



FEMA



Prepared by
Andy Bollenbacher

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, January 22, 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.





Summary

- **Winter Weather:**

- **Arctic front is expected to bring much colder air across FEMA 6 this week.**
- **Wintry mix of snow, sleet, or freezing rain across much of FEMA 6 on Fri-Sun.**
 - **Major (level 4 of 5) impacts for portions of SE OK, C/S AR, N/NE TX, and N LA where .25-.5” of freezing rain may fall late Friday through Saturday. Amounts could be higher locally.**
 - **1-3” of sleet may fall just north of where the freezing rain occurs. Exact location of Freezing Rain/Sleet line still uncertain.**
- **Travel impacts from weekend may linger into Monday for AR, TX, and LA.**

- **Cold Temps:**

- **Temps in OK and parts of AR drop below freezing Friday and don't come above freezing until Tuesday or Wednesday.**
- **Wind chills in OK and TX Panhandle drop down to (-15F) Saturday morning.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Thursday, Jan 22	Friday, Jan 23	Saturday, Jan 24	Sunday, Jan 25	Monday, Jan 26	Tuesday, Jan 27	Wednesday, Jan 28
Severe Storms							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Winter Weather		NM, OK, AR, TX, LA	SE OK, C/S AR, N/NETX, N LA NM, OK, AR, TX, LA	NM, OK, AR, TX, LA	OK, AR, TX, LA	OK, AR (Cold AM)	
Fire Weather							
River Flooding							

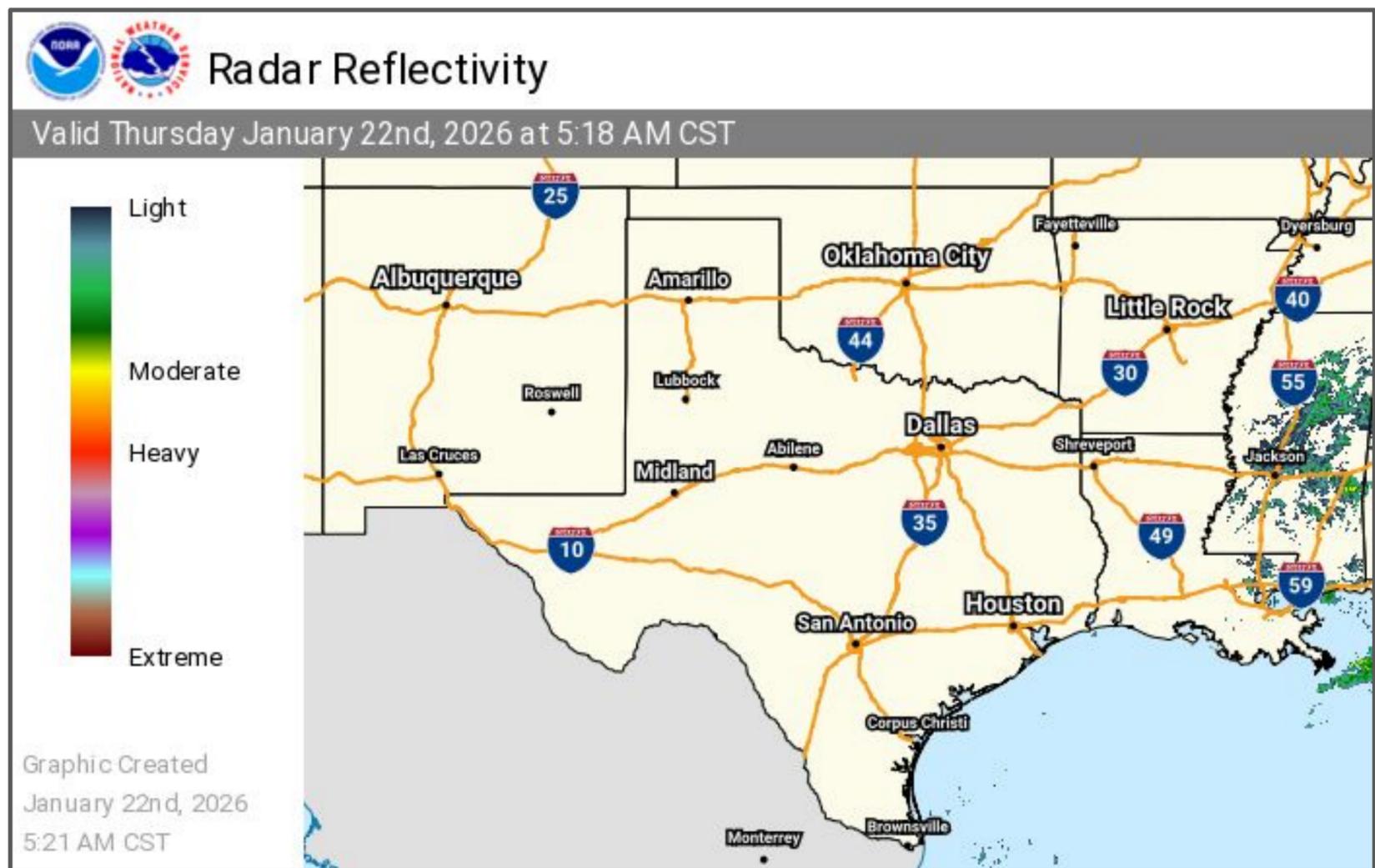
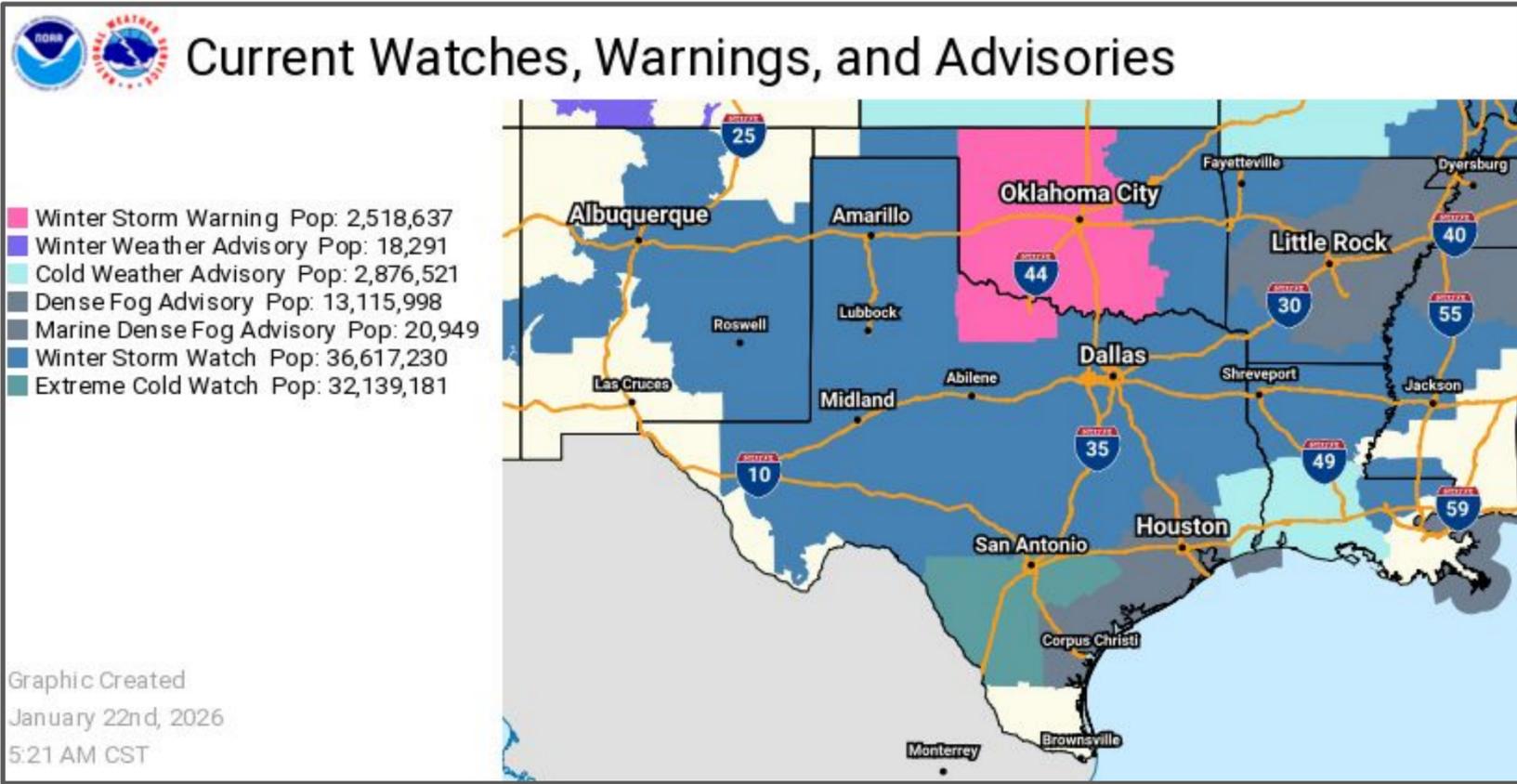
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.

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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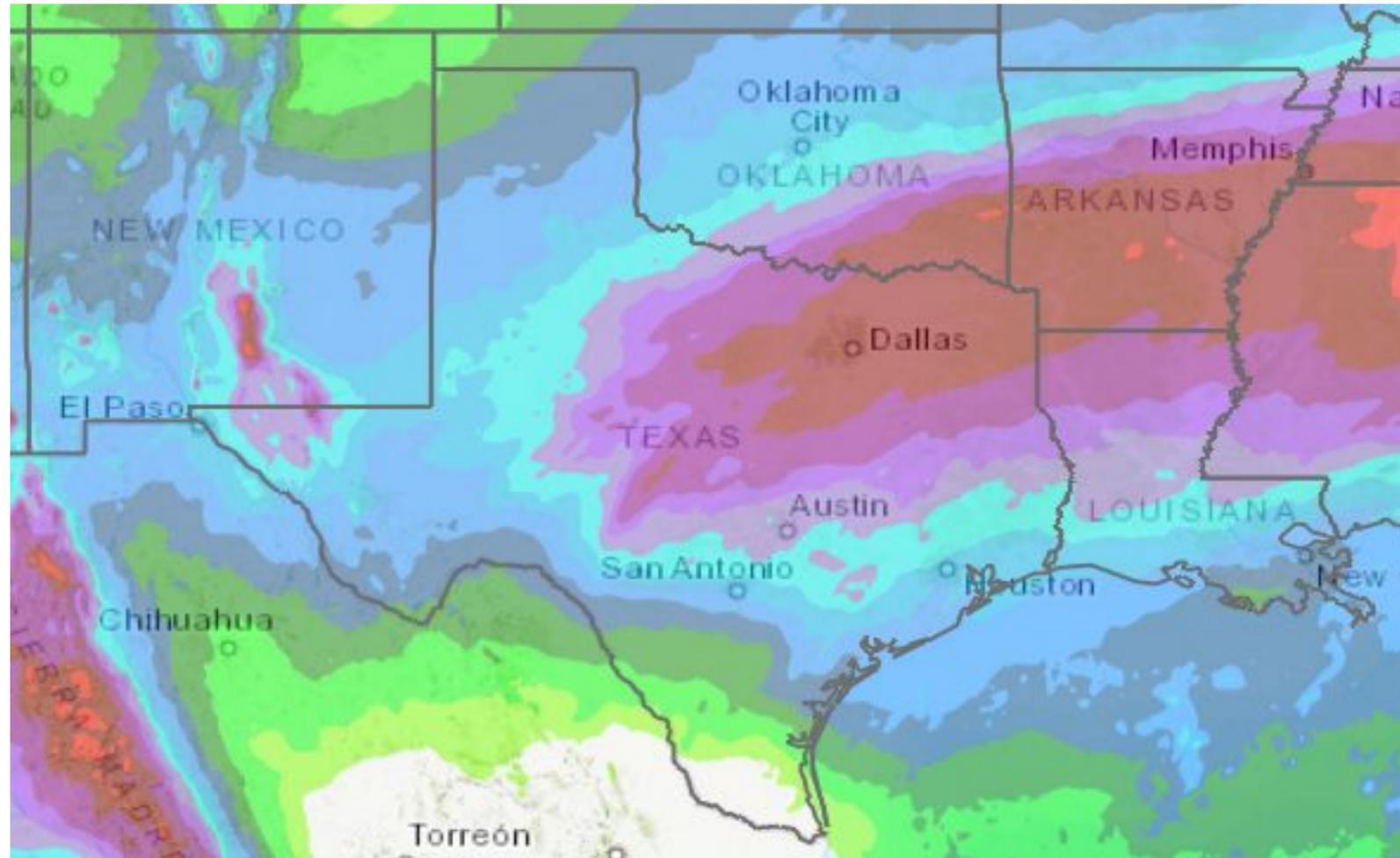
Current Radar/Hazards



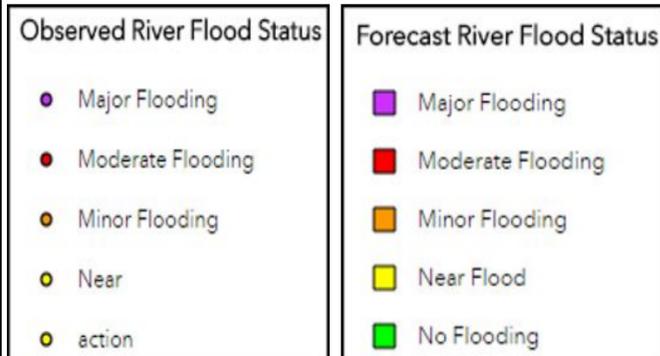


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

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



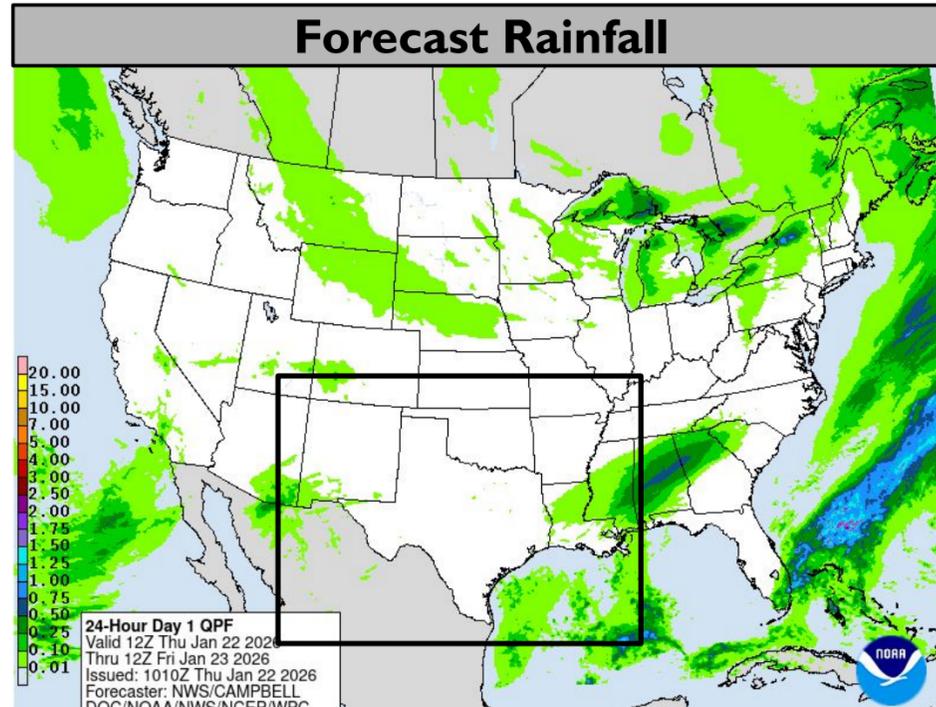
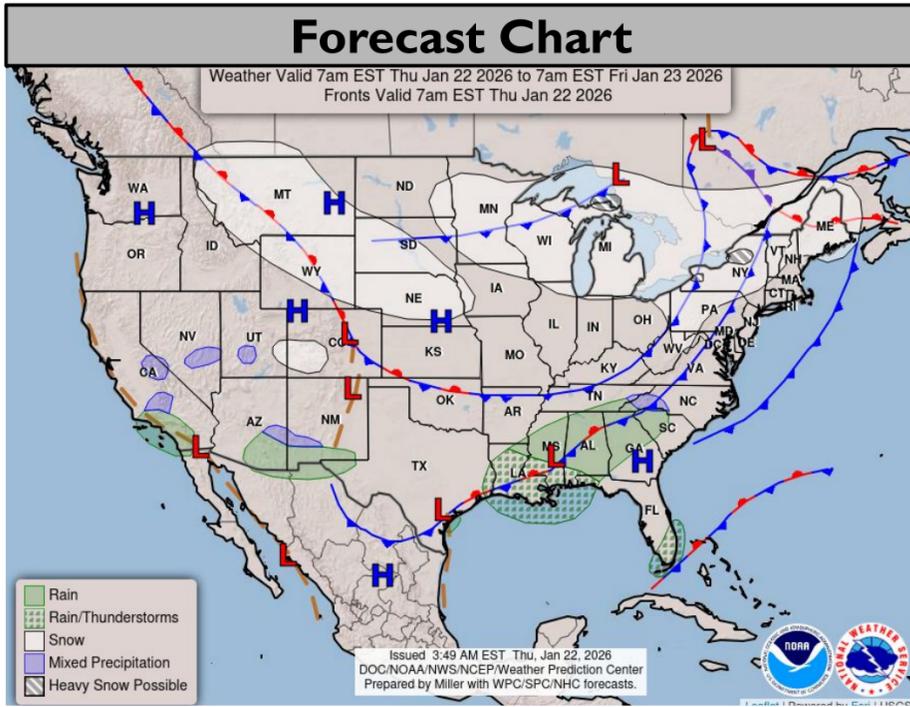
No significant flooding is expected.



