



FEMA



Prepared by
Andy Bollenbacher

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, February 19, 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

- **Fire Weather:**

- **Elevated to Critical (levels 1-2 of 3) conditions through today for N/E NM, OK, W/N TX, TX Panhandle, and NW AR due to persistent gusty southwest/west winds and low relative humidity. Winds shift this afternoon/evening from the north.**
- **Elevated to Critical conditions for E NM, W TX, TX Panhandle tomorrow.**
- **Elevated (level 1 of 3) for C/SW TX on Saturday.**
- **Monitoring S Plains next Tuesday/Wednesday for fire weather concerns.**

- **Winter Weather:**

- **2-6" of snow above 8,500 feet in mountains in N NM tonight through tomorrow.**

- **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.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Thursday, Feb 19	Friday, Feb 20	Saturday, Feb 21	Sunday, Feb 22	Monday, Feb 23	Tuesday, Feb 24	Wednesday, Feb 25
Severe Storms							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Winter Weather	N NM	N NM					
Fire Weather	N/E NM, OK, W/NTX, TX Panhandle, NW AR	E NM, OK/TX Panhandles, WTX	C/SW TX			S Plains	S Plains
	E NM, WTX	E NM, WTX, OK/TX Panhandle					
River Flooding	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	

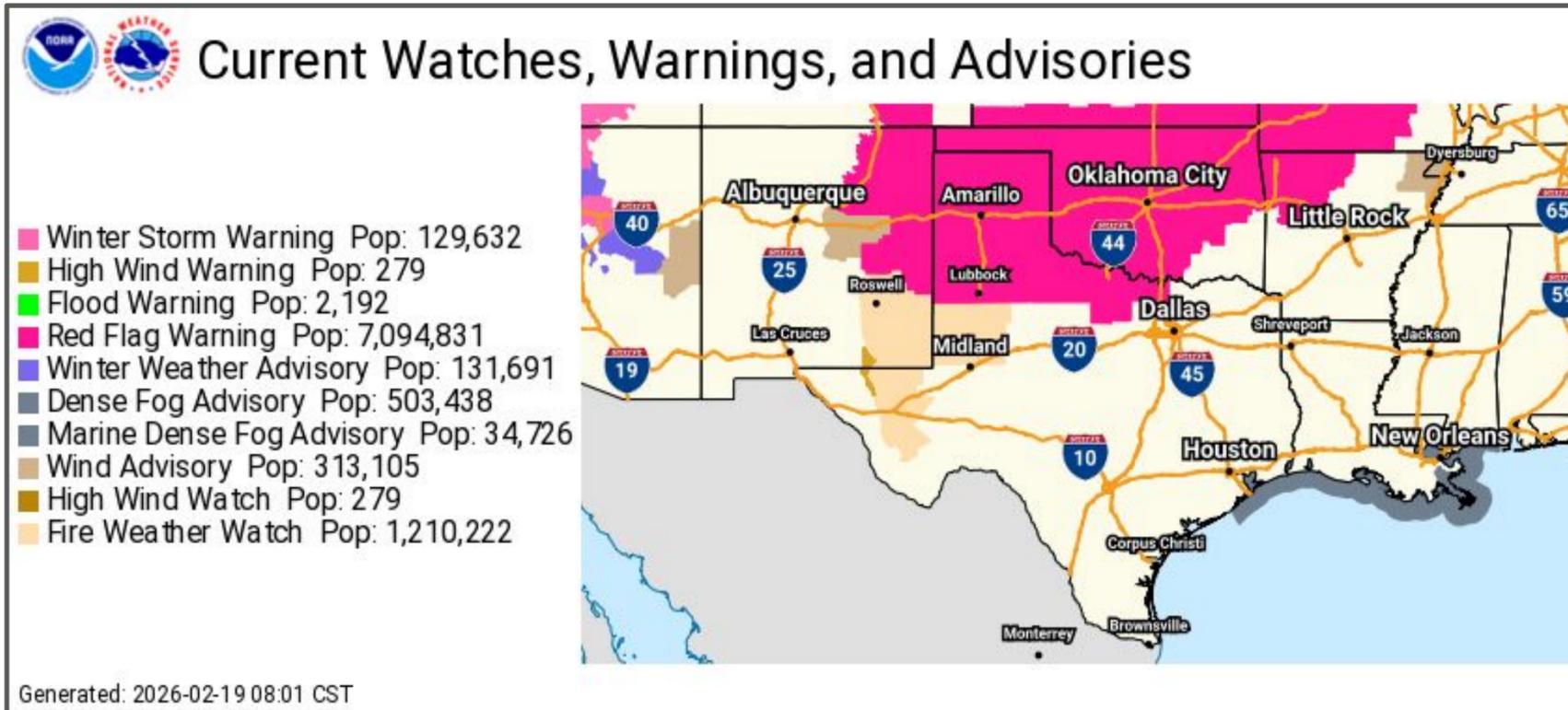
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.

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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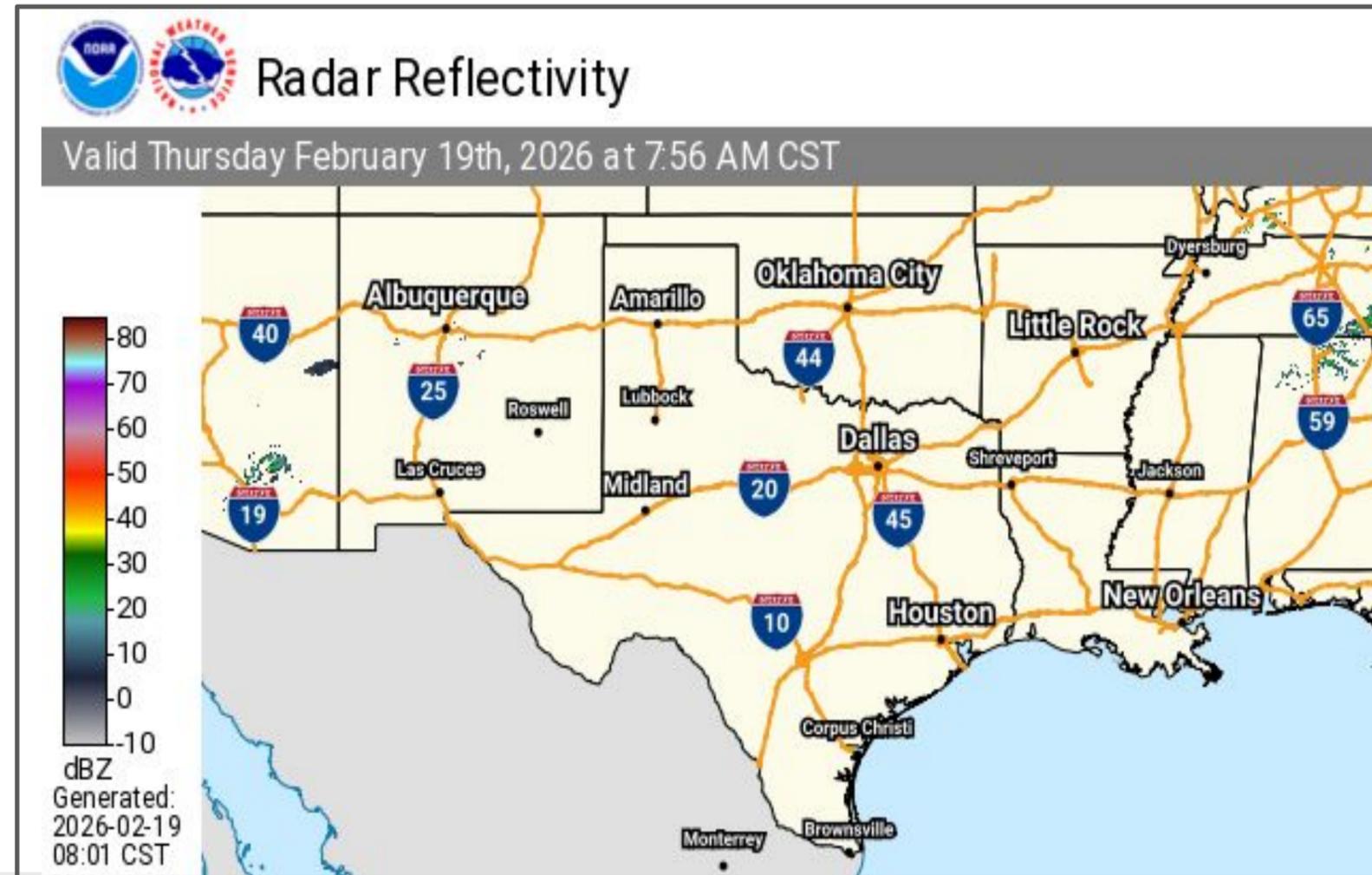


Current Radar/Hazards



Red Flag Warning N/E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, OK, NW TX, NW AR for wind gusts of up to 40-45 mph and relative humidity as low as 7-15%.

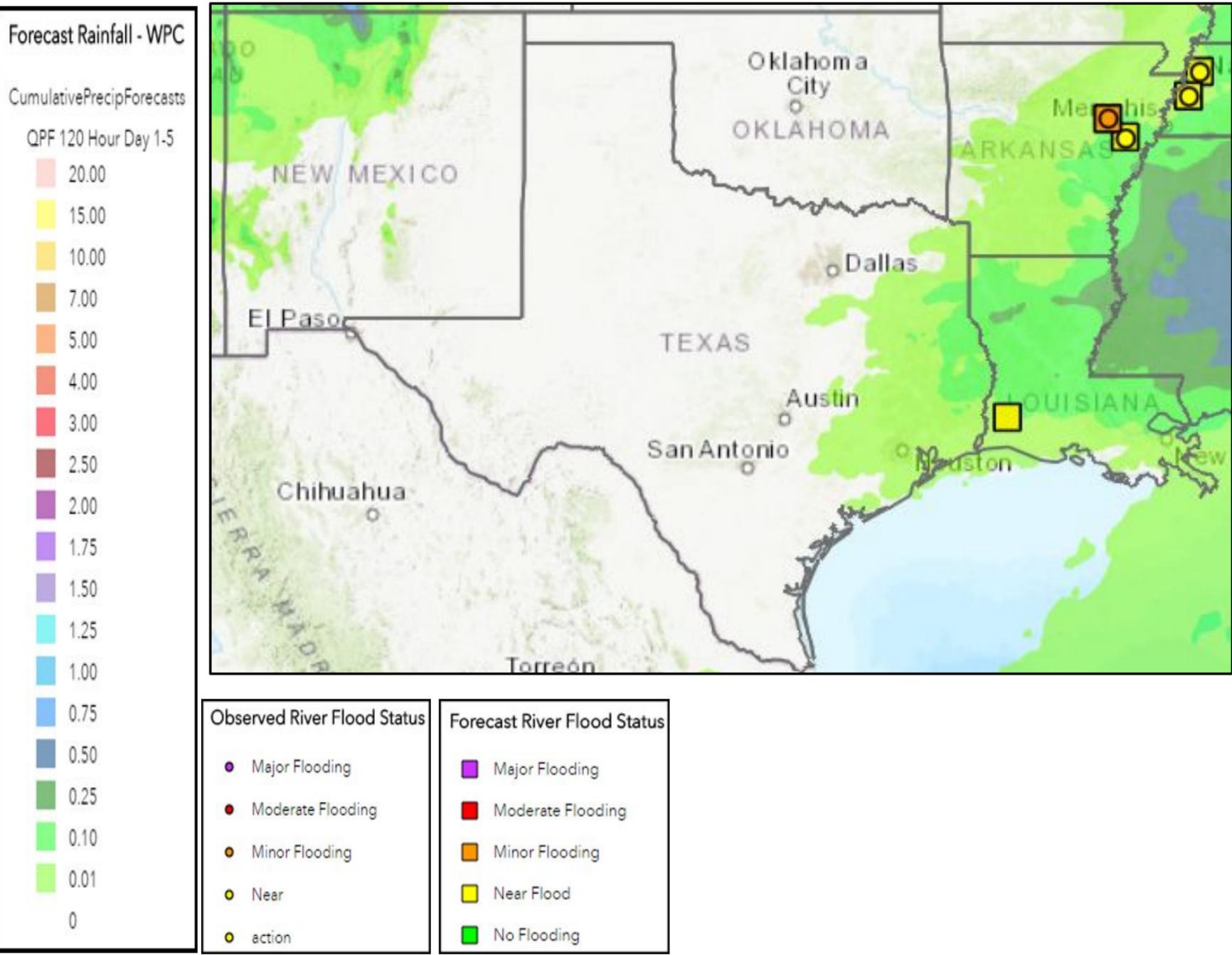
Fire Weather Watches for tomorrow in E NM, W TX, TX/OK Panhandles.





