US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG
Northwestern Division

Missouri River Basin Water Management Monthly Conference Calls Press Kit

US Army Corps of Engineers®
Northwestern Division

Brigadier General John S. Kem
Commander and Division Engineer

Brigadier General John S. Kem assumed command of the Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on July 15, 2013. In this position, he oversees an annual program of more than $3 billion in civil works, environmental restoration, and military construction in more than a dozen states, primarily within the Columbia and Missouri river basins.

As Division Commander, he is responsible for providing guidance and direction to five operating district commands located in Portland, OR, Seattle, WA, Walla Walla, WA, Kansas City, MO, and Omaha, NE, with a combined professional workforce of nearly 4,800. Key missions include managing the nation's water resources infrastructure for economic growth and environmental sustainability, timely response to natural disasters, support to military installations and civilian communities throughout the region, and strengthening national security.

BG Kem was born in Chicago and commissioned in the Corps of Engineers after graduating in 1985 as a distinguished cadet from the US Military Academy with a BS in civil engineering. As a junior officer, he served in the 16th Engineer BN, 1st Armored Division and in the 1st Squadron, 1st US Cavalry as the Patrol Leader for the VII Corps team that won the 1988 Boeselager NATO Cavalry Cup. From 1989-1993 he served in the 307th En BN, 82nd Airborne Division, including service during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

From 1993-1995, BG Kem attended the Kellogg Business School, Northwestern University with follow-on duty as an assistant professor of economics in the Department of Social Sciences at West Point. From 1998-2000, he served as the S3, 10th Engineer Battalion at Fort Stewart, GA and later as the Engineer Brigade S3. In 2001, he was selected for a Congressional Fellowship and served for one year as a staff fellow on the US Senate Appropriations Committee, Subcommittees on Defense and Military Construction, followed by service as a Congressional Budget Liaison in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller).

From June 2003-June 2005, he commanded the 16th Armored Engineer BN, 1st Armored Division, and led the battalion for 13 months during combat operations in Baghdad and Karbala, Iraq. After command, he served as a military assistant and speech writer for the Secretary of the Army and later as the XO to the Director, Joint IED Defeat Organization.

From 2008-2011, BG Kem commanded the Europe District of the Army Corps of Engineers, responsible for construction and engineering support for EUCOM and AFRICOM. From 2011 to 2012, he was deployed to Afghanistan as the Director of Engineering, NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, and responsible for a $10.5 billion program to build facilities for the Afghan Army and Police.

BG Kem holds an MBA from Kellogg Business School and a MS in Environmental Engineering from Northwestern University. His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Senior Parachutist Wings, Pathfinder Badge, Combat Action Badge and Ranger Tab. He is a registered Professional Engineer (VA) and a Chartered Financial Analyst.

BG Kem is married and has three children.

US Army Corps of Engineers ®
Omaha District

Col. Joel R. Cross
Commander, Omaha District

Col. Joel R. Cross became the Commander of the Omaha District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, July 31, 2012.

He oversees a more than $1 billion program spread over 1,200 military construction projects in eight states, civil works projects in nine states, and environmental restoration projects in 41 states. The Omaha District workforce of about 1,300 civilian men and women contribute to the operation of six mainstem dams on the Missouri River, as well as 21 tributary dams for congressionally-authorized purposes. The district also provides regulatory and real estate services that benefit the Nation. Within the 700,000- square-mile boundary of the Omaha District, Cross also oversees the design and construction of facilities for the Army and Air Force, the cleanup of hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste sites for the Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency.

He previously served in the Omaha District from May 2005 to June 2007 as Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff, assisting the then Commander in executing a $550 million budget.

Cross comes to the district from a tour of duty in Iraq where he served as the lead engineer for the Office of Security Cooperation in Baghdad. He oversaw an $800 million construction program focused on building necessary infrastructure for Iraq's Ministries of Interior and Defense.

Cross received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant from the University of Vermont in 1990. He entered federal service in Fort Campbell, Ky., later that year where he served in the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault. His numerous military assignments include tours of duty in Germany, Missouri, Texas, Washington, D.C., Rhode Island, Virginia, Nebraska and three tours in Iraq. During his career he has served in various command and staff roles from platoon leader through battalion commander.

Born in Danvers, Mass., in 1966, Cross grew up in rural Vermont. He graduated from Lamoille Union High School in 1984 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Vermont in 1990. In 2001, he received a masters of arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College, in 2003, he received a master's of science degree in Engineering Management and Industrial Engineering from the University of Alabama and in 2011 he received a master's of science degree in National Security and Strategic Resourcing from the National Defense University.

He is an active member in the Society of American Military Engineers and is a registered Project Management Professional since 2007.

US Army Corps of Engineers ®
Kansas City District

Biography

Colonel Andrew D. Sexton

Commander and District Engineer

Colonel Andrew Sexton enlisted into the Army on active duty as a 12B, Combat Engineer in 1984. During his enlisted service he held a variety of positions from demolitions specialist to squad leader while serving with the 23d, 8th, 113th, and 391st Engineer Battalions.

He was commissioned into the Army Corps of Engineers from Wofford College ROTC in 1990 and subsequently earned his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina in 1991.

Colonel Sexton has served in a variety of command and staff positions. After attending the Engineer Officer's Basic Course, he served as a platoon leader, task force engineer, and brigade engineer with the 307th Engineer Battalion, 82d Airborne Division.

After graduating from the Engineer Officer's Advanced Course in 1995, he commanded D Co, 58th Transportation Battalion. He was then afforded the opportunity to command his second company, HHC, 577th Engineer Battalion and the Regiment's Sapper Leader Course. Beginning in 1999 Colonel Sexton served as the principal Engineer trainer and advisor to the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, TN ARNG. He then served as the Operations Officer for the Eighth US Army Engineers in South Korea. He served as the Assistant Division Engineer, 82d Airborne Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom and then as the Battalion Executive Officer, 307th Engineer Battalion. Colonel Sexton was then selected to serve in the Army's Personnel Exchange Program with the United Kingdom. He was a Senior Instructor in the Royal School of Military Engineering, Brompton Barracks, England. Colonel Sexton served as the Commander of the 35th Engineer Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and was responsible for the initial military training of over 15,000 enlisted Combat Engineers and Combat Bridge Crewmembers. In 2010 he returned to the 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg to serve as the Division Engineer. During this assignment he deployed to Afghanistan to serve as the Regional Command South Engineer and as the Chief of the Regional Command's Counter IED staff. Colonel Sexton's most recent assignment was to the U.S. Marine Corps University where he attended the Marine Corps War College and earned a master's degree in Strategic Studies.

Colonel Sexton's military education also includes the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Combined Services Staff College, the Sapper Leader Course, Ranger School, and Jumpmaster School. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, and the Bronze Order of the DeFleury Medal.

Colonel Sexton is a native of South Bend, Ind., where he married his wife of 25 years, Jennifer. Together they have two daughters.

Current as of July 2013

US Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Northwestern Division

Jody Farhat

Chief, Water Management Division

Jody Farhat has served as the Chief of the Missouri River Basin Water Management office since May 2009. Her office, which is part of the Corps of Engineers' Northwestern Division, is located in Omaha, Nebraska. She and her staff regulate the six Corps' dams on the main stem of the Missouri River to serve the Congressionally authorized project purposes. Jody has spent the past 22 years of her career working in all aspects of Missouri River Water Management. Prior to coming to the Northwestern Division, she worked in the Hydrologic Engineering Branch of the Corps' Omaha District.

Jody is native of Iowa, and has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Iowa. She is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Nebraska.

US Army Corps of Engineers.

Kevin D. Stamm

Senior Hydraulic Engineer

Since October 2009, Kevin Stamm has served as a senior hydraulic engineer on the Reservoir Regulation Team for the Missouri River Basin Water Management office in the Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. As a senior hydraulic engineer, Kevin is involved in the development of daily and monthly Missouri River forecasts, and is responsible for the development of technical guidance for the regulation of the Missouri River Main Stem Reservoir System.

