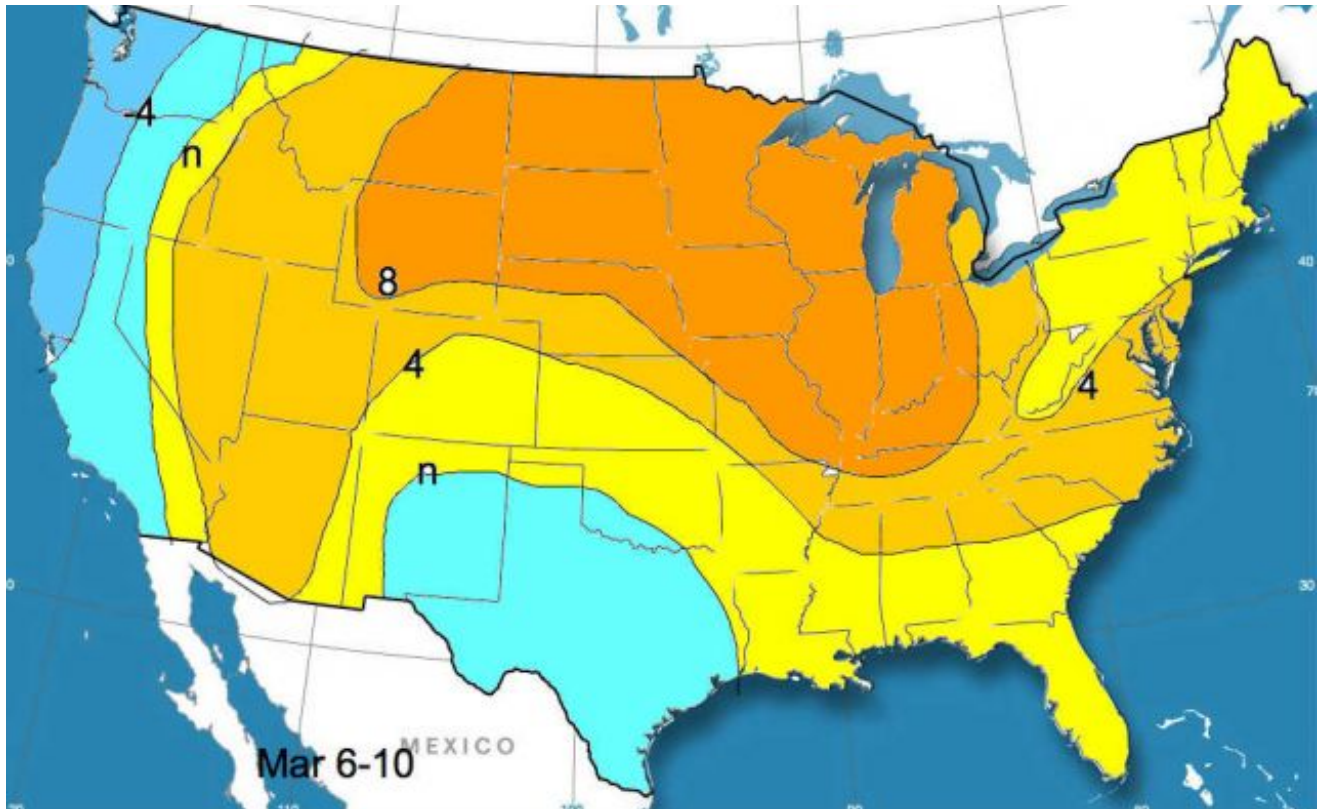




March 6, 2012

March 6-10:

While chill slips through the Northern Plains and into the East for enough back-and-forth to hold what is going to happen, and we have some cold and leftover winter in the Southwest, the front 5 days are the start of the warmup overall. There is a 1-2 day colder period moving from the Northern Plains into the Northeast, but the warming that occurs before tips the scale to warm. The problems in the southern Rockies with the upper low lagging behind are seen here and in the 6-10 day period. A major, heavy rain event is on the way for Texas.

