



FEMA



Prepared by
Patricia Sanchez

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, August 20, 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.



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Southern Region



Summary

- **Severe Storms:** Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) of severe storms across west-central-eastern Texas and Louisiana today and tonight. Main hazard will be localized downburst winds and brief heavy rain.
- **Flash Flooding:** Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for much of FEMA 6 region today and W NM, C-S TX, and C-S LA tomorrow.
 - **NM Burn Scars:** Persistent monsoonal activity leads to a Moderate risk (level 2 of 4) of flash flooding for Ruidoso/Sacramento complex this afternoon and evening.
 - The threat for both areas will decrease Thursday and Friday. Additional rain activity over the weekend will bring moderate risk back to HPCC burn scar complex.
- **Heat:** Hazardous heat continues across SE OK, AR, NE TX, and N LA today. Heat index up to 109 degrees. Relief from the heat is expected during the second half of the week.
- **Tropical:** Hurricane Erin continues to move north across the western Atlantic Ocean. No impacts to FEMA Region 6.
 - Two disturbances in the Atlantic, one with medium (60%) chance and another with a low (30%) chance of development are not expected to bring impacts to FEMA 6 in the next 7 days.





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Wednesday, Aug 20	Thursday, Aug 21	Friday, Aug 22	Saturday, Aug 23	Sunday, Aug 24	Monday, Aug 25	Tuesday, Aug 26
Severe Storms	CTX and LA						
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	Much of FEMA 6	W NM, C-STX, LA	SE LA, NW NM	N NM	N NM, OK and TX Panhandle	N NM, OK, TX Panhandle	N NM, OK, AR, TX Panhandle
Burn Scars	S NM	NM	NM	N NM	N NM	NM	NM
	N NM			S NM			
Tropical							
Heat	ArkLaTex	STX, LA					
River Flooding							

Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 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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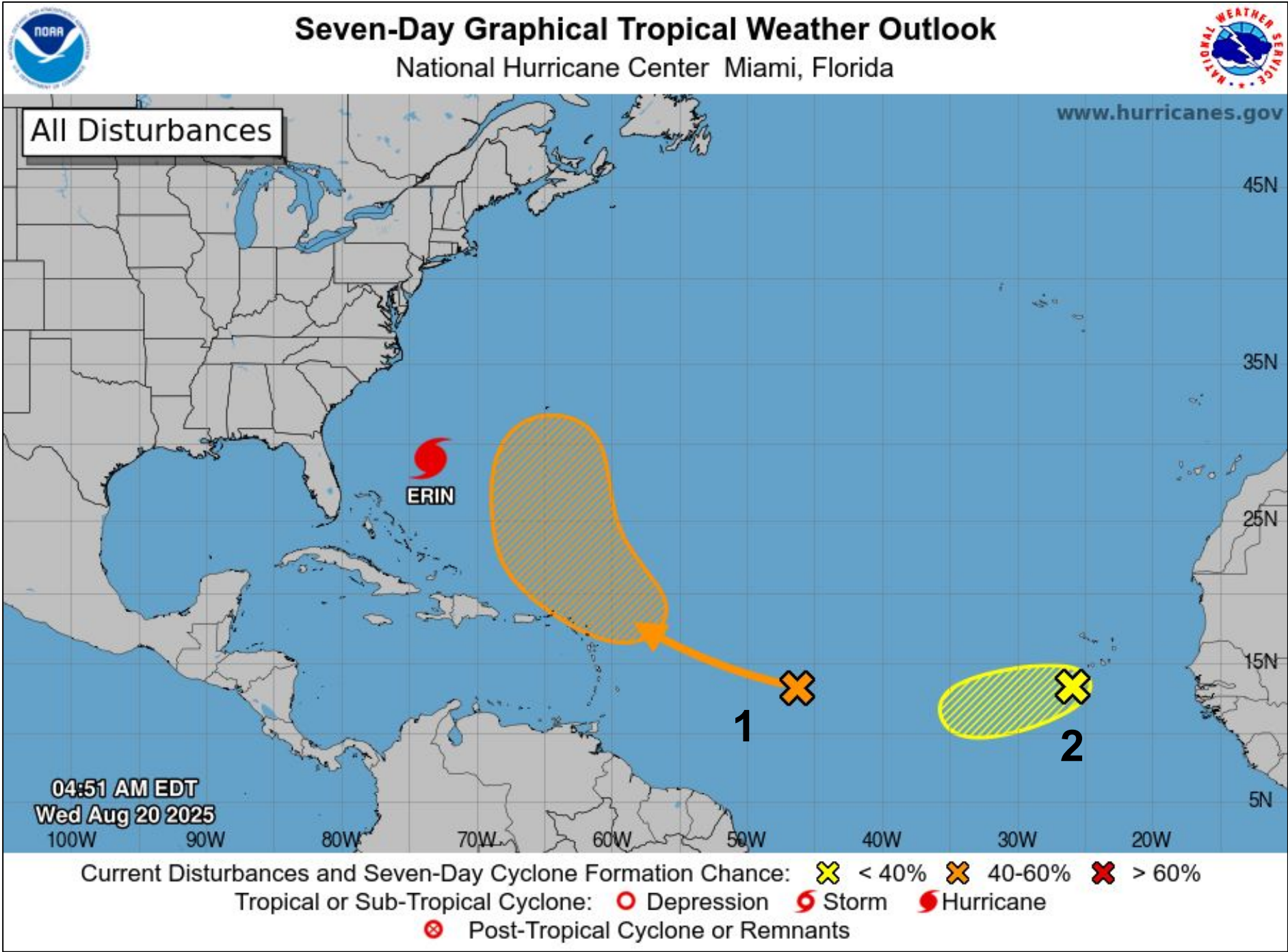




Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf

Areas of Possible Development		
Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
1	Medium (60%)	None in the next 7 days
2	Low (30%)	None in the next 7 days

Active Tropical Cyclones	
Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
Hurricane Erin	None.



See <http://www.hurricanes.gov> for the latest on the tropics or any active storms

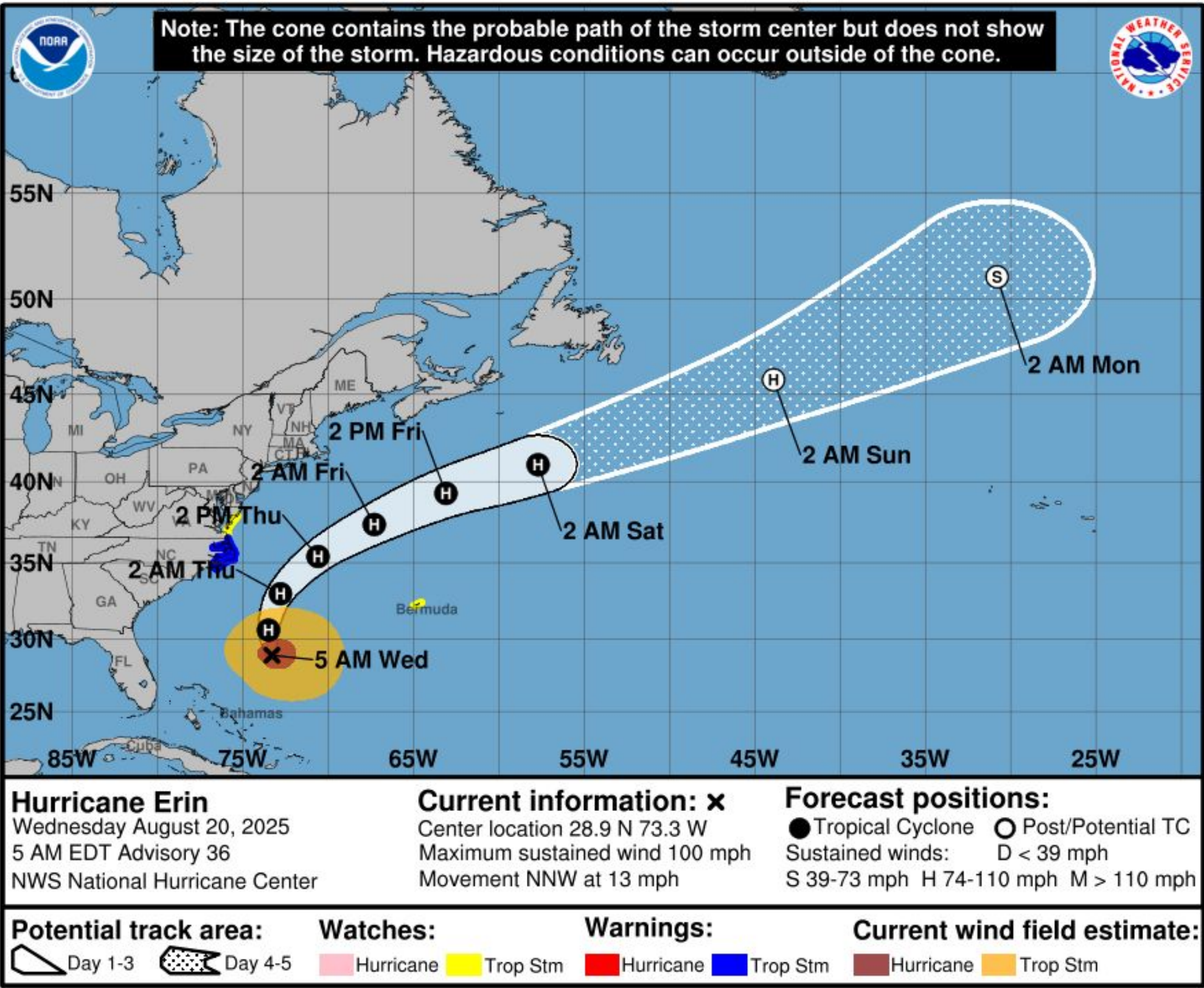




Hurricane Erin

August 20, 2025
2:47 PM

See <http://www.hurricanes.gov> for the latest on the tropics or any active storms



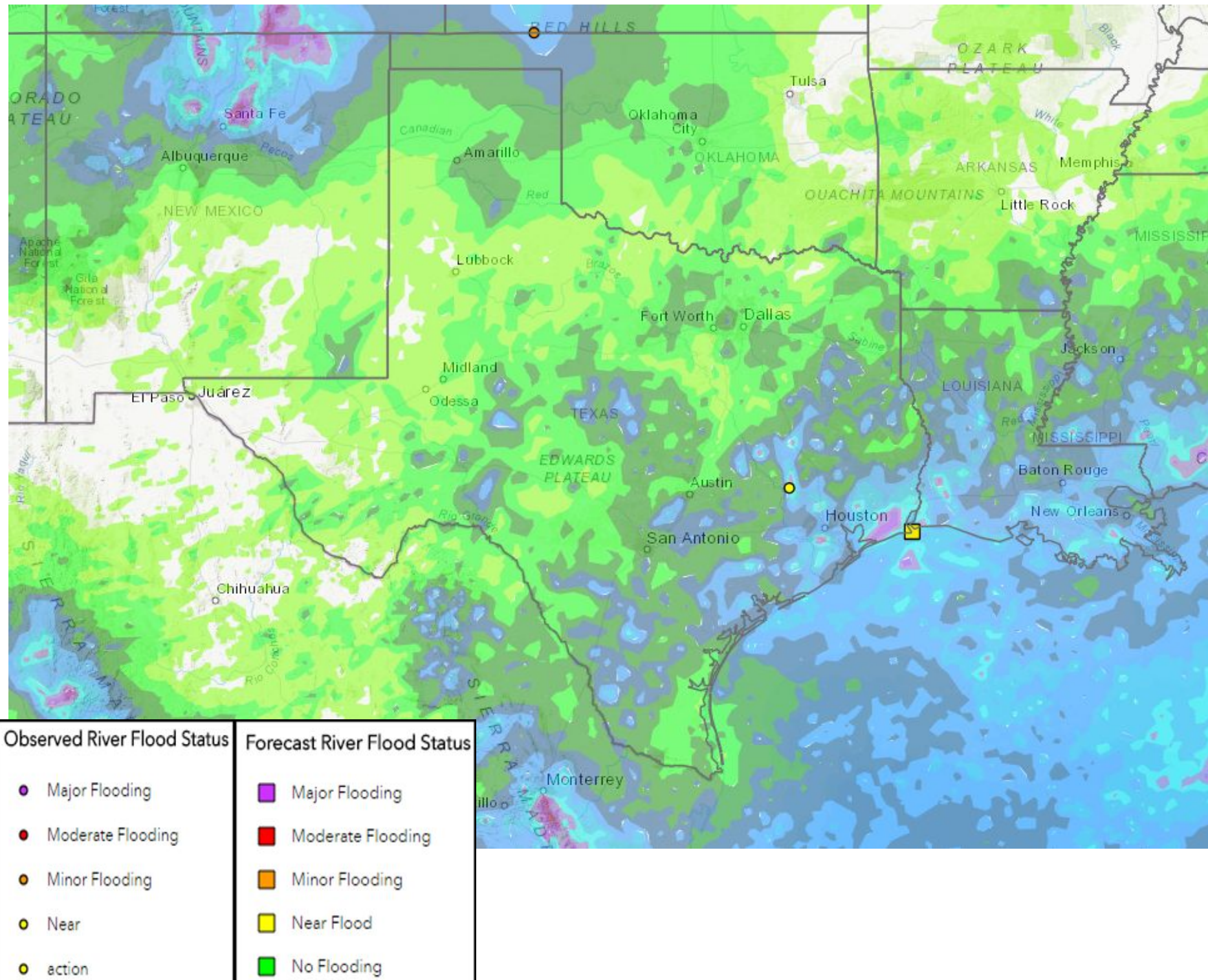
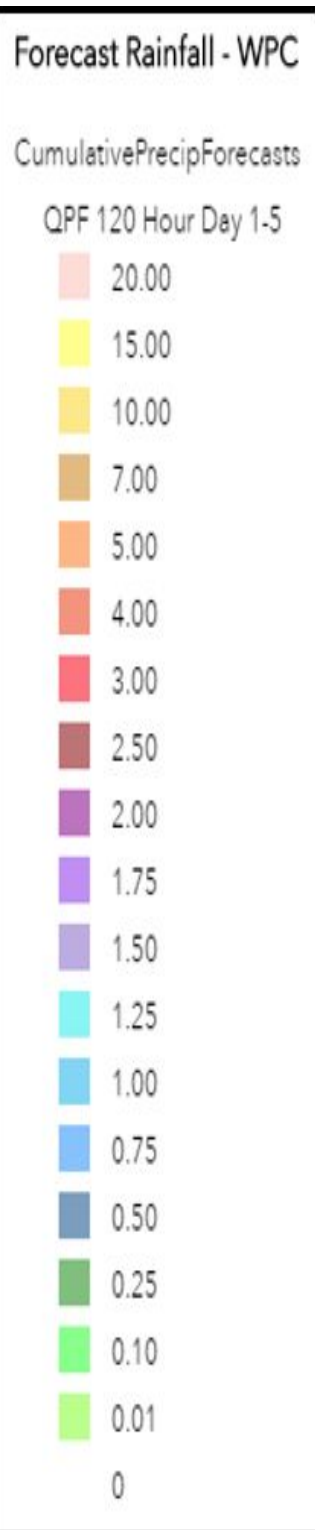
No impacts to FEMA 6 from Hurricane Erin.





