



Major Wind/Dust Storm Event

w/ Mountain Snow & Lowland Rain

WED, February 22nd

Prepared by: Tom Bird

Date: February, 22, 2023



Situation Overview

WEDNESDAY: A little bit of lowland rain & mountain snow...A full day of strong to damaging winds

Key Messages:

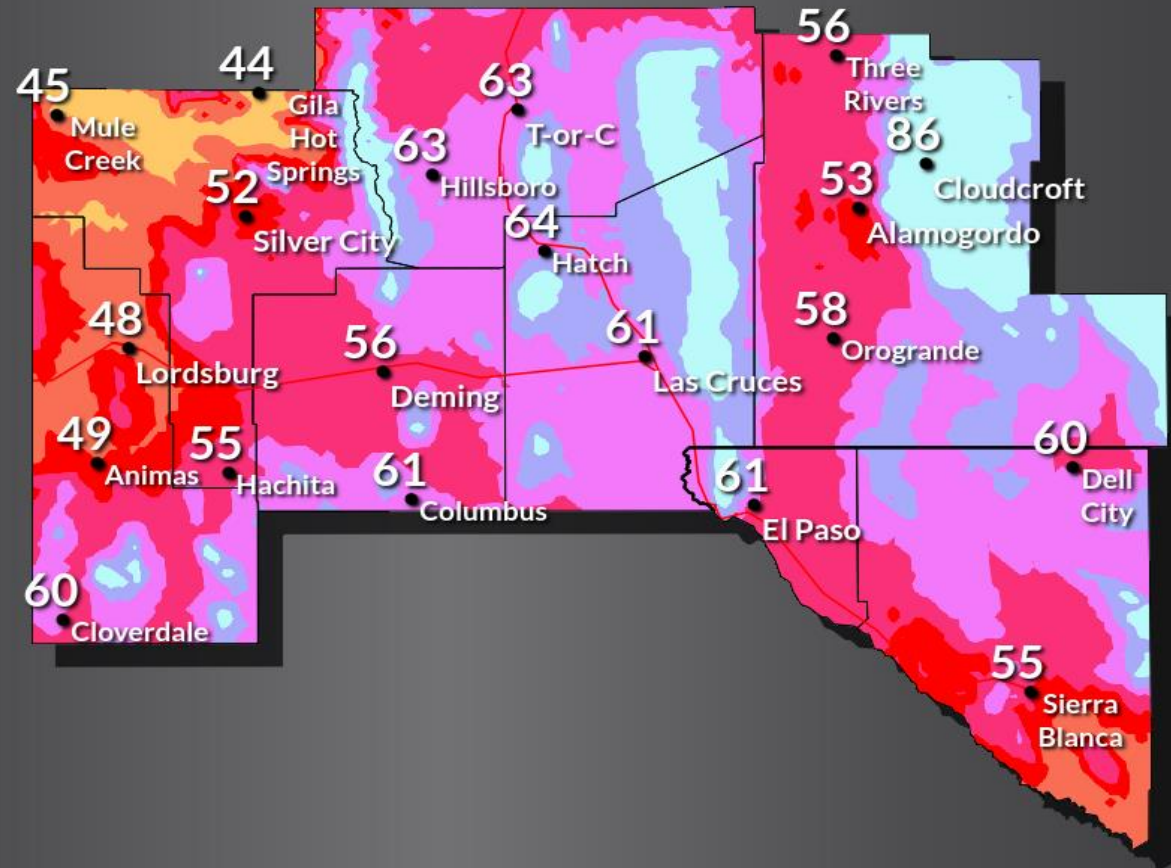
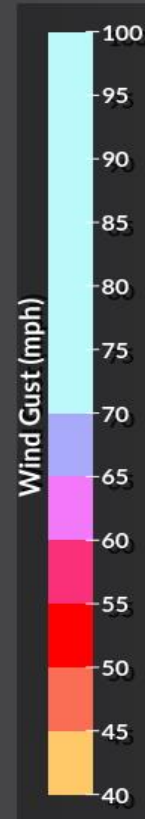
- #1 Weather Hazard: Wind
 - Lowlands 40+ G 60+ mph
 - Mountains 50+ G 80+ mph
- #2 Weather Hazard: BL Dust
 - General 3-5 mi visibility
 - Local Area: 0-1/4 mi visibility
- #3 Weather Hazard: Rain/Snow
 - Lowland Rain: ISO/SCT
 - Trace to 0.20"
 - Mountain Snow: SCT/NUM
 - 1-4" SACs / 3-6" Gila

