



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Mark Wiley*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

## Thursday, February 26, 2026

**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

- **Fire Weather:**
  - **Elevated (level 1 of 3) conditions today over NE NM and SW TX; and over Cntrl NM on Saturday.**





# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Thursday, Feb 26	Friday, Feb 27	Saturday, Feb 28	Sunday, Mar 1	Monday, Mar 2	Tuesday, Mar 3	Wednesday, Mar 4
<b>Severe Storms</b>							
<b>Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding</b>							<b>NTX, OK</b>
<b>Winter Weather</b>							
<b>Fire Weather</b>	<b>NE NM, SW TX</b>	<b>Cntrl NM</b>					
<b>River Flooding</b>							

*\*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.*

<b>Risk Levels</b>	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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# Current Radar/Hazards

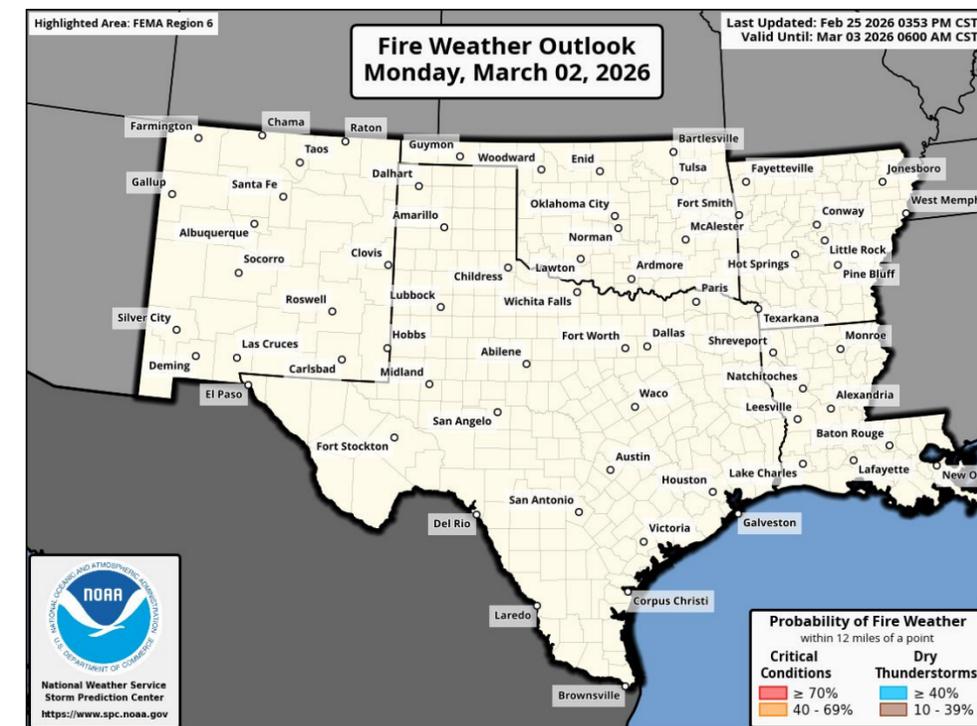
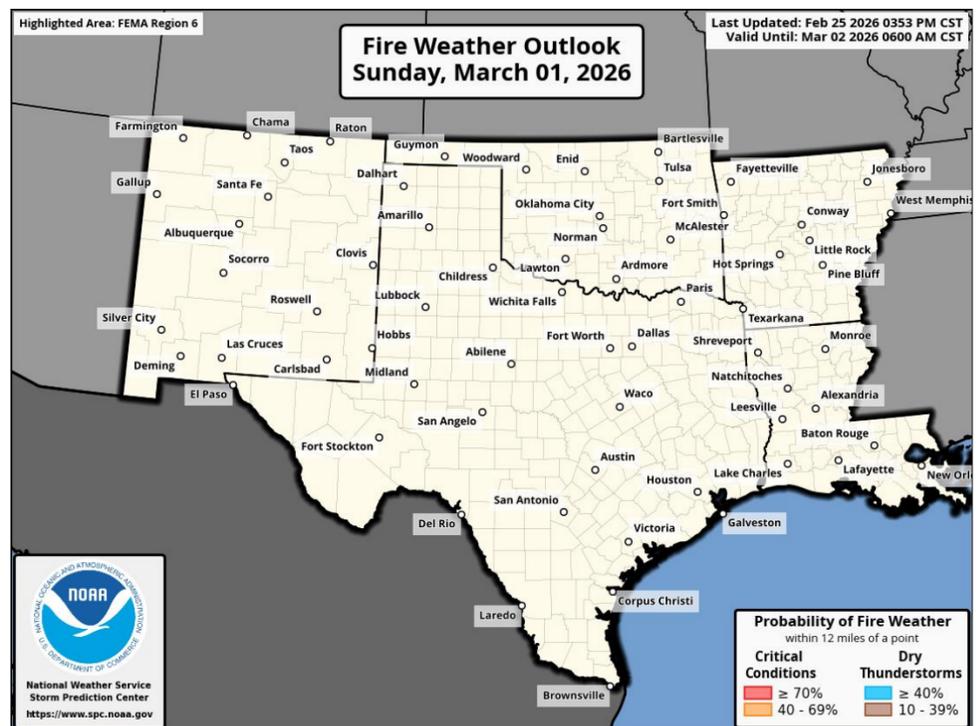
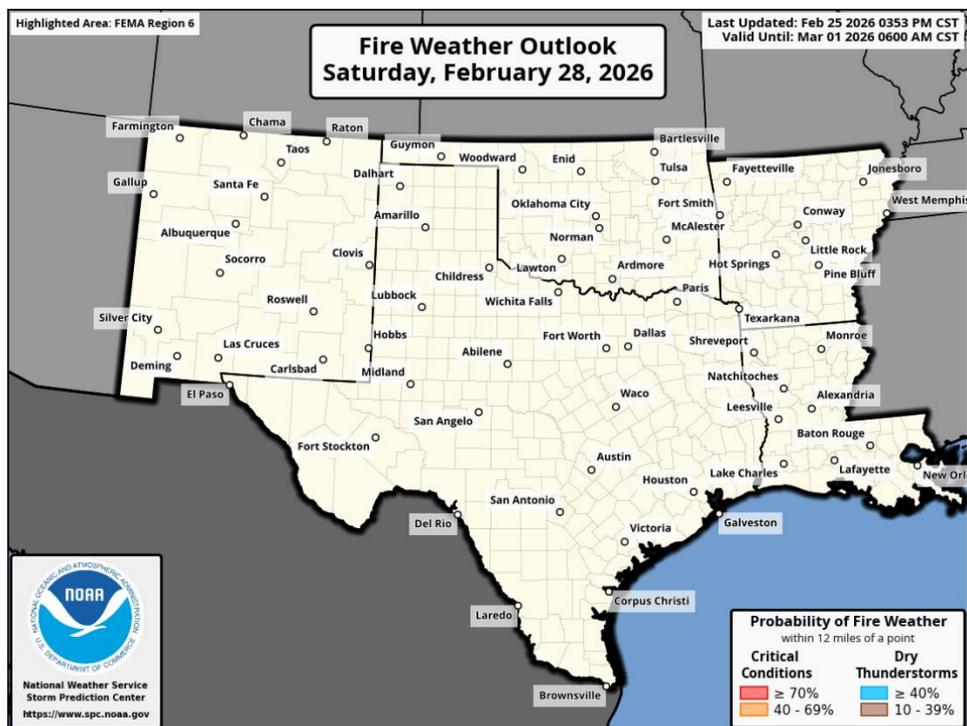
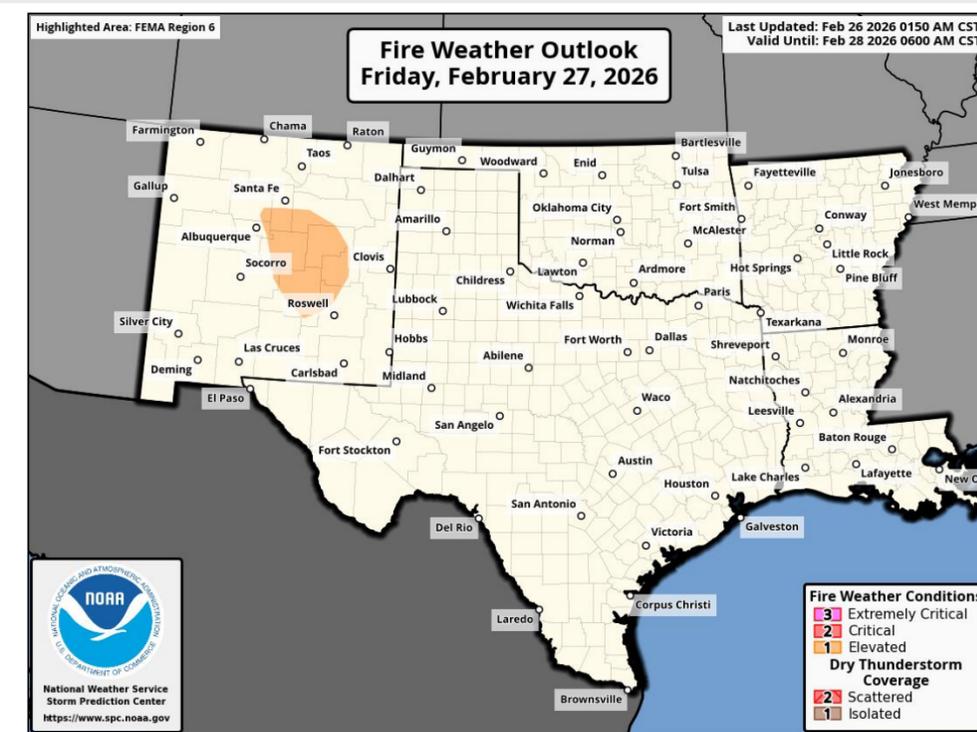
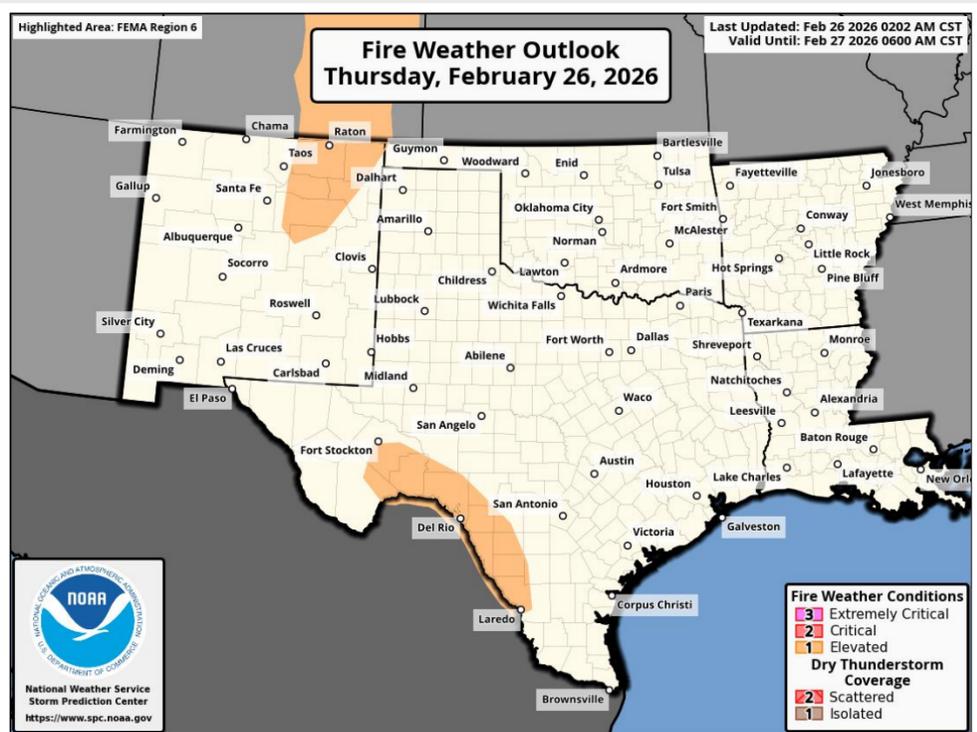
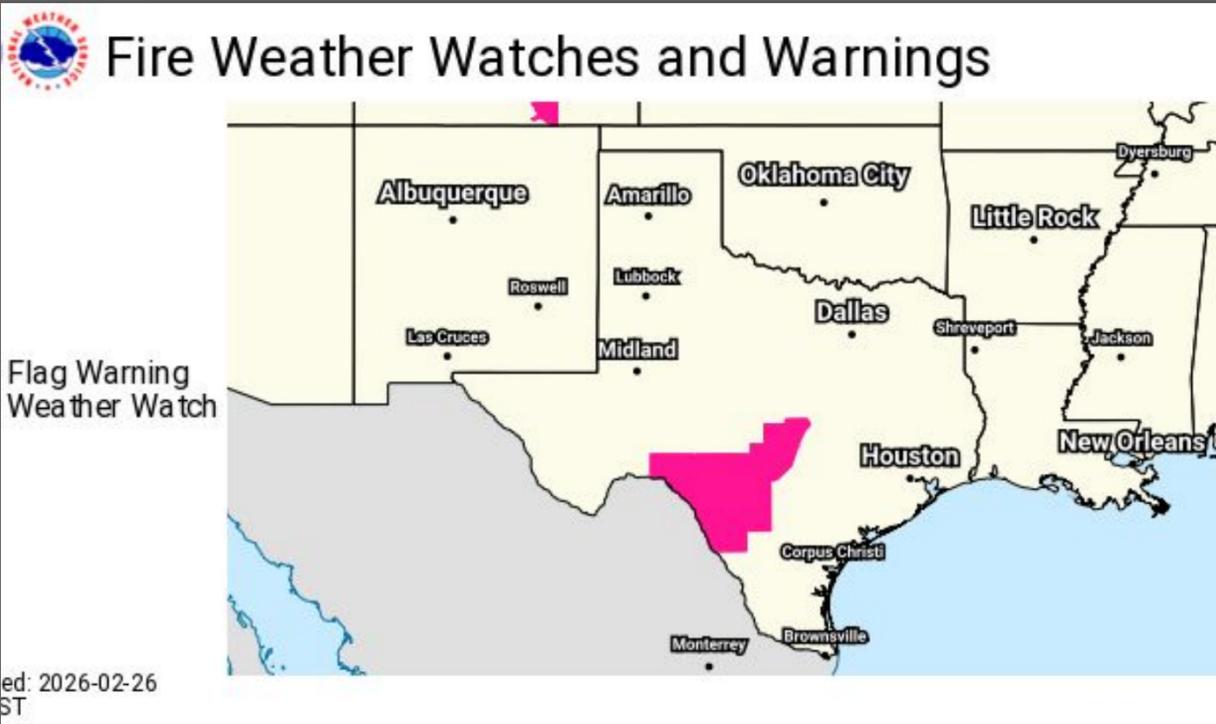