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



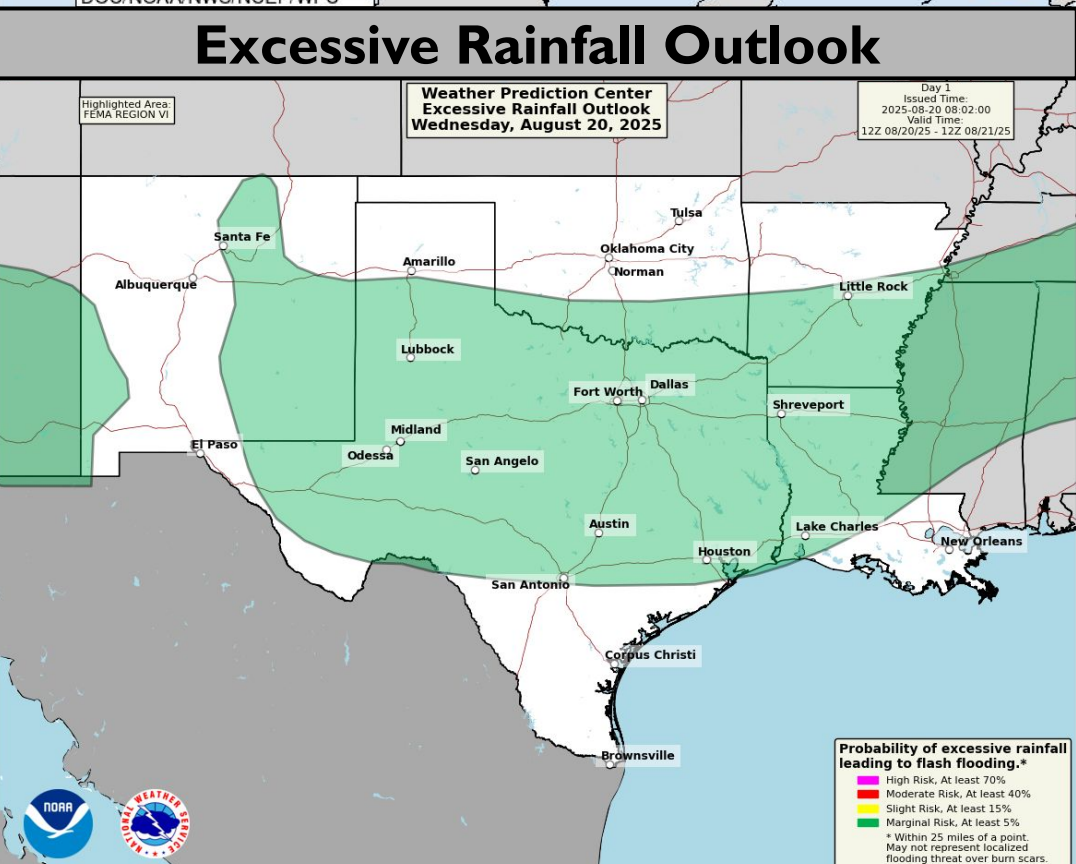
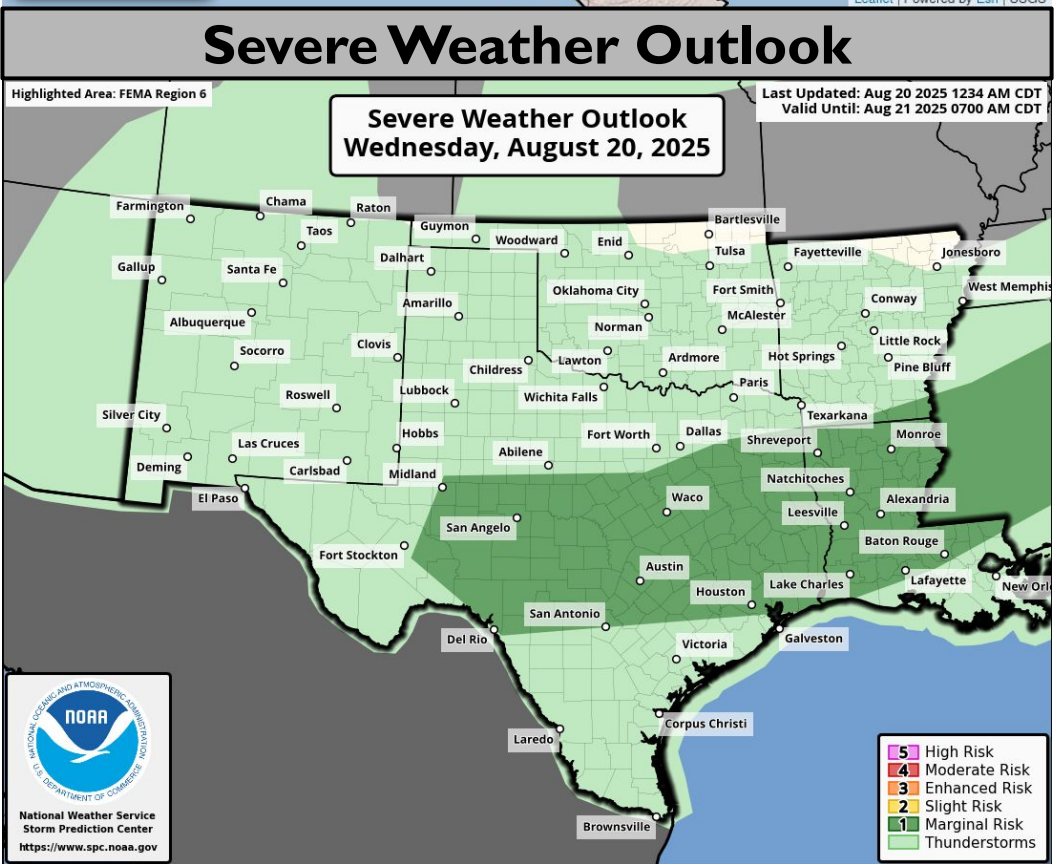
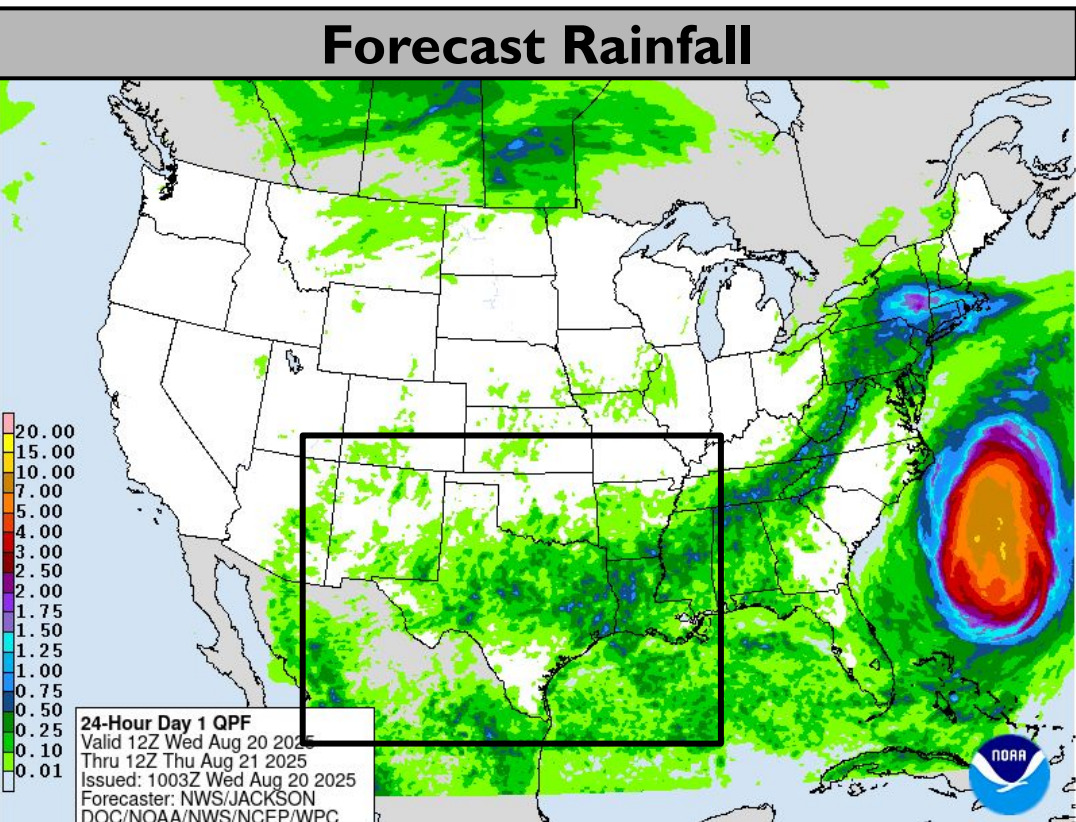
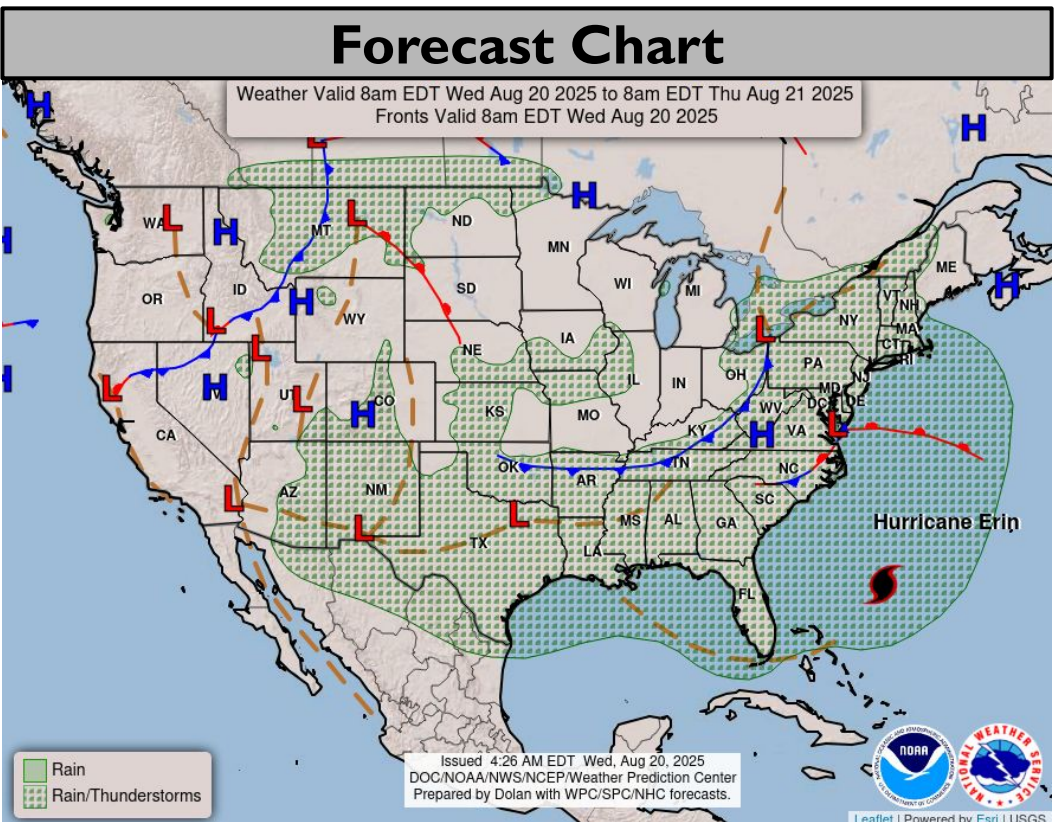
No significant river flooding.

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



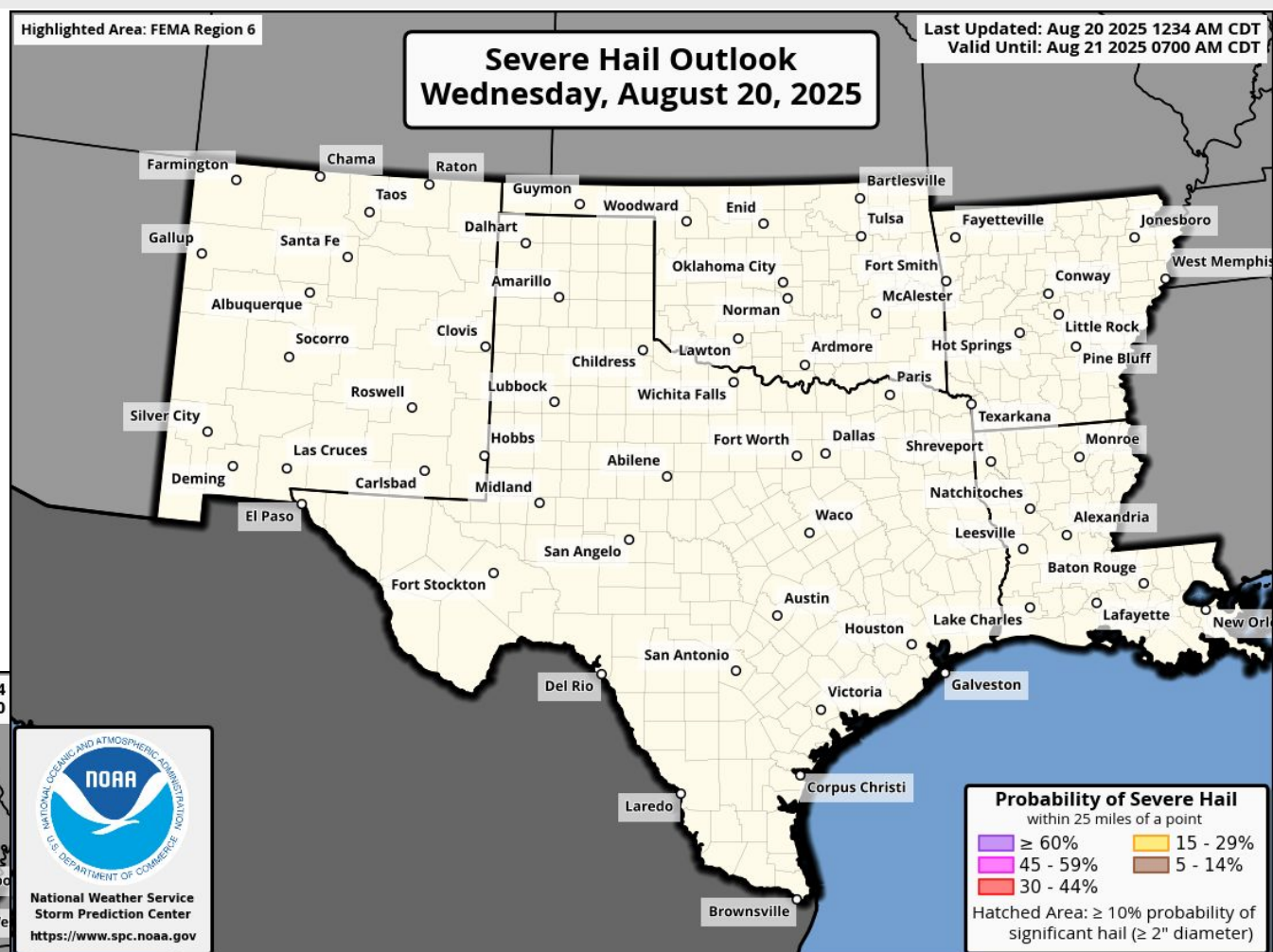
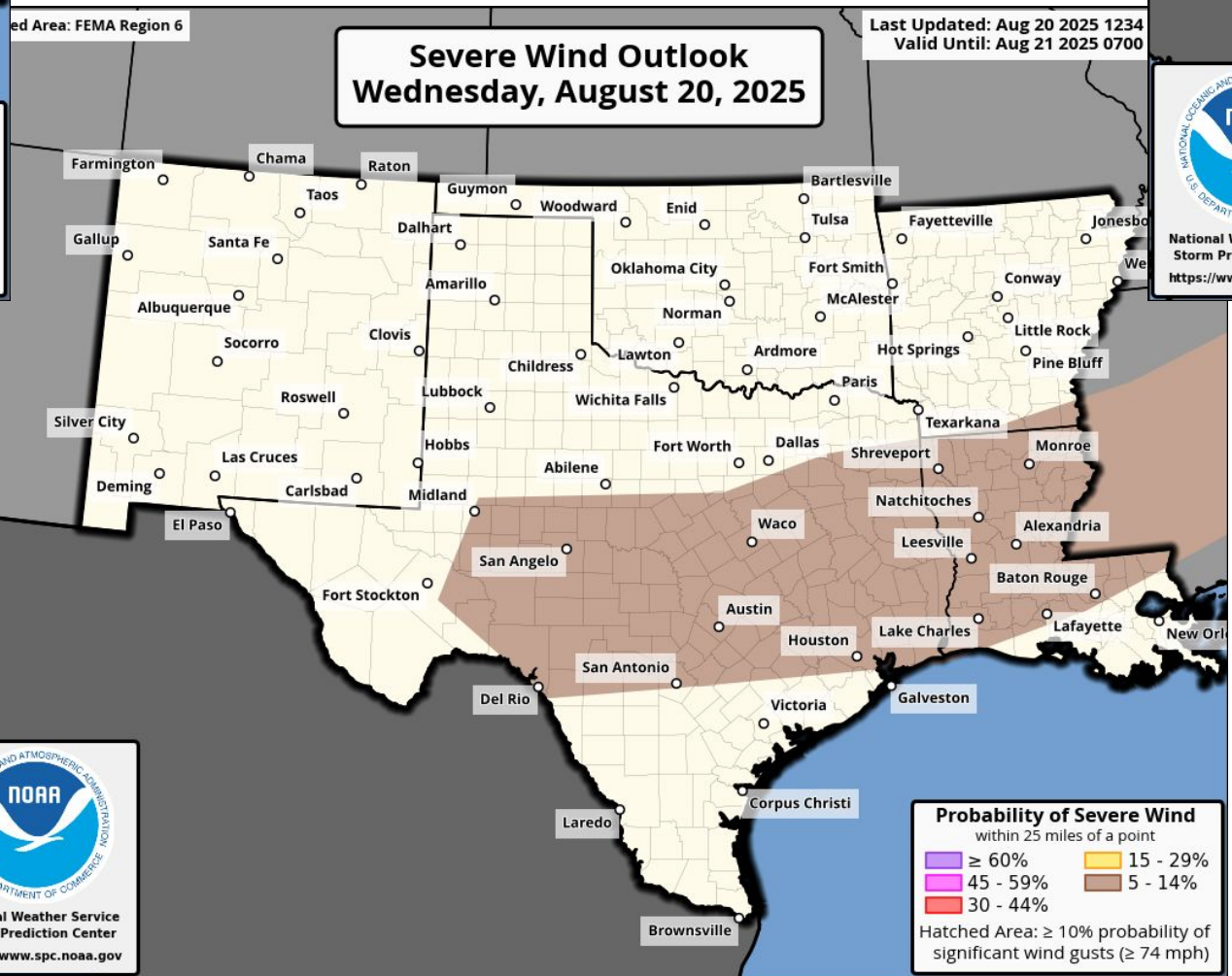
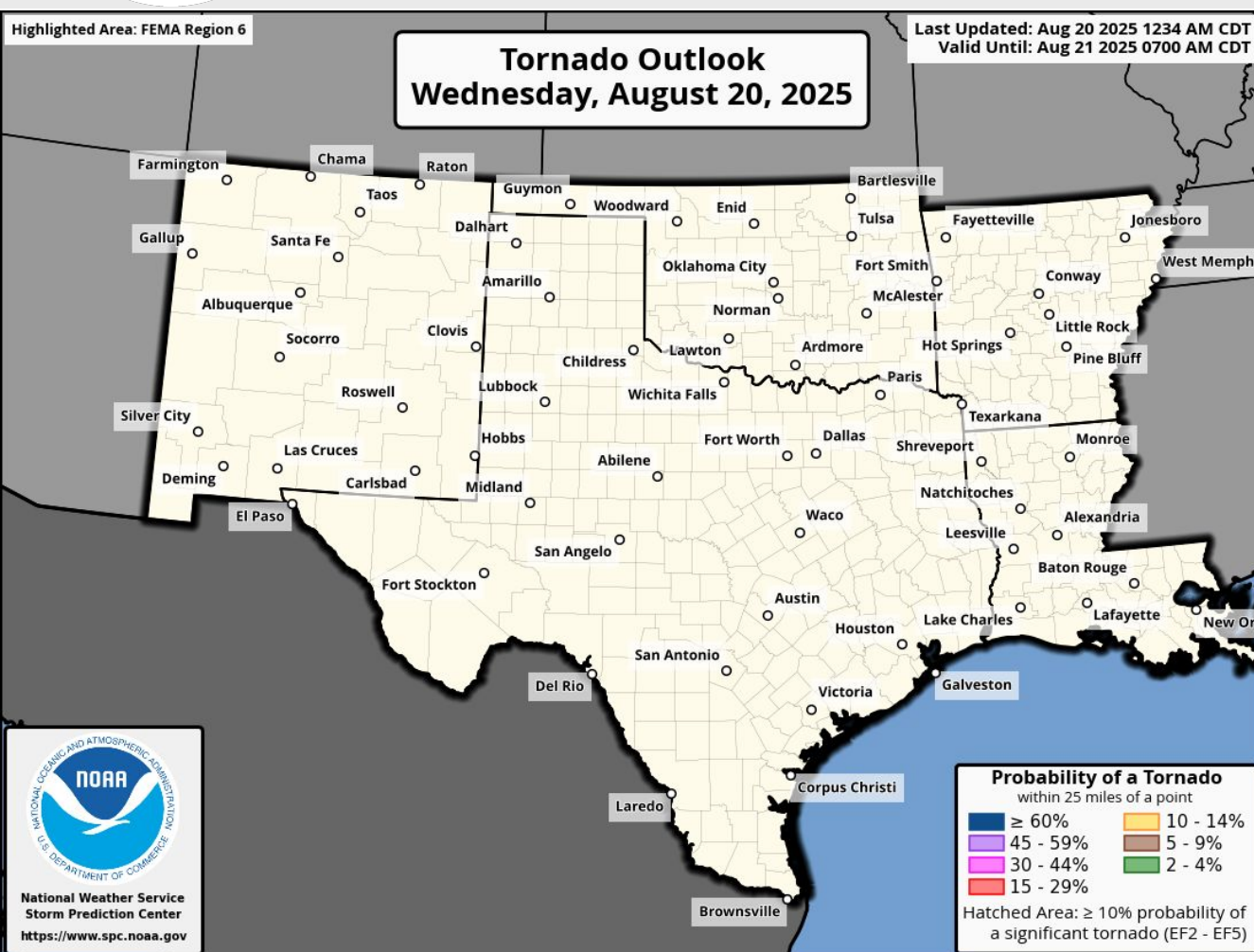
Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) for severe storms for CTX and LA. Localized damaging winds

Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in much of FEMA 6.

****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****



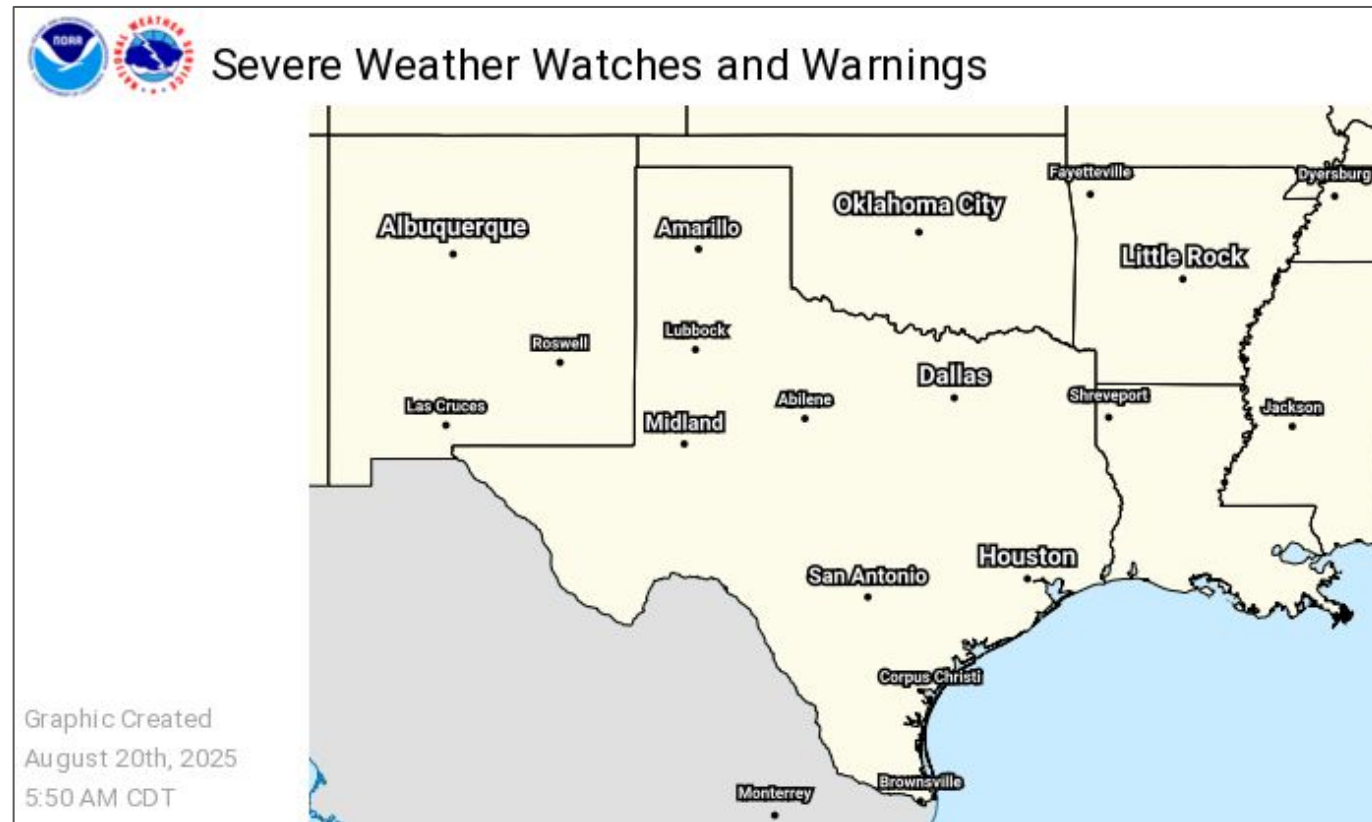
Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



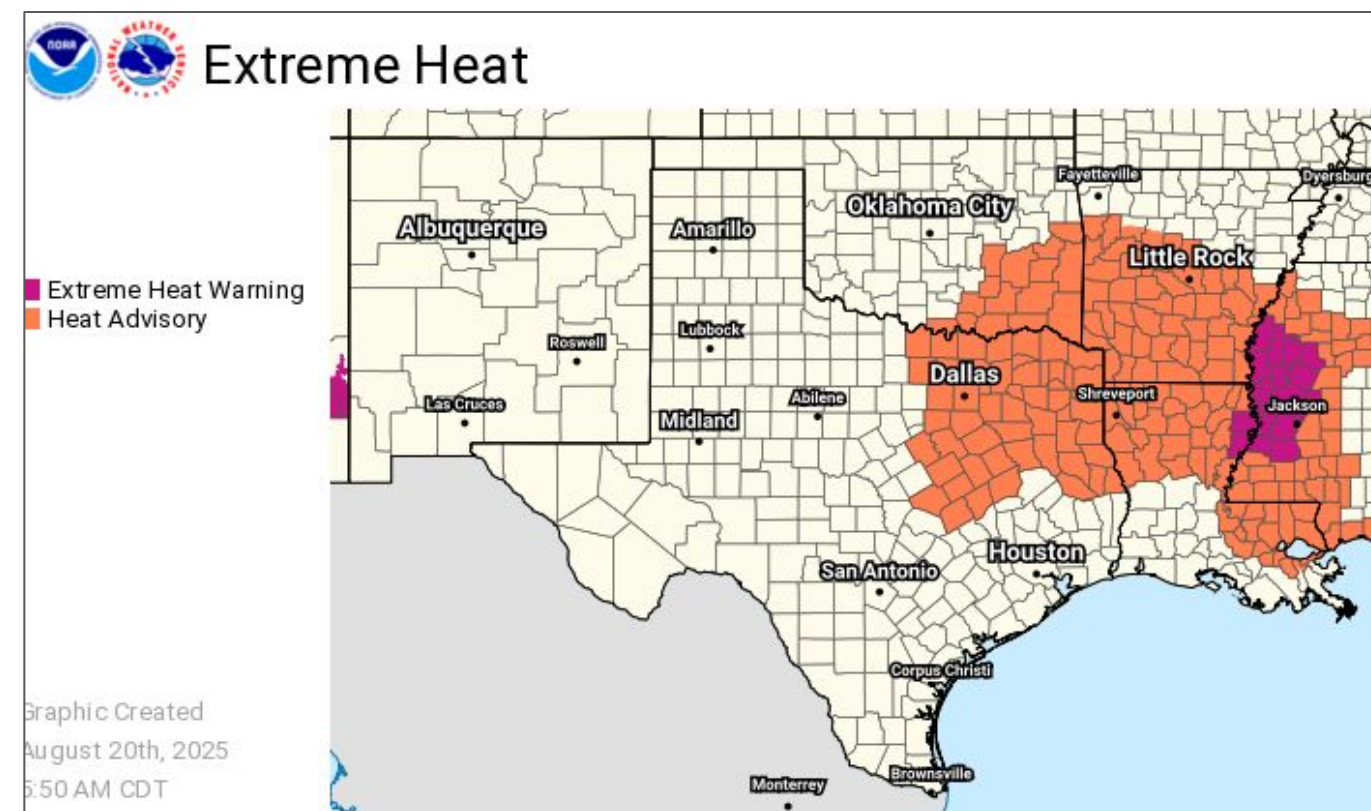


Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Wind, Severe, Heat, and Flood Hazards



**Heat Advisory in effect
across SE OK, AR, NE TX,
N LA. Heat index values
of 105-109 degrees.**

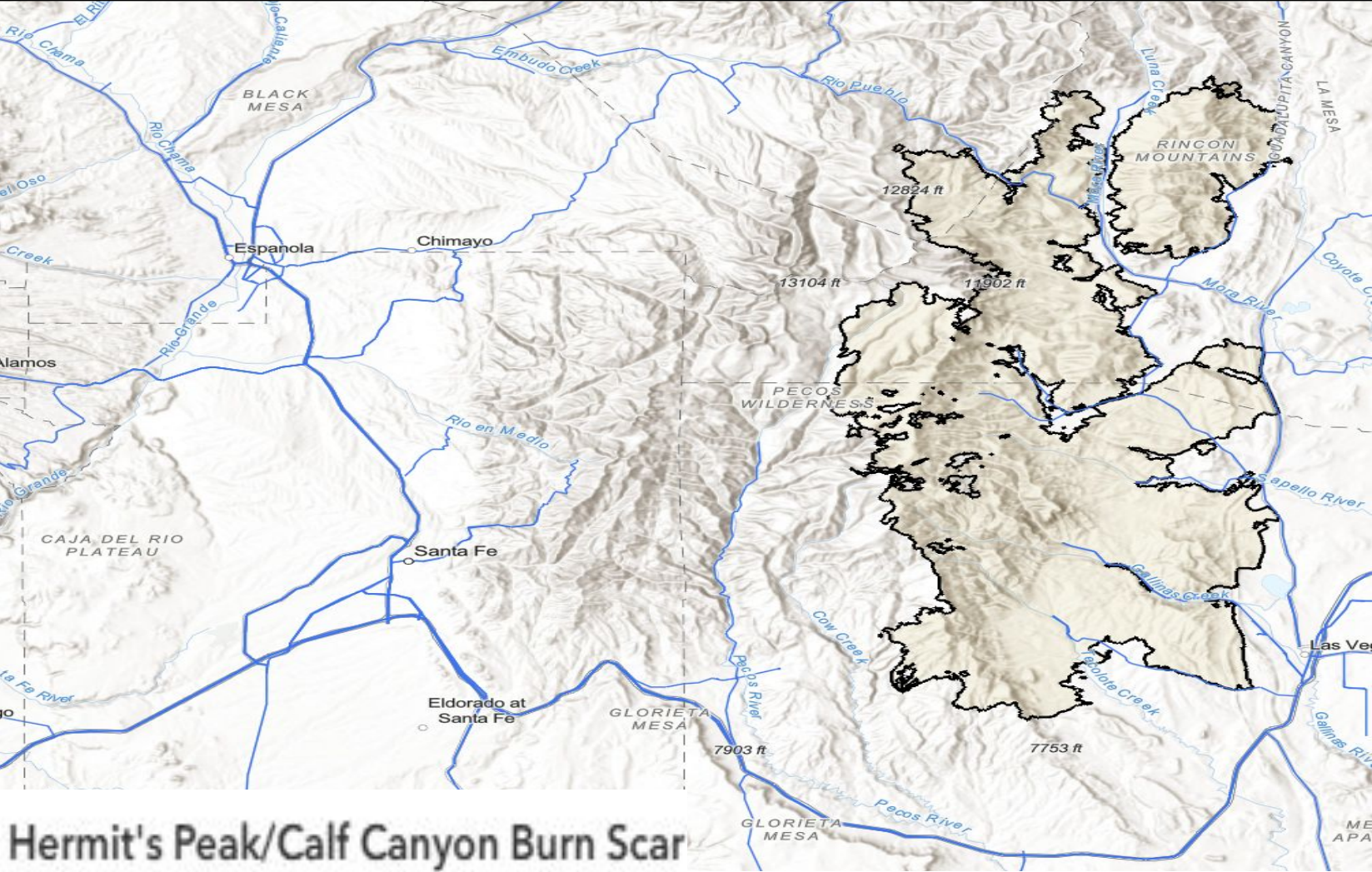




Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - HPCC Scar New Mexico

Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Burn Scar

	Wednesday, Aug 20	Thursday, Aug 21	Friday, Aug 22	Saturday, Aug 23
Flash Flooding	Minor	Minor	Minor	Moderate
Timing - CDT	12pm - 9pm	Afternoon/Evening	Afternoon/Evening	Afternoon/Evening



Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Burn Scar

Little to None	No Flash Flood Threat
Minor (level 1 of 4)	Slight Risk of Flash Flooding
Moderate (level 2 of 4)	Probability of Flash Flooding Issuance 40% to 60%
Major (level 3 of 4)	Flood Watch Issued OR Debris Flow Probability > 50%
Extreme (level 4 of 4)	Life Threatening Flash Flooding Likely - Historic Type Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none">WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.	

