



FEMA



Prepared by
Melissa Beat

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, August 20, 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.



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

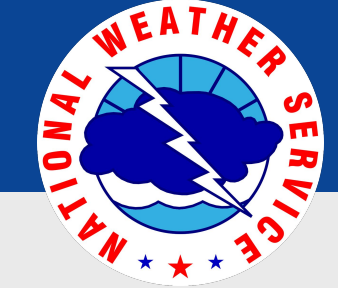
National Weather Service
Sector 2 - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico



Summary

- **Severe Weather:**
 - Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) today over S AR, N LA.
- **Heavy Rain:**
 - Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) today over NM, Far W TX, SE AR, NE LA; and Friday through Wednesday portions of NM.
- **Fire Weather:**
 - Elevated (level 1 of 3) over TX/OK Panhandles, NW TX, W OK Sunday into Monday.
- **Tropical:**
 - No development in the Atlantic is expected in the next 7 days.





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Thursday, Aug 20	Friday, Aug 21	Saturday, Aug 22	Sunday, Aug 23	Monday, Aug 24	Tuesday, Aug 25	Wednesday, Aug 26
Severe Storms	S AR, N LA						
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NM, Far W TX, SE AR, NE LA	NM	W/N NM	W/N NM	W/N NM	N NM	N NM
Fire Weather				TX/OK Panhandles, NW TX, W OK	TX Panhandle, NW TX, W OK		
Tropical							
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
-------------	----------------	-------	----------	-------	---------



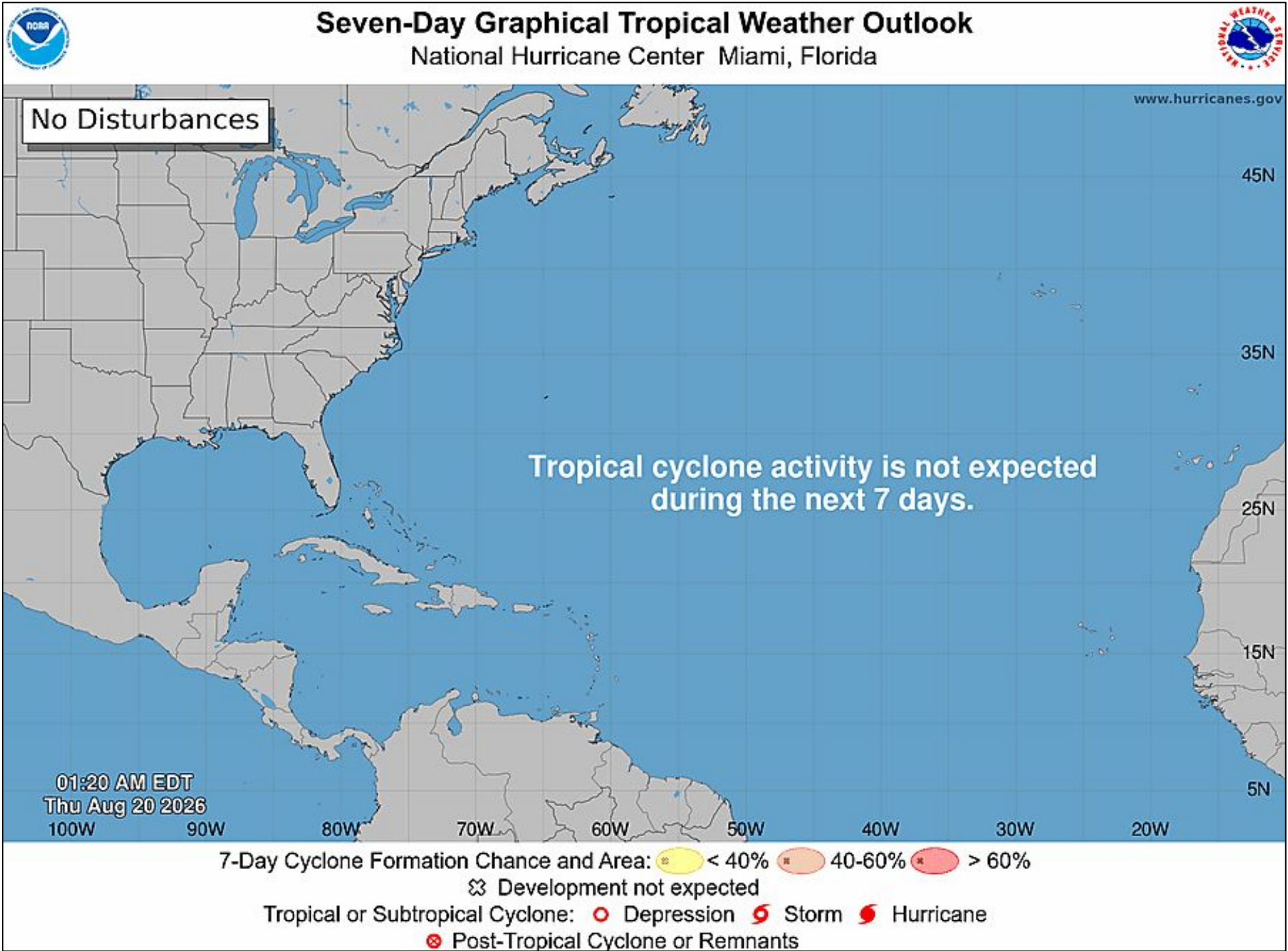
Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf

Areas of Possible Development

Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6

Active Tropical Cyclones

Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6

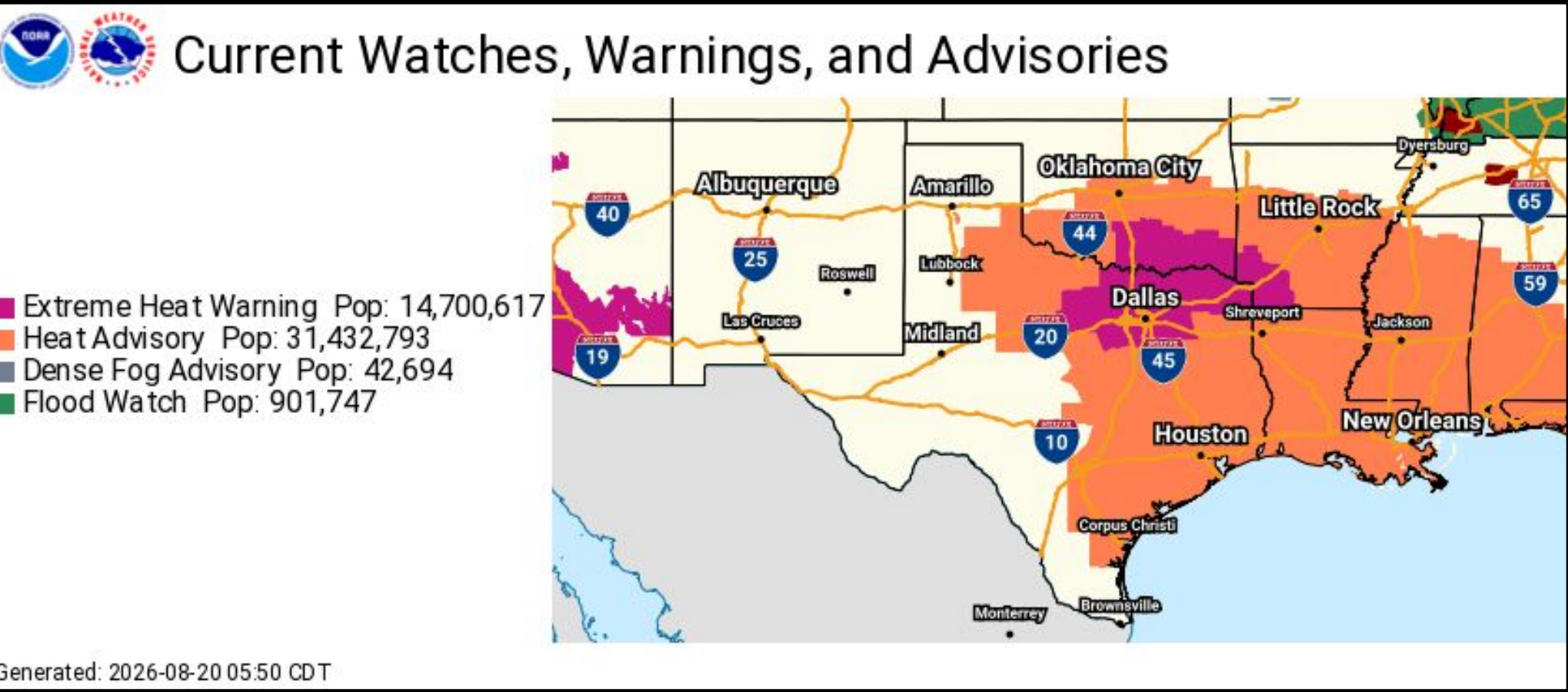


See <http://www.hurricanes.gov> for the latest on the tropics or any active storms

