

2008-09 Winter Outlook

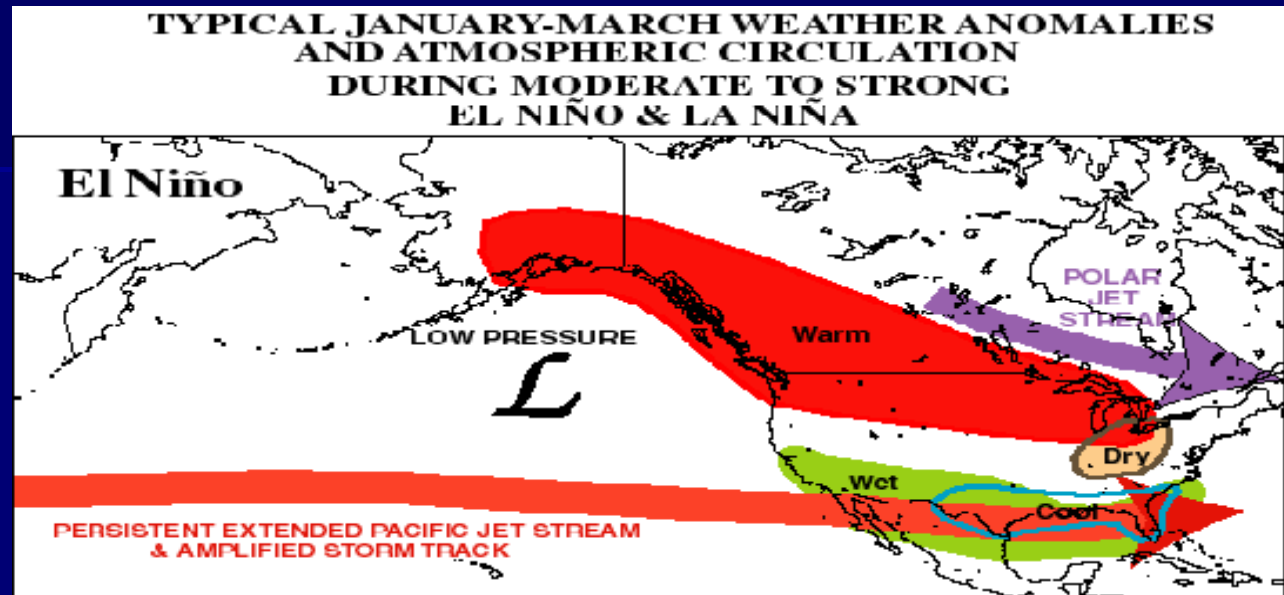


***National Weather Service
17 September 2008***

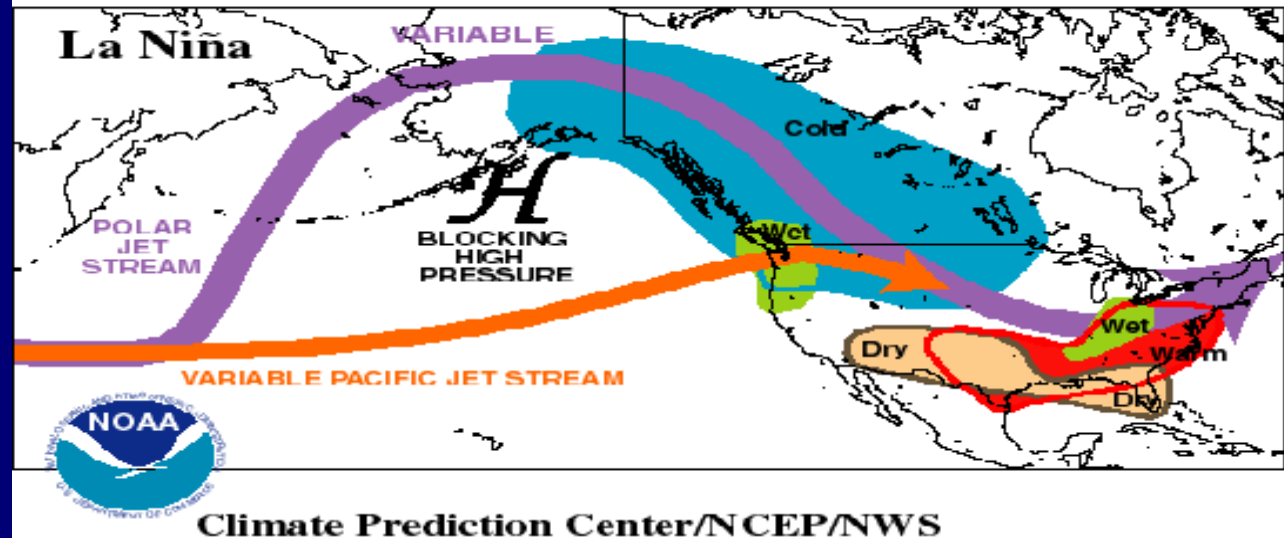


Winter Outlook 2008-09

El Niño

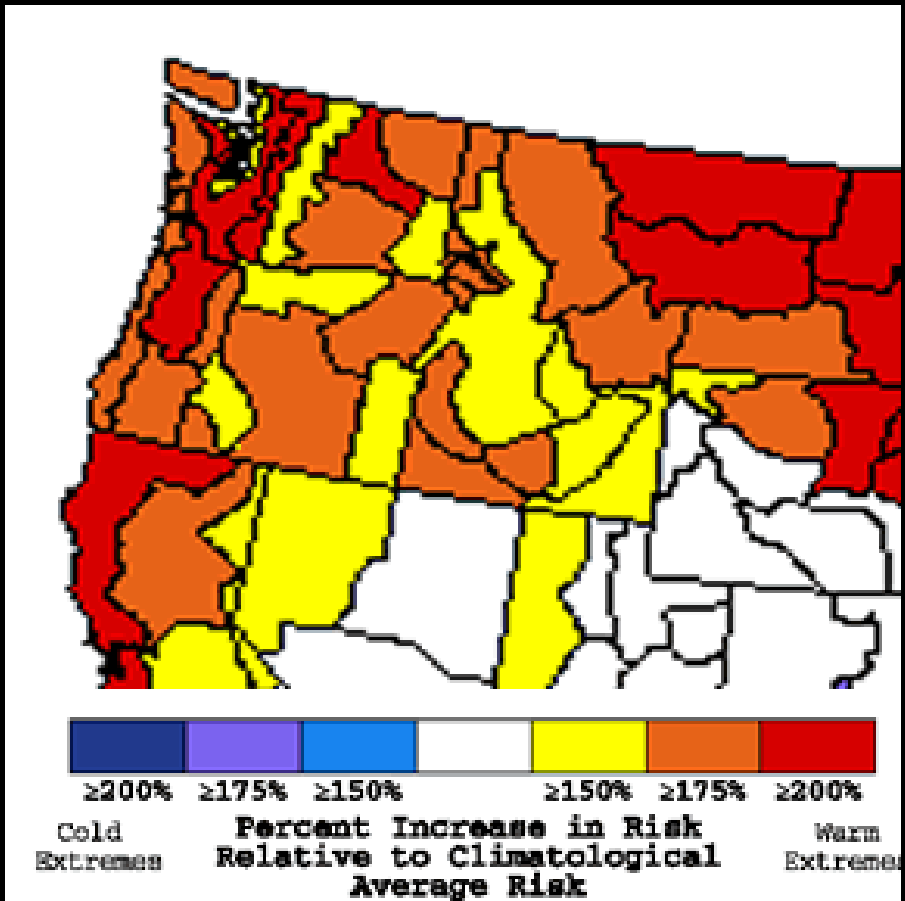


La Niña

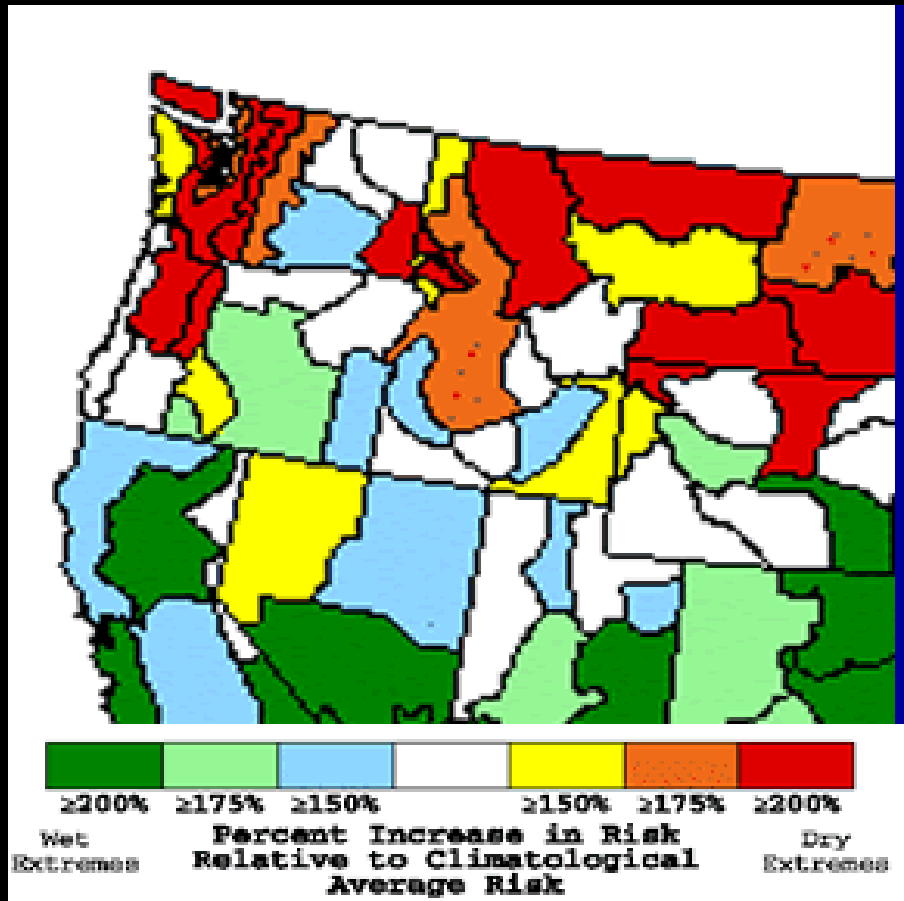




El Niño Impacts



