



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Andy Bollenbacher*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

## Monday, March 17, 2025

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).





# Summary

- **Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns today for NM, OK and much of TX. Extreme (level 3 of 3) fire weather concerns in W OK, TX/OK Panhandle this afternoon.**
- **Critical to Extreme (levels 2-3 of 3) fire weather concerns tomorrow afternoon in NM, W TX, and W OK.**
- **Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns continue through the week for much of NM, OK, and TX for the rest of this week.**
- **Slight risk (level 2 of 5) for severe weather Sunday for SE OK, AR, NE TX, and N LA.**
- **Isolated minor river flooding in AR and LA will end by tonight, but continue across E TX through the remainder of the week.**





# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Monday, Mar 17	Tuesday, Mar 18	Wednesday, Mar 19	Thursday, Mar 20	Friday, Mar 21	Saturday, Mar 22	Monday, Dec 23
Severe Storms						SE OK, AR, NE TX, N LA	
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Fire Weather	NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, SW/W TX	NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, SW/W TX	SE NM, N/W/STX	E NM, TX Panhandle, W/STX	E NM, OK, N/W TX	E NM, W OK, N/W TX	E NM, W OK, N/W TX
Winter							
River Flooding	ETX, AR, LA	ETX	ETX	ETX	ETX	ETX	

*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 4 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.\**

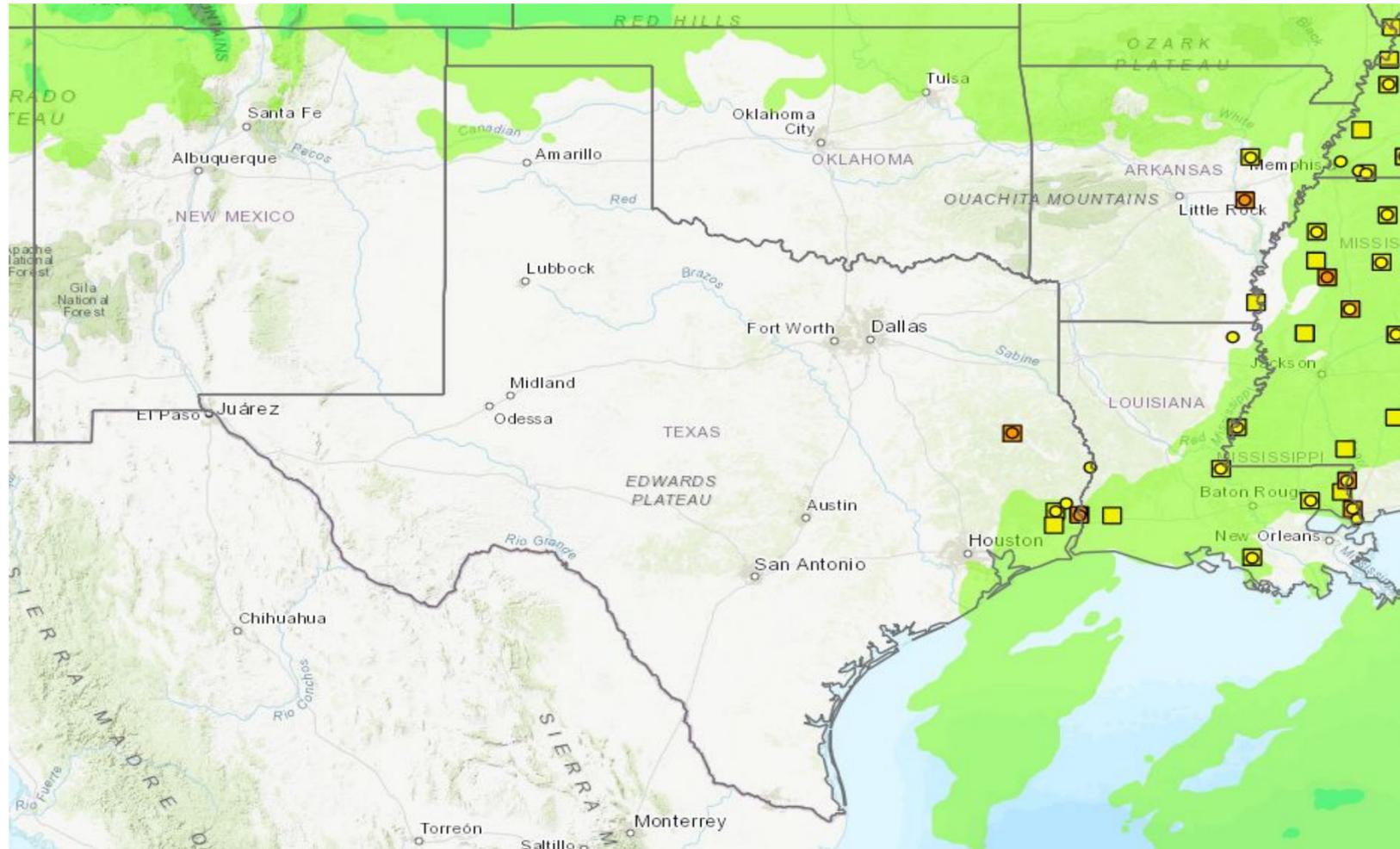
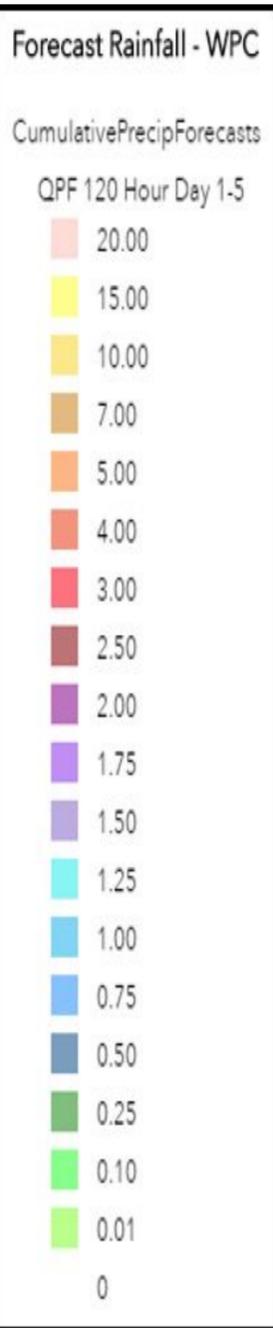
*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



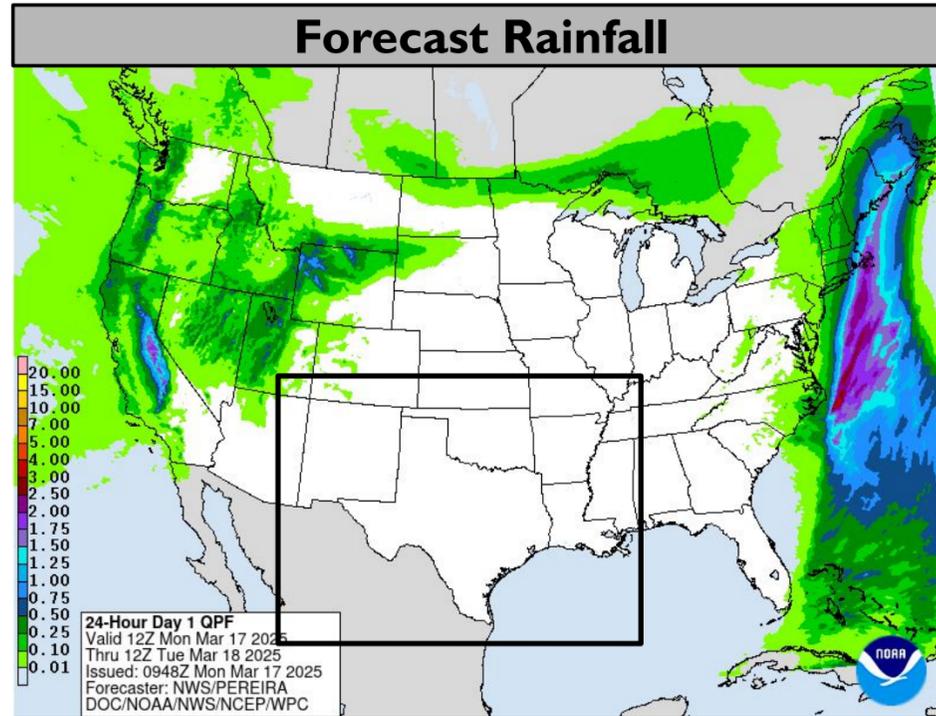
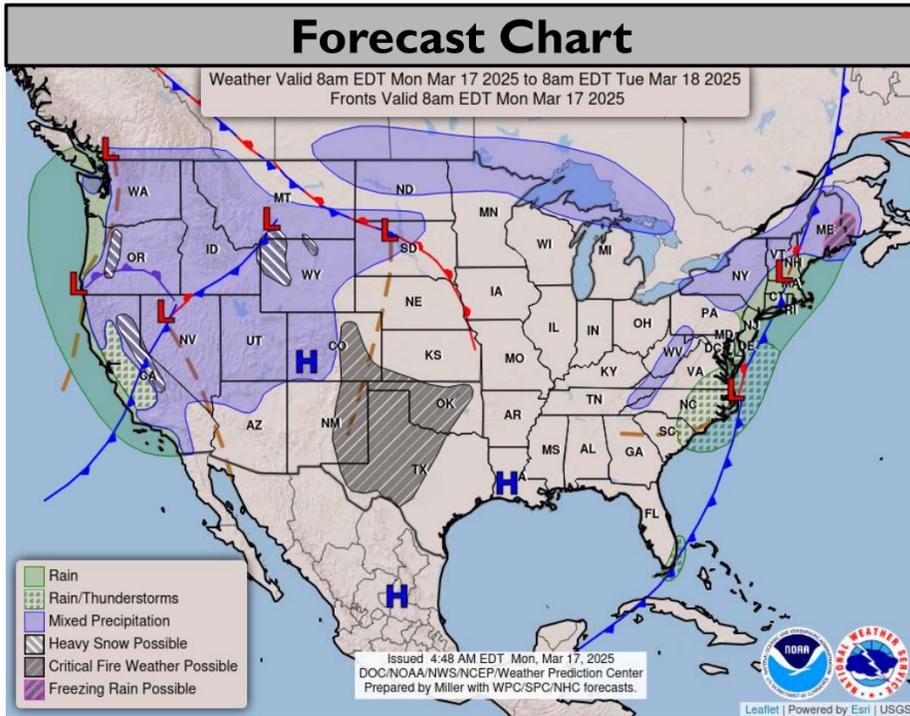
Observed River Flood Status	Forecast River Flood Status
Major Flooding	Major Flooding
Moderate Flooding	Moderate Flooding
Minor Flooding	Minor Flooding
Near	Near Flood
action	No Flooding

**Isolated minor river flooding in AR and LA will end by tonight, but continue across E TX through the remainder of the week.**

*Note: Numerical levels (e.g. level 1 of 4) will not be assigned to riverine flooding due to the varying levels of impacts across flood categories.*

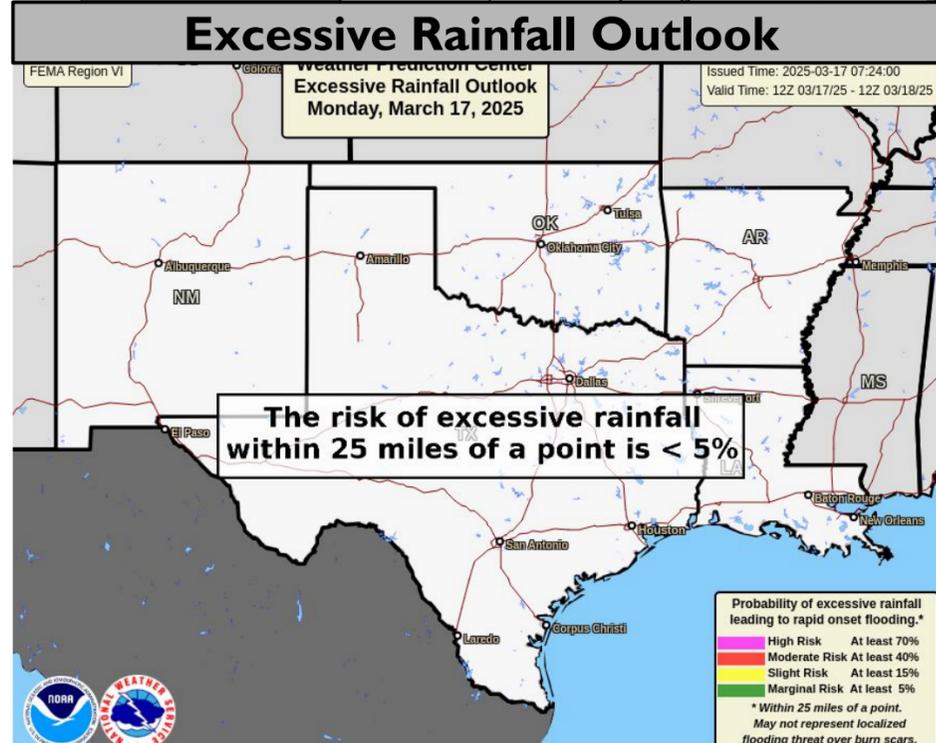
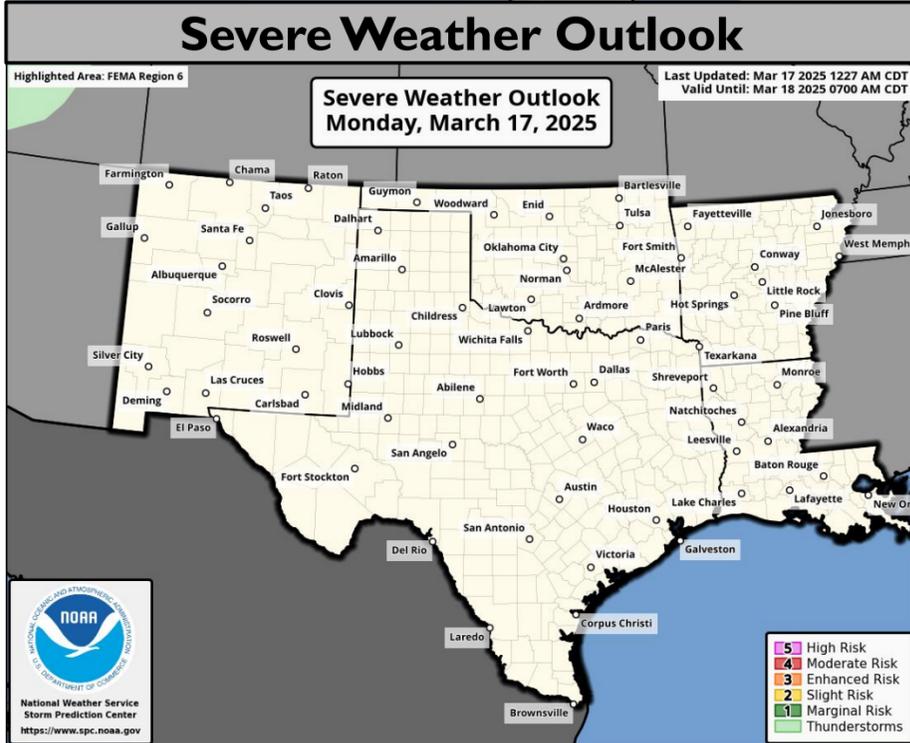