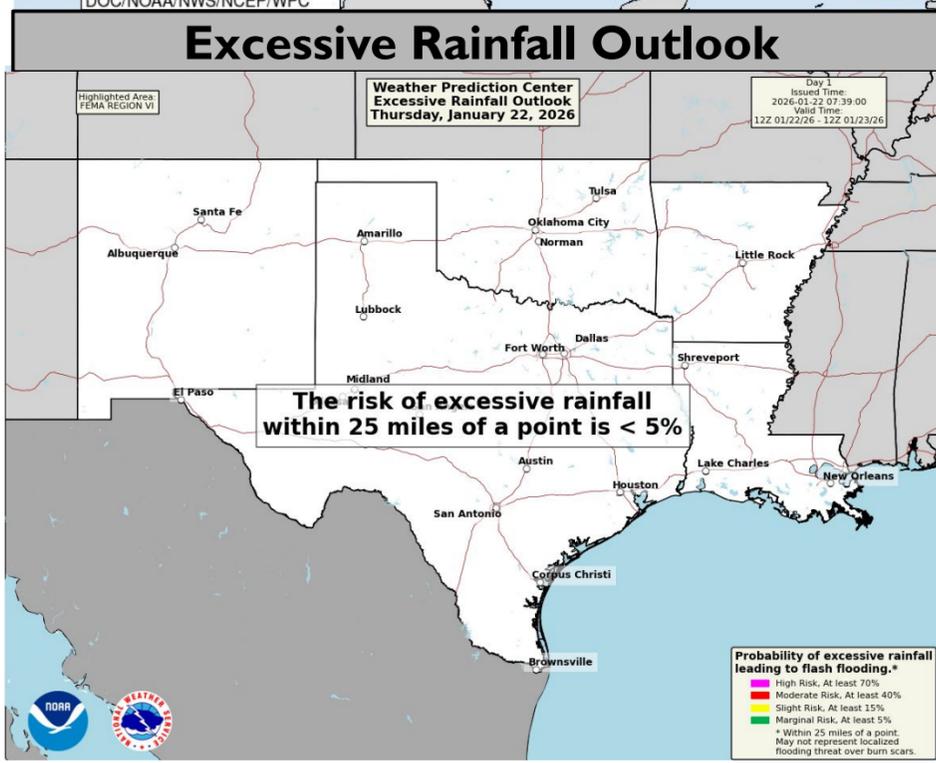
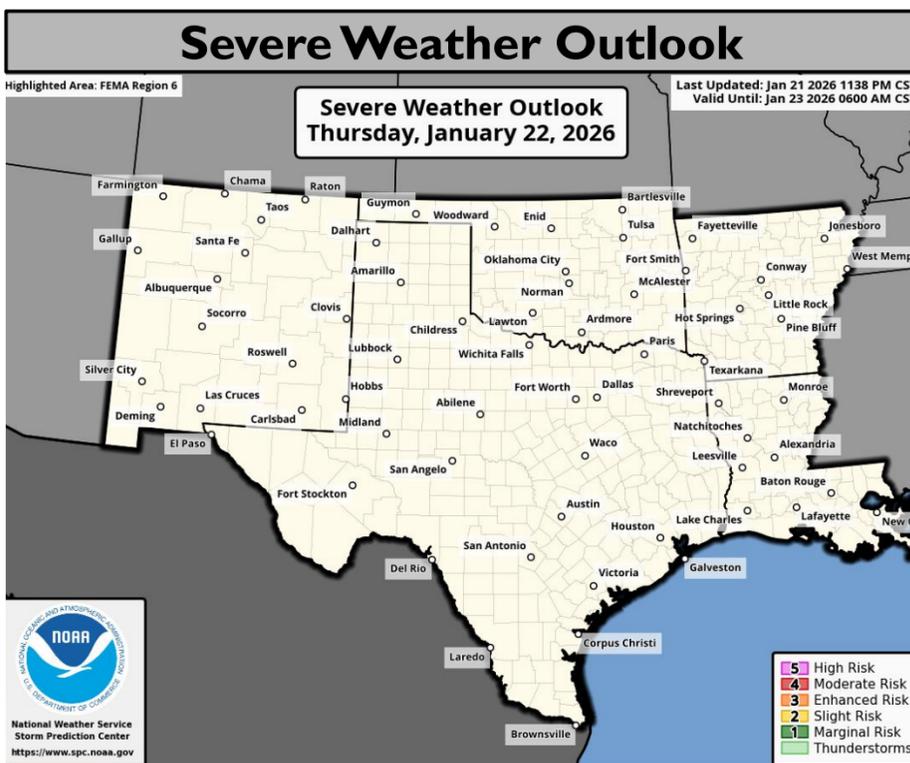
Note: Numerical levels (e.g. level 1 of 4) will not be assigned to riverine flooding due to the varying levels of impacts across flood categories.



Today's Weather

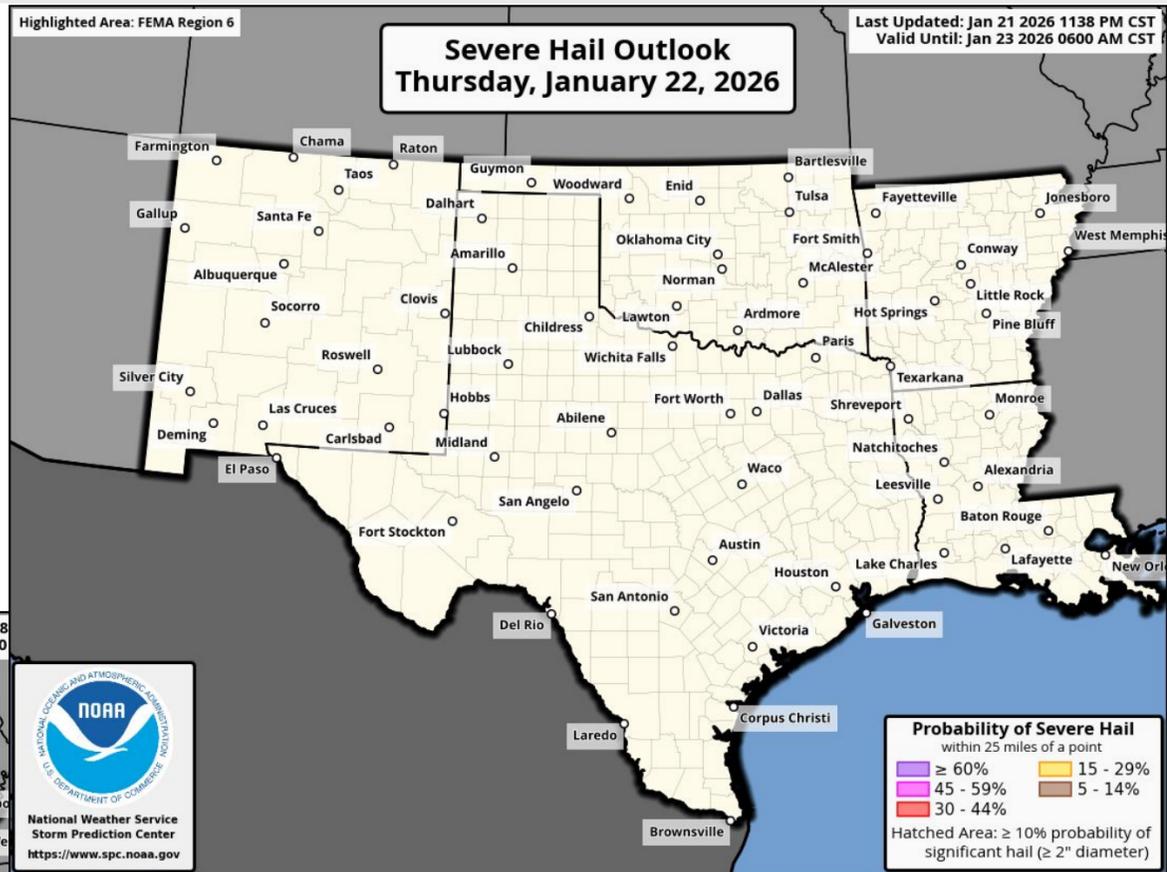
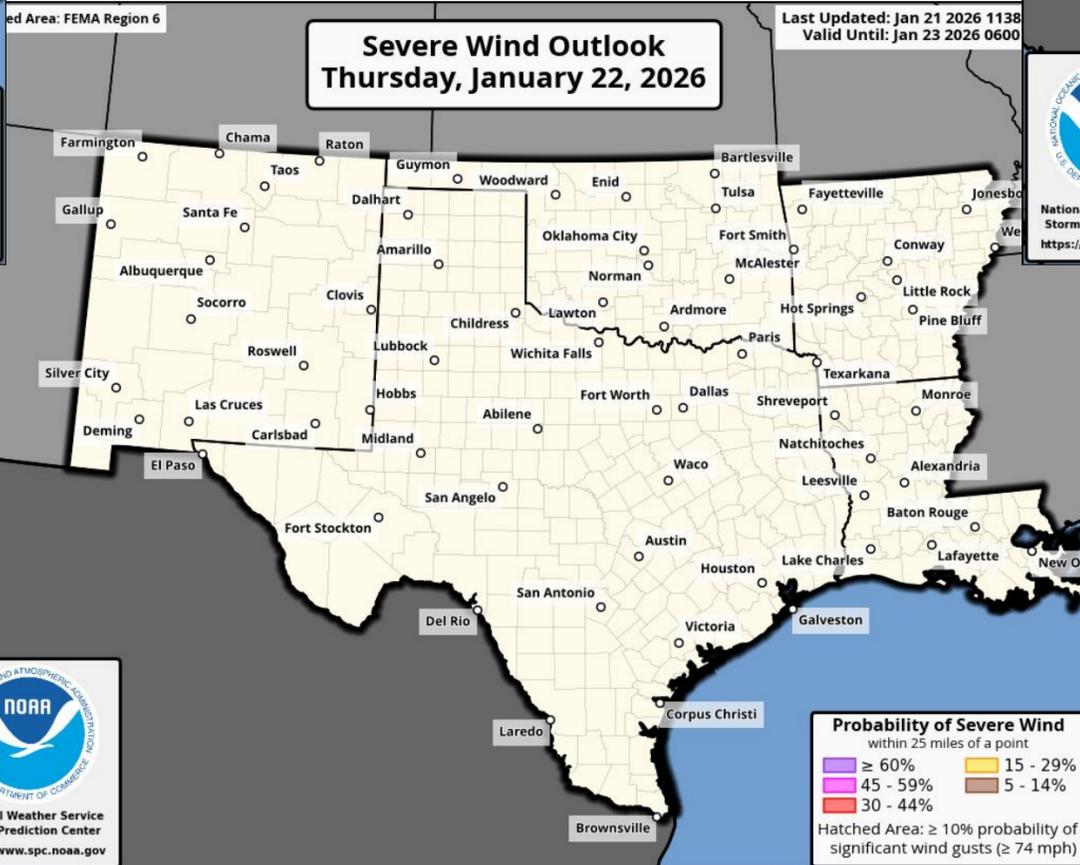
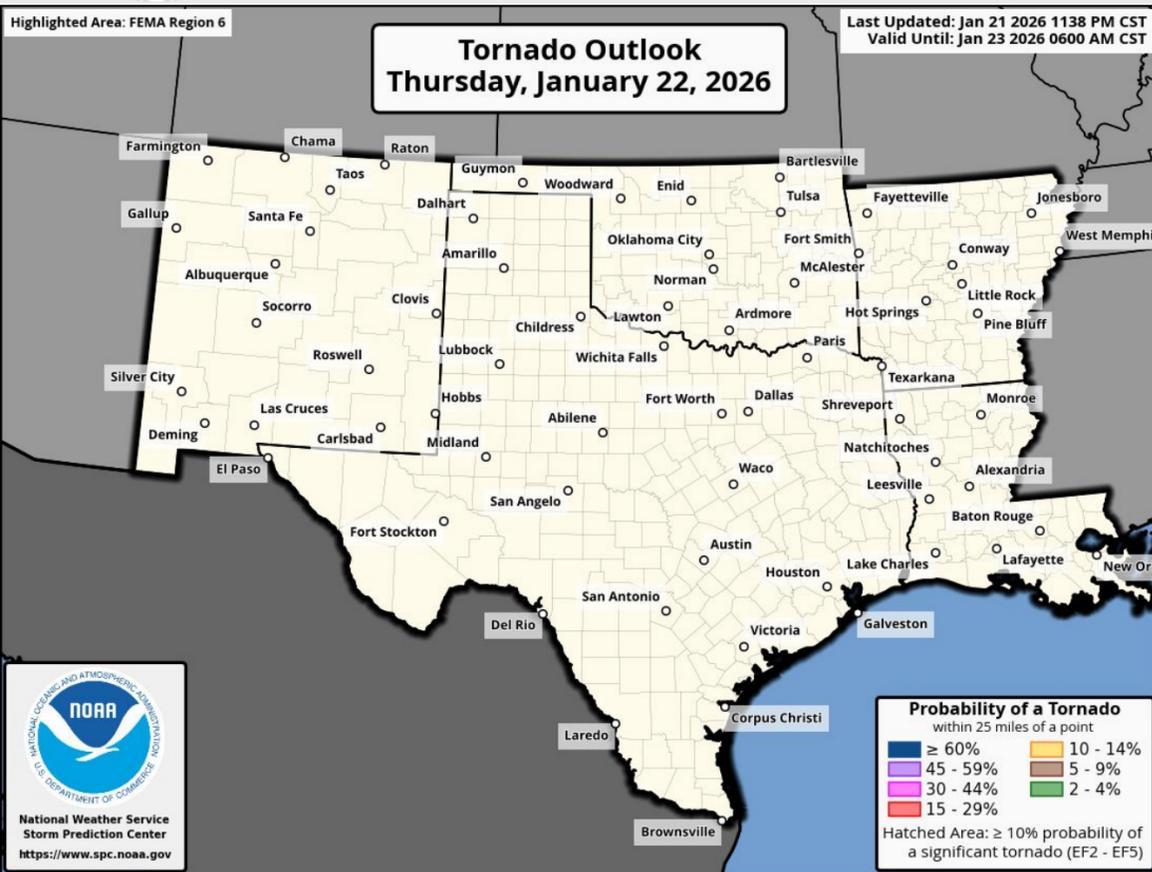


No significant weather expected.