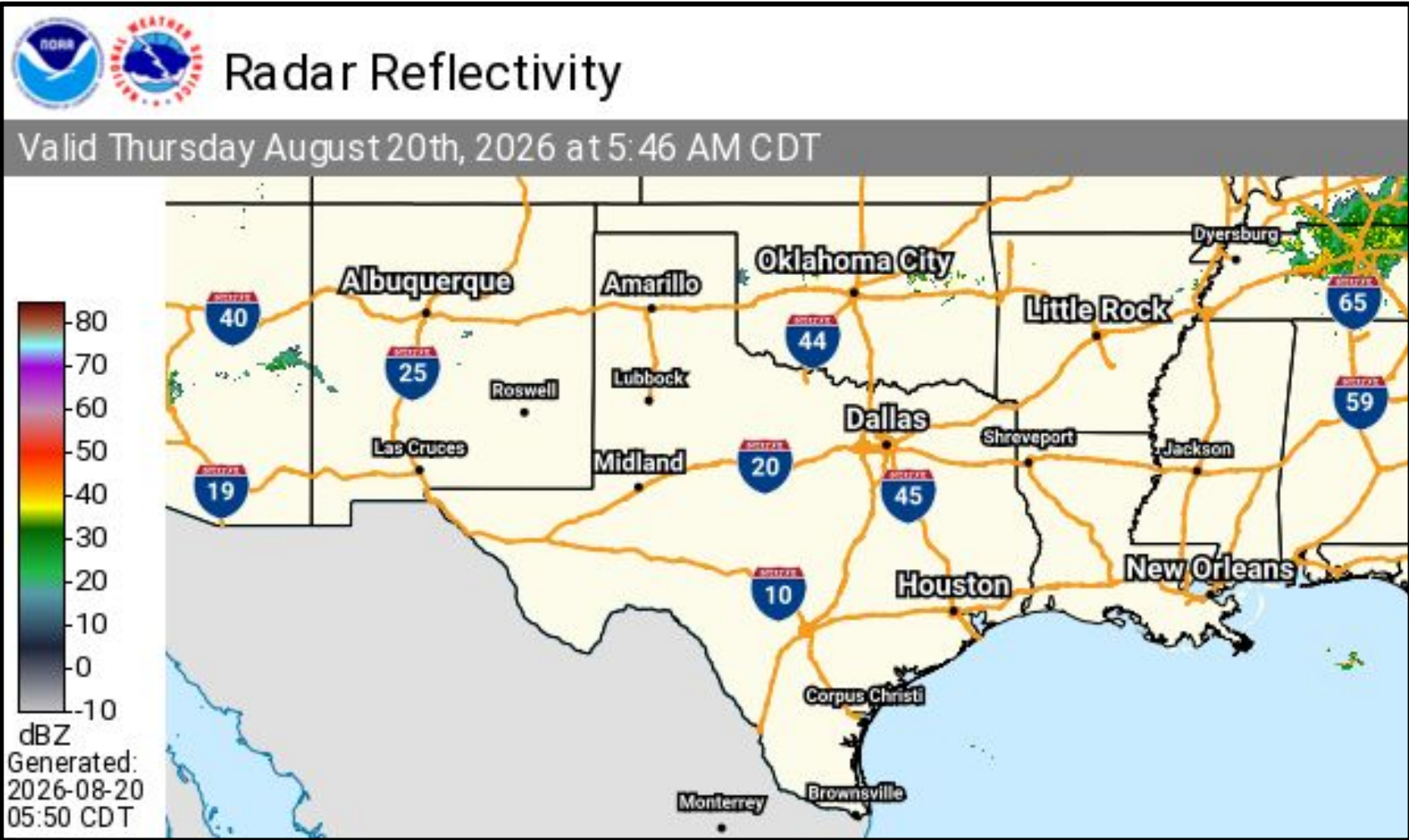




Current Radar/Hazards

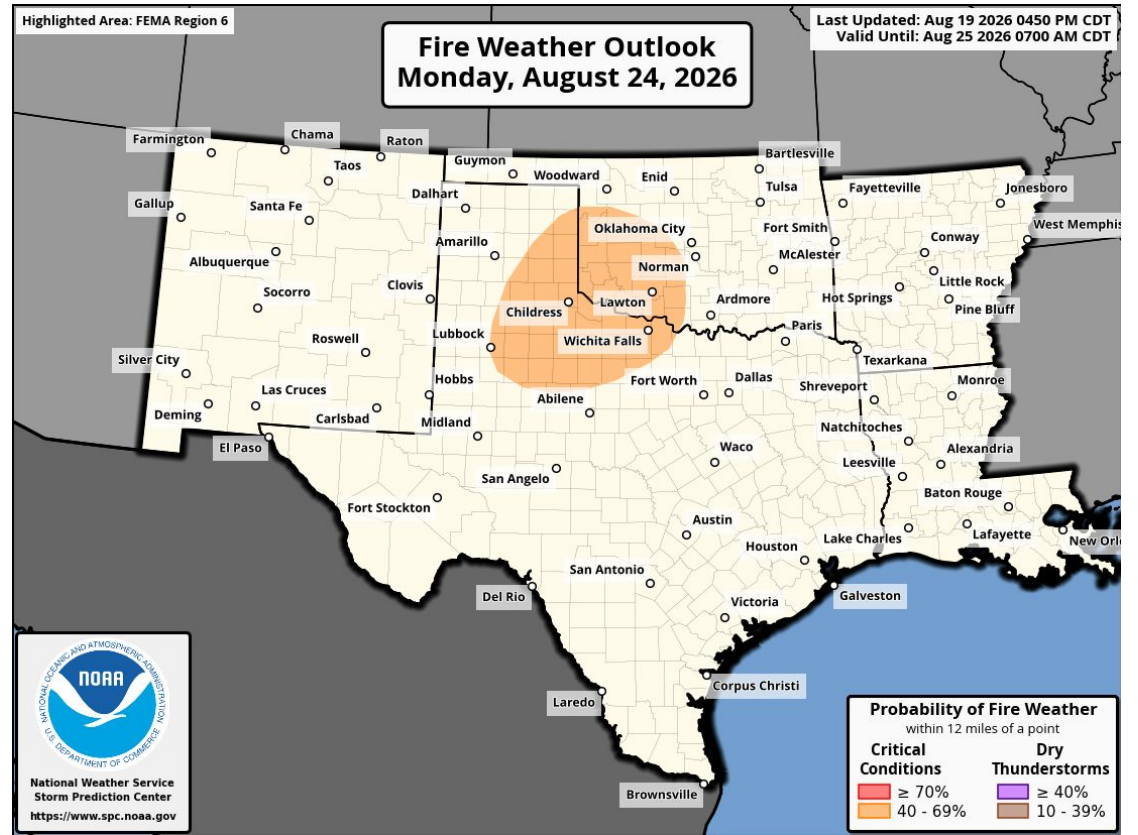
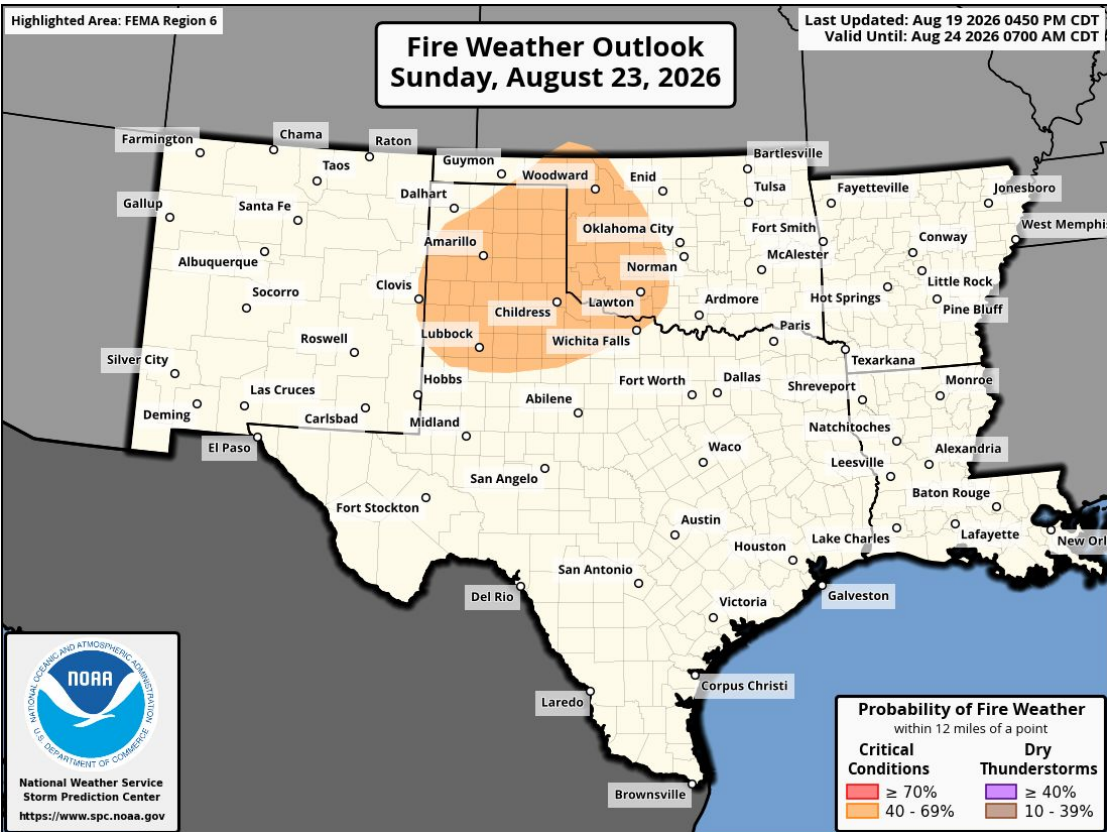
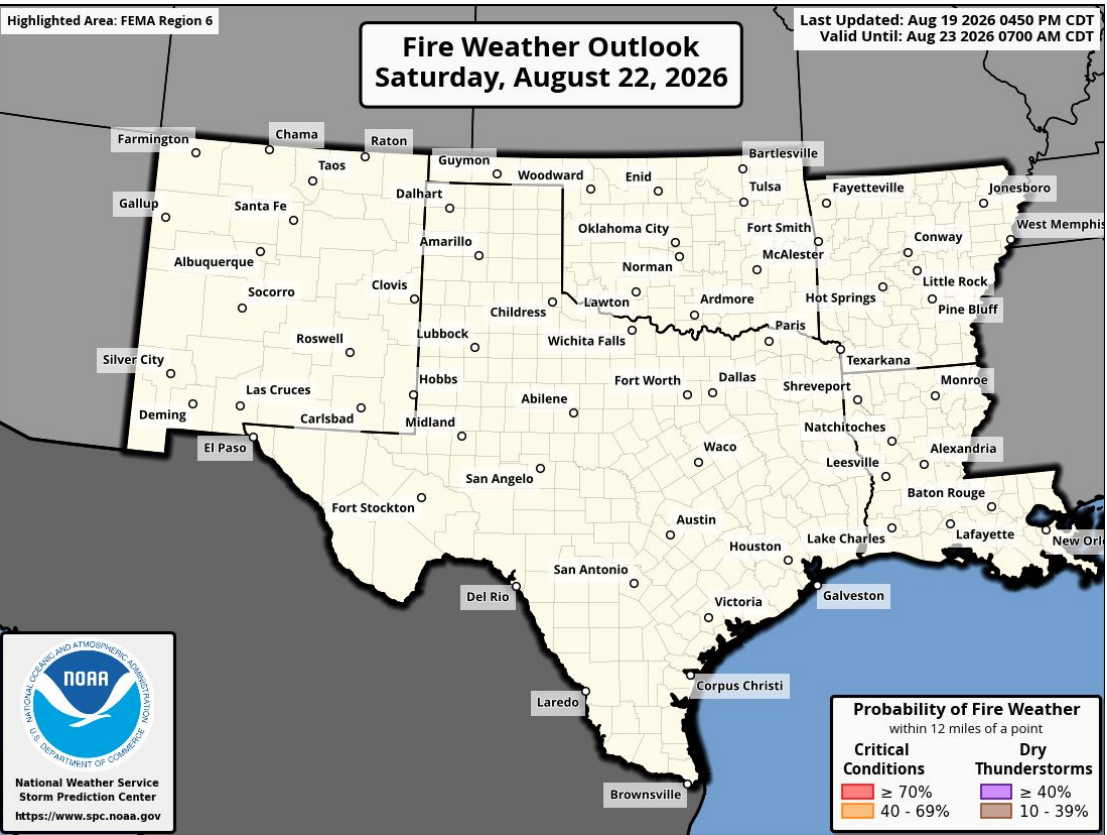
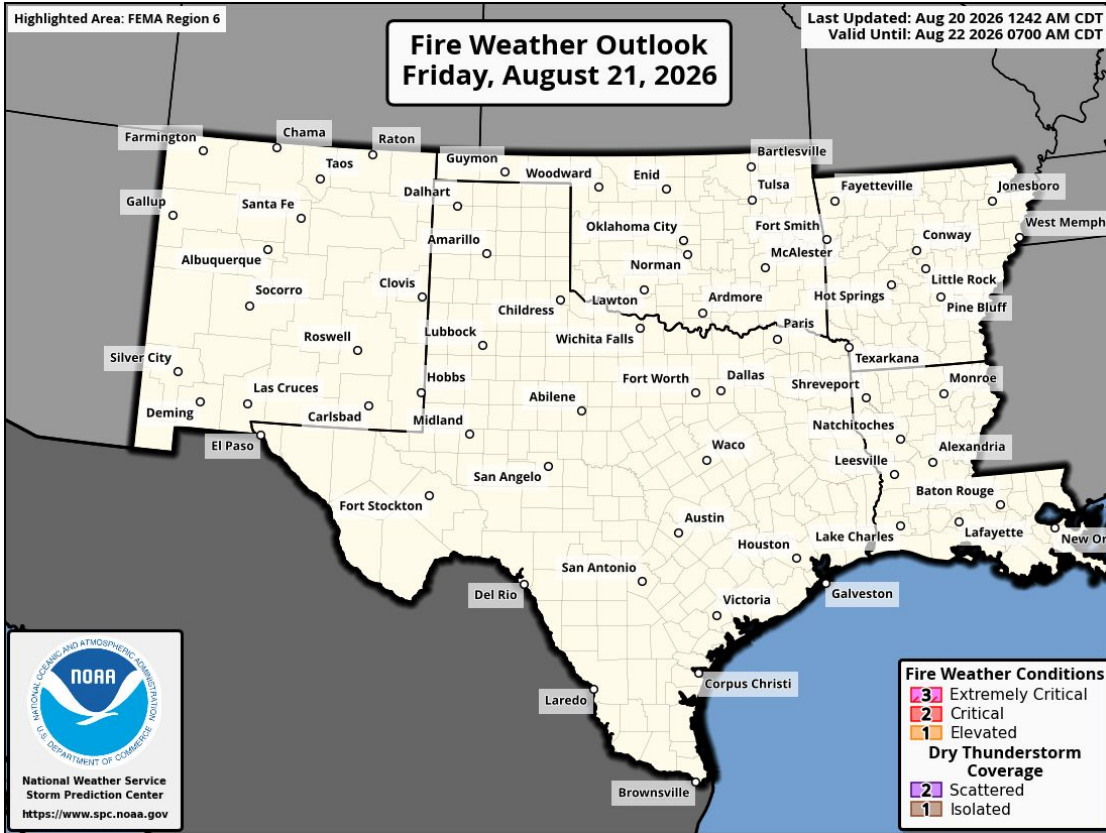
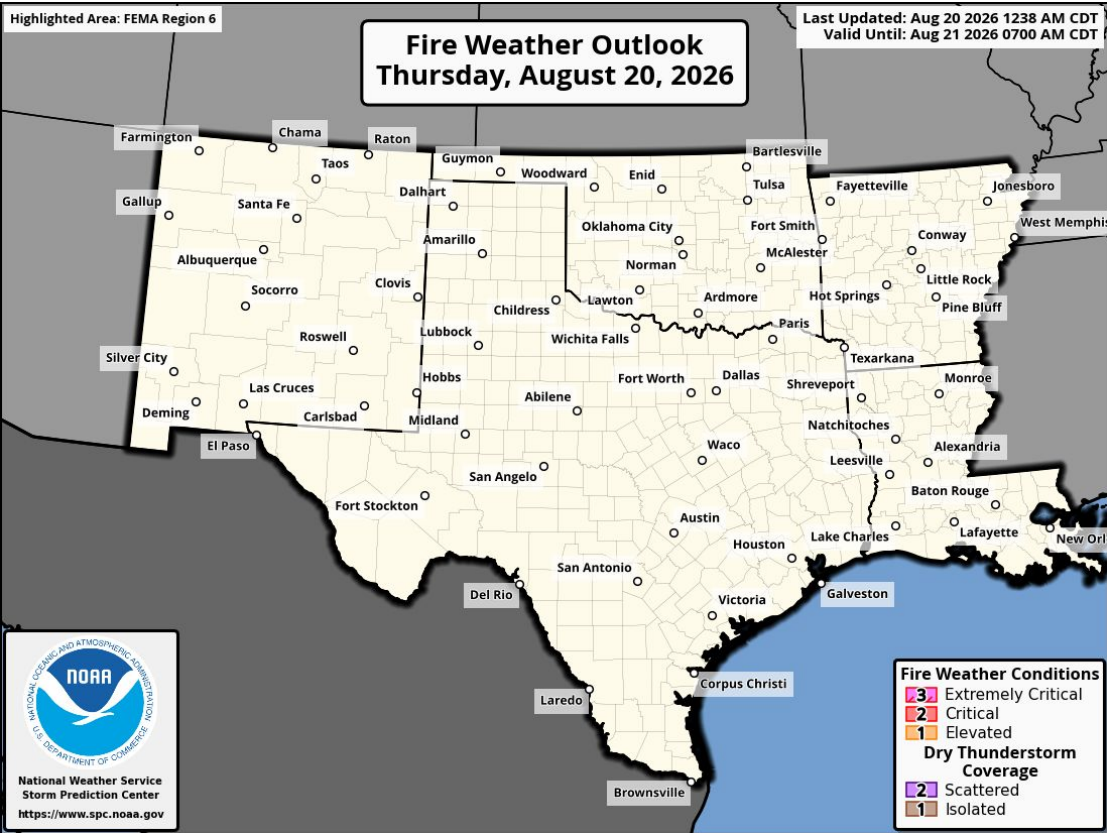
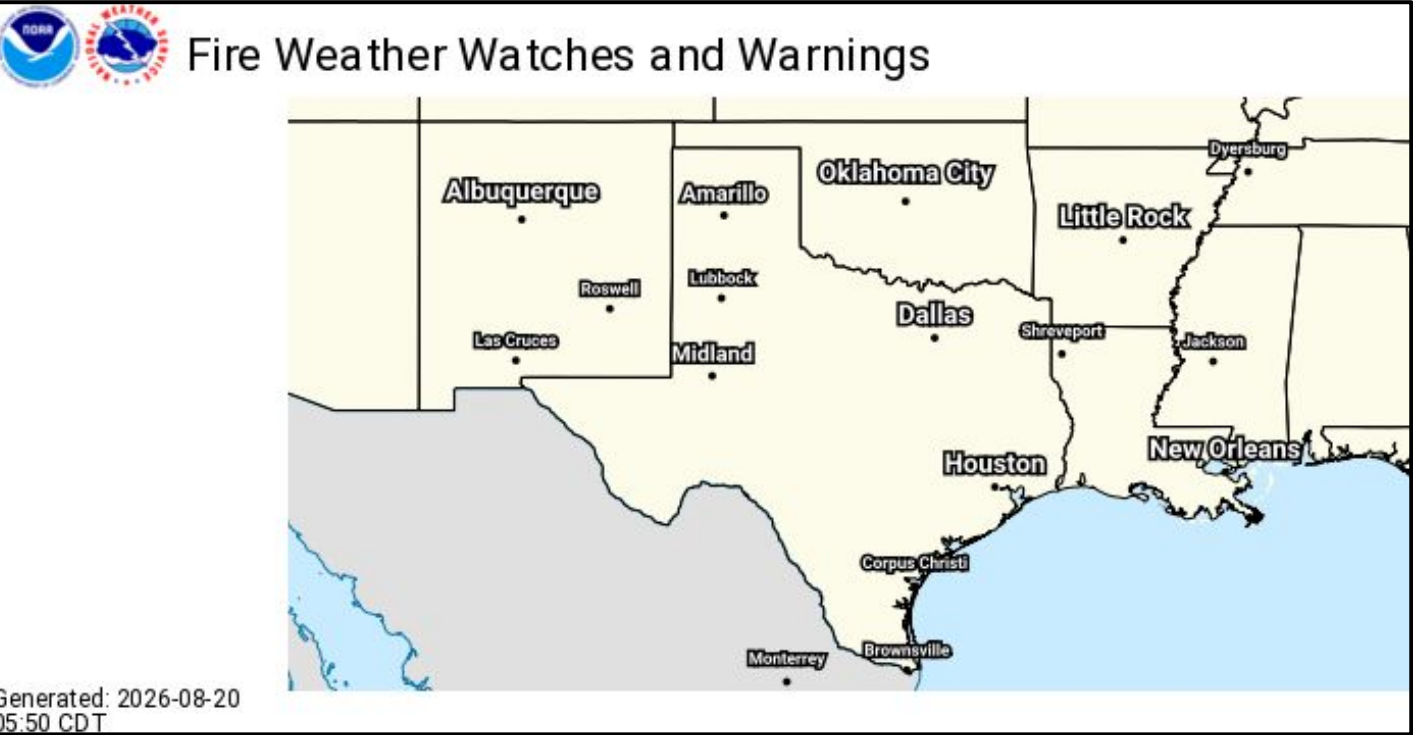


Heat Advisories/Excessive Heat Warnings today over OK, AR, TX, LA.





Fire Weather Outlooks

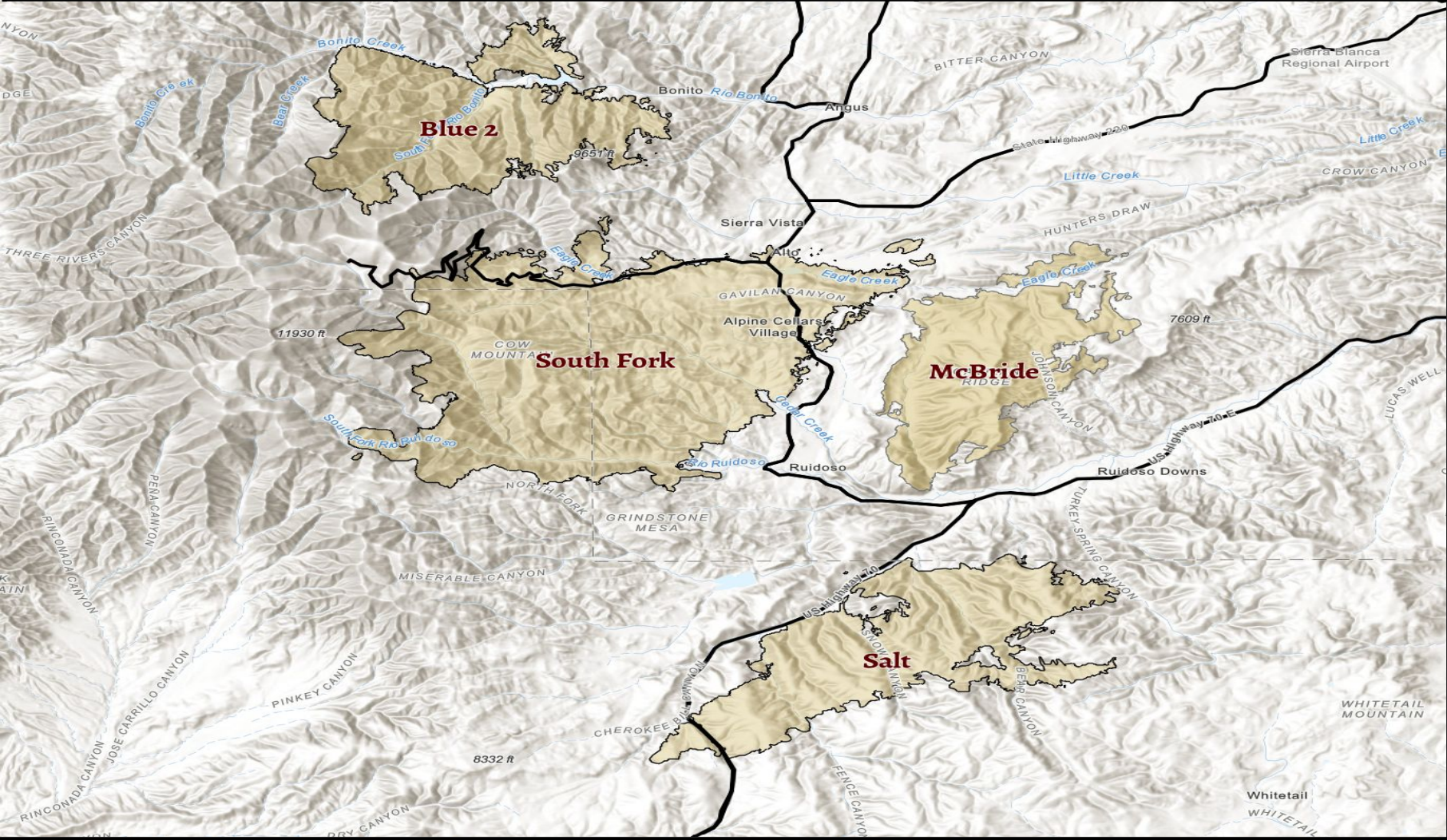




Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - Ruidoso, New Mexico

Sacramento Complex

	Thursday, Aug 20	Friday, Aug 21	Saturday, Aug 22	Sunday, Aug 23	Monday, Aug 24
Flash Flooding	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Low
Timing - CDT	1 PM - 8 PM	1 PM - 8 PM	-	-	-

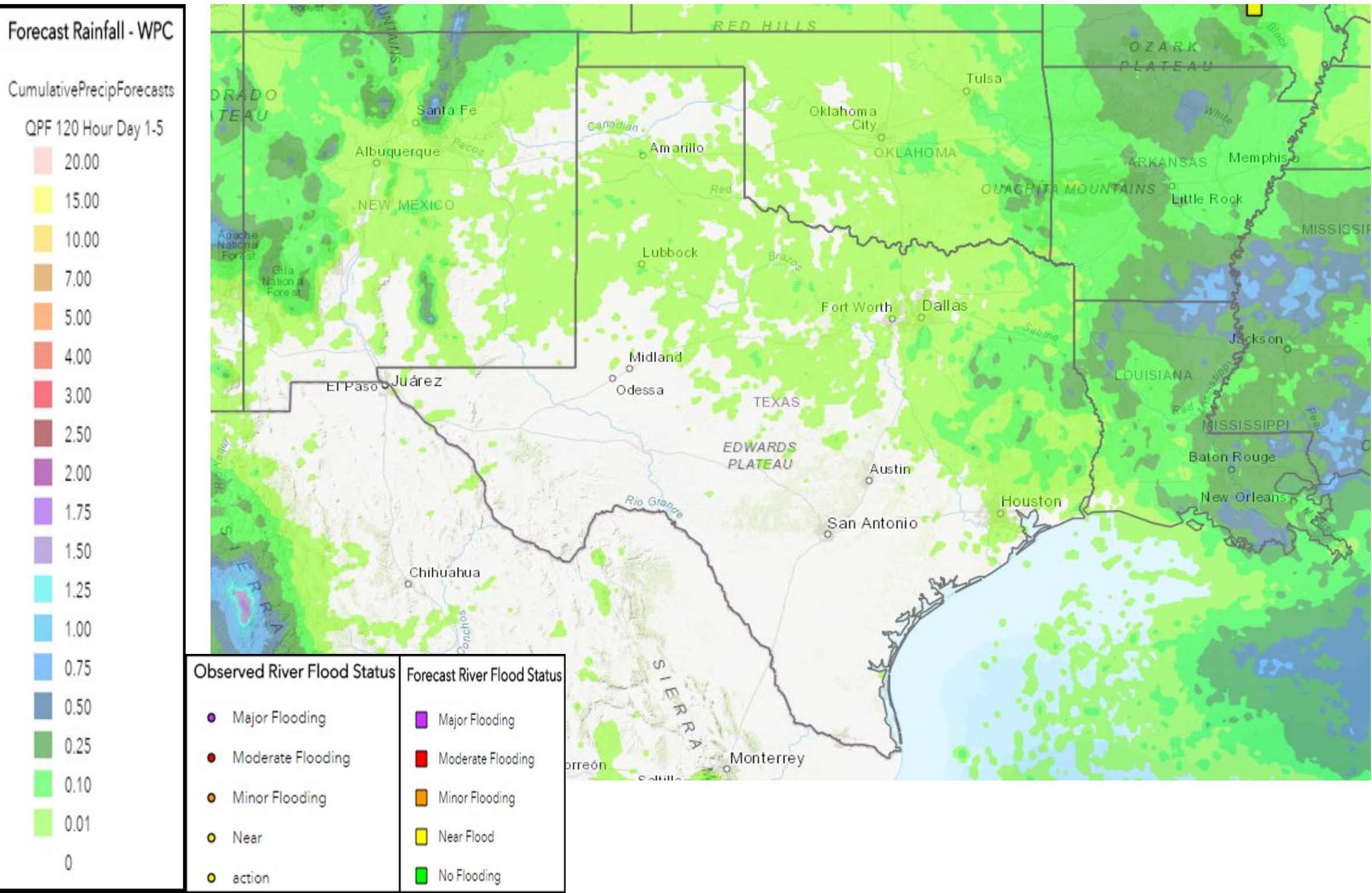


Low (level 1 of 3)	Less than 30% chance of flash flood warning.
Moderate (level 2 of 3)	30-70% chance of flash flood warning.
High (level 3 of 3)	Over 70% chance of flash flood warning.
WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.	



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



No significant river flooding 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.



