



2026 Monsoon Outlook

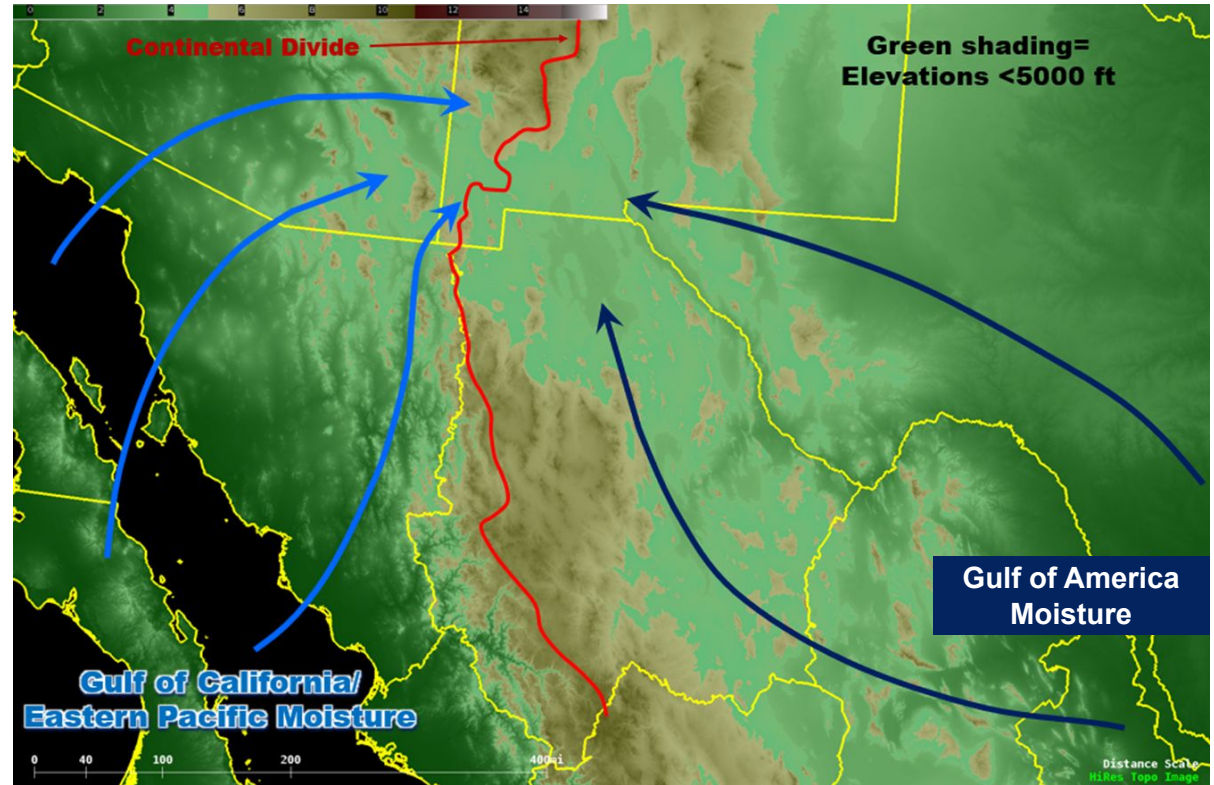
Eric Webb
White Sands Missile Range
Anthony Brown
National Weather Service



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

- Reversal in winds
- Land heats up, creates surface low pressure
- Surface low draws in moisture
- Upper level moisture is steered by high pressure aloft (“heat dome”)
- It is NOT a heavy rain storm

