
# Grand Junction Daily Max/Min Temperature with Normals, WY 2016

Max Temperature    Normal Max Temp    Min Temperature    Normal Min Temp





# Colorado September 2015 Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal



# Sep 2015 Statewide Precipitation

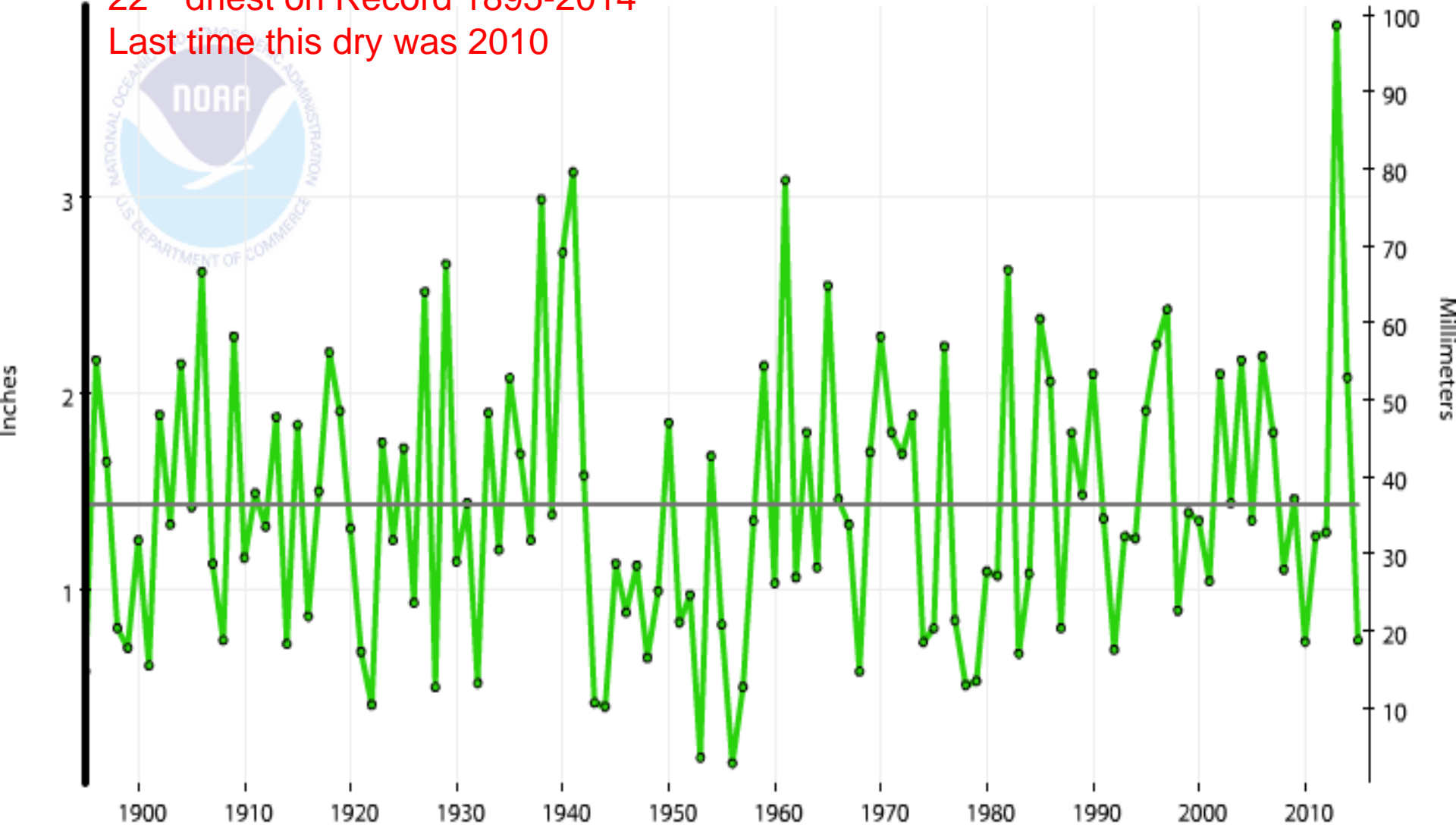
## Colorado, Precipitation, September

0.74" (-0.69")

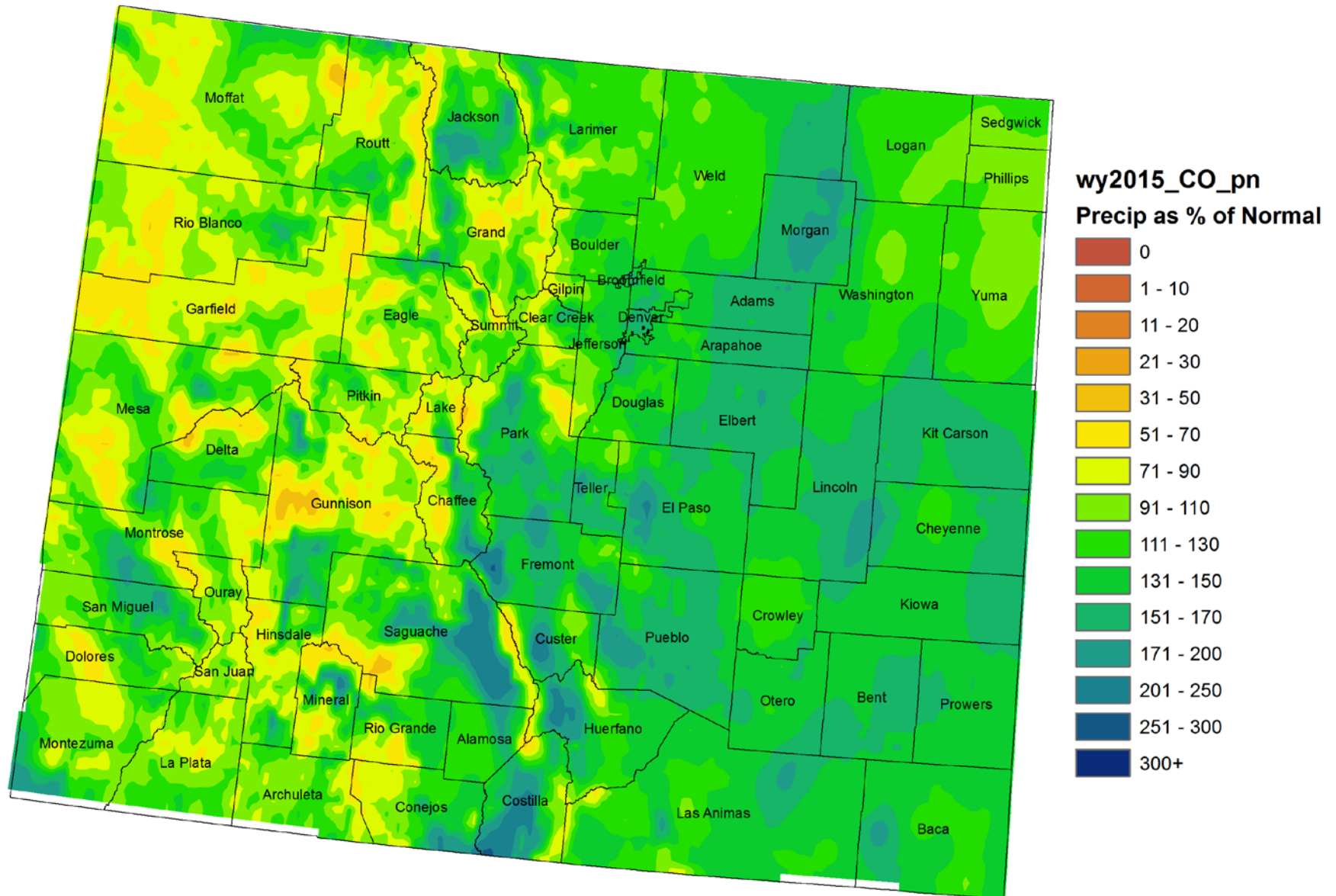
22<sup>nd</sup> driest on Record 1895-2014

Last time this dry was 2010

— 1901-2000 Avg: 1.43"    —●— Precip



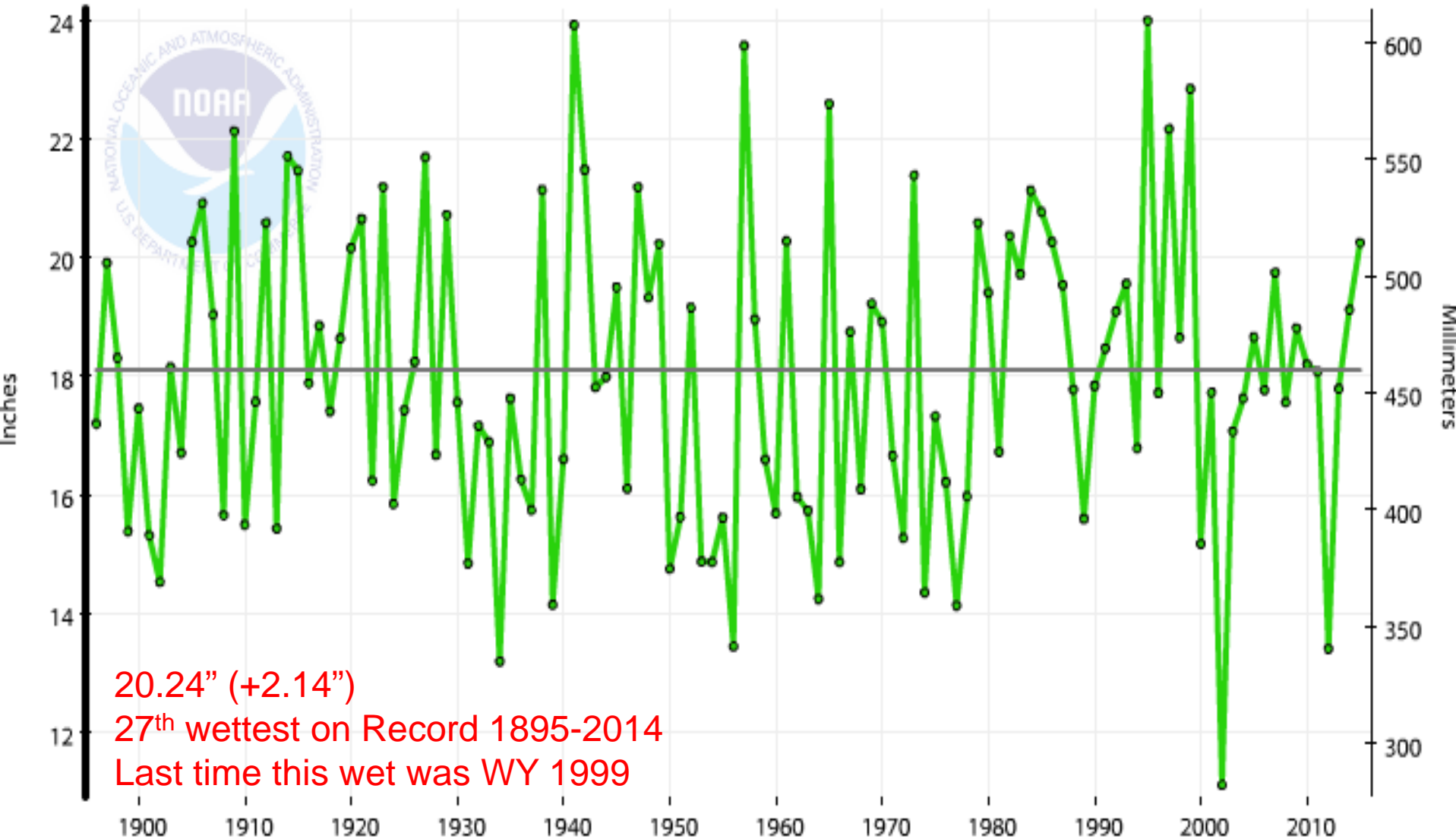
# Colorado Water Year 2015 Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal



# WY 2015 Statewide Precipitation

## Colorado, Precipitation, October-September

— 1901-2000 Avg: 18.10"      —●— Precip



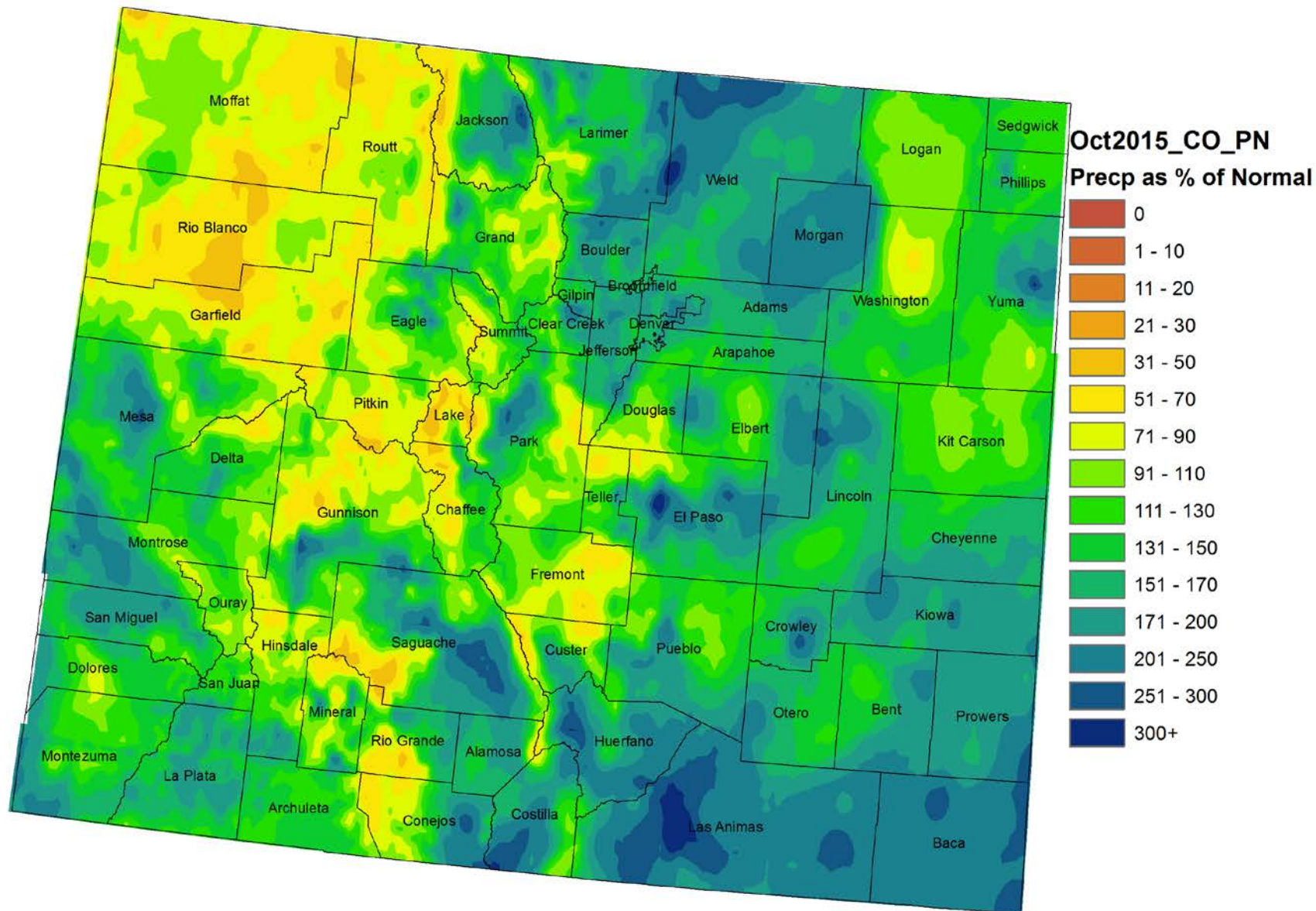
20.24" (+2.14")

27<sup>th</sup> wettest on Record 1895-2014

Last time this wet was WY 1999



# Colorado October 2015 Precipitation as a Percentage of Normal



# Oct 2015 Statewide Precipitation

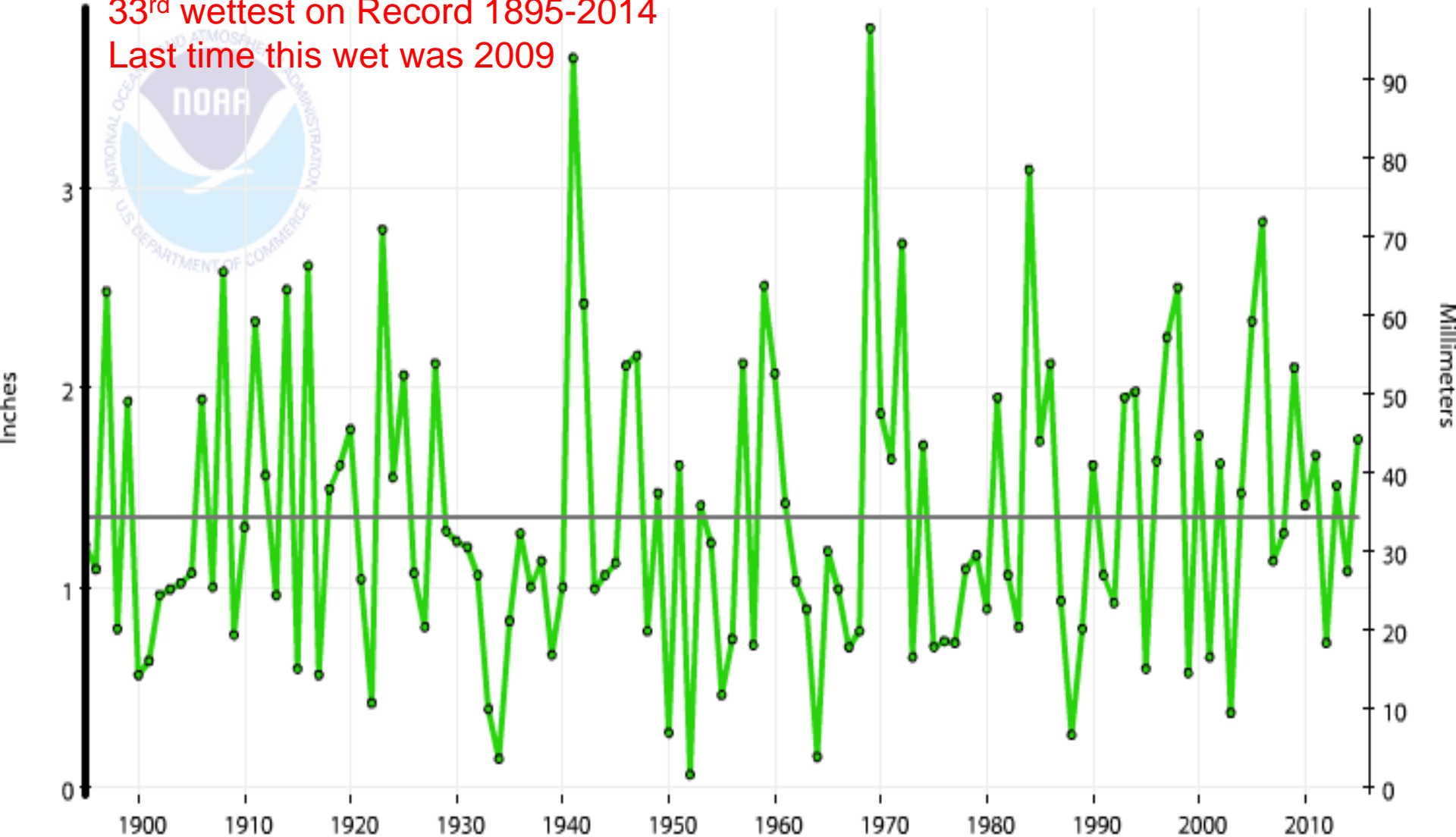
Colorado, Precipitation, October

1.74" (+0.39")

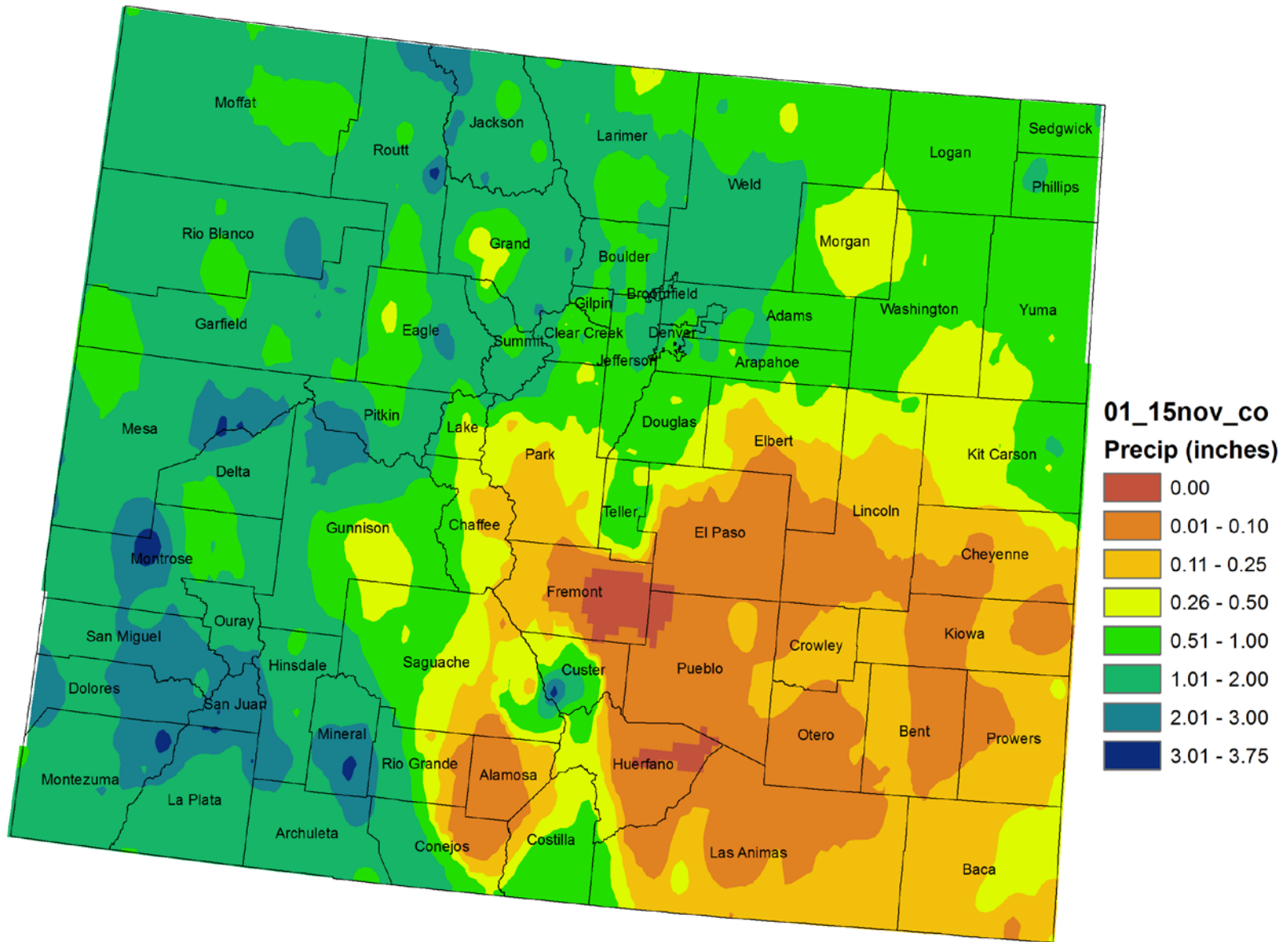
33<sup>rd</sup> wettest on Record 1895-2014