# Today's Weather



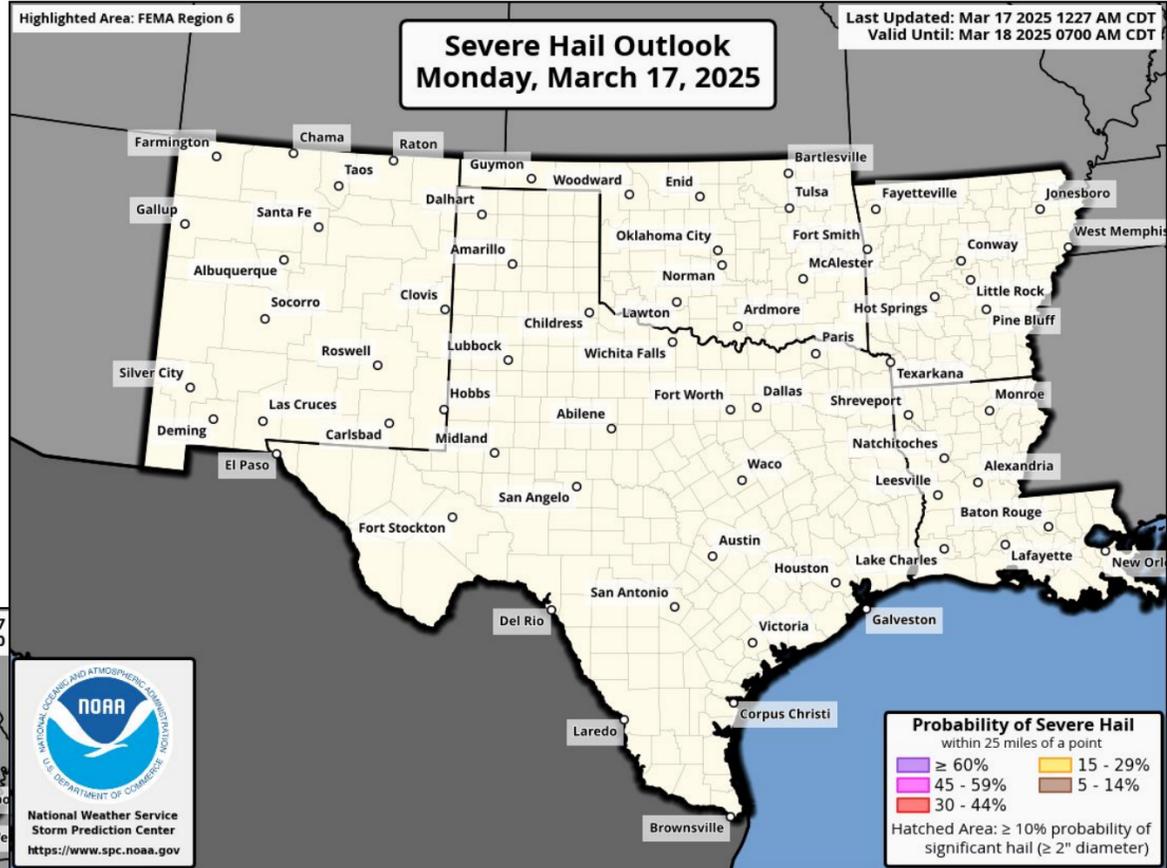
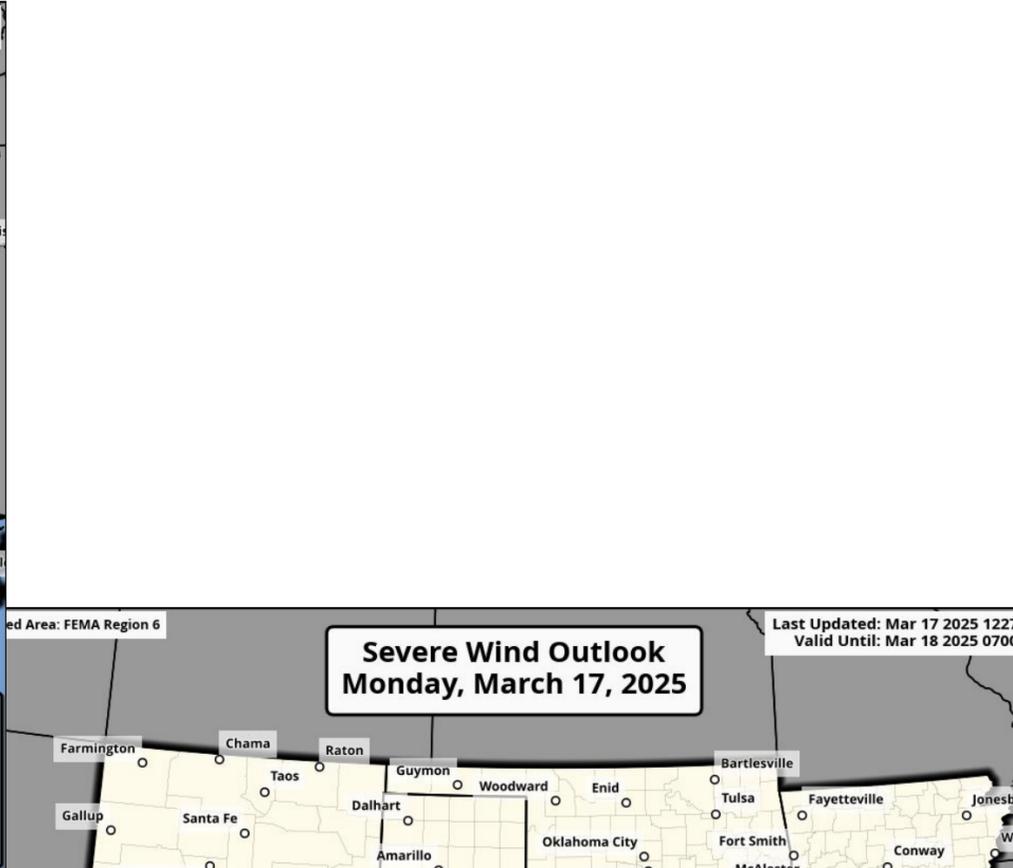
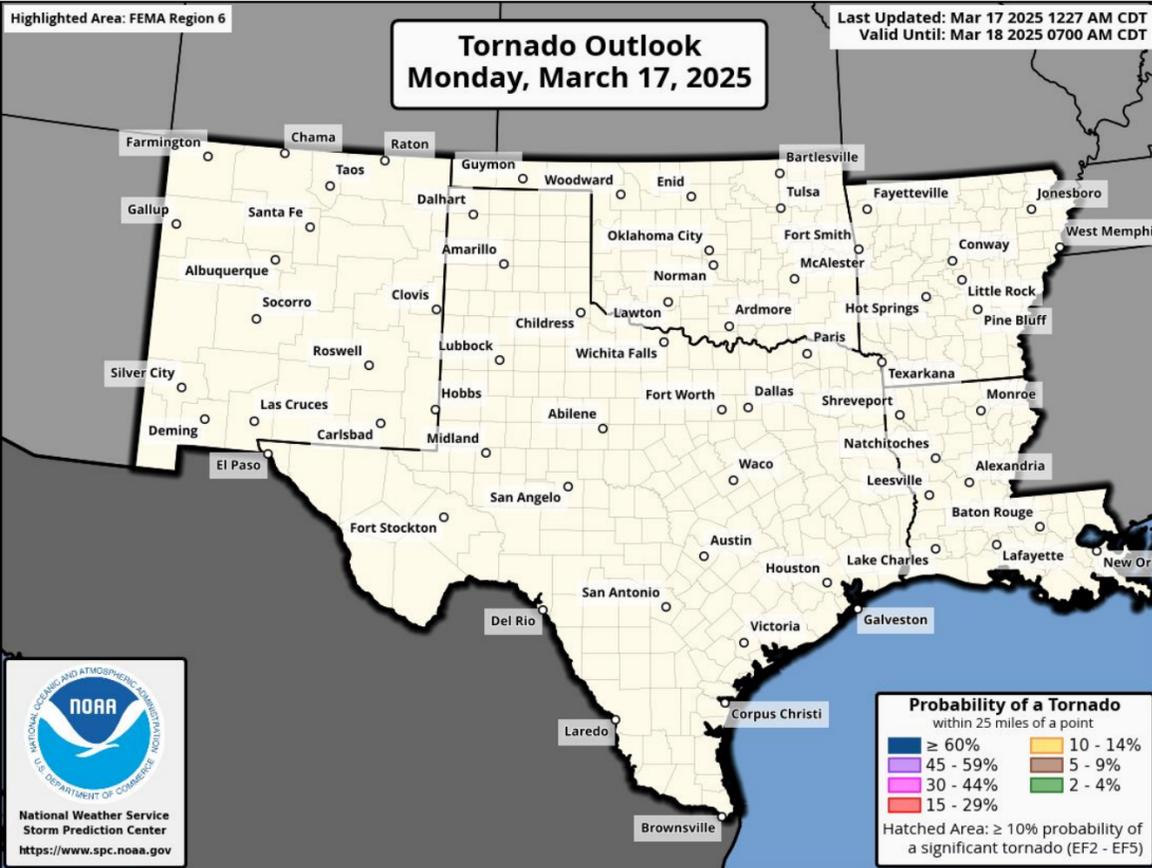
**Critical to Extreme (levels 2-3 of 3) fire weather concerns tomorrow afternoon in NM, W TX, and W OK.**

**Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns today for NM, OK and much of TX.**



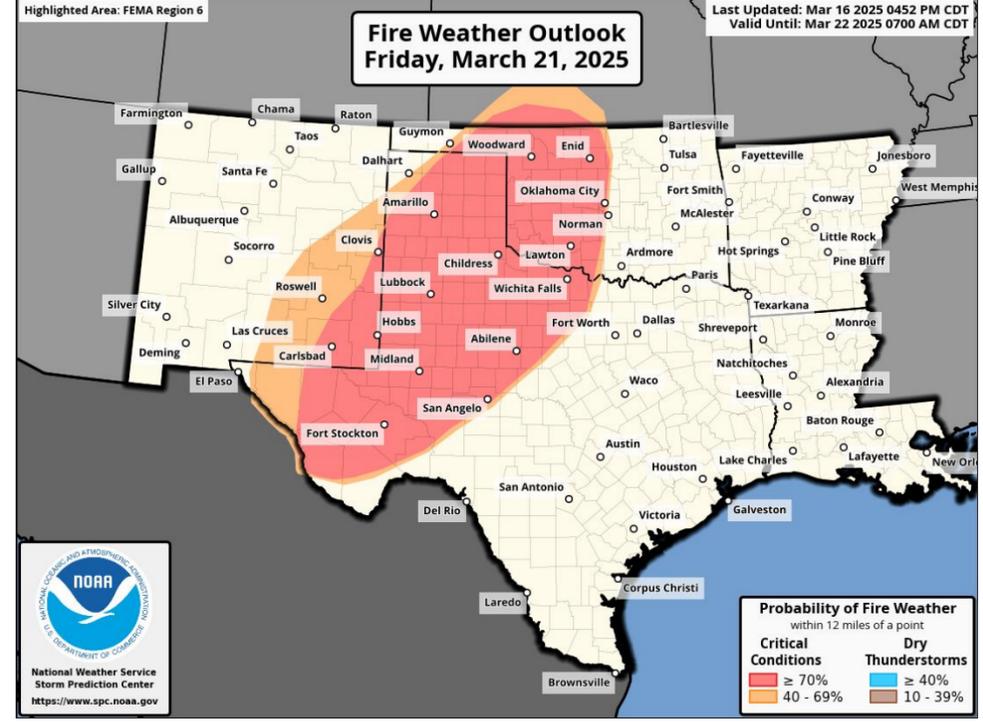
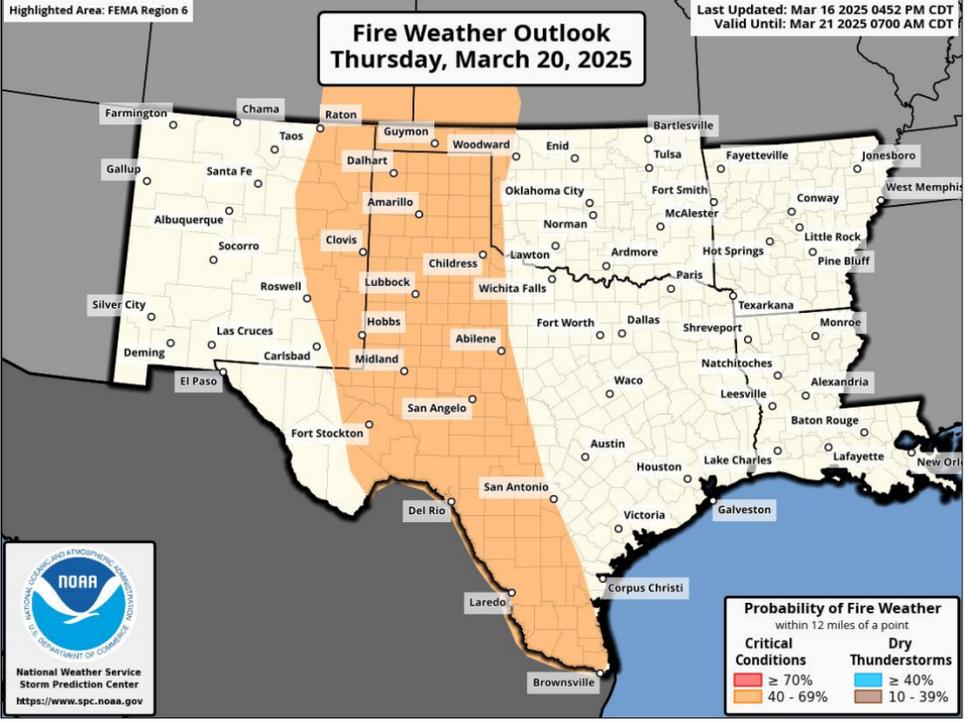
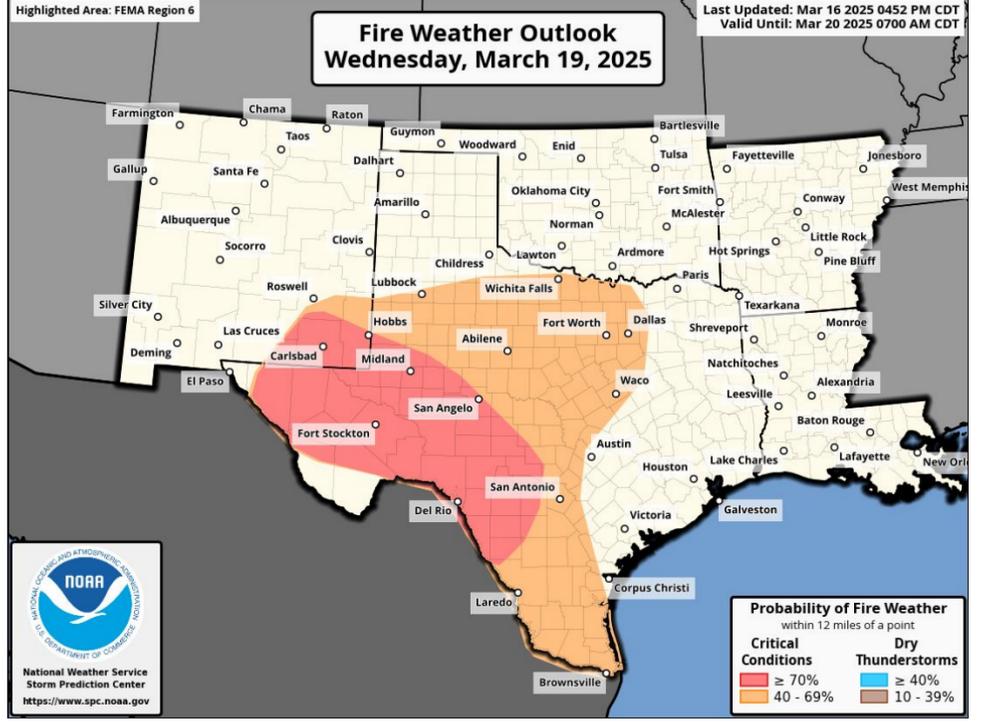
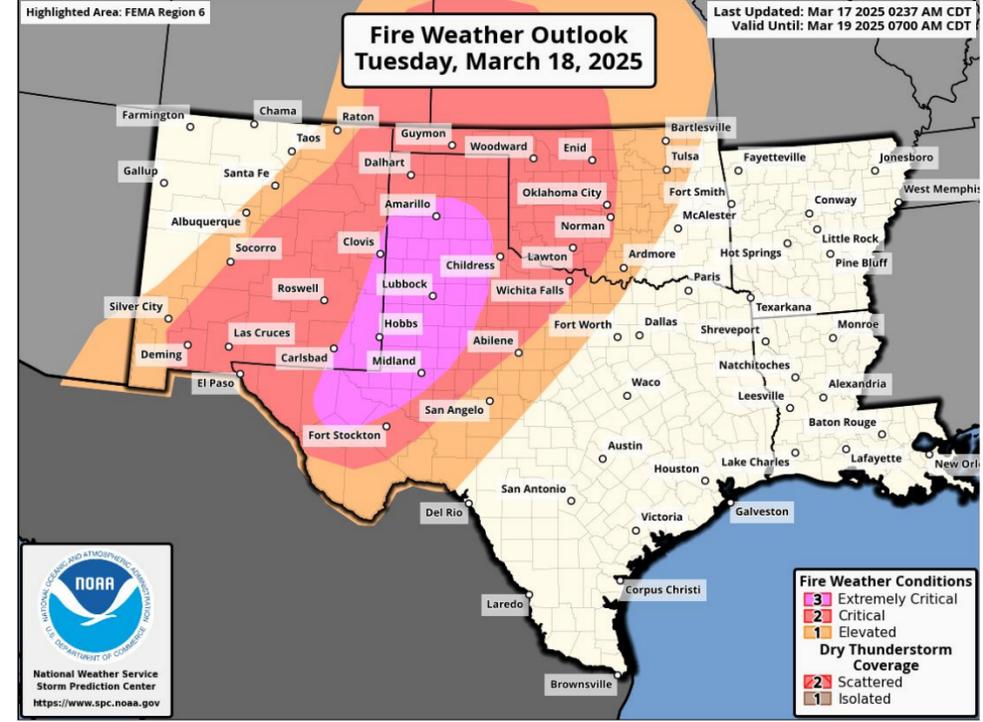
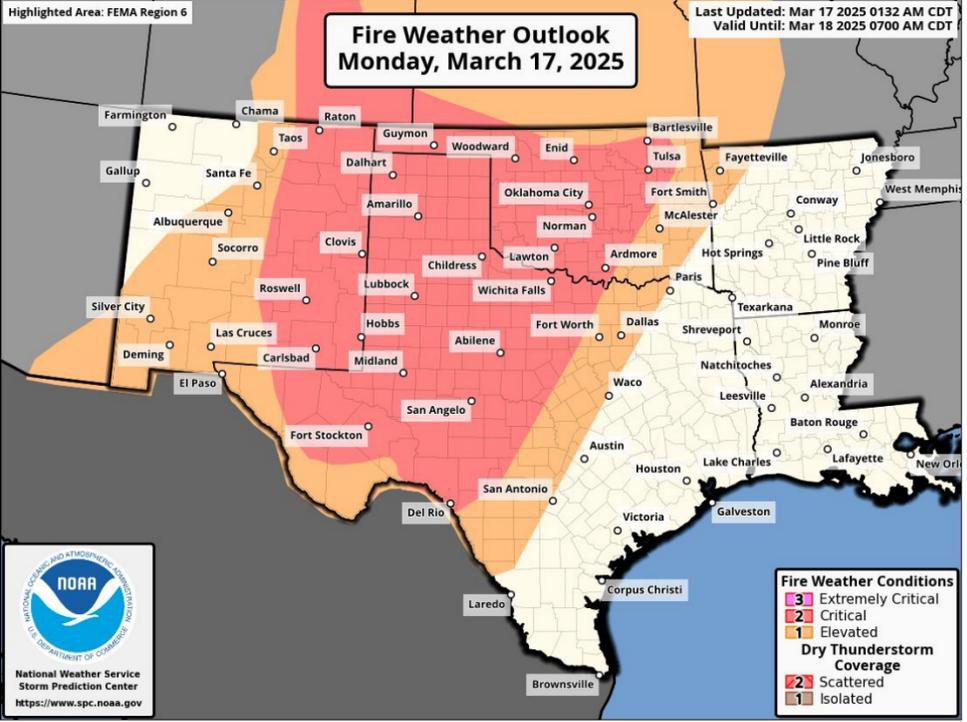
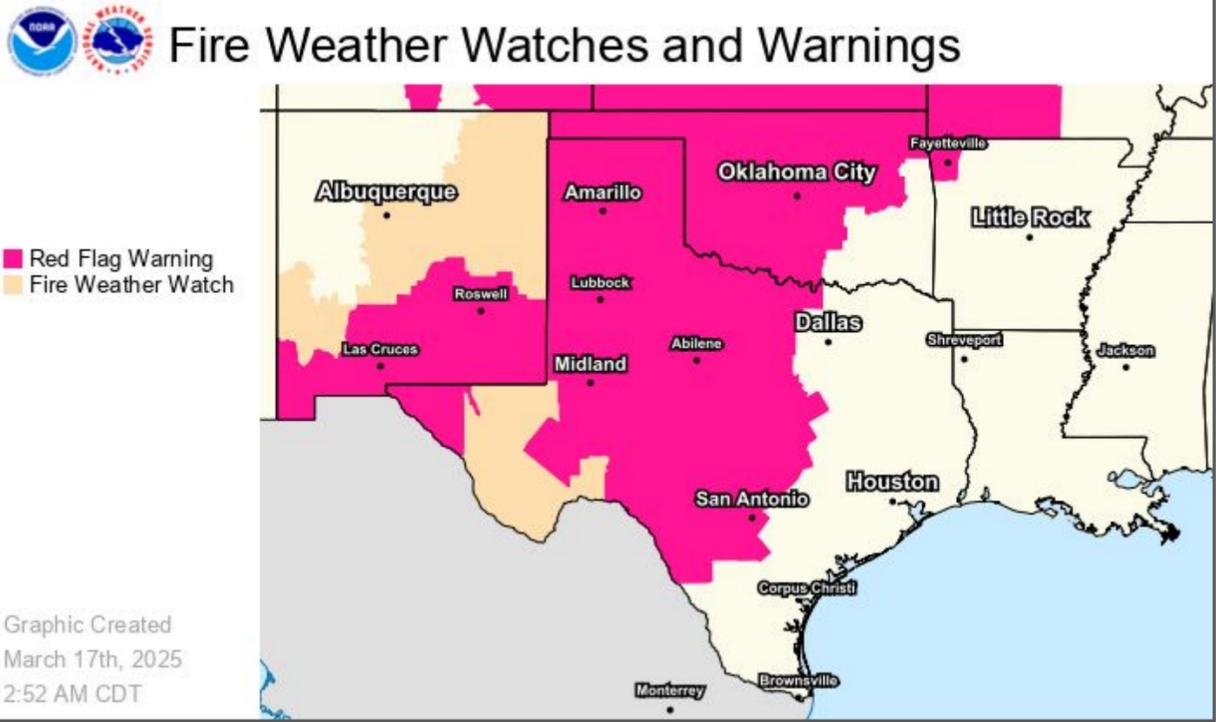


# Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





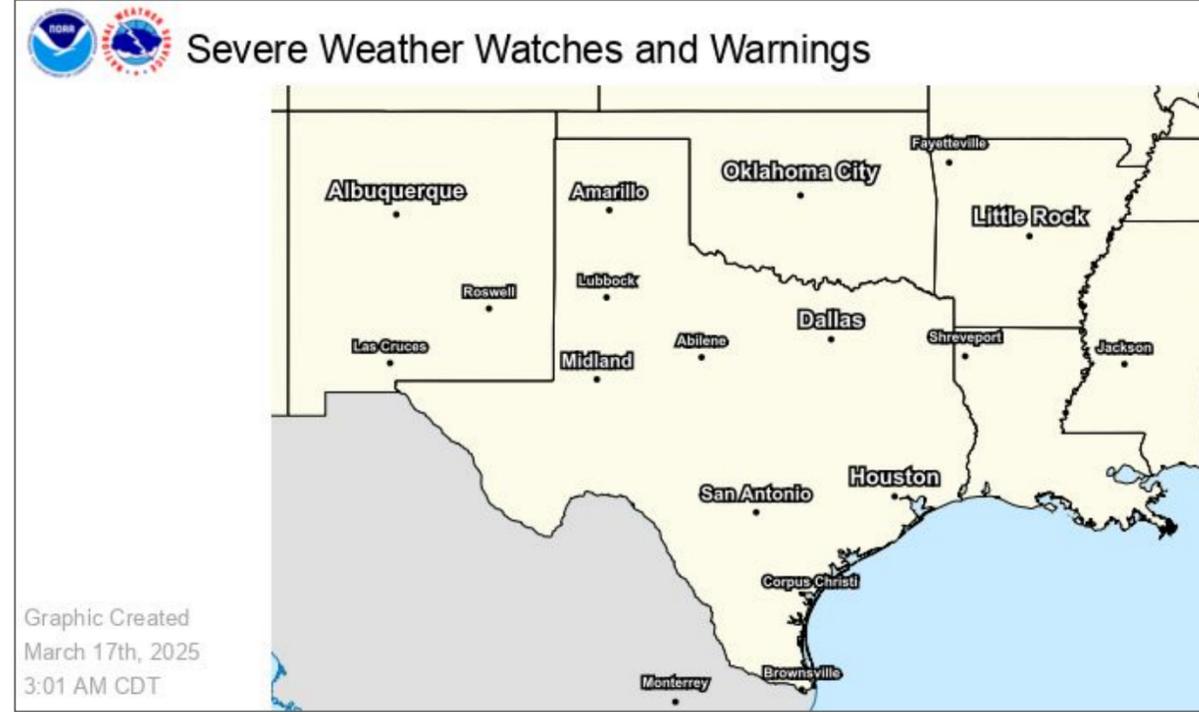
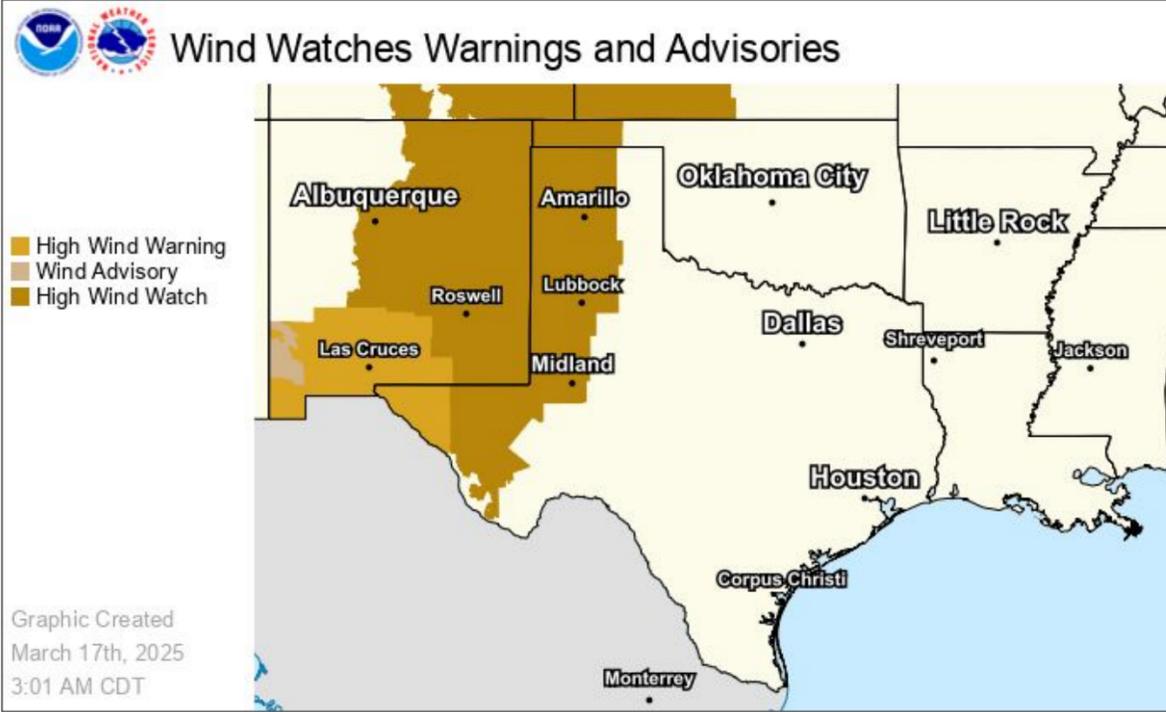
# Fire Weather Outlooks





# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

## Wind, Severe, Winter, and Flood Hazards



**High wind warning in effect in NM for winds 40-50 mph. Gusts of 70-75 mph possible, leading to blowing dust. Valid through 11 PM Tuesday.**

**High Wind Warning for WTX, OK/TX Panhandle Tuesday morning through Tuesday night. Gusts up to 65 mph expected.**



# Winter Weather

Through the next 3 days



## Forecast Snowfall

Valid Ending Thursday March 20th, 2025 at 7 AM CDT

- Less than an inch
- 1 to 2 inches
- 2 to 3 inches
- 3 to 4 inches
- 4 to 6 inches
- 6 to 8 inches
- 8 to 12 inches
- 12 to 18 inches
- 18 to 24 inches
- 24 to 30 inches
- 30 to 36 inches
- Greater than 36 inches



Graphic Created  
March 17th, 2025  
2:21 AM CDT



## Ice Accumulation Forecast

Valid Ending Thursday March 20th, 2025 at 7 AM CDT

- 0.01 to 0.10 inch
- 0.10 to 0.25 inch
- 0.25 to 0.50 inch
- 0.50 to 0.75 inch
- 0.75 to 1.0 inch
- 1.0 to 2.0 inch
- Greater than 2.0 inch

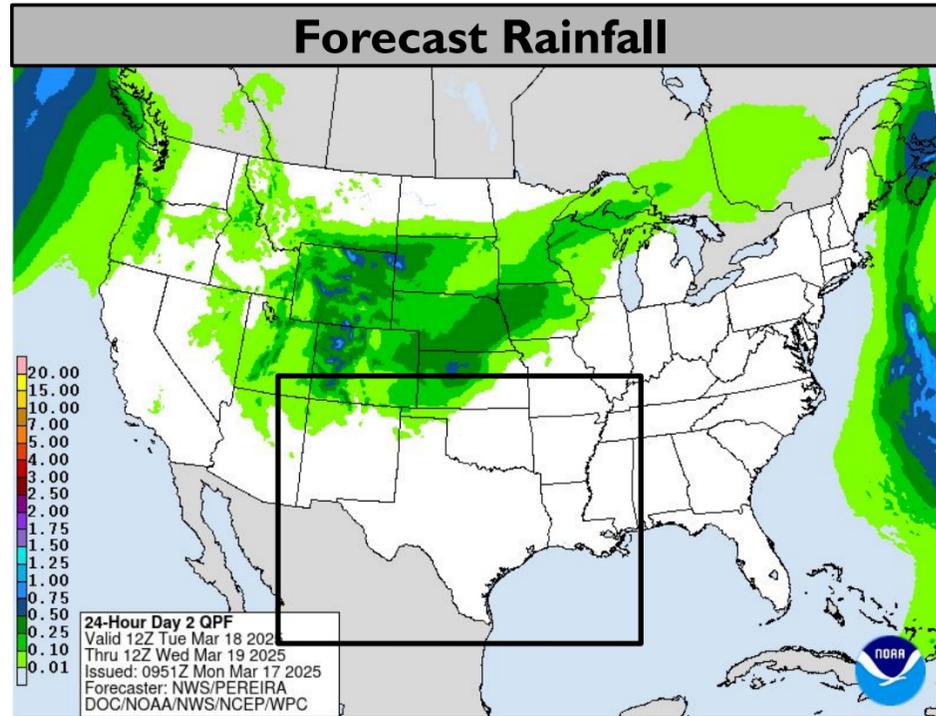
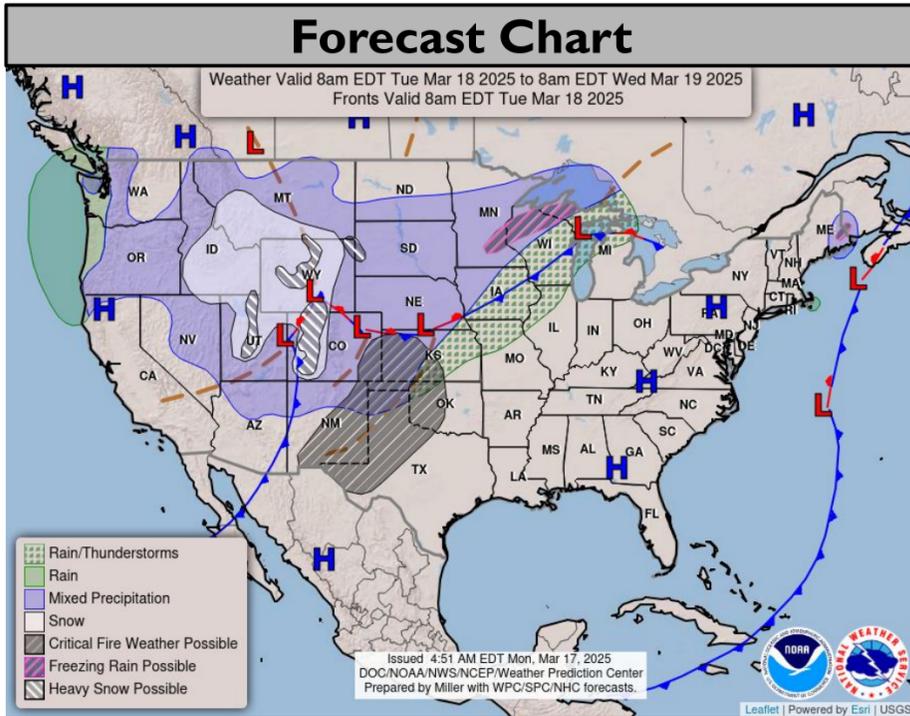


Graphic Created  
March 17th, 2025  
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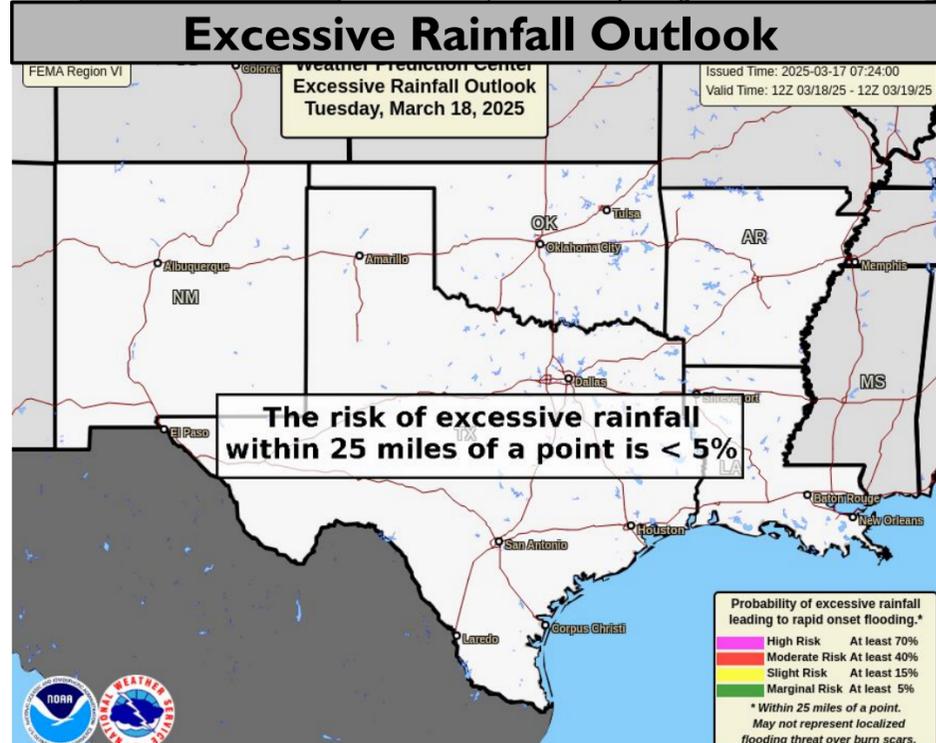
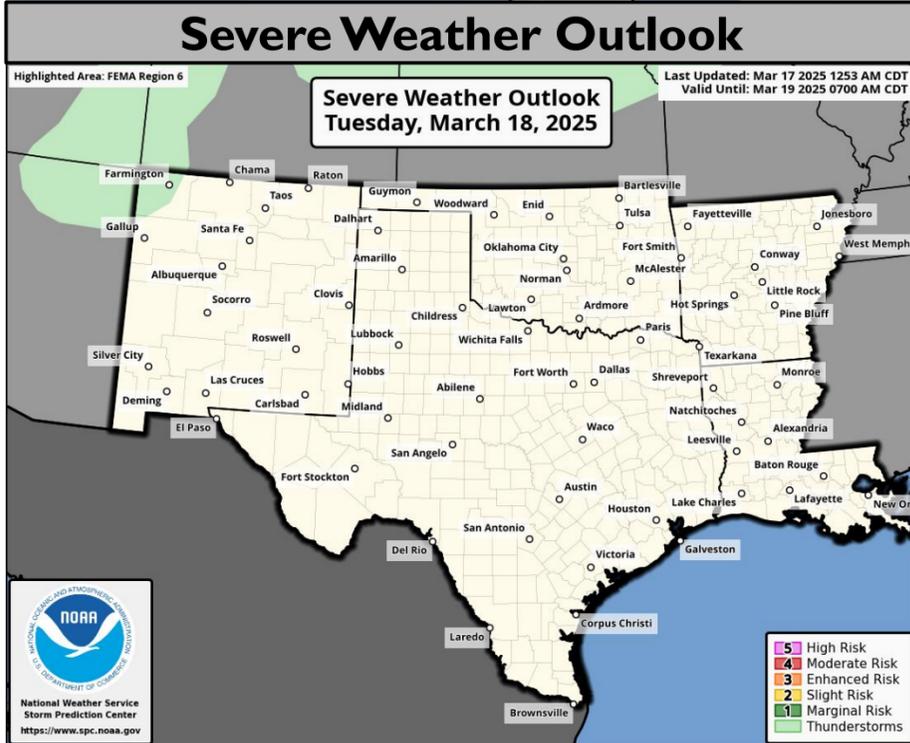




