



FEMA



Prepared by
Melissa Beat

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, May 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.





Summary

- **Severe Storms:**

- Enhanced risk (level 3 of 5) today in portions of N OK. Watching cap to break.
- Marginal to Slight risk (levels 1-2 of 5) through Wednesday in portions of TX, OK, NW AR.

- **Flash Flooding:**

- Slight risk (level 2 of 4) Wednesday in SW/SC TX and Thursday in SC-NE TX.
- Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) today through the week in parts of TX, OK, AR, LA.
- Monitoring Memorial Weekend in TX.

- **Fire Weather:**

- Extremely critical (level 3 of 3) conditions today in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles.
- Critical (level 2 of 3) conditions across NM, W TX, TX/OK Panhandles, W OK today.
- Elevated (level 1 of 3) conditions across portions of NM, W TX Tuesday & Wednesday.

- **Heat:**

- Above average temperatures in S TX today through Wednesday.

- **River Flooding:**

- Minor river flooding will continue in S LA through the week. Monitoring TX rivers starting mid-week.





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Monday, May 18	Tuesday, May 19	Wednesday, May 20	Thursday, May 21	Friday, May 22	Saturday, May 23	Sunday, May 24
Severe Storms	N OK	SE OK, AR, SW-N/NE TX, NW LA	SE NM, W/SW TX				
	N/NW TX, OK, NW AR, TX/OK Panhandles						
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NE OK, NW AR	OK, AR, TX, W LA	SW/SCTX	SC-NETX	AR, S/SE/E TX, LA	TX	TX
				TX, OK, AR, LA			
Heat	STX	STX	STX				
Fire Weather	NM, TX/OK Panhandles	NM, WTX	W/C NM				
River Flooding	S LA	S LA	TX, S LA	TX, S LA	TX, S LA	TX, S LA	TX

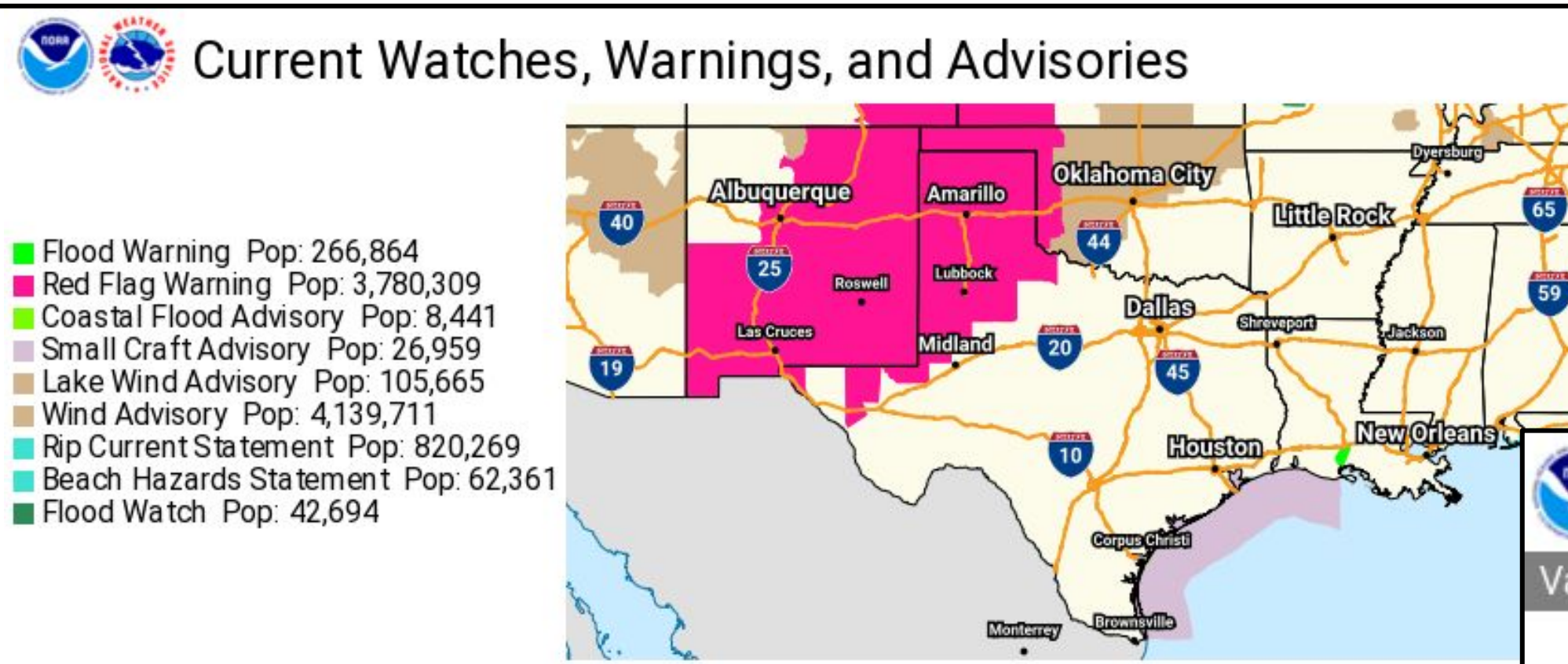
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.

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



Generated: 2026-05-18 06:01 CDT

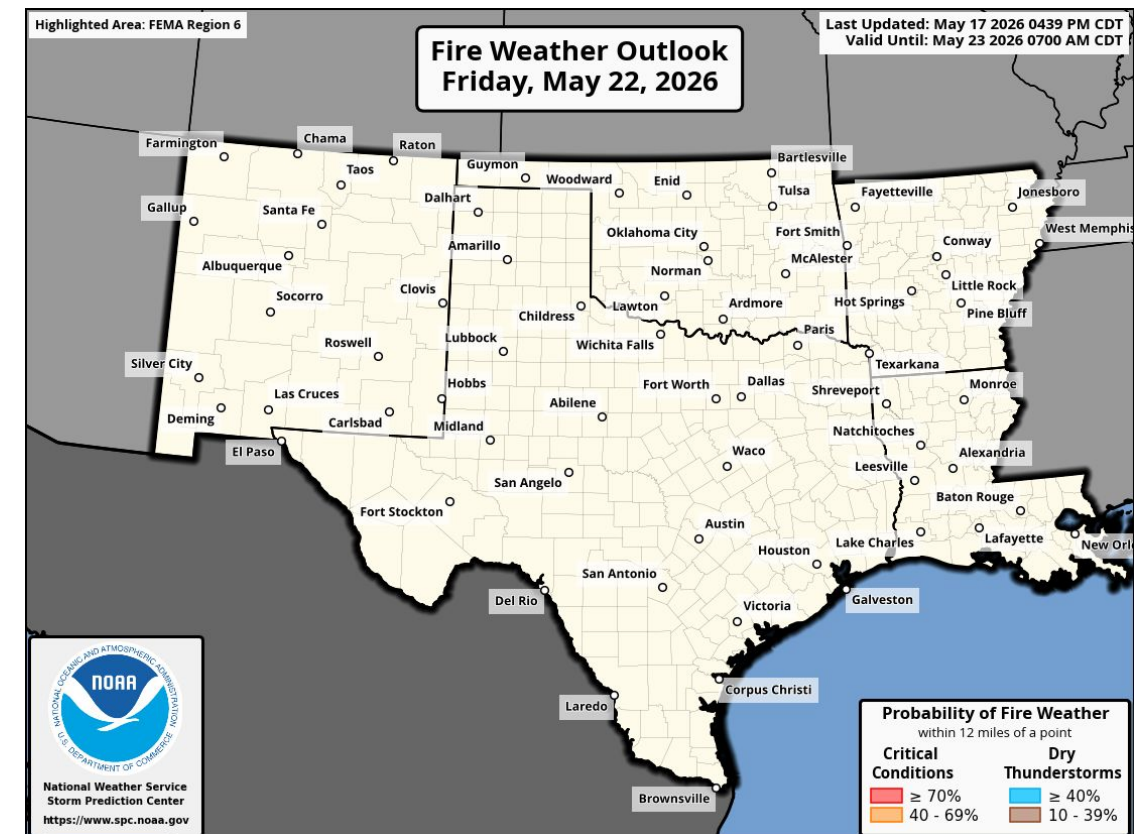
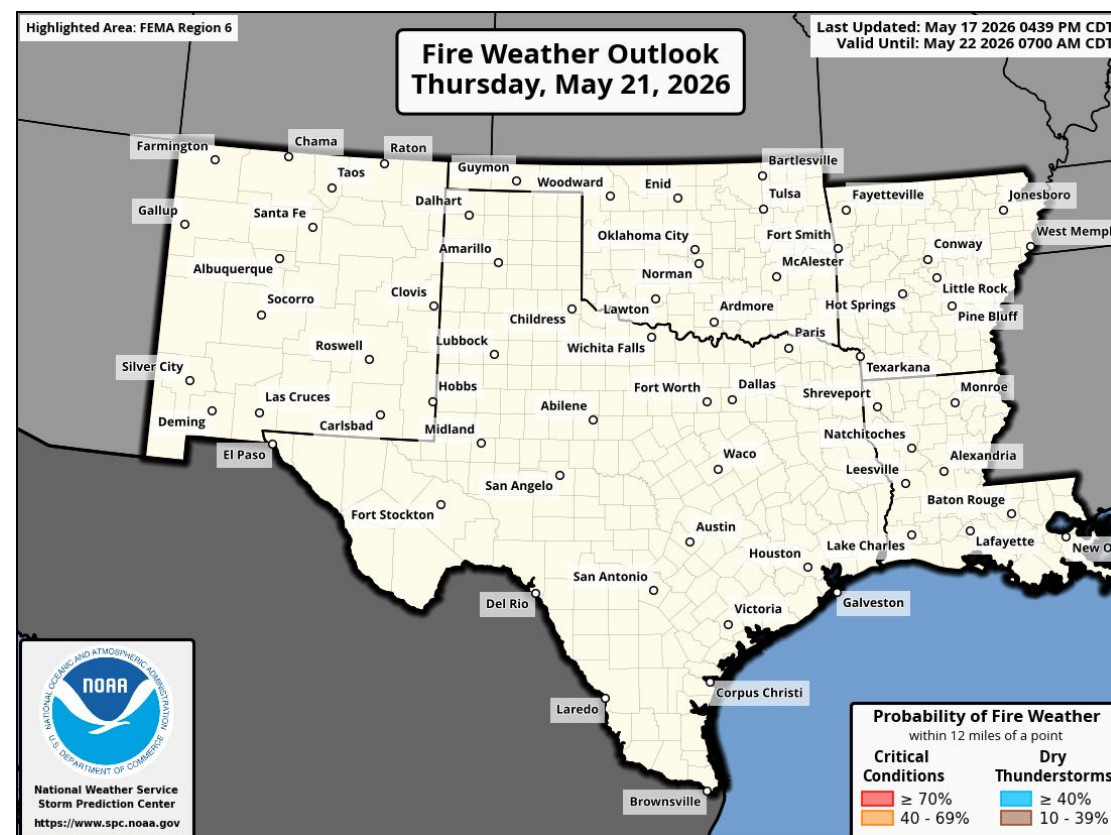
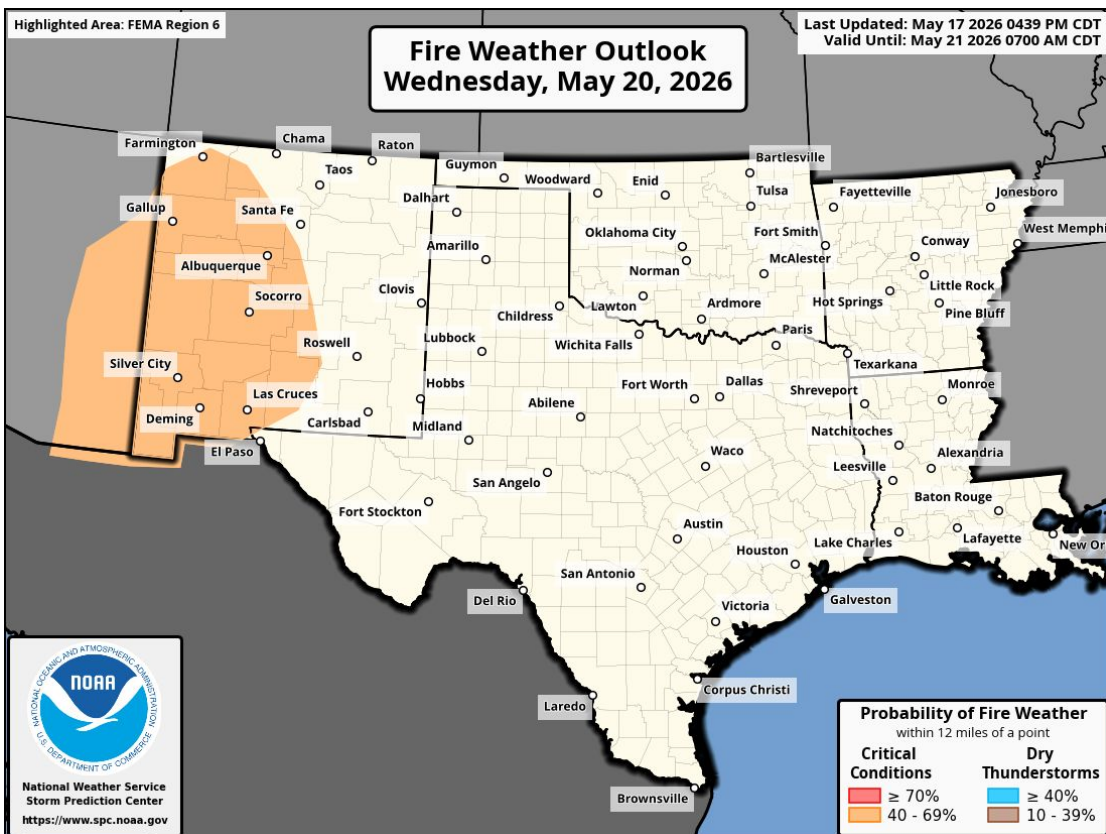
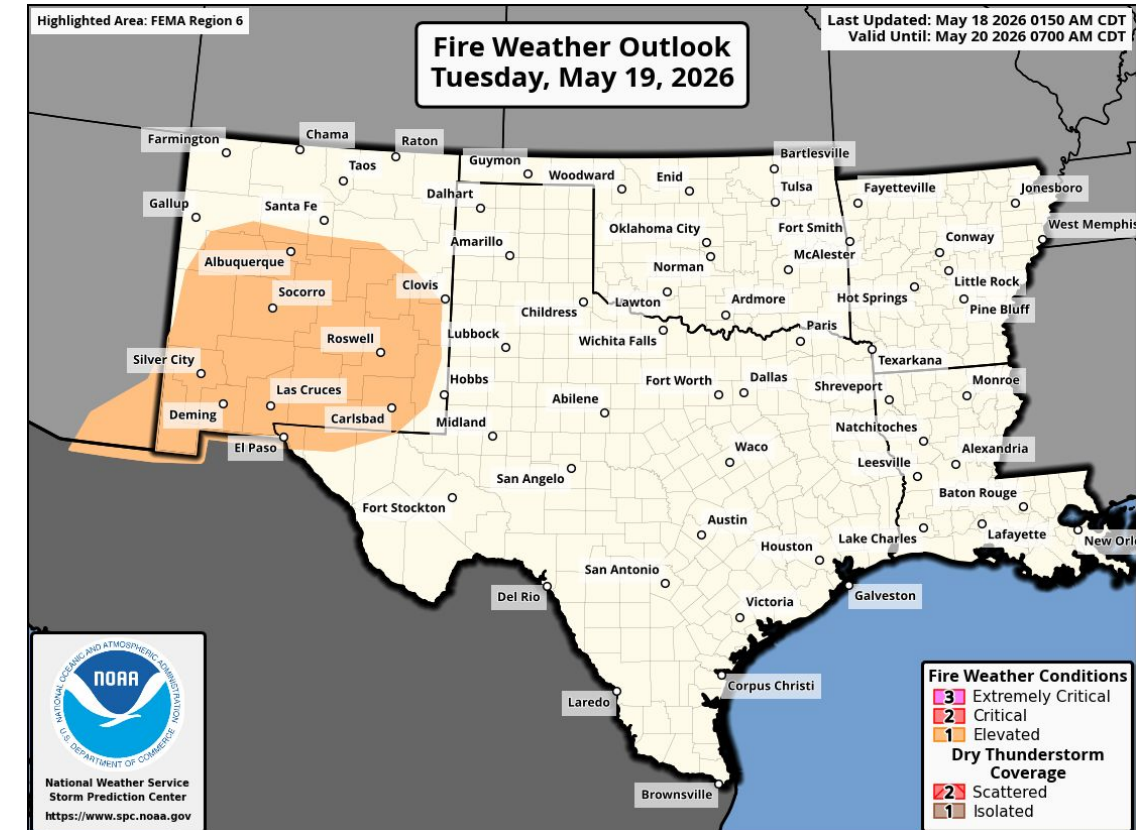
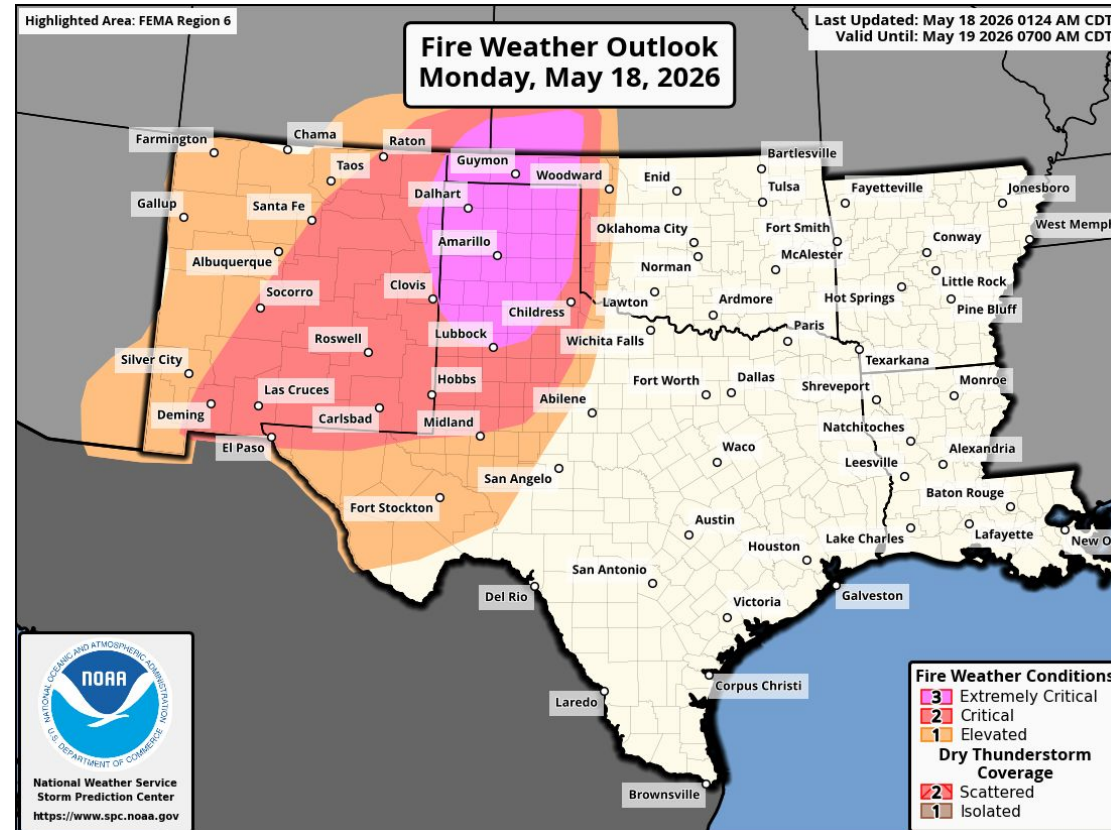
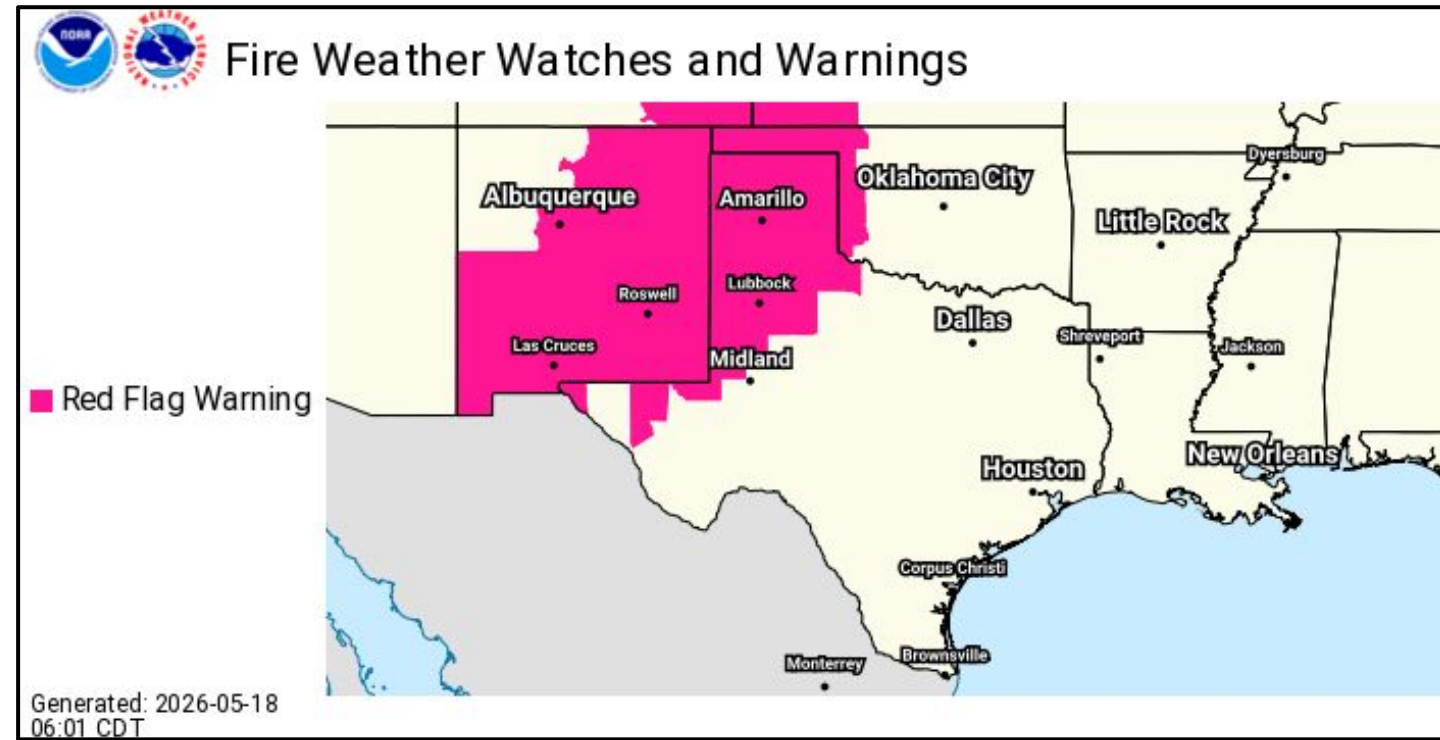


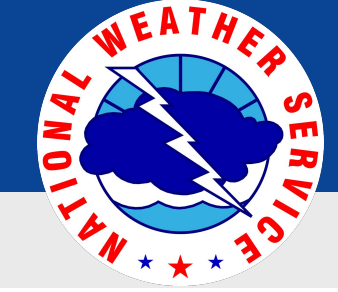
Red Flag Warnings in effect for NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W TX, W OK from 11 AM - 9 PM CDT.

