

# NWS Briefing for High Wind and Fire Weather Saturday and Sunday, April 25-26

Prepared by: Connor Dennhardt, Lead Meteorologist




NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

EL PASO



TEXAS

[weather.gov/EIPaso](https://weather.gov/EIPaso)

Follow Us:     @NWSEIPaso

## *Key Messages:*

- Breezy Saturday, then windy Sunday. Strongest wind occurring Sunday afternoon with gusts up to **50 mph**.
- **Red Flag Warning** in effect both days for critical fire weather conditions.
- Blowing dust reducing visibility for some locations Sunday afternoon.

## *Wind...*

For Saturday, west-southwest **15 to 25 mph**, gusts up to **35 mph**.

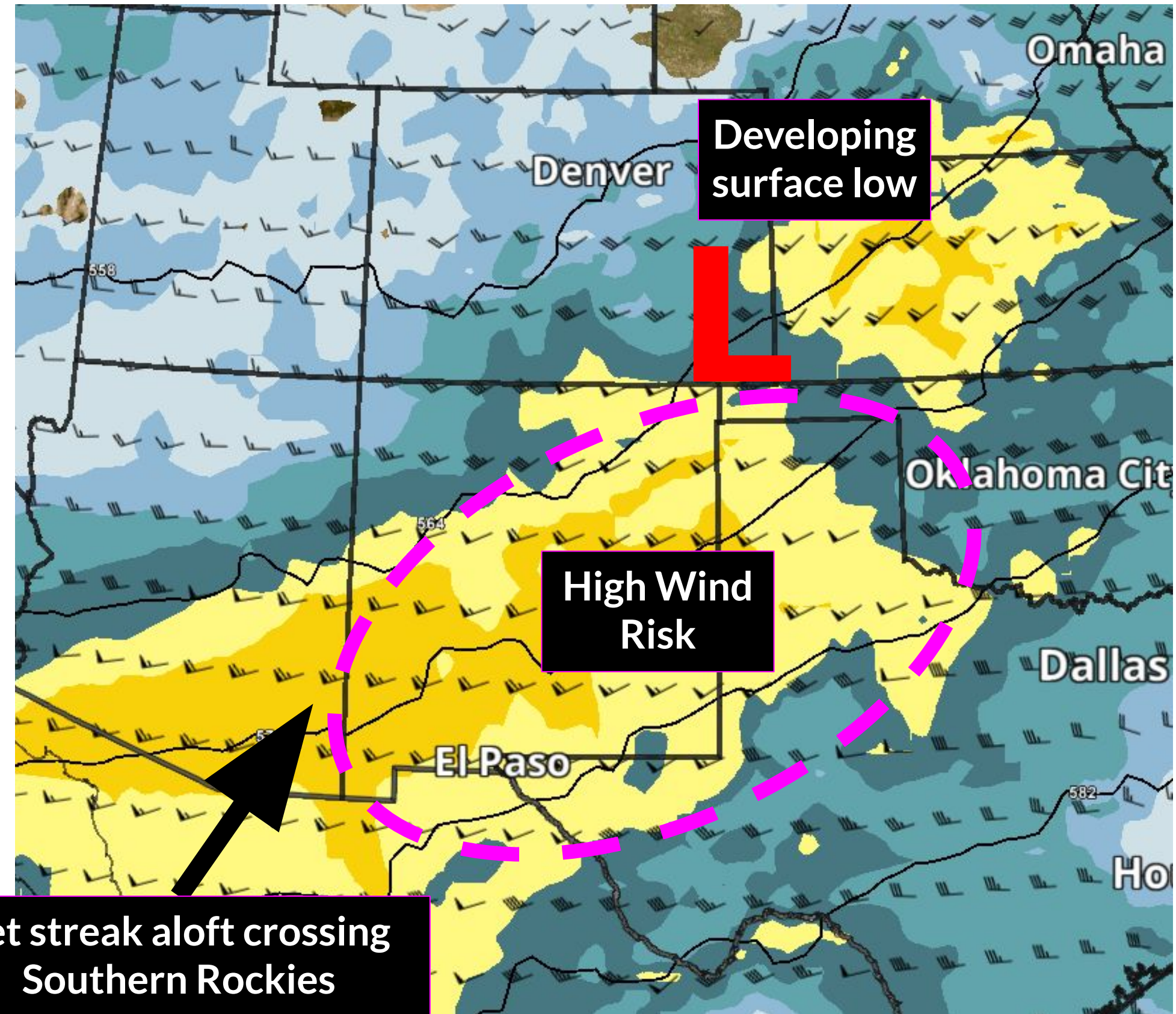
For Sunday, west-southwest **20 to 30 mph**, gusts up to **50 mph**. **Areas of blowing dust.**

*Humidity...8 to 15%*

*Temperature...Afternoon highs in the mid-80s*



- Strong, southwest flow aloft ahead of an upper level low over the Pacific Northwest will move over New Mexico and west Texas this weekend.
- Deepening surface low over southeastern Colorado will generate strong wind across much of New Mexico and west Texas Sunday afternoon.
- Winds will be strong enough for areas of blowing dust and low visibility.
- Critical Fire Weather conditions due to low humidity, dry vegetation, and strong winds.