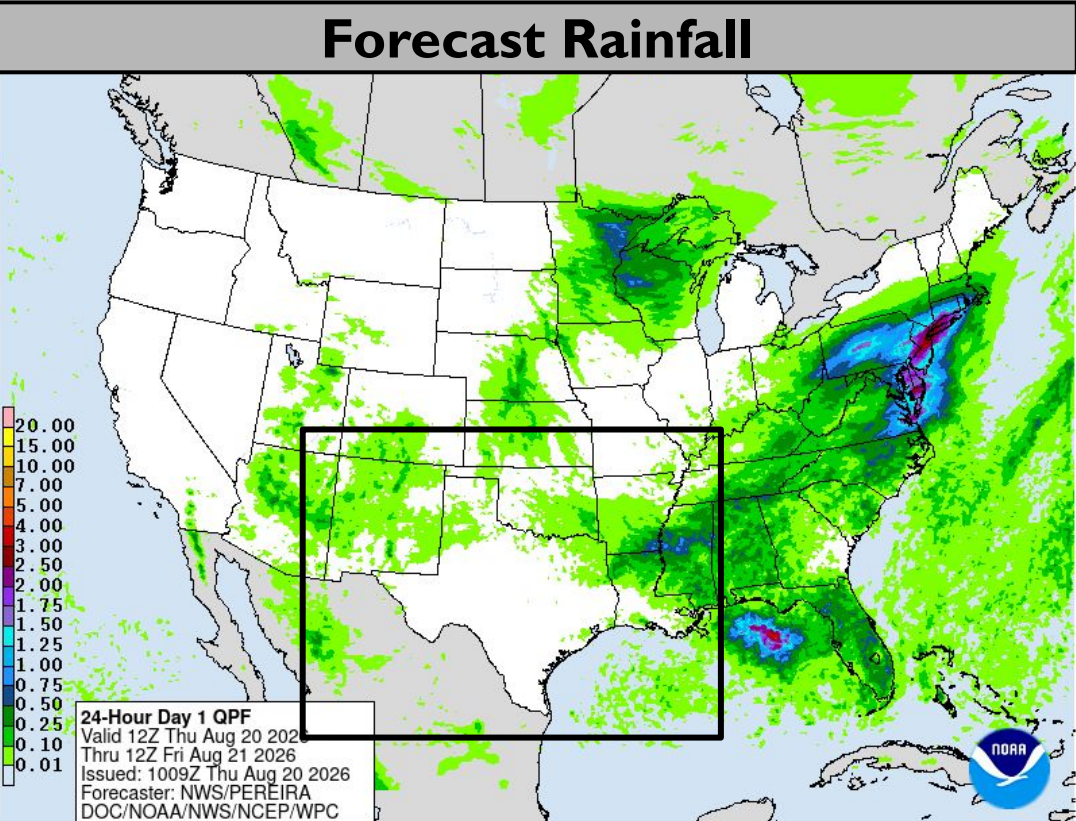
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

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

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

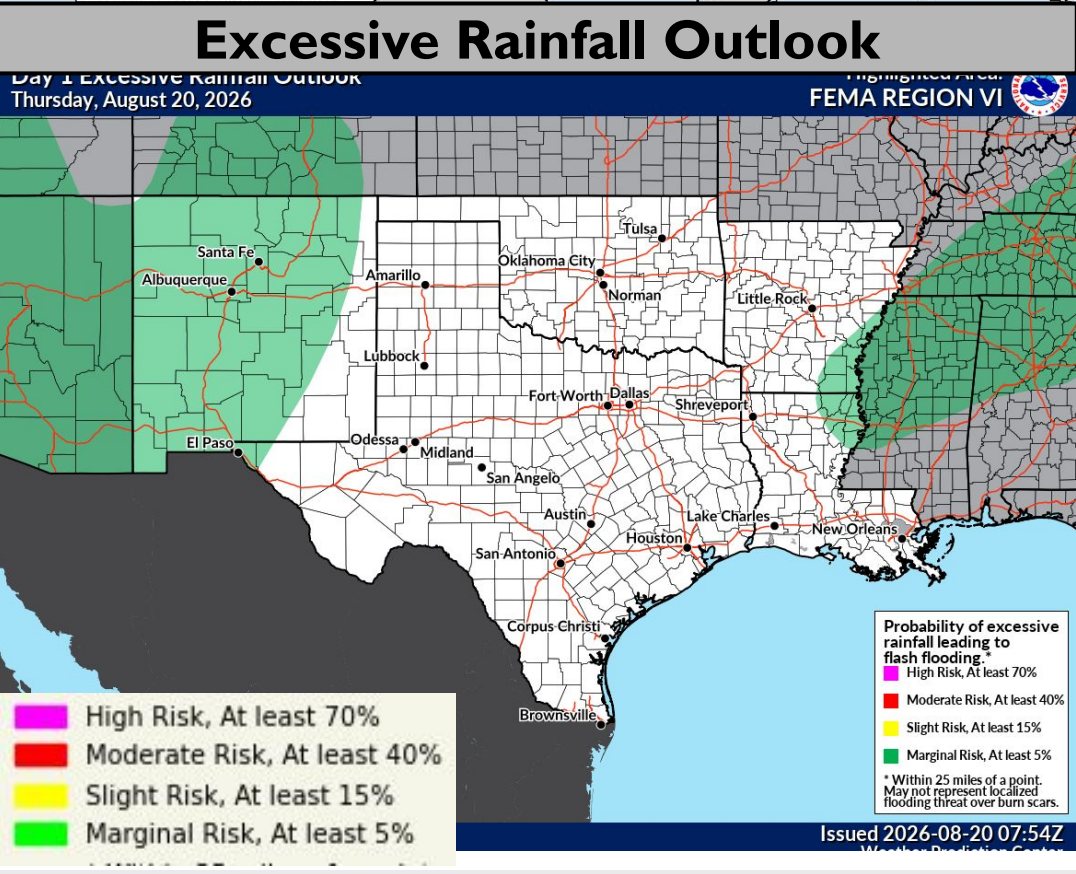
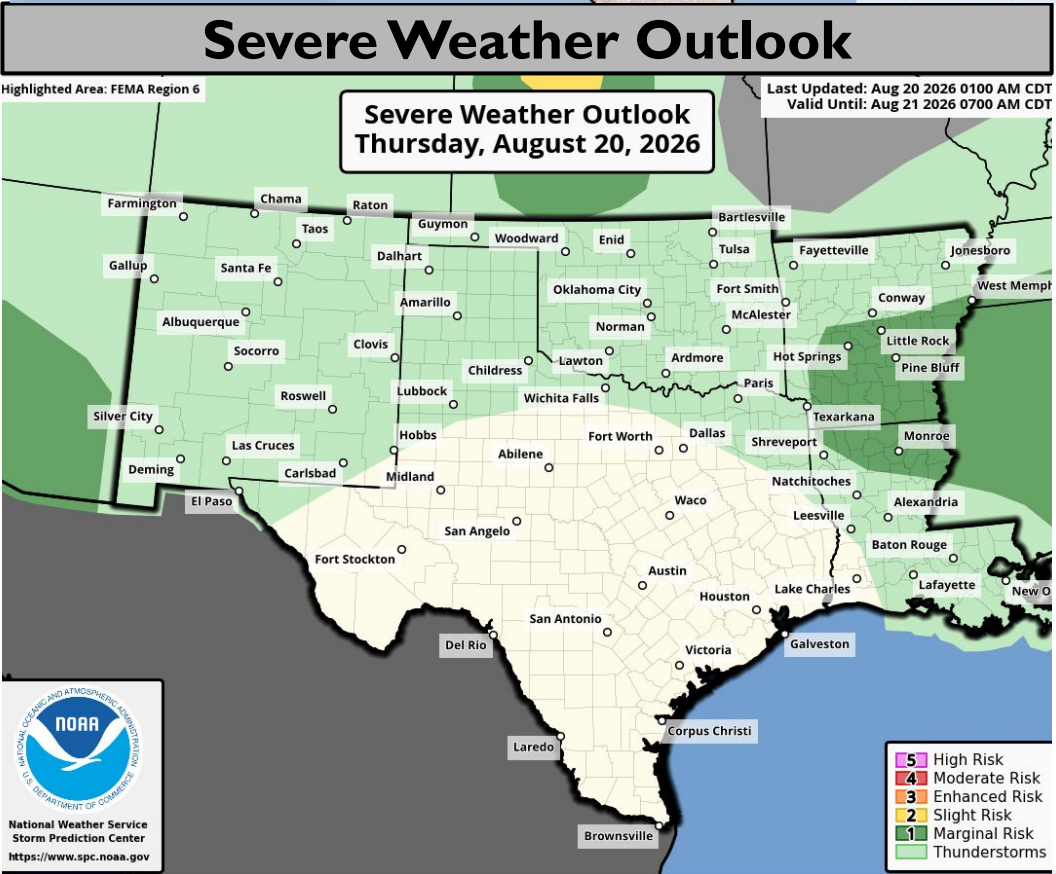


Today's Weather



Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in NM, Far W TX, SE AR, NE LA.

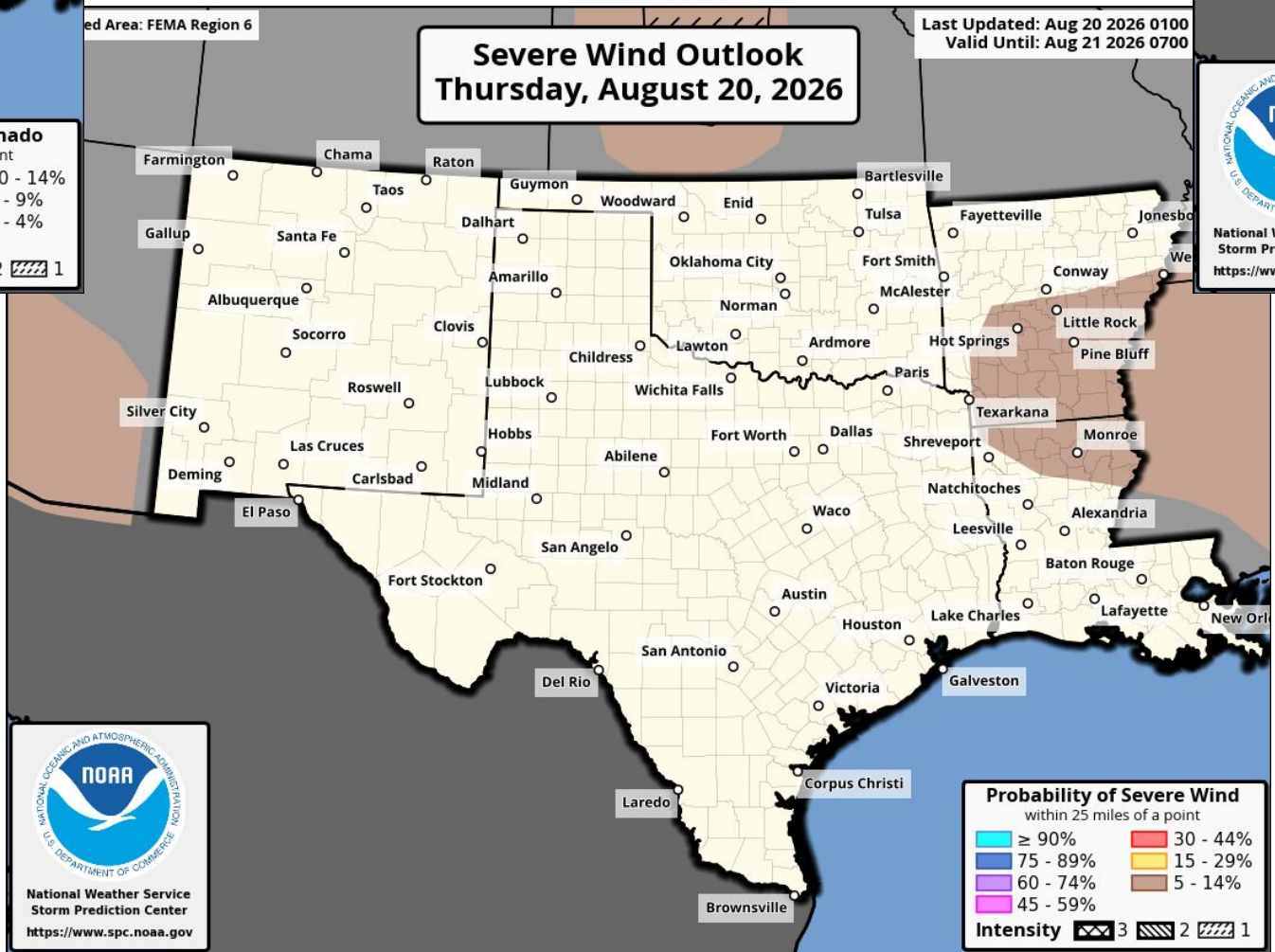
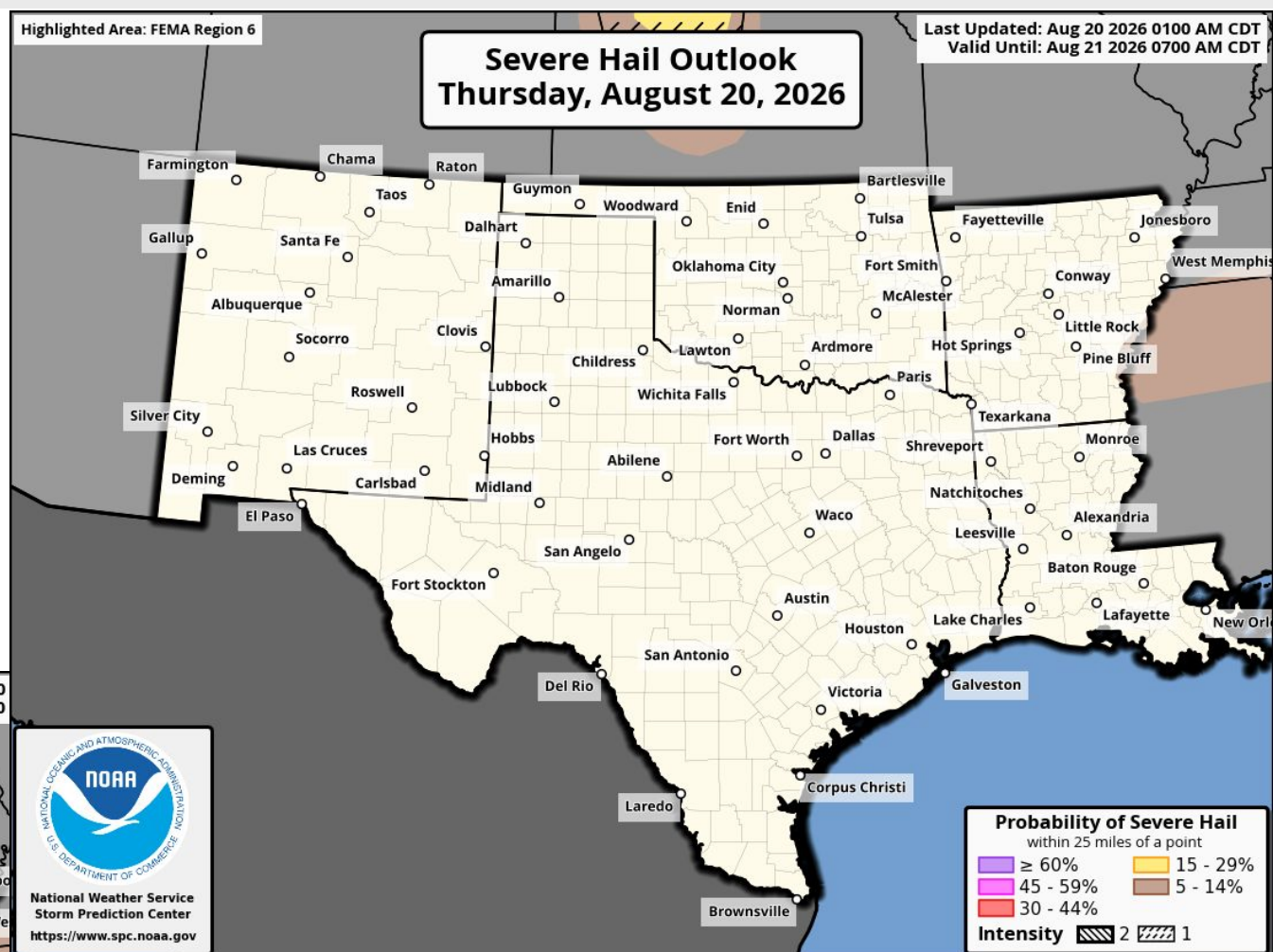
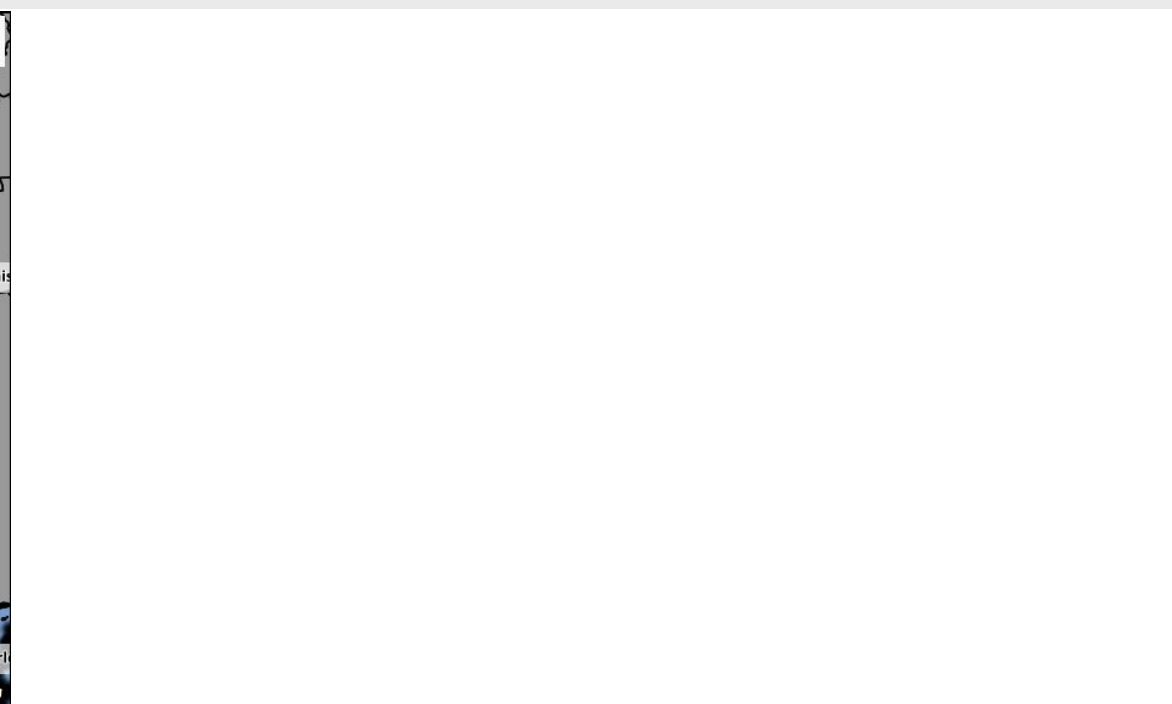
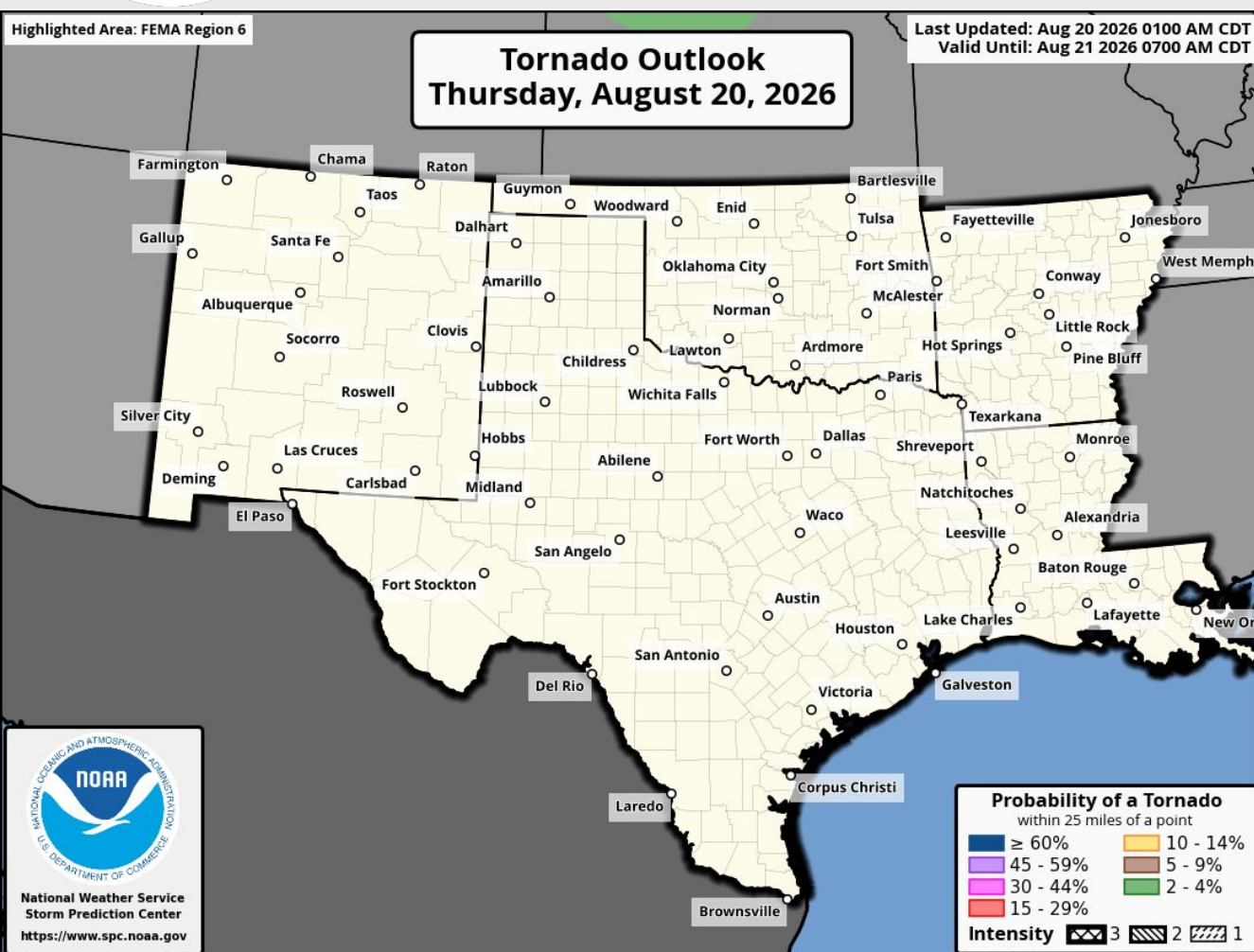
Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) for severe storms in SAR, N LA.