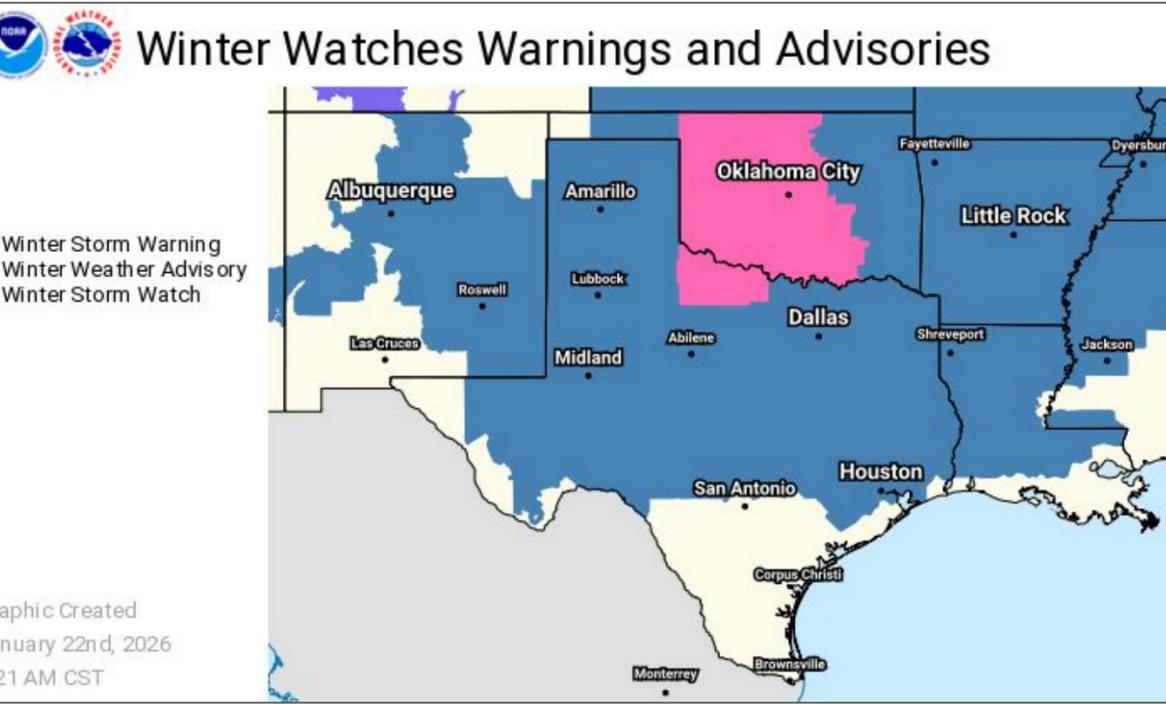
Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Wind, Severe, Winter, and Flood Hazards



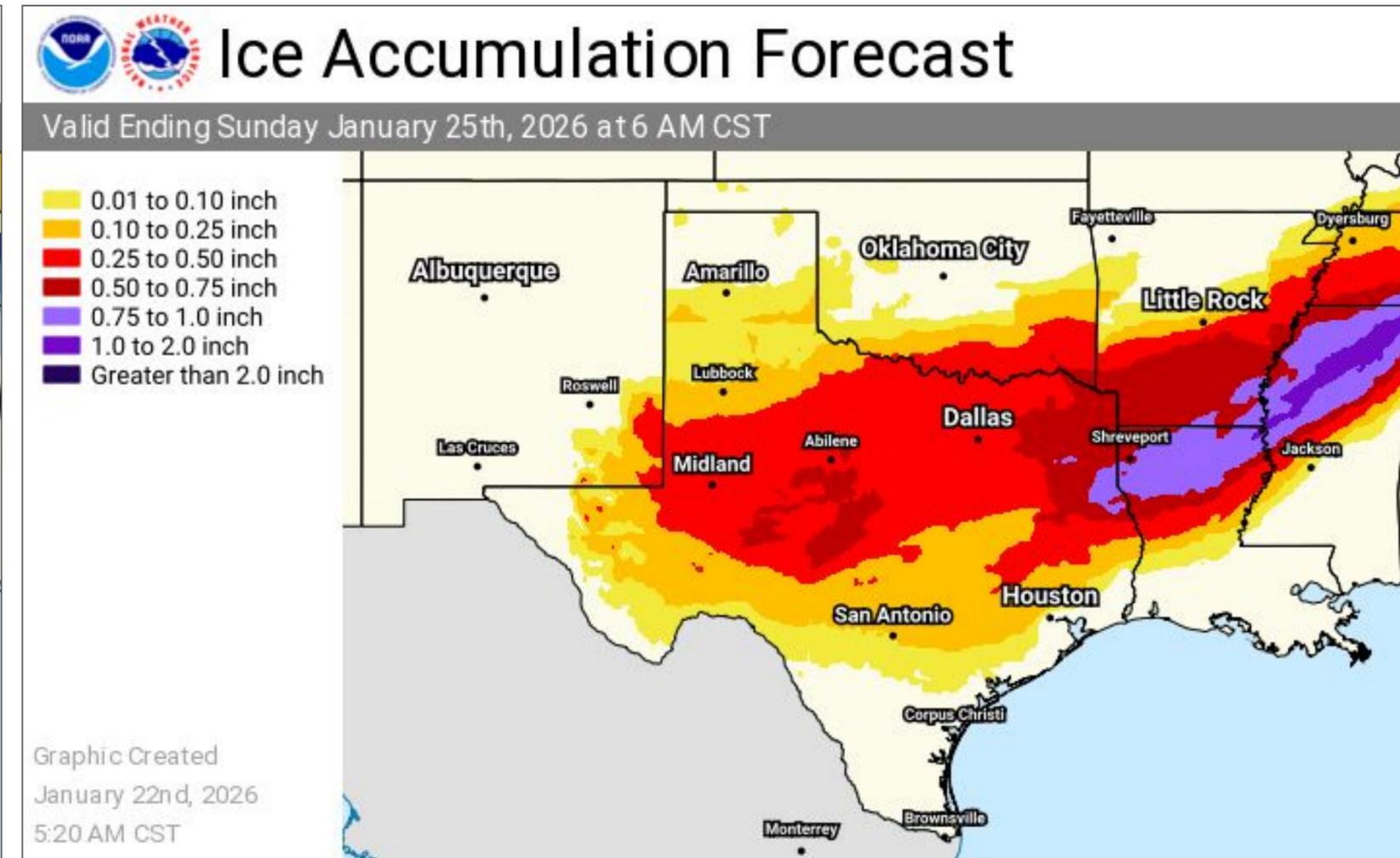
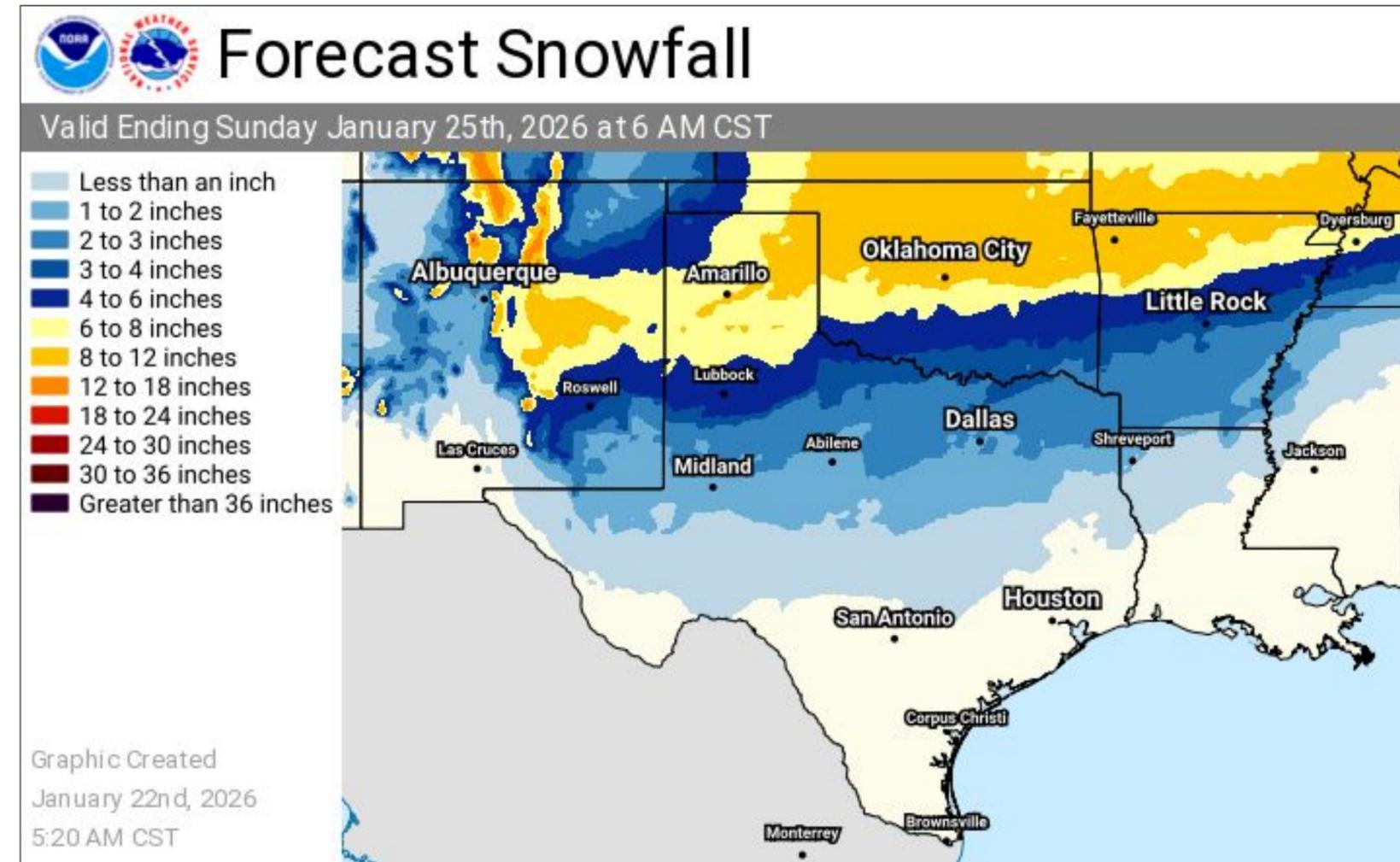
Winter Storm Warning for N-C OK, N/CTX starts tomorrow morning, goes through Sunday morning.

Numerous Winter Storm Watches for New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana. Expect upgrades to Winter Storm Warnings later today.



