

Key Messages

Bottom Line: *A significant, multi-day flooding event will unfold across New Mexico Monday - Wednesday, with the threat potentially extending into Thursday. The heaviest rainfall and greatest flash flood threat shifts from western/central NM Monday to eastern NM Tuesday, while saturated soils and recent record rainfall increase the potential for rapid runoff and flooding. River flooding is expected to become a larger concern Tuesday - Friday.*

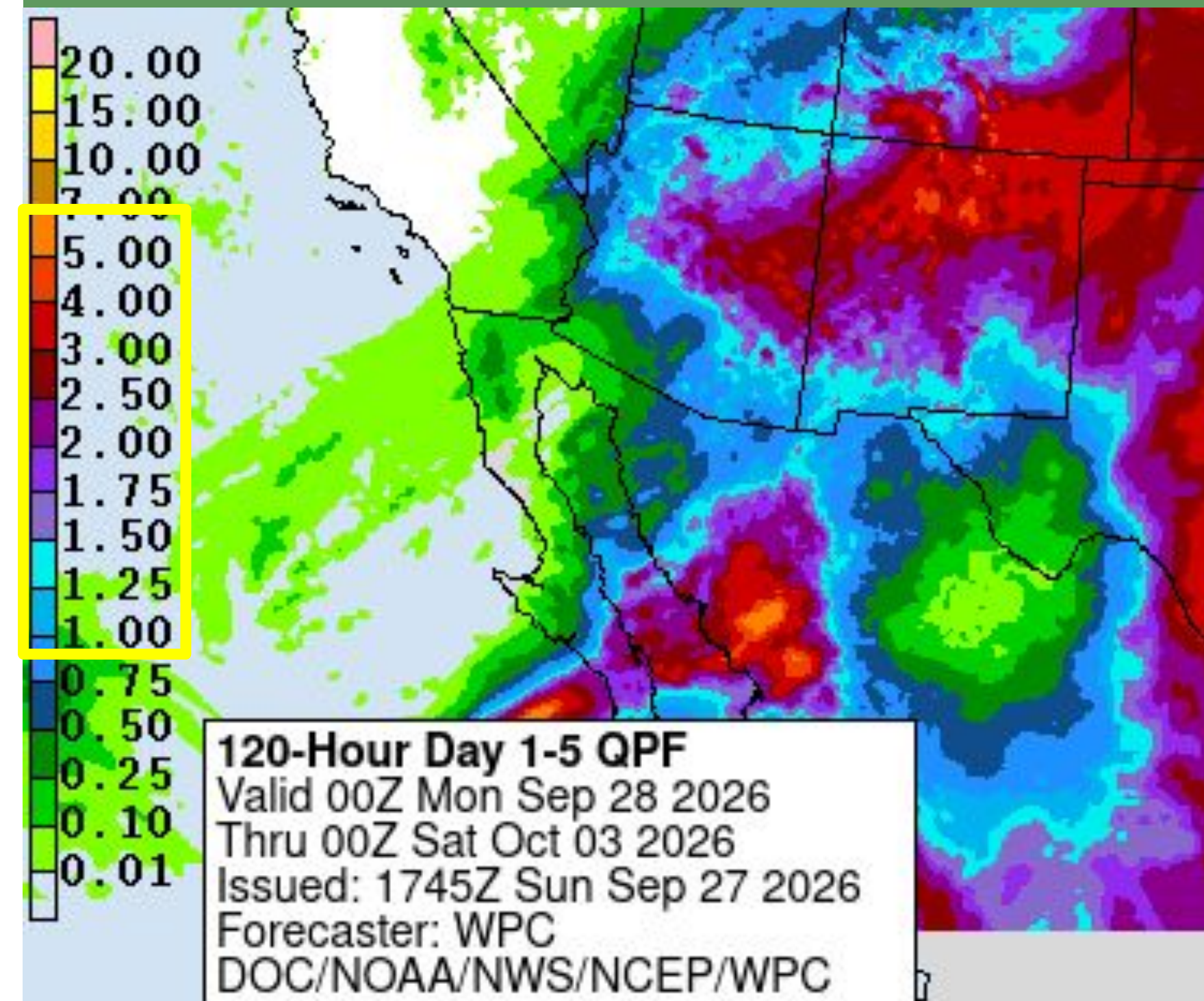
What: Widespread heavy rain with numerous showers and lower coverage of thunderstorms. A few storms Monday could become strong to severe, though instability will be limited. Strong southerly winds are now an additional concern Monday and Tuesday.

Where:

- Beginning Monday afternoon, the greatest flash flood concern will be across western NM, including the Four Corners/Navajo Nation, expanding toward the central mountain chain.
- The heavy rain and flooding threat expands across central and eastern NM Monday night - Tuesday, with the southeastern/eastern plains becoming increasingly impacted.
- Eastern NM is favored for the heaviest rainfall Tuesday - Wednesday, while additional showers/storms persist across northern and northeastern NM.
- Most vulnerable locations: Recent burn scars, urban/poorly drained areas, arroyos, small streams, and already saturated soils.

When: Monday through Wednesday. River flooding impacts may continue or develop Thursday - Friday even after rainfall decreases.

