HI Folks,

Over the past seven days, precipitation has been confined to the South Coast and southeast desert regions with totals less than an inch per the observed precipitation map from the California Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) shown in figure 1.

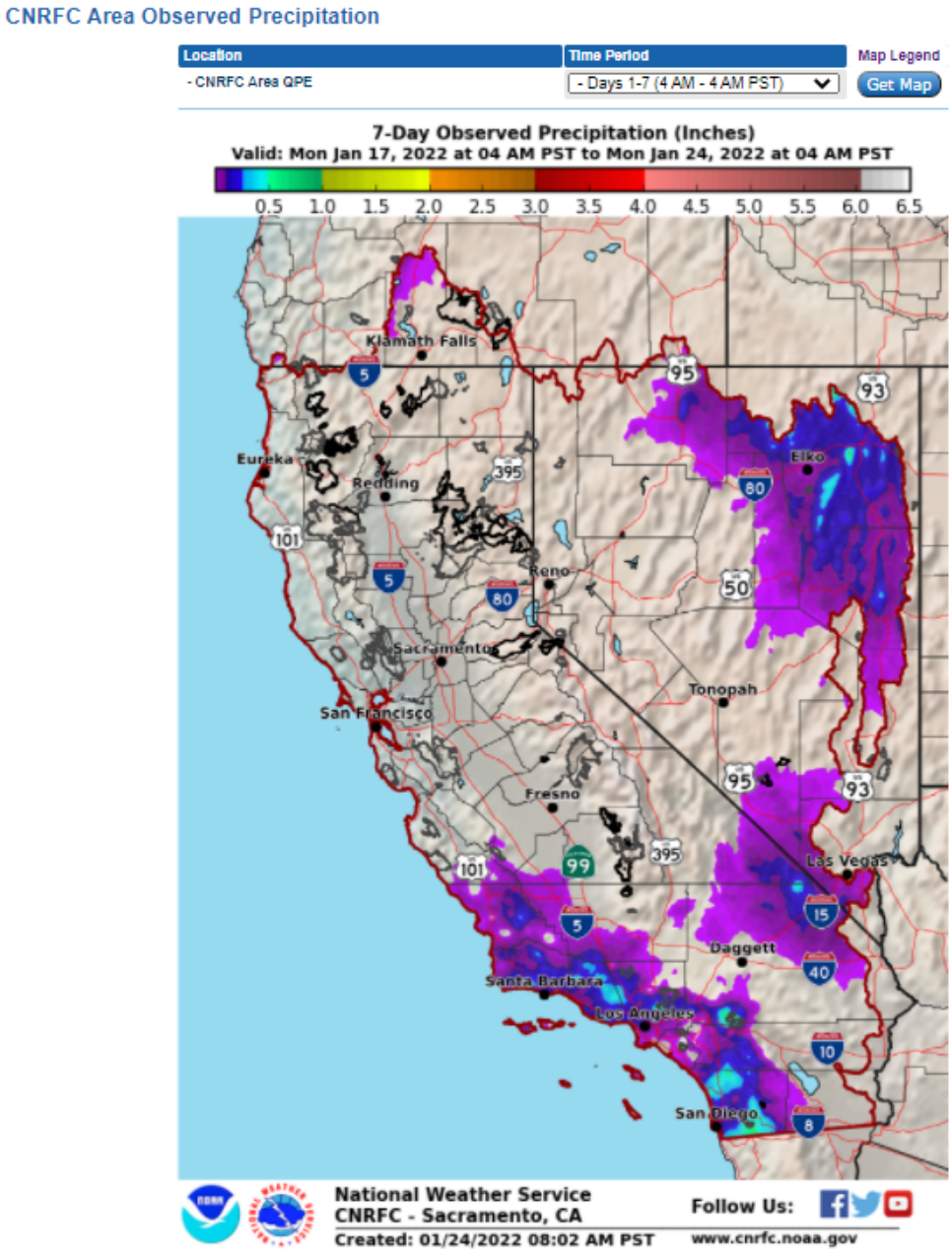


Figure 1. Observed precipitation map for January 17 through January 24, 2022 from CNRFC.

A map of forecast precipitation over the next six days from CNRFC is shown in Figure 2. It indicates only scattered showers along the North Coast. This means that a dry January is all but certain and the question turns to what is expected out of February.

