



FEMA



Prepared by
Mark Wiley

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, March 18, 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:**

- **Elevated threat (level 1 of 3) over the TX/OK Panhandles and NE NM on Saturday with an elevated to locally critical (levels 1-2 of 3) threat from NW-SW TX.**

- **River Flooding:**

- **Isolated minor river flooding is expected to continue through the weekend in of E TX, Cntrl LA. Lowlands and secondary roads flooded.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Wednesday, Mar 18	Thursday, Mar 19	Friday, Mar 20	Saturday, Mar 21	Sunday, Mar 22	Monday, Mar 23	Tuesday, Mar 24
Severe Storms							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Winter Weather							
Fire Weather				OK/TX Panhandles, NE NM	NW-SW TX		
River Flooding	ETX, LA ETX, LA	ETX, LA ETX, LA	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

- Flood Warning Pop: 1,607
- Extreme Heat Warning Pop: 5,999,529
- Freeze Warning Pop: 5,525,054
- Red Flag Warning Pop: 36,830



Generated: 2026-03-18 06:31 CDT

No watches/warnings/advisories.



Radar Reflectivity

Valid Wednesday March 18th, 2026 at 6:26 AM CDT



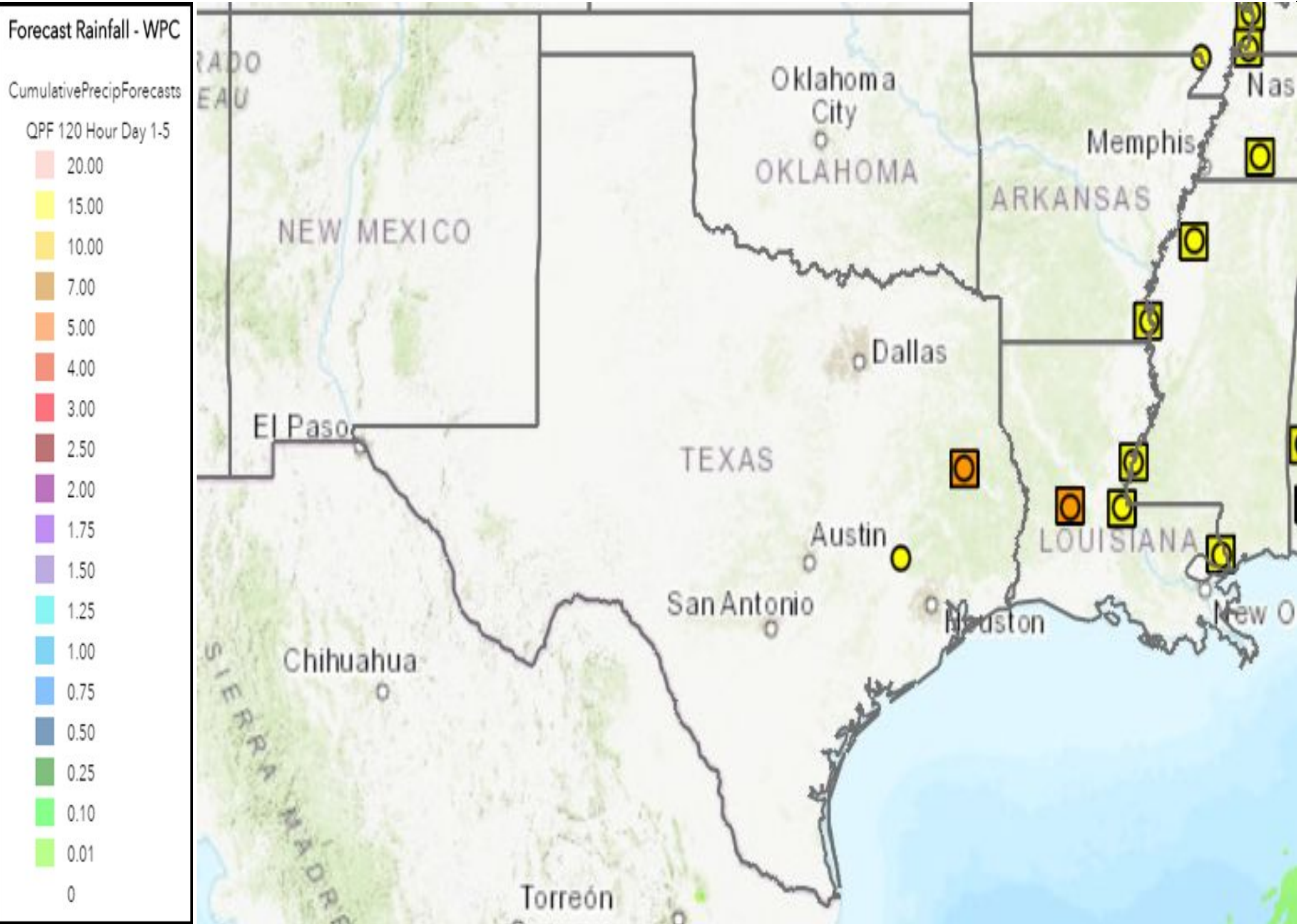
Generated: 2026-03-18 06:31 CDT





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



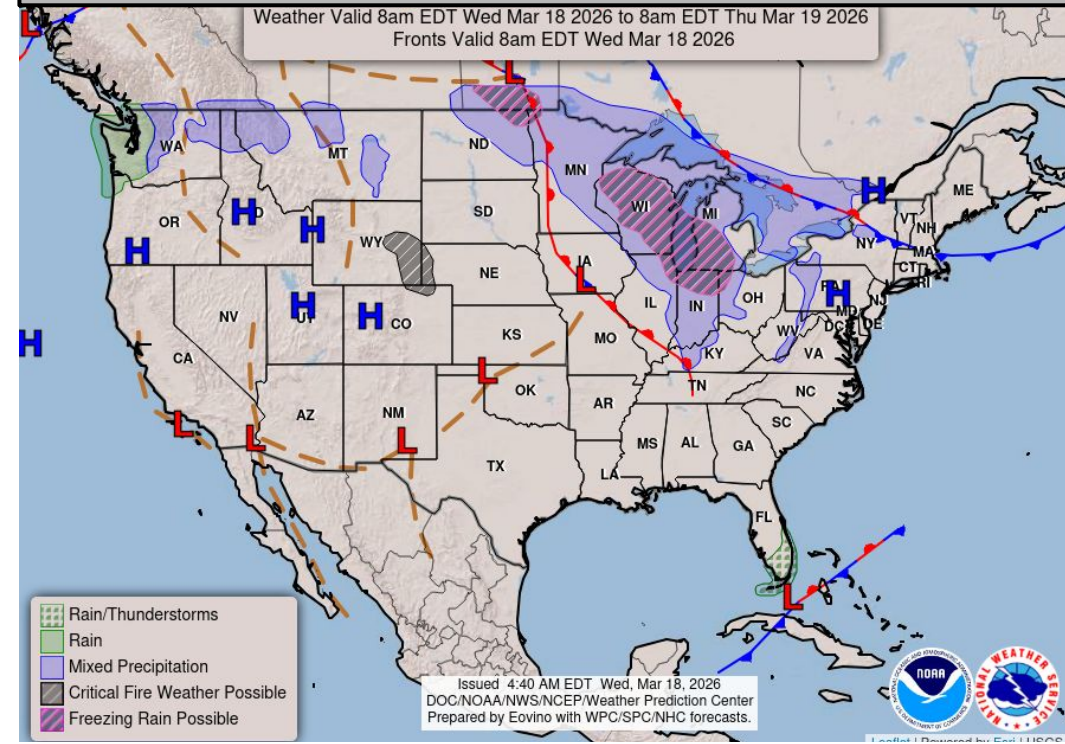
Isolated minor river flooding over portions of ETX and Cntrl LA is expected to continue through the weekend. Impacts mainly to agriculture and secondary roads.

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.

