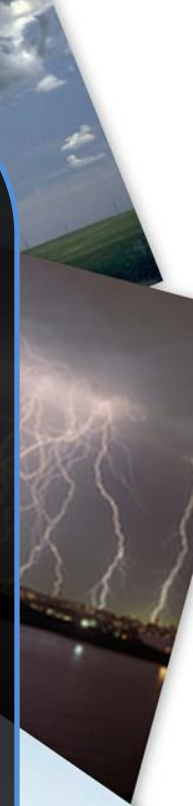


# Interesting Weather of Michigan's Upper Peninsula



Michael Boguth and David Lawrence  
Meteorologists – National Weather Service Gaylord, MI



# The Great Storm of November 7-10, 1913

*"The White Hurricane"*

## THE GREAT STORM OF 1913

Sudden tragedy struck the Great Lakes on November 9, 1913, when a storm, whose equal veteran sailors could not recall, left in its wake death and destruction. The grim toll was 235 seamen drowned, ten ships sunk, and more than twenty others driven ashore. Here on Lake Huron all 178 crewmen on the eight ships claimed by its waters were lost. For sixteen terrible hours gales of cyclonic fury made man and his machines helpless.

# Great Lakes Hurricane of 1913: Overview

One of the most infamous storms in the recorded history of the Great Lakes!

## 7-10 November 1913

At least 258 lives lost on the Great Lakes.

Twelve ships sank, 30 other vessels crippled.

Eight out of 18 ships battling the storm on Lake Huron sank (*Wexford*, *Argus*, *John A. McGean*, *Hydrus*, *Isaac M. Scott*, *Regina*, *James C. Carruthers*, *Charles S. Price*). 187 lives lost.



Charles S. Price capsized in Lake Huron

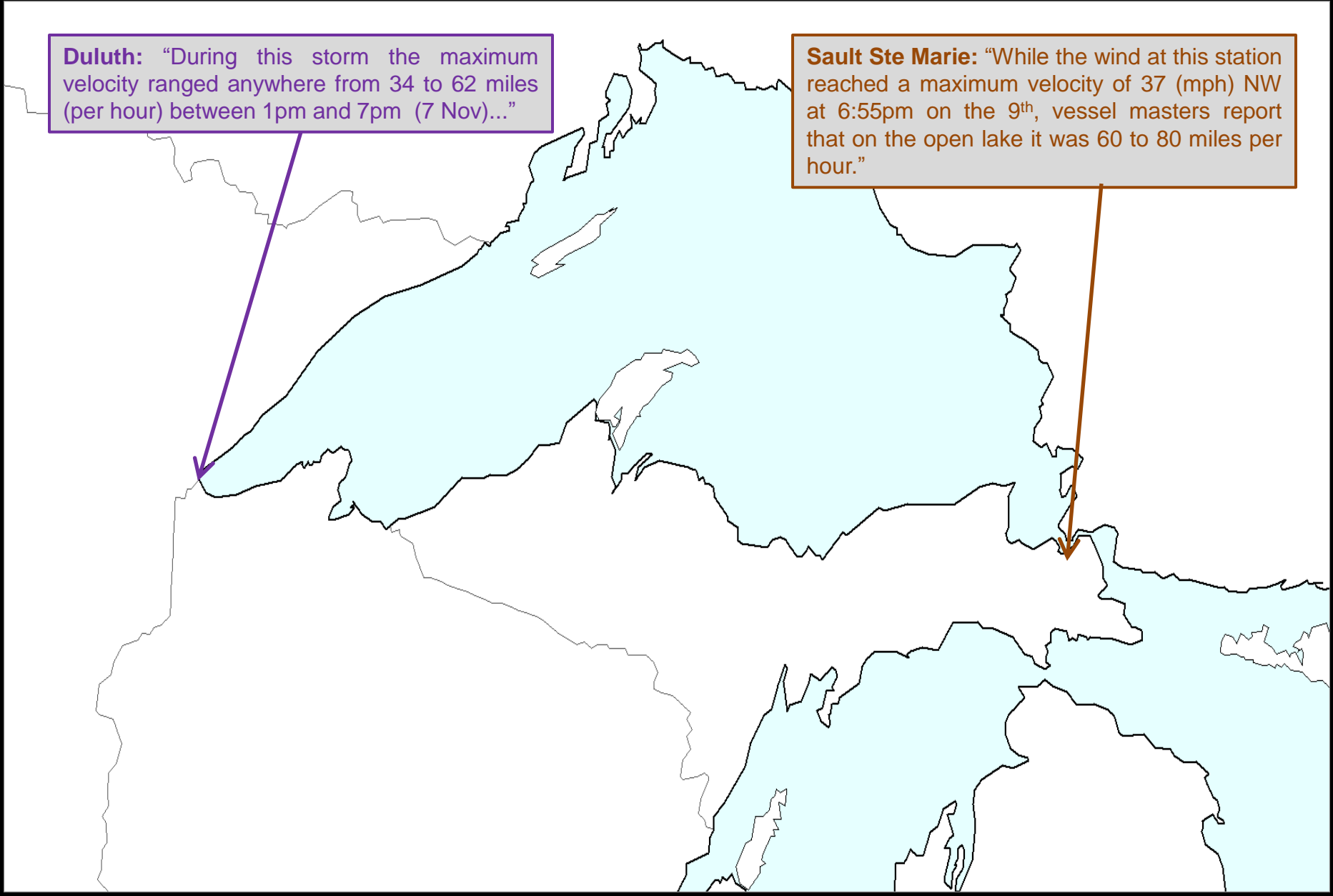


Cleveland Plain Dealer -- 11 November 1913

# Great Lakes Hurricane of 1913: Excerpts from Local Weather Bureau Reports

**Duluth:** “During this storm the maximum velocity ranged anywhere from 34 to 62 miles (per hour) between 1pm and 7pm (7 Nov)...”

**Sault Ste Marie:** “While the wind at this station reached a maximum velocity of 37 (mph) NW at 6:55pm on the 9<sup>th</sup>, vessel masters report that on the open lake it was 60 to 80 miles per hour.”

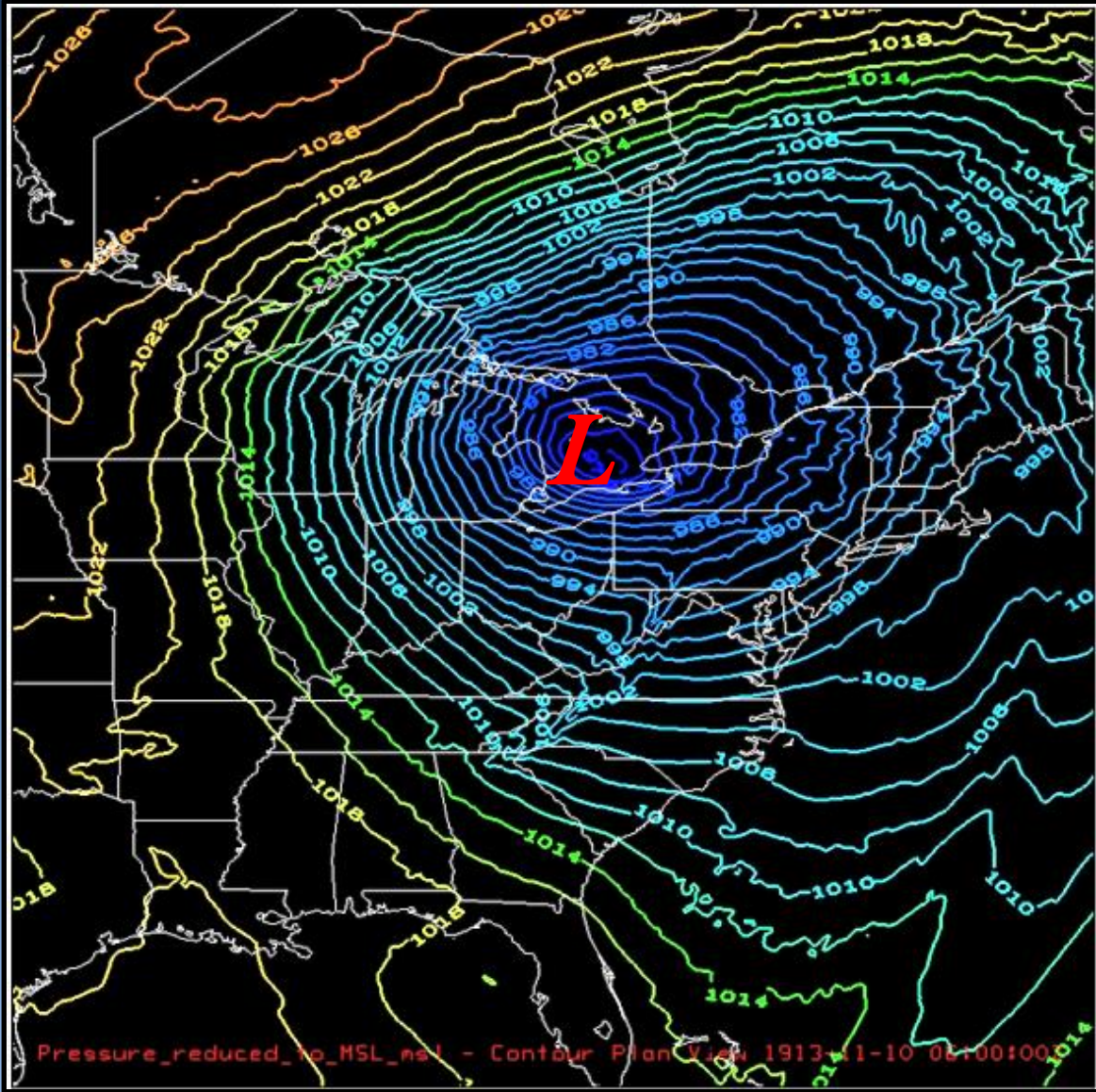


# Great Lakes Hurricane of 1913: Shipwrecks





# Great Lakes Hurricane of 1913: Storm Simulation: 10 November 1913



This is a computer model simulation of the storm taken from a NOAA presentation.

Time of this simulated pressure pattern is 1am 10 November...at the point that the storm was deepest.

Lowest central pressure in the simulation was 969mb (28.61 inches mercury).

November 10, 1975 Gale

*"Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald"*

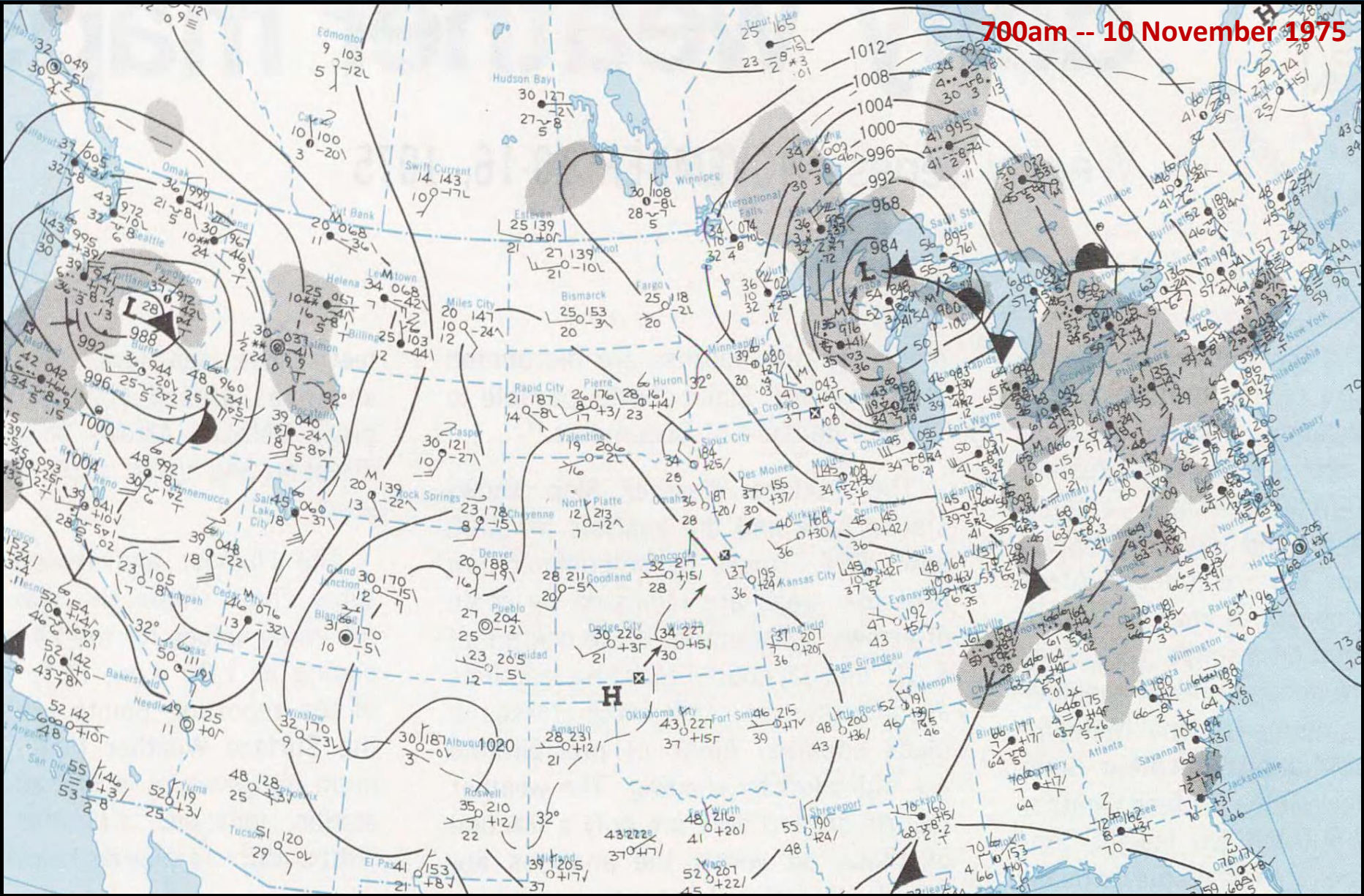




# Great Storms of the Great Lakes: The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: 10 November 1975

Daily Weather Map:

