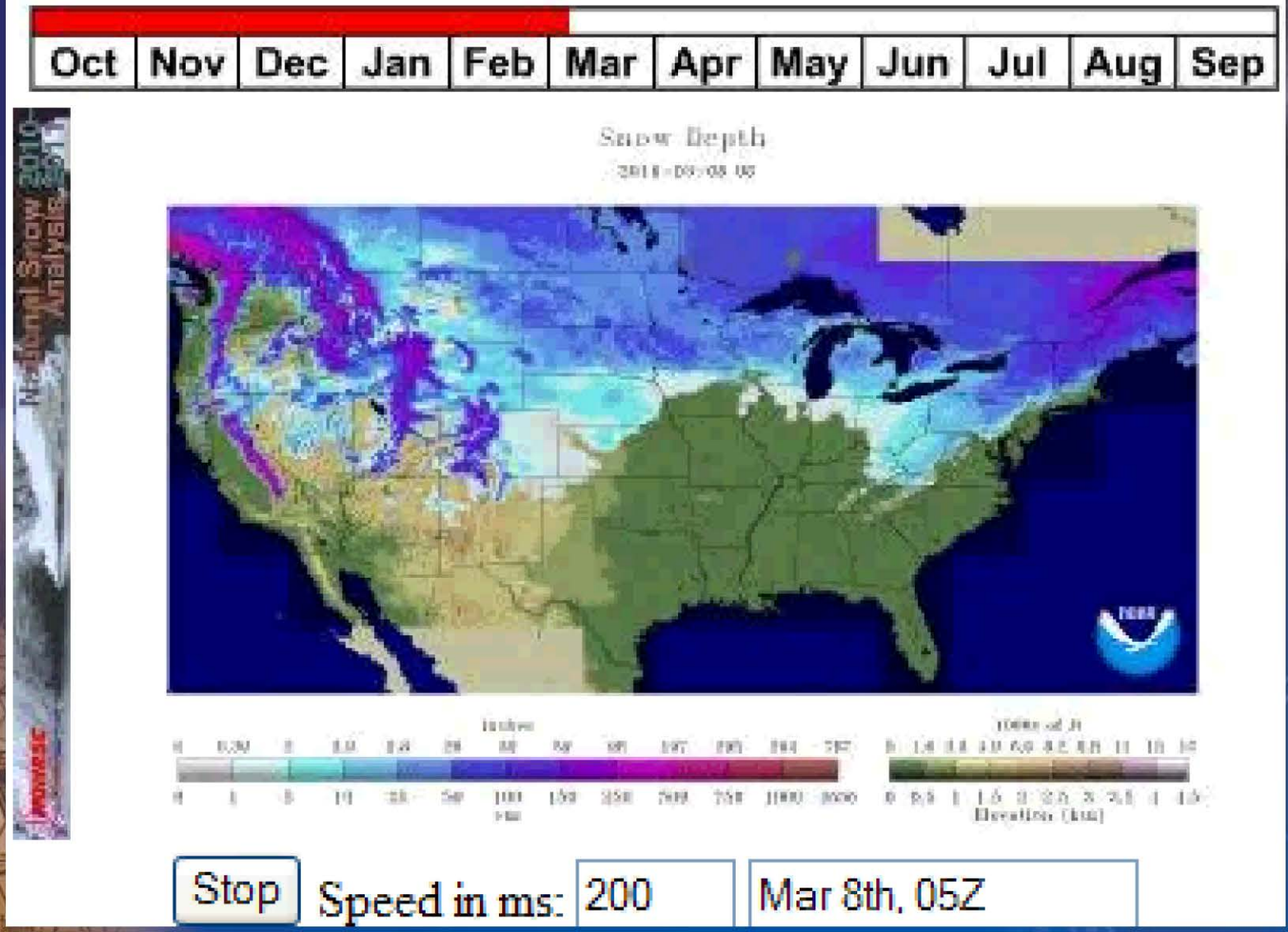
Idaho Weather, Climate and Water Supply Outlook

IDWR Briefing, March 10th 2011

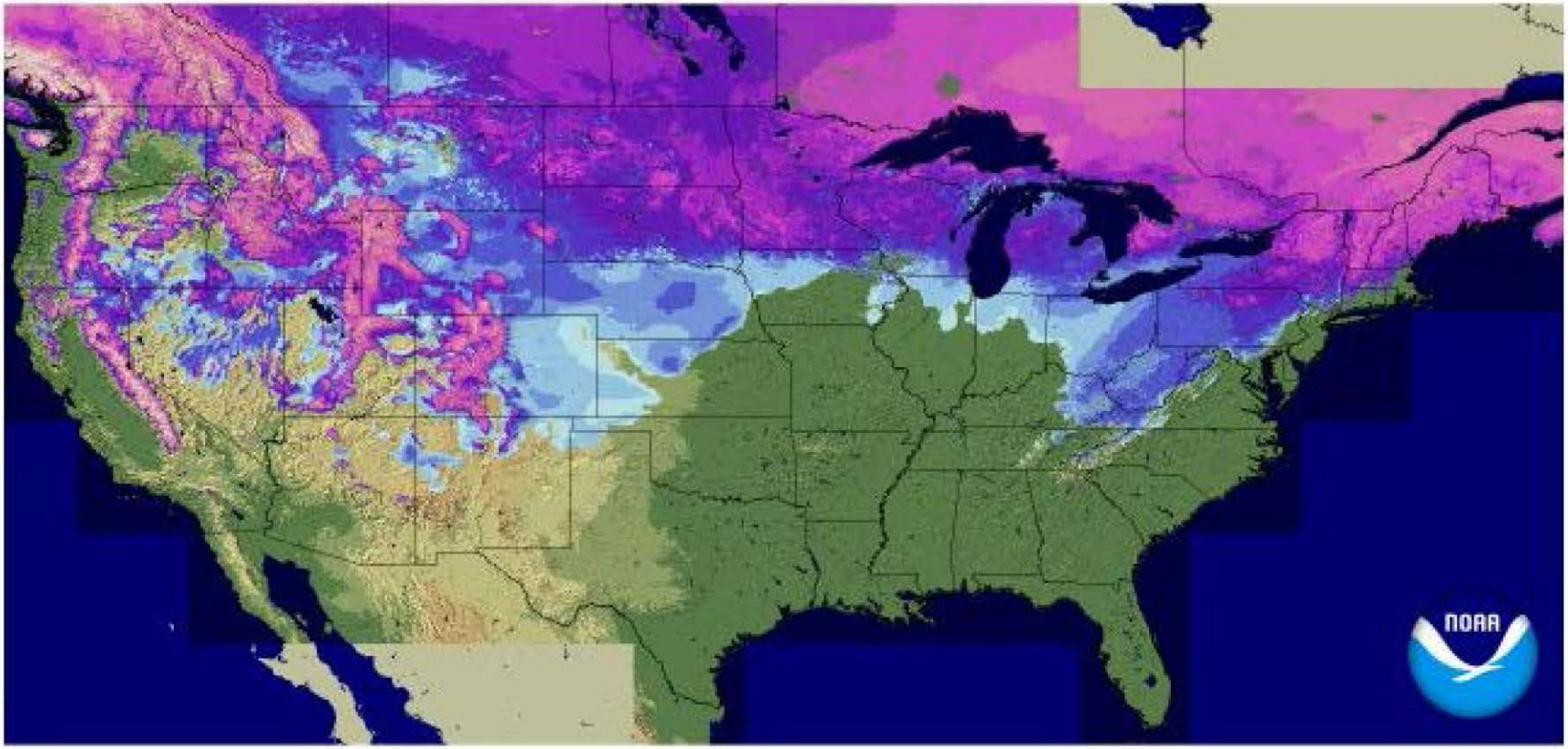
Jay Breidenbach, NOAA National Weather Service

- National Snow Movies
- Recent Temperature and Precipitation Anomalies
- Forecast for next 10 days – continuation of stormy pattern
- La-Nina Status
- Three Month Climate Outlook
- Water Supply Numbers and Idaho Spring Flood Outlook


Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Snow Depth
Stop
Speed in ms:
200
Mar 8th, 05Z

Snow Water Equivalent

2011-03-08 06



inches

0 4E^{-3} 0.04 0.2 0.39 0.98 2 3.9 5.9 9.8 20 30 39 79

0 0.01 0.1 0.5 1 2.5 5 10 15 25 50 75 100 200

cm

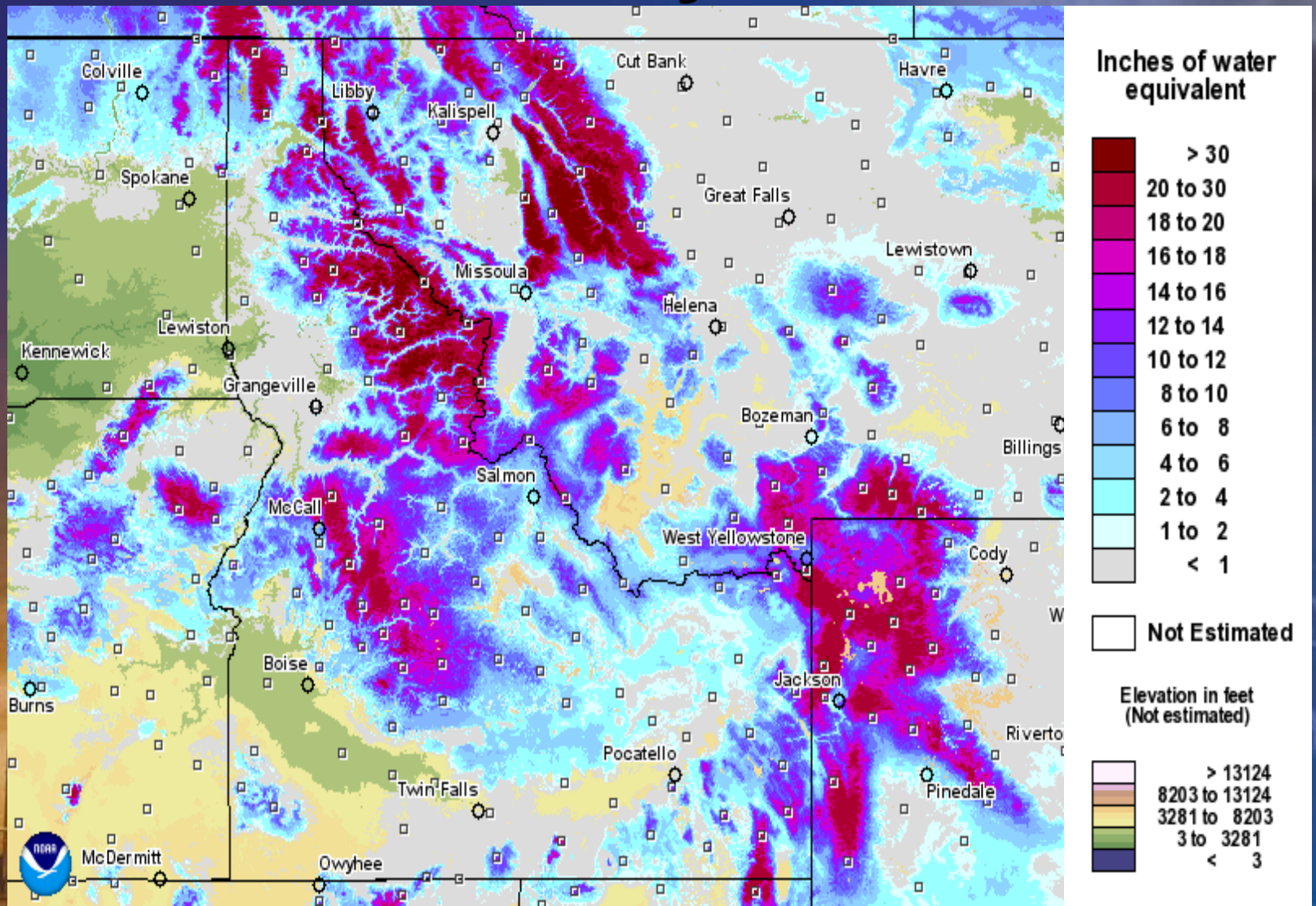
1000s of ft

0 1.6 3.3 4.9 6.6 8.2 9.8 11 13 15

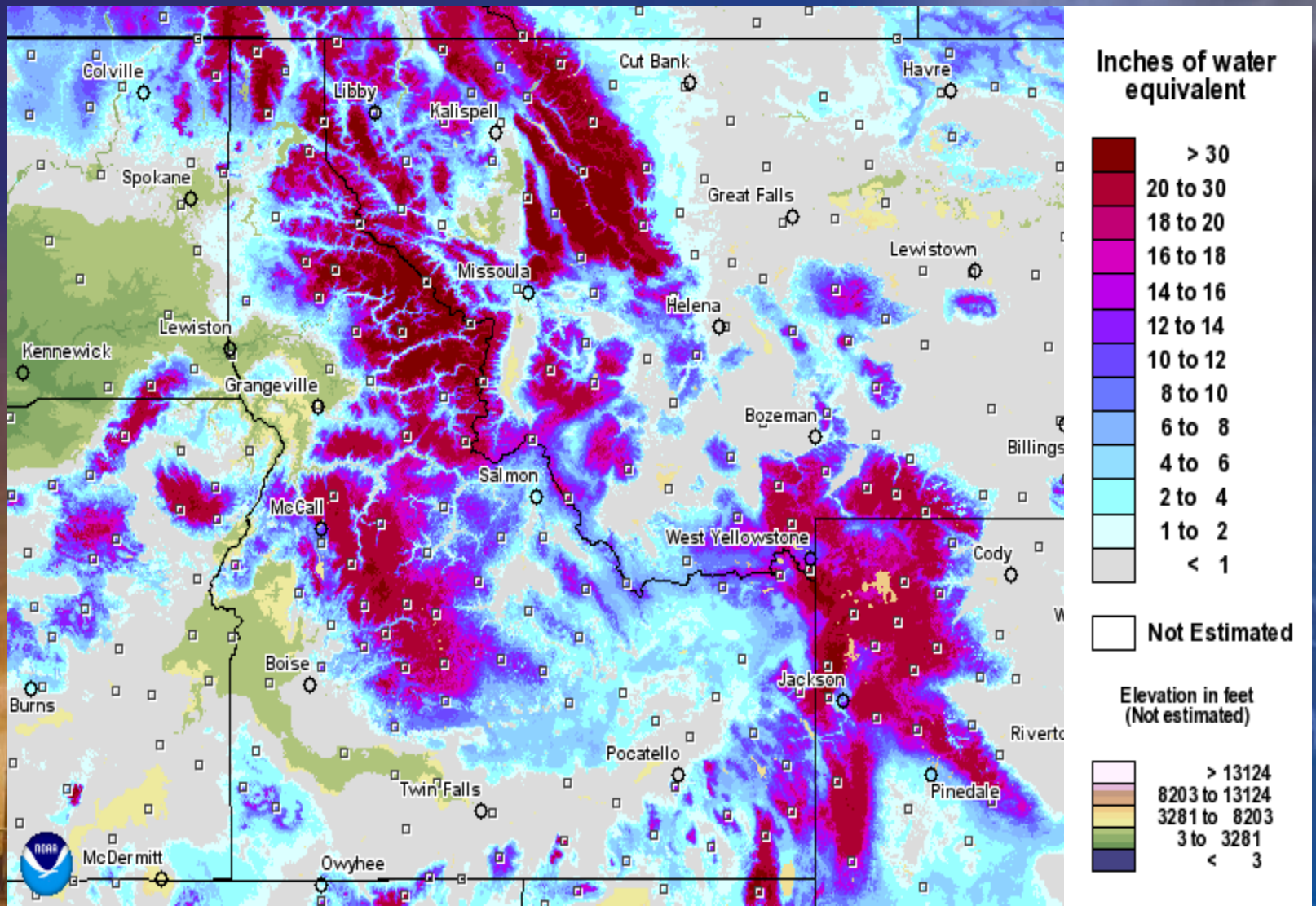
0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5