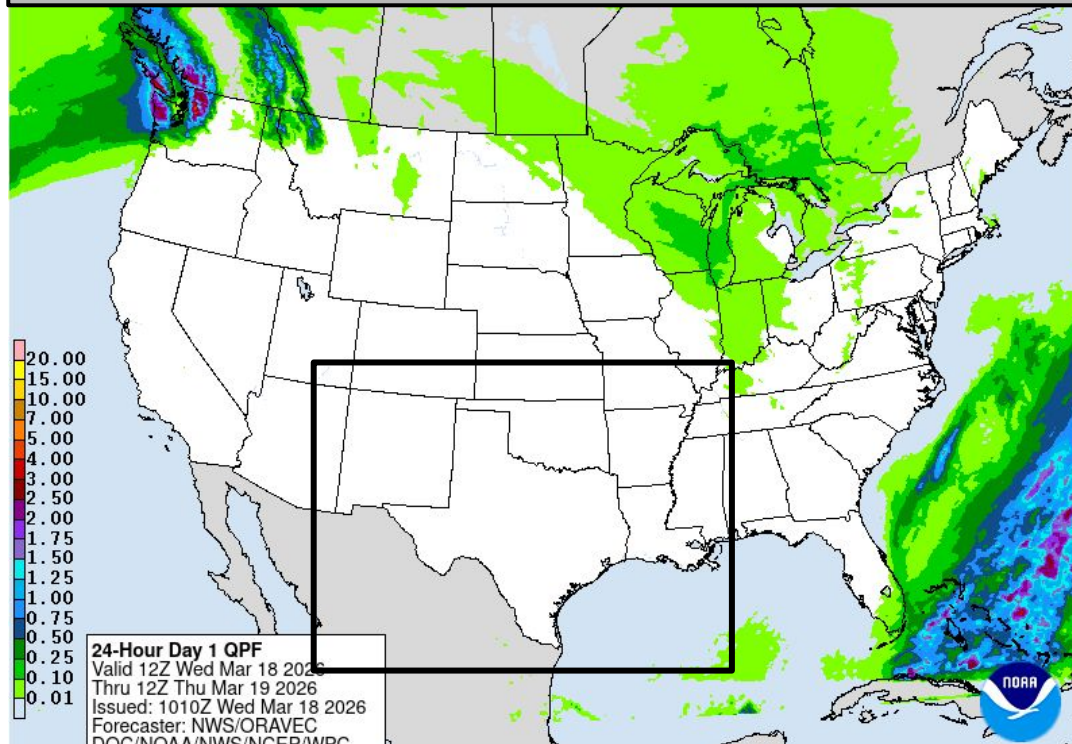


Today's Weather

Forecast Chart

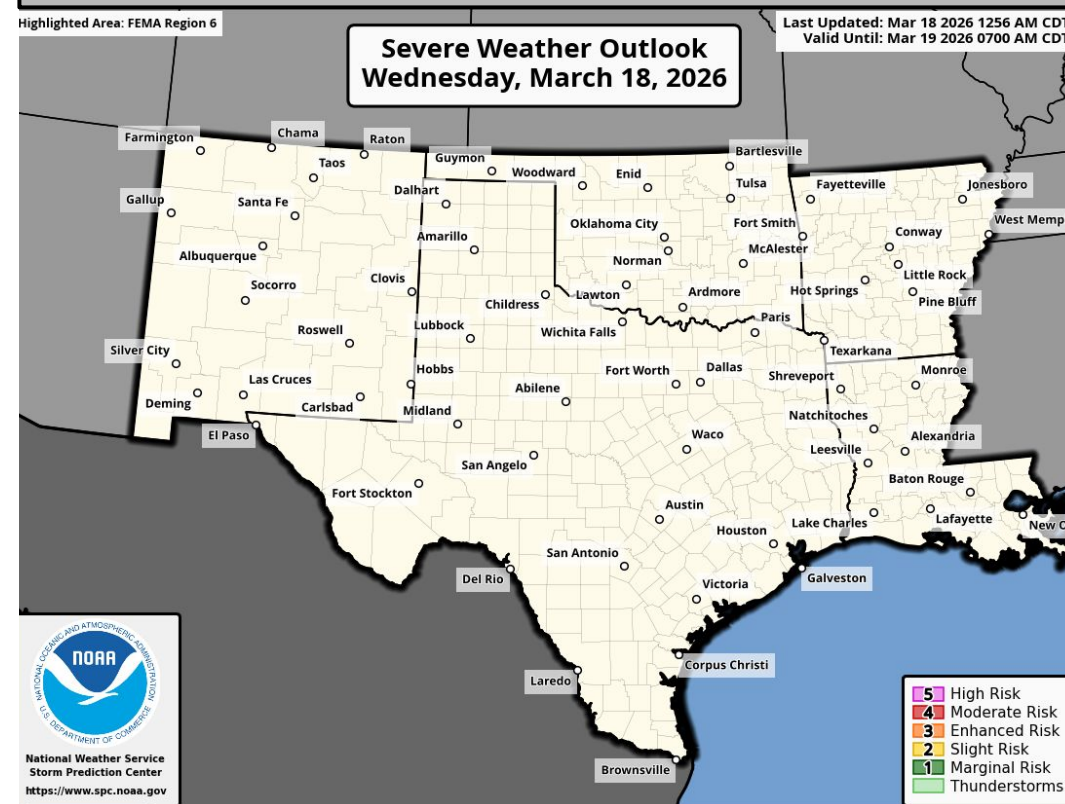


Forecast Rainfall

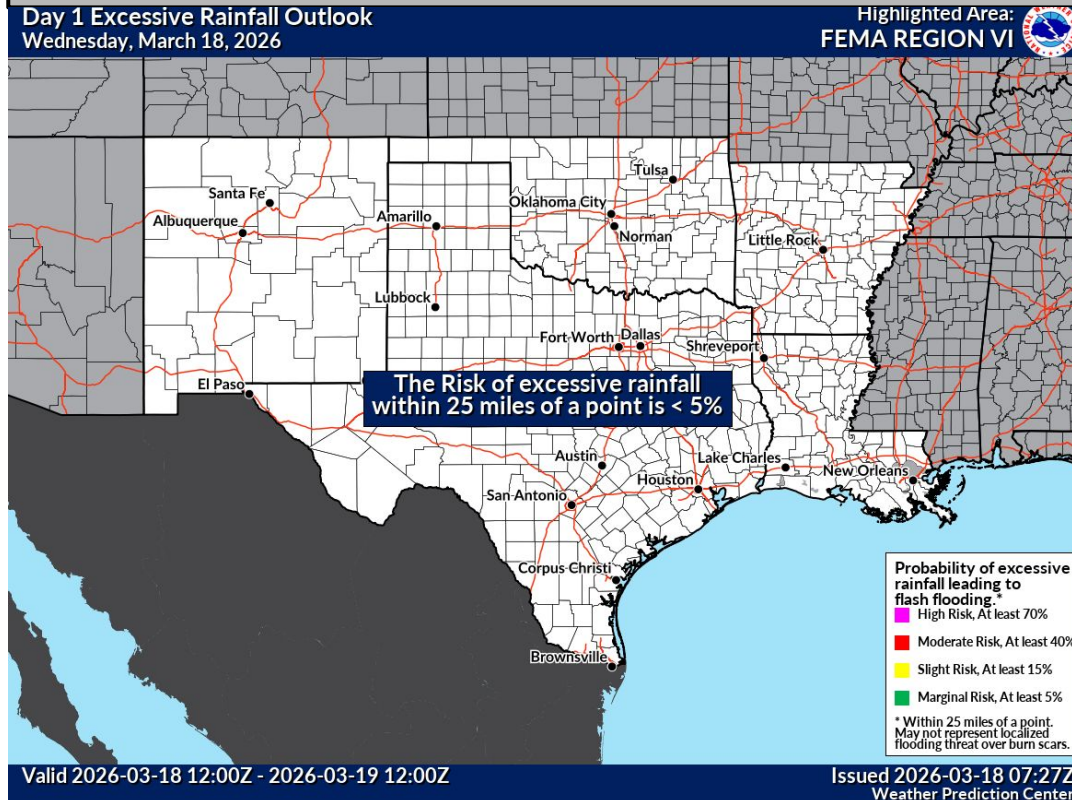


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



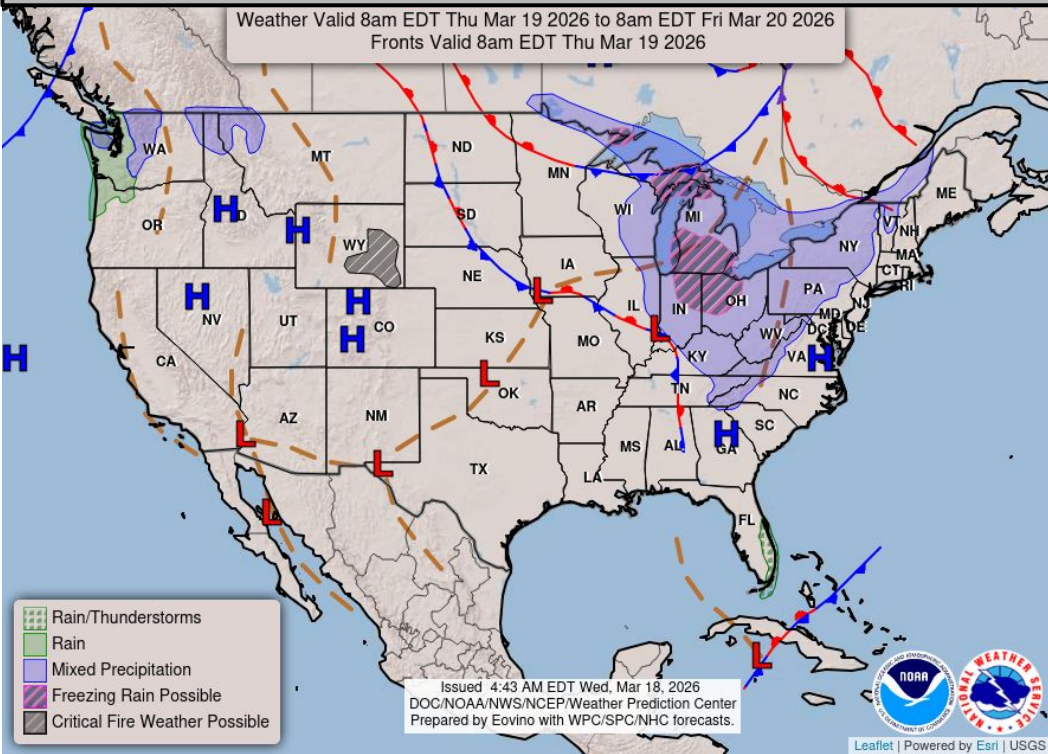
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