Winter Weather

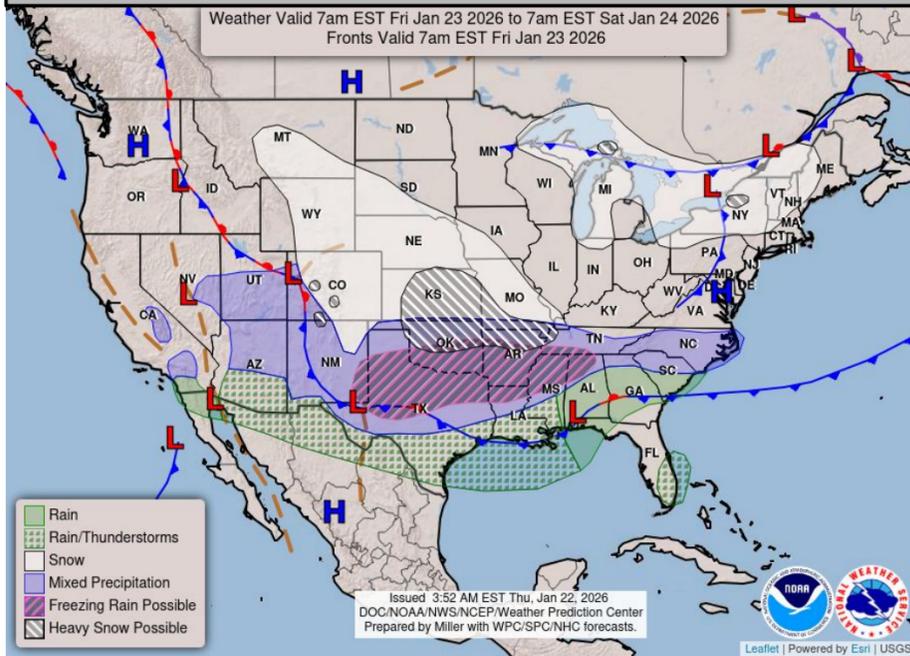
Through the next 3 days



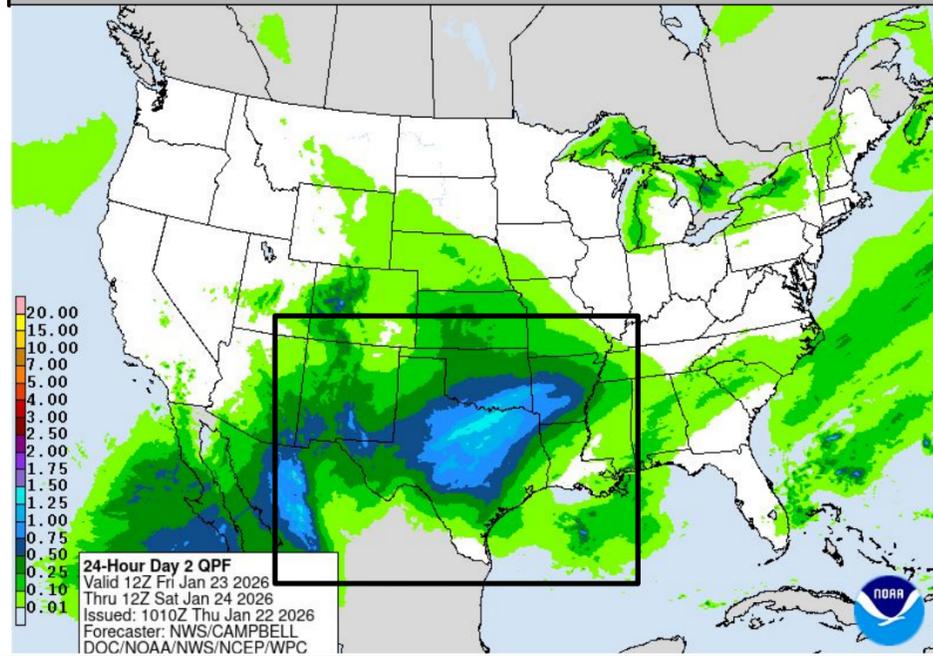


Tomorrow's Weather

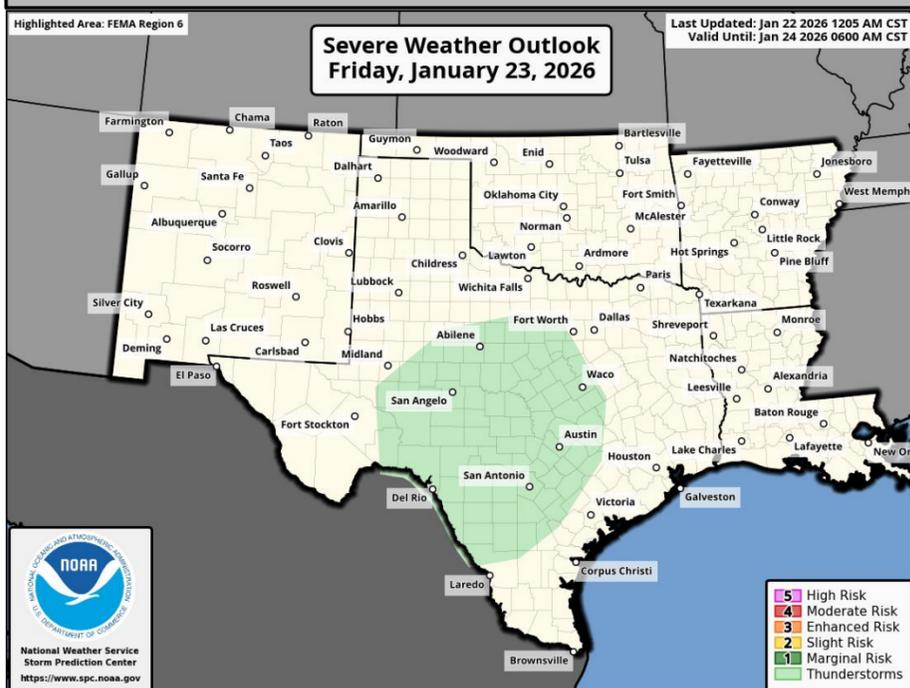
Forecast Chart



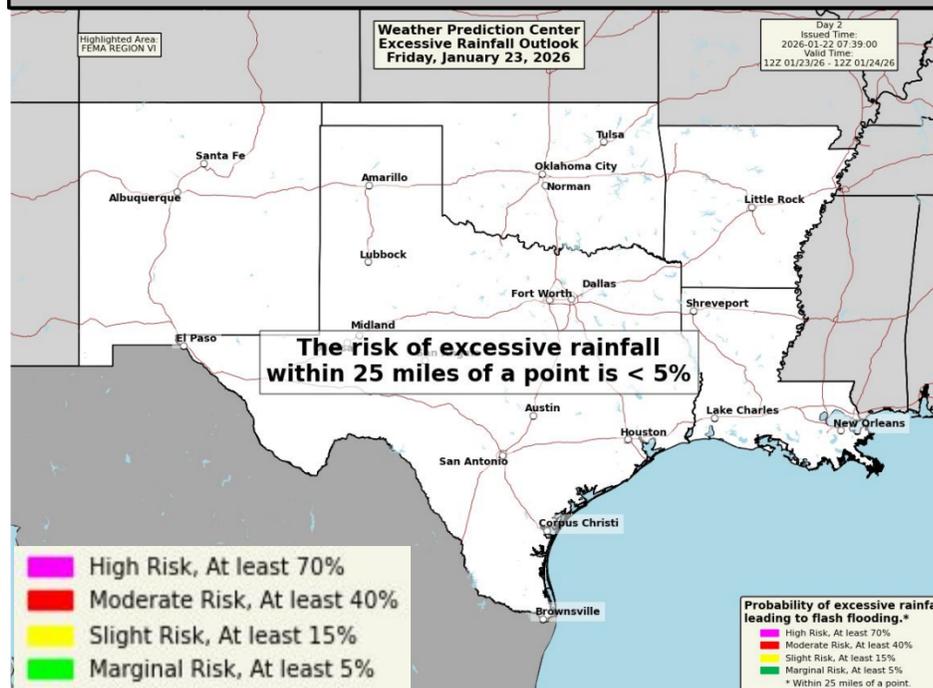
Forecast Rainfall



Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



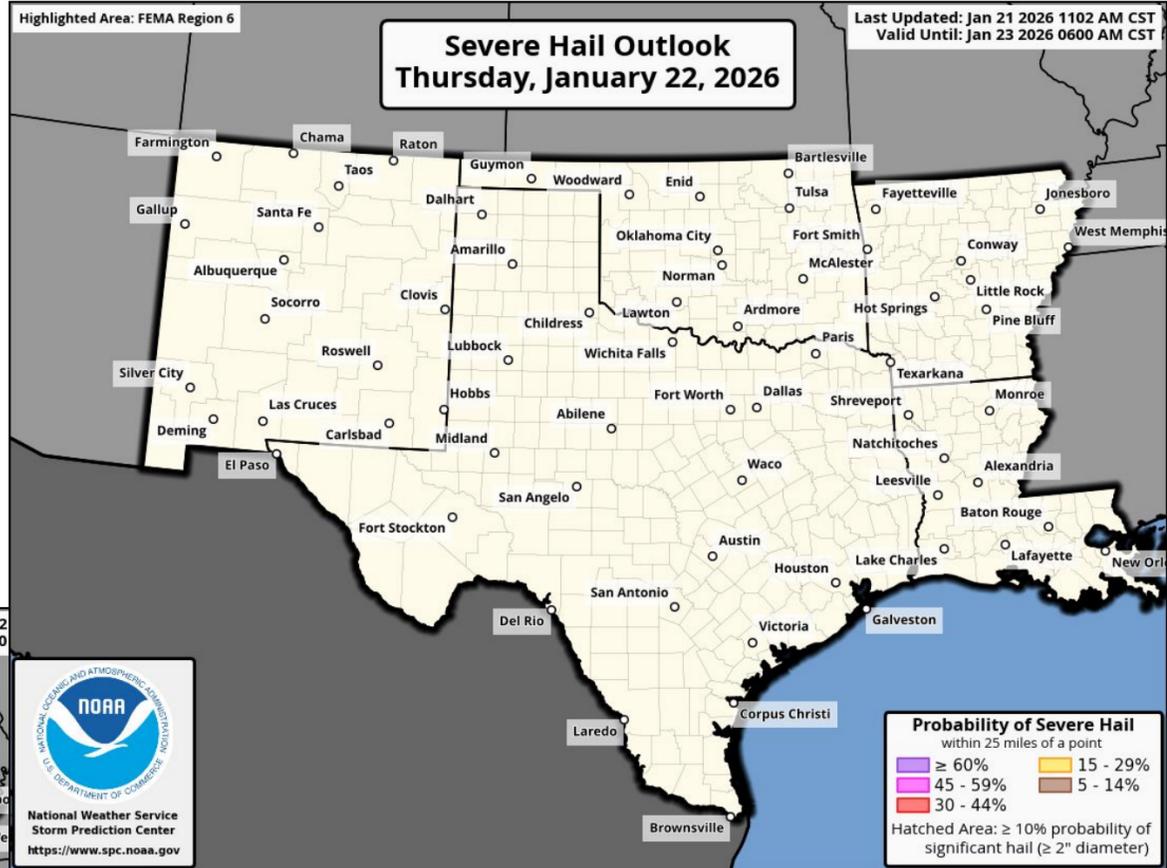
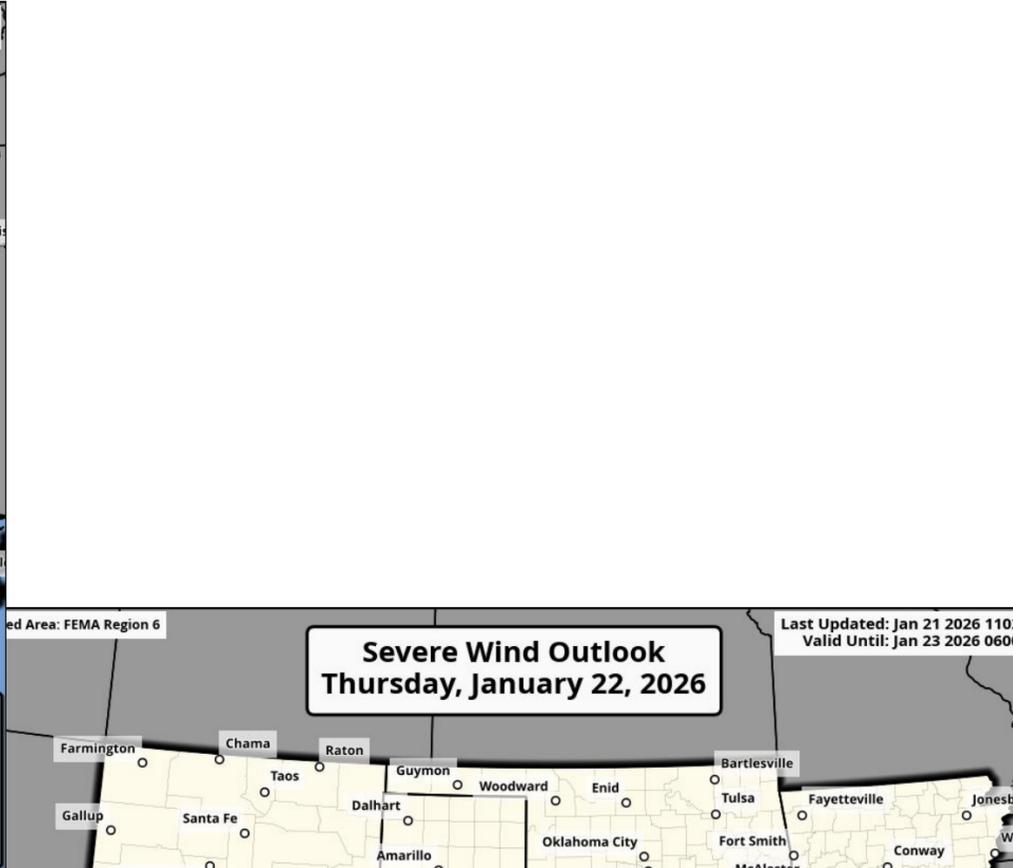
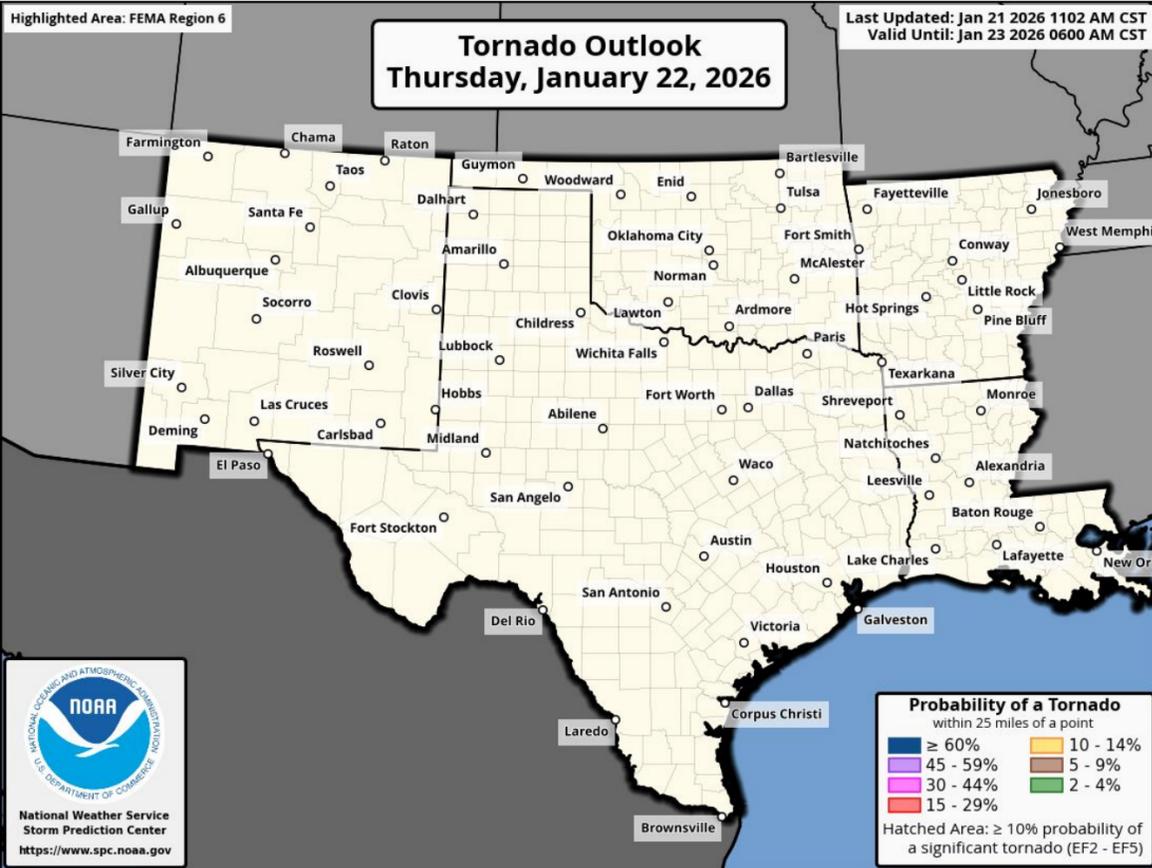
Monitoring NM, OK, AR, TX, and LA for minor (level 2 of 5) winter impacts.

Snow timing: Early morning snow starts in TX Panhandle, N OK, continues all day.

Freezing rain/Sleet timing: Starts late afternoon/evening N/NE TX, S OK, C/S AR, continues overnight.



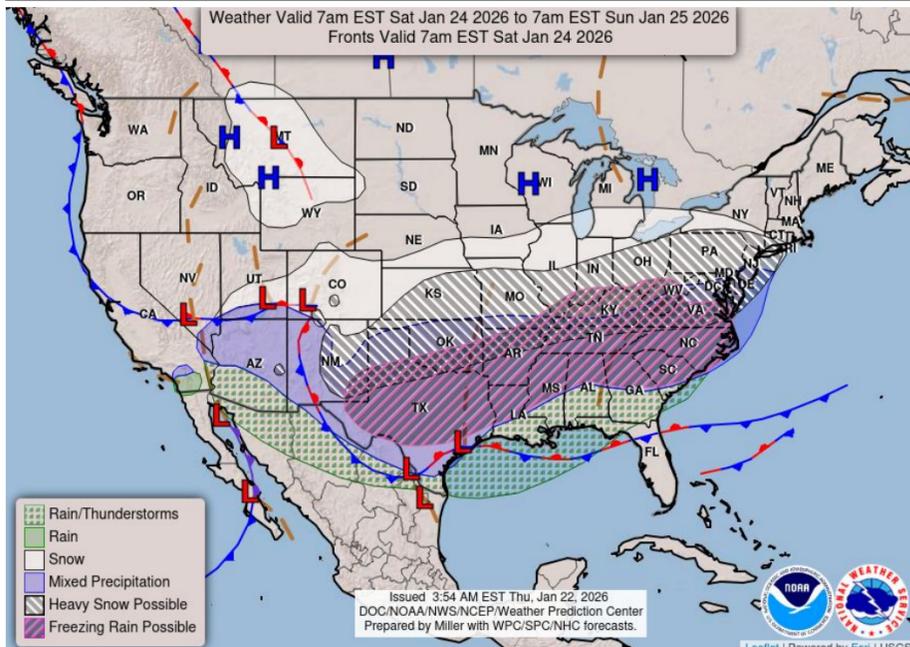
Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



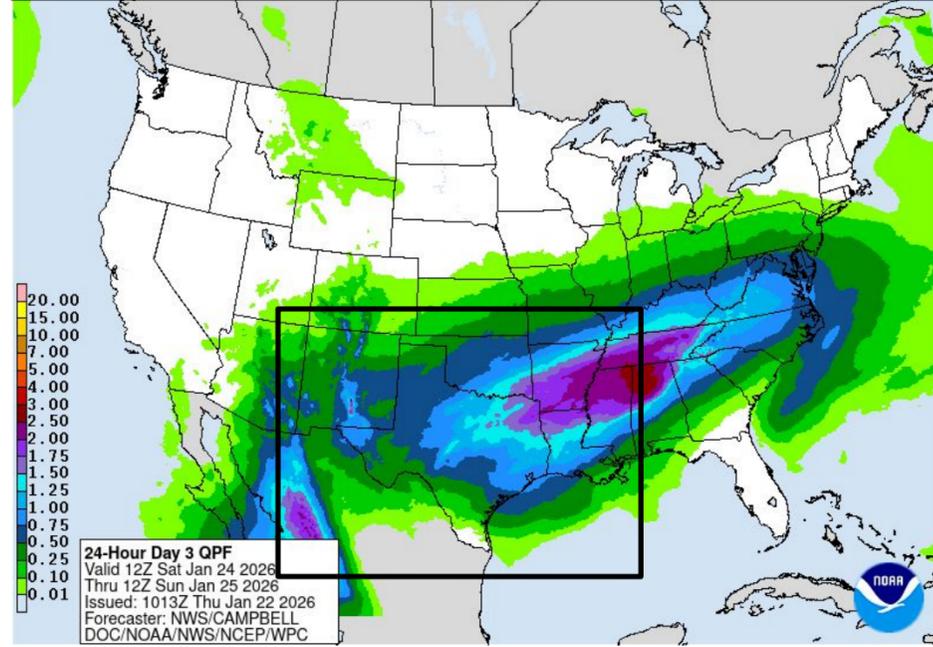


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart



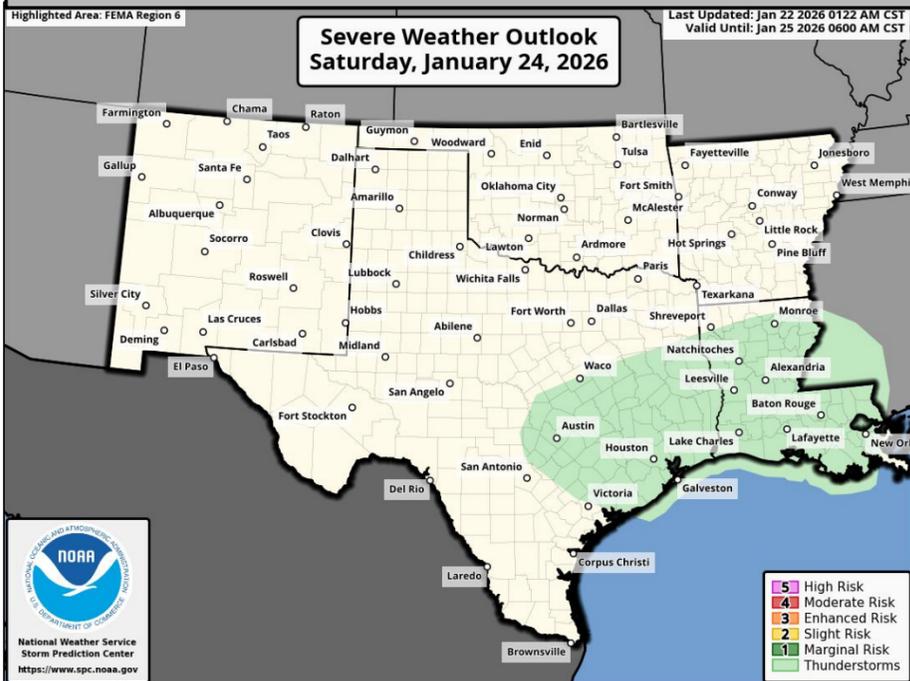
Forecast Rainfall



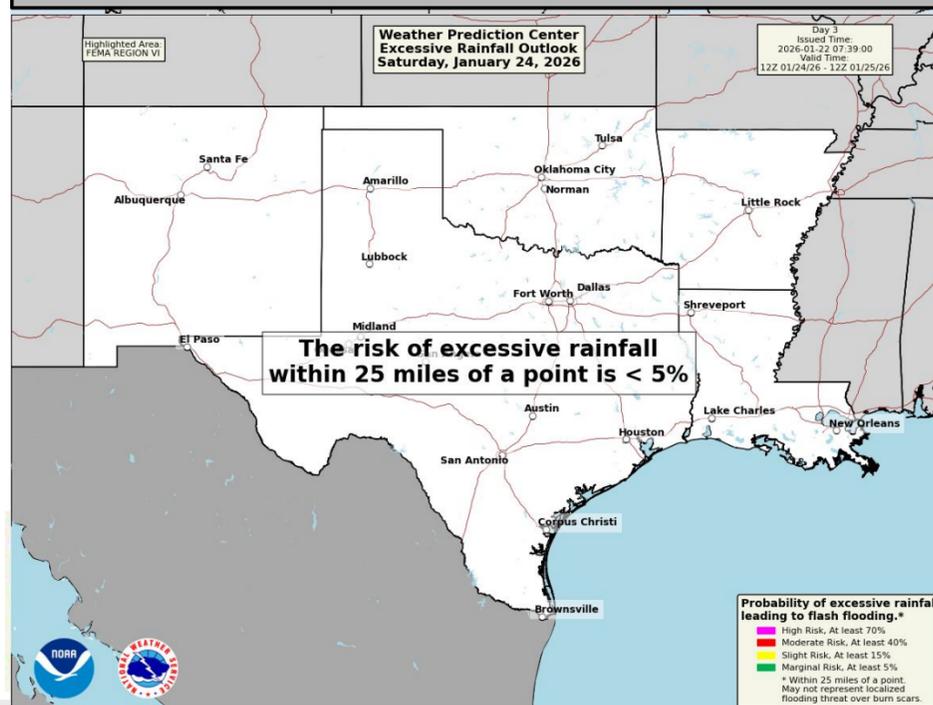
Major (level 4 of 5) winter travel impacts due to freezing rain and/or sleet in SE OK, C/S AR, N/NE TX, and N LA.