## Red Flag Warning

Saturday and Sunday, April 25-26



**Southern New Mexico and Far West Texas including Lincoln and Gila NF**



→ **Wind: Southwest 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 45 mph**

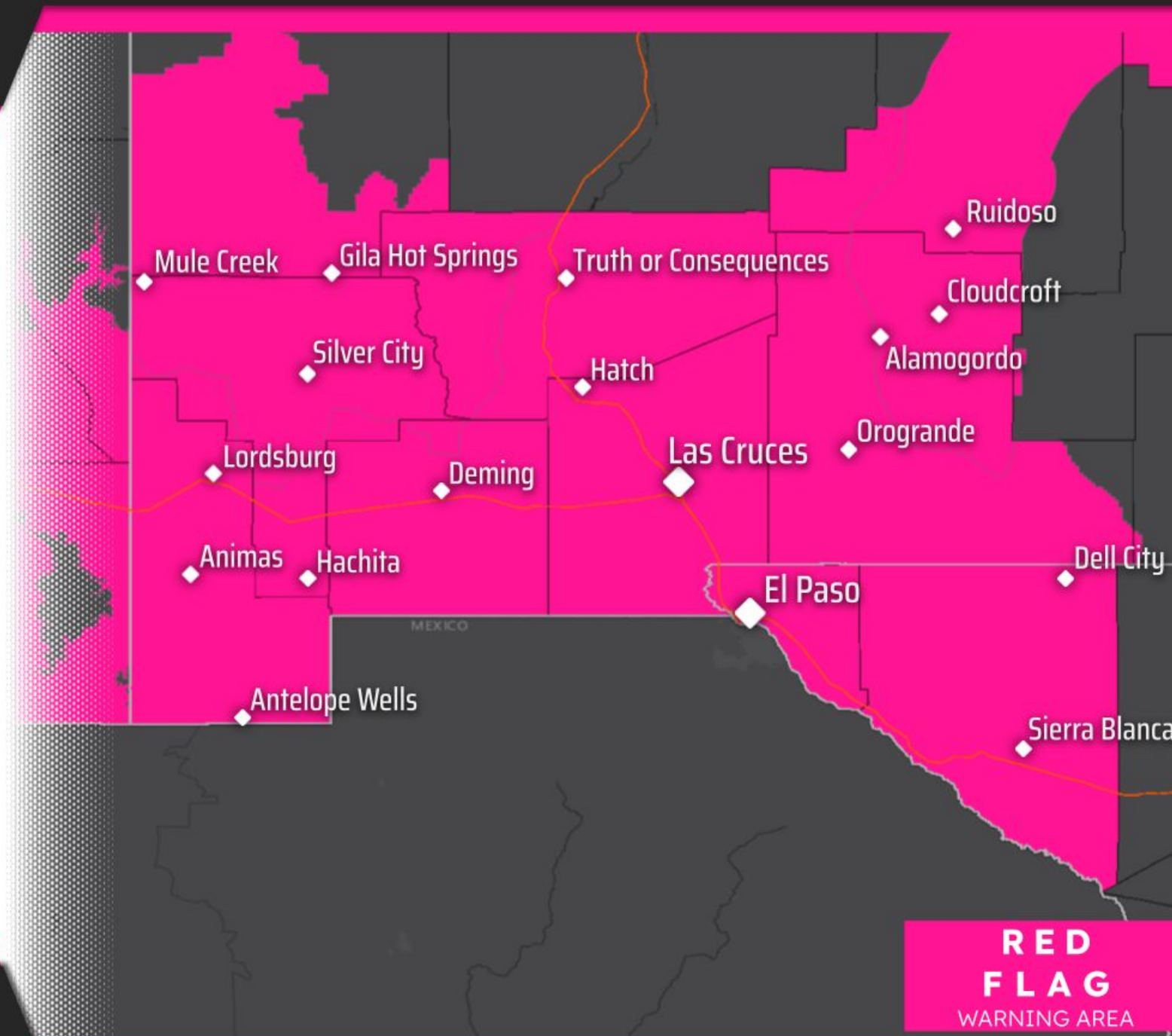
→ **Relative Humidity: 8 to 15 percent**