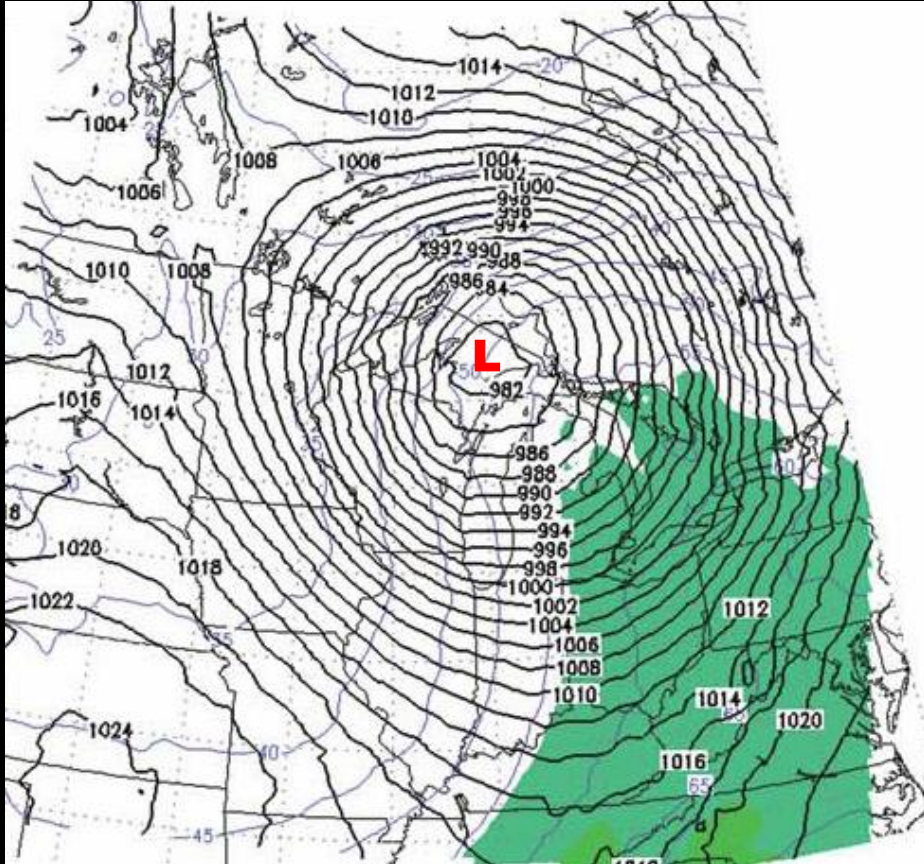
700am -- 10 November 1975



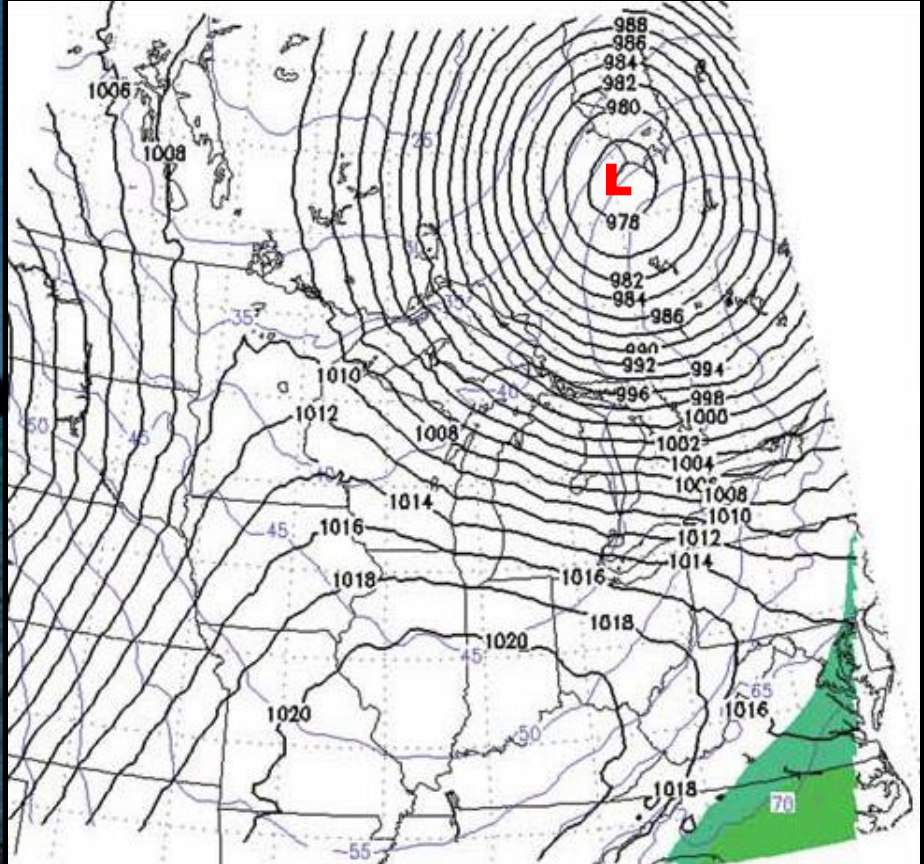
**Great Storms of the Great Lakes: The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: 10 November 1975**

Weather conditions during the afternoon and evening of 10 November: Surface Pressure

**7:00am -- 10 November 1975**



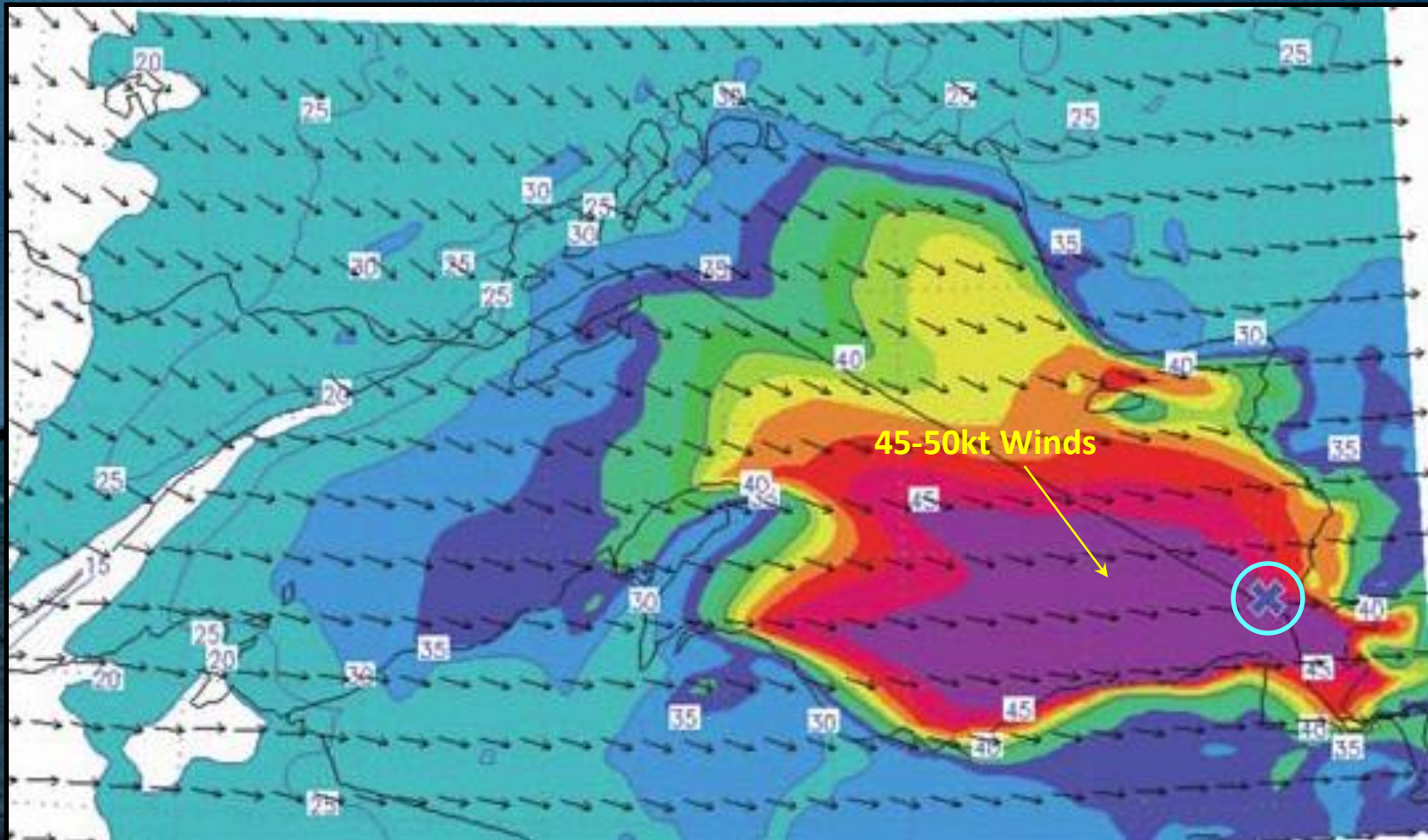
**7:00pm -- 10 November 1975**



**Great Storms of the Great Lakes: The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: 10 November 1975**

Weather conditions during the afternoon and evening of 10 November: Surface Winds

700pm -- 10 November 1975

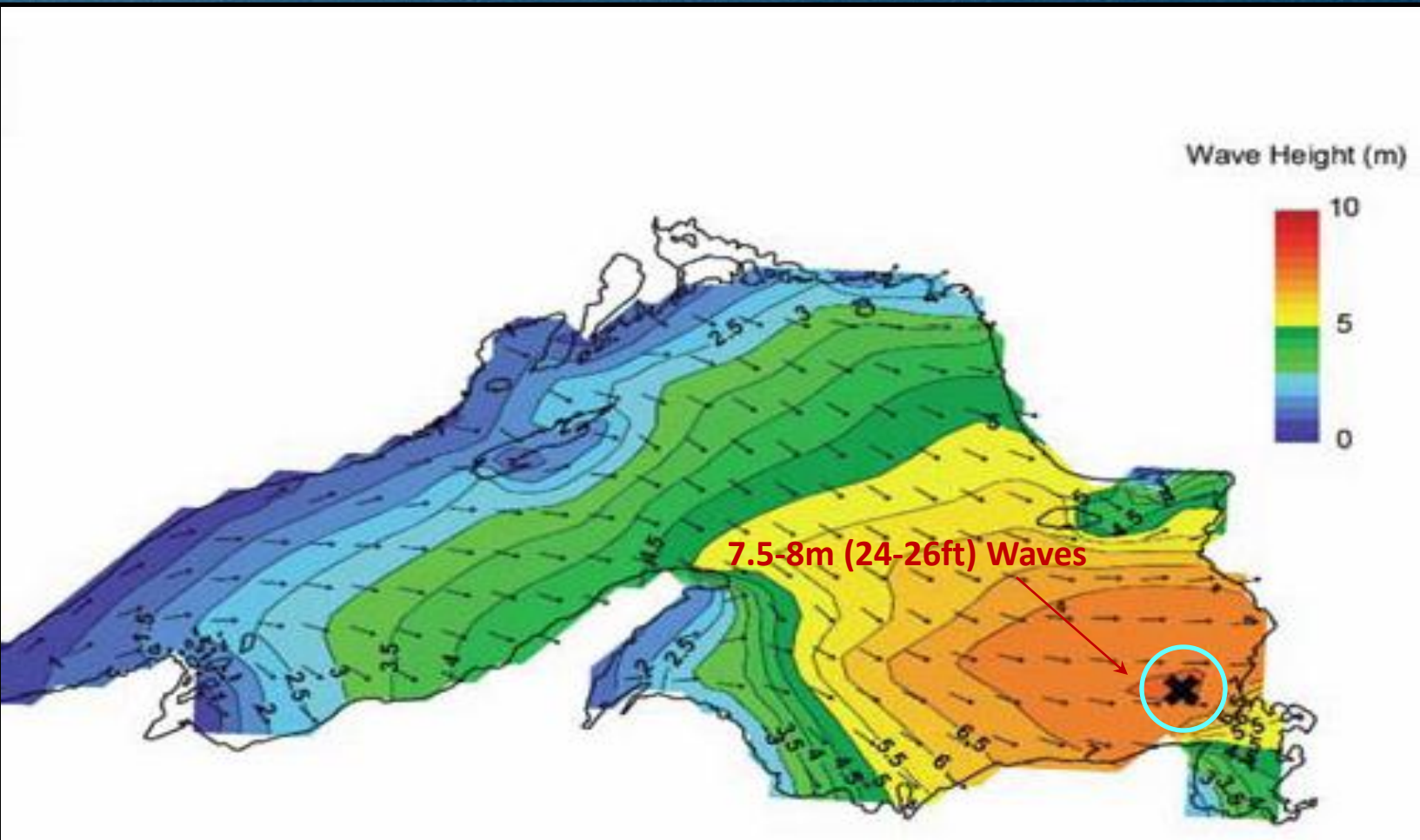


Arthur M. Anderson reports wind gusts of 75 knots (86mph) as it reaches area of Fitzgerald sinking.

