



FEMA



Prepared by
Melissa Beat

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, March 16, 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.





Summary

- **Fire Weather:**

- **Critical threat today over S/SE TX, S LA. Winds gusting 30-45 mph.**
- **Elevated threat Tuesday over NM, TX Panhandle, W OK, NW-SW/W TX.**
- **Monitoring Sunday.**

- **Cold Temps:**

- **Freezing temps this morning and Tuesday morning behind the cold front.**

- **River Flooding:**

- **Minor river flooding is expected to continue through the end of the week in portions of E TX, LA. Lowlands and secondary roads flooded.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Monday, Mar 16	Tuesday, Mar 17	Wednesday, Mar 18	Thursday, Mar 19	Friday, Mar 20	Saturday, Mar 21	Sunday, Mar 22
Severe Storms							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Winter Weather	AM - Cold Temps	AM - Cold Temps					
Fire Weather	S/SE TX, S LA	NM, TX Panhandle, W OK, NW-SW/W TX					Monitoring
River Flooding	ETX, LA	ETX, LA	ETX, LA	ETX, LA	ETX, LA	ETX, LA	

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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Current Radar/Hazards



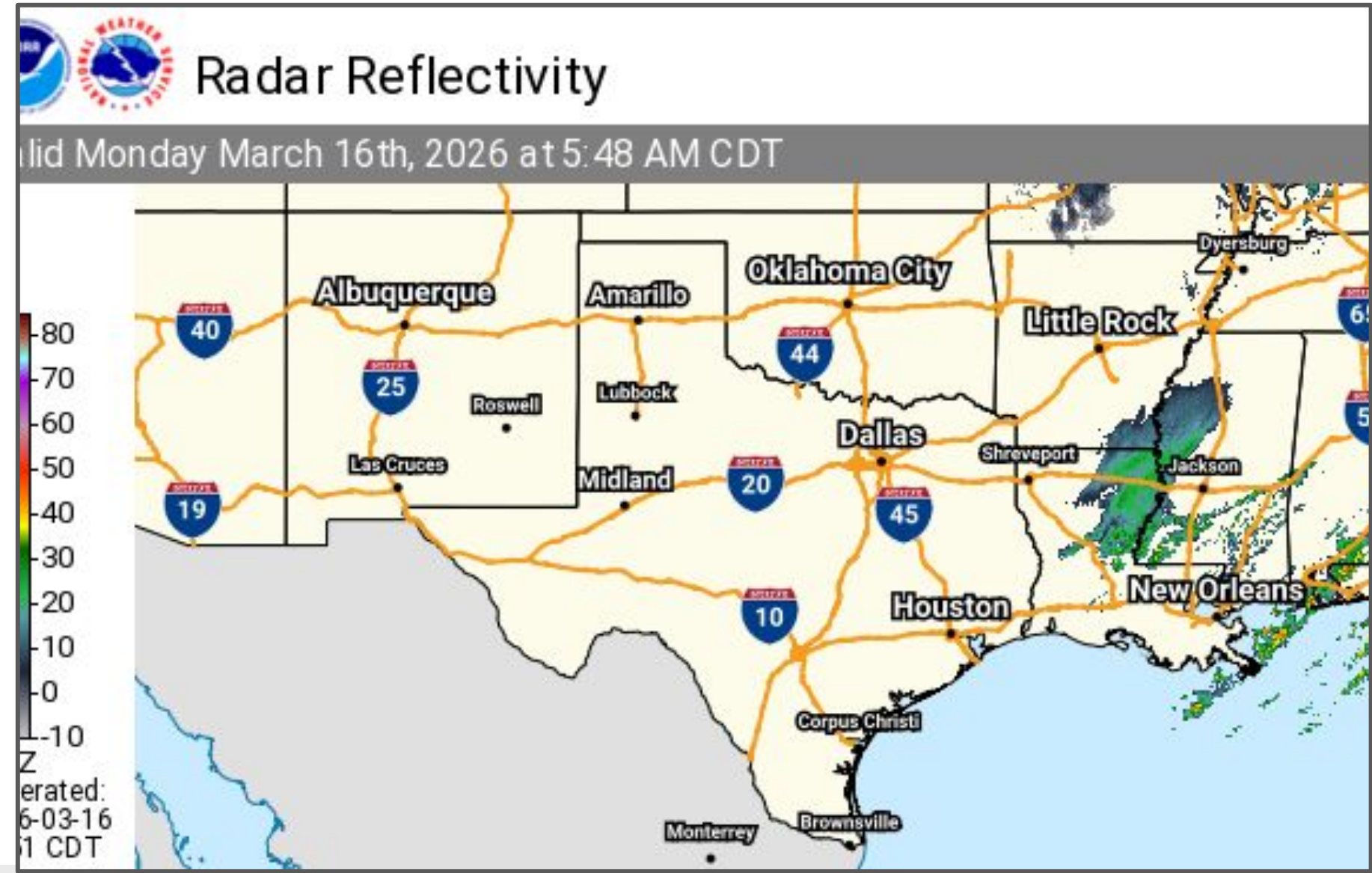
Current Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

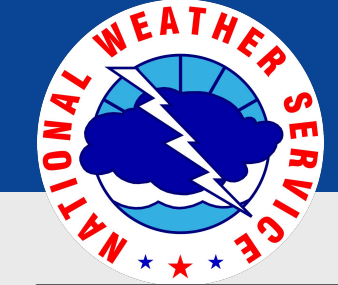
- High Wind Warning Pop: 279
- Flood Warning Pop: 8,141
- Tornado Watch Pop: 1,591,220
- Gale Warning Pop: 55,628
- Freeze Warning Pop: 28,055,749
- Red Flag Warning Pop: 18,812,849
- High Surf Advisory Pop: 3,519
- Small Craft Advisory Pop: 91,155
- Wind Advisory Pop: 30,543,132
- Low Water Advisory Pop: 7,581
- Rip Current Statement Pop: 791,168
- Extreme Heat Watch Pop: 5,891,764
- Freeze Watch Pop: 2,282,779
- Fire Weather Watch Pop: 748,404



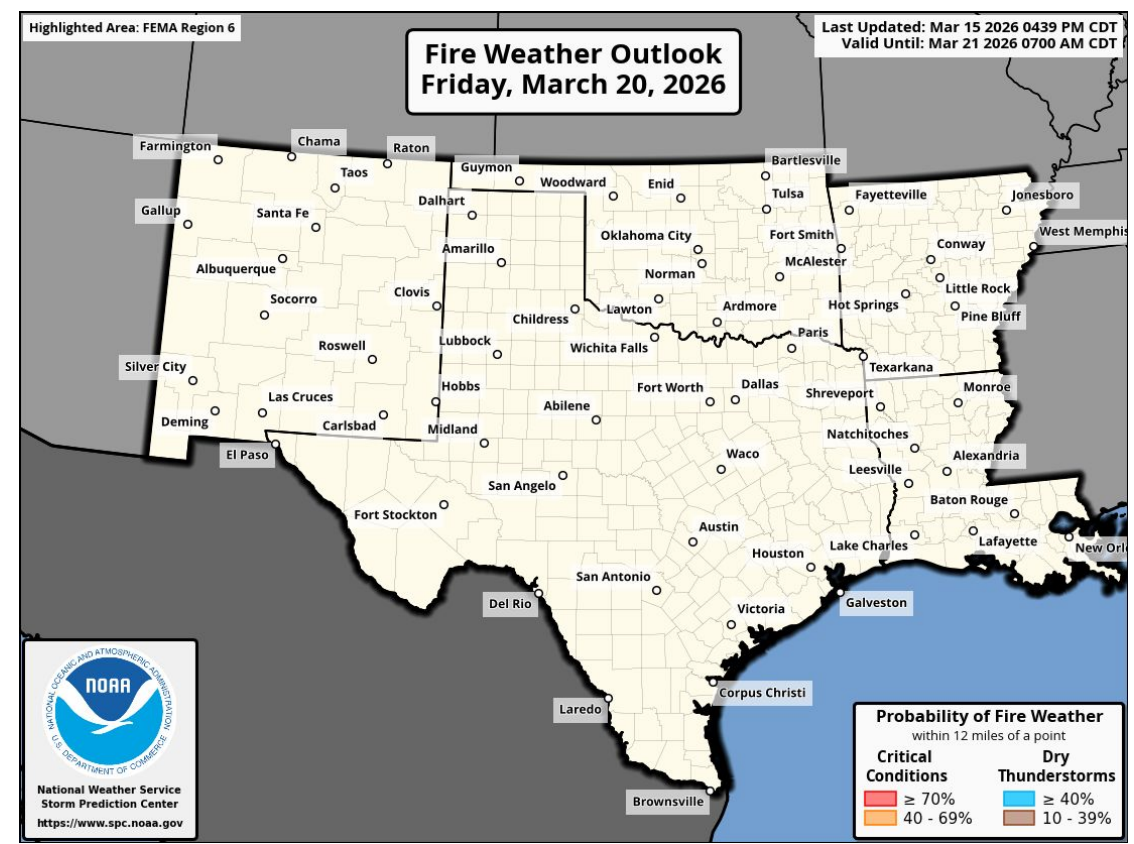
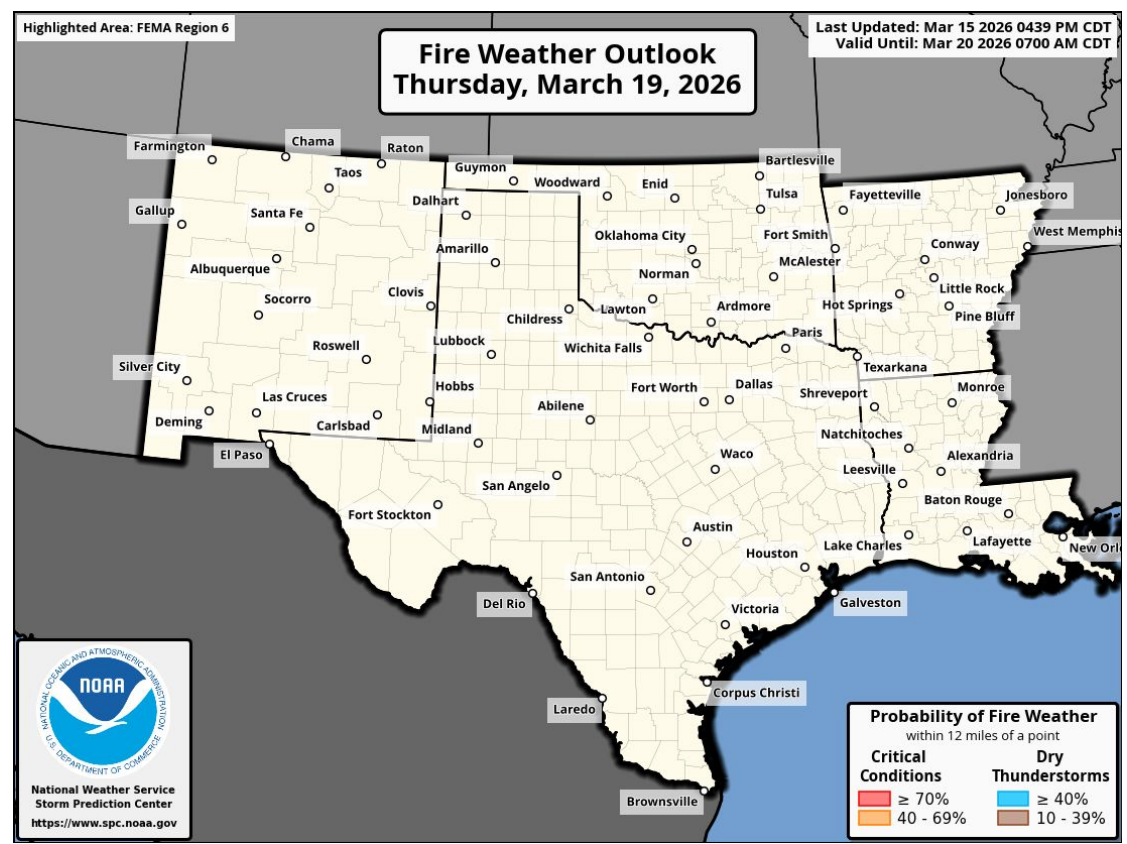
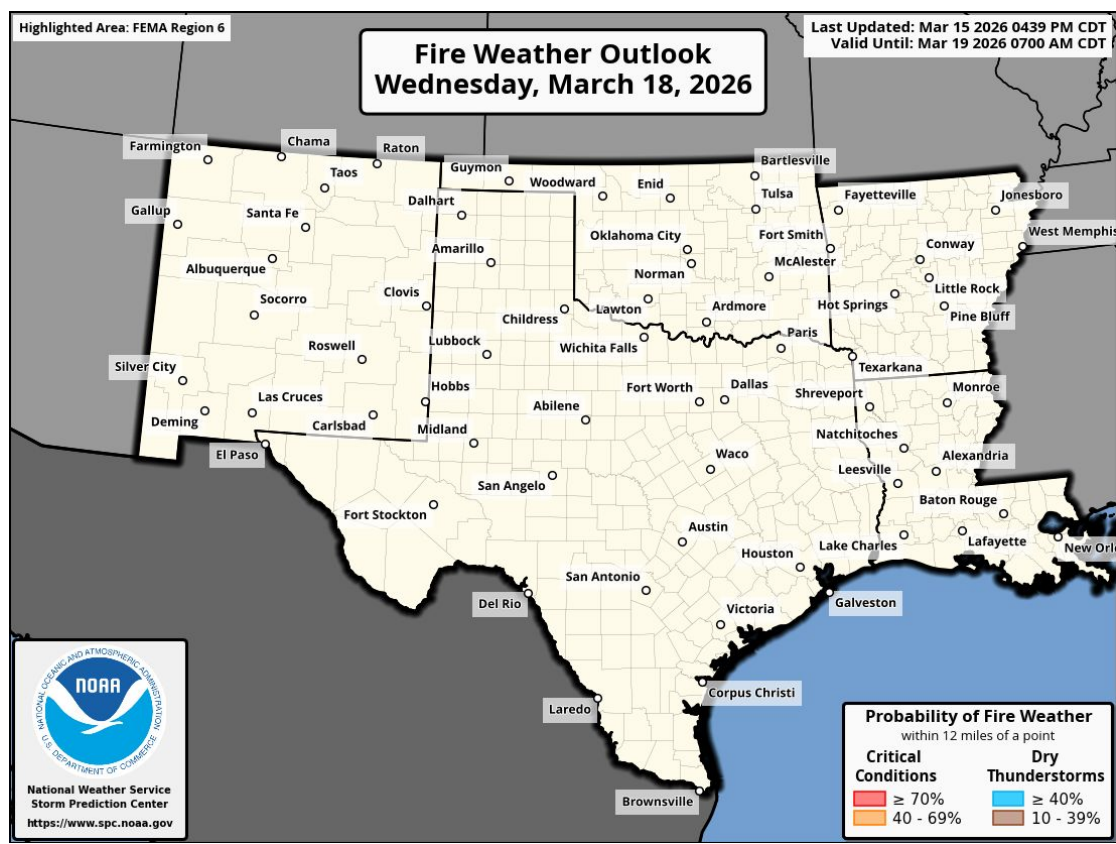
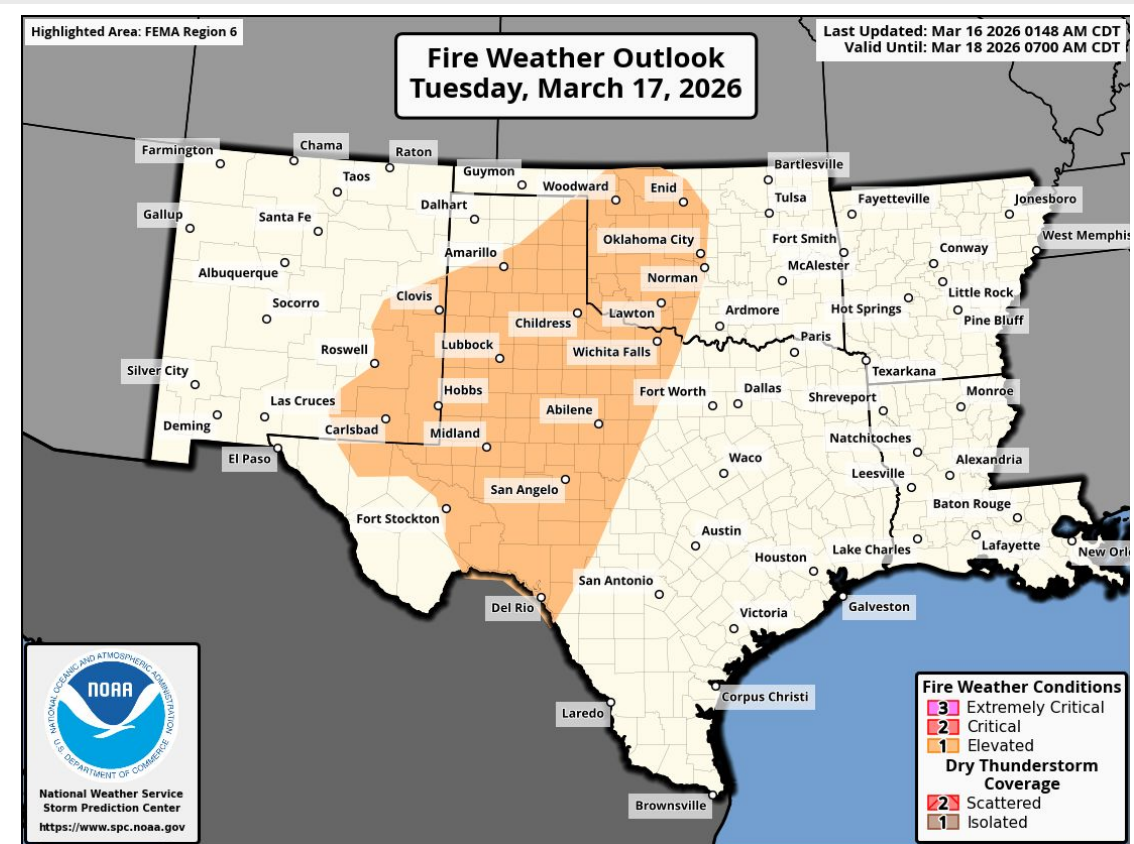
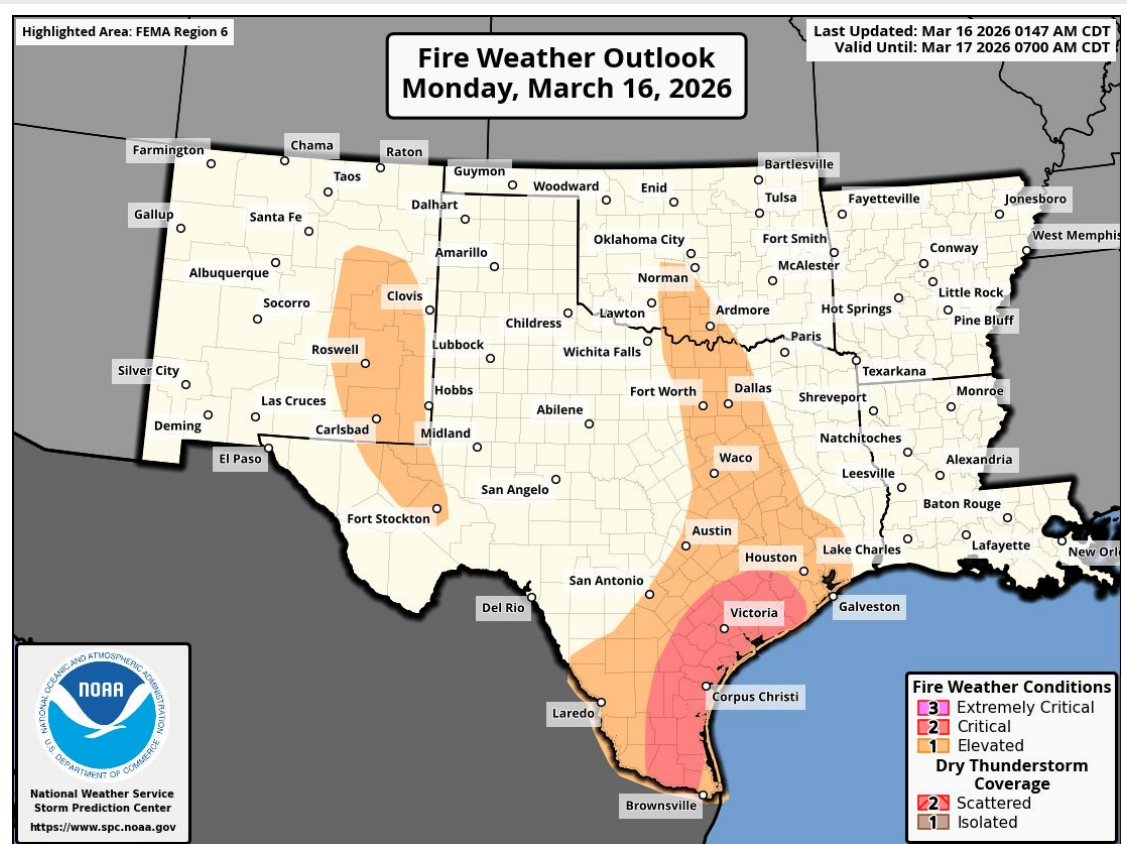
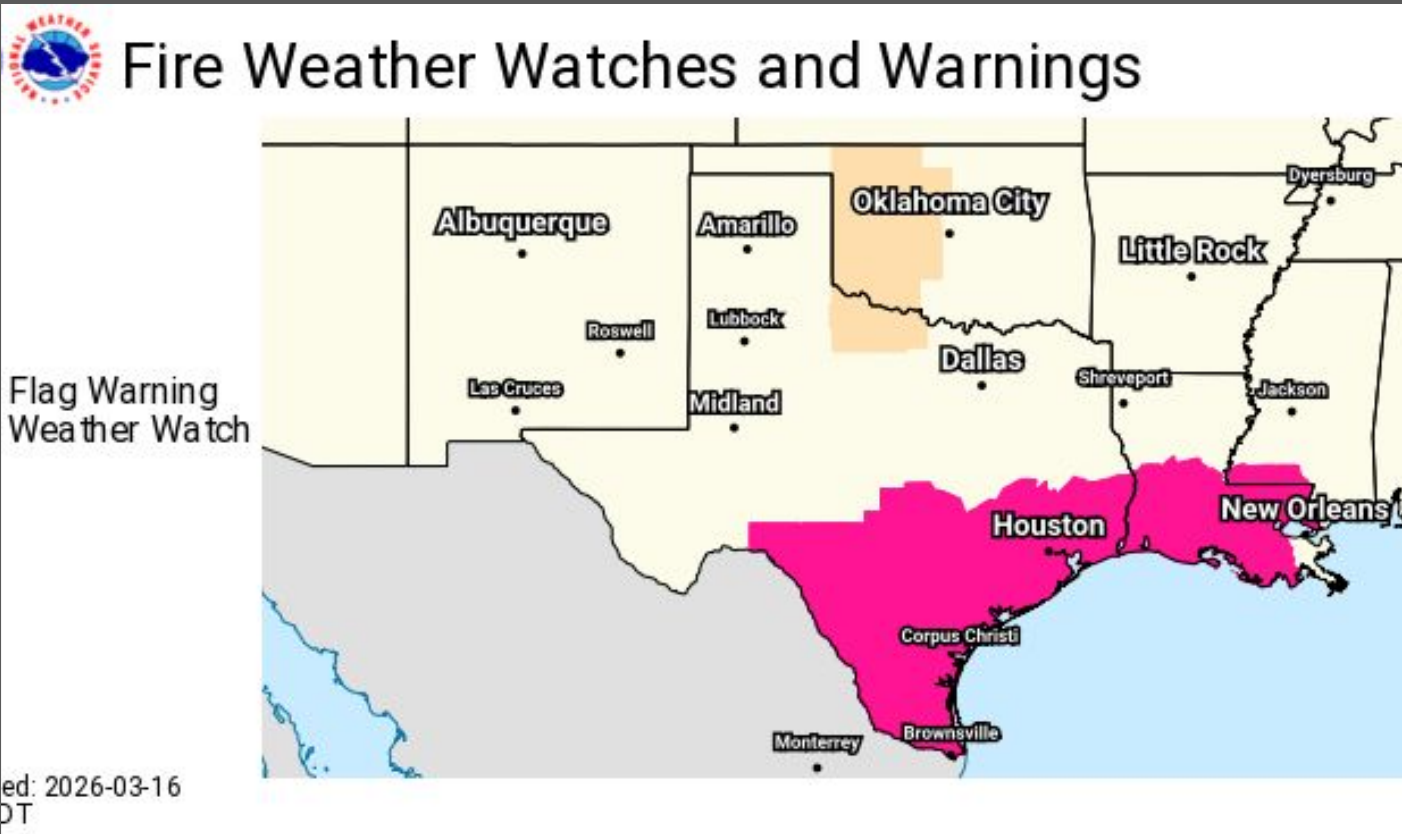
Generated: 2026-03-16 05:51 CDT

