



FEMA



Prepared by
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FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, March 17, 2025

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
Southern Region



Summary

- **Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns today for NM, OK and much of TX. Extreme (level 3 of 3) fire weather concerns in W OK, TX/OK Panhandle this afternoon.**
- **Critical to Extreme (levels 2-3 of 3) fire weather concerns tomorrow afternoon in NM, W TX, and W OK.**
- **Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns continue through the week for much of NM, OK, and TX for the rest of this week.**
- **Slight risk (level 2 of 5) for severe weather Sunday for SE OK, AR, NE TX, and N LA.**
- **Isolated minor river flooding in AR and LA will end by tonight, but continue across E TX through the remainder of the week.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Monday, Mar 17	Tuesday, Mar 18	Wednesday, Mar 19	Thursday, Mar 20	Friday, Mar 21	Saturday, Mar 22	Monday, Dec 23
Severe Storms						SE OK, AR, NE TX, N LA	
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Fire Weather	NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, SW/W TX	NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK, SW/W TX	SE NM, N/W/STX	E NM, TX Panhandle, W/STX	E NM, OK, N/W TX	E NM, W OK, N/W TX	E NM, W OK, N/W TX
Winter							
River Flooding	ETX, AR, LA	ETX	ETX	ETX	ETX	ETX	

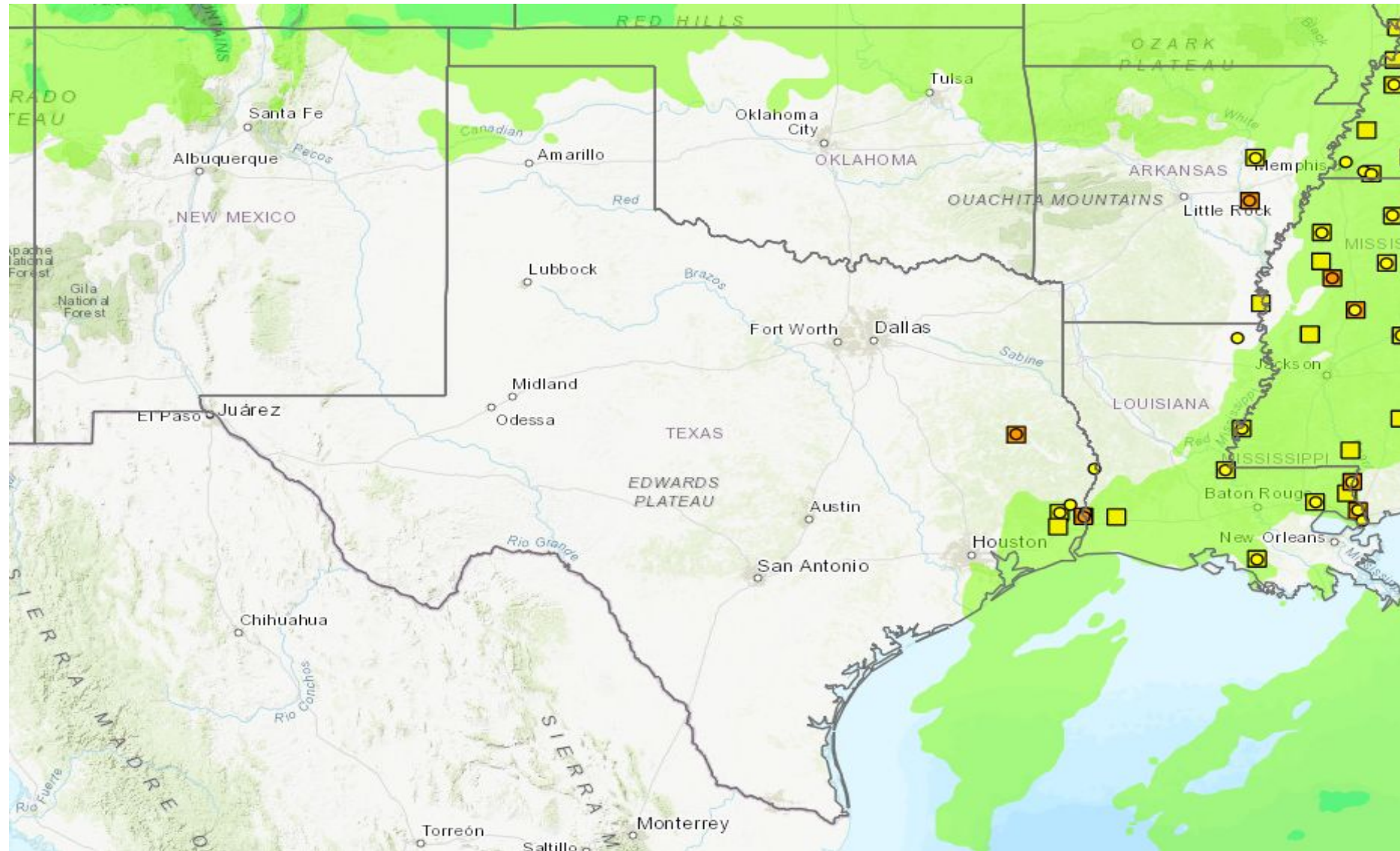
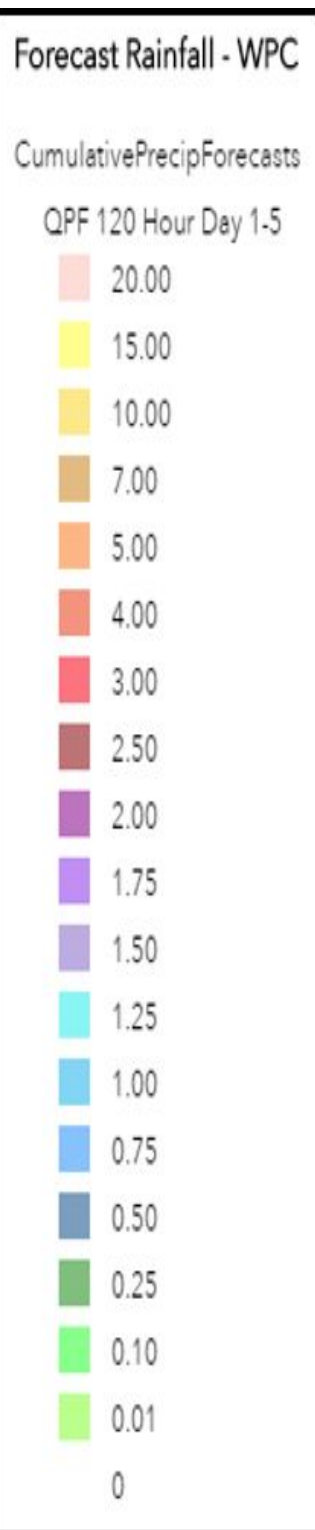
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 4 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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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



Observed River Flood Status	Forecast River Flood Status
Major Flooding	Major Flooding
Moderate Flooding	Moderate Flooding
Minor Flooding	Minor Flooding
Near	Near Flood
action	No Flooding

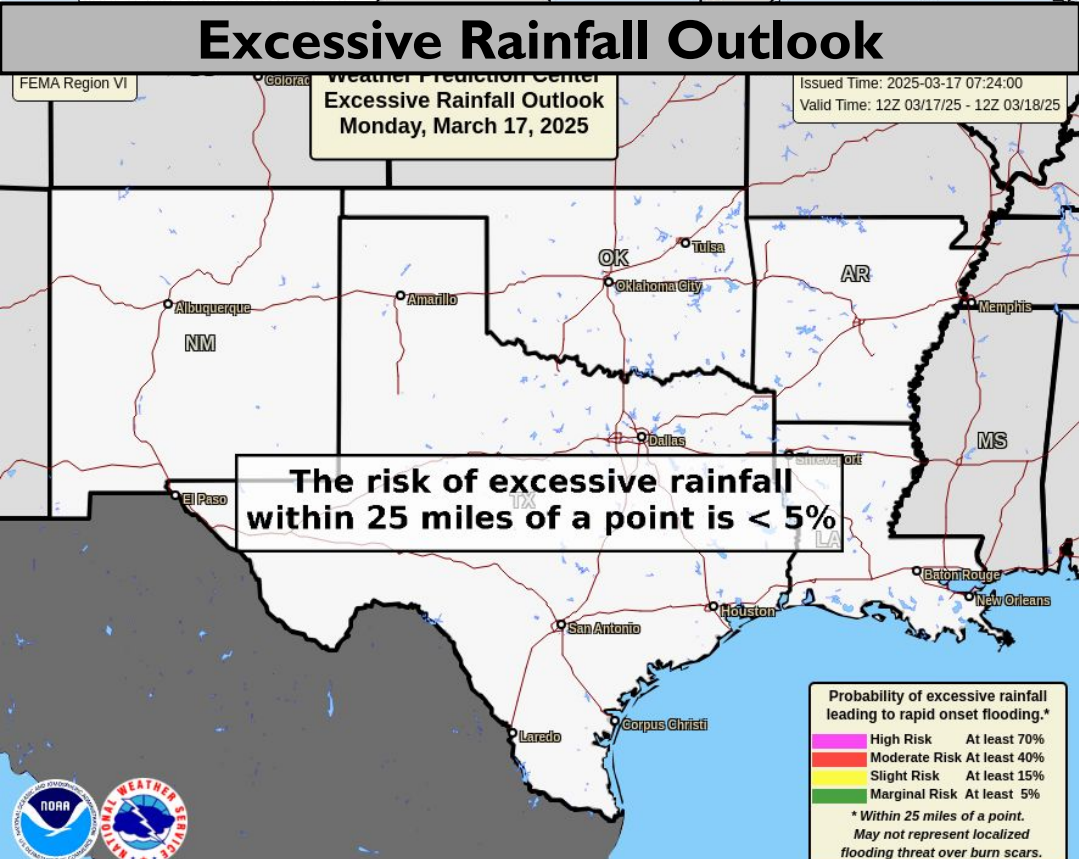
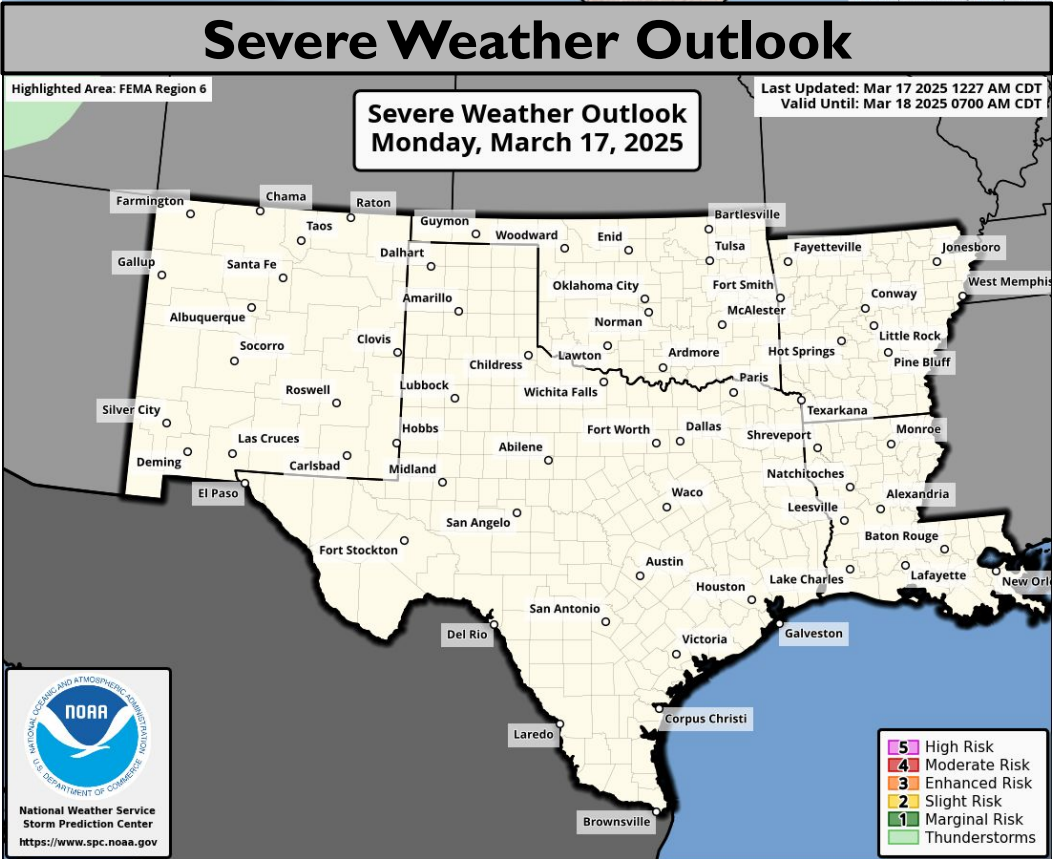
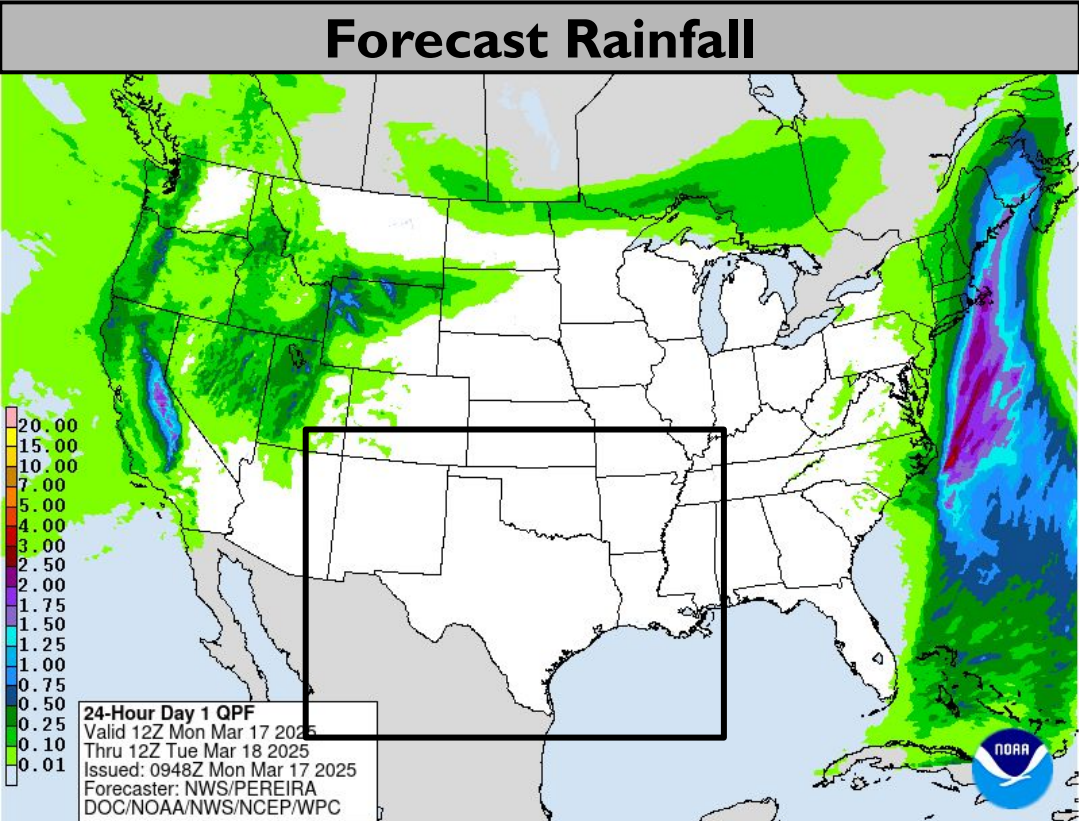
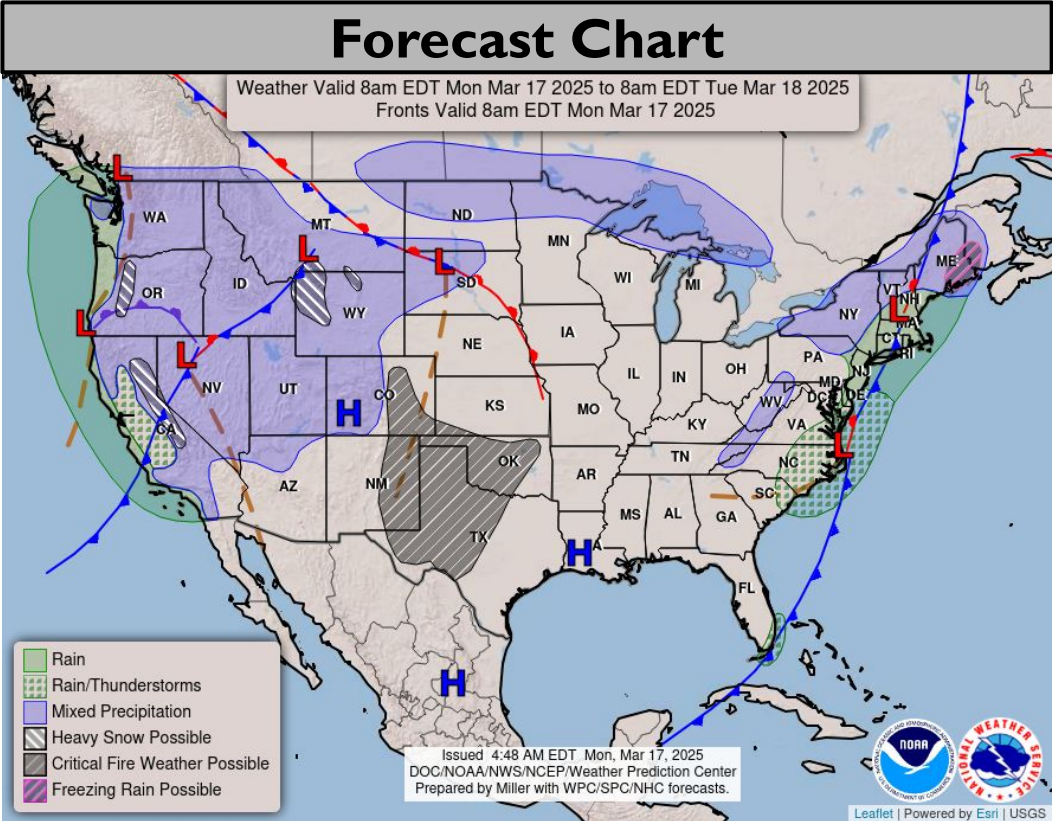
Isolated minor river flooding in AR and LA will end by tonight, but continue across E TX through the remainder of the week.

