



FEMA



Prepared by
Cindy Elsenheimer

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Saturday April 18, 2020

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.



- **Critical fire weather conditions across NM and W TX, and isolated severe storms/heavy rainfall across LA, SE TX and S AR today.**
- **Severe thunderstorms (hail, damaging wind gusts and tornadoes) with isolated heavy rain across LA, E TX and S AR on Sunday. Severe thunderstorms expected again on Wednesday across OK, E TX, and W AR/LA.**
- **Moderate to major river flooding continues on the MS River, but most points have crested and will remain steady or continue a slow fall.**

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Apr 18, 2020 - Apr 22, 2020



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DAY / THREAT	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Severe Storms	LA, ETX, SAR	LA, ETX, SAR			OK, ETX, W AR/LA
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	LA, SETX	LA, ETX			
Fire Weather	NM, WTX	WTX			
Tropical Weather					
Winter Weather					
River Flooding	MS River	MS River	MS River	MS River	MS River
	AR, LA, ETX	AR, LA, ETX	AR, LA, ETX	AR, LA, ETX	AR, LA, ETX

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

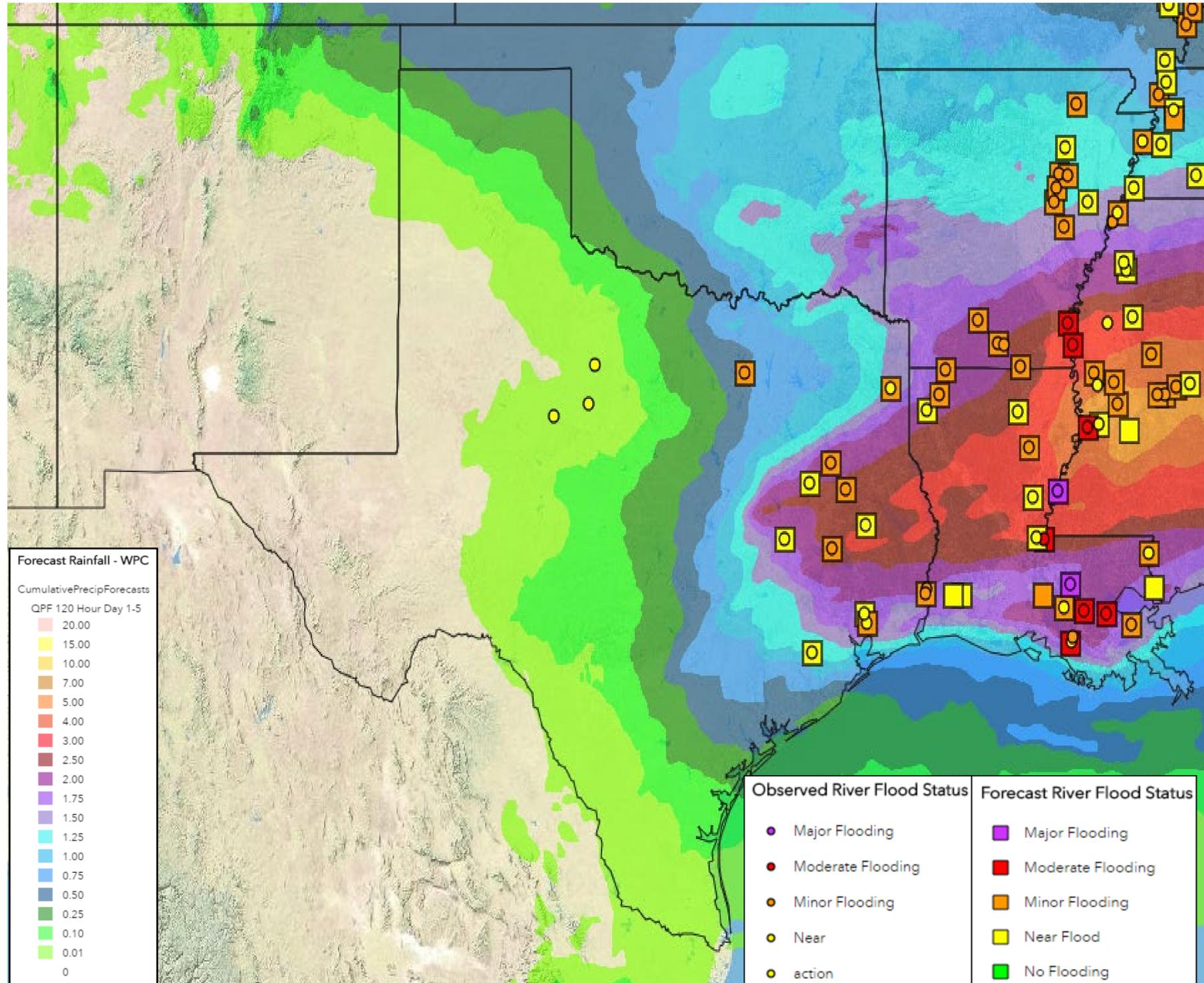
Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Moderate to major flooding continues along the MS River. Most locations have crested and will remain steady or continue a slow fall. Significant falls should approach the lower reaches of the lower MS River late this weekend or early next week.

