CEAC Flood Control Committee
August 21, 2026 – 11AM-12:15 PM
Jason Uhley – Chair
Carolyn Burke – Co-Chair

Agenda

1) **El Nino Weather Update – Scott Rowe, Hydrologist and Meteorologist NOAA/NWS Sacramento**

2) **DWR Update – Michael Mierzwa (Technical And Policy Advisor) and Levi Warr (Senior Water Resources Engineer)**

3) **Legislative Update – Charles Delgado CSAC Legislative Advocate**

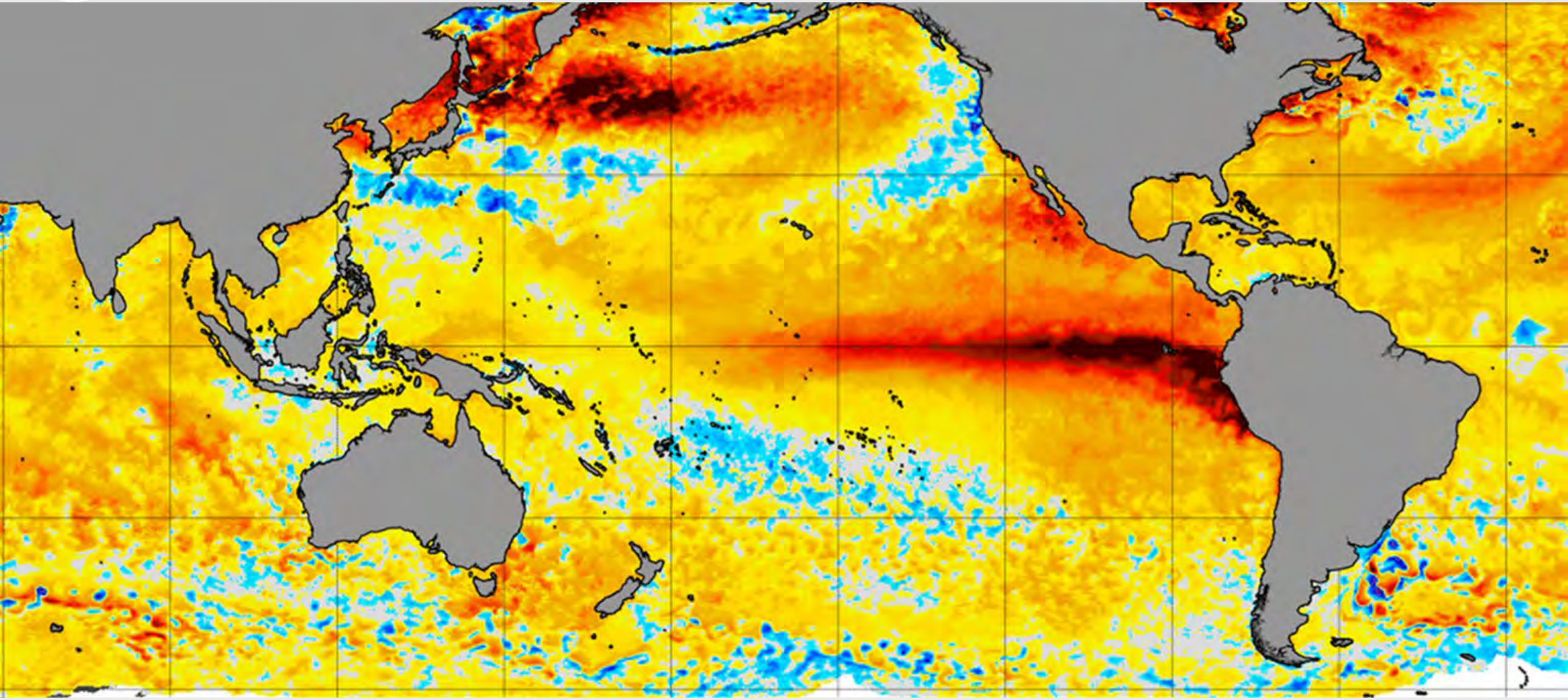
4) **Open Discussion**

- **Potential Executive Order for Streamlined Permitting of Flood Maintenance/Restoration Projects**
- **Pursuit of more permanent legislative fixes for permitting**
- **Other Topics**

ENSO Outlook Briefing - CEAC Meeting

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

Scott Rowe | Senior Service Hydrologist | NWS Sacramento



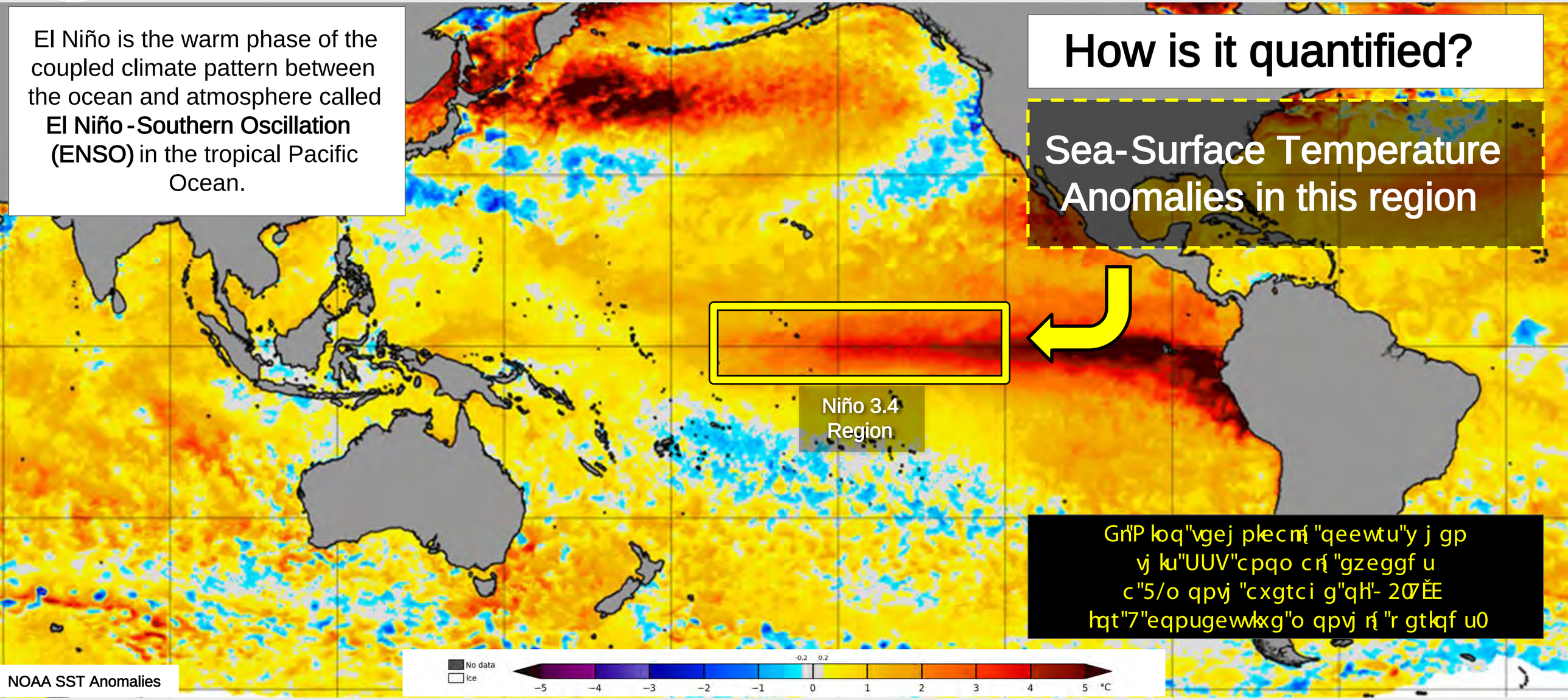
What is El Niño?

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

El Niño is the warm phase of the coupled climate pattern between the ocean and atmosphere called **El Niño - Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** in the tropical Pacific Ocean.

How is it quantified?

Sea-Surface Temperature Anomalies in this region



NOAA SST Anomalies

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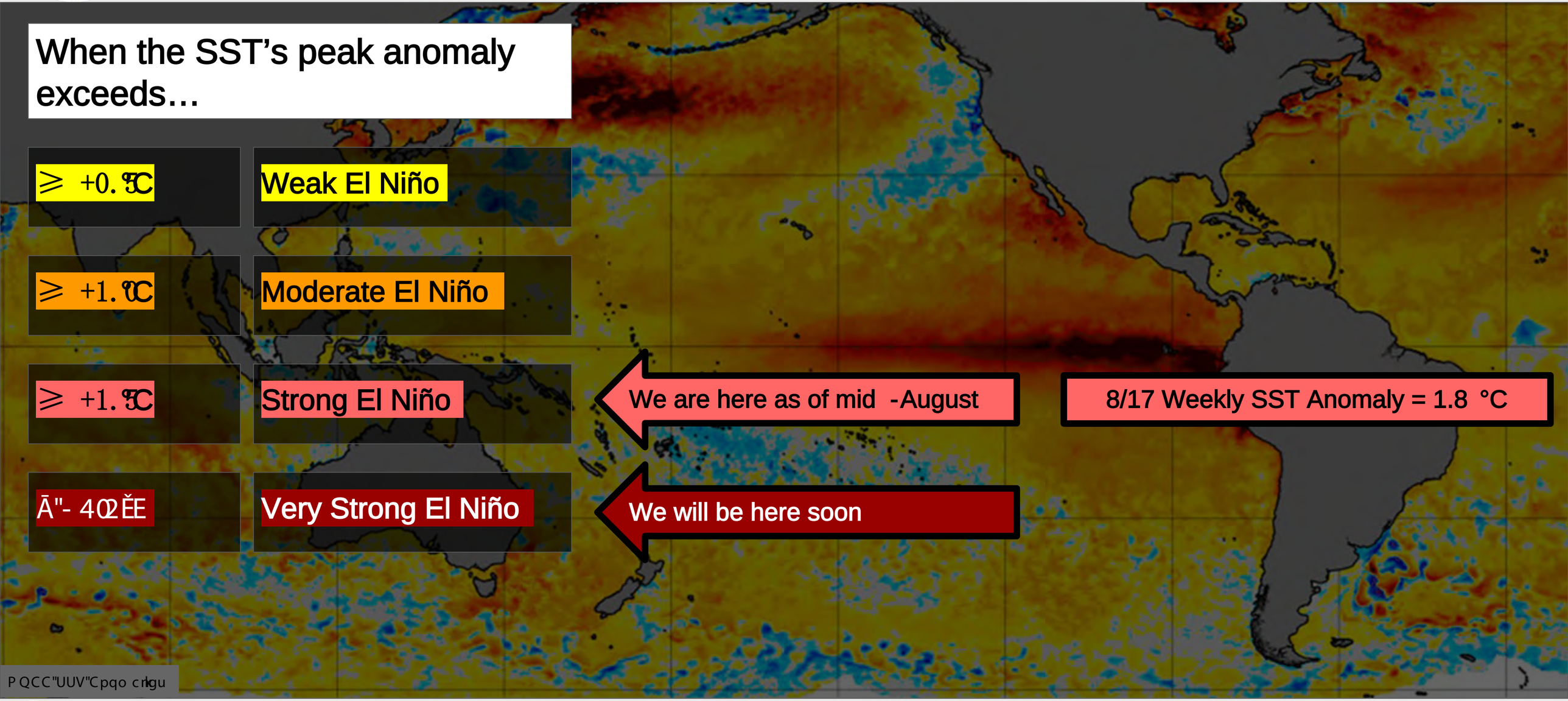
How are the Strengths of El Niño Determined?

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT



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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Sacramento, CA

Probability of Peak El Niño Strength

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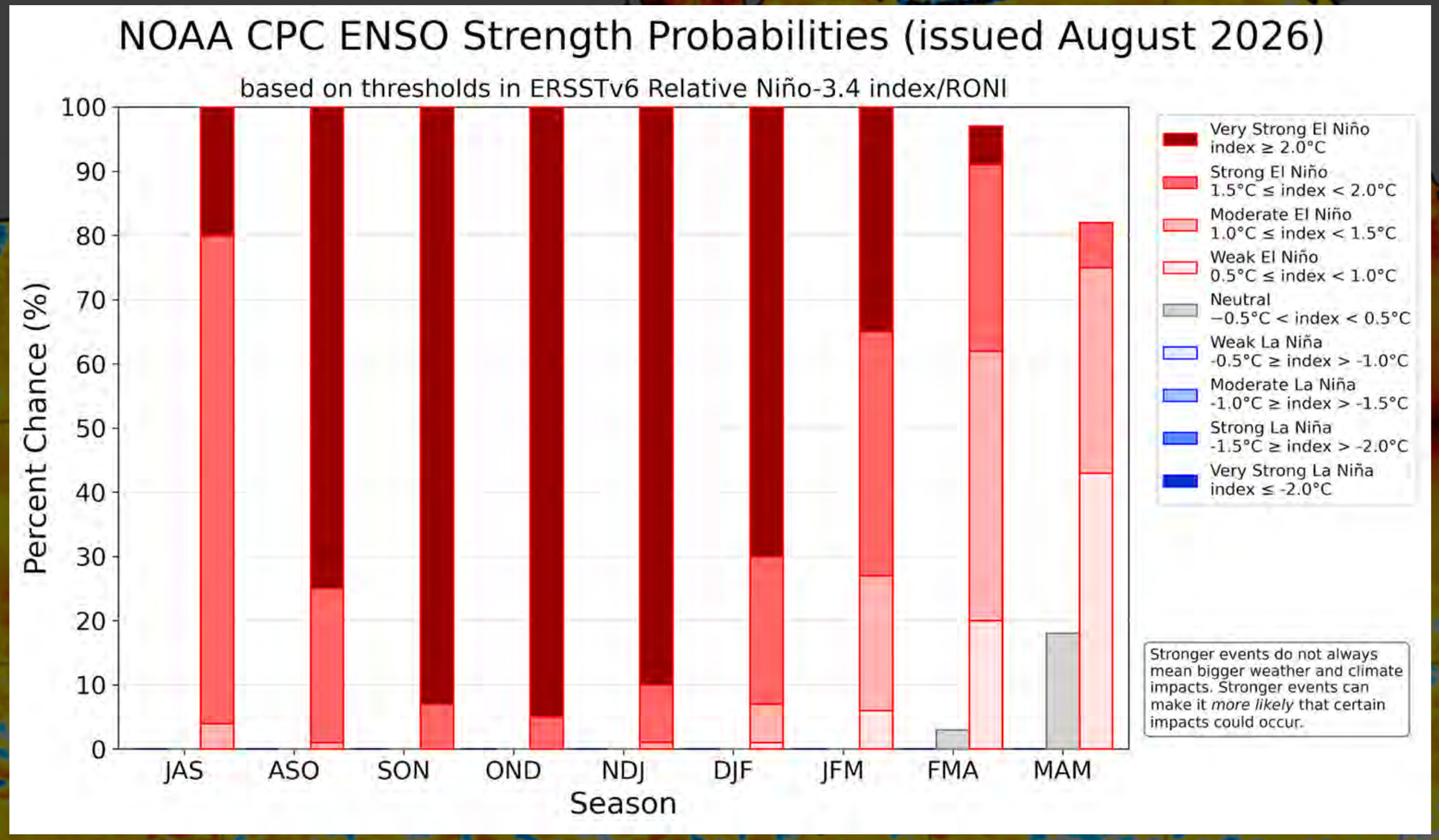
9:00 AM PDT



Weak El Niño
>99%

Moderate El Niño
>99%

Strong El Niño
>99%

Very Strong El Niño
>90%

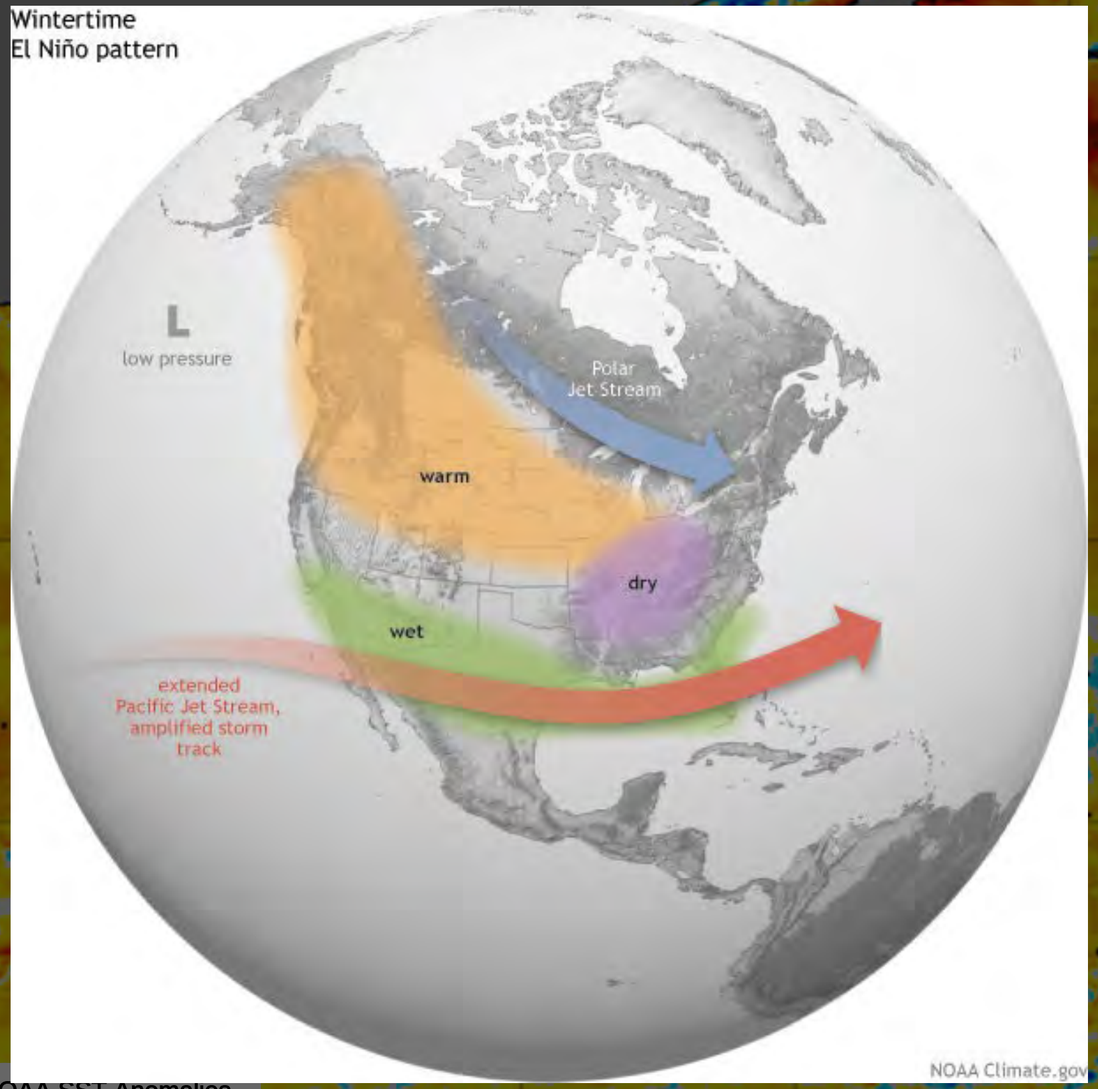
Record-Breaking Strength
69%

NOAA SST Anomalies

“Typical” Conditions in a El Niño

August 21, 2026

; <22"CO "RF V



NOAA SST Anomalies

Hcxqtgf Y kpvgtvko g"Ghhgevu"kp"P qtvj gtp"E C

⚠ P q"vy q"{ gctu"ctg"cnkmg

Precip : No Clear Indicator

Vgo r u<"Y cto gt"vj cp"P qto cn

Hcxqtgf Y kpvgtvko g"Ghhgevu"kp"Uqwvj gtp"E C

⚠ P q"vy q"{ gctu"ctg"cnkmg

Precip : Wetter than Normal

Temps : Warmer than Normal

We have documented **ALL** sorts of winters in California during El Nino Years!

