



FEMA



Prepared by
Melissa Beat

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, September 18, 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

- **Flooding:**

- **Flash Flooding: Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) across portions of S NM, Far W TX, TX/OK Panhandles, OK, and NW AR today into Monday.**
- **NM Burn Scars: Moderate to Major risk (levels 2-3 of 4) today-Friday in the south and minor (level 1 of 4) in the north on Friday.**

- **Severe Storms:**

- **Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) across TX Panhandles, OK, NW AR today. Hail and wind are the main threats.**

- **Tropical Weather:**

- **Tropical Storm Gabrielle is forecast to remain in the Atlantic. FEMA 6 impacts are not expected over the next week.**
- **Low chance (20%) for a wave in the eastern Atlantic to develop over the next 7 days. FEMA 6 impacts are not expected over the next week.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Thursday, Sep 18	Friday, Sep 19	Saturday, Sep 20	Sunday, Sep 21	Monday, Sep 22	Tuesday, Sep 23	Wednesday, Sep 24
Severe Storms	TX Panhandle, OK, NW AR						
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	S NM, Far W TX, TX/OK Panhandles, OK, NW AR	SW NM, SE OK, AR, NE TX, N LA	OK	OK, AR, N TX	SE OK, AR, N TX, NW LA		
Burn Scars	S NM	S NM	S NM				
		N NM					
Tropical							
Heat							
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.

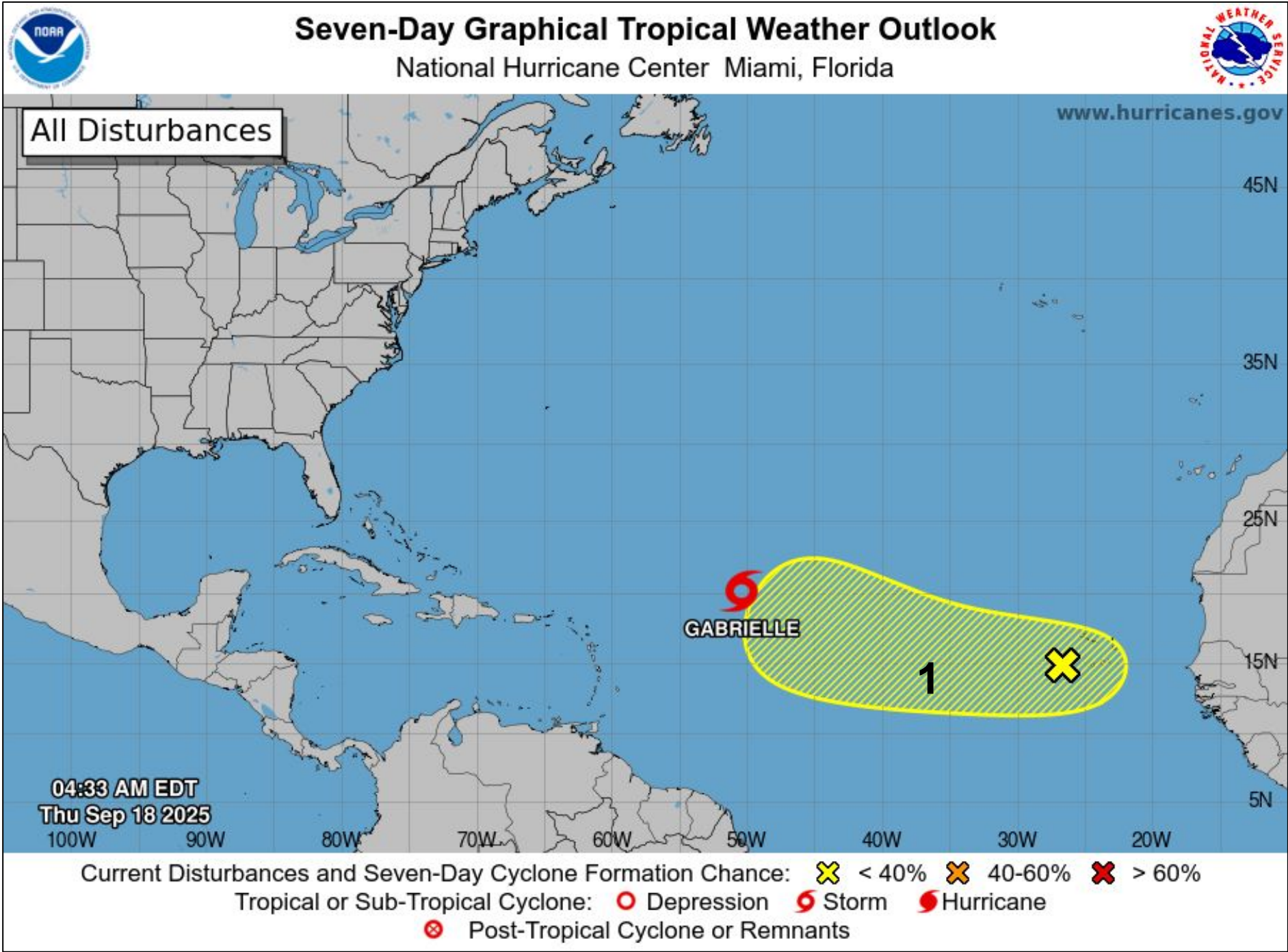
Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf

Areas of Possible Development		
Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
1	Low	None

Active Tropical Cyclones	
Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
Gabrielle	None



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

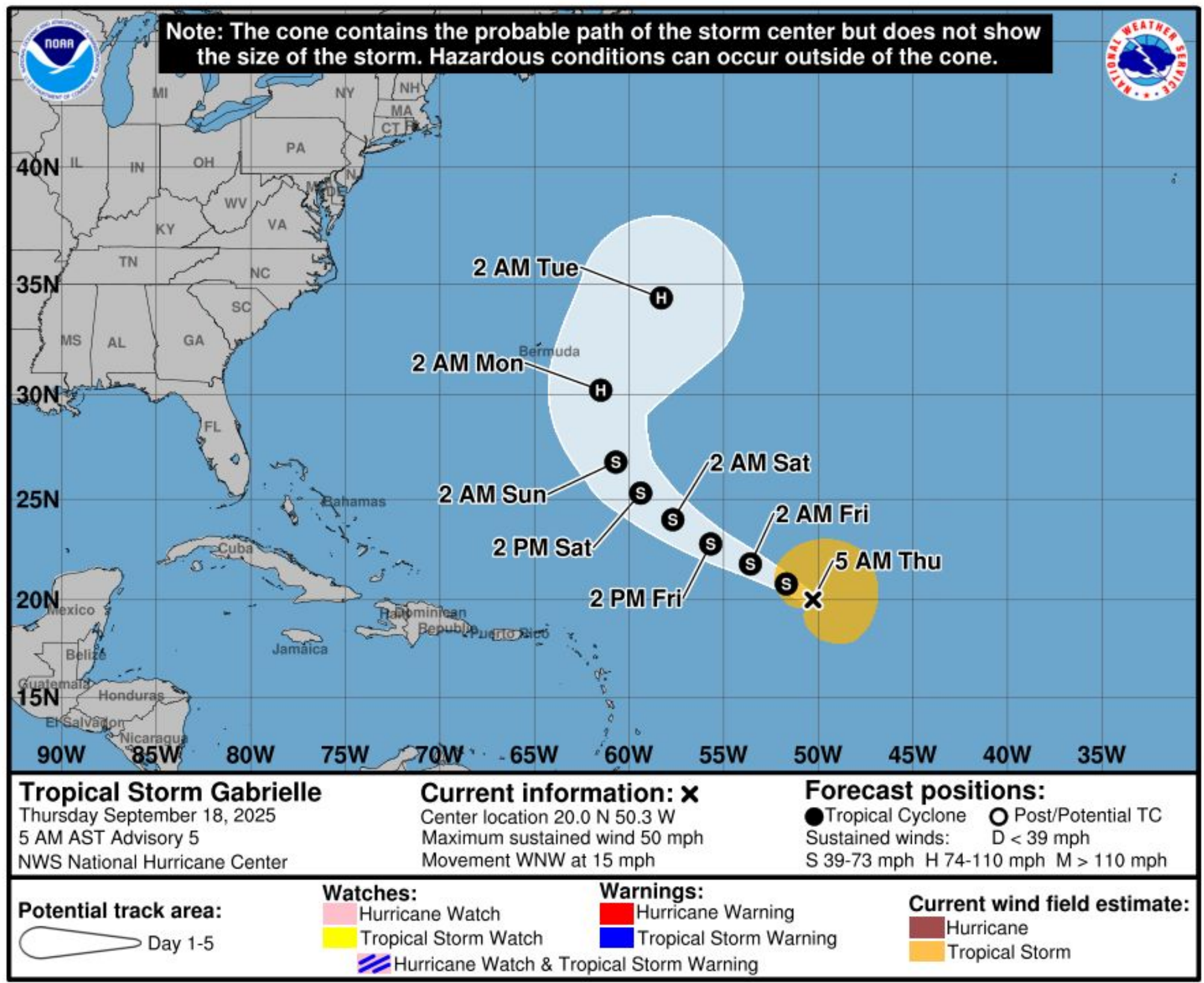




Tropical Storm Gabrielle

September 18, 2025
2:52 PM

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



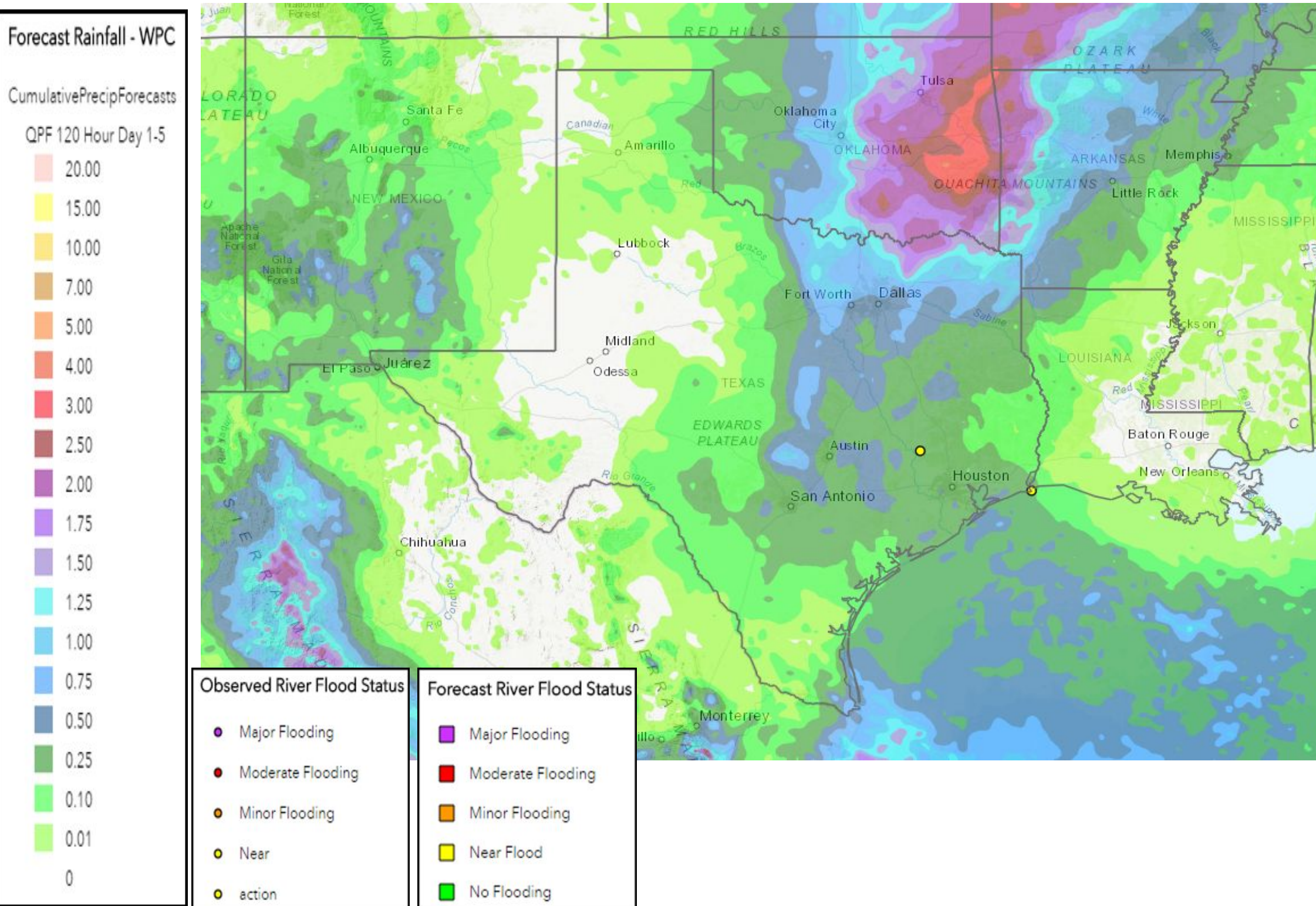
No impacts to FEMA 6 in the next 7 days.





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



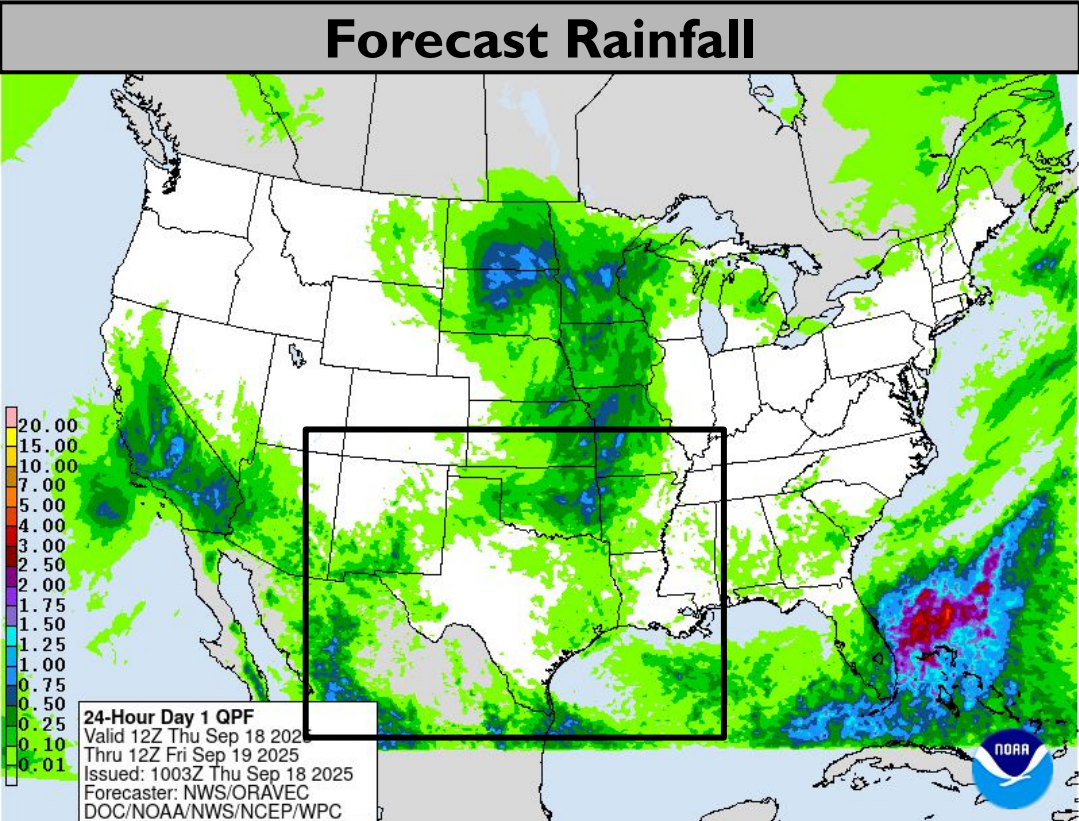
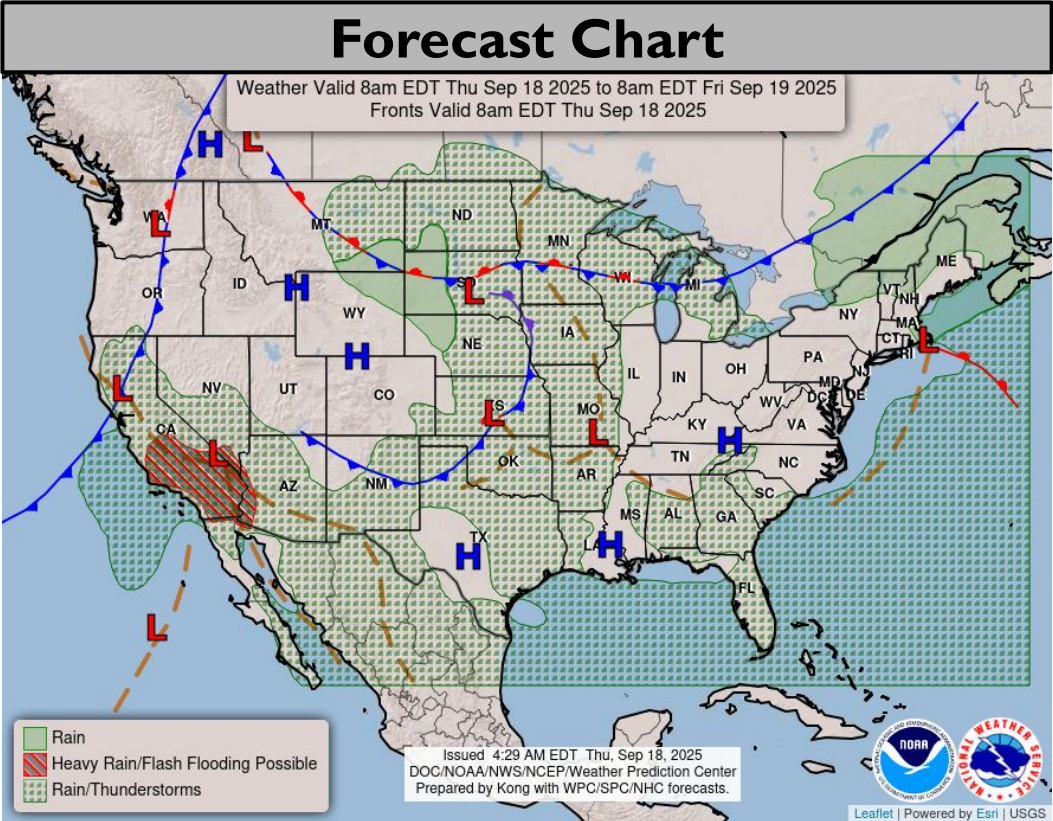
Significant river flooding is not expected.

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.