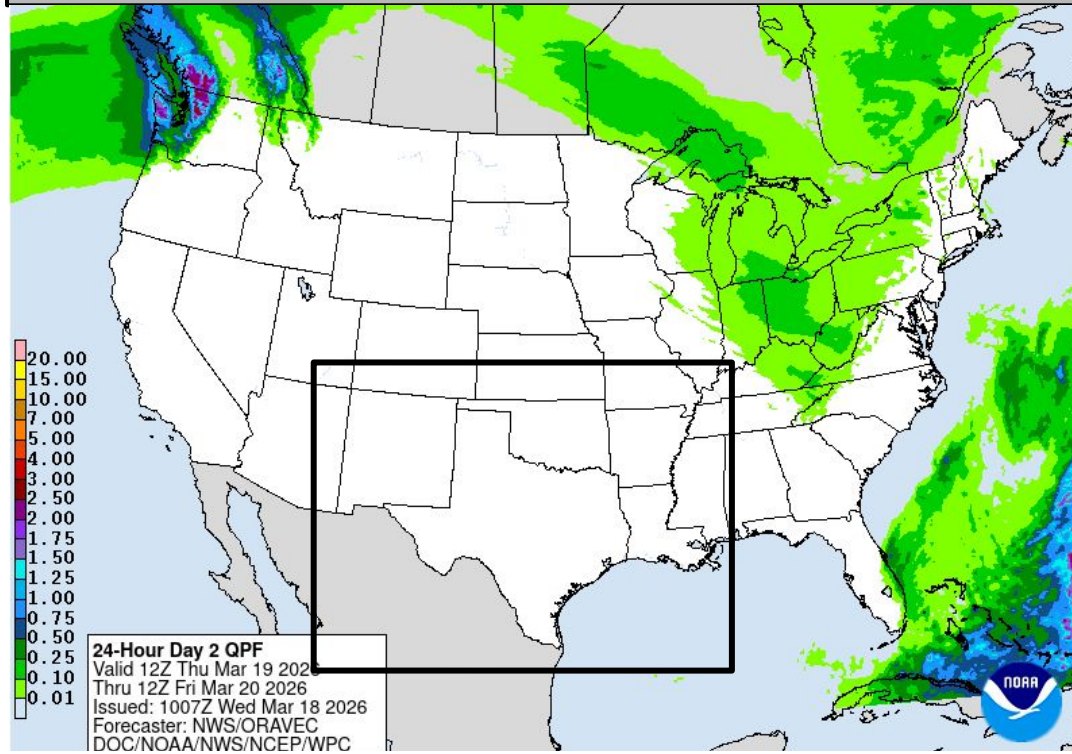


Tomorrow's Weather

Forecast Chart

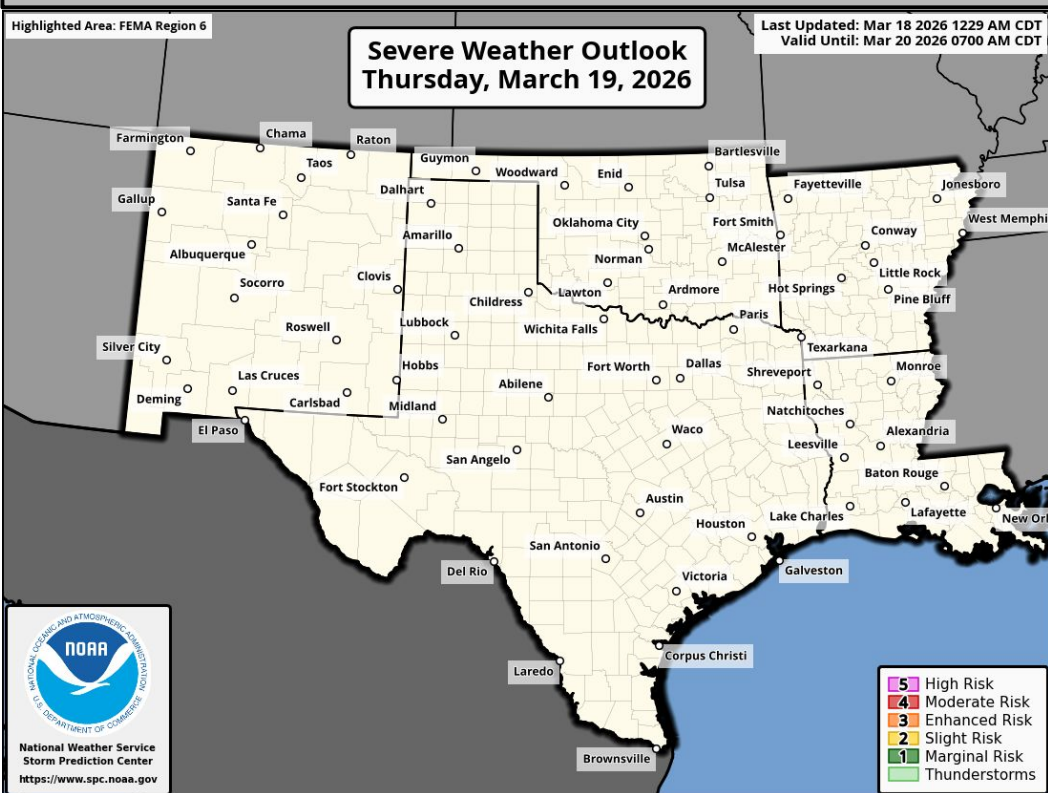


Forecast Rainfall

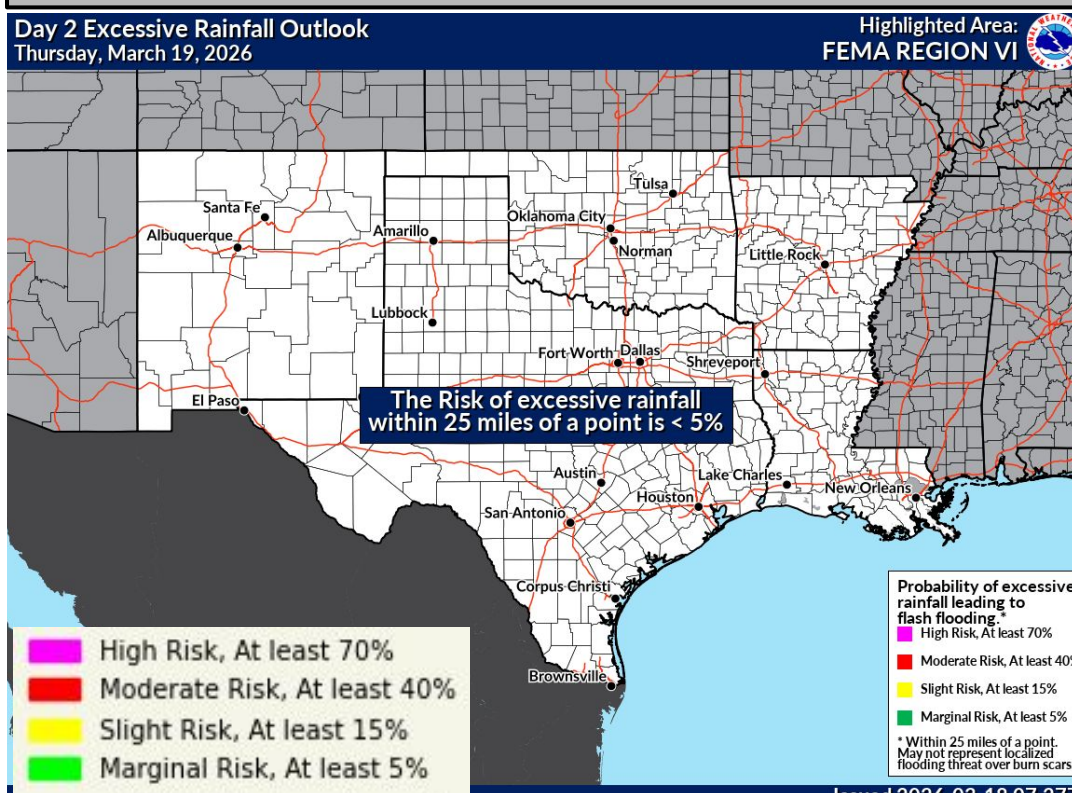


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



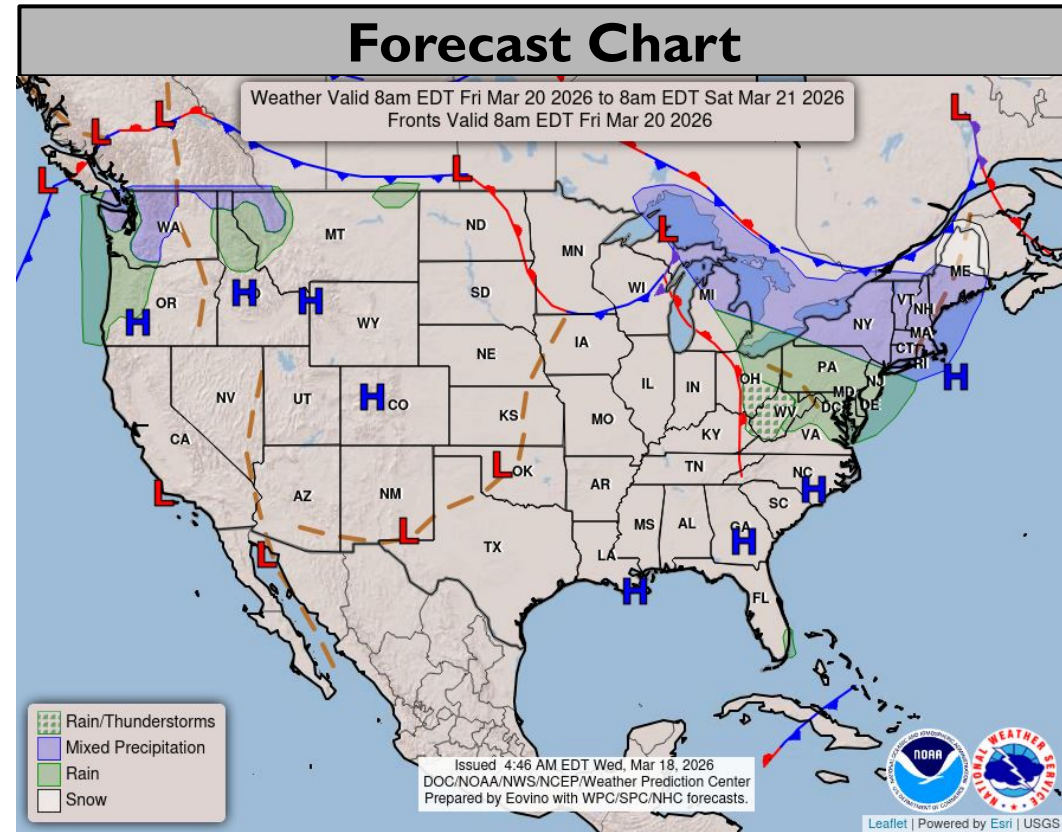
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



