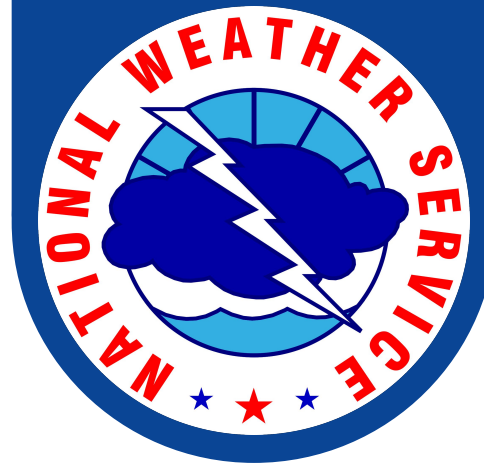




FEMA



Prepared by
Mark Wiley

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, September 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.



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

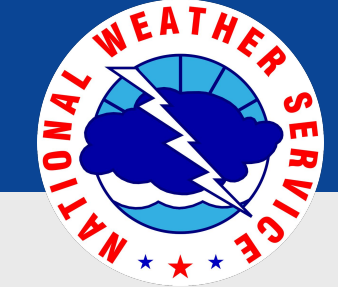
National Weather Service
Sector 2 - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico



Summary

- **Flash Flooding:**
 - **Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) risk today across New Mexico and far W TX expanding into portions of OK, NW AR, the Panhandles and NW TX Saturday-Monday.**
 - **Slight risk (level 2 of 4) Tuesday over E NM; NM and NW TX on Wednesday and over E NM on Thursday.**
 - **High risk (level 3 of 3) for burn scar flooding over the Sacramento Complex today as localized rainfall rates will approach 1-2" per hr in heavier thunderstorms. Moderate Risk (level 2 of 3) by Saturday, and Low Risk Sunday-Monday. Moderate risk returns on Tuesday.**
- **Severe Weather: Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) Saturday over N NM, TX/OK Panhandles and N OK; over OK and NW TX on Sunday. Damaging winds will be the main threat.**
- **Fire Weather: Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns for portions of NW TX and SW-C OK through Saturday.**
- **Tropical: The area in the central subtropical Atlantic has been dropped. A new system to the SW of the Azores has a 30% of development. No tropical impacts expected over the next 7 days.**





FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Next 7 days

	Friday, Sep 18	Saturday, Sep 19	Sunday, Sep 20	Monday, Sep 21	Tuesday, Sep 22	Wednesday, Sep 23	Thursday, Sep 24
Severe Storms		SE NM, TX/OK Panhandles, N OK	OK, NW TX				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NM, Far W TX	NM, TX/OK Panhandles, Far W TX	NE NM, OK, NW AR, NW TX	E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, NW TX	E NM	NM, NW TX	E NM
Fire Weather	NW TX, SW-C OK	NW TX, SW-C OK					
Tropical							
River Flooding							

Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

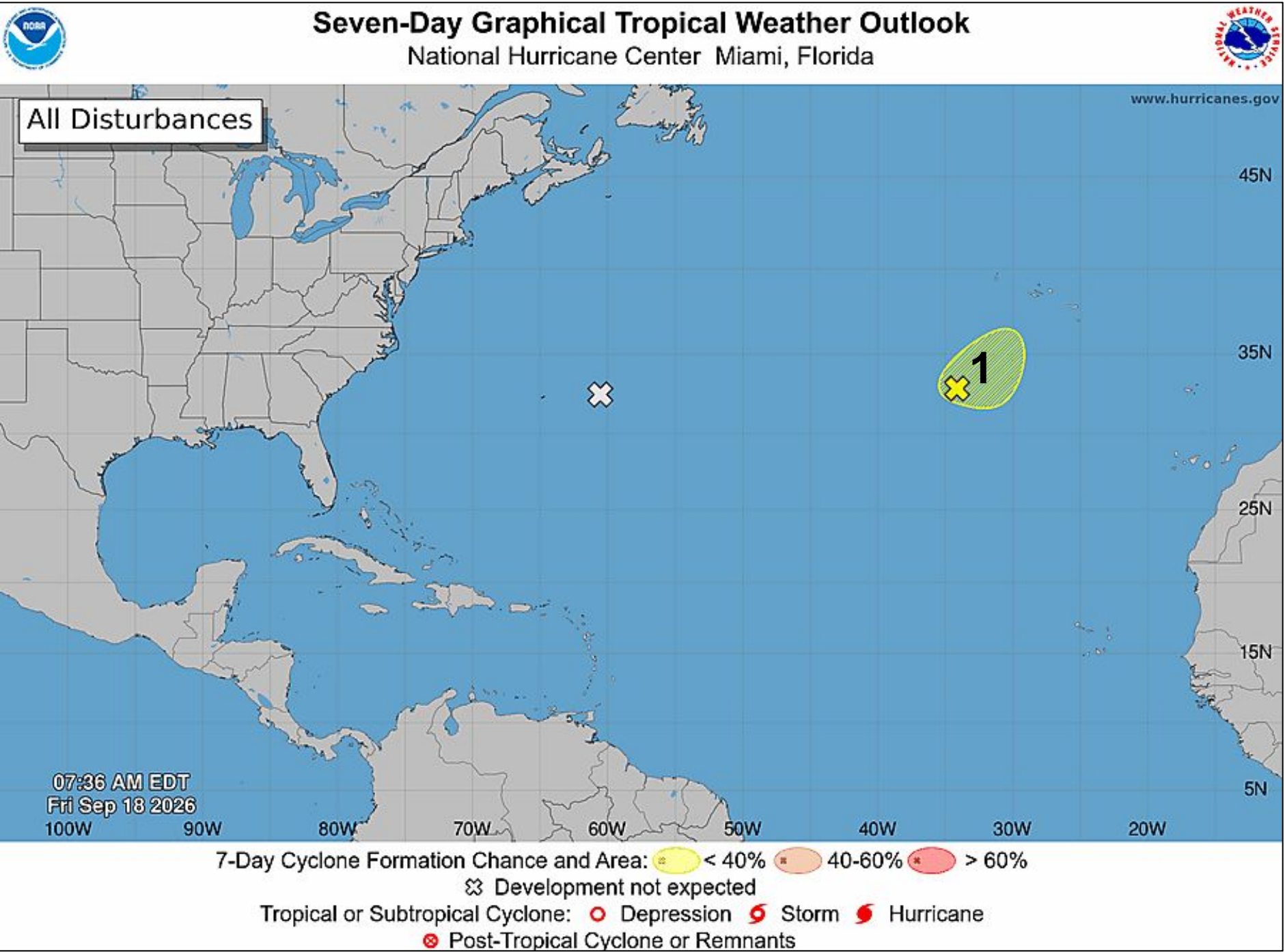
Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf

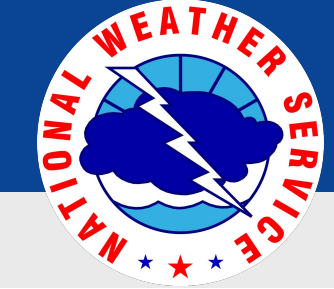
Areas of Possible Development		
Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
I	Low	None

Active Tropical Cyclones	
Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6



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





Current Radar/Hazards

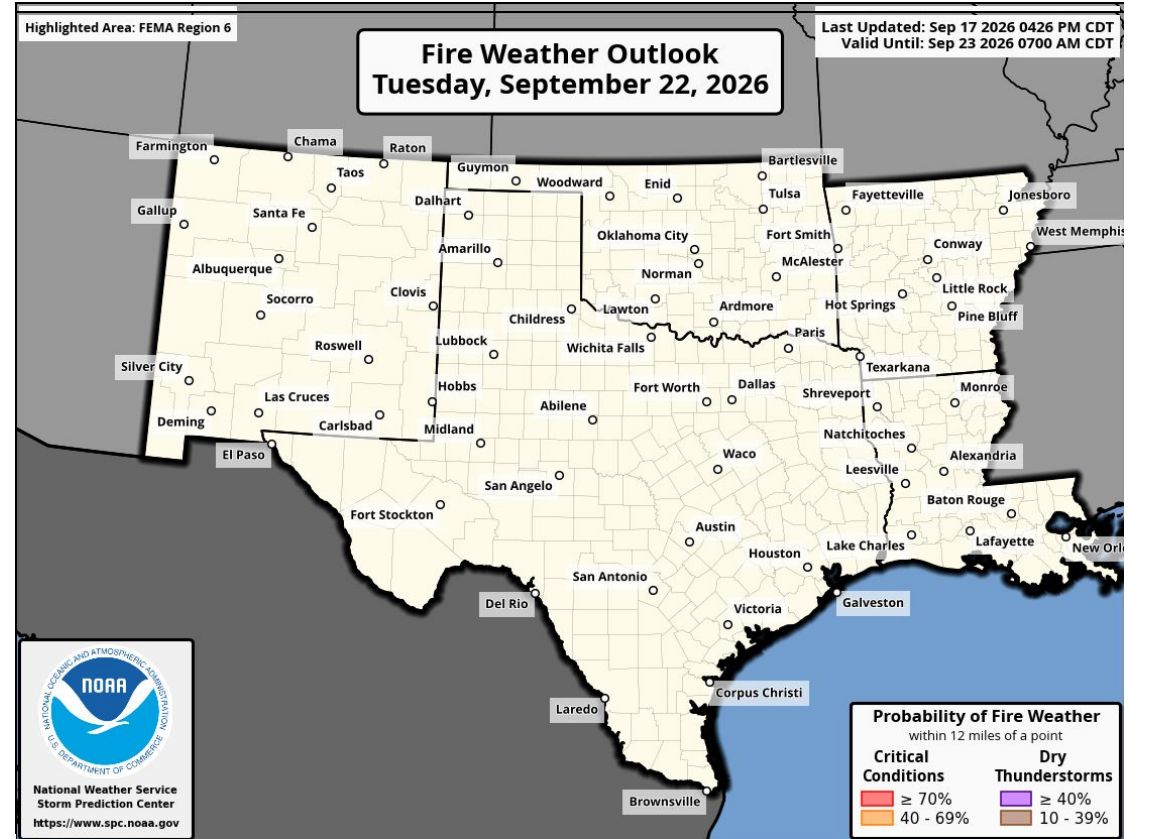
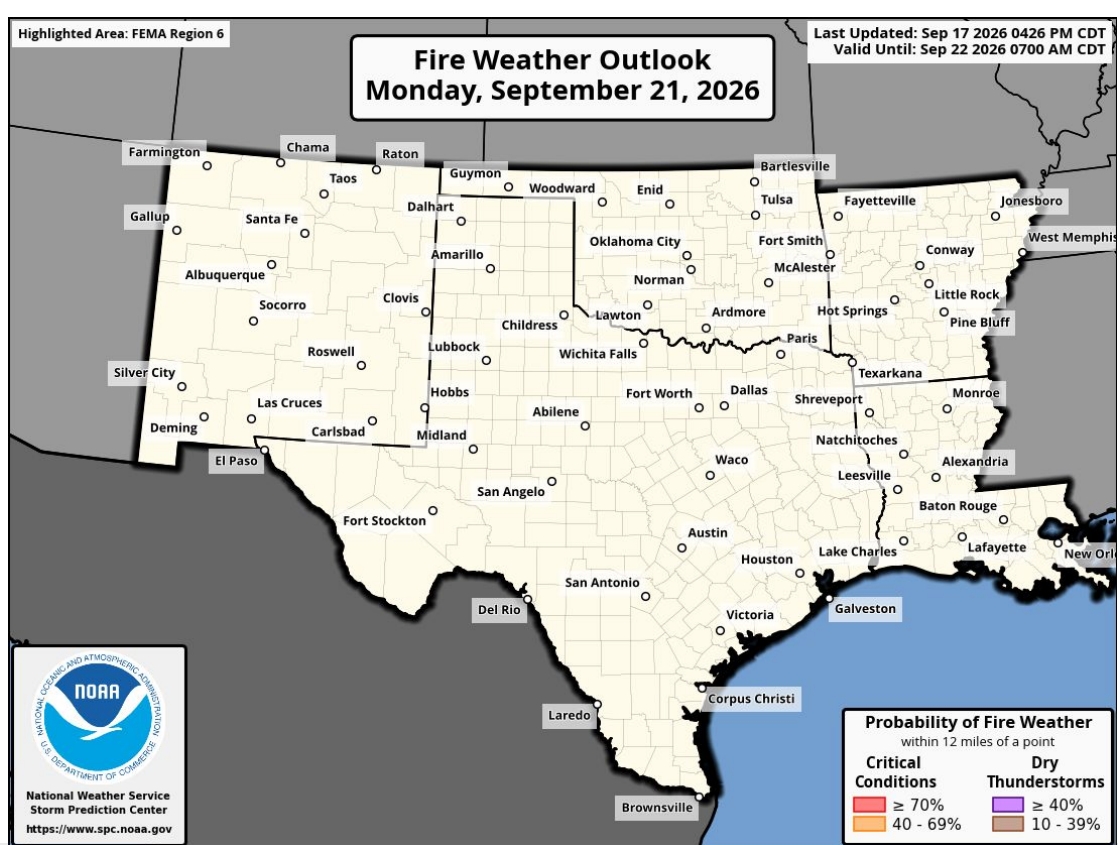
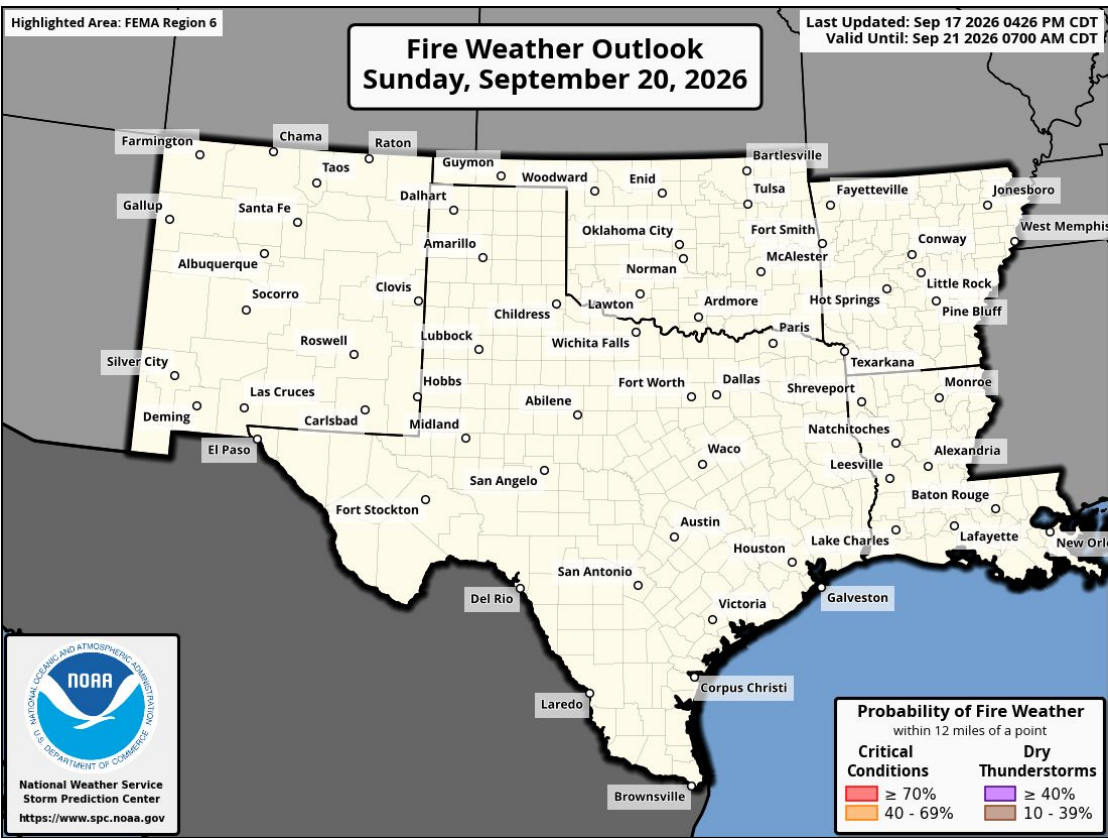
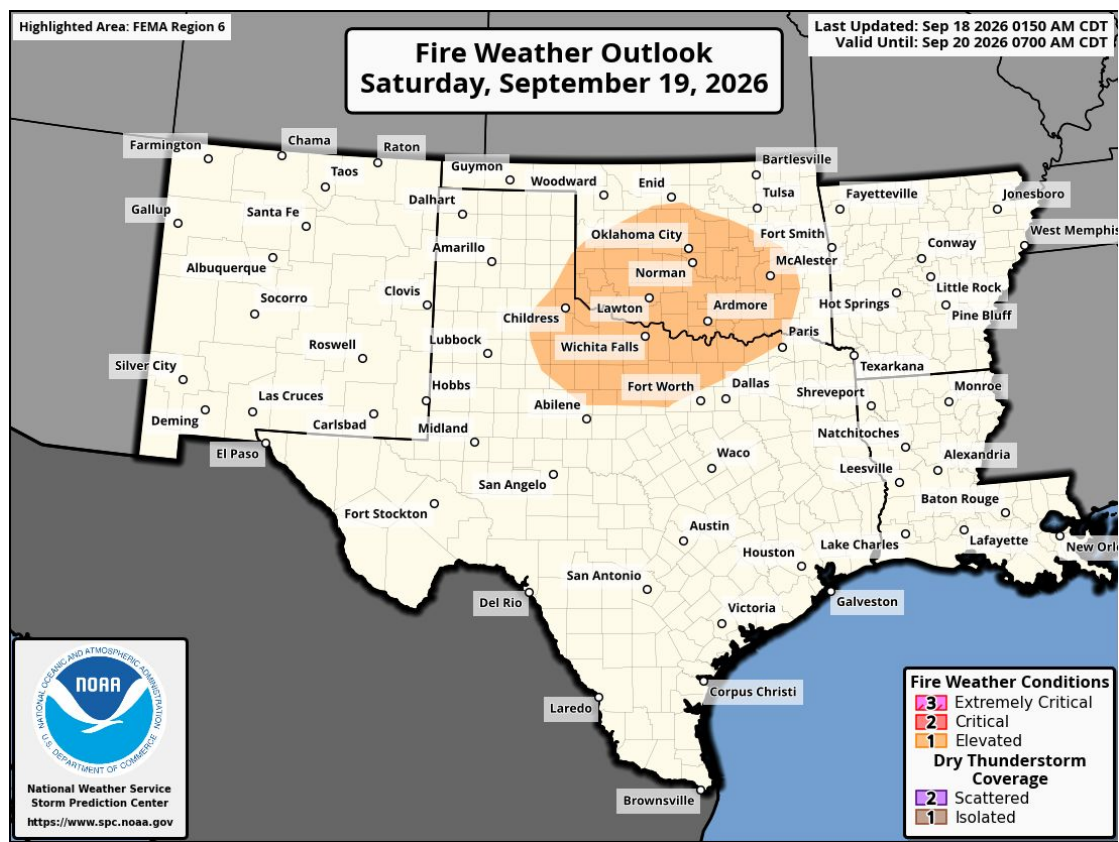
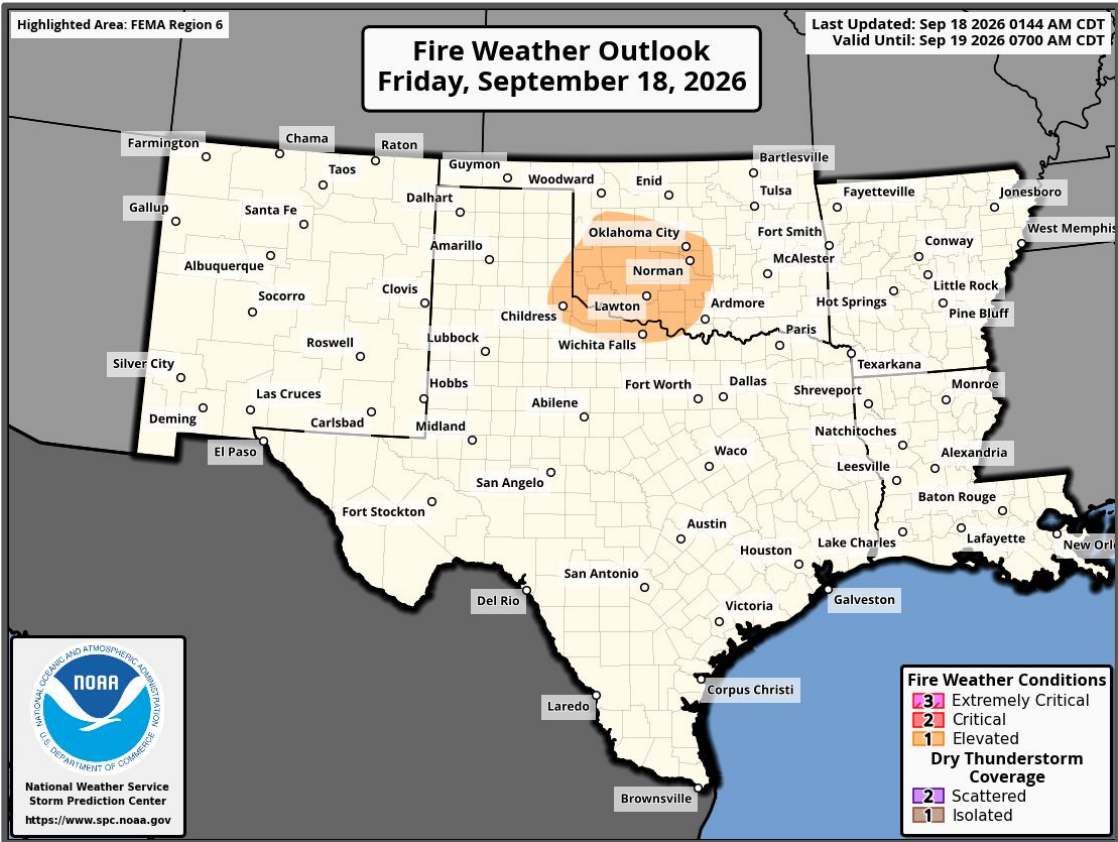
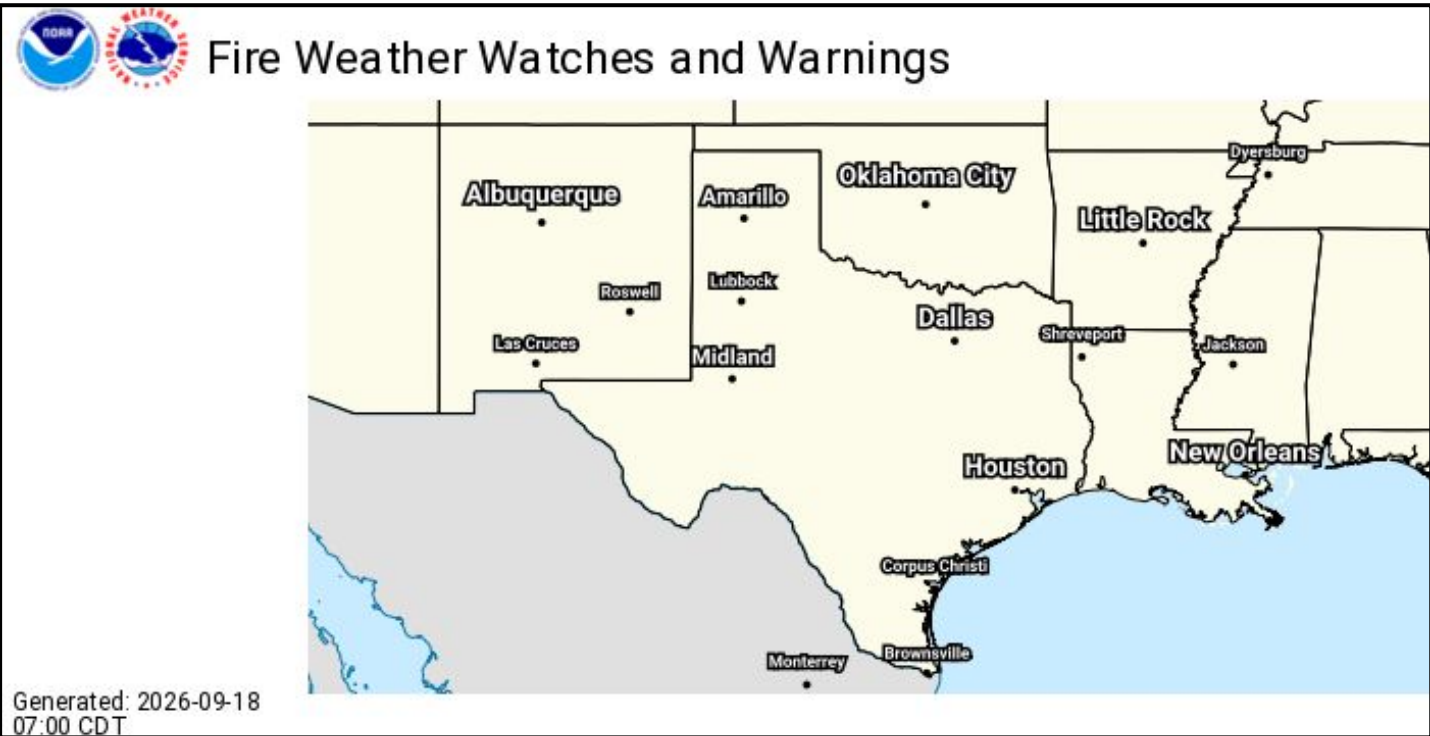