**Great Storms of the Great Lakes: The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: 10 November 1975**

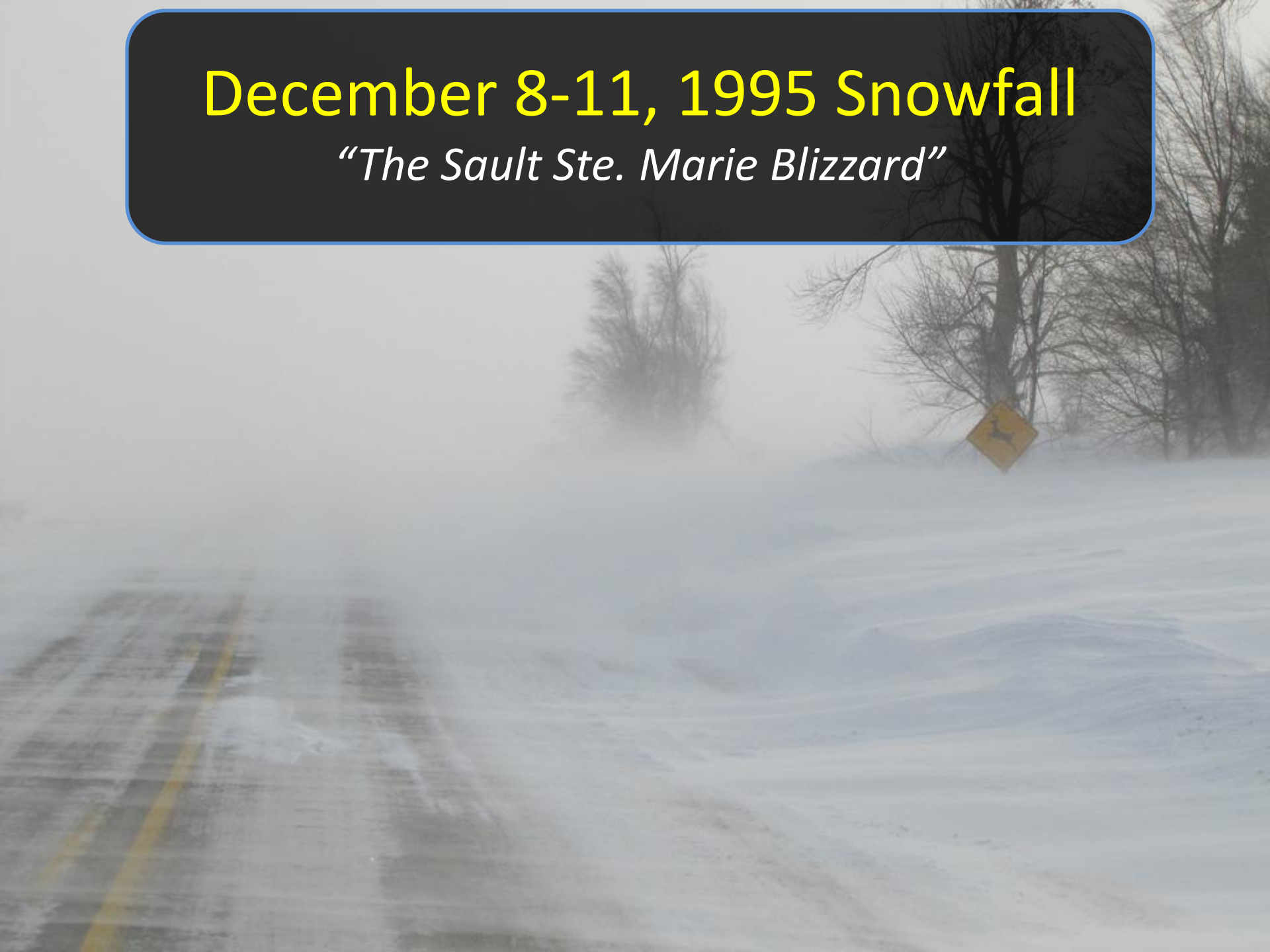
Weather conditions during the afternoon and evening of 10 November: Wave Heights

800pm -- 10 November 1975



# December 8-11, 1995 Snowfall

*"The Sault Ste. Marie Blizzard"*



# Sault Sainte Marie Lake Effect Snow Event

- December 8-11<sup>th</sup>, 1995
- 61.3 inches total snowfall
- State of emergency declared with National Guard activation
- Several collapsed roofs
- 2 phase system
- Rare Lake Huron enhancement – 24.7 inches
- Lake effect off Superior – 36.6 inches

Date	Max Temperature	Min Temperature	Avg Temperature	Avg Temperature Departure	HDD	CDD	Precipitation	Snowfall	Snow Depth
1995-12-01	35	15	25.0	-2.9	40	0	0.05	0.5	8
1995-12-02	23	10	16.5	-11.0	48	0	0.25	4.0	7
1995-12-03	34	23	28.5	1.5	36	0	0.38	4.8	16
1995-12-04	34	25	29.5	2.9	35	0	0.02	0.2	16
1995-12-05	34	14	24.0	-2.2	41	0	0.65	6.8	15
1995-12-06	14	10	12.0	-13.8	53	0	0.01	T	17
1995-12-07	20	8	14.0	-11.4	51	0	0.21	4.2	17
1995-12-08	22	8	15.0	-10.0	50	0	0.27	4.8	18
1995-12-09	22	-0	11.0	-13.6	54	0	1.46	19.4	38
1995-12-10	17	-3	7.0	-17.2	58	0	1.36	26.6	42
1995-12-11	14	4	9.0	-14.9	56	0	0.57	10.5	48
1995-12-12	13	-5	4.0	-19.5	61	0	0.05	1.1	49
1995-12-13	15	-6	4.5	-18.6	60	0	0.02	0.6	43
1995-12-14	21	15	18.0	-4.7	47	0	0.35	5.6	43
1995-12-15	28	20	24.0	1.7	41	0	0.05	0.9	40
1995-12-16	26	20	23.0	1.0	42	0	0.14	3.1	42
1995-12-17	23	20	21.5	-0.1	43	0	0.00	0.0	38
1995-12-18	26	13	19.5	-1.8	45	0	0.00	0.0	38
1995-12-19	17	3	10.0	-10.9	55	0	0.00	0.0	37
1995-12-20	12	-2	5.0	-15.6	60	0	0.10	1.0	34
1995-12-21	24	-6	9.0	-11.2	56	0	T	T	35
1995-12-22	26	18	22.0	2.1	43	0	0.01	0.3	32
1995-12-23	20	11	15.5	-4.1	49	0	T	0.2	31
1995-12-24	28	10	19.0	-0.3	46	0	0.10	2.0	31
1995-12-25	24	-0	12.0	-7.0	53	0	0.04	0.6	34
1995-12-26	13	-13	0.0	-18.7	65	0	0.00	0.0	33
1995-12-27	22	9	15.5	-2.9	49	0	0.01	0.1	32
1995-12-28	24	1	12.5	-5.6	52	0	0.00	0.0	30
1995-12-29	29	20	24.5	6.7	40	0	T	T	29
1995-12-30	29	23	26.0	8.4	39	0	T	T	29
1995-12-31	29	17	23.0	5.7	42	0	0.14	1.4	30
<b>Sum</b>	718	282	-	-	1510	0	6.24	98.7	-
<b>Average</b>	23.2	9.1	16.1	-6.1	-	-	-	-	30.7
<b>Normal</b>	28.6	15.8	22.2	-	1327	0	2.79	33.5	-