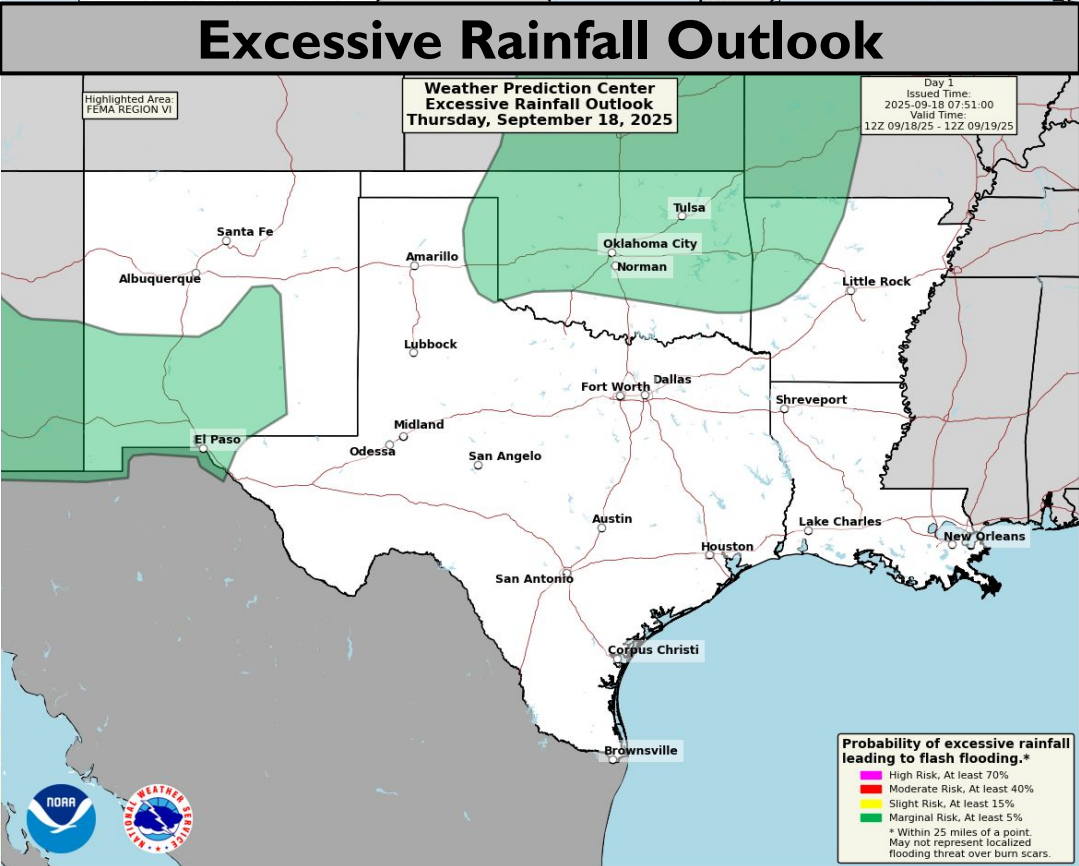
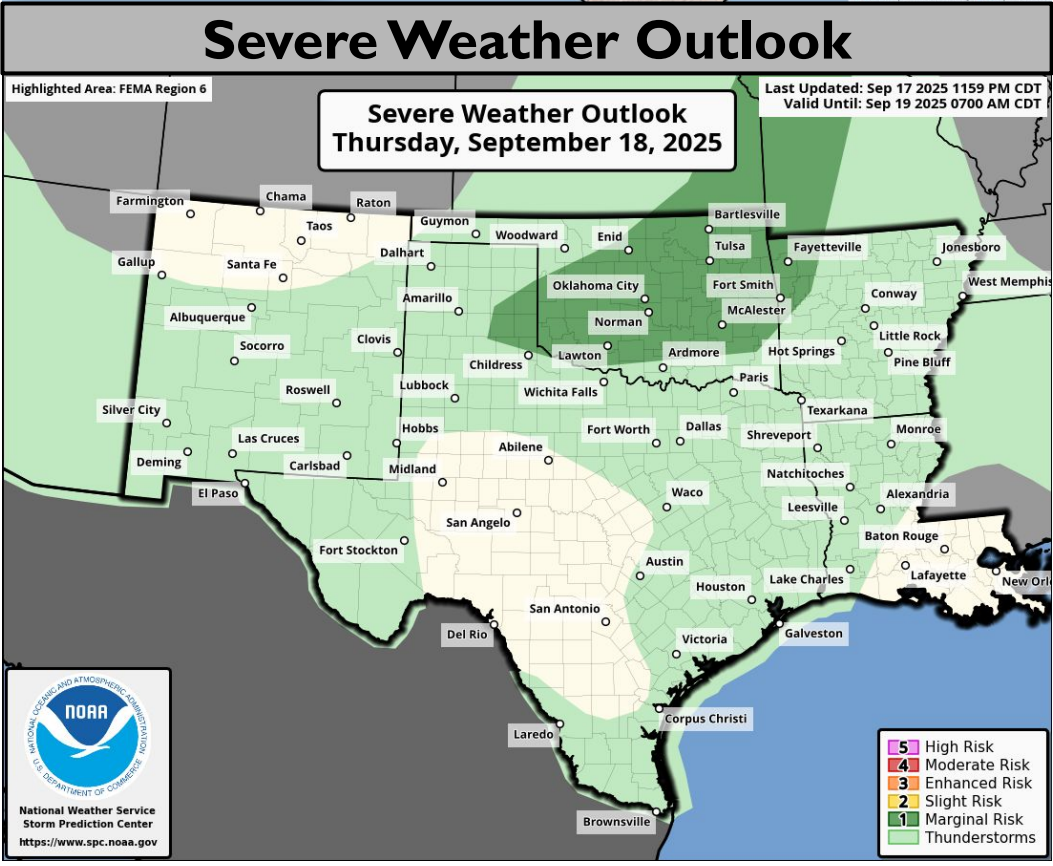


Today's Weather



Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in S NM, Far W TX, TX/OK Panhandles, OK, NW AR.

Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) for severe storms in TX Panhandle, OK, NW AR.

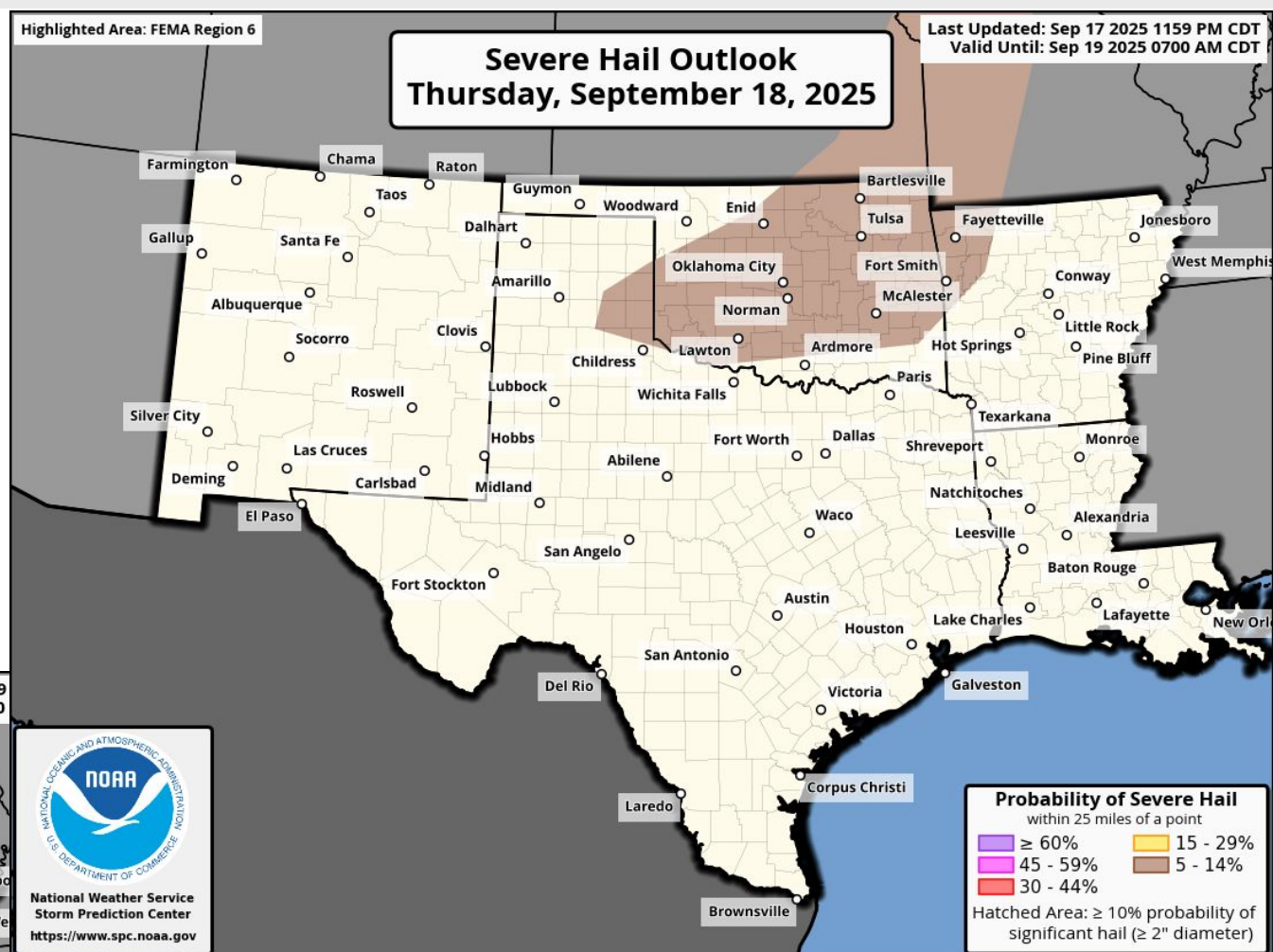
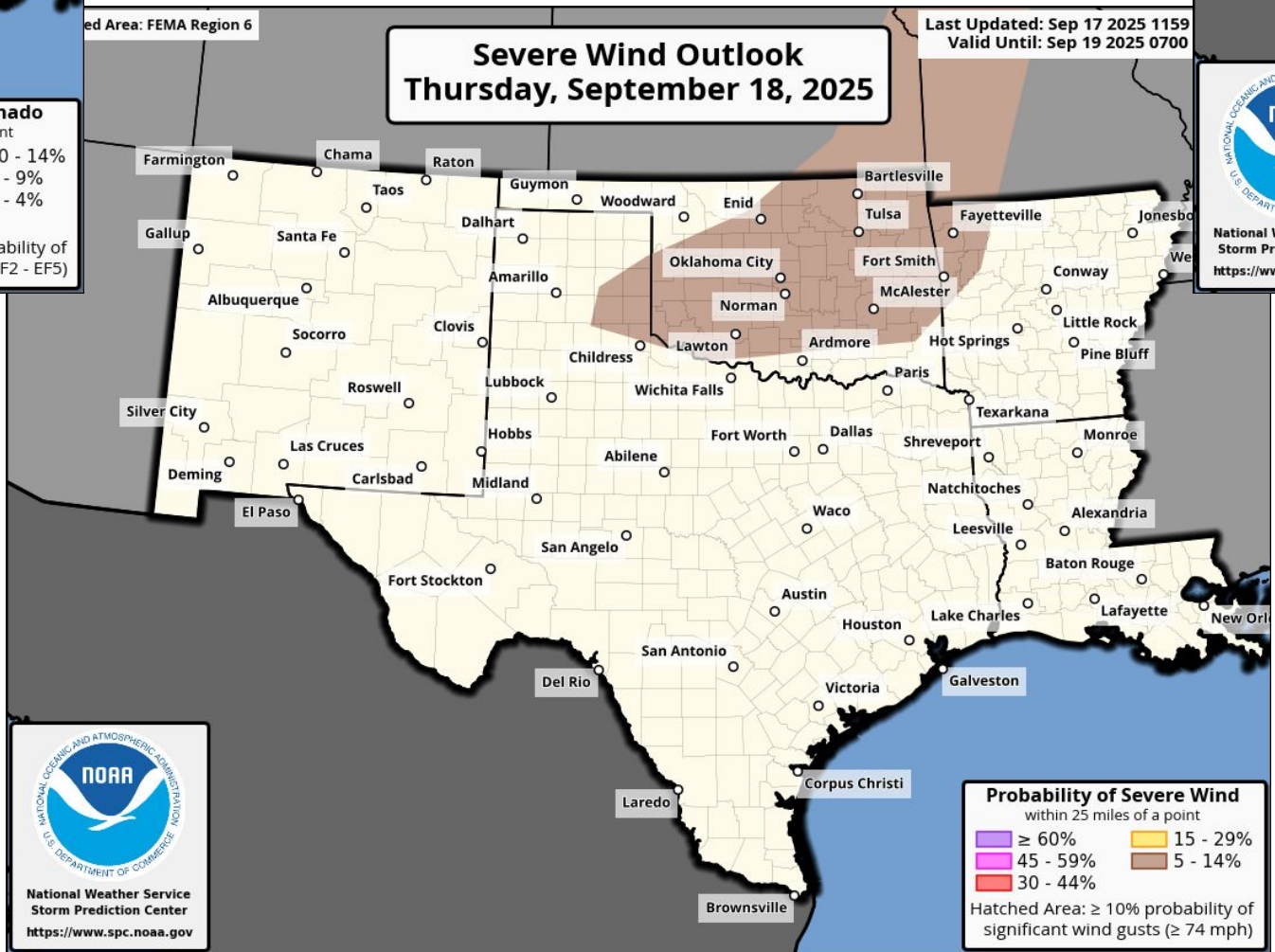
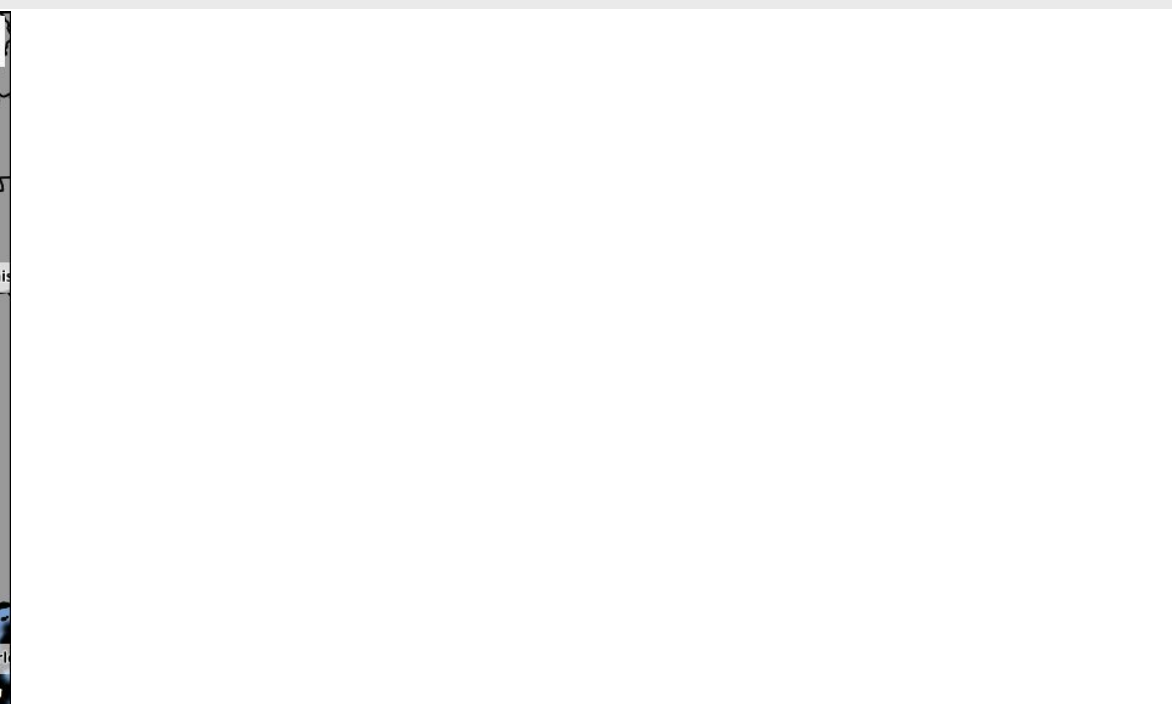
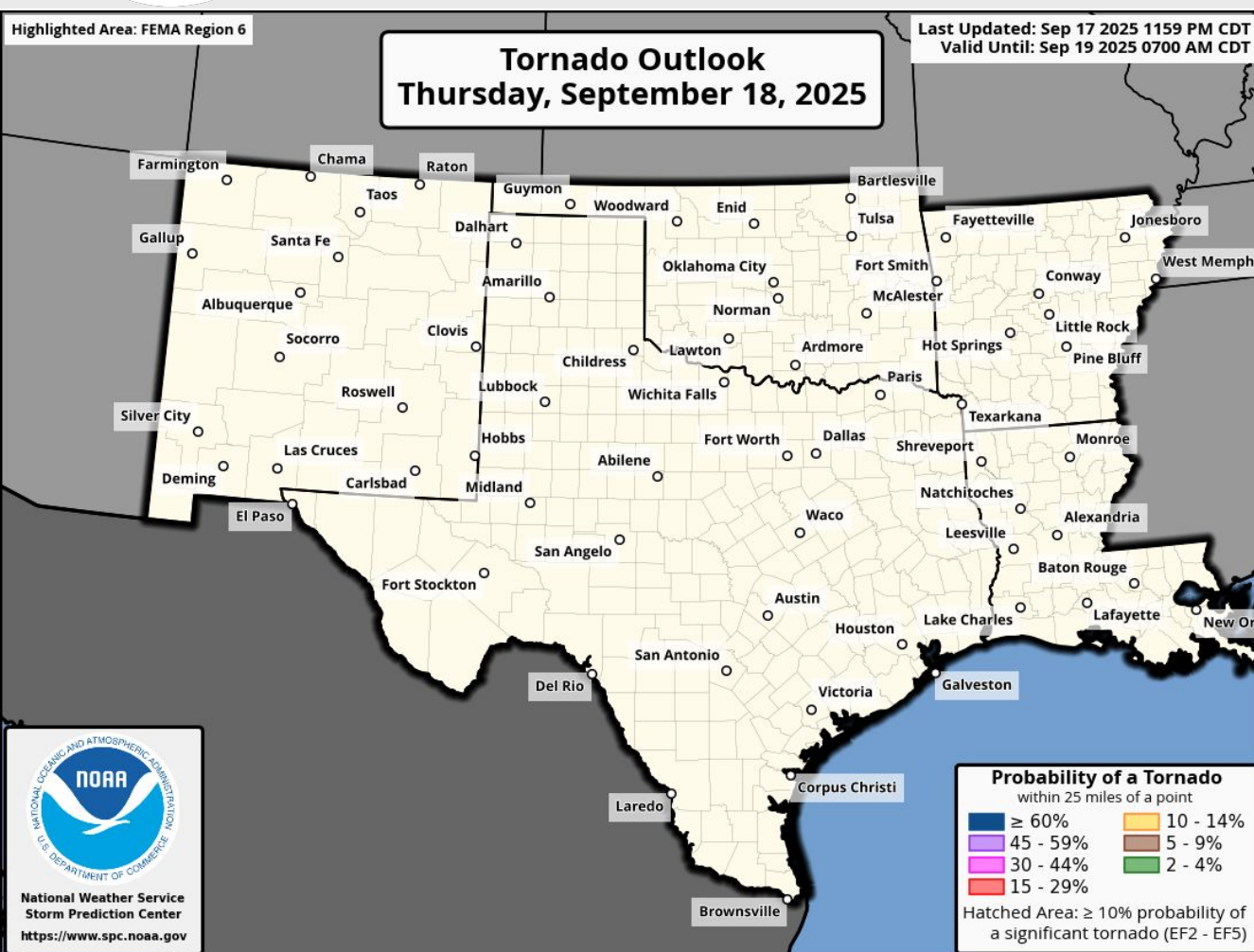


