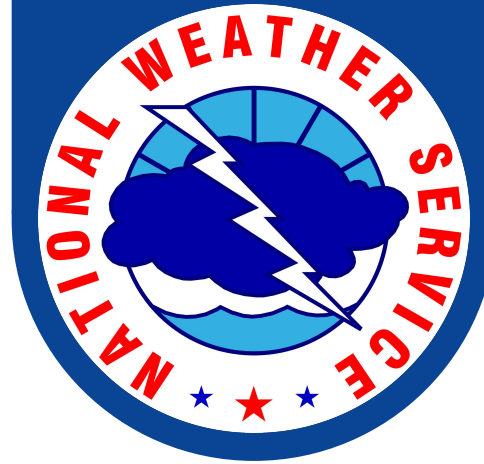




FEMA



Prepared by
Andy Bollenbacher

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, July 21, 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

- **Tropical:**

- **Tropical Storm Bertha**

- **Track:** shifted slightly southward. **Will** move near/along the northern **Gulf** coast.
 - **Intensity:** 50 mph
 - **Watches/Warnings:** **TS Watches/Warnings** & **Storm Surge Watches** for portions of **SE LA**.
 - **Rainfall:** 2-4" with isolated 6" in **S LA**. Most heavy rainfall stays in **Gulf**.

- **Flash Flooding:**

- **Slight risk (level 2 of 4) over W/N NM Tuesday-Wednesday.**
 - **Maringal risk (level 1 of 4) over portions of S LA through Friday.**
 - **S NM for Burn Scar flash flooding concerns remain Moderate through Wednesday, but confidence is low.**

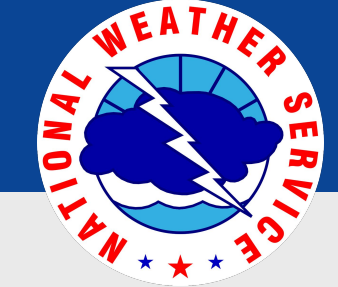
- **Severe Weather:**

- **Slight risk (level 2 of 4) for severe storms over NE AR this afternoon and evening.**

- **River Flooding:**

- **Nueces will be in major flood stage for several days as water moves downstream.**
 - **Frio at Tilden forecast to crest at Major tomorrow, fall out of Major flooding Thursday morning.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Tuesday, Jul 21	Wednesday, Jul 22	Thursday, Jul 23	Friday, Jul 24	Saturday, Jul 25	Sunday, Jul 26	Monday, Jul 27
Severe Storms	NE AR						
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	W NM	N NM	SE TX, S LA	SE TX, SW LA, N NM	N NM	N NM	
	SE LA	SE LA					
Fire Weather							
Tropical		S LA	S LA	S LA, TX Gulf Coast	TX Gulf Coast		
			TX Gulf Coast				
River Flooding	STX	STX	STX	STX	STX	STX	STX

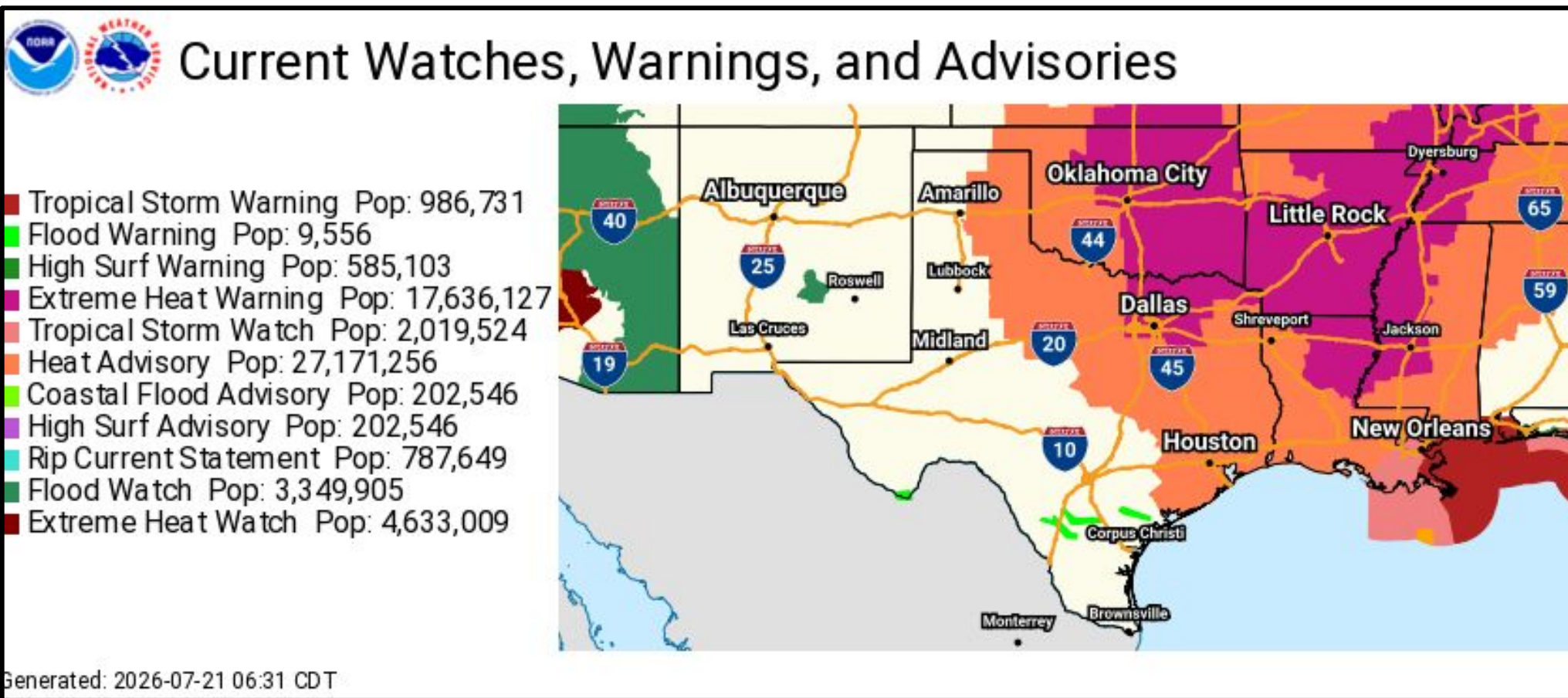
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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Current Radar/Hazards



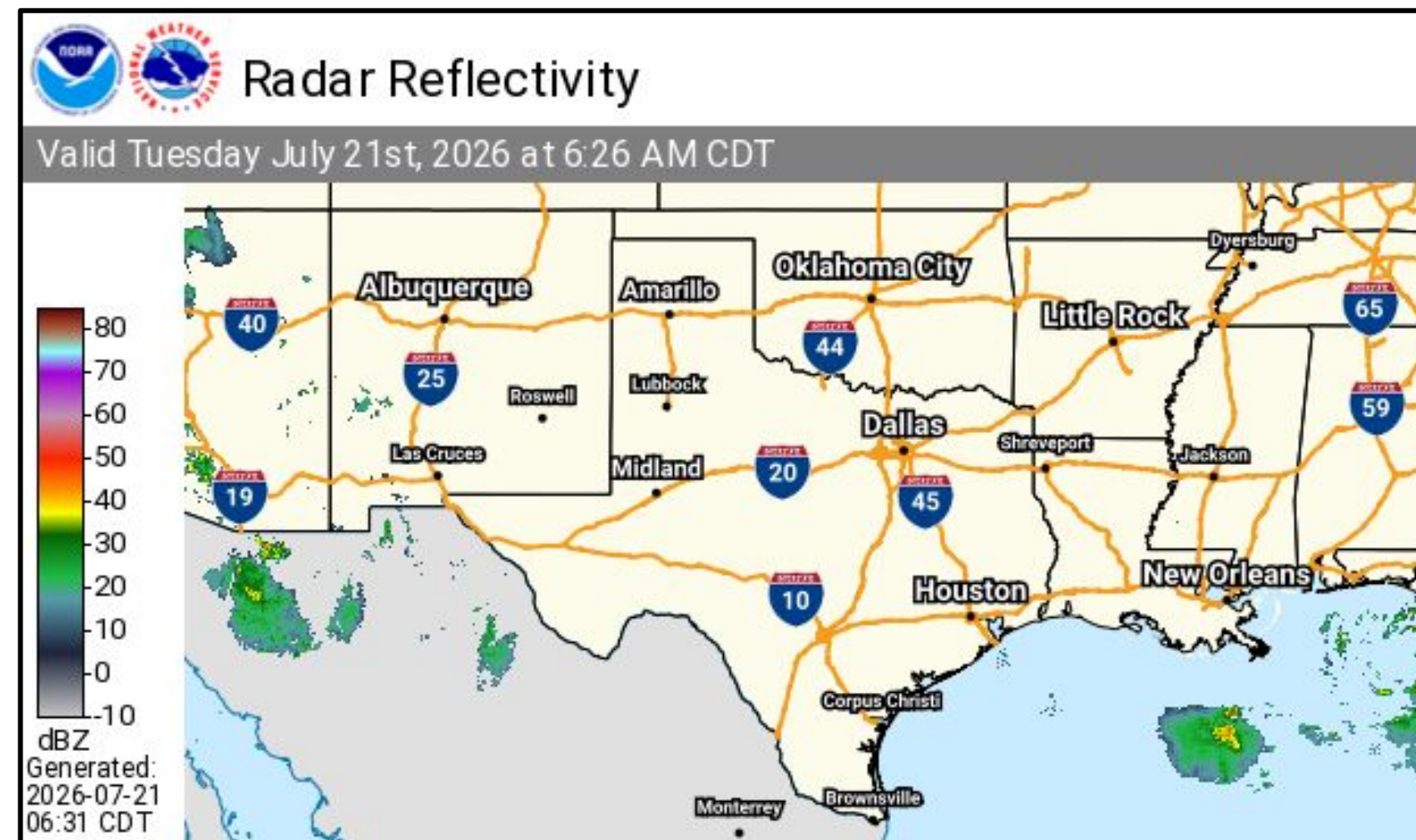
Extreme Heat Warnings in N TX, OK, AR & N LA.

Heat Advisories in OK, AR, N/C/SE TX, LA through 8 PM CDT.

Flash Flood Watch over S NM from 12 pm MDT through the afternoon.

Tropical Storm Warning for SE LA - immediate coastal areas from the mouth of the MS River to the AL/FL state line. This does NOT include western Orleans Parish.

Storm Surge Watch from the Mouth of the Mississippi River east to AL.

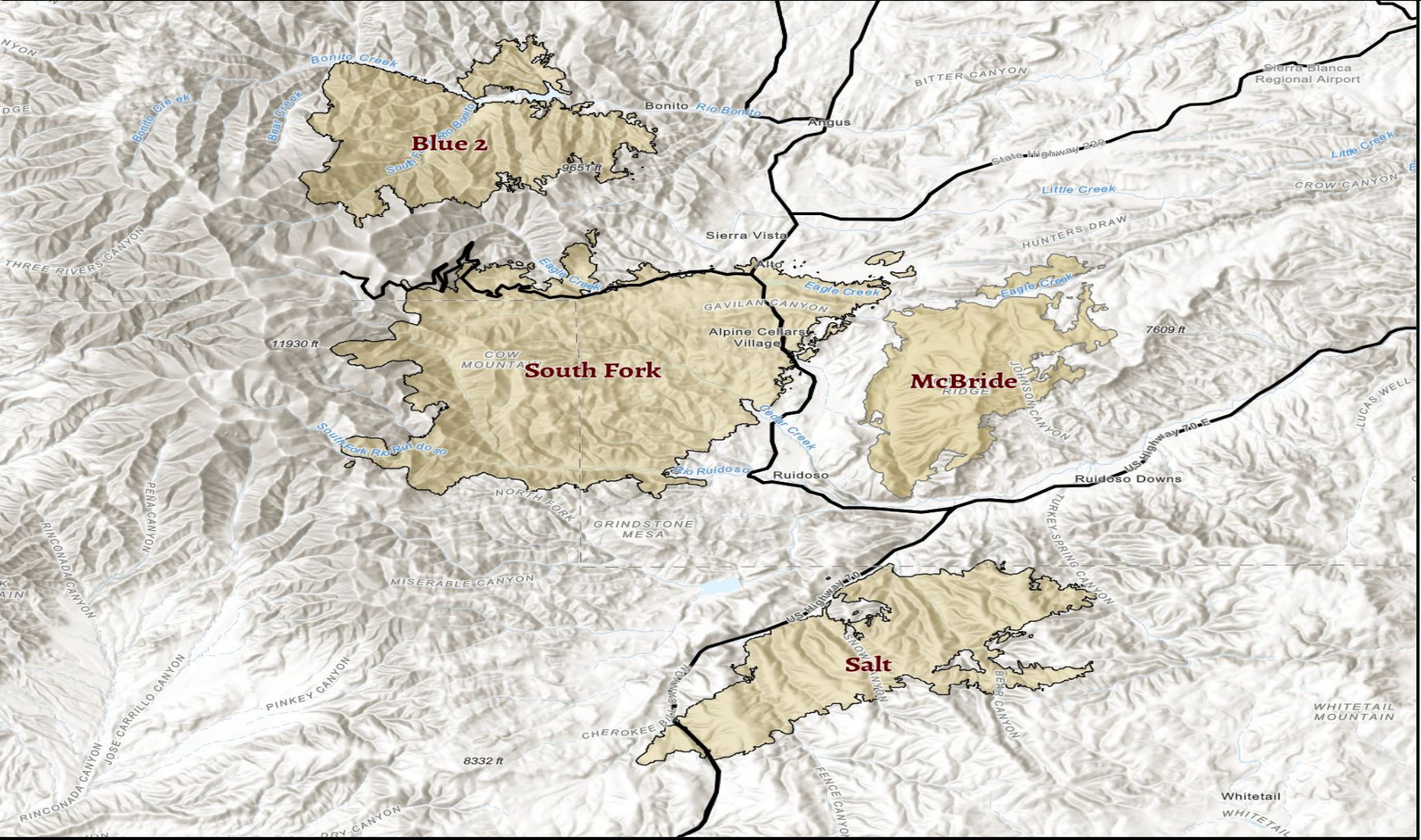




Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - Ruidoso, New Mexico

Sacramento Complex

	Tuesday, Jul 21	Wednesday, Jul 22	Thursday, Jul 23	Friday, Jul 24	Saturday, Jul 25
Flash Flooding	High	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate
Timing - CDT	1 PM - 7 PM	Afternoon/Evening			Afternoon/Evening

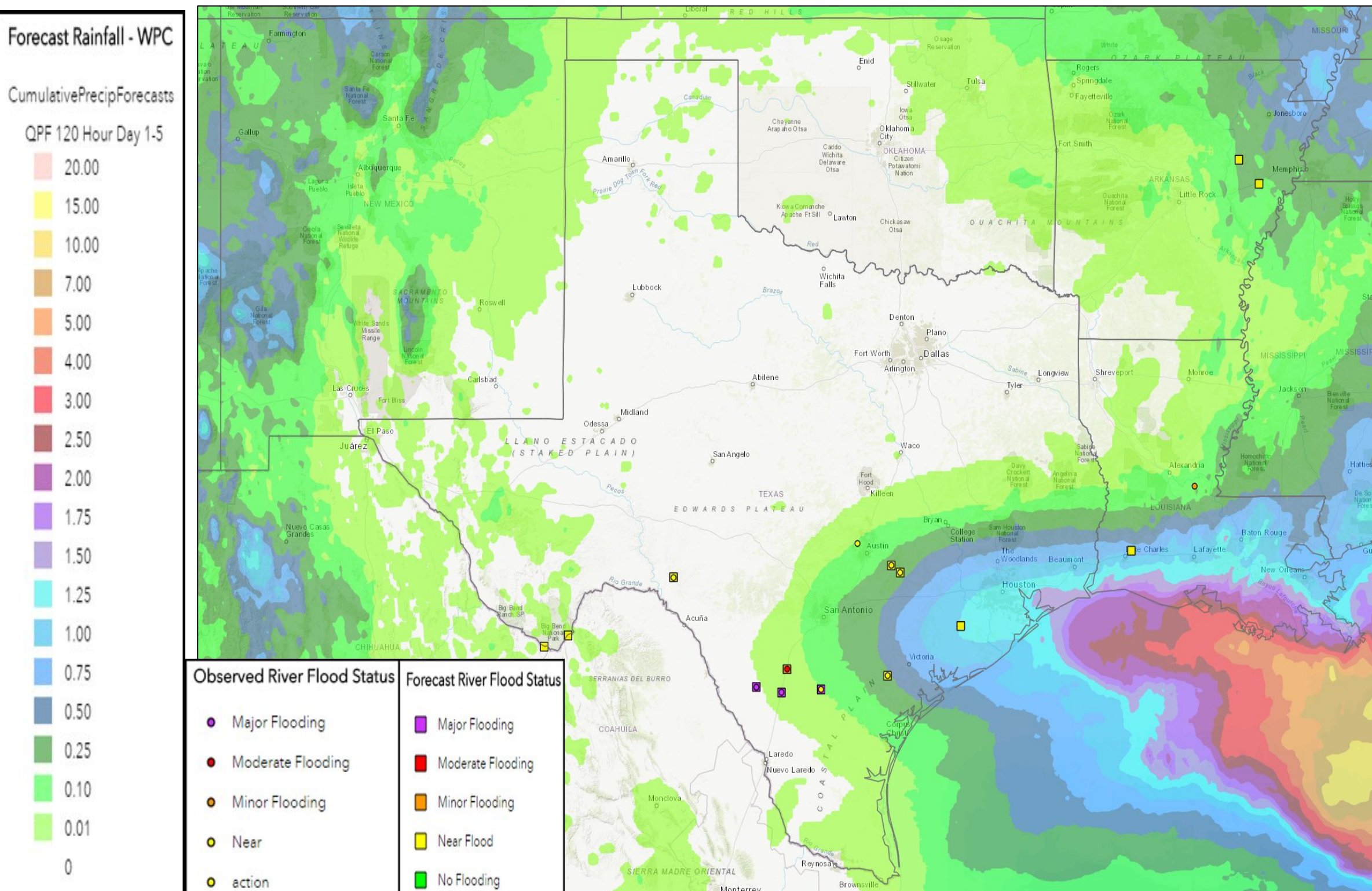


Low (level 1 of 3)	Less than 30% chance of flash flood warning.
Moderate (level 2 of 3)	30-70% chance of flash flood warning.
High (level 3 of 3)	Over 70% chance of flash flood warning.
WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.	



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



Nueces River will be in major flood stage for several days as water moves downstream.

Frio River at Tilden forecast to hit Major Flood Stage tomorrow, fall below Major on Thursday.

Major impacts to homes, infrastructure, roads.

Monitoring rivers along SE TX and S LA for heavy rainfall from tropical system.

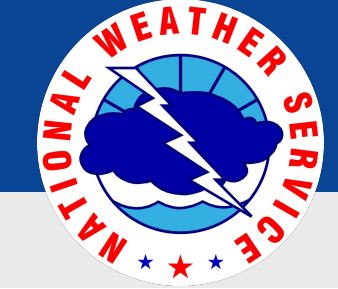
Note: Numerical levels (e.g. level 1 of 4) will not be assigned to riverine flooding due to the varying levels of impacts across flood categories.



