

Idaho Spring Flood Potential and Weather Briefing

Idaho Department of Water Resources

May 12, 2011

Jay Breidenbach, NOAA National Weather Service

Snowpack Images

River Volume and Peak Flow Forecasts

Flood Potential

Short Term Weather Forecast

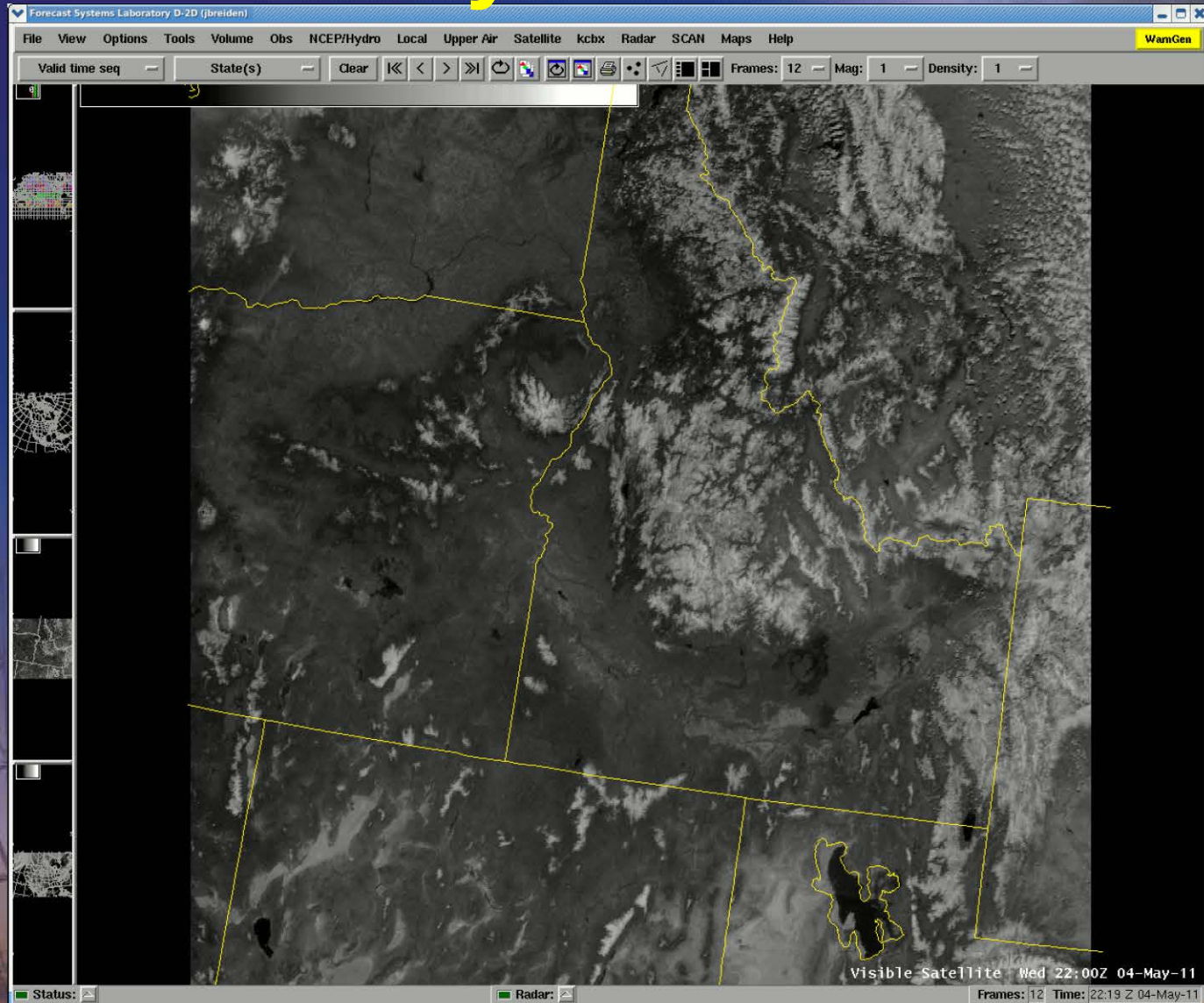
Short Term River Forecasts

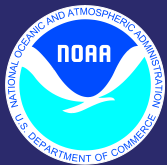
30 and 60 day Climate Forecast



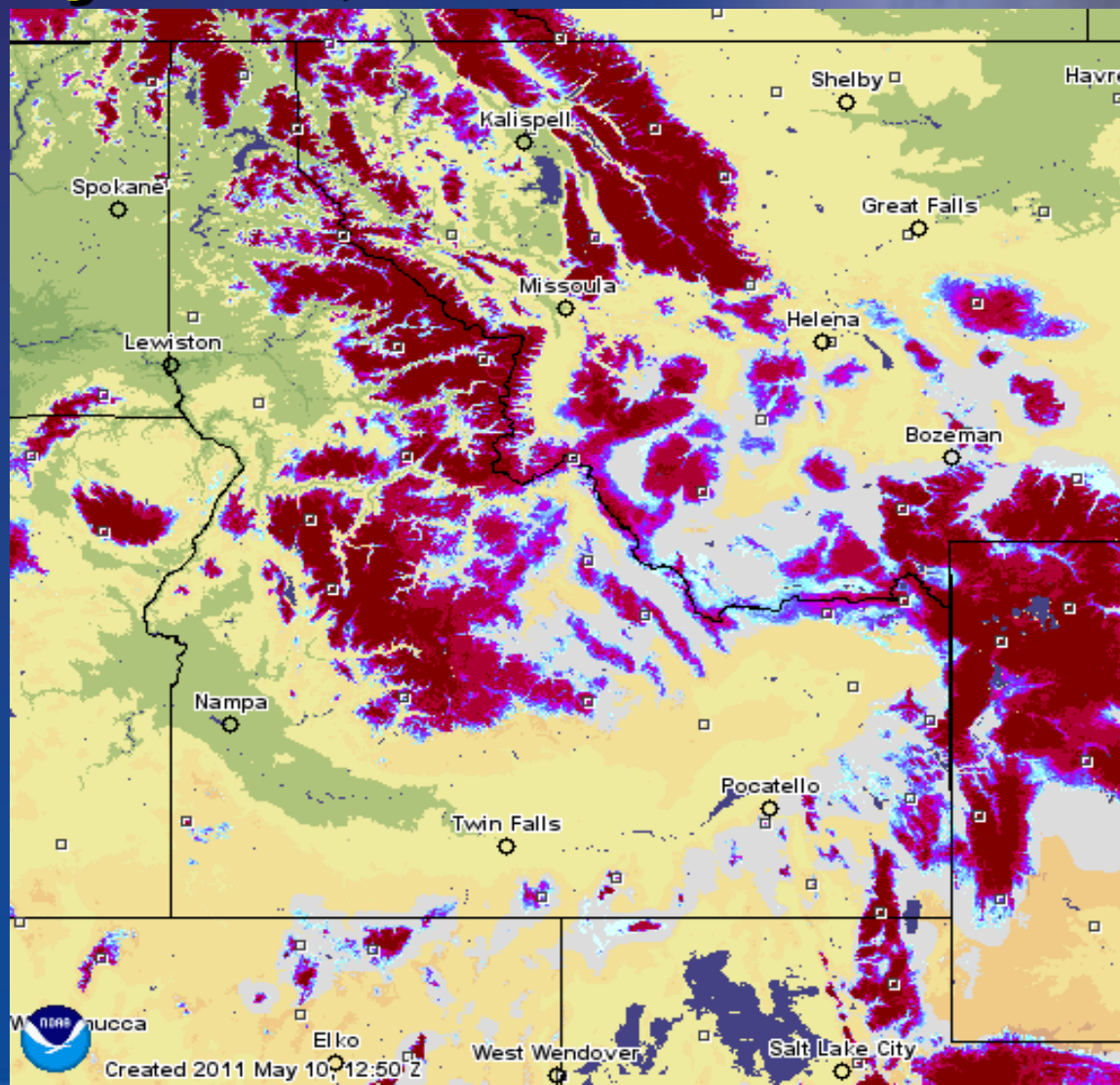
Visible Satellite Image

May 4th 2011

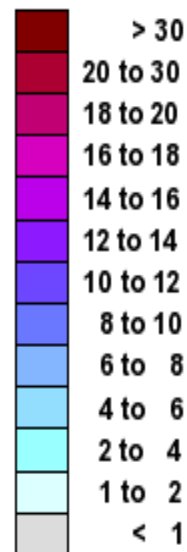




Snow Water Equivalent May 10th, 2011 –This Year

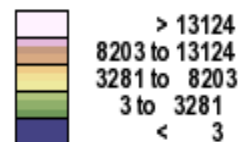


Inches of water equivalent

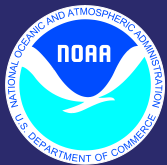


Not Estimated

Elevation in feet
(Not estimated)



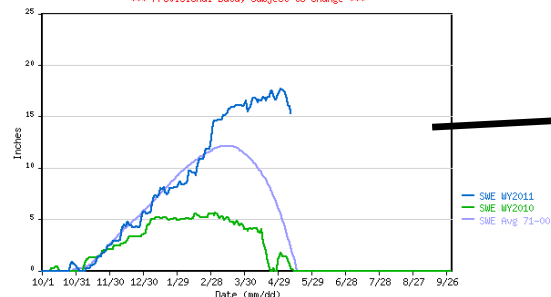
Created 2011 May 10, 12:50Z



Snow Water Equivalent May 10th, 2011

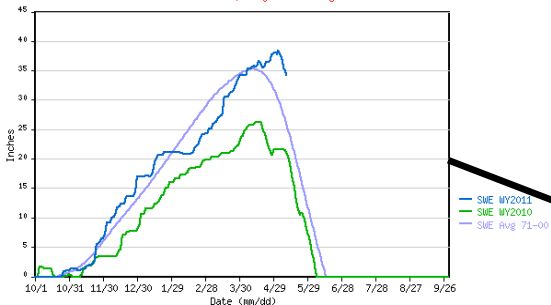
HUMBOLDT GULCH SNOTEL as of 05/10/2011

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***



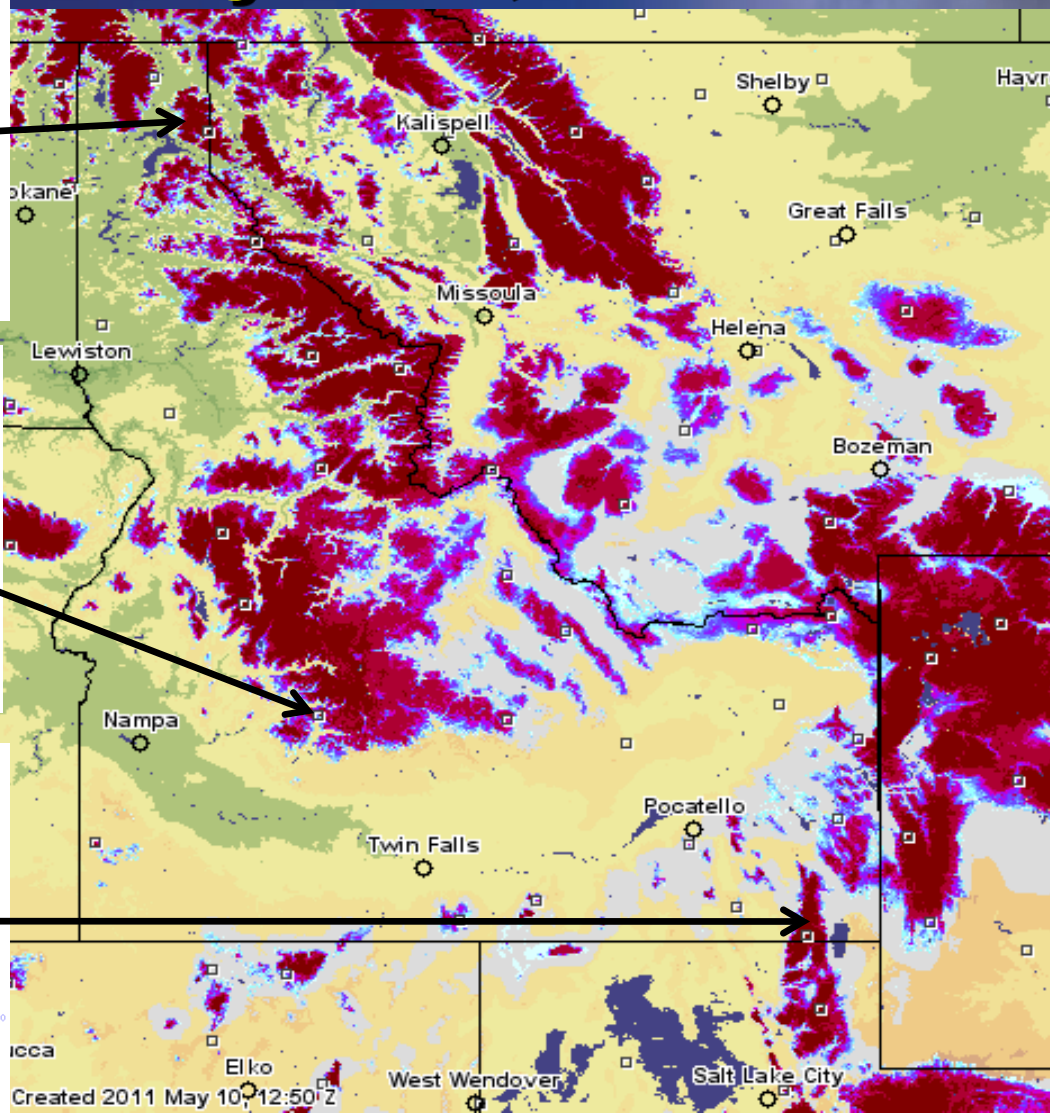
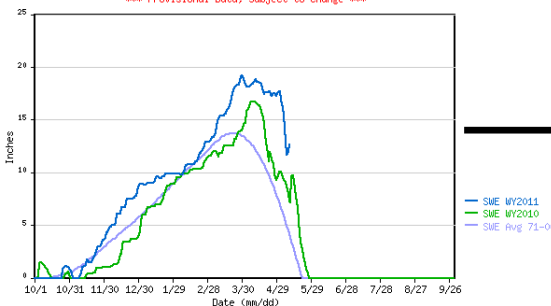
MORES CREEK SUMMIT SNOTEL as of 05/10/2011