**Red Flag Warning through 7pm Central into West TX.**





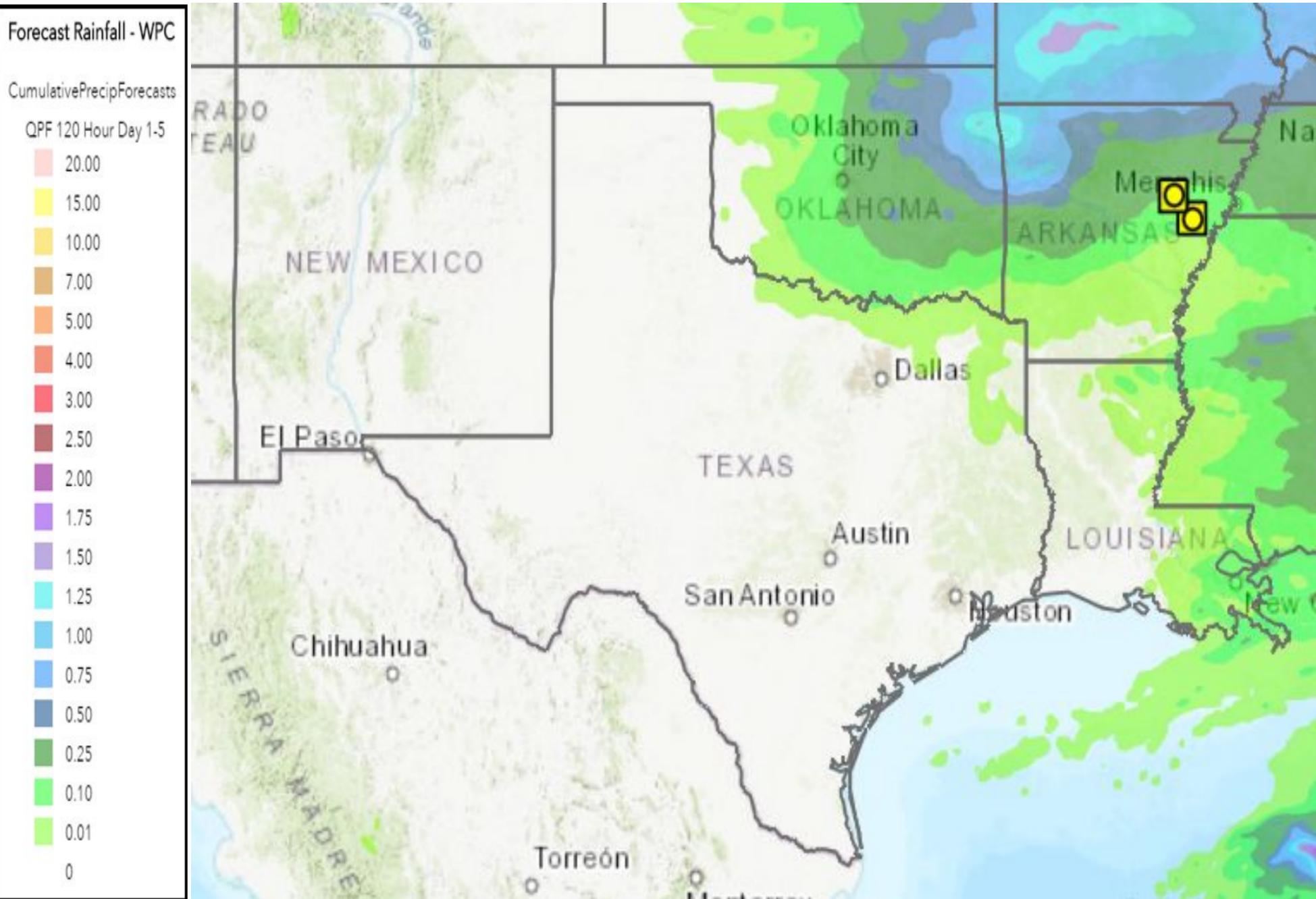
# Fire Weather Outlooks





# 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



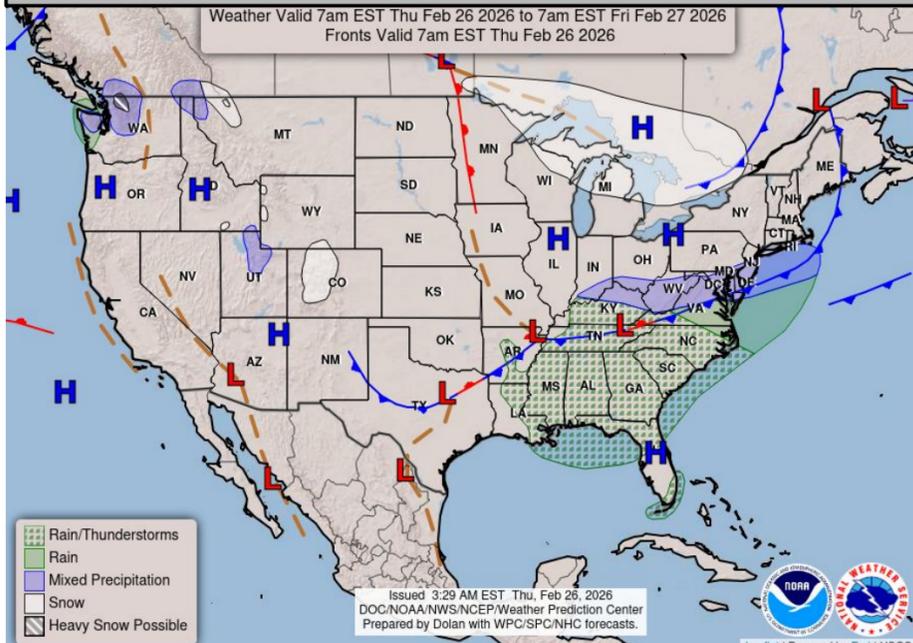
**River flooding is not anticipated.**

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.

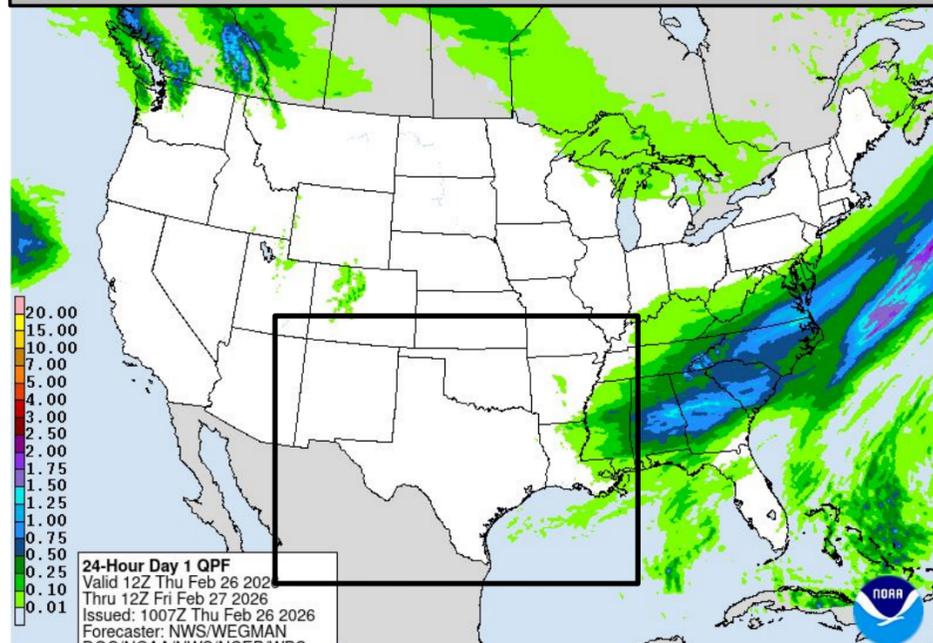


# Today's Weather

## Forecast Chart

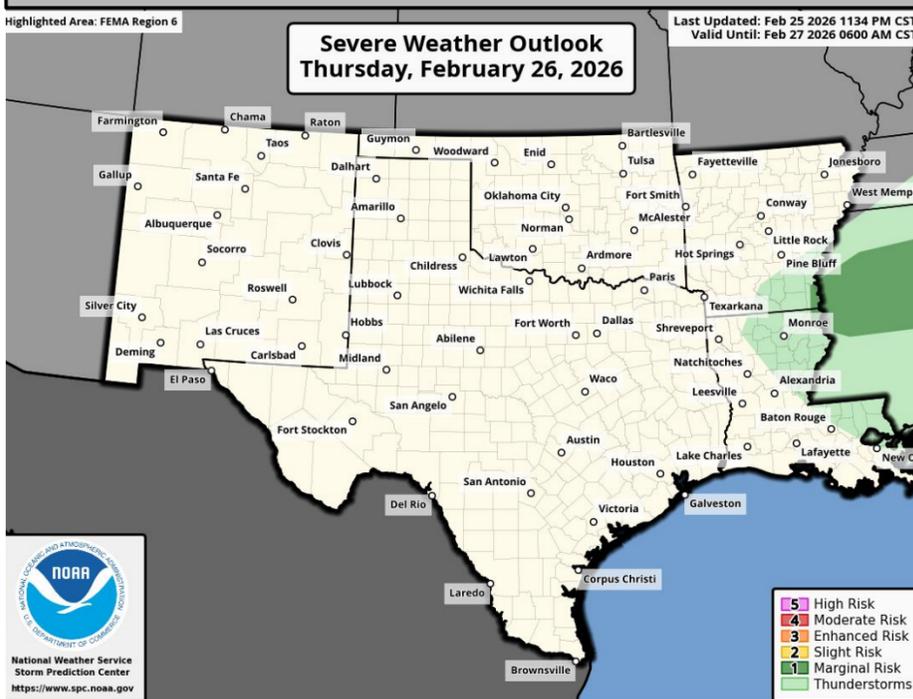


## Forecast Rainfall

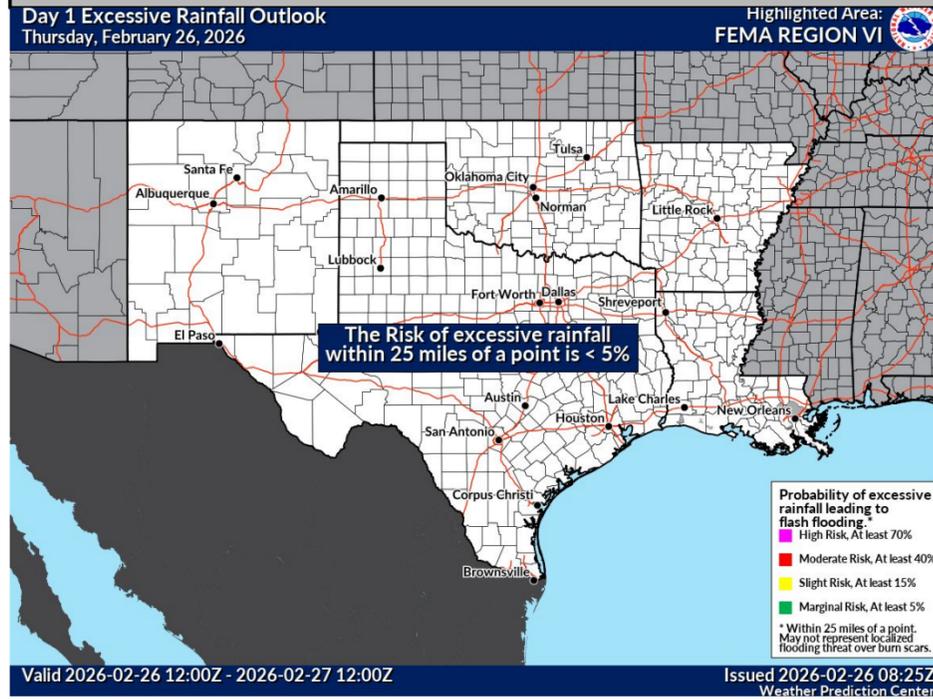


**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in NE NM and SW TX.**

## Severe Weather Outlook

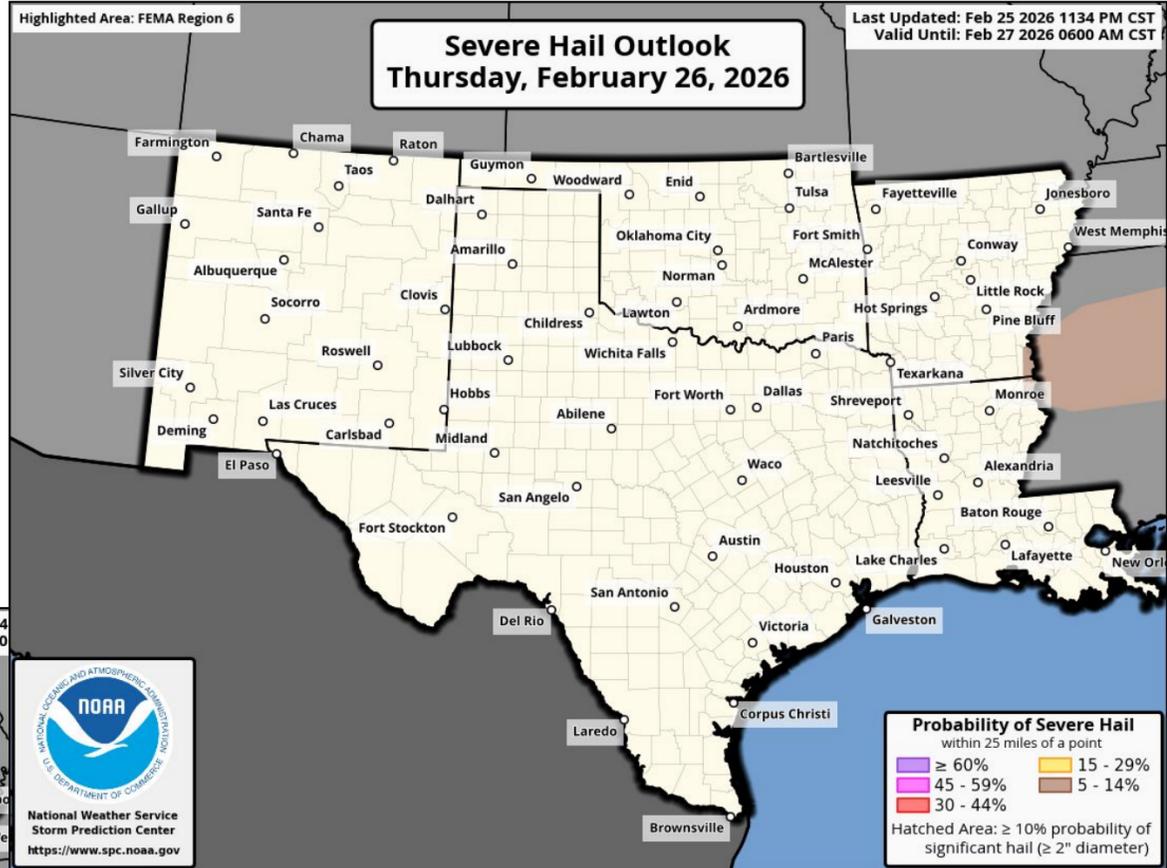
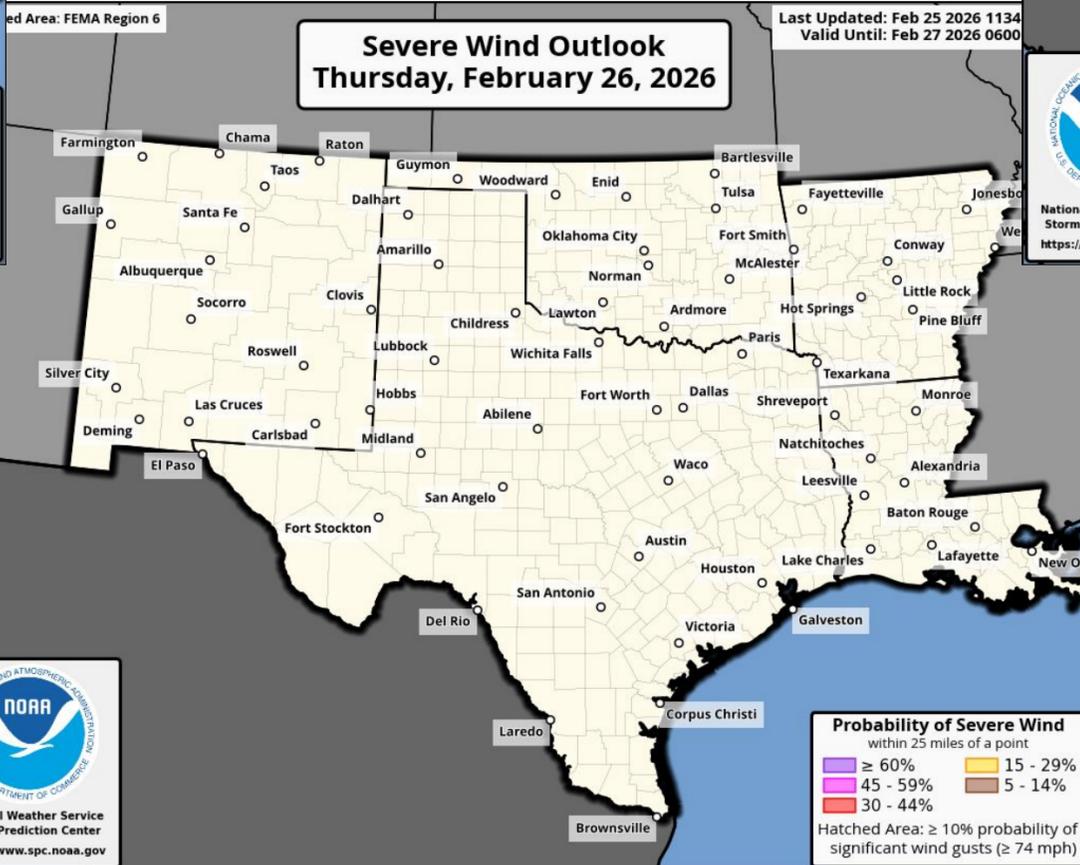
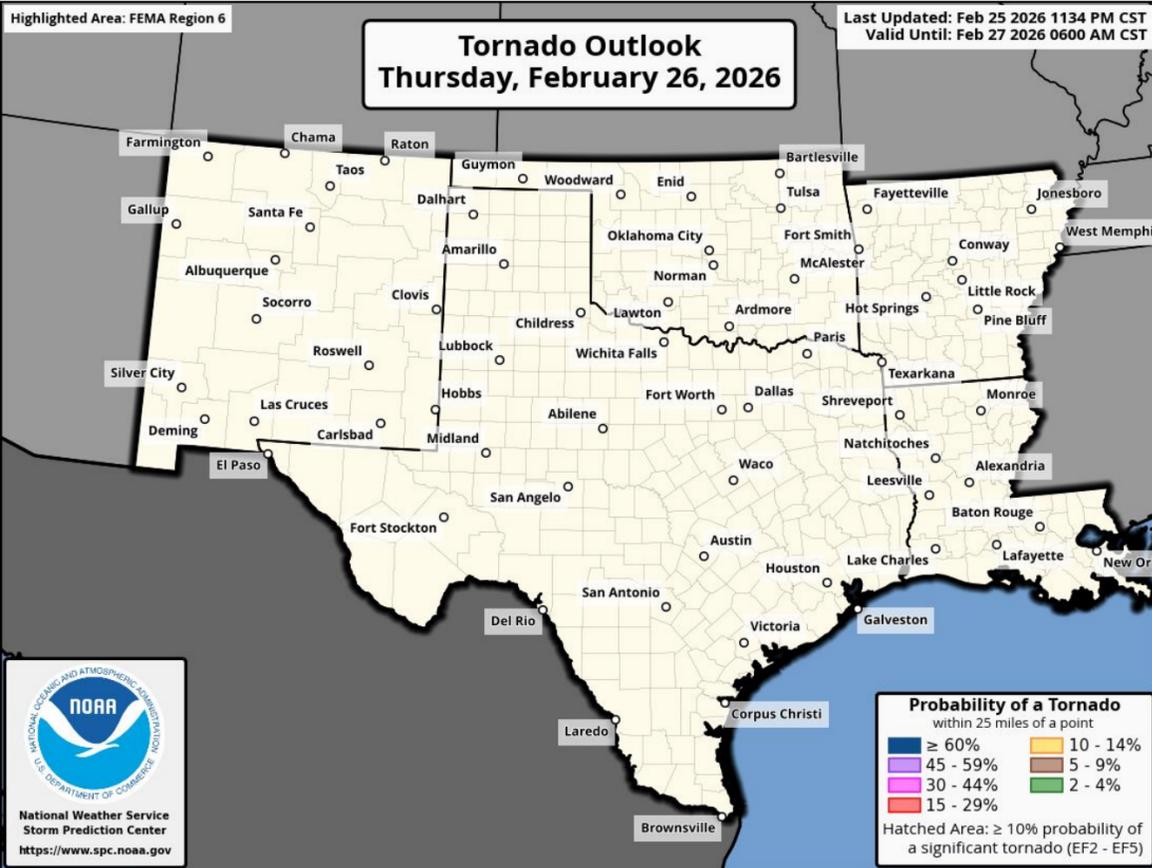


## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





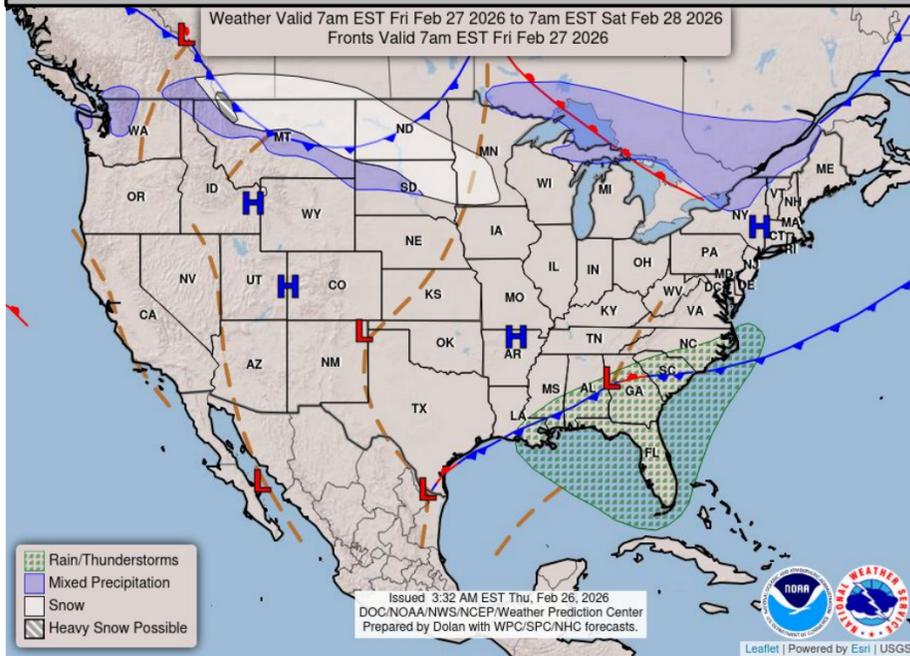
# Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