- **Major flooding is occurring near Baton Rouge, LA crested around 44 ft. Shipping and industrial activities significantly affected.**
- **The Bonnet Carré Floodway continues to operate and reduce flow at New Orleans, LA, maintaining 17.0ft (minor) flood stage through this week. Impacts to navigation. A 20 ft project levee protects the city.**
- **The Atchafalaya River at Morgan City, LA will maintain moderate flood stage through this weekend. Some flooding of buildings possible.**
- **Additional minor to moderate flooding possible across E TX, LA and S AR with Sunday's rainfall**

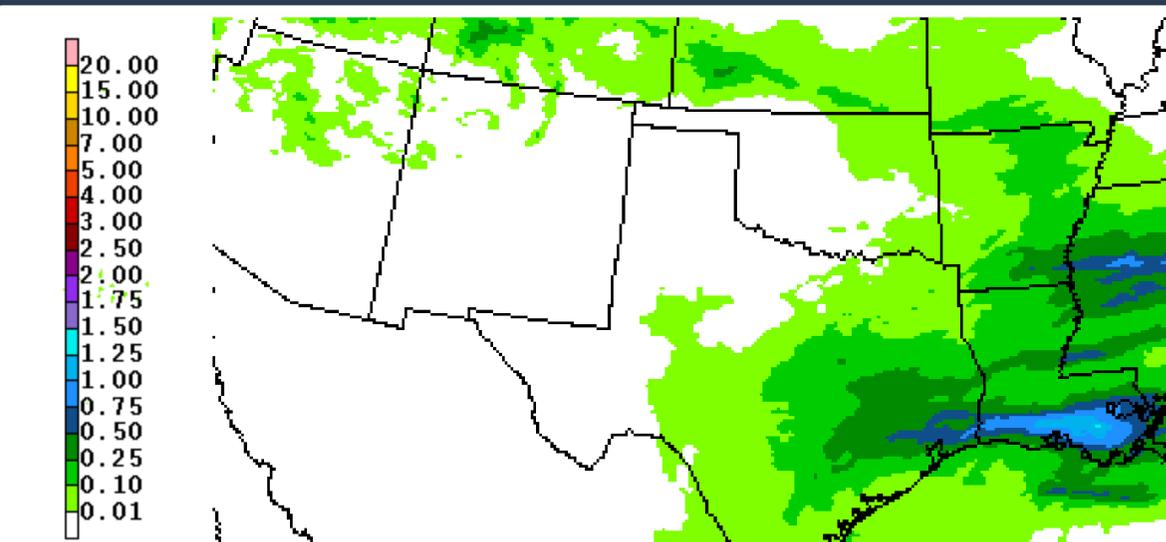
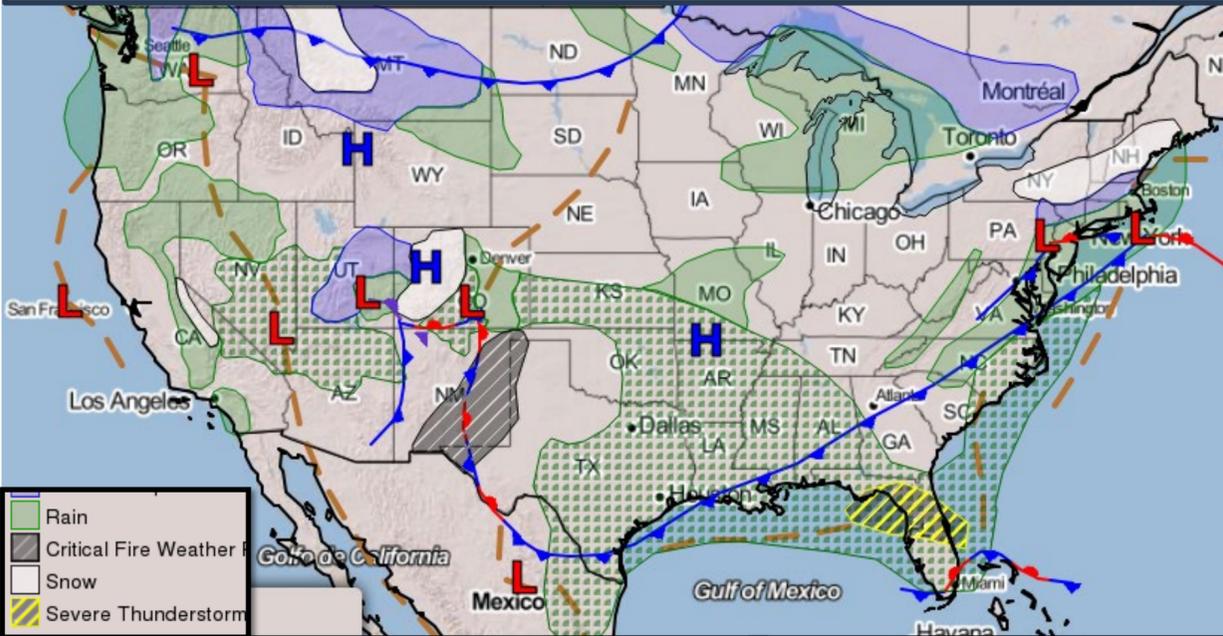
Today's Weather