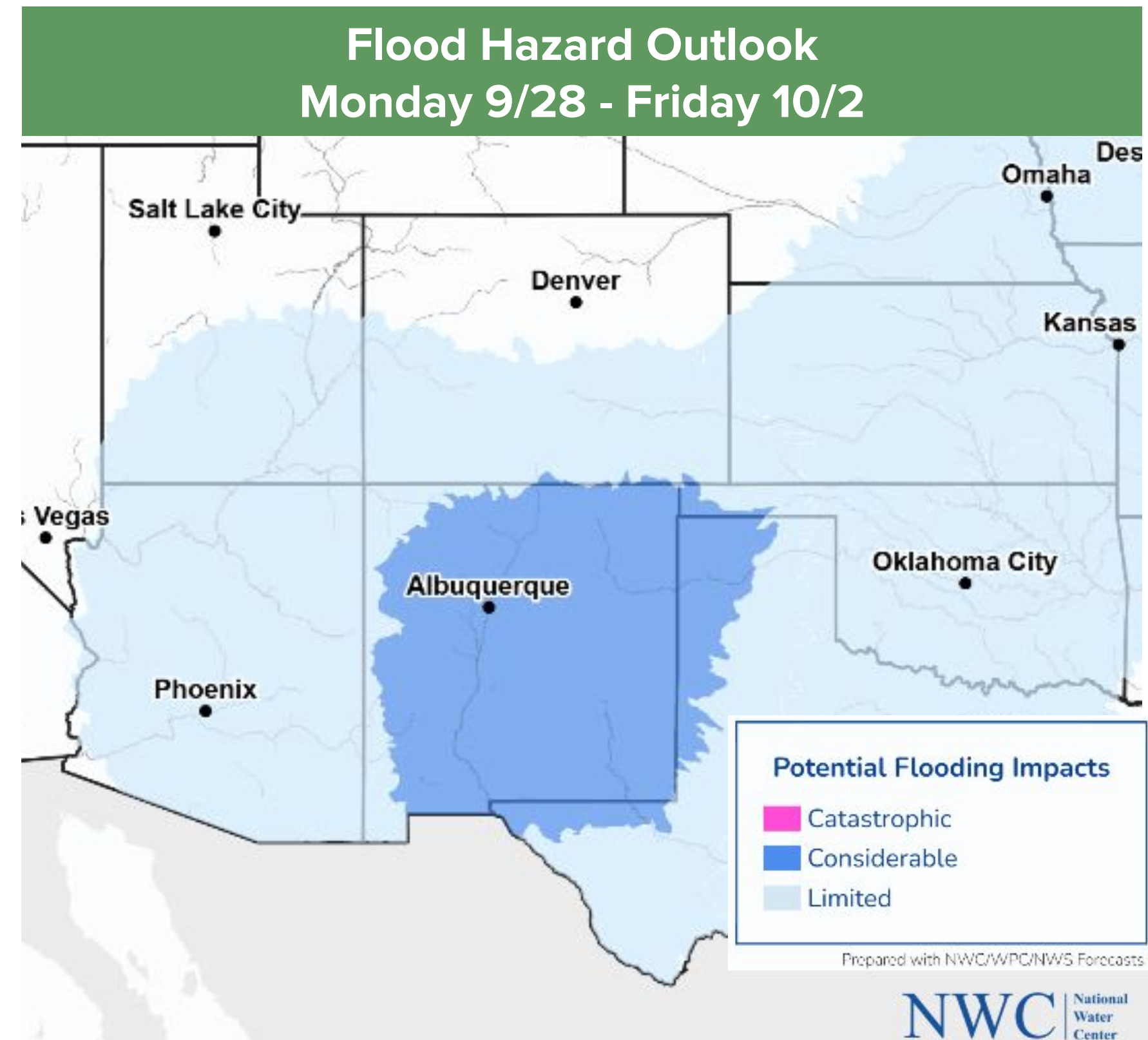
Forecast Rainfall Totals 6 PM Tonight - 6PM Friday (inches)



Key Messages (cont.)

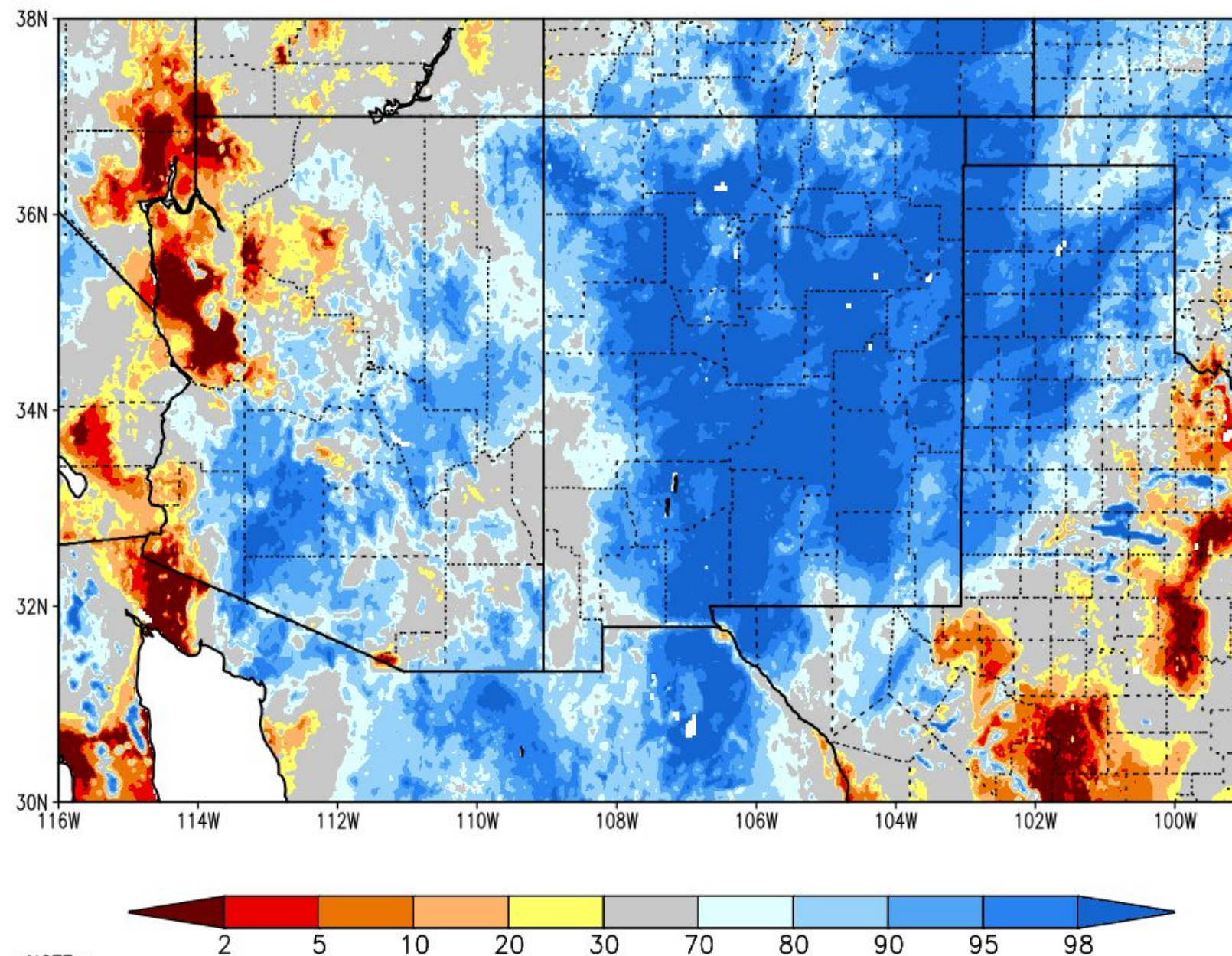
Primary Hazards:

- 2 - 3" event rainfall totals out west and 3 - 4" east, with 4 - 6"+ locally possible.
- Life-threatening flash flooding
 - **HIGHEST CONCERN Monday afternoon through Tuesday night, especially across eastern NM and the Four Corners/Navajo Nation.**
- River/stream flooding increasingly likely, with additional river flooding possible Tuesday night onward
 - Including the main-stem Pecos River that could reach flood stage, conditional upon rainfall amounts.
- Terrain- and burn-scar-related flooding/enhanced runoff where heavy rain occurs
- A few strong to severe storms possible Monday, with damaging wind/hail potential.
- Strong southerly winds Monday and Tuesday generally at 25 - 45 mph, with locally stronger winds possible near the remnant circulation on Tuesday.
 - Saturated soils may increase the potential for downed trees, particularly in higher terrain.