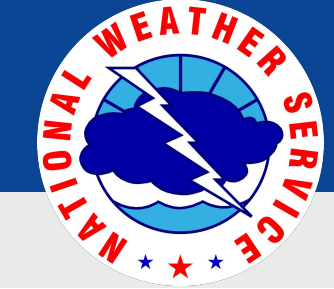
- Heat Advisories across portions of AR.
- Flood Watches across NM from Noon today through 7PM CDT, including the Sacramento Burn Scar Complex.





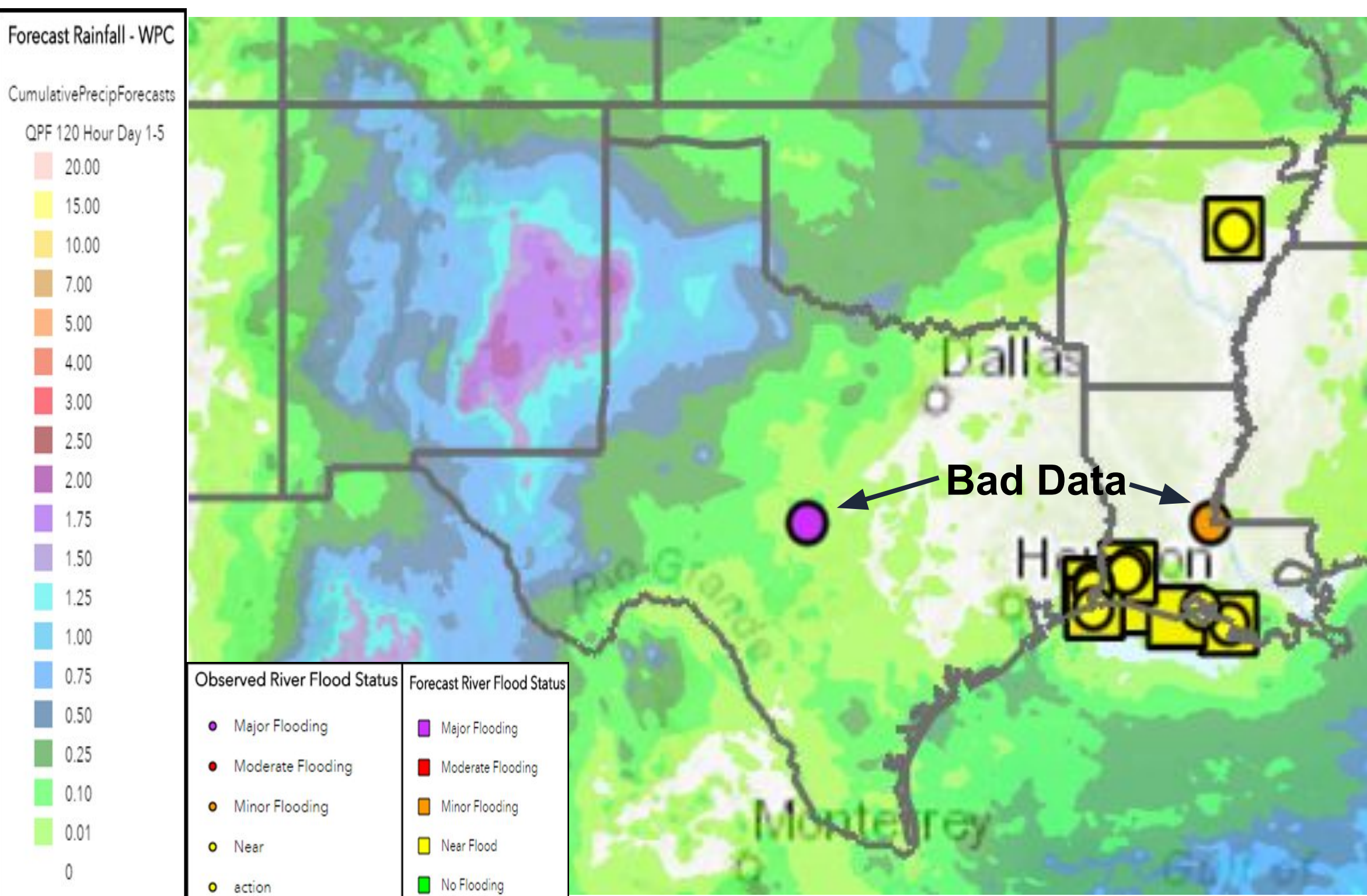
Fire Weather Outlooks





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



Monitoring for local rises across NM.

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.



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

See <https://water.noaa.gov/> for latest river flooding

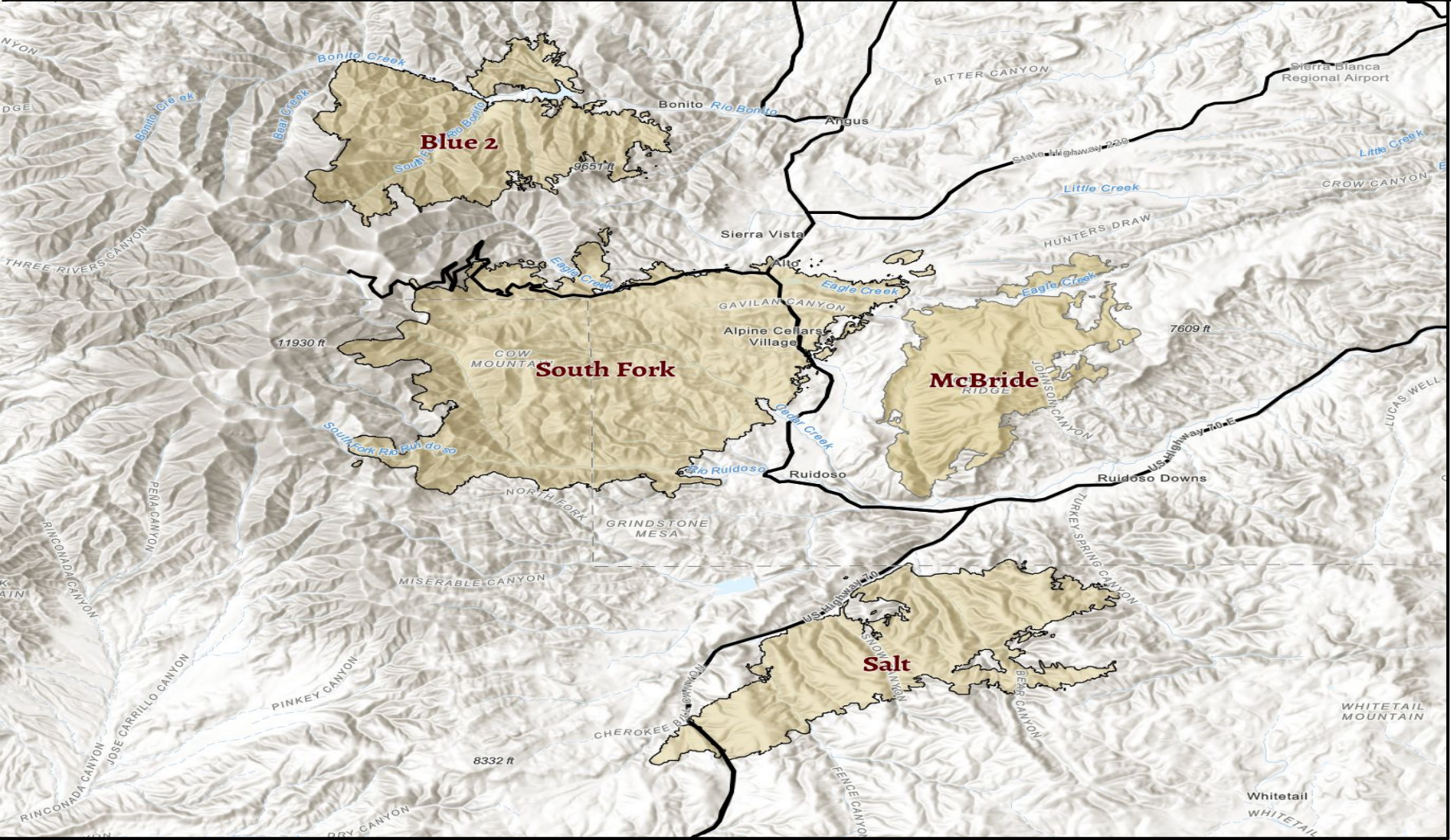
National Weather Service
Sector 2 - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico



Burn Scar Debris Flow Risk - Ruidoso, New Mexico

Sacramento Complex

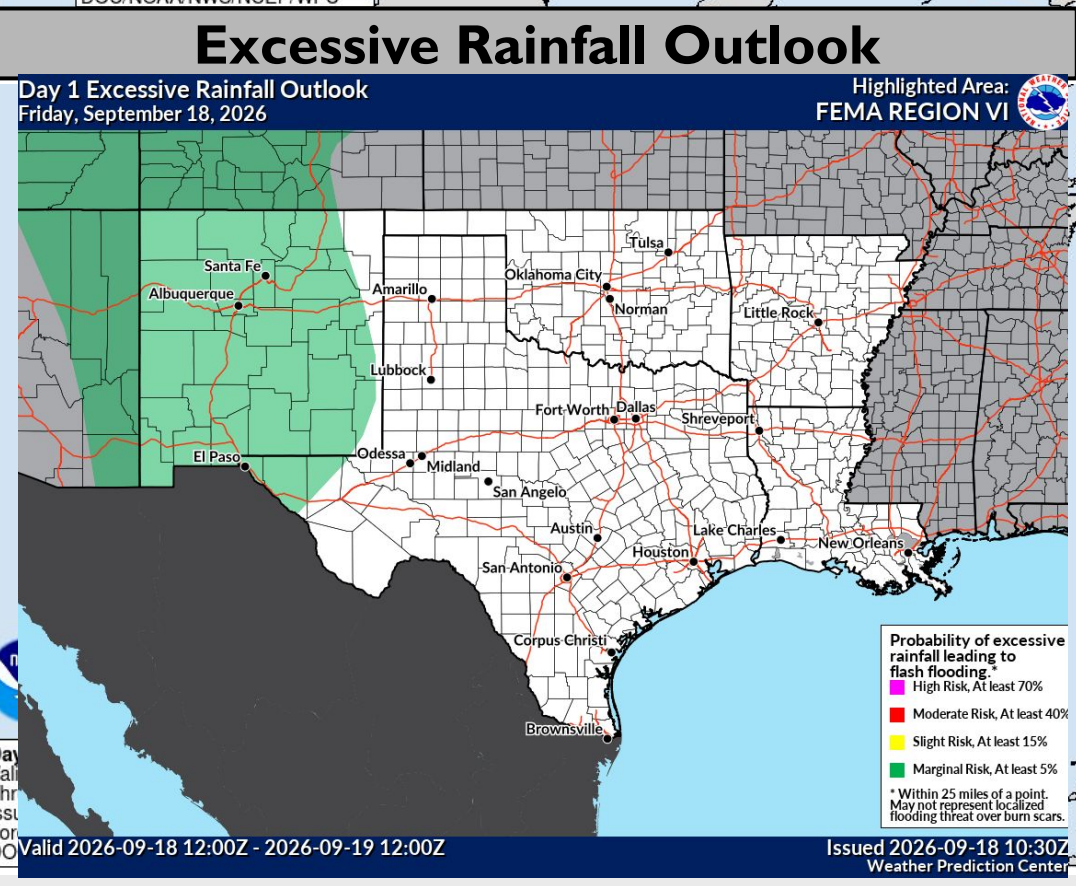
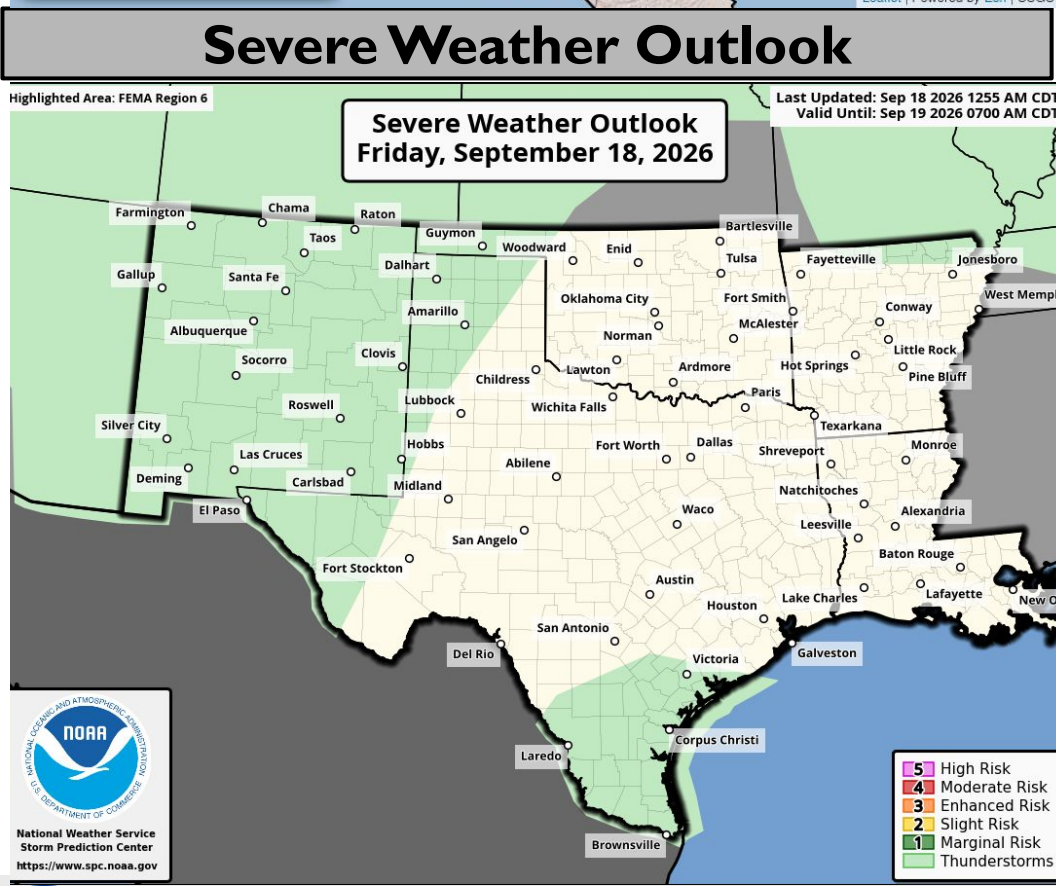
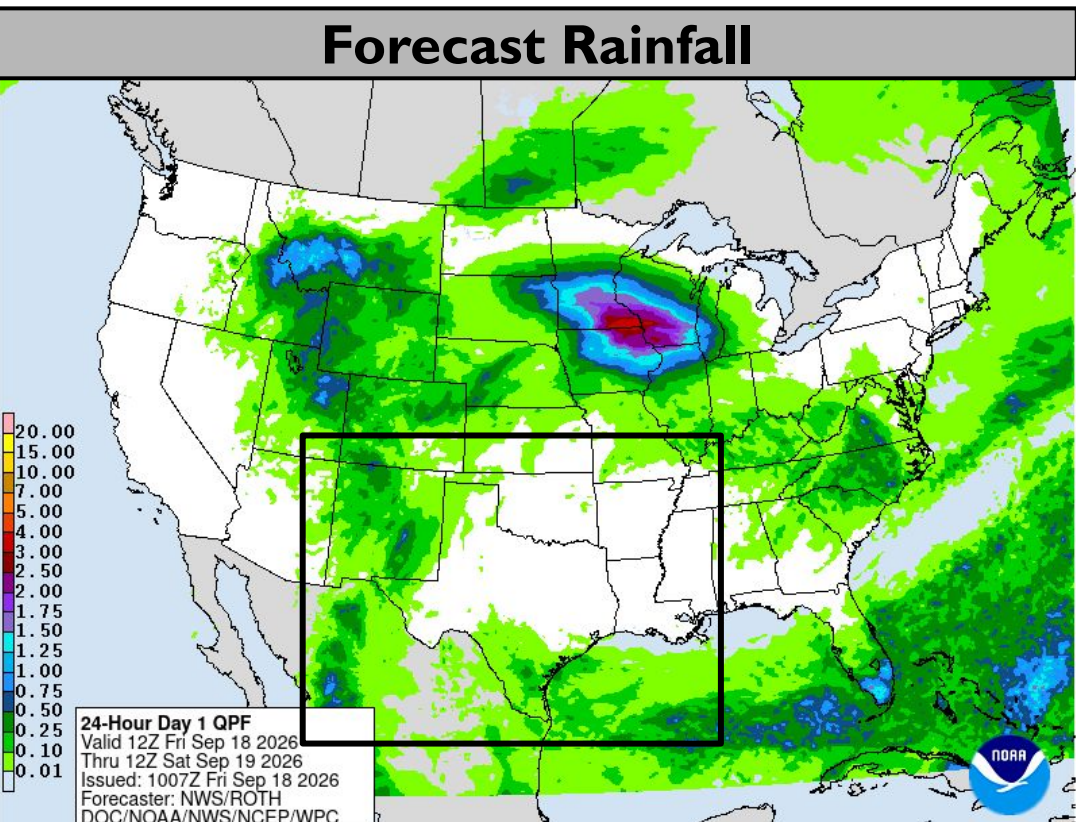
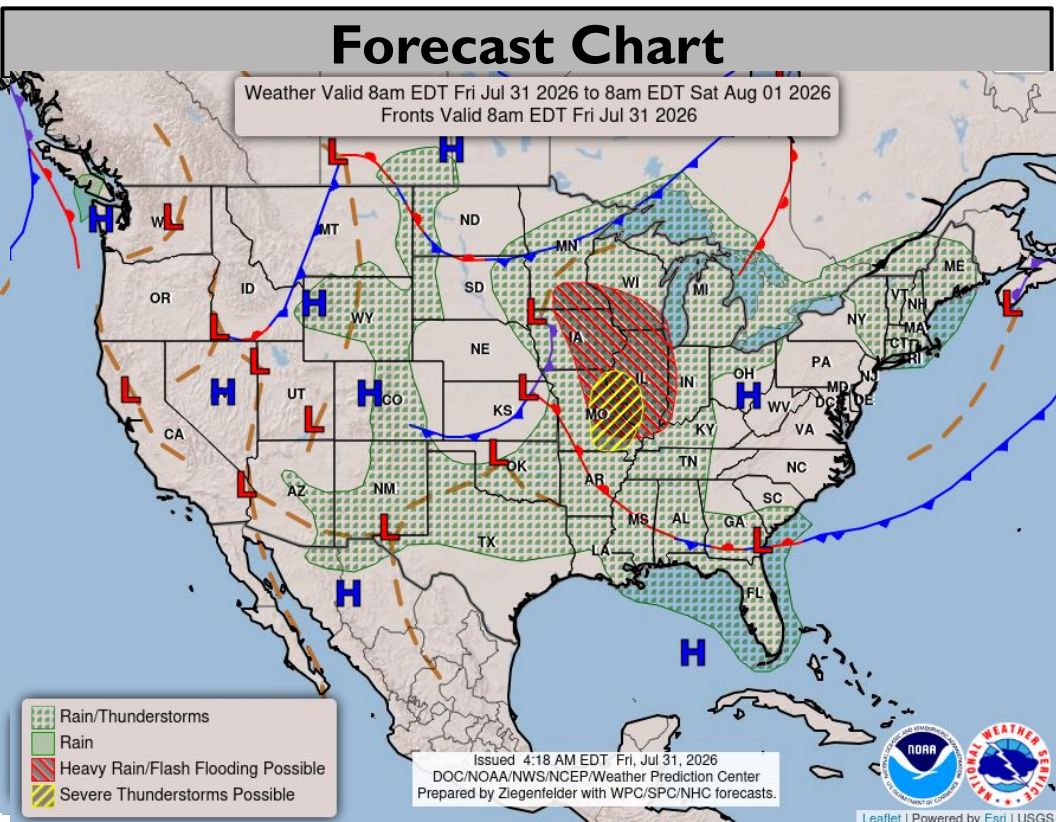
	Friday, Sep 18	Saturday, Sep 19	Sunday, Sep 20	Monday, Sep 21	Tuesday, Sep 22
Flash Flooding	High	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate
Timing - CDT	Afternoon/Evening	Afternoon/Evening	-	-	Afternoon/Evening



