FEMA

Prepared by
Cindy Elsenheimer

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday December 24, 2021

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 of the Upcoming Week

- **Gusty winds with power outages/hazardous travel and reduced visibility across NM into W TX and TX/OK Panhandles today.**

- **Elevated to critical fire weather conditions/Red Flag Warnings through Tuesday across E NM into the TX/OK Panhandles and W TX/OK.**

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Dec 24, 2021 - Dec 28, 2021

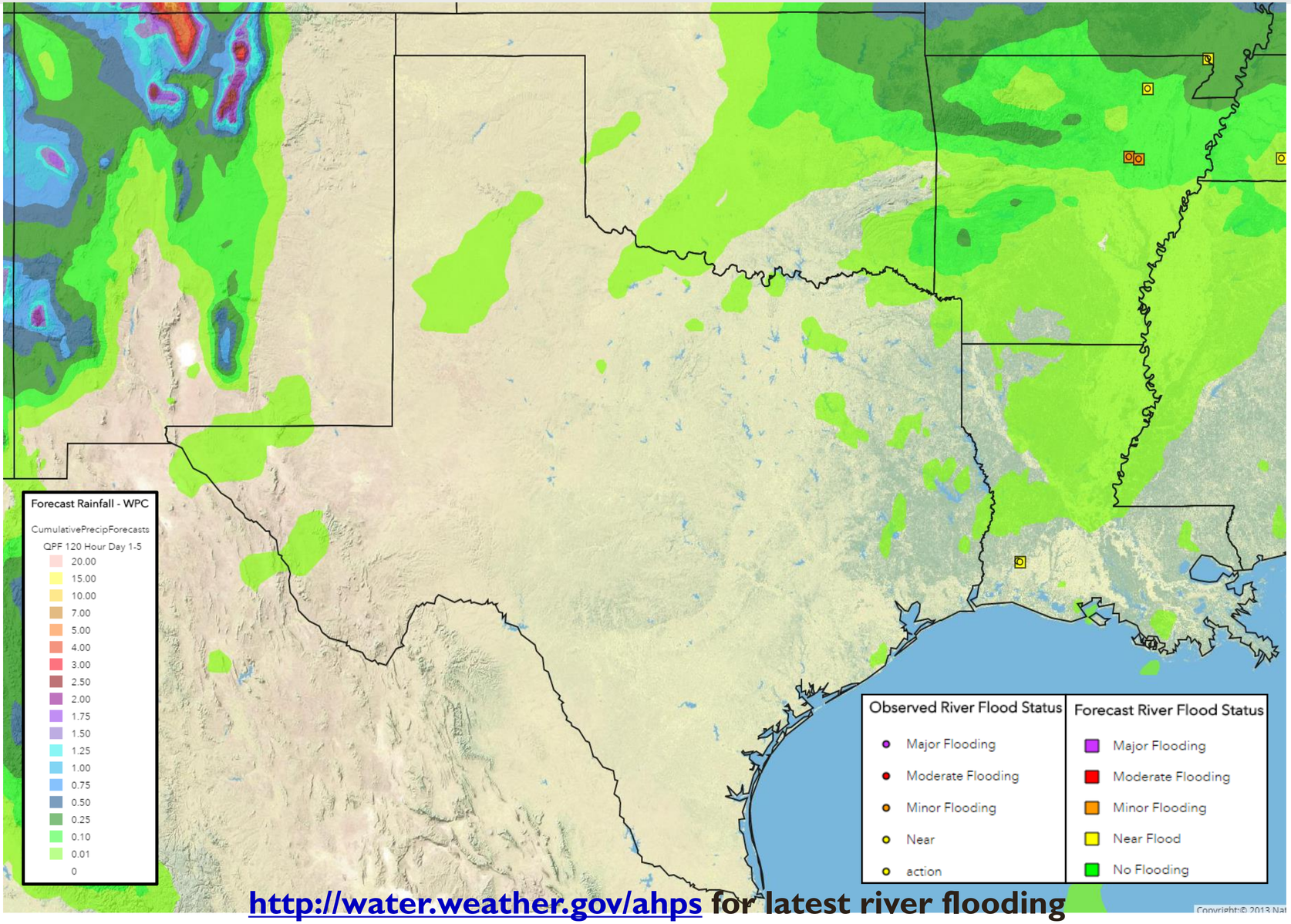
DAY / THREAT	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					
Fire Weather	E NM TX/OK Panhandles W TX/OK	TX/OK Panhandles	TX/OK Panhandles, W OK	TX Panhandle	TX Panhandle
Winds	NM TX/OK Panhandles				
Winter Weather	N NM	N NM			
River Flooding	E AR	E AR	E AR	E AR	E AR

- No Weather Threats Expected
- Very Common – Happens Often
- Common – Happens Frequently
- Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
- Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
- Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

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.

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

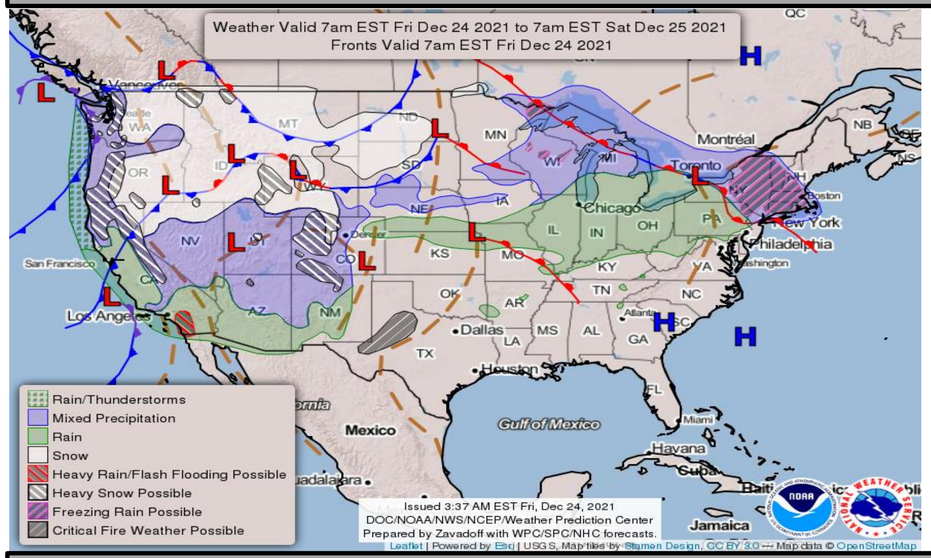


http://water.weather.gov/ahps for latest river flooding

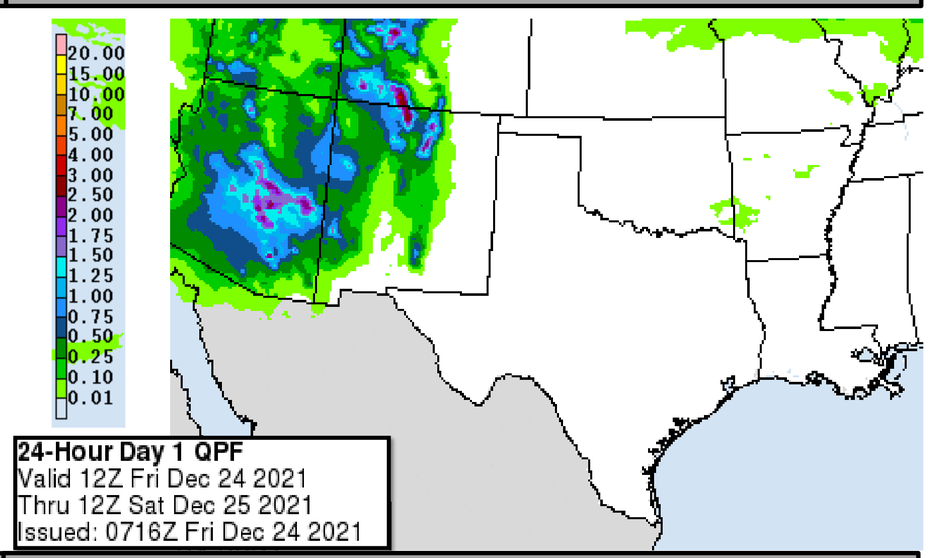
The Cache River at Patterson and the White River at Augusta (AR) are in, or forecast to reach, minor flood stage. Low swampy timberland and farmland along the rivers may flood. Flood gates should be closed and equipment moved out of the low grounds along the river and tributaries.