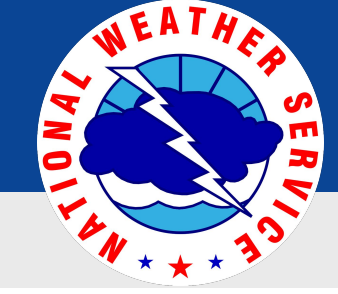
Red Flag Warnings today over S/SE TX, S LA through 7-8PM.
Fire Weather Watch in W OK, NW TX for Tuesday.
Wind Advisories for gusts up to 30-45 mph through 7-8PM.
Freeze Warnings in AR, SE OK, NE TX, LA for this morning and tomorrow morning.





Fire Weather Outlooks

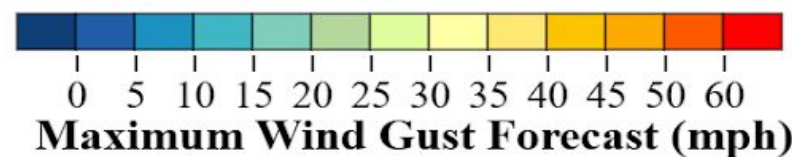


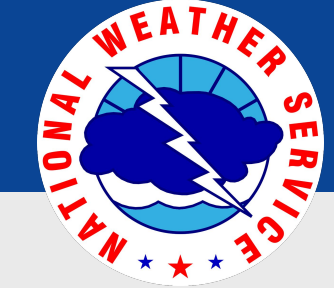


Wind Gusts

Maximum Wind Gust (mph) Forecast

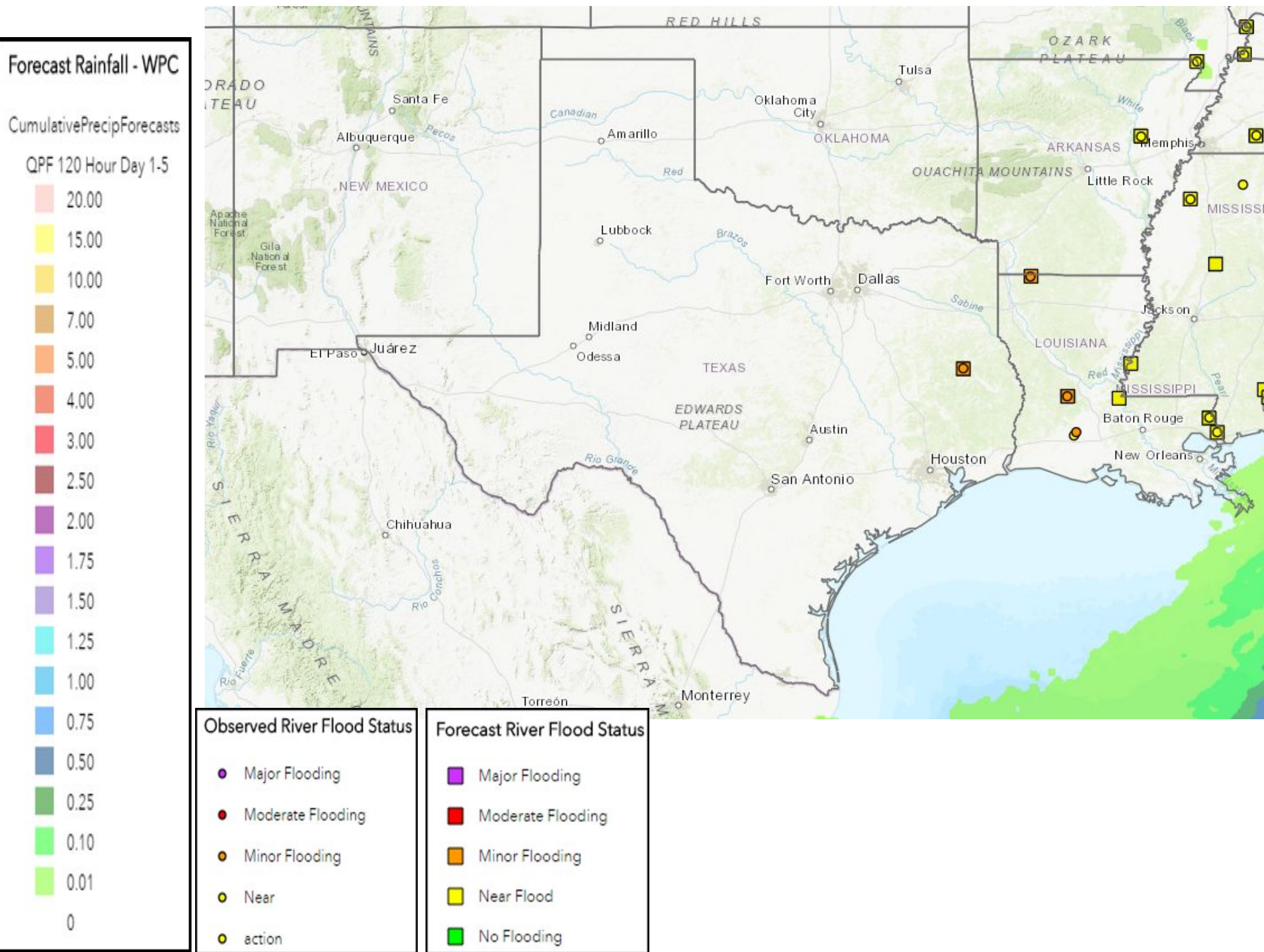
	3/16 Mon			3/17 Tue			3/18 Wed			3/19 Thu			3/20 Fri			3/21 Sat			3/22 Sun							
	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm
Abilene	18↓	14↓	8↓	12↑	23↑	28↑	25↑	22↑	20↑	17↑	13↑	14↑	13↑	13↑	12↑	13↑	12→	13→	15↑	16↑	16↑	17↑	17↑	20↑	20↑	23↑
Amarillo	7→	14→	15↑	20↑	22↑	20↑	14↑	13↑	10→	9↓	10↑	12↑	12→	13↓	10↓	10↓	10→	13→	9↓	9↓	12→	16↑	17↑	20↑	21↓	24↓
Beaver	12↓	14↓	10↓	13↑	18→	17→	13→	12↑	10↓	9↓	8↑	10↑	14↓	14↓	9↓	8↑	12→	15→	9↓	8↑	13→	17↑	16↑	16↑	22↓	24↓
El Paso	26←	20←	13←	10←	7←	10→	10→	5→	5↓	5↓	5→	3←	3←	6→	6→	5→	5→	9→	9→	6↑	6→	12→	12→	9→	12→	16→
Enid	25↓	26↓	15↓	13↑	22↑	26↑	22↑	21↑	14↑	10↓	10↑	12↑	13→	15↓	12↓	8←	10↑	15↑	12↑	12↑	14→	17↑	16↓	18↑	24↓	28↓
Fayetteville	30↓	29↓	23↓	7→	15↑	25↑	23↑	25↑	24↑	20→	12↑	10↑	13↑	14↑	10→	8↓	10↑	13↑	12↑	12↑	14↑	16↑	15↑	17↑	21↑	22↓
Fort Davis	26←	12←	15←	8↓	9↑	20↑	20↑	15↑	14→	17↑	18←	8↑	9↓	17←	17←	10↑	12→	15→	14↓	13↑	14↑	17↑	17↓	14↑	17→	22→
Guadalupe Pass	54←	32←	36←	26↓	24↑	32→	31→	16→	14↓	18↓	17←	14←	13↓	18↑	18↑	17←	15→	21→	21→	17↑	15→	23→	23→	20↑	22→	28→
Lubbock	5↓	7↑	12↑	14↑	21↑	23↑	21↑	14↑	9↑	9←	8↓	10↑	12→	13→	12↓	10↓	9↑	14↑	12↑	12↑	12→	16↑	15↑	16↑	21→	23↓
Midland/Odessa	20↓	9←	10←	8↓	22↑	25↑	26↑	23↑	15↑	12↓	12↑	13↑	10↑	13↑	15↑	15↑	13↑	15↑	17↑	18↑	15↑	17↑	20↑	21↑	21↑	23↑
Oklahoma City	28↓	26↓	17↓	14↑	28↑	31↑	25↑	25↑	22↑	14↑	10↑	13↑	14↑	16→	13↓	10←	10↑	14↑	13↑	13↑	15↑	18↑	20↑	20↑	25→	28↓
San Angelo	18↓	14↓	9←	9↑	21↑	26↑	26↑	18↑	16↑	15↑	13↑	12↑	12↑	13↑	13↑	13↑	12↑	15↑	14↑	15↑	16↑	18↑	17↑	16↑	20↑	22↑
Santa Fe	15↓	16↓	17↓	13↓	16↓	21↓	24↓	17↓	16↓	15↓	13→	16↓	16↓	13↓	13→	13↓	15↓	16↓	16↓	13↓	13↓	21→	21→	13↓	16↓	23↑
Tulsa	25↓	26↓	20↓	6↑	23↑	28↑	23↑	22↑	16↑	14↑	8↑	9↑	10↑	13↑	10↓	6↓	9↑	14↑	12↑	10↑	13↑	16↑	15↓	16↑	21↓	24↓
Wichita Falls	23↓	23↓	14↓	13↑	22↑	29↑	25↑	21↑	20↑	18↑	13↑	12↑	14↑	15→	13↑	12↓	12→	14↑	13↓	14↑	15→	17↑	17↑	18↑	22↑	26→





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



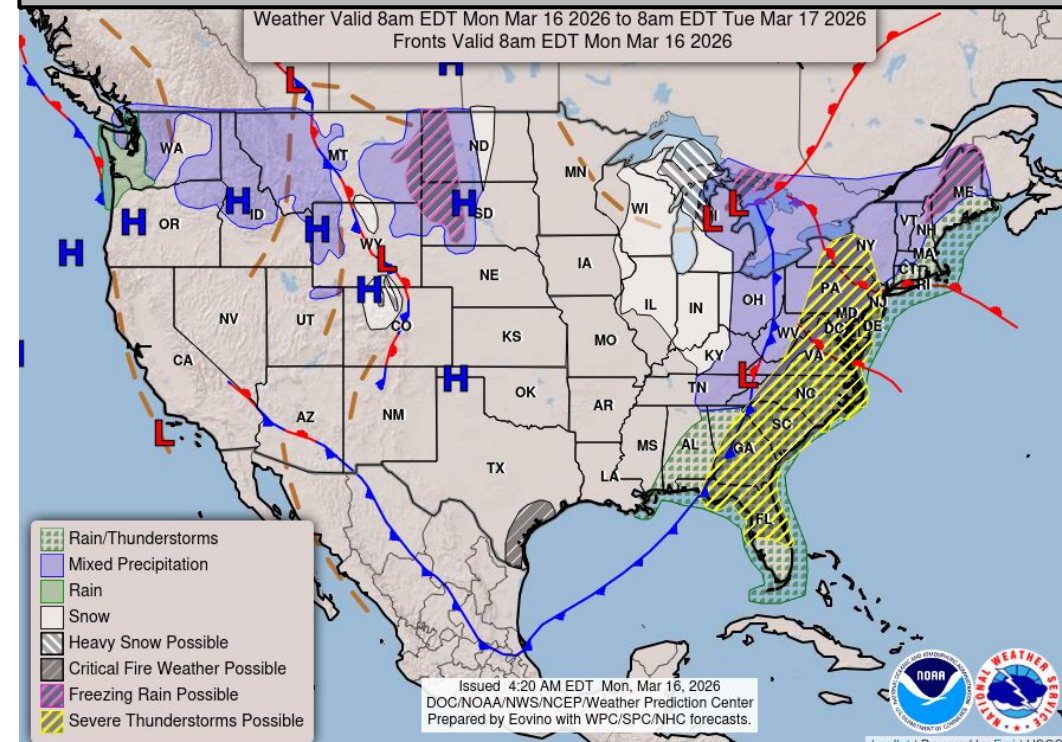
Isolated minor river flooding over portions of ETX and LA is expected to continue through at least the middle of the week. Impacts mainly to agriculture and secondary roads.

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.