Low (level 1 of 3)	Less than 30% chance of flash flood warning.
Moderate (level 2 of 3)	30-70% chance of flash flood warning.
High (level 3 of 3)	Over 70% chance of flash flood warning.
WPC's Excessive Rainfall Outlook is <i>Not Applicable</i> to burn scars.	



Today's Weather



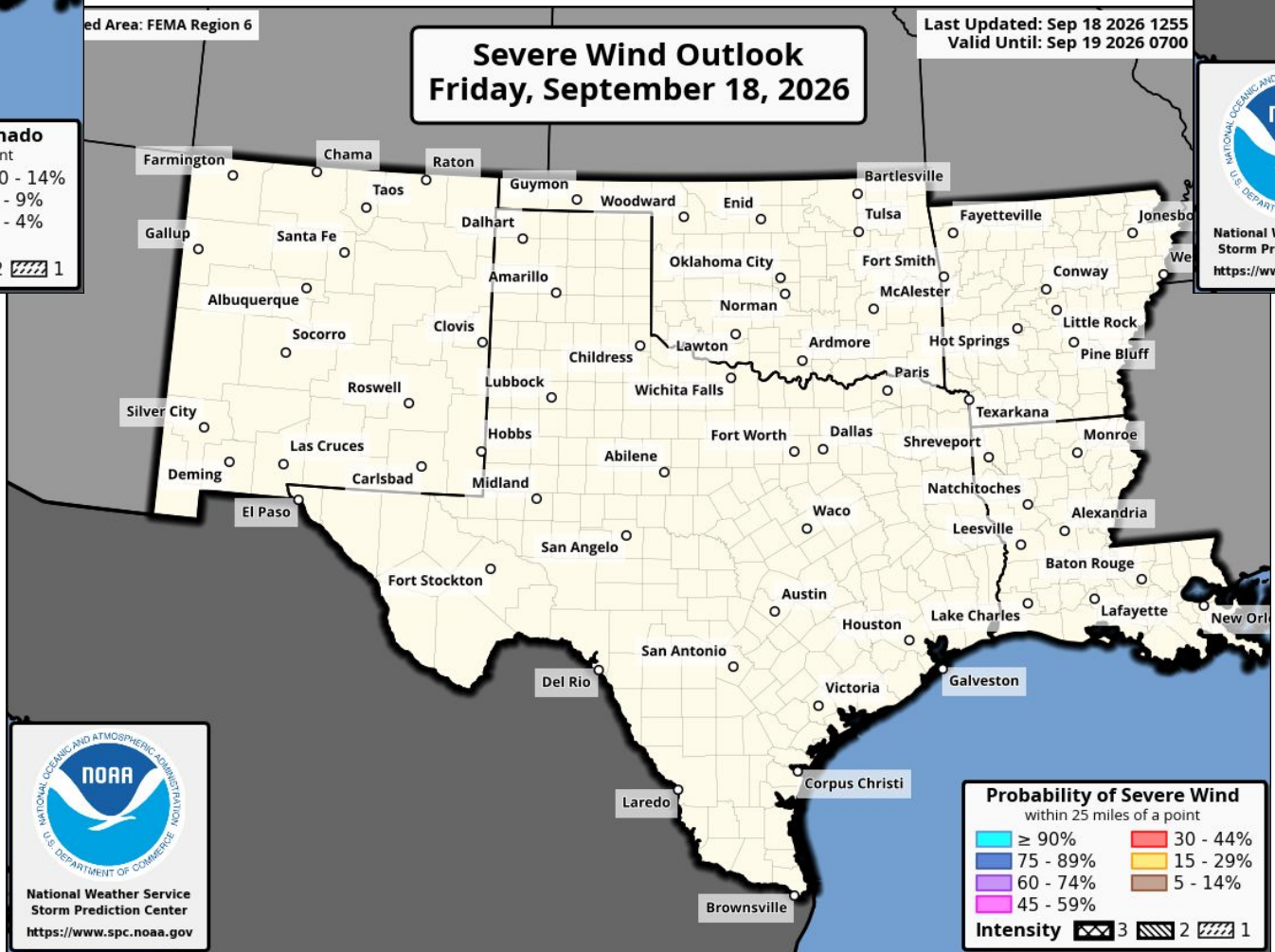
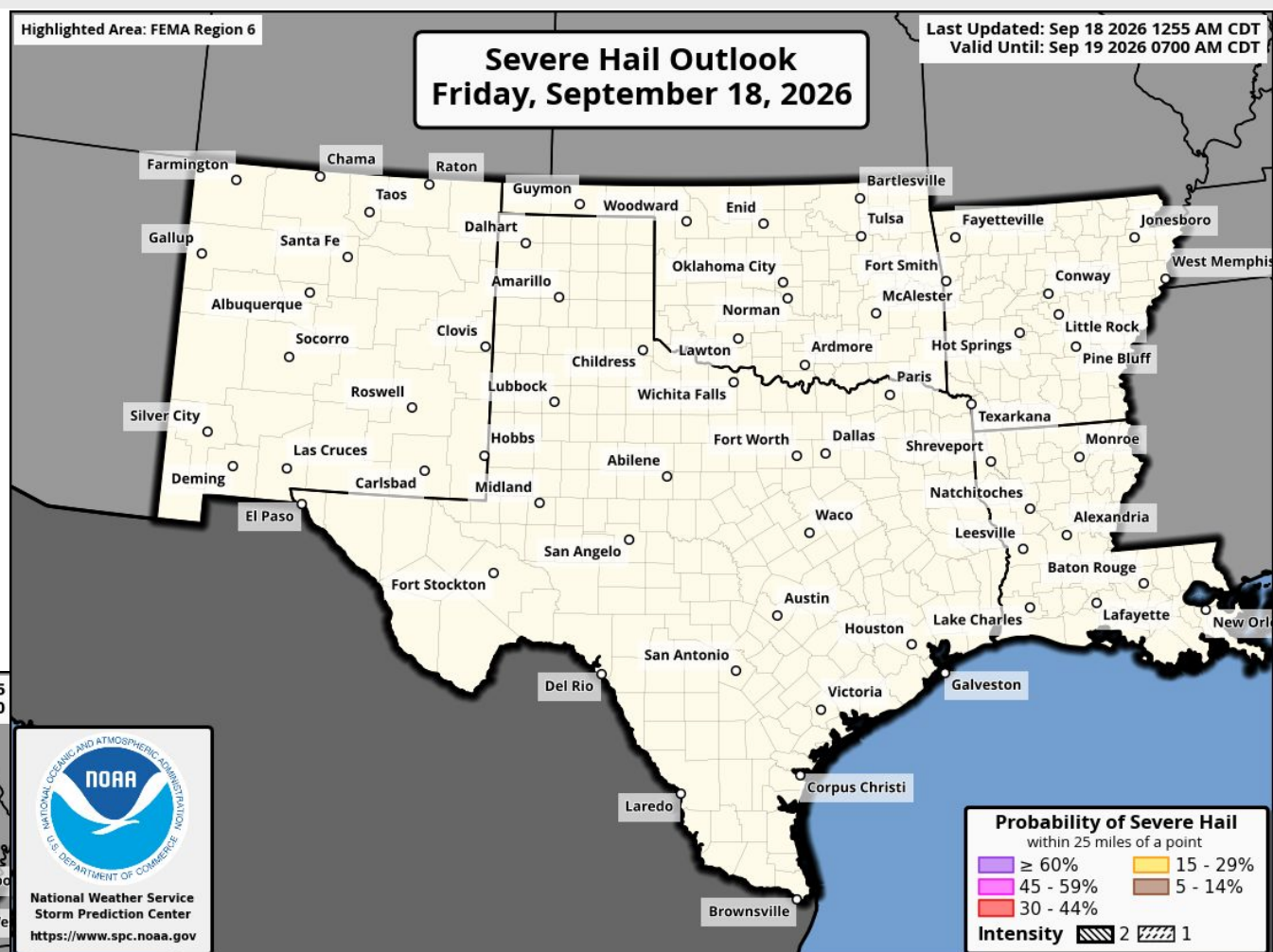
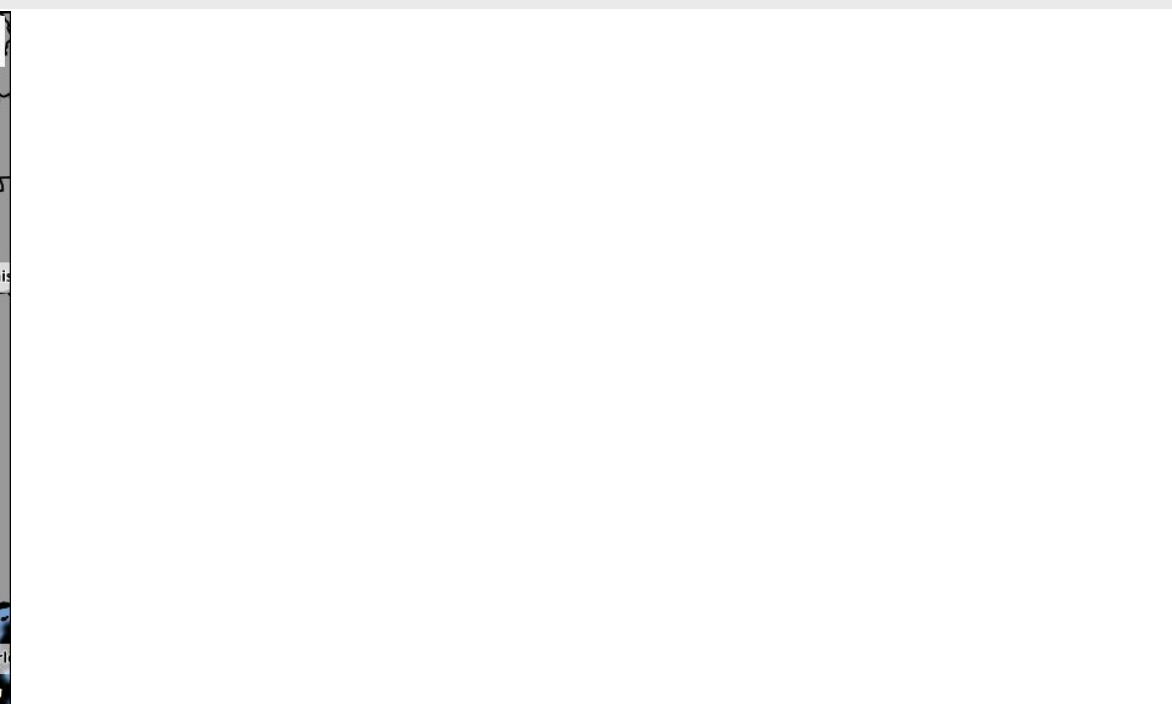
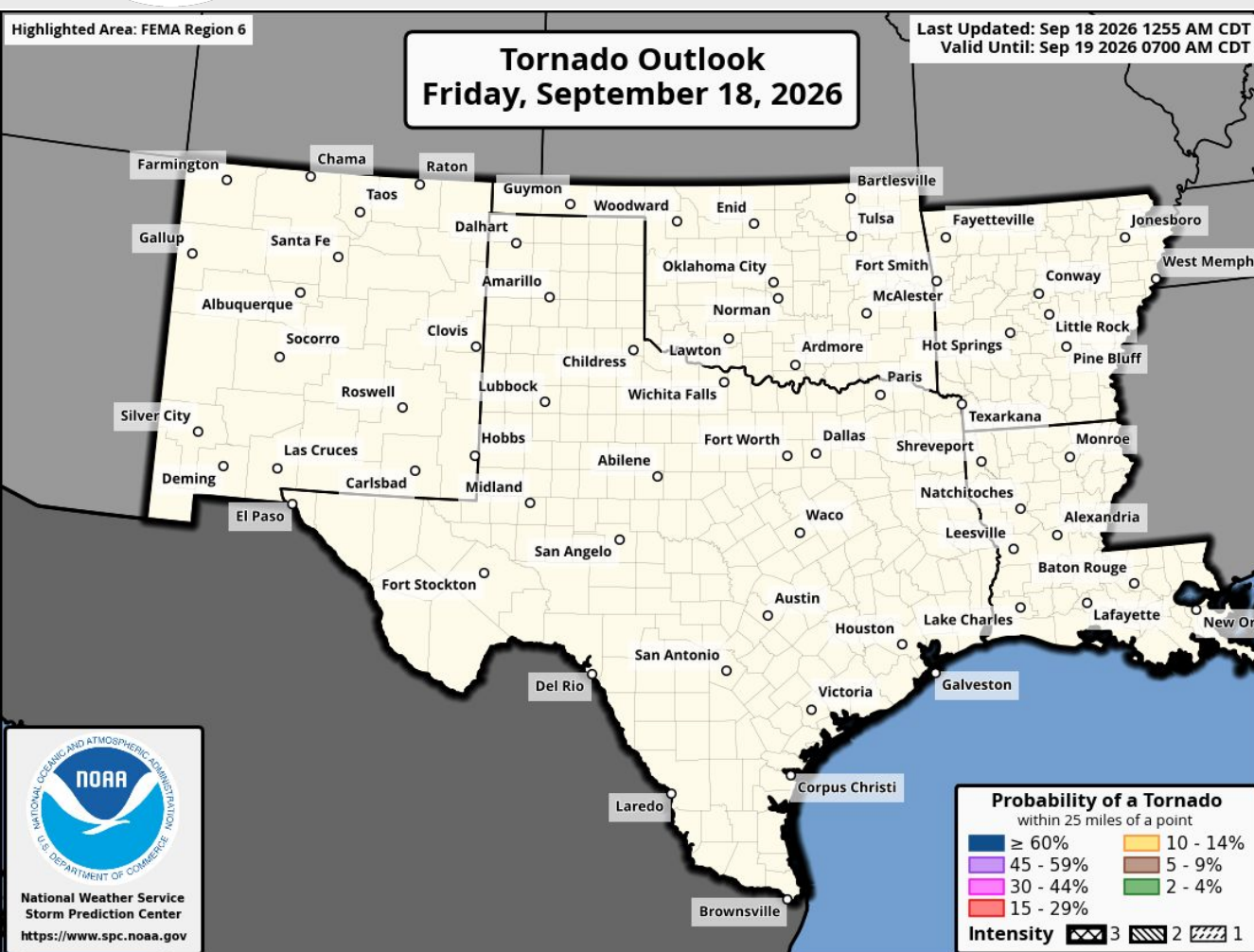
Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in NM, Far W TX. Monitoring NM for rainfall rates up to 1-2" per hour.

Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns in NWTX, SW-C OK.