Elevation (km)

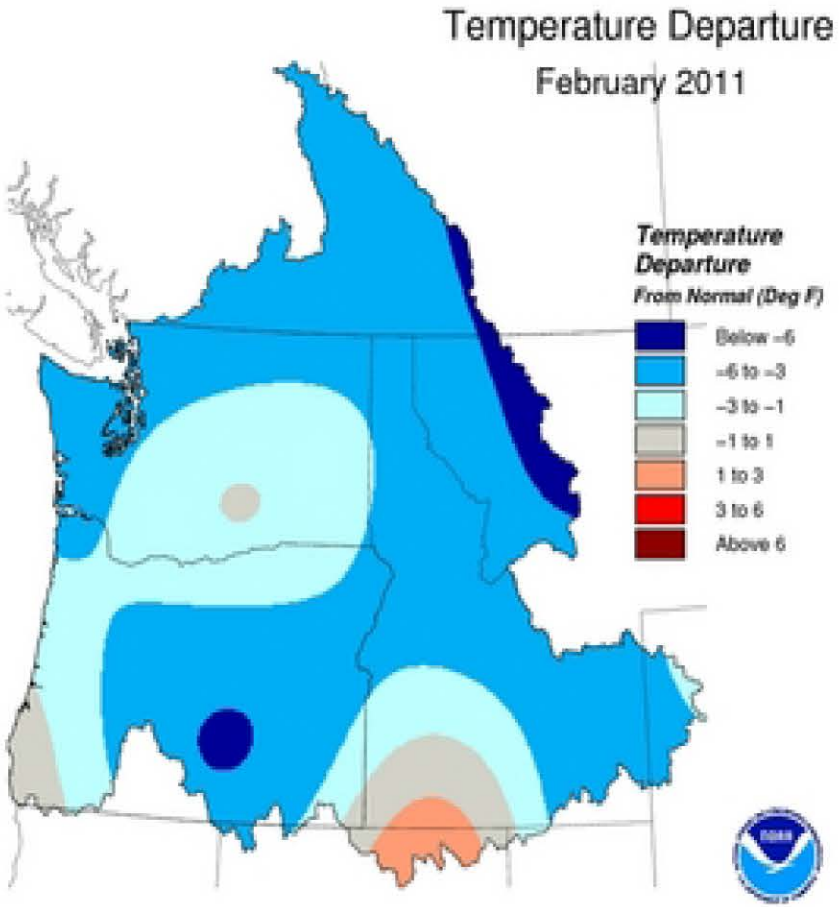
Snow Water Equivalent
February 8th, 2011