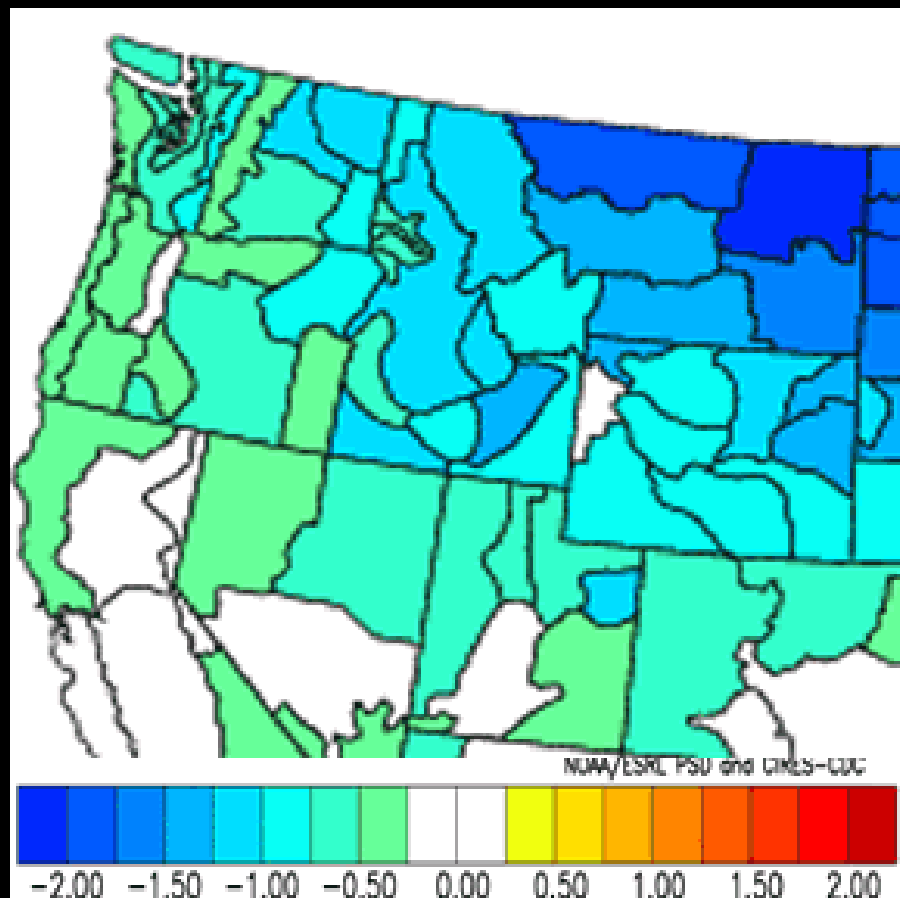
Temperature



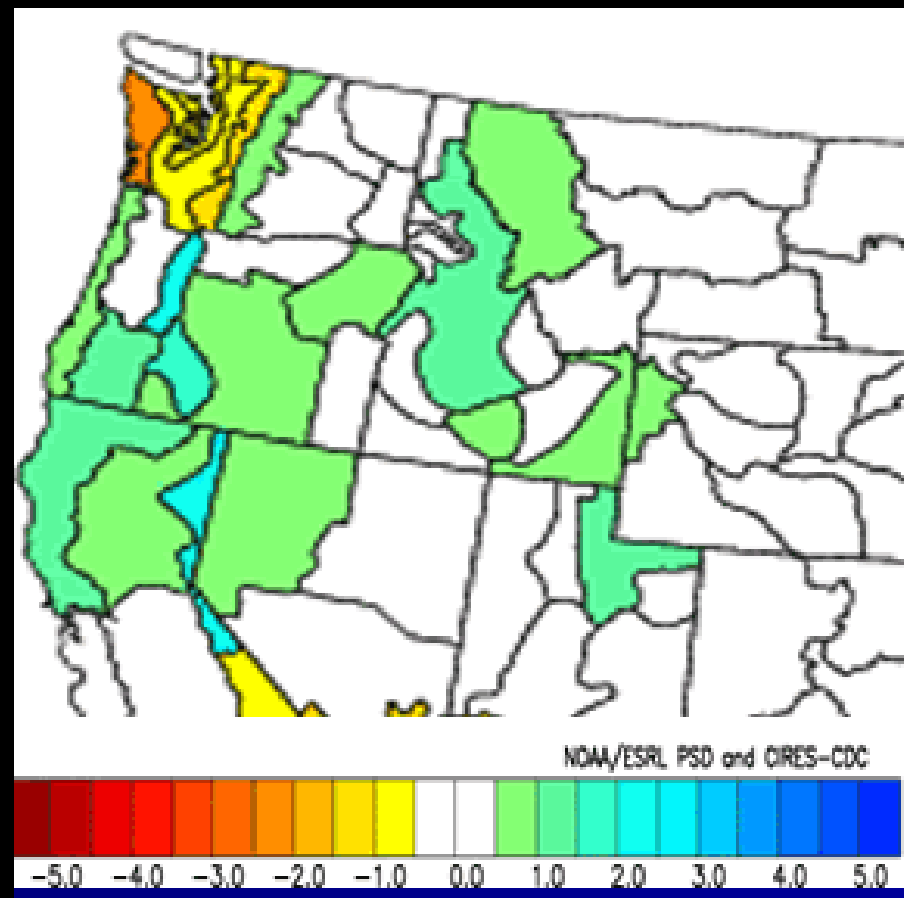
Precipitation



La Niña Impacts



Temperature



Precipitation



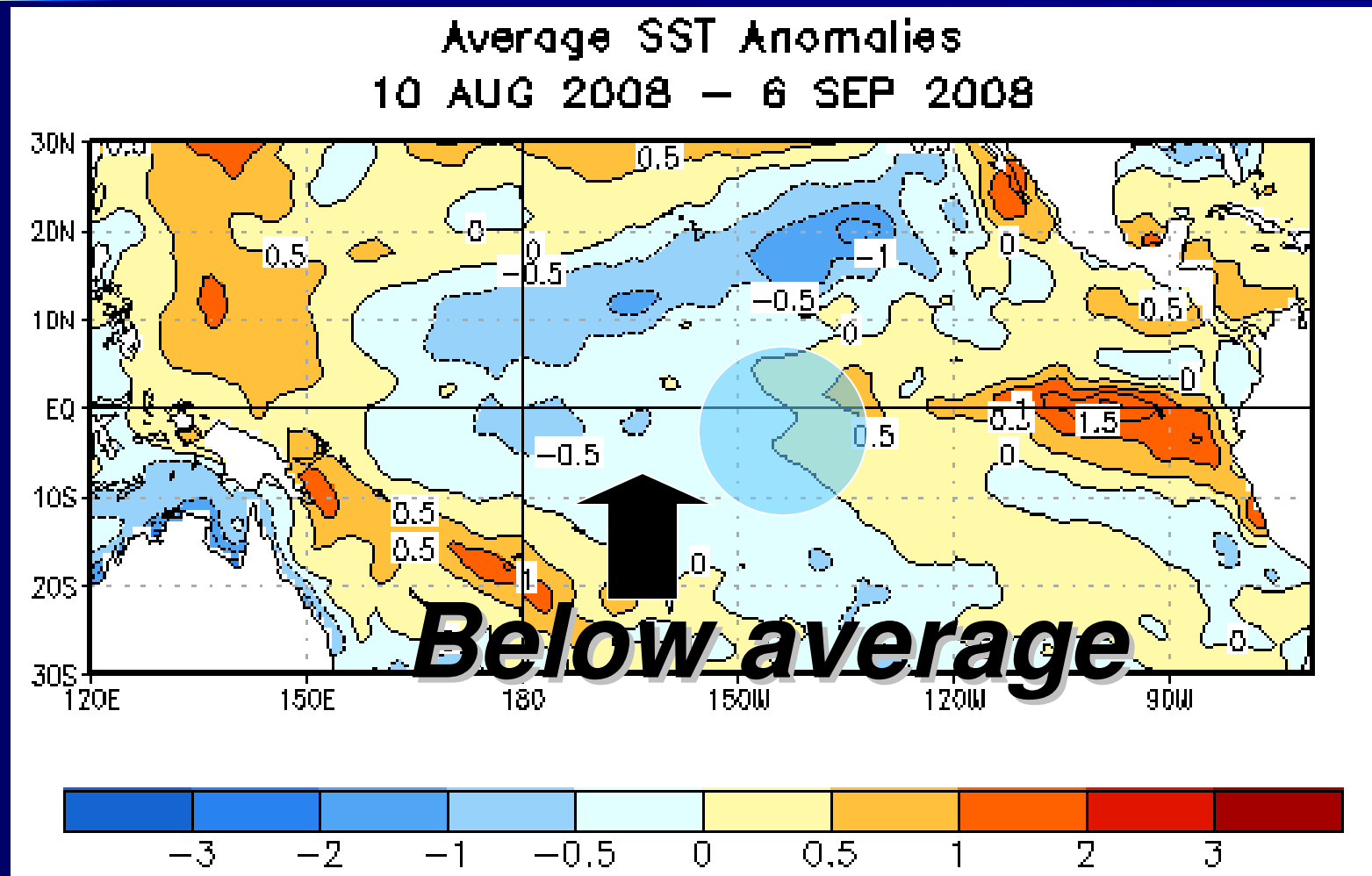
NOAA's Definitions of El Niño and La Niña Events

NOAA monitors the Oceanic Niño Index (ONI), a 3-month running average of Sea Surface