# Tomorrow's Weather

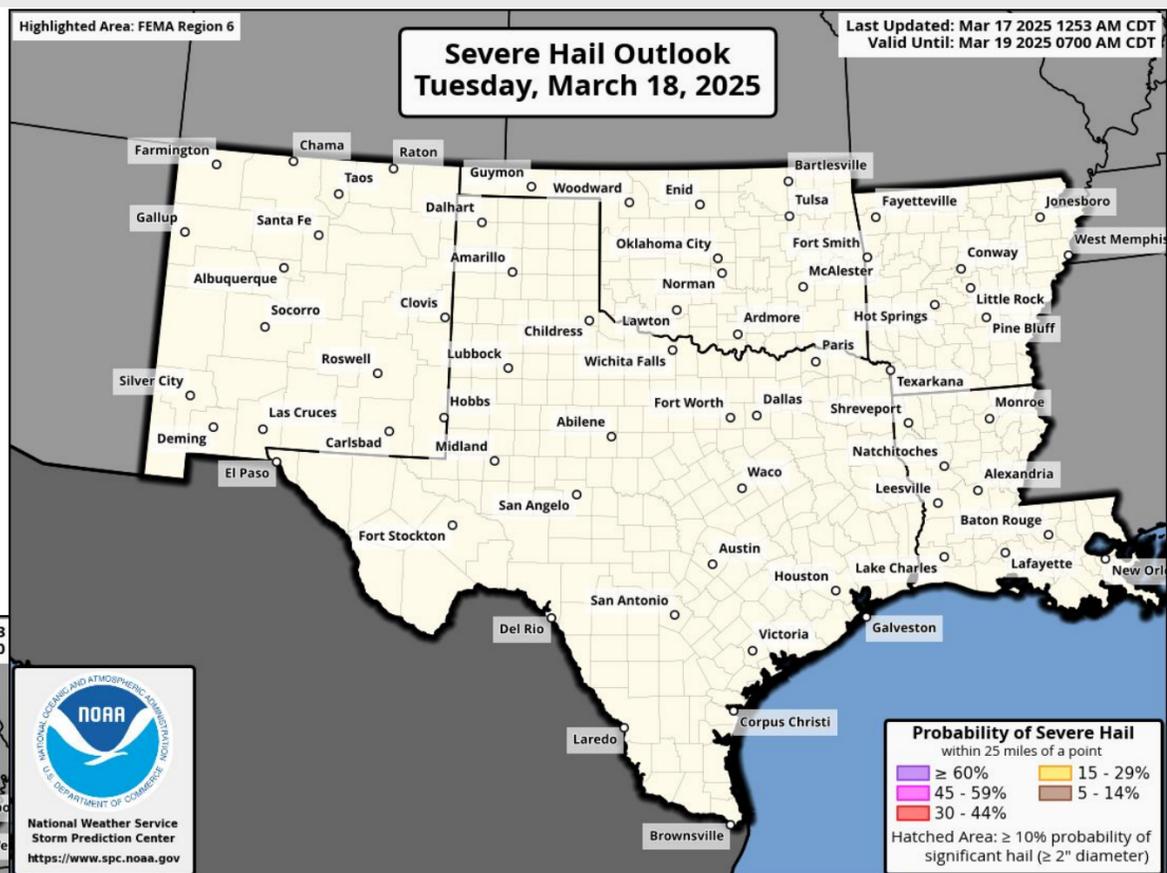
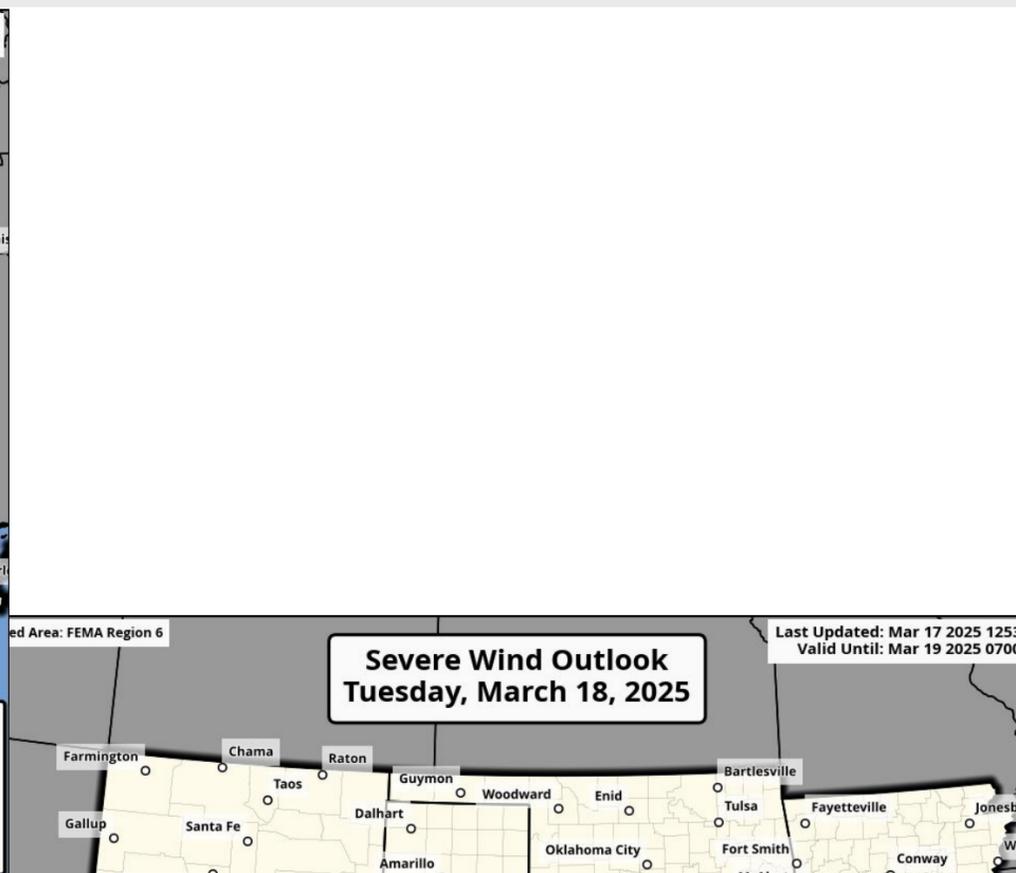
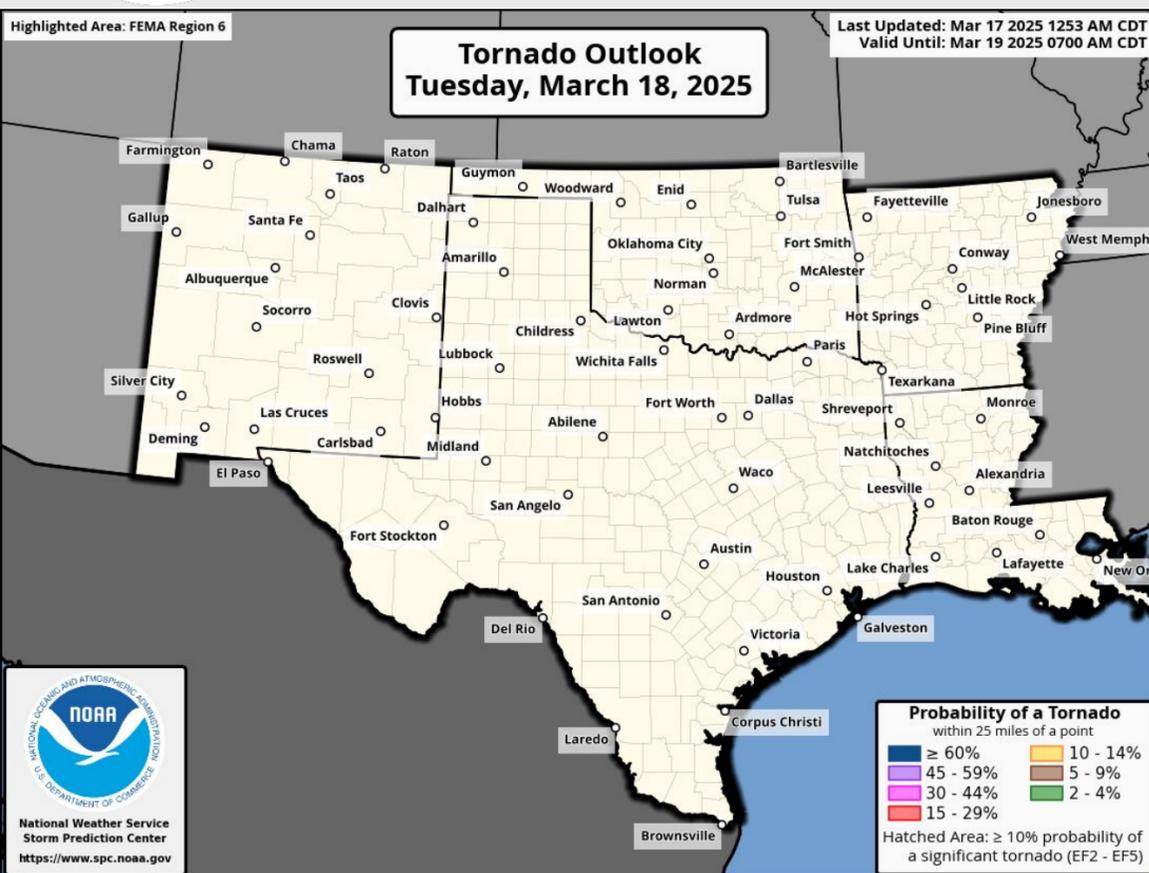


**Critical to Extreme (levels 2-3 of 3) fire weather concerns tomorrow afternoon in NM, W TX, and W OK.**



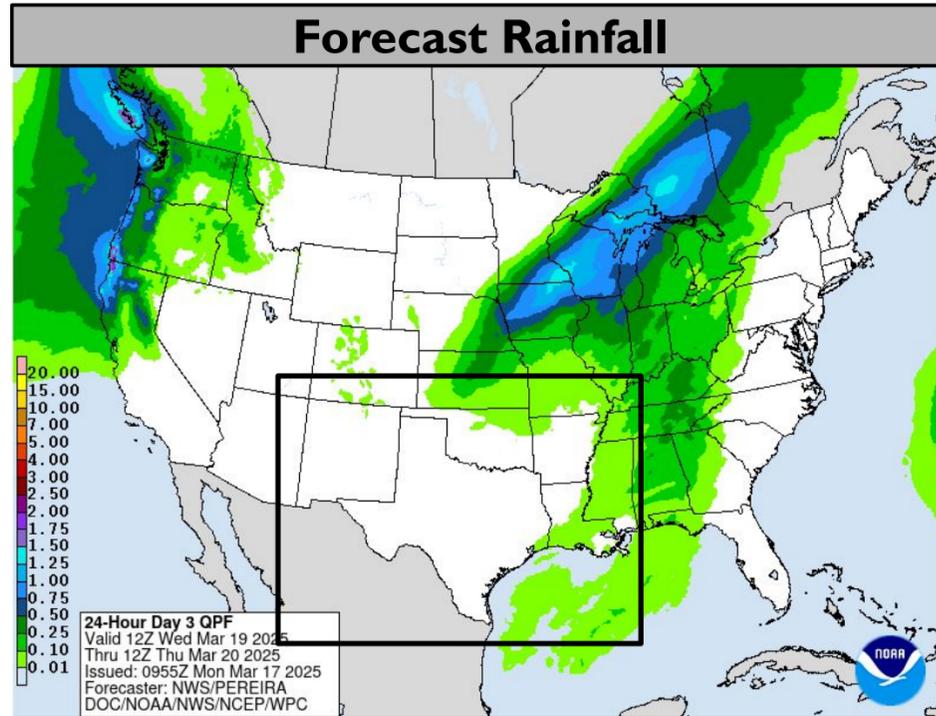
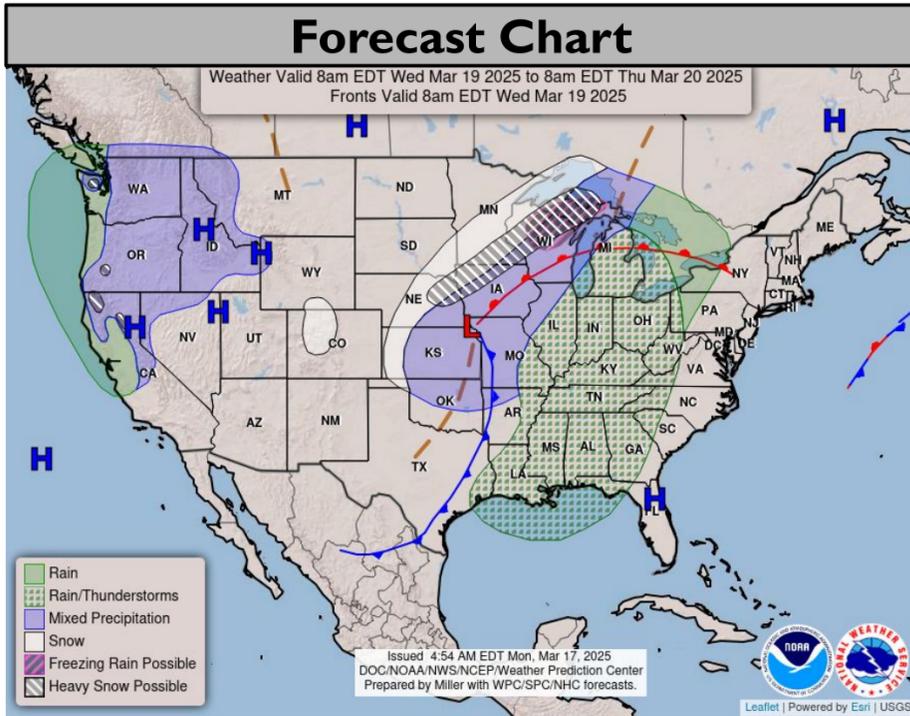


# Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

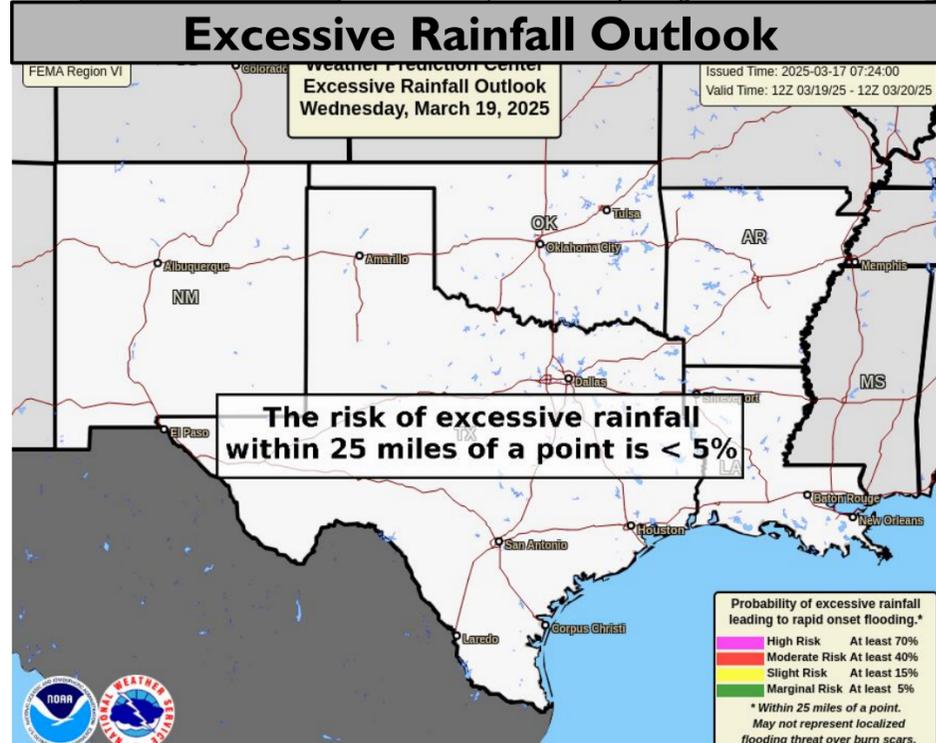
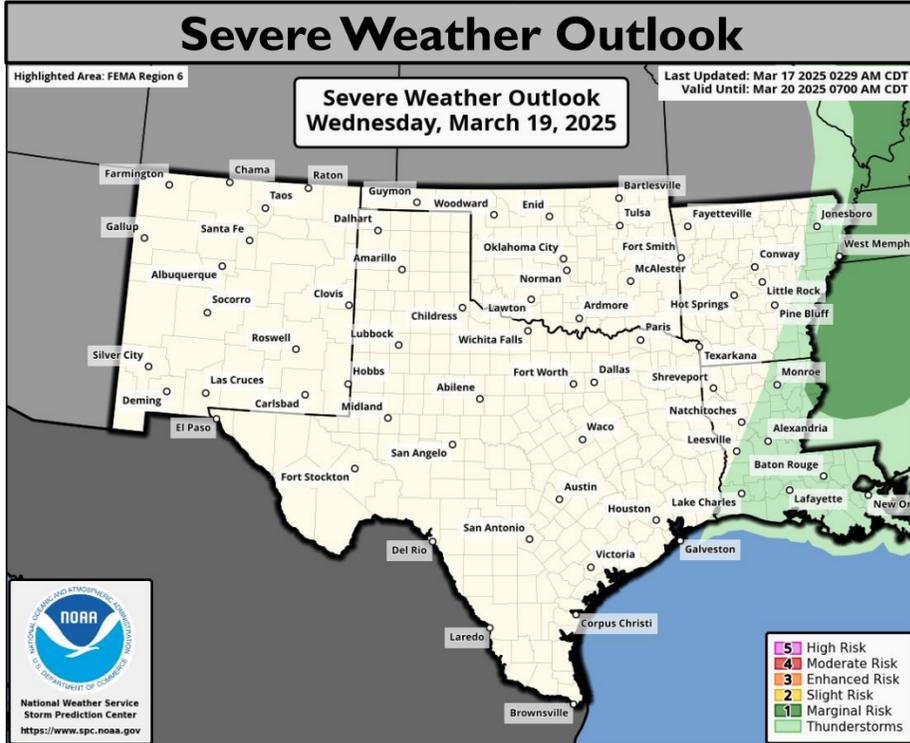




