



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Brian Hoeth*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

## Wednesday, February 18, 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](http://www.weather.gov/srh).





# Summary

- **Fire Weather:**

- **Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) conditions through Thursday for S/E NM, OK, W/N TX, TX Panhandle due to persistent gusty southwest/west winds and low relative humidity.**
  - **Elevated conditions (level 1 of 3) for E NM, W TX, TX Panhandle on Friday and for C/S TX on Saturday.**

- **River Flooding:**

- **Cache River at Patterson in NE AR is expected to remain above minor flood stage into early next week. Secondary roads and pastures flooded.**
- **Ouachita River at Thatcher L&D in S-Ctrl AR will be in minor flood from late today through Friday. Access roads to oil and gas rigs may be flooded.**





# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Wednesday, Feb 18	Thursday, Feb 19	Friday, Feb 20	Saturday, Feb 21	Sunday, Feb 22	Monday, Feb 23	Tuesday, Feb 24
Severe Storms							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Winter Weather							
Fire Weather	TX/OK Panhandles, W/Ctrl OK, S/E NM, Far W TX	OK, TX Panhandle	E NM, W TX, TX Panhandle	C/S TX			
	W/N TX, E OK	E NM, W/N TX					
River Flooding	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR

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

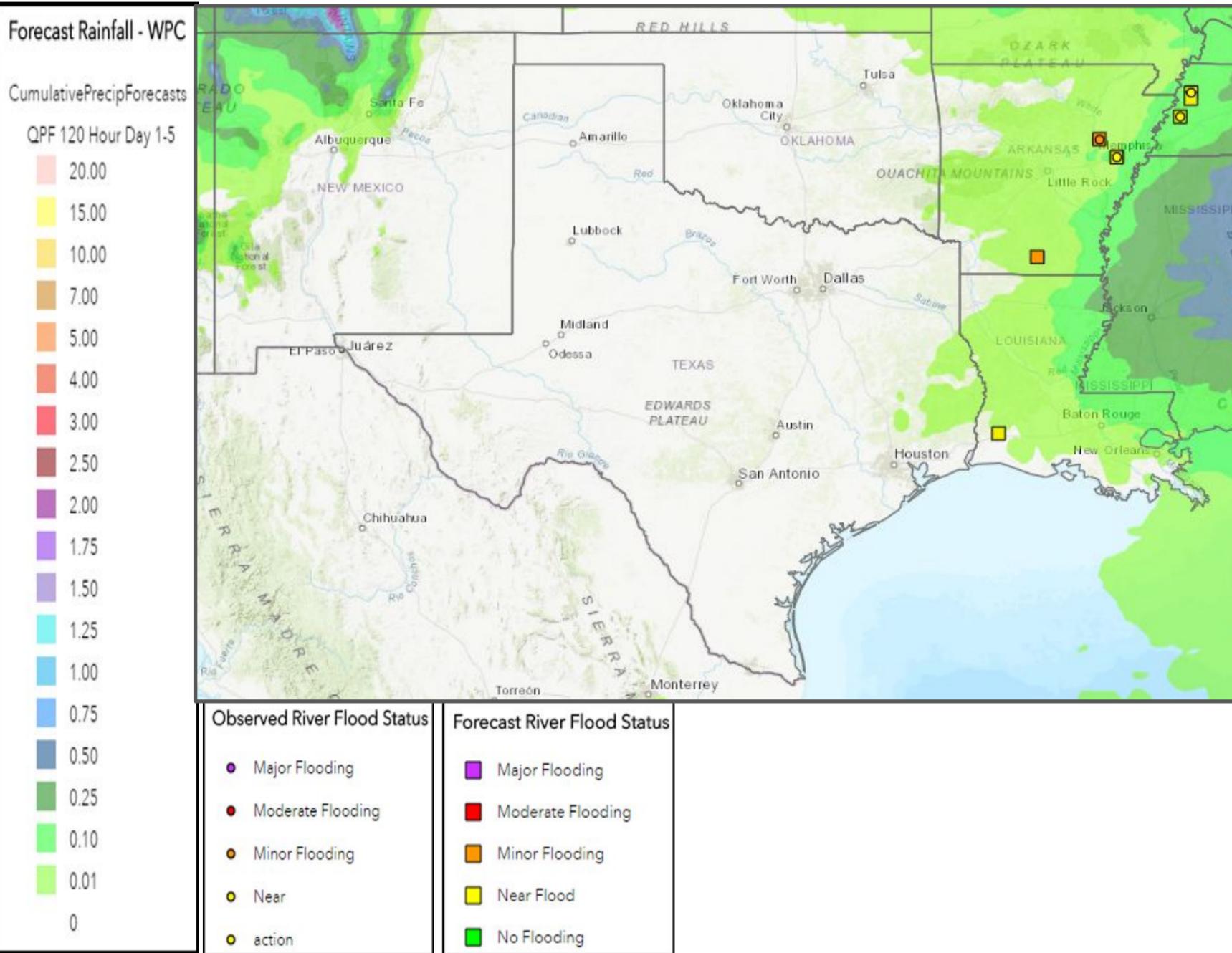
*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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# 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



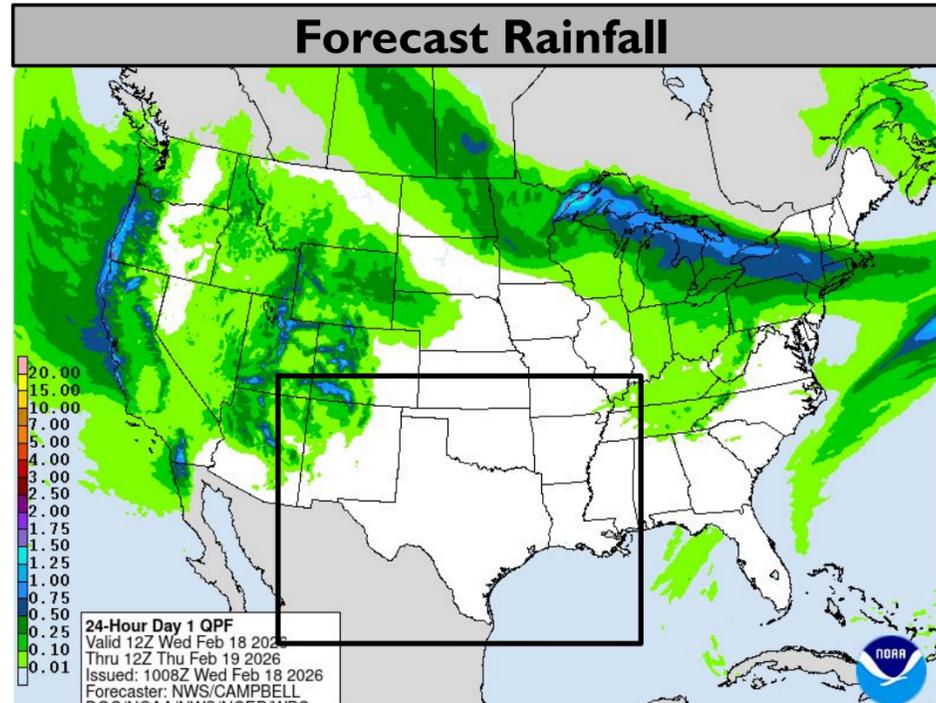
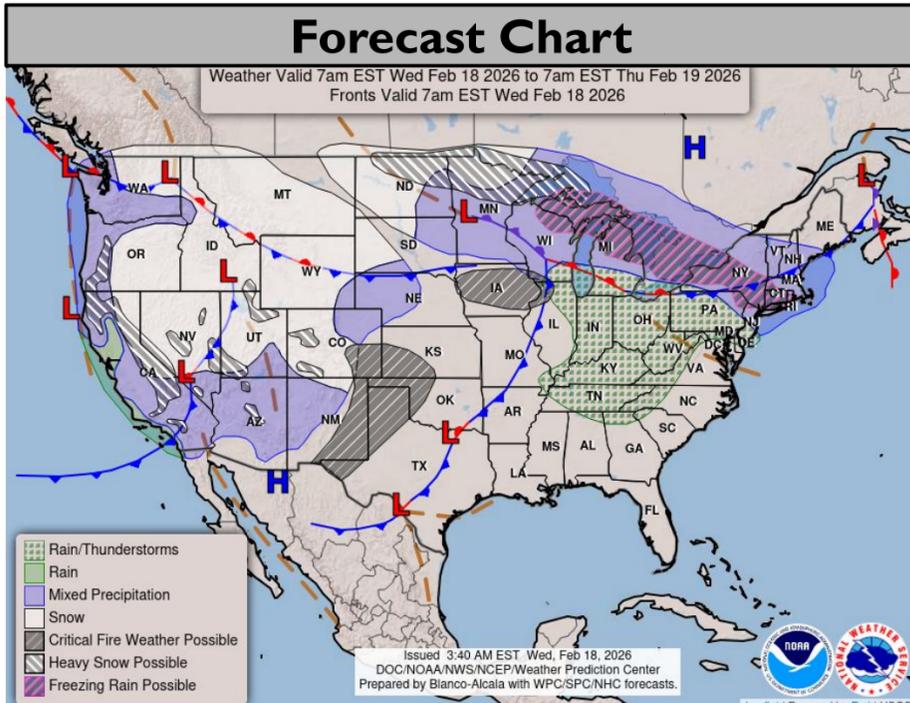
**Cache River at Patterson in NE AR is expected remain above minor flood stage through at least this Saturday. Secondary roads and pastures flooded.**

**Ouachita River at Thatcher L&D in S-Ctrl AR will be in minor flood from late today through Friday. Access roads to oil and gas rigs may be flooded.**

*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.*

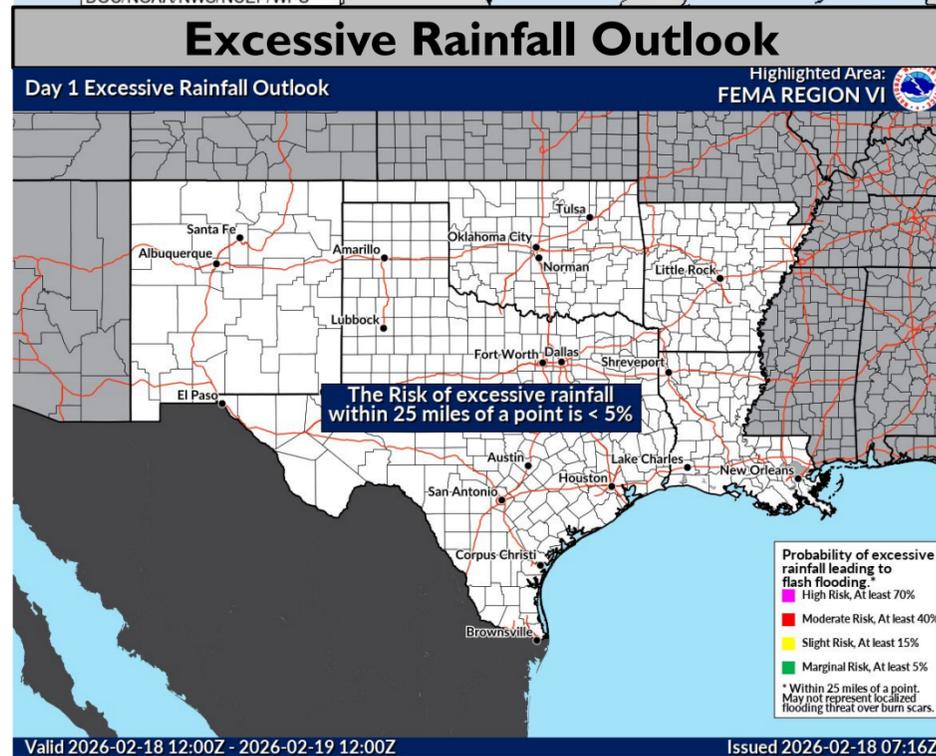
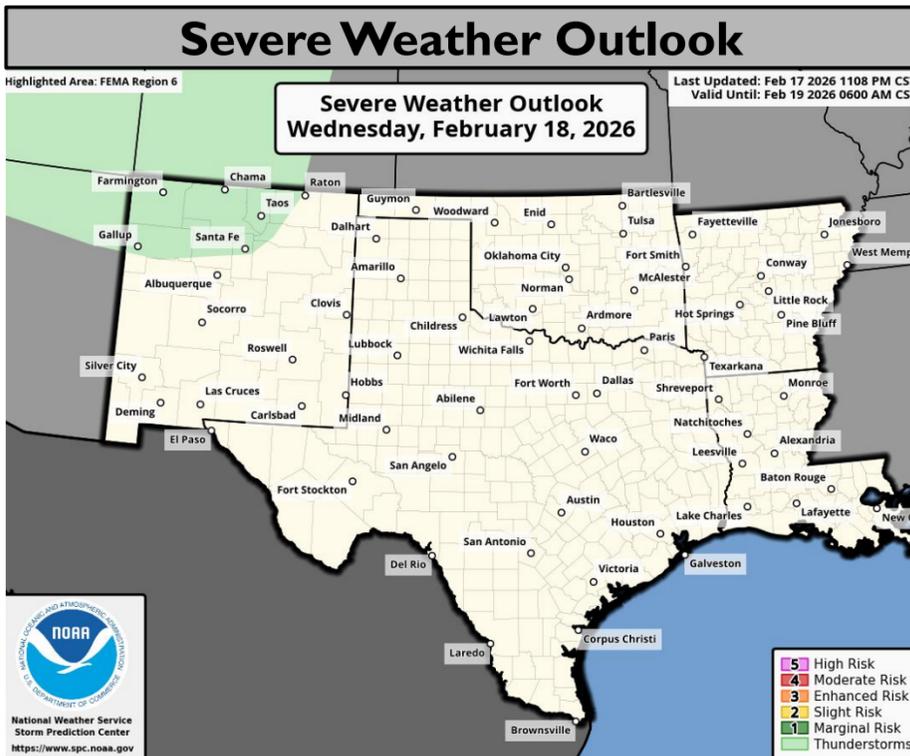