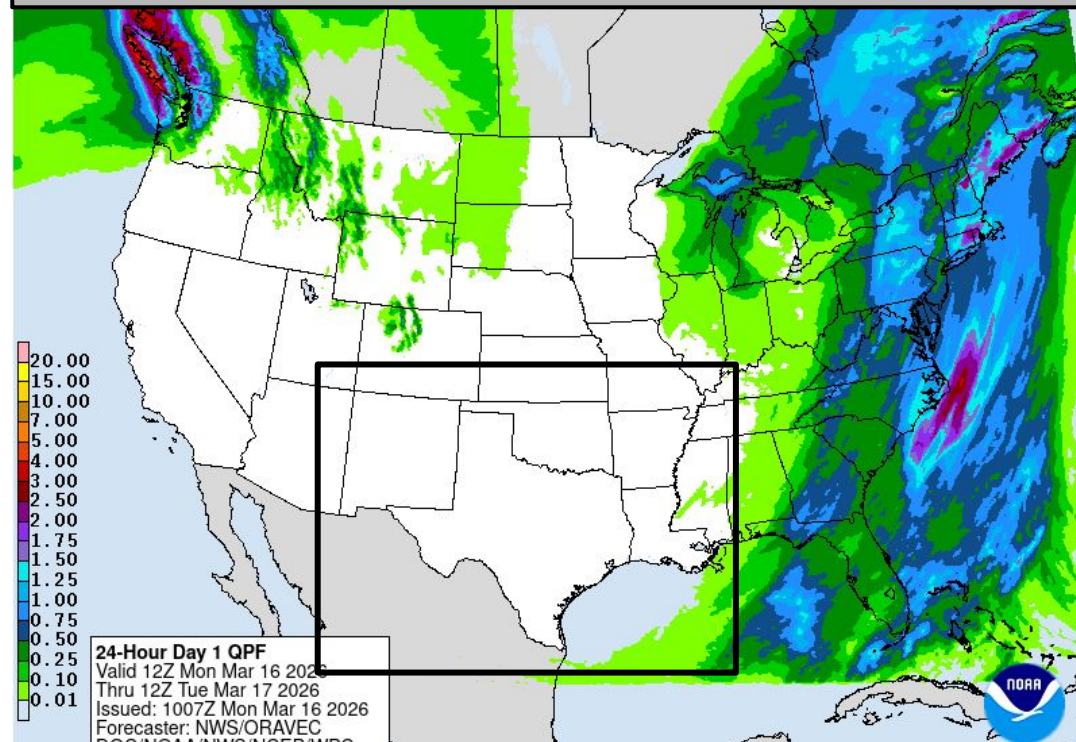


Today's Weather

Forecast Chart



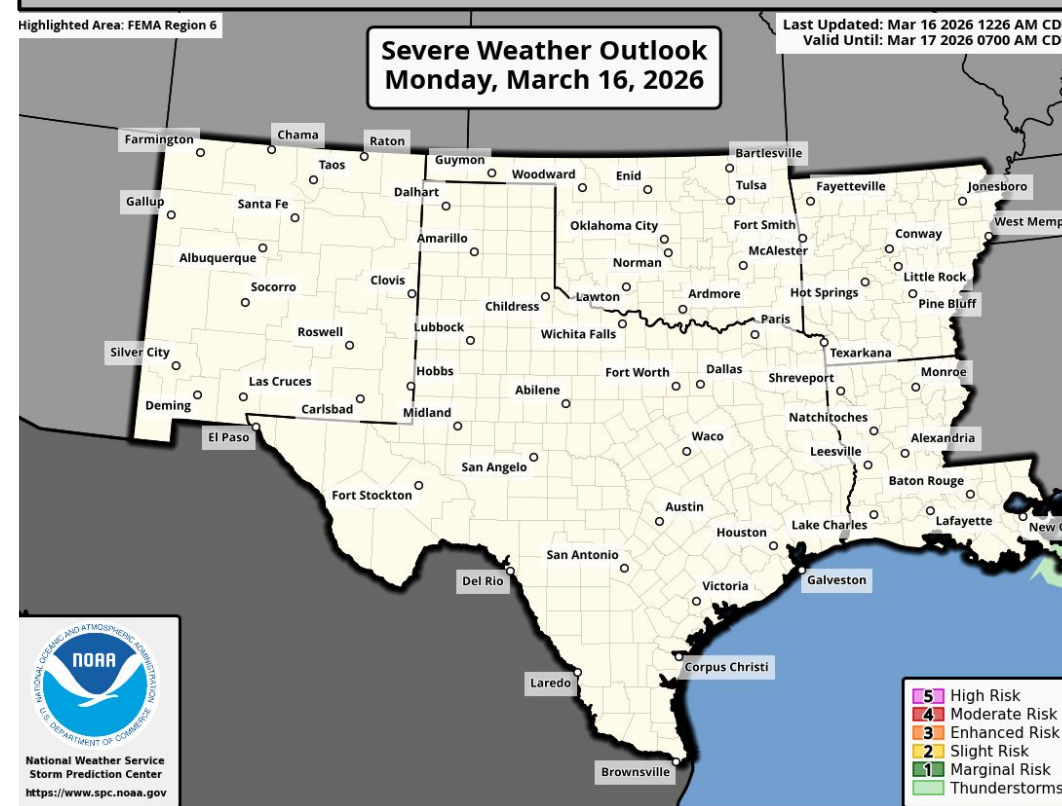
Forecast Rainfall



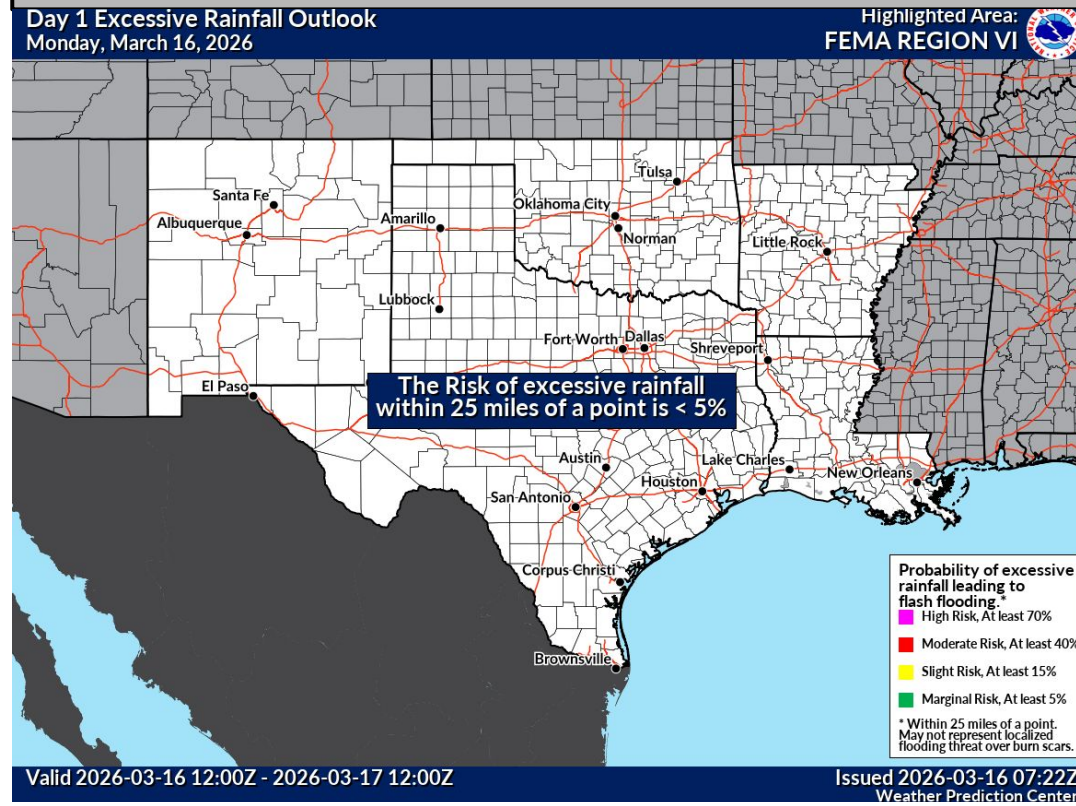
Critical (level 2 of 3) fire weather threat over S/SETX, S LA.

Freezing temps follow behind the front for Monday morning.

Severe Weather Outlook

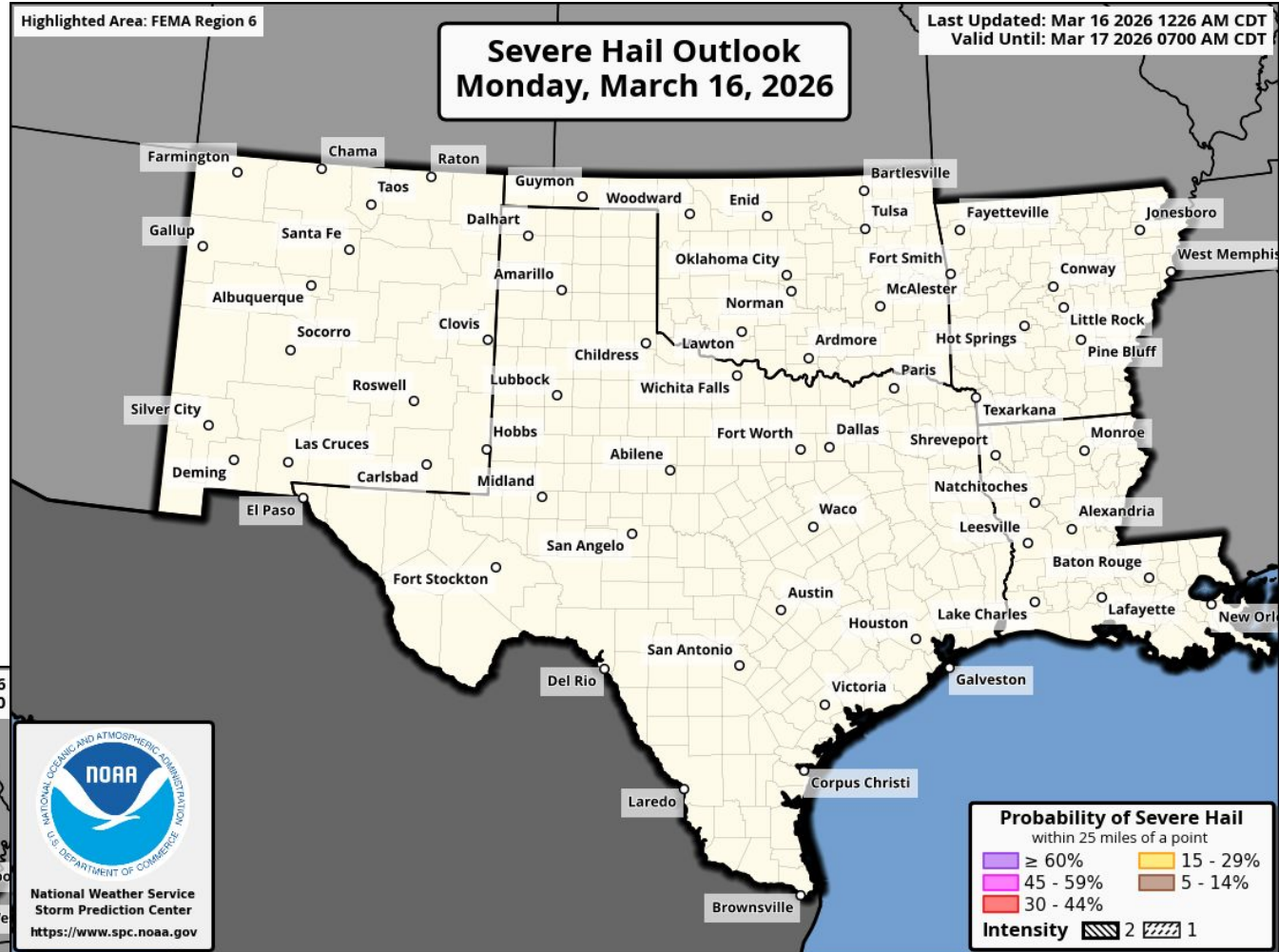
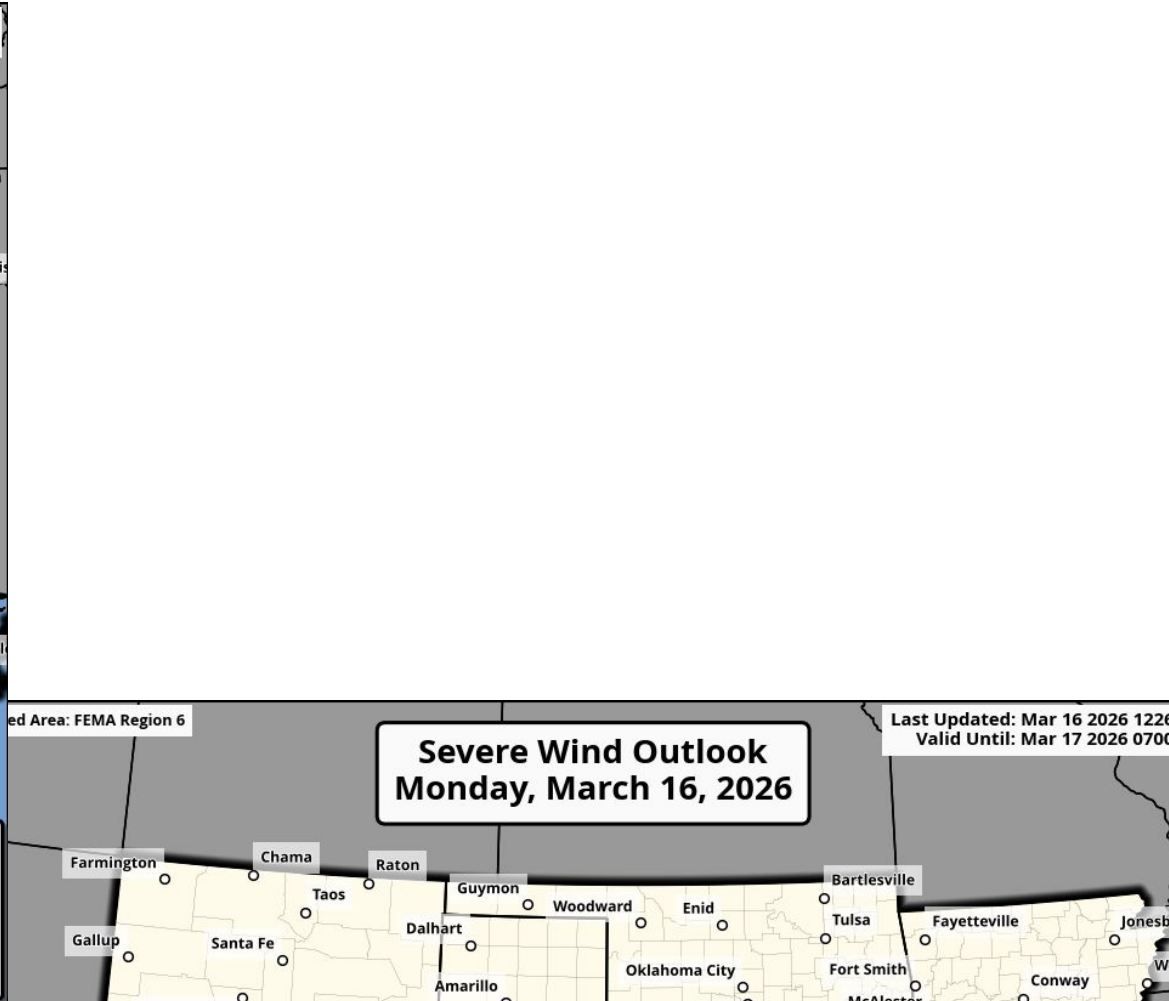
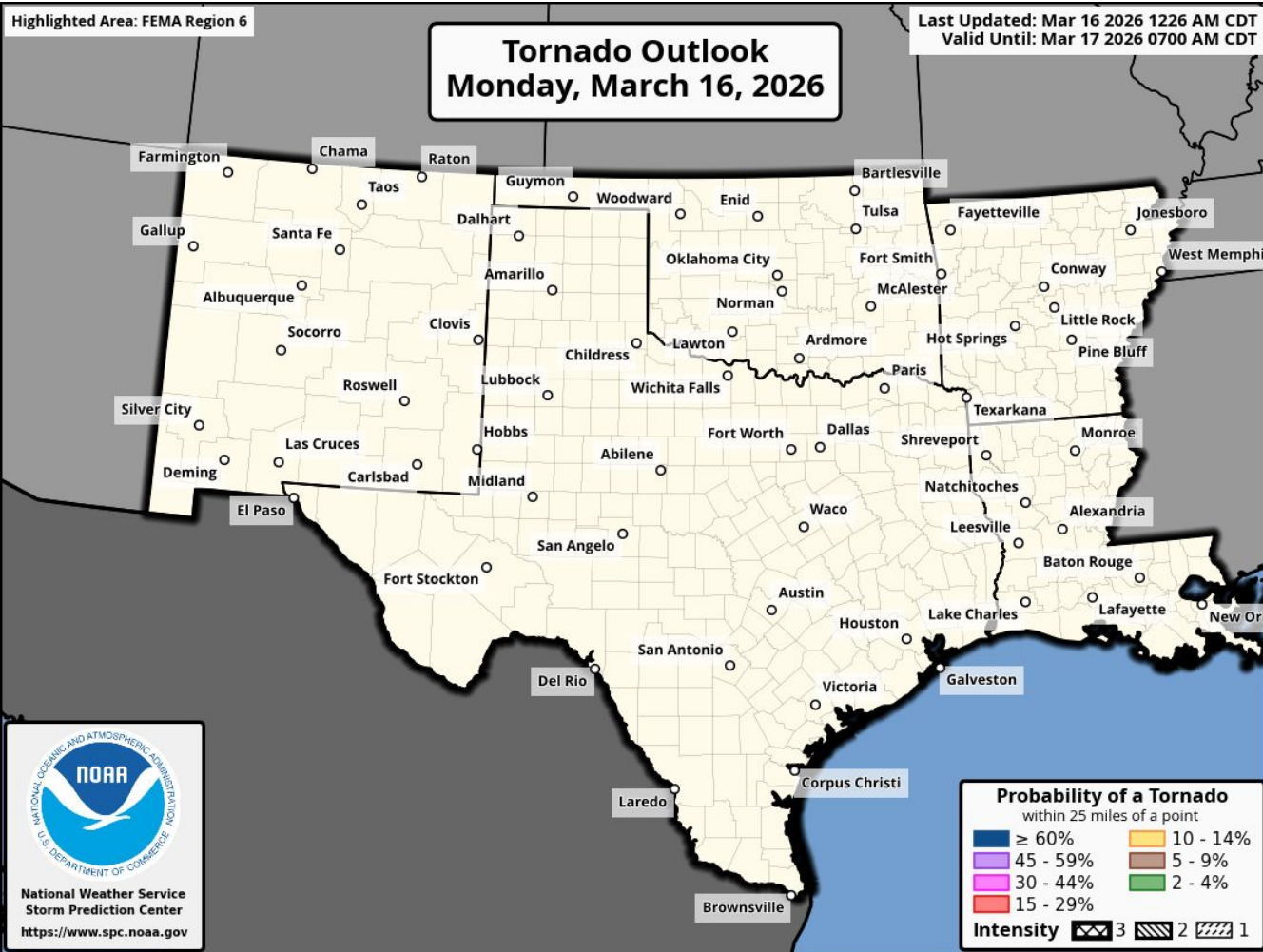


Excessive Rainfall Outlook





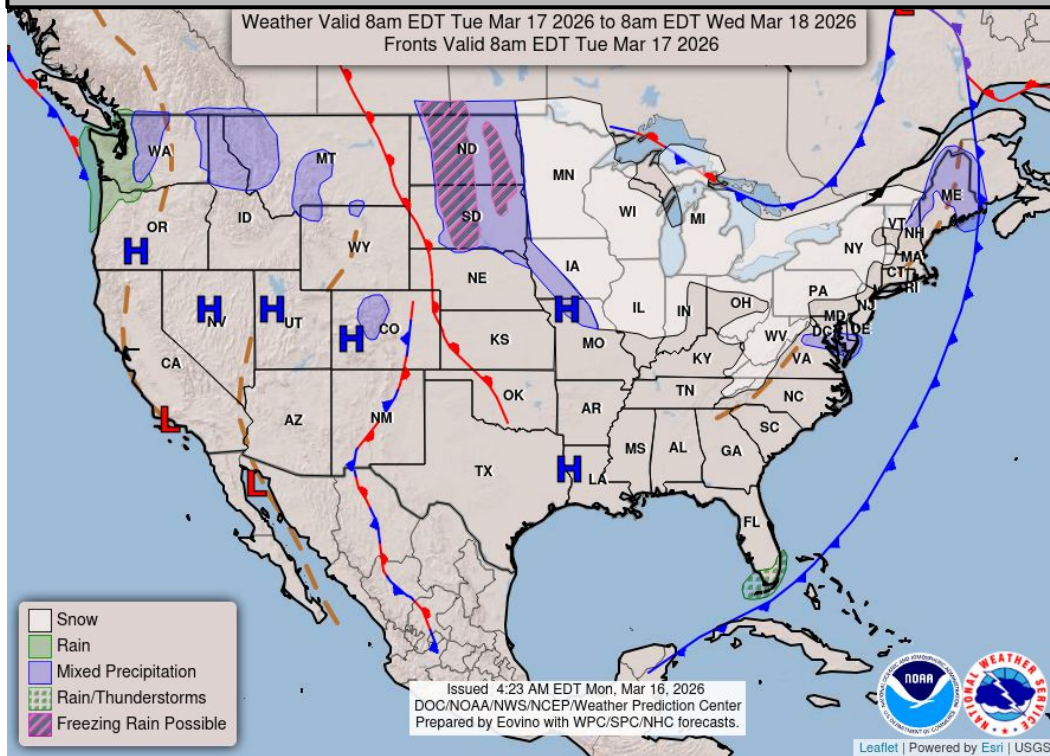
Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