Last time this wet was 2009

— 1901-2000 Avg: 1.35"    ●— Precip

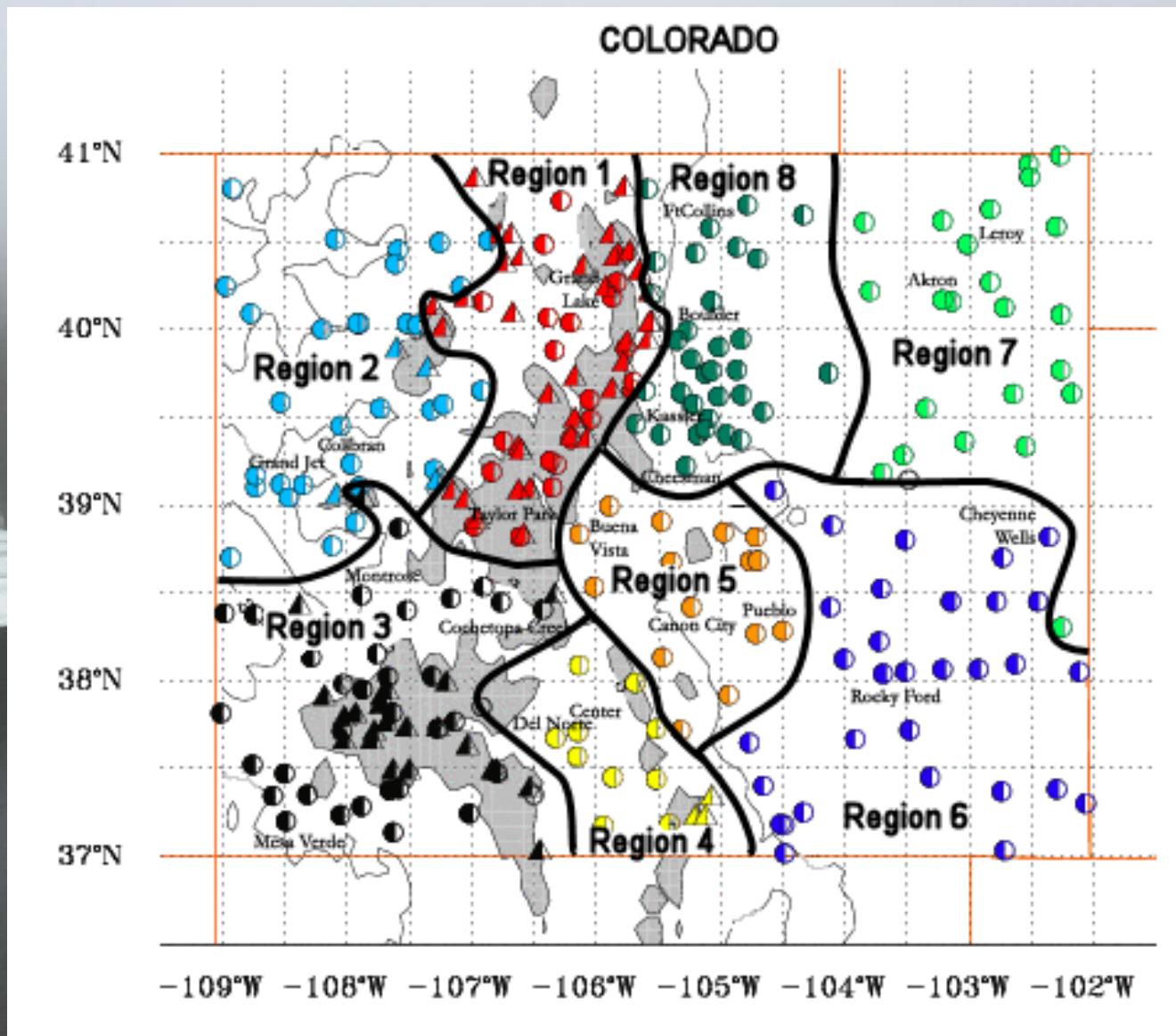


# Colorado Month to Date Precipitation 1 - 15 November 2015



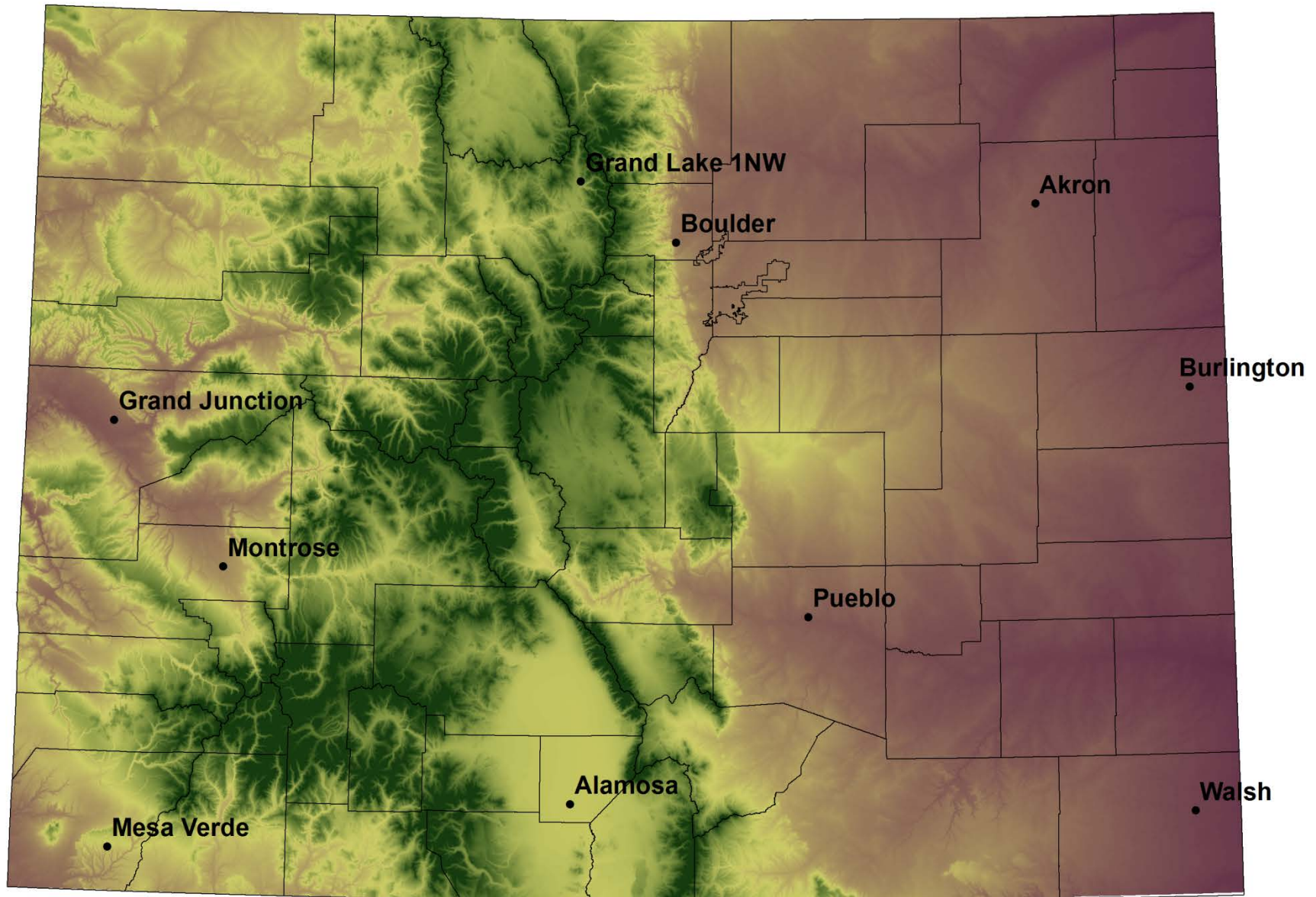


# Climate divisions defined by Dr. Klaus Wolter of NOAA's Climate Diagnostic Center in Boulder, CO



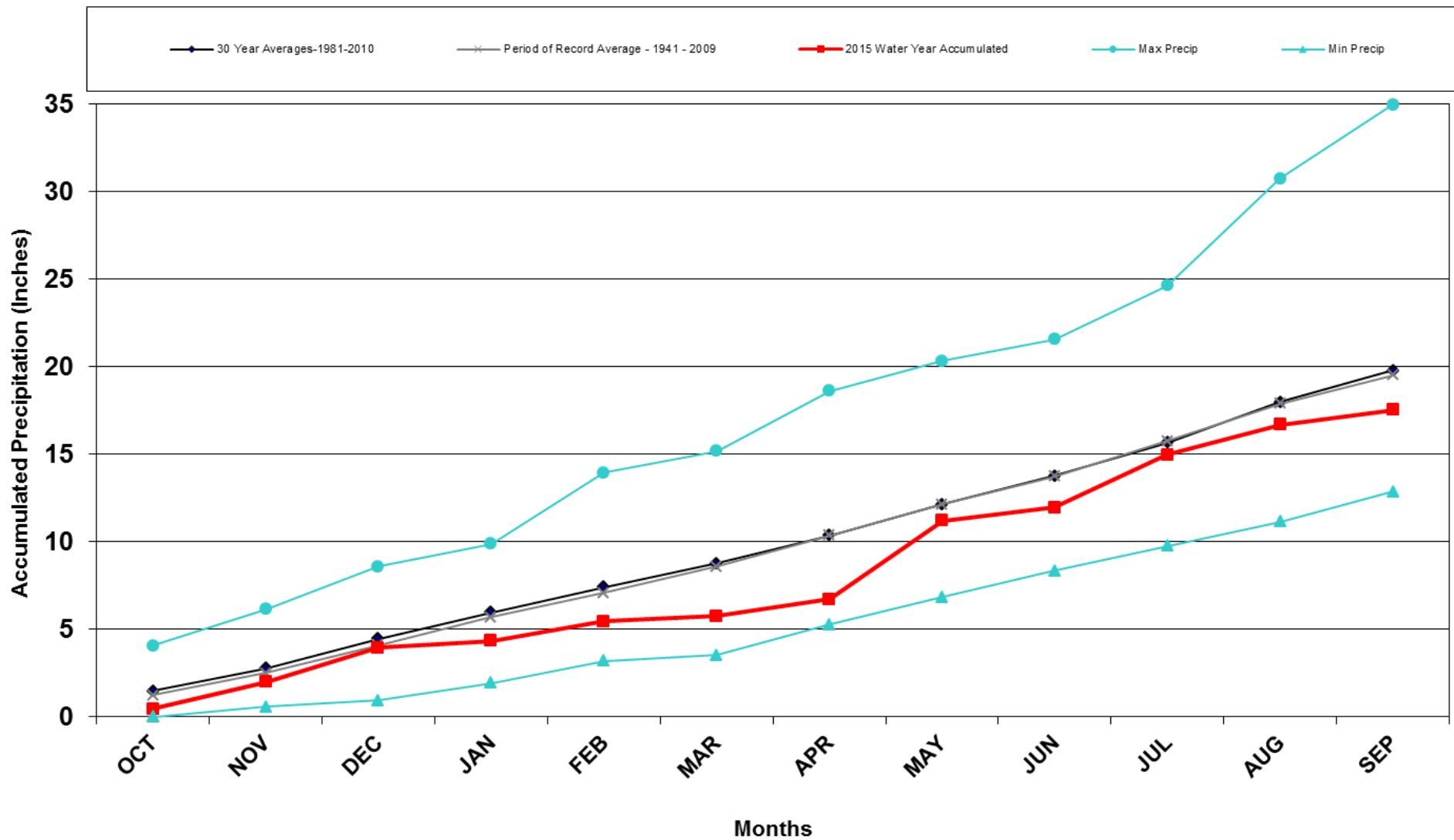


# NWS Cooperative Stations for WATF



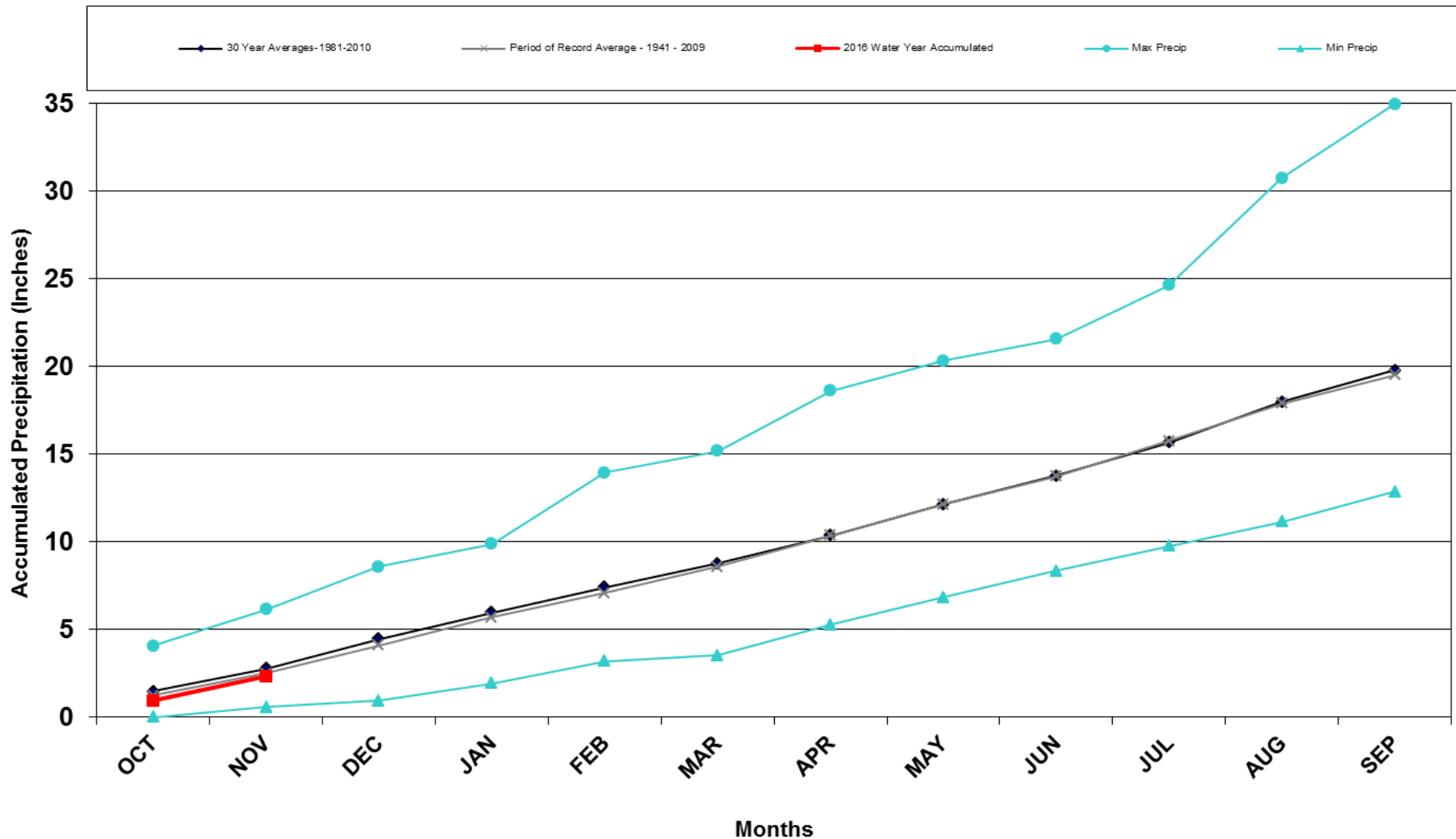
# Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

## Grand Lake 1 NW 2015 Water Year



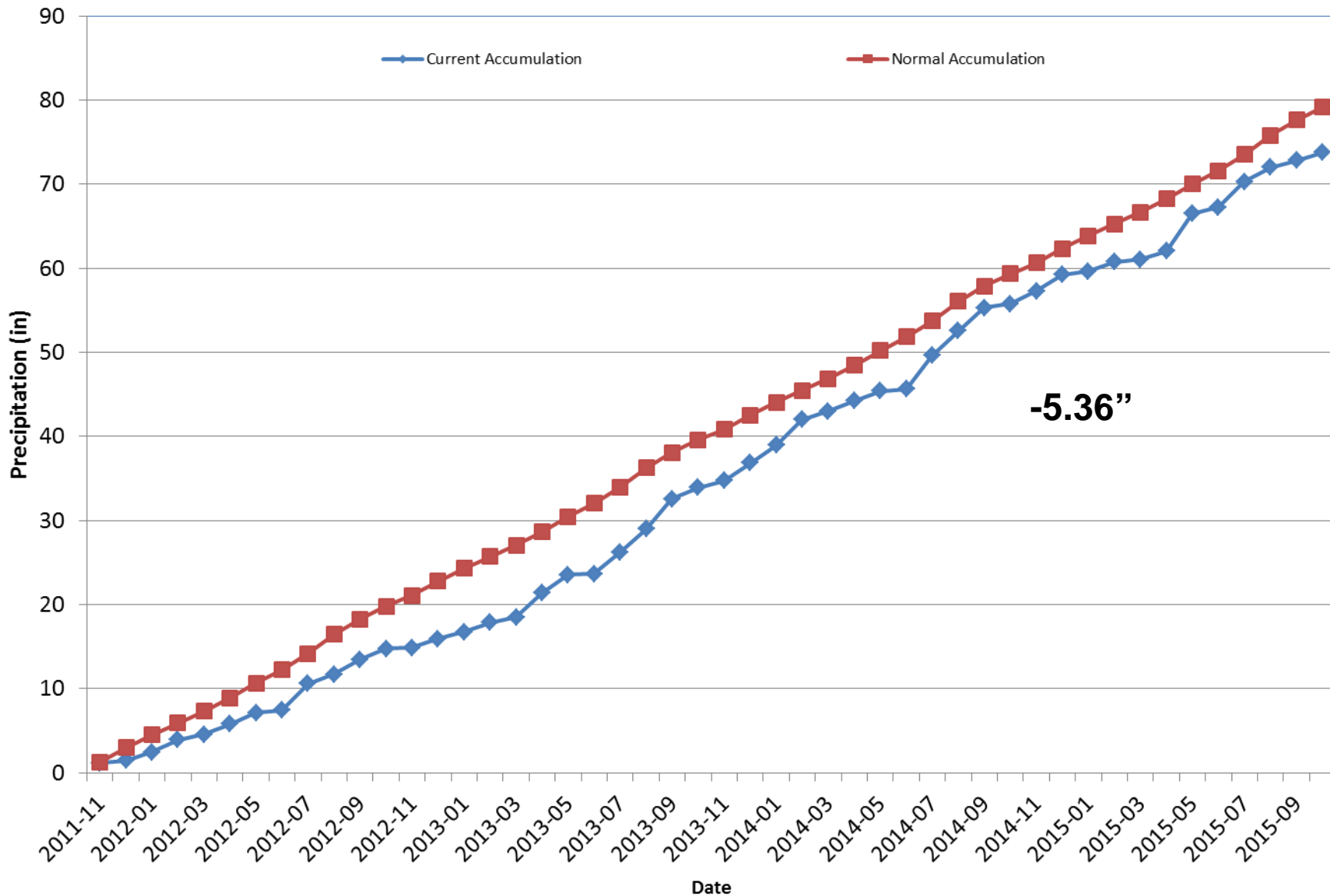
# Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

