



FEMA



Prepared by
Andy Bollenbacher

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, March 23, 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 to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns Thursday in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, W TX. Cold front brings northerly wind shift overnight.**
- **Fire weather concerns may persist on Friday in portions of NM, TX, and OK due to dry, breezy winds from the north/northeast.**

- **Heat:**

- **Portions of SW-W TX will be 25-35 degrees above normal Wed-Thu.**
- **Cooler temps on Friday after the front.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Monday, Mar 23	Tuesday, Mar 24	Wednesday, Mar 25	Thursday, Mar 26	Friday, Mar 27	Saturday, Mar 28	Sunday, Mar 29
Severe Storms							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Heat			SW TX	SW-W TX			
Fire Weather				E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, W TX	E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, W TX		
River Flooding							

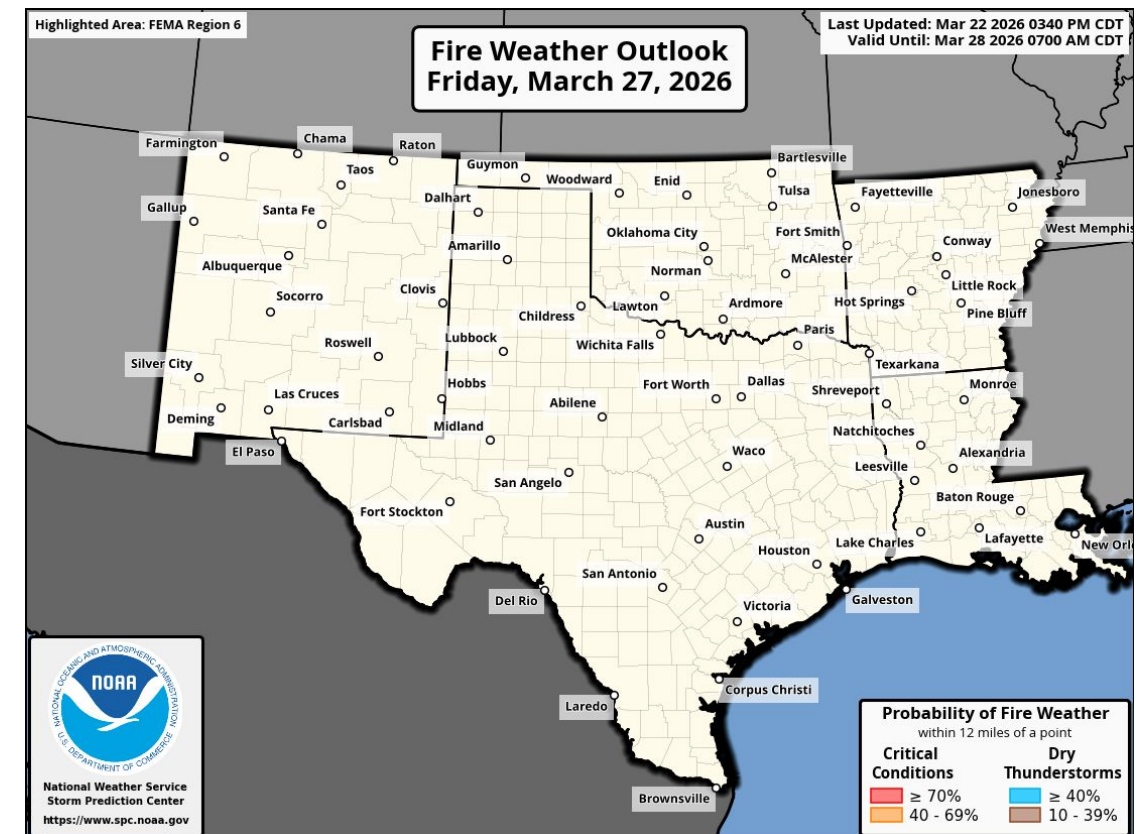
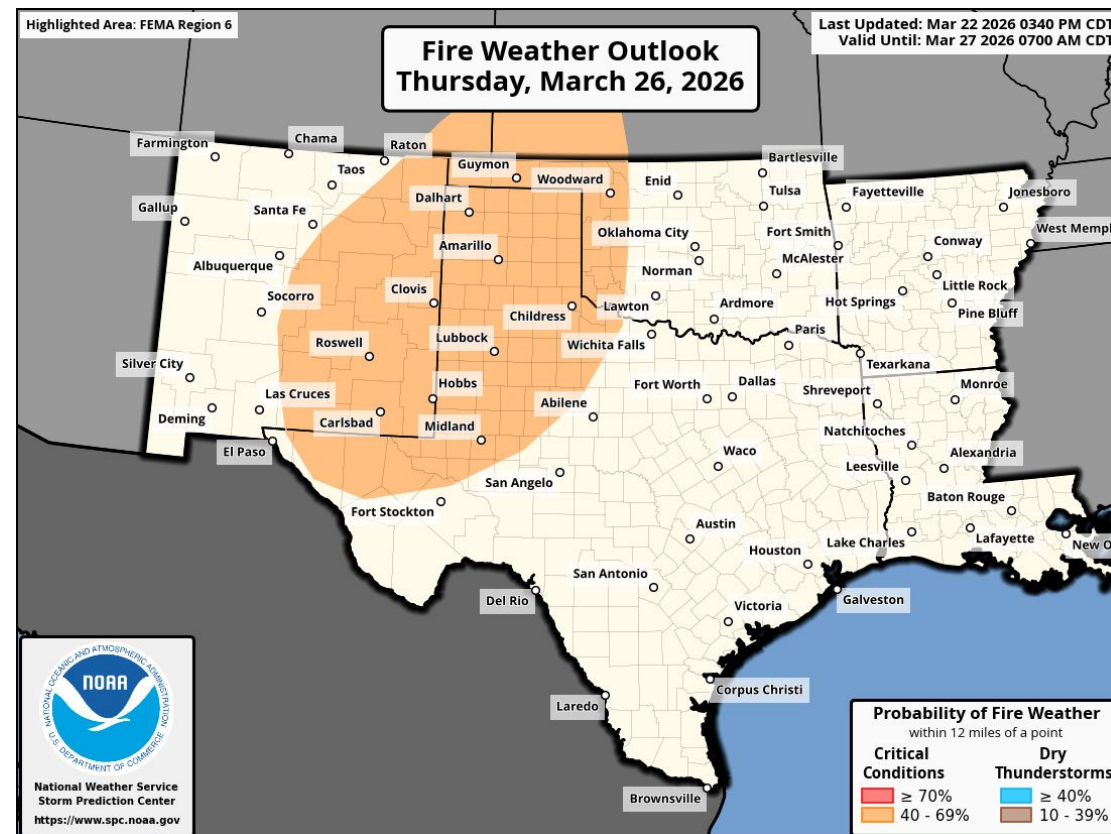
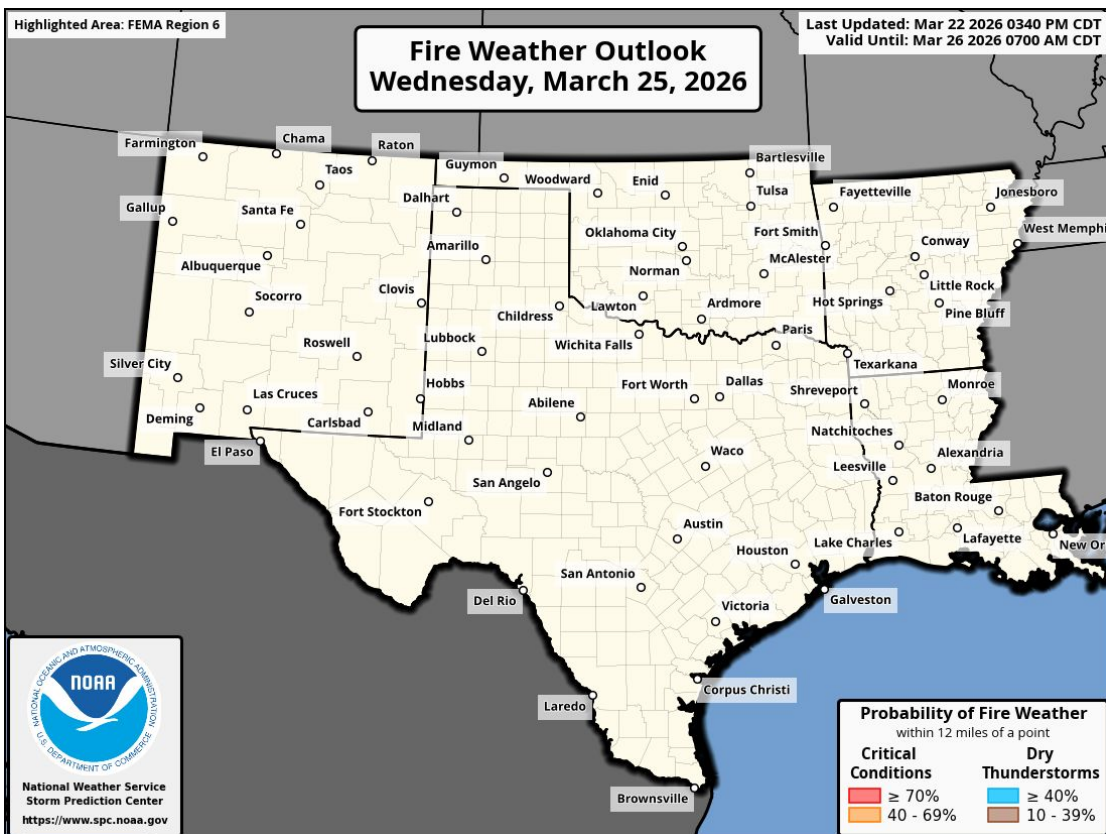
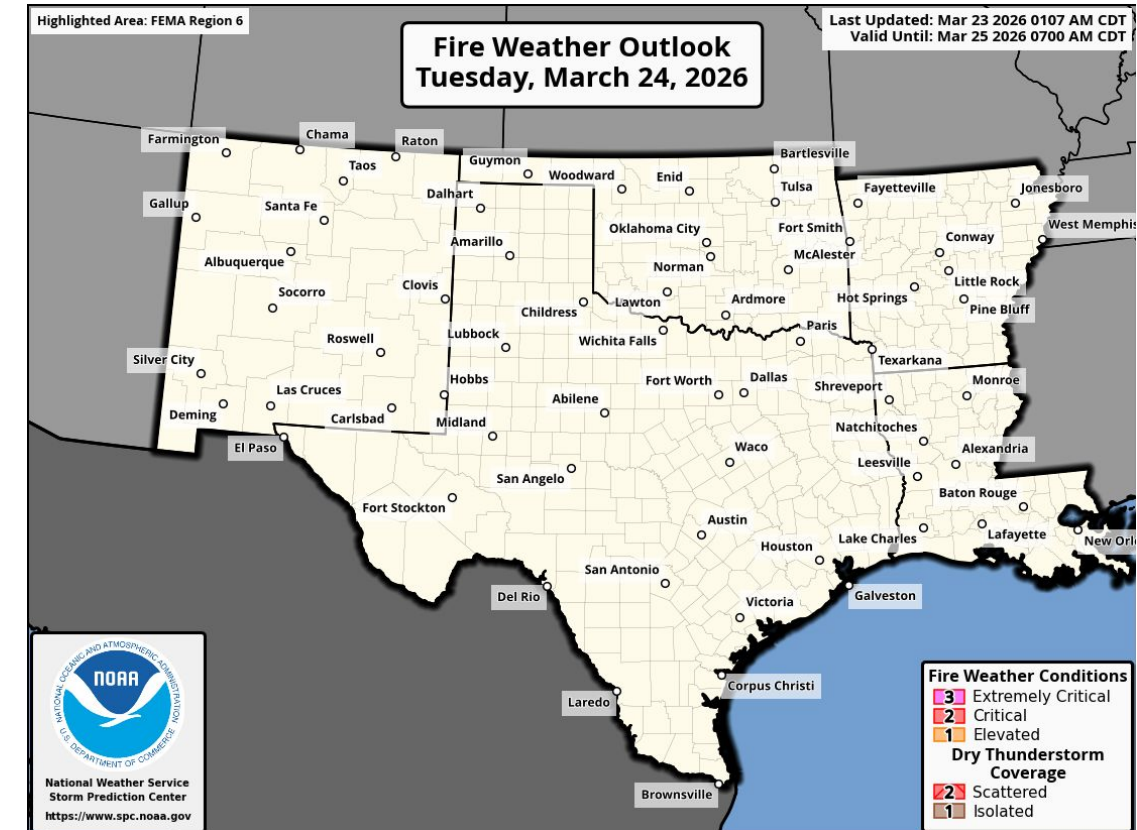
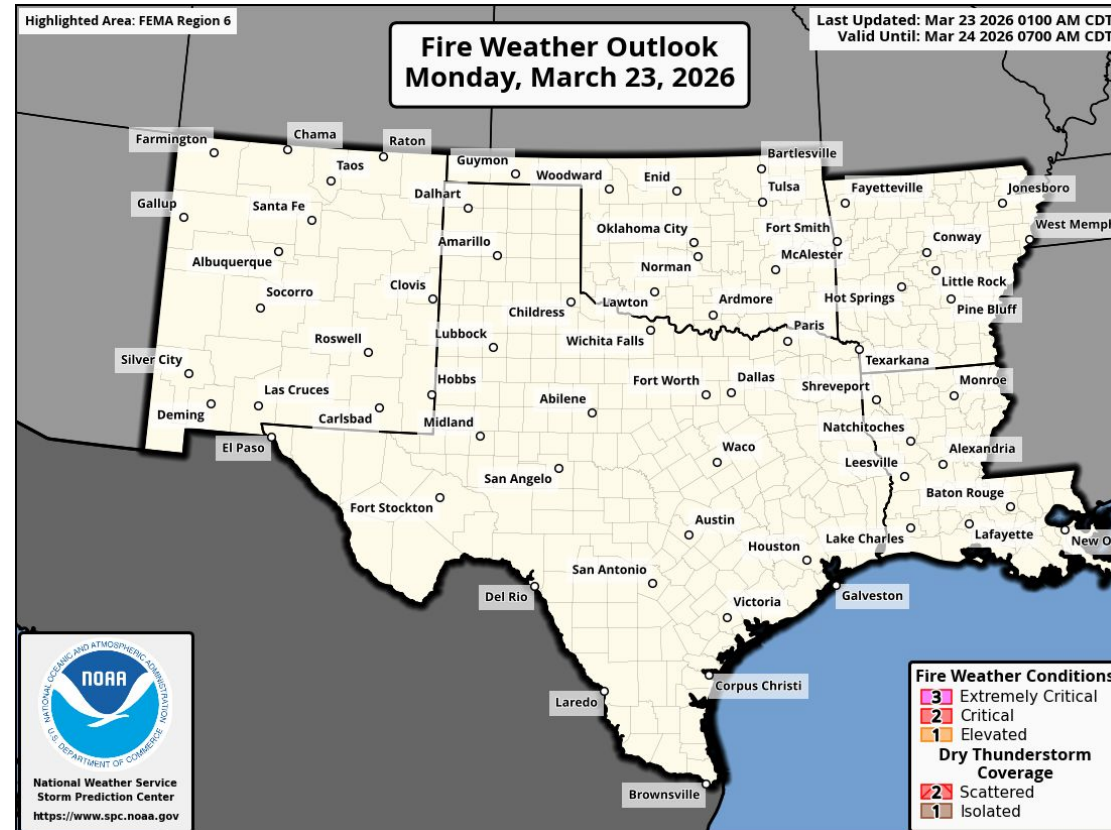
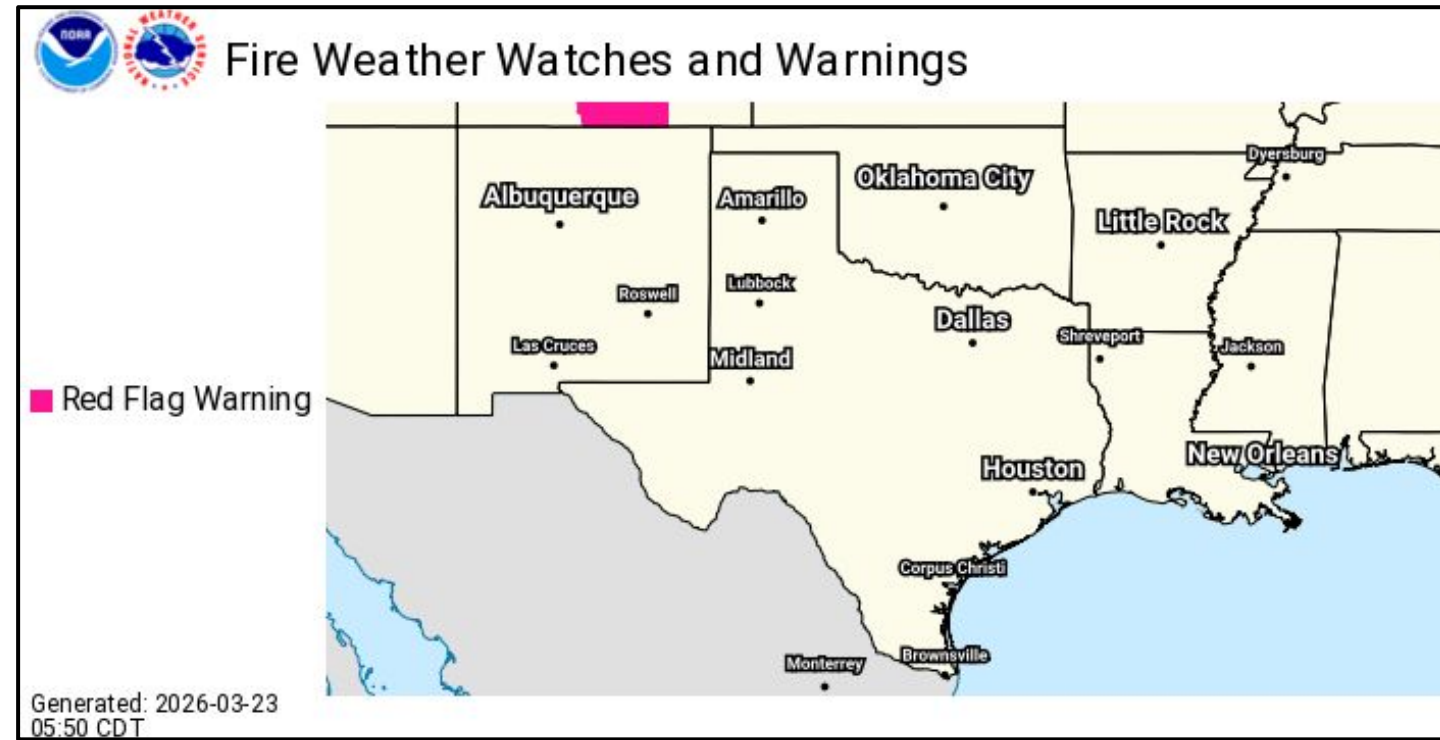
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.