# Today's Weather



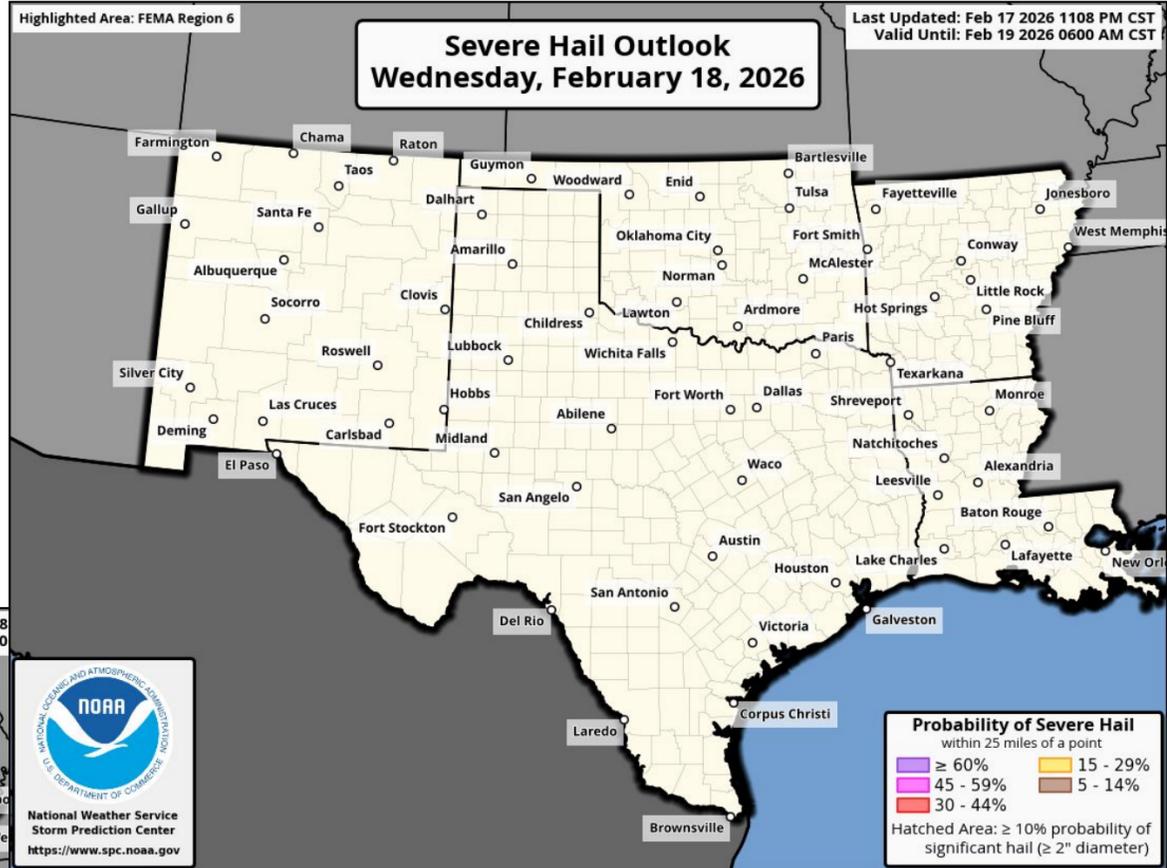
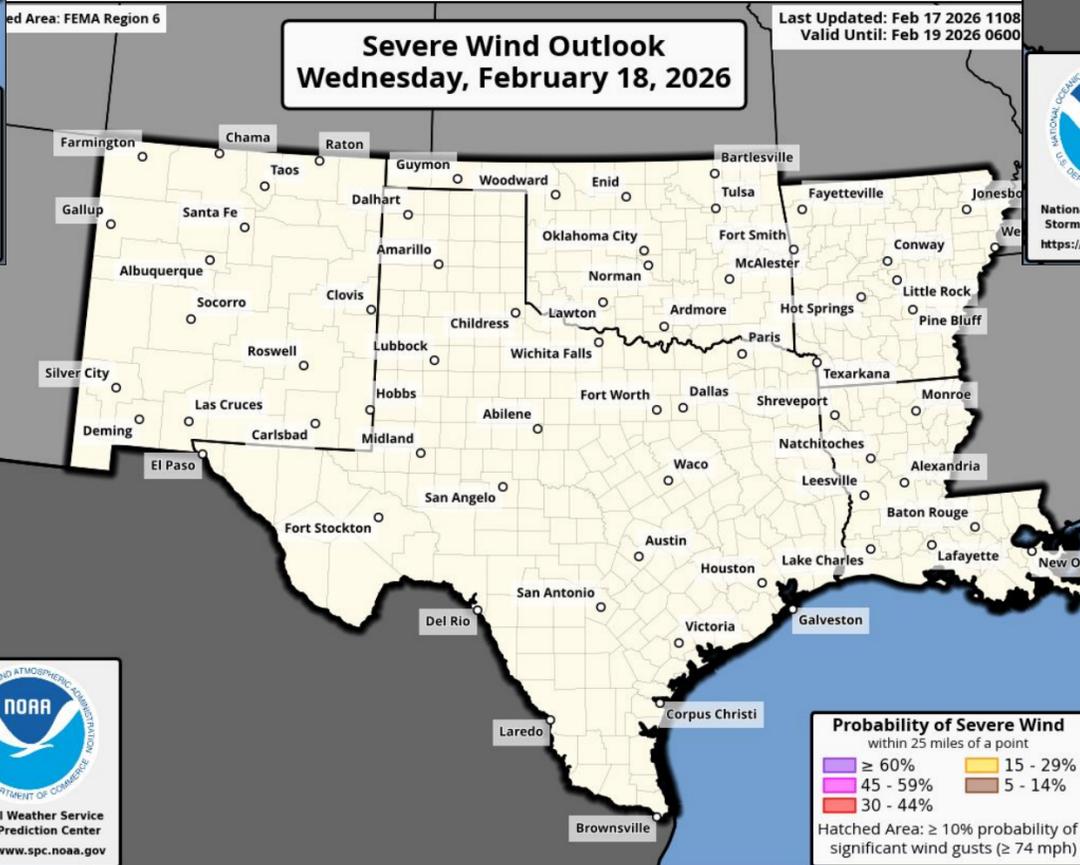
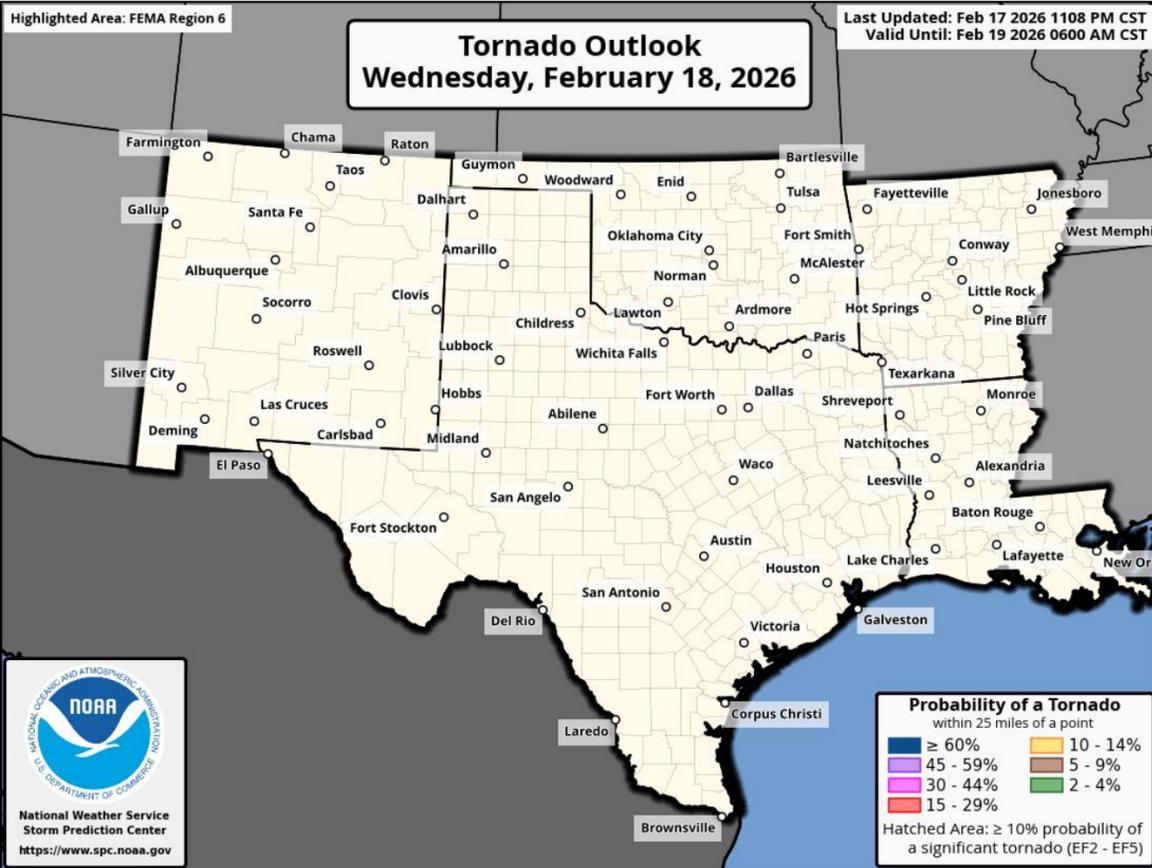
**Critical (level 2 of 3) fire weather conditions/Red Flag Warnings in S/E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W/Ctrl OK, Far W TX.**