****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****

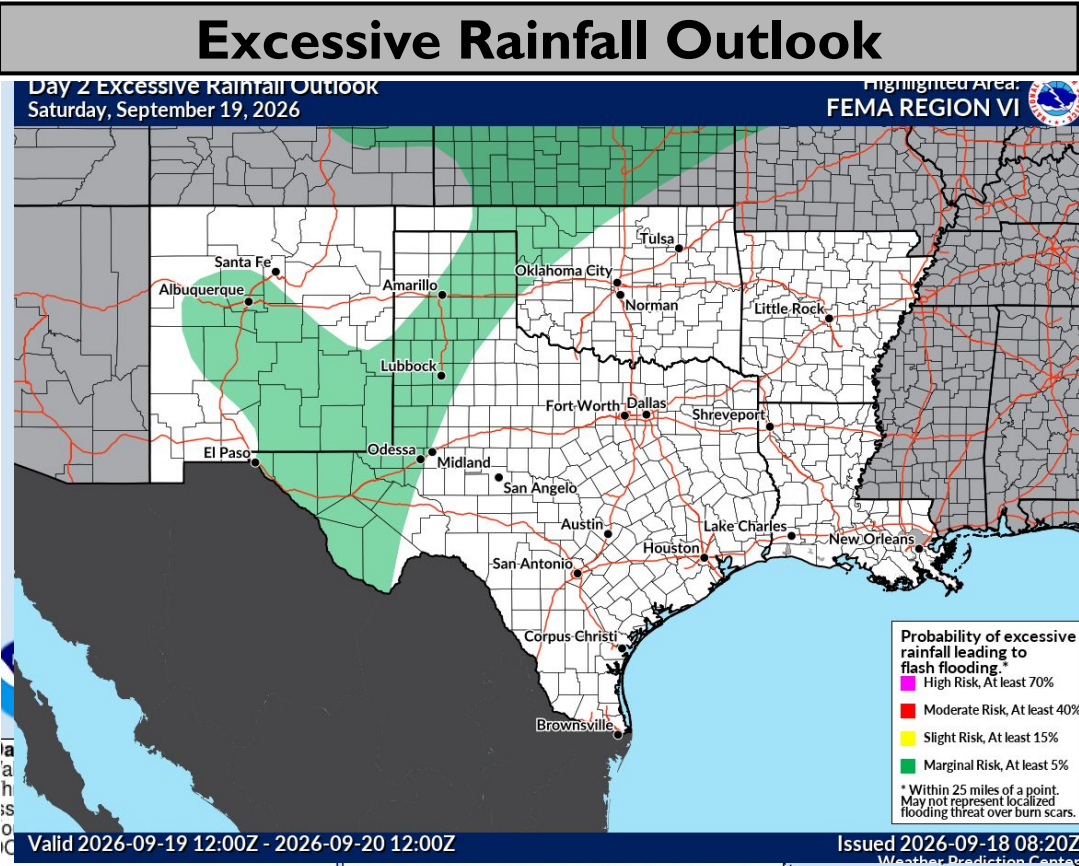
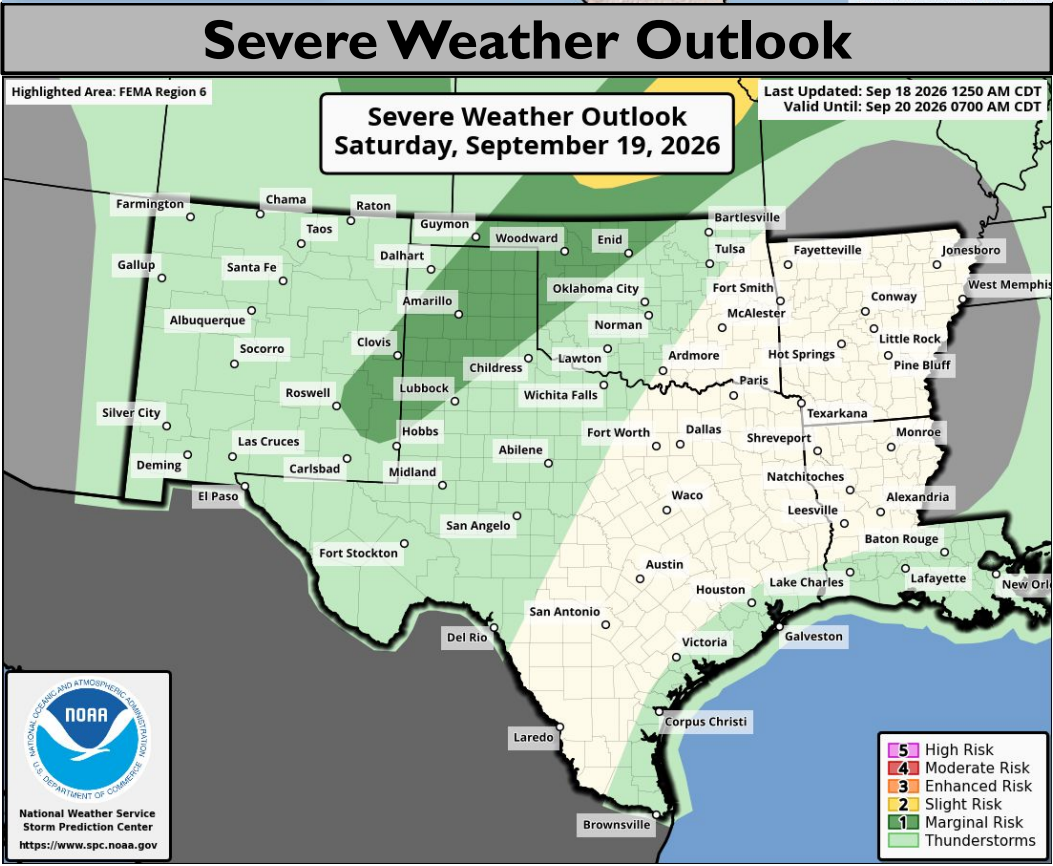
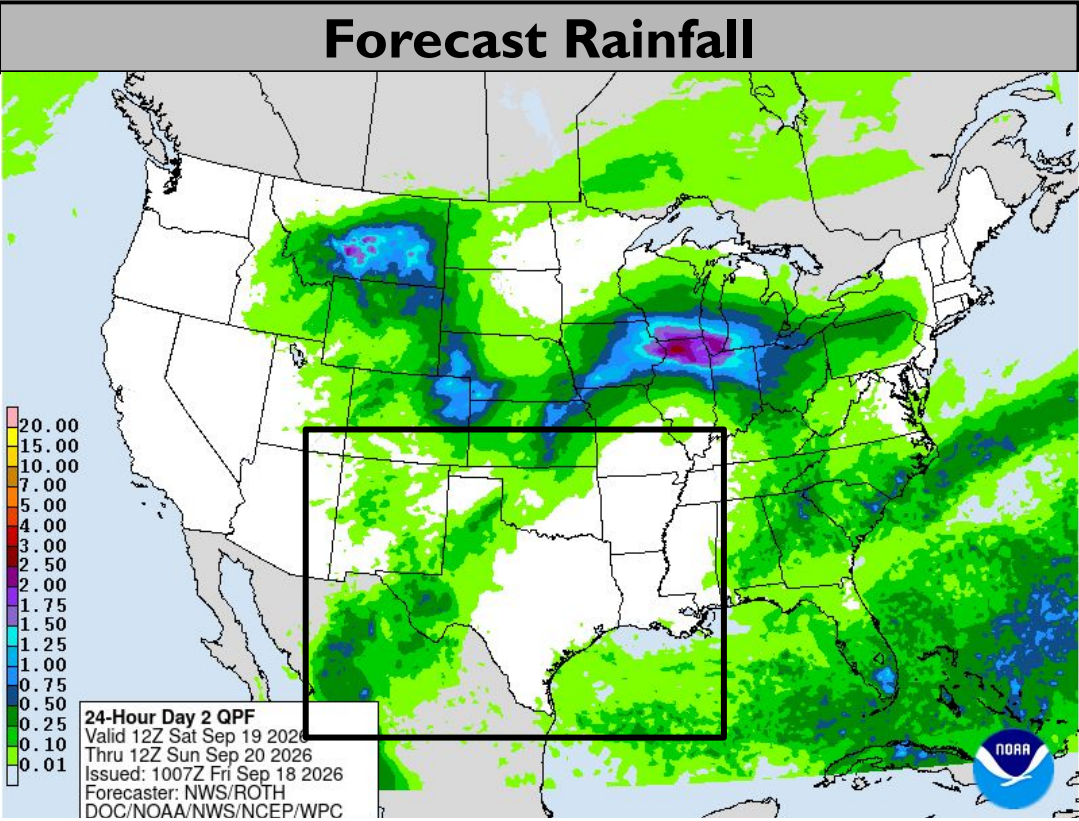
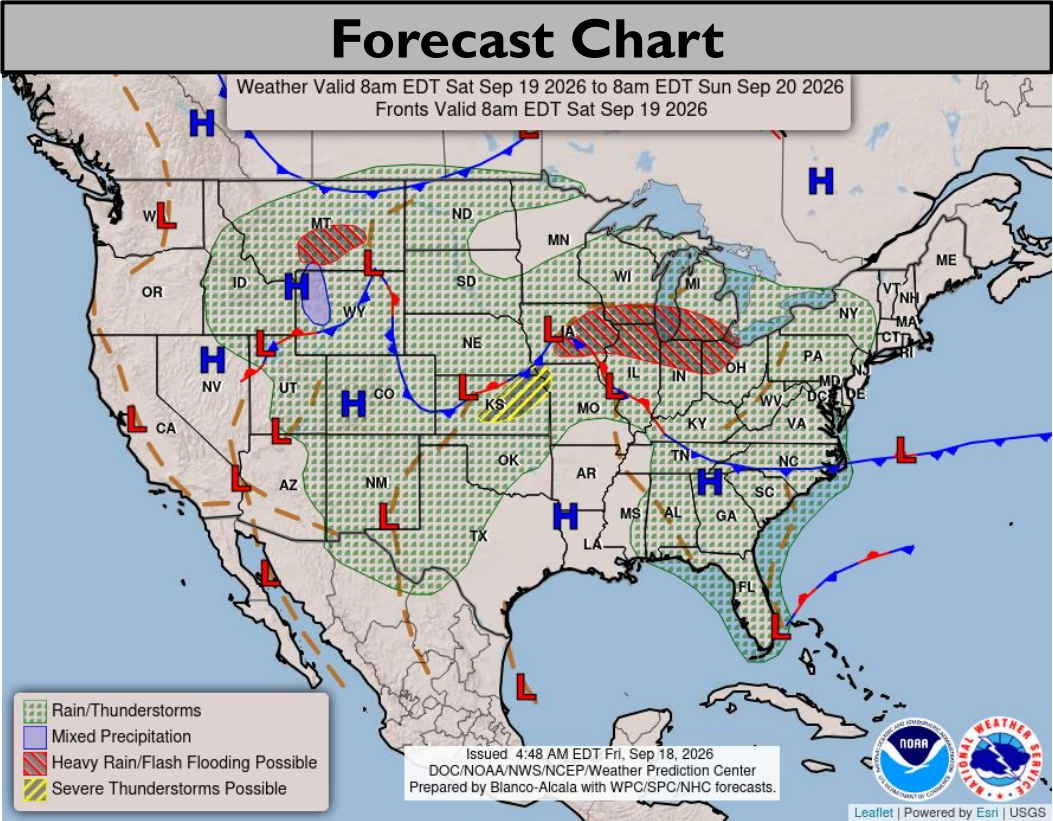


Today's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities





Tomorrow's Weather



Marginal risk (level 1 of 4) for flash flooding in NM, TX/OK Panhandles, Far W TX.

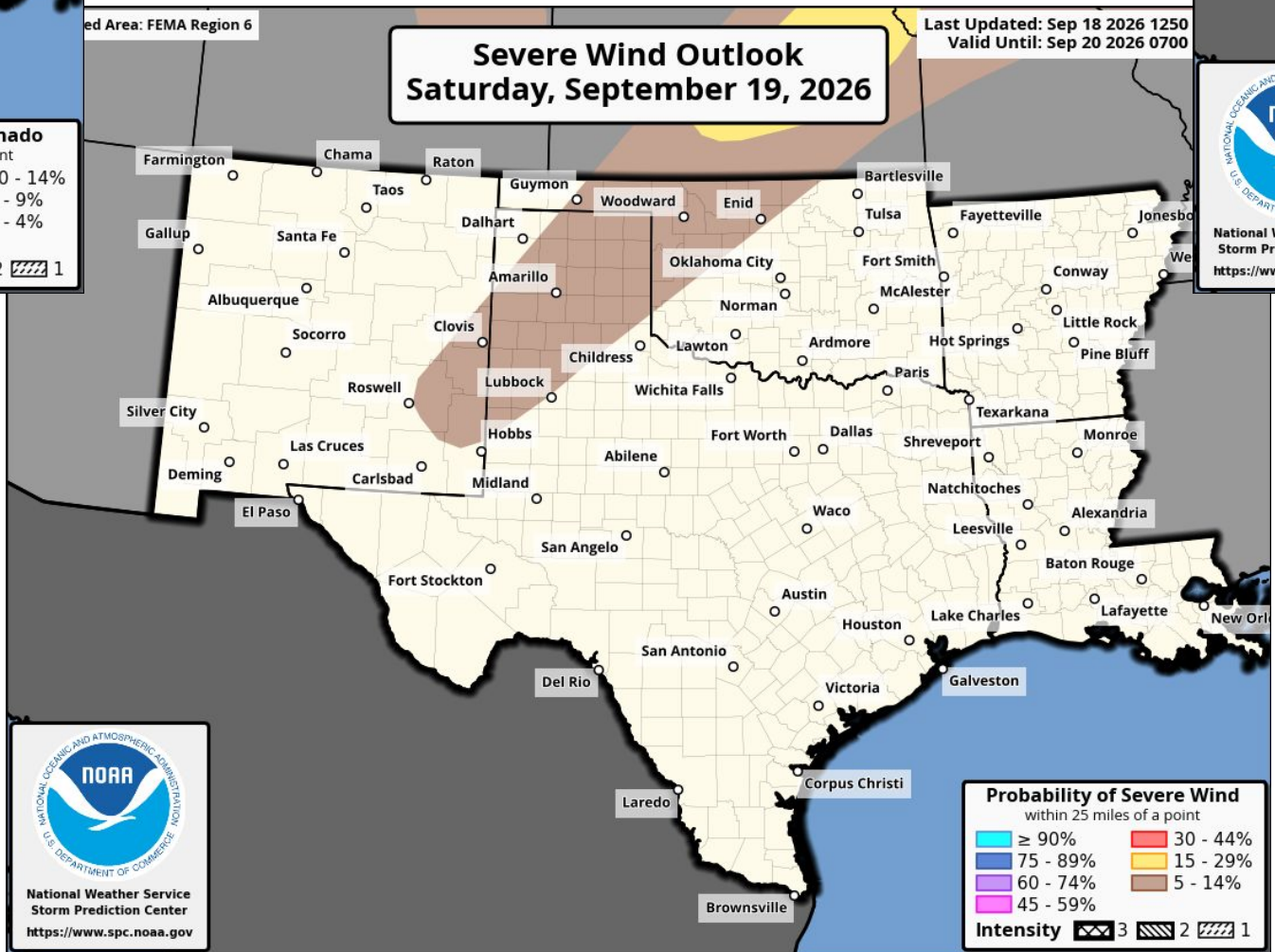
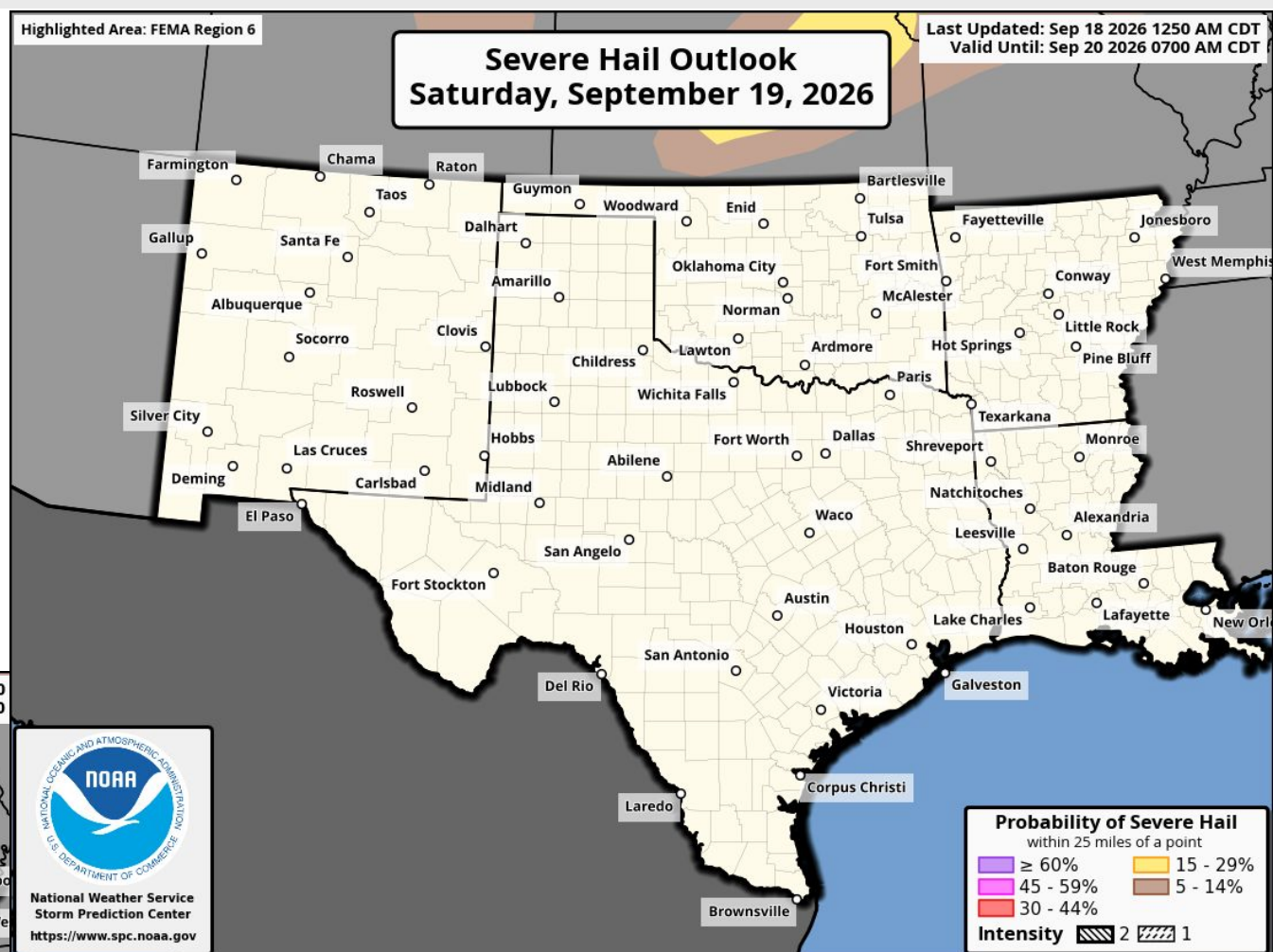
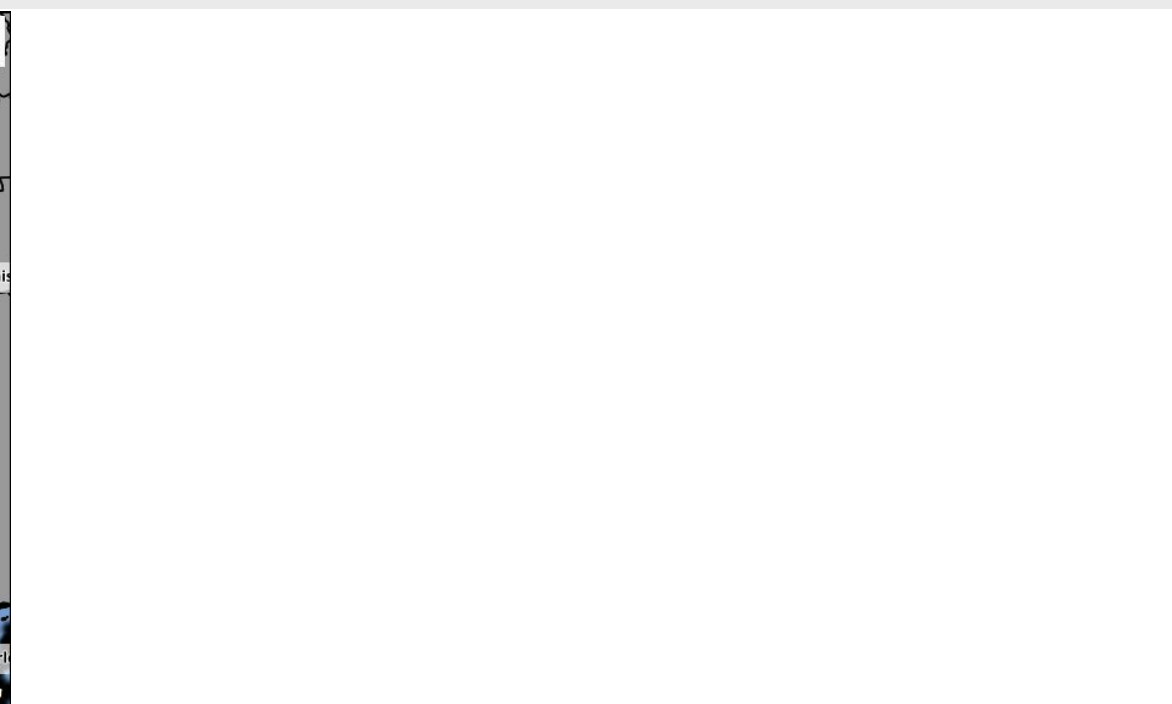
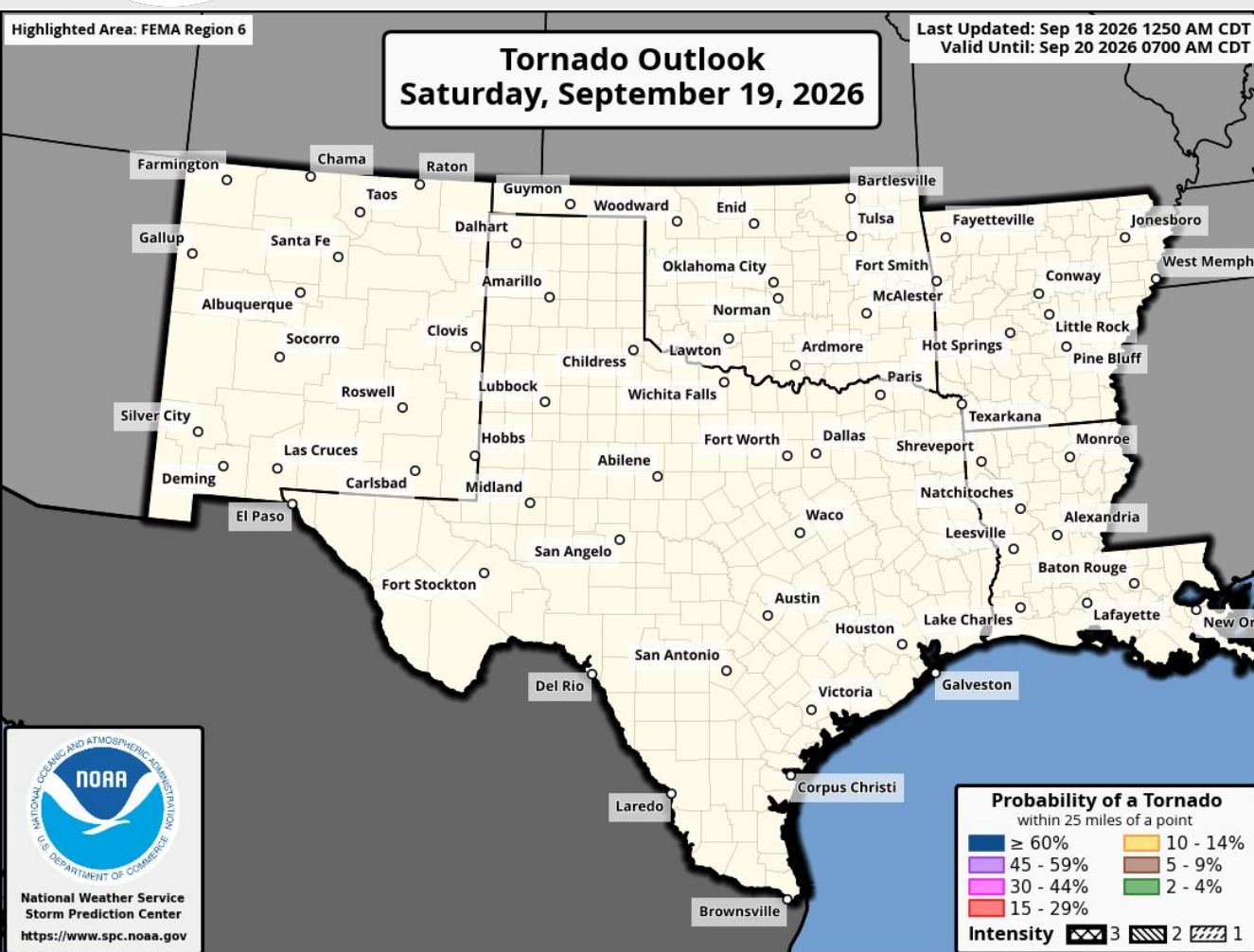
Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) for severe storms in SE NM, TX/OK Panhandles, N OK