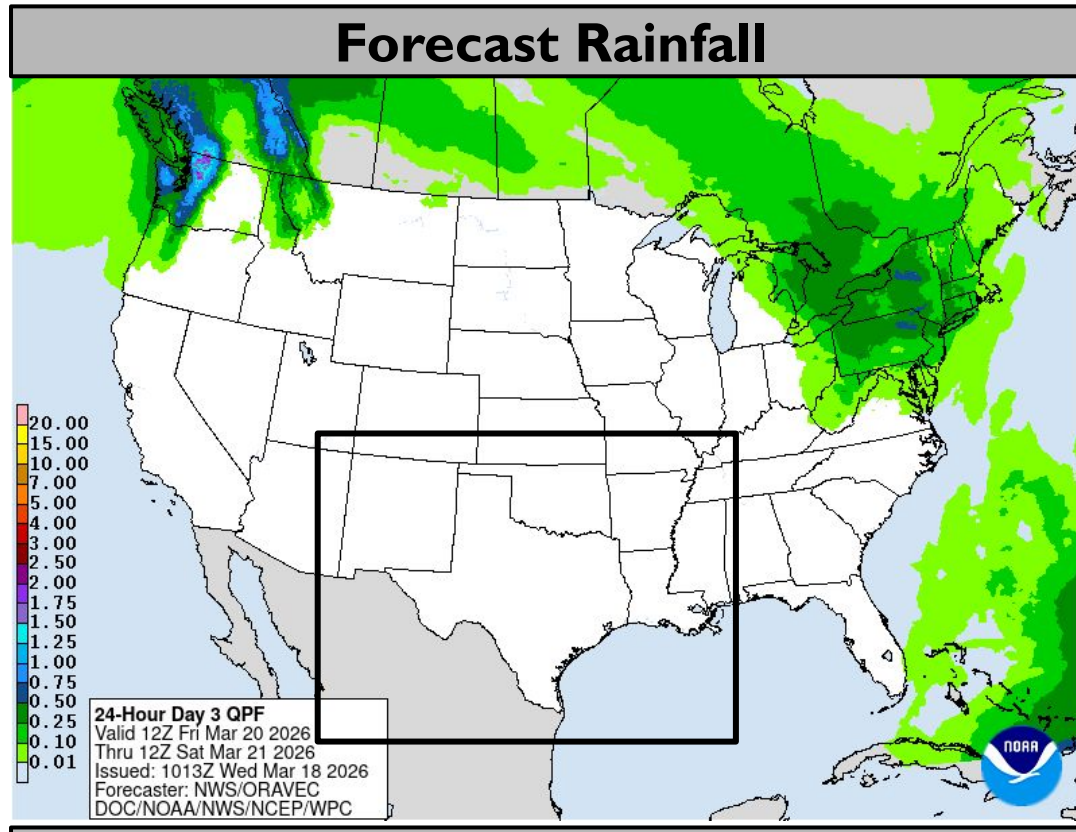


Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart

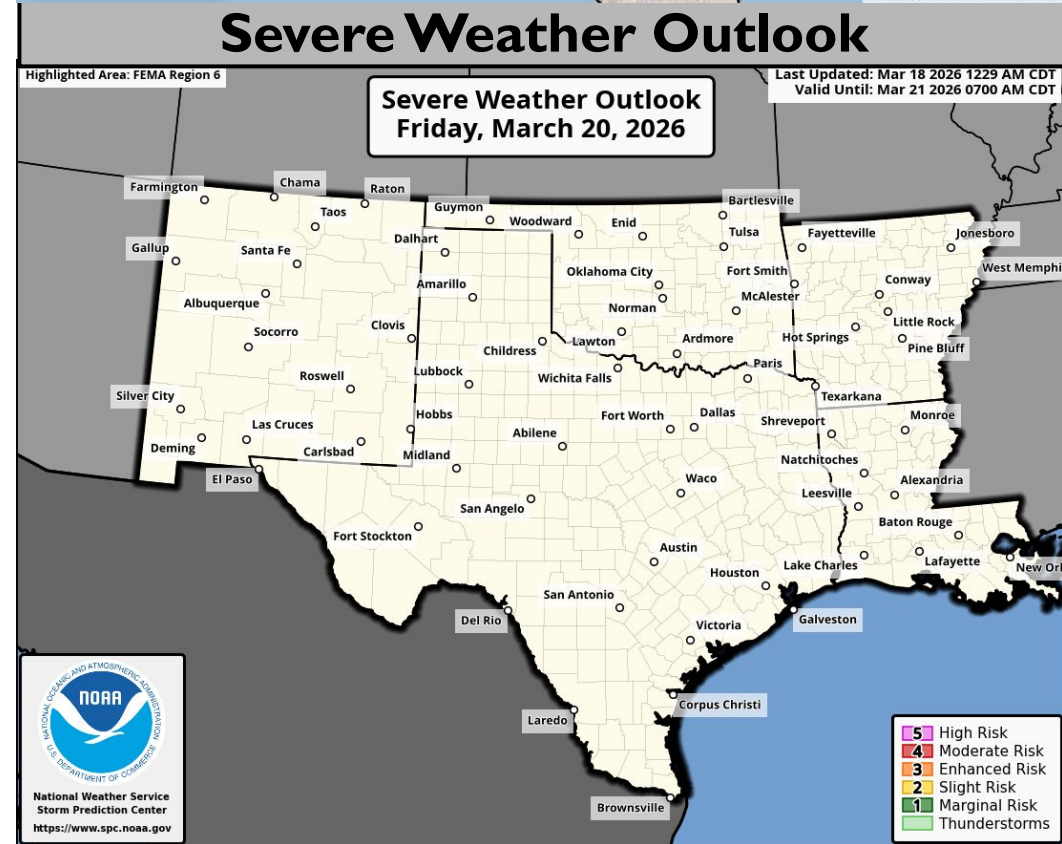


Forecast Rainfall

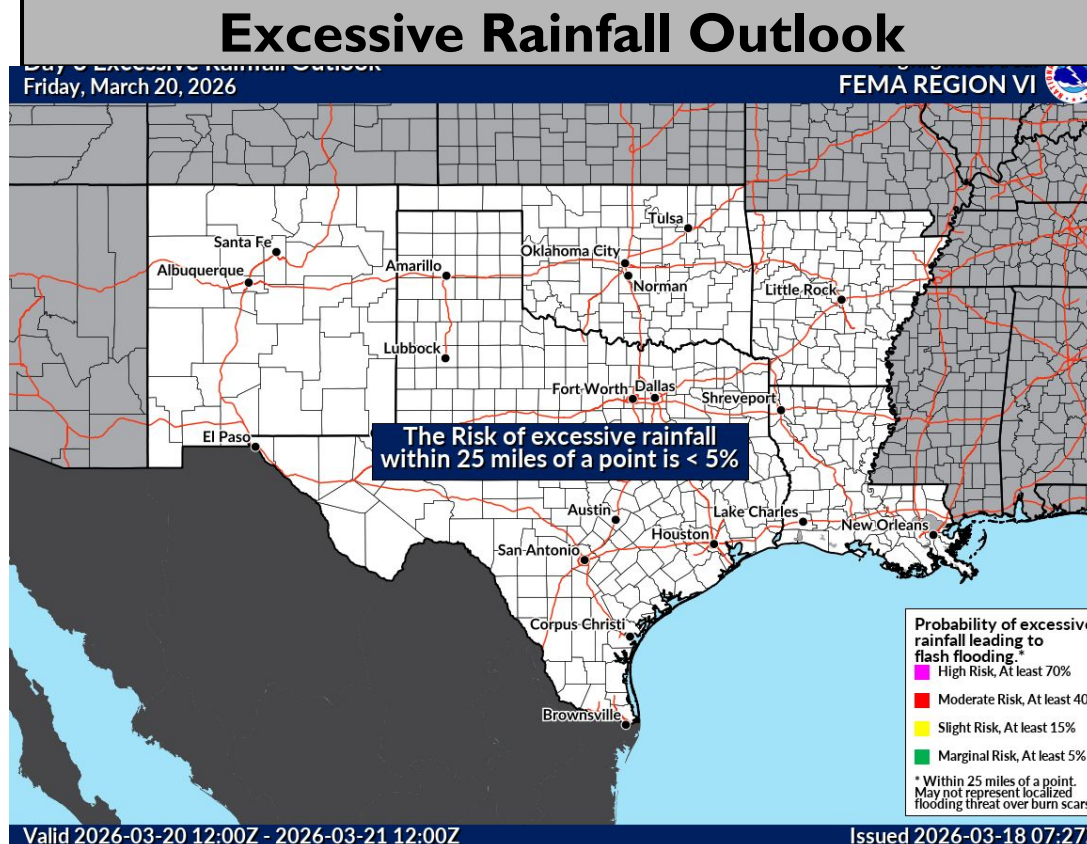


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



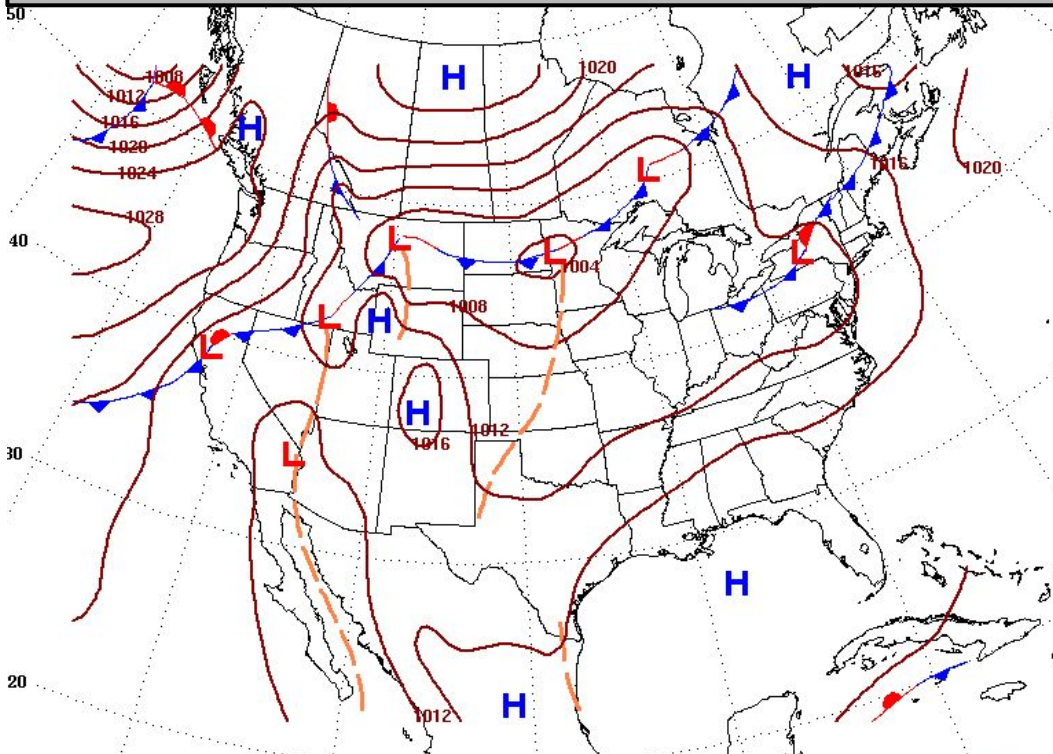
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



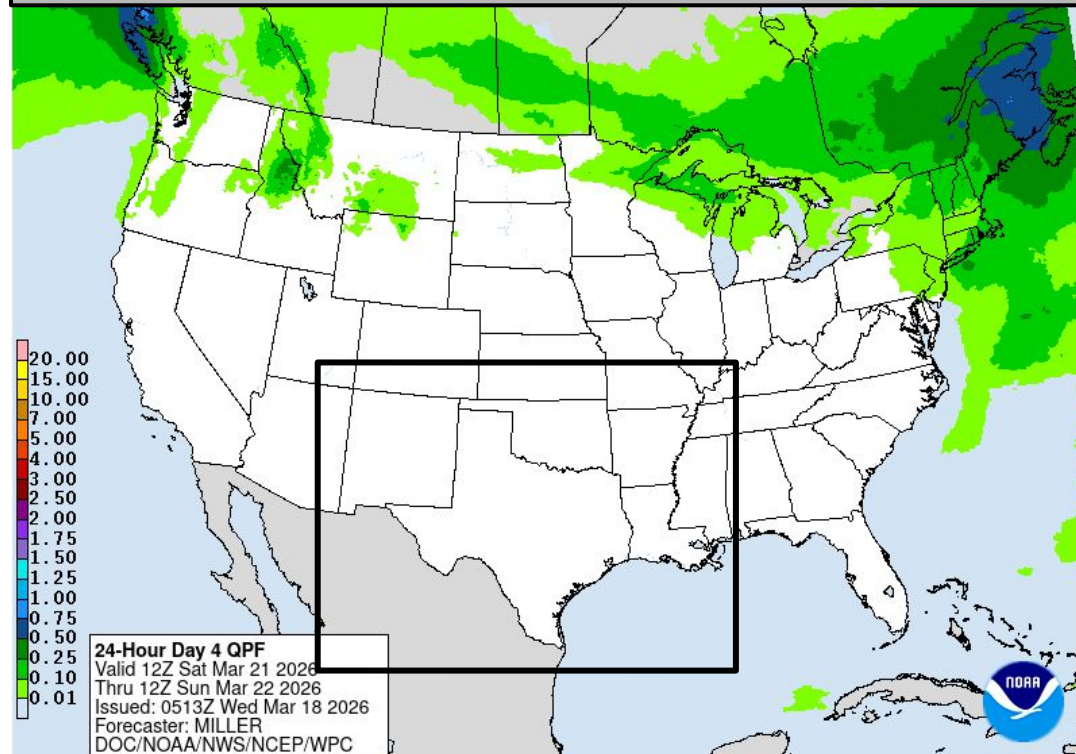


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

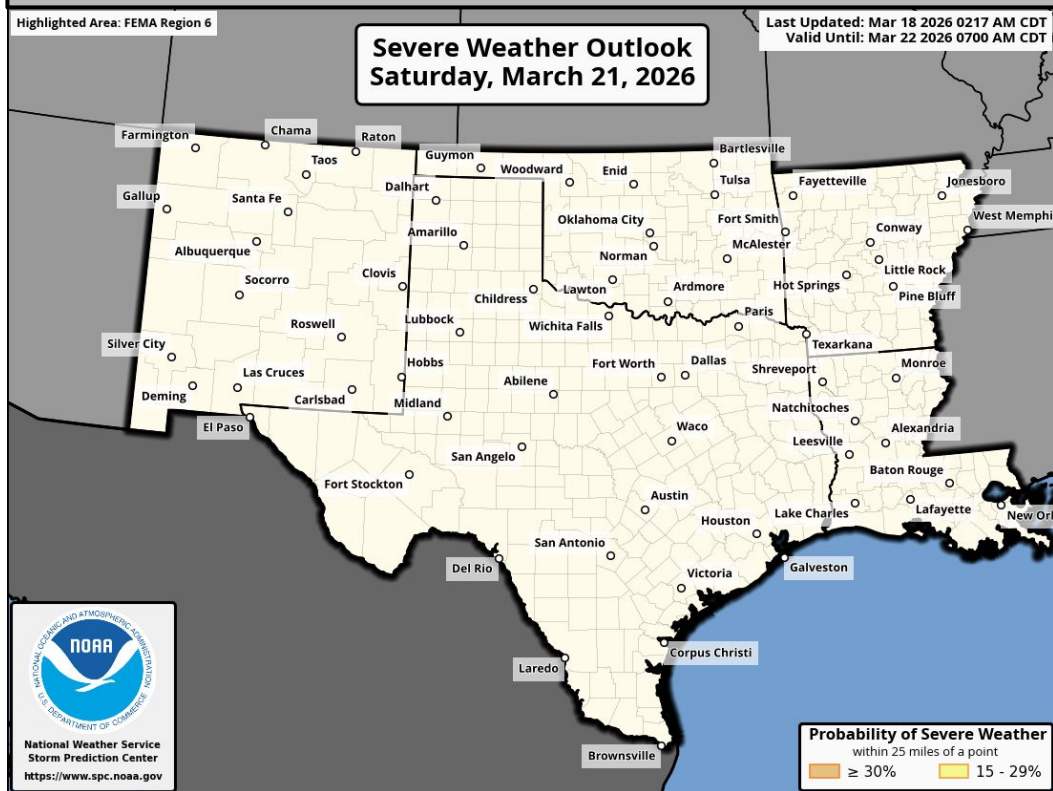


Forecast Rainfall

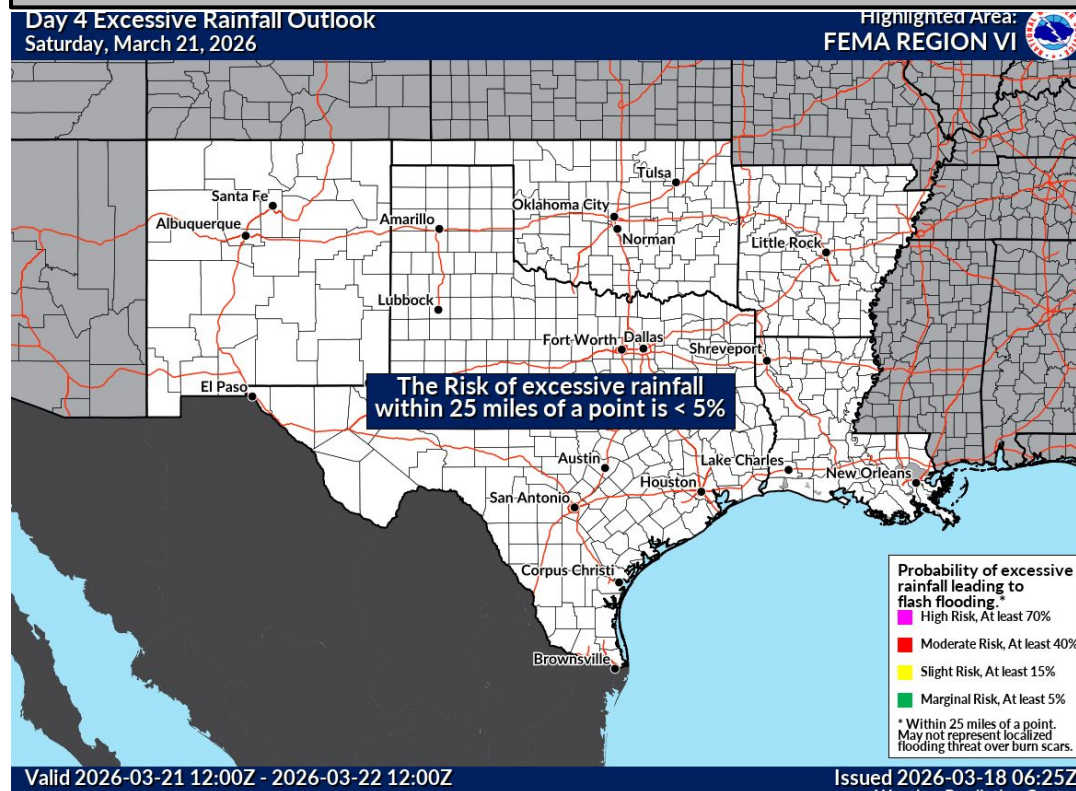


Elevated fire weather (level 1 of 3) threat over NE NM, TX/OK Panhandles.