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

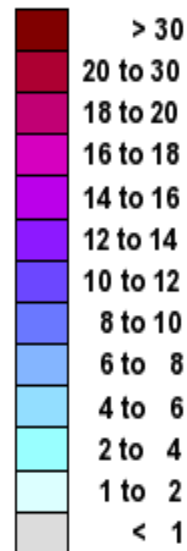


WILSON CREEK SNOTEL as of 05/10/2011

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

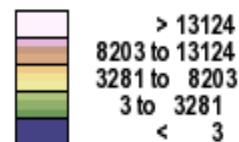


Inches of water equivalent

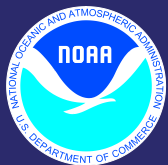


Not Estimated

Elevation in feet
(Not estimated)

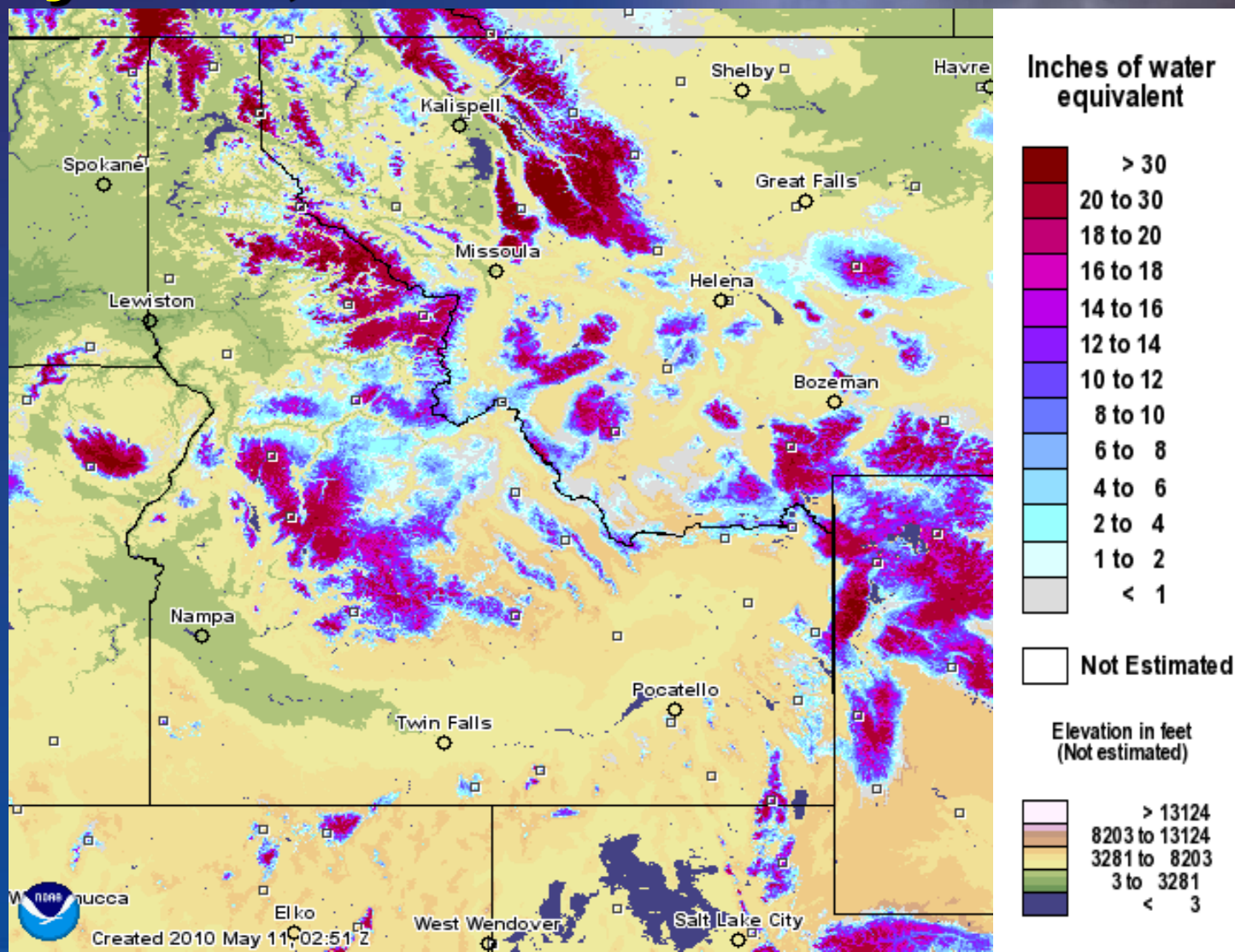


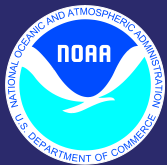
Created 2011 May 10, 12:50 Z



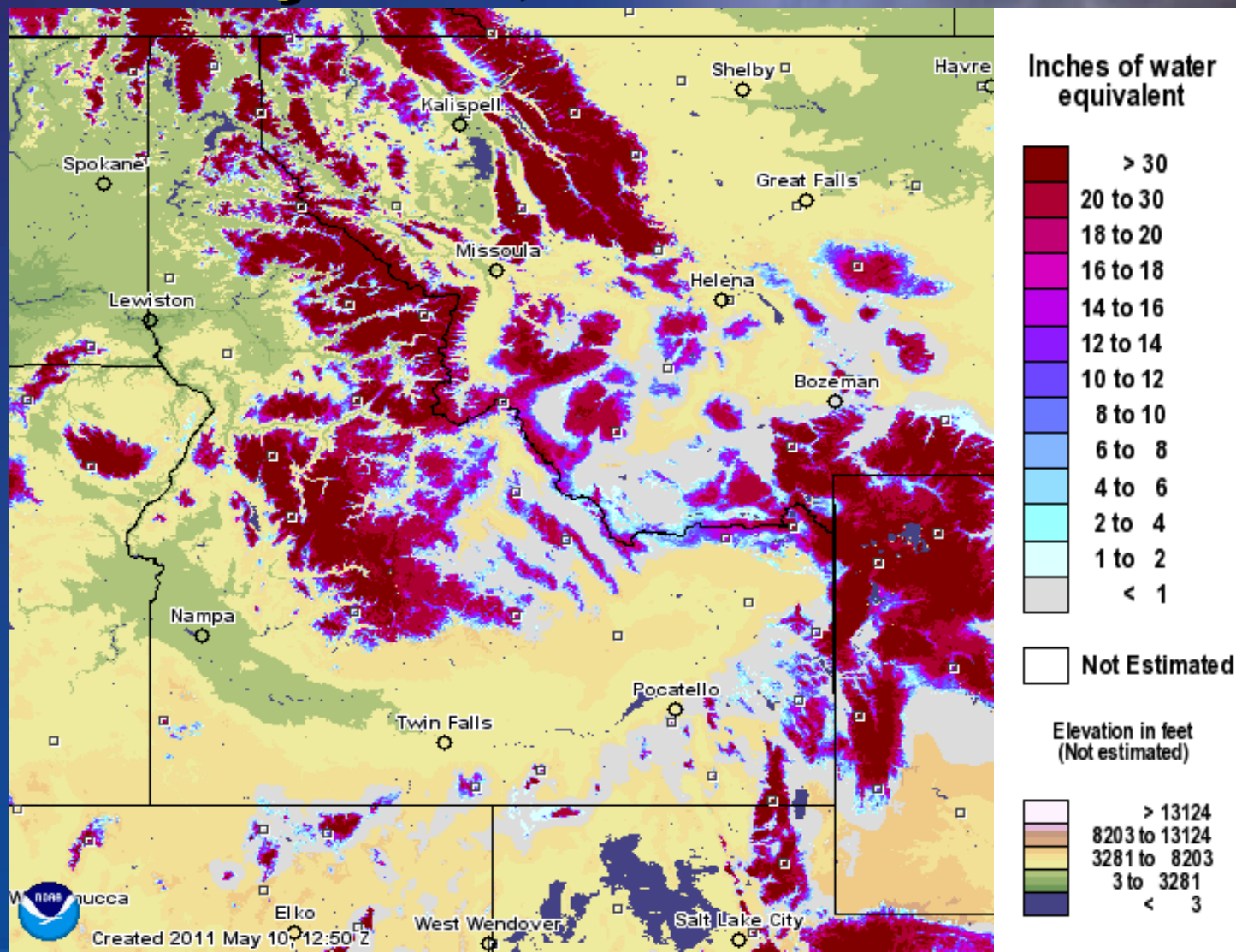
Snow Water Equivalent