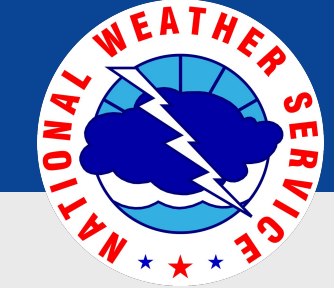
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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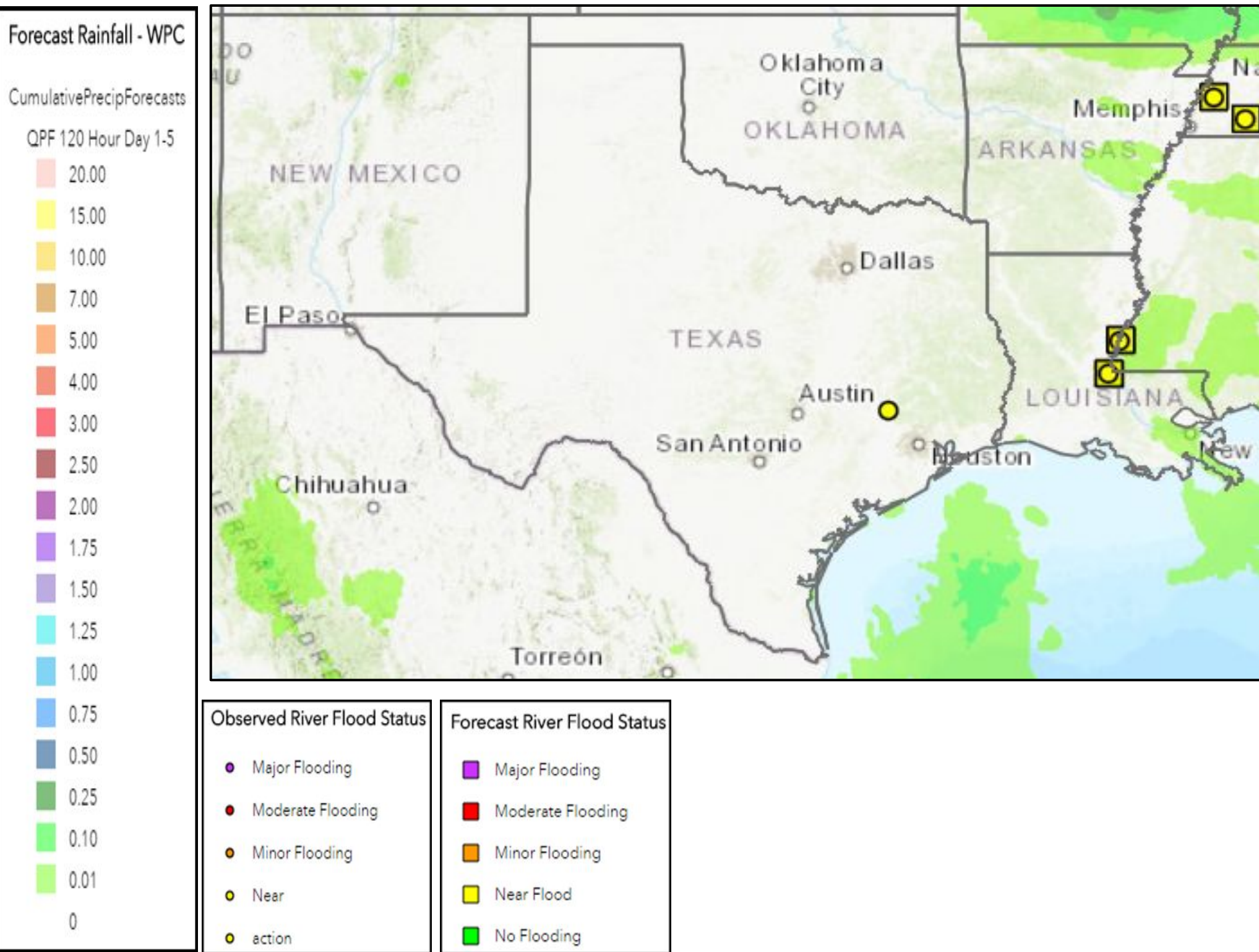
Fire Weather Outlooks





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



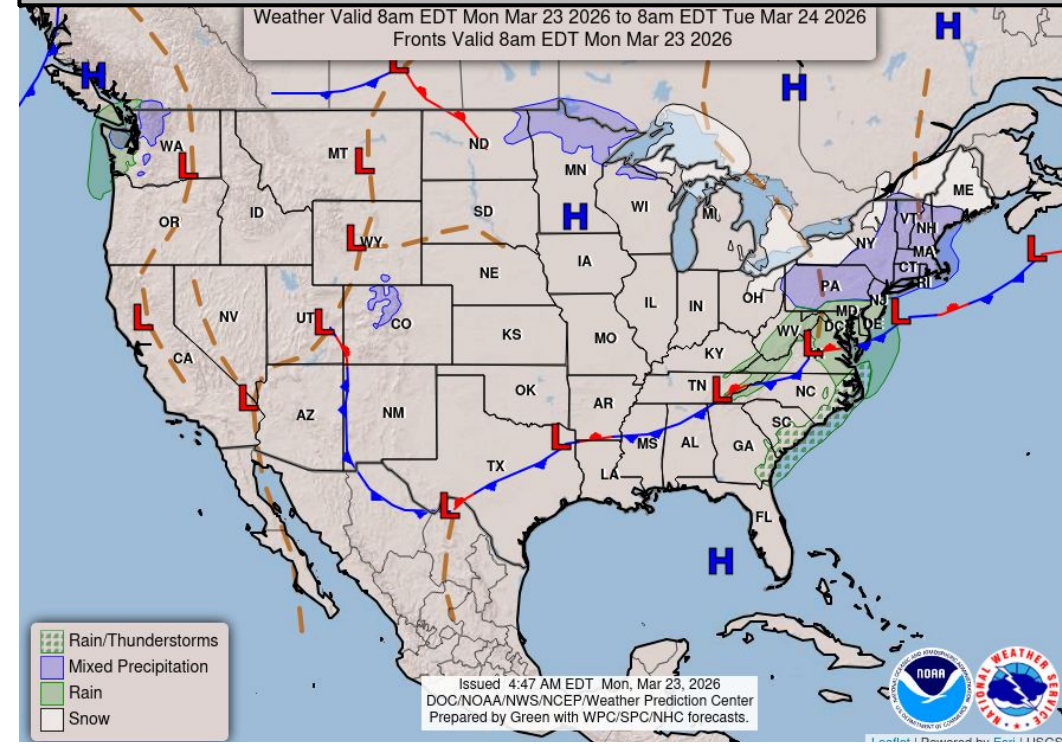
River flooding is not expected.

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.