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

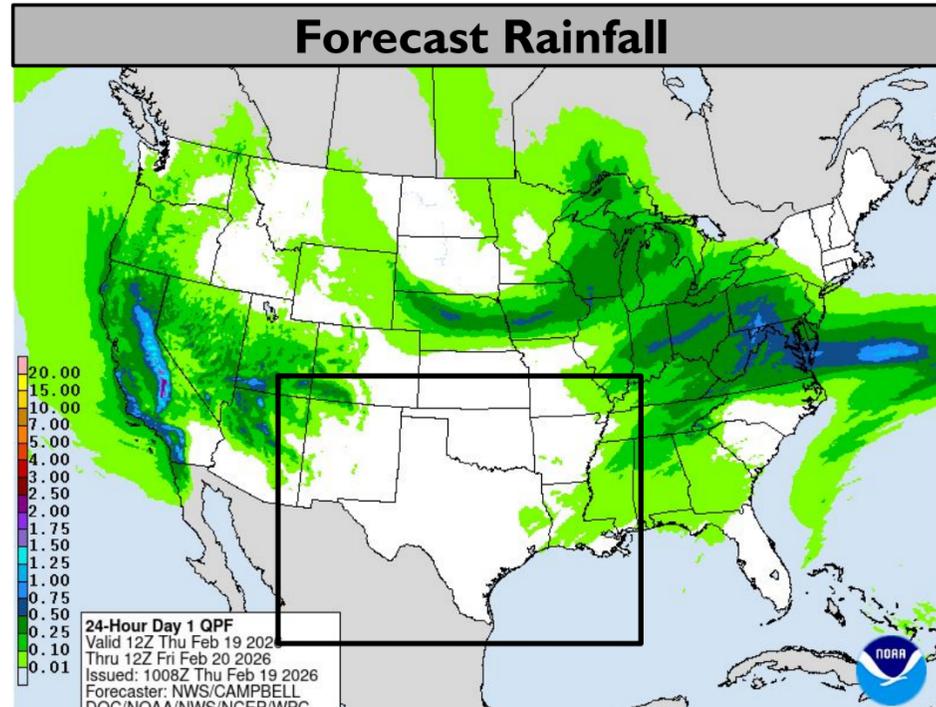
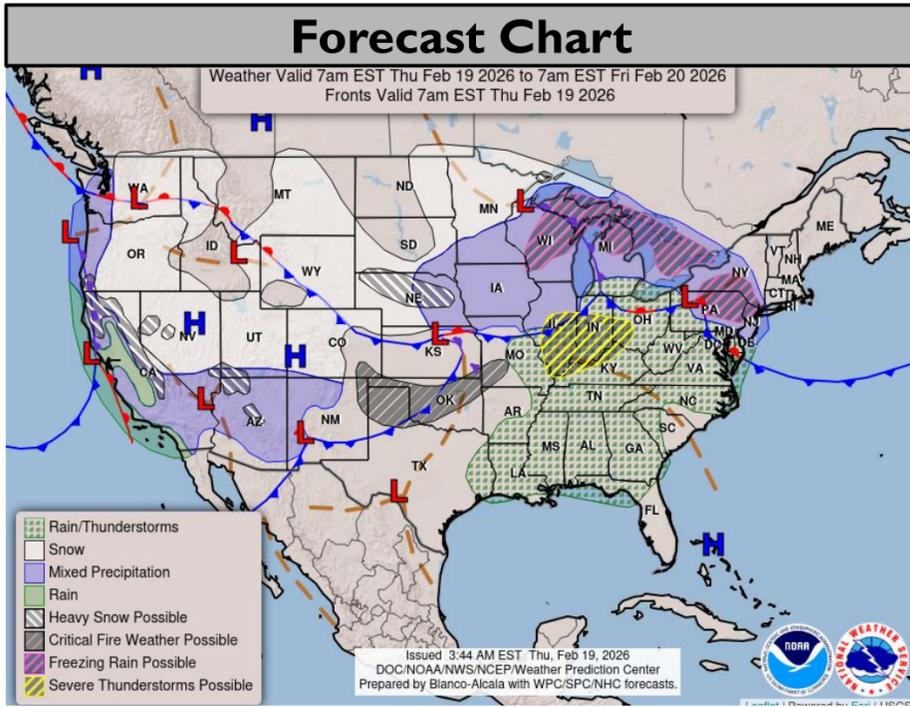


Cache River at Patterson in NE AR is expected remain above minor flood stage through at least Monday. Secondary roads and pastures flooded.

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.



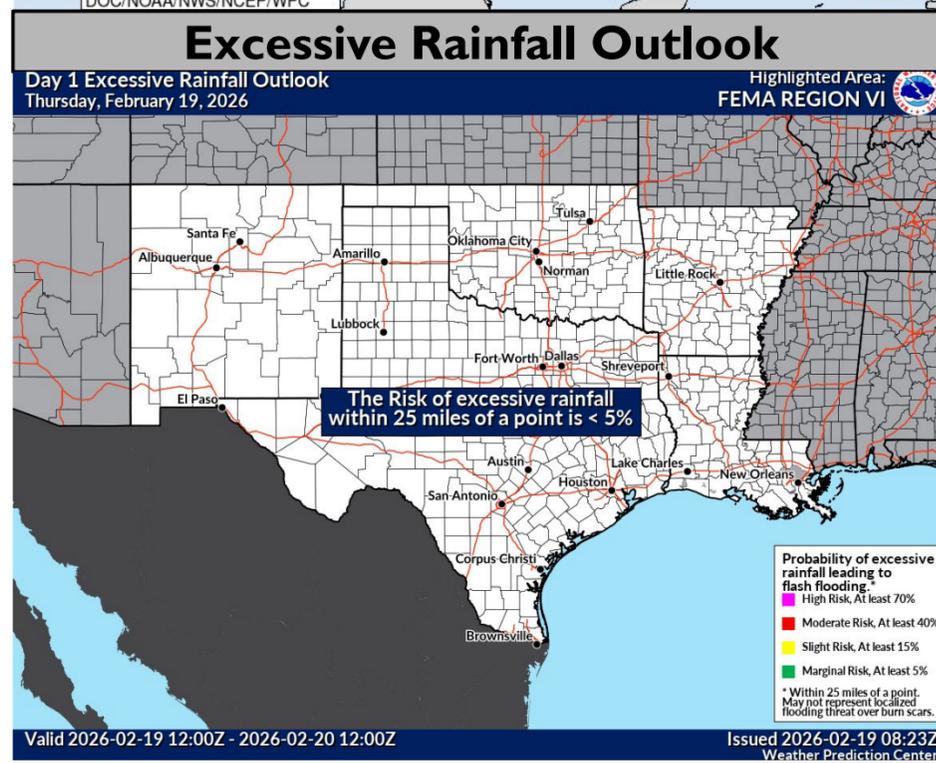
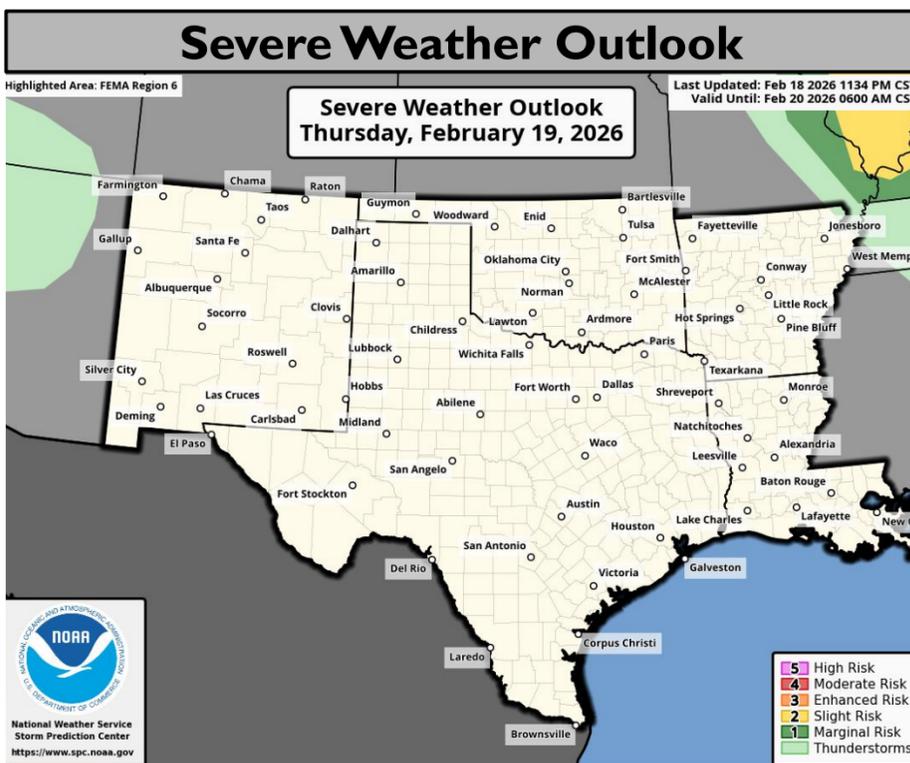
Today's Weather