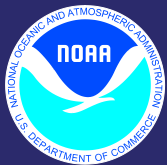
May 10th, 2010 – Last Year





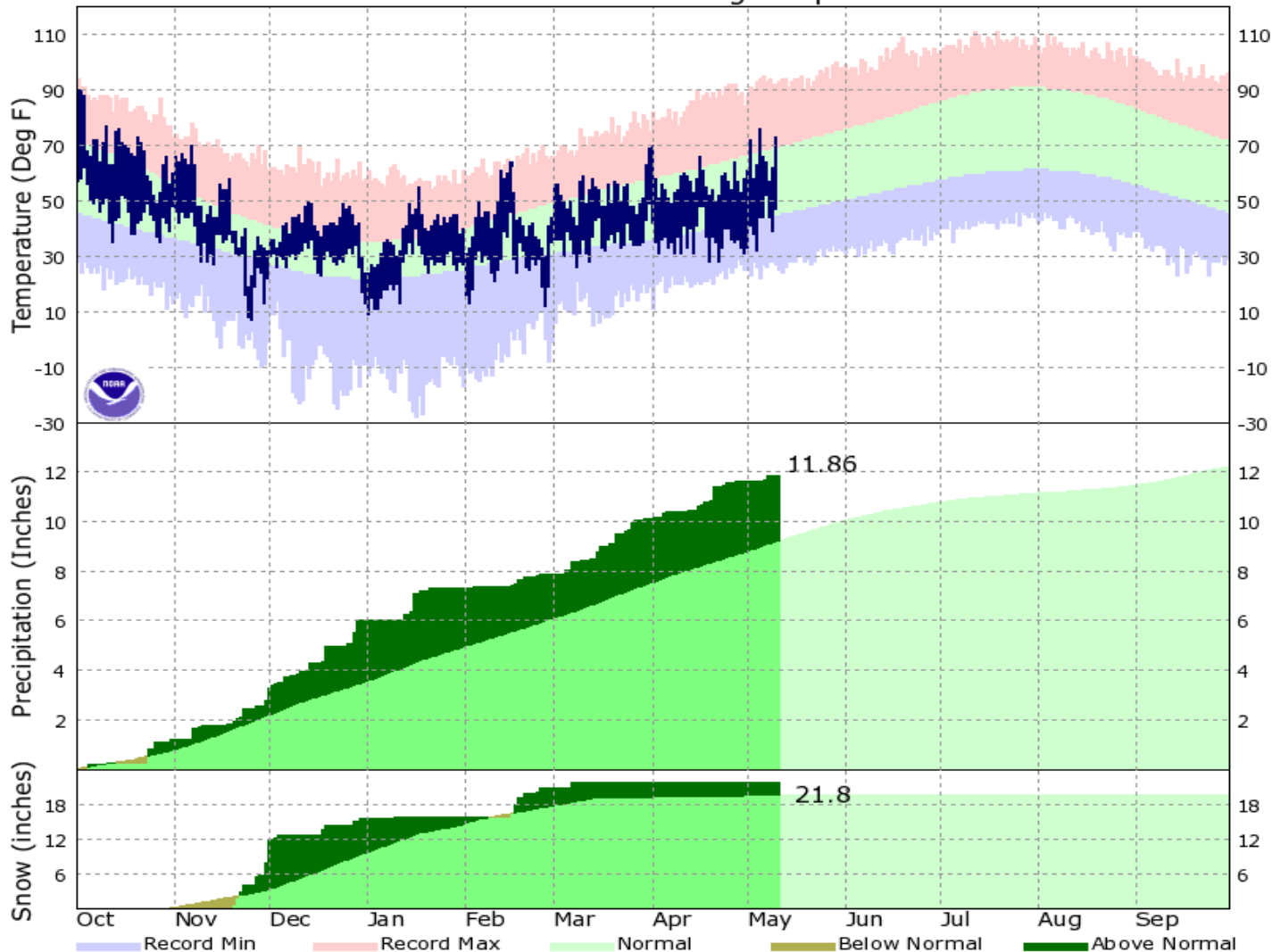
Snow Water Equivalent May 10th, 2011

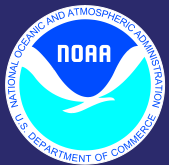




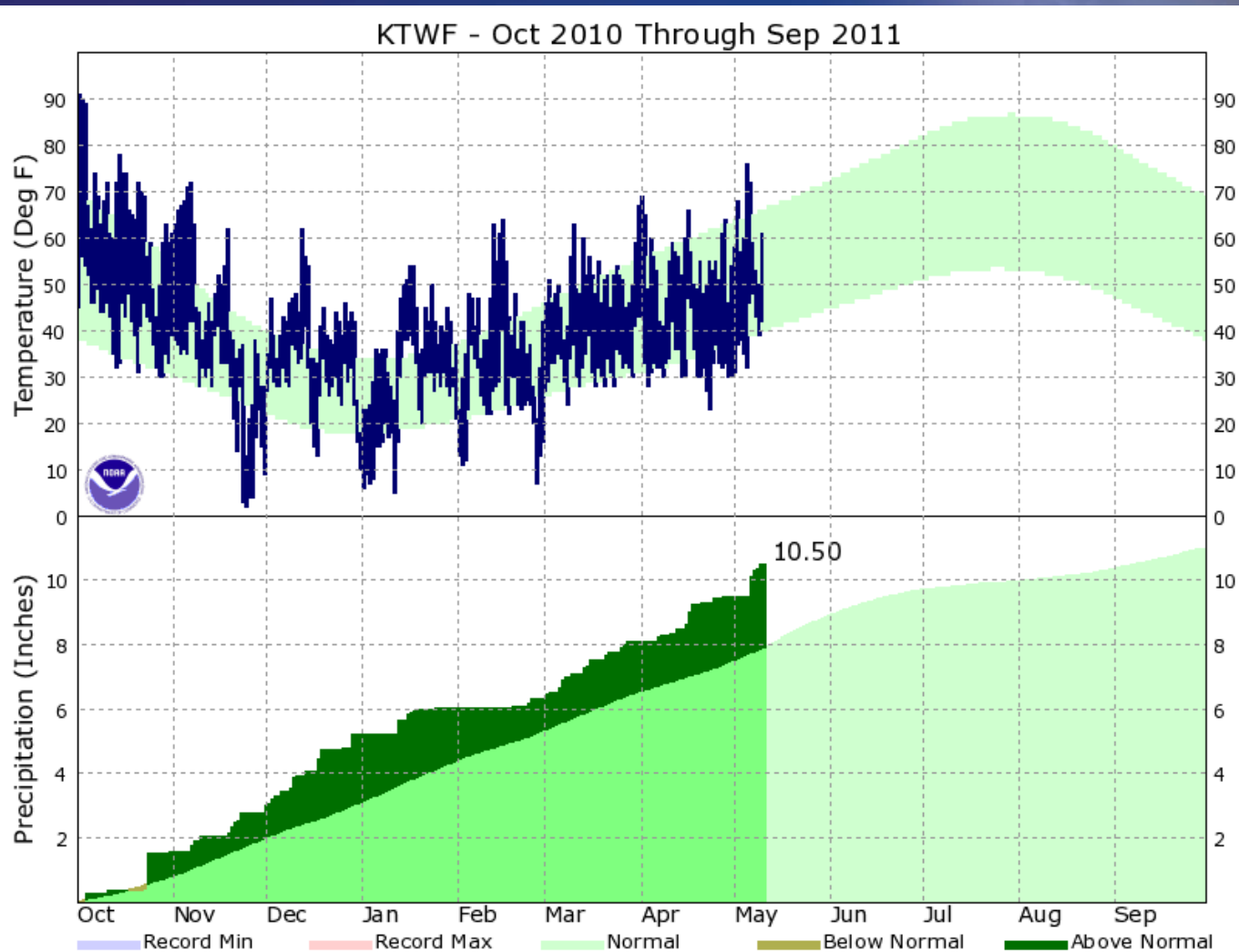
Water Year Precipitation Boise

KBOI - Oct 2010 Through Sep 2011



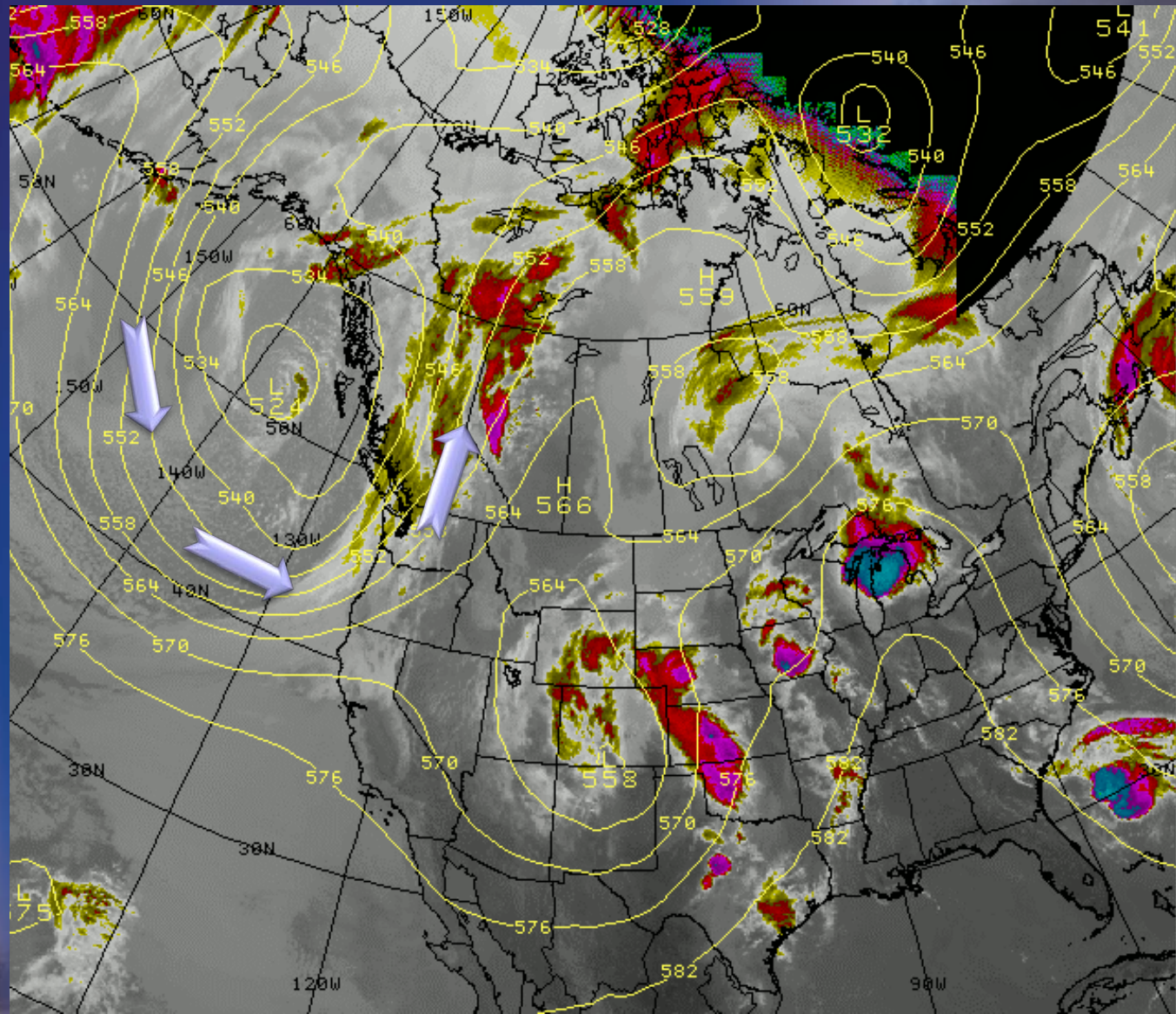


Water Year Precipitation Twin Falls



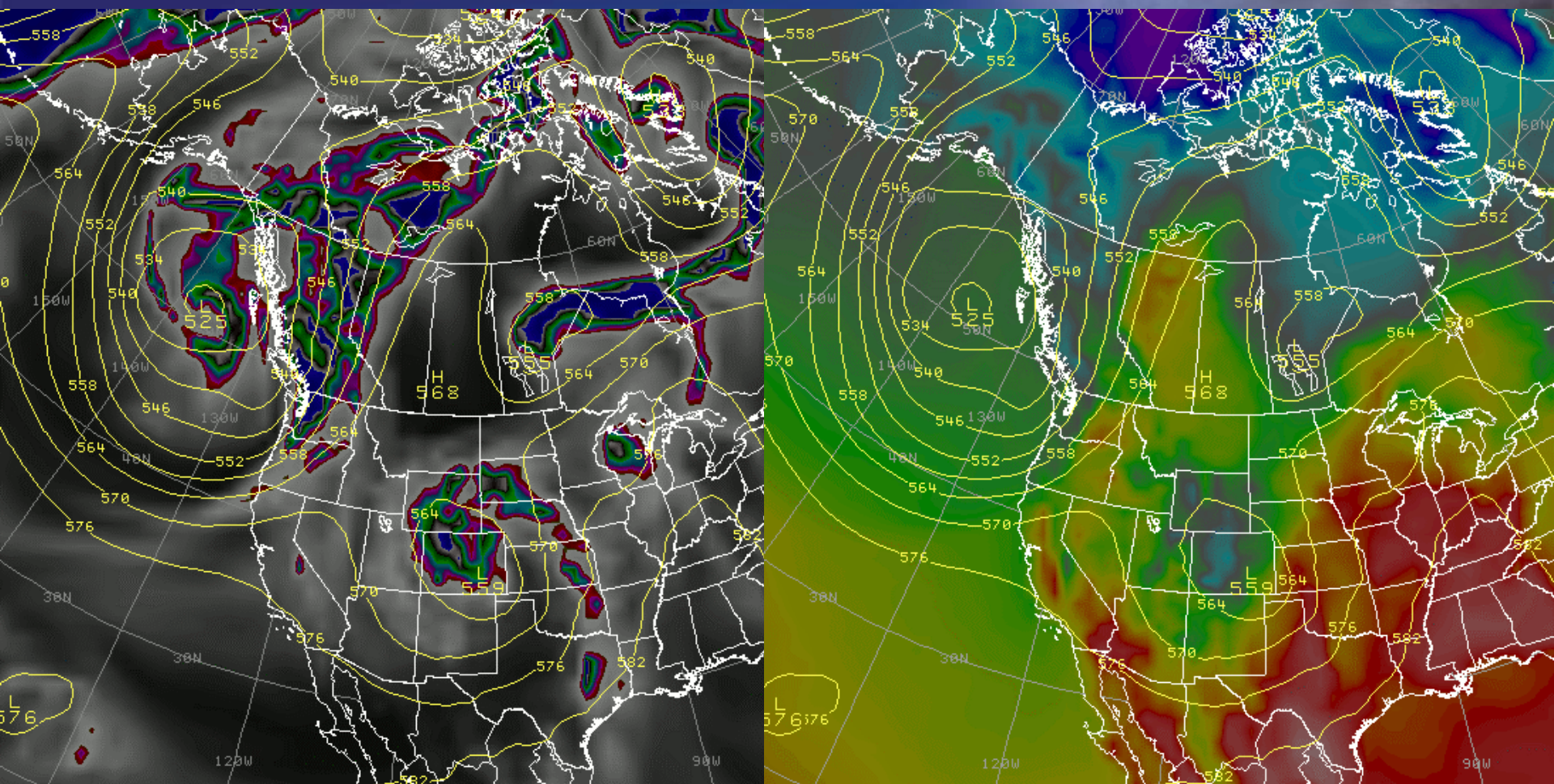
Wednesday - May 11th

Satellite Image / Upper Flow Pattern



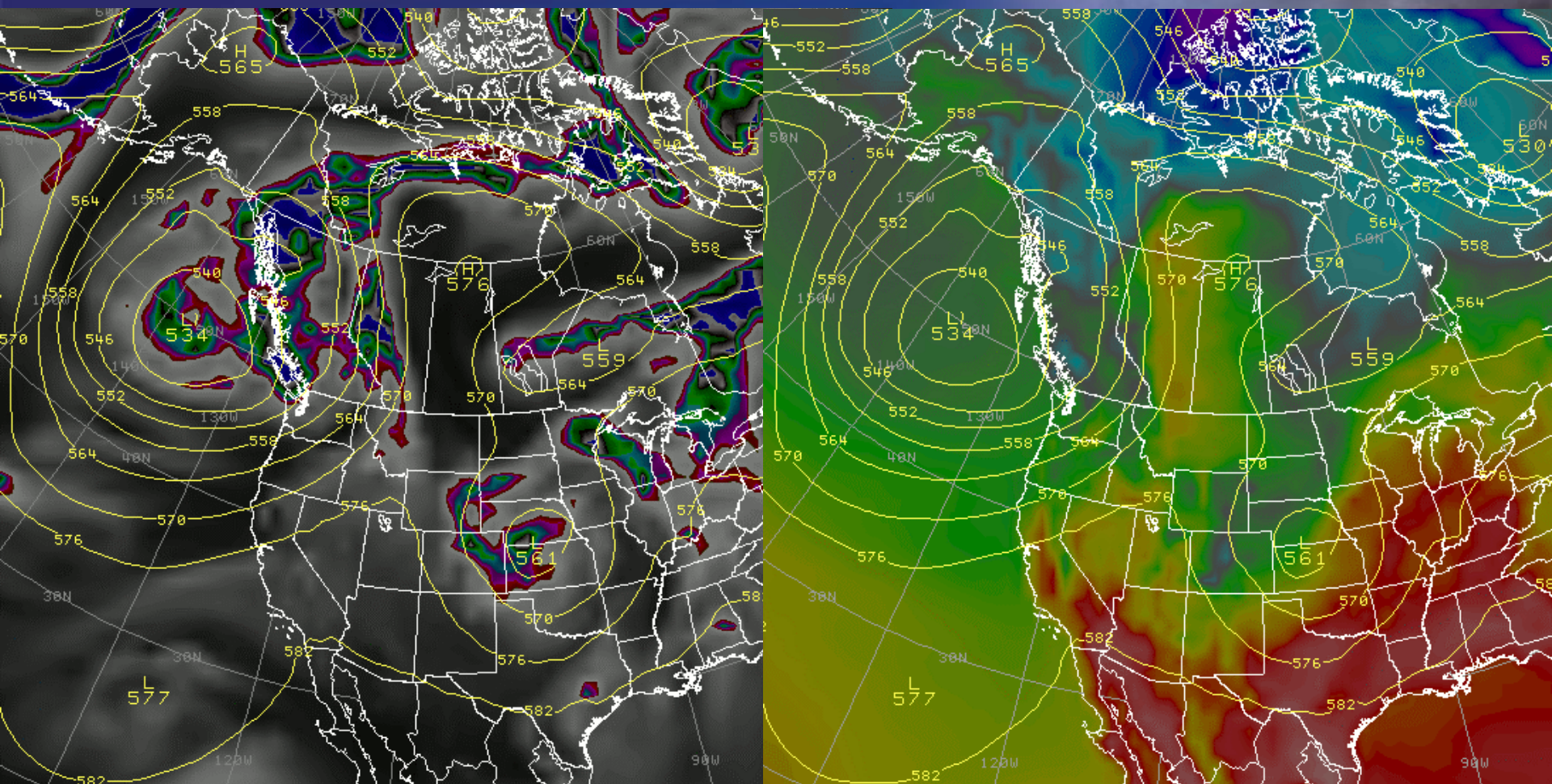
Wednesday, May 11th (Afternoon)

Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



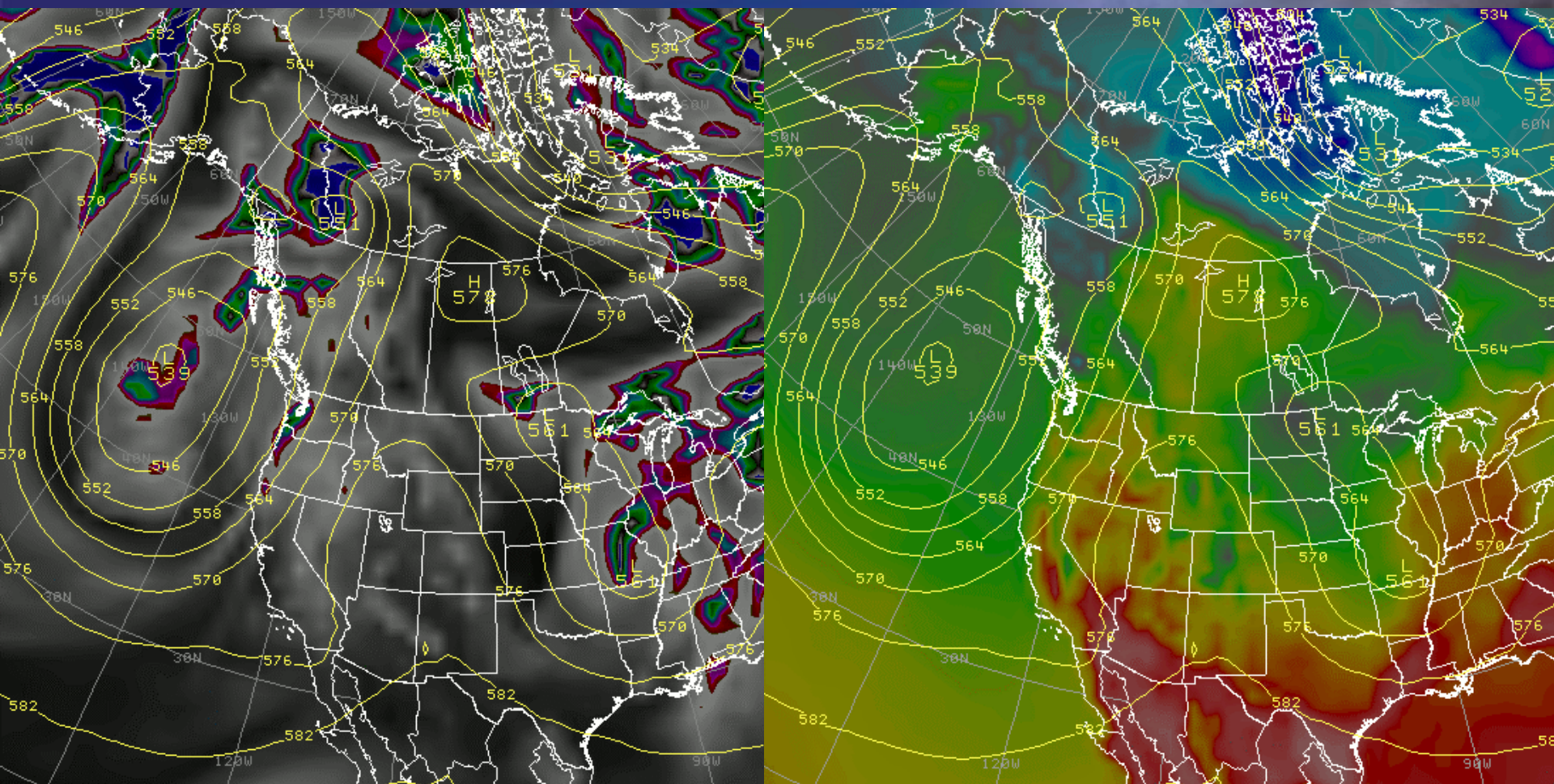
Thursday, May 12th (Afternoon)

Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



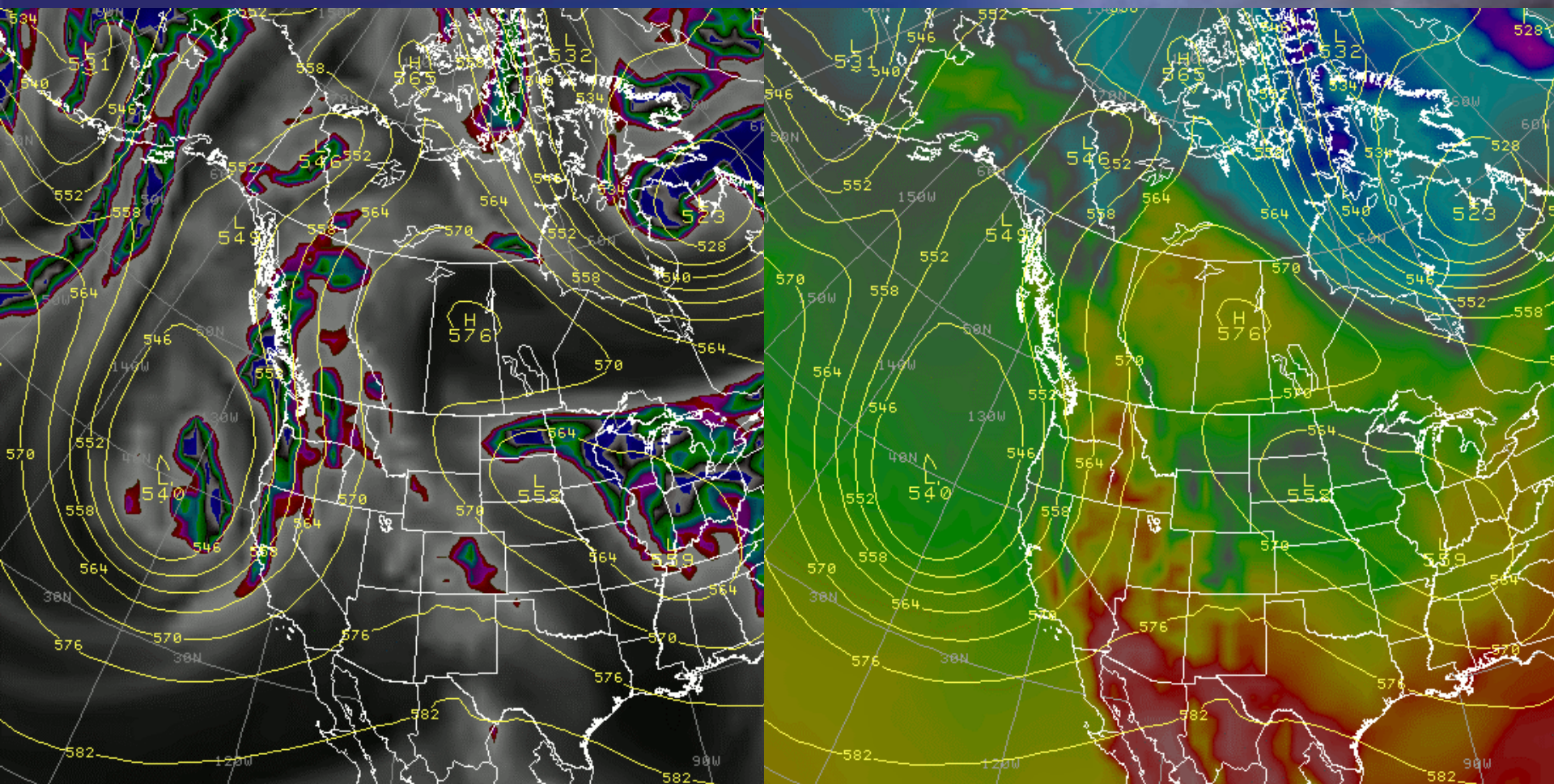
Friday, May 13th (Afternoon)

Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



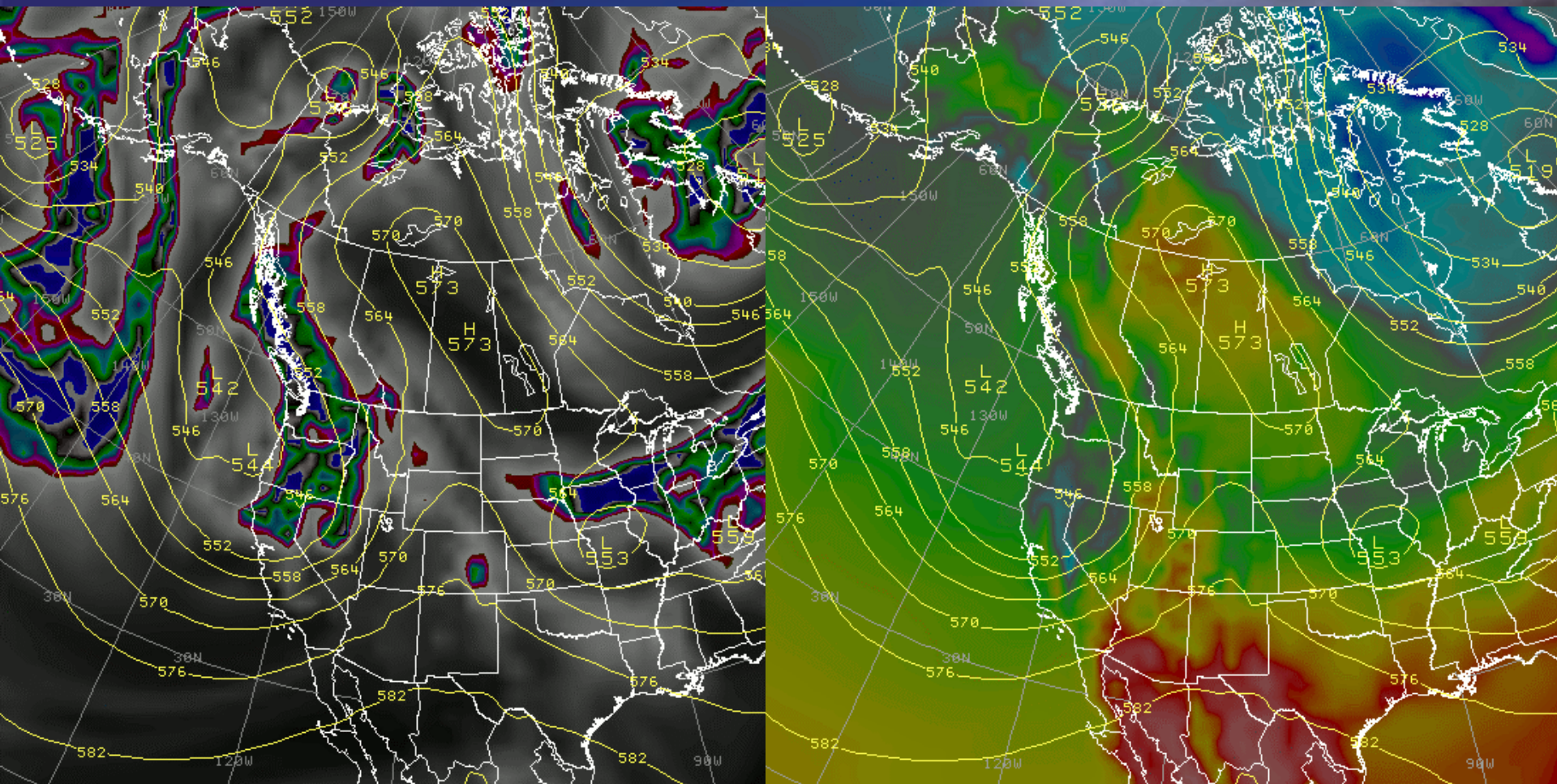
Saturday, May 14th (Afternoon)

Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



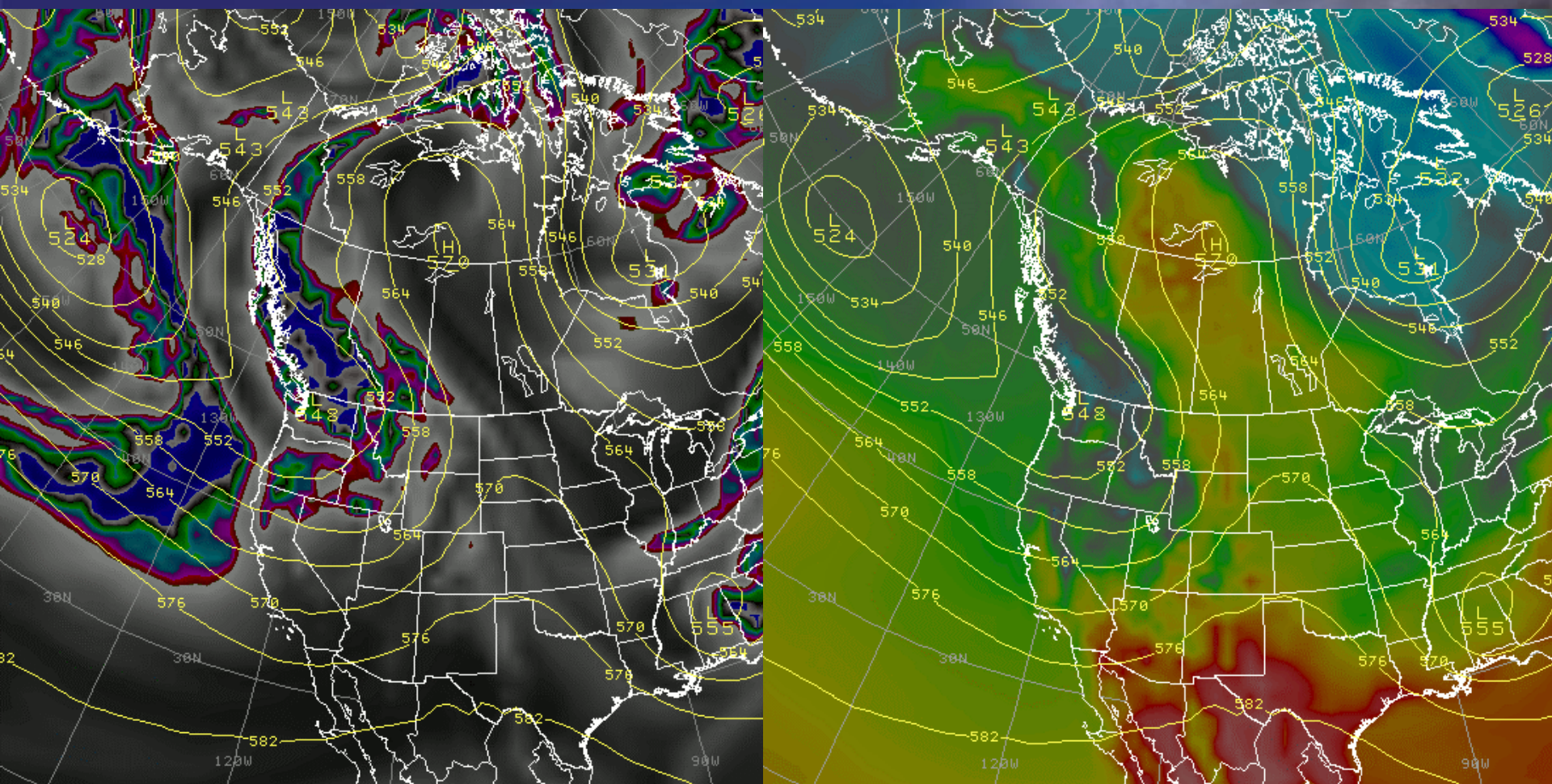
Sunday, May 15th (Afternoon)

Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



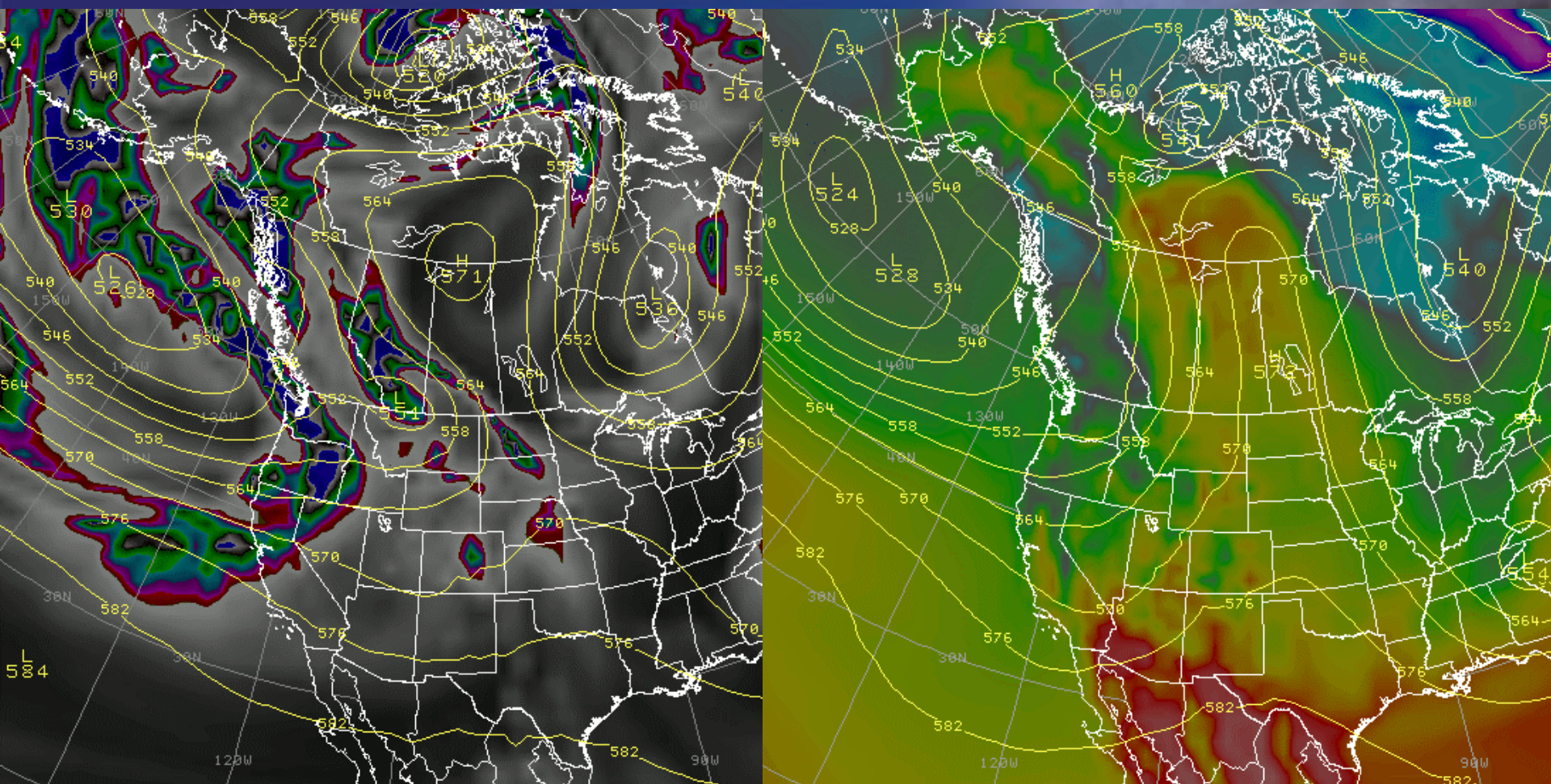
Monday, May 16th (Afternoon)

Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



Tuesday, May 17th (Afternoon)

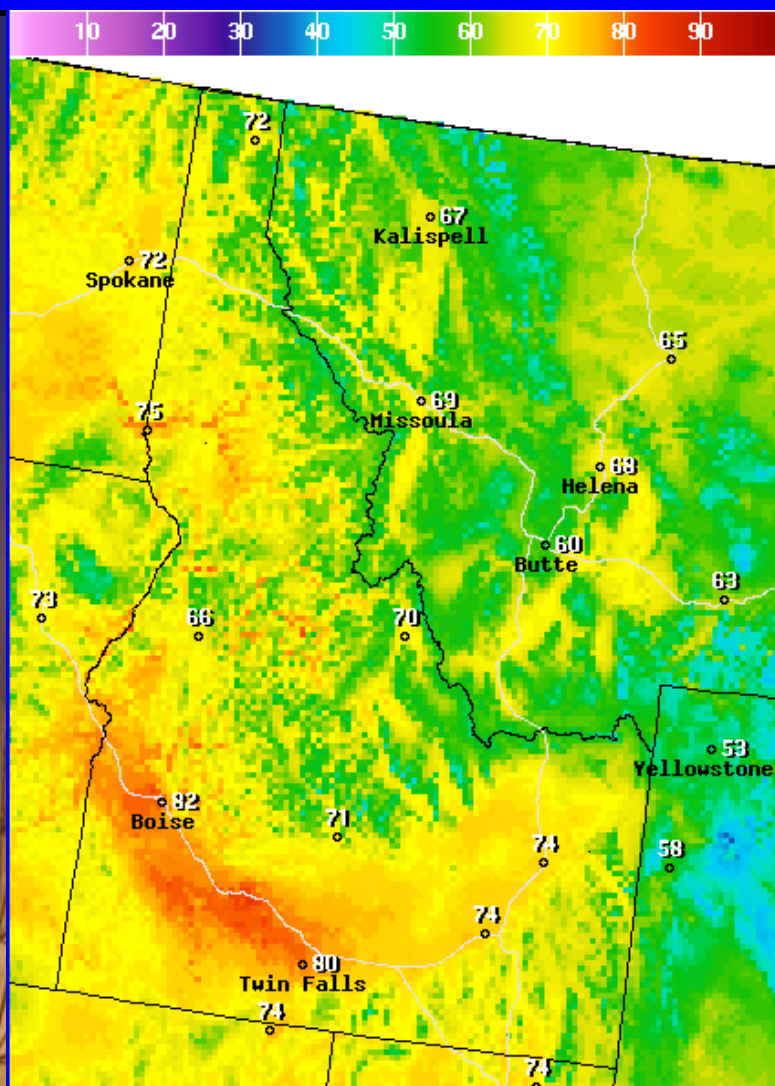
Moisture / Afternoon Temperatures



High Temperatures

Saturday

Monday



High Temperature(F) Ending Sat May 14 2011 8PM EDT

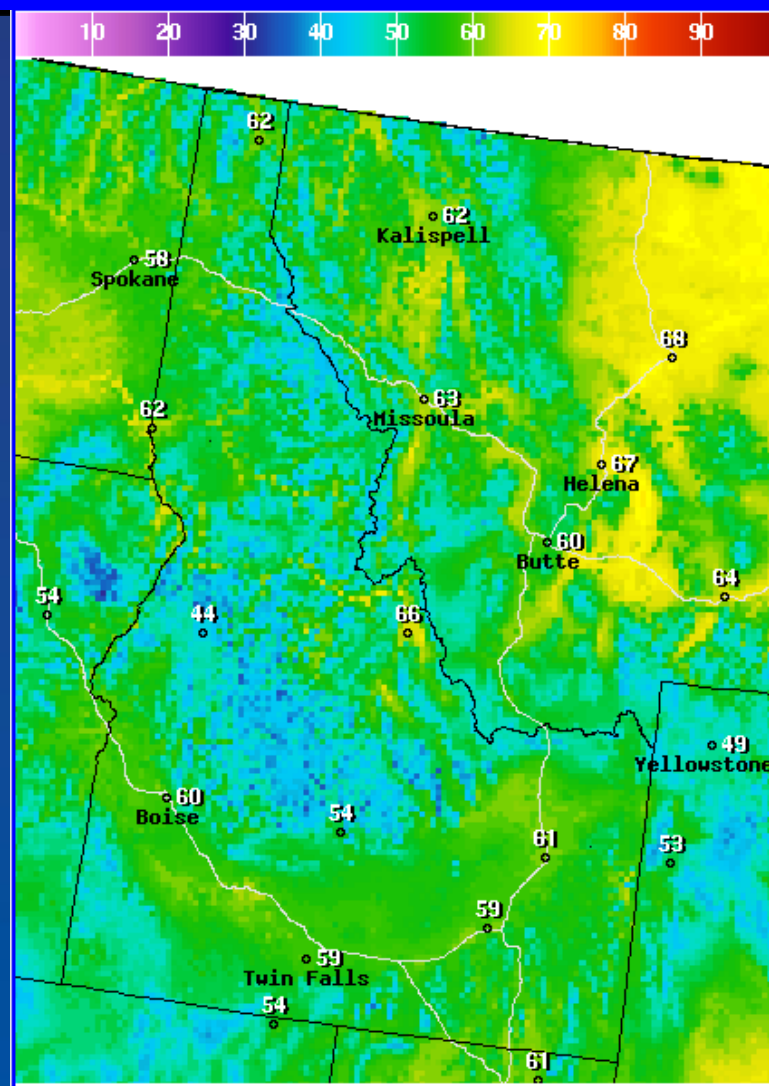
(Sun May 15 2011 00Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

18z issuance

Graphic created-May 11 2:18PM EDT



High Temperature(F) Ending Mon May 16 2011 8PM EDT

(Tue May 17 2011 00Z)