**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions for E OK and W/N TX.**



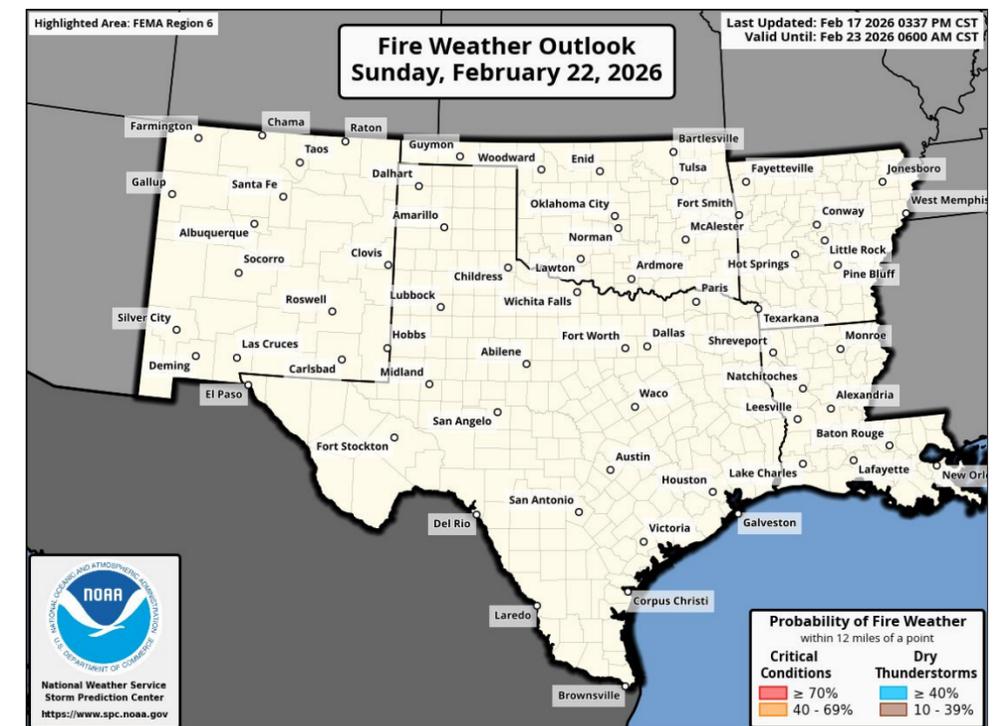
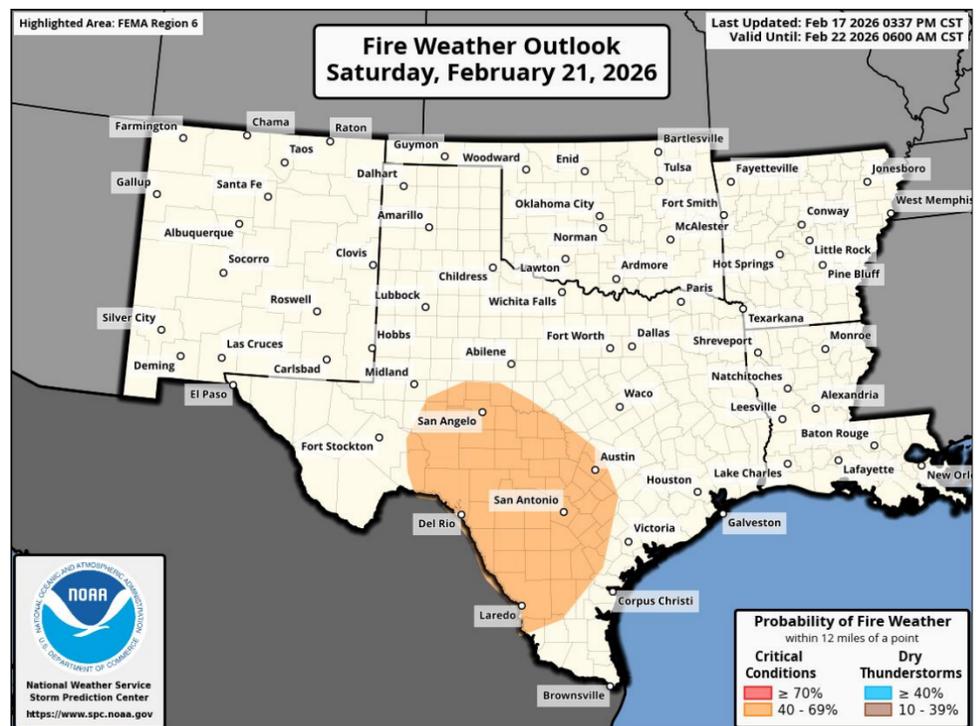
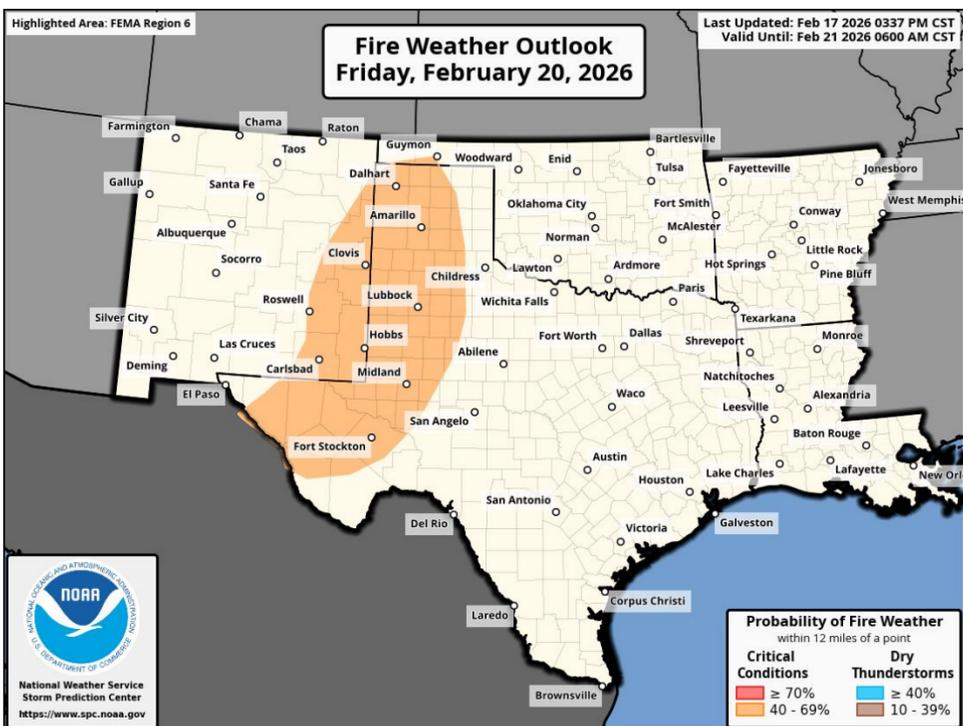
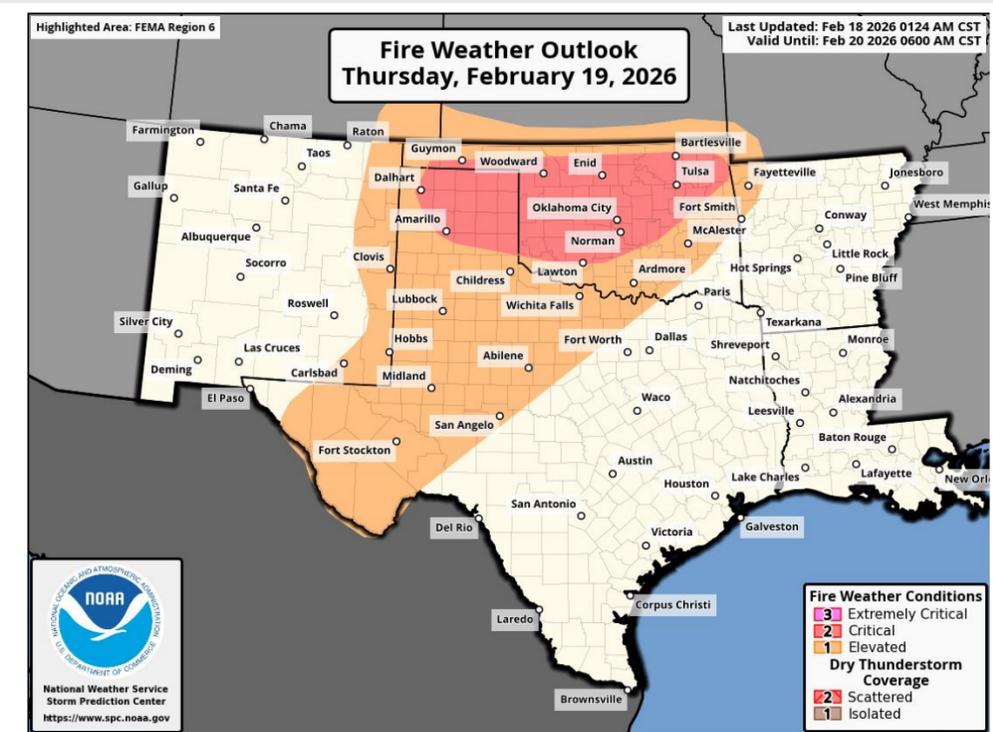
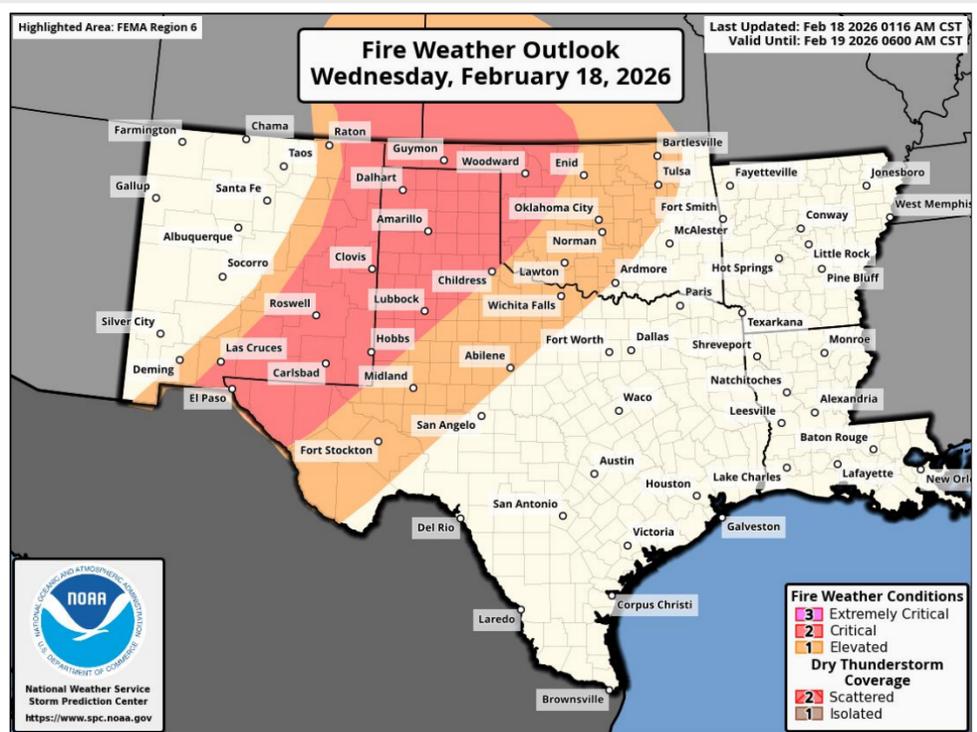
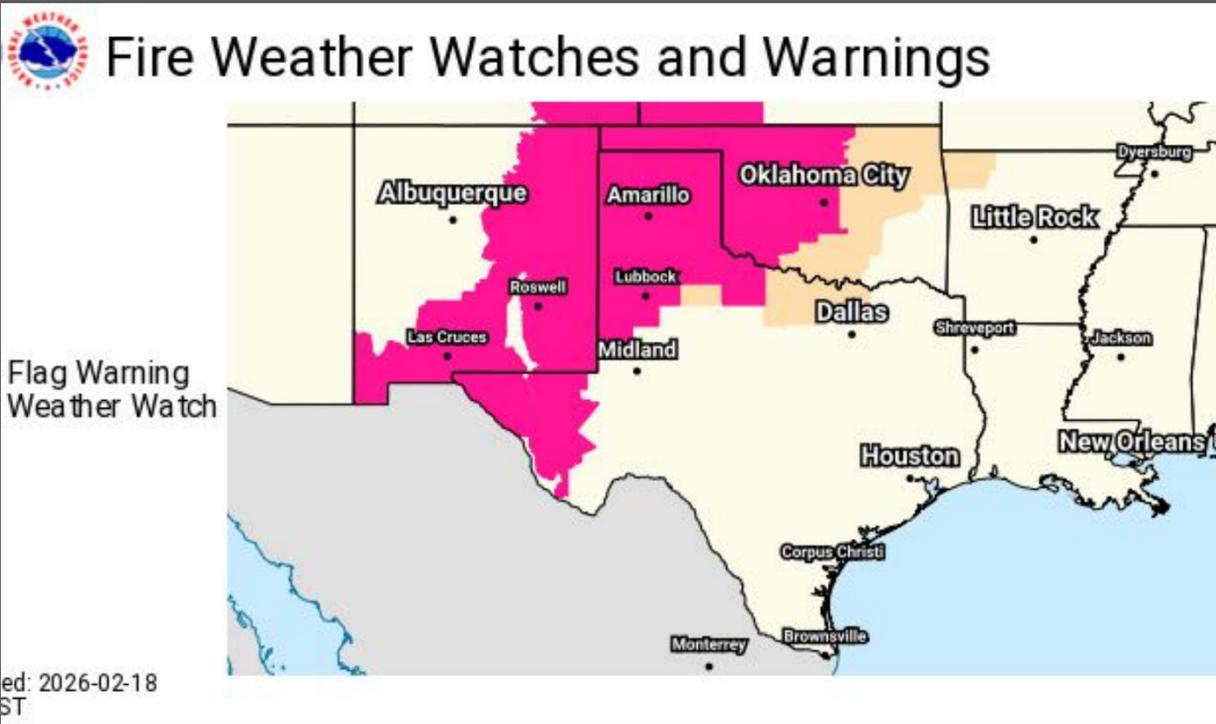


# Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





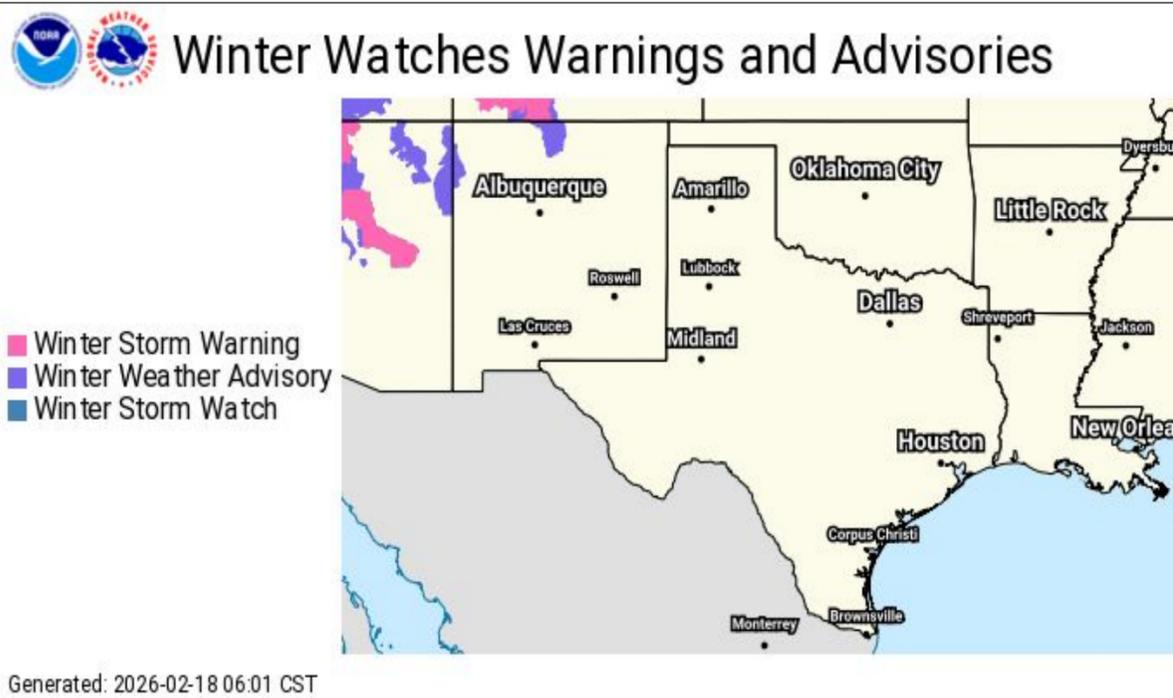
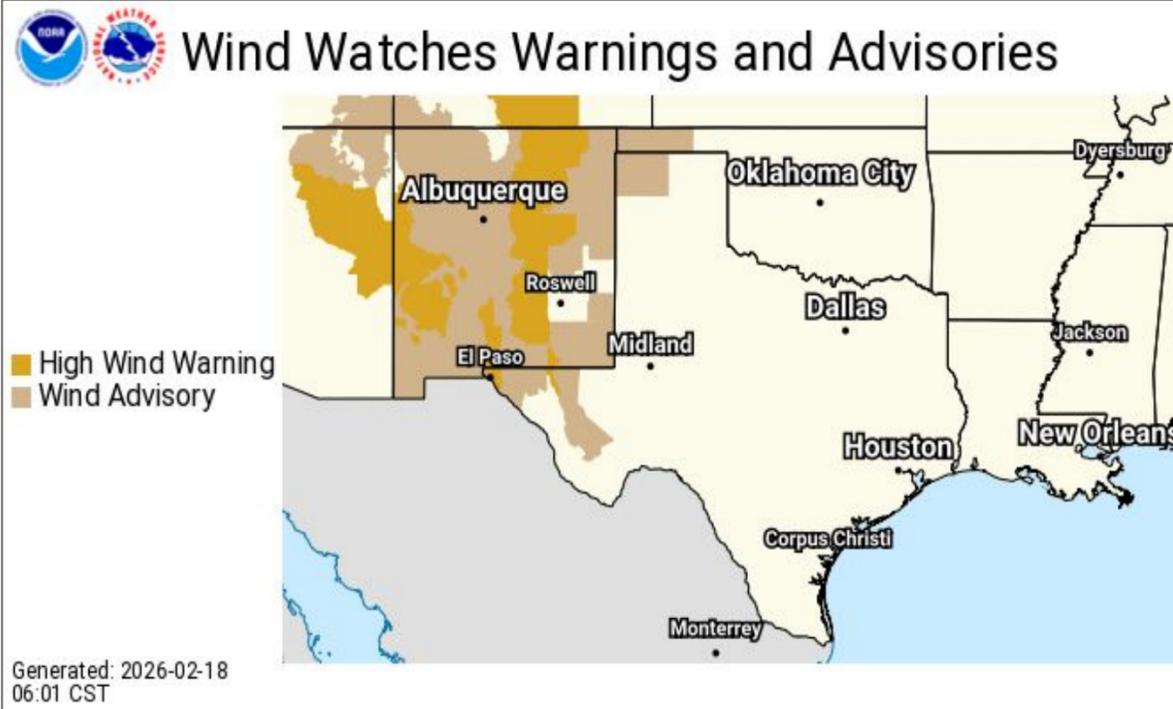
# Fire Weather Outlooks





# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

## Wind, Severe, Winter, and Flood Hazards

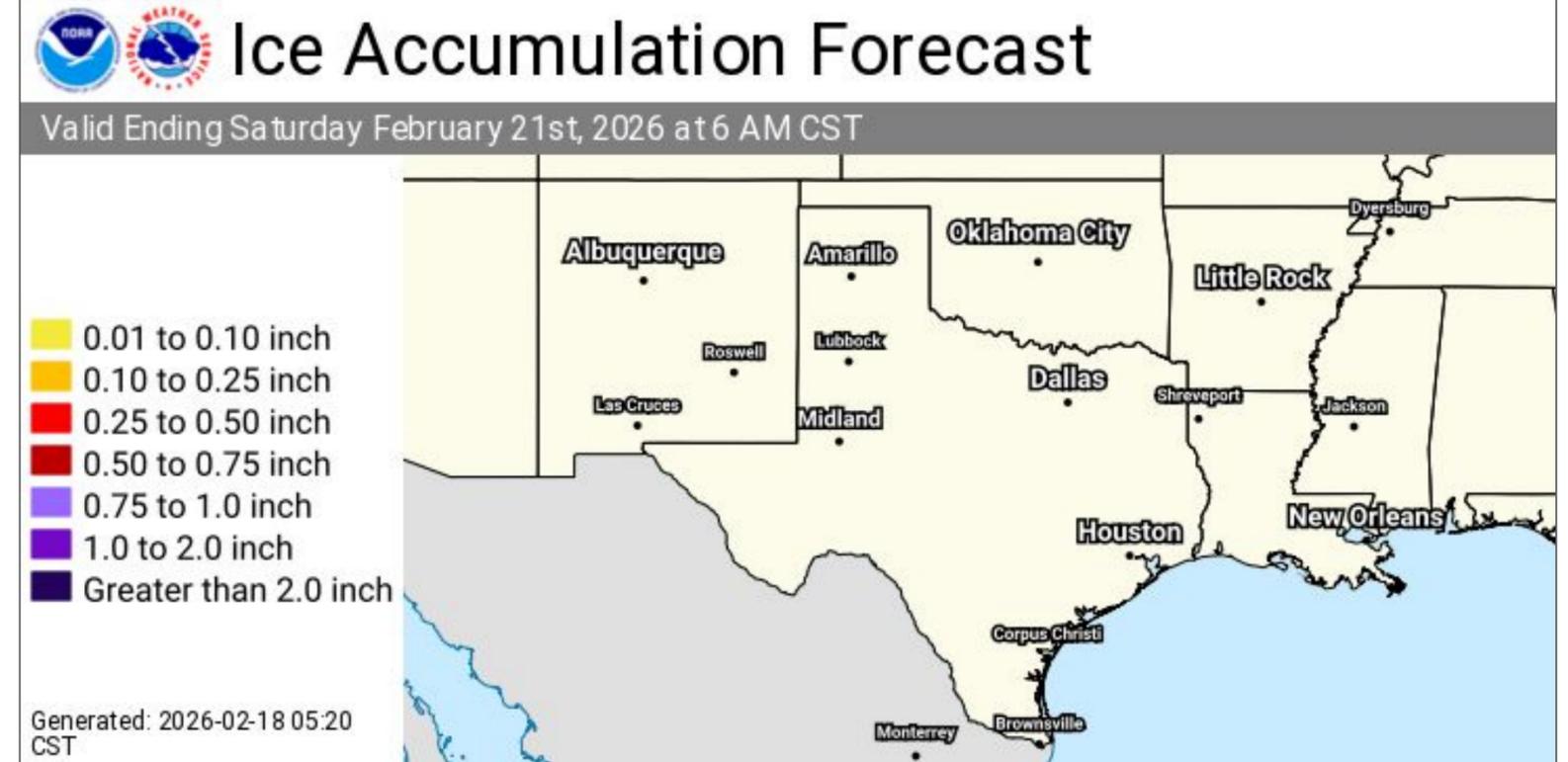


**Red Flag Warning, High Wind Warning, Wind Advisory today for E/S NM, TX/OK Panhandles, Far W TX for wind gusts of up to 50 mph and relative humidity under 15%. Fires may spread rapidly. Isolated areas of blowing dust/reduced visibility.**



# Winter Weather

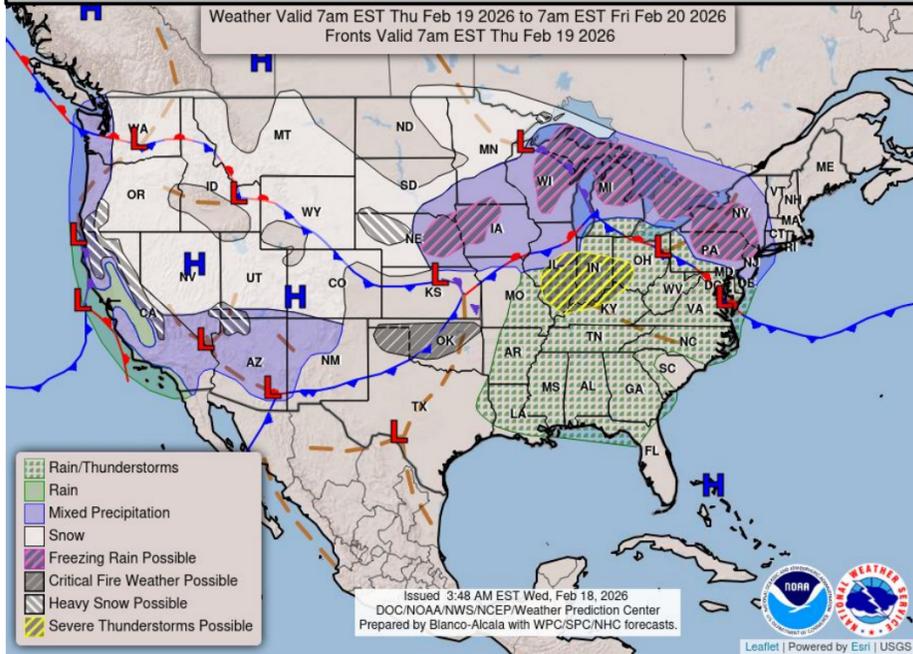
Through the next 3 days



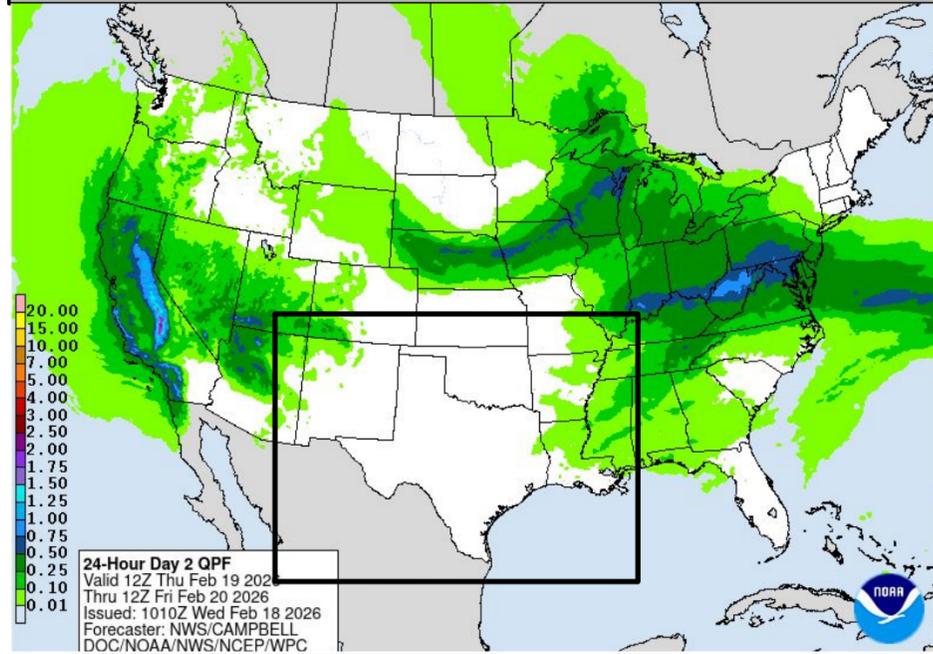


# Tomorrow's Weather

## Forecast Chart



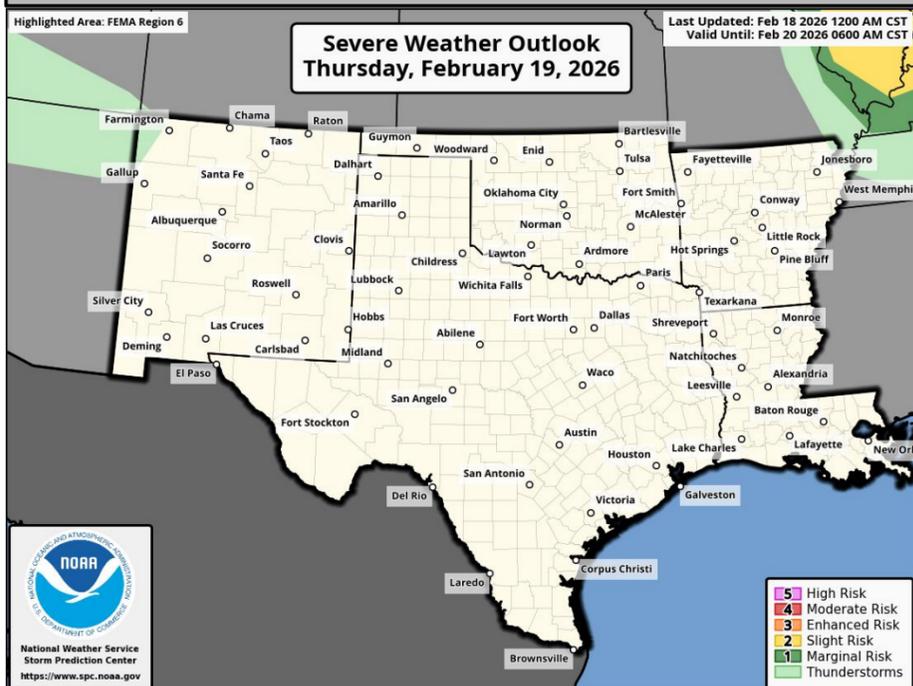
## Forecast Rainfall



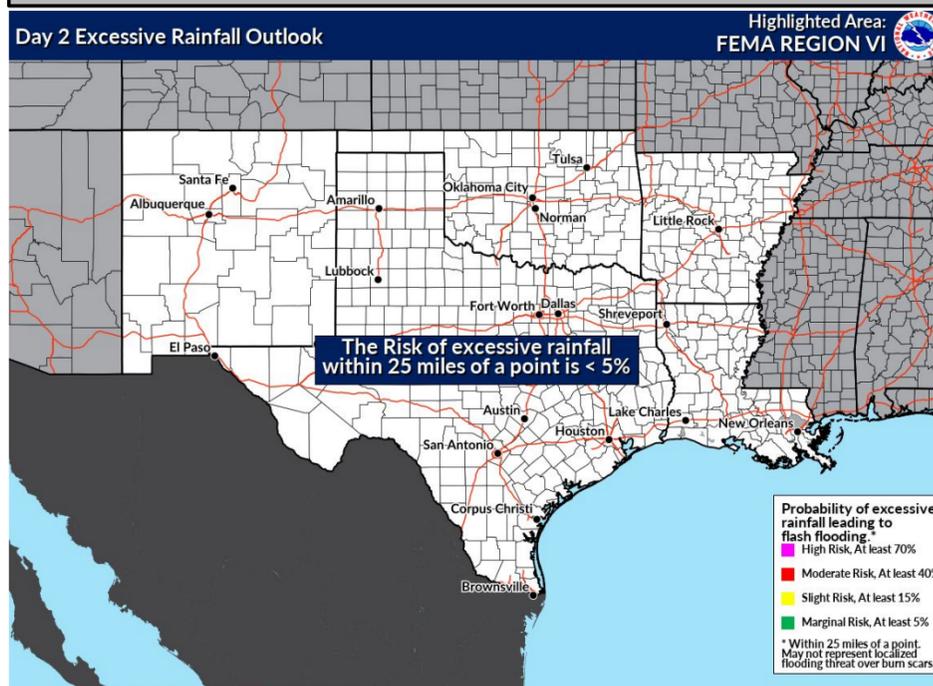
**Critical (level 2 of 3) fire weather conditions for much of OK and the TX Panhandle.**