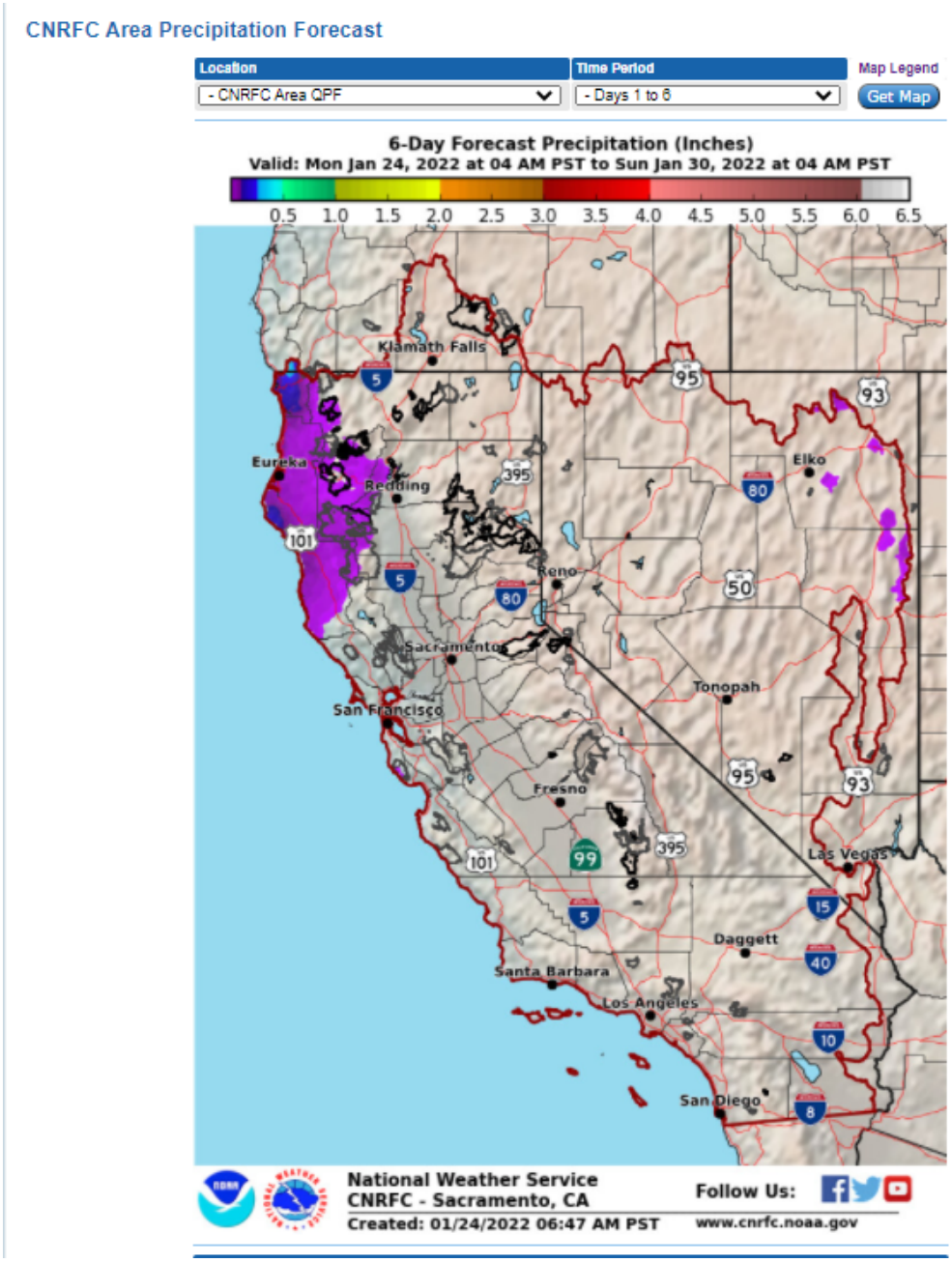


Figure 2. CNRFC map of forecast precipitation from January 25 to January 30, 2022.

Looking at the two-week forecast of atmospheric river landfall activity from Scripps Institution of Oceanography's Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E) which is shown in Figure 3, we see activity at the end of the month focused north of California and otherwise no activity.