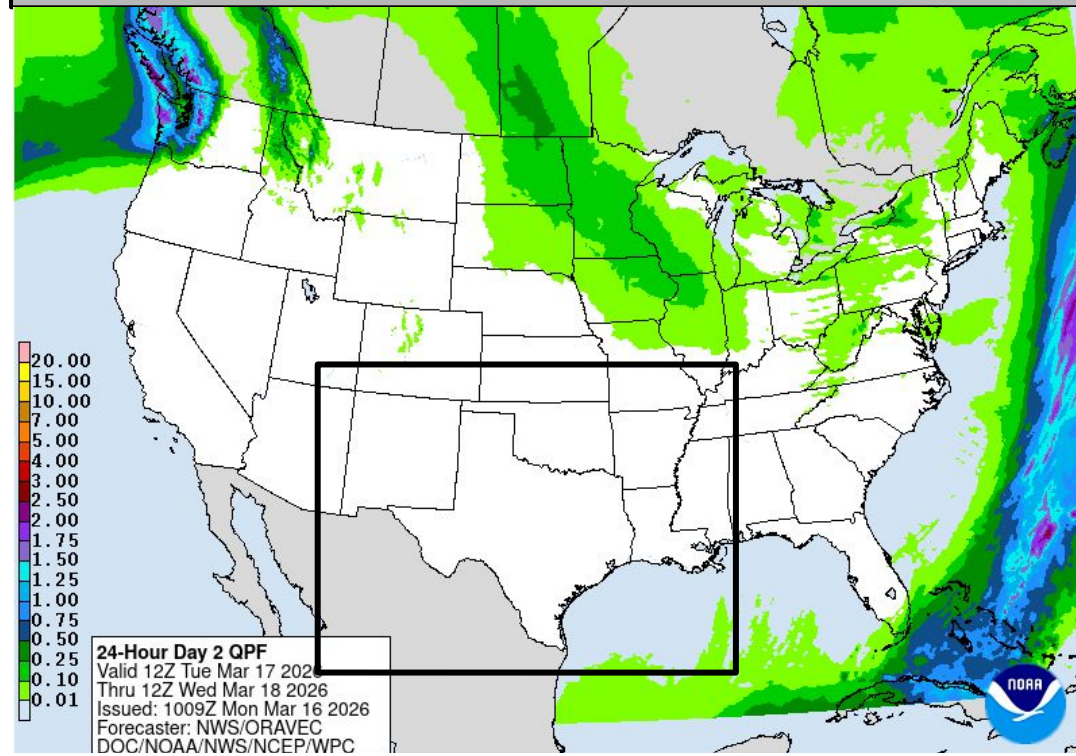


Tomorrow's Weather

Forecast Chart



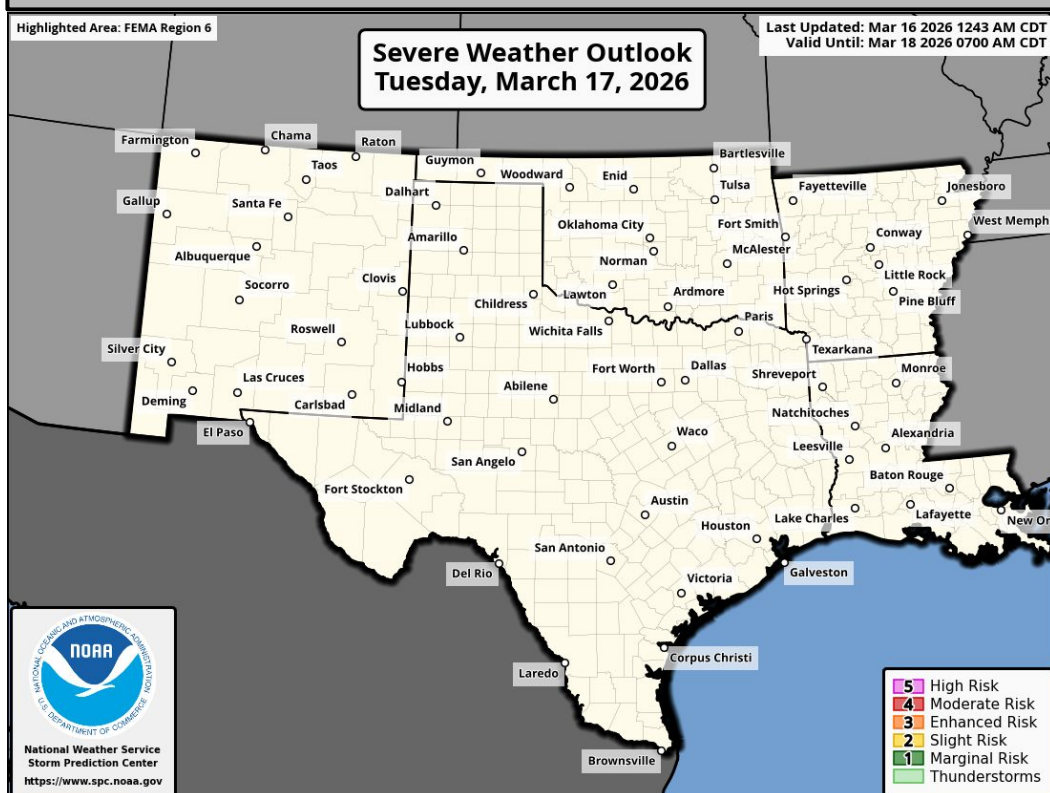
Forecast Rainfall



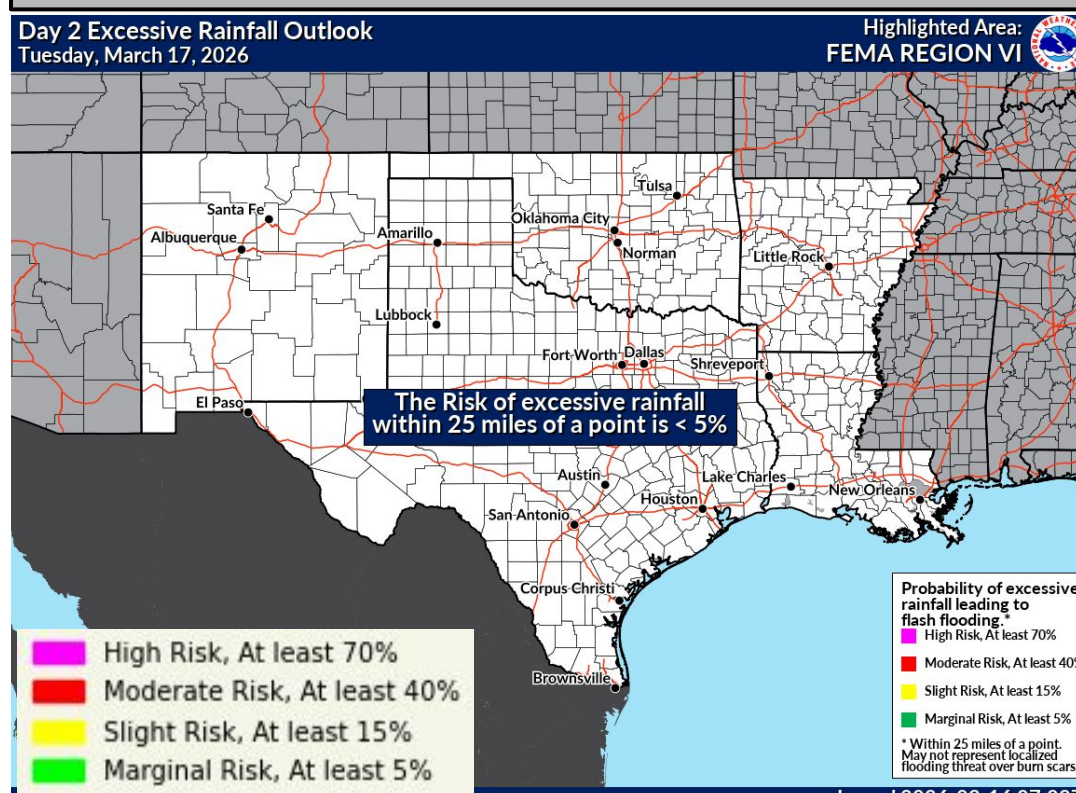
Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather threat over NM, TX Panhandle, W OK, NW-SW/W TX.

Freezing temps linger Tuesday morning.

Severe Weather Outlook

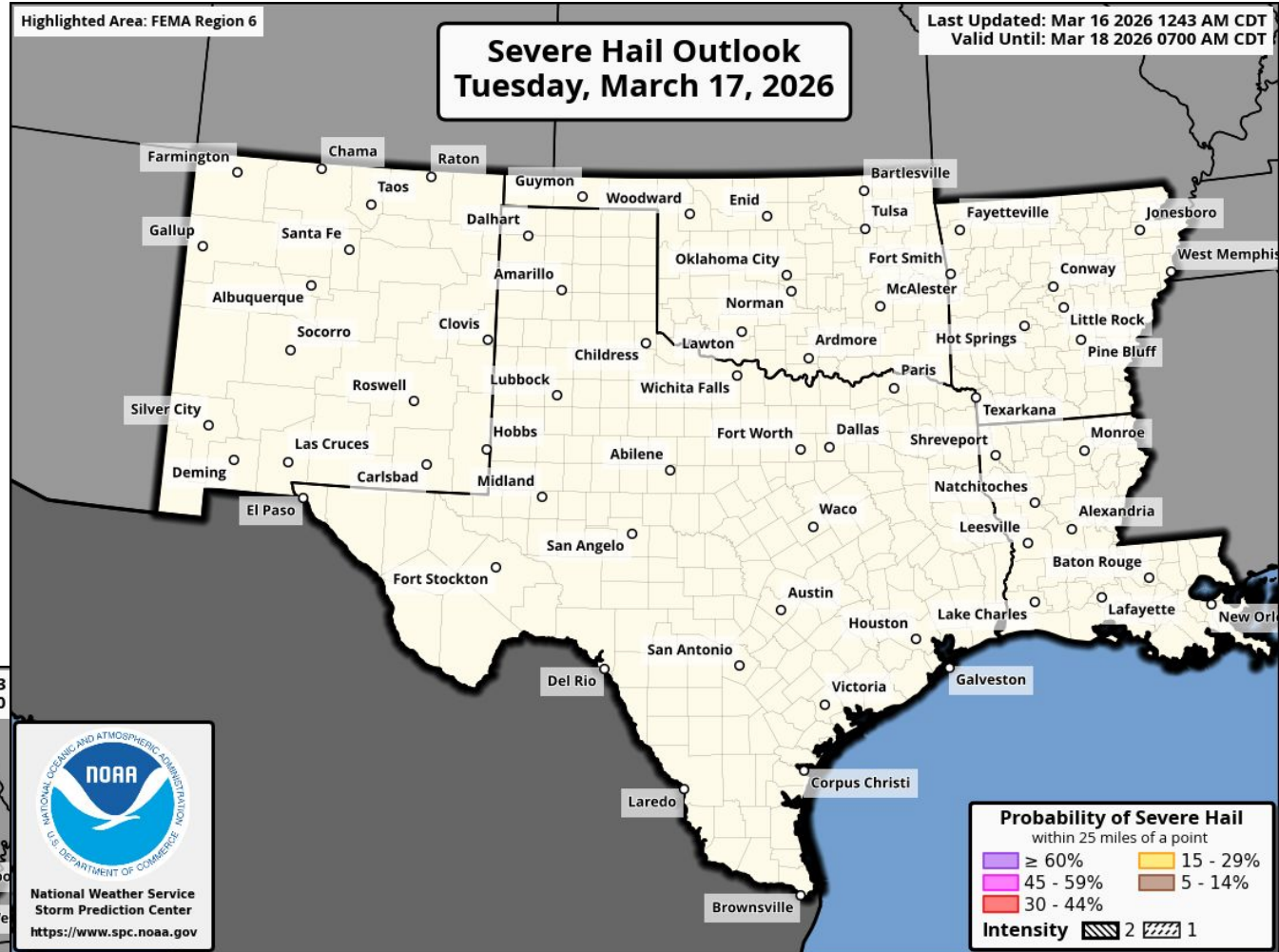
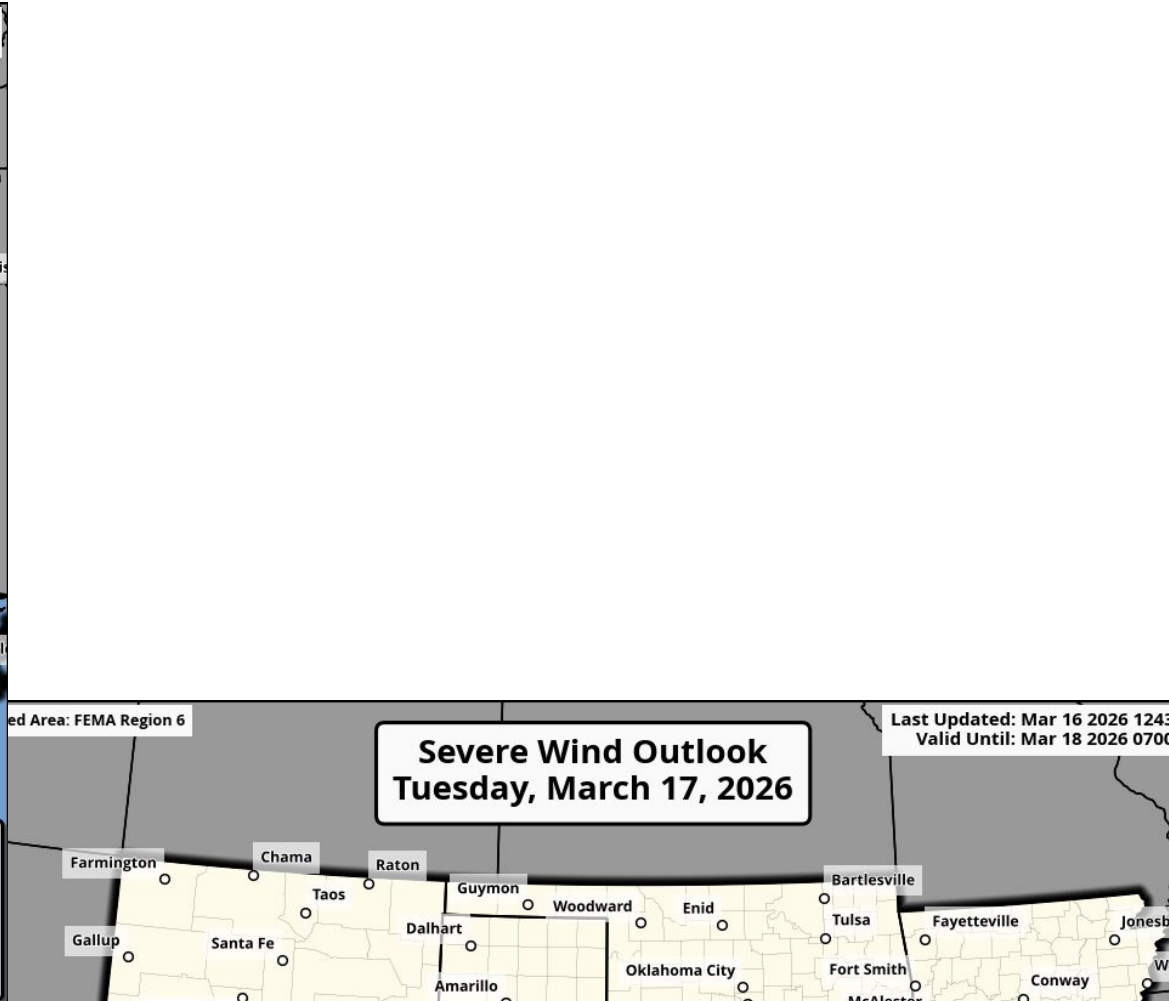
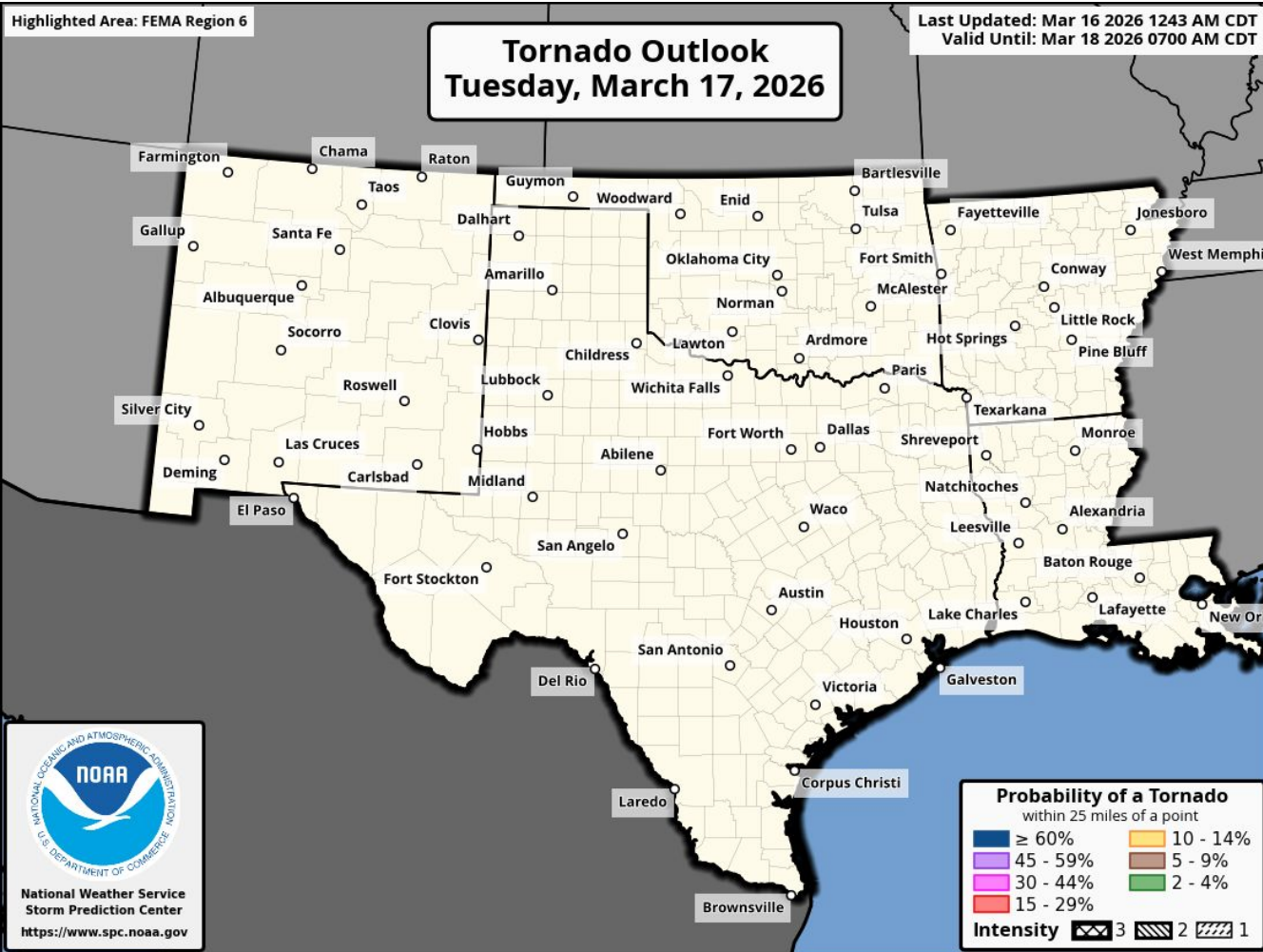