**Critical (level 2 of 3) fire weather
N/E NM, OK, W/N TX, TX
Panhandle, NW AR.**

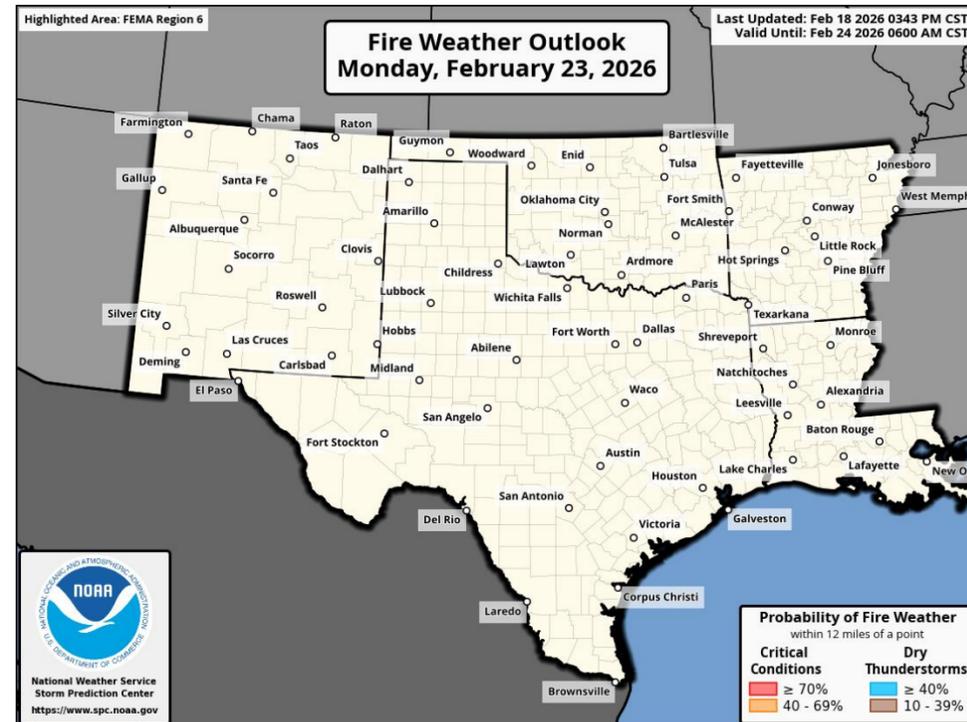
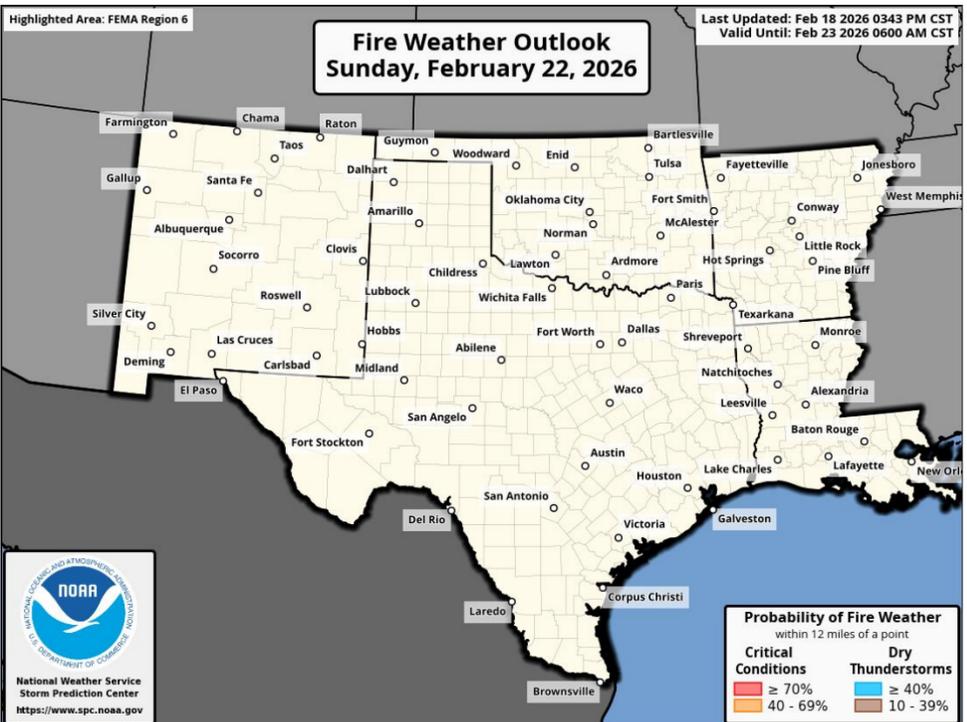
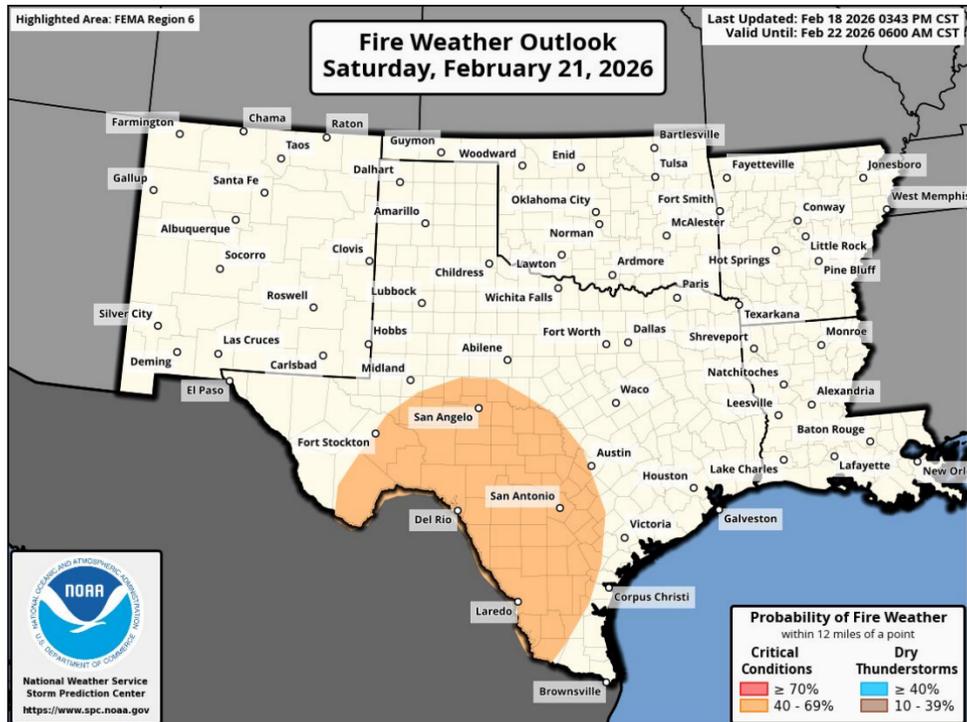
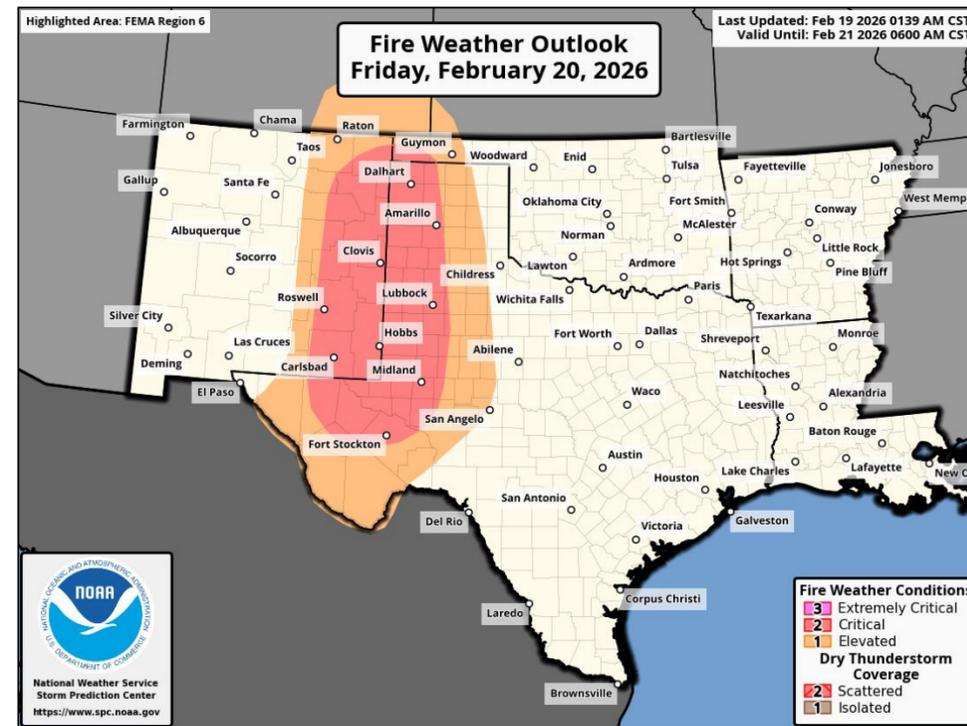
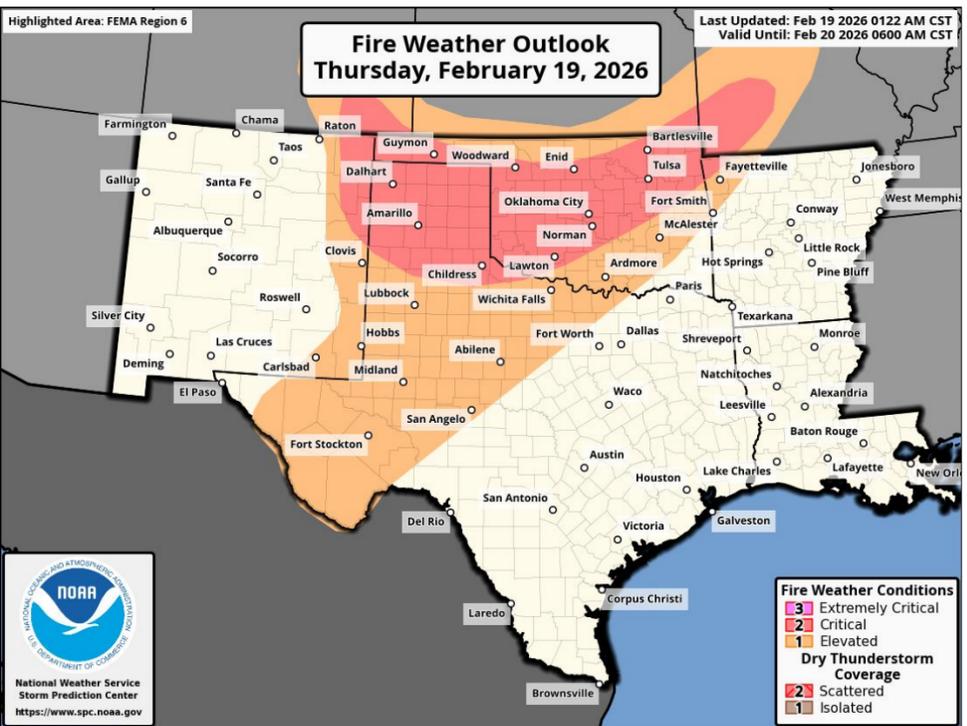
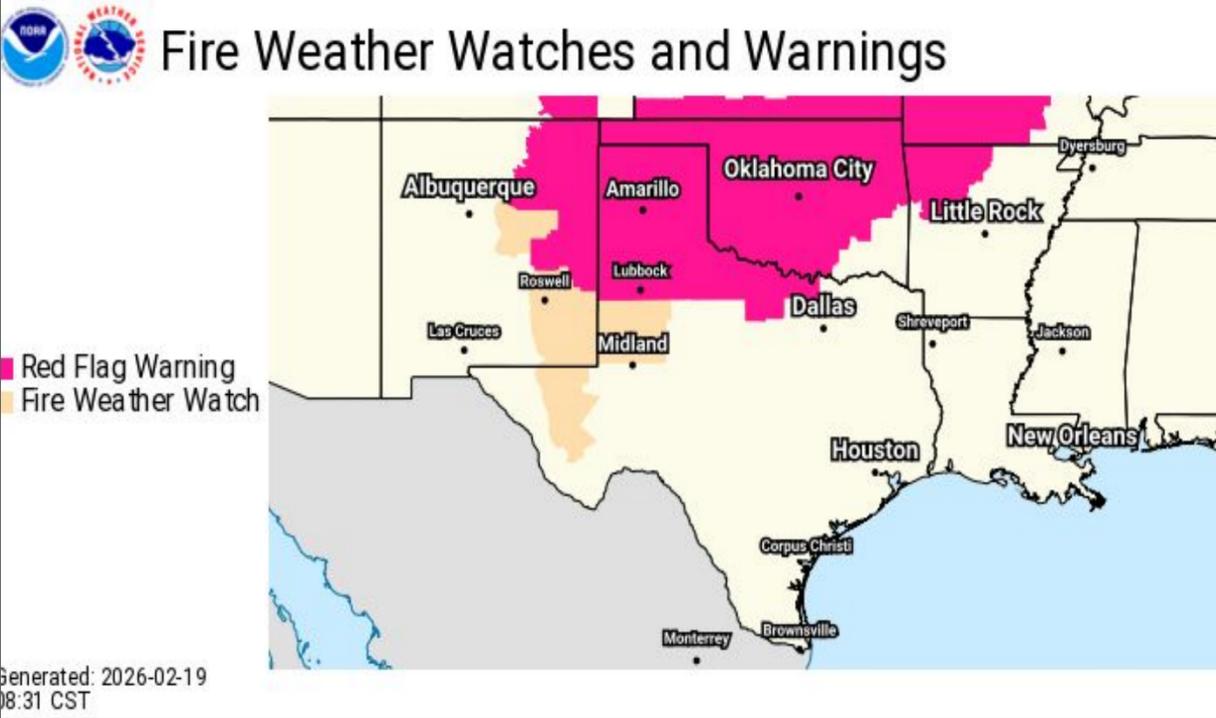
**Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather
conditions for E NM, W/N TX.**