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

## Severe Weather Outlook

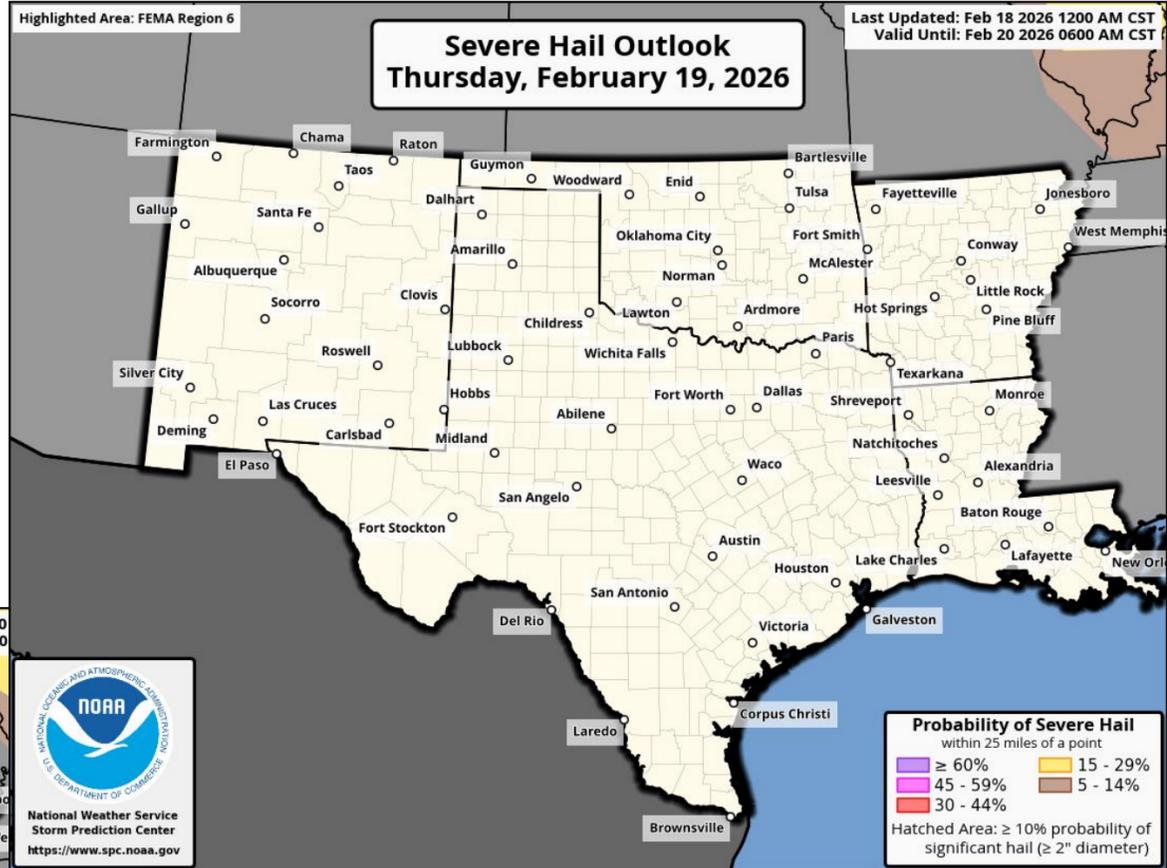
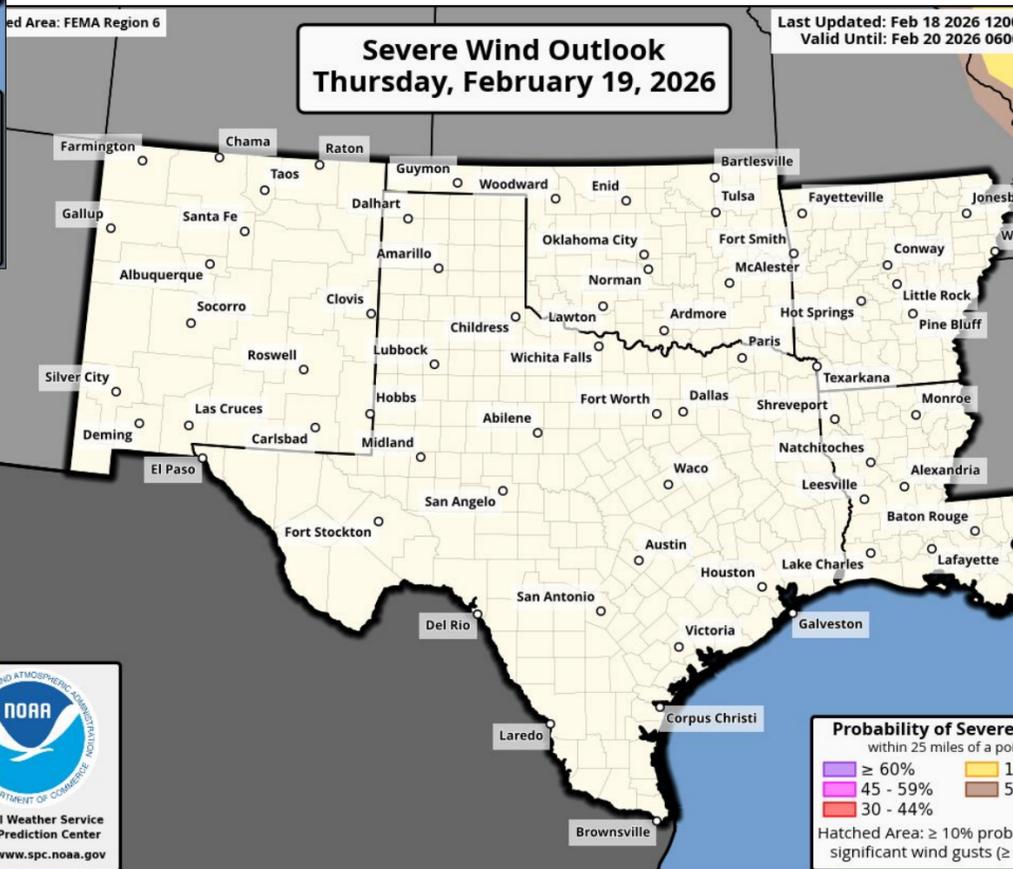
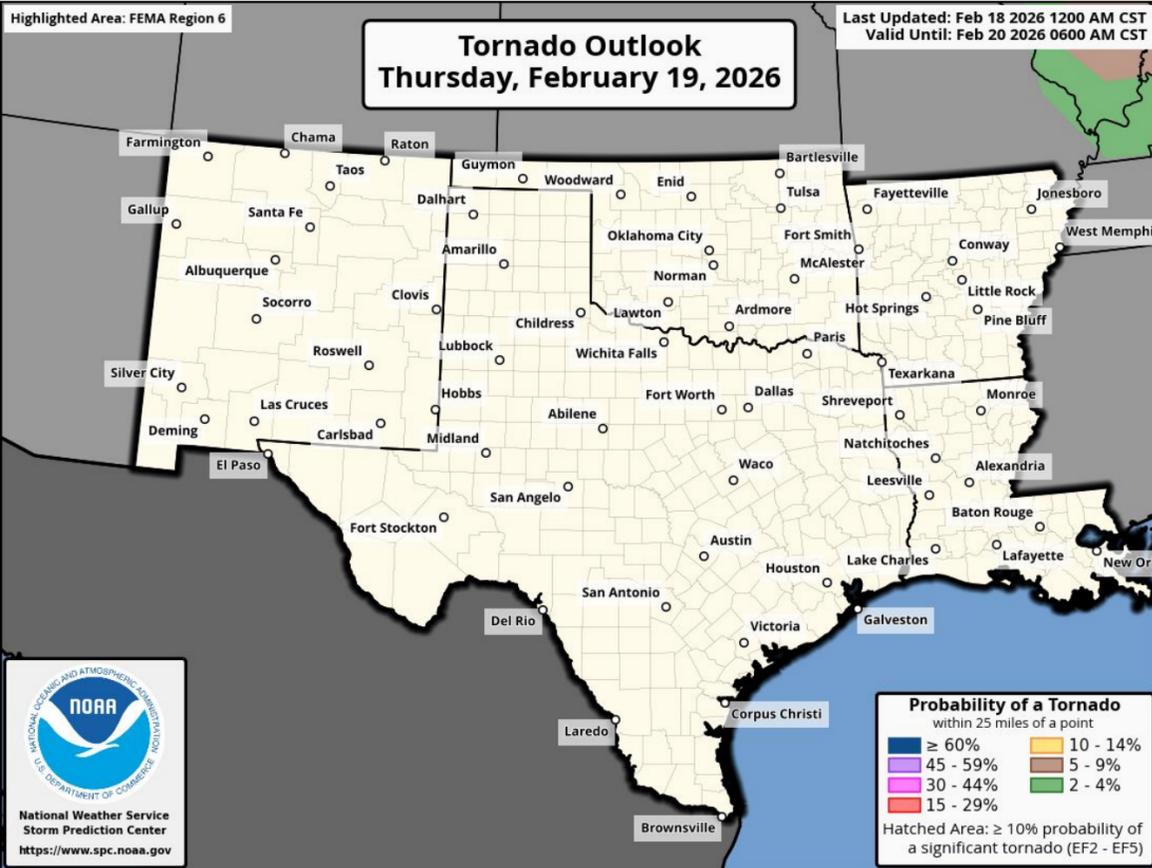


## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





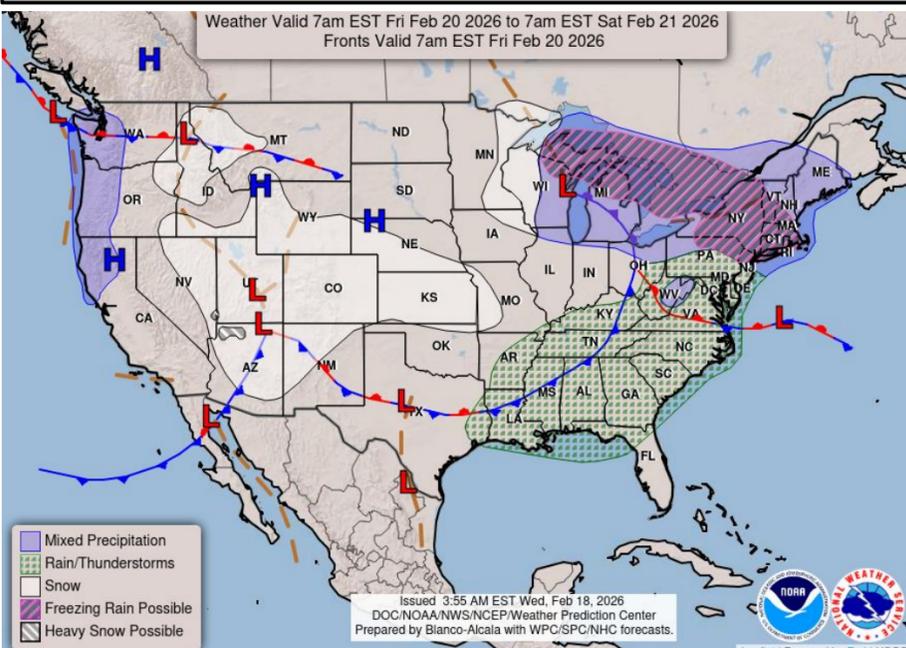
# Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