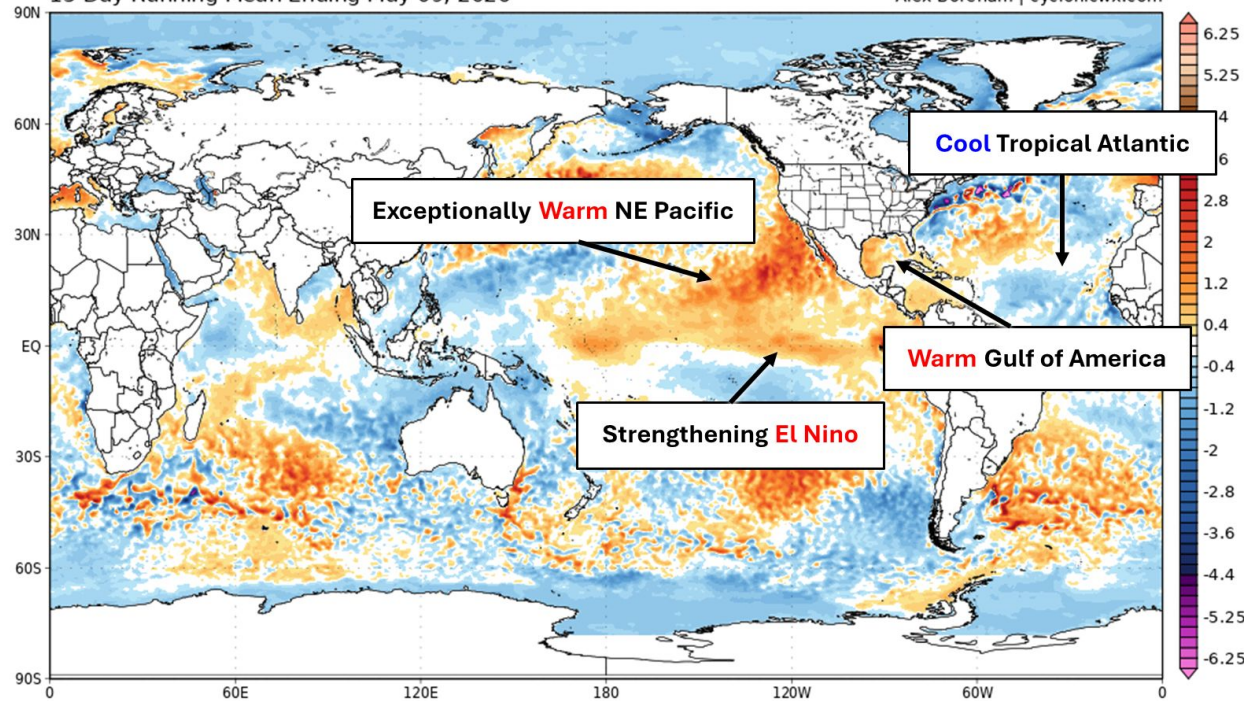
What is the monsoon?