Today's Weather

Forecast Chart

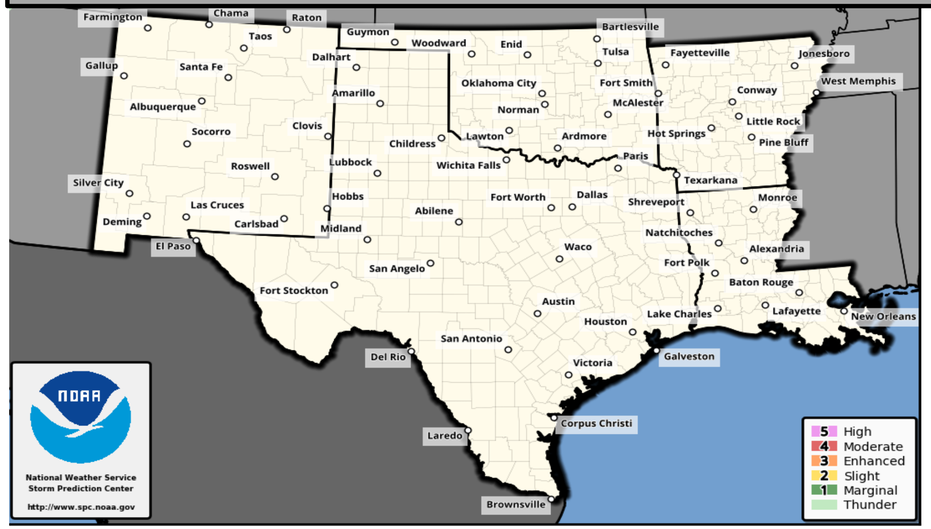


Forecast Rainfall

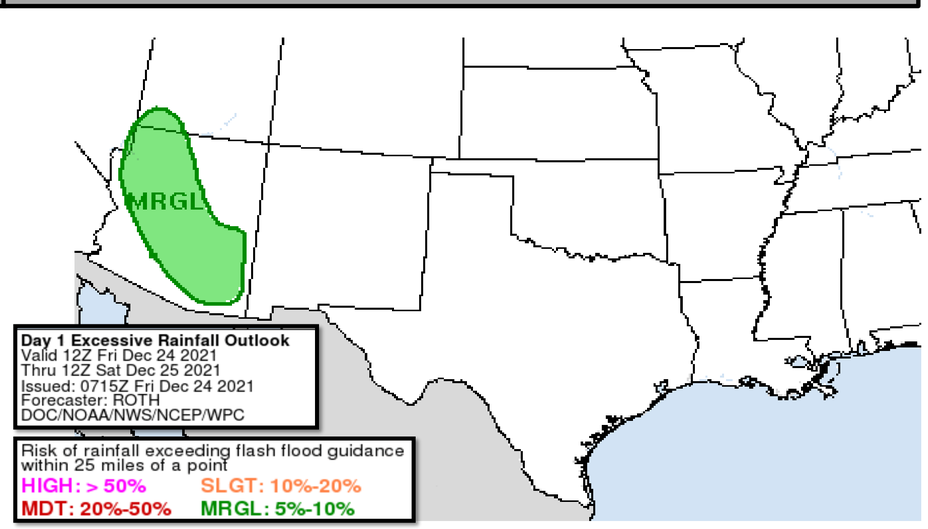


Gusty winds/blowing dust may cause travel impacts/power outages across E NM, the TX/OK Panhandles.

Severe Weather Outlook

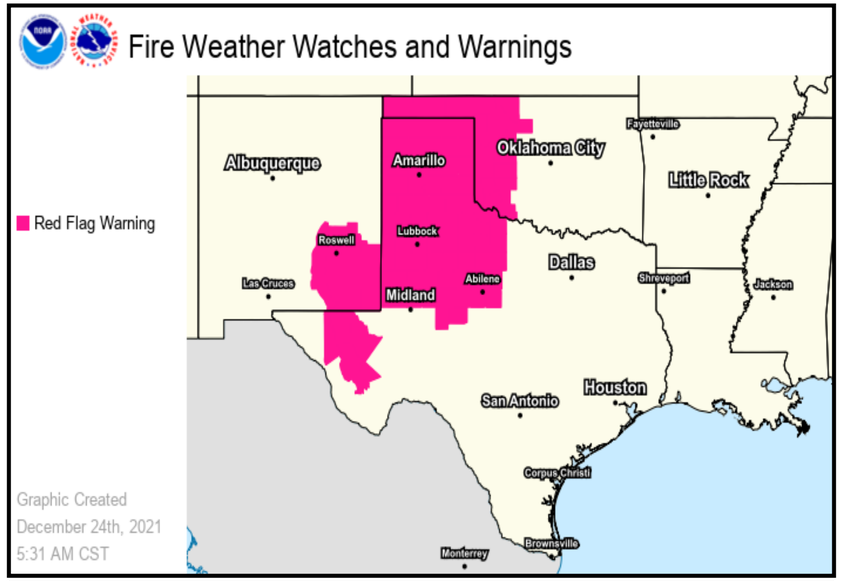


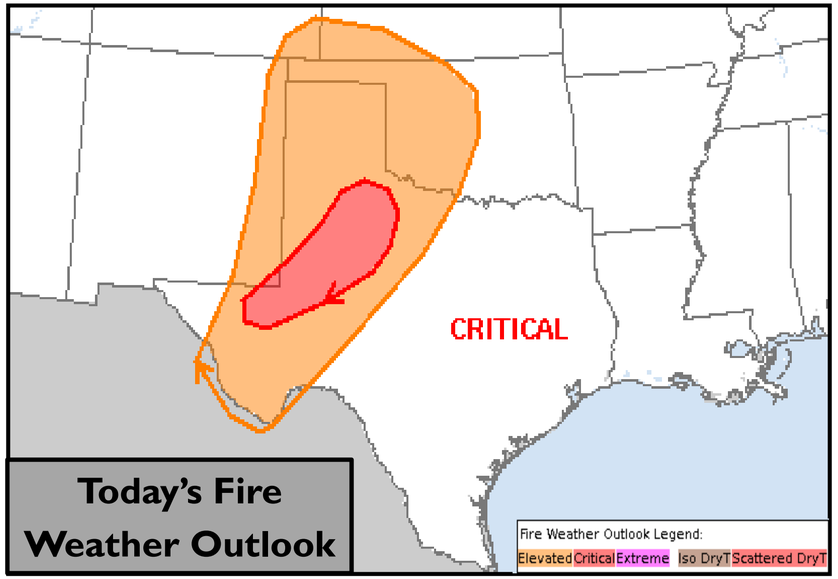
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