****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****





Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

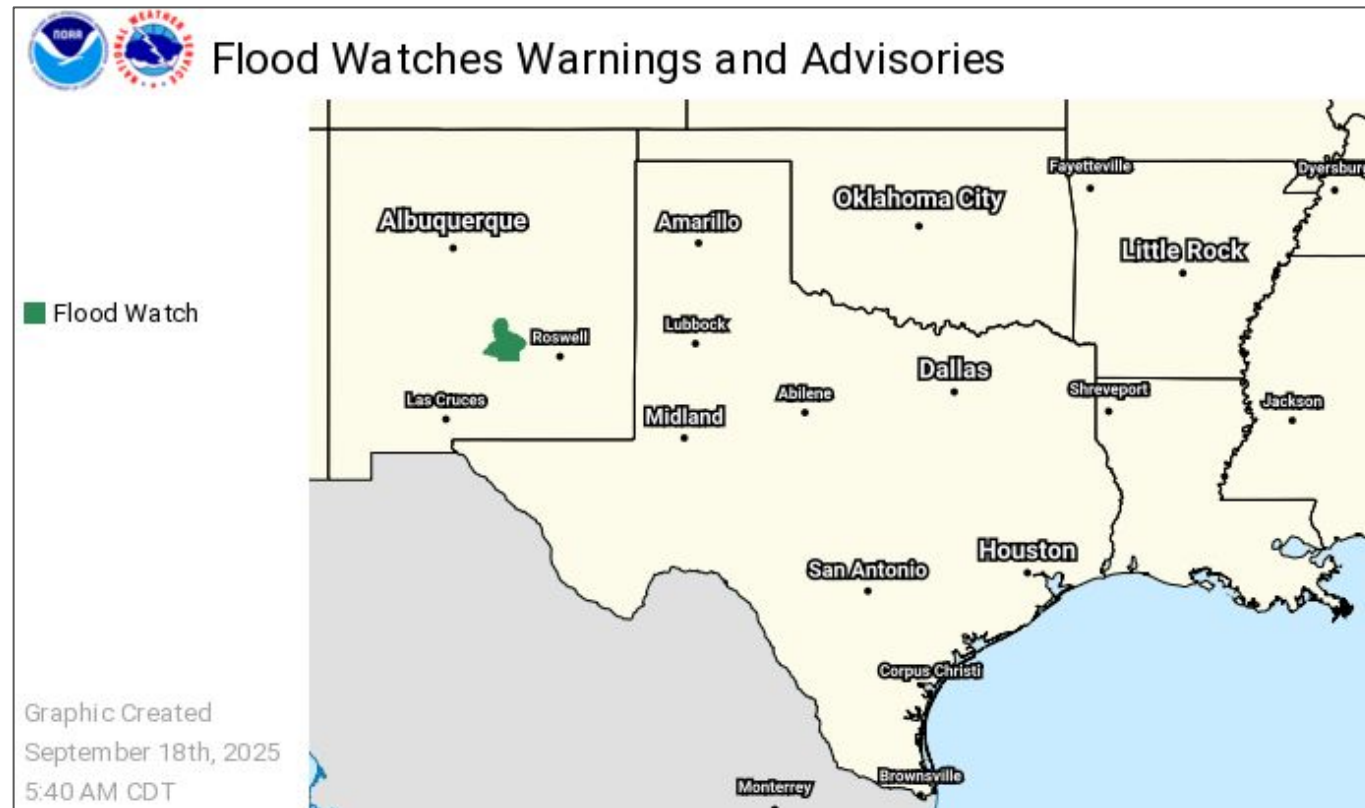
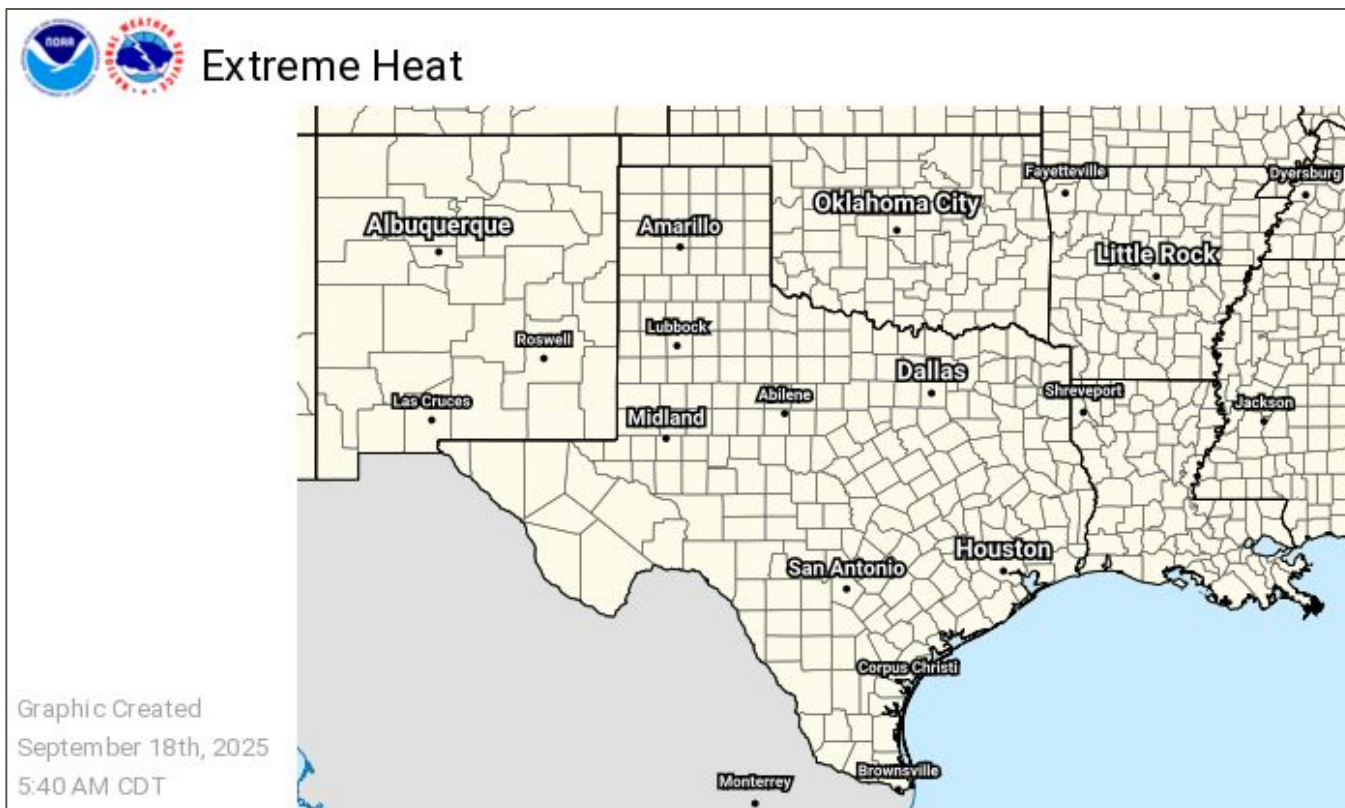
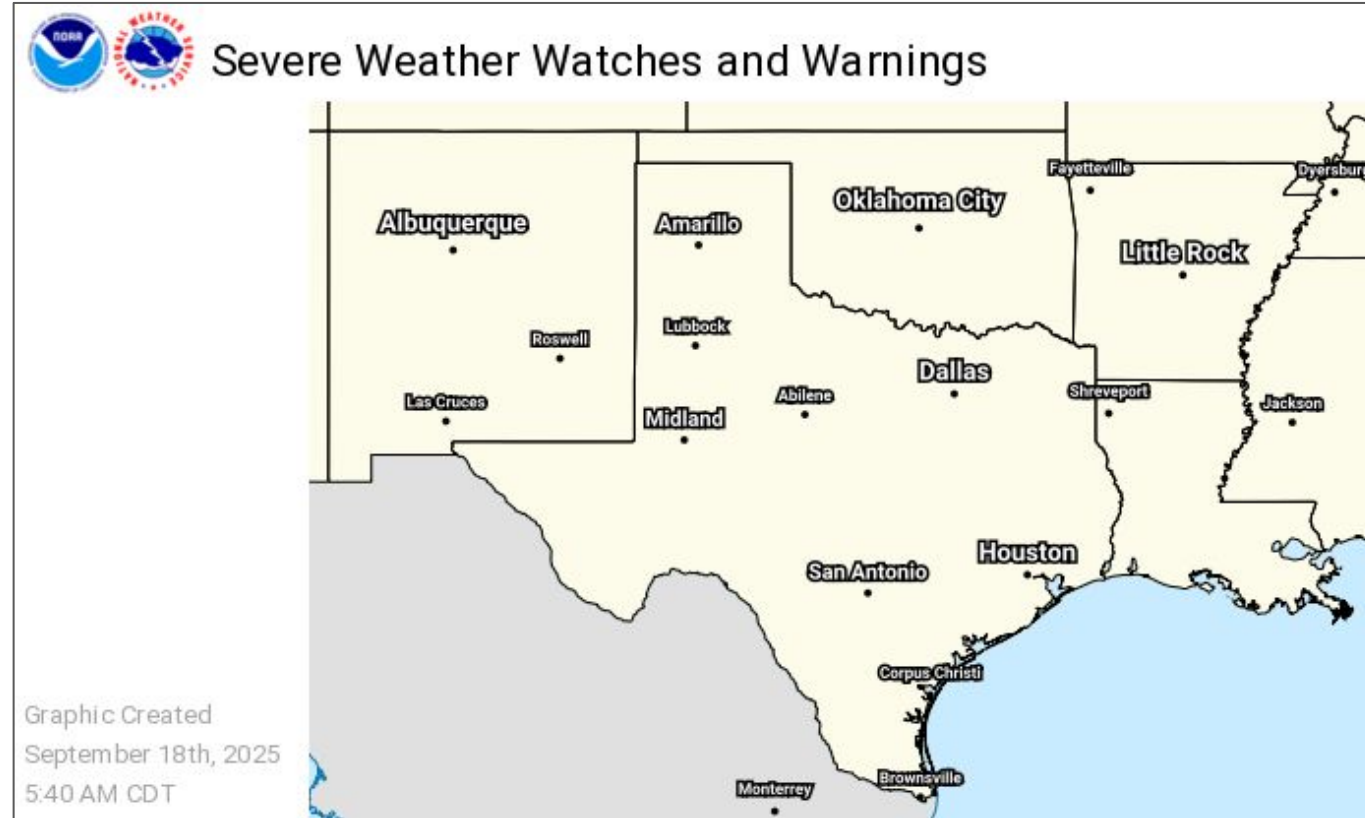




Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Wind, Severe, Heat, and Flood Hazards

Flood Watch for southern New Mexico burn scar area from 1pm to 7pm CDT.

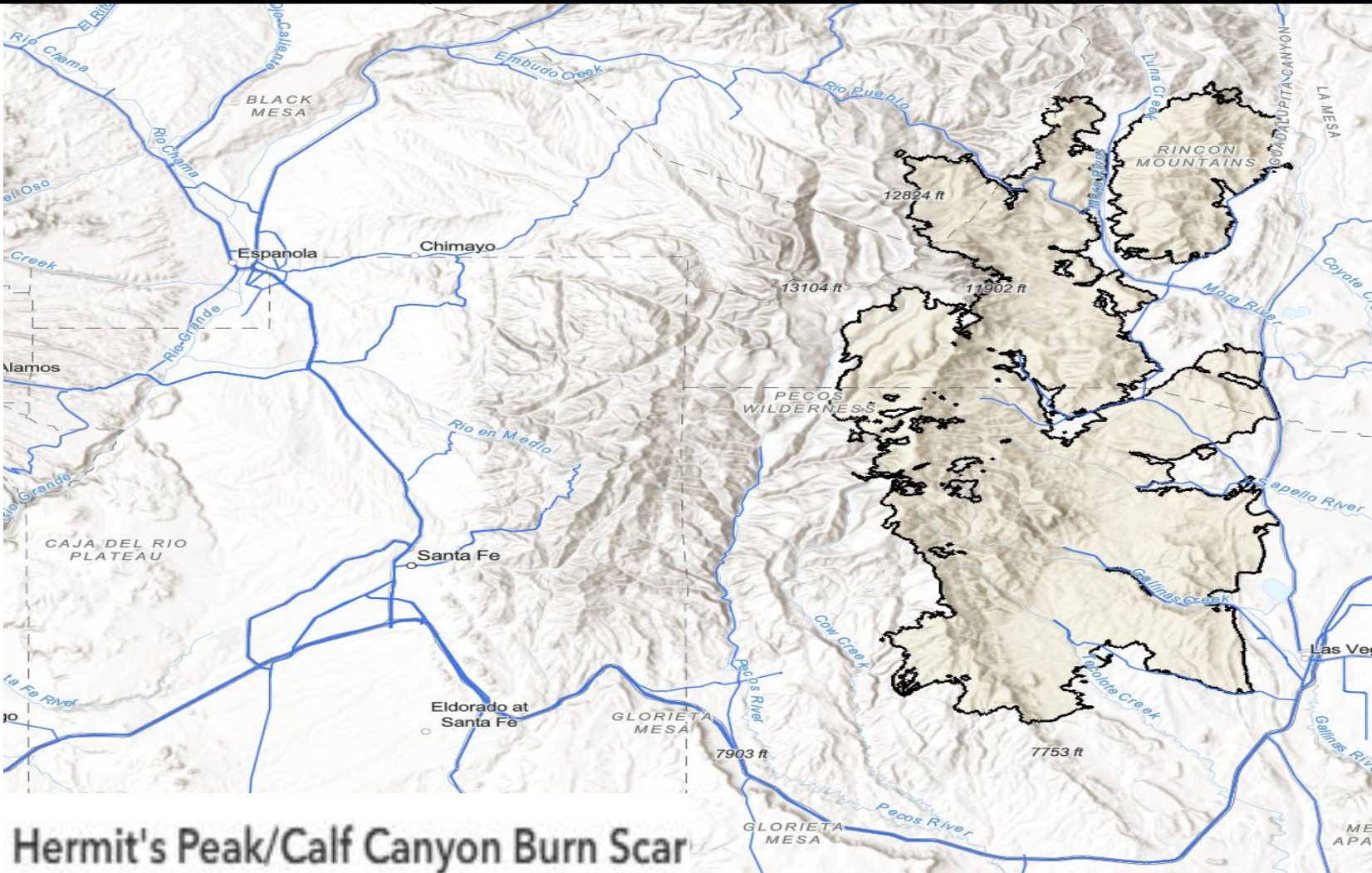




Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - HPCC Scar New Mexico

Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Burn Scar

	Thursday, Sep 18	Friday, Sep 19	Saturday, Sep 20	Sunday, Sep 21
Flash Flooding		Minor		
Timing - CDT		Afternoon/Evening		



Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Burn Scar

Little to None	No Flash Flood Threat
Minor (level 1 of 4)	Slight Risk of Flash Flooding
Moderate (level 2 of 4)	Probability of Flash Flooding Issuance 40% to 60%
Major (level 3 of 4)	Flood Watch Issued OR Debris Flow Probability > 50%
Extreme (level 4 of 4)	Life Threatening Flash Flooding Likely - Historic Type Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none">WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.	

