



FEMA



Prepared by
Andy Bollenbacher

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Saturday, February 21, 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 locally critical (levels 1-2 of 3) for OK/TX Panhandles & W/SW TX today, and locally elevated in STX tomorrow.**
- **Elevated fire weather concerns for the TX/OK Panhandles Monday.**
- **Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) conditions Tuesday over E NM, TX Panhandle, SW OK, and NW TX and over SE NM, W/Far W TX on Wednesday.**
- **Dry, northerly winds on Thursday may lead to continued fire concerns in C-STX.**

- **Severe Weather:**

- **Isolated severe storms in SE LA this afternoon along a cold front due to marginal wind and hail threat.**

- **River Flooding:**

- **Cache River at Patterson in NE AR is expected to remain above minor flood stage through at least next Wednesday. Secondary roads and pastures flooded.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Saturday, Feb 21	Sunday, Feb 22	Monday, Feb 23	Tuesday, Feb 24	Wednesday, Feb 25	Thursday, Feb 26	Friday, Feb 27
Severe Storms	SE LA						
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding							
Winter Weather							
Fire Weather	OK/TX Panhandles, W/SW TX	STX	TX/OK Panhandles	E NM, TX Panhandle, SW OK, NW TX	SE NM, W/Far W TX	C-STX	
River Flooding	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR		

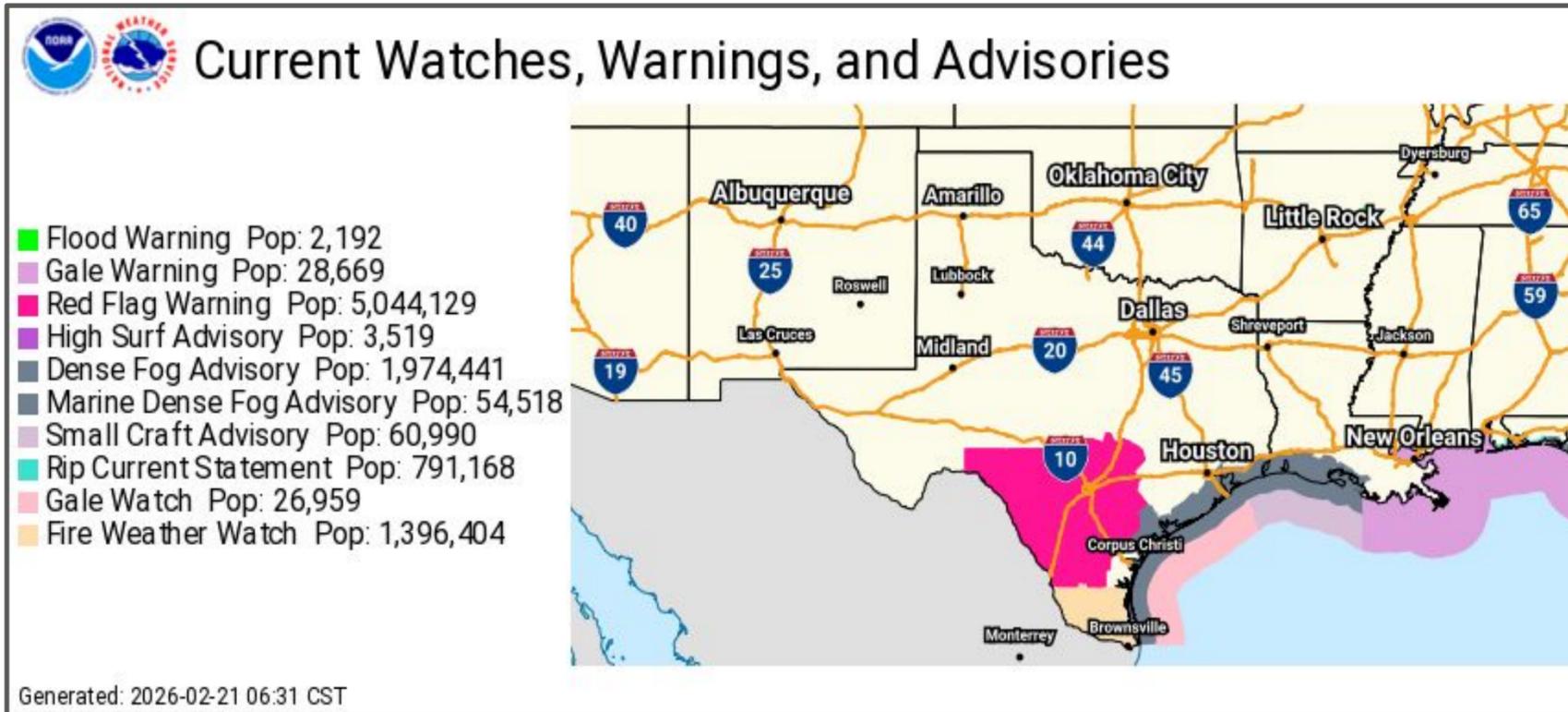
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.

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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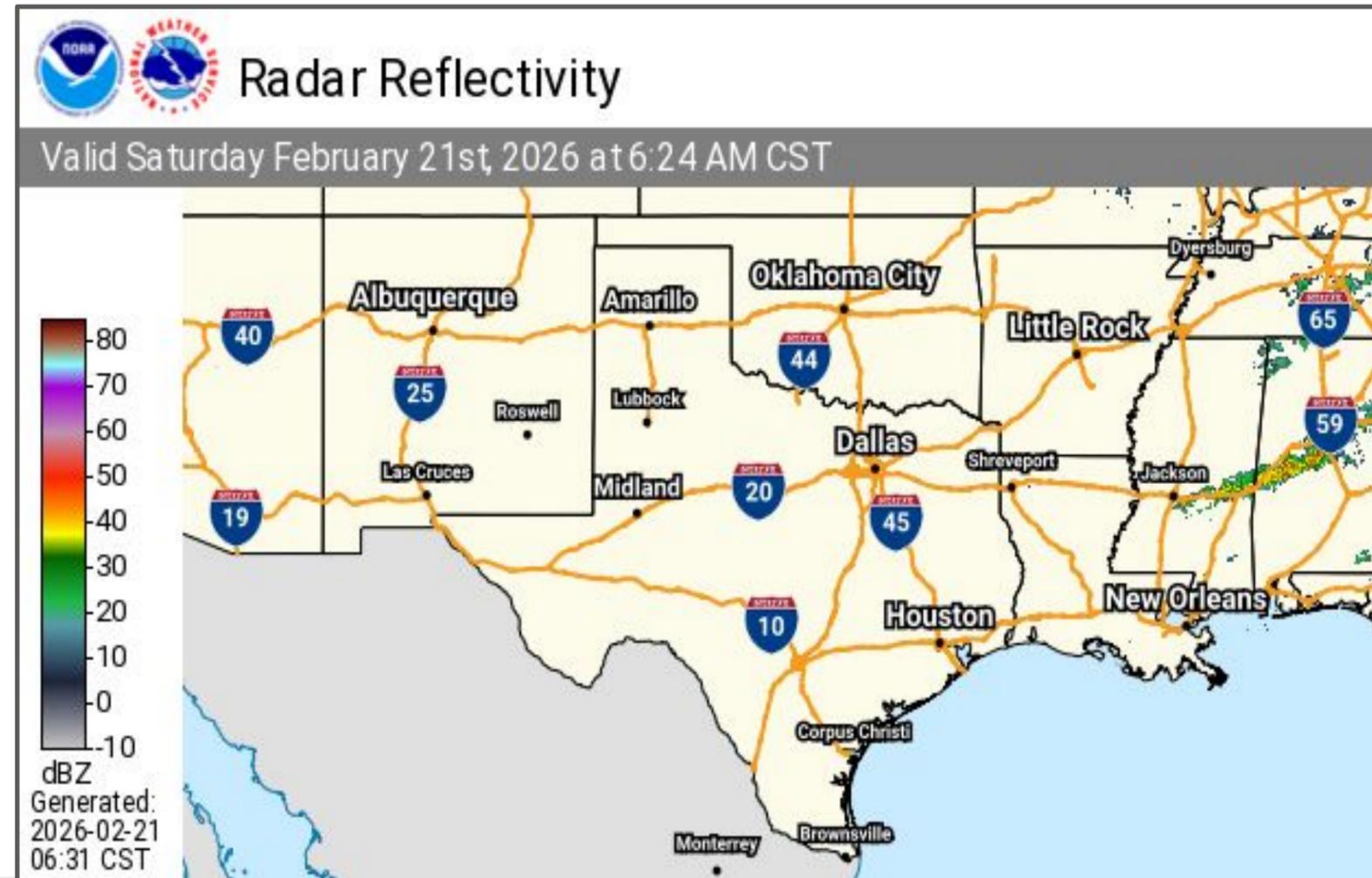


