

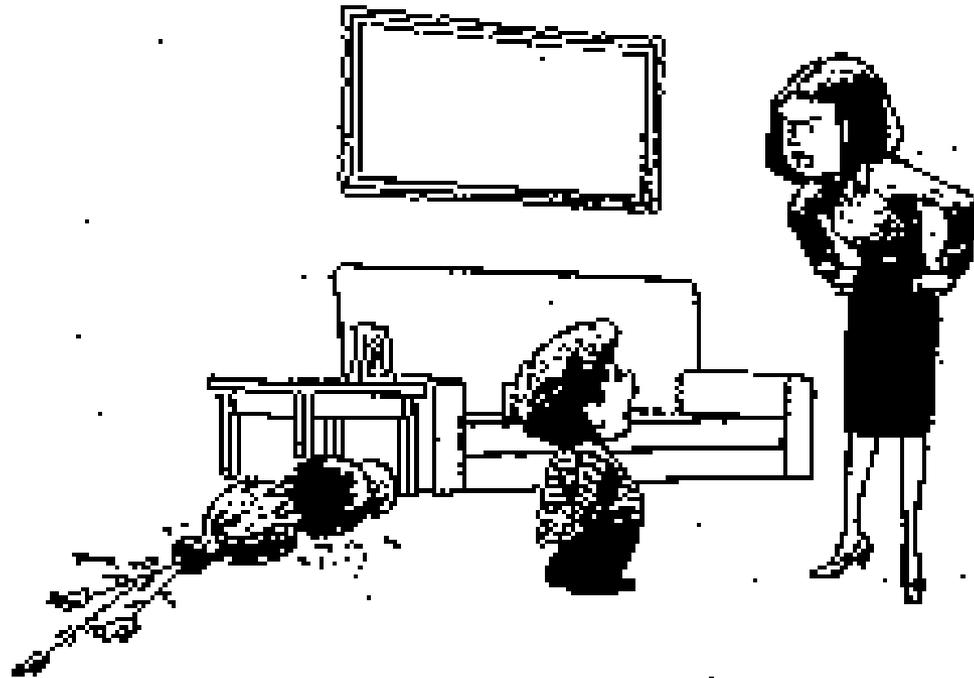
The background of the slide is a dark blue, stormy night sky. In the upper right, there are dark, heavy clouds. A bright, jagged lightning bolt strikes down from the clouds on the right side. On the left side, the skeletal structure of a weather tower is visible against the dark sky. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and weather-related.