Wednesday's Peak Wind Gusts

Weather Forecast Office

El Paso, TX

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Wind Potential: Sustained & Gust Speeds

Very Strong Southwest Winds Wednesday...starting early in the day, and lasting into the evening

Key WIND Messages:

- Full Day of Strong Southwest Winds.
 - Lowland speeds
 - 40-45 mph G 60-65 mph
 - Mountain Speeds
 - 50-55 mph G 65-80 mph
- Damage to structures/ Power interruptions possible
- Travel across the region could become dangerous due to buffeting wind gusts.

Maximum Wind Speed Forecast

	2/20 Mon		2/21 Tue			2/22 Wed				2/23 Thu				Maximum	
	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm		6pm
Alamogordo	12	10	5	14	20	20	22	32	39	36	18	15	16	15	39
Chaparral	16	13	8	14	20	22	28	37	46	44	23	15	17	15	46
Cloudcroft	25	25	20	28	29	31	36	47	54	52	39	24	23	20	54
Columbus	14	10	7	12	20	21	25	40	45	35	20	15	16	15	45
Dell City	23	17	12	14	22	22	29	30	48	47	22	15	15	13	48
Deming	15	12	6	12	18	21	30	45	46	28	22	16	20	18	46
El Paso	13	13	8	12	17	21	29	37	44	41	20	13	14	12	44
Emory Pass	22	17	12	20	24	30	47	55	55	45	41	30	23	21	55
Hatch	20	15	5	13	24	21	33	46	48	38	23	18	21	18	48
Horizon City	15	14	9	12	18	20	28	36	41	39	24	12	12	10	41
Las Cruces	14	12	6	12	21	21	28	39	44	39	16	15	17	15	44
Lordsburg	12	9	5	10	15	18	23	37	39	26	20	12	16	15	39
Orogrande	15	13	5	15	20	20	25	33	43	41	23	14	15	14	43
Rodeo	14	10	5	14	21	21	32	40	40	35	23	18	21	18	40
San Elizario	13	13	7	10	17	21	26	35	41	38	21	12	12	9	41
Sierra Blanca	14	12	5	10	17	21	25	30	40	39	18	12	13	12	40
Silver City	16	13	6	14	17	28	37	44	44	35	35	20	16	15	44
Socorro	13	12	7	10	17	21	26	35	41	38	18	12	12	9	41
Sunland Park	13	12	8	12	17	22	30	39	45	41	18	14	15	14	45
Truth or Cons	13	13	5	16	25	23	31	44	47	35	15	18	21	20	47
Vado	14	12	7	13	20	22	26	38	45	43	20	15	17	15	45
White Sands NM	14	13	5	12	21	20	24	32	40	39	16	13	15	14	40