Severe Weather Outlook



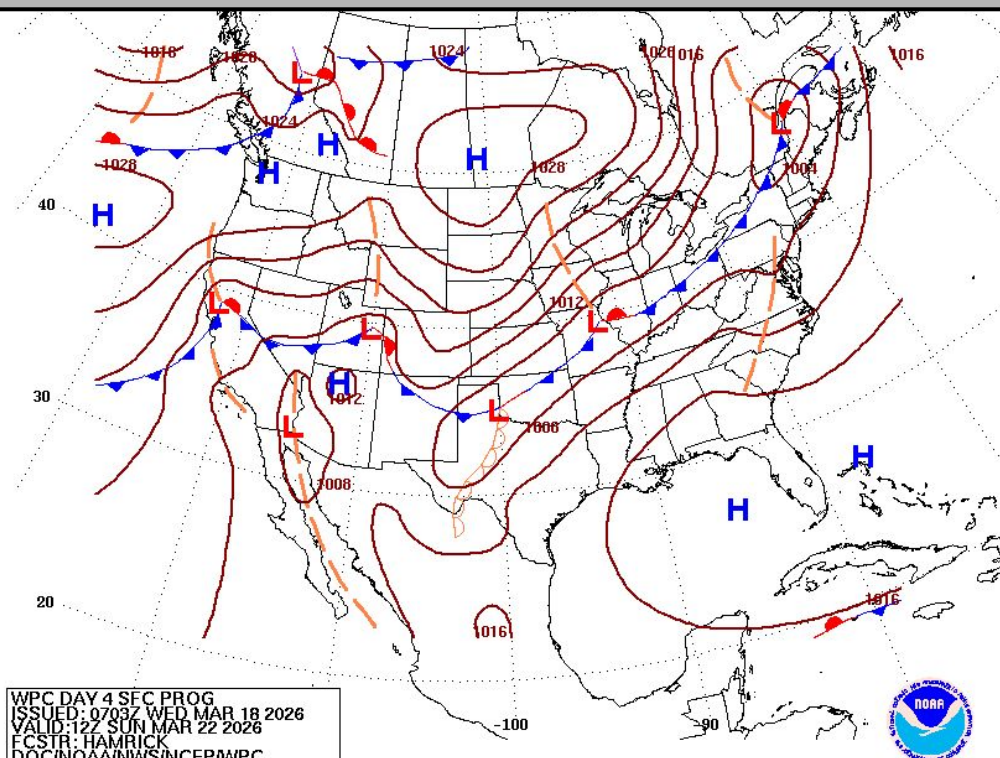
Excessive Rainfall Outlook





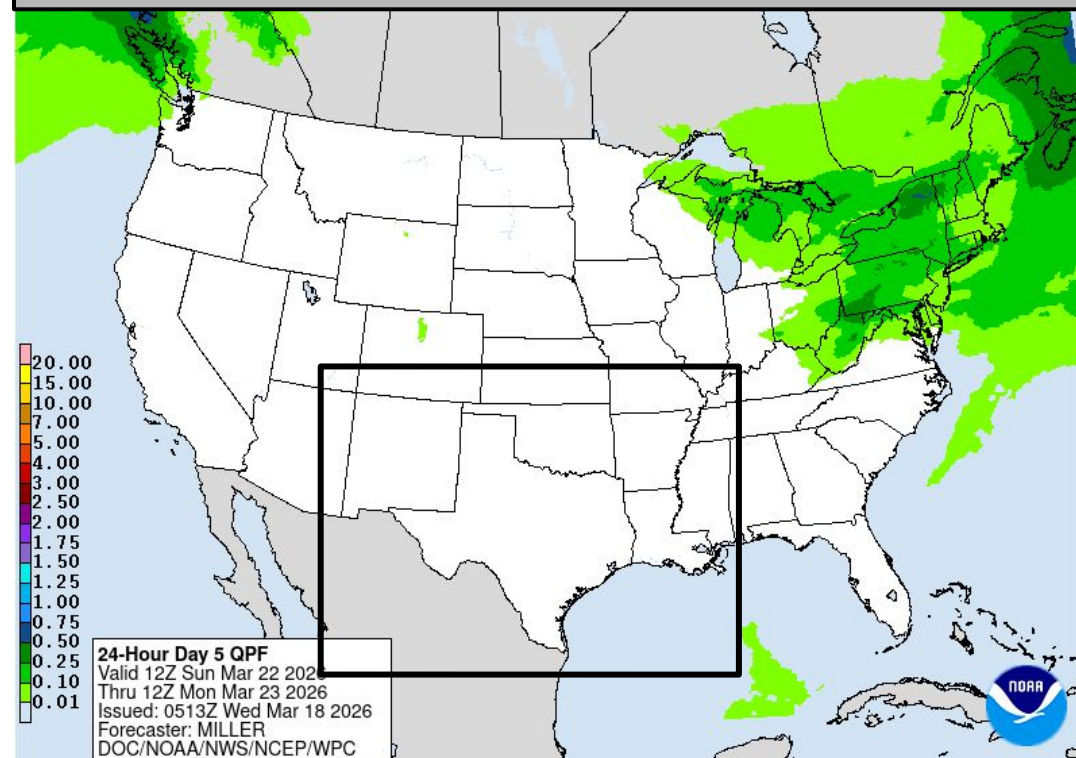
Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SEC PROG
ISSUED: 0703Z WED MAR 18 2026
VALID: 12Z SUN MAR 22 2026
FCSTR: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

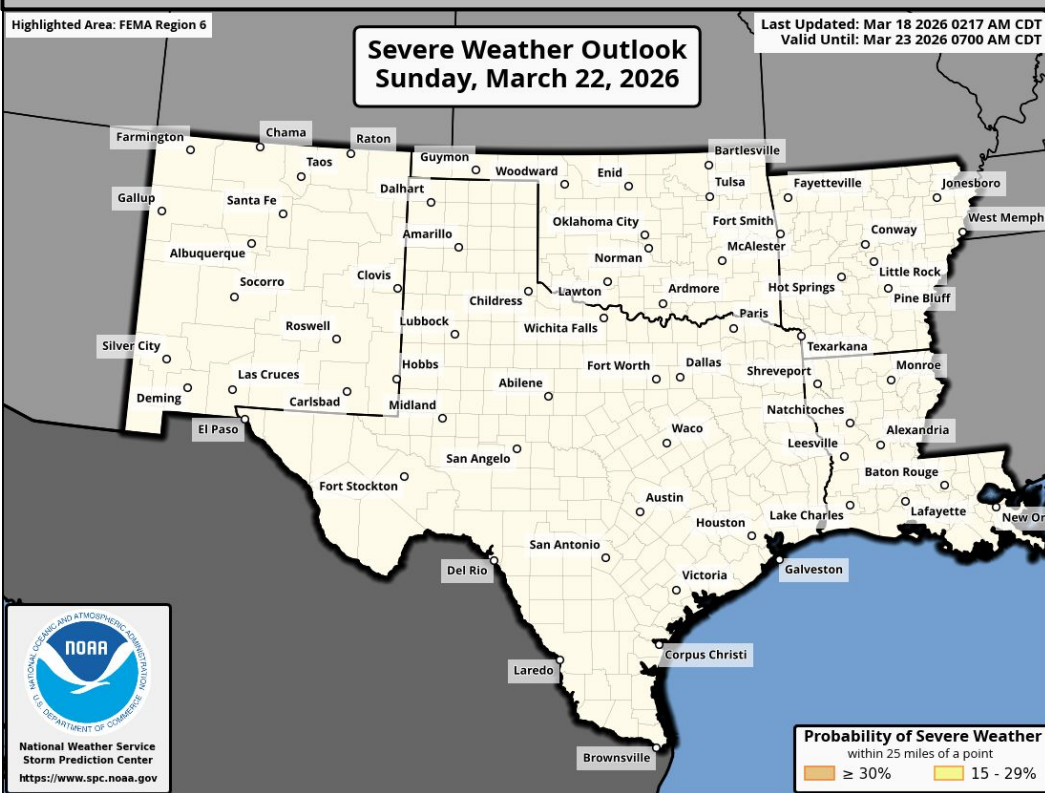
Forecast Rainfall



24-Hour Day 5 QPF
Valid 12Z Sun Mar 22 2026
Thru 12Z Mon Mar 23 2026
Issued: 0513Z Wed Mar 18 2026
Forecaster: MILLER
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

**Elevated to critical fire weather
(levels 1-2 of 3) threat from
NW-SW TX.**

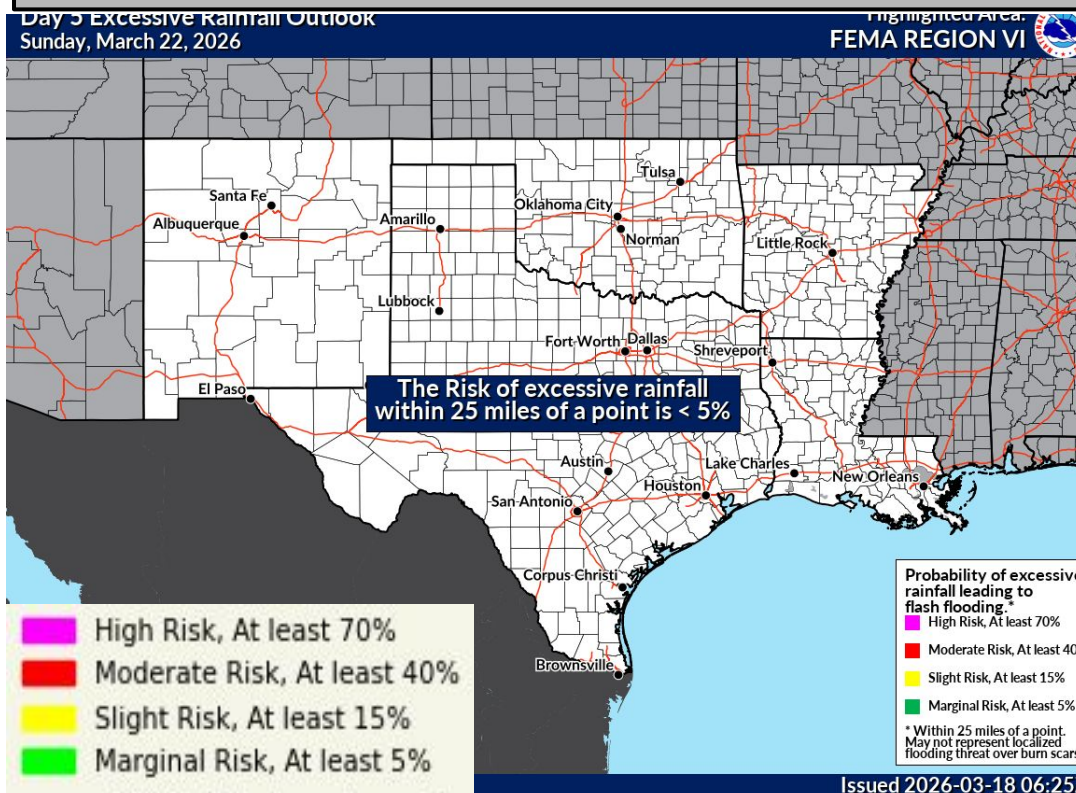
Severe Weather Outlook



Severe Weather Outlook
Sunday, March 22, 2026

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

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 5 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Sunday, March 22, 2026

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

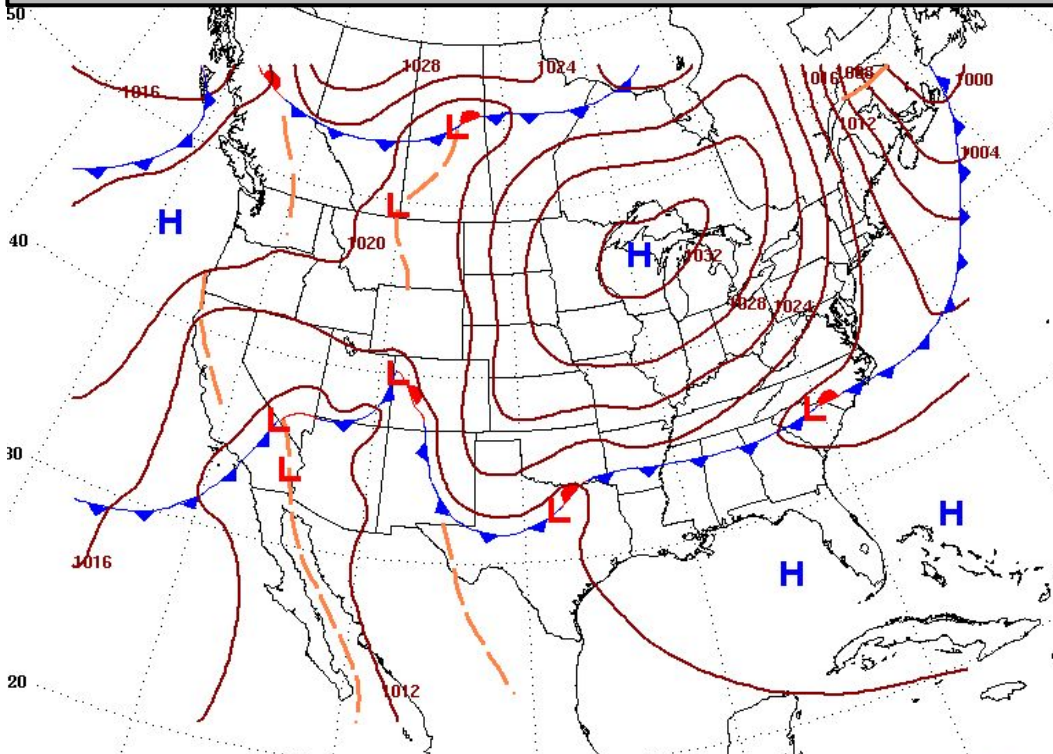
High Risk, At least 70%
Moderate Risk, At least 40%
Slight Risk, At least 15%
Marginal Risk, At least 5%

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.