Historical Strong & Very Strong El Niños

August 21, 2026
; <22"CO "RF V

- There have been 3 Strong + 6 Very Strong El Niños since 1950.
- Of those 9, the breakdown has been…
  - Northern CA:
    - 3 Wet
    - 3 Normal
    - 3 Dry
  - Central CA:
    - 5 Wet
    - 2 Normal
    - 2 Dry
  - Sierra Nevada:
    - 3 Wet
    - 3 Normal
    - 3 Dry
  - Southern CA:
    - 6 Wet
    - 1 Normal
    - 2 Dry

NOAA SST Anomalies

Historical Very Strong El Niños

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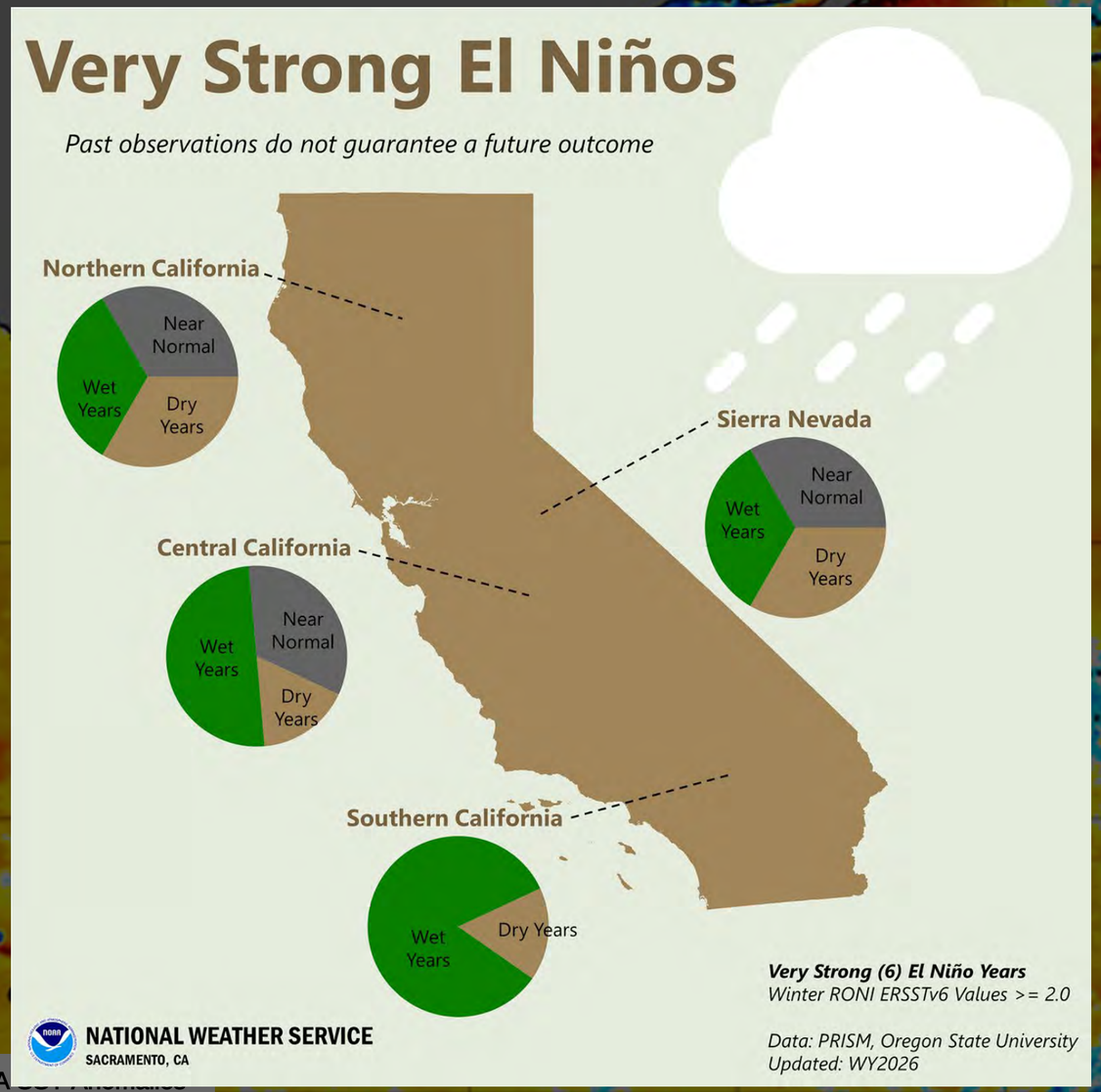
9:00 AM PDT

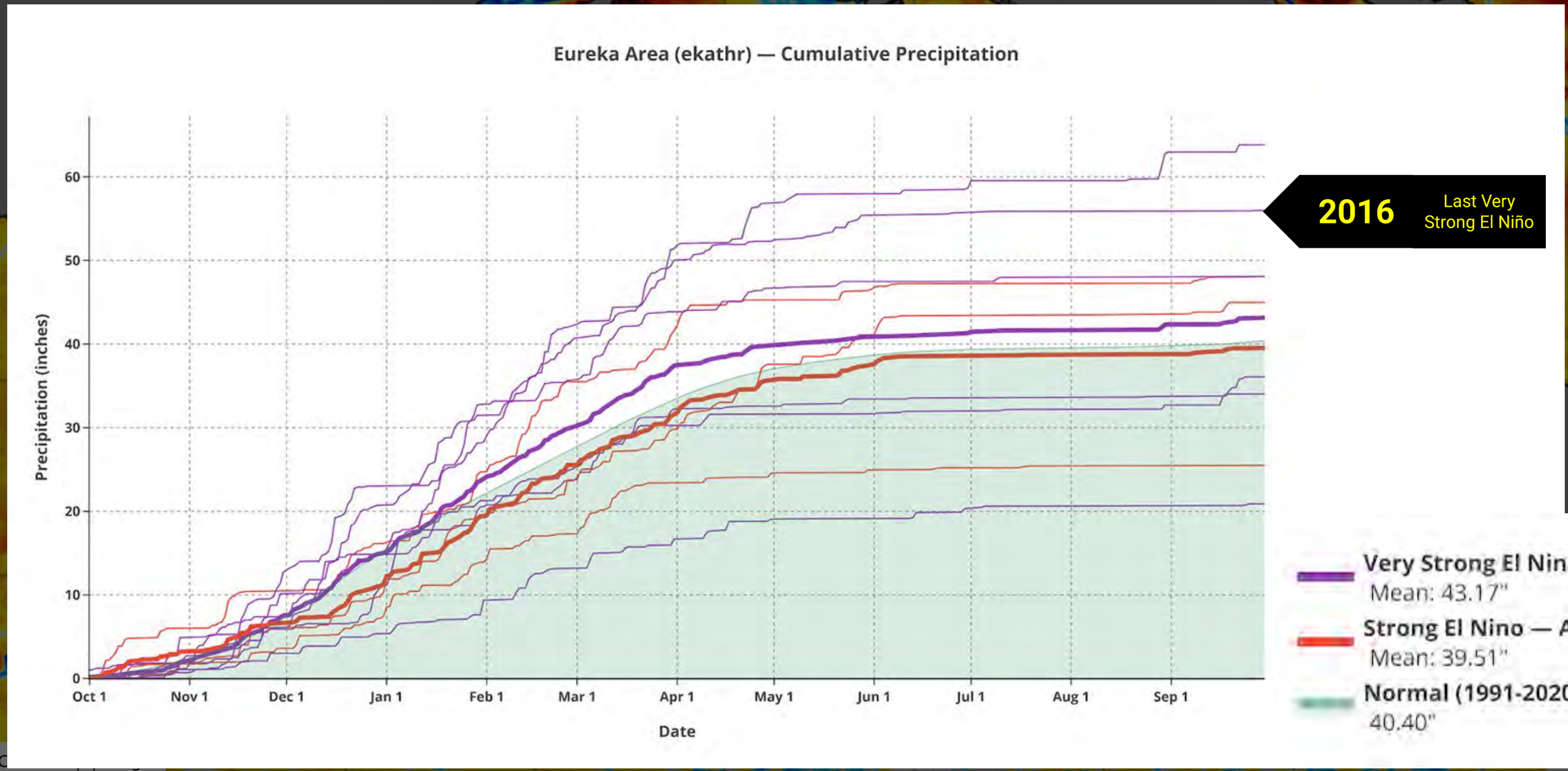


- There have been **6 Very Strong El Niños** since 1950.
- Of those 6, the breakdown has been…
  - Northern CA:
    - 2 Wet
    - 2 Normal
    - 2 Dry
  - E gpvtcn"E C<
    - 5"Y gv
    - 4"P qto cn
    - 3"F t{
  - Sierra Nevada:
    - 2 Wet
    - 2 Normal
    - 2 Dry
  - Uqwj gtp"E C<
    - 7"Y gv
    - 2"P qto cn
    - 3"F t{

What about for some specific cities?

August 21, 2026

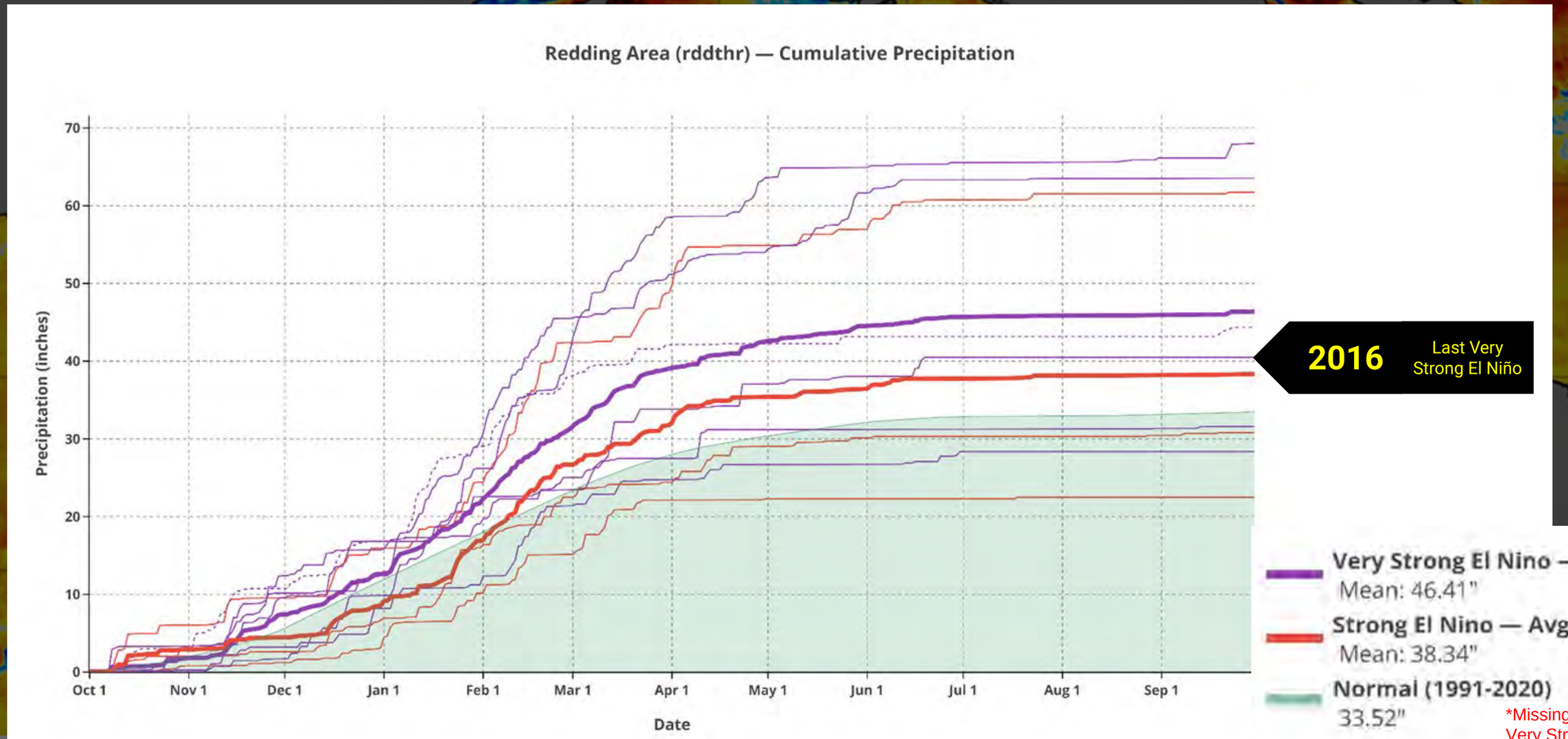
Eureka Area



What about for some specific cities?

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

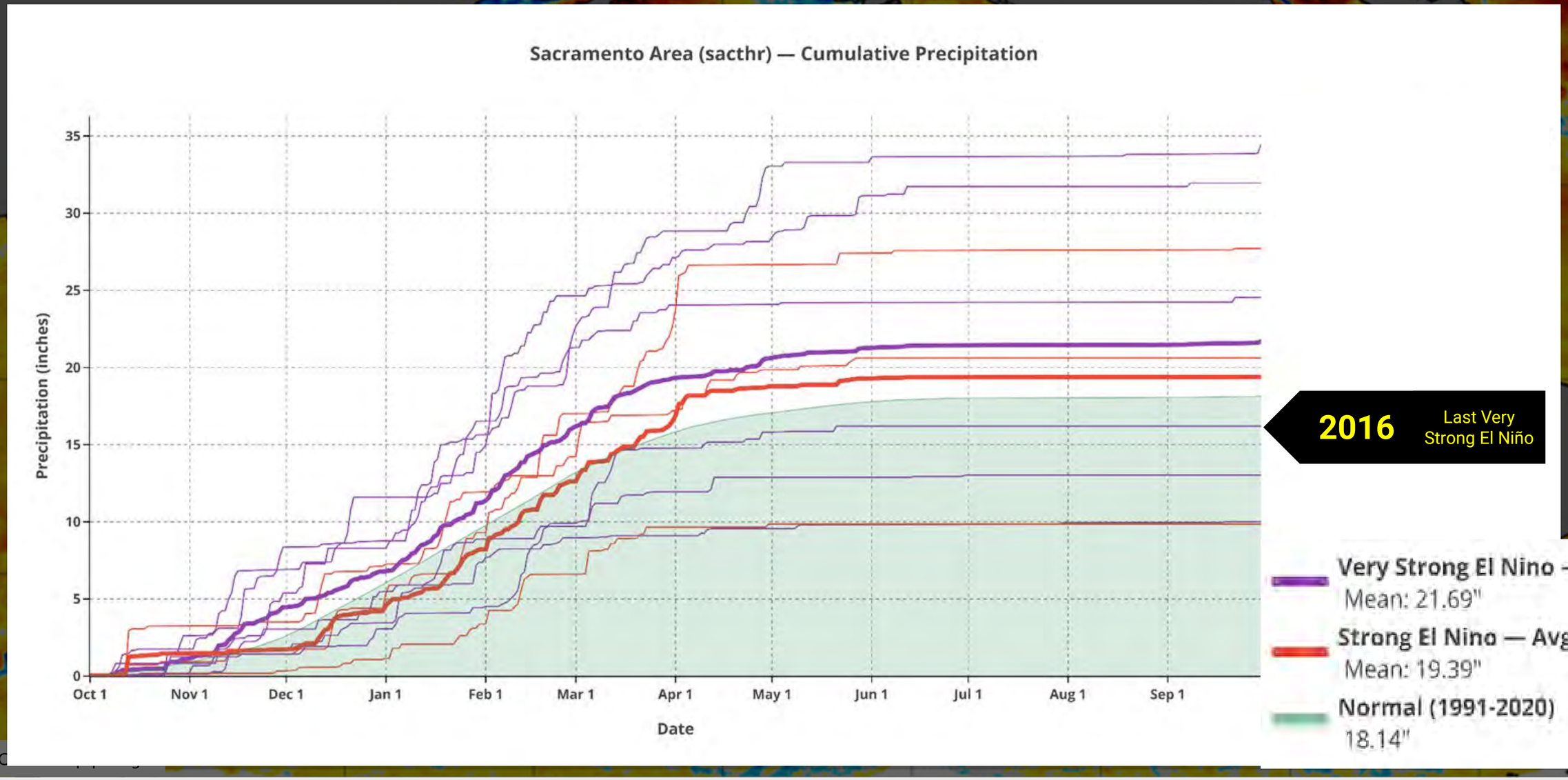
Redding Area



What about for some specific cities?

