



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Andy Bollenbacher*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

## Thursday, March 20, 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](https://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 continue through this weekend for much of NM, OK, and TX. Locally elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather concerns for S LA today, and N AR tomorrow.**
- **Marginal (level 1 of 5) risk for severe storms in NE OK, NW AR Saturday afternoon. Mainly a hail threat.**
- **Slight risk (level 2 of 5) for severe weather Sunday for S AR, E TX, and N LA. Hail and wind threat. Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for heavy rainfall on Sunday for SE AR, LA, and SE TX.**
- **Isolated minor river flooding in E TX and SE LA continues.**





# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Thursday, Mar 20	Friday, Mar 21	Saturday, Mar 22	Sunday, Mar 23	Monday, Mar 24	Tuesday, Mar 25	Wednesday, Mar 26
Severe Storms			NE OK, NW AR	S AR, ETX, N LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding				SE AR, SE TX, LA			
Fire Weather	NM, W TX, TX/OK Panhandles, SE TX, S LA	N/C TX, TX Panhandle, OK, N AR	E NM, N/W TX, OK/TX Panhandles	E NM, N/W TX, OK/TX Panhandles	TX/OK Panhandles, E NM	SW TX	SW TX
Winter							
River Flooding	ETX, SE LA	ETX, SE LA	ETX, SE LA	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.*

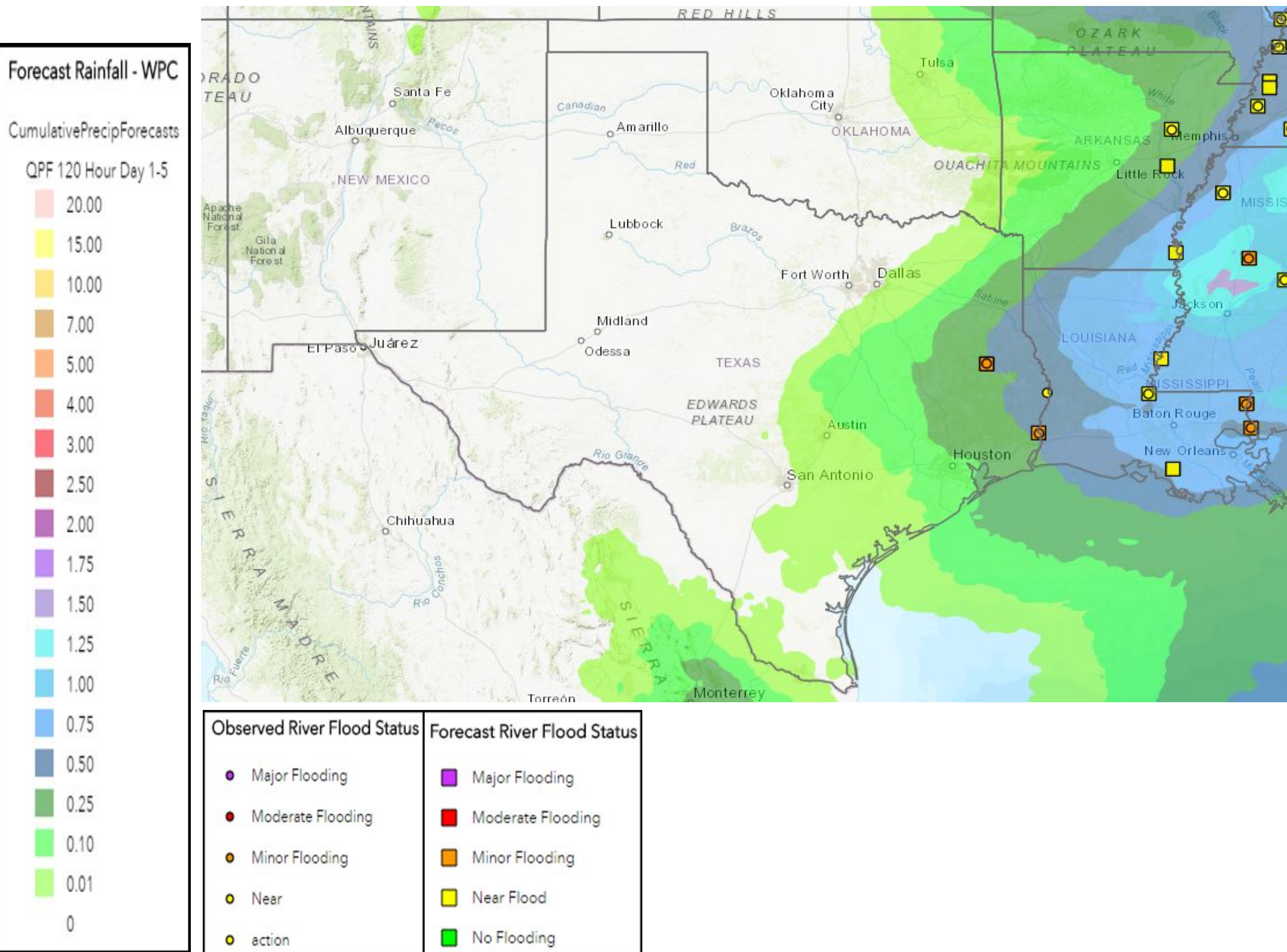
Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Isolated minor river flooding in  
across E TX, SE LA.**

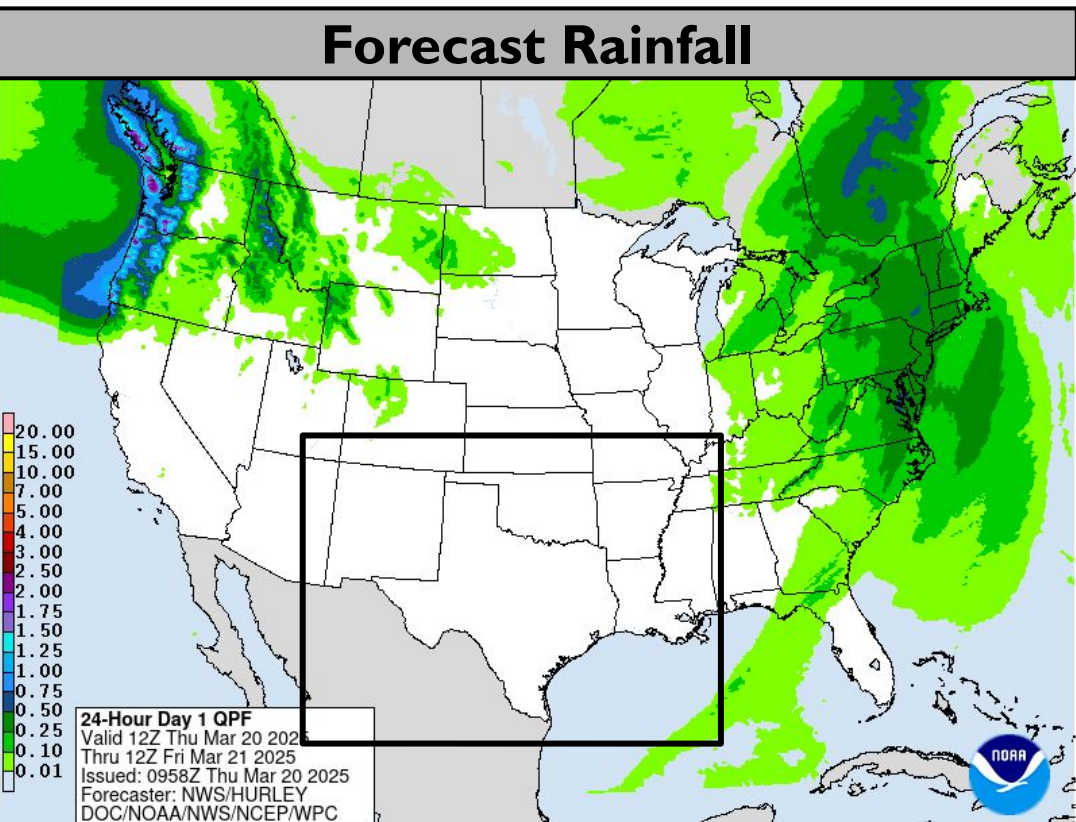
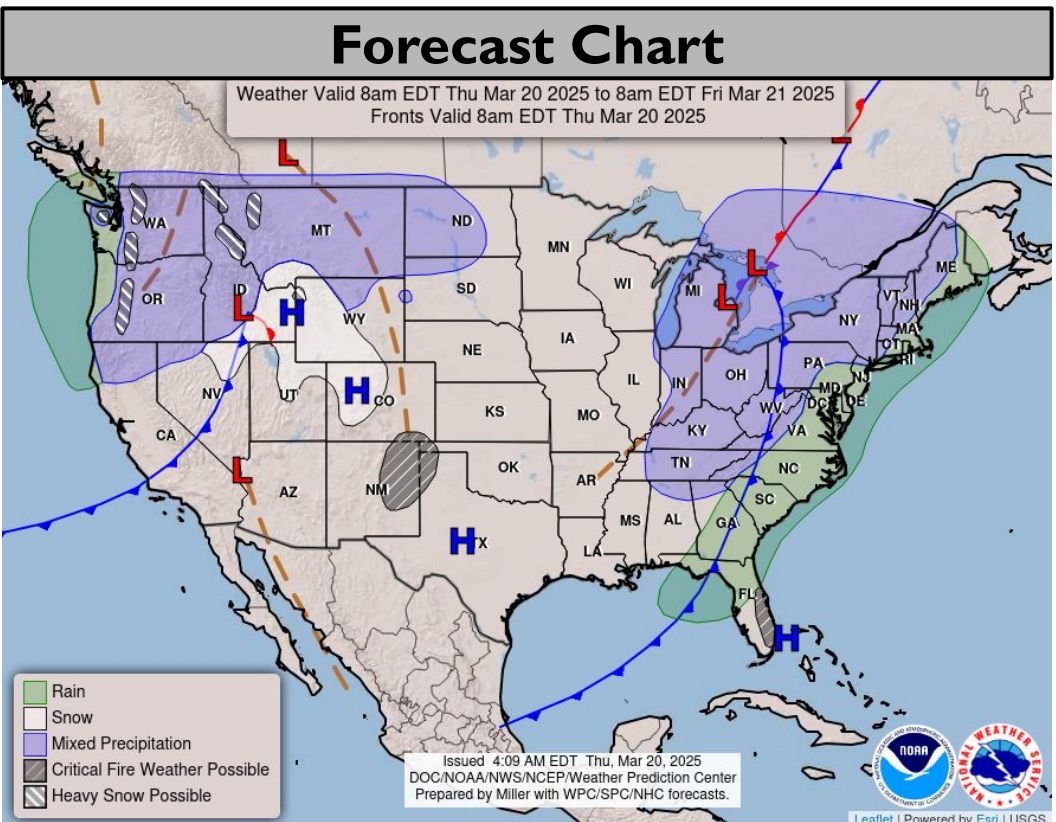
*Note: Numerical levels (e.g. level 1 of 4) will not be assigned to riverine flooding due to the varying levels of impacts across flood categories.*



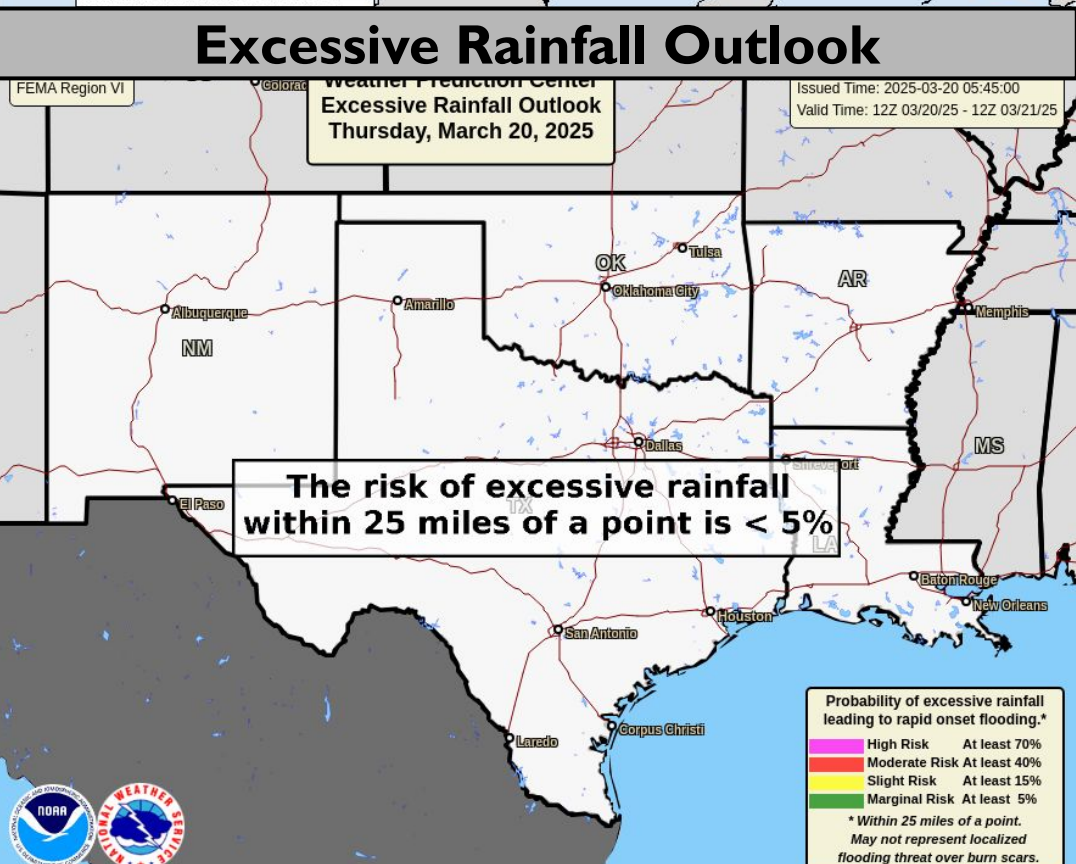
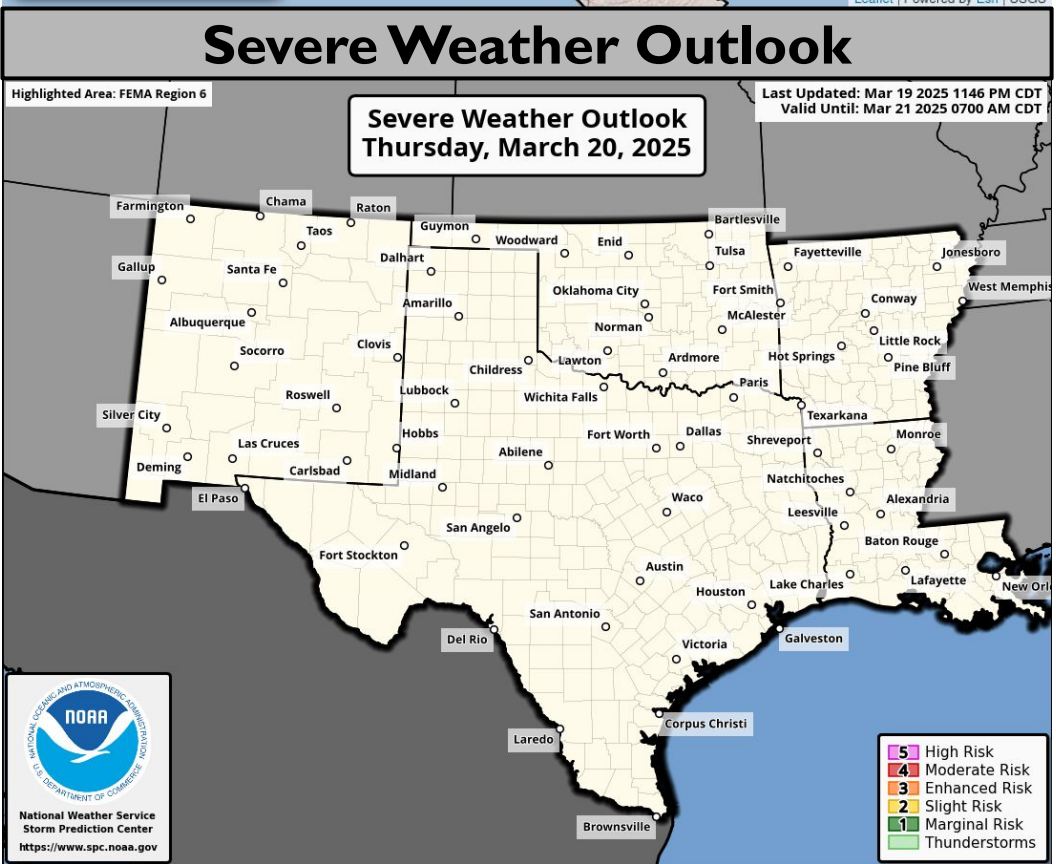