Current Radar/Hazards



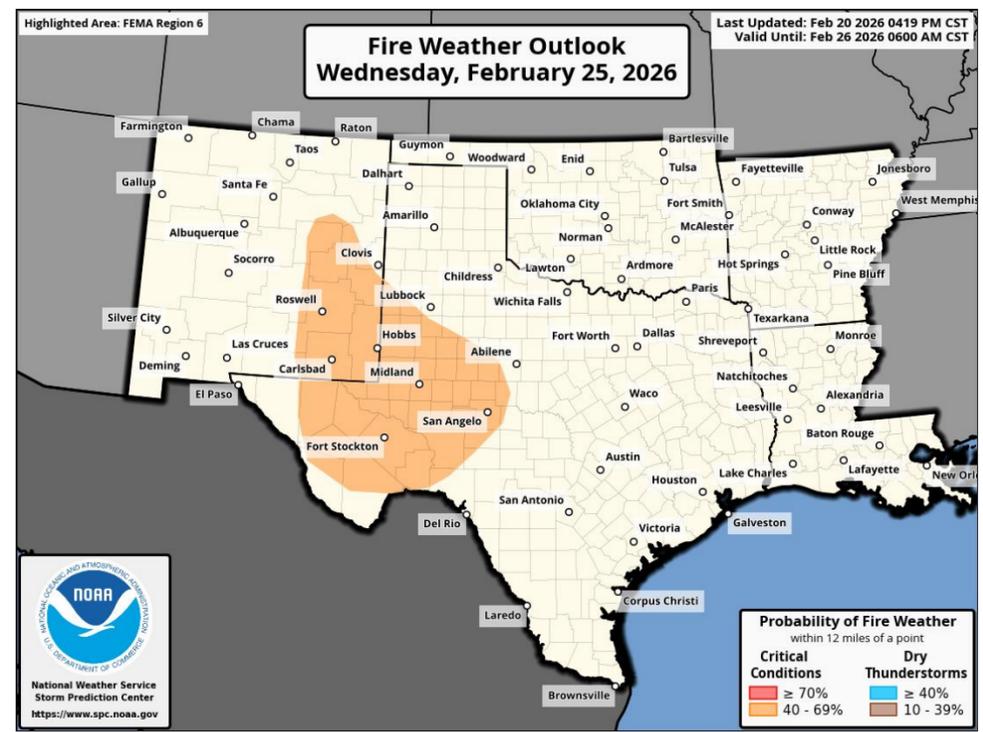
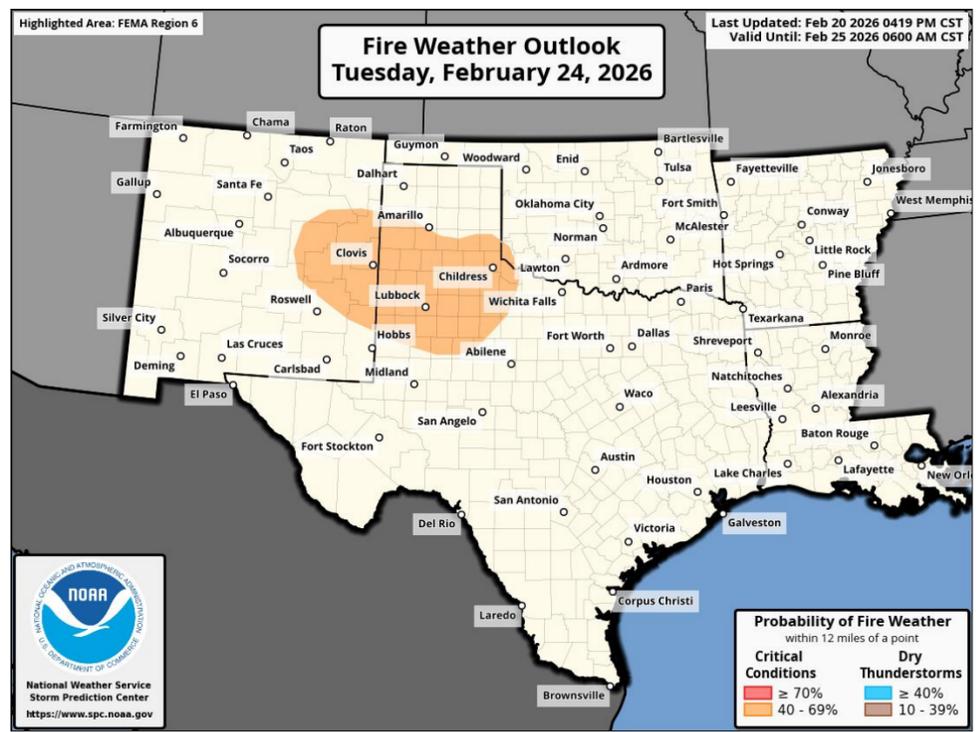
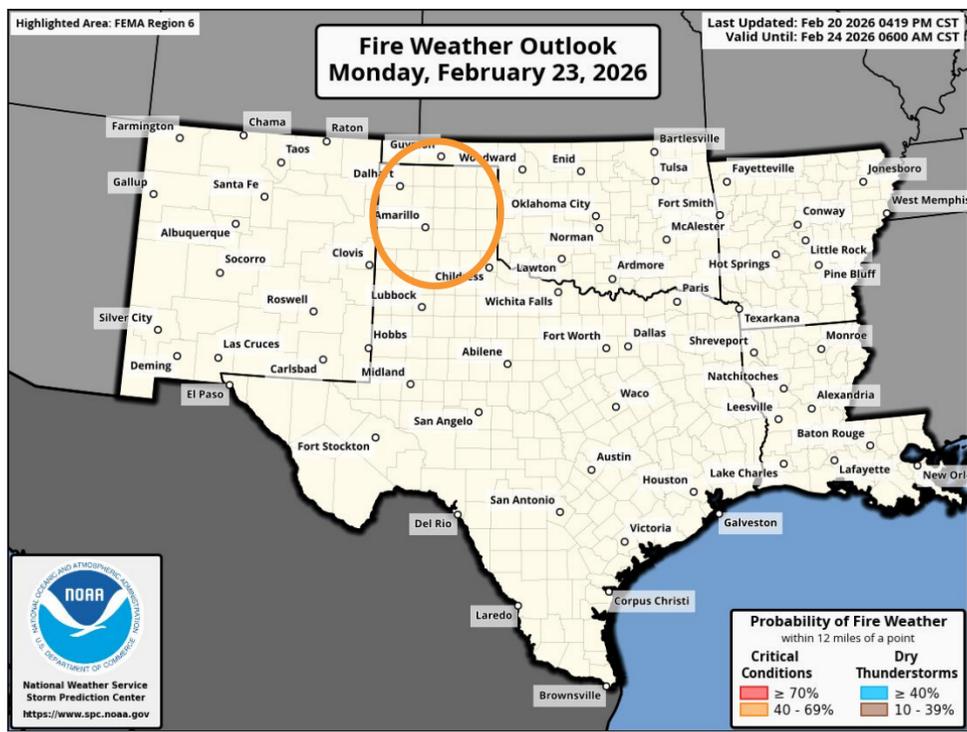
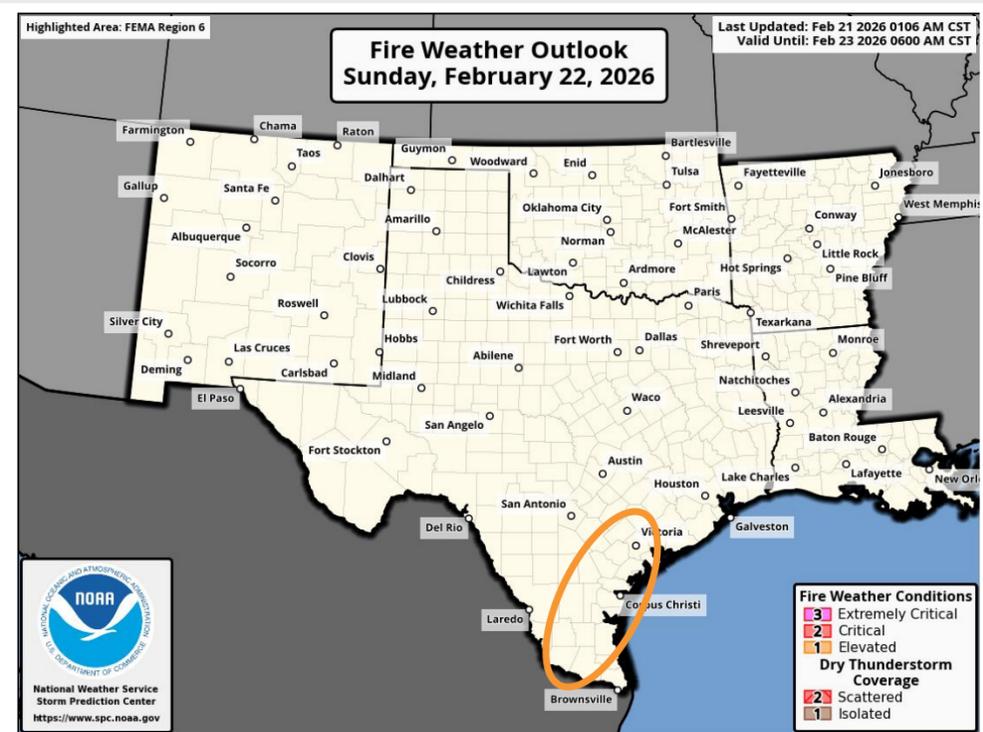
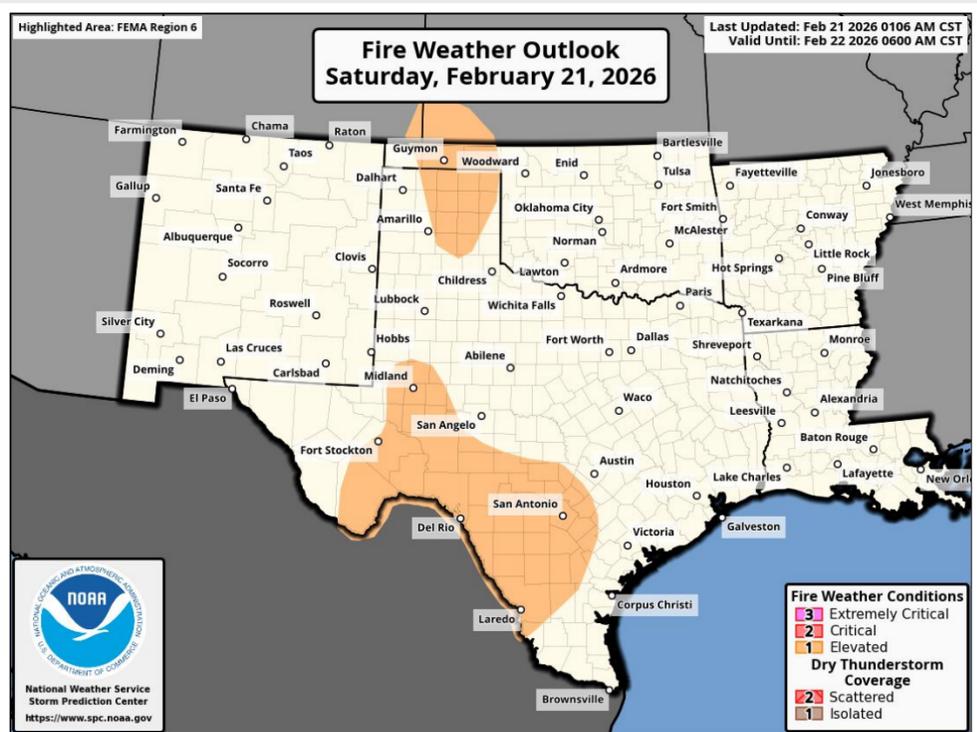
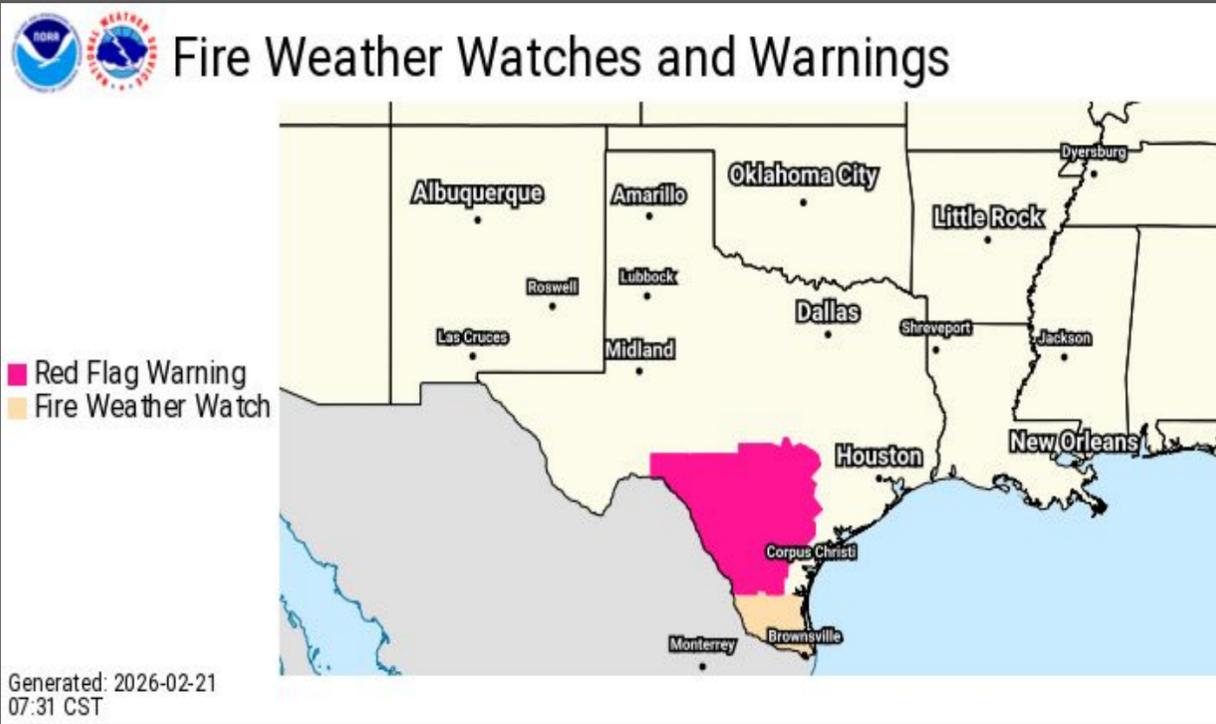
Red Flag Warnings in C-SW TX today through 9 PM CT. Northerly winds 10-20 mph, gusts up to 30 mph. RH as low as 10%-15%.

Fire Weather Watch for Deep South Texas on Sunday.





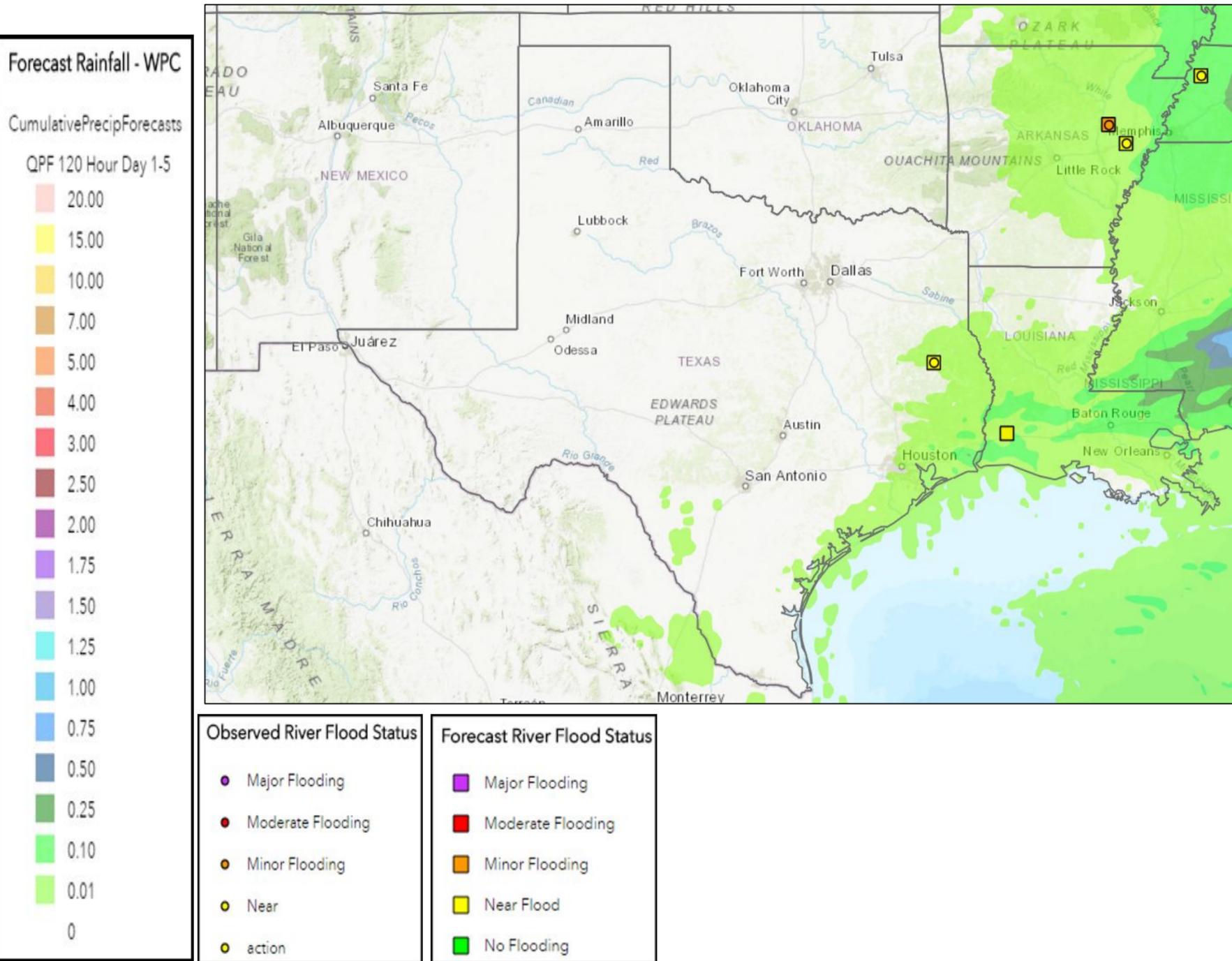
Fire Weather Outlooks





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

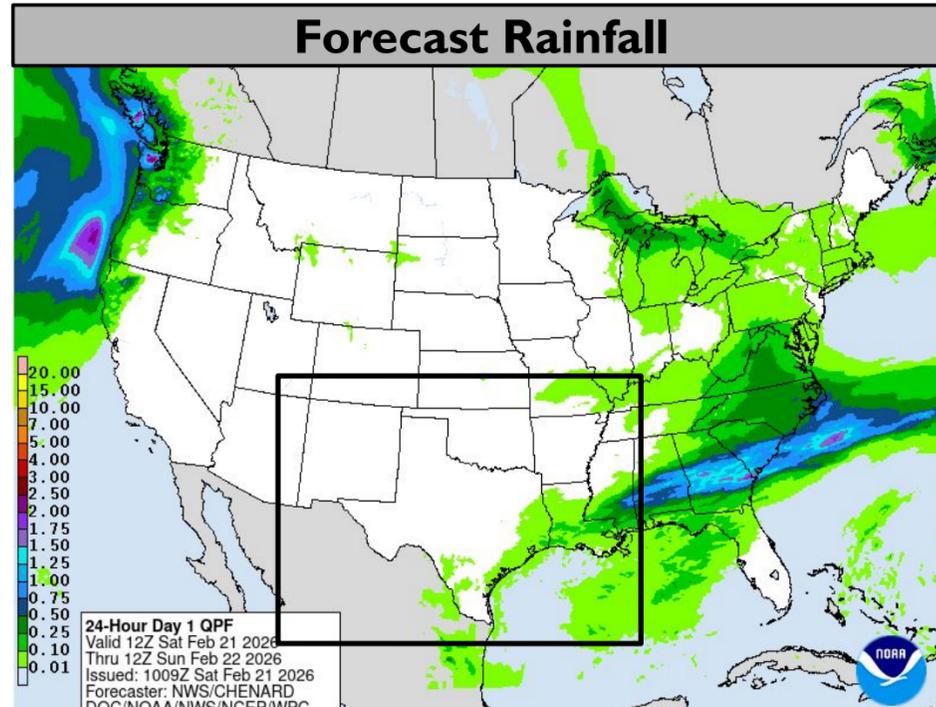
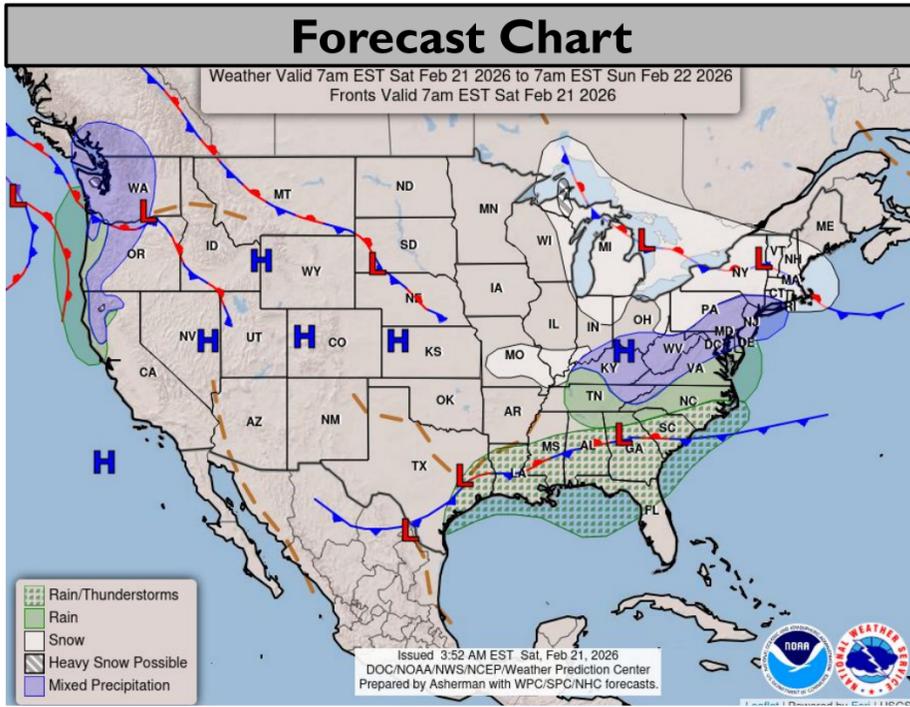


Cache River at Patterson in NE AR is expected remain above minor flood stage through at least Wednesday. Secondary roads and pastures flooded.