Temperature departures along the central tropical Pacific.

- ⌘ **El Niño = Positive ONI $\geq +0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$**
- ⌘ **La Niña = Negative ONI $\leq -0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$**



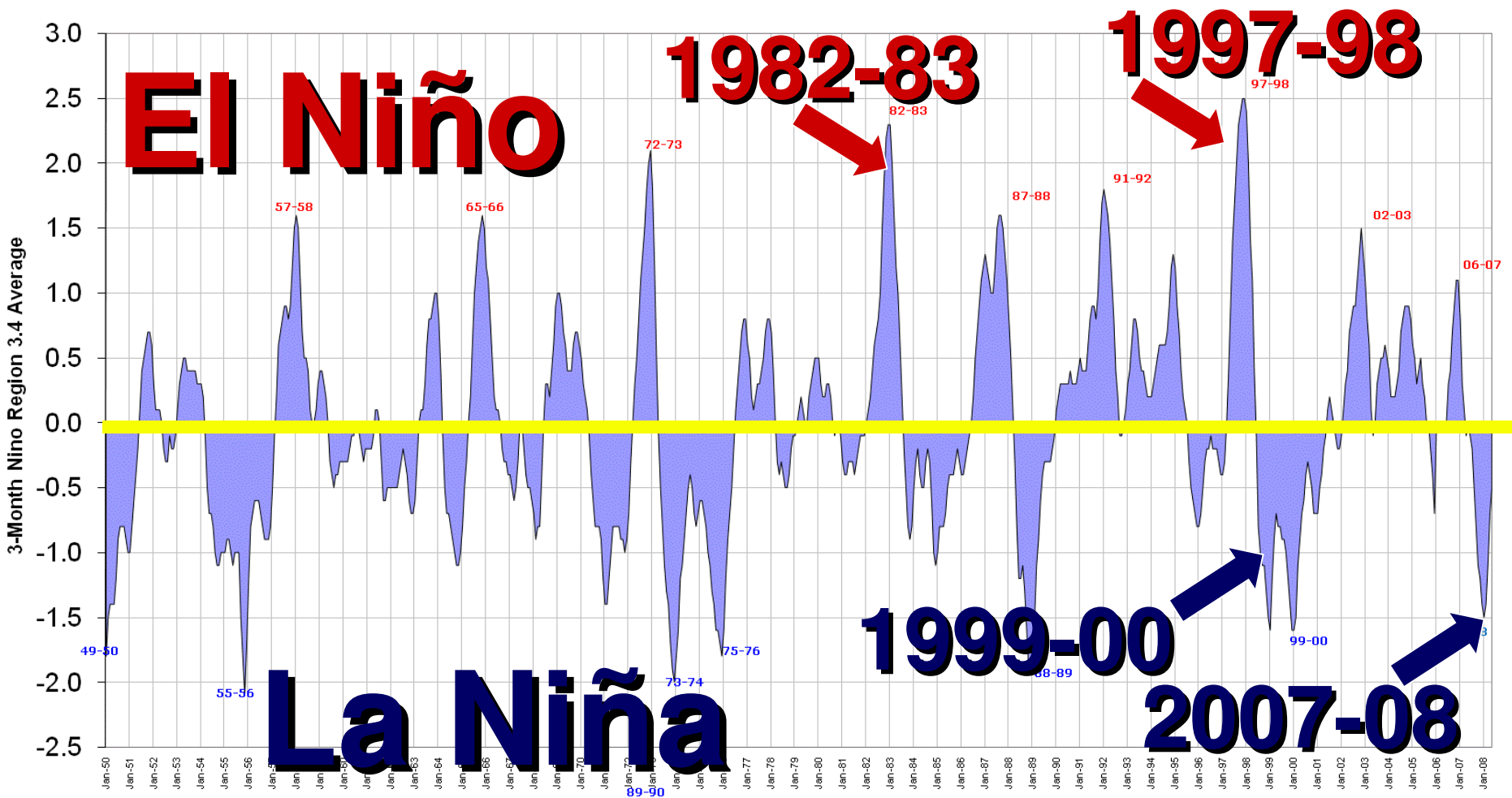
What's Happening in Pacific?