## Grand Lake 1 NW 2016 Water Year



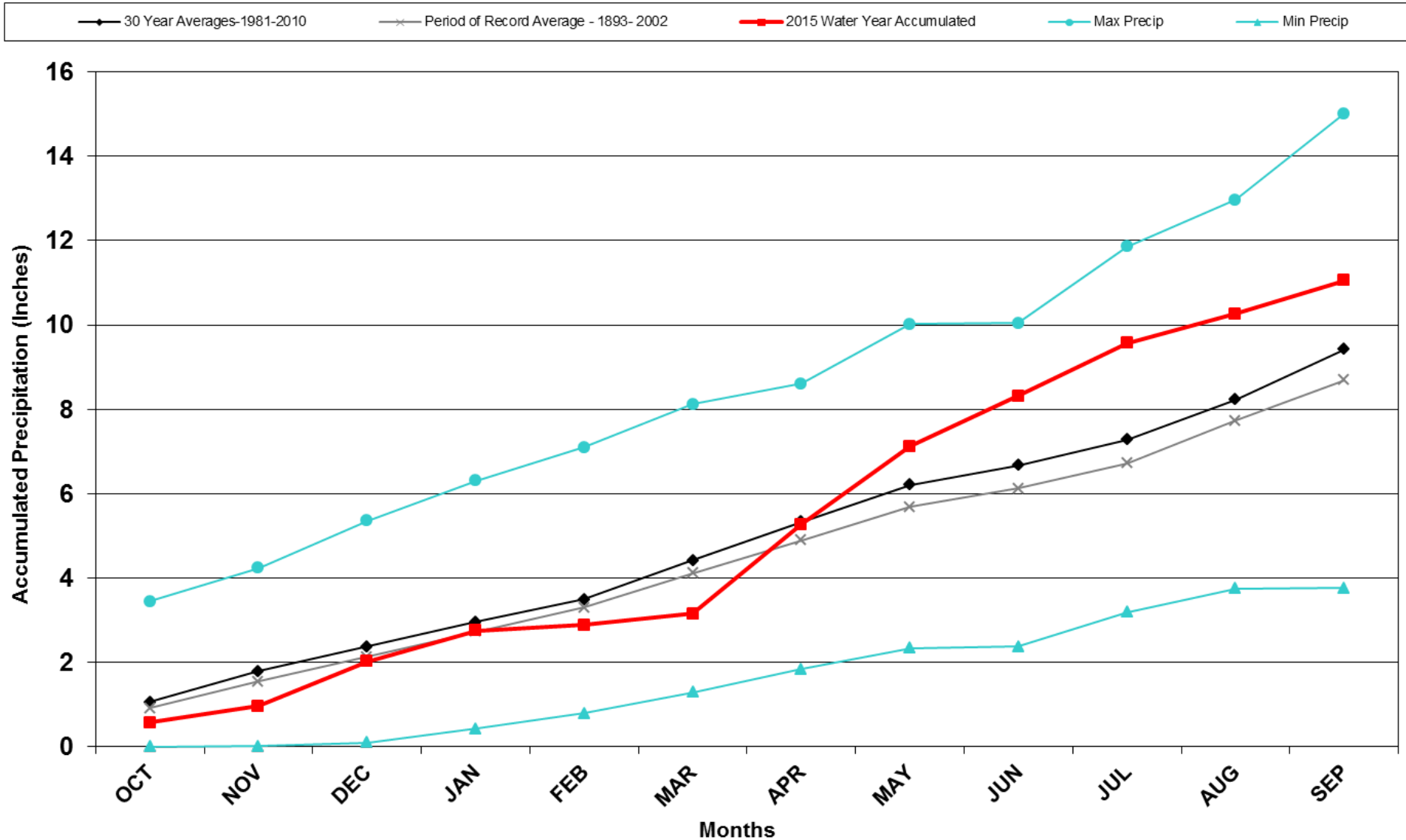
# Division 1 – Grand Lake 1NW

## Grand Lake 1NW Precipitation Accumulation



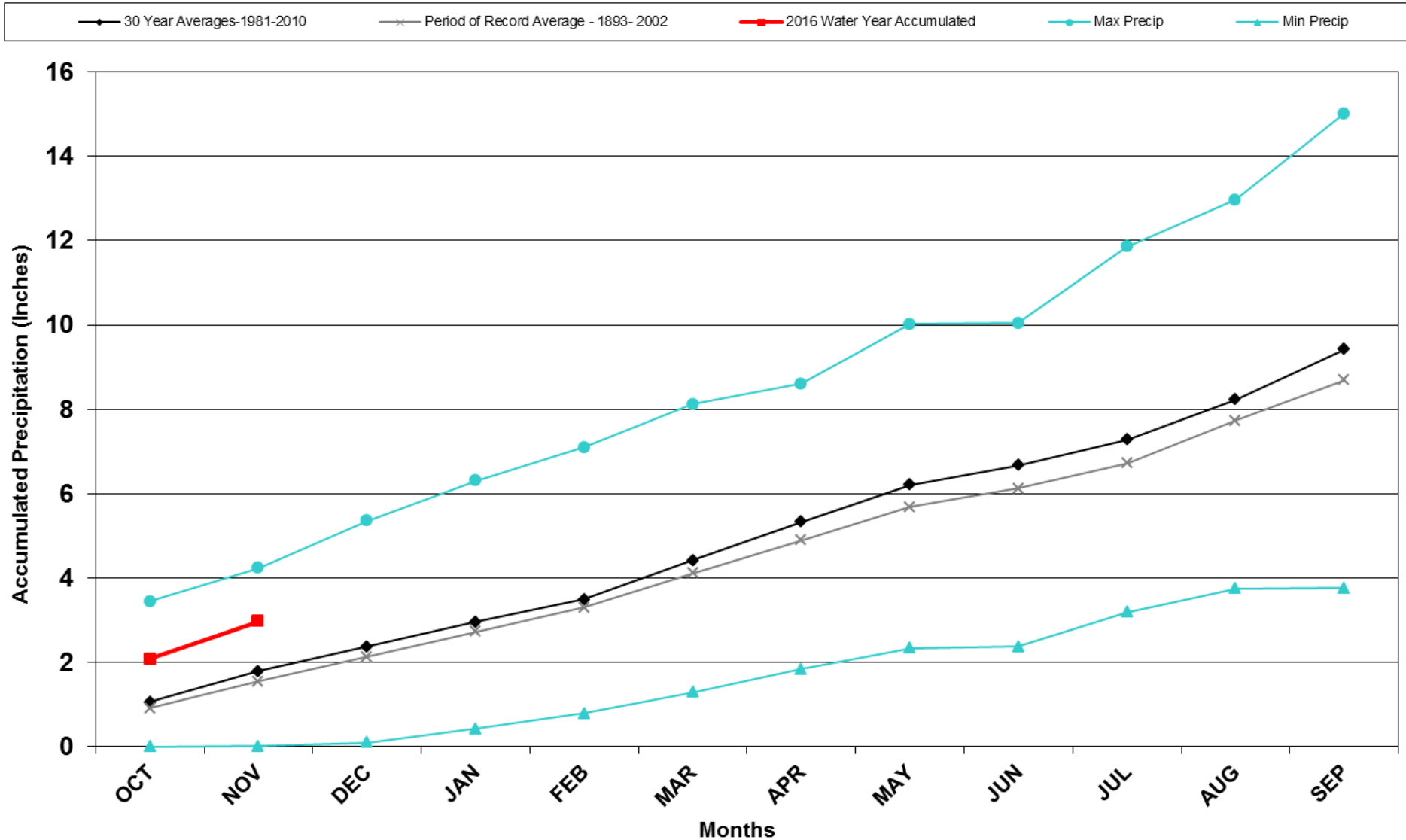
# Division 2 – Grand Junction

## Grand Junction WSFO 2015 Water Year



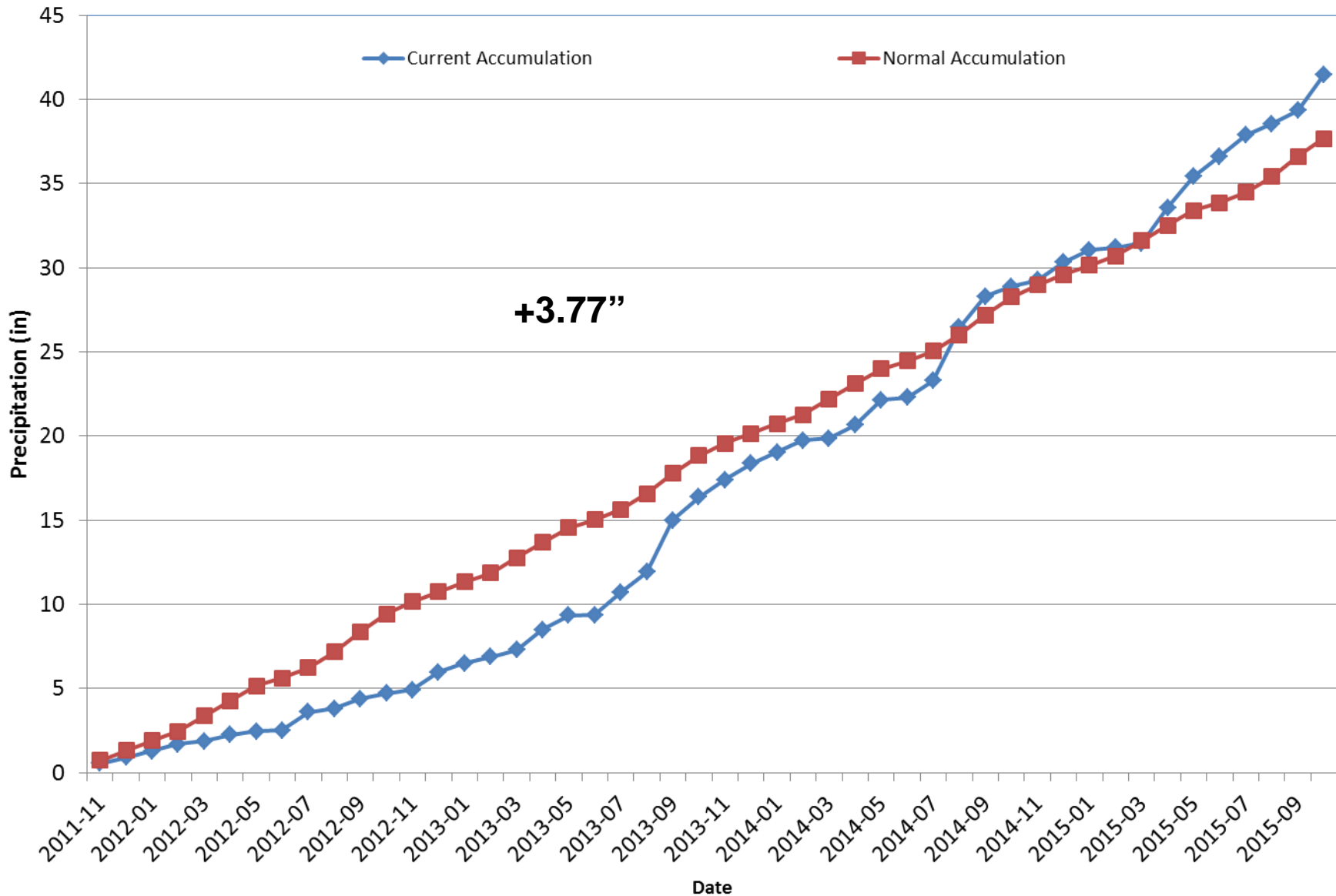
# Division 2 – Grand Junction

## Grand Junction WSFO 2016 Water Year



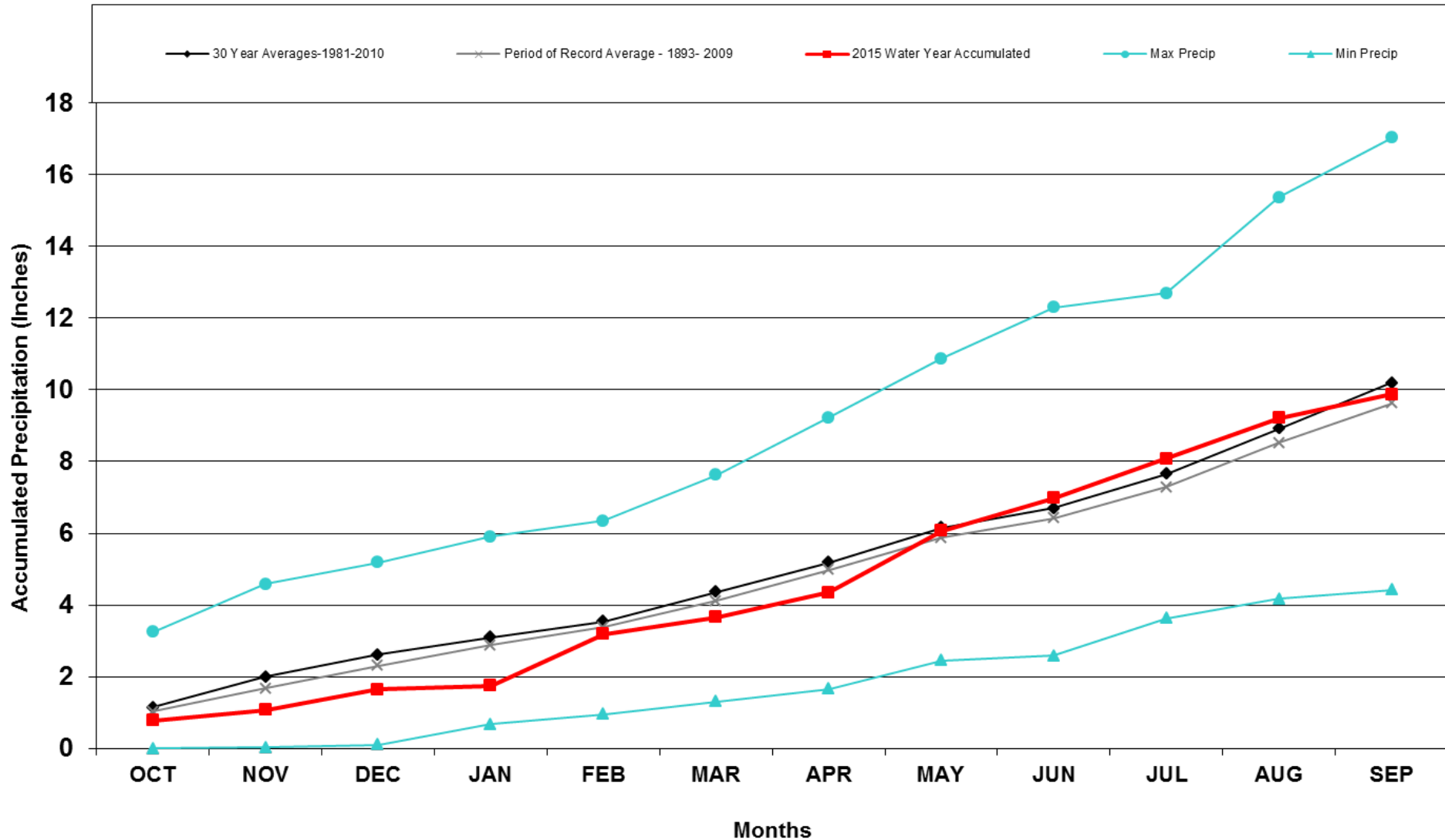
# Division 2 – Grand Junction

## Grand Junction Precipitation Accumulation



# Division 3 – Montrose

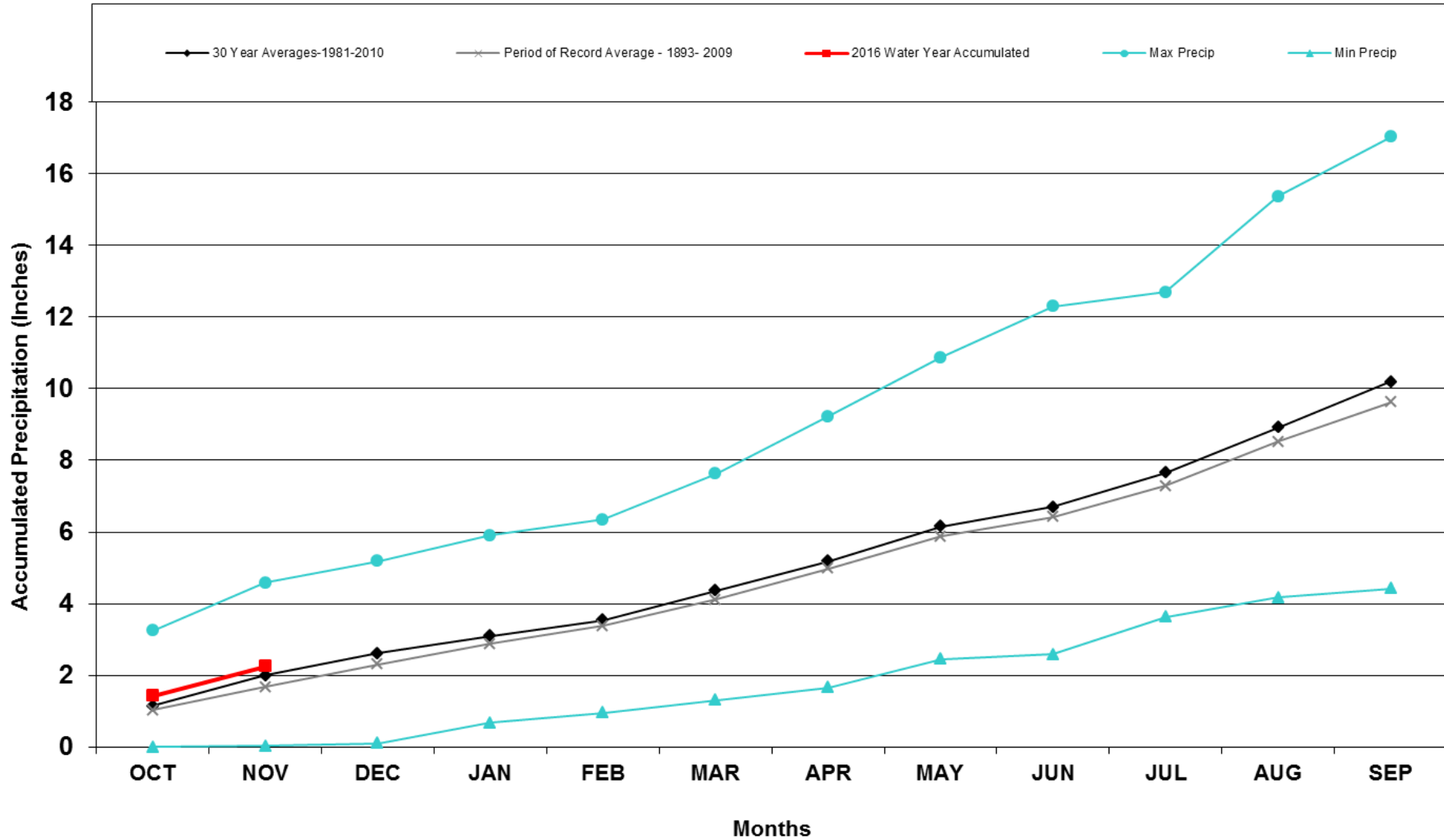
## Montrose #2 2015 Water Year





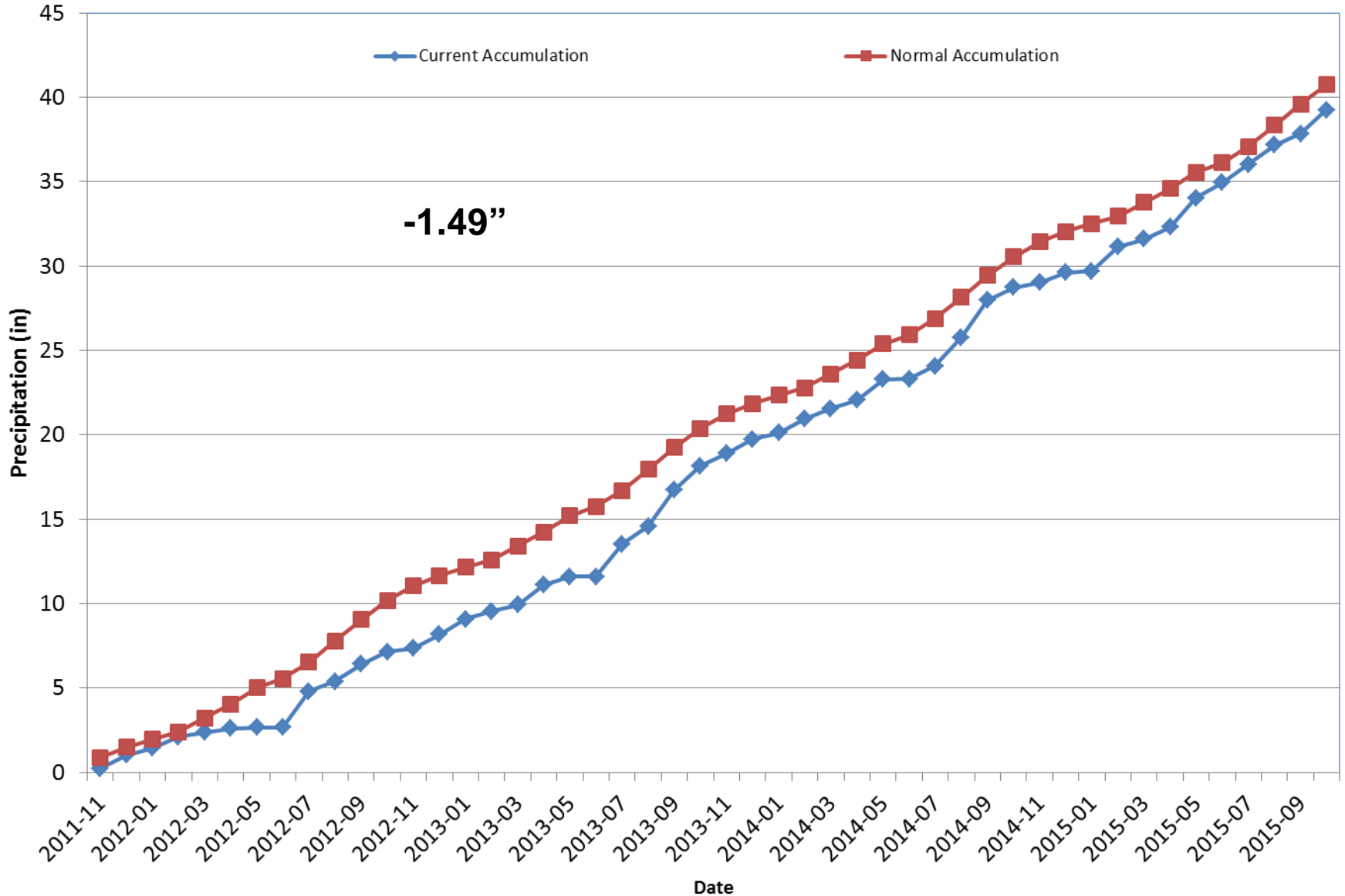
# Division 3 – Montrose

## Montrose #2 2016 Water Year



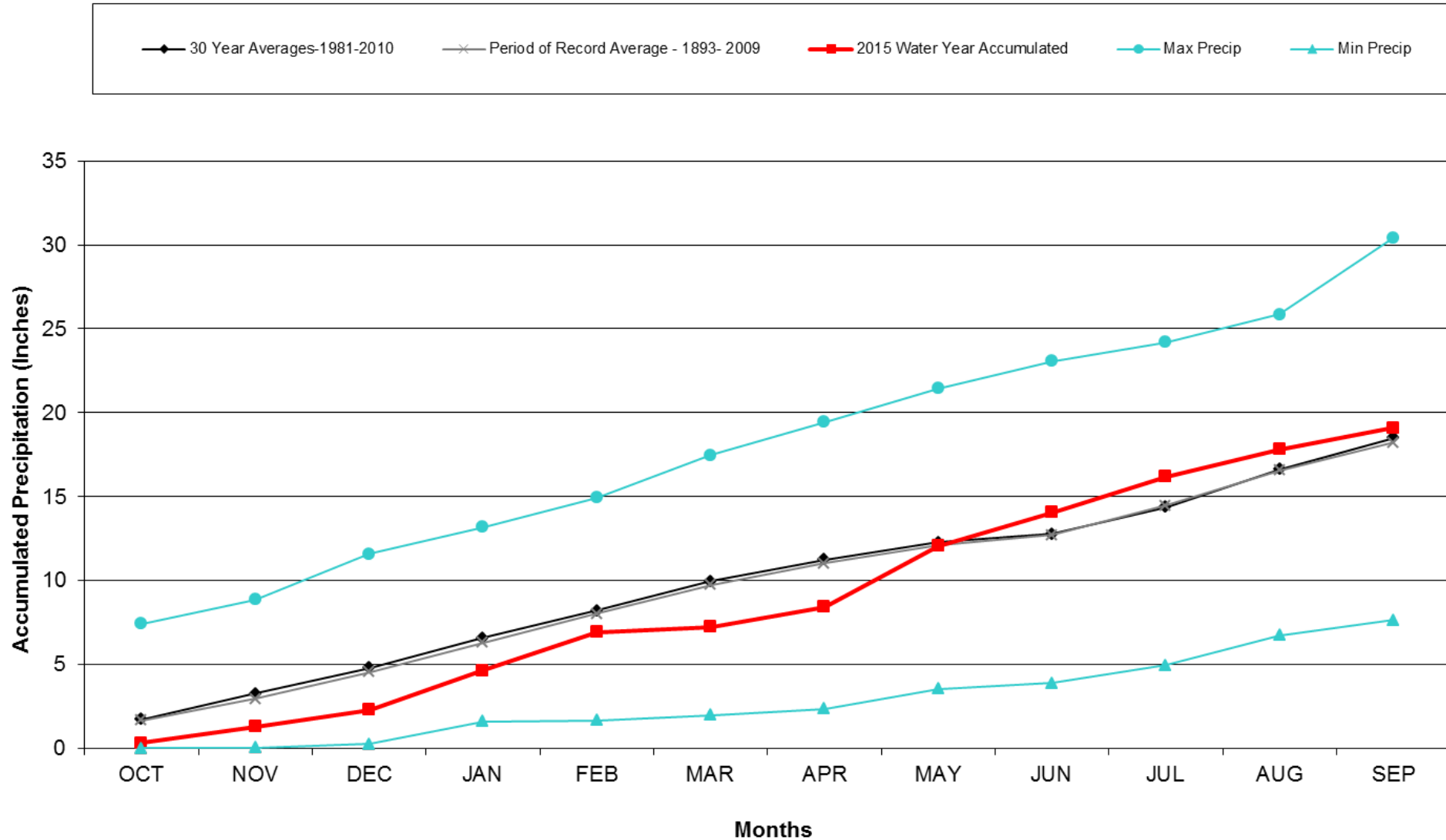
# Division 3 – Montrose

## Montrose #2 Precipitation Accumulation



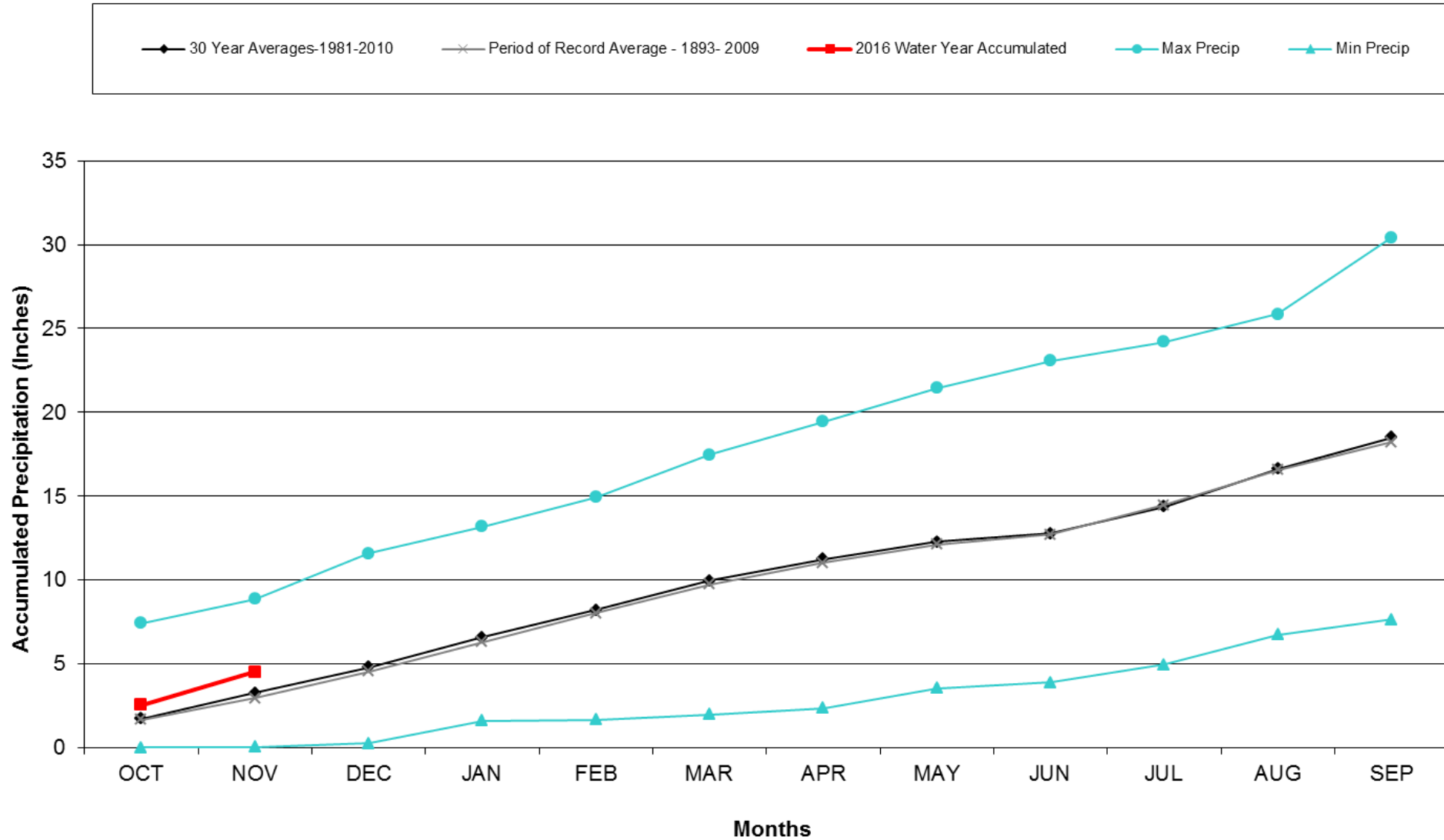
# Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

## Mesa Verde NP 2015 Water Year



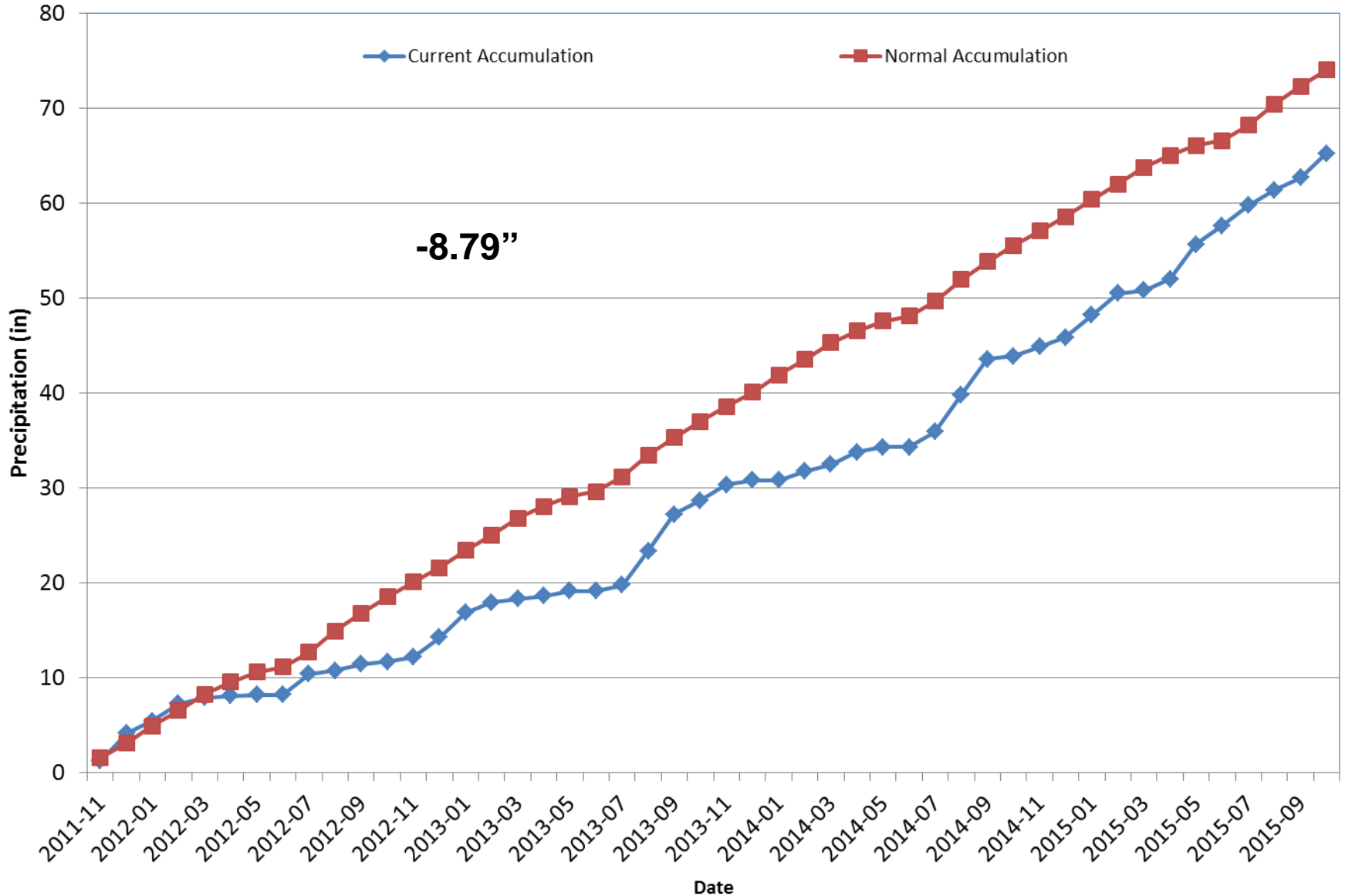
# Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