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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall



Isolated strong to severe storms over LA, ETX, & SAR

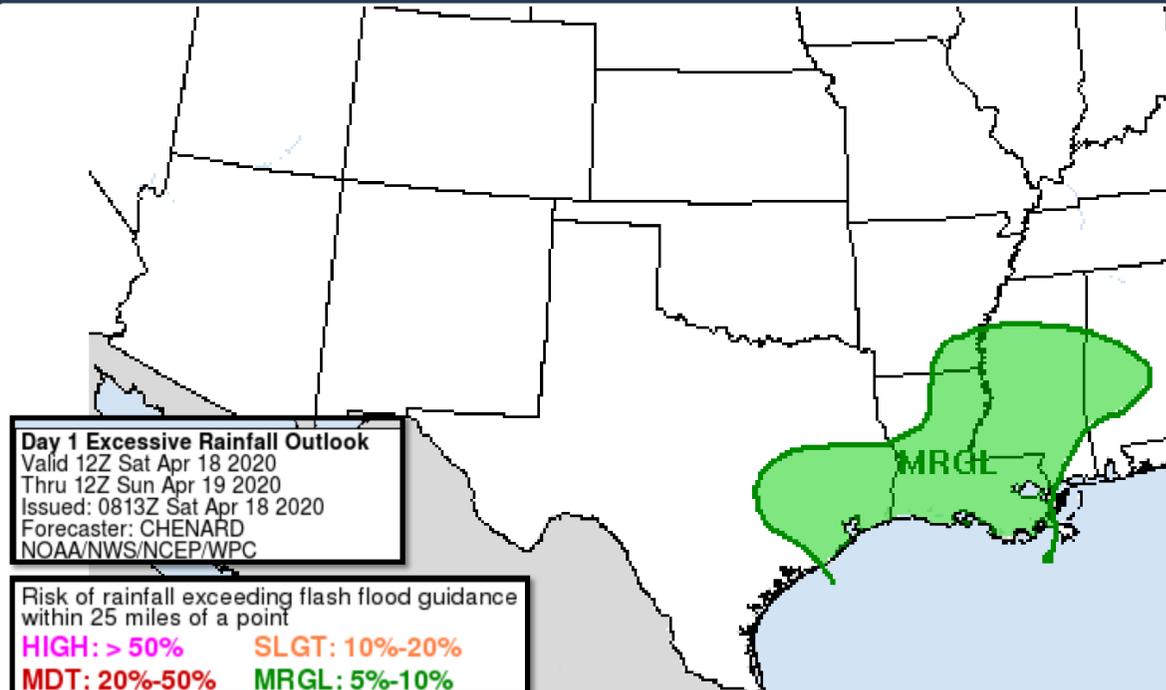
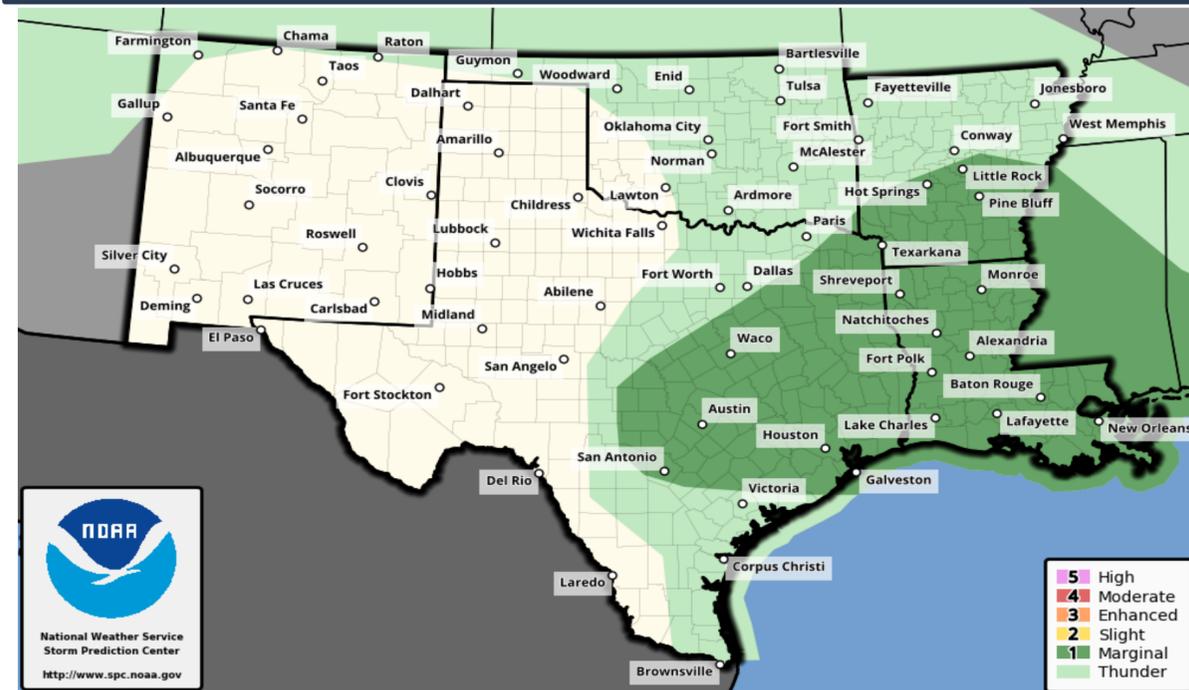
Isolated flash flooding over SE TX into LA.