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

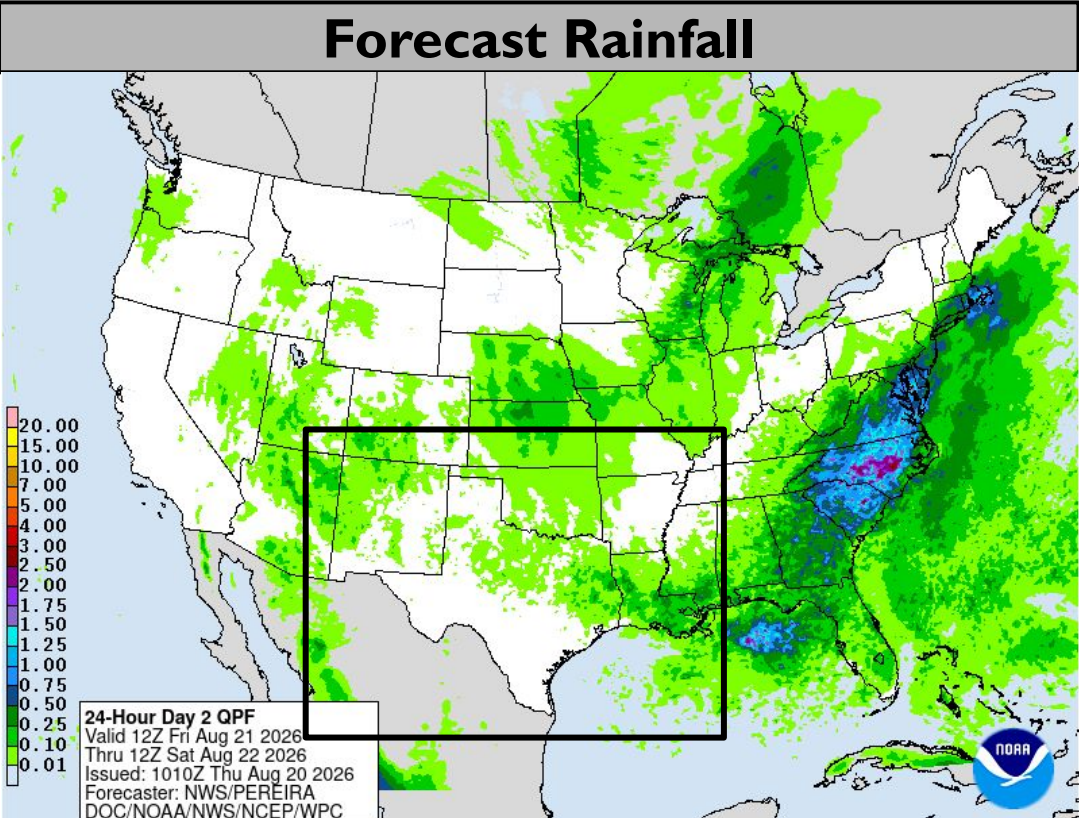
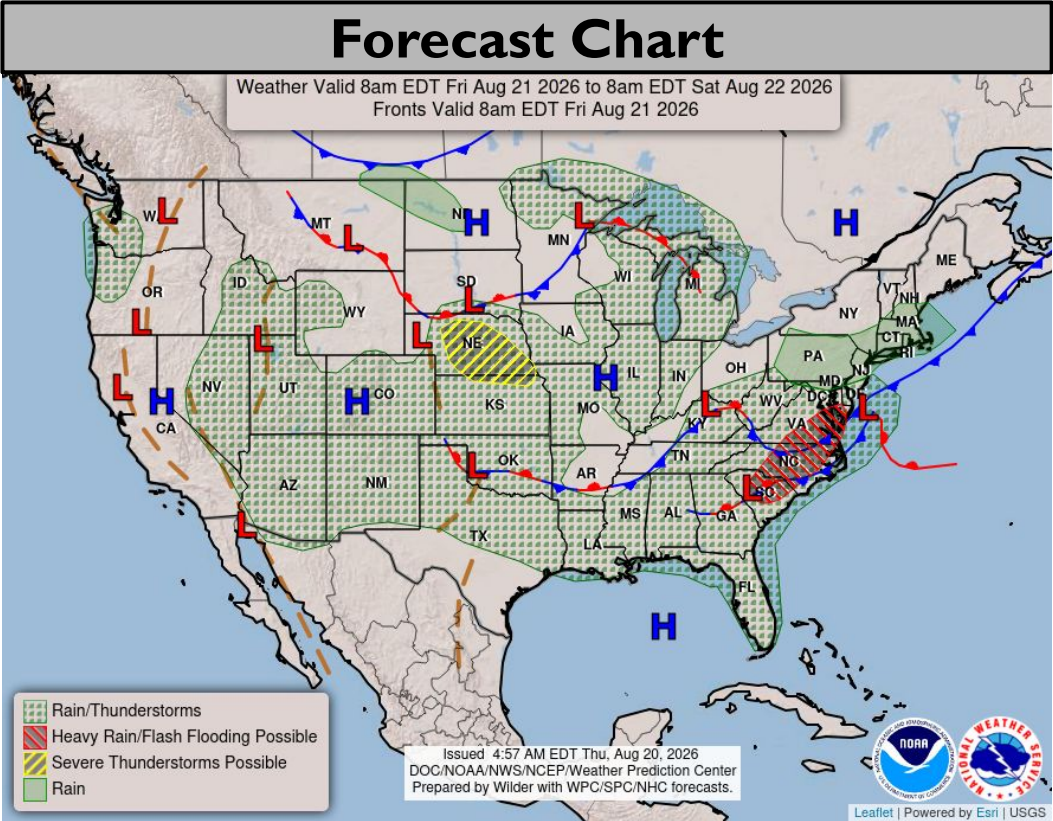


Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

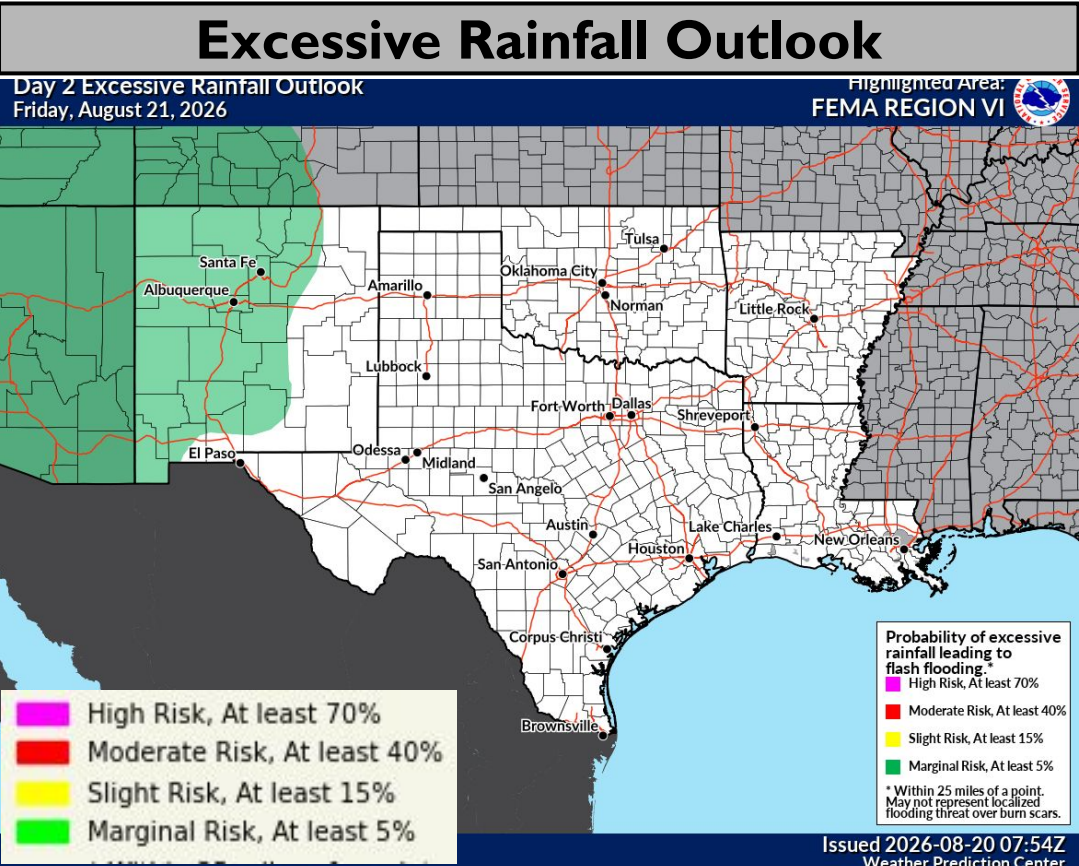
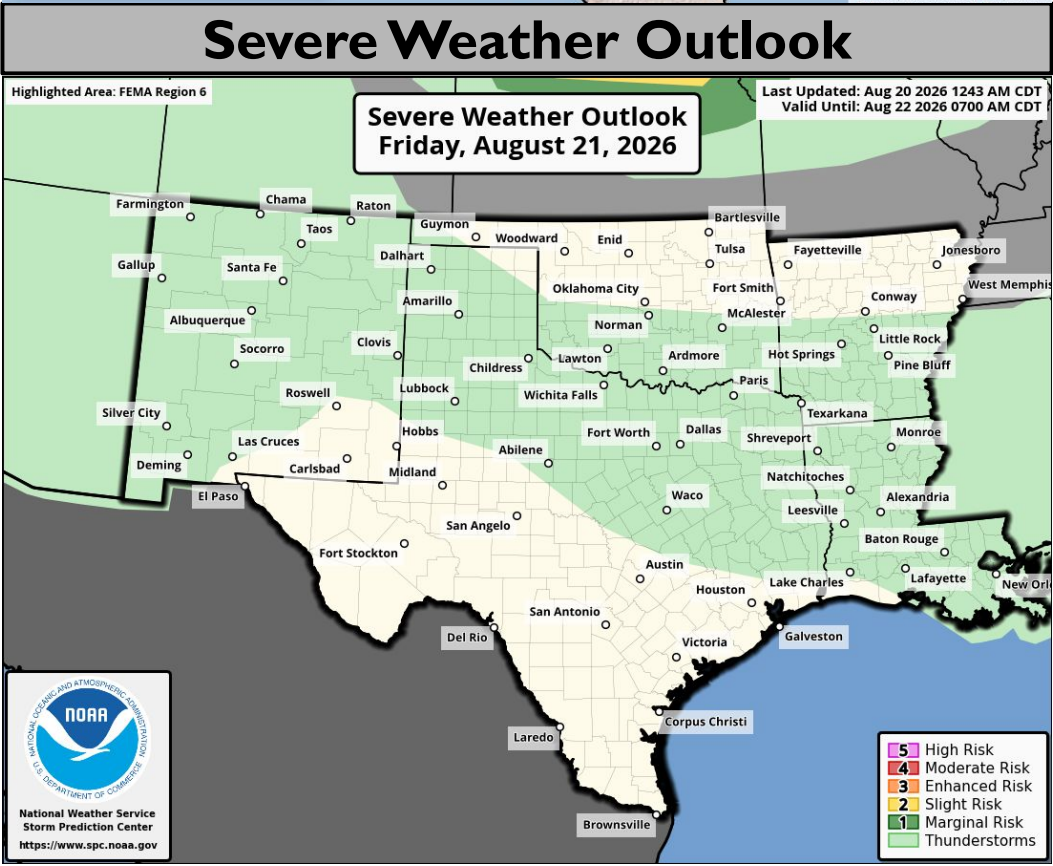




Tomorrow's Weather



Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in NM.

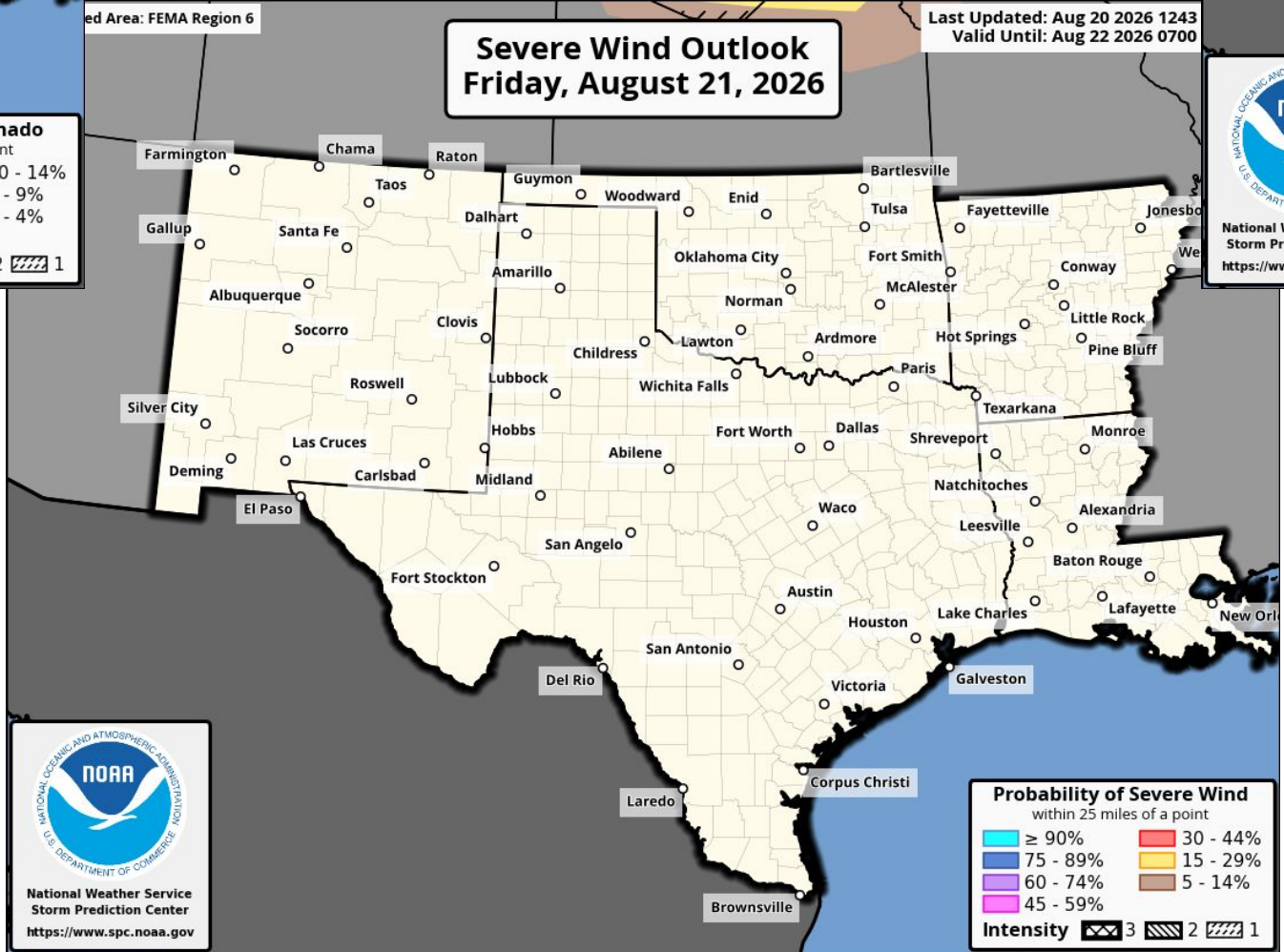
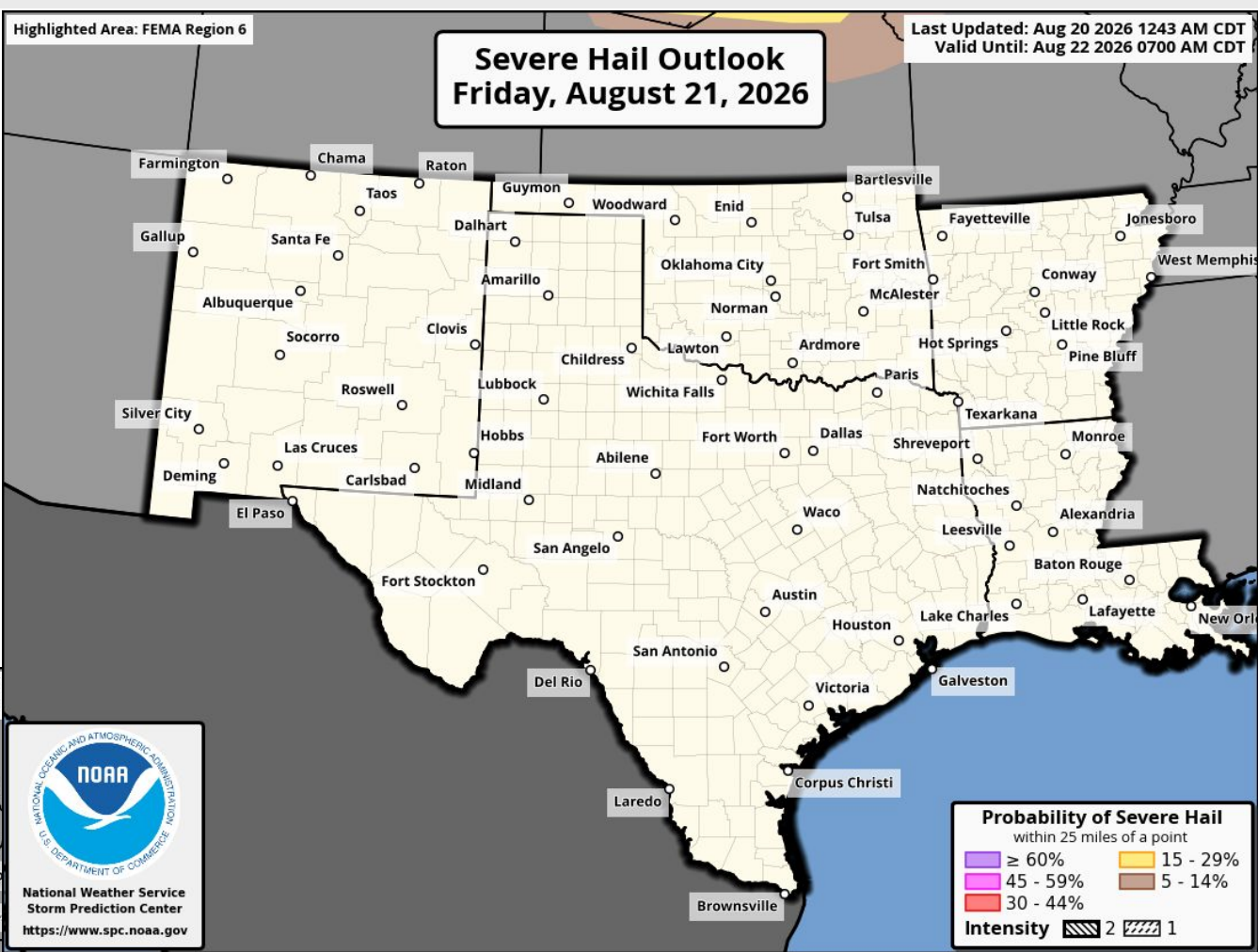
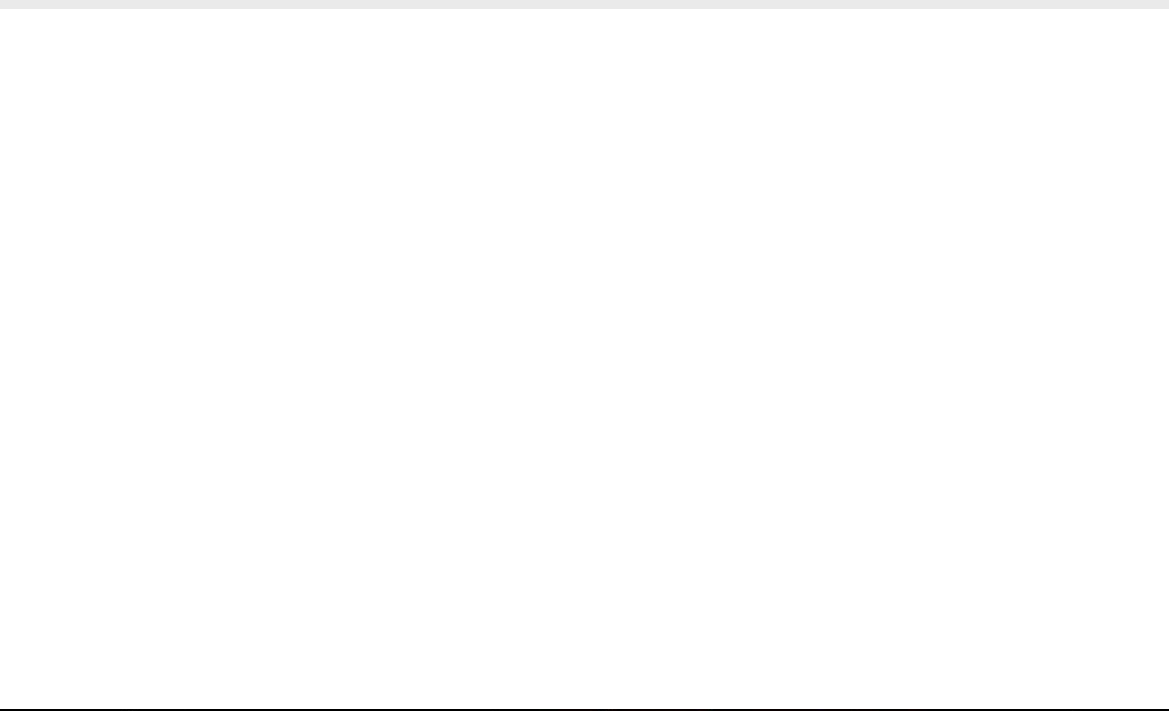
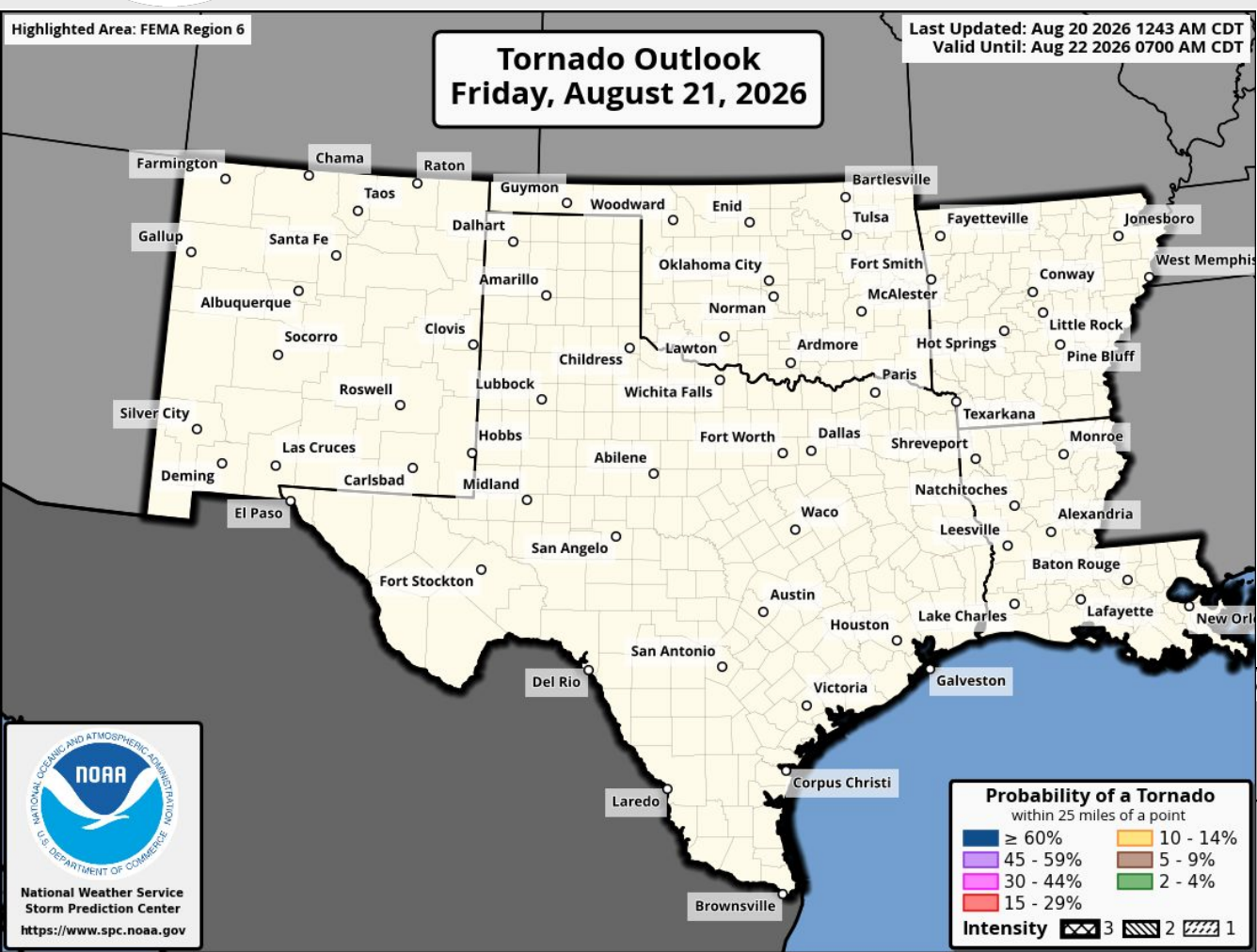