# Today's Weather



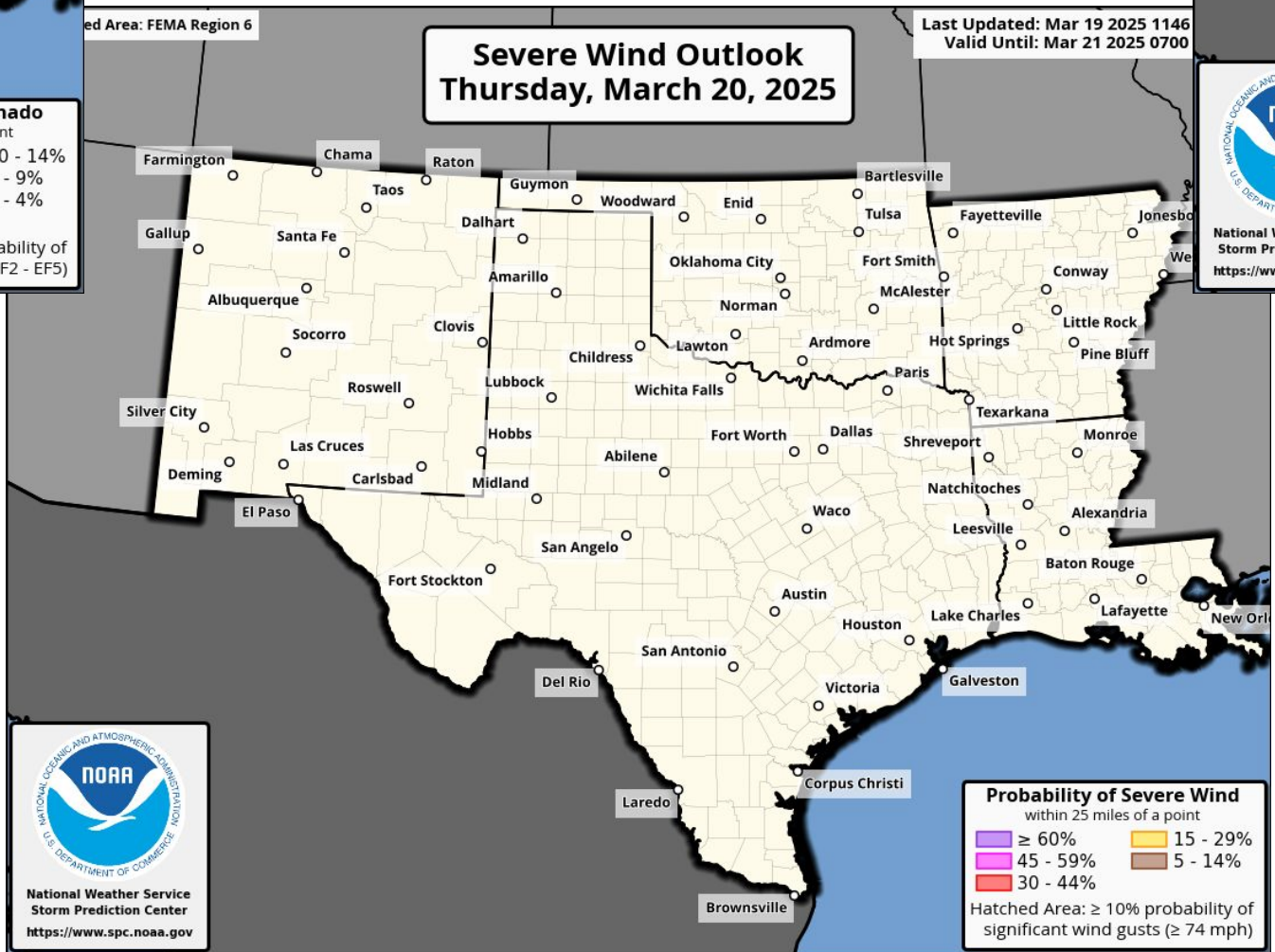
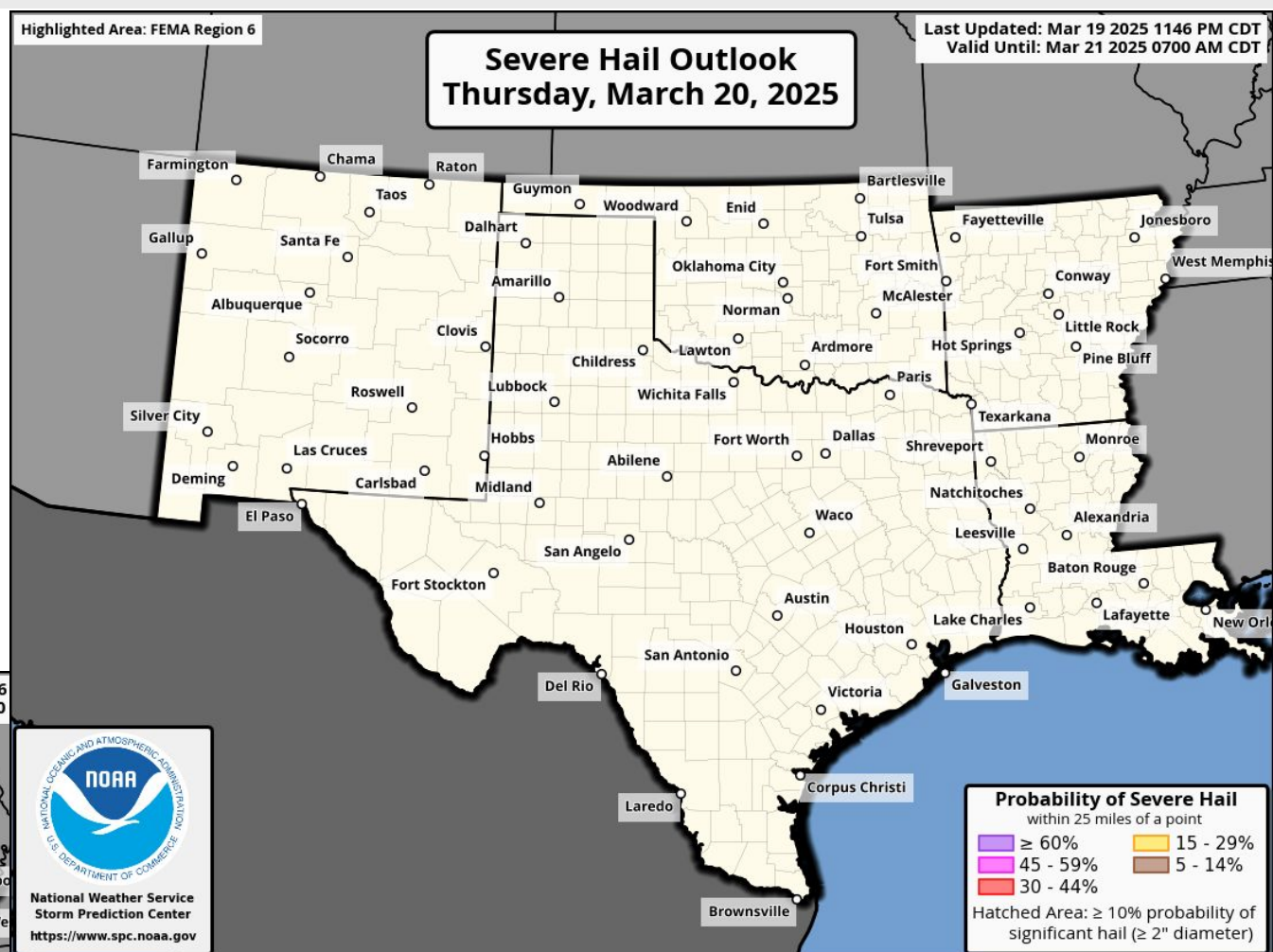
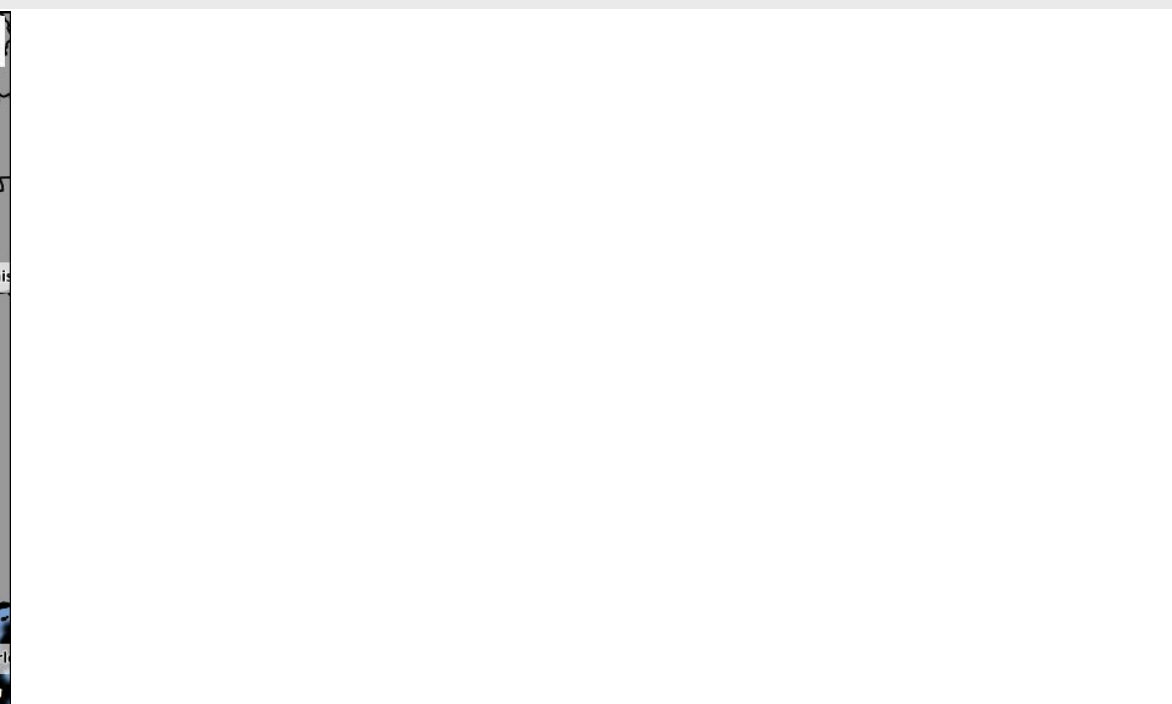
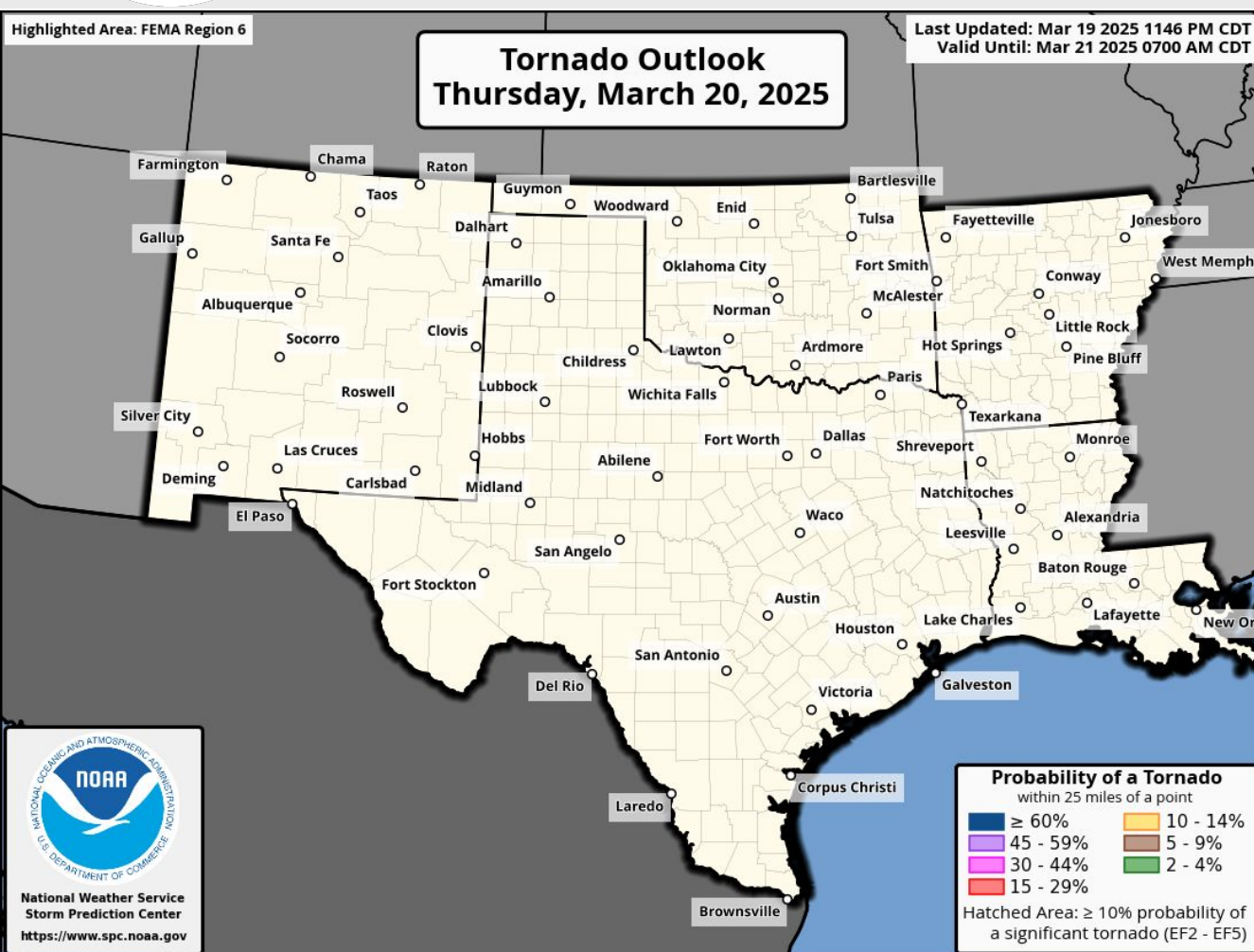
**Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3)  
fire weather conditions in NM, W  
TX, TX/OK Panhandles,  
SE TX, S LA.**