August 21, 2026

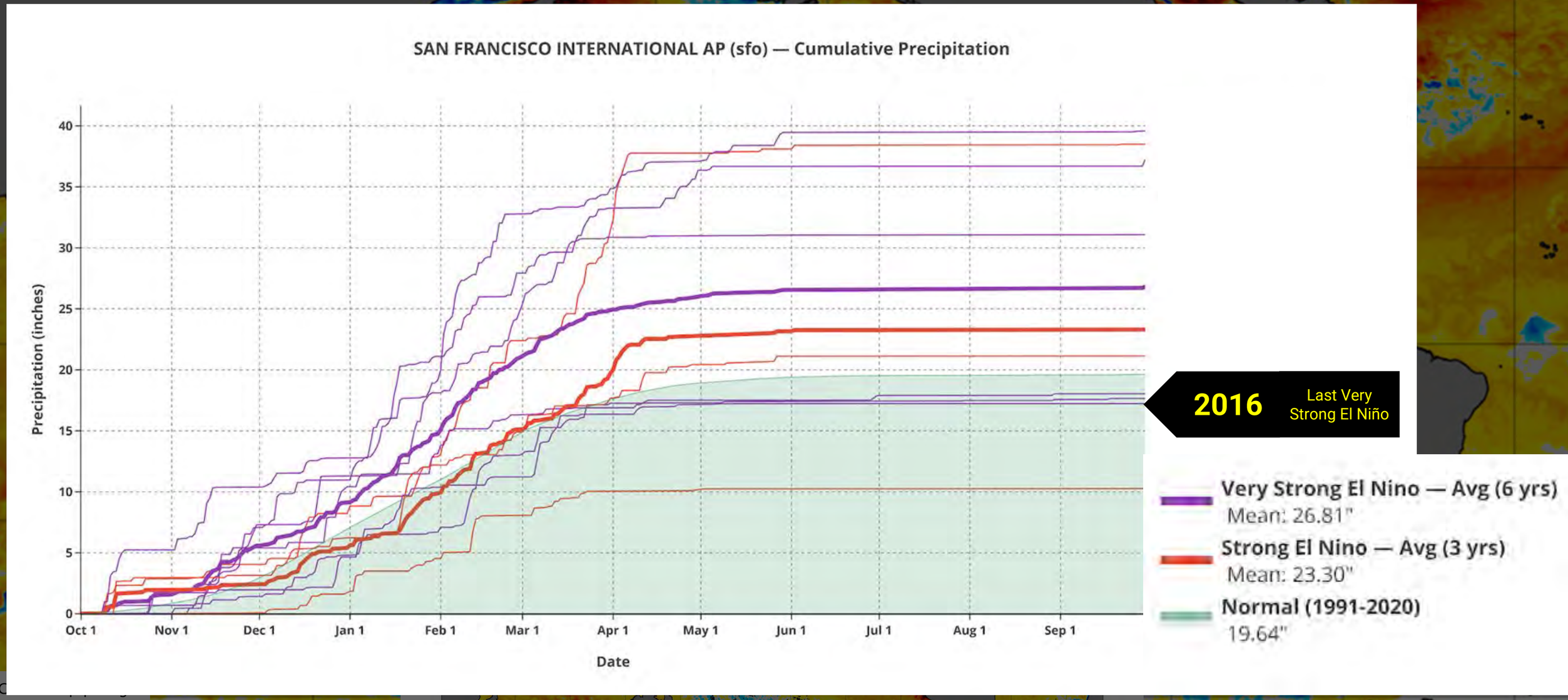
Sacramento Area



What about for some specific cities?

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

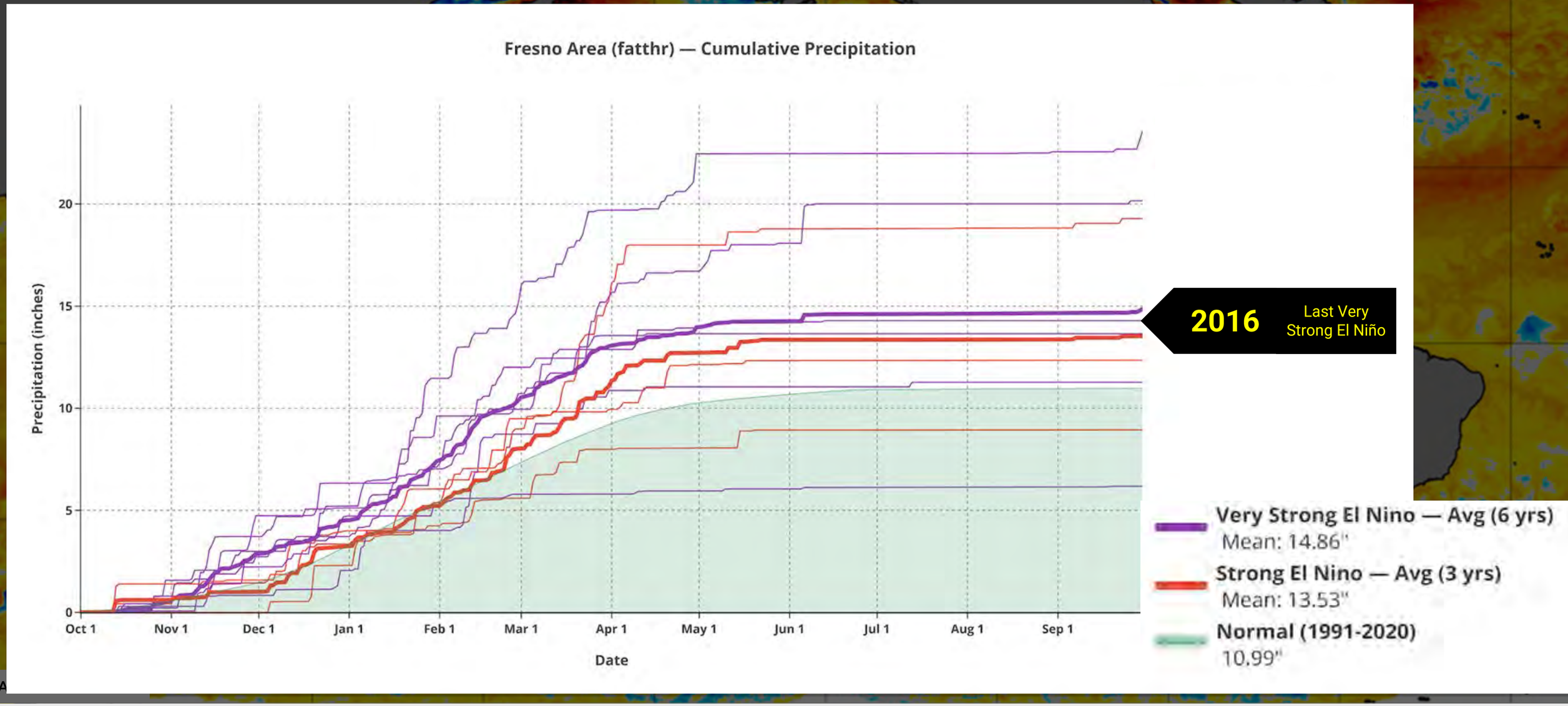
San Francisco Airport



What about for some specific cities?

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

Fresno Area



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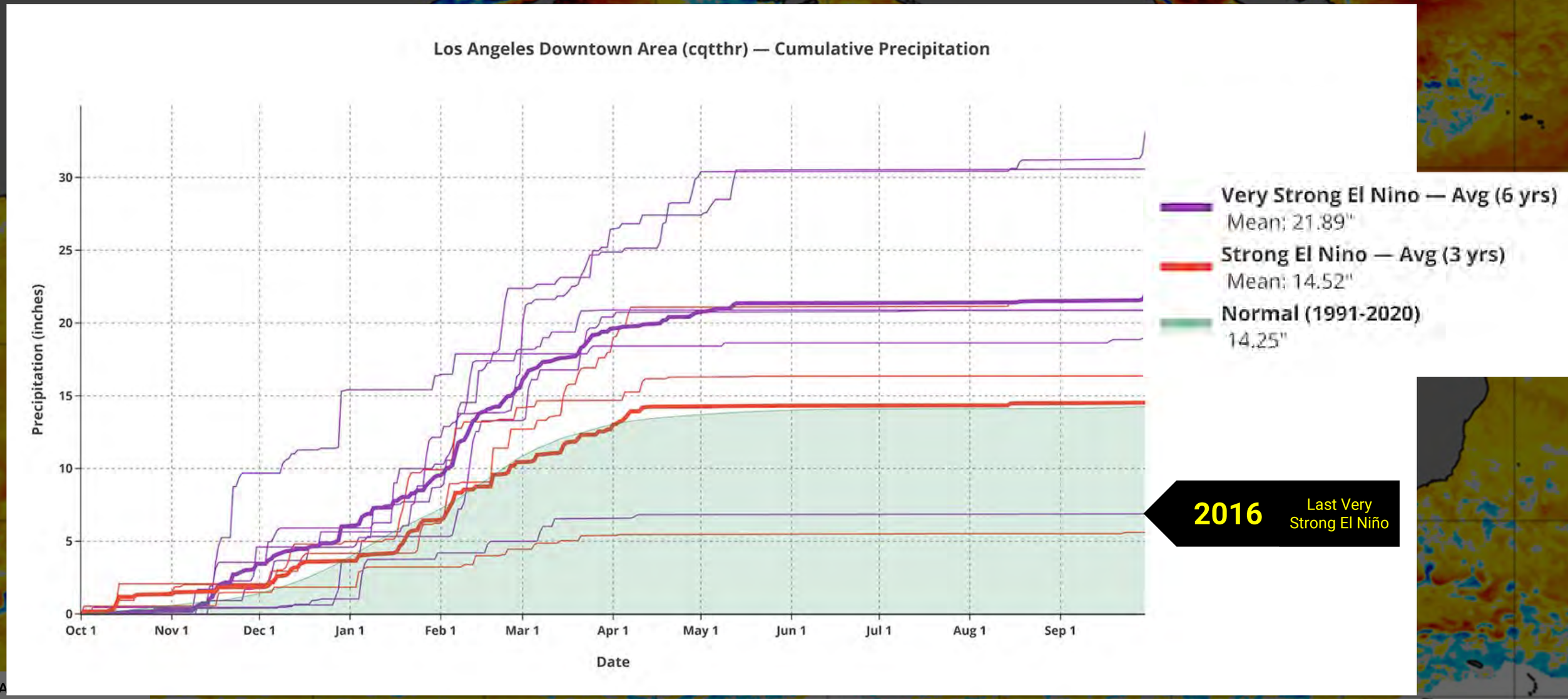
Los Angeles Downtown Area

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT



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San Diego Area

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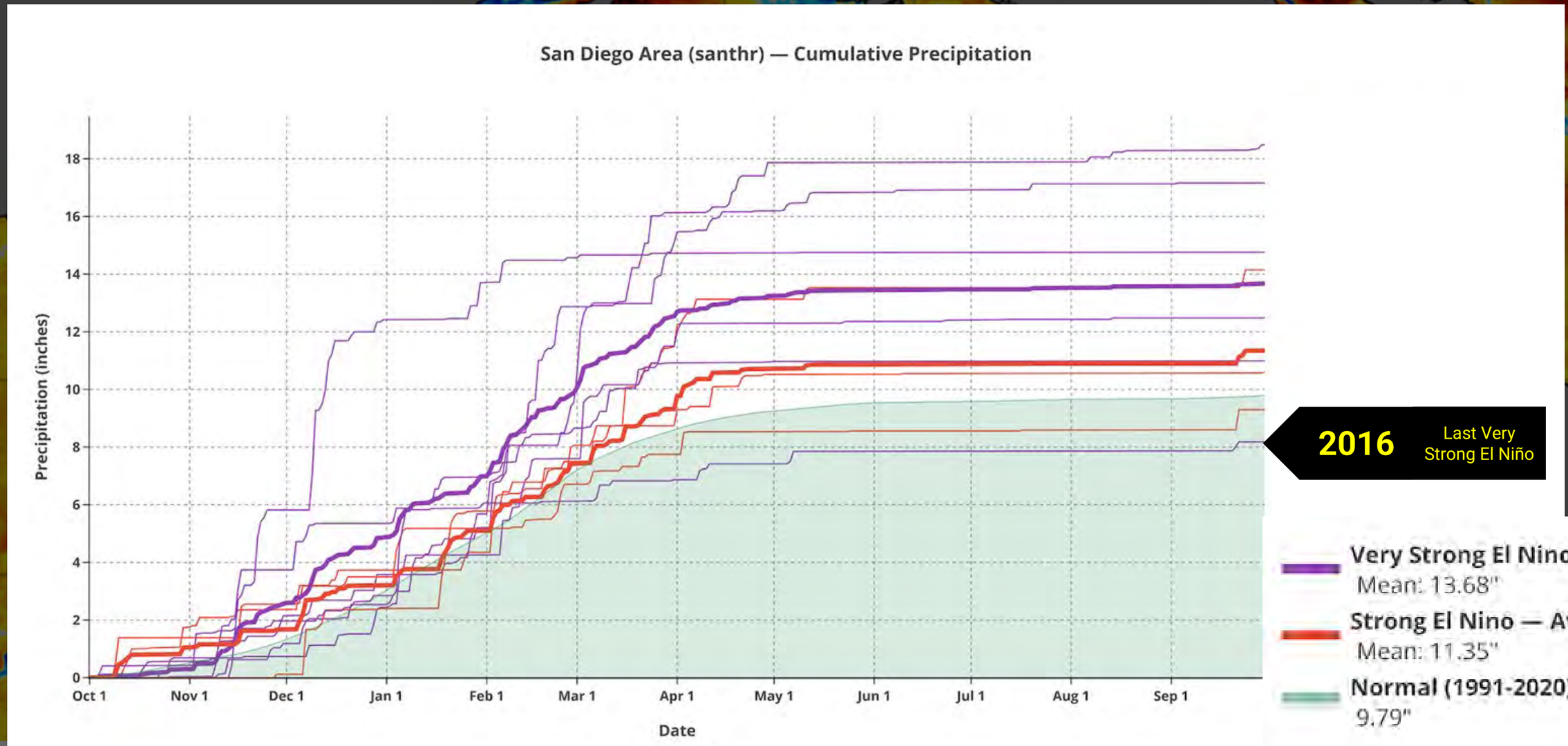
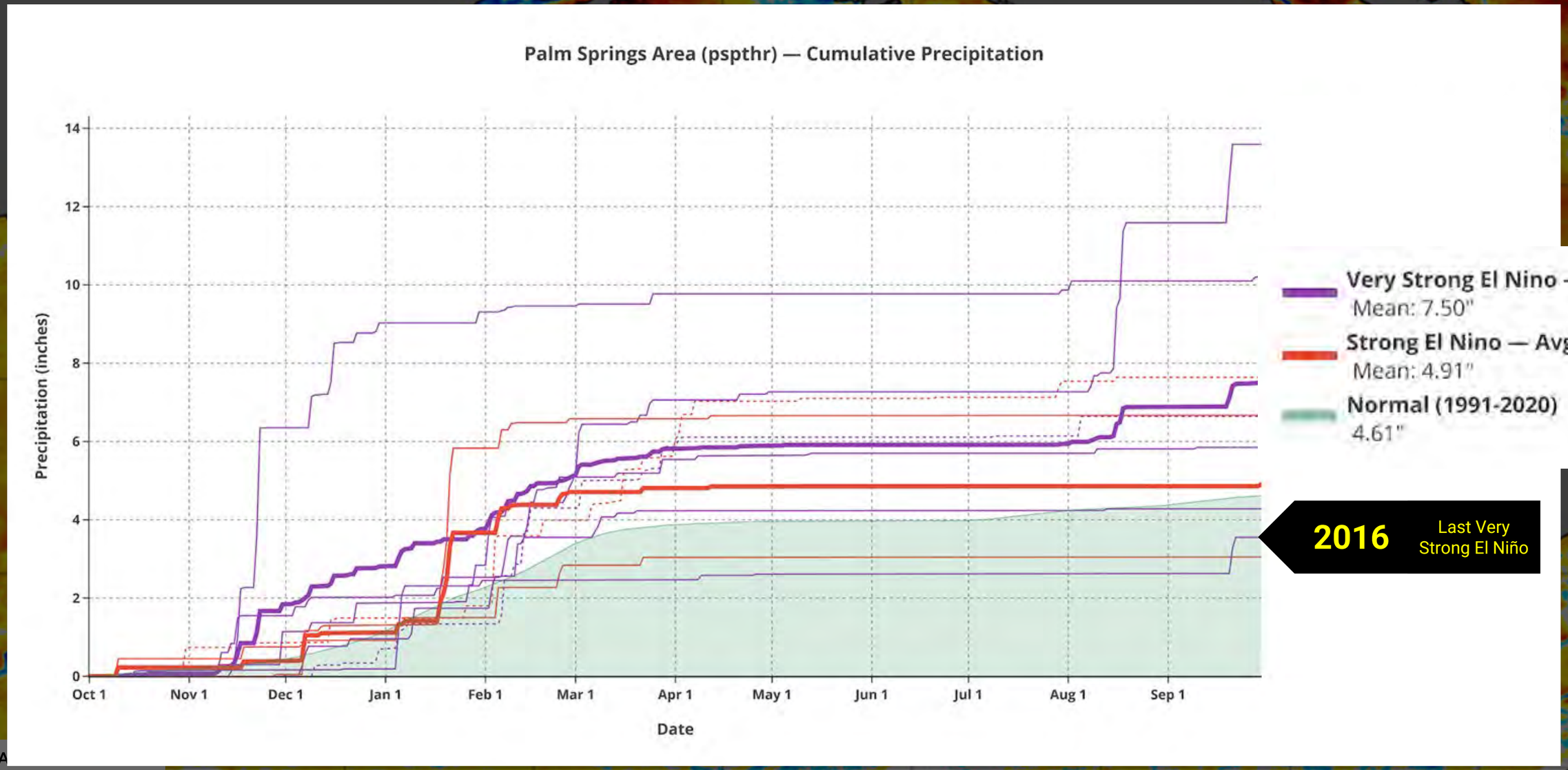
9:00 AM PDT



What about for some specific cities?

Palm Springs Area



Sooooo … What Do We Know?

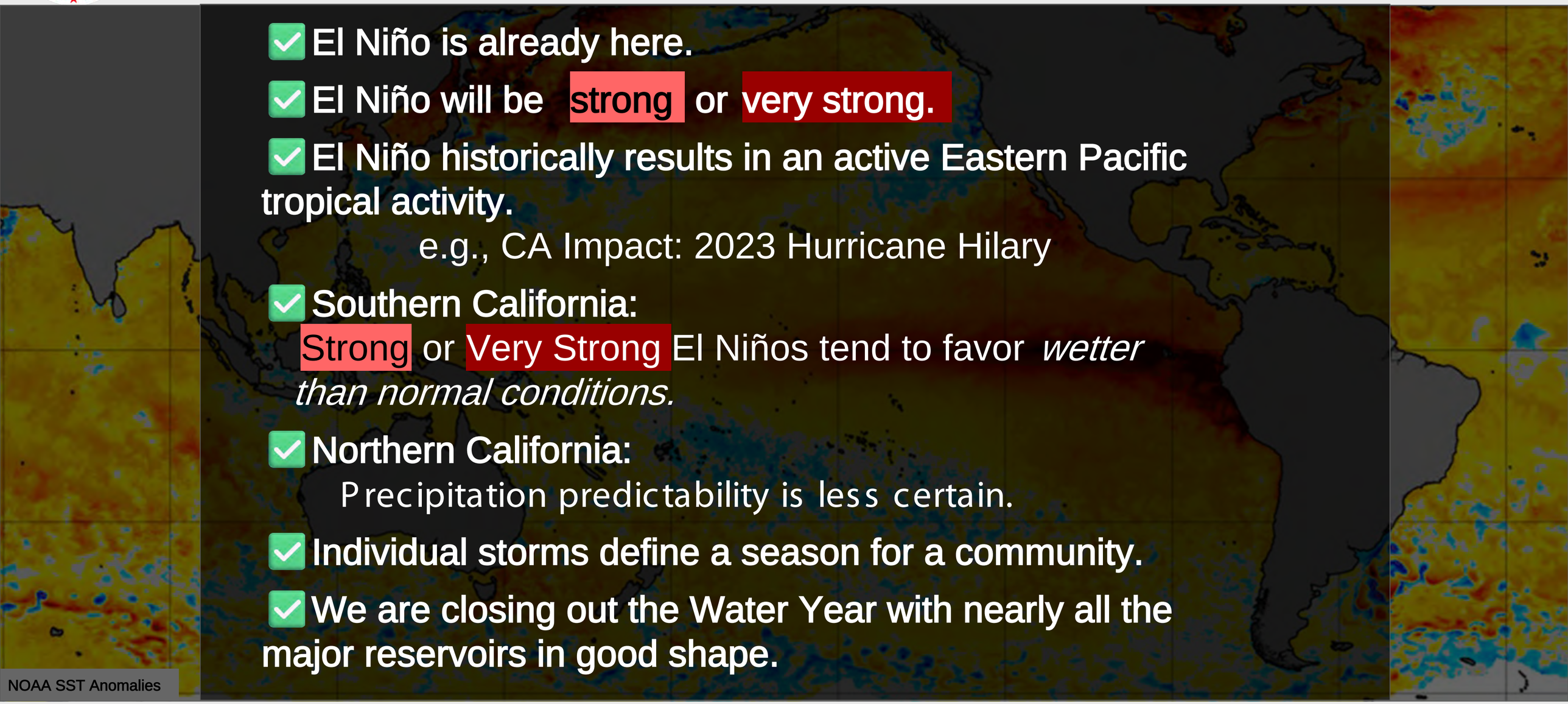
August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

- ✅ El Niño is already here.
- ✅ El Niño will be strong or very strong.
- ✅ El Niño historically results in an active Eastern Pacific tropical activity.

  e.g., CA Impact: 2023 Hurricane Hilary
- ✅ Southern California:

  Strong or Very Strong El Niños tend to favor *wetter than normal conditions.*
- ✅ Northern California:

  Precipitation predictability is less certain.
- ✅ Individual storms define a season for a community.
- ✅ We are closing out the Water Year with nearly all the major reservoirs in good shape.