ONI Trend 1950-2008

Oceanic Niño Index (ONI)



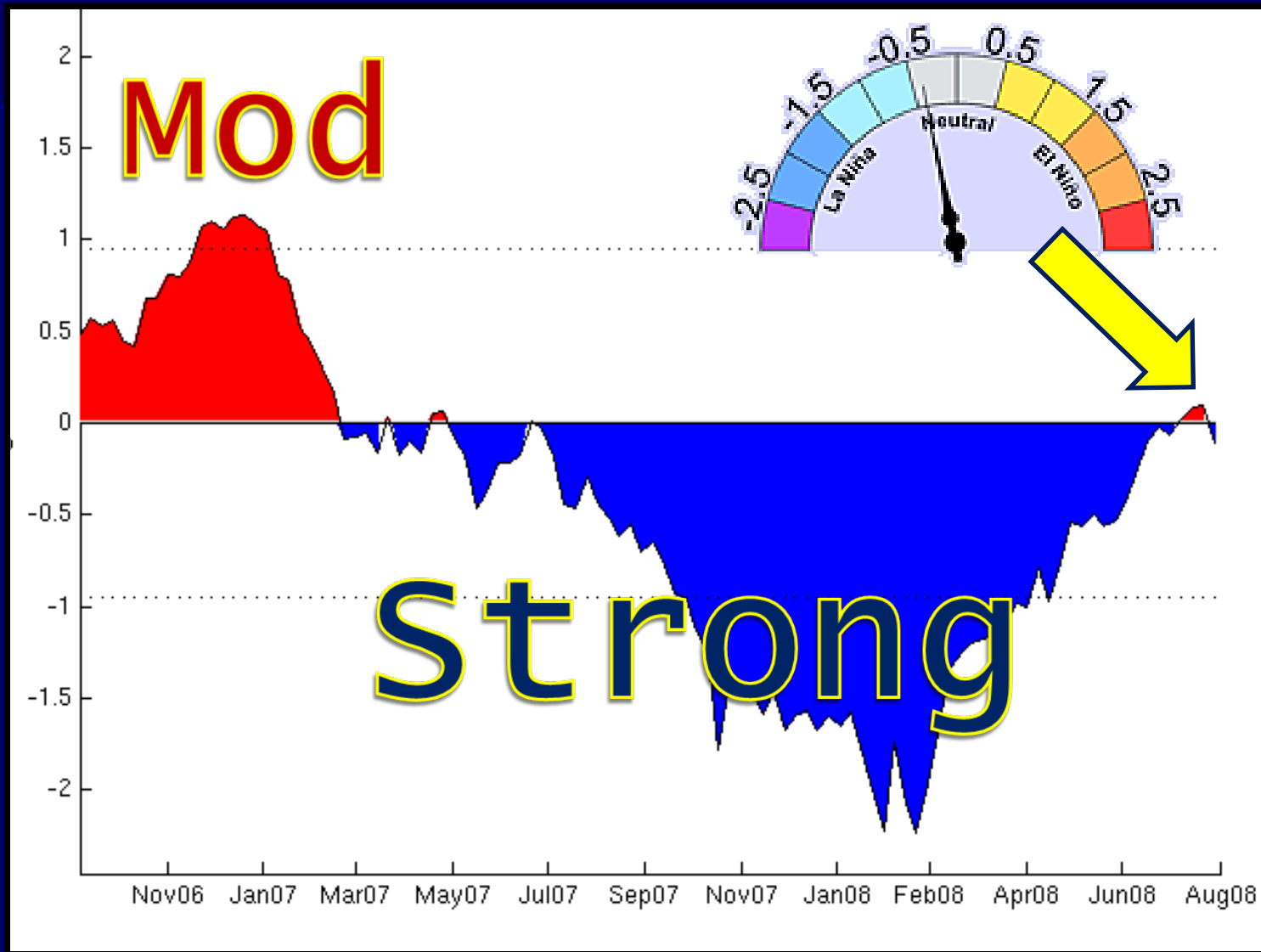


Since Fall of 2006...

Weak
0.5-0.9°C

Moderate
1.0-1.4°C

Strong
≥1.5°C





Southern Oscillation Index (SOI)

Pressure correlations between Indian Ocean and the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

La Niña

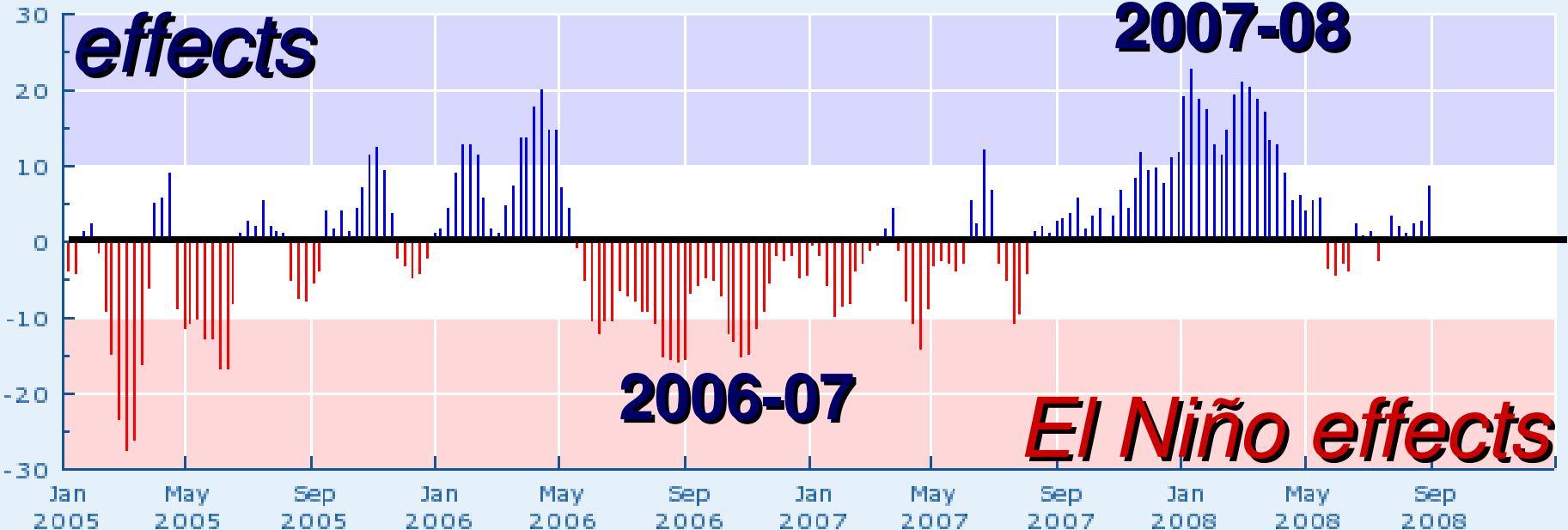
30-day mean SOI

effects

2007-08

2006-07

El Niño effects





Southern Oscillation Index (SOI)

Strong Correlations with summer SOI and winter rainfall, snowfall, and temperatures

In general...

La Niña summers (positive SOI)...

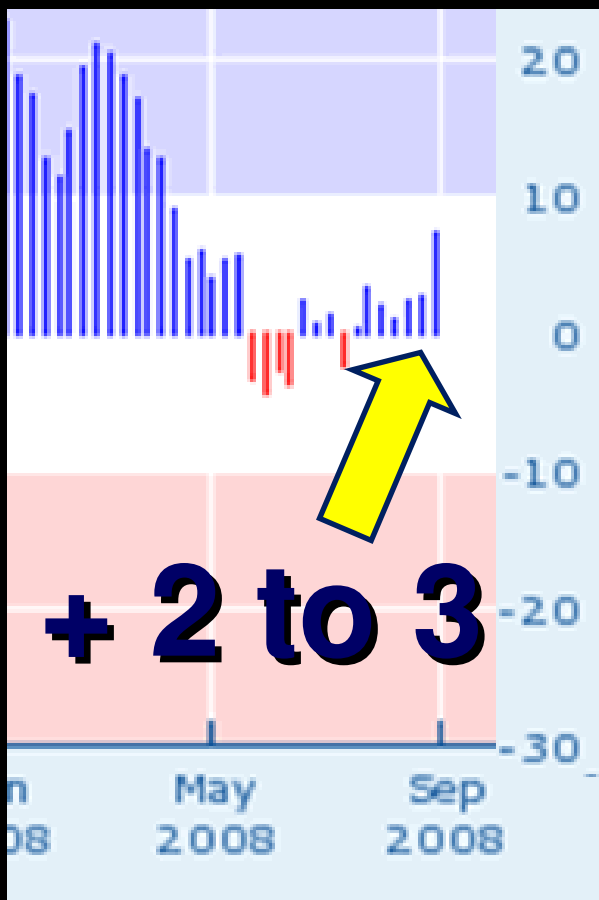
- = above average winter precipitation
- = below average winter temperatures.