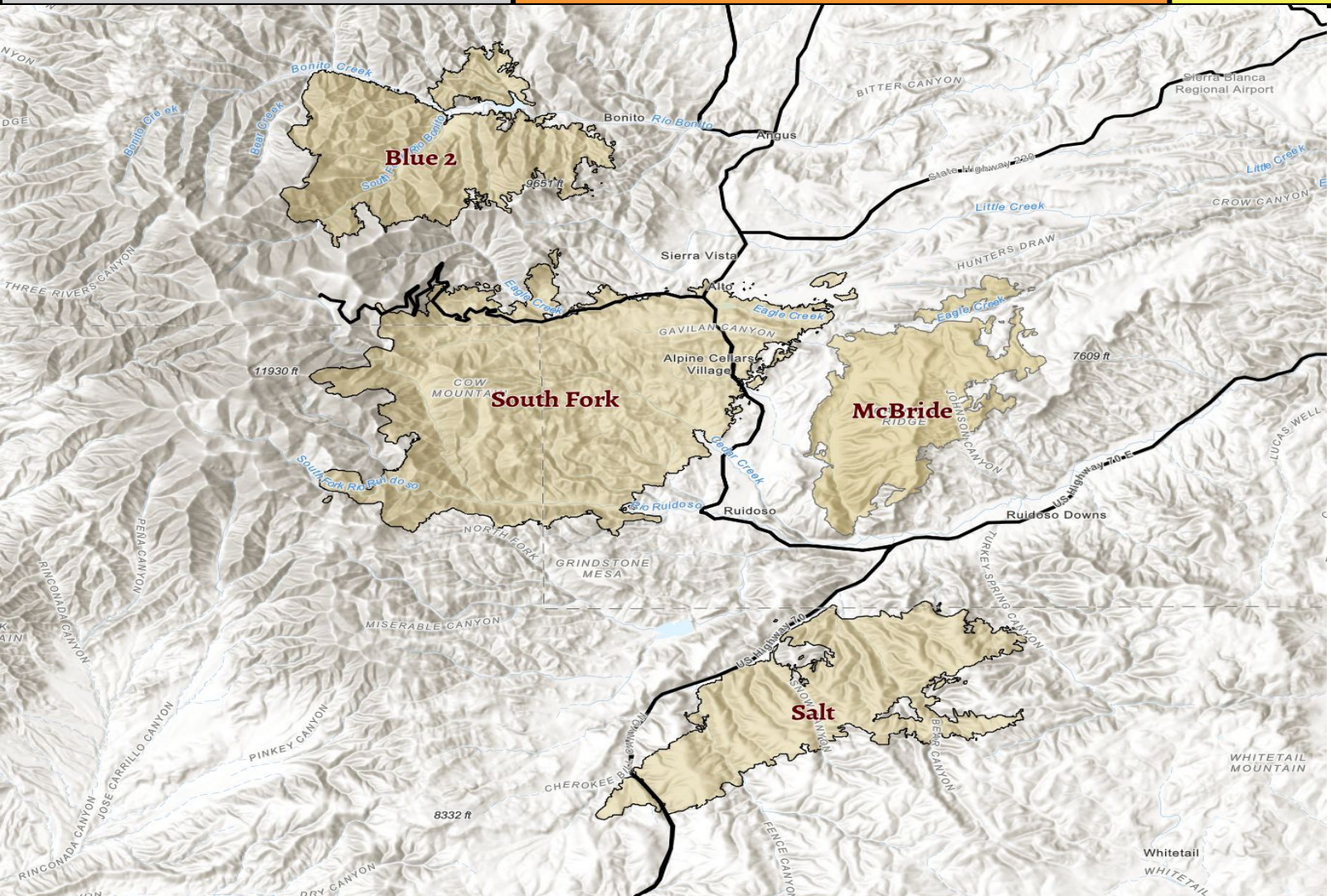




Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - Ruidoso, New Mexico

Sacramento Complex

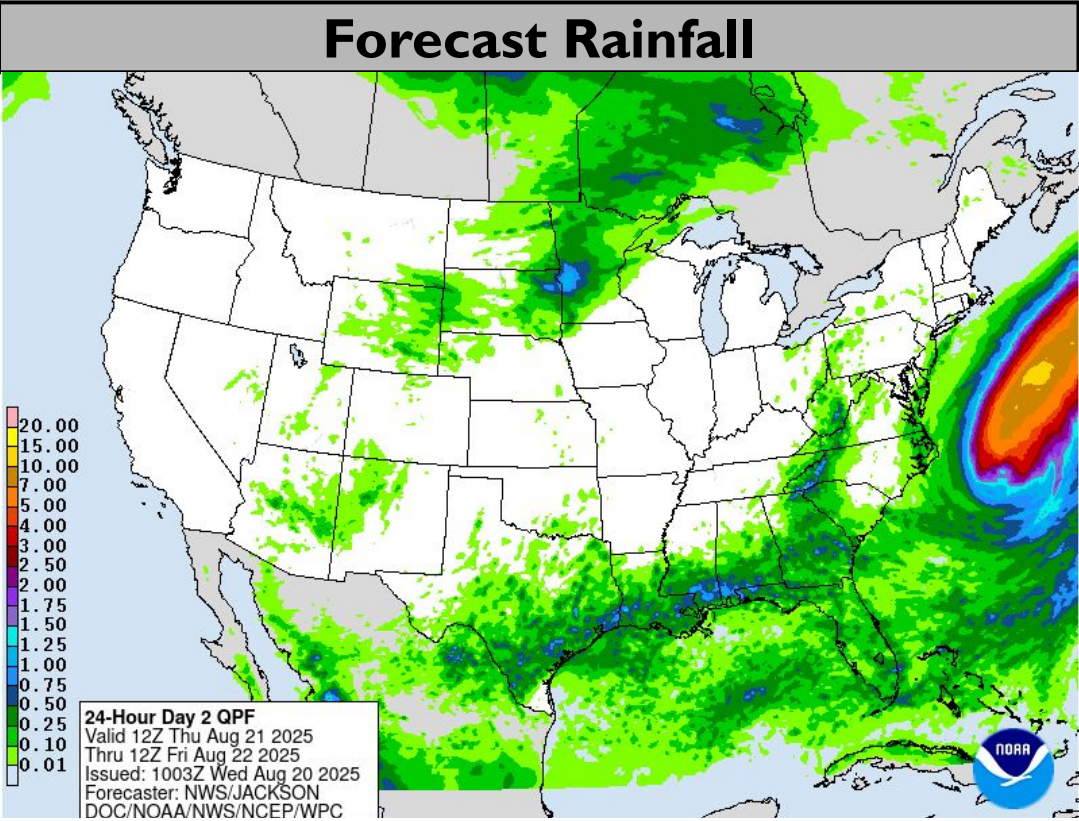
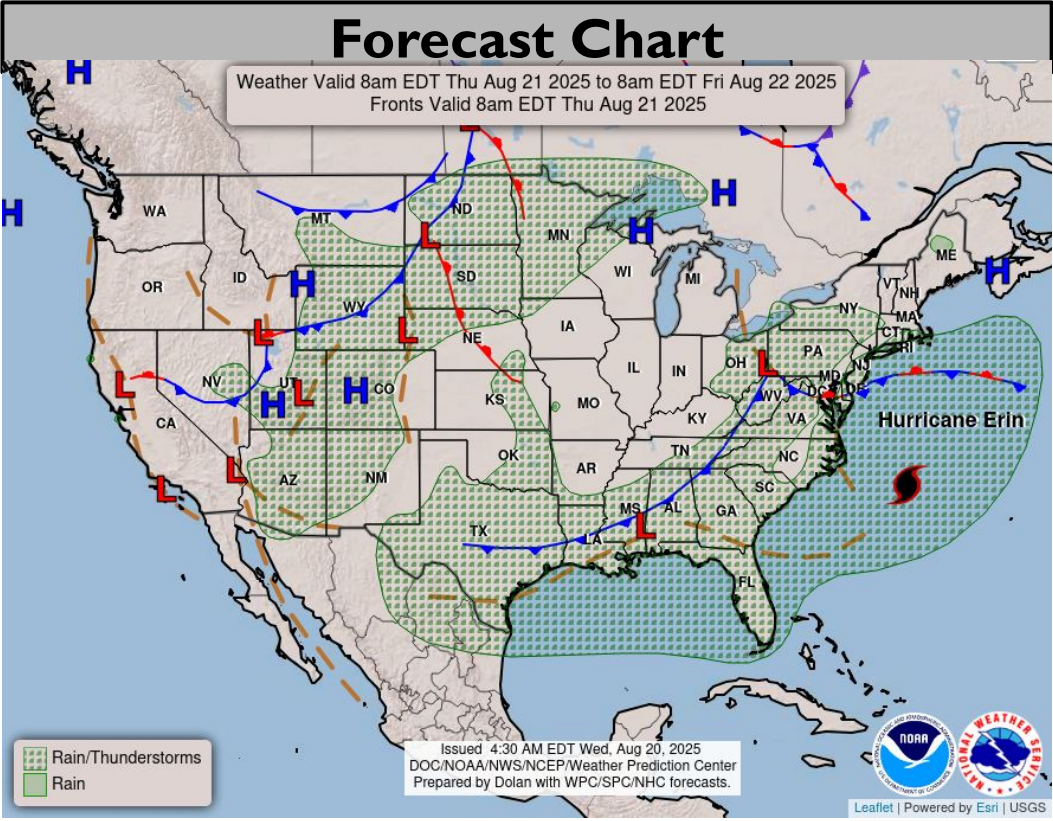
	Wednesday, Aug 20	Thursday, Aug 21	Friday, Aug 22	Saturday, Aug 23
Flash Flooding	Moderate	Minor	No Impacts	Minor
Timing - CDT	12pm-7pm	Afternoon/Evening		Afternoon/Evening



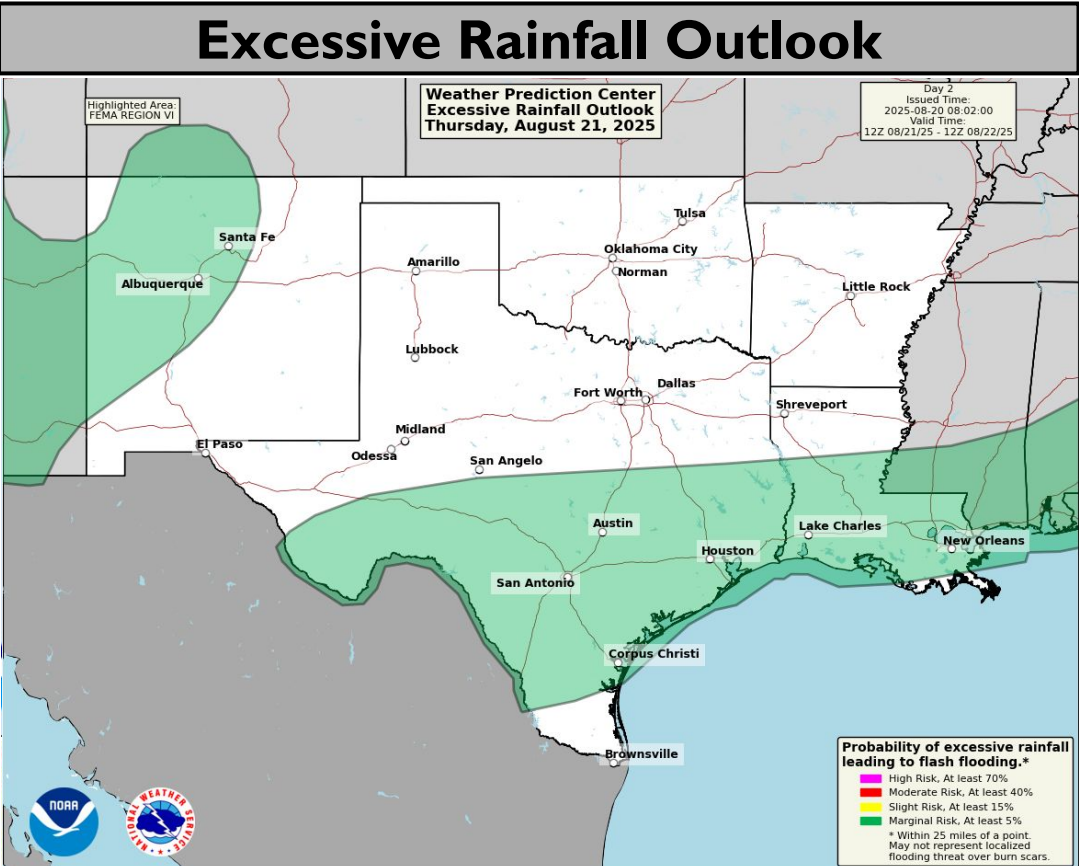
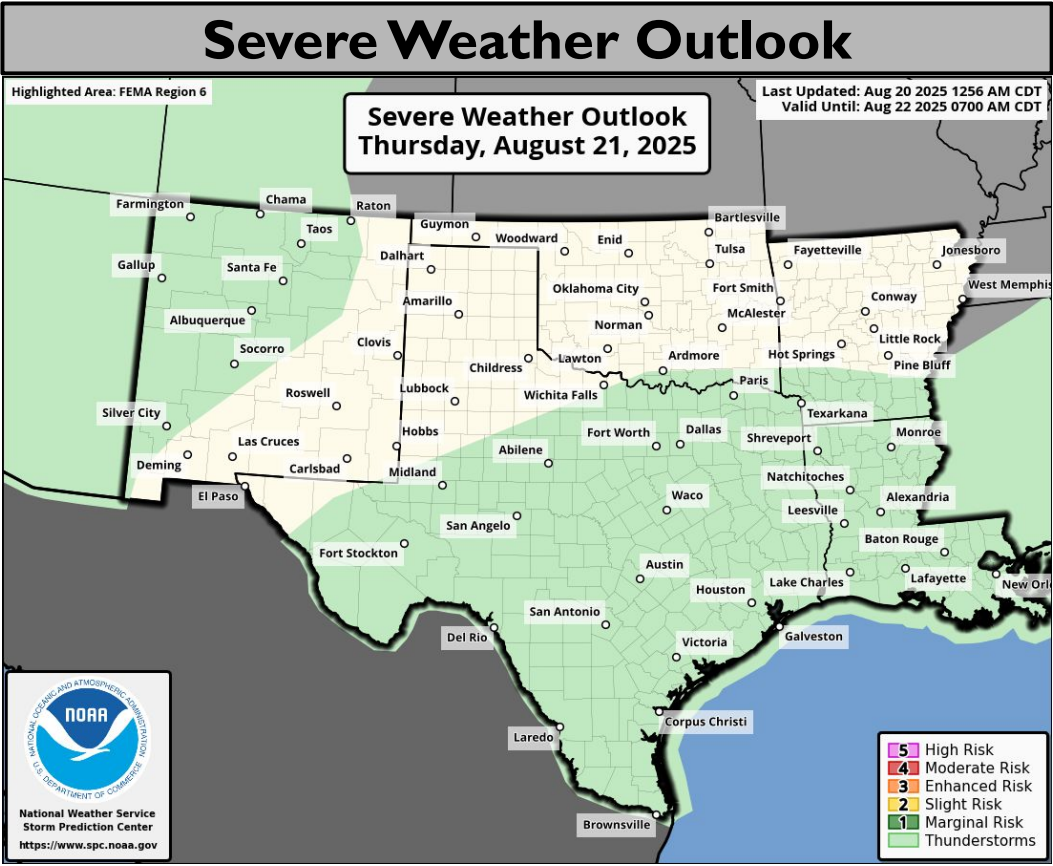
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Extreme (level 4 of 4)	Life Threatening Flash Flooding Likely - Historic Type Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none">WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.*Note* 2nd year burn scars can be <u>more dangerous</u> than year 1.	



Tomorrow's Weather



Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding for W NM, C-STX, C-S LA