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



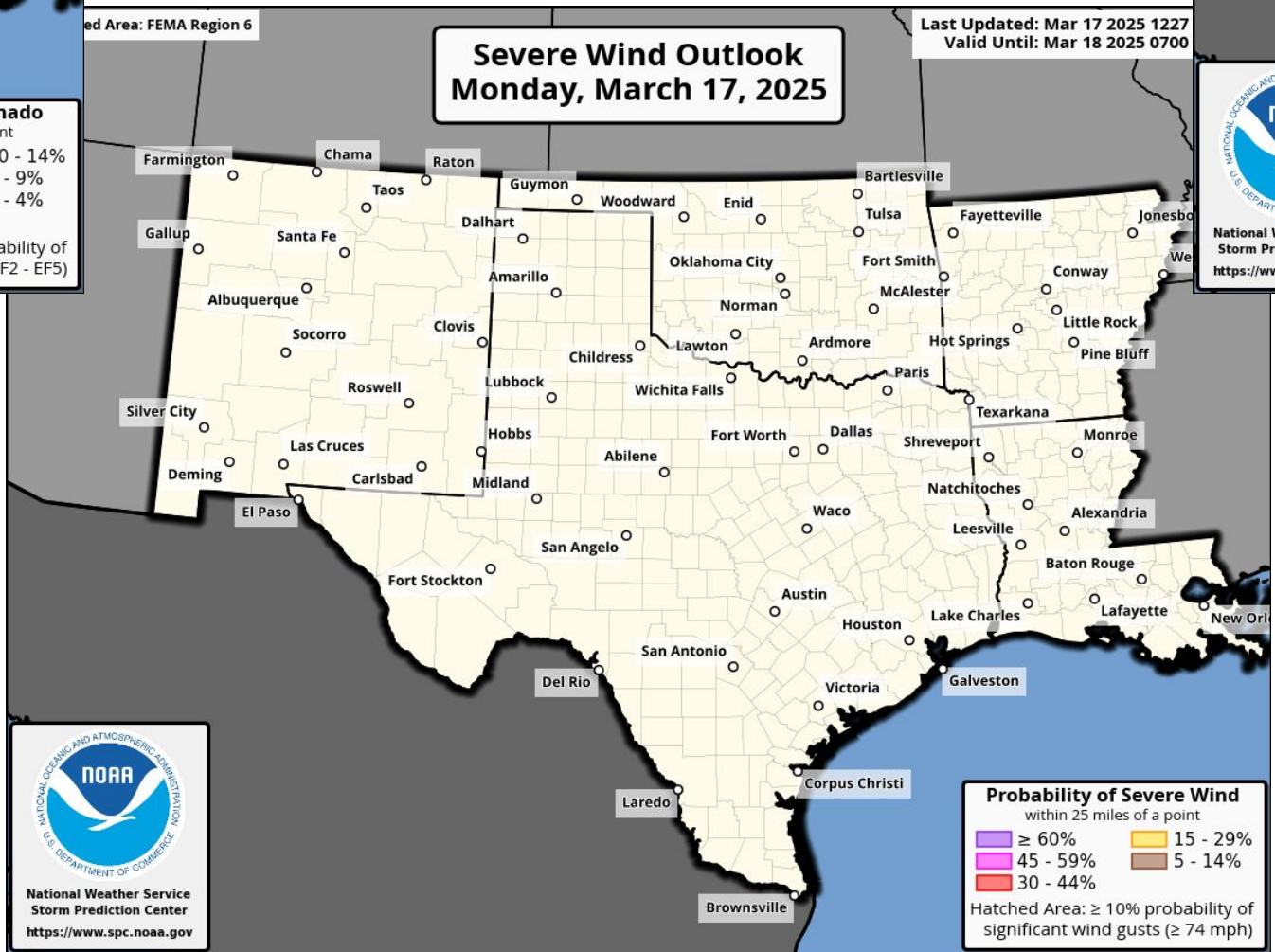
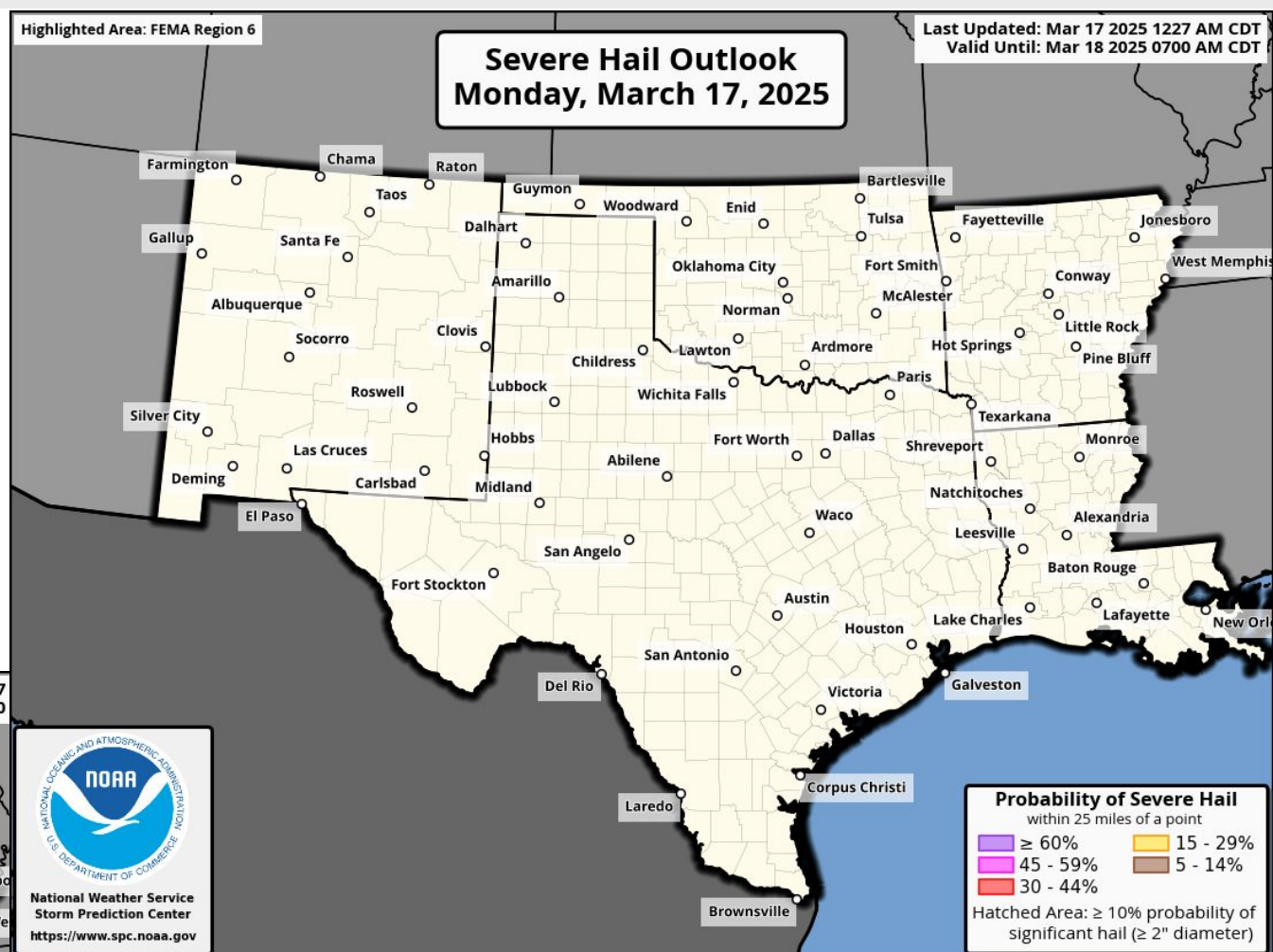
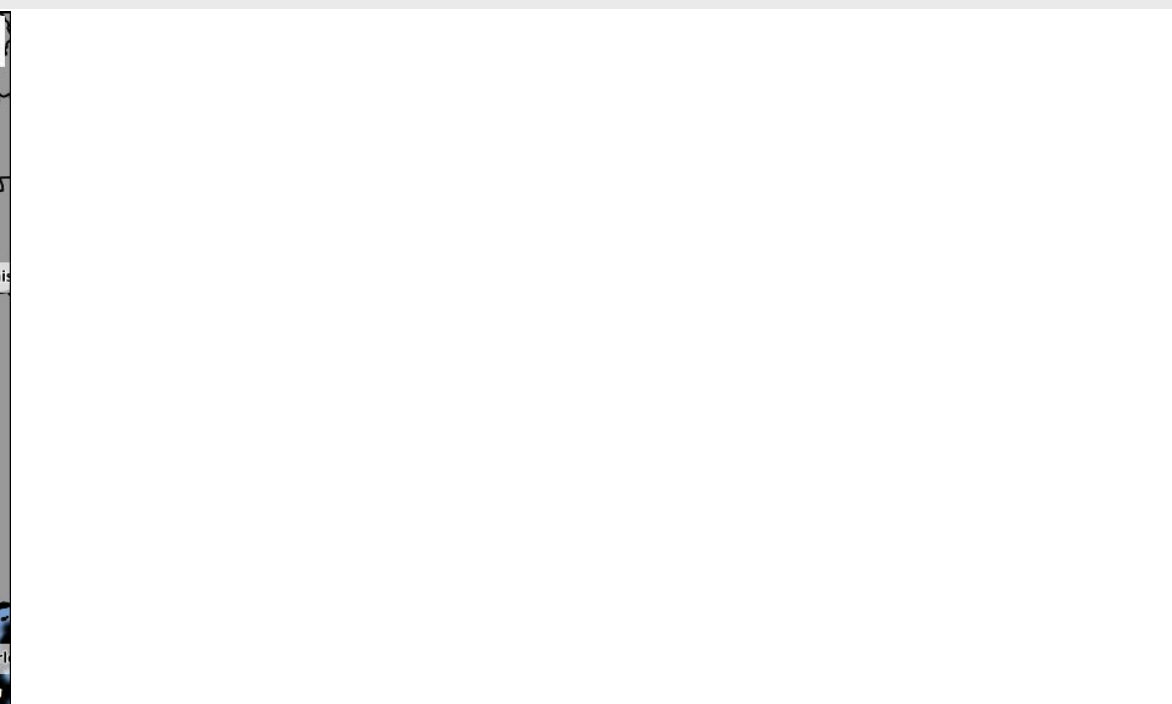
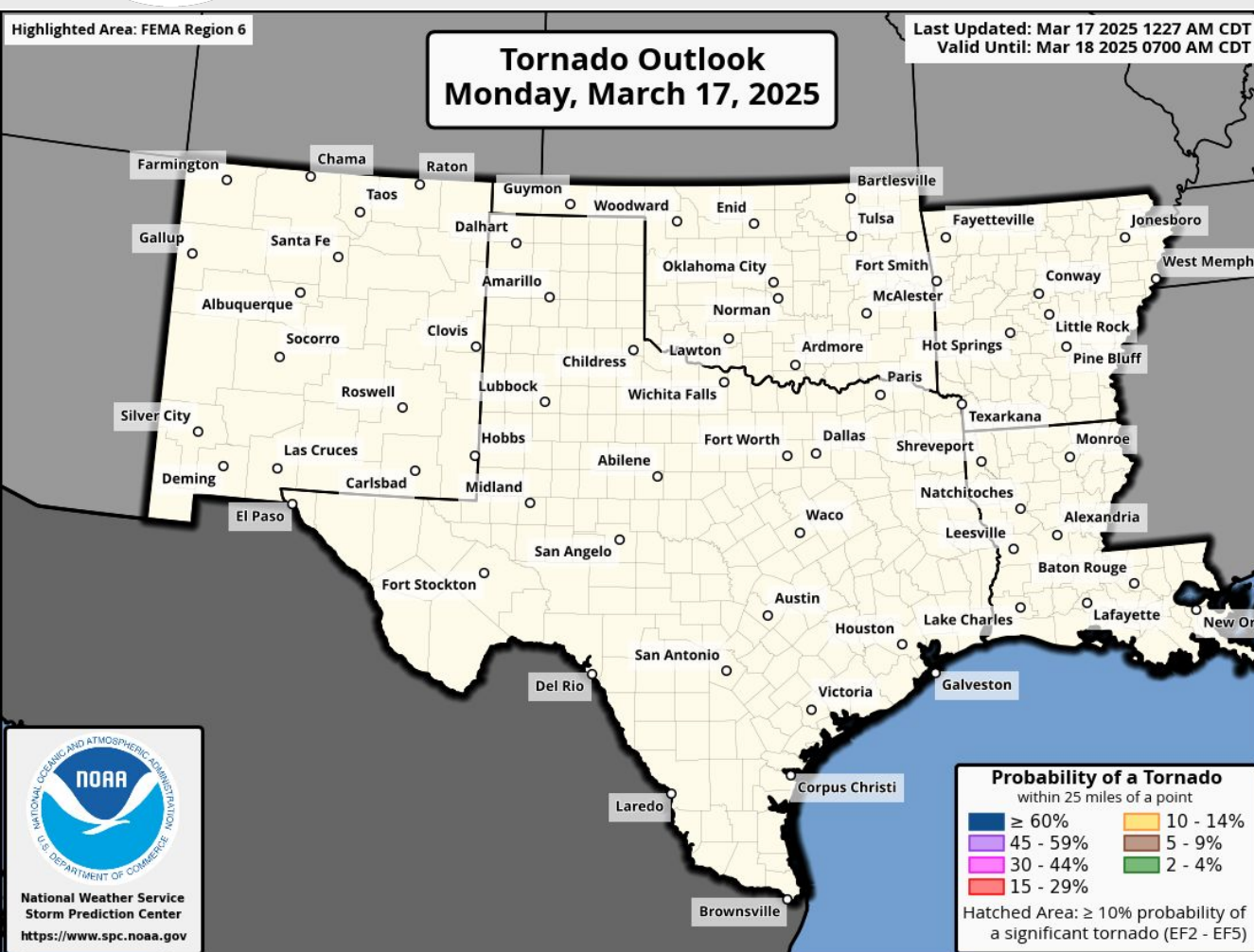
Critical to Extreme (levels 2-3 of 3) fire weather concerns tomorrow afternoon in NM, W TX, and W OK.

Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns today for NM, OK and much of TX.