→ **Avoid creating open flames or sparks**

→ **Keep vehicles off of dry grass**

→ **Report wildfires to authorities**



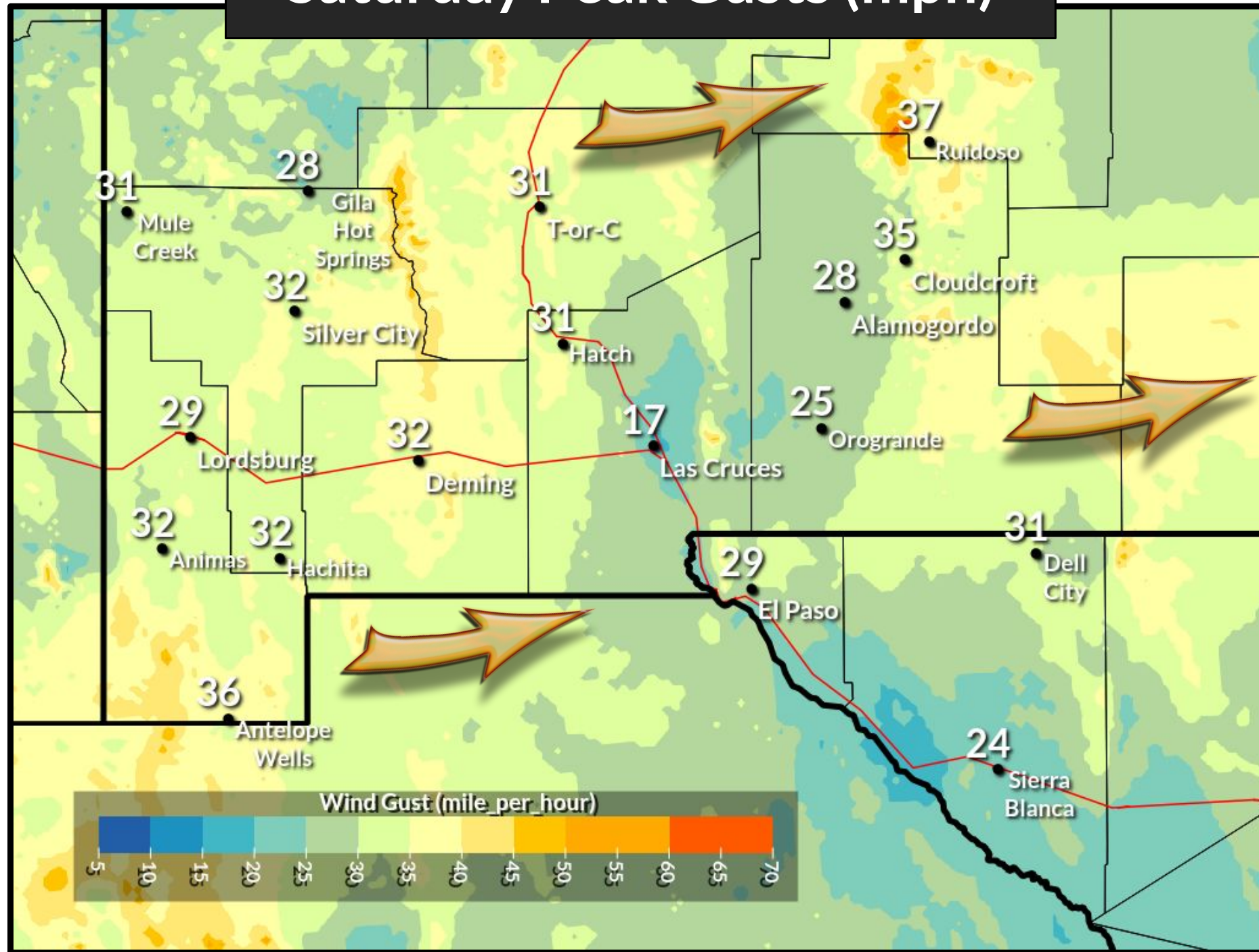
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
EL PASO, TX