**Snow overnight in N NM
mountains above 8,500 feet.
Significant travel impacts not
expected.**





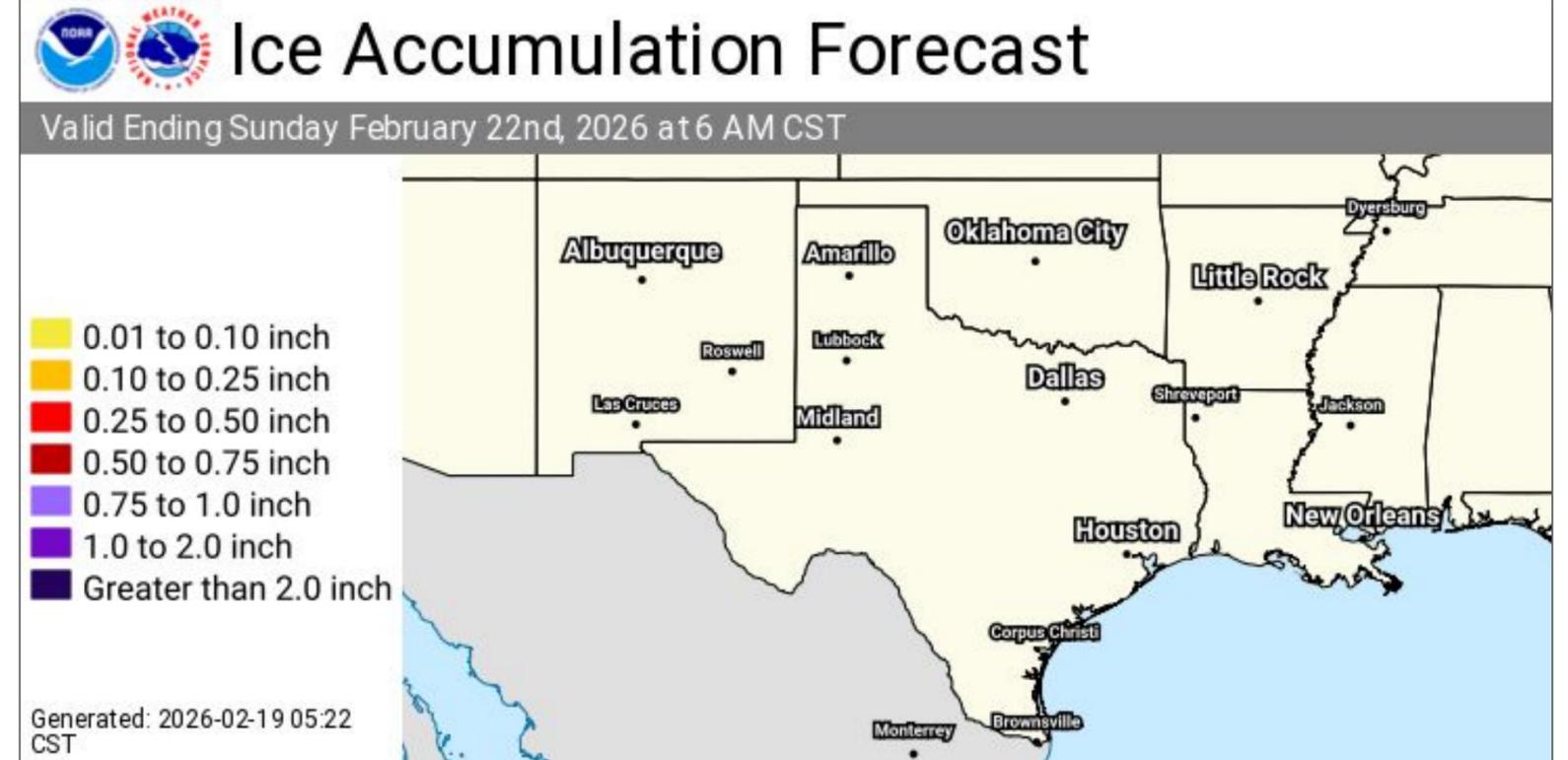
Fire Weather Outlooks





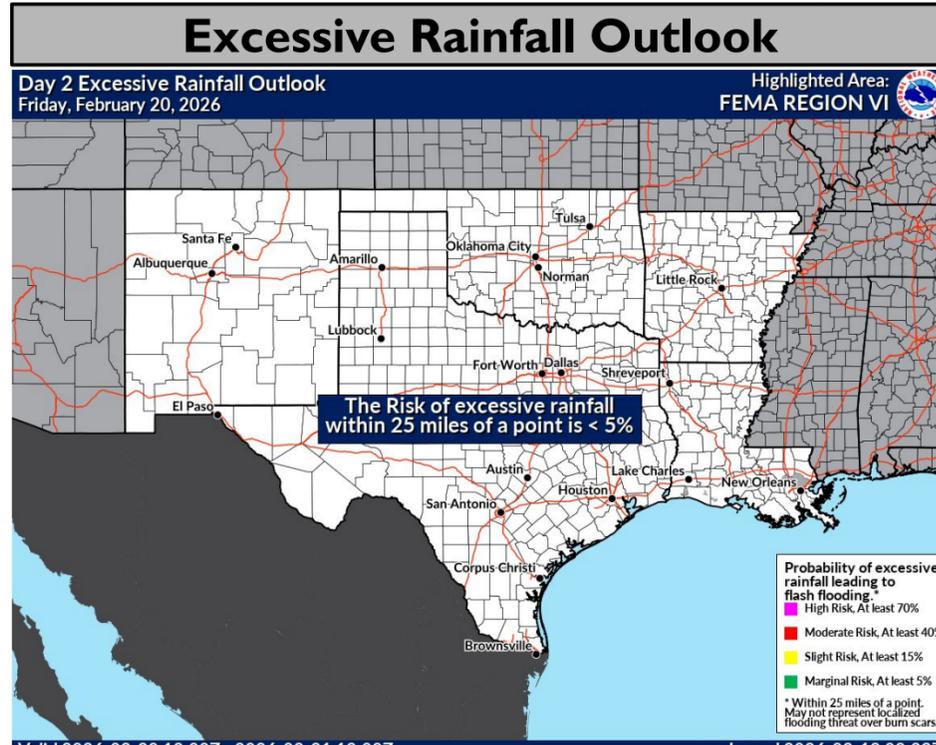
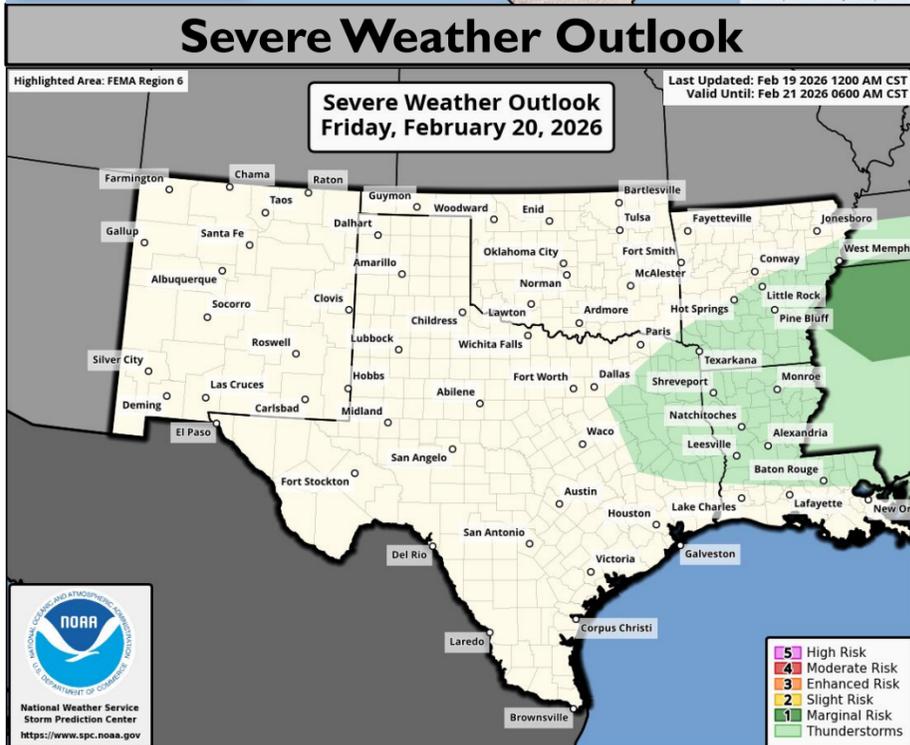
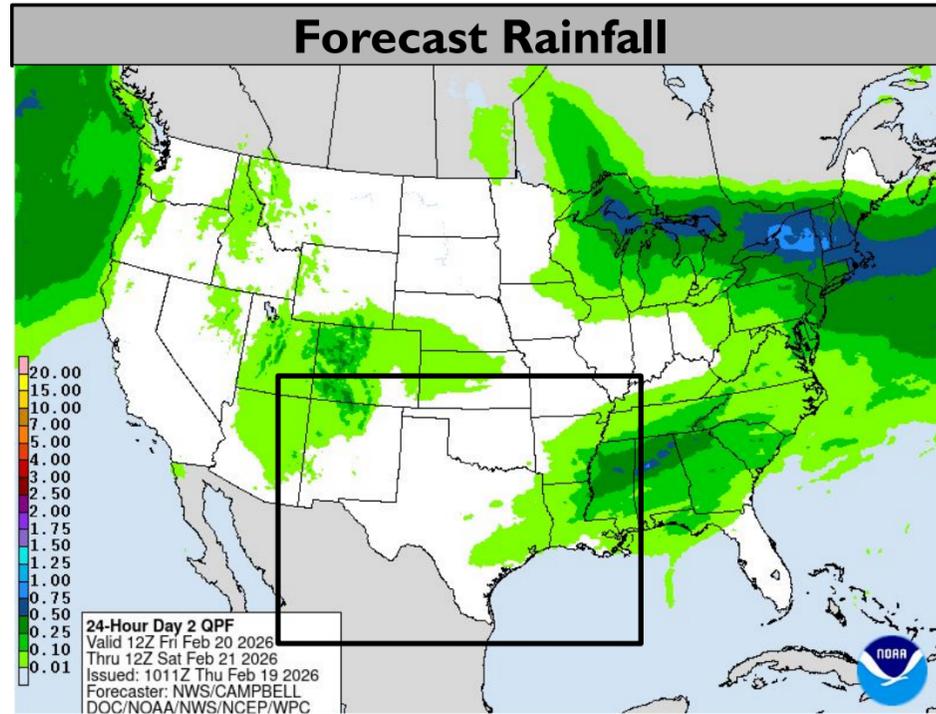
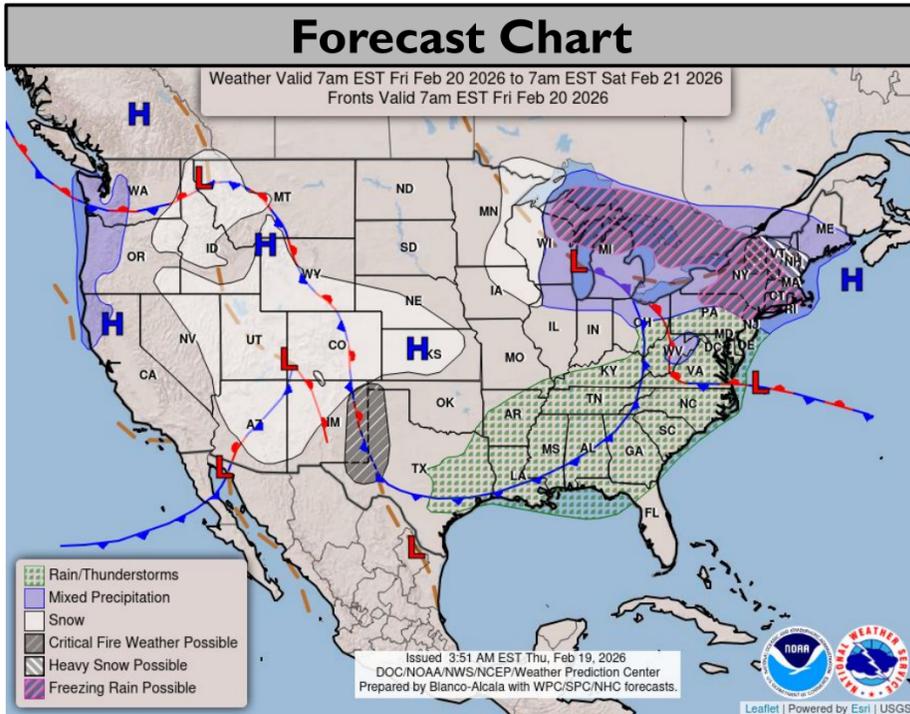
Winter Weather

Through the next 3 days





Tomorrow's Weather



Critical (level 2 of 3) fire weather concerns in E NM, OK/TX Panhandles, W TX.

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

Snow in N NM mountains above 8,500 feet. Significant travel impacts not expected.



Wind Gust/Direction Forecast through Saturday

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast

	2/19 Thu					2/20 Fri					2/21 Sat					Maximum					
	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am		6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm
Abilene	18↘	18↘	16↘	9↘	7↘	8↘	8↘	8↘	10↘	15↗	16↗	15↗	12↗	12↗	12↘	15↘	21↓	23↓	23↓	20↓	23
Amarillo	33↘	29↘	29↘	24↘	17↘	12↘	14↘	17↘	25↗	29↗	37↗	32↗	23↗	18↗	17↘	16↓	16↓	14↓	14↓	12↓	37
Beaver	41↘	38↘	29↘	17↓	15↘	12↘	12↘	12↘	20↘	28↘	29↘	24↘	20↘	16↘	15↓	14↓	15↓	15↓	15↓	12↓	41
El Paso	24↘	29↘	29↘	25↘	20↘	15↘	12↘	17↘	28↗	31↗	31↗	29↗	17↗	9↘	5↘	7↘	9↓	9↓	9↓	8↘	31
Enid	37↘	38↘	35↘	23↘	16↓	13↓	12↓	10↘	13↘	16↘	16↘	15↘	15↘	15↘	16↓	17↓	20↓	20↓	18↓	12↓	38
Fayetteville	36↗	36↗	36↗	28↗	23↗	20↘	15↘	10↘	10↓	10↘	12↘	12↘	12↘	12↘	12↘	15↘	17↘	18↓	21↓	21↓	36
Fort Davis	26↘	26↘	25↘	21↘	13↘	12↘	12↘	17↘	26↗	31↗	30↗	23↗	16↗	13↗	12↗	13↗	17↓	21↓	21↓	21↘	31
Guadalupe Pass	54↘	47↘	46↘	46↘	35↘	29↘	31↘	40↘	48↘	49↘	51↘	51↘	40↘	26↘	17↘	13↘	18↘	22↘	22↘	20↘	54
Lubbock	29↘	31↘	25↘	20↘	9↓	8↓	9↘	12↘	25↗	36↗	36↗	28↗	21↗	15↘	16↘	17↓	18↓	18↓	17↓	14↘	36
Midland/Odessa	26↘	29↘	32↘	28↘	18↘	13↘	12↘	13↘	18↘	28↘	30↘	28↘	21↘	16↘	15↘	16↓	20↓	20↓	20↓	16↘	32
Oklahoma City	33↘	35↘	33↘	21↘	20↓	16↘	16↘	13↘	15↘	15↘	15↘	14↘	15↘	15↘	18↓	22↓	24↓	25↓	24↓	17↓	35
San Angelo	20↘	20↘	20↘	14↘	7↘	7↘	6↘	6↘	8↘	14↘	15↘	12↘	9↘	9↘	9↘	14↓	18↓	22↓	22↓	20↘	22
Tulsa	31↘	33↘	32↘	23↘	18↘	13↓	12↓	9↓	12↘	12↘	12↘	10↘	12↘	13↘	15↘	17↘	18↓	20↓	20↓	15↓	33
Wichita Falls	35↘	37↘	28↘	16↘	15↘	17↘	17↘	18↘	18↘	16↘	15↘	14↘	14↘	13↓	17↓	22↓	25↓	26↓	26↓	21↓	37

-Cold front passes through the northern portion of FEMA 6 this afternoon, winds gradually go from SouthWest to West in the afternoon, then Northerly in the evening.

-TX/OK Panhandles, NW OK see the wind shift first, gradually shifting to Northerly across NW TX, OK, NW AR.

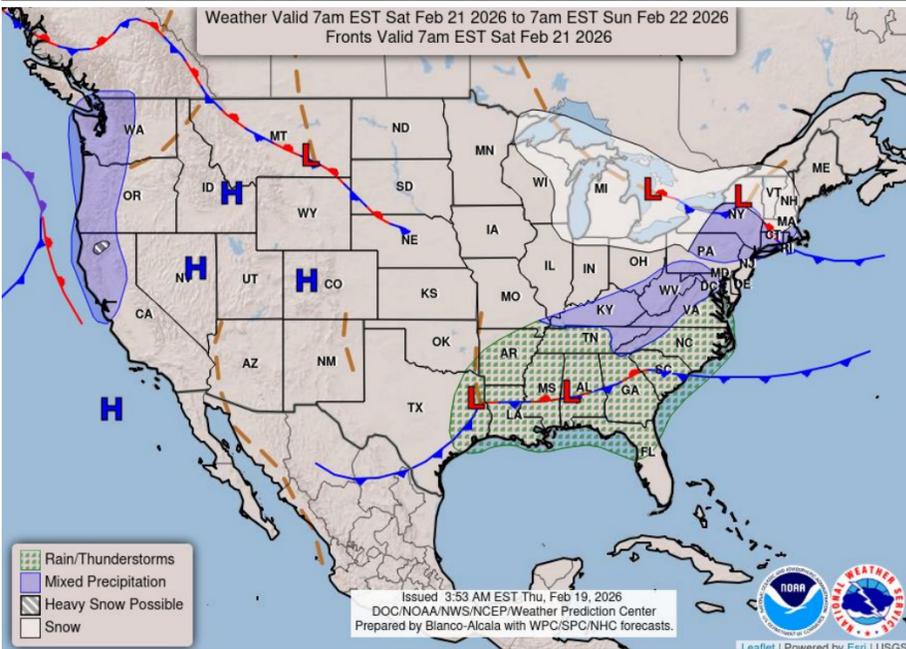
-Another cold front Friday night/Saturday brings northerly winds across FEMA 6.

*Table values in mph
 **Created: 6 am CST Thu 2/19/2026
 ***Values are maximums over the period beginning at the time shown.