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

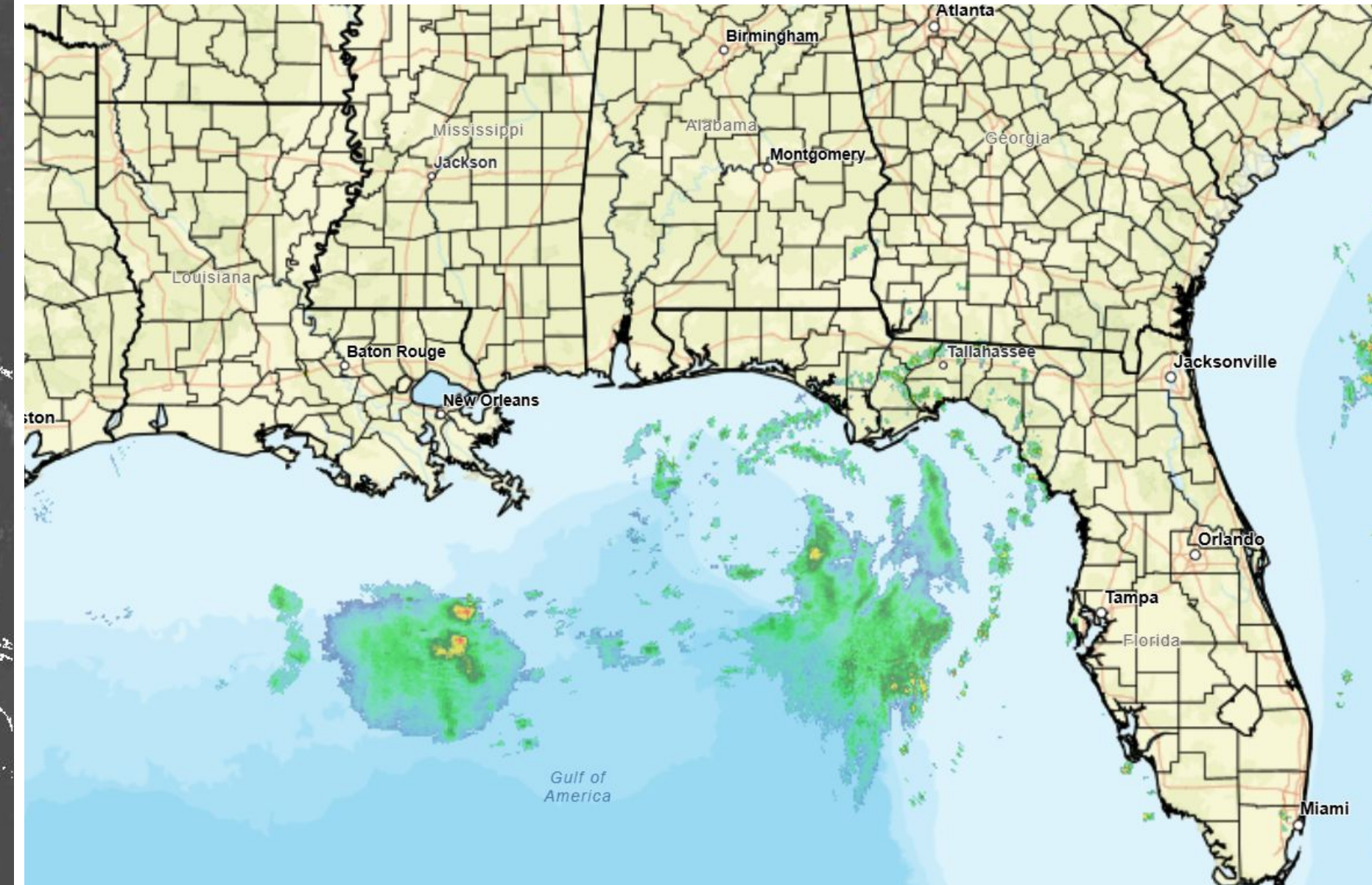
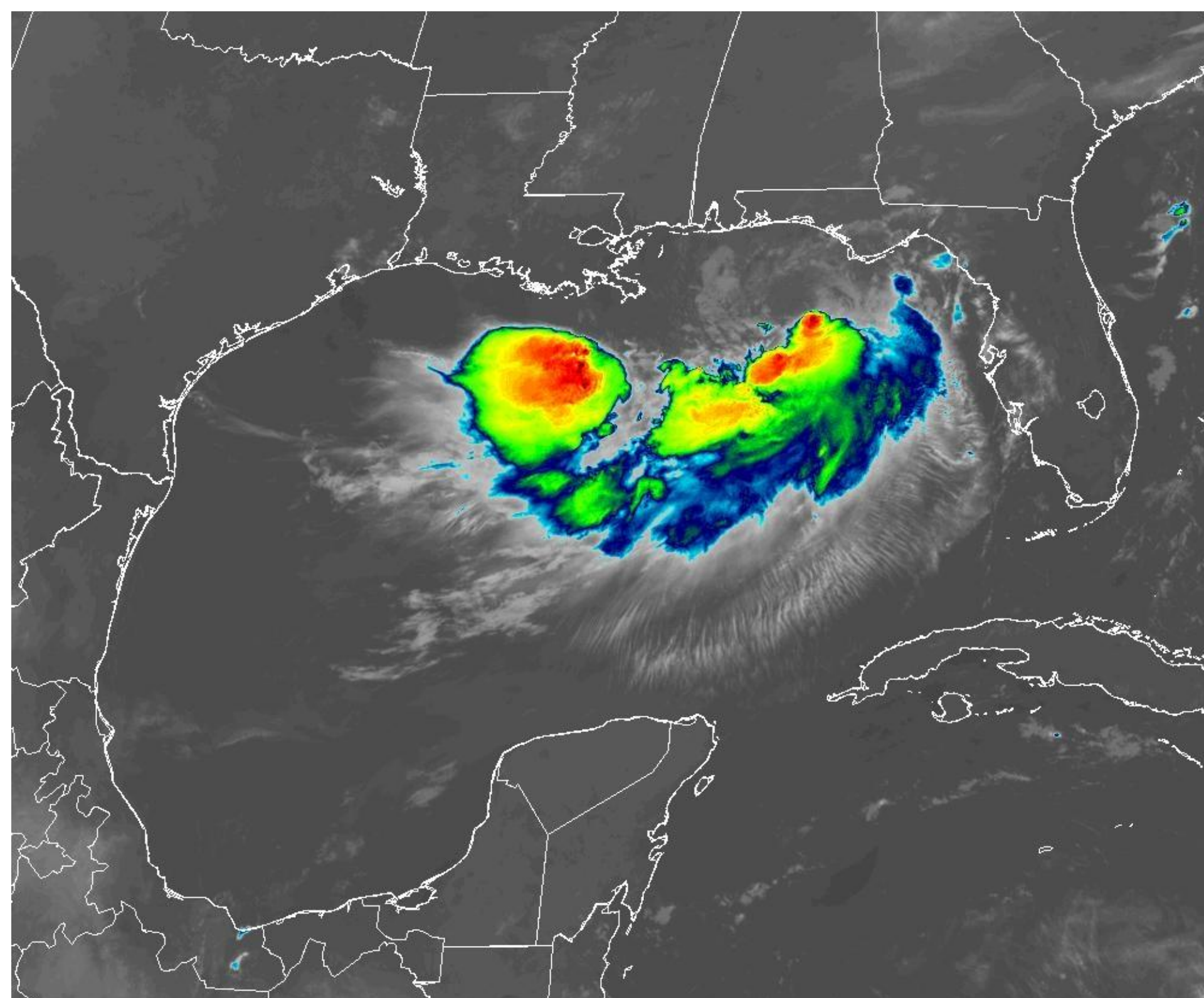
See <https://water.noaa.gov/> for latest river flooding

National Weather Service
Sector 2 - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico



Tropical Storm Bertha

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



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

National Weather Service
Sector 2 - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico



Tropical Storm Bertha

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



Tropical Storm Bertha

Tropical Storm Force Winds for S LA - Medium Chance.

Possible Tropical Depression for upper TX coast. (Winds up to 38 mph.)

Storm Surge - 2-4 ft Mouth of the Mississippi River east to MS and 1-3 ft from Morgan City to Mouth of Mississippi River.

Heavy rainfall leading to flash flooding and river flooding - Marginal (level 1 of 4).

Rip currents - Moderate to High.



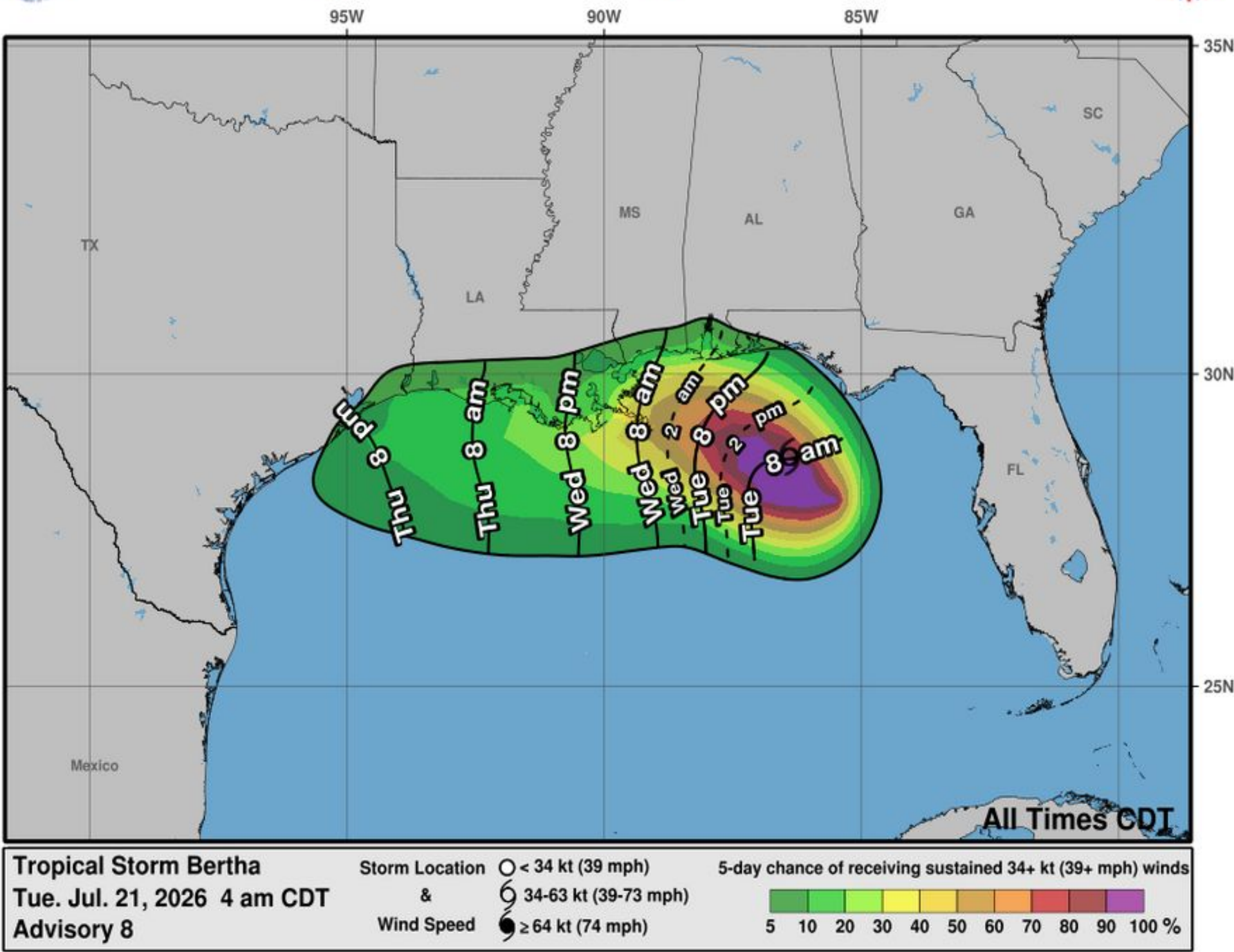


Tropical Storm Bertha

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



Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds



Most Likely Wind Arrival Timing:
SE LA: Wednesday morning - Thursday morning

SW LA: Wednesday night - Friday morning

Chances of Tropical Storm Force Winds are 5-20% for SW LA and 20-50% for SE LA.

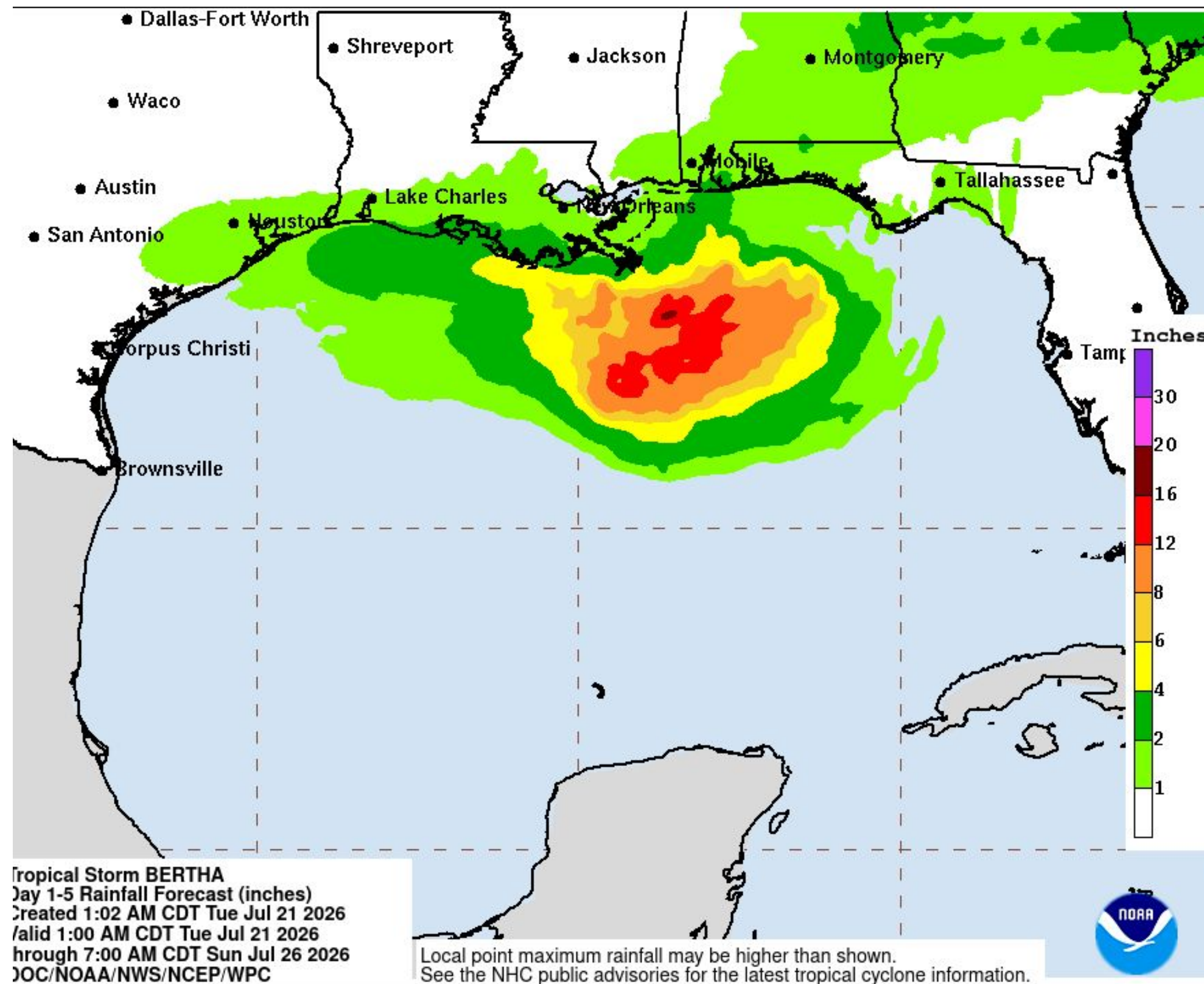
Upper TX Coast: Thursday evening - Friday daytime





Tropical Storm Bertha

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



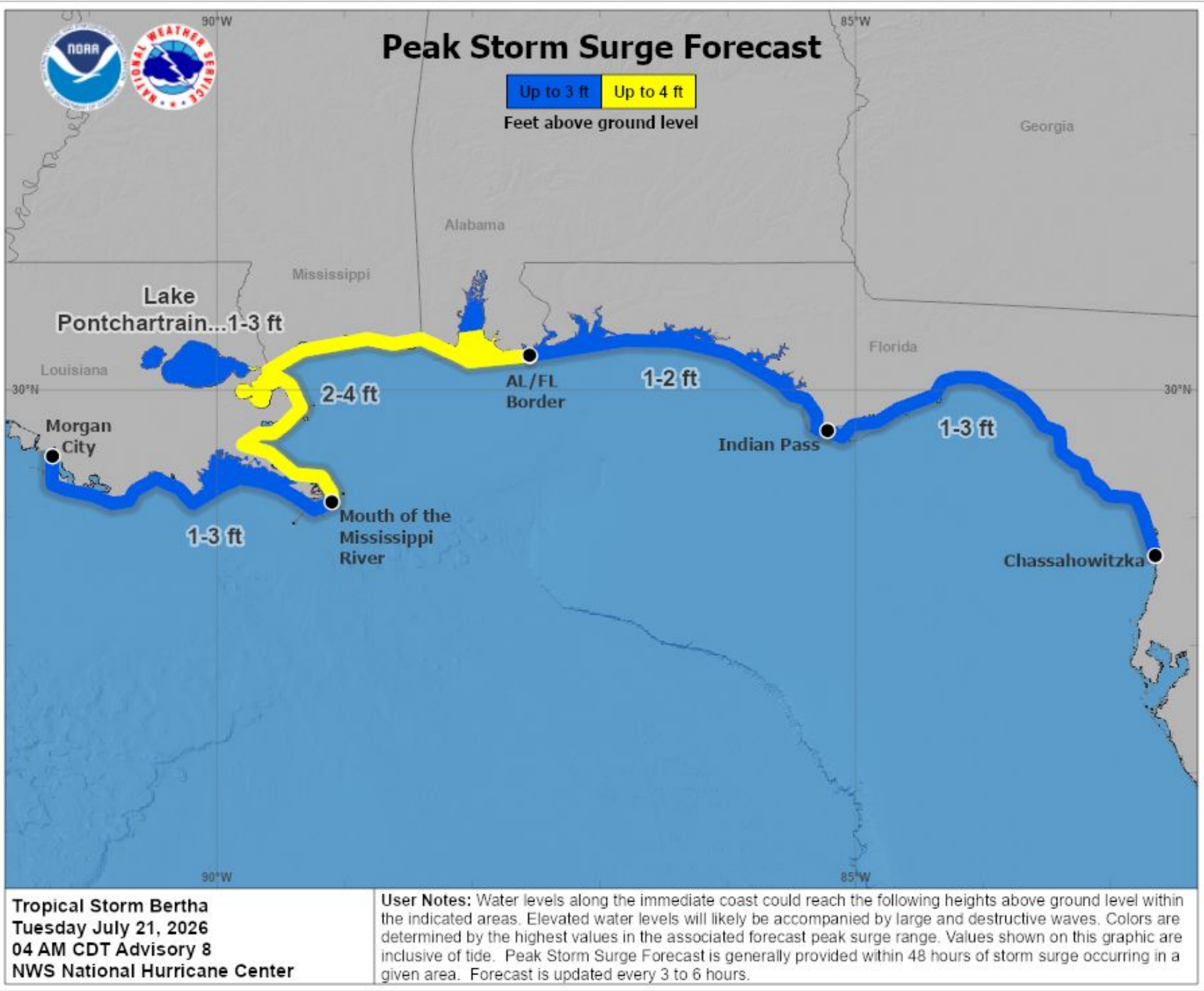
Rainfall:
SE LA: 2-4 inches with isolated 6 inch pockets.