# Wednesday's Weather



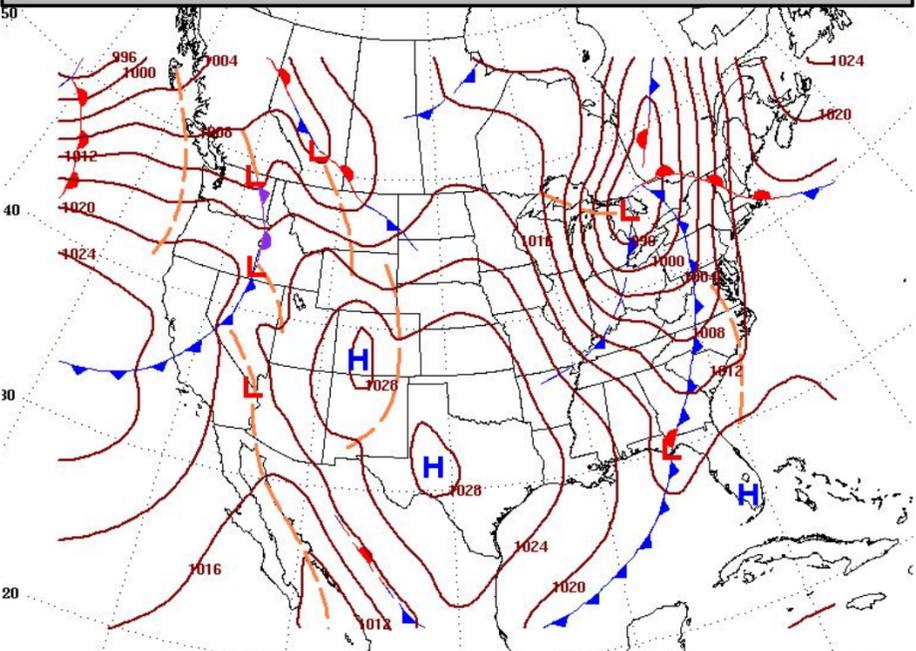
**Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, N/W/STX.**