Prior to joining the Missouri River Basin Water Management office, Kevin worked as a hydraulic engineer for eight years in the Hydrologic Engineering Branch of the Corps' Omaha District.

Kevin is a native of Kansas. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from Kansas State and a master's degree in agricultural engineering from Iowa State University. He is a licensed professional civil engineer in the State of Nebraska.

US Army Corps of Engineers.

Joel D. Knofczynski

Hydraulic Engineer

Joel Knofczynski has served as senior Hydraulic Engineer on the Power Production Team of the Missouri River Basin Water Management office since May 2009. He is a member of the team that regulates the six mainstem dams along the Missouri River to serve the eight Congressionally authorized project purposes.

Joel previously worked in the Hydrologic Engineering Branch of the Corps' Omaha District for 20 years.

He is native of Minnesota, and has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from South Dakota State University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Nebraska.

Dr. Dennis Todey

South Dakota State University

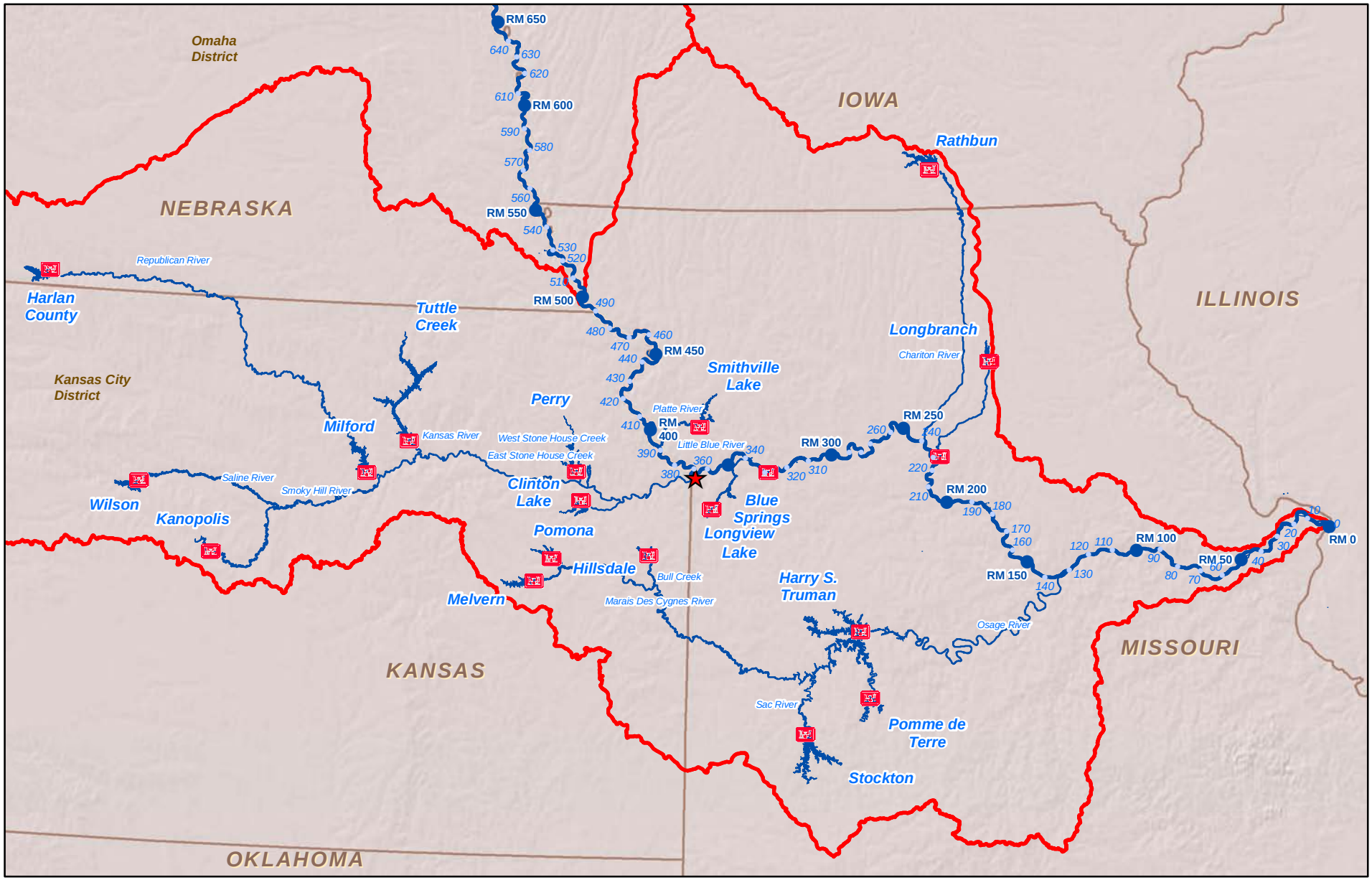
State and Extension Climatologist

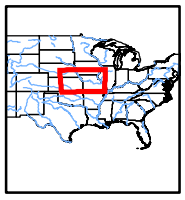
Dr. Dennis Todey is the state and extension climatologist for South Dakota. He has a background in climatology, meteorology and agricultural meteorology. He has been at SDSU since 2003.

Missouri River Main Stem System

Missouri River Watershed

USACE-NWK Projects



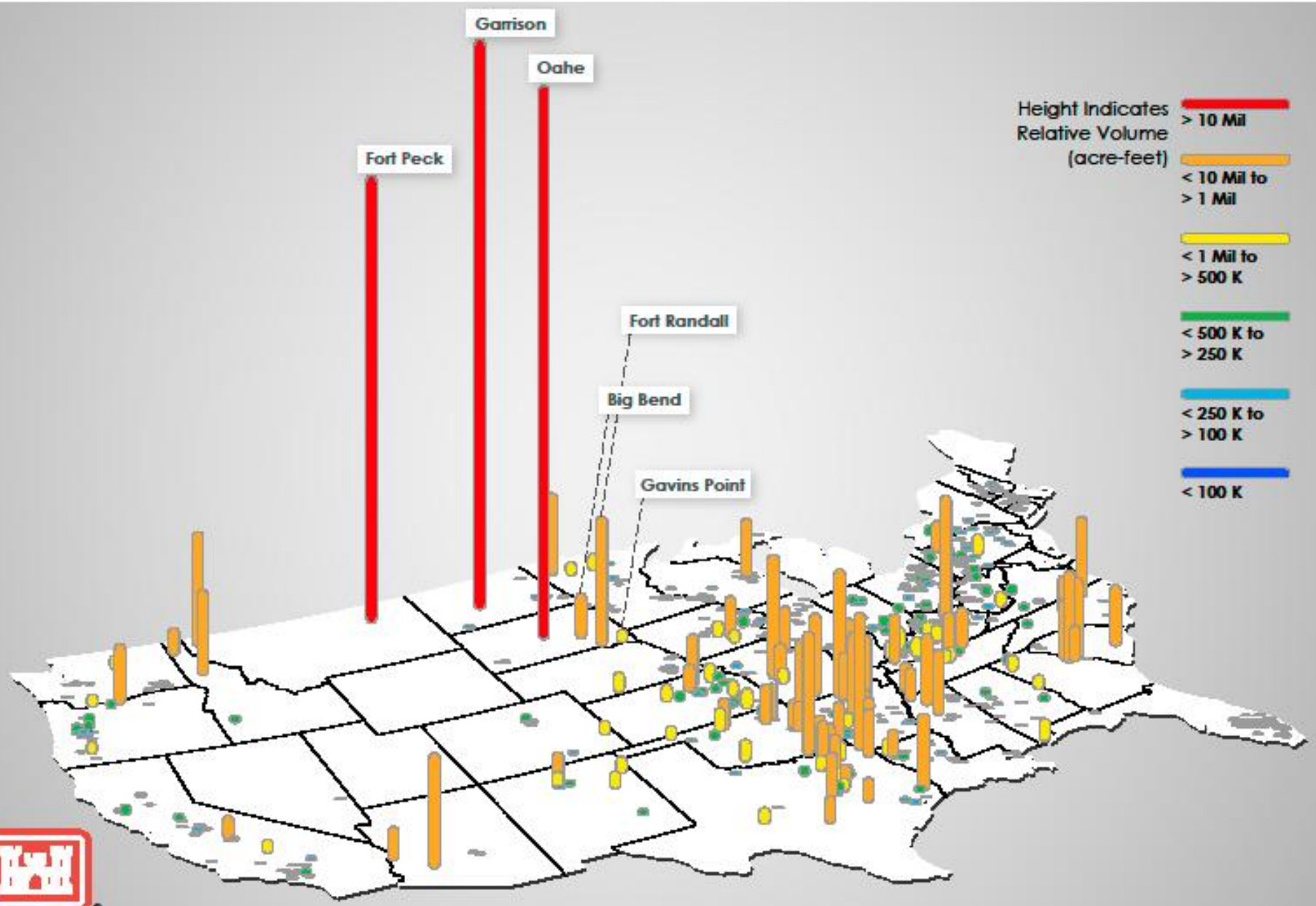


USACE Office Locations

- HQ
- Lake Office; Project Office

- NWK, NWO District Boundaries
- River Miles

Storage Capacity of Corps Reservoirs



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Prepared and Produced by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Omaha District 2010