Moderate (level 3 of 5) travel impacts due to winter weather in NM, OK, AR, TX, and LA. Wintry mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain with hazardous cold temps.

Severe Weather Outlook



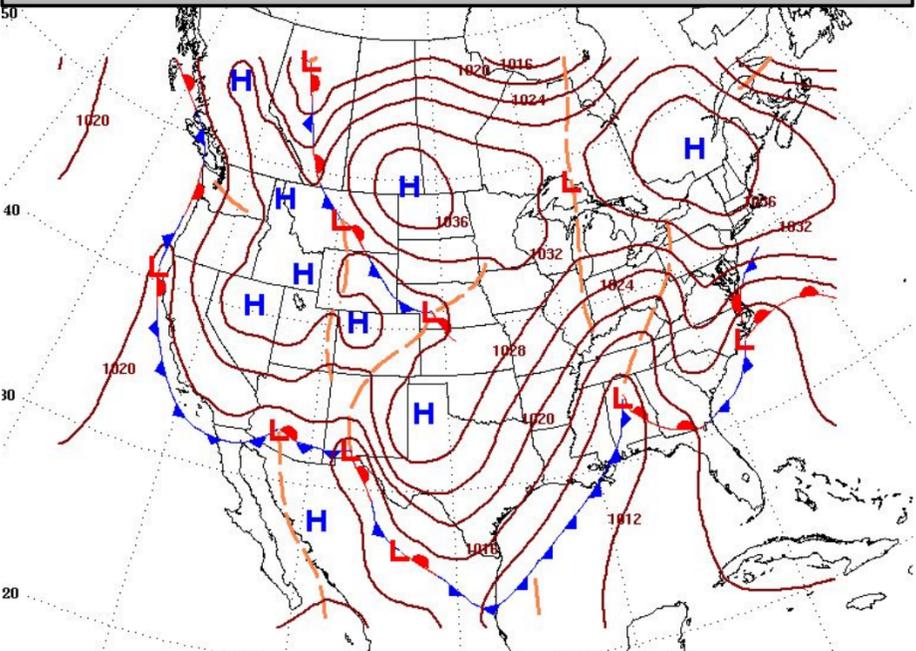
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



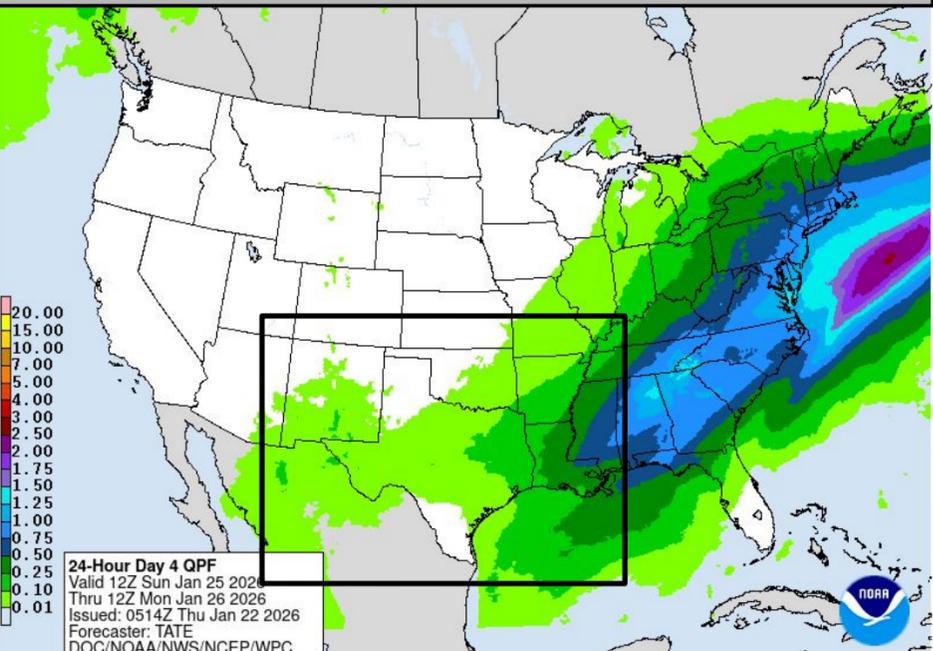


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart



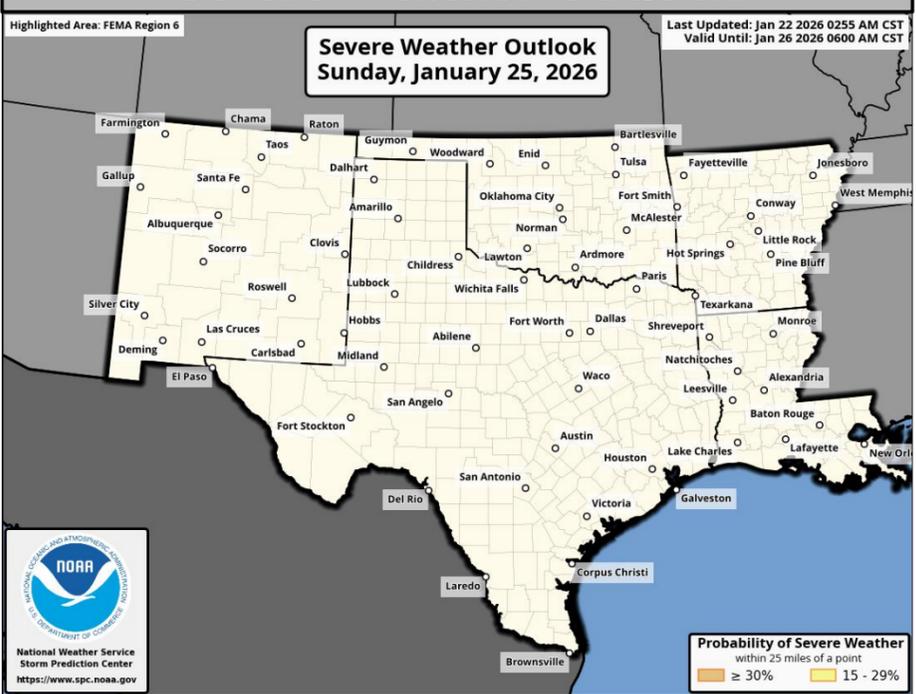
Forecast Rainfall



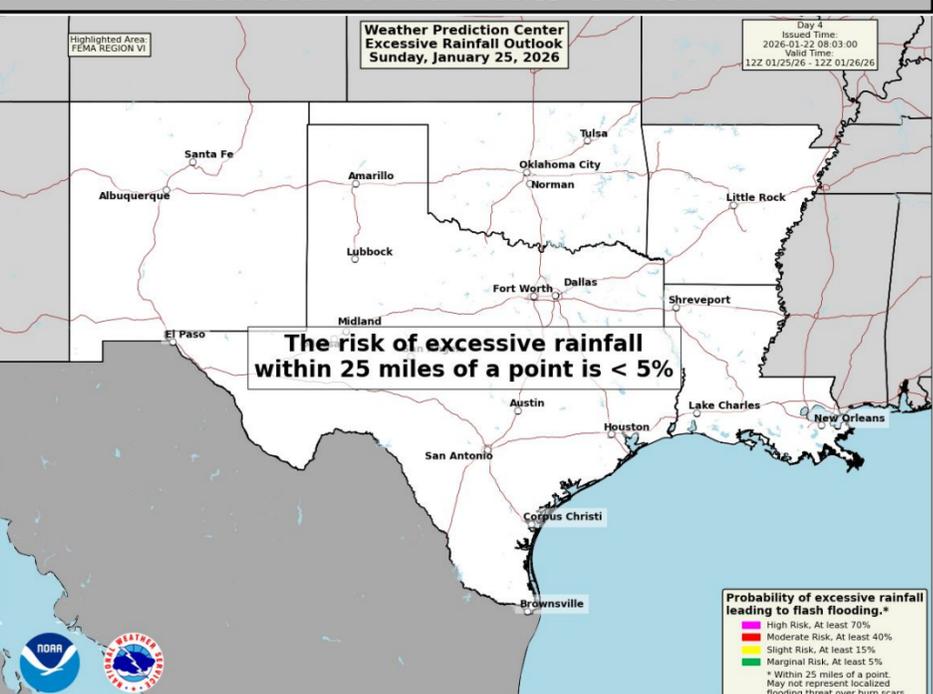
Moderate (level 3 of 5) travel impacts due to winter weather continue in NM, OK, AR, TX, and LA. Wintry mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain with hazardous cold temps.

Wintry precip expected to taper off across FEMA 6 by late Sunday morning.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

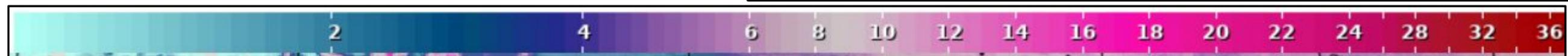
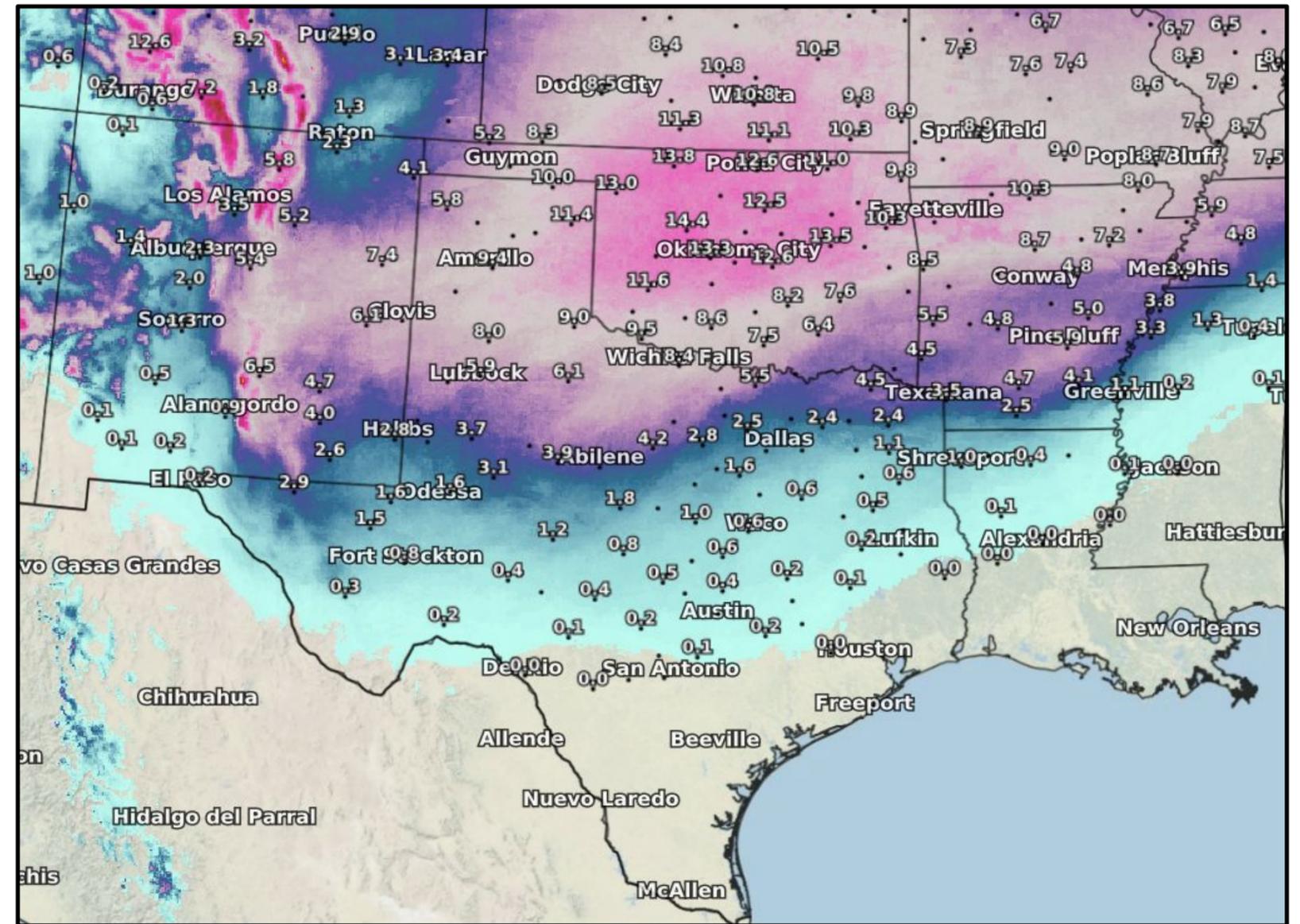
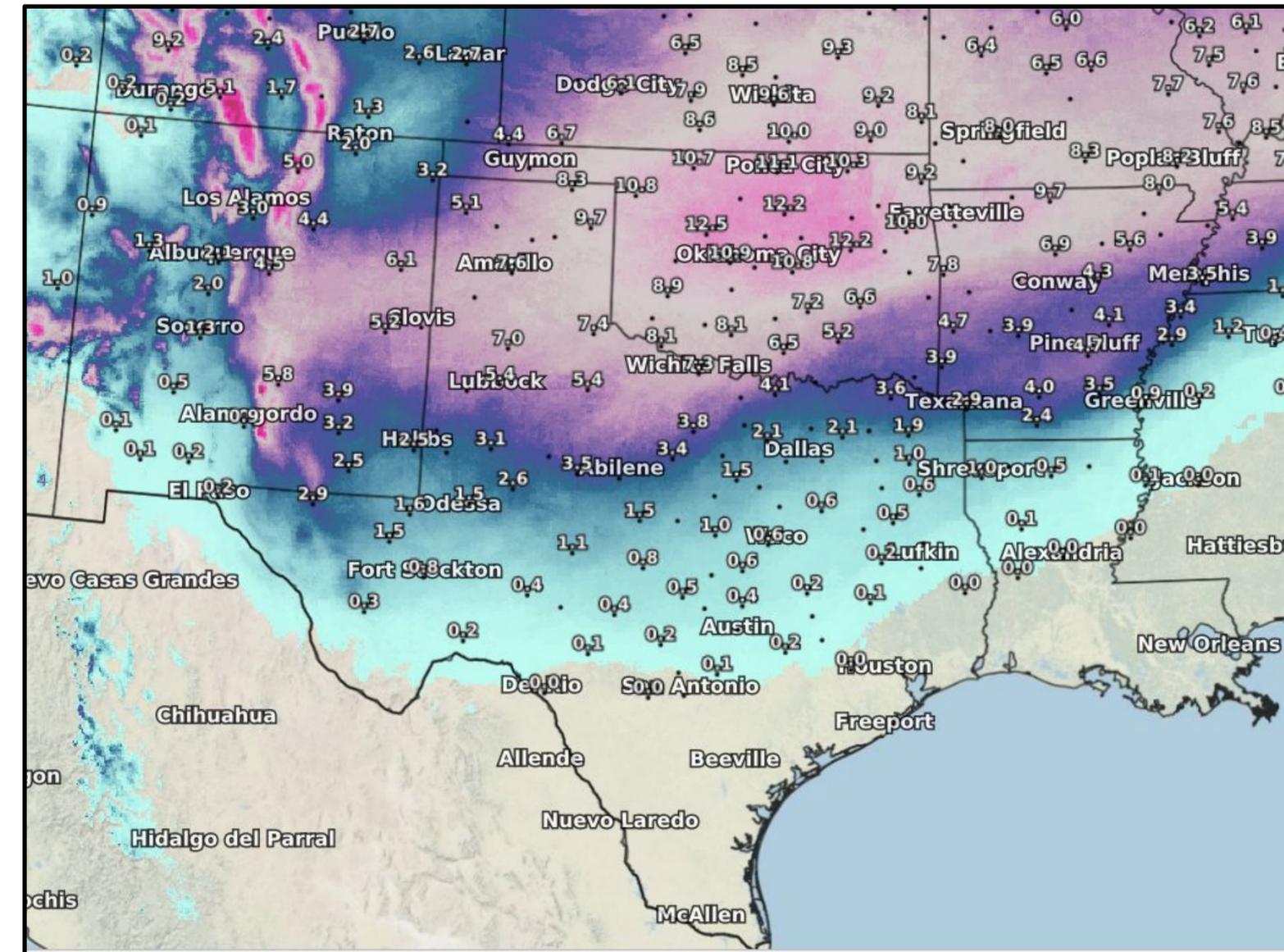




Snowfall Scenarios (Friday-Sun)