* Table values in mph

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast

	2/20 Mon		2/21 Tue			2/22 Wed				2/23 Thu				Maximum	
	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm		6pm
Alamogordo	16	15	7	20	28	28	31	45	55	49	25	21	23	21	55
Chaparral	23	17	12	20	28	31	39	52	64	61	32	21	24	21	64
Cloudcroft	40	40	31	44	46	49	58	76	86	83	62	39	37	31	86
Columbus	20	15	9	16	28	29	36	56	63	48	28	21	23	21	63
Dell City	32	24	16	20	31	31	40	41	68	66	31	21	21	17	68
Deming	21	16	8	16	25	29	41	63	64	39	31	23	28	25	64
El Paso	17	17	12	16	24	29	40	52	61	58	28	17	20	16	61
Emory Pass	35	28	18	31	39	48	76	89	89	71	67	48	37	33	89
Hatch	28	21	7	17	33	29	47	64	68	53	32	25	29	25	68
Horizon City	21	20	13	16	25	28	39	49	58	55	33	16	16	15	58
Las Cruces	20	16	8	16	29	29	39	55	61	55	23	21	24	21	61
Lordsburg	16	13	7	15	21	25	32	52	55	37	28	16	23	21	55
Orogrande	21	17	7	21	28	28	36	47	60	58	32	20	21	20	60
Rodeo	20	15	7	20	29	29	45	56	56	48	32	25	29	25	56
San Elizario	17	17	9	15	24	29	37	48	58	53	29	16	16	13	58
Sierra Blanca	20	16	7	15	24	29	36	41	56	55	25	16	17	16	56
Silver City	23	17	8	20	24	39	52	61	61	48	48	28	23	21	61
Socorro	17	16	9	15	24	29	37	48	58	53	25	16	16	13	58
Sunland Park	17	16	12	16	24	31	41	55	63	58	25	20	21	20	63
Truth or Cons	17	17	7	23	36	32	44	61	66	48	21	25	29	28	66
Vado	20	16	9	17	28	31	37	53	63	60	28	21	24	21	63
White Sands NM	20	17	7	16	29	28	33	45	56	55	23	17	21	20	56

* Table values in mph



High Wind Watches Areawide for Wednesday

Very Strong Southwest Winds Wednesday...starting early in the day, and lasting into the evening

High Wind Watches:

- **Gila Region & Bootheel Mtns:**
Starts: 1 am Tuesday Night
Ends: Midnight Wed Night.
- **Sacramento Mountains:**
Starts: 1am Tuesday Night
Ends: 5 am Thursday Morning
- **West/Central Lowlands:**
Starts: 9am Wednesday Morning
Ends: 8pm Wed Night.
- **Eastern Lowlands:**
Starts: 9am Wednesday Morning
Ends: Midnight Wed Night.