## Mesa Verde NP 2016 Water Year



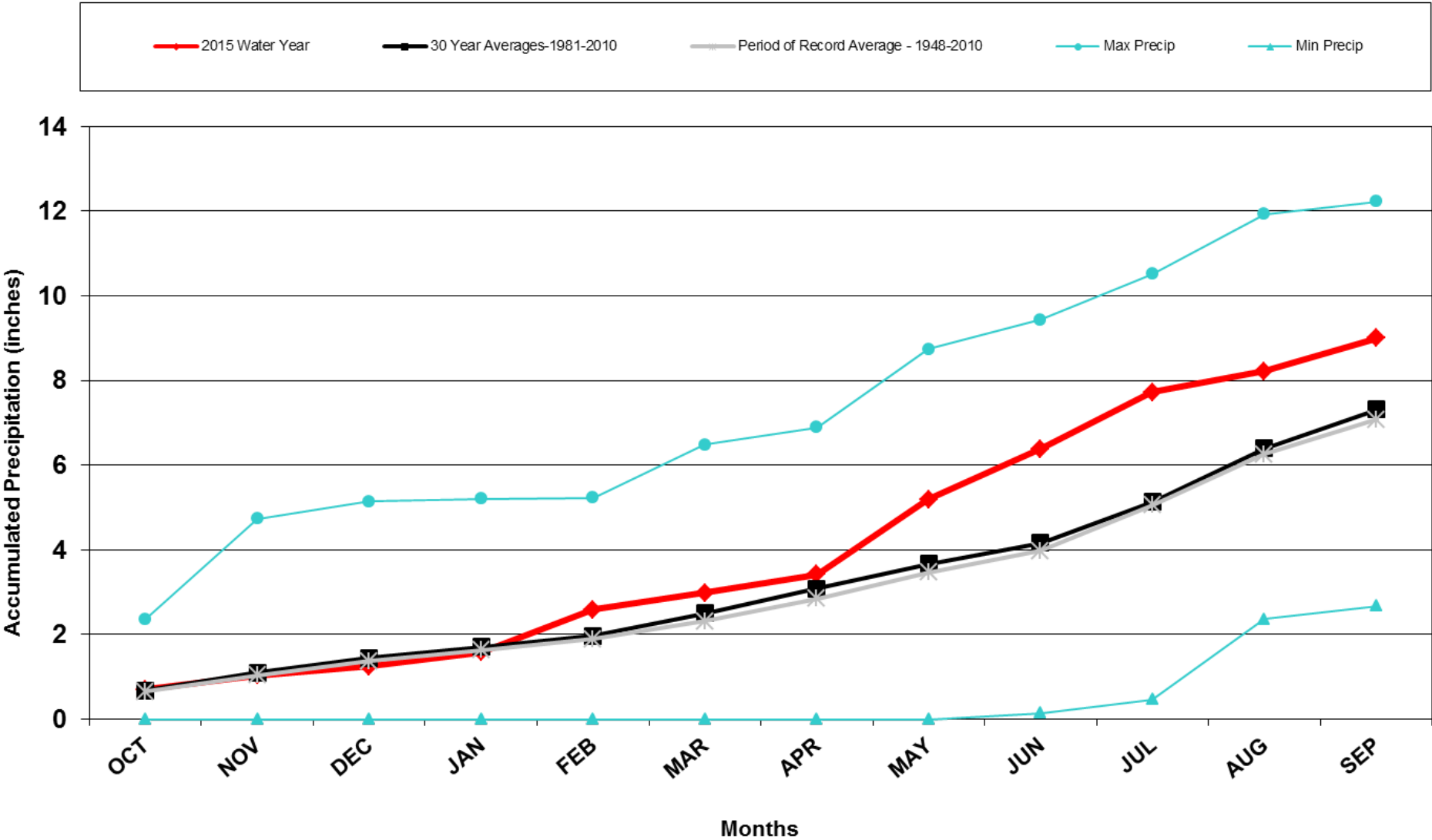
# Division 3 – Mesa Verde NP

## Mesa Verde NP Precipitation Accumulation



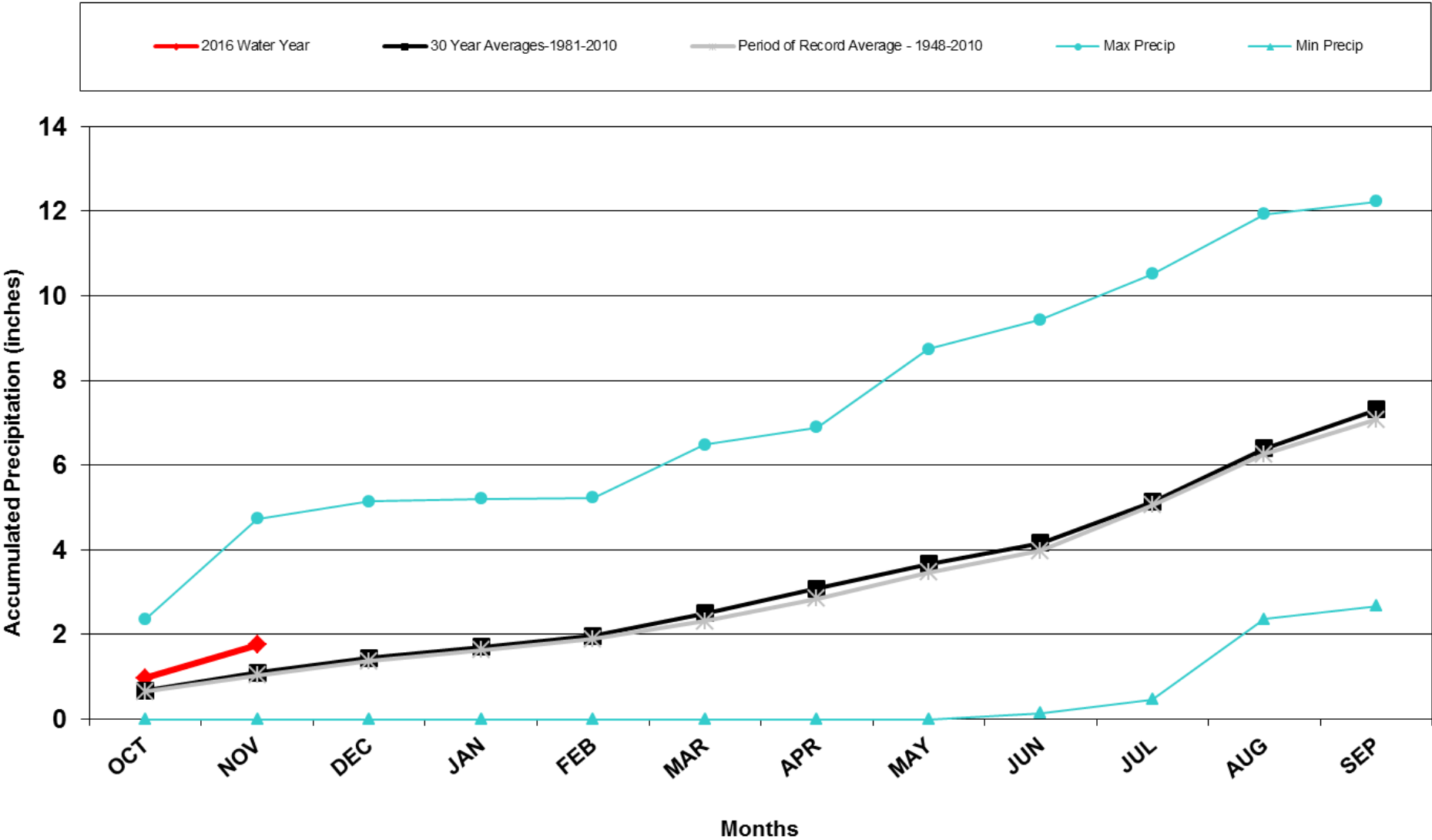
# Division 4 – Alamosa

## Alamosa WSO 2015 Water Year



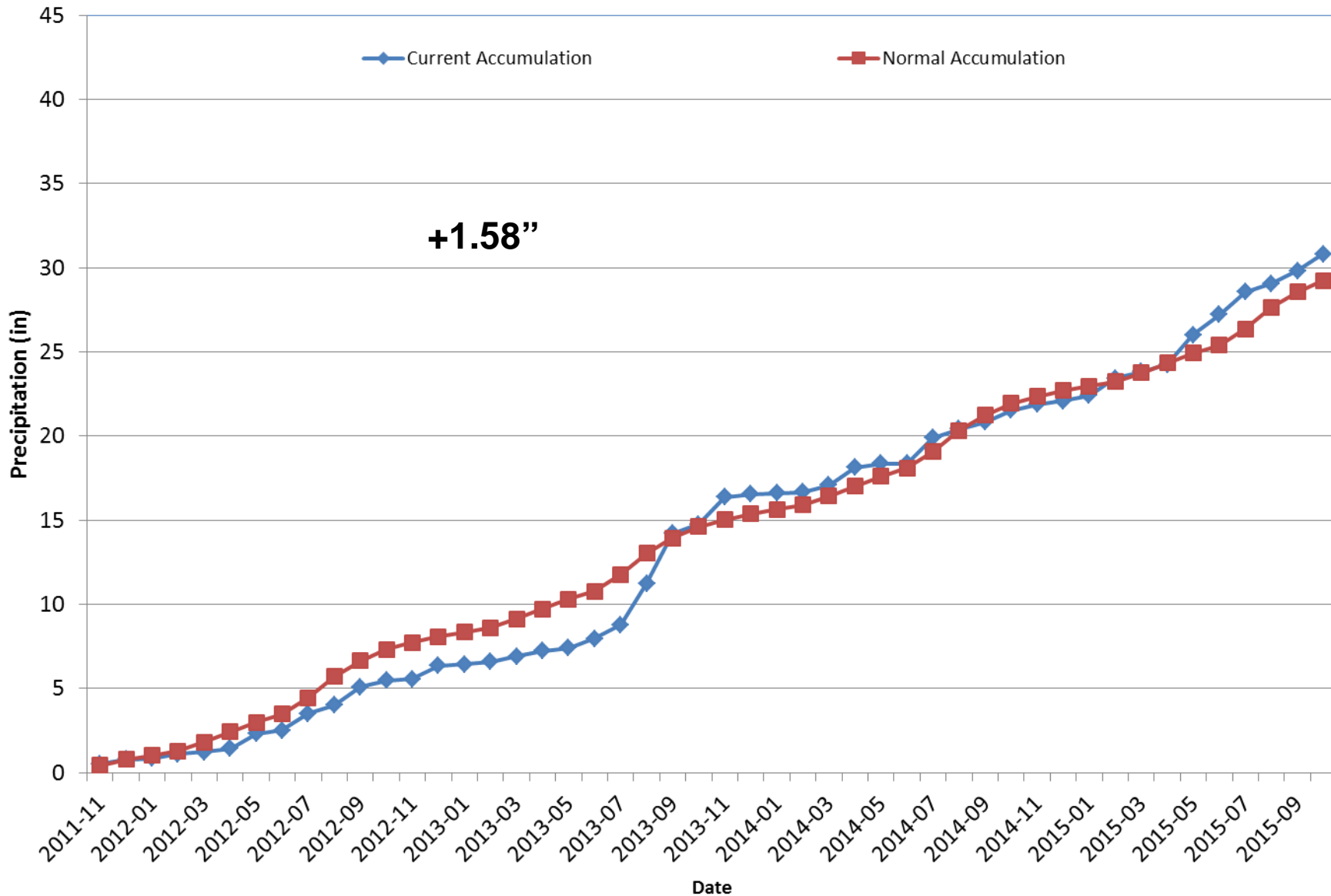
# Division 4 – Alamosa

## Alamosa WSO 2016 Water Year



# Division 4 – Alamosa

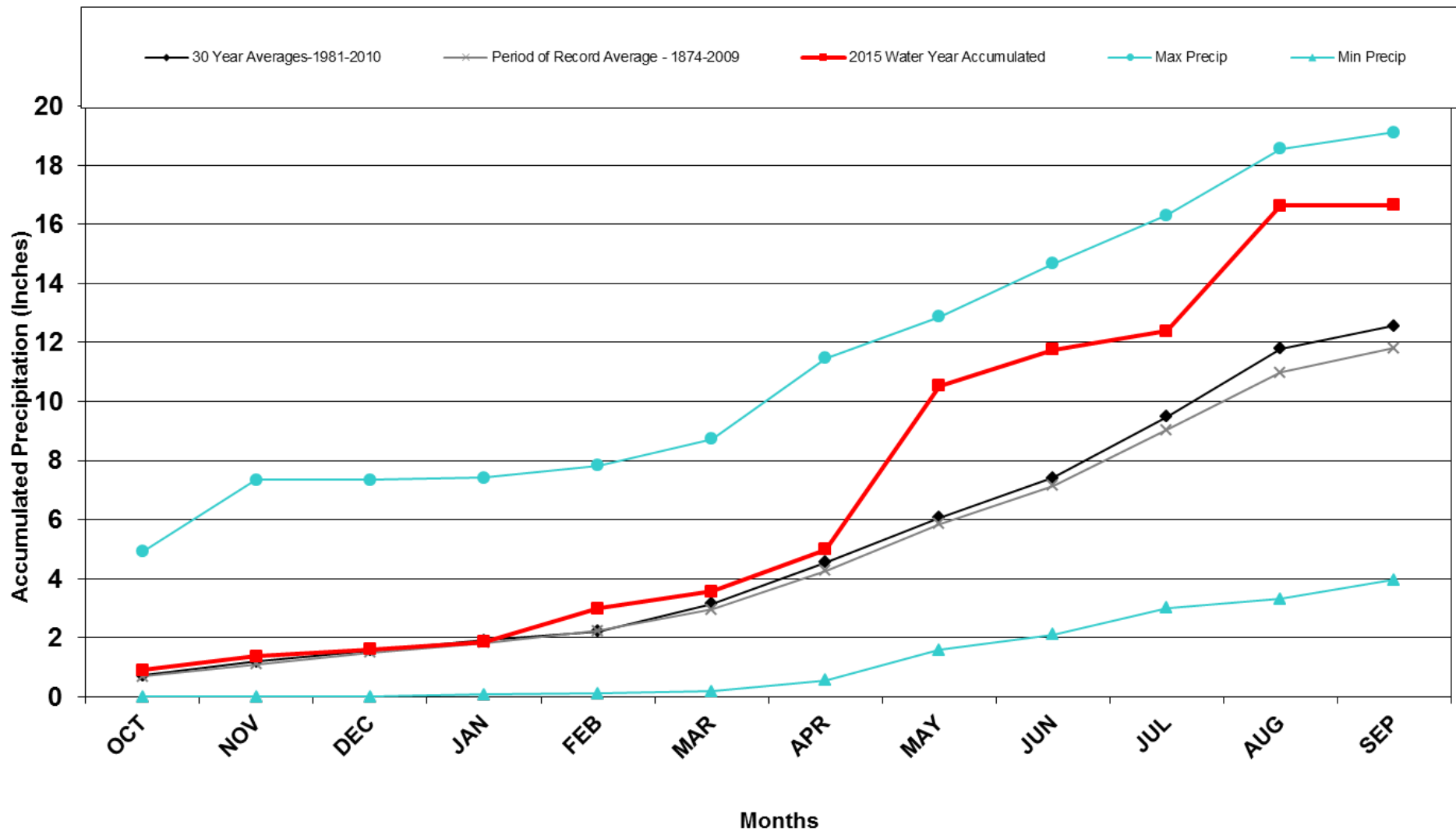
## Alamosa WSO Precipitation Accumulation