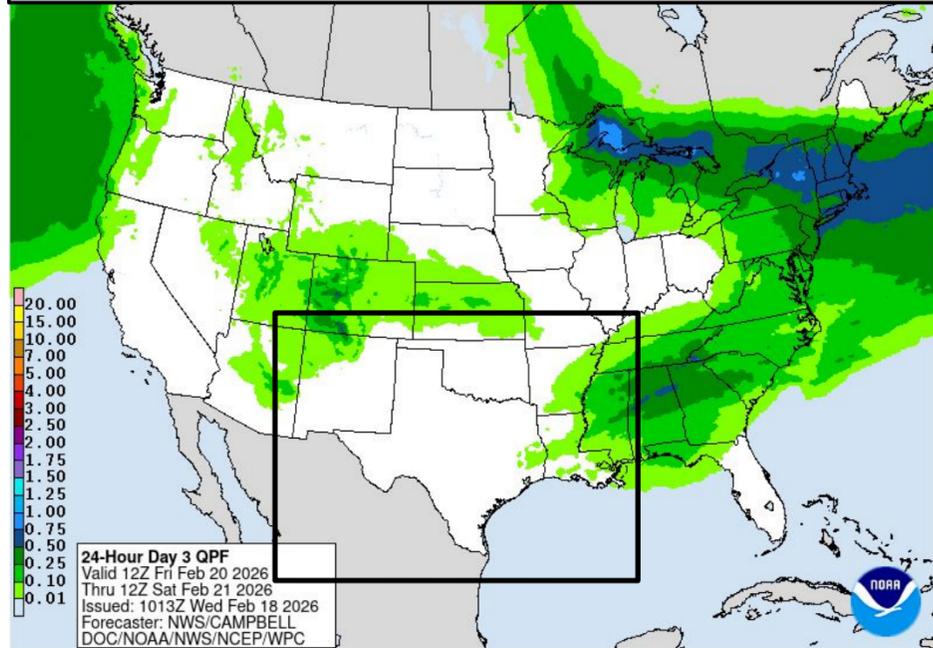


# Friday's Weather

## Forecast Chart

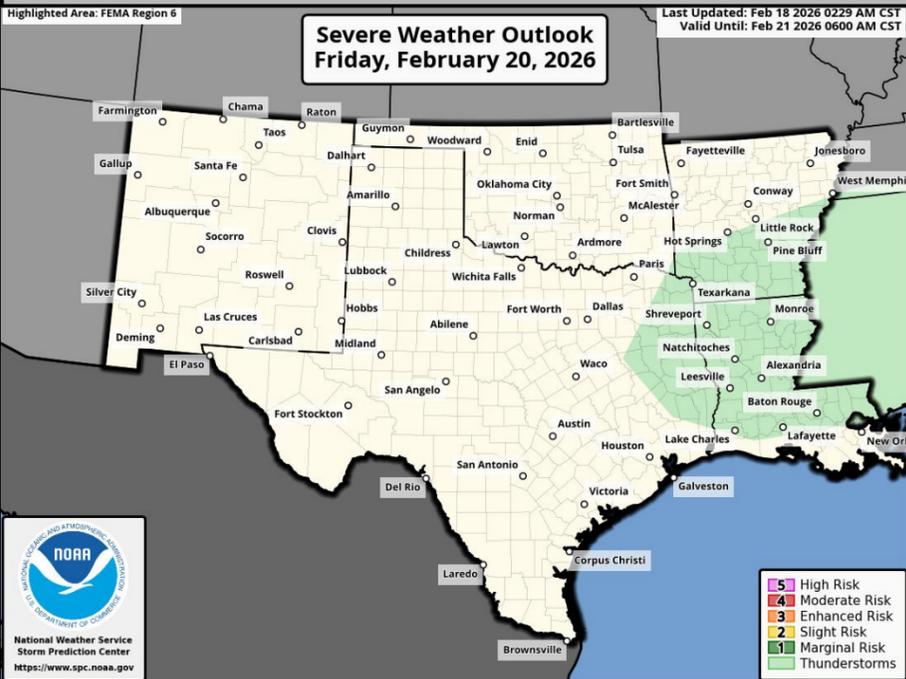


## Forecast Rainfall

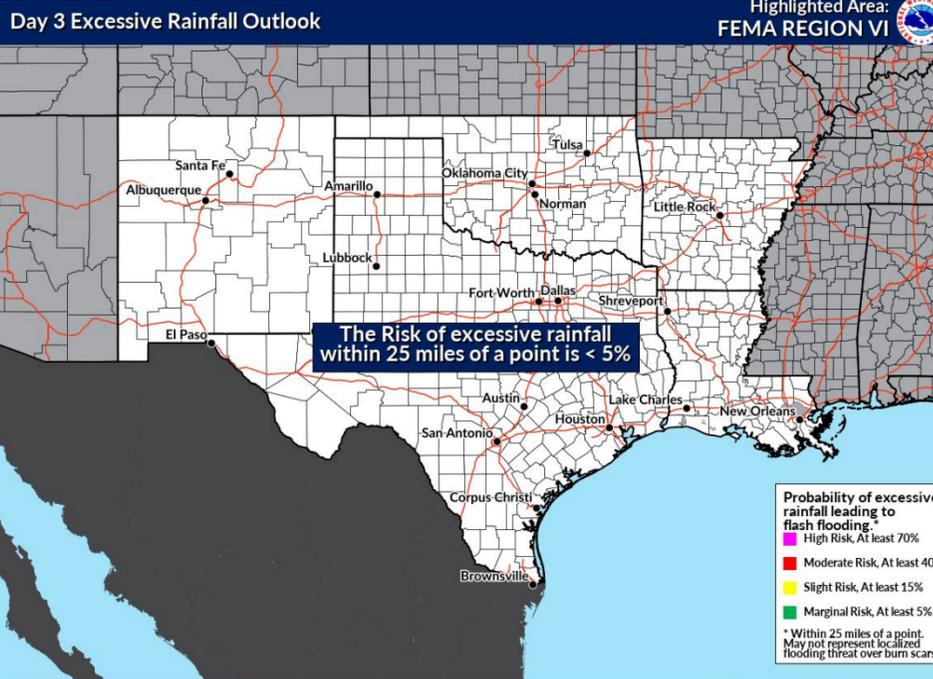


**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in E NM, W TX, TX Panhandle.**

## Severe Weather Outlook



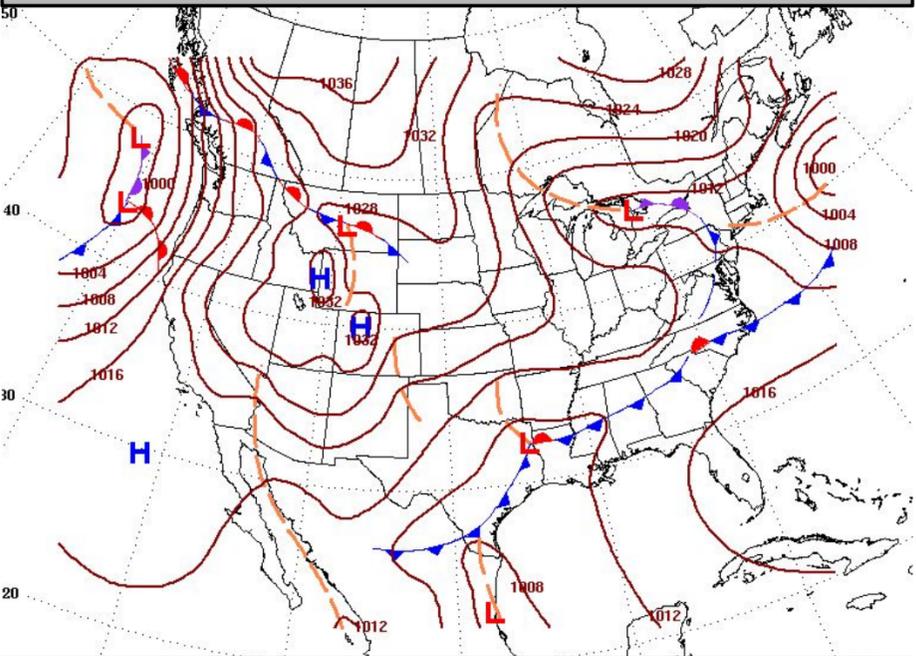
## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