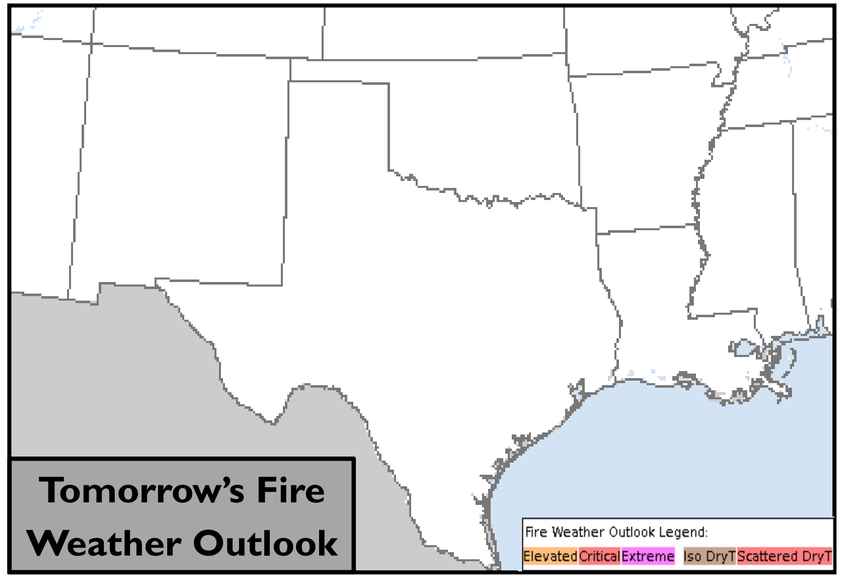
Fire Weather Outlooks

Note: Days 3-5 only highlight critical areas

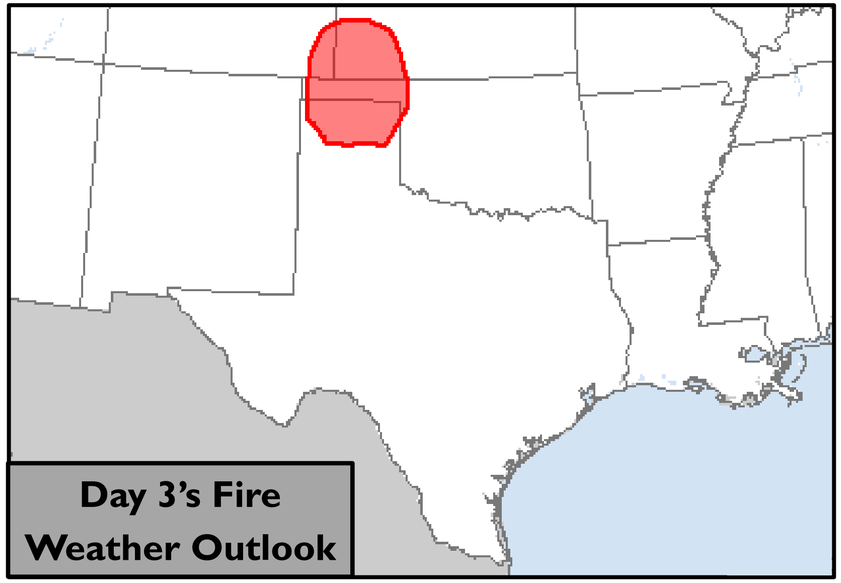




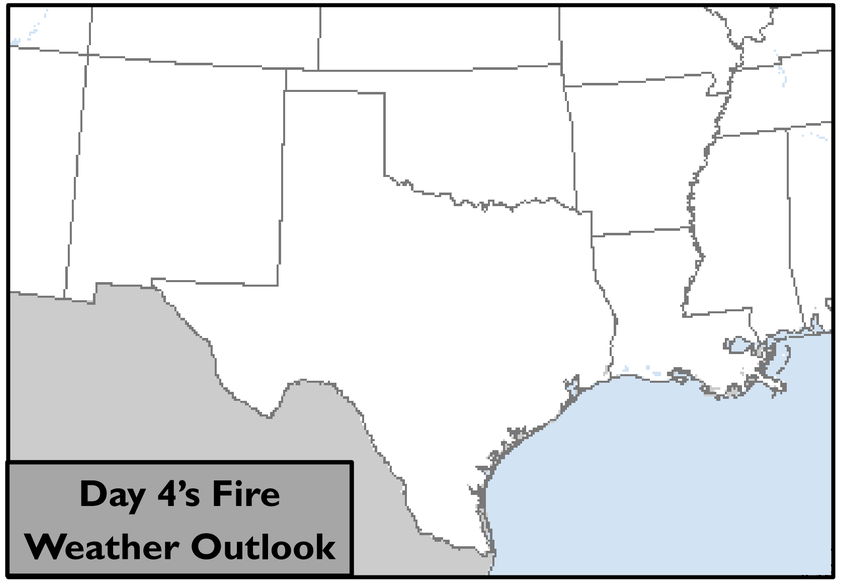
Today's Fire Weather Outlook



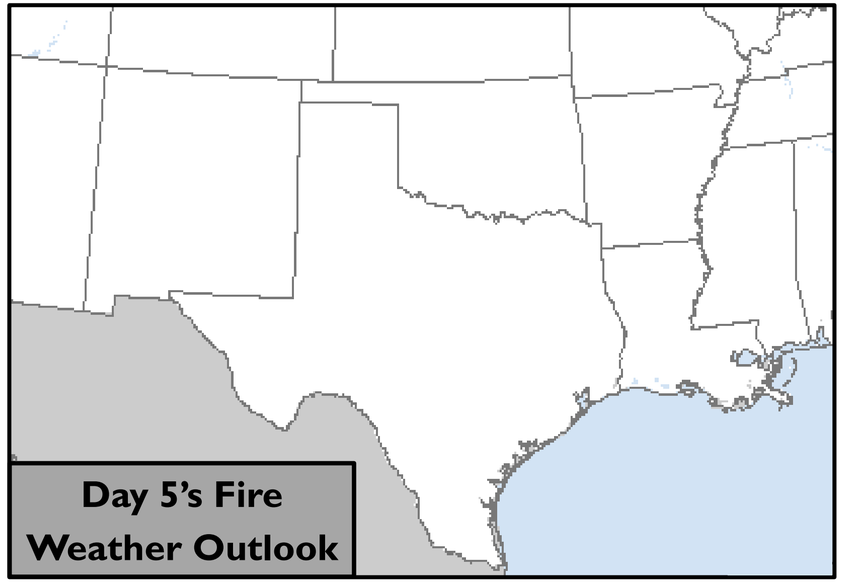
Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