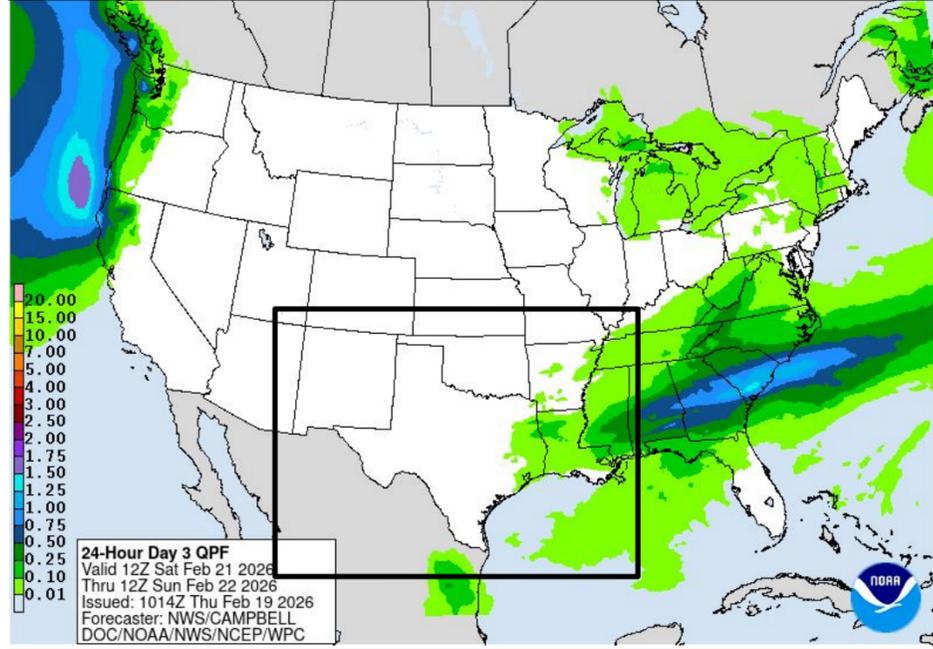


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

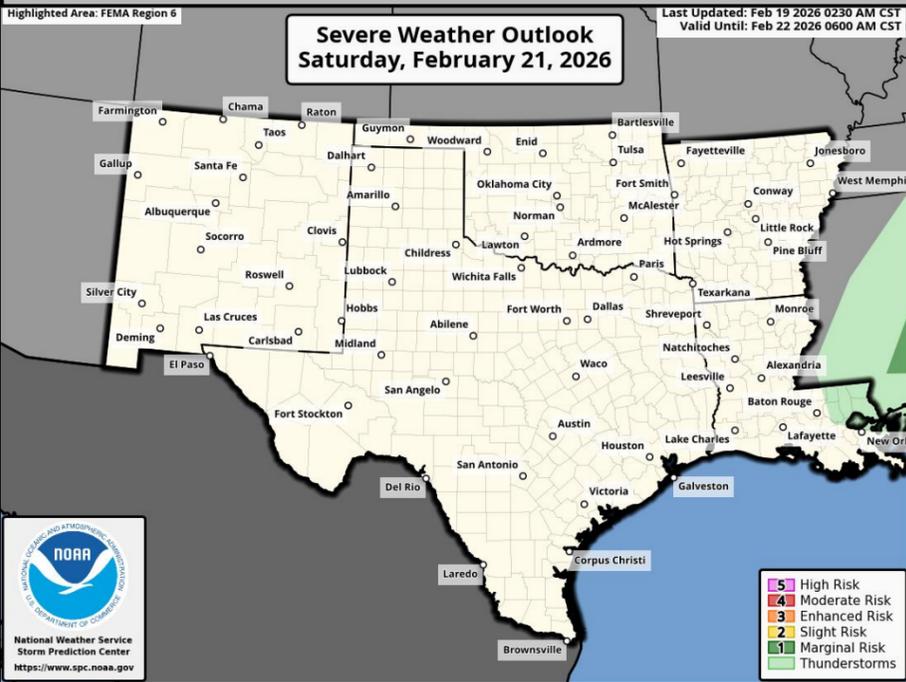


Forecast Rainfall

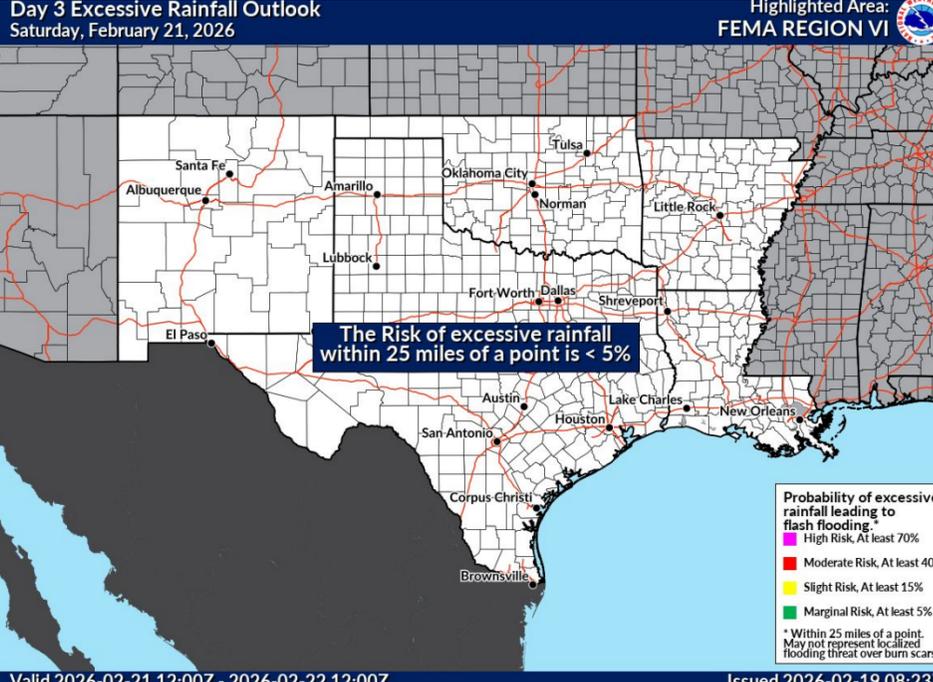


Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in C/SW TX.

Severe Weather Outlook



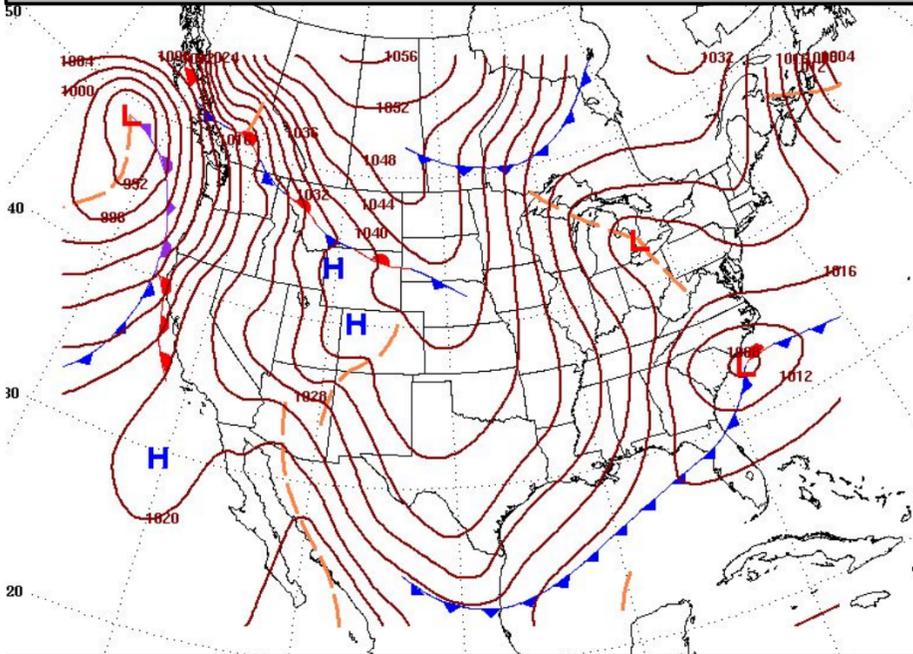
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