Wind Advisories in NM, TX, OK from 7 AM - 10 PM CDT. Gusts up to 55 mph.



Fire Weather Outlooks



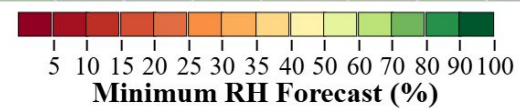


Wind Gust/RH Forecast

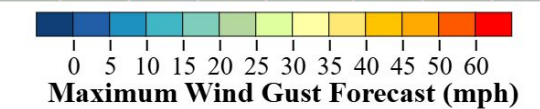
Minimum RH (%) Forecast

Maximum Wind Gust (mph) Forecast

	5/18 Mon						5/19 Tue						5/20 Wed									
	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm
Abilene	79	65	46	39	40	55	67	74	82	63	57	53	64	76	84	90	90	84	74	67	67	76
Amarillo	57	14	7	6	6	9	17	44	68	47	30	23	24	31	50	72	89	77	60	52	51	63
Beaver	49	23	12	7	7	15	50	71	79	49	32	29	29	40	62	83	93	62	46	41	42	56
El Paso	23	18	12	9	9	11	17	23	28	17	11	8	7	8	11	16	25	19	10	8	8	11
Enid	82	63	59	54	52	69	79	87	86	67	56	51	51	70	83	90	86	65	53	48	49	70
Fayetteville	76	74	63	57	59	67	69	74	79	76	77	79	76	87	93	93	90	81	76	71	68	78
Fort Davis	24	10	6	5	5	9	14	21	29	12	9	8	8	16	43	67	75	40	22	20	24	42
Guadalupe Pass	23	19	16	13	13	16	20	24	28	18	14	11	10	14	27	45	55	40	32	28	28	41
Lubbock	68	20	7	7	6	9	16	35	52	42	32	27	28	39	59	75	87	81	63	55	57	68
Midland/Odessa	81	21	10	7	7	14	41	66	76	39	26	25	28	52	71	87	87	73	60	54	62	73
Oklahoma City	84	77	67	63	65	69	74	82	90	84	73	66	70	75	84	90	93	87	78	68	68	78
San Angelo	84	69	47	39	36	53	72	82	87	72	55	50	65	79	90	93	93	84	74	65	67	81
Santa Fe	25	21	18	17	17	20	27	32	39	35	27	22	22	26	35	46	61	50	34	28	28	41
Shreveport	82	65	54	50	54	67	74	79	82	67	54	52	63	79	87	87	90	85	74	72	74	84
Tulsa	82	77	67	61	61	67	71	76	90	84	71	73	73	75	81	84	87	81	78	68	64	73
Wichita Falls	90	72	63	60	59	72	76	84	90	76	69	62	71	84	93	97	100	87	76	71	71	84



	5/18 Mon						5/19 Tue						5/20 Wed									
	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm
Abilene	28↑	29↑	32↑	31↑	29↑	26↑	24↑	21↑	18↑	17↑	16↑	16↑	13↑	9↑	8↑	9↑	12↑	15↑	16↑	16↑	13↑	
Amarillo	26↑	31↑	36↑	39↑	36↑	22↑	23↑	28↑	29↑	29↑	23↑	18↑	20↑	21↑	20↑	18↑	16↑	17↑	20↑	20↑	18↑	18↑
Beaver	25↑	29↑	39↑	43↑	38↑	24↑	23↓	23↓	22↓	21↓	21↓	18↑	18↑	17↑	15↑	14↑	13↑	16↑	20↑	20↑	18↑	16↑
El Paso	26↑	28↑	29↑	31↑	31↑	24↑	18↑	13↑	7↑	7↑	13↑	15↑	14↑	6↑	6↑	5↑	3↓	7↑	14↑	17↑	17↑	17↑
Enid	35↑	41↑	45↑	47↑	45↑	40↑	31↑	24↑	28↓	28↓	24↓	21↑	20↑	15↑	15↑	16↑	17↑	18↑	17↑	17↑	17↑	14↑
Fayetteville	33↑	37↑	37↑	37↑	36↑	35↑	28↑	26↑	23↑	21↑	18↑	16↑	13↑	10↑	13↑	14↑	16↑	17↑	16↑	15↑	16↑	15↑
Fort Davis	14↑	20↑	24↑	26↑	26↑	13↑	14↑	14↑	13↑	14↑	16↑	20↑	18↑	14↑	14↑	10↑	9↑	15↑	18↑	21↑	21↑	21↑
Guadalupe Pass	26↑	43↑	52↑	52↑	51↑	40↑	35↑	18↑	15↑	15↑	17↑	23↑	23↑	17↑	22↑	20↑	14↑	16↑	18↑	23↑	24↑	24↑
Lubbock	22↑	31↑	38↑	47↑	47↑	24↑	13↑	16↑	22↑	25↑	22↑	18↑	21↑	21↑	18↑	15↑	16↑	18↑	20↑	20↑	17↑	15↑
Midland/Odessa	24↑	23↑	22↑	28↑	28↑	21↑	21↑	17↑	14↑	13↑	15↑	23↑	26↑	25↑	20↑	16↑	17↑	20↑	21↑	22↑	21↑	21↑
Oklahoma City	30↑	33↑	33↑	37↑	35↑	31↑	30↑	26↑	21↑	21↓	21↓	17↓	17↑	15↑	16↑	17↑	17↑	18↑	18↑	17↑	17↑	13↑
San Angelo	28↑	25↑	26↑	26↑	26↑	22↑	21↑	16↑	10↑	16↑	16↑	16↑	16↑	13↑	10↑	9↑	12↑	14↑	16↑	17↑	17↑	14↑
Santa Fe	20↑	31↑	37↑	39↑	33↑	20↑	9↓	9↑	17↑	23↑	24↑	25↑	28↑	31↑	29↑	28↑	23↑	24↑	25↑	25↑	23↑	23↑
Shreveport	20↑	24↑	28↑	28↑	22↑	17↑	16↑	16↑	16↑	20↑	20↑	16↑	13↑	8↑	7↑	3↑	5↑	6↑	8↑	8↑	8↑	6↑
Tulsa	32↑	37↑	39↑	40↑	40↑	36↑	29↑	25↑	16↑	20↓	20↓	18↓	17↑	14↑	15↑	16↑	17↑	18↑	18↑	18↑	17↑	13↑
Wichita Falls	24↑	33↑	35↑	37↑	37↑	31↑	26↑	21↑	17↑	20↓	23↓	21↓	21↑	16↑	14↑	17↑	17↑	17↑	16↑	18↑	18↑	15↑





Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf

Areas of Possible Development

Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6

Active Tropical Cyclones

Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
-	-

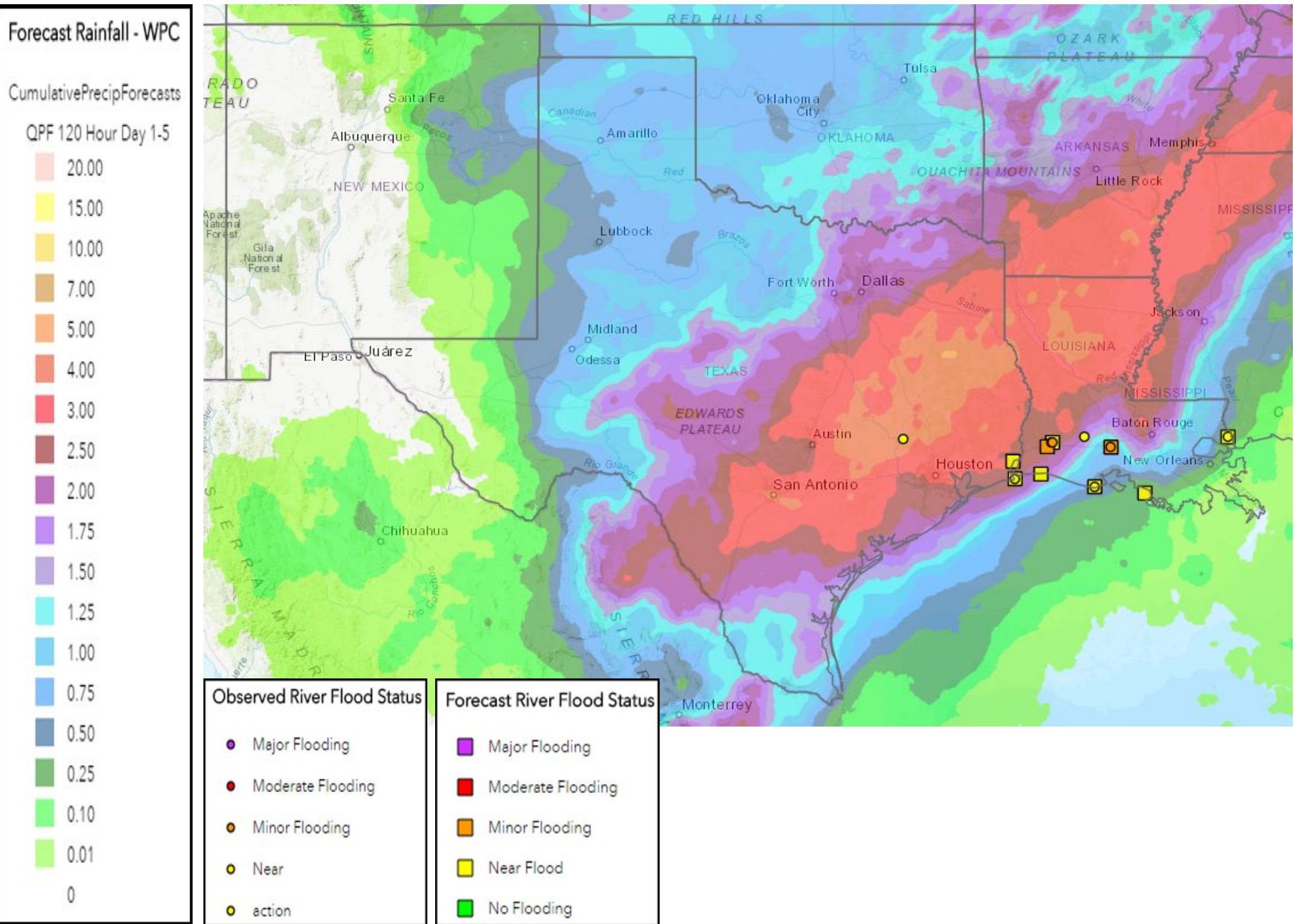


See <http://www.hurricanes.gov> for the latest on the tropics or any active storms



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

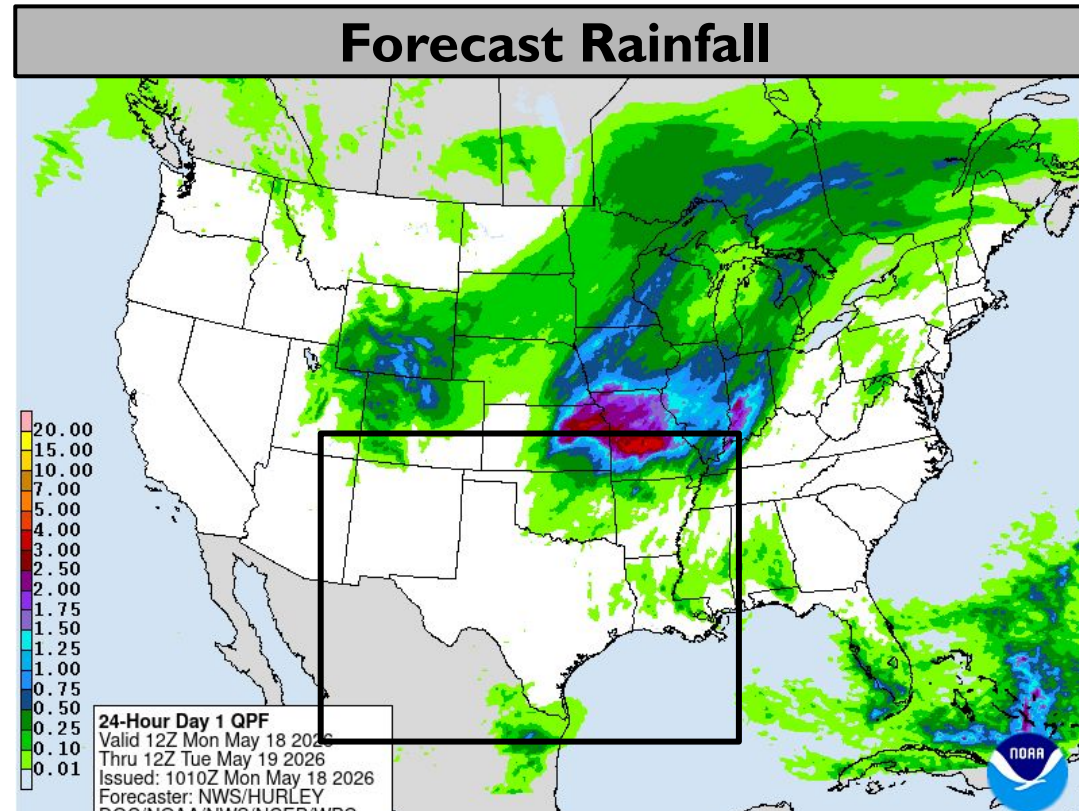
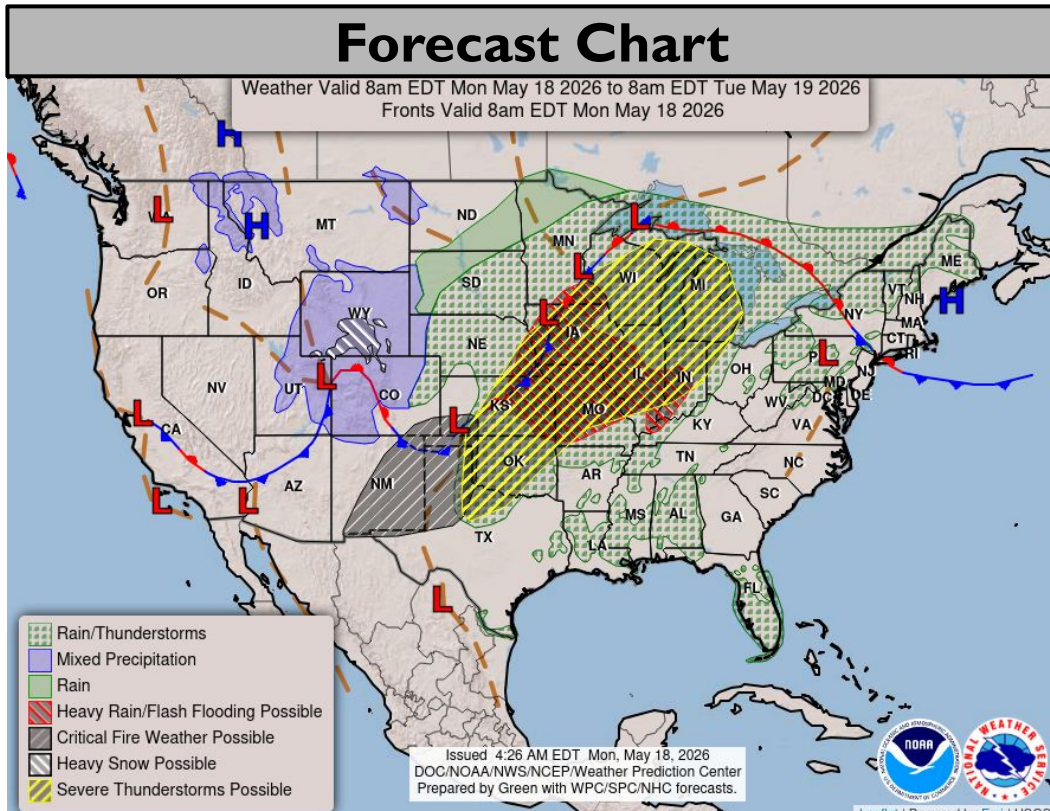


Vermilion River at Lafayette - holding minor stage through the week. Minor flooding of Heymann Park. Monitoring TX for flooding potential starting mid-week.

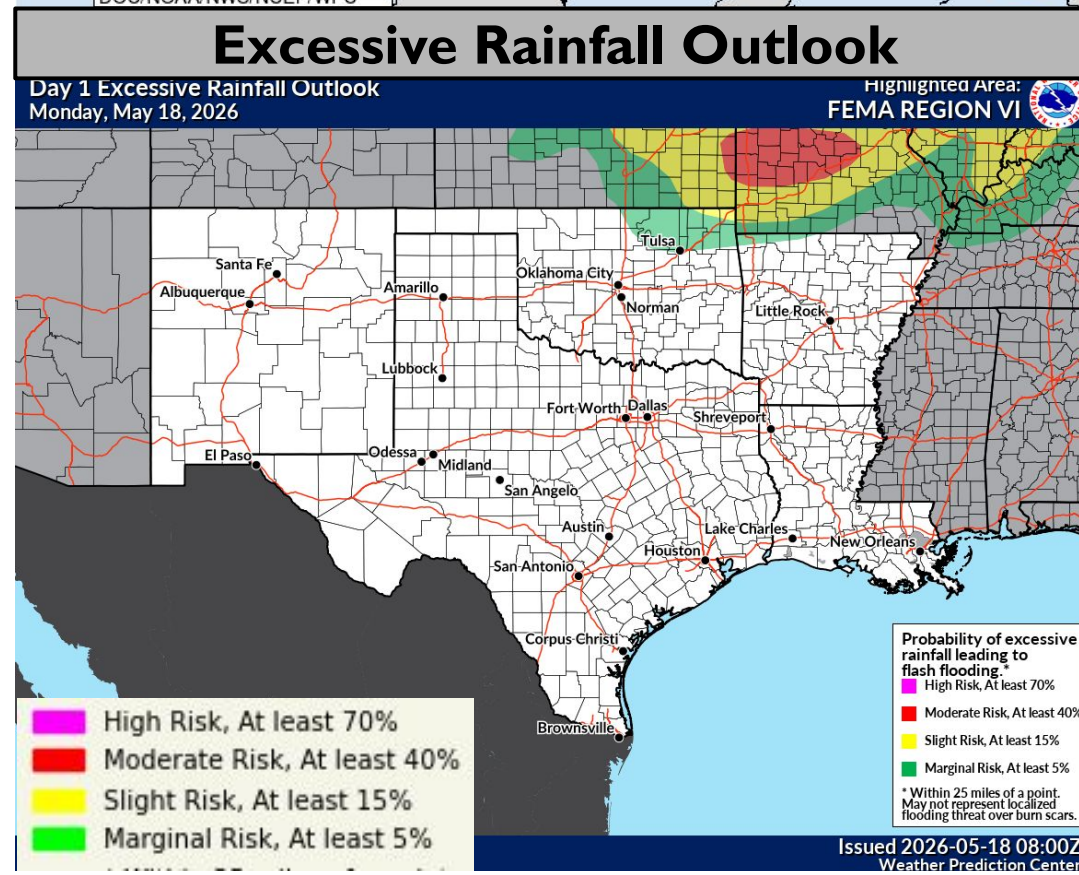
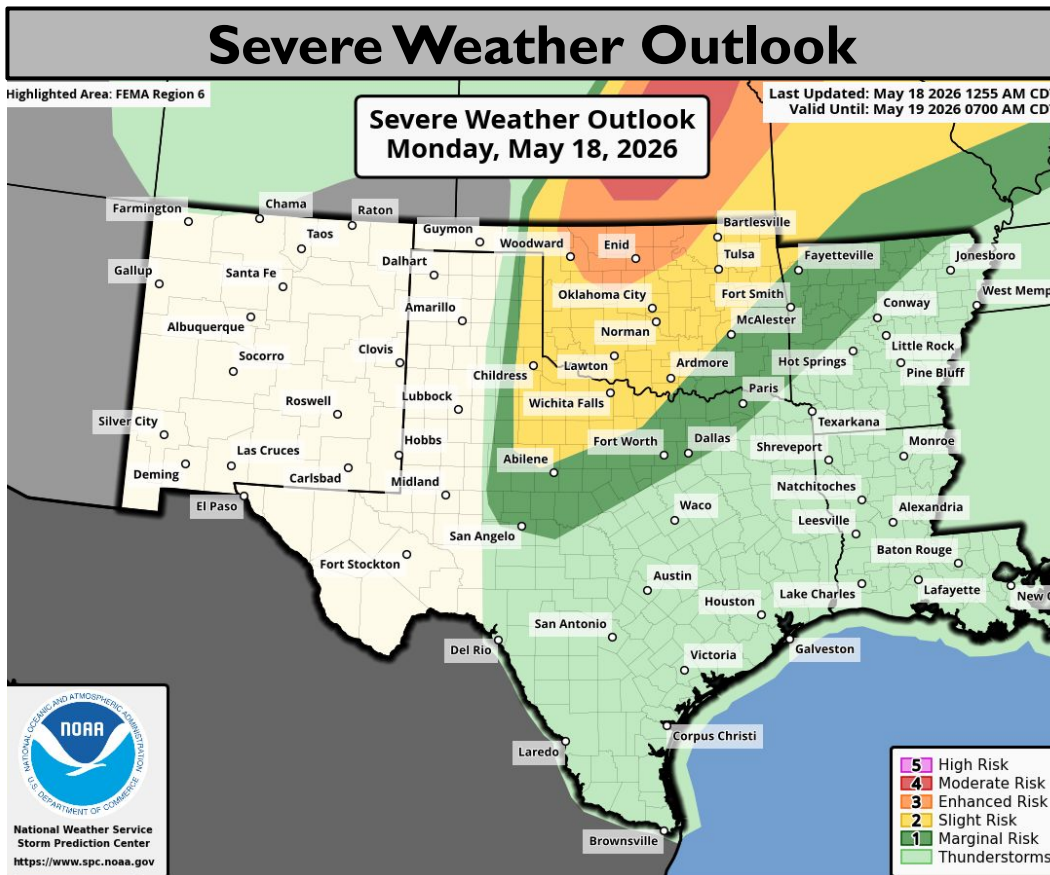
Note: Numerical levels (e.g. level 1 of 4) will not be assigned to riverine flooding due to the varying levels of impacts across flood categories.