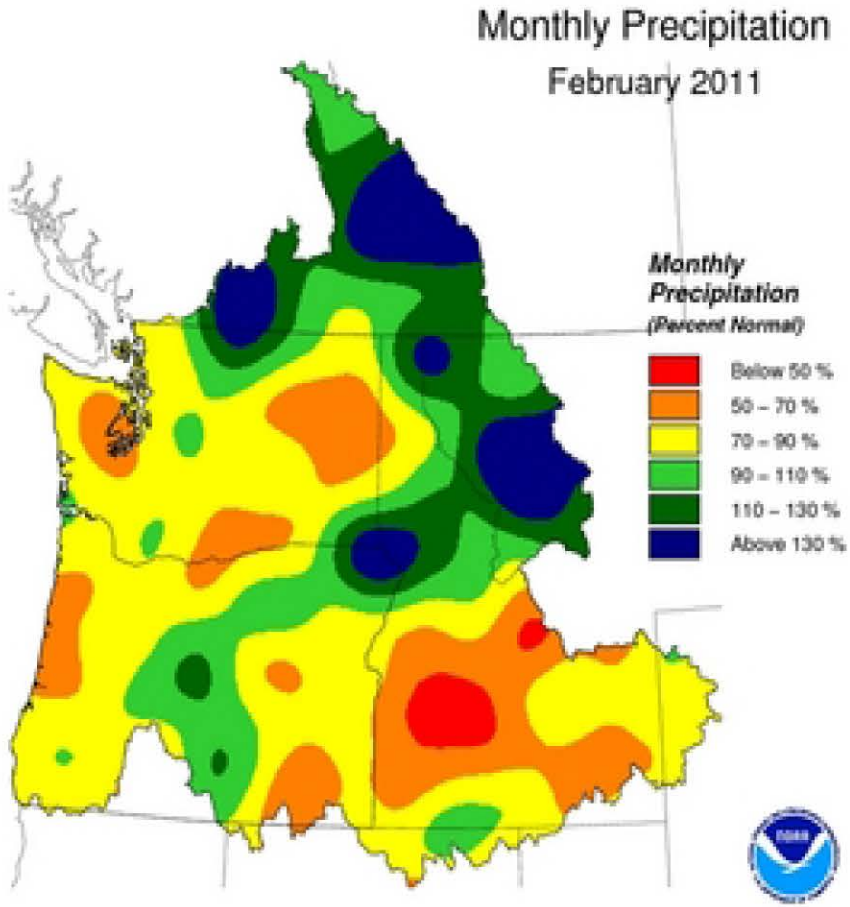


Snow Water Equivalent
March 11th, 2011



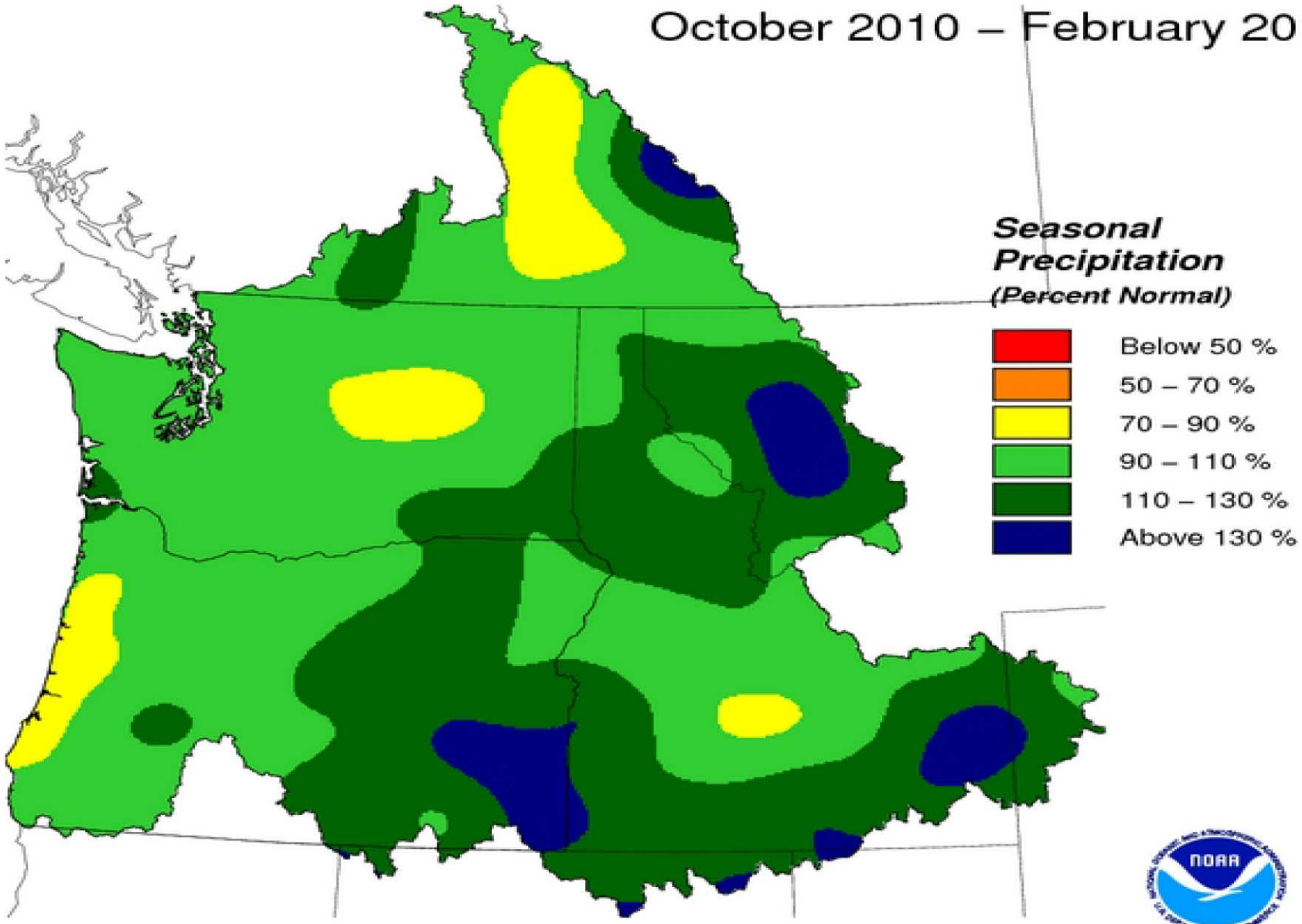
After the January Thaw





Seasonal Precipitation

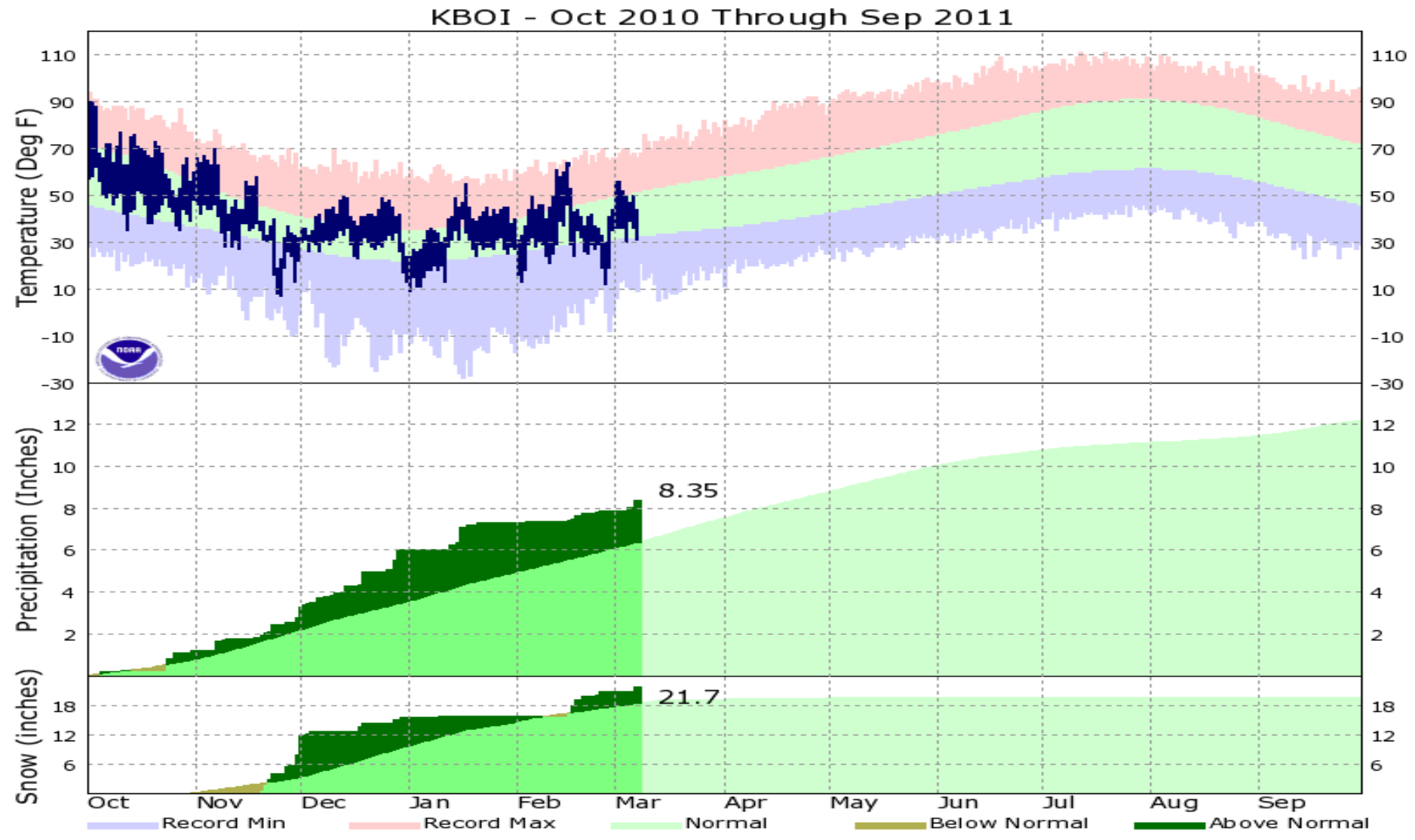
October 2010 – February 2011



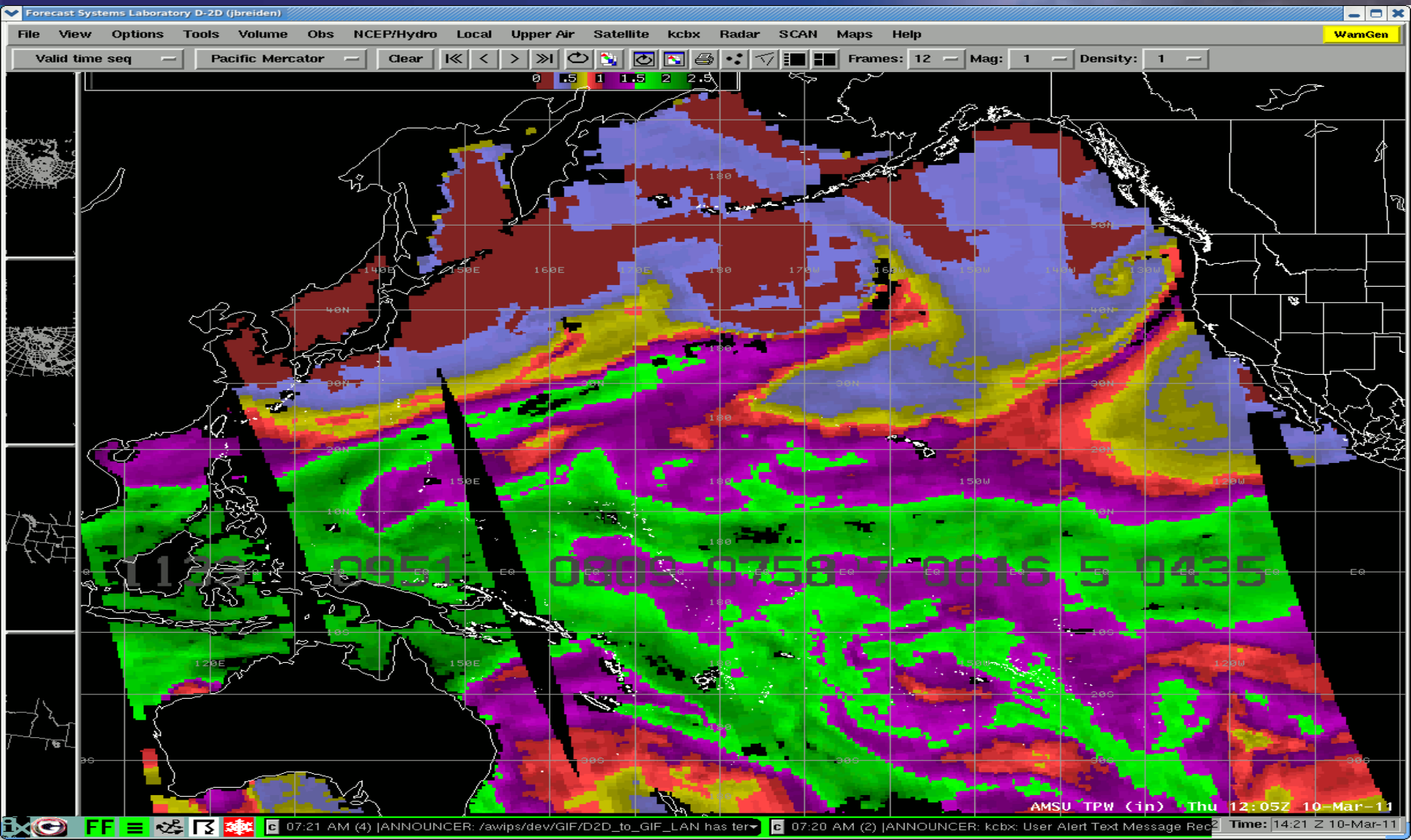
Creation Time: Mon, Mar 7, 2011

Northwest River Forecast Center

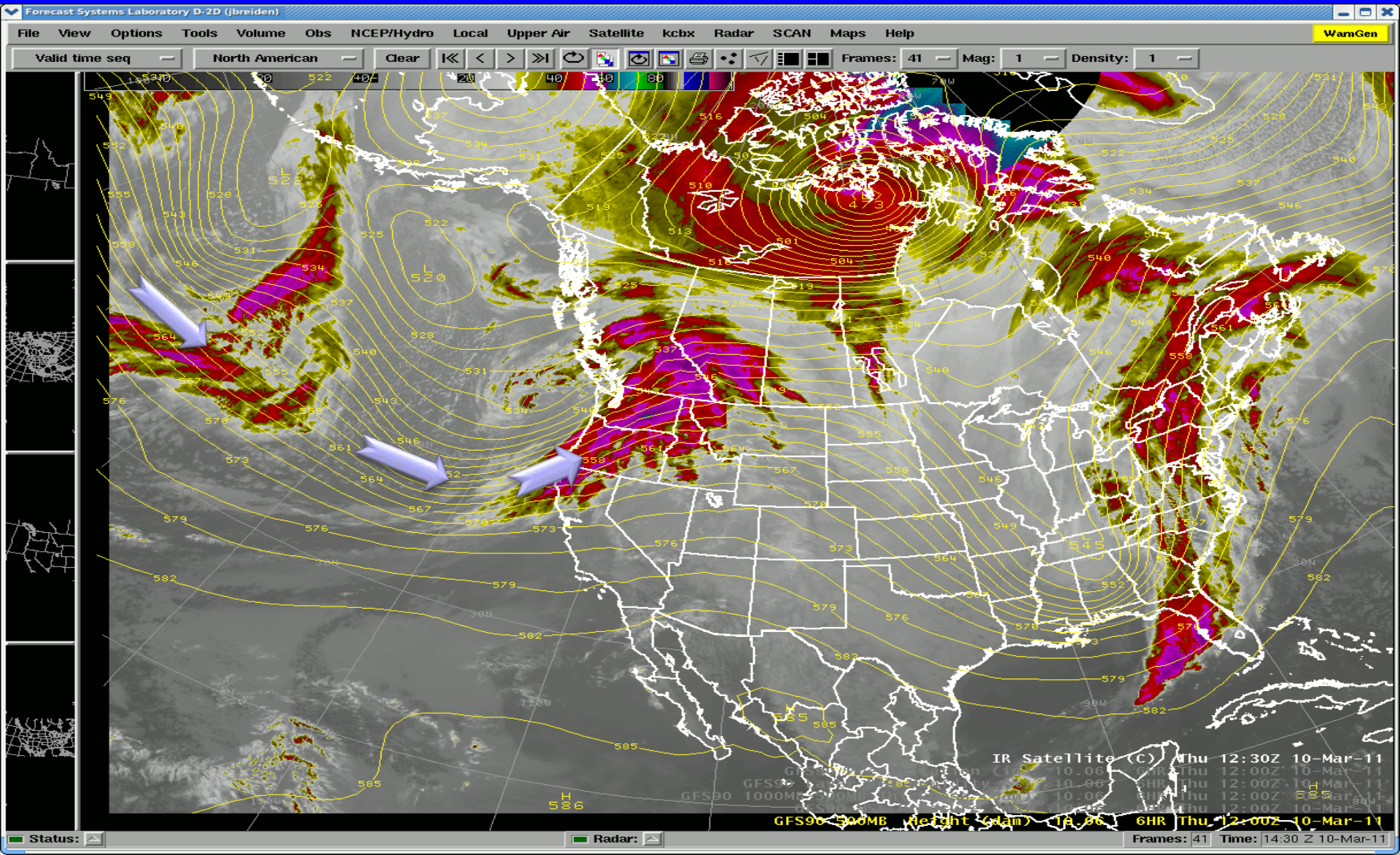
Temperature and Precipitation at Boise



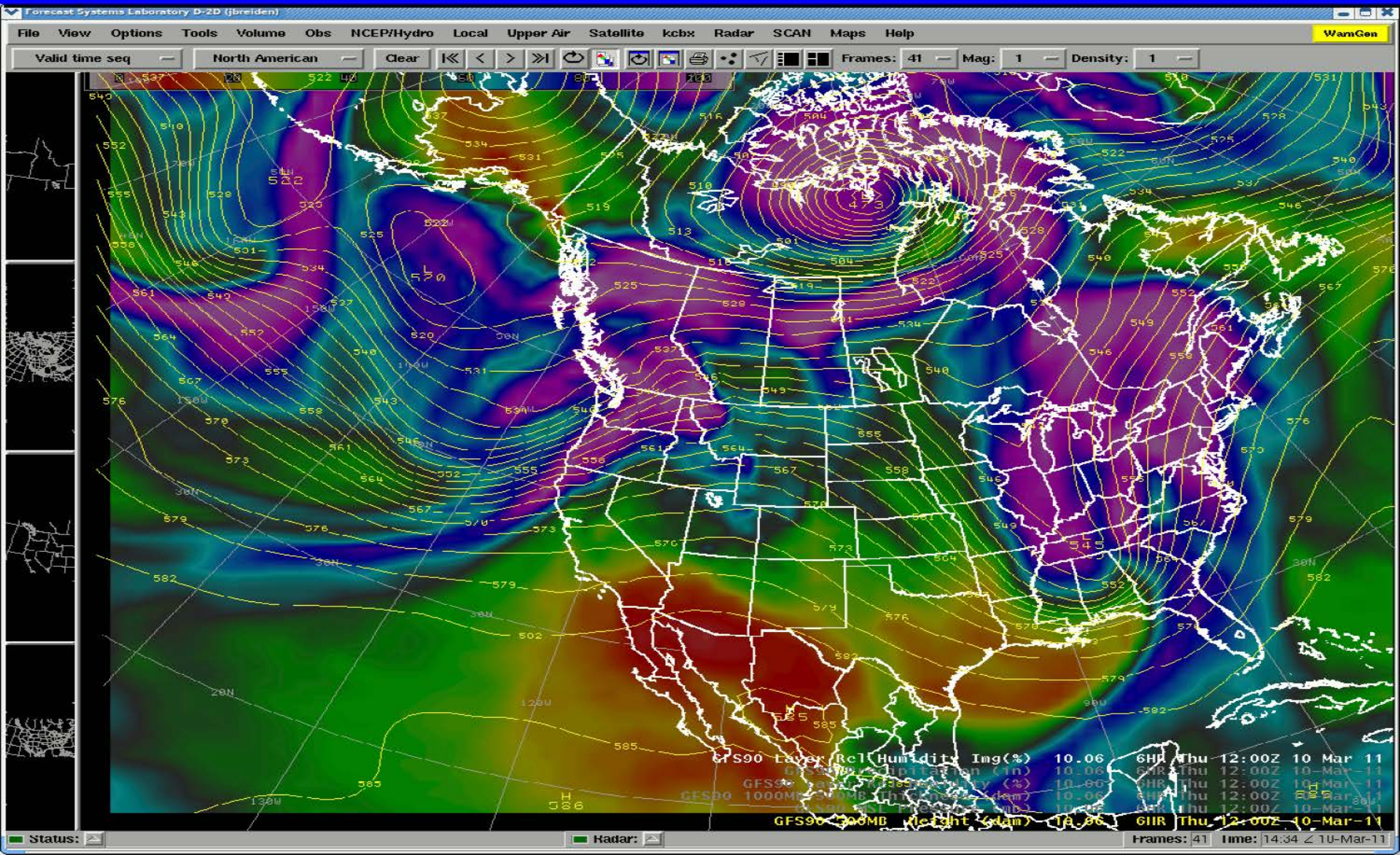
Perceptible Water Image



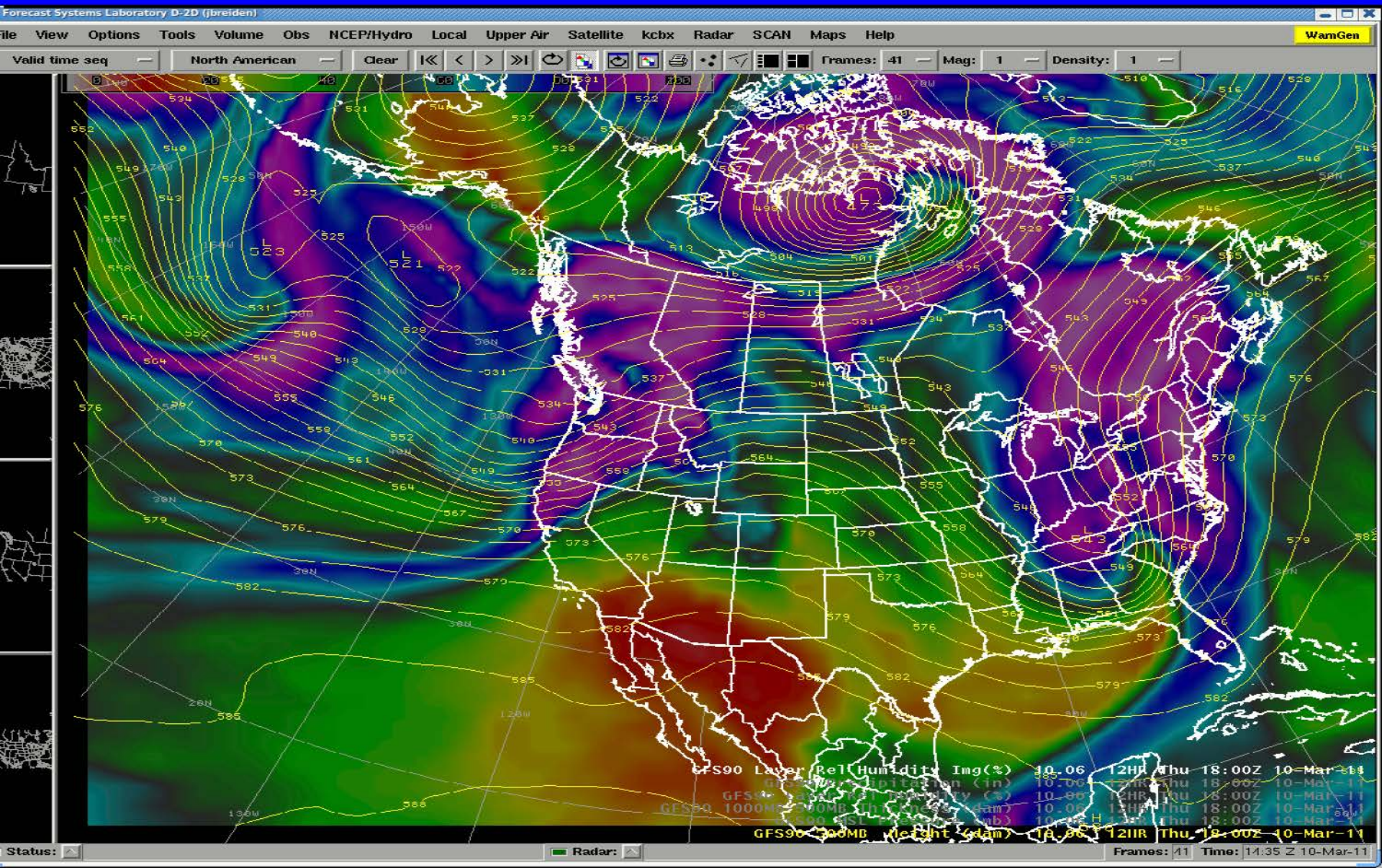
Thursday - March 11th
IR Satellite Imagery / 500 mb heights



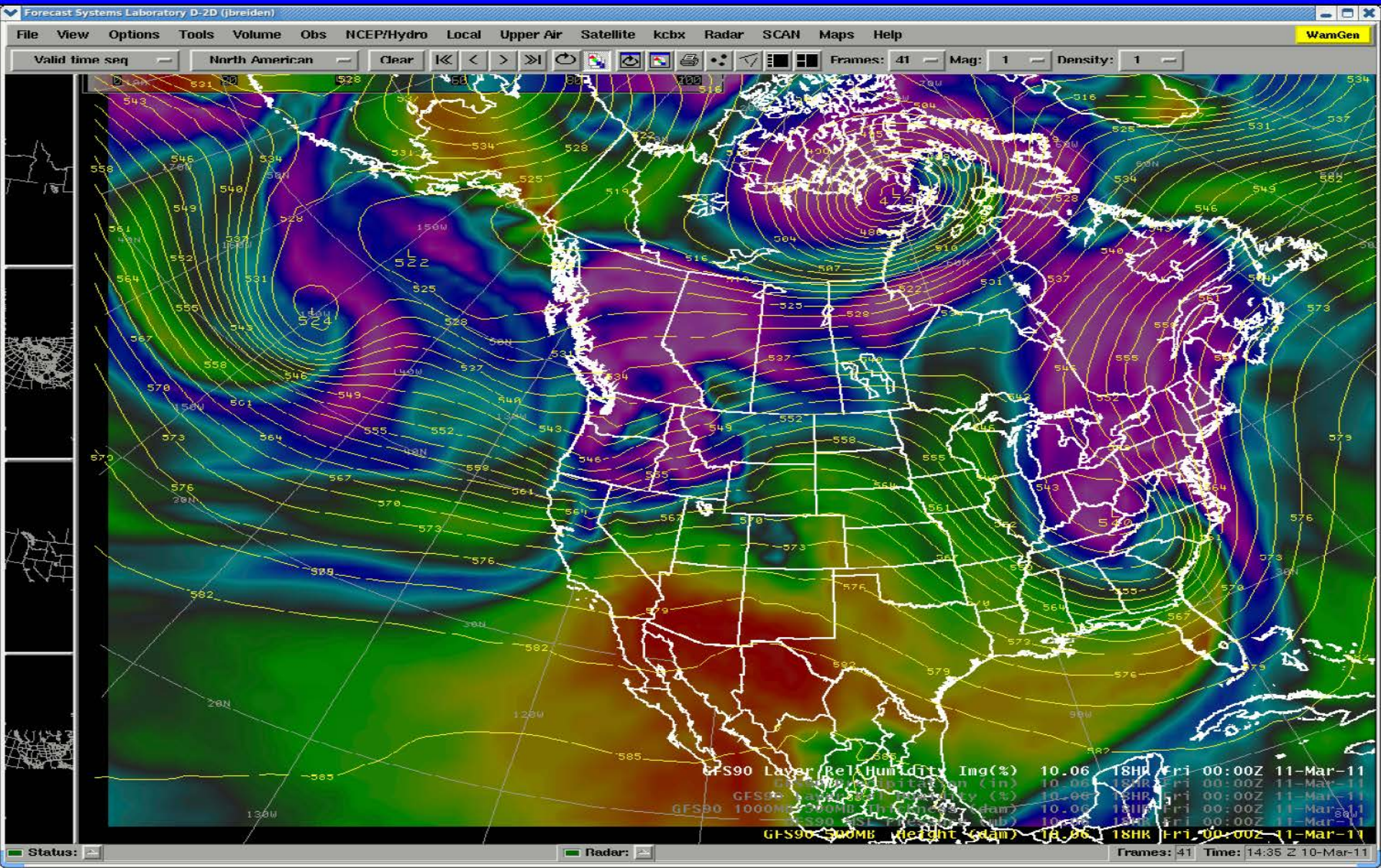
Thursday, March 10th (Morning)
500 mb heights / model precipitation



