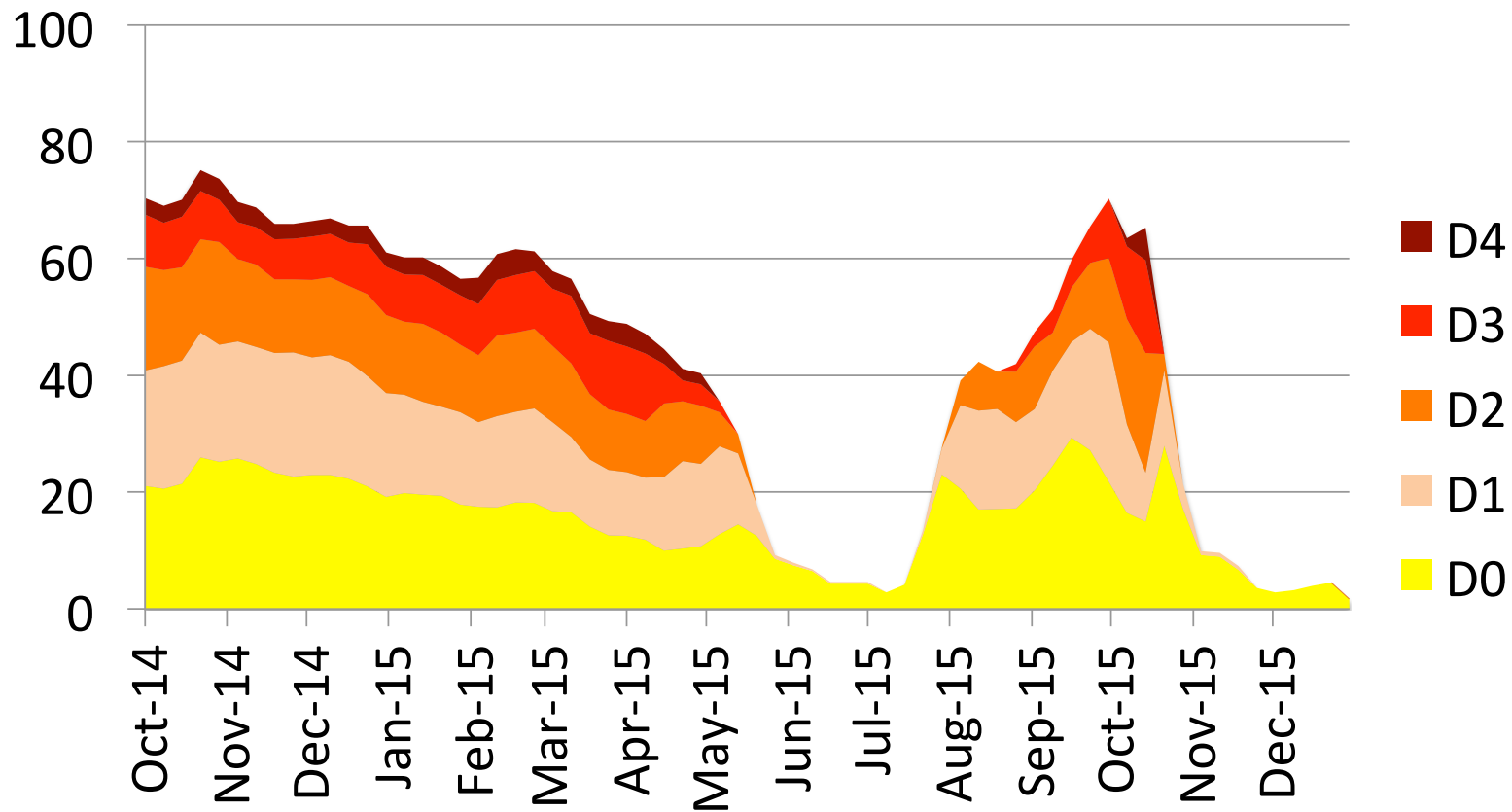


# Which Came First: The End of Drought or the Beginning of Flood (in Texas in 2015)?

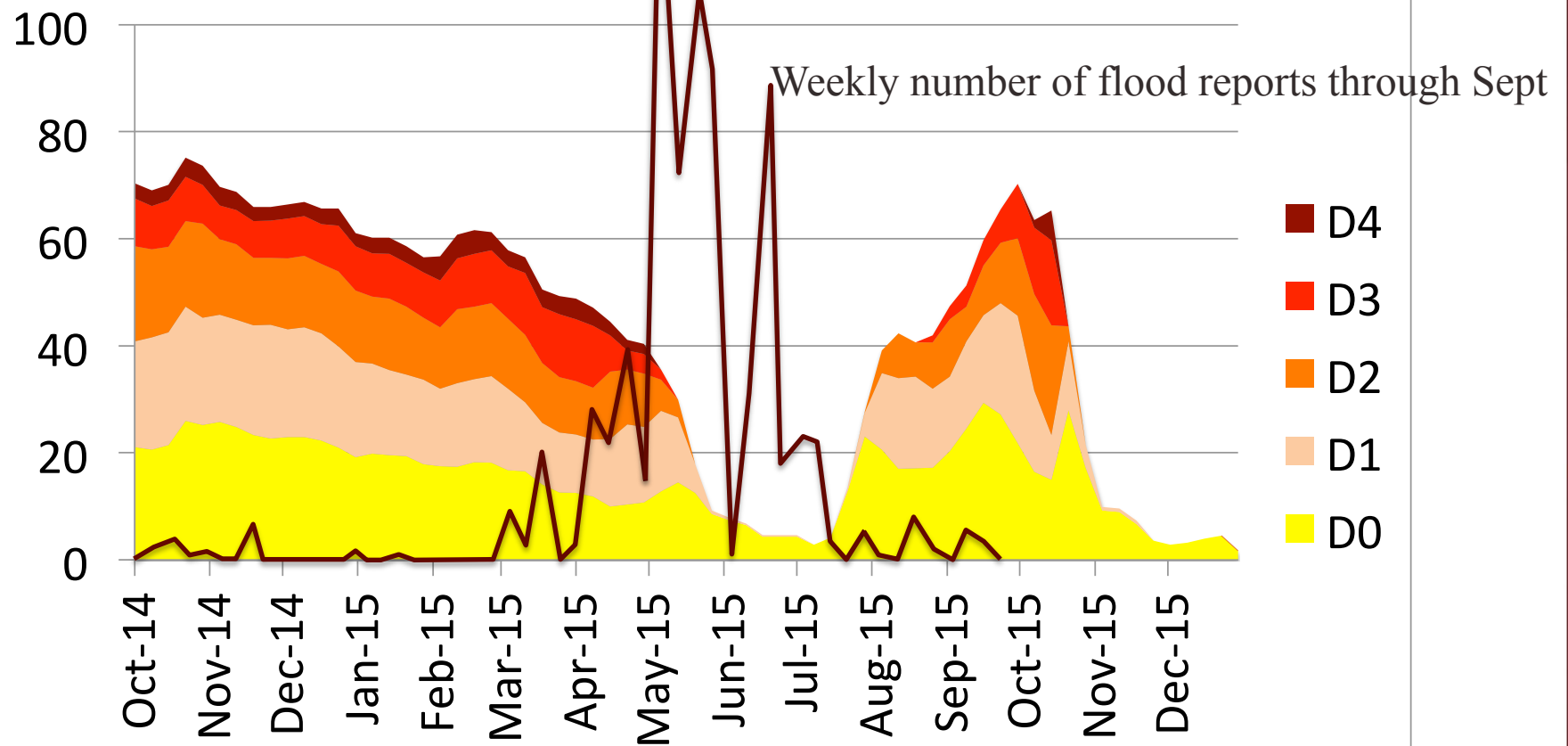
John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Texas A&M University  
*Texas State Climatologist*