Current Soil Moisture

SPoRT-LIS 0–10 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 27 Sep 2026



****NOTE****
****Experimental****

What does this map show?

- How current moisture levels in the top layer of soil compare historically (to the same time of year).
 - **Dark red to orange** shades: Dry soil conditions.
 - **Blues**: **Abnormally wet to near-record wet soil conditions.**
 - *Areas most susceptible to quick run-off and flooding.*
 - **Yellows** and **greys**: Near-normal top-soil moisture conditions.

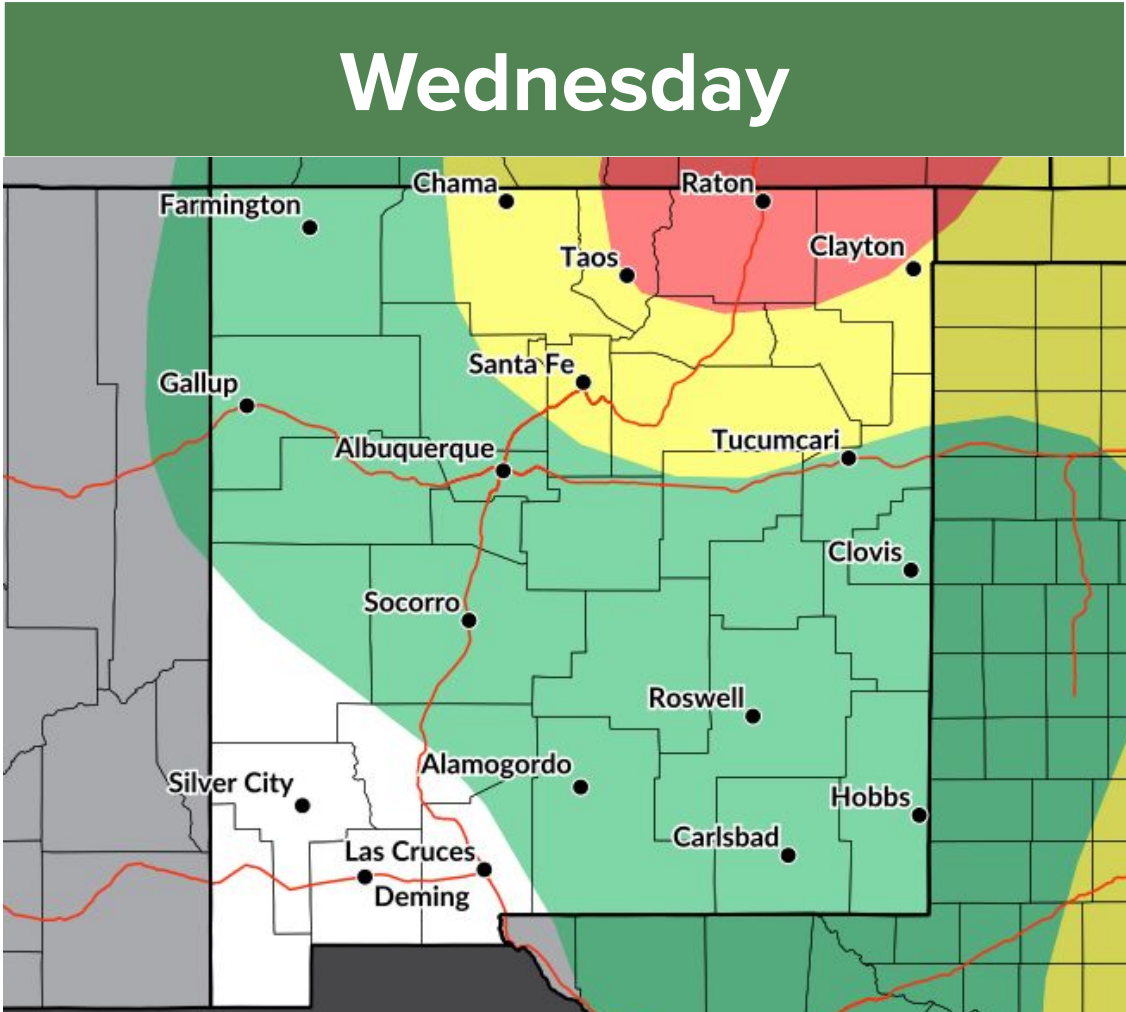
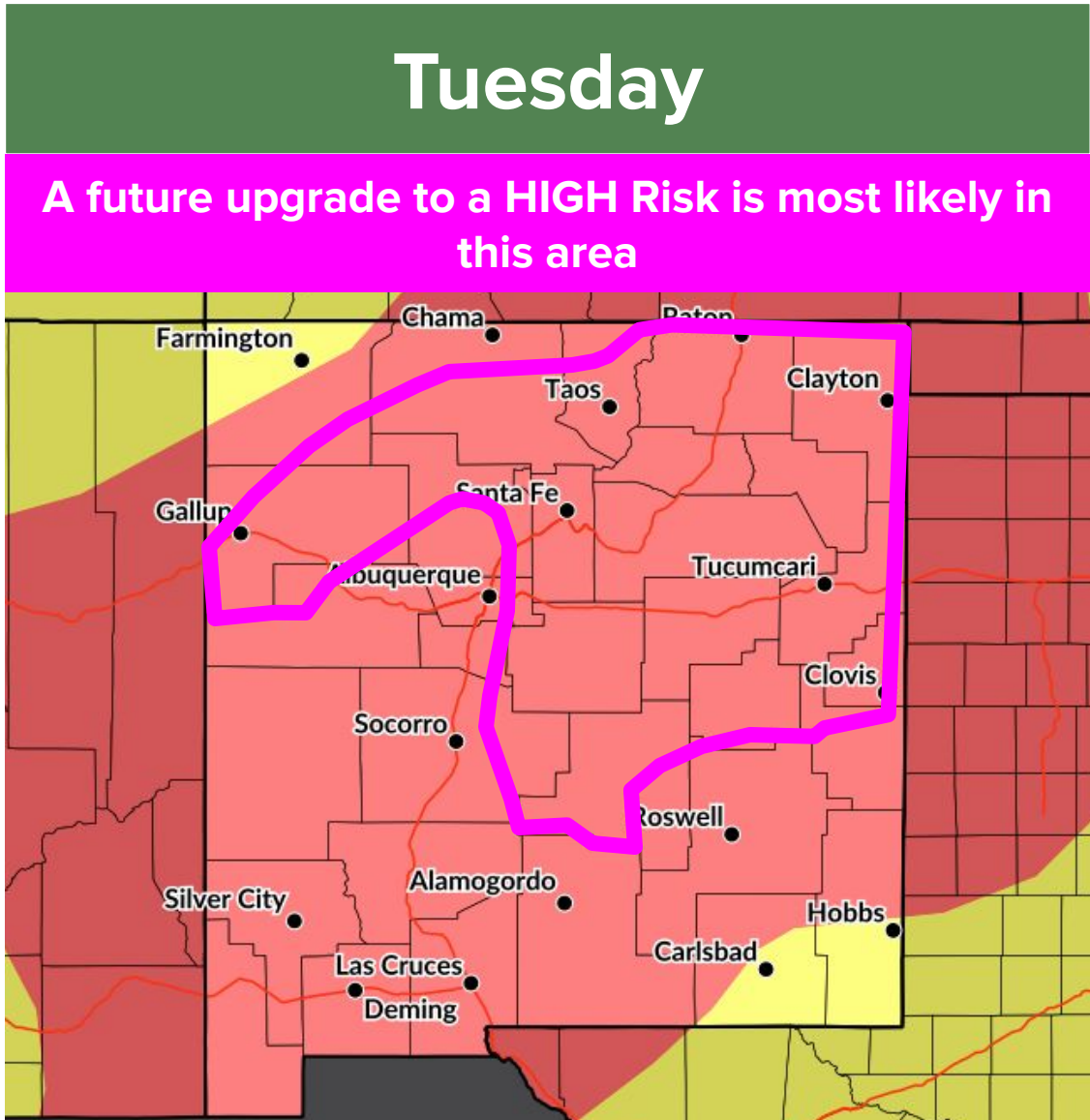