****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****





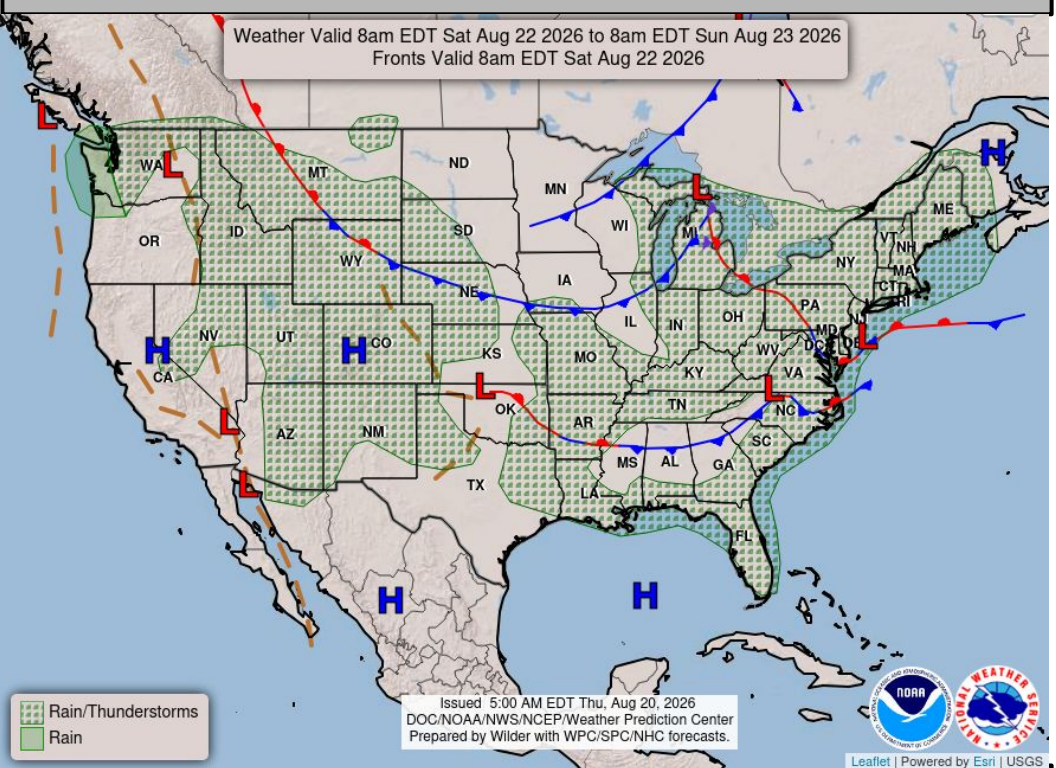
Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



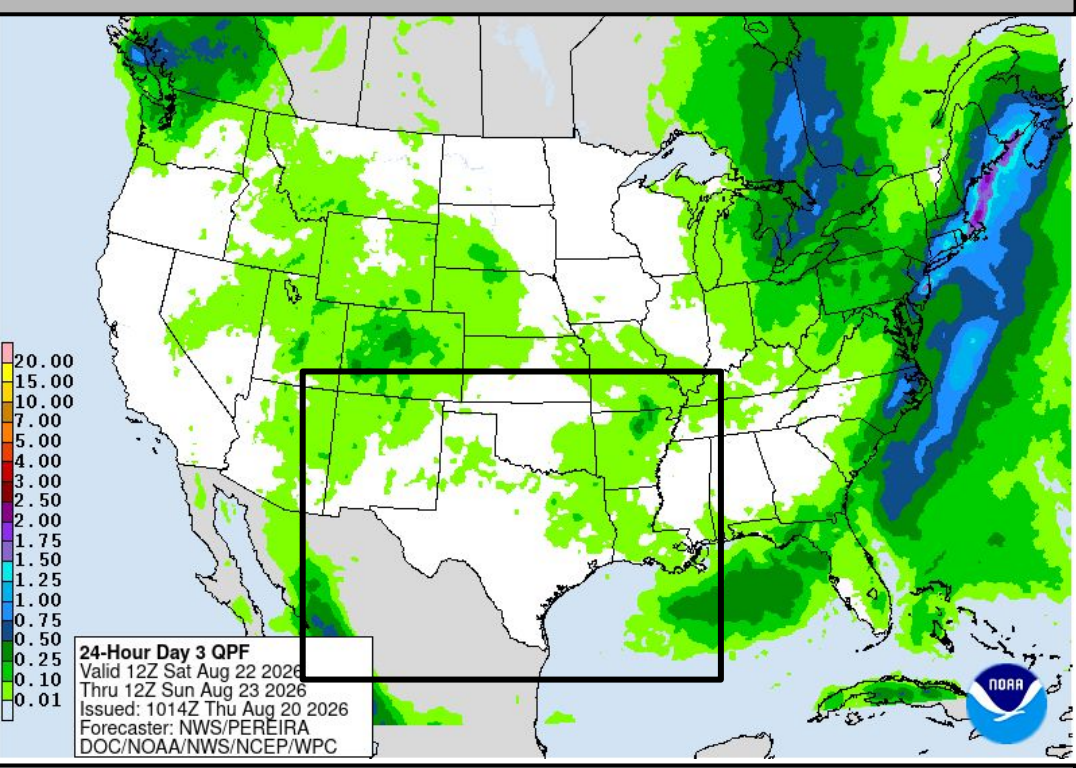


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

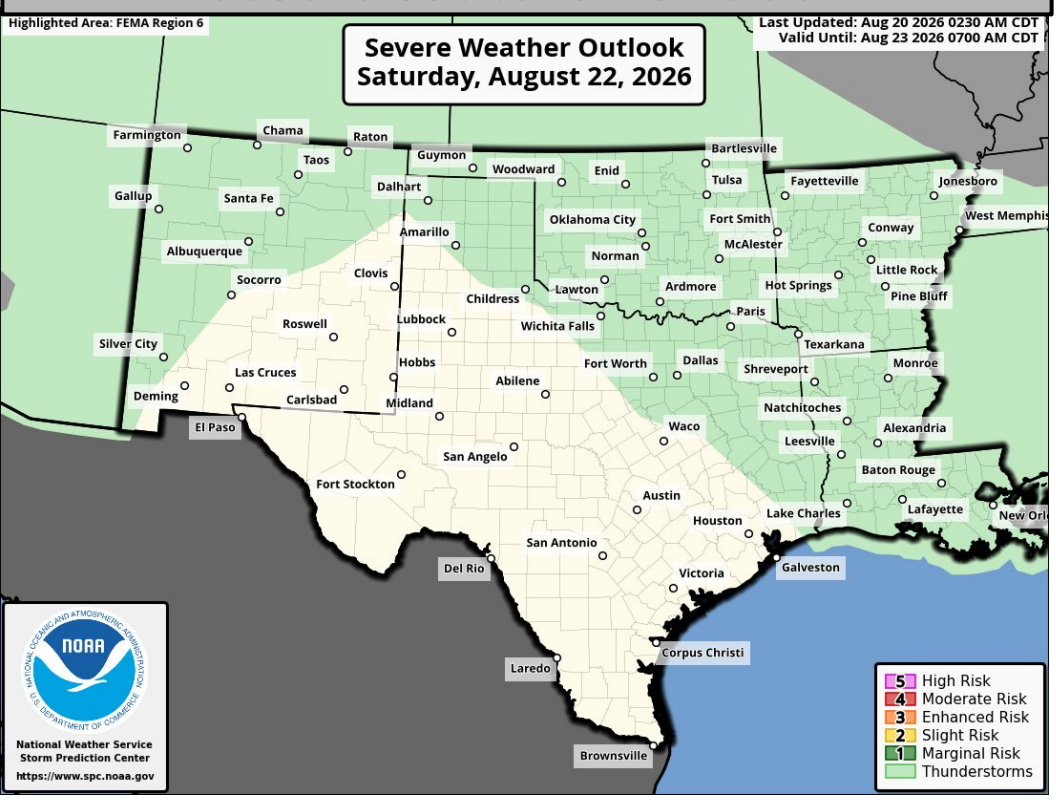


Forecast Rainfall

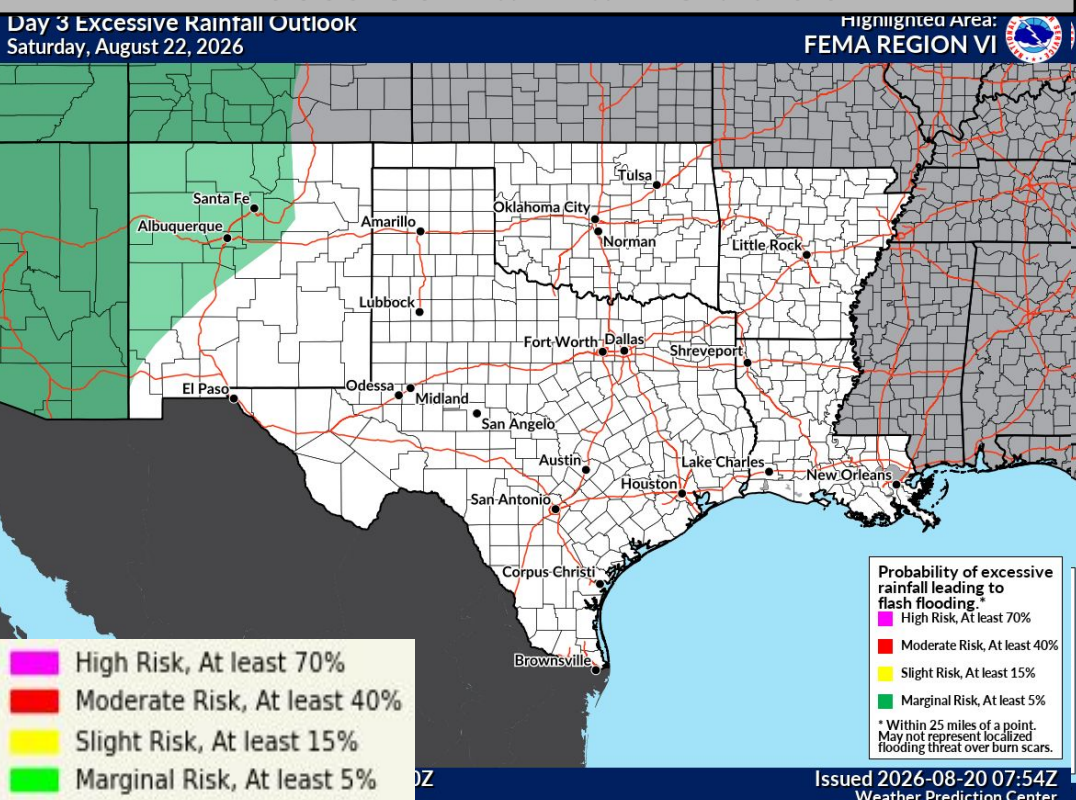


Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in W/N NM.

Severe Weather Outlook



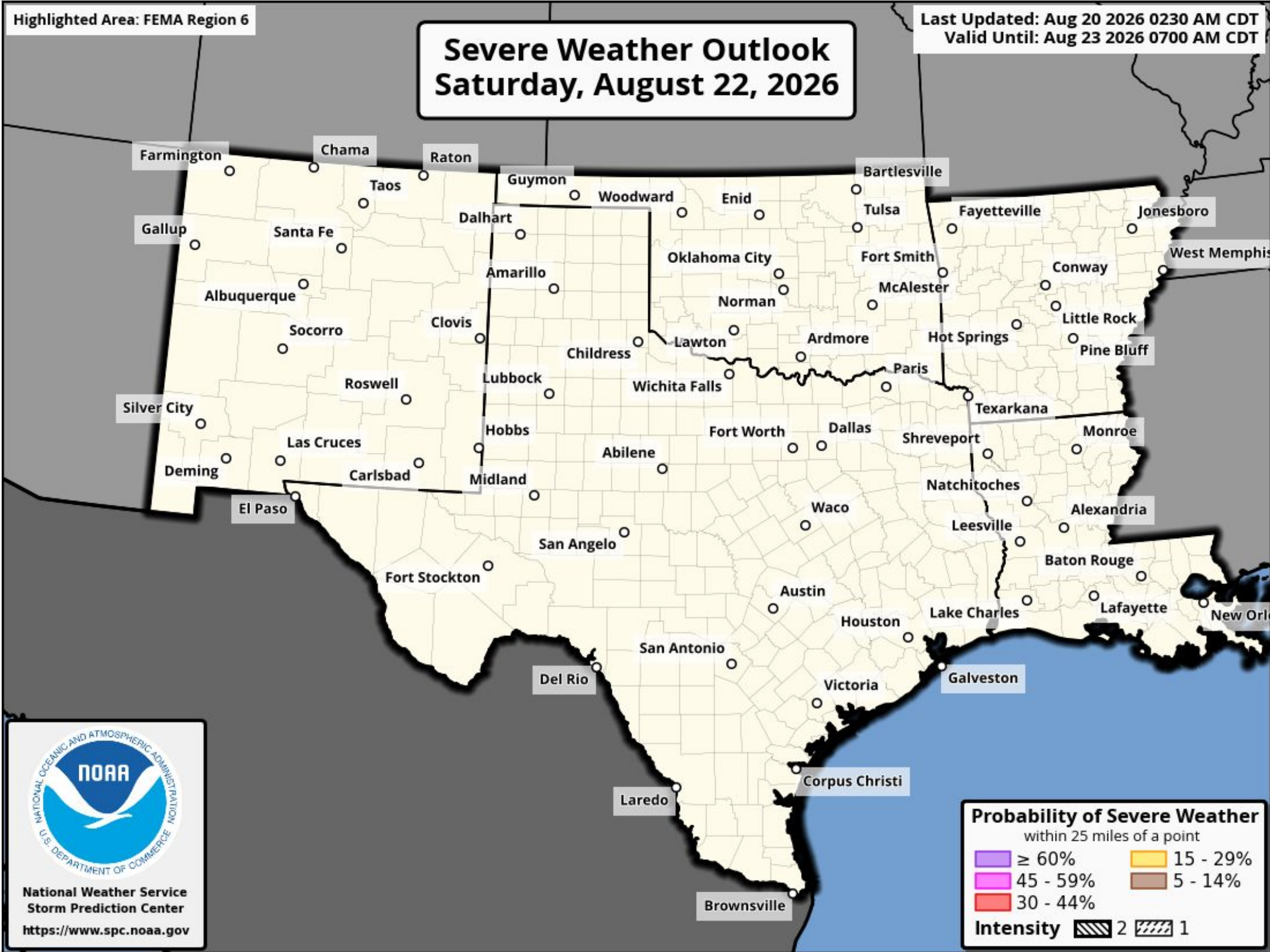
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides



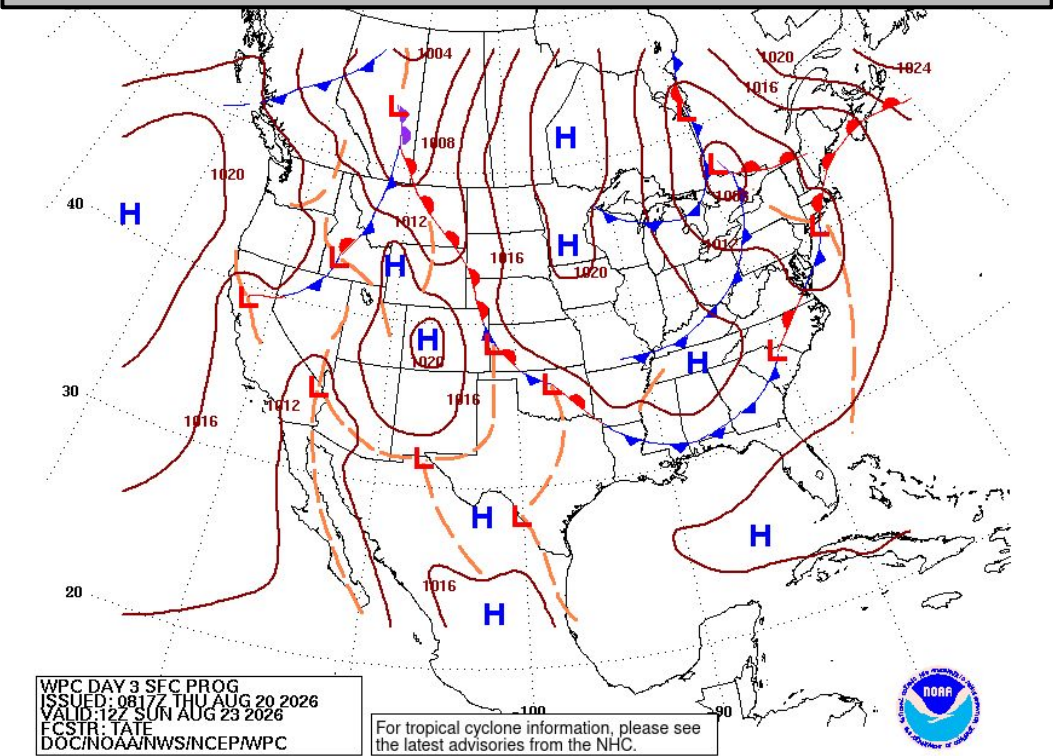
Saturday's Severe Weather Probabilities/CIIG Level