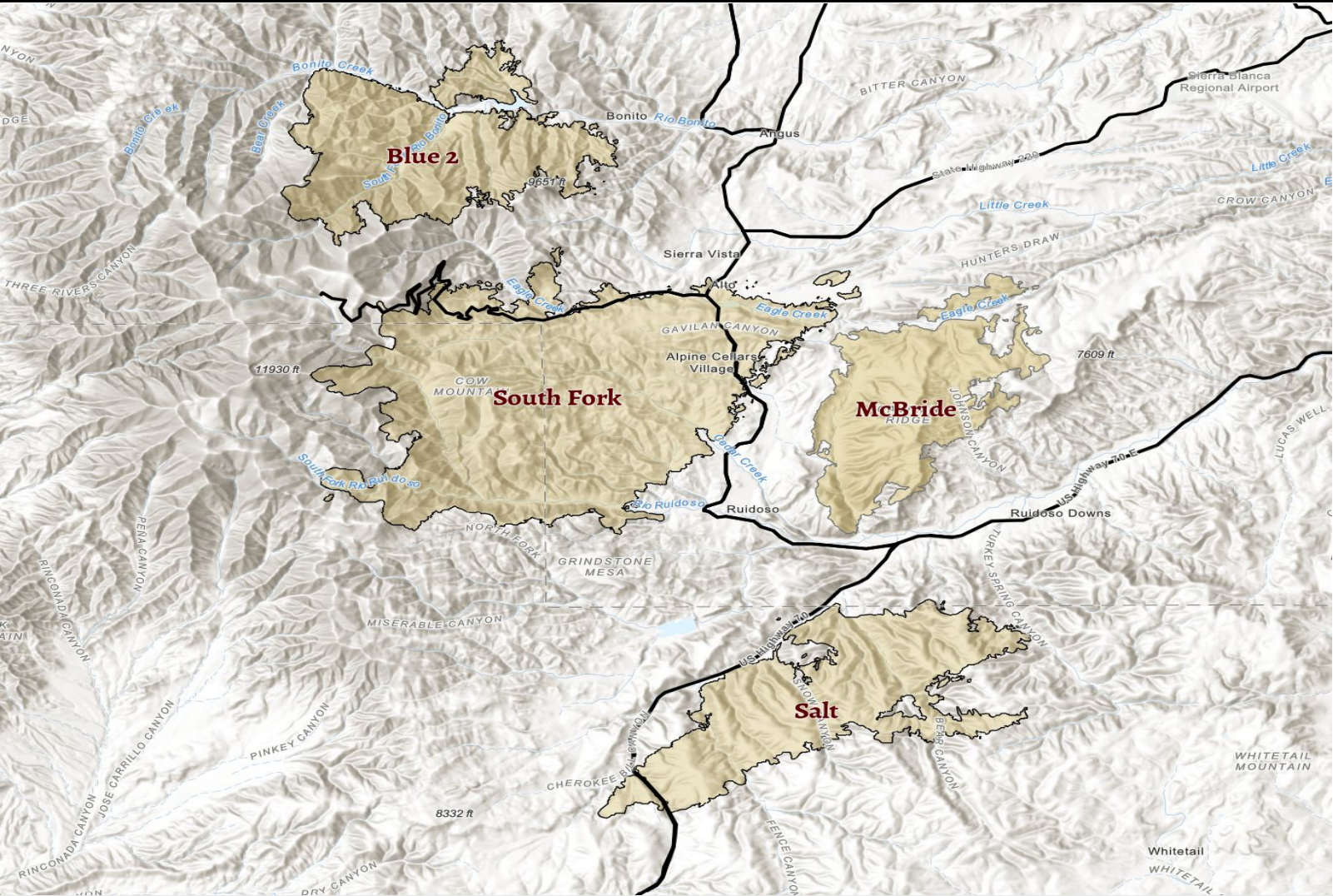




Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - Ruidoso, New Mexico

Sacramento Complex

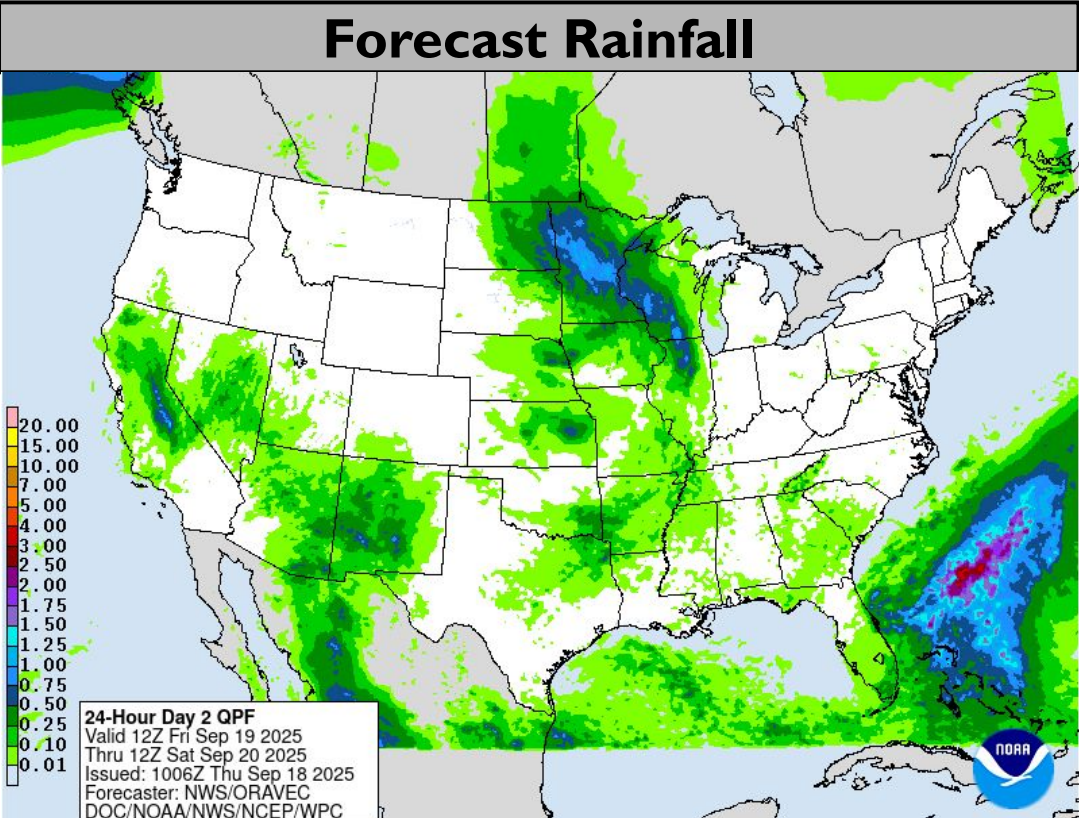
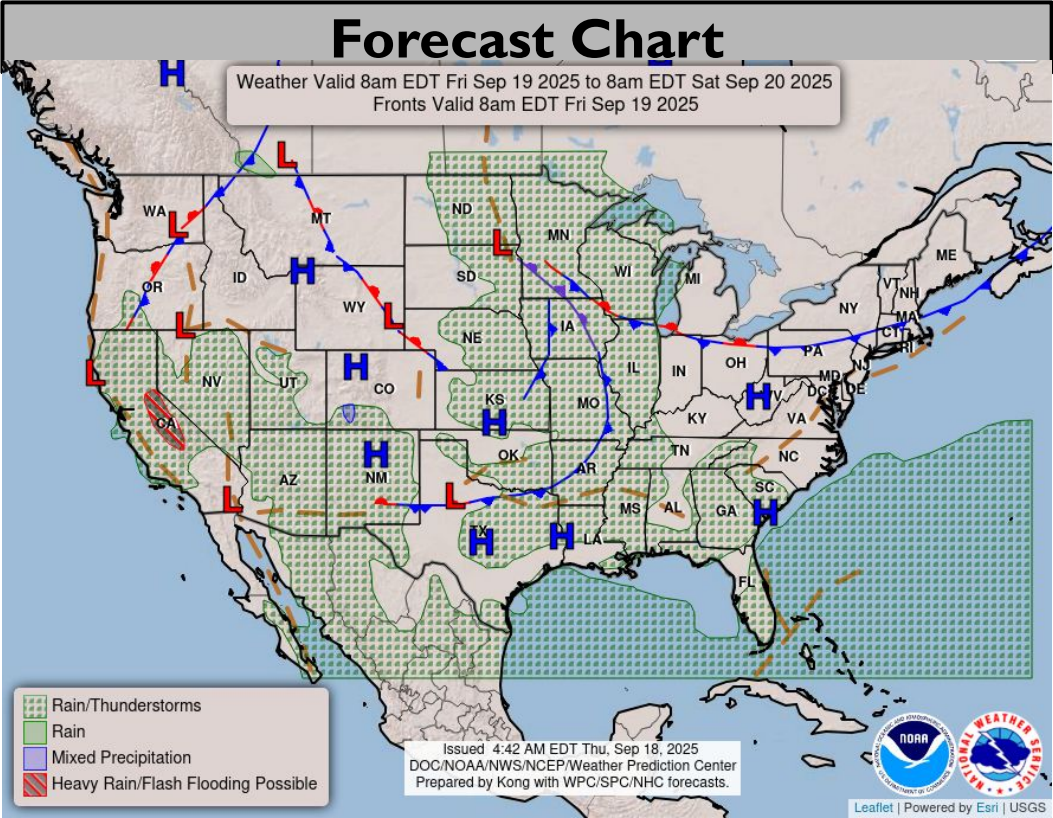
	Thursday, Sep 18	Friday, Sep 19	Saturday, Sep 20	Sunday, Sep 21
Flash Flooding	Major	Moderate	Minor	
Timing - CDT	1pm - 10pm	Afternoon/Evening	Afternoon/Evening	



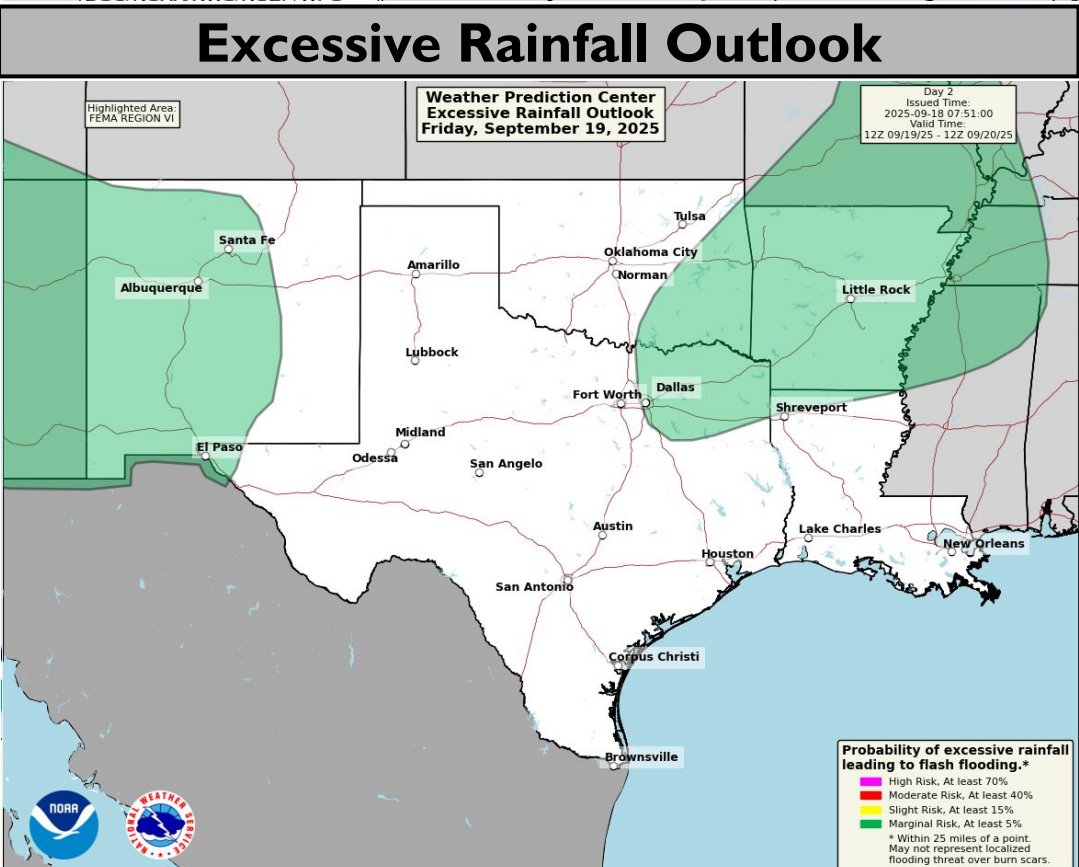
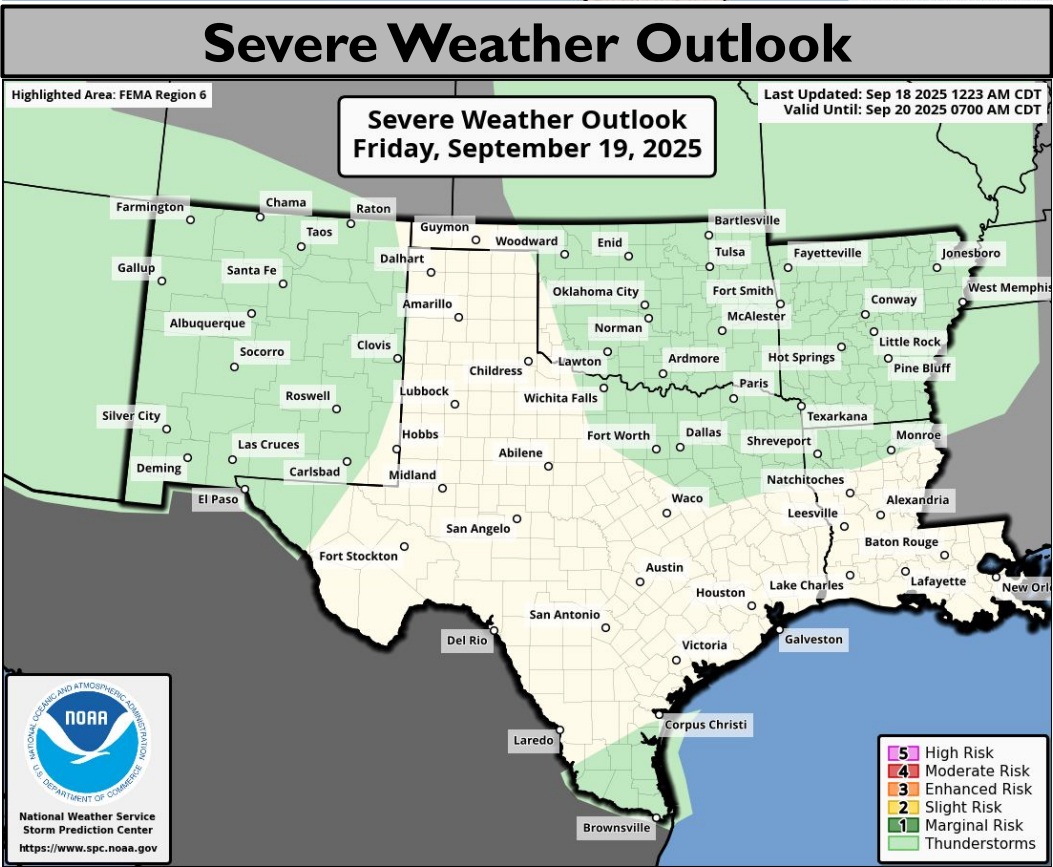
Little to None	No Flash Flood Threat
Minor (level 1 of 4)	Slight Risk of Flash Flooding
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Major (level 3 of 4)	Flood Watch Issued OR Debris Flow Probability > 50%
Extreme (level 4 of 4)	Life Threatening Flash Flooding Likely - Historic Type Day
<ul style="list-style-type: none">WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.*Note* 2nd year burn scars can be <u>more dangerous</u> than year 1.	



Tomorrow's Weather



Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding SW NM, SE OK, AR, NE TX, N LA.

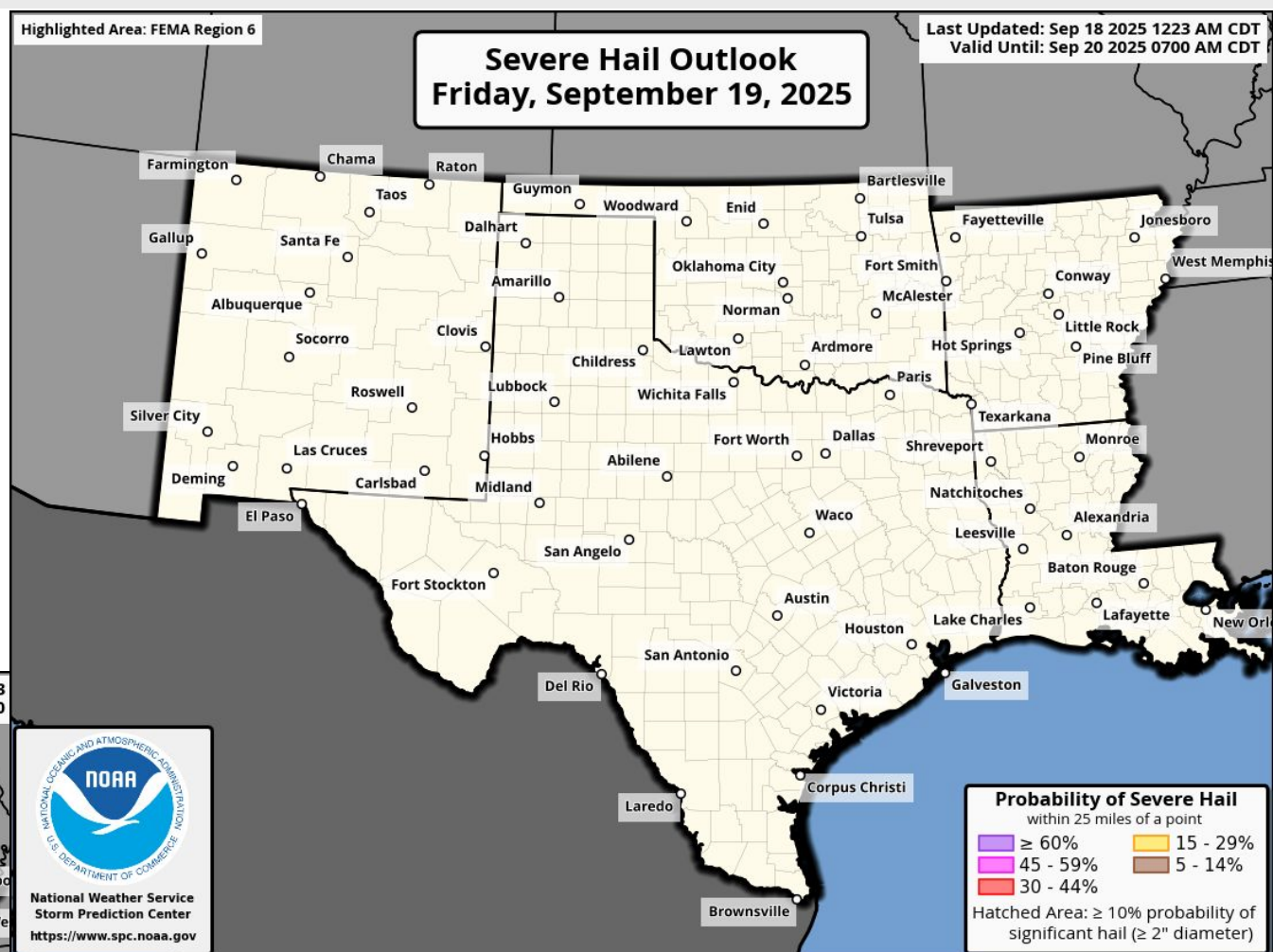
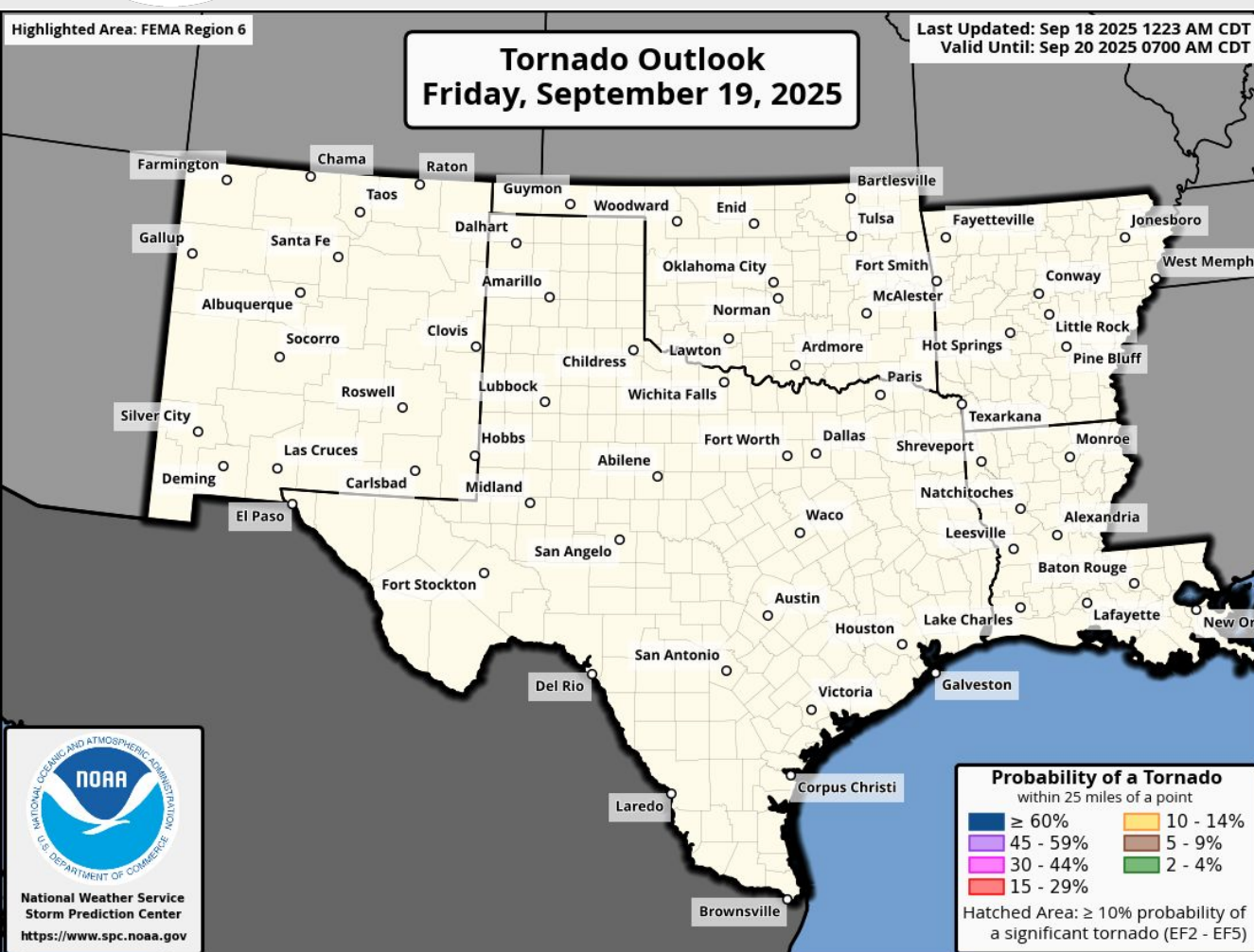