Day 3's Fire Weather Outlook



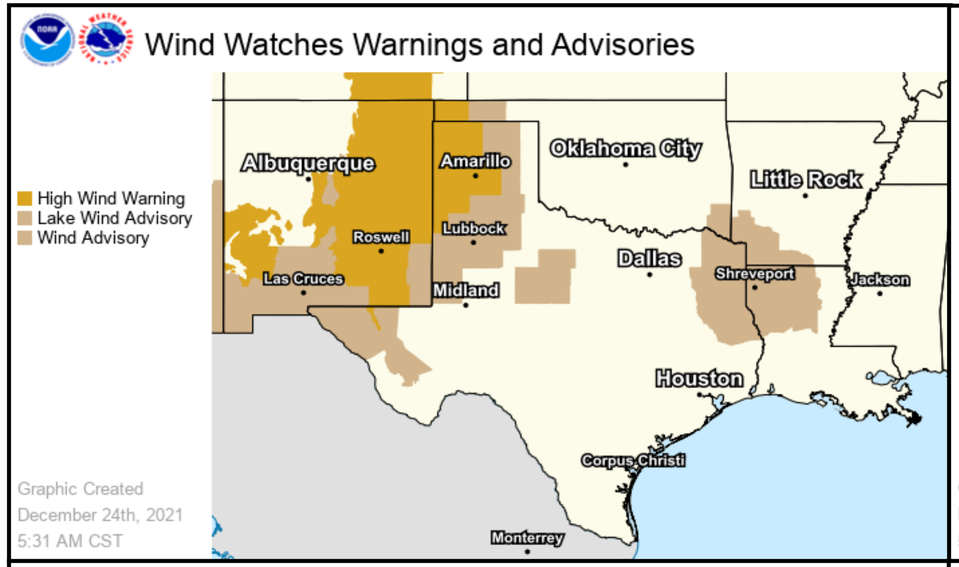
Day 4's Fire Weather Outlook

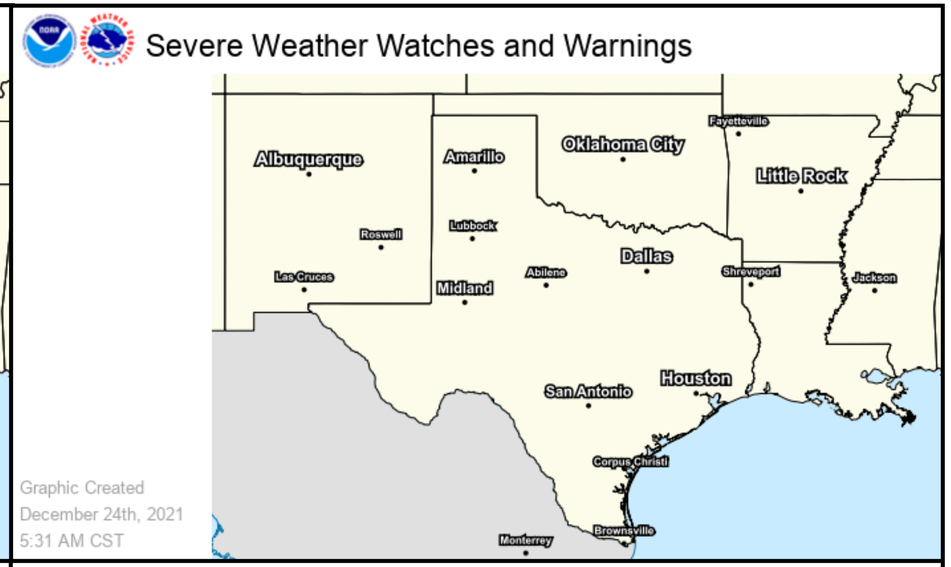


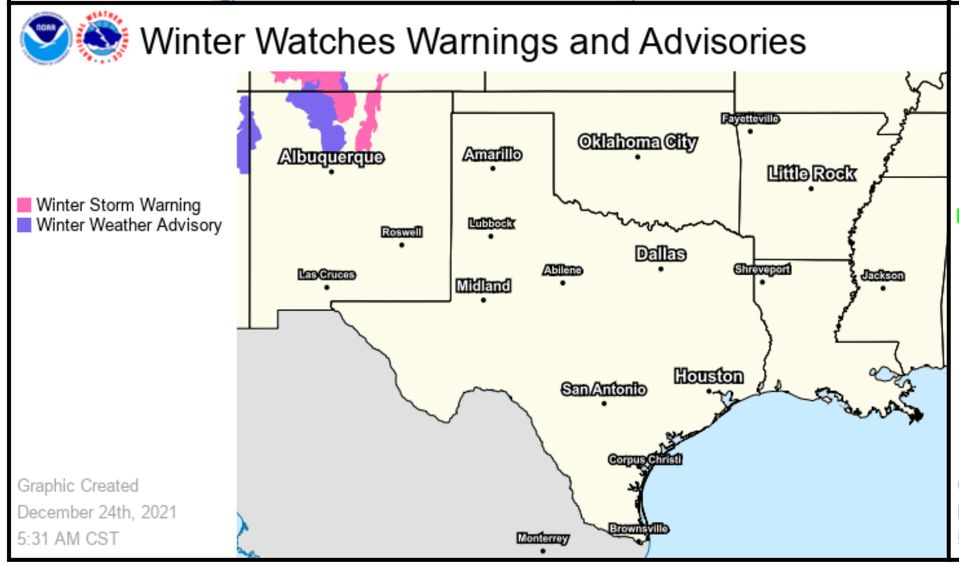
Day 5's Fire Weather Outlook

Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Wind, Severe, Winter, and Flood Hazards







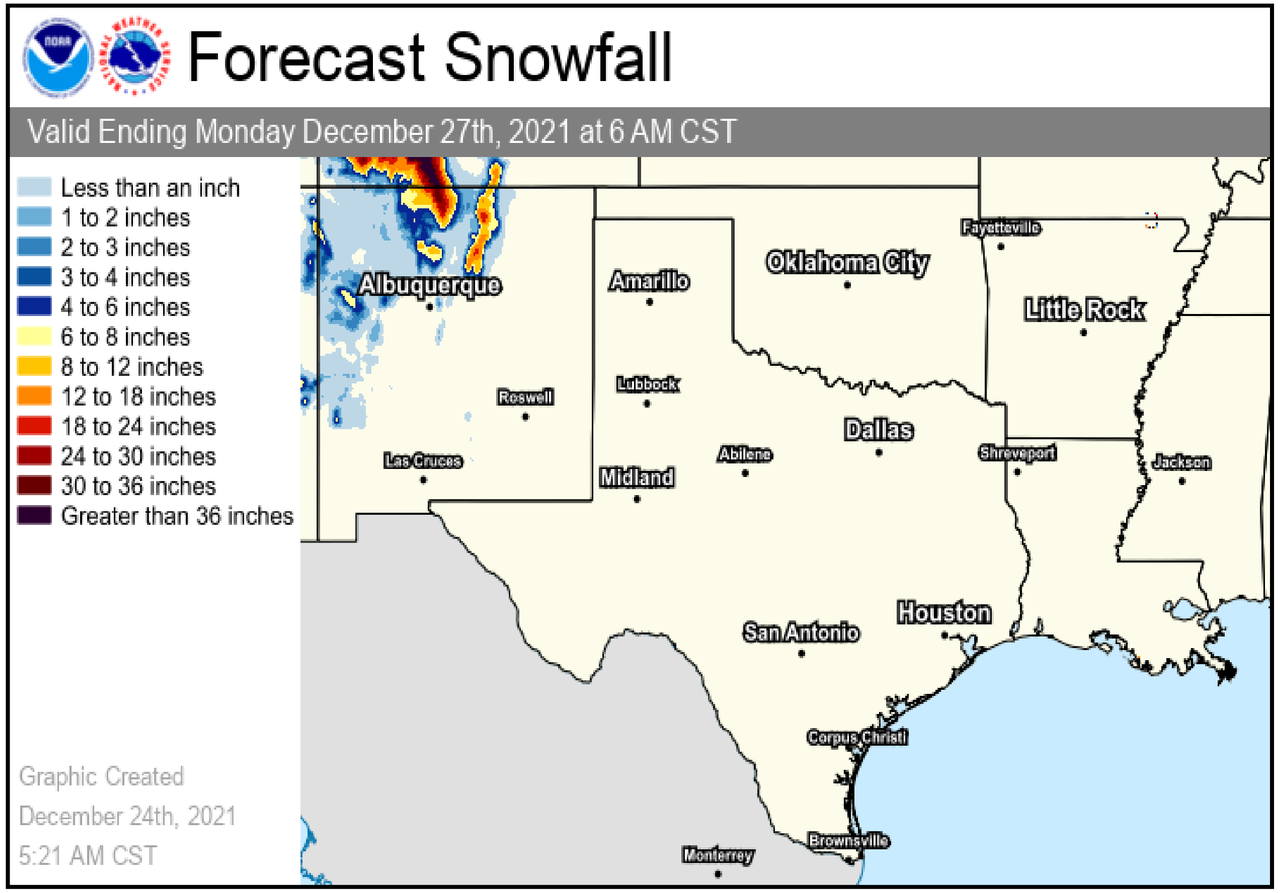
High wind warnings/wind advisories for E NM, W TX and the TX/OK Panhandles today.