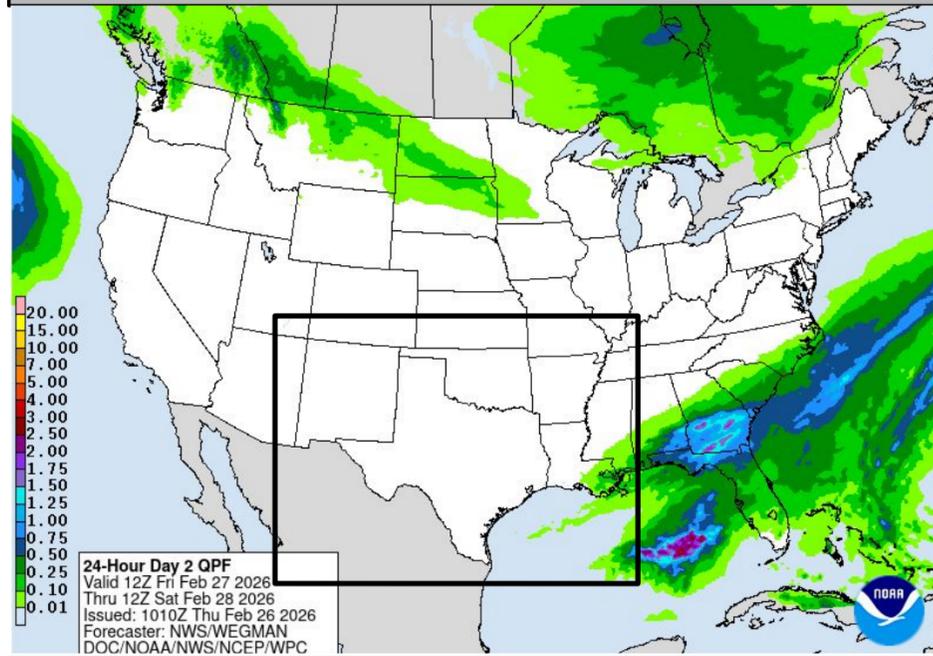


# Tomorrow's Weather

## Forecast Chart

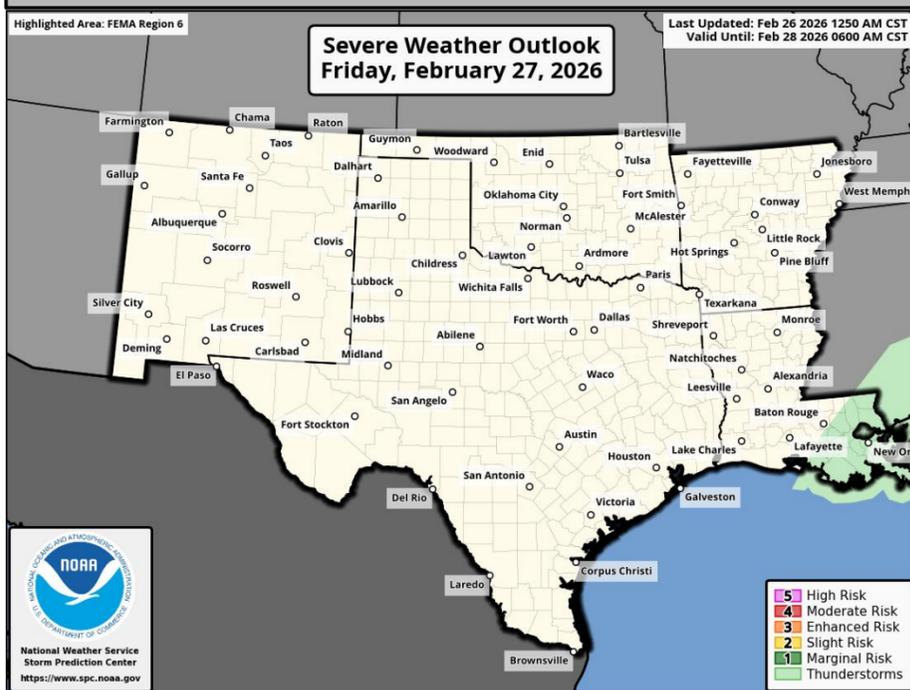


## Forecast Rainfall

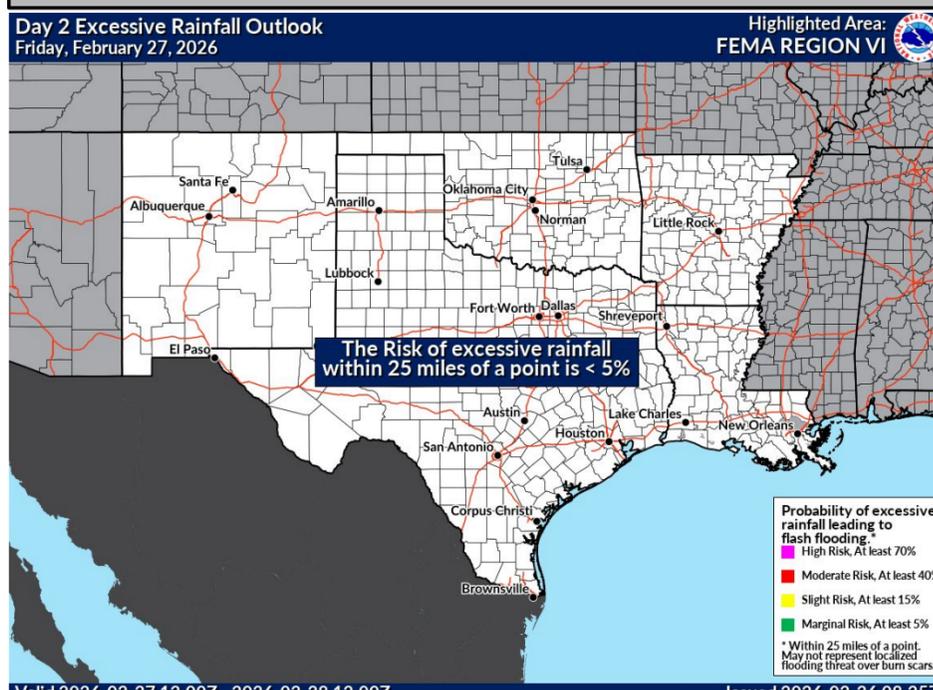


**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in Cntrl NM.**

## Severe Weather Outlook

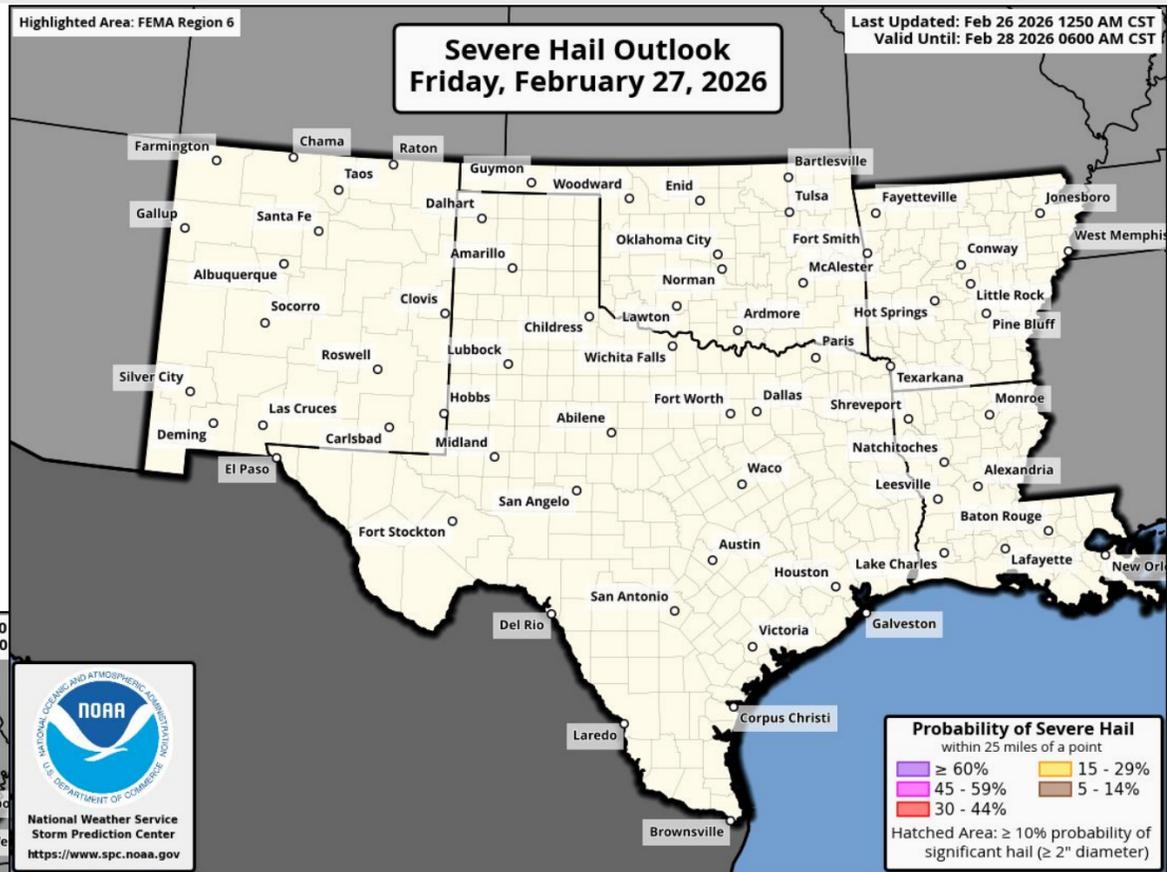
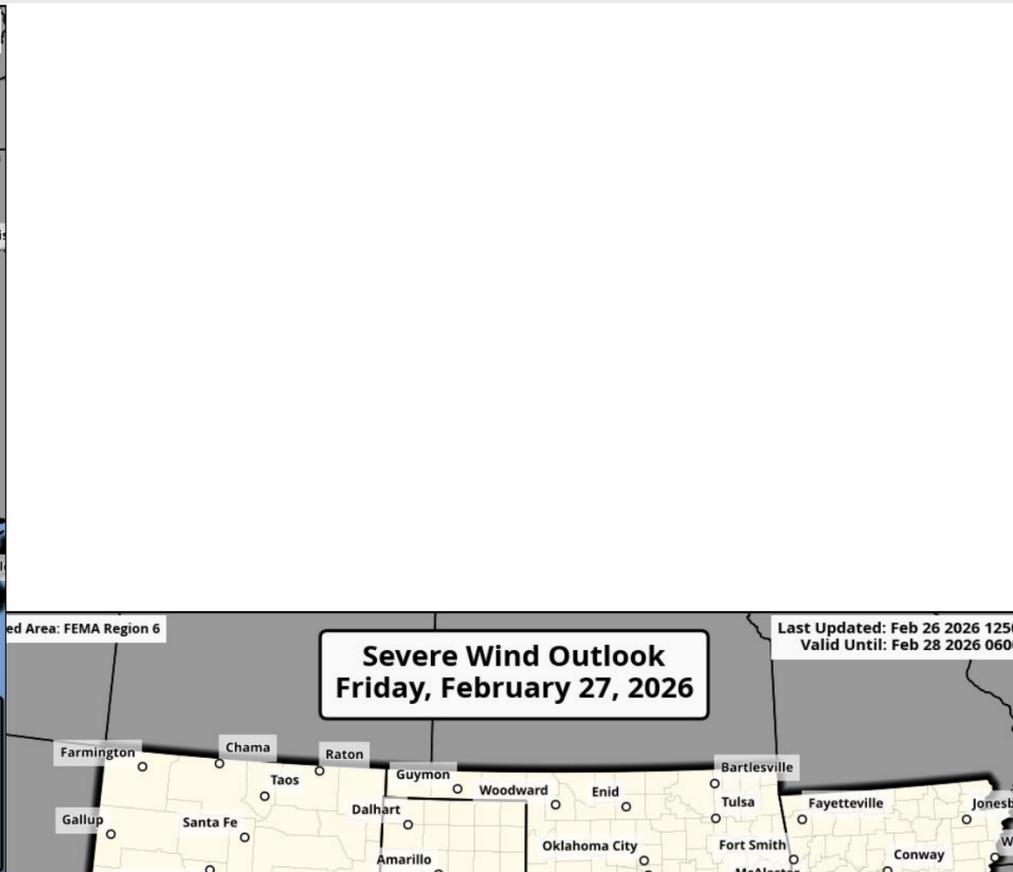
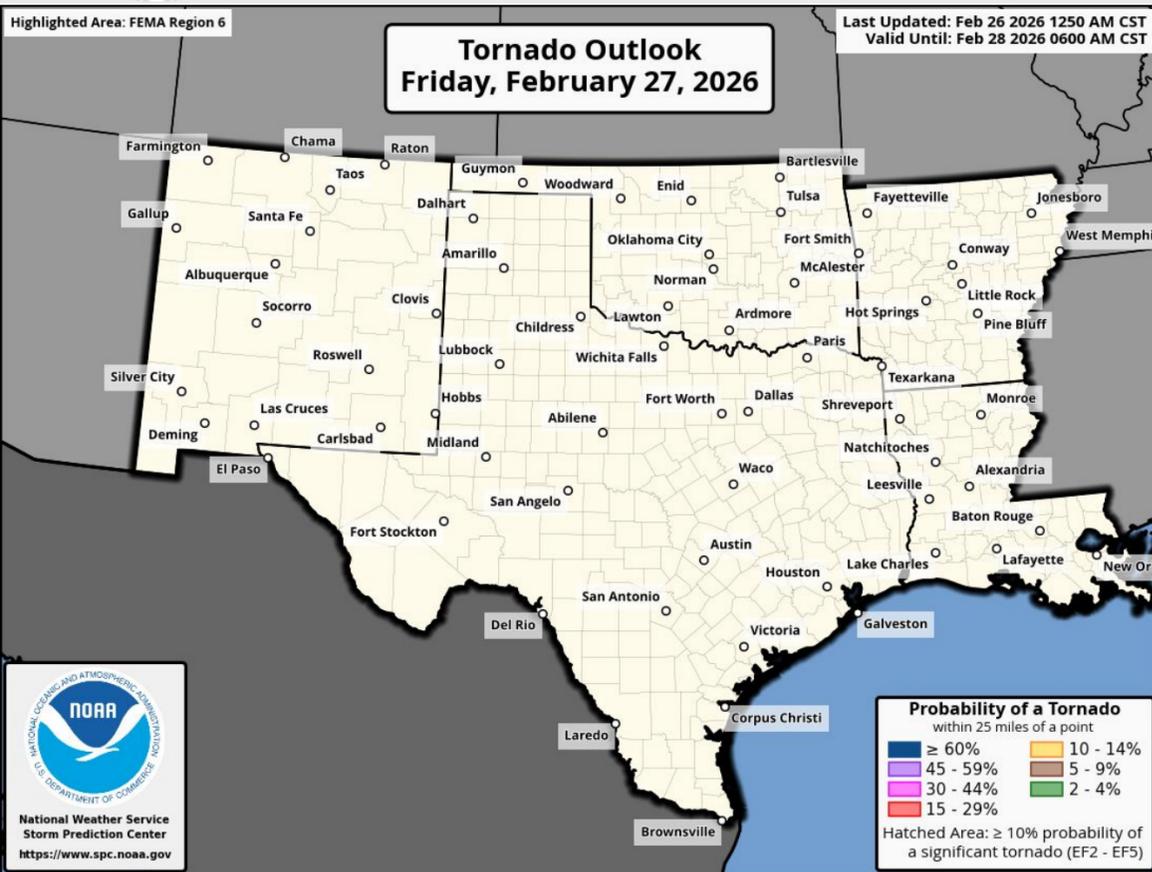


## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





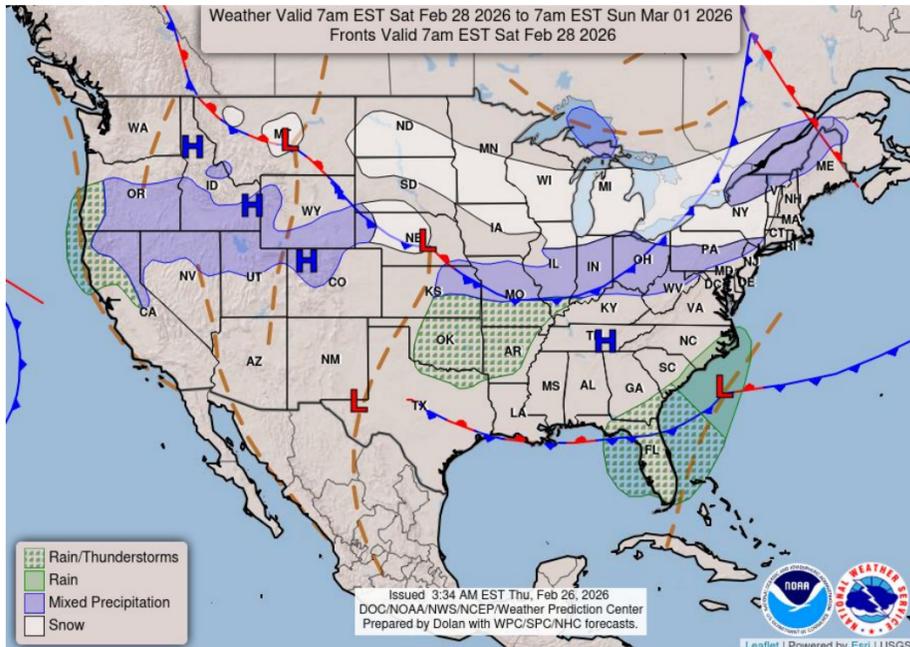
# Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



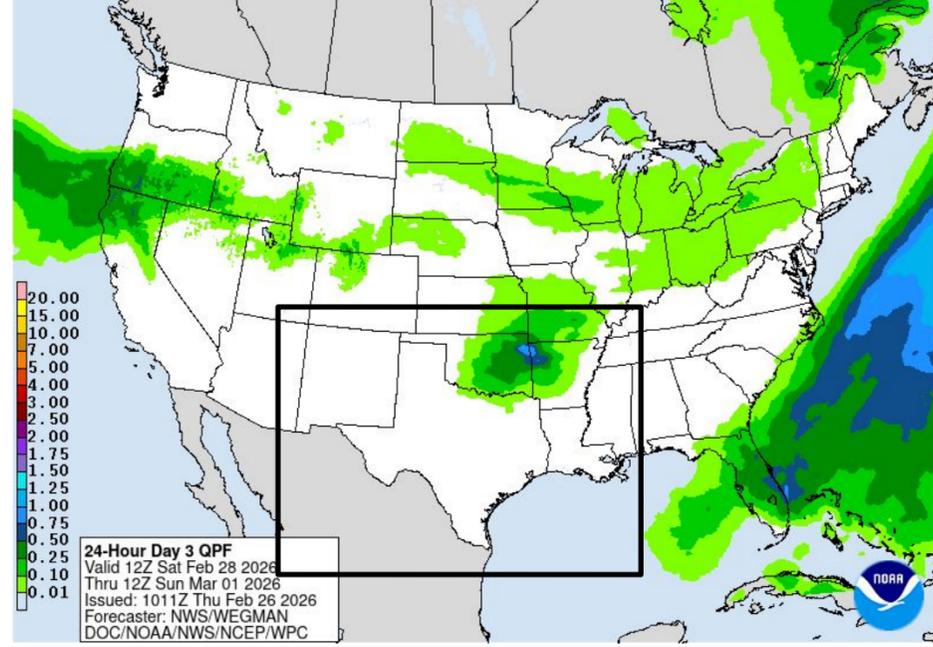


# Saturday's Weather

## Forecast Chart

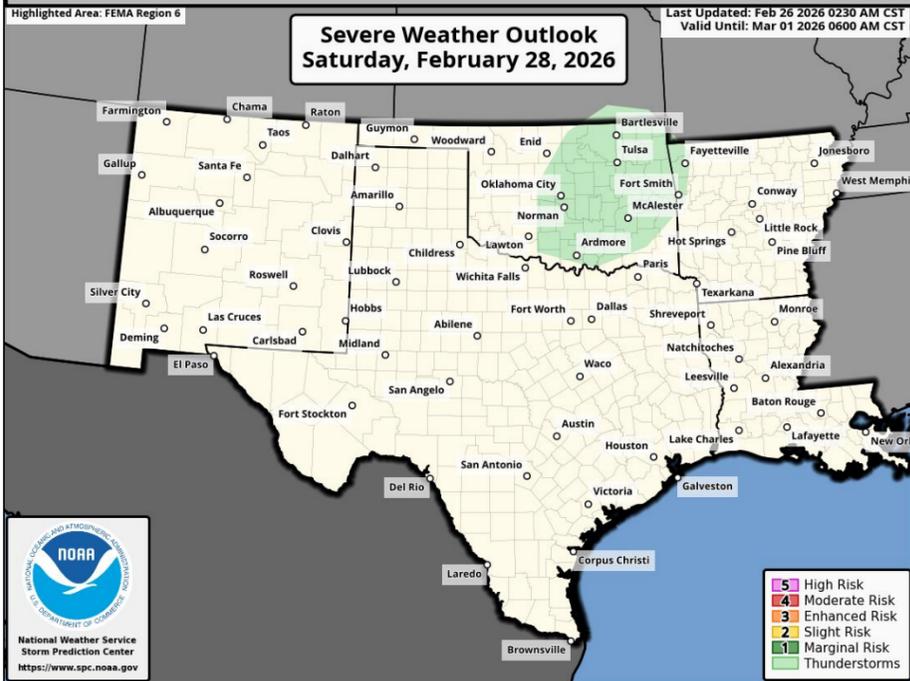


## Forecast Rainfall

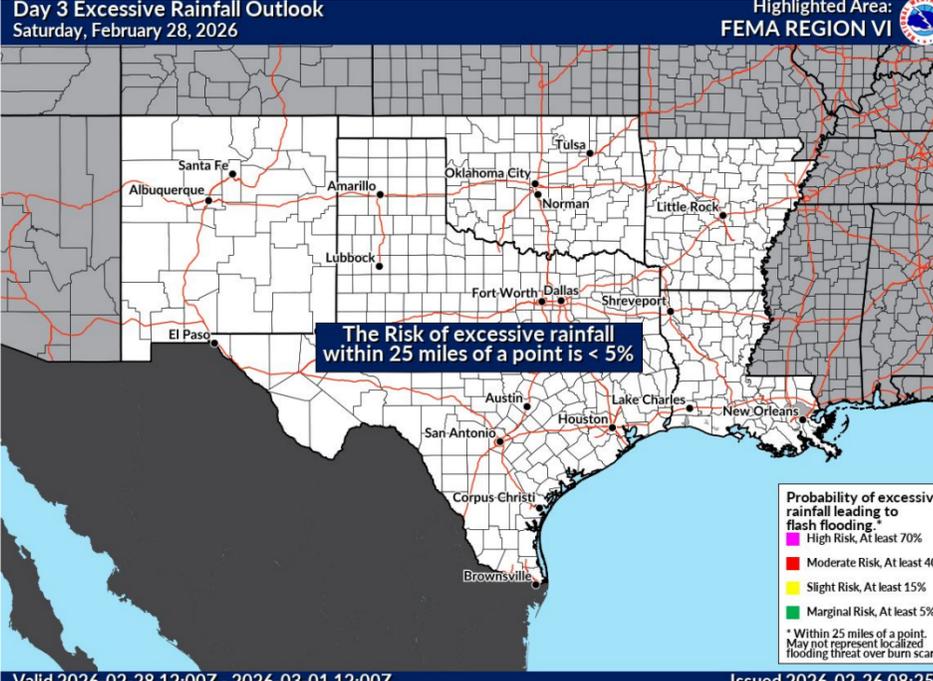


No significant weather expected.