## Percent Drought Coverage, Texas Oct. 7, 2014 to Present

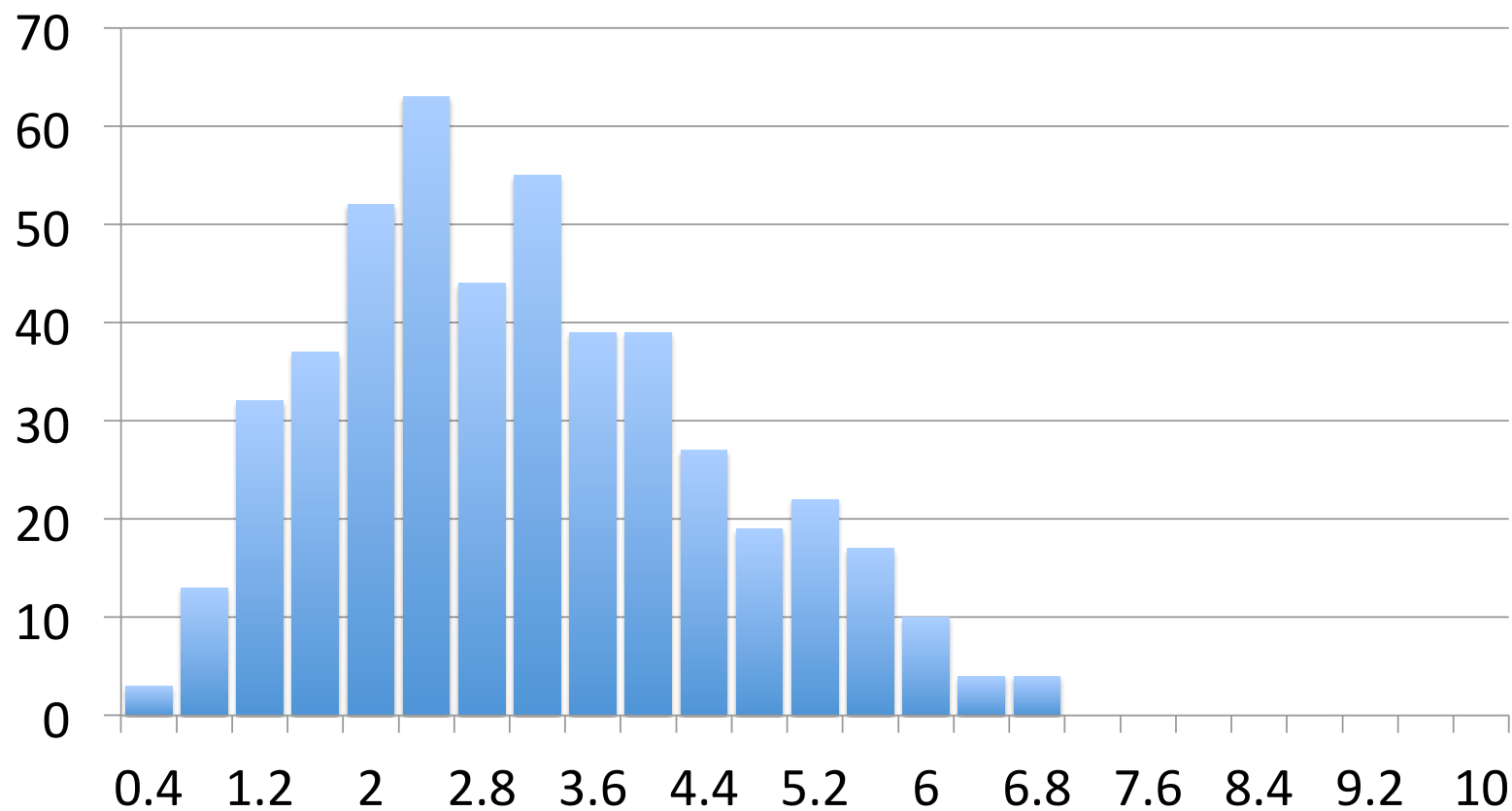