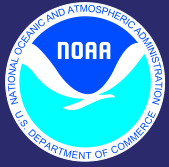


National Digital Forecast Database

18z issuance

Graphic created-May 11 2:18PM EDT



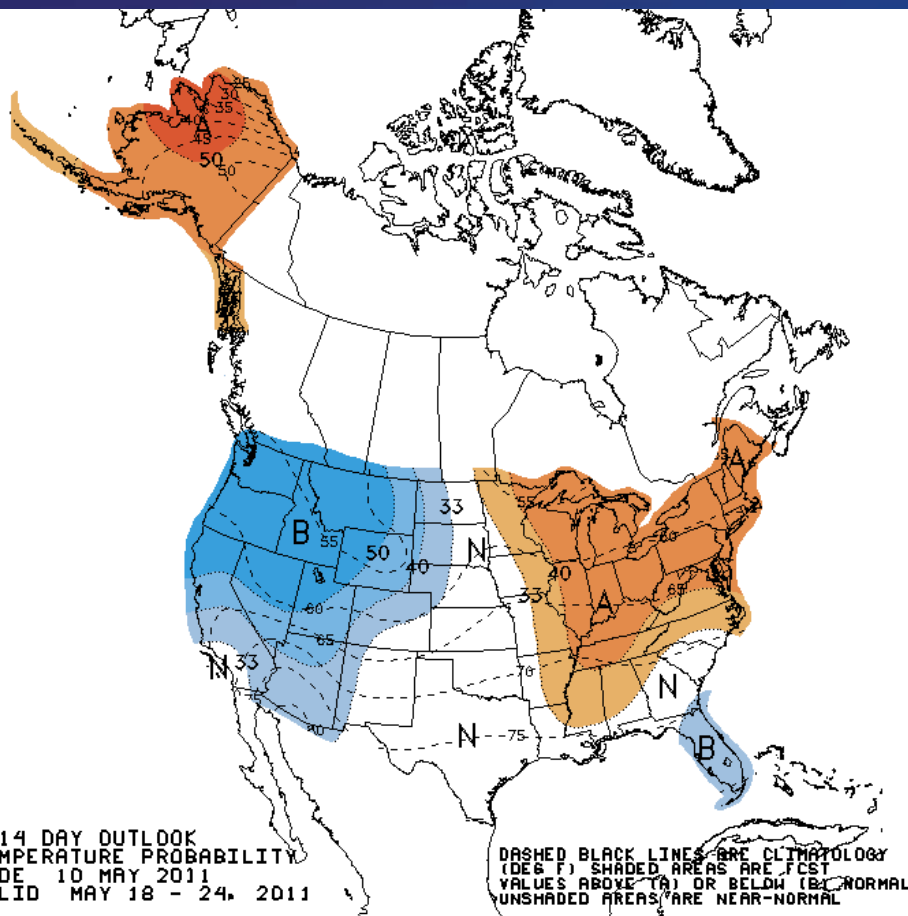


U. S. Seasonal Outlooks

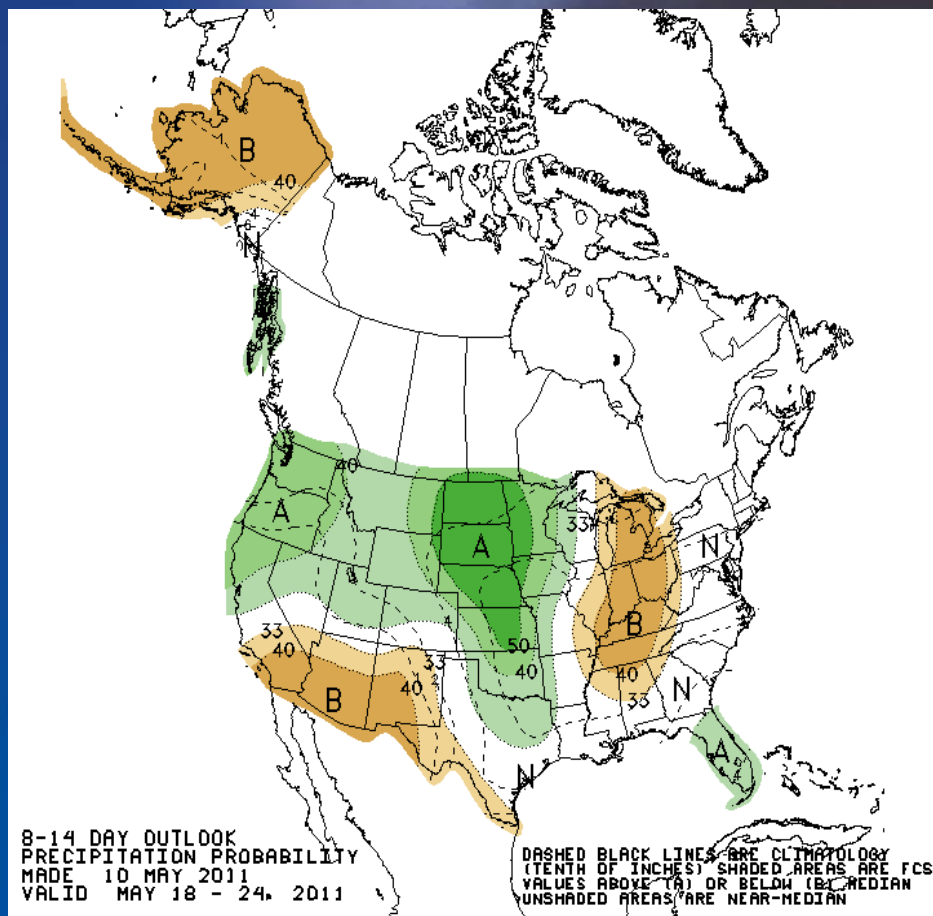
Second half of May - 2011

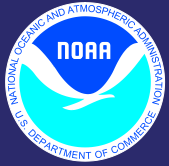


Temperature



Precipitation



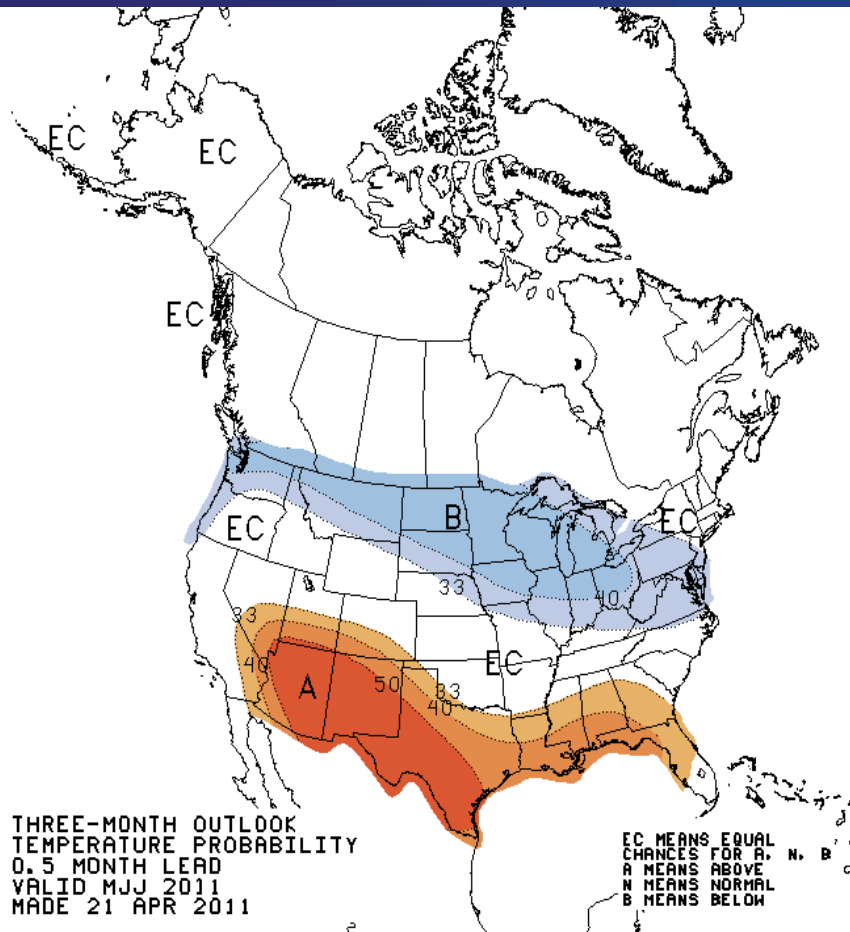


U. S. Seasonal Outlooks

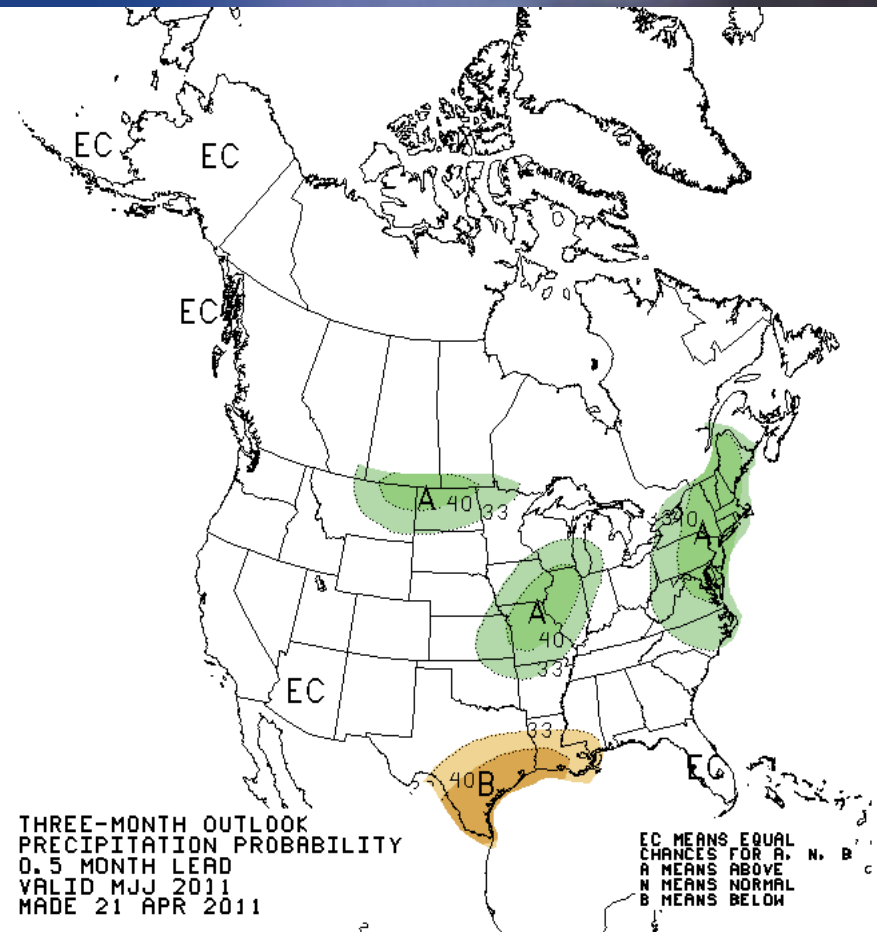
May – July 2011

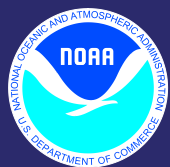


Temperature

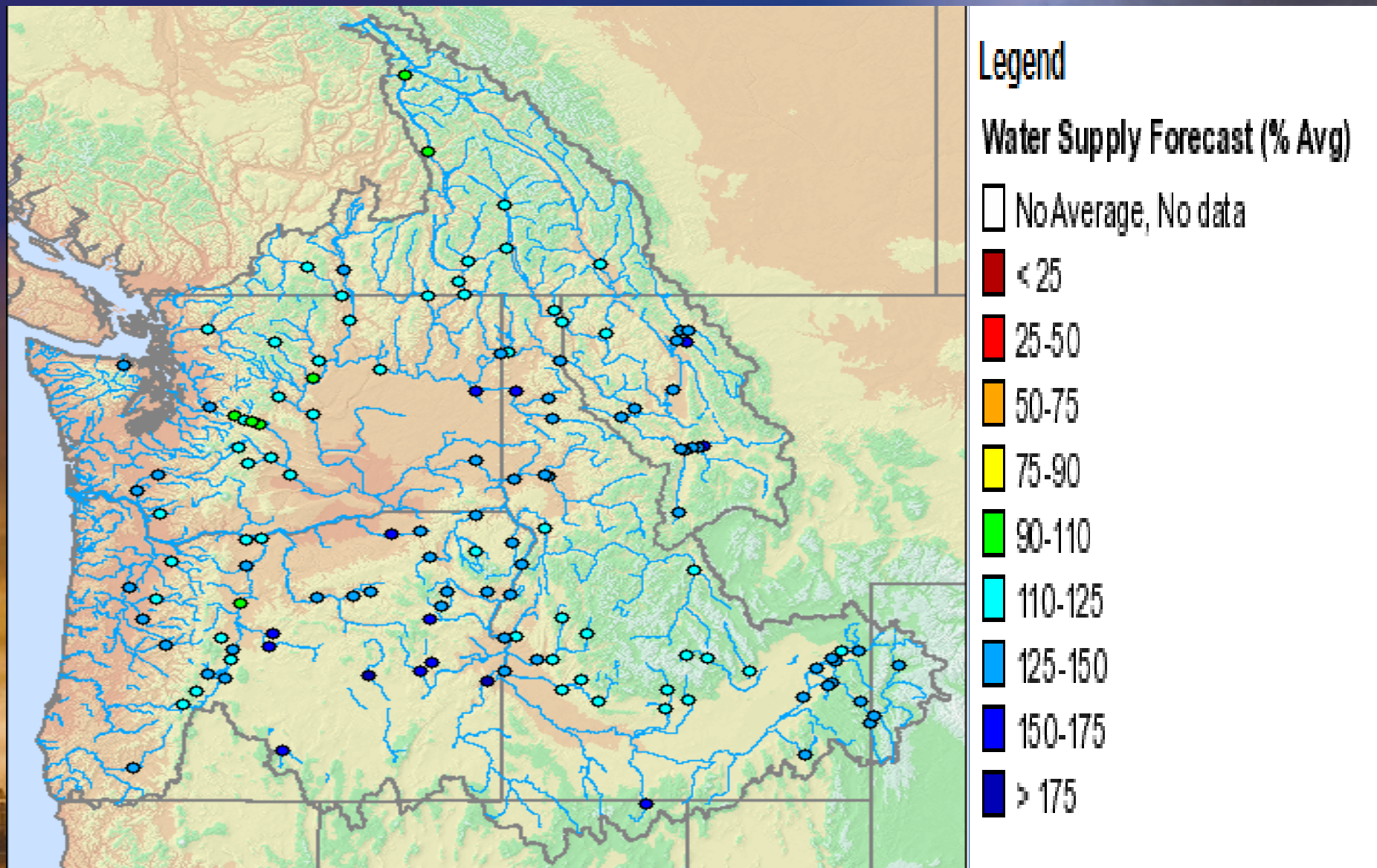


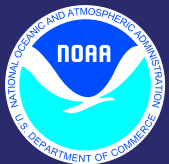
Precipitation



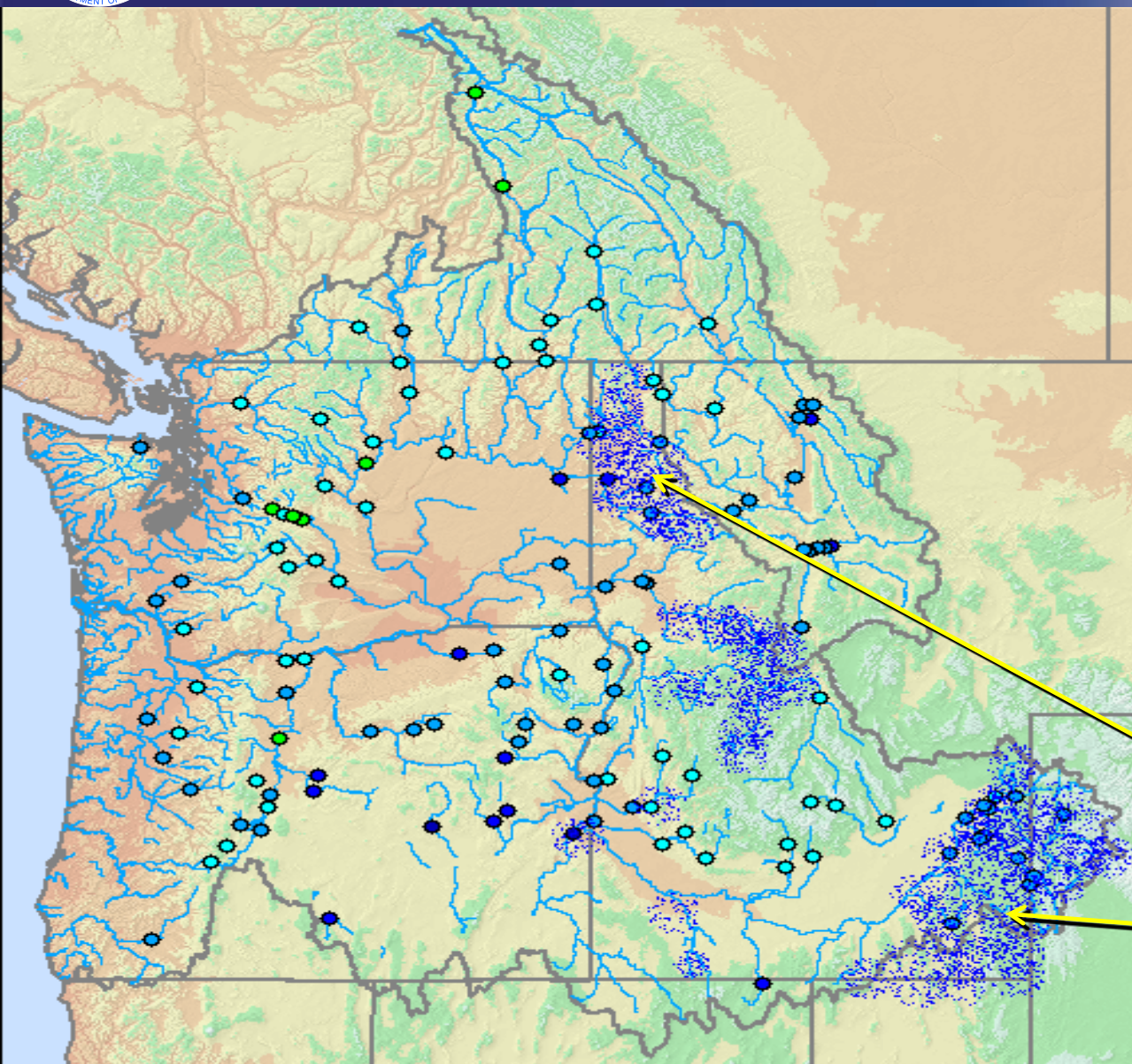
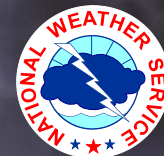


Above Normal Water Volumes will be produced by all Idaho Streams in 2011





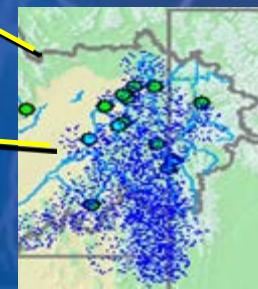
Idaho Spring Flood Risk Increasing



Highlights:

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

- Upper Snake River Basin including Henry's Fork and Teton River
- Bear River Basin
- Bruneau River
- Portions of Idaho Panhandle including Coeur D Alene, St Joe, Kootenia Rivers.
- Small Stream in upper Clearwater





Southeast Idaho

River

- Main Stem Snake River (Heise, Shelley, Blackfoot, Burely)
- Henry's Fork (Near Rexburg)
- Portneuf River (Between Pocatello and Inkom)
- Bear River (Bear Lake County)

Potential Impact

- Flooding Similar to 1997 is possible, Interstate 15 may be flooded. Highway 26 near Blackfoot may be flooded
- Significant Agricultural Flooding, County Roads
- Flooding upstream from Pocatello, Agricultural, County Roads
- Numerous small streams



Northern Idaho

River

- Coeur d' Alene River and tributaries
- St Joe River
- Northern Idaho Lakes
- Kootenai (Bonners Ferry)
- Moyie

Potential Impact

- Floodwaters surround homes in Cataldo behind levee. Roads along NF Coeur d' Alene River flood. Interstate access at Cataldo may flood.
- Flooding of county roads and low areas near the river
- Flooding of property along lake shores
- Significant Agricultural Flooding.
- Numerous home Impacted along river, especially just south of Canadian Border.