Most Likely Scenario - NBM 50th Percentile

Heavy Snow Scenario - NBM 90th Percentile

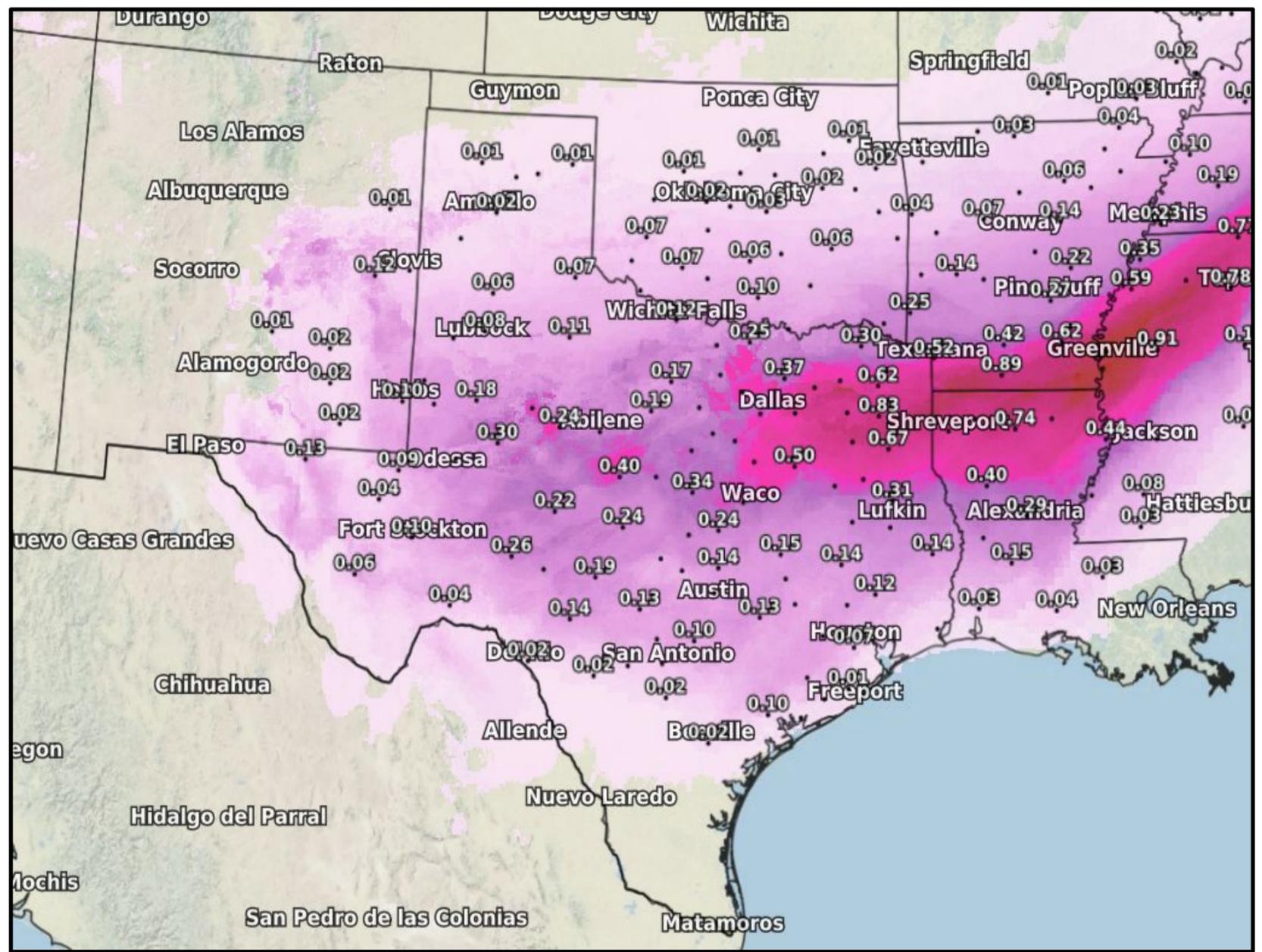
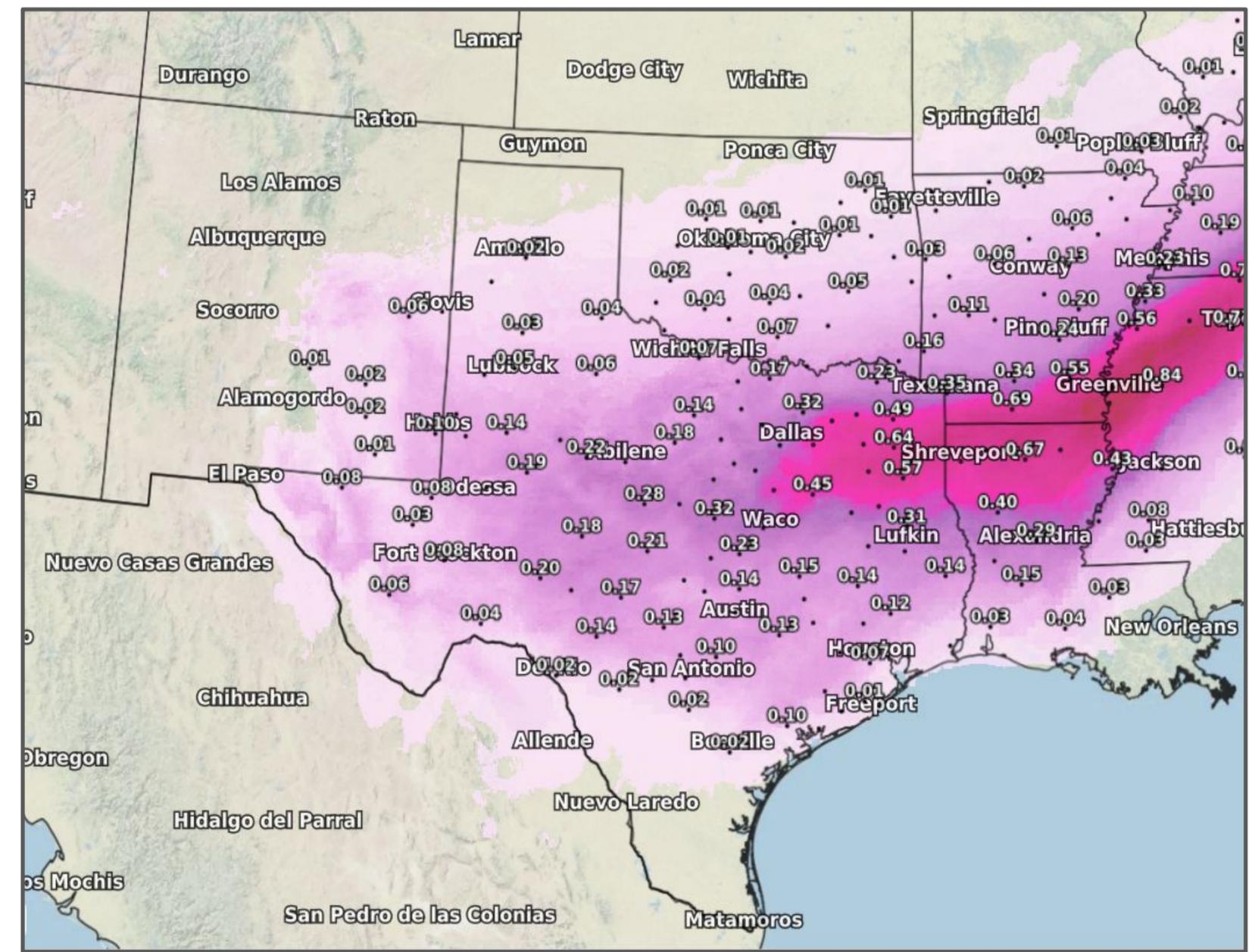




Ice Accumulation Scenarios (Friday-Sun)

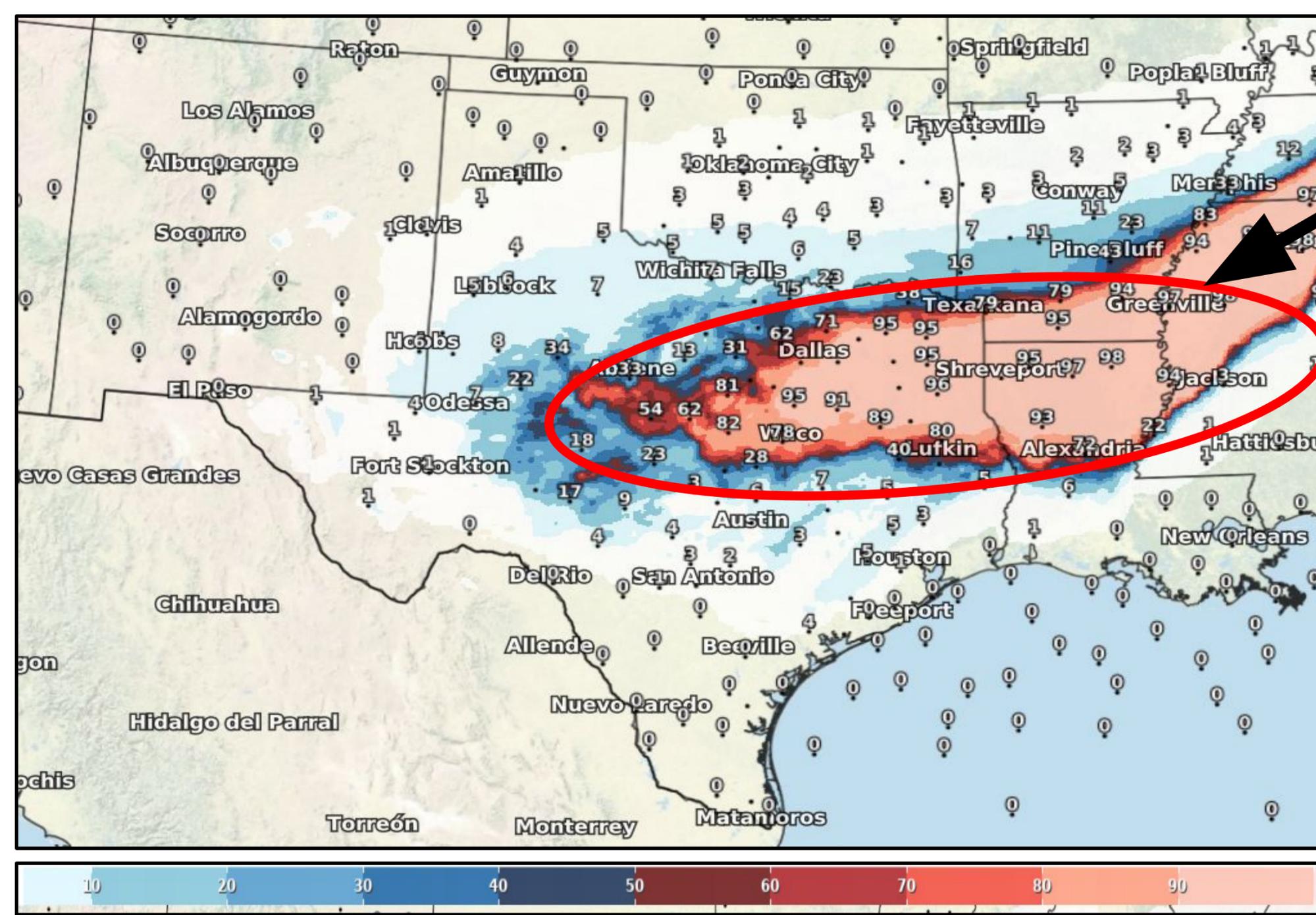
Most Likely Scenario - NBM 50th Percentile

Higher Ice Scenario - NBM 90th Percentile





Probability of .25" of Ice or more - Fri-Sun

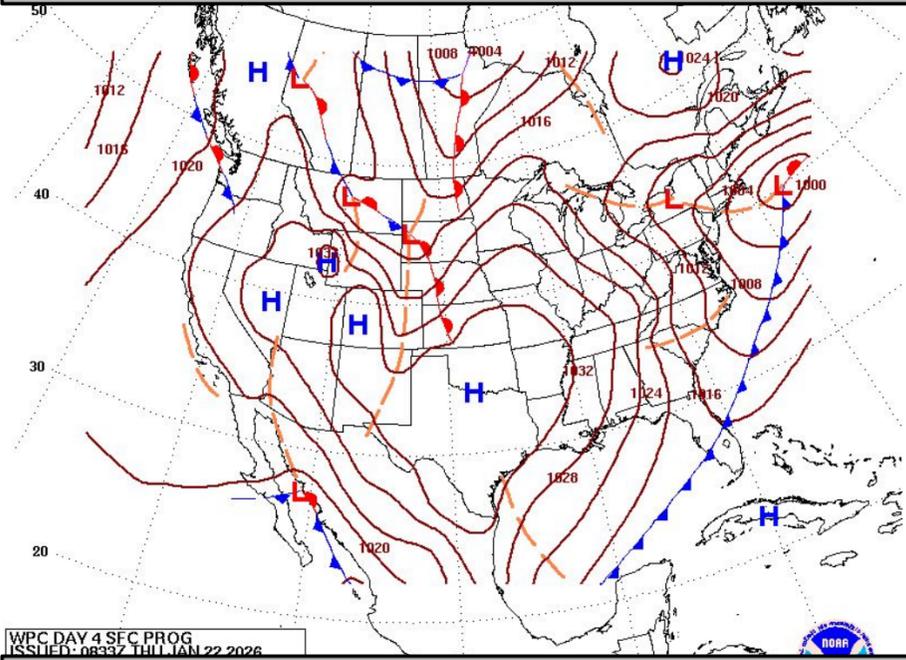


- **Locations with 90% chance or higher of .25" of accumulating ice are most likely to see major (level 4 of 5) impacts, particularly on Saturday.**
- **Refinements to exact locations where freezing rain/ice accumulations will be greatest will likely be made as high resolution data arrives later today.**

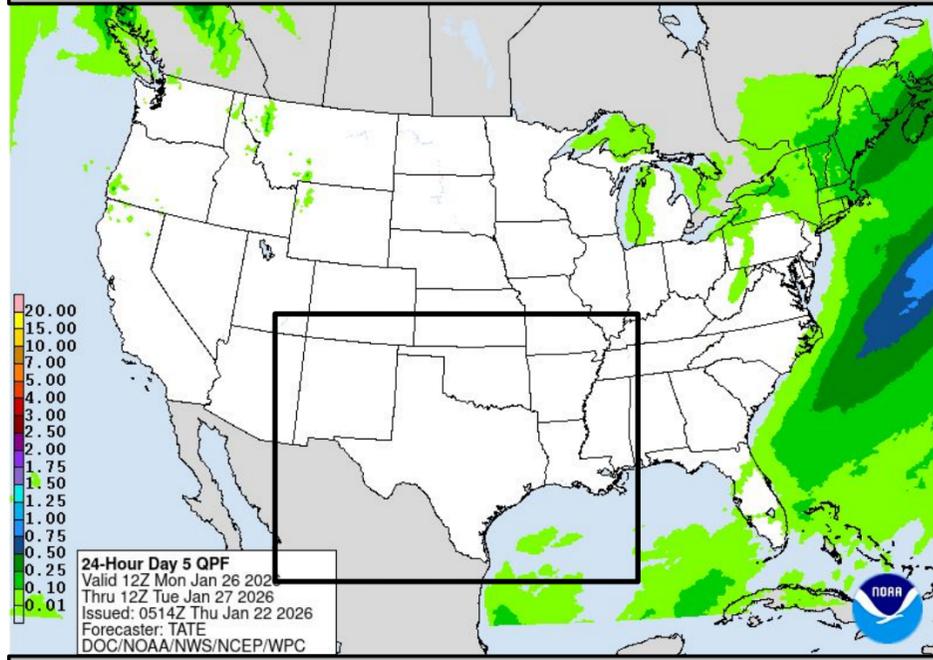


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

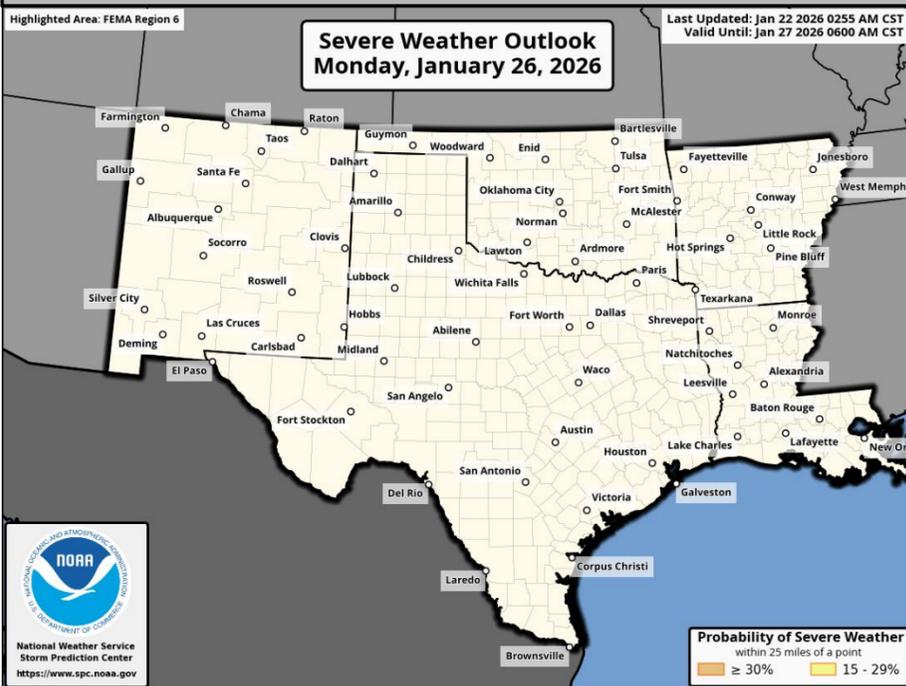


Forecast Rainfall

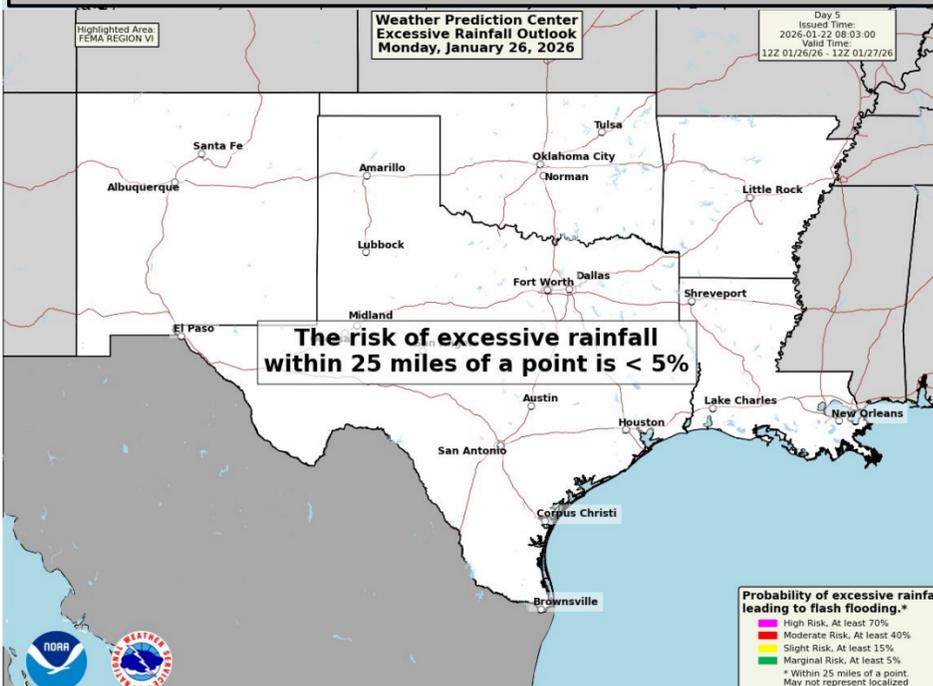


Minor (level 2 of 5) travel impacts may linger into Monday with hazardous cold temps across AR, TX, and LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



