



National Weather Service, Boise, Idaho

Sage Winds

March 2010

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/boi/>

Skywarn Spotter Training Sessions

In coordination with local county Emergency Coordinators, We have set up 2 training sessions this spring. If you haven't been to a training session, this is a good time attend. If you have already been to one or more, come again and learn something new. Here are the details...

April 8, 2010	7-9pm	Ada County Public Safety Building 7200 Barrister Dr Boise, Idaho Meet in the Lobby no later than 7pm
May 5, 2010	TBD	Jerome, Idaho Details on time and place to be determined.

Come, bring a friend, learn about the weather, ask questions. We look forward to seeing you.

Spring 2010

Can you believe it's March? How did winter go by so fast? The first day of spring this year is March 20th. At 11:32 am MDT, on Saturday March 20th the sun will be directly over the equator and on its way north. The sun will rise due east and set due west. This year we switch to Daylight Savings time on the second Sunday of March, which is March 14. So the first day of spring comes almost a week after switching to daylight savings time.

I don't know about you, but this year I've started my garden early. I grow all of my tomato plants from seed and it seems my first tomatoes don't ripen until the end of August. Then, by the end of September, they are done. So this year I started a few plants inside on February 21st. Hopefully, I'll be eating vine ripened tomatoes in July. By the time the next newsletter comes out I hope to have peas in the ground and more tomatoes and peppers growing in the house. I love those fresh veggies.

Paul Flatt, WCM

Tsunami

As many of you may know, on Saturday February 27th an 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of Chile. The earthquake triggered a tsunami in the Pacific which affected all of the Western coastal and Pacific Island States. While warnings and advisories were immediately issued by the **Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)**, the resulting waves were insufficient to cause any major damage in the U.S. In fact, only a few areas off the coast of southern California reported minor damage. While some may see this as a failure, we at NOAA consider it a huge success. The public had many hours of warning and were able to react to protect their lives and property. If the earthquake had generated a massive tsunami, the PTWC's quick actions would have undoubtedly saved many lives. In addition, we hope that this event will serve as a fine example of what people in these areas should do in the event of a tsunami warning, because it is not a question of "if" but "when" a tsunami wave will adversely affect the Pacific Coast and islands. Here are some articles and resources that we recommend to help educate you, our valued NWS Spotters. If you have friends and/or relatives that live near a coast (any coast), please pass this article to them. While most tsunamis occur in the Pacific Ocean, all oceans have experienced deadly tsunamis in the past.

Associated Press Article on the Tsunami Warning

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/Q/QUAKE_TSUNAMI?SITE=NCBER&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

NOAA's Tsunami Website

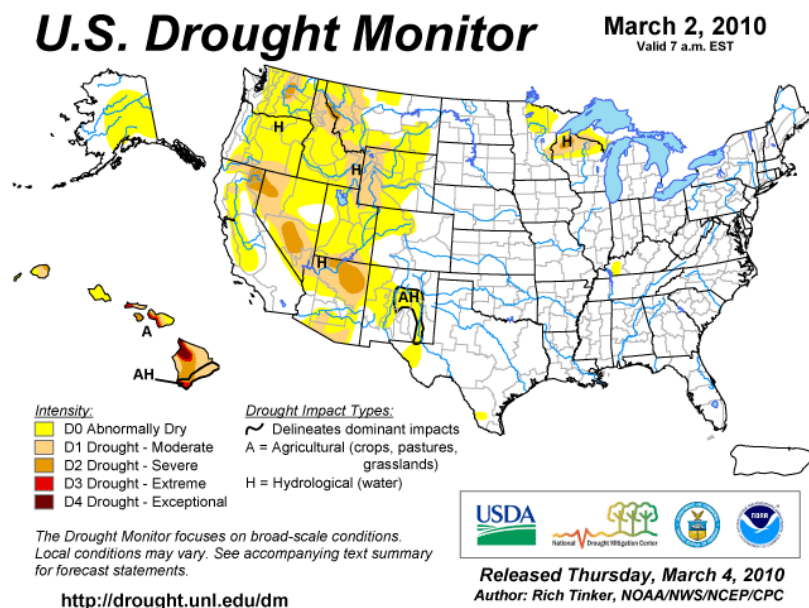
<http://www.tsunami.noaa.gov/>

Pacific Tsunami Warning Center

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/ptwc/>

International Tsunami Information Centre

<http://ioc3.unesco.org/itic/>



Drought Monitor

The image on the left is taken from the U.S. Drought Monitor web site at

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>

This is a joint effort among many agencies to keep tabs on drought across the United States.

Next month we will bring you an article about Idaho's water supply situation. Typically, the snowpack reaches its peak around the 1st of April in Idaho then begins to melt off as spring progresses.

Also, see the News section in this issue of Sage Winds for a link to a national drought article.



The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow (CoCoRaHS) network is a non-profit organization of volunteers who take daily rain, snow, and hail measurements in their own backyards. These measurements are entered online daily at www.cocorahs.org, where they may be accessed by meteorologists, hydrologists, water resource managers, emergency managers, farmers/ranchers, and more.