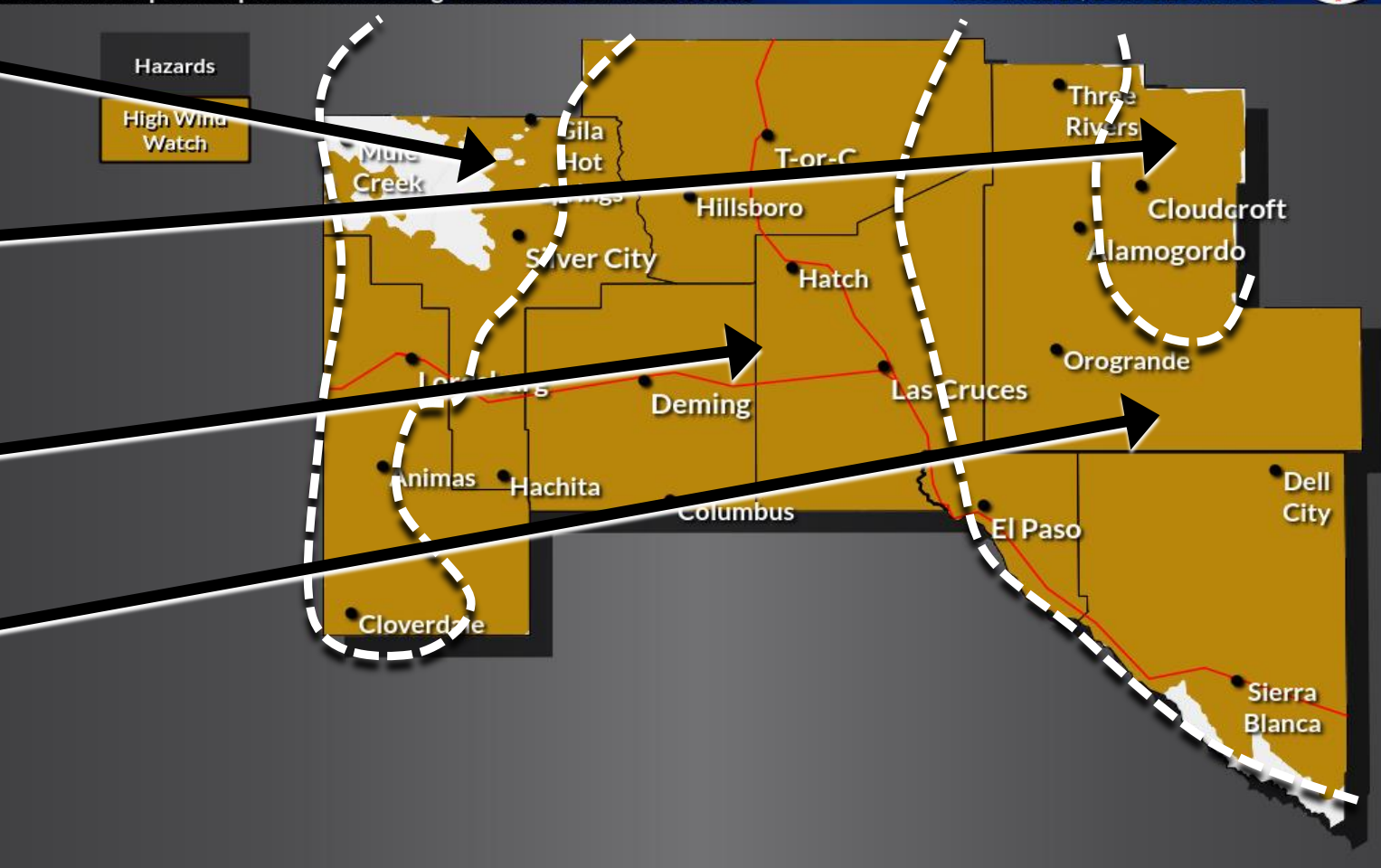
Wednesday's High Wind Watch

Area wide impacts expected with strong Southwest