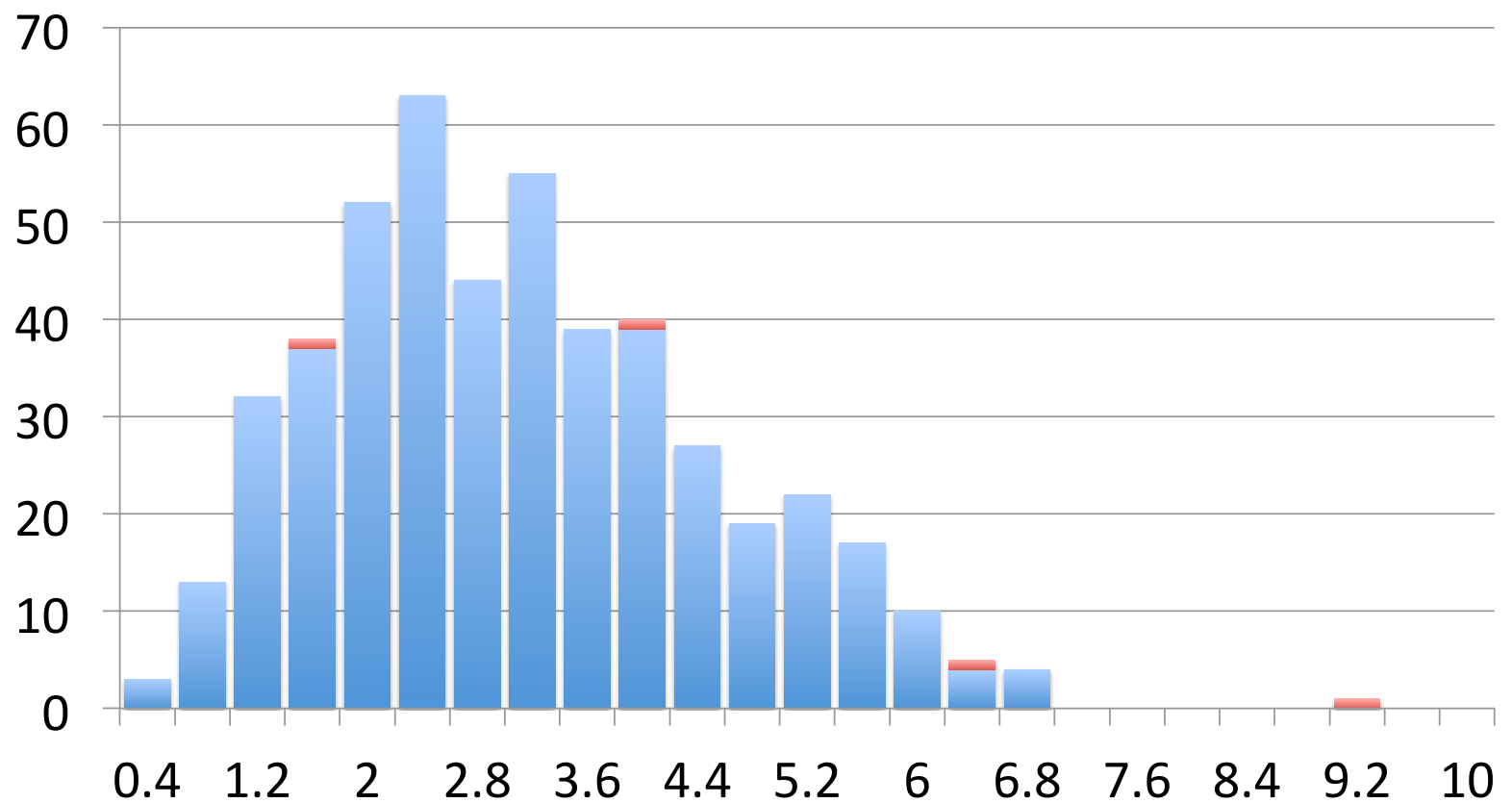
## Percent Drought Coverage, Texas Oct. 7, 2014 to Present