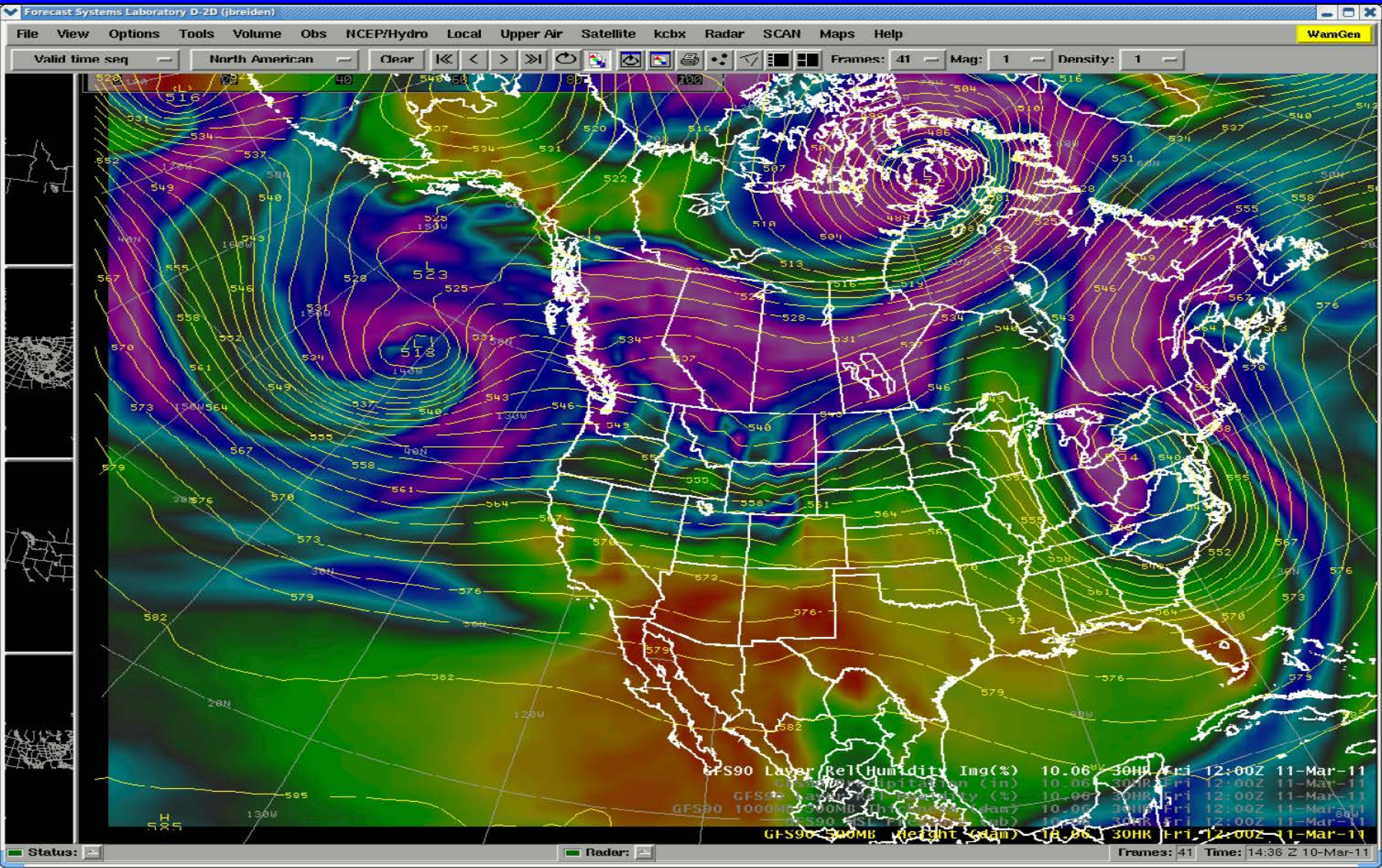
Thursday, March 10th (Noon)
500 mb heights / model precipitation



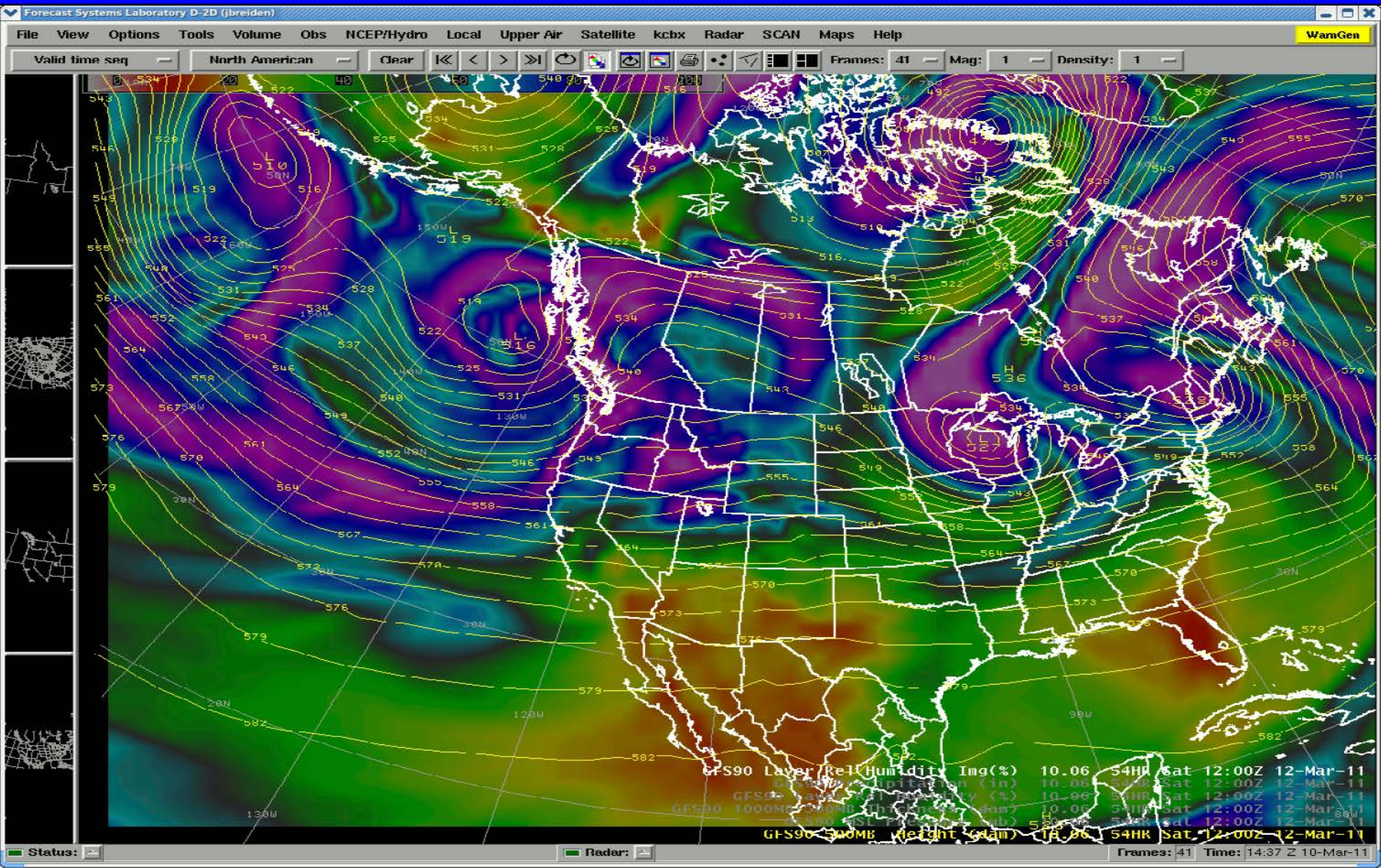
Thursday, March 10th (evening)