Excessive Rainfall Outlook



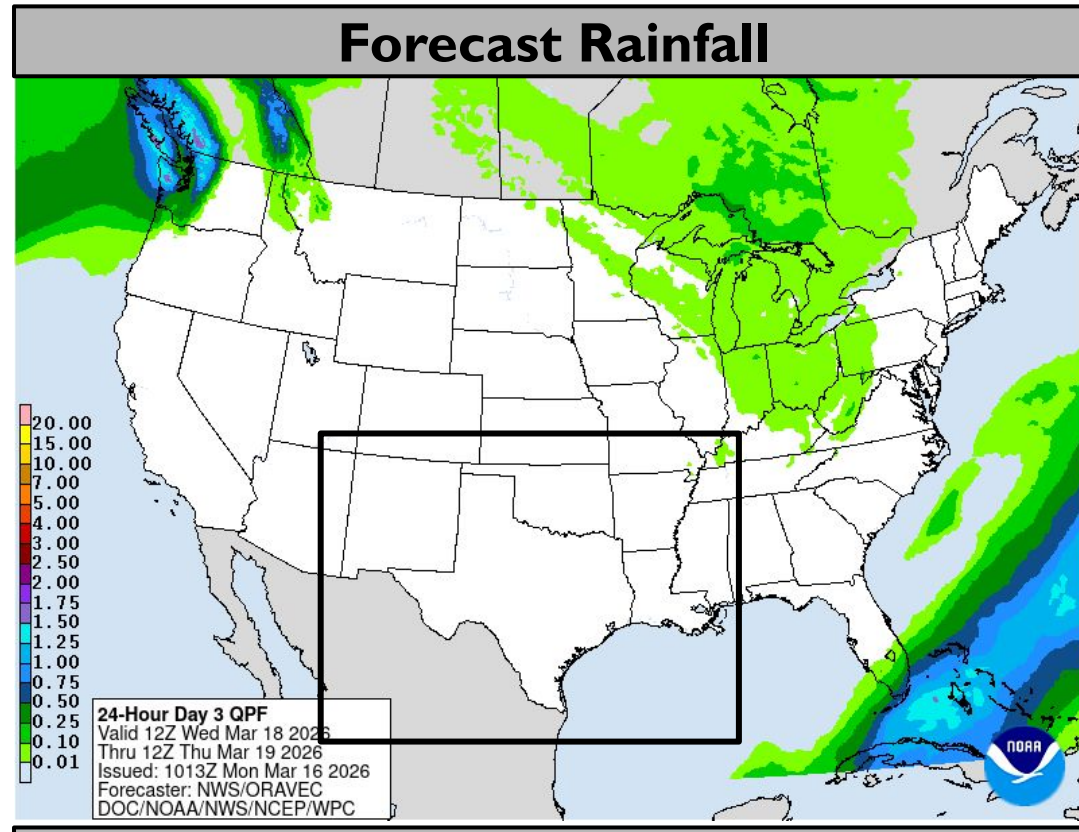
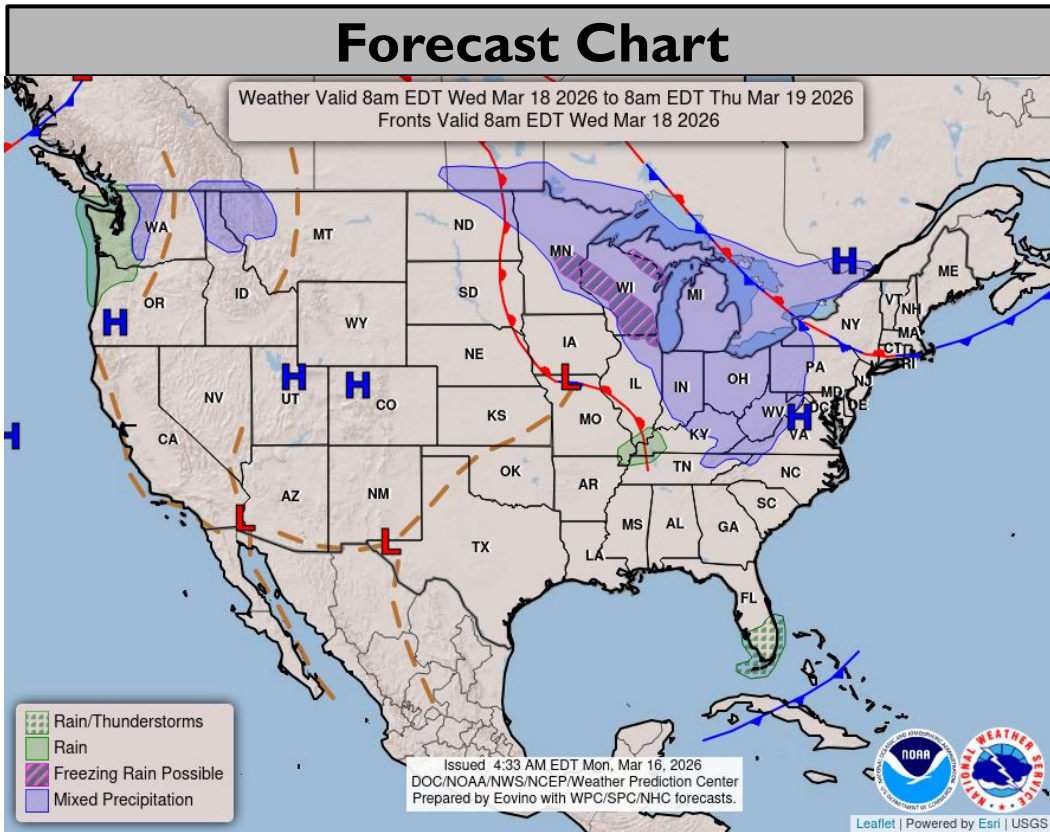


Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

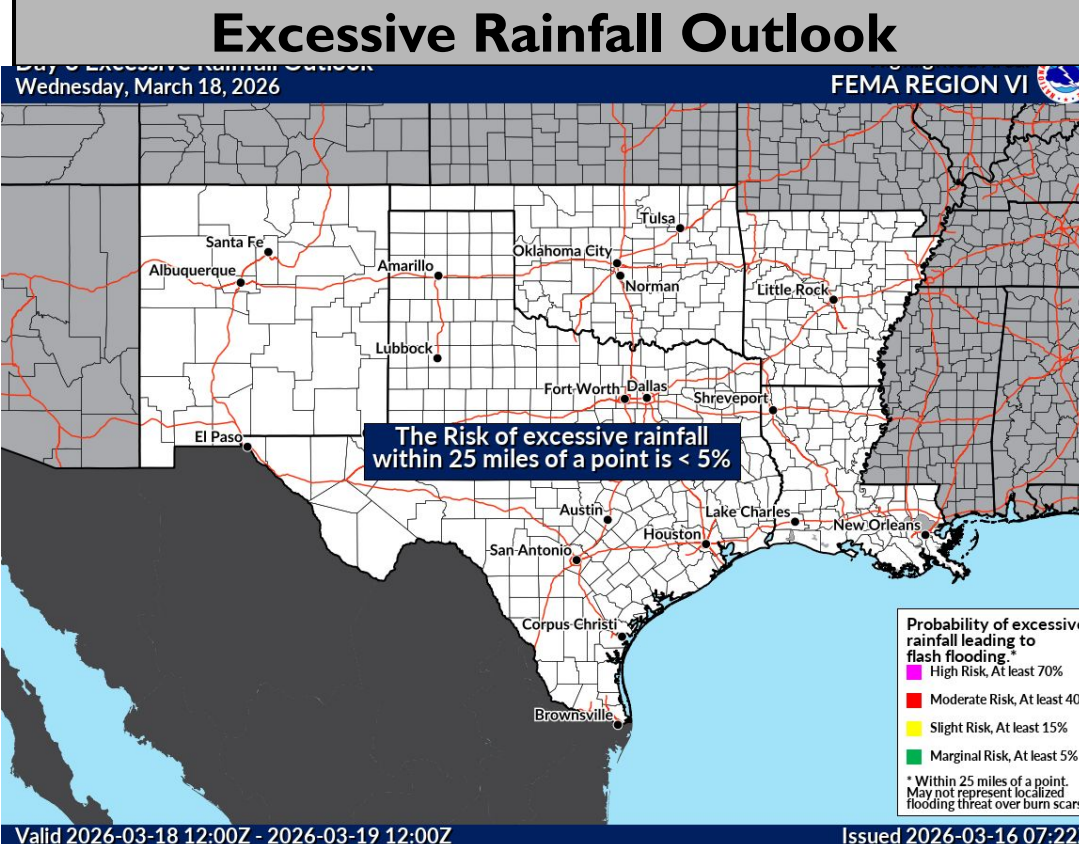
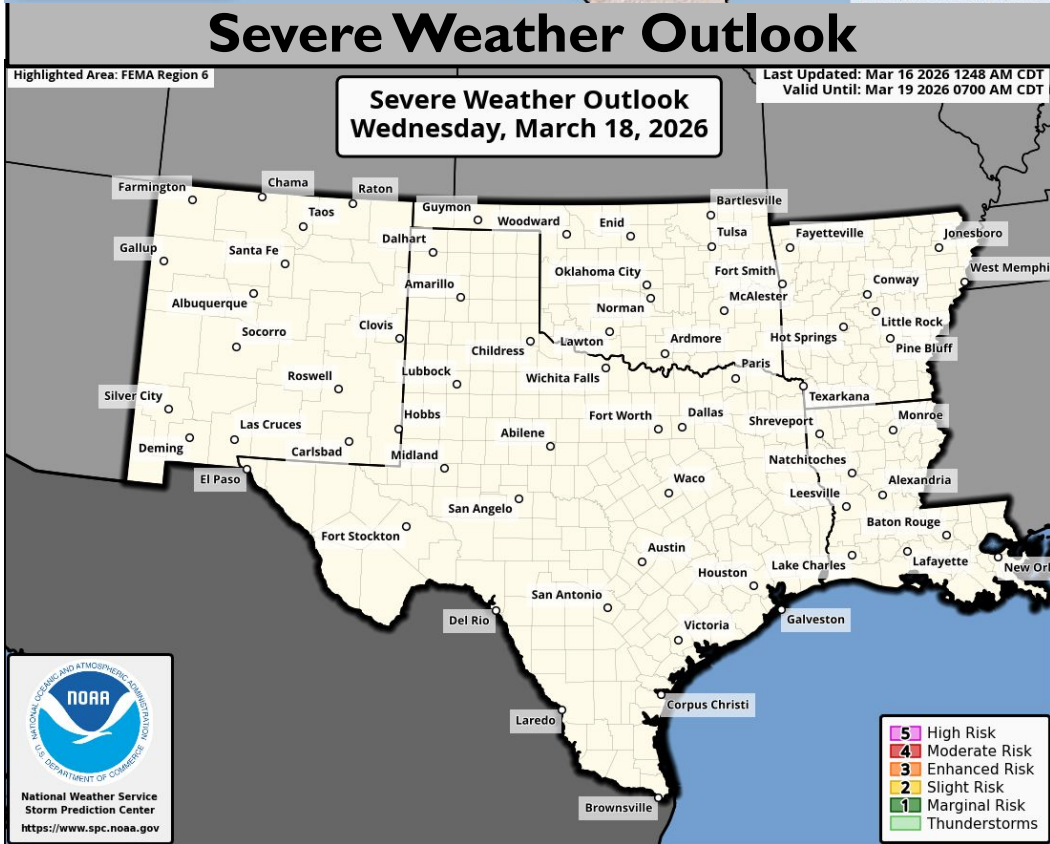




Wednesday's Weather



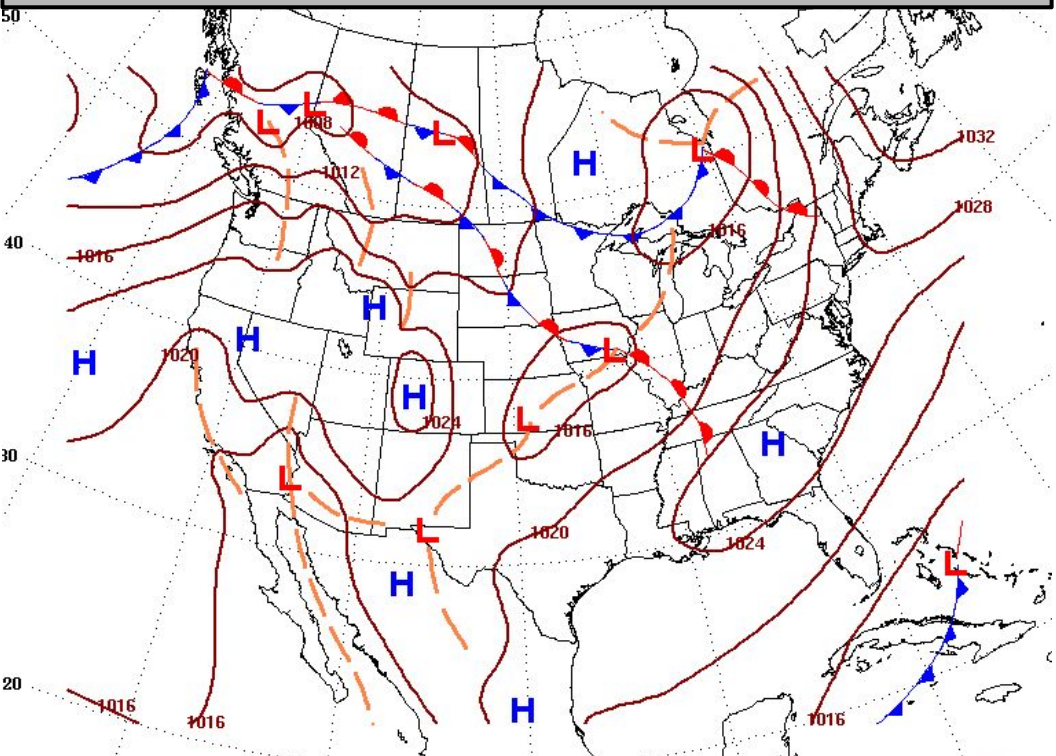
Monitoring fire weather threat over the western portions of the Region.



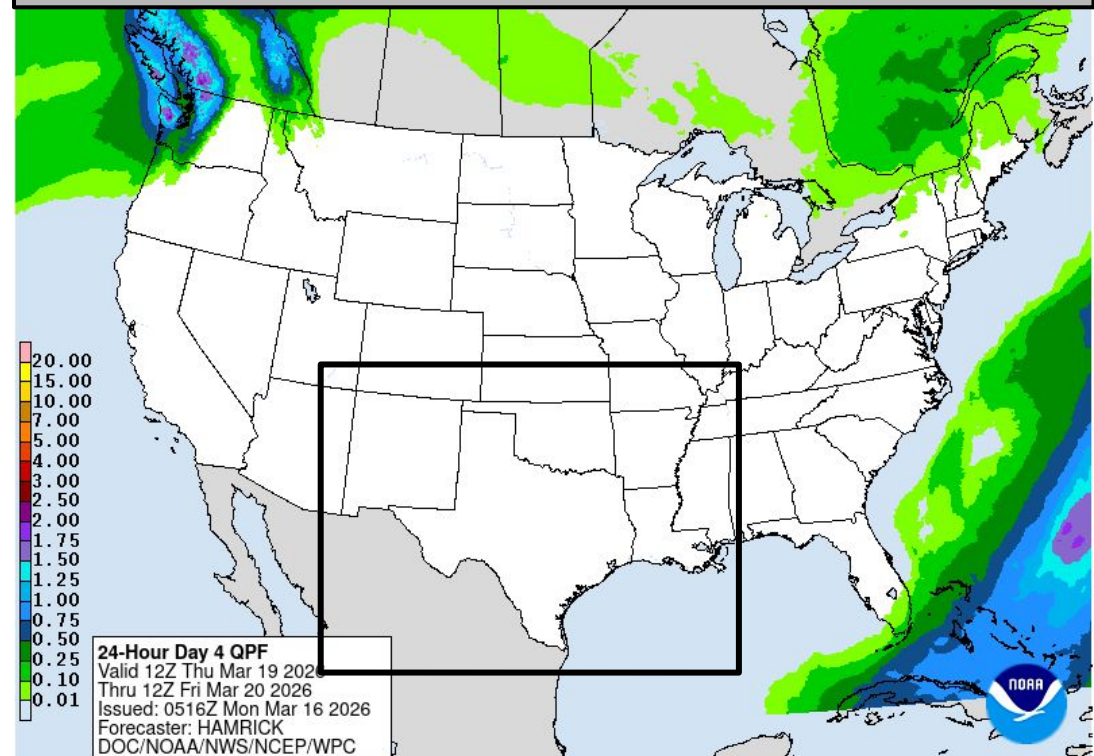


Thursday's Weather

Forecast Chart

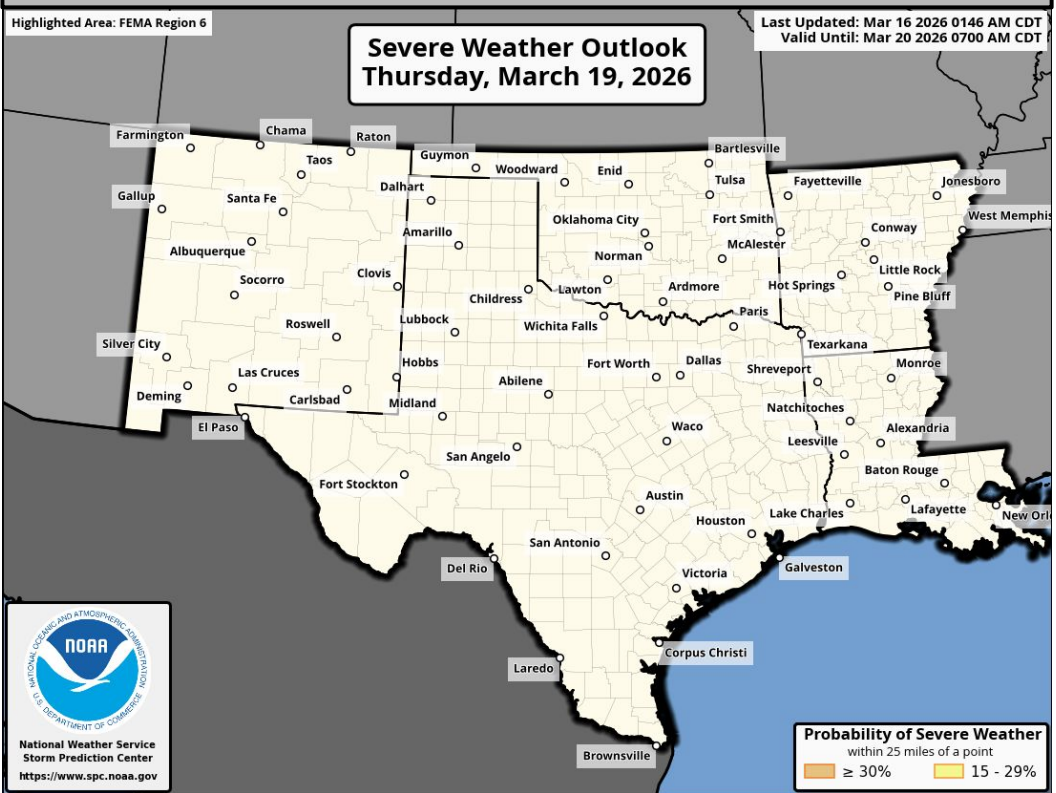


Forecast Rainfall

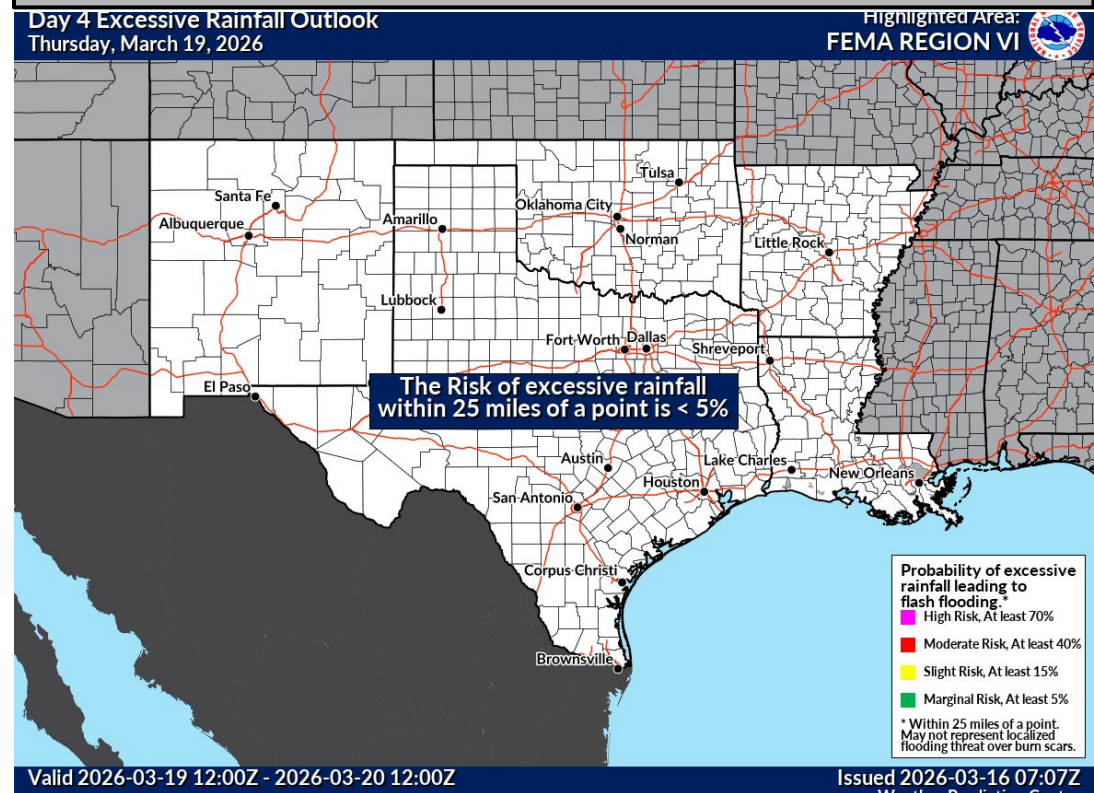


Monitoring fire weather threat over the western portions of the Region.