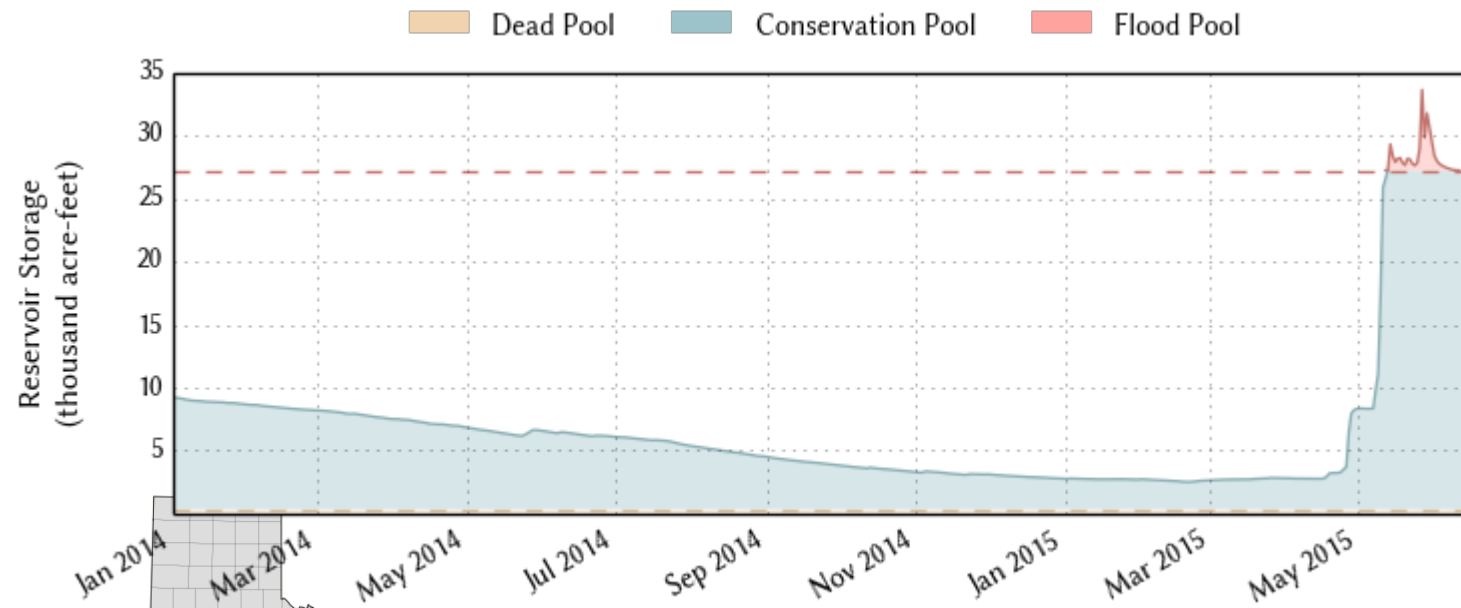
## Texas Monthly Precipitation (inches), May/Jun/Sep/Oct 1895-2014



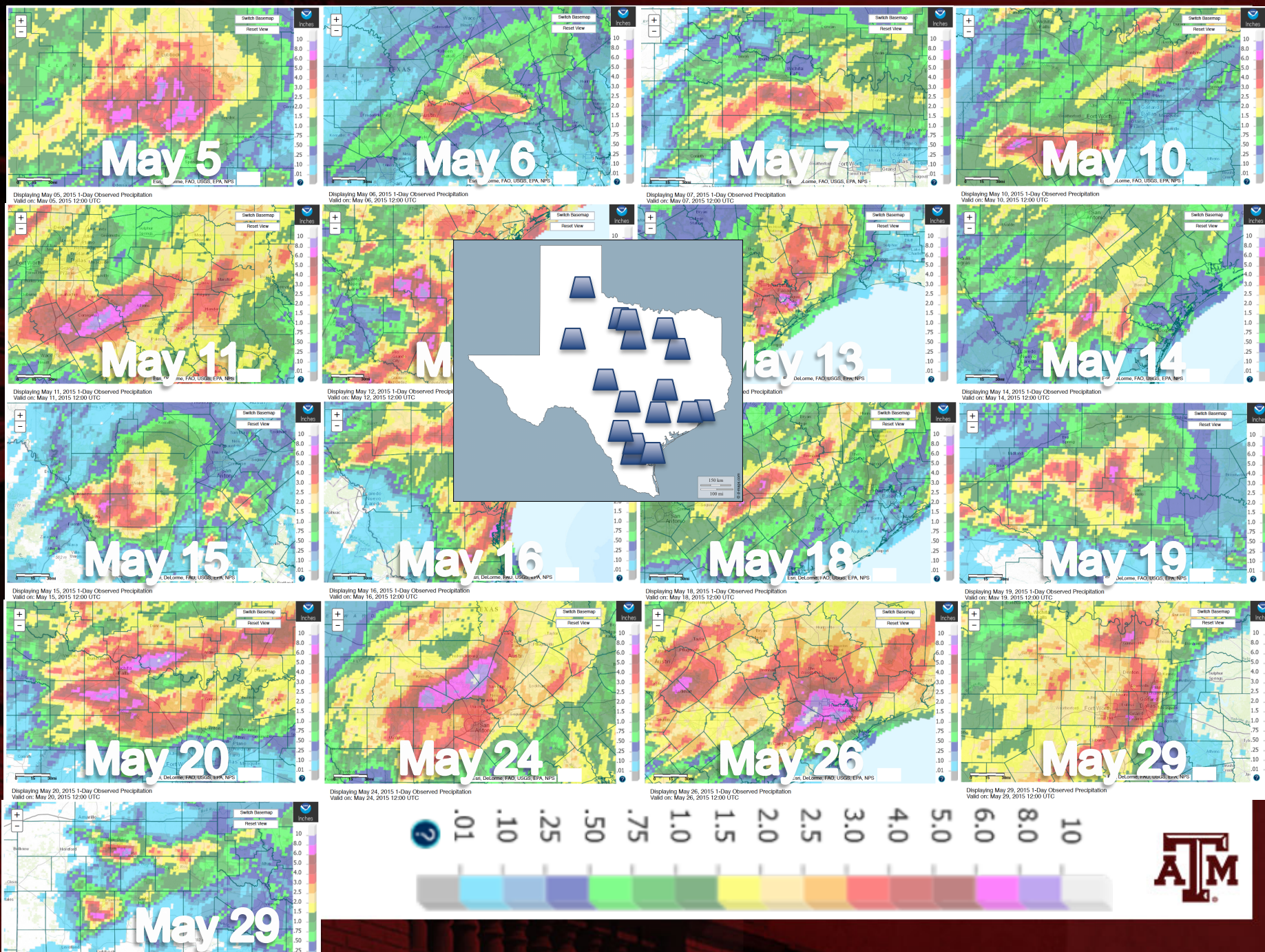
## Texas Monthly Precipitation (inches), May/Jun/Sep/Oct 1895-2015