Winter storm warning/winter weather advisory for higher elevations of N NM into Saturday.

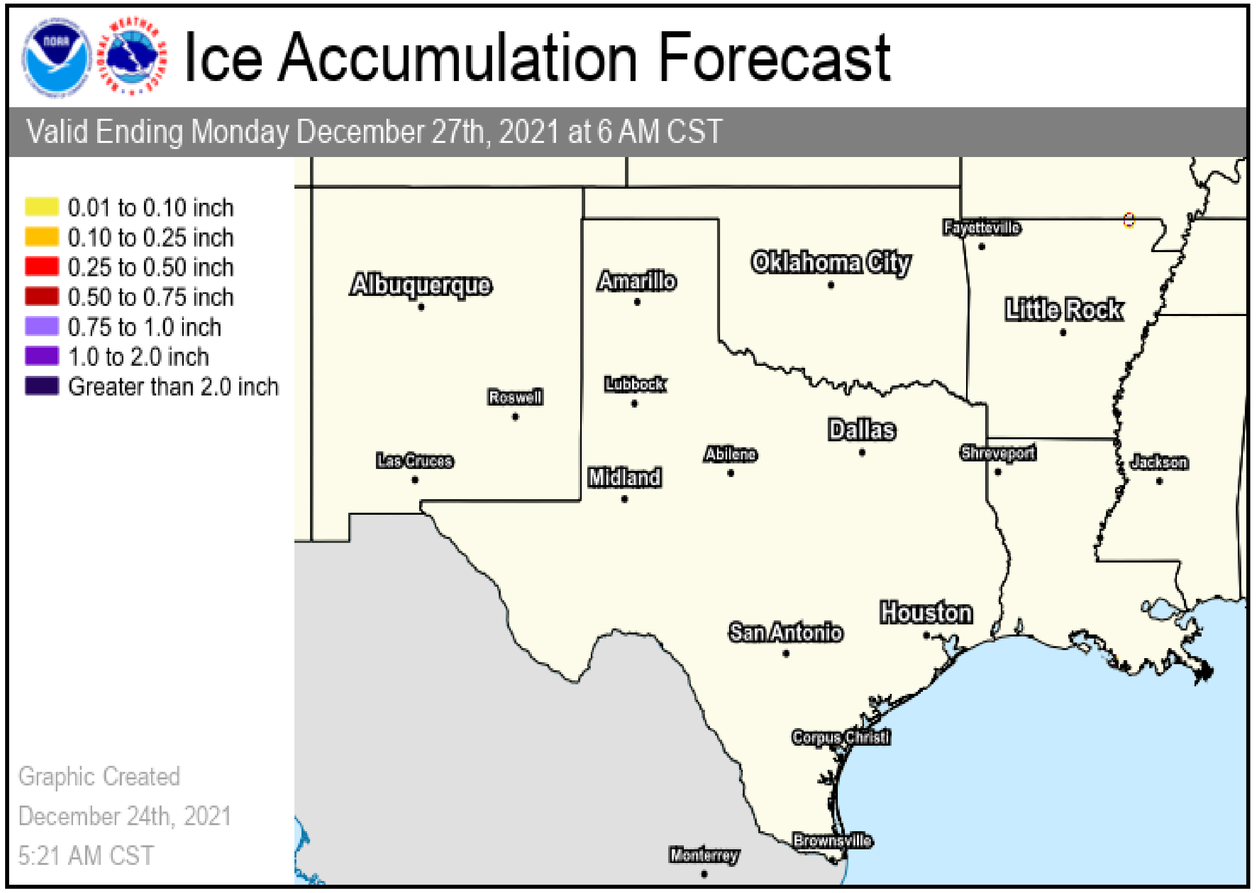
Winter Weather

Friday - Sunday

Forecast Snow Amounts

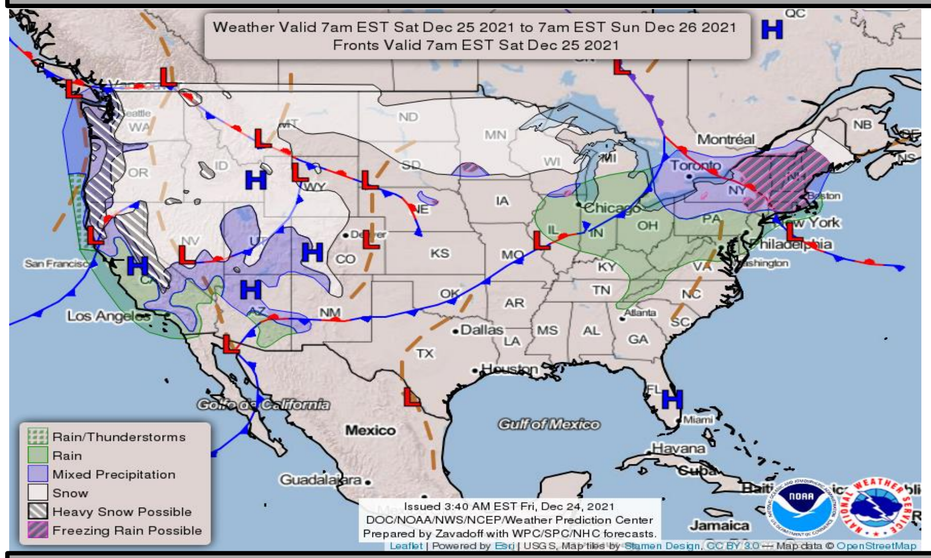


Forecast Ice Amounts

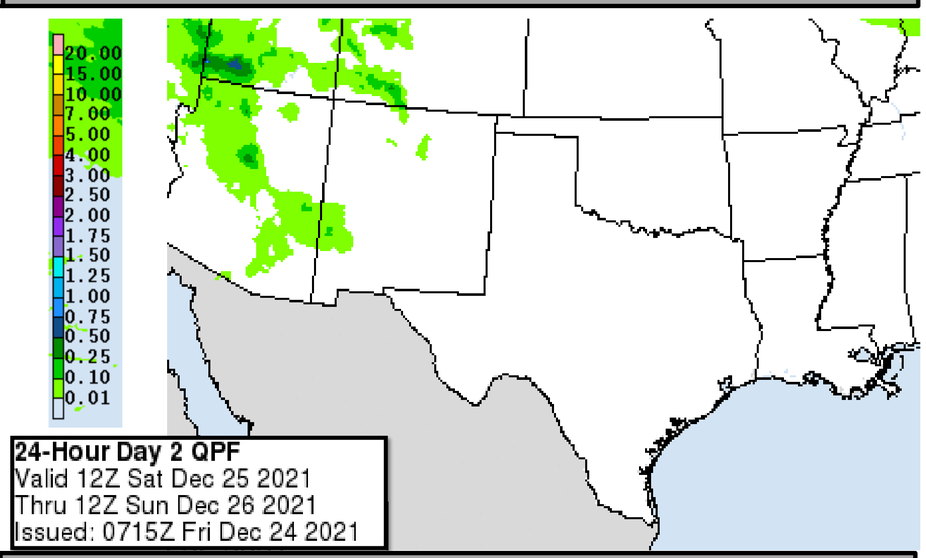


Tomorrow's Weather

Forecast Chart

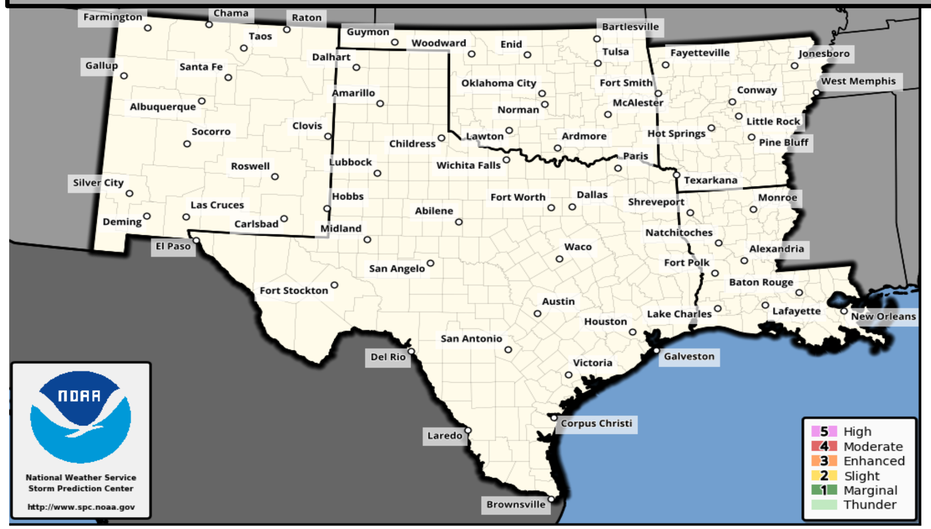


Forecast Rainfall