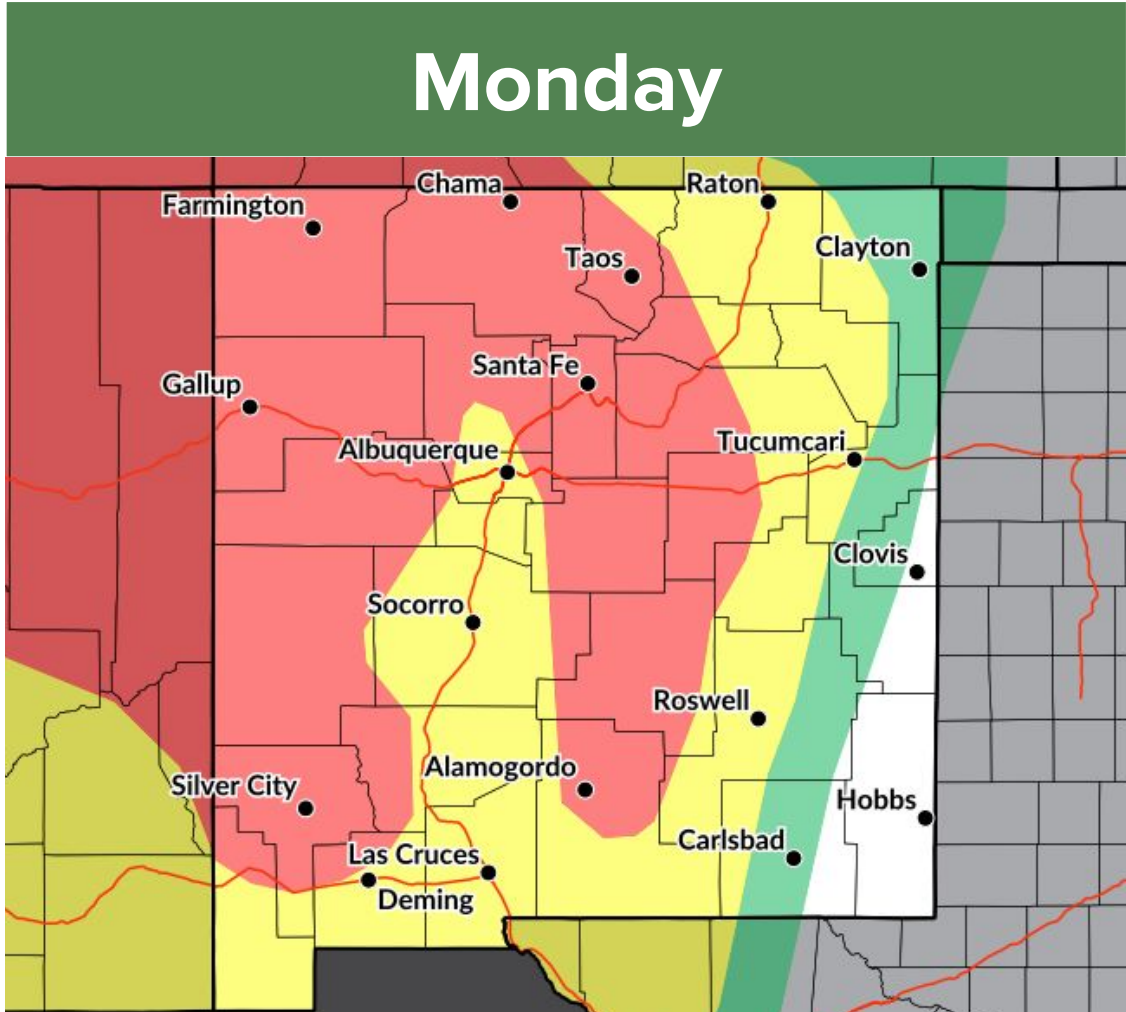
Why is this important?

- Due to rainfall last week, much of New Mexico has very moist to saturated soils.
- High soil moisture in the **blue zones** increases immediate runoff potential during subsequent heavy rains, raising the risk of flash flooding.
 - *Note the high soil saturation in the Central Mountain Chain, especially in burn-scar areas such as Ruidoso.*



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks

Latest info at weather.gov/abq



Marginal Risk:

At least a 5% chance of flash flooding within 25 miles of any point in the area shaded green.