Tropical Storm Bertha

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



Storm Surge:

SE LA: Morgan City to Mouth of Mississippi - 1-3ft

Mouth of Mississippi to MS - 2-4 ft

Timing:

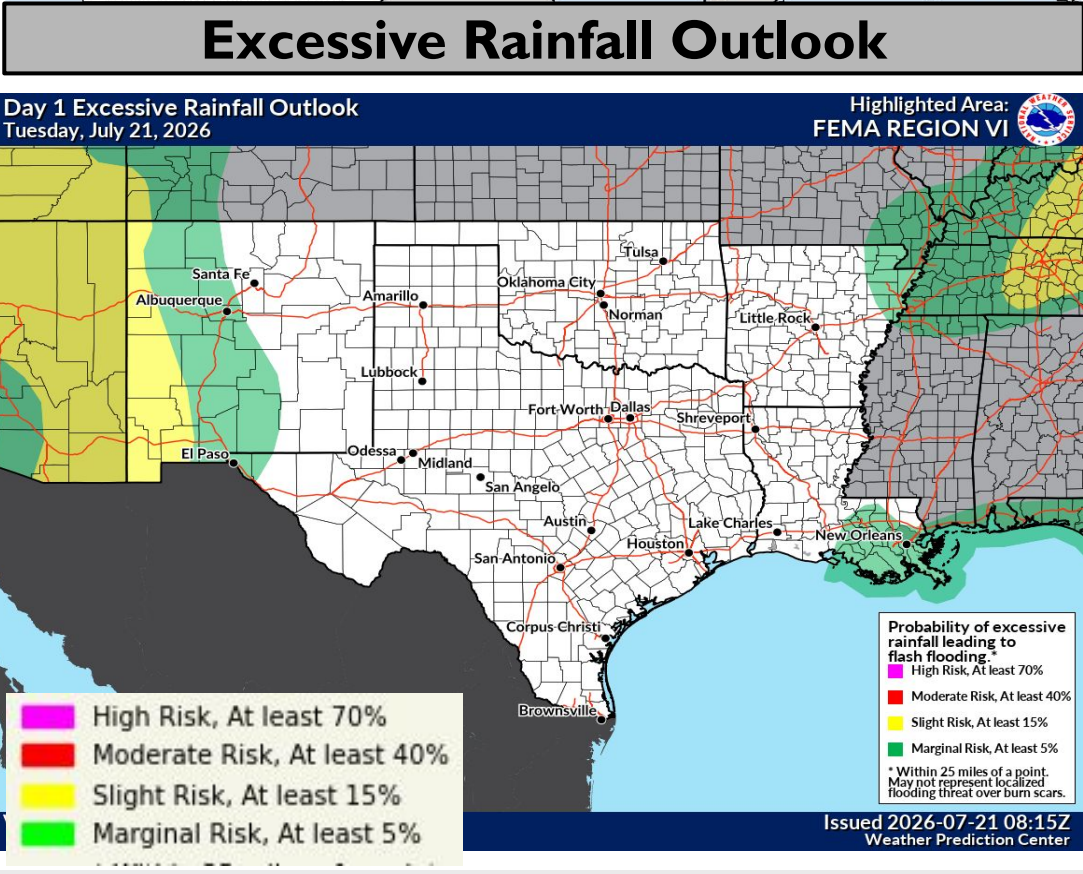
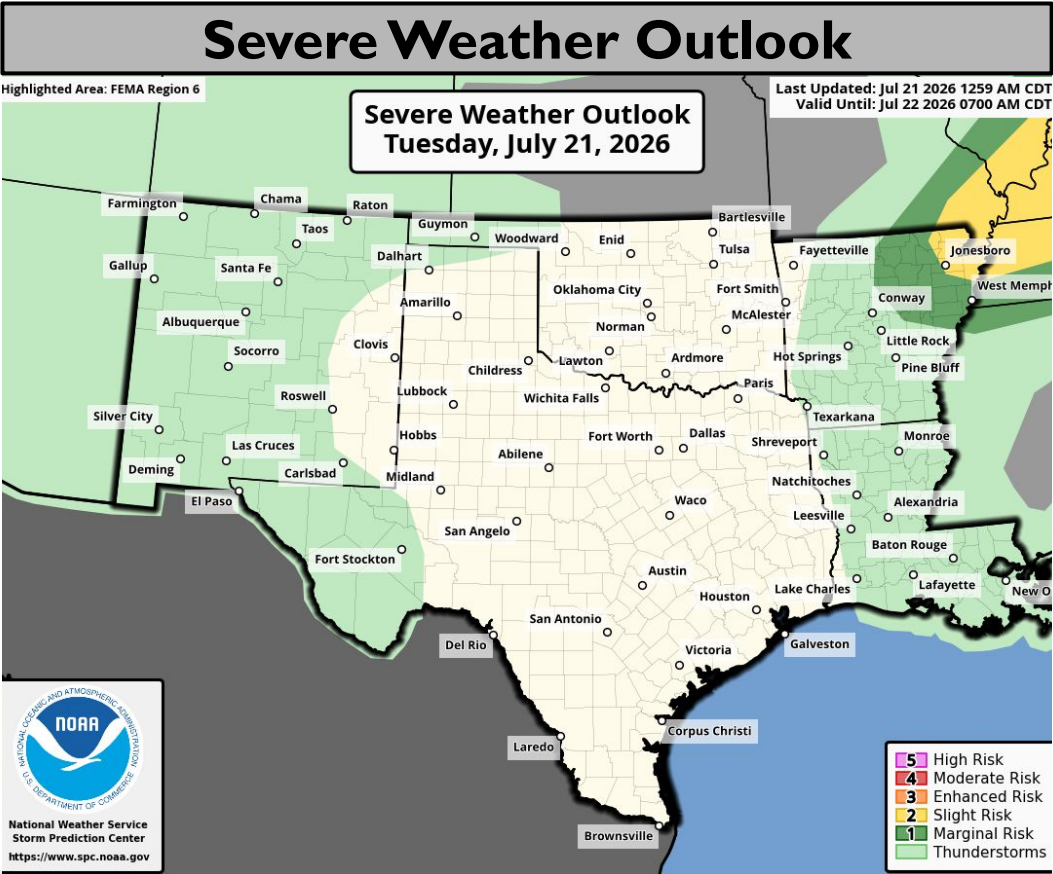
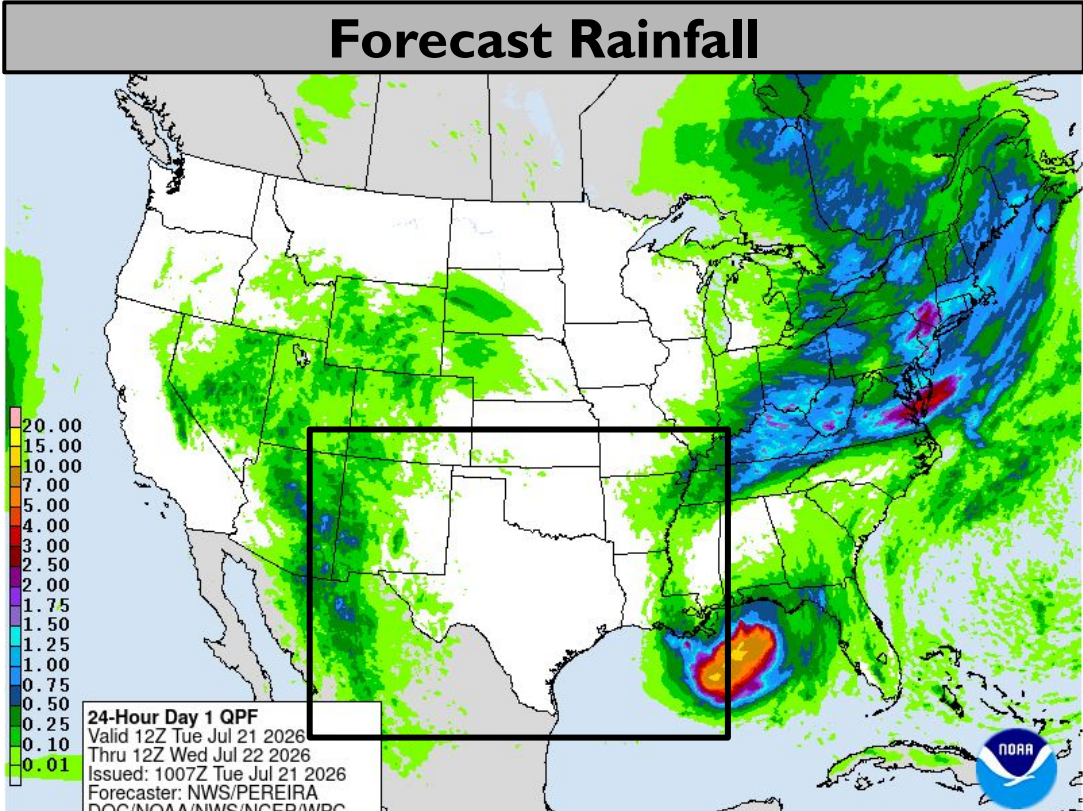
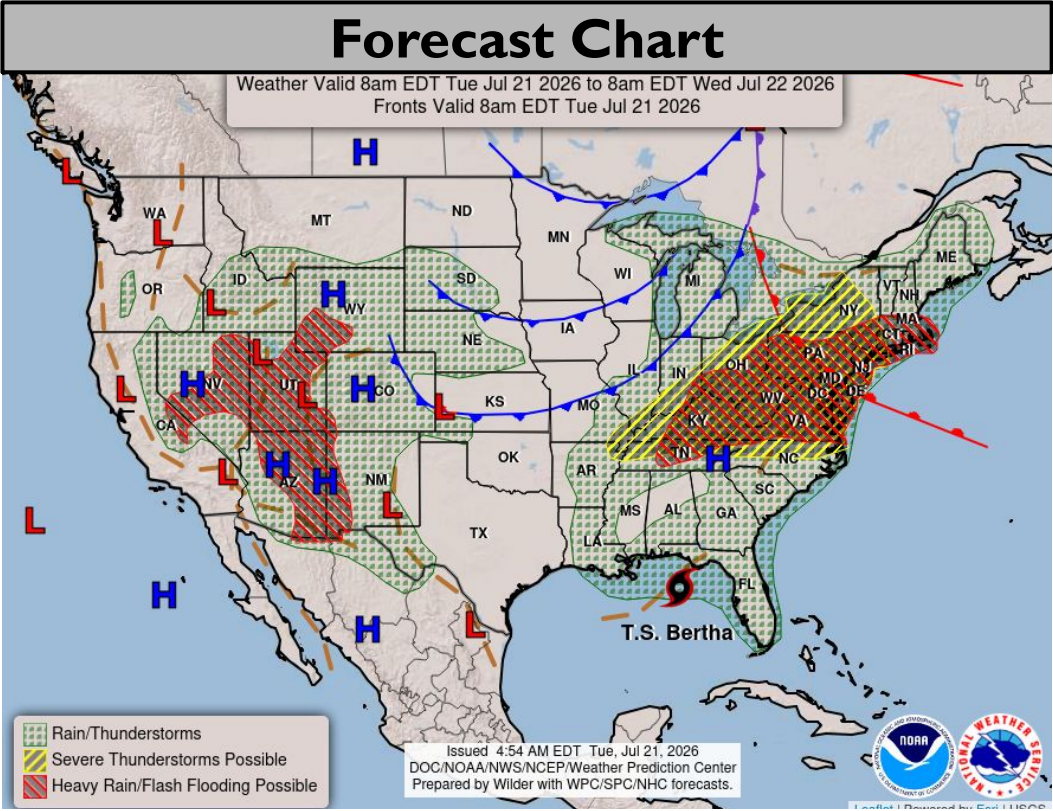
Increasing: Today - Wednesday

Decreasing: Wednesday night - Thursday





Today's Weather



**Slight risk (level 2 of 4) in W NM
for flash flooding.**

**Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) in NE AR
for severe storms**

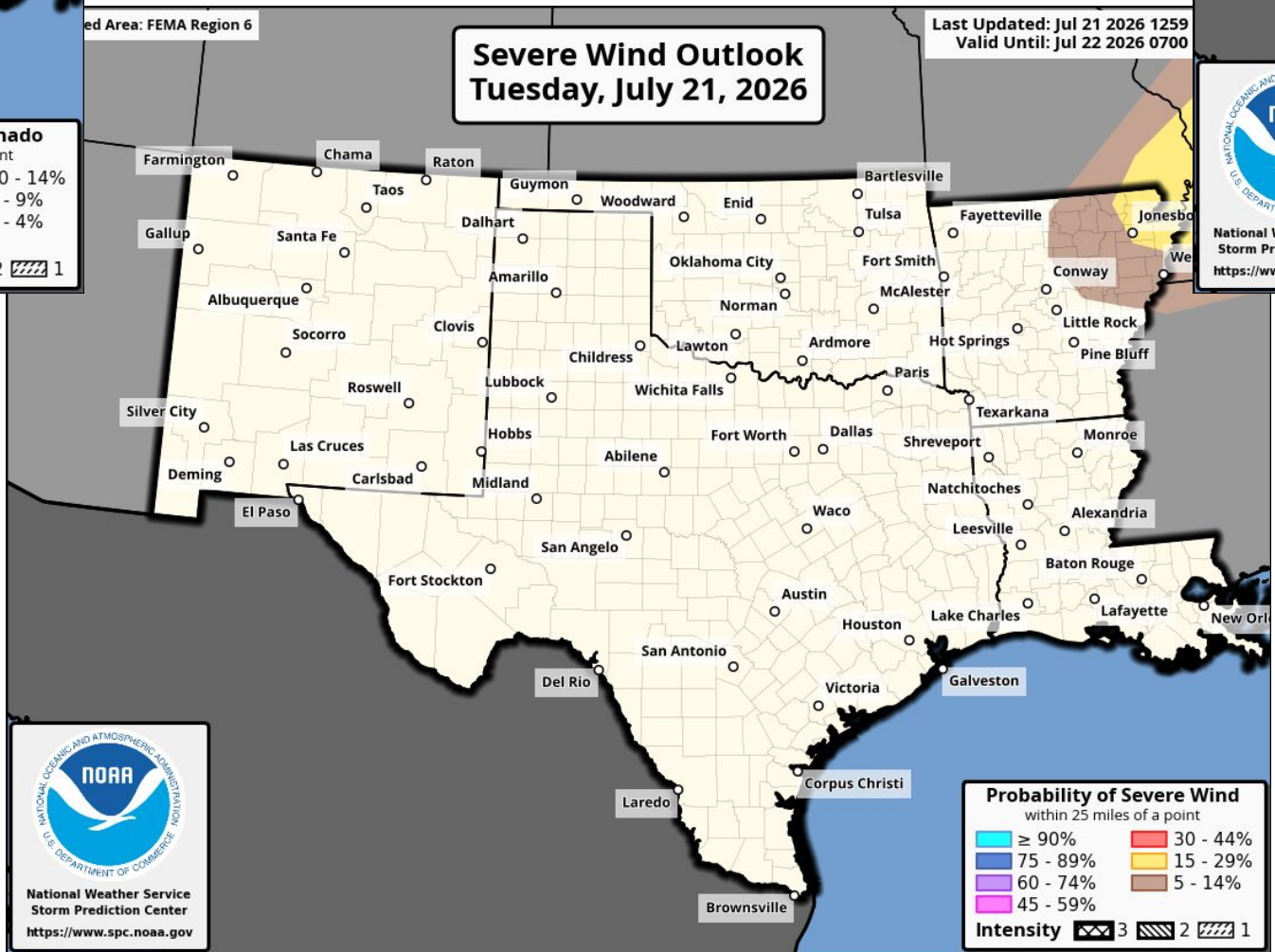
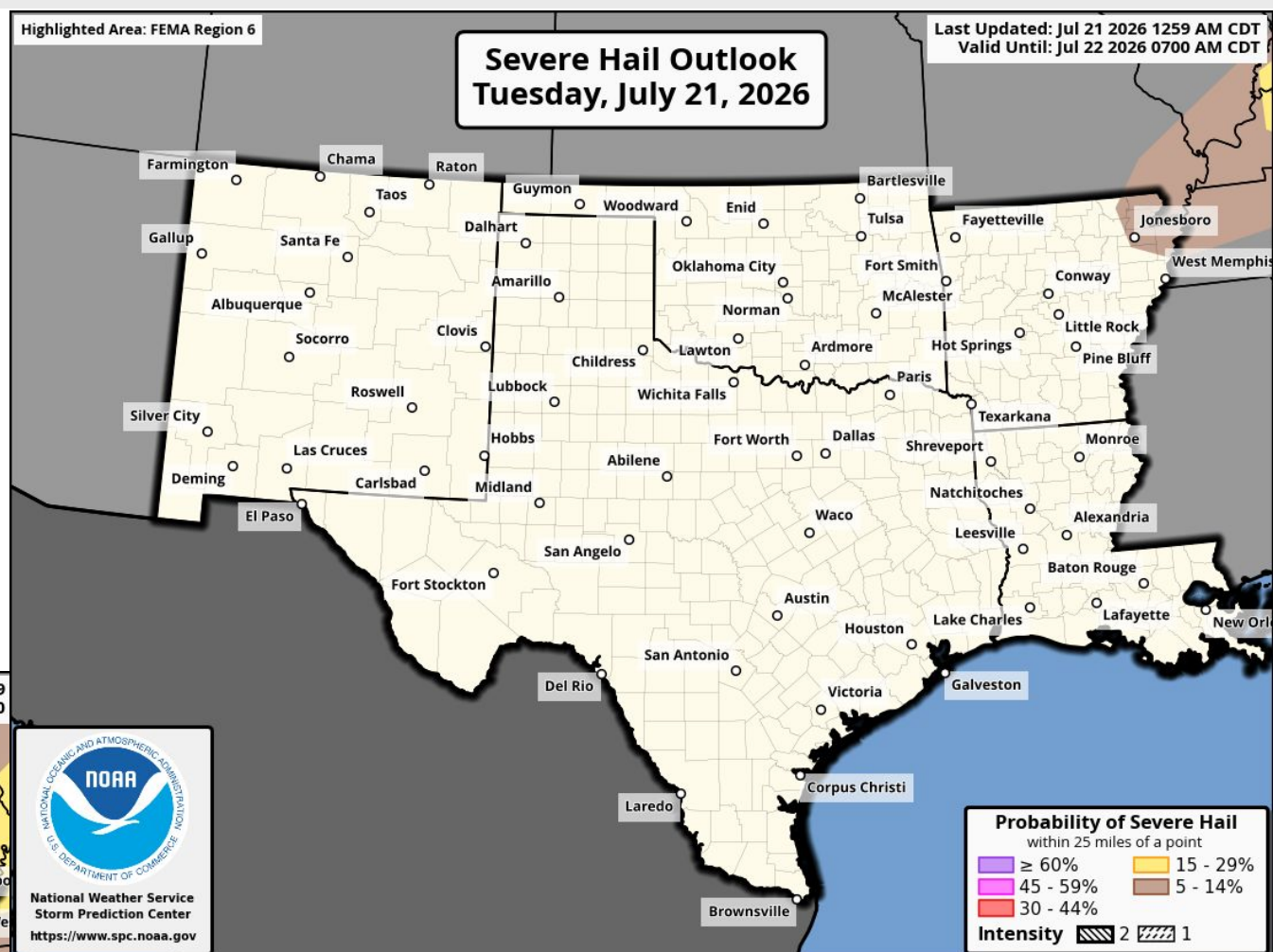
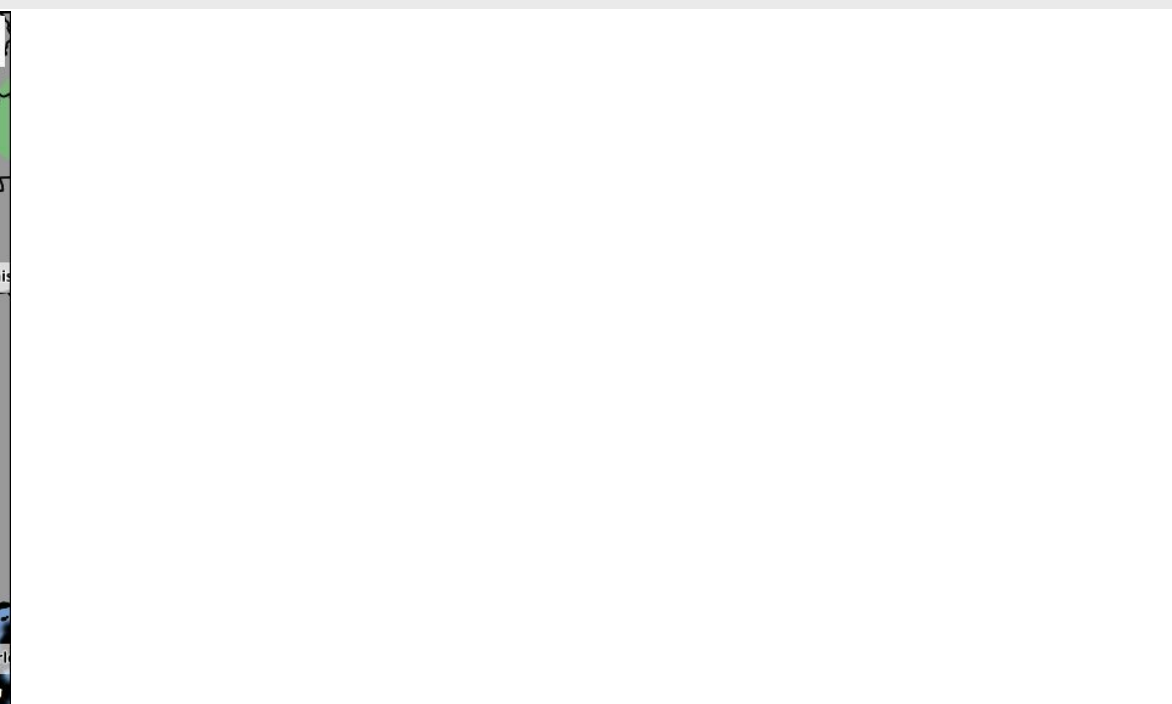
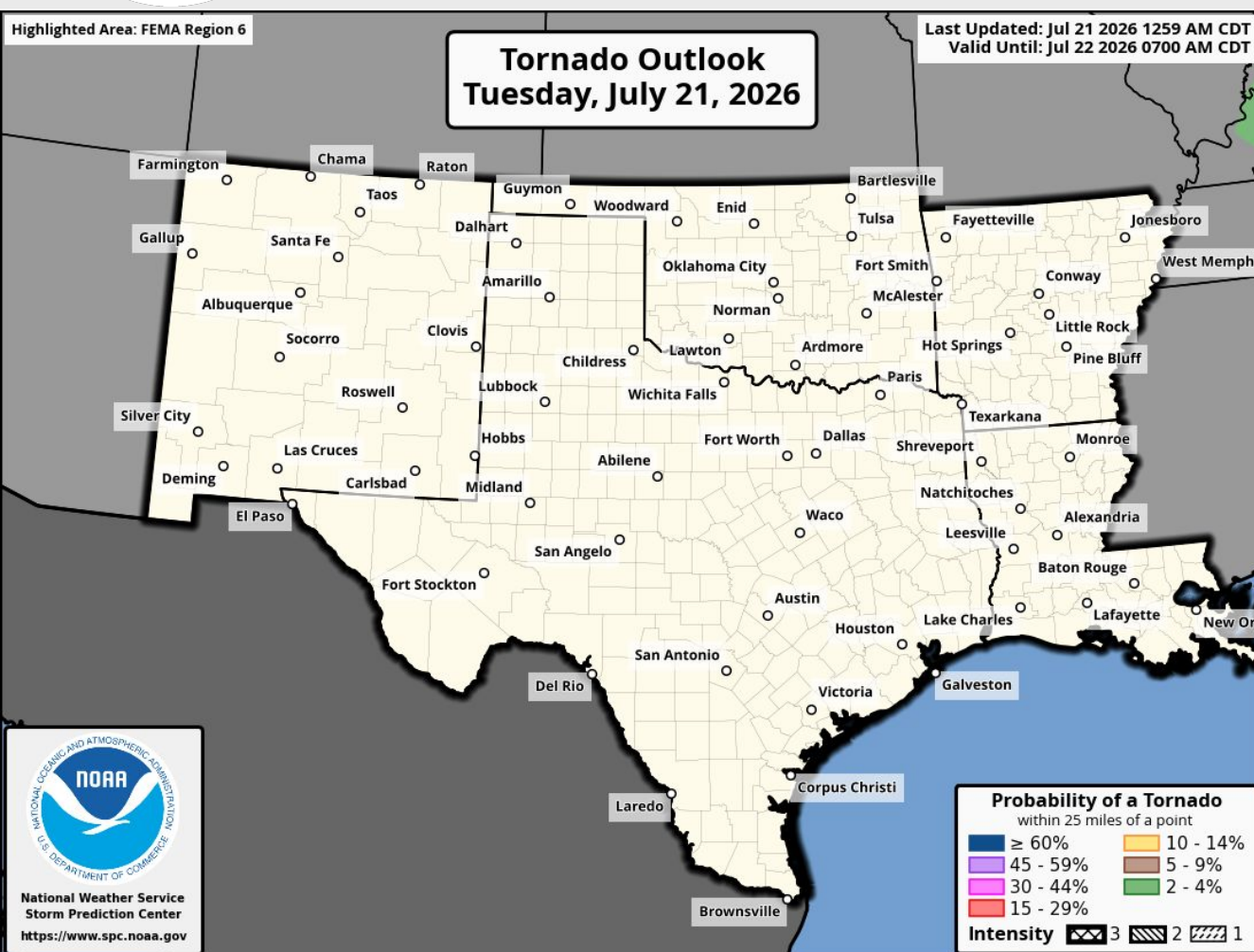
**Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash
flooding in SE LA.**