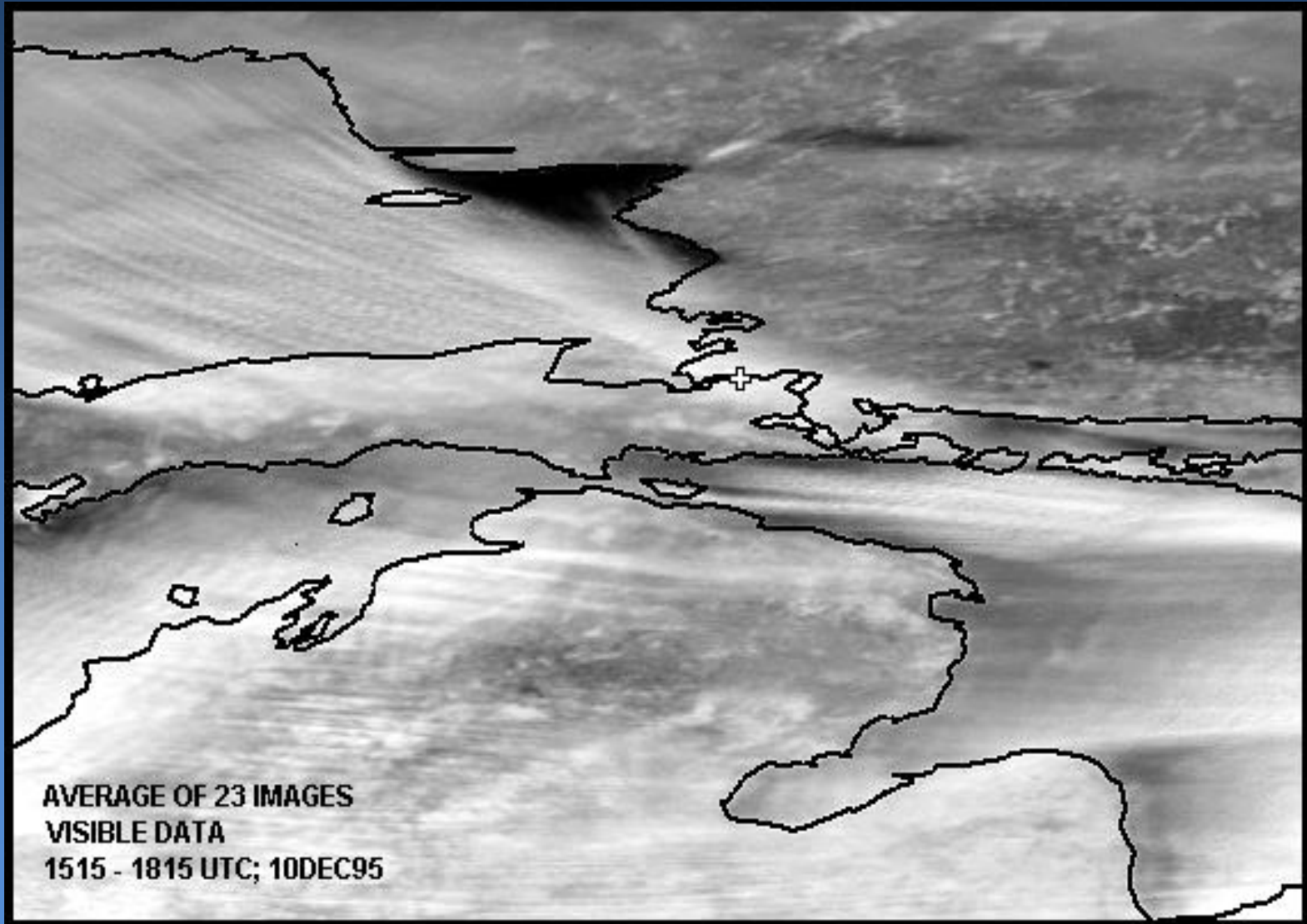


# Lake Huron Enhancement

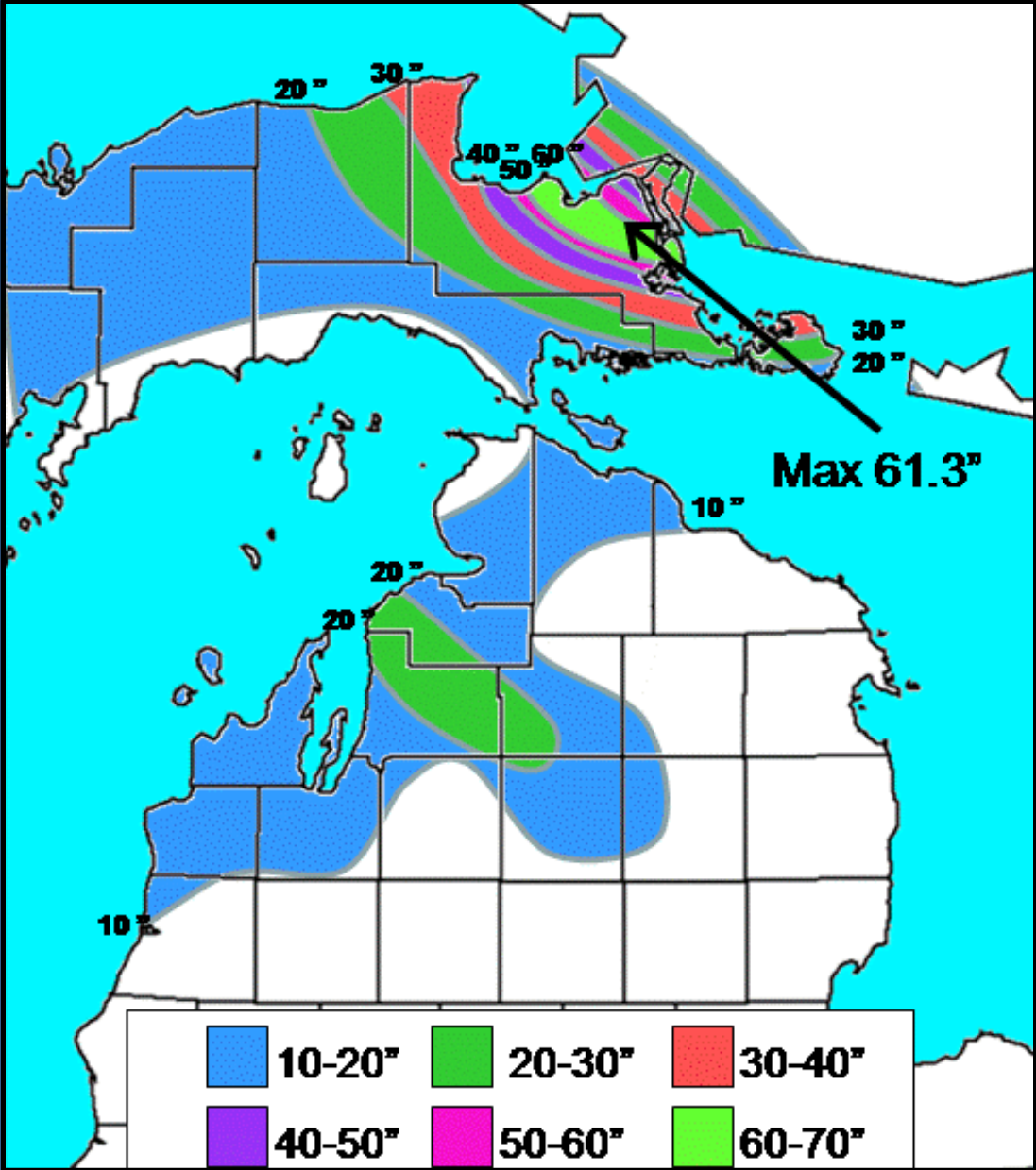




# Lake Superior Lake effect



# Snowfall Totals





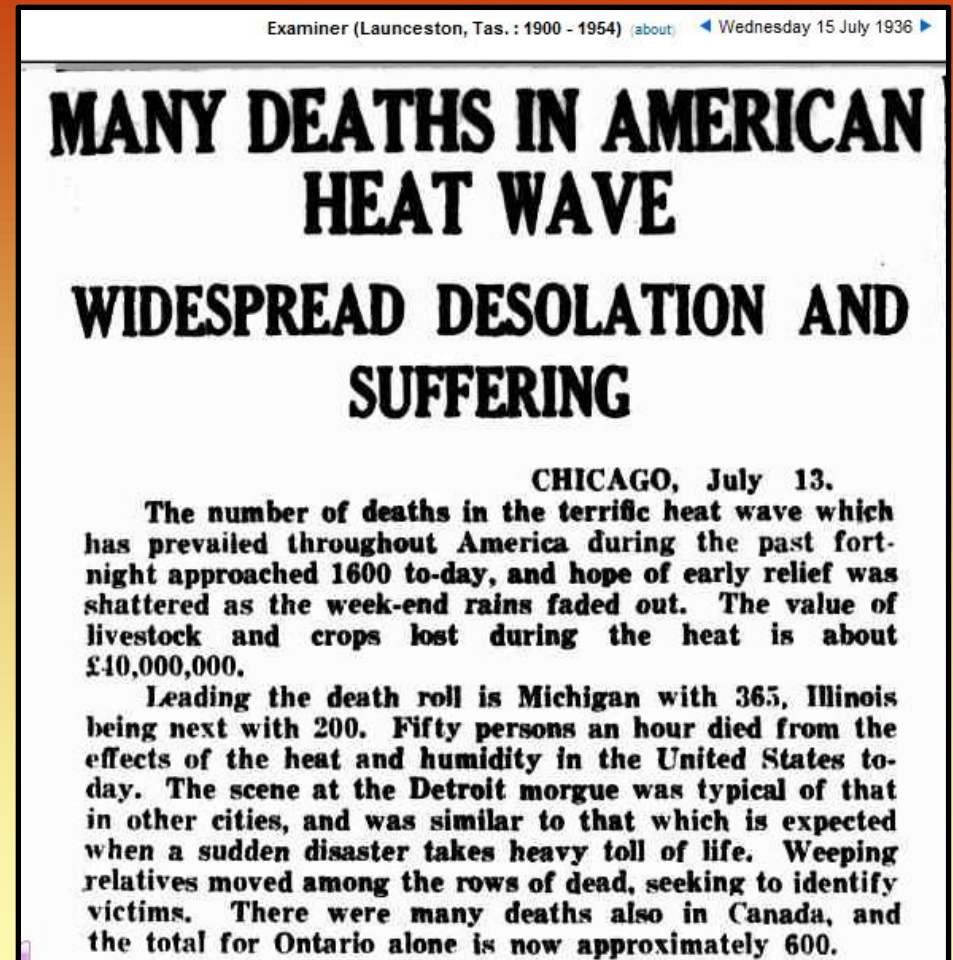
# July 1936 Heat Wave

*"Most Severe in Modern History"*



# The Heatwave of 1936

- Developed just after Independence day
- Lasted for over a week
- Record setting heat across the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes
- Still stands as the most intense heat wave in United States history
- All time Michigan high temperature occurred at Mio, which reached 112° on the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Nations death toll exceeded 5,000.



# The Heatwave of 1936

- Several factors led to the deadly heat of early July 1936: A series of droughts effected the U.S. during the early 1930s. The lack of rain parched the earth and killed vegetation, especially across the Plains states.
- Poor land management (farming techniques) across the Plains furthered the impact of the drought, with lush wheat fields becoming barren waste lands.
- Without the vegetation and soil moisture, the Plains acted as a furnace. The climate of that region took on desert qualities, accentuating its capacity to produce heat.
- A strong ridge of high pressure set up over the west coast and funneled the heat northward across the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes.

# Over A Week Of Extreme Heat

## Sault Ste. Marie Temperatures

- Has NEVER recorded 100°F, but has recorded 95°F or higher 23 times since 1888
- 4 of those occurred in July 1936 alone

Date	High	Low	Average	Departure
7/6/1936	88	51	69.5	5
7/7/1936	93	54	73.5	8.9
7/8/1936	95	61	78	13.2
7/9/1936	96	63	79.5	14.6
7/10/1936	93	64	78.5	13.5
7/11/1936	96	65	80.5	15.4
7/12/1936	96	66	81	15.8
7/13/1936	89	68	78.5	13.2

# Over A Week Of Extreme Heat

## Marquette Temperatures

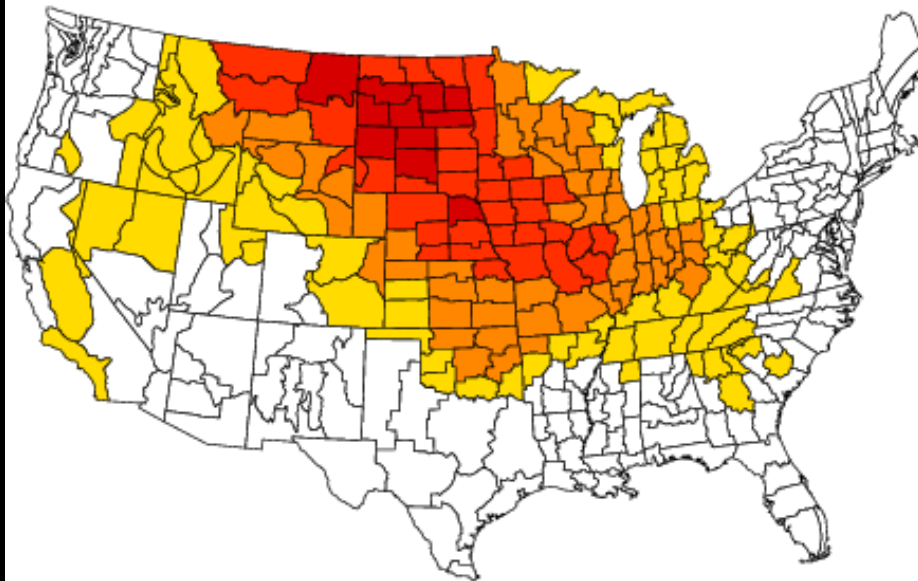
- Has only recorded 100°F 23 times since 1875
- 4 of those occurred in July 1936 alone

Date	High	Low	Average	Departure
7/6/1936	88	62	75	9.8
7/7/1936	103	64	83.5	18.2
7/8/1936	101	80	90.5	25.1
7/9/1936	101	80	90.5	25
7/10/1936	96	74	85	19.4
7/11/1936	84	68	76	10.3
7/12/1936	88	69	78.5	12.8
7/13/1936	104	76	90	24.2



## July 1936 Temperature Anomalies

NOAA/NCDC Climate Division Temperature Anomalies (F)  
Jul 1936  
Versus 1950–1995 Longterm Average