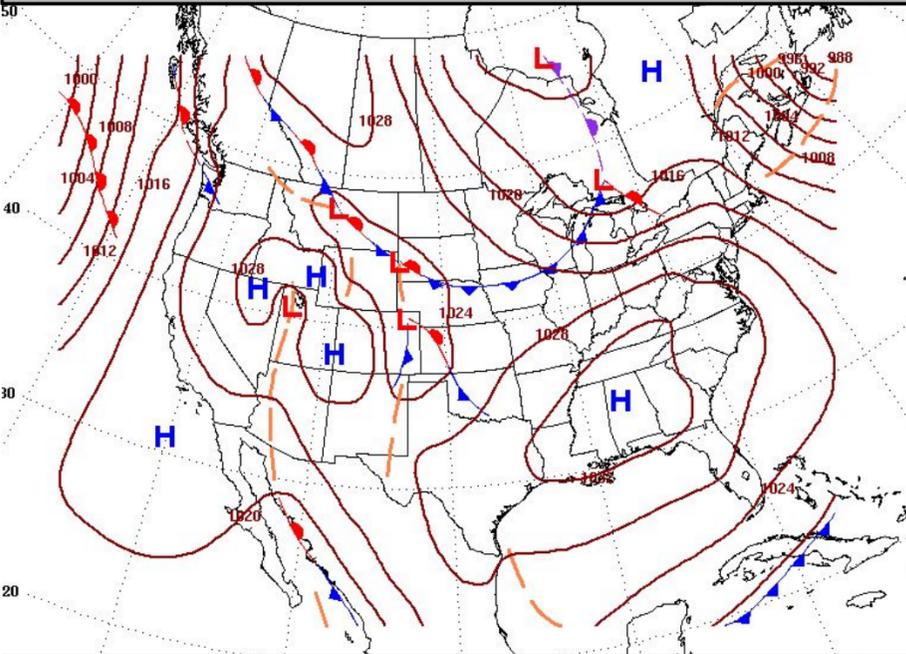
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



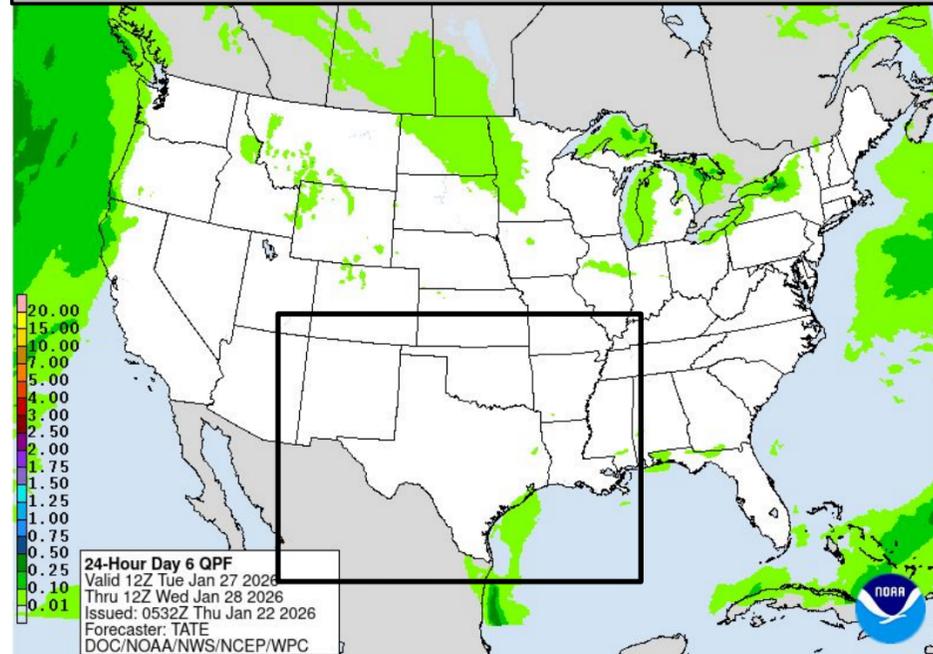


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

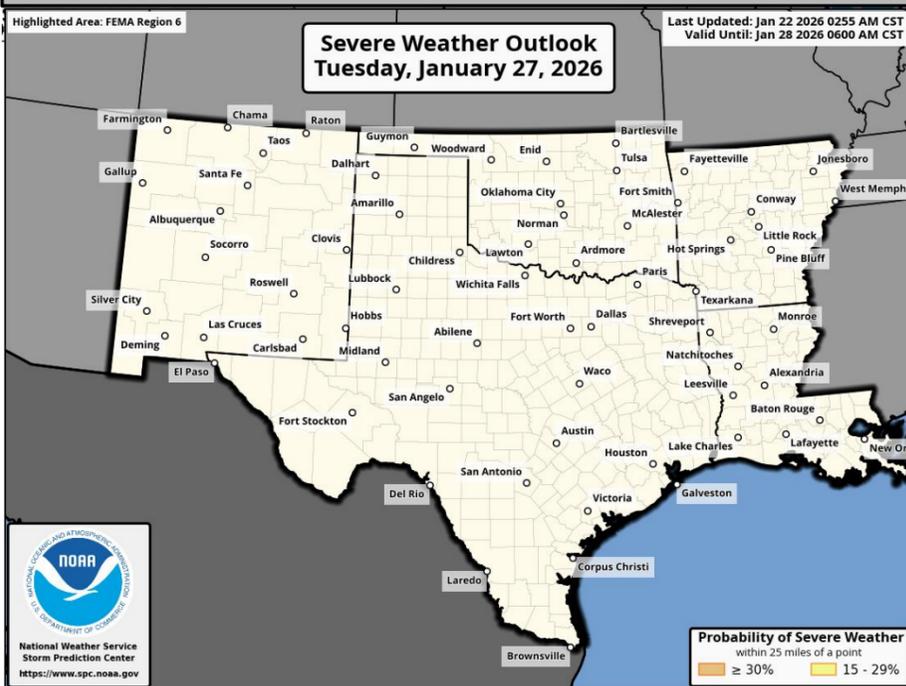


Forecast Rainfall



Hazardous cold temps across AR and LA.

Severe Weather Outlook

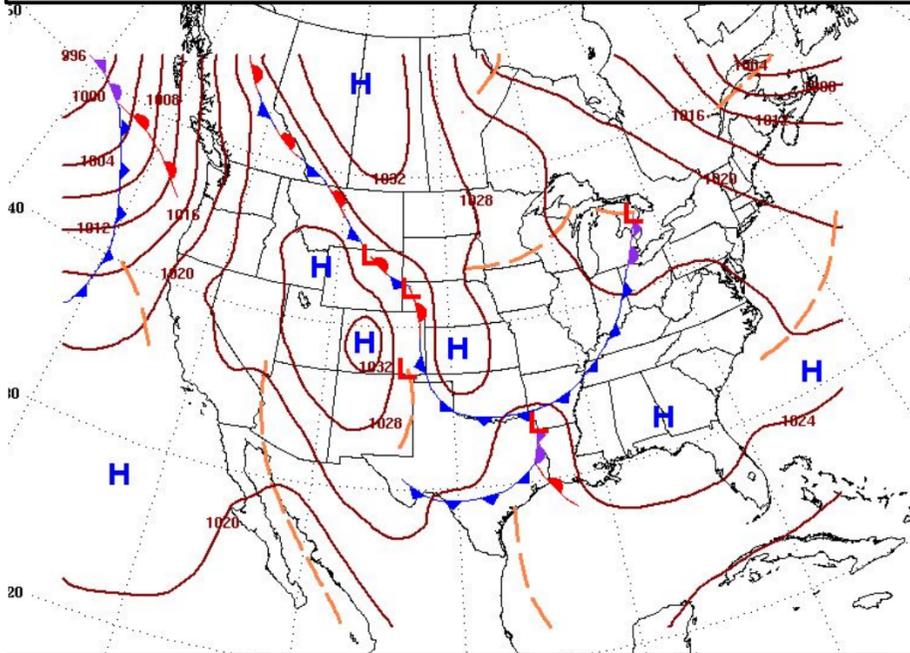


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

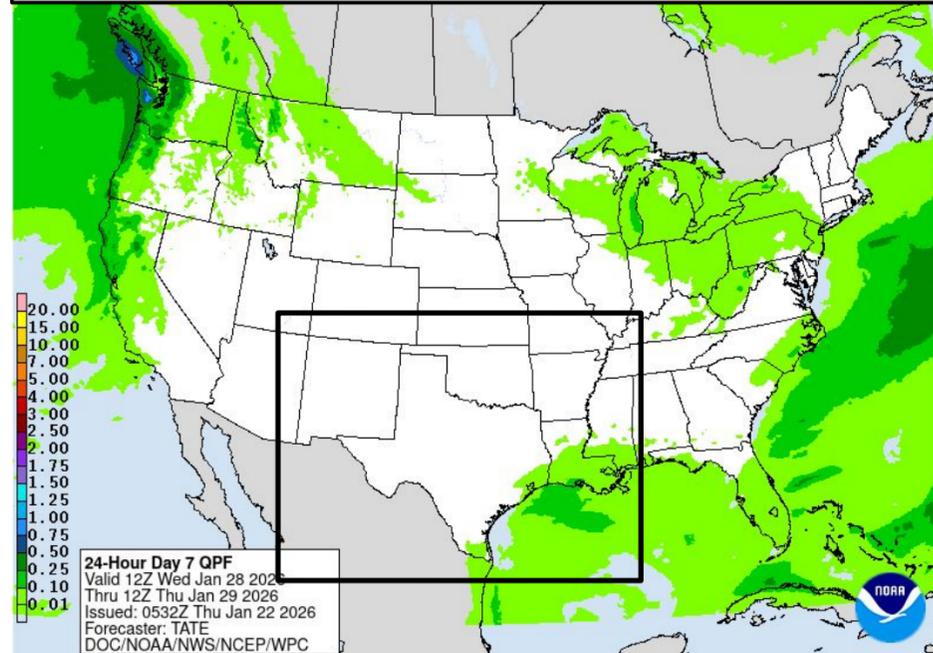


Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

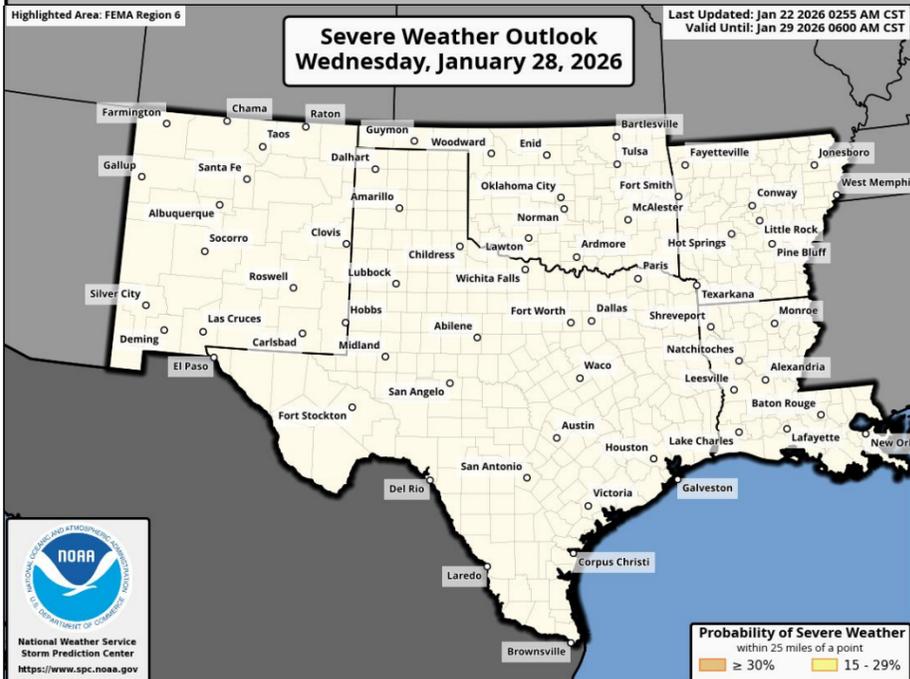


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

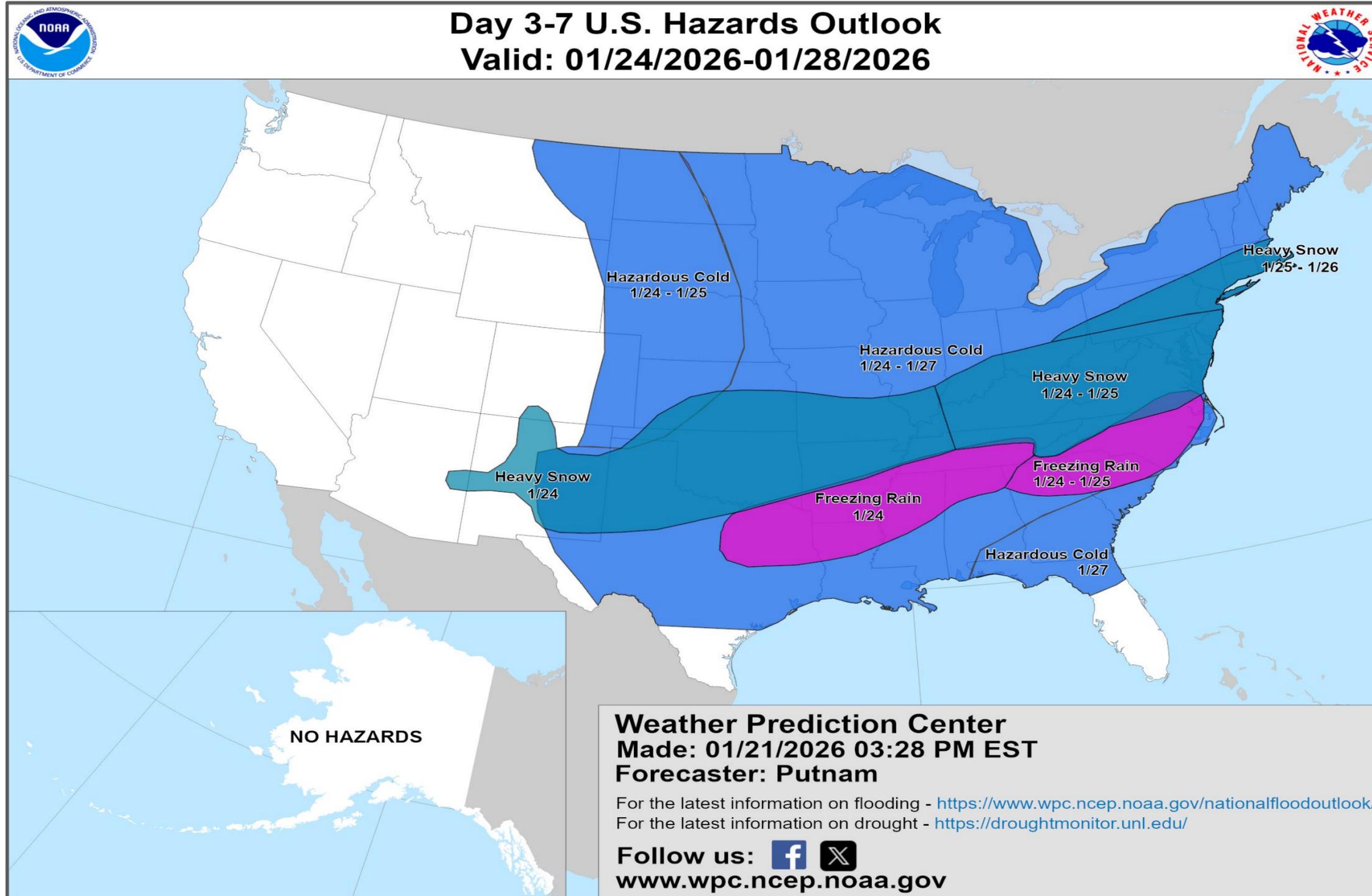
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