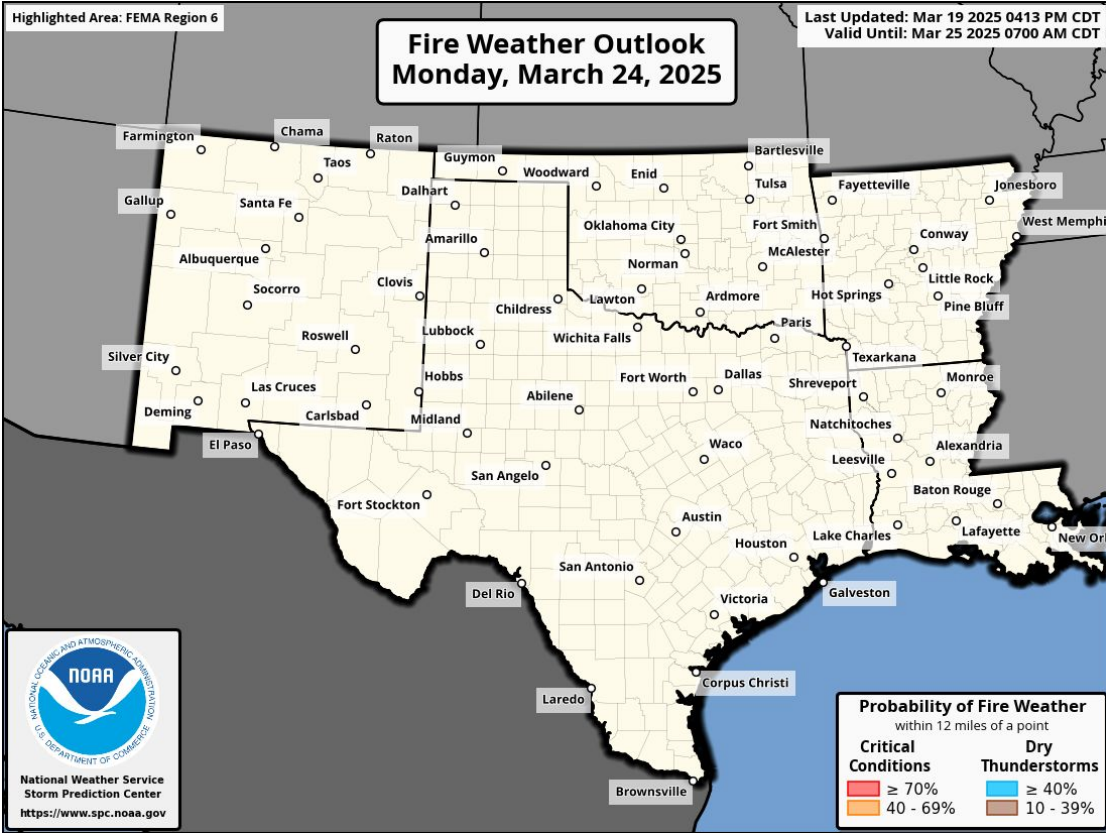
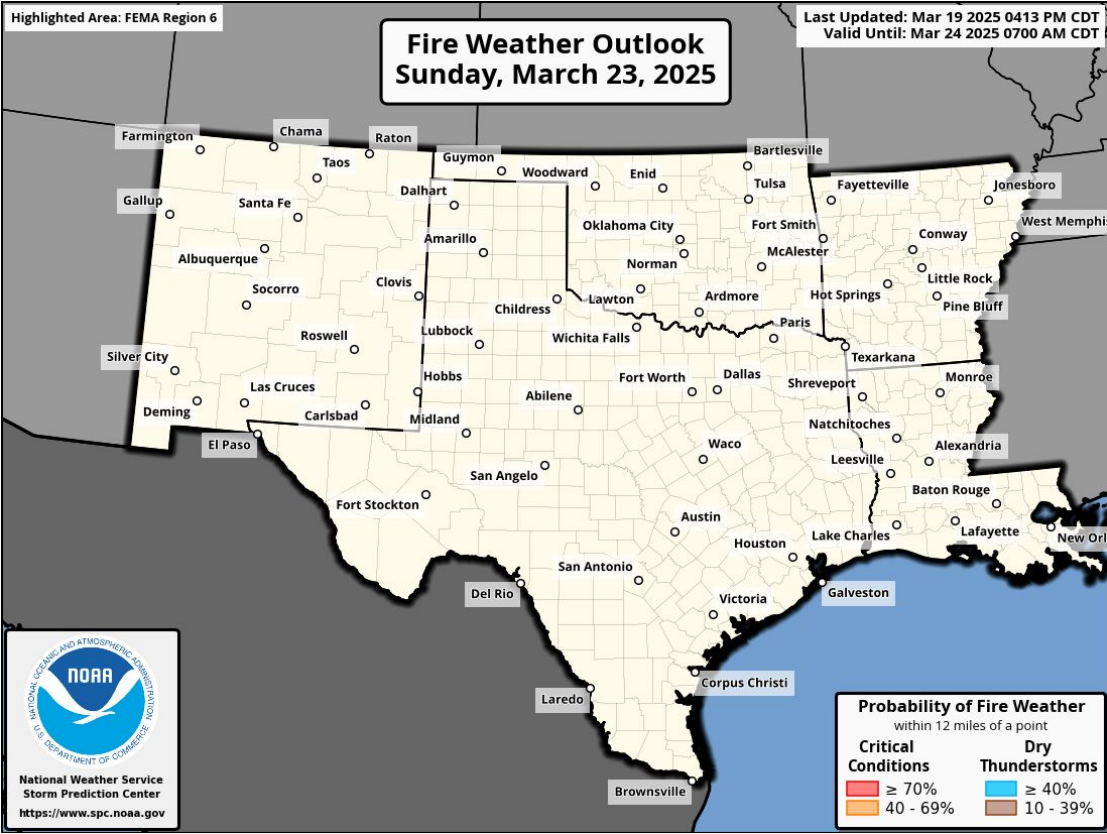
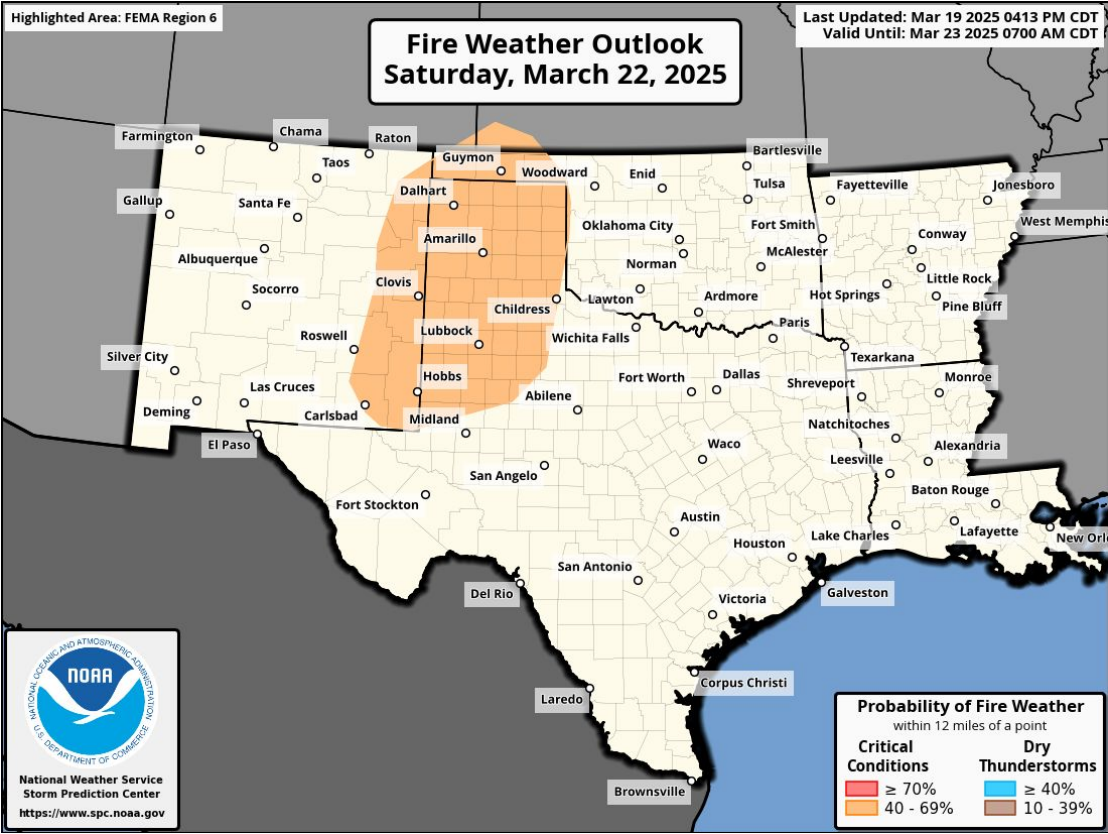
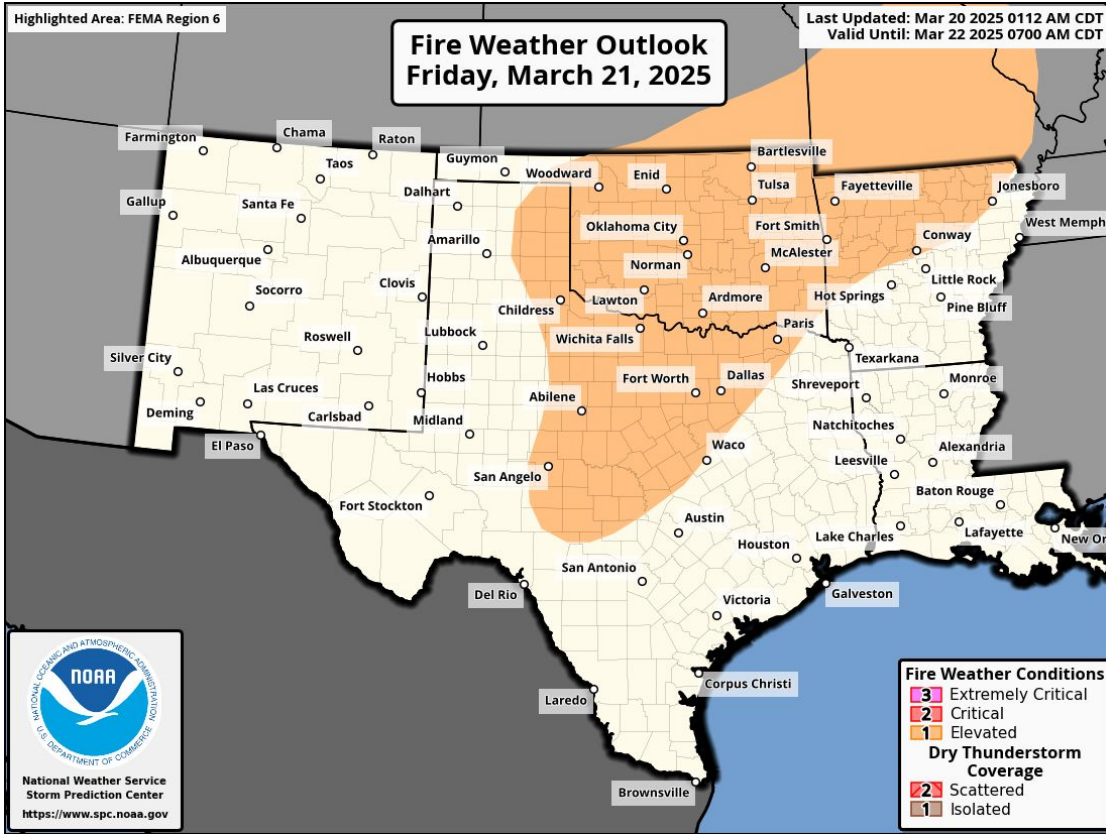
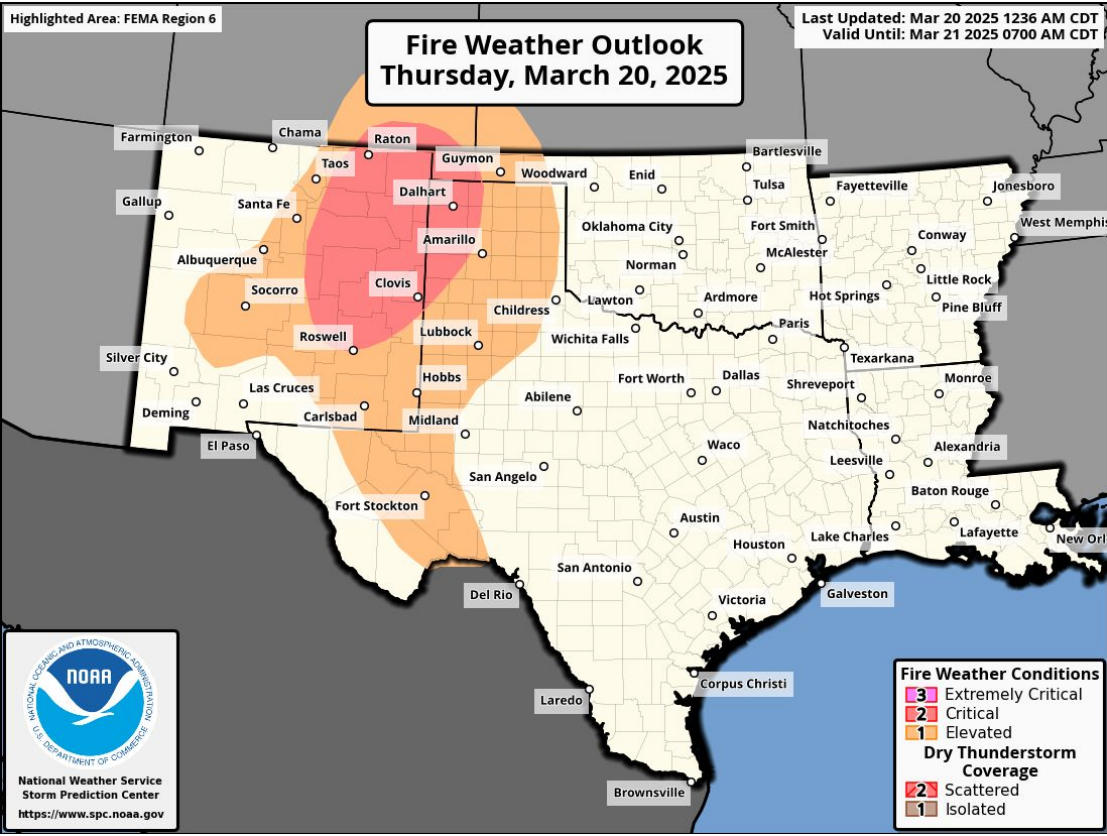
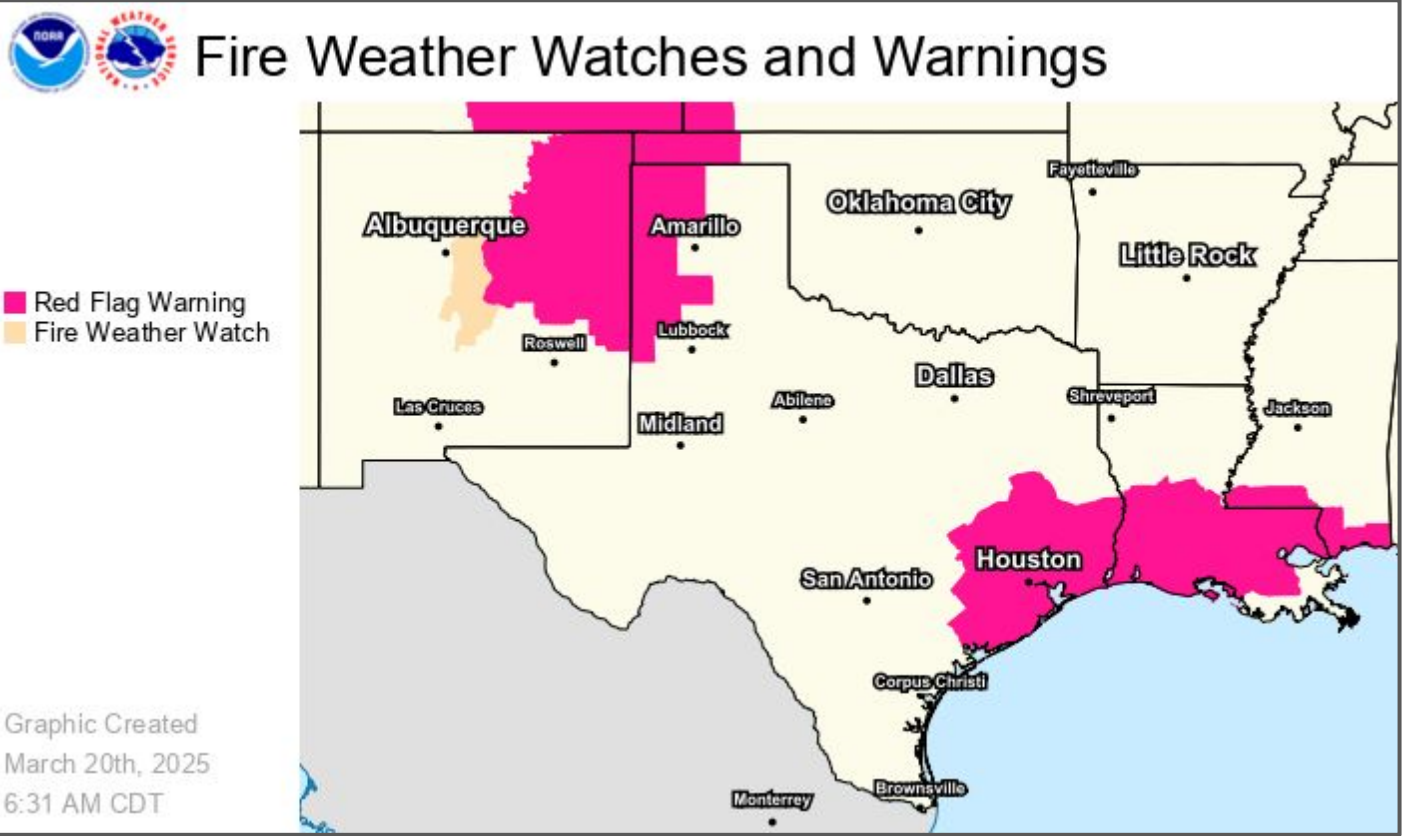
# Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities







# Fire Weather Outlooks





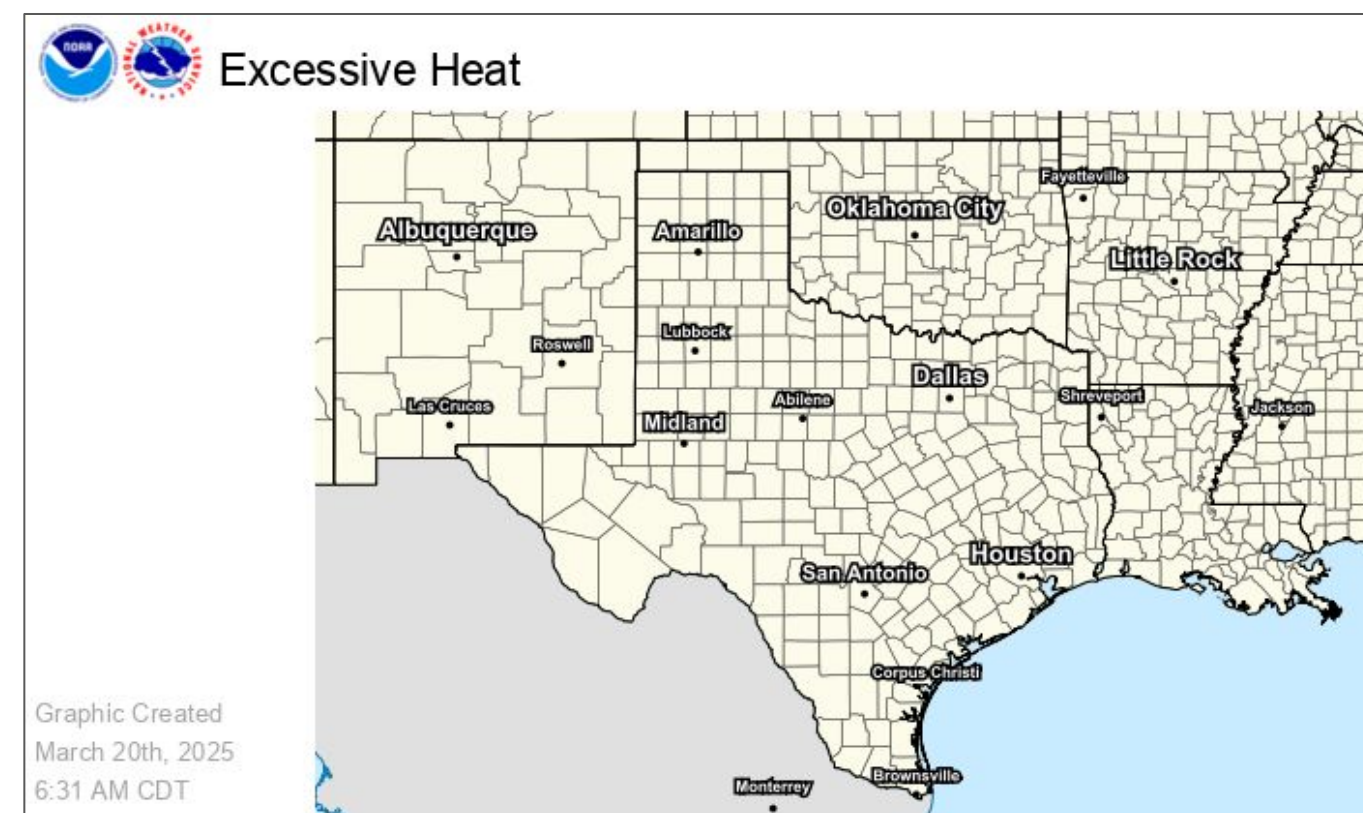


# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Wind, Severe, Heat, and Flood Hazards



**High Wind Warnings in effect through this afternoon and evening in NE NM, TX/OK Panhandles, and W OK. Gusts between 55-65 mph may lead to blowing dust.**