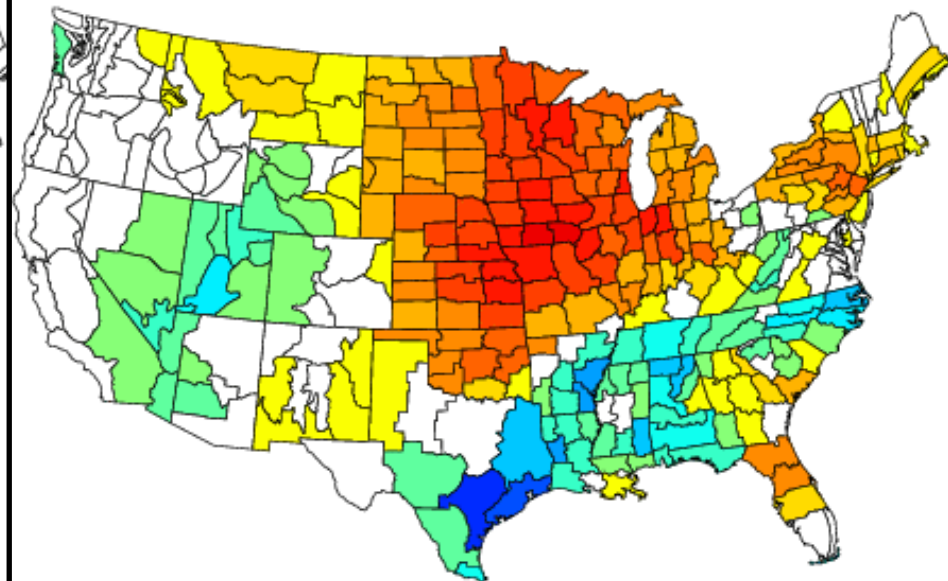


NOAA/ESRL PSD and CIRES-CU

-13.0 -10.0 -7.0 -4.0 -1.0 2.0 5.0 8.0 11.0

## July 1936 Precipitation Anomalies

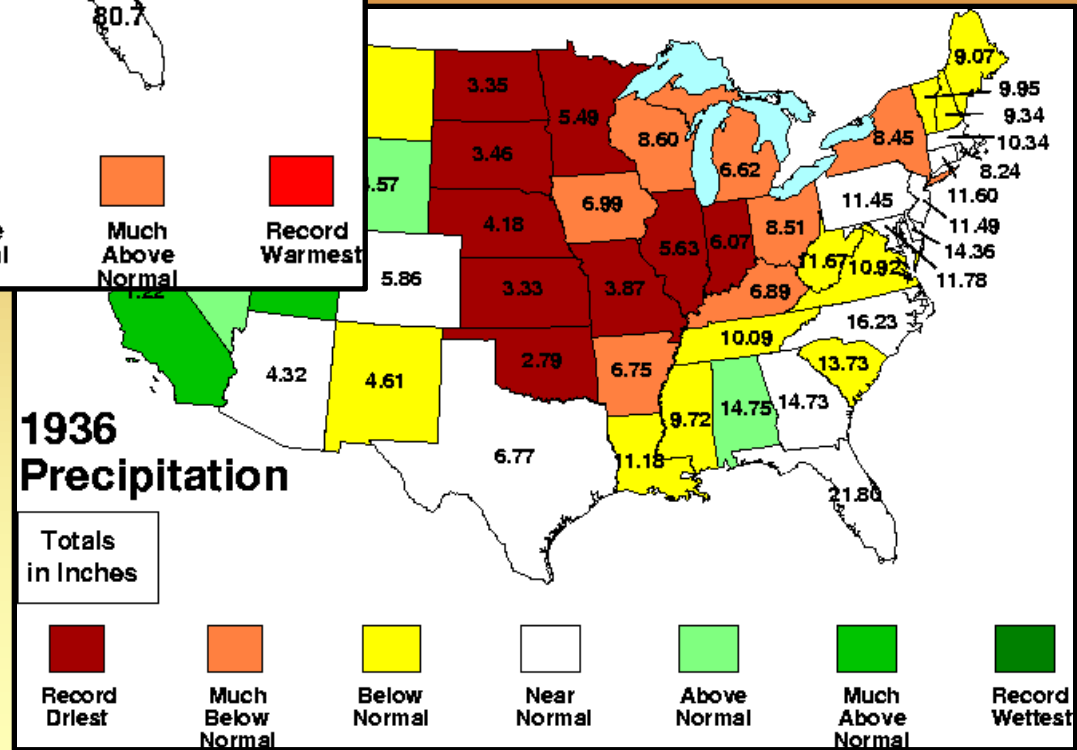
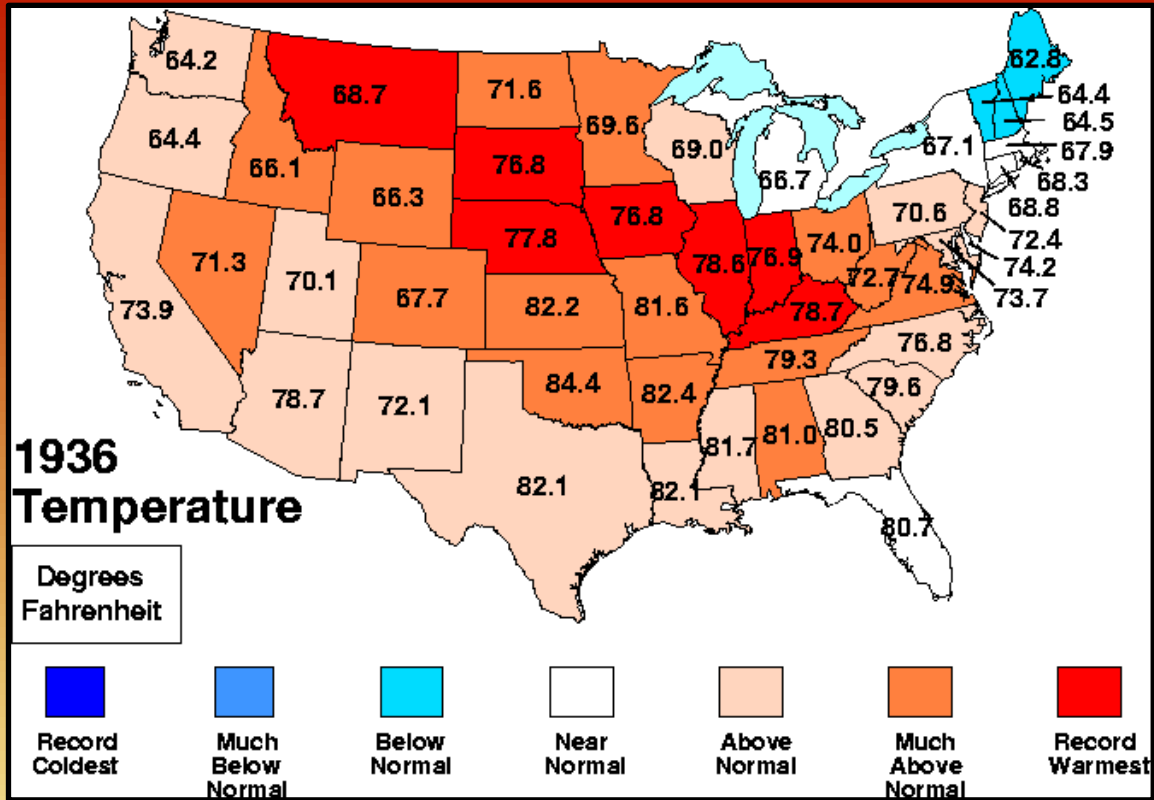
NOAA/NCDC Climate Division Precipitation Anomalies (in)  
Jul 1936  
Versus 1950–1995 Longterm Average



NOAA/ESRL PSD and CIRES-CU

-5.0 -4.0 -3.0 -2.0 -1.0 0.0 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0

# 1936 - It Could Have Been Worse





Summer of 1992

*"The Year Without a Summer"*

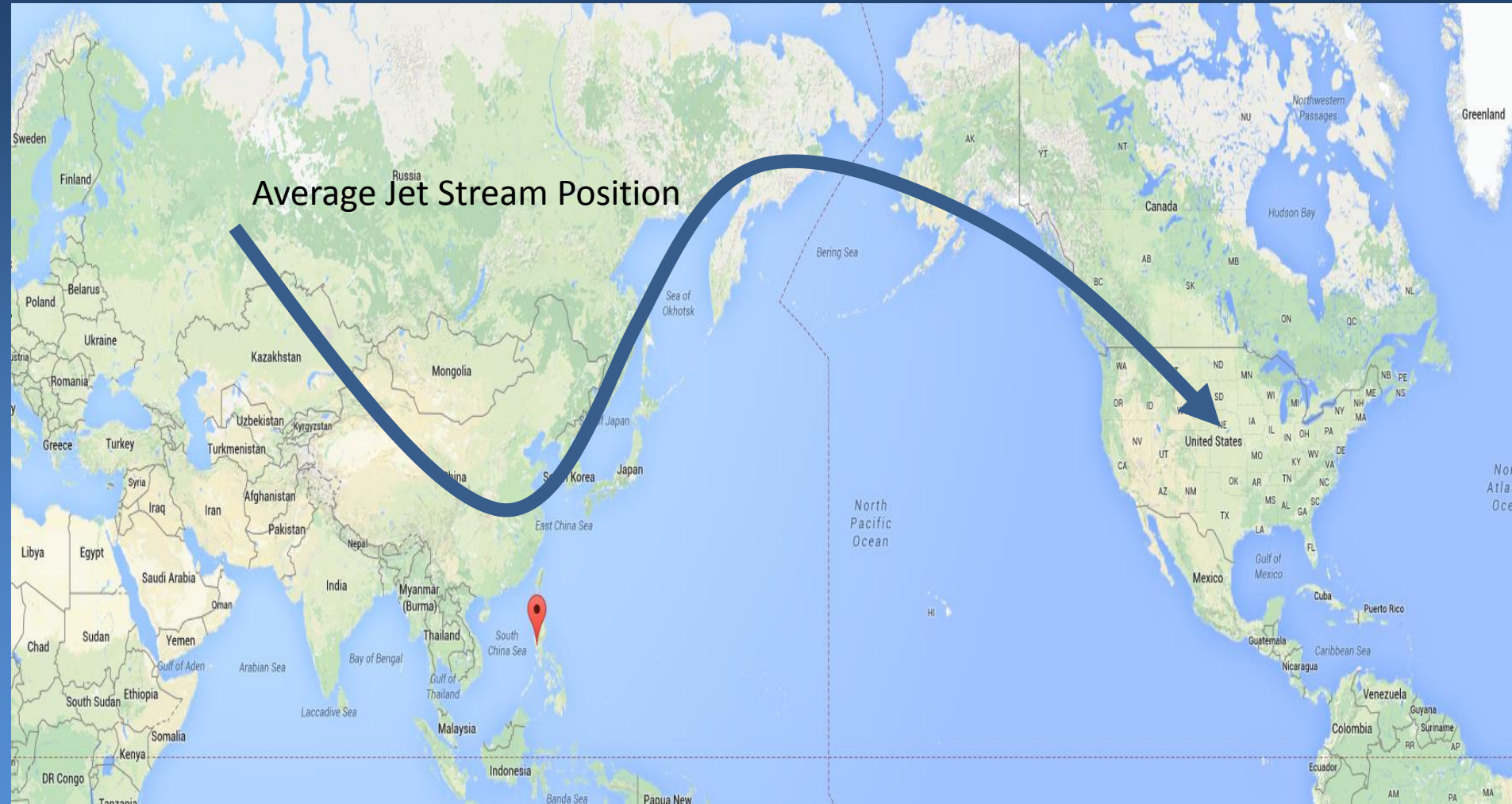
# 1992 – The Year Without A Summer



Mt. Pinatubo Eruption - Philippines June 1991

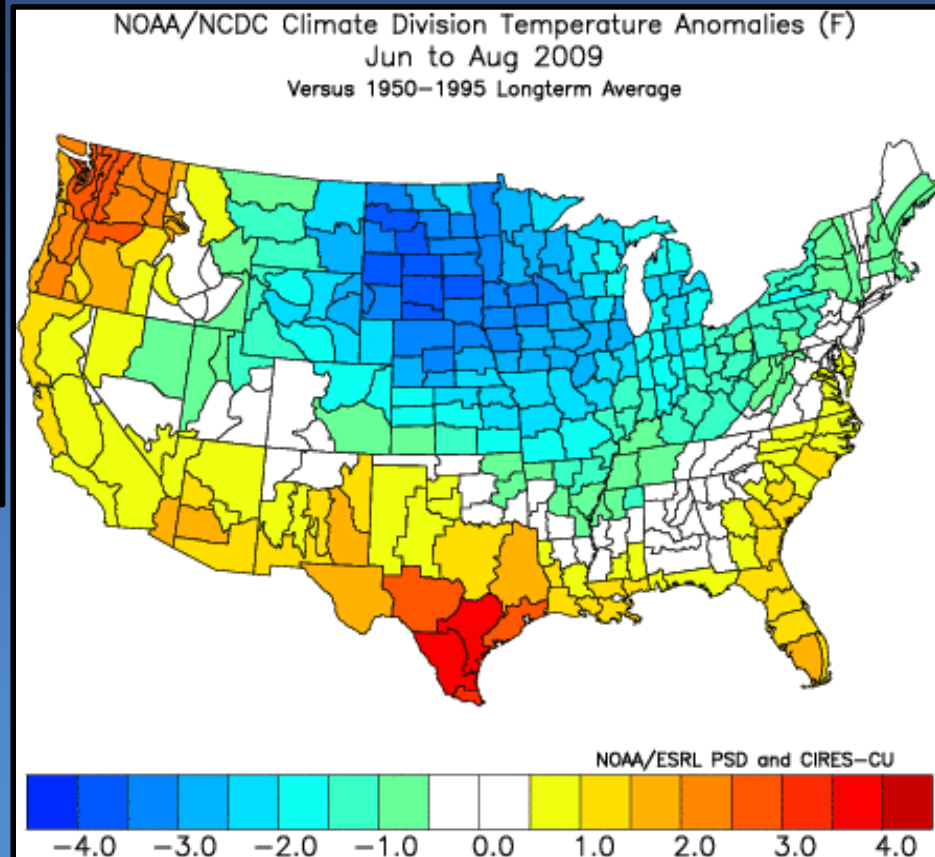
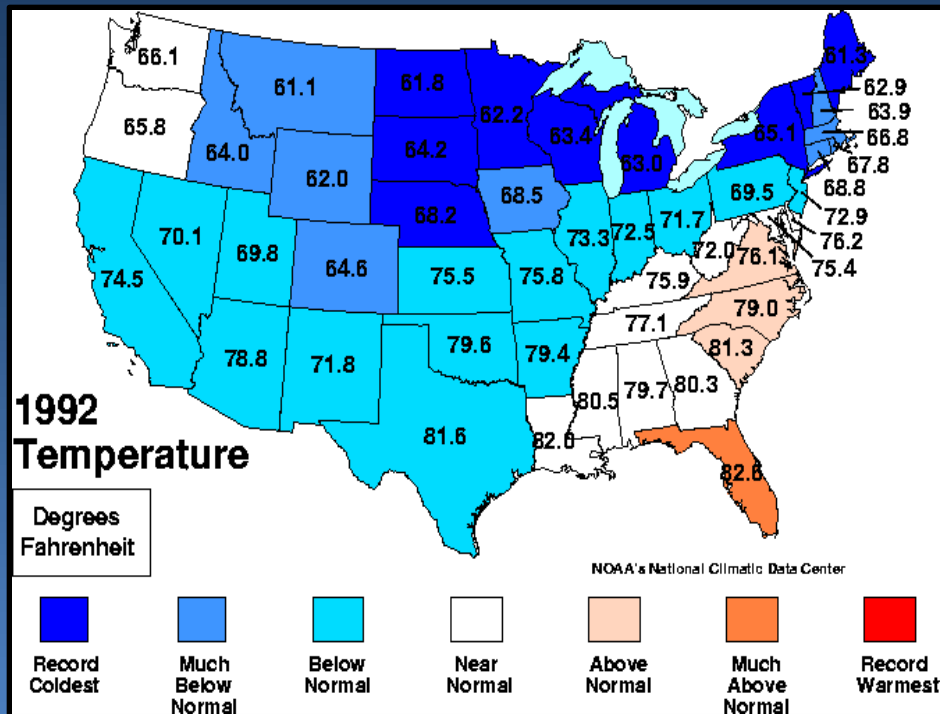
- June 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption sends record setting amounts of ash into the atmosphere for the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Resultant ash cloud reduces sunlight reaching the Earth's surface by nearly 10%.
- Northern Hemisphere average temperatures decrease by 0.9°F to 1.1°F, with global temperatures dipping by 0.5°C