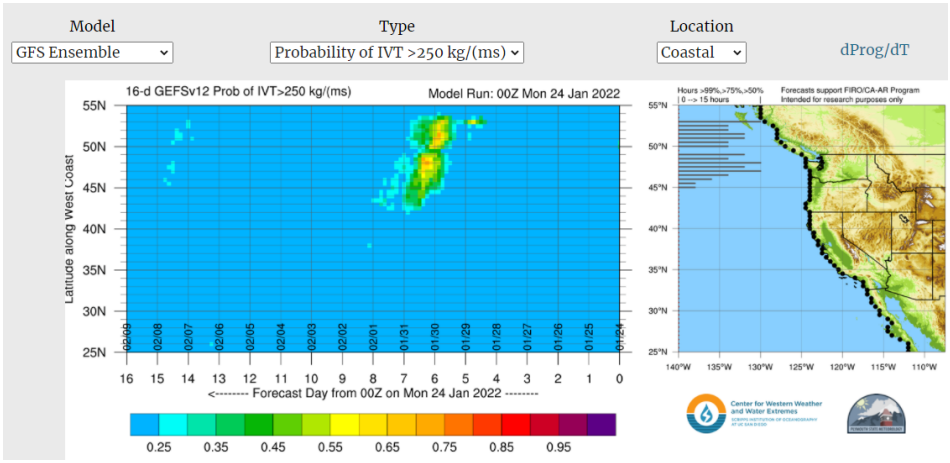


Figure 3. Atmospheric River Landfall visualization tool from CW3E showing no expected atmospheric river activity through February 9th for California.

Looking at the California Water Watch website, we can see in Figure 4 that the statewide precipitation to date has gone from well above average due to the massive atmospheric river in October and the bounty of storms in December to back to near average conditions. Continued dryness into February will likely push conditions to below average.

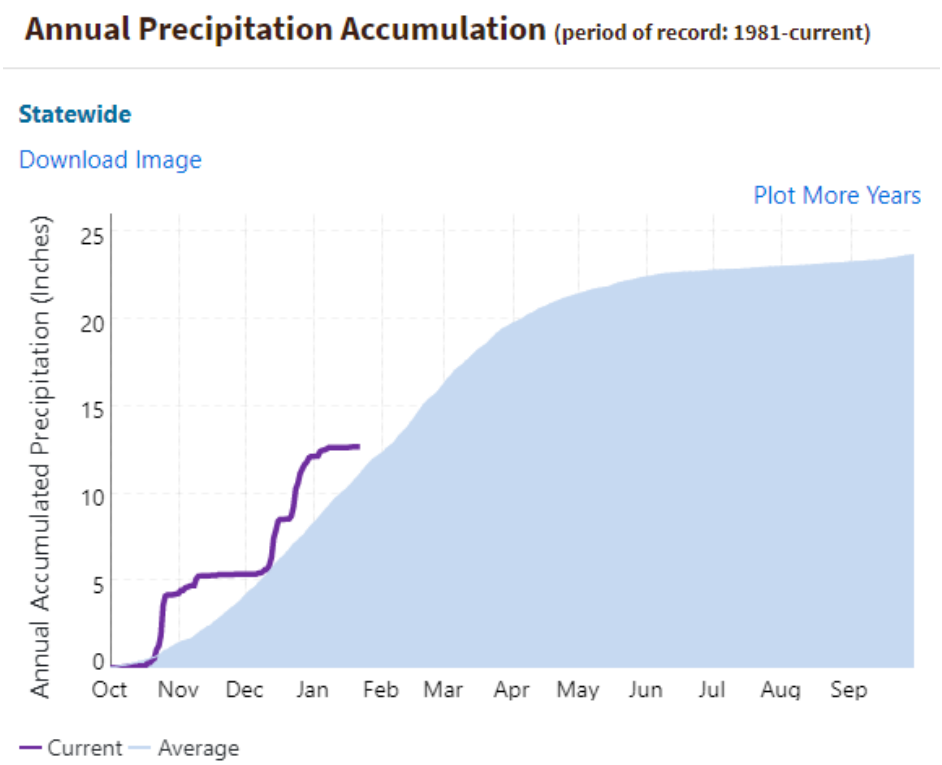


Figure 4. California Water Watch (https://cww.water.ca.gov) statewide precipitation water year to date graph.

The statewide mean temperature trace from the California Water Watch is shown in Figure 5. It shows how the dry periods in November and January have also included record or near record temperatures.