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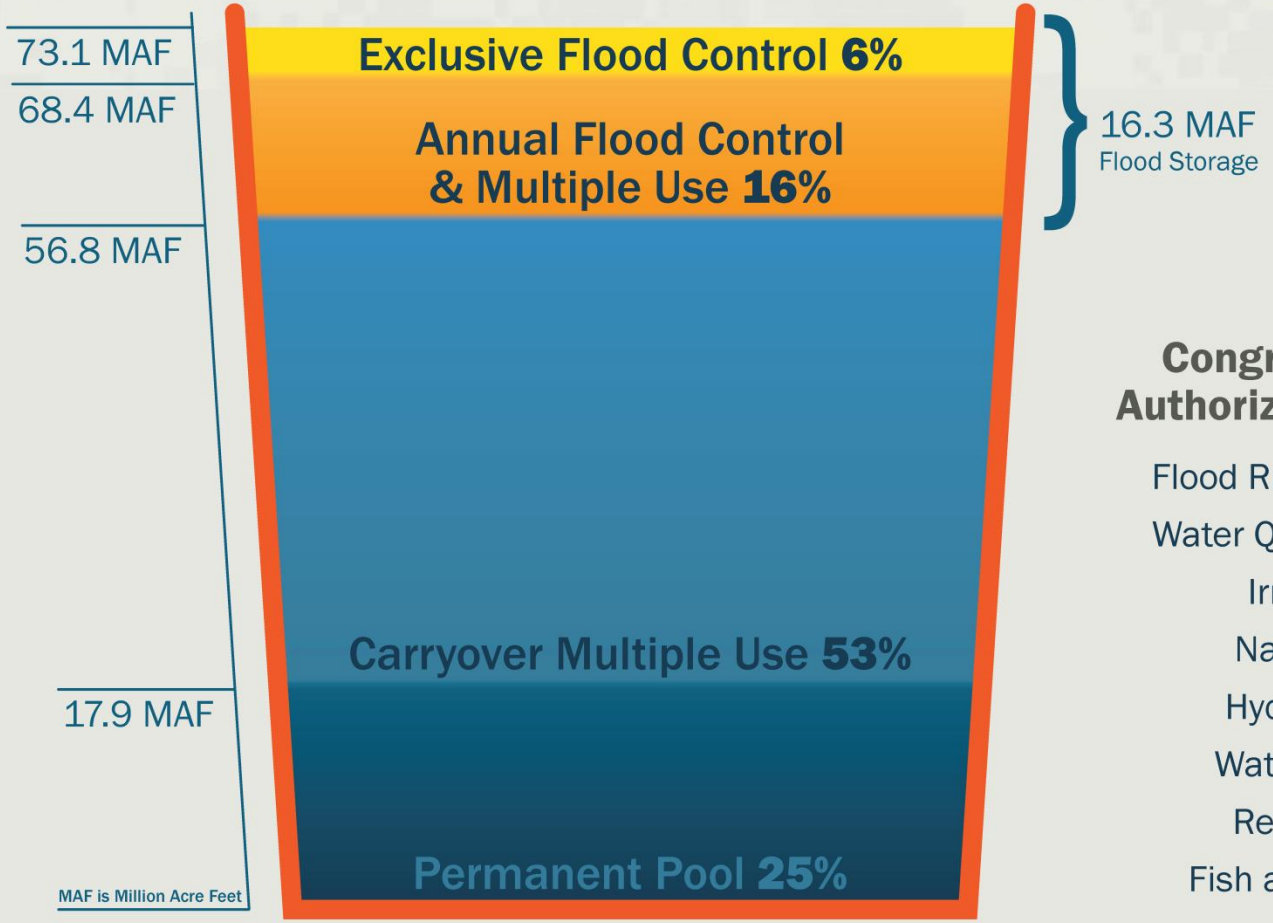
Missouri River
Main Stem Reservoir System

Zones & Allocations of the Total Storage Capacity



Congressionally Authorized Purposes

Flood Risk Reduction
Water Quality Control
Irrigation
Navigation
Hydropower
Water Supply
Recreation
Fish and Wildlife