# Why Such an Influence?



# July 1992 Average Temperatures

Interestingly – not terribly dissimilar from the summer of 2009



# Some Cold Mornings!

Location	Date	Low Temp
Sault Ste. Marie	6/22/1992	31°
Tahquamenon Falls	6/22/1992	26°
Tahquamenon Falls	7/21/1992	29°
Marquette	6/22/1992	32°
Ironwood	6/21/1992	28°
Newberry	7/21/1992	32°

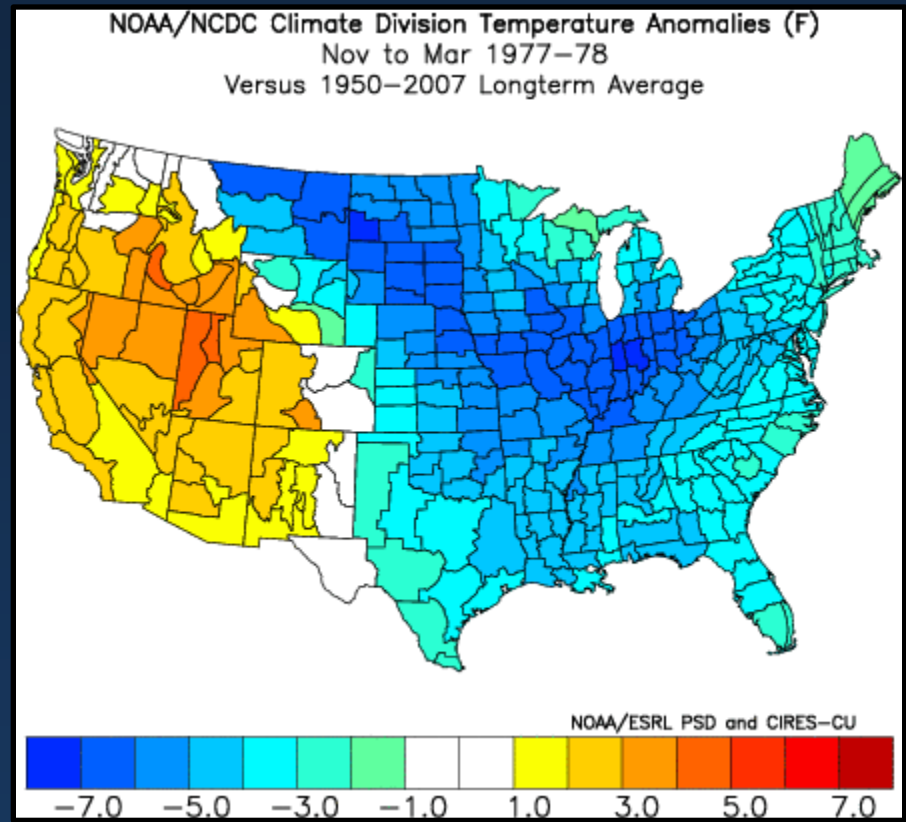
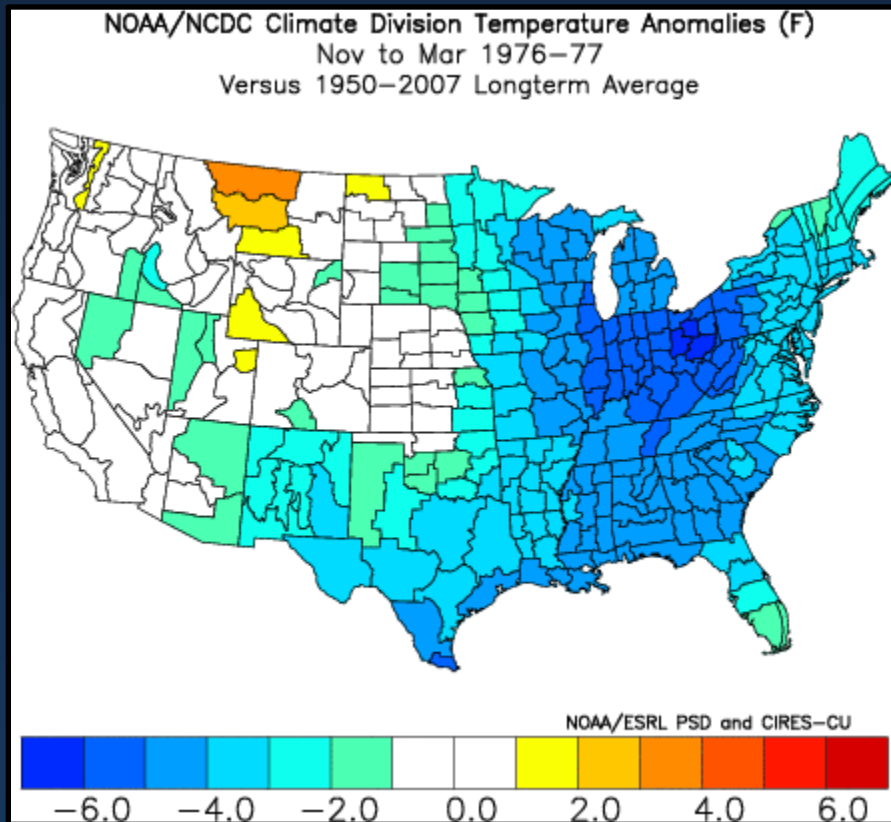
# Extreme Winters of 1976-1978

*“One for the Record Books”*

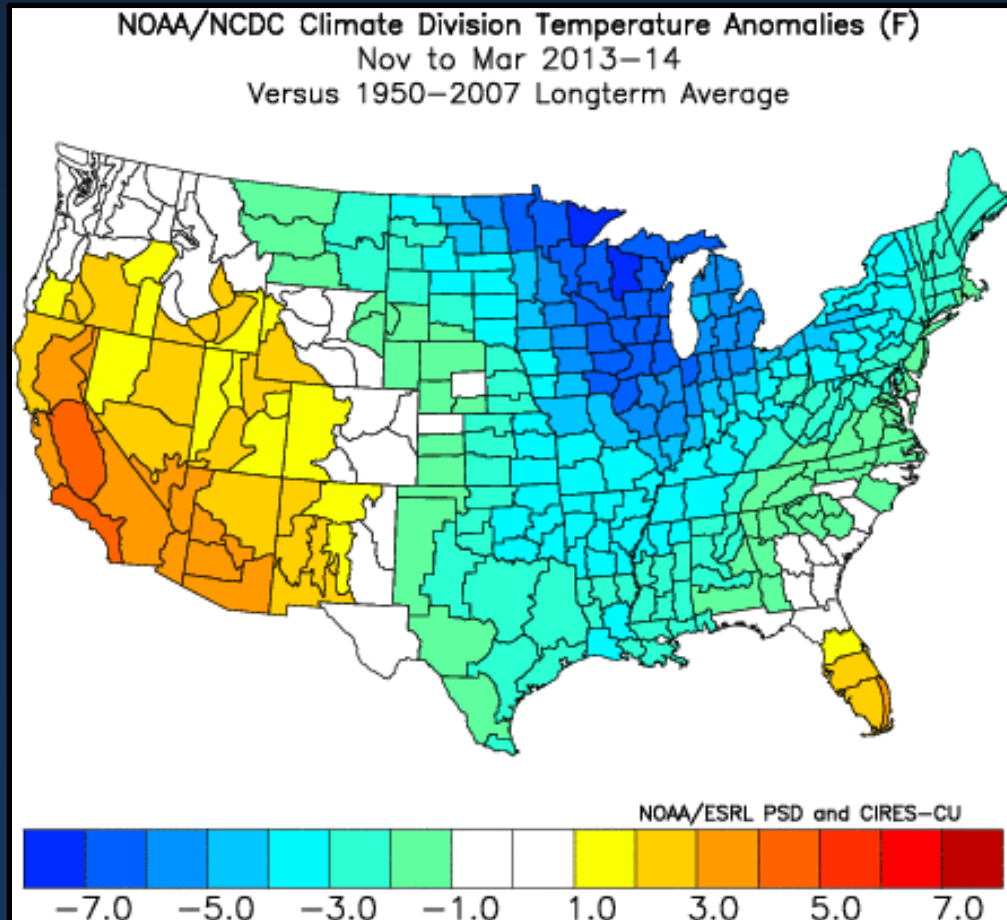




# Cold Winters of 1976-77 and 1977-78



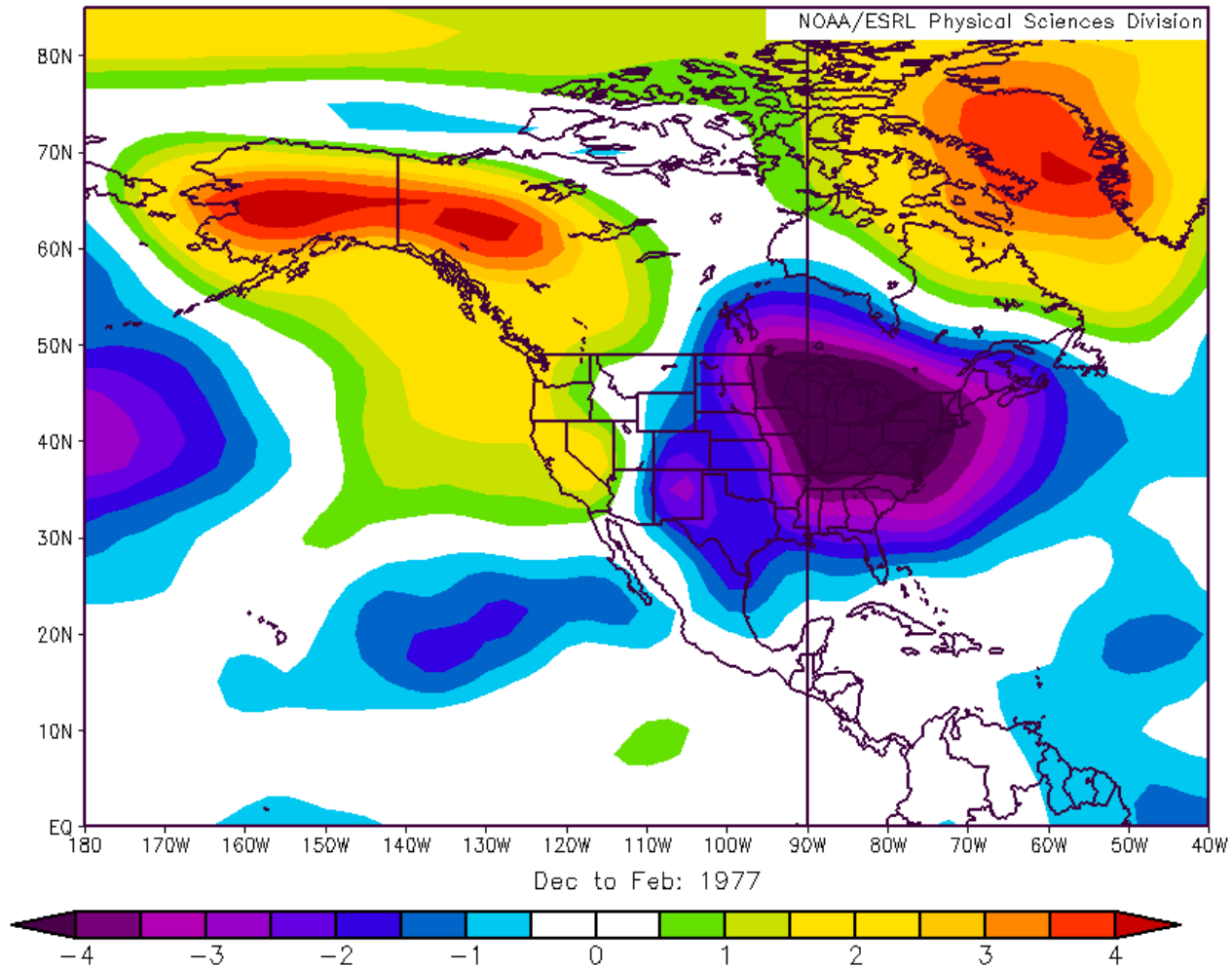
# Cold Winter of 1976-77 Comparison to Last Year



- 1976: Cold began in earnest in October and persisted through early March. Quick moderation into the spring months.
- Cold was far-reaching, with Lake Erie completely frozen by New Years Day.
- Ships became stuck in the Chesapeake Bay!
- 2013: Cold began in earnest in October and persisted through April. The spring and summer were also cold!