El Niño summers (negative SOI)...

- = below average winter precipitation
- = above average winter temperatures.¹⁰



Southern Oscillation Index (SOI)



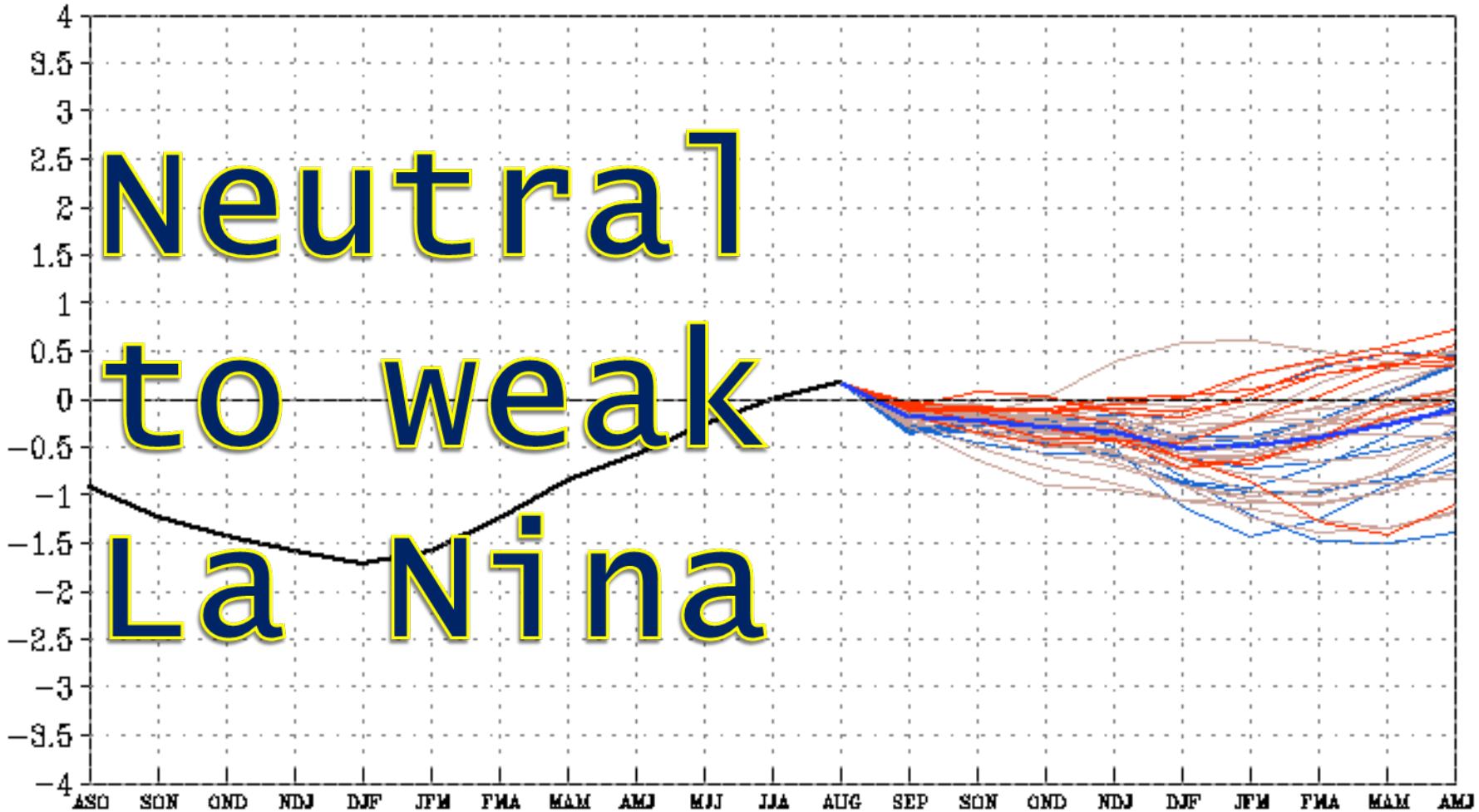
Summer 2008 SOI Slightly Positive

So, indicates weak La Nina effects continue through November.



Forecast thru Apr 2009

Neutral
to weak
La Nina



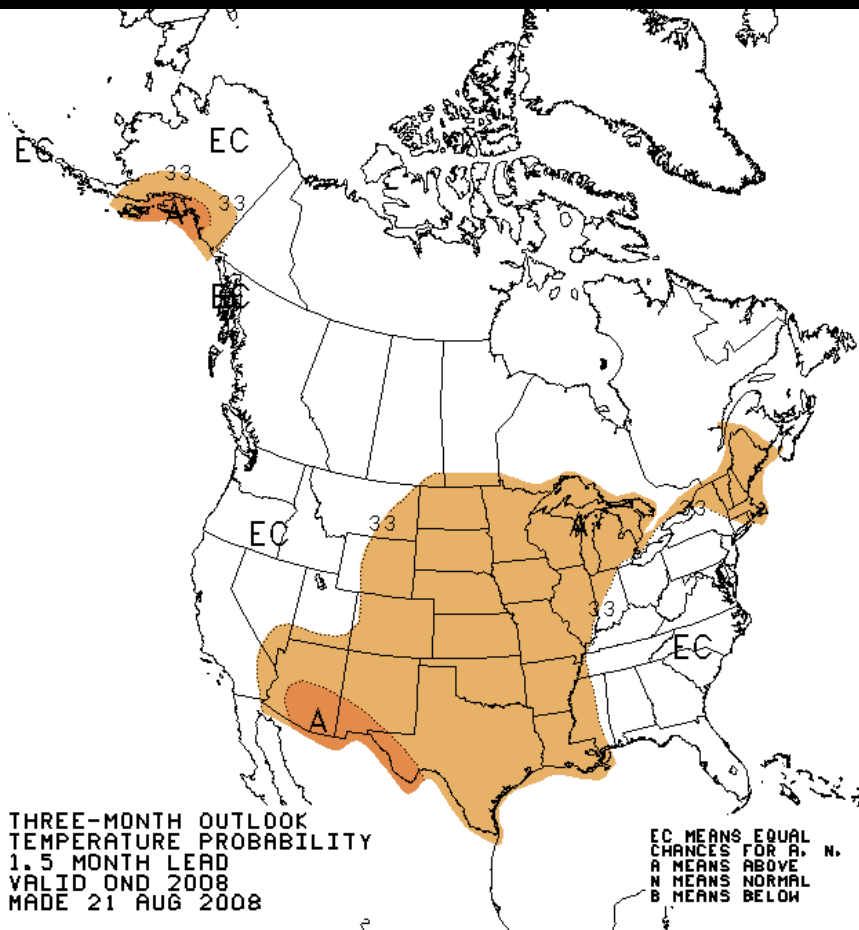


But, What Will Winter Be Like?