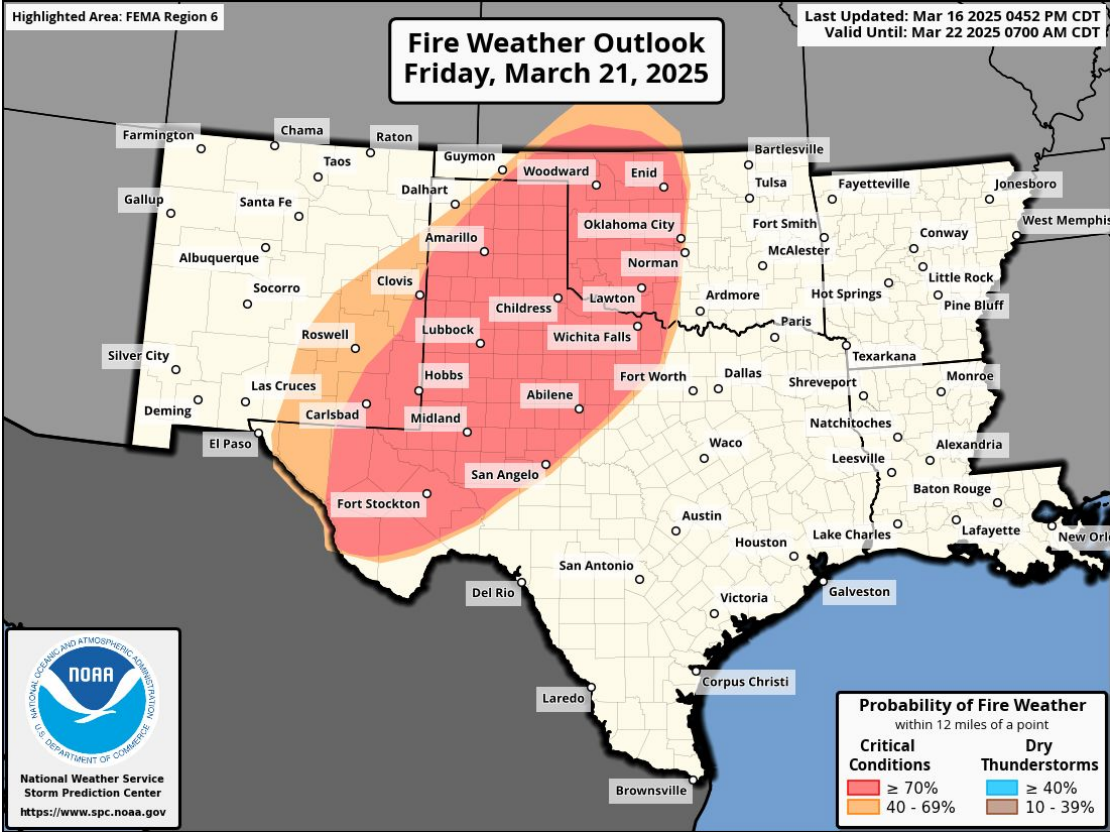
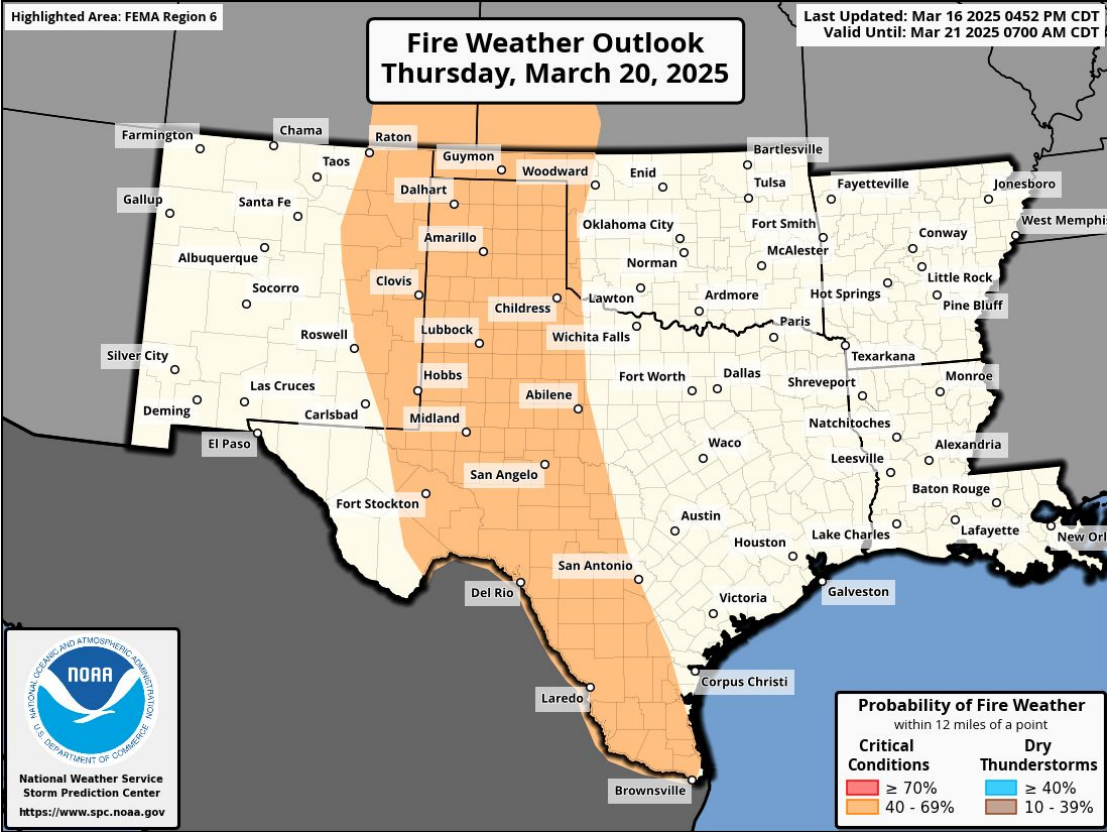
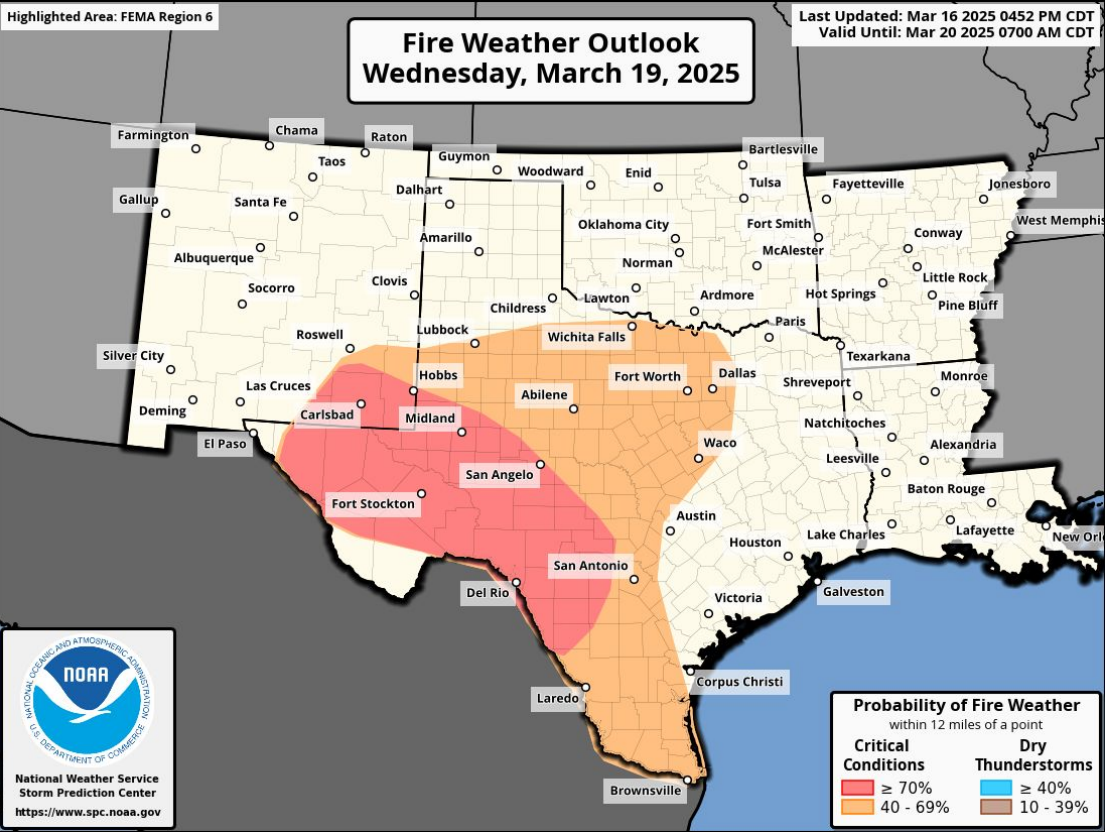
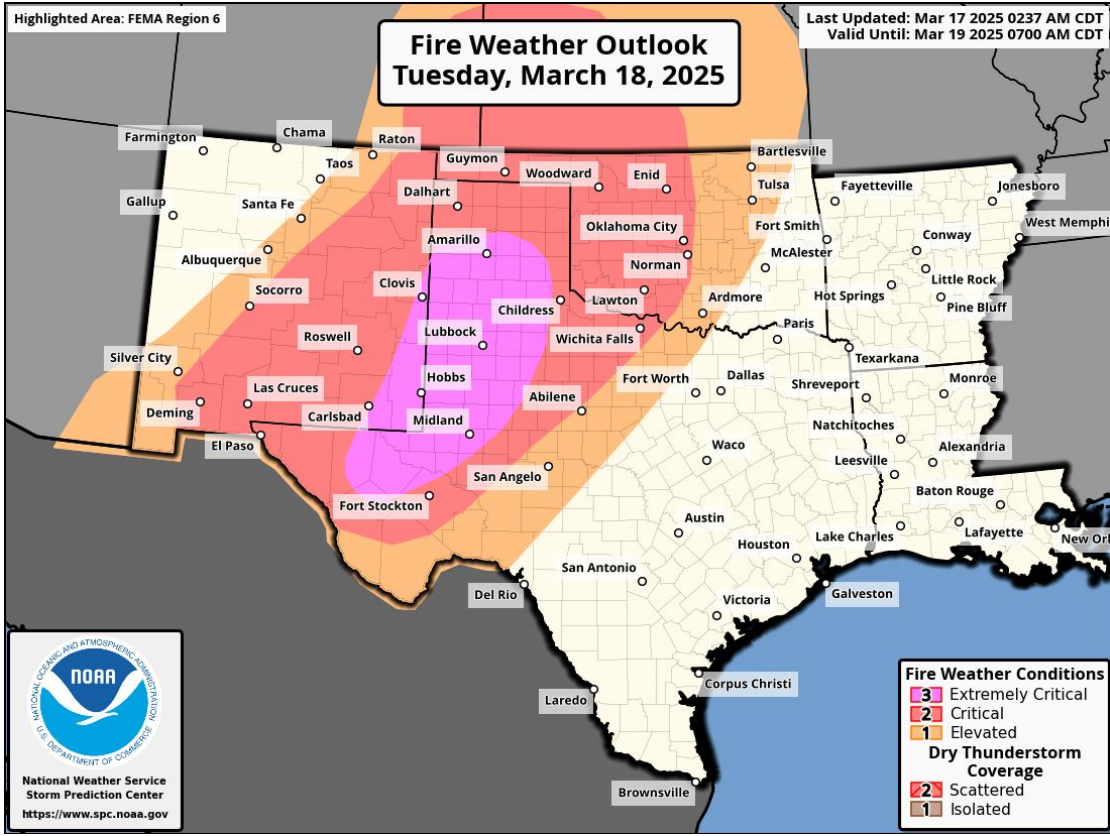
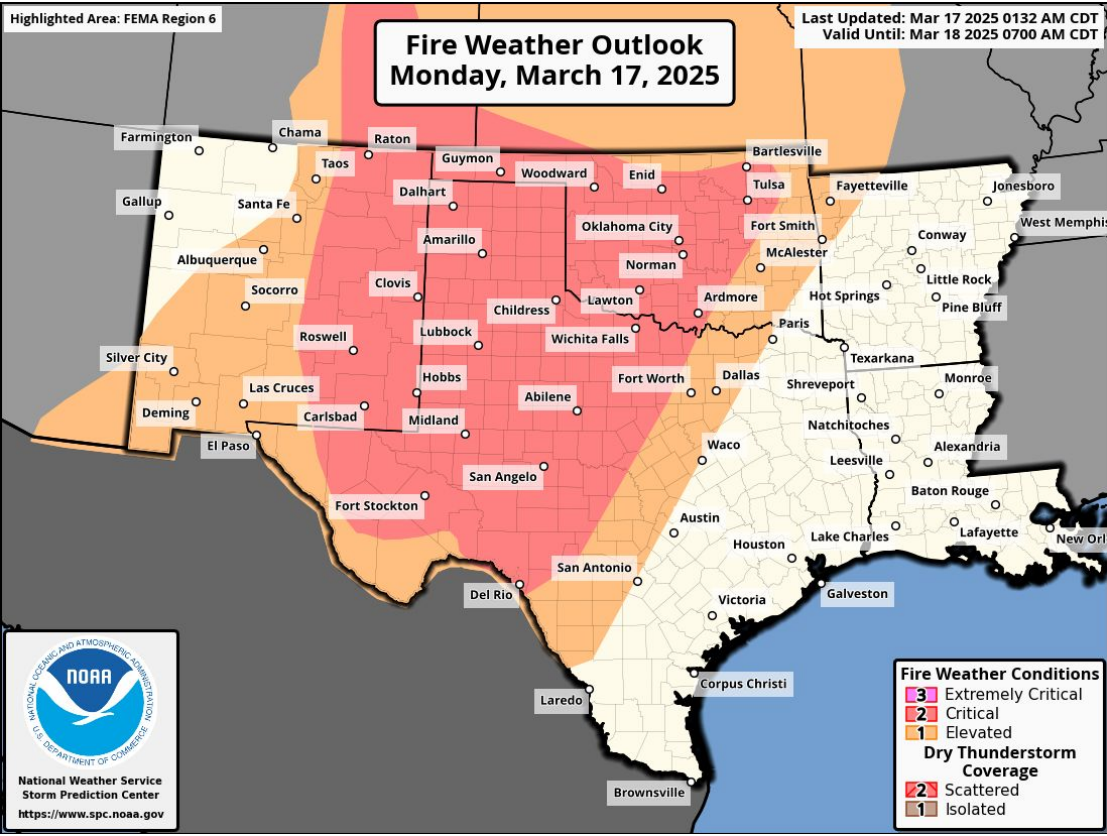
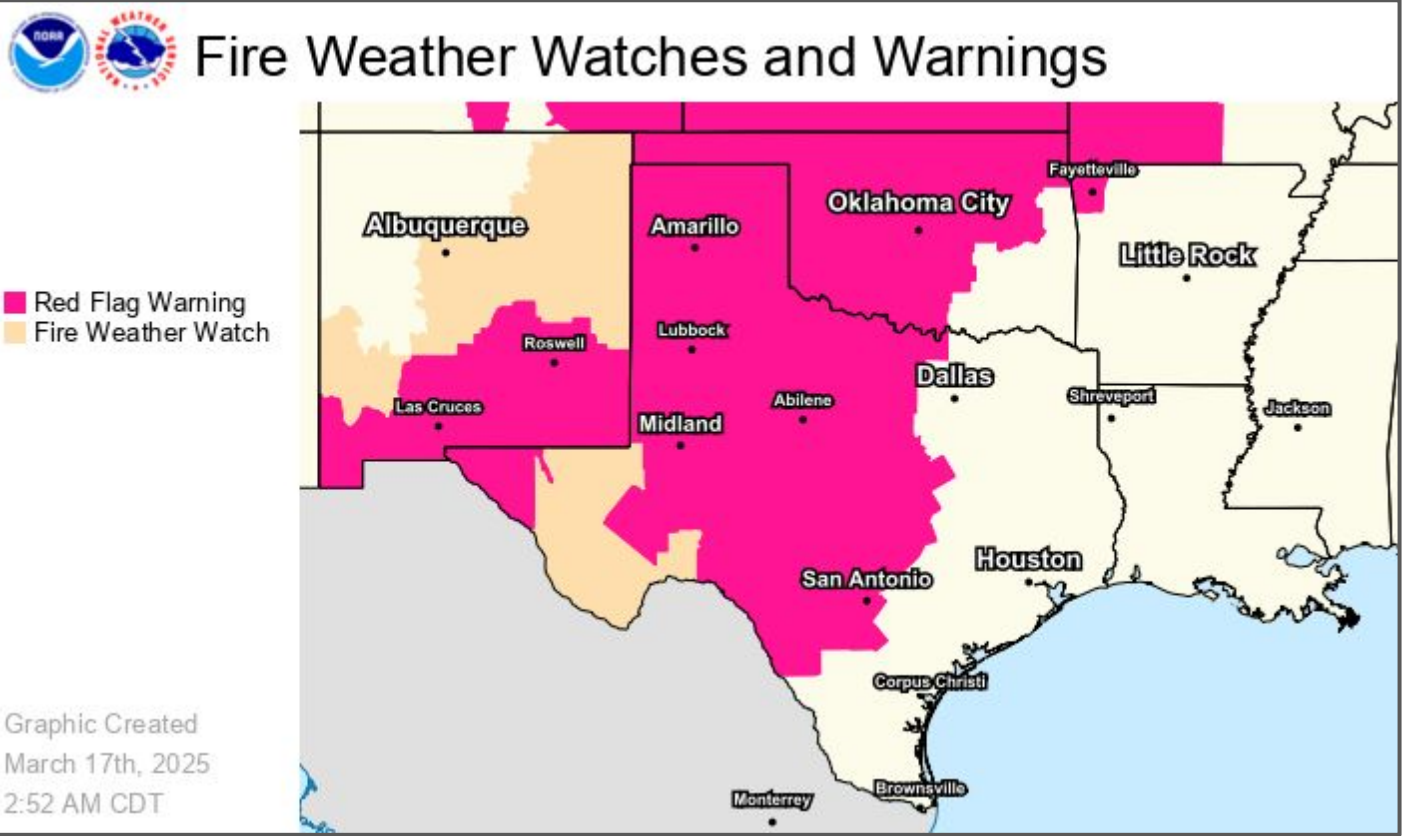


Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





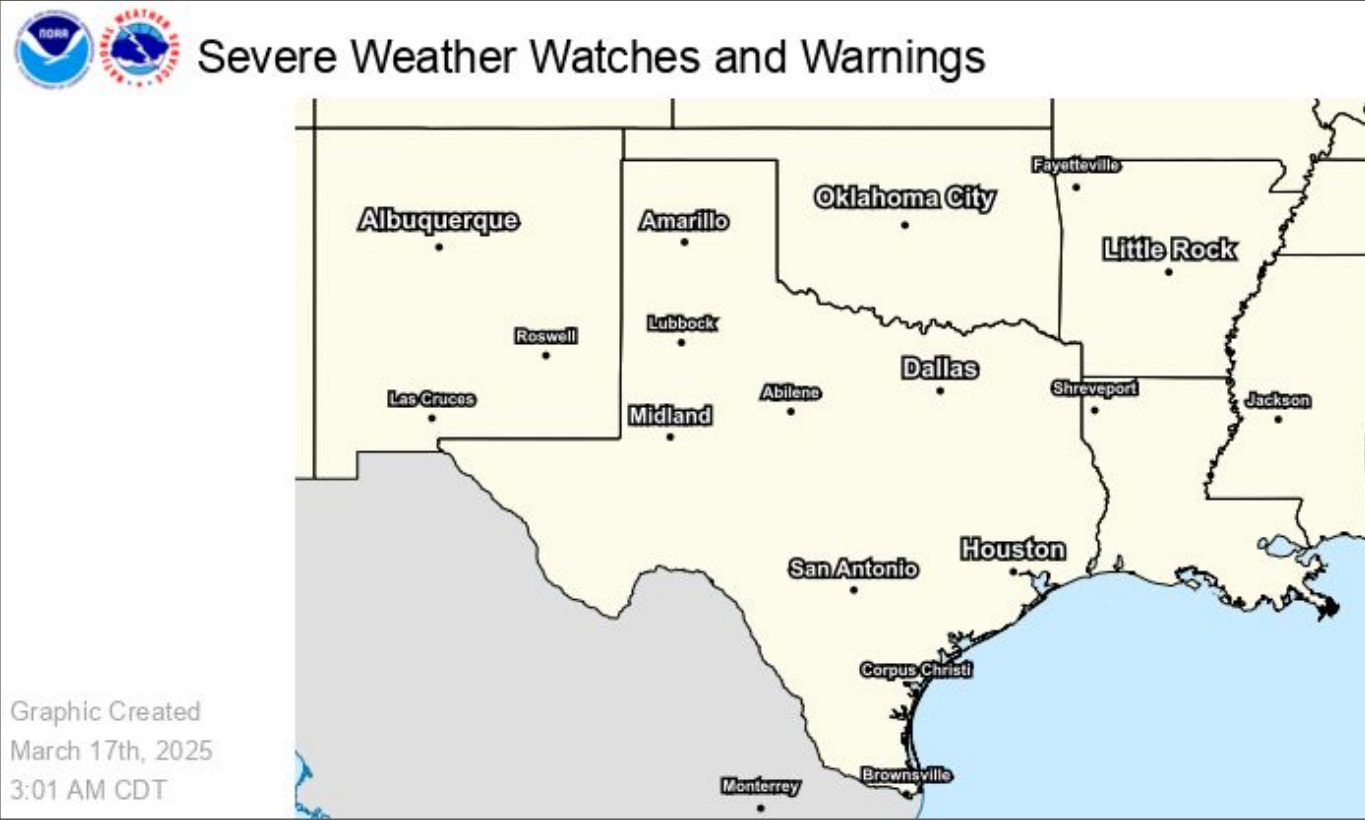
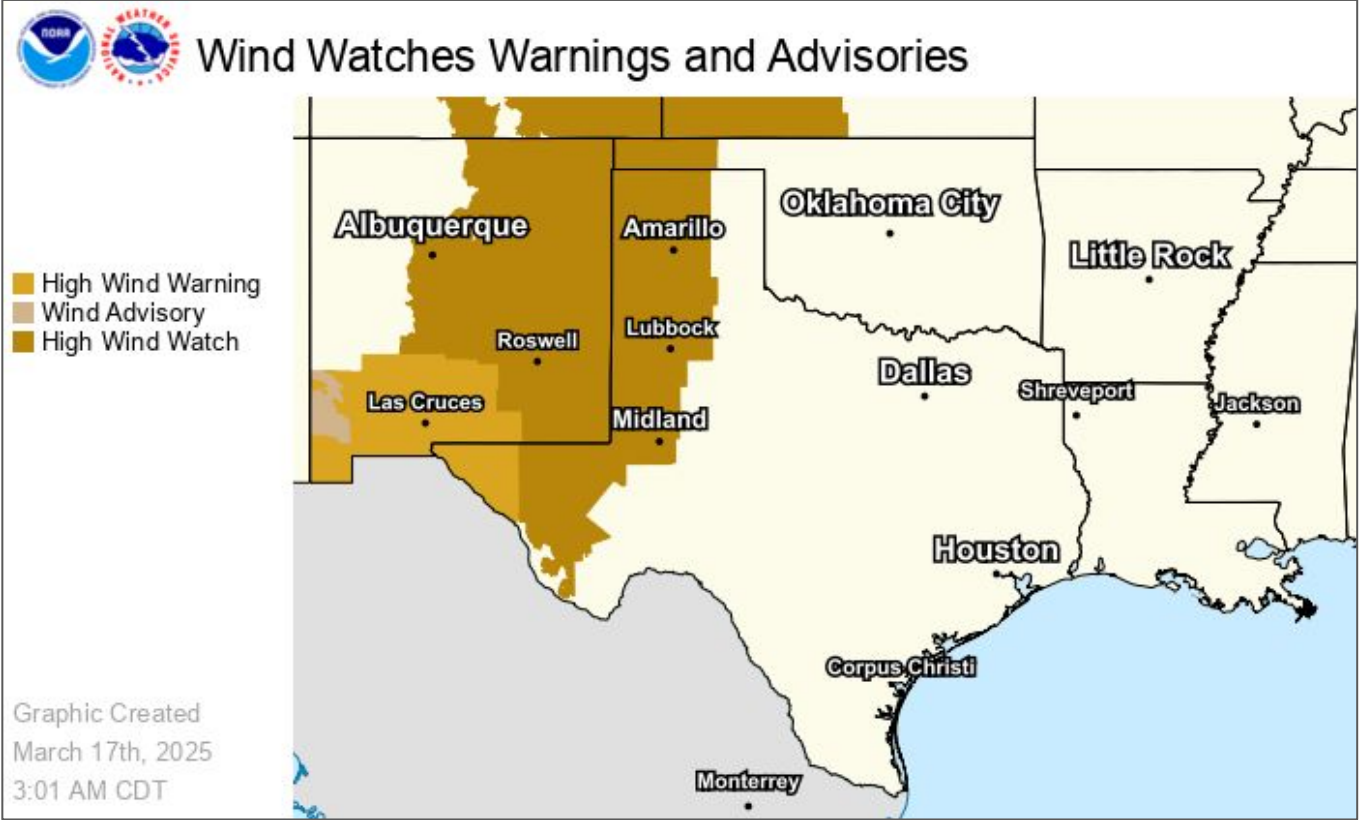
Fire Weather Outlooks





Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Wind, Severe, Winter, and Flood Hazards



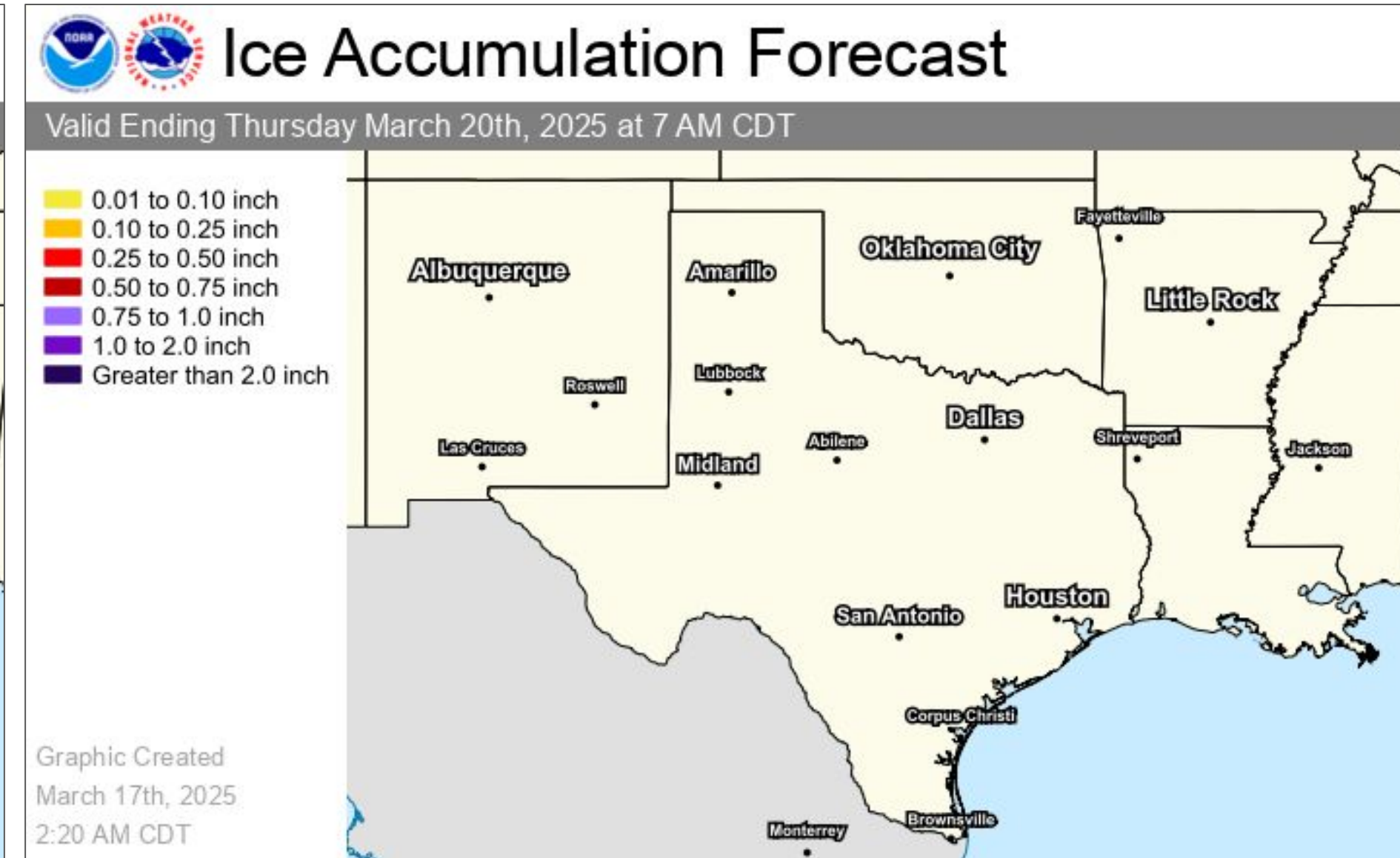
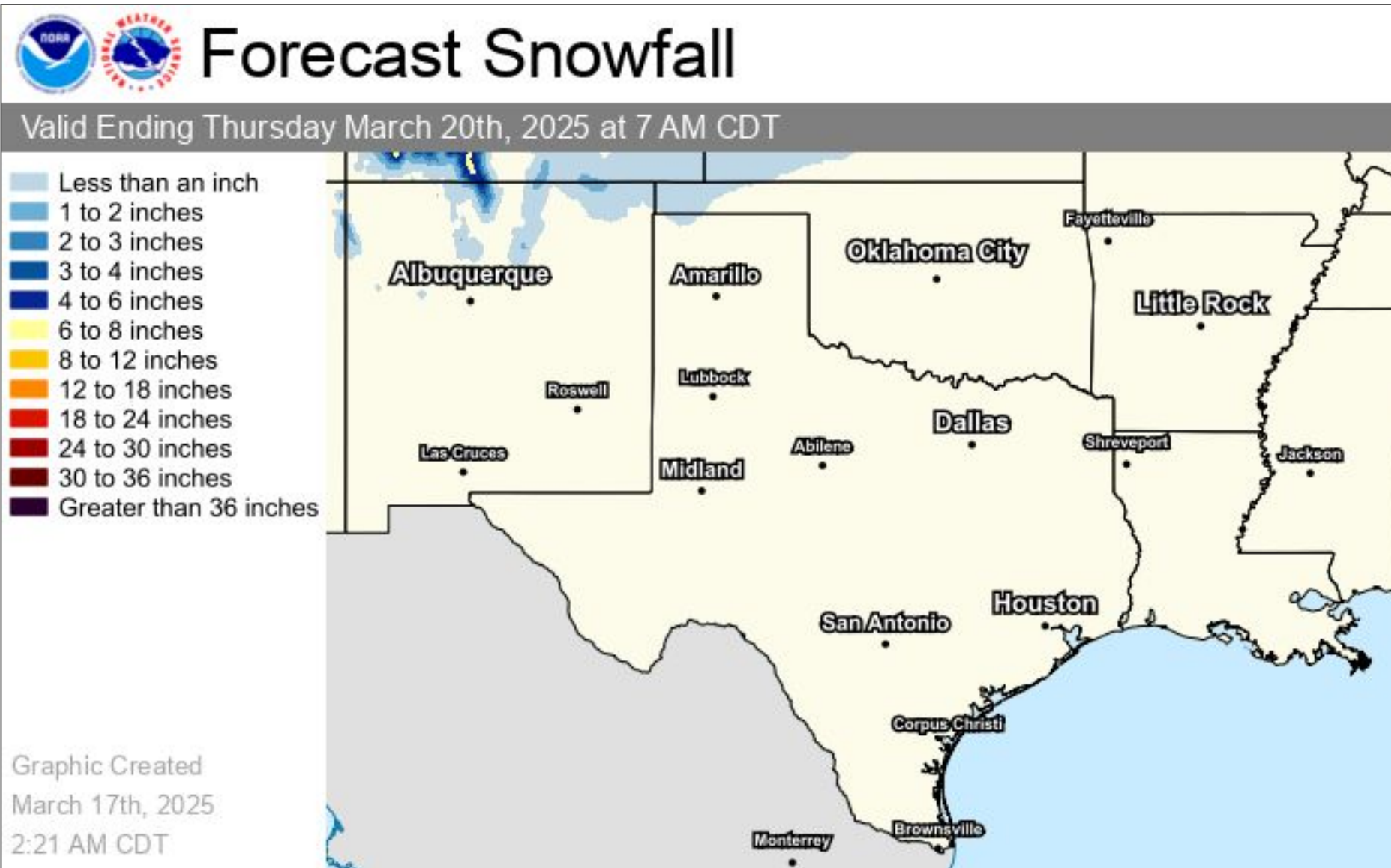
High wind warning in effect in NM for winds 40-50 mph. Gusts of 70-75 mph possible, leading to blowing dust. Valid through 11 PM Tuesday.

High Wind Warning for WTX, OK/TX Panhandle Tuesday morning through Tuesday night. Gusts up to 65 mph expected.



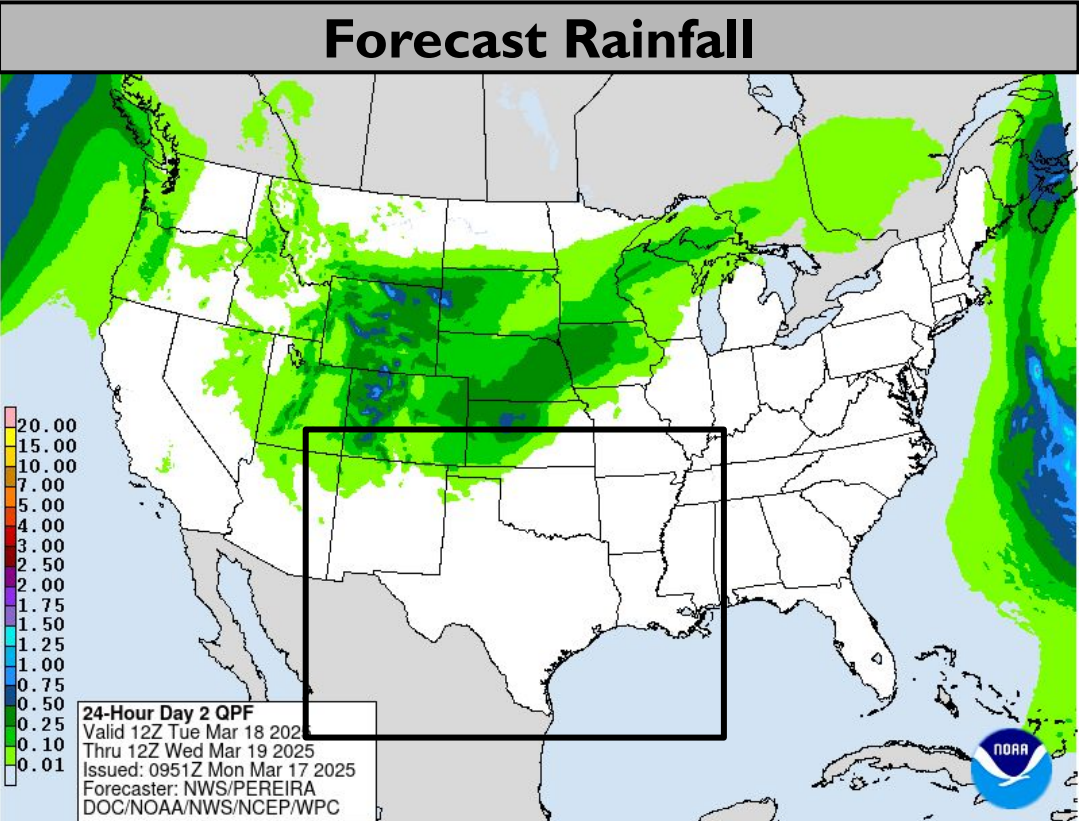
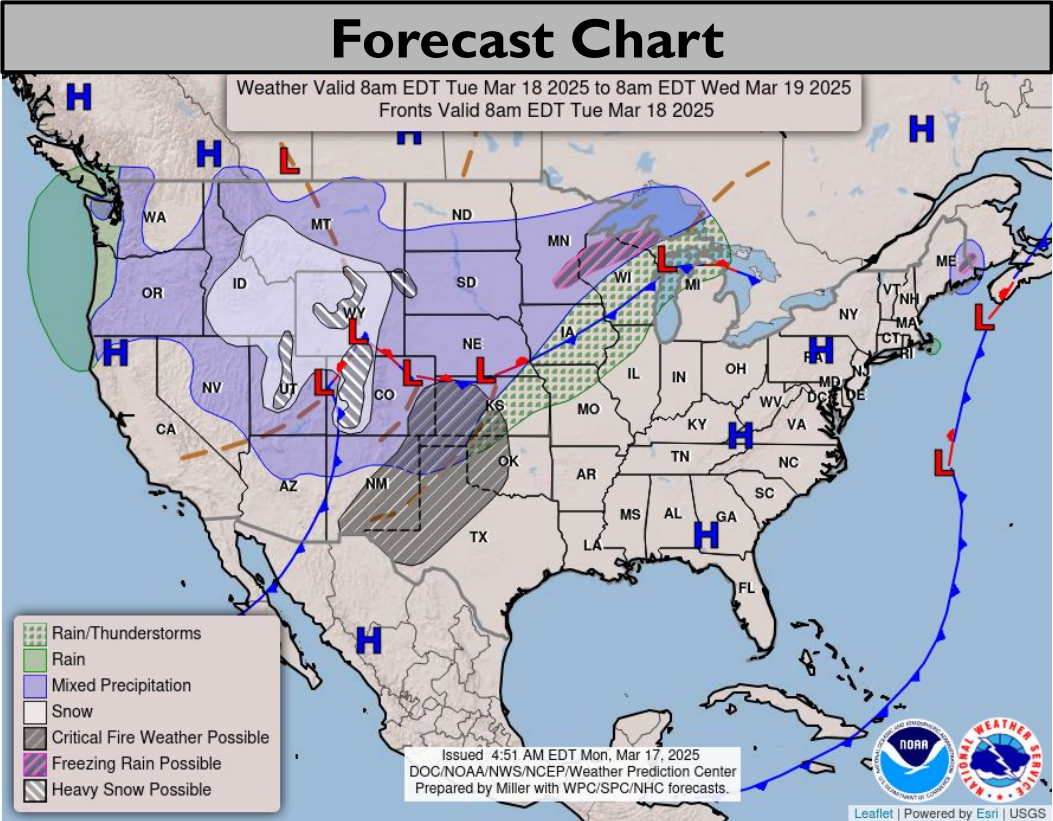
Winter Weather

Through the next 3 days

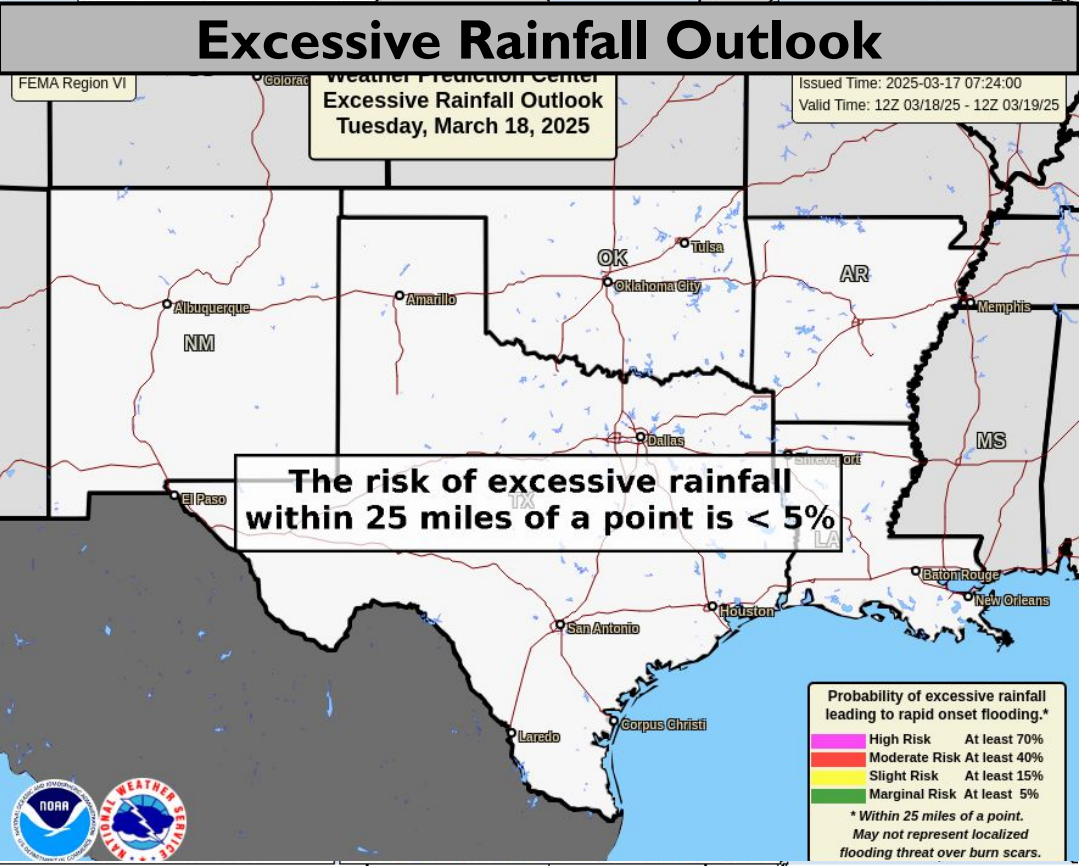
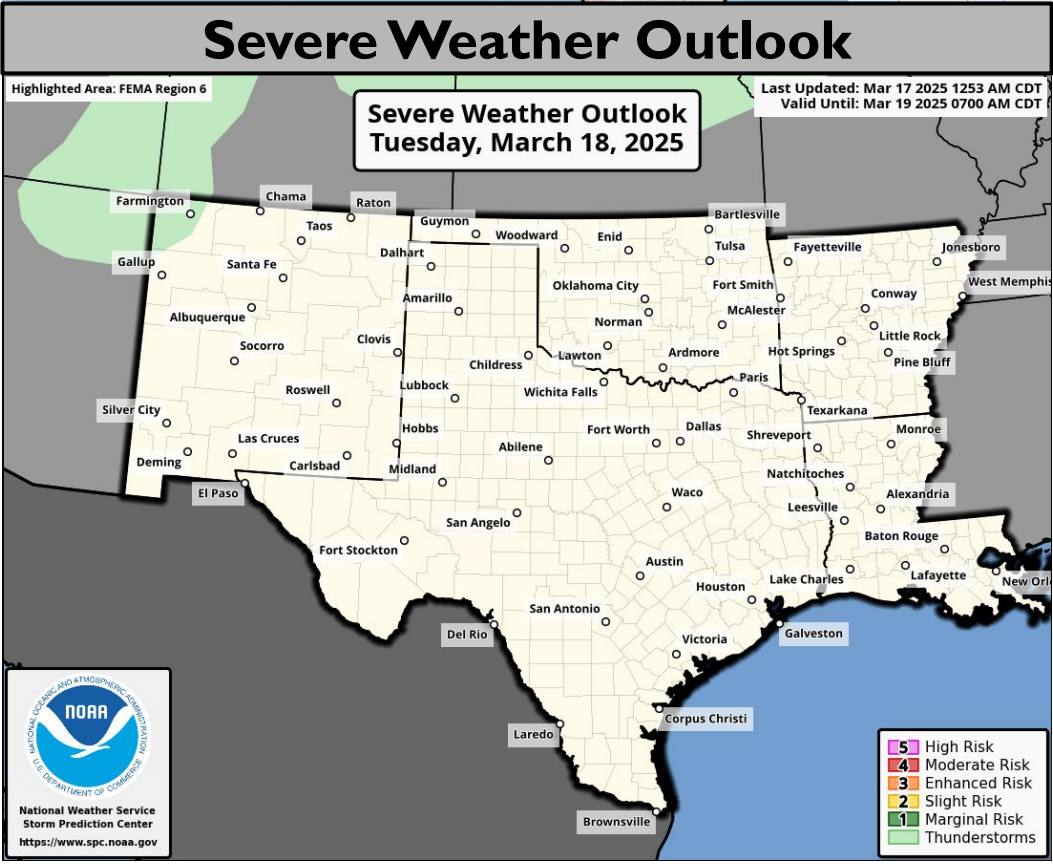