Join the SE Oregon/SW Idaho CoCoRaHS Network Today!

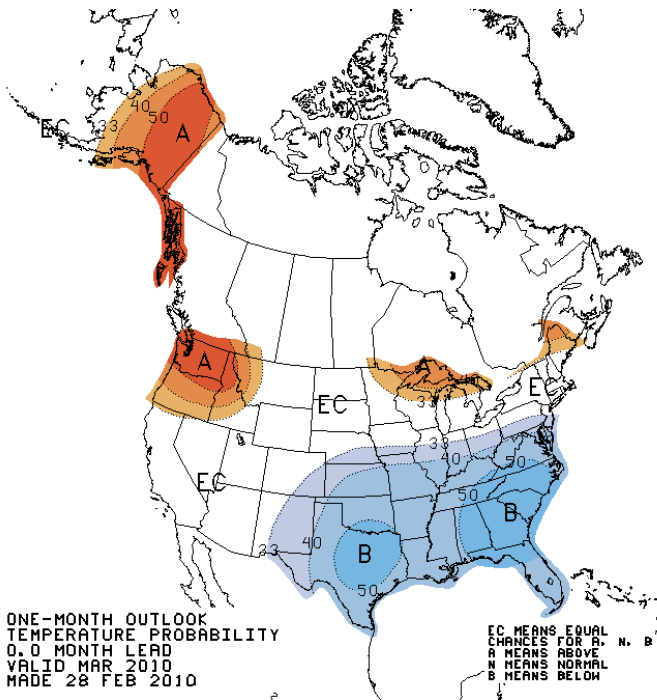
The CoCoRaHS March Madness competition is on! Help us compete with other states by becoming, or recruiting, a new precipitation observer.

Visit www.cocorahs.org or www.weather.gov/boise for more information.

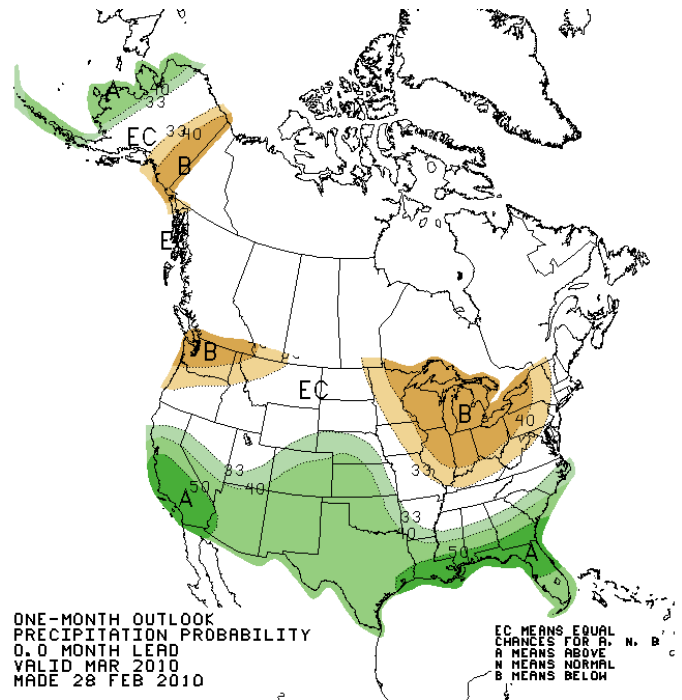
March Weather Outlook

El Niño is still exerting a strong influence on our weather. The one month forecast shown below, continues to show the typical El Niño pattern. Above normal precipitation is expected across the southern tier of states with below normal precipitation across the north. Temperature is opposite; above normal is expected in the north and below normal in the south. More climate info is available at <http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/>

Temperature



Precipitation



Weather in the News

- **Europe sees deadly weather**—<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35630697/ns/weather/>
http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35496312/ns/world_news-europe/
- **National Drought situation**—[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/drought/2010-02-16-drought-us-reversal_N.htm?csp=34&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+\(Weather+-+Top+Stories\)](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/drought/2010-02-16-drought-us-reversal_N.htm?csp=34&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+(Weather+-+Top+Stories))
- **Mongolian Winter**—[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/winter/2010-02-24-mongolian-winter_N.htm?csp=34&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+\(Weather+-+Top+Stories\)](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/winter/2010-02-24-mongolian-winter_N.htm?csp=34&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+(Weather+-+Top+Stories))
- **Expanded Climate Services from NOAA**—
http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100208_climate.html
- **Spring Flooding**—[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/floods/2010-02-23-midwest-spring-flooding_N.htm?csp=34&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+\(Weather+-+Top+Stories\)](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/floods/2010-02-23-midwest-spring-flooding_N.htm?csp=34&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+(Weather+-+Top+Stories))

National Weather Service, 3833 S. Development Ave, Bldg 3807, Boise, Idaho, 83705
(208) 334-9860 boi.spotter@noaa.gov

Weather Humor

SNOW - BY MEERASAPRA



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