NOAA SST Anomalies

Sooooo … What *Don’t* We Know?

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

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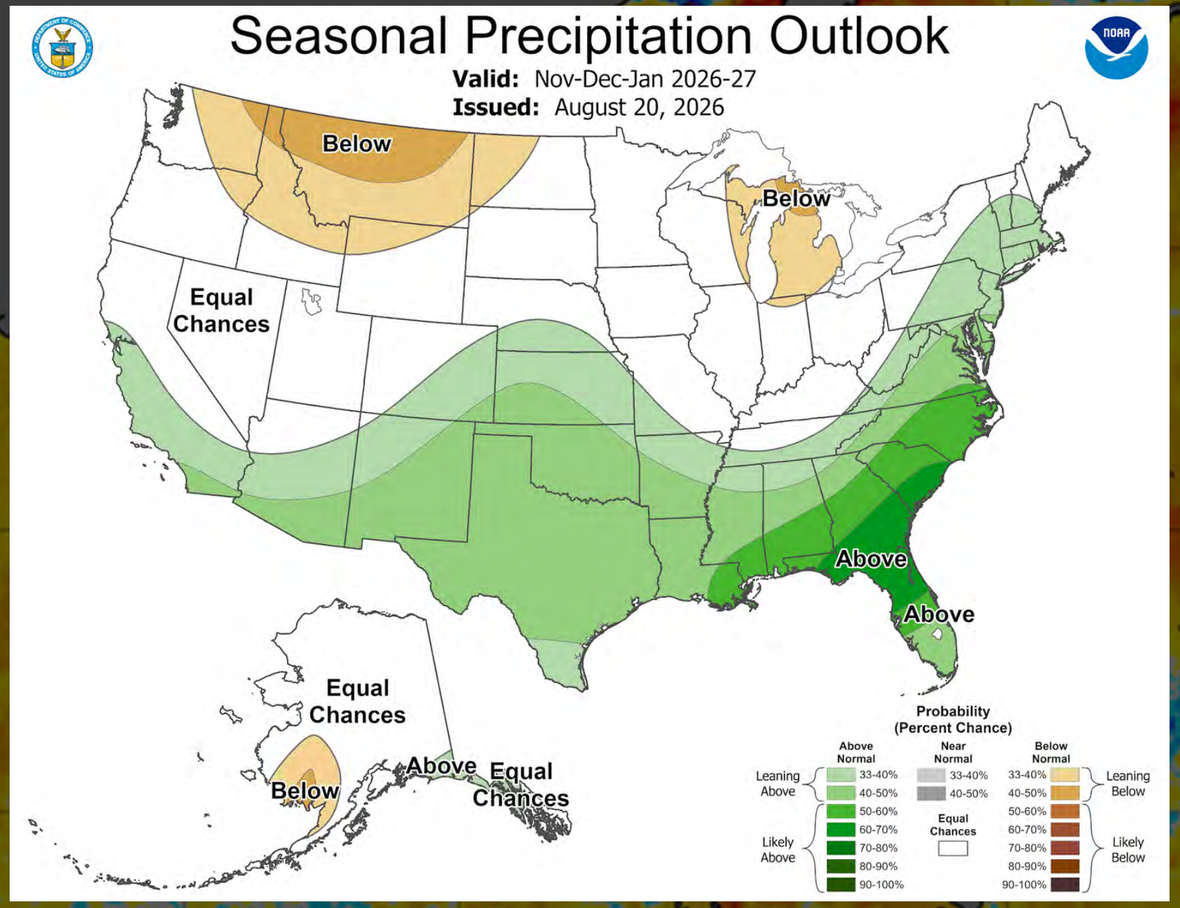
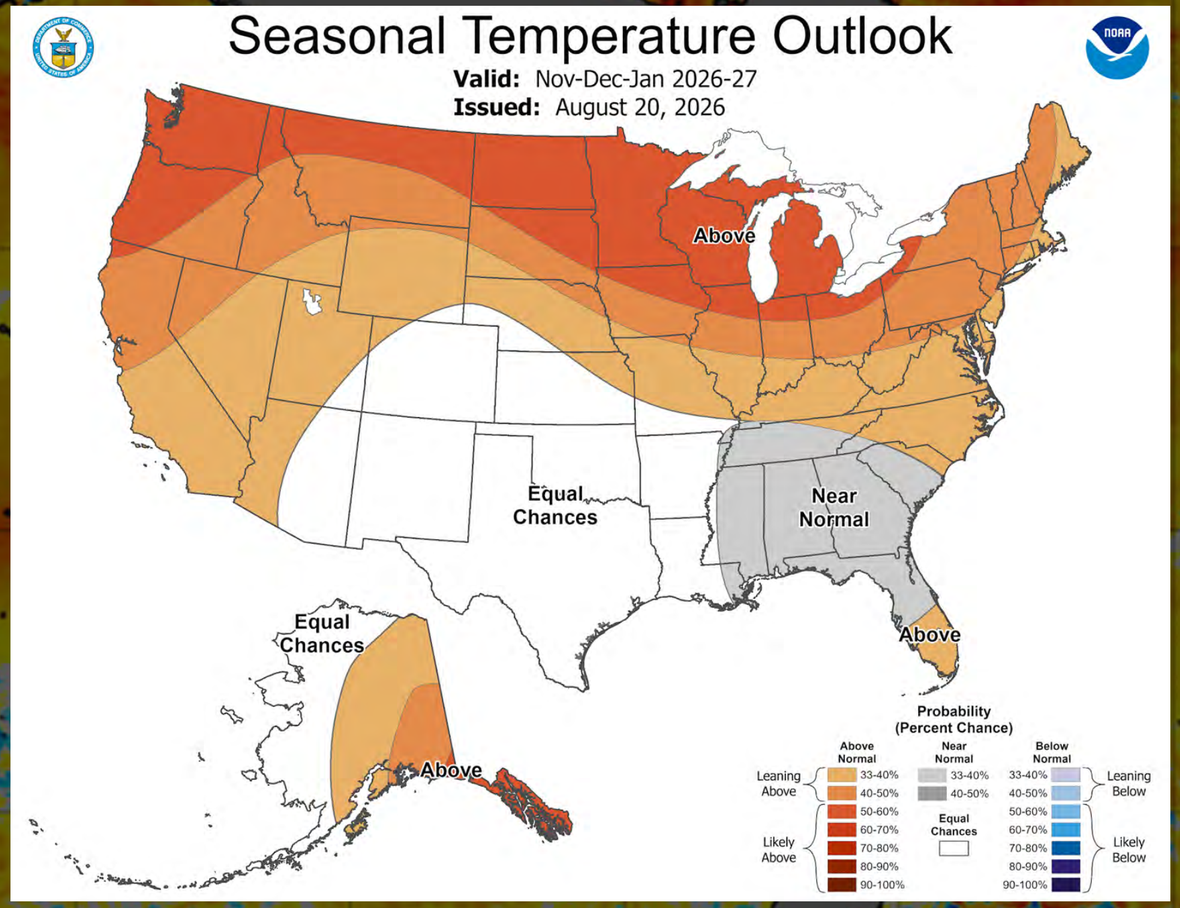
NOAA SST Anomalies

Official CPC Outlook: Nov-Dec-Jan

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT





National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
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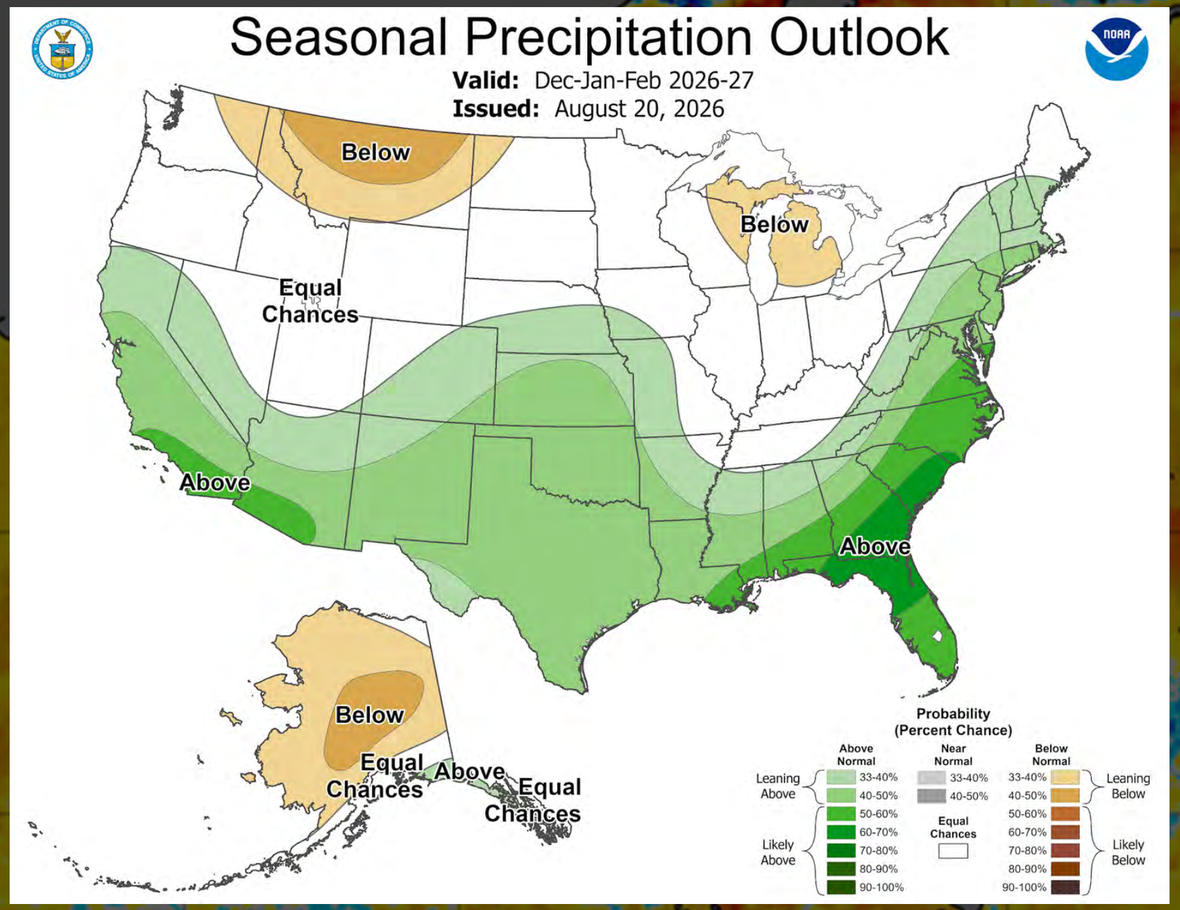
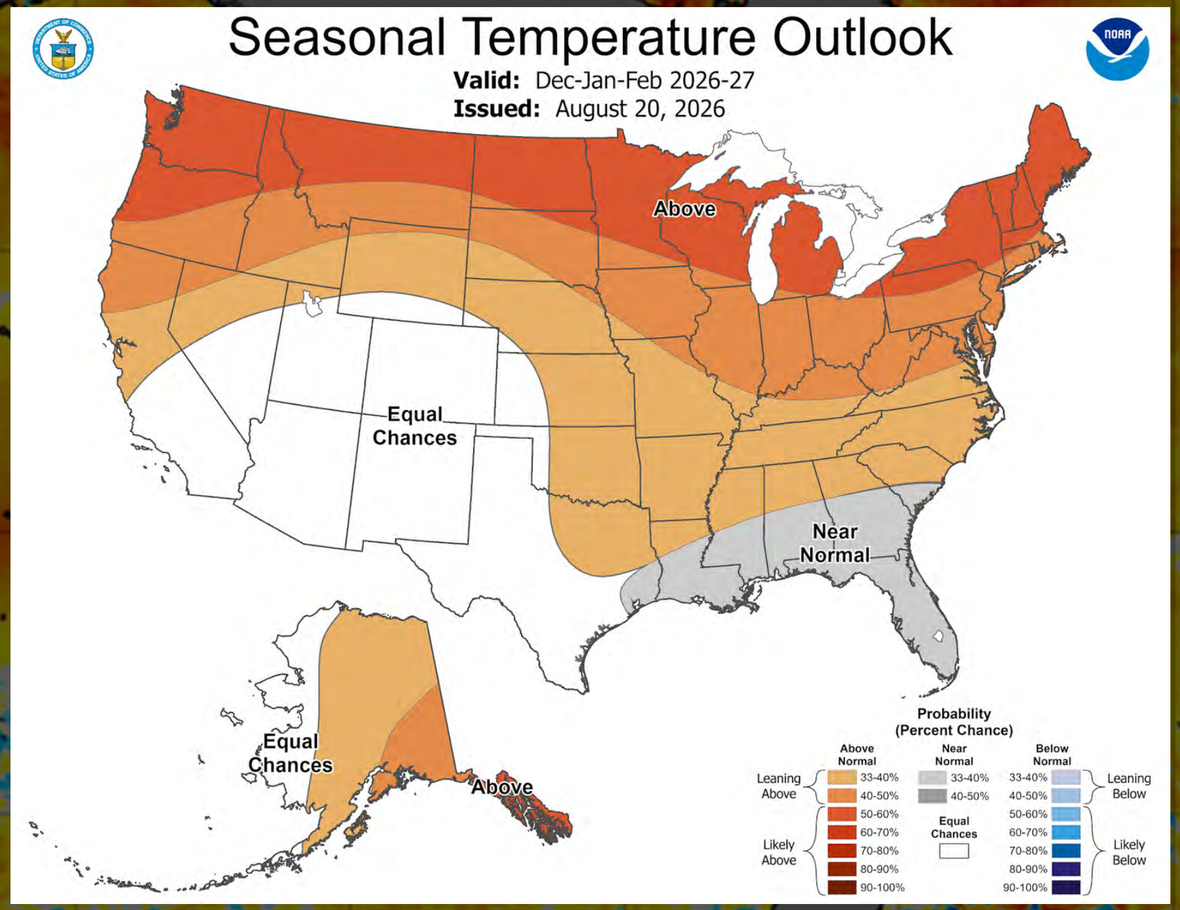
Official CPC Outlook: Dec-Jan-Feb