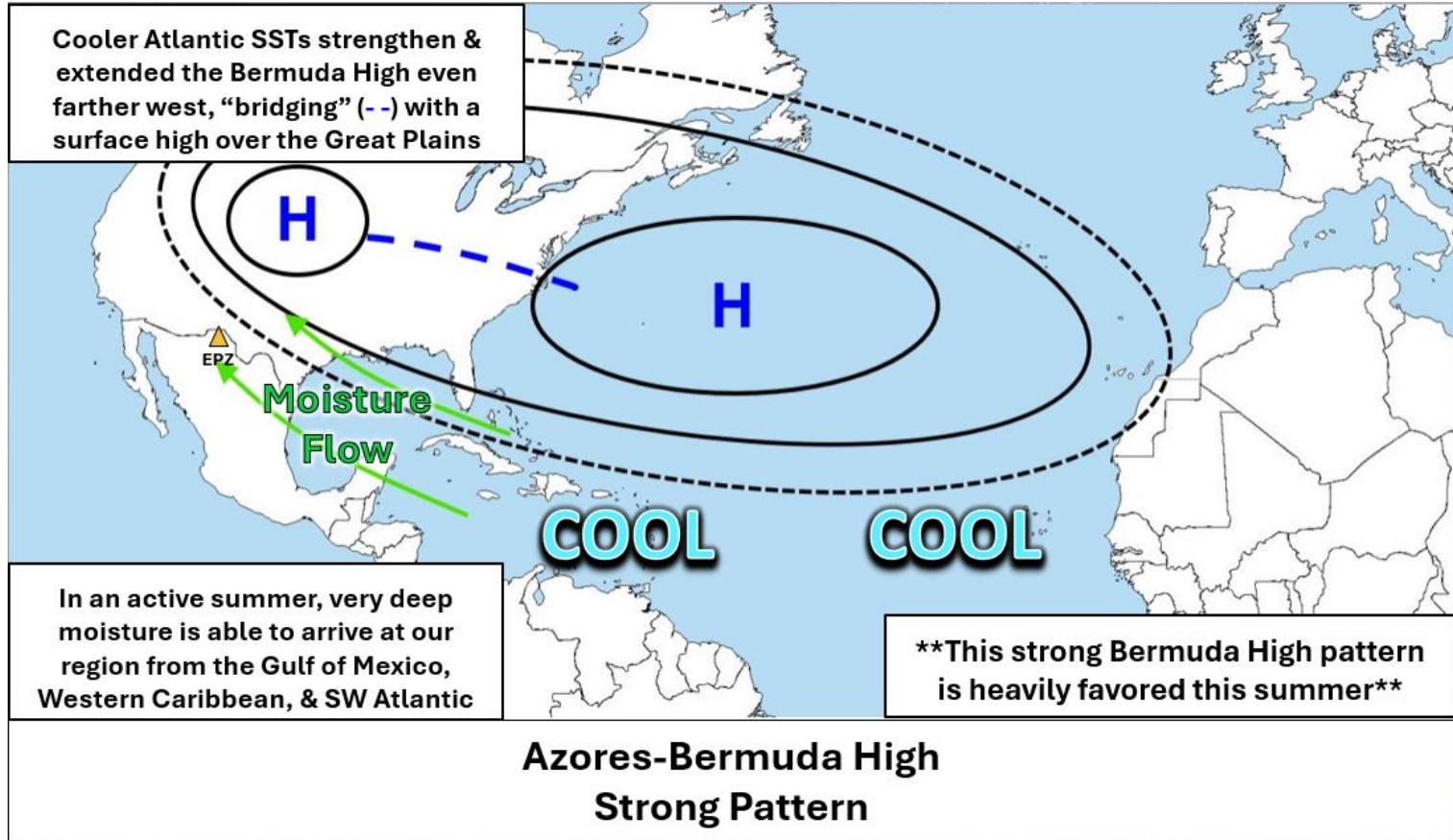
Global Ocean Temps Anomalies

OISSTv2.1 SSTA - Global Mean SSTA [°C]
15 Day Running Mean Ending May 09, 2026

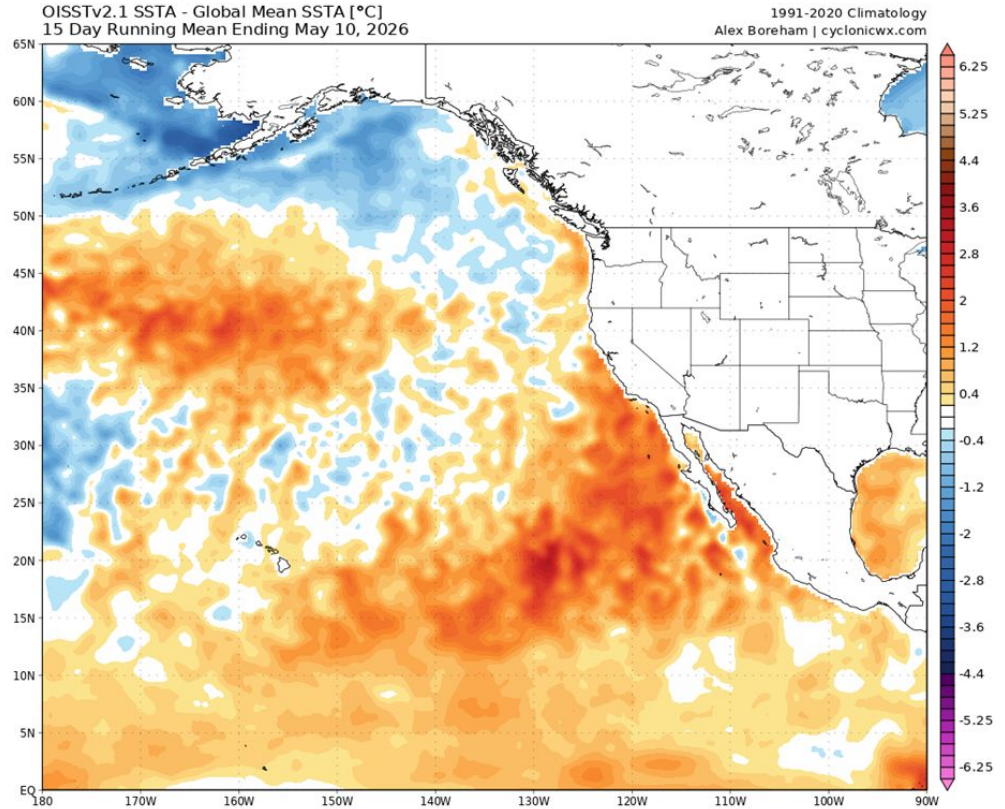
1991-2020 Climatology
Alex Boreham | cyclonicwx.com