Elevated (level 1 of 3) fire weather concerns in NW TX, SW-C OK.

****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****

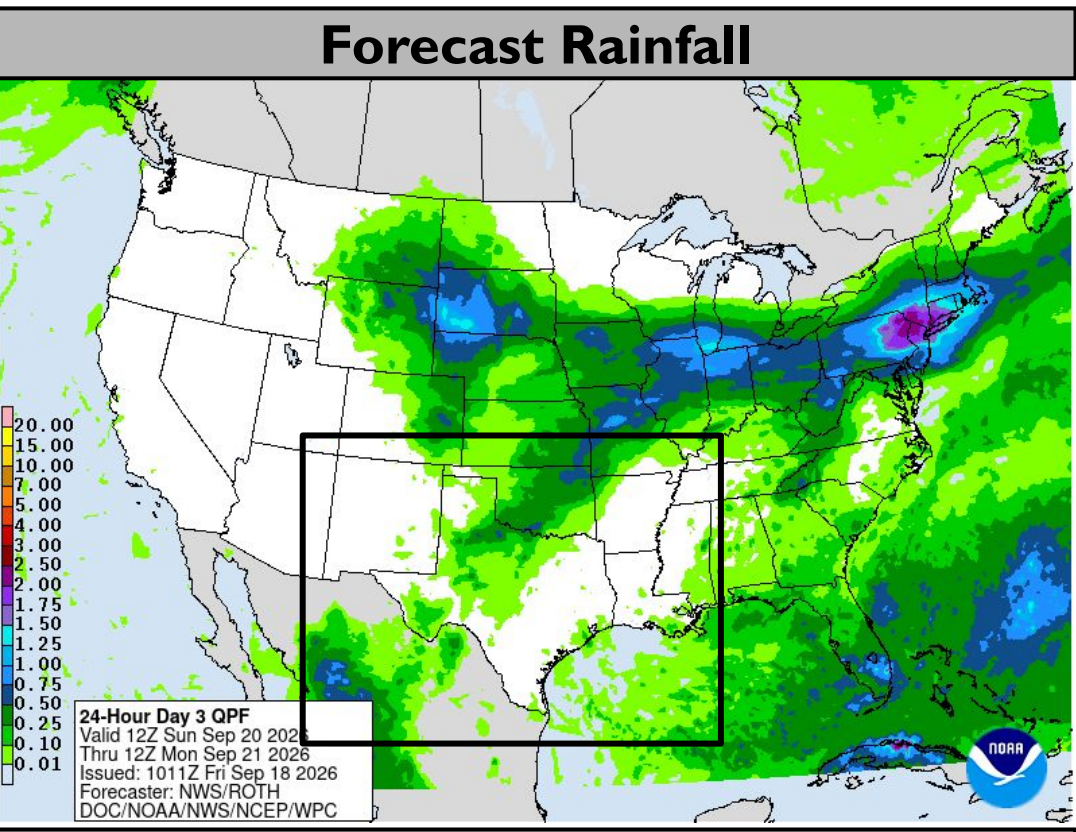
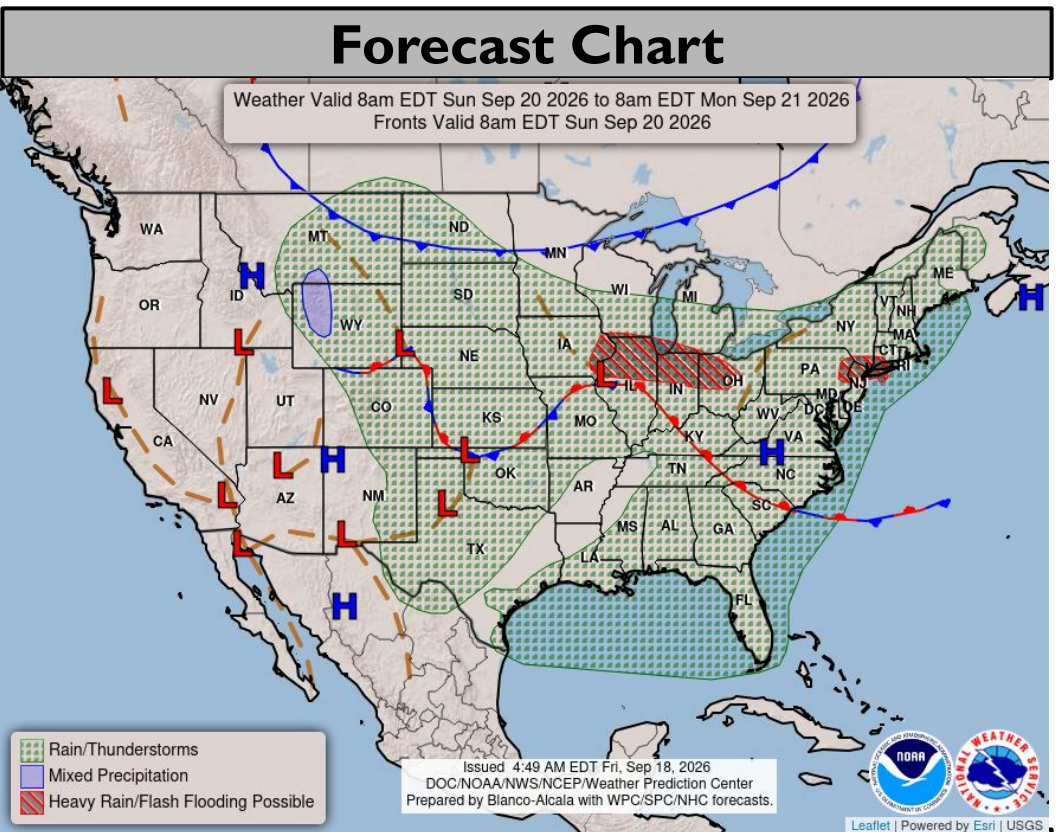


Tomorrow's Tornado & Severe Wind / Hail Probabilities



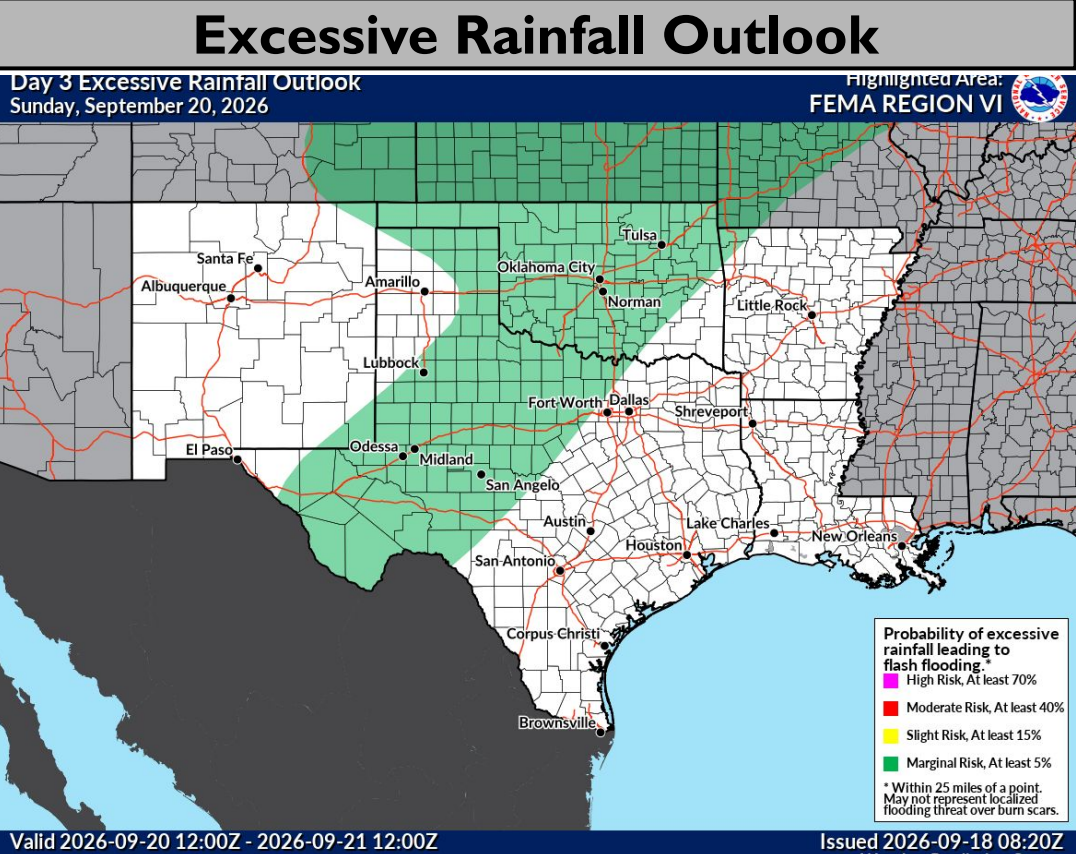
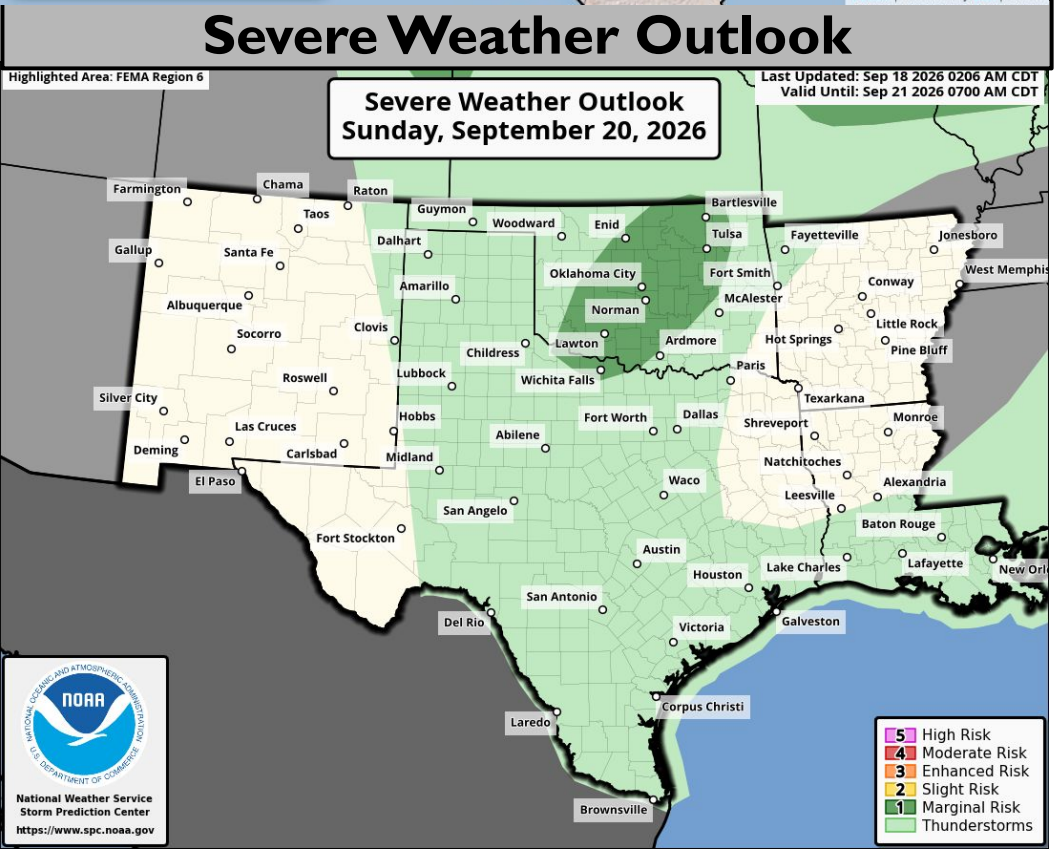


Sunday's Weather



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

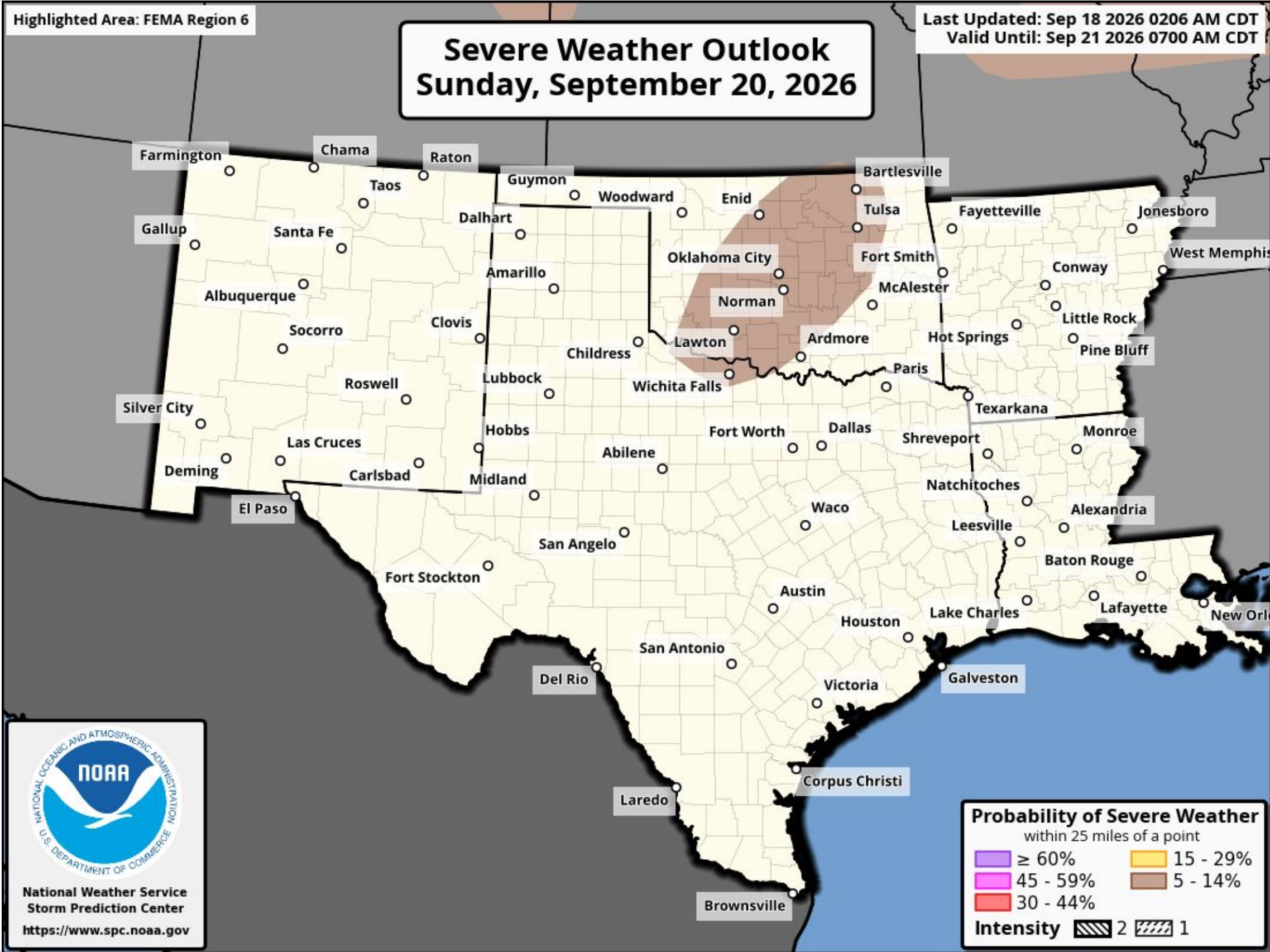
Marginal risk (level 1 of 5) for severe storms over OK and NW TX.



****Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides****



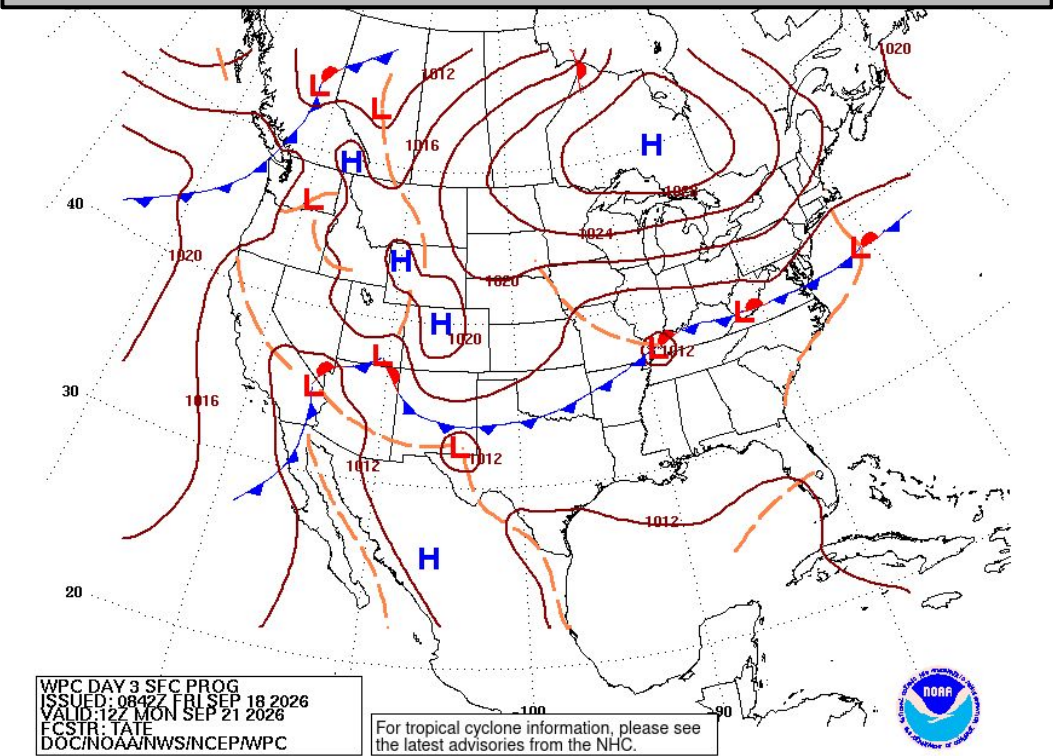
Sunday's Severe Weather Probabilities/CIIG Level



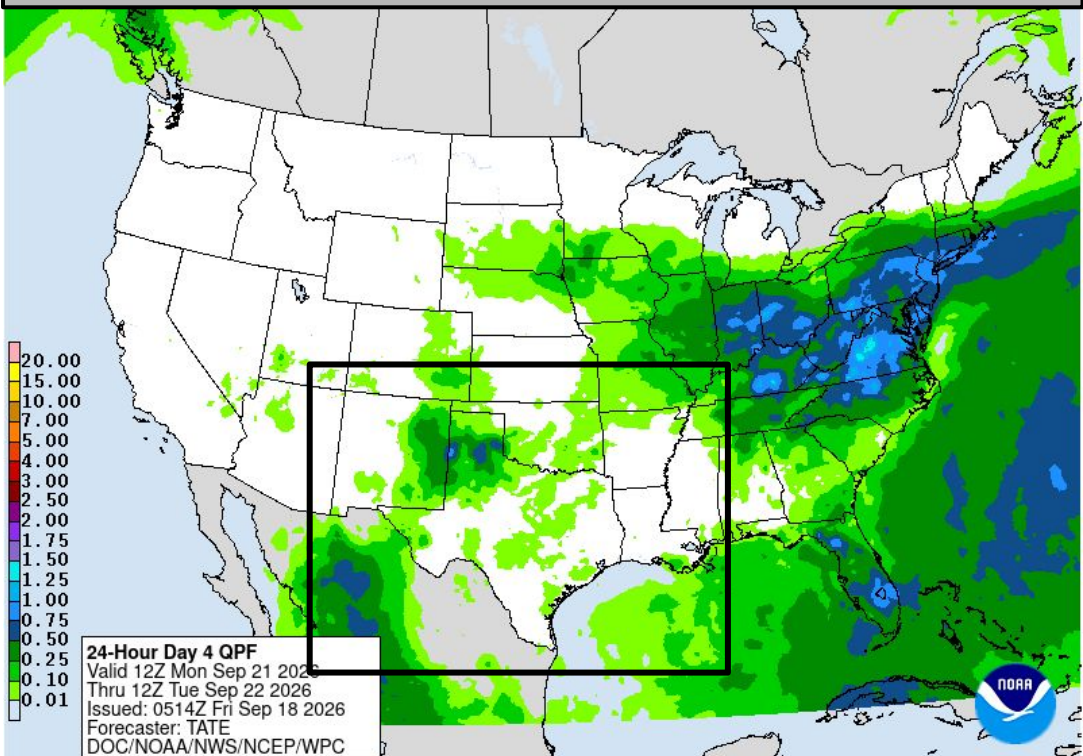


Monday's Weather

Forecast Chart

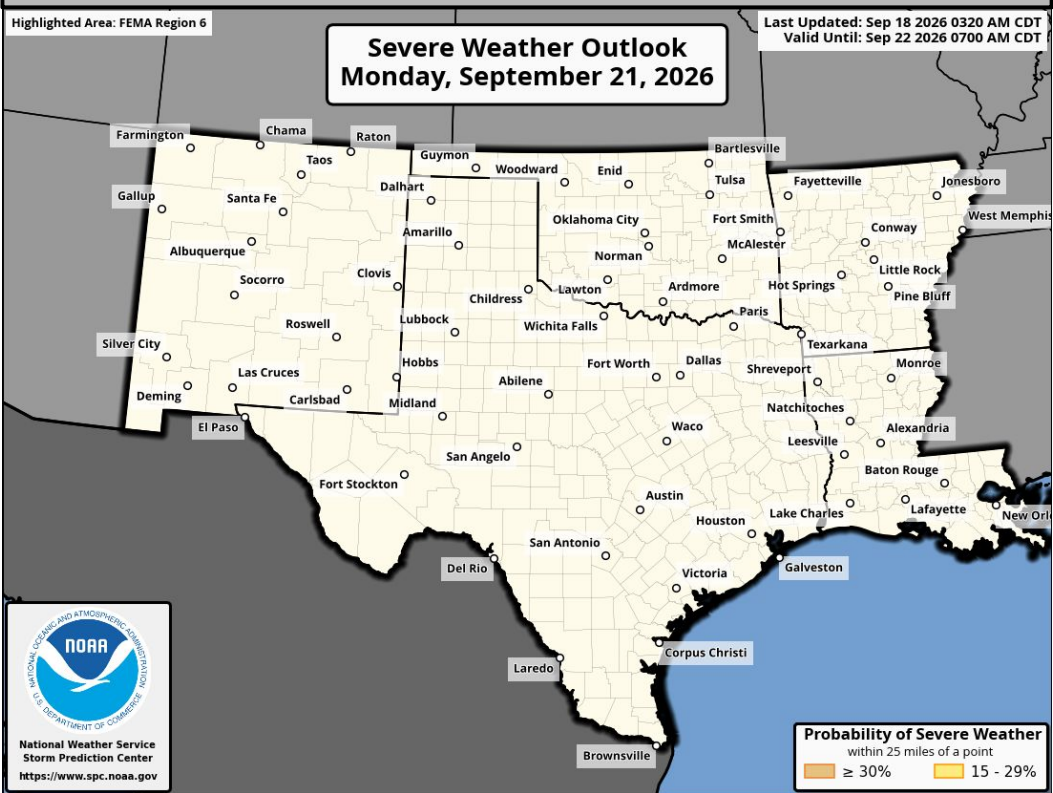


Forecast Rainfall

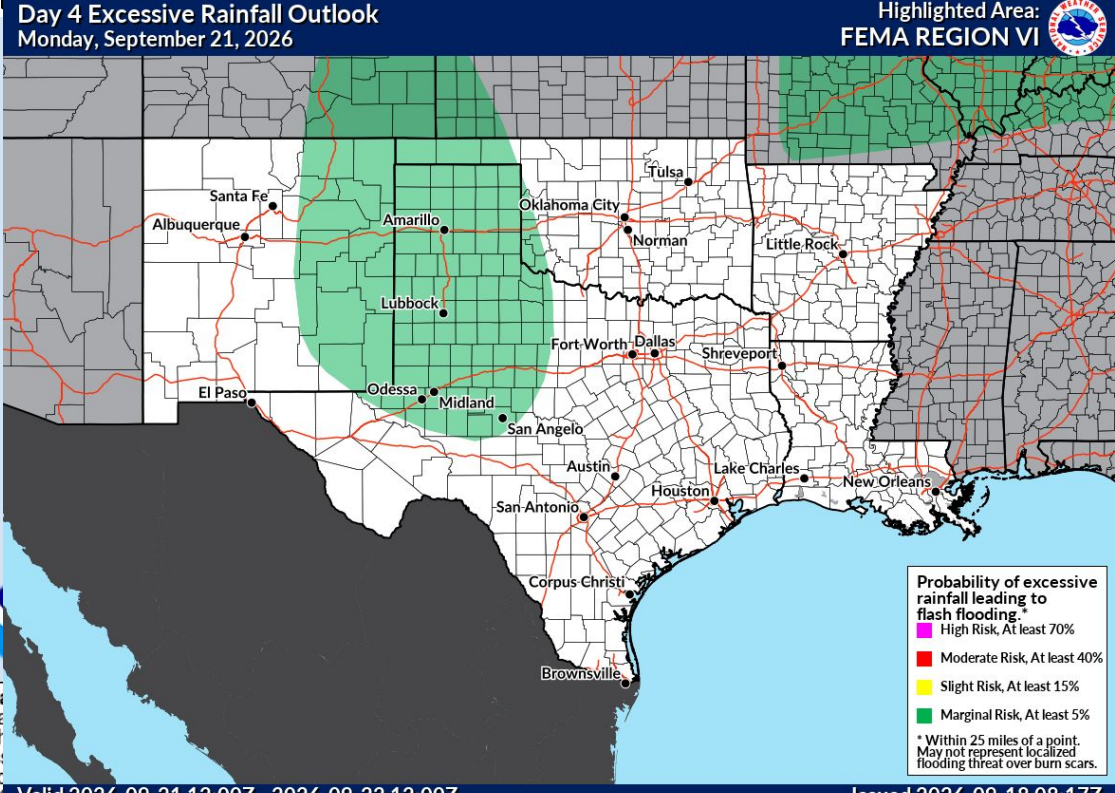


Marginal risk (level I of 4) for flash flooding in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, NW TX.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



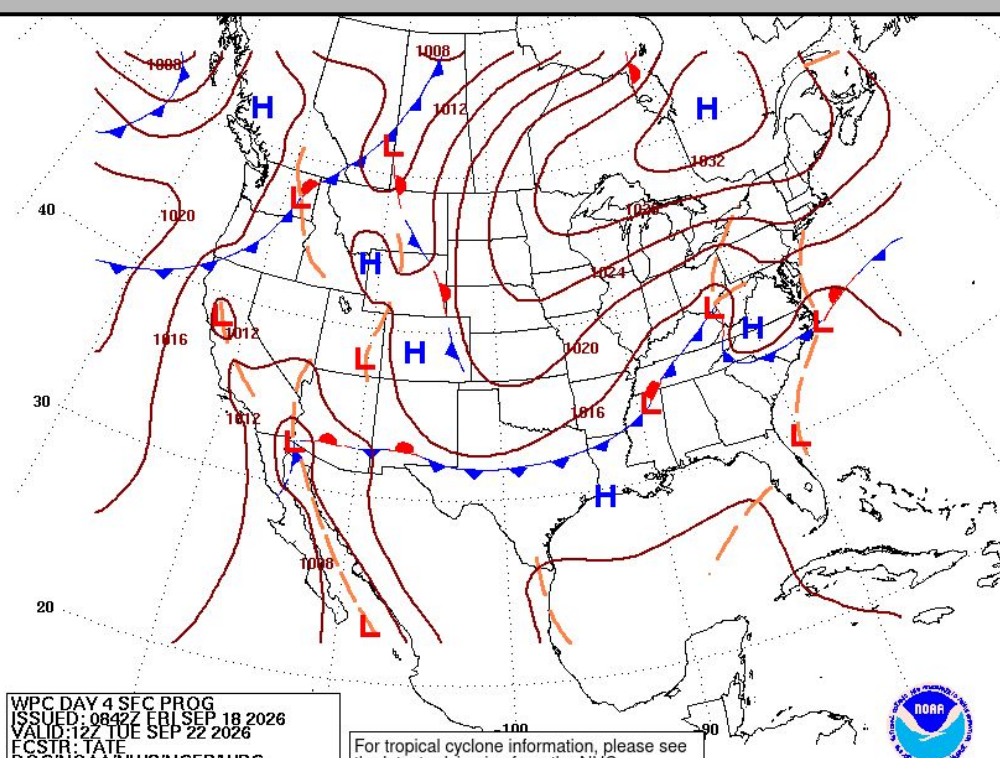
Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides



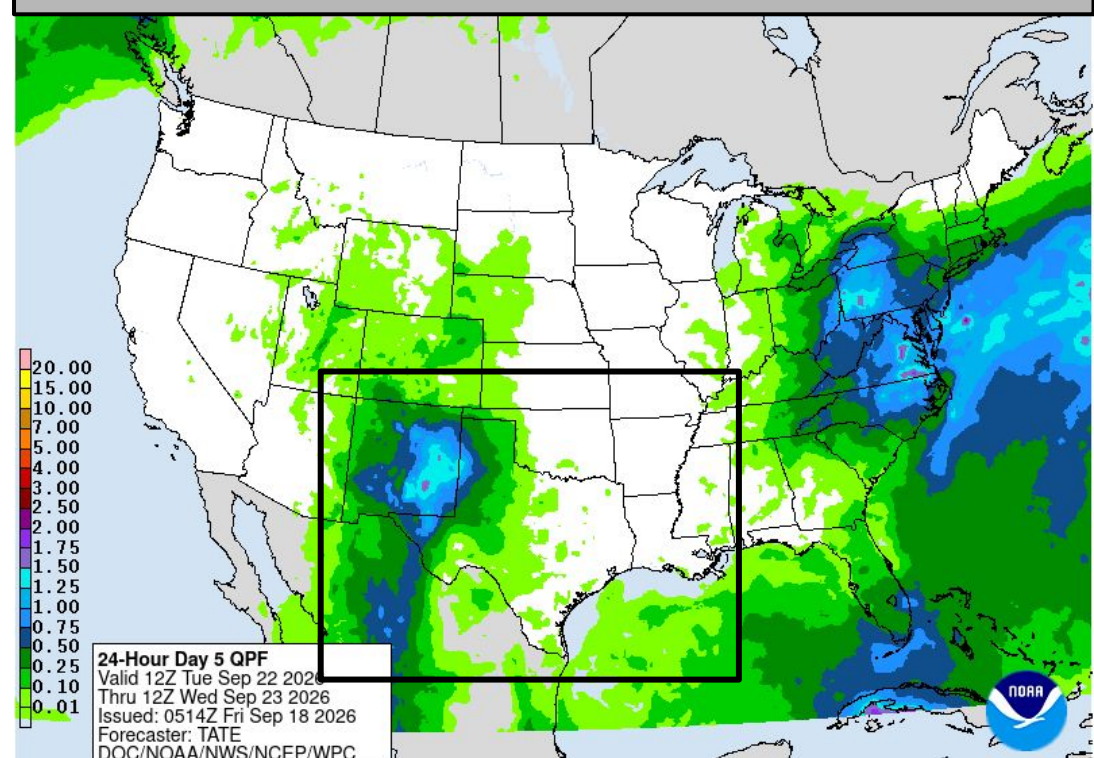


Tuesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

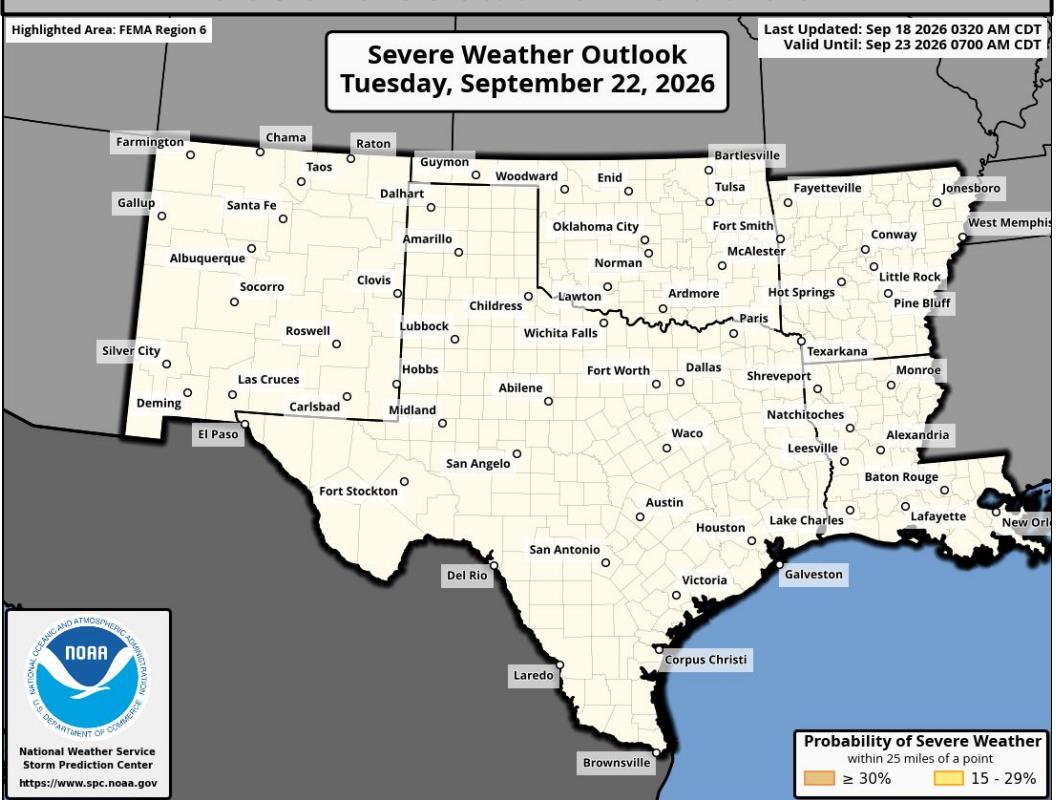


Forecast Rainfall

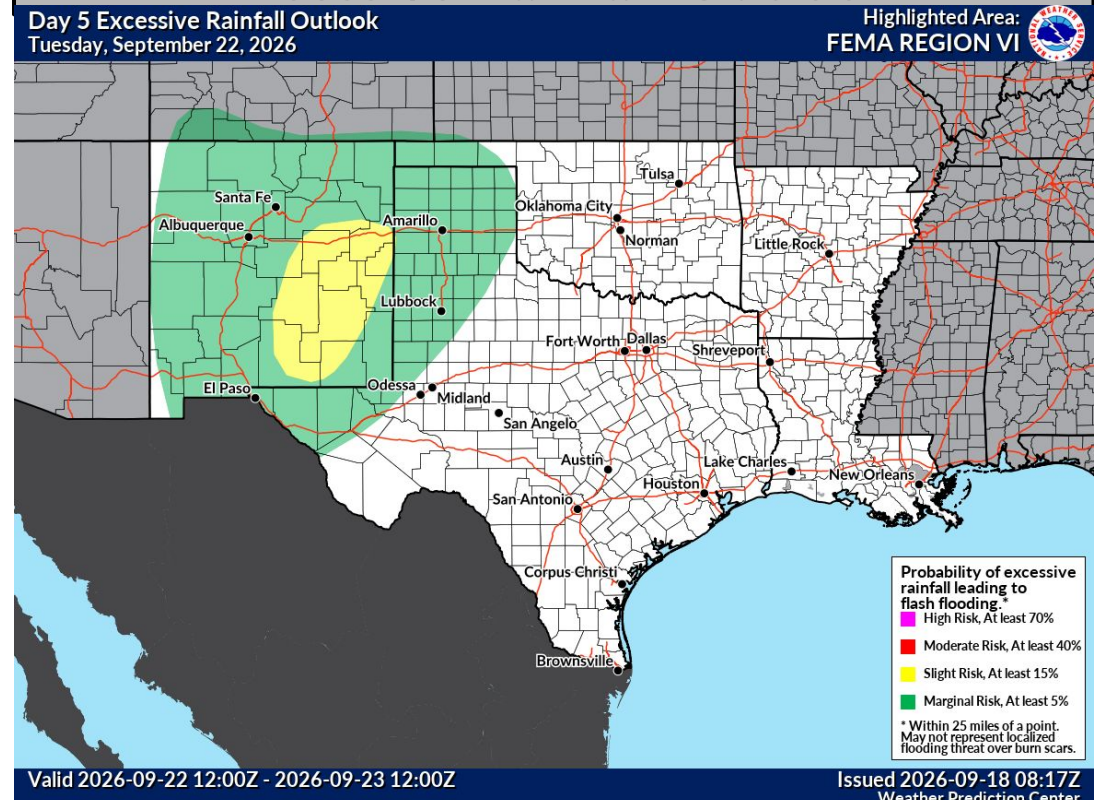


Slight risk (level 2 of 4) for flash flooding over E NM.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