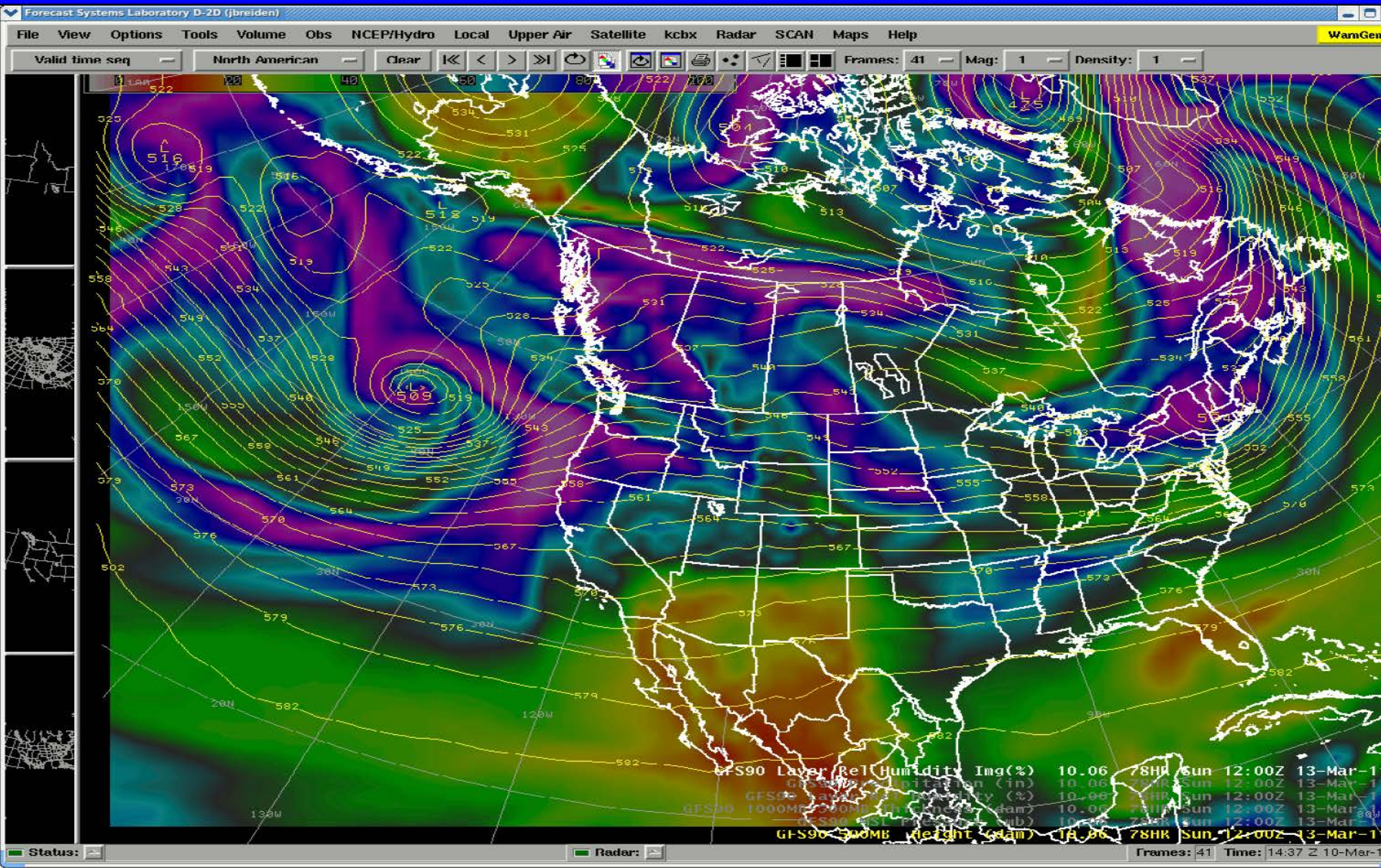
Saturday, March 11th



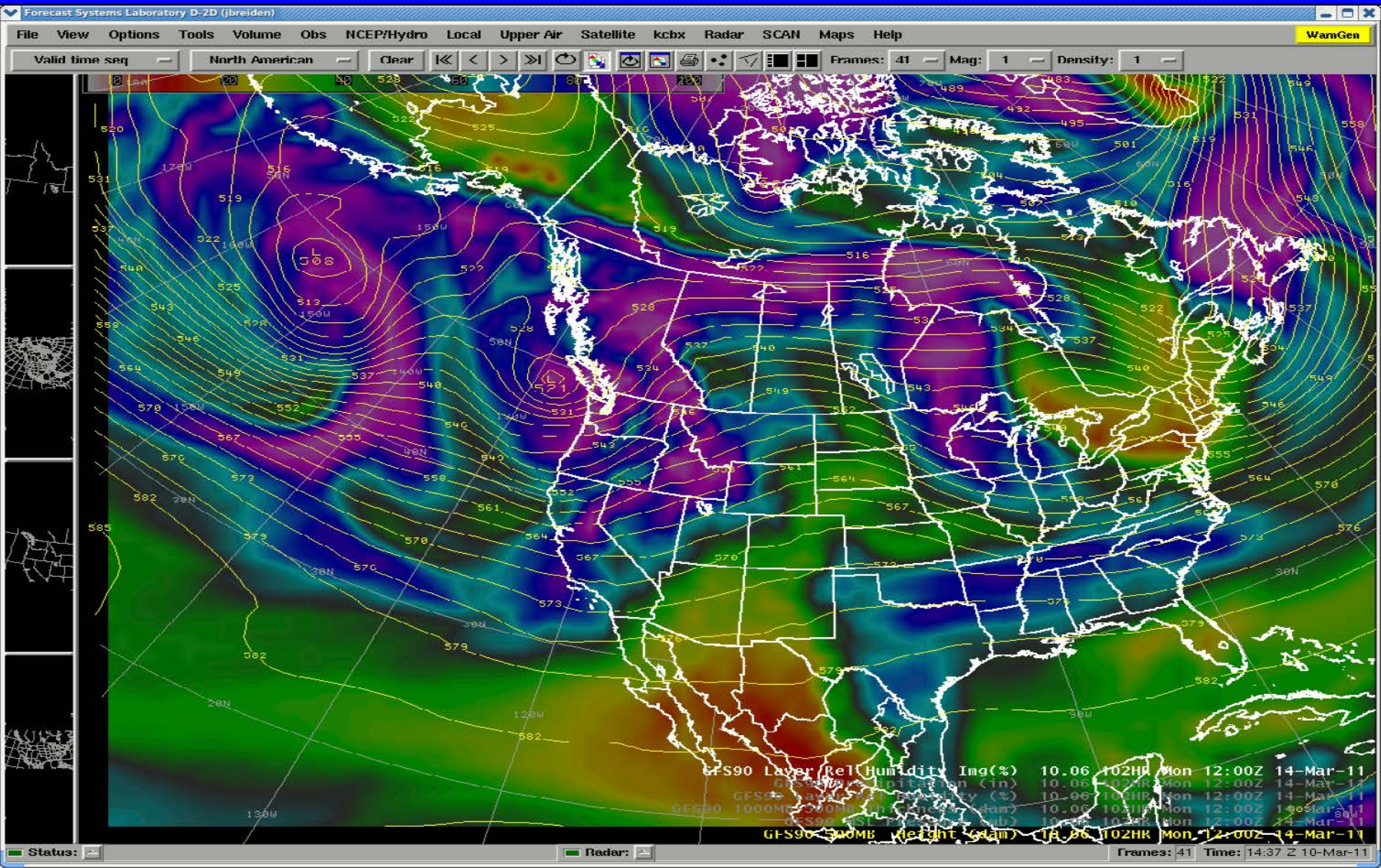
Sunday, March 12th



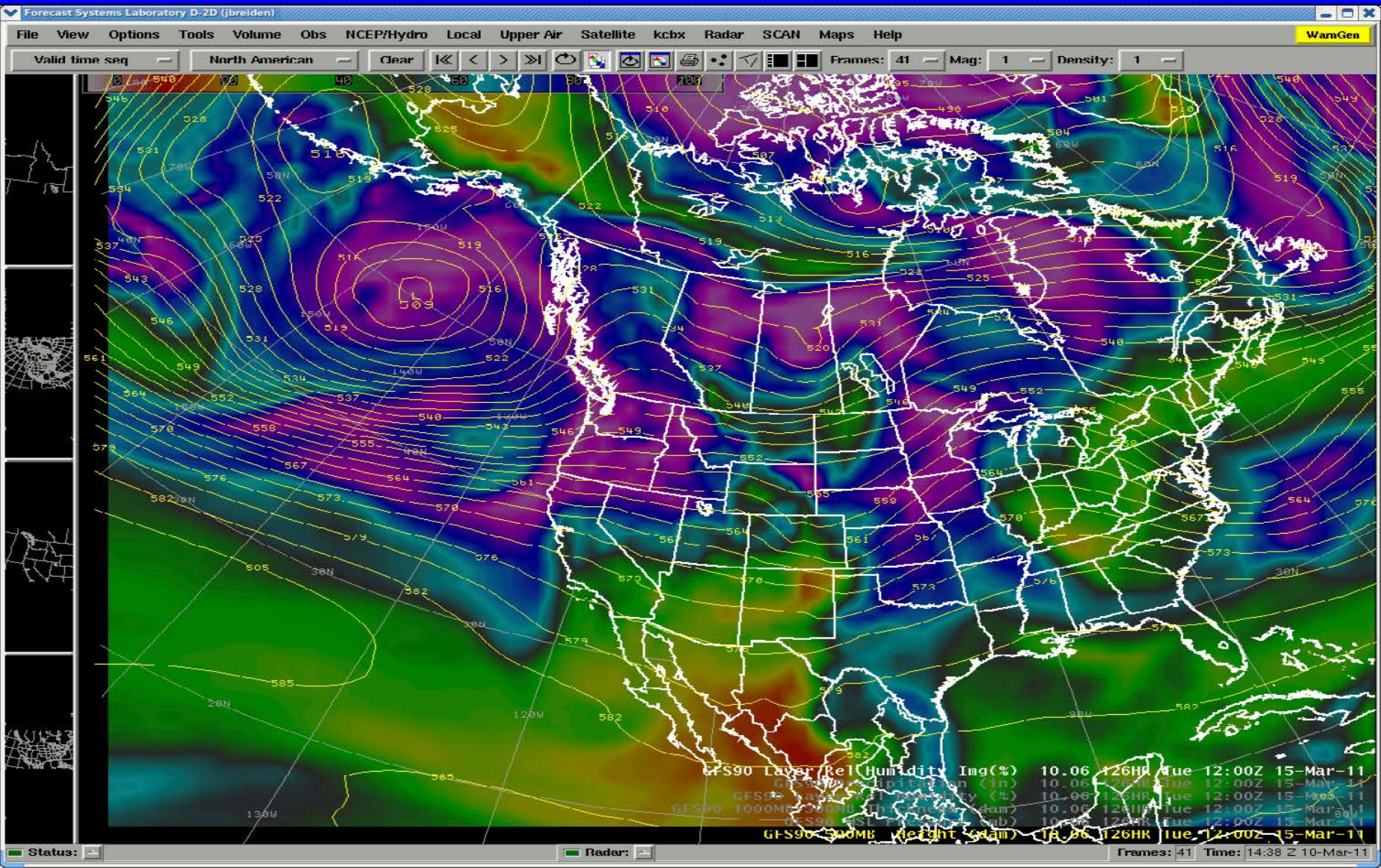
Sunday, March 13th



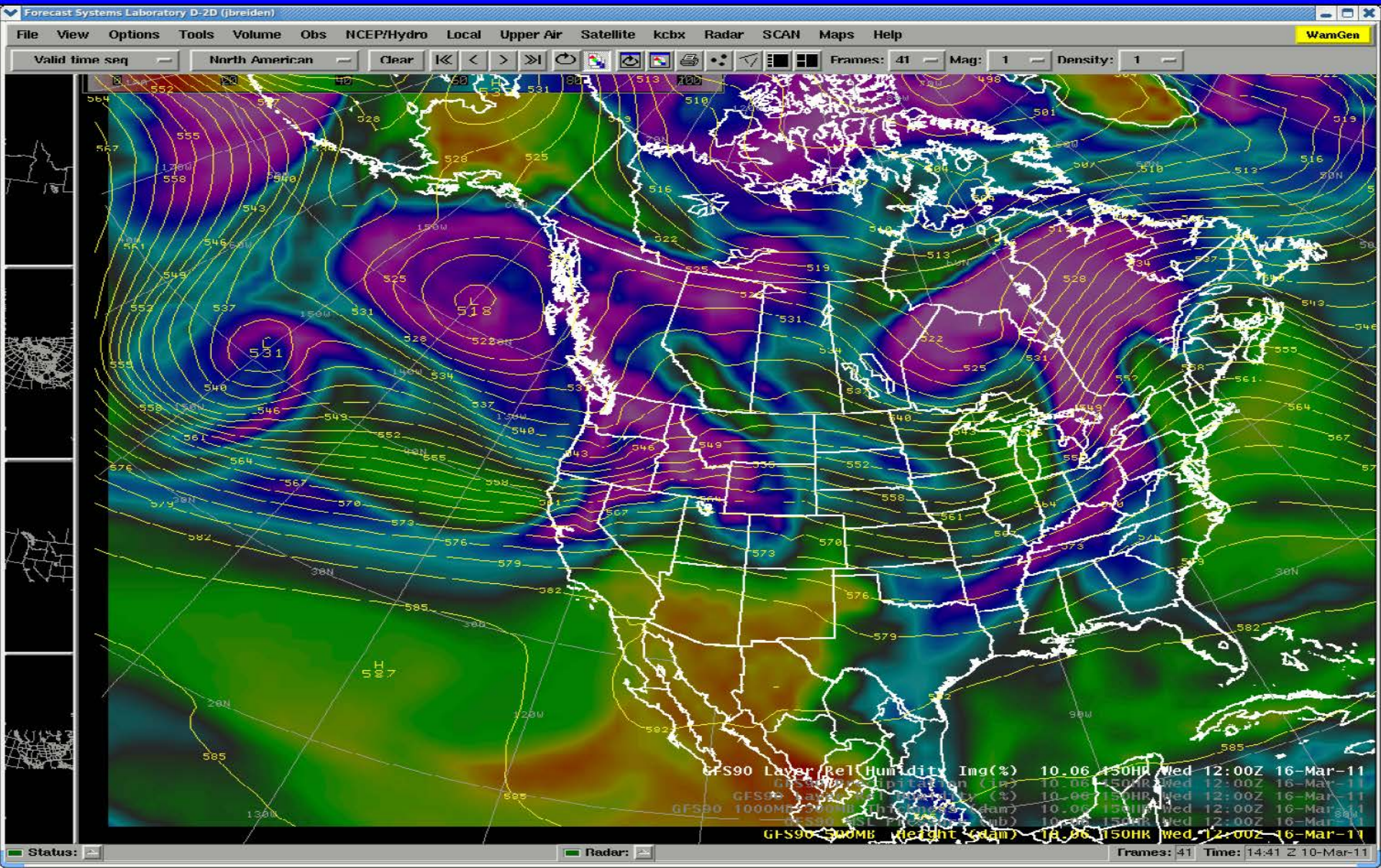
Monday, March 14th



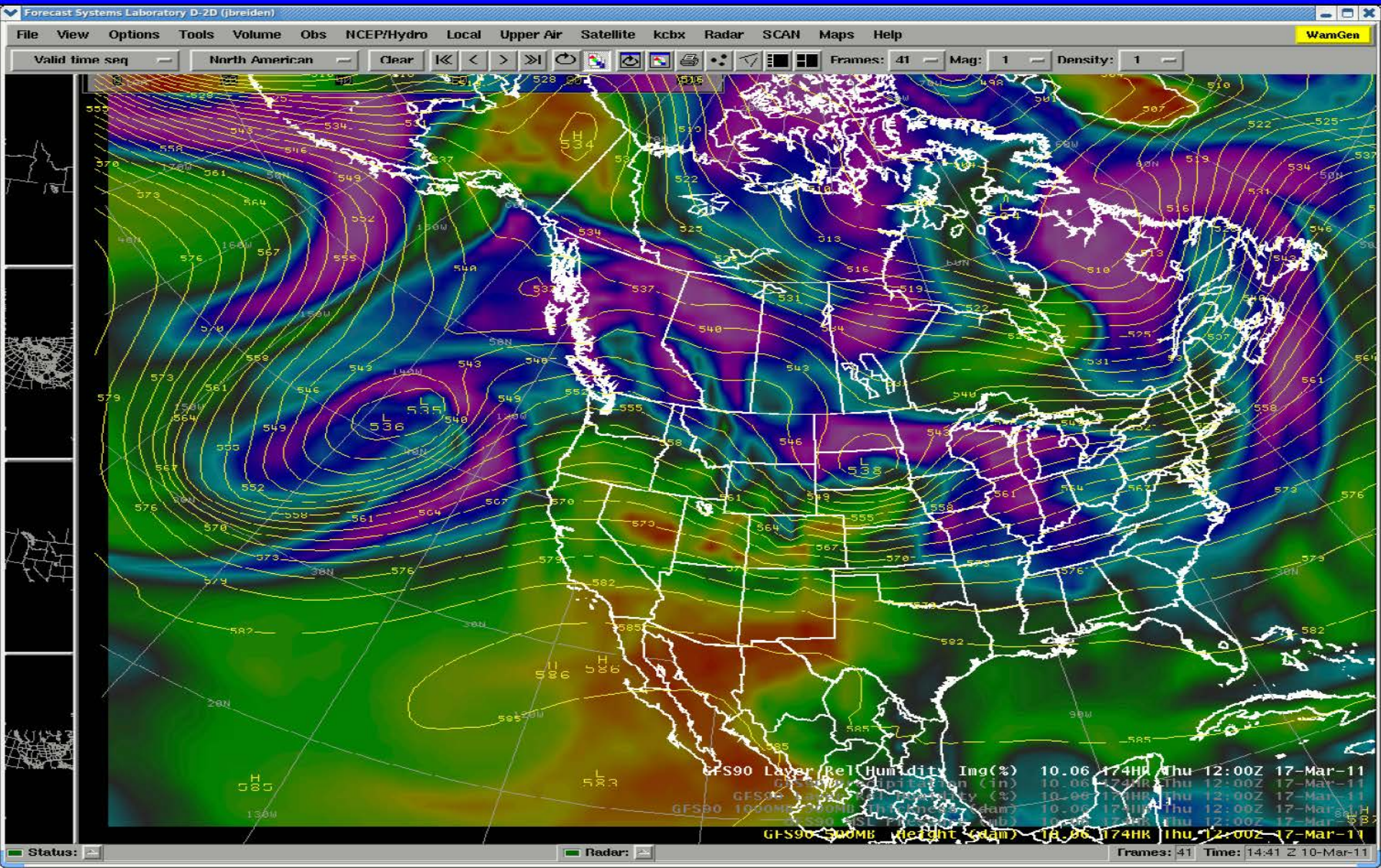
Tuesday, March 15th



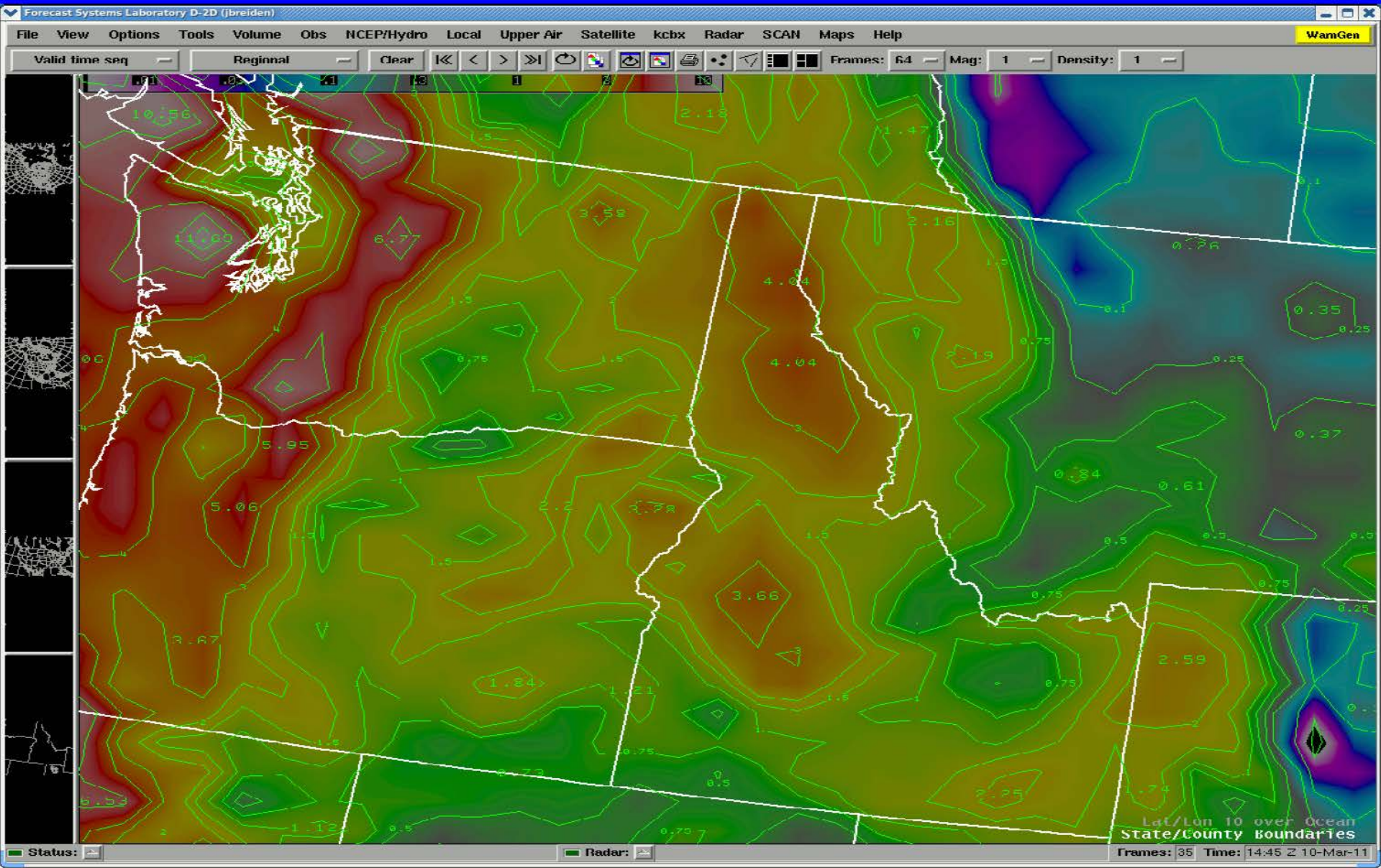
Wednesday, March 16th



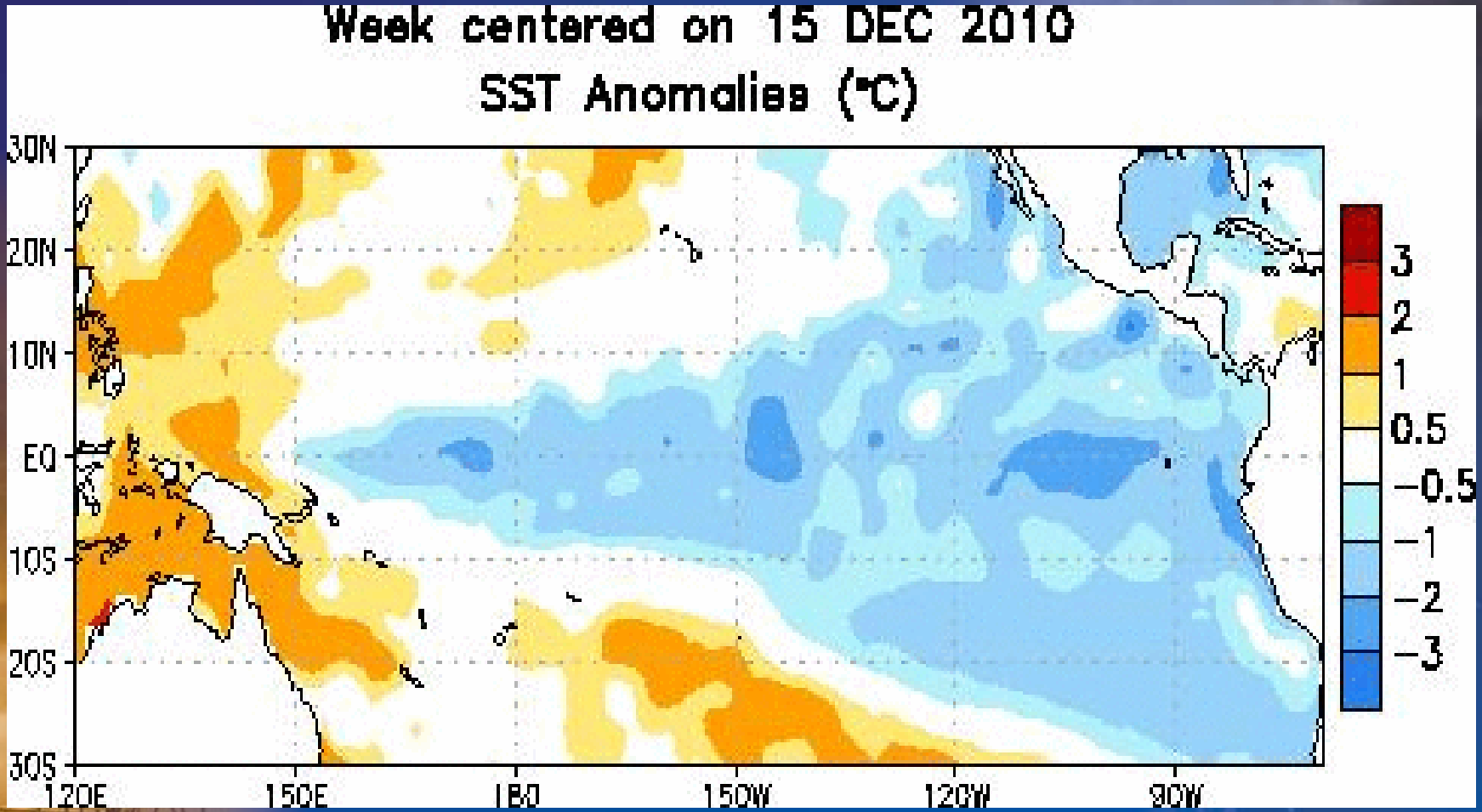
Thursday, March 17th