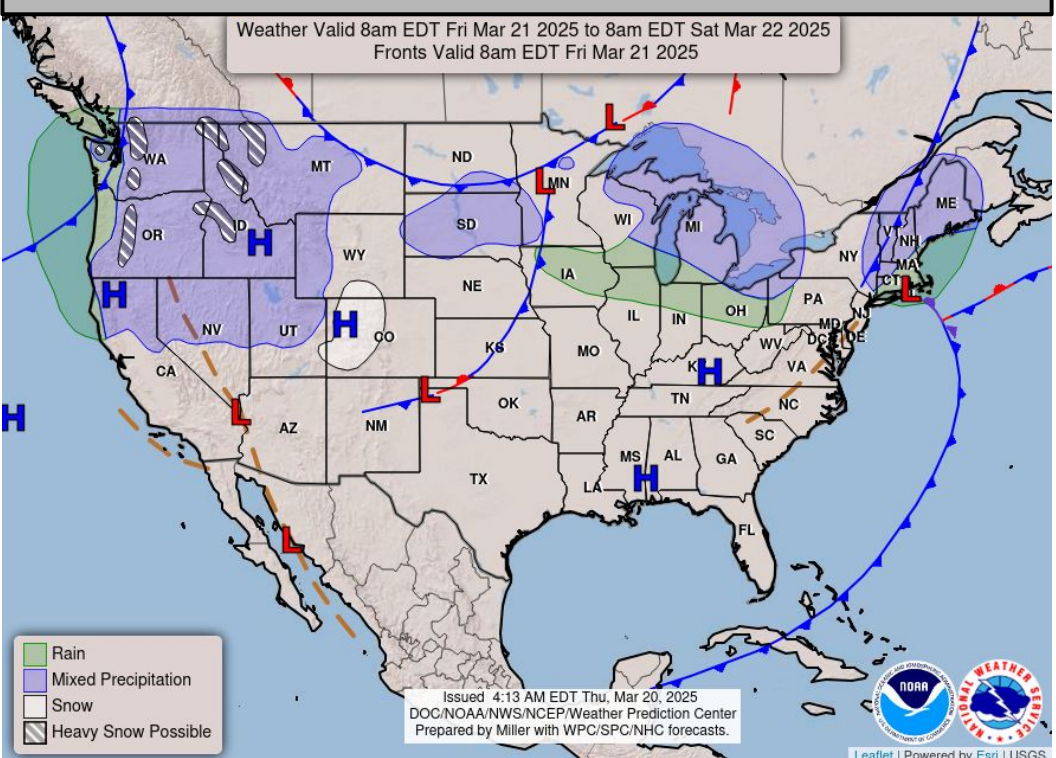




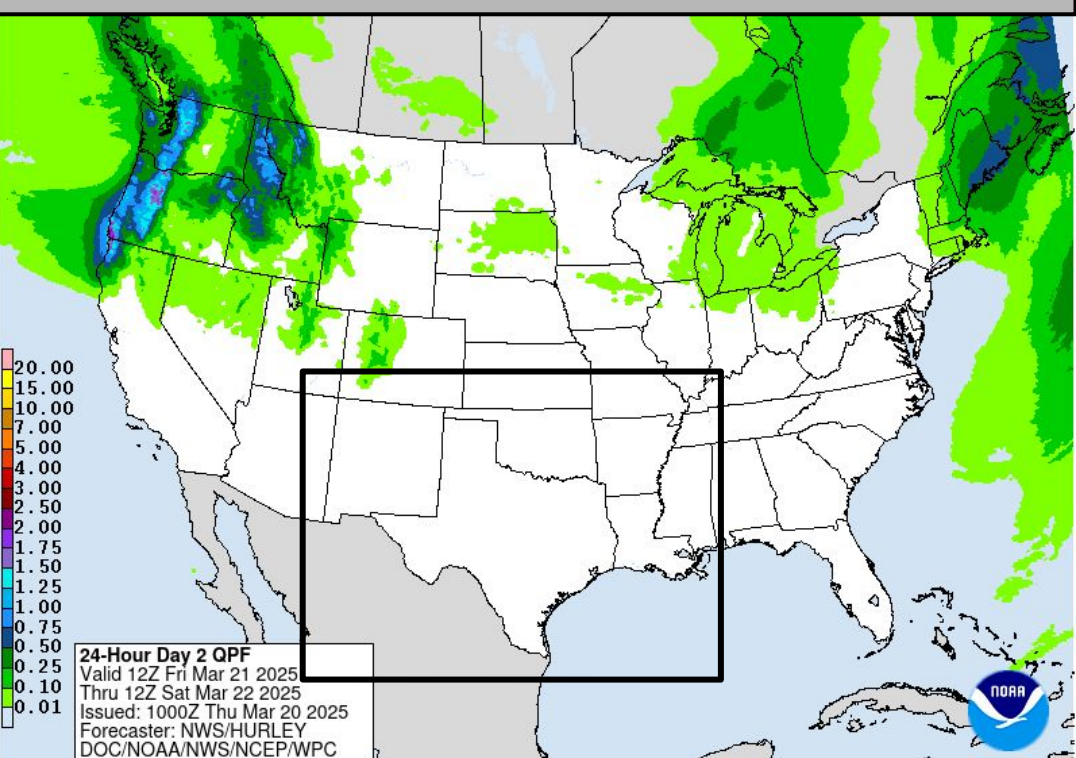


# Tomorrow's Weather

## Forecast Chart

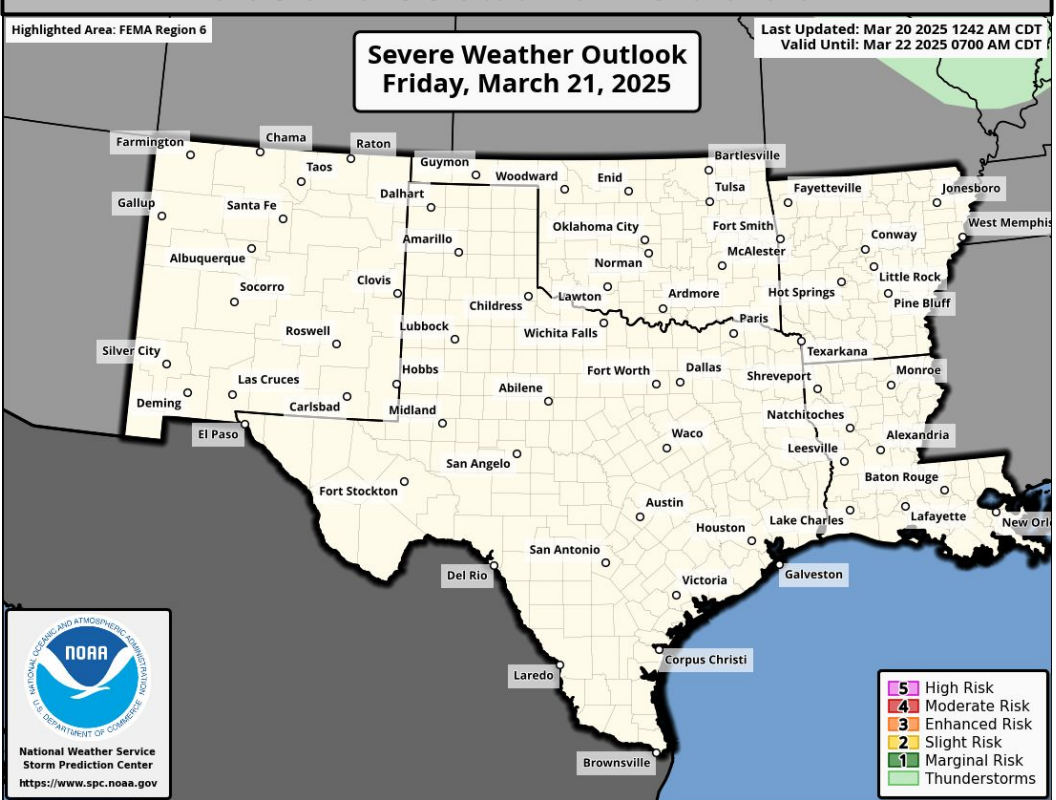


## Forecast Rainfall

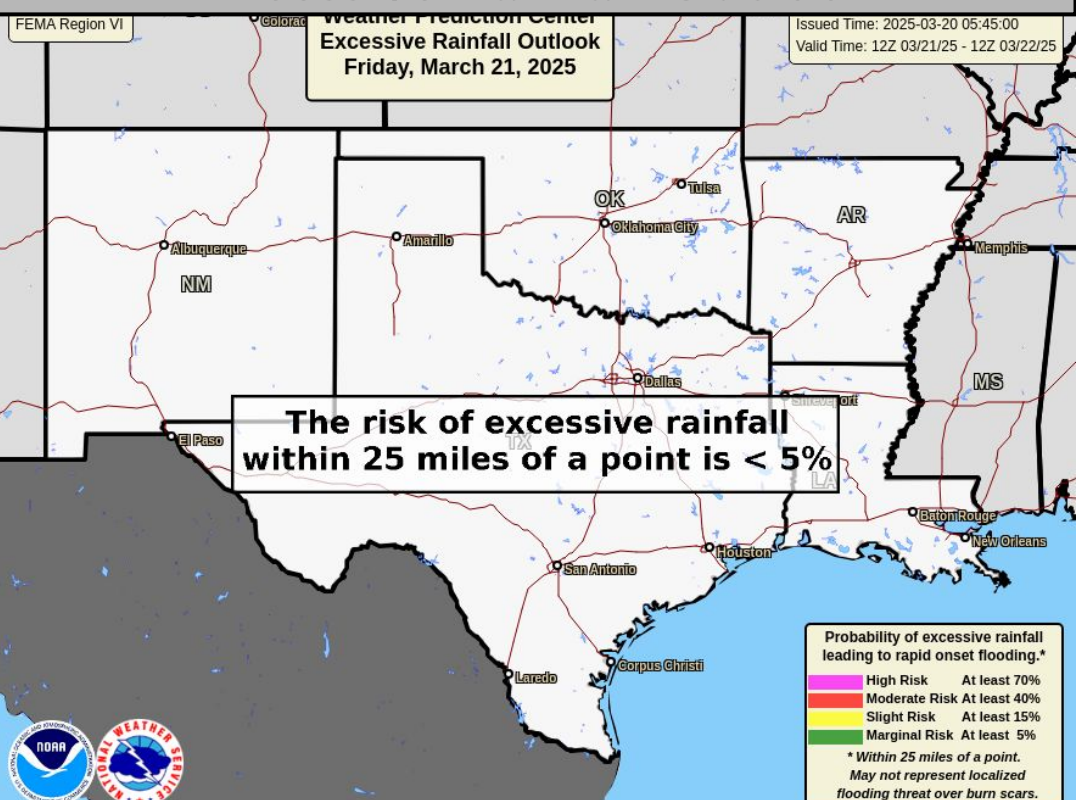


**Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in N/C TX, TX Panhandle, OK, NAR.**

## Severe Weather Outlook



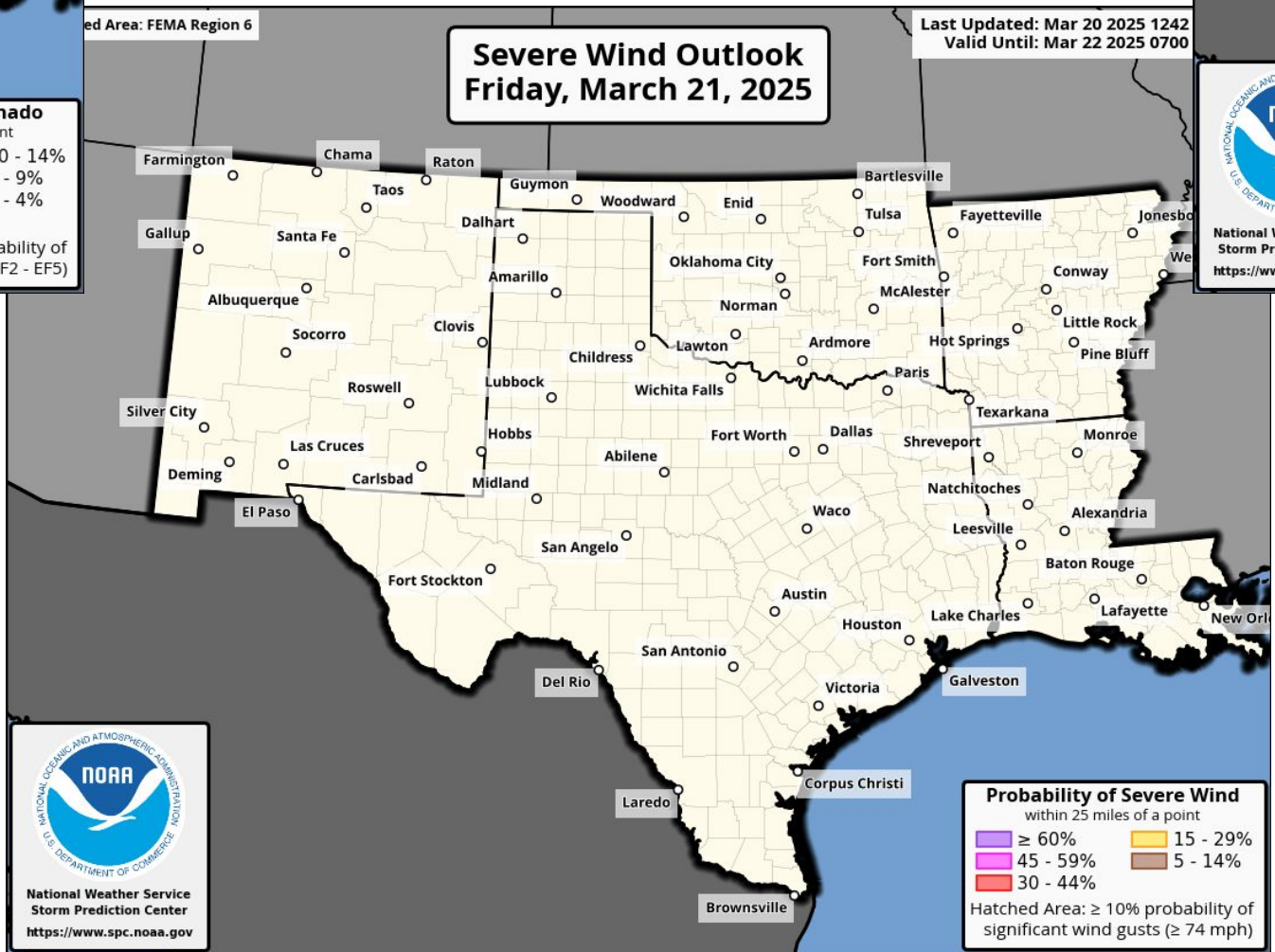
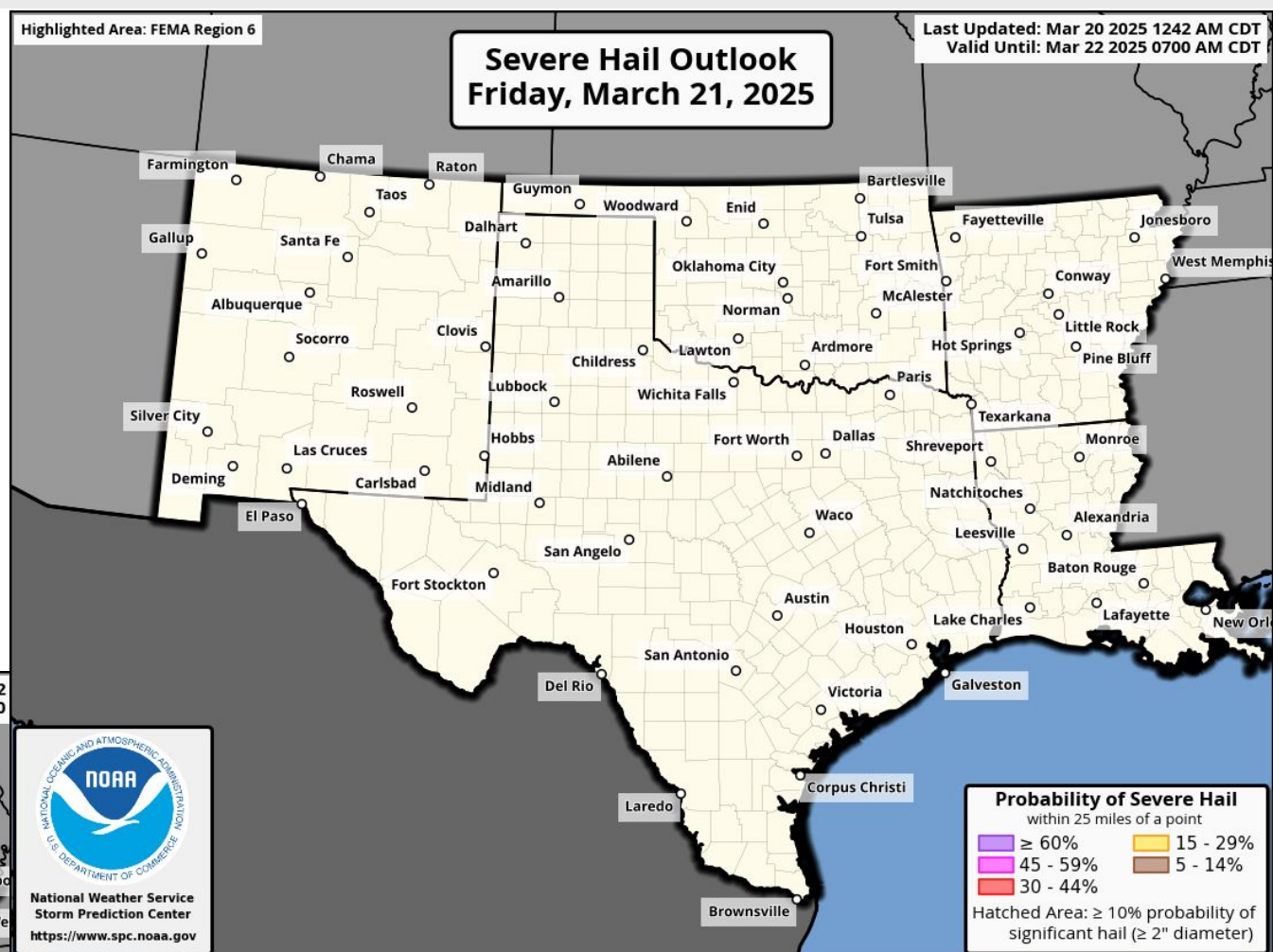
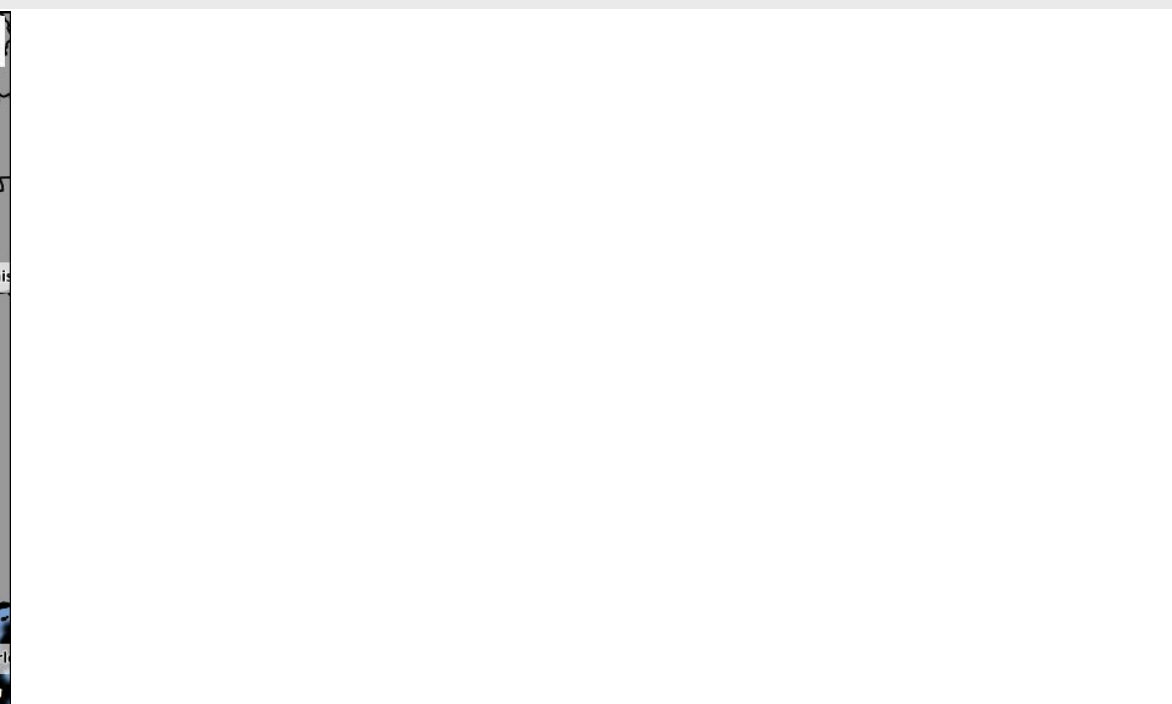
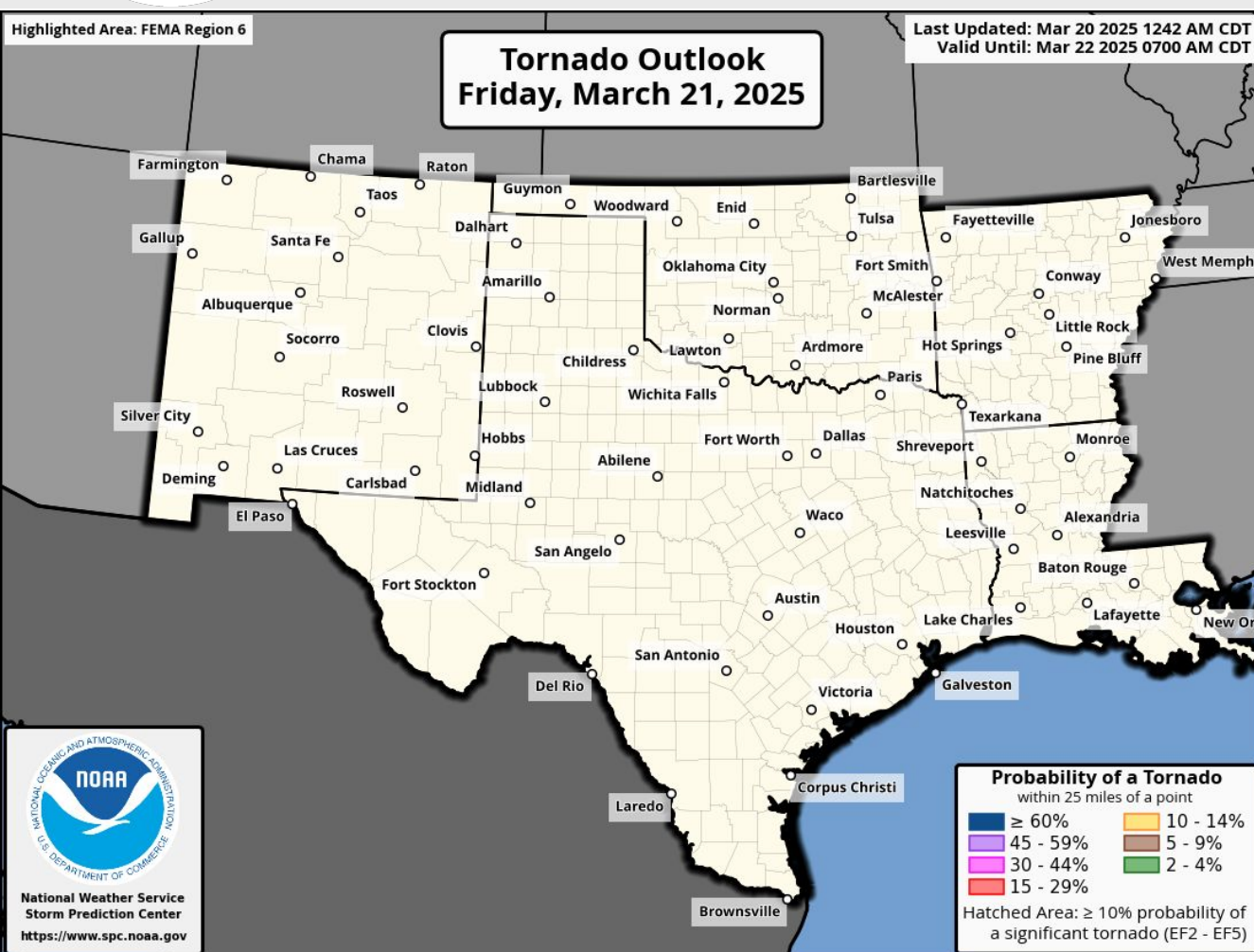
## Excessive Rainfall Outlook