and West Winds

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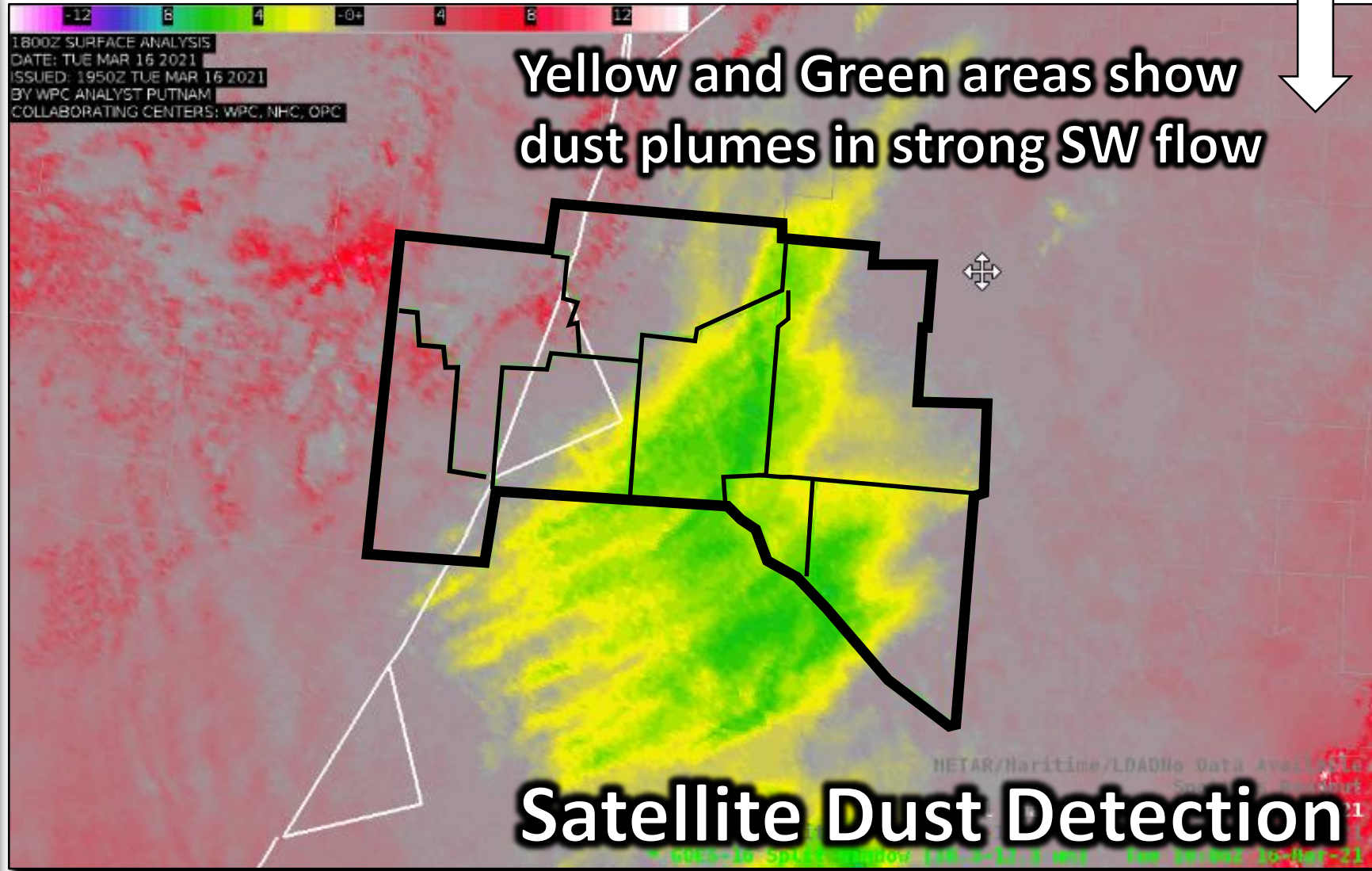