A Cool Atlantic Ocean's Effects on the Monsoon

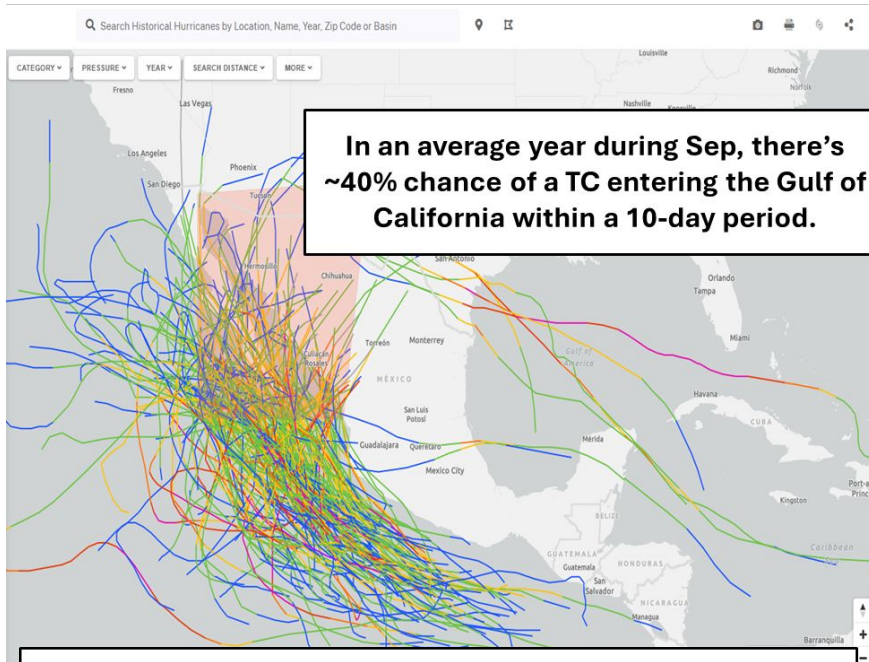


NE Pacific SST Anomalies



Late Season Tropical Systems

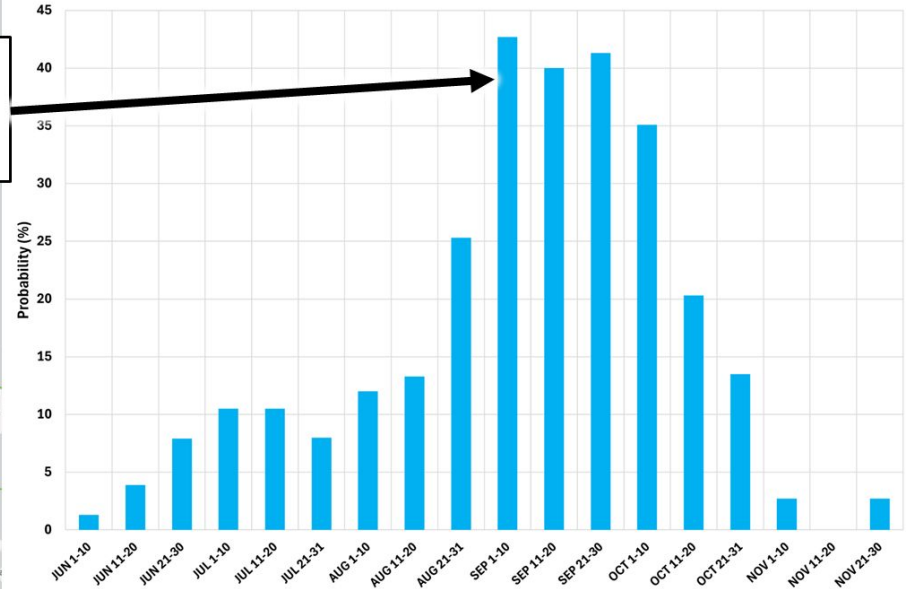
- Tropical cyclone (TC) remnants from the Eastern Pacific typically directly impact our weather between about late August and early-mid October. TC remnants from the East Pacific can provide us with tropical moisture that leads to widespread heavy rainfall &/or storms over the area, prolonging our monsoon season.