Follow: @NWSEIPaso

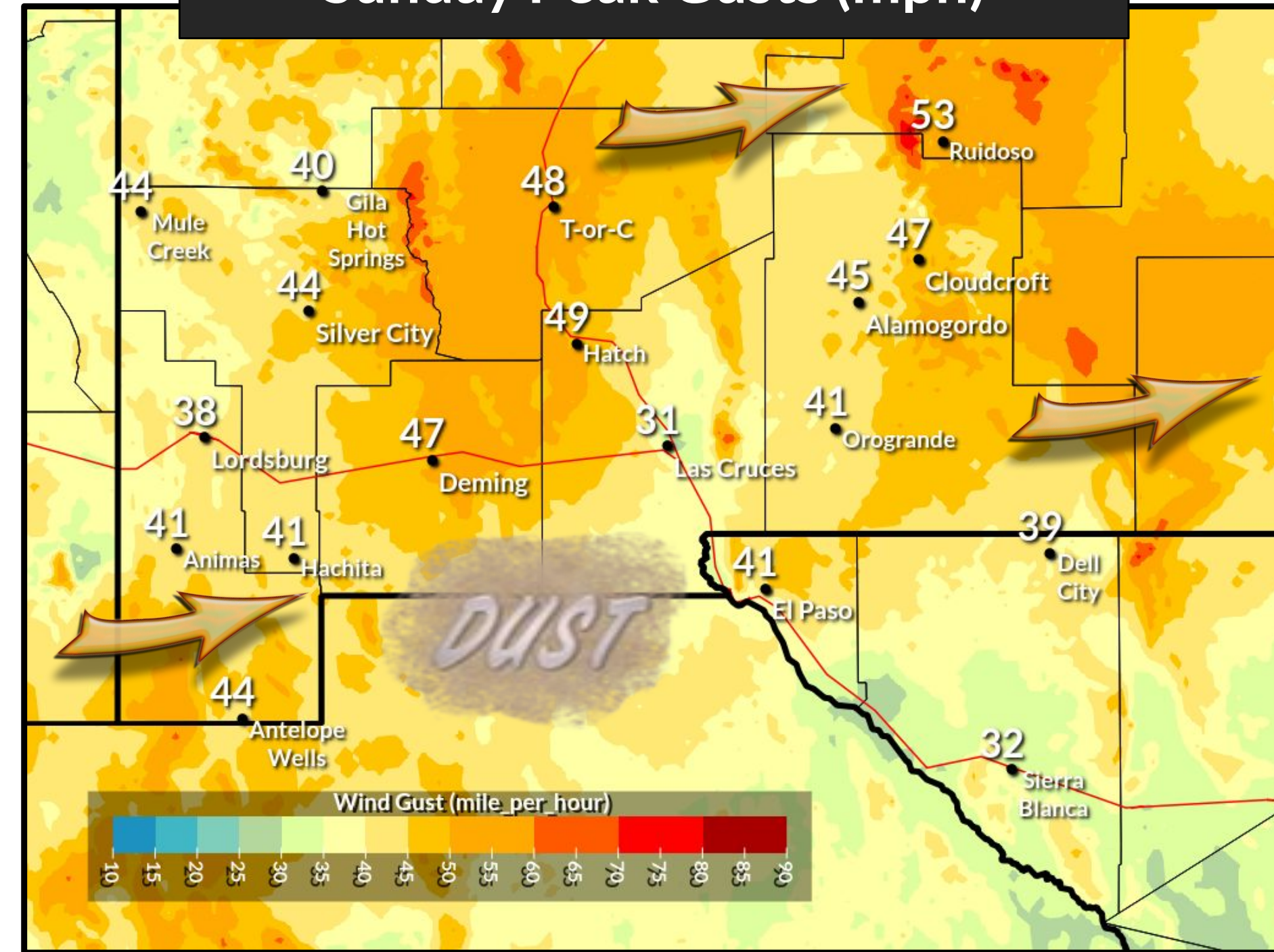
Updated: April 24, 2026