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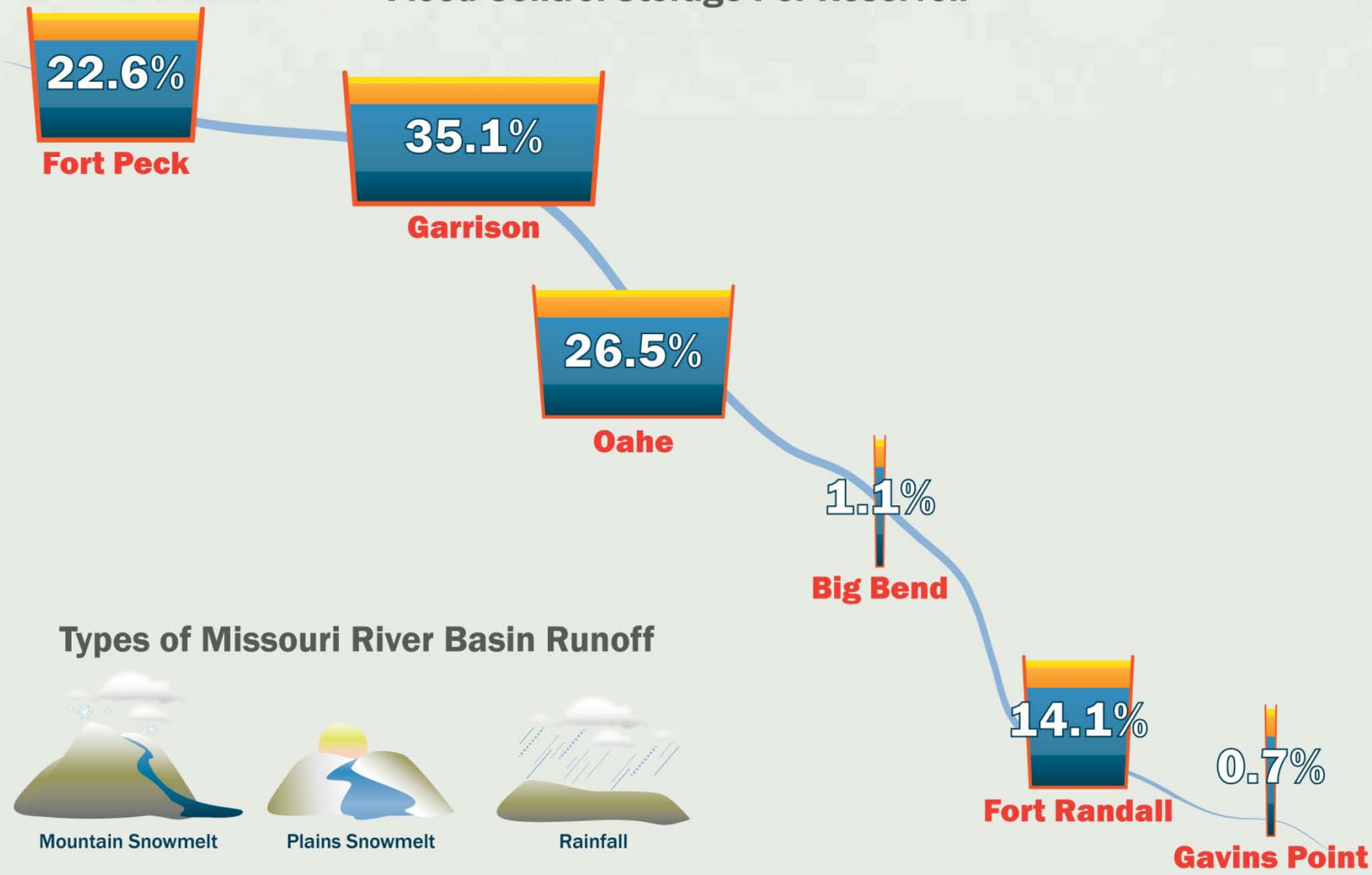
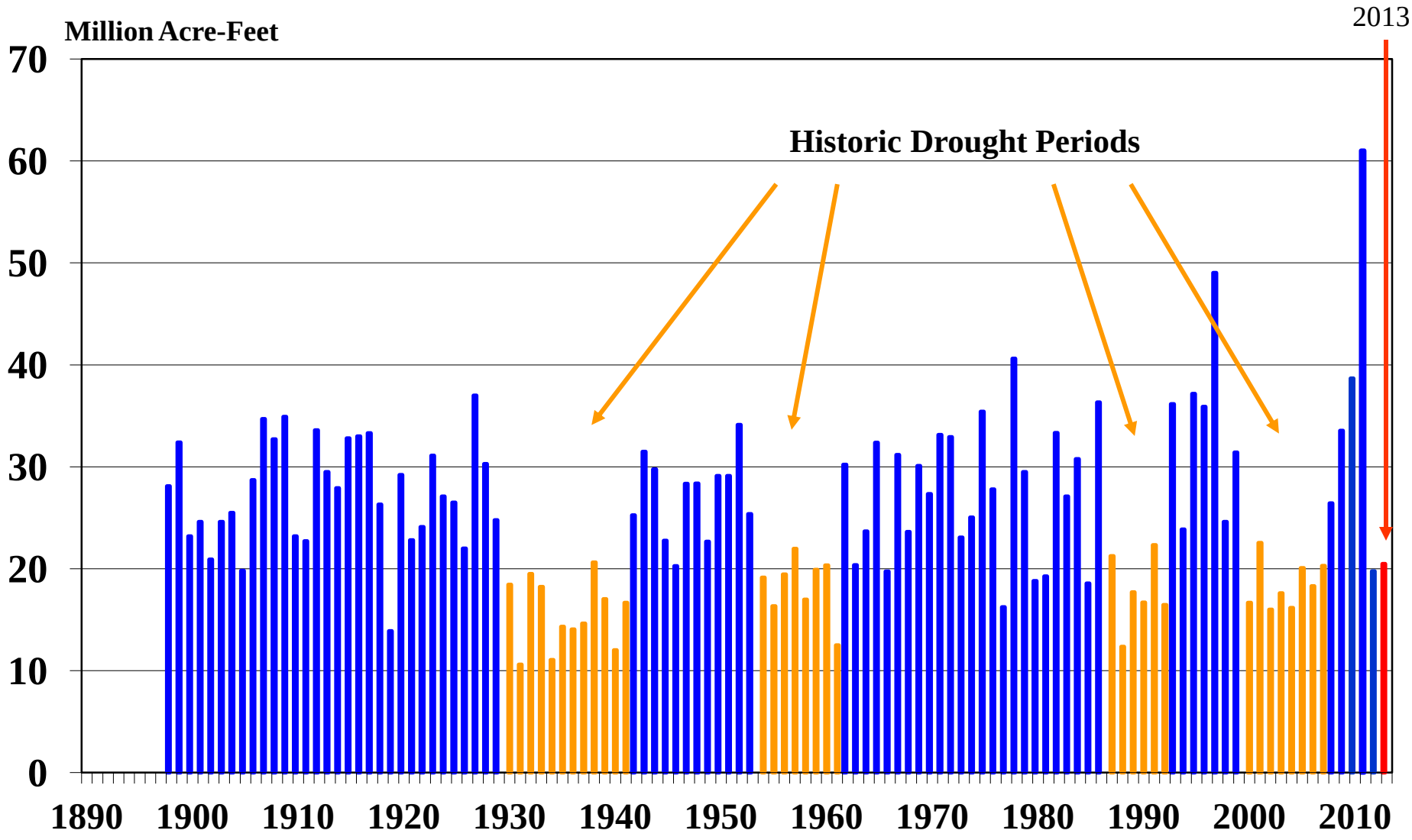
Missouri River
Mainstem Reservoir System