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT





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U.S. Department of Commerce

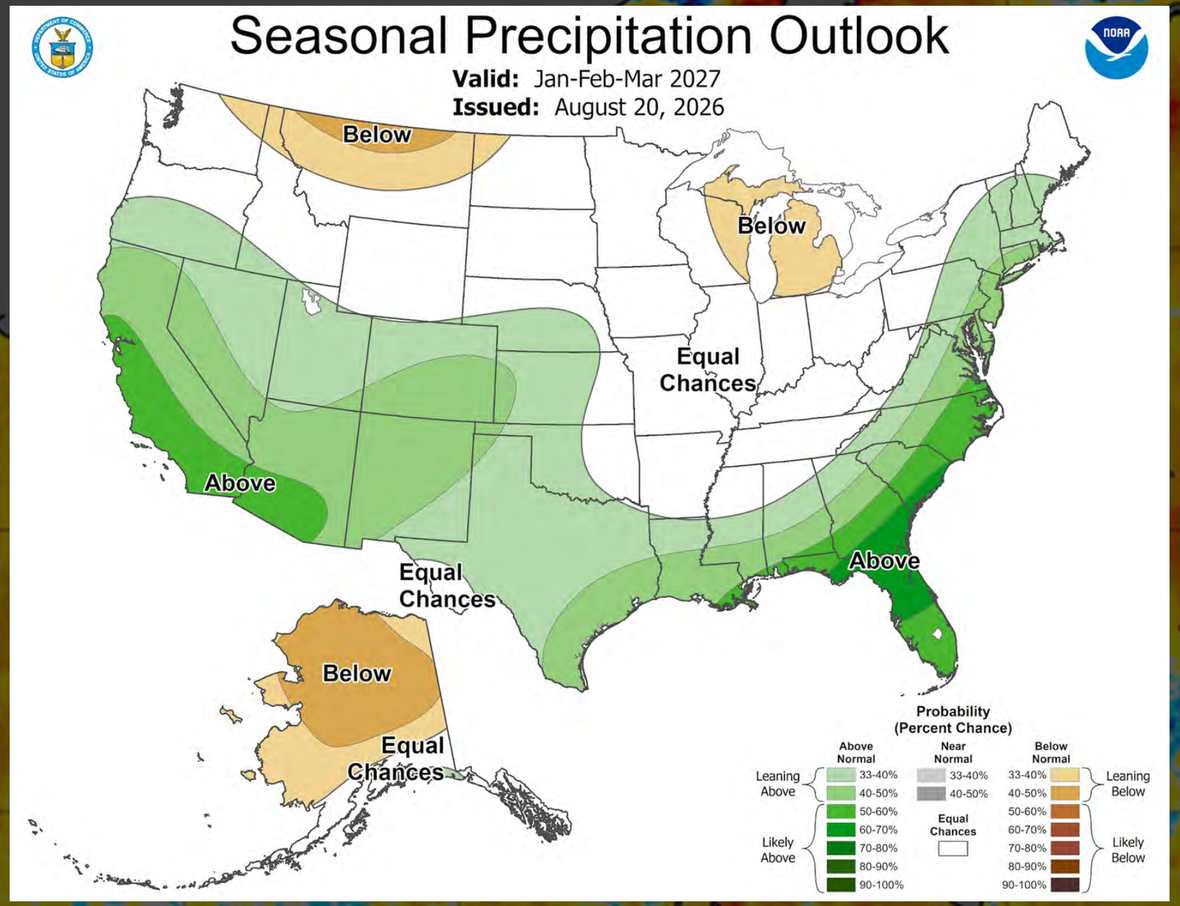
National Weather Service
Sacramento, CA

Official CPC Outlook: Jan-Feb-Mar

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

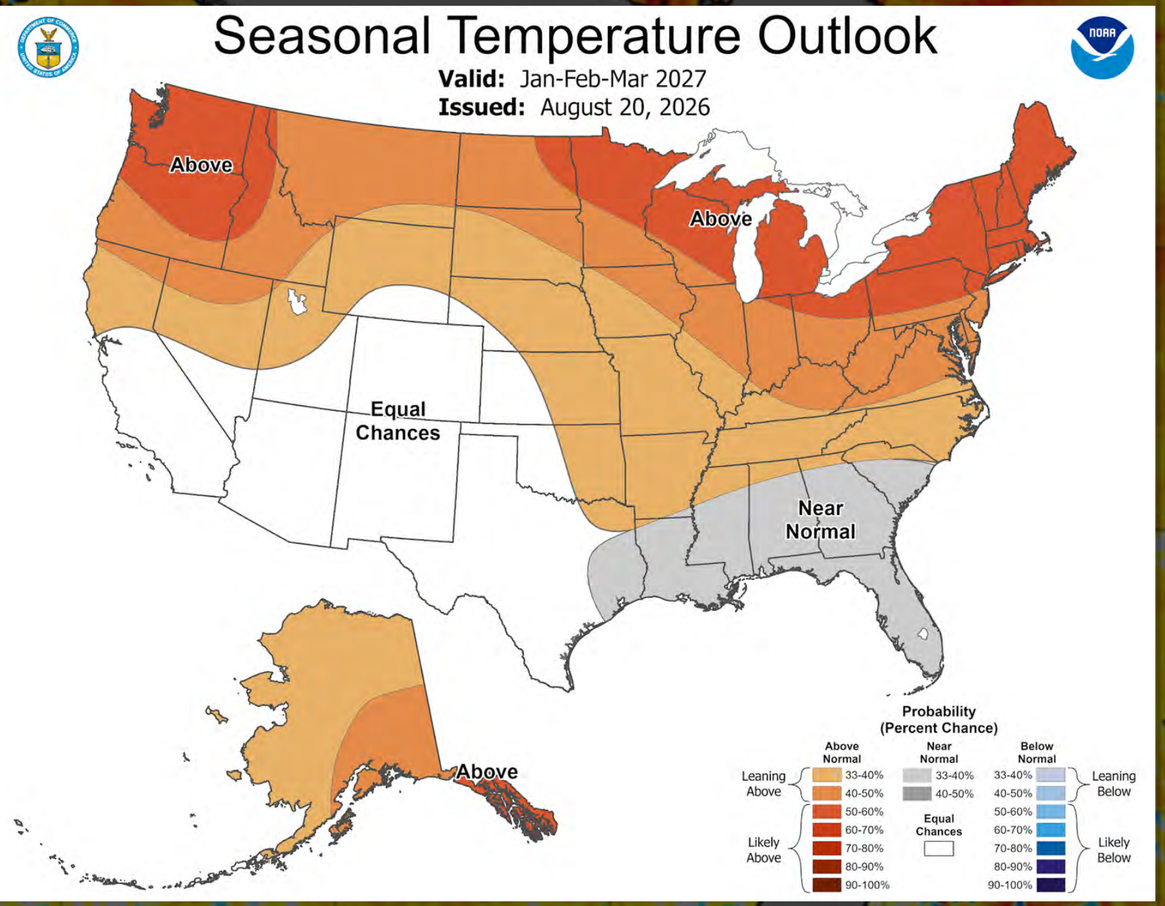
Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2027
Issued: August 20, 2026



Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2027
Issued: August 20, 2026



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U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
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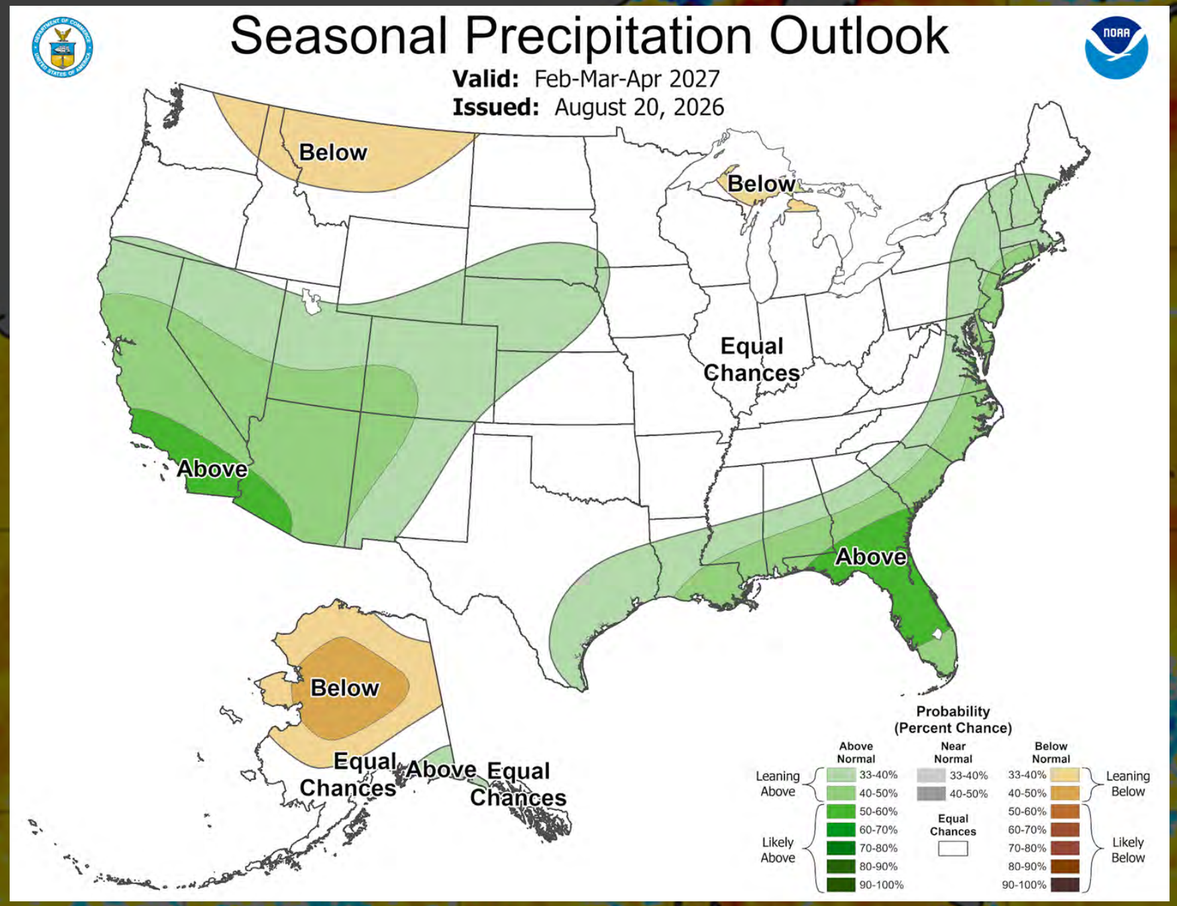
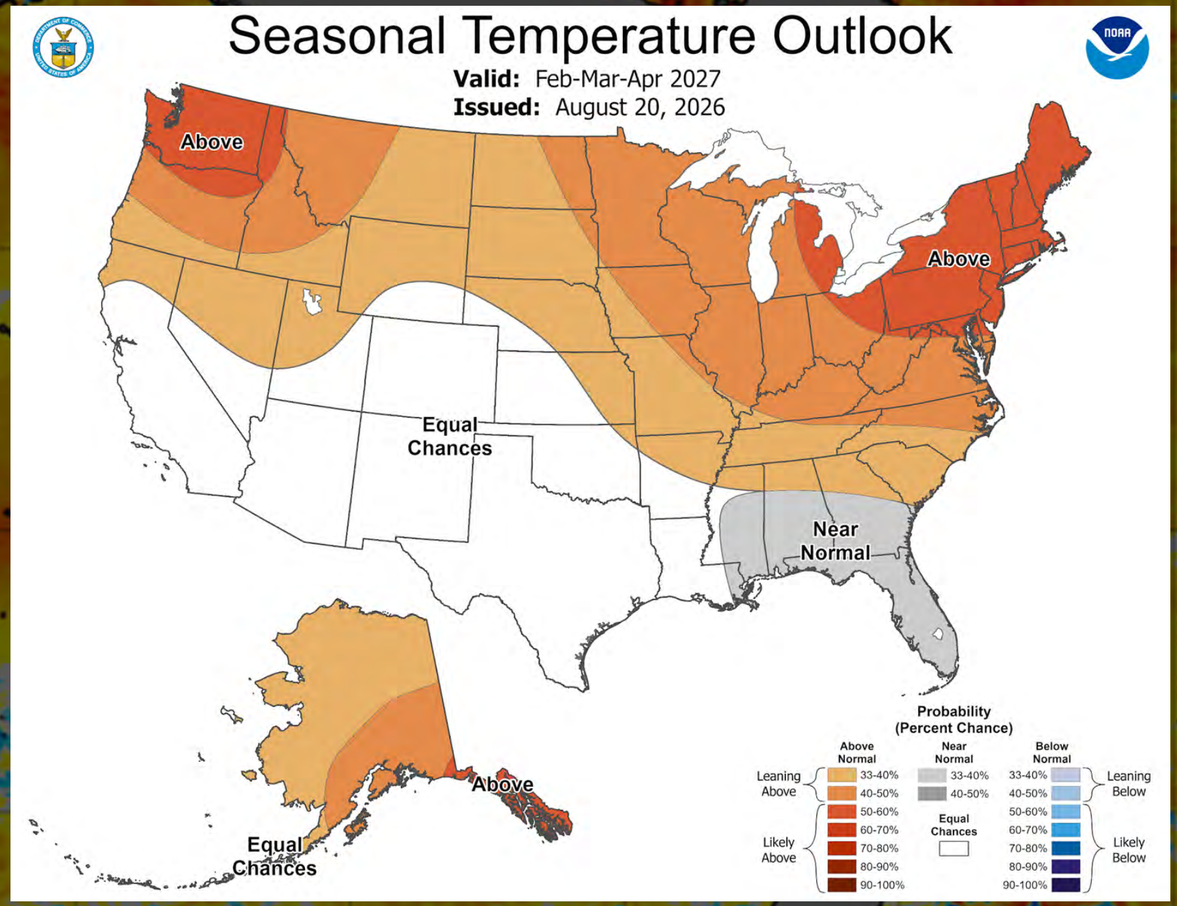
Official CPC Outlook: Feb-Mar-Apr

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT



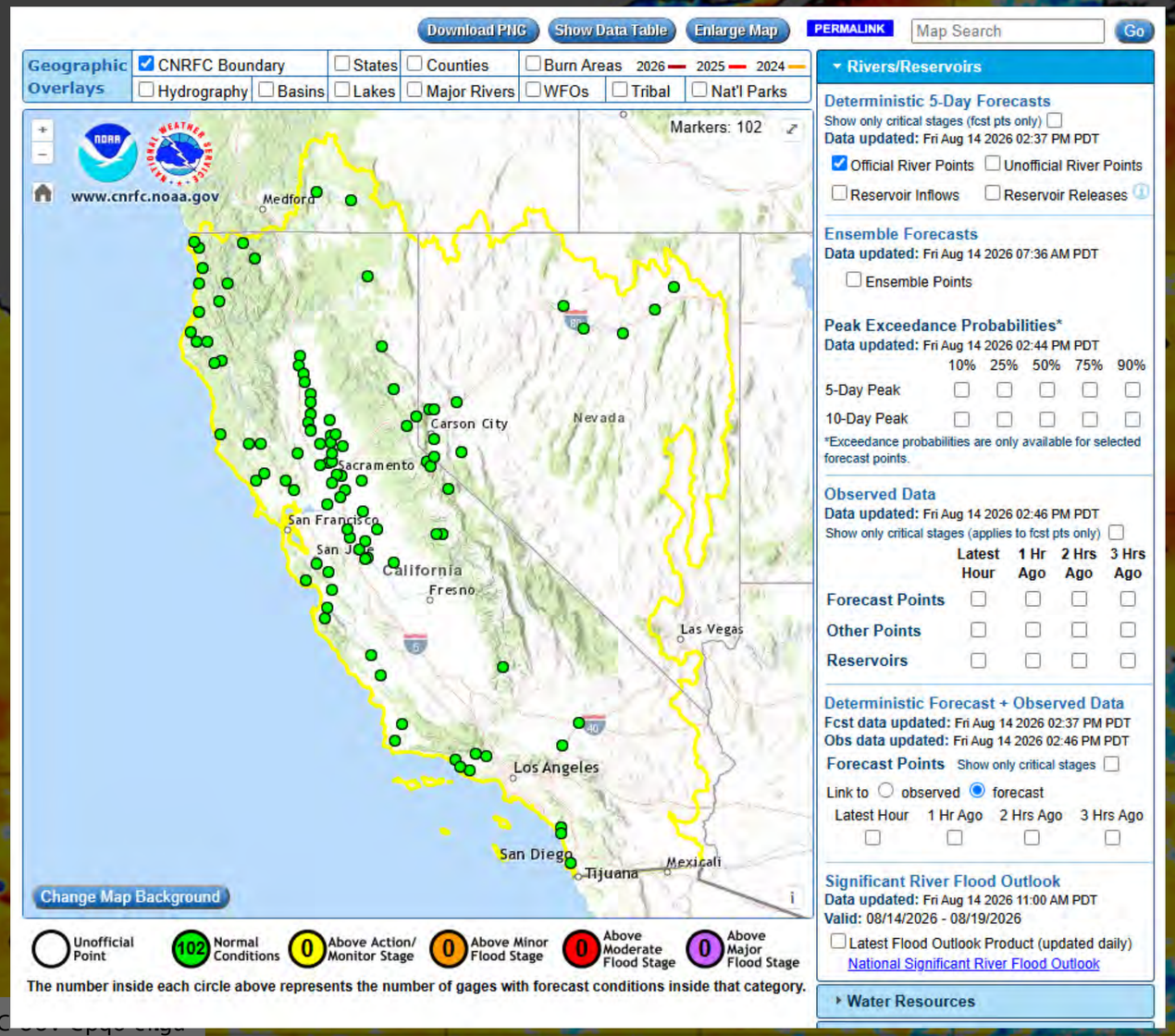


National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Sacramento, CA

Weather & Water Resources

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT



California -Nevada River Forecast Center

https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service

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August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT

National Weather Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Weather Forecast Office
Sacramento
Friday, Oct 22, 2021

Significant Rain and Snow this Weekend into Early Next Week

KEY POINTS

- **Periods of moderate to locally heavy rain could cause small stream and urban flooding**
- **Possible debris and ash flows on recently burned areas**
- **Breezy winds Sunday**
- **Winter Storm Watch in effect Sunday evening into Tuesday**

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS BRIEFING

- Winter Storm Watch issued for Sunday night into early Tuesday
- Flood Watch in effect from Late Saturday night through Sunday

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

Risk levels incorporate potential impacts from weather hazards and likelihood of occurrence.

	Fri 10/22	Sat 10/23	Sun 10/24	Mon 10/25	Tue 10/26	Wed 10/27	Thu 10/28
Valley	Rain	Rain	Rain/Wind	Rain	Rain	Rain	
Foothills	Rain/Debris Flows	Rain	Rain/Wind/Debris Flows	Rain	Rain	Rain	
Mountains	Rain/Debris Flows	Rain	Rain/Wind/Debris Flows	Snow	Snow	Rain	

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme

DETAILS

Valley, Foothills, Mountains

Rain

Impacts:
- Moderate to heavy rain may lead to roadway ponding and minor flooding of poor drainage areas, creating difficult commute conditions
- Periods of heavy rain with ash and debris flows possible on recently burned areas

Timing:
- Through this afternoon

Confidence:
- High

- Moderate to locally heavy rain through the afternoon today
- Ponding on roadways and increased travel times
- Isolated afternoon thunderstorms possible in northern Sacramento Valley and surrounding foothills

Snow

Impacts:
- Mountain travel delays and chain controls possible

Timing:
Friday

Confidence:
Medium

- Snow levels 7000 - 9000 feet decreasing through the day

Partner Emails

To register, go to:

https://partnerservices.nws.noaa.gov/registration

NOAA SST Anomalies

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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National Weather Service
Sacramento, CA

Weather & Water Resources

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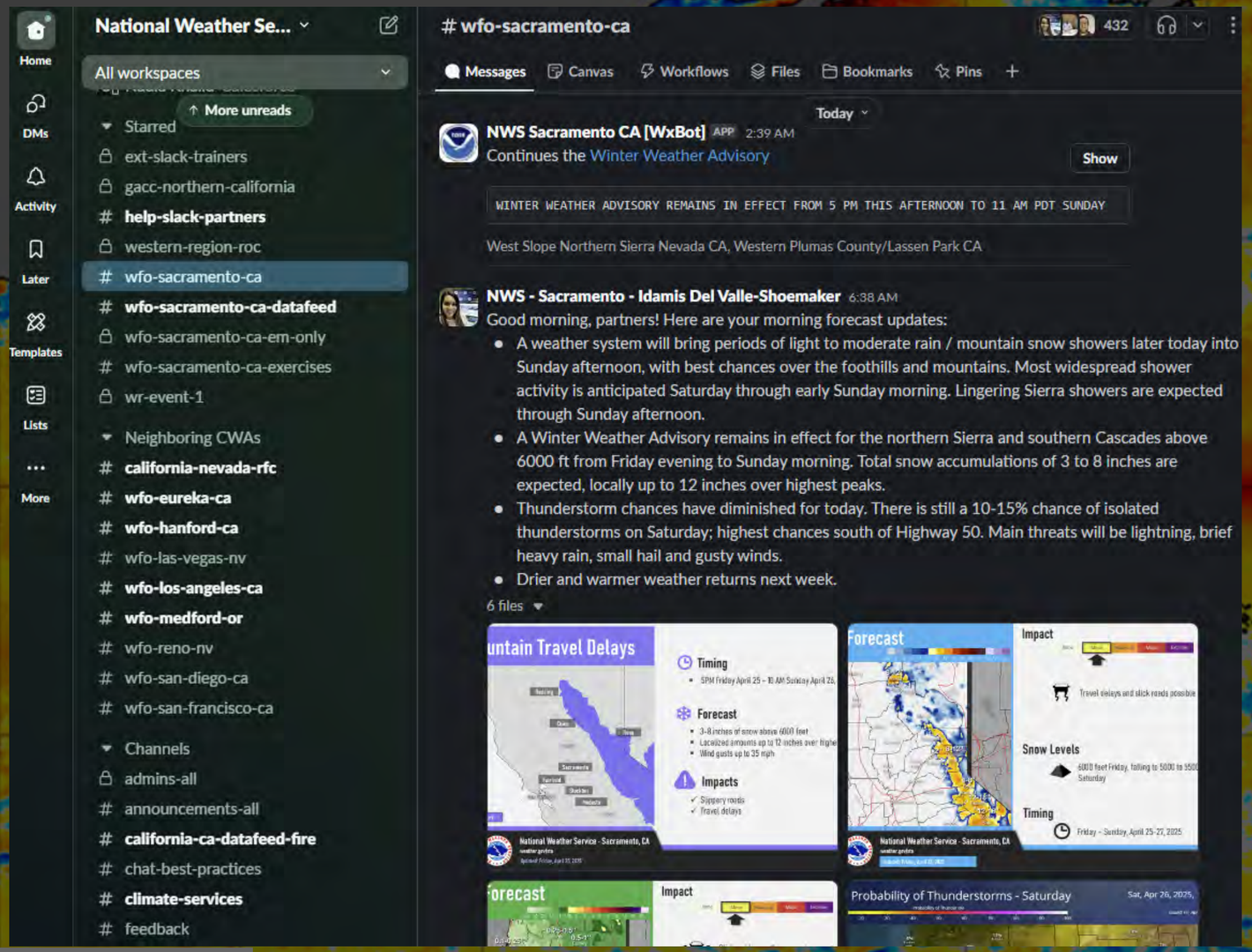


NWS Chat on Slack

A way for deep core partners who have the need for two-way coordination with NWS meteorologists.