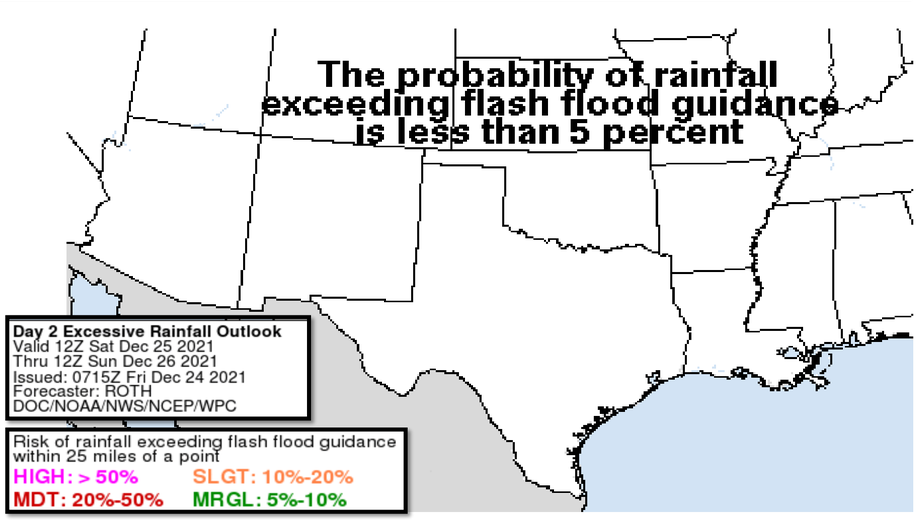


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

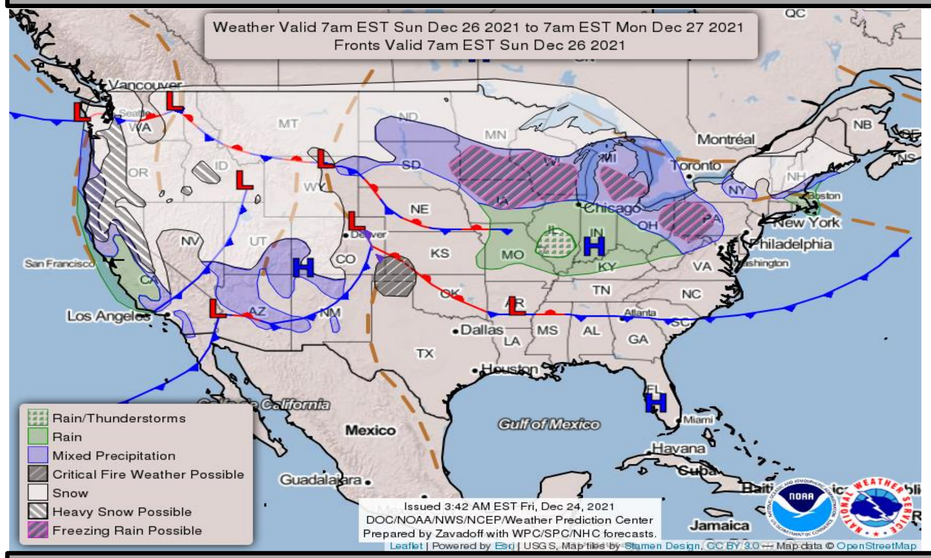


Excessive Rainfall Outlook

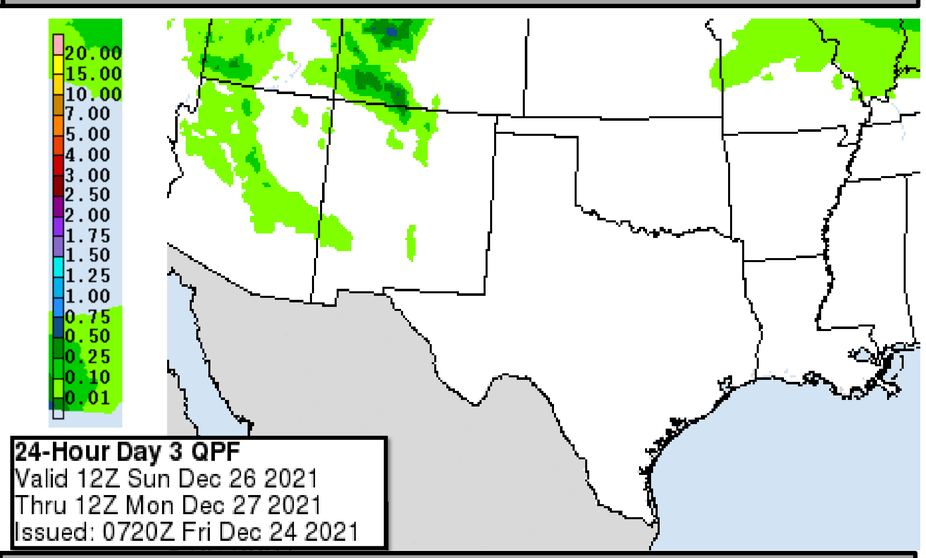


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

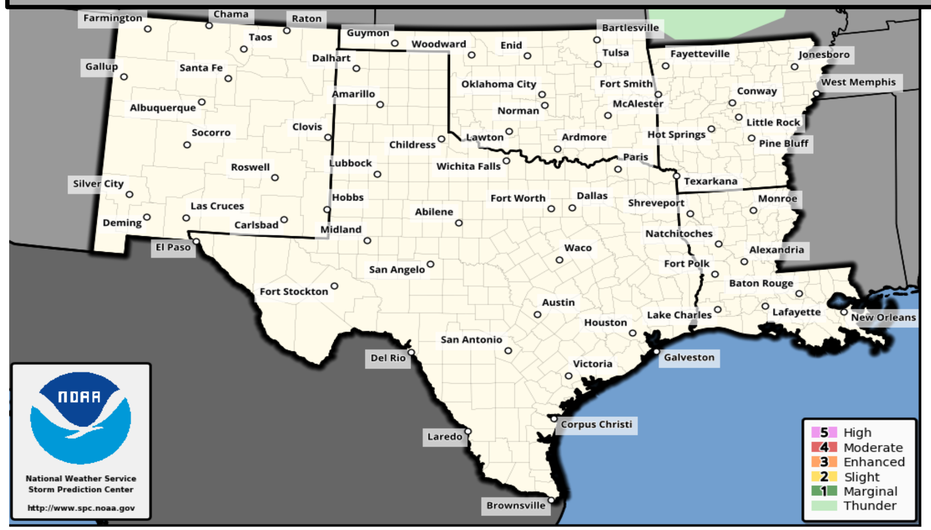


Forecast Rainfall

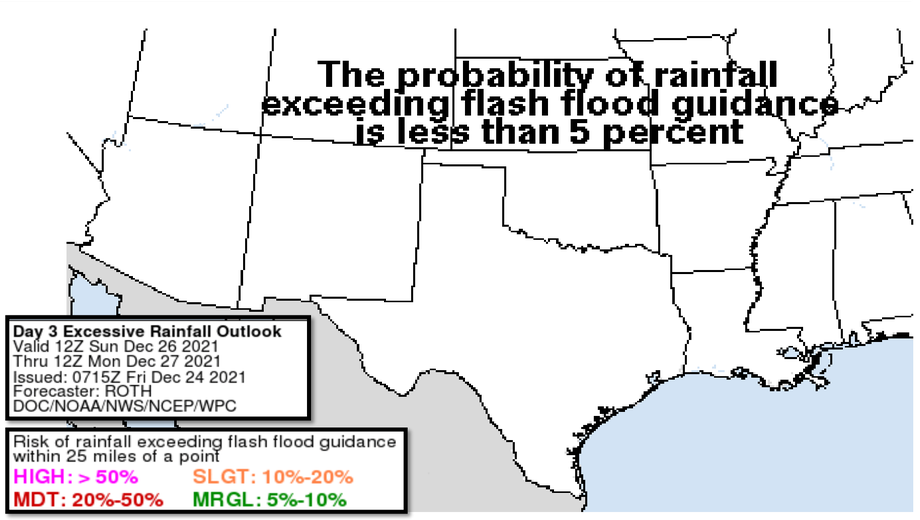


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