Total Percent of System
Flood Control Storage Per Reservoir



Types of Missouri River Basin Runoff

Missouri River Mainstem System
Annual Runoff above Sioux City, IA

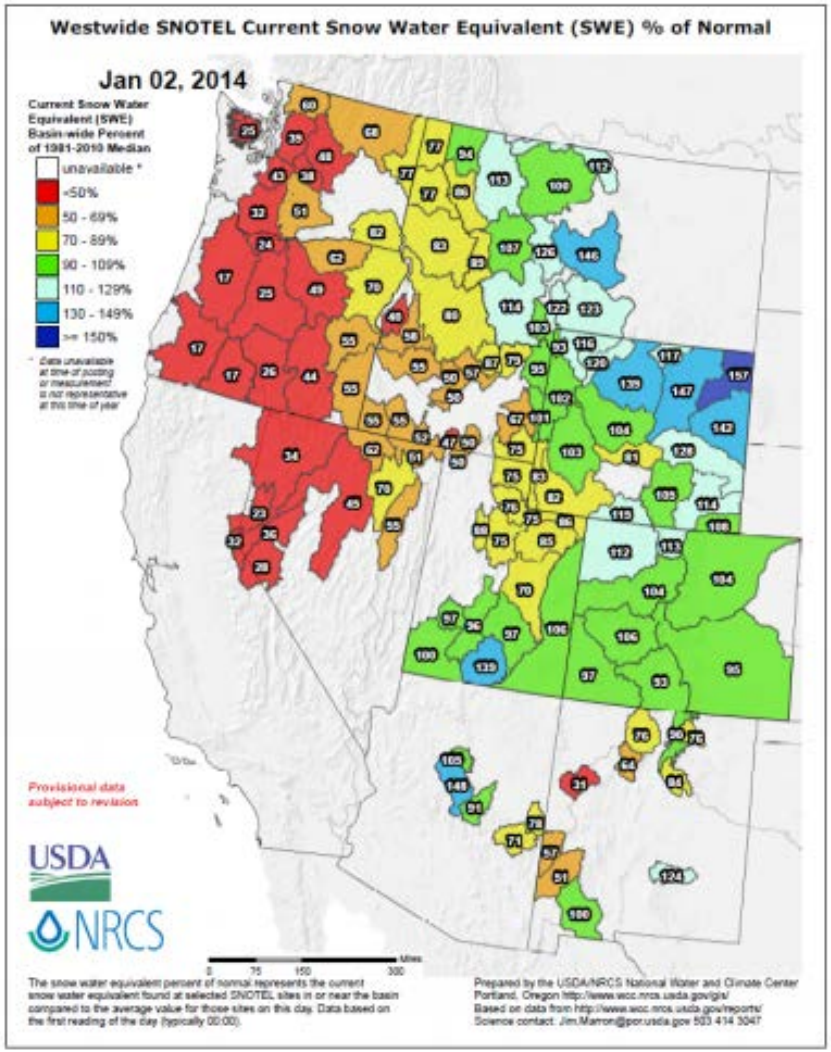


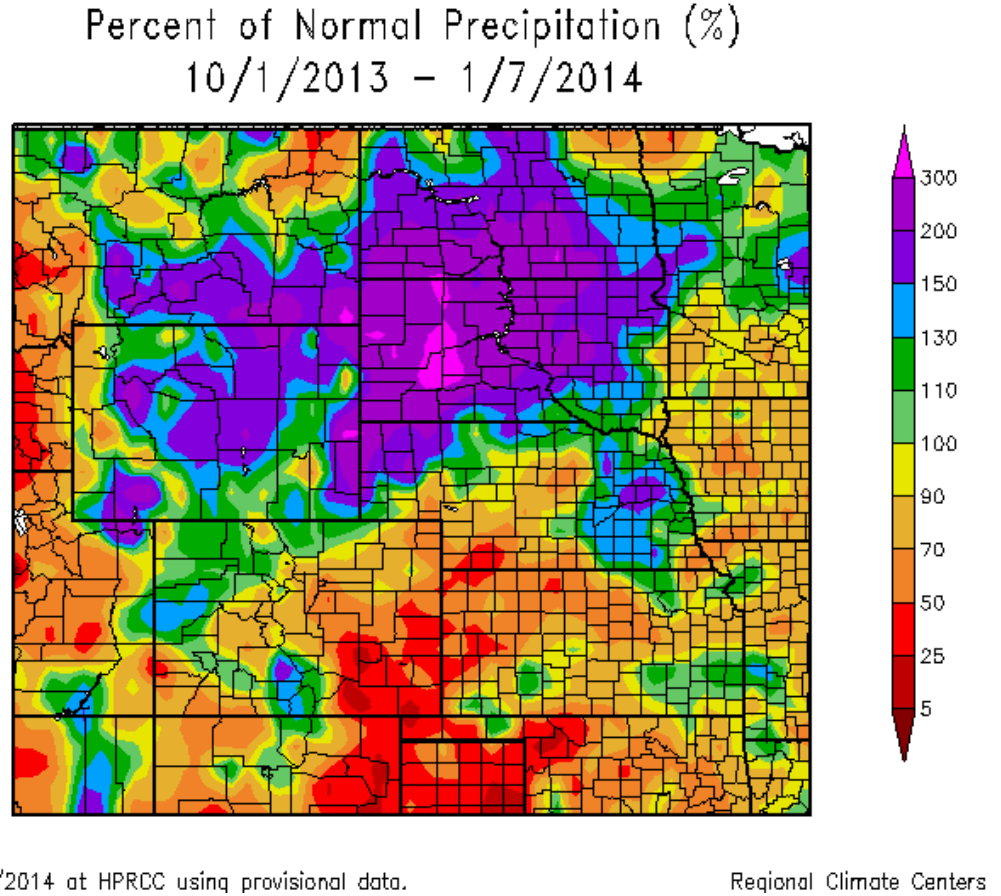
Key Points

* **Current Conditions**
  * Wet fall across much of the plains produced wet soils
  * Current mountain snow pack above average
  * Neutral ENSO conditions continue
  * Few current drought issues

* **Predictions**
  * Colder than average conditions likely in upper basin
  * Precipitation possibly above average lower in basin
  * Neutral ENSO with increasing El Nino chance by summer

Current Mountain Snow and Water Year Precipitation

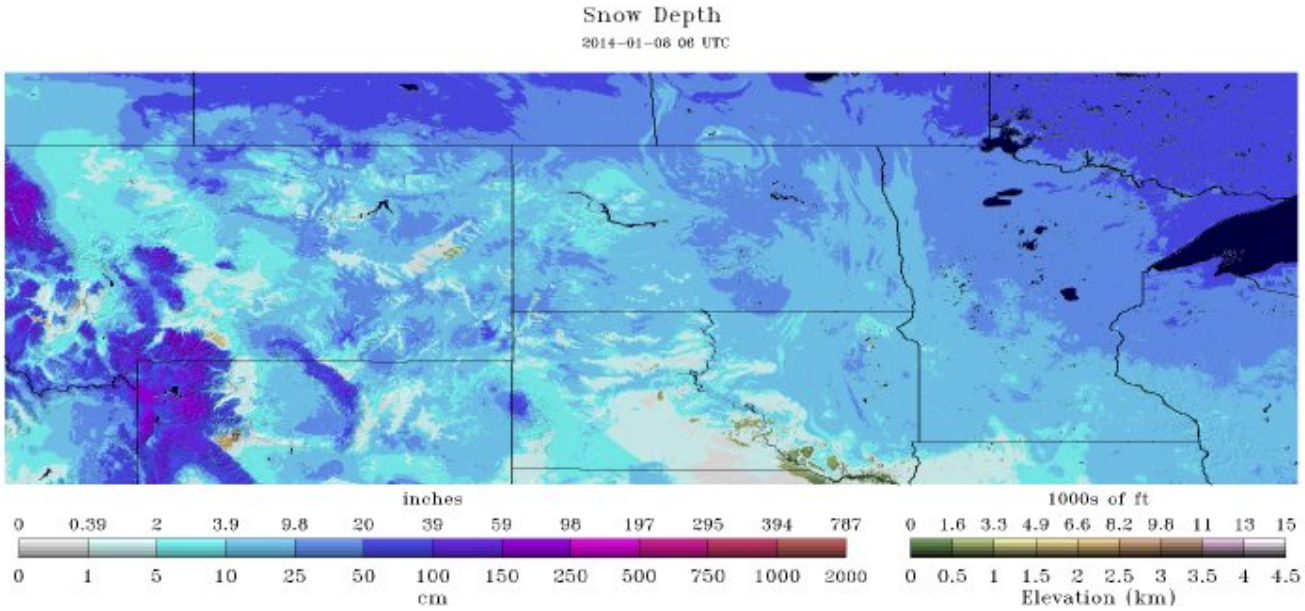


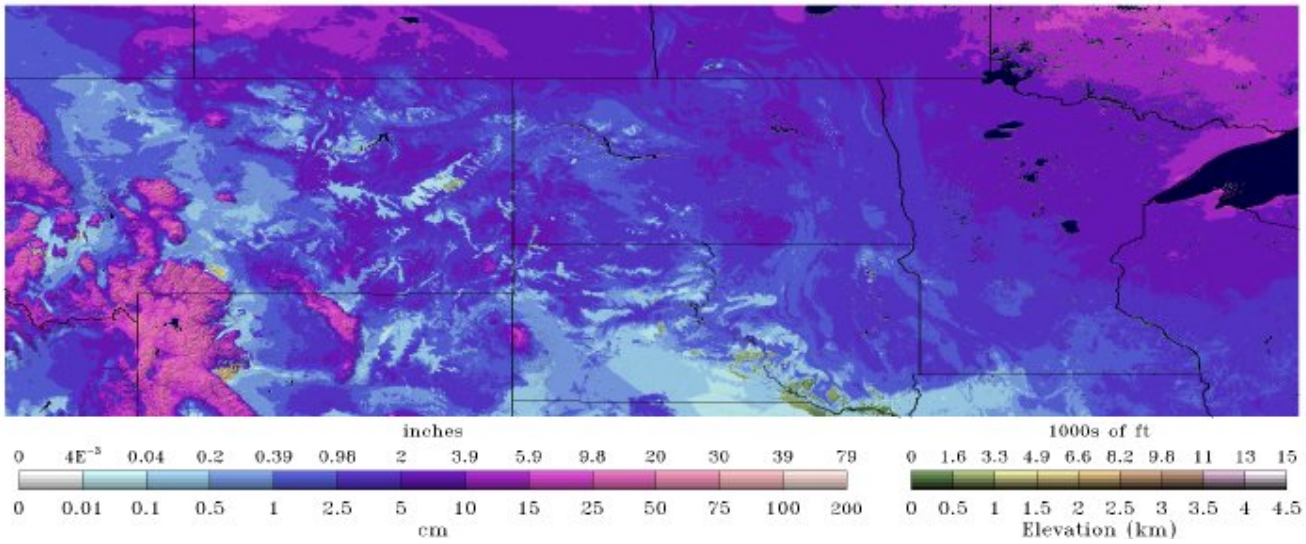


http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?