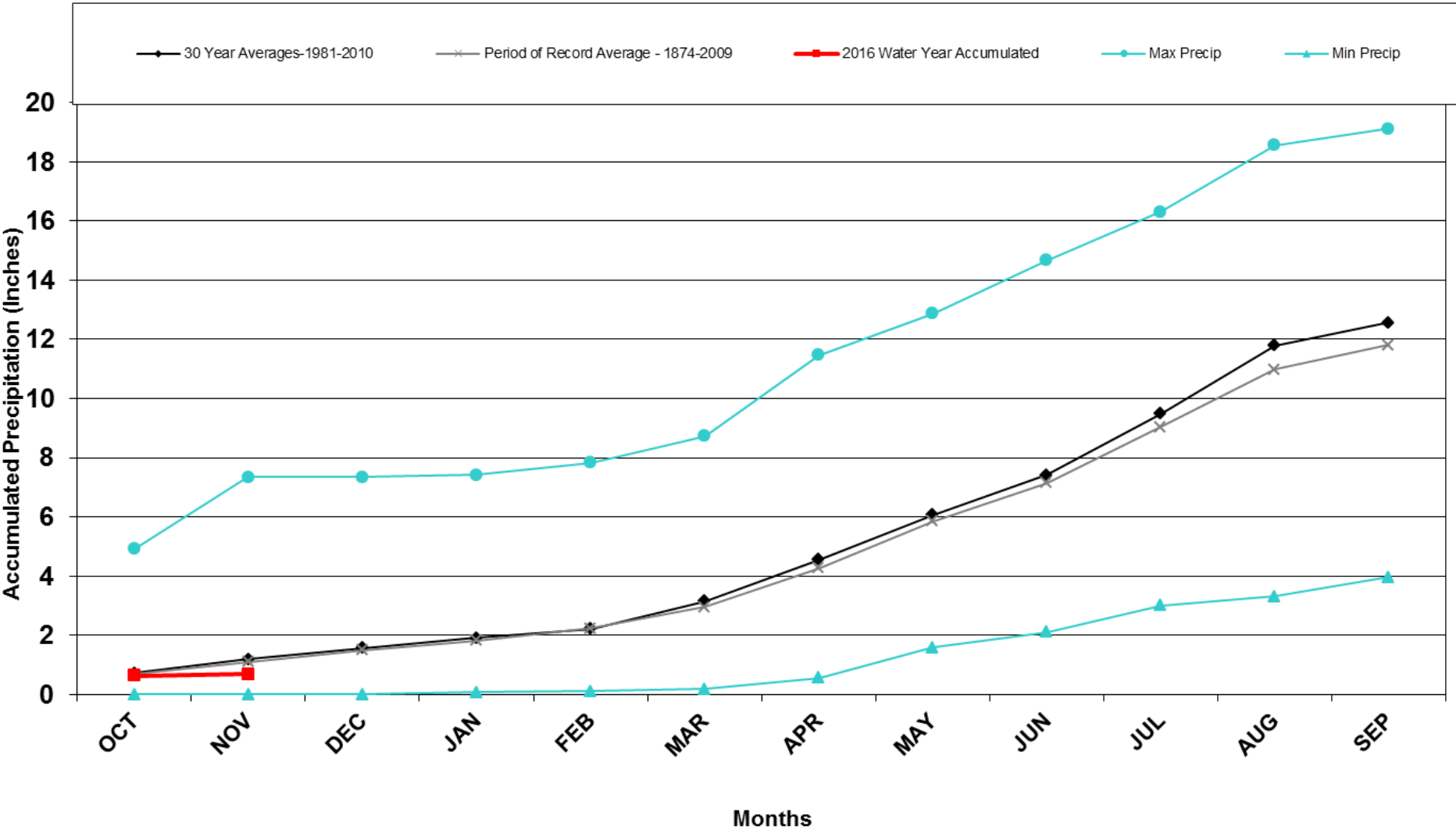
# Division 5 – Pueblo

## Pueblo WSO 2015 Water Year



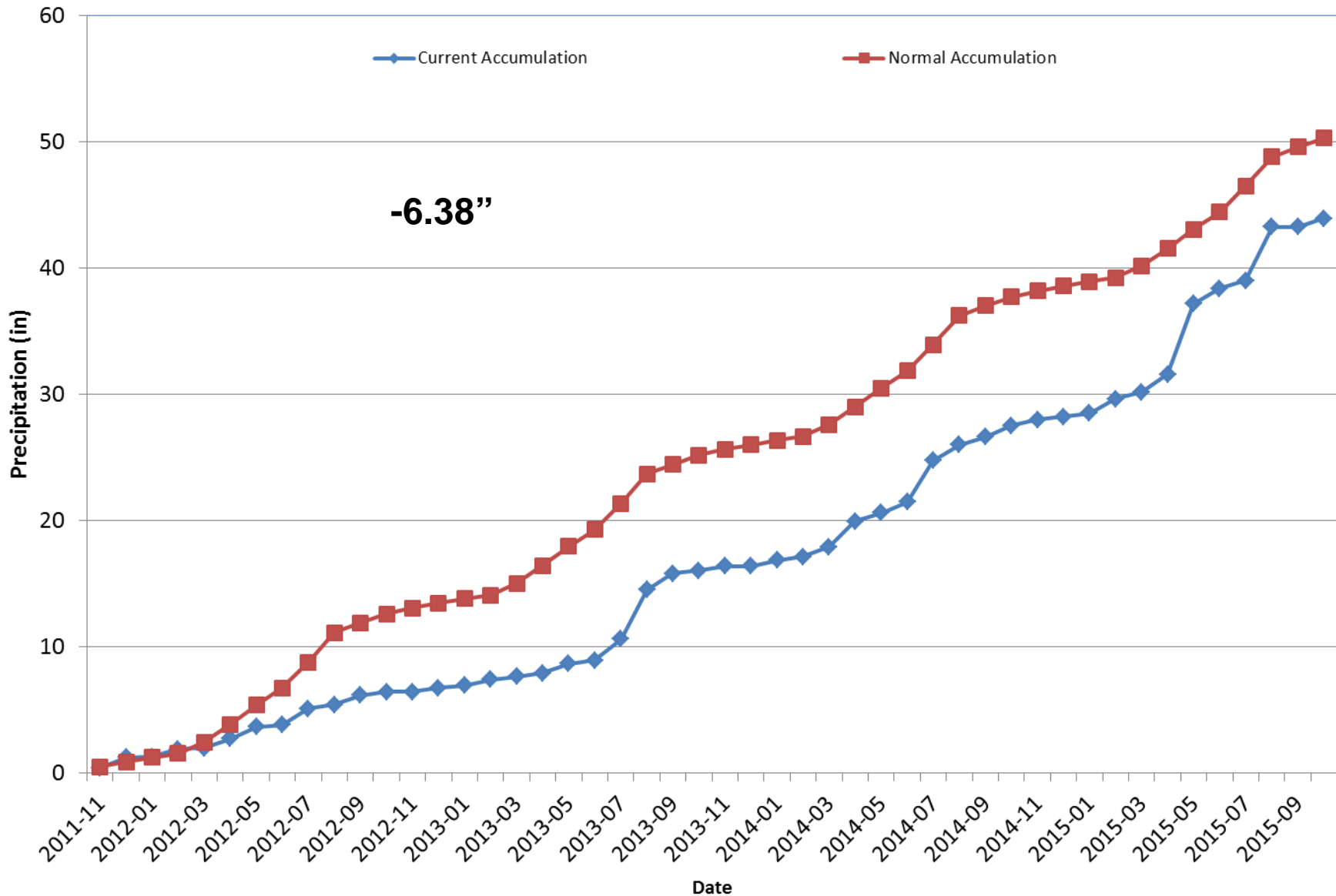
# Division 5 – Pueblo

## Pueblo WSO 2016 Water Year



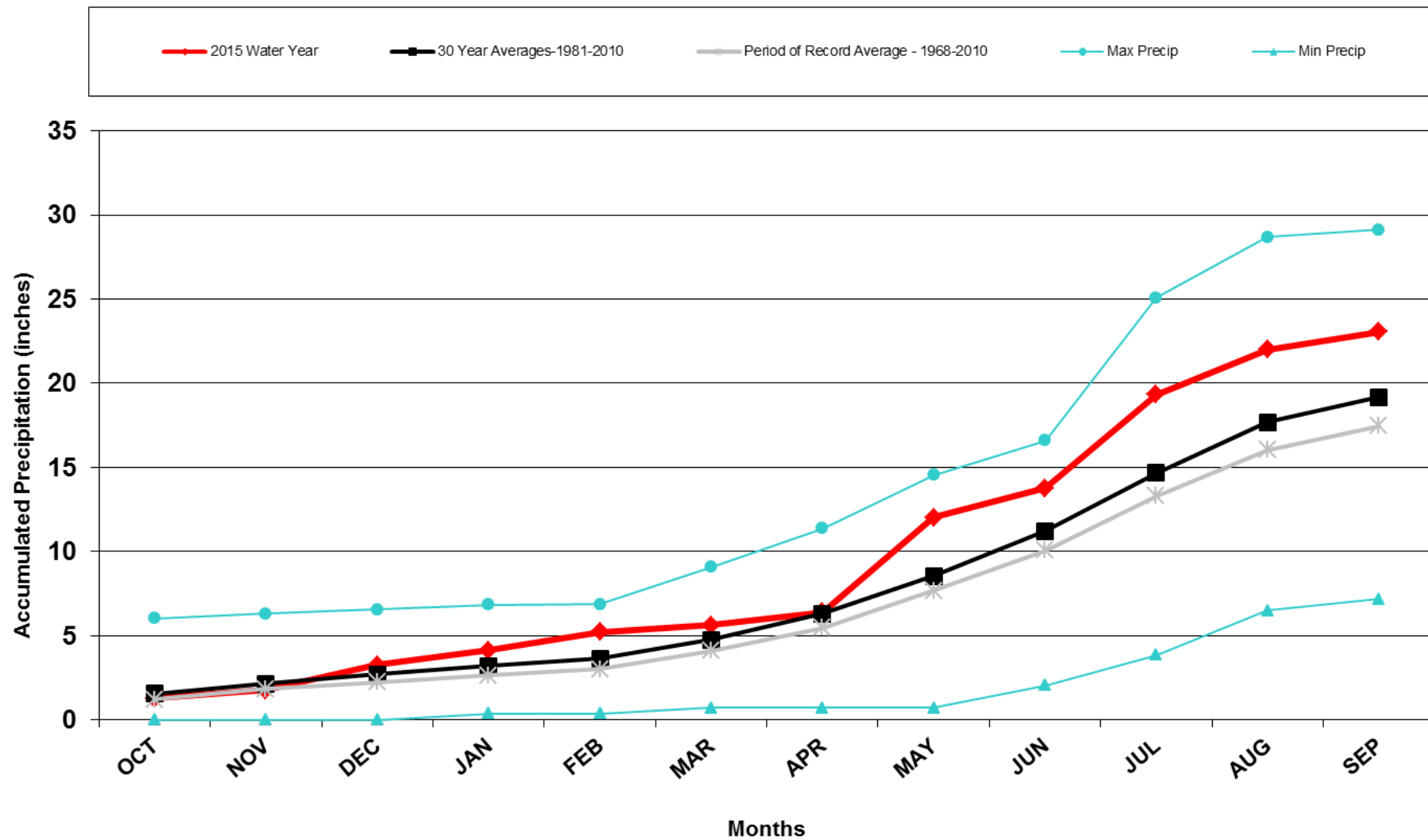
# Division 5 – Pueblo

## Pueblo Memorial AP Precipitation Accumulation



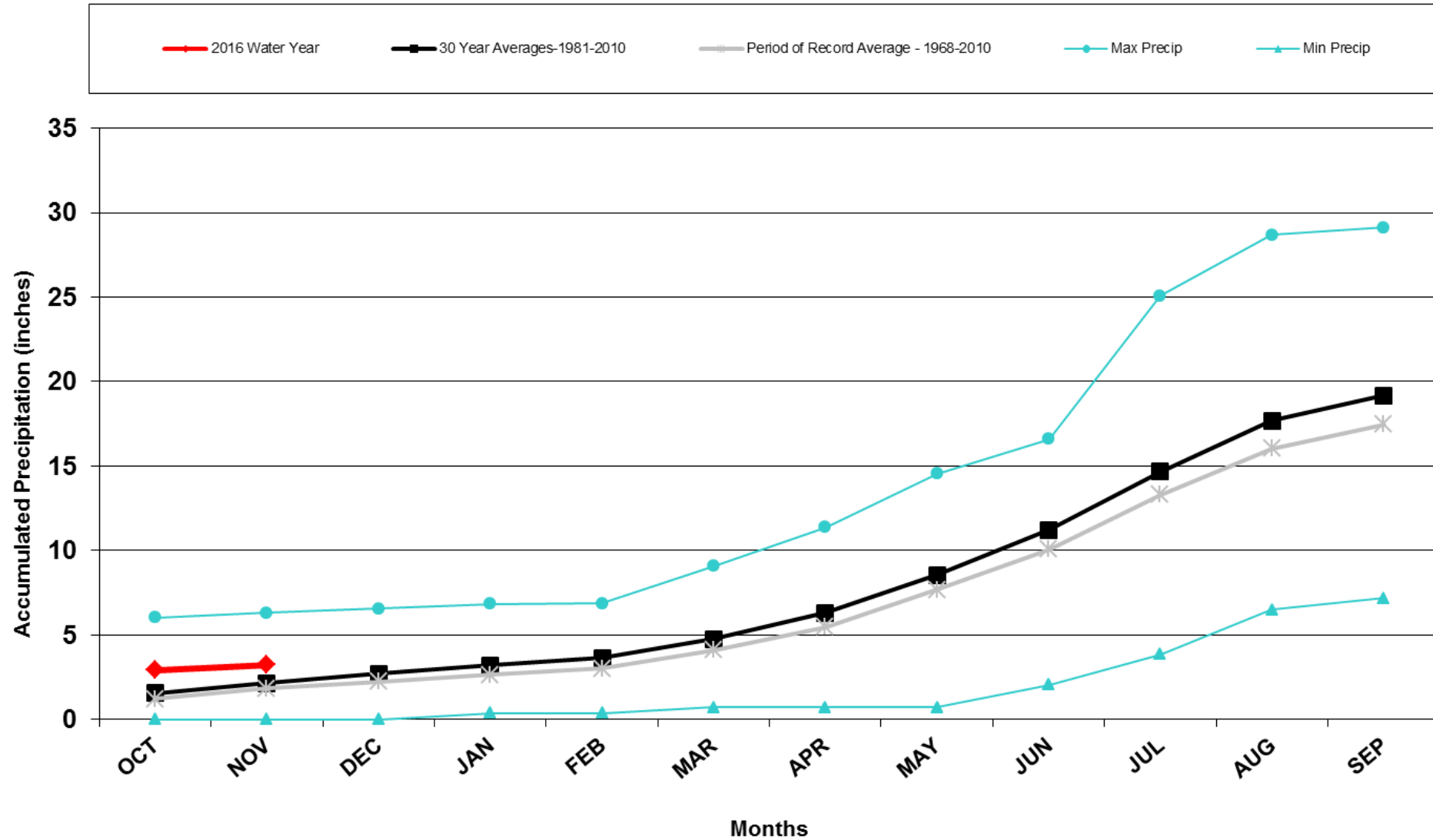
# Division 6 - Walsh

## Walsh 2015 Water Year



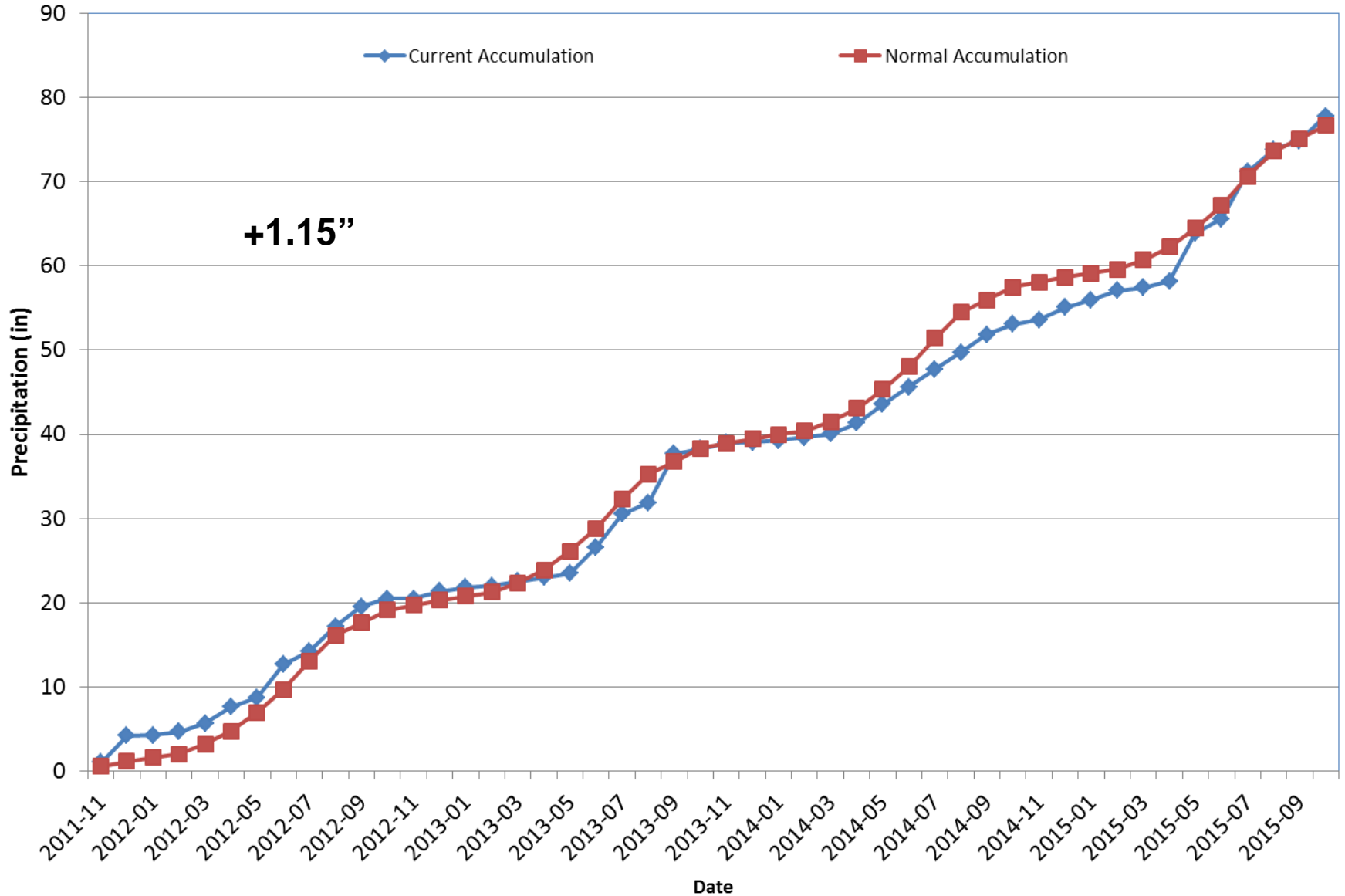
# Division 6 - Walsh

## Walsh 2016 Water Year



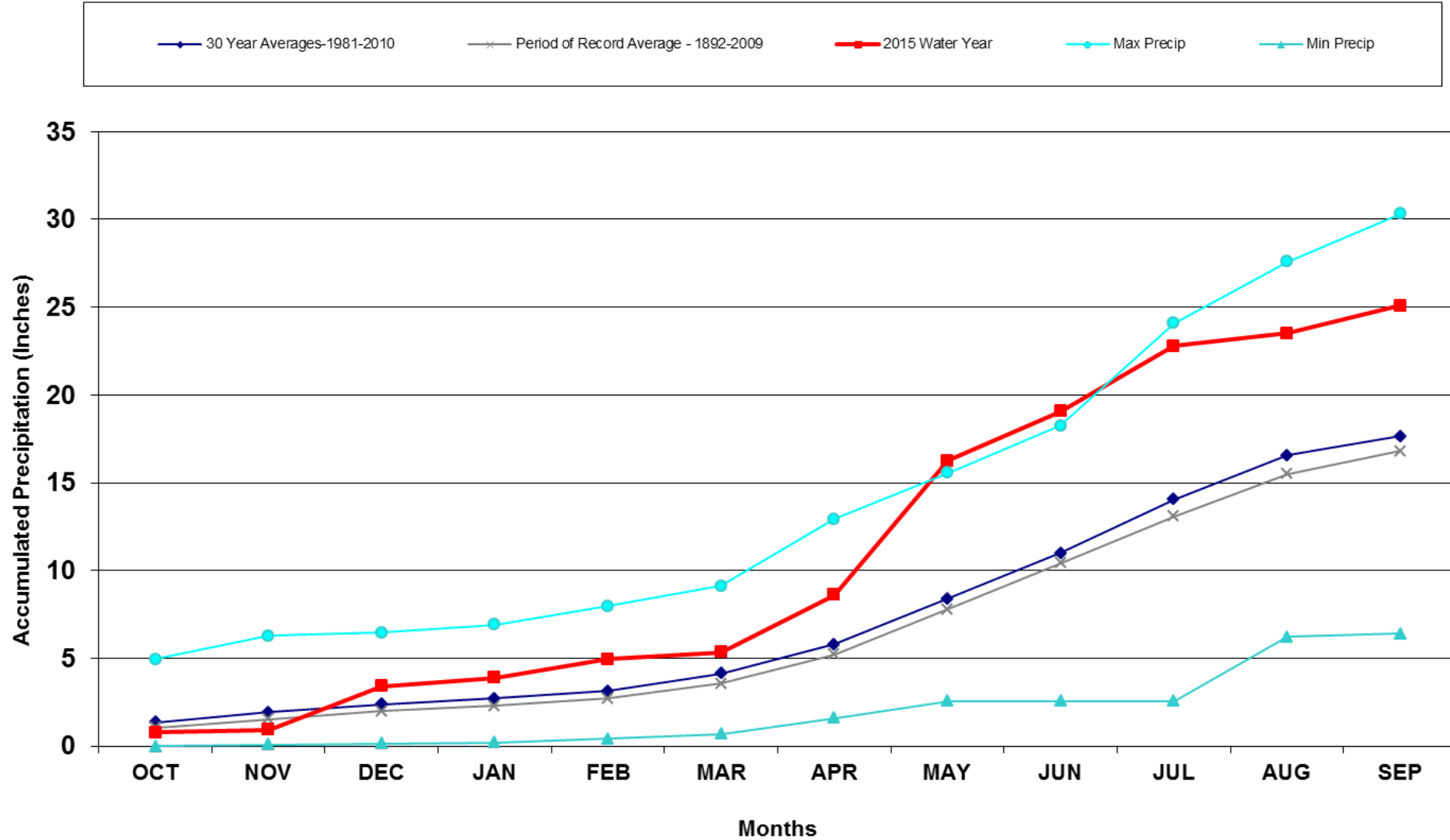
# Division 6 - Walsh

## Walsh 1W Precipitation Accumulation



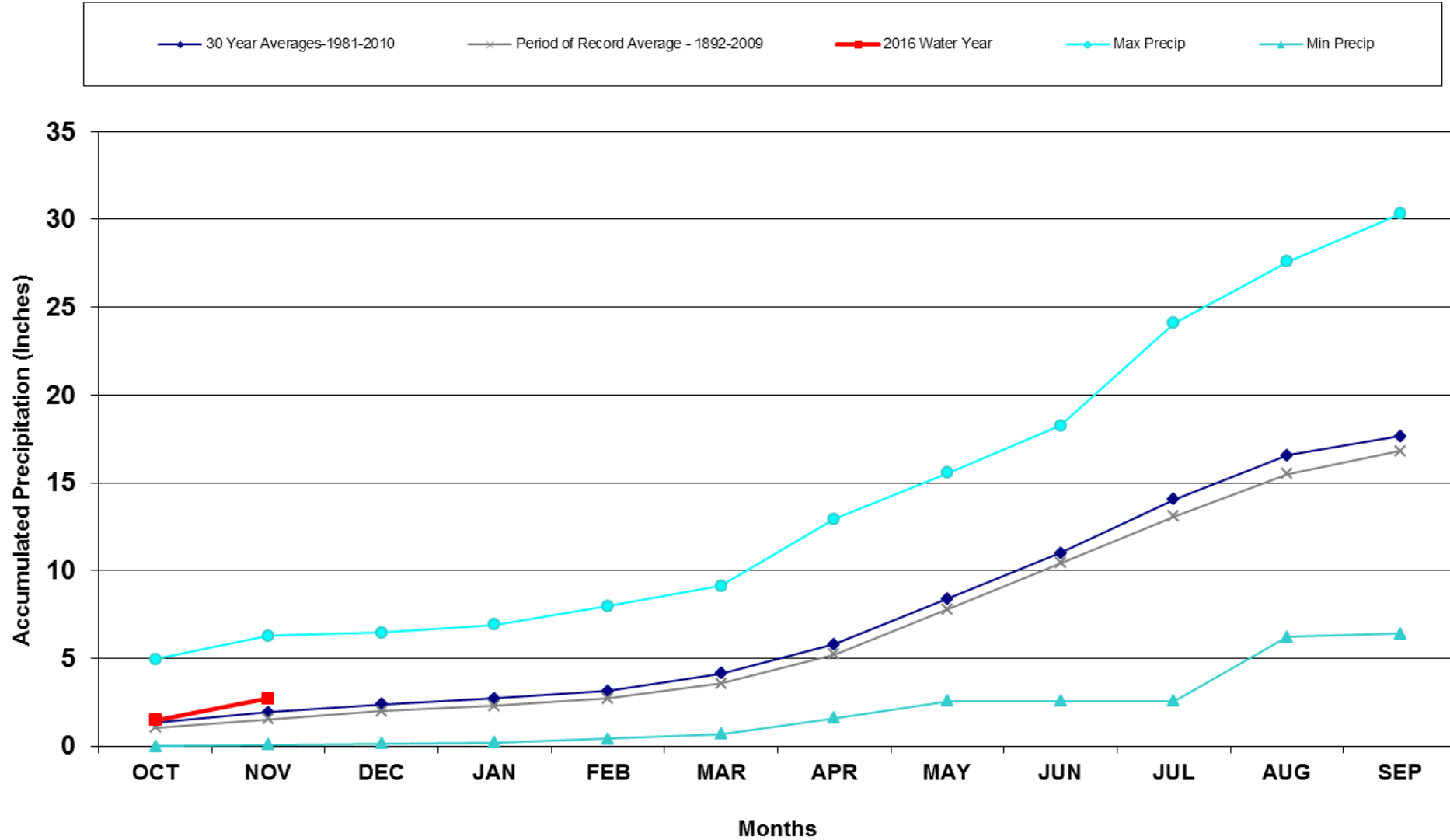
# Division 6 - Burlington

## Burlington 2015 Water Year



# Division 6 - Burlington

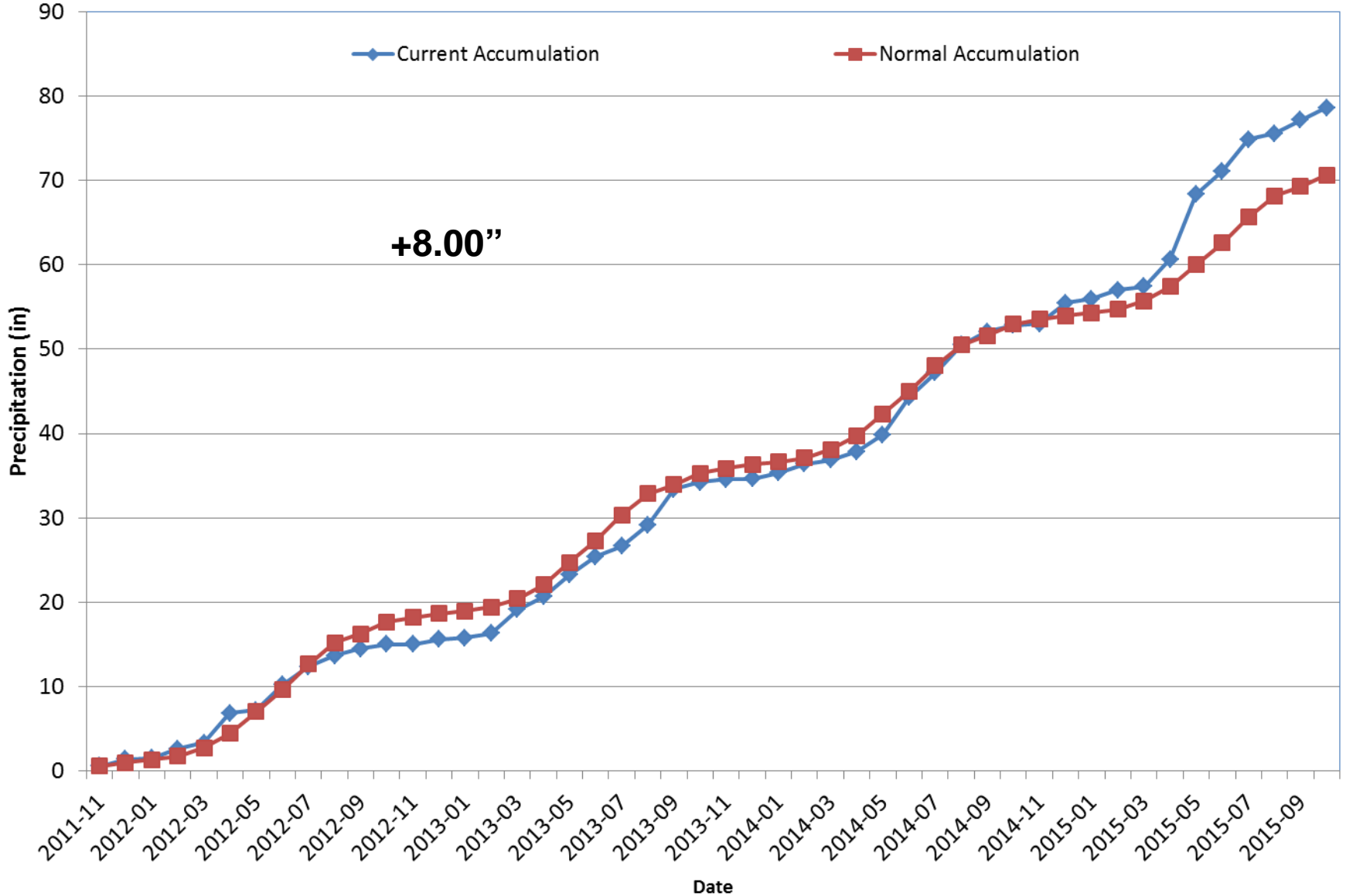
## Burlington 2016 Water Year





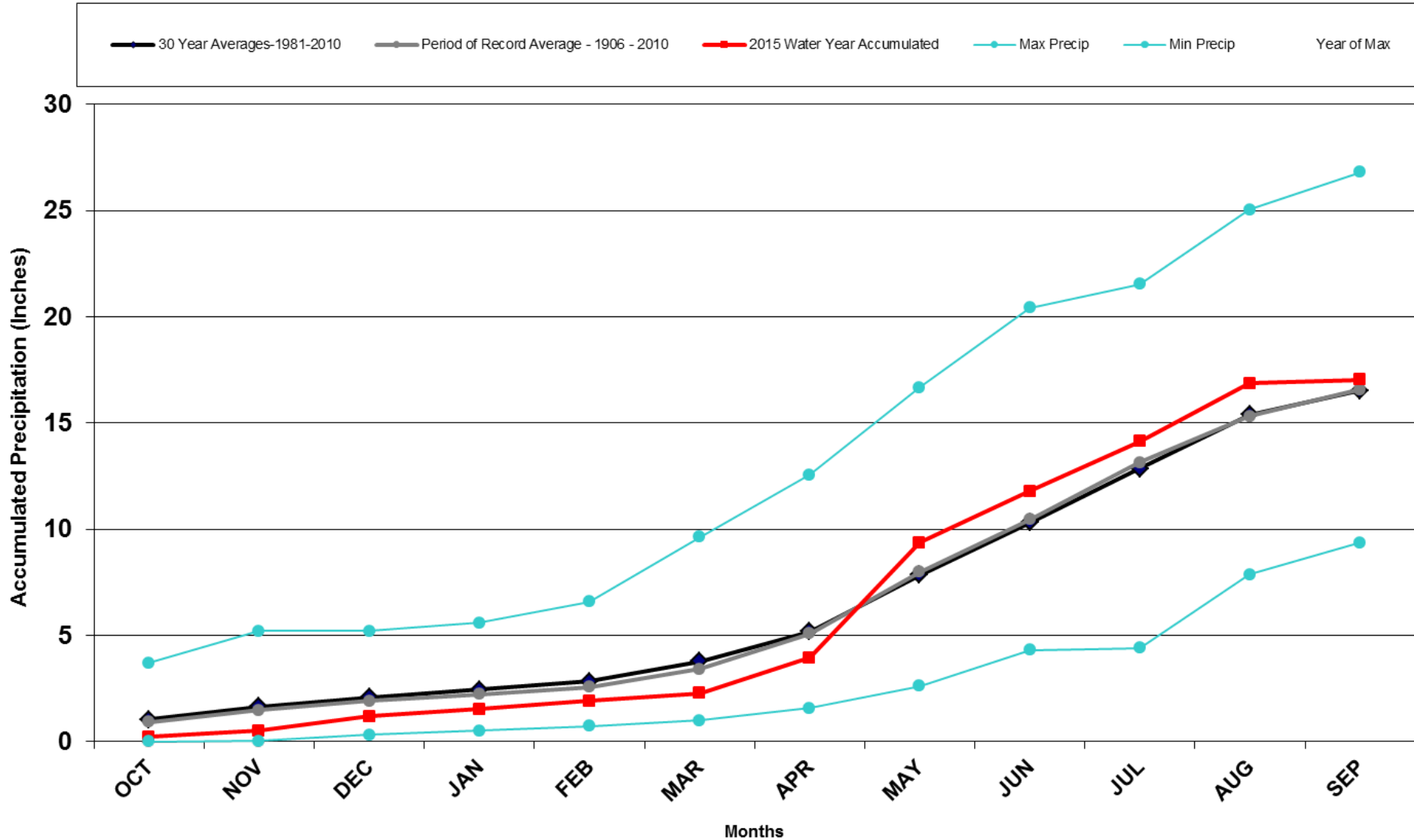
# Division 6 - Burlington

## Burlington, CO Precipitation Accumulation



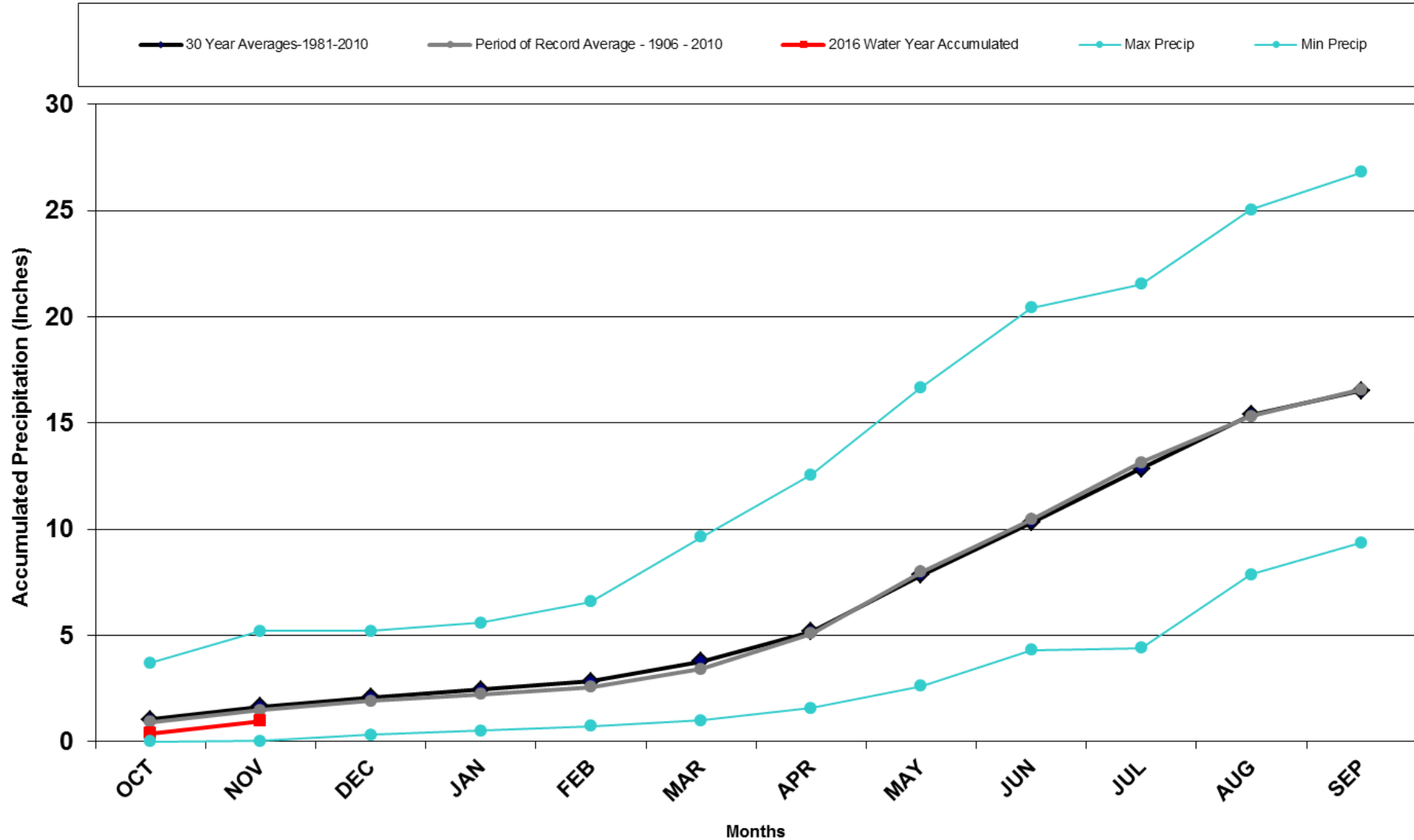
# Division 7 – Akron

## Akron 4E 2015 Water Year



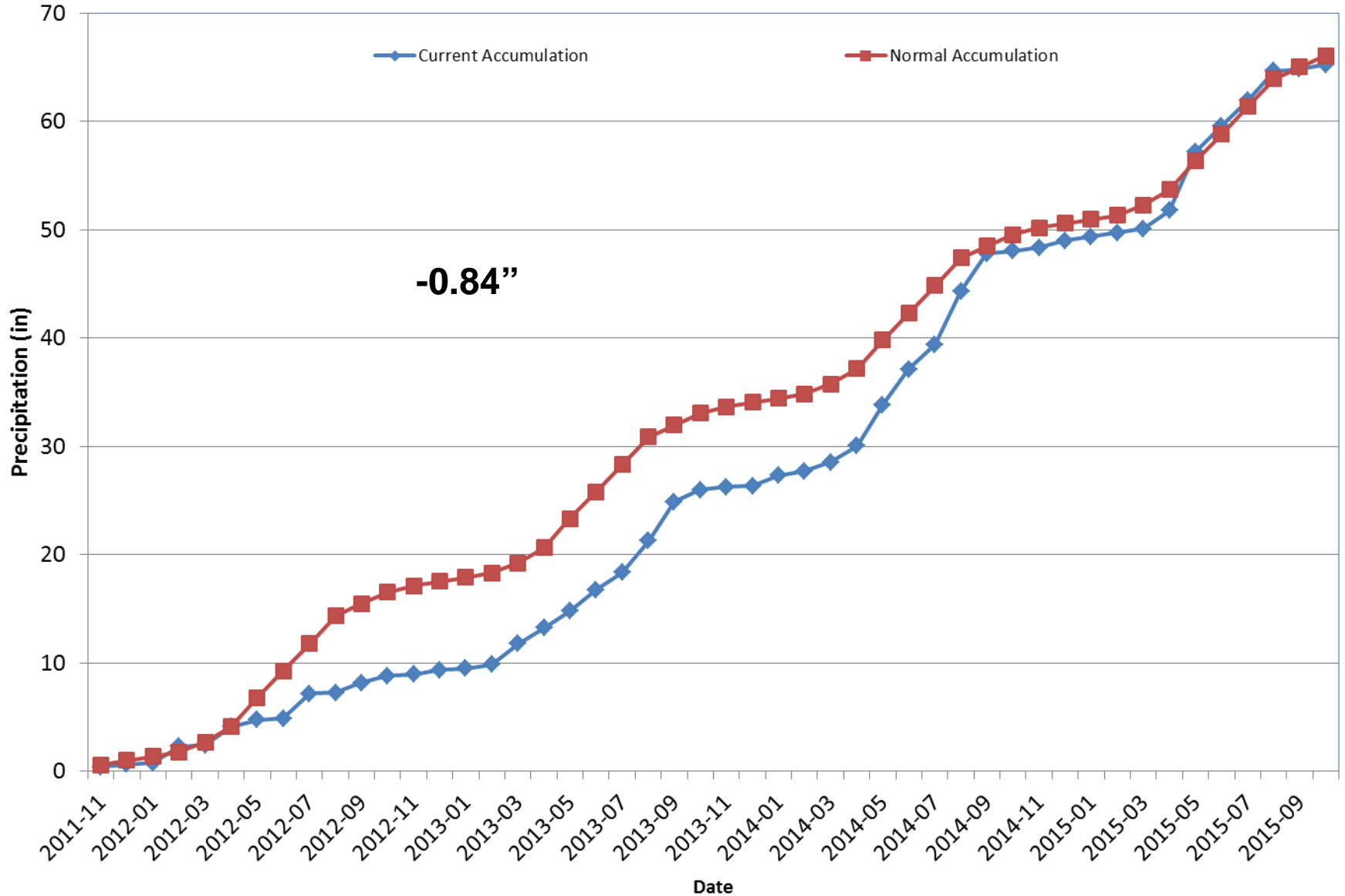
# Division 7 – Akron

## Akron 4E 2016 Water Year



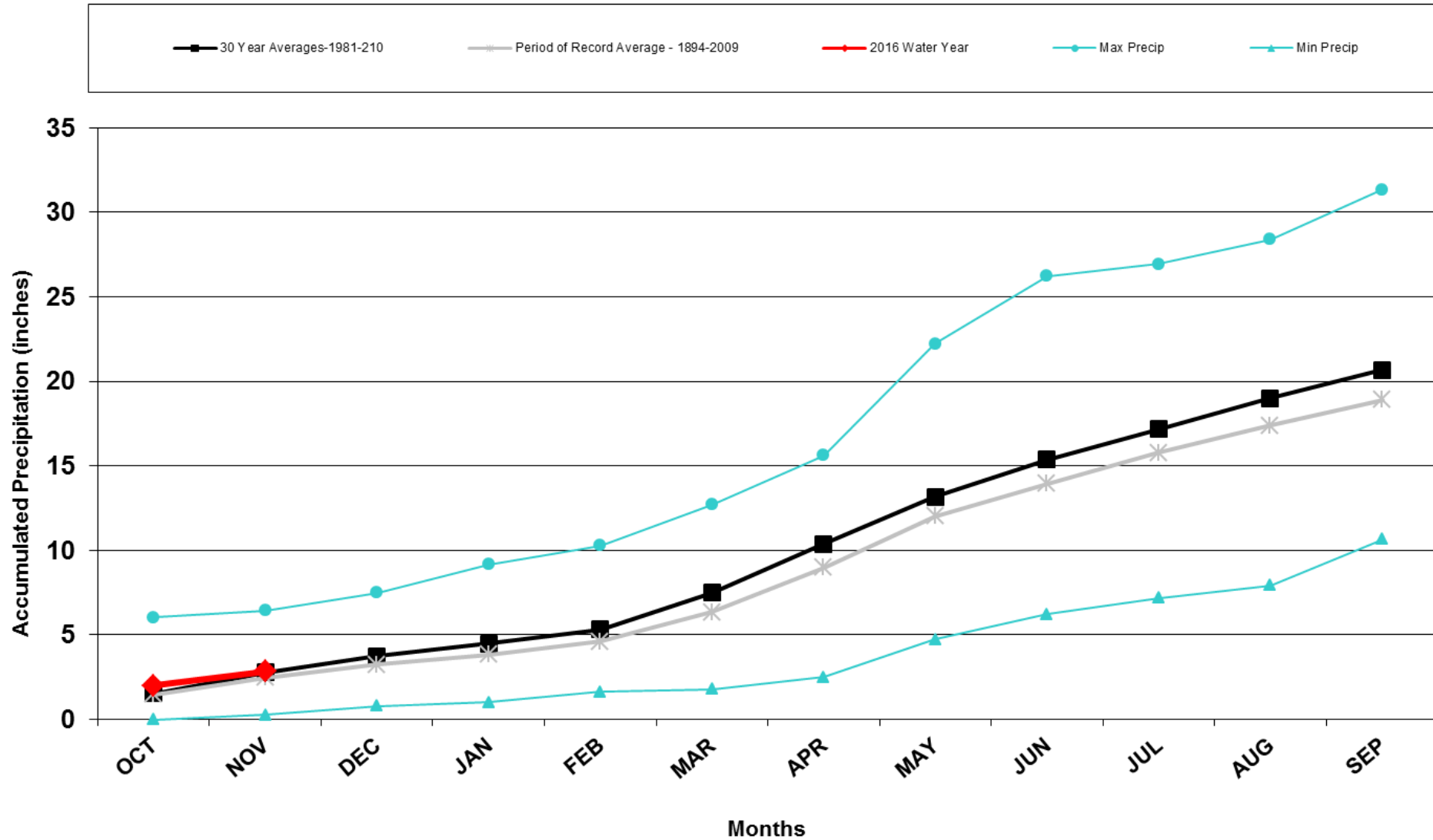
# Division 7 – Akron

## Akron 4E Precipitation Accumulation



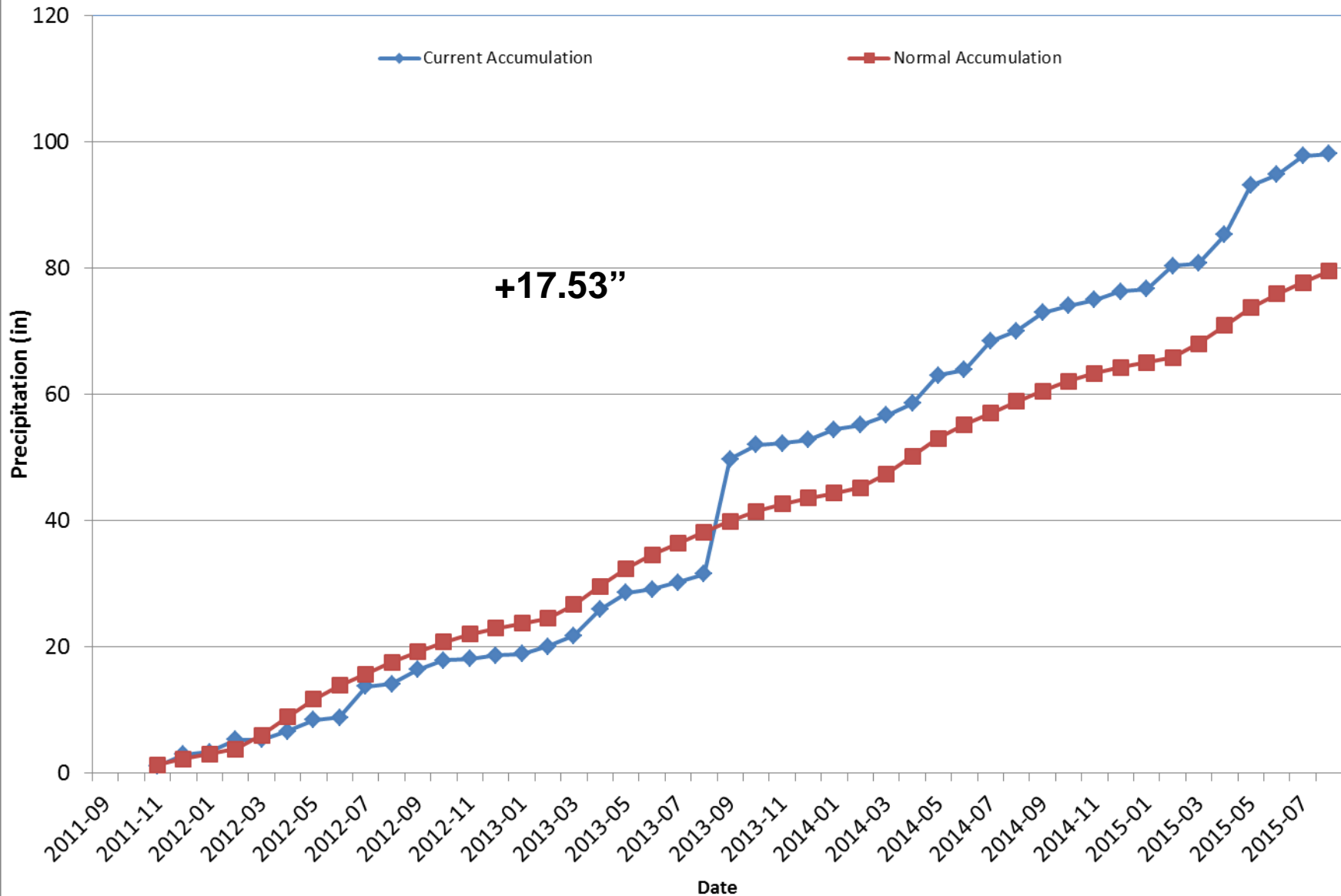
# Division 8 - Boulder

## Boulder 2016 Water Year

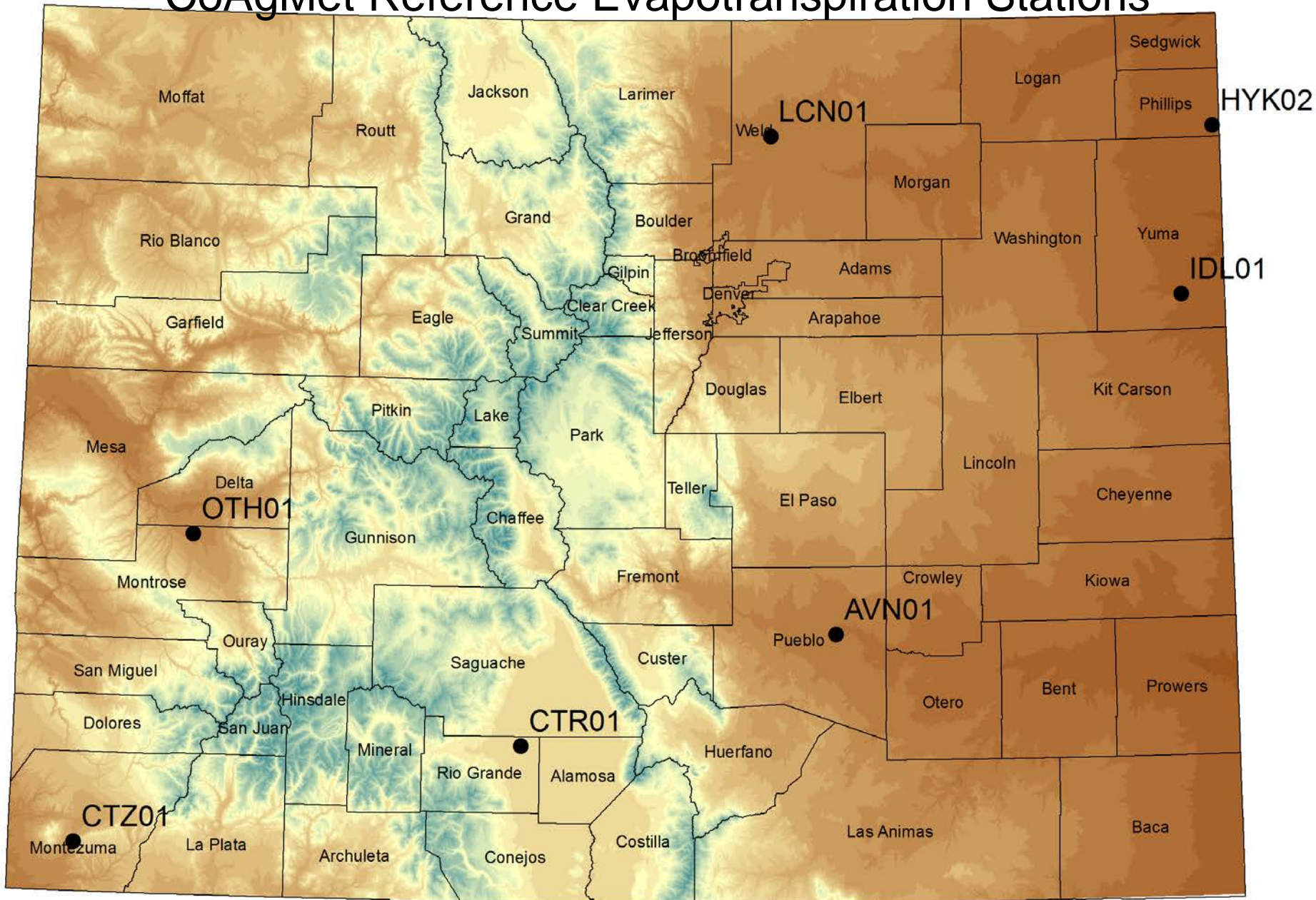