# Winter Weather Outlook

## *“El Niño?”*

Latah County LEPC

John Livingston  
National Weather Service

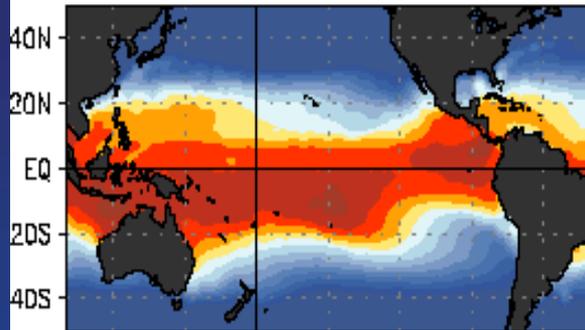


*It wasn't me... it was El Nino*

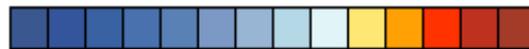
# El Nino vs La Nina

## OCEAN TEMPERATURES (°C)

**EL NIÑO**  
Jan-Mar 1998

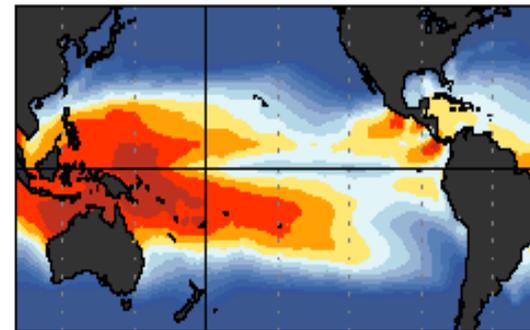


120E 150E 180 150W 120W 90W 60W



18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

**LA NIÑA**  
Jan-Mar 1989

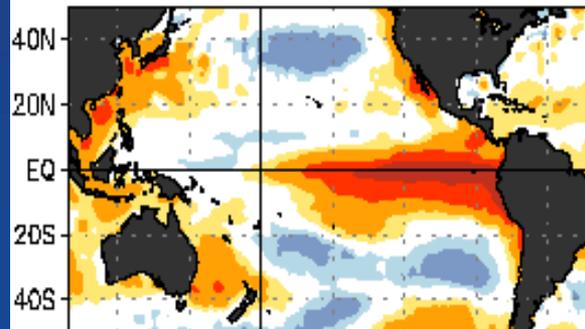


120E 150E 180 150W 120W 90W 60W

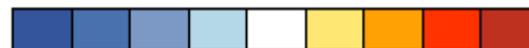


18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

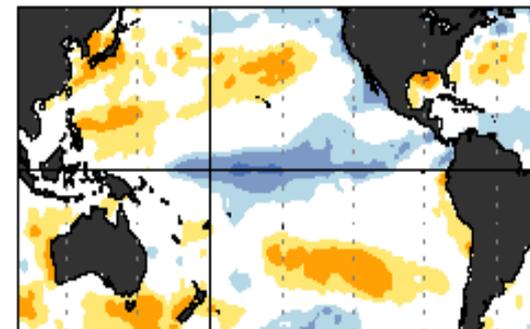
## OCEAN TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES (°C)



120E 150E 180 150W 120W 90W 60W



-3 -2 -1 -0.5 0.5 1 2 3



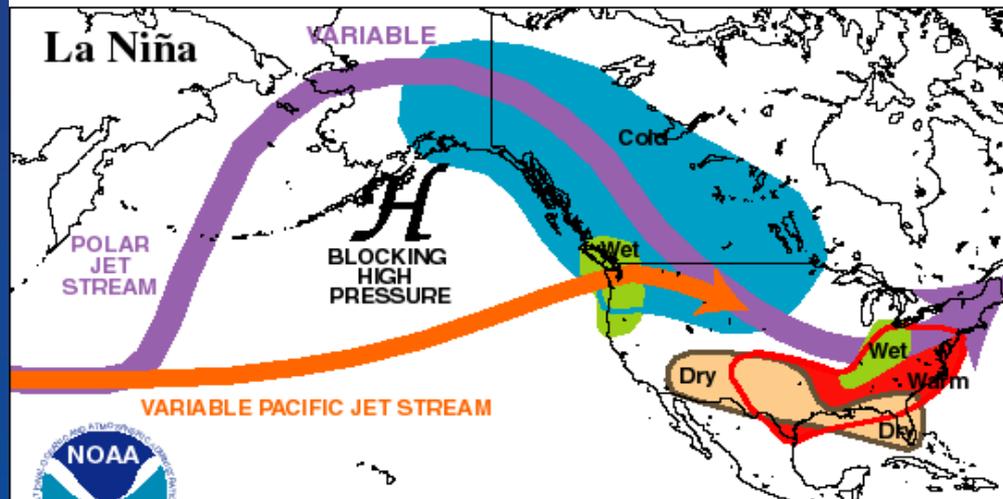
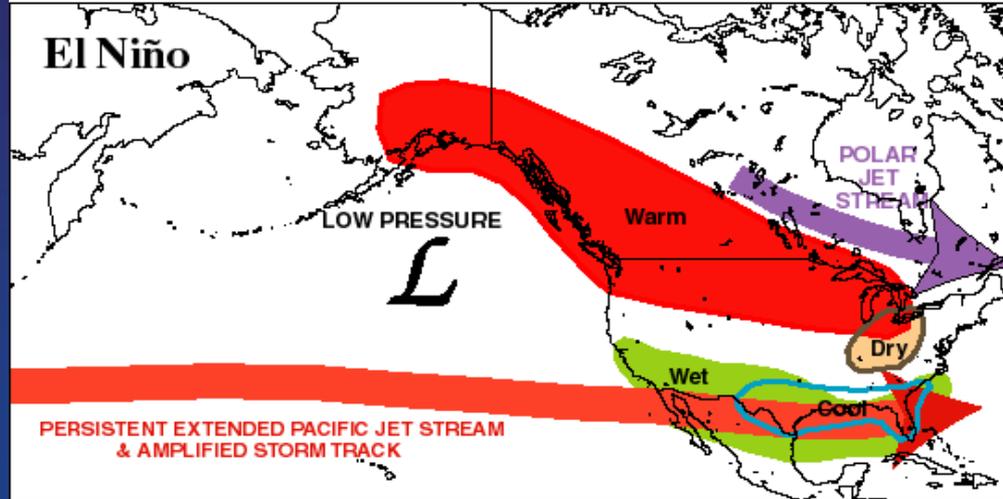
120E 150E 180 150W 120W 90W 60W