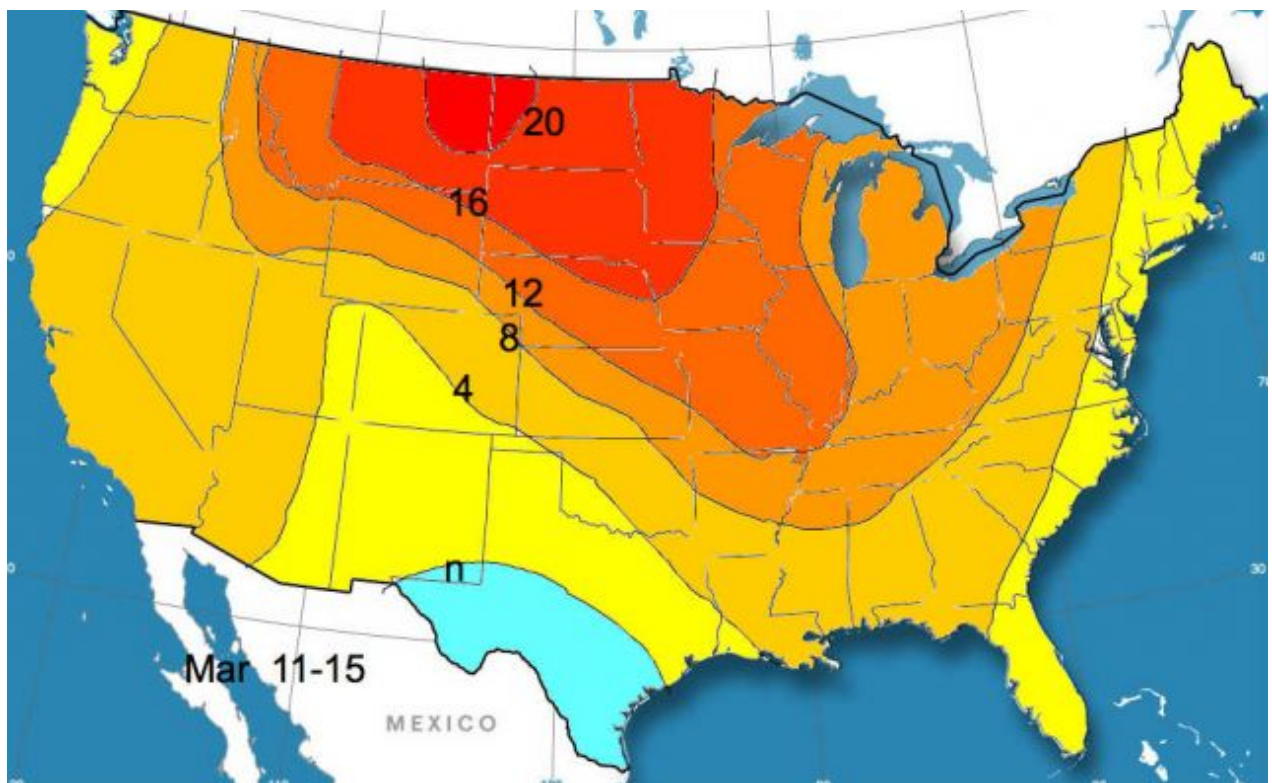


Average temperature: +6

Confidence: high

March 11-15

The upper low gets caught in the Southern Plains with cooler conditions there and the threat of heavy rains in Texas. The rest of the nation is off to the races, temperature wise.