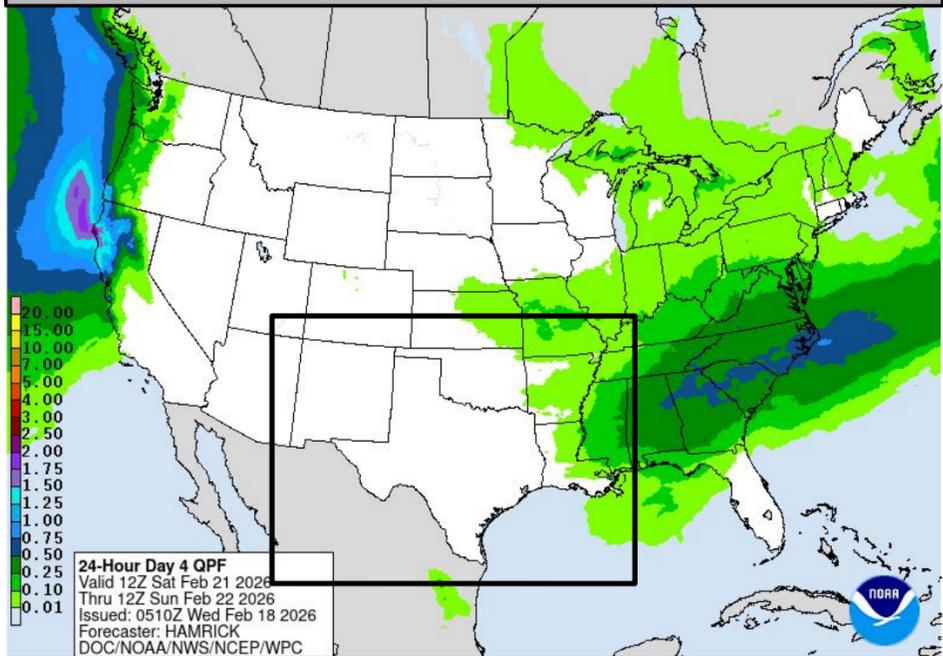


# Saturday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

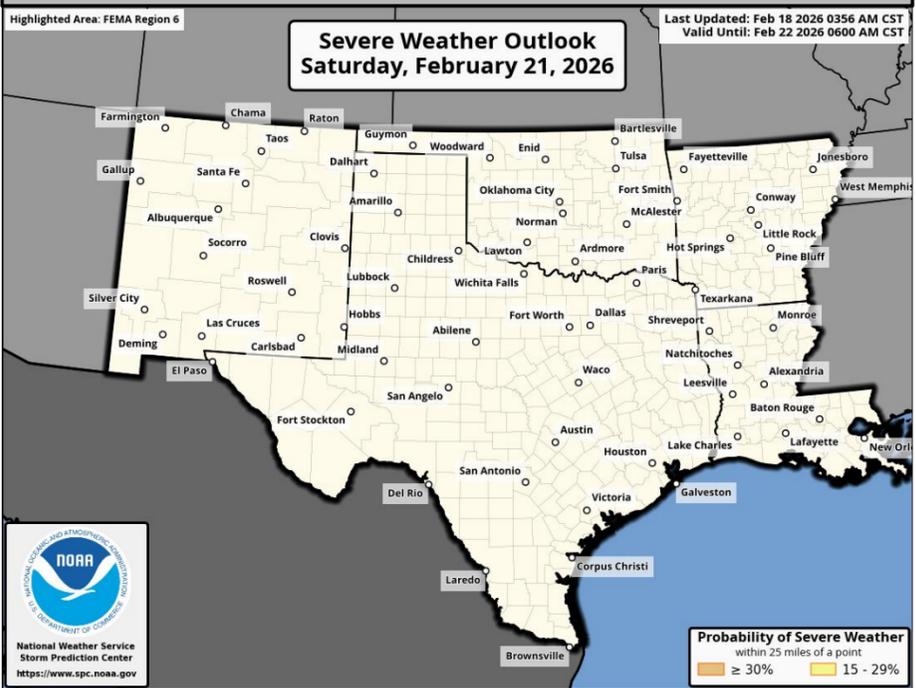


### Forecast Rainfall

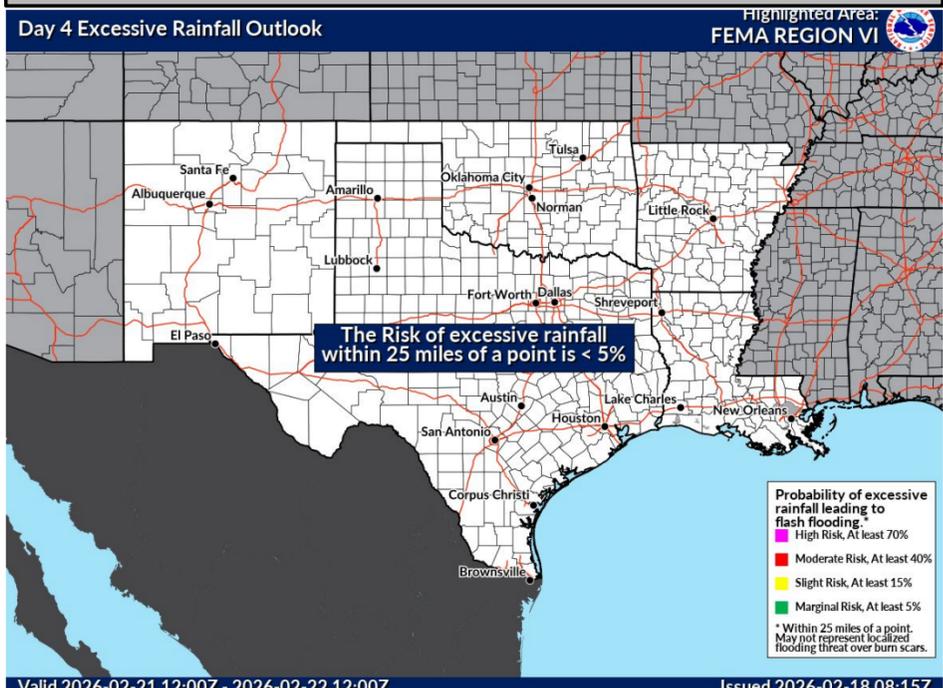


**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in C/S TX.**

### Severe Weather Outlook



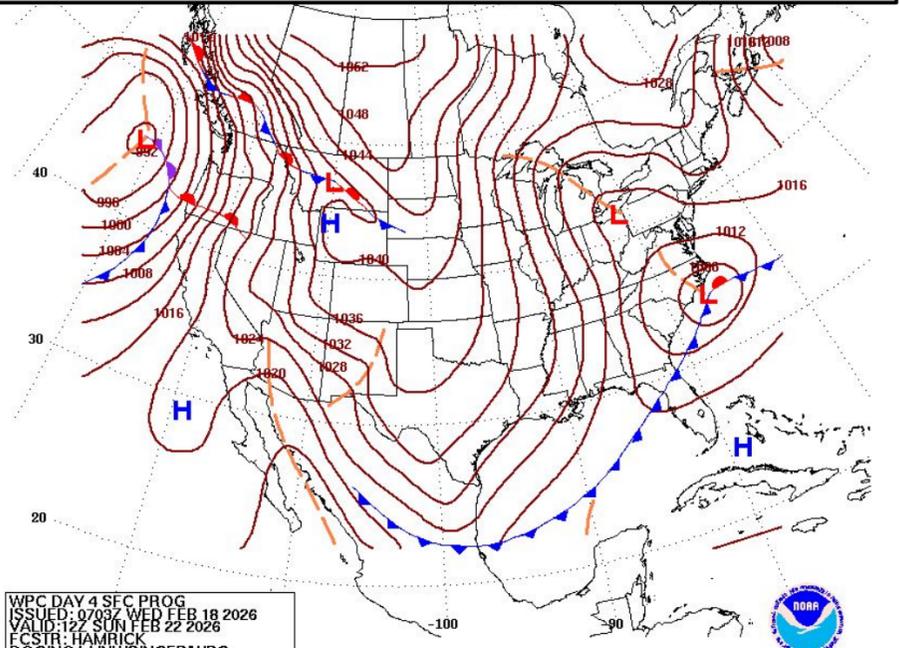
### Excessive Rainfall Outlook





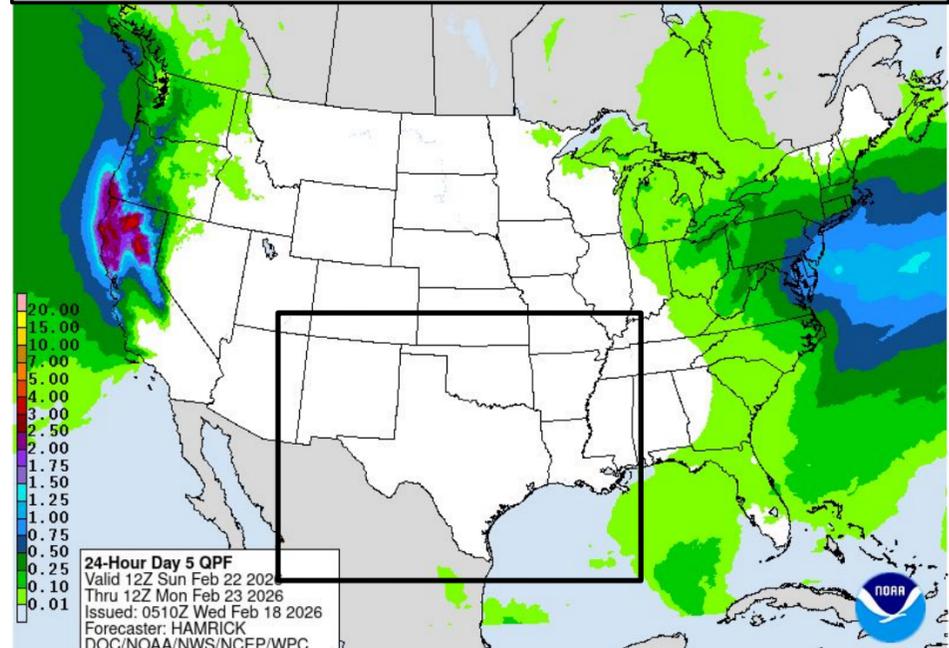
# Sunday's Weather

## Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SEC PROG  
ISSUED: 0703Z WED FEB 18 2026  
VALID: 12Z SUN FEB 22 2026  
FCSTR: HAMRICK  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

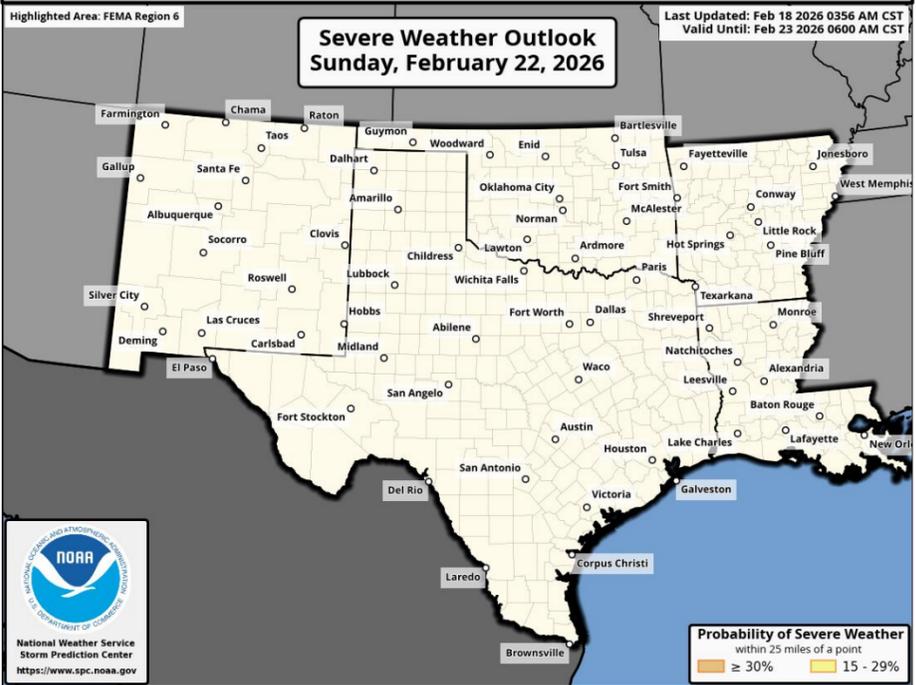
## Forecast Rainfall



24-Hour Day 5 QPF  
Valid 12Z Sun Feb 22 2026  
Thru 12Z Mon Feb 23 2026  
Issued: 0510Z Wed Feb 18 2026  
Forecaster: HAMRICK  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

**No significant weather expected.**

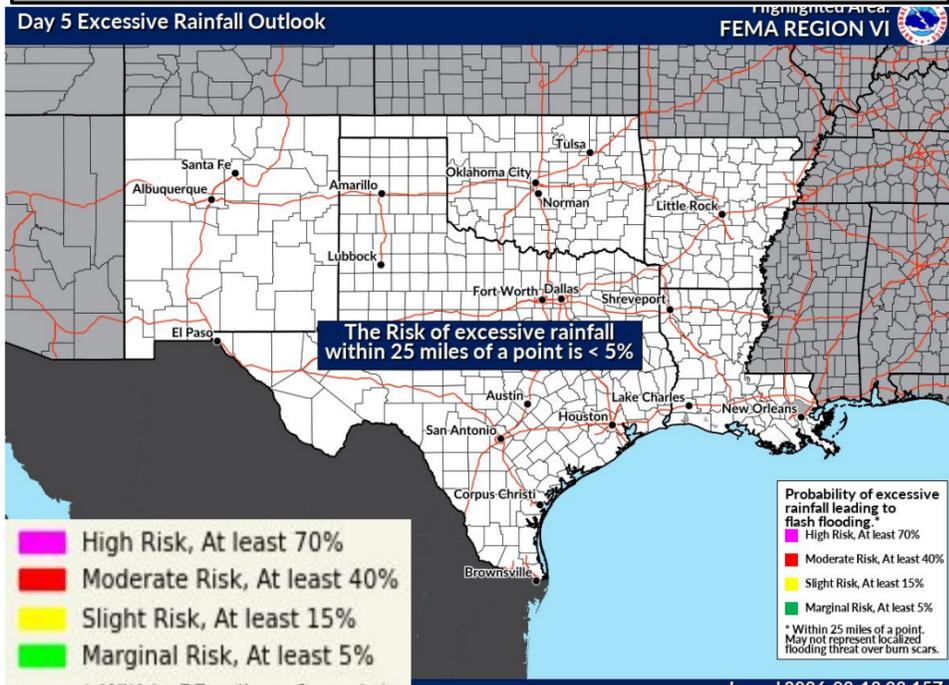
## Severe Weather Outlook



Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6  
**Severe Weather Outlook**  
Sunday, February 22, 2026  
Last Updated: Feb 18 2026 0356 AM CST  
Valid Until: Feb 23 2026 0600 AM CST

Probability of Severe Weather  
within 25 miles of a point  
≥ 30%    15 - 29%

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



The Risk of excessive rainfall  
within 25 miles of a point is < 5%

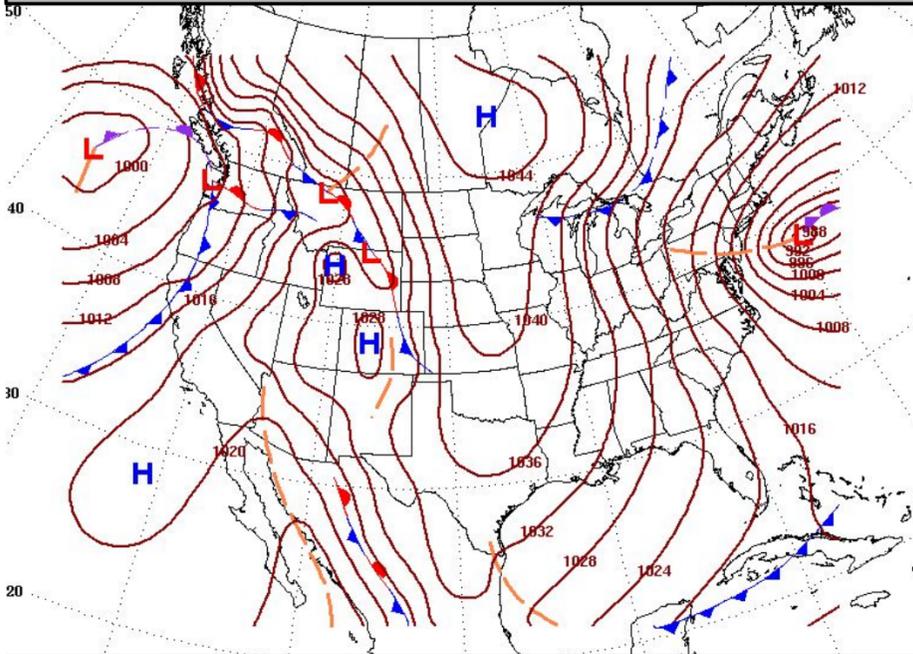
High Risk, At least 70%  
Moderate Risk, At least 40%  
Slight Risk, At least 15%  
Marginal Risk, At least 5%

Probability of excessive  
rainfall leading to  
flash flooding:  
High Risk, At least 70%  
Moderate Risk, At least 40%  
Slight Risk, At least 15%  
Marginal Risk, At least 5%  
\* Within 25 miles of a point.  
May not represent localized  
flooding threat over burn scars.