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.

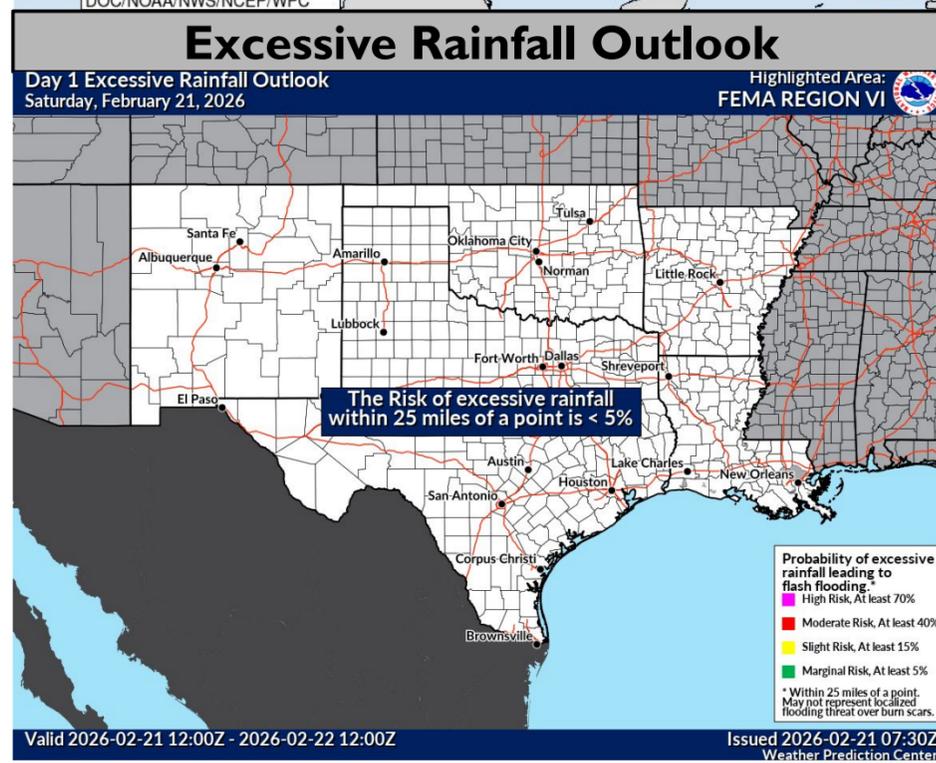
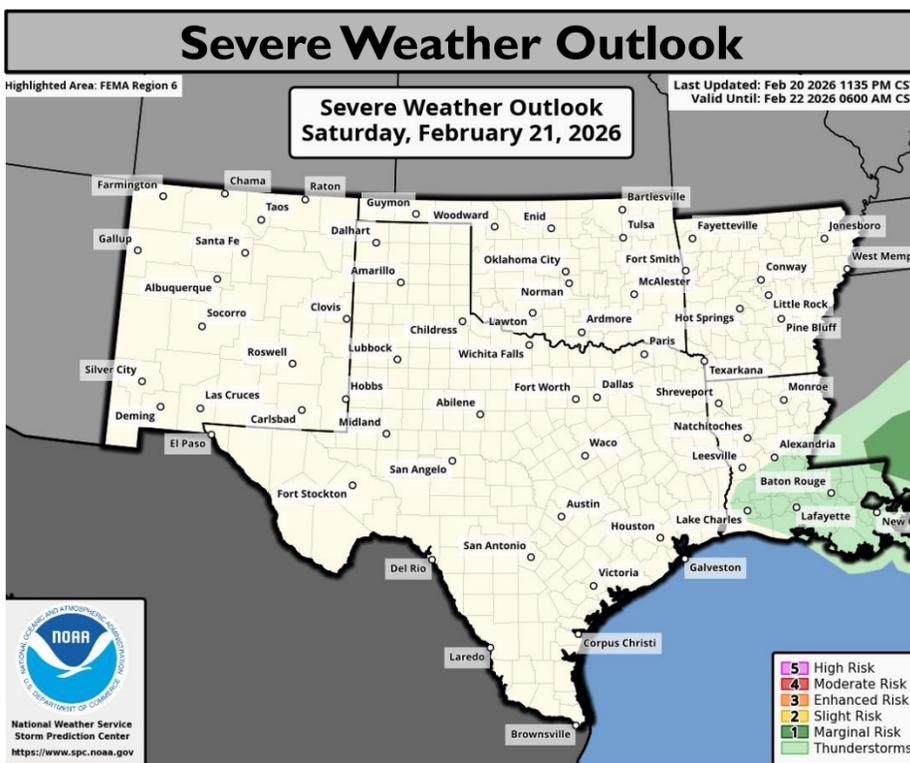


Today's Weather



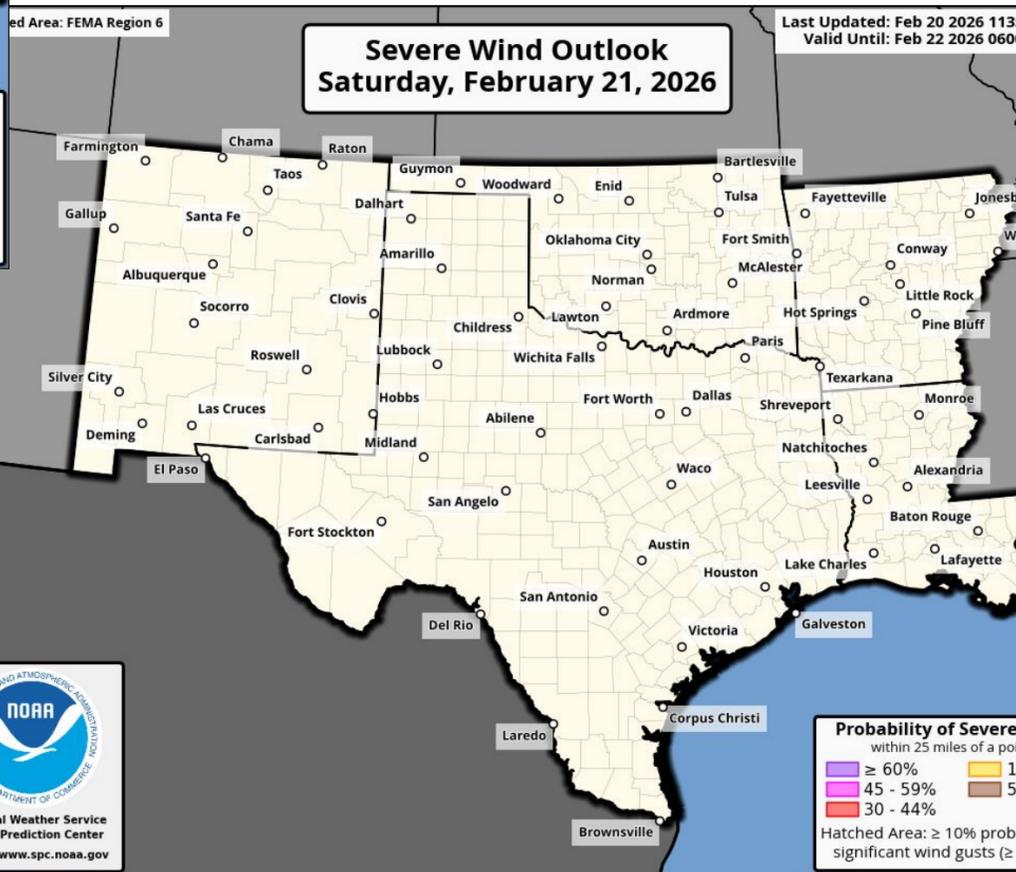
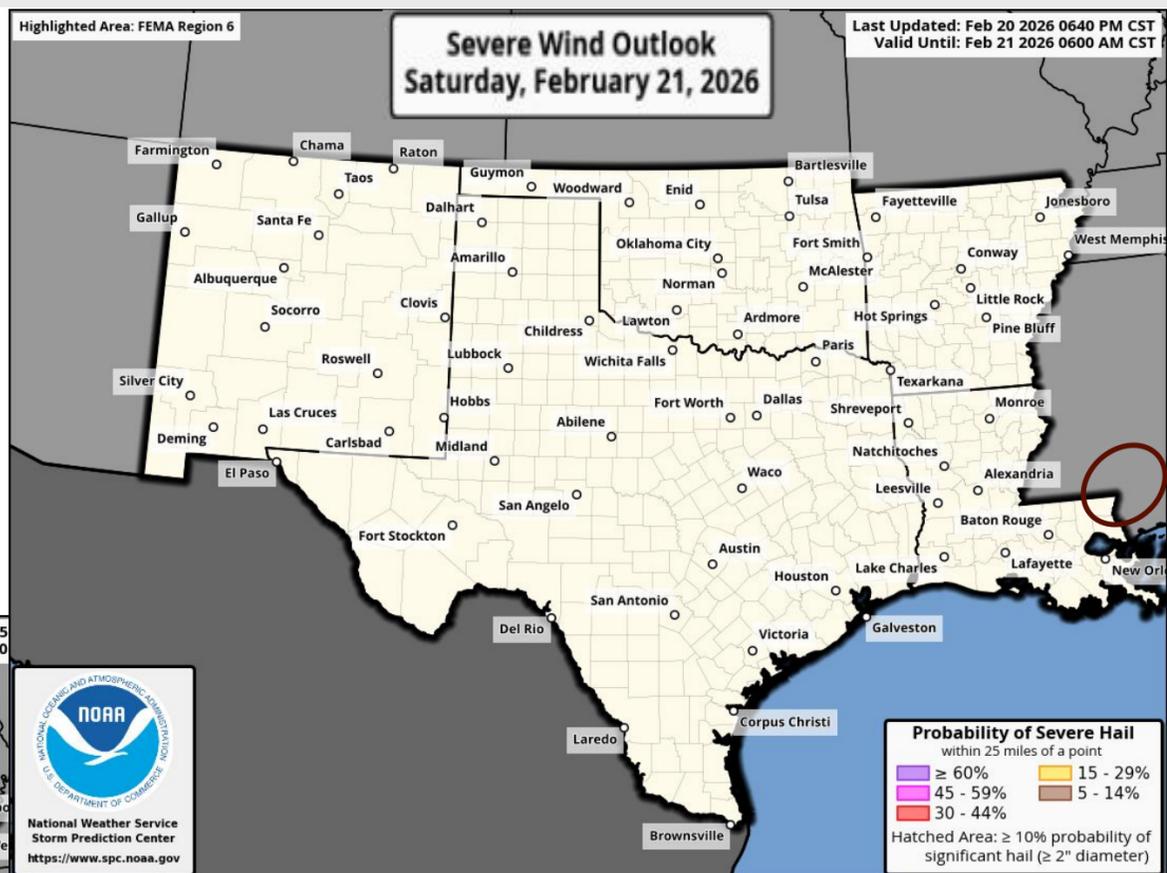
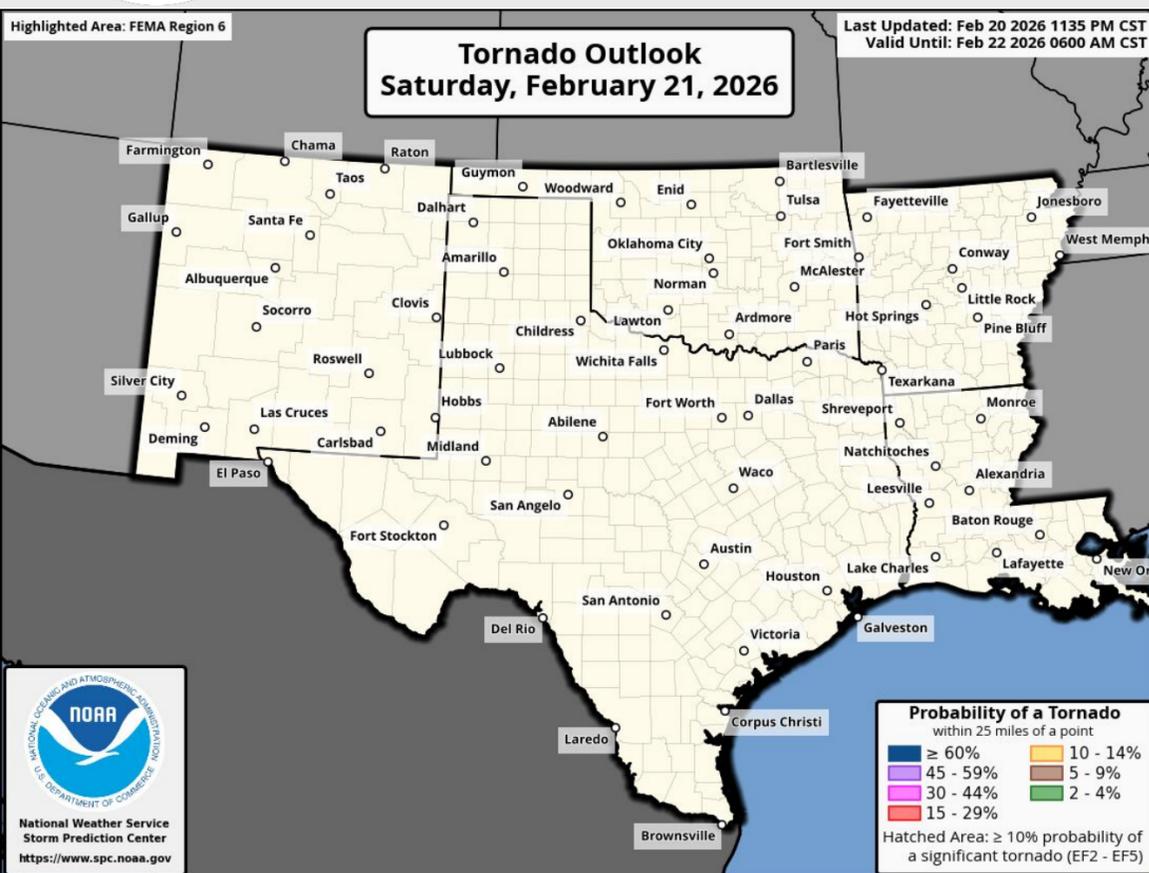
Elevated to locally critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in OK/TX Panhandles, W/SW TX.