Dust Potential: Previous Dust Event Example

This satellite imagery of dust shows what we could see again during Wednesday's strong winds

Key DUST Messages:

- **Widespread dust** is possible, but could be reduced due to recent rains. Expect general visibility reduced to **3 to 5 mi.**
- **Localities** near dust sources could see severe visibility restrictions. Expect visibility reduced to **0 to 1/4 mi.**
- **Travel across the region** could become dangerous due to near zero visibilities.





Mountain Snows: Tuesday Night – Wednesday

Very Strong Southwest Winds Wednesday...starting early in the day, and lasting into the evening

Key SNOW Messages:

- Snow above 5500 ft.
- Strong winds = Blowing snow and blizzard-like.
- Timing: Tue Night – Wed Eve.
- Gila Region Mountains:
 - 1-2" mid-elevations
 - 4-6" higher elevations
- Sacramento Mountains:
 - 1-2" mid-elevations
 - 2-4" upper-elevations

Snow Amounts: Tuesday night - Wednesday

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Snowfall amounts likely to fall just short of Winter Advisory Criteria

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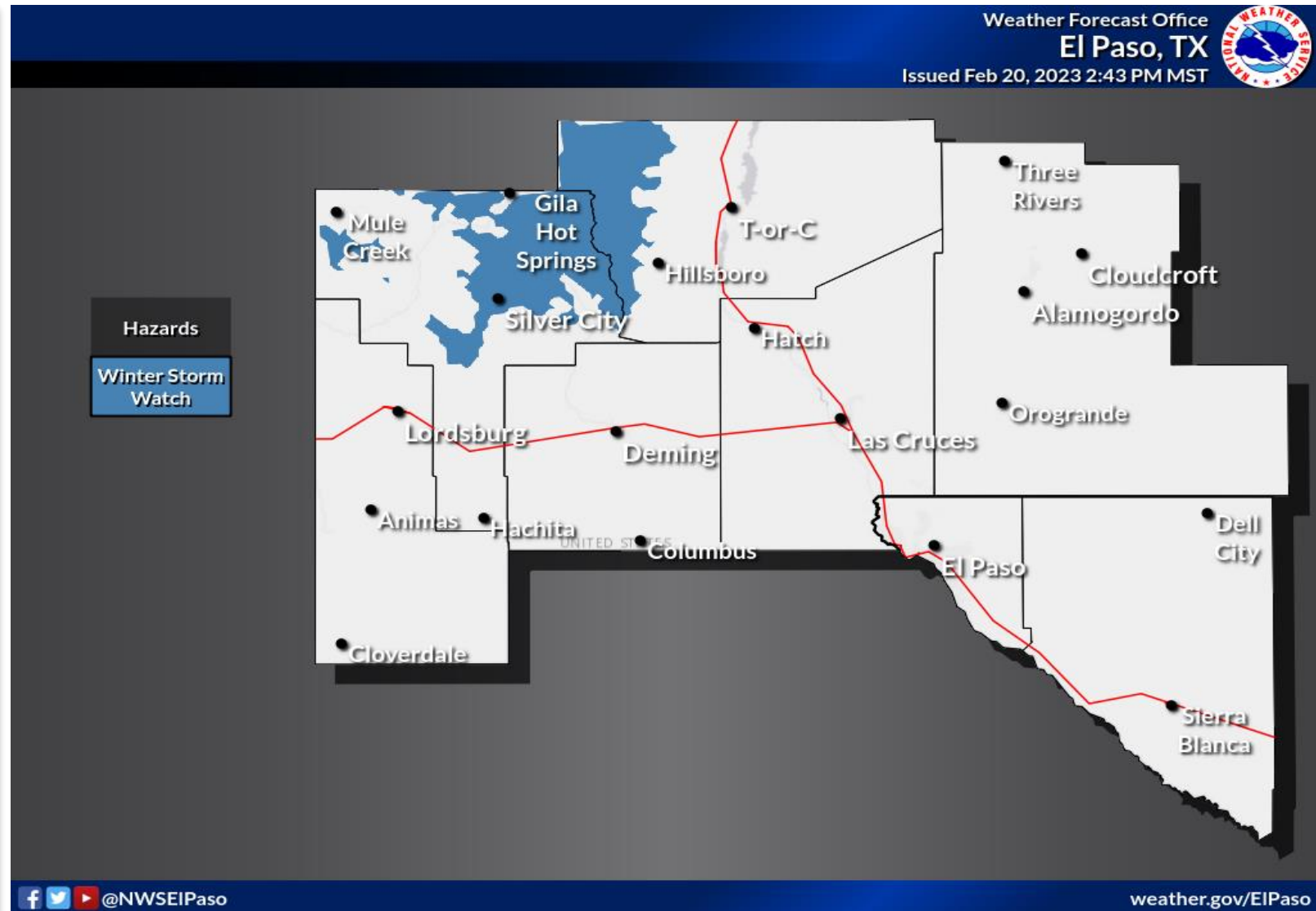


Winter Storm Watch: GILA REGION

FOR THE MOUNTAINS across the GILA...with strong winds...blizzard conditions possible

Key Gila SNOW Messages:

- **Snow levels:**
 - 7000ft dropping to 5500 ft.
- **Strong Winds:**
 - 40-60 mph
 - Blizzard conditions poss.
- **Timing:**
 - Tue Night – Wed Eve.
- **Snow Amounts:**
 - 1-2" mid-elevations
 - 4-6" higher elevations





Rainfall Amounts: Tuesday Night – Wednesday

Rain across the lowlands...liquid equivalent of snow in the mountains

Key RAIN Messages:

- Rain generally light across the lowlands:
 - Trace to 0.25" possible
- Light to moderate snow across the higher mountains:
 - 0.50"-.75" liquid amounts