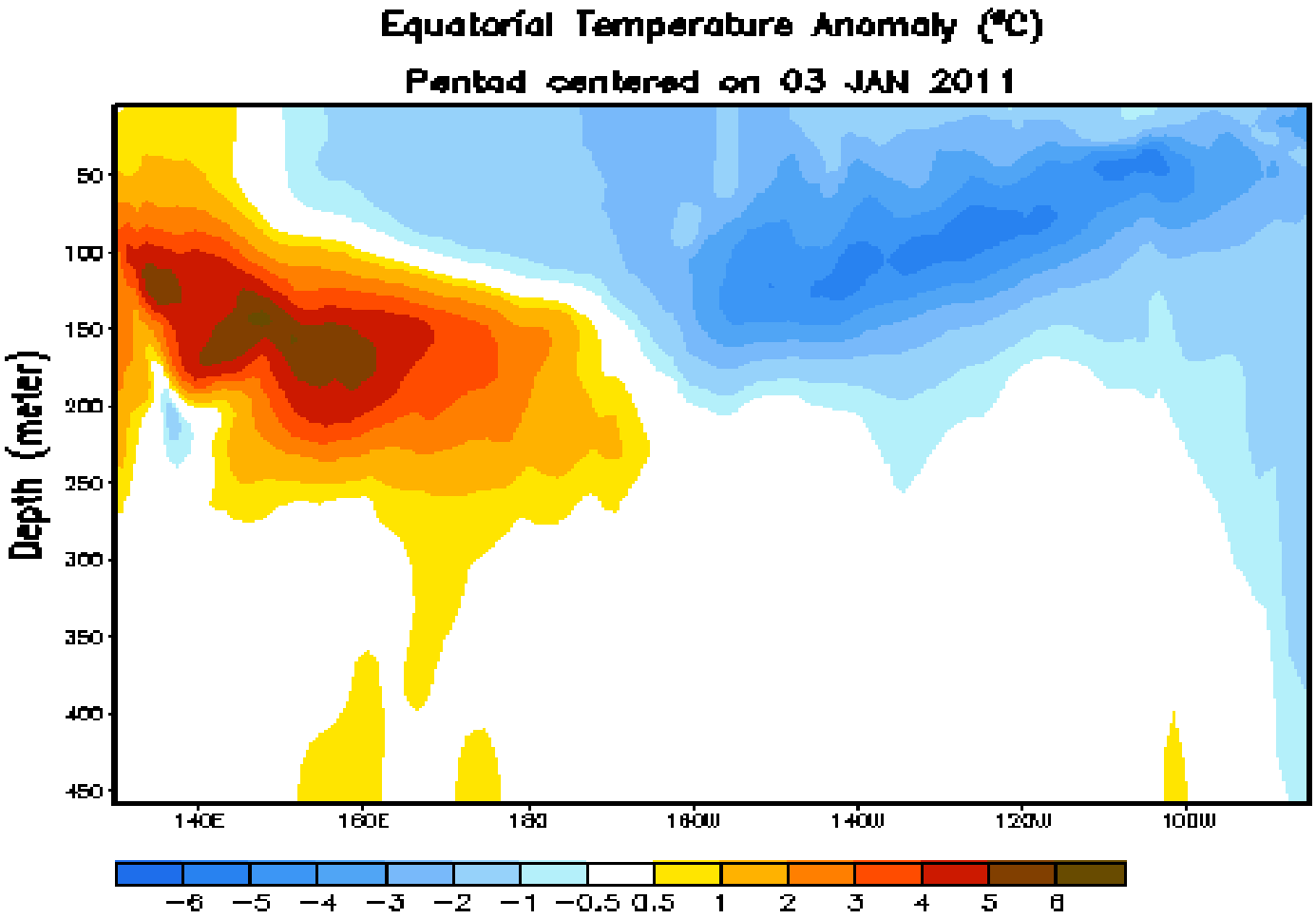
Total Precipitation Ending Thursday, March 17th



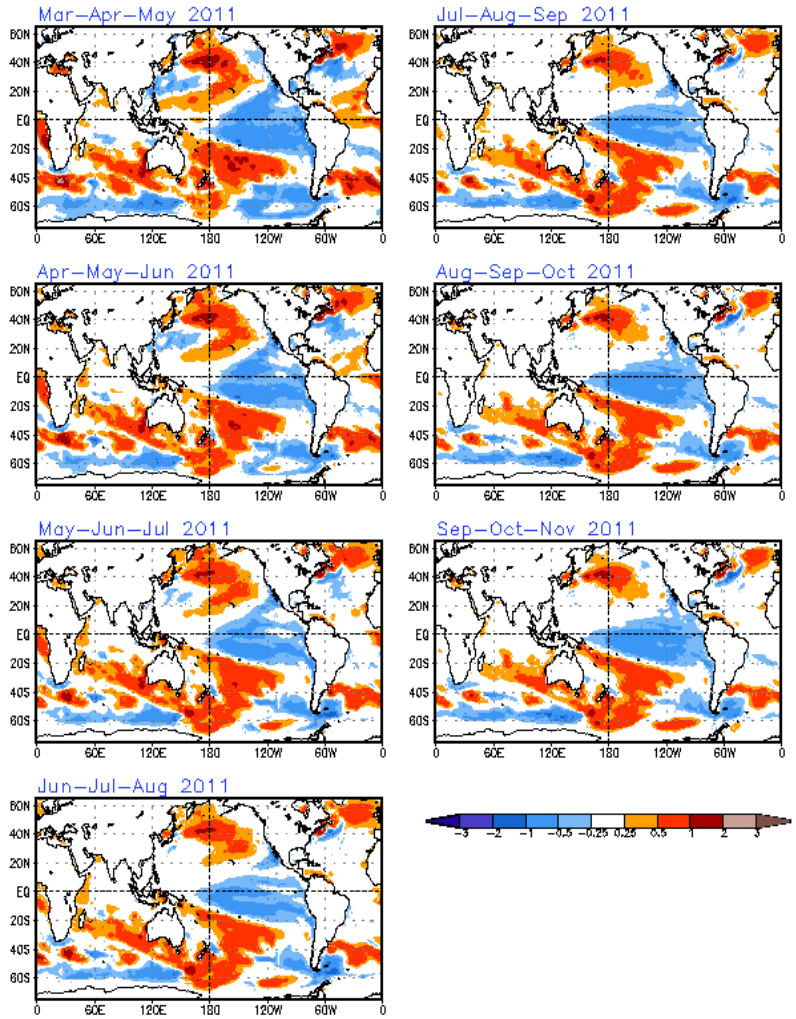
Mature La-Nina Beginning to Weaken



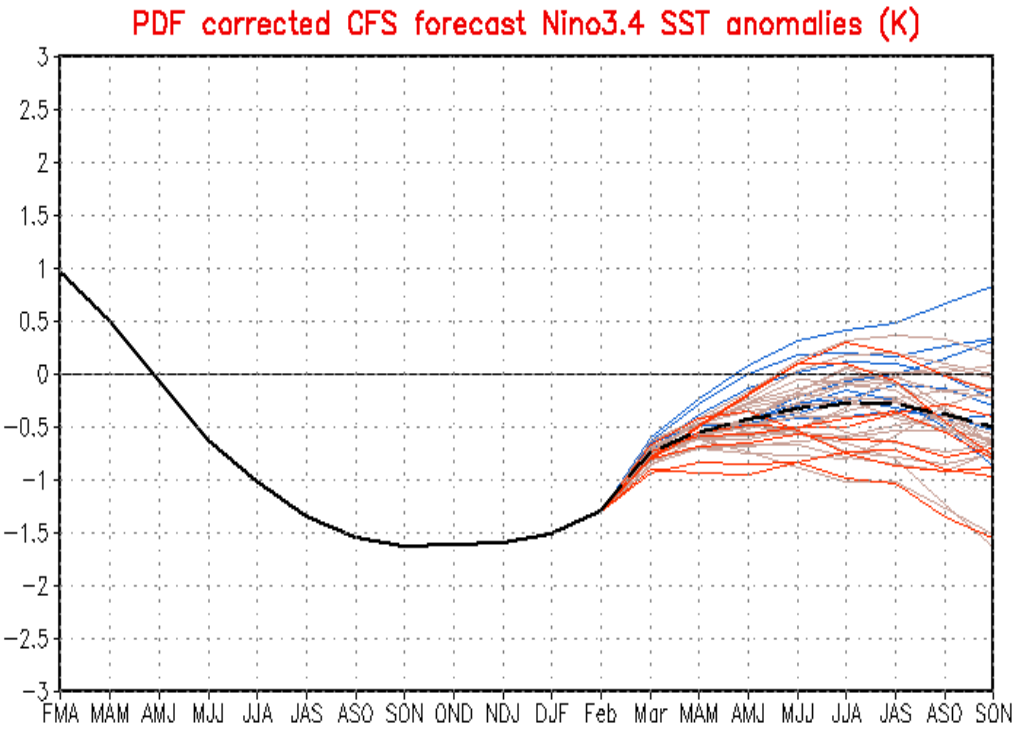
Cross Section Along Equator



SST Outlook: NCEP CFS Forecast Issued 6 March 2011

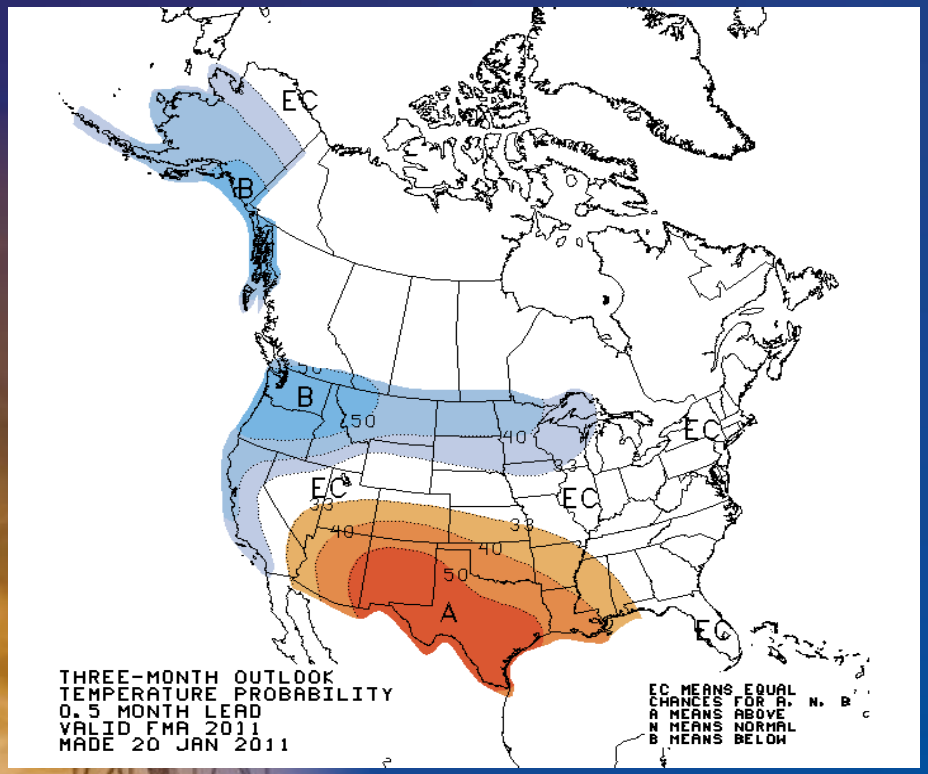


Most CFS ensemble forecasts predict the a return to near normal sea-surface conditions by mid-summer 2011.