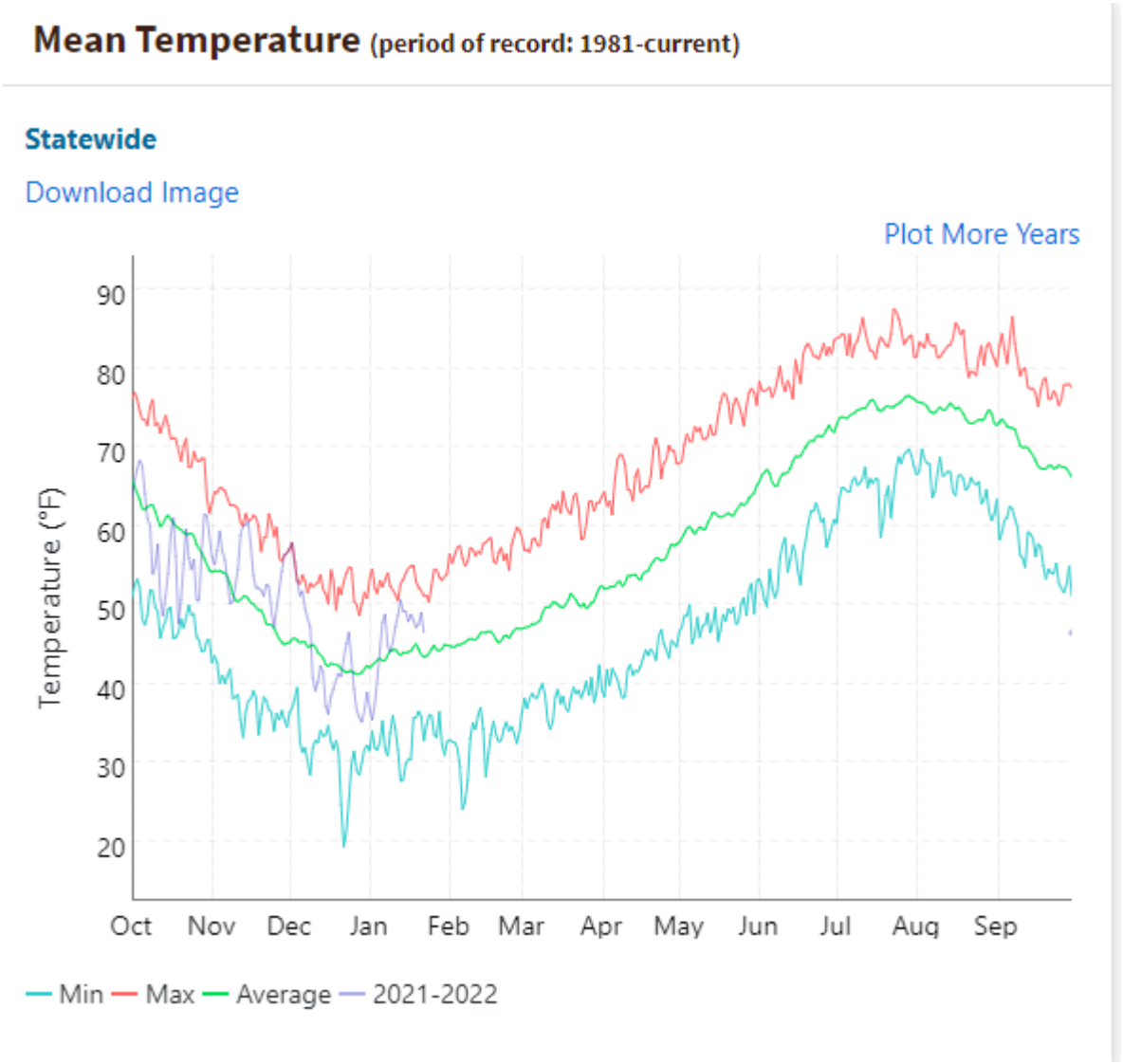


Figure 5. Statewide mean temperature (average of daily high and daily low temperatures) with the period of record max, average, and minimum traces shown as well. Dry period have corresponded to record or near record warmth.

The lack of accumulation of snowpack in January has led the percent of average snowpack to date to fall from over 150% of average to 111% of average This amount of snowpack corresponds to a 58% of a seasonal snowpack which is consistent with earlier readings. This means that while no new snow has been added, no significant loss of existing snowpack has been observed.