http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/water/drought/wdr.pl

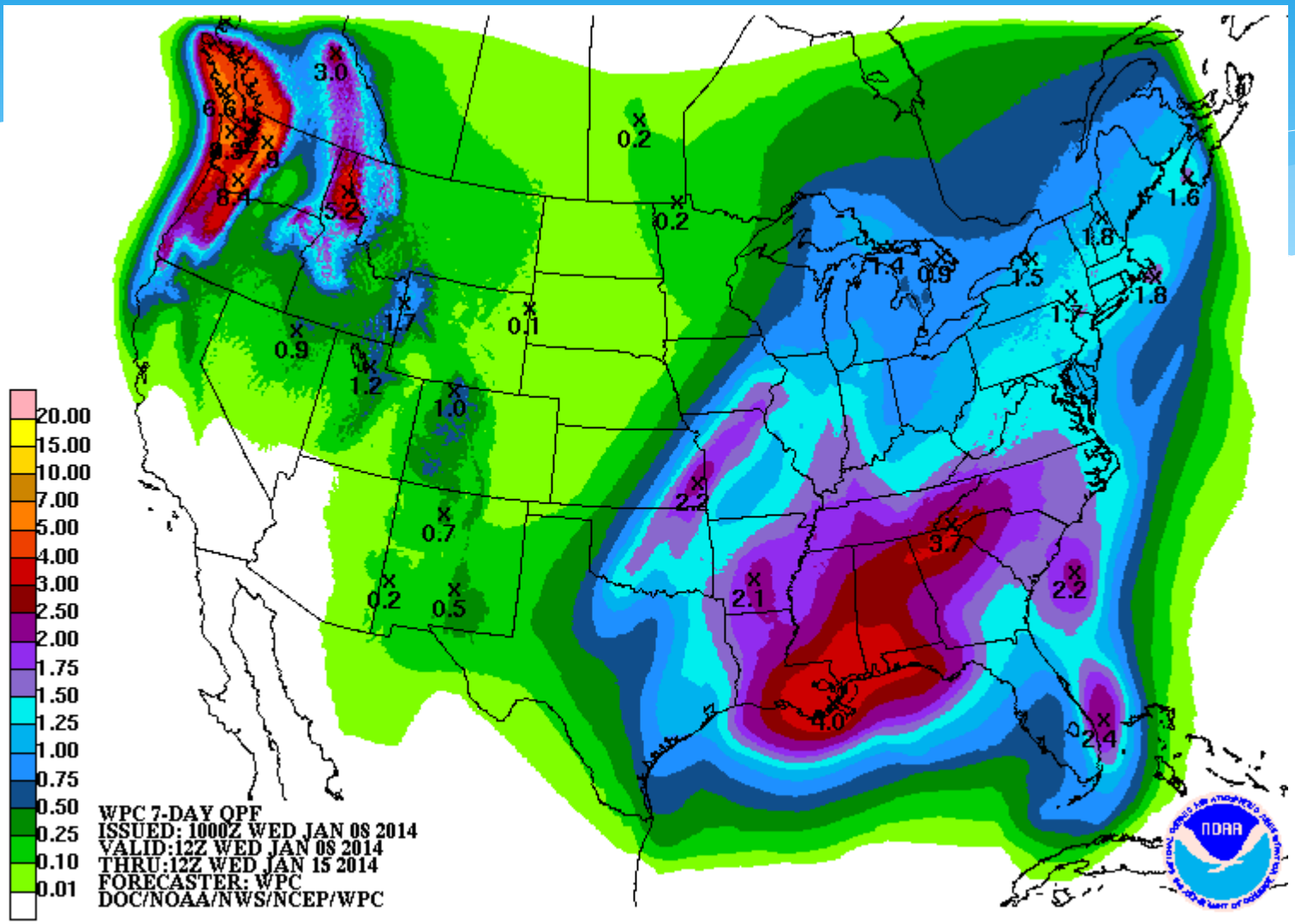
Snow Cover





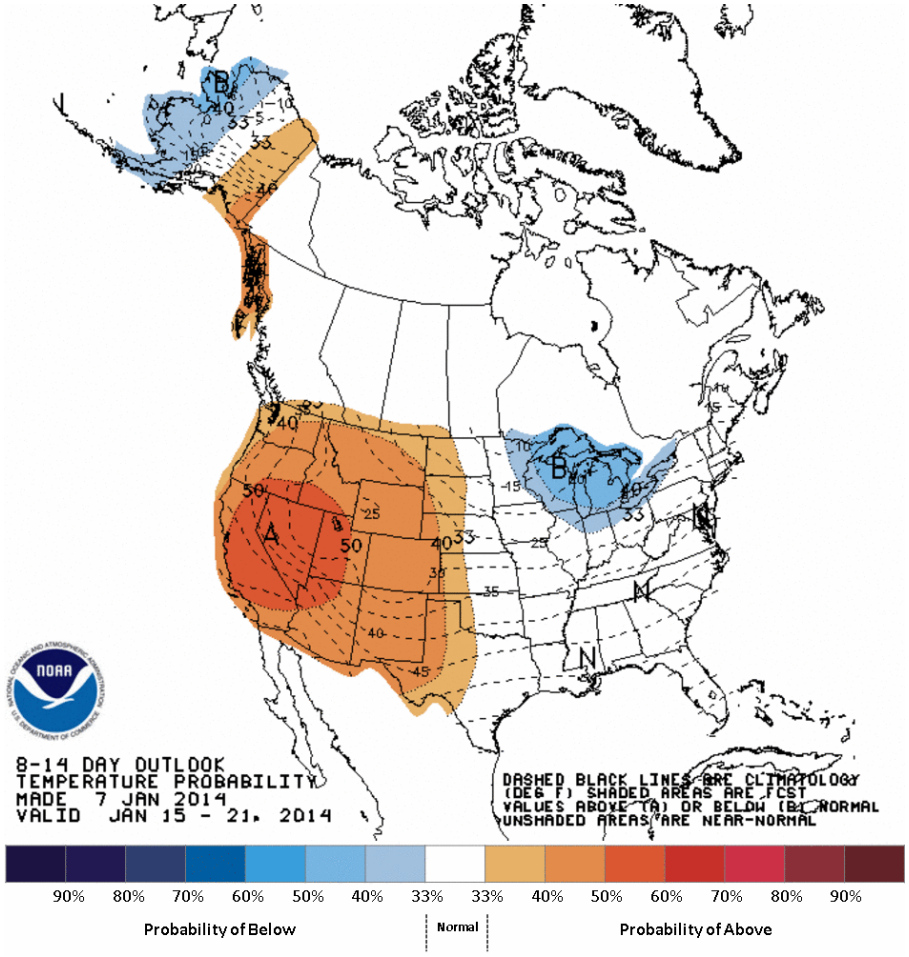
http://www.nohrsc.noaa.gov/nsa/index.html?