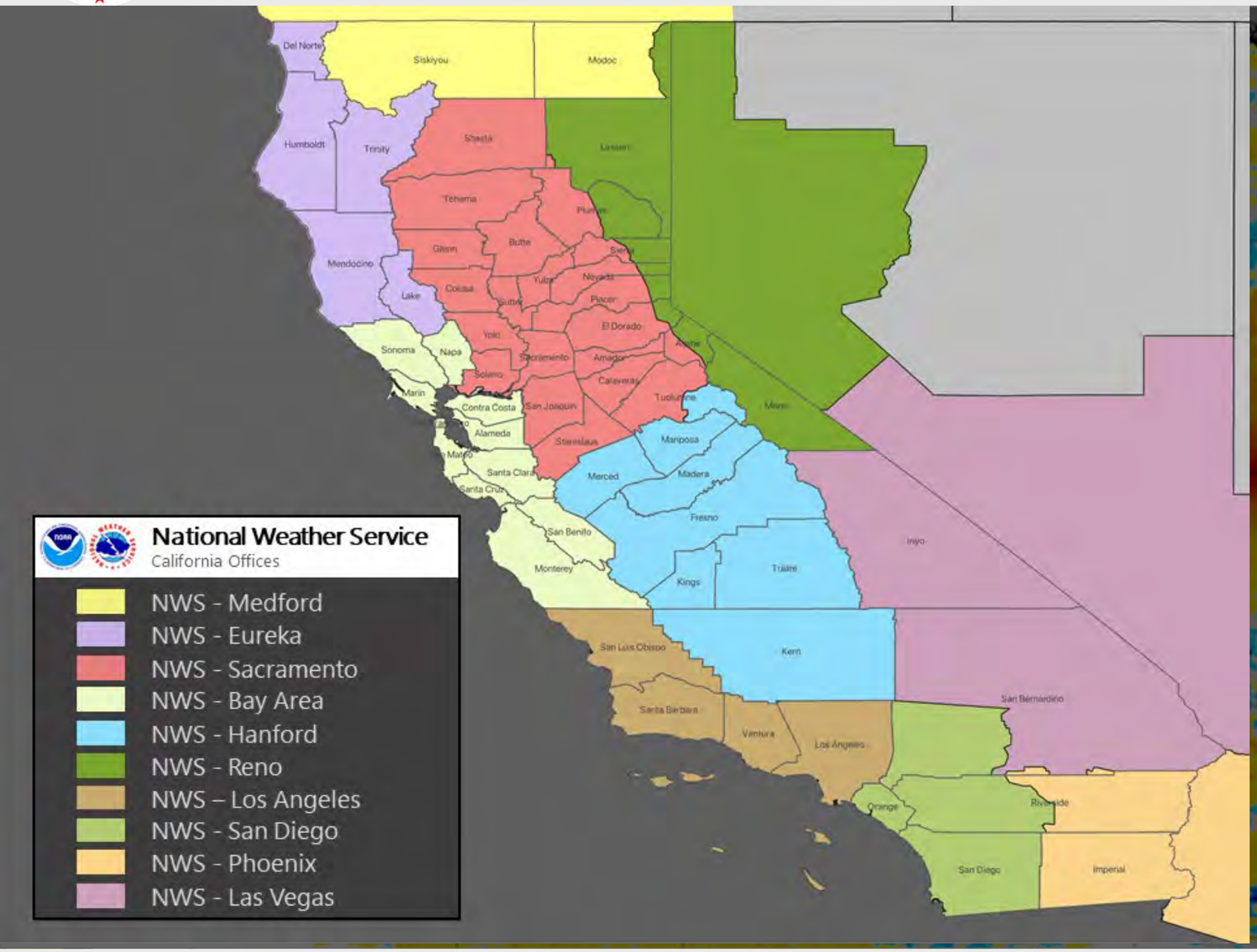
To register, go to:

https://partnerservices.nws.noaa.gov/registration

NOAA SST Anomalies

Thank You!

August 21, 2026
9:00 AM PDT



If you have any questions please contact:

NWS Sacramento
Senior Service Hydrologist
scott.rowe@noaa.gov

Other NWS Office Contacts:

nws.bayarea@noaa.gov
nws.eureka@noaa.gov
nws.hanford@noaa.gov
nws.lasvegas@noaa.gov
nws.losangeles@noaa.gov
nws.medford@noaa.gov
nws.reno@noaa.gov
nws.sandiego@noaa.gov
nws.sacramento@noaa.gov
nws.phoenix@noaa.gov

CEAC Flood Control Committee
August 21, 2026 – 11AM-12:15 PM
Jason Uhley – Chair
Carolyn Burke – Co-Chair

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3) **Legislative Update – Charles Delgado CSAC Legislative Advocate**

4) **Open Discussion**

- **Potential Executive Order for Streamlined Permitting of Flood Maintenance/Restoration Projects**
- **Pursuit of more permanent legislative fixes for permitting**
- **Other Topics**

Update on CA Dept. Water Resources Flood Management Activities

County Engineers Association of California: Flood Control and Water Resources Policy Committee
August 20, 2026

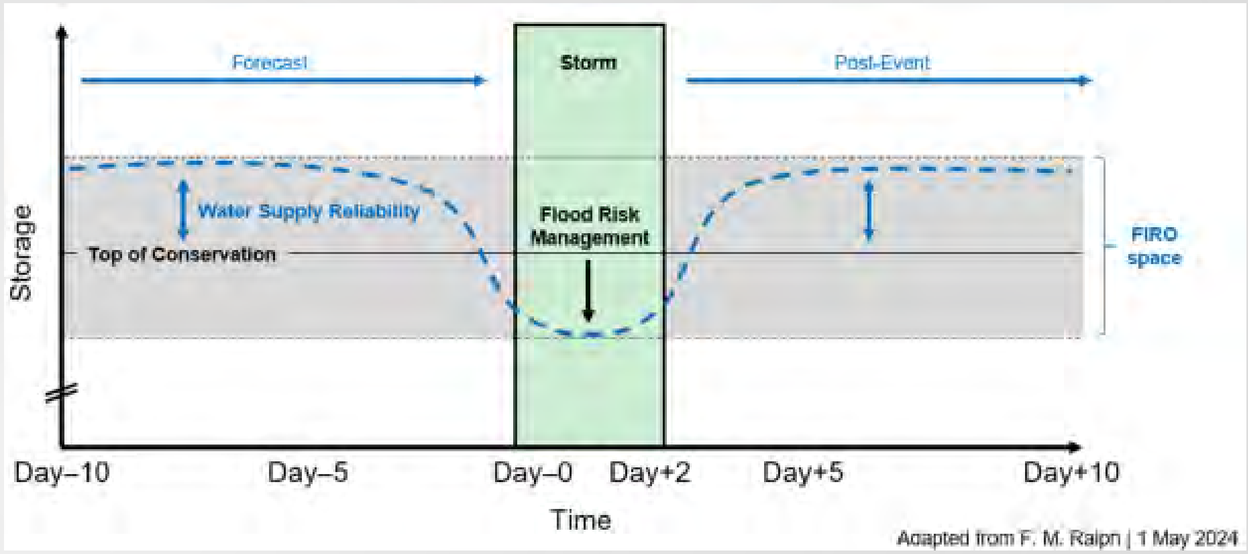


Image: Concept of Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (Ralph, 2024)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Michael Mierzwa, P.E., Policy Advisor
CA Dept. of Water Resources, Division of Flood Management

Outline of Today's Topics

- Update on DWR Statewide Flood Management Financial Assistance Programs
  - Dam Safety Climate and Resilience Program
  - Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Program
- Update on FEMA / HUD Efforts
  - FEMA Review Council
  - HUD Rescission of FFRMS
- Update on USACE Efforts
  - Section 203 Studies
  - National Levee Safety Program
    - One-Time Screening of non-USACE levee systems
- Update on Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement
- CA Water Plan Public Meetings
- Statewide Flood Risk Assessment Lead Introduction
- Flood Preseason Workshops

DWR's Flood Management Financial Assistance Programs

DWR Flood Risk Reduction Grant Program	Status	State Plan of Flood Control	Central Valley	Statewide	Current Fund Source
Statewide Flood Control Subventions Program*	Ongoing			✓	Proposition 1E & **Proposition 4**
Dam Safety Climate and Resilience Program*	**Draft Regulations**			✓	**Proposition 4**
Local Levee Assistance Program	Legacy / Closed			✓	Proposition 1E
Flood Corridor Program	Legacy / Closed			✓	Proposition 13 & 84
Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Program*	**Draft Regulations or Guidelines**	✓			**Proposition 4**
Regional Flood Management Planning (Directed Funding)	Funding Committed	✓			Propositions 1E & 68
Central Valley Tributaries Program	Funding Committed		✓		Proposition 1
Coastal Flood Risk Reduction Protection Program	Funding Committed			✓	Propositions 1 & 68
Floodplain Management Protection and Risk Awareness Program	Funding Committed	✓	✓	✓	Proposition 68
Conveyance Subsidence Program (Directed Funding)	Funding Committed		✓		General Fund
State Flood Emergency Response Program (Round 3)*	?			✓	Proposition 84

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

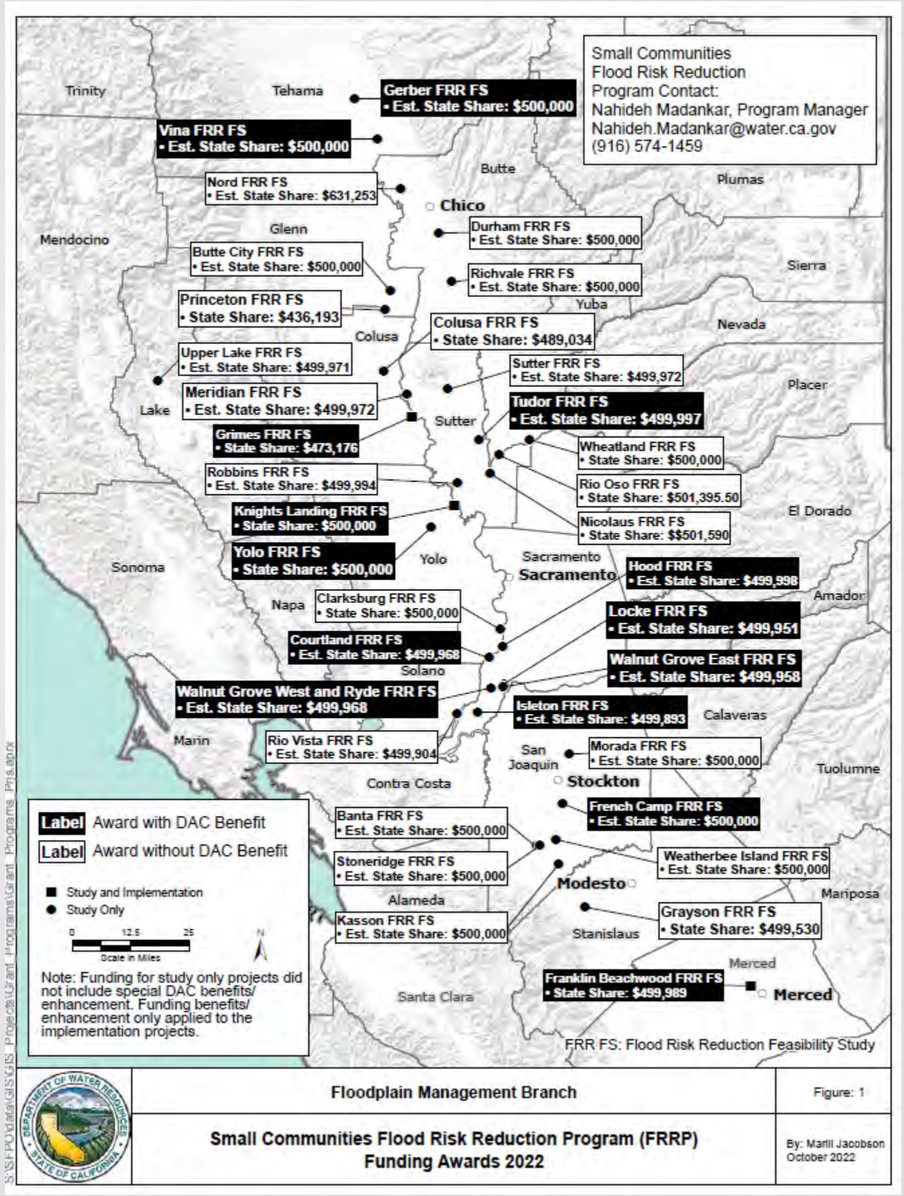
NOTE: These (*) programs may have future competitive funding rounds in the next several years.

Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Program

- Voters approved $450M in Prop 4 to start the new Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Program
- Prioritizes protection of public safety, restoration of water storage, flood risk reduction, enhancement of water supply reliability, protection of water quality, and enhancement, protection, or restoration of habitat for fish and wildlife
- DWR had to shift the development of the guidelines to a longer regulation process overseen by the State Office of Administrative Law (OAL)
- DWR-DSOD used this regulation process when preparing the requirements for dam owners SB92 mapping requirements
- **Project solicitations expected in 2027**

Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Program

- Recommended by the 2012 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, this program addresses the affordability issues many small communities with populations less than 10,000 people to achieve flood risk reductions without promoting risk inducing growth
- 35 communities are protected by State Plan of Flood Control levee systems
- All 35 communities have completed feasibility studies
- 3 communities: Grimes, Knight's Landing, and Franklin-Beachwood have funding for initial phases of flood risk reduction construction projects
- Due to the limited funding, communities are being encouraged to submit phased projects and seek Federal (FEMA, USDA, HUD, or USACE) grants in addition to the State funding
- **Draft Guidelines expected Q4 2026**



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

FEMA & HUD UPDATE

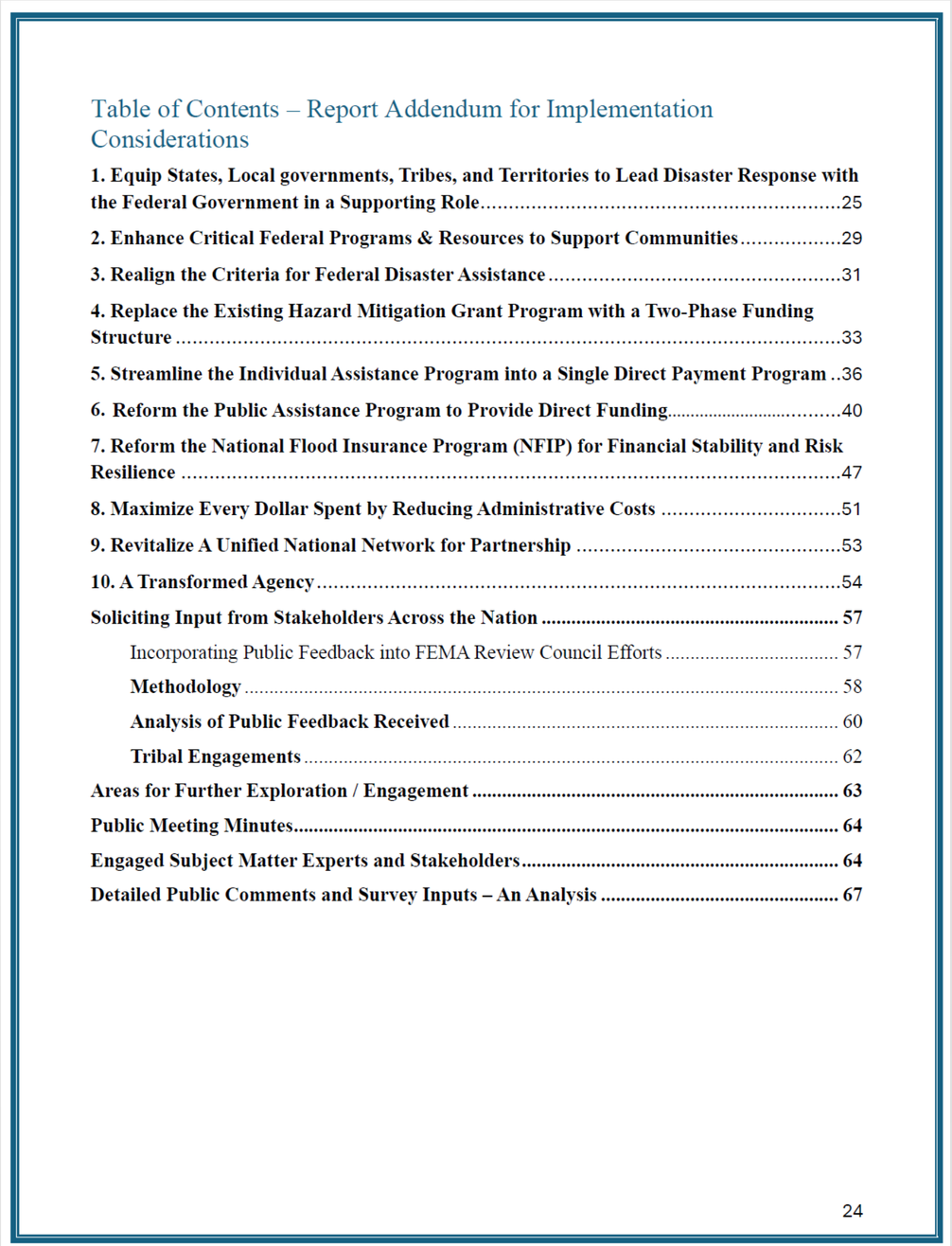


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Image: FEMA Review Council Report Addendum (May, 2026)

FEMA Review Couincil Implementation Requirements by Recommendations

Recommendation	Minimum Action Required to Implement			
	Policy	Legislation	Regulation	Executive Order
#1 Equip SLTT to Lead	✓			
#2 Enhance Critical Programs	✓		✓	
#3 Realign Criteria for Assistance			✓	
#4 Replace HMGP		✓		
#5 Streamline IA		✓		
#6 Reform PA		✓		
#7 Reform NFIP		✓		
#8 Reduce Admin Costs				✓
#9 Network for Partnership	✓			
#10 Transform FEMA		✓		✓

Federal Register
152 Public Comment Letters

- **Public comments on the report were closed on June 8, 2026**
- **Notable comments from States:**
  - CA, DE, IA, MD, ME, MN, NC, NM
- **Notable comments from Others:**
  - Swiss Re (Insurance Provider)
  - US Chamber of Commerce
  - City / County of San Francisco
  - National Association of Flood and Stormwater Agencies (NAFSMA)
  - National Conference of State Legislatures
  - American Institute of Architects
  - Mortgage Bankers Association
  - NYC Emergency Management
  - Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
  - National League of Cities
  - US Chamber of Commerce
  - Coalition for Sustainable Flood Insurance
  - LA County Office of Emergency Management
  - Reinsurance Association of America (RAA)
  - Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFMP)

Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Rescission at HUD

- Federal Register Docket: FR-65-P01
- Restores HUD's regulations (mostly) to state prior to April 23, 204
- Introduces some inconsistencies with types of building elevations and ASCE 24-24 / International Building Code standards
- Provides exceptions for limited improvements in floodways, such as functional dependent uses, utility lines, and d*e minimis* improvements when using HUD funds
- Does permit the use of insurance as a mitigation approach for critical actions within a floodway when using HUD funds
- Grants exceptions from the 8-step decision making process for repairs, rehabilitation, or replacement of certain infrastructure, including streets, curbs, and gutters … but this does not apply to levees, chemical storage, wastewater facilities, or sewer lagoons

USACE UPDATE

One-Time Levee Review

- Collection of Available Data Sources
- Site Visit/Inspection: General Levee Condition and Inform Risk Assessment
- Screening Risk Assessments:
  - Flood Loading
  - Expected Levee Performance
  - Consequences of Levee Breach and Overtopping

Image: Cosumnes River levee, looking upstream (Sacramento County), Feb. 2024.