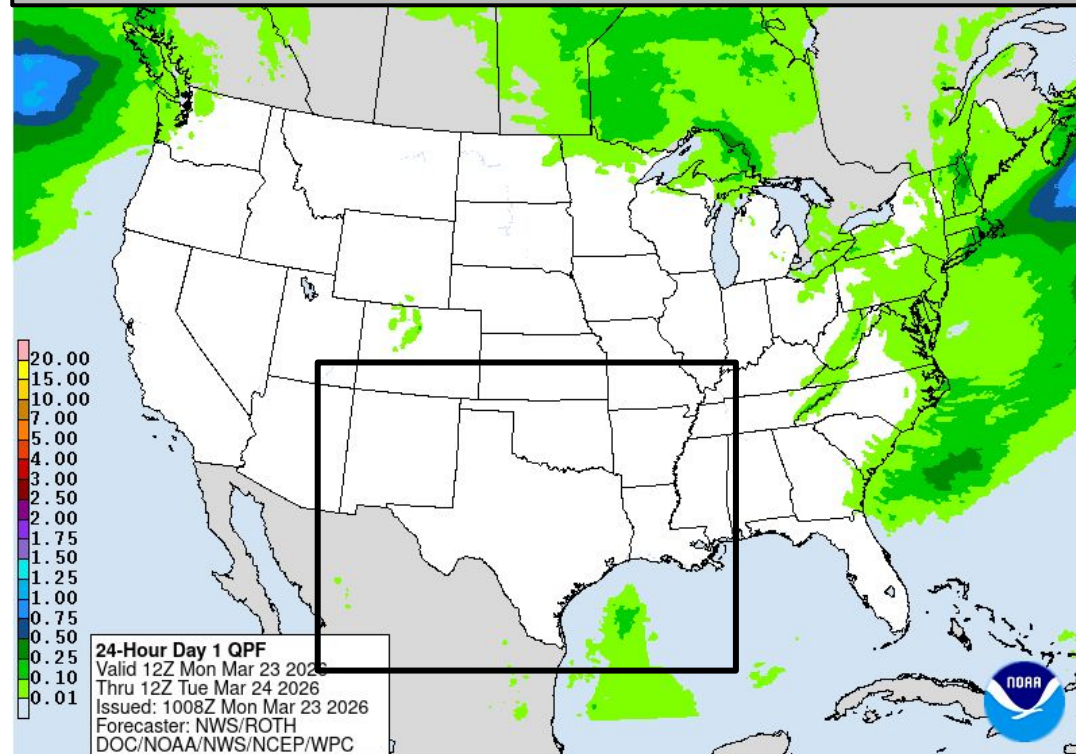


Today's Weather

Forecast Chart

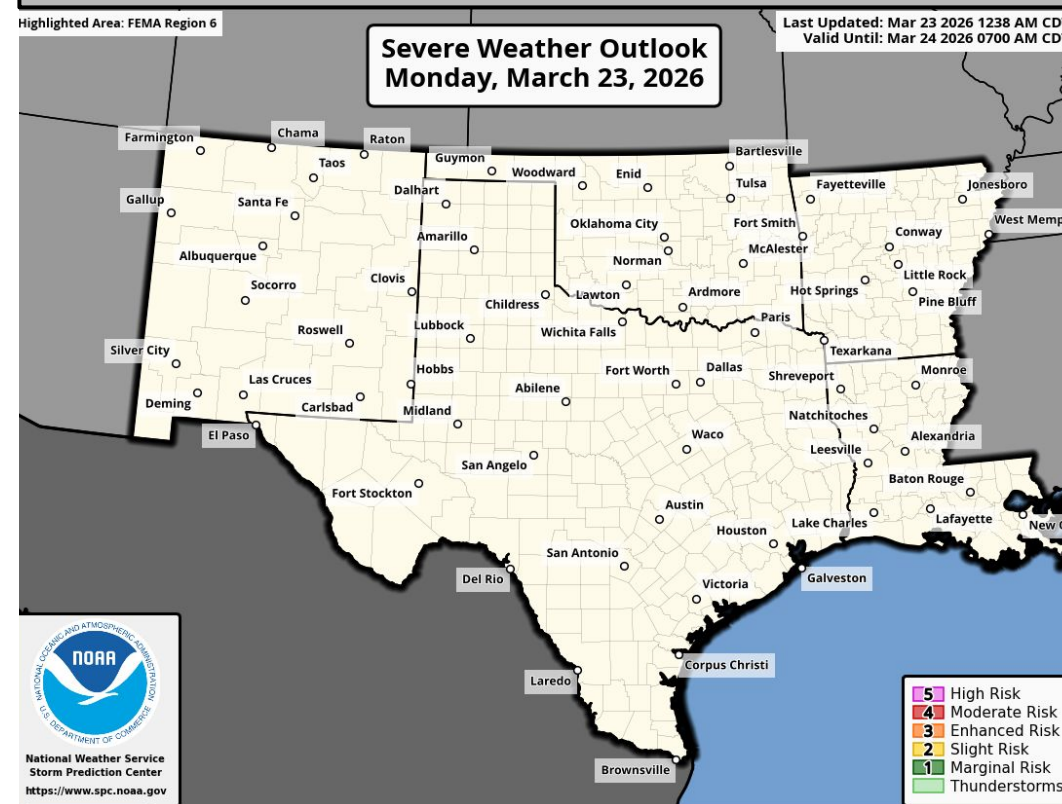


Forecast Rainfall

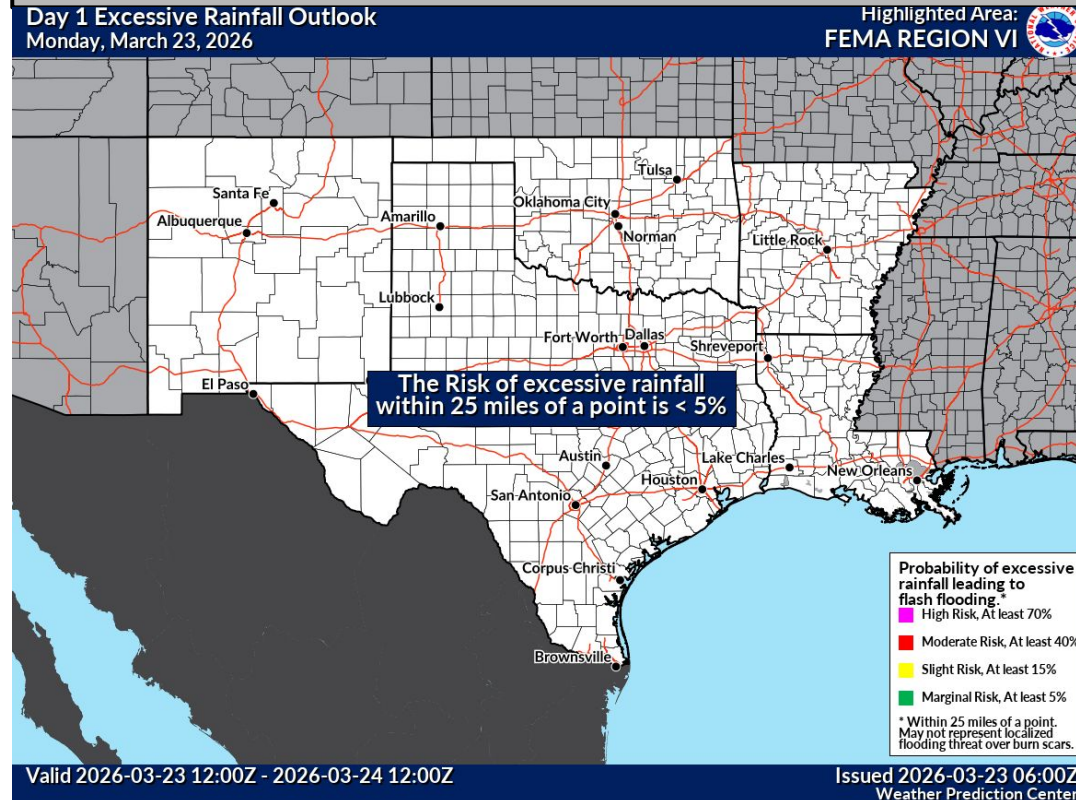


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

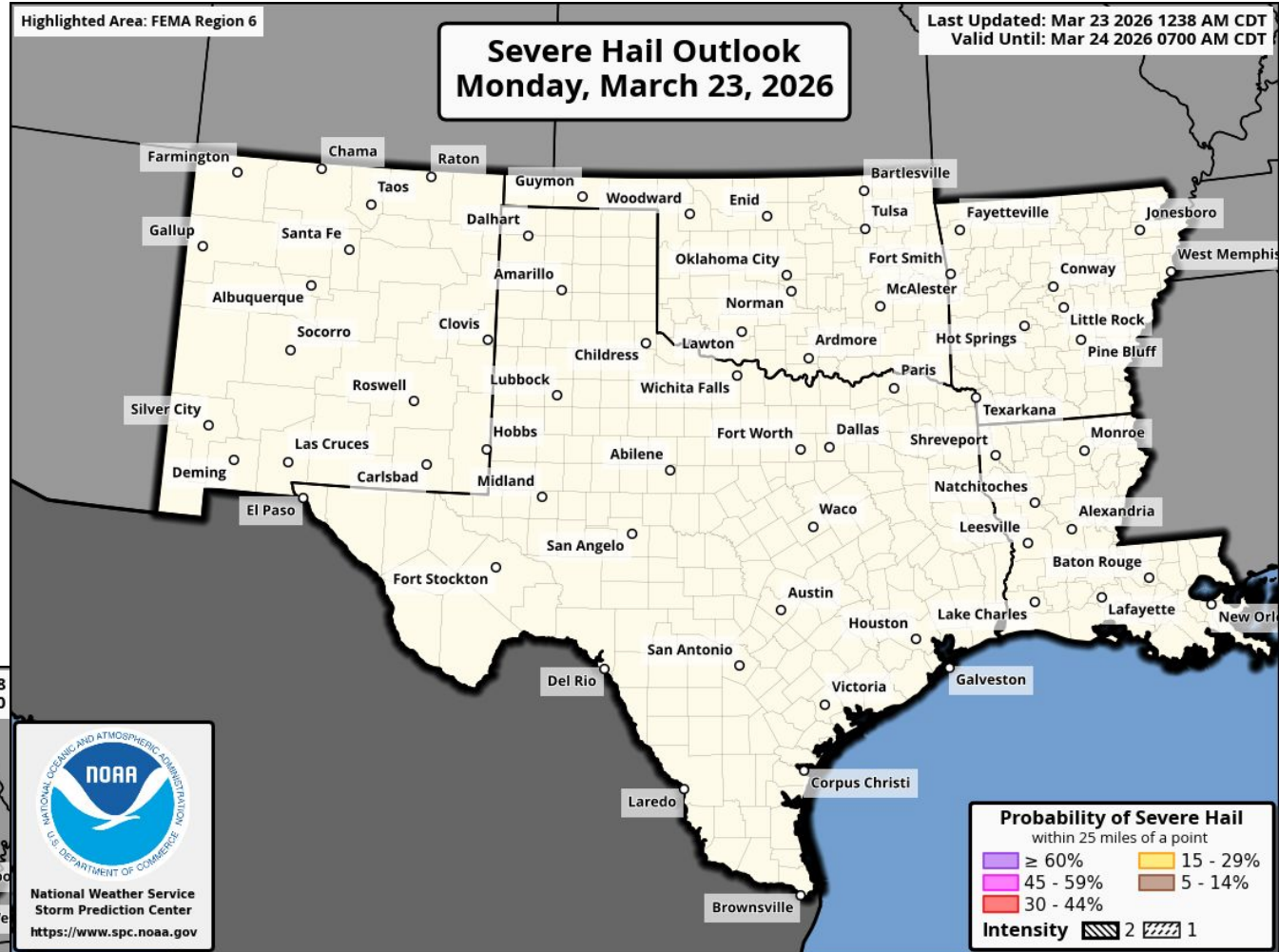
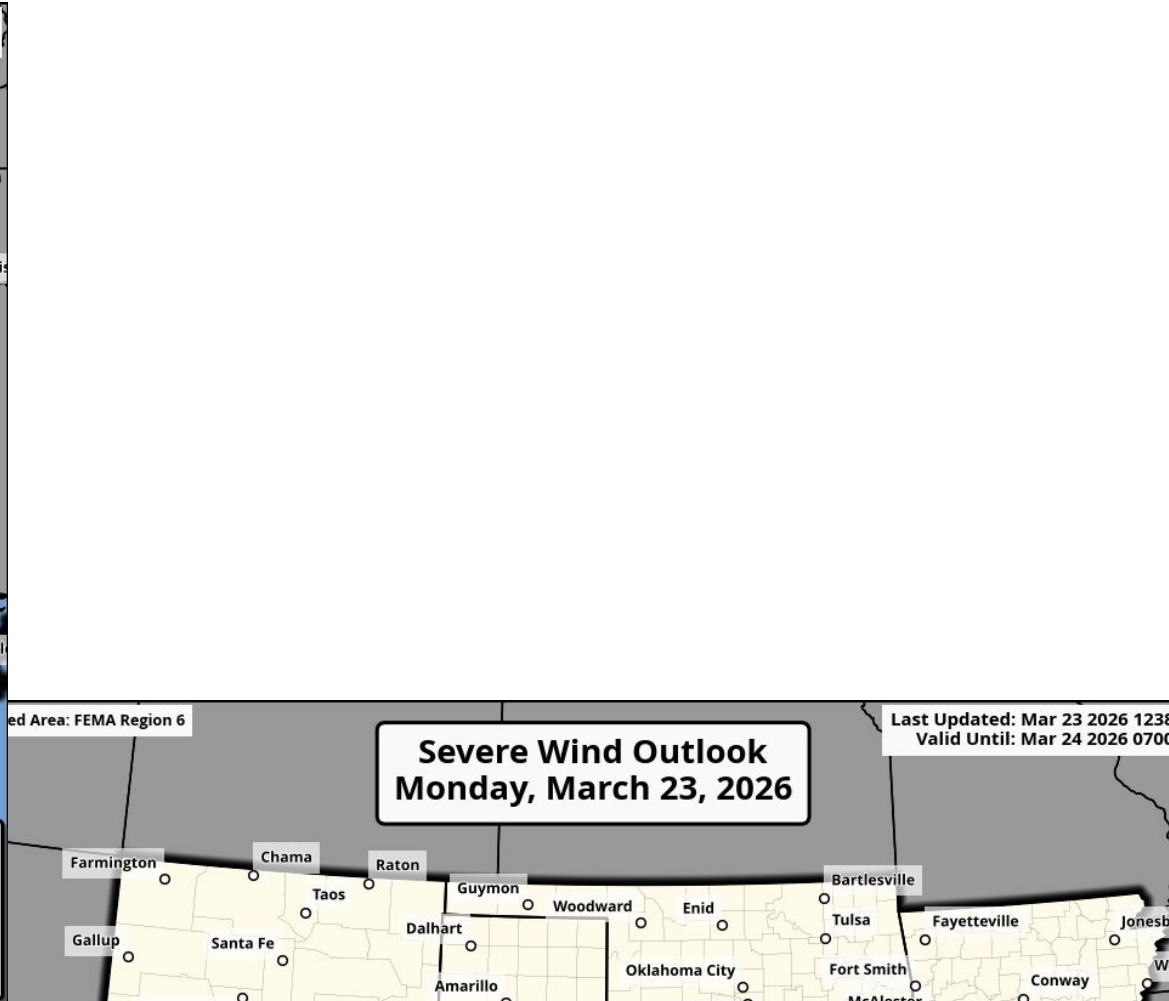
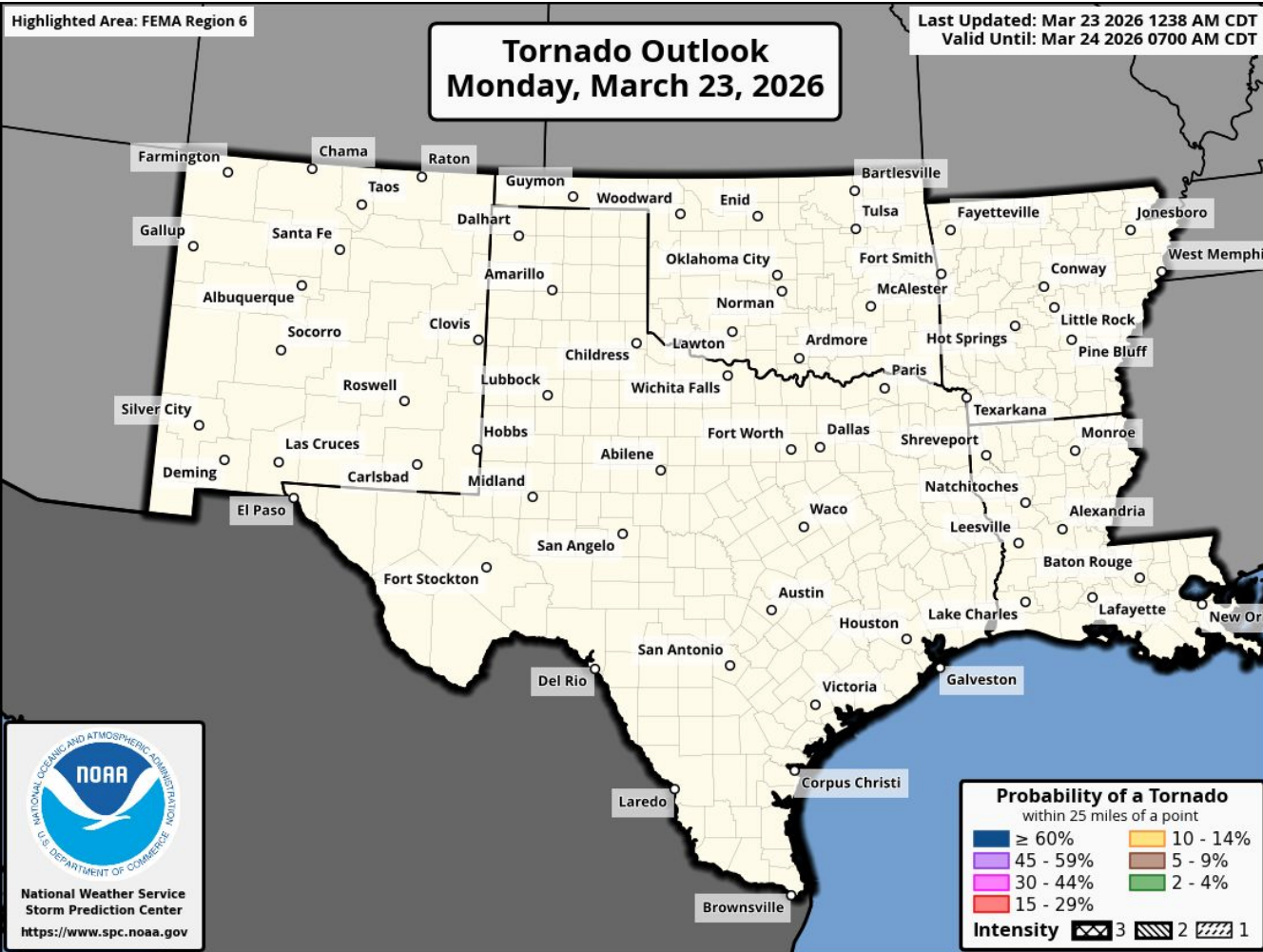


Excessive Rainfall Outlook





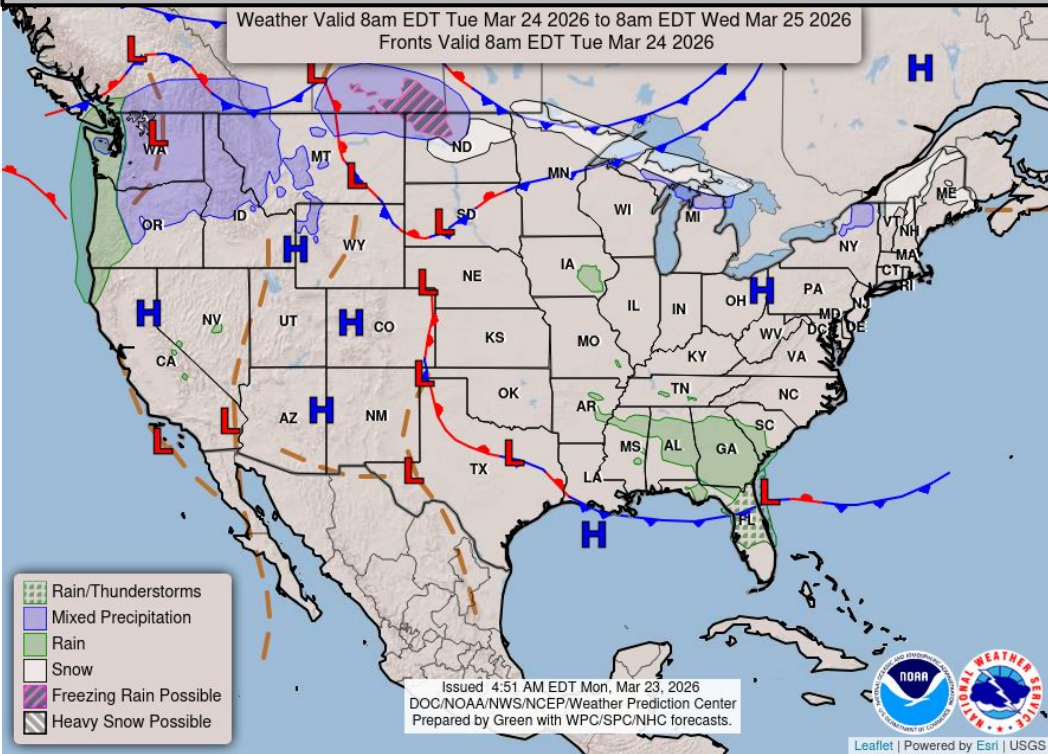
Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