Tomorrow's Weather

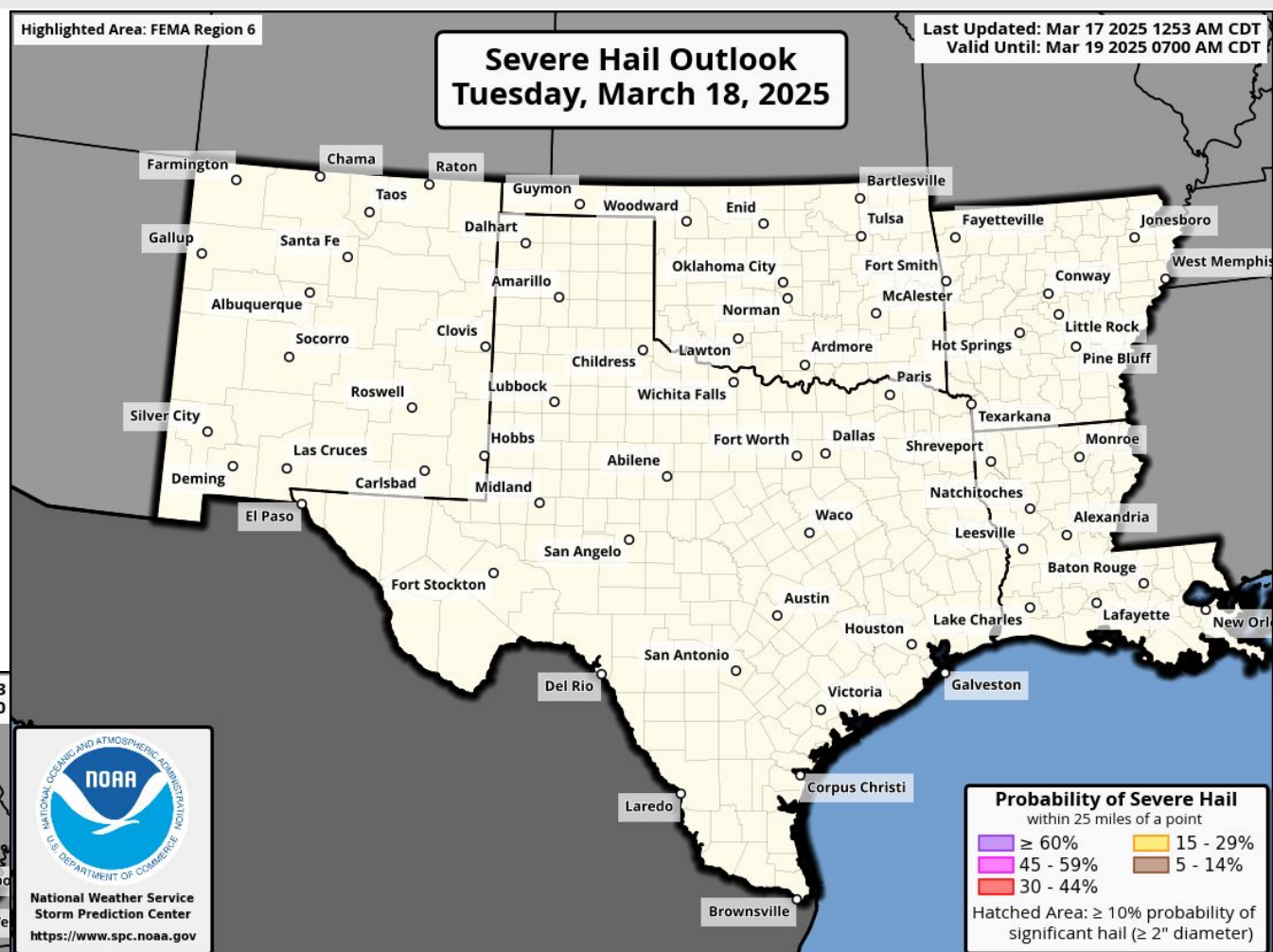
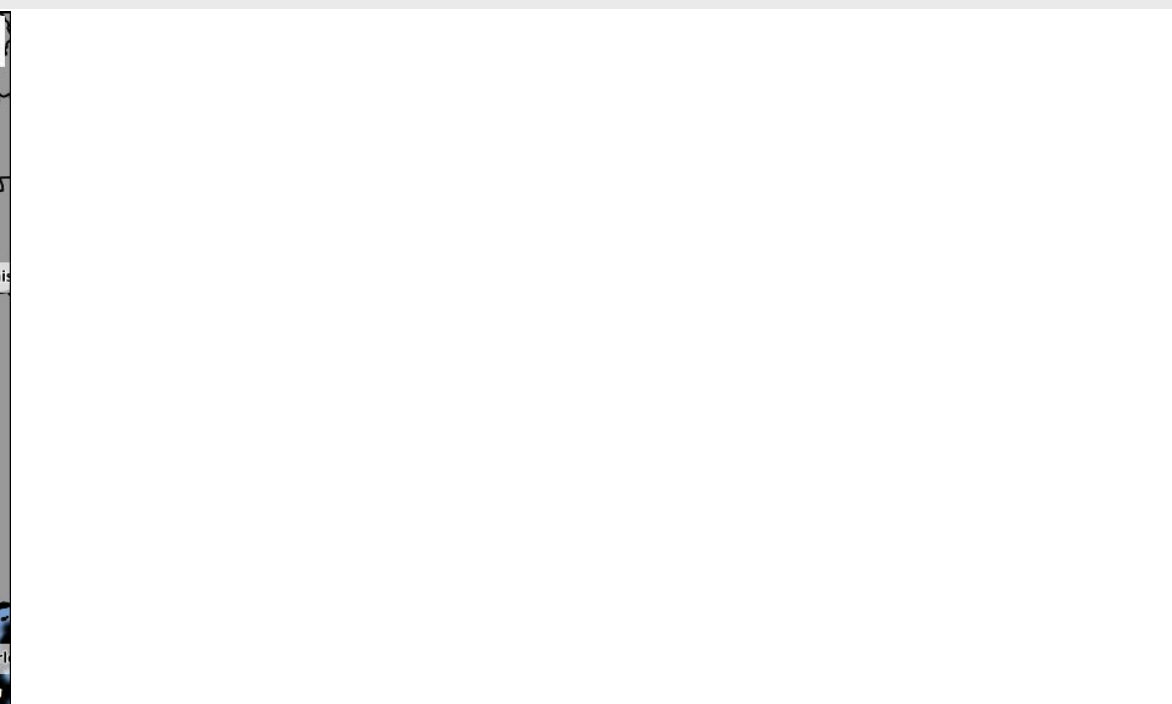
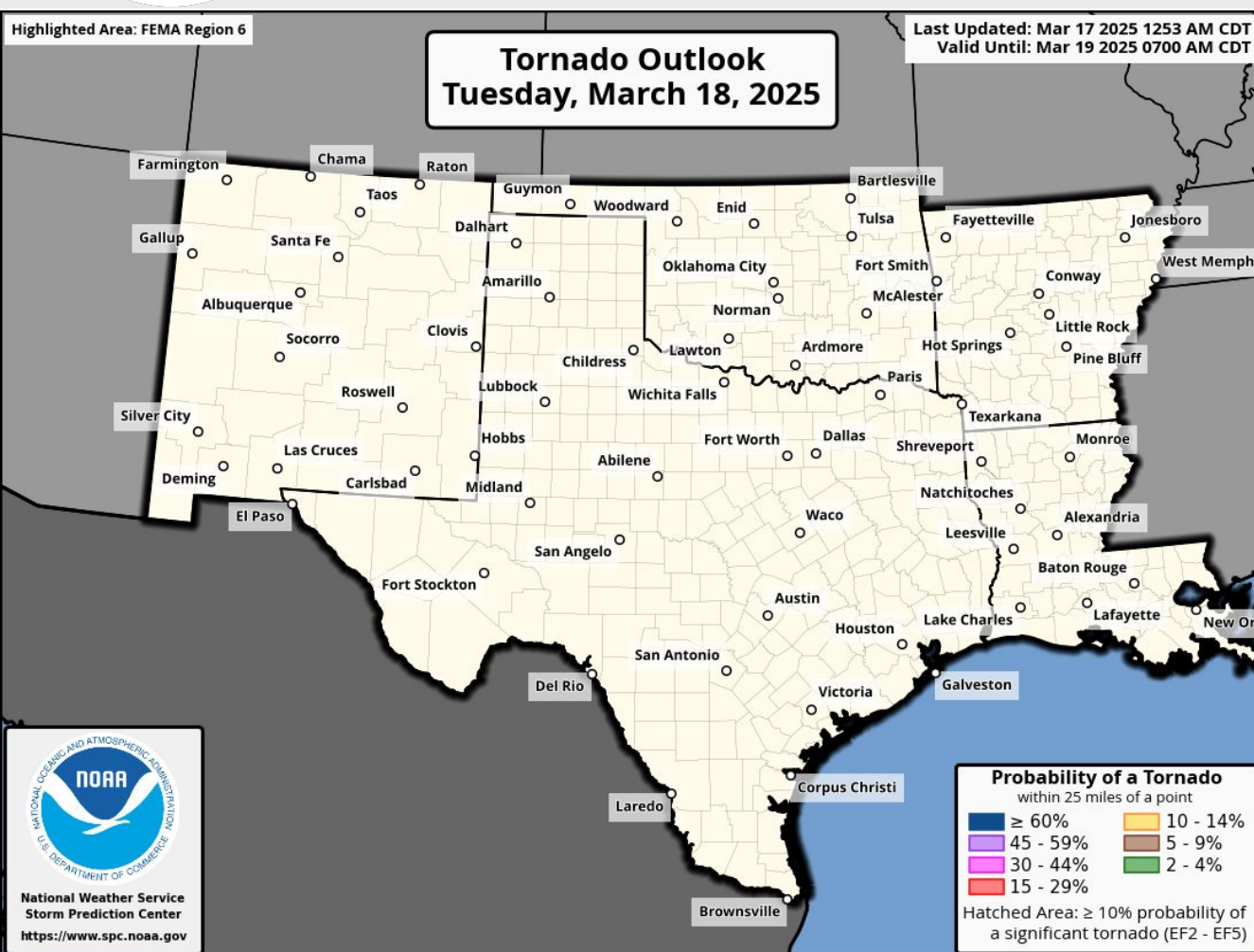


Critical to Extreme (levels 2-3 of 3) fire weather concerns tomorrow afternoon in NM, W TX, and W OK.



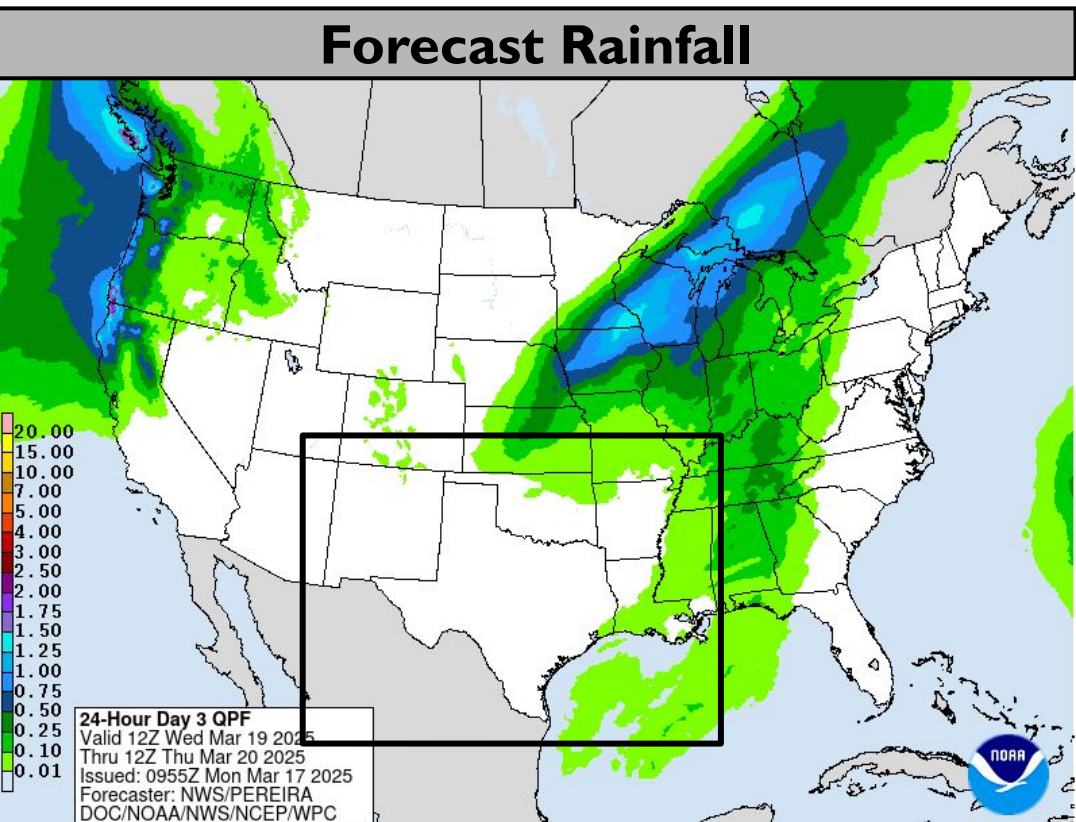
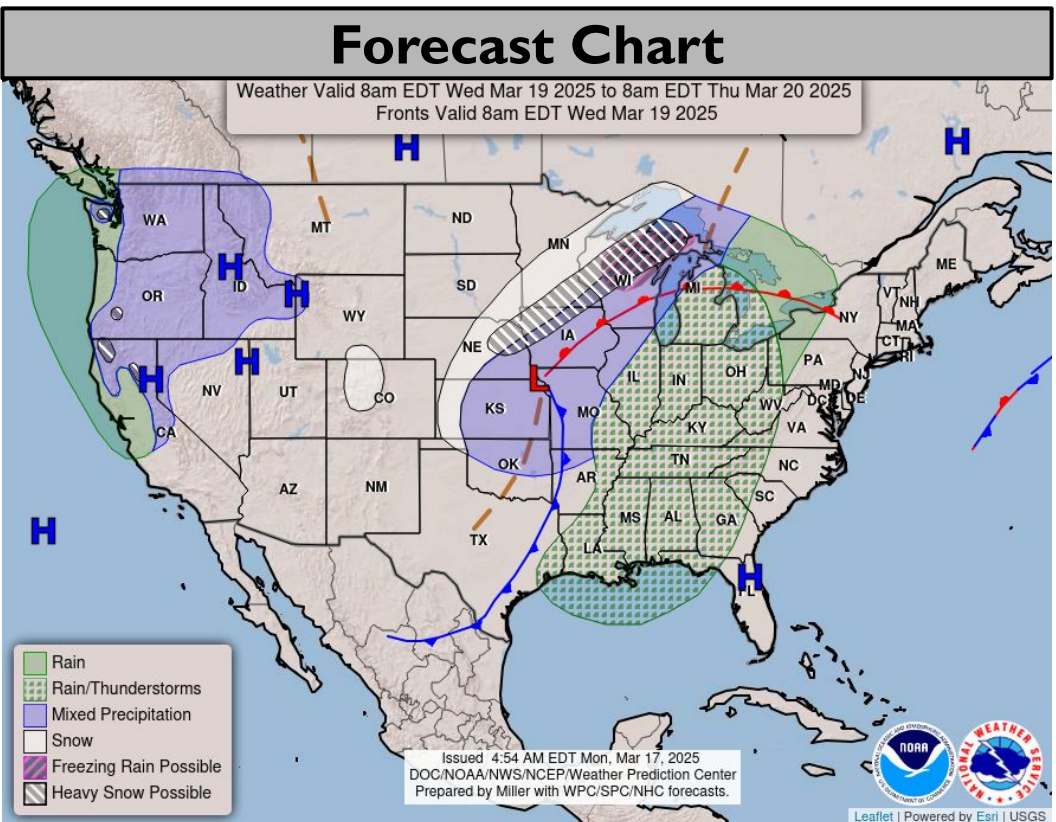


Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

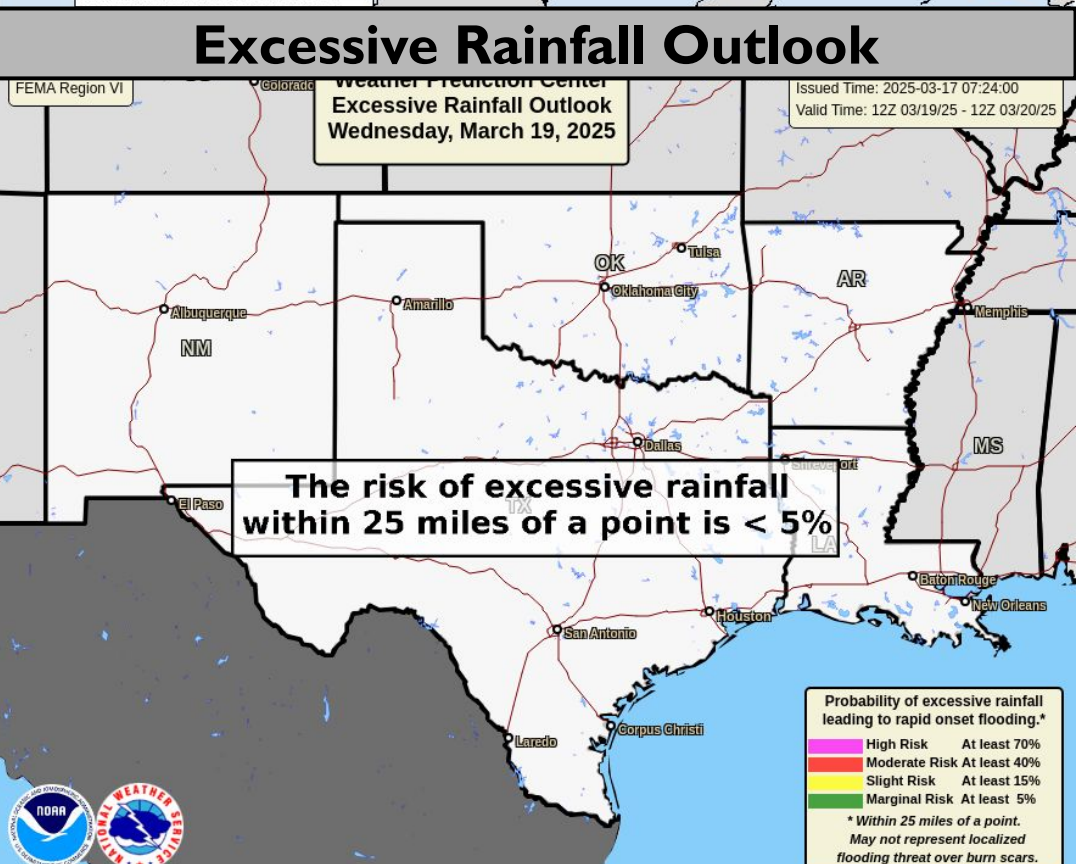
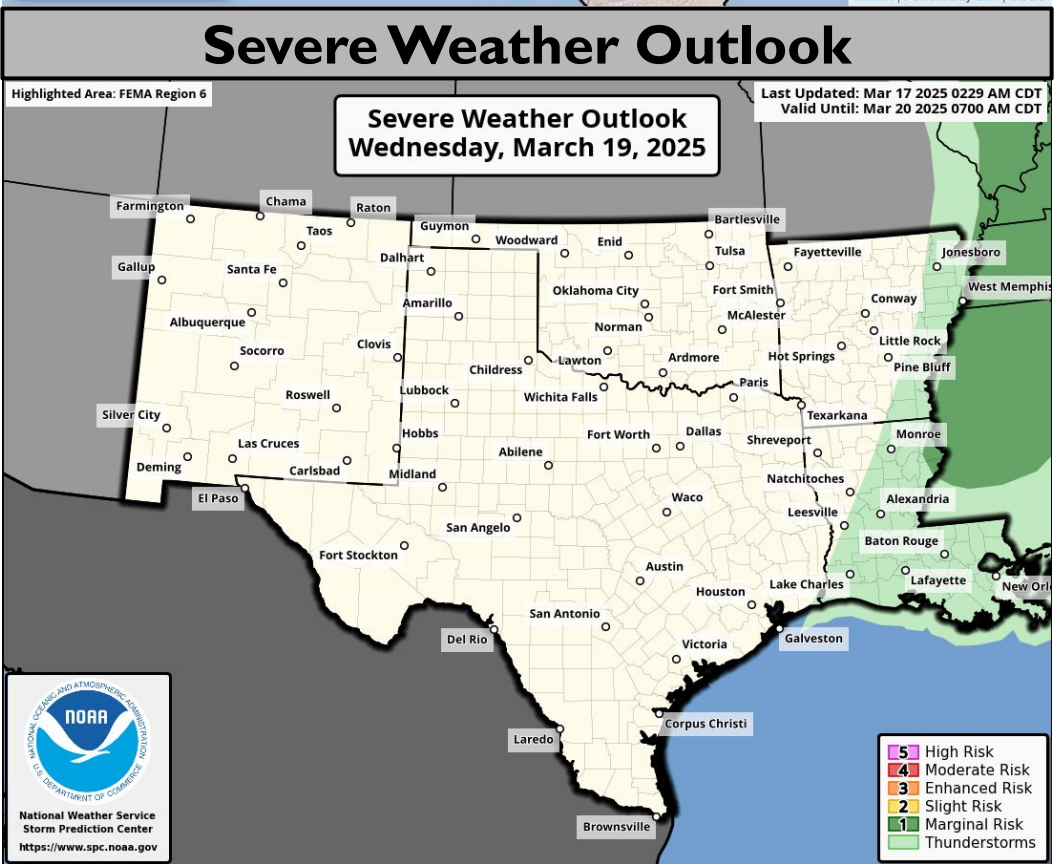




Wednesday's Weather



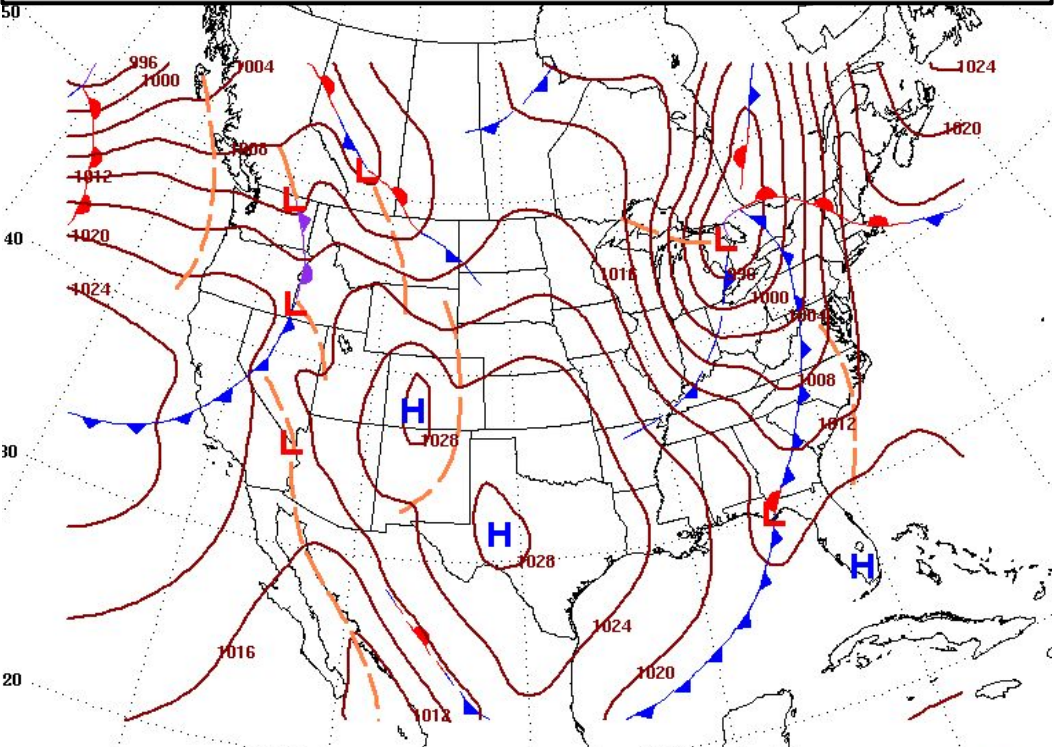
Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, N/W/STX.



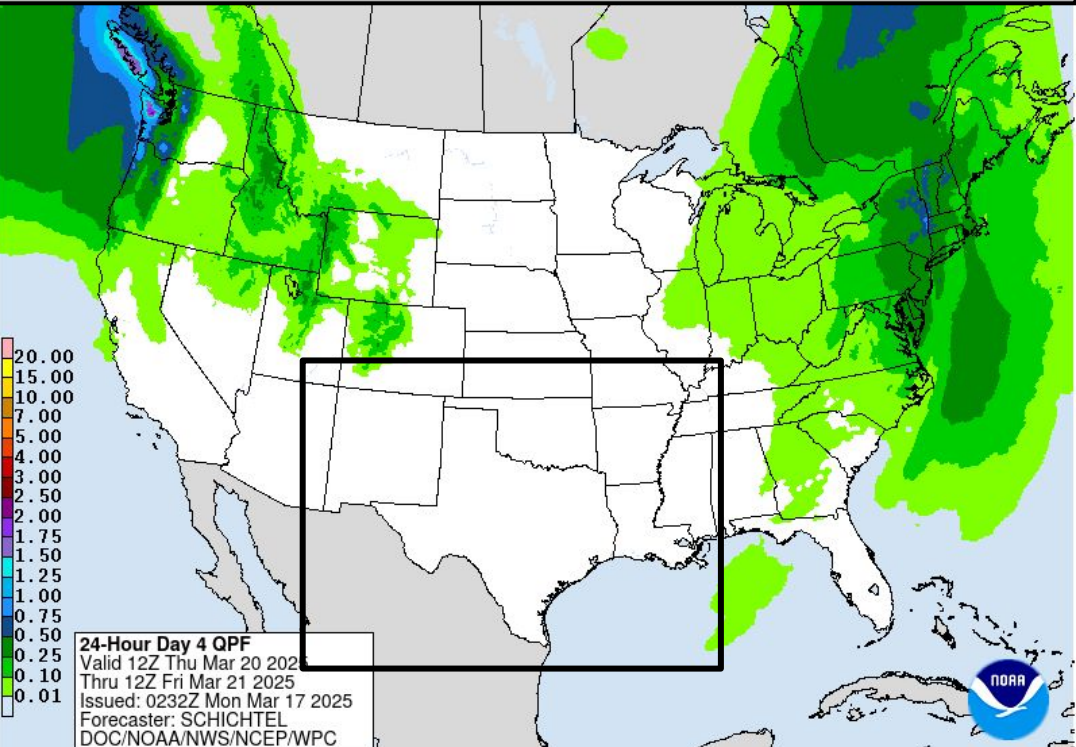


Thursday's Weather

Forecast Chart

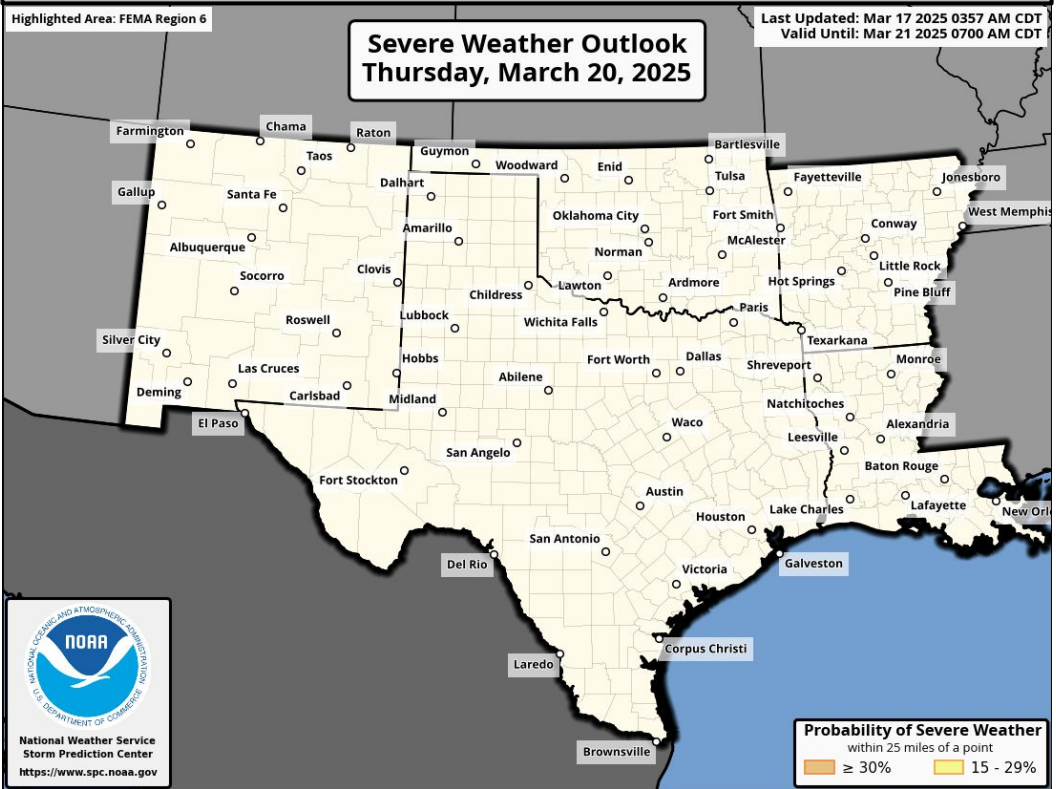


Forecast Rainfall

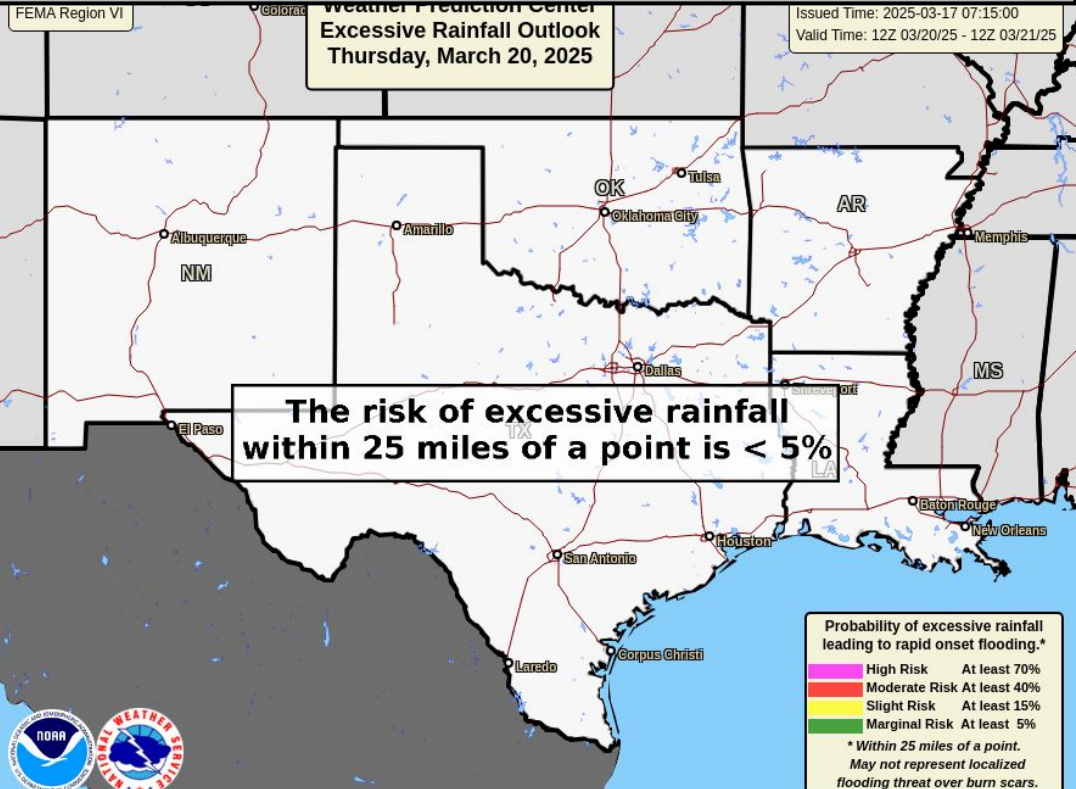


Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, N/W/STX.

Severe Weather Outlook



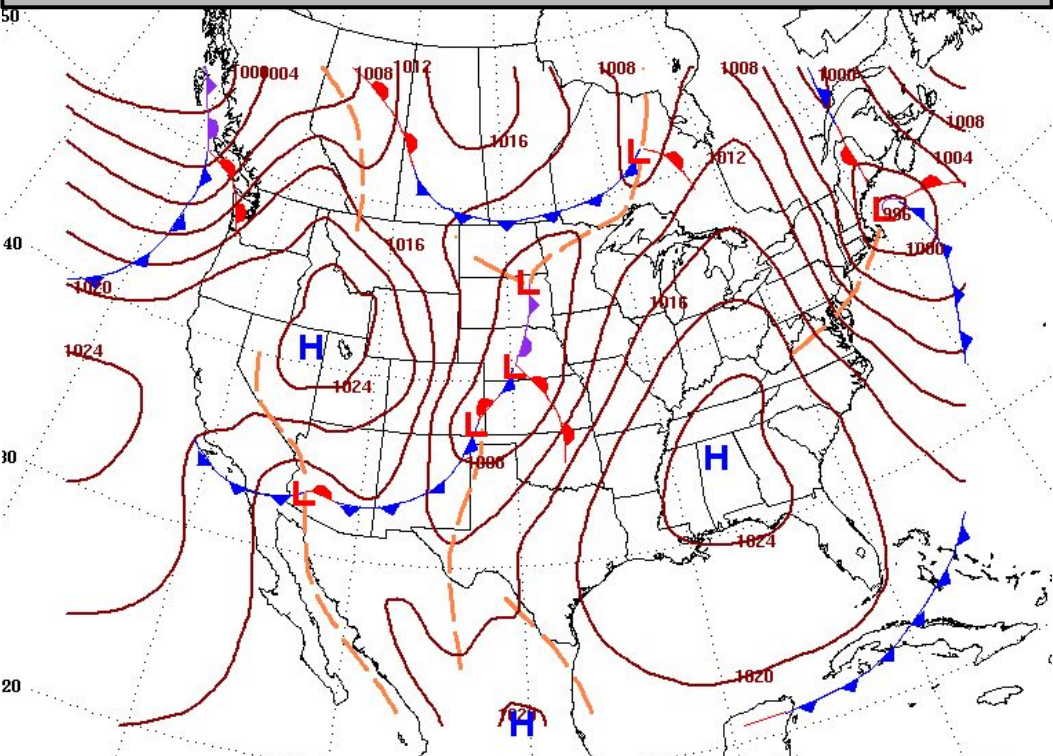
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