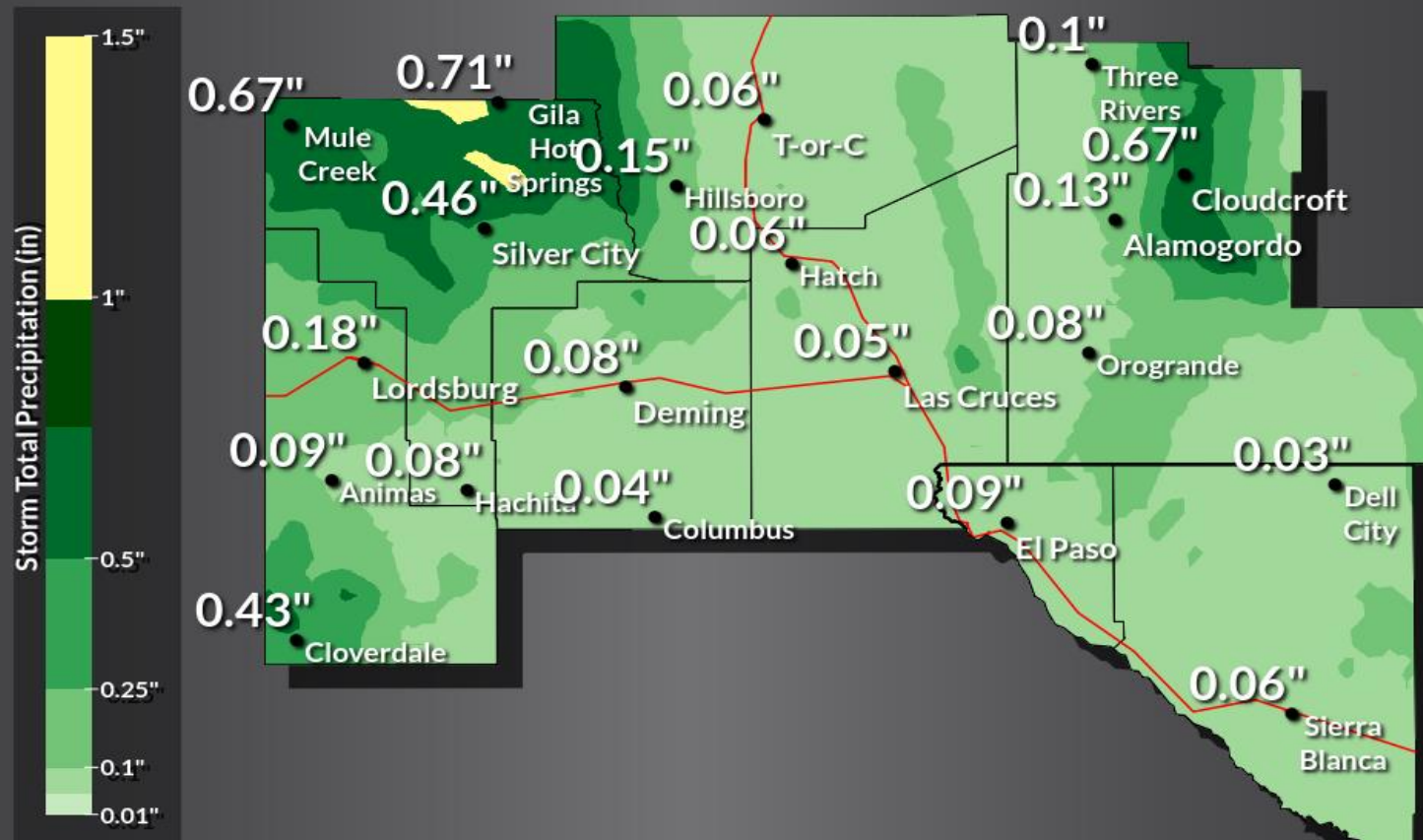
Liquid Precipitation Amounts: Tuesday night - Wednesday

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Lowland rain / mountain snow

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Summary Overview : Tue Night – Wed Evening

Wind / Dust / Mountain Snow / Lowland Rain

- Strong Winds will be the biggest THREAT, posing the highest RISKS.
 - **Wind speeds:** Lowlands 40+ G 60+ mph / Mountains 50+ G 80+ mph
- Blowing Dust is a strong possibility, despite recent rains.
 - **Visibilities:** General 3-5 mi visibility / Local Area: 0-1/4 mi visibility
- Mountain Snows will bring hazardous conditions to Gila and Sacs.
 - **Snow Amounts:** 1-4" Sacramento mountains / 3-6" Gila region mountains.
 - Blizzard conditions are possible with the strong winds expected.
- **Difficult and dangerous travel is likely through this period.**



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