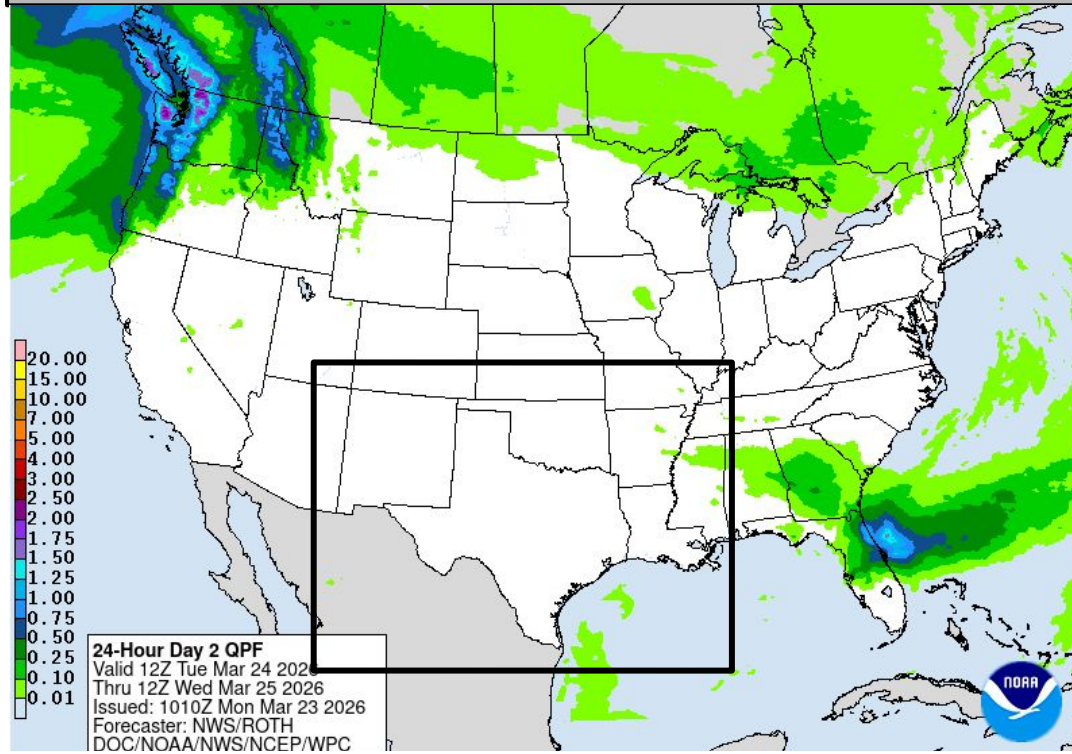


Tomorrow's Weather

Forecast Chart

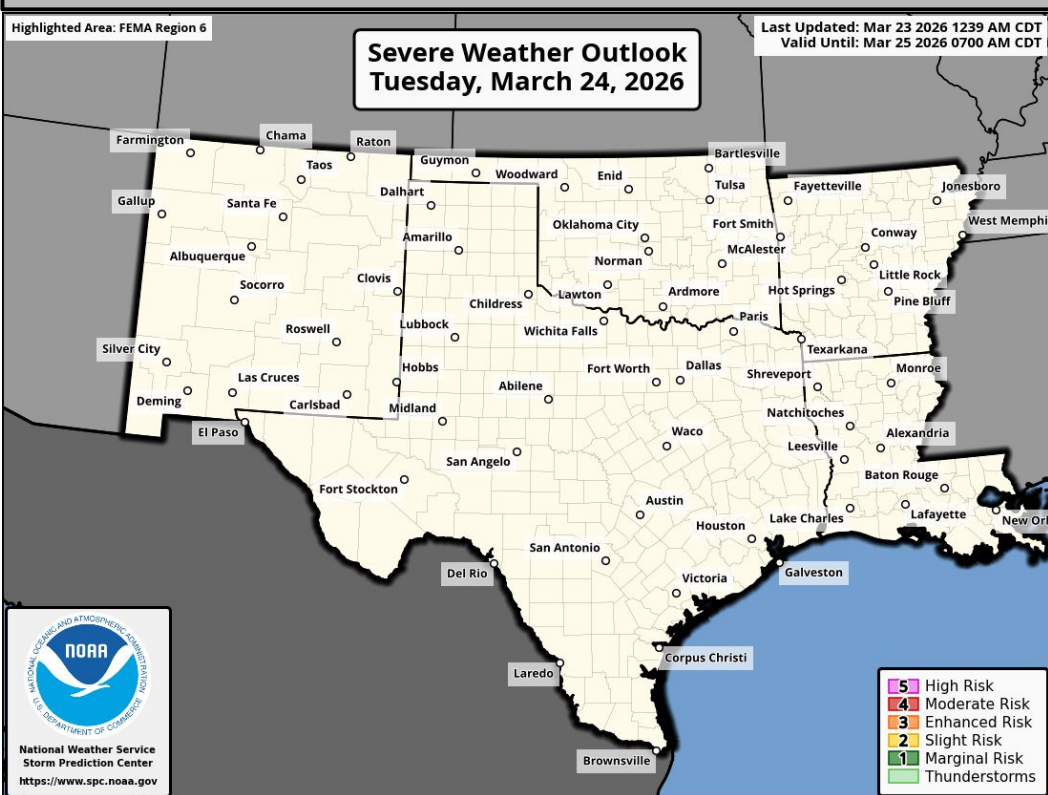


Forecast Rainfall

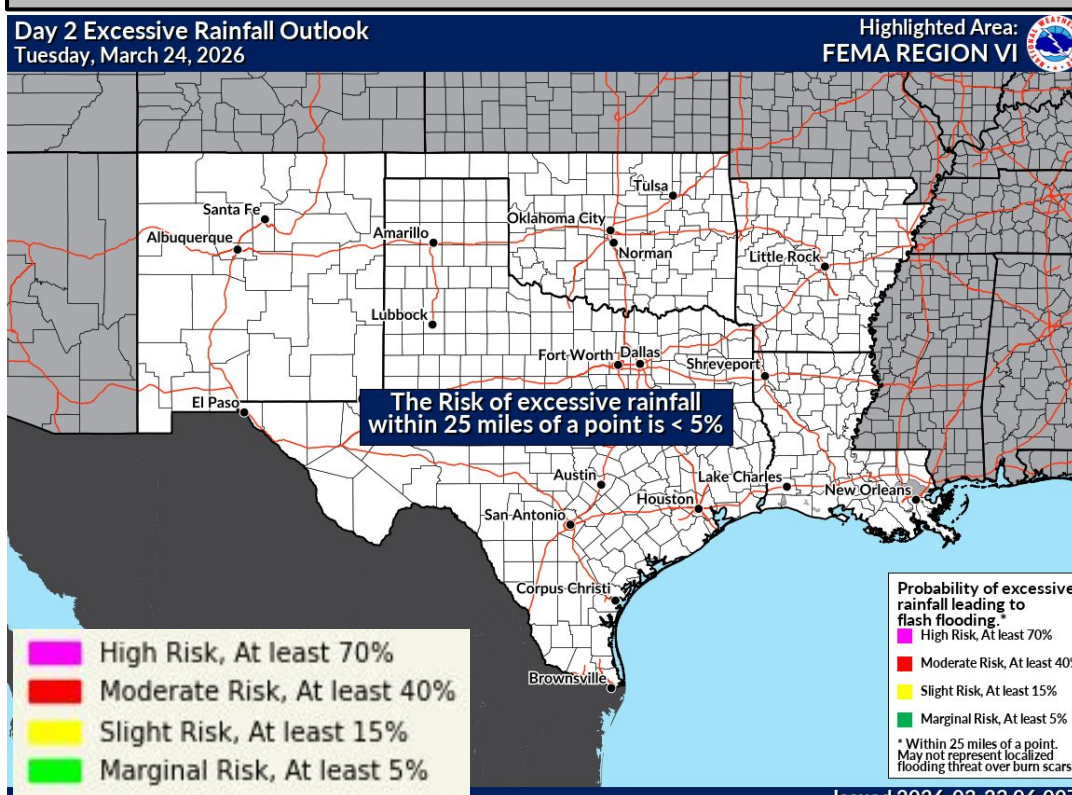


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

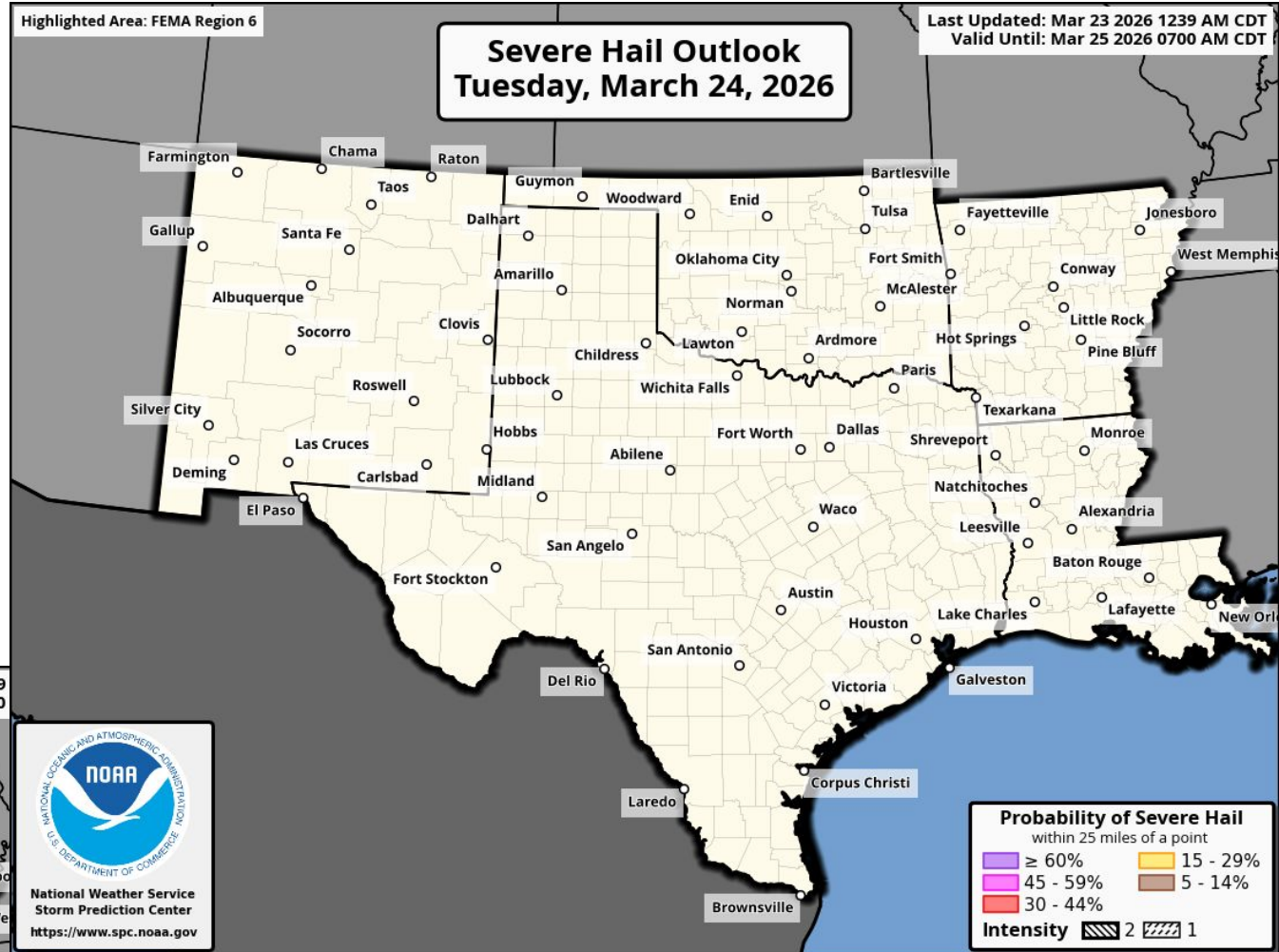
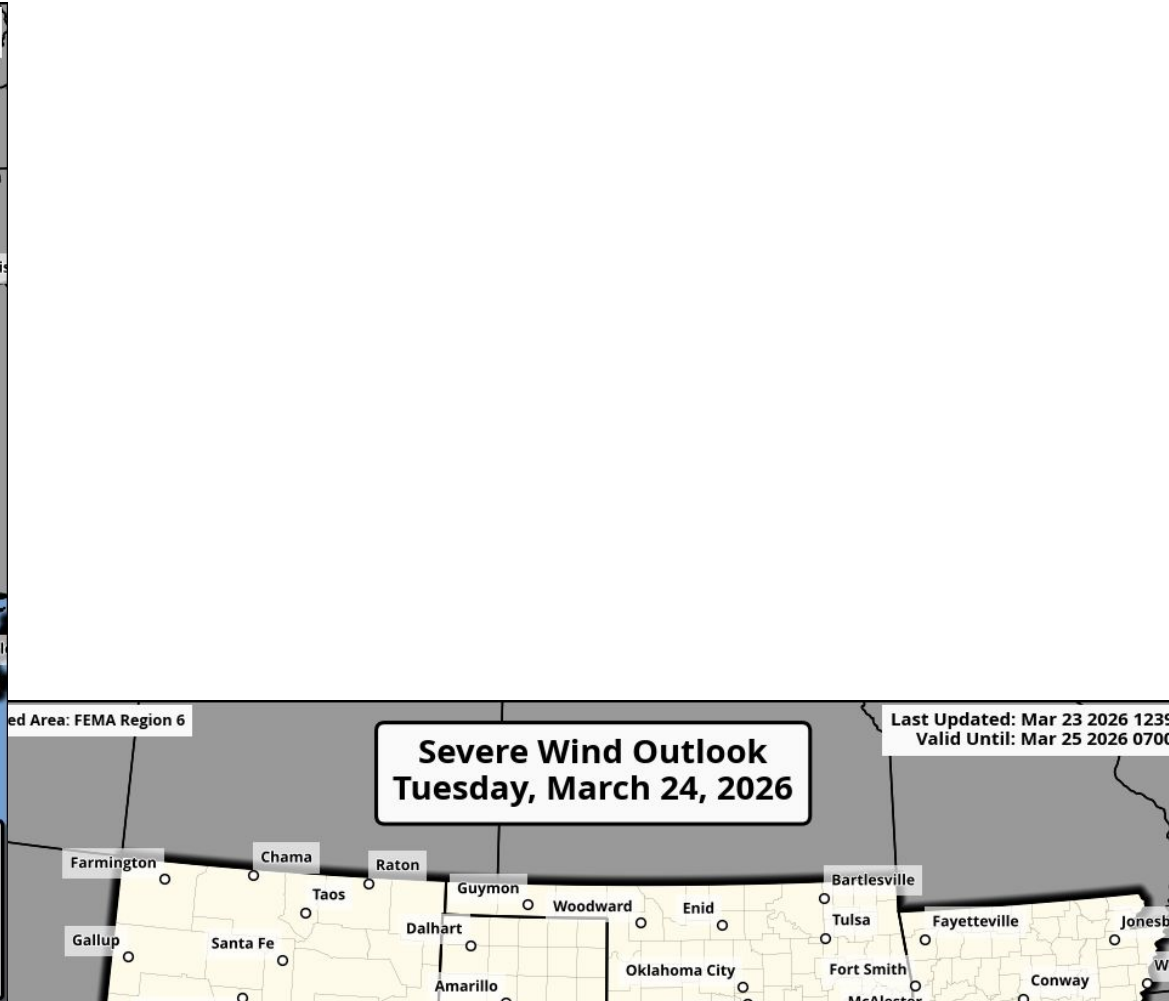
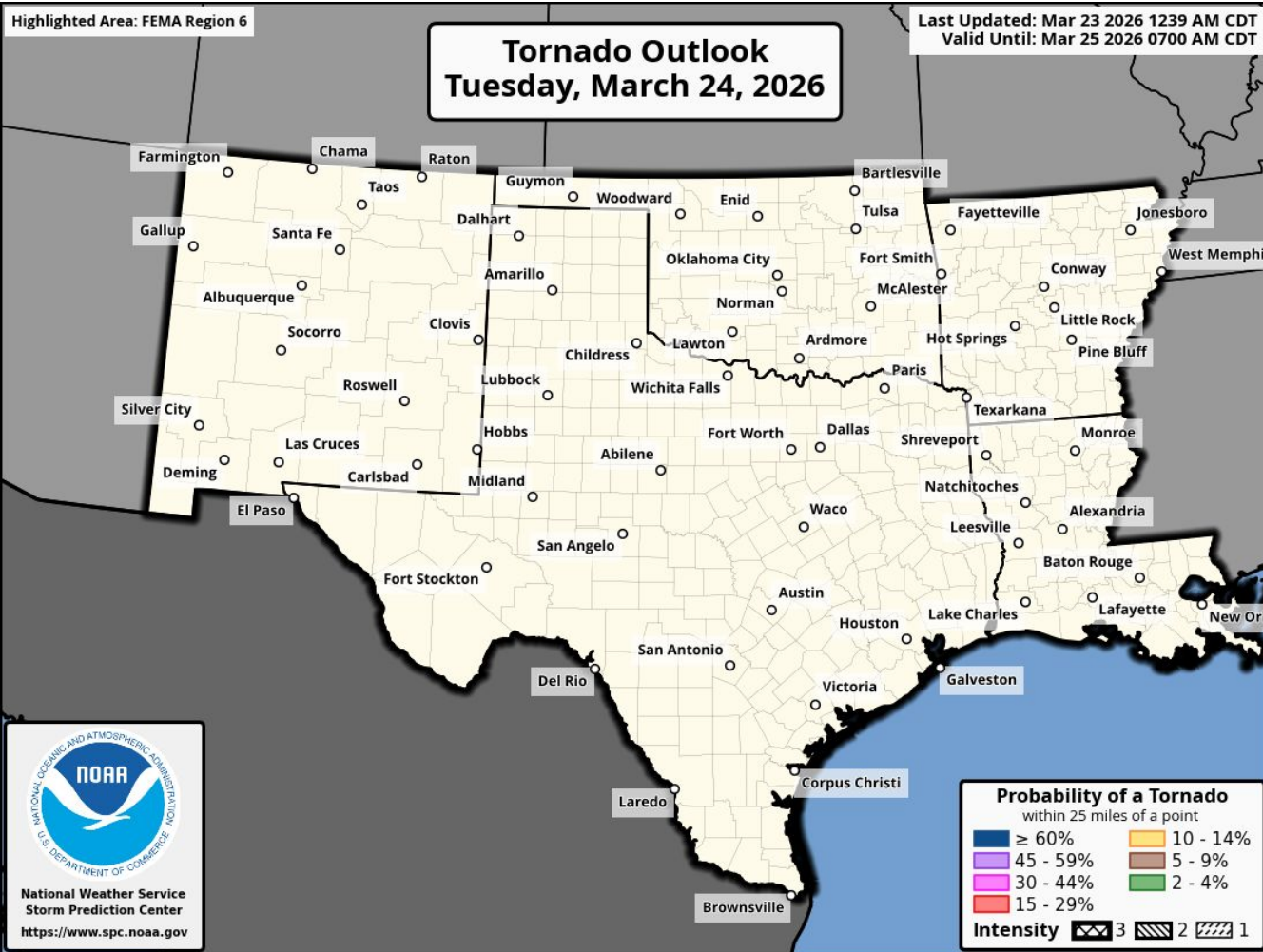


Excessive Rainfall Outlook



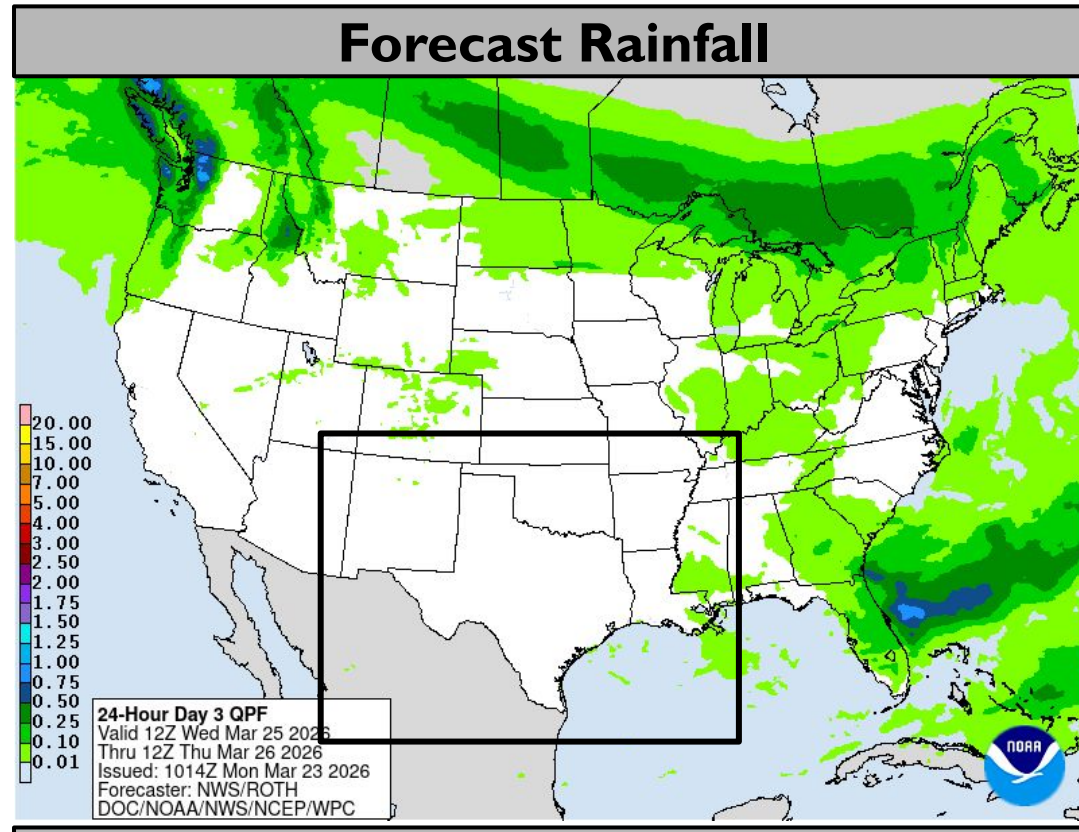
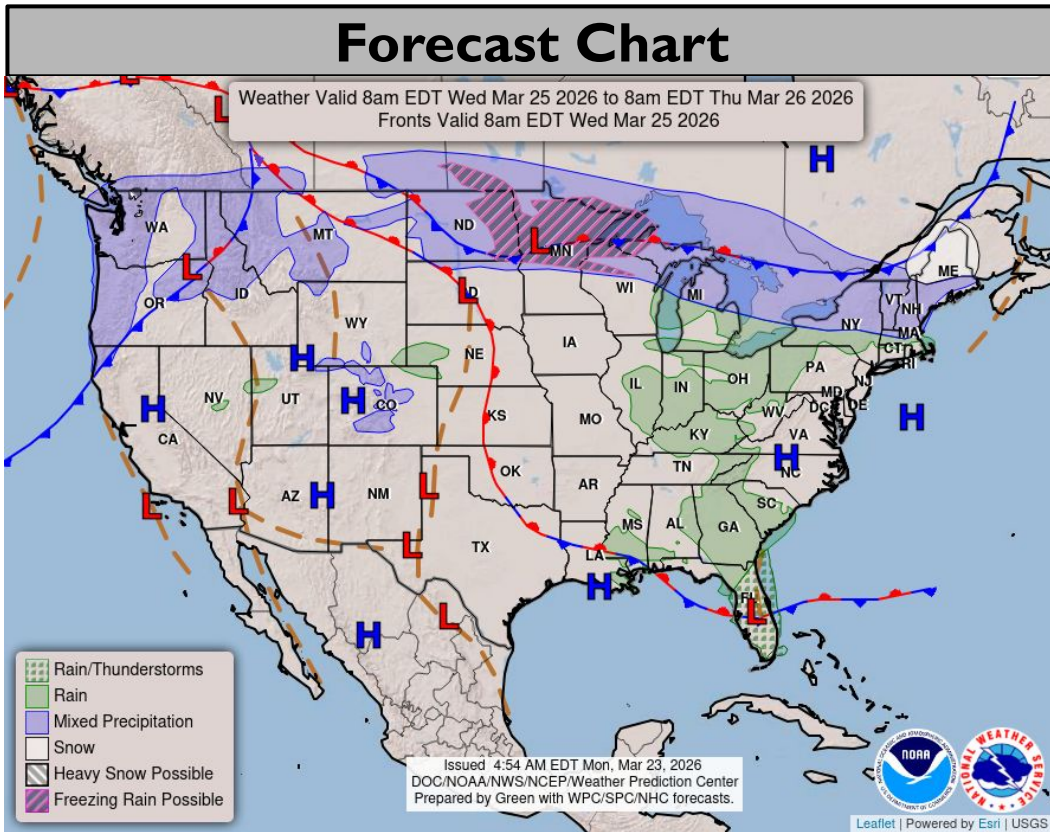


Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

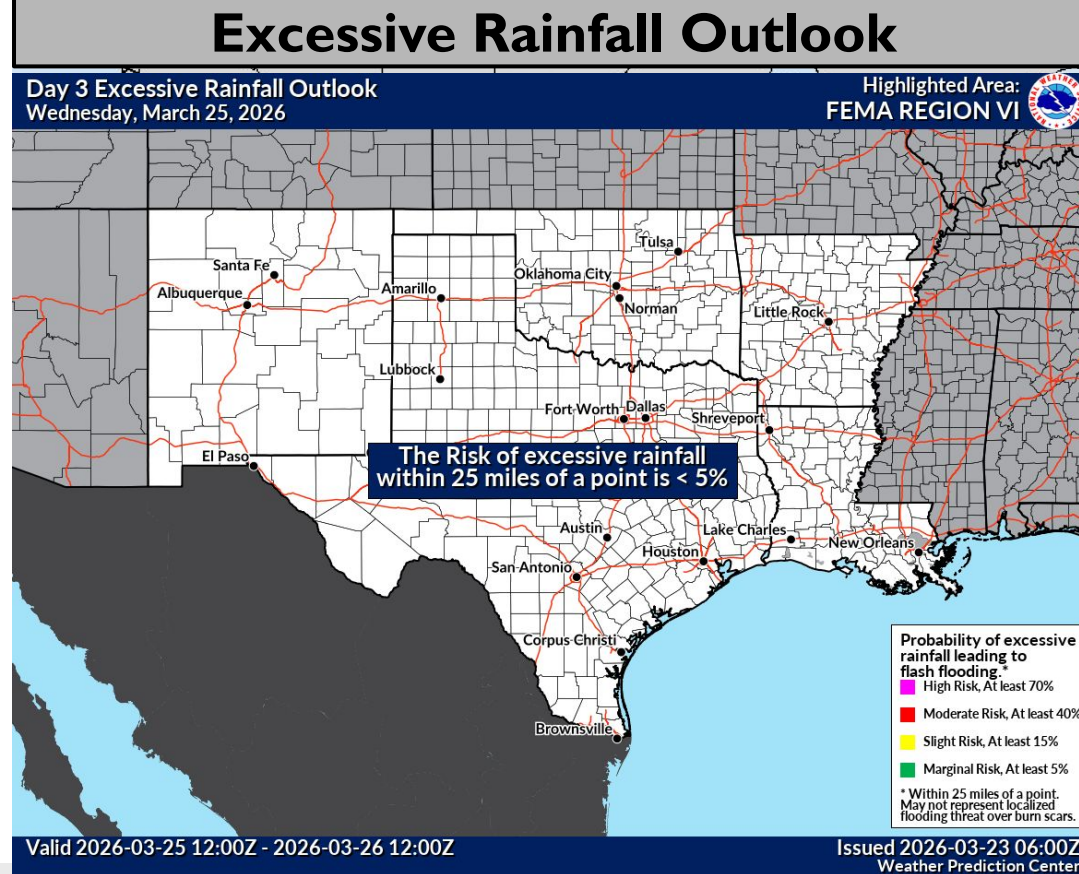
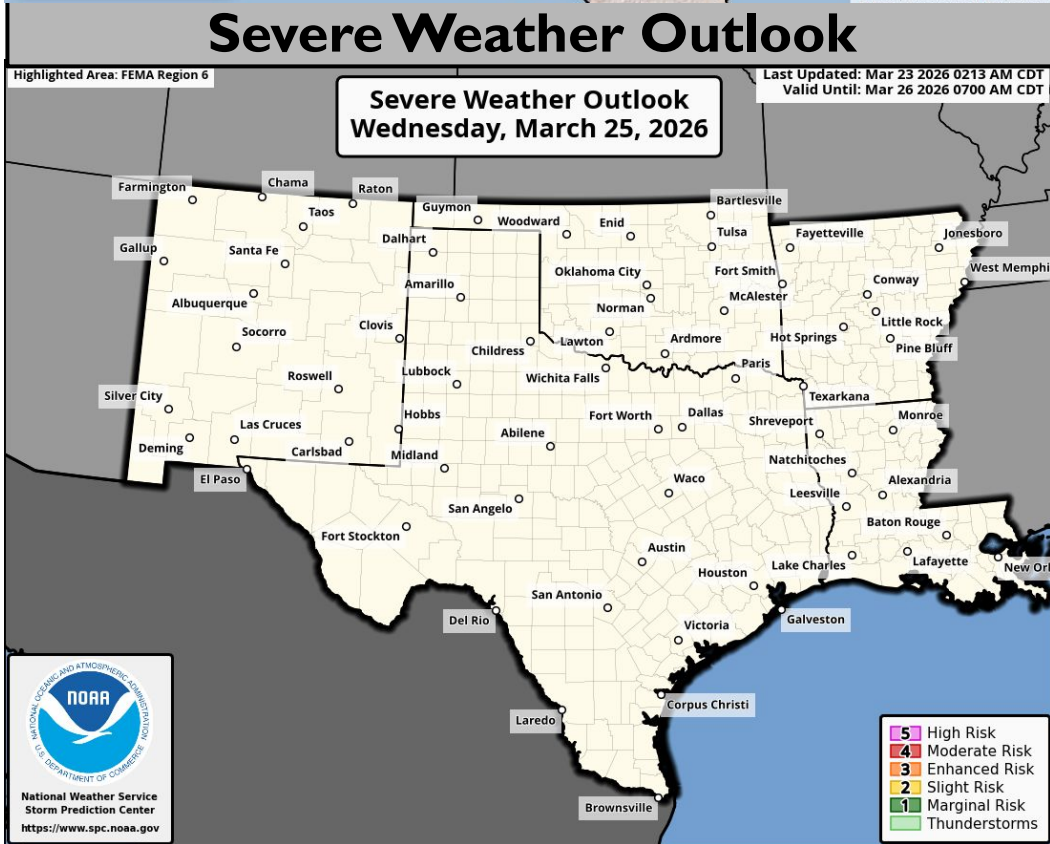




Wednesday's Weather



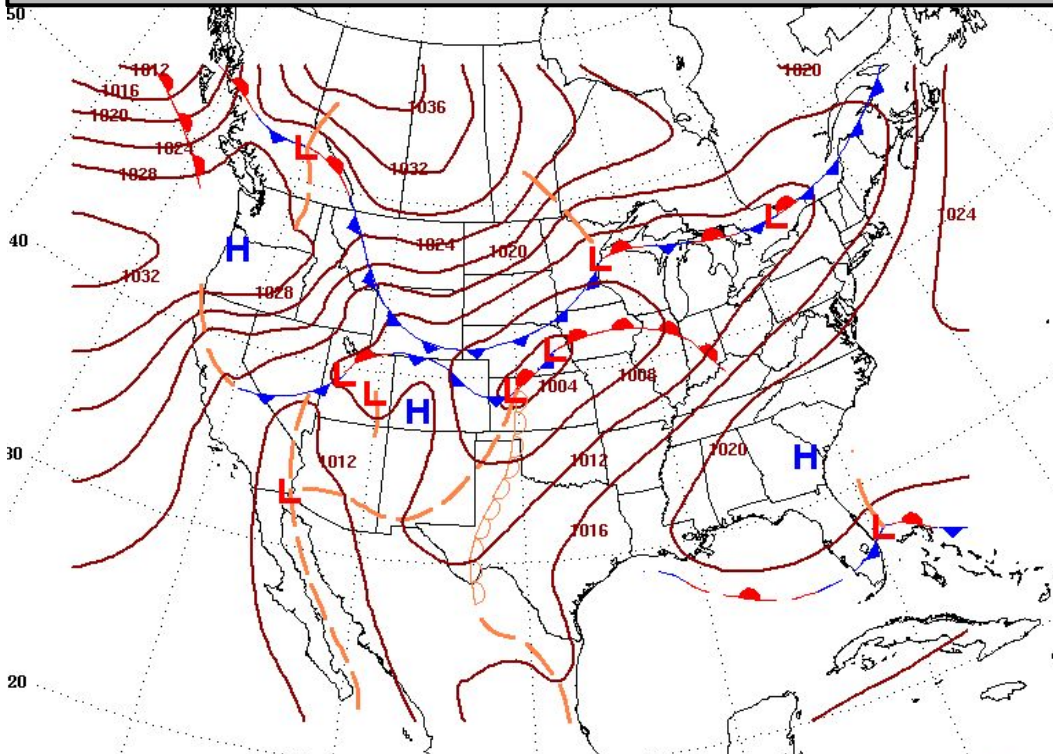
Afternoon highs 25-30 degrees above normal in SW TX. High temps as hot as 95-105 degrees.



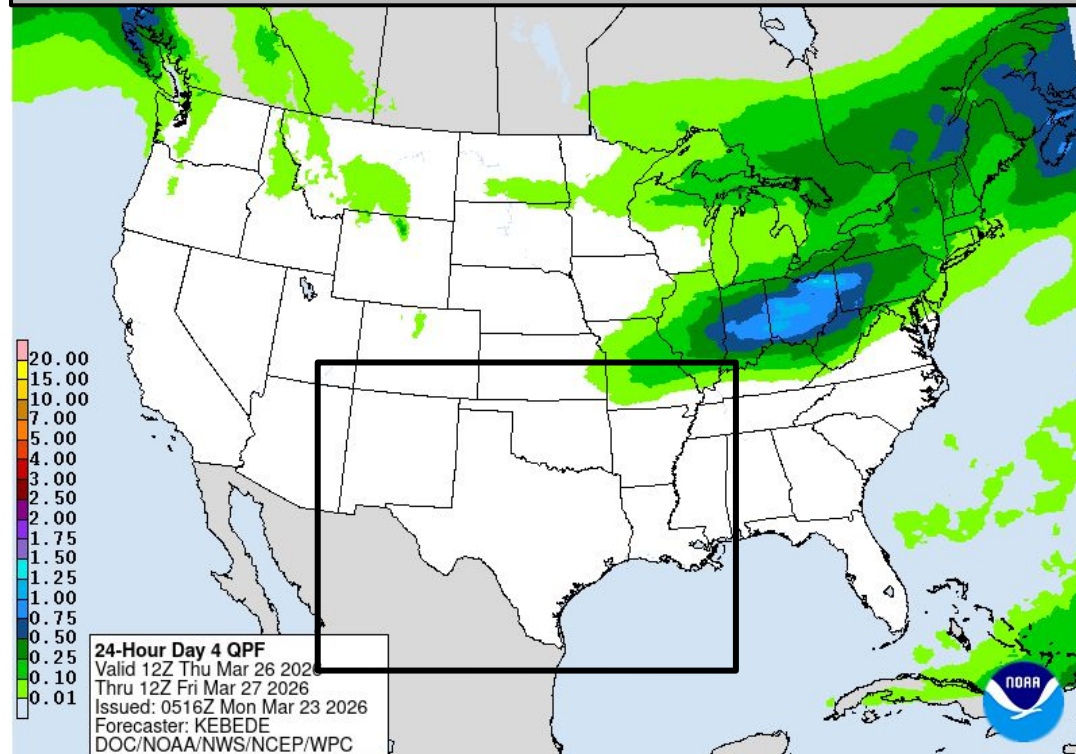


Thursday's Weather

Forecast Chart

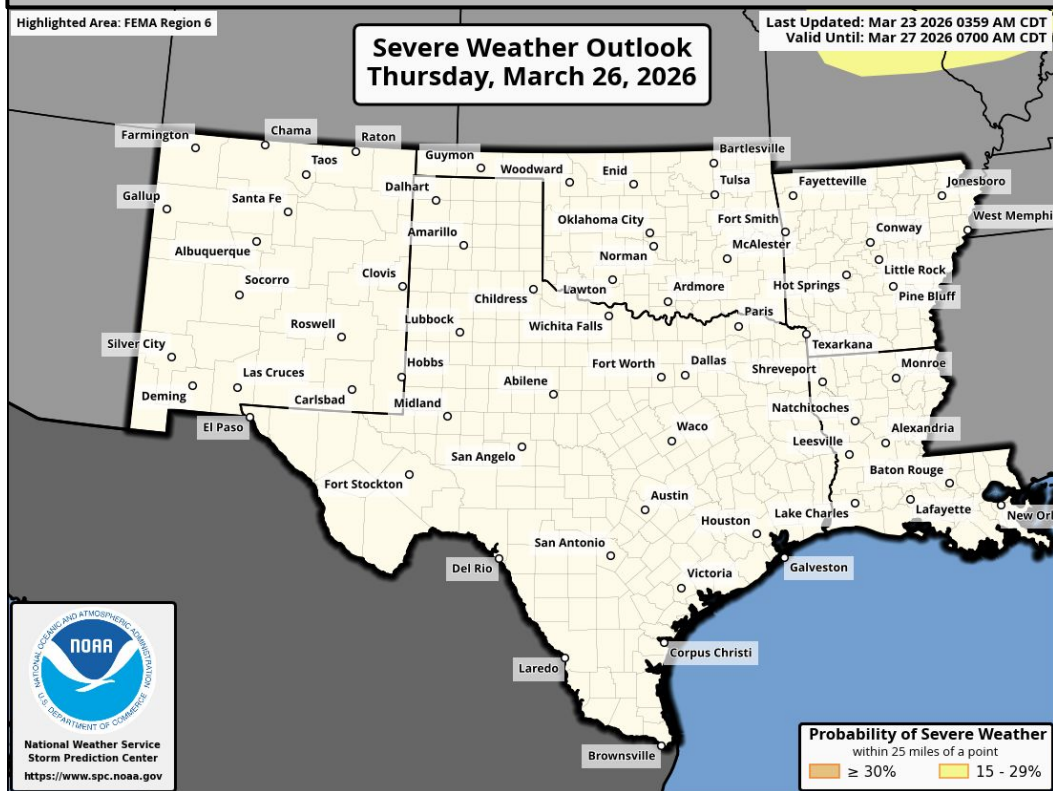


Forecast Rainfall

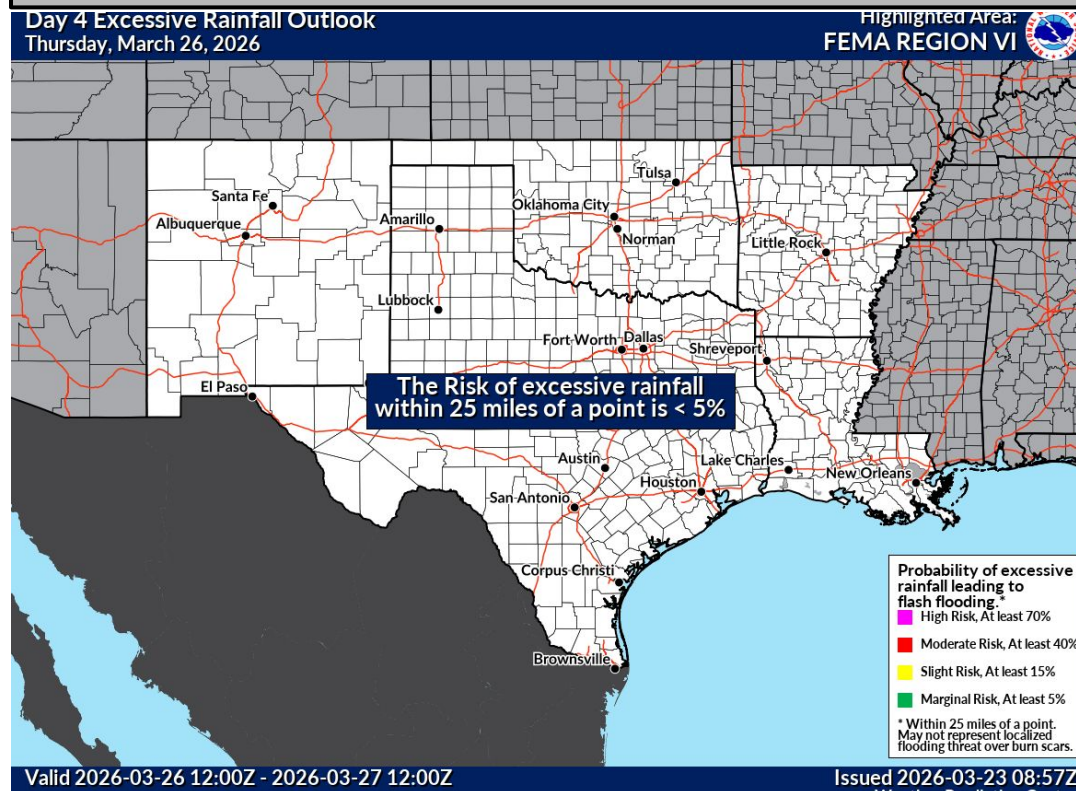


Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, W TX. Winds shift from south/southwest to north/northeast late evening/overnight due to a dry cold front.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

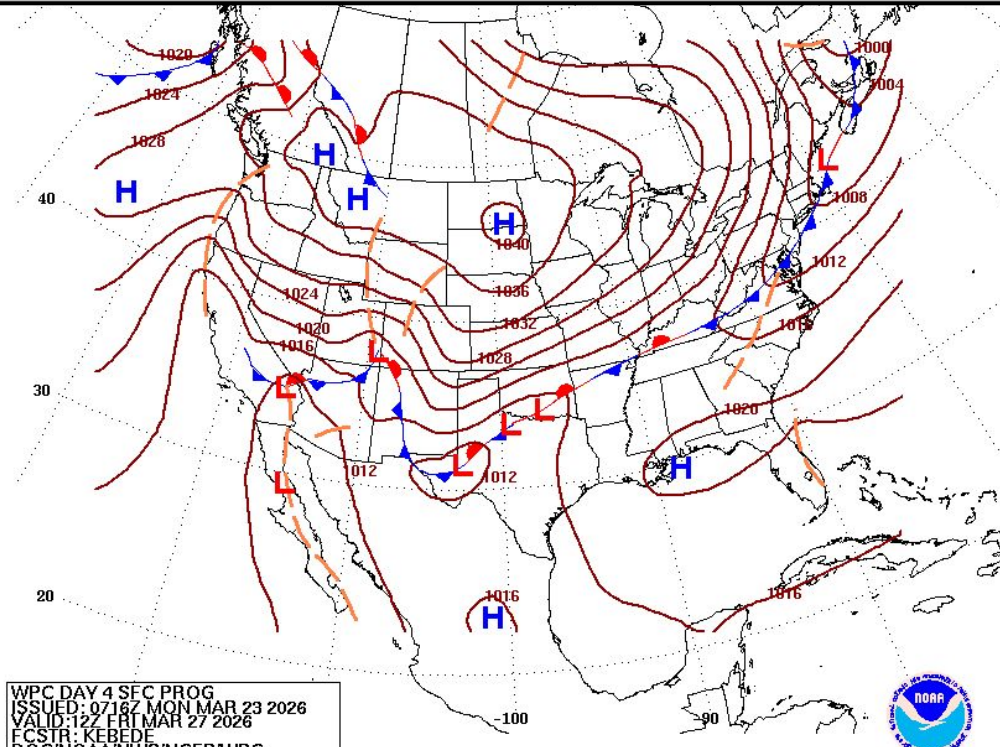


Afternoon highs 30-35 degrees above normal in SW-W TX. High temps as hot as 100-105 degrees.