In an average year during Sep, there's ~40% chance of a TC entering the Gulf of California within a 10-day period.

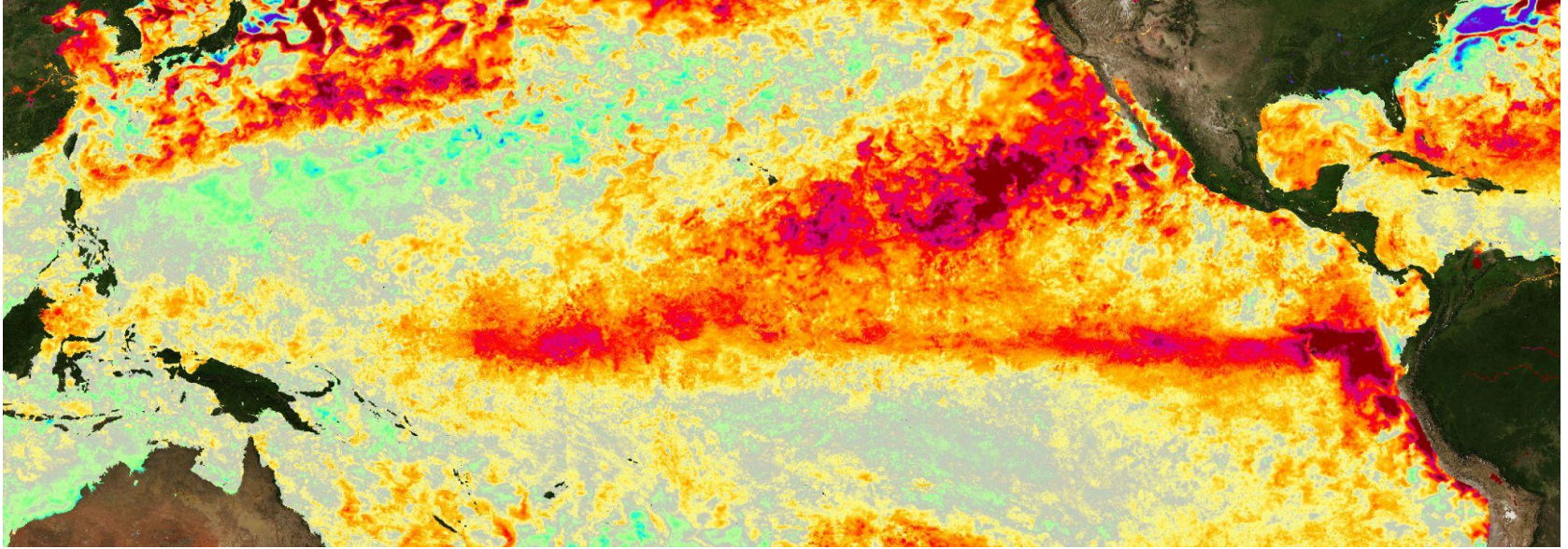
Historical Hurricane Tracks of Tropical Cyclones (TCs) that entered the Gulf of California: 1949-2024.

Probability of NE Pacific Tropical Cyclones East of 115°W & North of 22°N (%): 1949-2024



Probability of a Tropical Cyclone (TC) Entering the Gulf of California in a 10-day period: 1949-2024.