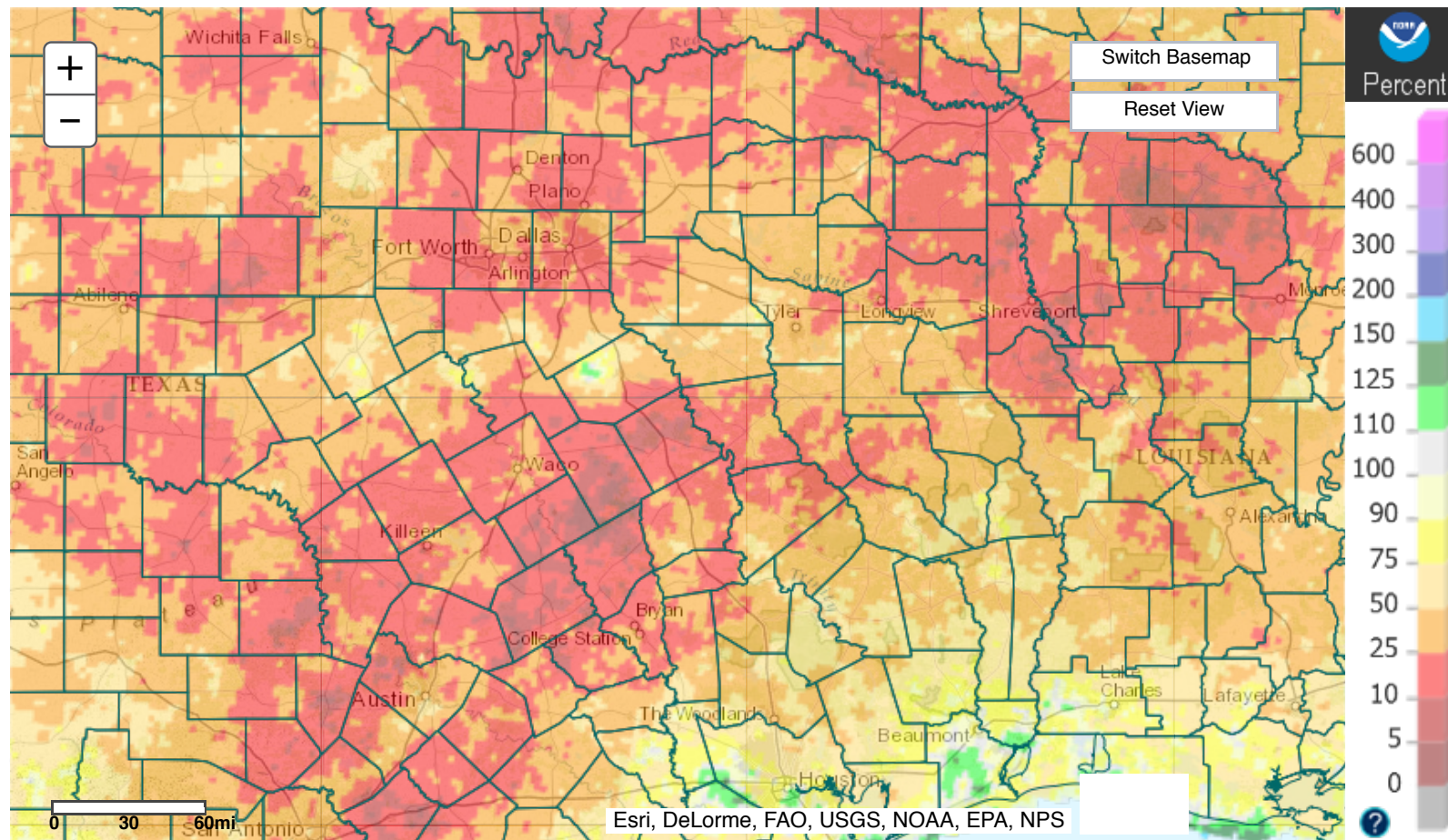
# Palo Pinto Reservoir







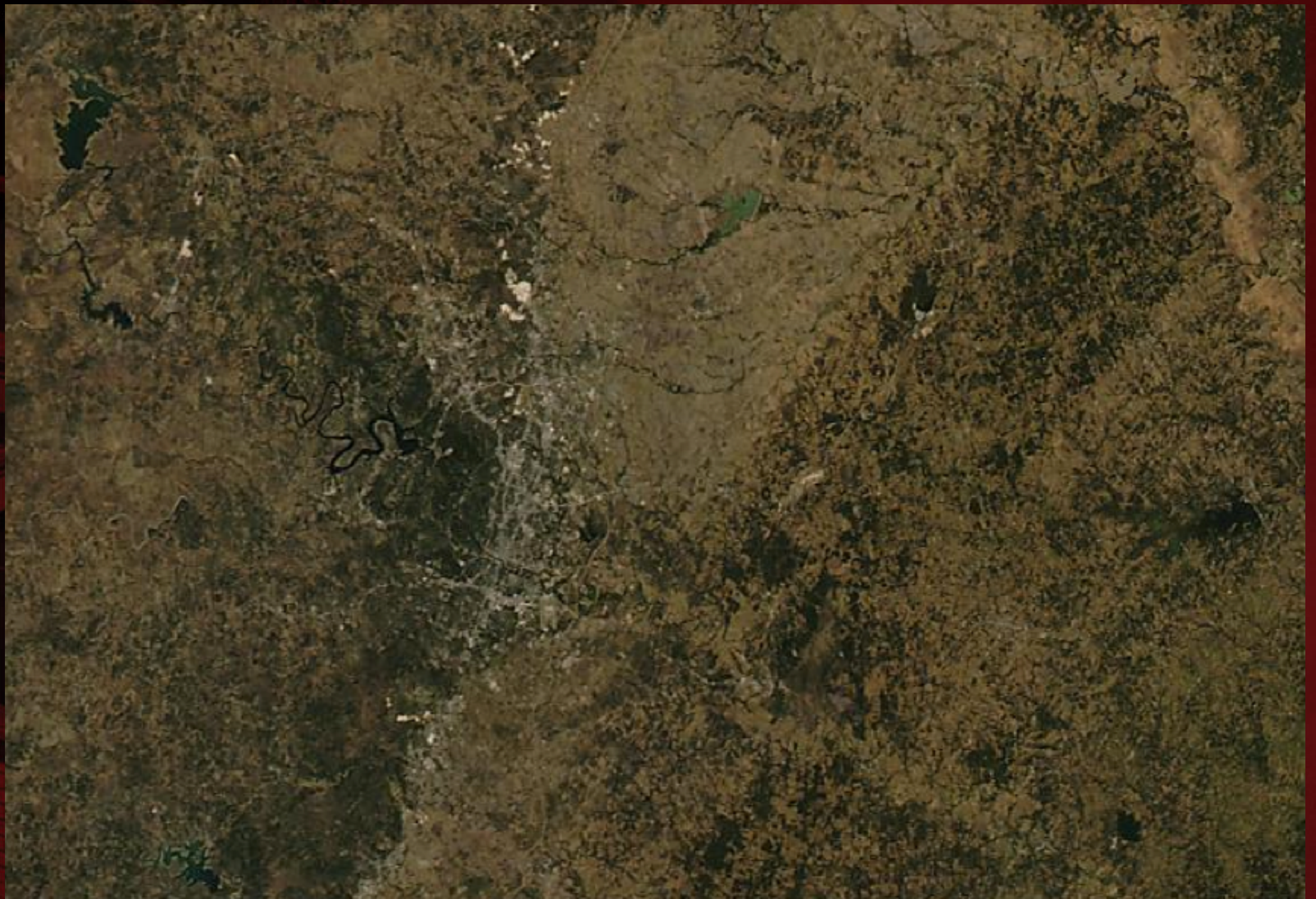




Displaying Last 90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation  
Valid on: October 21, 2015 12:00 UTC  
What is UTC time? Map Help









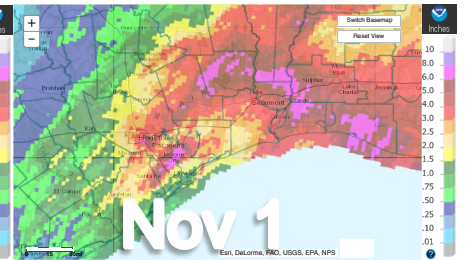
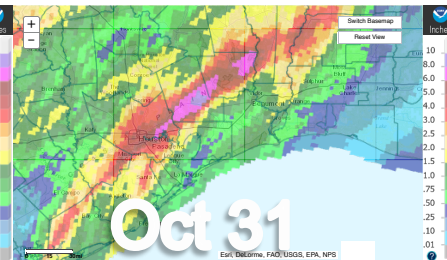
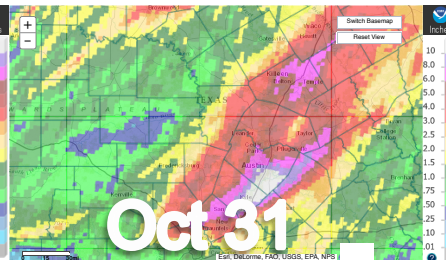