Today's Weather



Slight to Enhanced risk (levels 2-3 of 5) for severe storms in OK, NW AR, N/NW TX, TX/OK Panhandles. All severe hazards could occur. Conditional - watching cap to break. Timing: 2 PM - overnight.



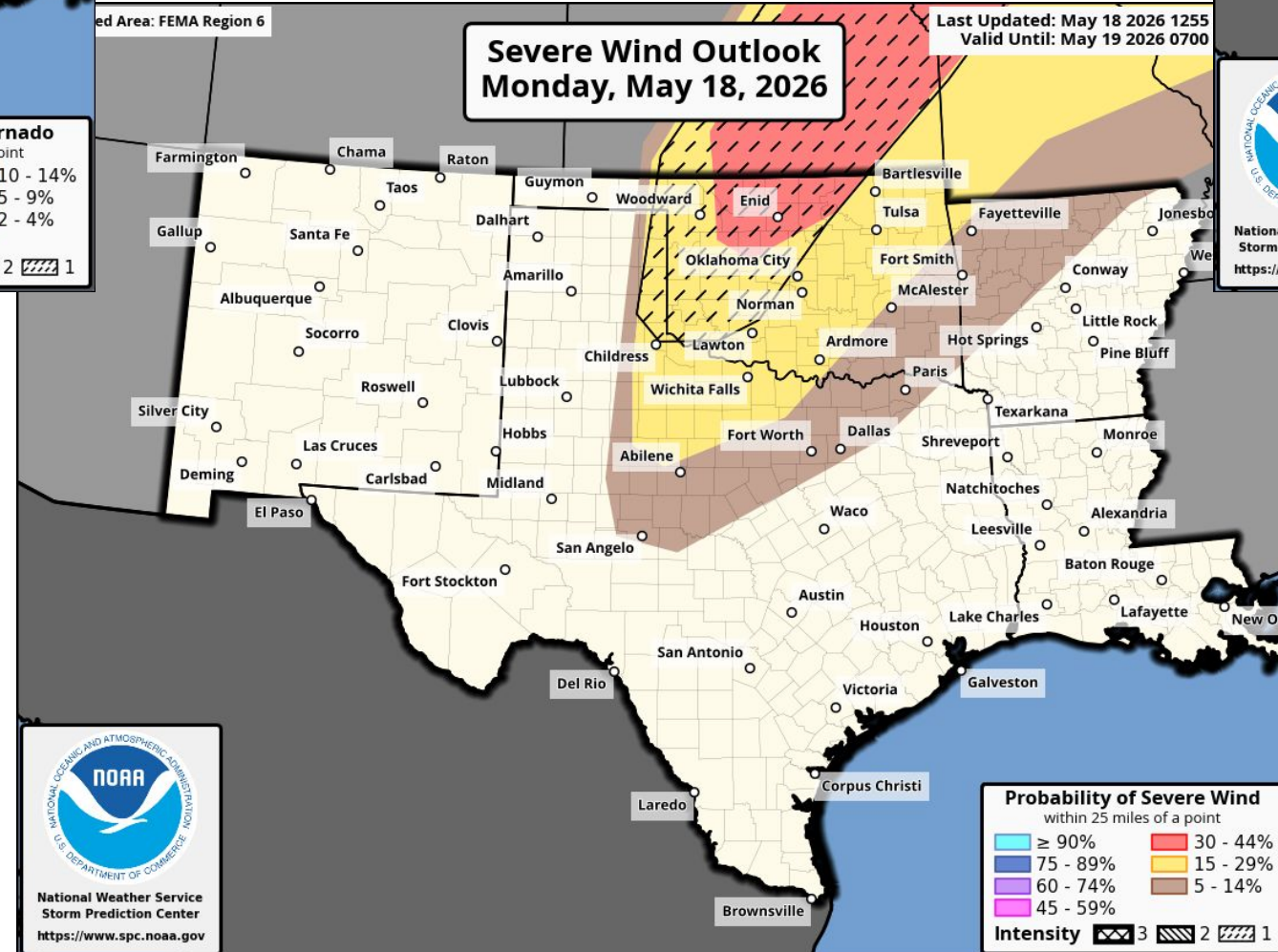
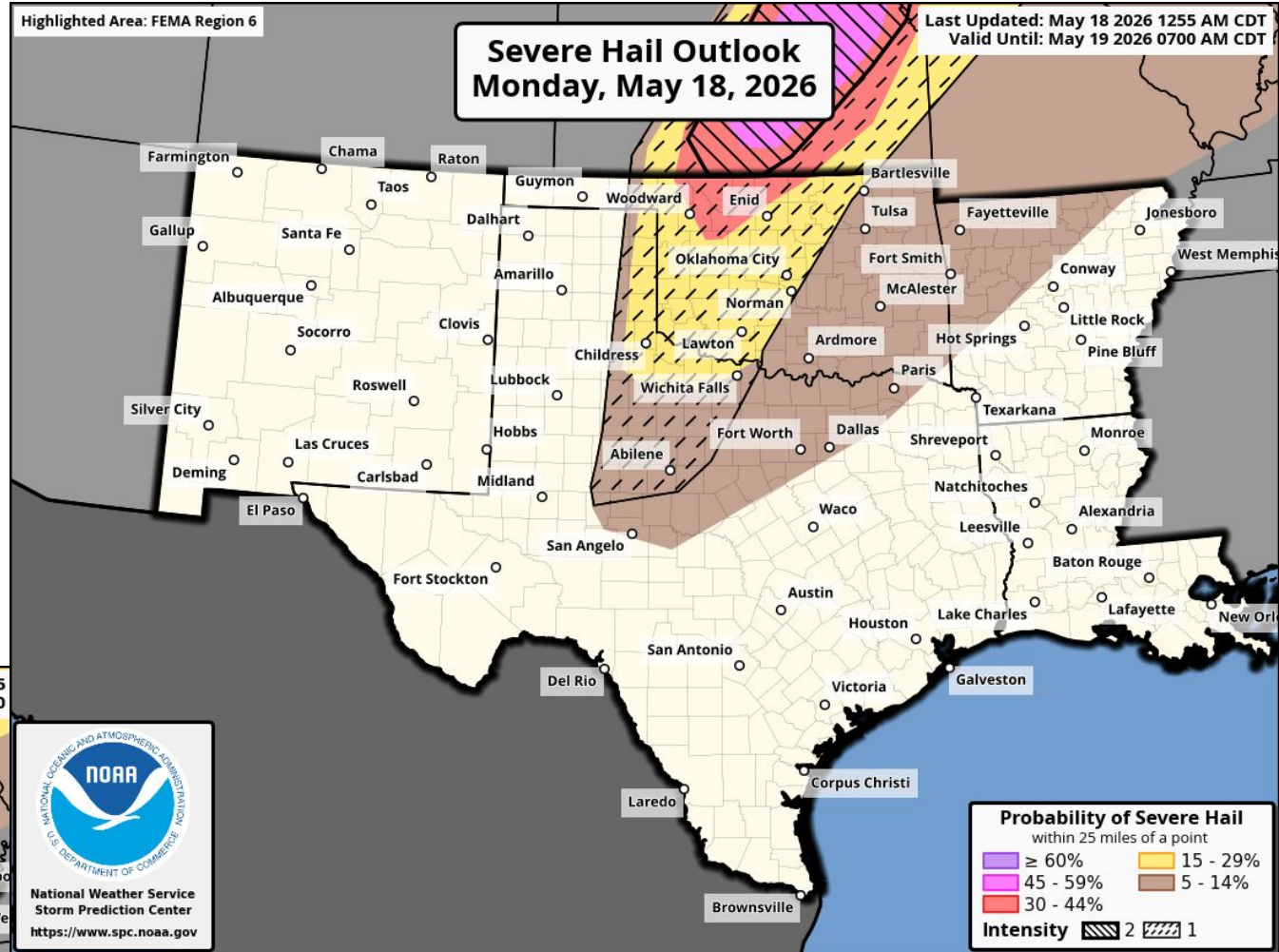
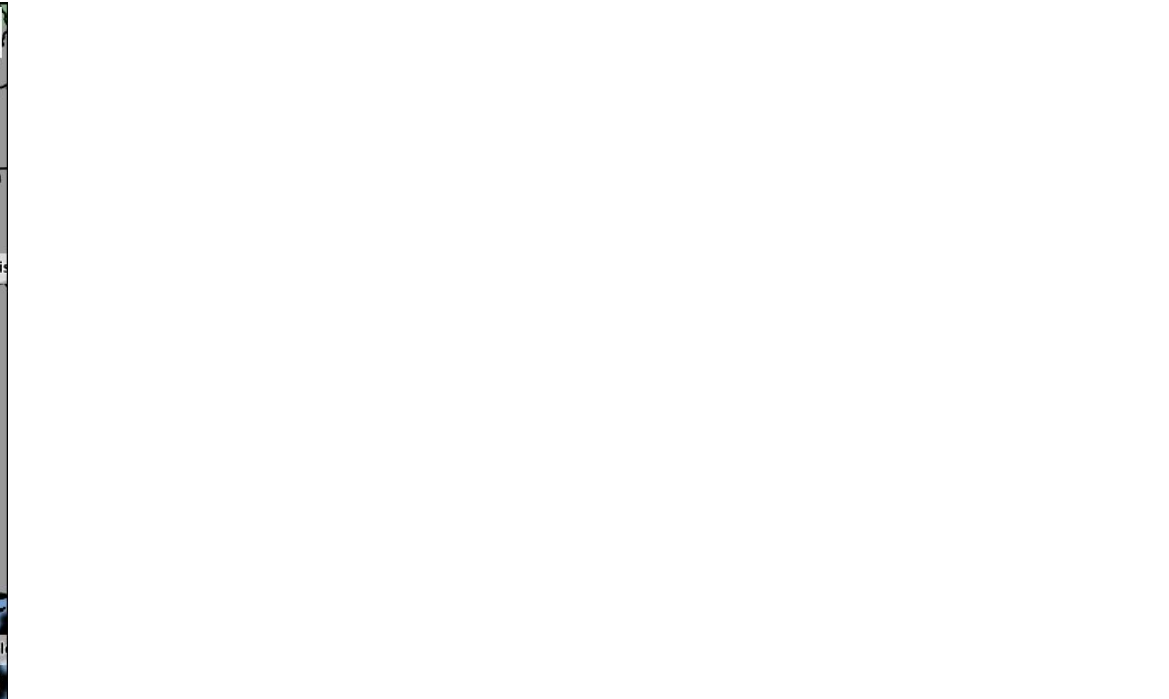
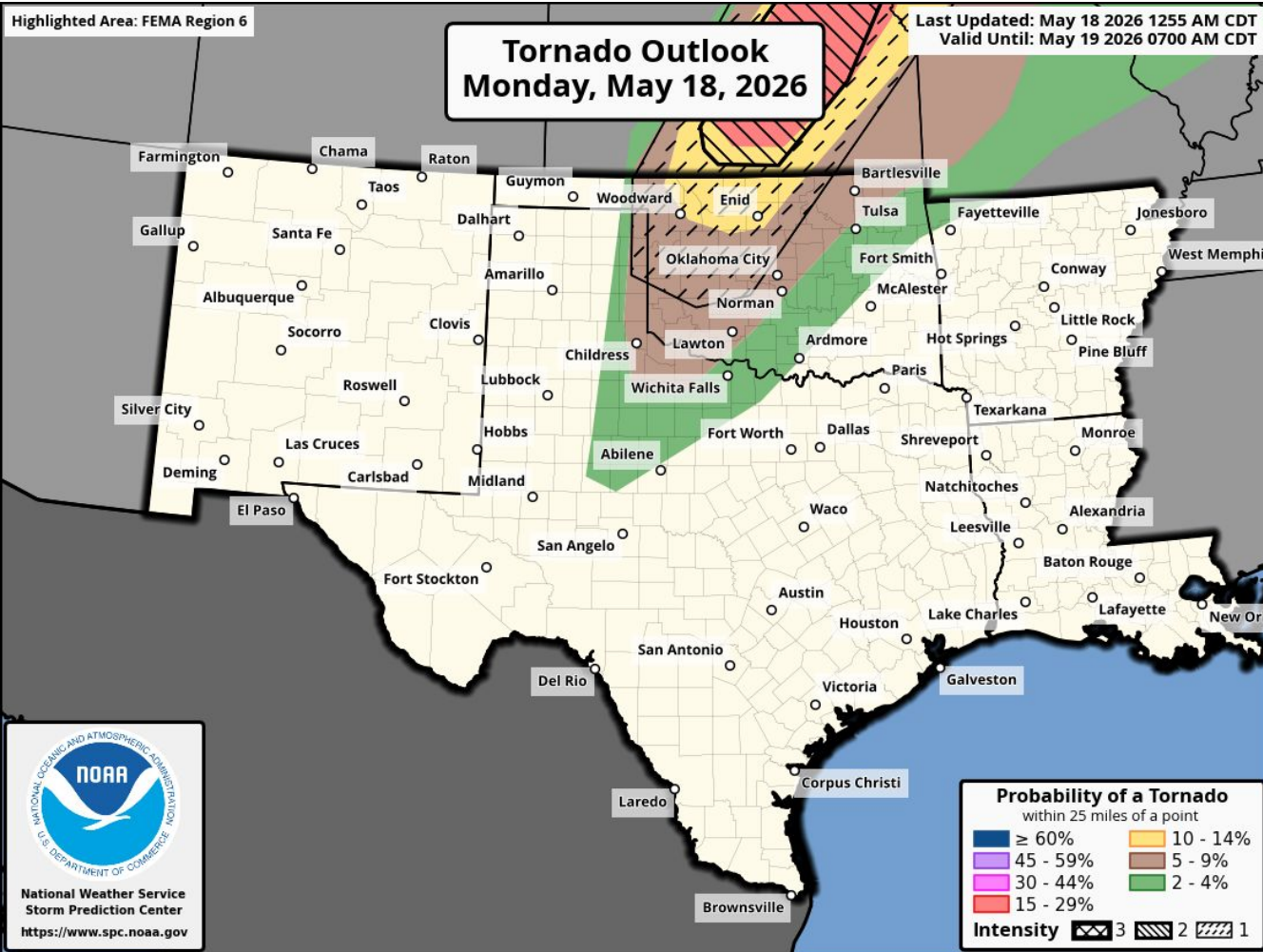
Extremely critical (level 3 of 3) fire weather threat in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles.

Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in NE OK, NW AR.

Above average temperatures in STX could lead to health impacts.

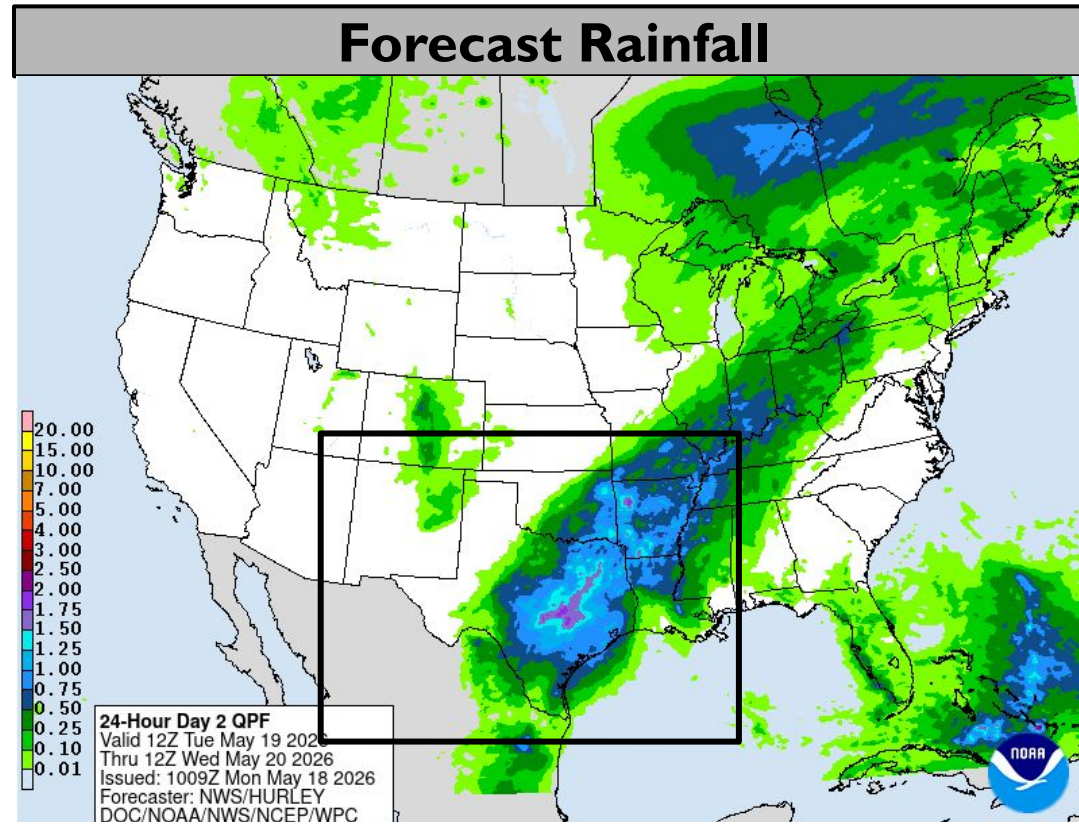
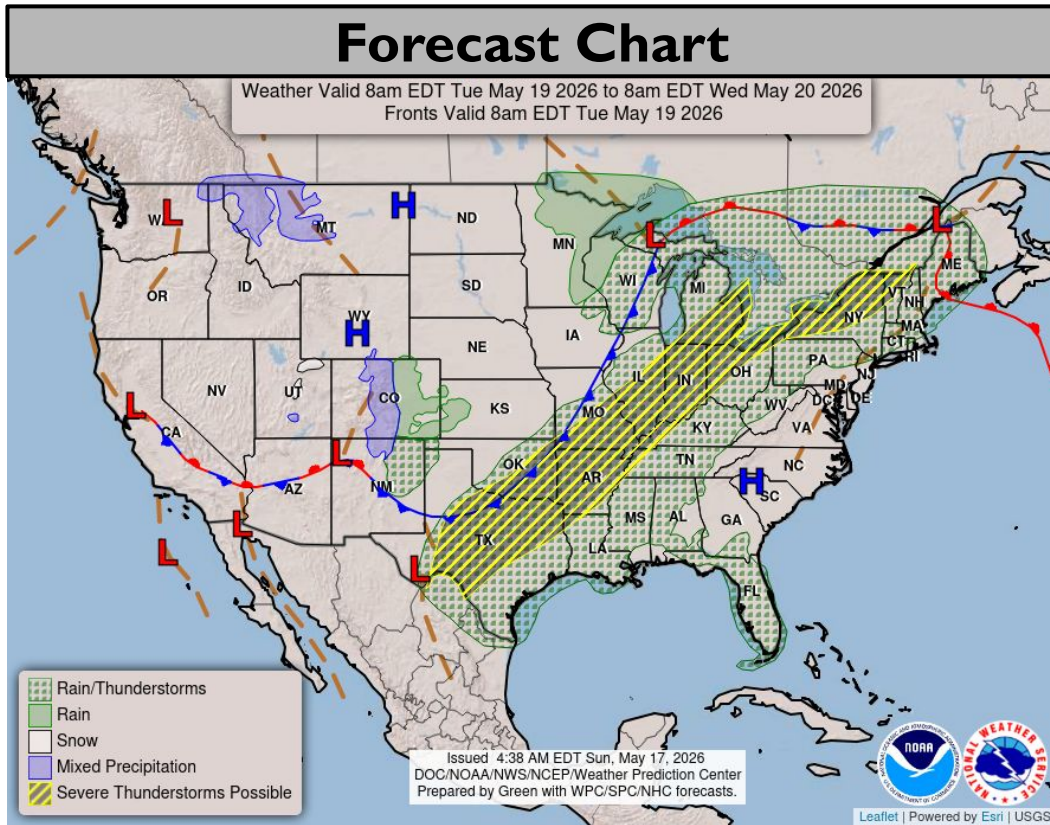


Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





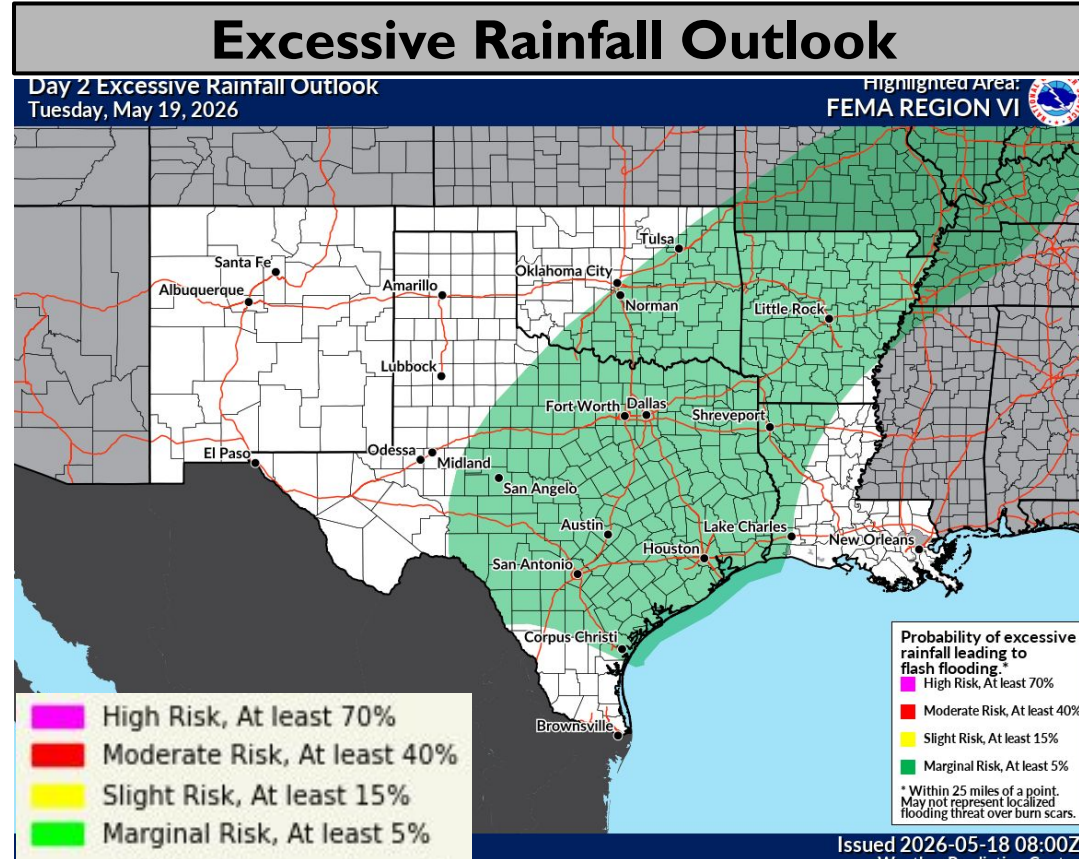
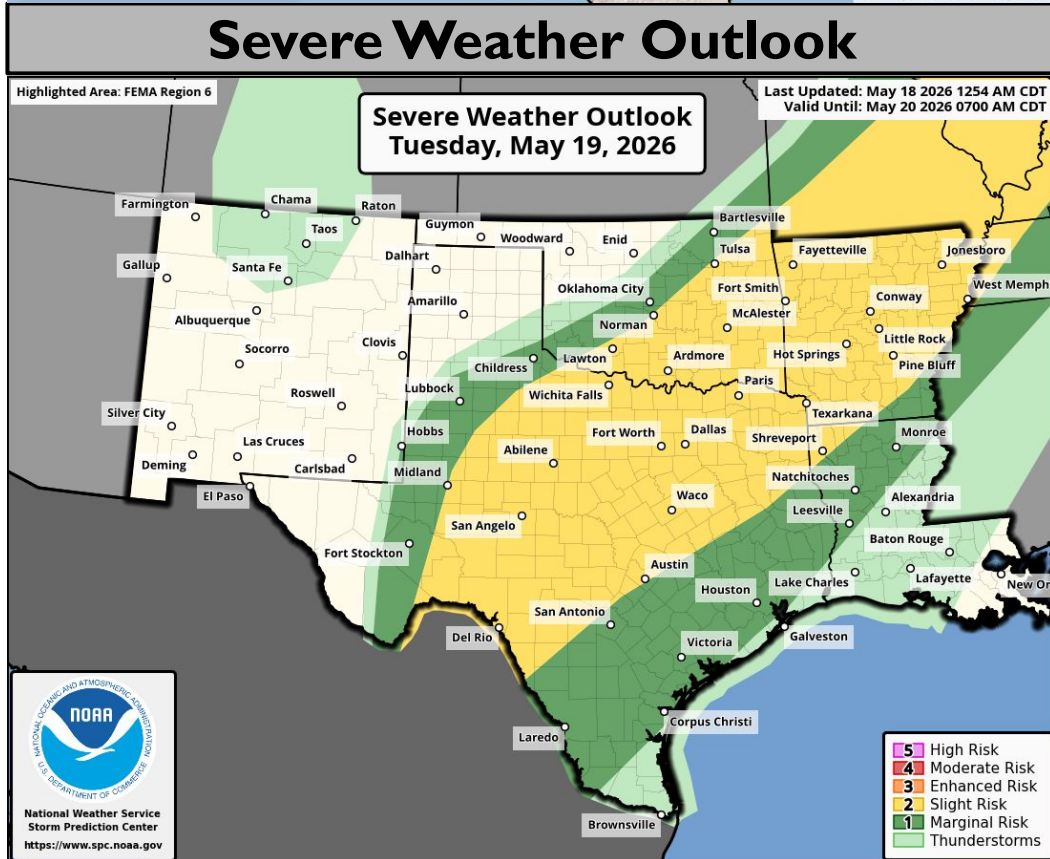
Tomorrow's Weather

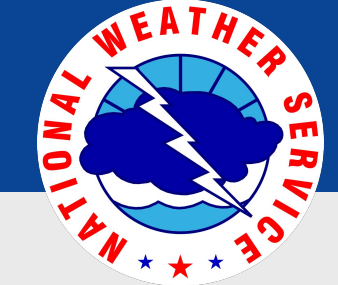


Slight risk (level 2 of 5) for severe storms in SE OK, AR, SW-N/NE TX, NW LA.

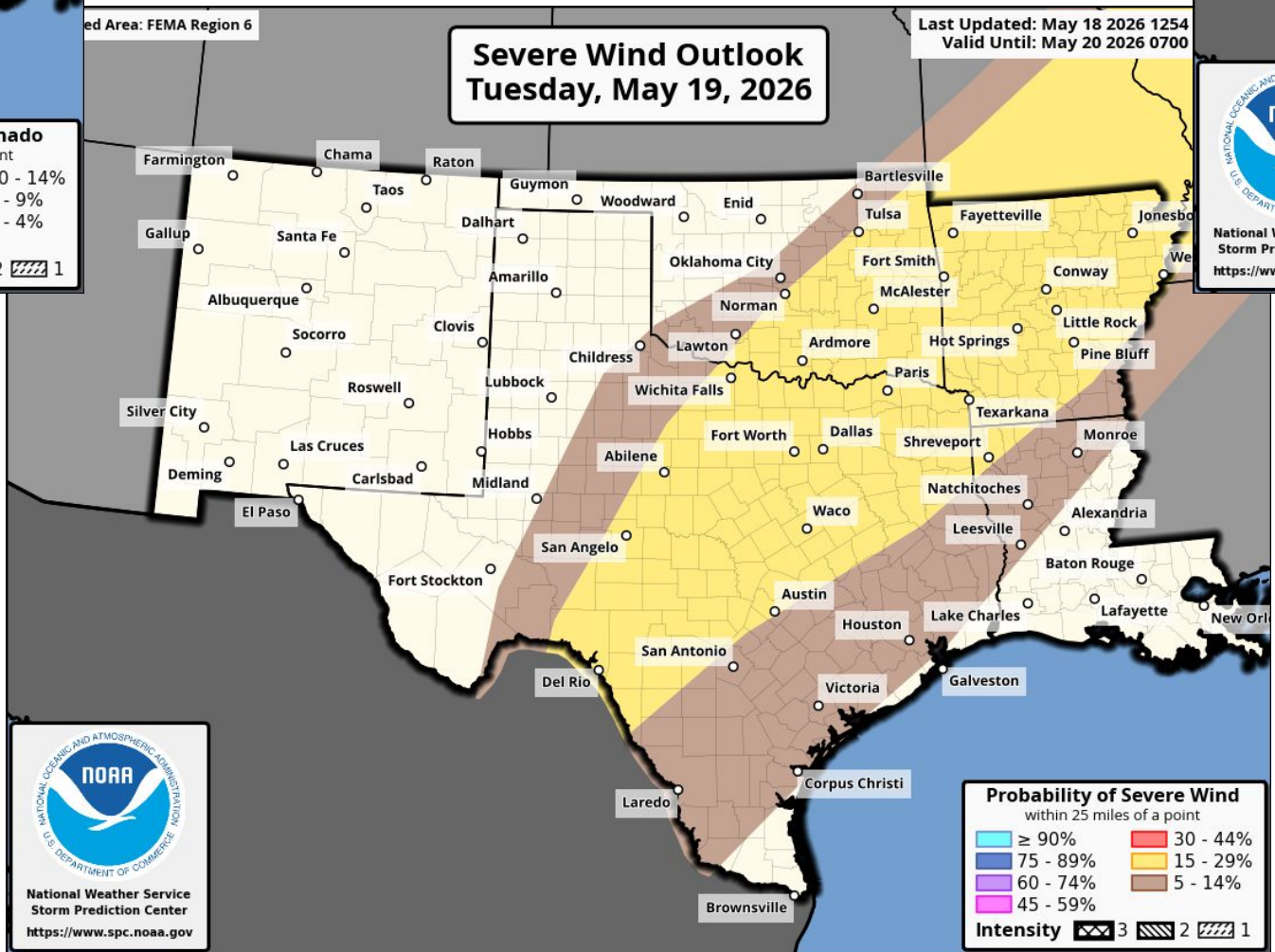
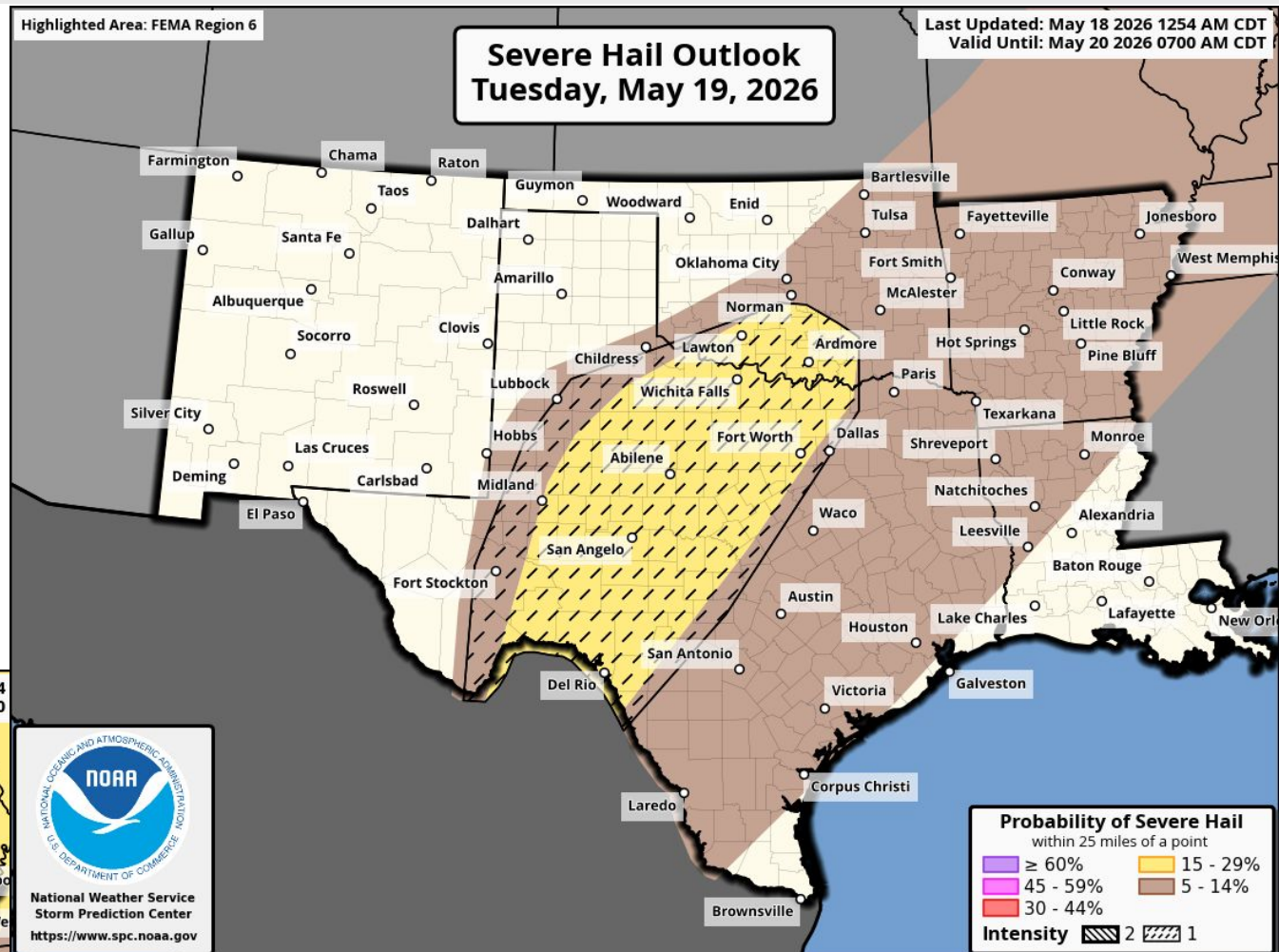
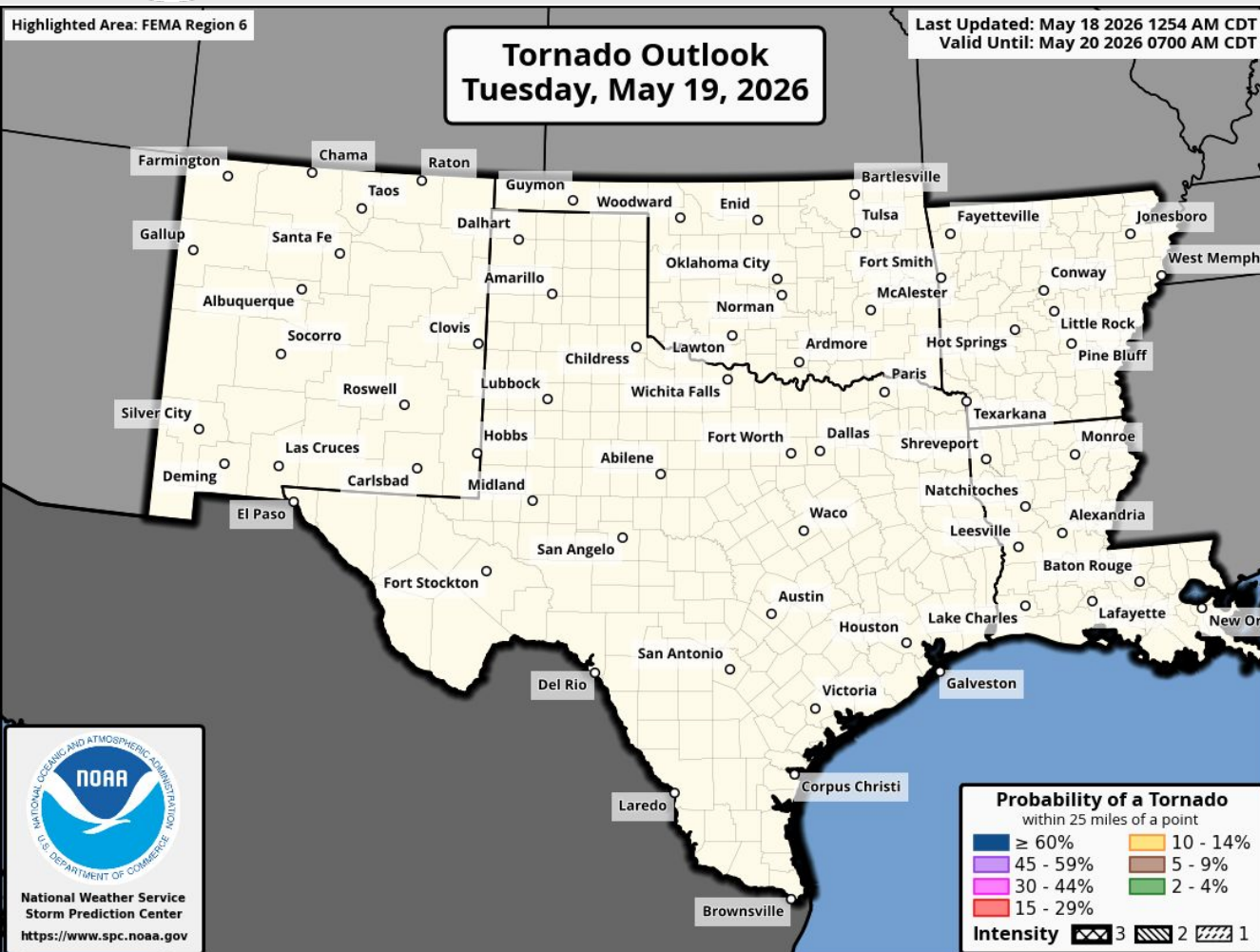
Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in OK, AR, TX, W LA.

Above average temperatures in S TX could lead to health impacts.