Isolated severe wind/hail this afternoon in SE LA.





Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities

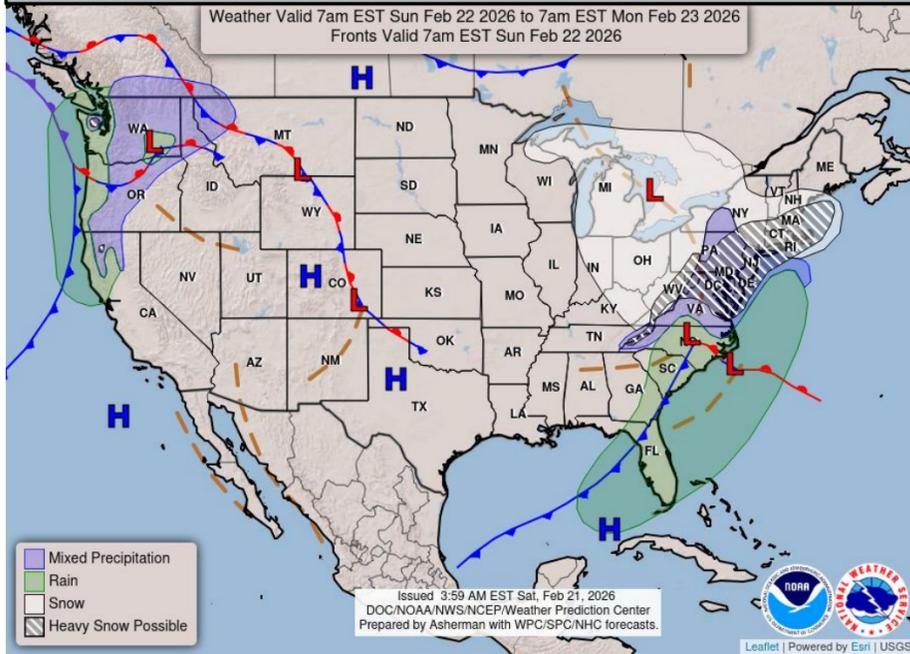




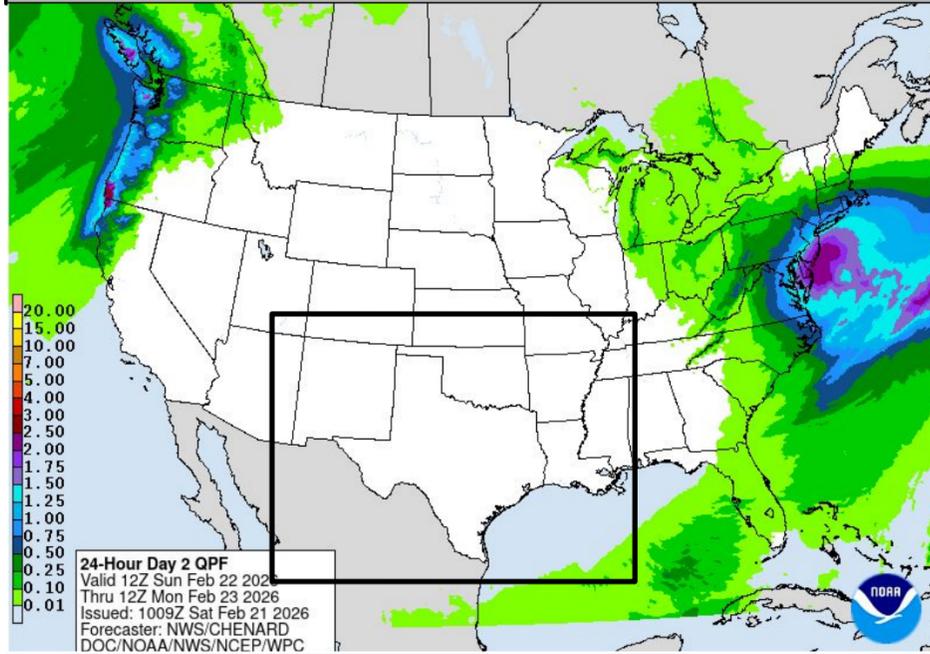
Tomorrow's Weather

Forecast Chart

Weather Valid 7am EST Sun Feb 22 2026 to 7am EST Mon Feb 23 2026
Fronts Valid 7am EST Sun Feb 22 2026

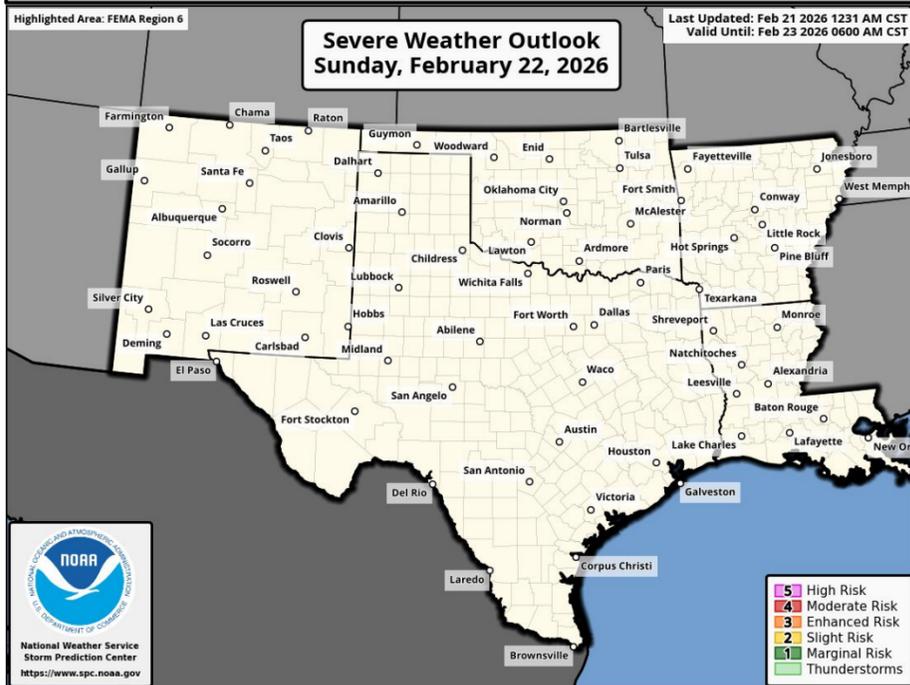


Forecast Rainfall

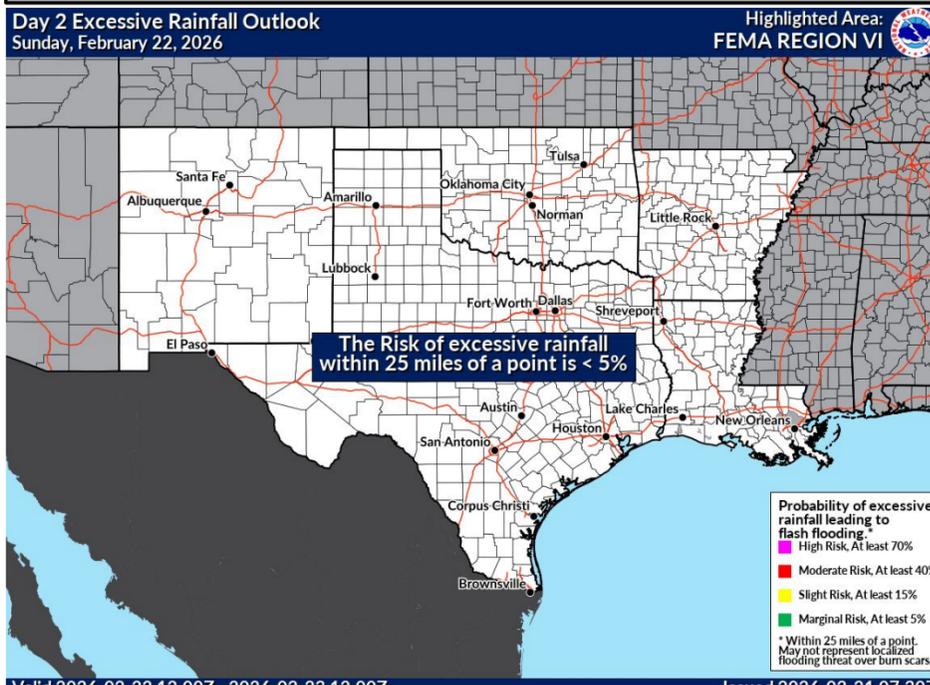


Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather conditions in STX.

Severe Weather Outlook

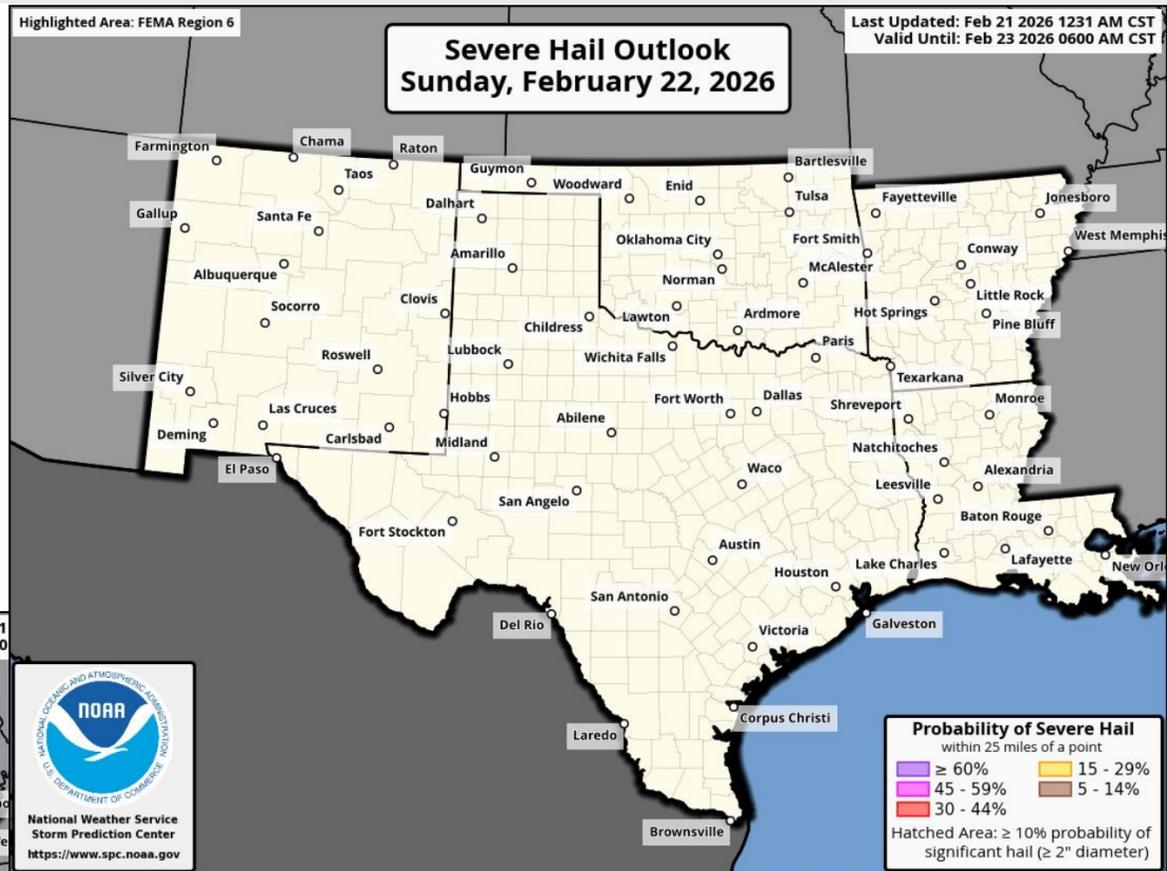
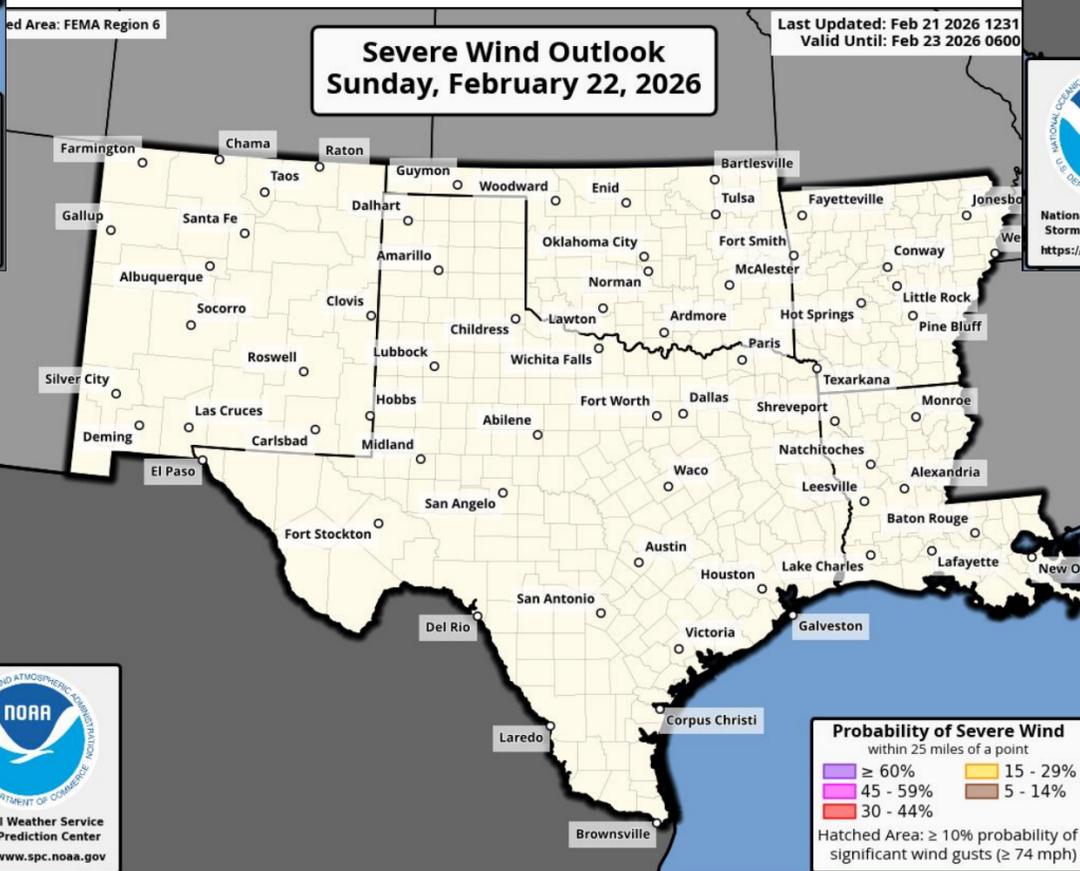
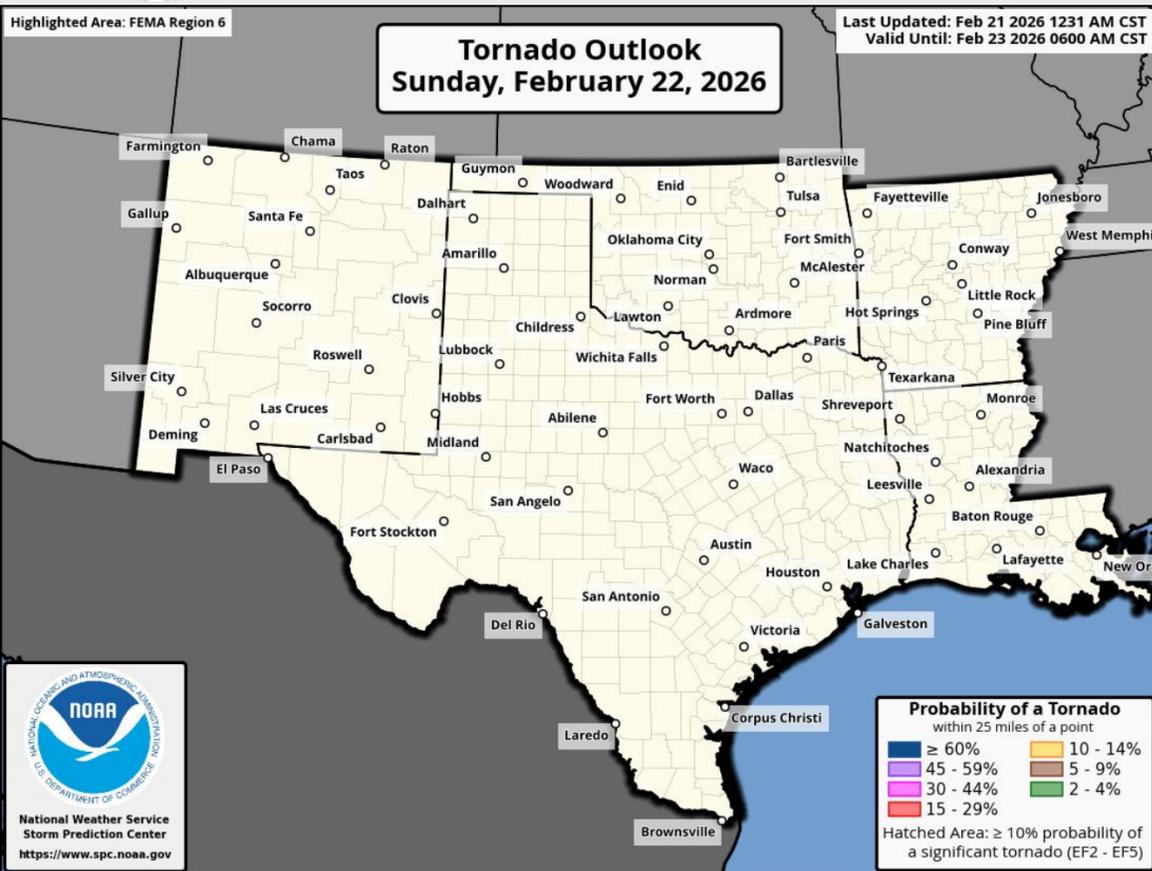