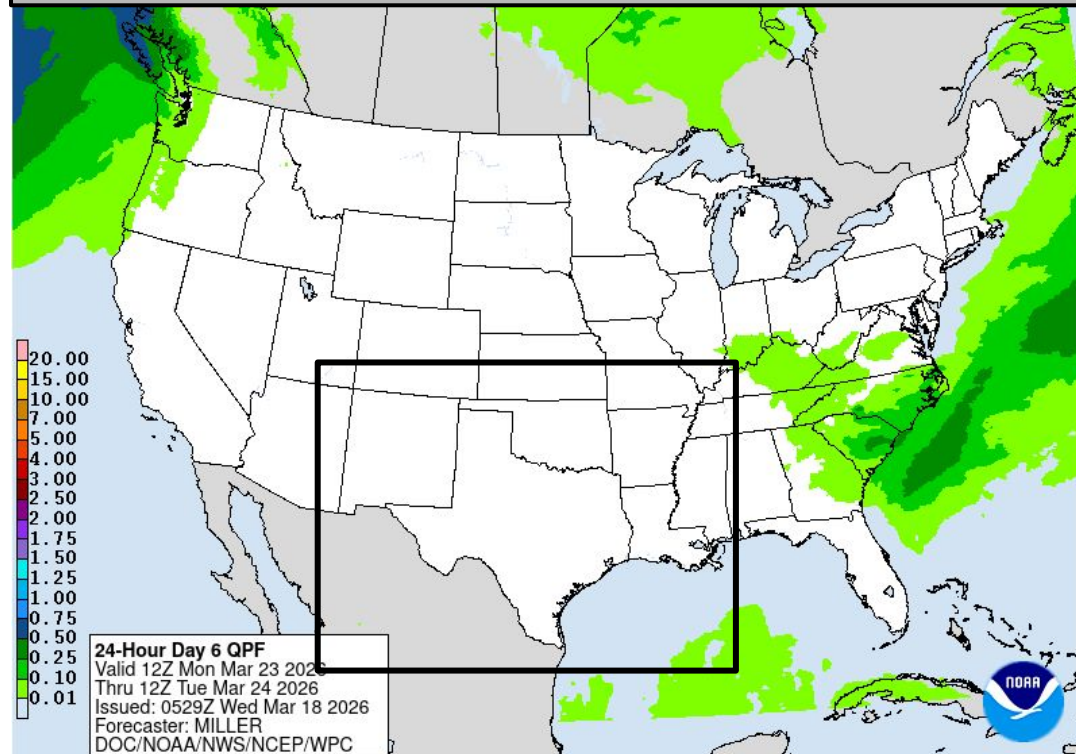


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

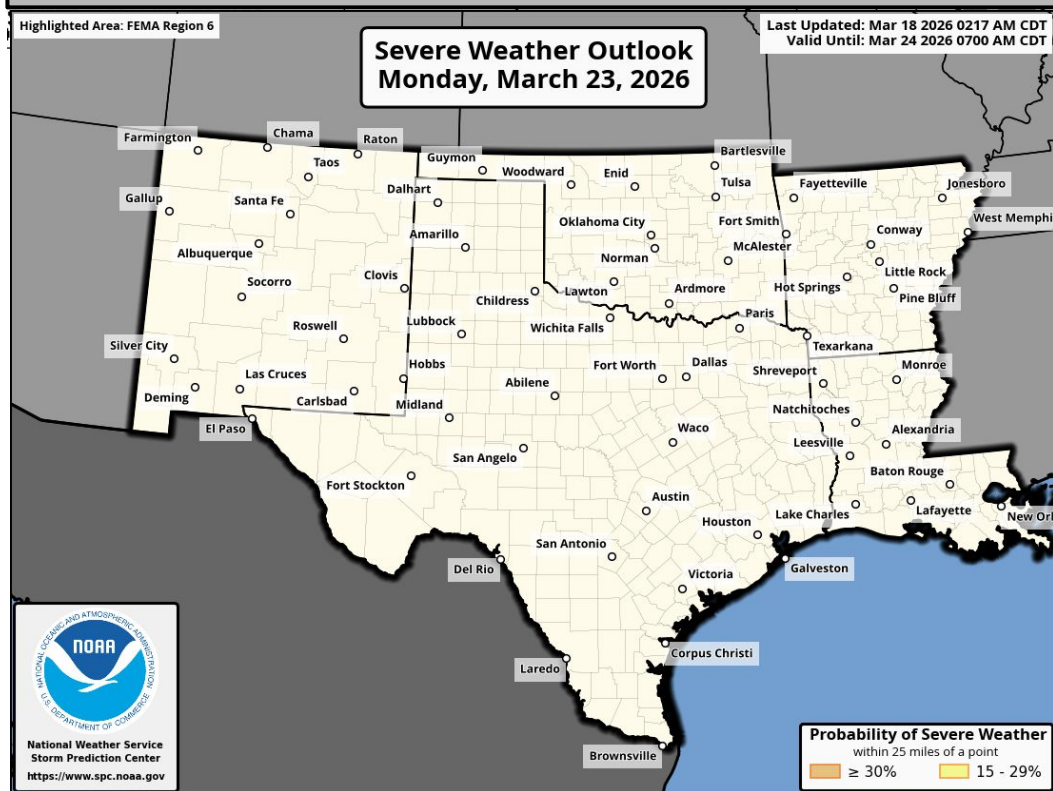


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

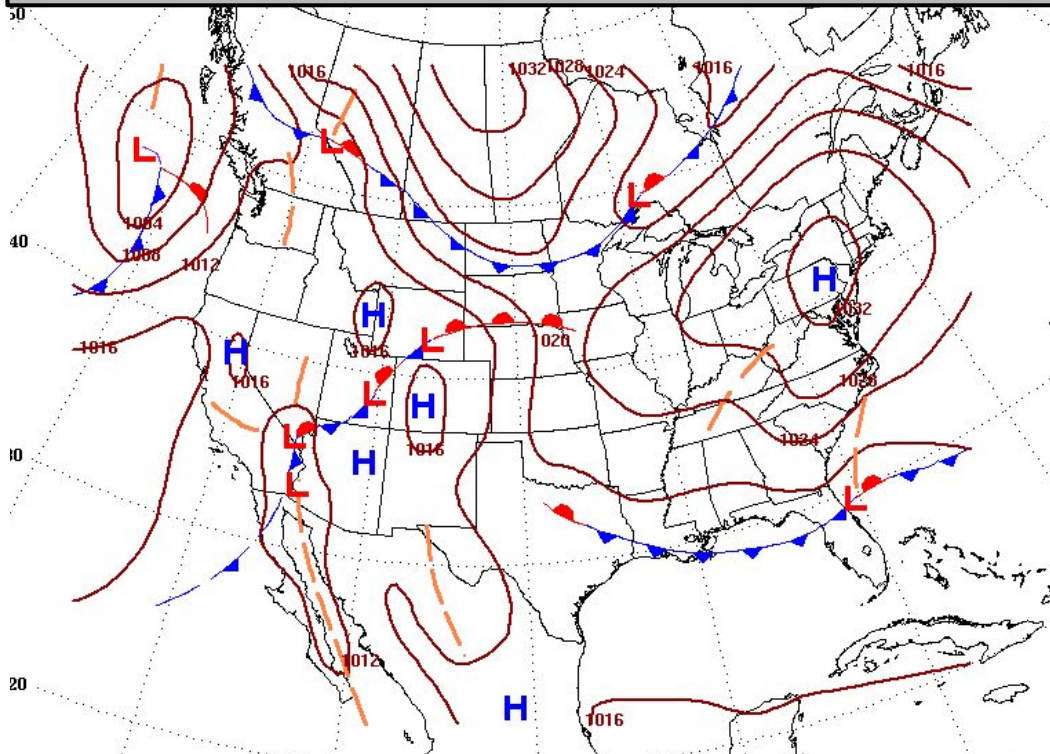


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**

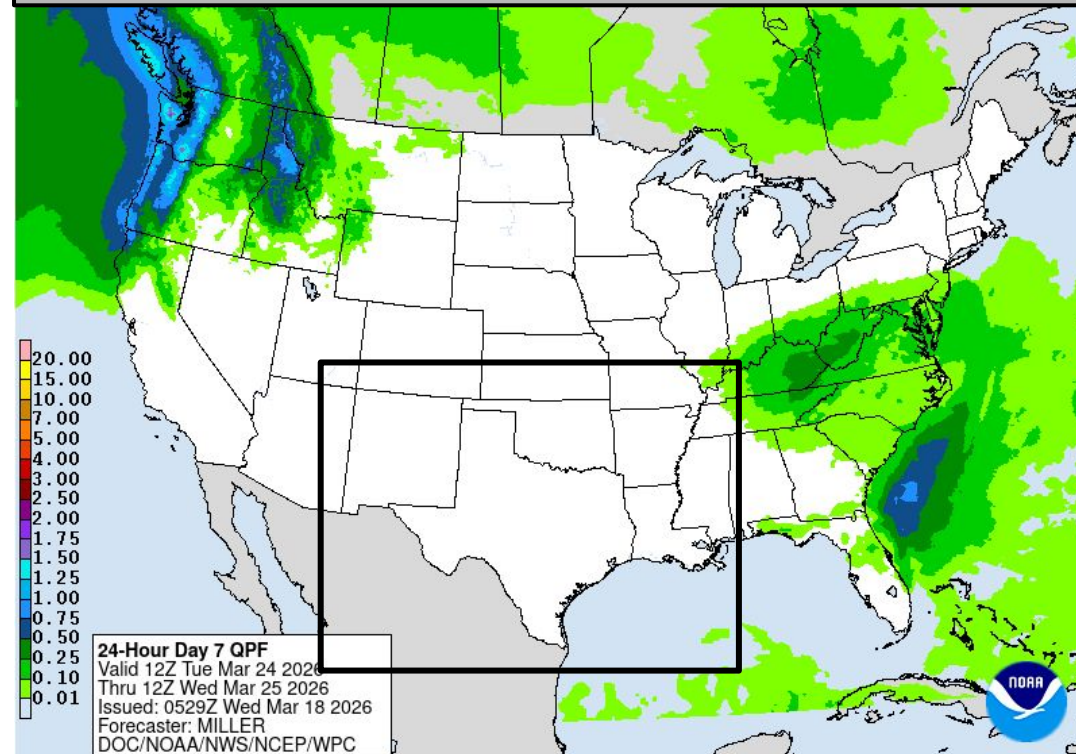


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

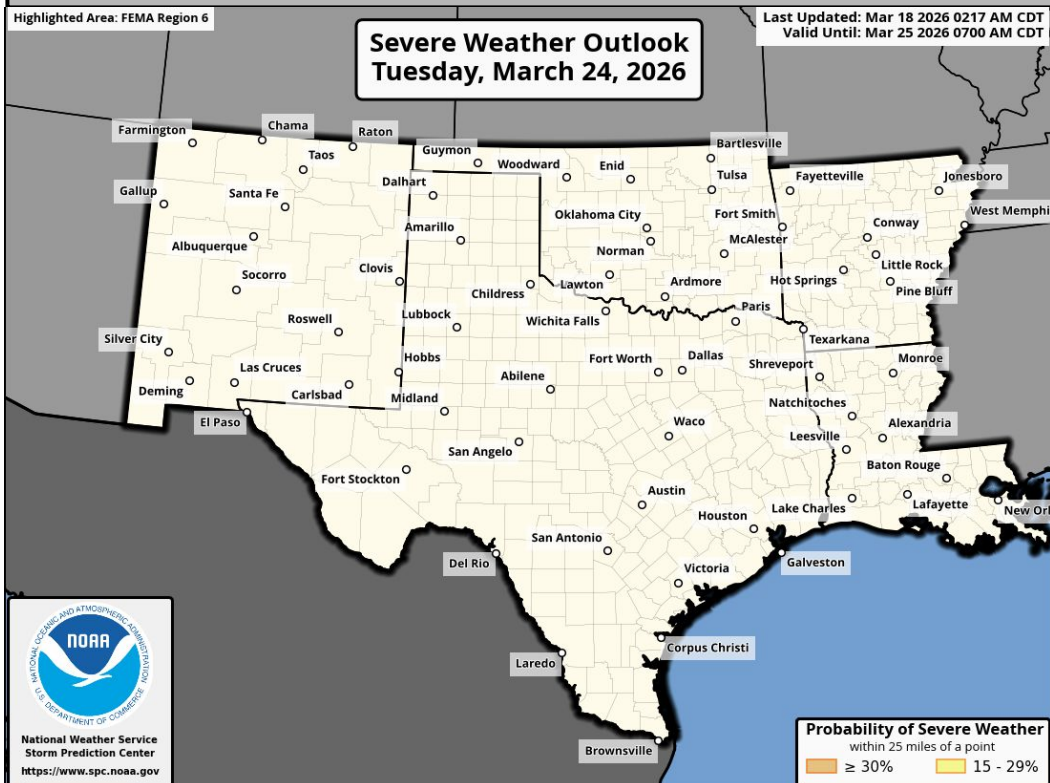


Forecast Rainfall

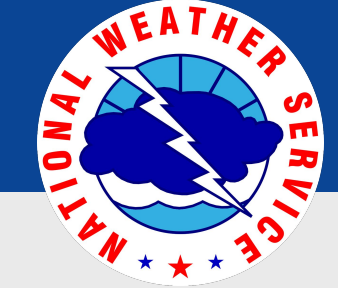


No significant weather expected.