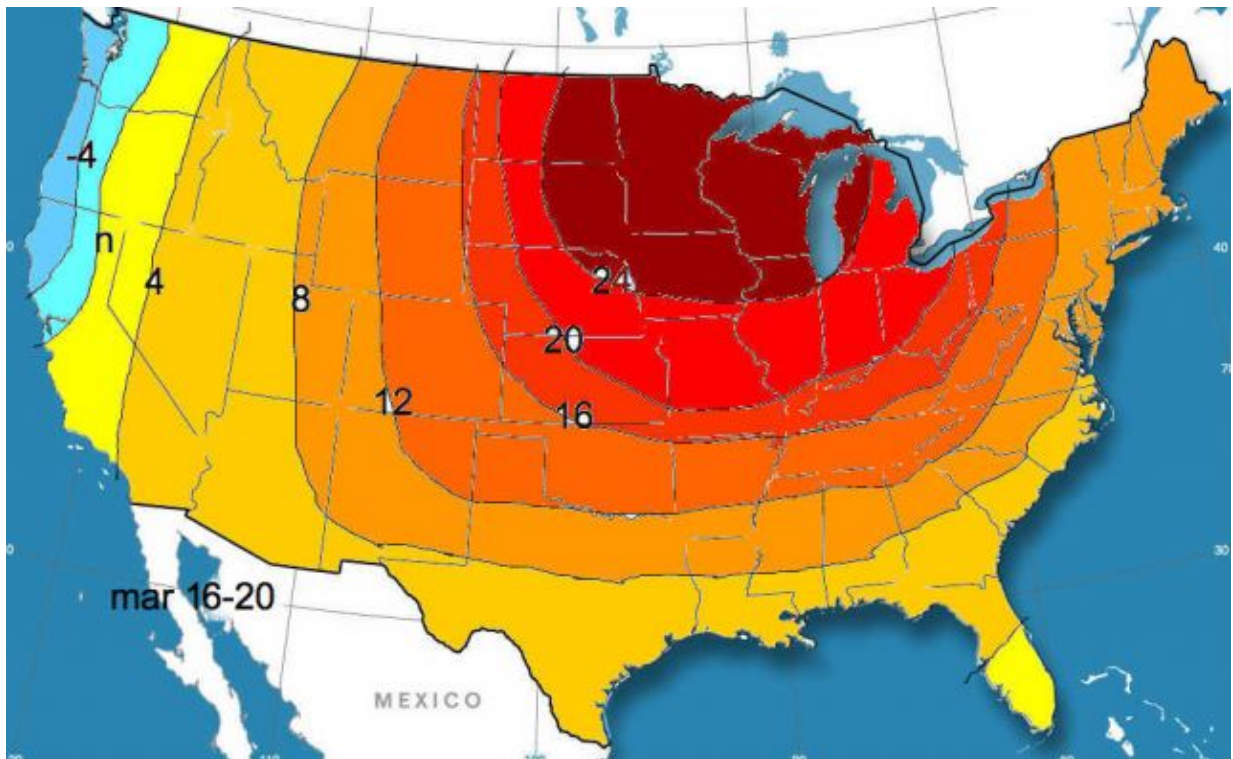


Average temperature: +6.4

Confidence: high

March 16-20

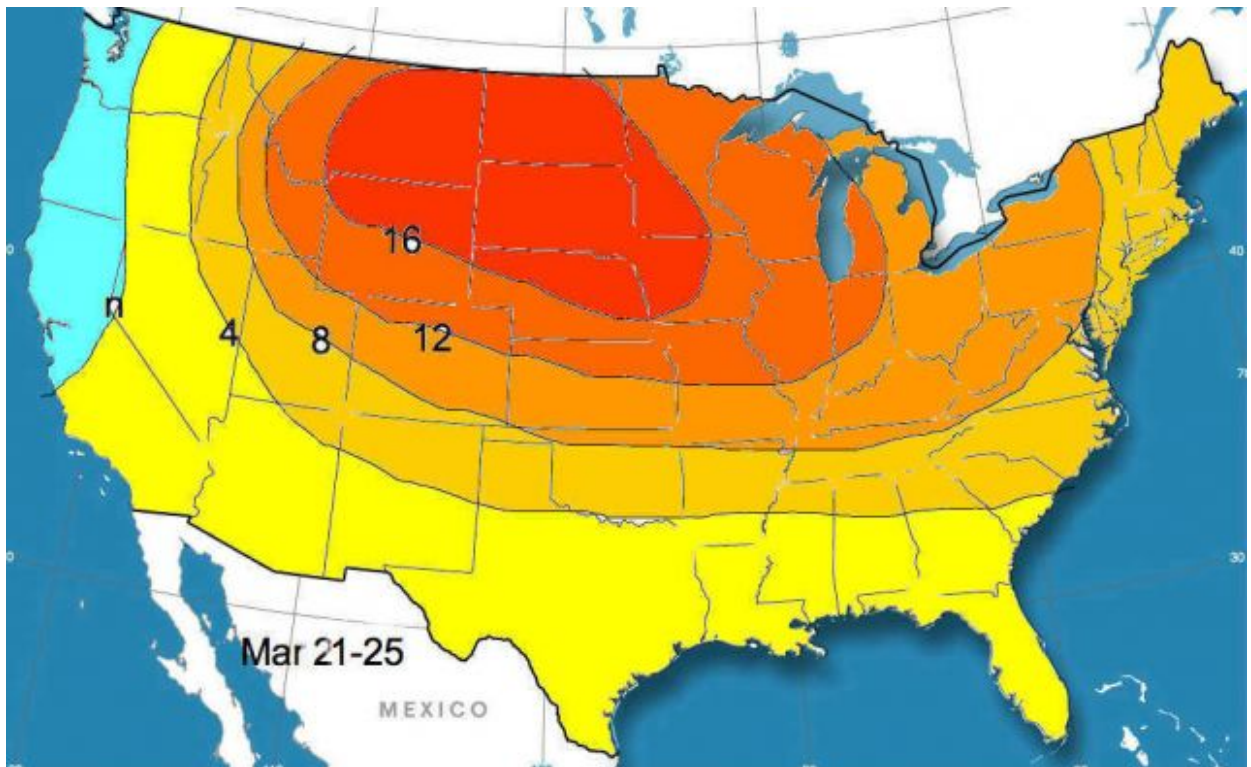
I have not changed the 11-20 day period as the cooling