

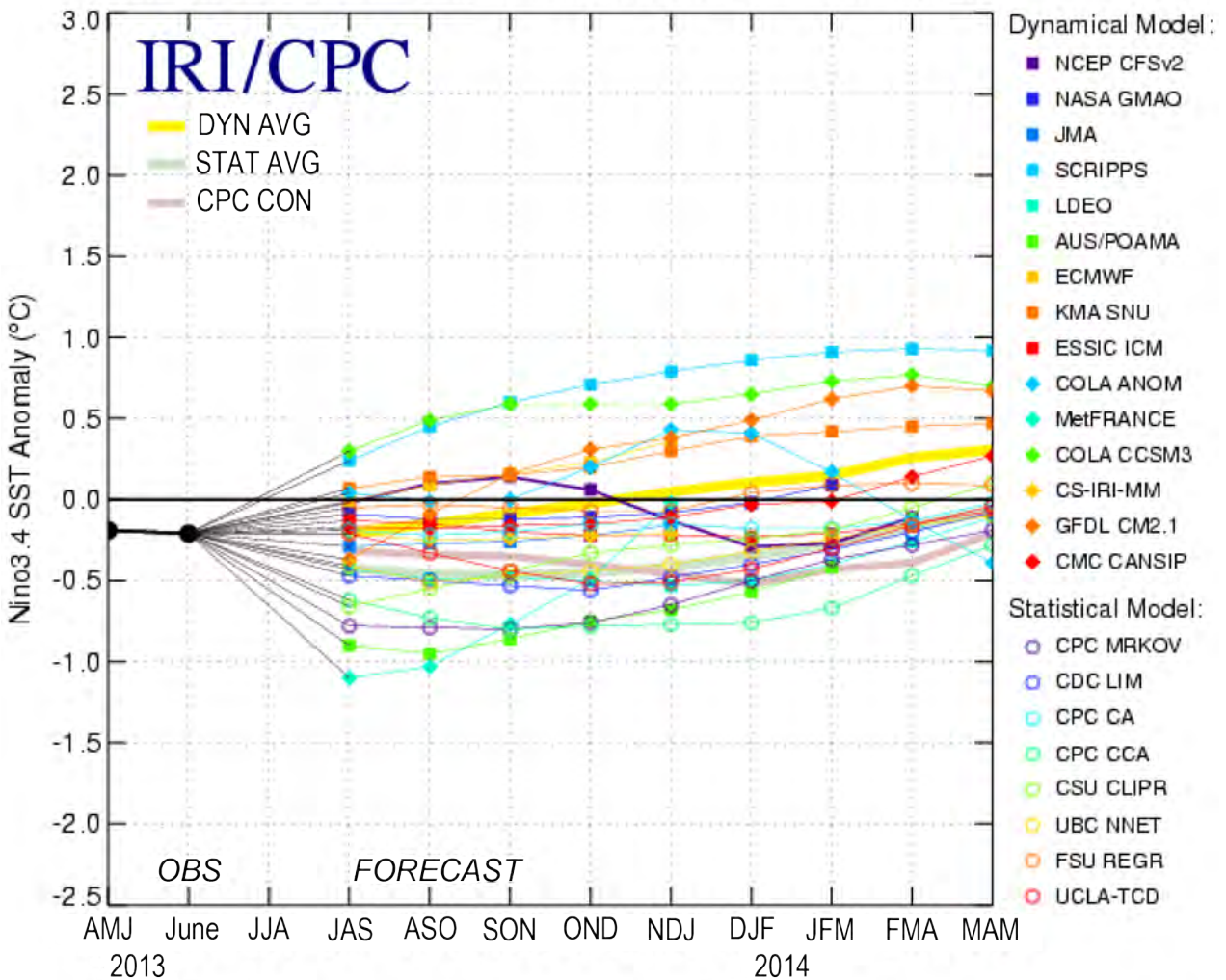
## DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Not surprisingly, since we are in the thick of summer, we saw a worsening of drought conditions and a decline in state-wide reservoir levels. Looking ahead, as we enter peak hurricane season for the next few months, scientists predict an above normal number of storms. Looking toward the fall, models suggest we'll have neither an El Niño nor La Niña (what the weather hipsters call "La Nada").

## EL NIÑO/ LA NIÑA ANALYSIS

This plot shows sea surface temperature anomalies (differences from long-term normal conditions) in the Pacific Ocean to assess El Niño (an anomaly of more than 0.5 degrees Celsius) or La Niña conditions (an anomaly of more than -0.5 degrees Celsius). The black line with black circles shows measured values, while the colorful lines show predictions by various techniques and models out through next year. The thick yellow line shows the average of all the predictions. In short, neutral conditions are predicted through the winter. For Texas, an El Niño generally means a wetter winter and a suppression of tropical storms, while La Niña generally means a drier winter.

Mid-Jul 2013 Plume of Model ENSO Predictions\*



\* ENSO is El Niño/Southern Oscillation. Figure courtesy of the International Research Institute for Climate and Society.

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