Slight Risk:

At least a 15% chance of flash flooding within 25 miles of any point in the area shaded yellow.

Moderate Risk:

At least a 40% chance of flash flooding within 25 miles of any point in the area shaded in red.



- Very moist conditions and a slow-moving weather system will support periods of heavy rain.
- Torrential rainfall at rates 1-2"/hr in some of the stronger cells.
- Soils across much of NM are already saturated from recent rainfall, leaving limited capacity for additional water.
- Heavy rain could quickly become runoff, particularly across burn scars, low-lying areas, arroyos/washes, and steep terrain.
- Very good chance that some main stem river and tributary flooding will also develop.



National Weather Service
Albuquerque, New Mexico



Serving Central & Northern NM

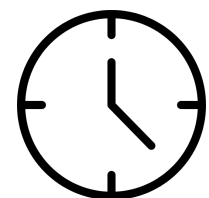
Updated: Sun Sep 27, 2026 3:56 PM

Flash Flood Watch

Latest info at weather.gov/albuquerque



All Areas



- Monday Afternoon through Wednesday Morning



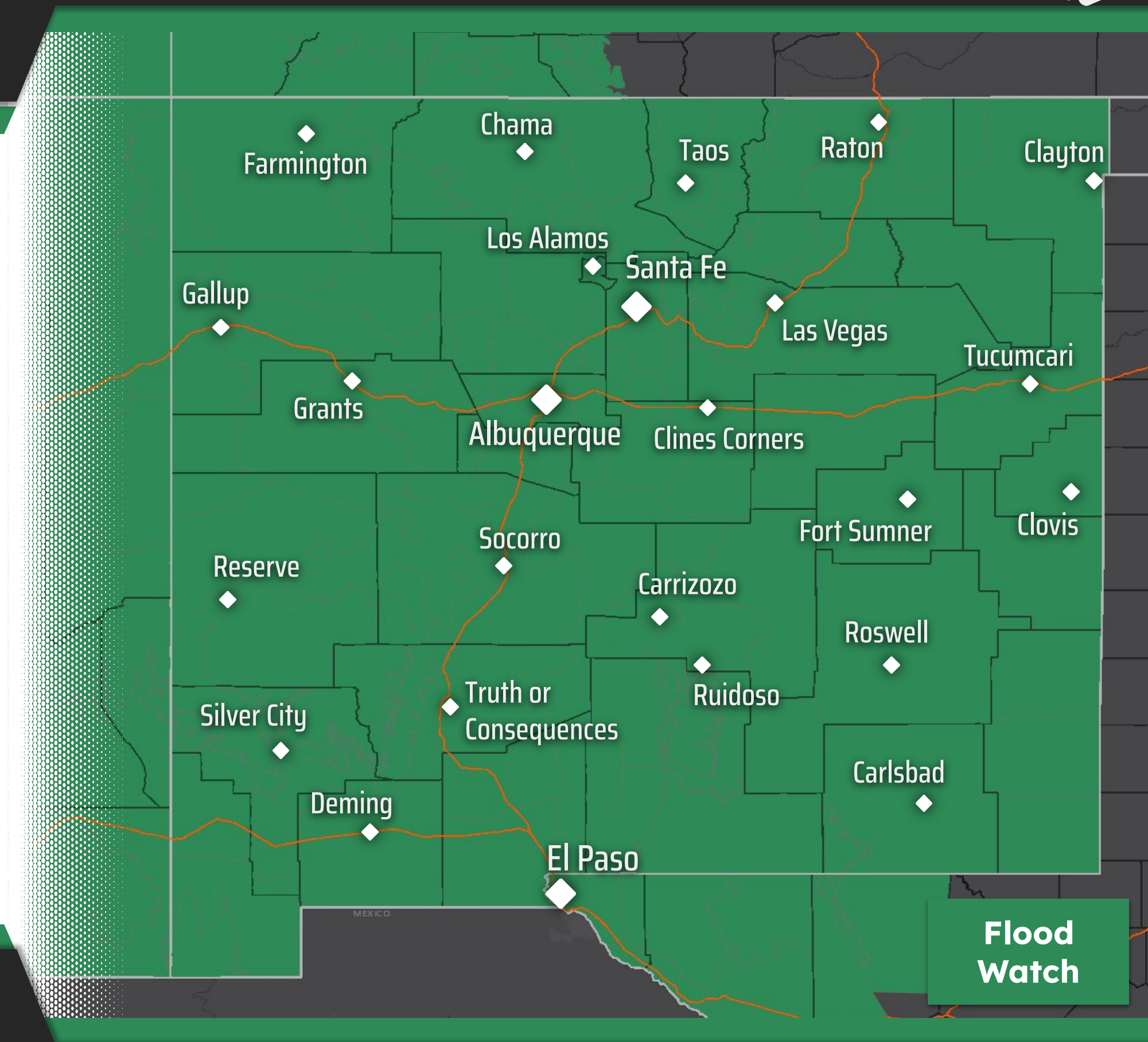
- All of New Mexico



- Rainfall rates 1-2"/hr in stronger cells.