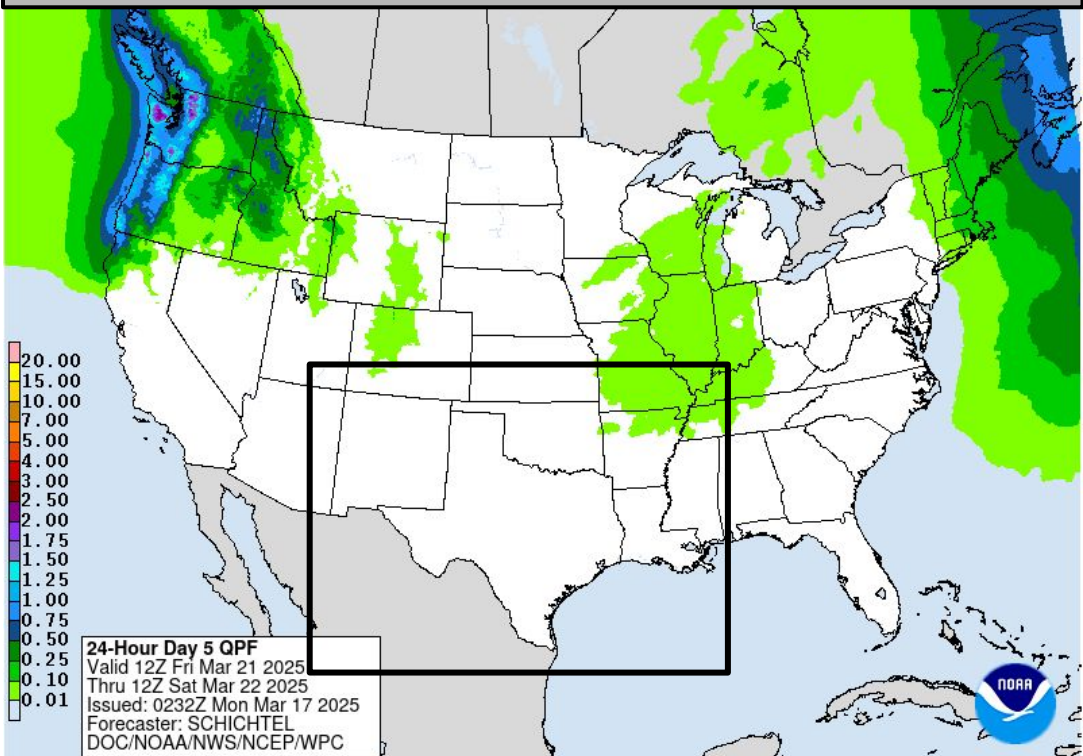


Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart

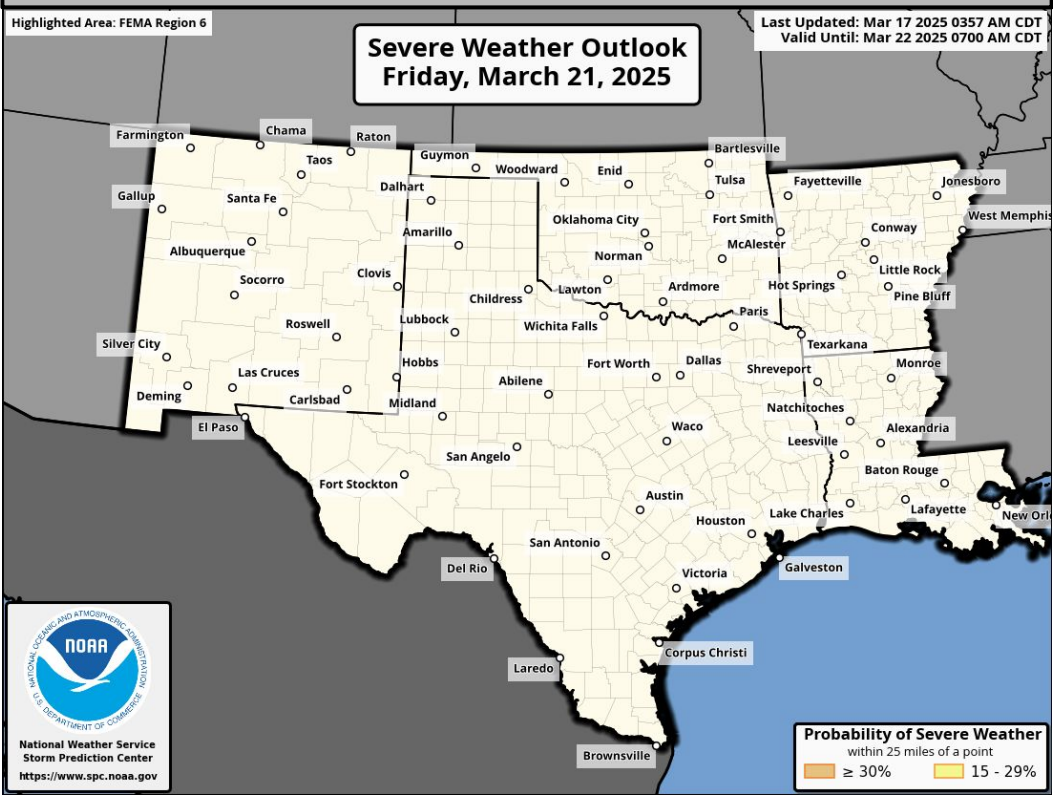


Forecast Rainfall

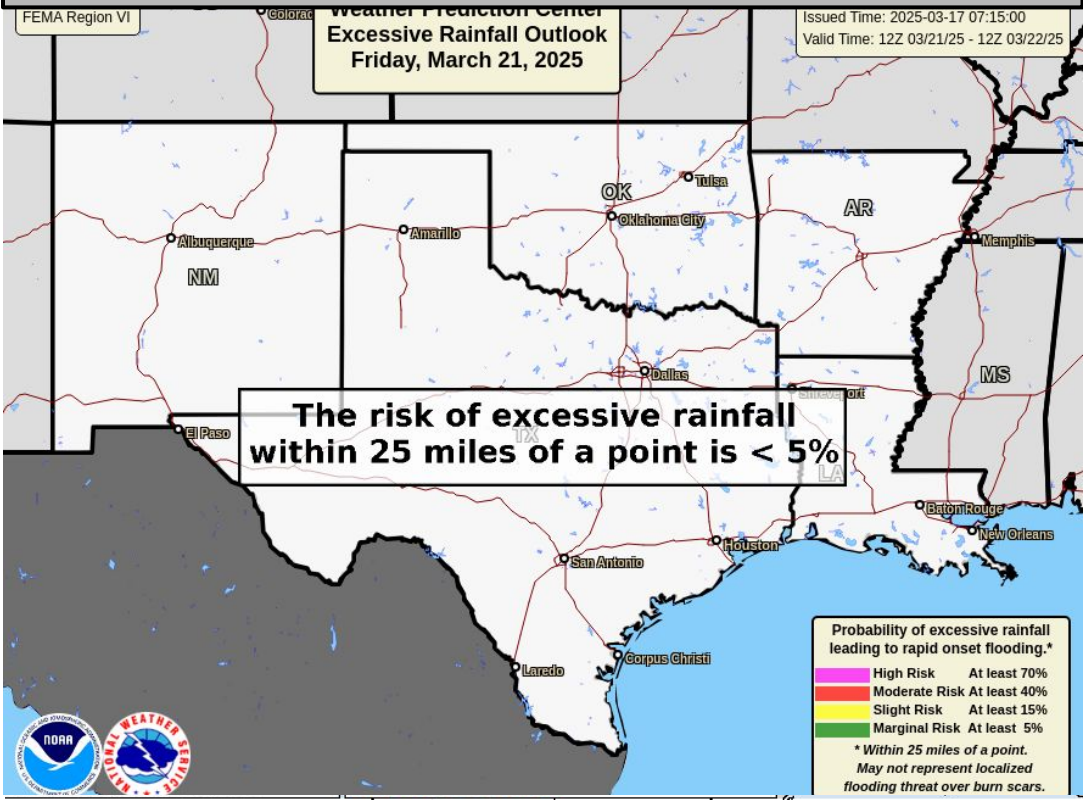


Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, N/W/STX.

Severe Weather Outlook

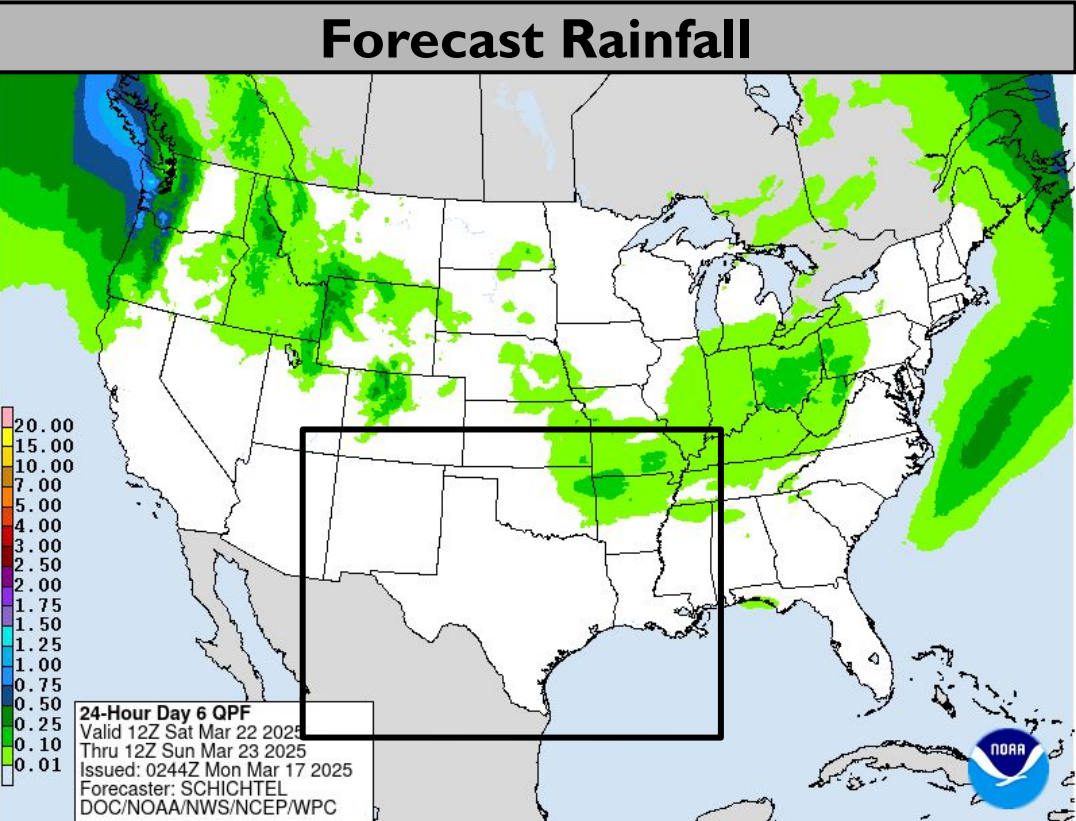
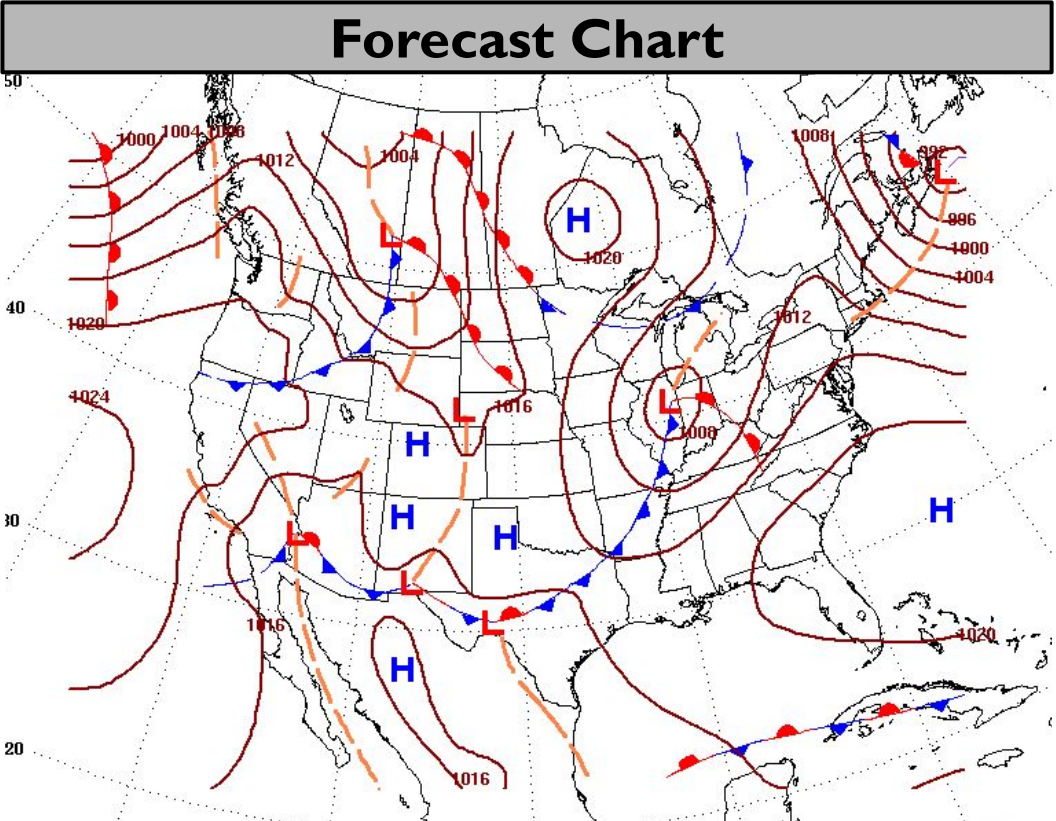


Excessive Rainfall Outlook

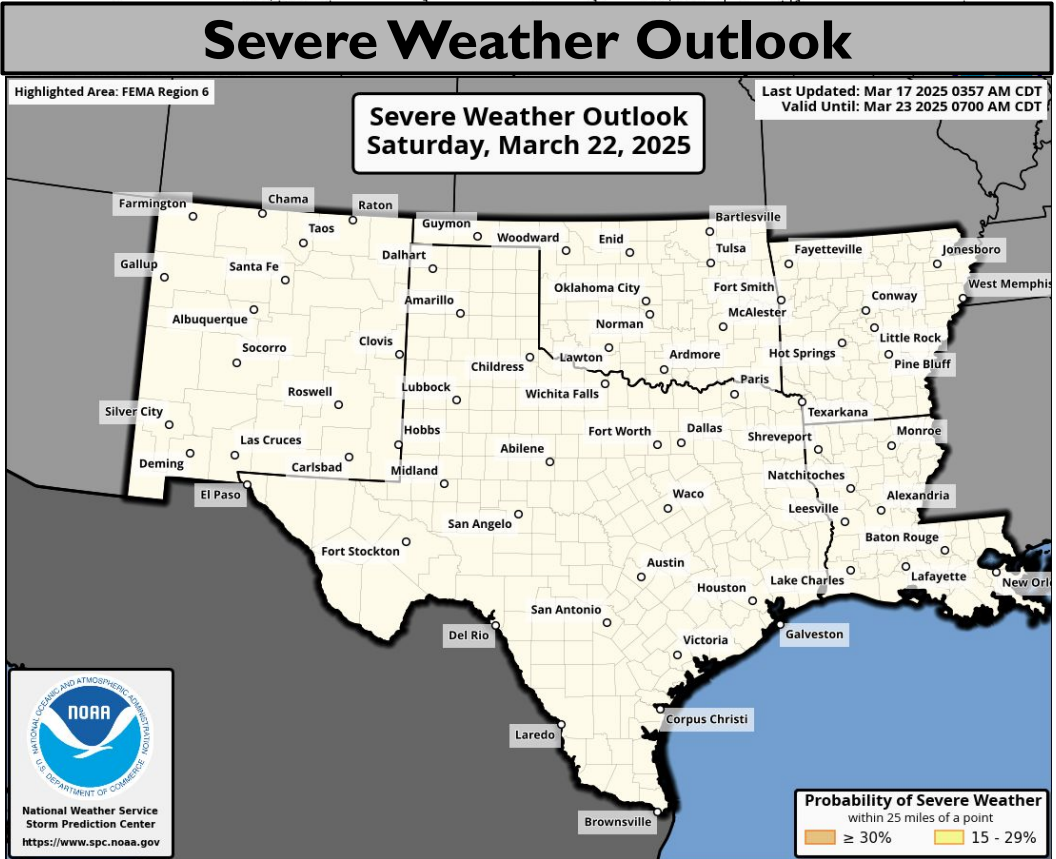




Saturday's Weather



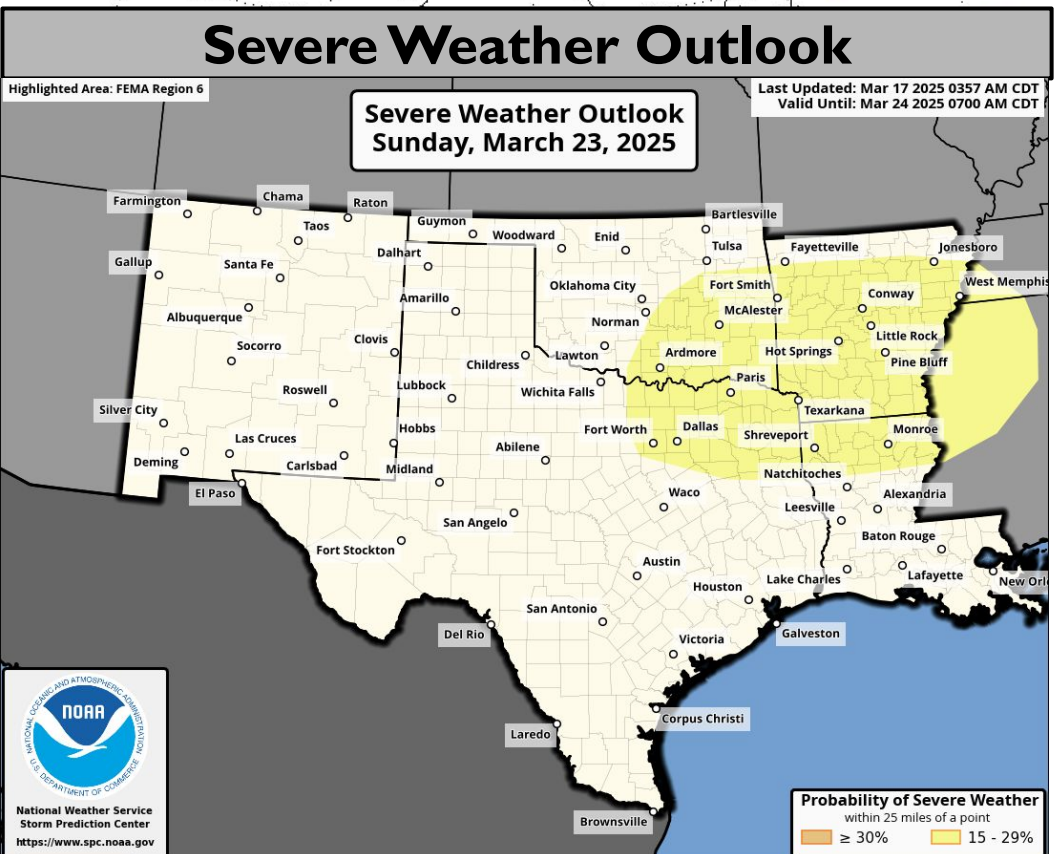
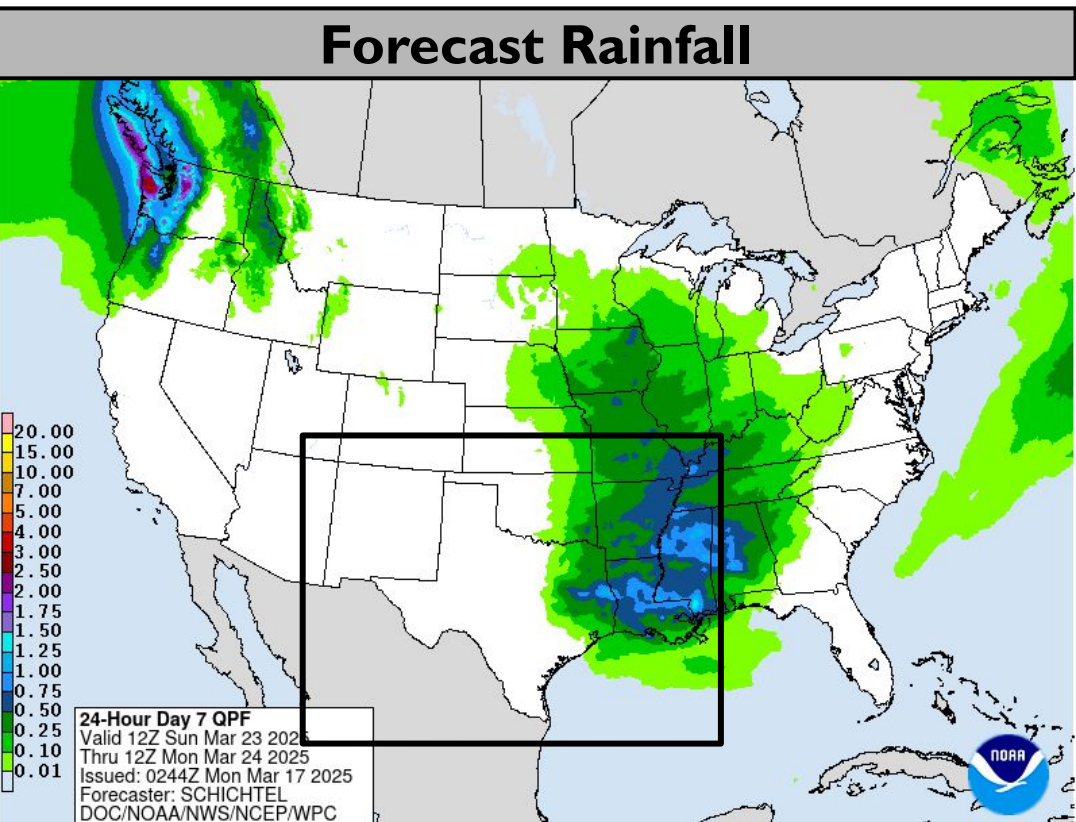
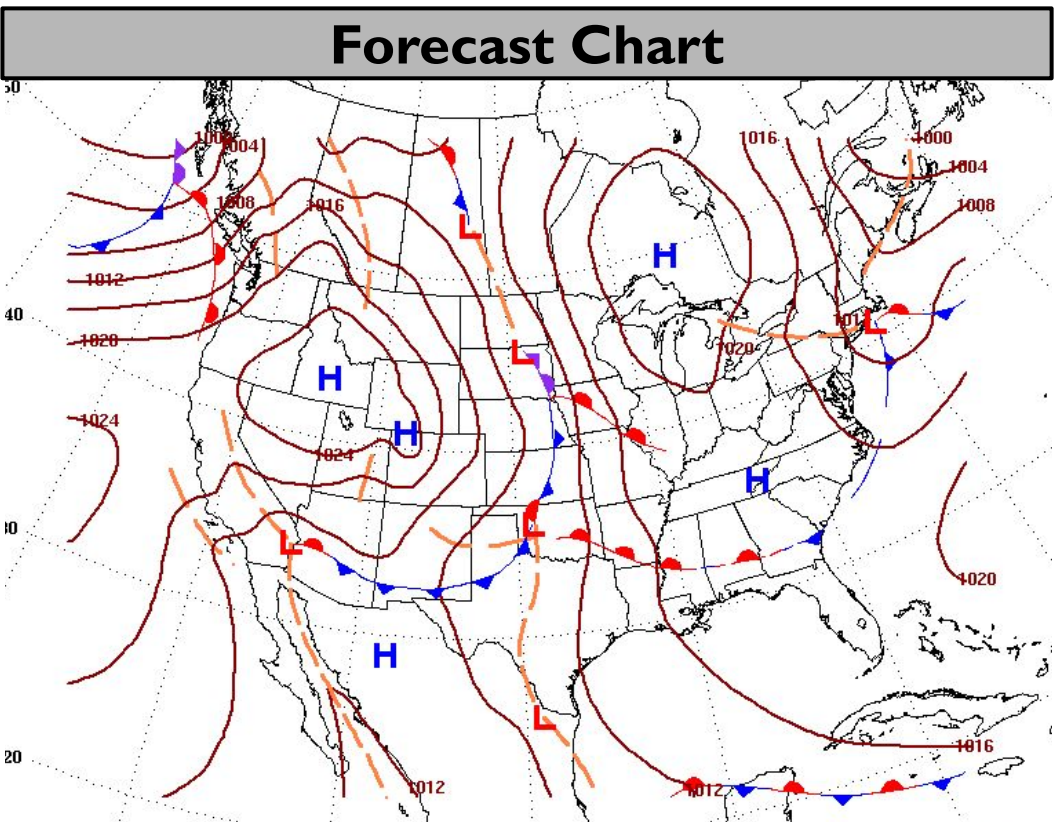
Elevated (level I of 3) fire weather concerns for E NM, W OK, N/W TX.