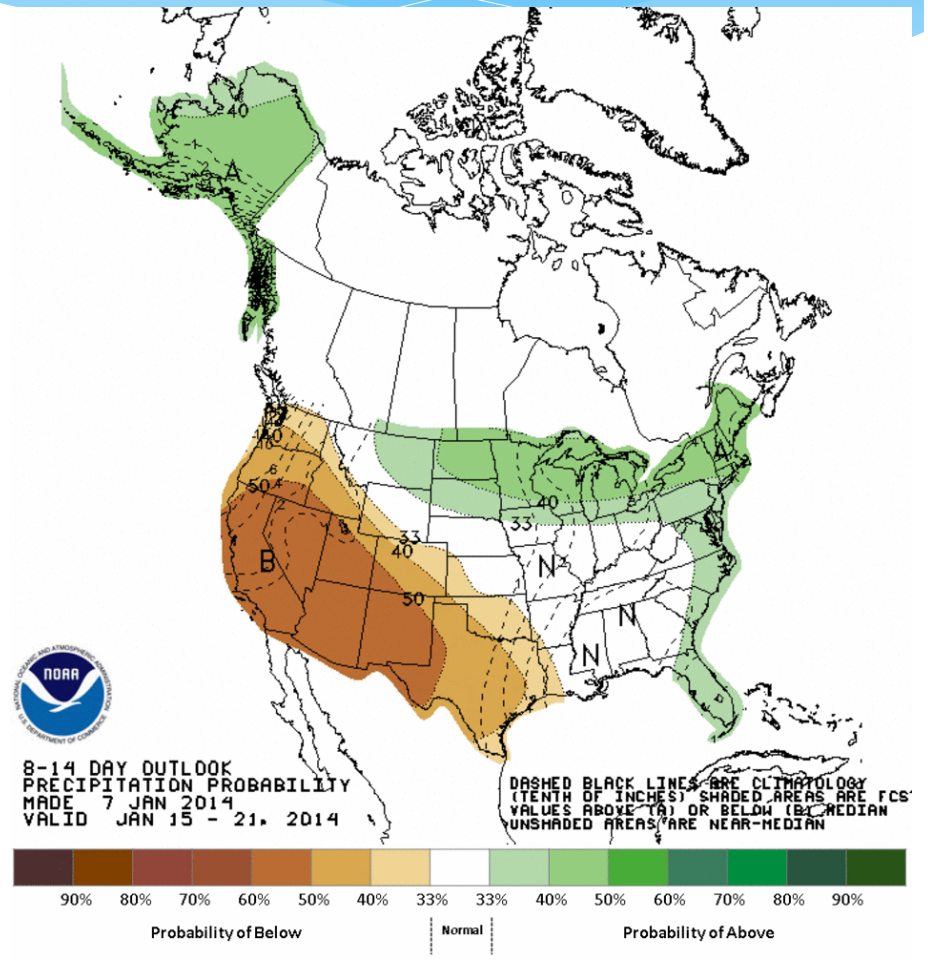
7 day -Precipitation Forecast (1/8-1/15)



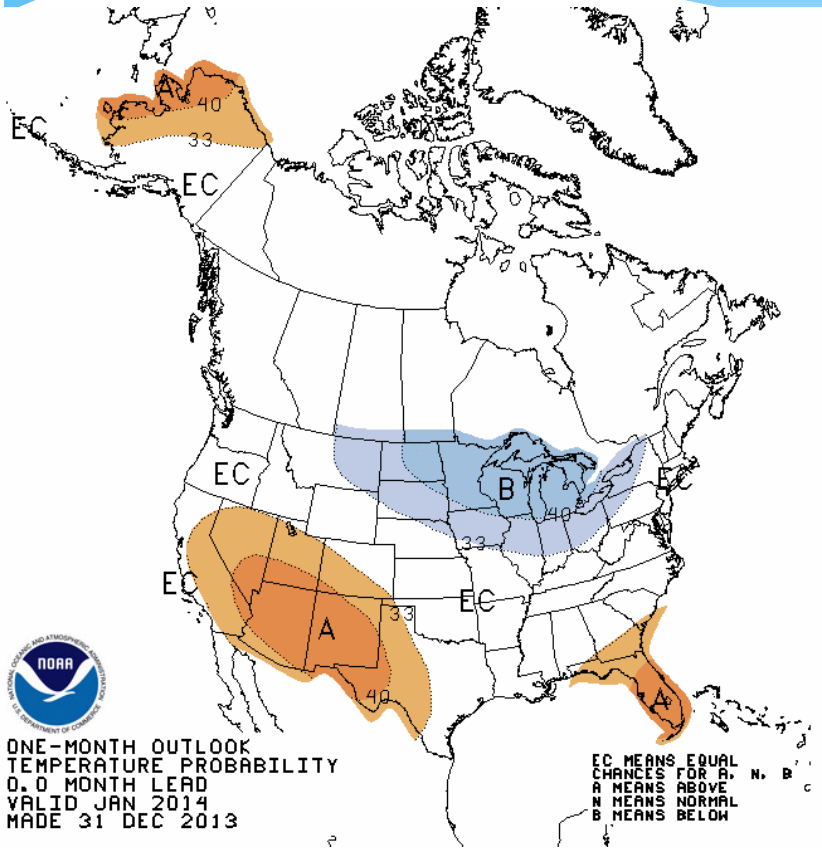
http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/p168i.gif

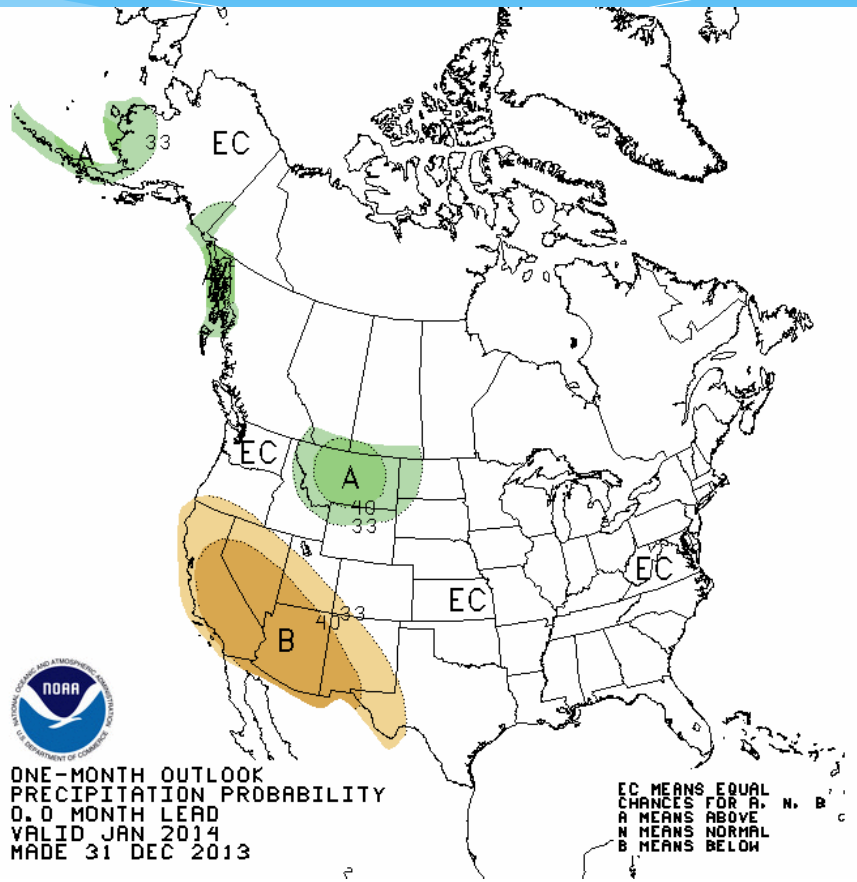
Temperature and Precipitation Probabilities (1/15-1/21)