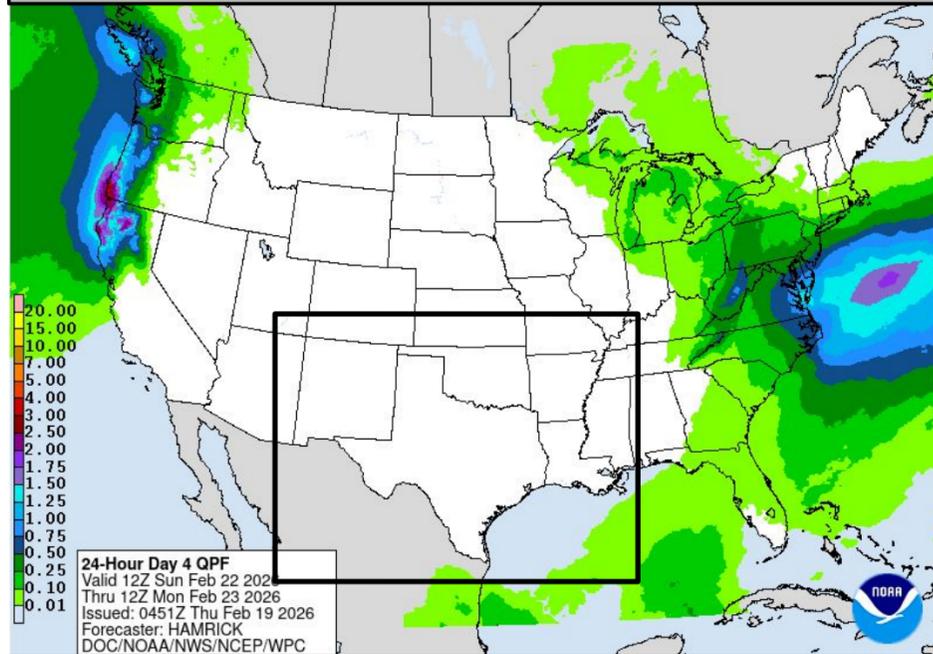


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

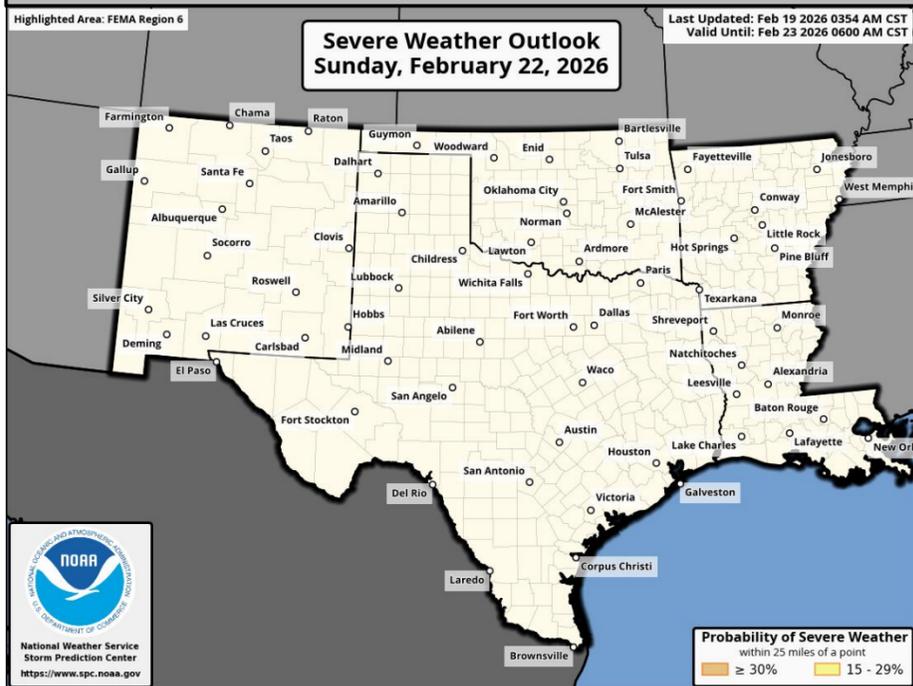


Forecast Rainfall

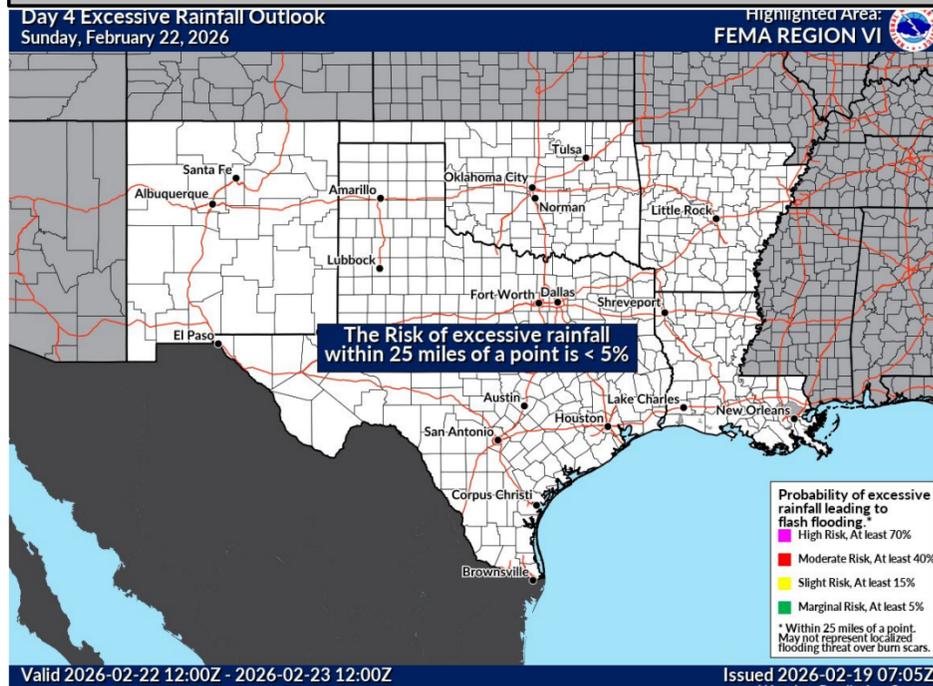


No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook



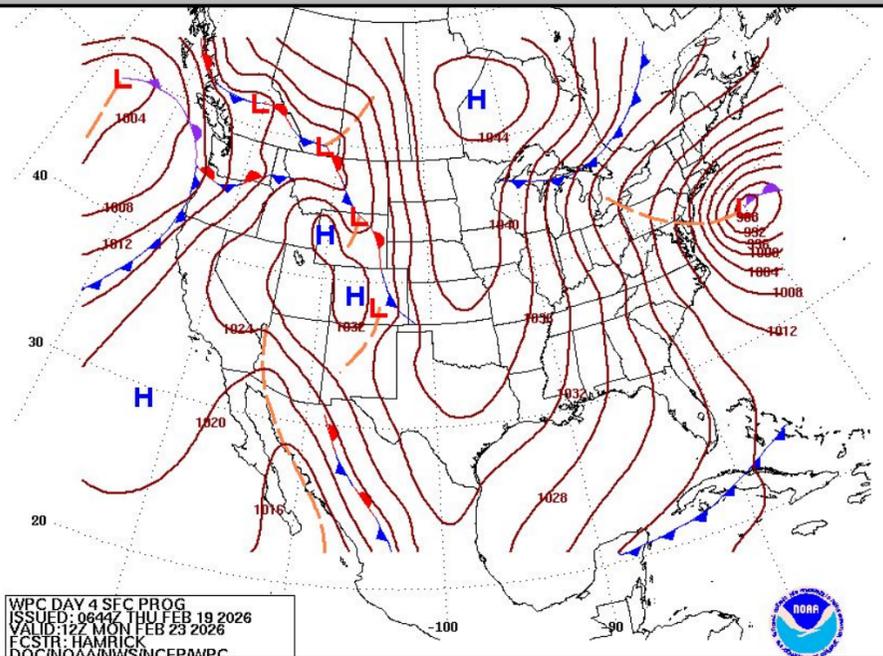
Excessive Rainfall Outlook





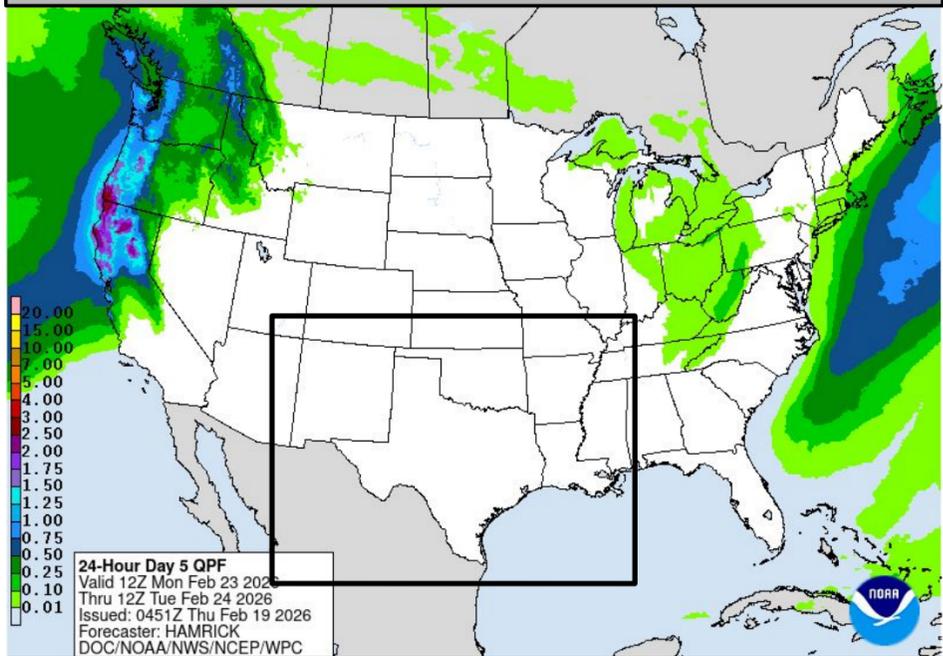
Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SEC PROG
ISSUED: 0644Z THU FEB 19 2026
VALID: 12Z MON FEB 23 2026
FCSTR: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

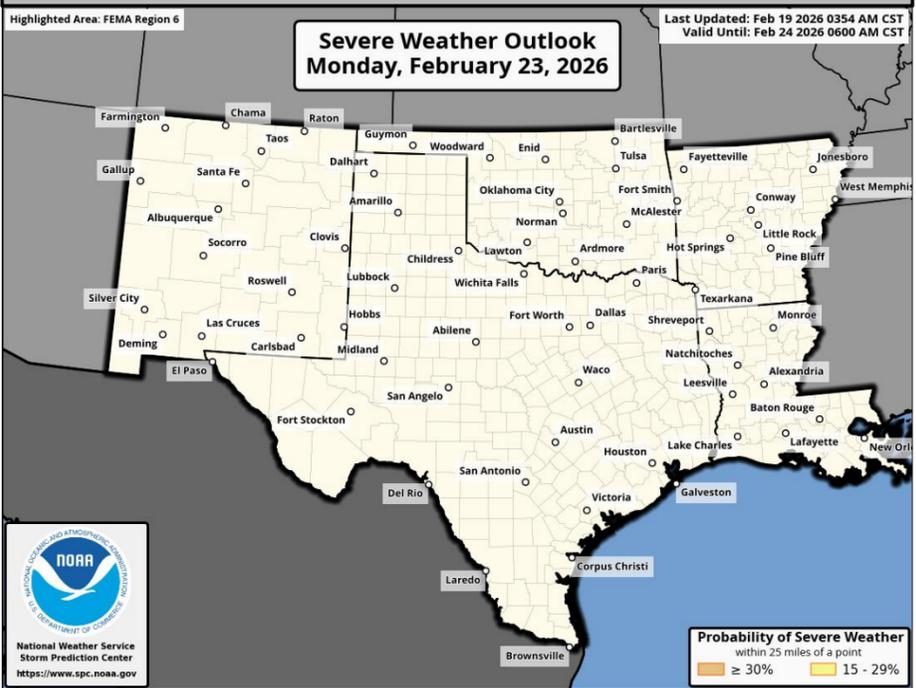
Forecast Rainfall



24-Hour Day 5 QPF
Valid 12Z Mon Feb 23 2026
Thru 12Z Tue Feb 24 2026
Issued: 0451Z Thu Feb 19 2026
Forecaster: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

No significant weather expected.

Severe Weather Outlook

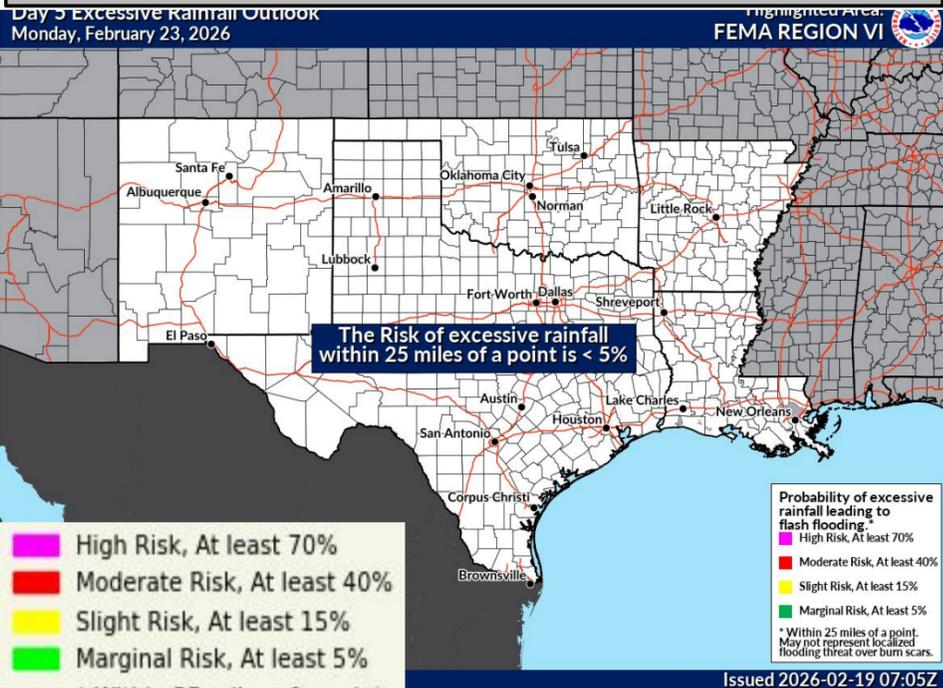


Severe Weather Outlook
Monday, February 23, 2026

Last Updated: Feb 19 2026 0354 AM CST
Valid Until: Feb 24 2026 0600 AM CST



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 5 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Monday, February 23, 2026

Highlighted Area:
FEMA REGION VI

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%

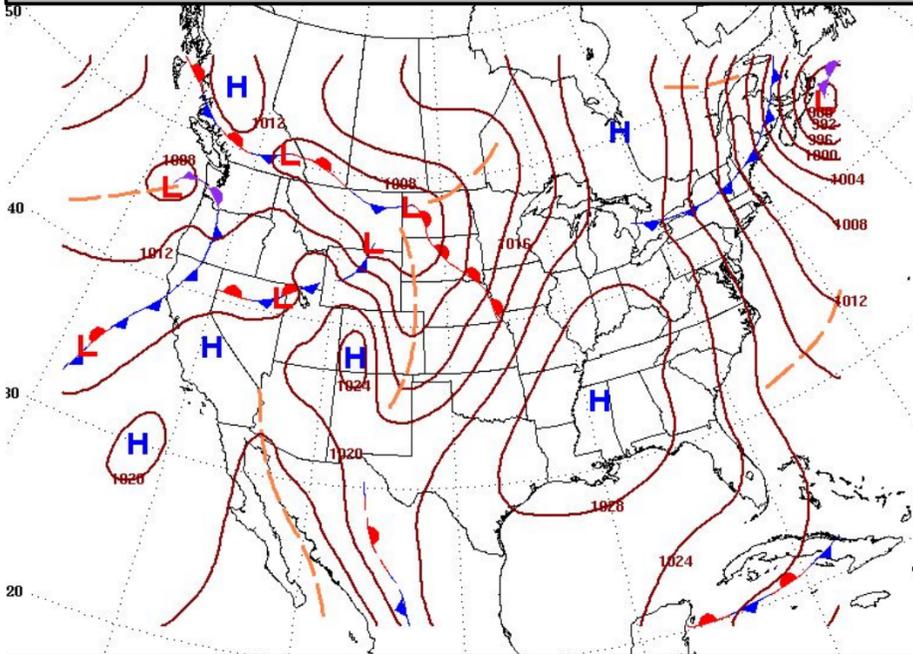
Probability of excessive rainfall leading to flash flooding:
* High Risk, At least 70%
Moderate Risk, At least 40%
Slight Risk, At least 15%
Marginal Risk, At least 5%
* Within 25 miles of a point. May not represent localized flooding threat over burn scars.

Issued 2026-02-19 07:05Z

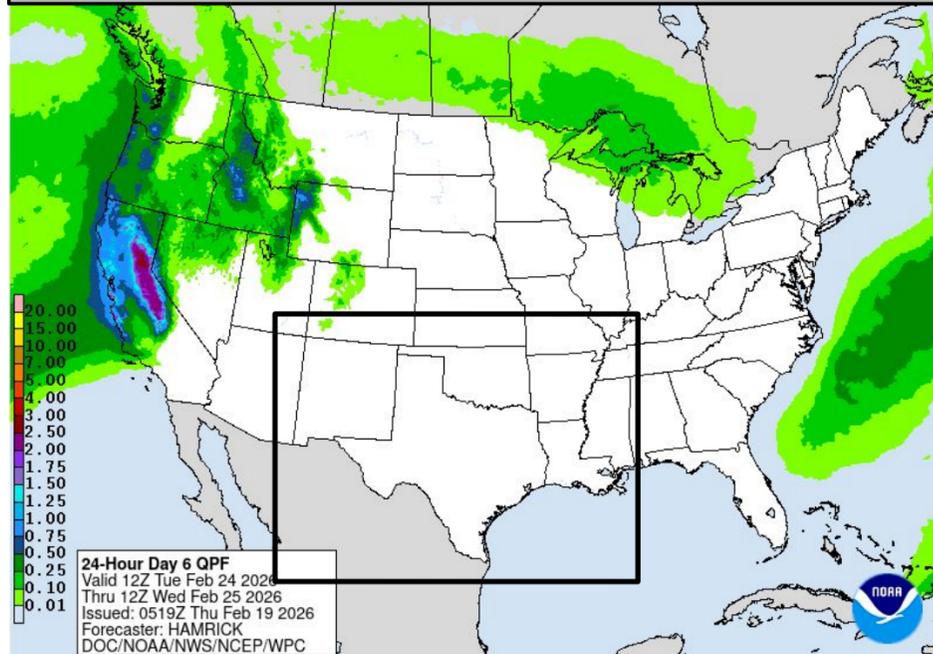


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

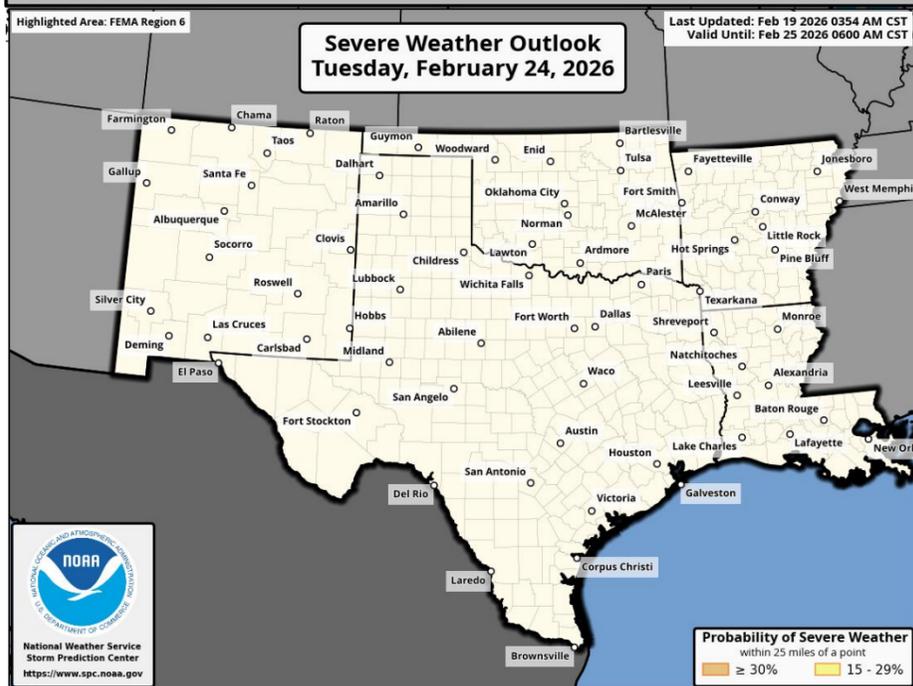


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring for fire weather concerns in S Plains.