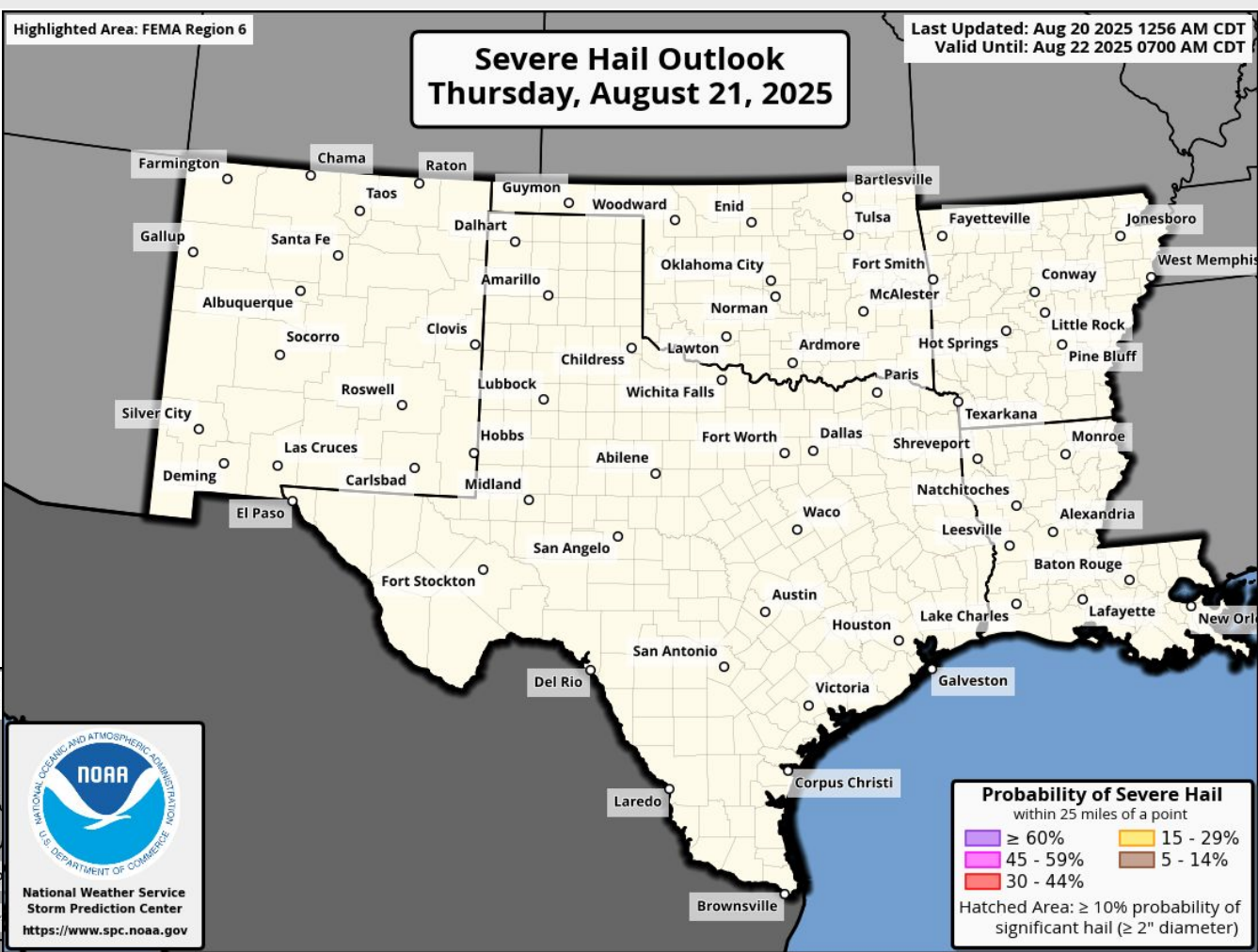
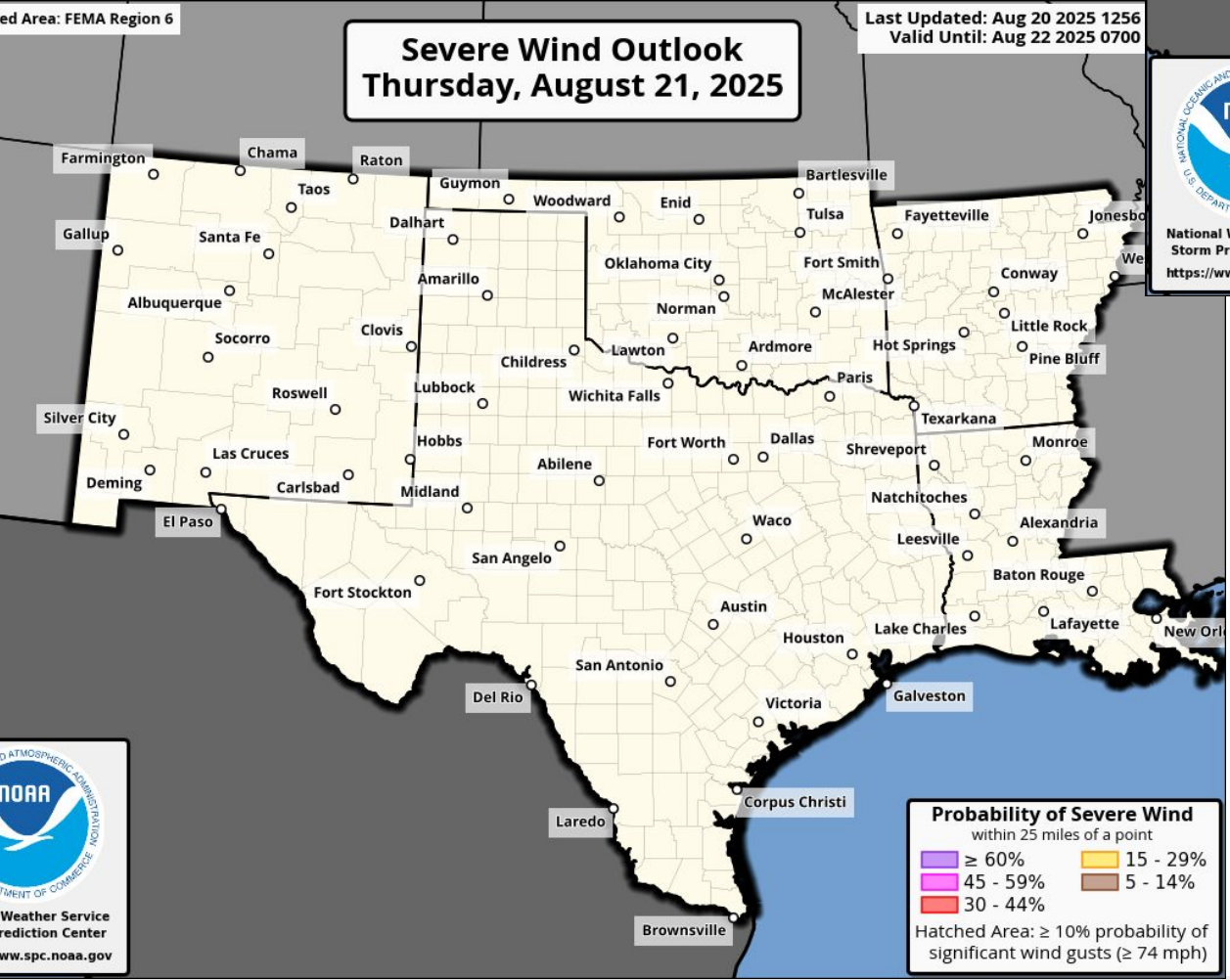
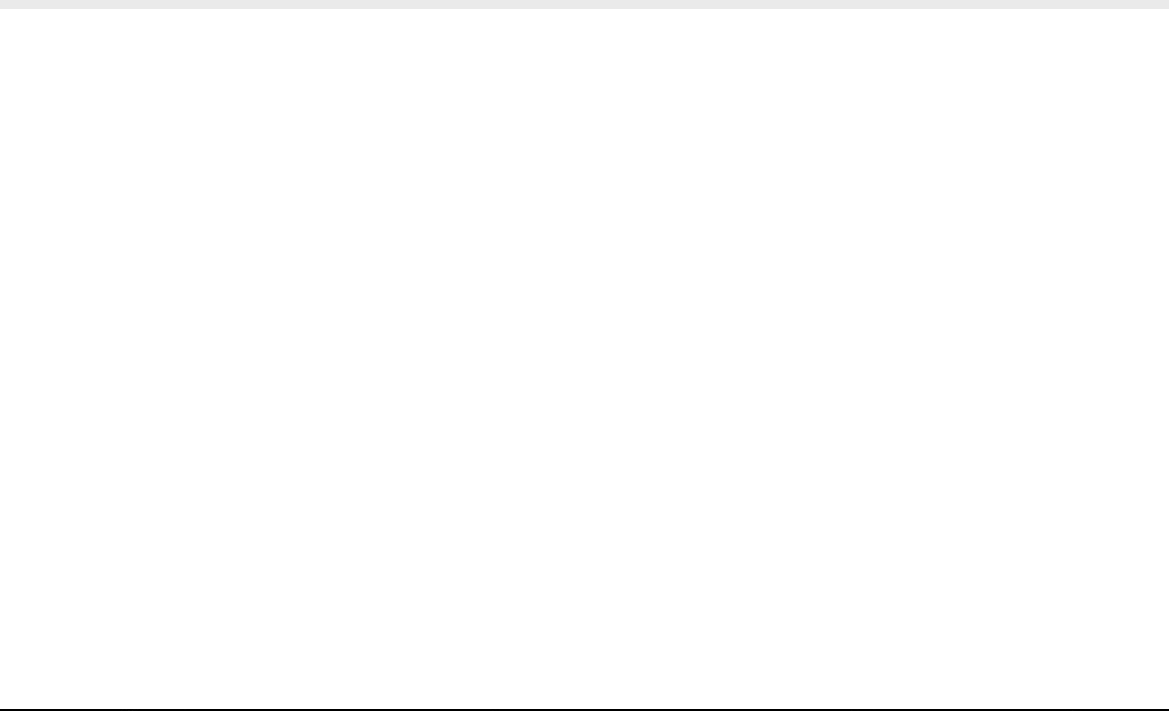
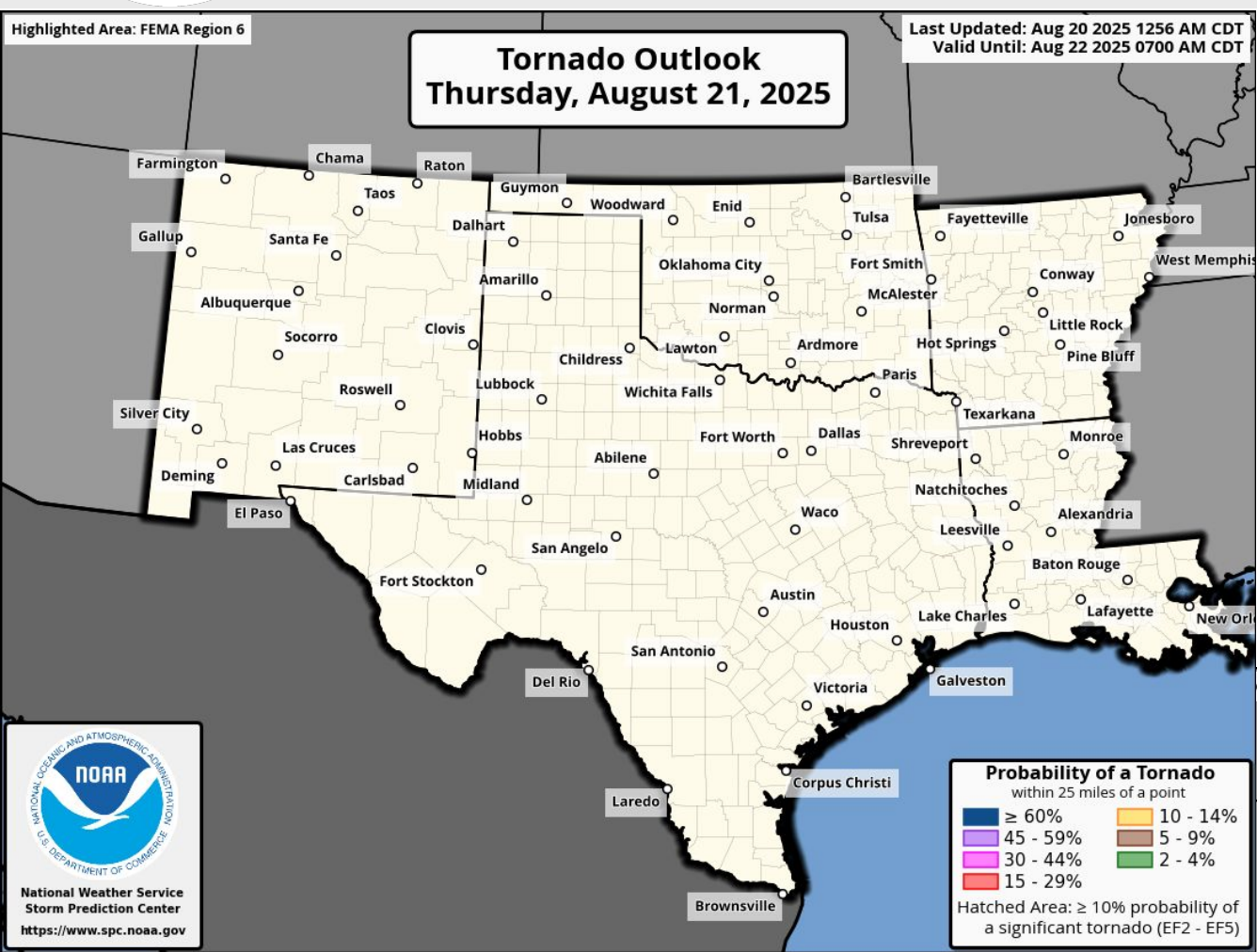


Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides





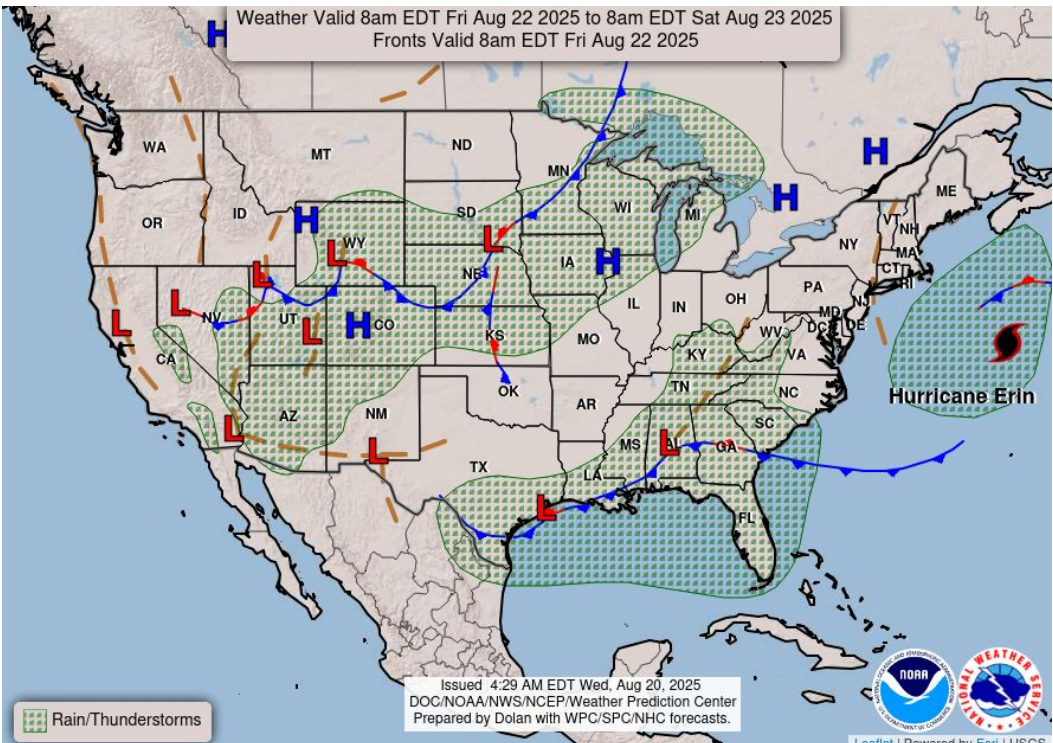
Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