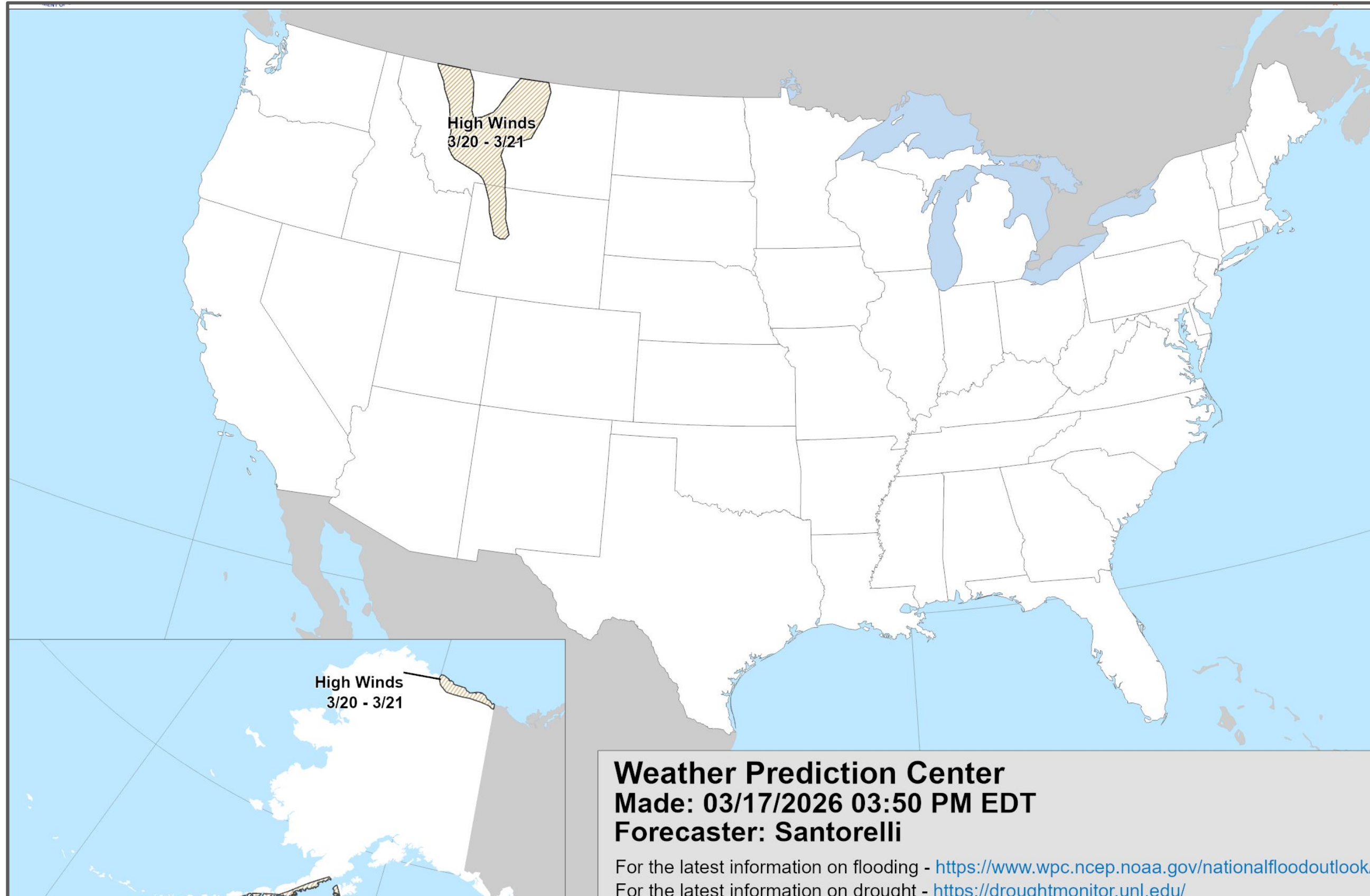
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

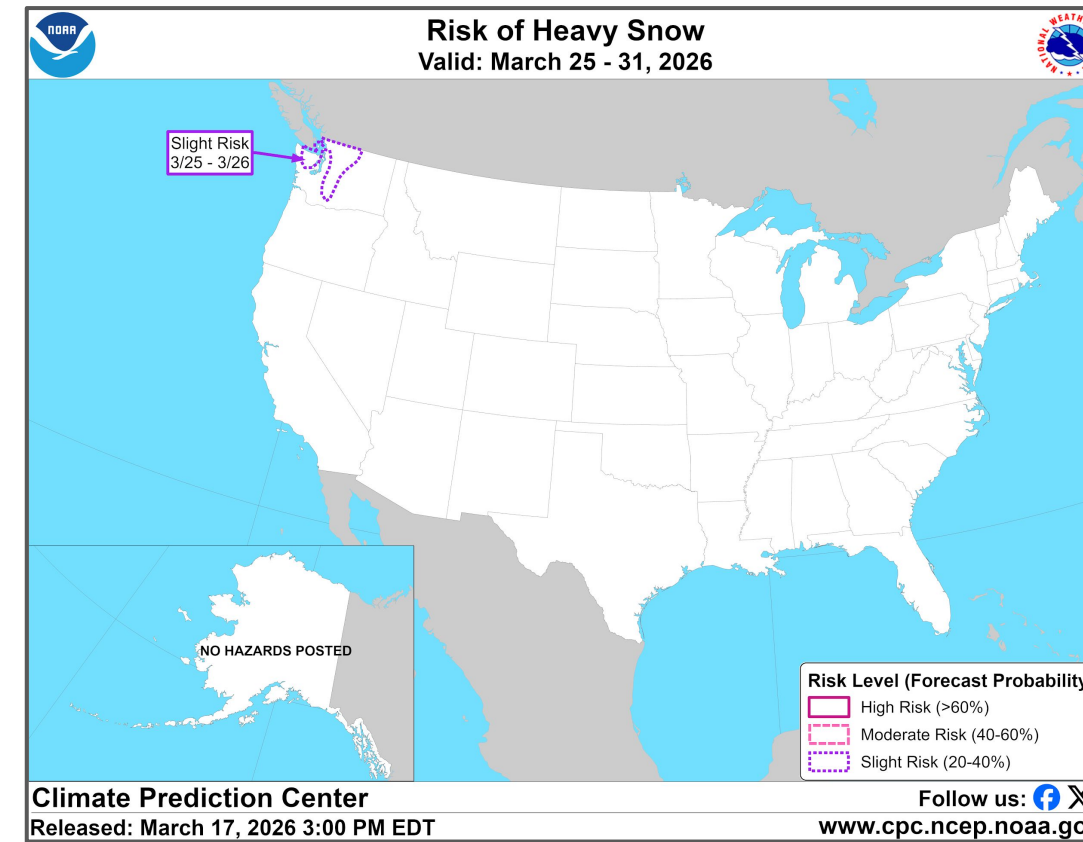
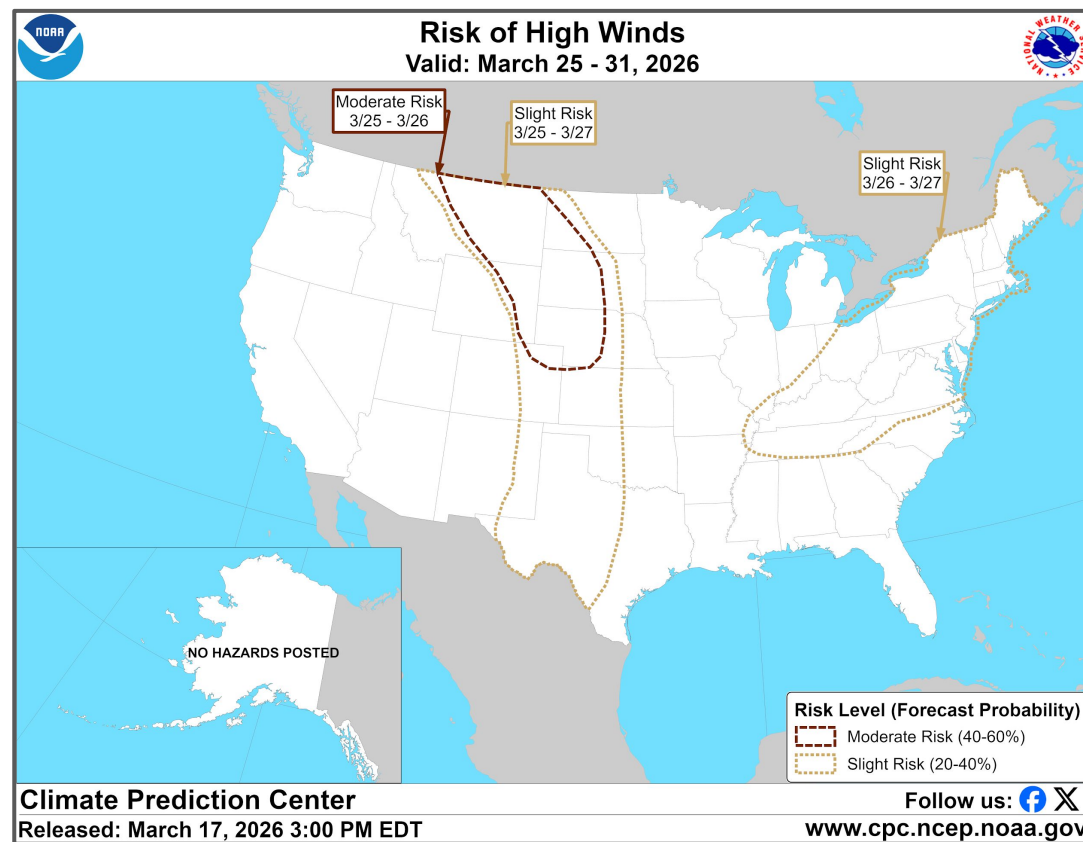
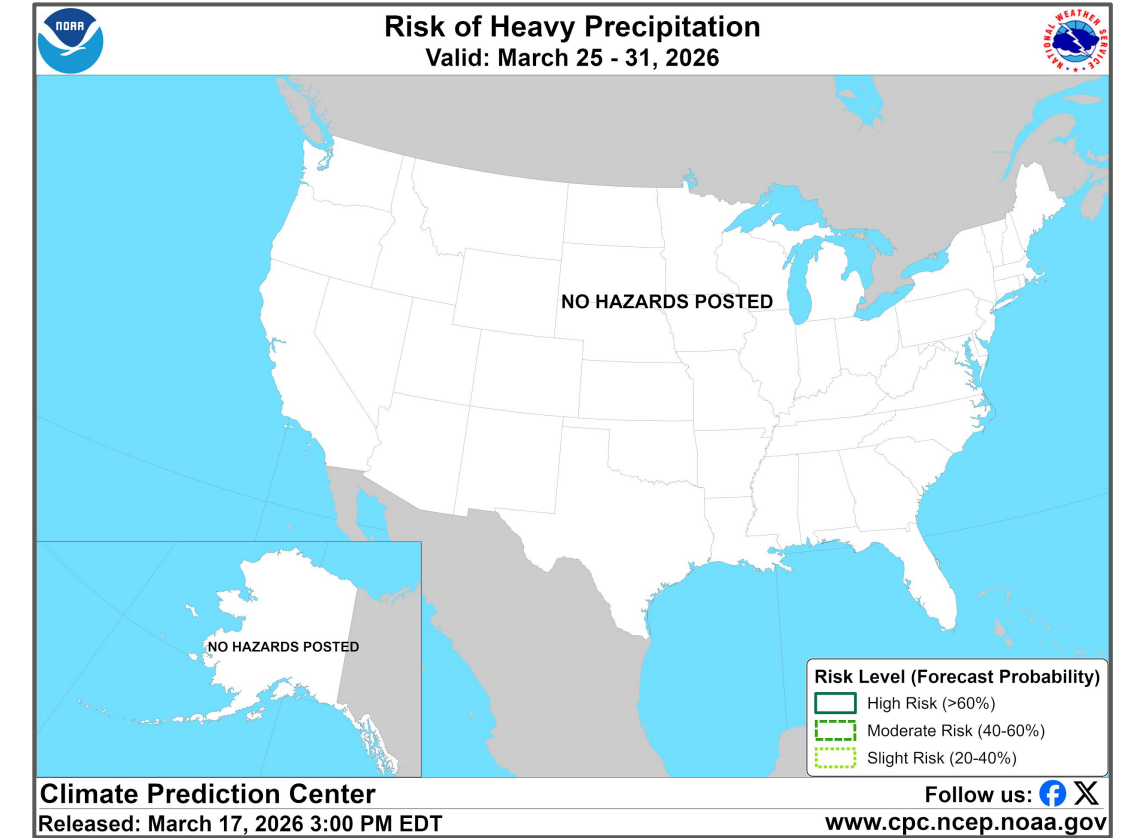
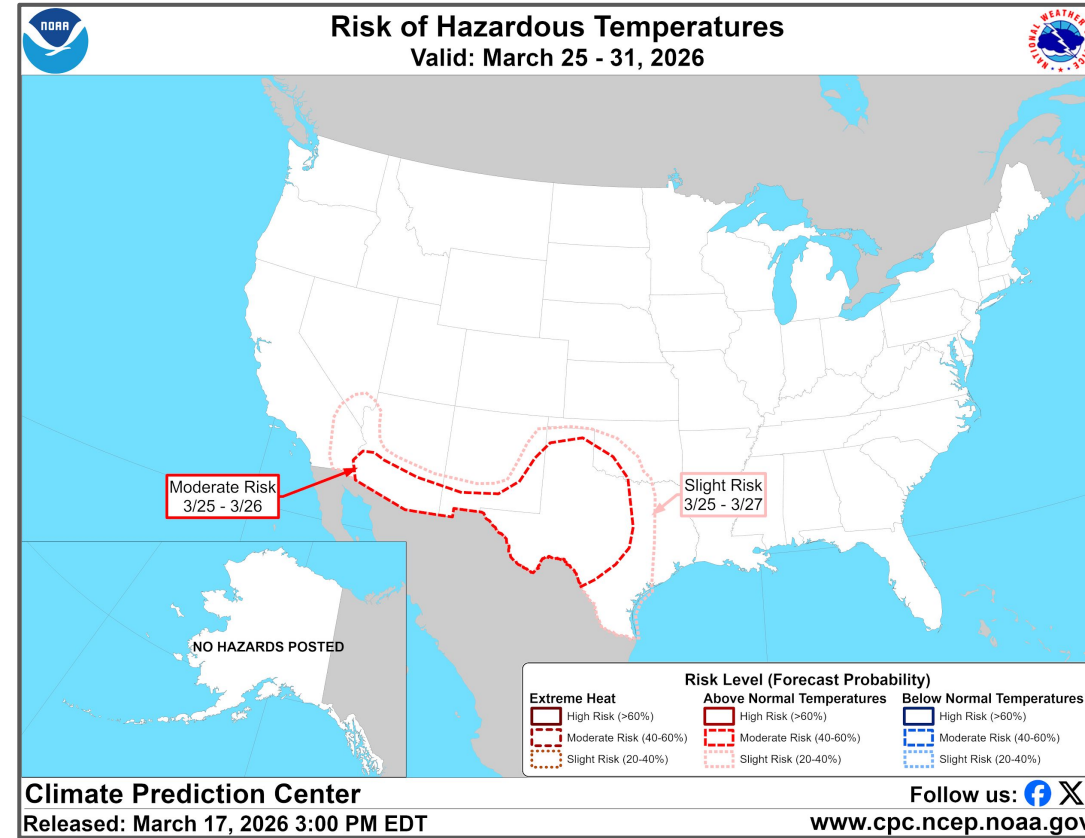
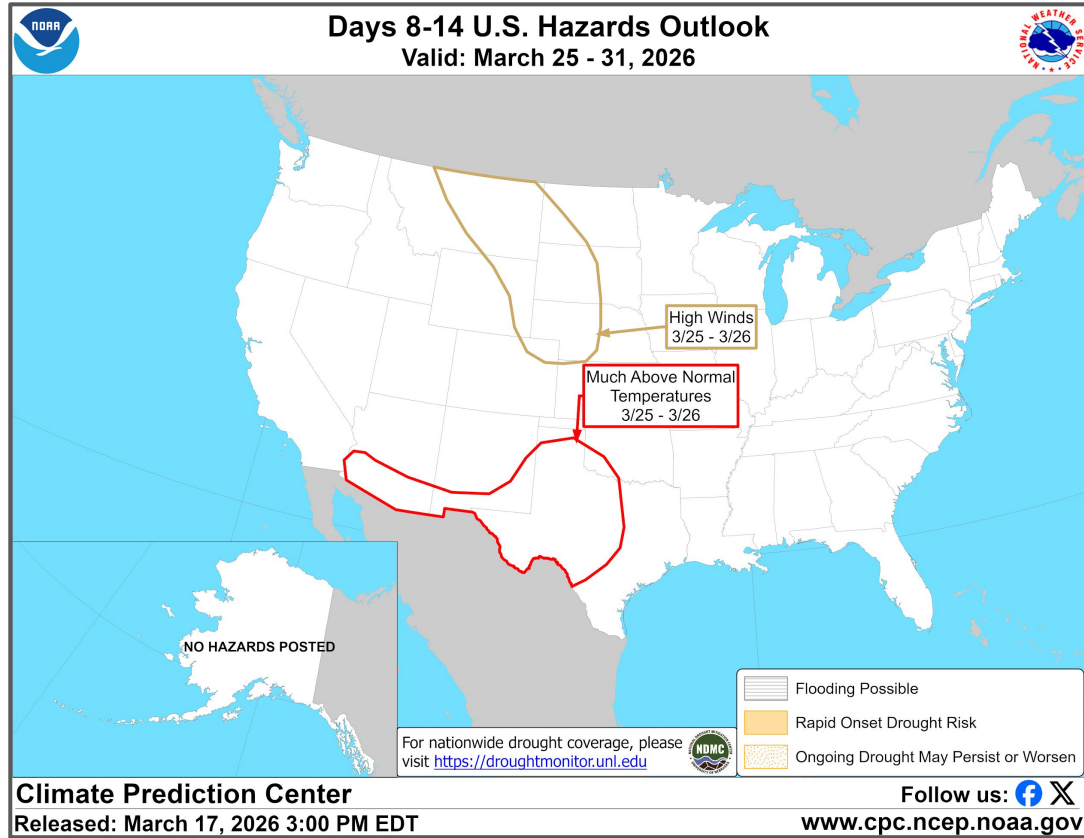