## Saturday Peak Gusts (mph)

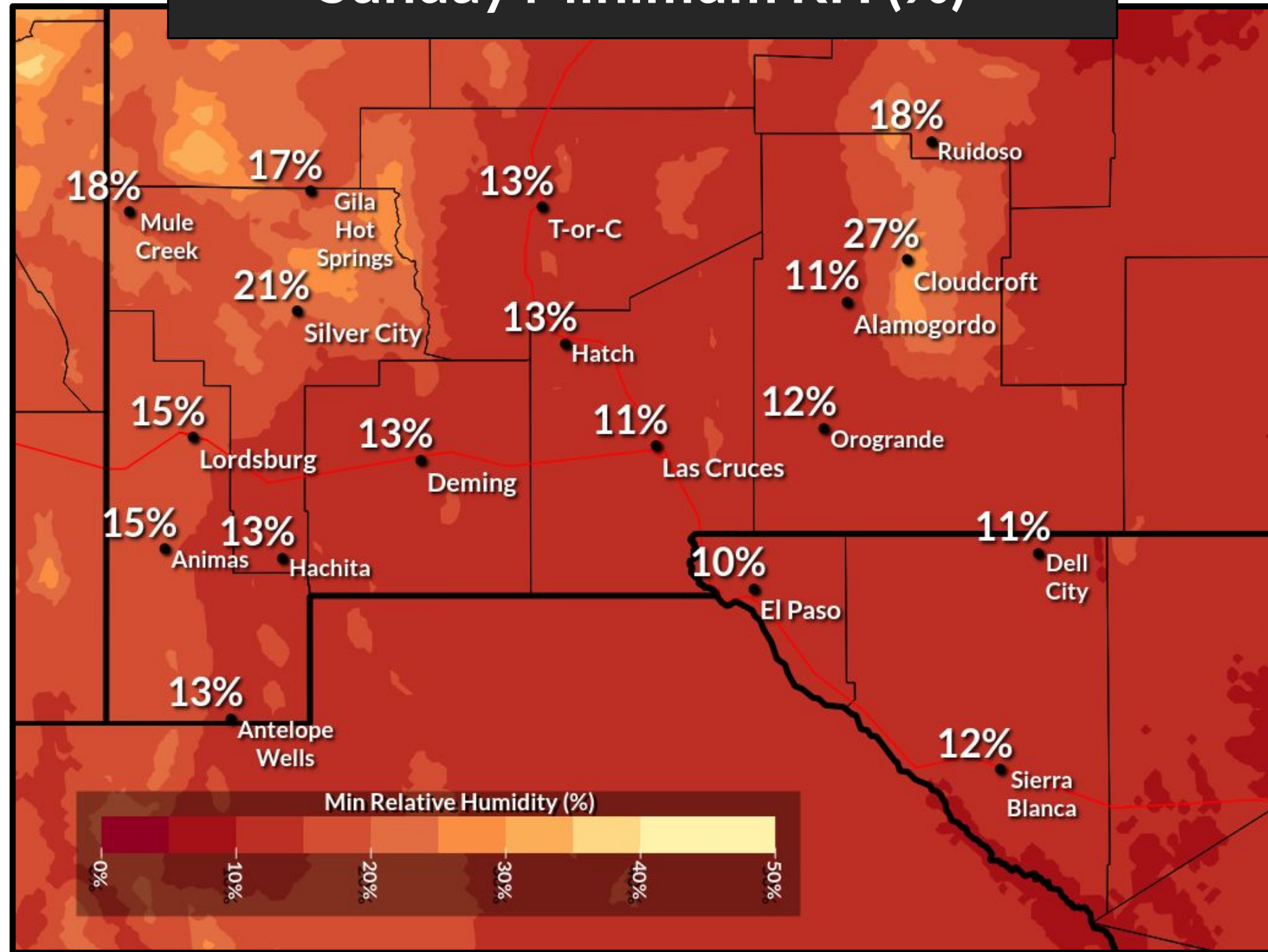
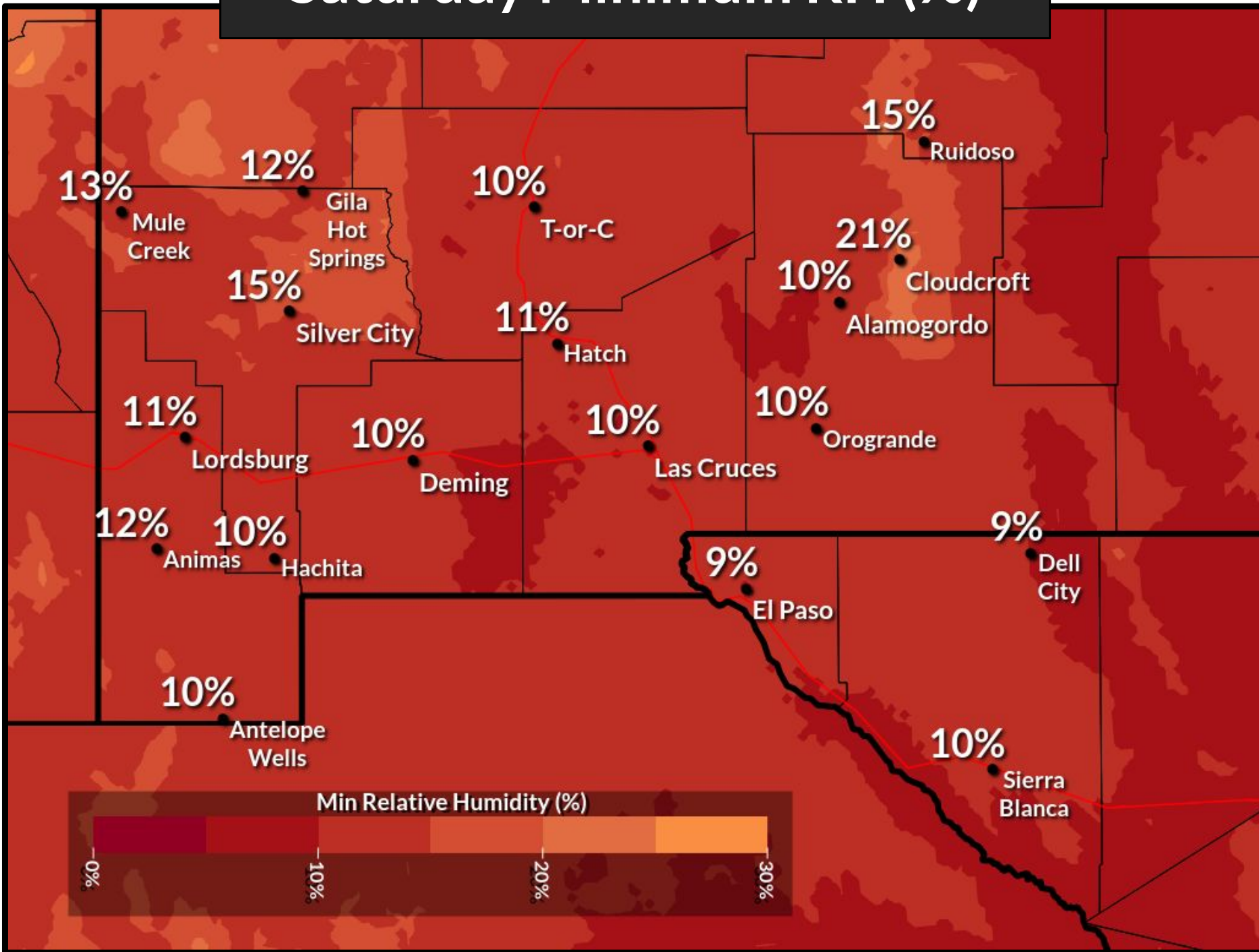