****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****





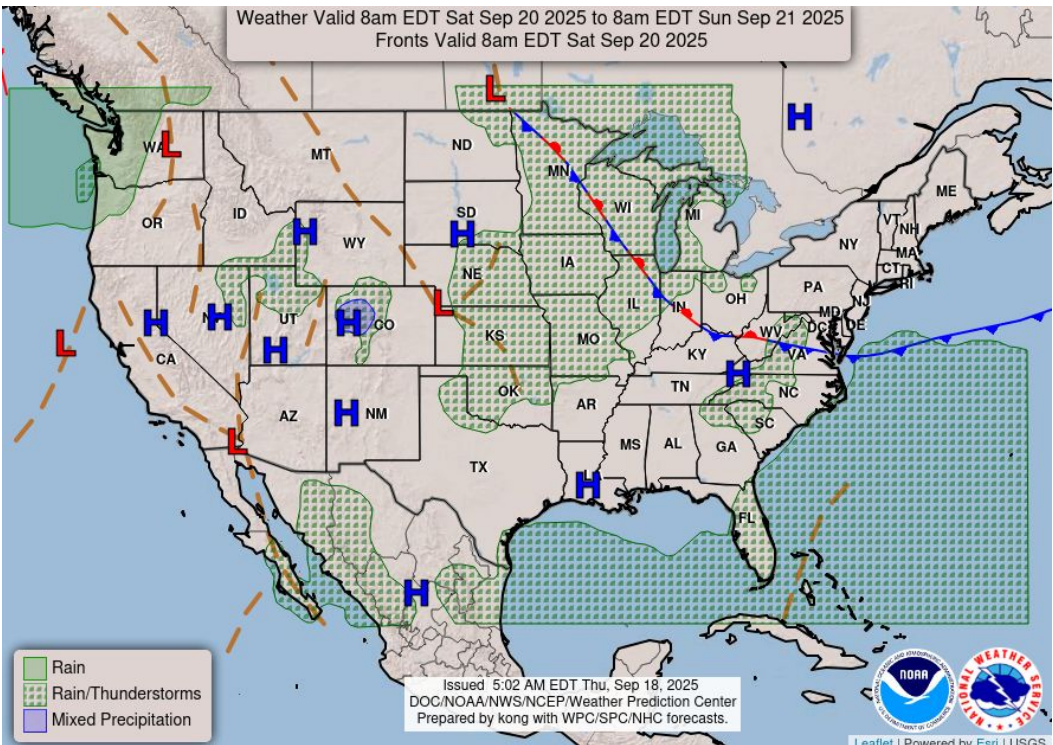
Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



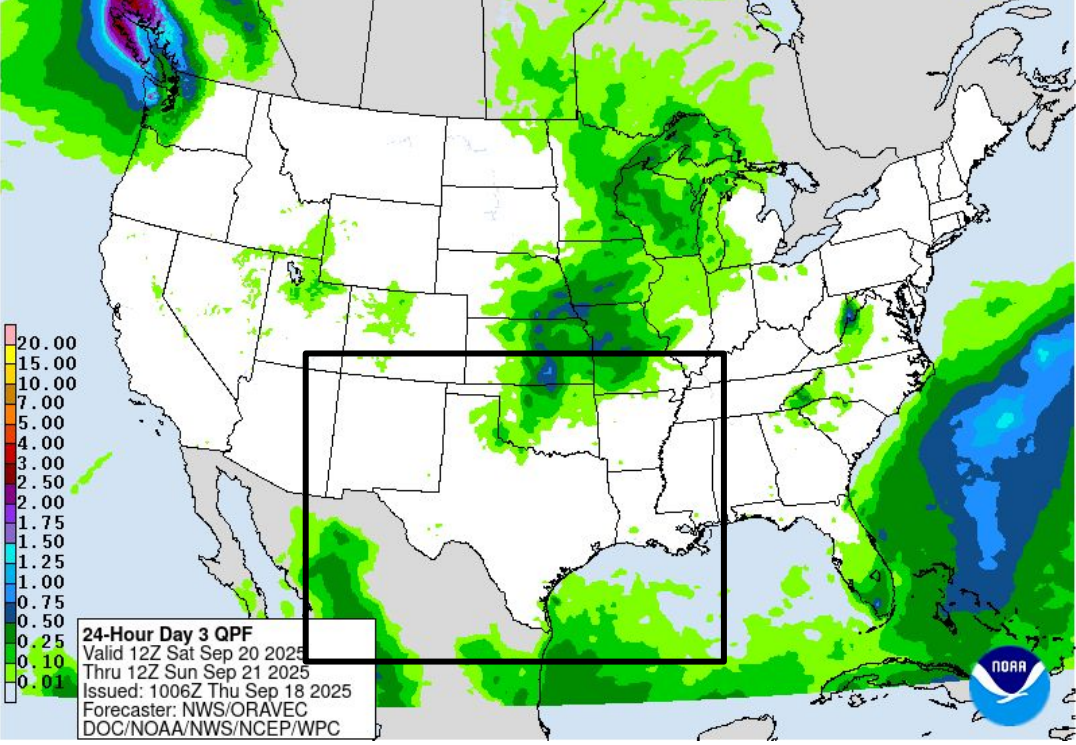


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

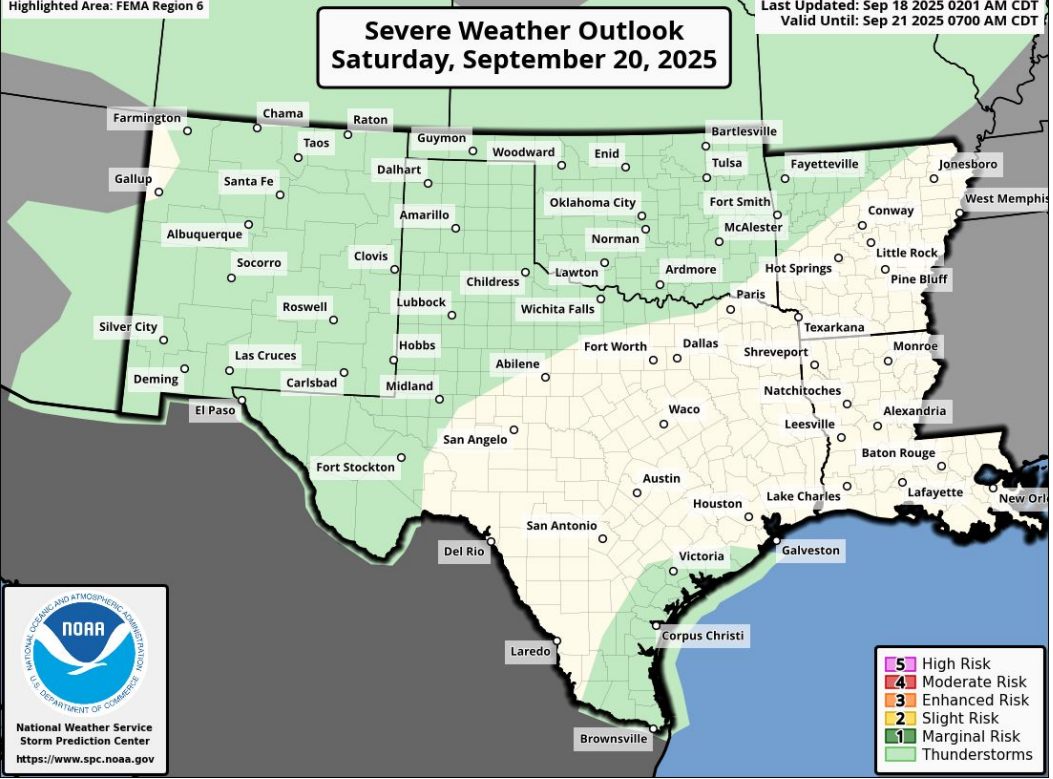


Forecast Rainfall

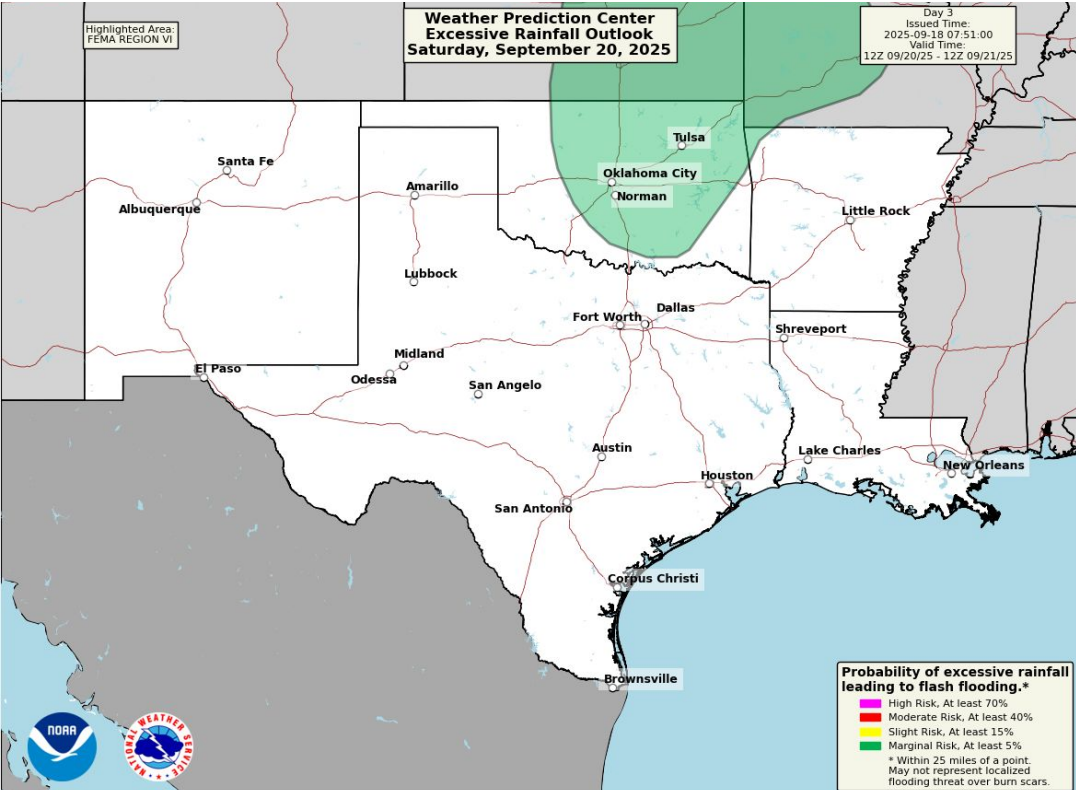


Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding OK.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



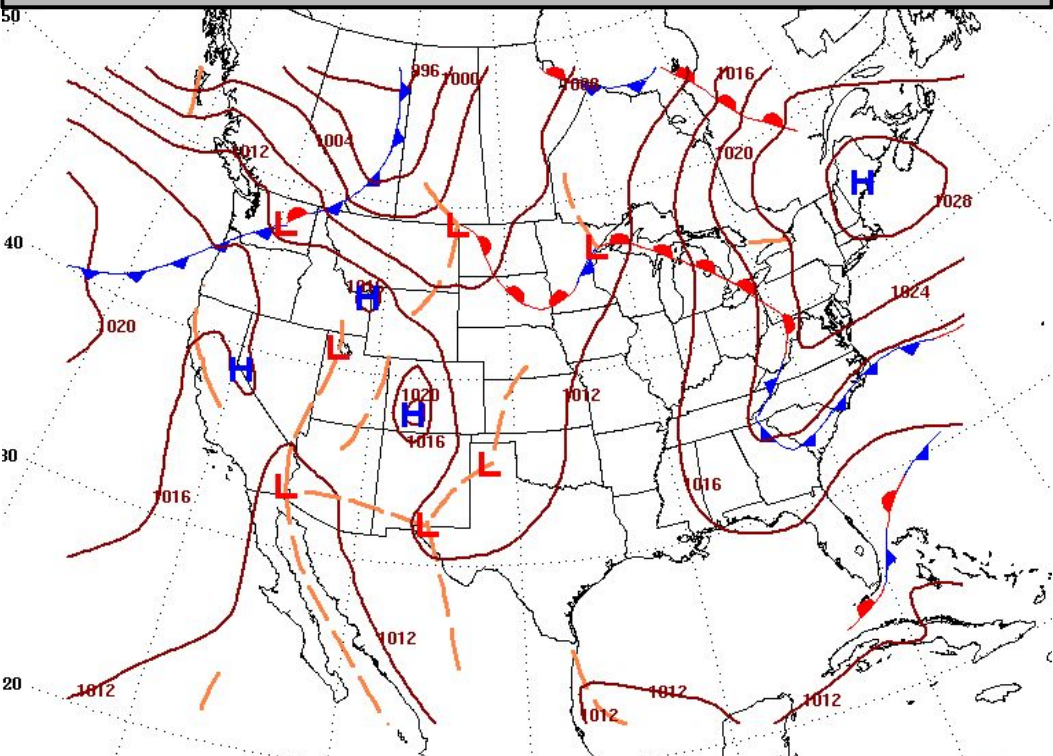
Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides



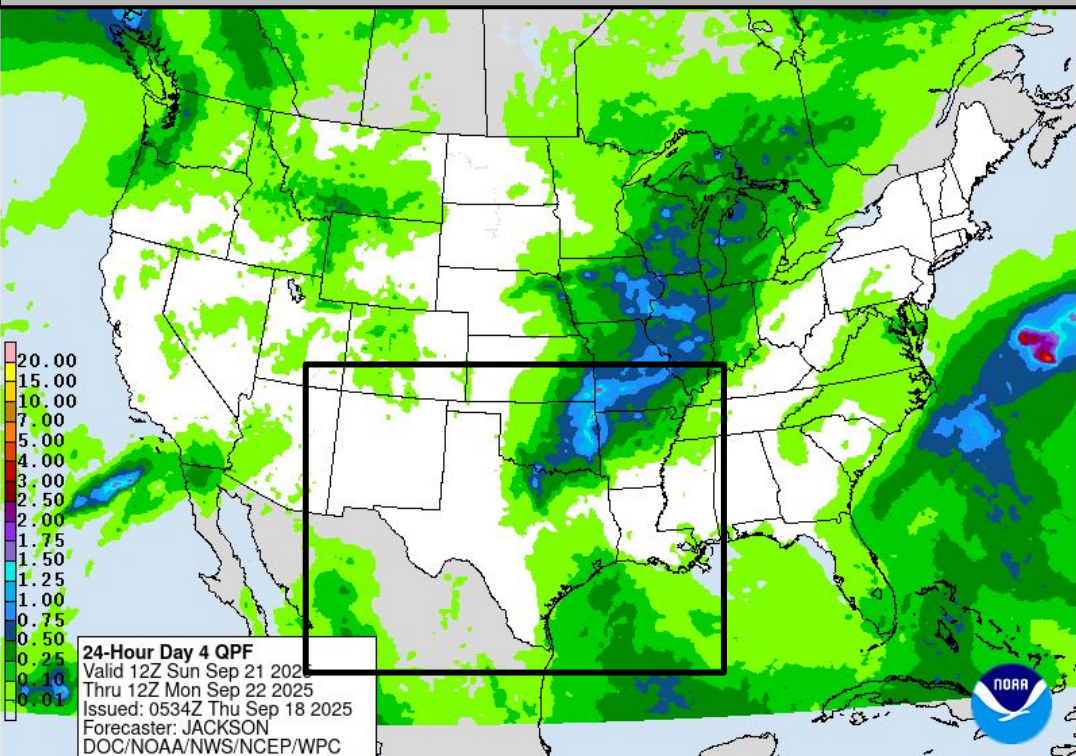


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

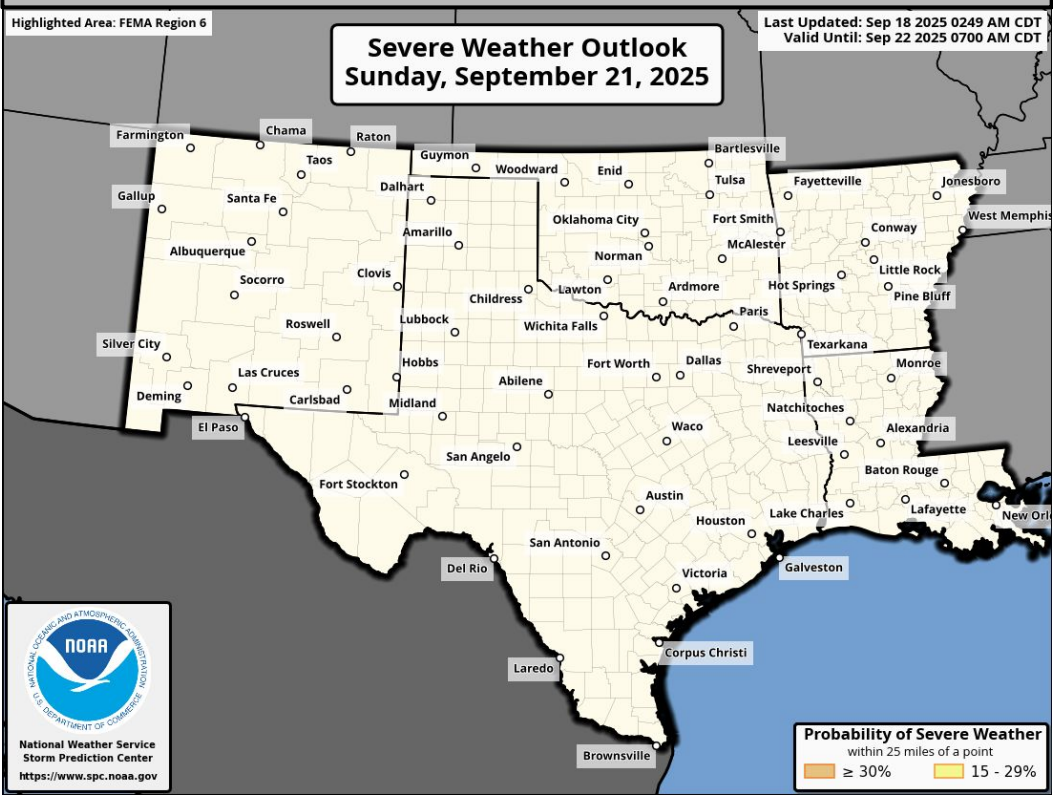


Forecast Rainfall

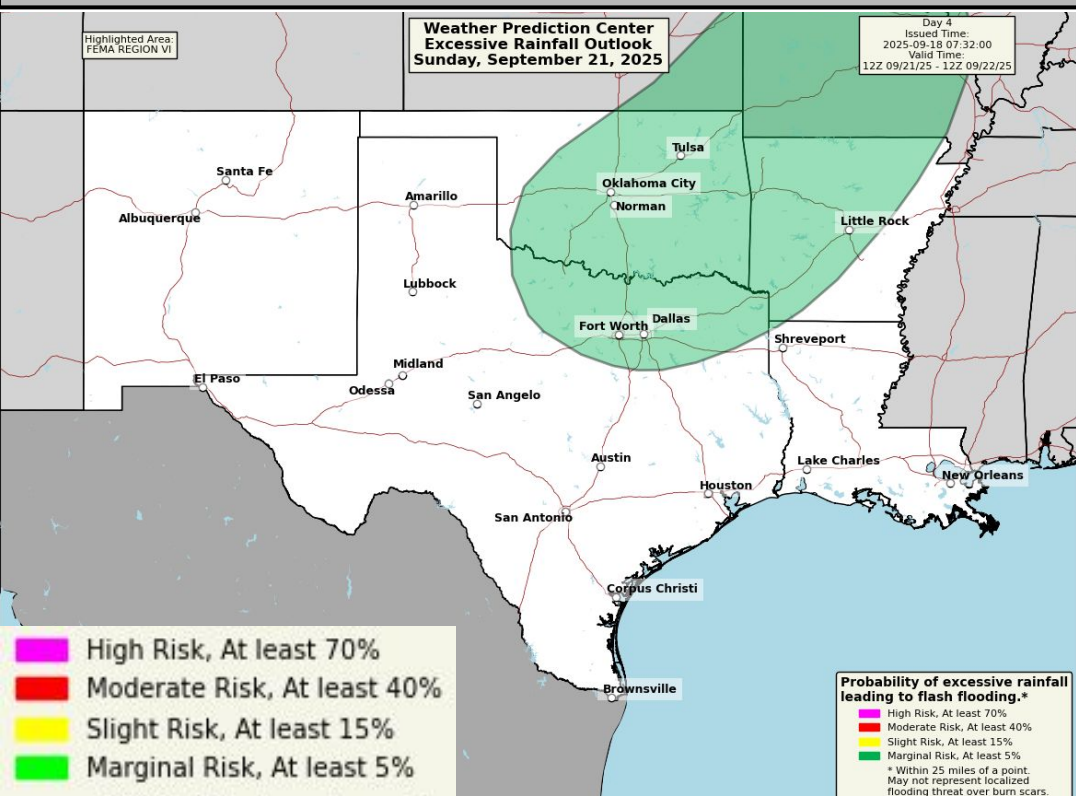


Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding OK,AR,NTX.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



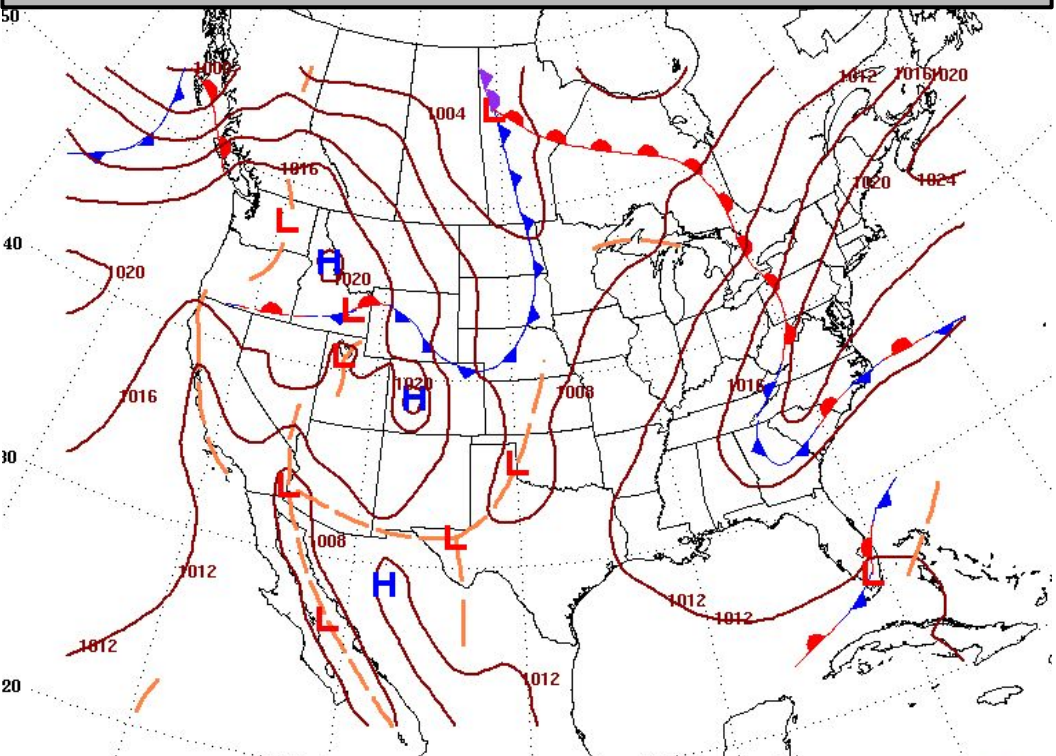
Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides



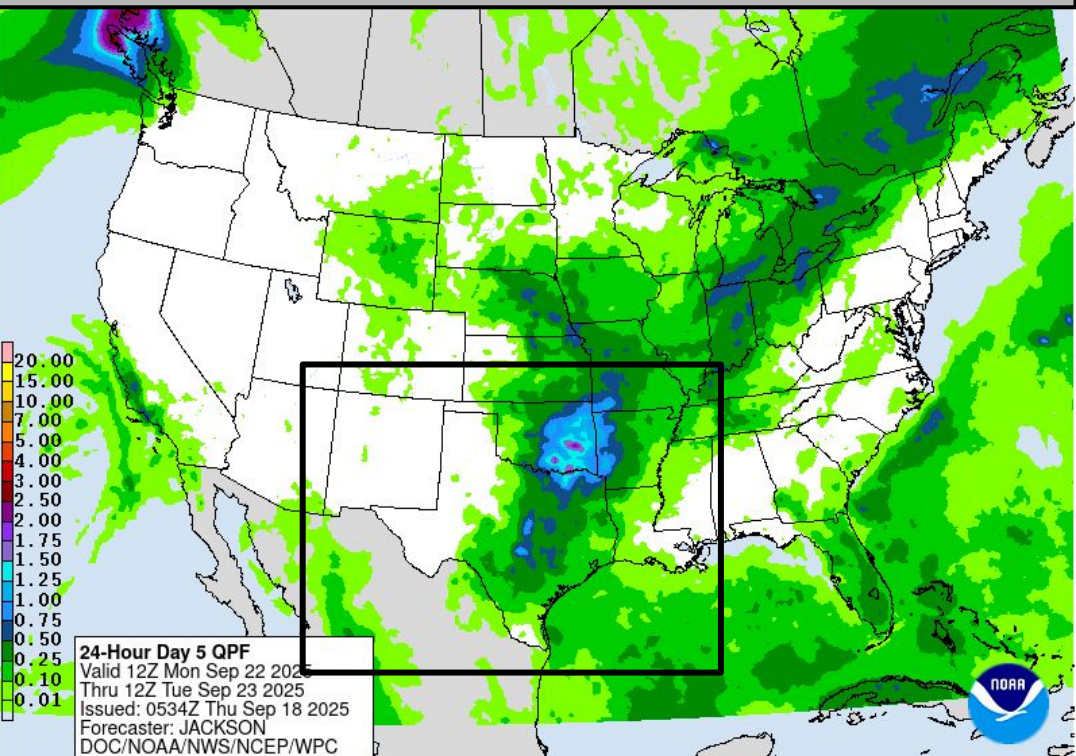


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

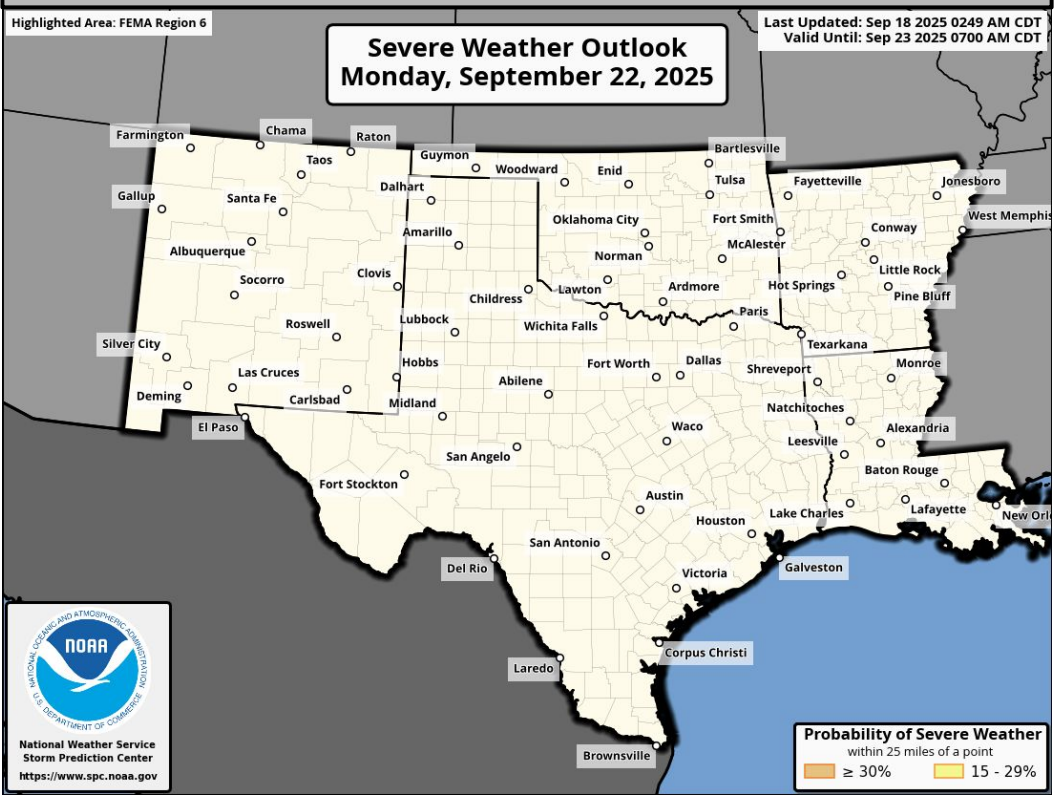


Forecast Rainfall

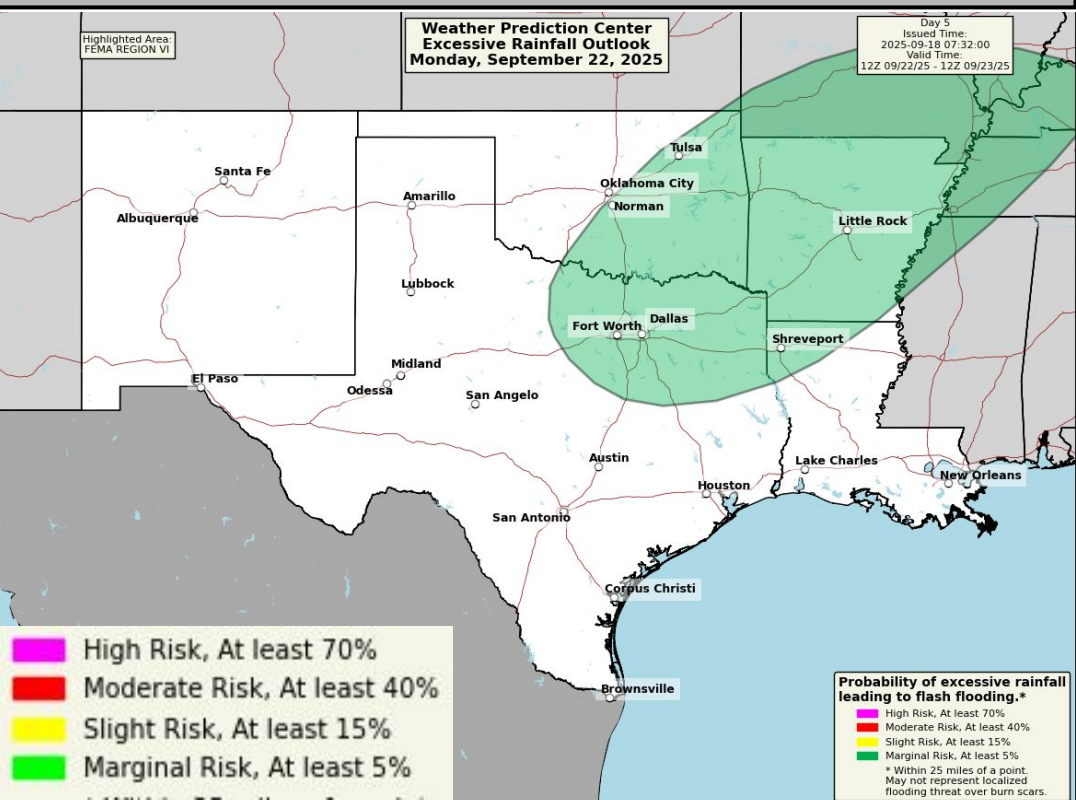


Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding SE OK, AR, NTX, NW LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



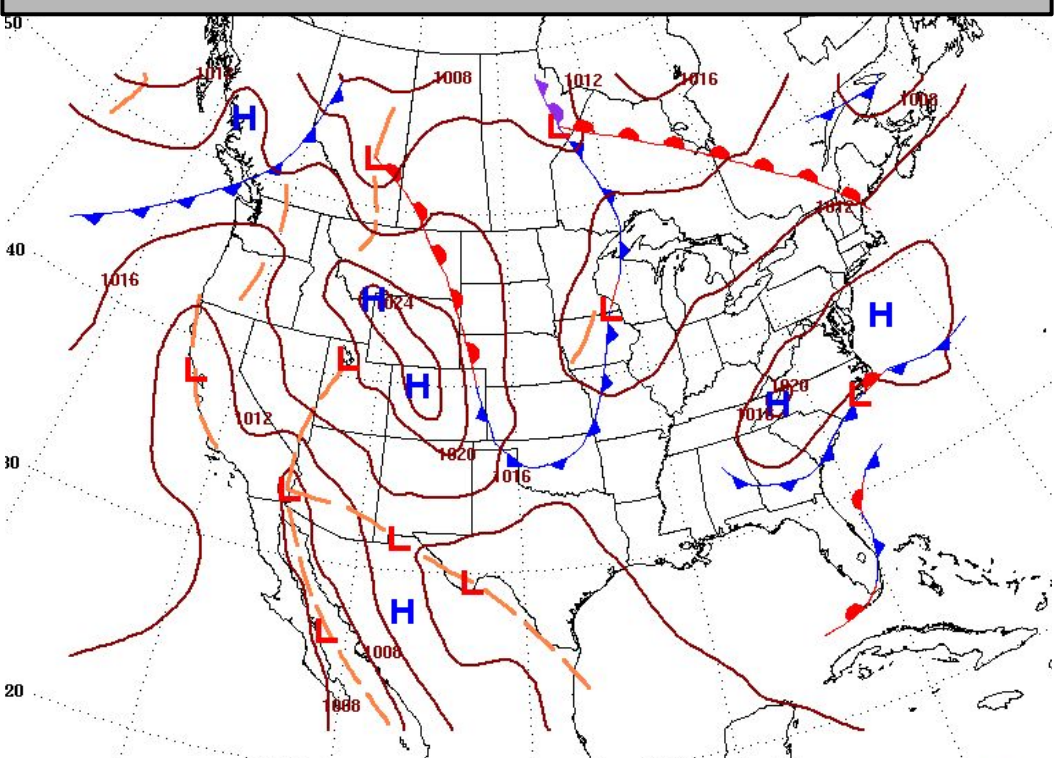
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