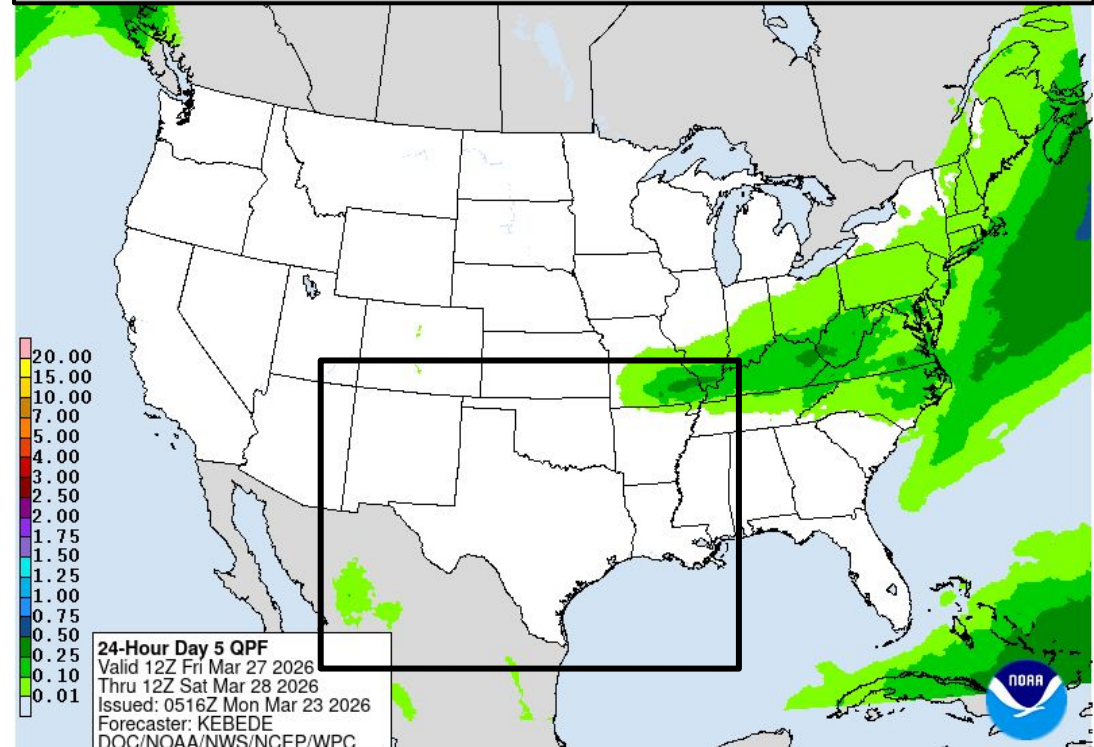
Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SEC PROG
ISSUED: 0716Z MON MAR 23 2026
VALID: 12Z FRI MAR 27 2026
FCSTR: KEBEDE
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

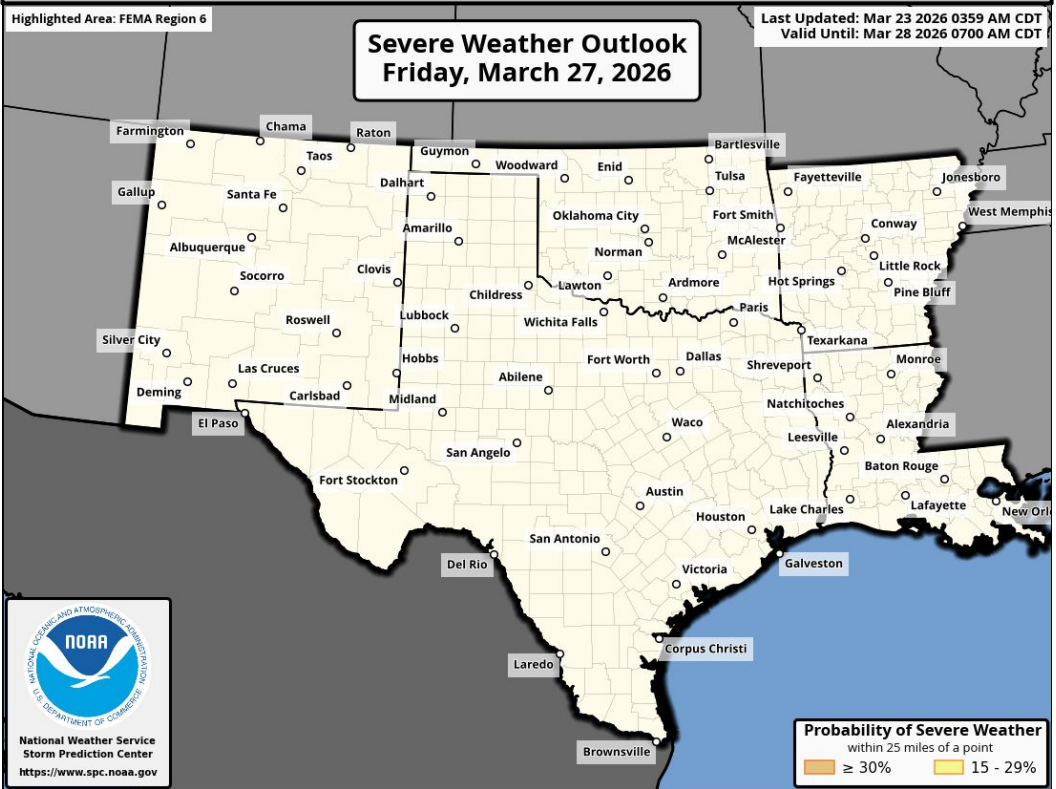
Forecast Rainfall



24-Hour Day 5 QPF
Valid 12Z Fri Mar 27 2026
Thru 12Z Sat Mar 28 2026
Issued: 0516Z Mon Mar 23 2026
Forecaster: KEBEDE
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Monitoring for fire weather concerns in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, W TX.

Severe Weather Outlook



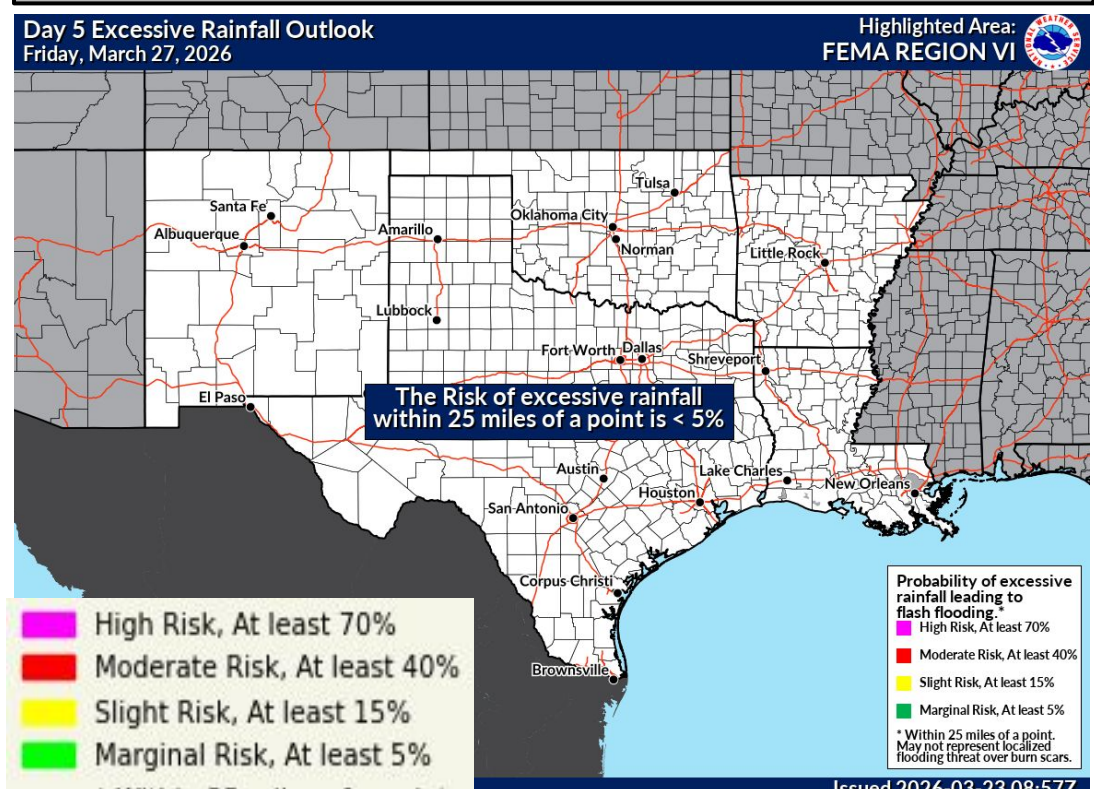
Severe Weather Outlook
Friday, March 27, 2026

Last Updated: Mar 23 2026 0359 AM CDT
Valid Until: Mar 28 2026 0700 AM CDT



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

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 5 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Friday, March 27, 2026

Highlighted Area: FEMA REGION VI

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

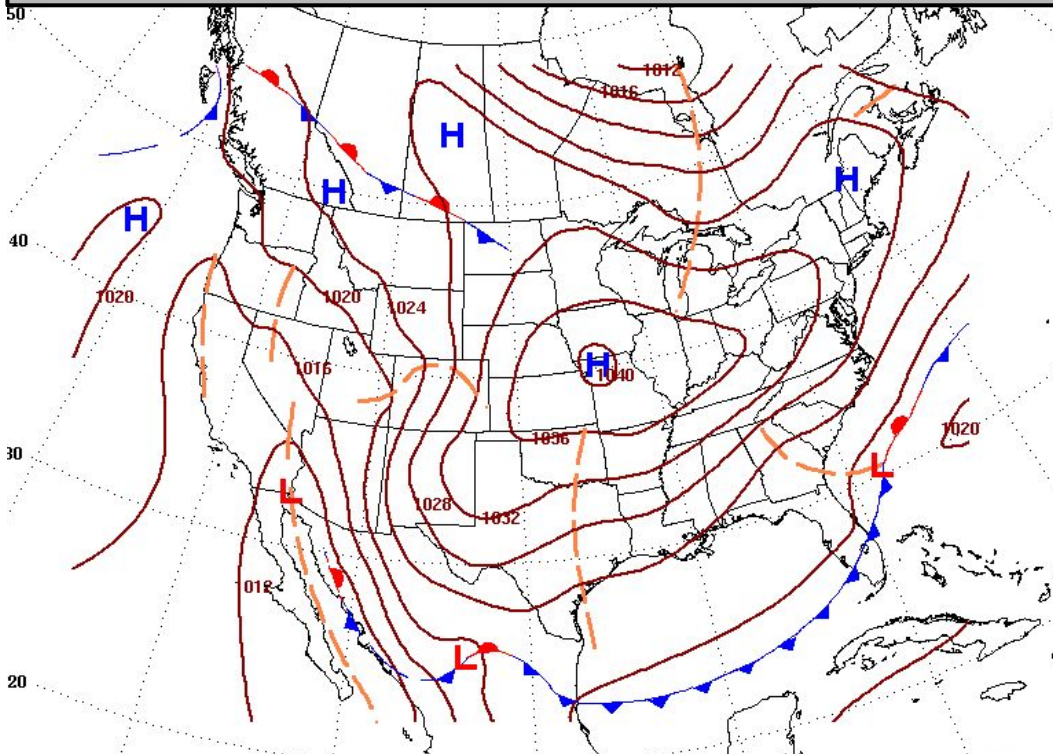
Probability of excessive rainfall leading to flash flooding:
High Risk, At least 70%
Moderate Risk, At least 40%
Slight Risk, At least 15%
Marginal Risk, At least 5%
* Within 25 miles of a point. May not represent localized flooding threat over burn scars.