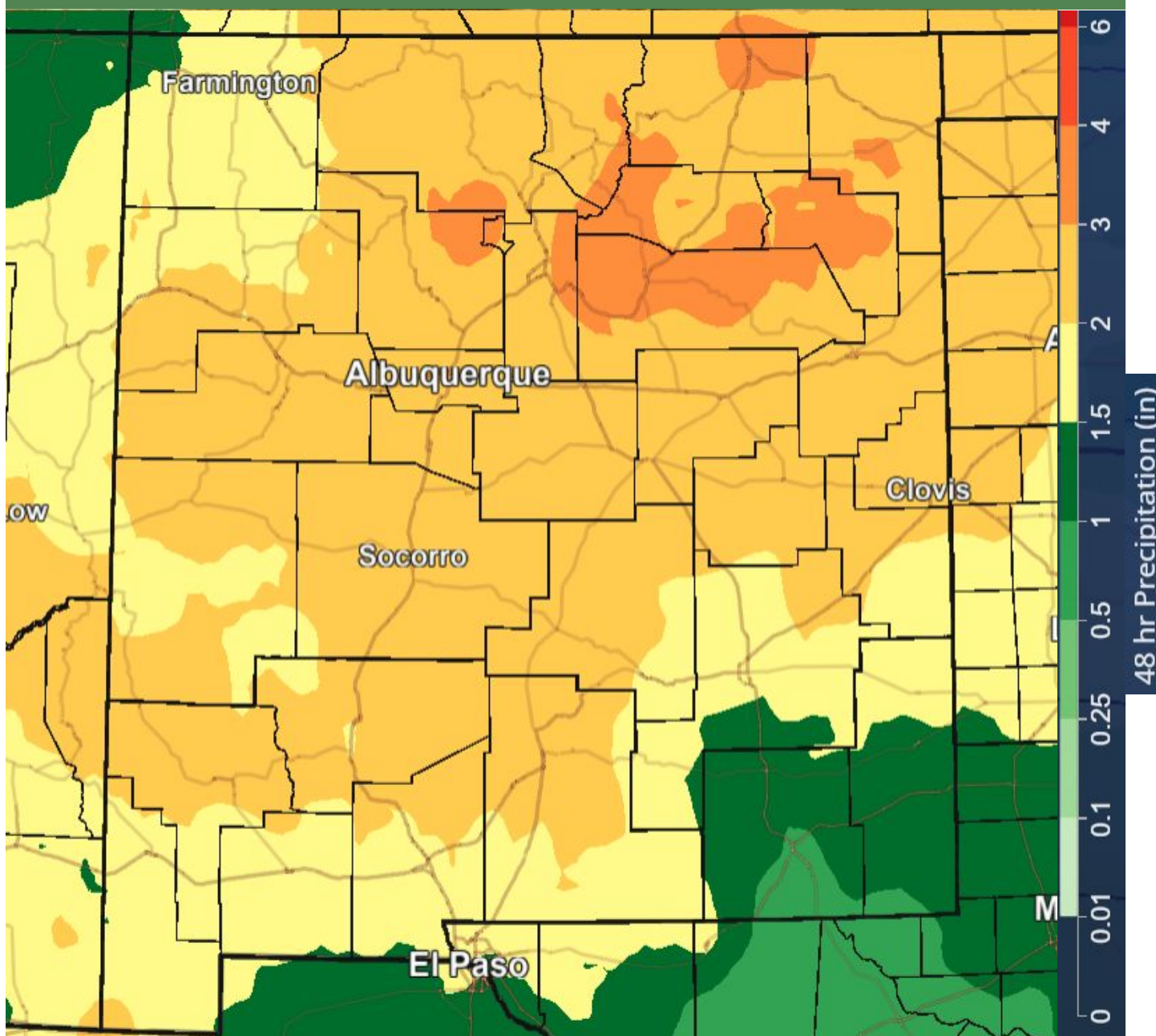
- Low-lying and urban areas, arroyo systems, recent burn scars, near rivers and streams.



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
ALBUQUERQUE | EL PASO | MIDLAND

Updated: September 27, 2026

Most Likely Precipitation Amounts 6 PM Monday - 6 PM Wednesday



Widespread and long duration rain event, with embedded thunderstorms producing heavy rainfall. **Two-day** amounts of 1-3 inches. High-end upwards 4-6 inches in isolated spots.

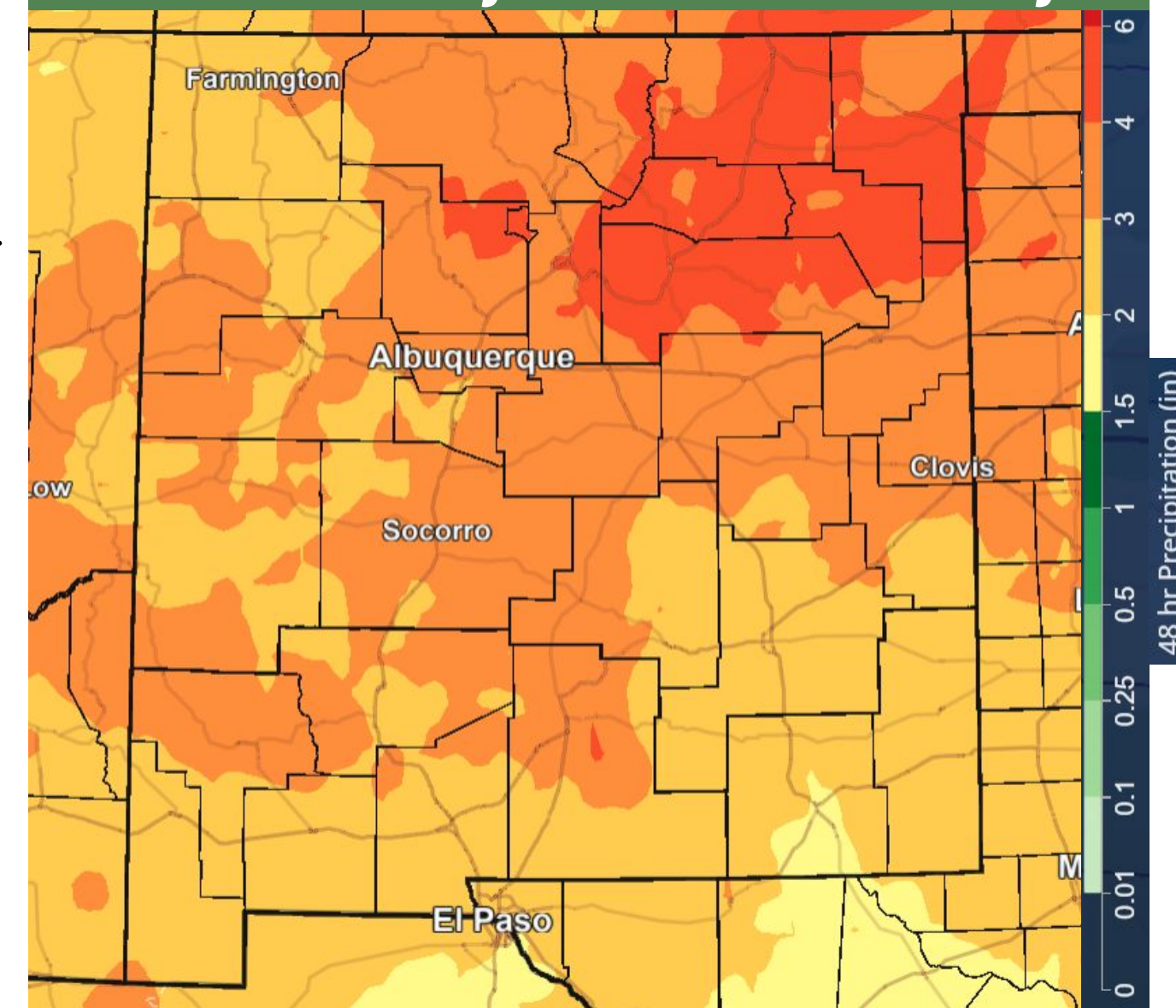


Entering western NM early Monday afternoon, spreading across the state Monday evening/night, peaking intensity Tuesday, and exiting Wednesday through Thursday.