Severe Weather Outlook



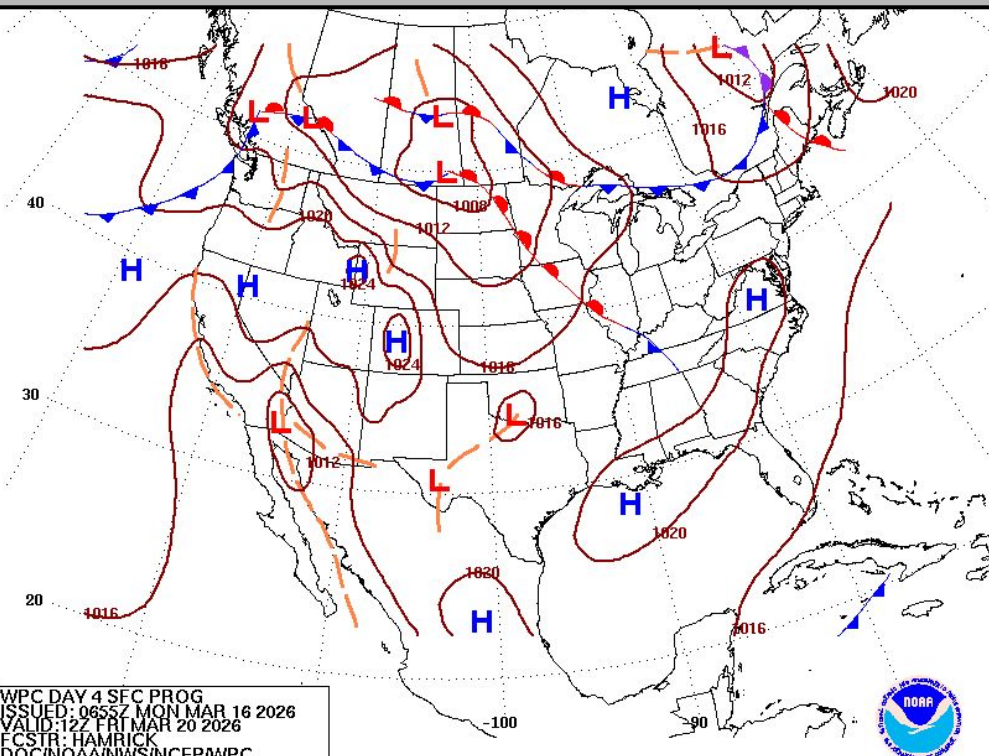
Excessive Rainfall Outlook





Friday's Weather

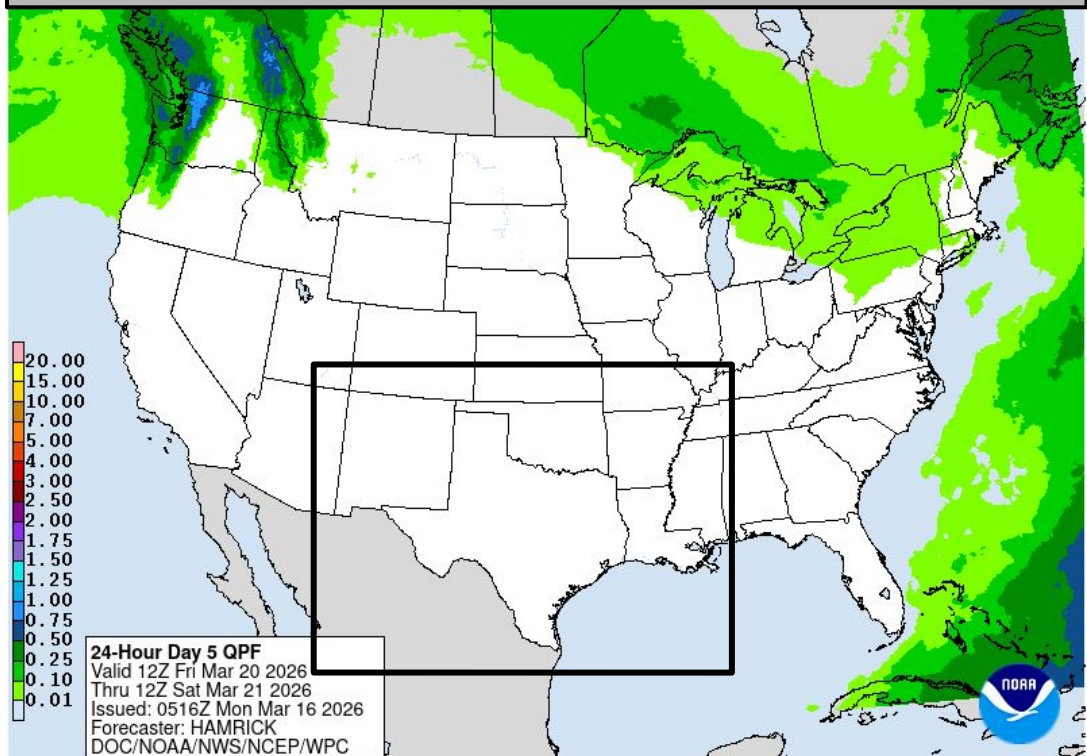
Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SFC PROG
ISSUED: 0655Z MON MAR 16 2026
VALID: 12Z FRI MAR 20 2026
FCSTR: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



Forecast Rainfall

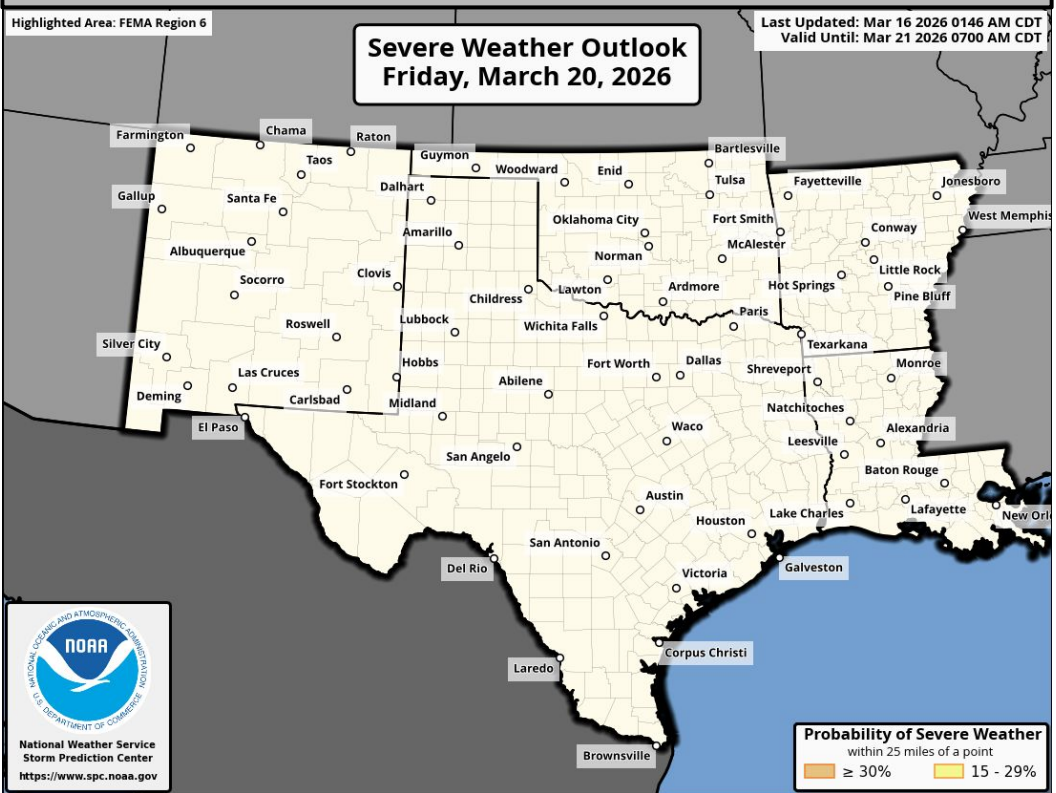


24-Hour Day 5 QPF
Valid 12Z Fri Mar 20 2026
Thru 12Z Sat Mar 21 2026
Issued: 0516Z Mon Mar 16 2026
Forecaster: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



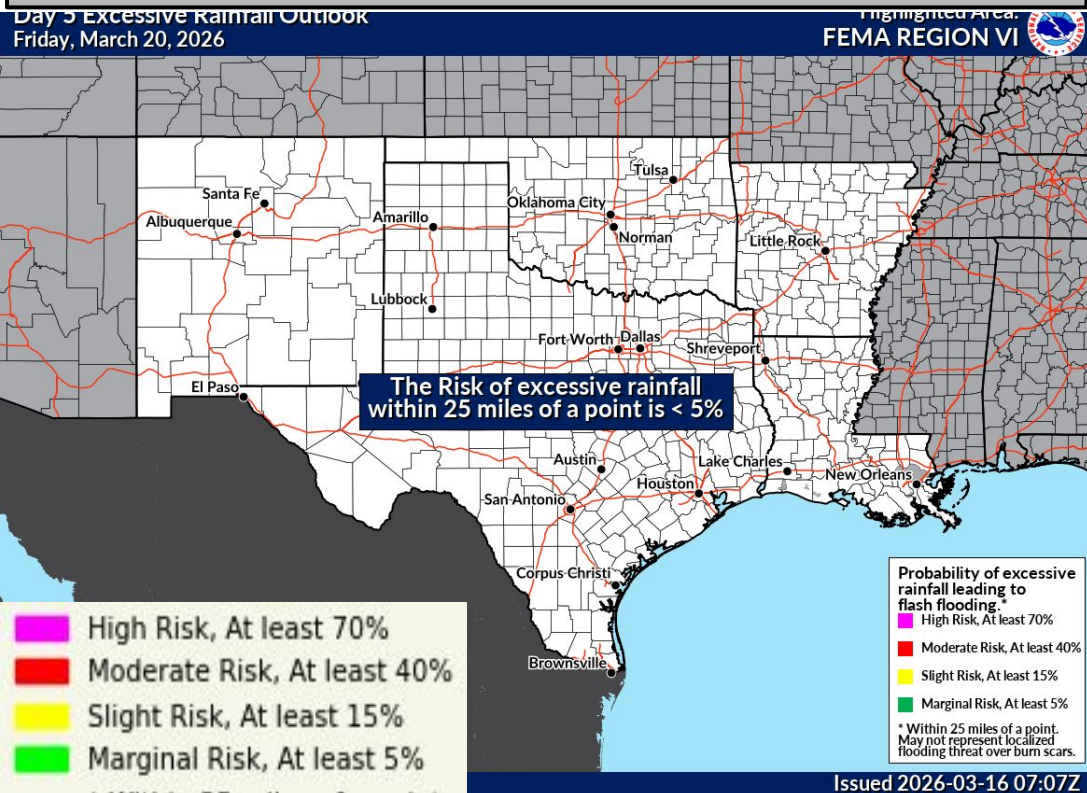
No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



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

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



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

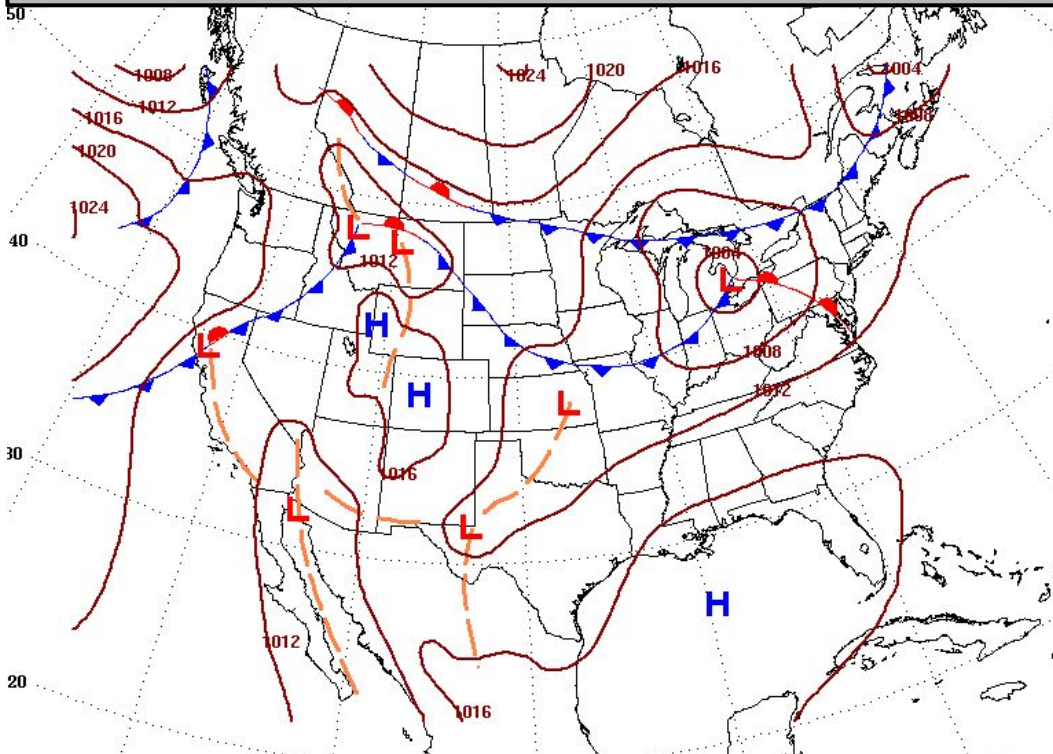
Probability of excessive rainfall leading to flash flooding:
High Risk, At least 70%
Moderate Risk, At least 40%
Slight Risk, At least 15%
Marginal Risk, At least 5%
* Within 25 miles of a point. May not represent localized flooding threat over burn scars.