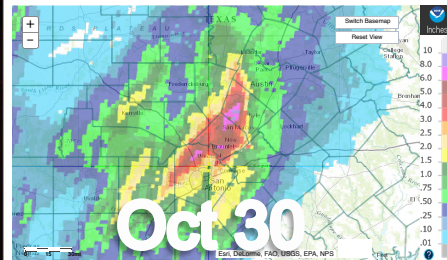
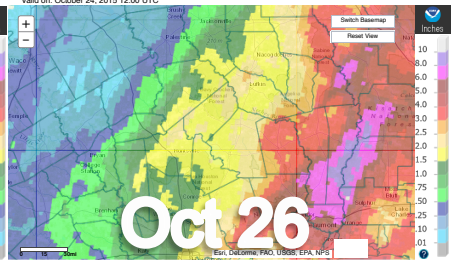
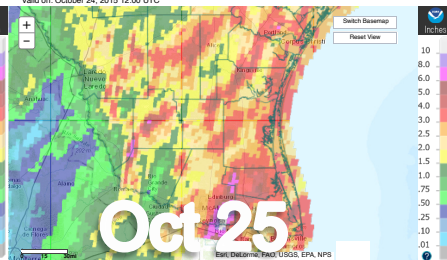
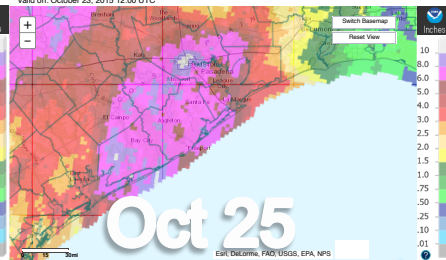
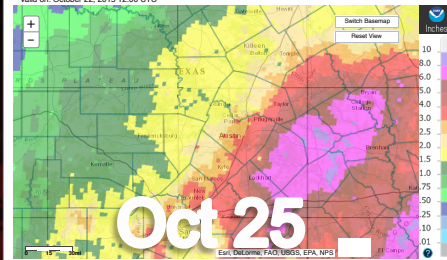
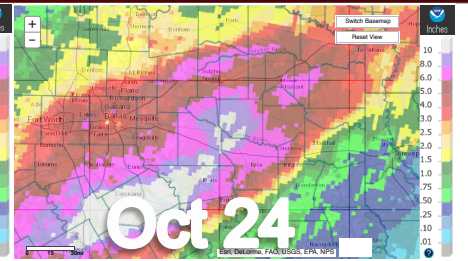
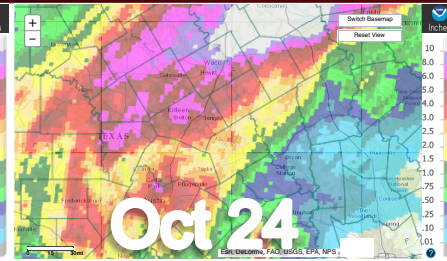
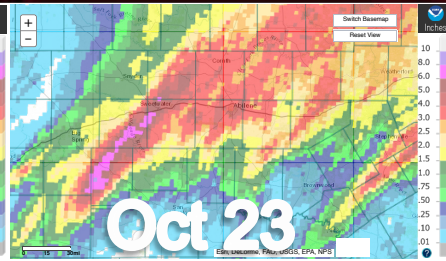
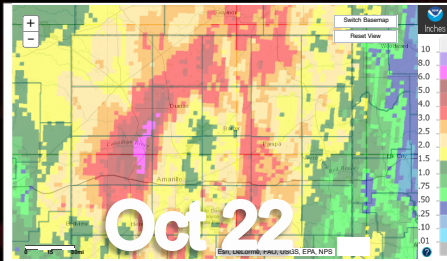