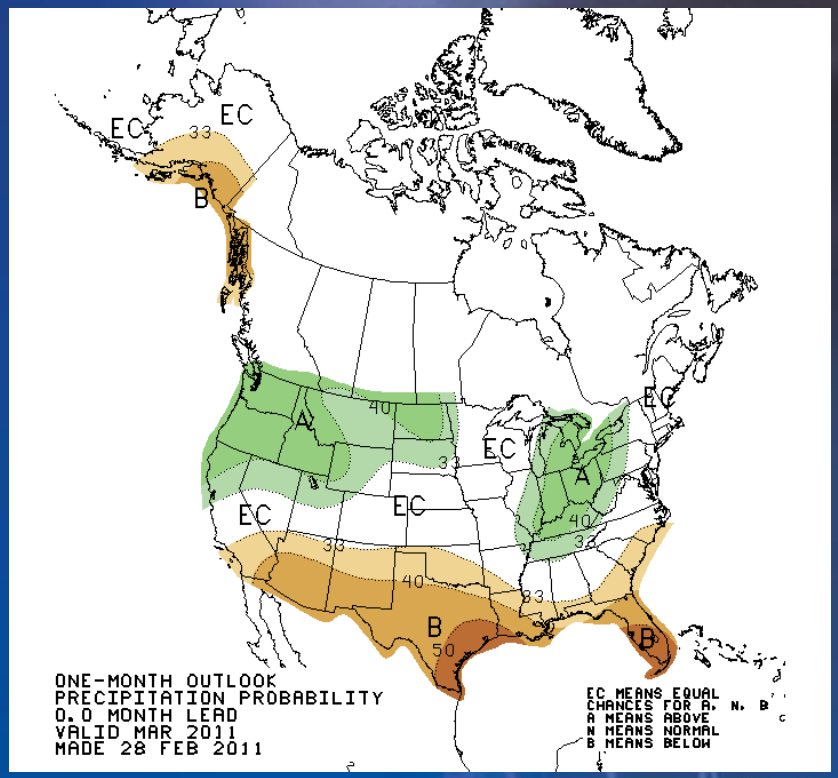


U. S. Seasonal Outlooks
March 2011

Temperature

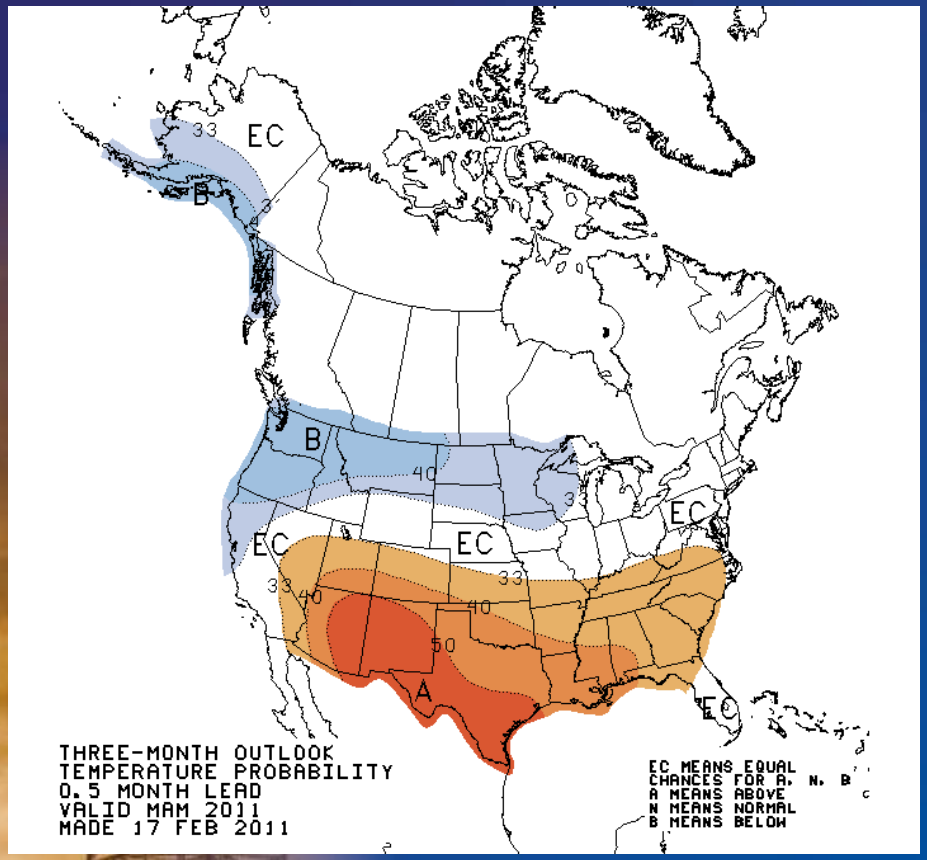


Precipitation

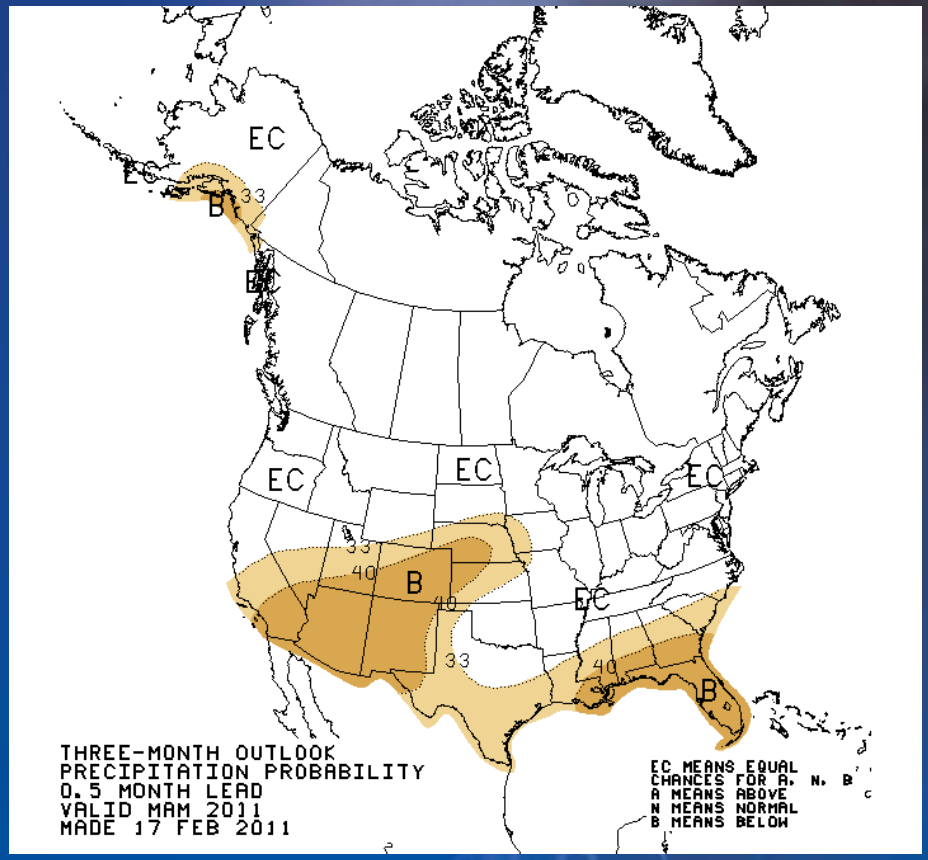


U. S. Seasonal Outlooks
March - May 2011

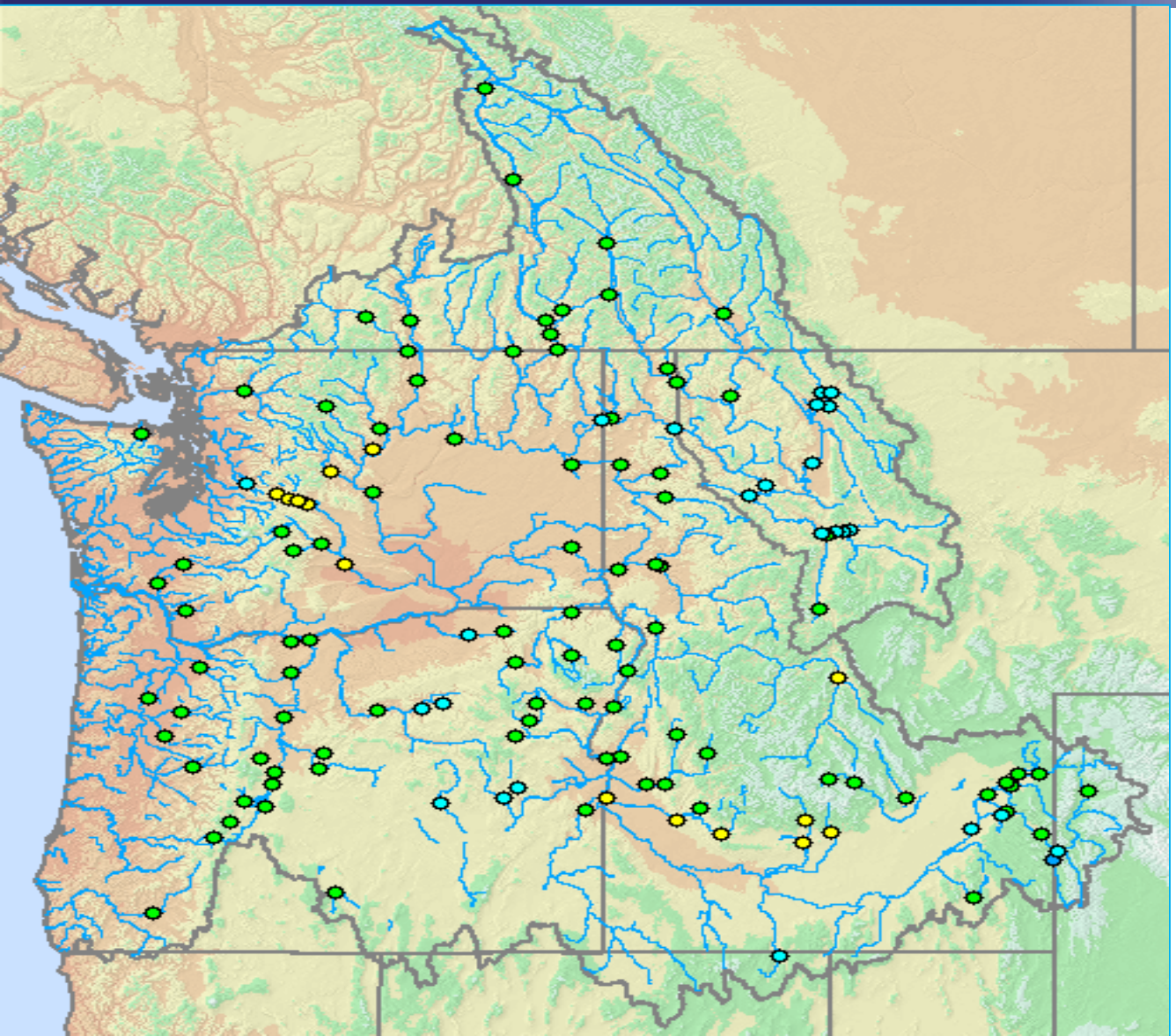
Temperature



Precipitation



Near Normal Water Supply Expected in Most Areas of Idaho in 2011

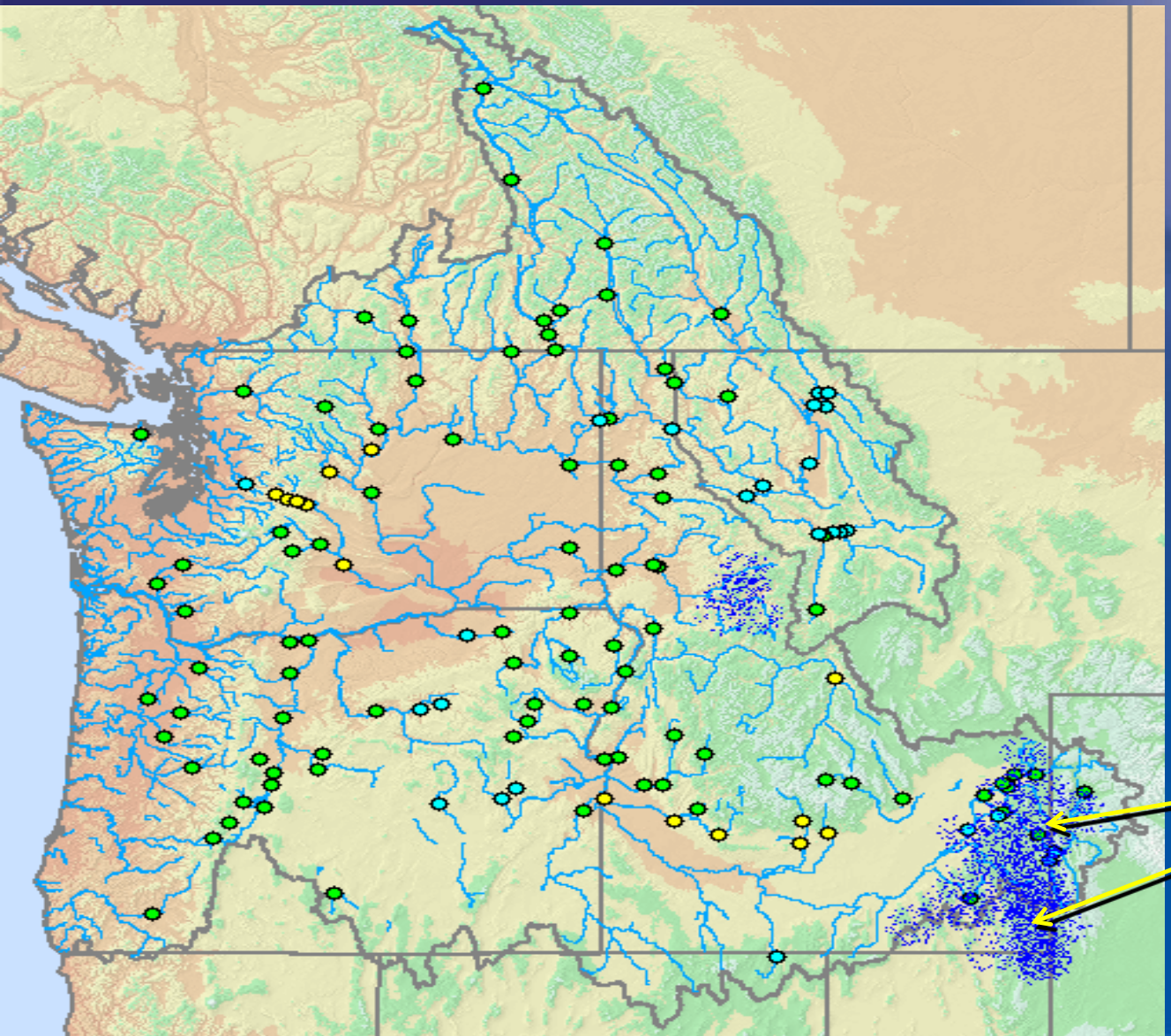


Legend

Water Supply Forecast (% Avg)

- No Average, No data
- < 25
- 25-50
- 50-75
- 75-90
- 90-110
- 110-125
- 125-150
- 150-175
- > 175

Average Spring Flood Threat in Most Areas of Idaho in 2011

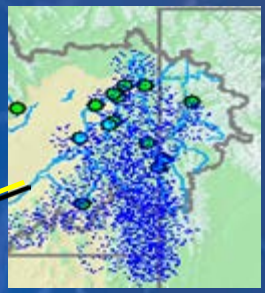


Exceptions:

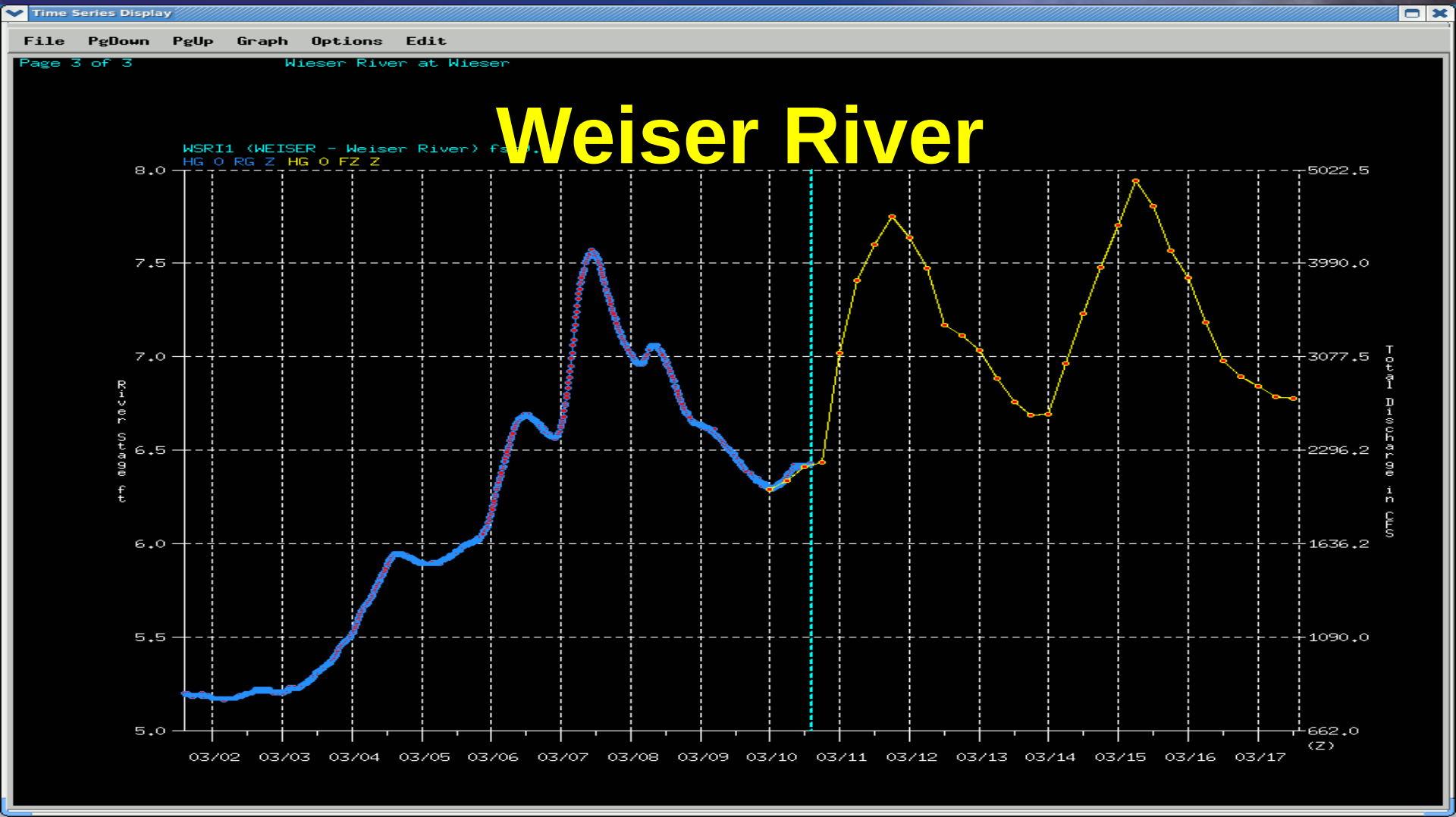
Large snow pack and Forecast River Volumes have slightly elevated flood risk in:

-Portions of Upper Snake River Basin

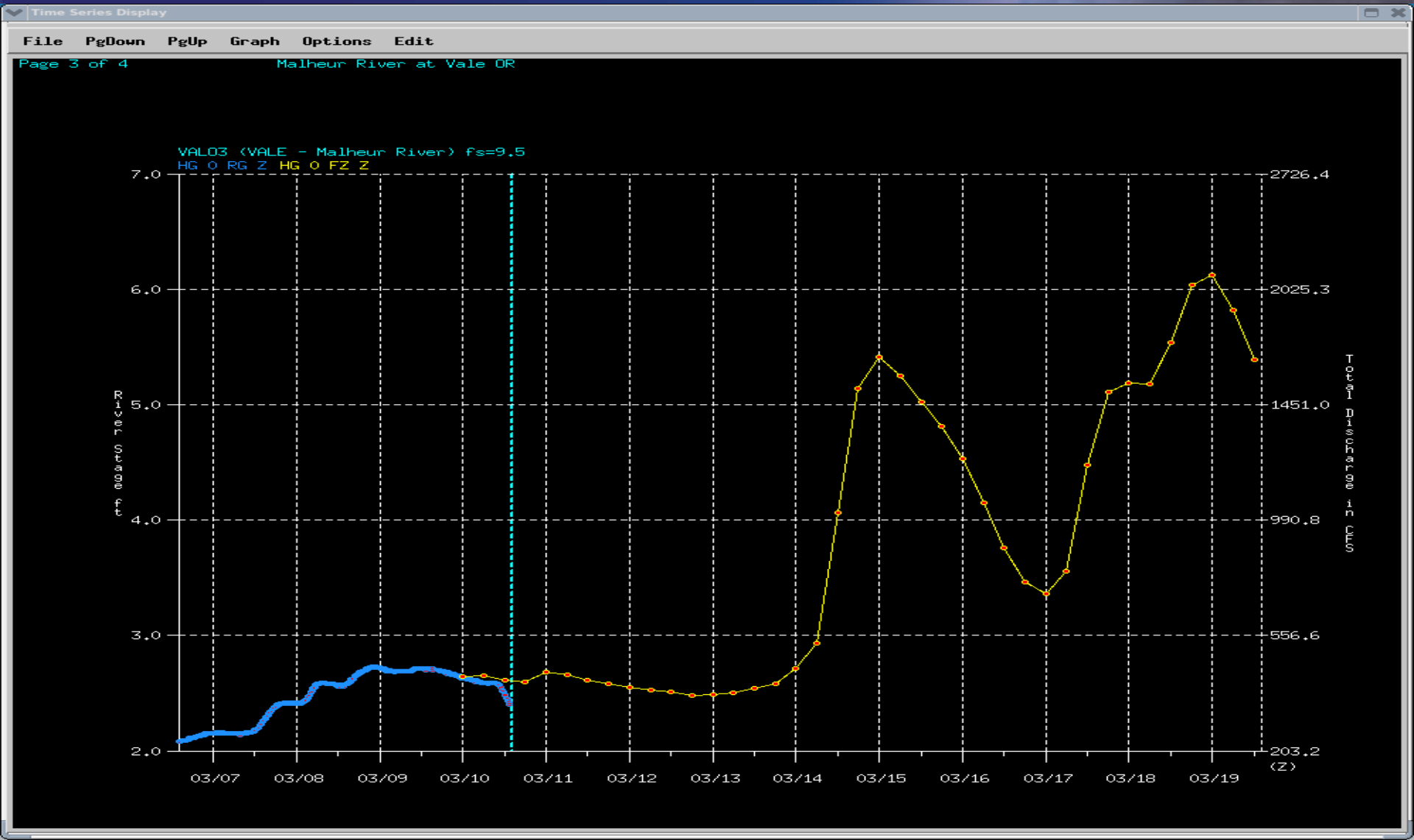
-Bear River Basin



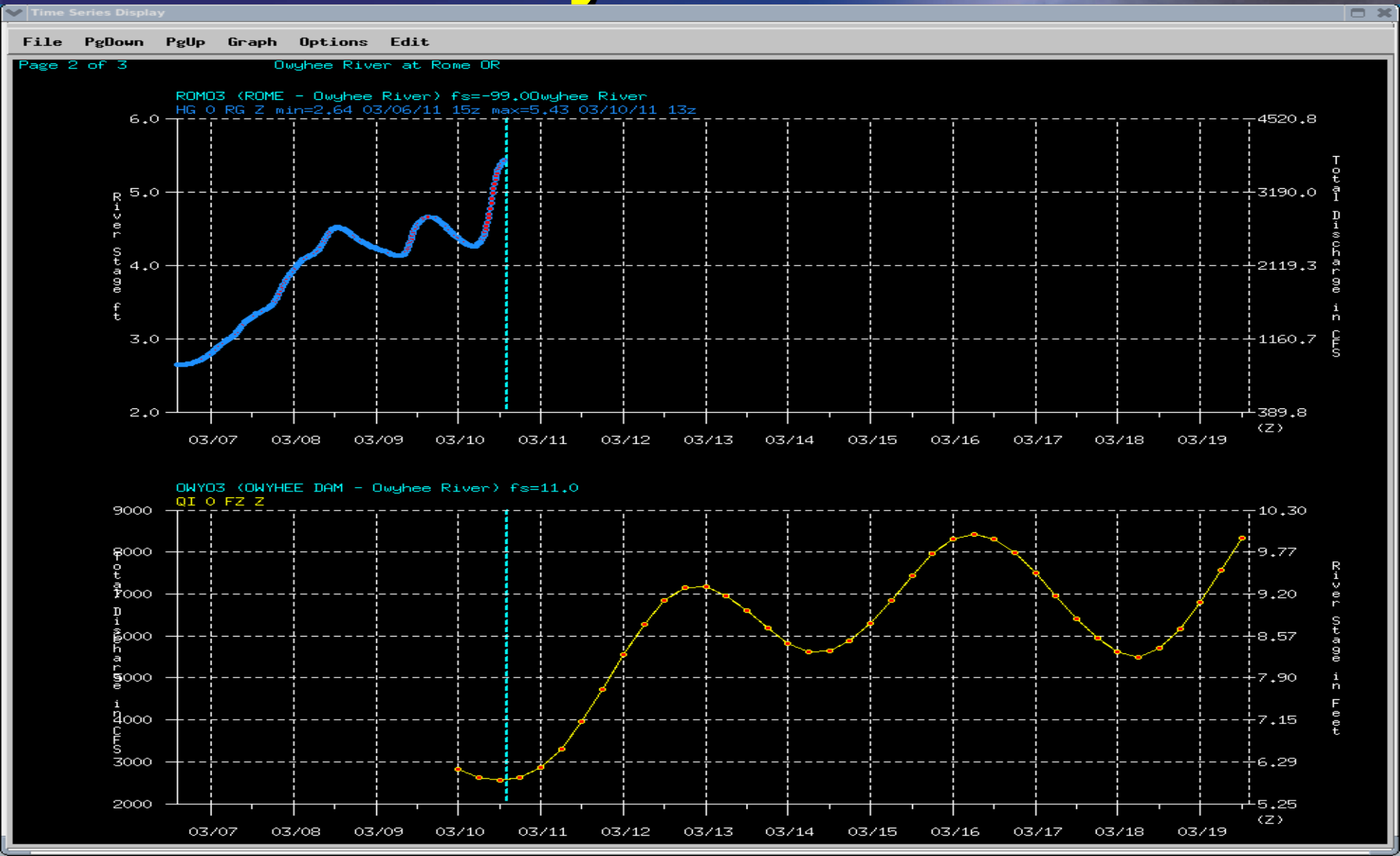
Significant Rises expected on Lower Elevation Streams



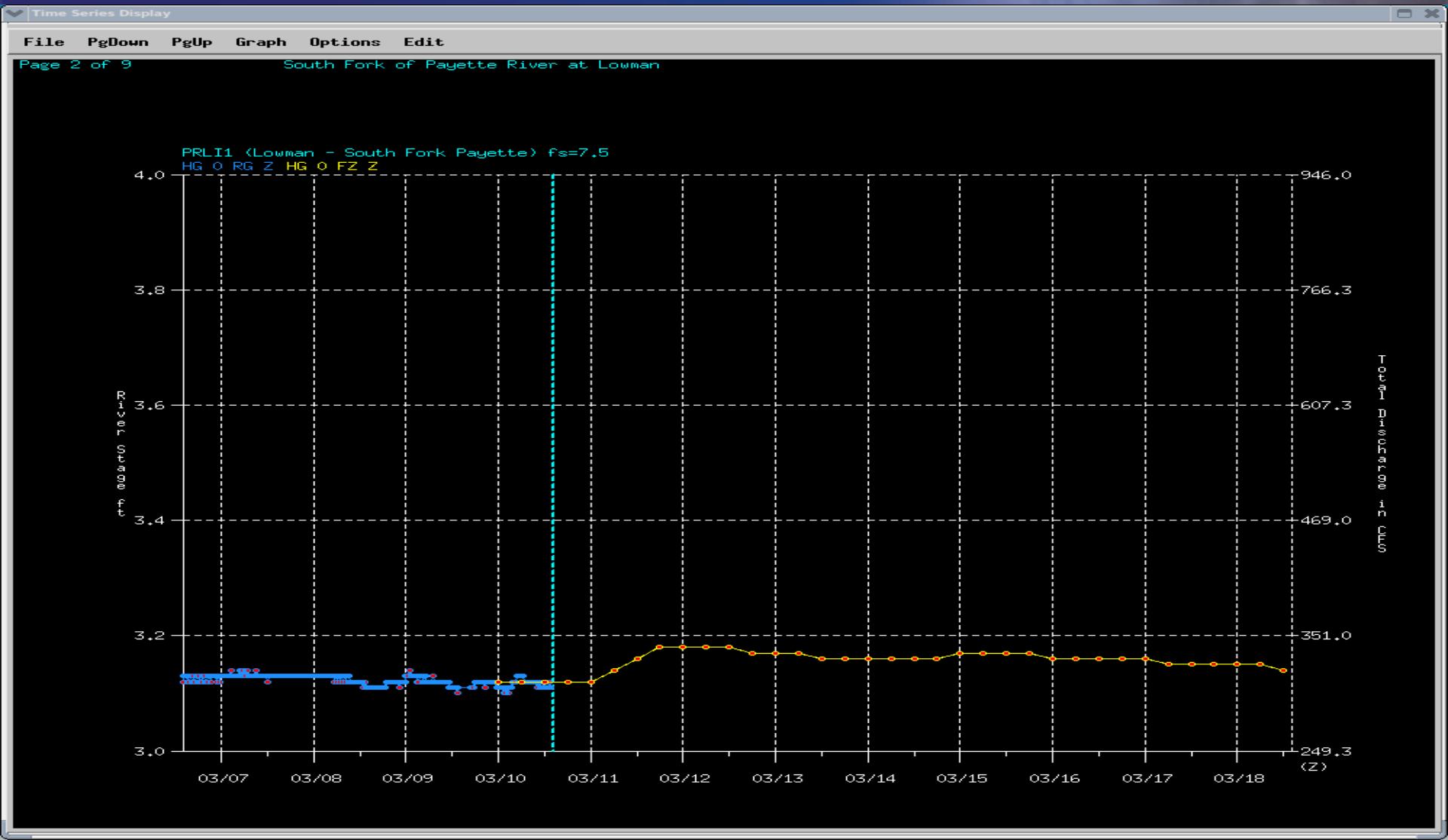
Malheur River



Owyhee River



Payette River at Lowman



Current Information on Web

www.weather.gov/boise

www.nwrfc.noaa.gov