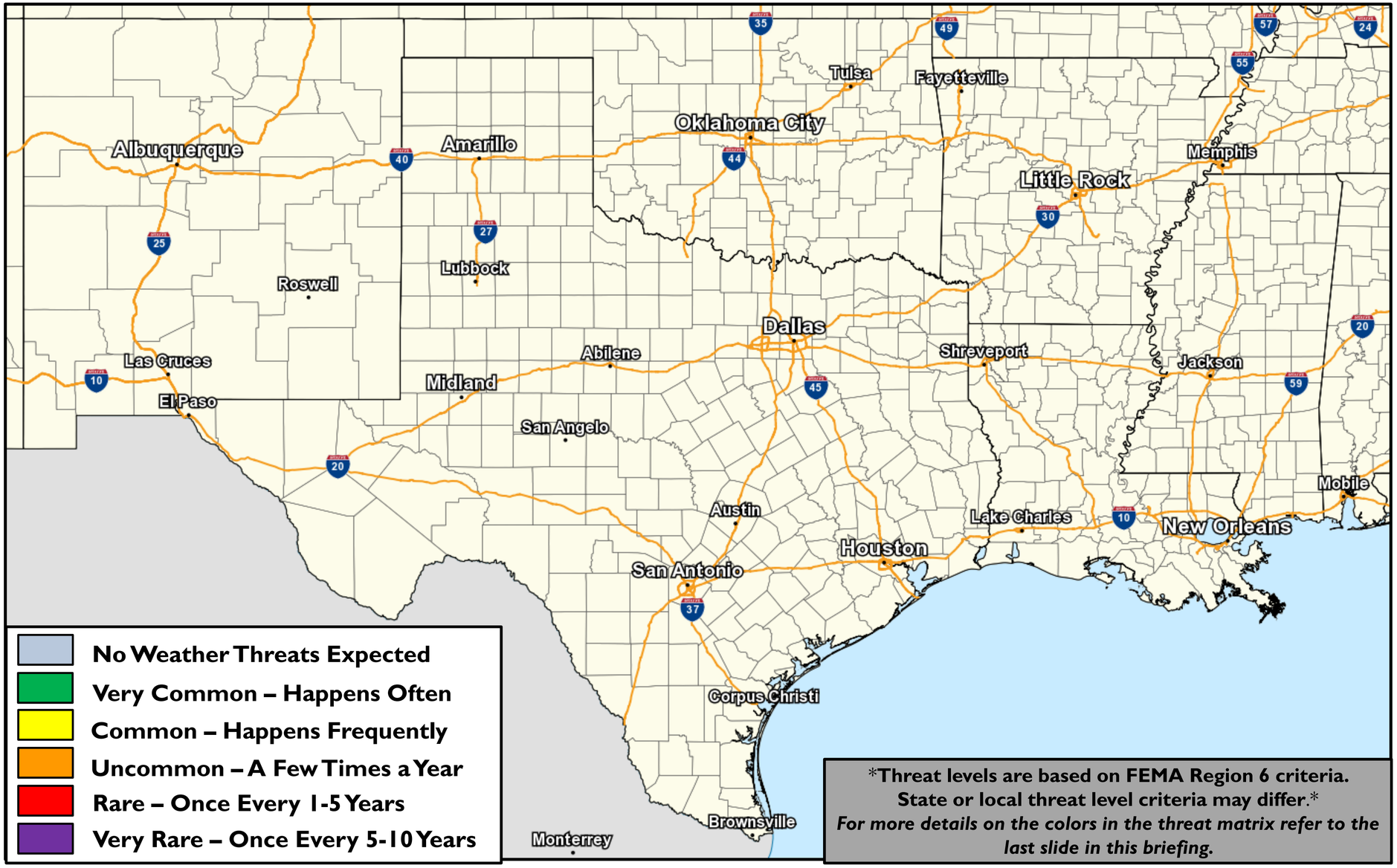


Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Monday - Tuesday



No Weather Threats Expected
Very Common – Happens Often
Common – Happens Frequently
Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

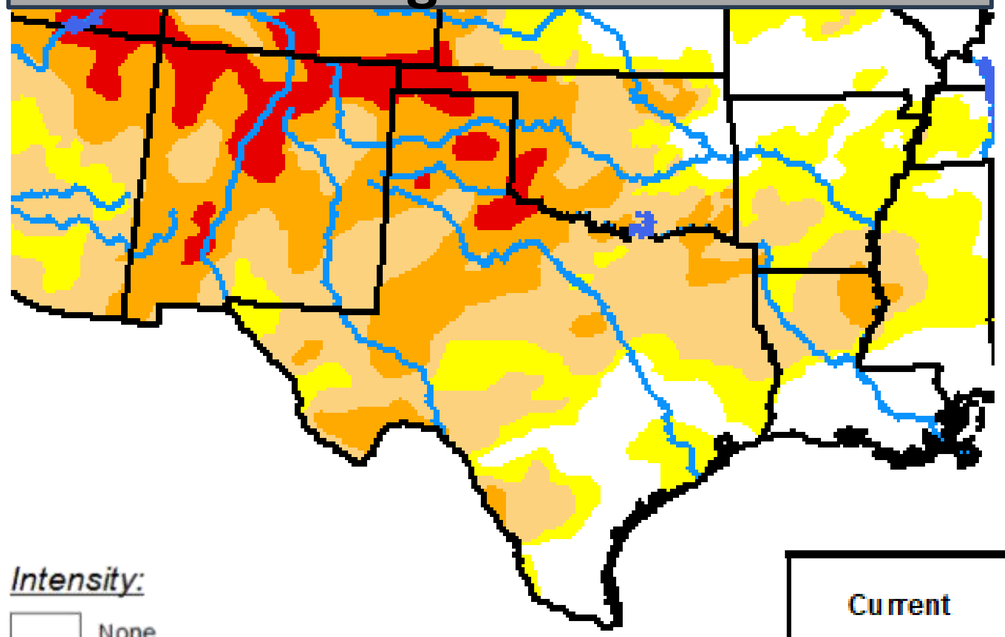
*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

No significant weather impacts expected.