Excessive Rainfall Outlook





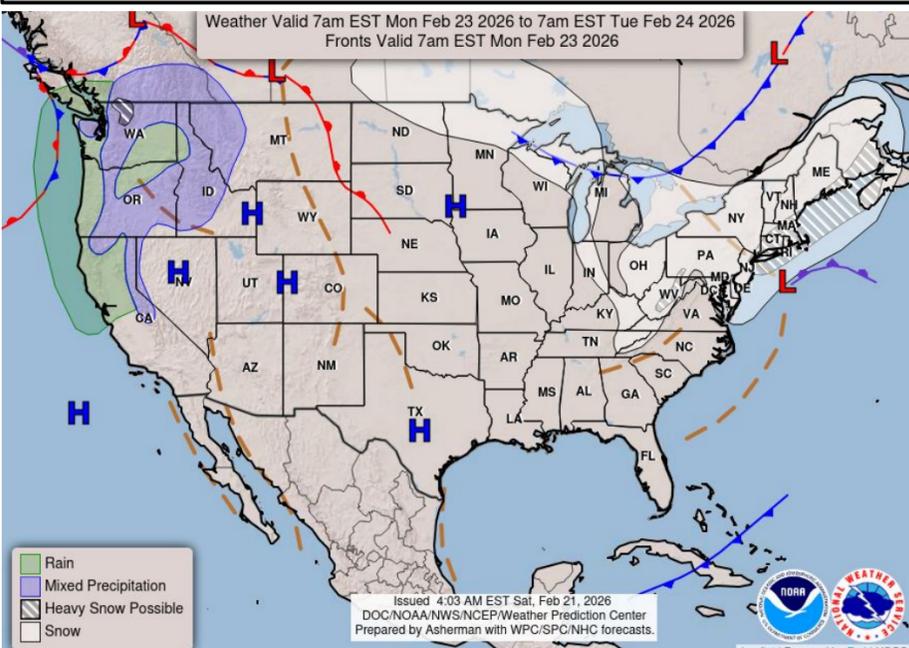
Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



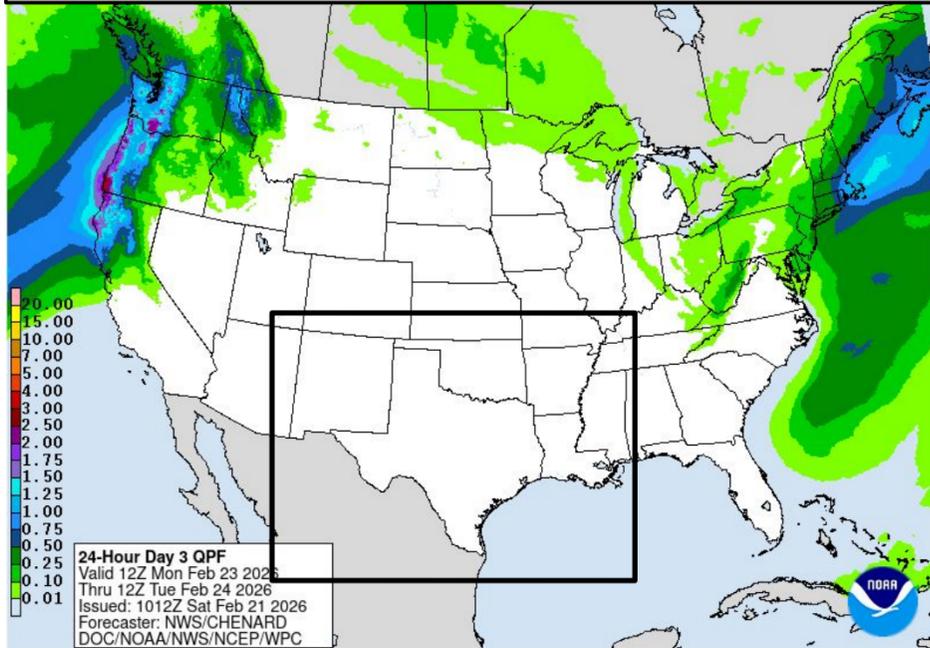


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

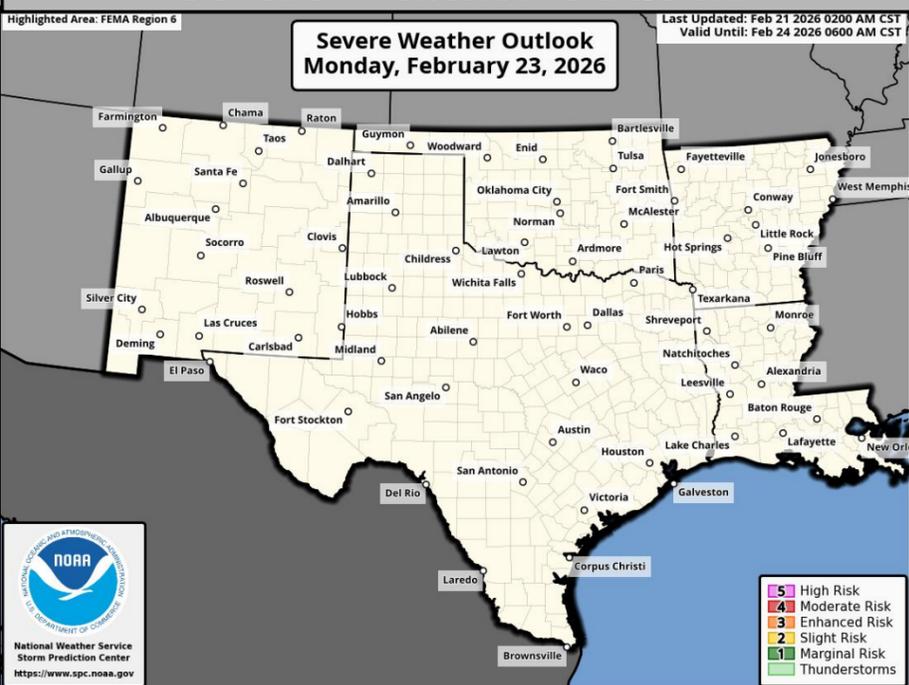


Forecast Rainfall

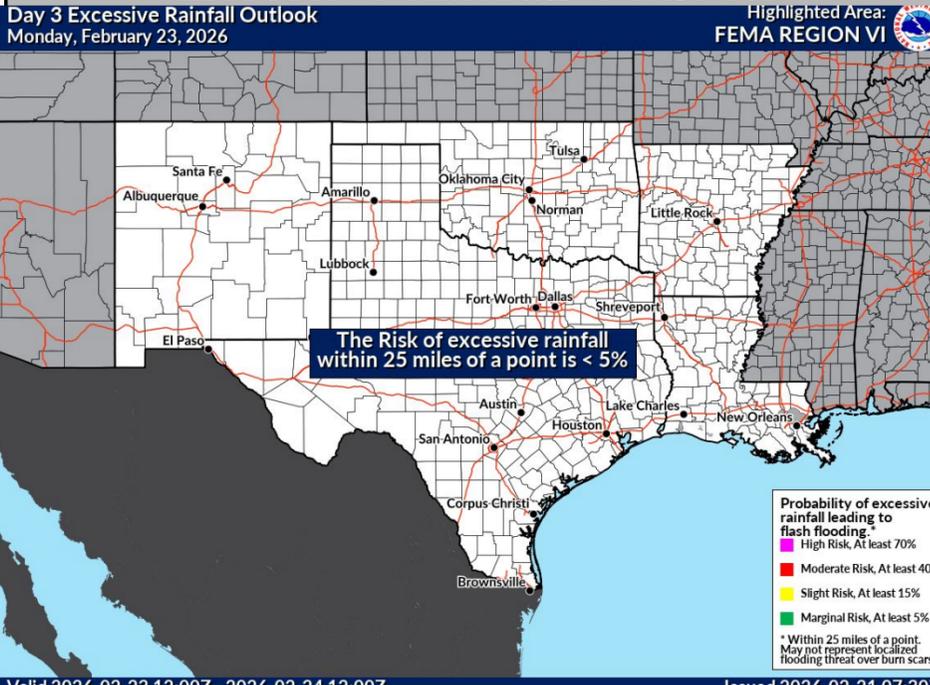


Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns in the TX/OK Panhandles.

Severe Weather Outlook



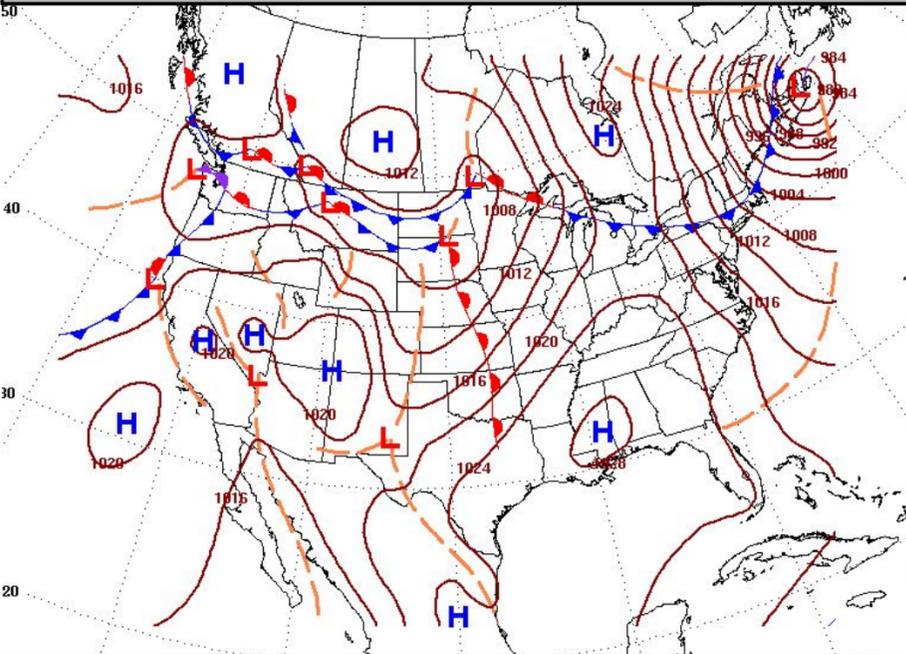
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