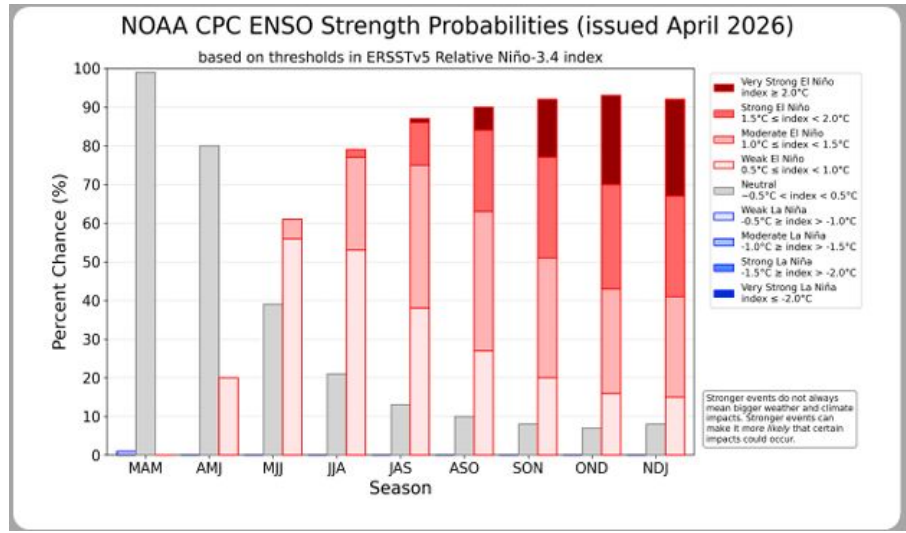
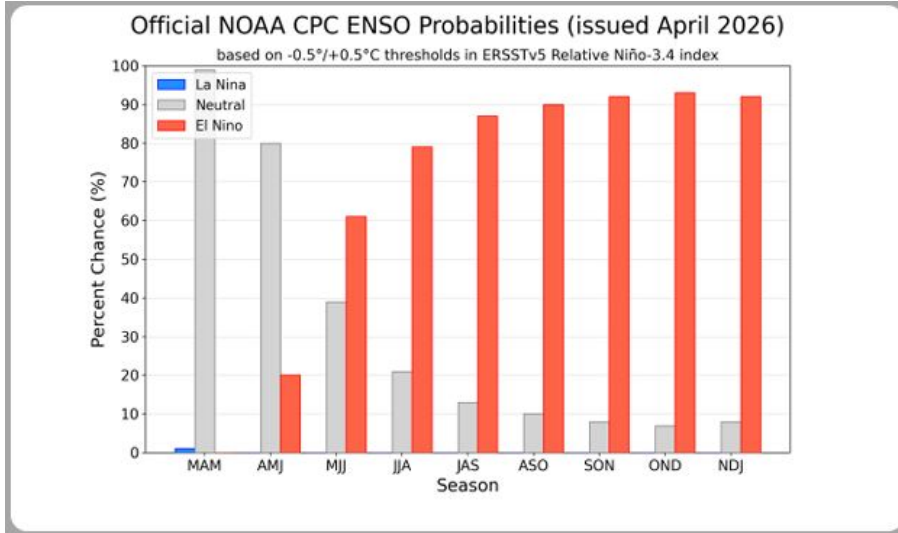
ENSO Status - ENSO Neutral



Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies

- Above normal temperature waters
- Global Wind Circulation: Neutral

ENSO Forecast

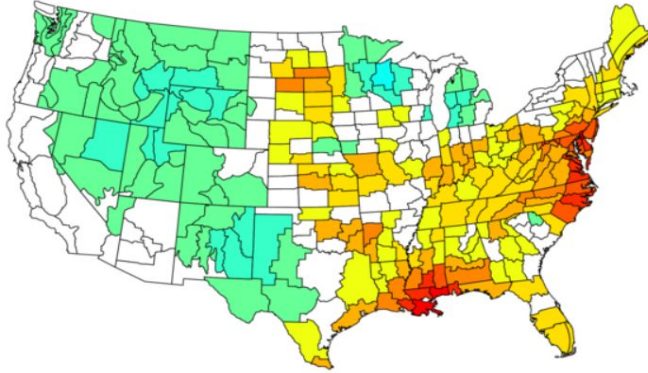


La Niña Advisory (Final) / El Niño Watch

- El Niño Neutral Conditions are Present
- El Niño Conditions are forecast by Summer