## Sunday Peak Gusts (mph)



## Saturday Minimum RH (%)

## Sunday Minimum RH (%)

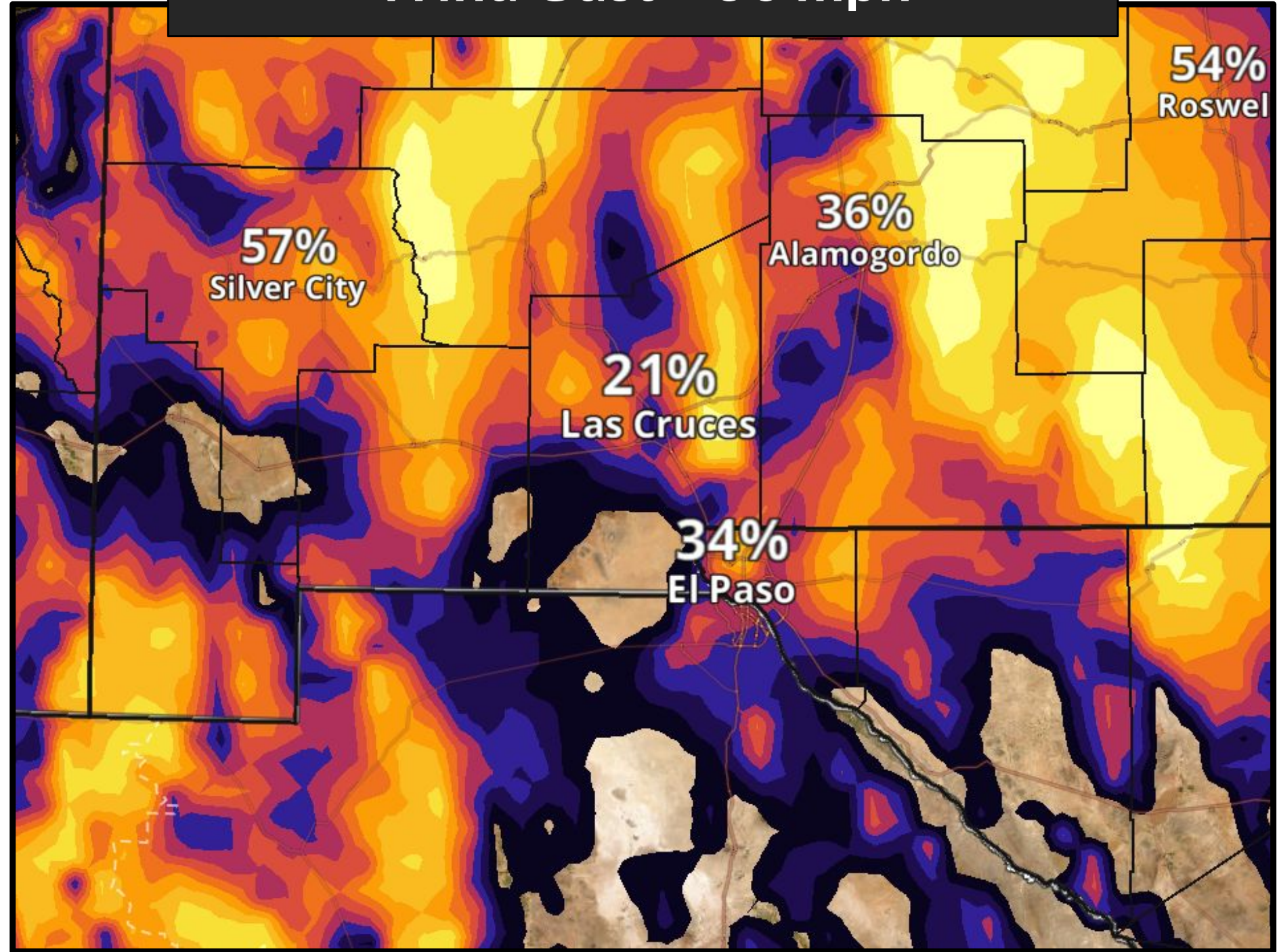
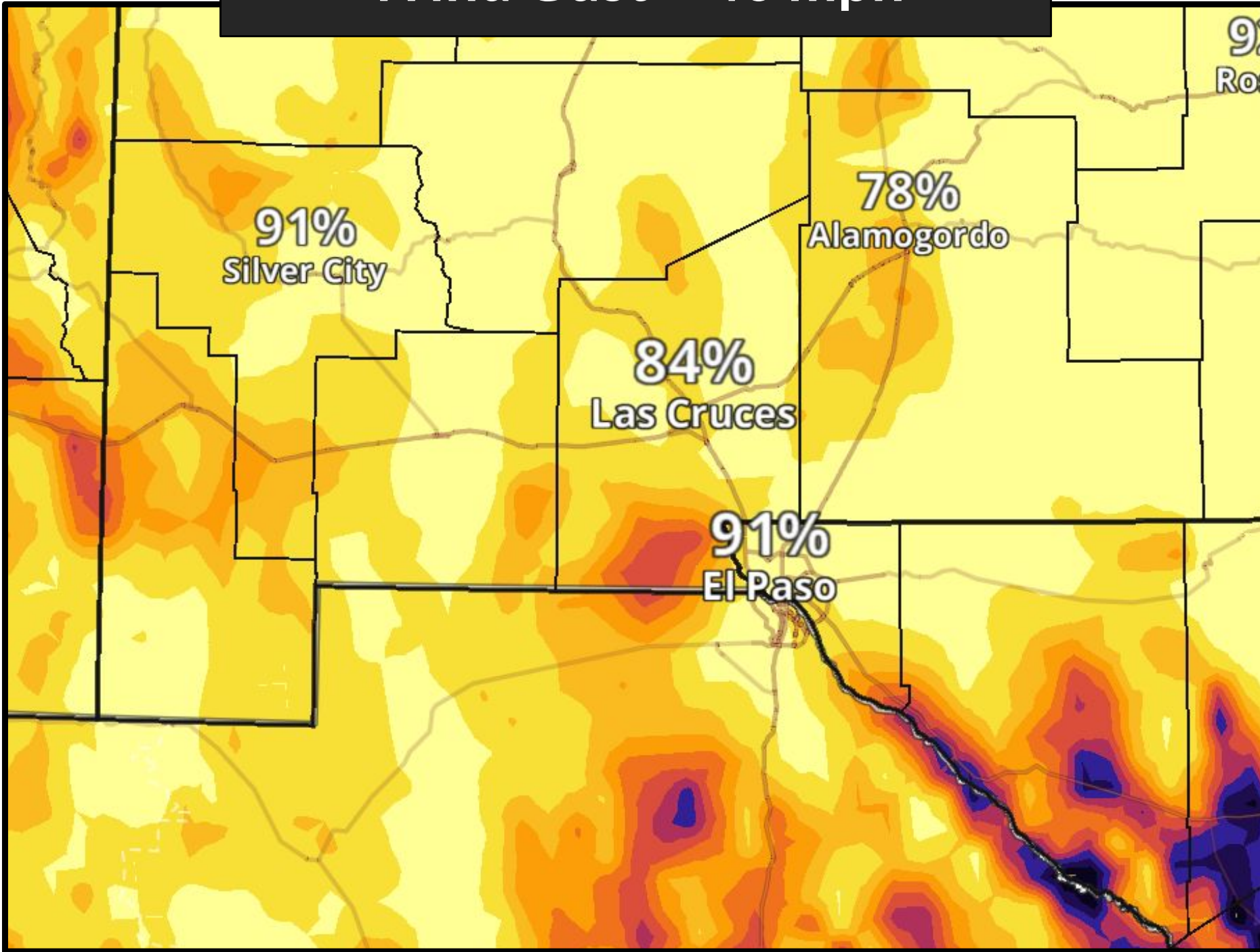