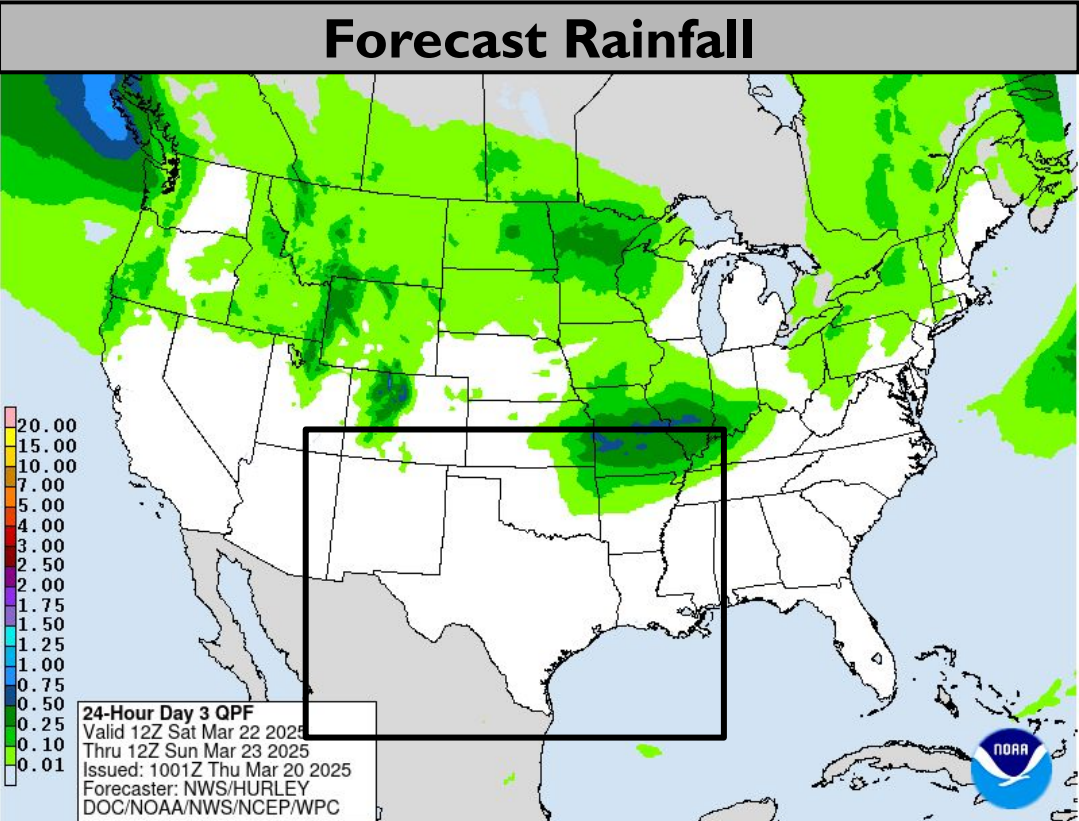
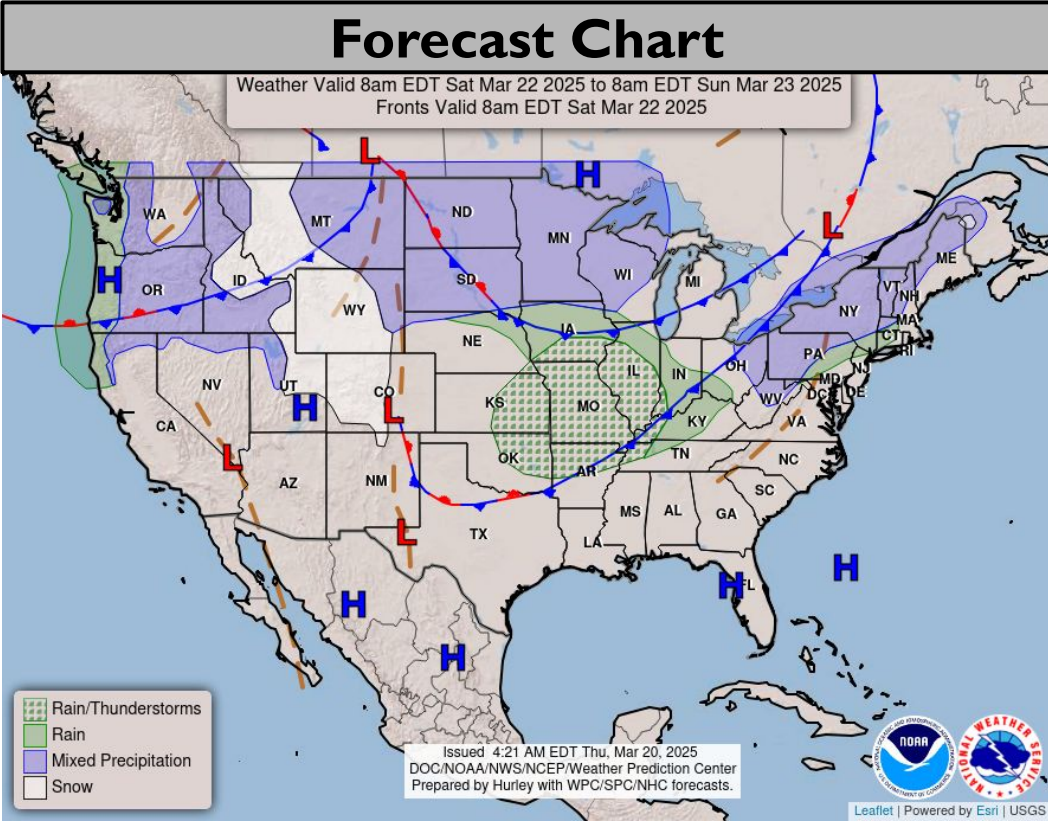
# Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





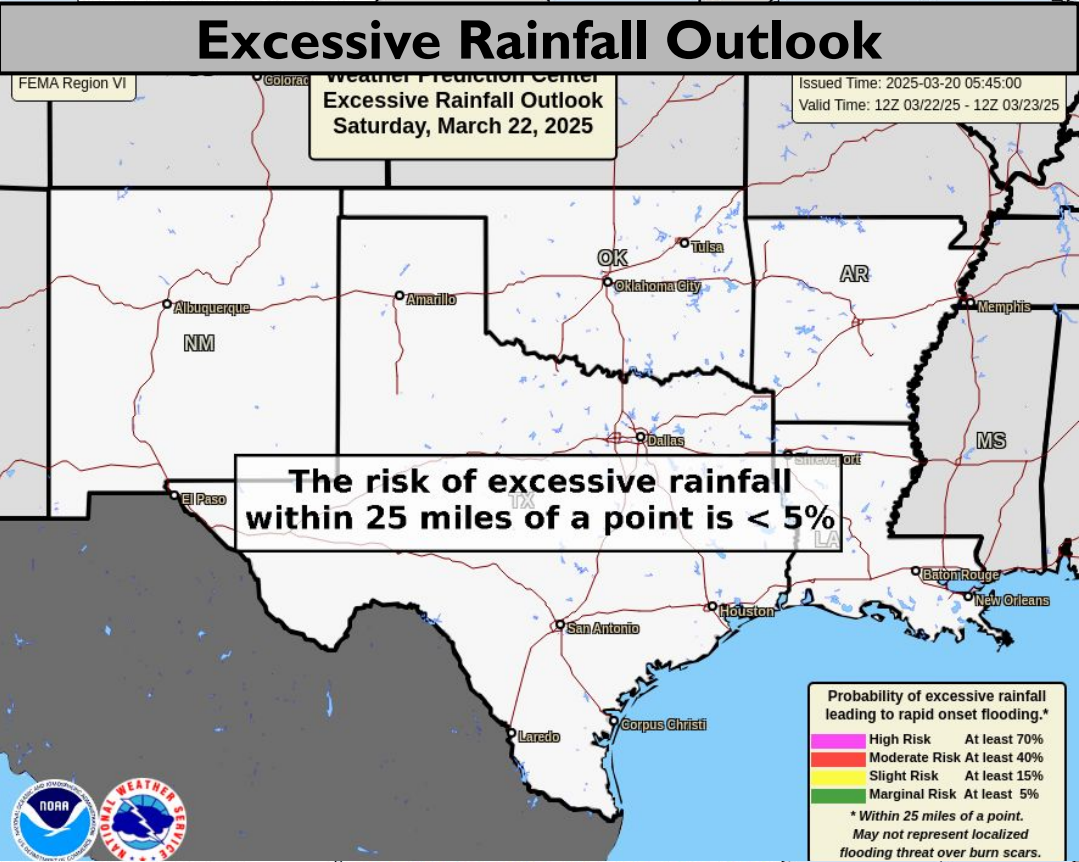
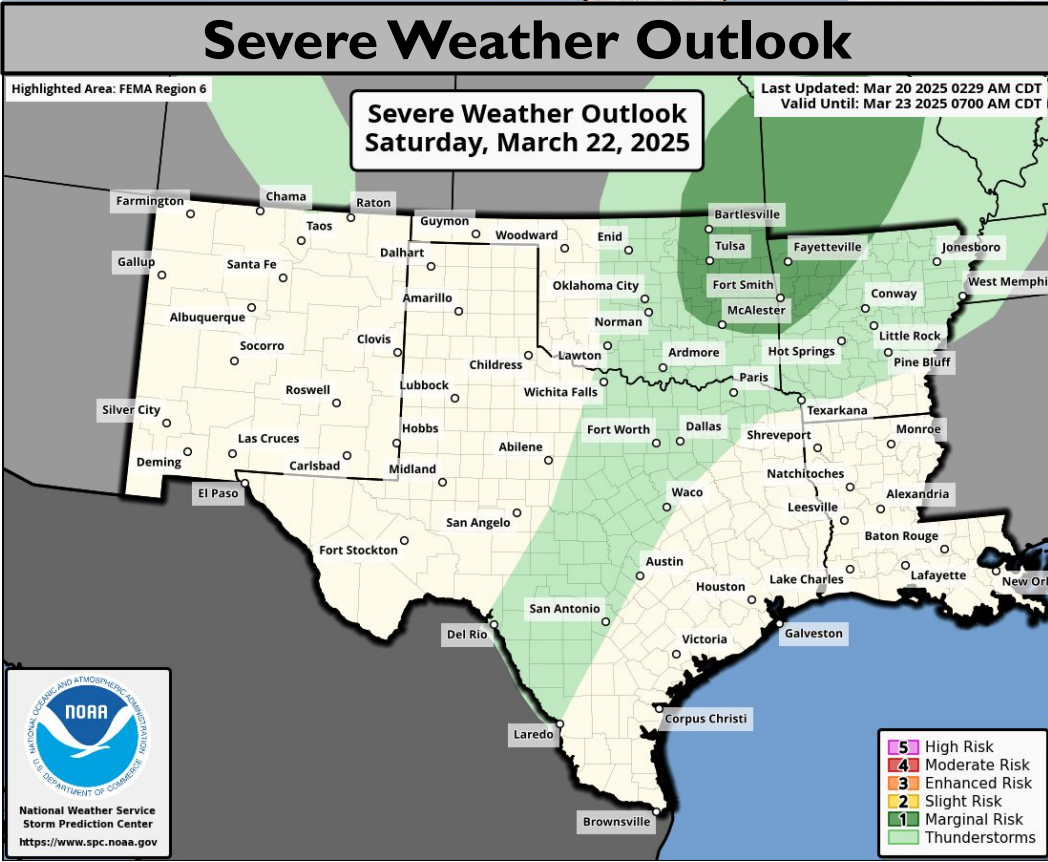