# Division 8 - Boulder

## Boulder Precipitation Accumulation



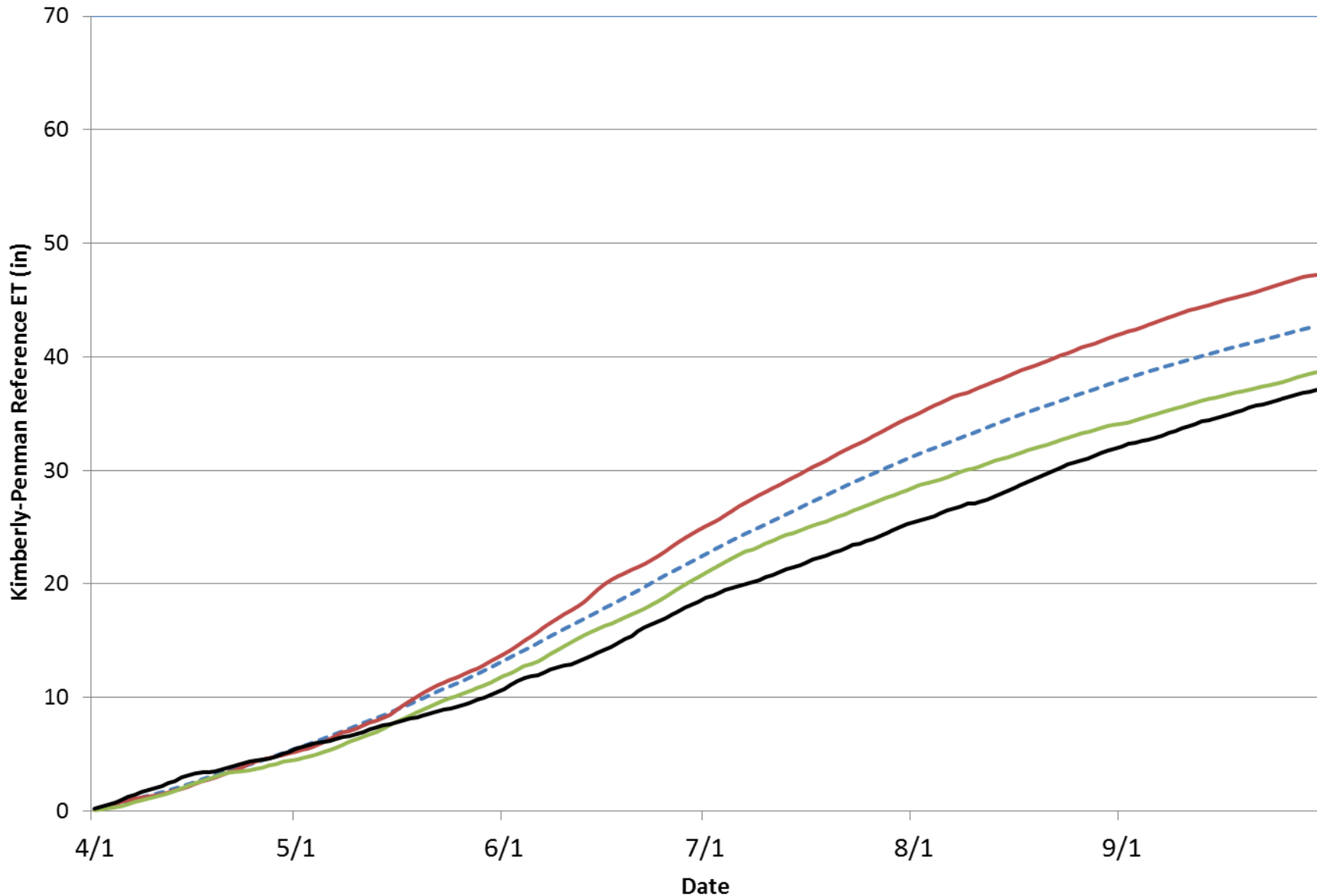
# CoAgMet Reference Evapotranspiration Stations





# Olathe Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1993 - 2015)

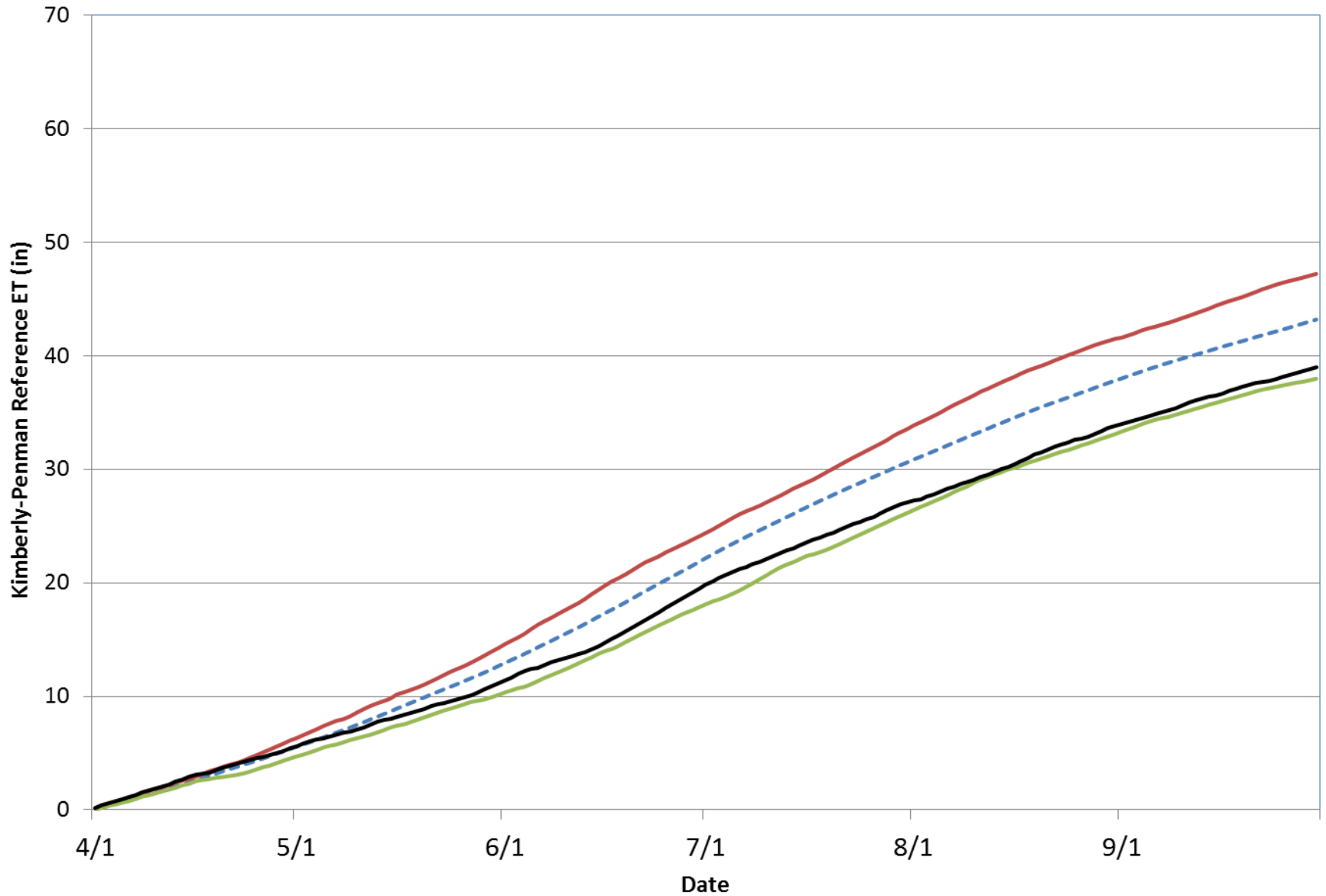
--- Average    — 1994    — 1999    — 2015





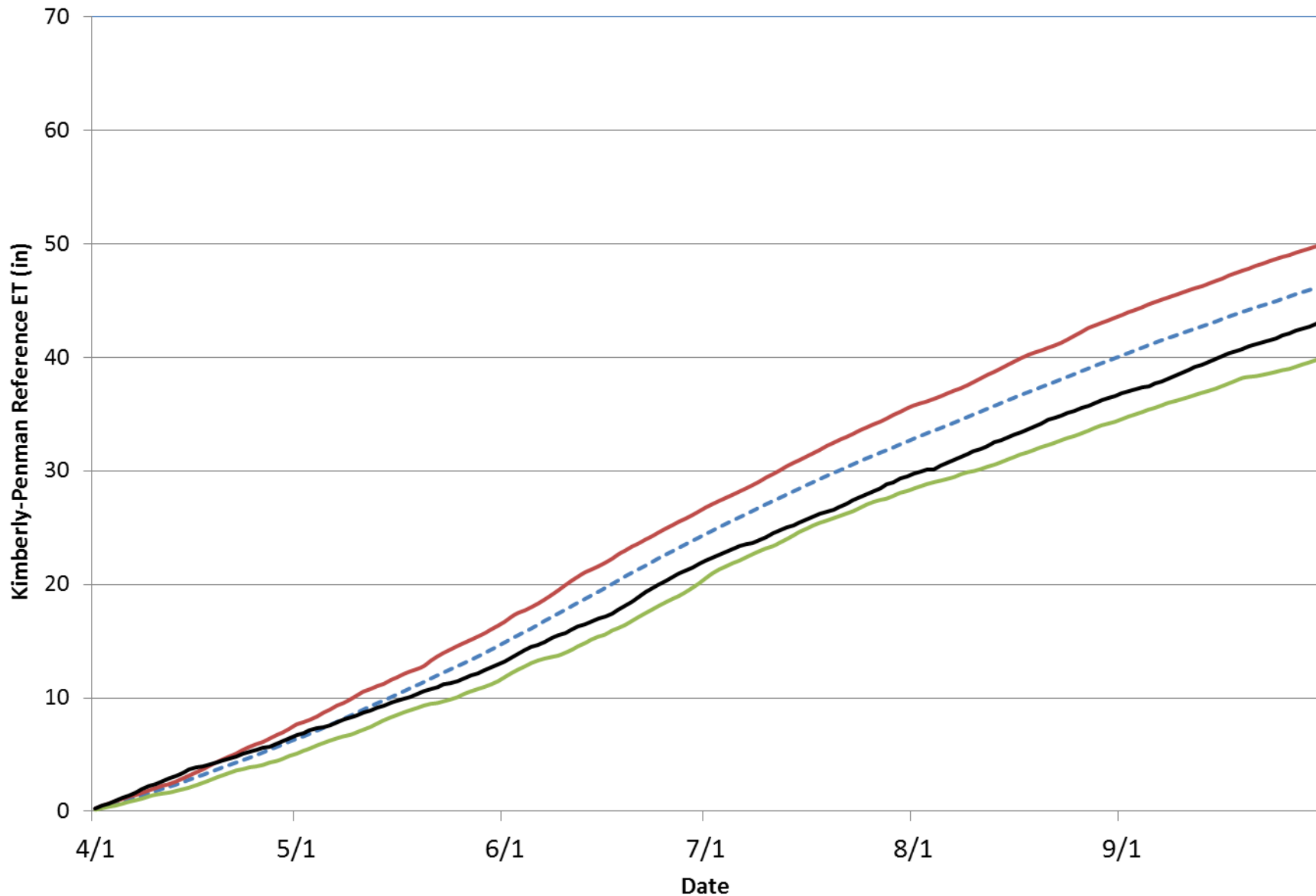
# Cortez Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1992 - 2015)

--- Average    — 2000    — 1995    — 2015

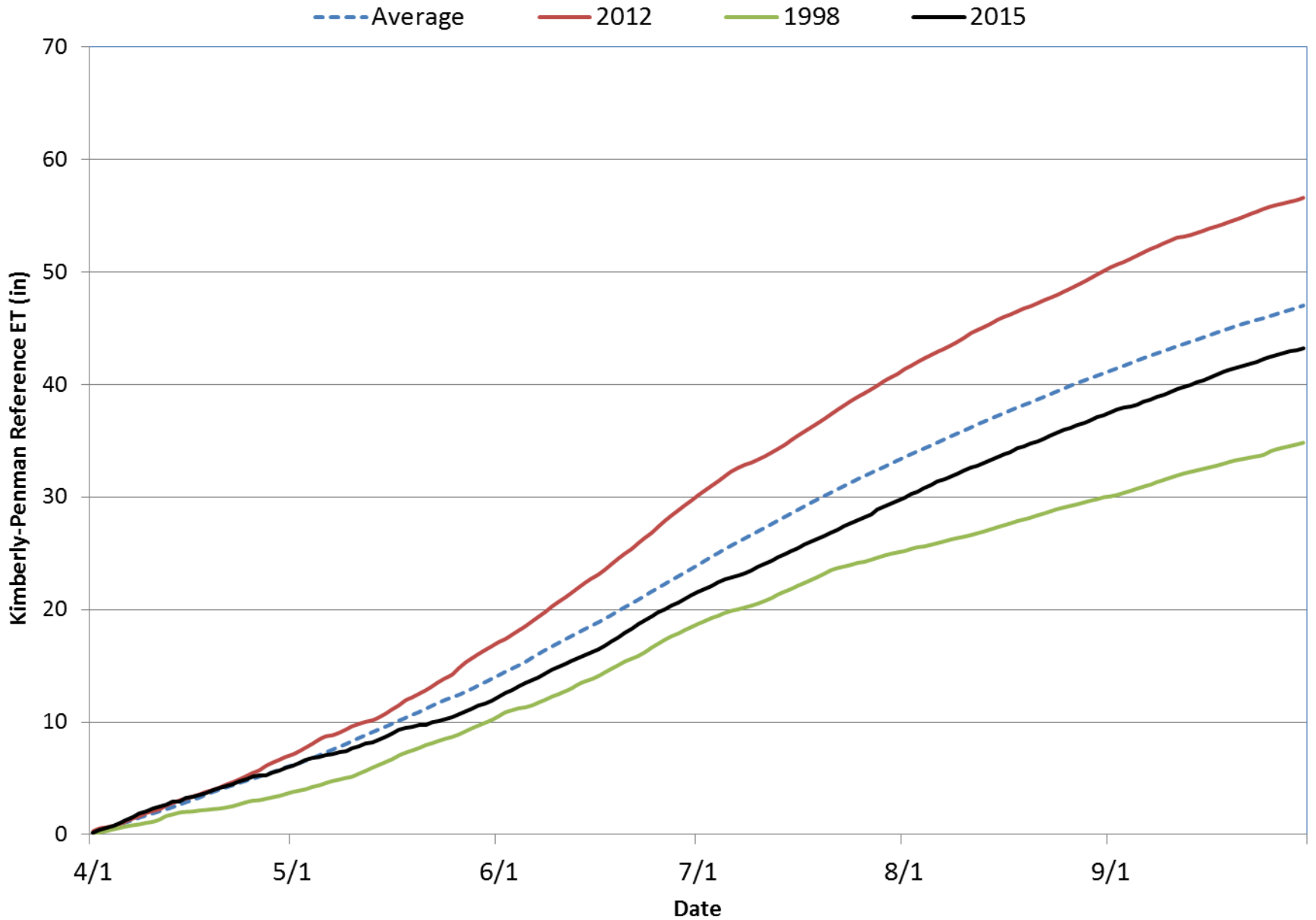


# Center Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1994 - 2015)

--- Average    — 2002    — 1997    — 2015

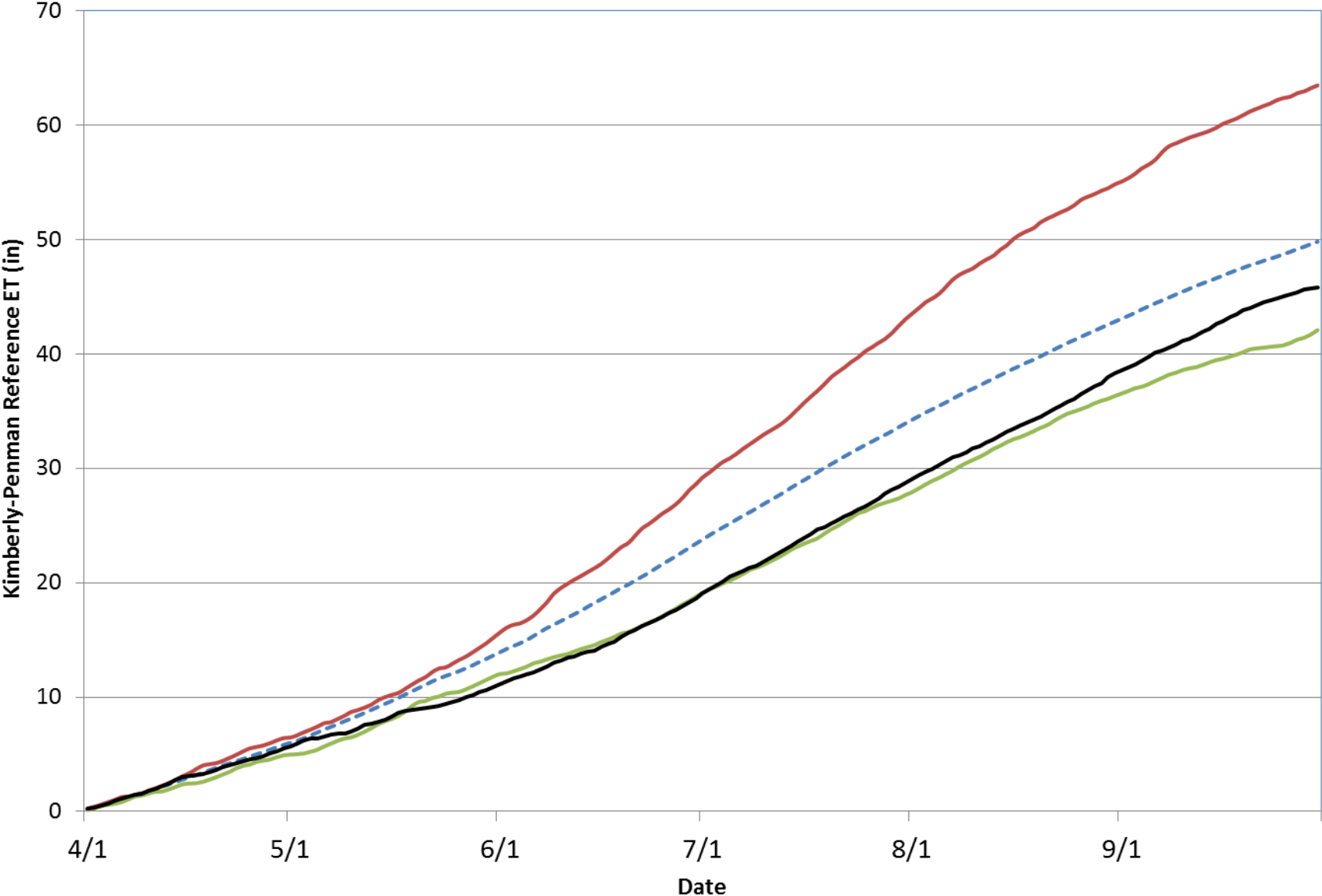


# Avondale Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1993 - 2015)

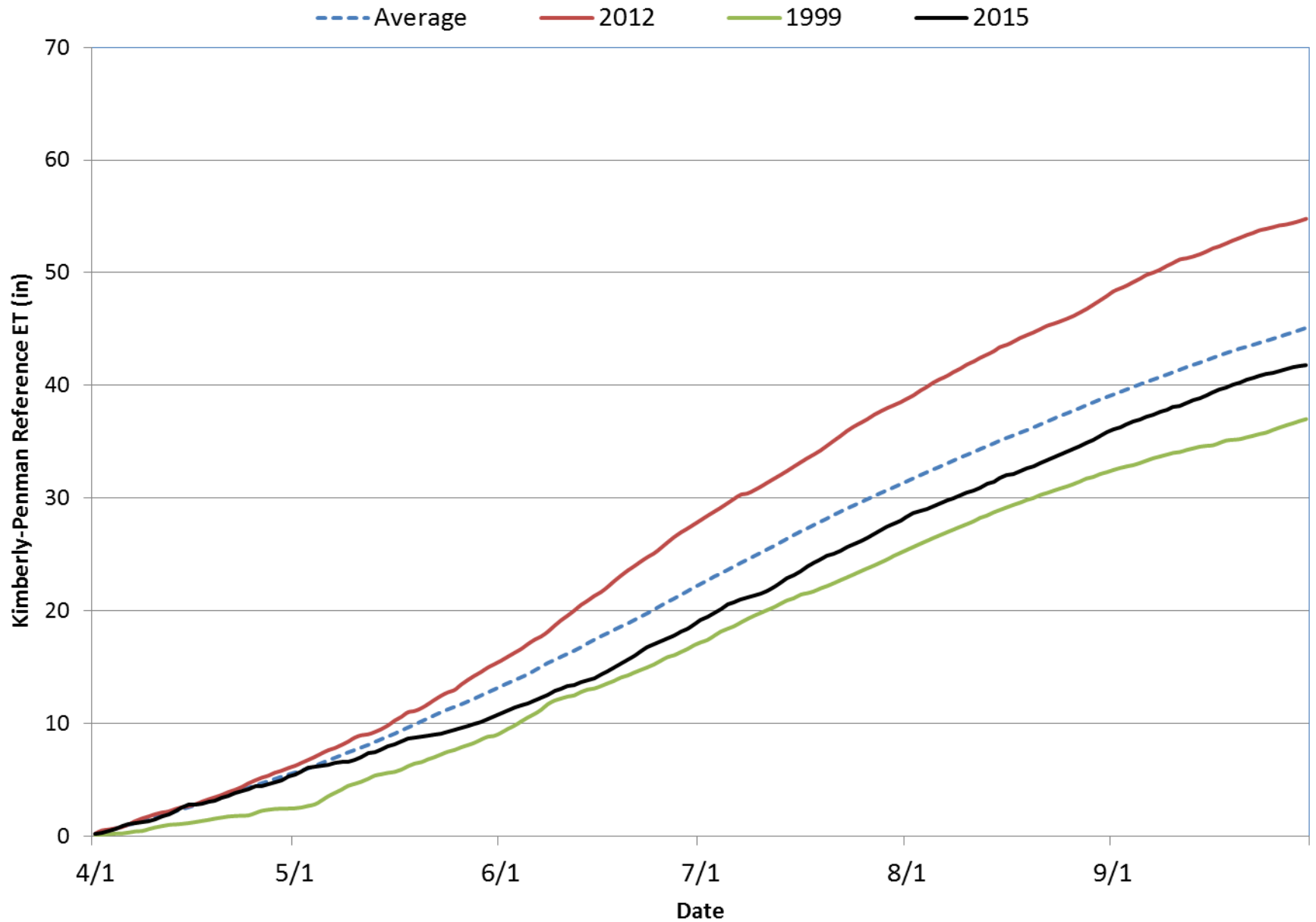


# Idalia Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1992 - 2015)

--- Average    — 2002    — 2009    — 2015

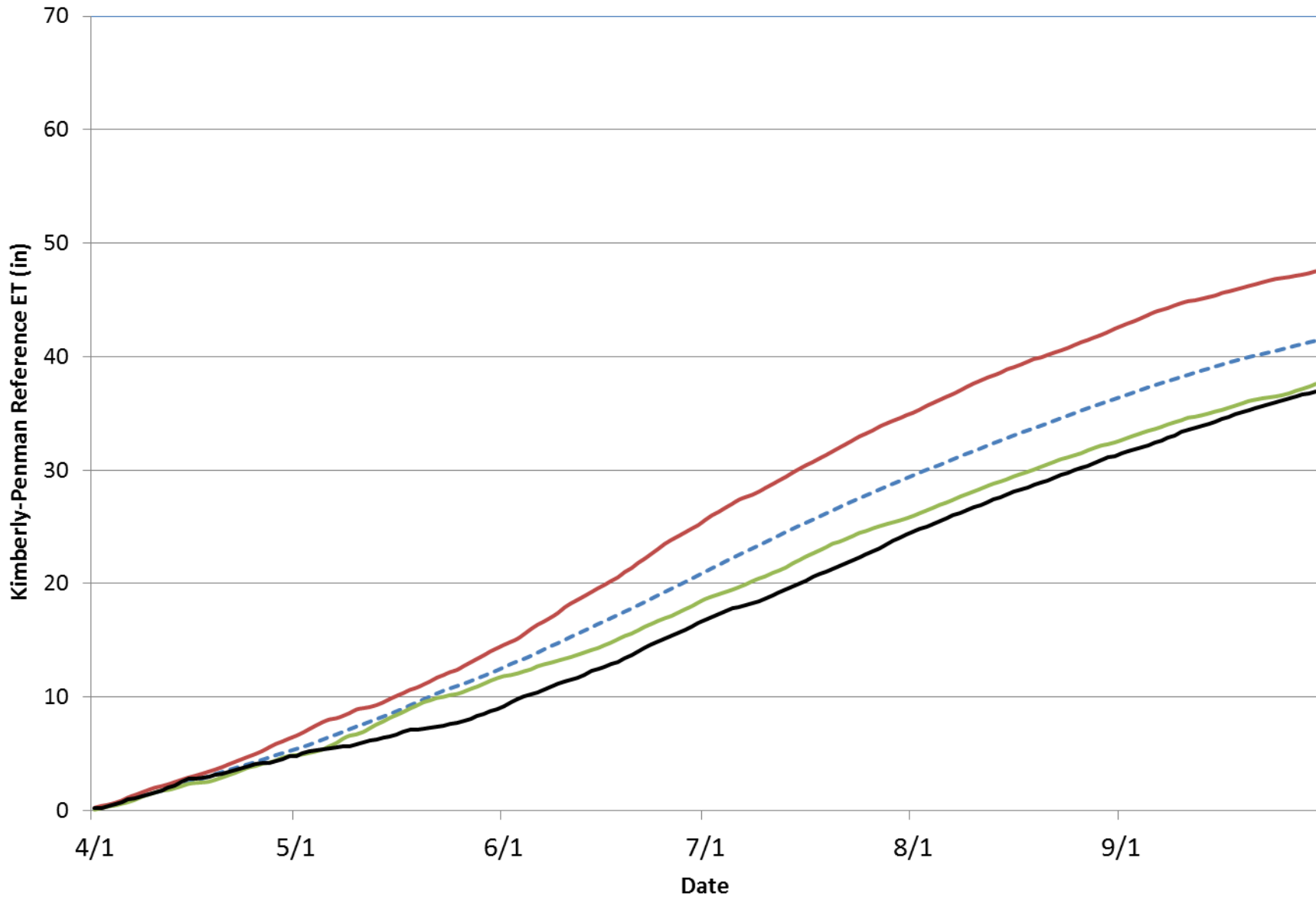


# Holyoke Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1992 - 2015)



# Lucerne Kimberly-Penman Reference ET (1992 - 2015)

--- Average    — 2012    — 2009    — 2015

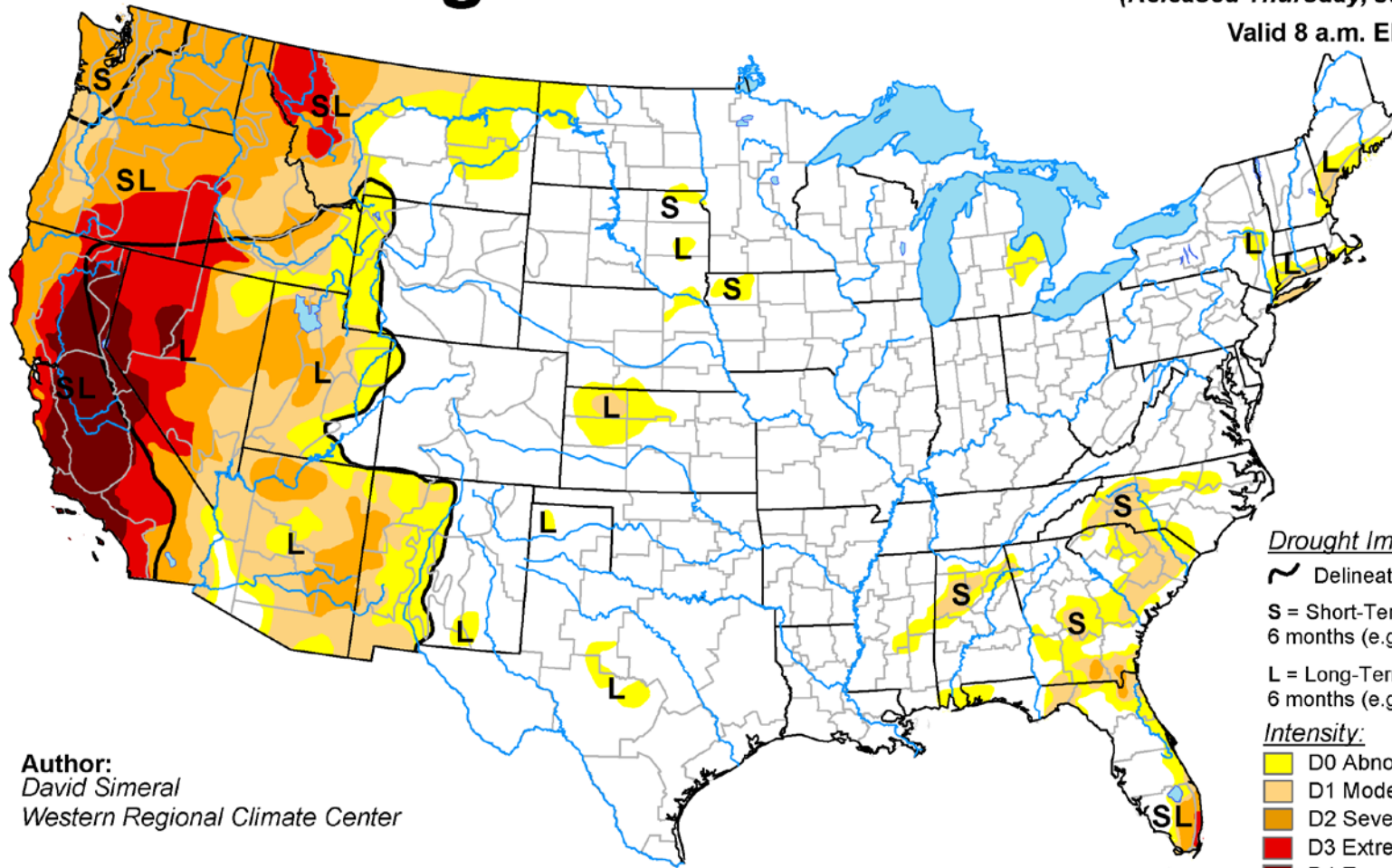


# U.S. Drought Monitor

July 14, 2015

(Released Thursday, Jul. 16, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Author:**  
David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center