## Severe Weather Outlook



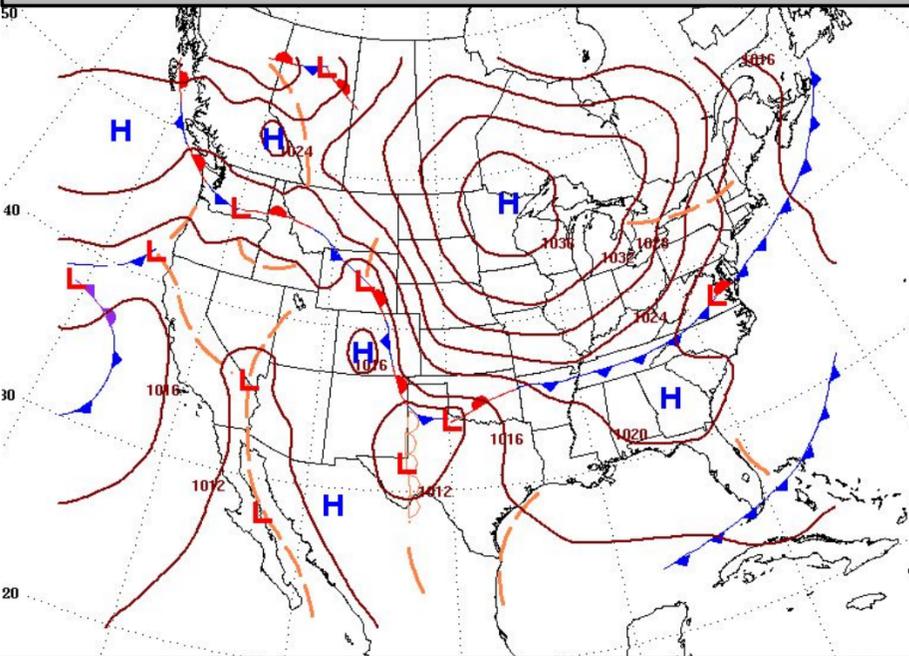
## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



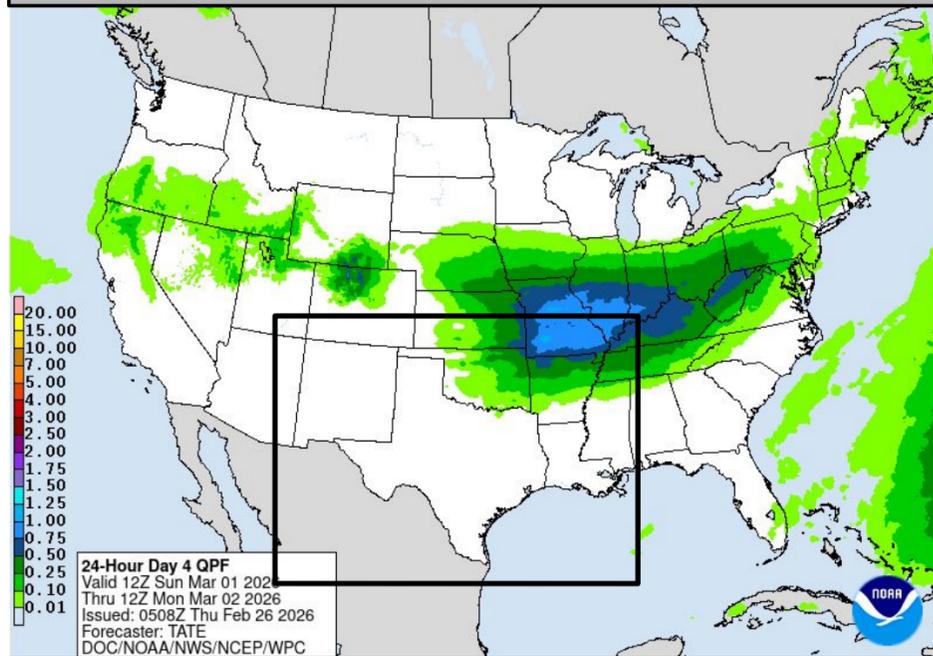


# Sunday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

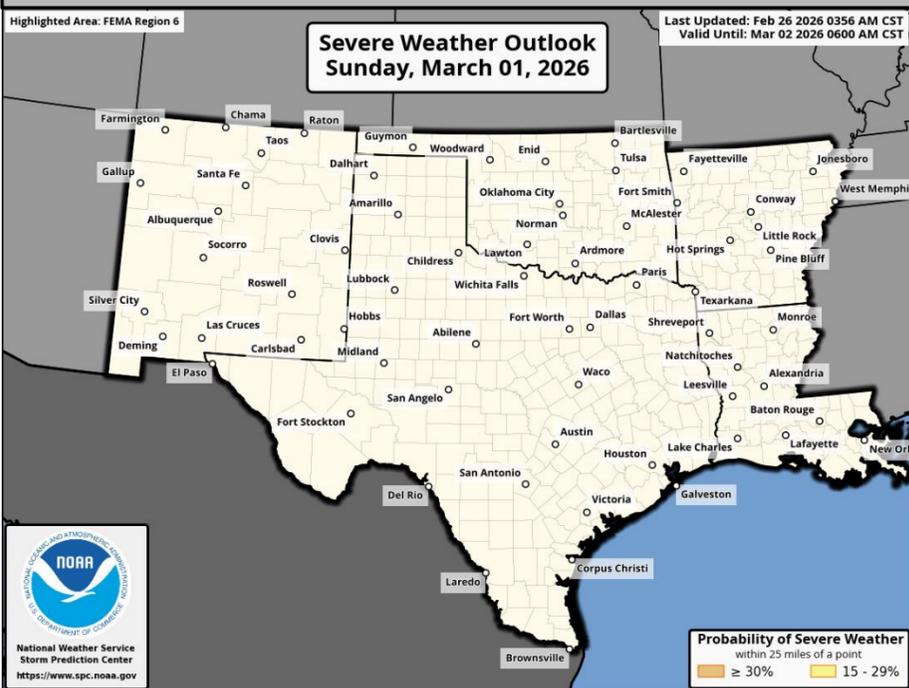


### Forecast Rainfall

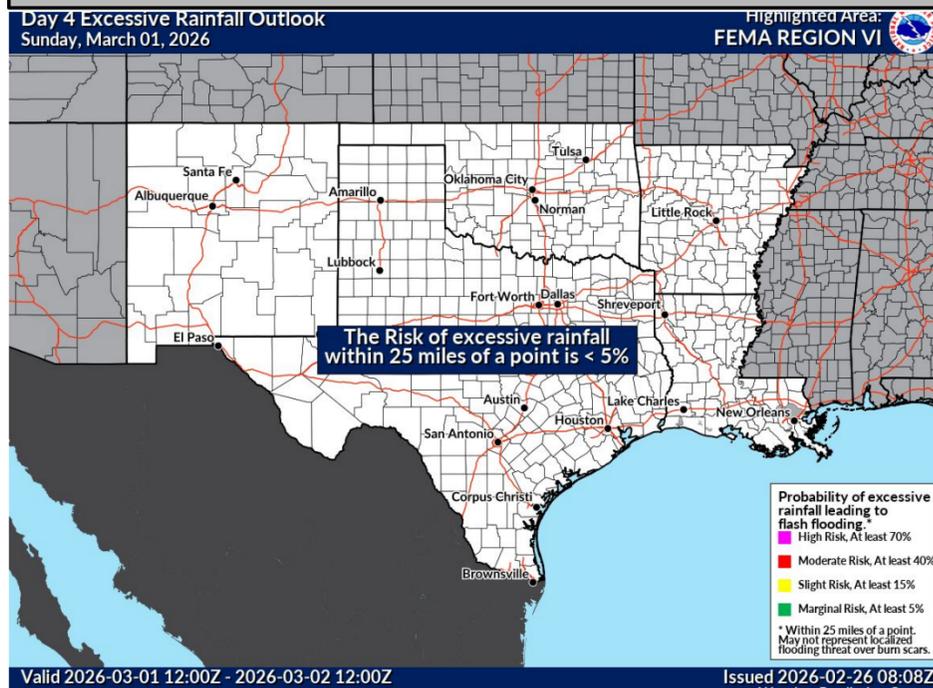


**No significant weather expected.**

### Severe Weather Outlook



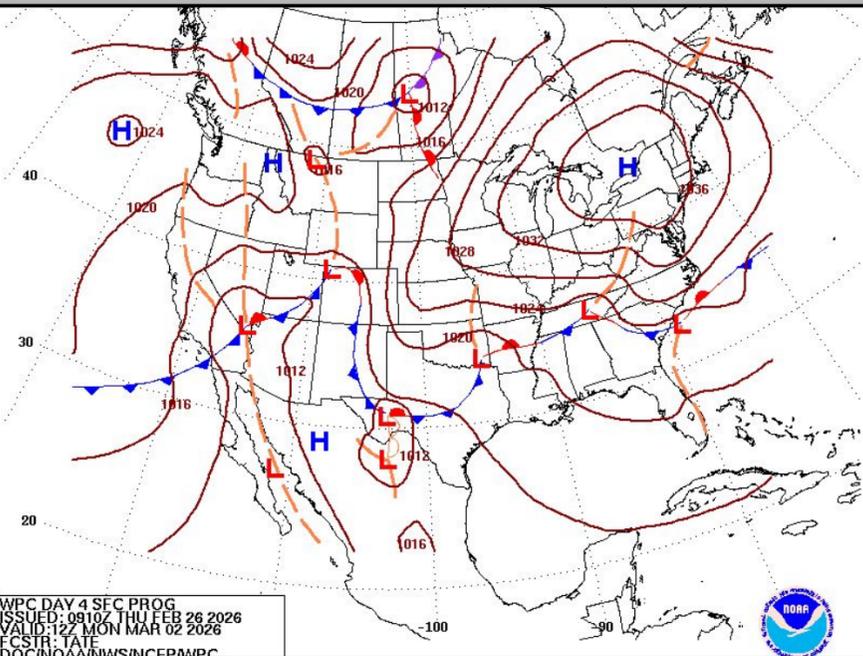
### Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Monday's Weather

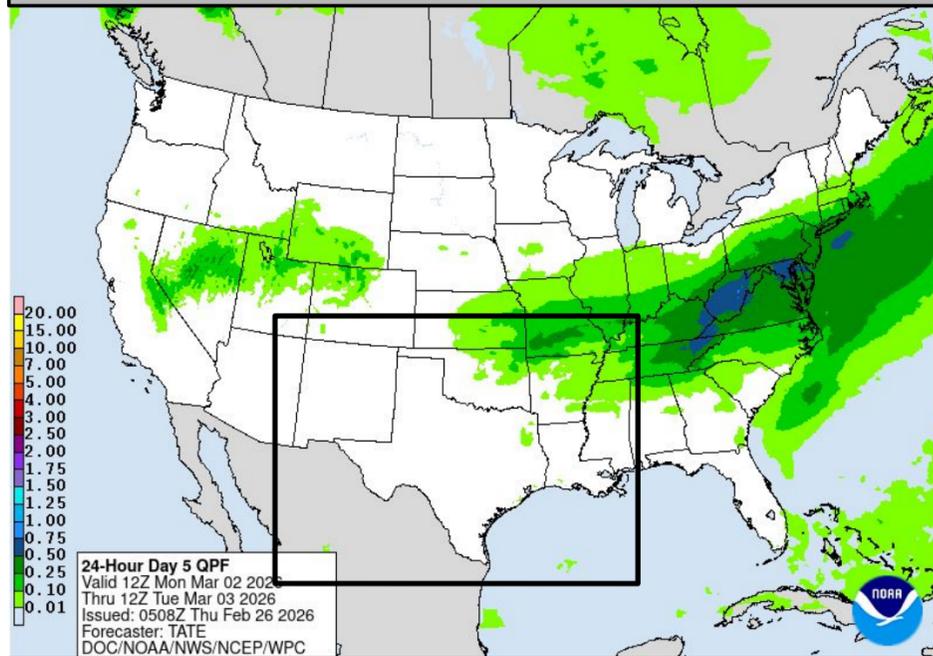
## Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SEC PROG  
ISSUED: 0910Z THU FEB 26 2026  
VALID: 12Z MON MAR 02 2026  
FCSTR: TATE  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



## Forecast Rainfall

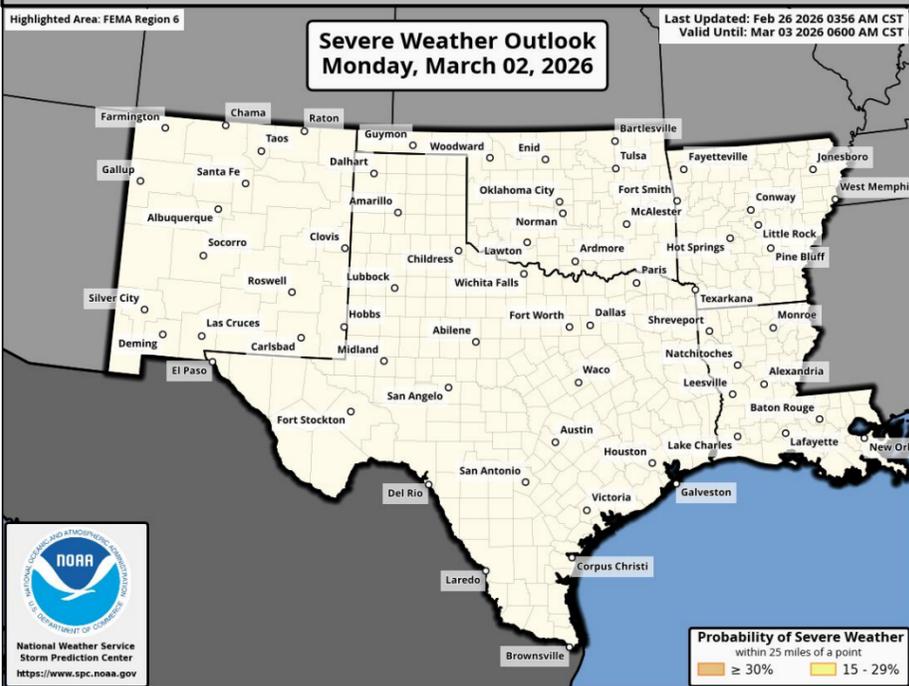


24-Hour Day 5 QPF  
Valid 12Z Mon Mar 02 2026  
Thru 12Z Tue Mar 03 2026  
Issued: 0508Z Thu Feb 26 2026  
Forecaster: TATE  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



**No significant weather expected.**

## Severe Weather Outlook



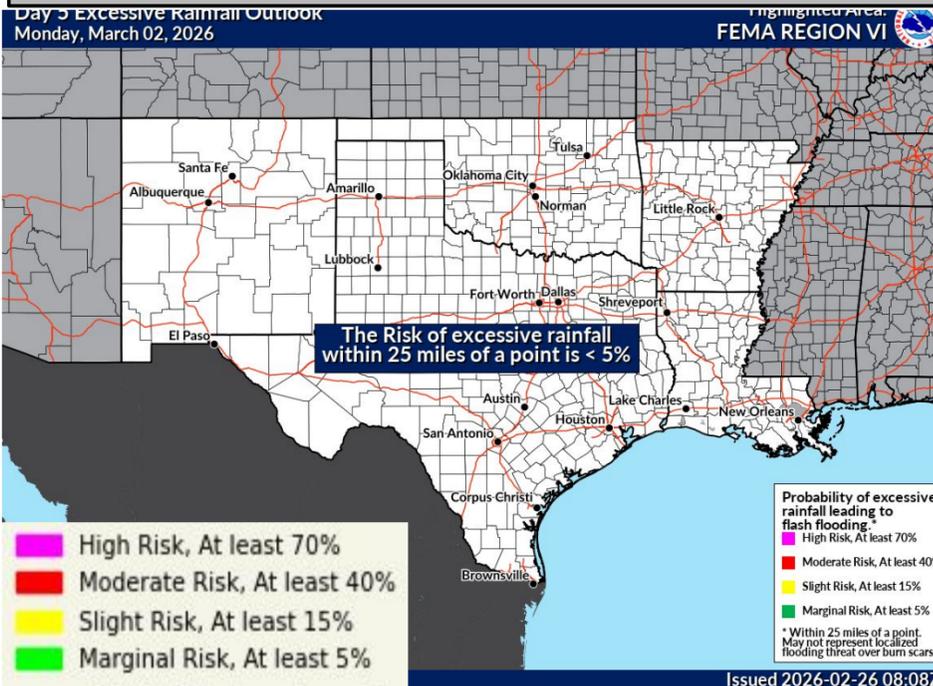
Severe Weather Outlook  
Monday, March 02, 2026

Last Updated: Feb 26 2026 0356 AM CST  
Valid Until: Mar 03 2026 0600 AM CST

Probability of Severe Weather  
within 25 miles of a point  
≥ 30%    15 - 29%



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 5 Excessive Rainfall Outlook  
Monday, March 02, 2026

Highlighted Area:  
FEMA REGION VI

The Risk of excessive rainfall  
within 25 miles of a point is < 5%

High Risk, At least 70%  
Moderate Risk, At least 40%  
Slight Risk, At least 15%  
Marginal Risk, At least 5%

Probability of excessive  
rainfall leading to  
flash flooding.\*  
High Risk, At least 70%  
Moderate Risk, At least 40%  
Slight Risk, At least 15%  
Marginal Risk, At least 5%  
\* Within 25 miles of a point.  
May not represent localized  
flooding threat over burn scars.

