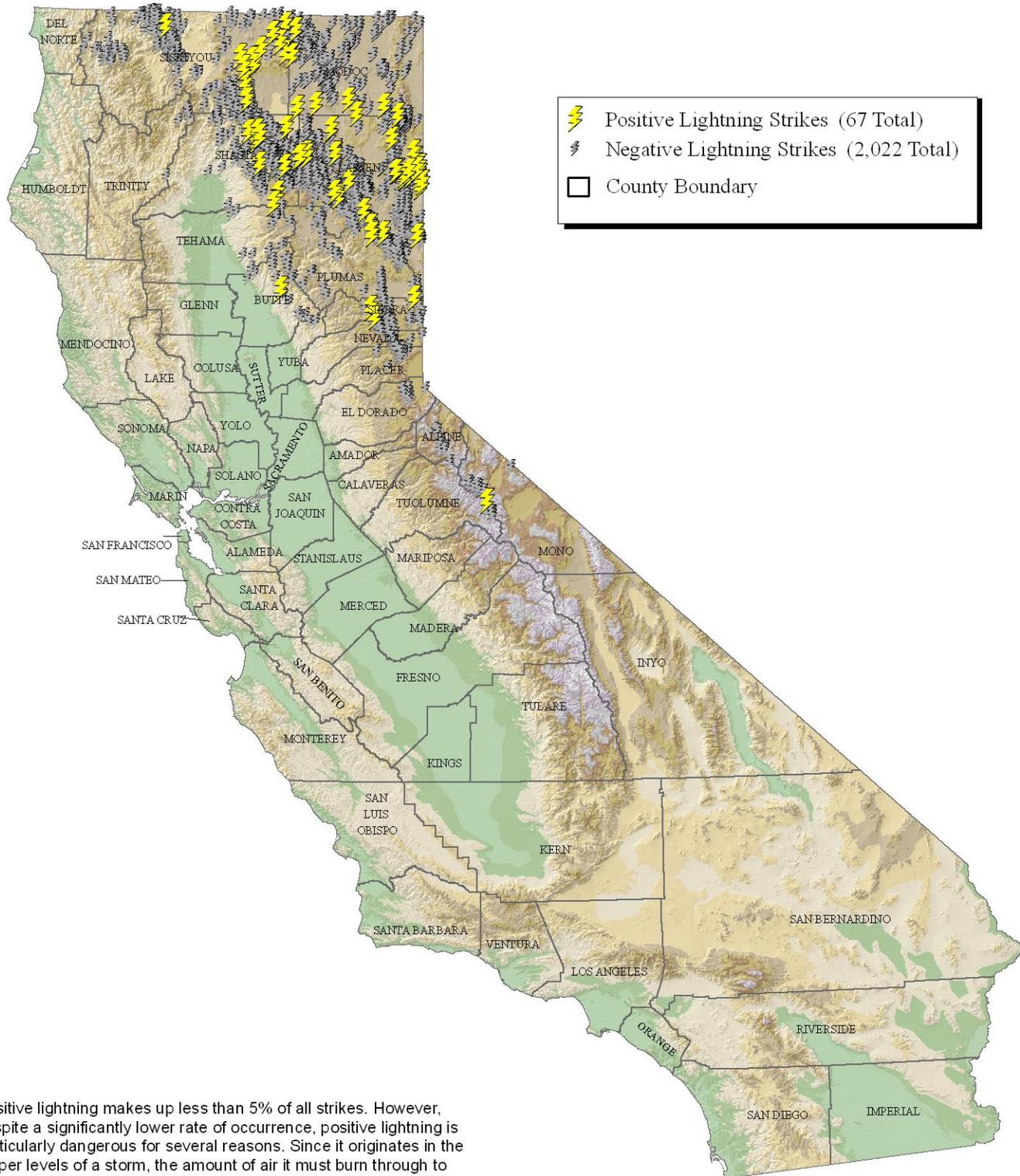


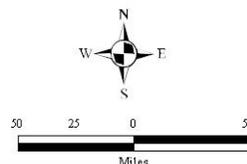
# CALIFORNIA LIGHTNING STRIKES

From 0001 Hrs - 8/01/08

To 2400 Hrs 8/02/08



Positive lightning makes up less than 5% of all strikes. However, despite a significantly lower rate of occurrence, positive lightning is particularly dangerous for several reasons. Since it originates in the upper levels of a storm, the amount of air it must burn through to reach the ground usually much greater. Therefore, its electric field typically is much stronger than a negative strike. Its flash duration is longer, and its peak charge and potential can be ten times greater than a negative strike; as much as 300,000 amperes and one billion volts! Positive flashes are believed to be responsible for a large percentage of forest fires and power line damage. Thus, positive lightning is much more lethal and causes greater damage than negative lightning.



Created by Cal-EMA- GIS, Kris Higgs  
 August 3, 2009 Source: BLM Lightning  
 /Active\_Incident/Fires/2009/Statewide/  
 Lightning/projects/Statewide\_Lightning\_080309\_A.mxd