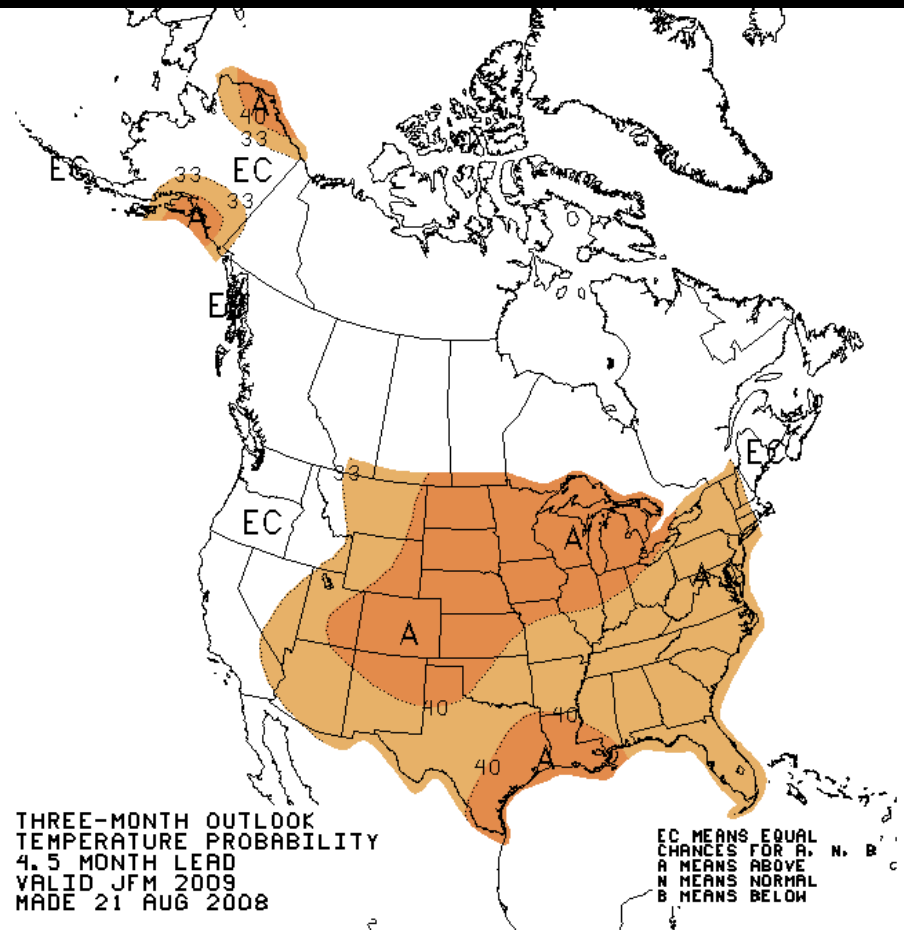


Winter Outlook 2008-09

Temperature Probabilities



October - December



January - March



Winter Outlook 2008-09

So, will
there be
a lot of
rain this
Winter?

MCHUMOR.com by T. McCracken

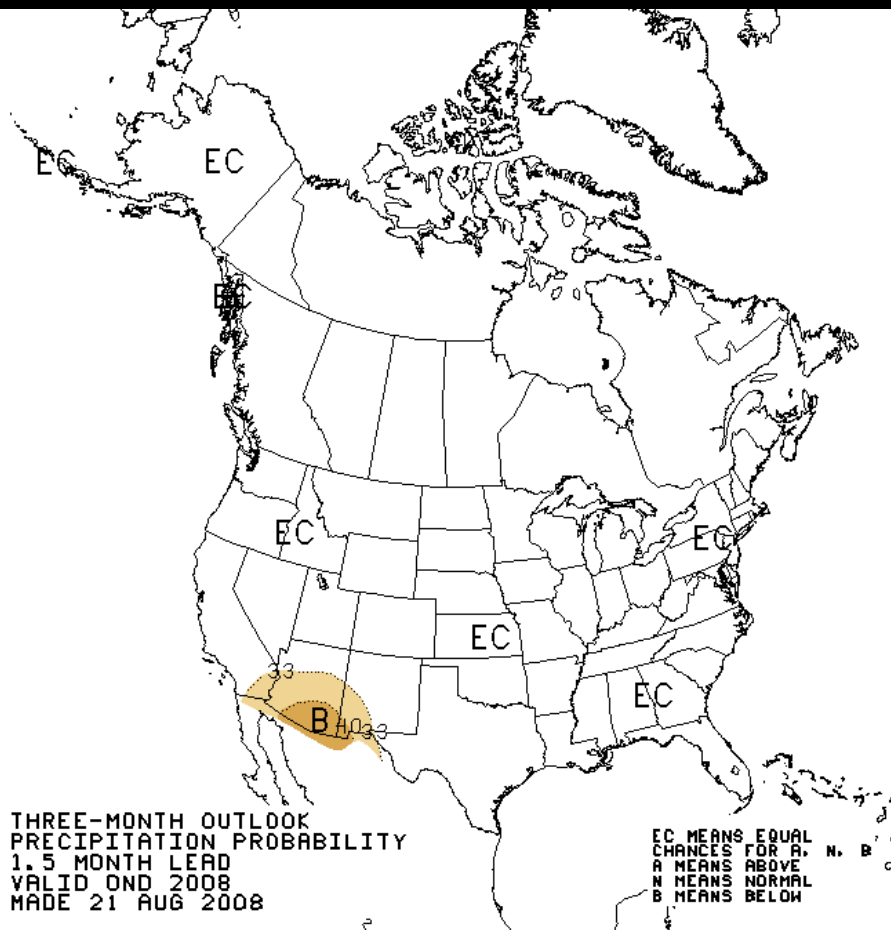


“Although the Weather Service hasn't predicted rain, certain indicators can't be ignored.”