Issued 2026-03-16 07:07Z

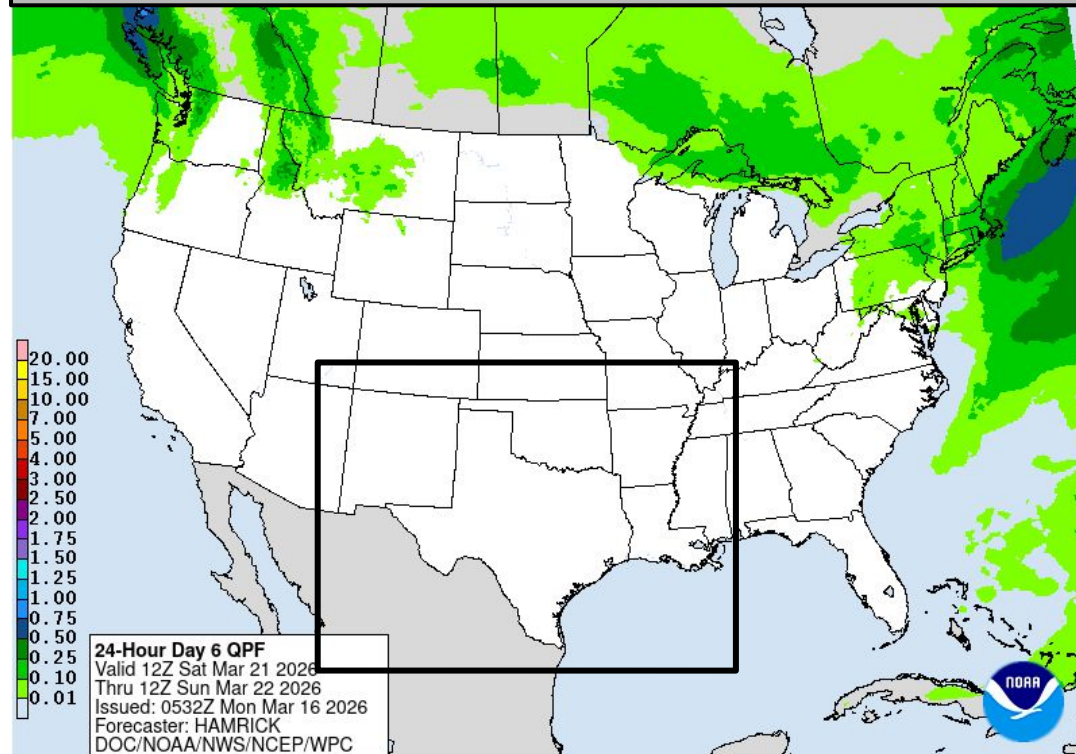


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

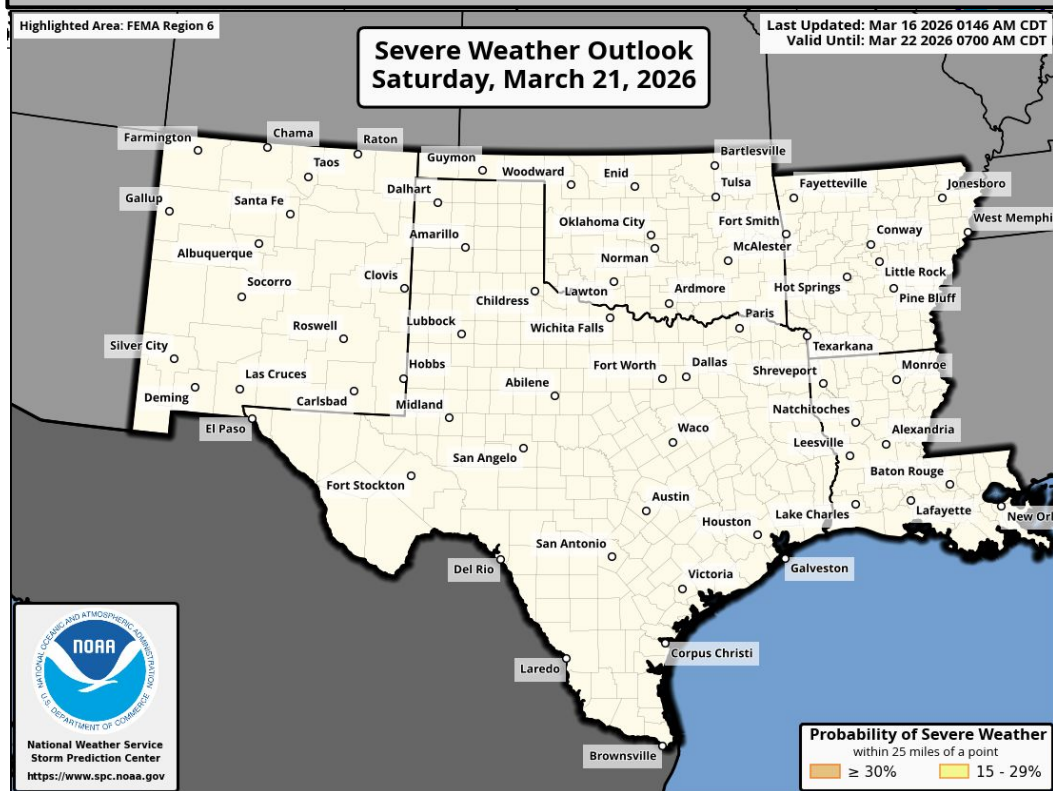


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

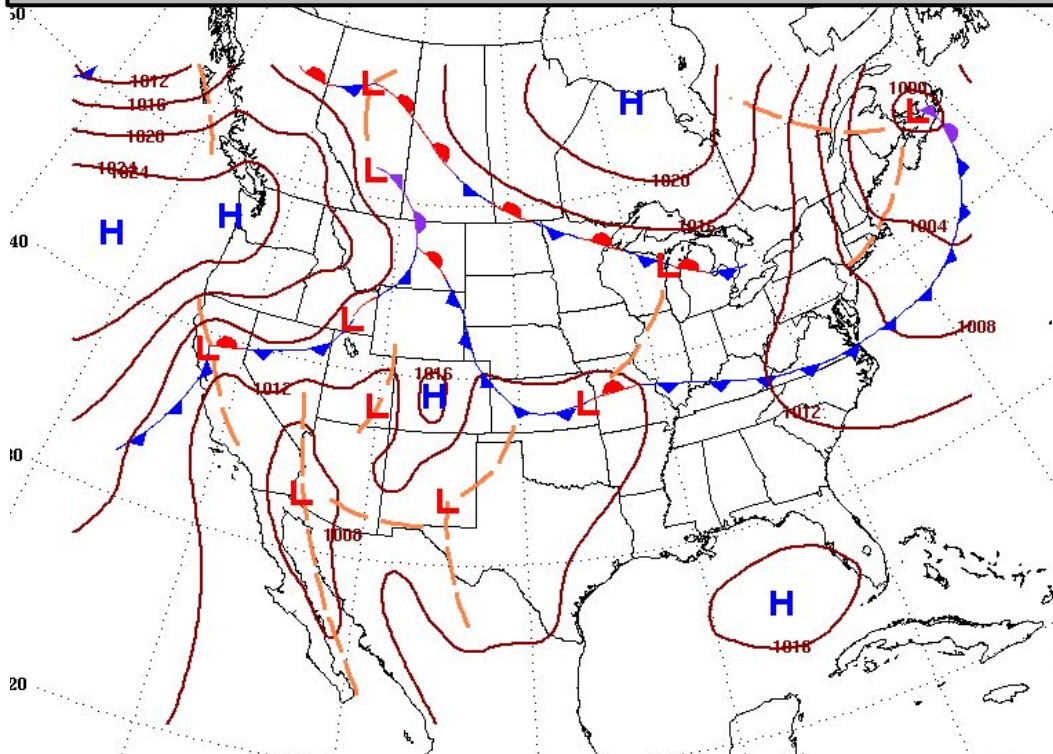


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**

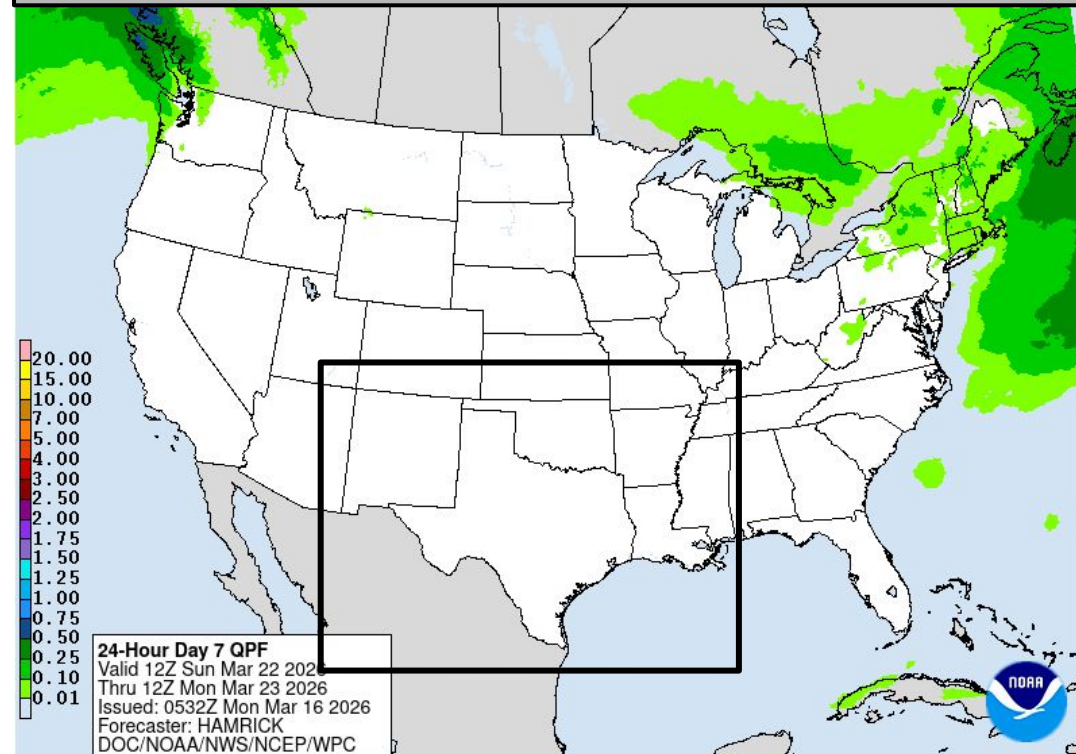


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

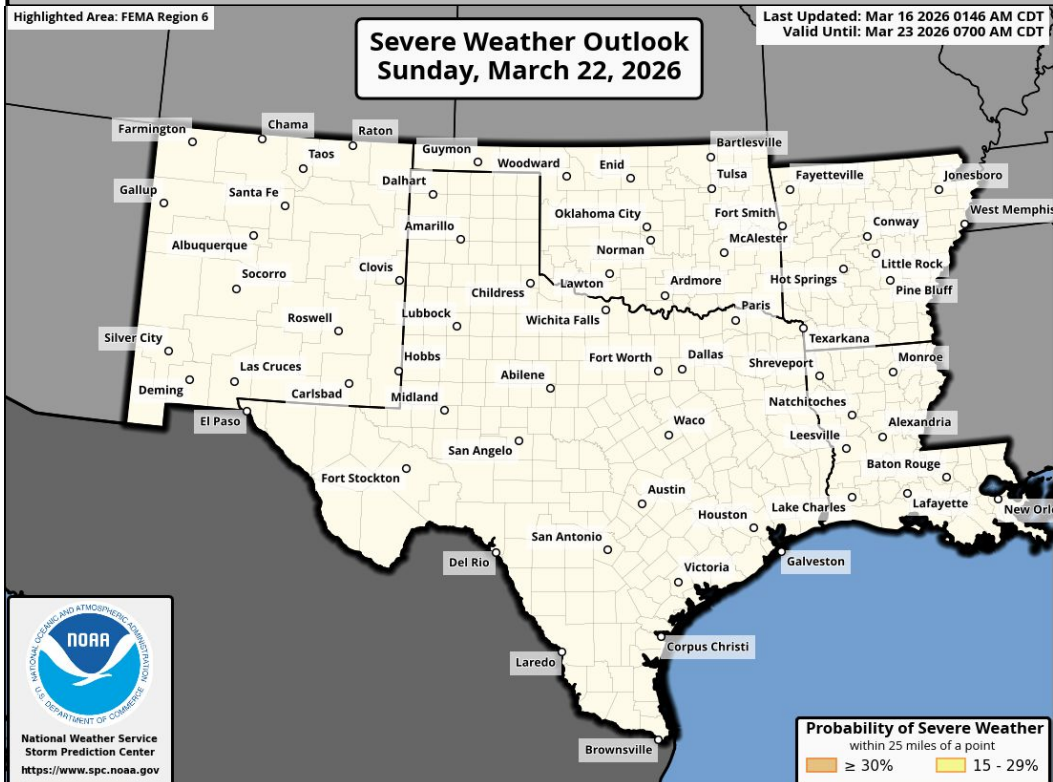


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring for fire weather conditions.

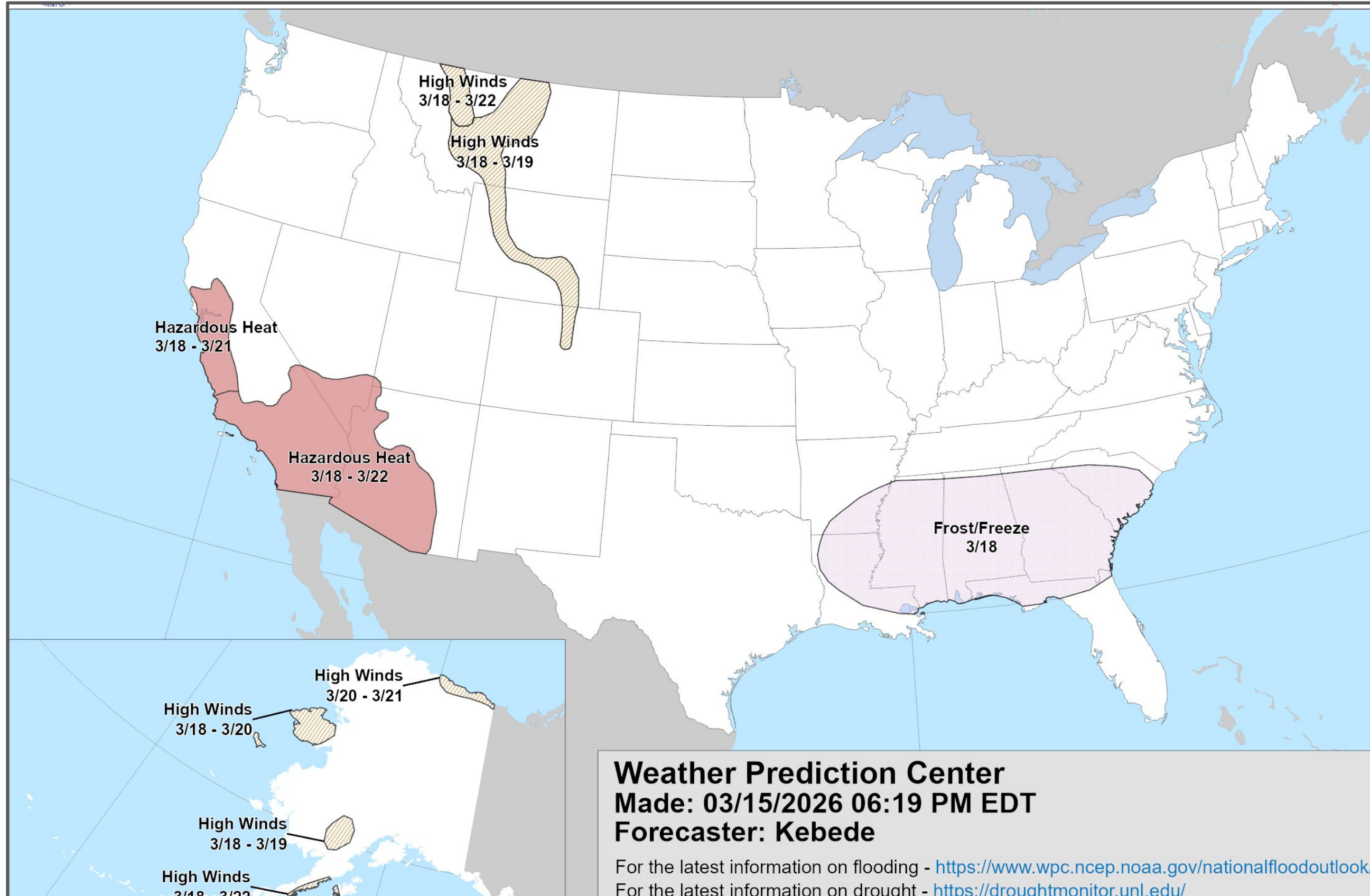
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5



“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook

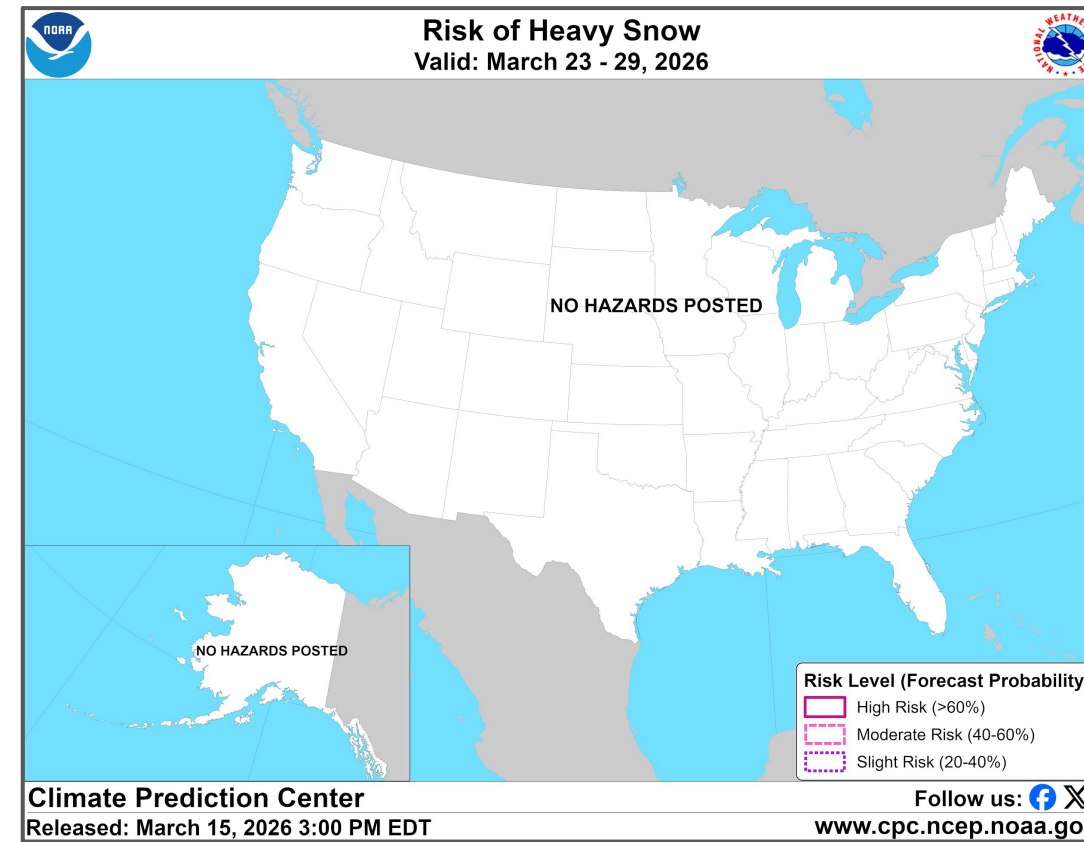
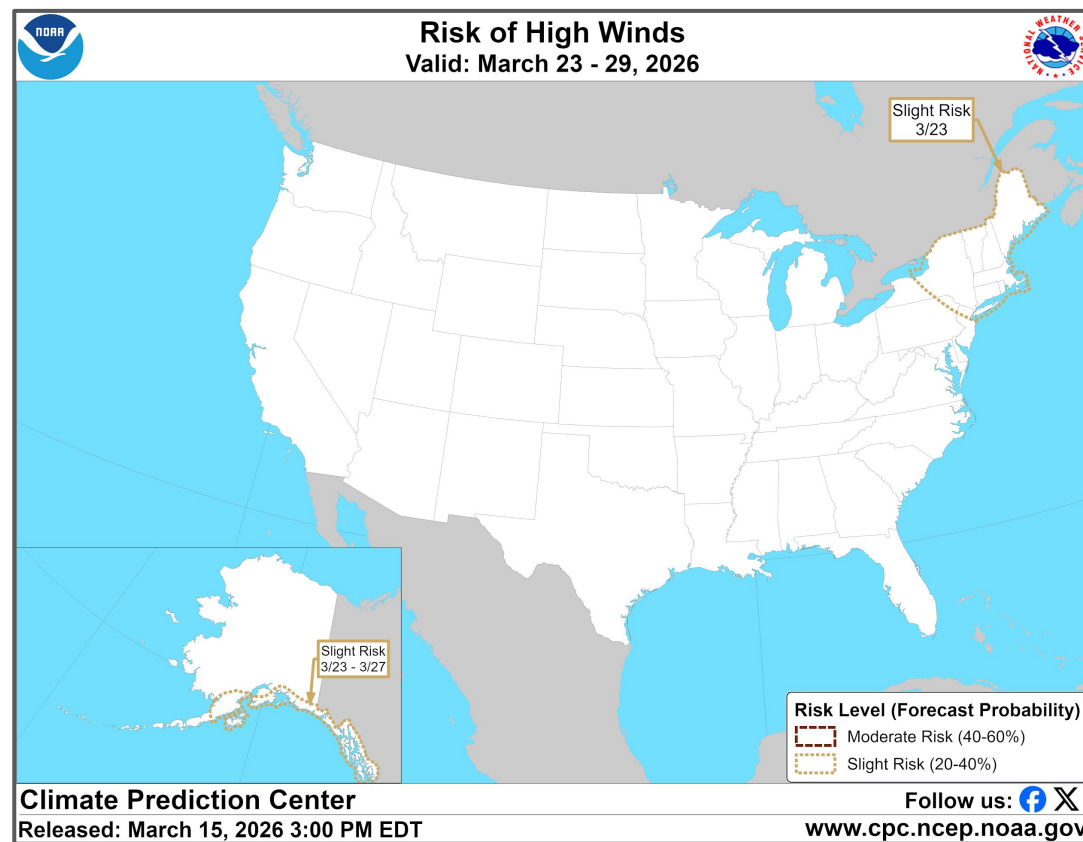
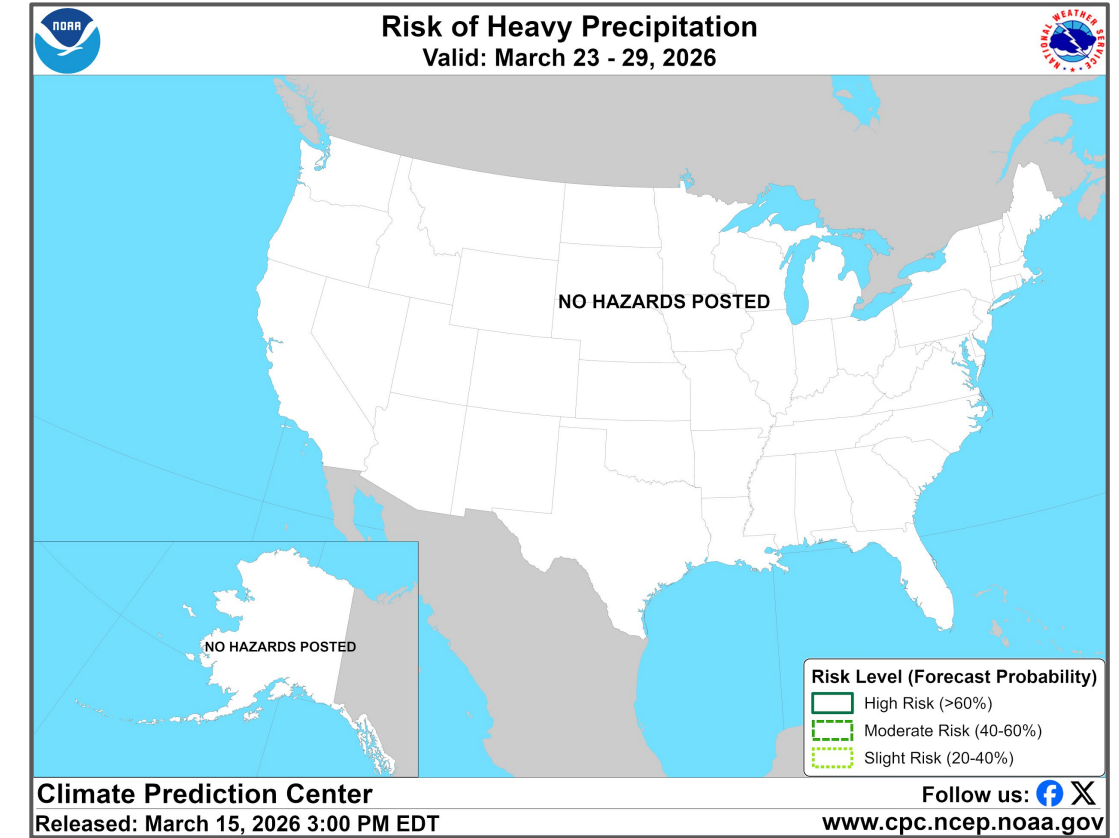
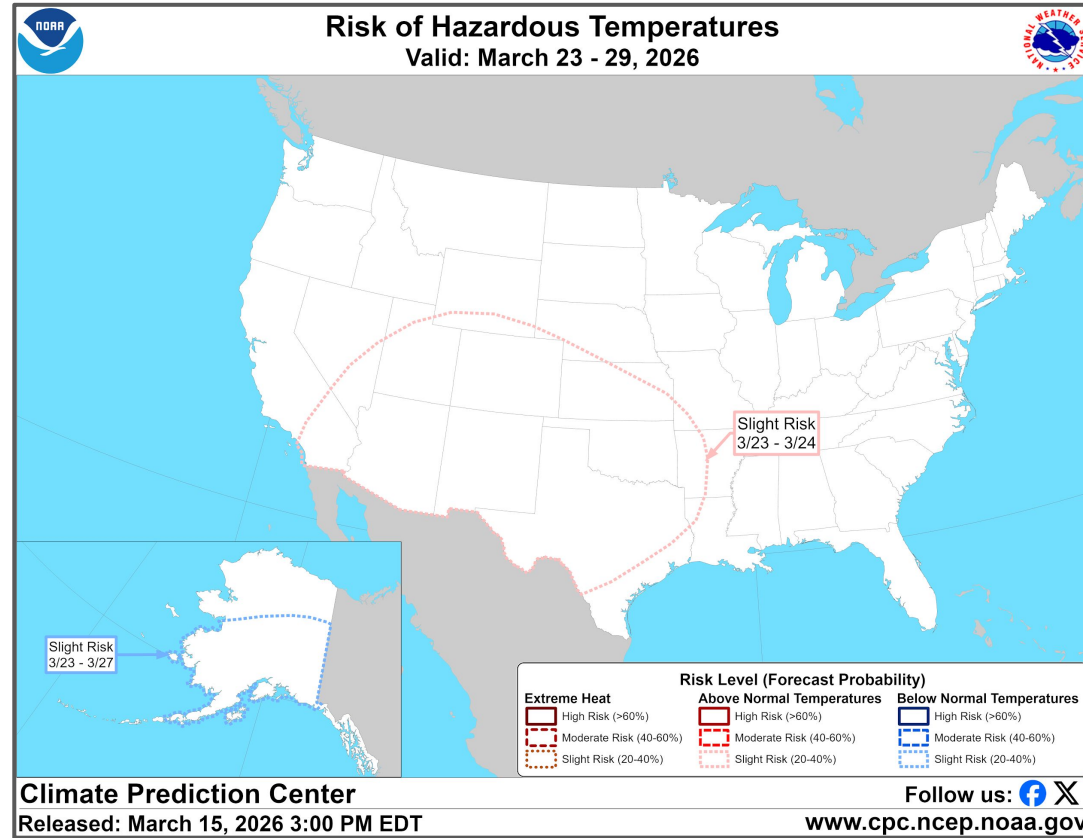
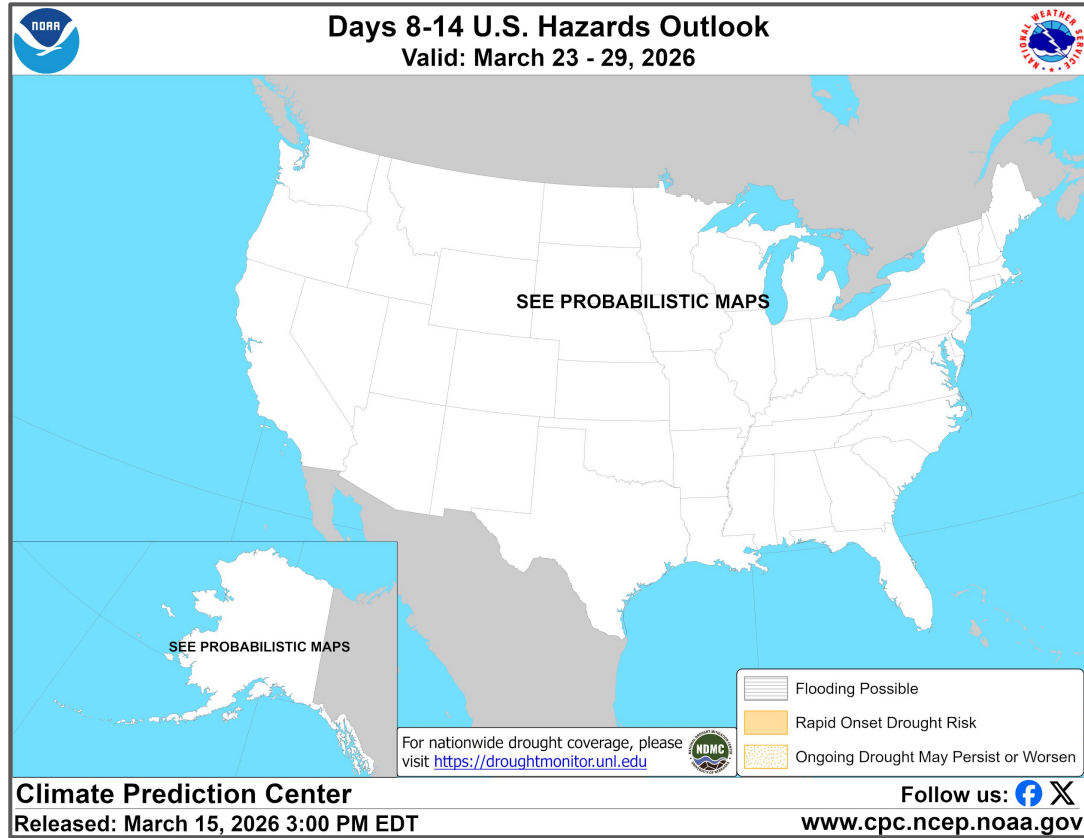