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



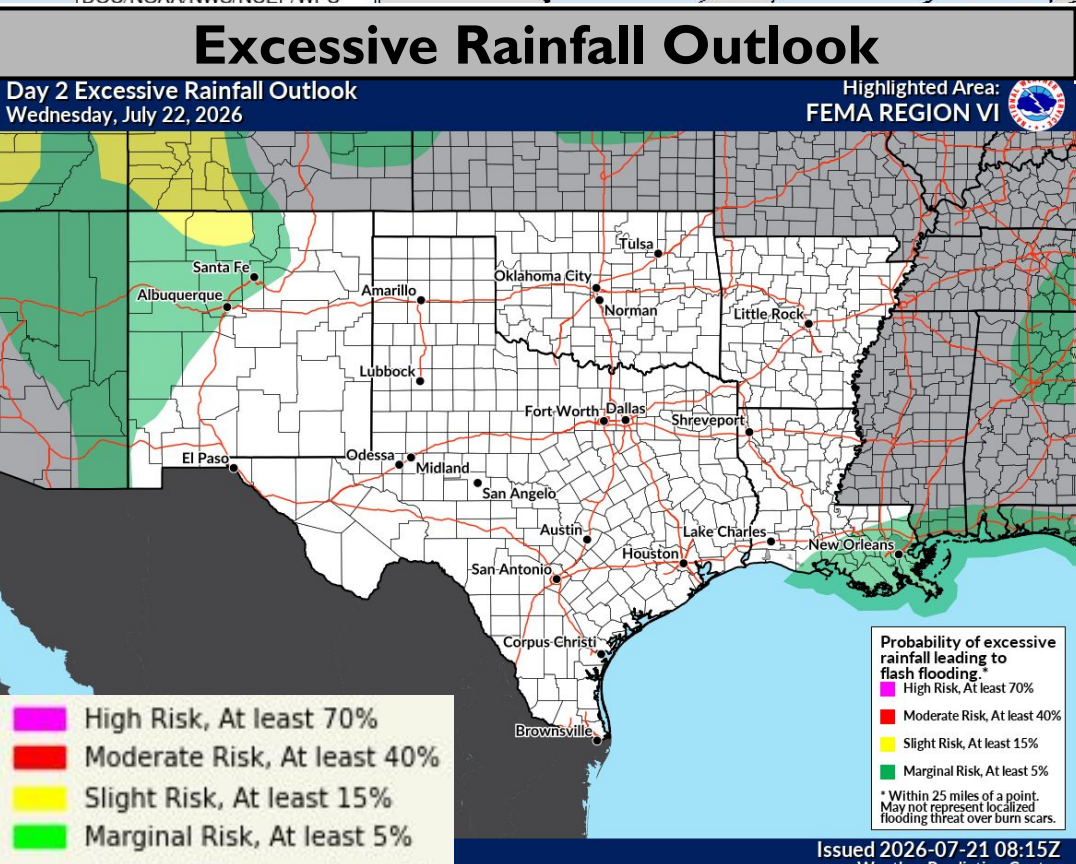
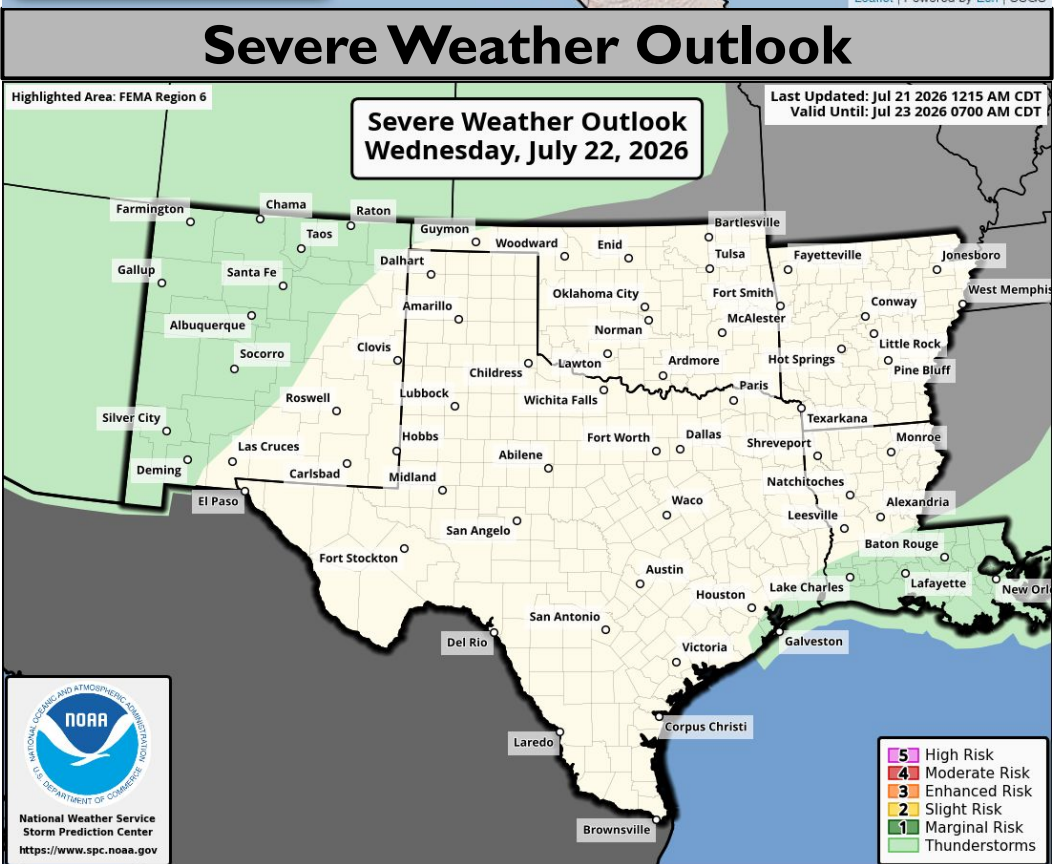
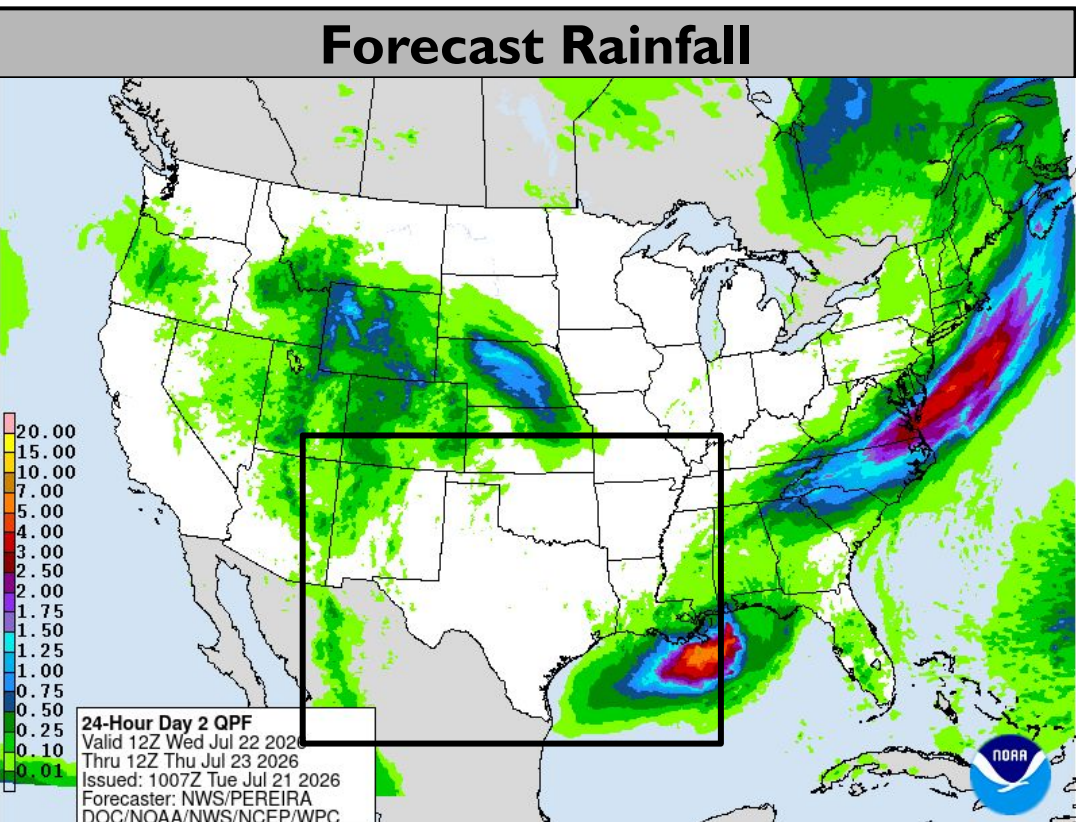
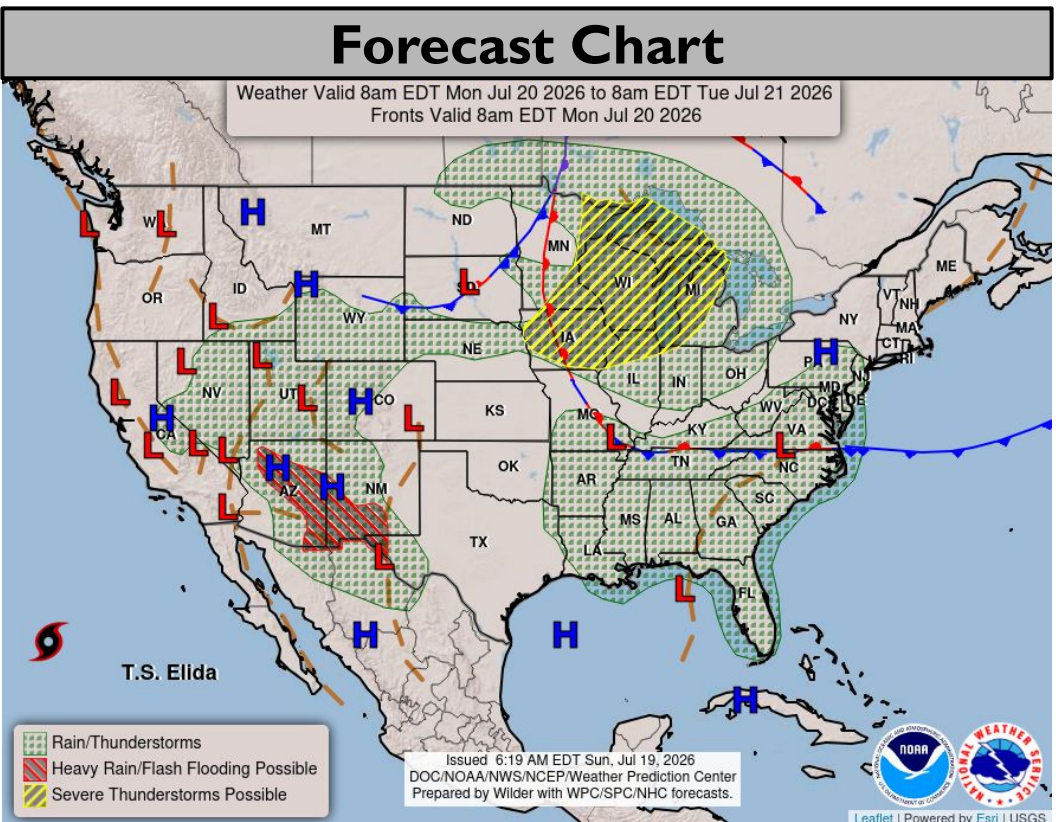


Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





Tomorrow's Weather



TS impacts to S LA.

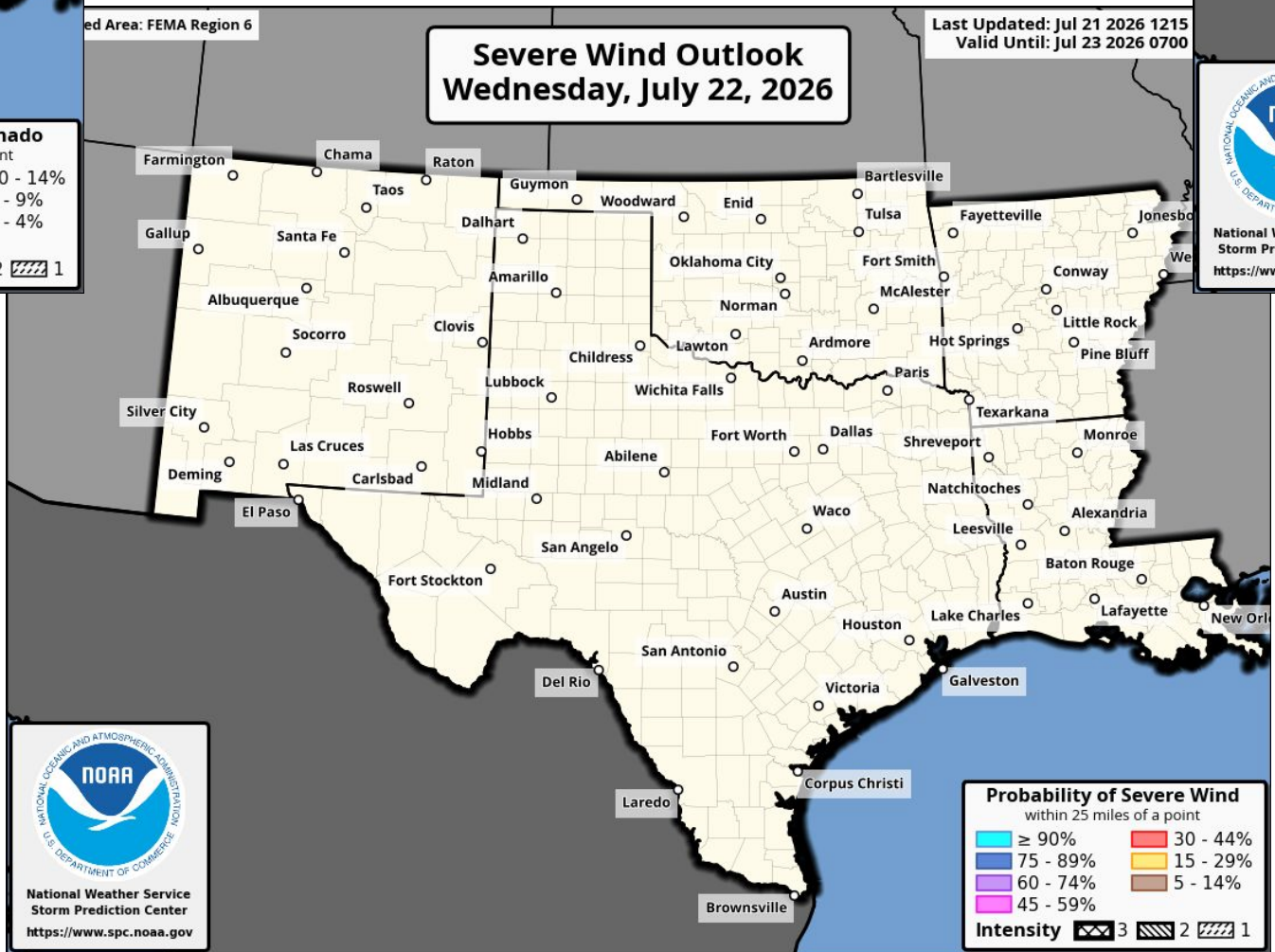
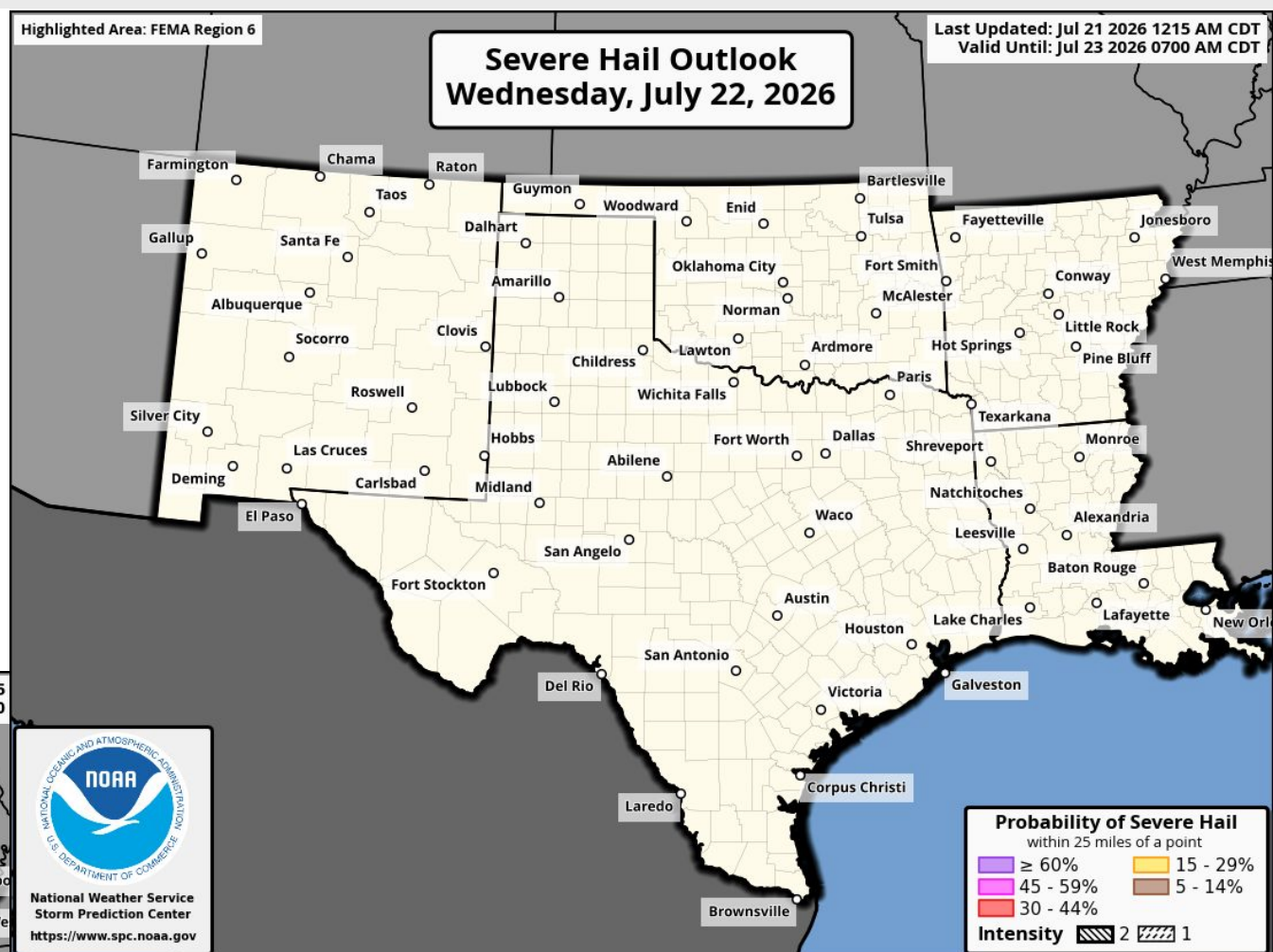
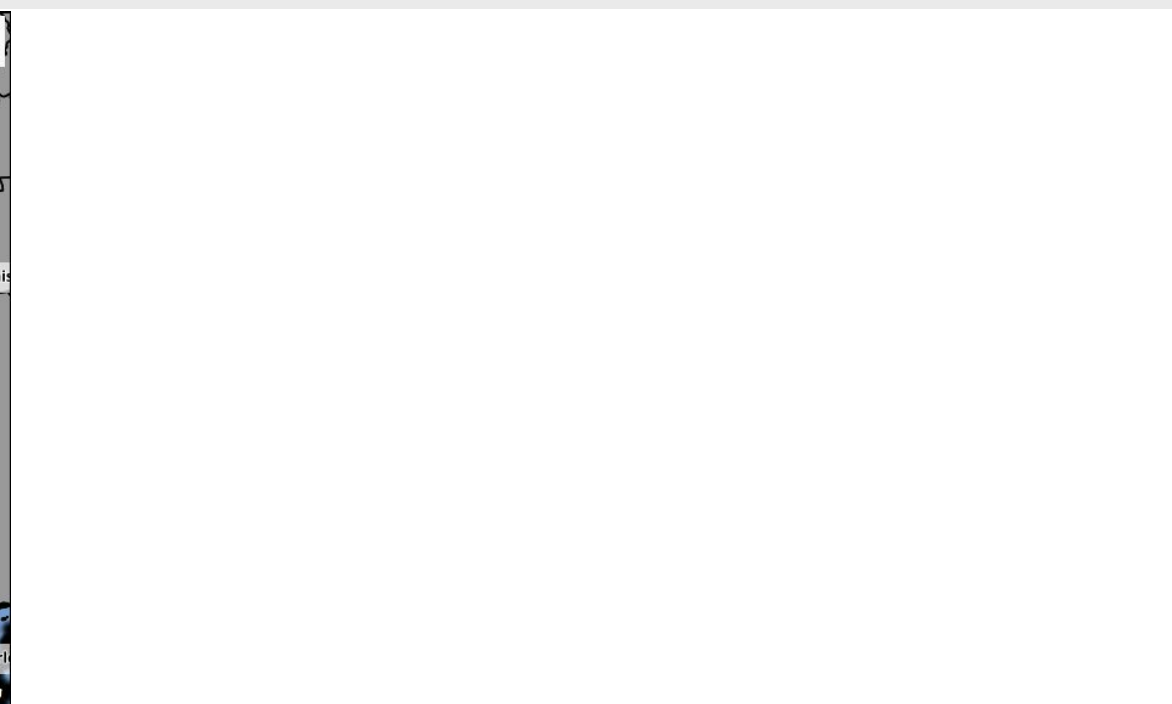
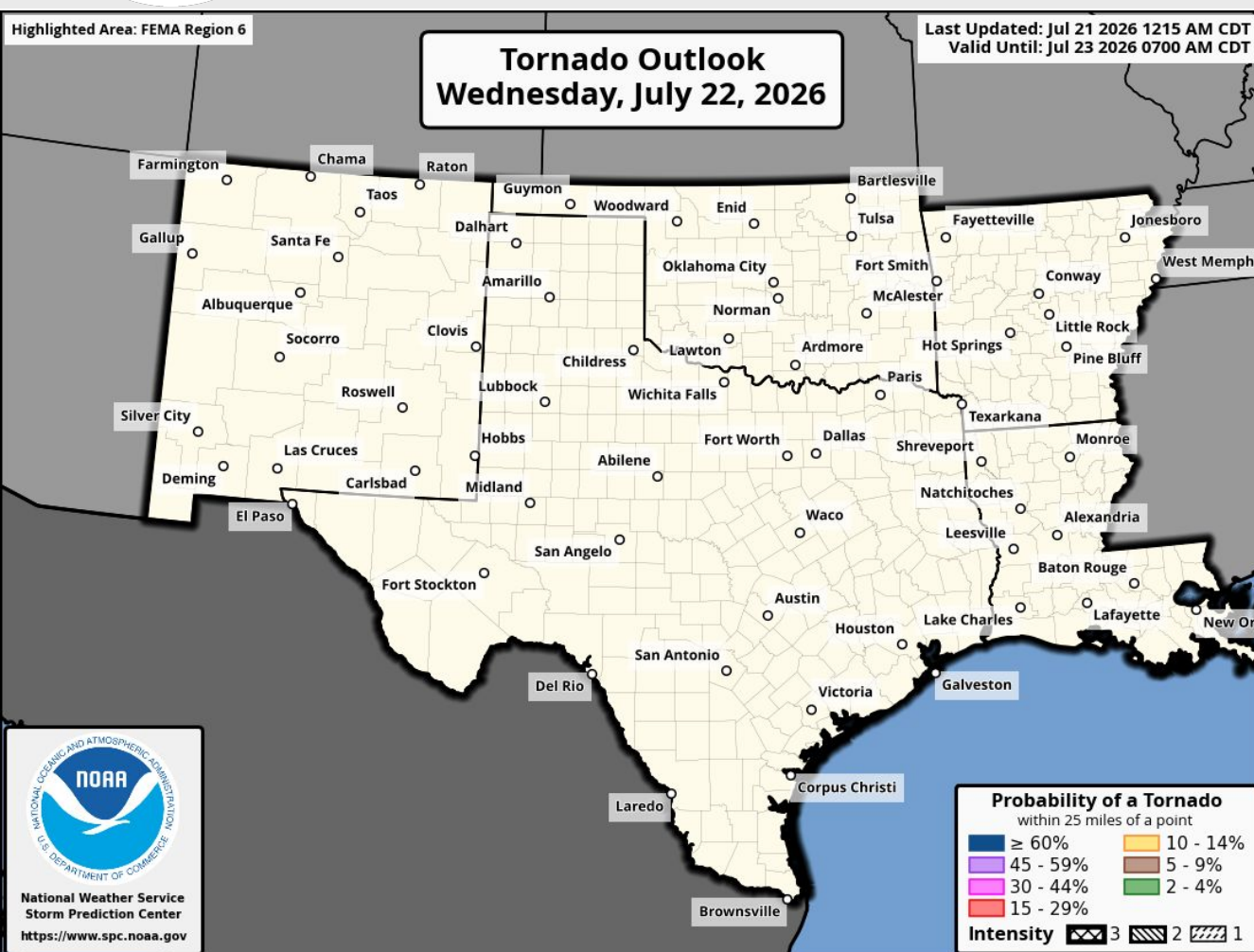
Slight risk (level 2 of 4) for flash flooding in N NM

Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) in SE LA.

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

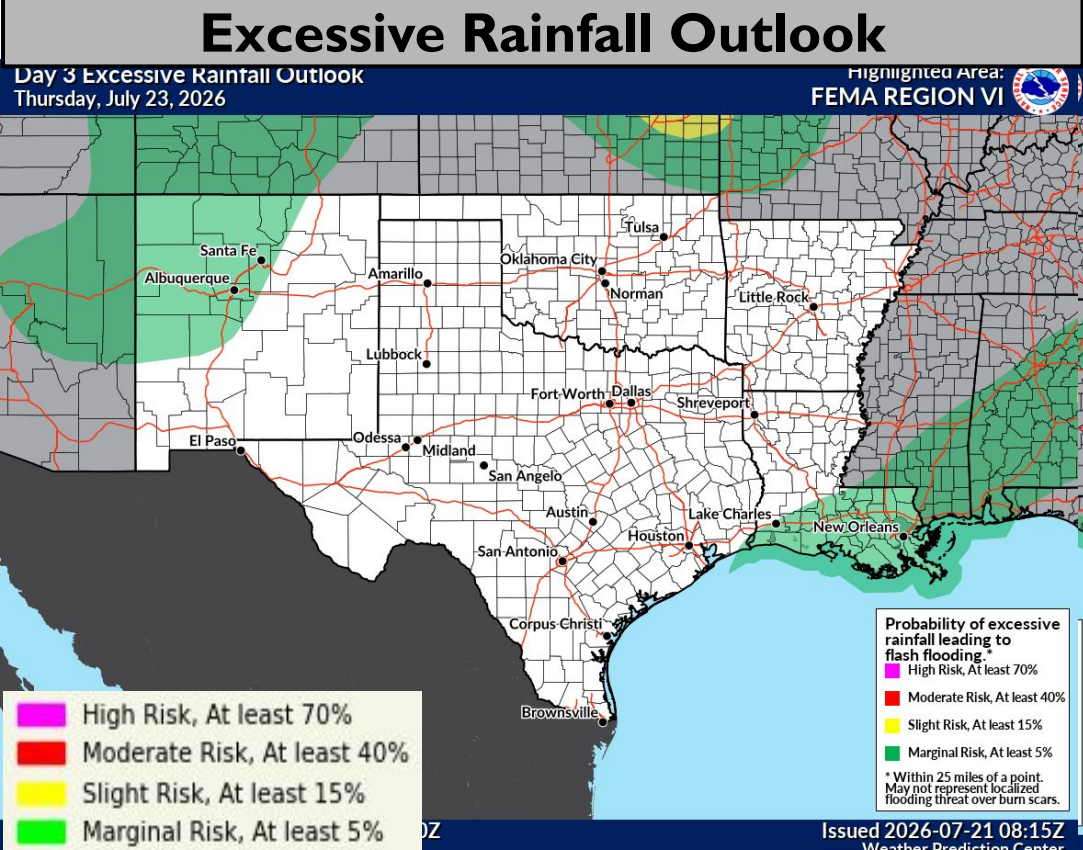
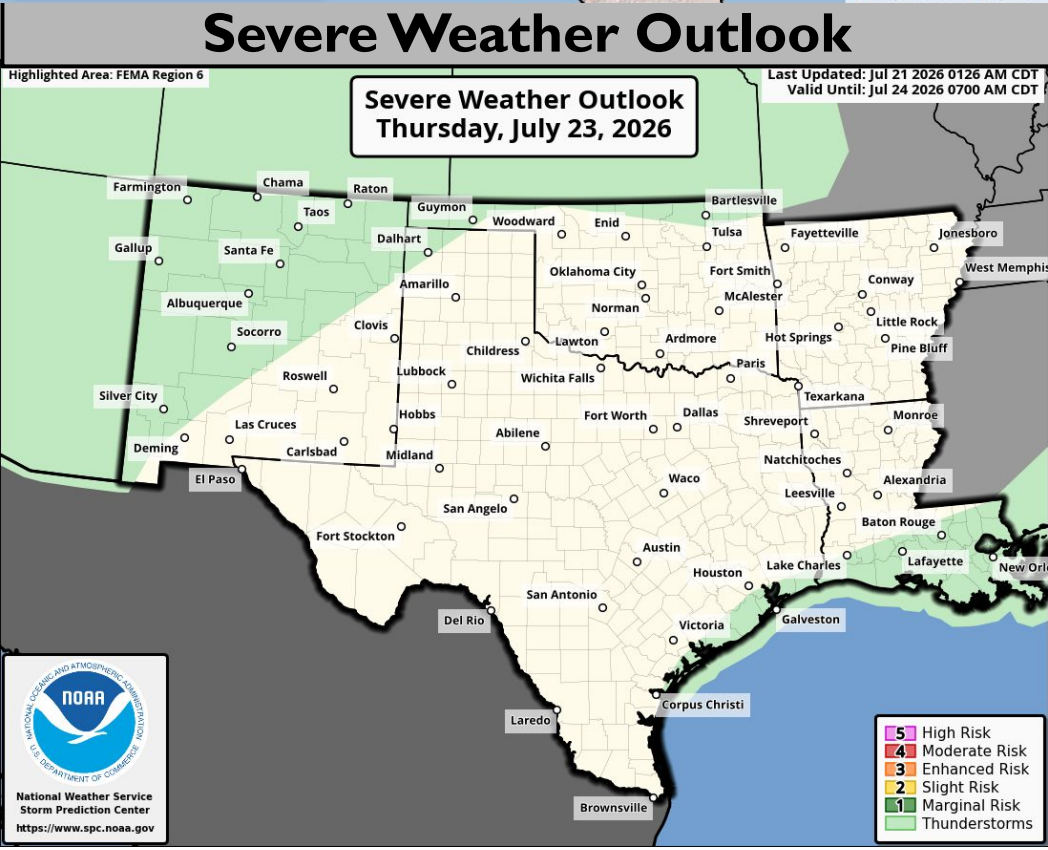
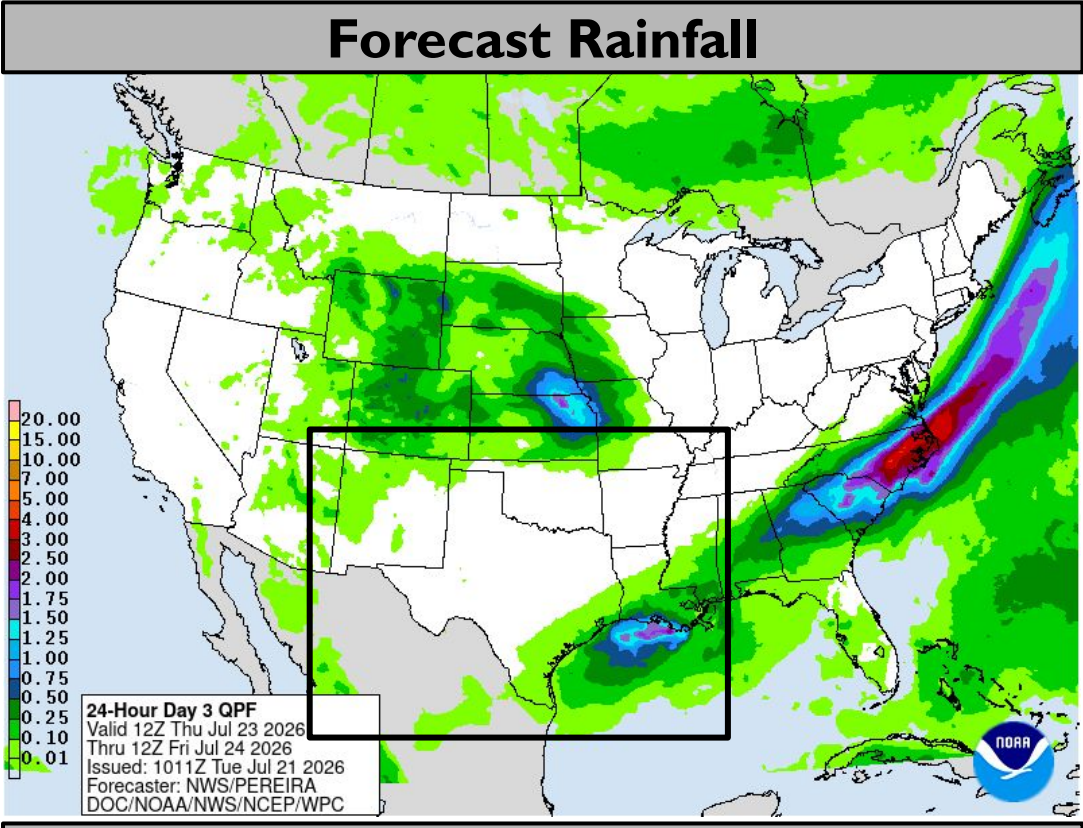
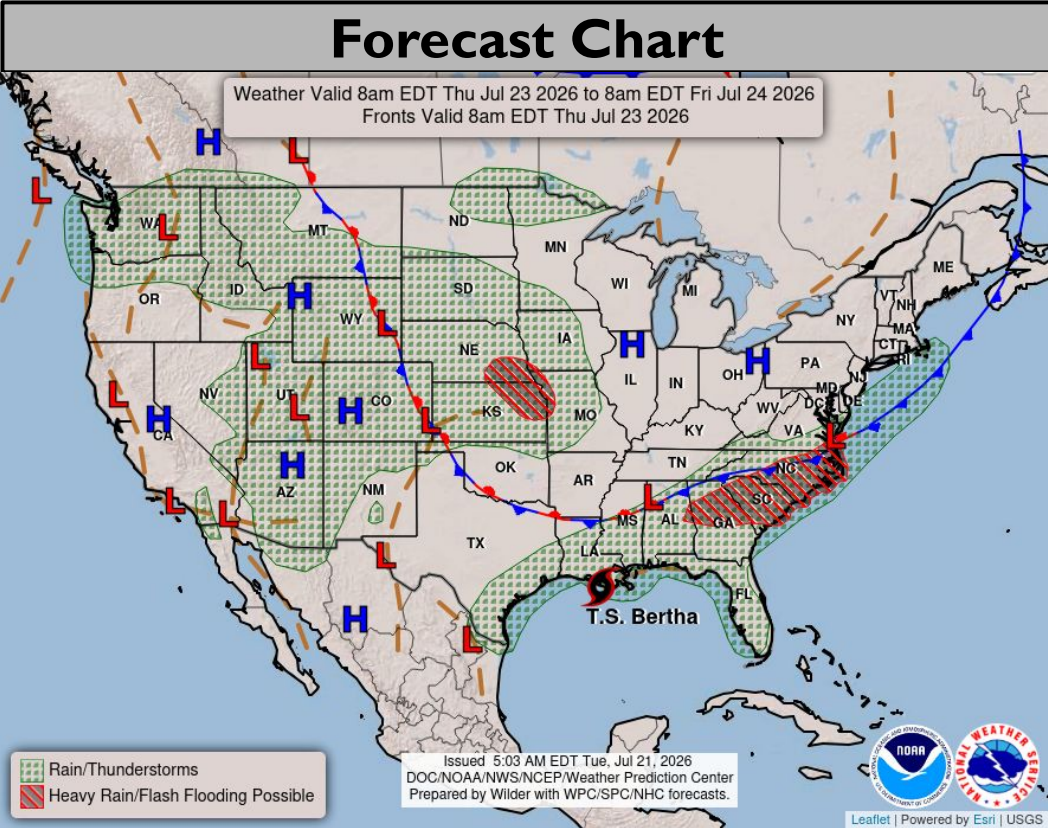


Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





Thursday's Weather



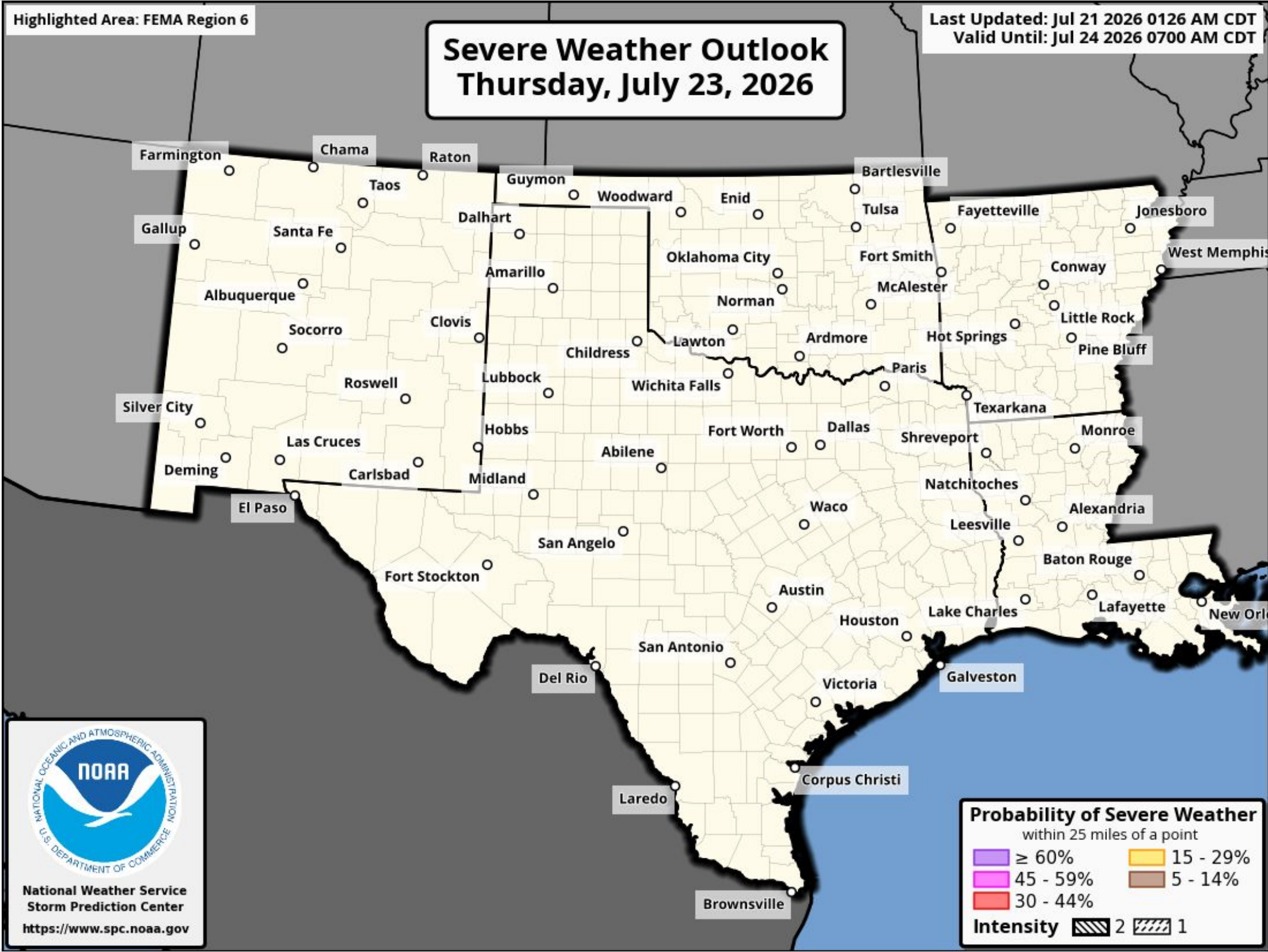
TS impacts to S LA, TX Gulf Coast.