List of Screenings of Non-USACE Levees in CA

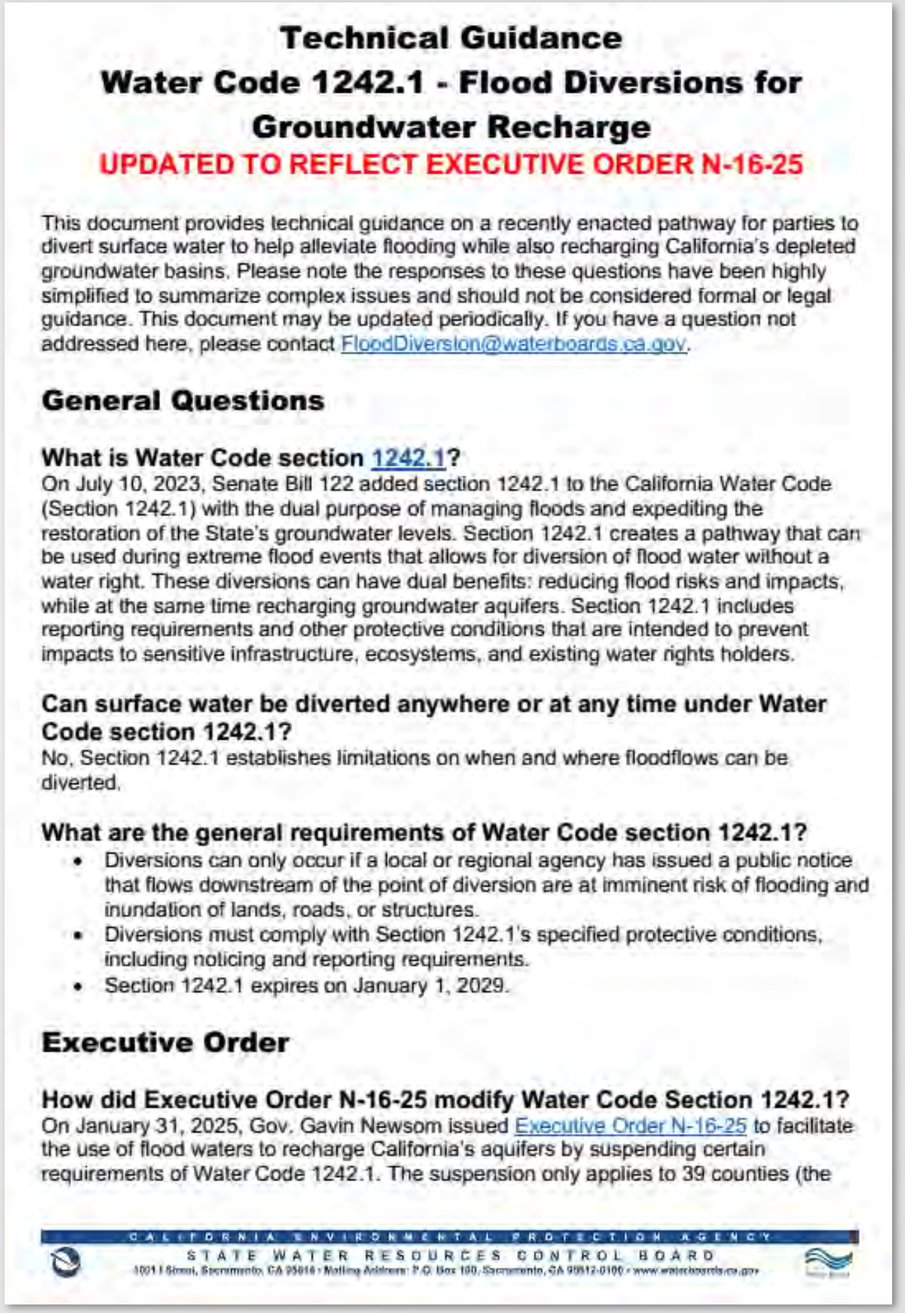
Levee System(s)	Community	Land Use Protected	Flood Hazard	Maintainer	Date(s) of Screening	Number of Systems Screened
Cosumnes River	Sacramento County / Wilton / Rancho Muretia	Rural / Ag	Riverine (Rain Flood)	RD 800	Feb 24, Apr 25, Jun 25	6
Kern River	Bakersfield	Industrial	Riverine (Snow Melt)	Kern County Water Agency	Nov 23	1
City of Oroville, CA	Oroville	Urban	Riverine (Rain Flood and Snow Melt)	Oroville	May 25	1
San Pablo Bay Levee	San Rafael	Urban	Coastal	San Rafael	Jun 25	1
Mojave River Levee	Victorville	Urban	Riverine (Snow Melt – High Desert)	San Bernardino County	Jul 25	1
Sycamore Creek Levee	San Bernardino	Suburban	Debris (Mountain)	San Bernardino County	Jul 25	1
Ely Basin	Ontario	Urban	Recharge Basin	SBC, CBWCD	Nov 25	1
Pacheco Creek	**San Benito**	**Rural / Ag**	**Riverine**	**Pacheco Storm Water District**	**May 26**	**1**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Section 203 Workshop

- Federal funding for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) feasibility studies is shrinking.
- The General Investigation (GI) program, historically the primary path for federally led studies, is declining, forcing Districts to make tough choices: descoping, terminating, or shifting studies to alternative pathways like Section 203.
- A Section 203 study allows a non-federal interest — a city, state, or regional agency — to lead a USACE-compliant feasibility study using local funds. Instead of waiting for limited federal appropriations, communities can maintain momentum and keep critical projects on track.
- Next CA workshop:
  Los Angeles / Long Beach, CA Sept. 15-17

FLOOD DIVERSION FOR RECHARGE ENHANCEMENT



Technical Guidance
Water Code 1242.1 - Flood Diversions for Groundwater Recharge
UPDATED TO REFLECT EXECUTIVE ORDER N-16-25

This document provides technical guidance on a recently enacted pathway for parties to divert surface water to help alleviate flooding while also recharging California's depleted groundwater basins. Please note the responses to these questions have been highly simplified to summarize complex issues and should not be considered formal or legal guidance. This document may be updated periodically. If you have a question not addressed here, please contact FloodDiversion@waterboards.ca.gov.

General Questions

What is Water Code section 1242.1?
On July 10, 2023, Senate Bill 122 added section 1242.1 to the California Water Code (Section 1242.1) with the dual purpose of managing floods and expediting the restoration of the State's groundwater levels. Section 1242.1 creates a pathway that can be used during extreme flood events that allows for diversion of flood water without a water right. These diversions can have dual benefits: reducing flood risks and impacts, while at the same time recharging groundwater aquifers. Section 1242.1 includes reporting requirements and other protective conditions that are intended to prevent impacts to sensitive infrastructure, ecosystems, and existing water rights holders.

Can surface water be diverted anywhere or at any time under Water Code section 1242.1?
No, Section 1242.1 establishes limitations on when and where floodflows can be diverted.

What are the general requirements of Water Code section 1242.1?
- Diversions can only occur if a local or regional agency has issued a public notice that flows downstream of the point of diversion are at imminent risk of flooding and inundation of lands, roads, or structures.
- Diversions must comply with Section 1242.1's specified protective conditions, including noticing and reporting requirements.
- Section 1242.1 expires on January 1, 2029.

Executive Order

How did Executive Order N-16-25 modify Water Code Section 1242.1?
On January 31, 2025, Gov. Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-16-25 to facilitate the use of flood waters to recharge California's aquifers by suspending certain requirements of Water Code 1242.1. The suspension only applies to 39 counties (the

STREAM CONDITIONS & RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

From Normal Operations to Emergency Response

CONDITION 1 — NORMAL WATER RIGHTS

Normal operations.
No emergency declaration.

- Stream flowing within channel banks.
- Reservoir operating normally; managing for flood control pool.
- No local inflow events.
- No emergency declaration.

CONDITION 2 — TEMP. WATER RIGHTS / FDRE TYPE 1

No emergency declaration.

- Stream at bank full conditions.
- Local convective storms produce lateral inflow.
- Reservoir operating normally.
- Diversion to MAR on agricultural lands.
- No emergency declaration.

CONDITION 3 — HIGH FLOW / FDRE TYPE 2 (Divert for Recharge)

Local emergency declaration.
No state emergency proclamation.

- Excess high flows diverted for groundwater recharge.
- Frontal system adds precipitation and snowmelt; lateral inflow.
- Spillway in partial use. High release via tunnels.
- Overbank flows overtop levees in several places.
- Extensive MAR with rain on recharge areas.
- Flooding of farm and one community is likely.
- Local emergency declaration.

CONDITION 4 — EMERGENCY RESPONSE

State emergency proclamation.
Potential Presidential Disaster Declaration.

- Levee breach; flooding occurring.
- Spillway at max capacity; max release via tunnels.
- Widespread ponding on ag lands (MAR + local flooding).
- One community flooded; another at risk; parts of town affected.
- Real-time emergency response in progeess.
- State emergency proclamation.
- Potential Presidential Disaster Declaration.

MAP LEGEND

- Stream / Normal Flow
- High Flow / Bank Full
- Flooded Area / Overbank Flow
- Lateral Inflow
- Reservoir / Dam
- Point of Diversion / Headgate
- Levee
- Impacted Area
- At Risk / Impacted
- Road Closure
- Law Enforcement
- Swift Water Rescue
- Temporary Pump
- Diversion Flow

WEATHER & HYDRO DRIVERS

- Normal Conditions
- Convective Storms (Local)
- Frontal System / Synoptic Event
- Snowpack Contribution

EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES

CONDITION 1–2: Normal Operations
No Emergency Declaration

CONDITION 3: Local Emergency Declaration

CONDITION 4: State Emergency Declaration /
Potential Presidential Disaster Declaration

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Know your condition.
Take appropriate action.

IN CONDITIONS 1–2

- Continue normal operations.
- Monitor weather and flows.
- Stay informed.

IN CONDITION 3

- Coordinate with your Operational Area.
- Monitor impacts and be prepared to act. Notify State–Federal Flood Operations Center (if flooding occurs).

IN CONDITION 4

- Immediately enact your Operational Area AND State–Federal Flood Operations Center.
- Prioritize life safety.

EMERGENCY RECHARGE

For true emergency recharge (no crediting), communicate with your local DWR for technical advice and support from the Emergency Recharge Advisory Team.
Lead Entity = Includes HCP Coordinators and Flood Fight Specialists

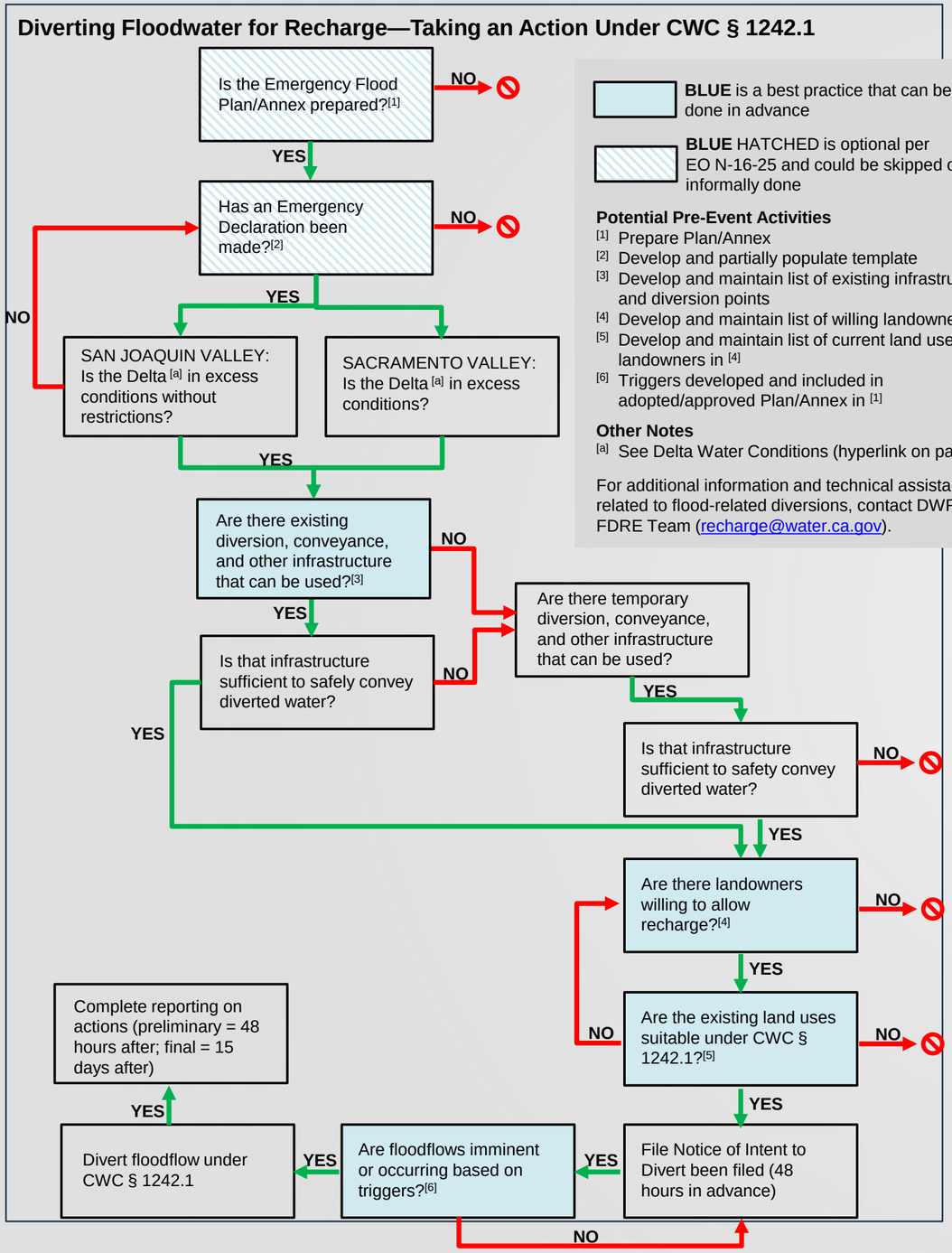
Note: This graphic is a conceptual illustration for communication and planning purposes. Conditions will vary by location and event.

SB 122 / CWC 1242.1 Background

- CWC 1242.1 permits local entities to adopt plans to facilitate the dual objectives timely diversions of floodwater to promote groundwater recharge (which addresses future water supply issues) and to address anticipated downstream or localized flood losses

- Review SWRCB Technical Guide at: https://waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/groundwater-recharge/docs/1242-1-tech-guidance.pdf

- Local agency must have considered flood risk as part of an adopted general plan or for urban areas within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Drainage District an adopted local plan of flood control (per CWC 8201)



DRAFT CWC 1241.2 Flow Chart

Information Used from Emergency Flood Diversion Plan

Why

- Emergency Declaration
- Identification of recent flood impacts including (1) available photos, (2) assets at risk, (3) parcel information for inundation areas, or (4) location of the compromised existing flood defense system.

How & Where

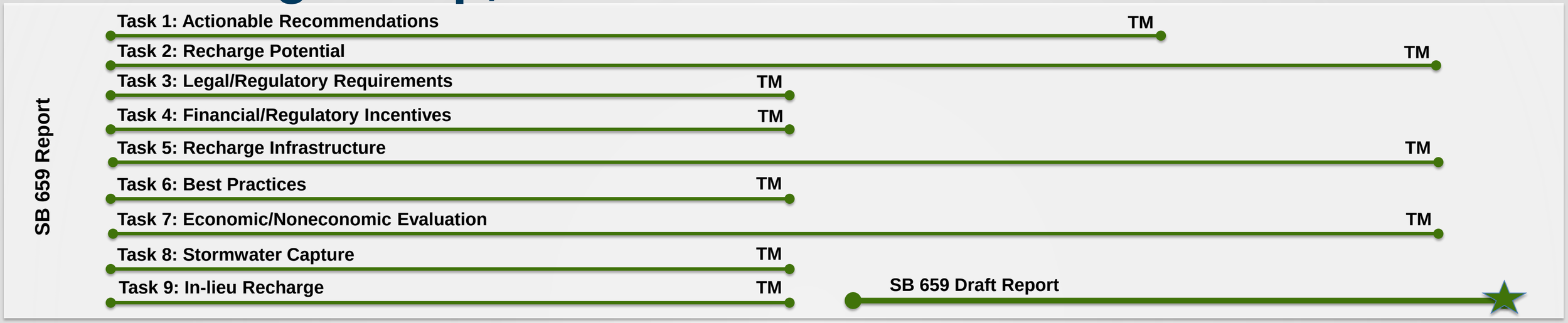
- Identification of potential diversion and recharge areas.
- Description of land uses in areas of impact and areas of recharge.