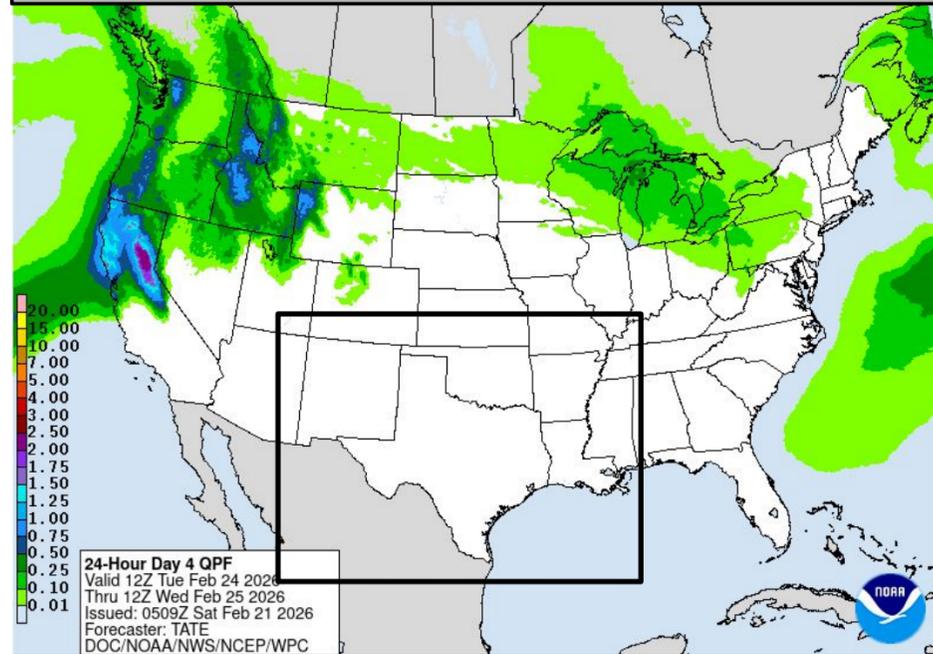


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

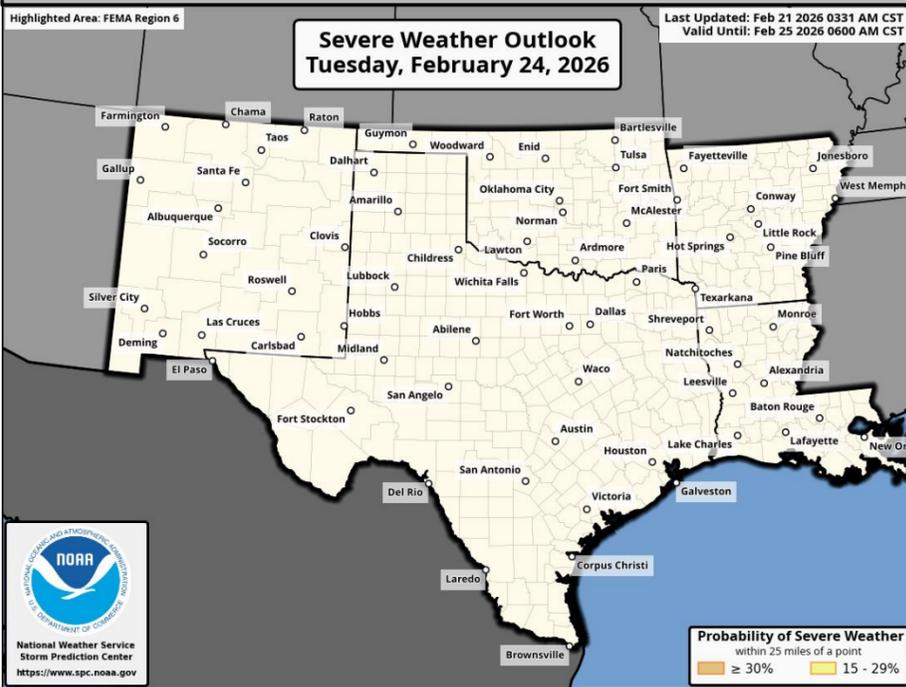


Forecast Rainfall

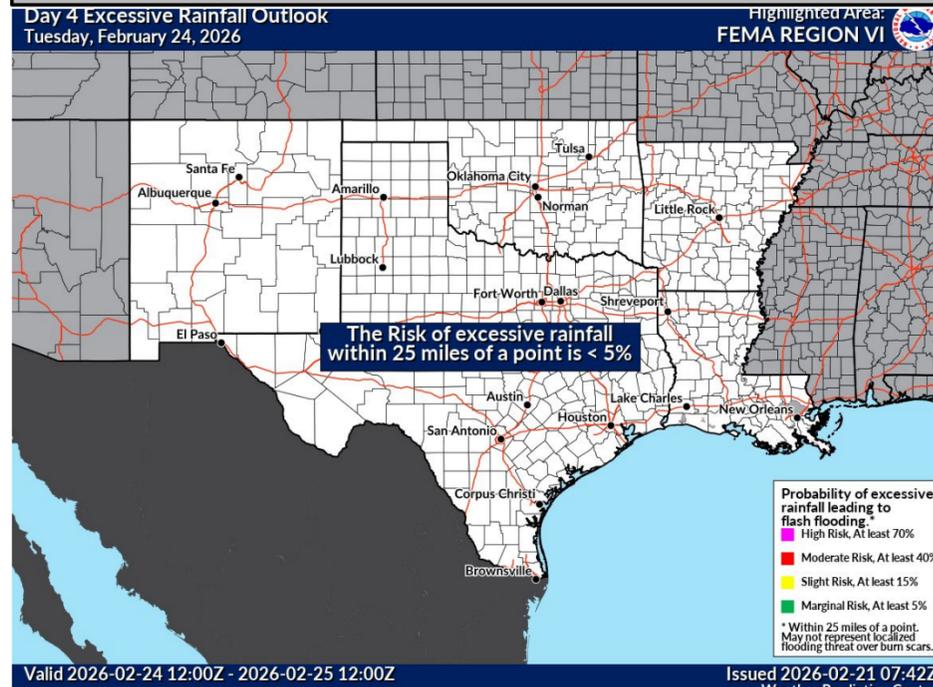


Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in E NM, TX Panhandle, SW OK, NWTX

Severe Weather Outlook



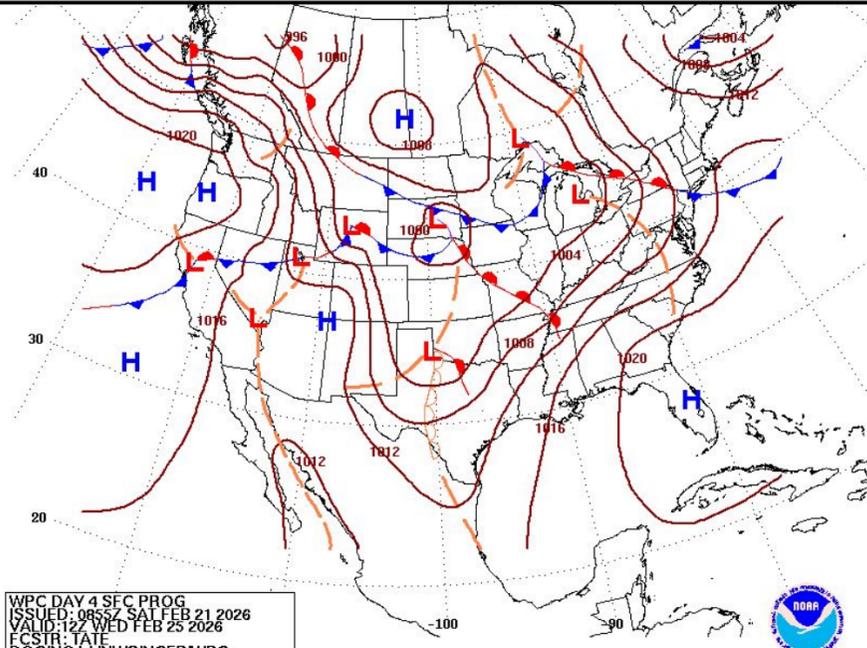
Excessive Rainfall Outlook





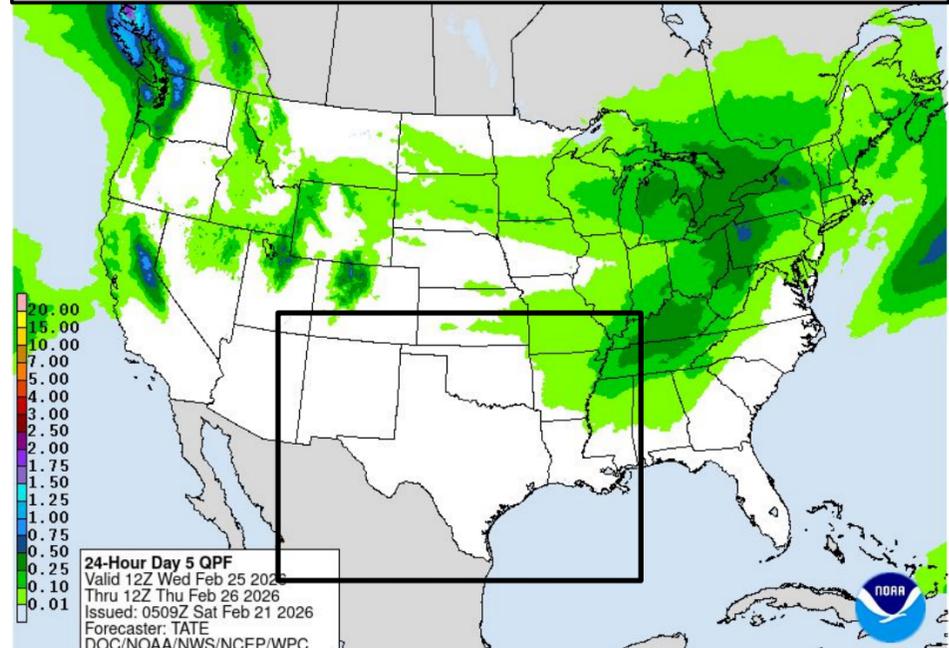
Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 4 SEC PROG
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VALID: 12Z WED FEB 25 2026
FCSTR: TATE
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

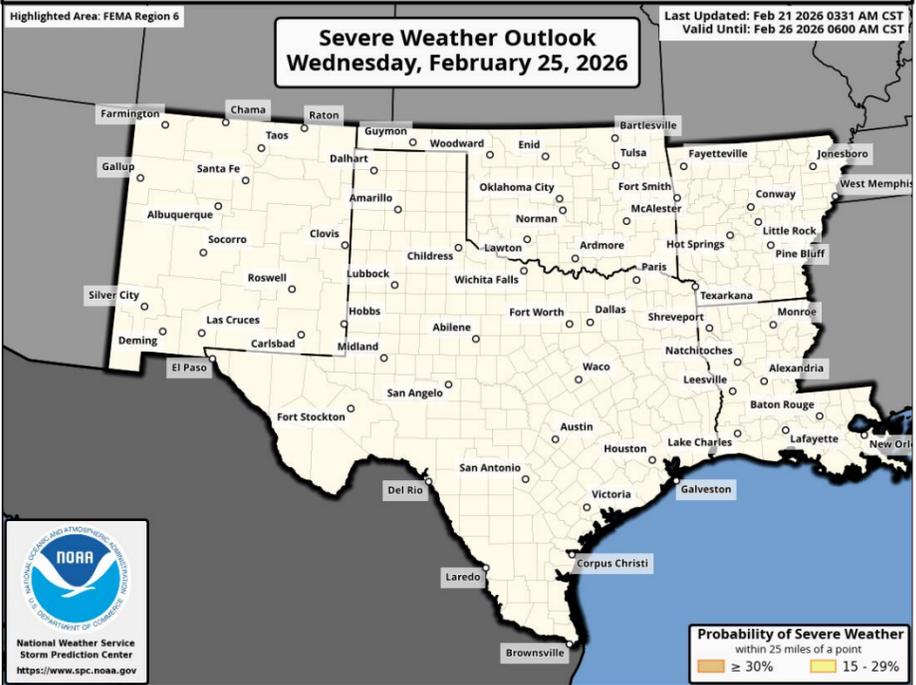
Forecast Rainfall



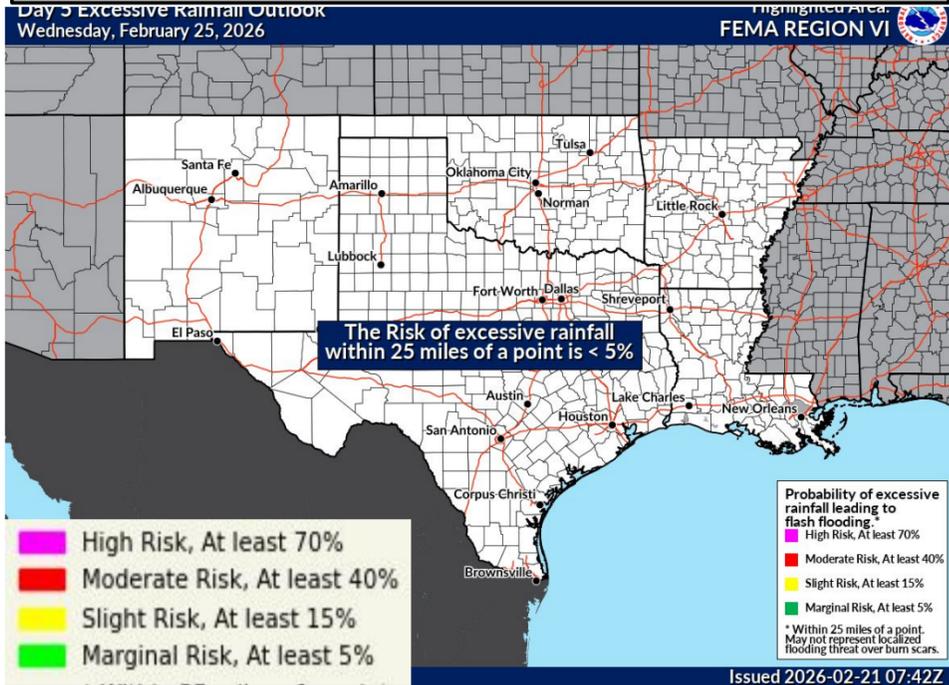
24-Hour Day 5 QPF
Valid 12Z Wed Feb 25 2026
Thru 12Z Thu Feb 26 2026
Issued: 0509Z Sat Feb 21 2026
Forecaster: TATE
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Elevated to critical (levels 1-2 of 3) fire weather conditions in SE NM, W/Far W TX.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