Maringal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in NM, S LA.

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



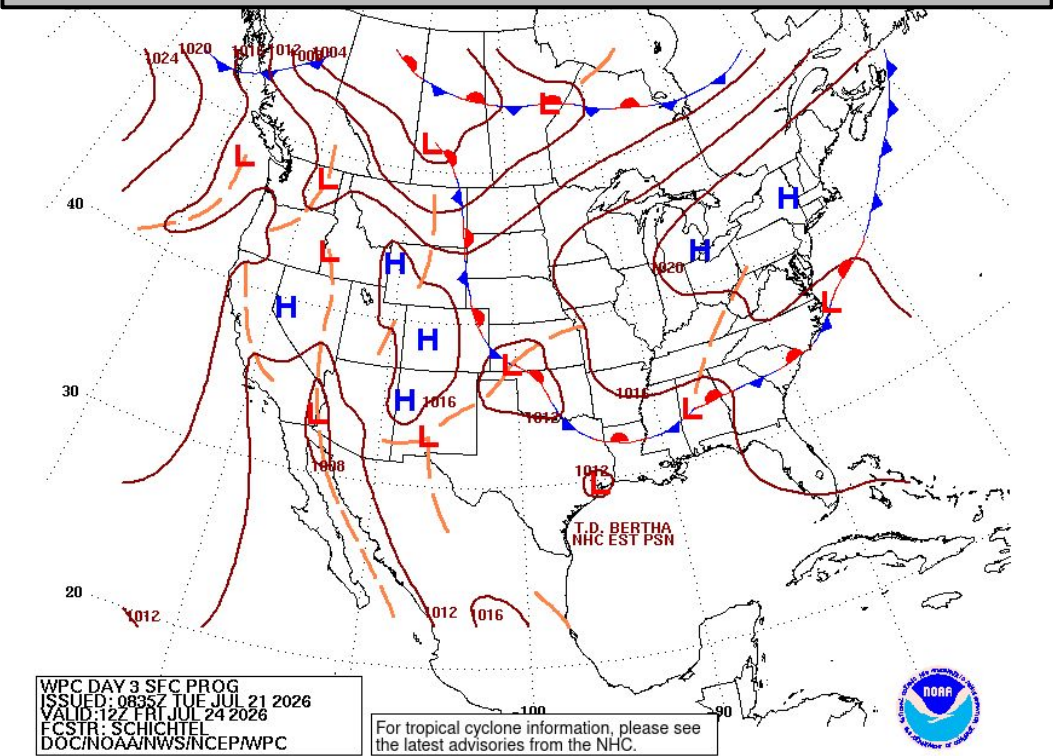
Thursday's Severe Weather Probabilities/CIG Level



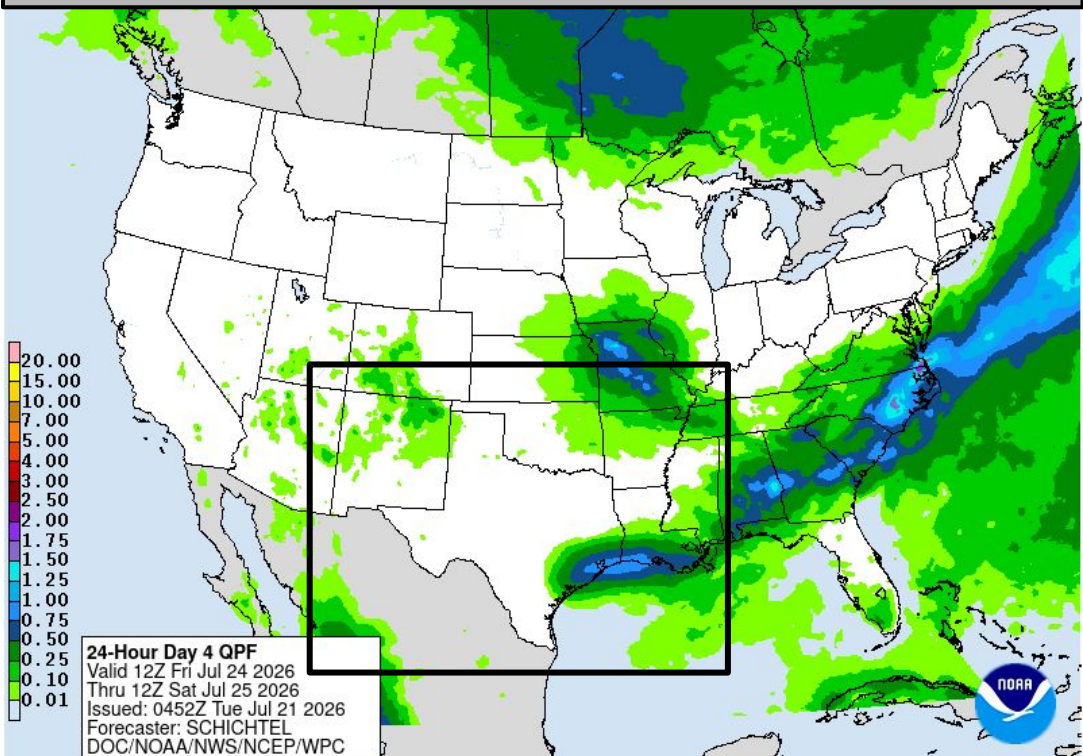


Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart



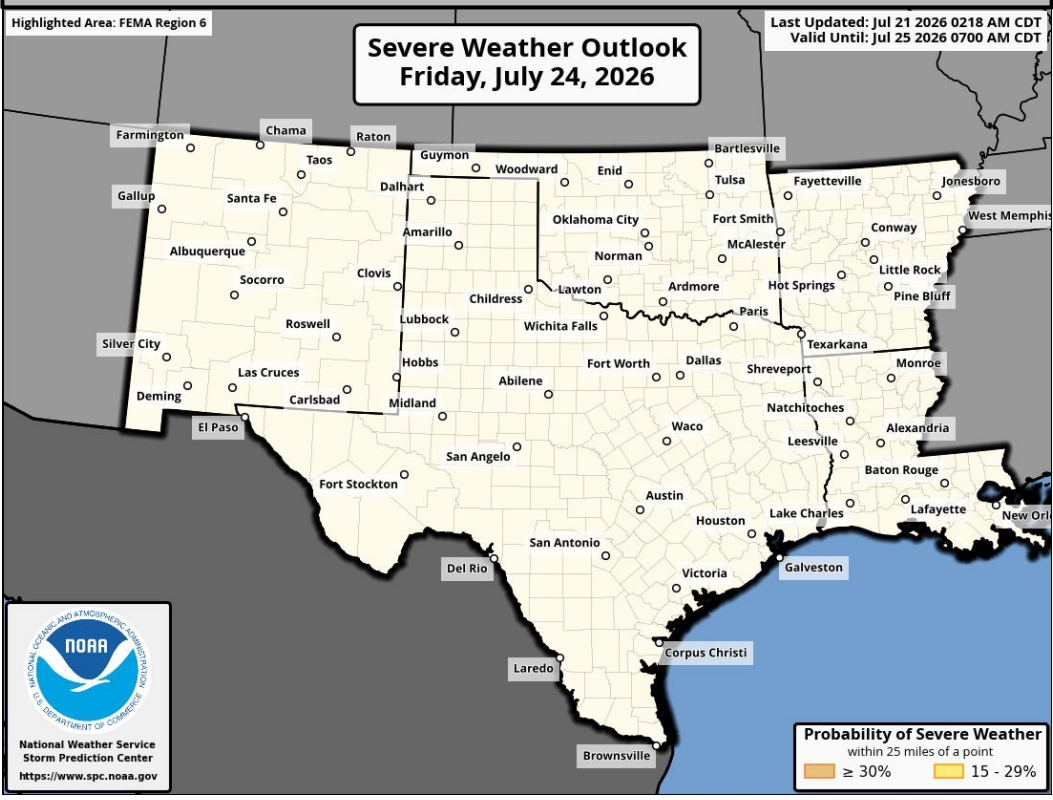
Forecast Rainfall



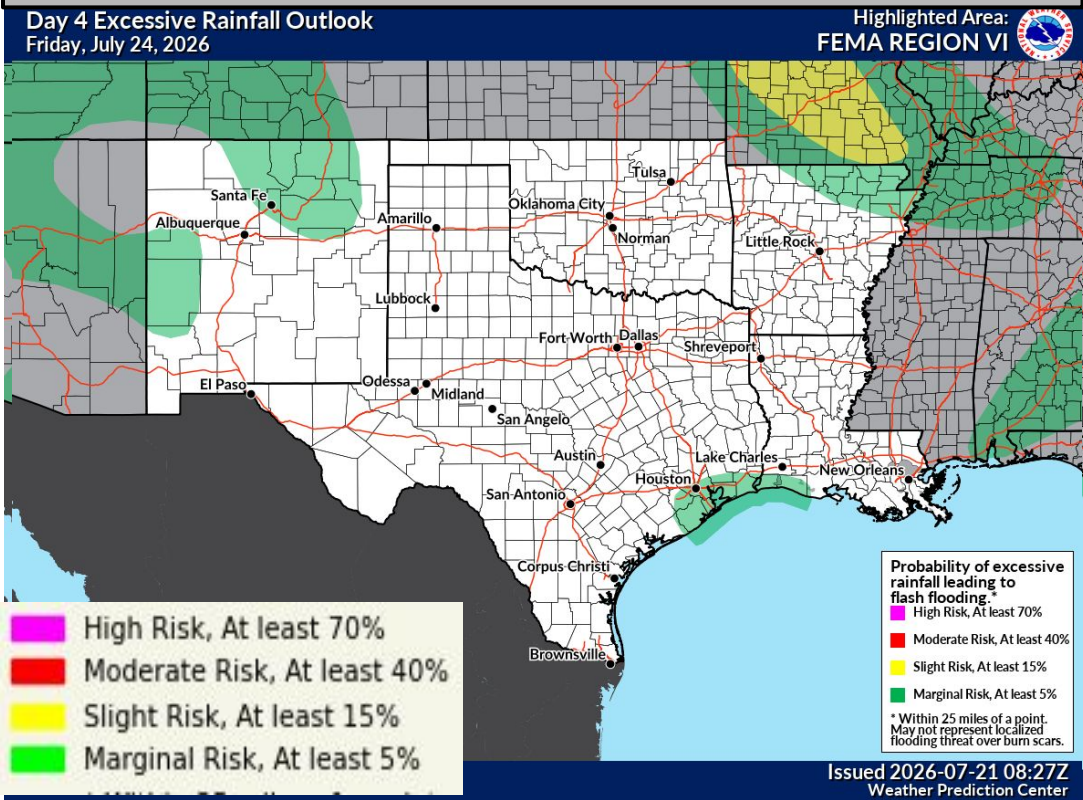
**TD impacts to TX Gulf Coast,
S LA.**

**Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash
flooding in N NM, SE TX, SW LA.**

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



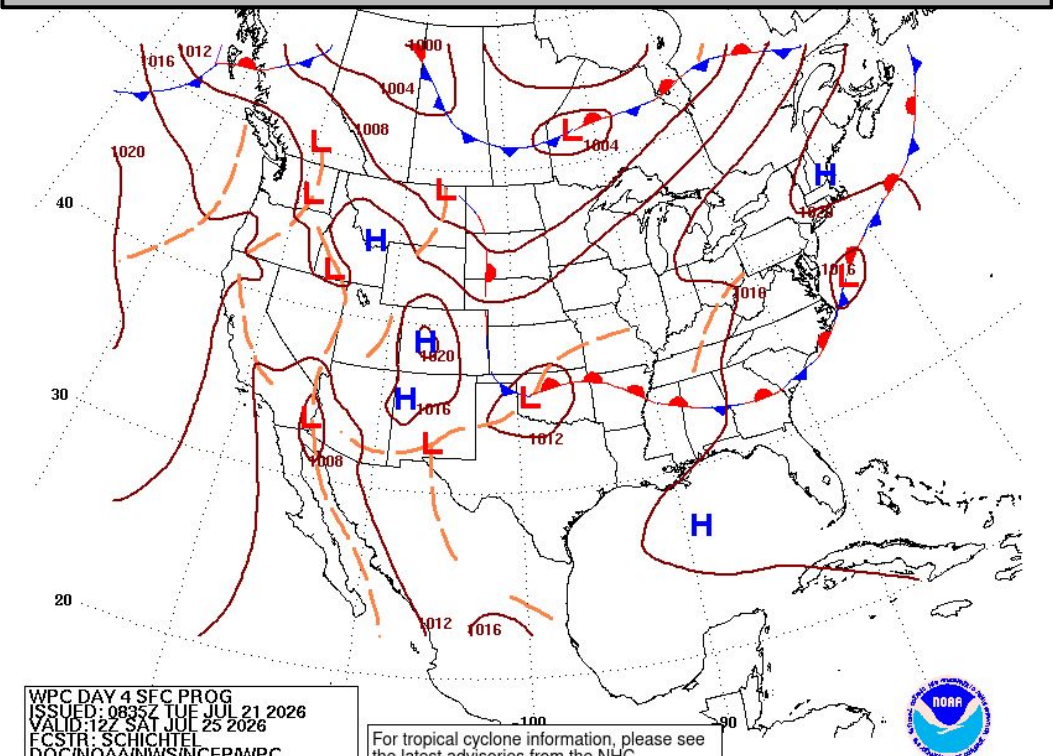
***Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on
Burn Scar Matrix slides***



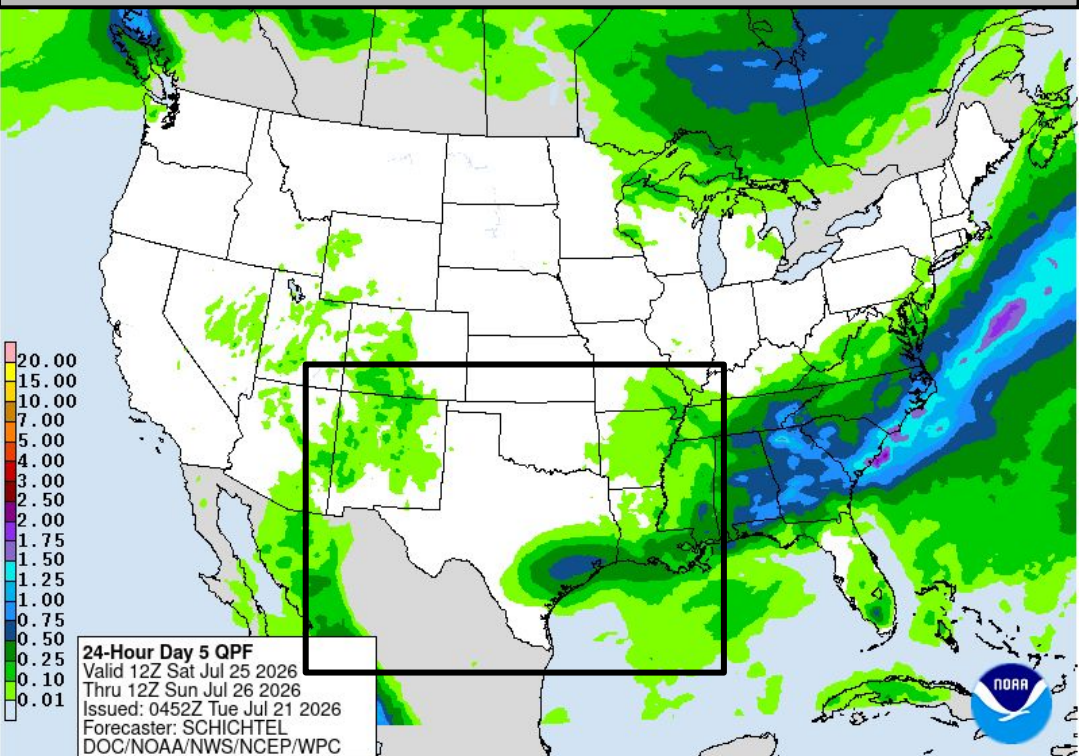


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart



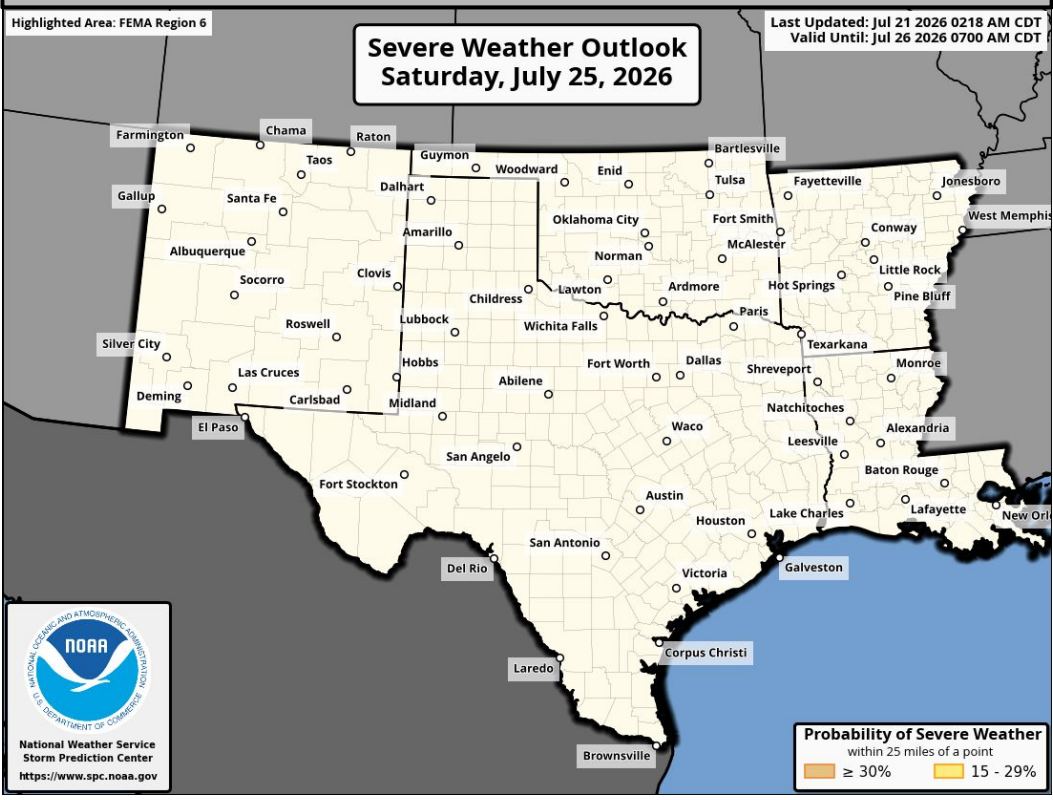
Forecast Rainfall



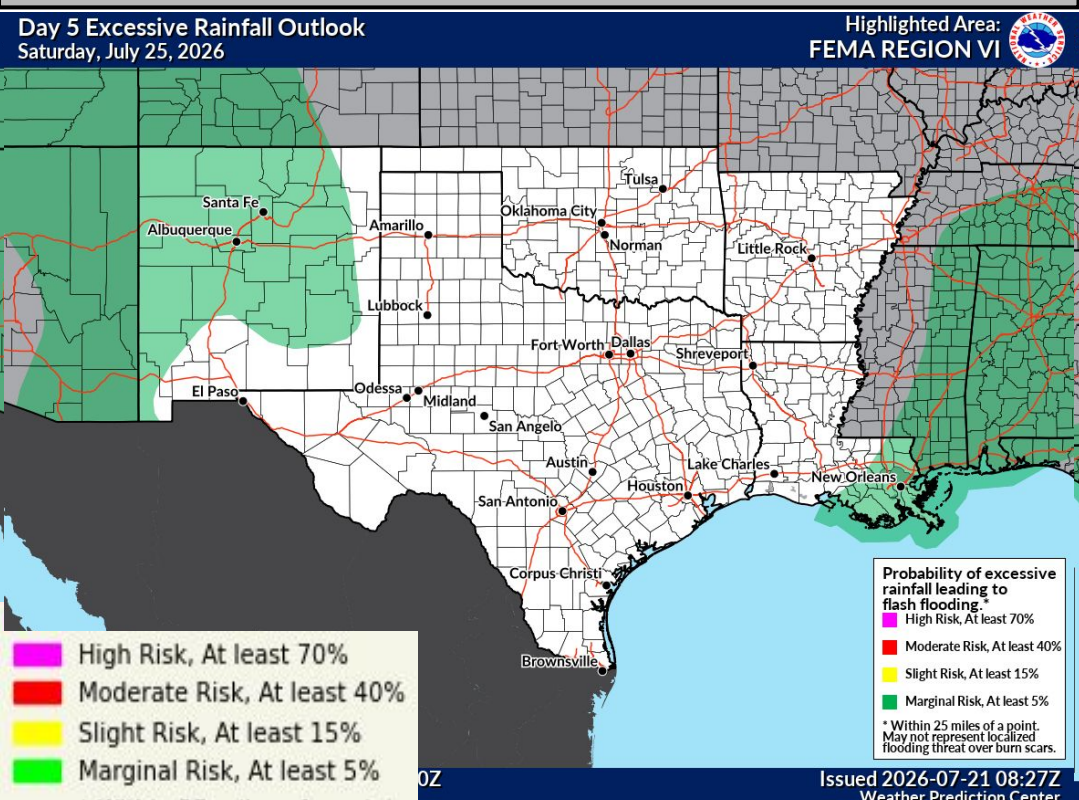
TD impacts to TX Gulf Coast.

Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in NM, SE LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



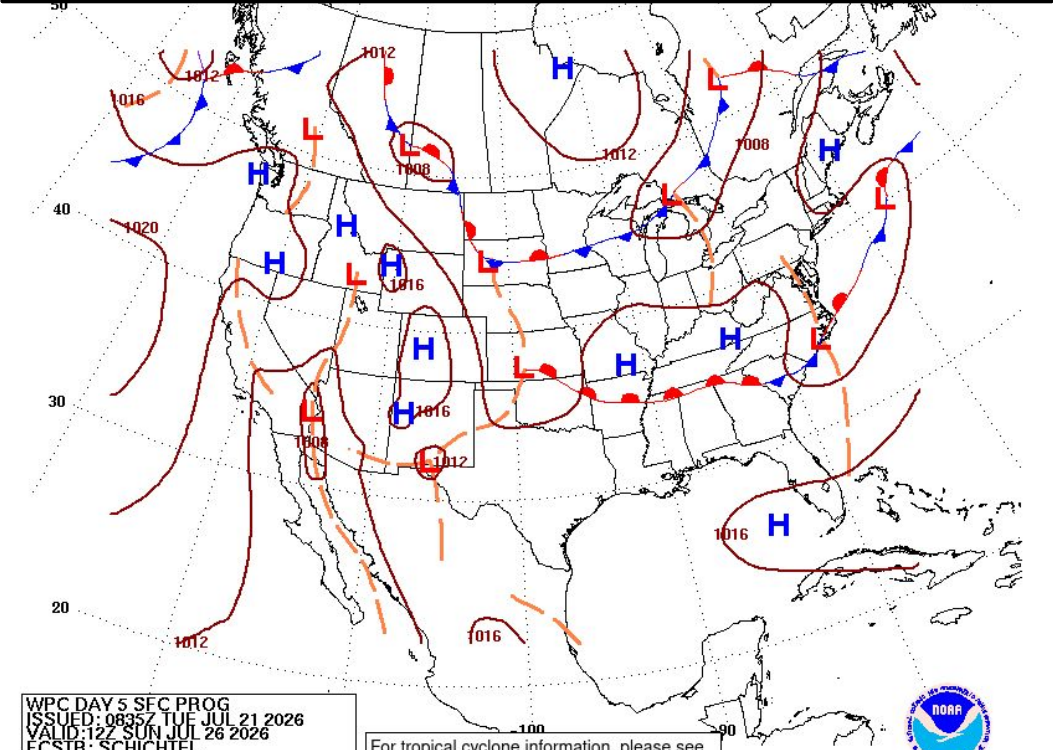
Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides



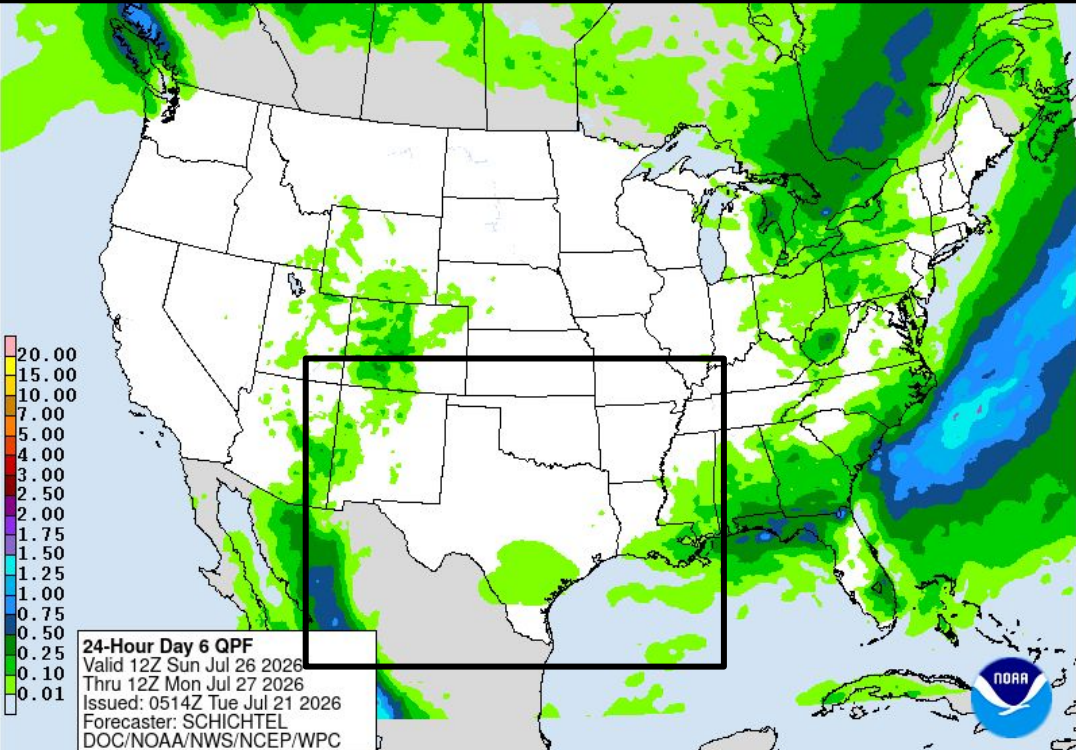


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

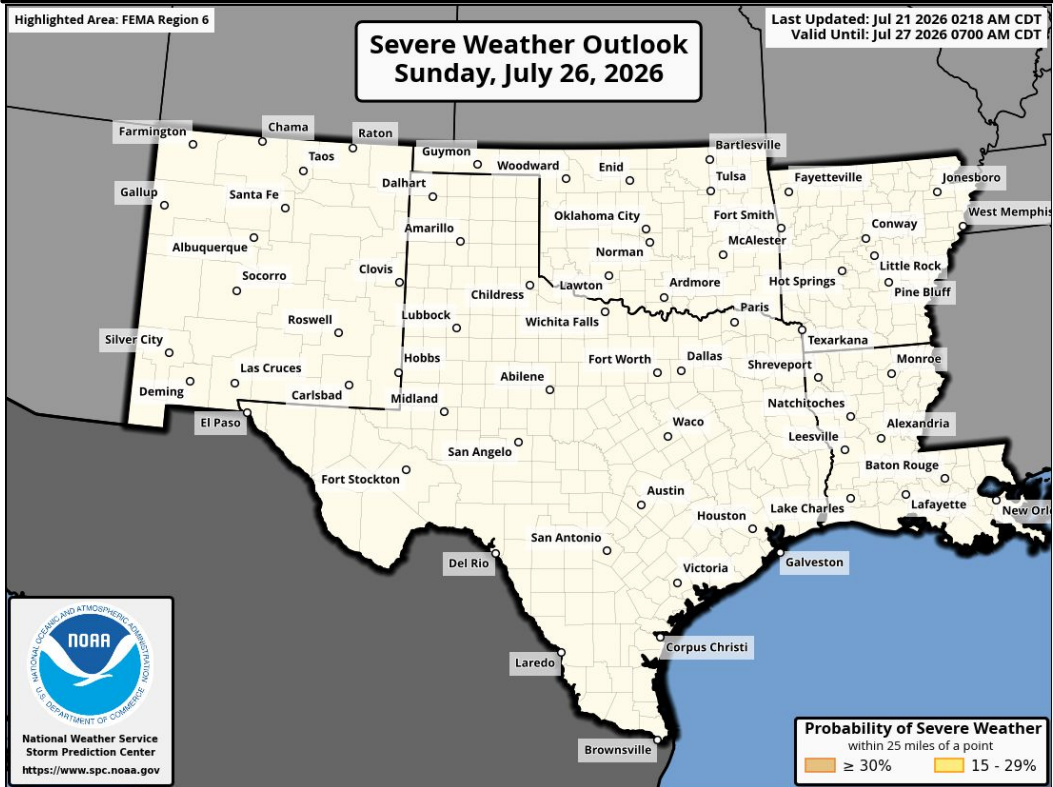


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring N NM for flash flooding.

Severe Weather Outlook



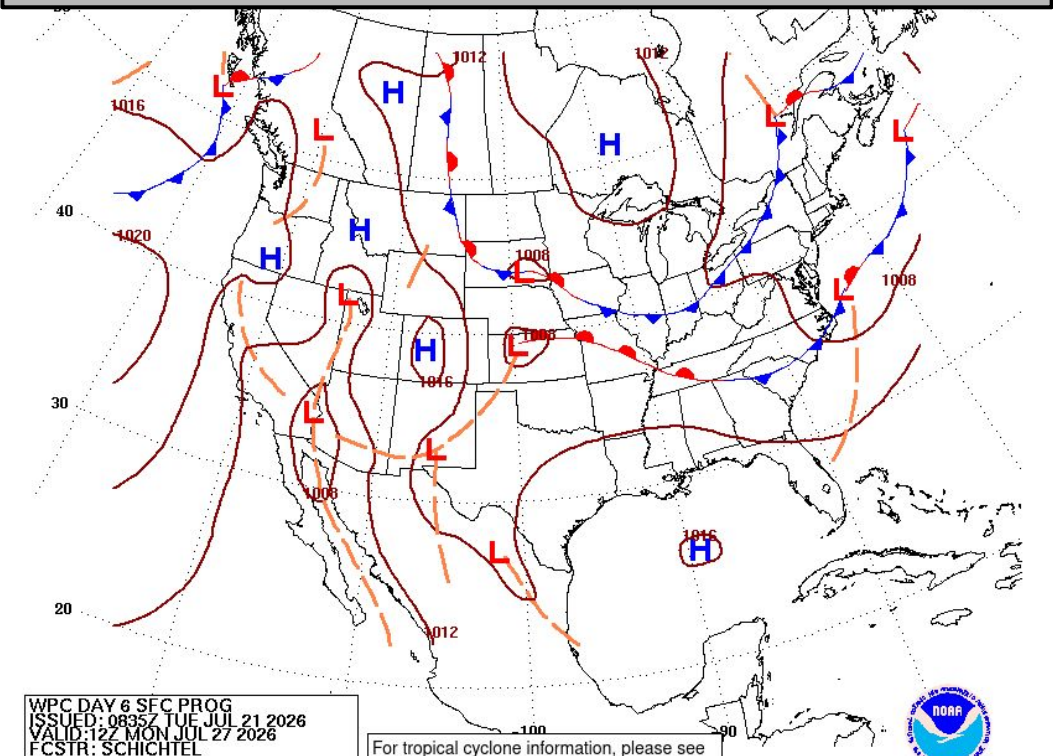
**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**