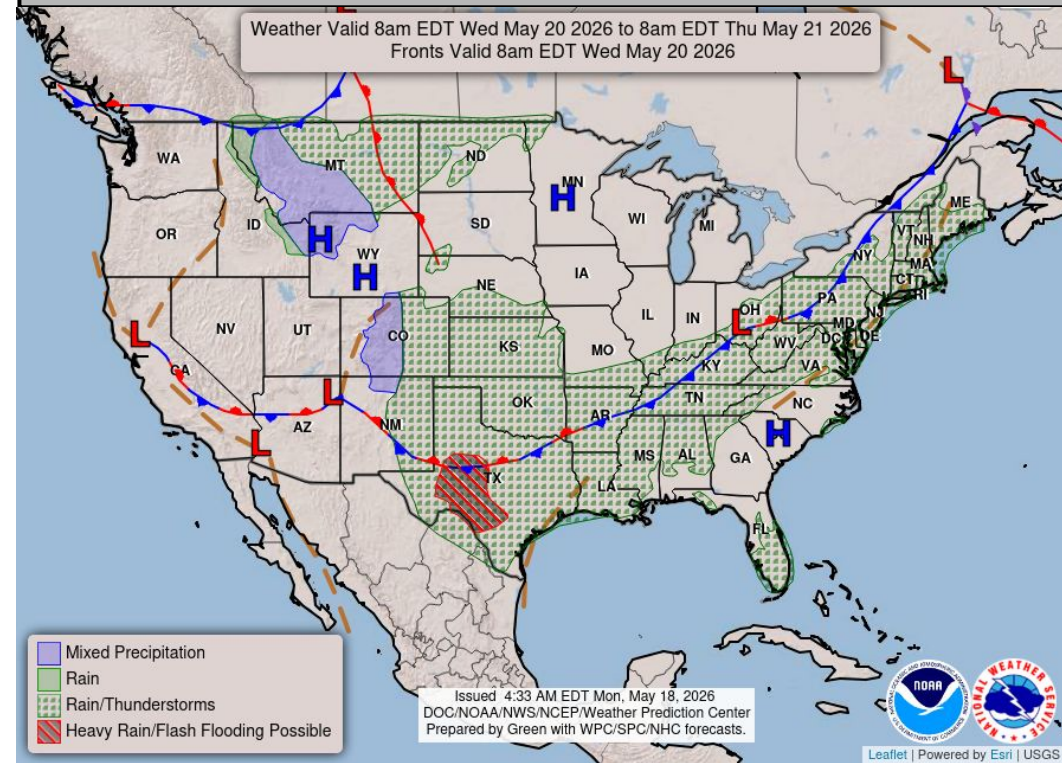
Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



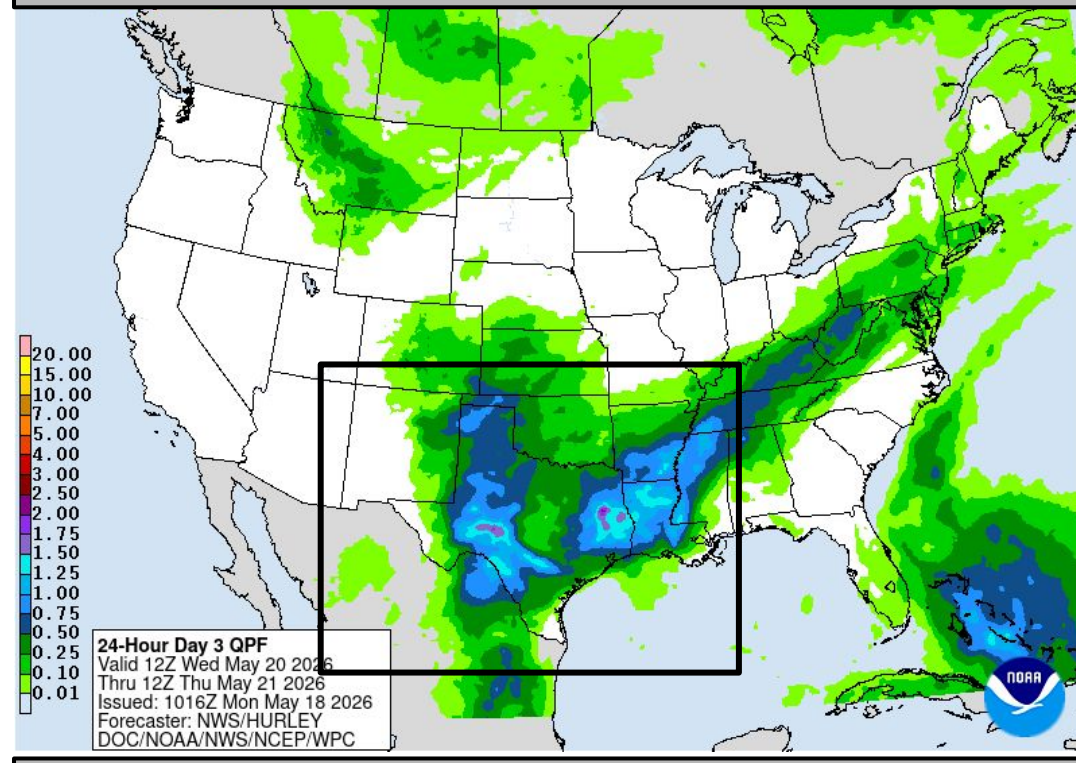


Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall

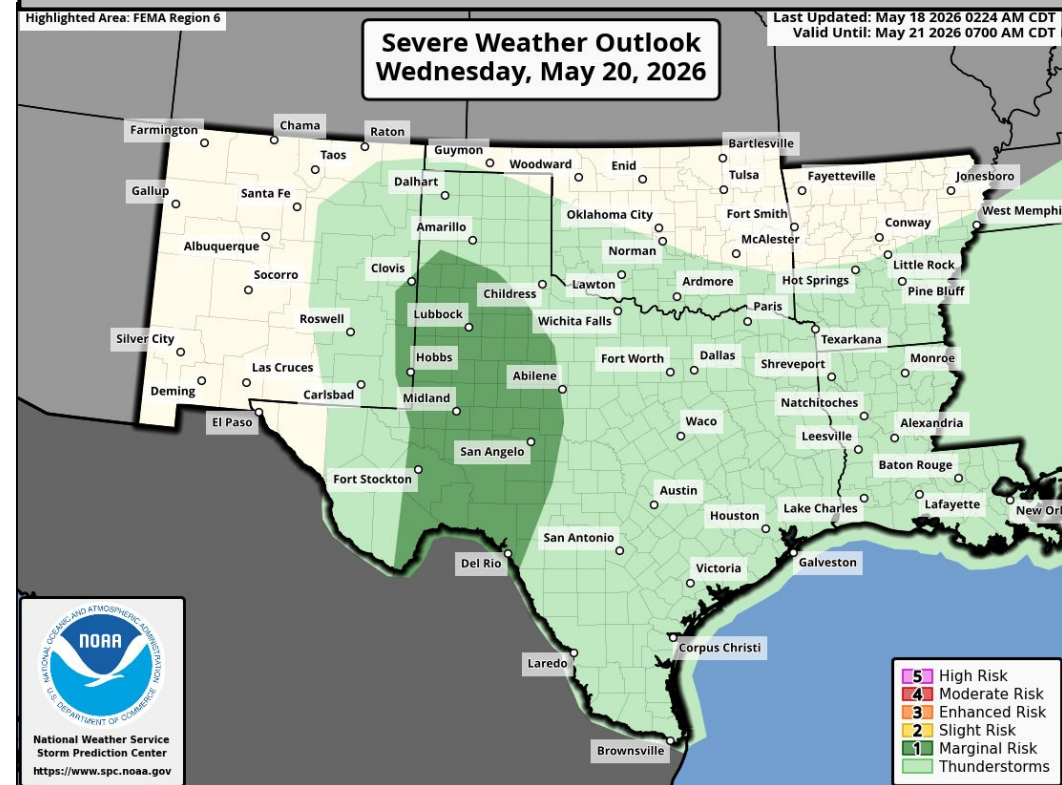


Slight risk (level 2 of 4) for flash flooding in SW/SC TX.

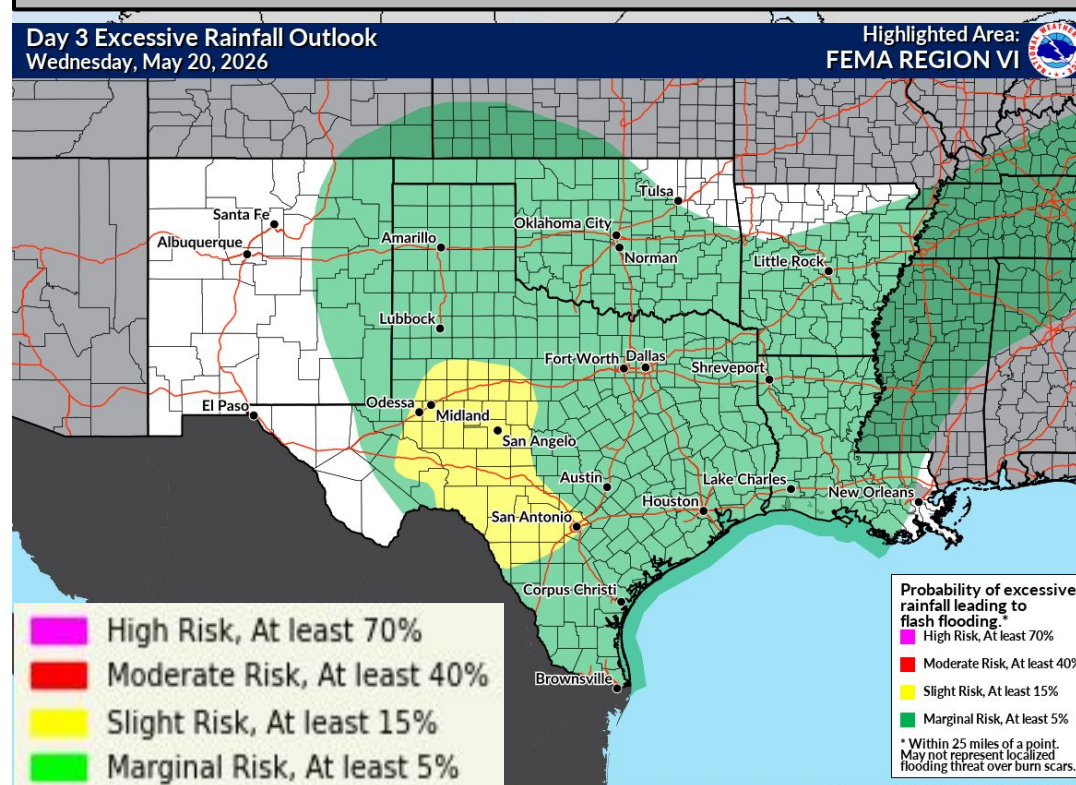
Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) for severe storms in SE NM, W/SW TX.

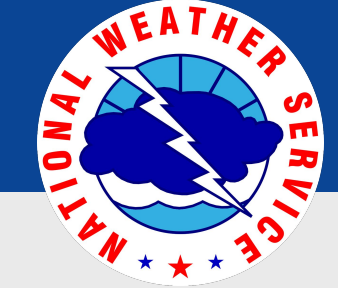
Above average temperatures in S TX could lead to health impacts.

Severe Weather Outlook

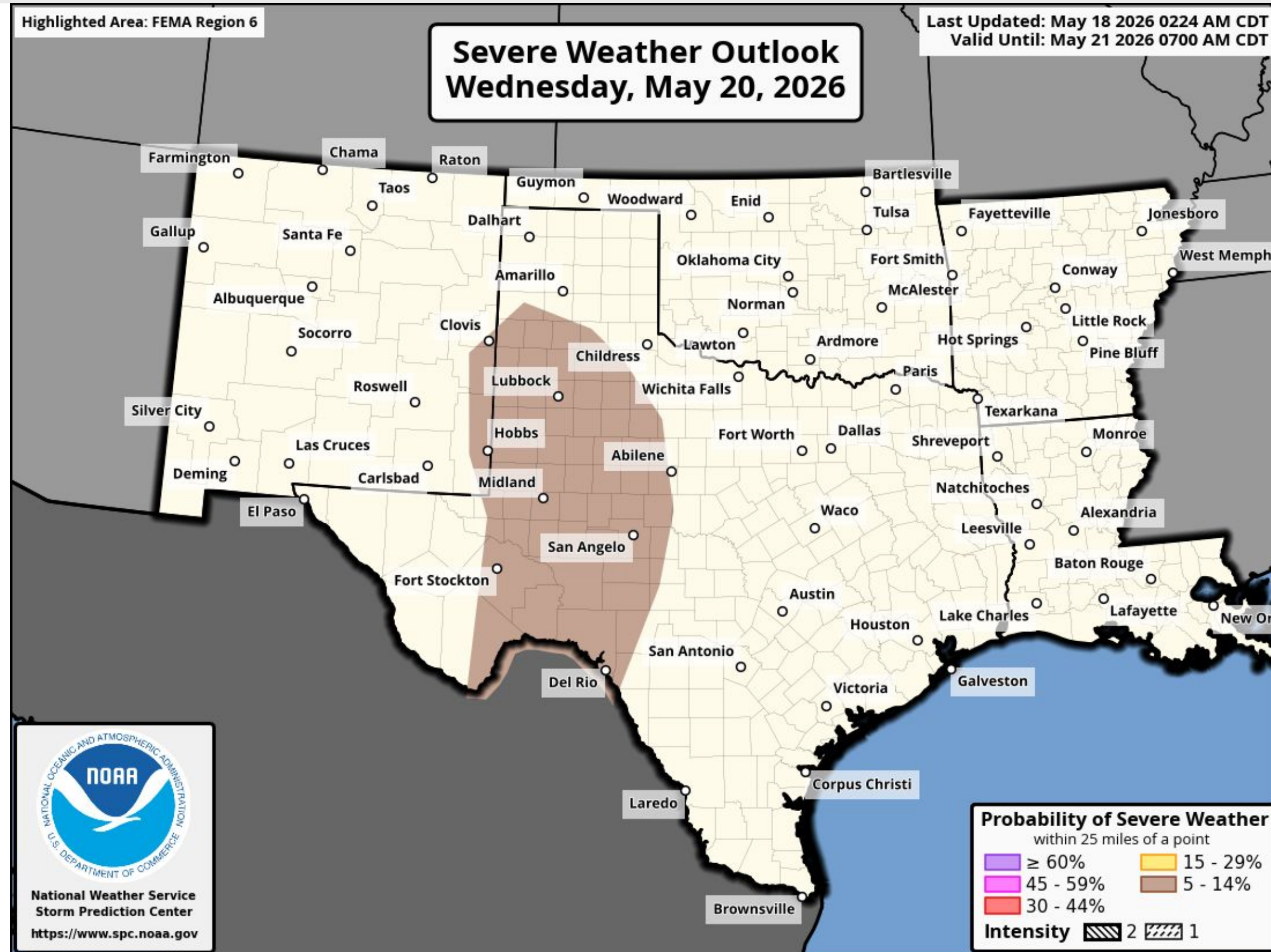


Excessive Rainfall Outlook





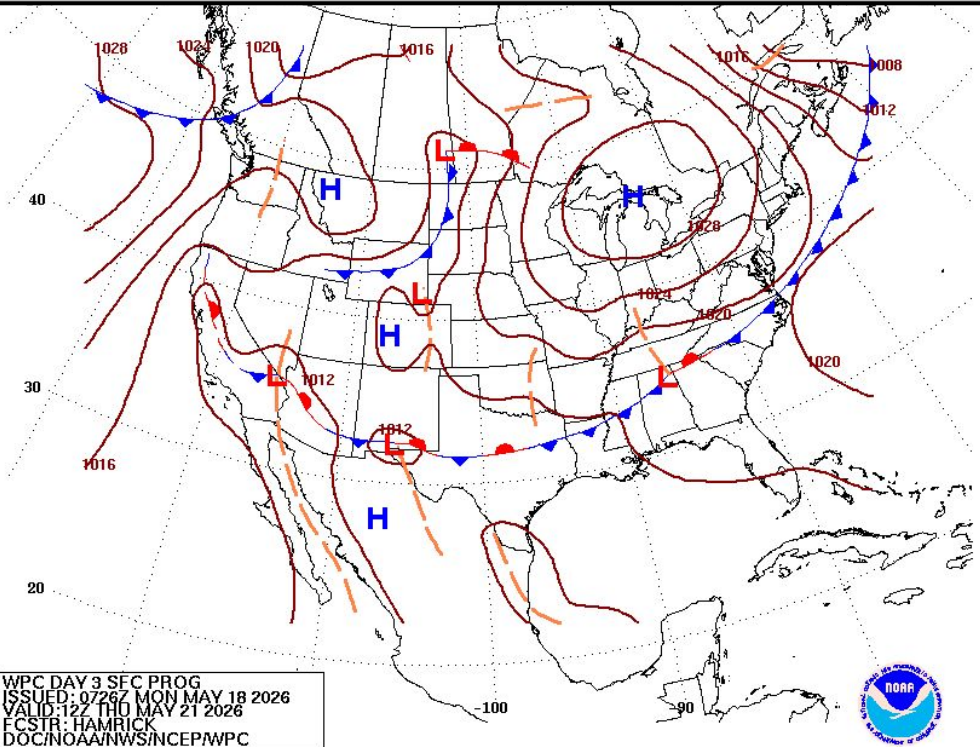
Wednesday's Severe Weather Probabilities/CIG Level





Thursday's Weather

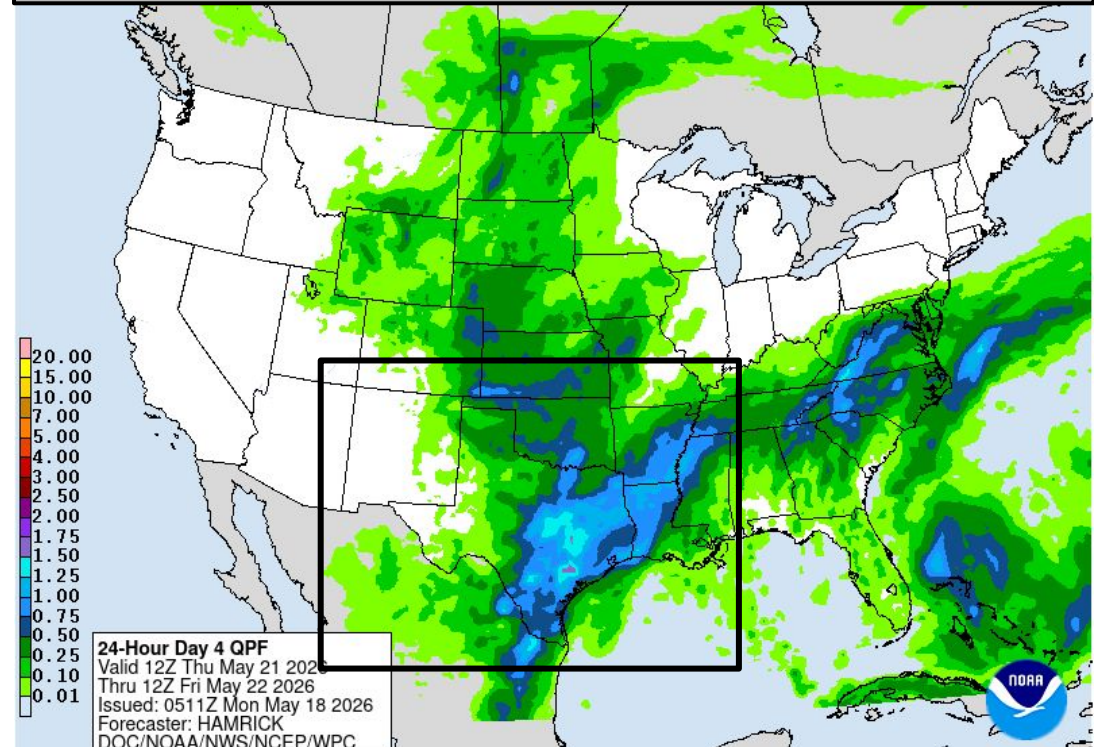
Forecast Chart



WPC DAY 3 SFC PROG
ISSUED: 0726Z MON MAY 18 2026
VALID: 12Z THU MAY 21 2026
FCSTR: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



Forecast Rainfall



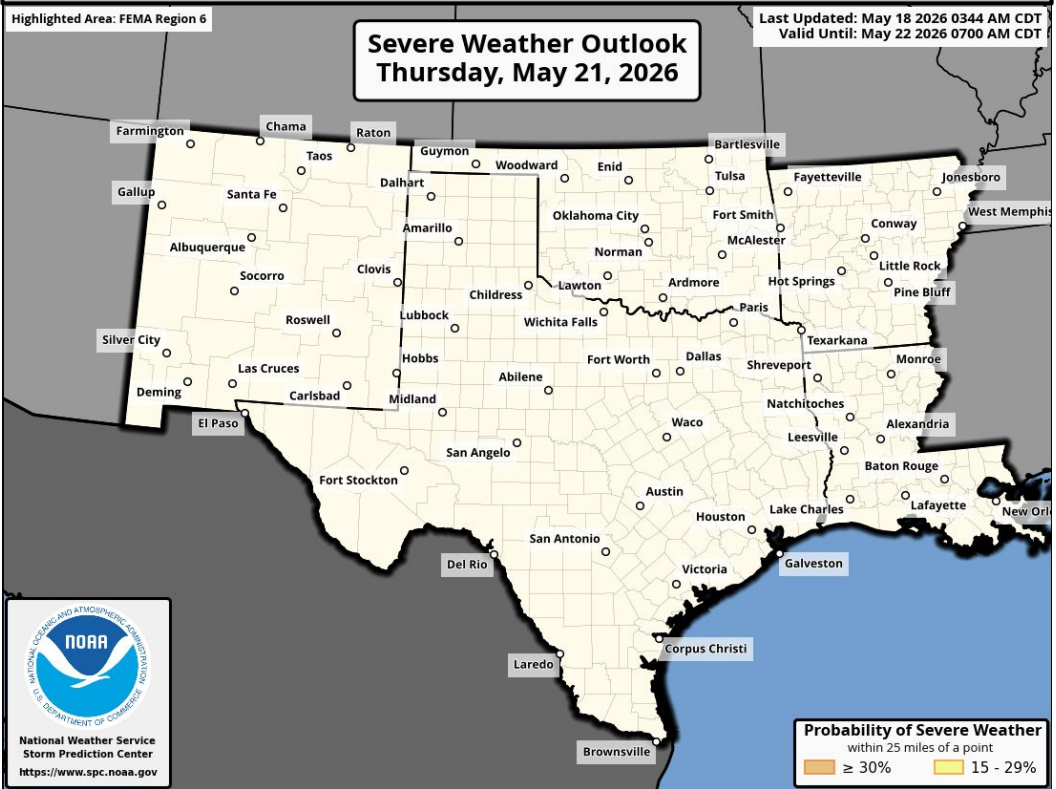
24-Hour Day 4 QPF
Valid 12Z Thu May 21 2026
Thru 12Z Fri May 22 2026
Issued: 0511Z Mon May 18 2026
Forecaster: HAMRICK
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



Slight risk (level 2 of 4) for flash flooding in SC-NETX.

Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in TX, OK, AR, LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



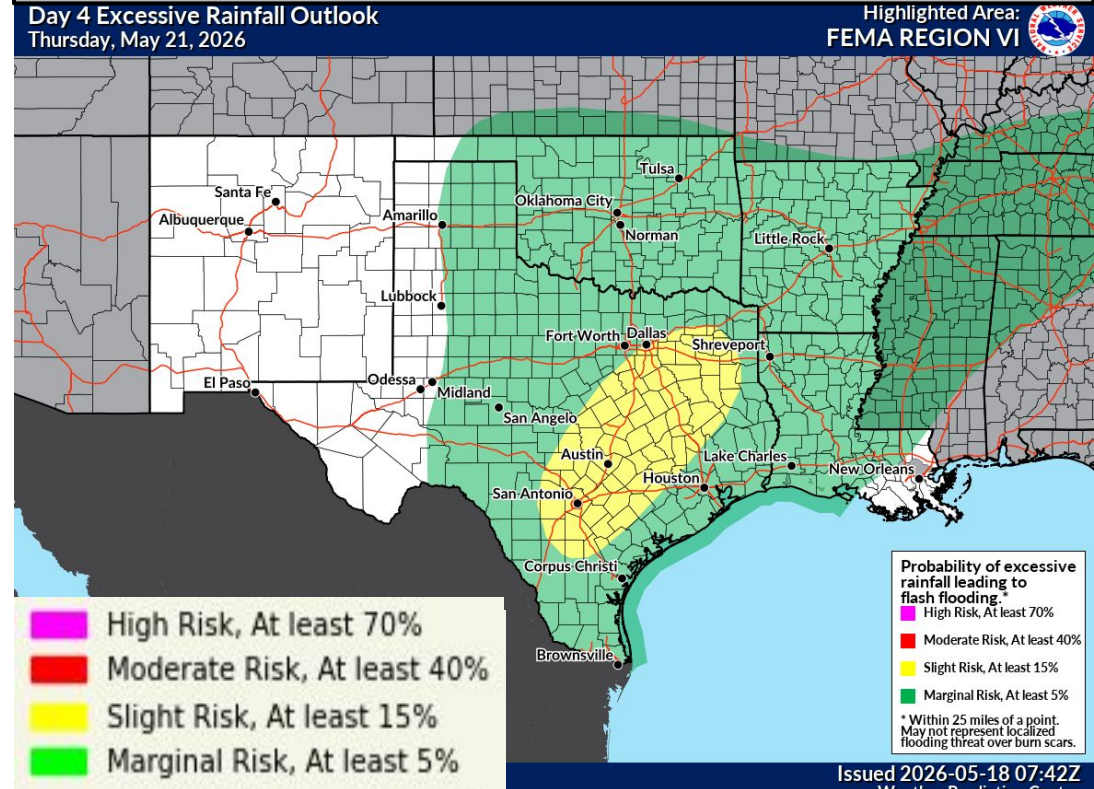
Severe Weather Outlook
Thursday, May 21, 2026

Last Updated: May 18 2026 0344 AM CDT
Valid Until: May 22 2026 0700 AM CDT

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



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 4 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Thursday, May 21, 2026

Highlighted Area:
FEMA REGION VI

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.

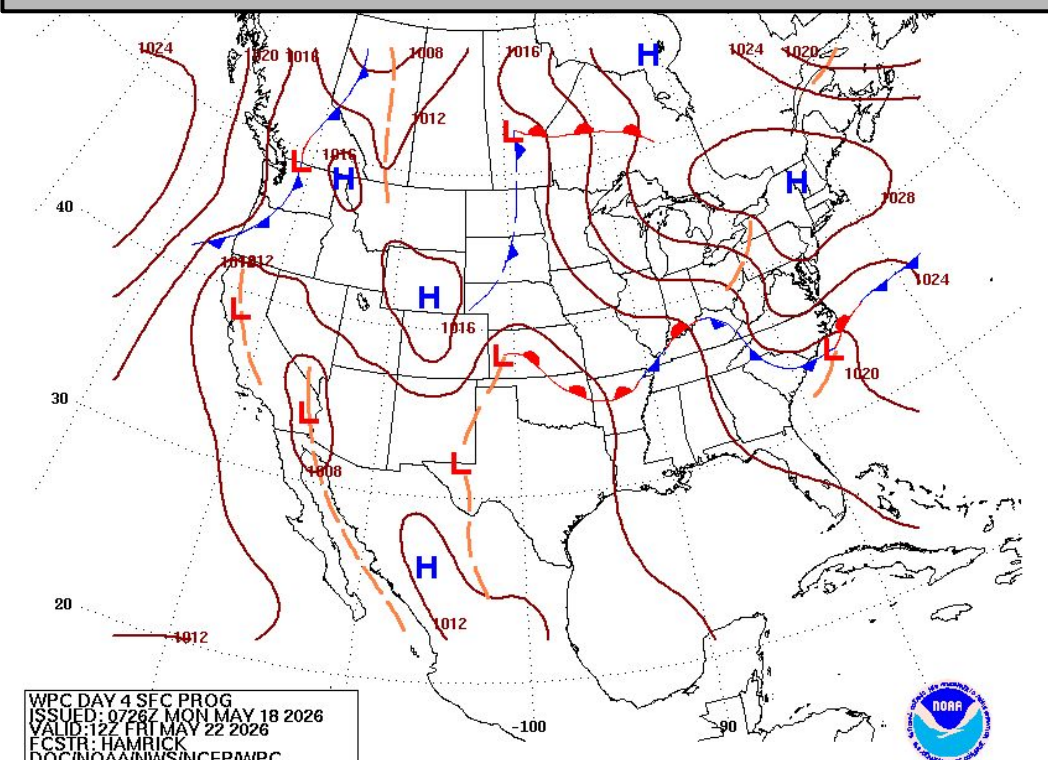
Issued 2026-05-18 07:42Z
Weather Prediction Center



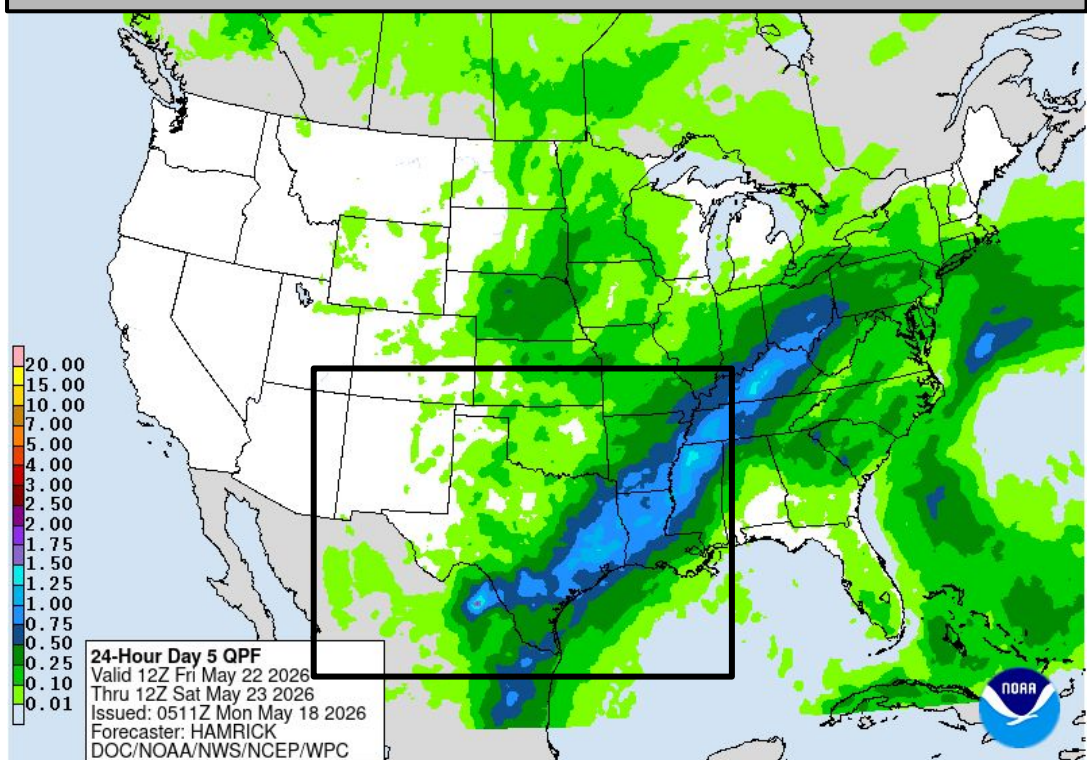


Friday's Weather

Forecast Chart

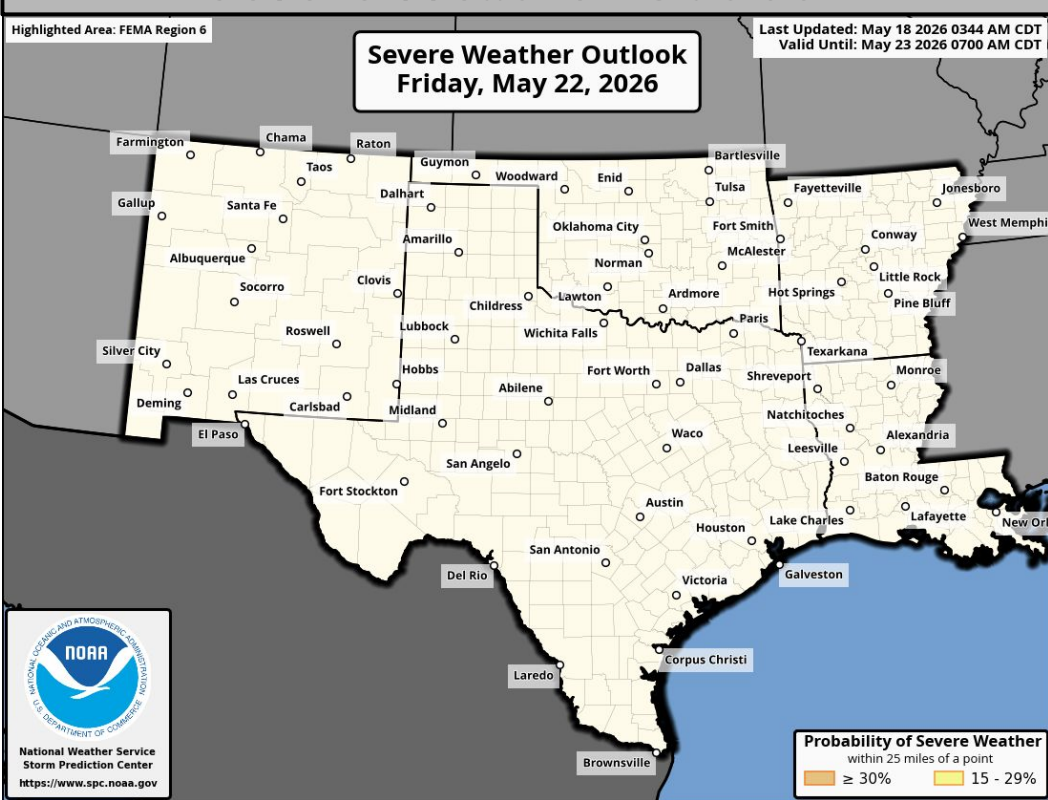


Forecast Rainfall

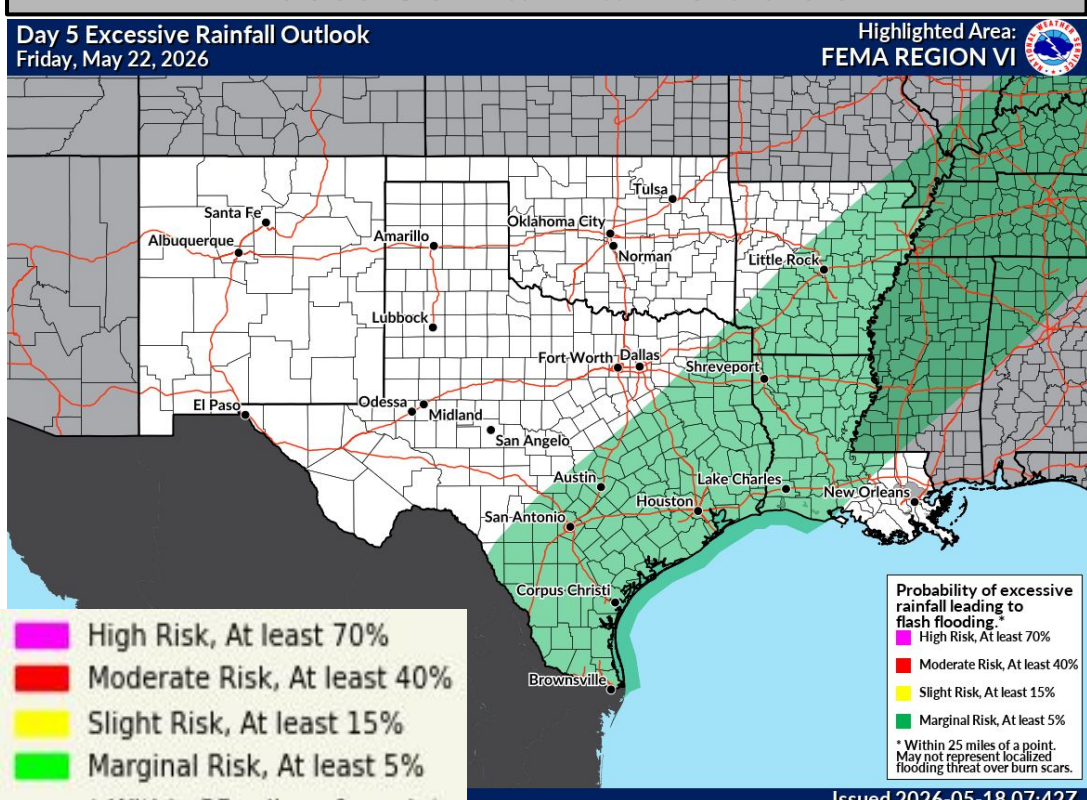


Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in AR, S/SE/ETX, LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



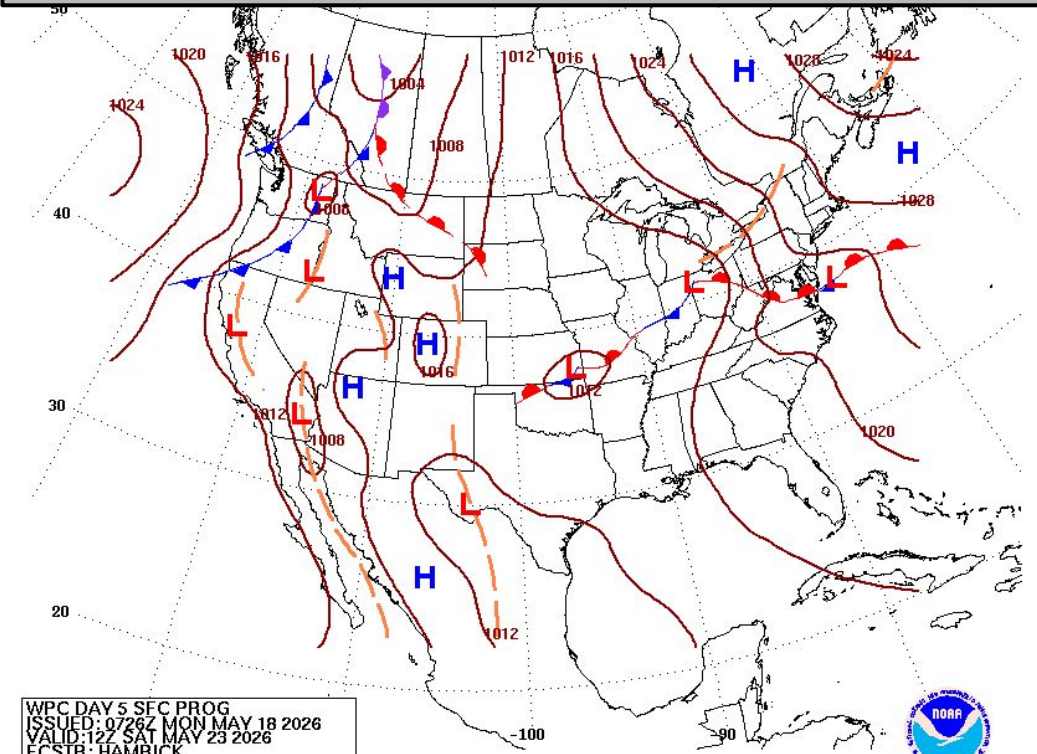
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



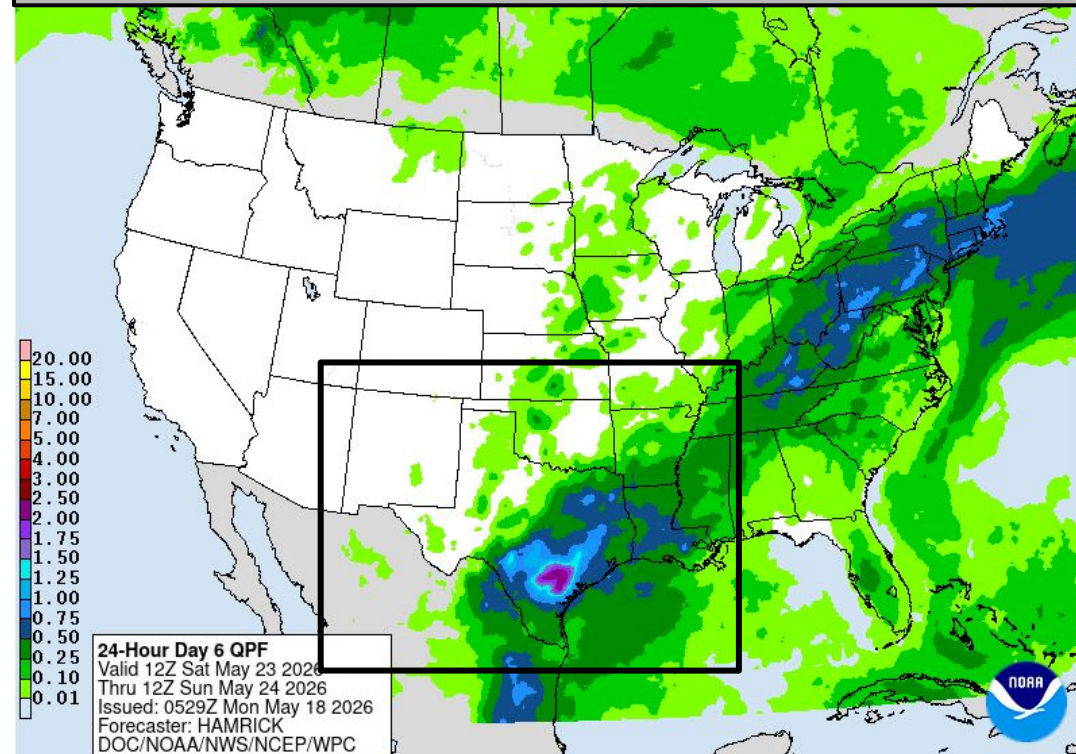


Saturday's Weather

Forecast Chart

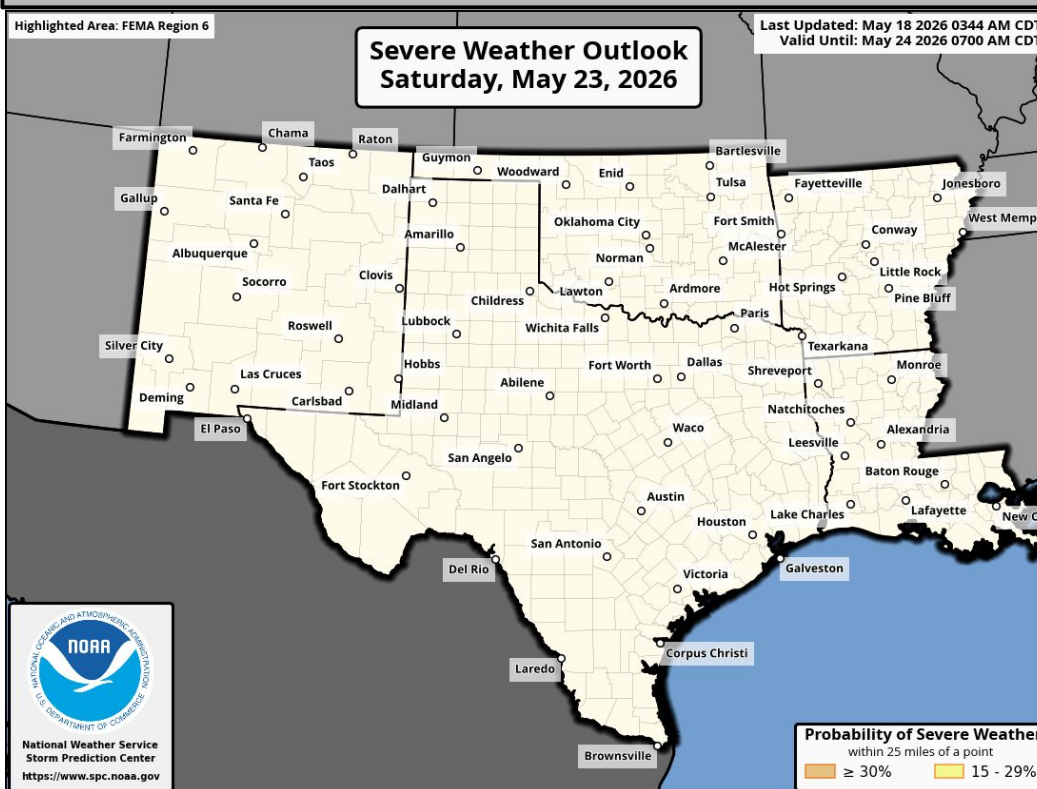


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring TX for flash flooding.