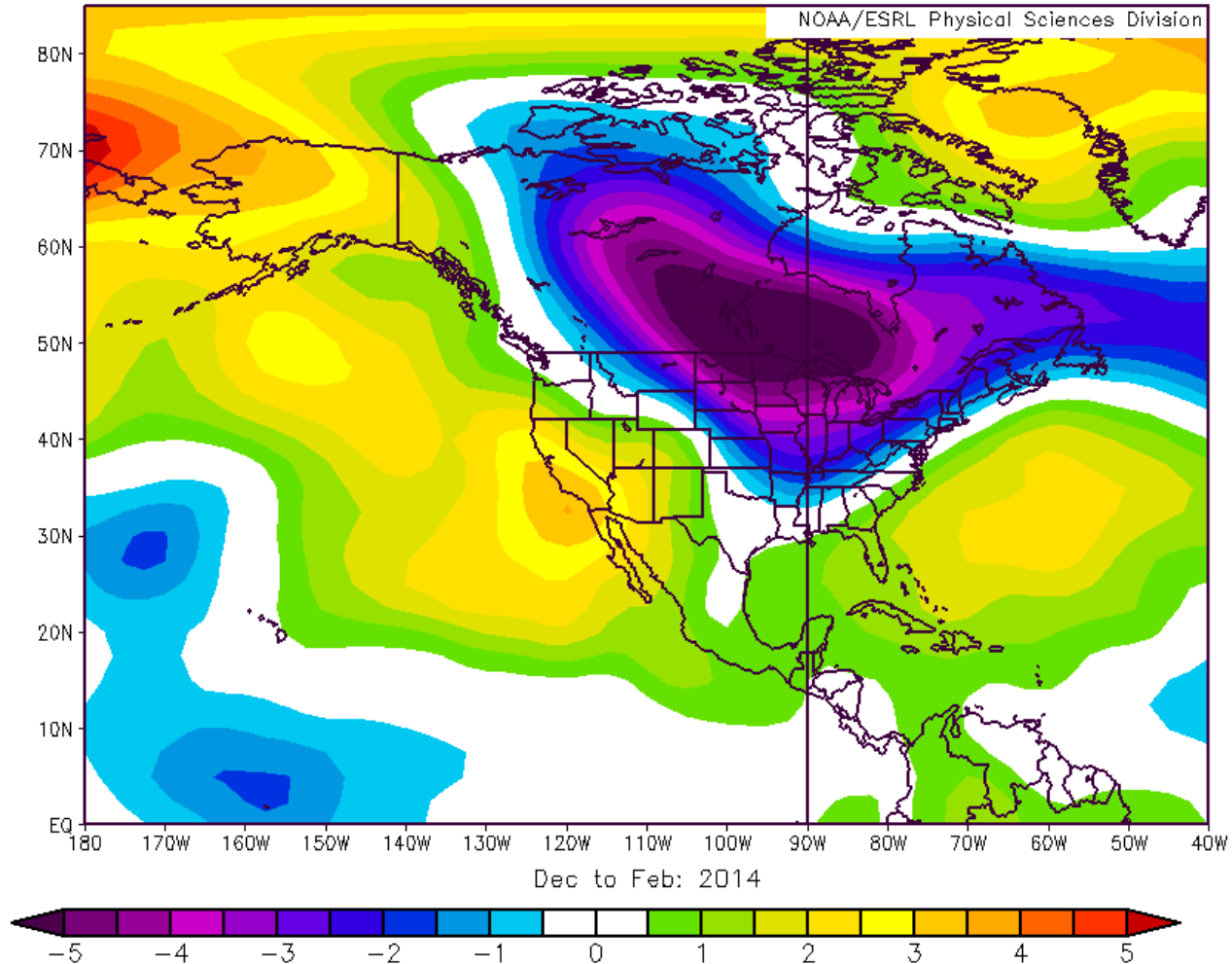
# 1976-77 Upper Level Pattern

NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis  
850mb air (C) Composite Anomaly 1981-2010 climo

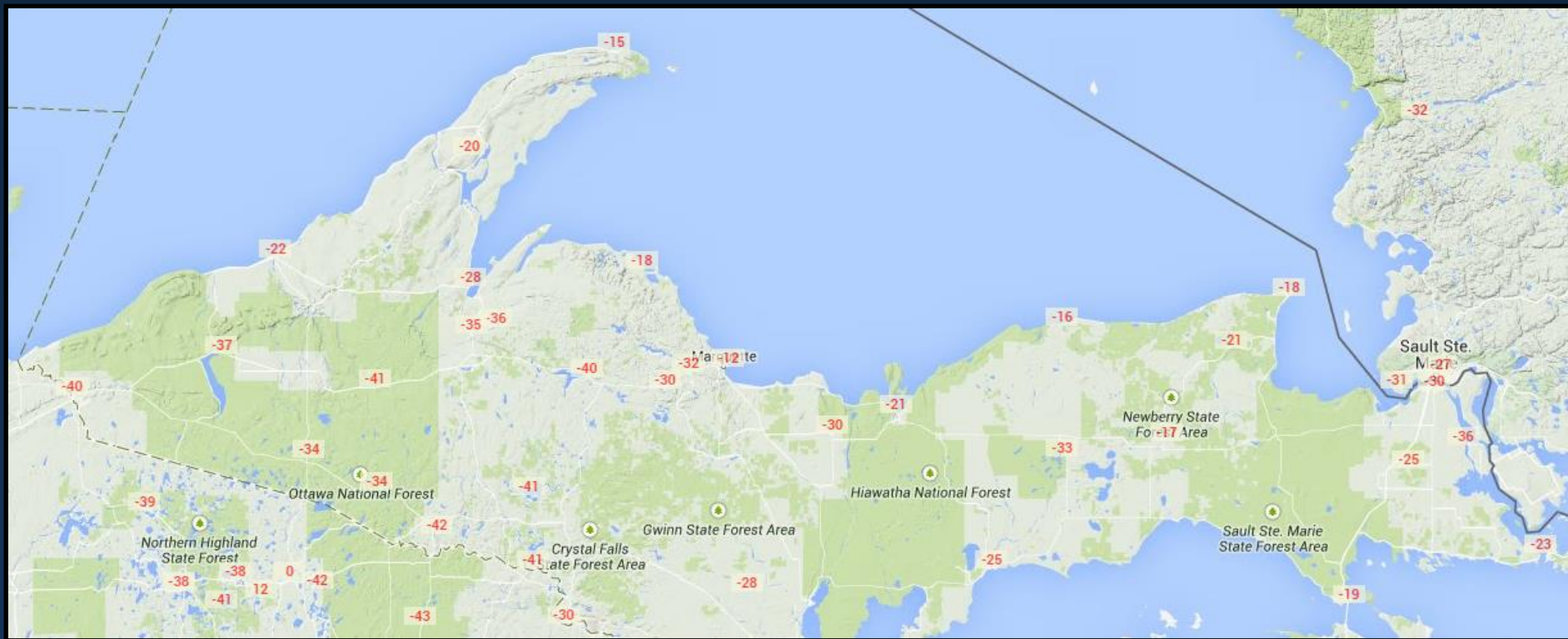


# 2013-14 Upper Level Pattern

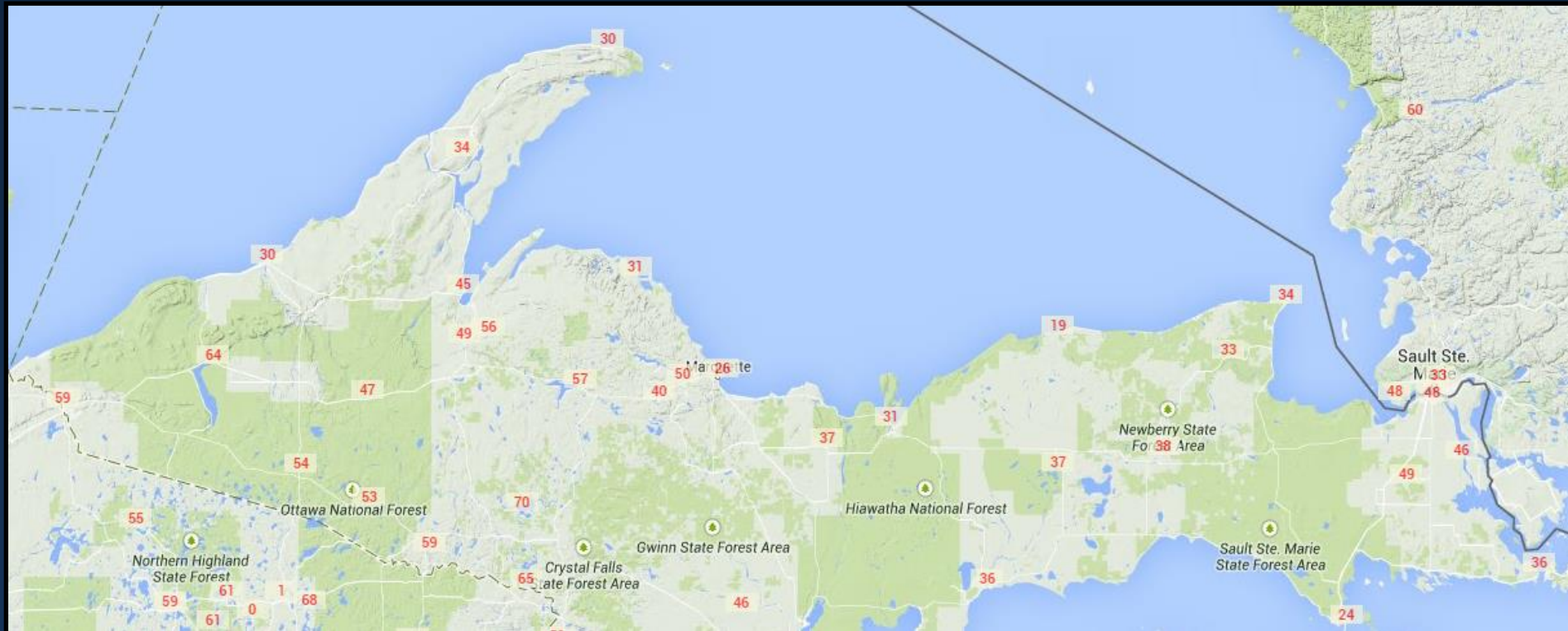
NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis  
850mb air (C) Composite Anomaly 1981-2010 climo