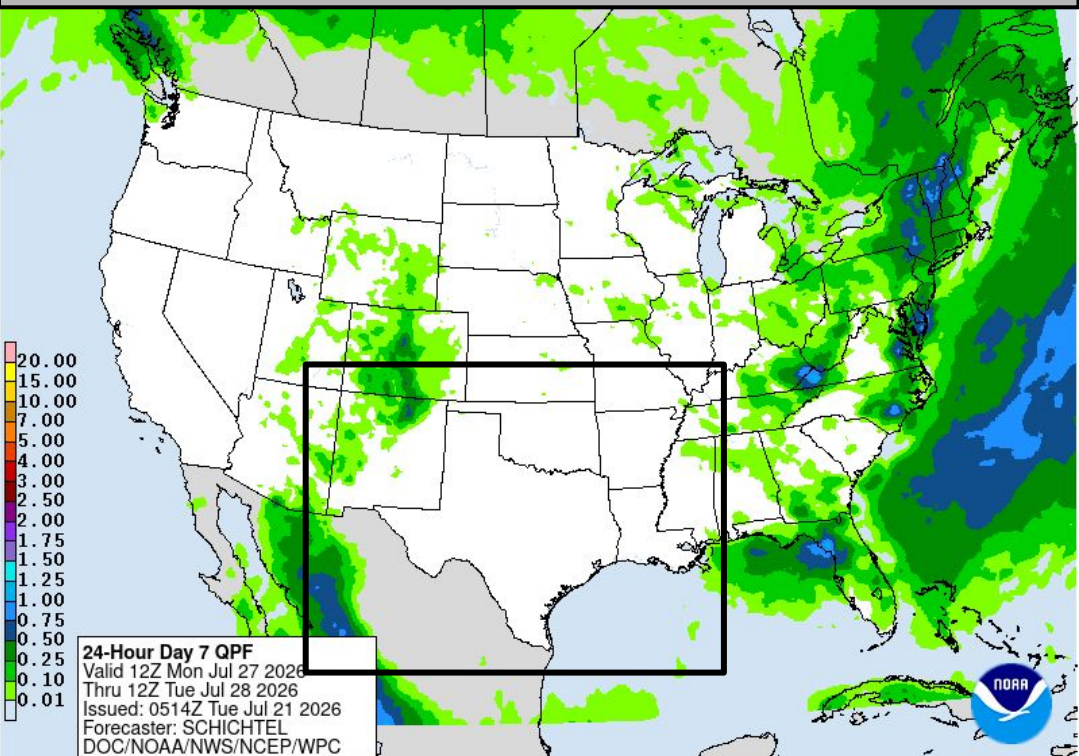


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

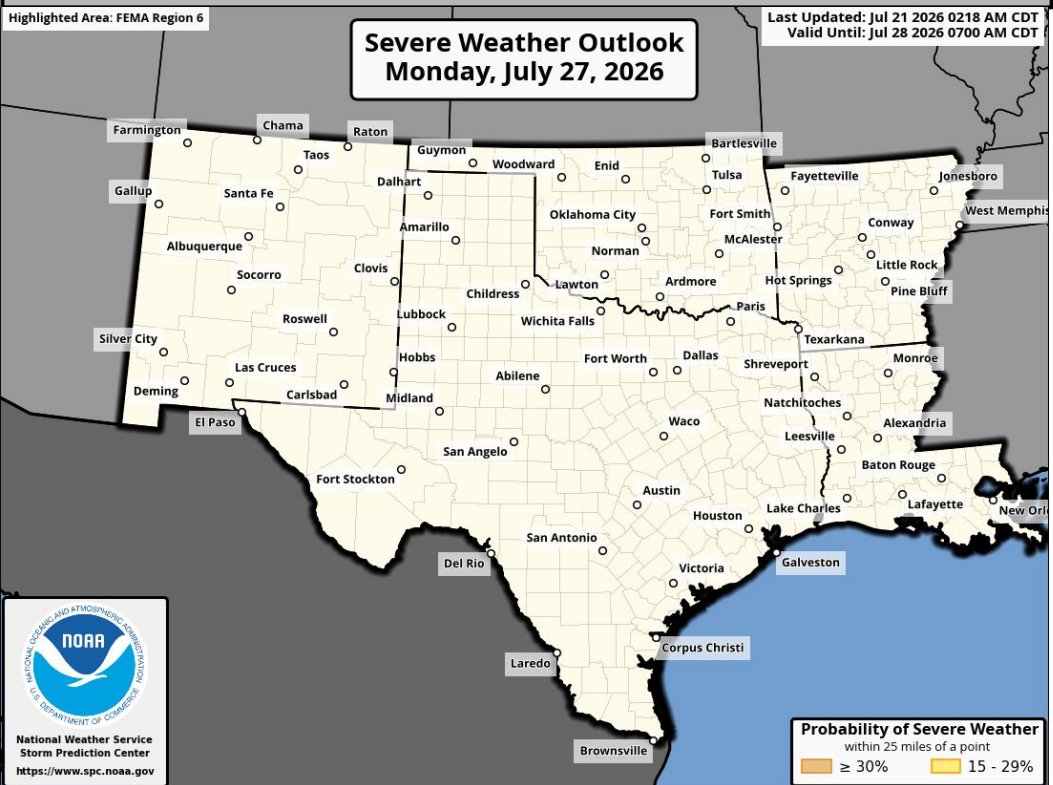


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

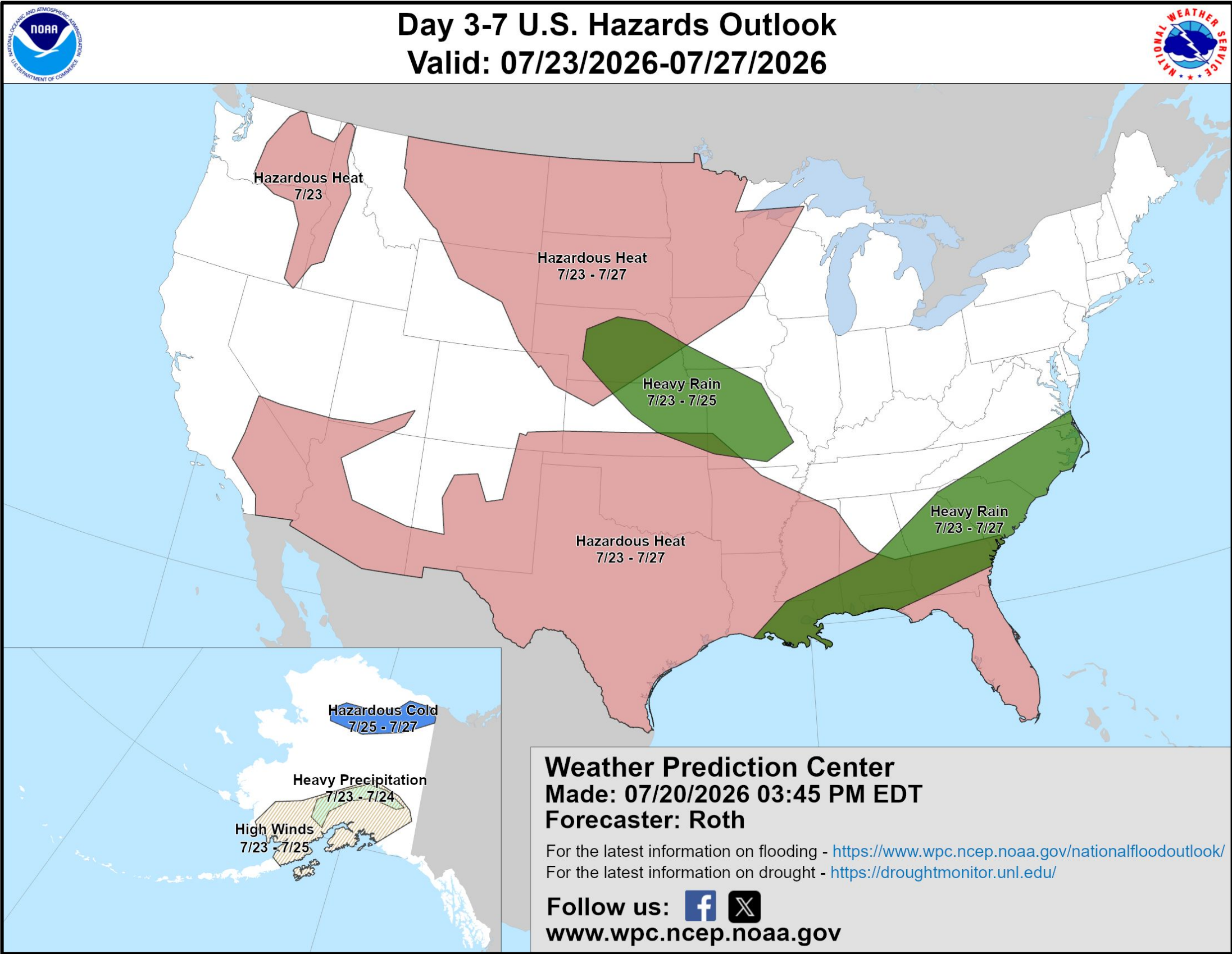


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5



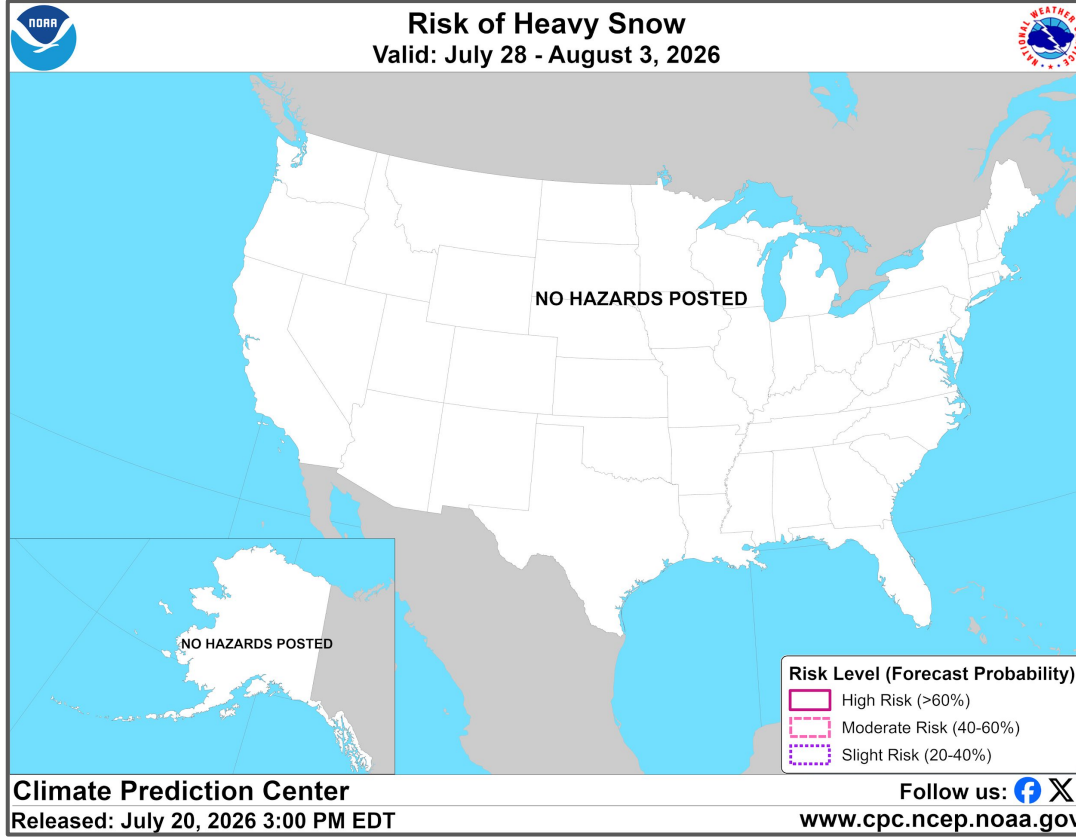
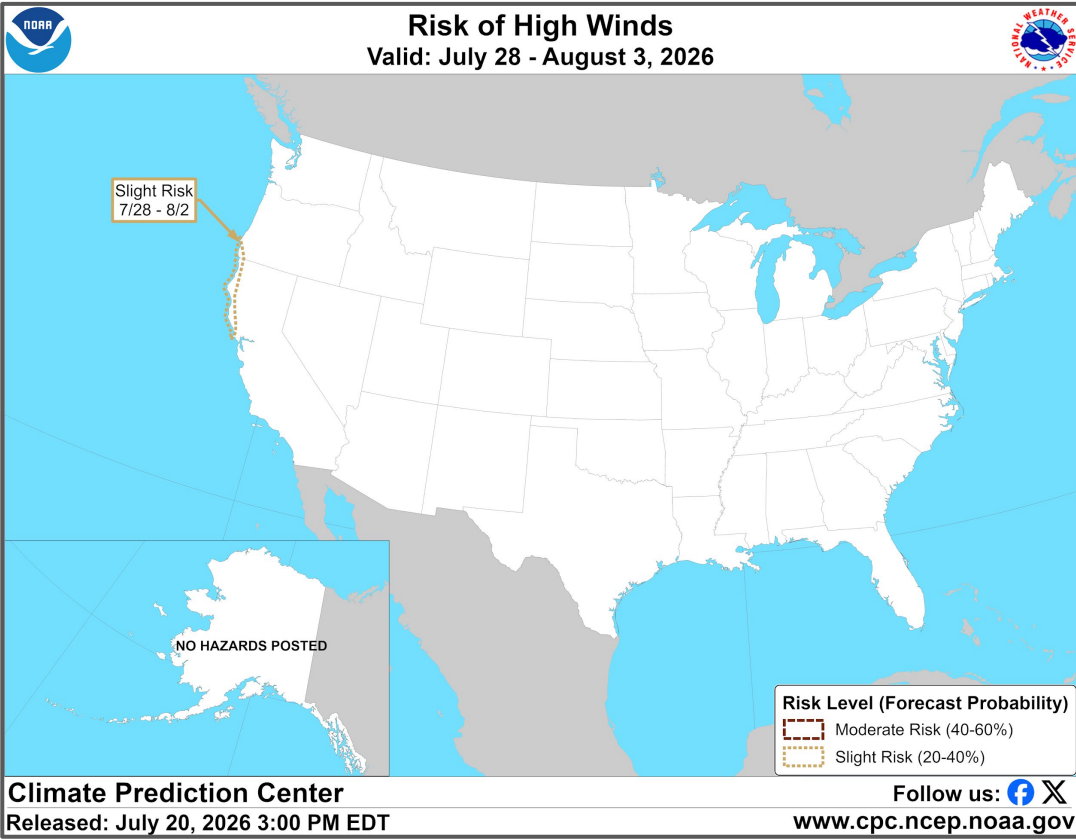
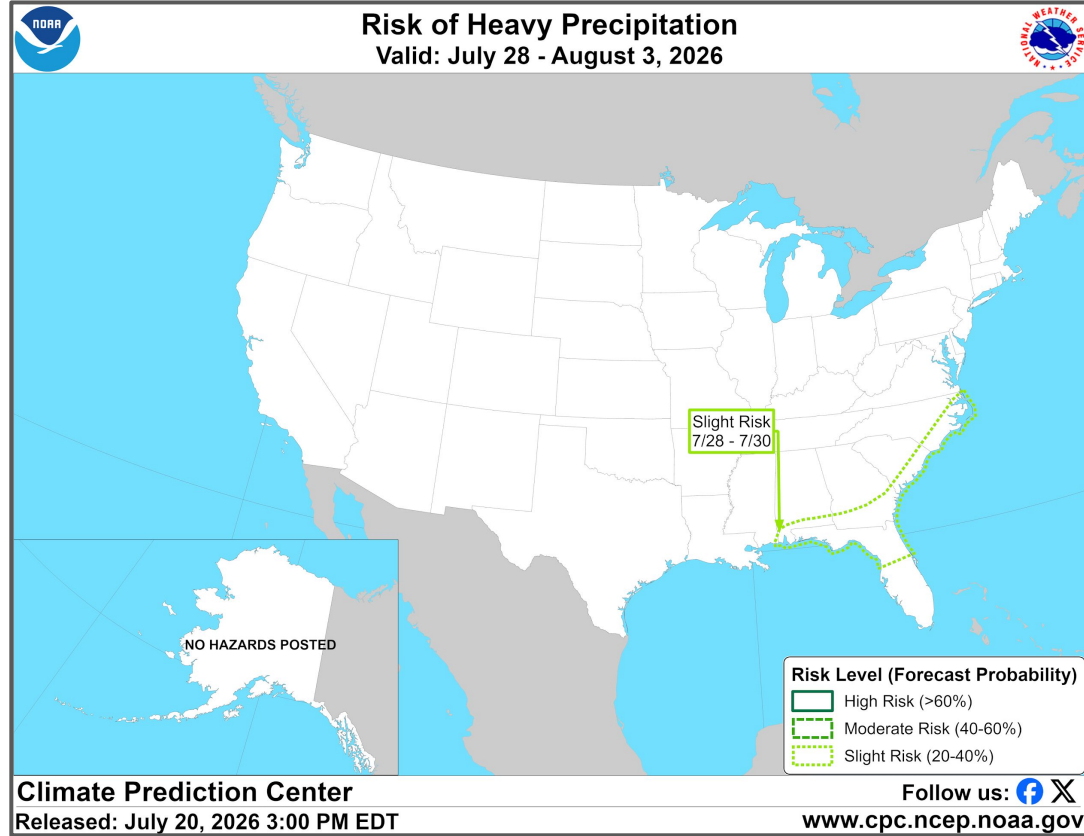
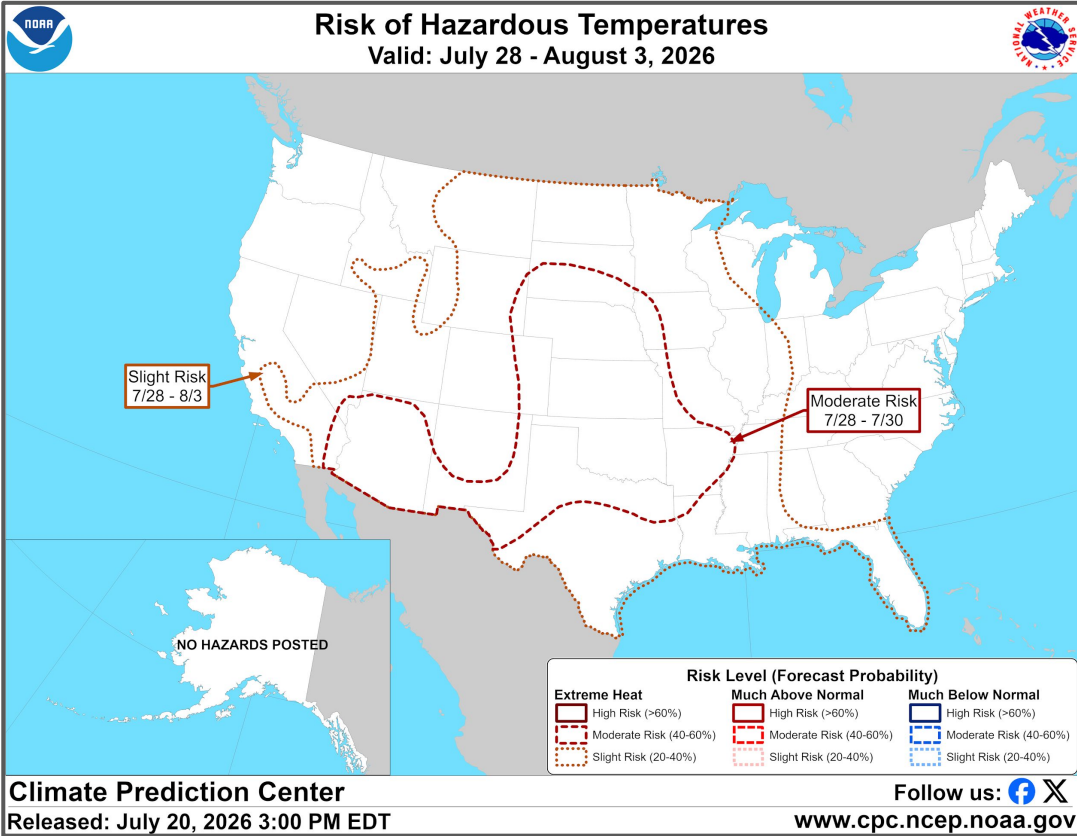
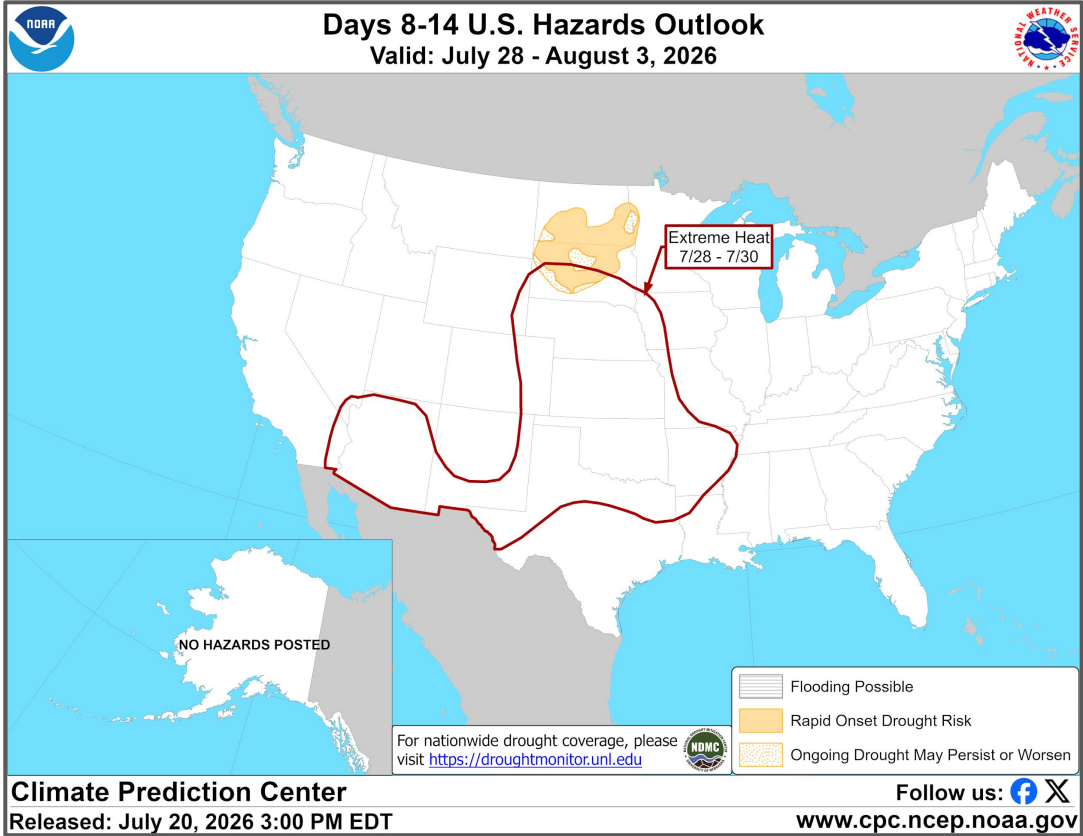


“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





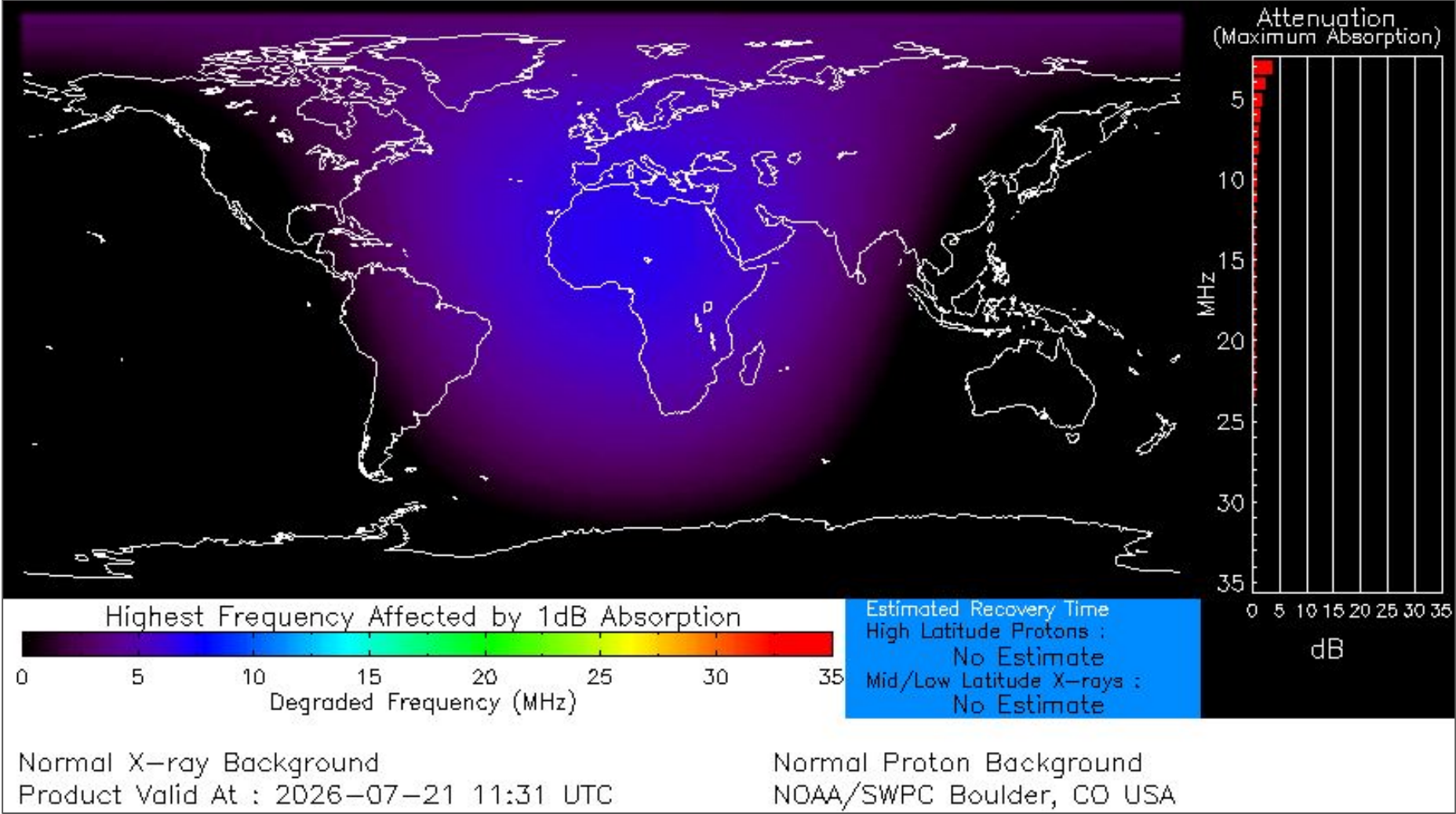
“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





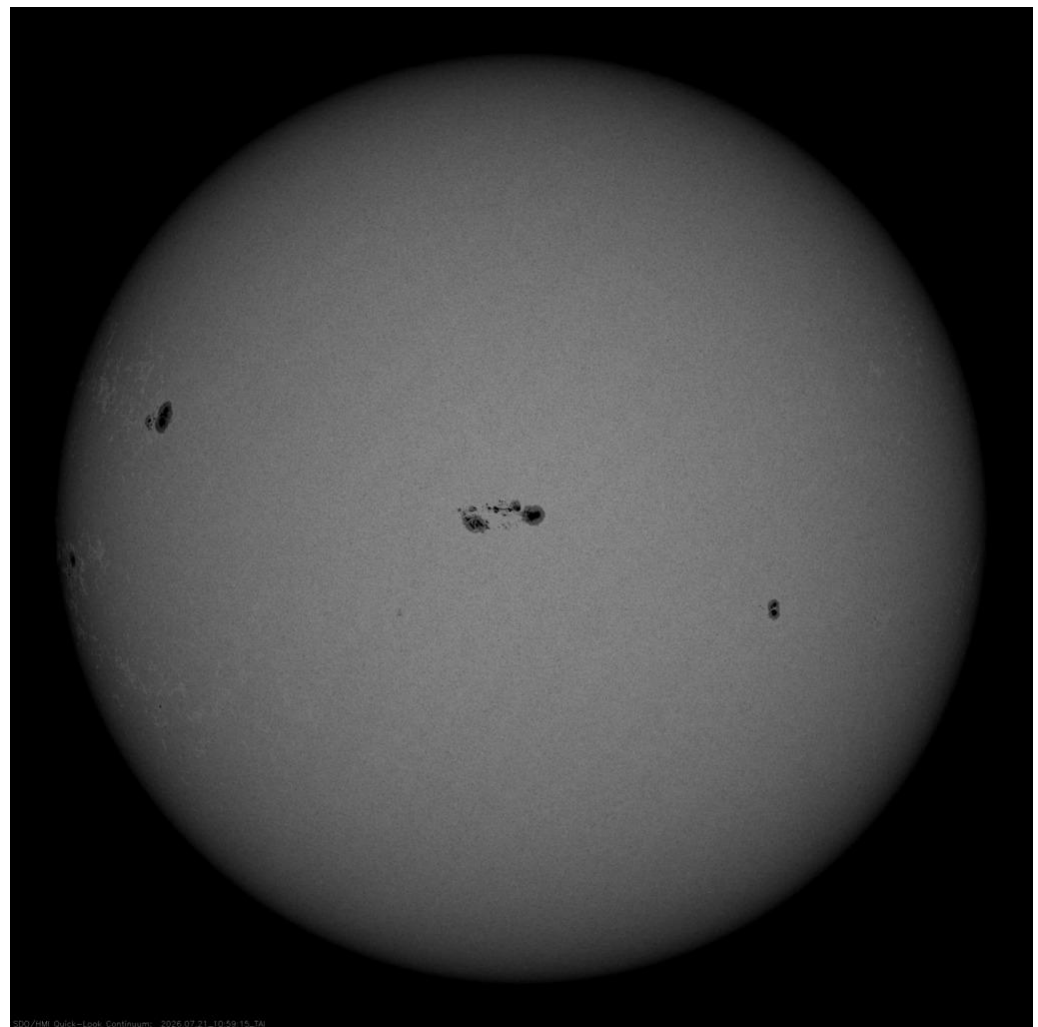
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Tuesday, Jul 21	Wednesday, Jul 22	Thursday, Jul 23
Geomagnetic Storms	Active (Max Kp=4)	Minor G1 Storm (Max Kp=5)	Active (Max Kp=4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	5%	5%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	40%	40%	40%
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	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	- 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	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	- 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	- 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	- 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 nws.soc2@noaa.gov



National Weather Service

Sector 2 Operations Center - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico
Fort Worth, TX



Phone: (682) 703-3747



Facebook: NWS



E-mail: nws.soc2@noaa.gov



X: NWS



Web: www.weather.gov