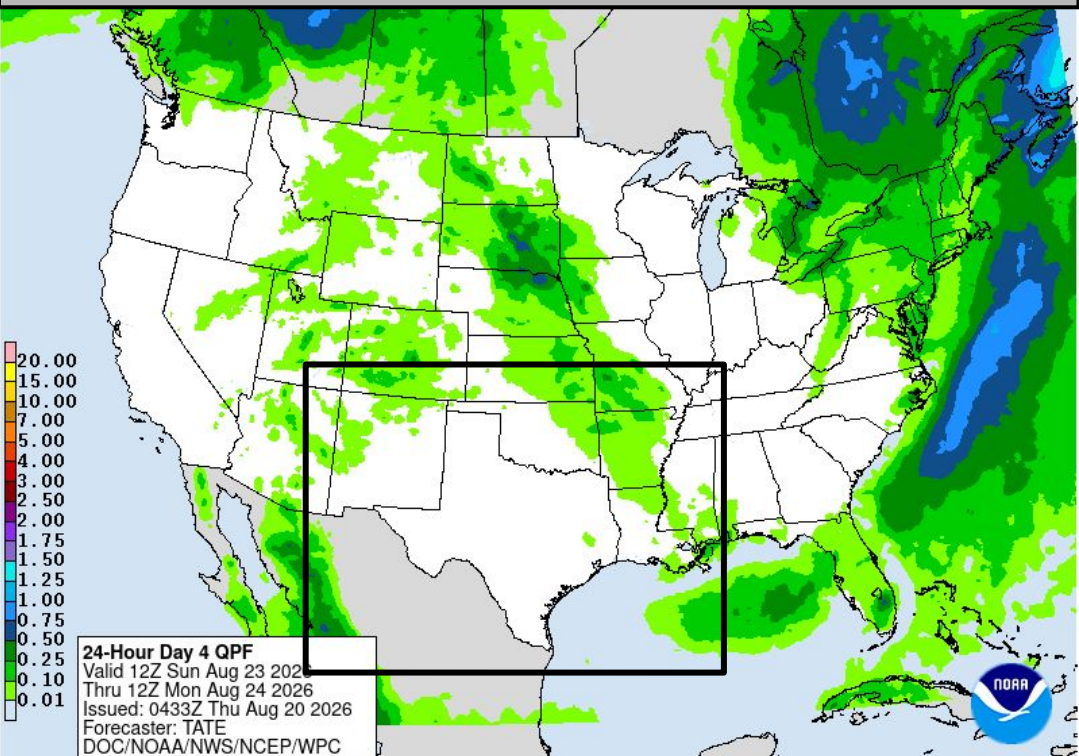


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart



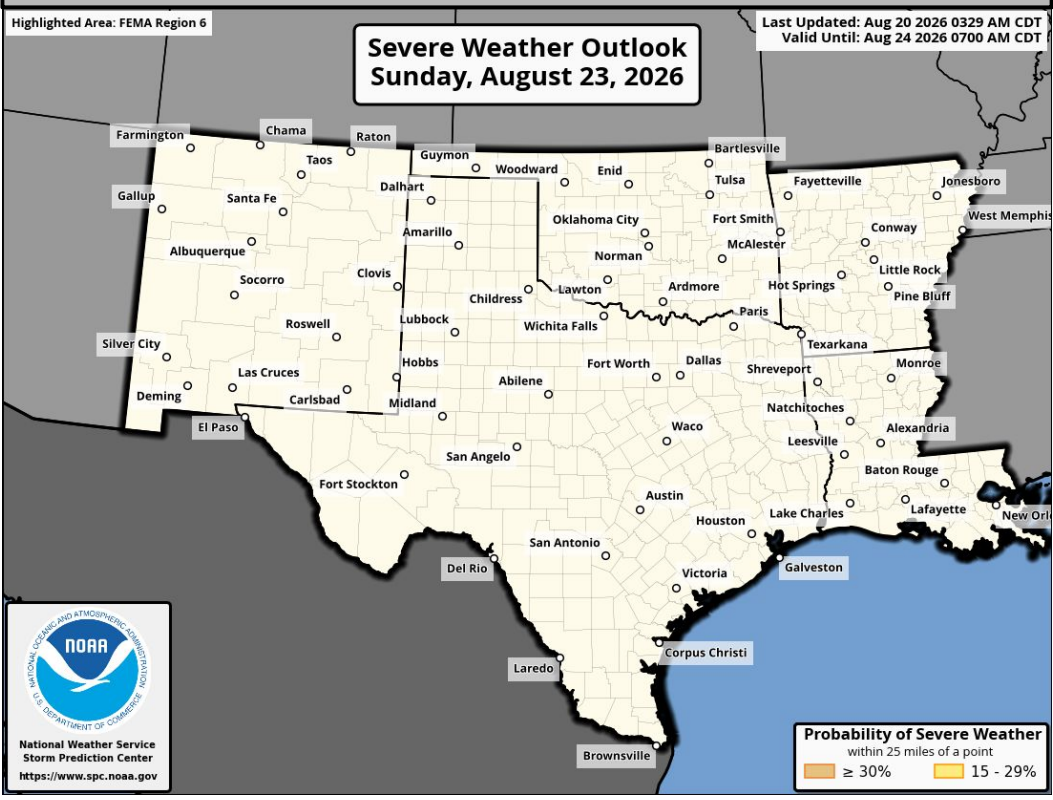
Forecast Rainfall



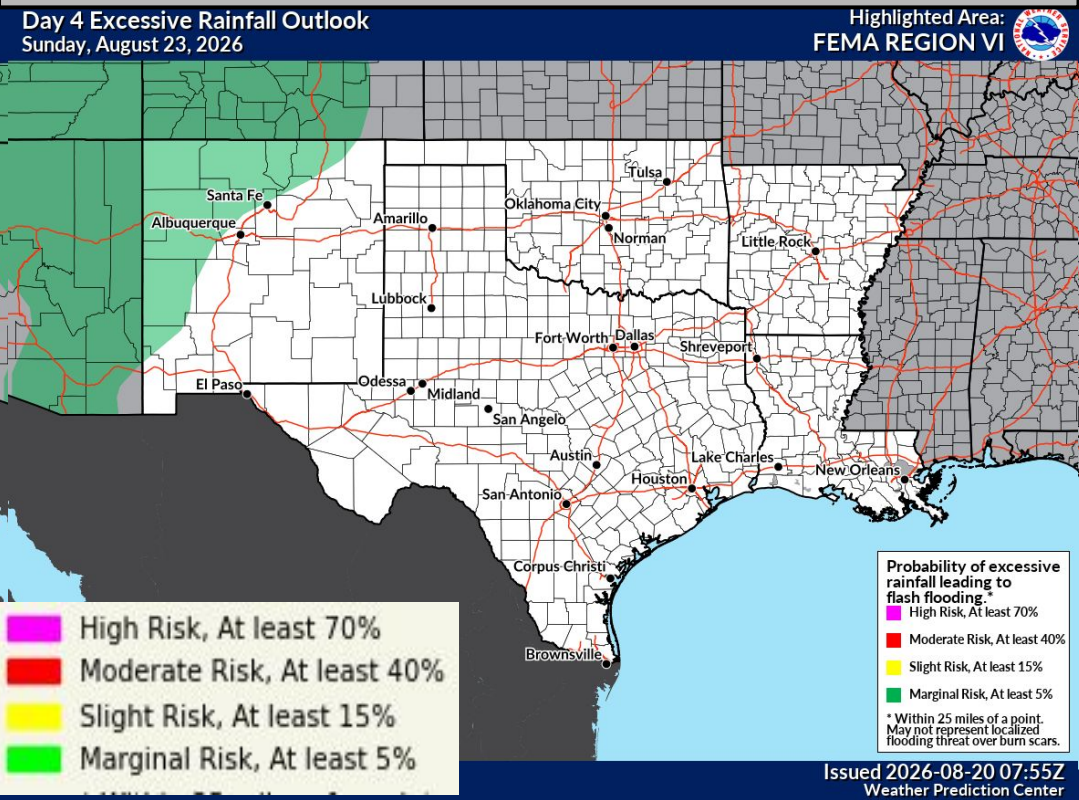
Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in W/N NM.

Elevated (level I of 3) fire weather over TX/OK Panhandles, NW TX, W OK.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



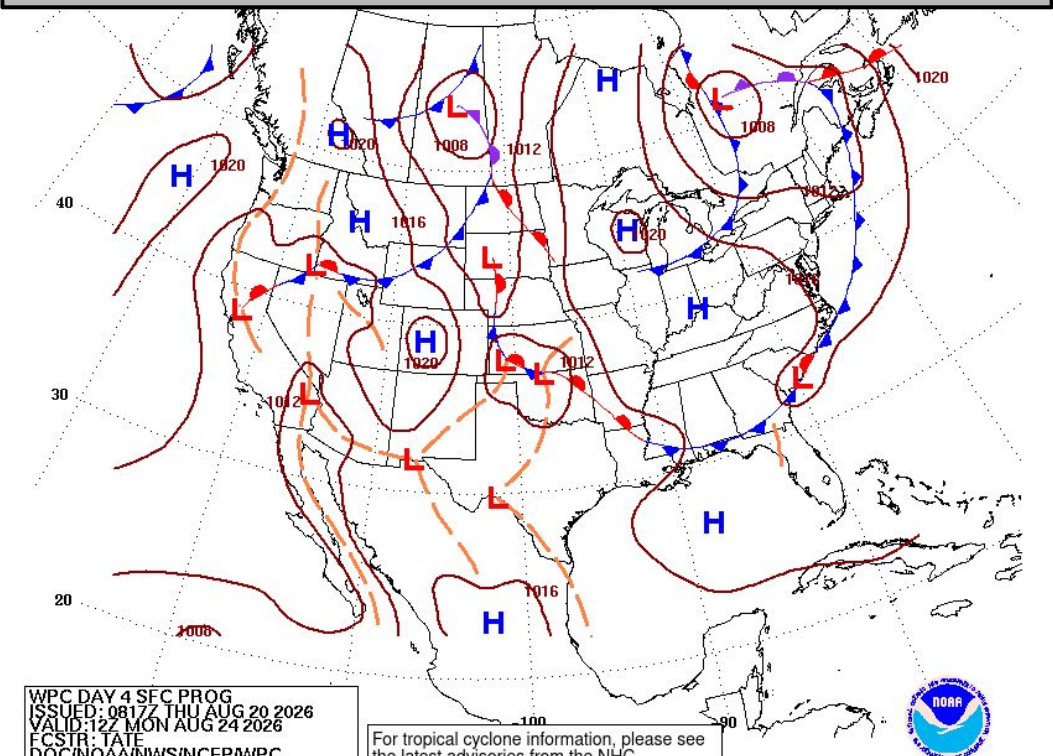
****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****



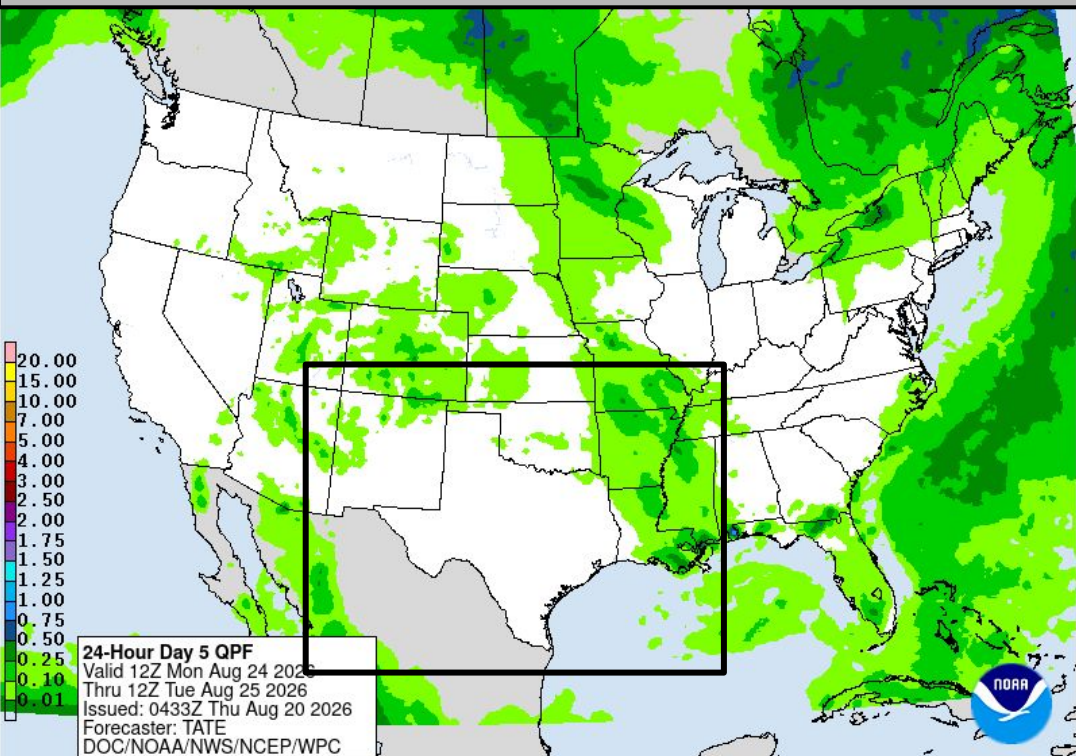


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart



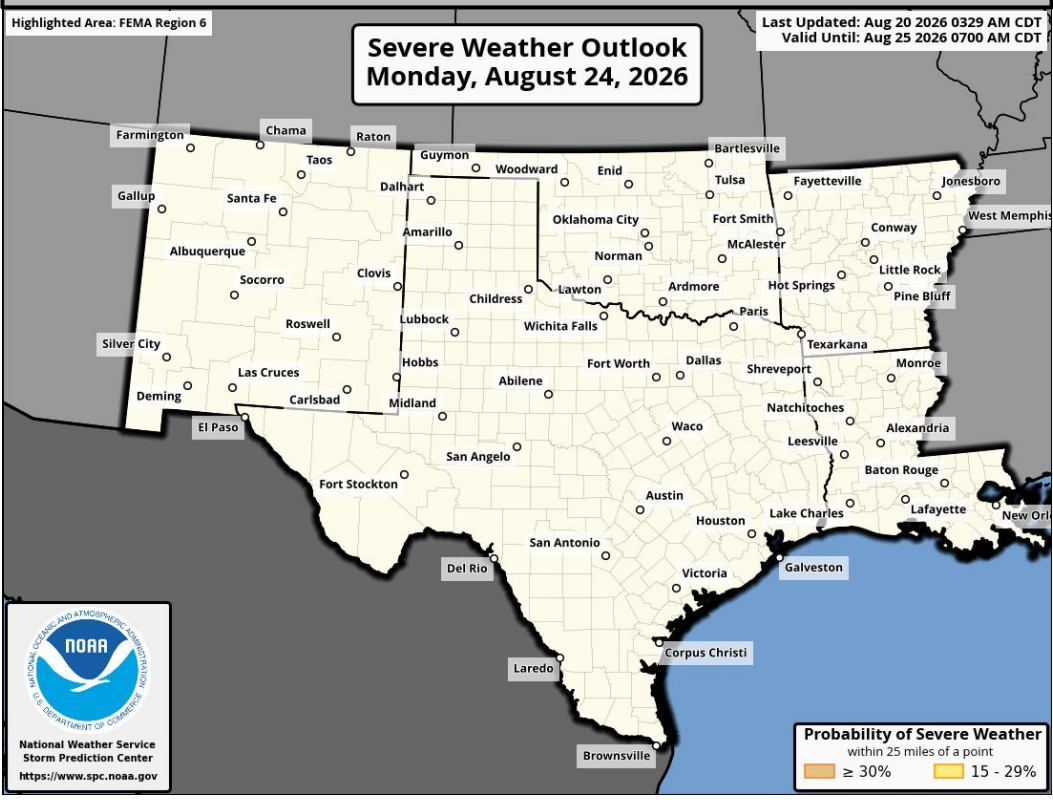
Forecast Rainfall



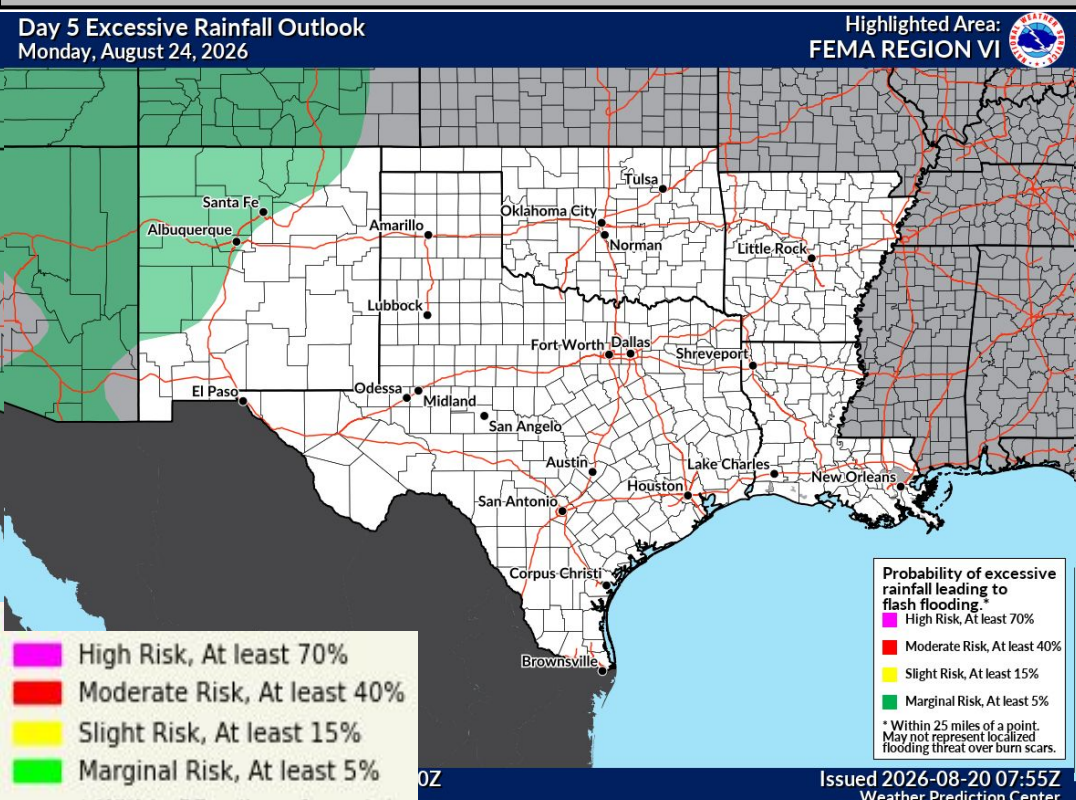
Elevated (level I of 3) fire weather over TX Panhandle, NW TX, W OK.

Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in W/N NM.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



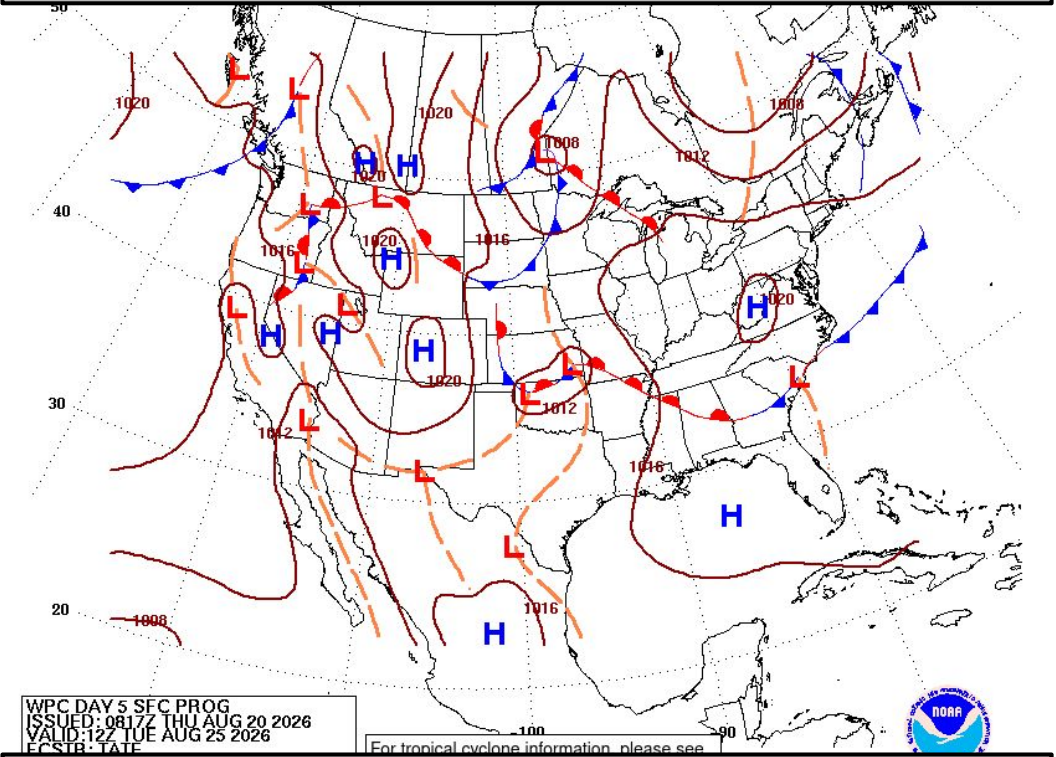
****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****



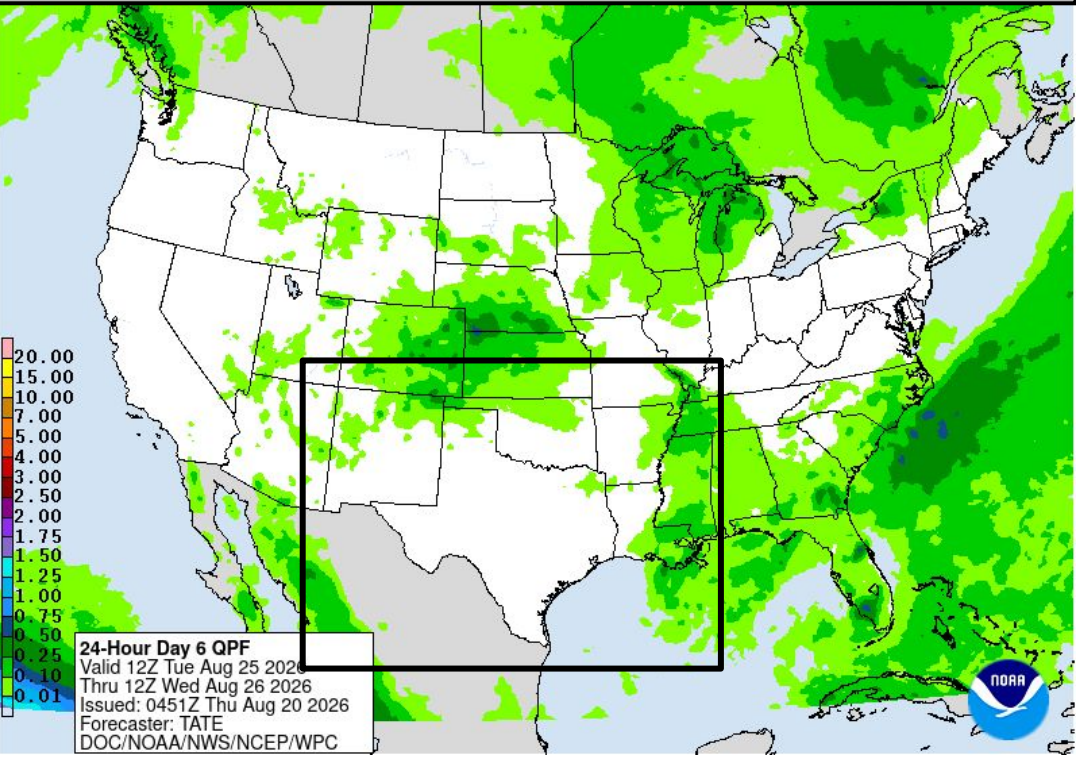


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

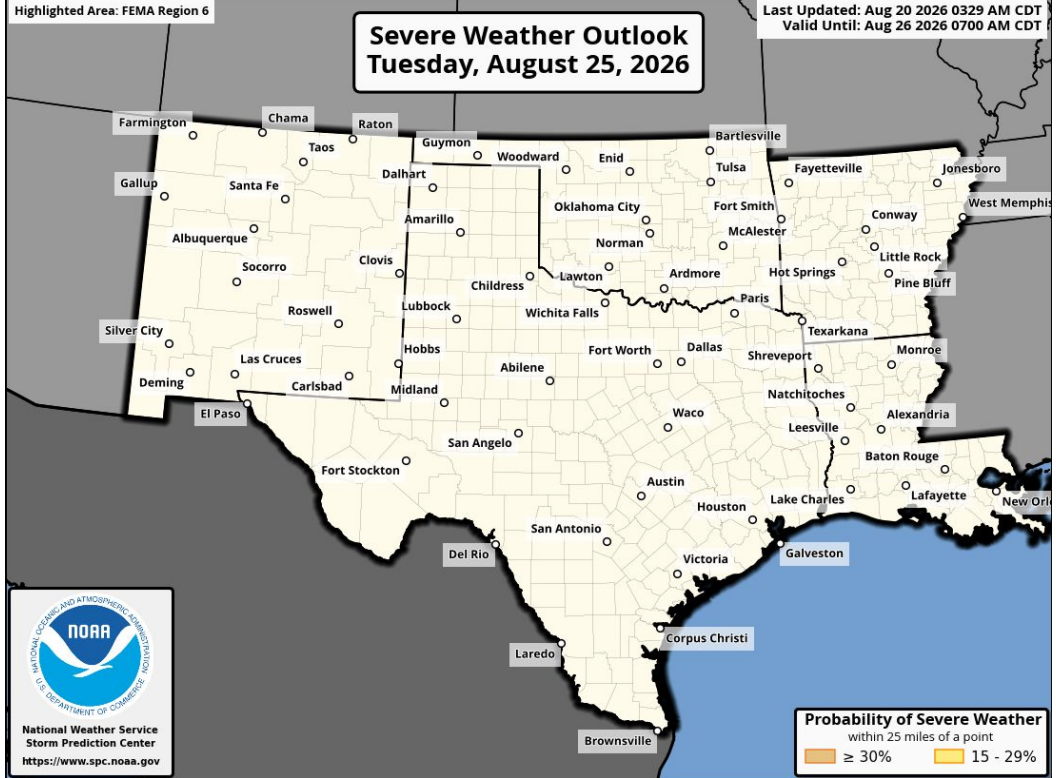


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring for flash flooding in N NM.

Severe Weather Outlook

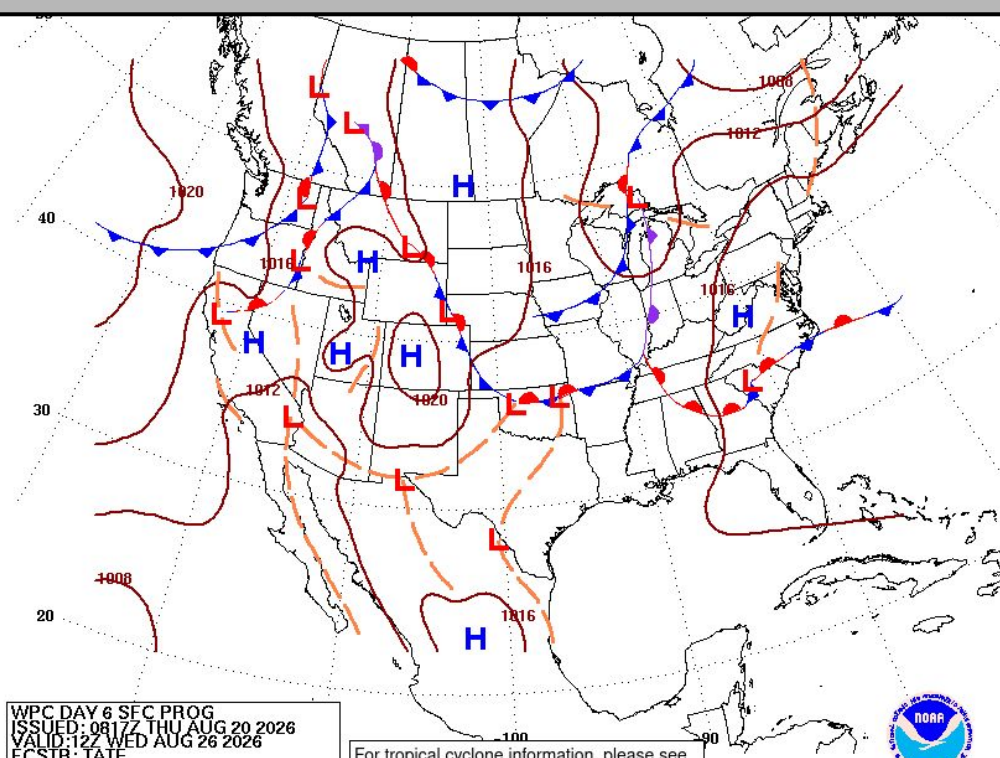


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

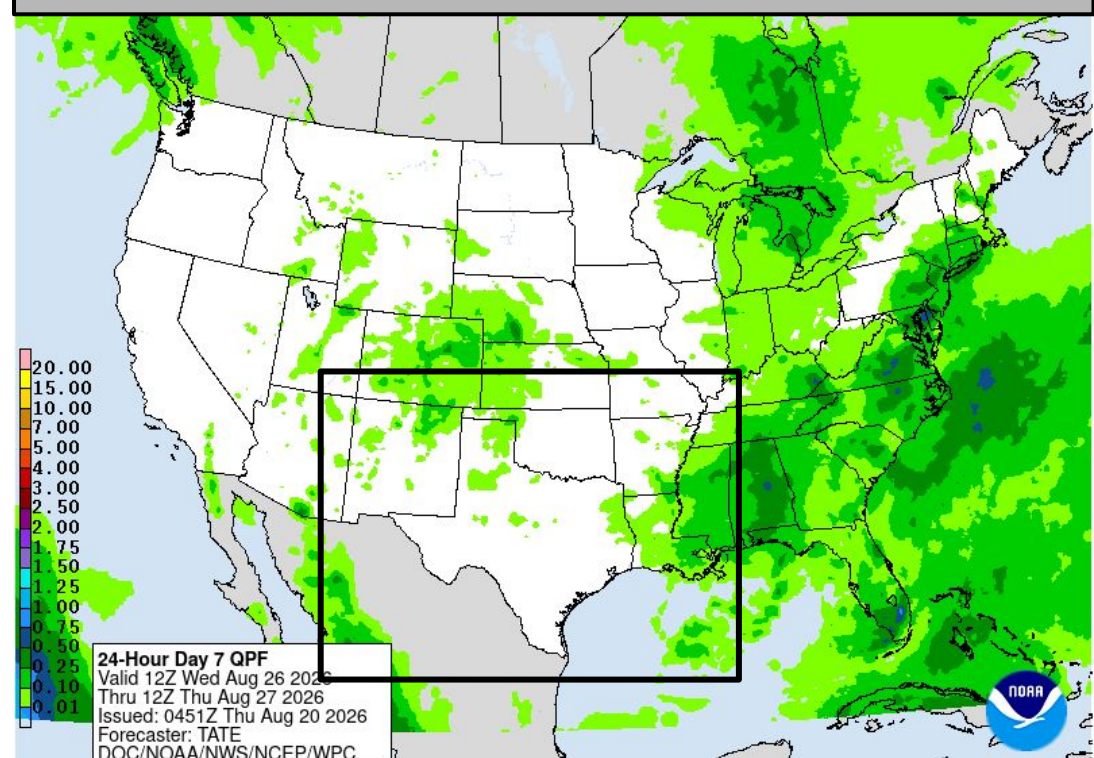


Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

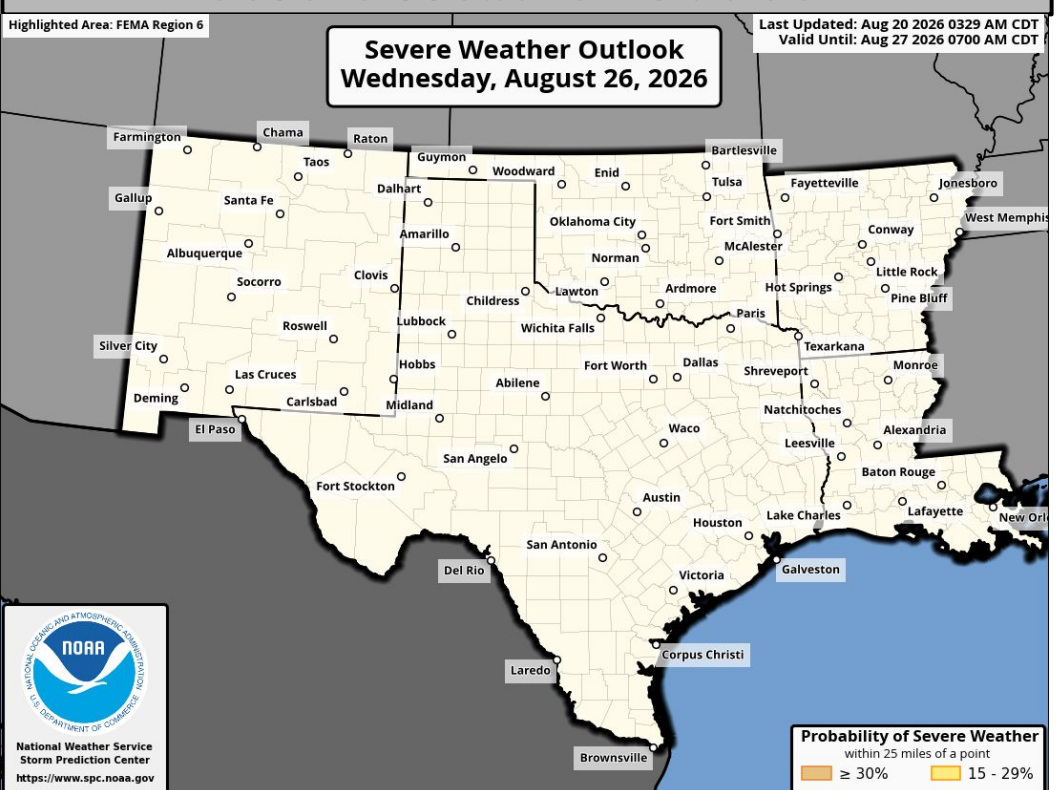


Forecast Rainfall



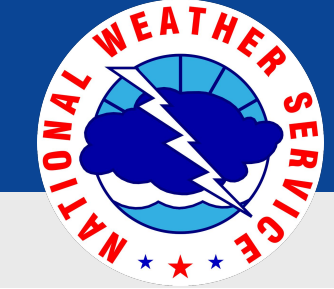
Monitoring for flash flooding in N NM.