Severe Weather Outlook

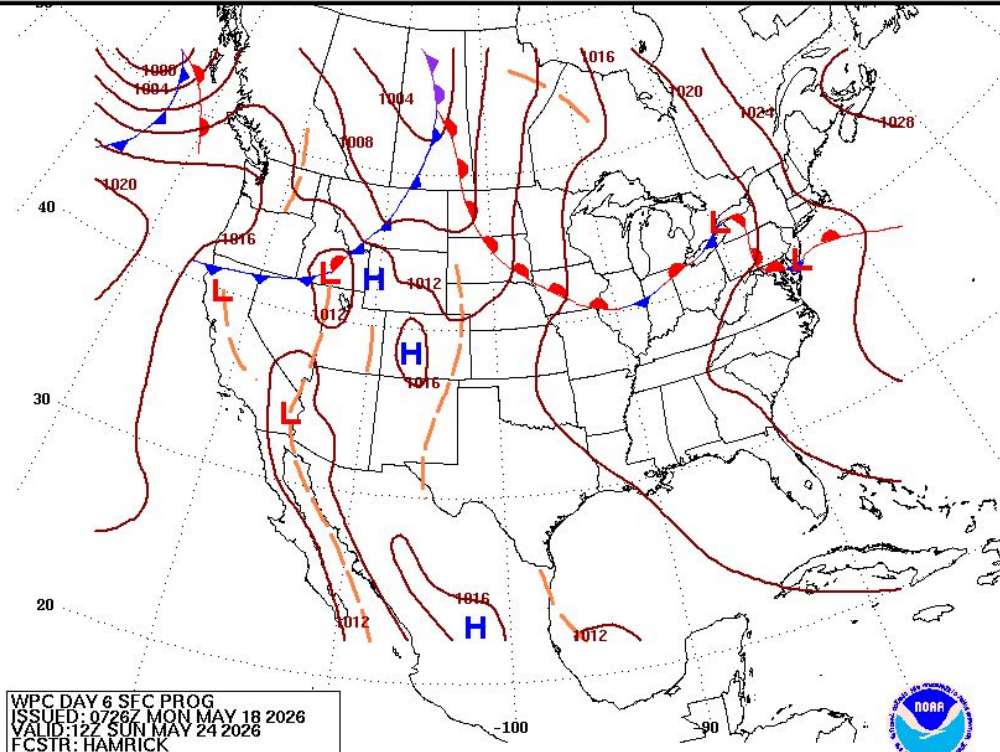


Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

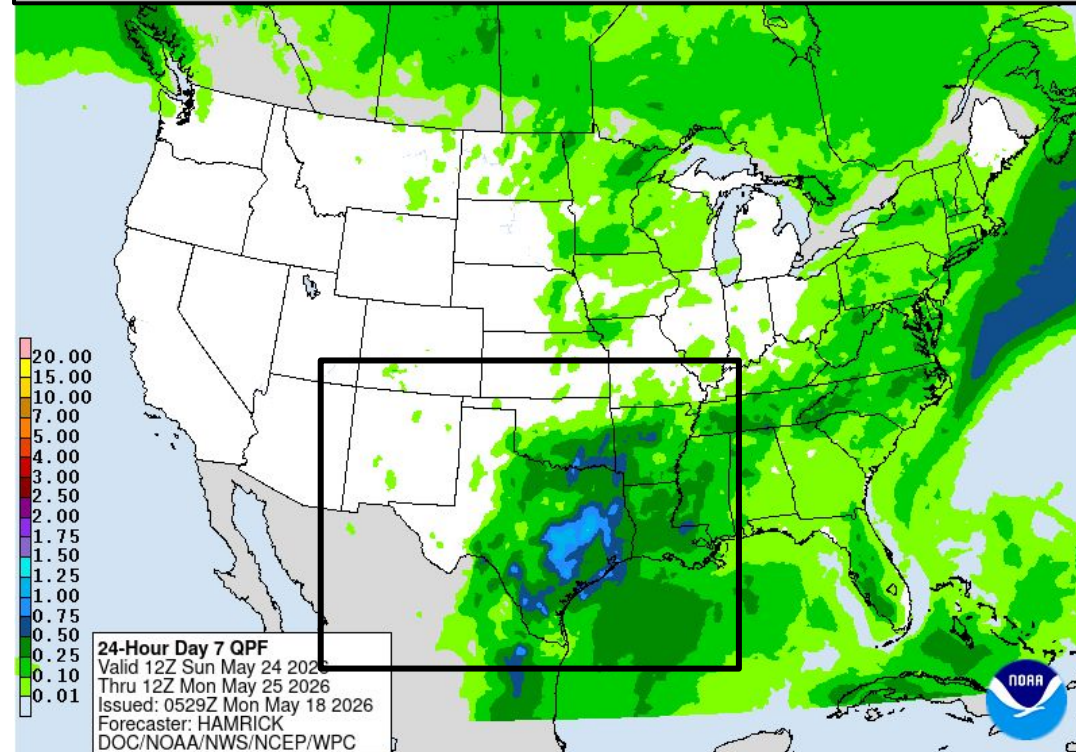


Sunday's Weather

Forecast Chart

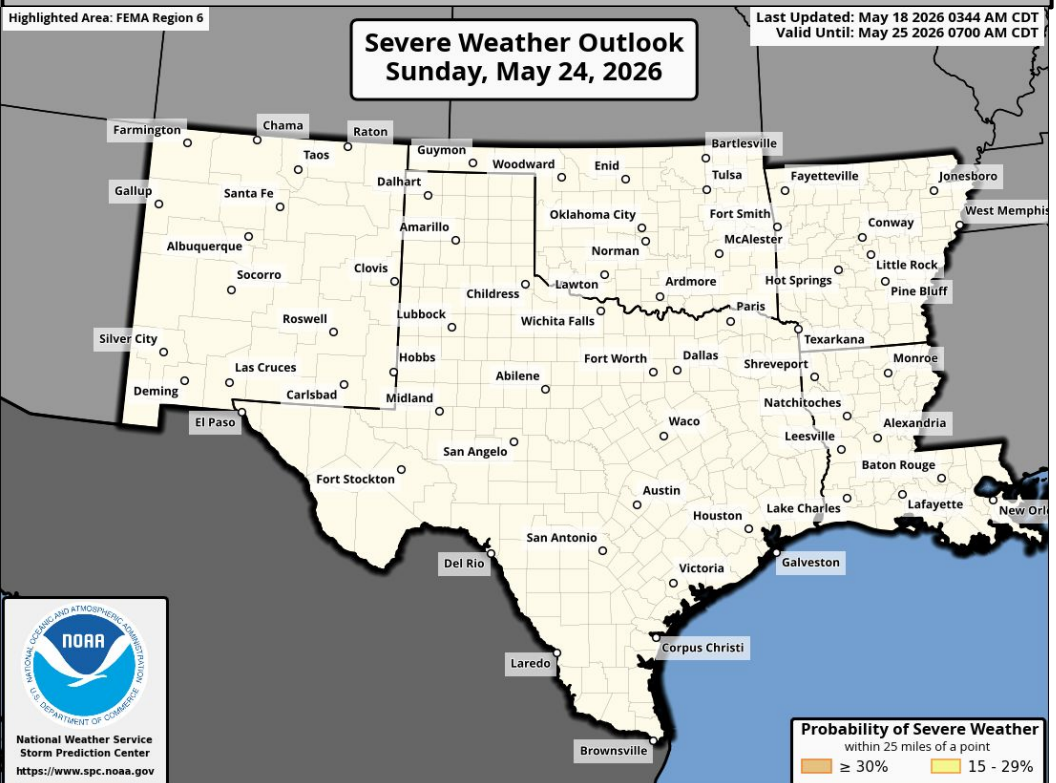


Forecast Rainfall

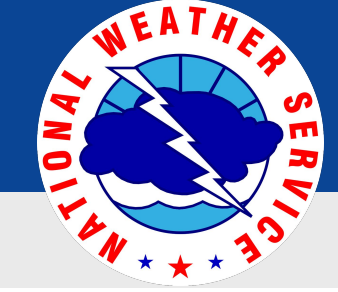


No significant weather expected.

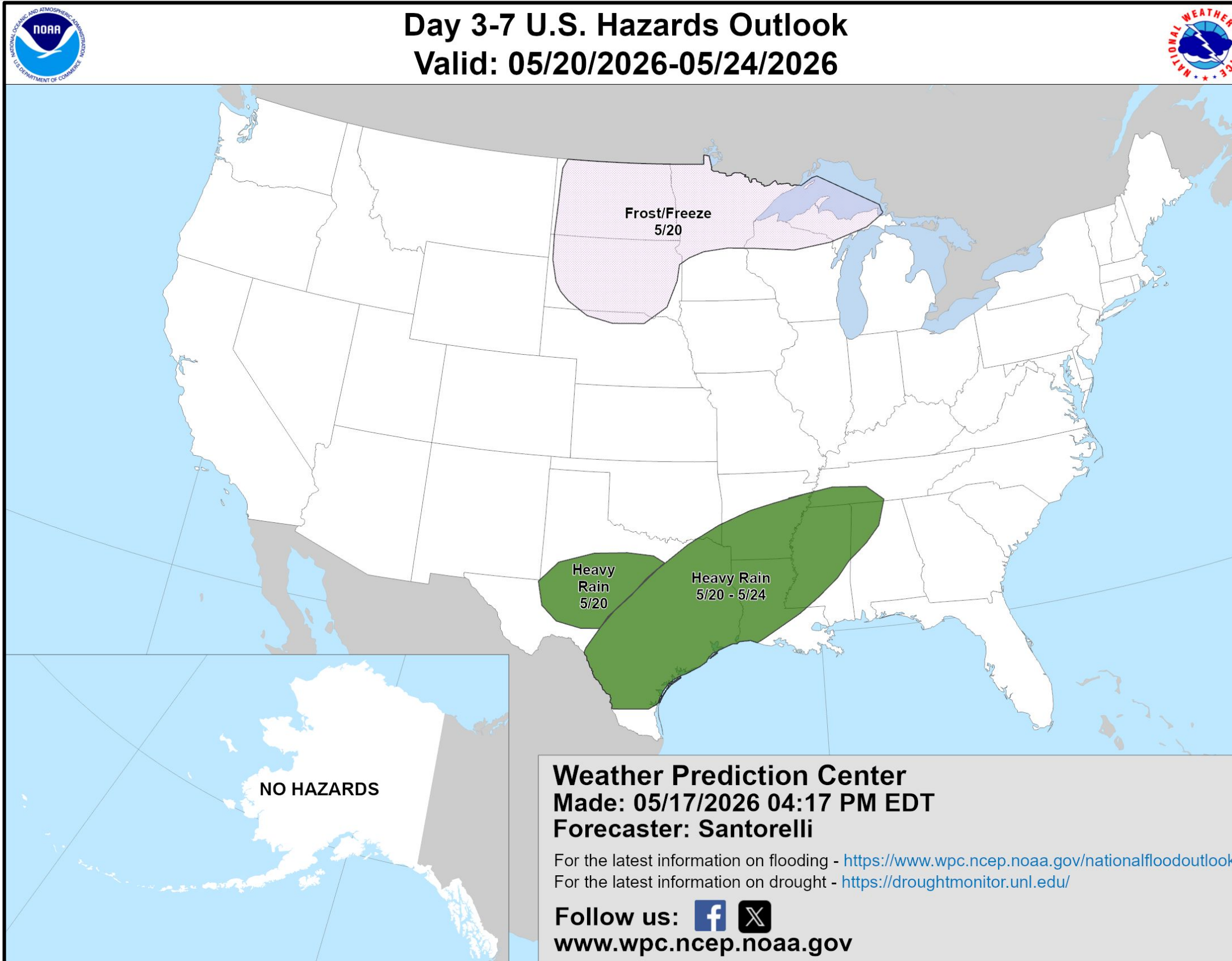
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlooks not available beyond Day 5

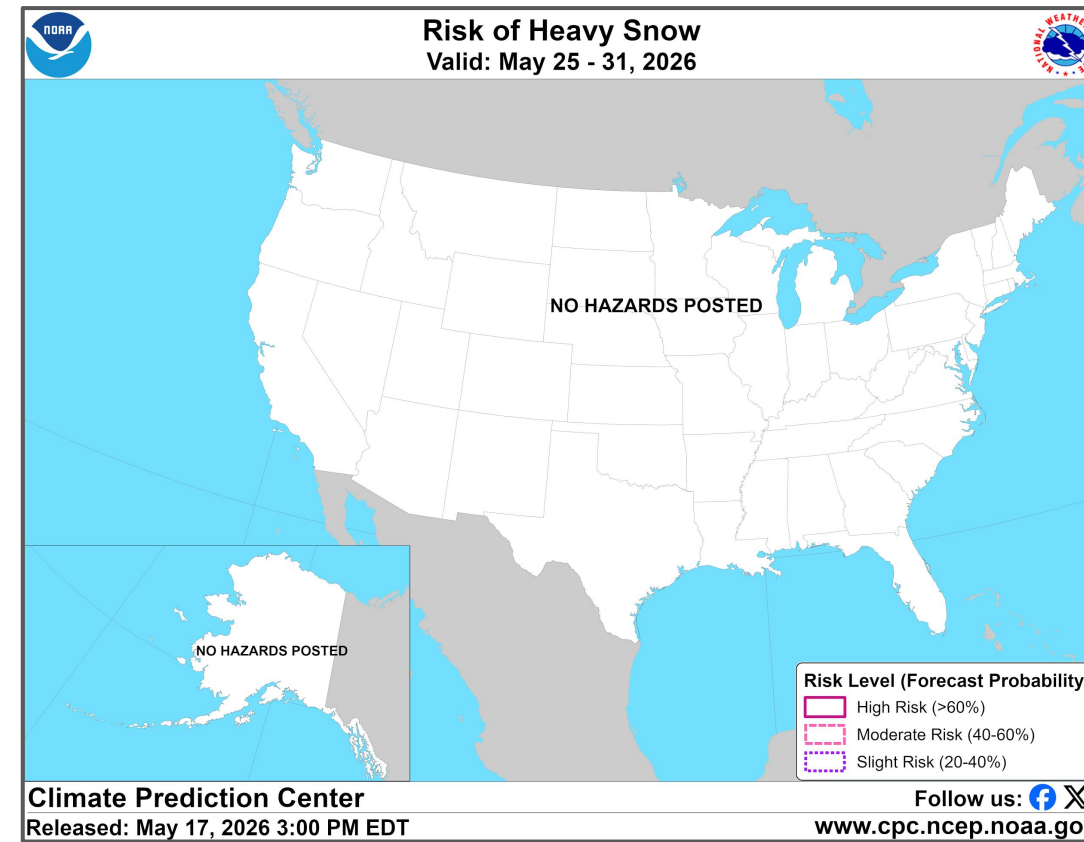
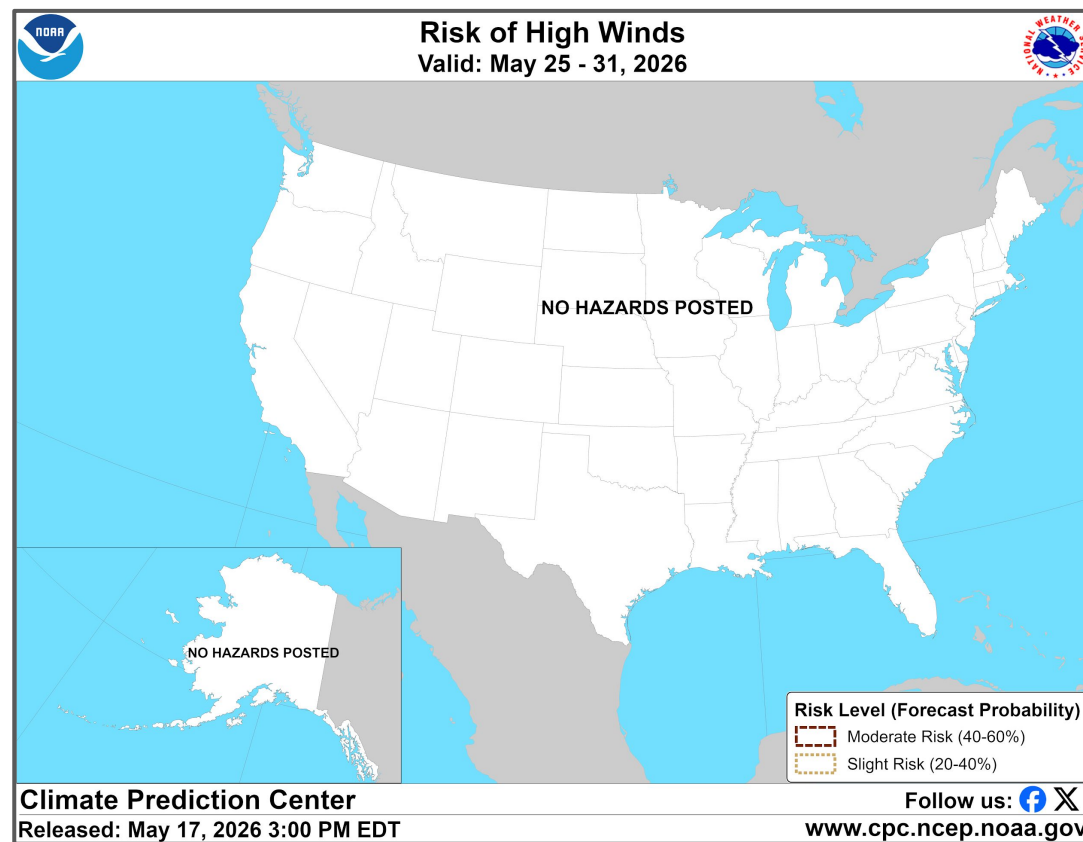
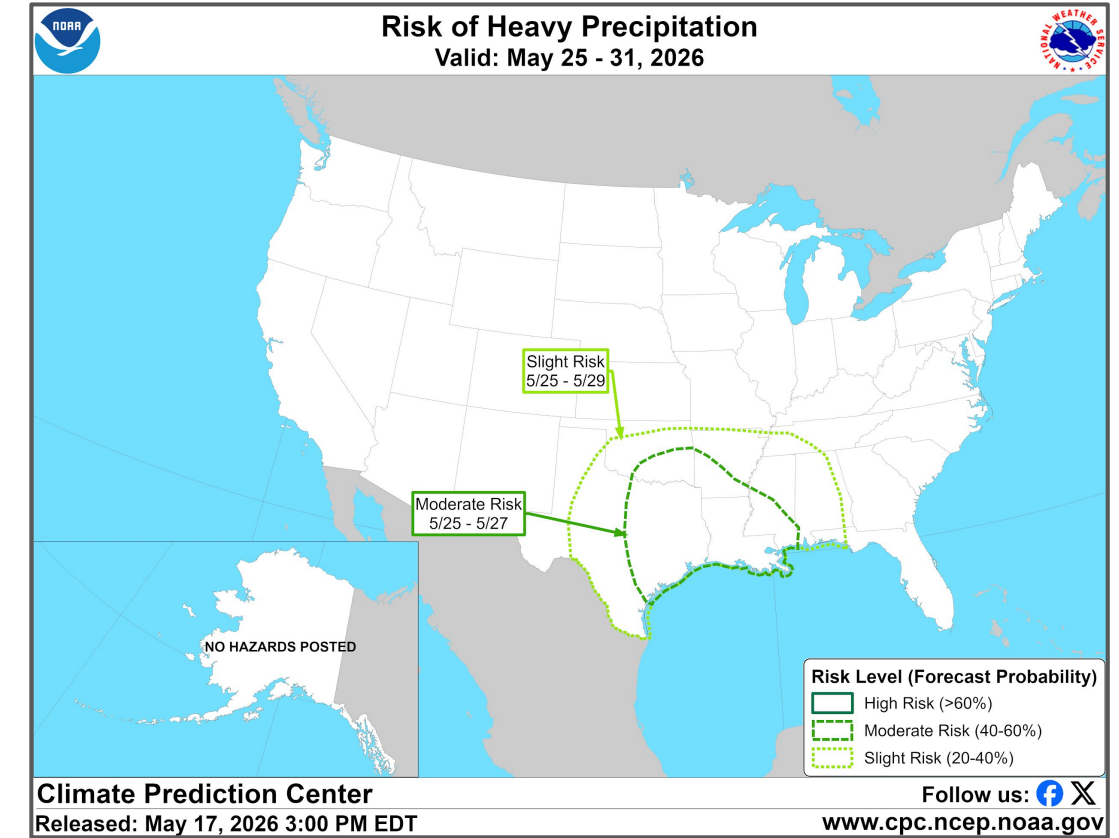
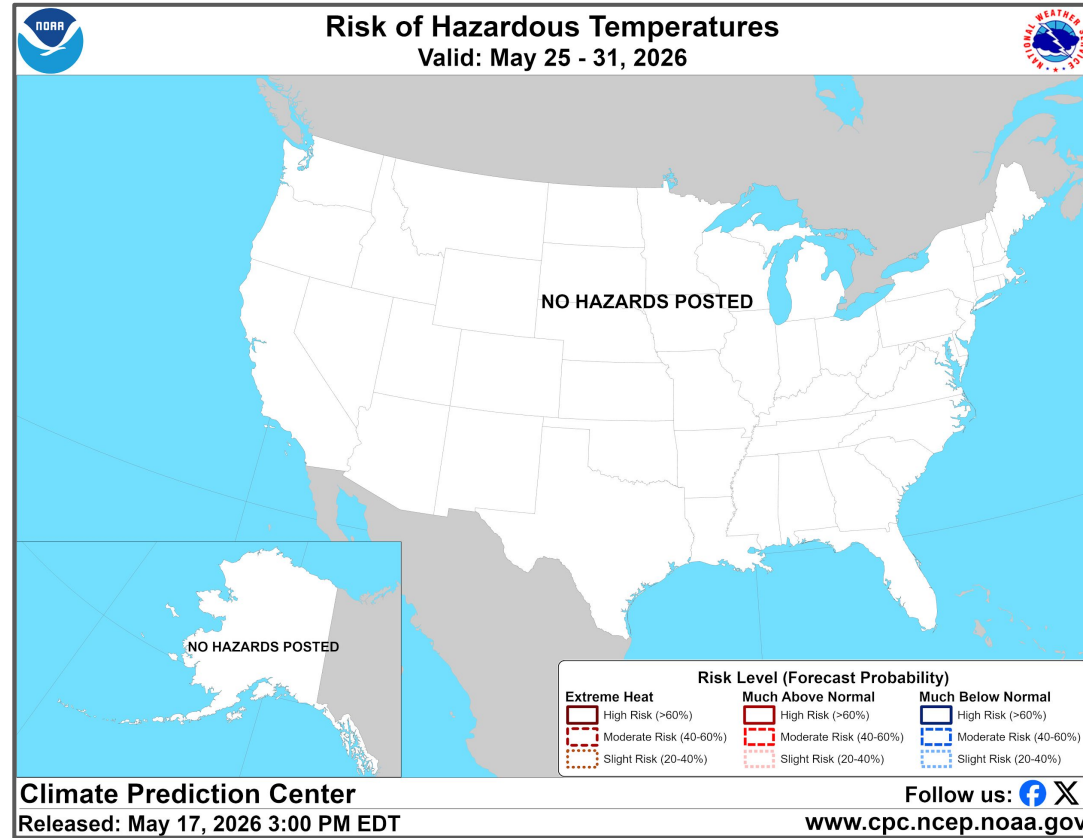
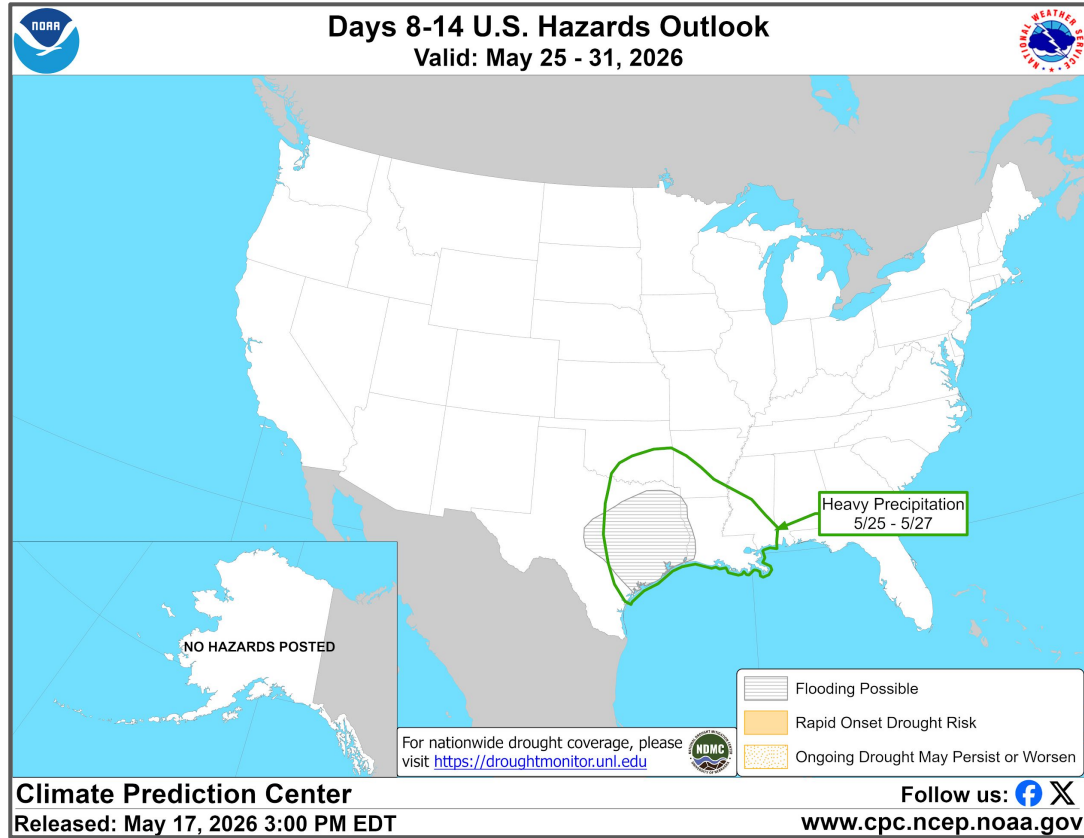