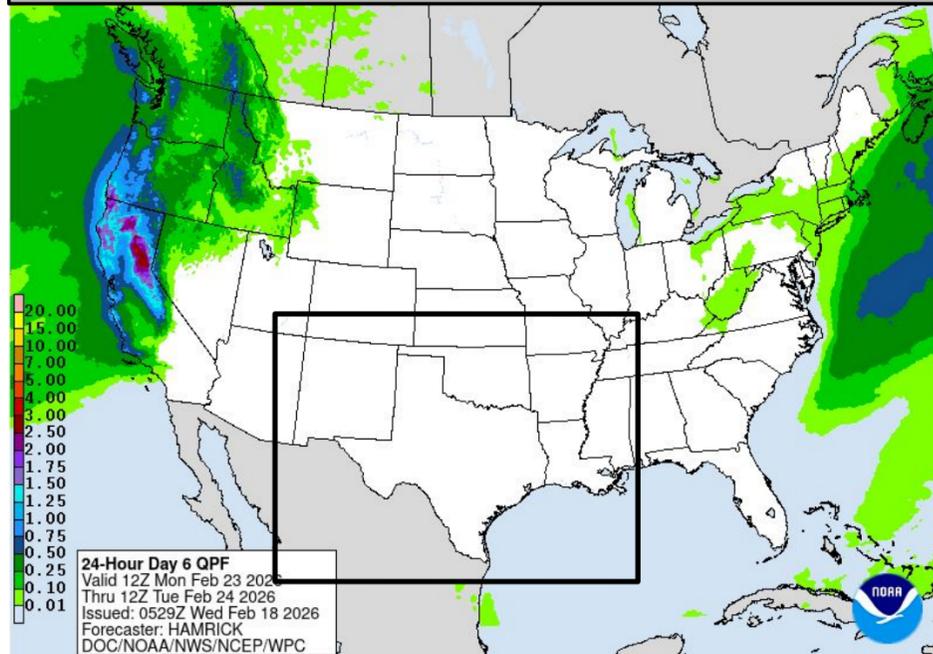


# Monday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

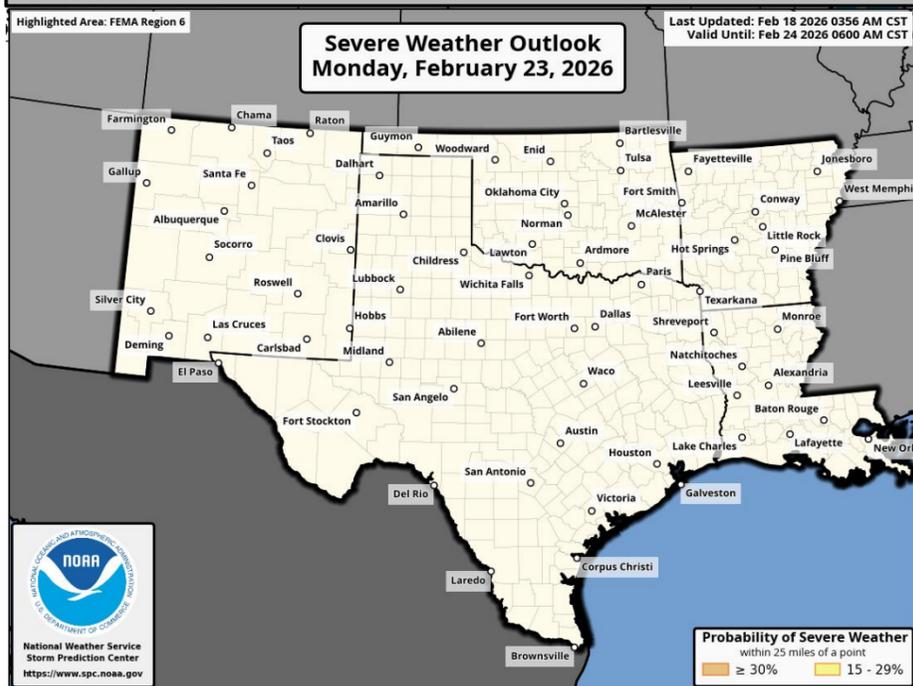


### Forecast Rainfall



**No significant weather expected.**

### Severe Weather Outlook

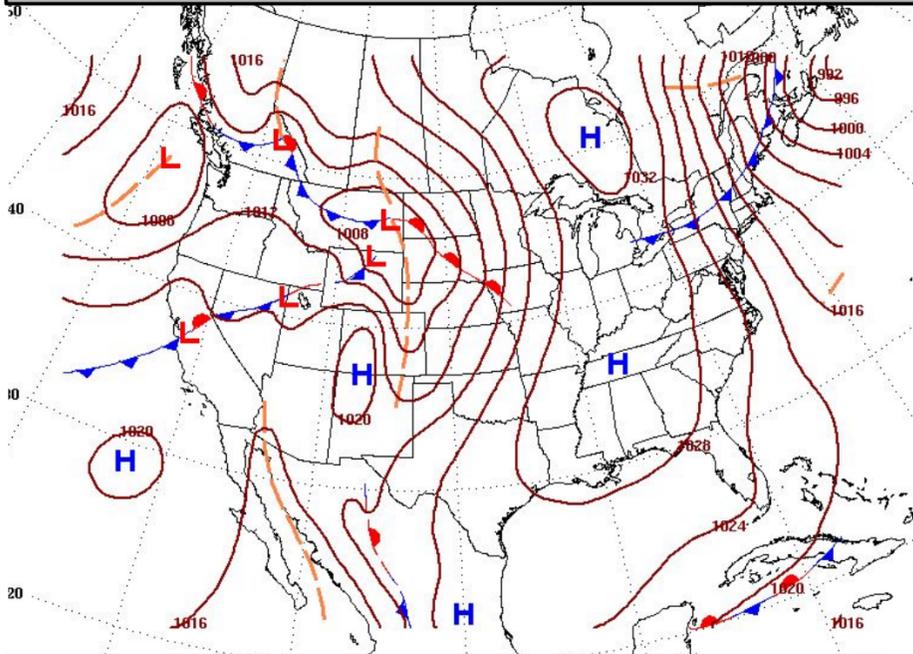


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5**

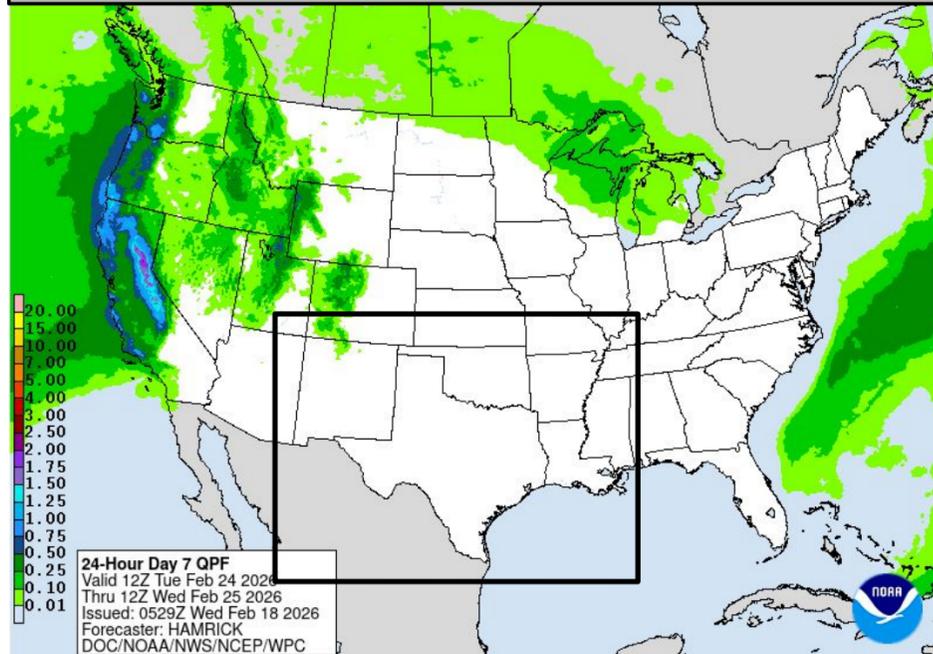


# Tuesday's Weather

### Forecast Chart

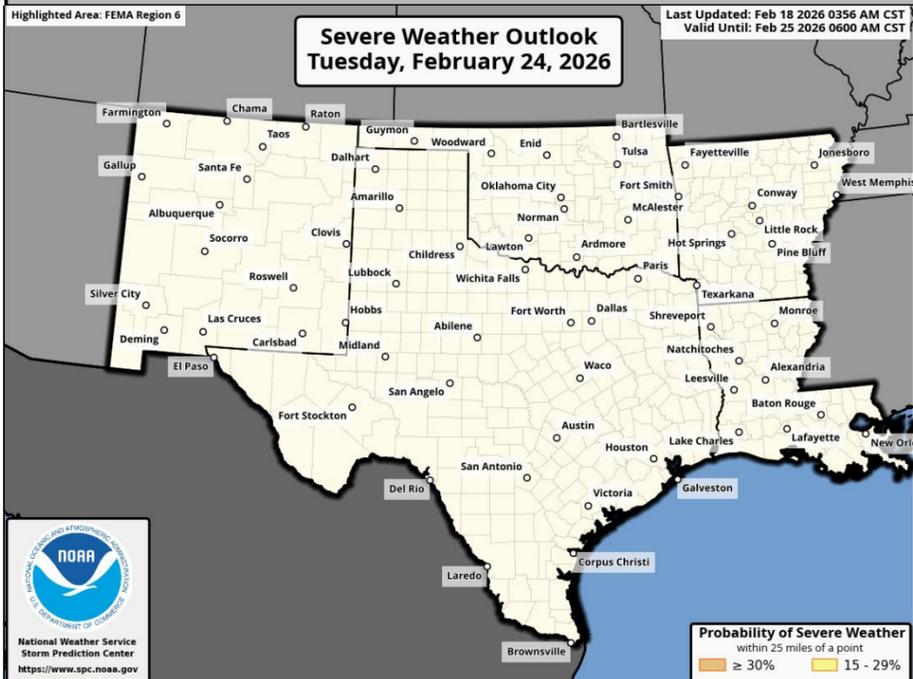


### Forecast Rainfall



**No significant weather expected.**

### Severe Weather Outlook

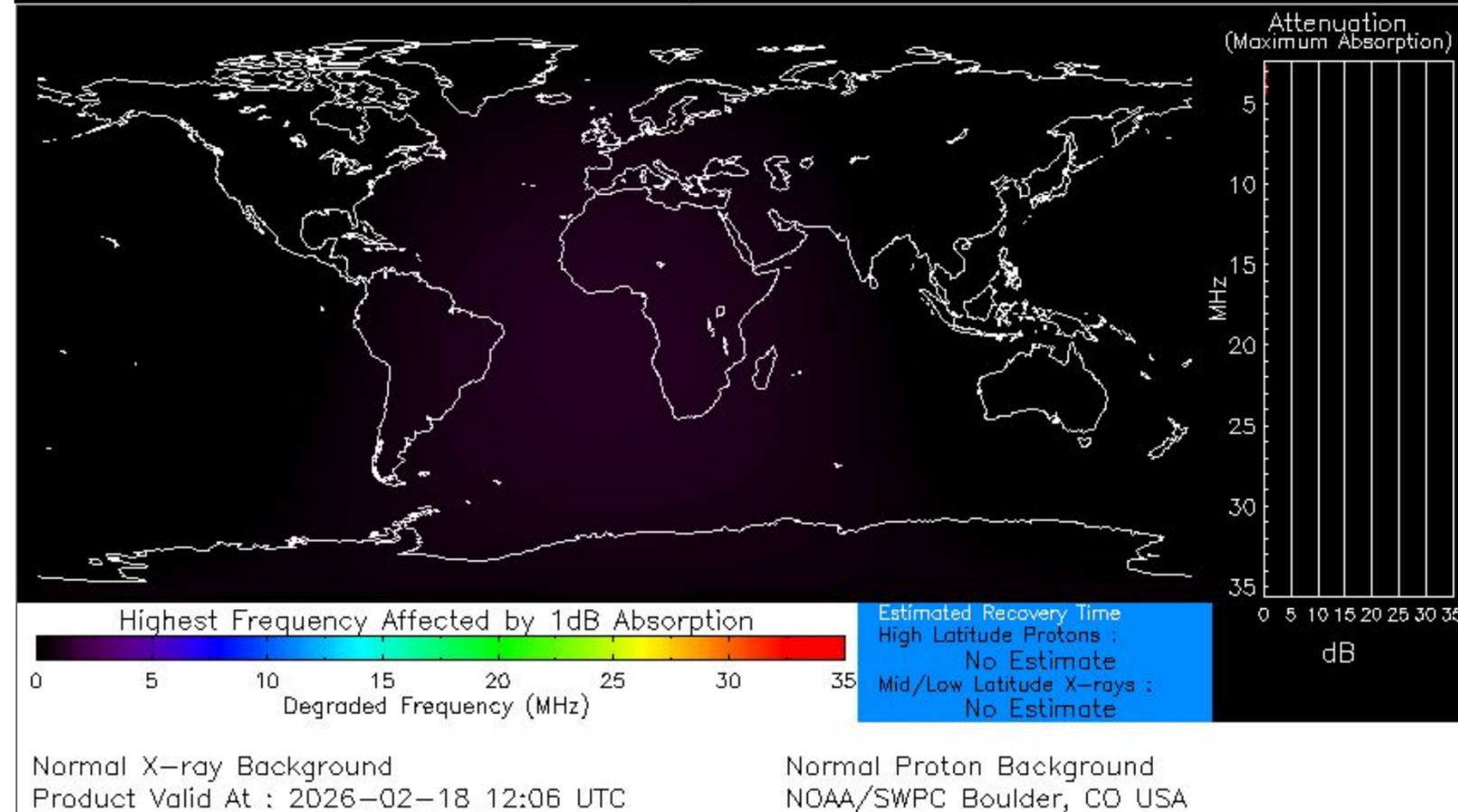


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5**



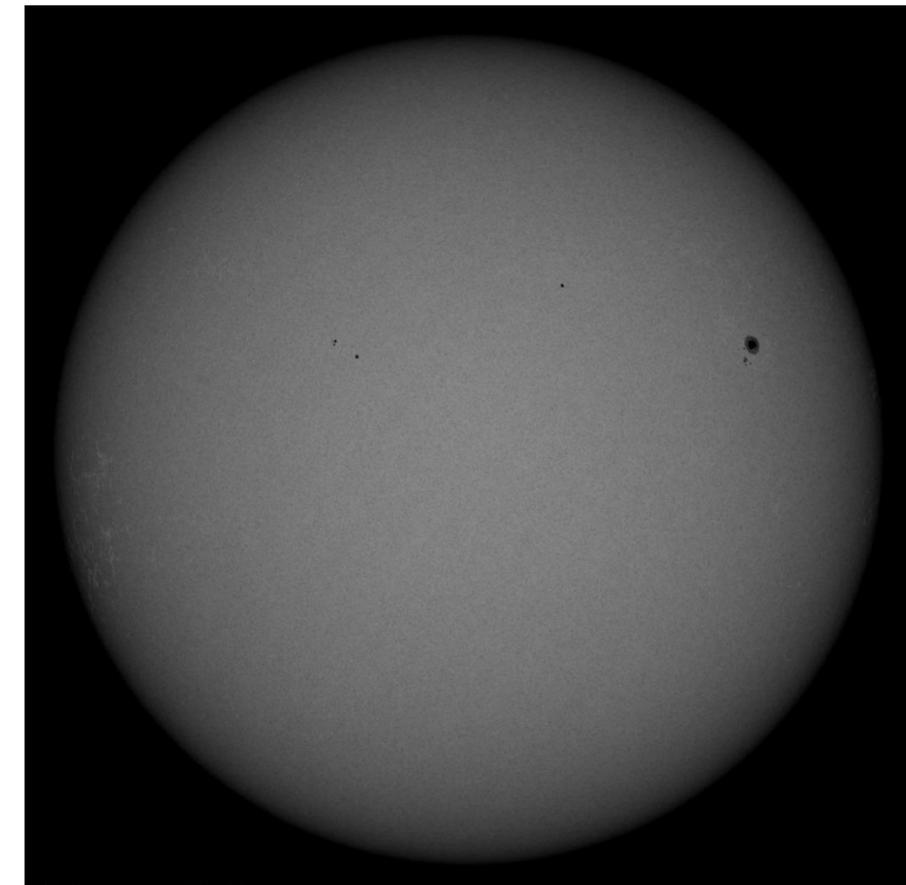
# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Wednesday, Feb 18	Thursday, Feb 19	Friday, Feb 20
<b>Geomagnetic Storms</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp=3)</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp=3)</b>	<b>Unsettled (Max Kp=3)</b>
<b>Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)</b>	1%	1%	1%
<b>Radio Blackout (R1-R2)</b>	10%	10%	10%
<b>Radio Blackout (R3-R5)</b>	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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Little to None</b></p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines</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	<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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Minor</b></p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life</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	<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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moderate</b></p> <p>Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life</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	<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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Major</b></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>	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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Extreme</b></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>	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)**



# National Weather Service

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