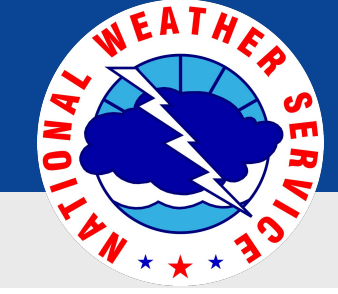
“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





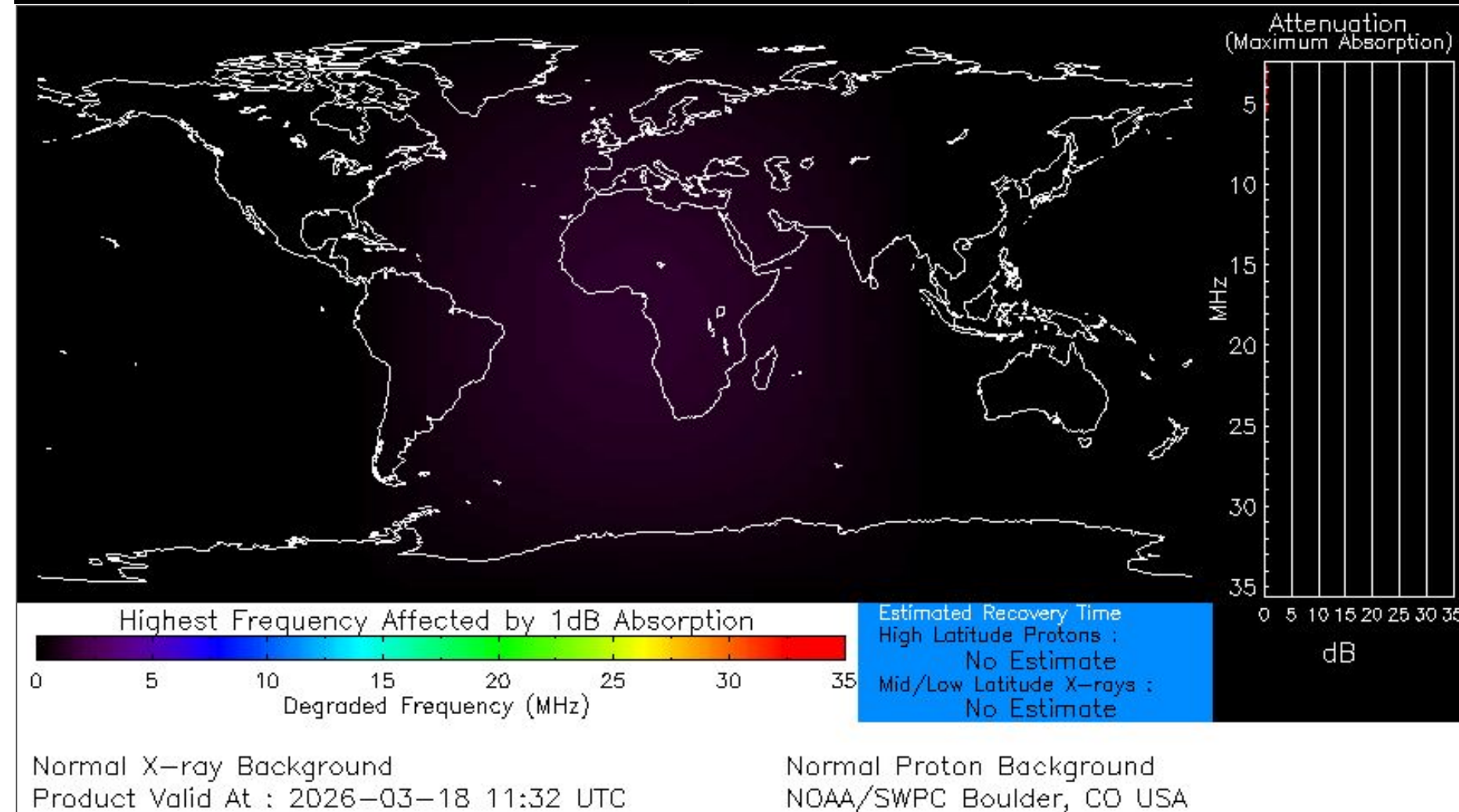
"Day 8-14" Hazards Outlook





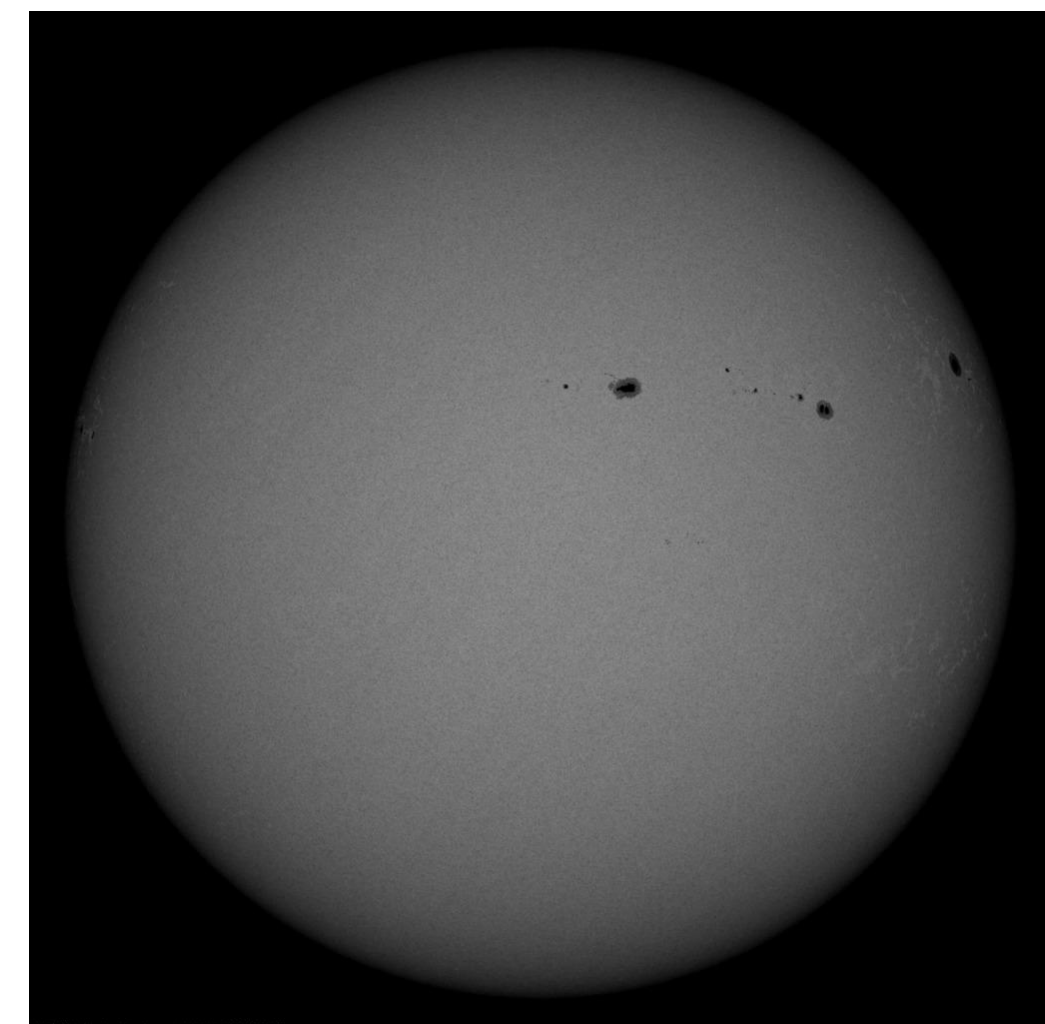
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Wednesday, Mar 18	Thursday, Mar 19	Friday, Mar 20
Geomagnetic Storms	Moderate Storm (G2) (Max Kp=6)	Minor Storm (G1) (Max Kp=5)	Minor Storm (G1) (Max Kp=5)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	10%	10%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	35%	35%	35%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	5%	5%	5%



[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>	<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"> 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>	<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"> 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>	<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"> 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>	<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"> 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>	<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"> 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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Southern Region Headquarters

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Fort Worth, TX



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Web: www.weather.gov/srh