-3 -2 -1 -0.5 0.5 1 2 3

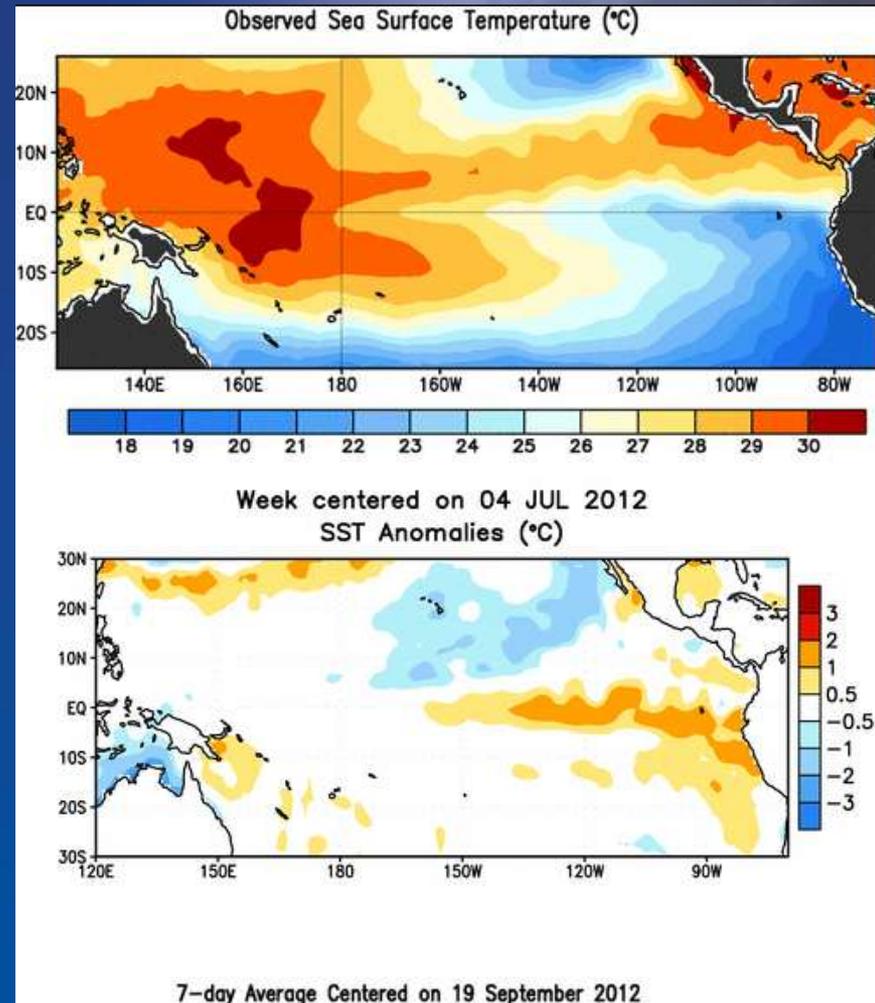
# El Niño vs La Niña

TYPICAL JANUARY-MARCH WEATHER ANOMALIES  
AND ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION  
DURING MODERATE TO STRONG  
EL NIÑO & LA NIÑA