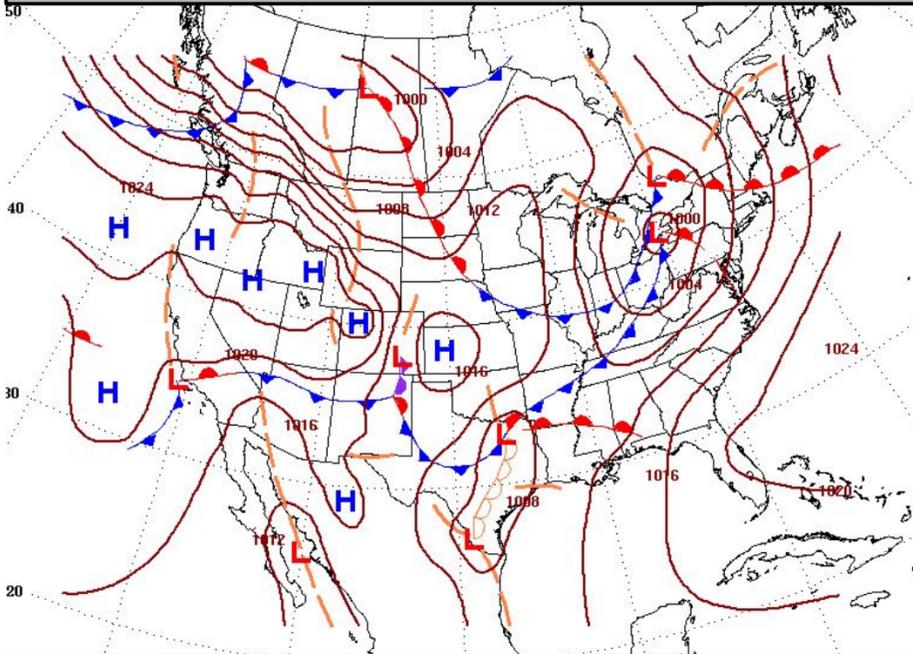


Issued 2026-02-21 07:42Z

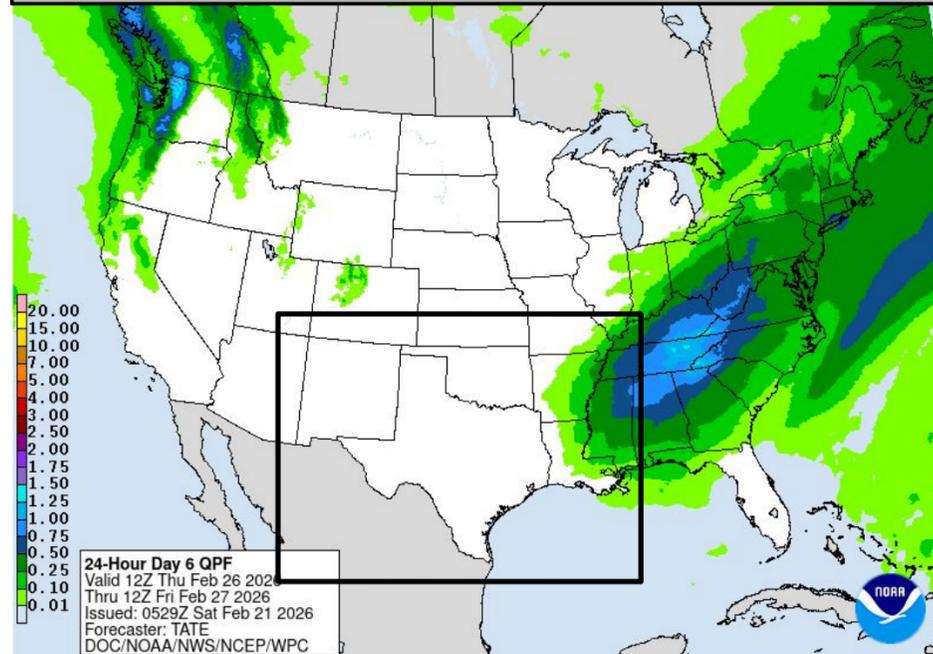


Thursday's Weather

Forecast Chart

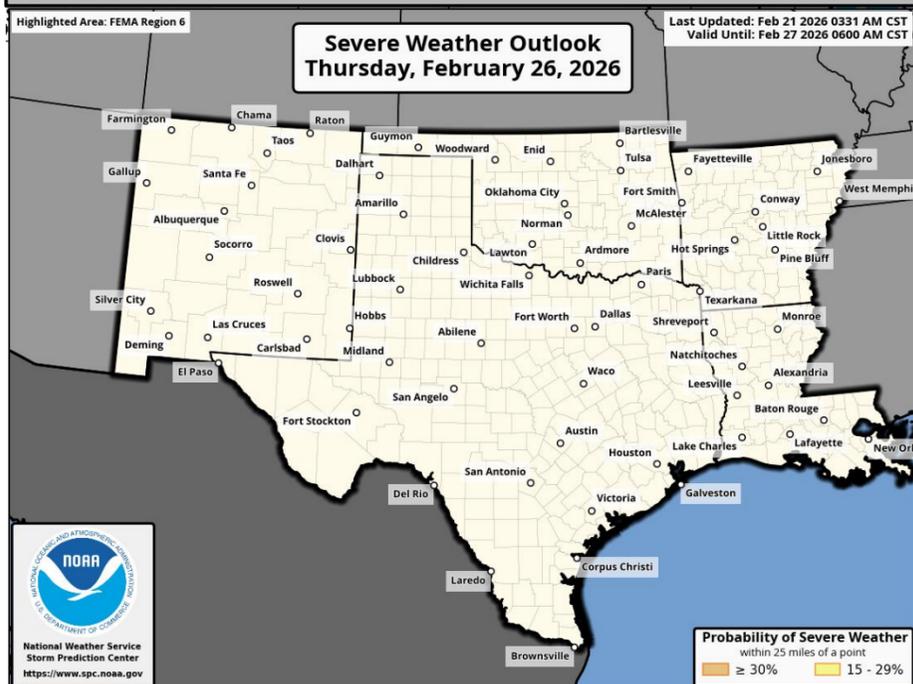


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring C-S TX for fire weather concerns.

Severe Weather Outlook

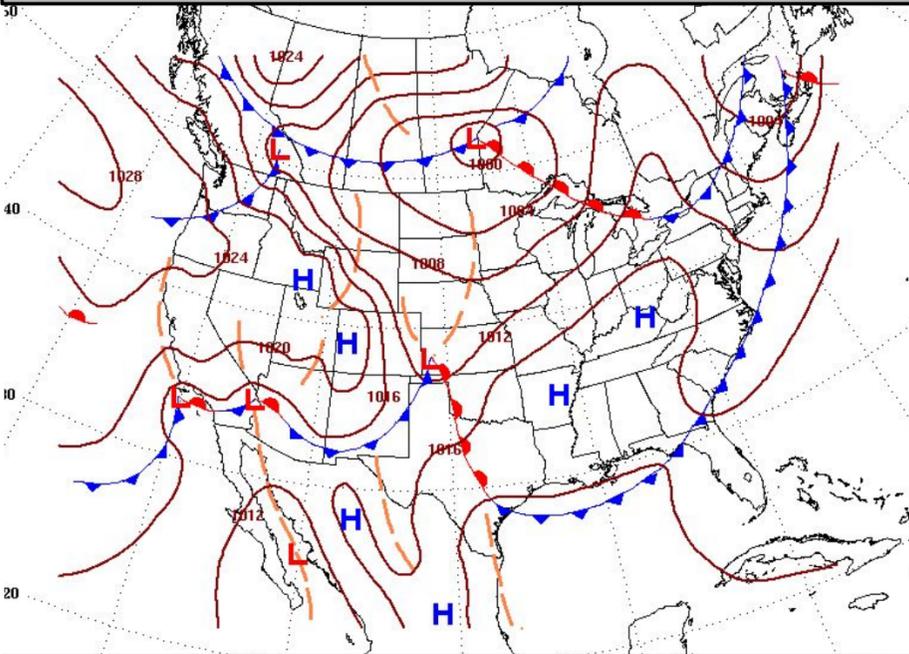


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

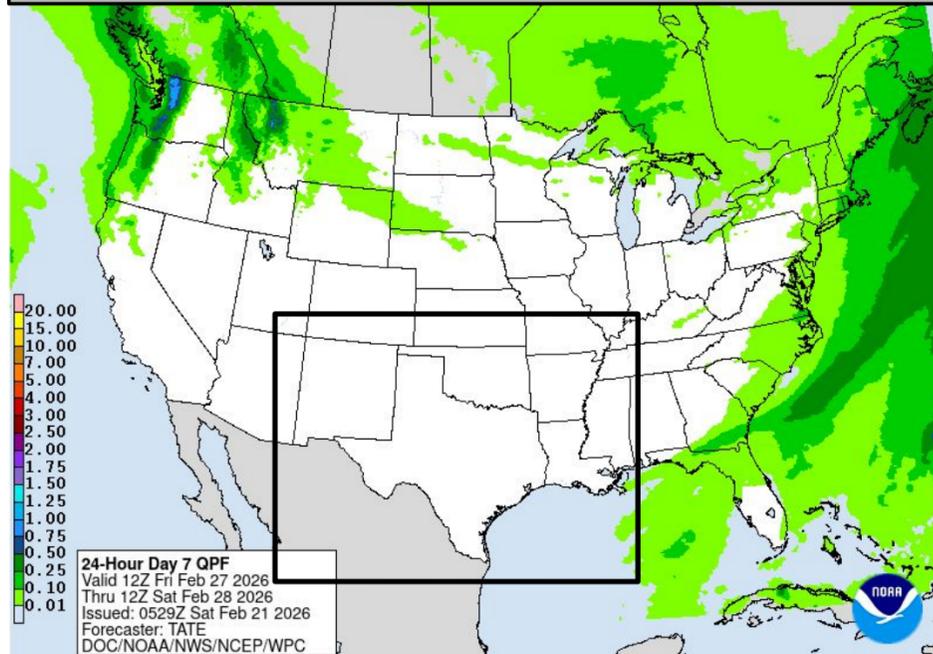


Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart

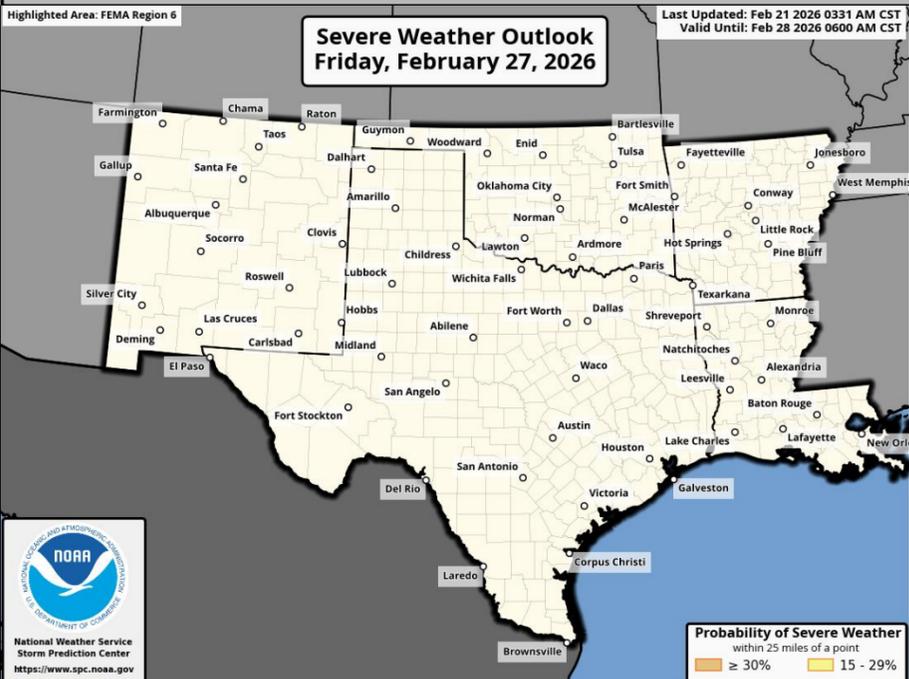


Forecast Rainfall



No significant weather expected.

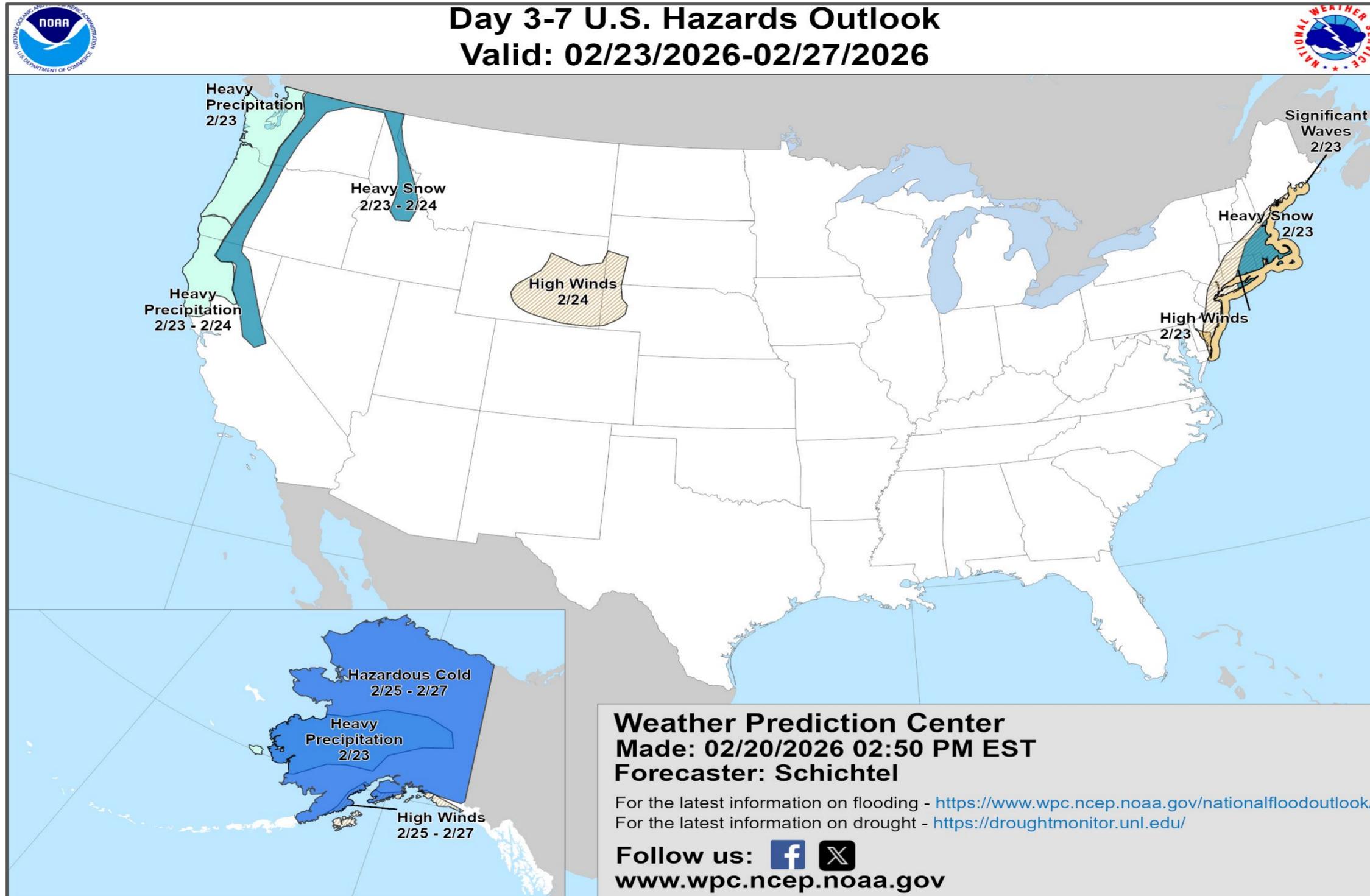
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