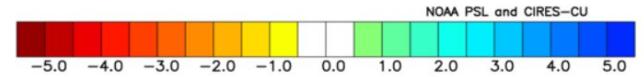
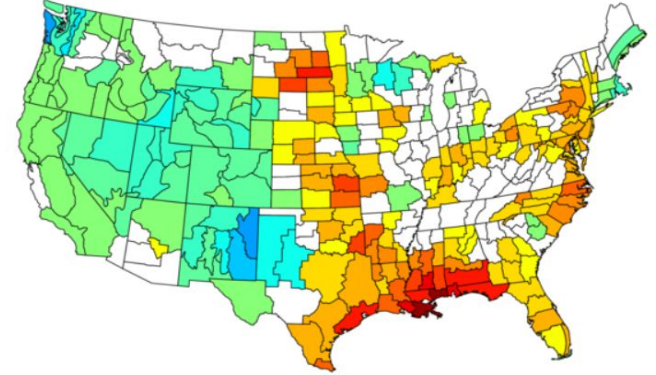
ENSO - How it affects the monsoon

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Composite Precipitation Anomalies (in)
Versus 1991–2020 Longterm Average
Jun to Sep 1965,1968,1972,1976,1982,1986,1987,1991,1994,1997
2002,2015



All El Niños

NOAA/NCEI Climate Division Composite Precipitation Anomalies (in)
Jun to Sep 1972,1982,1991,1997,2015
Versus 1991–2020 Longterm Average

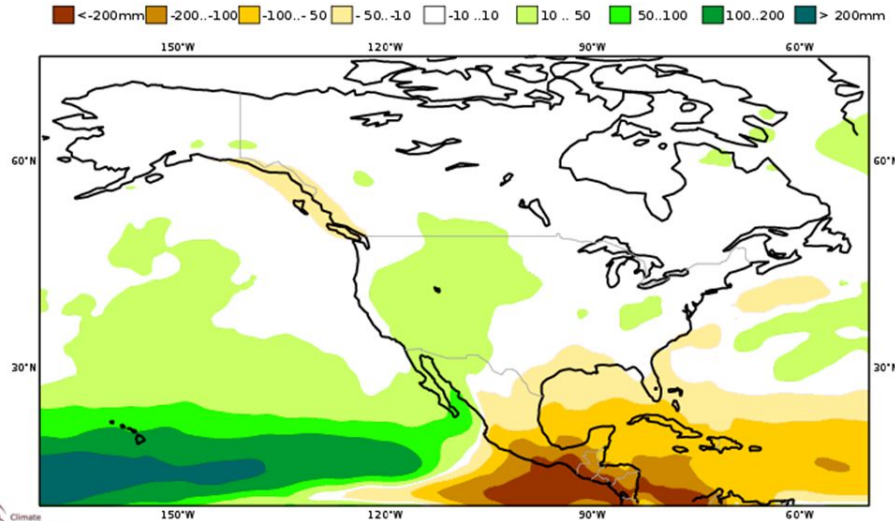


Strong El Niños

What do the Climate Models Say (JAS)?