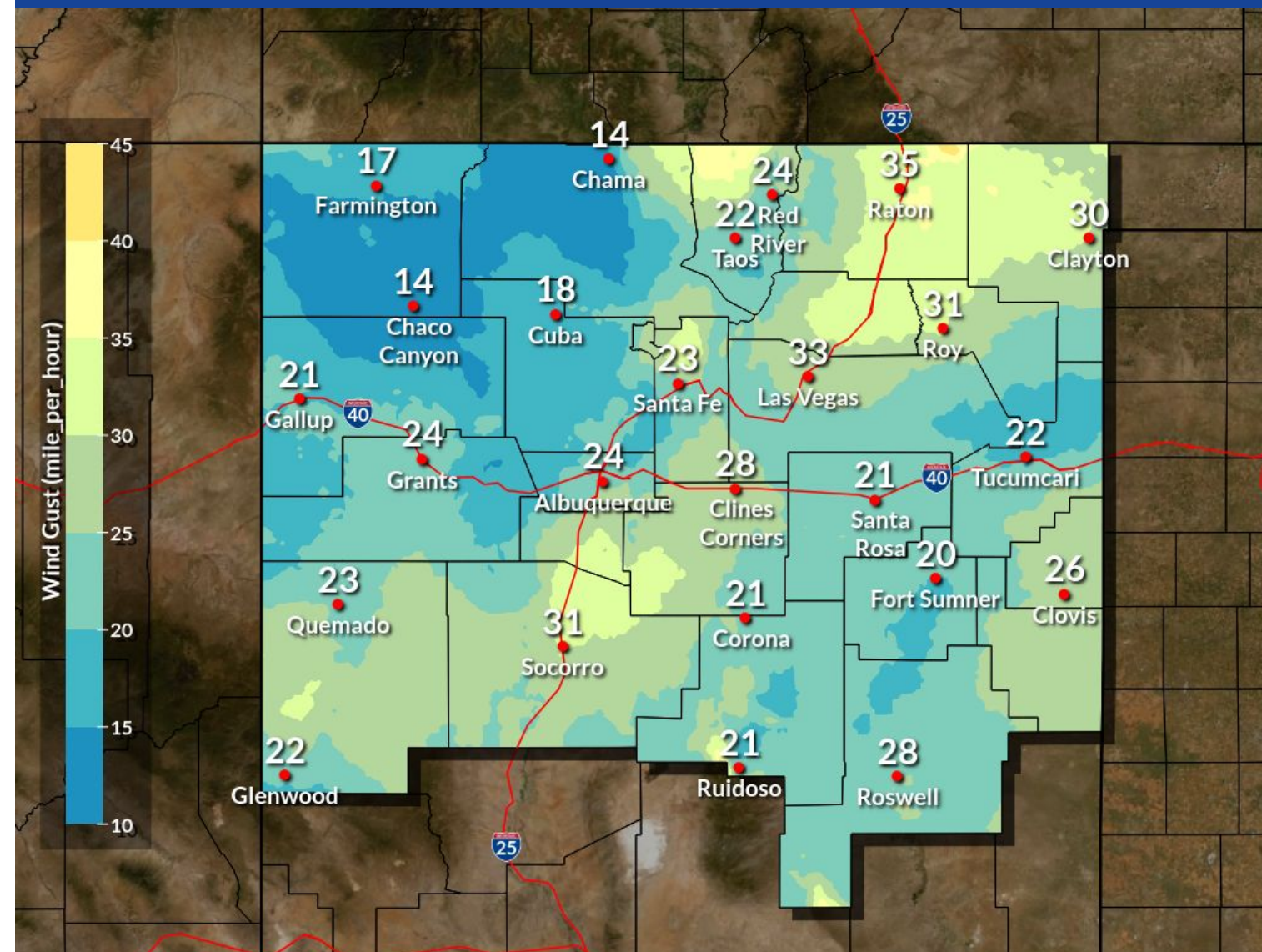
Heightened flash flooding risk. Low-lying and poorly drained areas, urban areas and arroyo systems, near rivers and streams, and recent burn scars are at highest risk.