January Temperature and Precipitation Probabilities

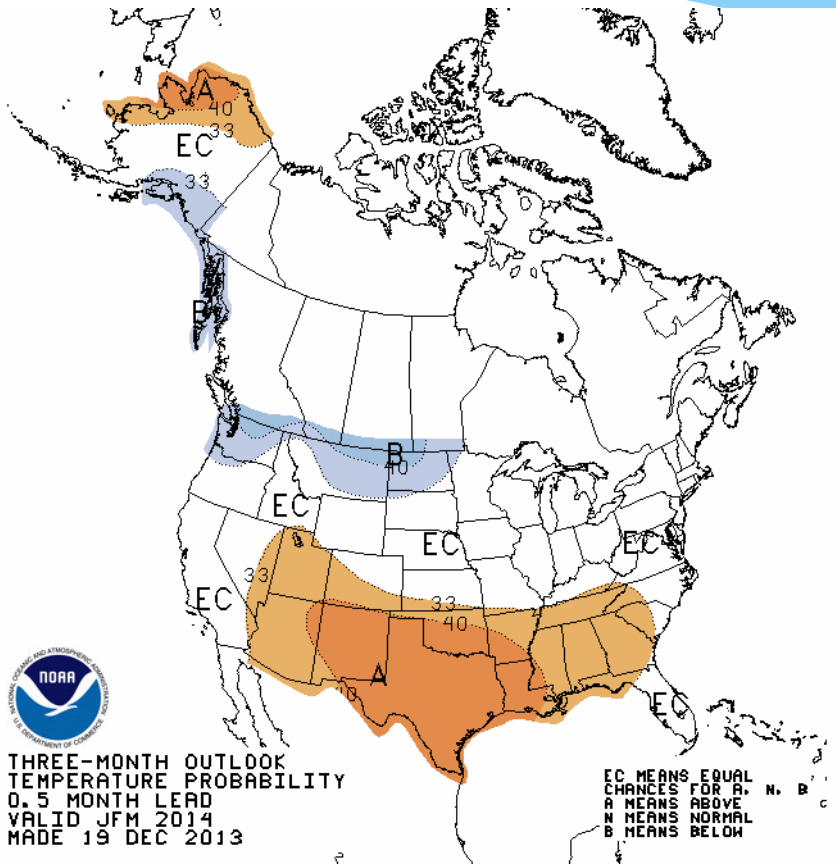


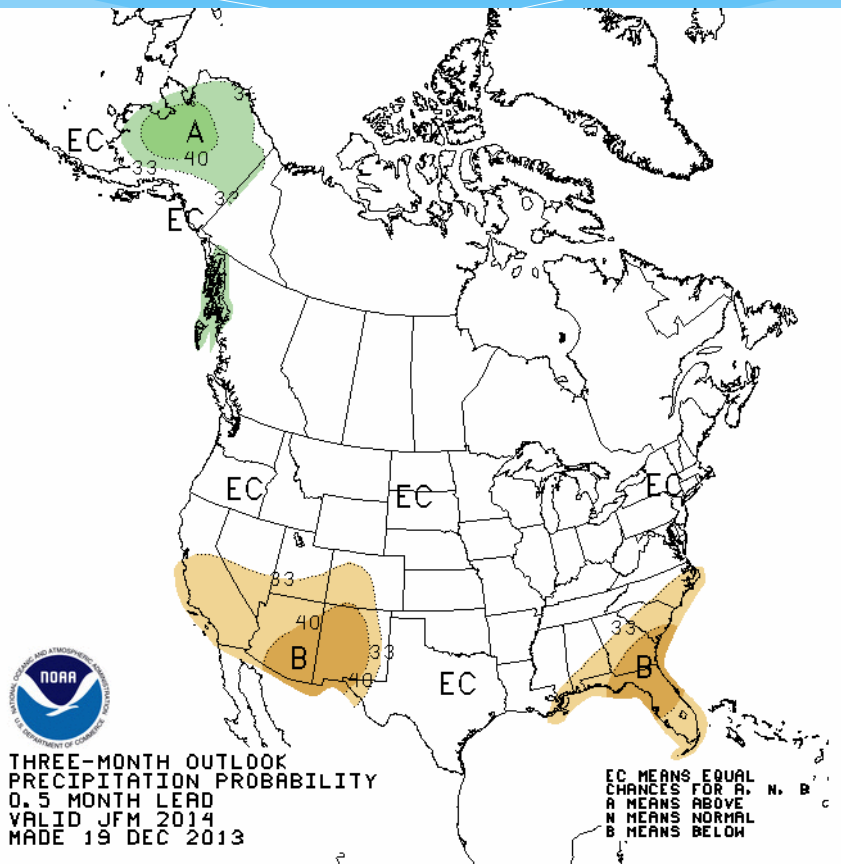


http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/

3 Month Temperature and Precipitation Probabilities

(January – February - March)

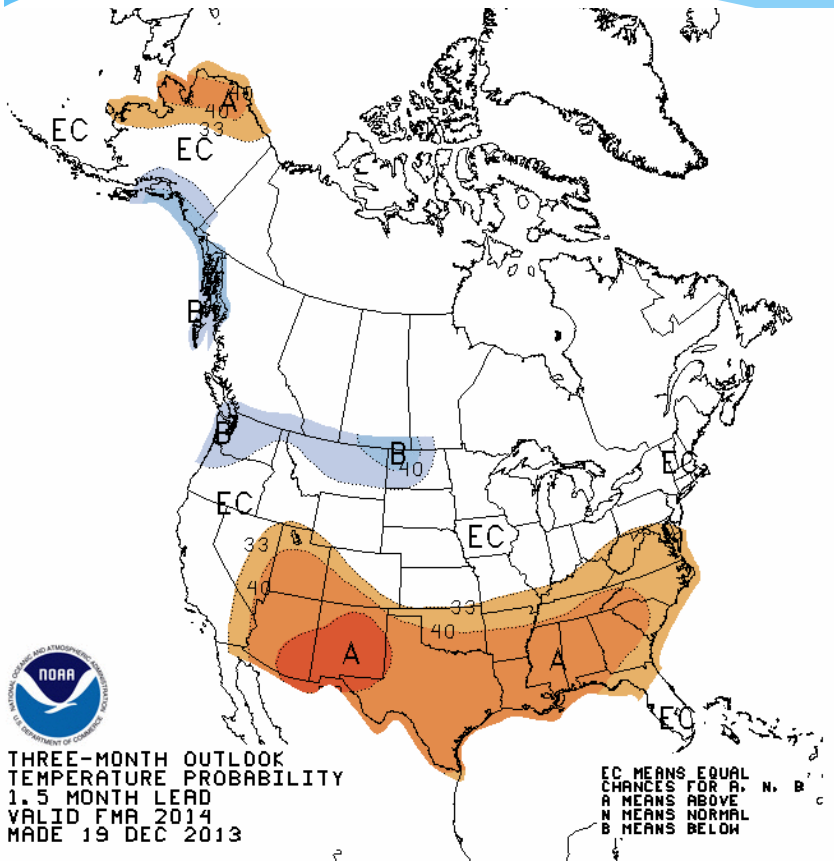


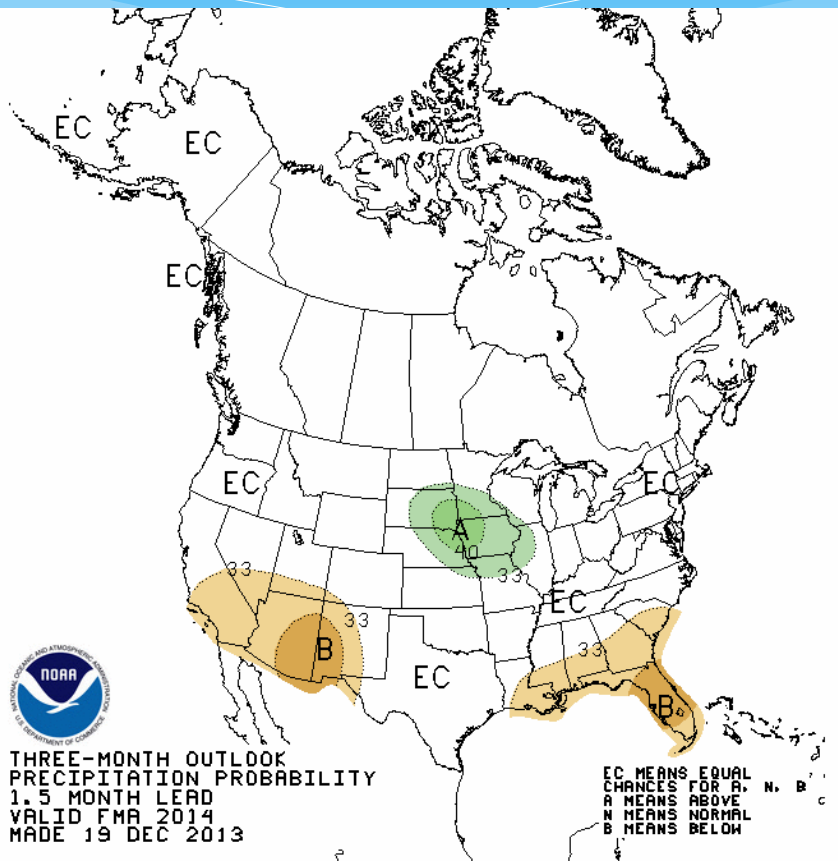


http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1

3 Month Temperature and Precipitation Probabilities

(February – March - April)





http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=2

Drought Update