# Saturday's Weather



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

**Marginal (level 1 of 5) risk for severe storms in NE OK, NW AR Saturday afternoon. (Hail Threat)**

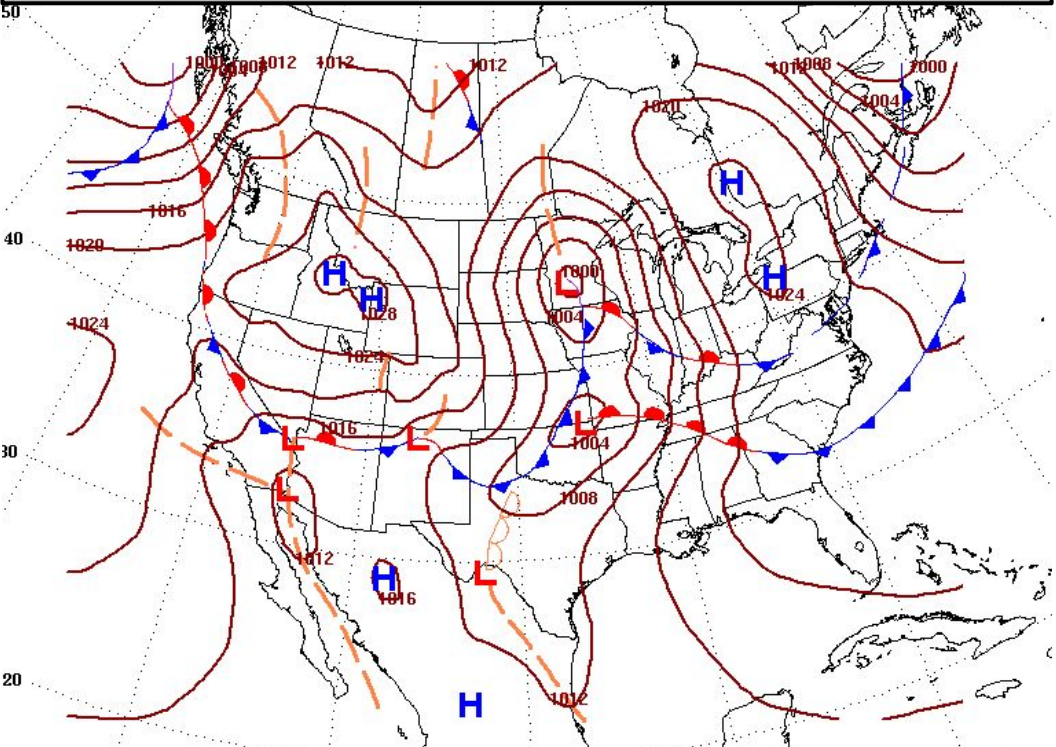




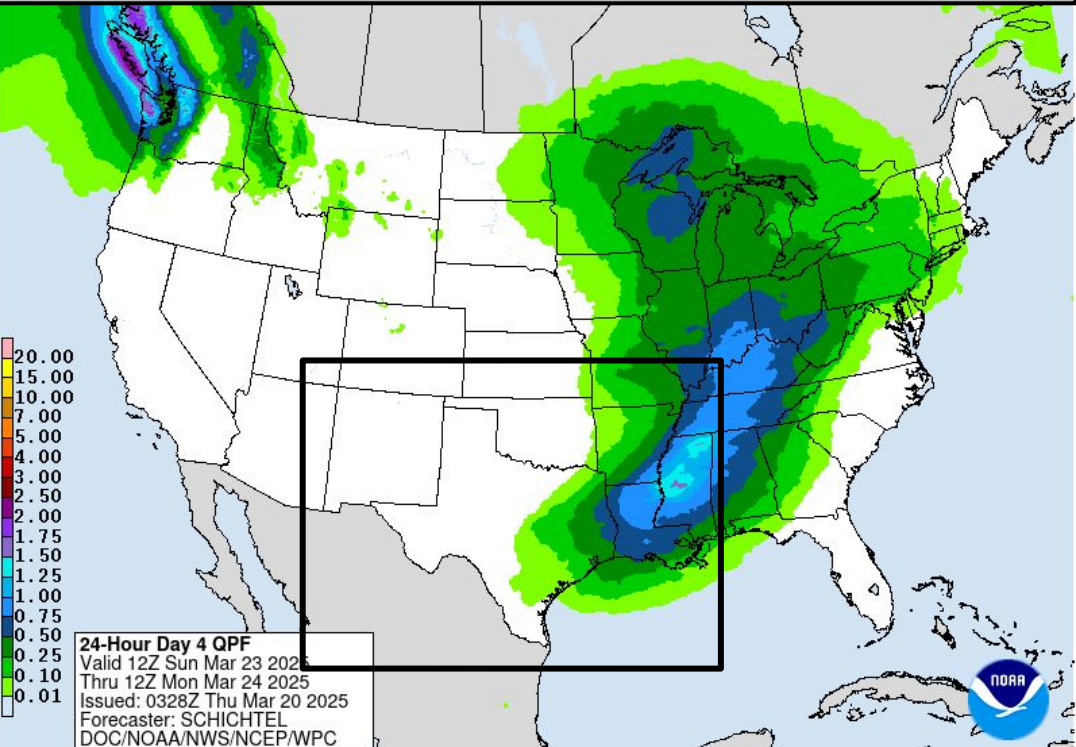


# Sunday's Weather

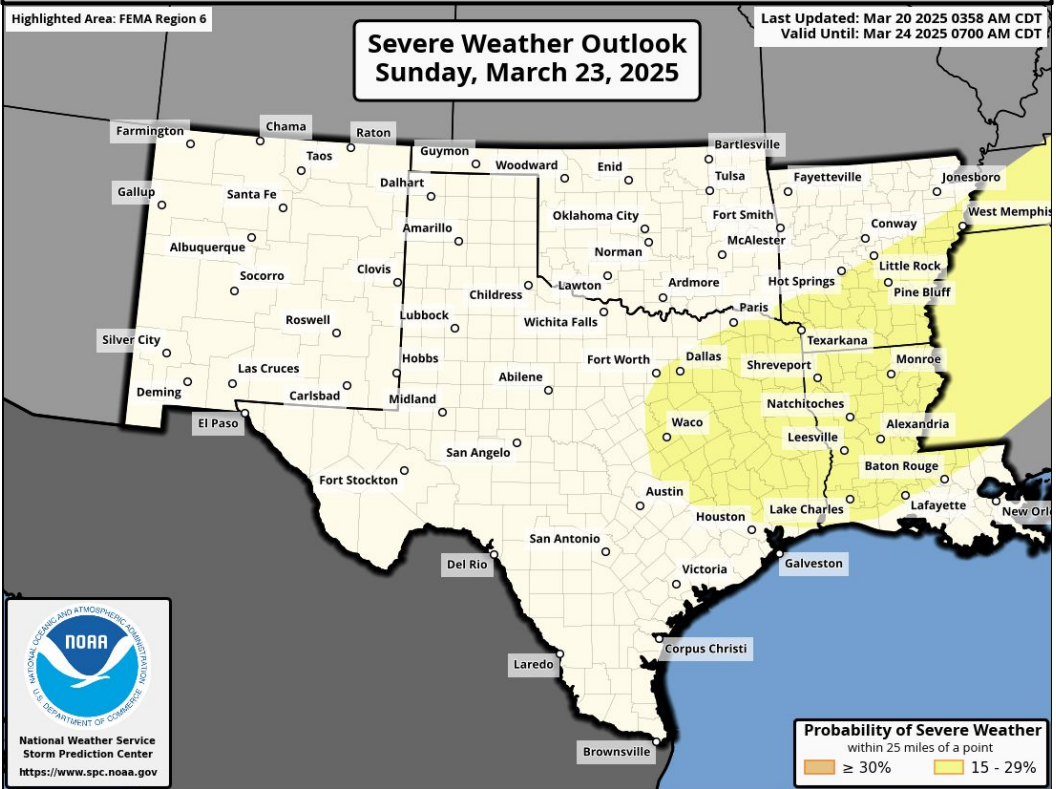
Forecast Chart



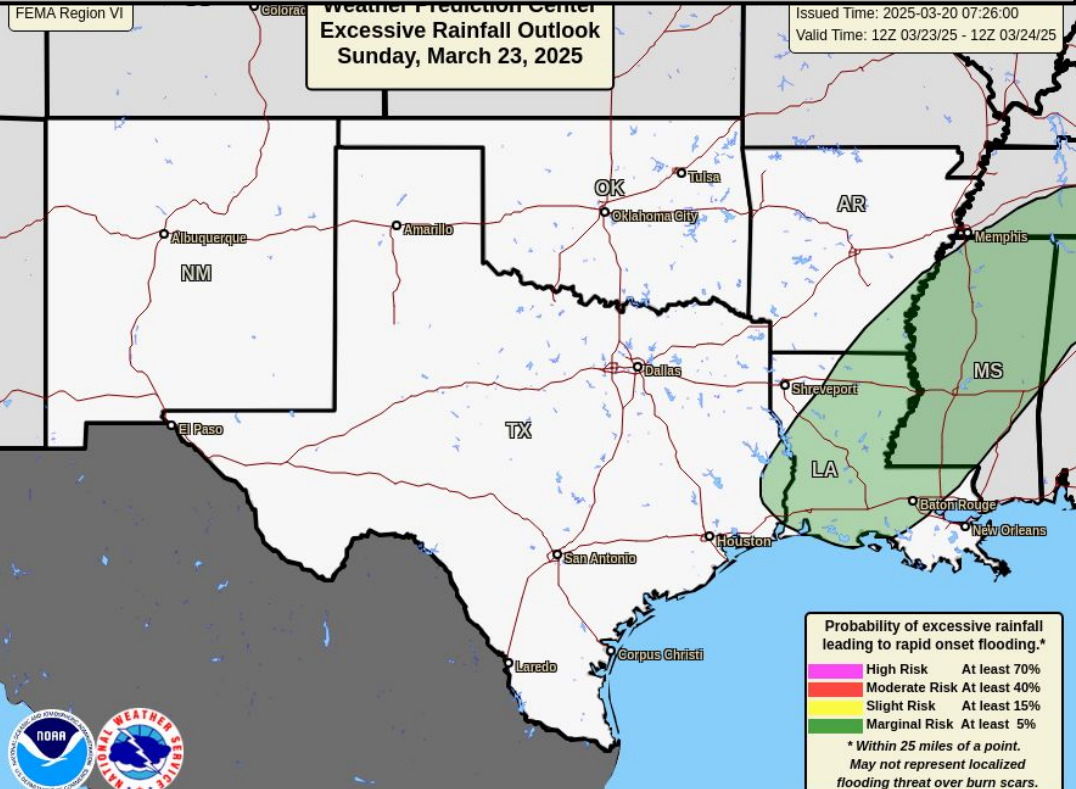
Forecast Rainfall



Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



**Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for severe storms S AR, ETX, N LA Sunday afternoon.**

**Monitoring for elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns for E NM, N/W TX, OK/TX Panhandles.**

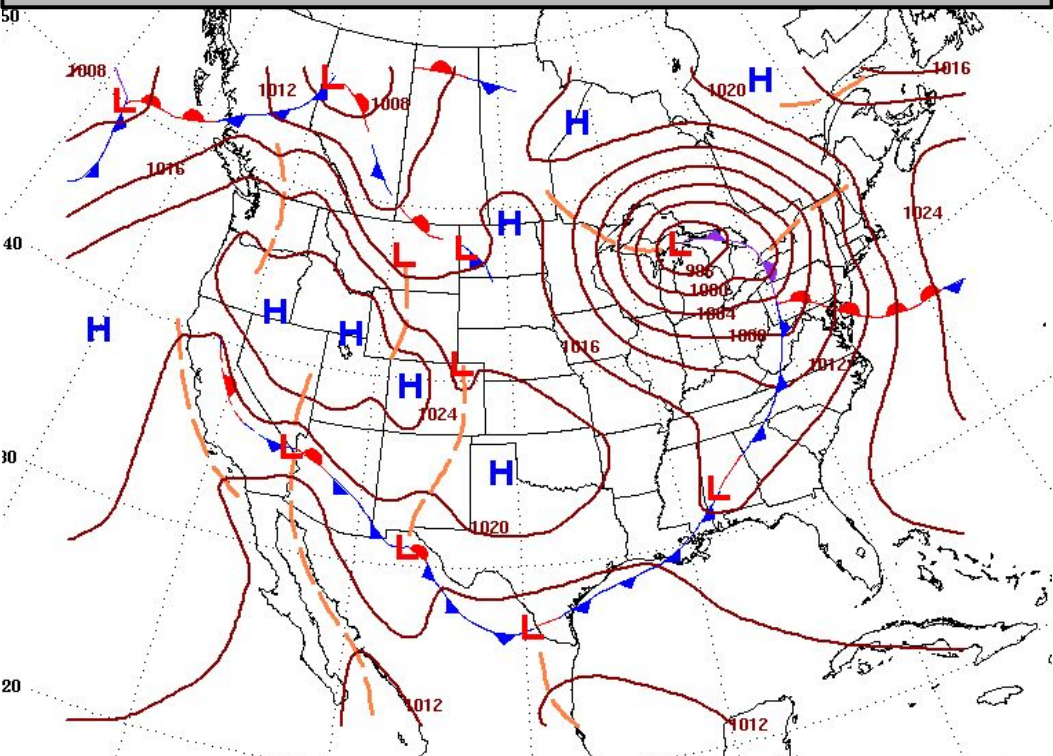
**Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for heavy rainfall in SE AR, LA, and SE TX.**