Issued 2026-03-23 08:57Z

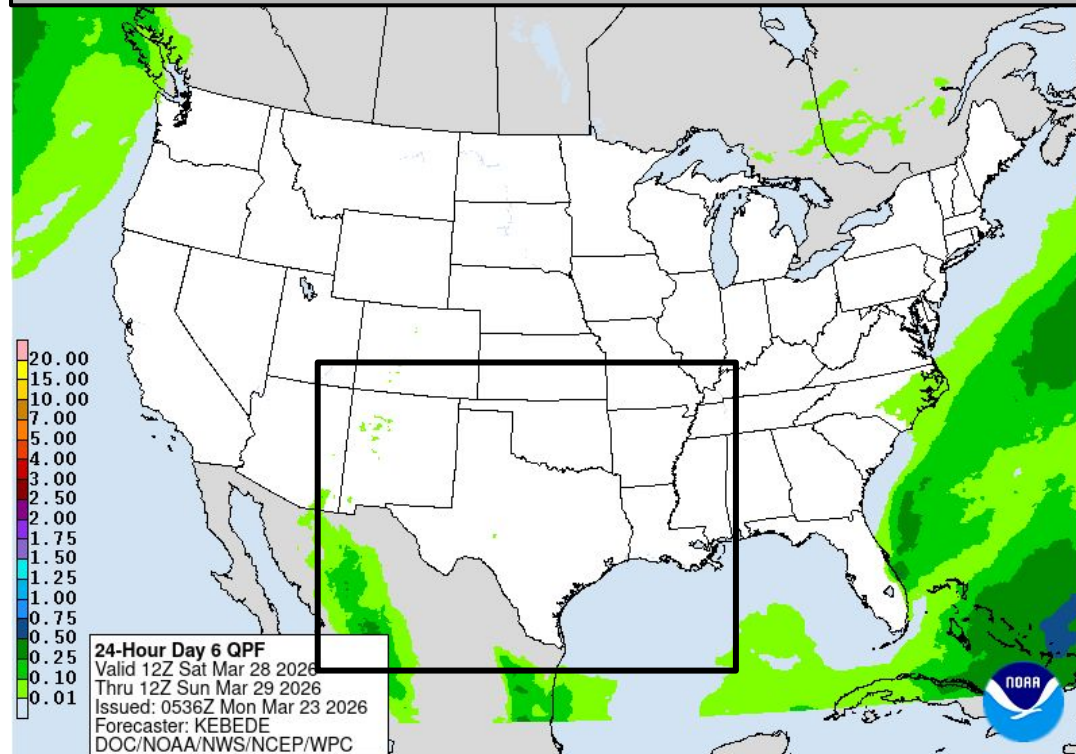


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

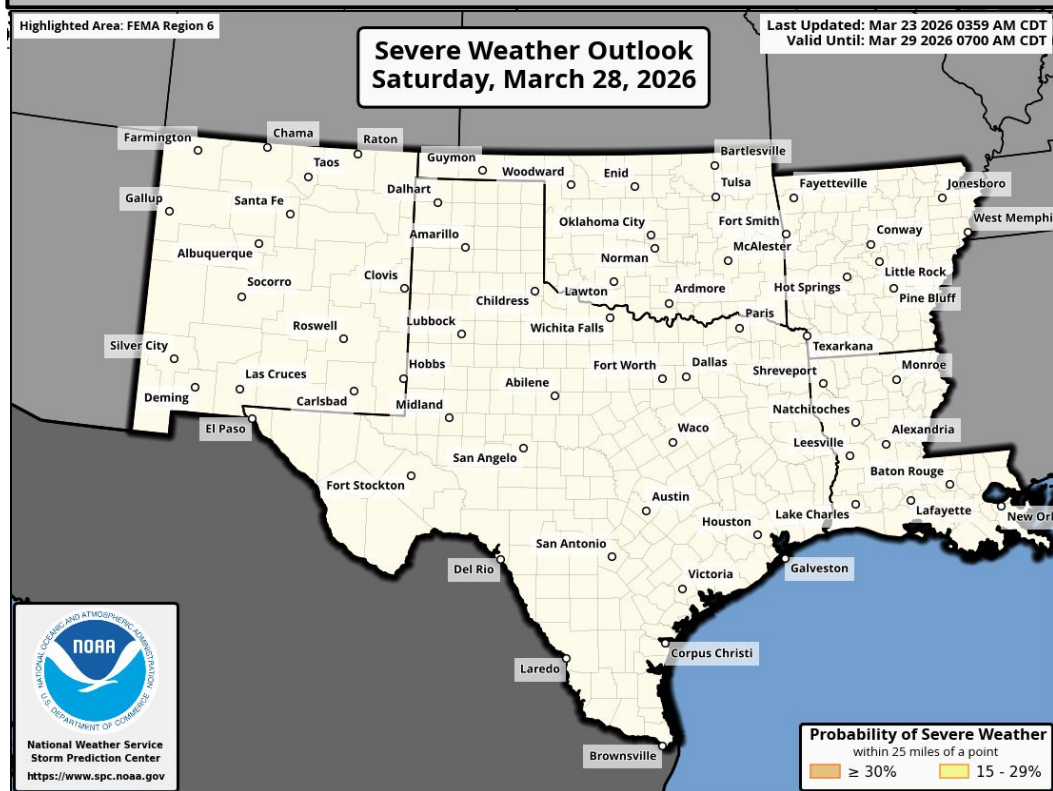


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

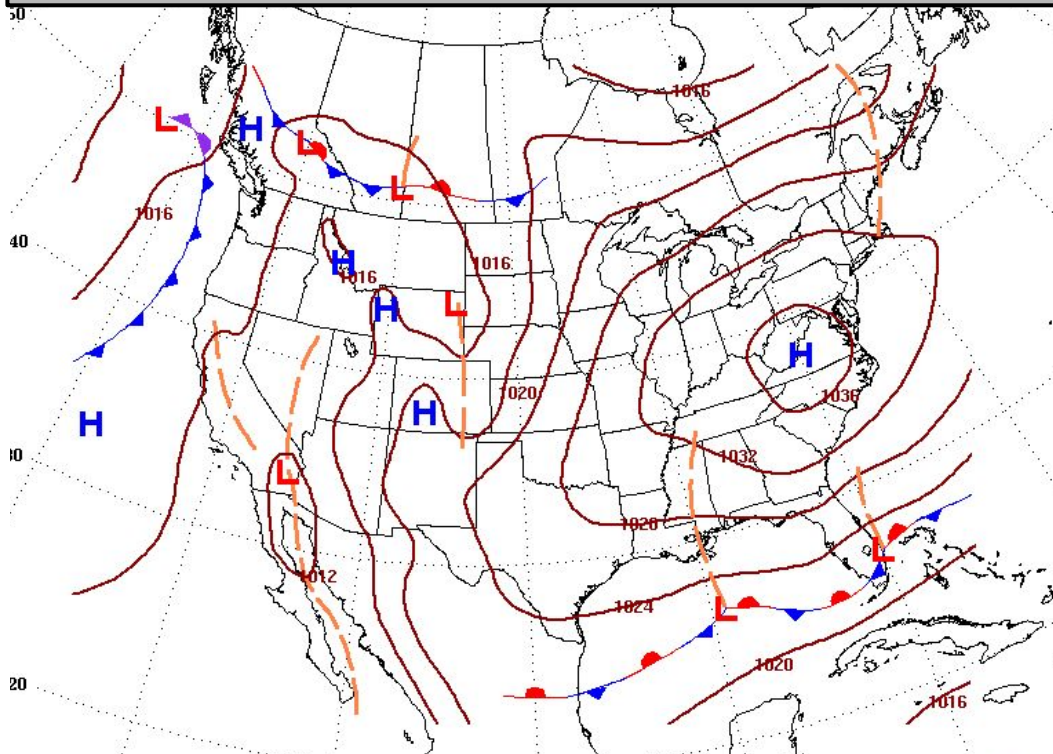


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

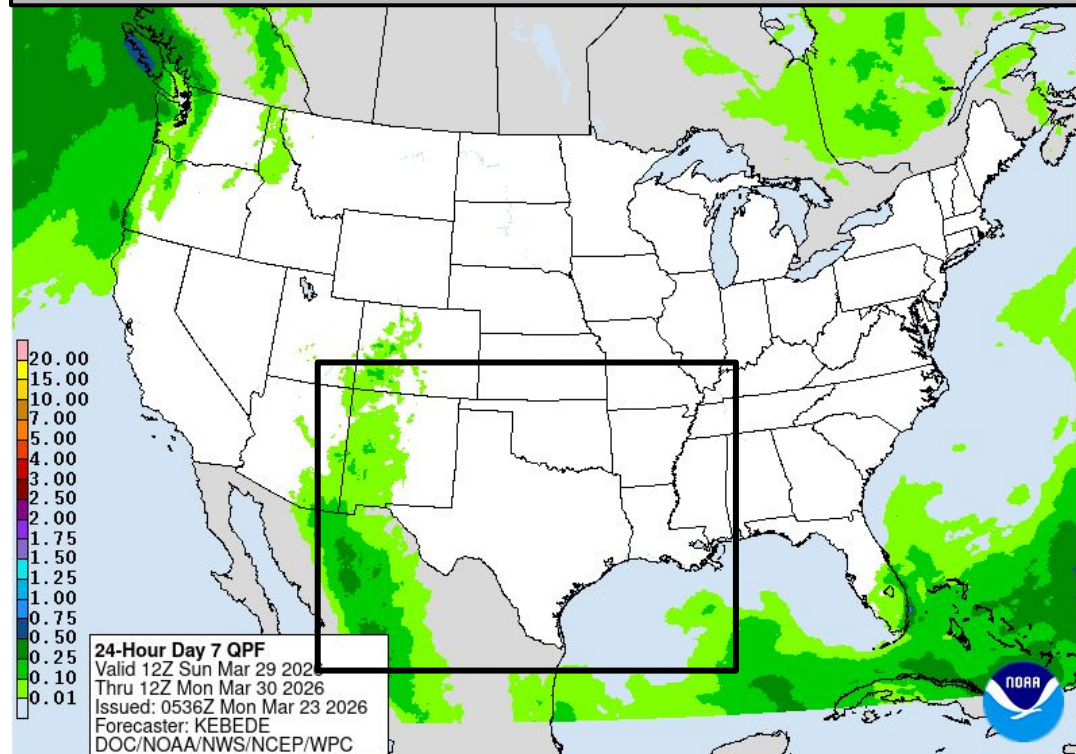


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

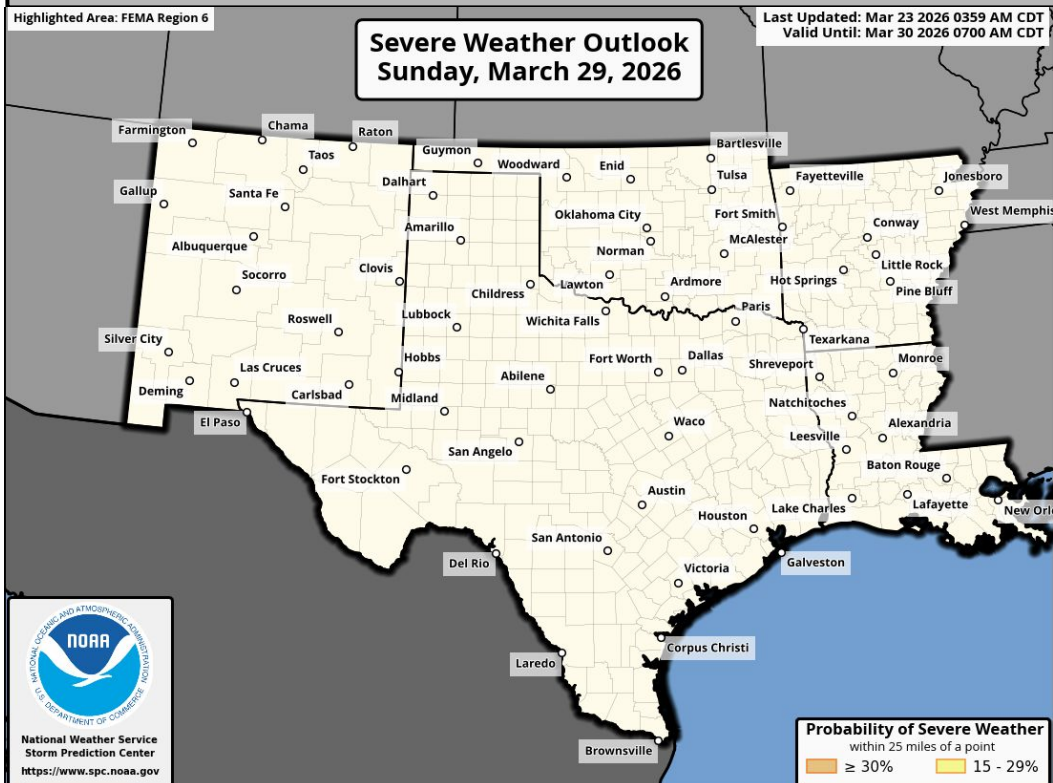


Forecast Rainfall

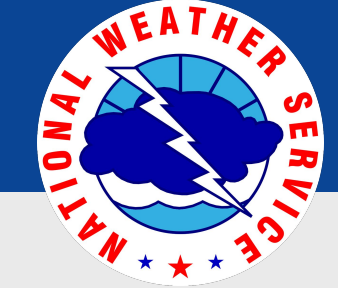


No significant weather expected.

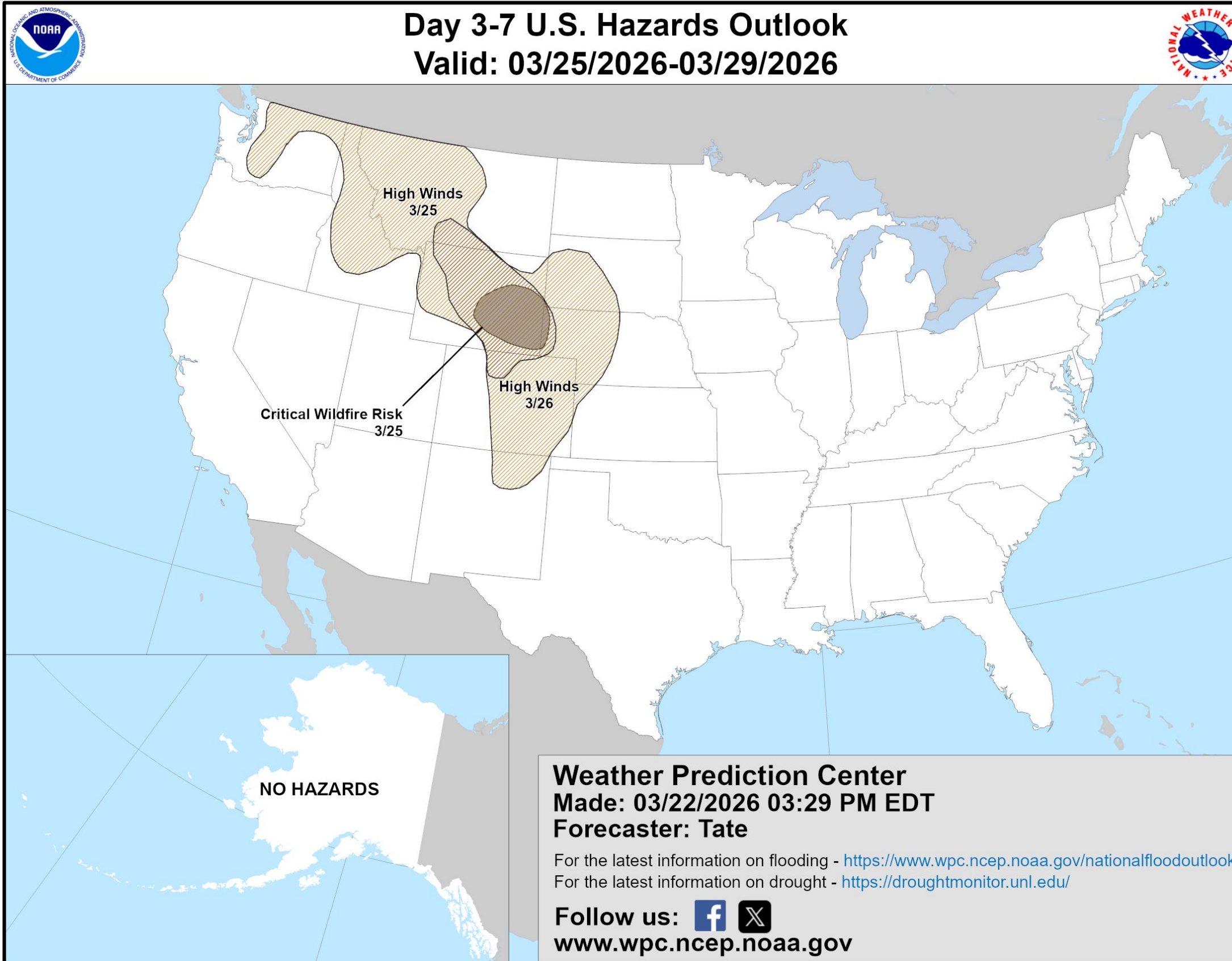
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

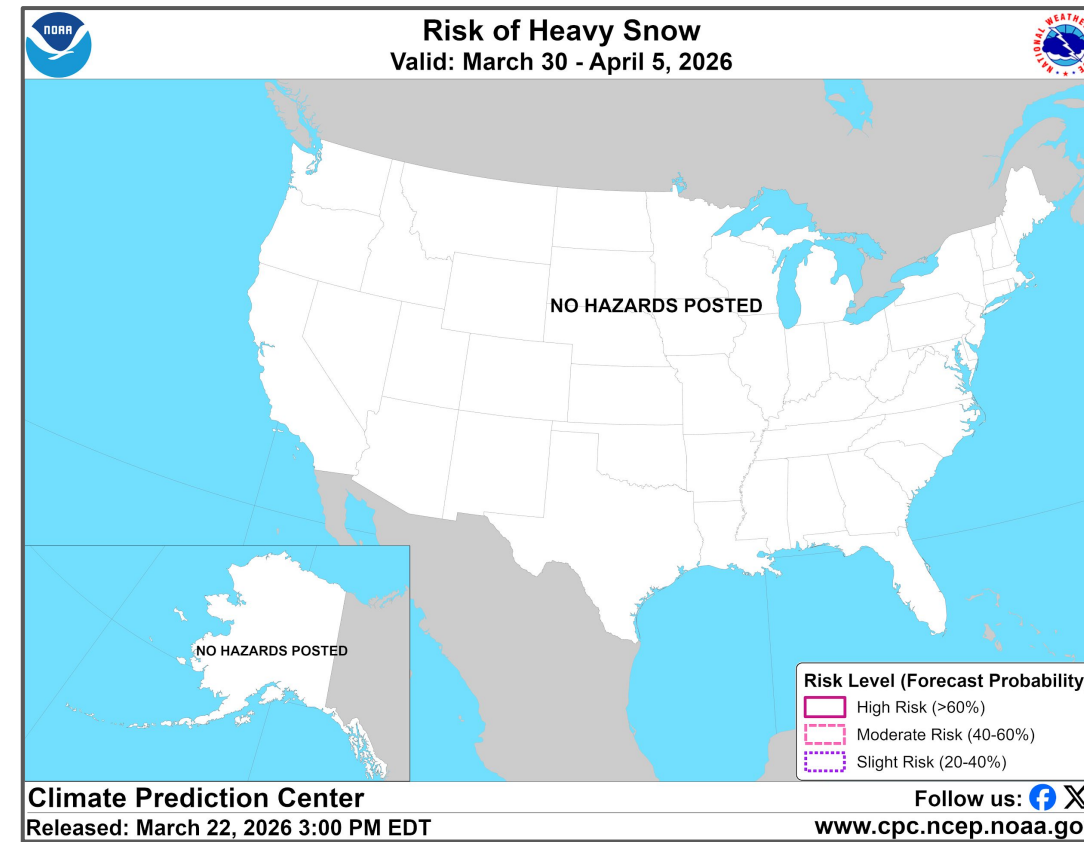
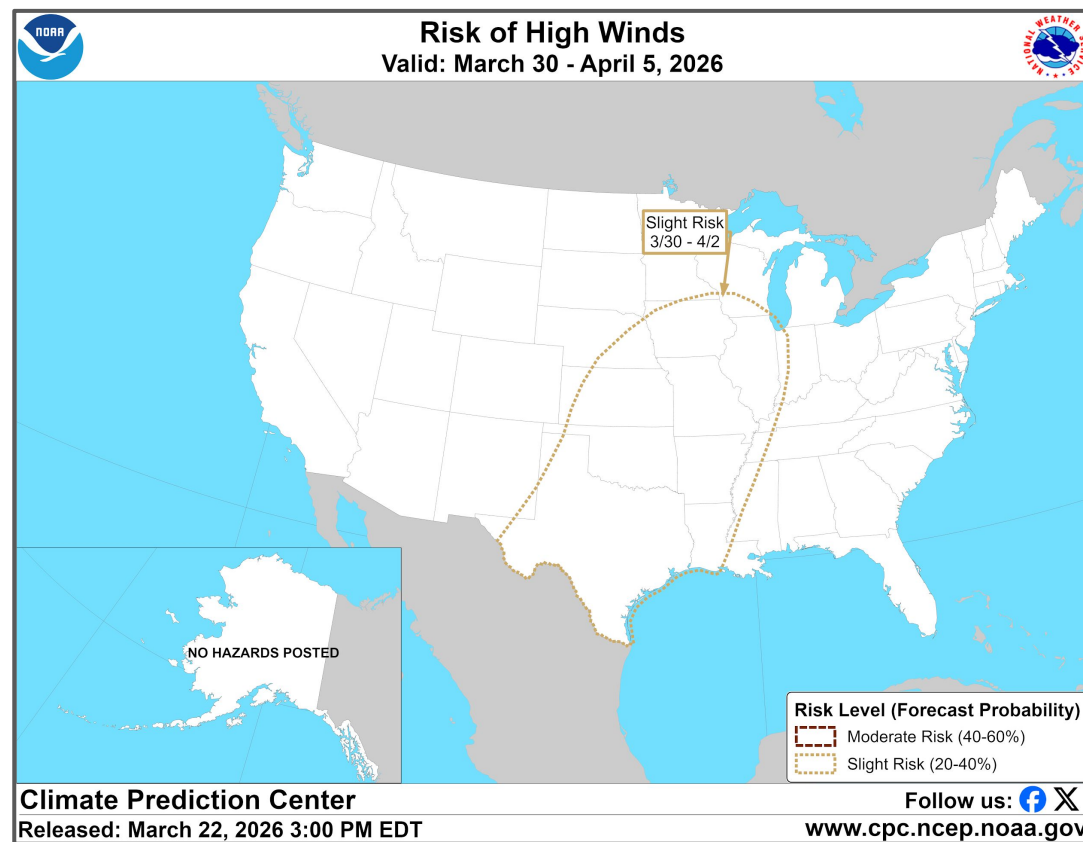
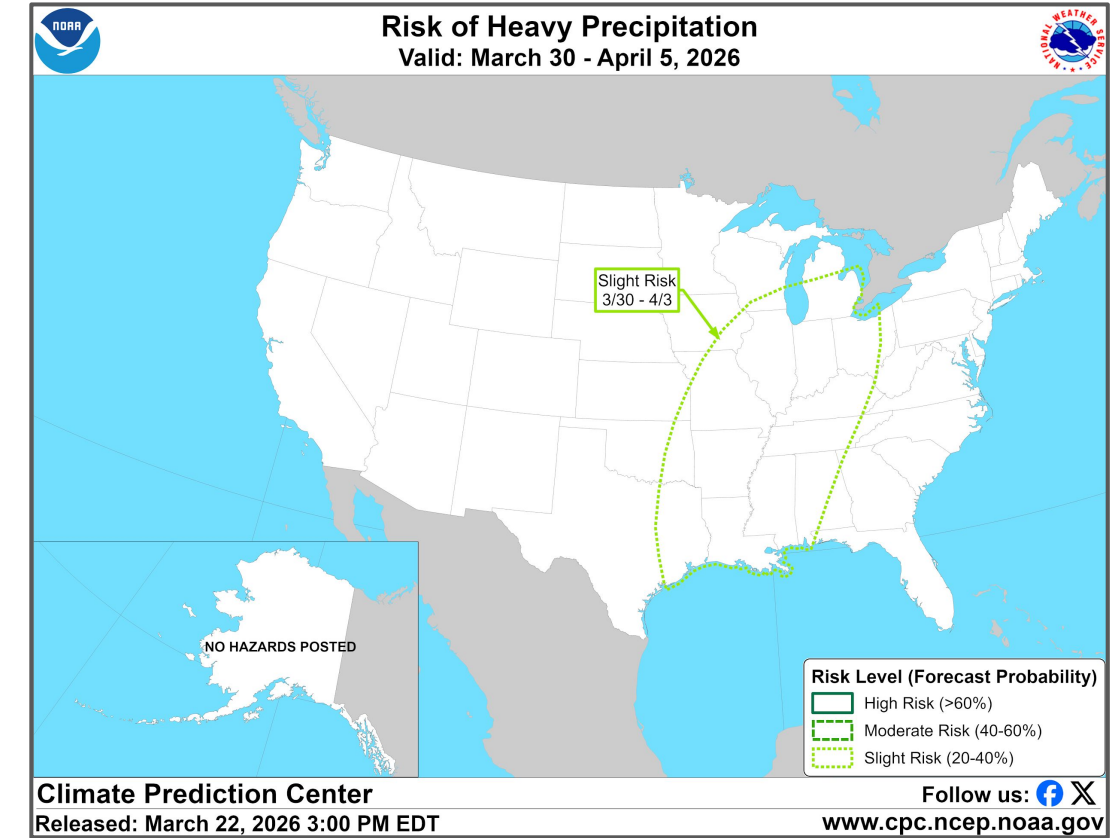
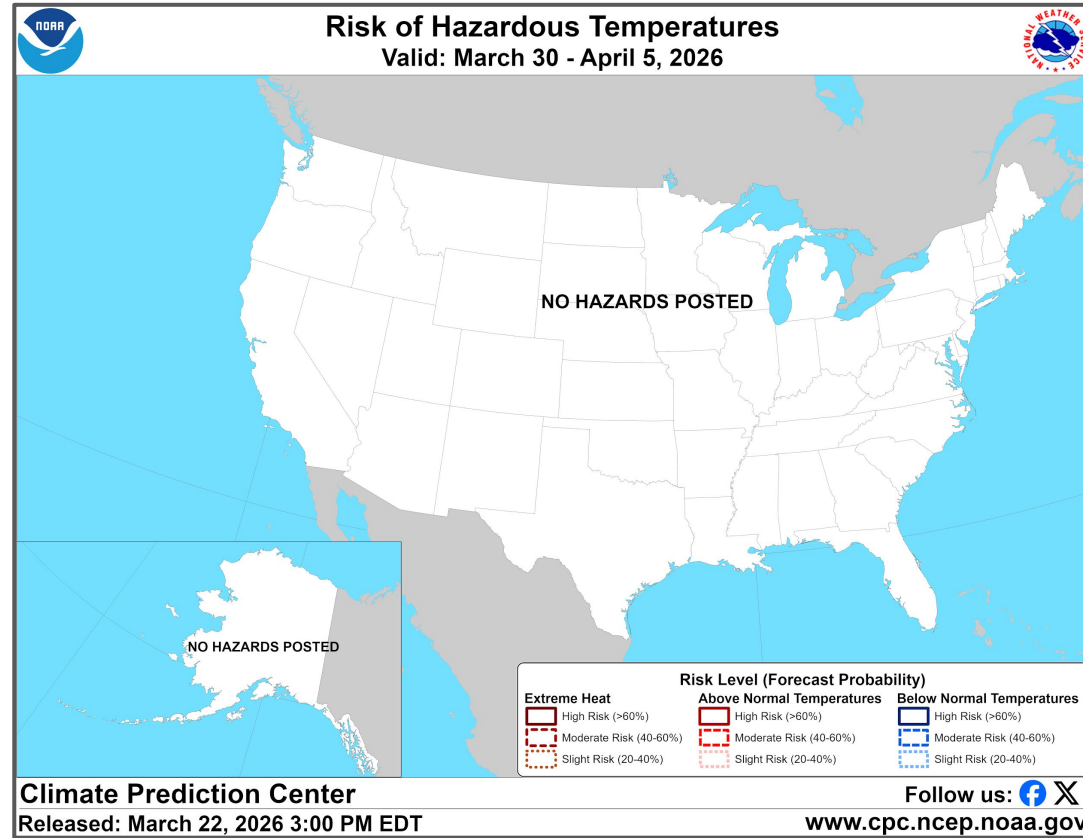
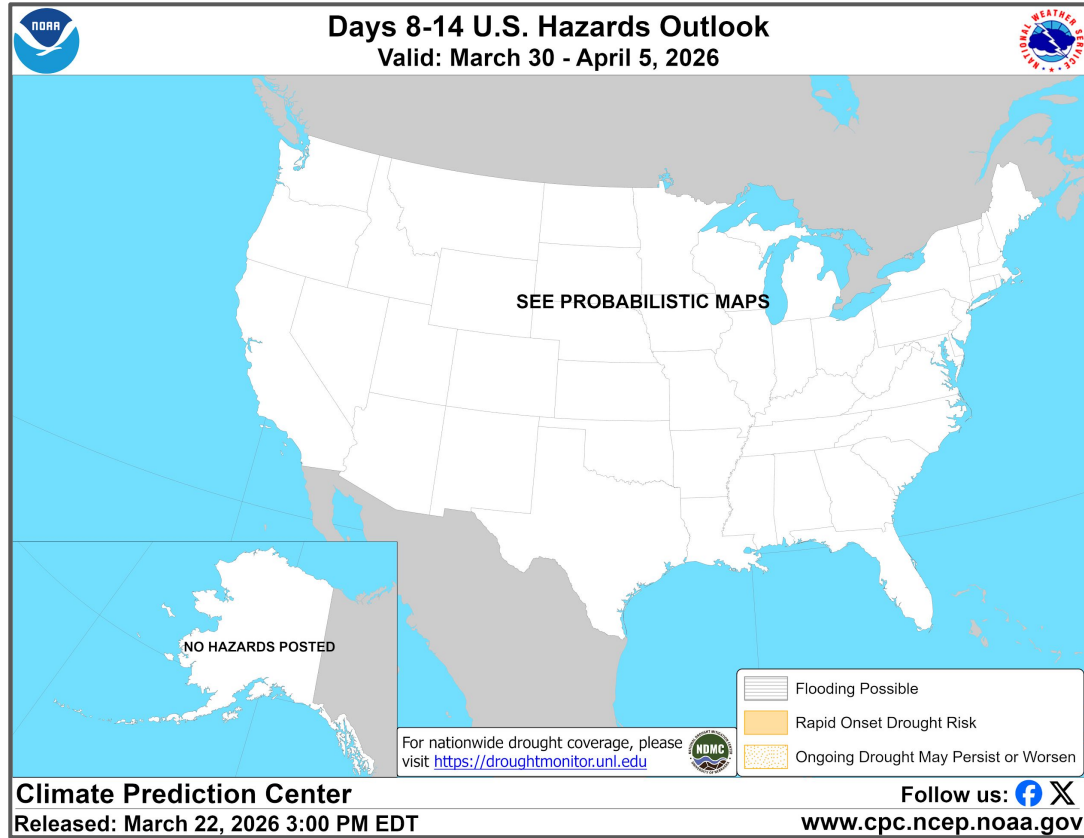