that evolves in the means will be after this time period.



Average temperature: +14

Confidence: high

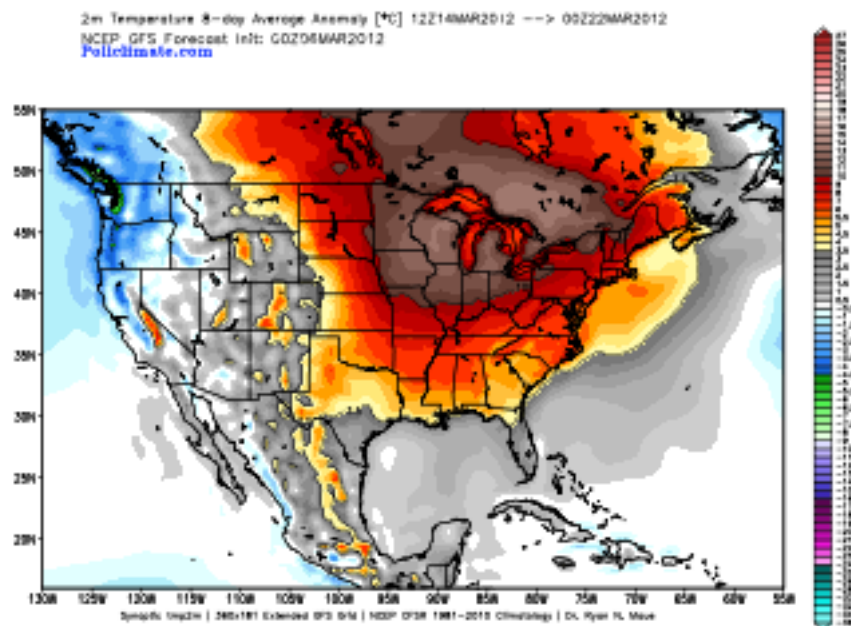
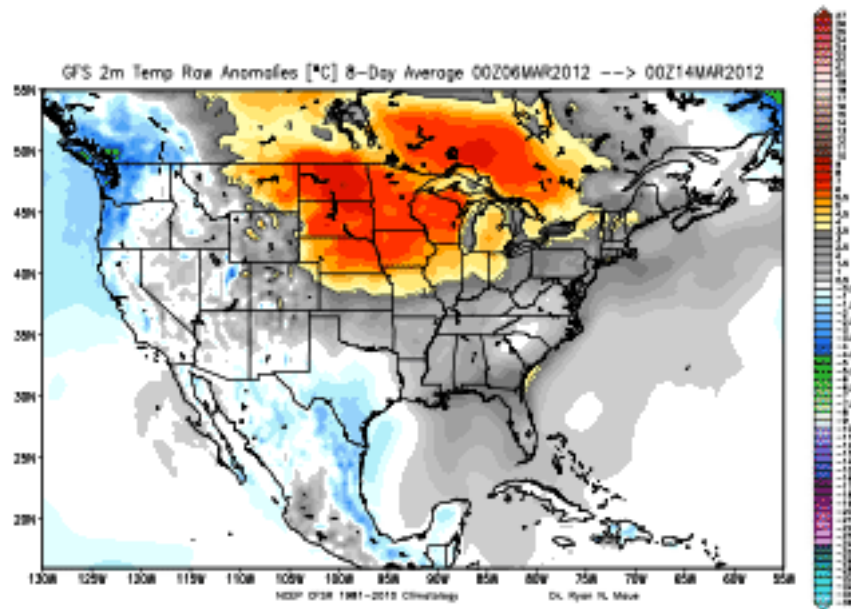
March 21-25