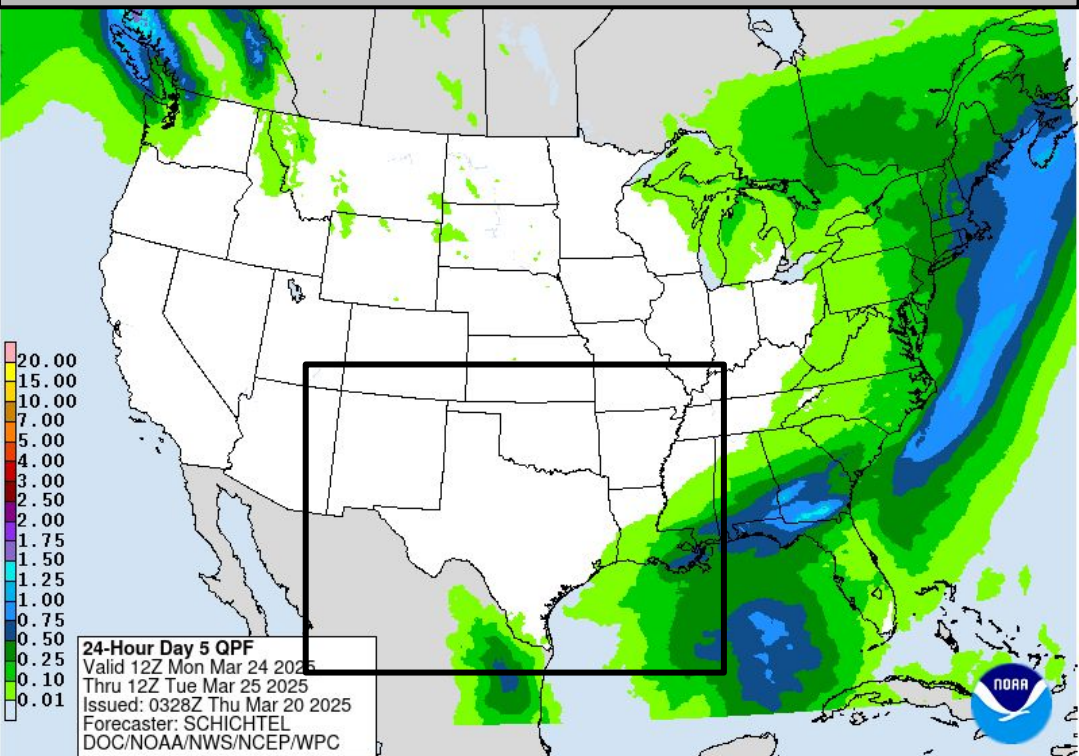


# Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

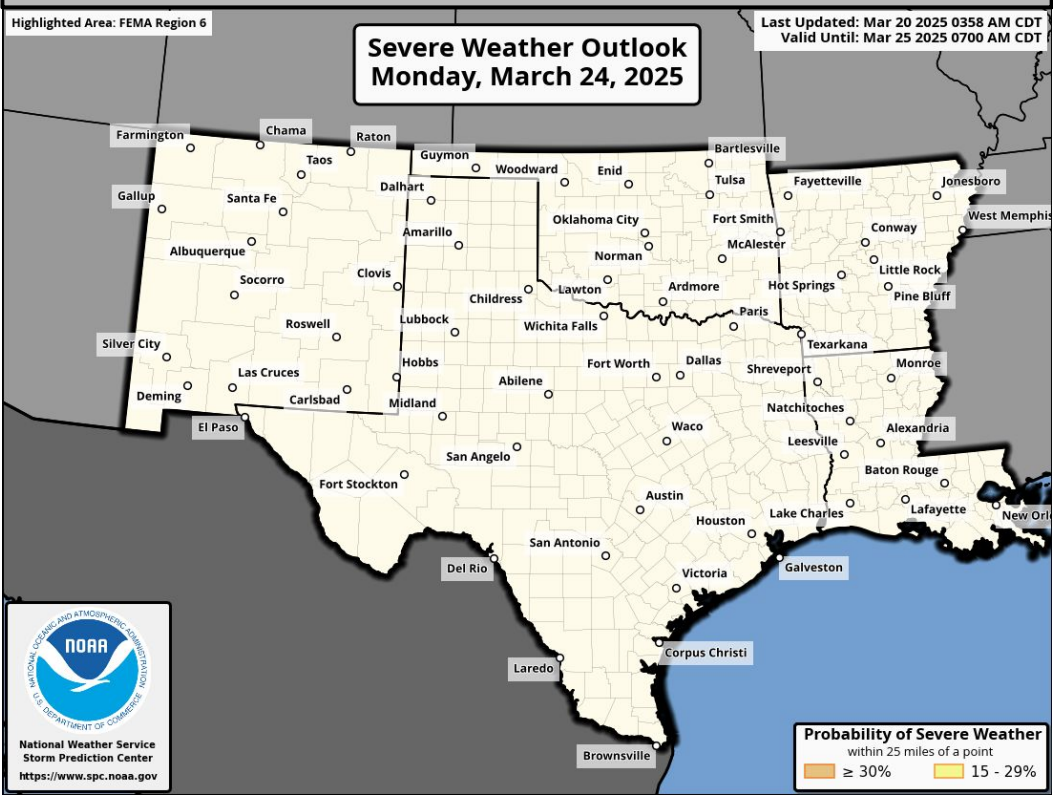


Forecast Rainfall

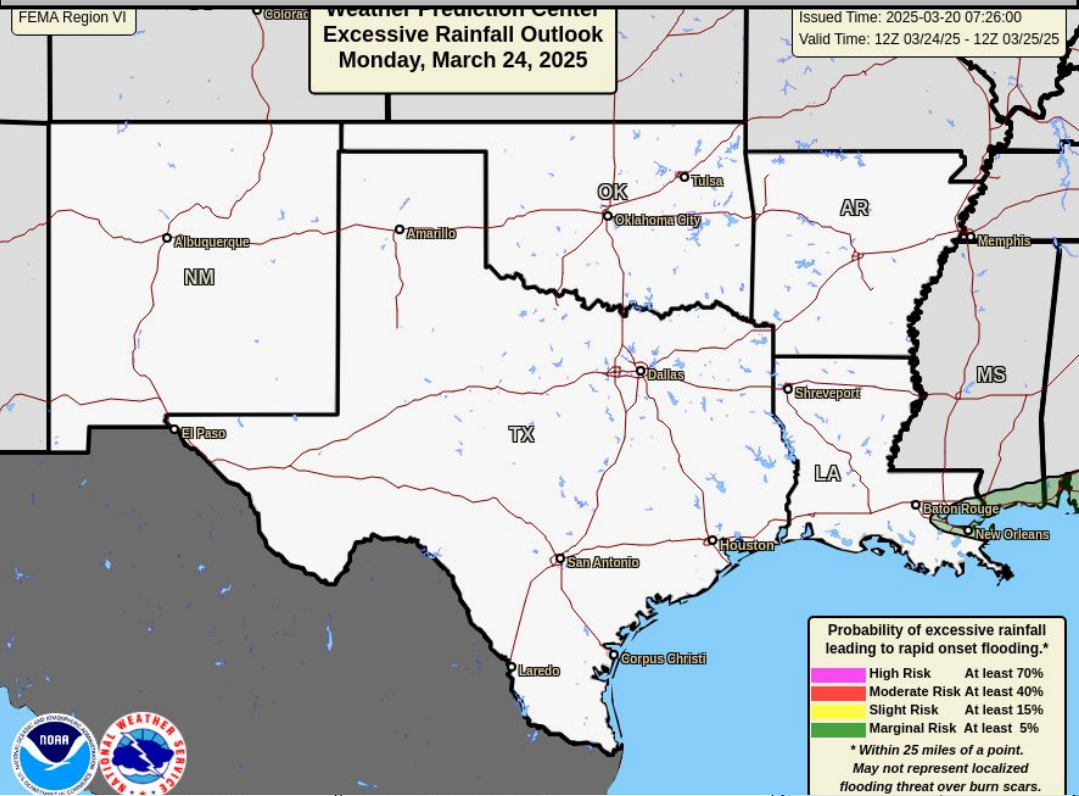


**Monitoring for fire concerns in TX/OK Panhandles, E NM.**

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

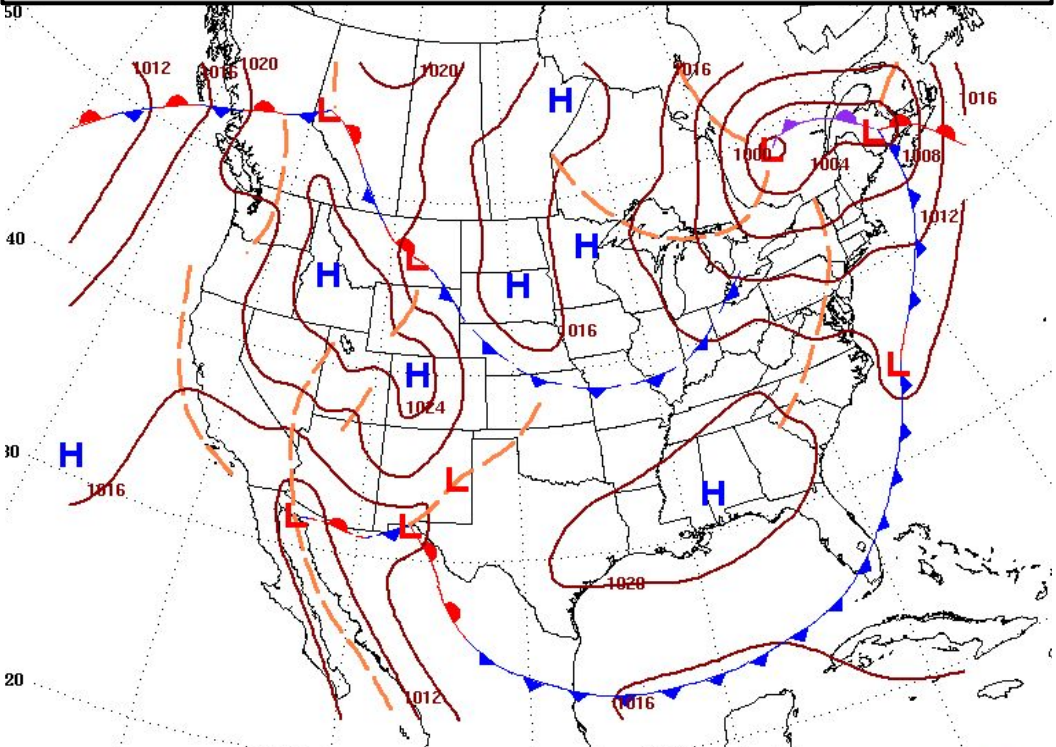




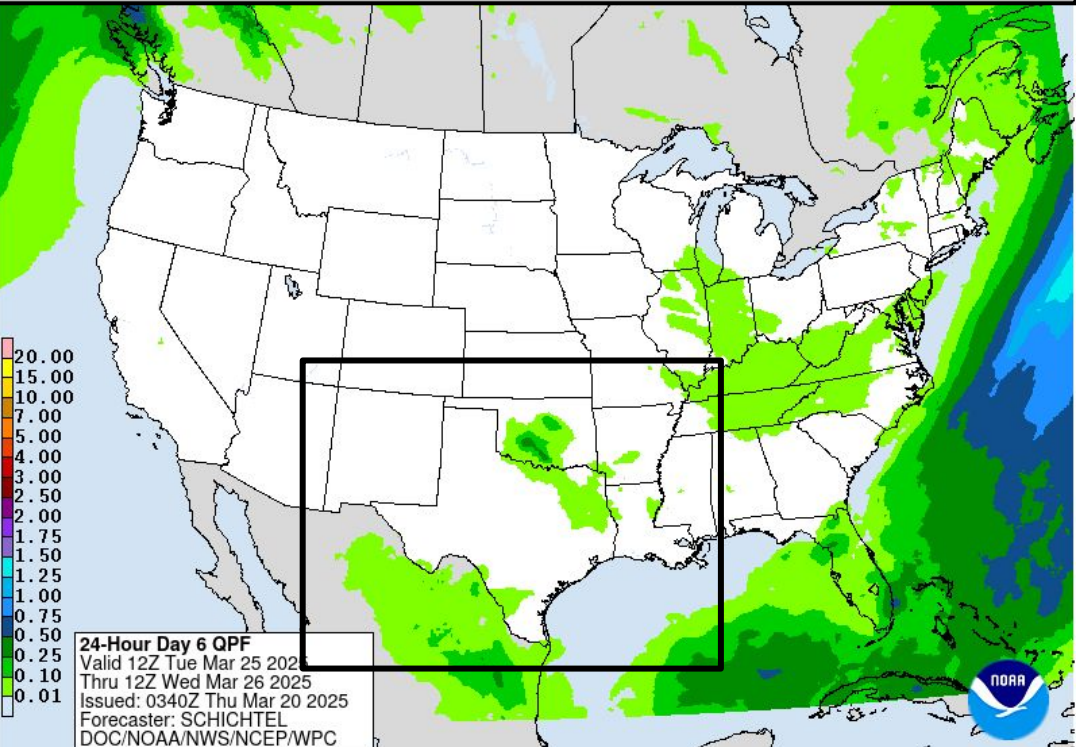


# Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

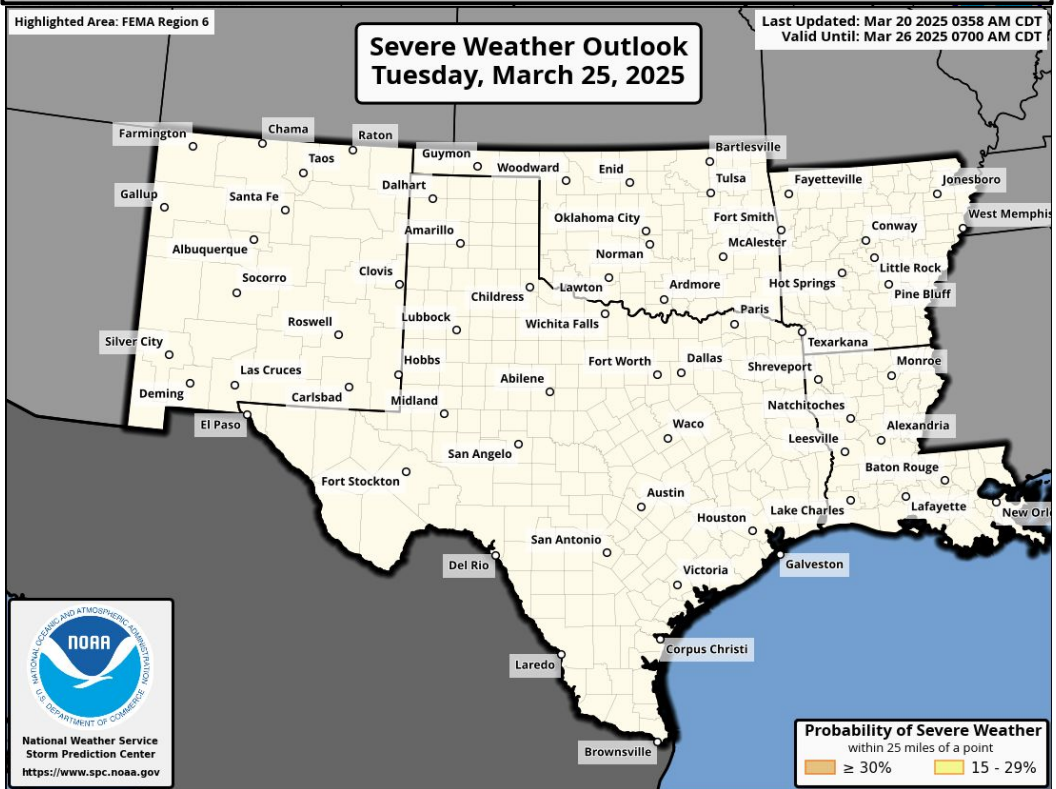


Forecast Rainfall



**Monitoring for fire concerns in SW TX.**

Severe Weather Outlook



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



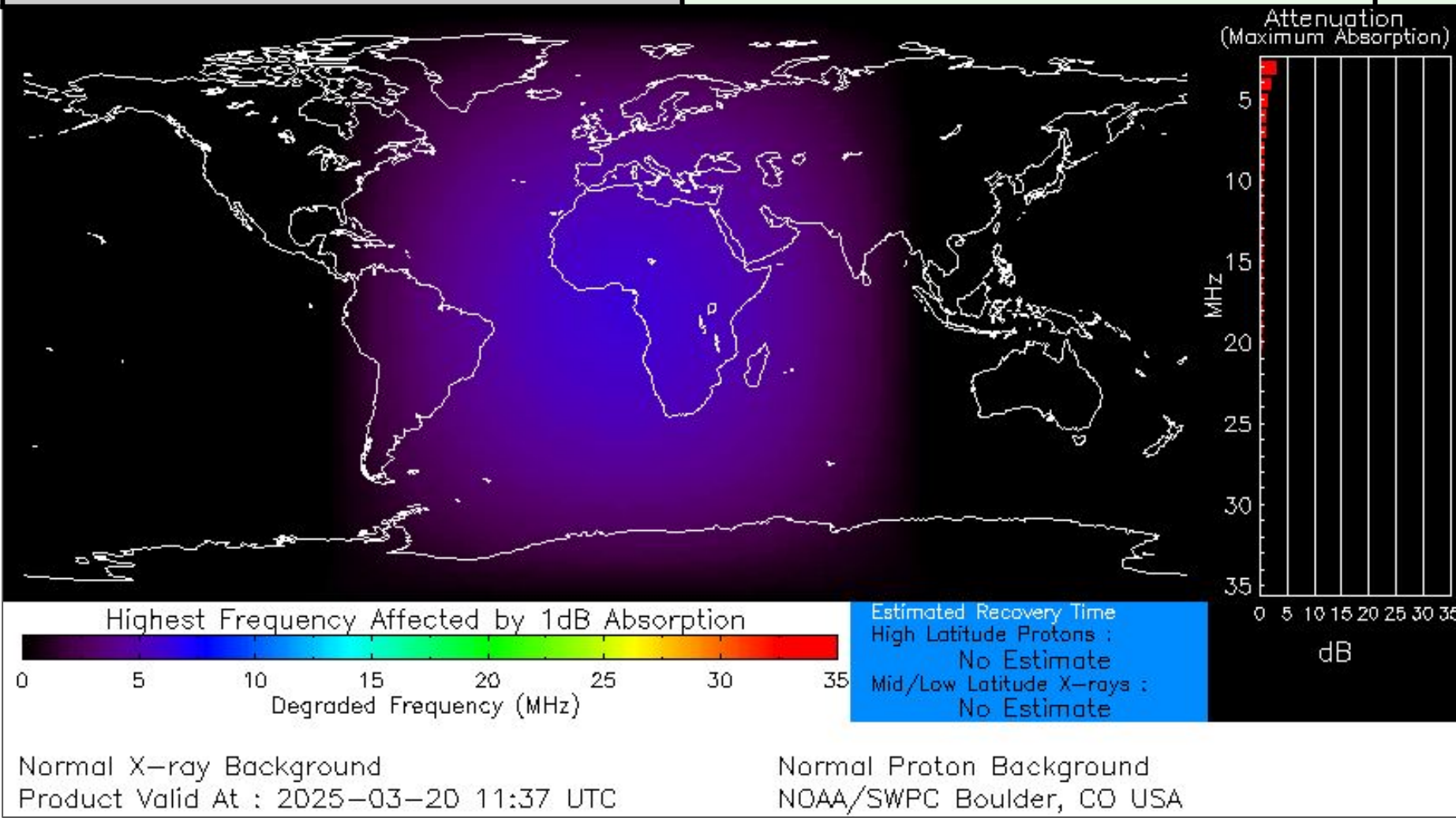






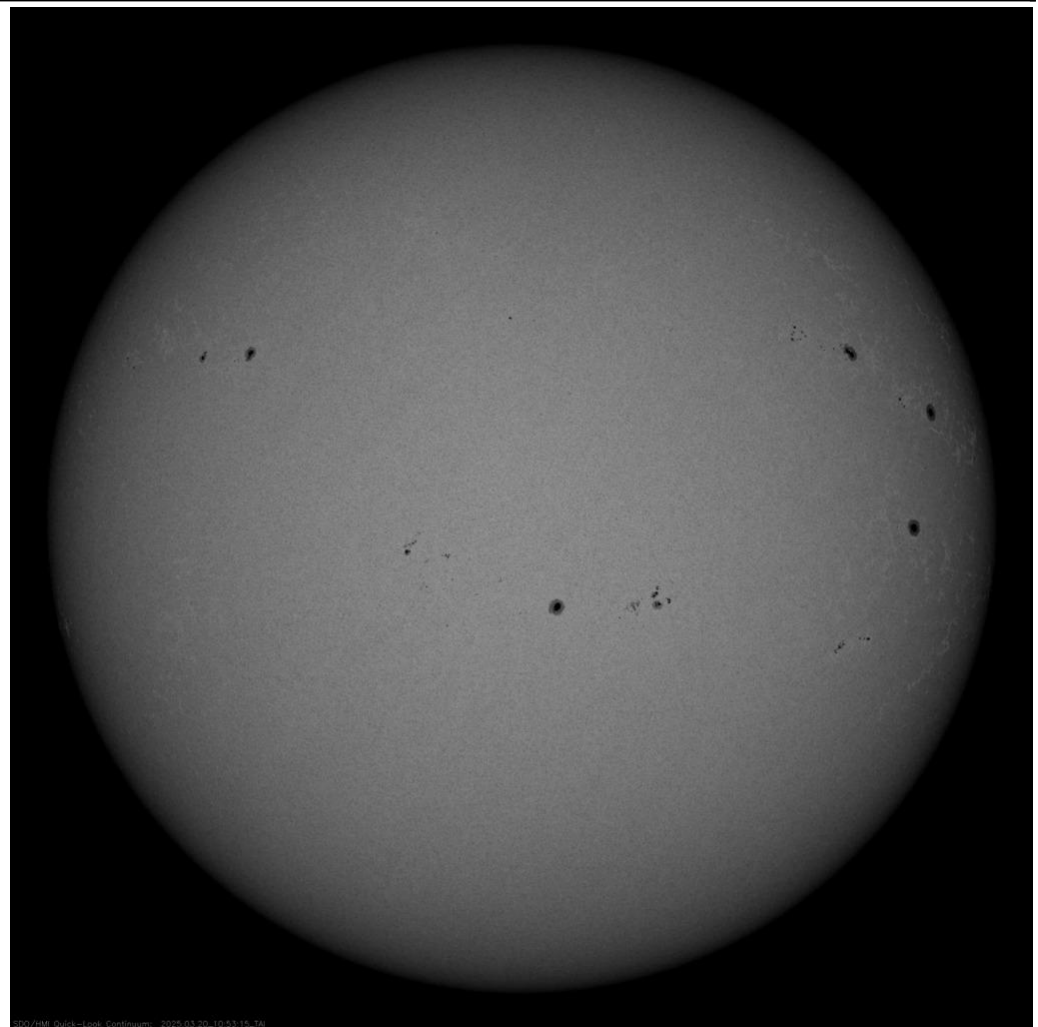
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday, Mar 20	Friday, Mar 21	Saturday, Mar 22
Geomagnetic Storms	Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Active (Max Kp = 4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	5%	5%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	30%	30%	30%
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	<b>Little to None</b> 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"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as seabreeze storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Minor</b> 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"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Moderate</b> 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"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Major</b> 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"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Extreme</b> 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"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**  
[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)