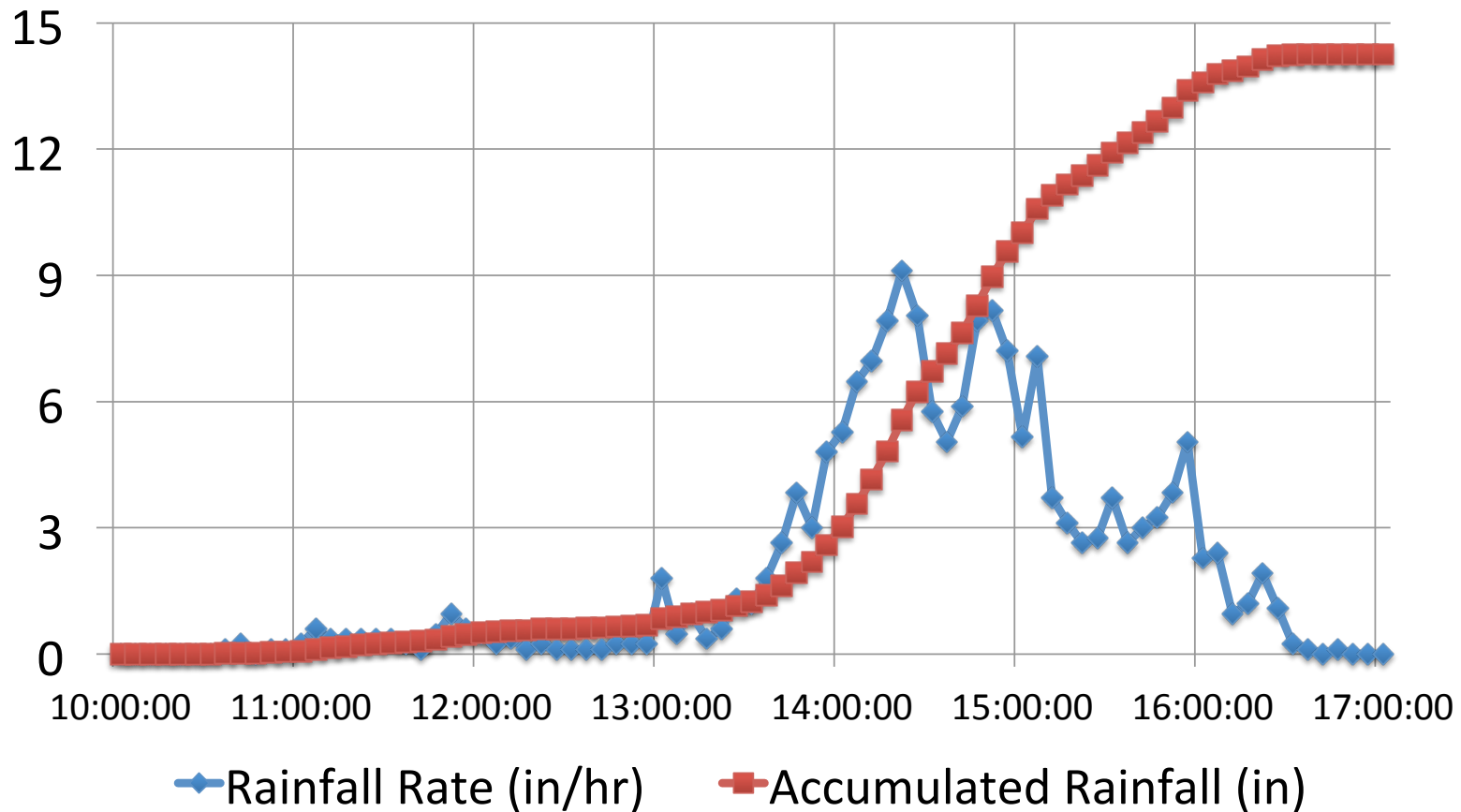
# Largest Statewide Storm Totals, 1950-2015 (NERCC analysis)