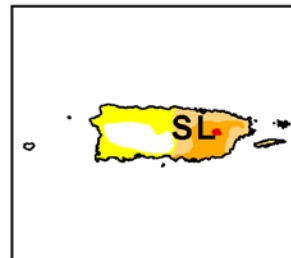
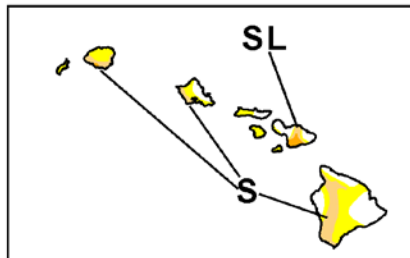
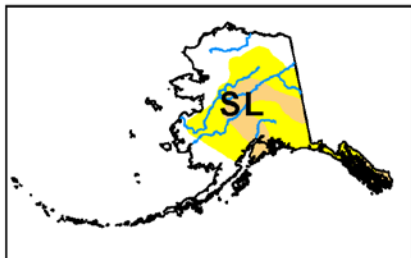
Drought Impact Types:

- ~ 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/>



# U.S. Drought Monitor

August 4, 2015  
(Released Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
Mark Svoboda  
National Drought Mitigation 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

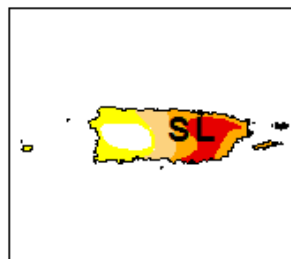
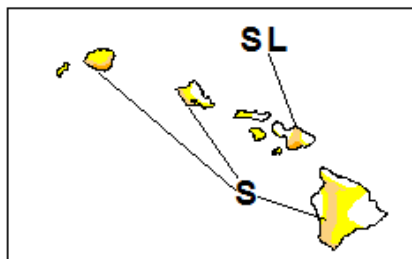
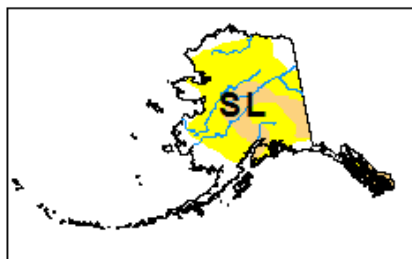
D1 Moderate Drought

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.

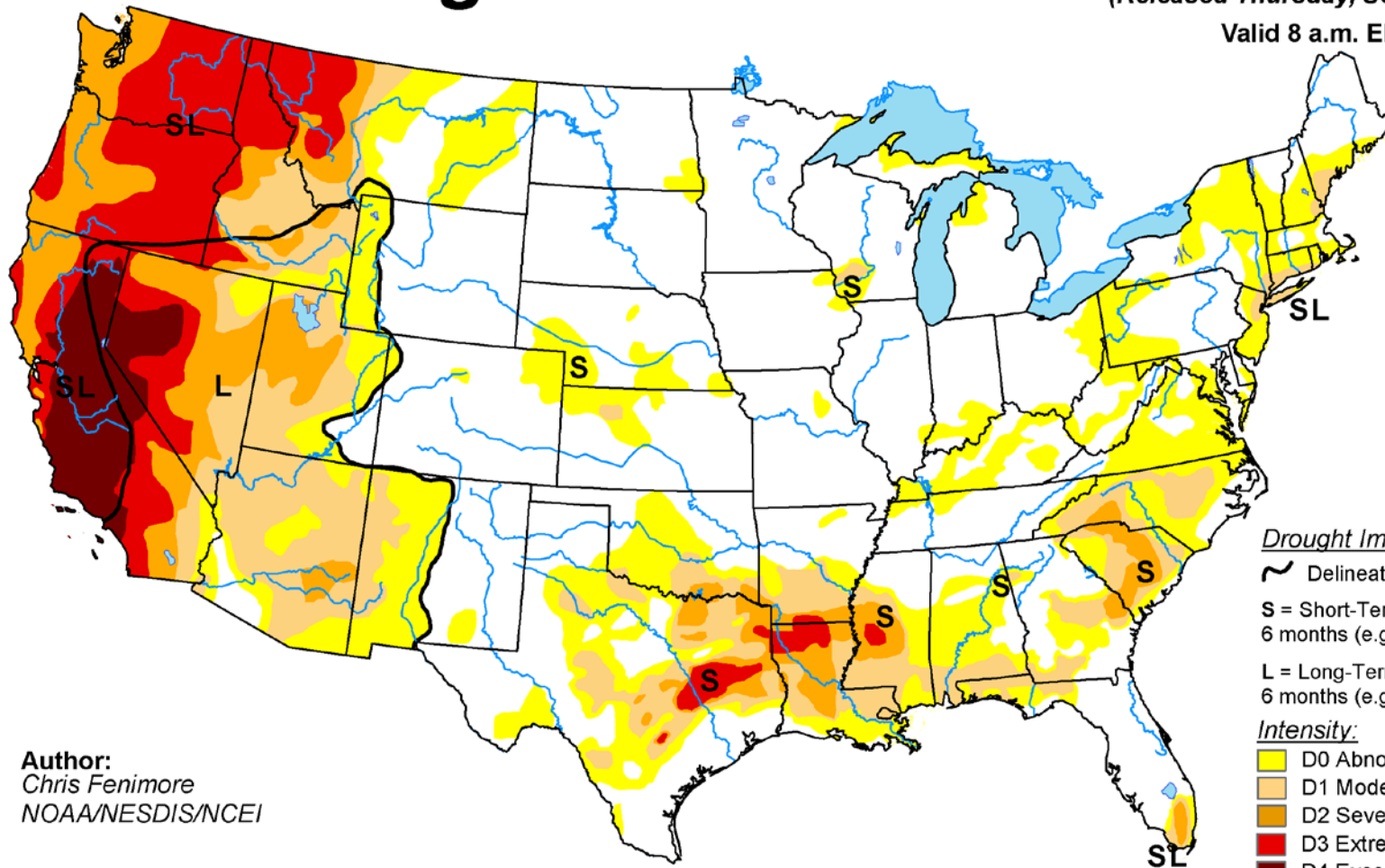


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# U.S. Drought Monitor


September 15, 2015  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 17, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT








**Author:**  
Chris Fenimore  
NOAA/NESDIS/NCEI

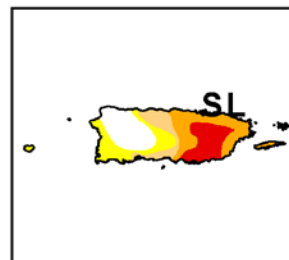
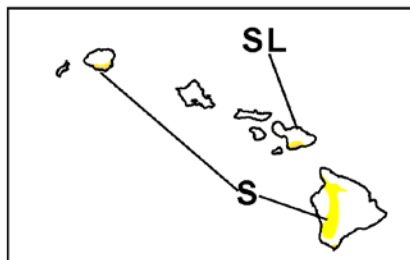
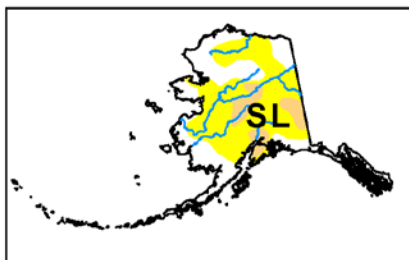
### Drought Impact Types:

-  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

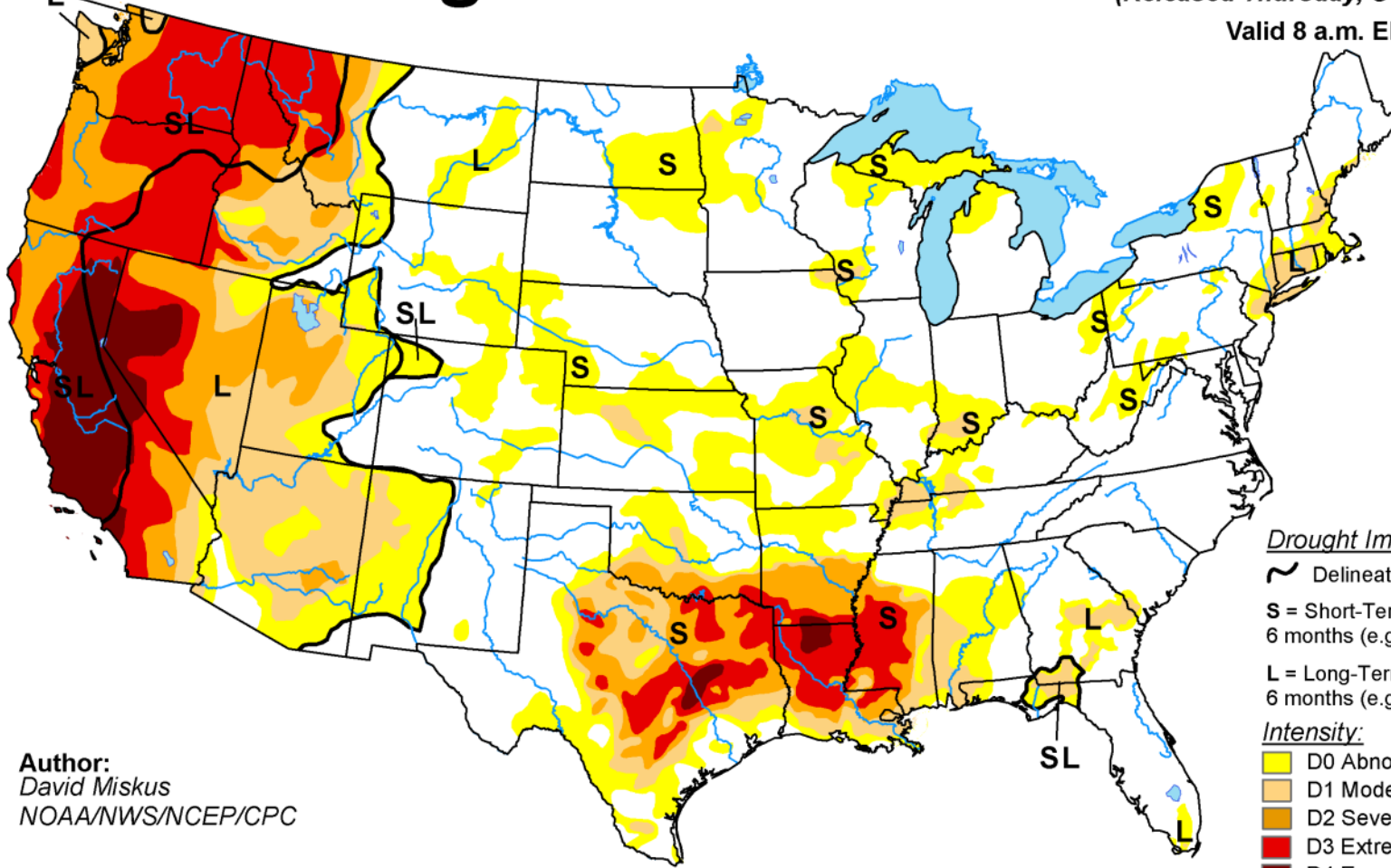
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



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

# U.S. Drought Monitor

October 13, 2015  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

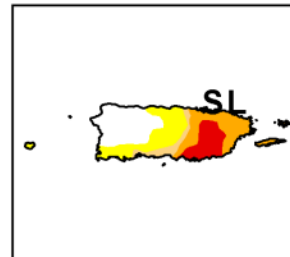
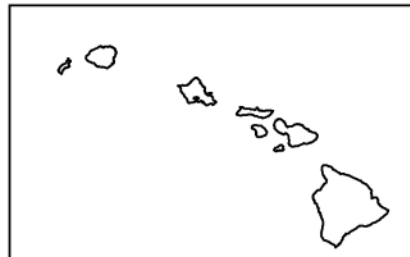
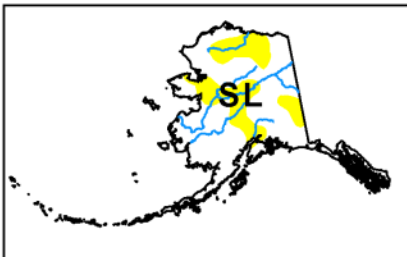
### Drought Impact Types:

- 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.



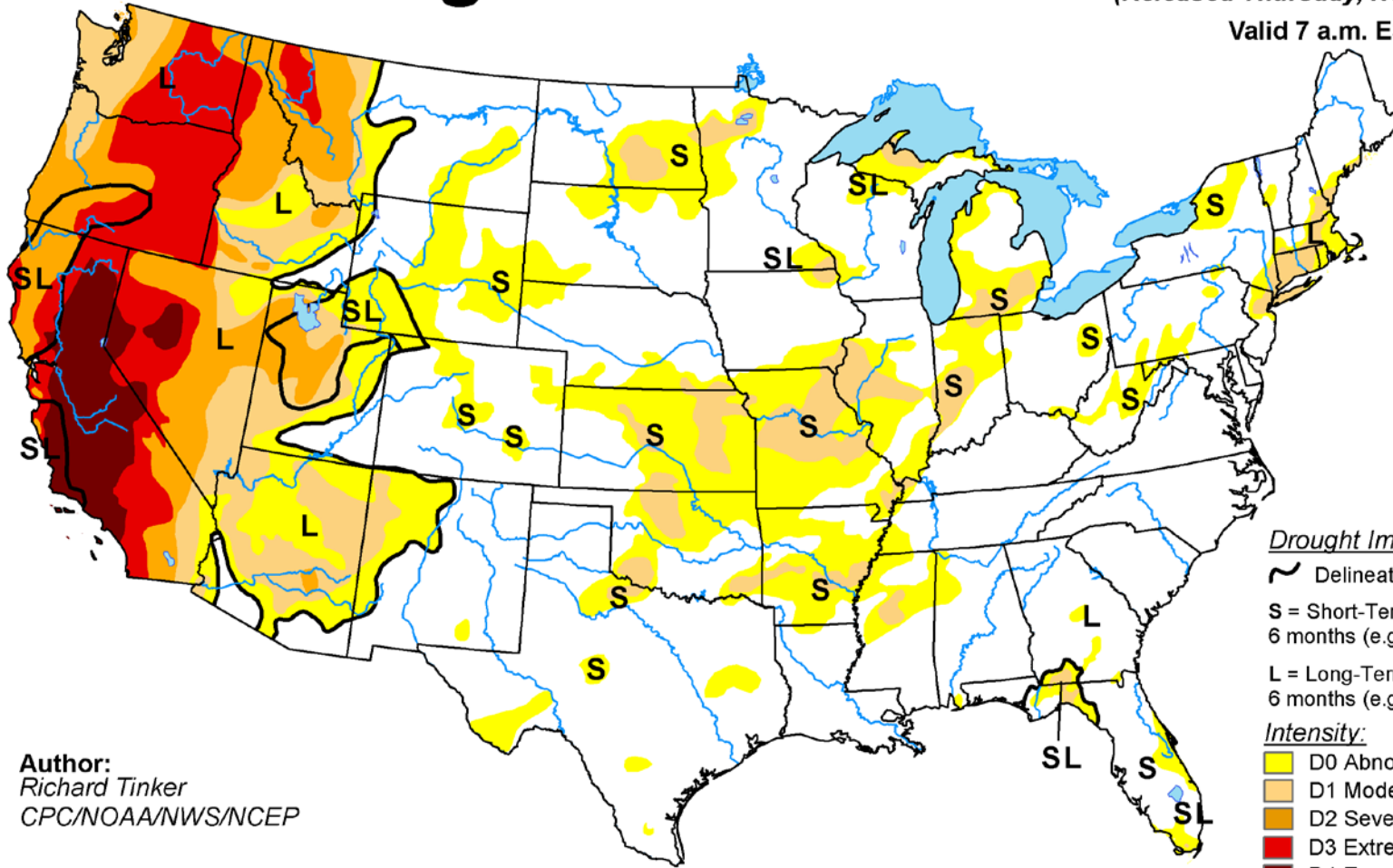
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



# U.S. Drought Monitor

November 10, 2015  
(Released Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:  
Richard Tinker  
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

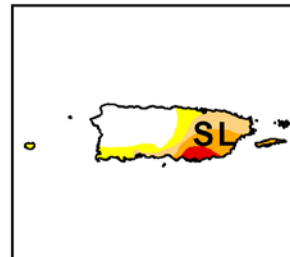
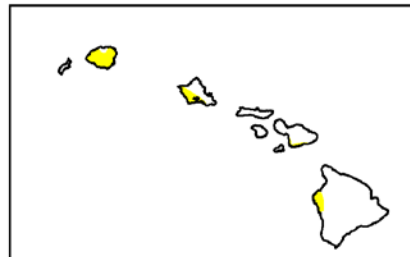
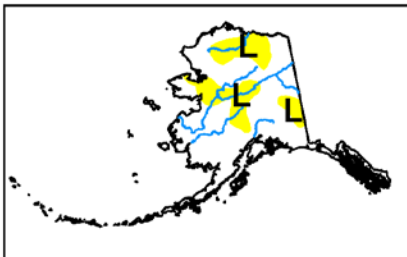
### Drought Impact Types:

- ~ 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.

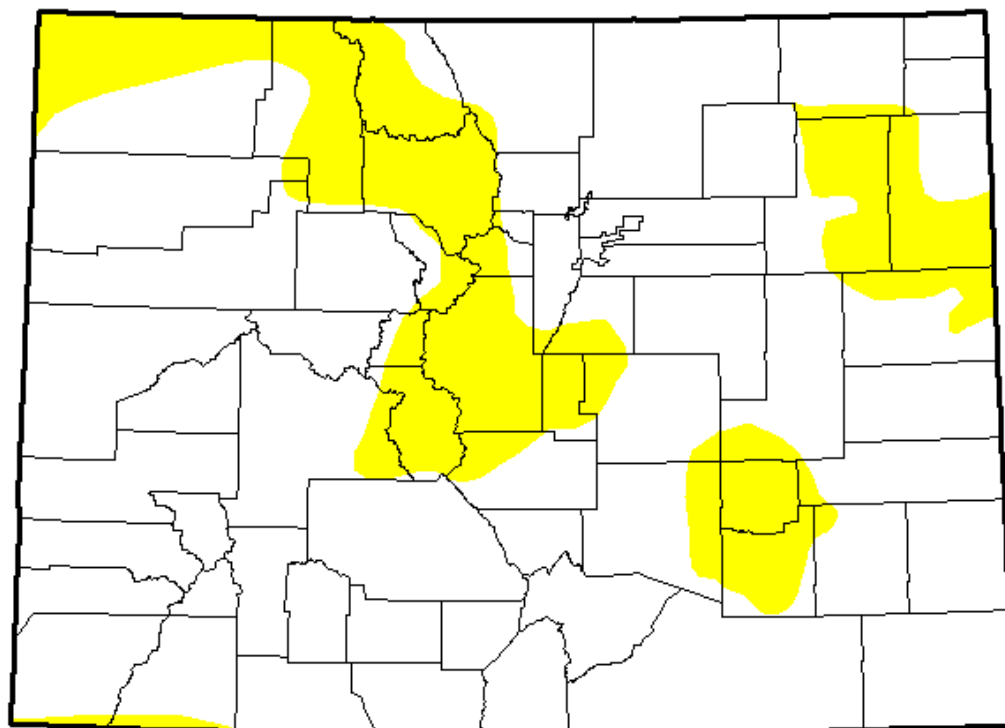


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# U.S. Drought Monitor

## Colorado

**November 10, 2015**  
 (Released Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015)  
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	79.91	20.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>11/3/2015</i>	71.27	28.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>8/11/2015</i>	97.96	2.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12/30/2014</i>	69.87	30.13	21.26	12.26	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>9/29/2015</i>	71.49	28.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>11/11/2014</i>	70.00	30.00	21.26	12.26	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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

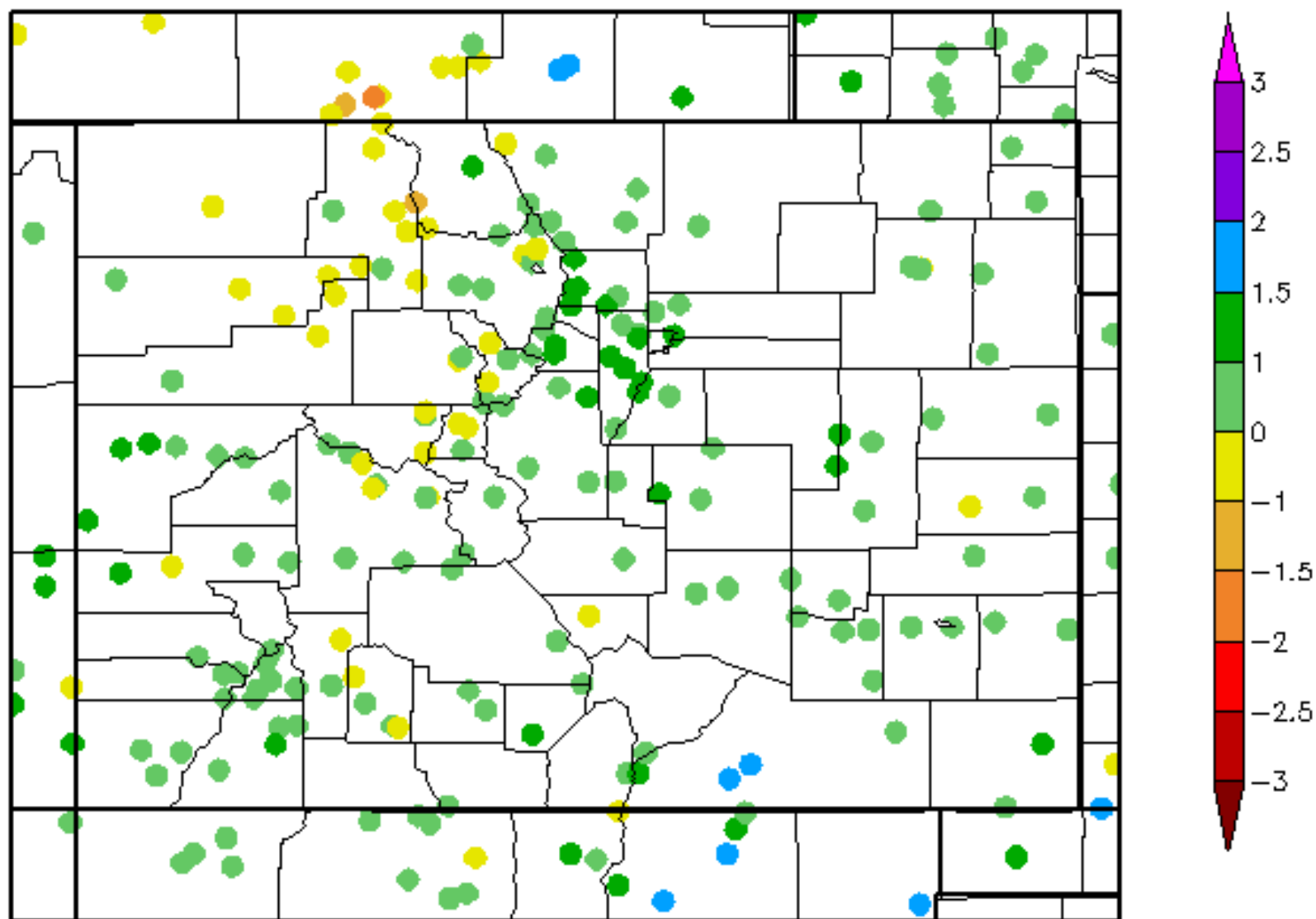
*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