“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook

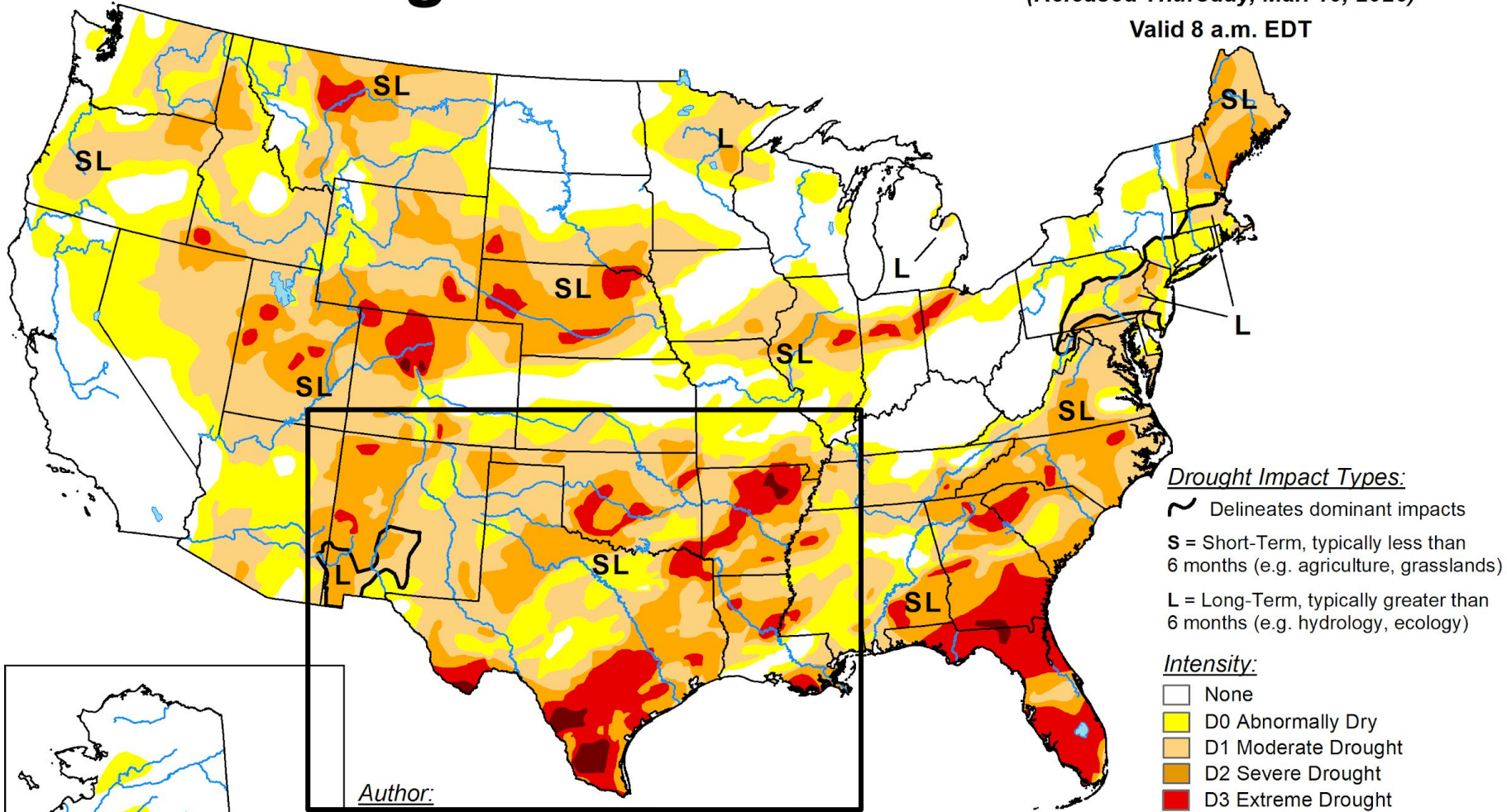




Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

March 17, 2026
(Released Thursday, Mar. 19, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



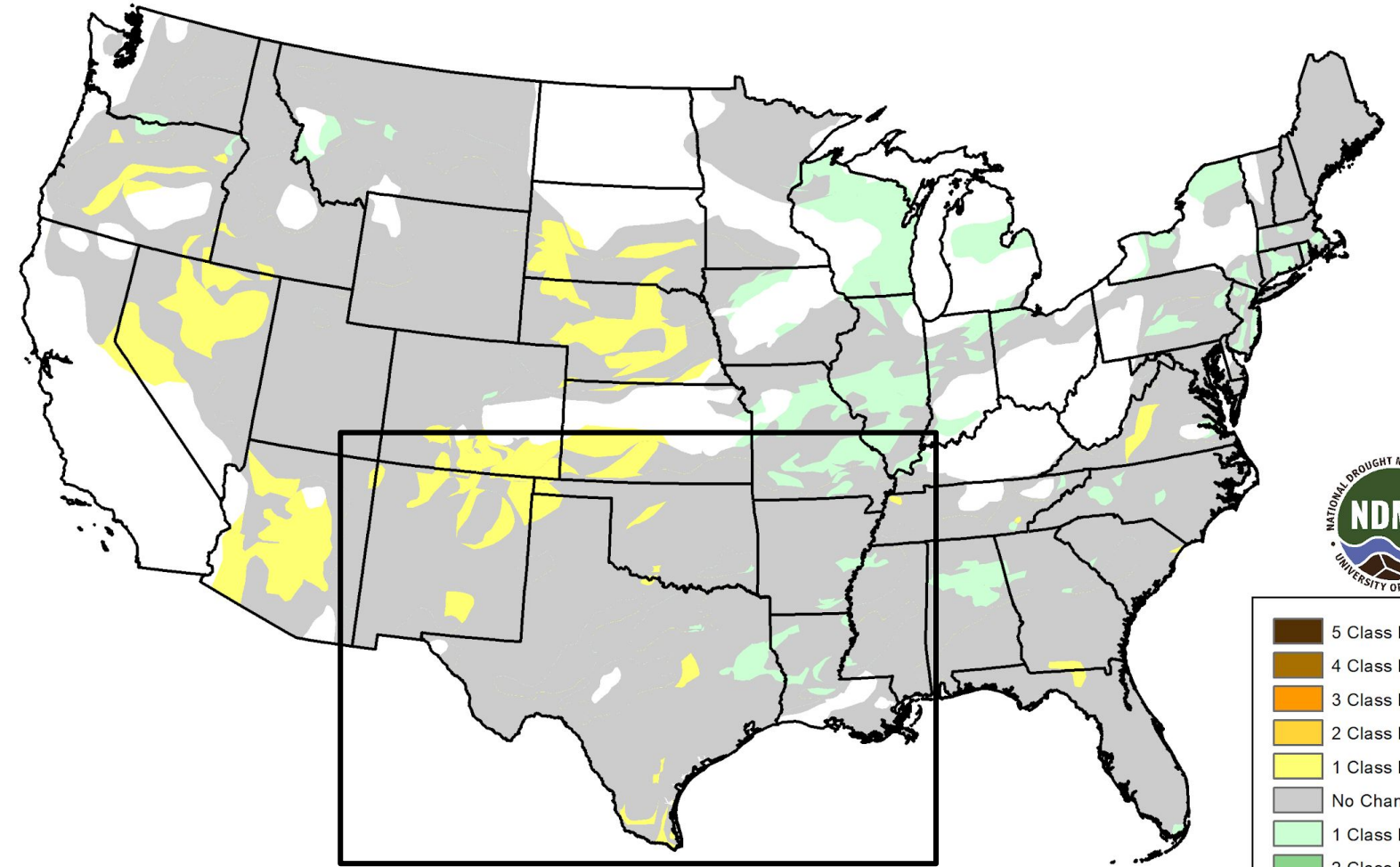
Author:
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

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



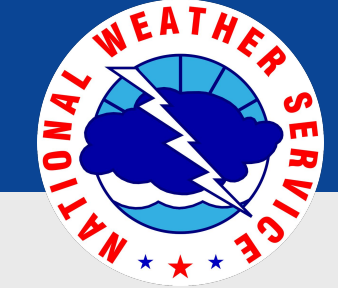
March 17, 2026
compared to
March 10, 2026

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



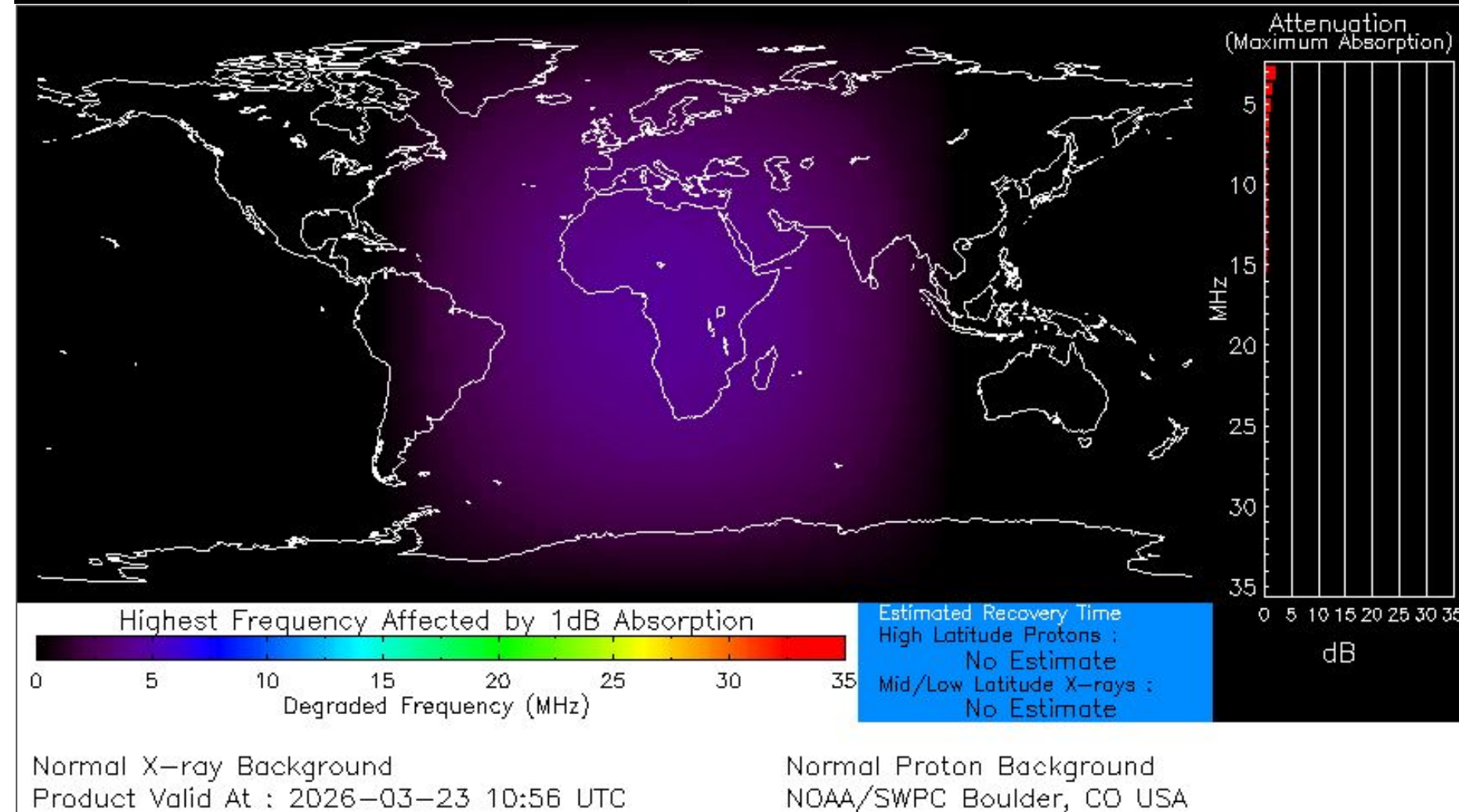
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Southern Region



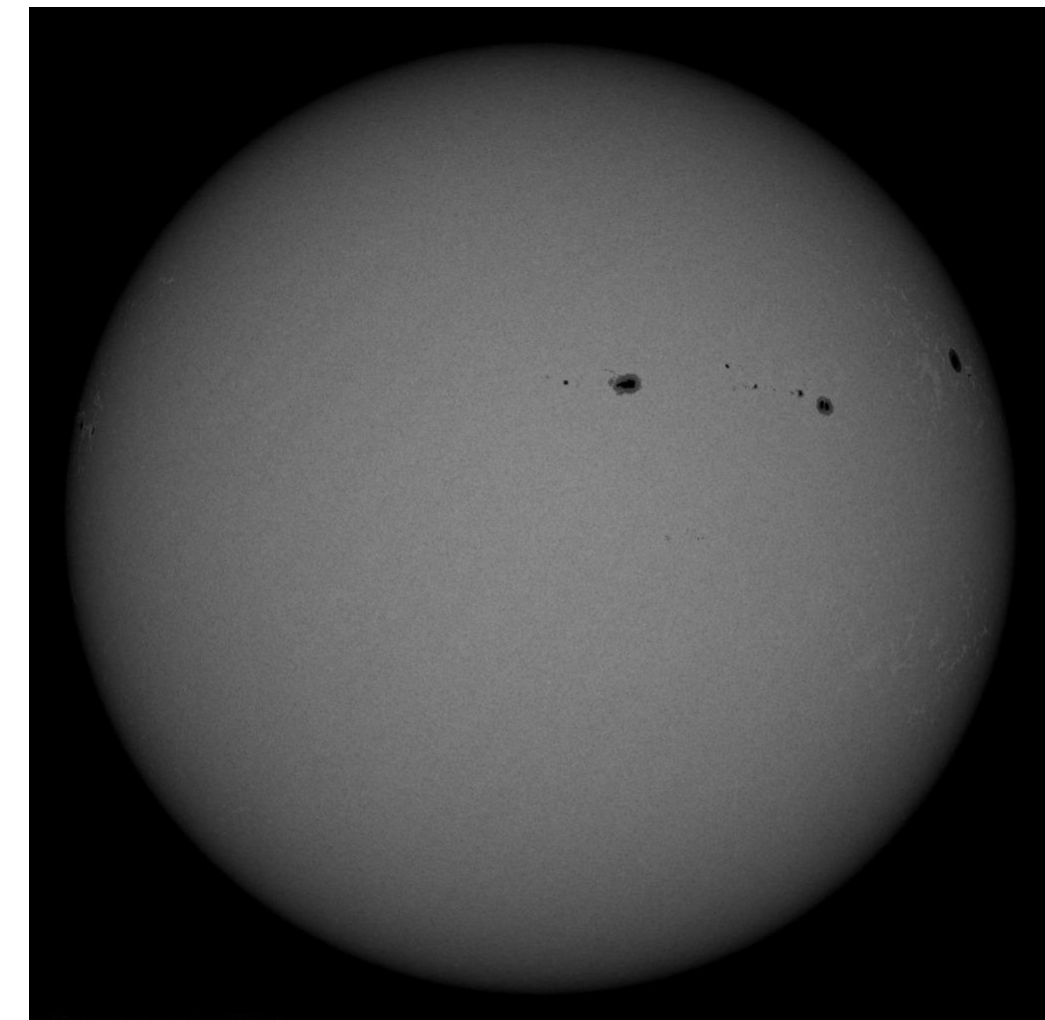
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Monday, Mar 23	Tuesday, Mar 24	Wednesday, Mar 25
Geomagnetic Storms	Active (Max Kp=4)	Active (Max Kp=4)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	25%	20%	20%
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>	<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



National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters

Regional Operations Center

Fort Worth, TX



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



X: NWSSouthern



Web: www.weather.gov/srh