Looking ahead to February, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center has a multi-model ensemble of computer-generated outlooks. February's outlook for precipitation is shown in Figure 6 which shows dry conditions expected for California. The extreme

dryness over the eastern Pacific is an indication that the high pressure that has been present offshore of California for most of January is expected to stay in that location through February.

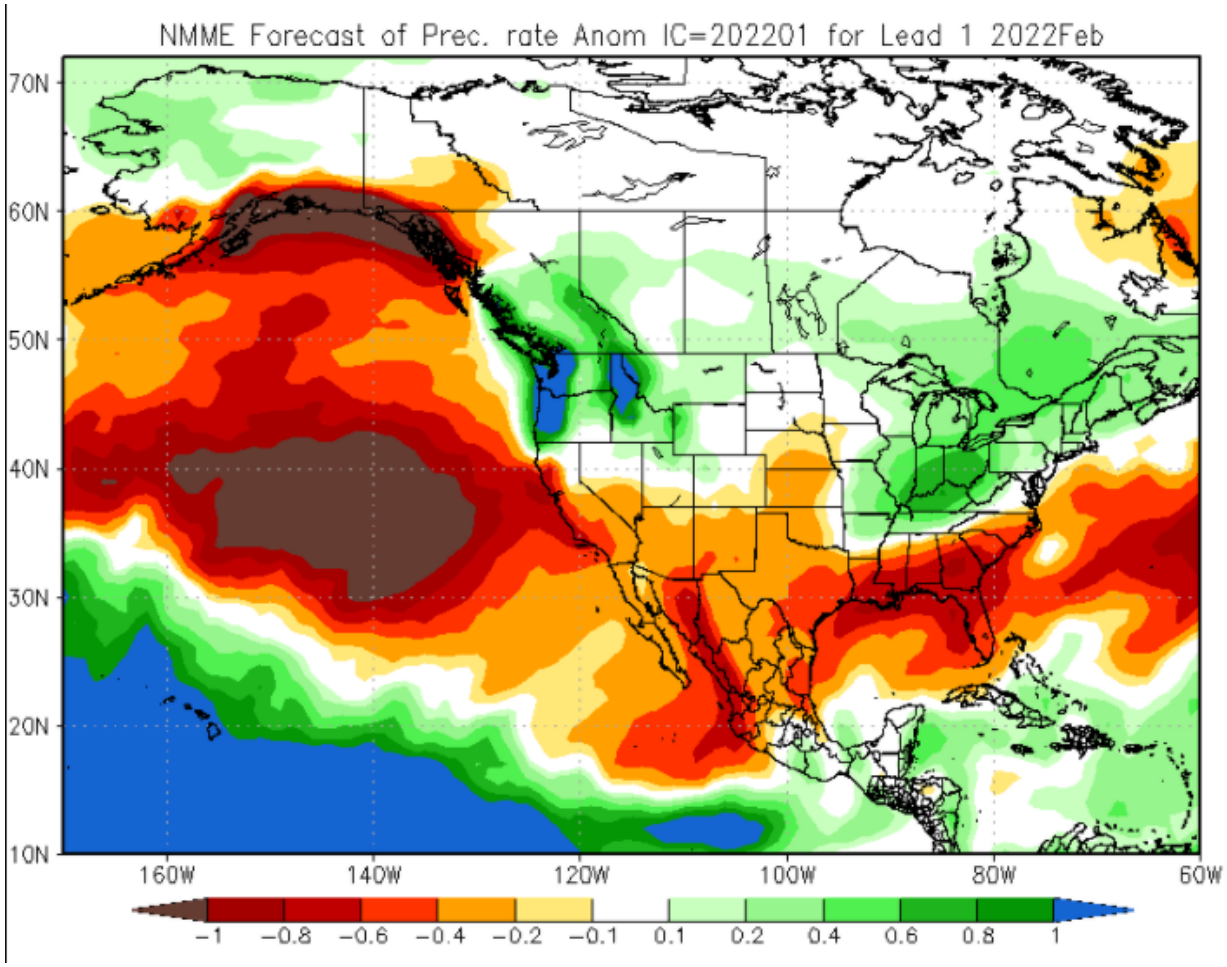


Figure 6. NOAA CPC National Multi-Model Ensemble outlook for precipitation conditions for February. Red colors indicate drier than average conditions and green and blue colors indicate wetter than average conditions.