**Author:**  
 Richard Tinker  
 CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



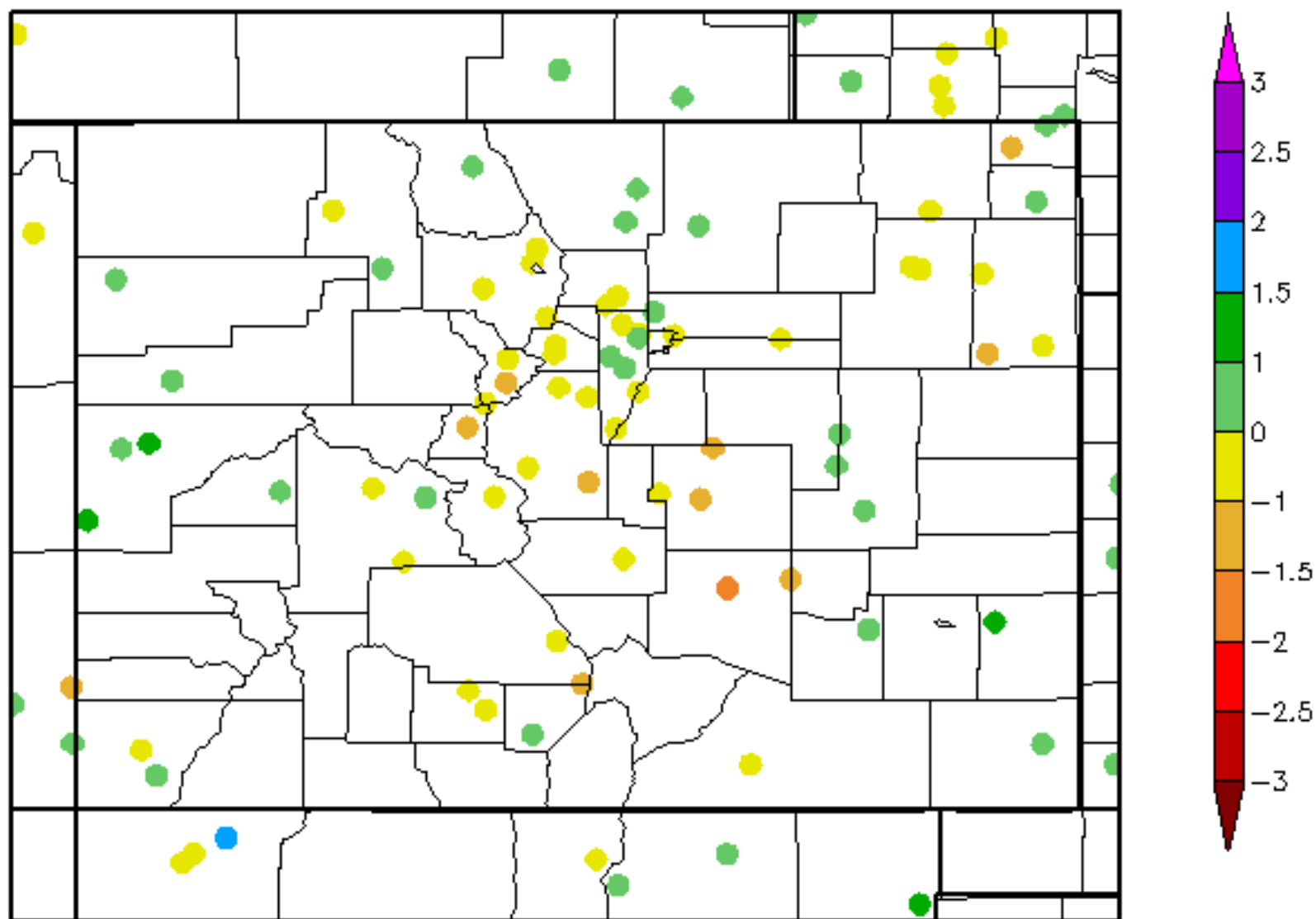
# Monthly SPI

10/1/2015 - 10/31/2015



# 90 Day SPI

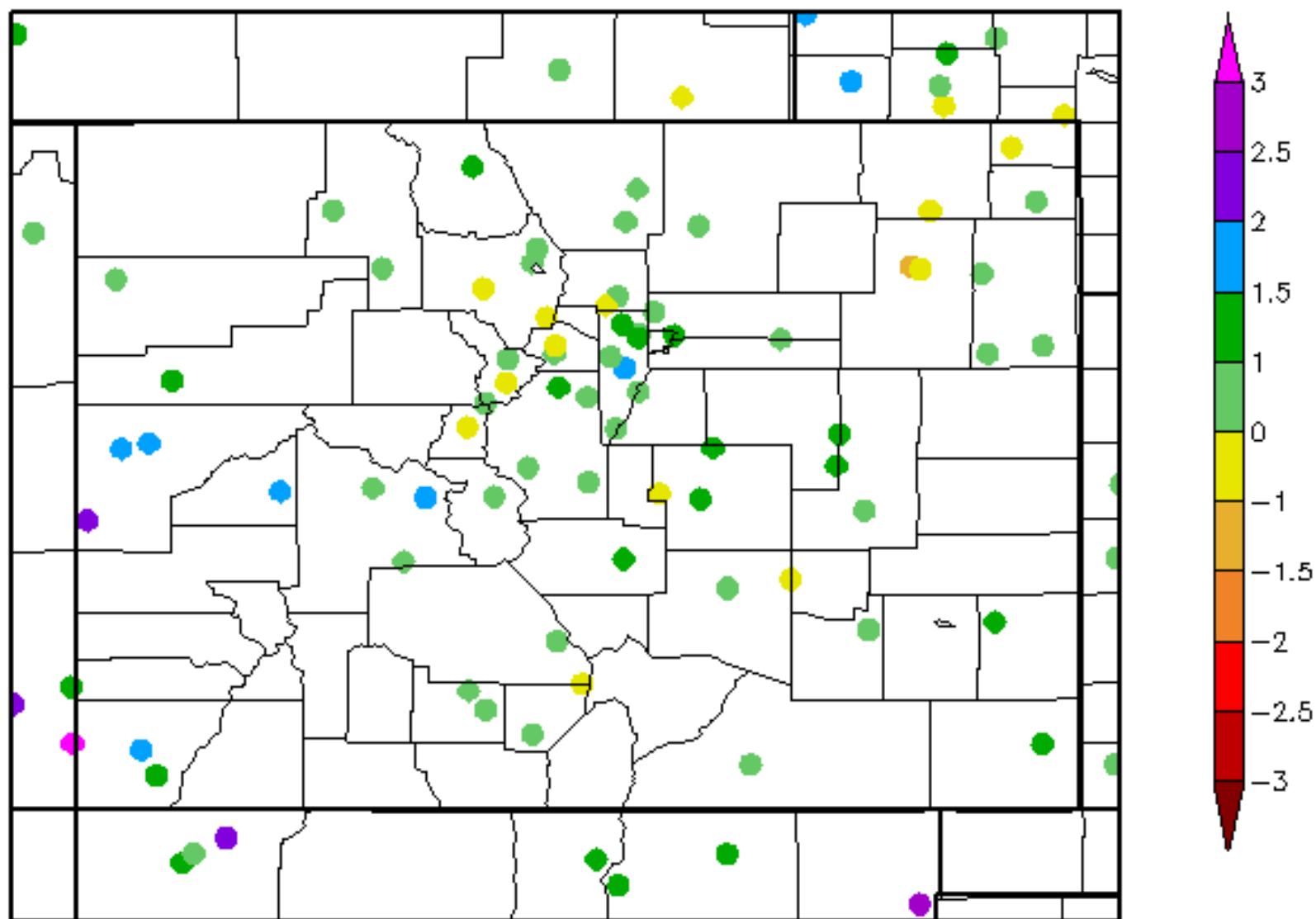
8/18/2015 - 11/15/2015





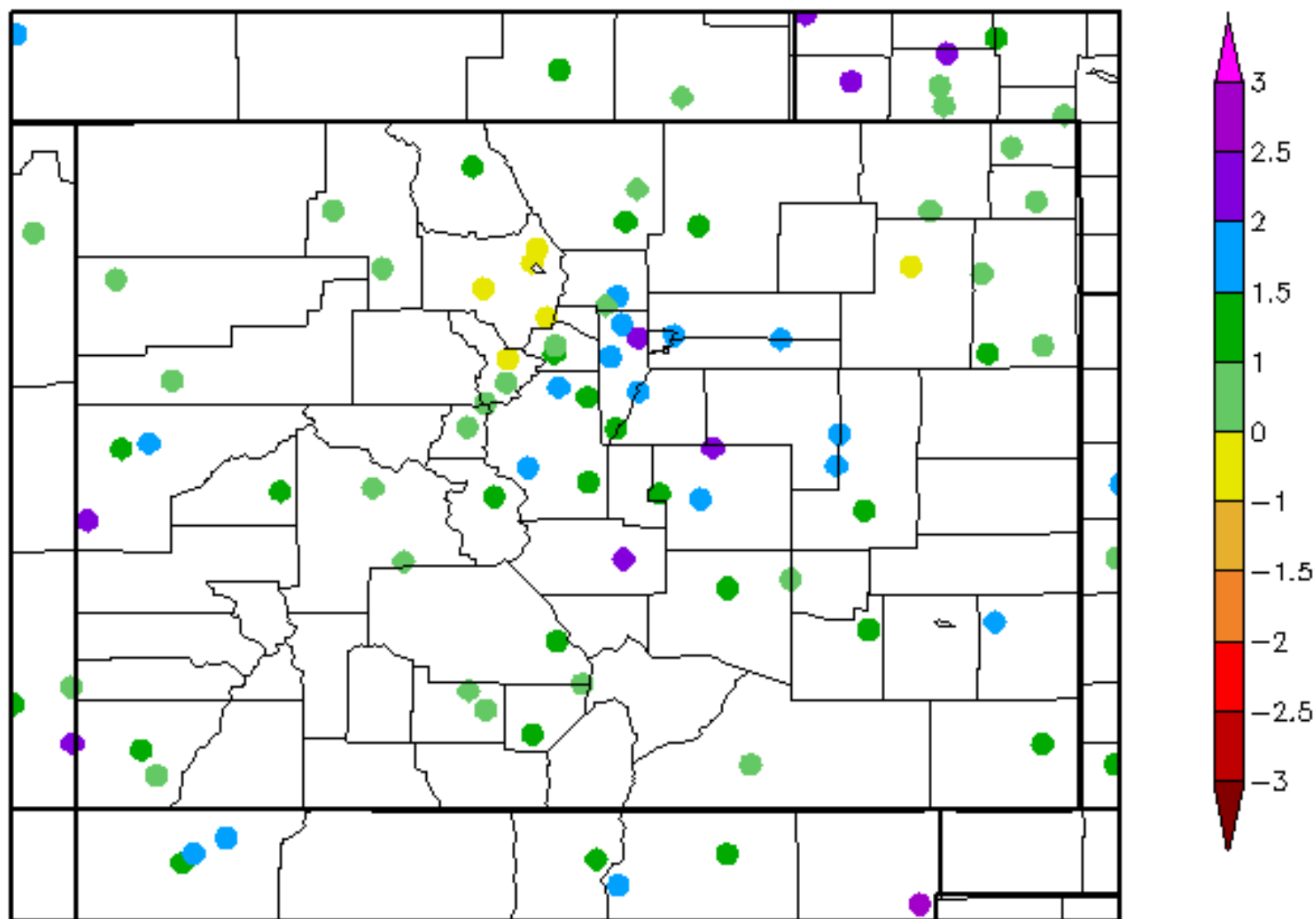
# 6 Month SPI

5/16/2015 - 11/15/2015



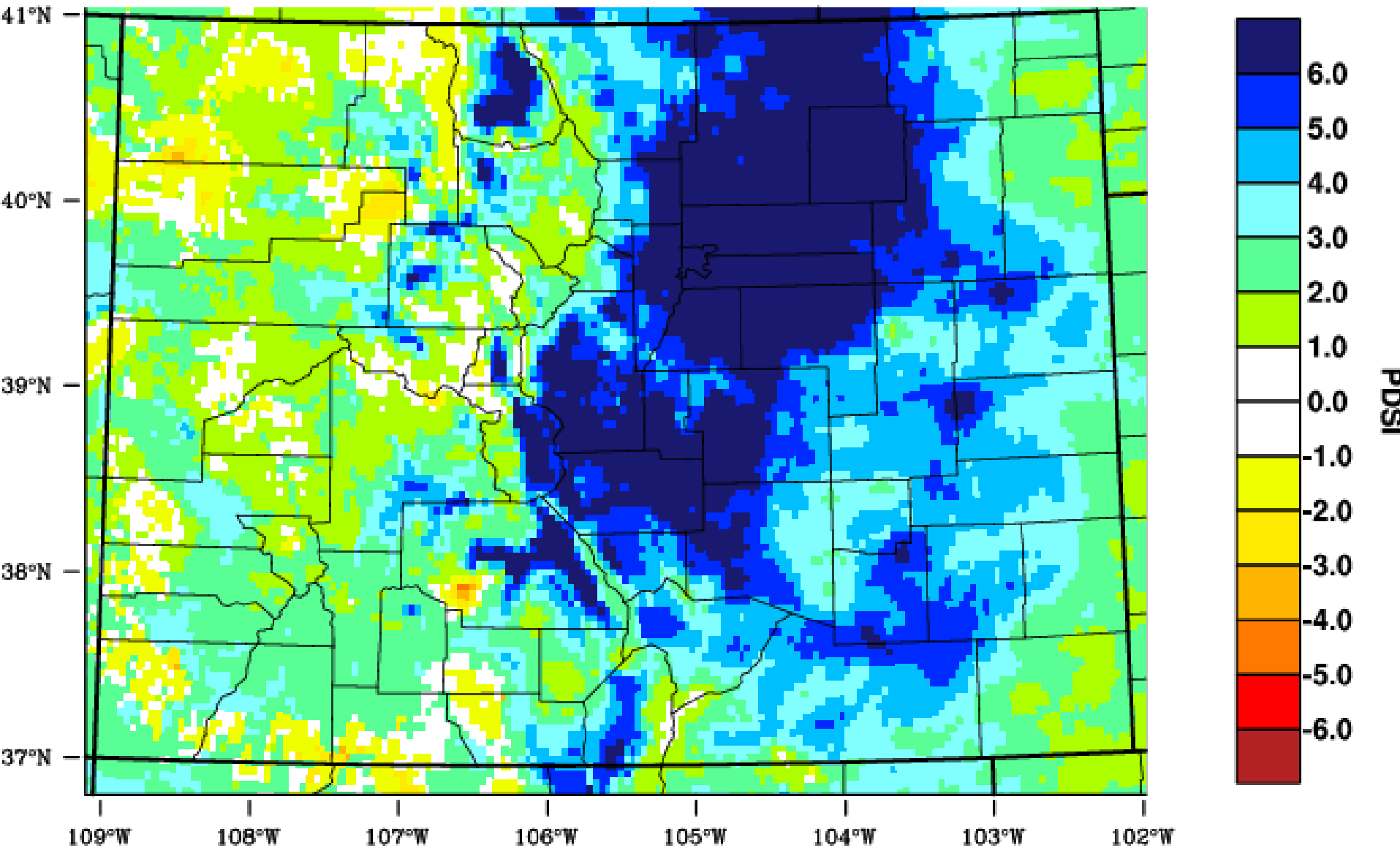
# 12 Month SPI

11/16/2014 - 11/15/2015



# Colorado - PDSI

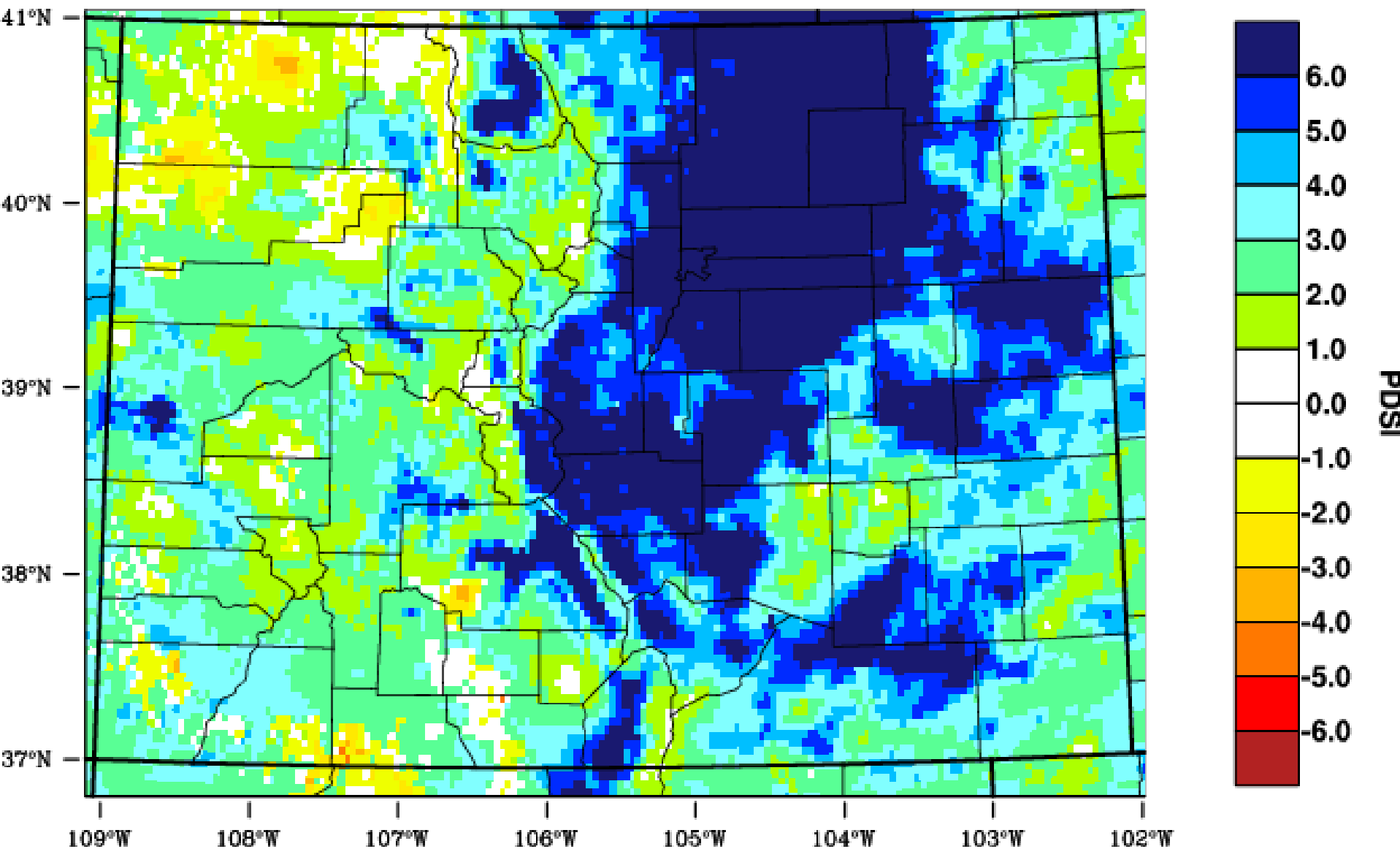
June 2015



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

# Colorado - PDSI

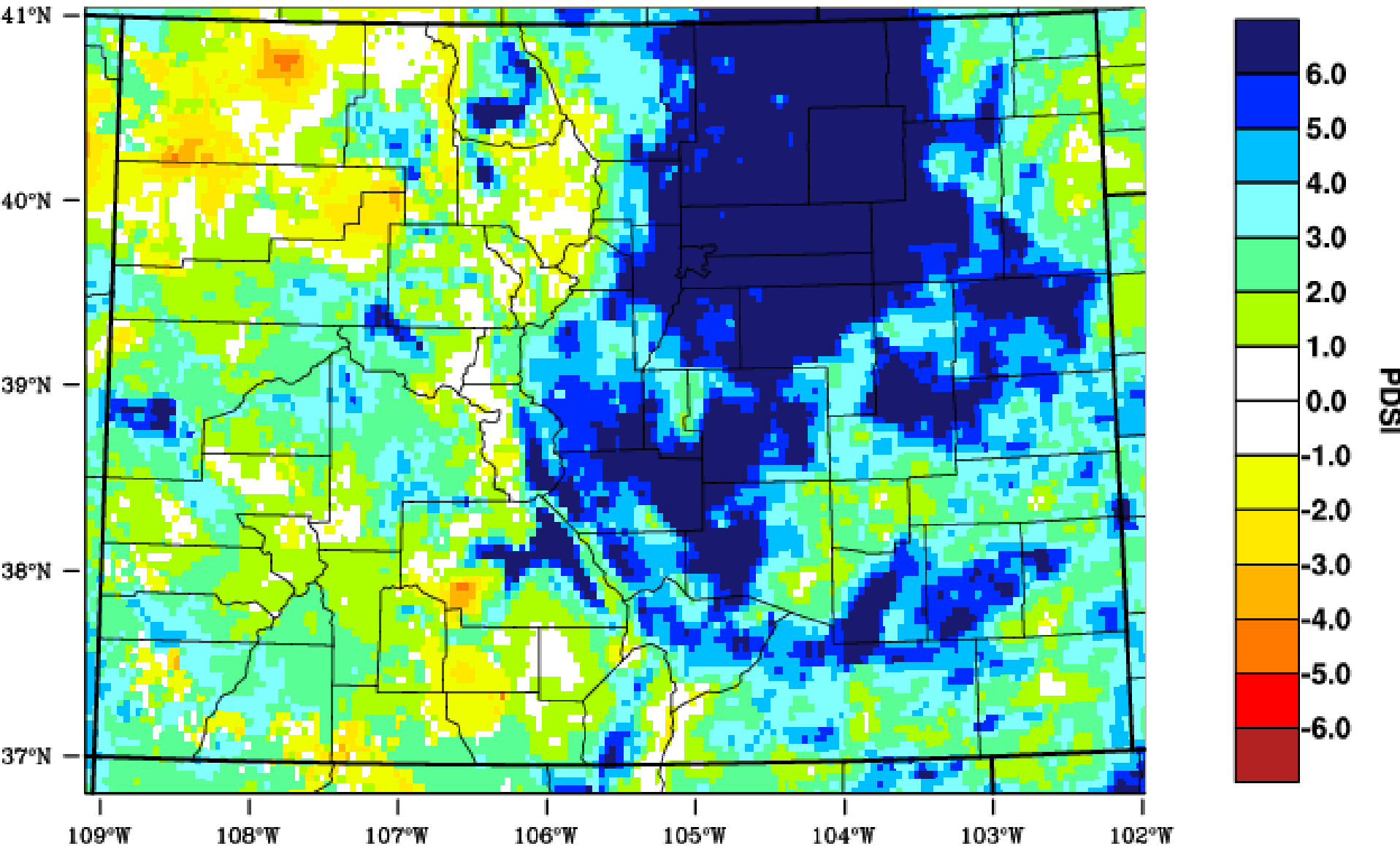
July 2015



WestWide Drought Tracker - WRCC/UI Data Source - PRISM (Prelim), created 6 AUG 2015

# Colorado - PDSI

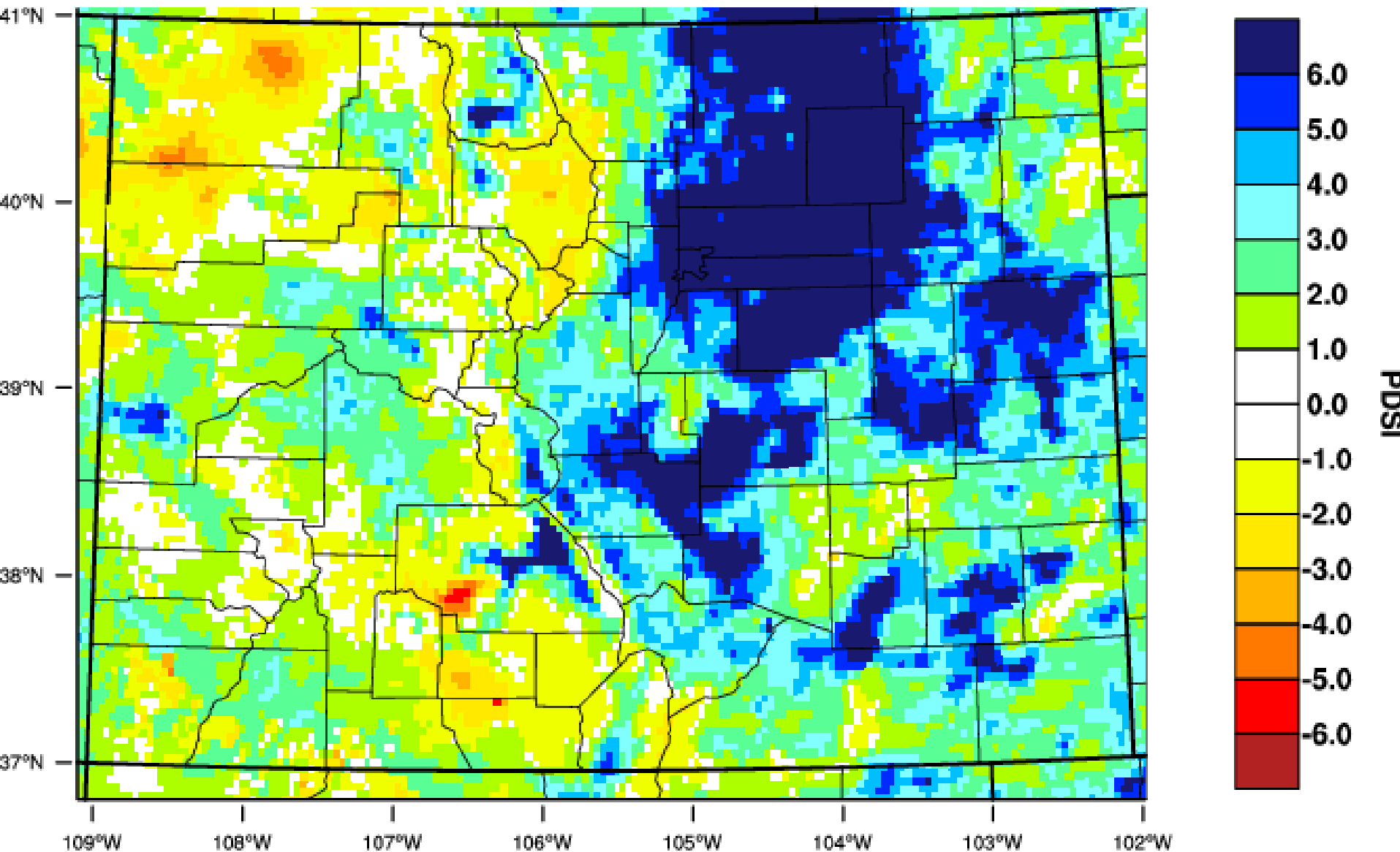
August 2015



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

# Colorado - PDSI

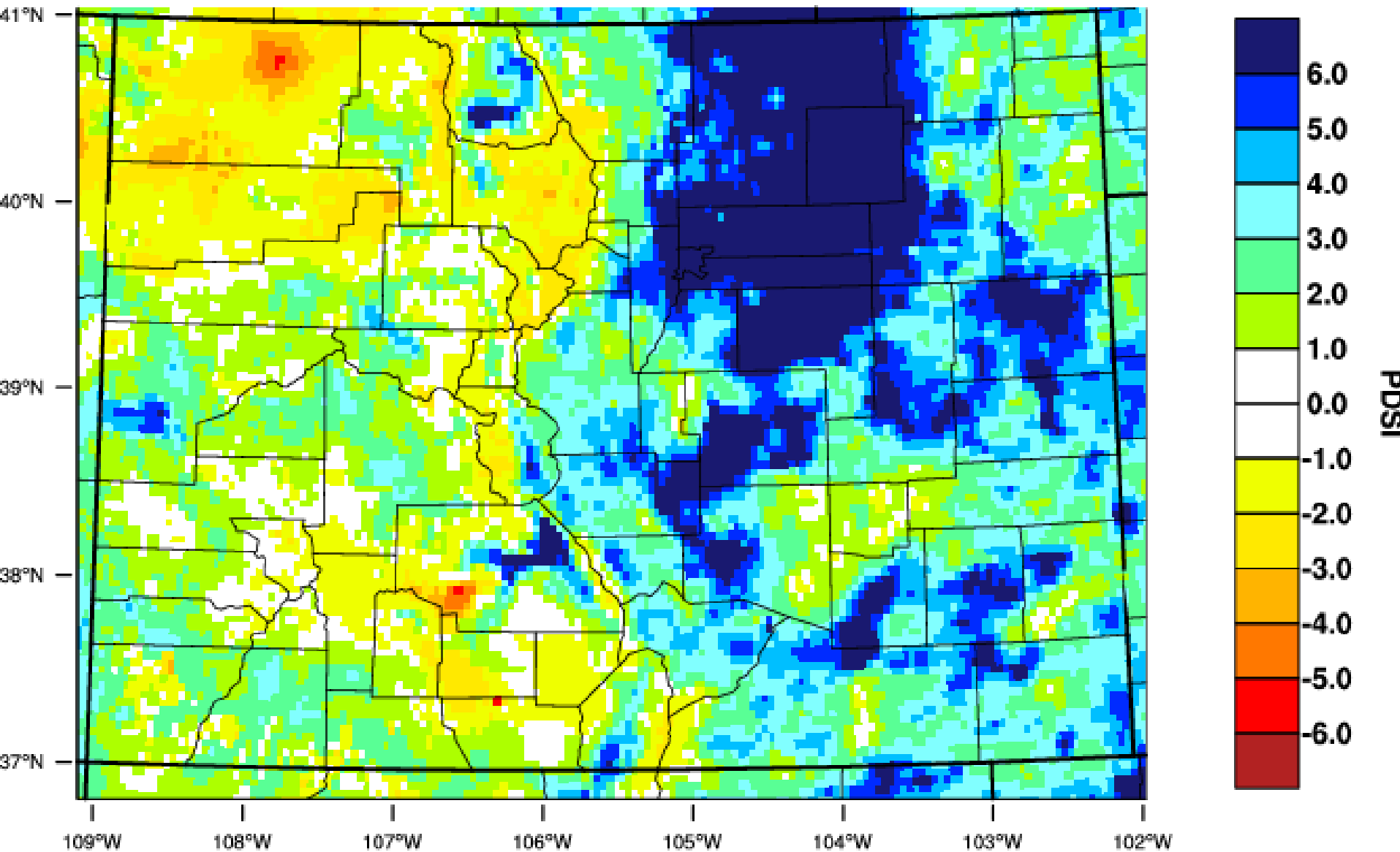
## September 2015



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

# Colorado - PDSI

October 2015



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

# Colorado Climate Center

Data and Power Point Presentations available for downloading

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