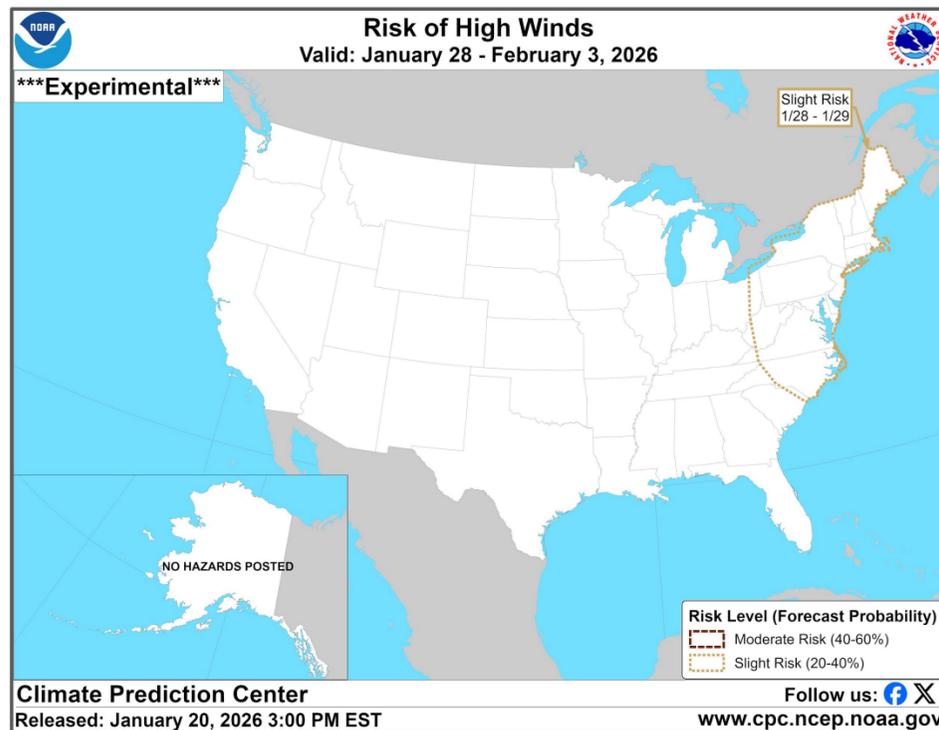
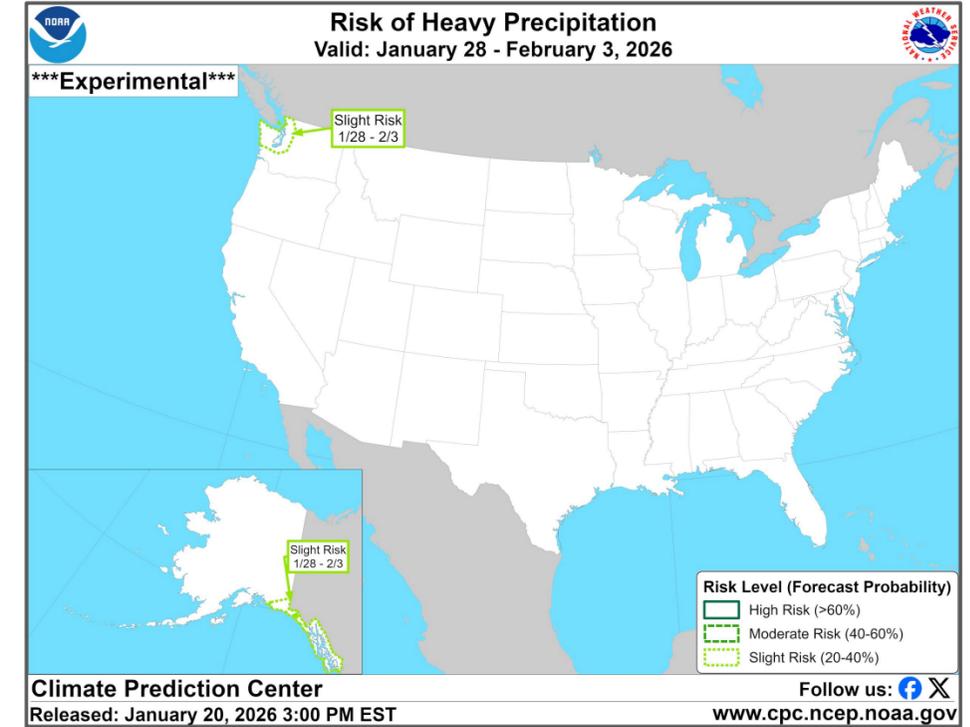
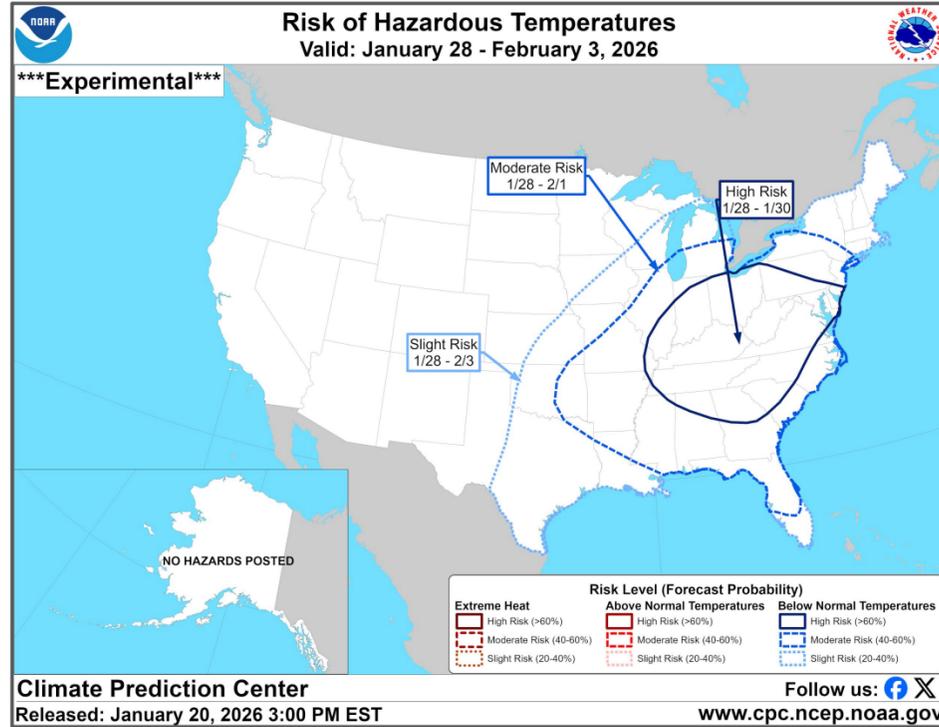
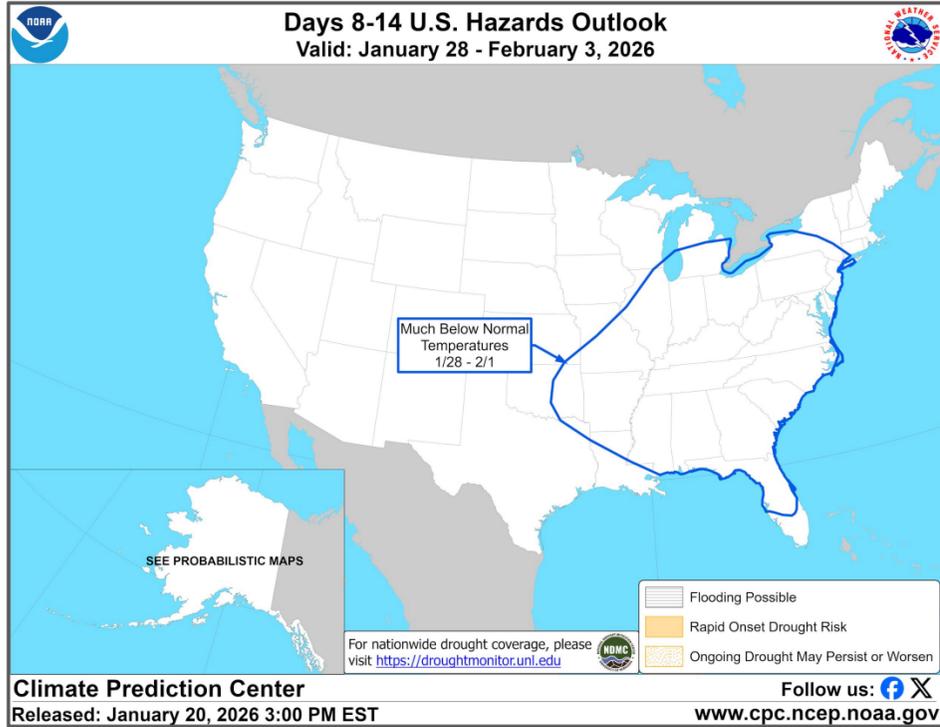


“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





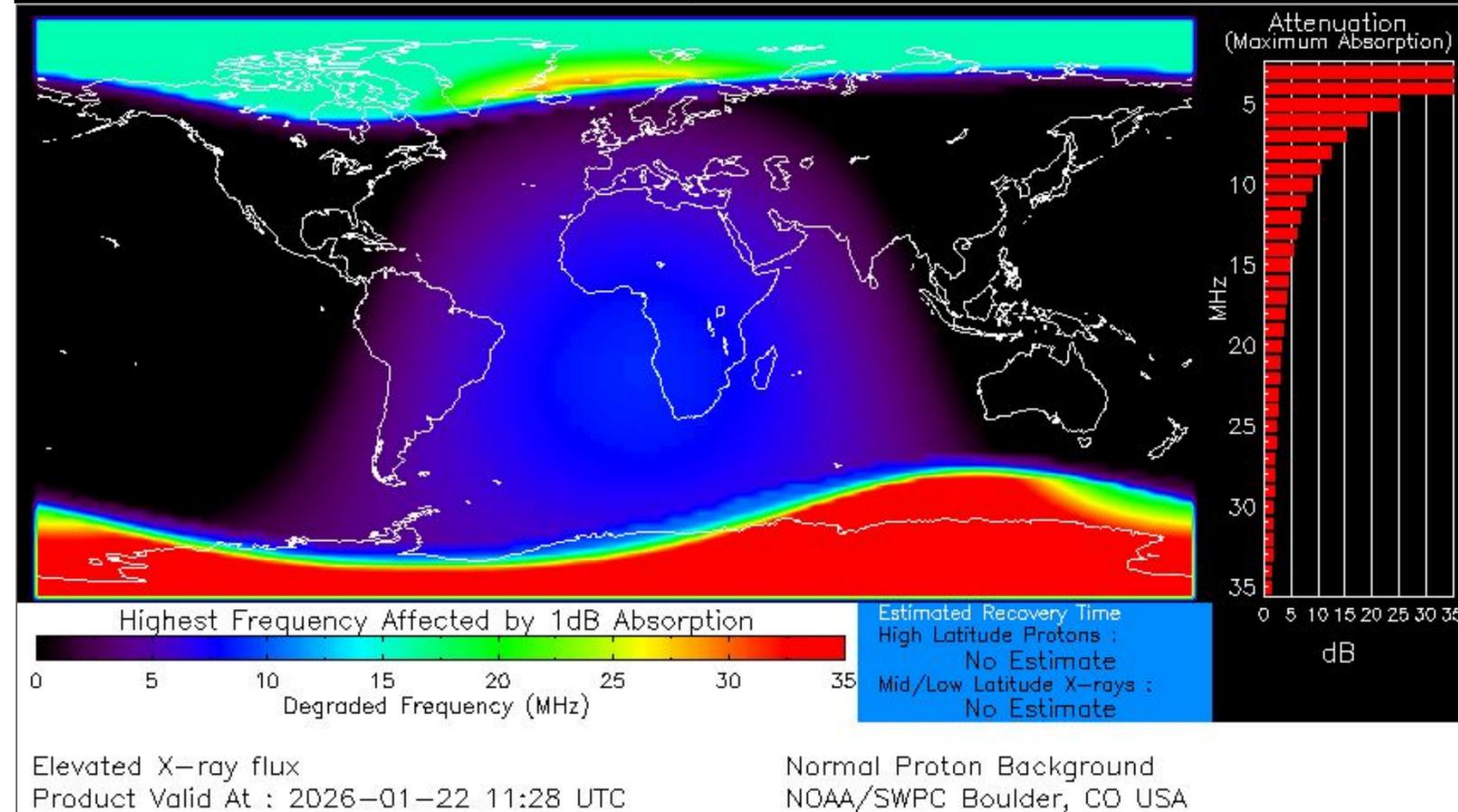
“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





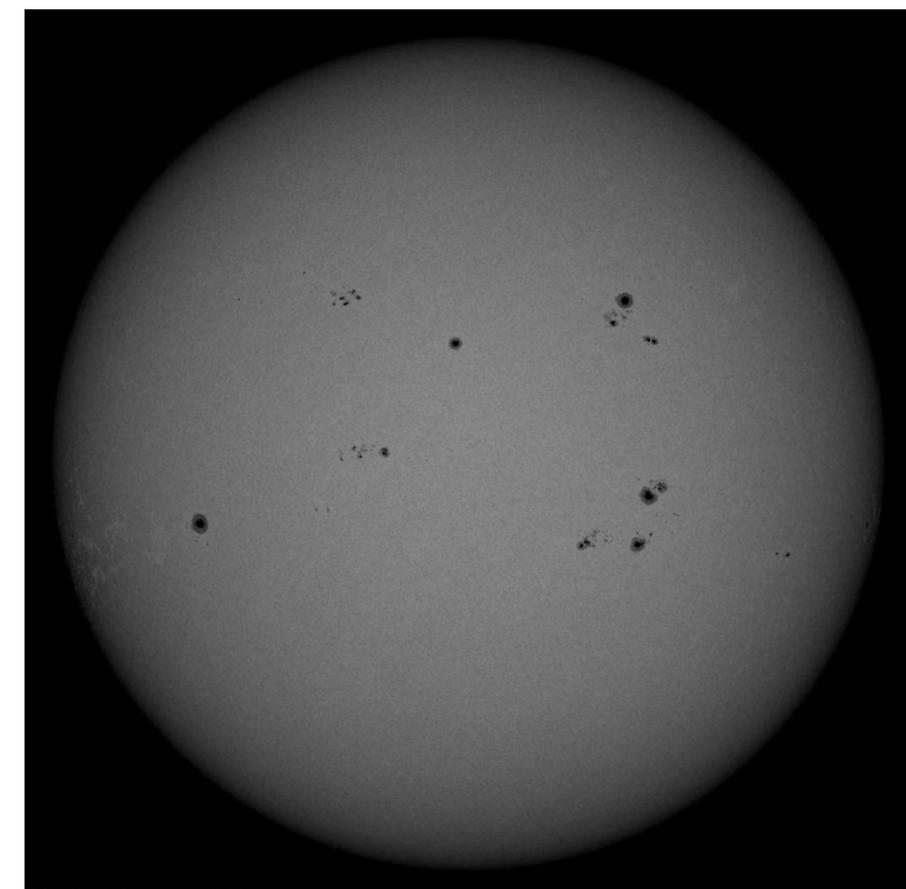
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday, Jan 22	Friday, Jan 23	Saturday, Jan 24
Geomagnetic Storms	Minor (G1) (Max Kp=5)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Quiet (Max Kp=2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	45%	15%	15%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	60%	60%	60%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	15%	15%	15%



[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	<p style="text-align: center;">Little to None</p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines</p>	<p>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</p>	<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	<p style="text-align: center;">Minor</p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life</p>	<p>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</p>	<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	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderate</p> <p>Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>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</p>	<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	<p style="text-align: center;">Major</p> <p>Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<p>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</p>	<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	<p style="text-align: center;">Extreme</p> <p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<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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