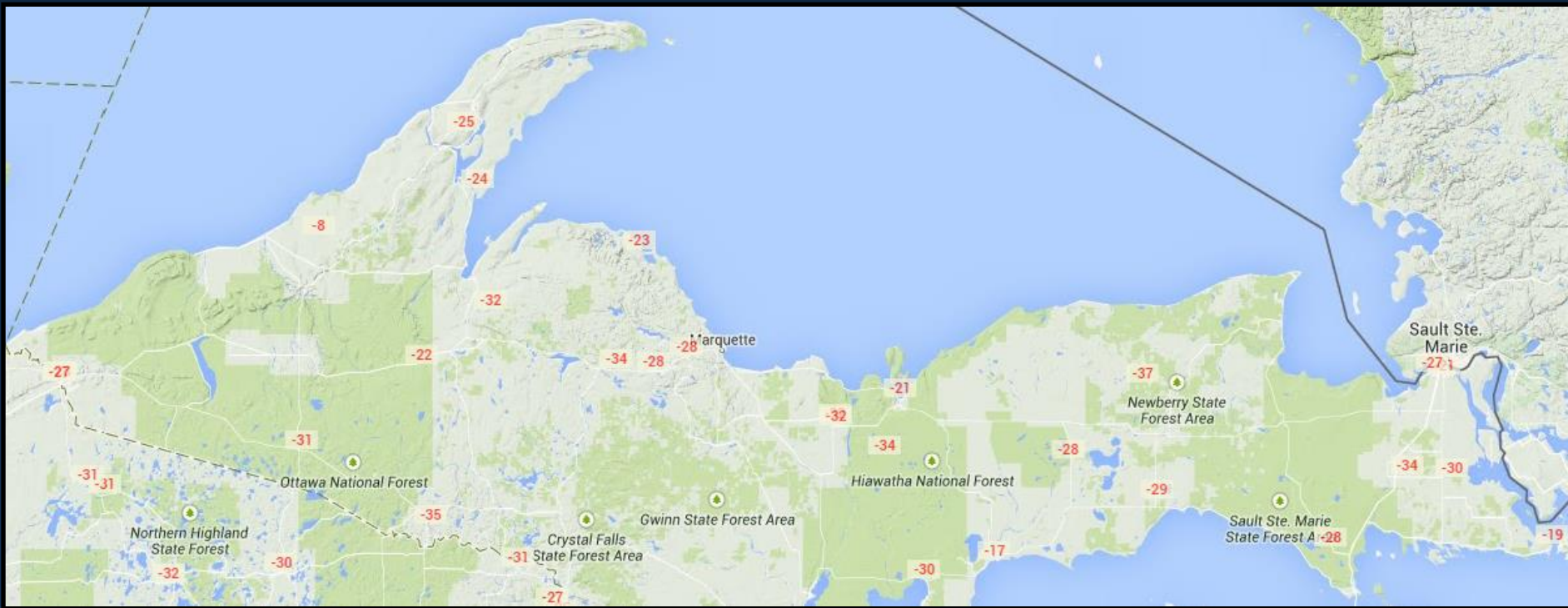
# Coldest 1976-77 Temperatures



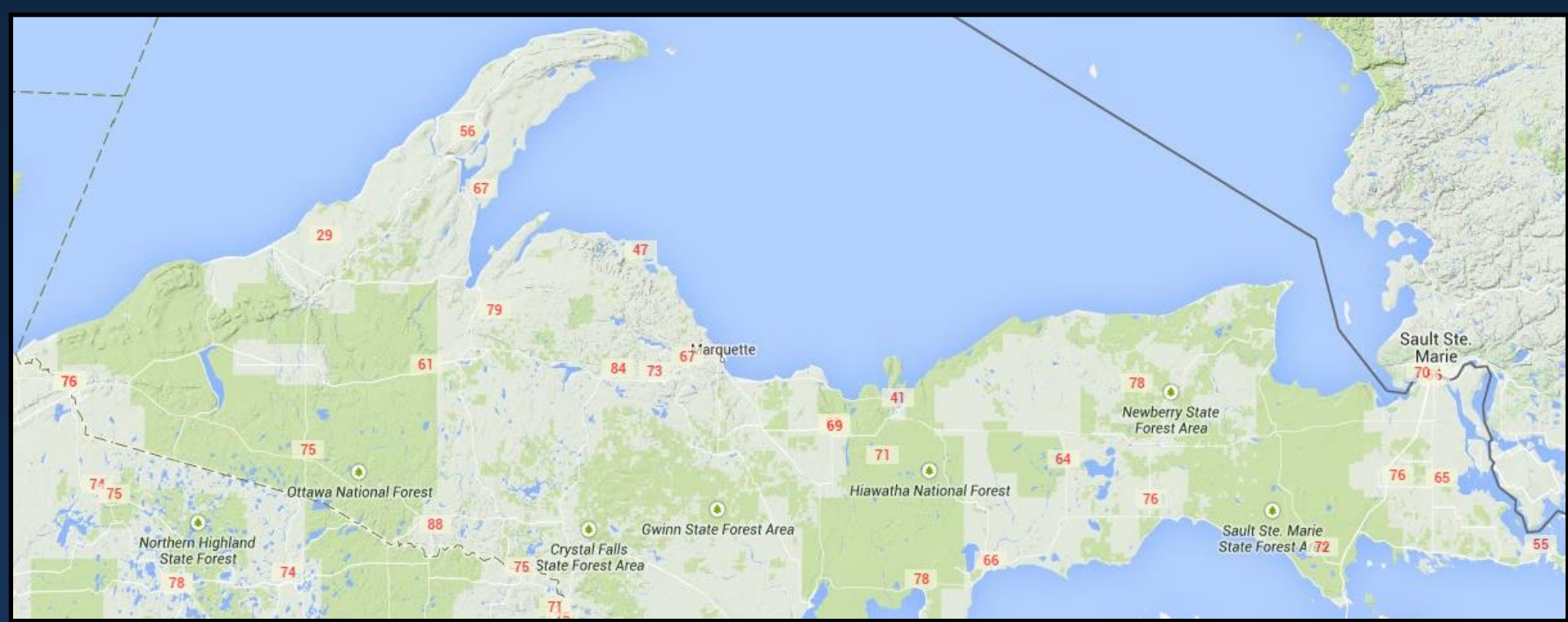
# 1976-77 Number of Days Below 0°F



# Coldest 2013-14 Temperatures



# 2013-14 Number of Days Below 0°F





# Tornadoes of the U.P.

*"This isn't Kansas!"*



Z

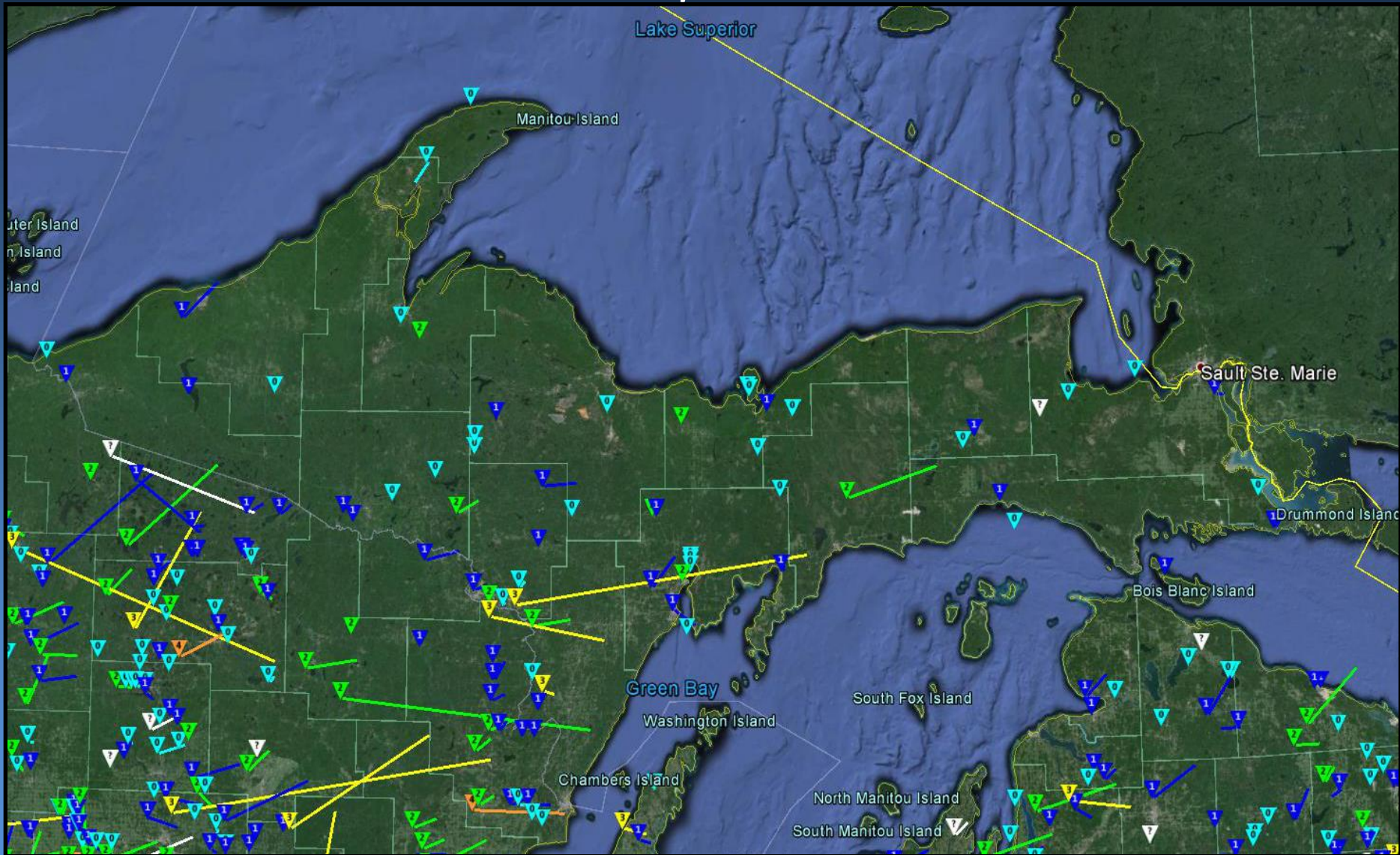
Dexter, Michigan

**NICK**

©201

# Tornadoes of the U.P.

*60 tornadoes reported since 1950*



# July 20, 1992 Gladstone Tornado

## MINOR INJURIES REPORTED AS APPARENT TORNADO

AP, Associated Press

Jul. 20, 1992 9:28 AM

GLADSTONE, MICH. — A powerful storm hit Gladstone, a small Peninsula city, cutting power to many homes.

The storm hit Sunday night, said.

"Apparently, two trees were uprooted," said safety dispatcher Jim Richardson.

"Several business signs were blown over."

National Weather Service meteorologist said the storm that hit Gladstone was a "microburst."

Harris said damage to buildings was minimal. Among the injured were two children.

An uprooted tree cut power to several homes, Harris said. He could not say how many were without power.

The tornado picked up debris and hit a water tank, knocking it over and spilling water.

Crews from several towns were working to clear debris.

"We're in the process of clearing debris," Harris said.

Gladstone is about 10 miles north of Escanaba.



*A rare photograph of an Upper Michigan tornado. (Photo by Helen Micheau)*

his Upper

er Jim Richardson

dstone Public

flipped over all

firm the storm that

hospitalization.

ver Co. did repairs,

valve broke on the

scene this morning.

# Major Michigan Fires

Fire	Date	Location
Great Michigan Fires	October 8, 1871	multiple locations
Port Huron Fire of 1871	October 8, 1871	The Thumb
Peshtigo Fire	October 8, 1871	Menominee County, Michigan
Thumb Fire	September 5, 1881	The Thumb
Metz Fire	October 15, 1908	Metz
Ontonagon Fire	August 1896	Ontonagan
Seney Fire	August - October, 1976	Seney National Wildlife Refuge
Ishpeming fire	October 1896	Ishpeming
Mack Lake fire	May 5, 1980	Mio
Duck Lake fire	May-June 2012	Luce County
Sleeper Lake Fire	August, 2007	Luce County
Au Sable-Oscoda Fire	July 11, 1911	Oscoda County

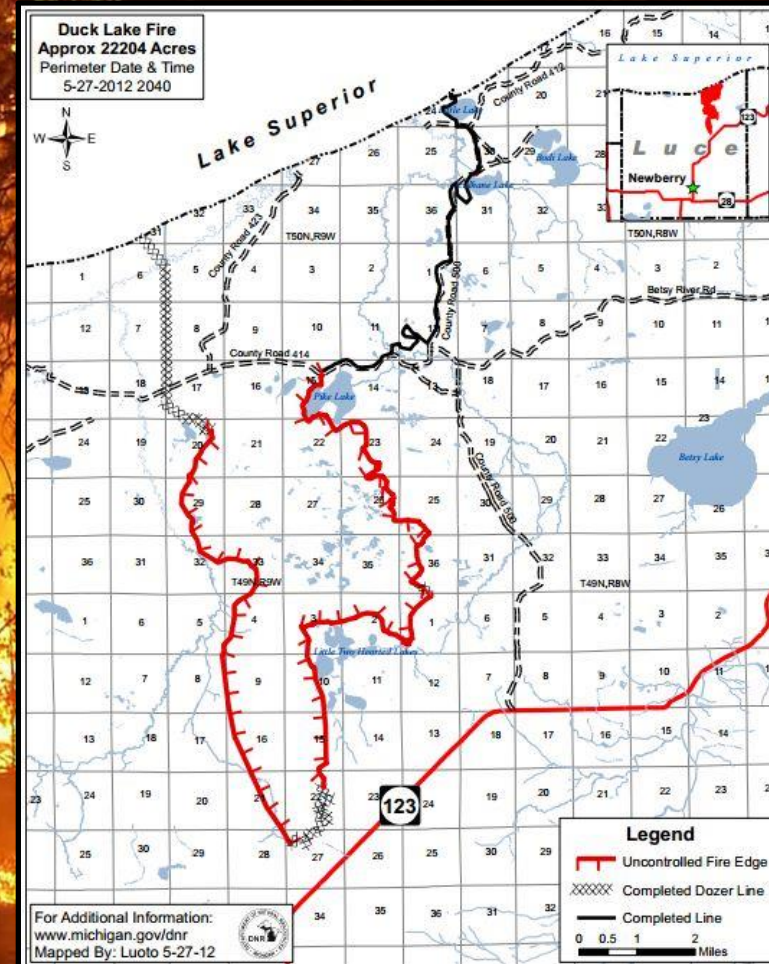


Notes
an, and the cities of <a href="#">Holland</a> , <a href="#">Manistee</a> and
fire
fire
rescue train derailed in a burning lumber siding
nd in <a href="#">peat</a>
use of numerous fires burning the area that



# 2012 Duck Lake Fire

- Lightning induced
- Burned from May 23 – June 15, 2012
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest wildfire in Michigan since 1881
- 21,135 total burned acres
- 136 structures lost



Thank You!



Any Questions?