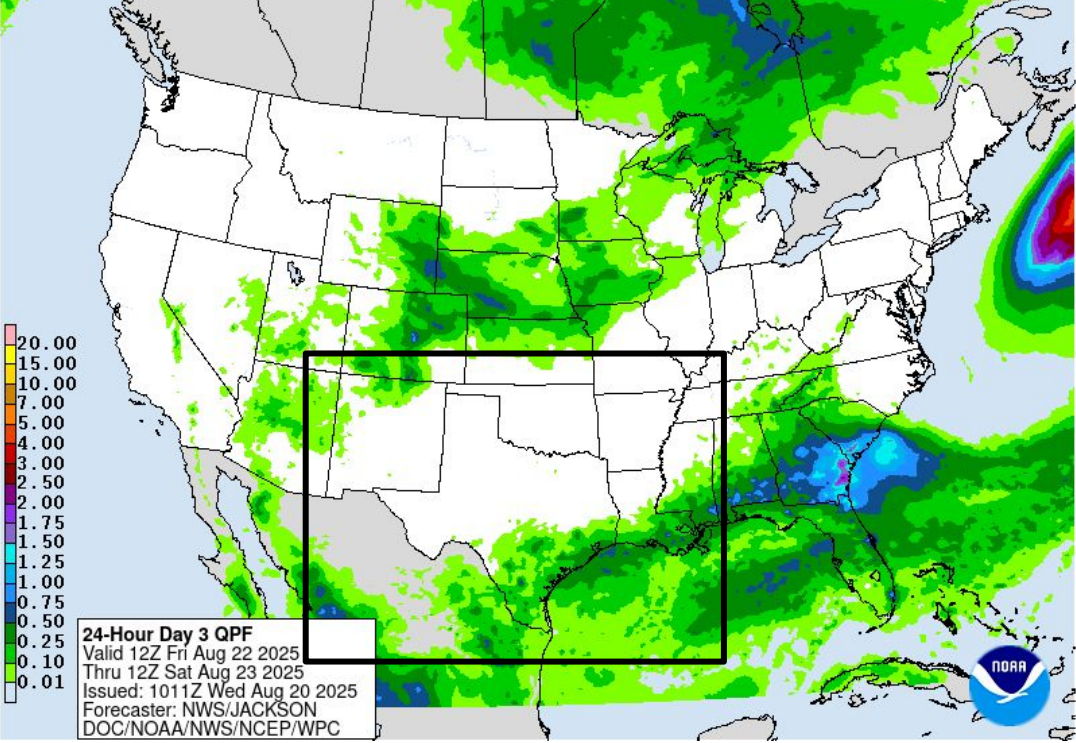


Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart

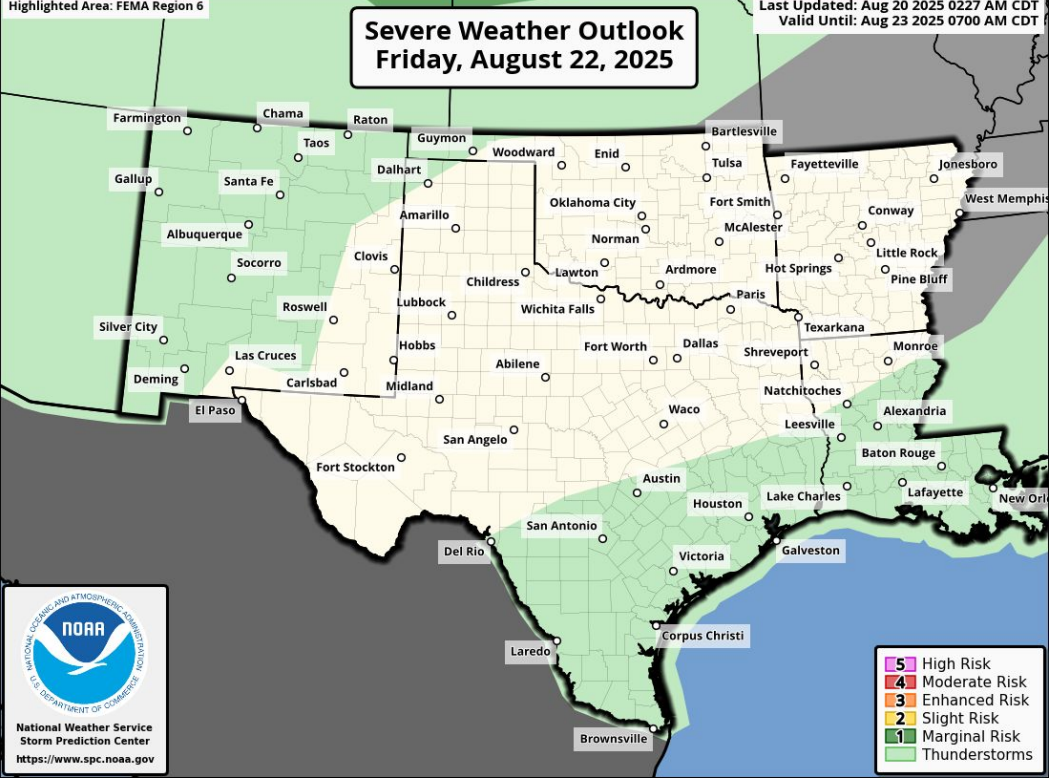


Forecast Rainfall

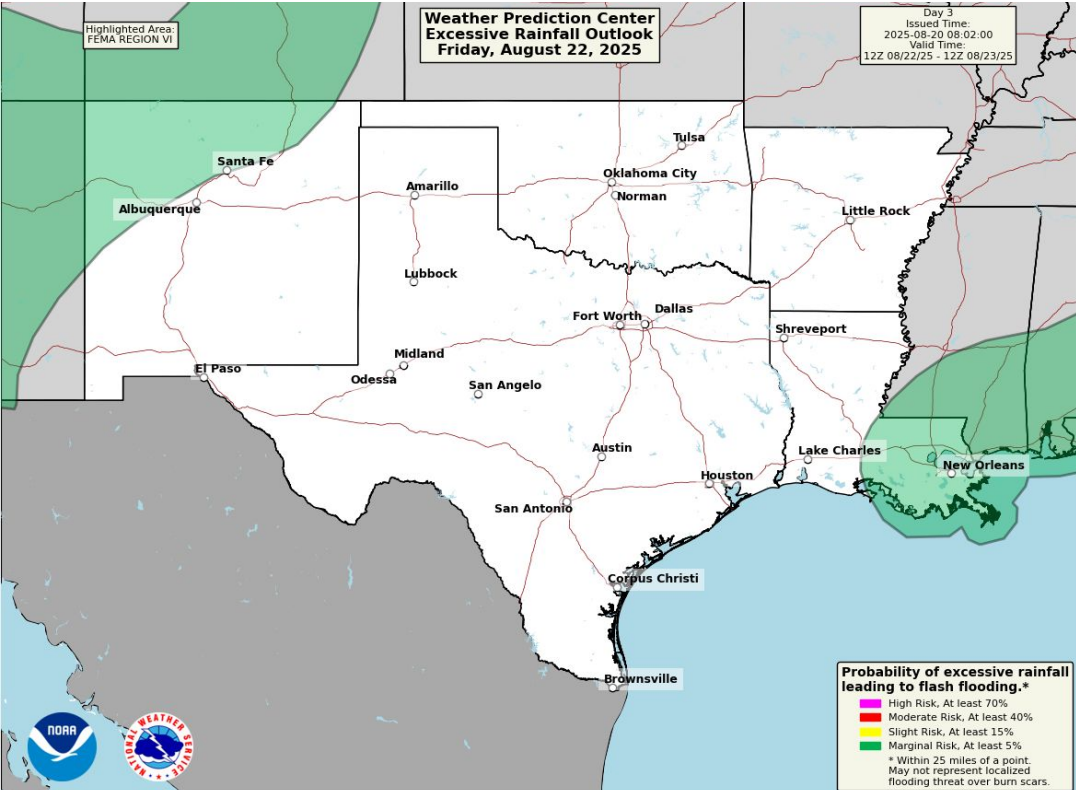


Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in N NM, and E LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



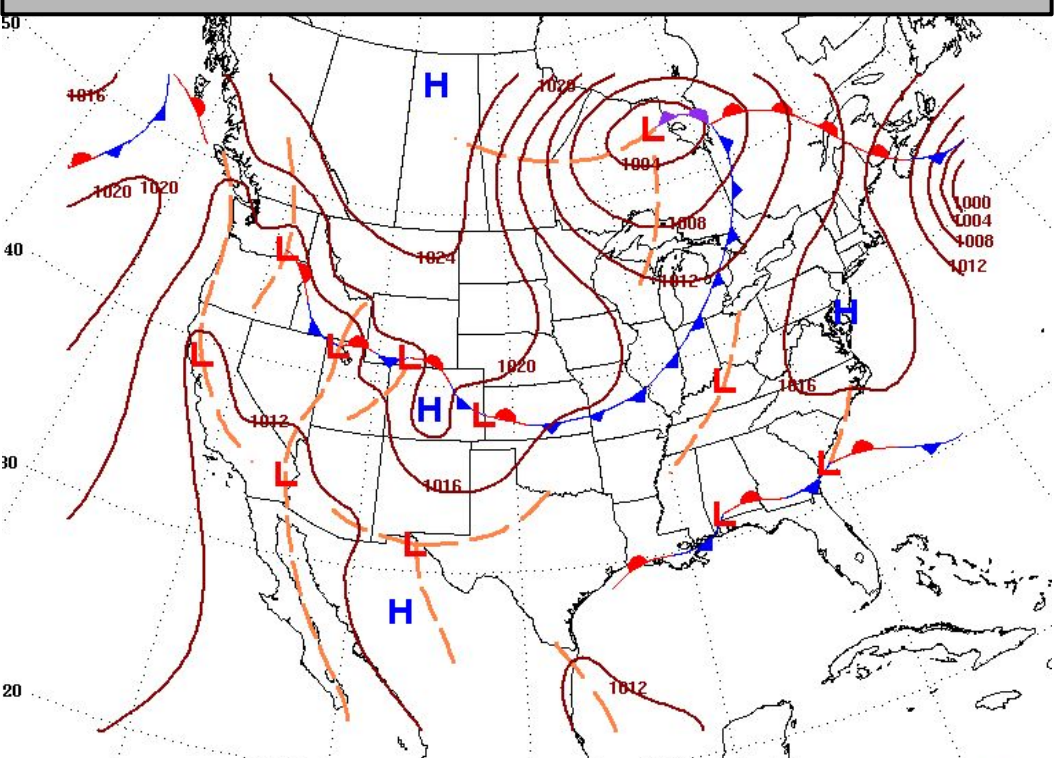
****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****



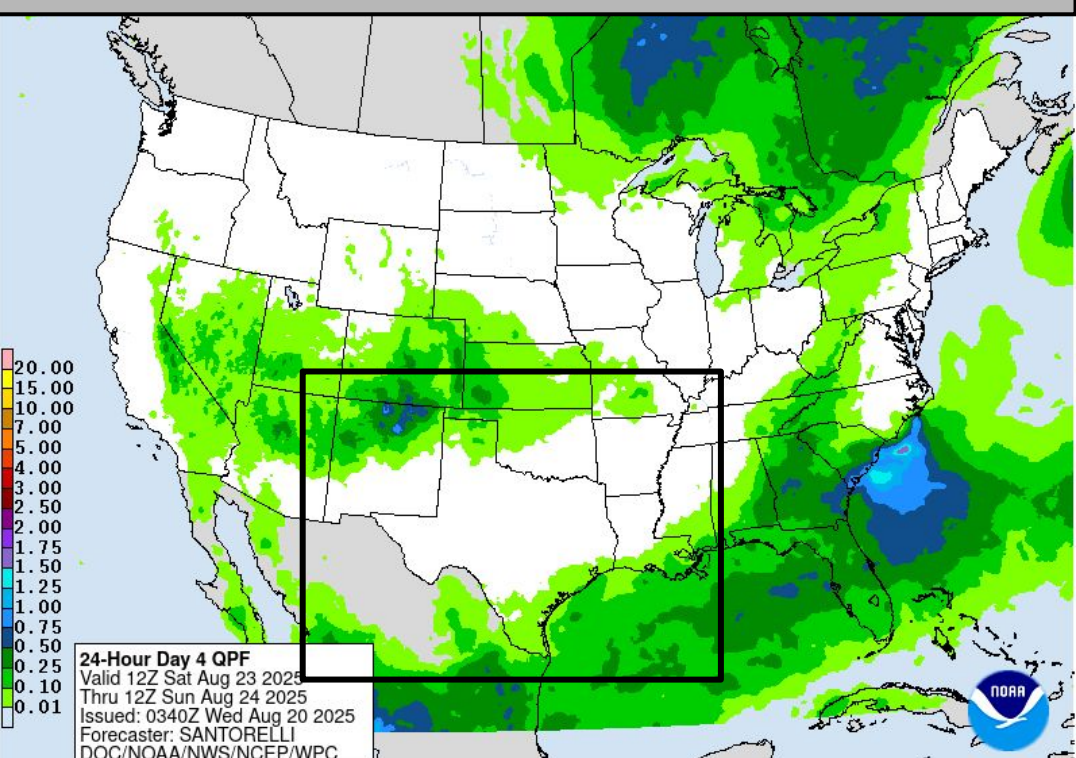


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

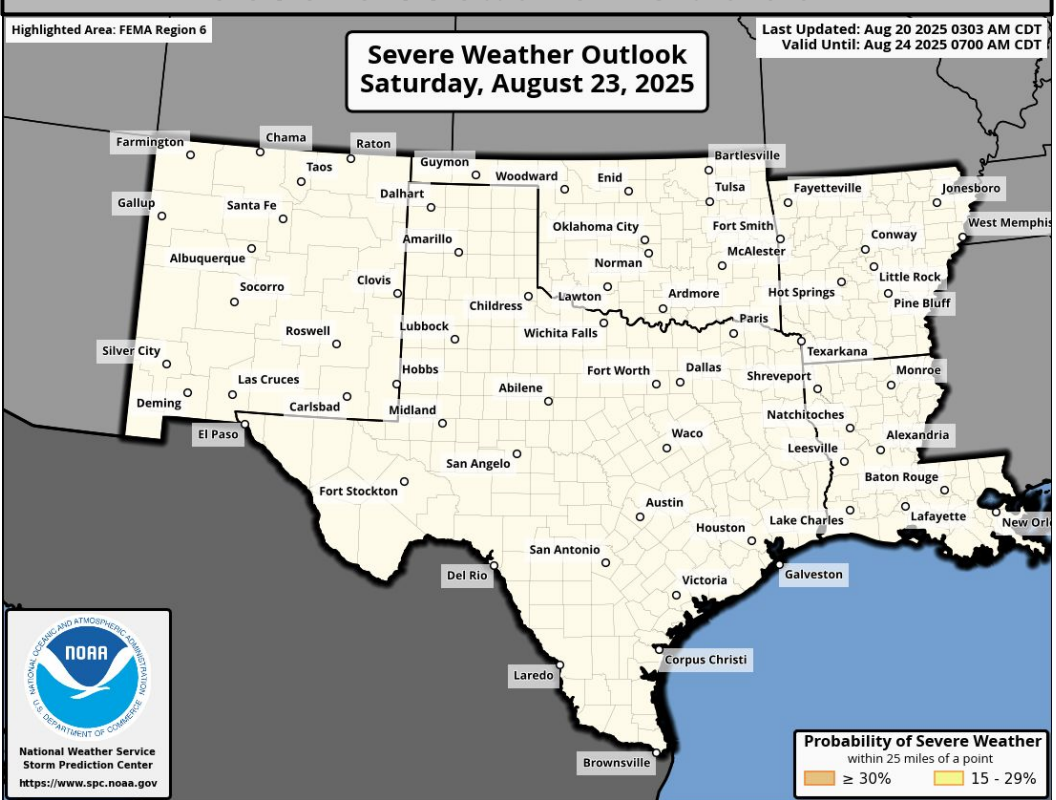


Forecast Rainfall

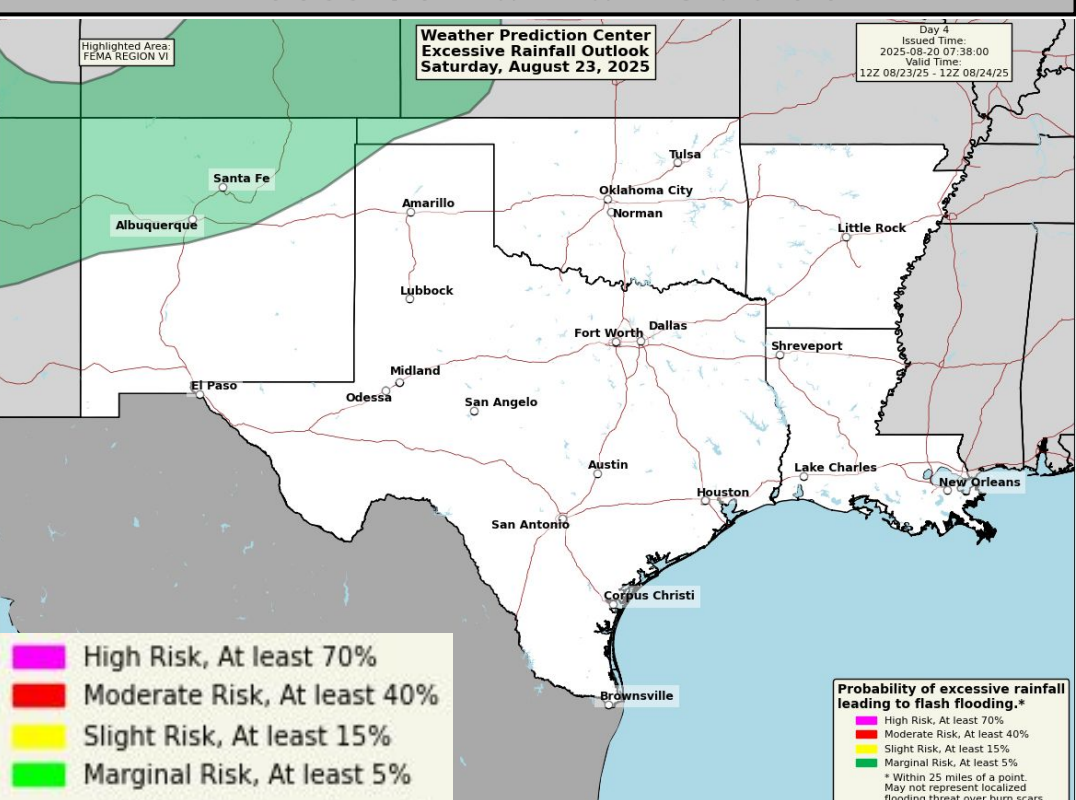


Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in NM and N OK.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