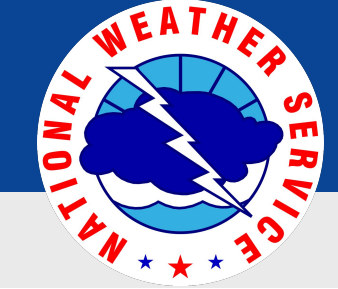
“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





"Day 8-14" Hazards Outlook

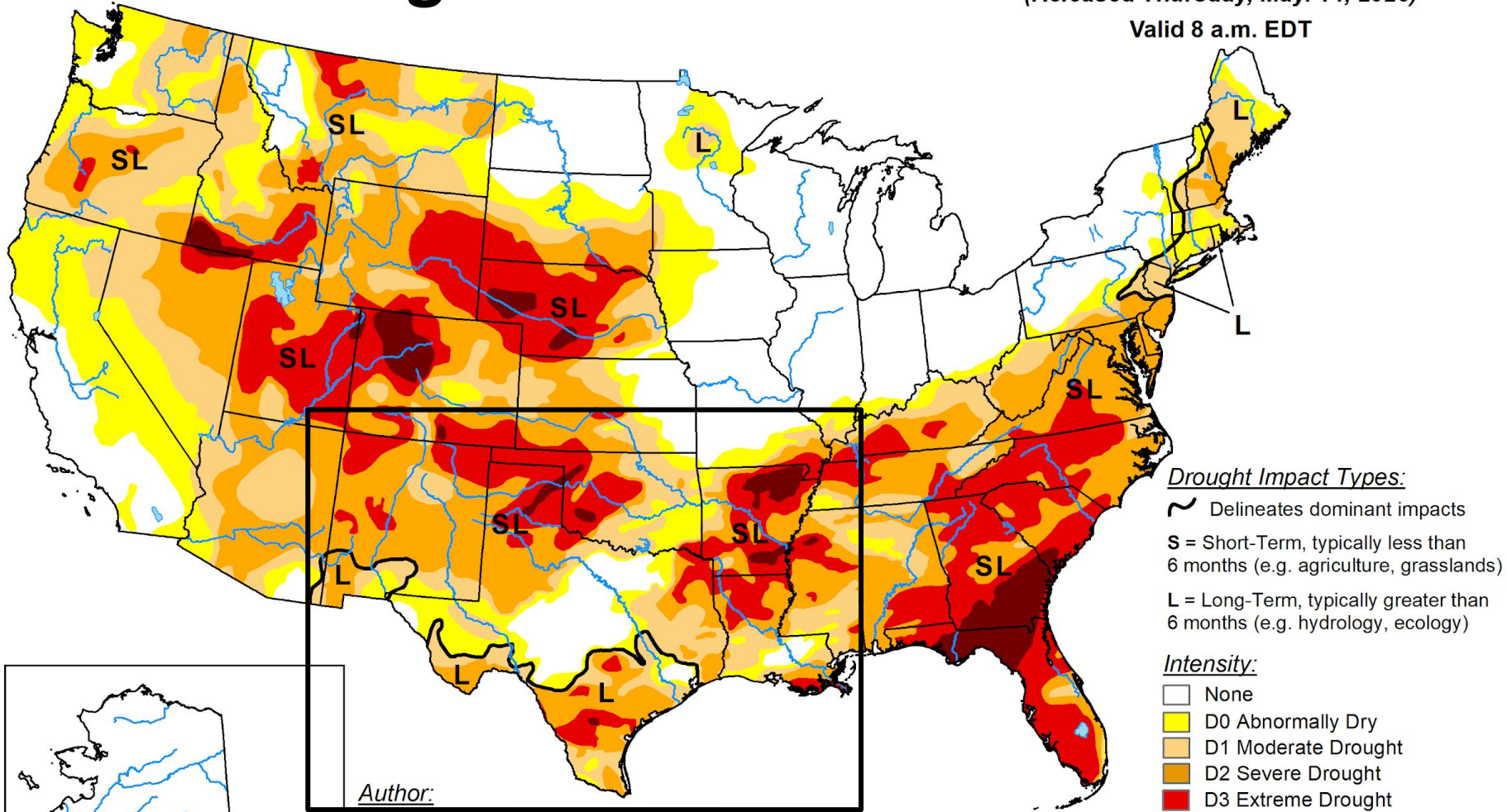




Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

May 12, 2026
(Released Thursday, May 14, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



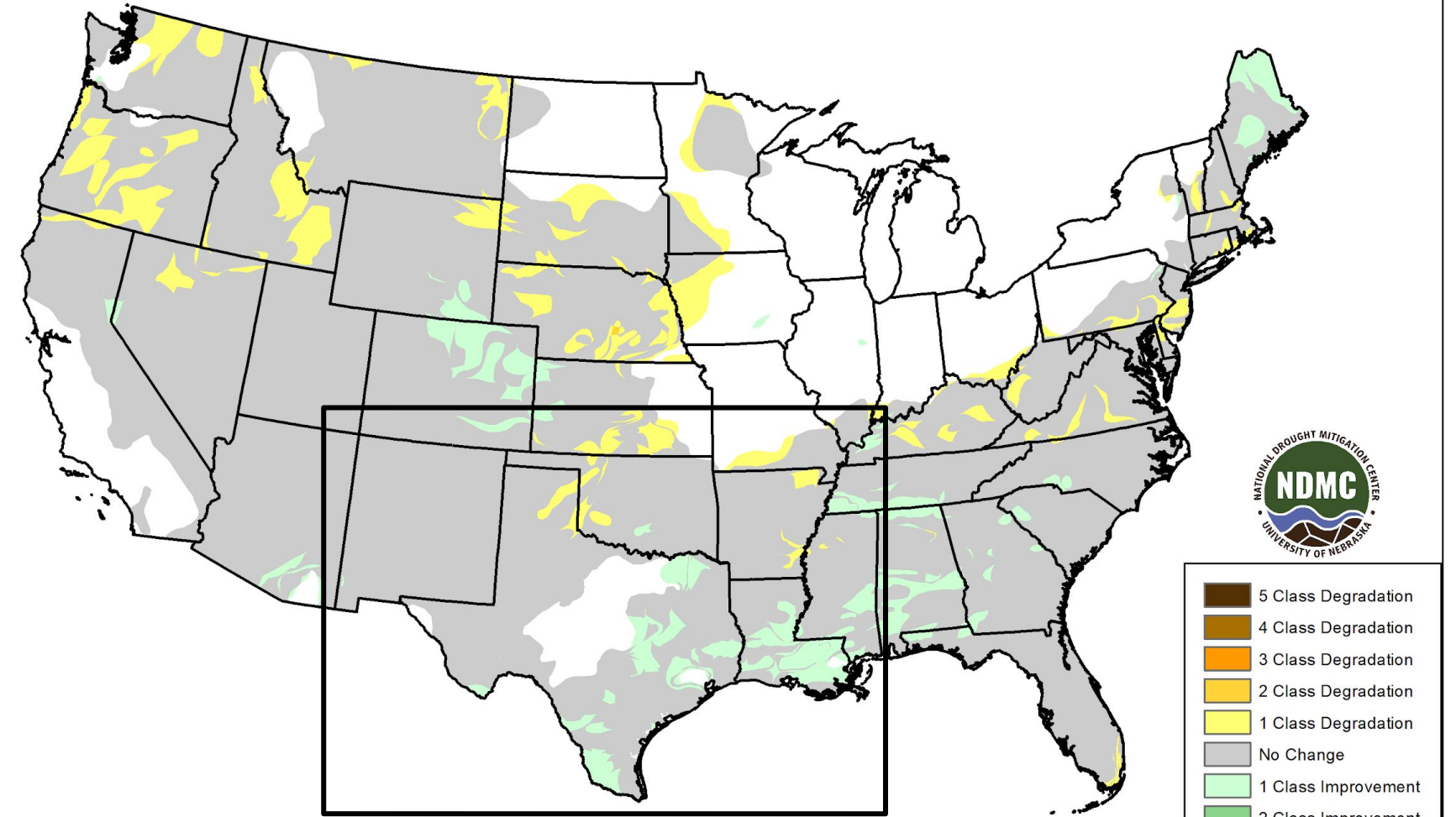
Author:
Rocky Bilotta
NCEI/NOAA

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - CONUS 1 Week

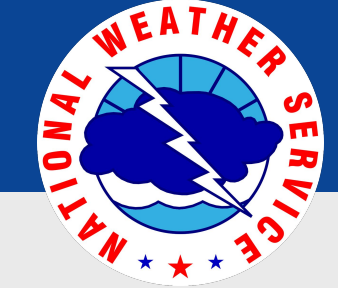


droughtmonitor.unl.edu



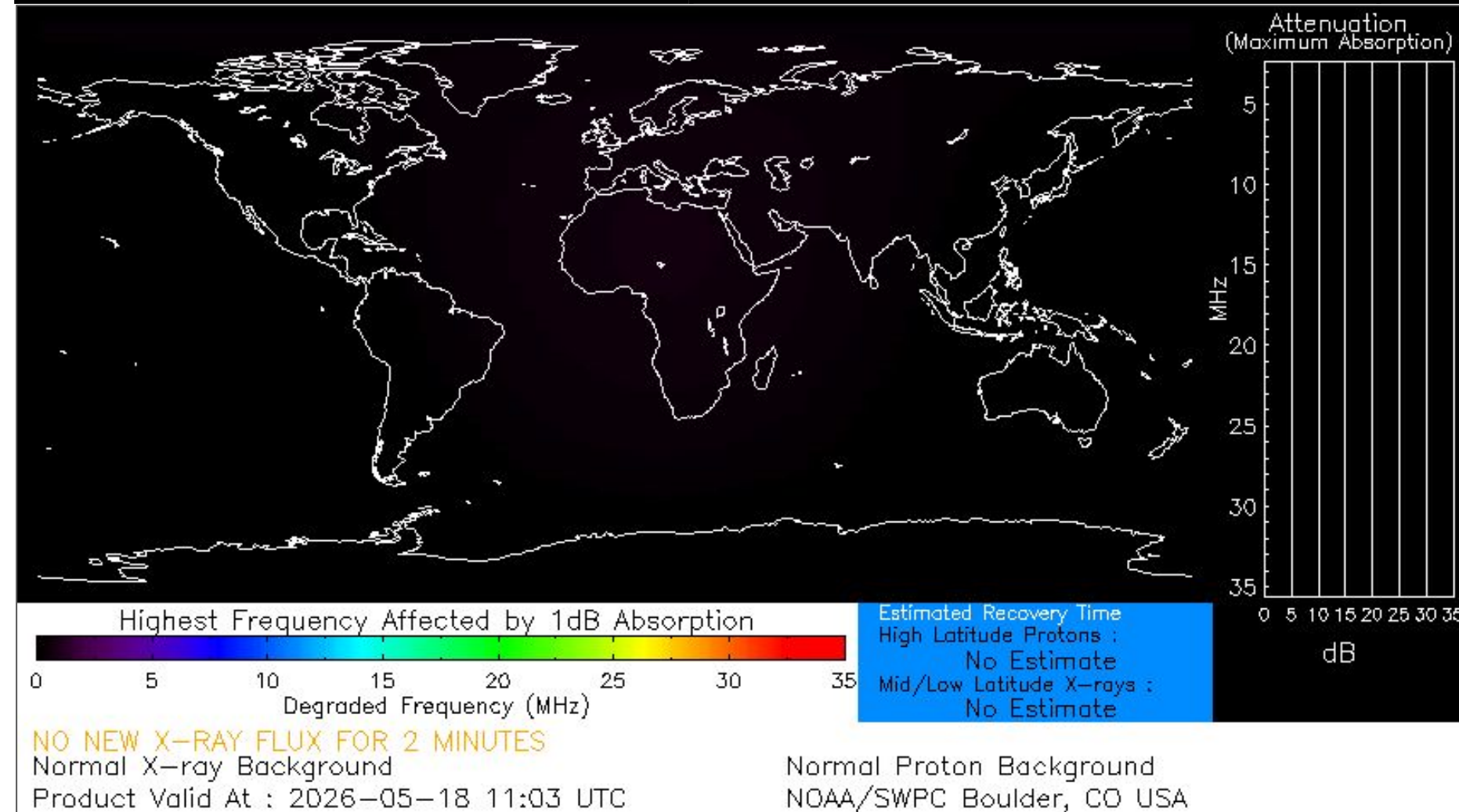
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Southern Region



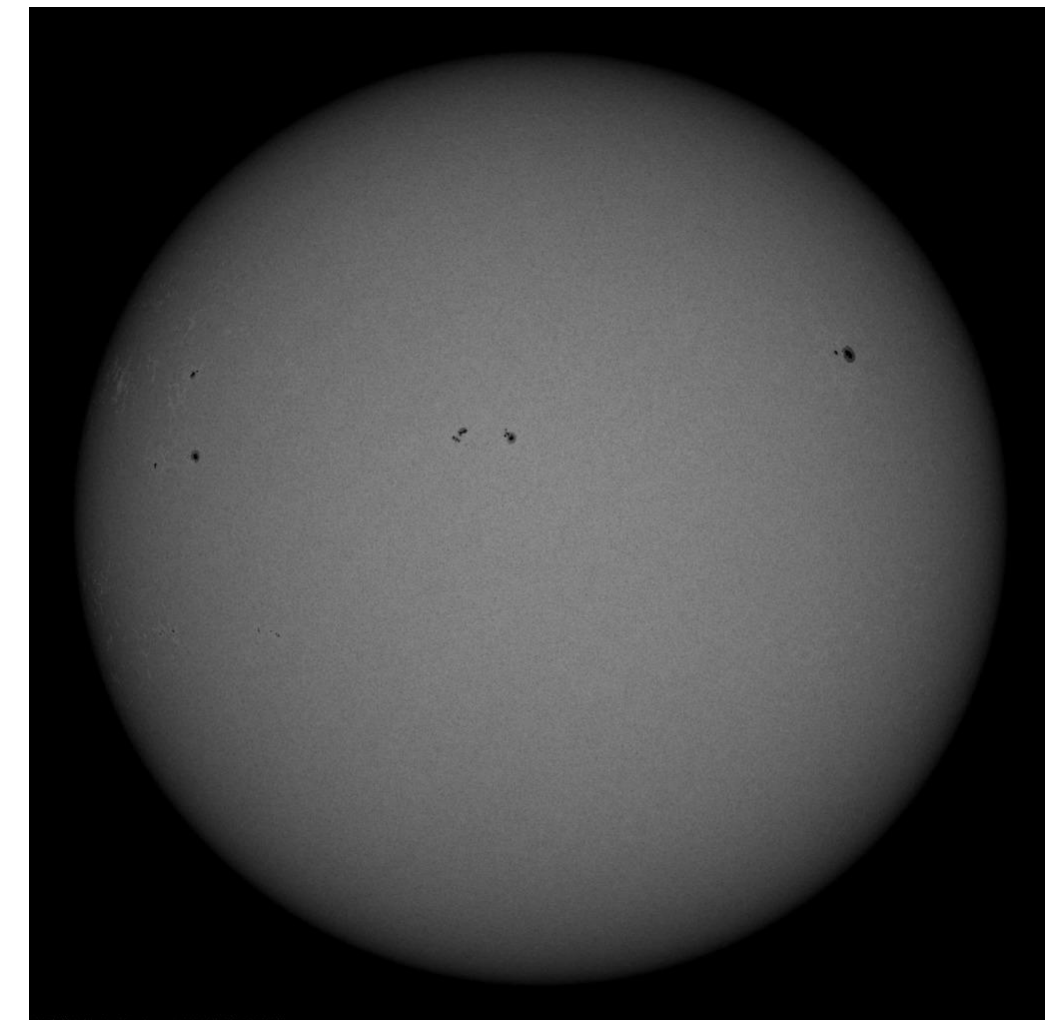
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Monday, May 18	Tuesday, May 19	Wednesday, May 20
Geomagnetic Storms	Minor G1 Storm (Max Kp=5)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Quiet (Max Kp=2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	5%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	40%	45%	45%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	5%	5%	5%



[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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