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5



Sunday's Weather



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

Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns for E NM, W OK, N/W TX.

Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for severe storms SE OK, AR, NE TX, and N LA Sunday afternoon.

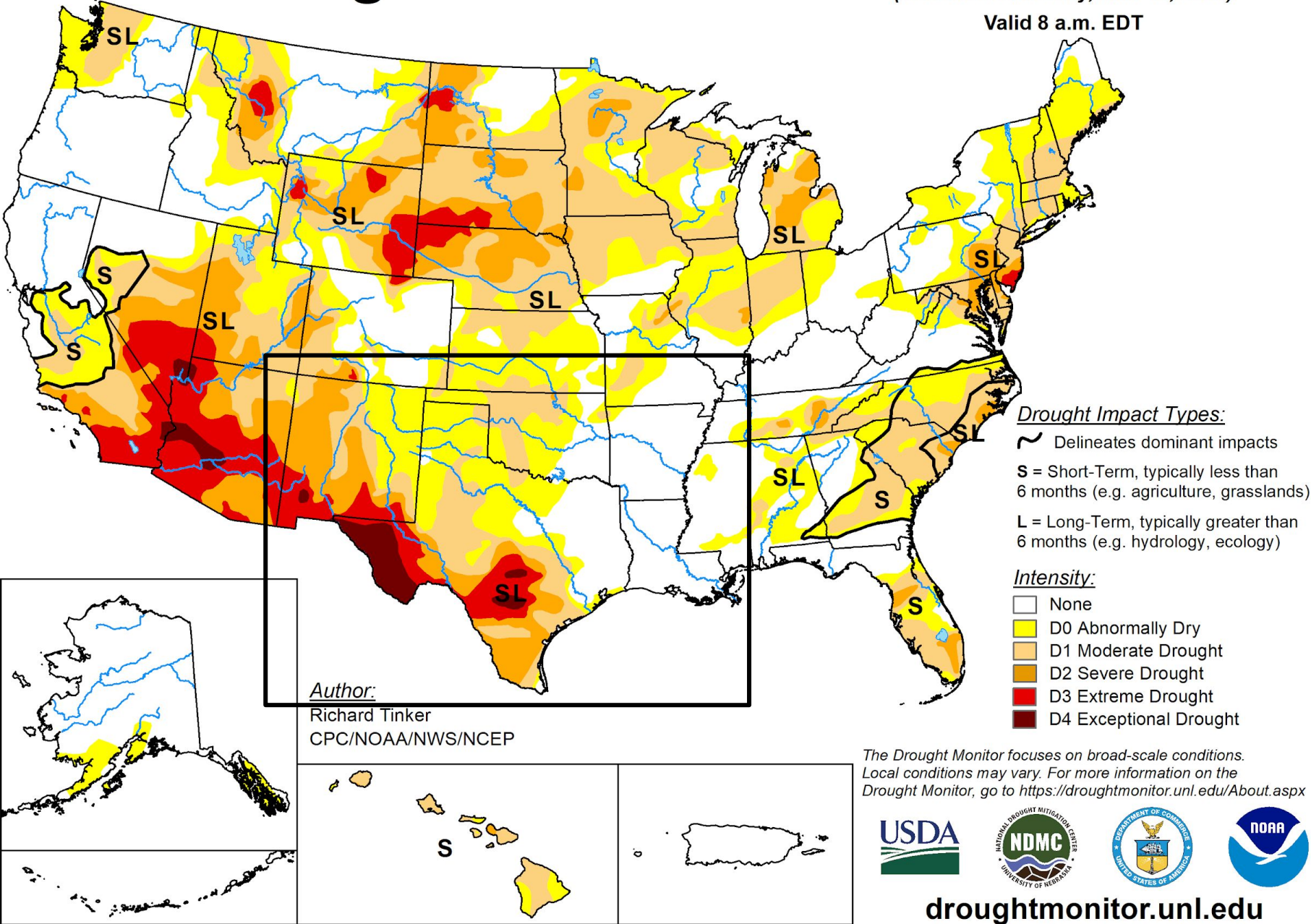




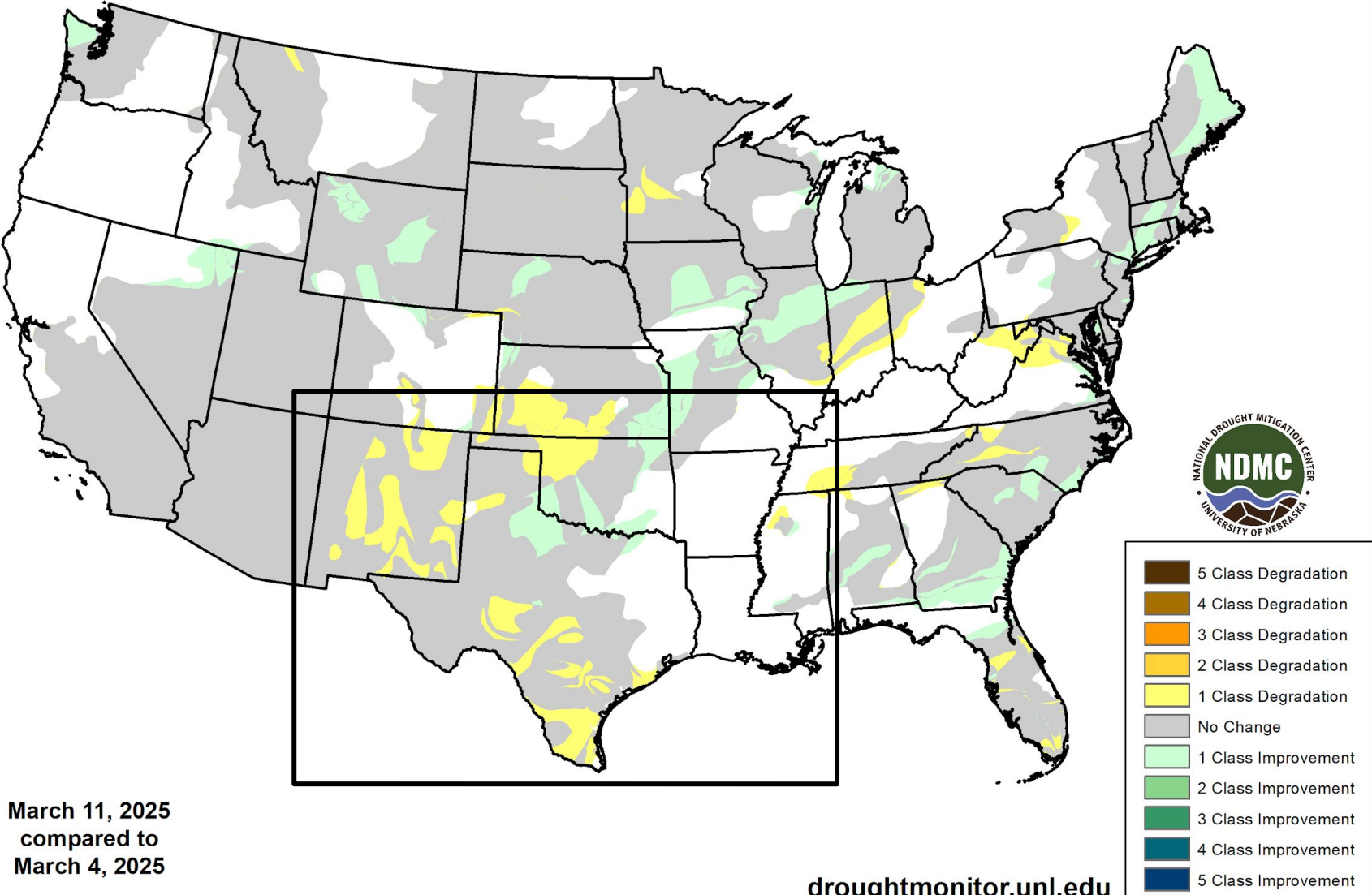
Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

March 11, 2025
(Released Thursday, Mar. 13, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



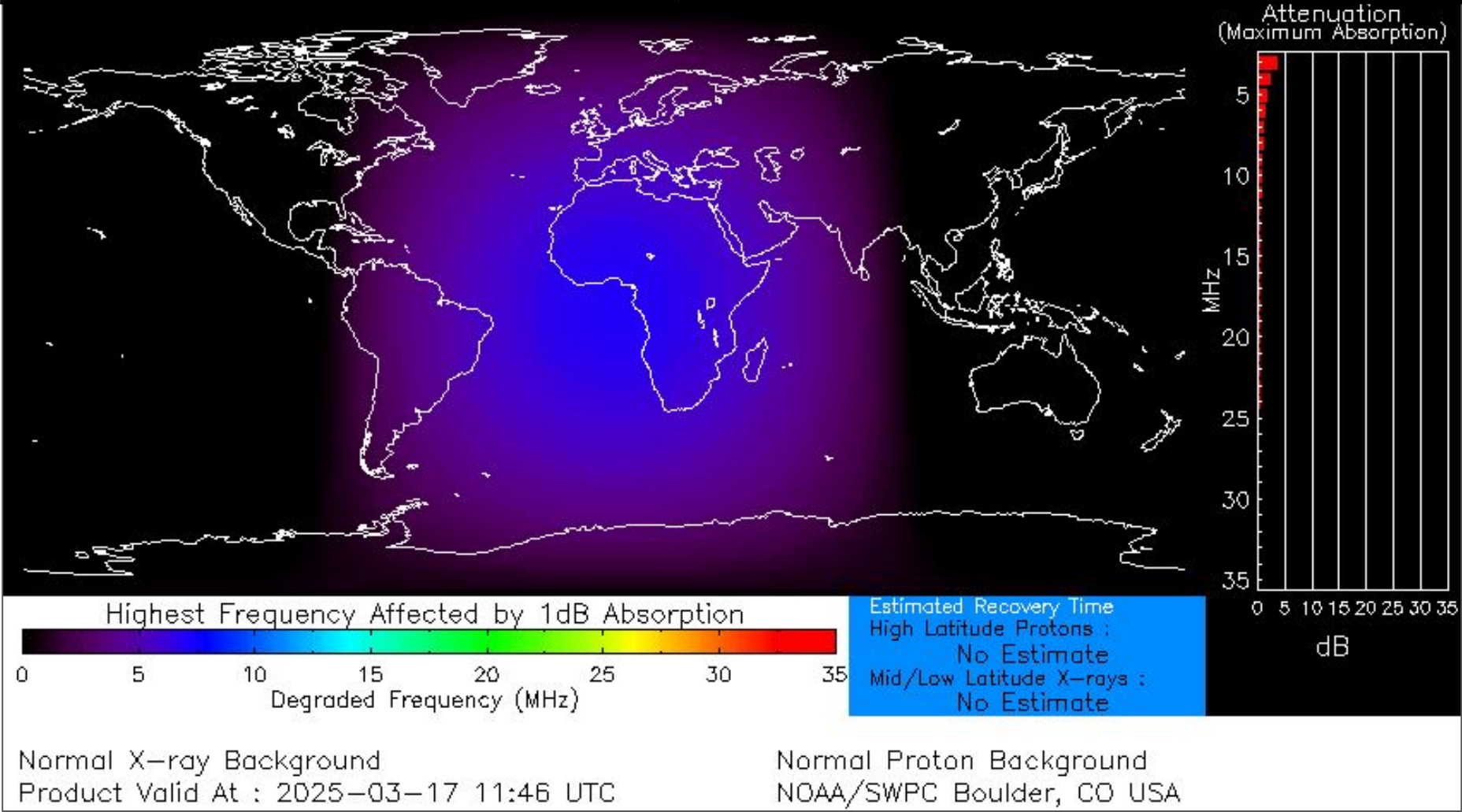
U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - CONUS 1 Week





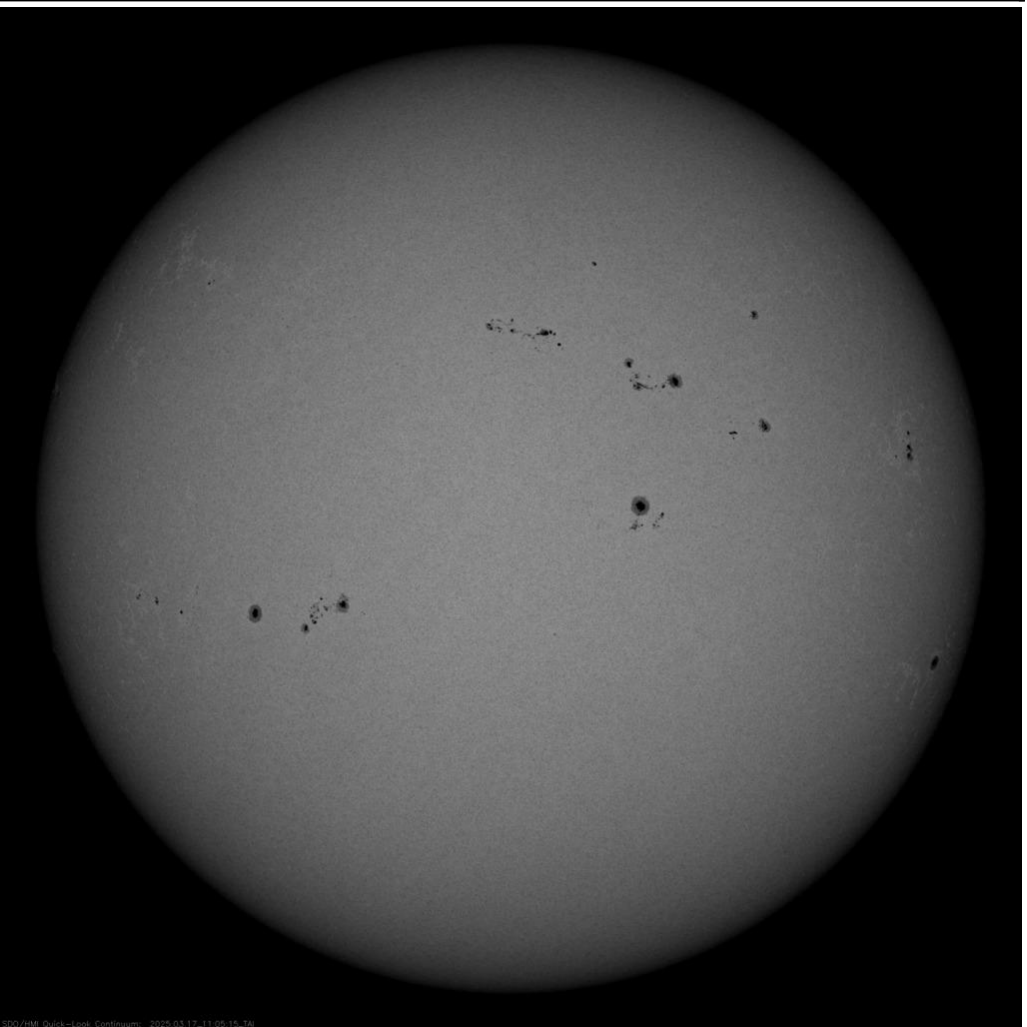
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Monday, Mar 17	Tuesday, Mar 18	Wednesday, Mar 19
Geomagnetic Storms	Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	5%	5%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	40%	40%	40%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	10%	10%	10%



[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	<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	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	<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	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	<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	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	<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	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	<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