- Two days
  - 2.34", 25 Oct 2015
  - 2.14", 21 Dec 1991
  - 2.13", 4 Oct 1959
  - 2.00", 25 Apr 1966
- Four days
  - 3.61", 25 Oct 2015
  - 3.61", 22 Dec 1991
  - 2.78", 18 Jun 1961
  - 2.78", 18 Nov 2004
- Seven days
  - 4.02", 23 Dec 1991
  - 3.97", 27 Oct 2015
  - 3.76", 29 Apr 1957
  - 3.51", 19 Jun 1961
- Fourteen days
  - 5.63", 25 Sep 1974
  - 5.56", 2 May 1957
  - 5.54", 2 Nov 2015
  - 5.17", 24 May 2015

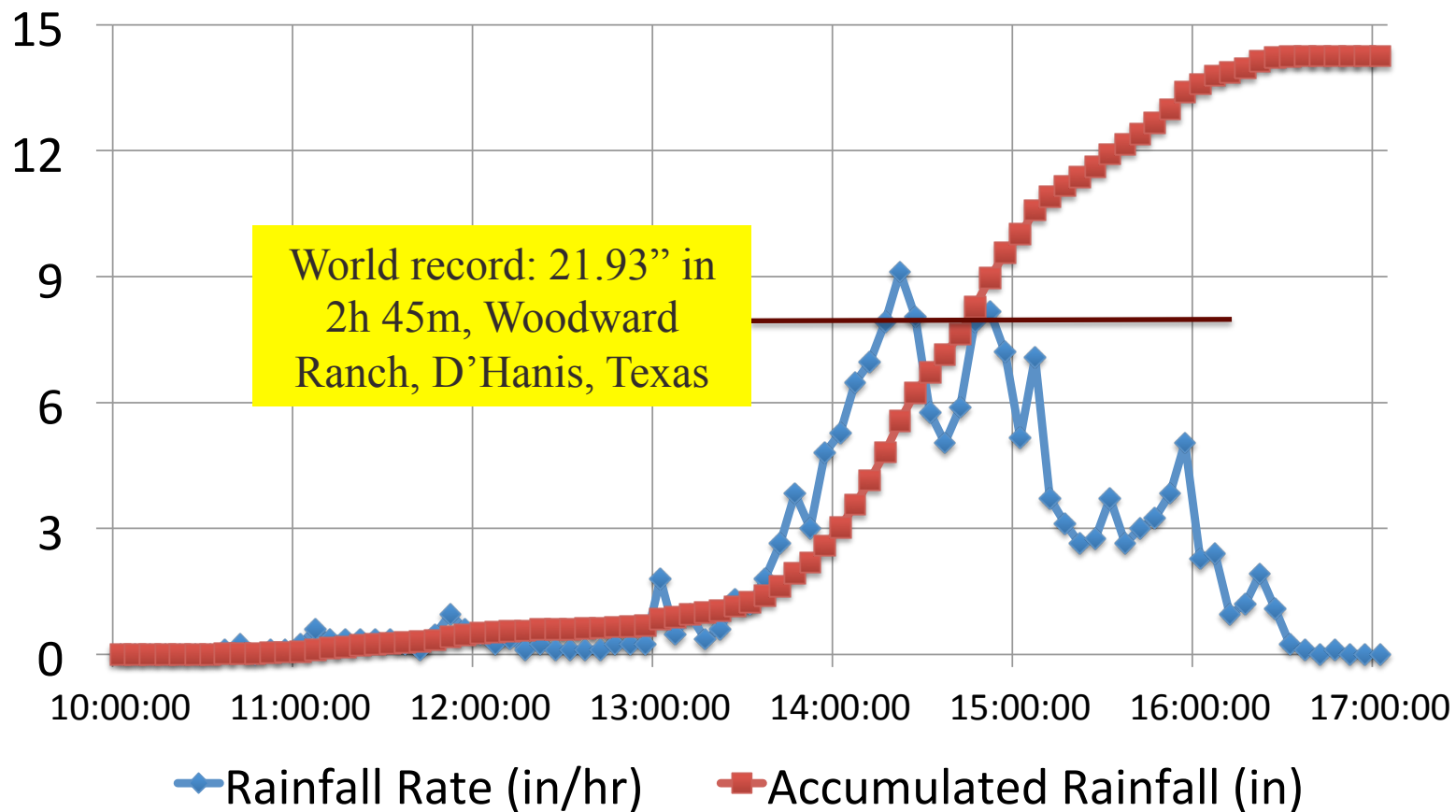




**US 183 at Onion Creek, Austin, TX, 30 Oct 2015**  
*Data provided by Lower Colorado River Authority*



**US 183 at Onion Creek, Austin, TX, 30 Oct 2015**  
*Data provided by Lower Colorado River Authority*



# Summary

- The second-worst drought on record in Texas...
- ...ended with the wettest month on record in Texas...
- ...followed by a flash drought caused by the 12<sup>th</sup>-driest July-September on record...
- ...which ended with the wettest storm system on record...
- ...which was quickly followed by one of the most intense rainfalls on record...
- ...followed by the departure of two starting quarterbacks, the offensive coordinator, and the athletic director...
- ...but that's another story.