Average temperature: +7.4

Confidence: high

With the models dropping a red pain bomb of warmth on the northern US, confidence is high in the forecast. A look at the front 8 days of the GFS shows this, and the back 8 even more. This has been captured in the forecasts being issued here.

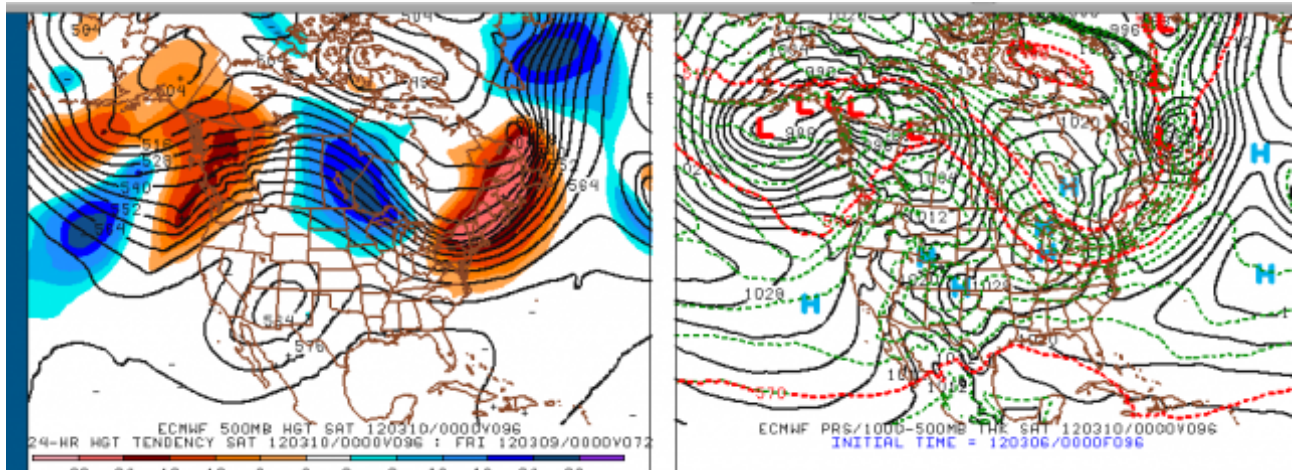


The only question(s) for debate had to do with the one last shot of cold coming across the north, which I model into days 1-5 by retarding the totals in the northeast, cooling Texas (lasts into the 6-10), and then figuring out when all this comes to an end. I don't think this ends before March 25, though it would not be surprising to see a very cold period relative to the season in many areas that one