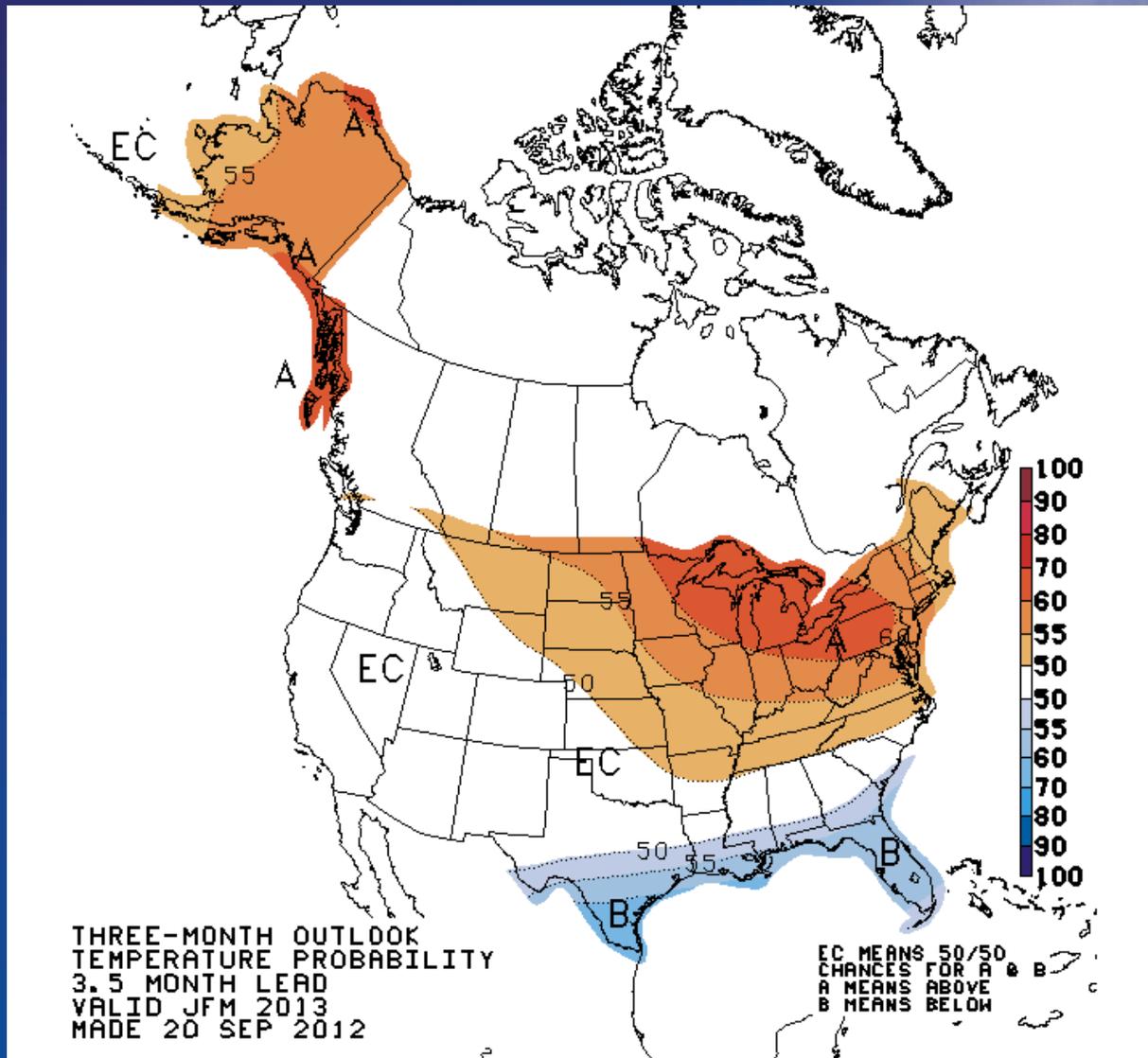


# Tropical Pacific Status

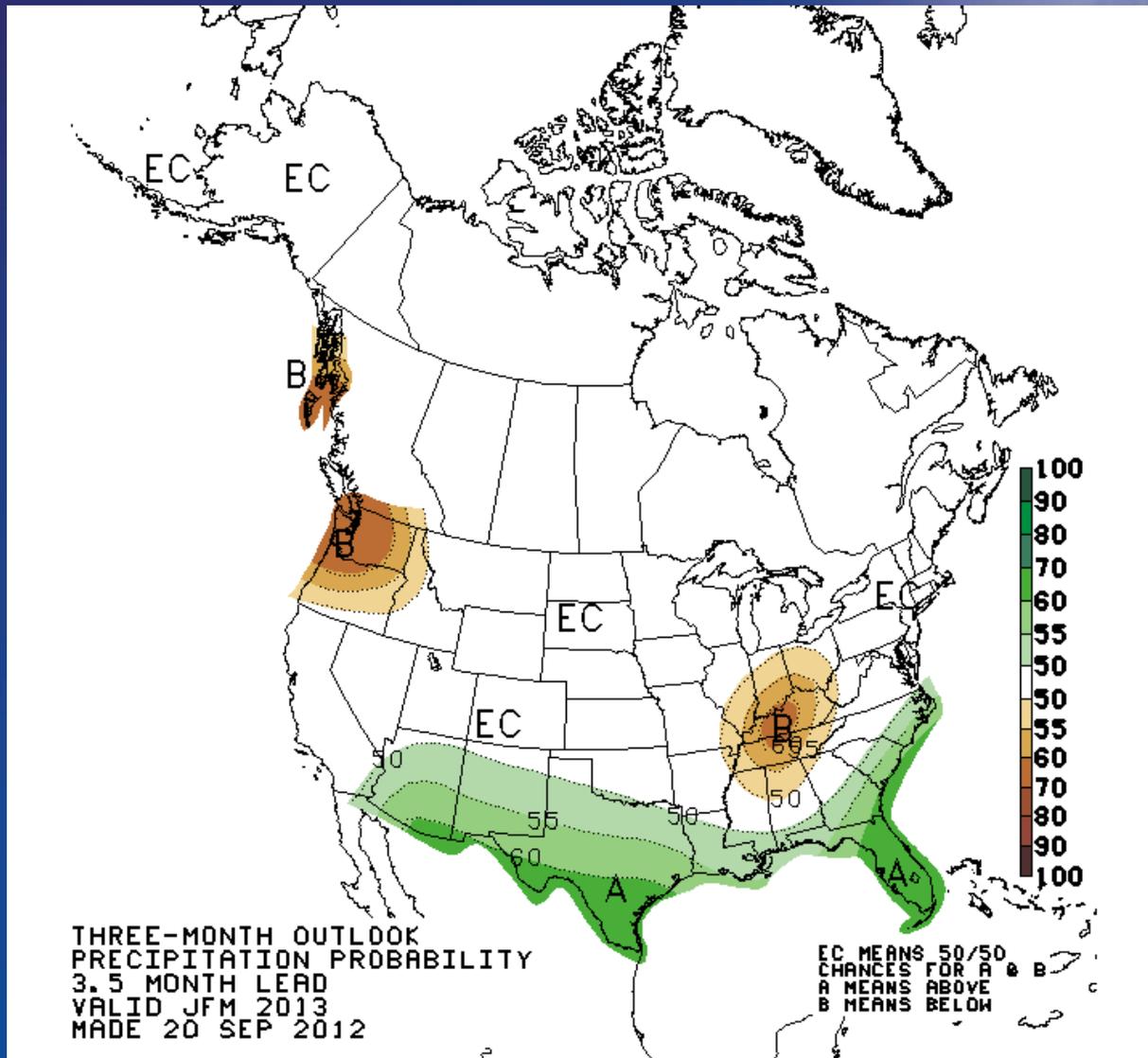
- Weak El Nino conditions are present across the eastern equatorial Pacific
- SSTs are warming very slowly right now
- El Nino is expected this winter, though weak or perhaps turning Neutral
- El Nino Watch in effect