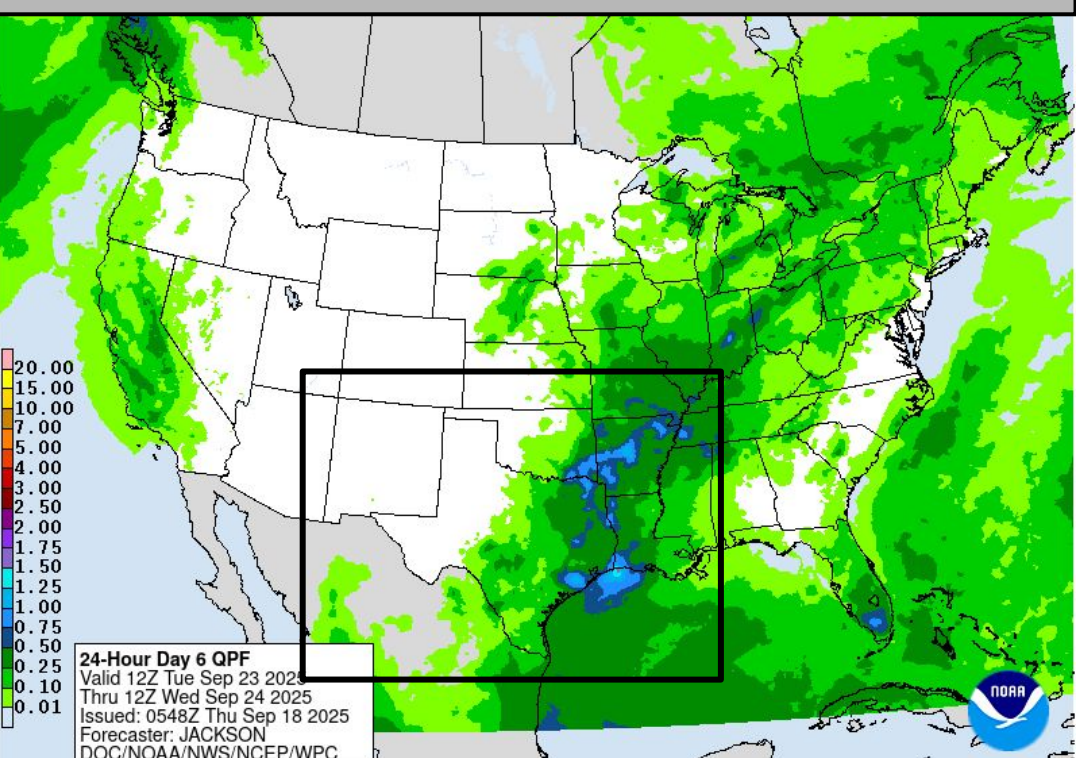


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

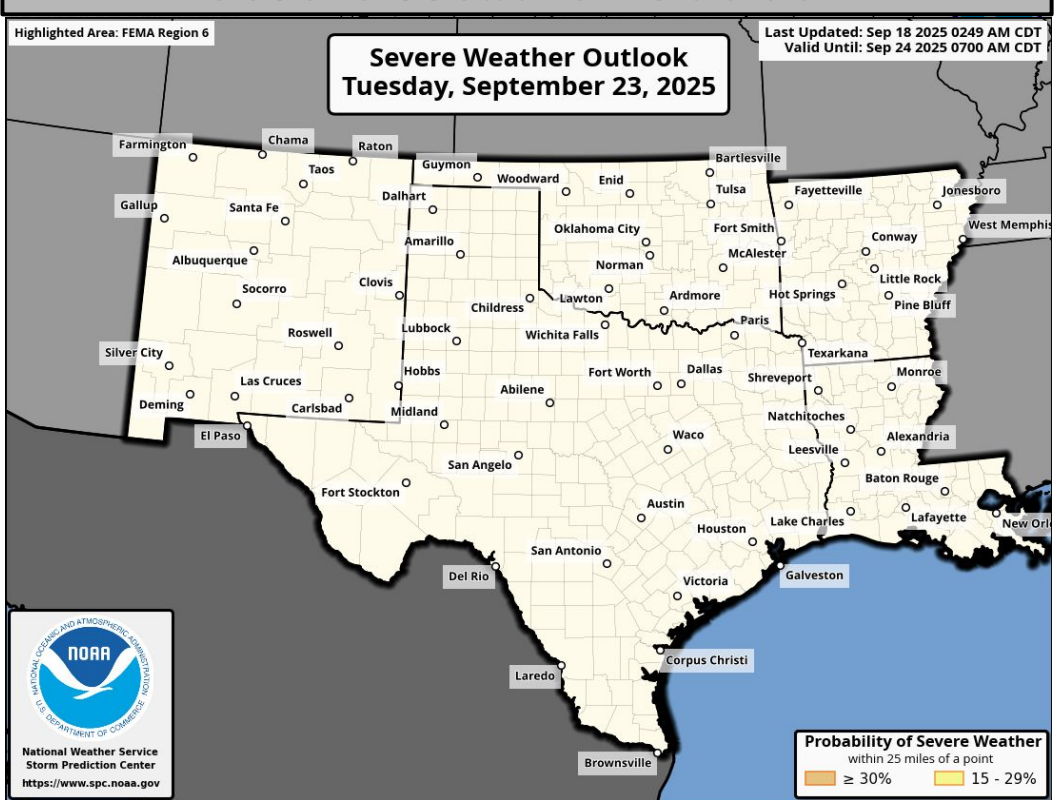


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



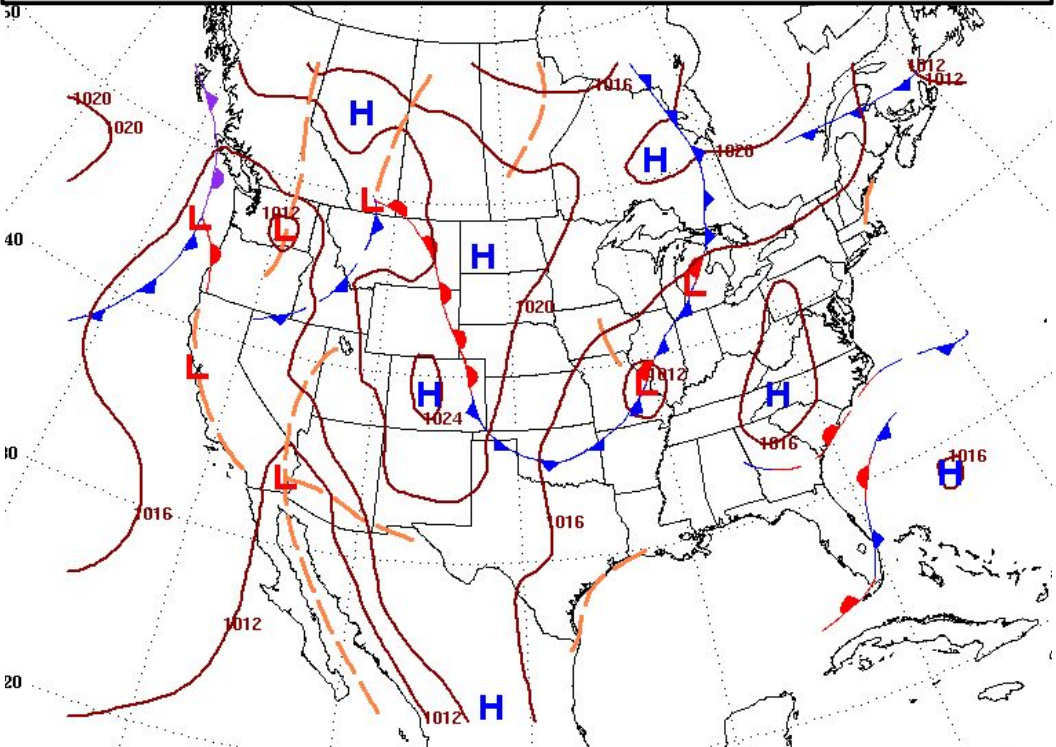
Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5



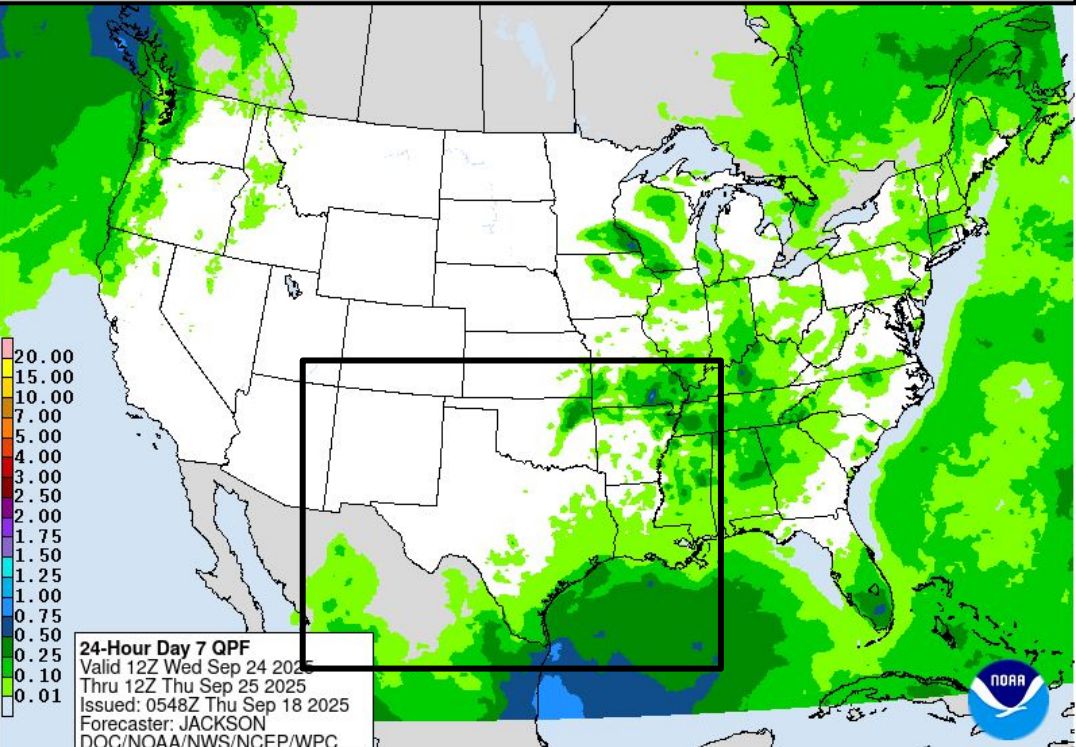


Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

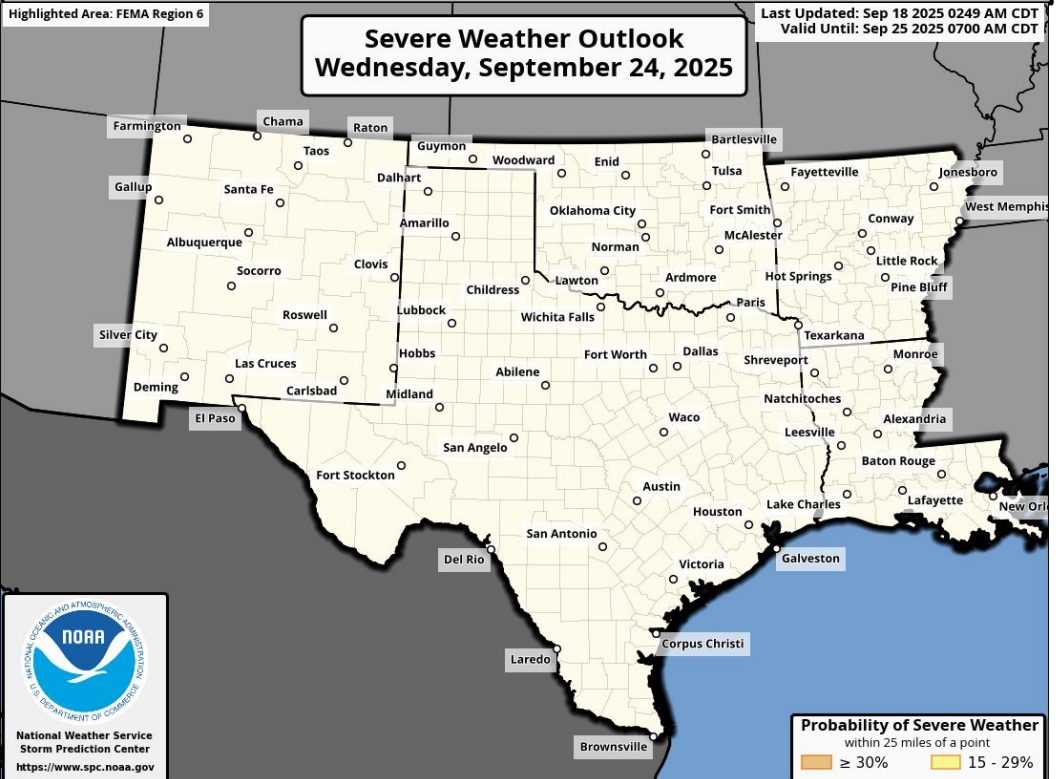


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

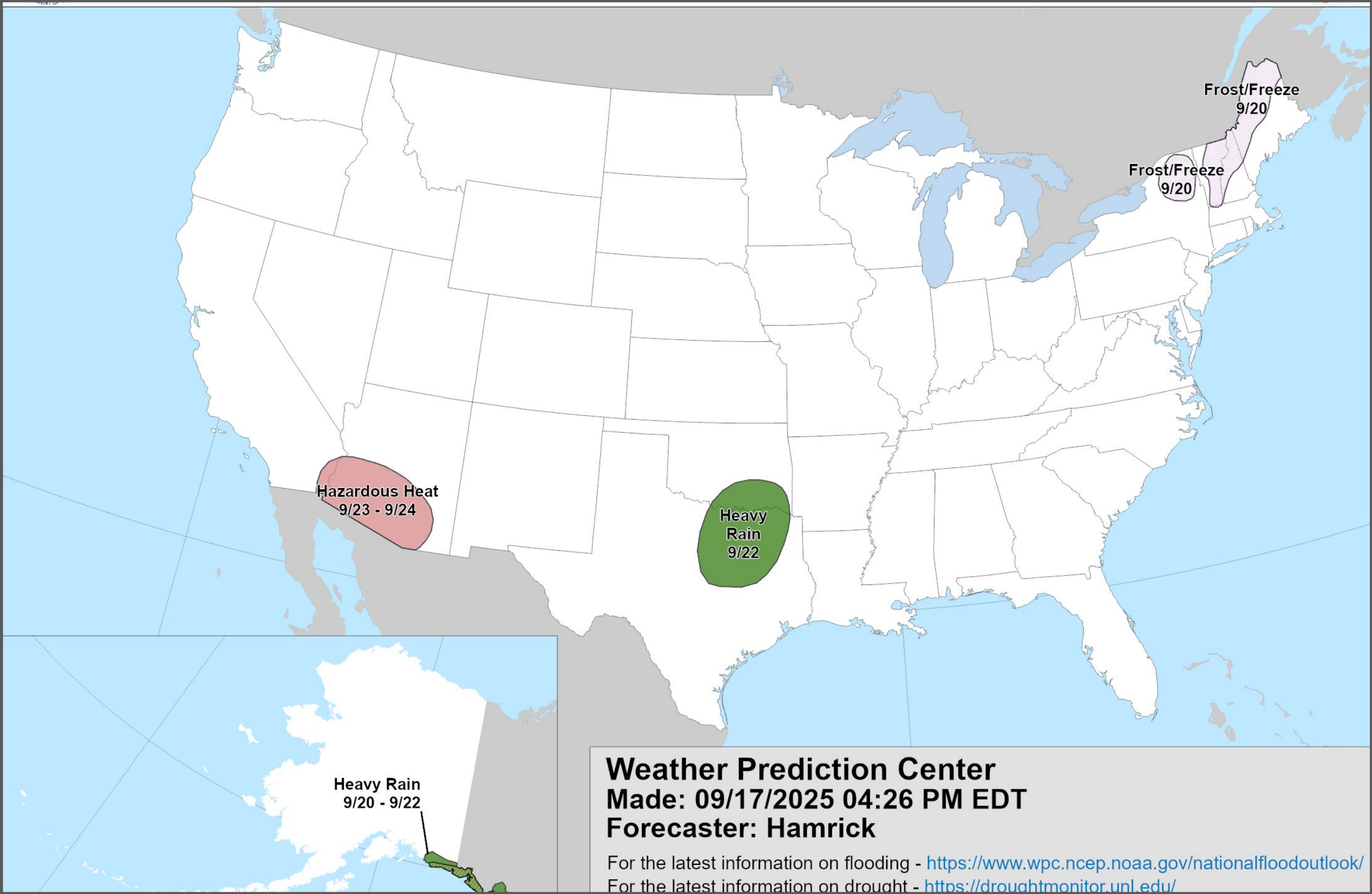
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