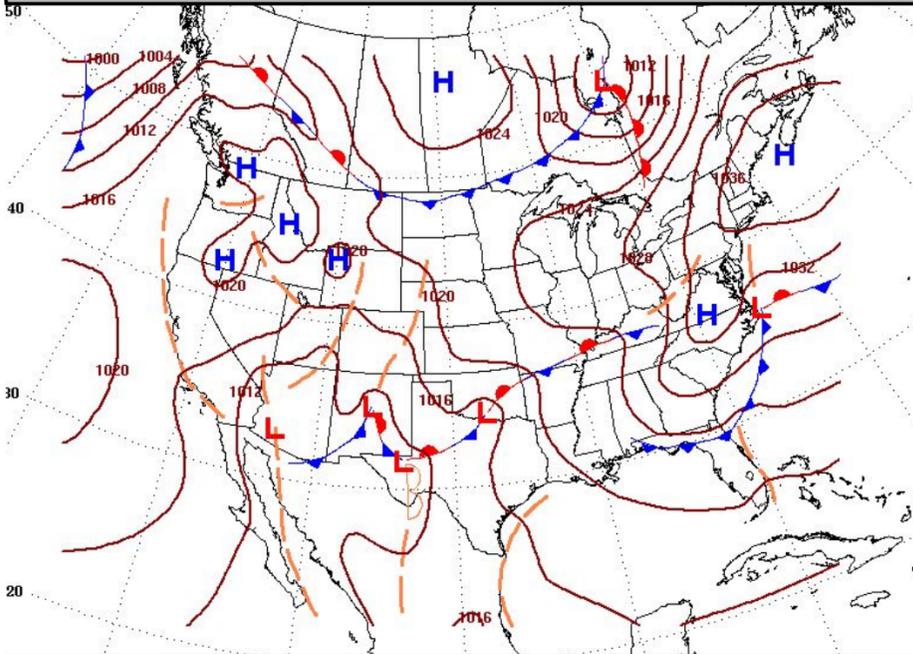
Issued 2026-02-26 08:08Z



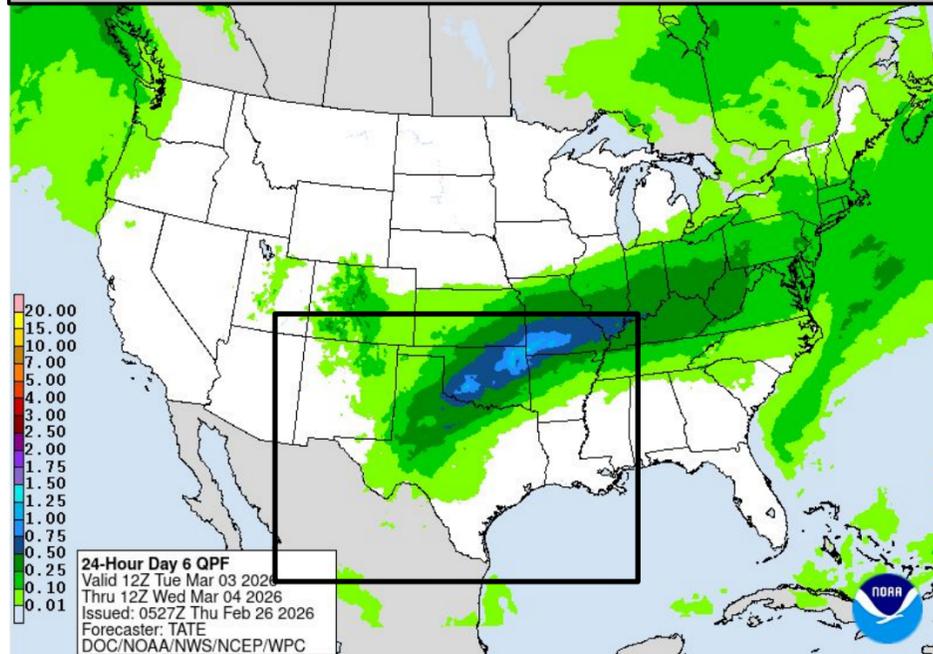


# Tuesday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

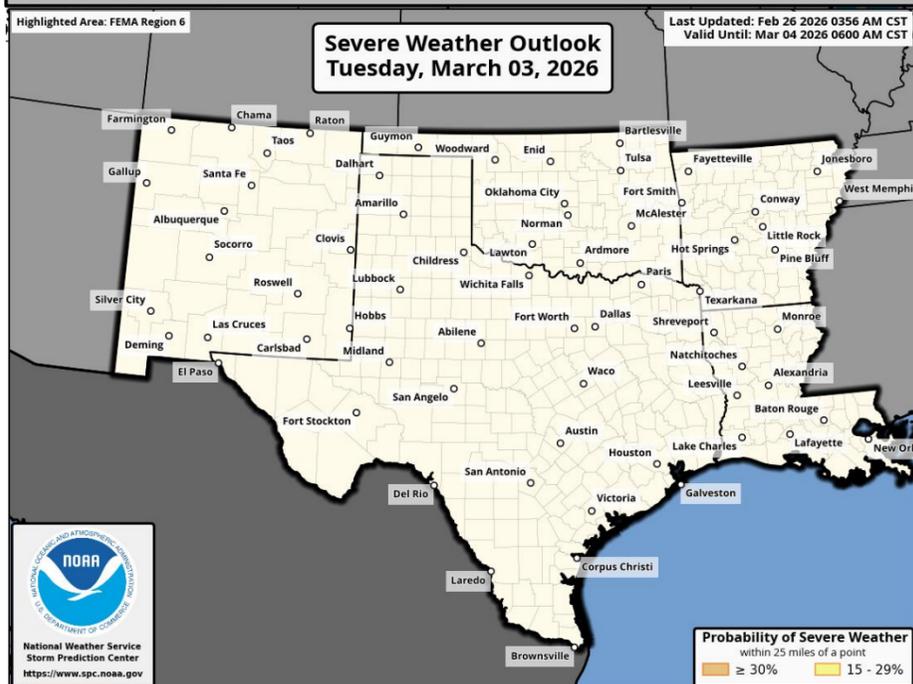


### Forecast Rainfall



**No significant weather expected.**

### Severe Weather Outlook

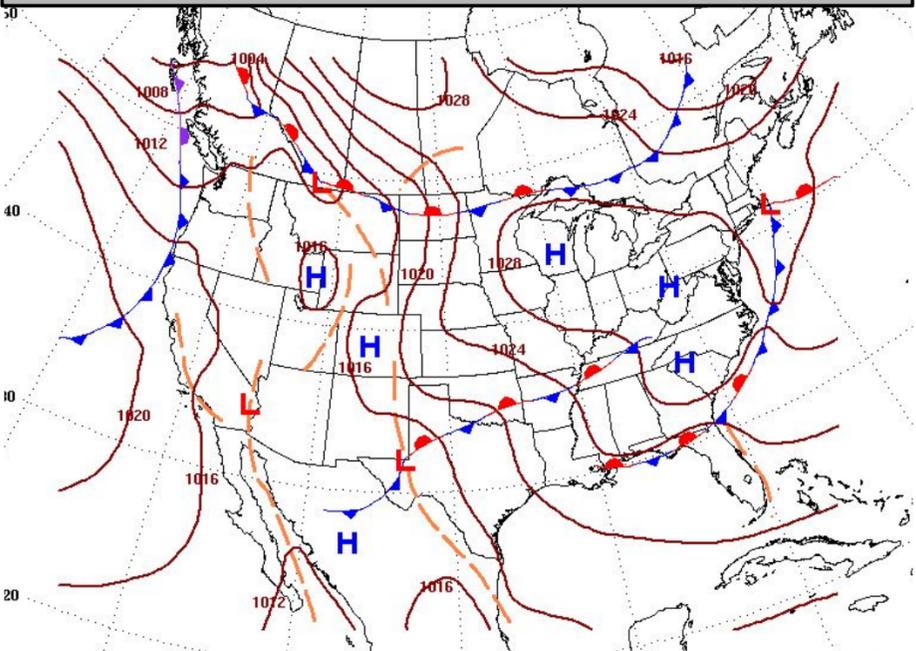


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks  
not available beyond Day 5**

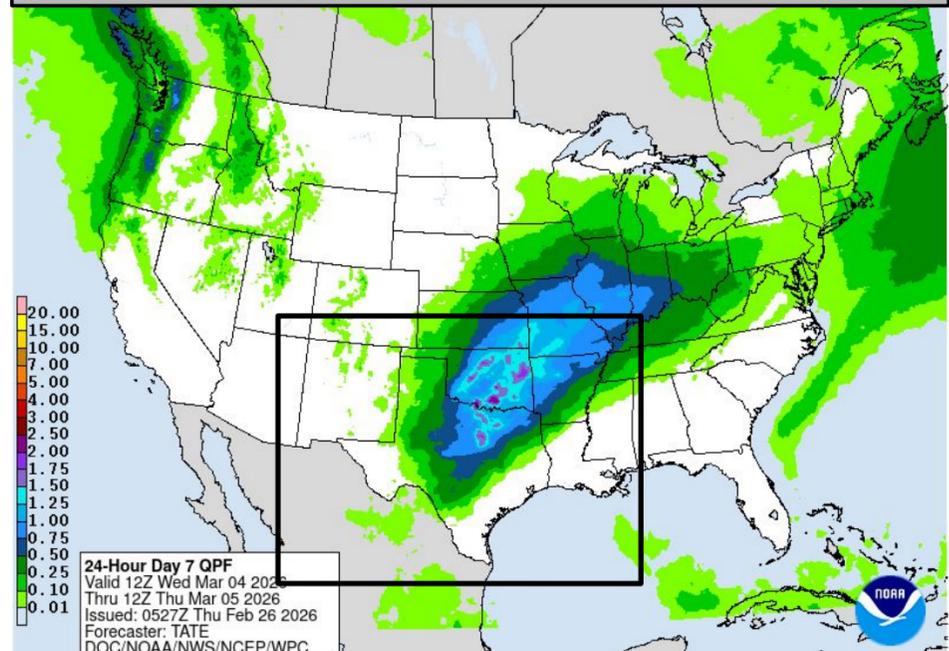


# Wednesday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

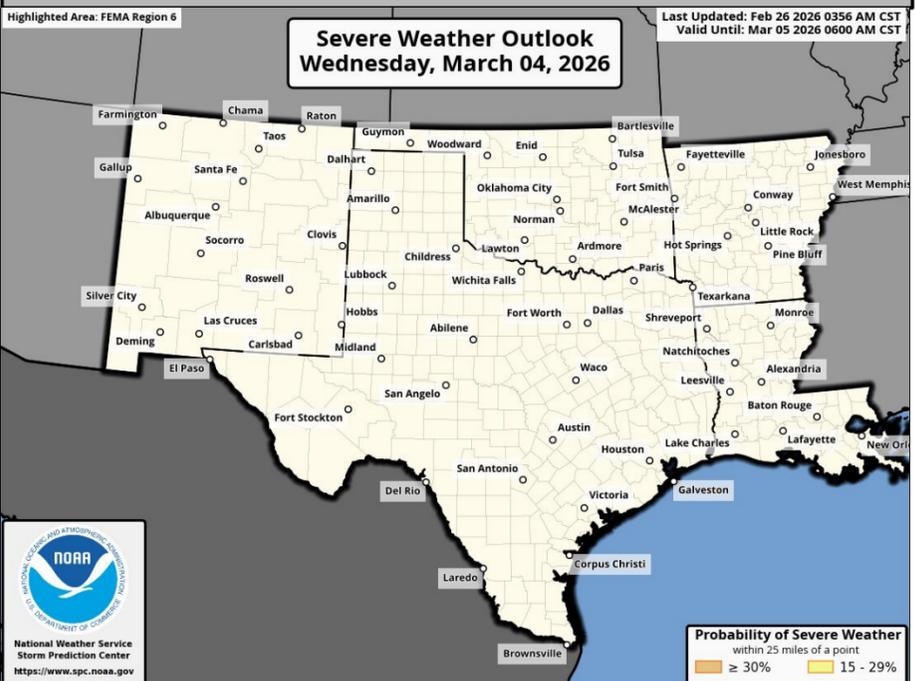


### Forecast Rainfall



**Monitoring for heavy rainfall over OK and NTX.**

### Severe Weather Outlook



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



# Wind Gust/Direction Forecast through Wednesday

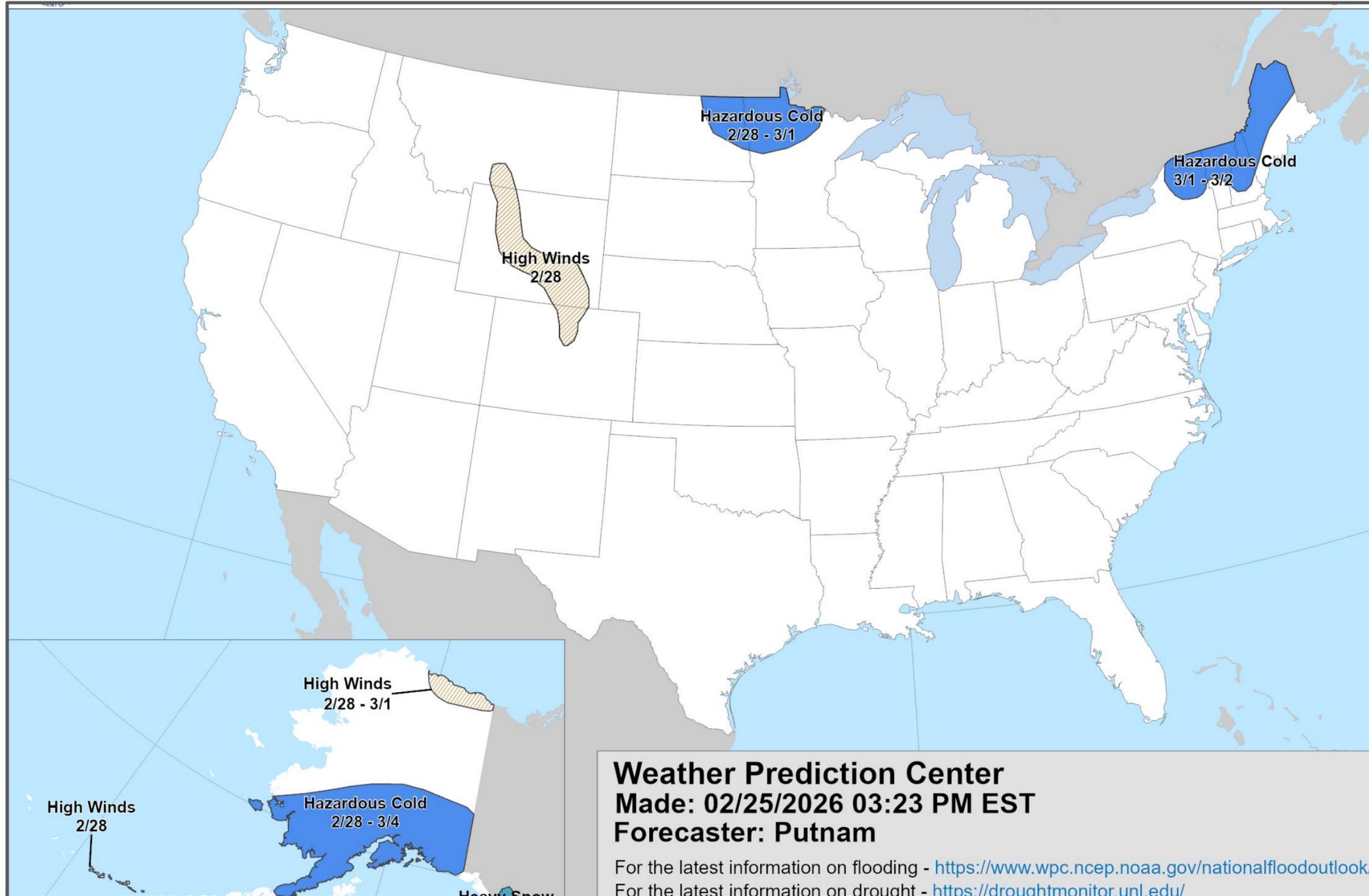
## Maximum Wind Gust (mph) Forecast

	2/26 Thu			2/27 Fri			2/28 Sat				3/1 Sun				3/2 Mon				
	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm
Abilene	17↓	18↓	12↓	9←	13↑	16↑	13↑	13↑	20↑	22↑	15↑	15↑	20↑	20↑	17←	15↑	17↓	18↓	16←
Amarillo	13↓	13↑	16↑	16↑	13↑	13↑	12↑	12↑	12↓	12↓	15←	15↑	13↑	20↑	20←	17↑	15↓	17↑	17↑
Beaver	10↑	12↑	8↓	7↑	16↑	17↑	8↑	8↑	13↓	16↑	16←	15←	15←	18↑	17↑	13↑	14↑	16←	15←
El Paso	9↑	13↑	12↑	5←	8↓	9↓	9↑	3↑	7↑	12↑	12↑	6↑	10↑	17↑	15↑	6↑	12↑	15↑	15↑
Enid	17↓	13↑	7↓	8↑	14↑	17↑	12↑	13↑	13↑	15↑	16↑	20↑	22↑	23↑	20↓	16↓	17↓	16↓	13↑
Fayetteville	12↓	14↓	10↓	6↑	9↑	12↑	9↑	9↑	18↑	20↑	13←	16←	21←	21↑	18←	16←	18←	17←	14↑
Fort Davis	17↑	17↑	16↑	8↑	9↓	15↑	14←	10↑	14↑	18↑	17↑	12↑	18↑	22↑	20↑	12↓	15↑	20←	20←
Guadalupe Pass	22↑	25↑	26↑	17↓	21↑	28↑	21↑	14↑	14↑	25↑	25↑	17↑	20↑	32↑	32↑	20↓	23←	28↑	28↑
Lubbock	18↓	15←	15↑	13↑	15↑	16↑	9↑	9↑	18↑	18↑	16↑	16↑	21↓	20↑	14↑	14←	14↑	15←	15↑
Midland/Odessa	21↓	15↑	10↑	10←	10↑	10↑	10↑	13↑	14↑	16↑	16↑	17↑	18↑	20↑	18↑	18←	20←	21←	20←
Oklahoma City	20↑	16↓	8↓	7↑	14↑	16↑	13↑	14↑	18↑	18↑	16↑	20←	23←	24↑	20↓	18↓	20↓	20↓	14↑
San Angelo	17↑	17↑	14↑	10←	12↑	14↑	10↑	9↑	18↑	21↑	17↑	14↑	17↑	21↑	20↑	15↑	15←	20↑	18↑
Tulsa	14↓	14↓	7↓	3↑	12↑	14↑	9↑	9↑	15↑	16↑	14←	18↑	21←	22↑	20↑	16↑	17↑	17↑	14↑
Wichita Falls	20↓	20↑	13↑	9←	10↑	16↑	14↑	14↑	20↑	22↑	17↑	18↑	24↑	24↑	20↓	20↓	21↓	20↓	16↑

-Breezy conditions expected over the weekend; however, low level moisture will increase (except in NM).