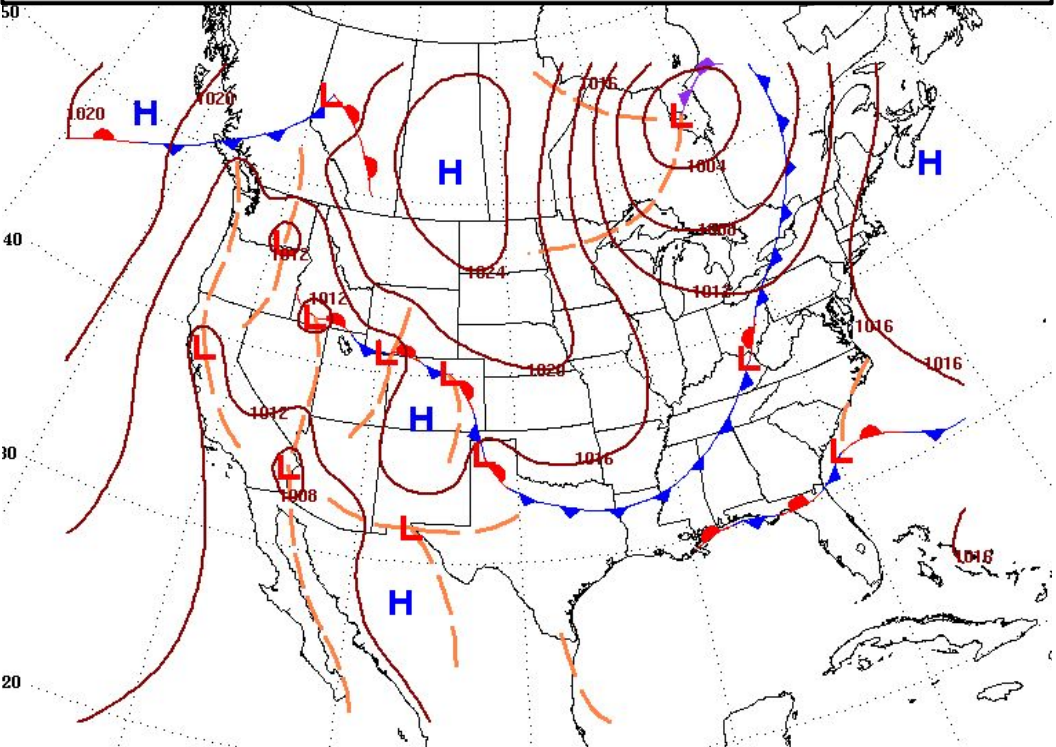


****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****

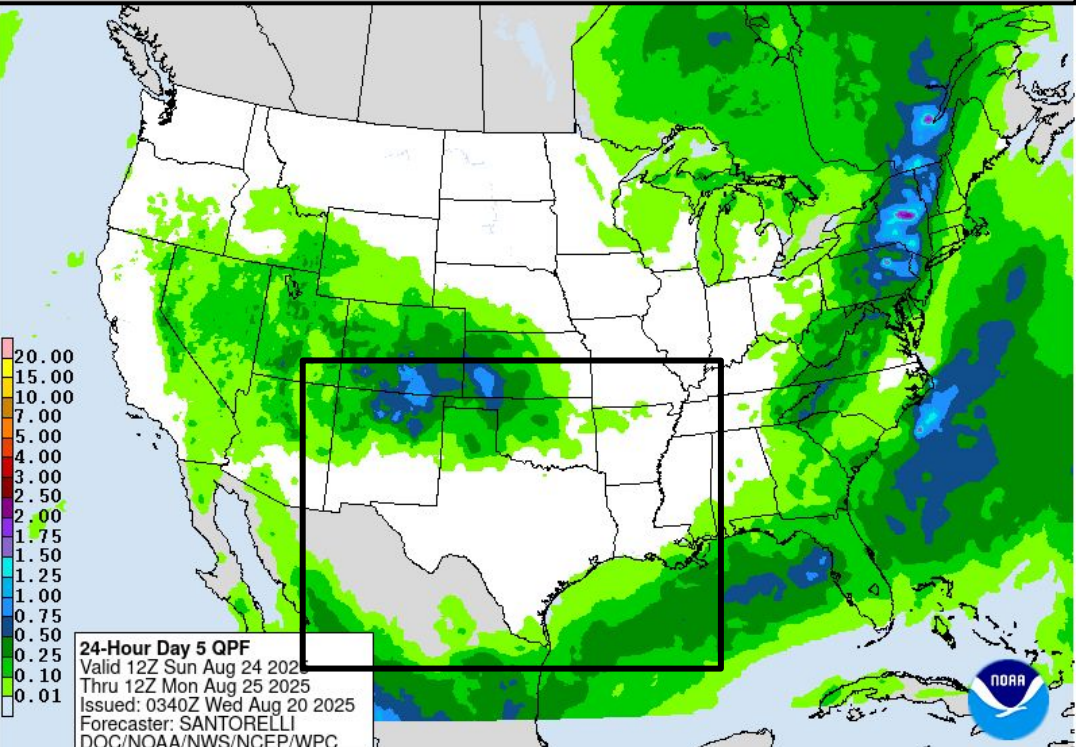


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

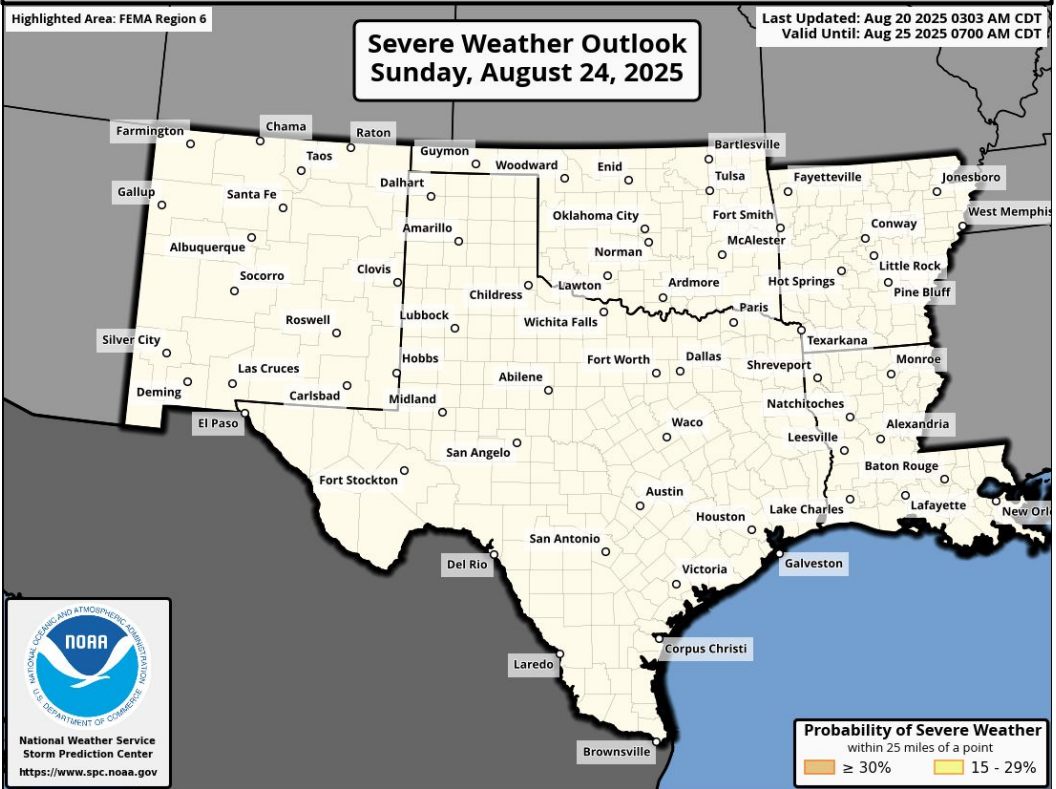


Forecast Rainfall

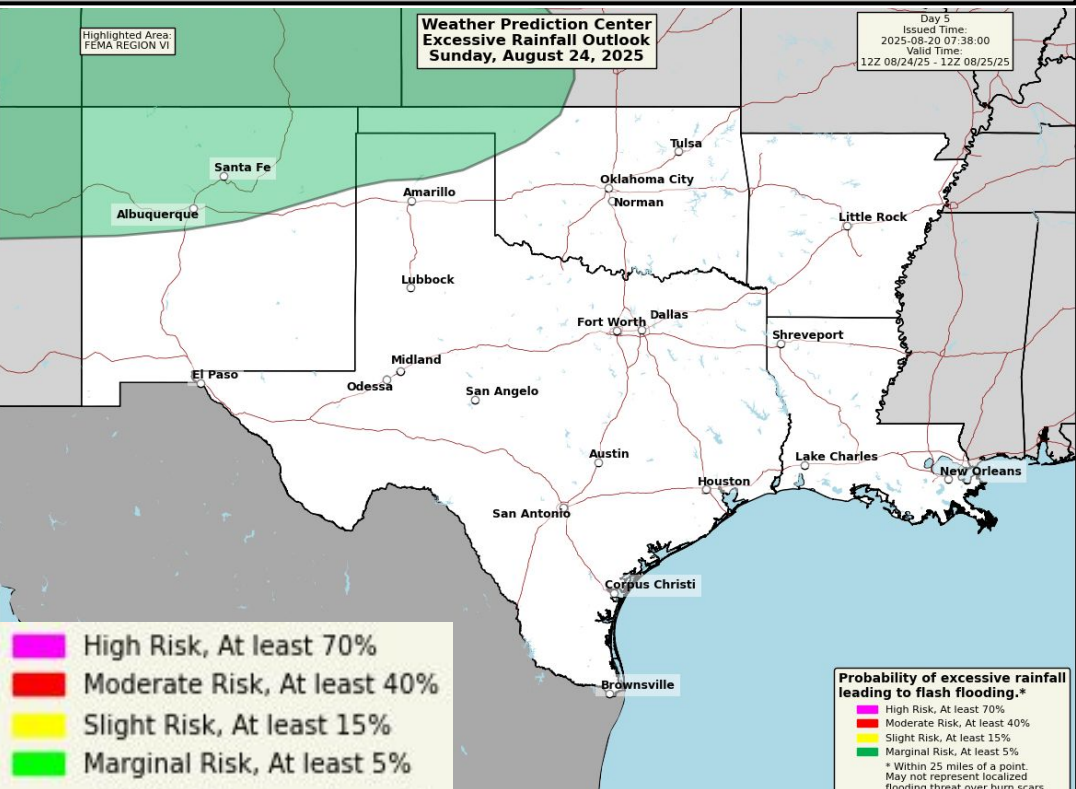


Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in NM, TX, and OK.

Severe Weather Outlook

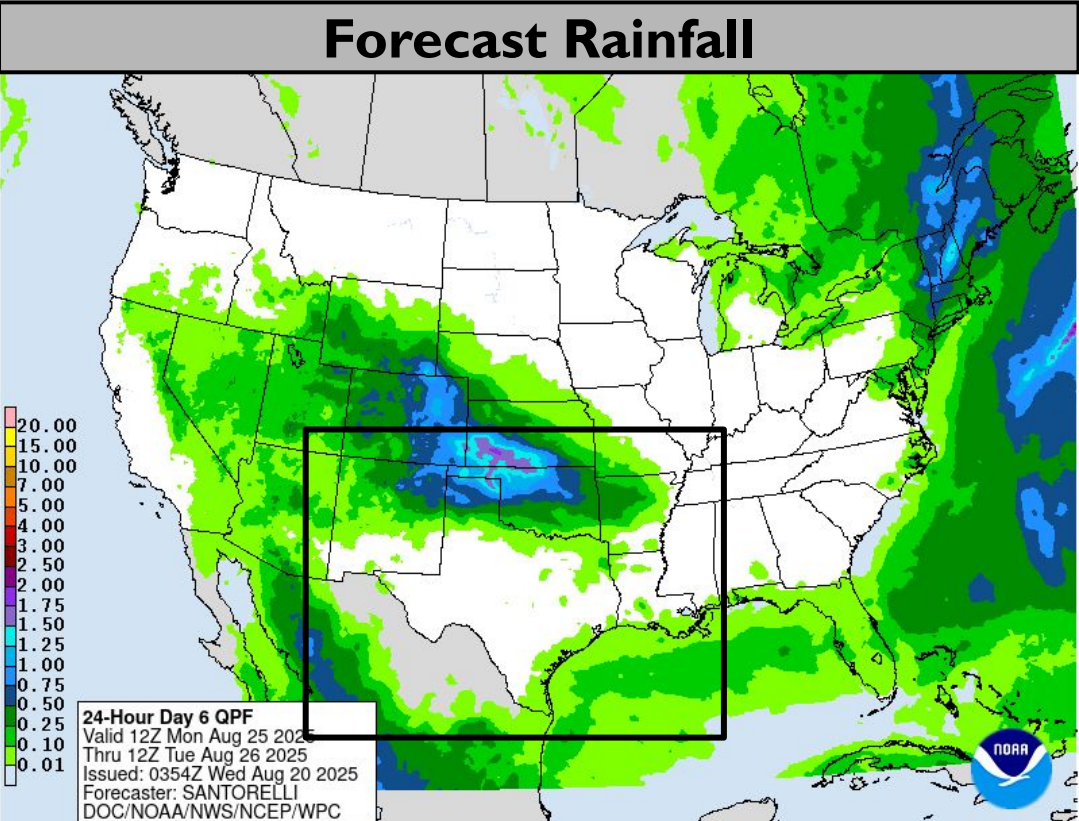
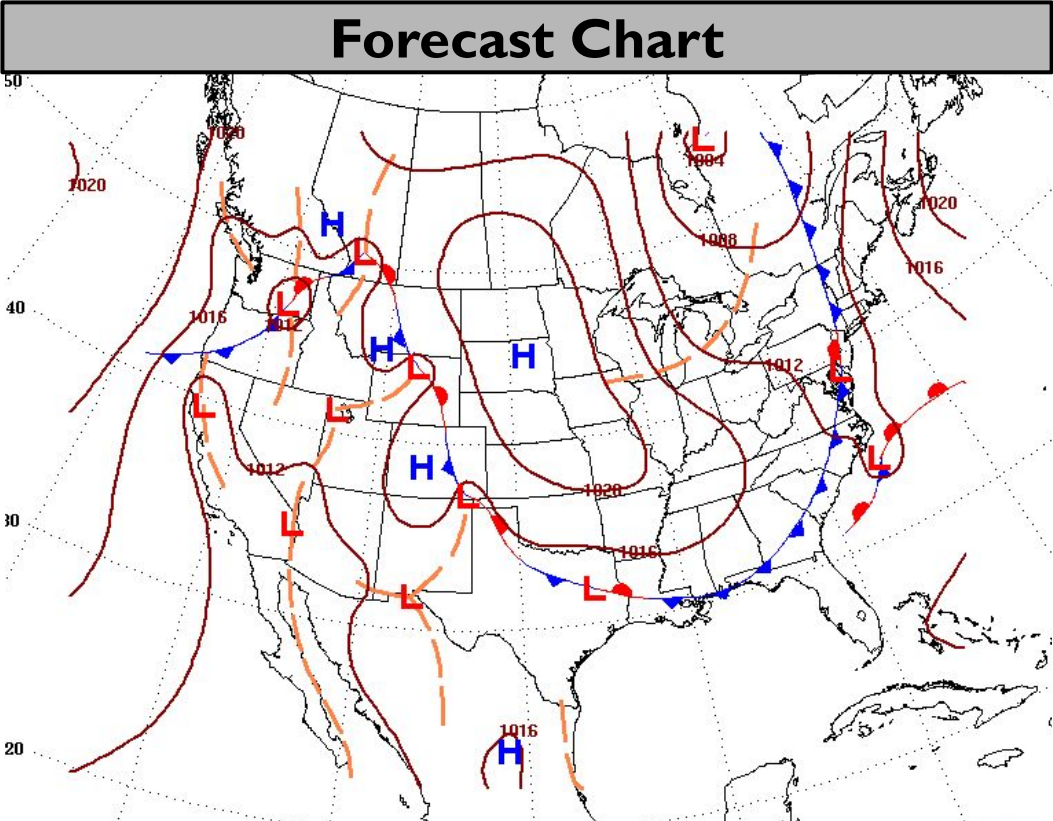


Excessive Rainfall Outlook

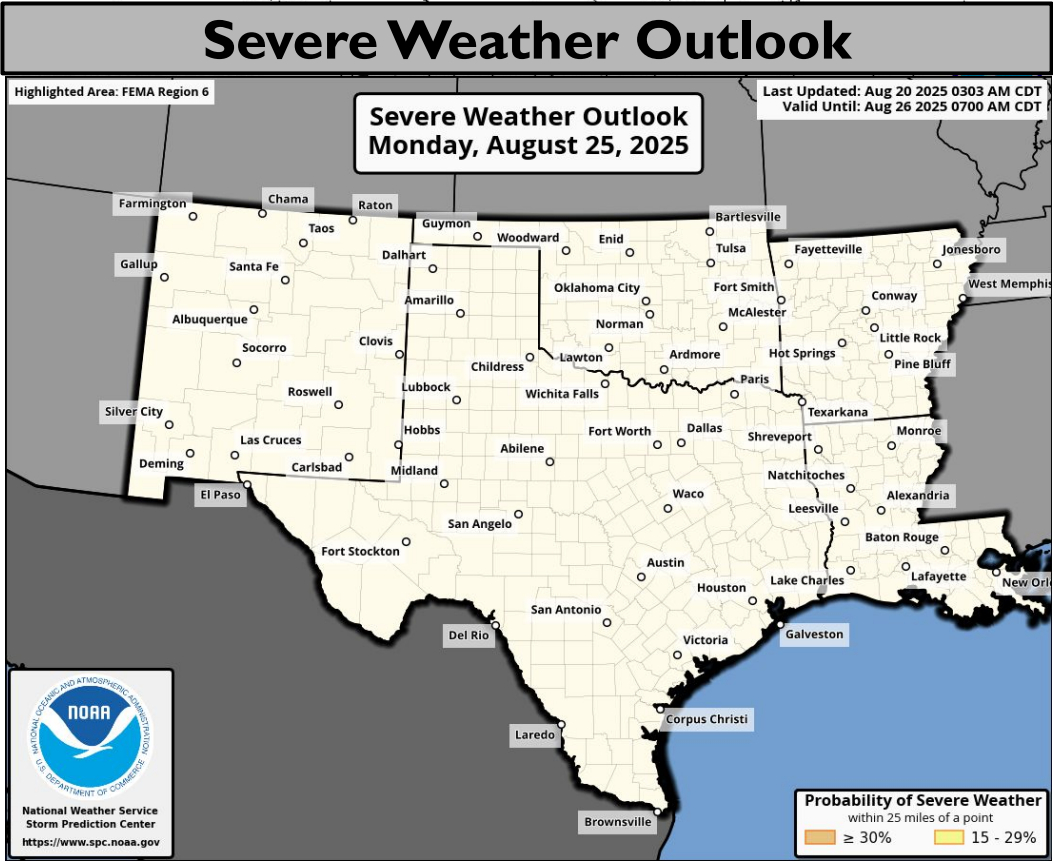




Monday's Weather



**Monitoring northern NM, TX
Panhandle, and OK for heavy
rain/flash flooding.**



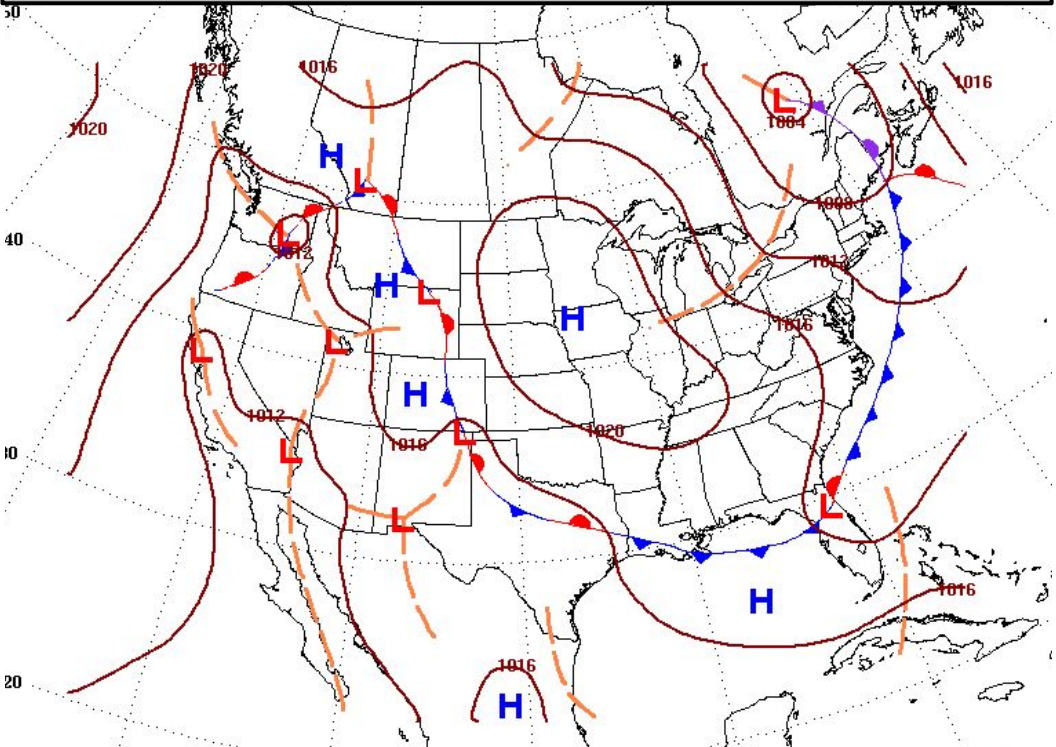
**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**