Weather Prediction Center
Made: 03/15/2026 06:19 PM EDT
Forecaster: Kebede

For the latest information on flooding - <https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/nationalfloodoutlook/>
For the latest information on drought - <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook

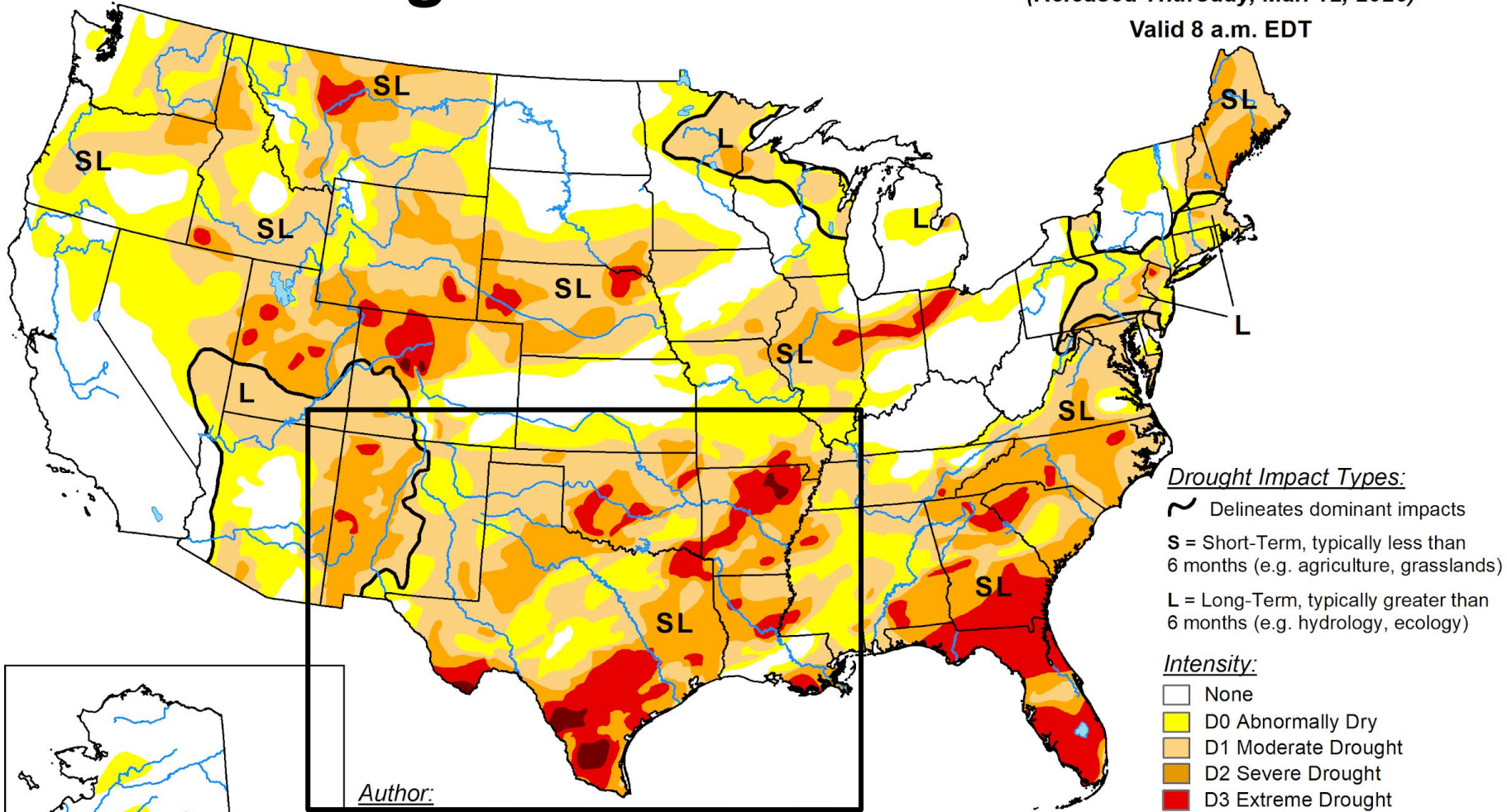




Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

March 10, 2026
(Released Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



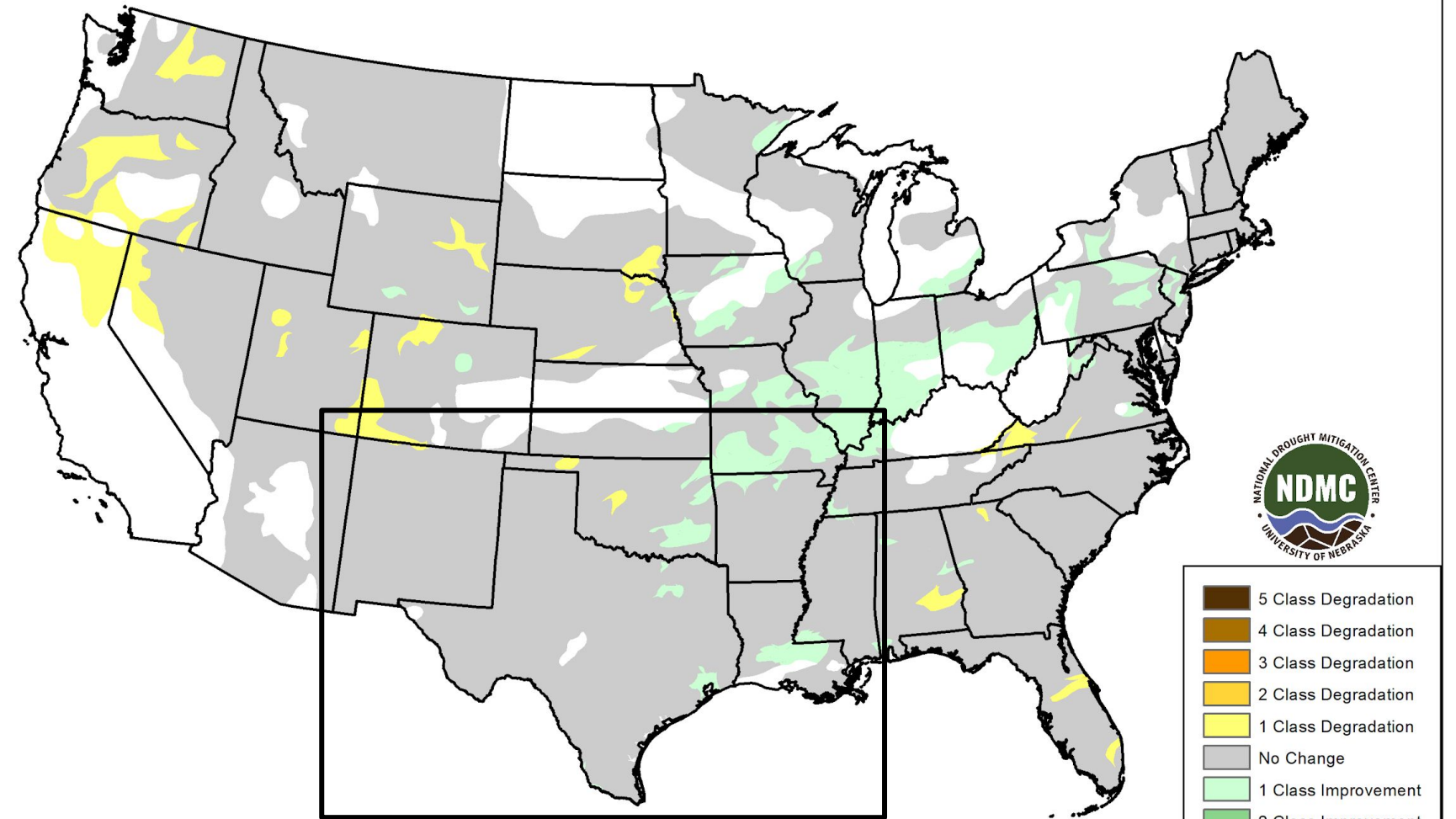
Author:
Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA

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

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



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



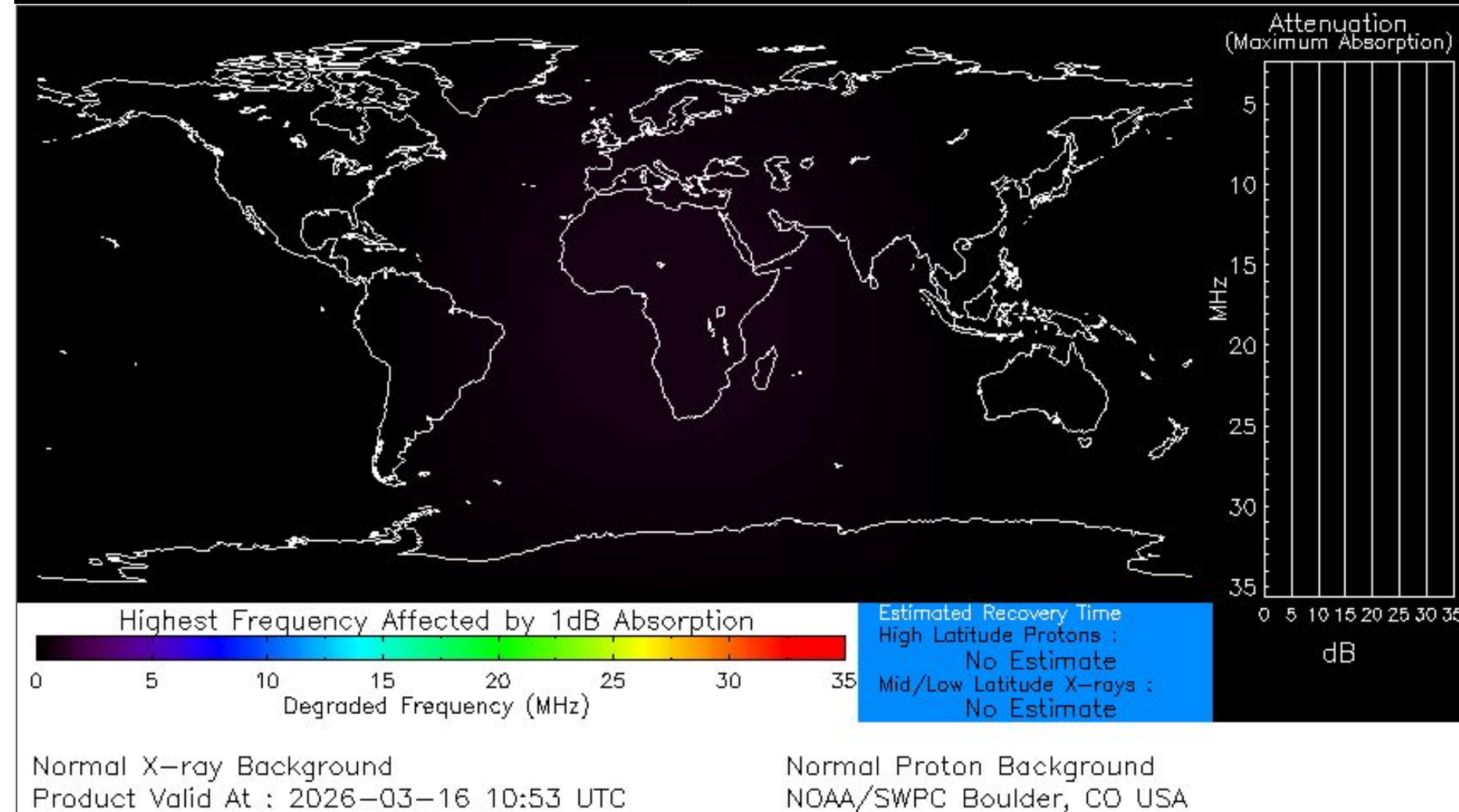
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Southern Region



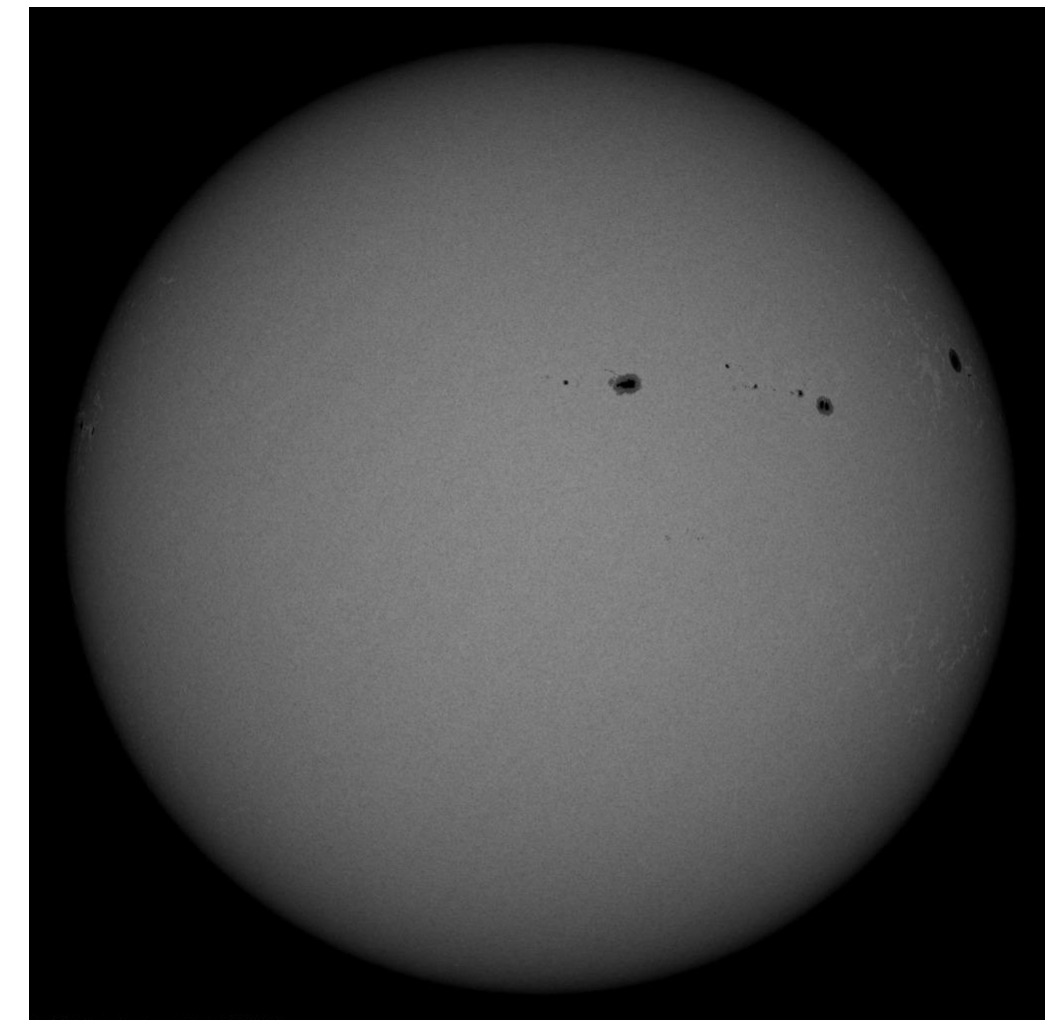
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Monday, Mar 16	Tuesday, Mar 17	Wednesday, Mar 18
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	15%	15%	15%
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Little to None</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"> 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	<p style="text-align: center;">Minor</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"> 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	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderate</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"> 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	<p style="text-align: center;">Major</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"> 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	<p style="text-align: center;">Extreme</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"> 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



National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters

Regional Operations Center

Fort Worth, TX



Phone: (682) 703-3747



Facebook: NWSSouthern



E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov



X: NWSSouthern



Web: www.weather.gov/srh