# Probability of Exceedance - Sunday April 26

April 24, 2026  
1:40 PM

## Wind Gust > 40 mph

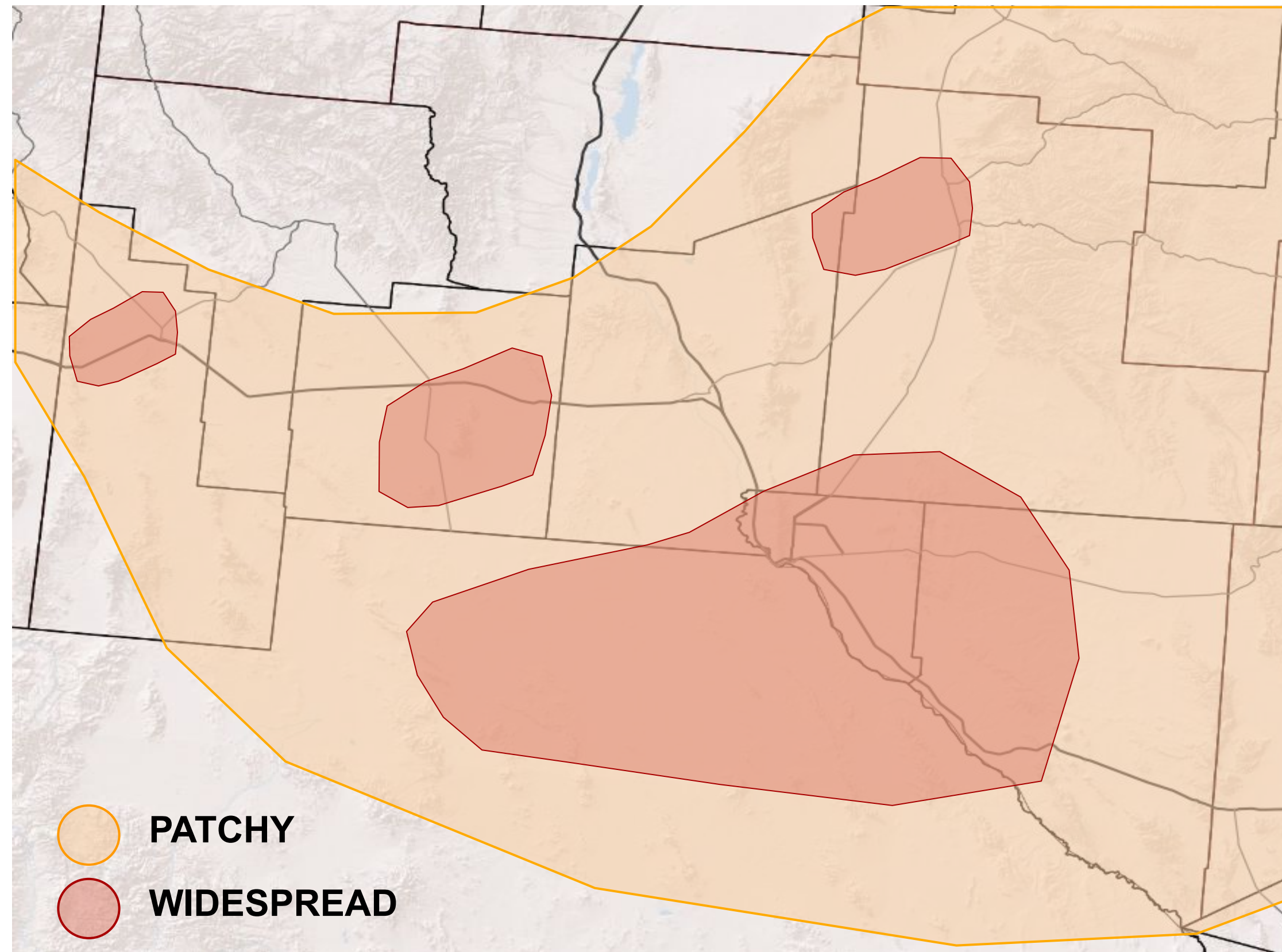
## Wind Gust > 50 mph



# Dust Potential

April 24, 2026  
1:40 PM

- Timing: 12 PM to 6 PM Sunday
- Visibility: Widespread 2 to 4 miles, localized ½ mile
- Highest Risk:
  - NM-9 between Columbus and El Paso
  - I-10, Loop-375 in El Paso
  - US-62/180 between El Paso and Cornudas
  - Portions of US-54 downwind from White Sands NP
  - NM-11 between Deming and Columbus
  - I-10 near Lordsburg Playa