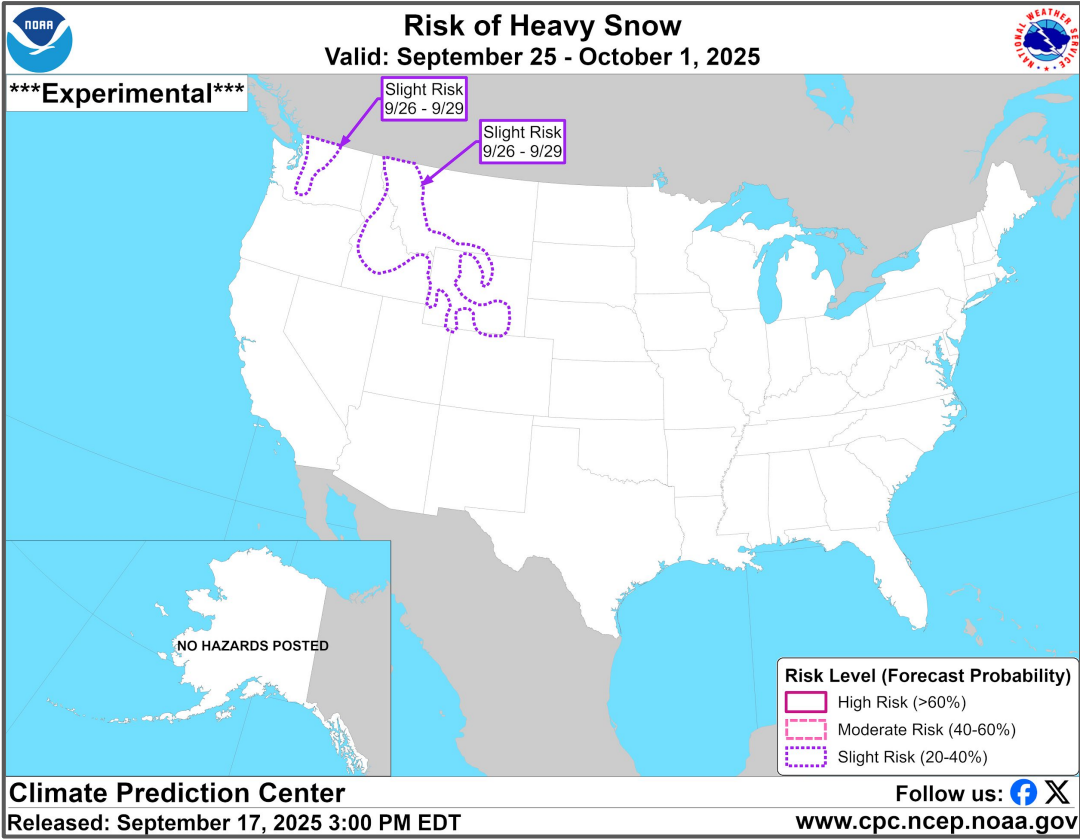
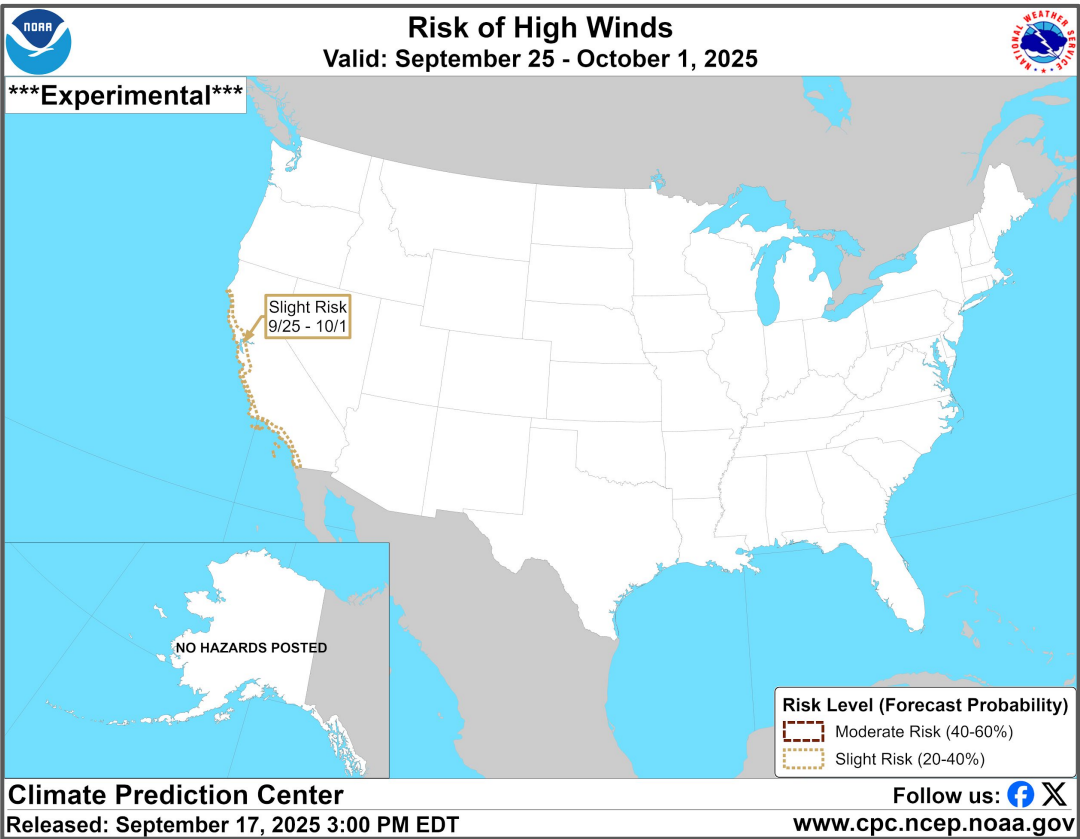
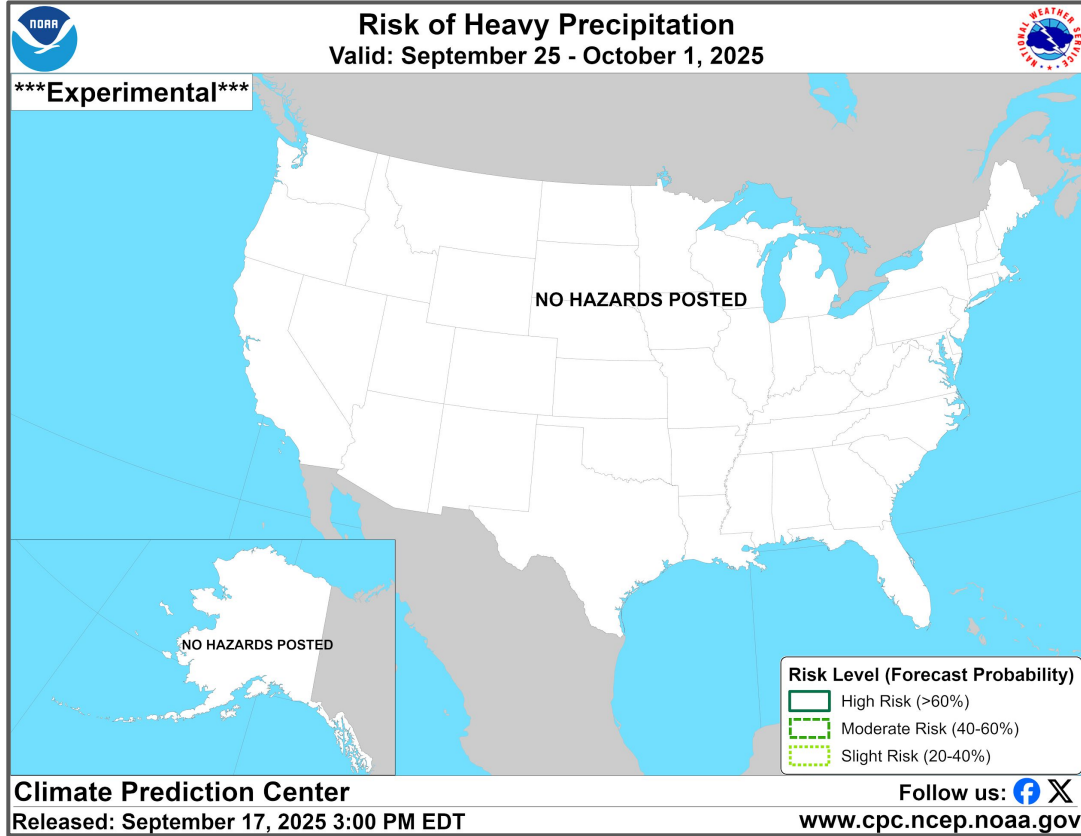
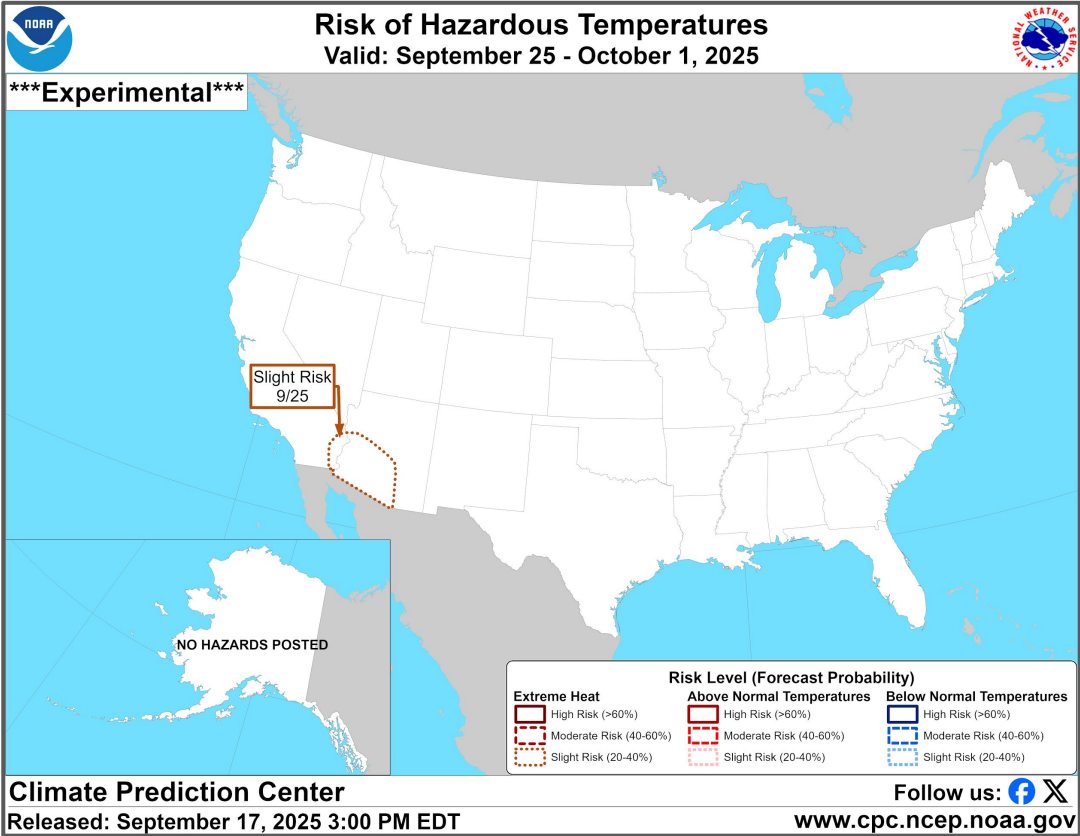
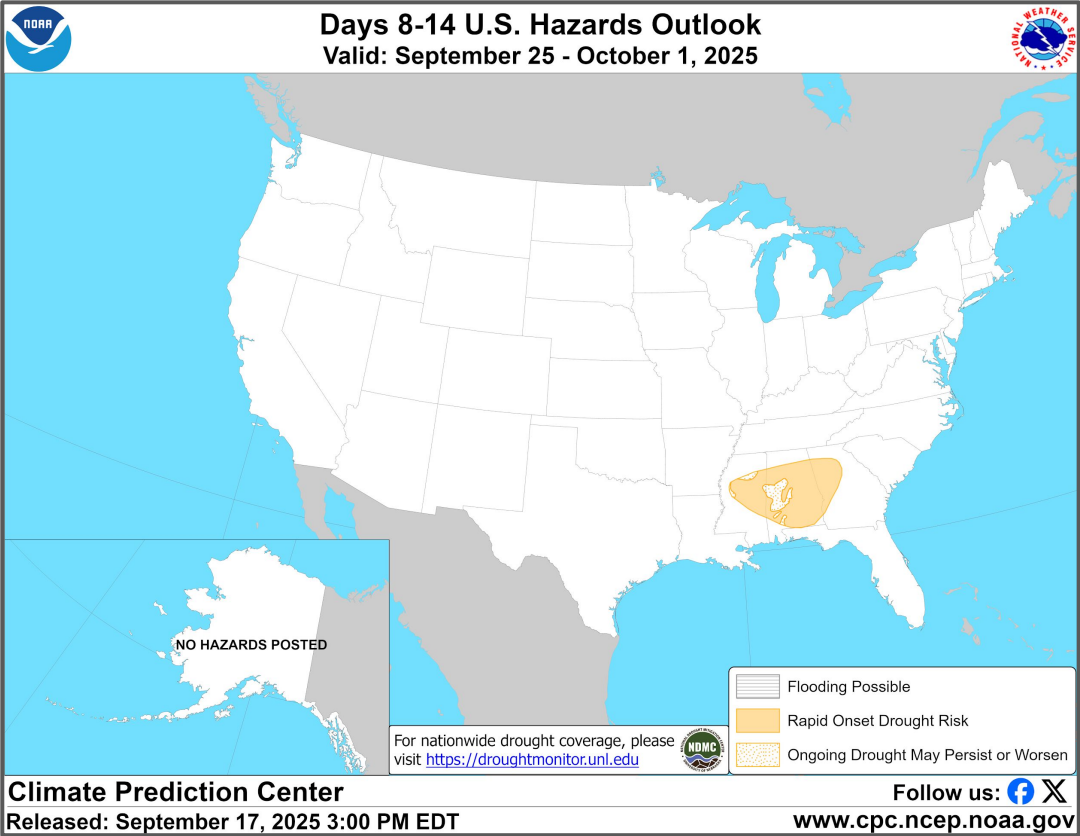


“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





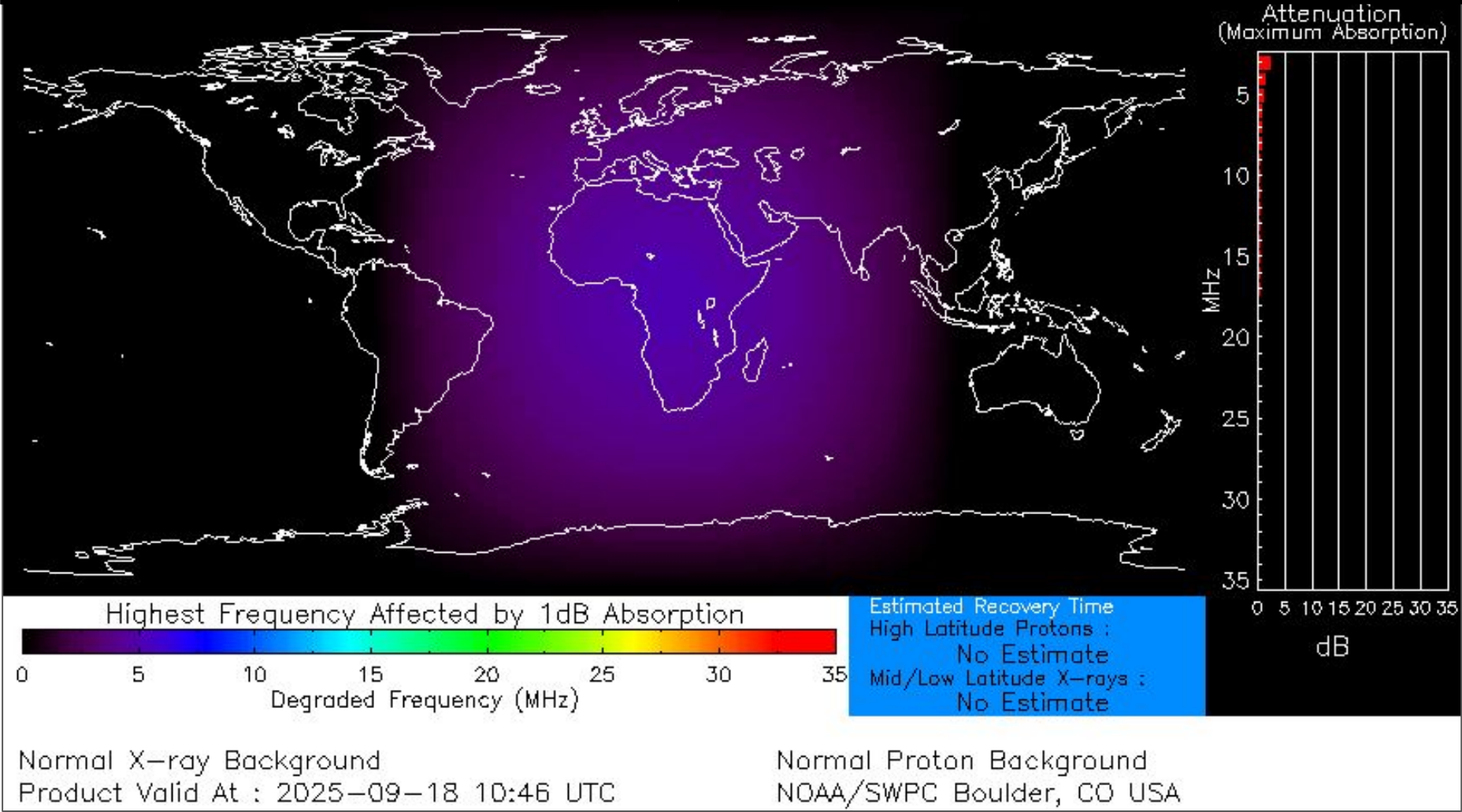
“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





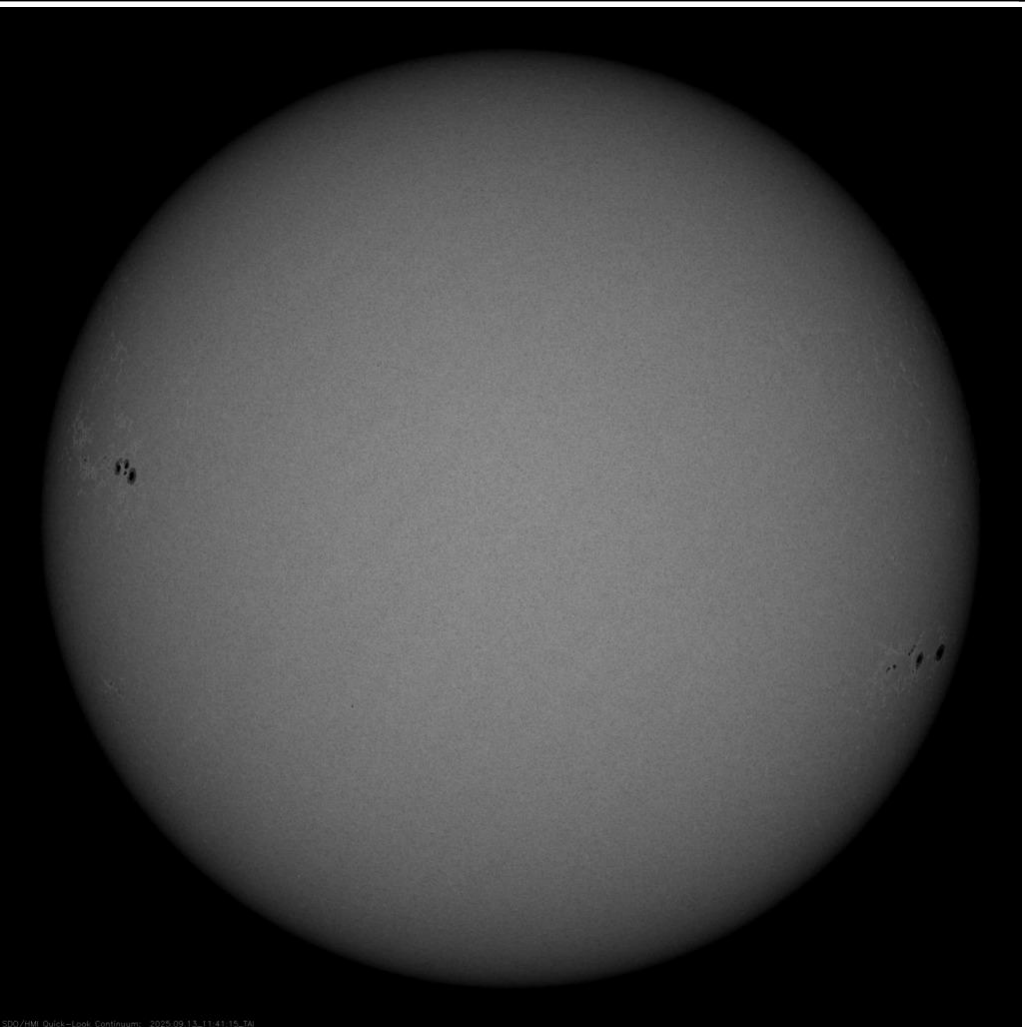
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday, Sep 18	Friday, Sep 19	Saturday, Sep 20
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp=2)	Quiet (Max Kp=2)	Quiet (Max Kp=2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	35%	35%	35%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[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



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Web: www.weather.gov/srh