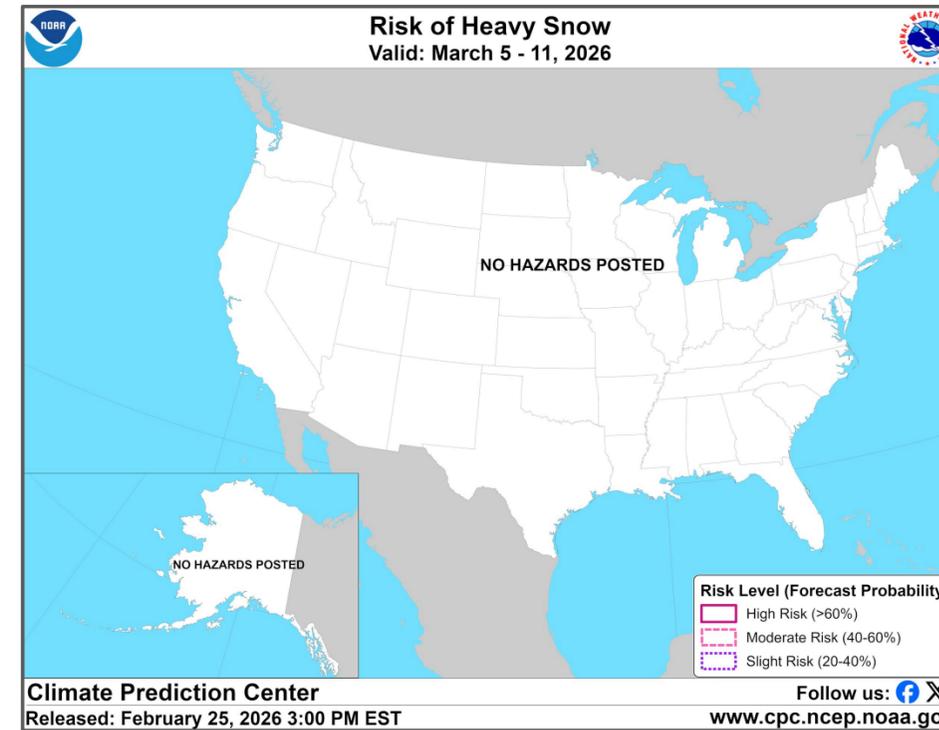
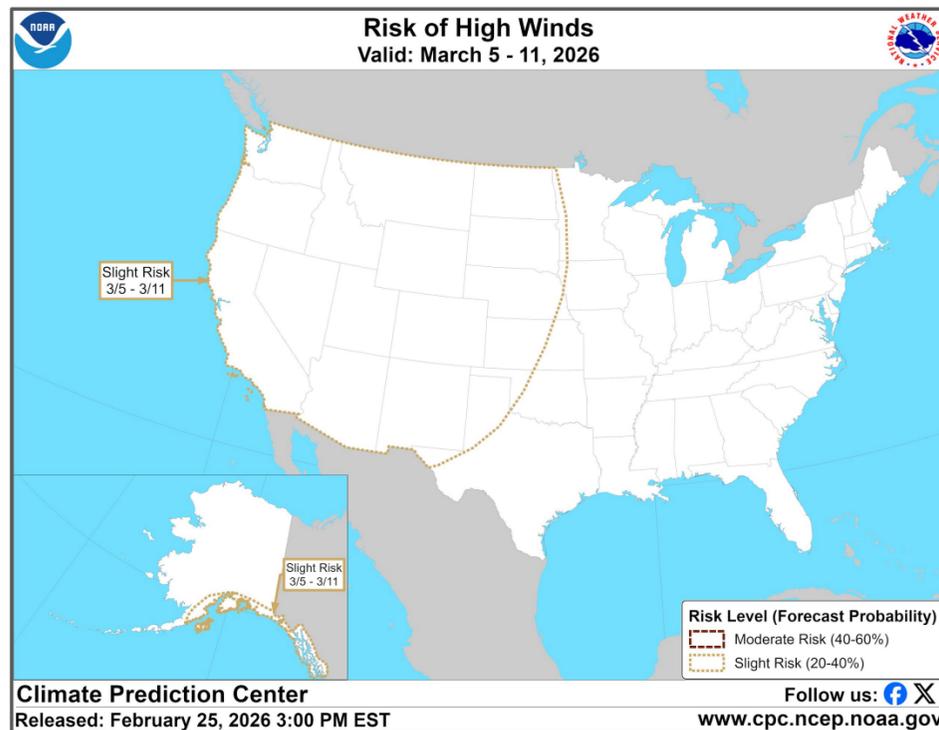
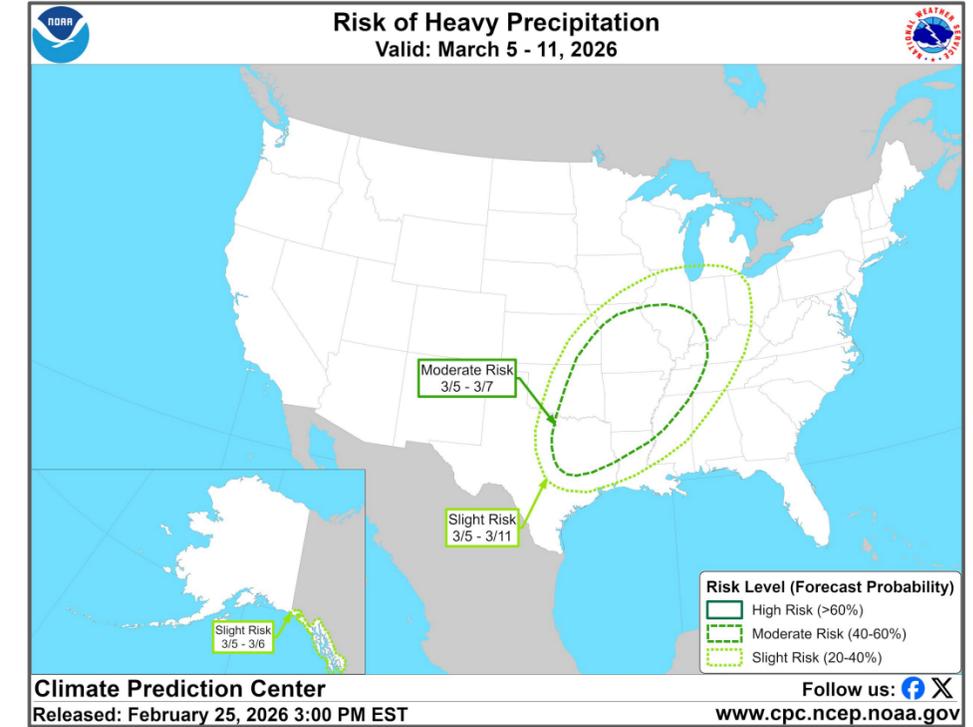
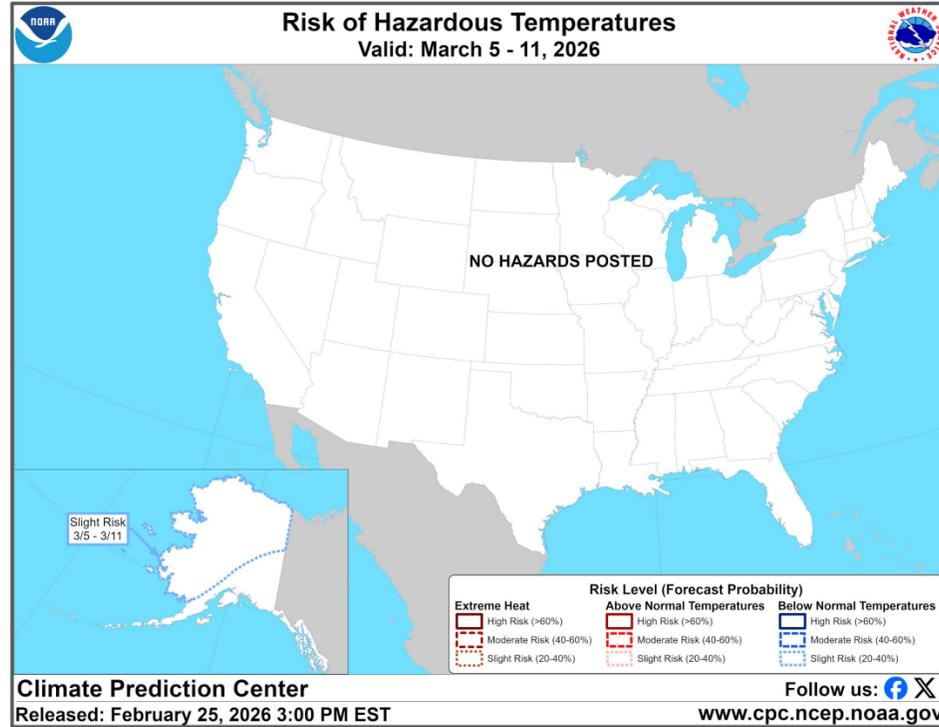
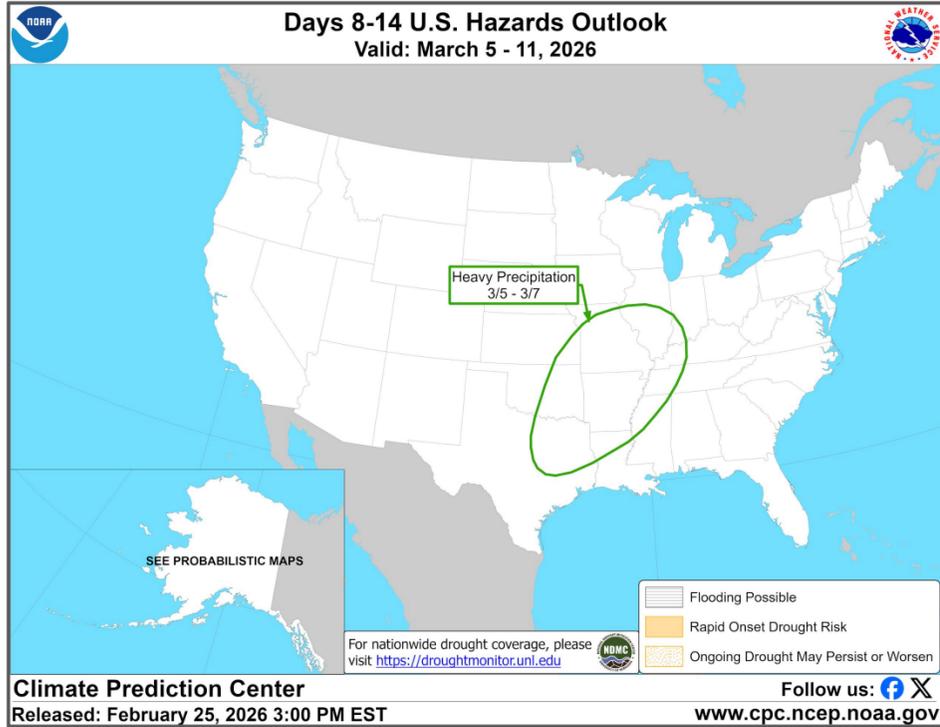


# “Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





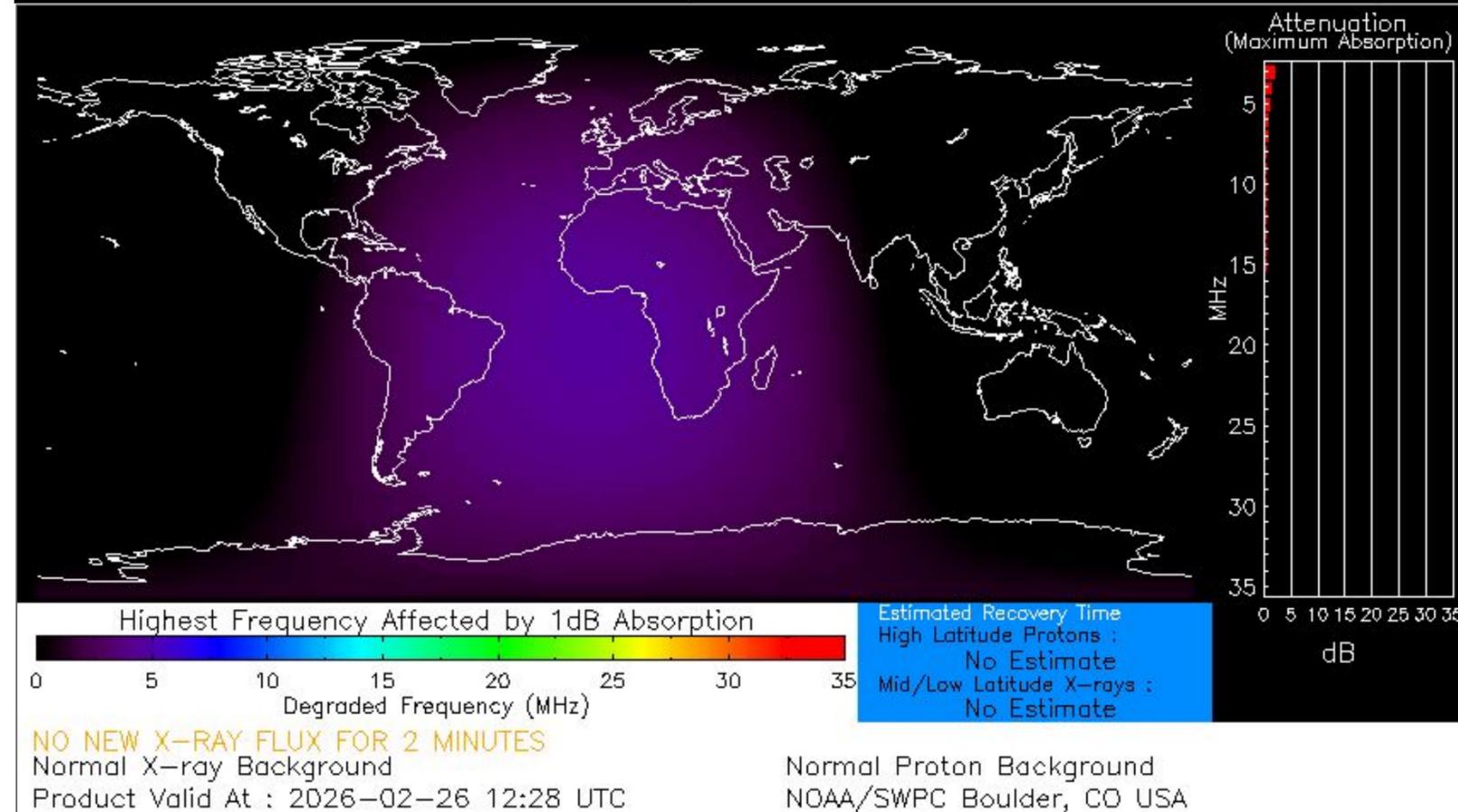
# “Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