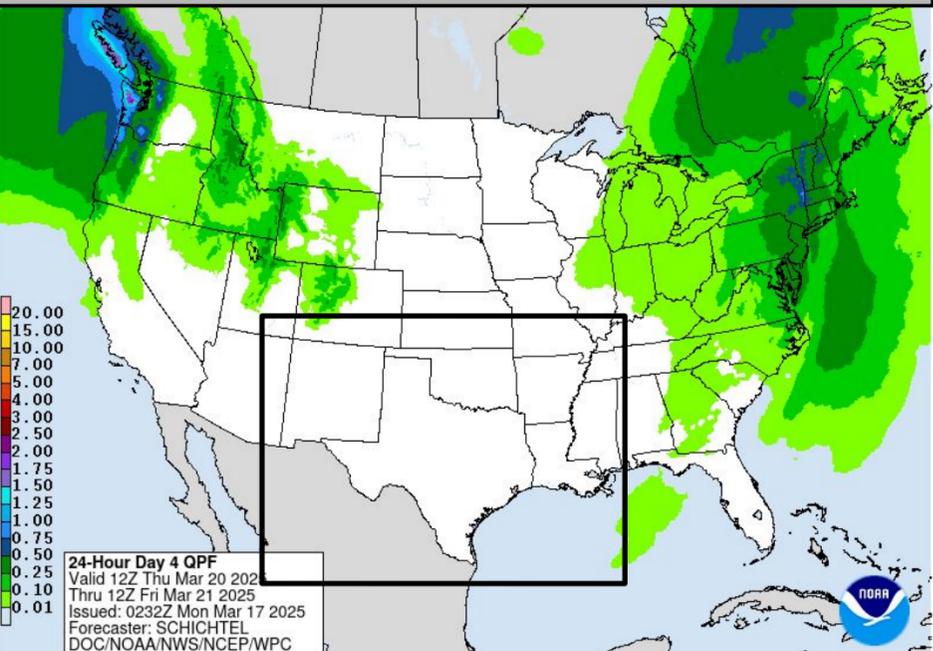


# Thursday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

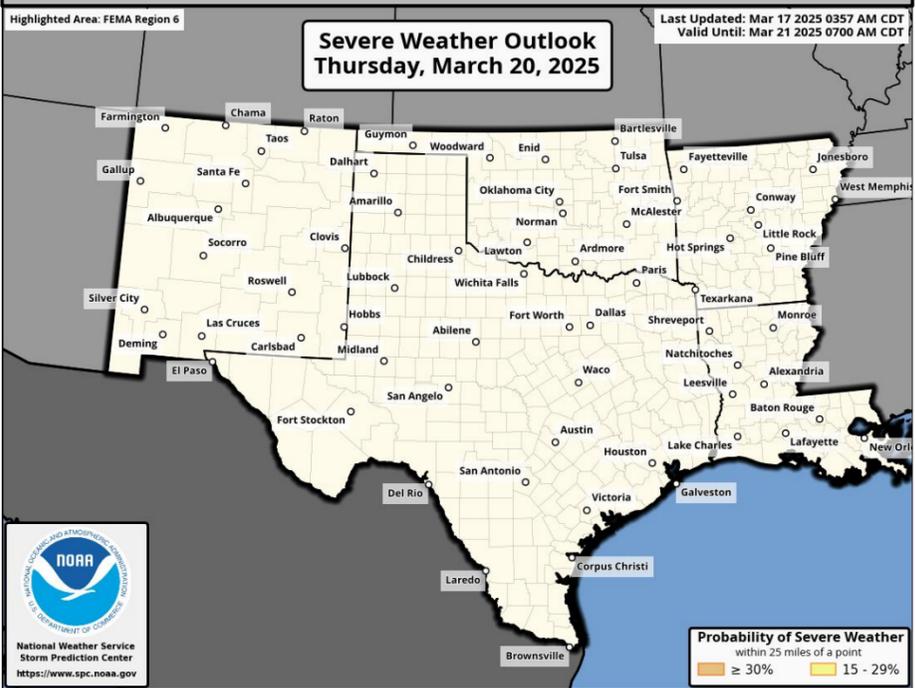


### Forecast Rainfall



**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, N/W/STX.**

### Severe Weather Outlook



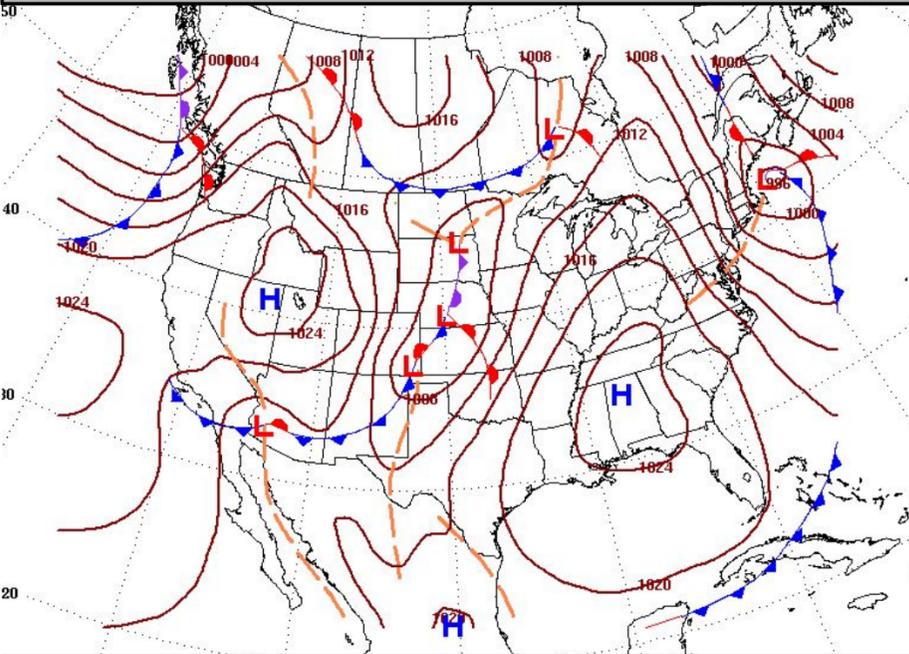
### Excessive Rainfall Outlook



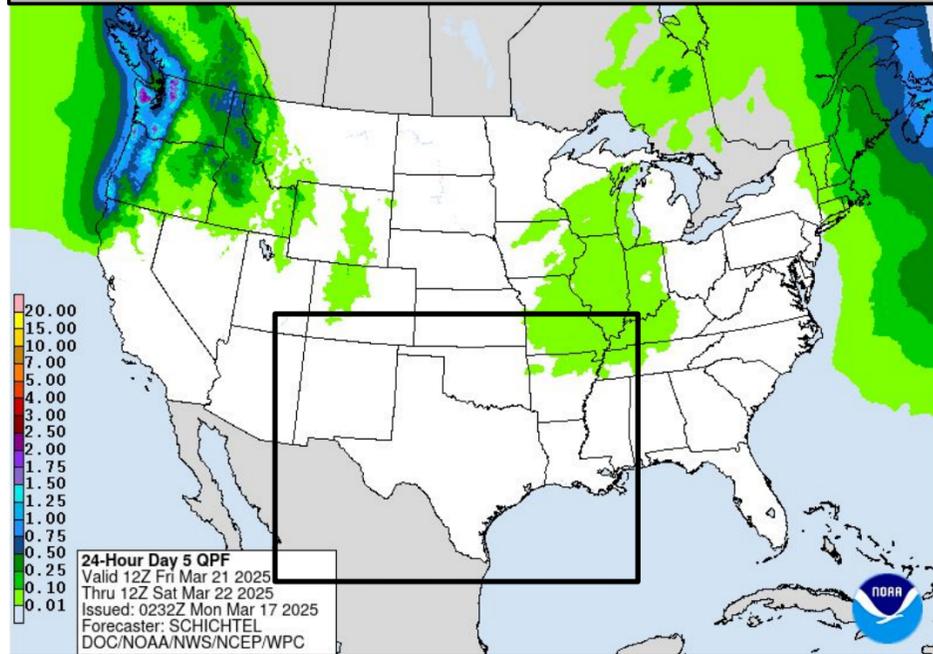


# Friday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

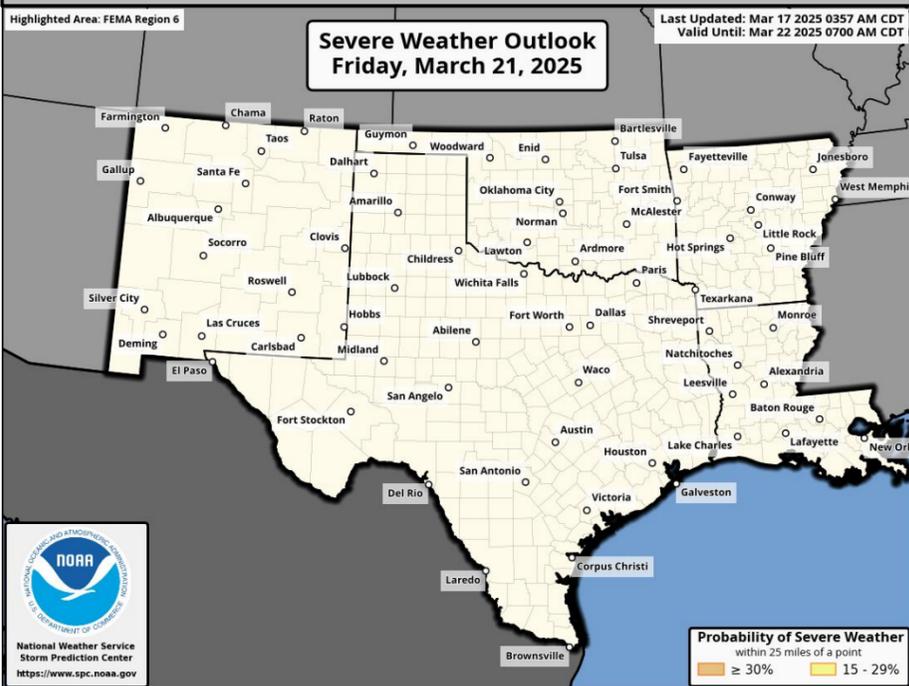


### Forecast Rainfall

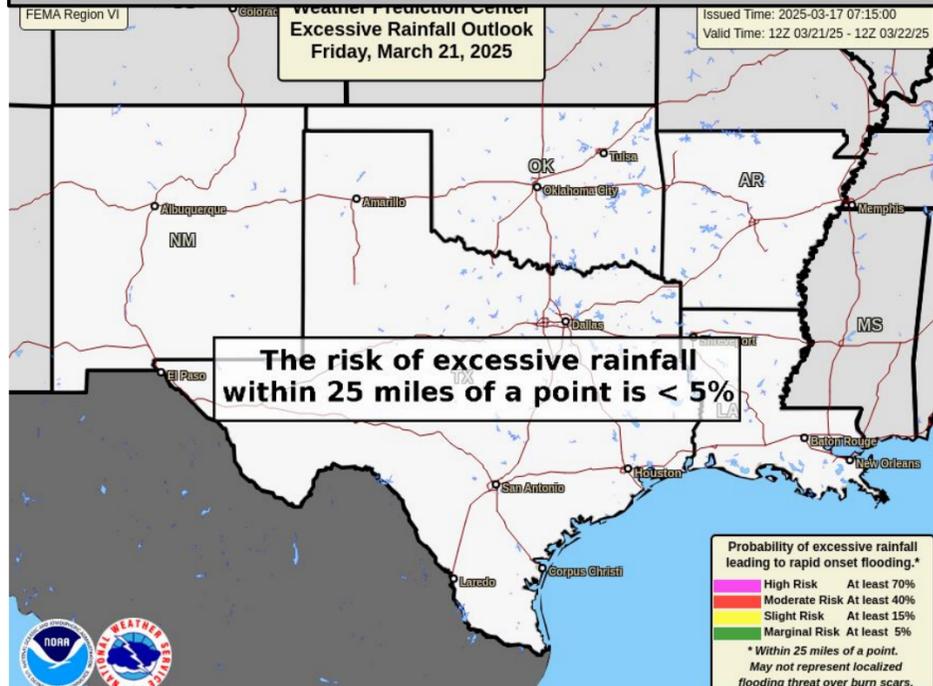


**Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, N/W/STX.**

### Severe Weather Outlook



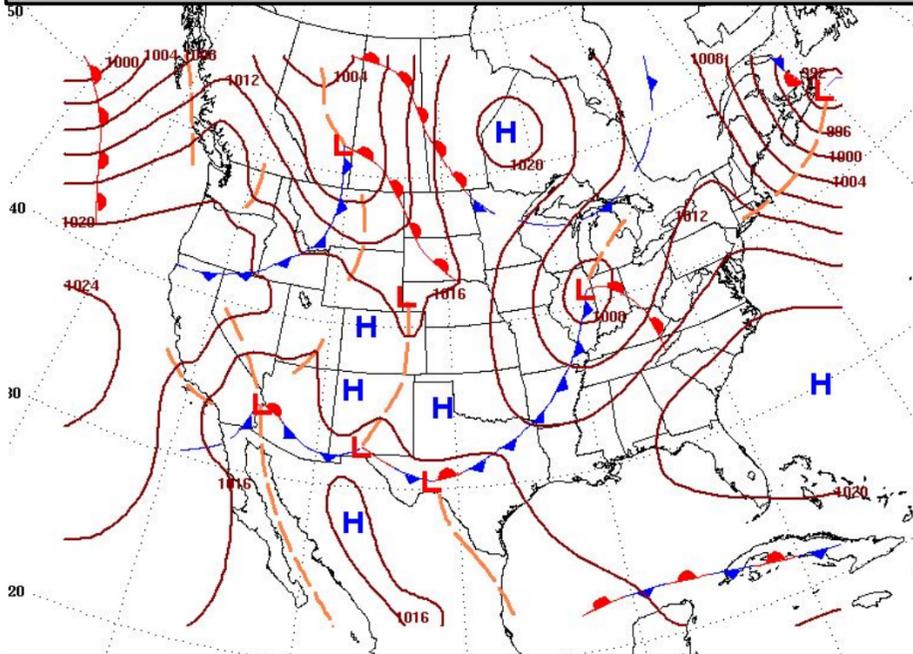
### Excessive Rainfall Outlook



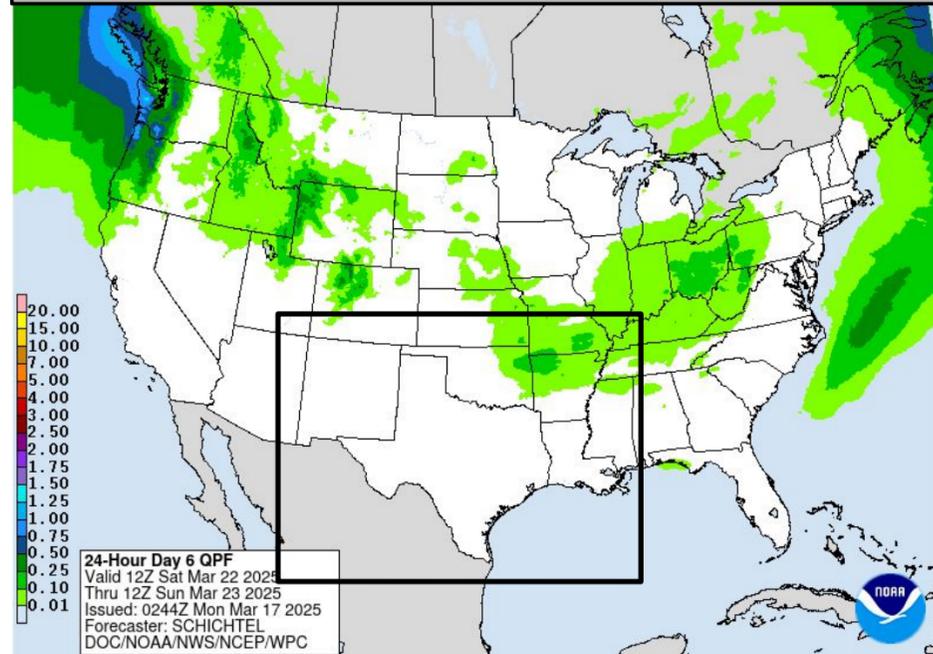


# Saturday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

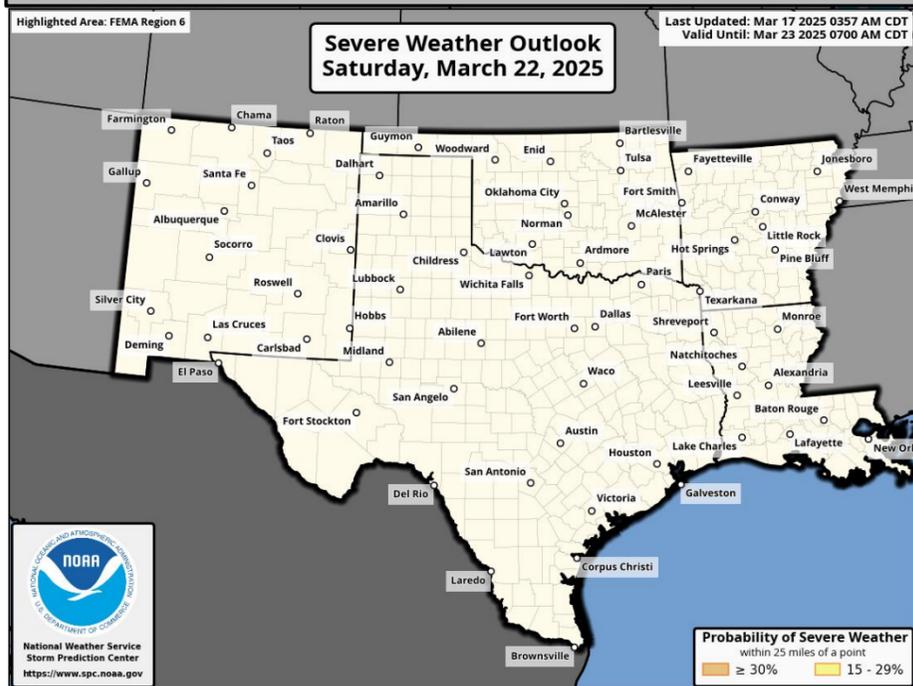


### Forecast Rainfall



**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns for E NM, W OK, N/W TX.**

### Severe Weather Outlook

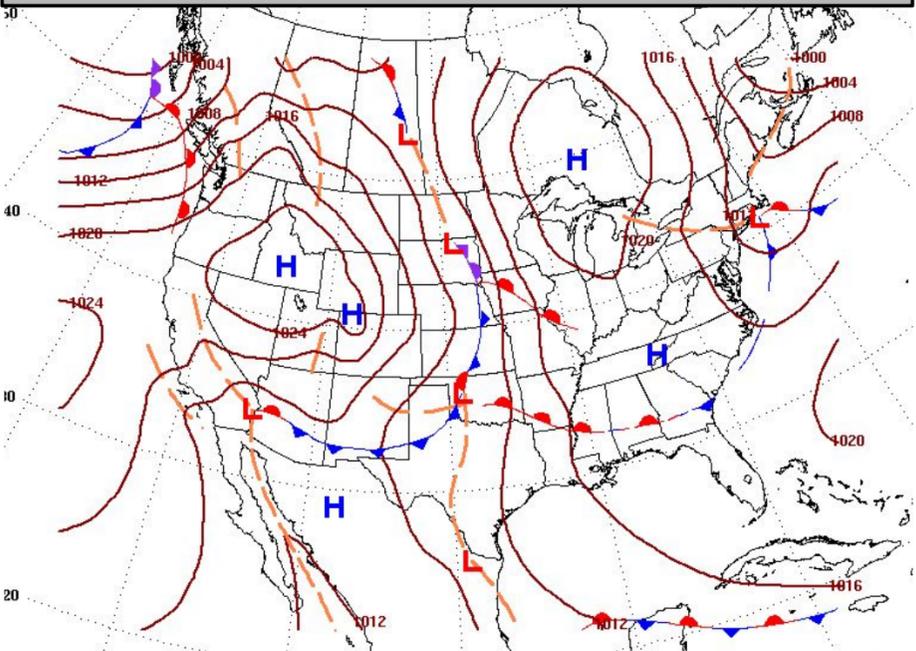


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5**

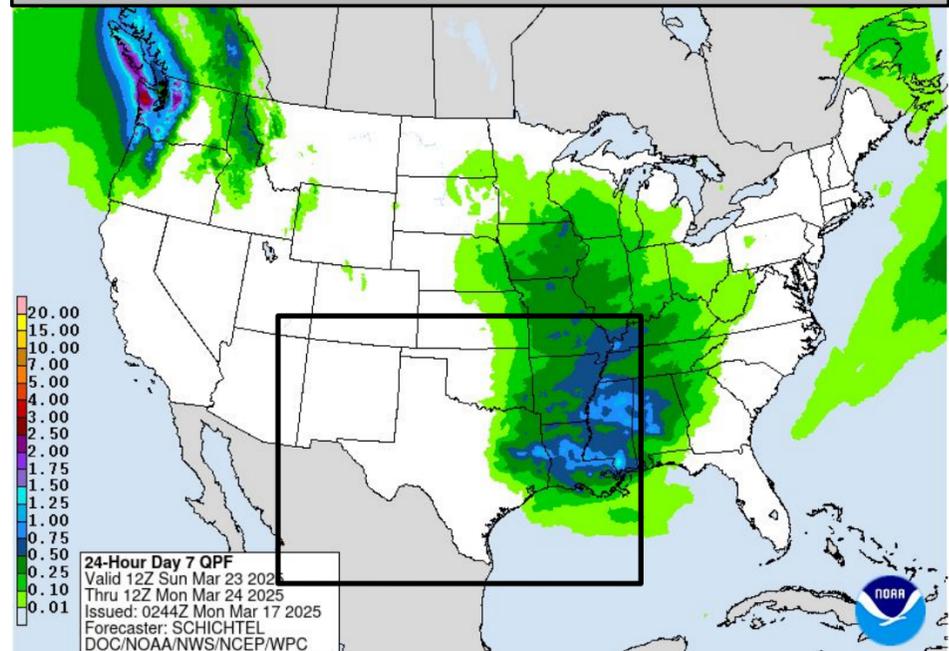


# Sunday's Weather

### Forecast Chart



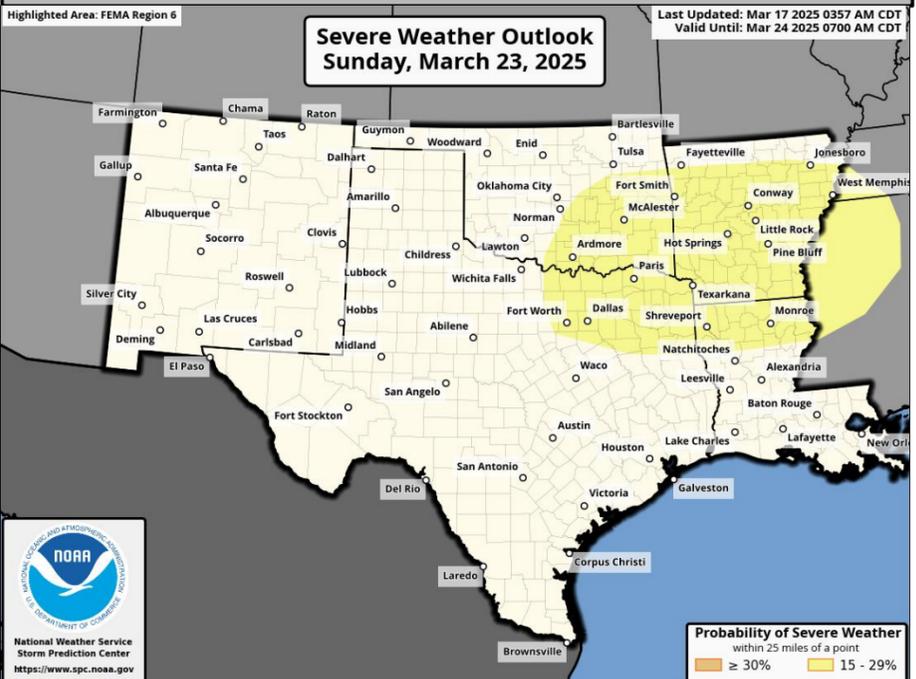
### Forecast Rainfall



**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns for E NM, W OK, N/W TX.**

**Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for severe storms SE OK, AR, NE TX, and N LA Sunday afternoon.**

### Severe Weather Outlook



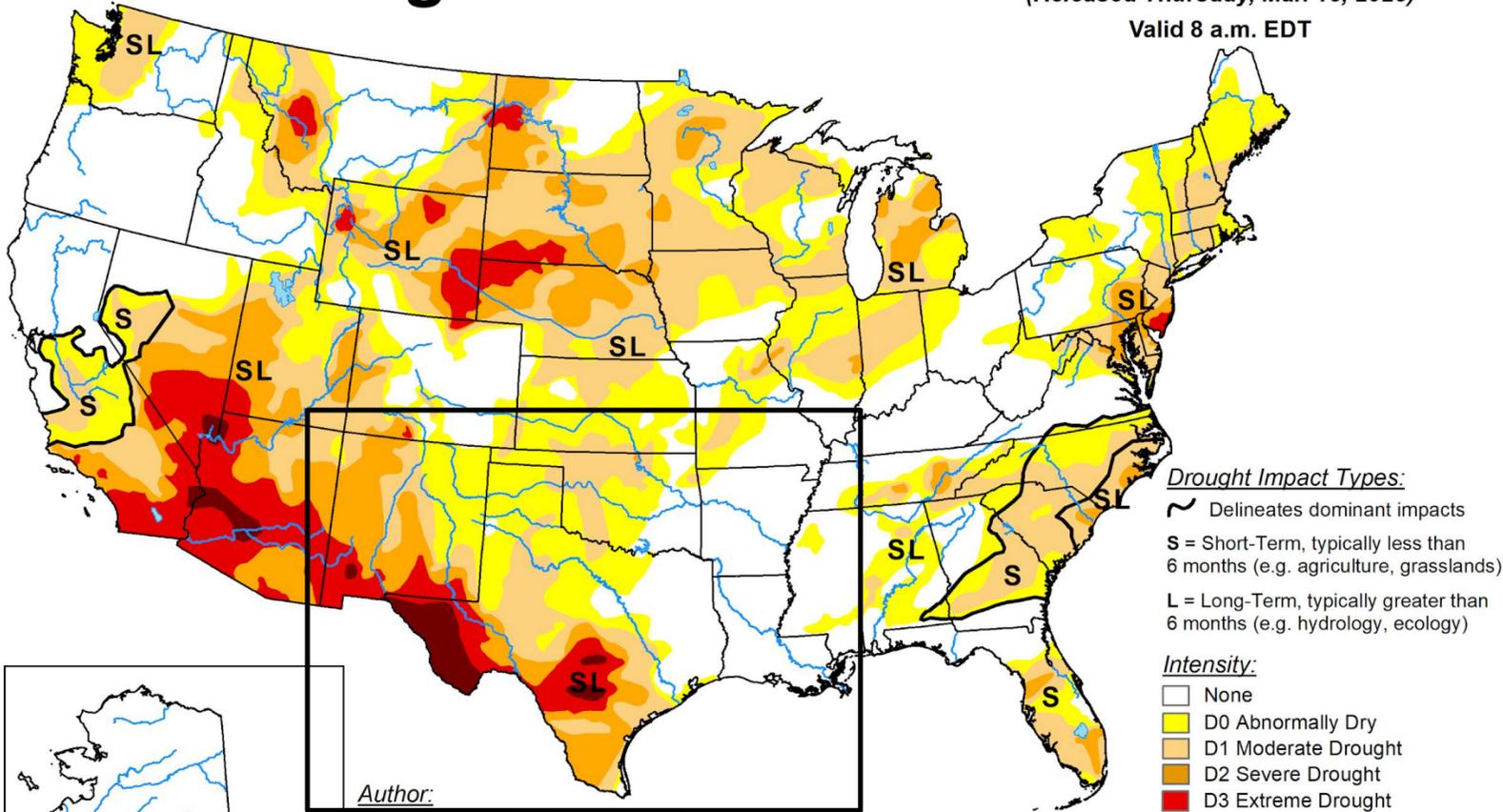
**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5**



# Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor

March 11, 2025  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 13, 2025)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



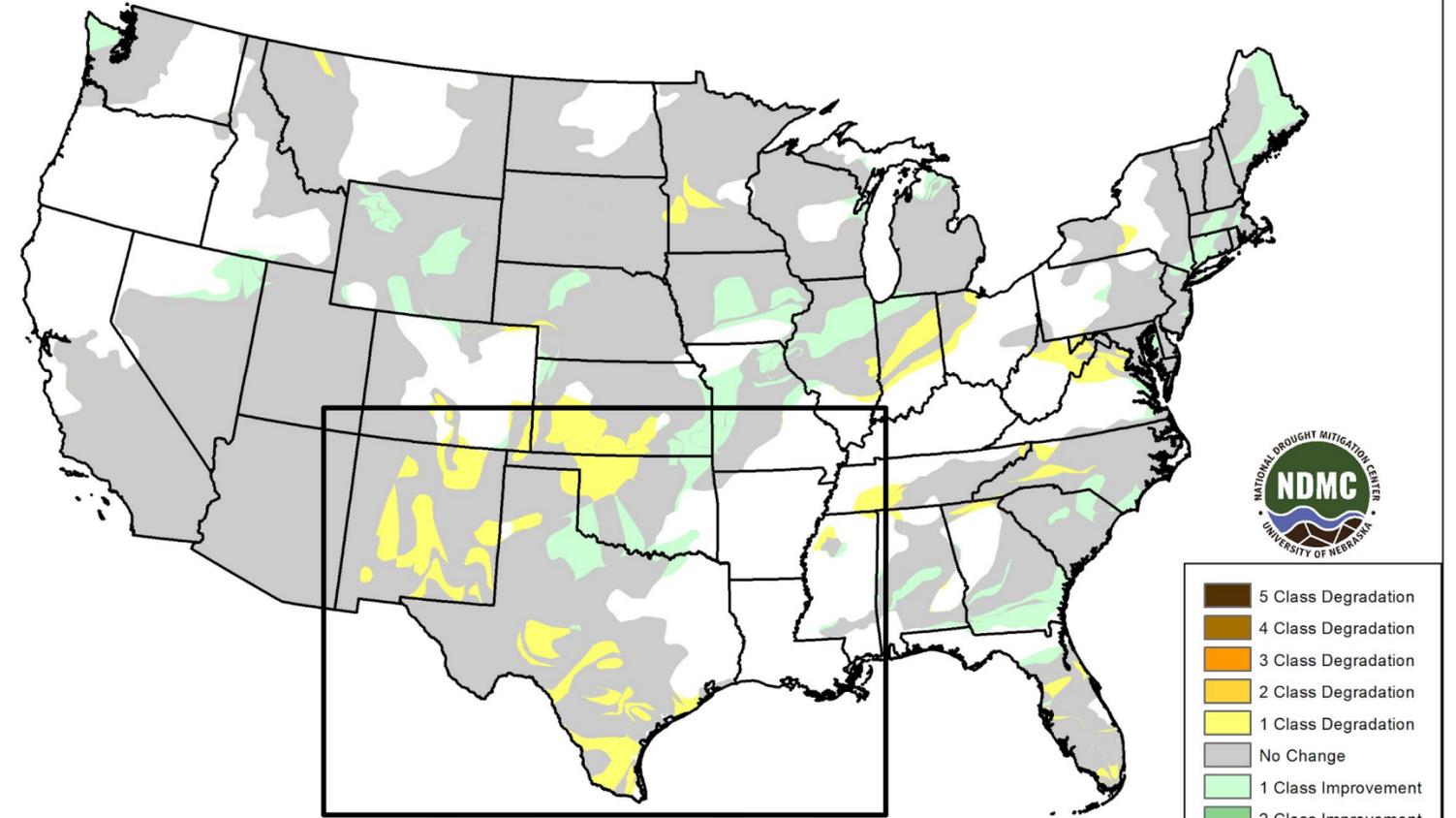
Author:  
Richard Tinker  
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.  
Local conditions may vary. For more information on the  
Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

## U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - CONUS 1 Week



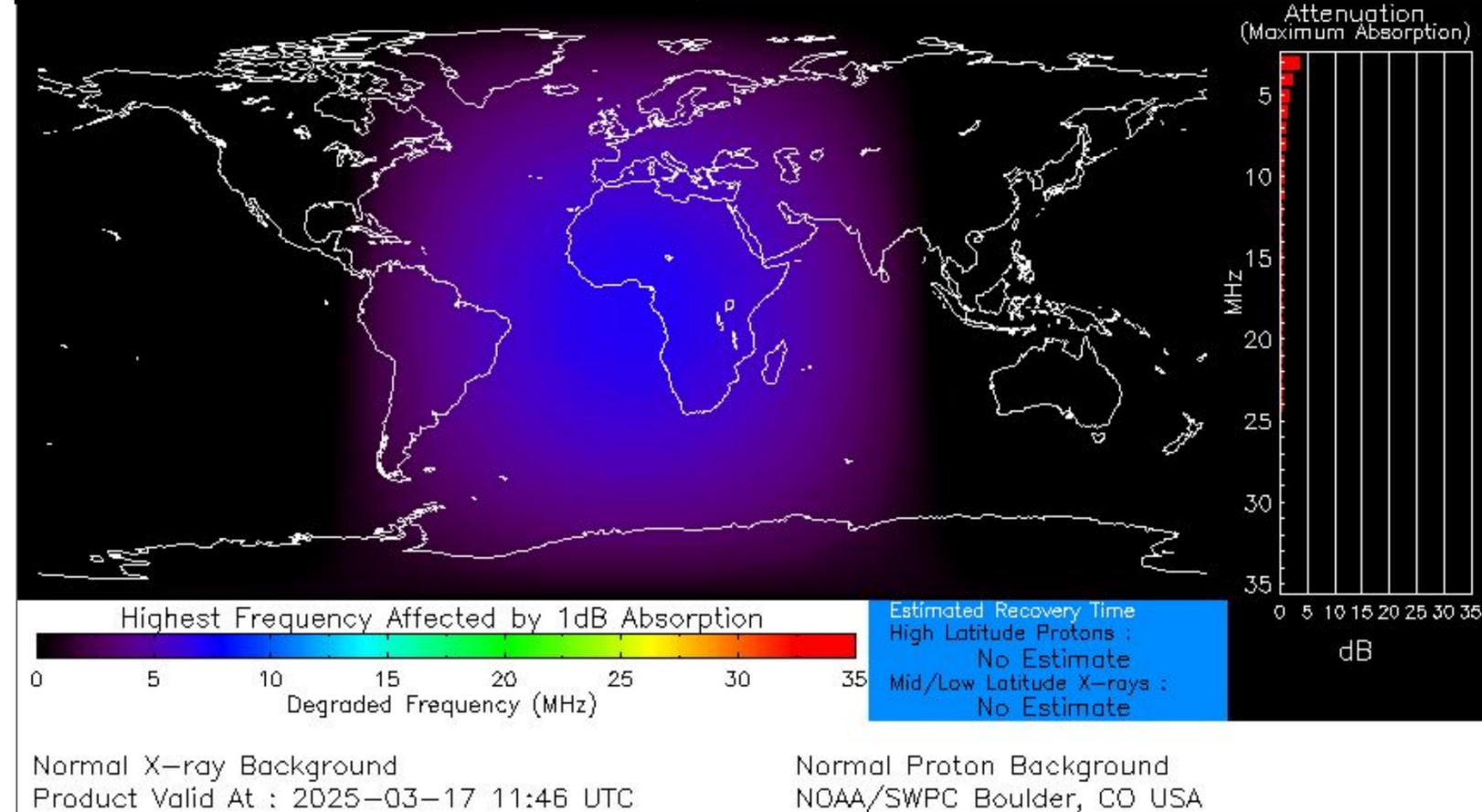
March 11, 2025  
compared to  
March 4, 2025

[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



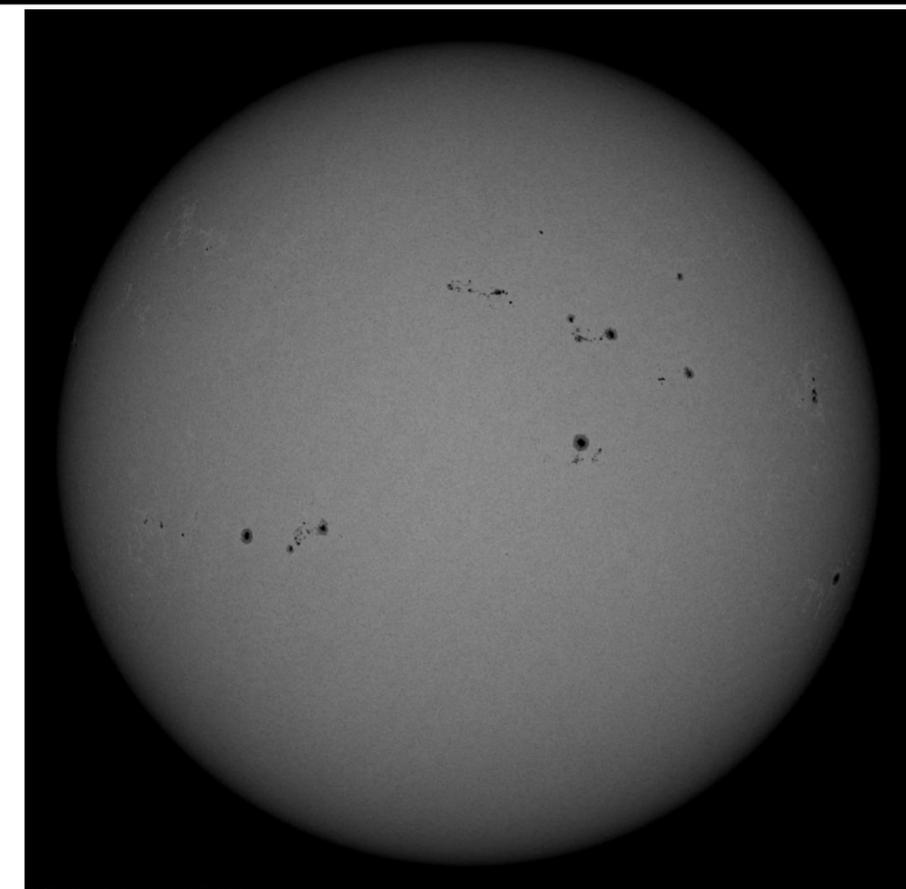
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Monday, Mar 17	Tuesday, Mar 18	Wednesday, Mar 19
<b>Geomagnetic Storms</b>	<b>Active (Max Kp = 4)</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)</b>
<b>Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Radio Blackout (R1-R2)</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Radio Blackout (R3-R5)</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>



[Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast](#)



## Weather "Threat" Matrix for FEMA Region VI

Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Little to None</b></p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines</p>	<p>Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as seabreeze storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Minor</b></p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderate</b></p> <p>Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Major</b></p> <p>Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Extreme</b></p> <p>Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**