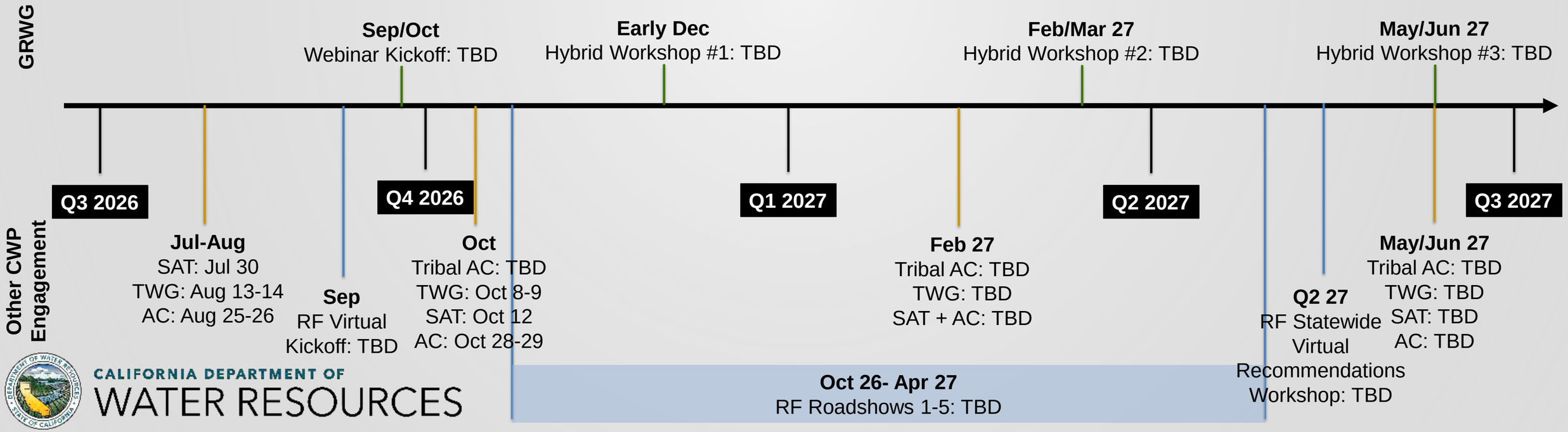
When

- Identification of flood diversion triggers (both on and off).
- Process for recording and reporting on the time, duration, and volume of water diverted and any observed abnormalities associated with the water course.

CA WATER PLAN UPDATE

Timeline: SB 659 Report, Groundwater Recharge Working Group, and CWP 2028





CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

California Water Plan Engagement

State Agency Team (SAT)

Implementation, Compliance, and Coordination

CA Water Commission (CWC)*

Provides Consultation

DWR
Water Plan Project Team

Regional Forums*

Public Forums Across California To Provide Place-Based Input

Advisory Committee (AC)*

Body of Interested Parties & Thought Leaders that Advises and Provides Input to DWR During Public Meetings

*Engagement pathways mandated under SB 72.

Other Engagement and Input Pathways

Tribal Engagement and Consultation

Tribal Advisory Committee and Government to Government Consultation

Technical Working Group

Review of Data, Modeling, and Analytical Methods

Topic-Based Groups and Workshops

Focus on Specific Water Management Topics

Statewide Plenary

Bringing Everyone Together

Recharge Working Group

Recharge input, Data, inform Recharge Recommendations

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

FLOOD PRESEASON WORKSHOPS

2026 Workshop Schedule and Locations

STATE | FEDERAL FLOOD OPERATIONS CENTER

For questions or comments please contact the DWR State-Federal Flood Operations Center at: 916-574-2619 or Flood_Center@water.ca.gov

SACRAMENTO COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Wednesday, October 7
0800 – 1200
Sacramento County OES
3720 Dudley Blvd., Bldg. 600
McClellan 95652

MERCED COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Wednesday, October 14
0800 – 1200
Merced County JIC
3500 Apron Avenue
Atwater 95301

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Tuesday, October 27
0800 – 1200
Valley Communications Ctr
153 S. Lena Road
San Bernardino 92408

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Tuesday, November 3
0800 – 1200
Fortuna Fire Department
320 South Fortuna Blvd.
Fortuna 95540

MONTEREY COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Tuesday, November 10
0800 – 1200
Monterey County OEM
Cayenne Room
1441 Schilling Place
Salinas 93901

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Thursday, November 12
0800 – 1200
Contra Costa County Sheriff
1850 Muir Road
Martinez 94553

FRESNO COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Tuesday, October 13
0800 – 1200
Fresno EMS Training Center
5190 N. Fresno Street, Ste 118
Fresno 93710

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Thursday, October 22
0800 – 1200
San Joaquin County OES
Assembly Room 3
2101 E. Earhart Avenue
Stockton 95206

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Wednesday, October 28
0830 – 1230
Santa Barbara OEM
Incident Management Room
4408 Cathedral Oaks
Santa Barbara 93110

SHASTA COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Wednesday, November 4
0800 – 1200
Shasta County Sheriff
6590 Lockheed Drive
Redding 96002

BUTTE COUNTY
& Surrounding Areas
Tuesday, November 17
0800 – 1200
Cal Fire
176 Nelson Avenue
Oroville 95965
(Park on Del Oro / dirt lot)

US Army Corps of Engineers

Typical Preseason Workshop Topics

- **County OES** — local flood threats and problem areas
- **Cal OES** — how to request resources when local supplies run out, and how response and recovery work
- **DWR Flood Operations Center** — how planning and coordination support your high water response
- **DWR Flood Fight Specialists** — materials, methods, and training you can put to use
- **California Conservation Corps** — the crews and support you can call on
- **CAL FIRE** — the resources they bring to a flood response
- **USACE** — what the Corps provides, and how PL 84-99 assistance works
- **National Weather Service** — the 2026–2027 winter weather outlook

California Nevada River Forecast Center

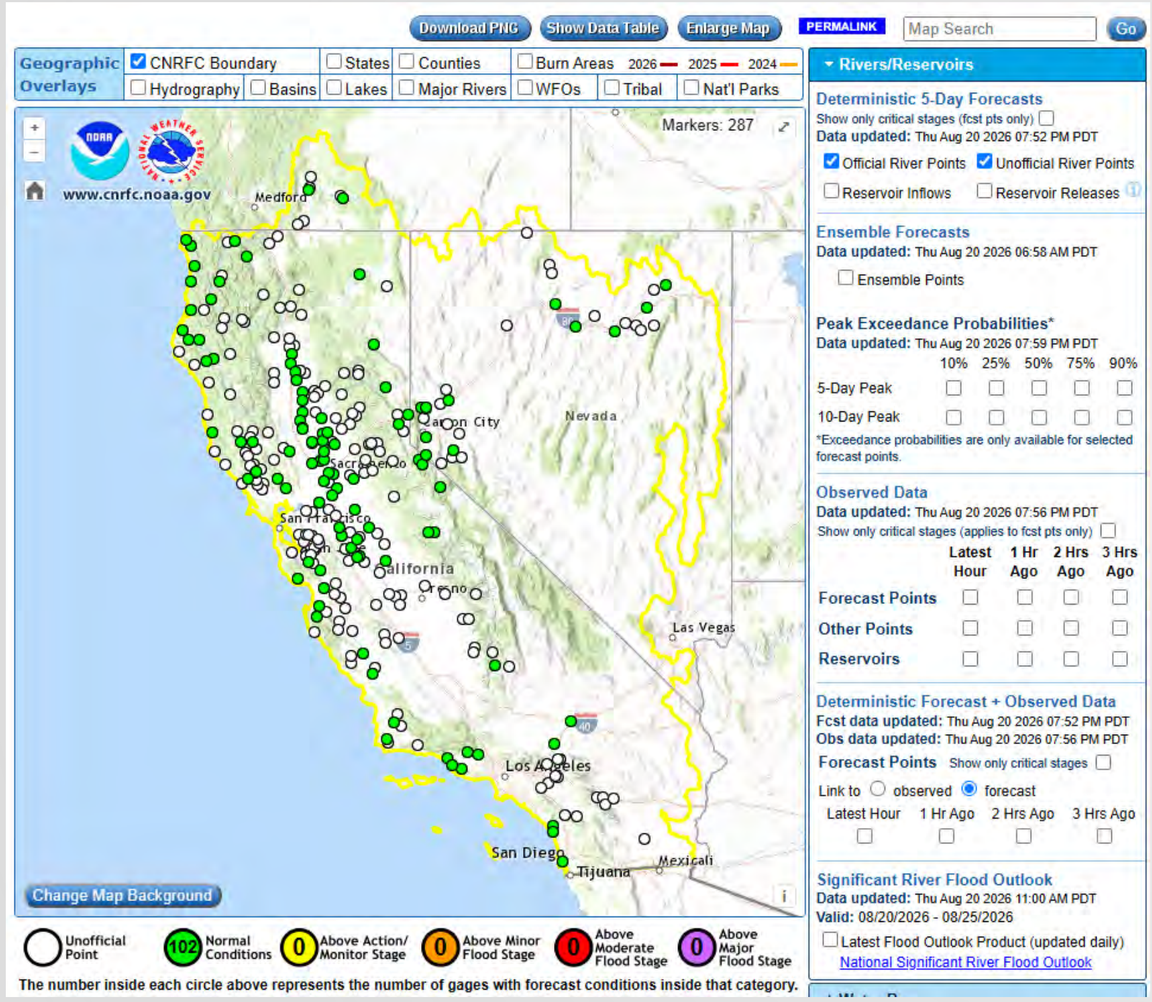


Image: Example of CNRFC River Forecast Points (Aug. 20, 2026)

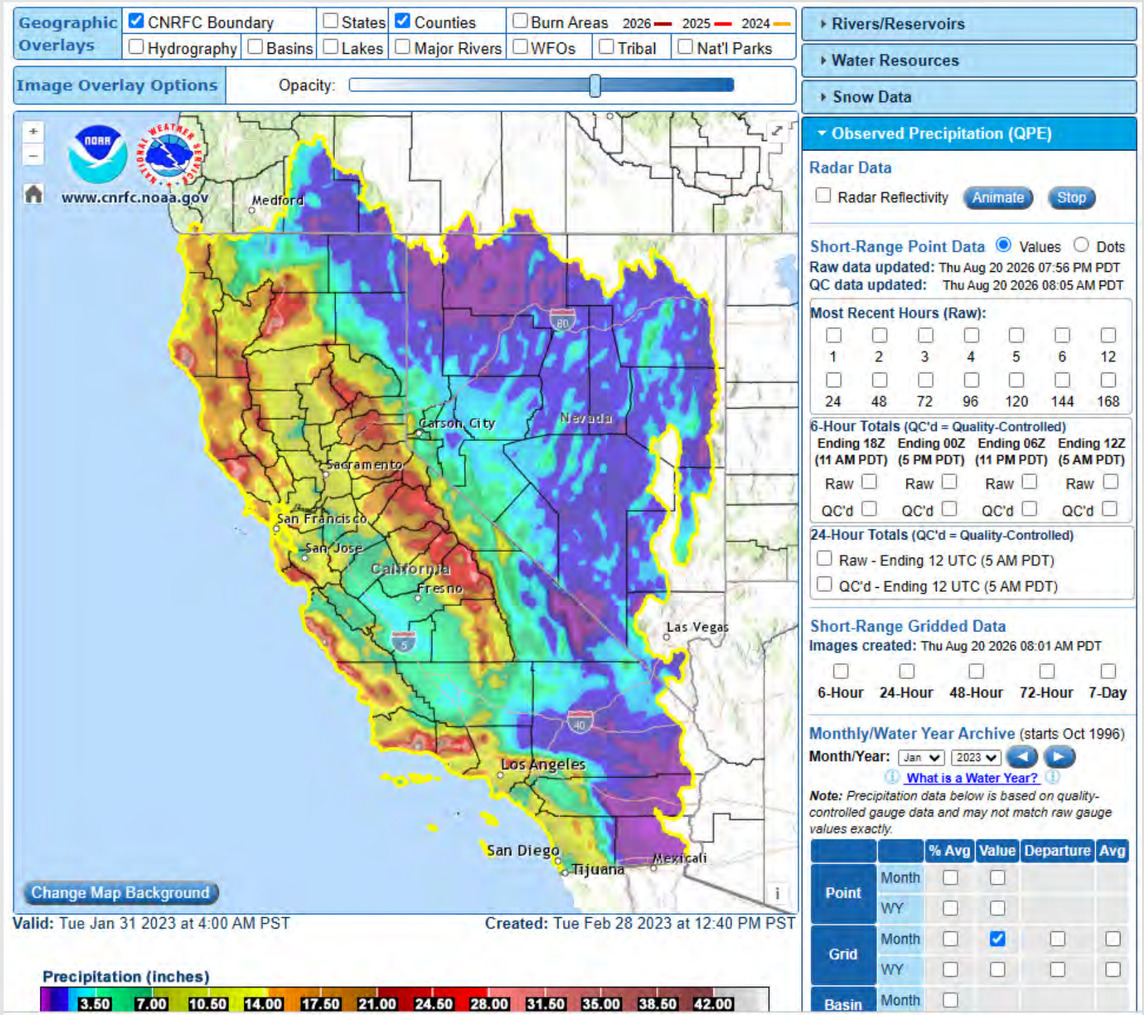


Image: Example of CNRFC Gridded Precipitation (Jan. 2023 Monthly Total Observation)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Contact Info

Michael Mierzwa, P.E., Flood Policy & Technical Advisor
Michael.mierzwa@water.ca.gov
CA Dept. Water Resources

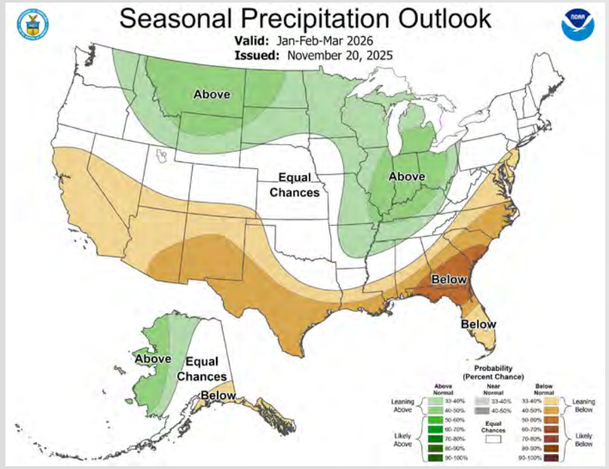


Image: NOAA Climate Prediction Center's 1.5 Month Seasonal Precipitation Outlook (Nov. 2025)

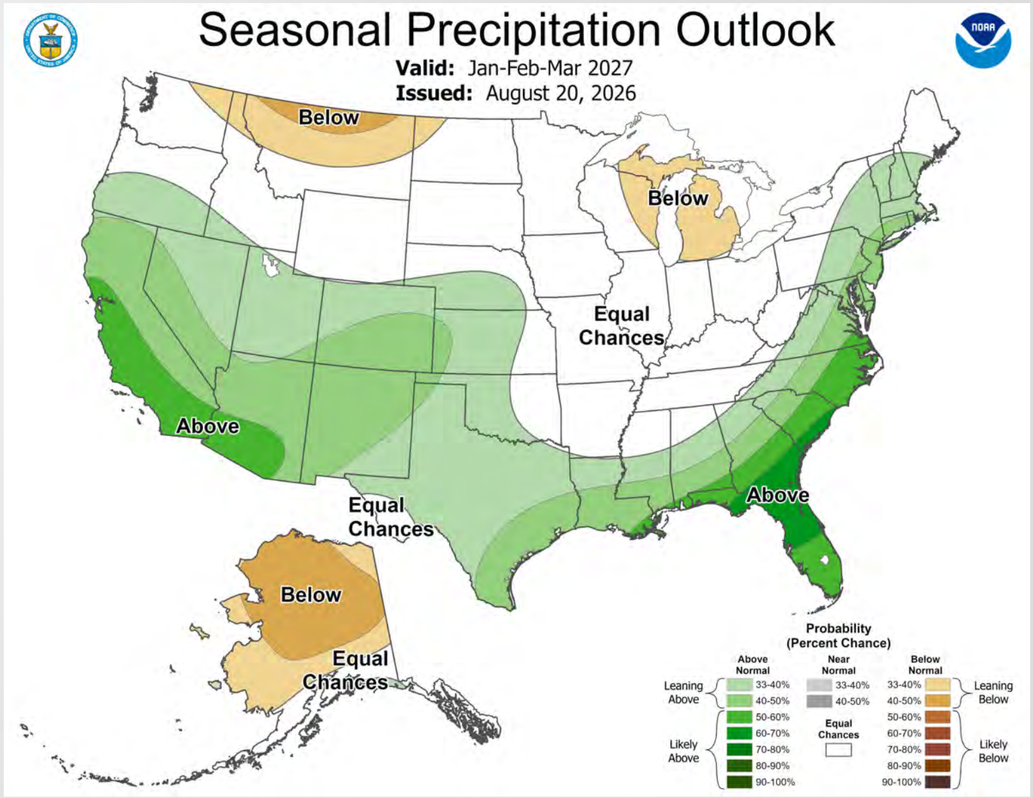


Image: NOAA Climate Prediction Center's 4.5 Month Seasonal Precipitation Outlook (Aug. 2026)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

CEAC Flood Control Committee
August 21, 2026 – 11AM-12:15 PM
Jason Uhley – Chair
Carolyn Burke – Co-Chair

Agenda

1) **El Nino Weather Update – Scott Rowe, Hydrologist and Meteorologist NOAA/NWS Sacramento**

2) **DWR Update – Michael Mierzwa (Technical And Policy Advisor) and Levi Warr (Senior Water Resources Engineer)**

3) **Legislative Update – Charles Delgado CSAC Legislative Advocate**

4) **Open Discussion**

- **Potential Executive Order for Streamlined Permitting of Flood Maintenance/Restoration Projects**
- **Pursuit of more permanent legislative fixes for permitting**
- **Other Topics**

August 2026 Legislative Update

CEAC Flood Control and Water Resources Policy Committee

August 21, 2026

Enacted into law

- AB 35 (Alvarez)
  - Adds APA exemption to Prop 4
  - Committee amendments present additional challenges
  - Potential budget trailer bill

Currently Active - Support

- AB 2032 (Ransom) Fish and wildlife: invasive mussels: golden mussels
- AB 2051 (Wicks) Public resources: Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group
- SB 872 (McNerney) Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund

Currently Active - Oppose

- AB 1881 (Ramos) California Indian Freedom Act of 2026
- AB 2218 (Kalra) Water policy: California Native American tribes

State Budget – Remaining Action

- Proposition 4 – Allocations yet to be finalized; stormwater funding, water supply infrastructure remain potential recipients
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund – Recent changes place strain on available water infrastructure funding

Looking Ahead – 2027-28 Legislative Session

- Potential CSAC sponsored legislation targeting permit streamlining at CDFW
  - Time lines and deadlines
  - Financial assurance
  - LSAA/CESA reforms
  - Mitigation requirements

Looking Ahead – Executive Order

- Action needed now from Governor to prepare for coming El Niño conditions
- EO N-10-23 previously waived CEQA/CDFW/SWRCB permits for flood management projects
- New executive order may be required, with expanded geographical reach and inclusion of additional permits