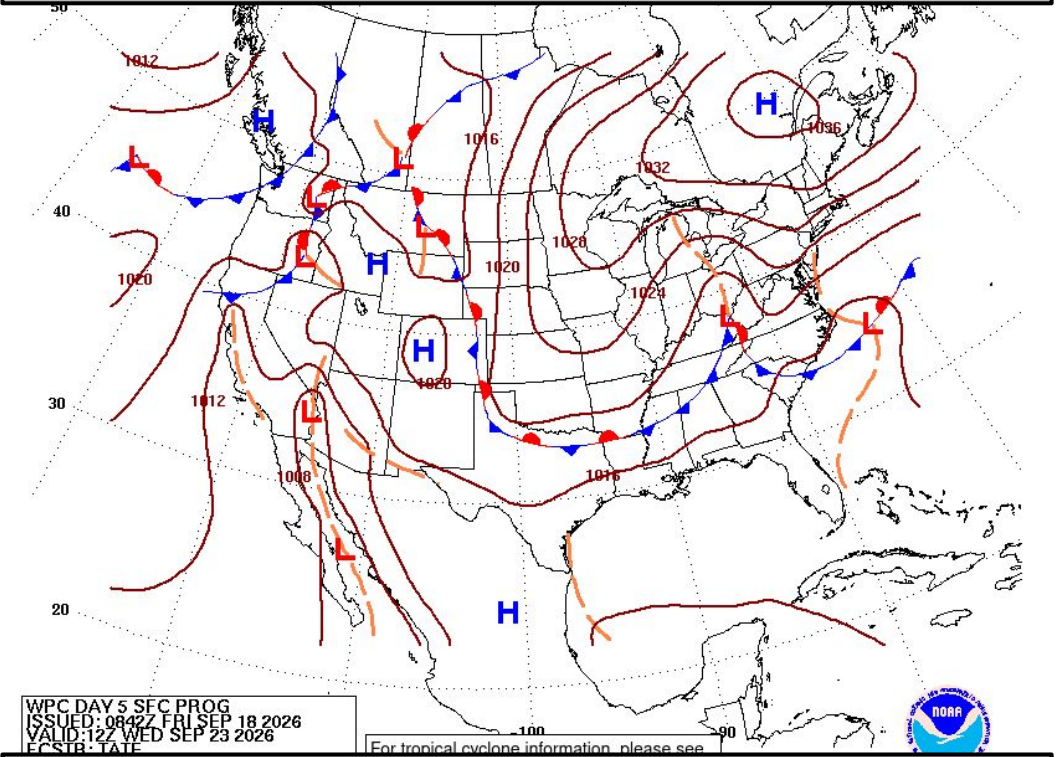
Burn Scar Flash Flooding information on Burn Scar Matrix slides



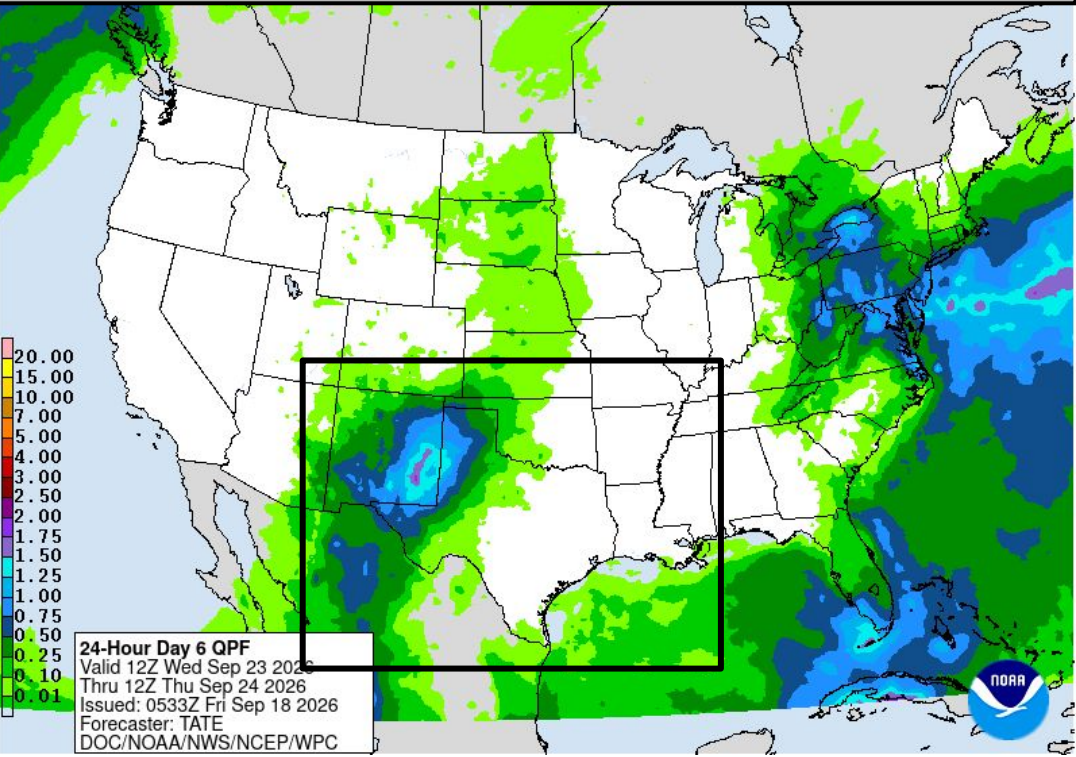


Wednesday's Weather

Forecast Chart

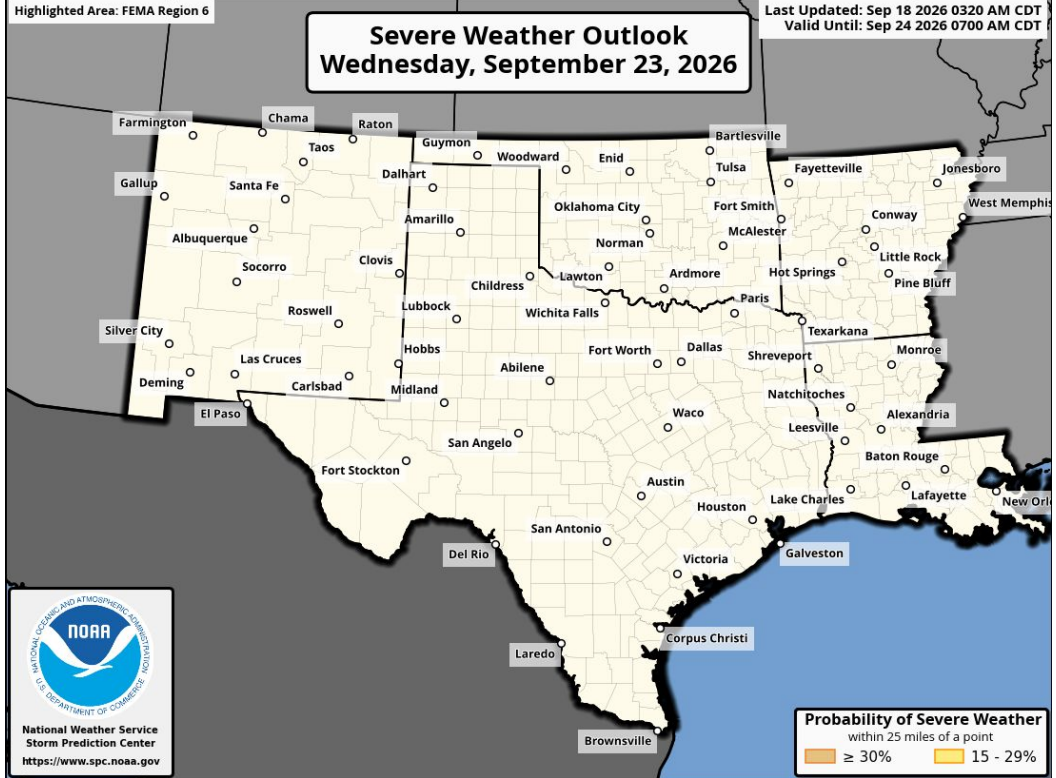


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring NM, NW TX for heavy rain.

Severe Weather Outlook



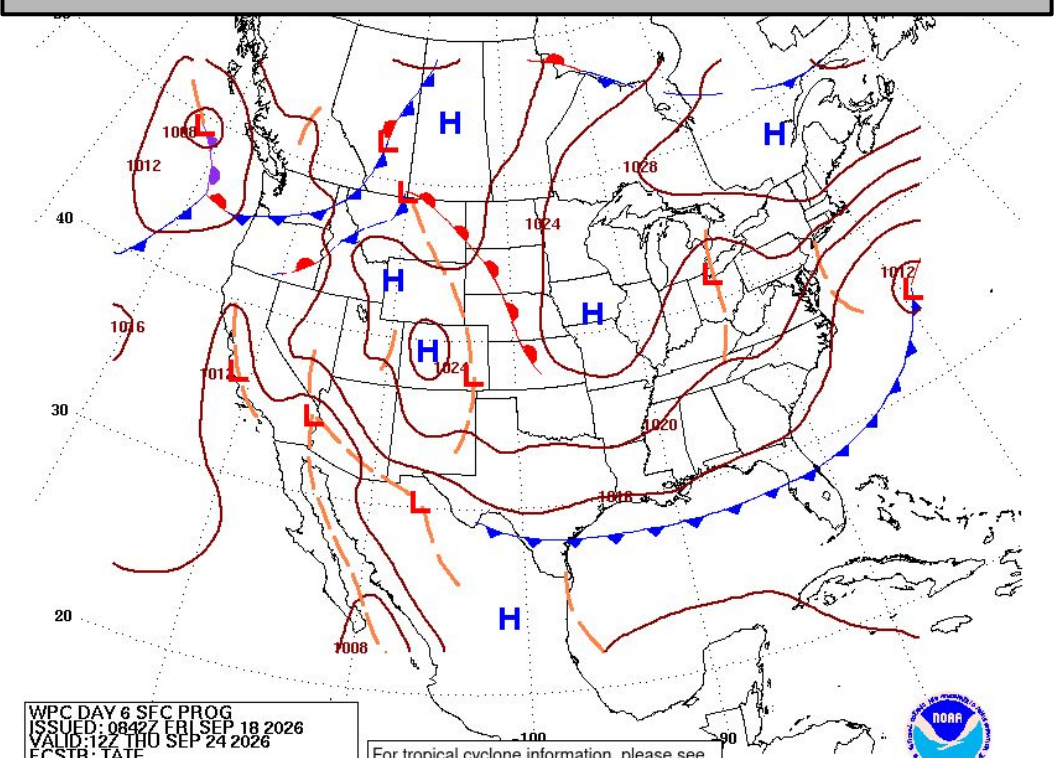
**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**



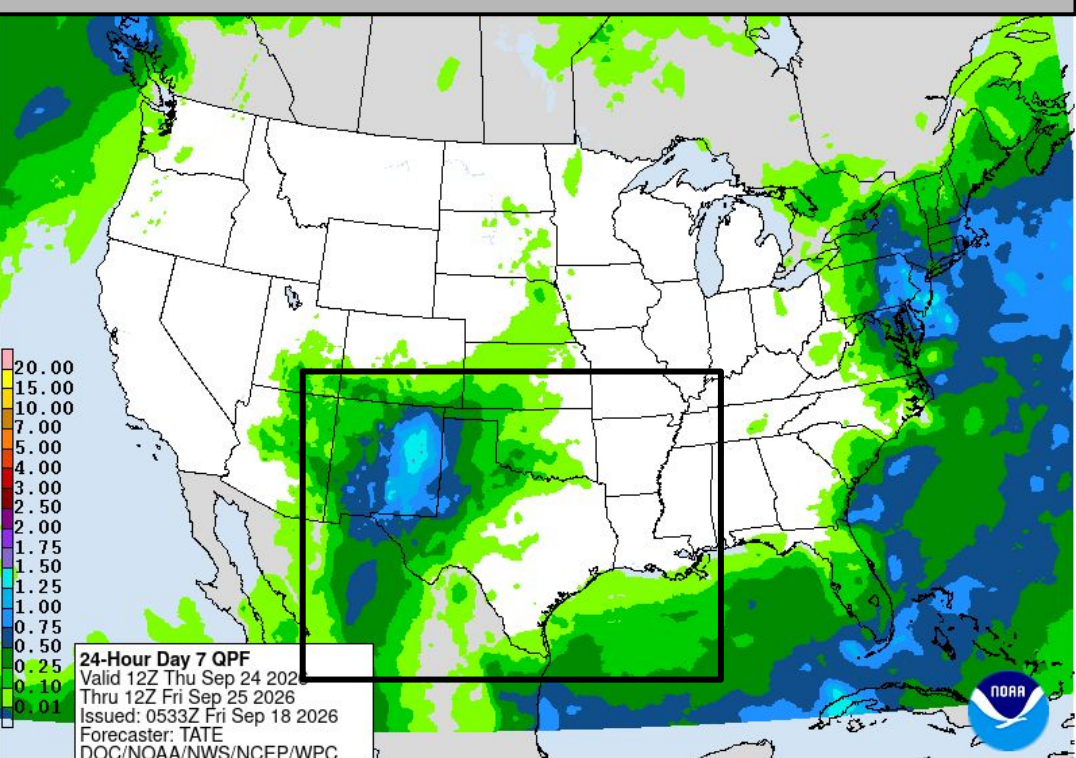


Thursday's Weather

Forecast Chart

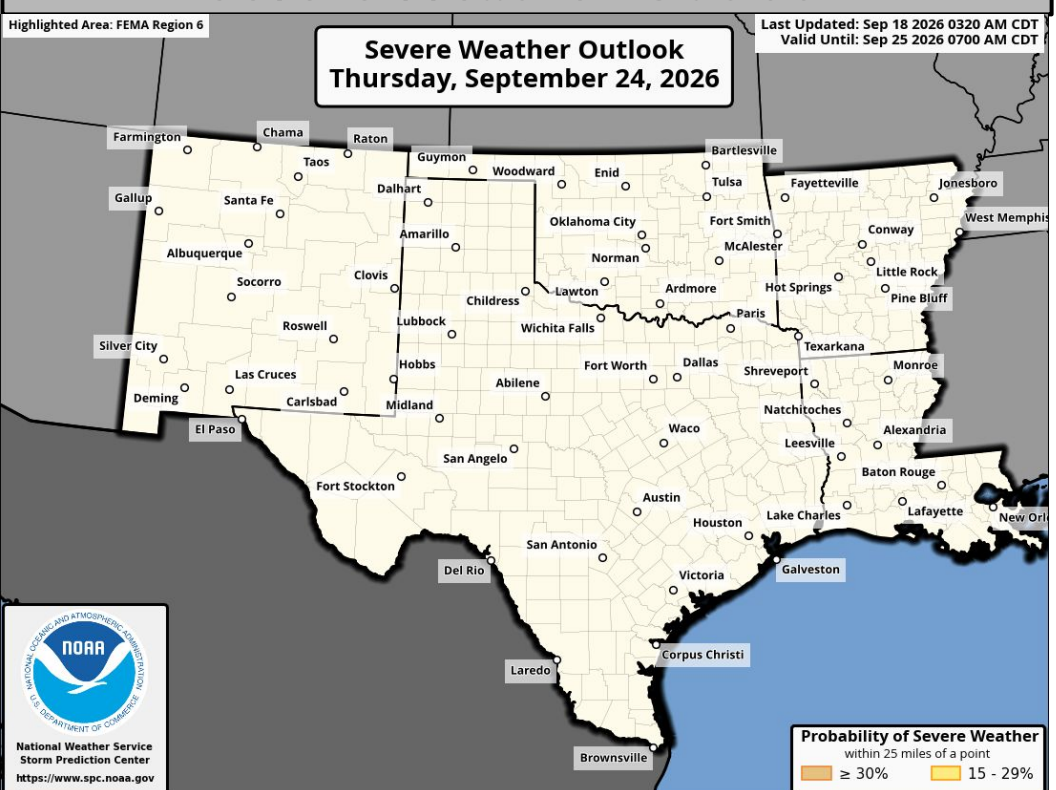


Forecast Rainfall



Monitoring E NM for heavy rainfall.