Severe Weather Outlook

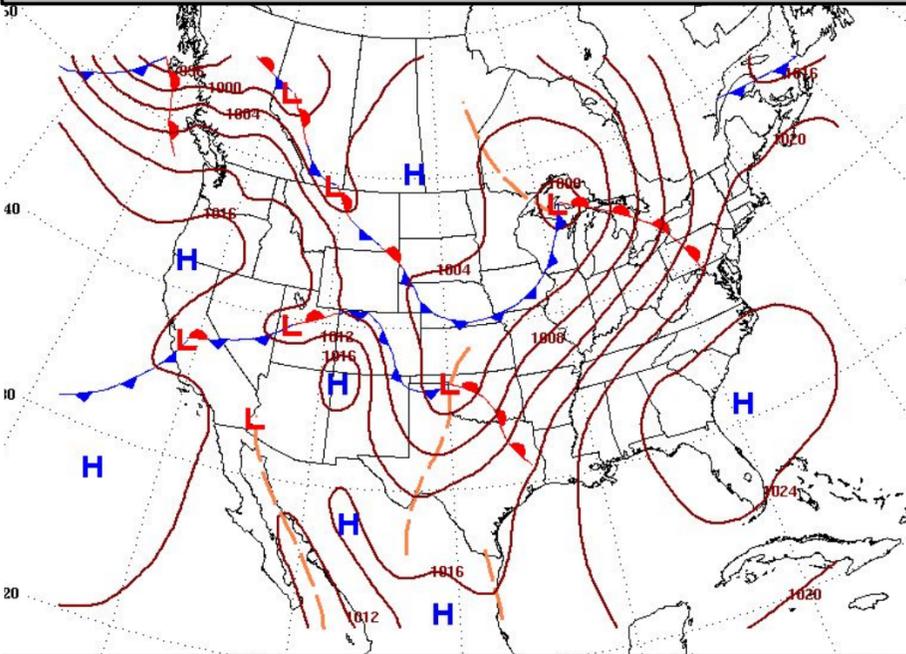


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

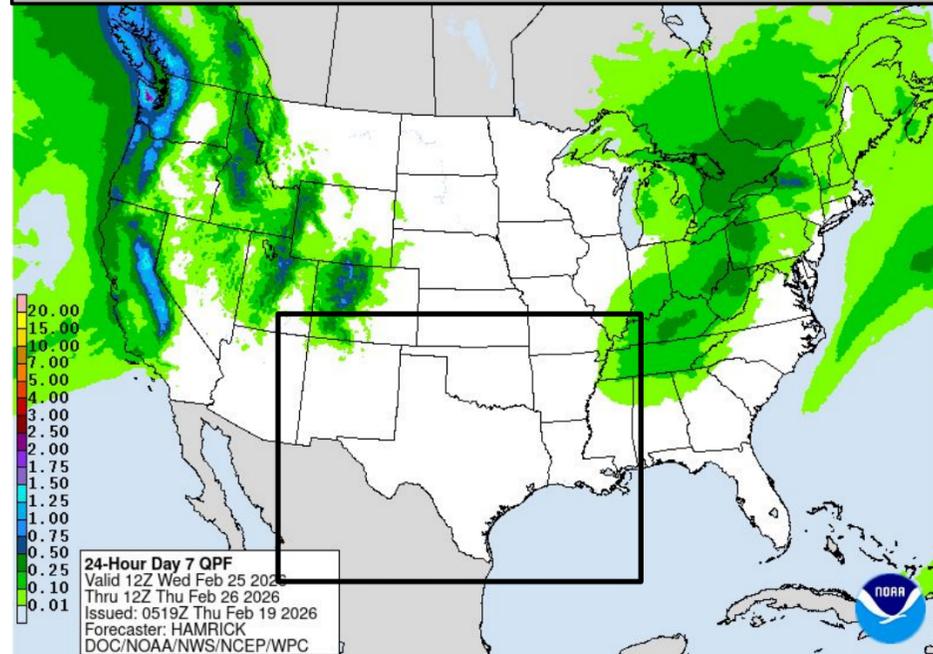


Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

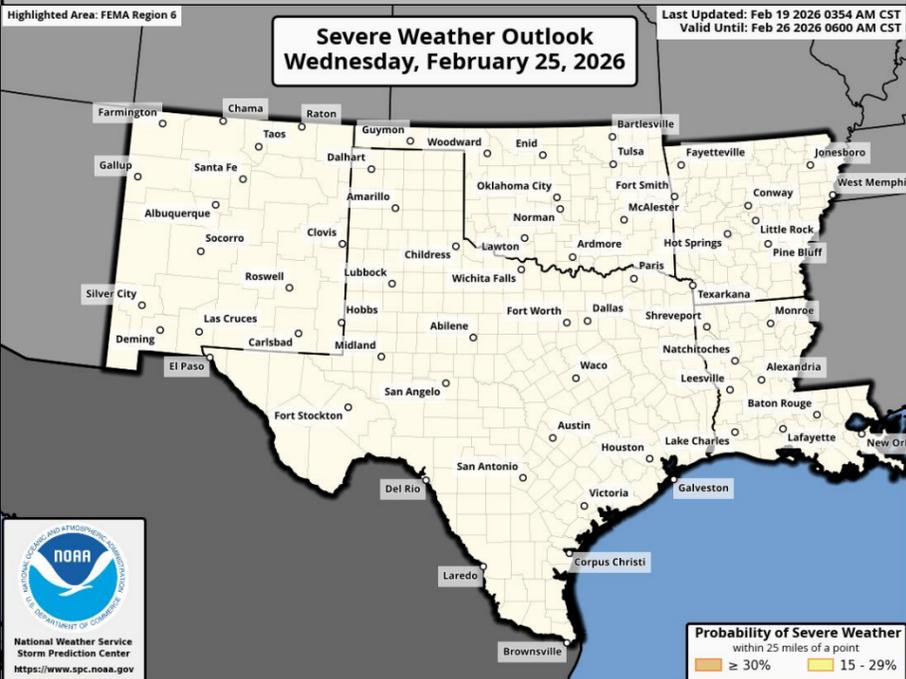


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring for fire weather concerns in S Plains.

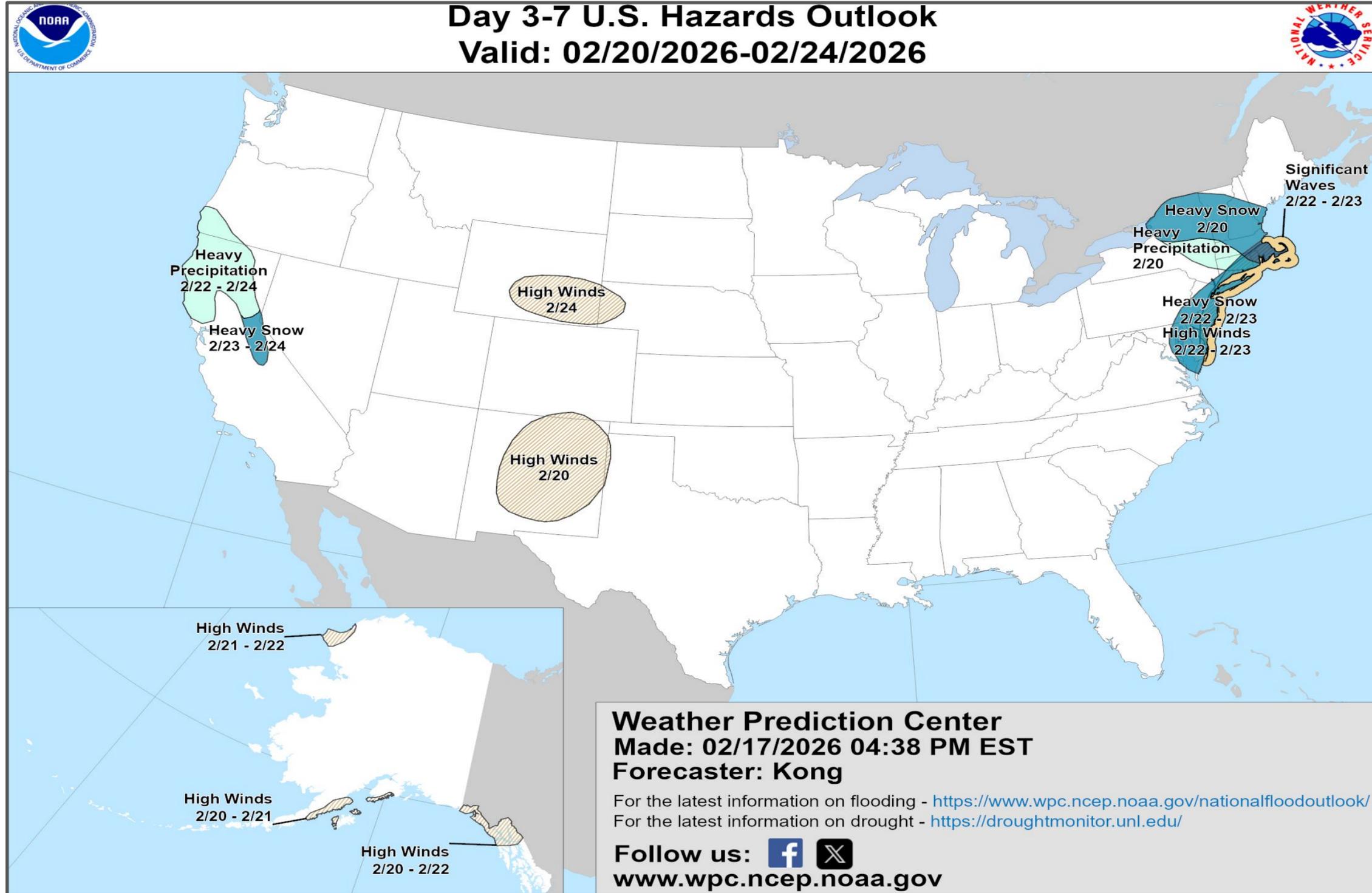
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