Central and Southwest Idaho

River

- Clearwater River and its Tributaries
- Payette River
- Boise River
- Small Streams

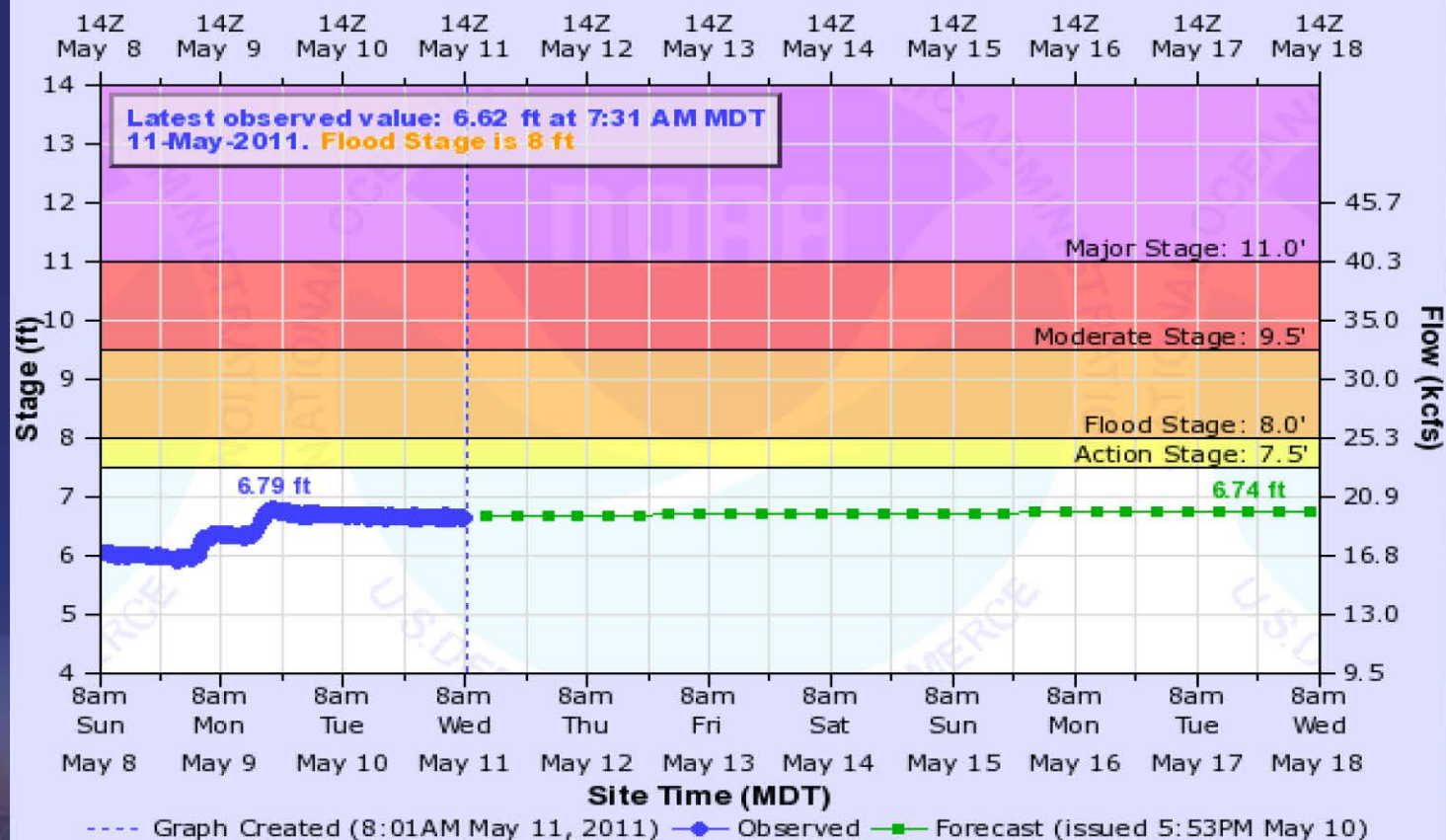
Potential Impact

- Clearwater river at Orofino has a 30 percent chance of reaching flood stage. Numerous small streams will be susceptible to flooding
- Not expected to reach flood stage, but large rain event could cause flooding similar to what occurred in 2011 with flooding affecting Lowman, Emmett and Payette
- Flood control operations continue with high water affecting parkland in Boise, Garden City, Eagle, Caldwell.
- Isolated problems will occur on small streams but a repeat of 2011 small stream flooding not expected unless heavy rain occurs.



Snake River at HEISE

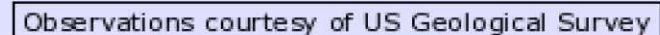
Universal Time (UTC)



HEI11(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 5015.3'

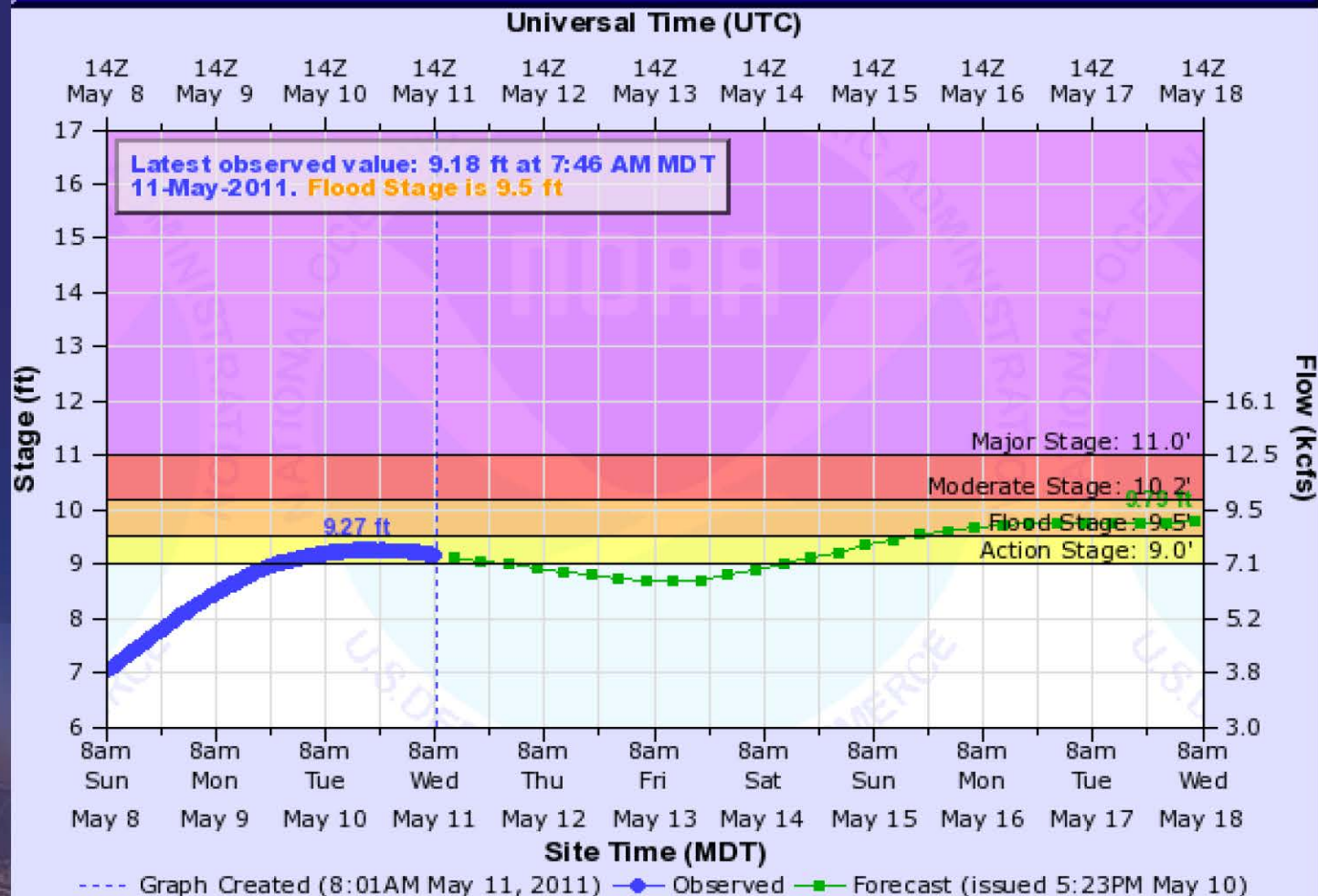
Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

- 11 Major flooding in Menan-Roberts area. Interstate 15 may be closed due to flooding. County road bridges will begin to wash out.
- 9 Flooding can be expected in the Menan-Roberts area.
- 8 Flooding near the Warm Springs Resort area is possible.



- | | |
|------|--|
| 13.5 | Inundation of roads and parking lots in commercial area near intersection of U.S. Route 26 and Interstate 15...Water at least 1 foot above loading docks at Albertsons Plaza. Significant flooding of farmland and roads near the river is likely. |
| 11 | Lowland flooding likely. Flooding is possible along US Highway 26 beneath the Interstate 15 underpass. |
| 10 | Minor flooding will occur near Rose. Minor lowland flooding is possible along the river downstream from Blackfoot. |

HENRY'S FORK RIVER NEAR REXBURG



REXI1(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 4806.35'

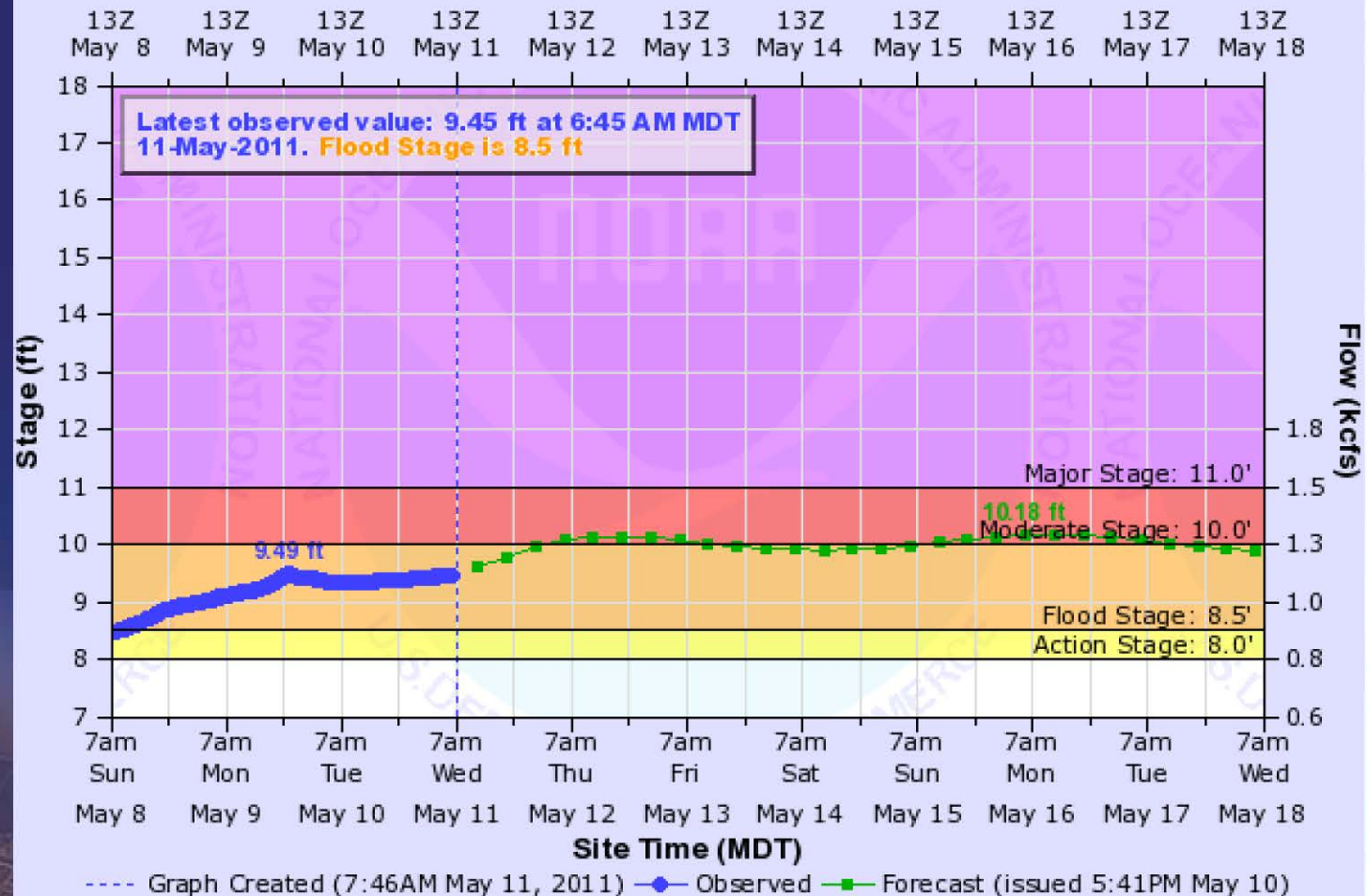
Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

11 Significant flooding of farmland and roads will occur.

9.5 Minor flooding of farmland near the river is possible between St. Anthony and Rexburg. Lower Beaver Dick Park is under water and some picnic shelters are inaccessible. Low points along Plano Road may have water across the road. The South Fork of the Teton River is at bankfull.