Severe Weather Outlook

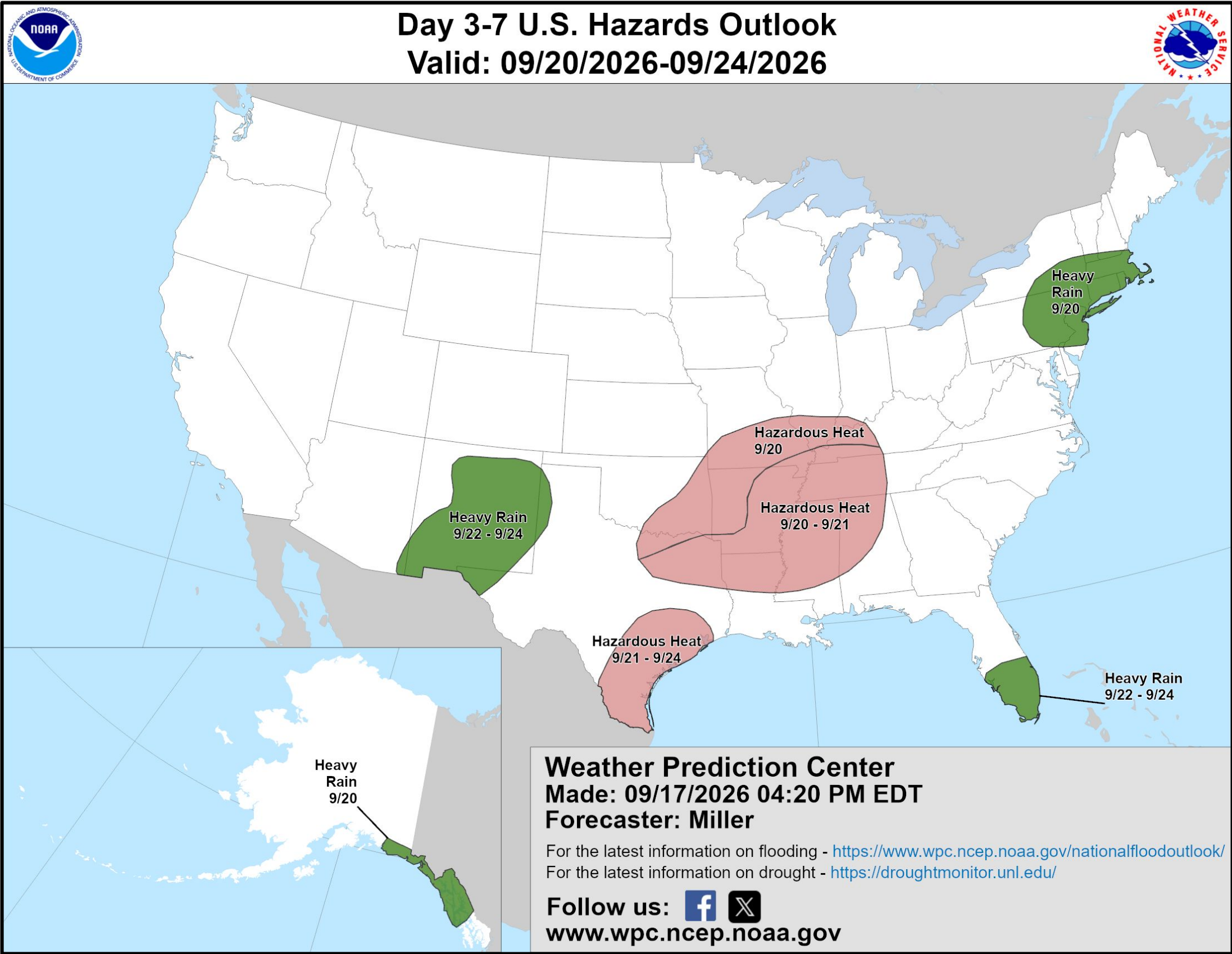


**Excessive Rainfall Outlooks
not available beyond Day 5**



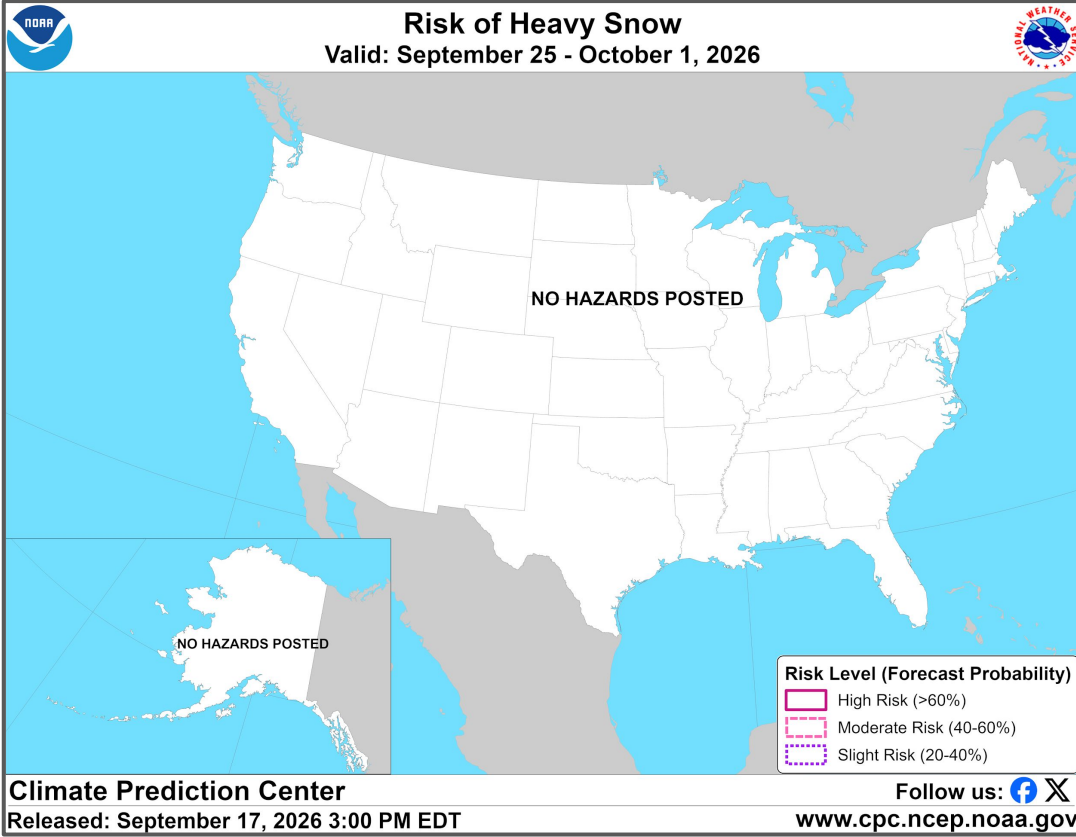
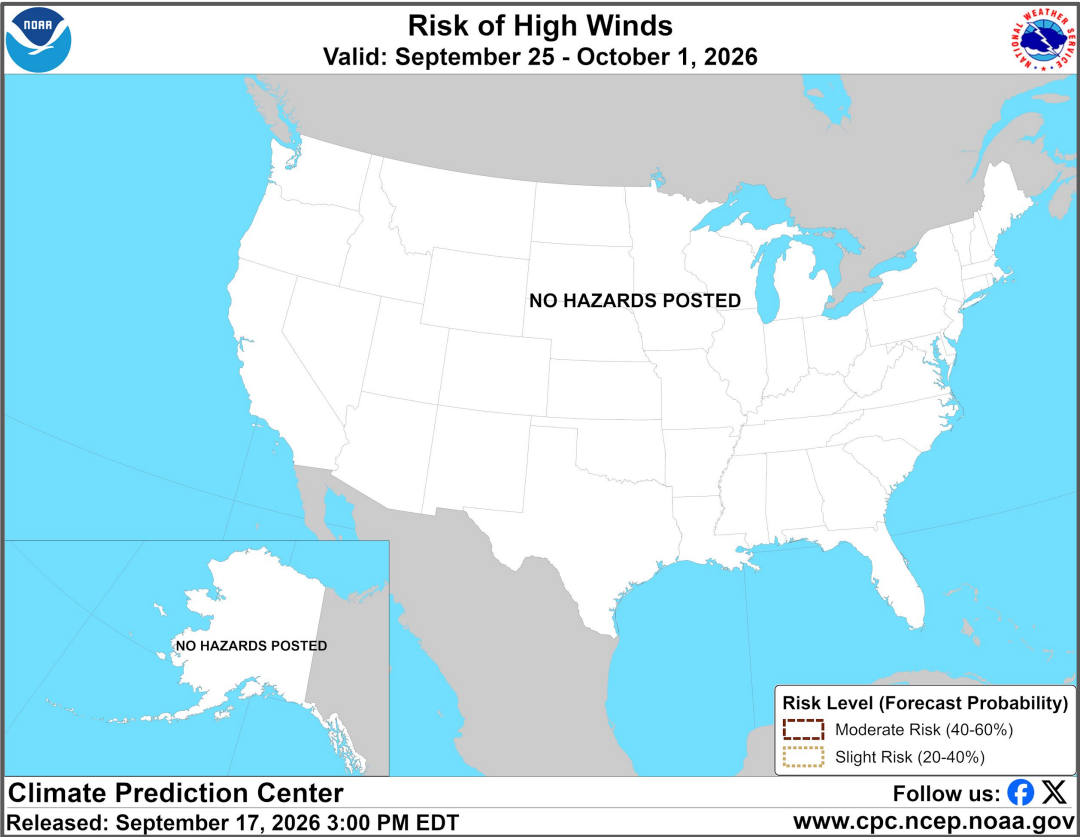
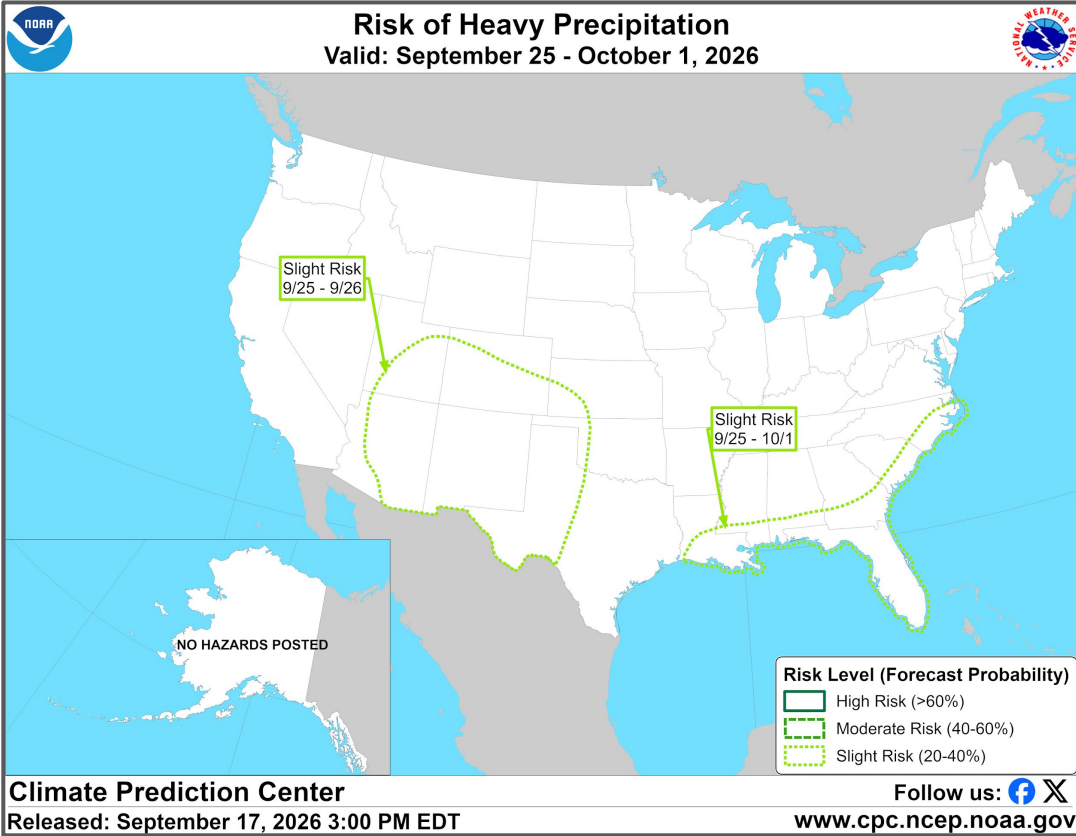
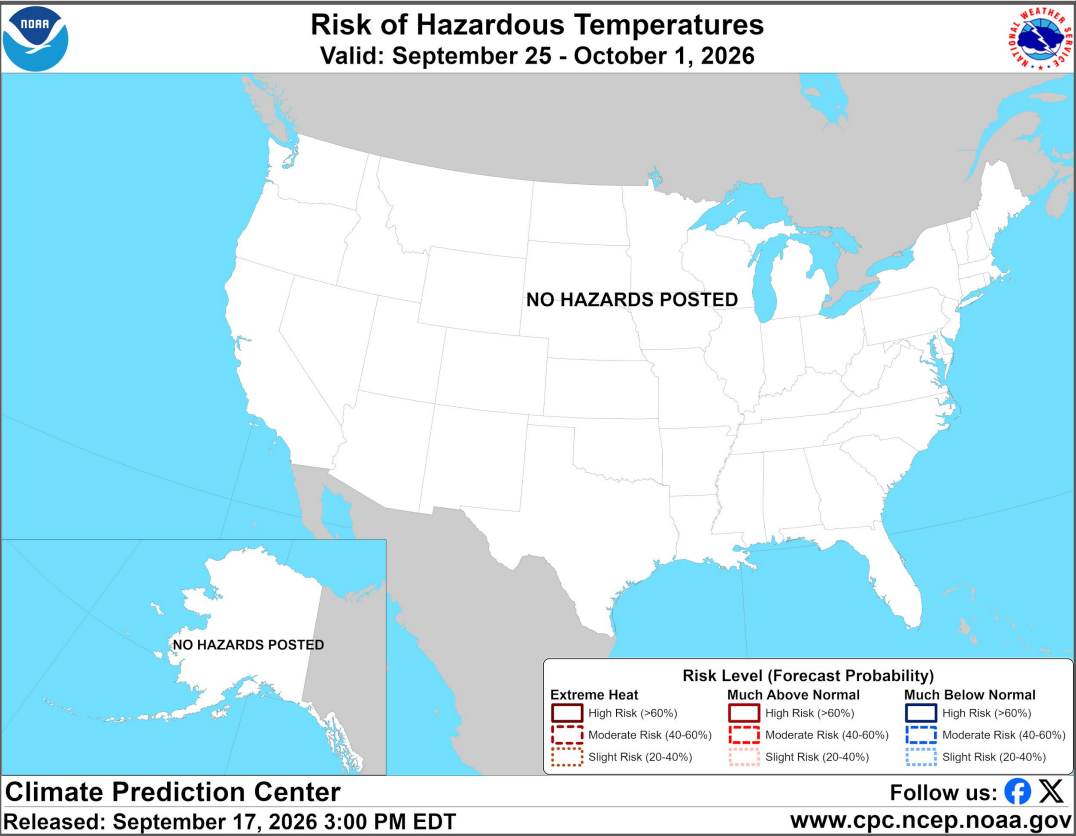
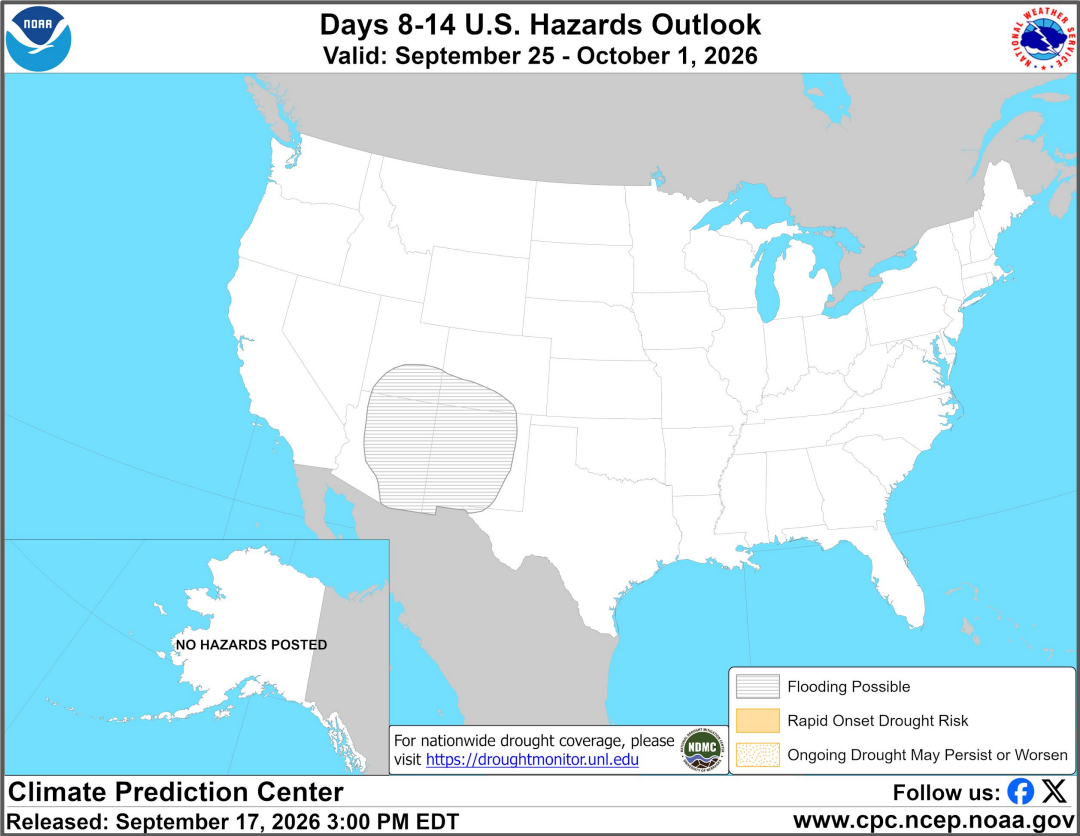


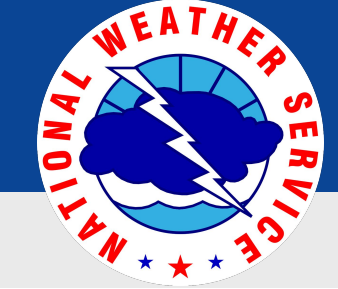
“Day 3-7” Hazards Outlook





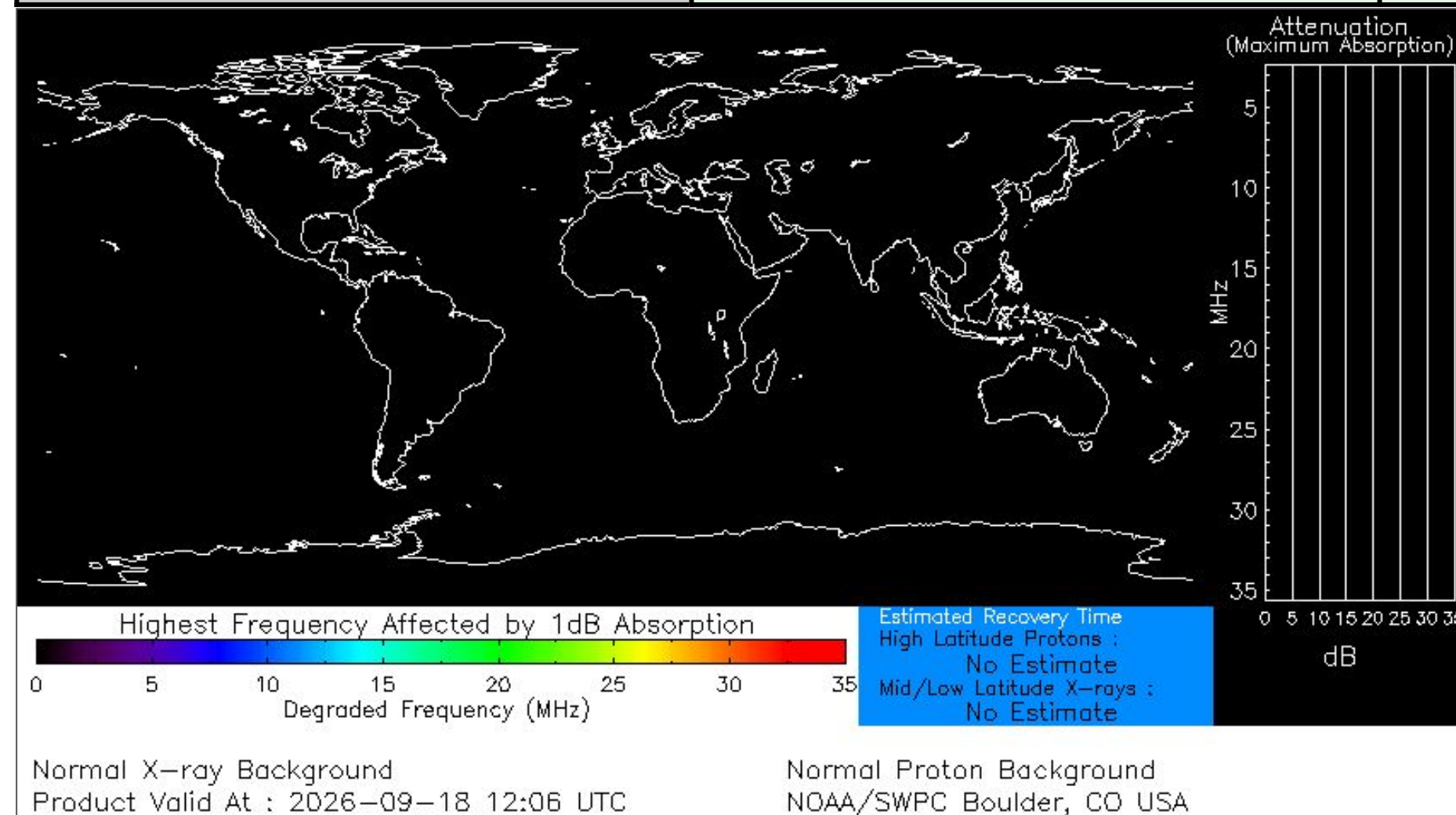
“Day 8-14” Hazards Outlook





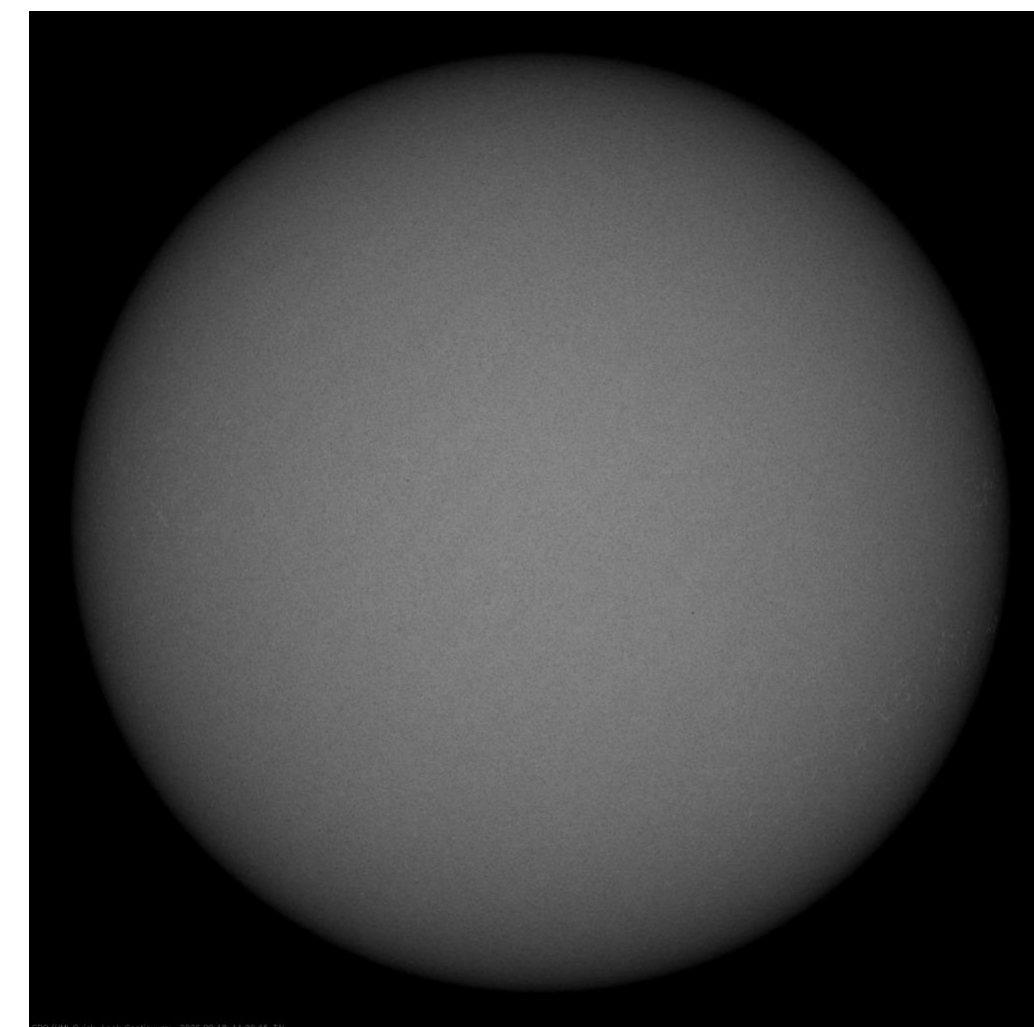
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Friday, Sep 18	Saturday, Sep 19	Sunday, Sep 20
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)	Unsettled (Max Kp=3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	5%	5%	5%
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	Little to None Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	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	- 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	Minor Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	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	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	Moderate Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	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	- 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	Major Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	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	- 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	Extreme 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	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	- 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 nws.soc2@noaa.gov



National Weather Service

Sector 2 Operations Center - Texas, Gulf Coast, and Puerto Rico
Fort Worth, TX



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Web: www.weather.gov