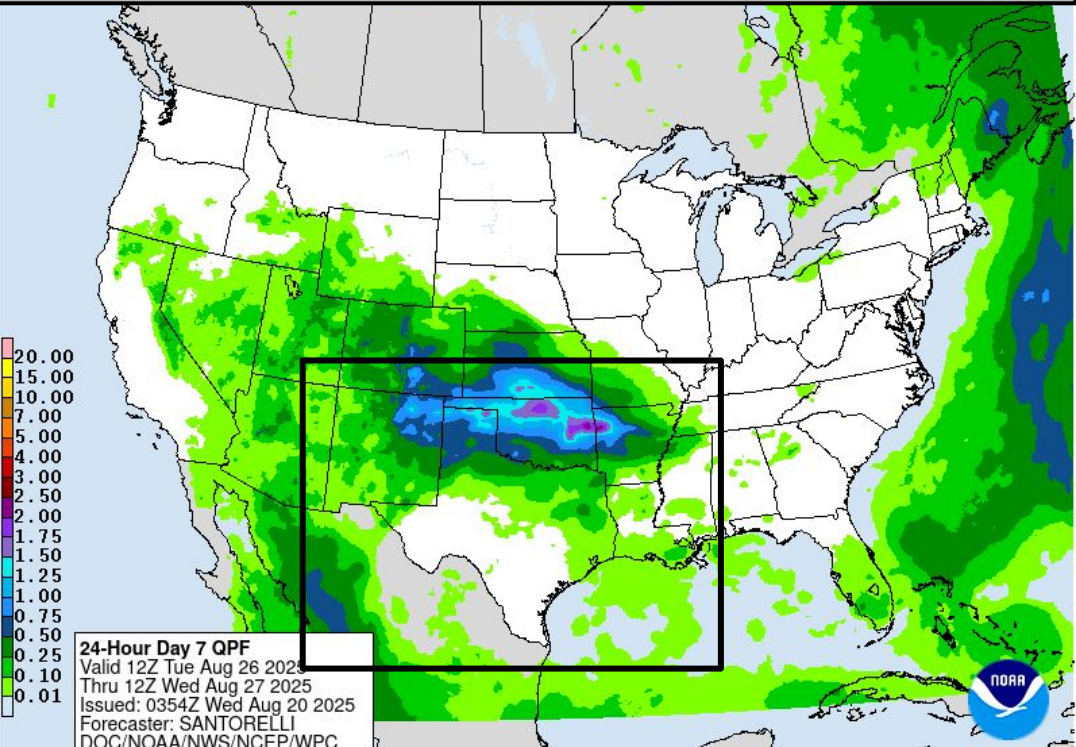


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

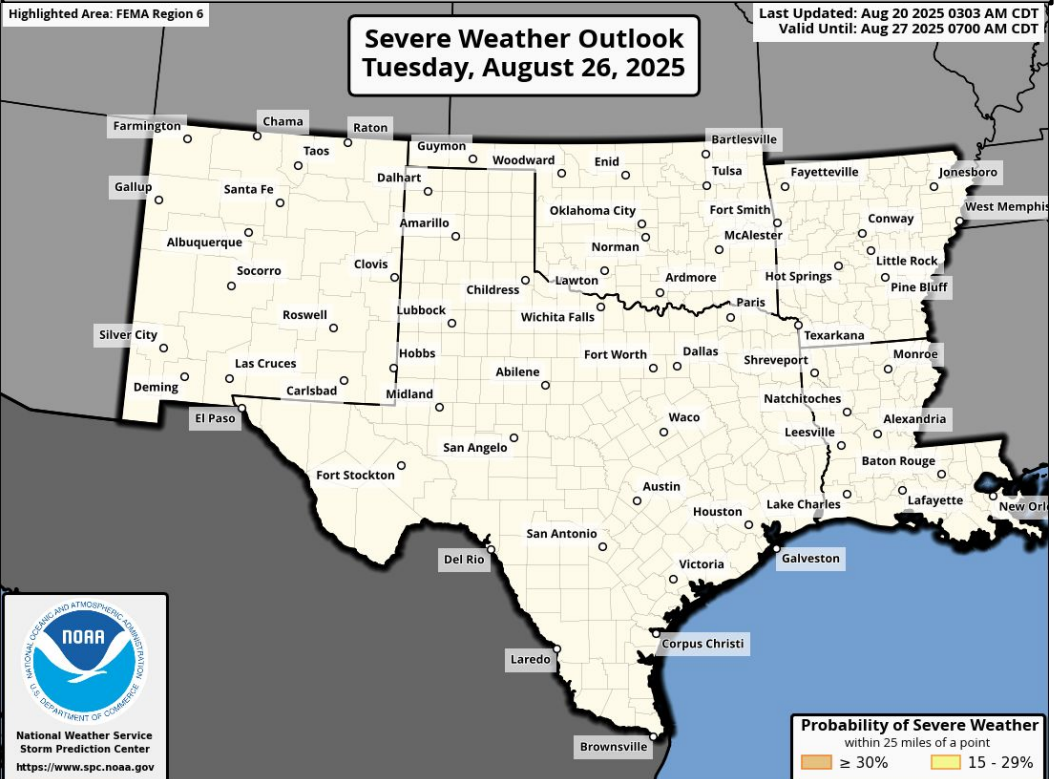


Forecast Rainfall



**Monitoring northern NM, TX
Panhandle, OK, and W AR for
heavy rain/flash flooding.**

Severe Weather Outlook

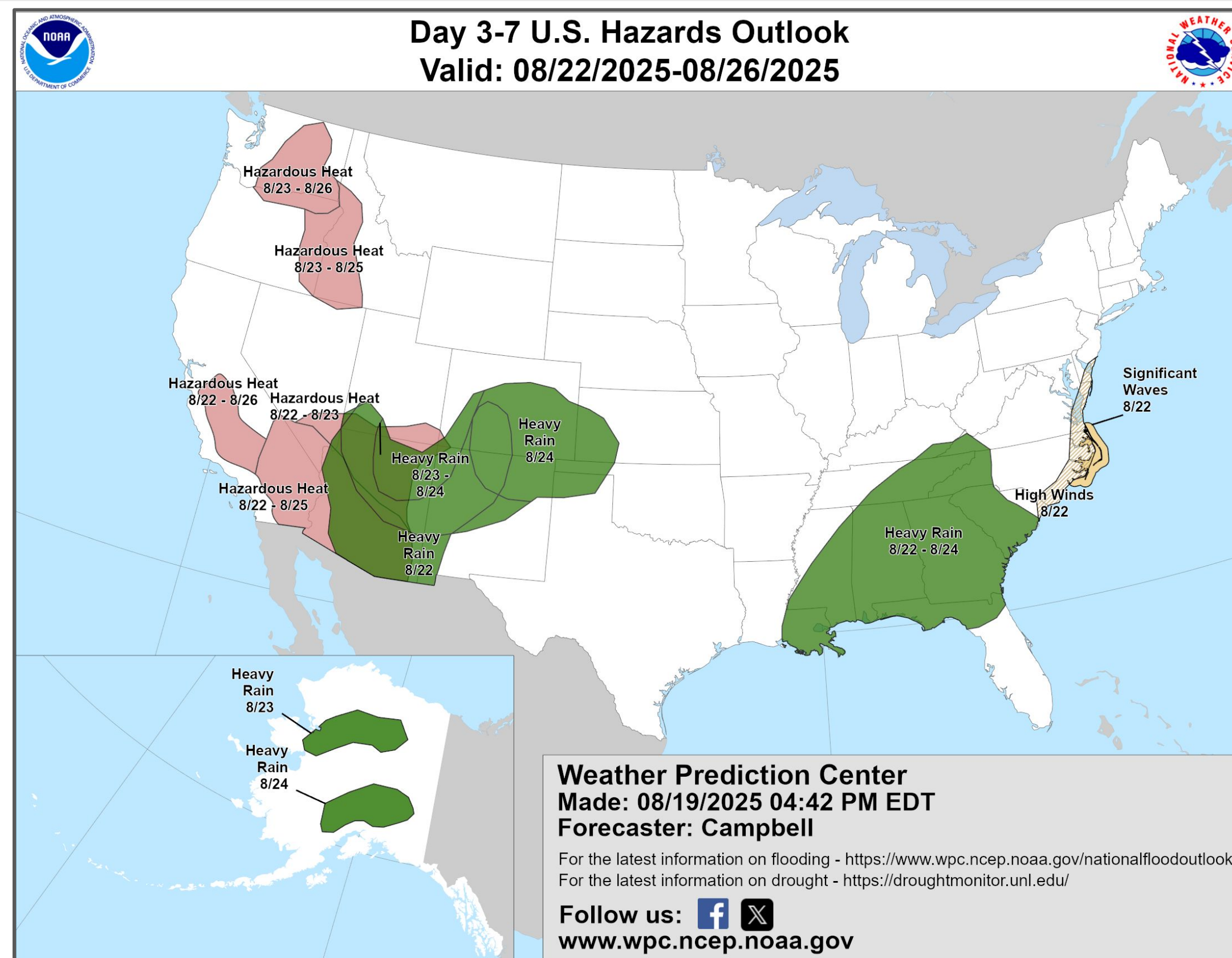


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**





“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook



NOTE: These outlooks are issued in the afternoon and only issued on weekdays. Because of that and the fact that these slides are issued in the mornings:

1. The “day 3-7” will really be days 2-6
2. This slide will be hidden on Mondays and Sundays so the data/information is not too old

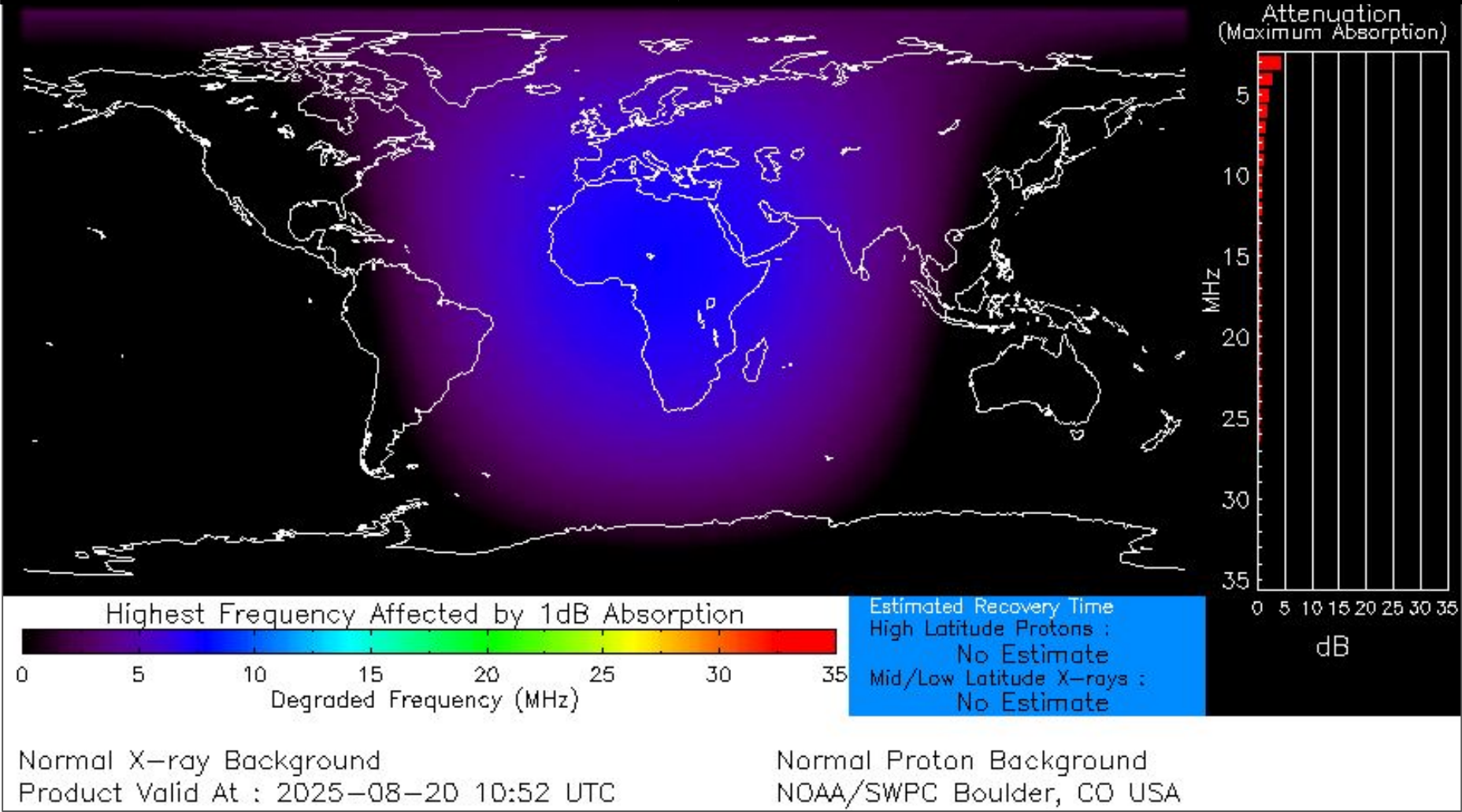
For additional information on this outlook go to <https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/threats/threats.php>





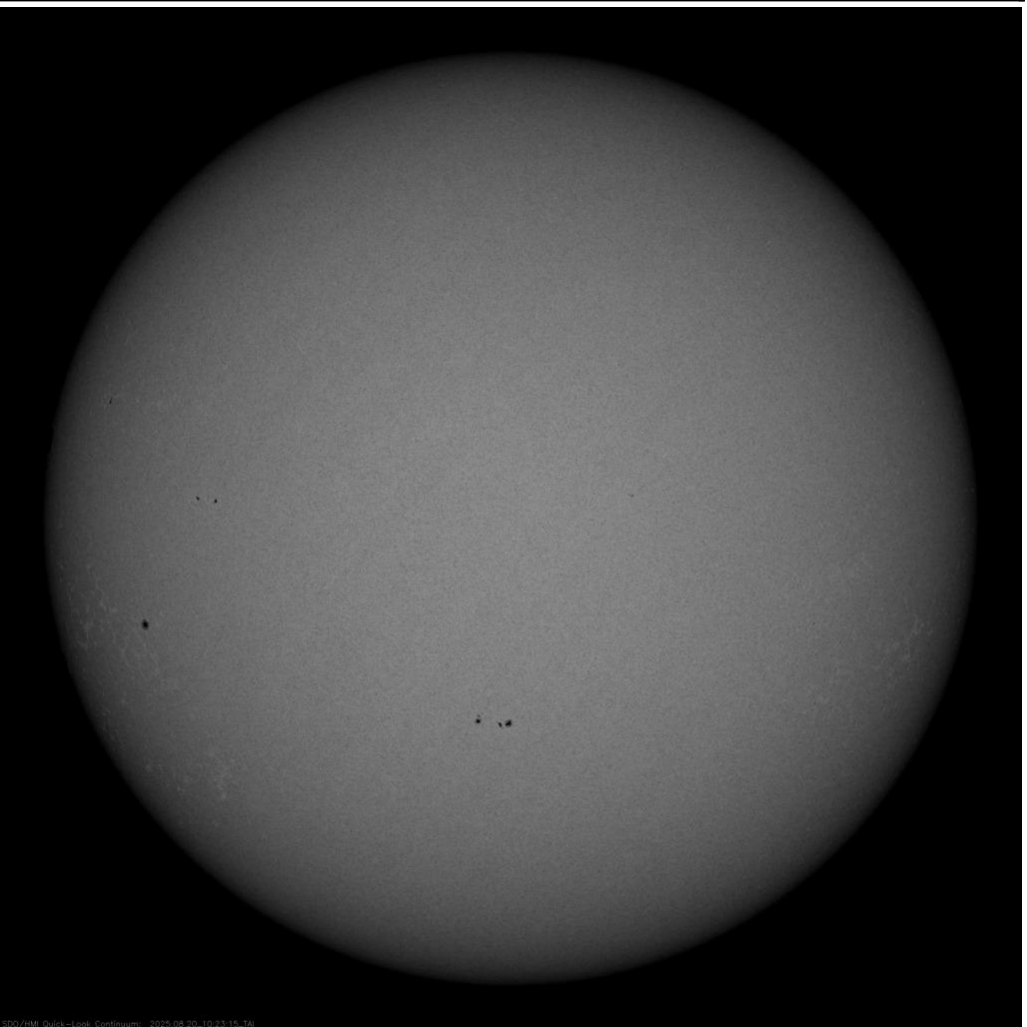
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Wednesday, Aug 20	Thursday, Aug 21	Friday, Aug 22
Geomagnetic Storms	Minor (G1 Storm) (Max Kp = 5)	Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	10%	10%	10%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[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	Little to None Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as seabreeze storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Minor Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Moderate Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Major Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Extreme 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	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov



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