Severe Weather Outlook

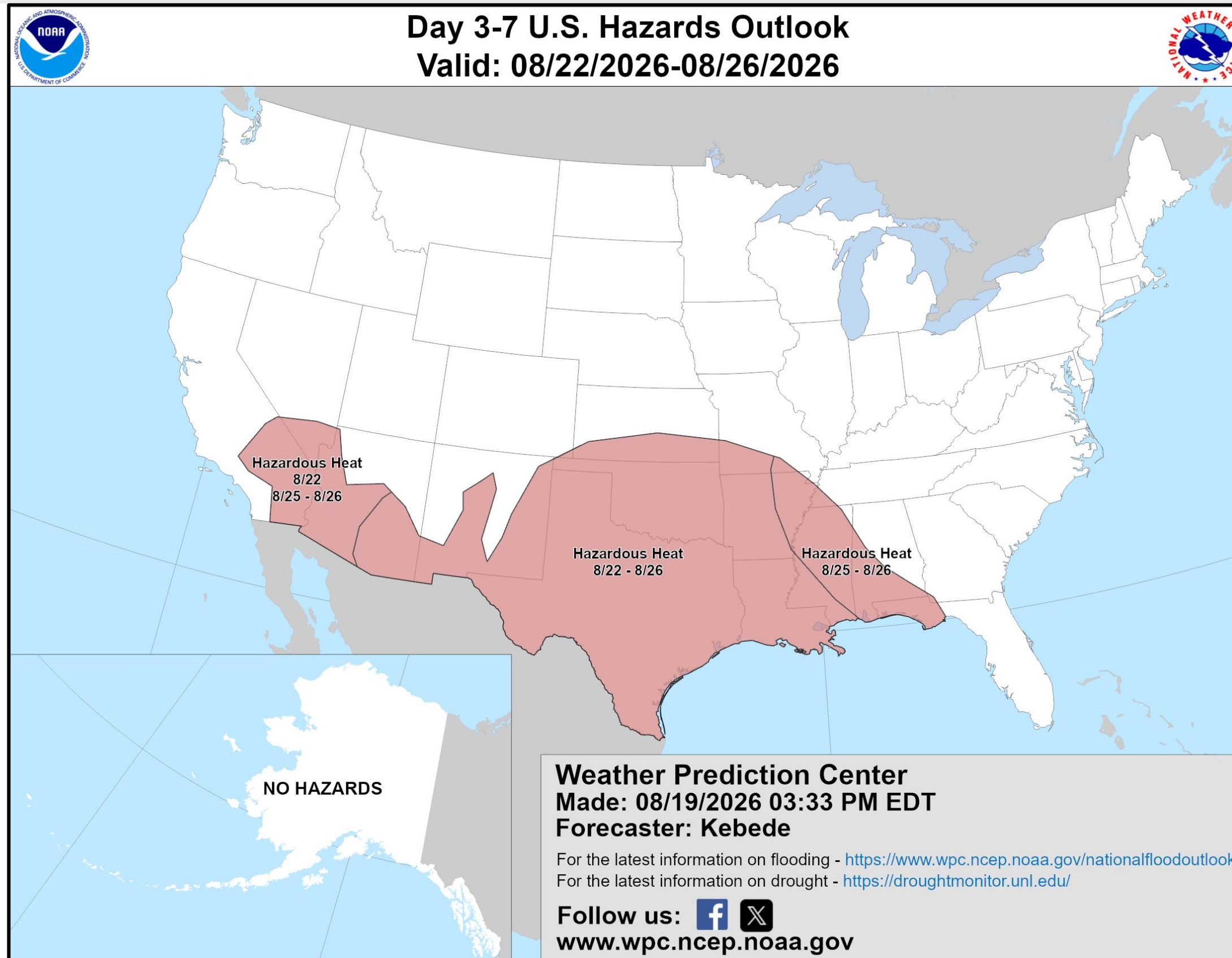


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5



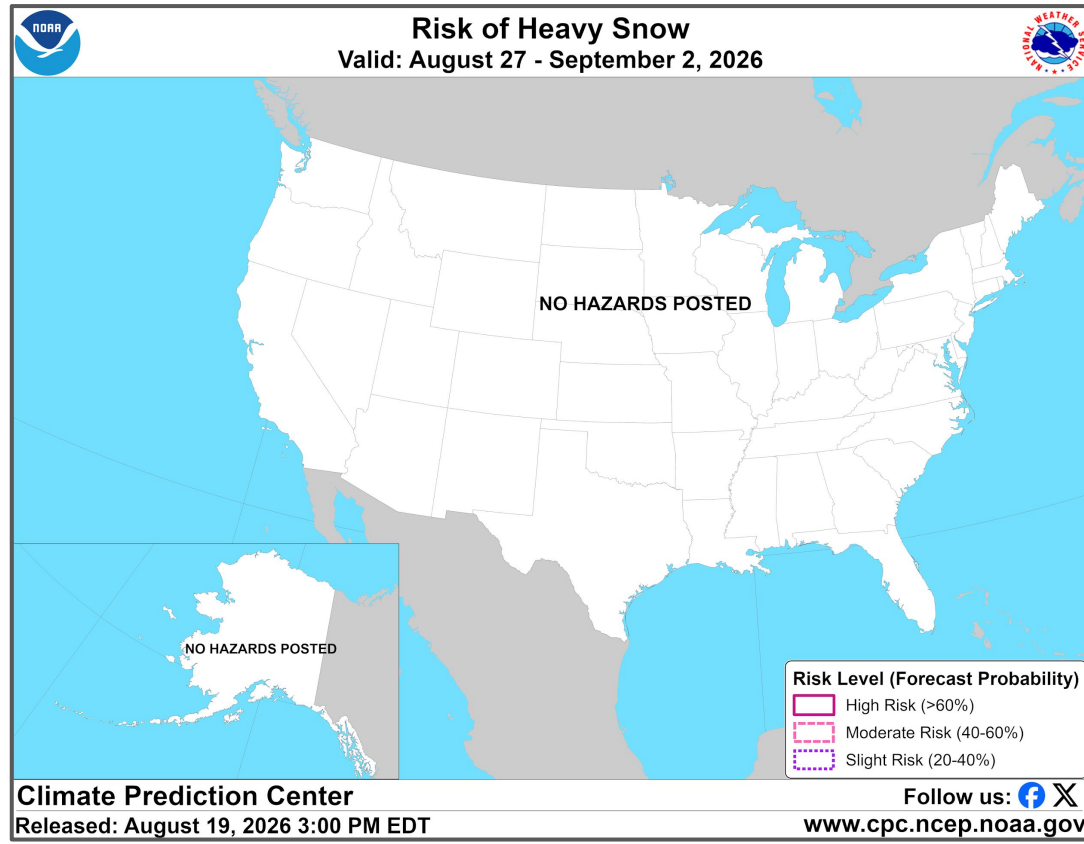
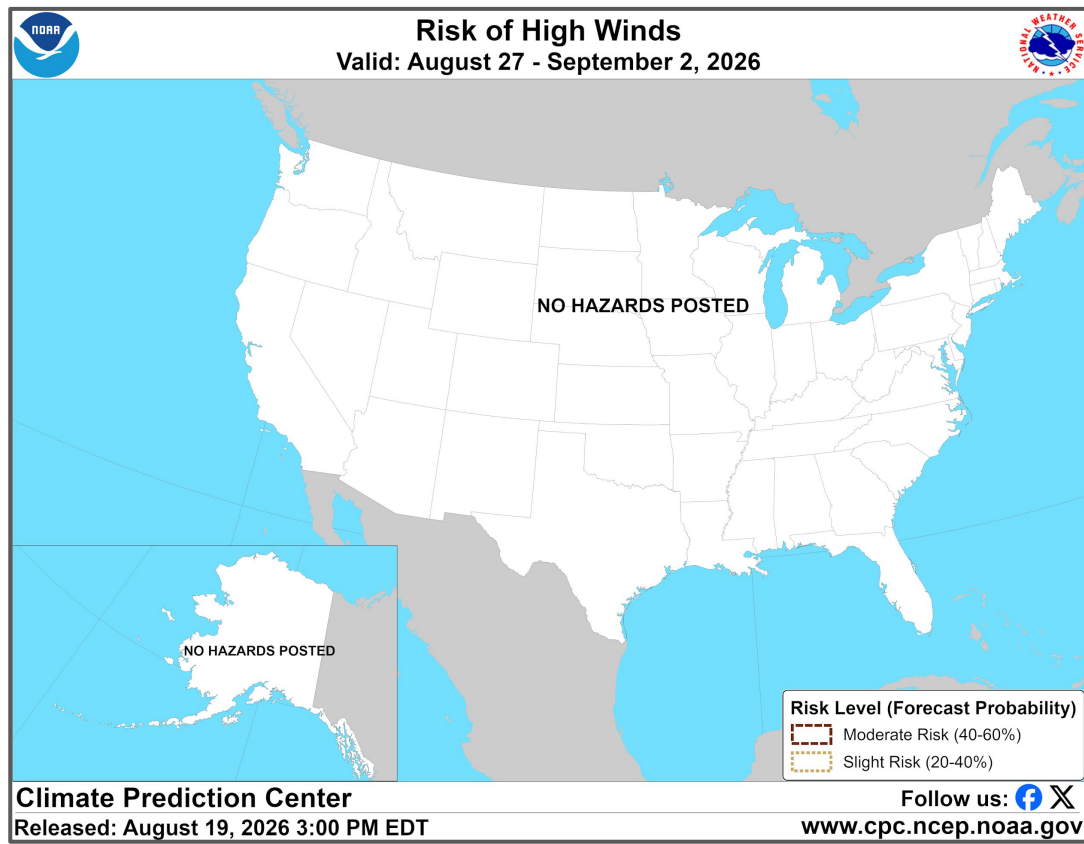
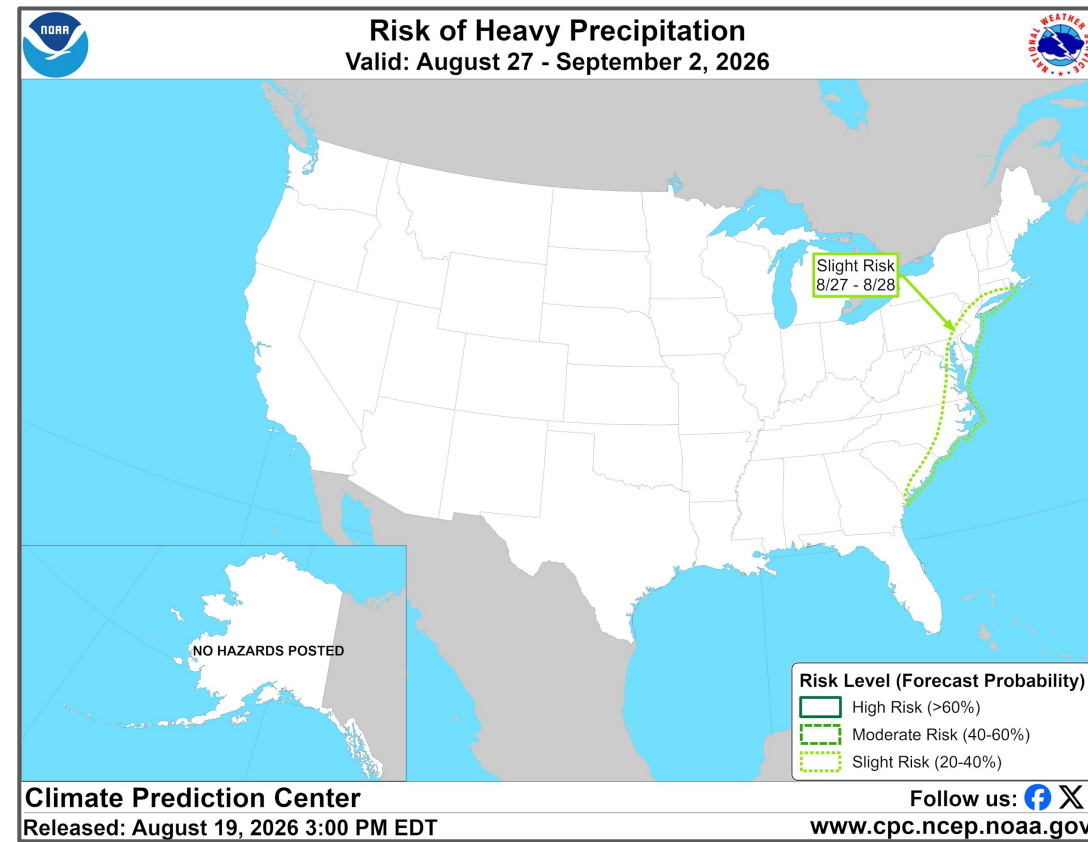
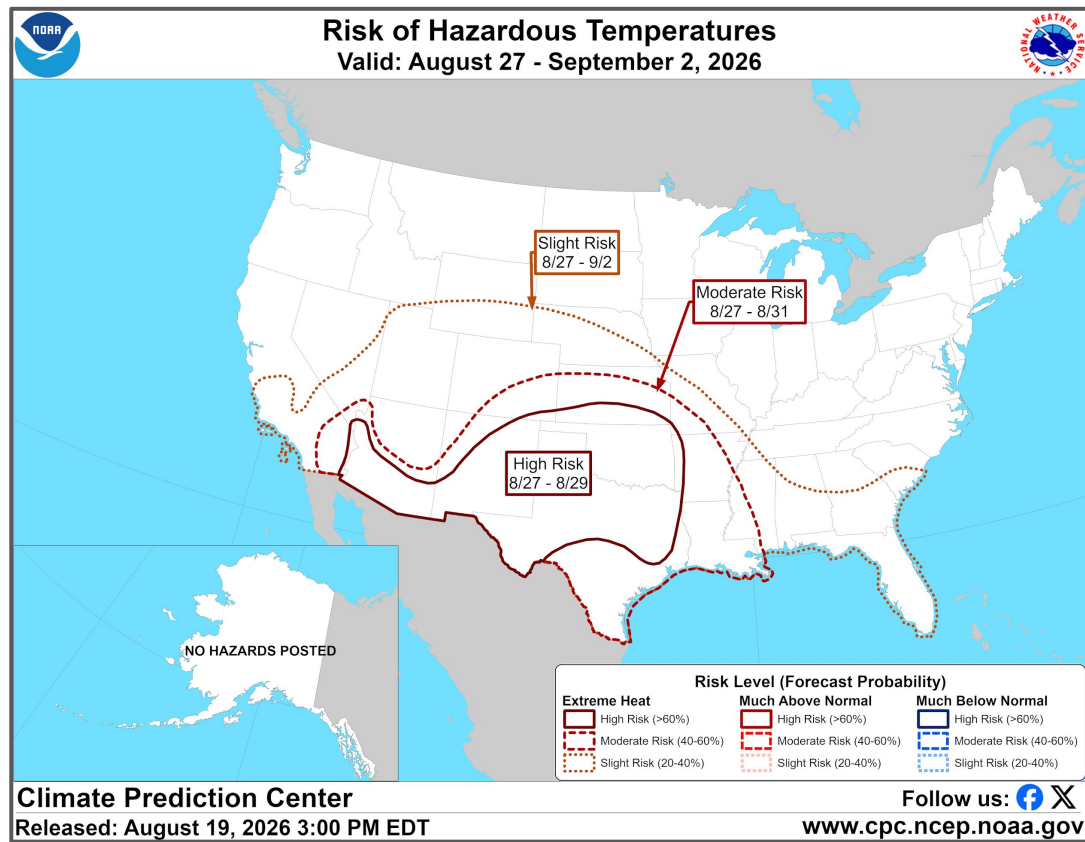
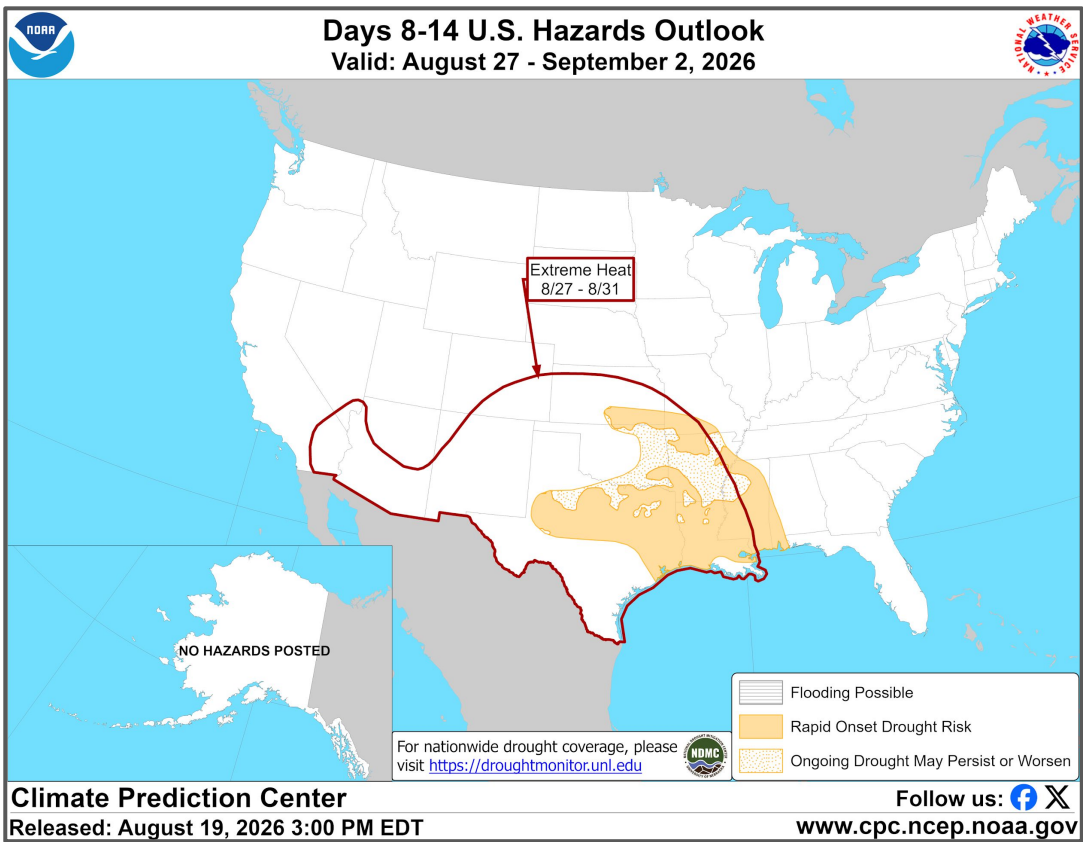


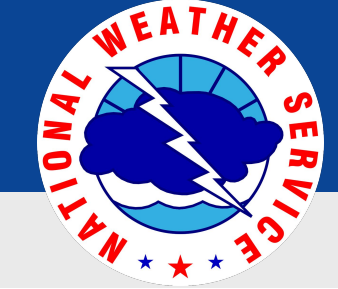
“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





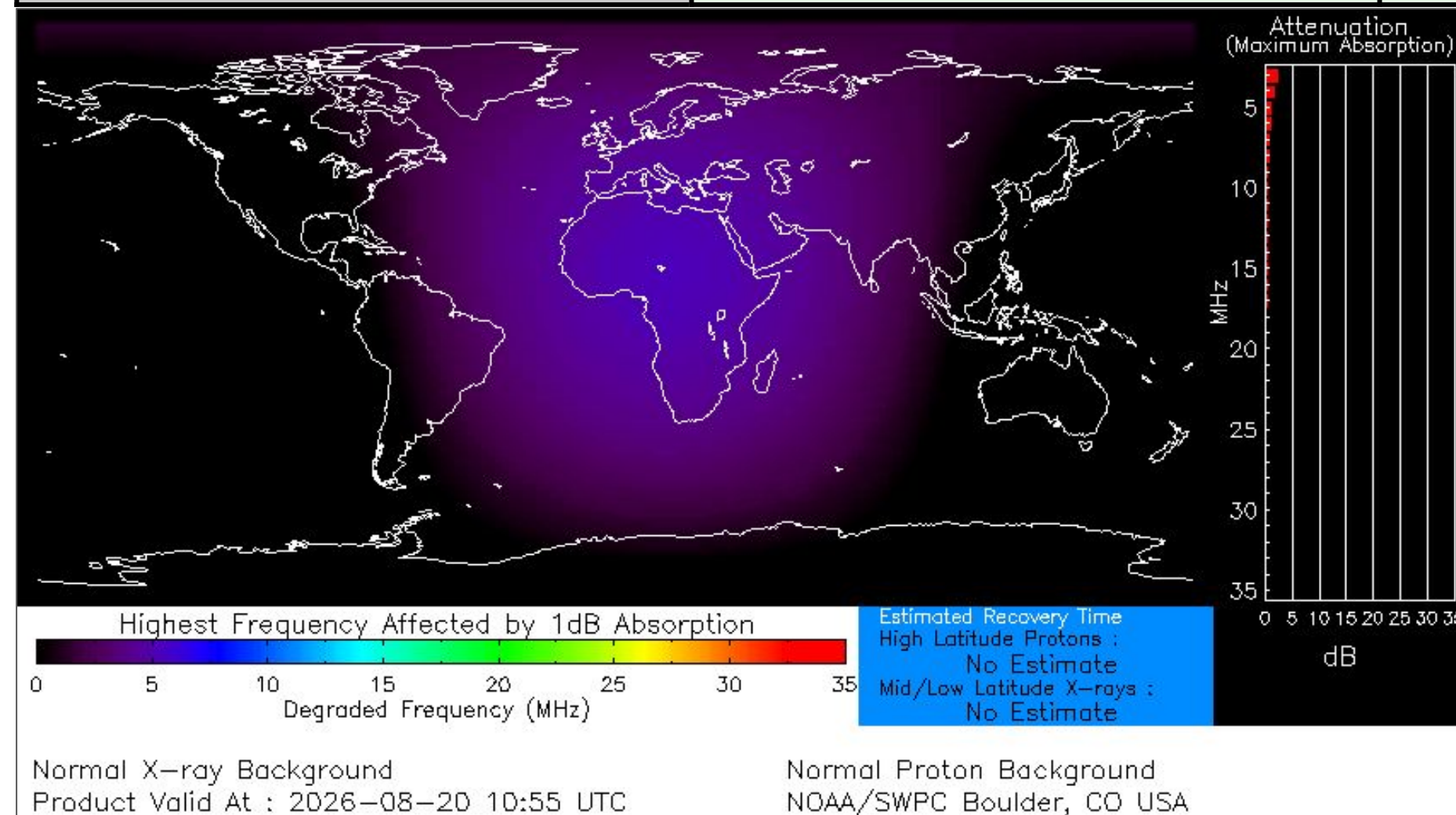
“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





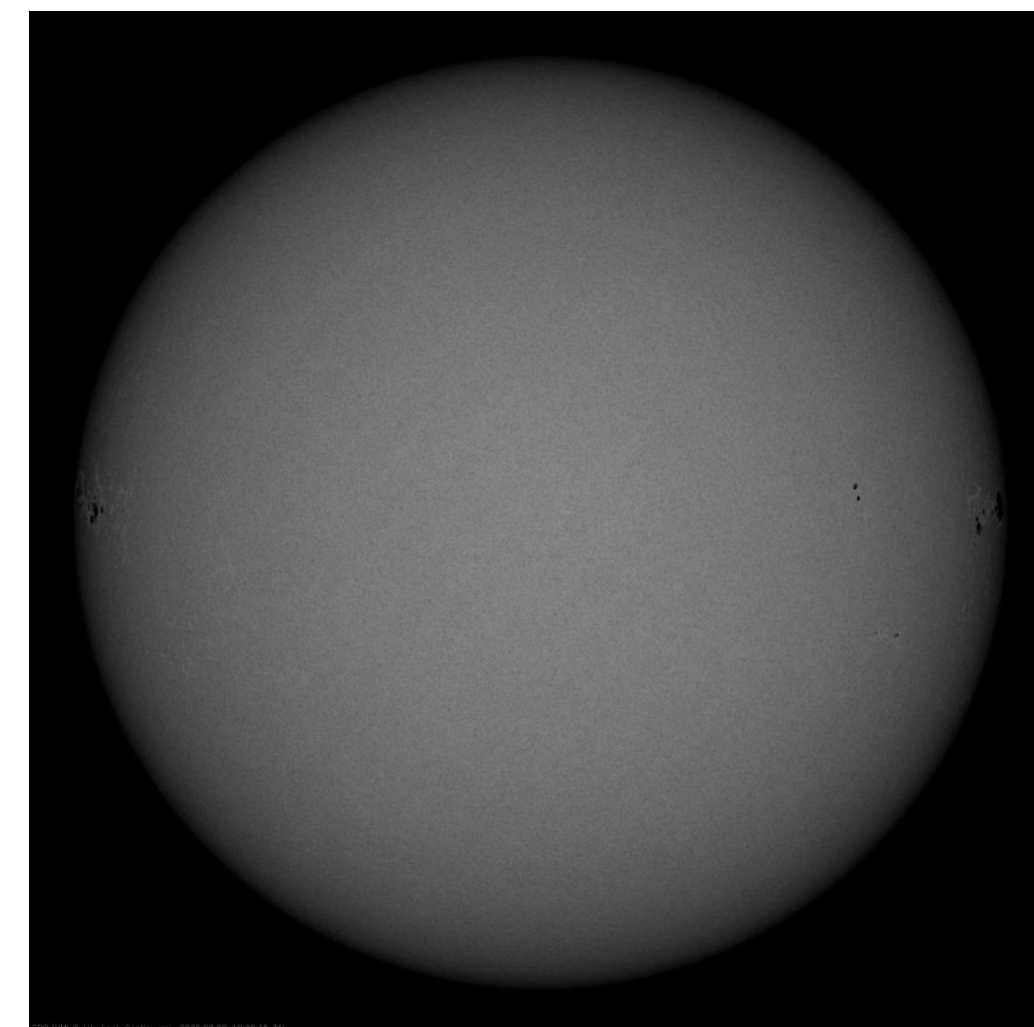
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday, Aug 20	Friday, Aug 21	Saturday, Aug 22
Geomagnetic Storms	Active (Max Kp=4)	Active (Max Kp=4)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	5%	5%
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	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