PORTNEUF RIVER AT POCATELLO

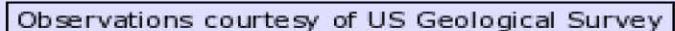
Universal Time (UTC)



- 10 Significant flooding along the river in and near Pocatello is likely.
- 9 Minor flooding of pastureland and rural roads near Pocatello is possible.
- 8.5 North City Park trail is partially under water and the trail is usually closed at this level. Marsh Creek near Inkorn may also be over its banks.
- 8 Water will flow onto portions of the bike/walking path in Sacajawea Park in Pocatello.



16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z 16Z
May 4May 5May 6May 7May 8May 9May 10May 11May 12May 13May 14May 15May 16May 17May 18

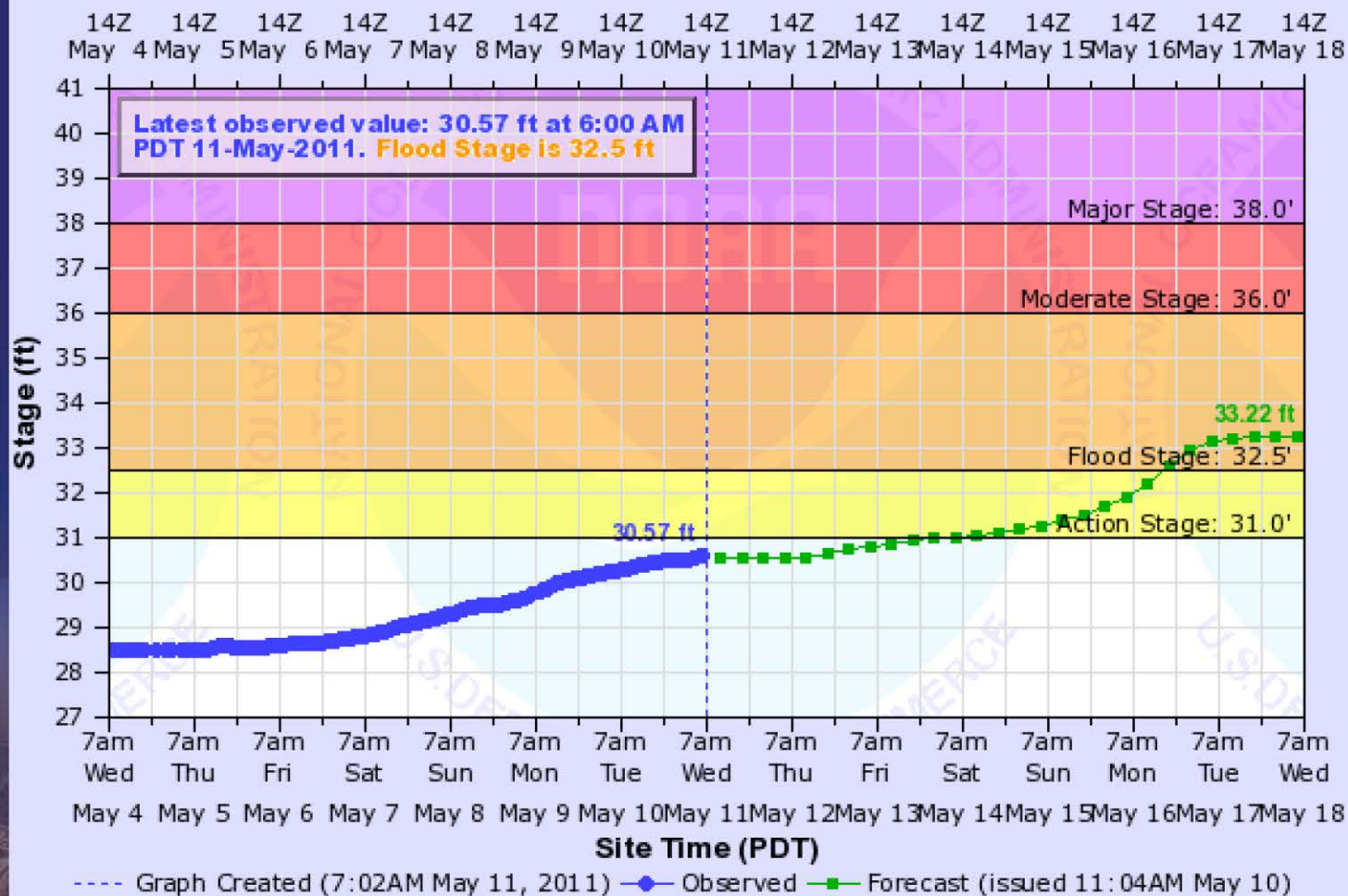


- | | |
|------|---|
| 47 | Significant flooding can be expected from Cataldo to Harrison. Cataldo will be completely flooded. |
| 46 | Water may approach the I-90 exit near Cataldo. Coeur d'Alene River Road and Latour Creek Road will be inundated. |
| 45 | County may begin pumping operations behind levels above this stage |
| 44 | Homes near the river may experience some flooding of basements. CCC Road will begin to be flooded near the Mennonite Church. |
| 43 | Minor flooding of farmland from Cataldo downstream to Harrison is likely. The campground at Cataldo will also begin to flood. |
| 42.5 | Portions of Riverview Rd between Cataldo and Kingston will be flooded. |



ST JOE RIVER AT ST MARIES

Universal Time (UTC)

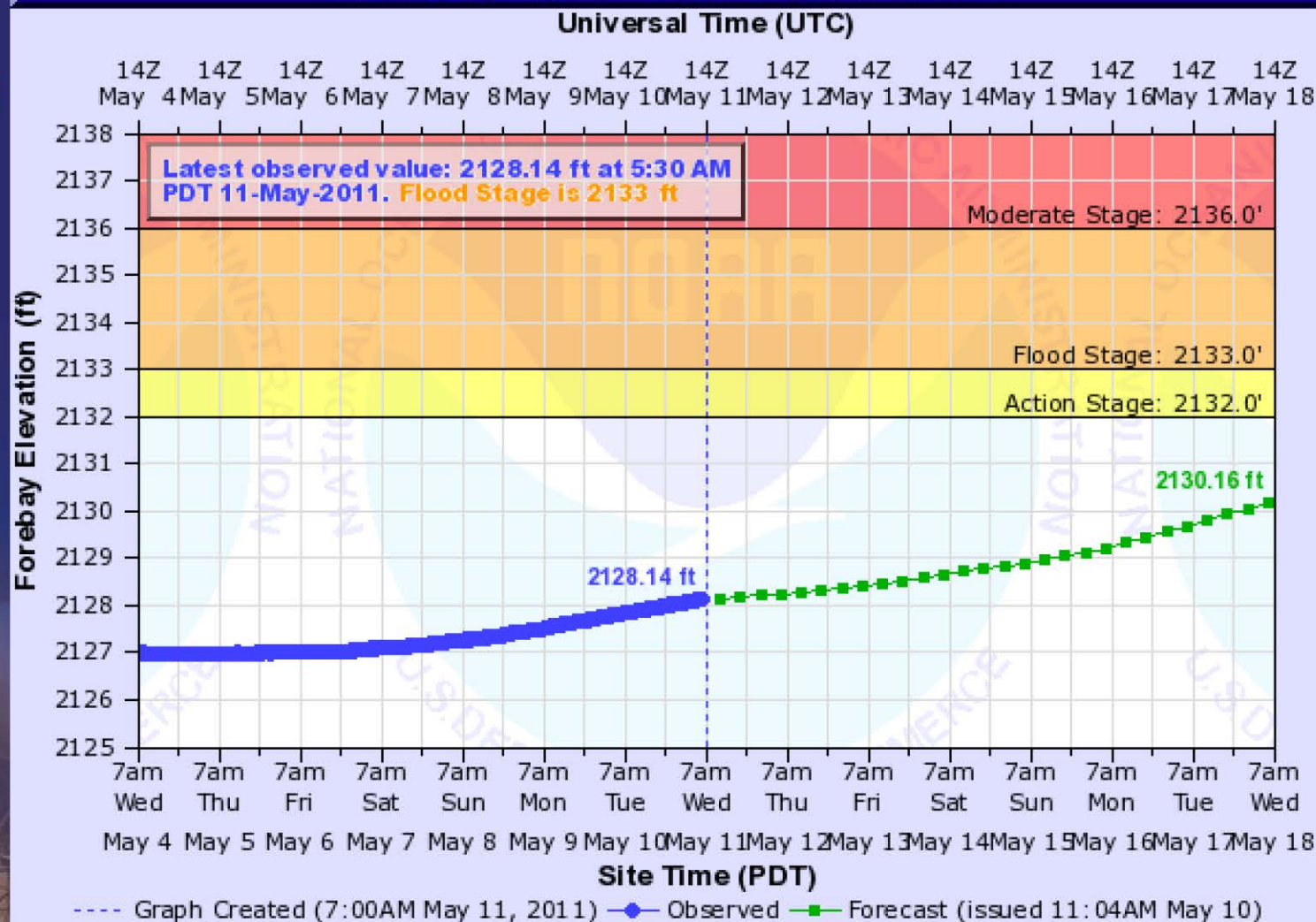


SJMI1(plotting HGIRZ) "Gage 0" Datum: 2100'

36 Extensive low level flooding is likely. Some sections St Joe River Road may be inundated.

32.5 Minor flooding is possible in low lying areas of the St Joe Valley.

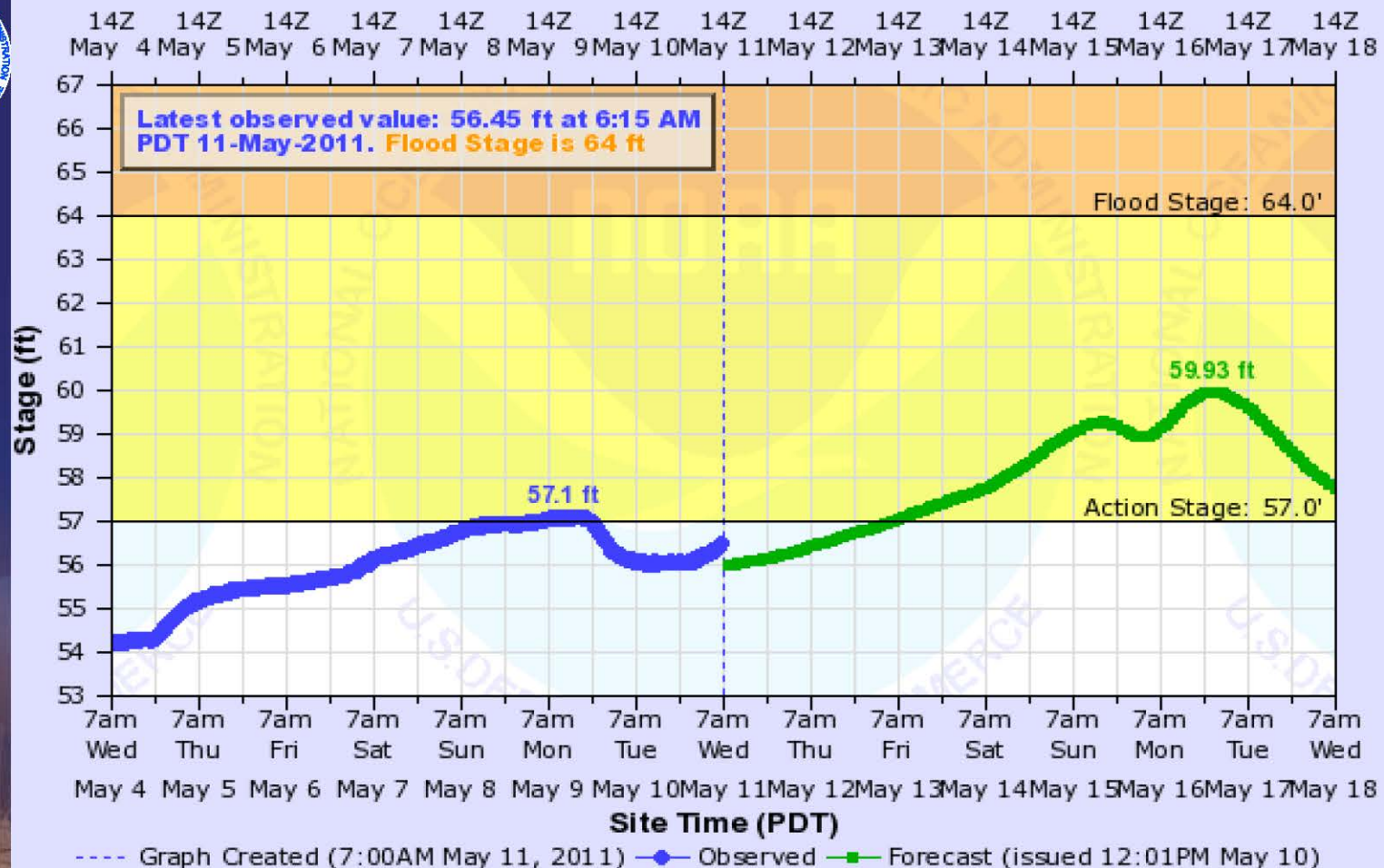
LAKE COEUR D'ALENE AT COEUR D'ALENE



2133 Flooding of homes and businesses along the lake. Flooding of lowland areas and some secondary roads adjacent to Route 3 is likely.

KOOTENAI RIVER AT BONNERS FERRY

Universal Time (UTC)



BFEI1(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 1700'

Observations courtesy of US Army Corps of Engineers

64 Minor flooding along the agricultural lands of the Kootenai Valley is likely. Some underground seepage is also possible.



Questions

www.weather.gov

www.weather.water.gov