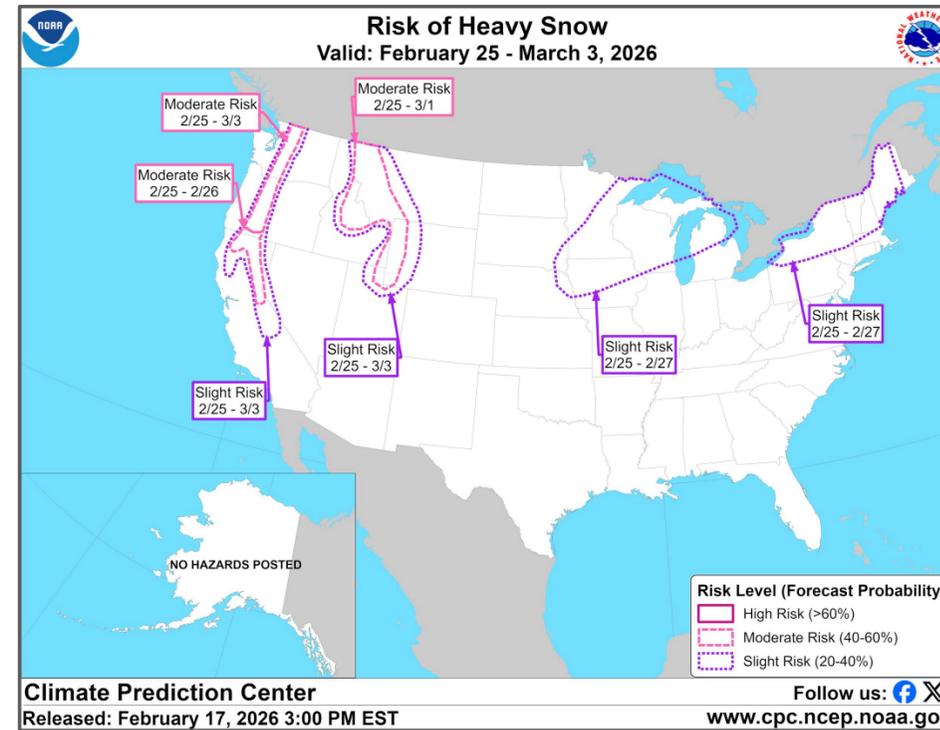
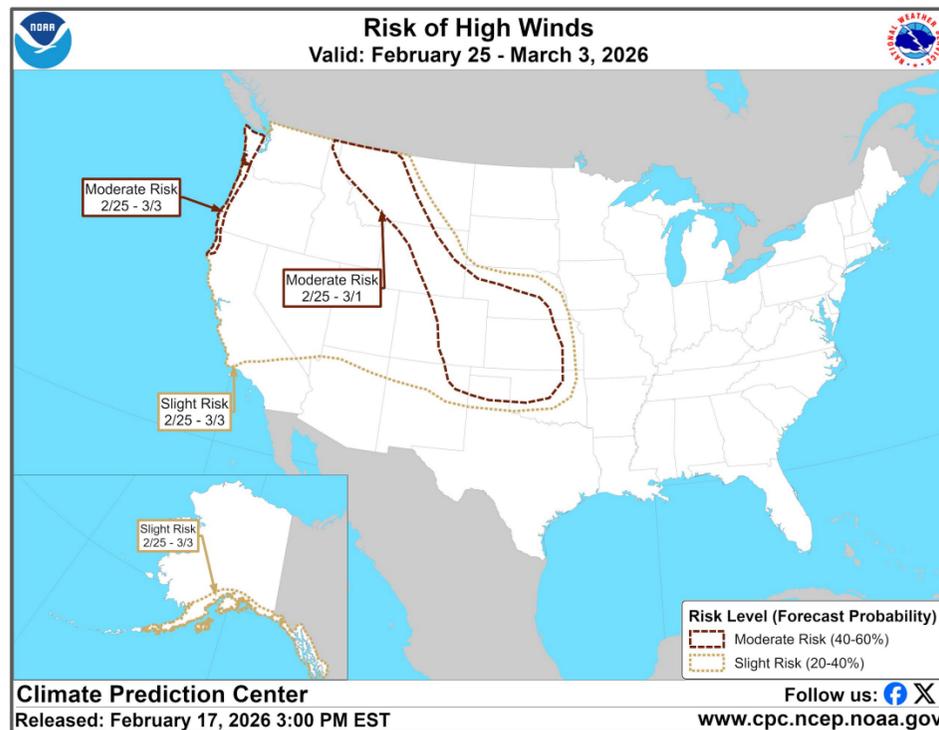
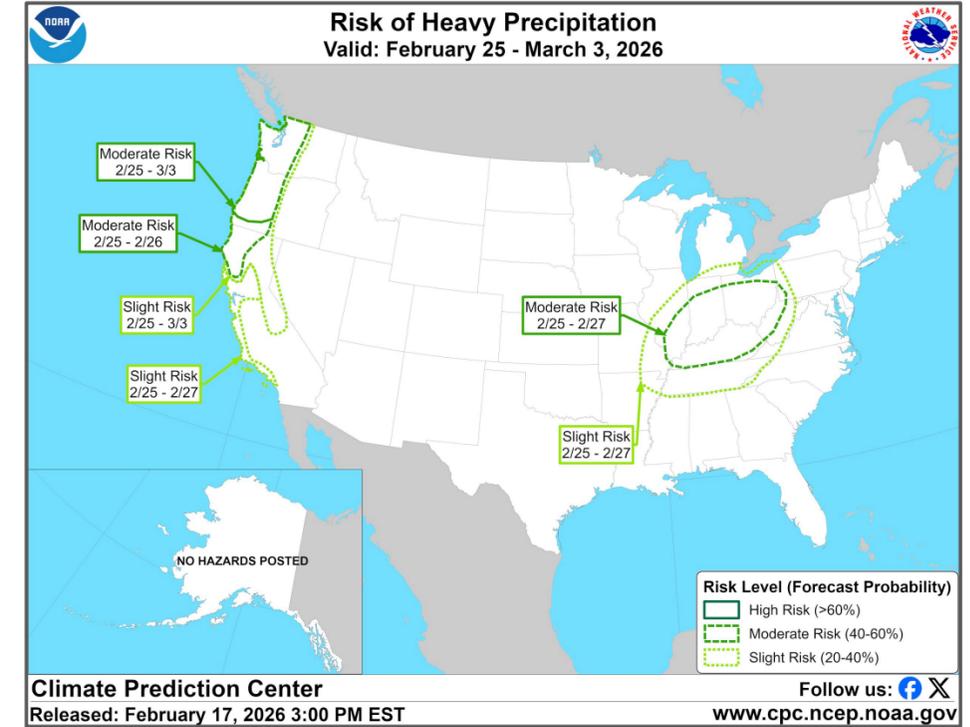
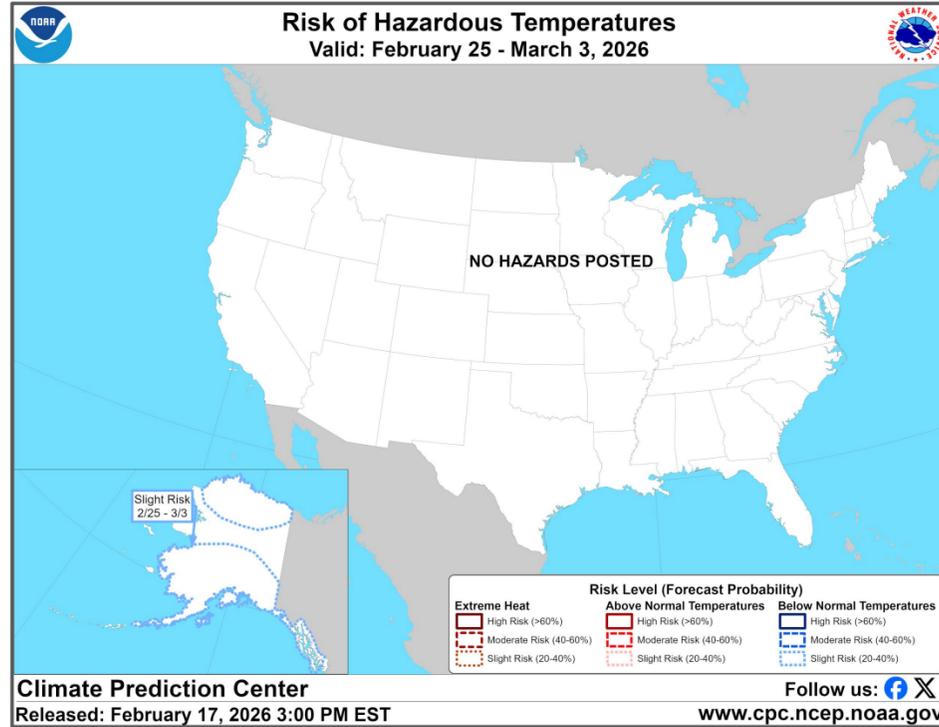
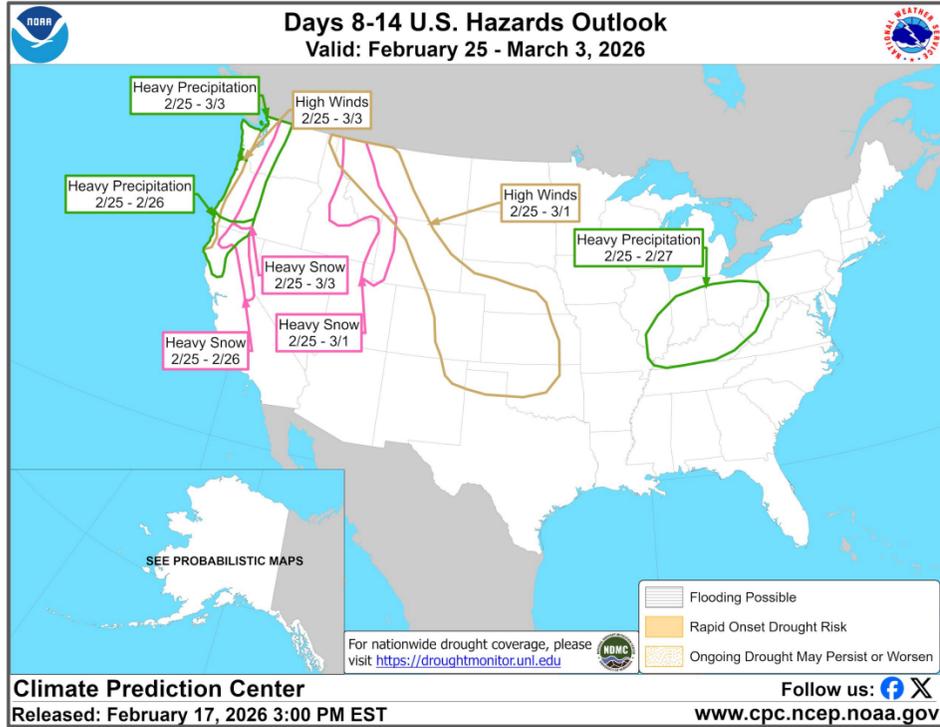


“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





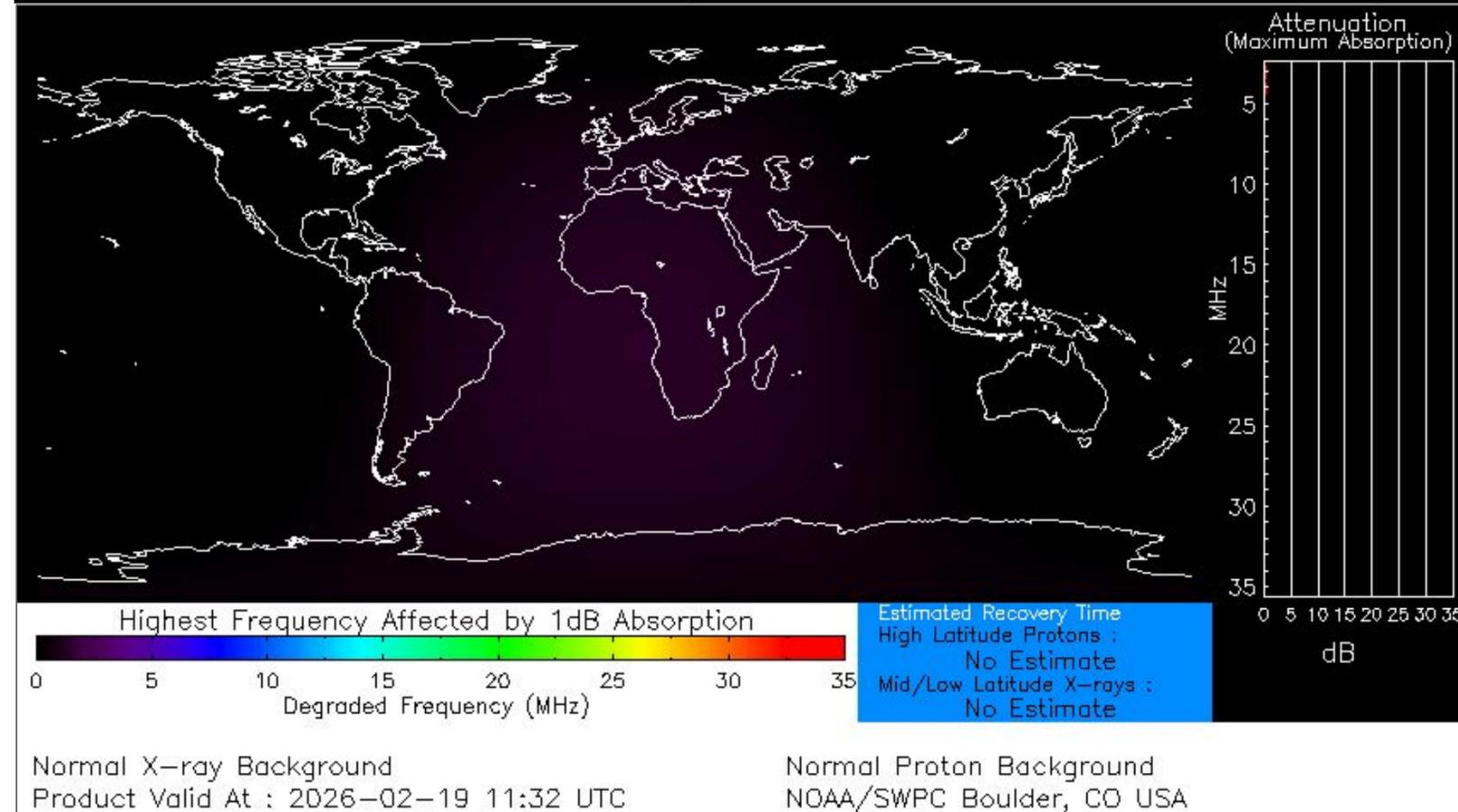
"Day 8-14" Hazards Outlook





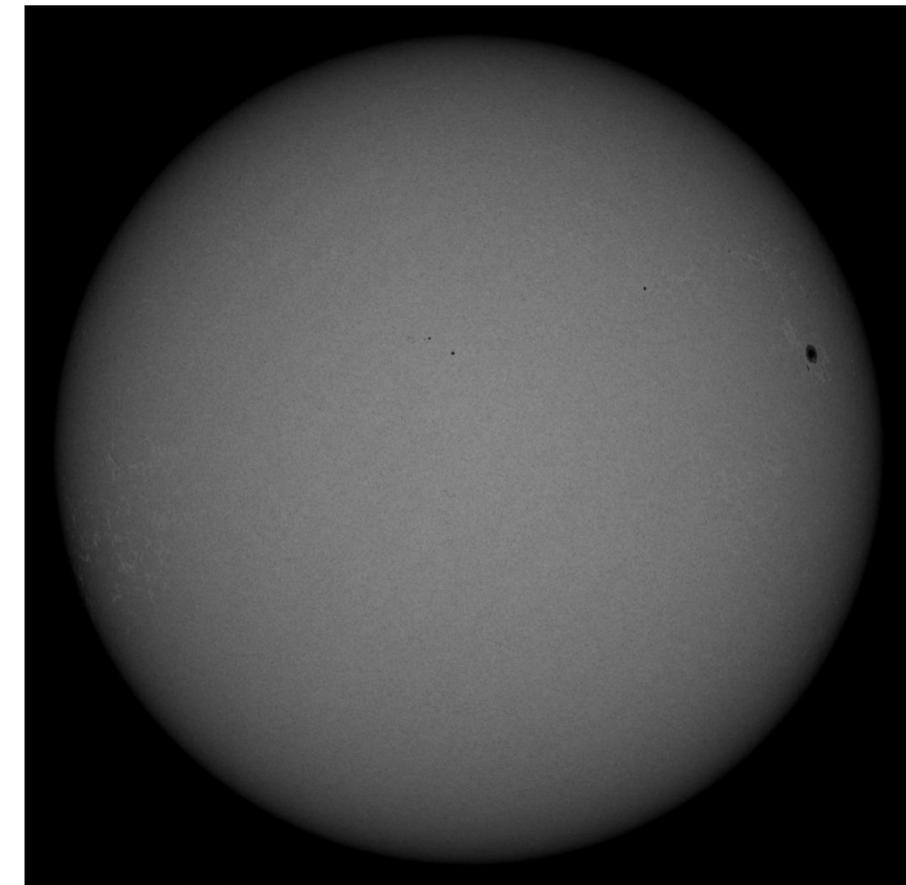
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday, Feb 19	Friday, Feb 20	Saturday, Feb 21
Geomagnetic Storms	Active (Max Kp=4)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Quiet (Max Kp=2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	10%	10%	10%
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	<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>	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	<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>	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	<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>	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	<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>	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	<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>	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



National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters

Regional Operations Center

Fort Worth, TX



Phone: (682) 703-3747



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X: NWSSouthern



Web: www.weather.gov/srh