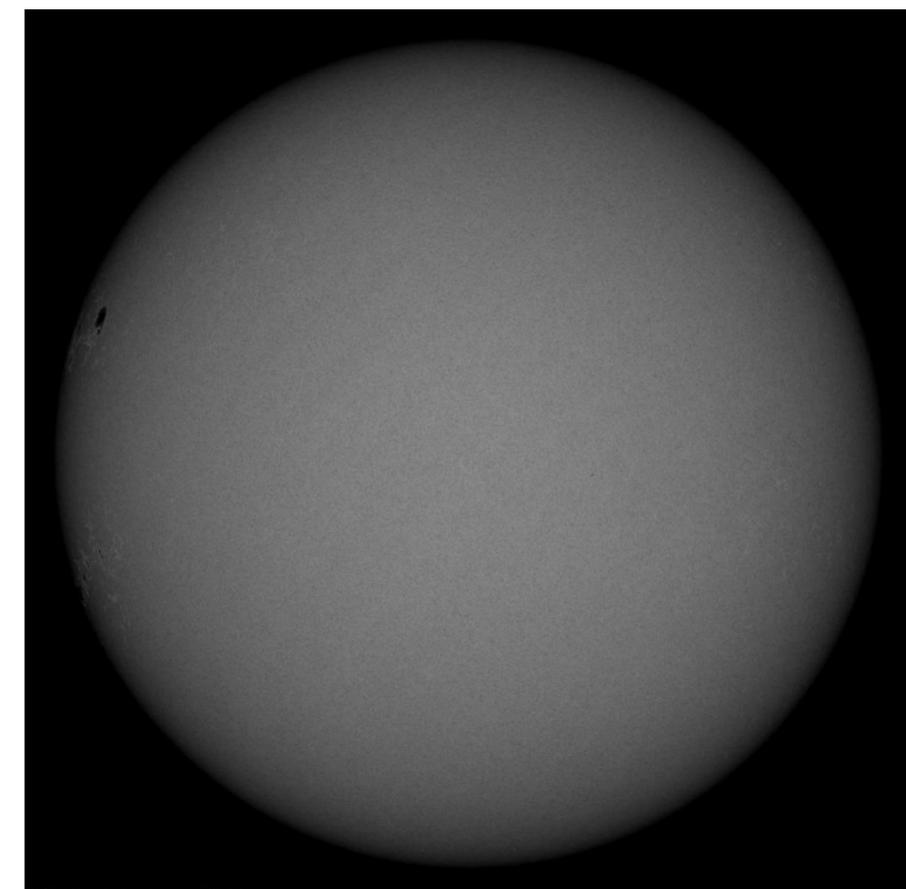
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday, Feb 26	Friday, Feb 27	Saturday, Feb 28
<b>Geomagnetic Storms</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp=3)</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp=3)</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp=3)</b>
<b>Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)</b>	1%	1%	1%
<b>Radio Blackout (R1-R2)</b>	50%	50%	50%
<b>Radio Blackout (R3-R5)</b>	5%	5%	5%



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

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

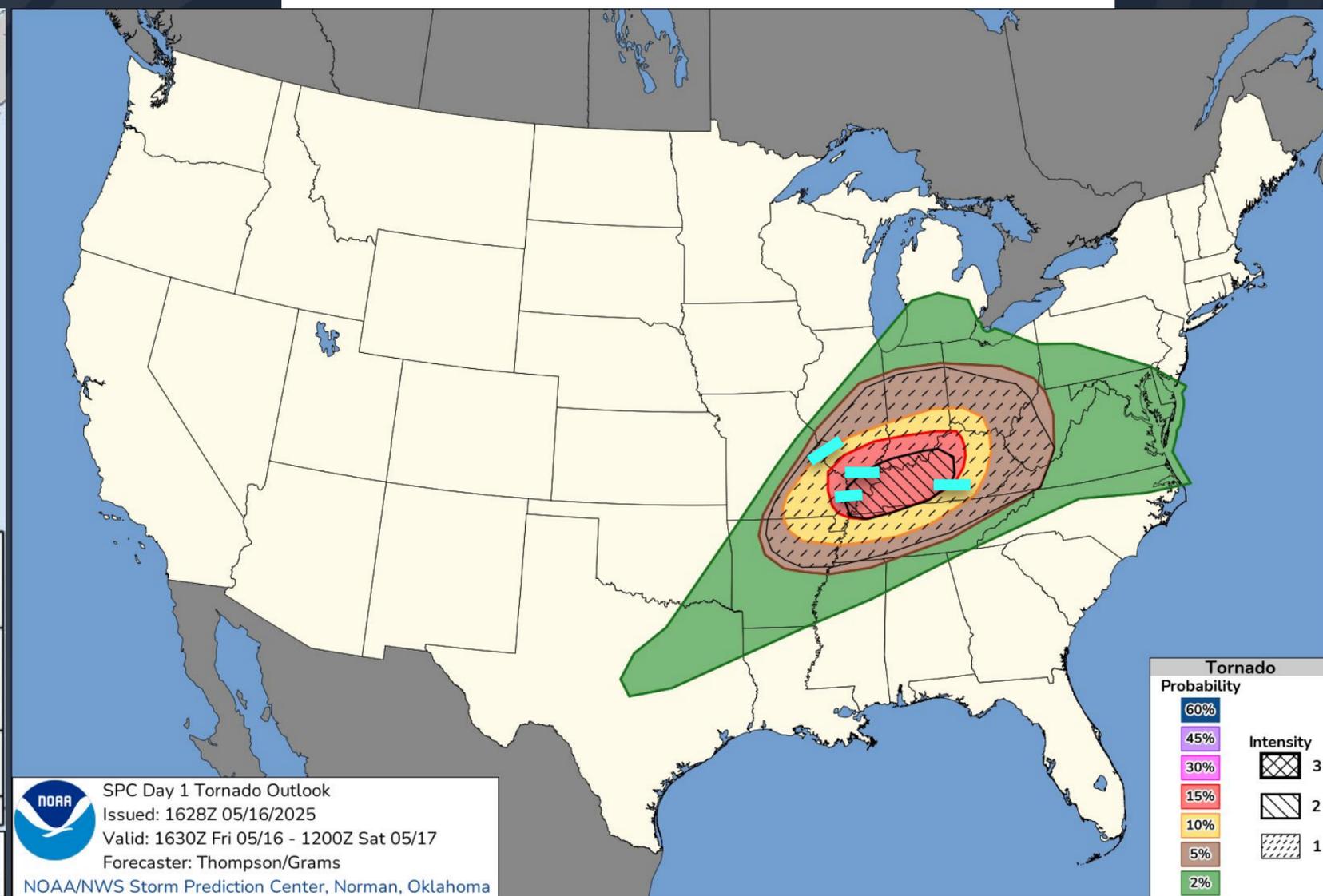
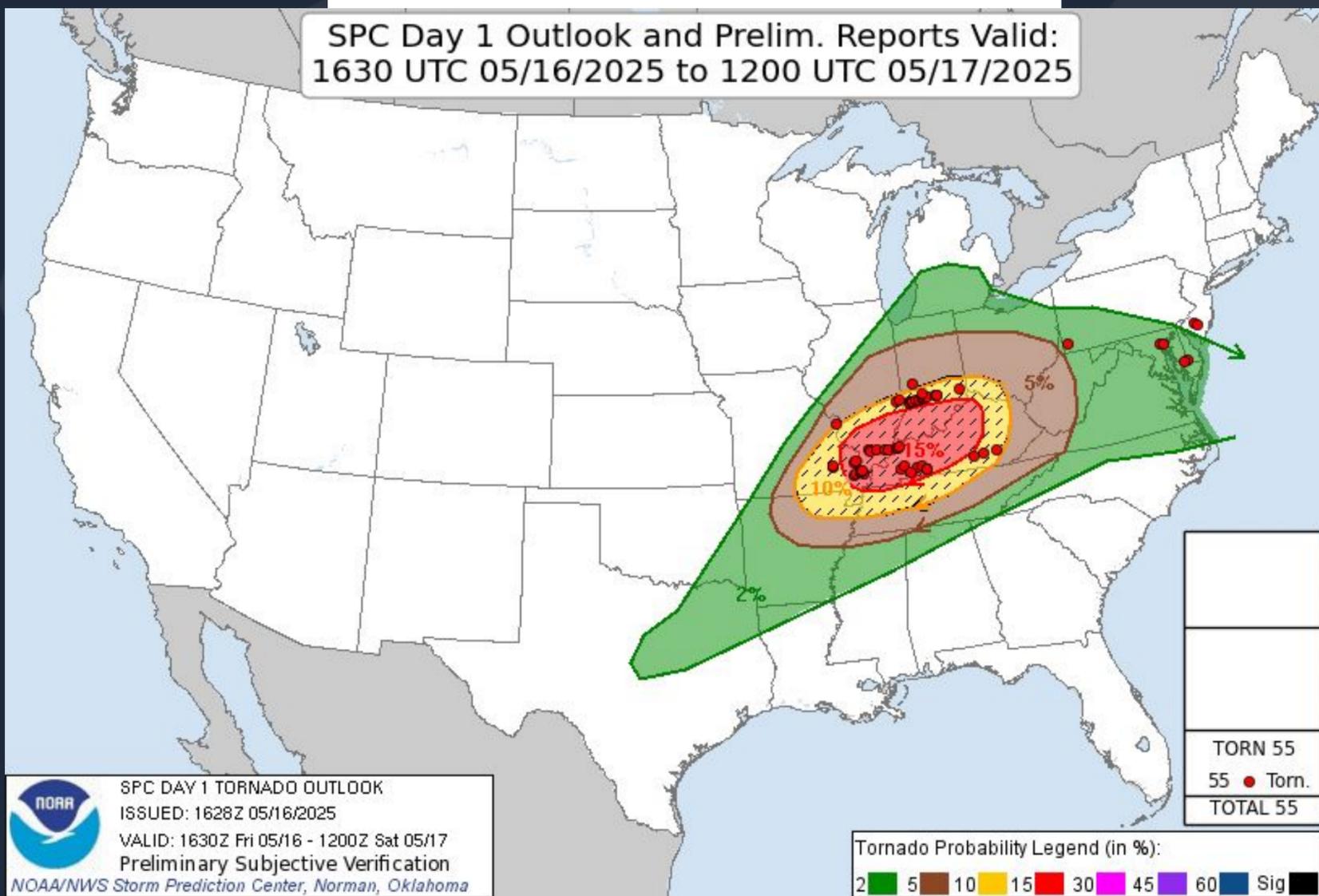


# Storm Prediction Center Convective Outlook Changes in March 2026

Utilizing Conditional Intensity to Improve Severe Weather Impacts Forecasting

## Current Operational

## New Conditional Intensity



EF3+ tornado paths in cyan

# Key Takeaways

## Outlook Categories Unchanged

Frequency of categorical outlook areas will be the same as prior years.

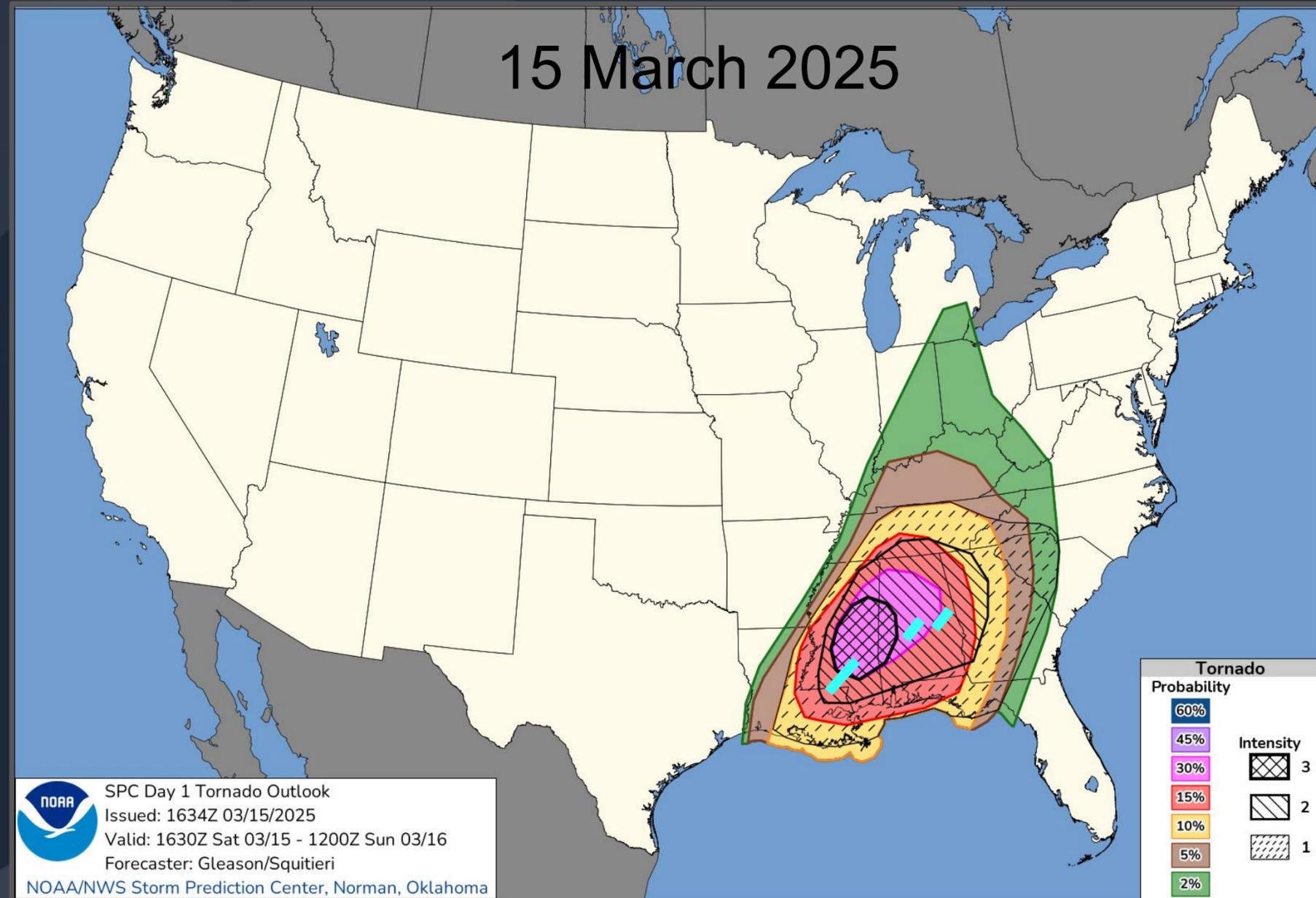
ENH in 2025 will be an ENH in 2026.

## Added Intensity Information

First change to hazard intensity forecasts since early 2000s.

3 intensity categories for tornado and wind (2 for hail) to reflect potential for greater hazard intensity and impacts.

Used in Days 1-3 Convective Outlooks.



EF3+ tornado paths in cyan

## 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>	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"> <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>	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"> <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>	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"> <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>	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"> <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>	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"> <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)**



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