Reasonable Higher End Amounts 6 PM Monday - 6 PM Wednesday



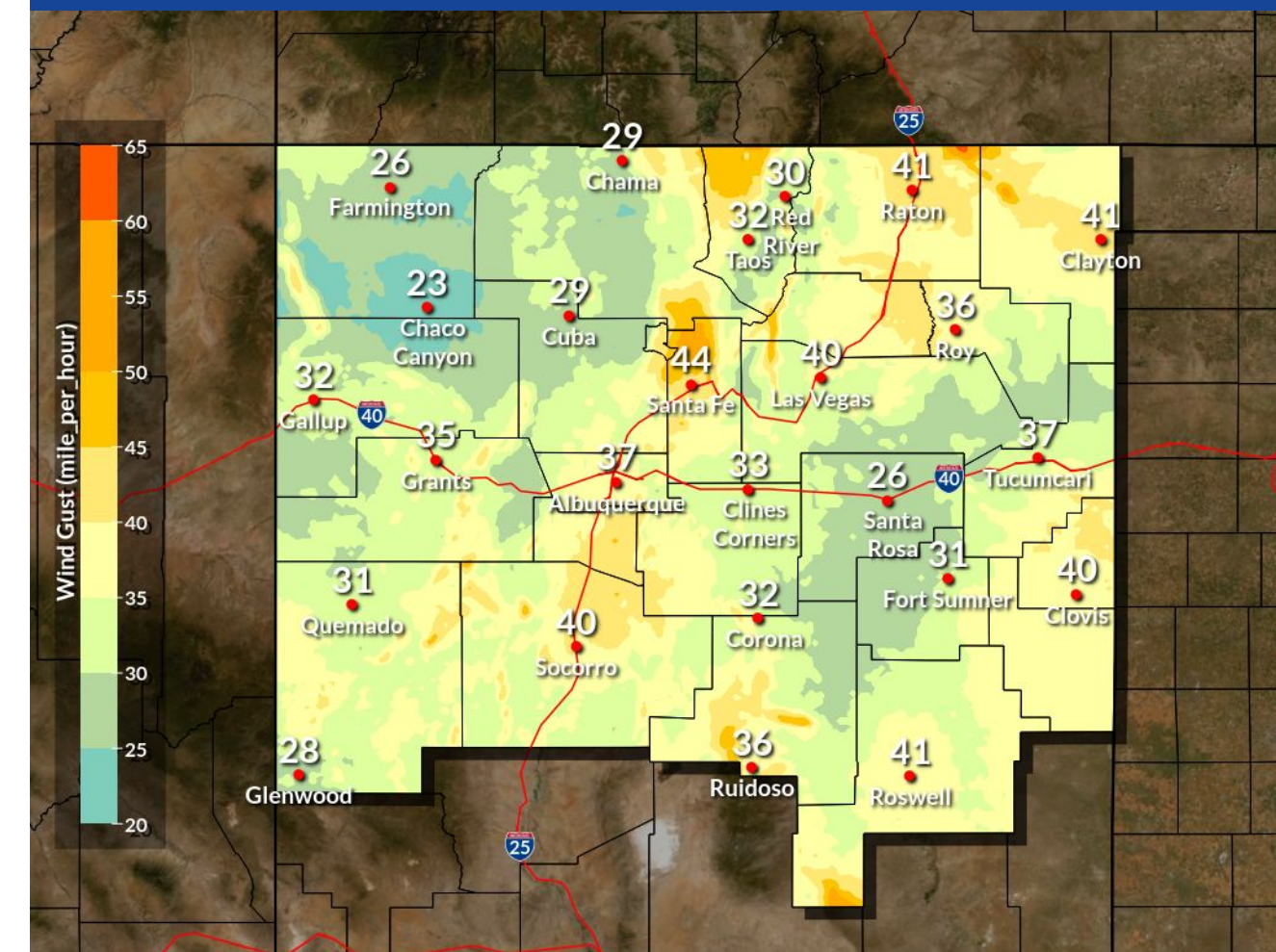
This map depicts a reasonable high-end rainfall amount. This higher amount is an unlikely scenario, with only a 1 in 10, or 10% chance that more rain will fall, and a 9 in 10, or 90% chance that less rain will fall. This number can help serve as an upper-end scenario for planning purposes.

Most Likely Maximum Wind Gusts 9 AM Monday - 9 AM Wednesday



Strong southerly winds Monday and Tuesday generally at **25 - 45 mph**, with locally stronger winds possible near the remnant circulation on Tuesday.

Reasonable Higher End Maximum Wind Gusts 9 AM Monday - 9 AM Wednesday



This map depicts a reasonable high-end maximum wind gusts. This higher speed is an unlikely scenario, with only a 1 in 10, or 10% chance that higher gusts will happen, and a 9 in 10, or 90% chance that lower gusts occur. This number can help serve as an upper-end scenario for planning purposes.



Saturated soils may increase the potential for downed trees, particularly in higher terrain.

Special Weather Briefing

 Location	Maximum Temperature							Probability of Precipitation						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	09/28	09/29	09/30	10/01	10/02	10/03	10/04	09/28	09/29	09/30	10/01	10/02	10/03	10/04
Albuquerque	76	64	62	69	70	72	73	90	90	70	0	0	0	0
Santa Fe	71	61	59	65	66	68	70	90	100	80	0	0	0	0
Farmington	64	65	65	72	73	73	75	90	90	70	0	0	0	0
Gallup	65	60	60	68	70	72	73	90	90	70	0	0	0	0
Grants	69	60	60	66	67	70	70	90	100	60	0	0	0	0
Clayton	79	67	67	63	66	72	71	80	90	70	40	0	0	10
Raton	73	62	61	60	67	72	70	80	100	90	40	0	0	10
Las Vegas	71	60	59	62	65	70	68	90	90	70	0	0	0	20
Moriarty	76	63	61	67	68	72	72	90	90	60	0	0	0	0
Tucumcari	86	74	73	72	71	76	78	80	90	50	30	0	0	10
Clovis	86	75	74	72	70	76	77	80	90	40	10	0	0	10
Roswell	86	79	77	76	72	76	79	80	90	30	20	0	0	20
Socorro	82	68	68	73	73	75	77	90	90	50	0	0	0	10
Chama	57	55	55	61	64	66	66	90	90	90	0	0	0	10
Taos	66	59	56	62	65	69	69	90	100	90	10	0	0	10
Angel Fire	62	55	51	56	62	66	64	90	100	90	20	0	0	10
Los Alamos	66	57	56	62	64	67	67	90	100	80	0	0	0	10
Ruidoso	76	64	61	64	63	68	68	90	90	50	20	0	0	20
Quemado	72	61	59	67	68	70	72	90	100	60	0	0	0	0



Widespread rain, numerous showers, and scattered thunderstorms prevail from Monday through Wednesday, then decrease in coverage Wednesday night into Thursday.



3 SIMPLE STEPS FOR FLASH FLOOD SAFETY

During a flood, water levels and the rate at which the water is flowing can quickly change. Remain aware and monitor local radio and television.



weather.gov/flood

1 GET TO HIGHER GROUND
Get out of the areas subject to Flooding

2 DO NOT DRIVE INTO WATER
Do NOT drive or walk into flooded areas. It only takes 6" of water to knock you off your feet.

3 STAY INFORMED
Monitor local radar, television, weather radio, internet or social media for updates.



FLOODING



***Sometimes difficult to
see during the day.***

AT NIGHT

***Impossible to see
at night.***



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



National Weather Service | Albuquerque, NM

Do You Really Know How Deep the Water is?

12 inches of fast-moving water can carry away a small car.

WHEN
FLOODED
TURN AROUND
DON'T
DROWN

6 inches of fast-moving water can knock over and carry away an adult.

18-24 inches of fast-moving water can carry away most large SUVs, vans and trucks.



FLOOD WATCH

A Flood Watch is issued when
flooding is *possible*.

Stay tuned to trusted news sources
and be ready to seek higher ground.

Be Prepared.



weather.gov

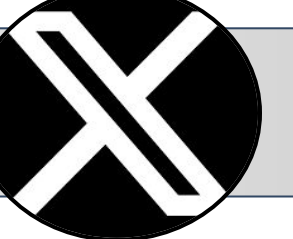
FLOOD WARNING

A Flood Warning is issued when
**flooding is *happening or about
to happen*.**

Move to higher ground immediately!
Never drive or walk through
floodwaters.

Take Action!

Contact Information

	Web: https://weather.gov/abq
	Phone: (505) 244-9148
	E-mail: nws.albuquerque@noaa.gov
  	@NWSAlbuquerque
	Slack: #wfo-albuquerque-nm