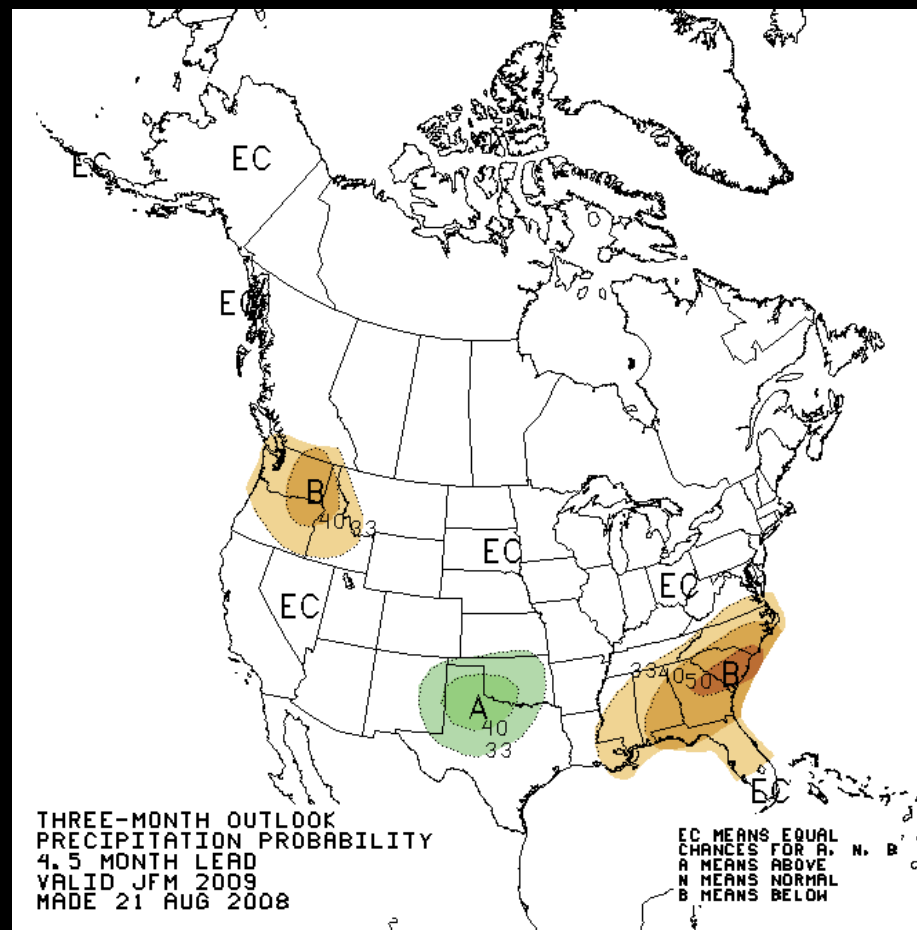


Winter Outlook 2008-09

Precipitation Probabilities



October - December

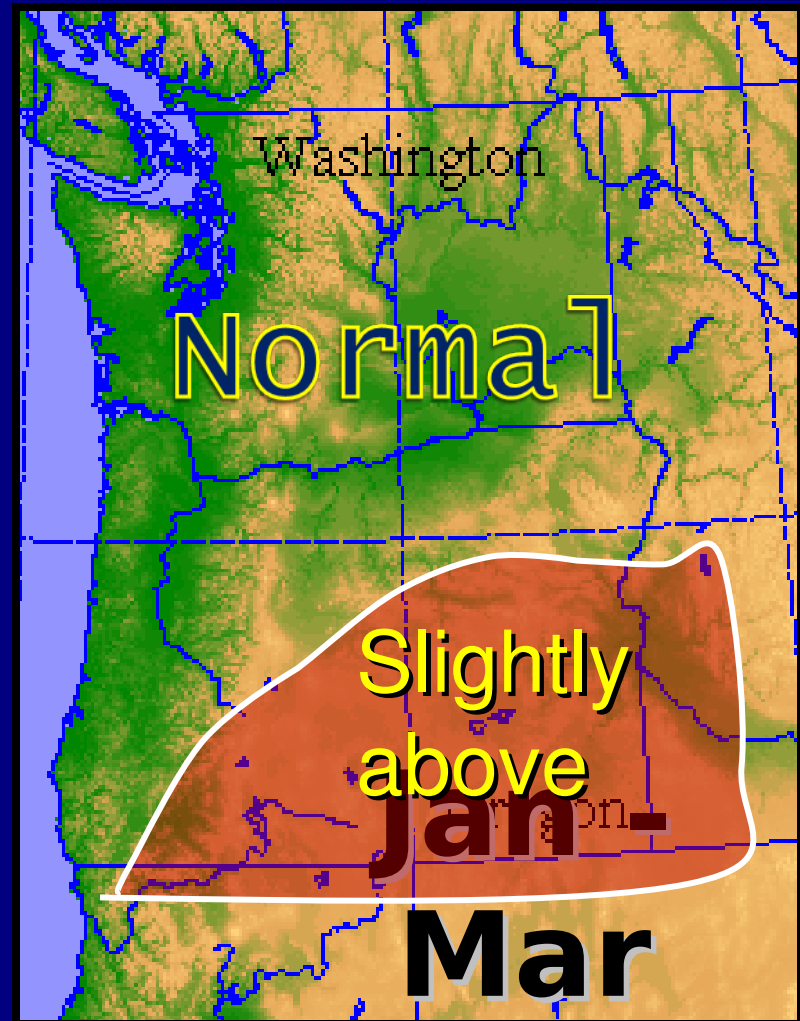
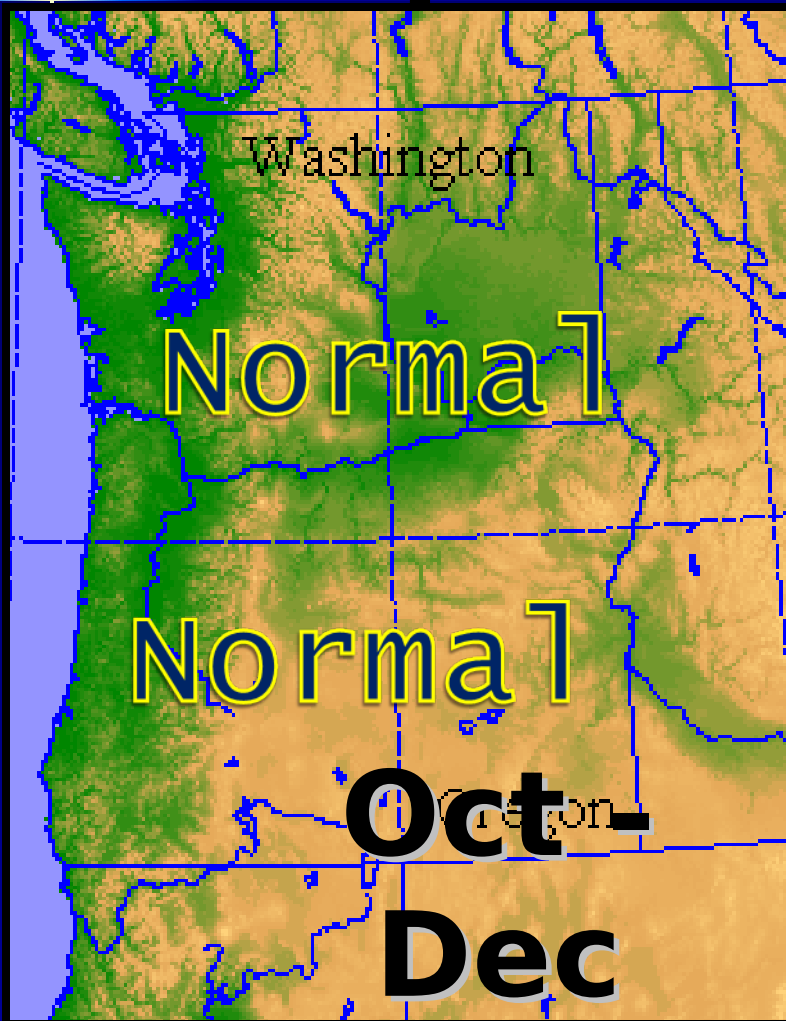


January - March



Winter Outlook 2008-09

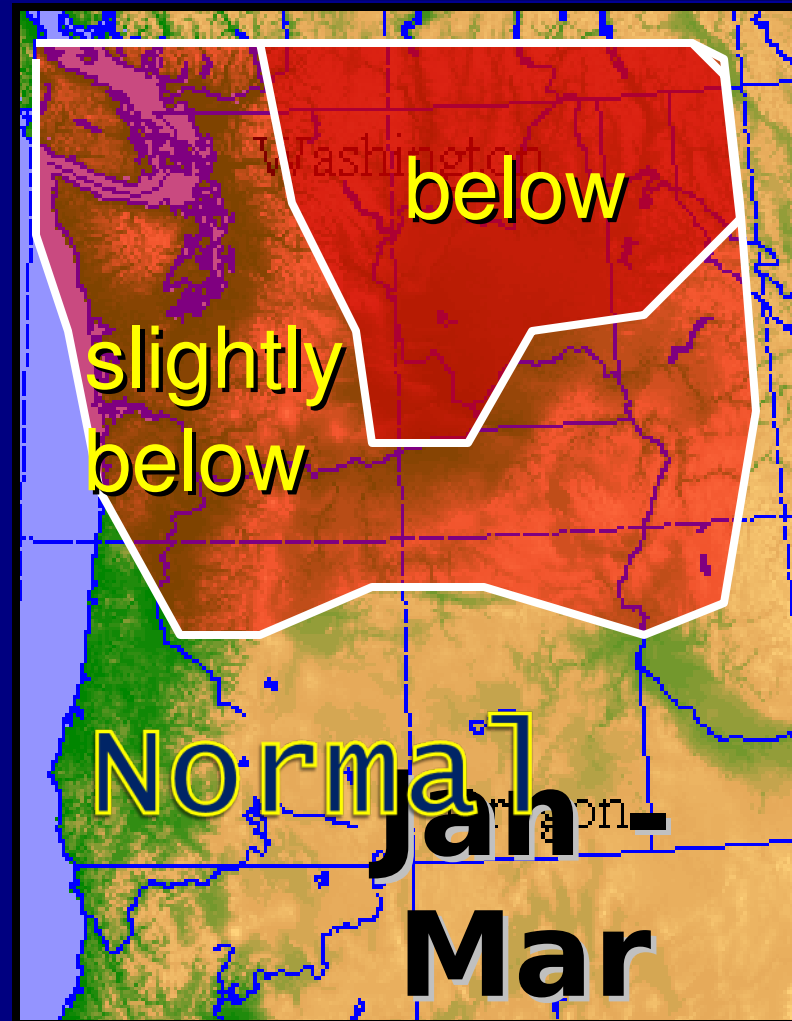
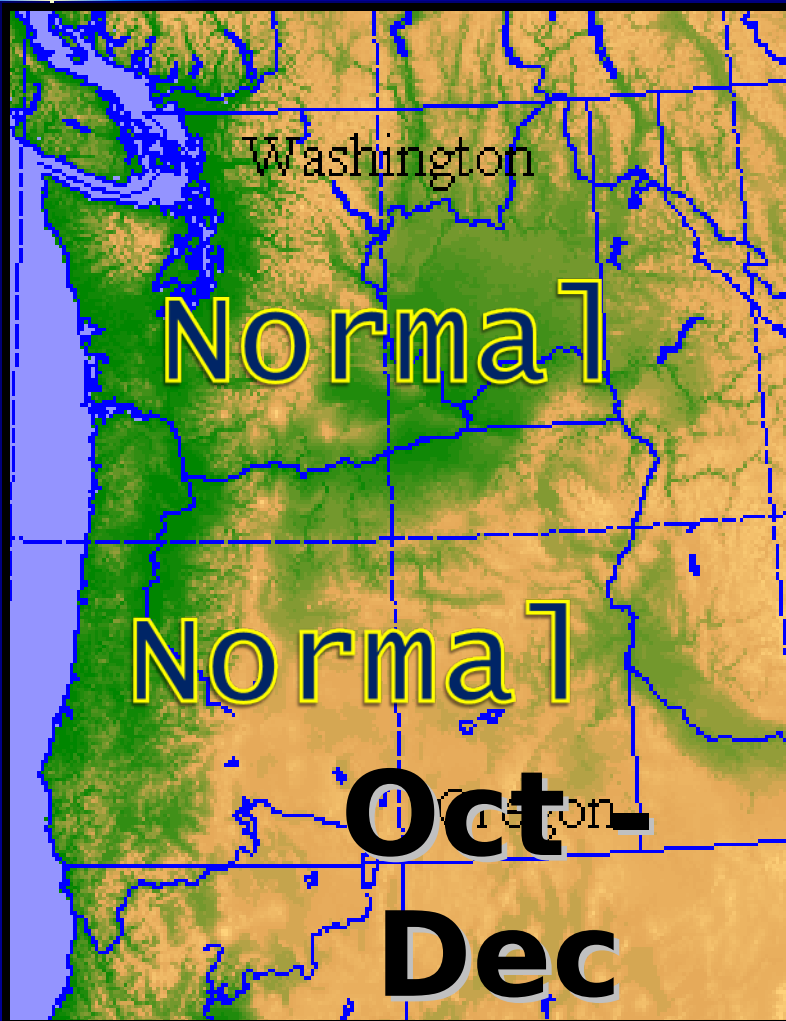
Temperature Outlook