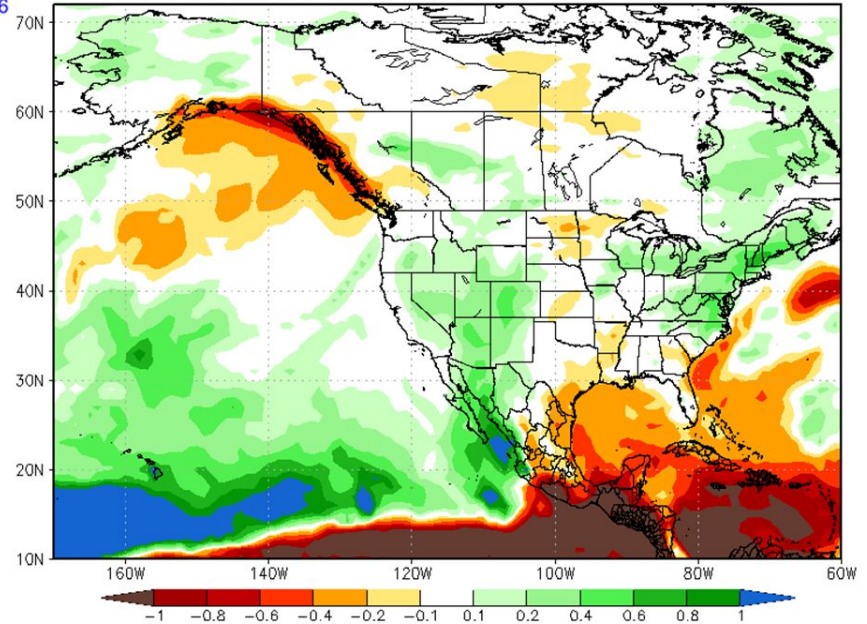
- Both the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) & National Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) climate model ensemble forecasts are forecasting **wetter-than-average** summer over the El Paso area & entire Desert SW

C3S multi-system seasonal forecast ECMWF/Met Office/Météo-France/CMCC/DWD/NCEP/JMA/ECCC/BOM
Mean precipitation anomaly JAS 2026
Nominal forecast start: 01/05/26
Variance-standardized mean



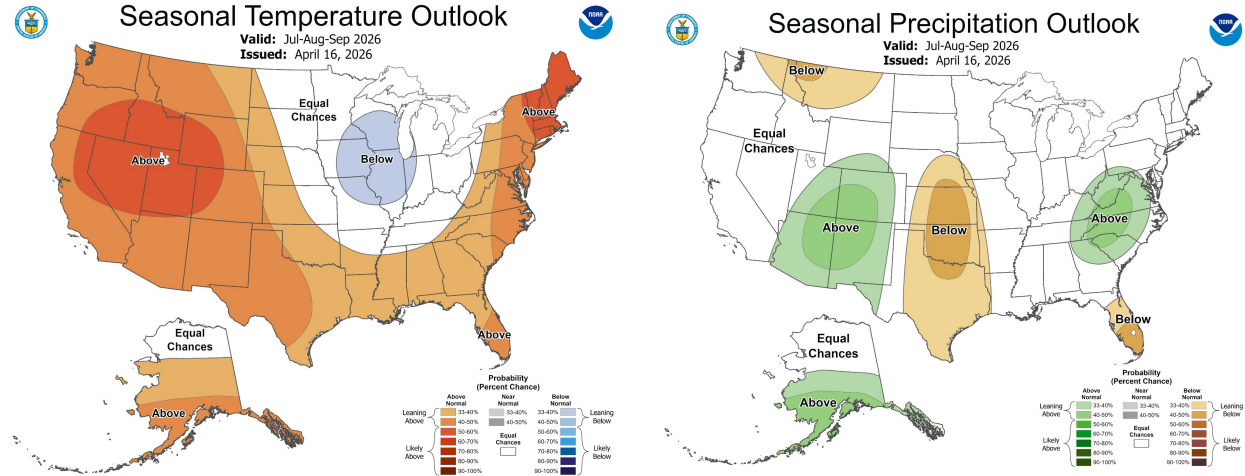
C3S Ensemble Mean Precip Forecast

NMME Forecast of Prec. rate Anom IC=202605 for Lead 2 2026JAS



NMME Ensemble Mean Precip Forecast

Climate Prediction Center



- Leans Wetter than Normal (33%-40%)
- Leans Warmer than Normal (40%-50%)

Conclusions

- A Warmer and Wetter than Normal Summer is forecast
 - Remember the hit-and-miss nature of monsoon storms
- Multiple factors support this forecast
- An intensifying El Niño is forecast, which will have an influence on our monsoon
- An abnormally warm NE Pacific Ocean / Gulf of California will favor an active hurricane season, which may influence the latter portion of the season



Contacts

NWS El Paso
Meteorologist

nws.elpaso@noaa.gov
575-589-3972

Alina Nieves
Warning Coordination
Meteorologist

alina.nieves@noaa.gov

Greg Lundeen
Meteorologist in Charge

greg.lundeen@noaa.gov
915-241-7320