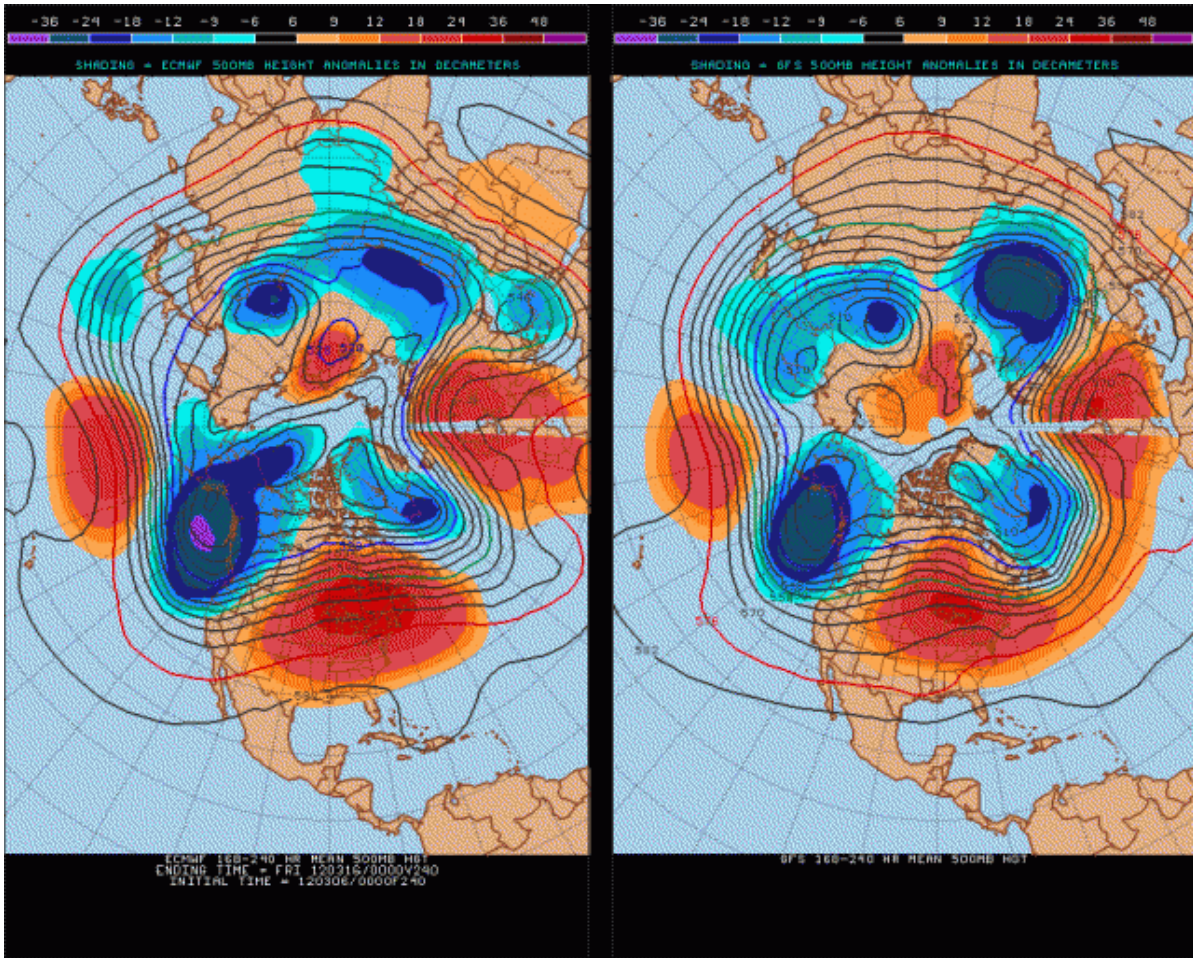
sees it so warm coming up.

Heavy rains will hit the Southern Plains later this week, though the severe weather will not be as bad as the last outbreak, with snow over the southern Rockies. Some snow moves through the Great Lakes as the week progresses in the form of flurries with the cold.

A snap shot at 96 hours shows the core of the cold in the lakes and the idea to be concerned about one last chilly shot (from last week) was a good one:



but by the 6-10, it's "Katie bar the door" warmth



Outside our worries about back door fronts over the Northeast trimming temperatures or the Pacific Northwest, one of the great warm spells in the last 100 years in March appears to be in the making.