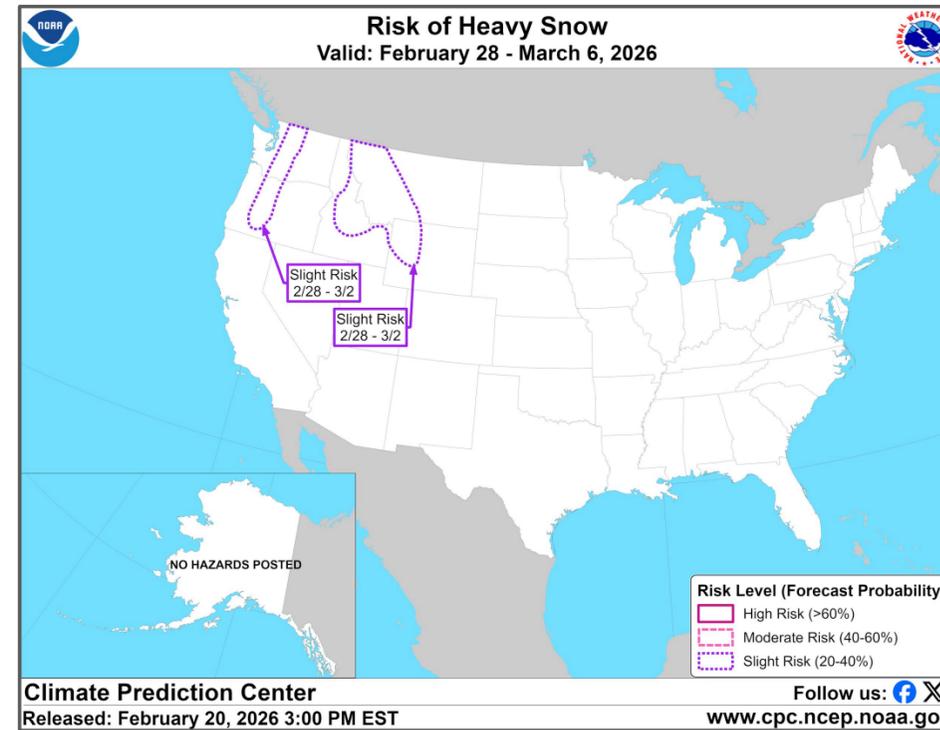
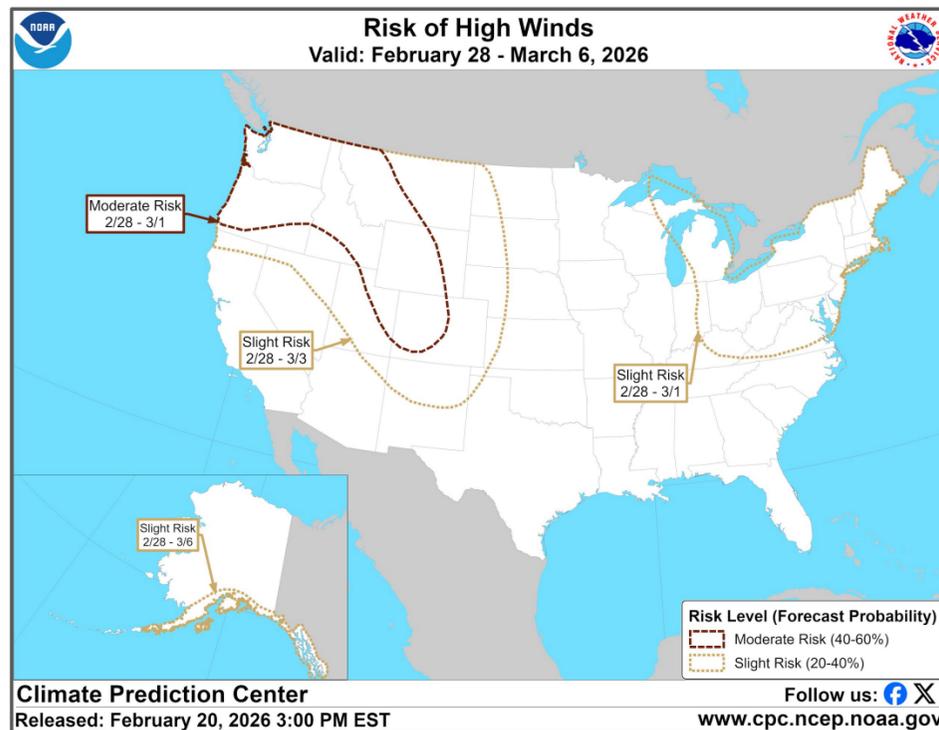
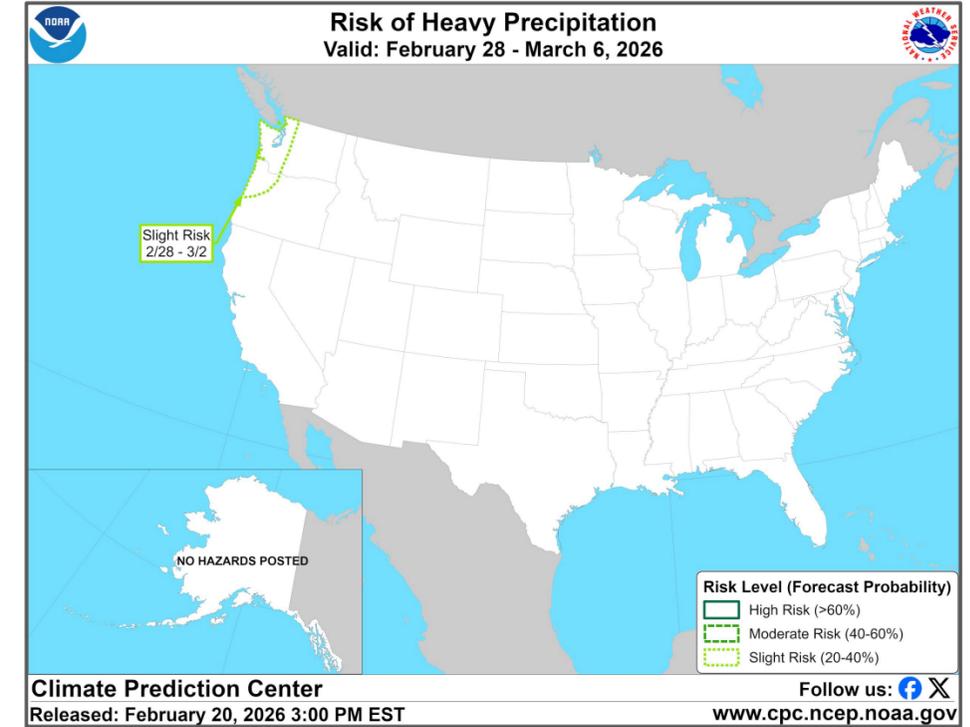
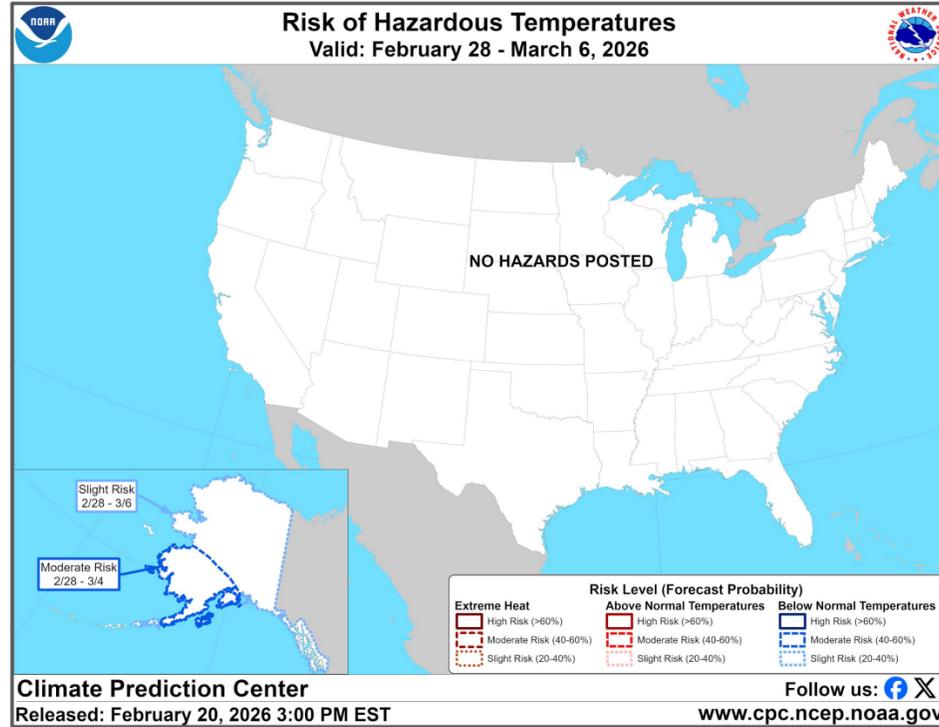
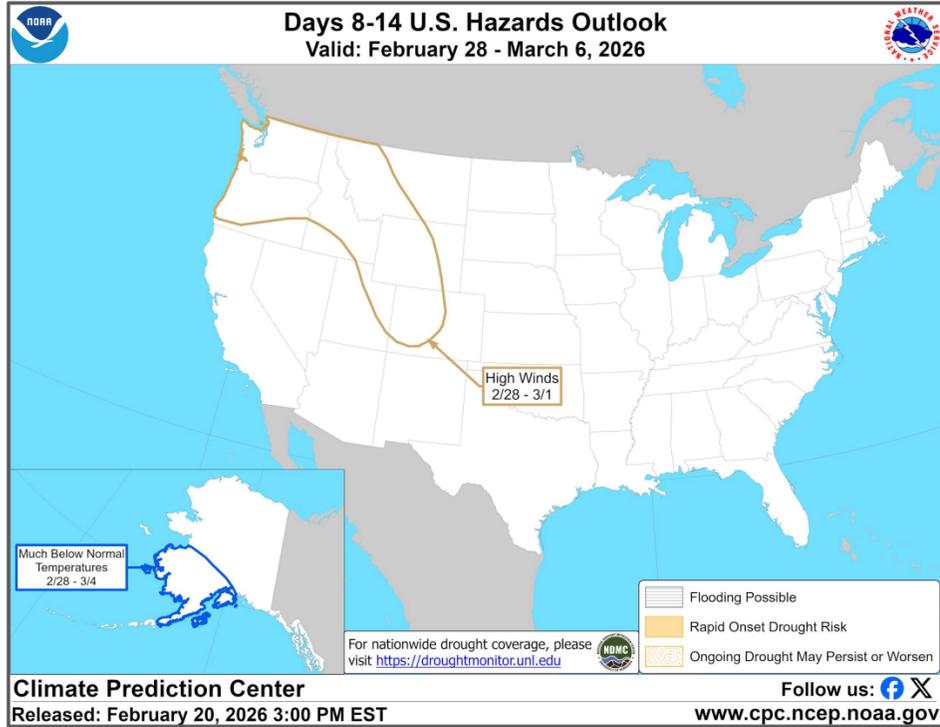


“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





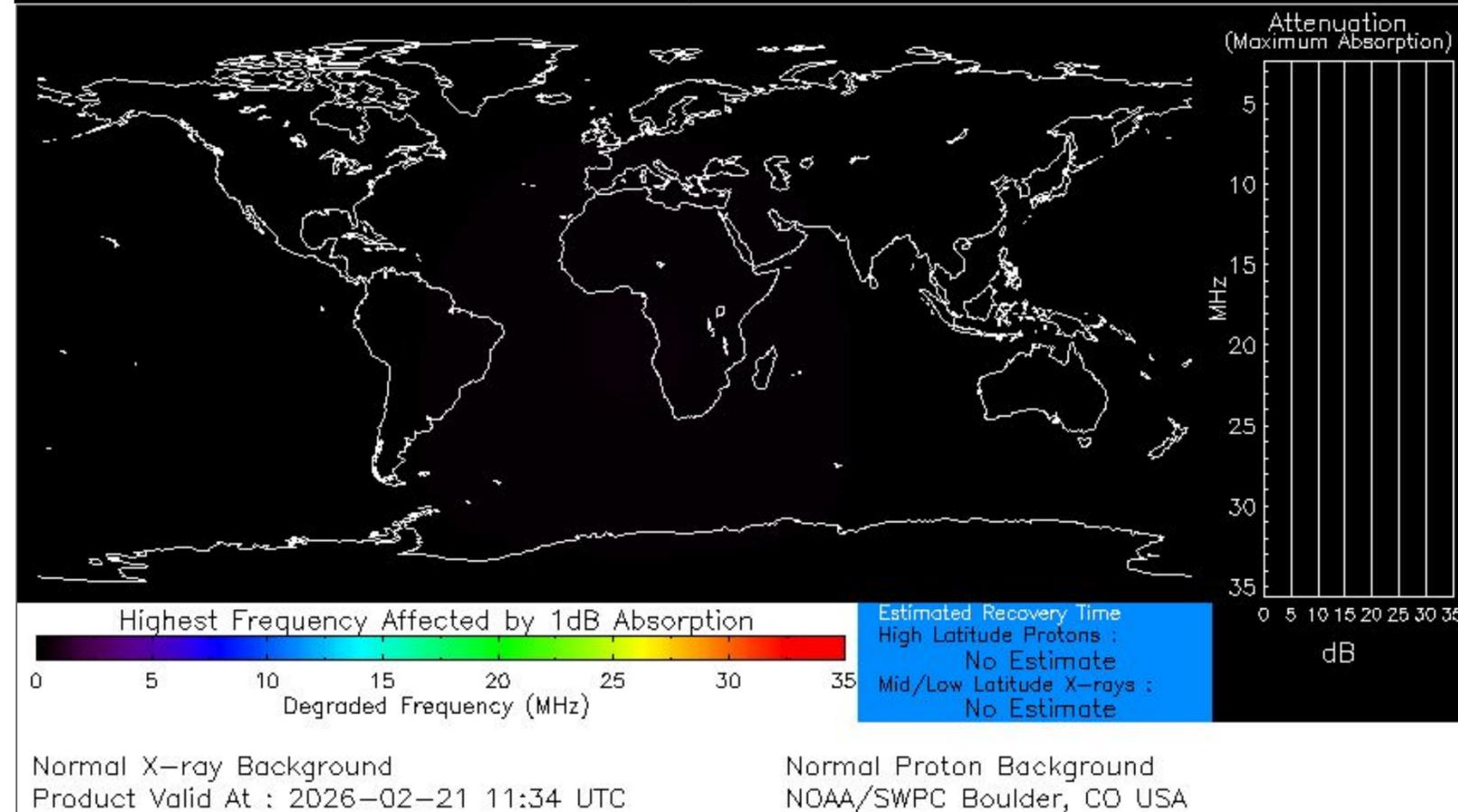
“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





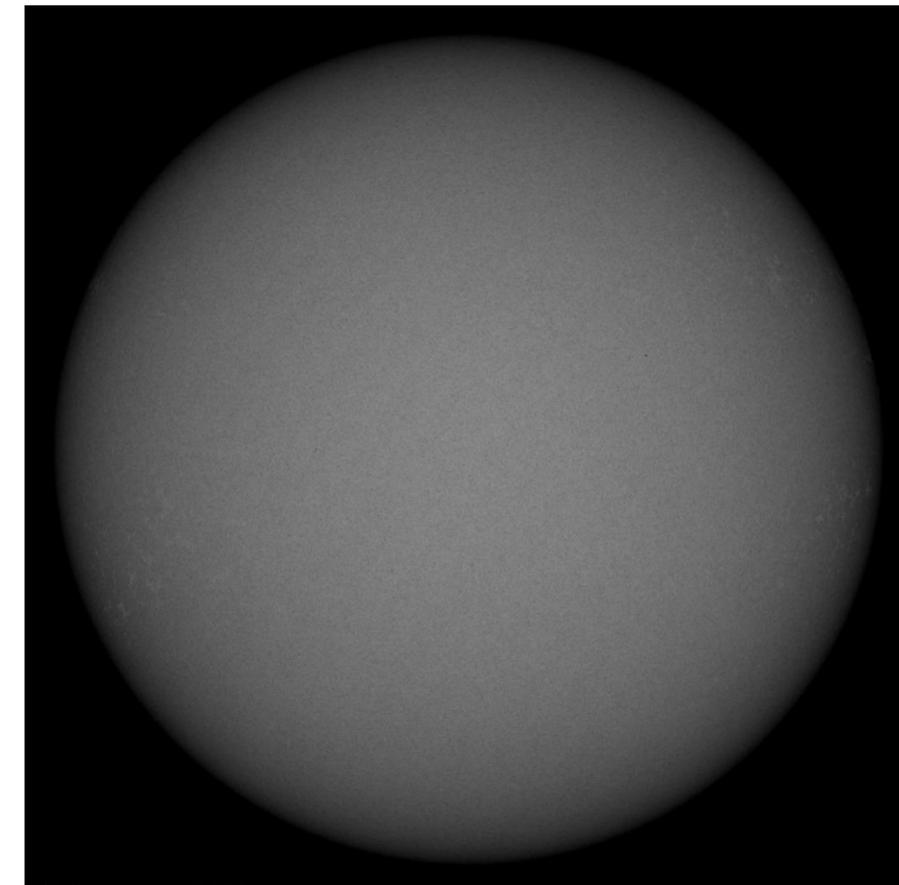
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Saturday, Feb 21	Sunday, Feb 22	Monday, Feb 23
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp=2)	Quiet (Max Kp=2)	Active (Max Kp=4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	10%	10%	20%
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



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