Winter Outlook 2008-09

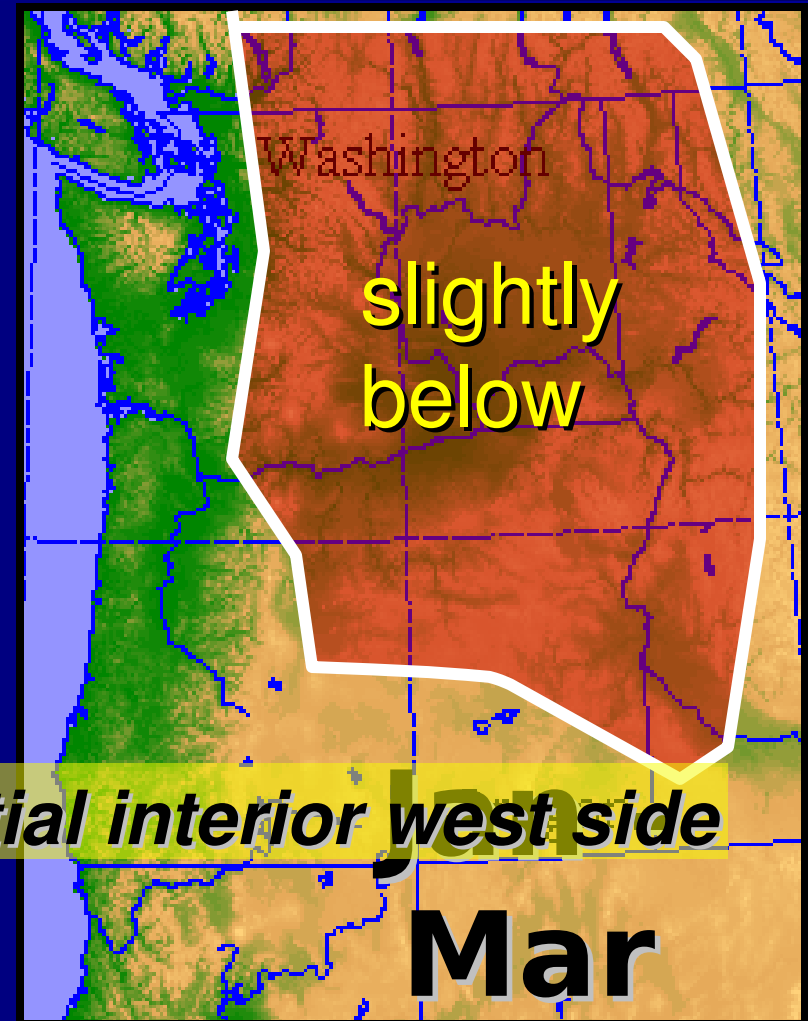
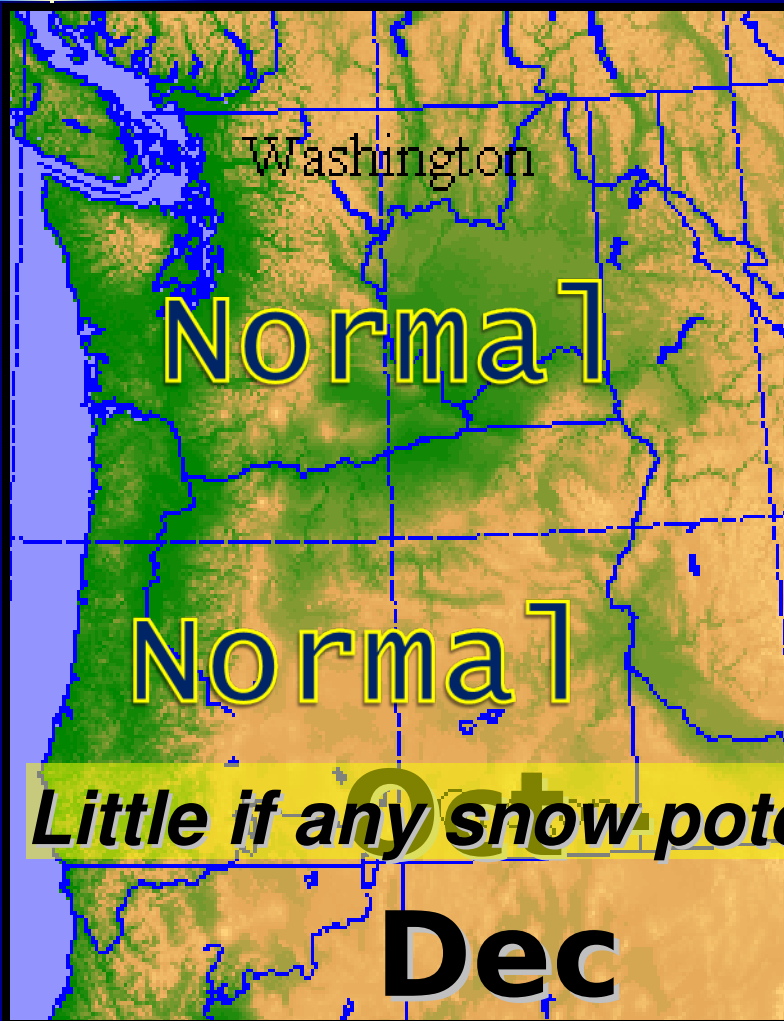
Rainfall Outlook





Winter Outlook 2008-09

Snowfall Outlook



Little if any snow potential interior west side



Windstorm Outlook

Coast

Storms with winds at least:

55-70 mph: 5-8

70-85 mph: 3

85+ mph: 1

West Inland

Storms with winds at least:

45-55 mph: 4-7

60-70 mph: 2

70+ mph: 0



Summary

- ▶ Neutral year, with minor La Niña effects.
- ▶ Near Normal Temperatures.
- ▶ Normal Precipitation thru Dec, then turning a bit drier than normal.
- ▶ Little if any threat of low elev. inland snowfall.
- ▶ 6-8 low to moderate windstorms on Coast.
1 strong storm (*over 85 mph winds*)



2008/2009 Water Supply Outlook Columbia River at The Dalles

