

Lightning Activity Level

LAL 1 – No thunderstorms.

LAL 2 – Isolated thunderstorms. Light rain will occasionally reach the ground. Lightning is very infrequent, 1-5 cloud to ground strikes in a 5 minute period.

LAL 3 – Widely scattered thunderstorms. Light to moderate rain will reach the ground. Lightning is infrequent, 6-10 cloud to ground strikes in a 5 minute period.

LAL 4 – Scattered thunderstorms. Moderate rain is commonly produced. Lightning is frequent, 11-15 cloud to ground strikes in a 5 minute period.

LAL 5 – Numerous thunderstorms. Rainfall is moderate to heavy. Lightning is frequent and intense, greater than 15 cloud to ground strikes in a 5 minute period.

LAL 6 – Same as LAL 3 except thunderstorms are dry (no rain reaches the ground). This type of lightning has the potential for extreme fire activity and is normally highlighted in fire weather forecasts with a Red Flag Warning.