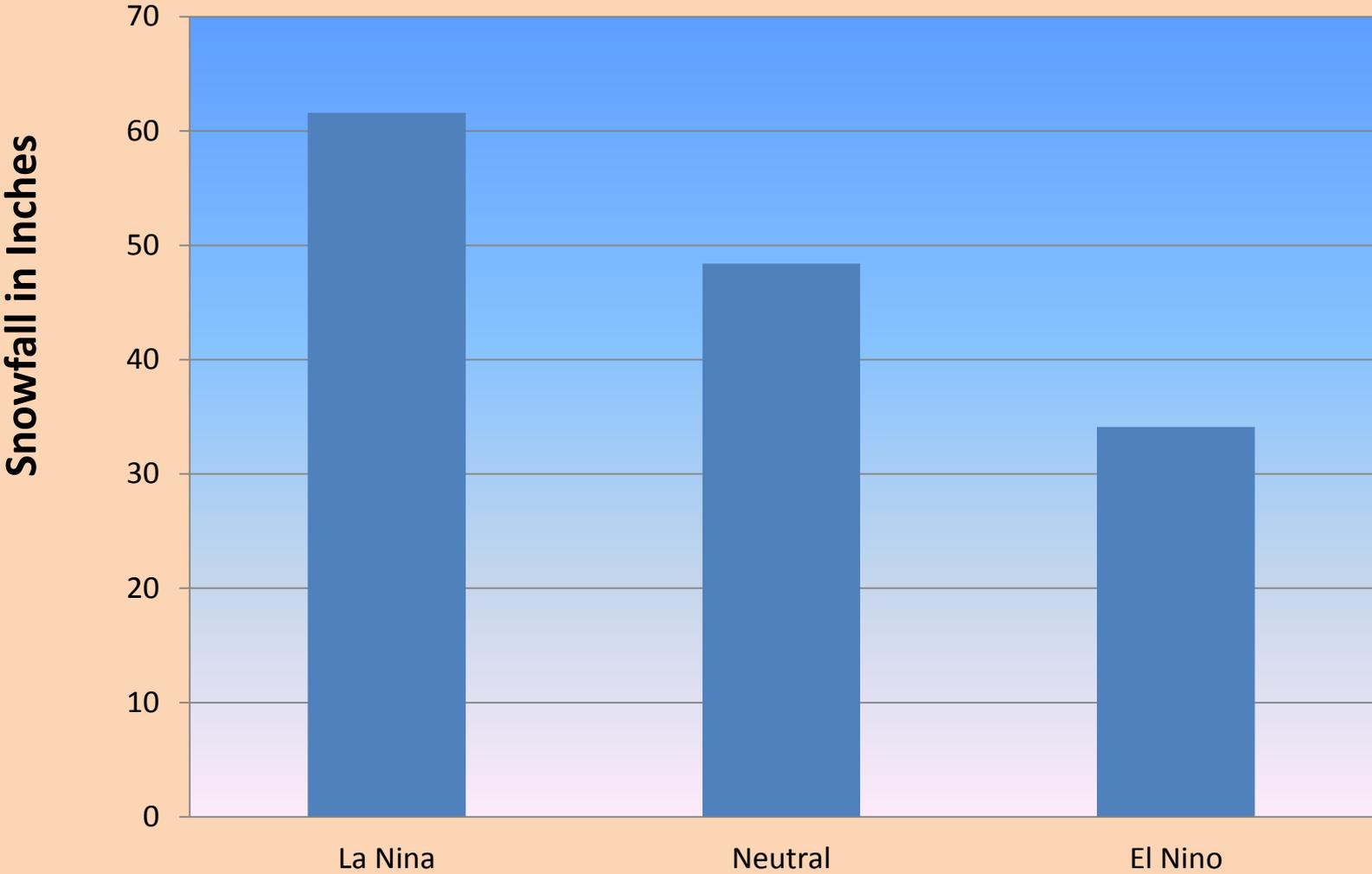
# JFM Temperature Outlook



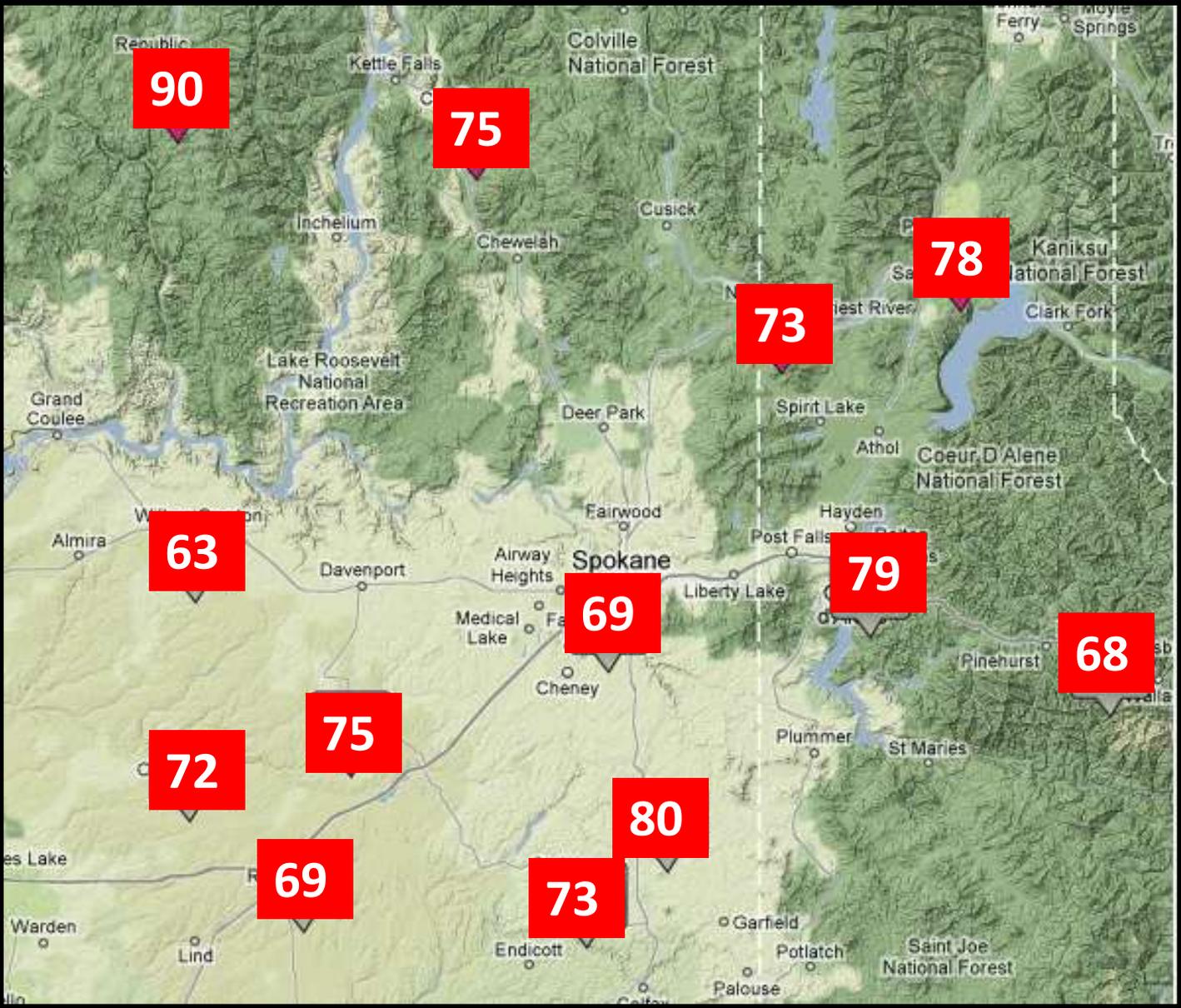
# JFM Precipitation Outlook



# Spokane Snowfall



# El Niño % of Normal Snowfall



# In Summary

- Weak El Nino conditions are in place now and expected to remain into this winter.
- Transition to Netutral Conditions are just as likely.
- For this Fall/Winter “on average”
  - Temperature: Equal chances of above, below or near average
  - Precipitation: Increased odds of below average
  - Snowpack: May get off to a quick start then slow in December through the rest of the winter
- Expect an active late fall and then “slower” winter season
- Can always expect some significant winter weather in the Pacific Northwest!

# Stay in Touch!

- GoTo Online Weather Briefings
- NWSChat ([nwschat.weather.gov/live](https://nwschat.weather.gov/live))

- Facebook and Twitter



- INWS (Interactive National Weather Service)
  - Text alerts to your phone

# Questions?