Drought Monitor (Released Dec 23, 2021)

Data valid as of 8 am ET on Tuesday, December 21, 2021

Drought Monitor

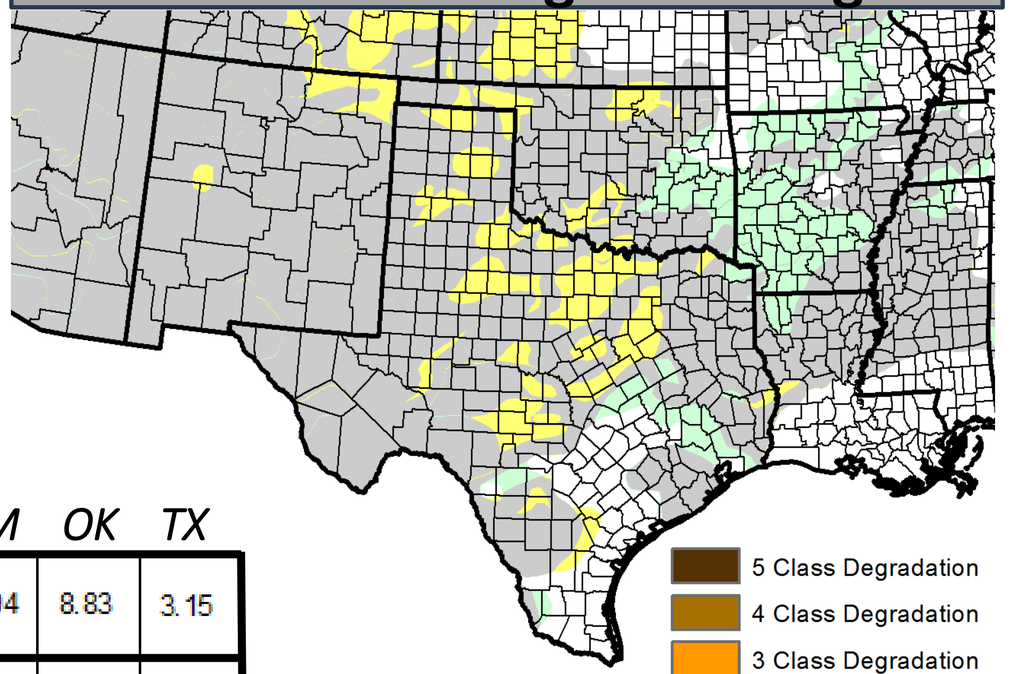


Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

One Week Change in Drought



- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

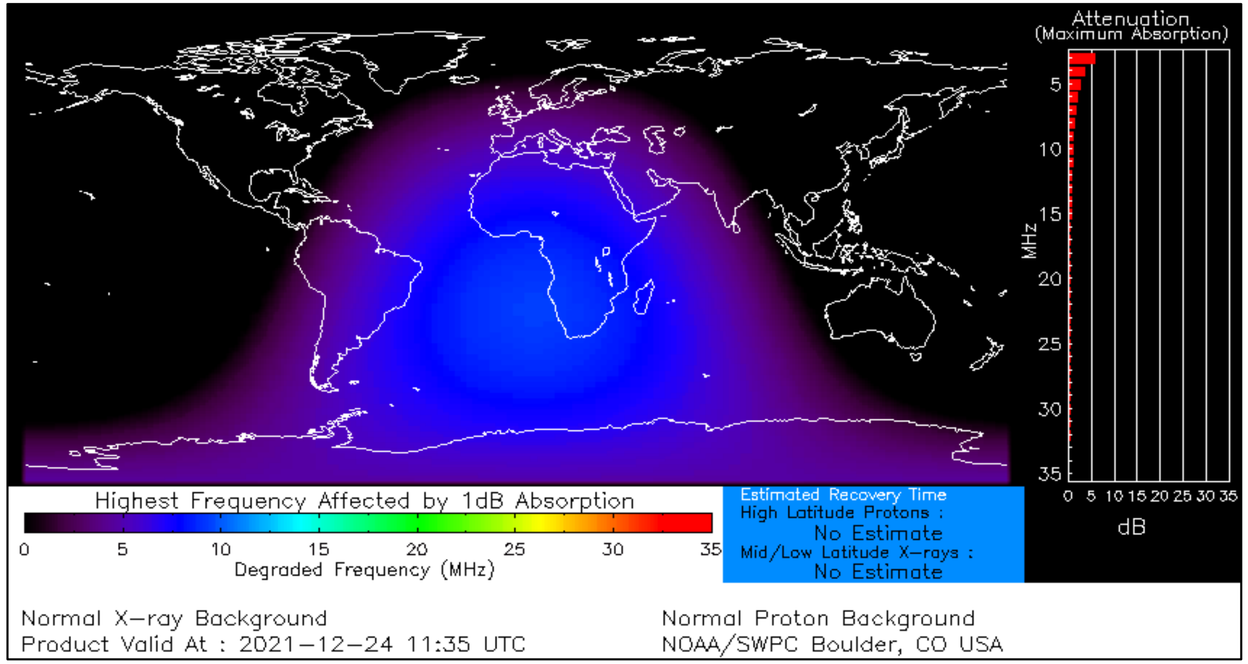
	AR	*LA*	*NM*	*OK*	*TX*
Current	0.00	0.00	22.94	8.83	3.15
Last Week *12-14-2021*	0.00	0.00	19.25	8.22	0.50
3 Months Ago *09-21-2021*	0.00	0.00	19.12	0.17	0.00
One Year Ago *12-22-2020*	0.00	0.00	82.26	1.45	29.51

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

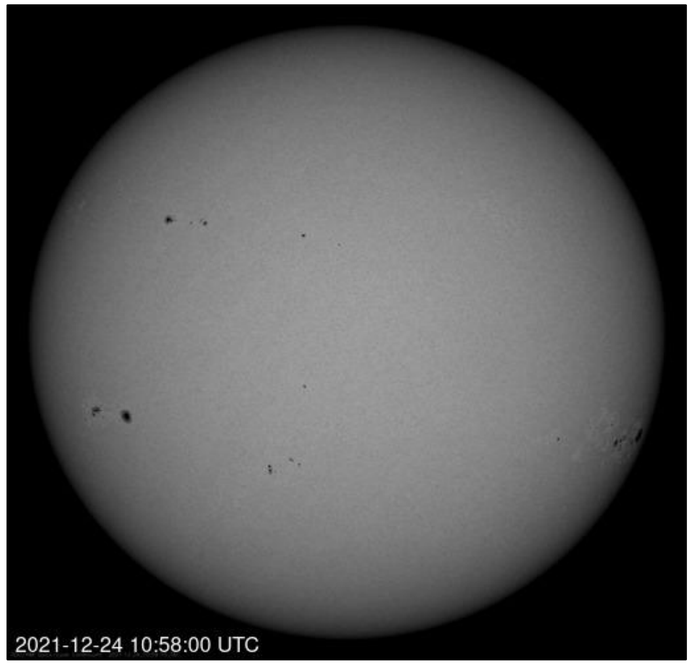
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Minor (G1) Storm (Max Kp = 5)	Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	10%	10%	10%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	25%	25%	25%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	10%	10%	10%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales]

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text]



For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: http://www.weather.gov/srh

@NWSSouthern https://twitter.com/NWSSouthern

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Weather "Threat" Matrix for FEMA Region VI			
Color	**Definition**	**Criteria**	**Example(s)**
Green	**Very Common** 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 sea breeze storms in coastal TX
Yellow	**Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently** 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	**Uncommon – A Few Times a Year** 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	**Rare – Once every 1-5 Years** 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	**Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years** 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 sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.