# Hourly Forecast - Saturday, April 25

April 24, 2026  
1:40 PM

## El Paso, TX

Time:	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM
Weather:																
Temperature (°F):	59	63	66	71	74	77	79	82	82	83	84	83	82	79	77	75
Wind Speed (mph):	7	7	9	13	14	15	16	17	18	18	20	20	18	18	15	15
Wind Gust (mph):	10	12	14	17	20	21	23	24	25	25	28	28	25	25	22	21
Wind Direction (°):	270	260	270	260	260	260	260	260	250	260	250	260	250	250	250	250
Wind Direction:	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔
Prob. of Precip. (%):	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precip. Amount (in.):		0.00						0.00						0.00		
RH (%):	29	25	23	19	16	13	12	11	10	10	10	10	11	12	13	15
Sky Cover (%):	31	47	39	37	28	37	38	45	49	28	26	34	48	54	59	55



# Hourly Forecast - Sunday, April 26

April 24, 2026  
1:40 PM

## El Paso, TX

Time:	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM
Weather:															
Temperature (°F):	67	71	75	78	81	83	85	86	86	85	83	78	72	69	67
Wind Speed (mph):	8	10	15	21	25	29	30	31	33	35	33	30	24	18	16
Wind Gust (mph):	13	16	20	24	40	49	51	51	59	62	55	35	31	28	24
Wind Direction (°):	230	230	230	240	240	240	250	250	250	250	250	250	260	260	260
Wind Direction:															
Prob. of Precip. (%):	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precip. Amount (in.):	0.00			0.00						0.00					
RH (%):	24	21	18	16	14	13	13	12	12	12	12	15	18	20	22
Sky Cover (%):	18	13	12	10	9	9	10	10	9	8	7	7	6	6	6



## El Paso, TX

### Wind/Dust Impacts

#### Weekly Summary

	Fri Apr 24	Sat Apr 25	Sun Apr 26	Mon Apr 27	Tue Apr 28	Wed Apr 29	Thu Apr 30
Max Temp, °F	84	84	86	84	84	84	80
Min Temp, °F	69	62	61	56	59	63	60
Max Wind, mph	14	20	35	14	15	20	14
Min Wind, mph	10	6	6	6	3	5	8
Max Wind Gust, mph	22	28	62	21	22	26	18
Max Prob. of Precip., %	0	0	0	0	3	17	13
Max RH, %	15	24	28	34	21	29	34
Min RH, %	10	10	12	10	11	14	15
Max Cloud Cover, %	19	59	53	20	72	80	44
Min Cloud Cover, %	2	15	6	5	39	64	20



## WHAT IS A RED FLAG WARNING?

A warning issued when **critical fire weather conditions** are happening or about to happen.

It does not necessarily mean there is a fire, but that conditions will be very dry and windy. If a fire is present, it can become extreme!

**Avoid activities that could spark a wildfire!**



## Take Action!

- ✓ Make your wildfire plan, with at least 2 evacuation routes
- ✓ Maintain your go kit
- ✓ Follow fire prevention tips and regulations
- ✓ Listen to local officials for updates and evacuation orders

weather.gov



## **Wildfires** can escalate quickly.

Wildfire growth can be terrifyingly sudden and deadly. Prepare ahead of time so you'll be ready.



Clear brush away from your home to create defensible space



Use fire-resistant landscaping



Know your potential evacuation routes



Have an emergency supply kit ready to go



weather.gov



## **STORE OR SECURE LOOSE ITEMS BEFORE STRONG WINDS**



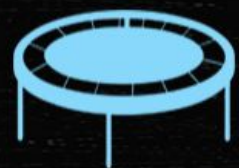
Patio furniture



Sports equipment



Trash cans



Trampolines



[weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov)



**Slow down**

**Turn lights on**

**Sound horn occasionally**

**Use painted center line as  
a guide**

## Safety Tips for Driving in Dust Storms



[weather.gov/wind](https://weather.gov/wind)





# DUST STORMS

*DUST STORMS CAN STRIKE SUDDENLY!*

**STAY INSIDE AND AVOID  
DUST INHALATION**

**ZERO VISIBILITY =  
DANGEROUS DRIVING CONDITIONS**



**IF CAUGHT IN YOUR VEHICLE...**



**1. PULL OVER.**

**2. PUT YOUR CAR IN PARK.**

**3. TURN OFF THE LIGHTS.**

**4. TAKE YOUR FOOT OFF THE BRAKE.**



**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**  
NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



NWS El Paso  
Meteorologist

[nws.elpaso@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.elpaso@noaa.gov)  
575-589-3972 (Office)

Greg Lundeen  
Meteorologist in Charge

[greg.lundeen@noaa.gov](mailto:greg.lundeen@noaa.gov)  
915-241-7320