Weather Valid 8am EDT Sat Apr 18 2020 to 8am EDT Sun Apr 19 2020
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Sat Apr 18 2020
Issued 4:33 AM EDT Sat, Apr 18, 2020
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Orrison with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

24-HR DAY 1 QPF
VALID 12Z SAT APR 18 2020
THRU 12Z SUN APR 19 2020
ISSUED: 0825Z SAT APR 18 2020
FORECASTER: CHENARD
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 1 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Valid 12Z Sat Apr 18 2020
Thru 12Z Sun Apr 19 2020
Issued: 0813Z Sat Apr 18 2020
Forecaster: CHENARD
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point

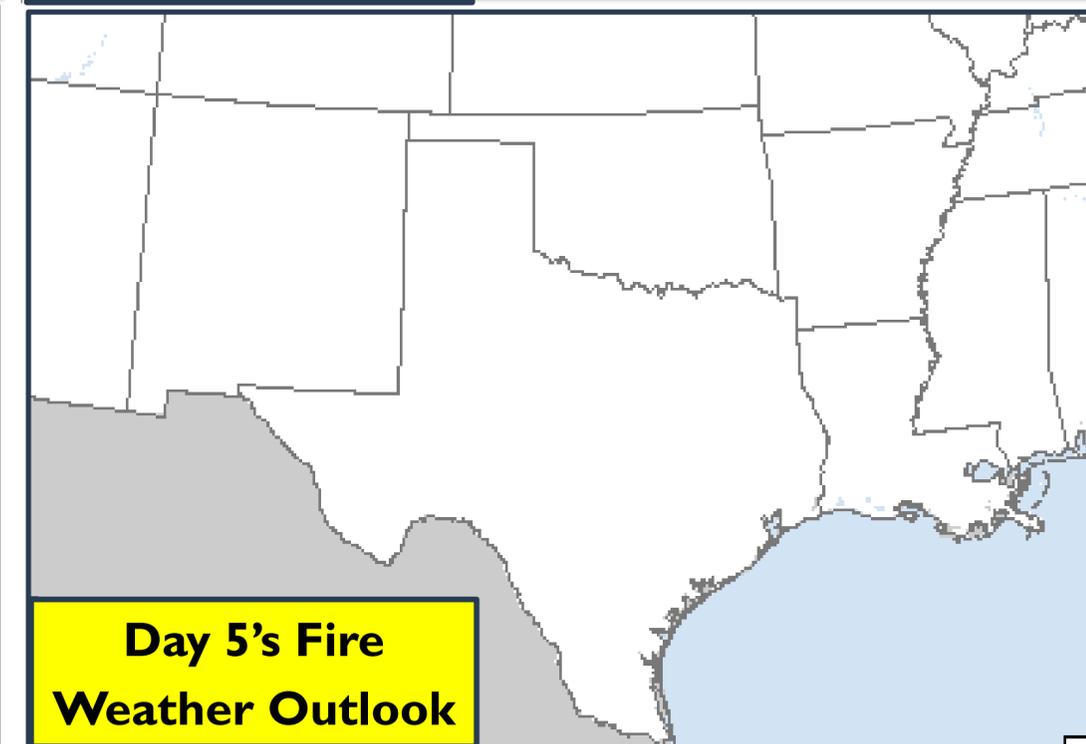
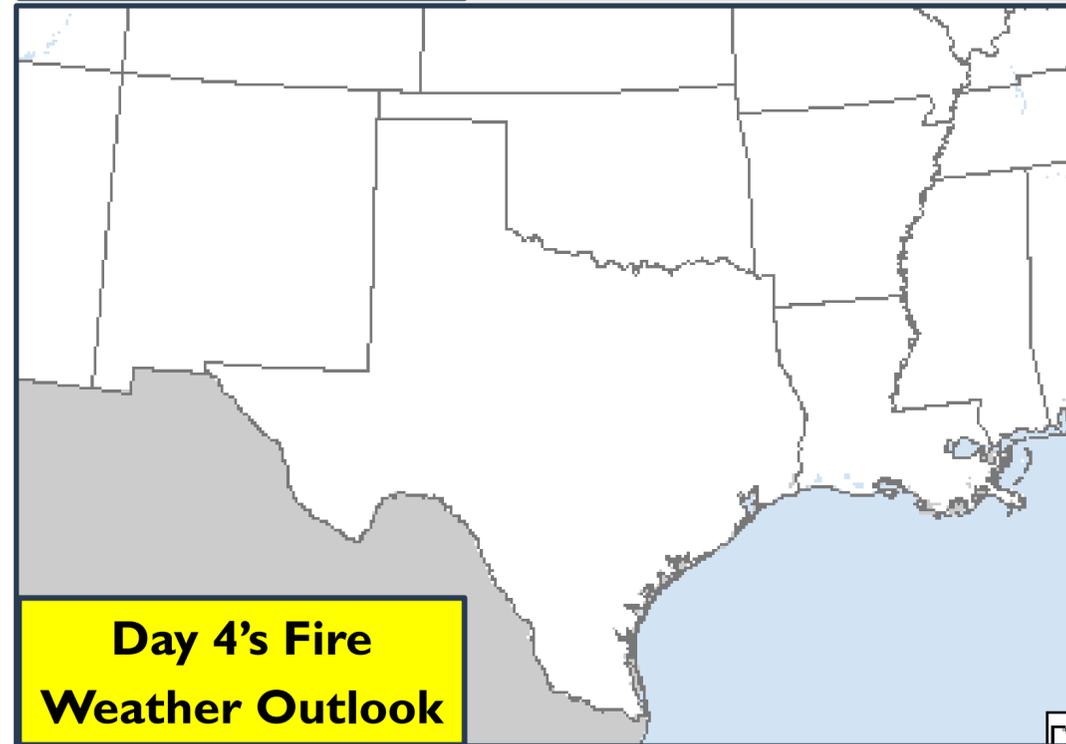
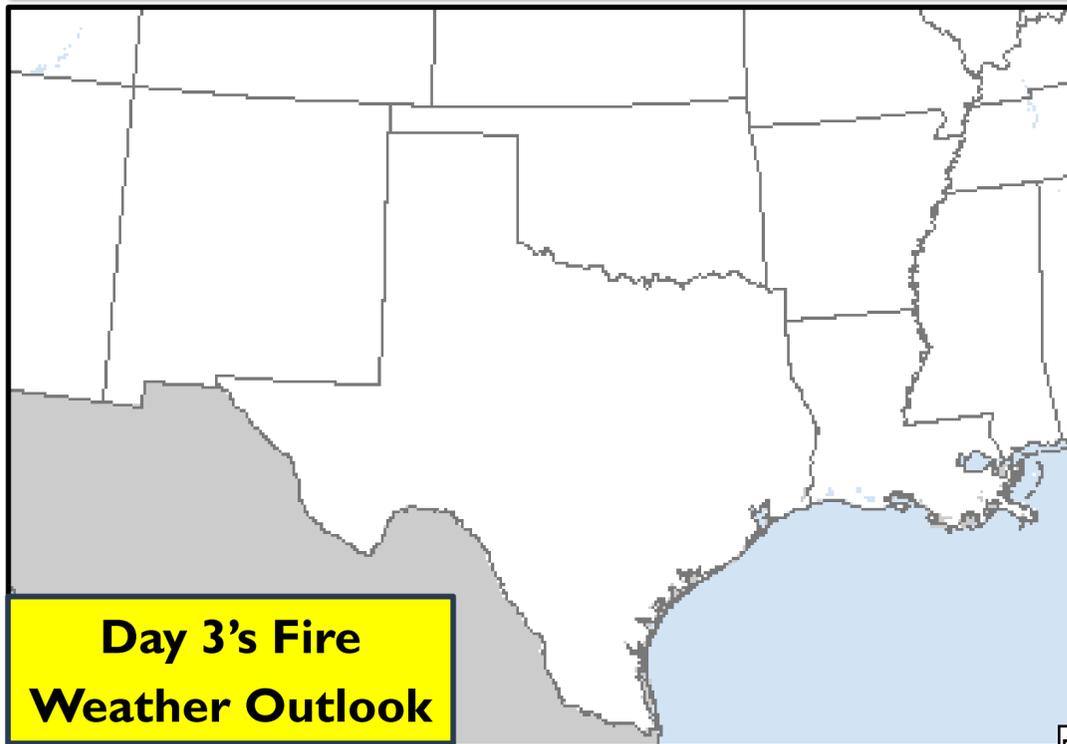
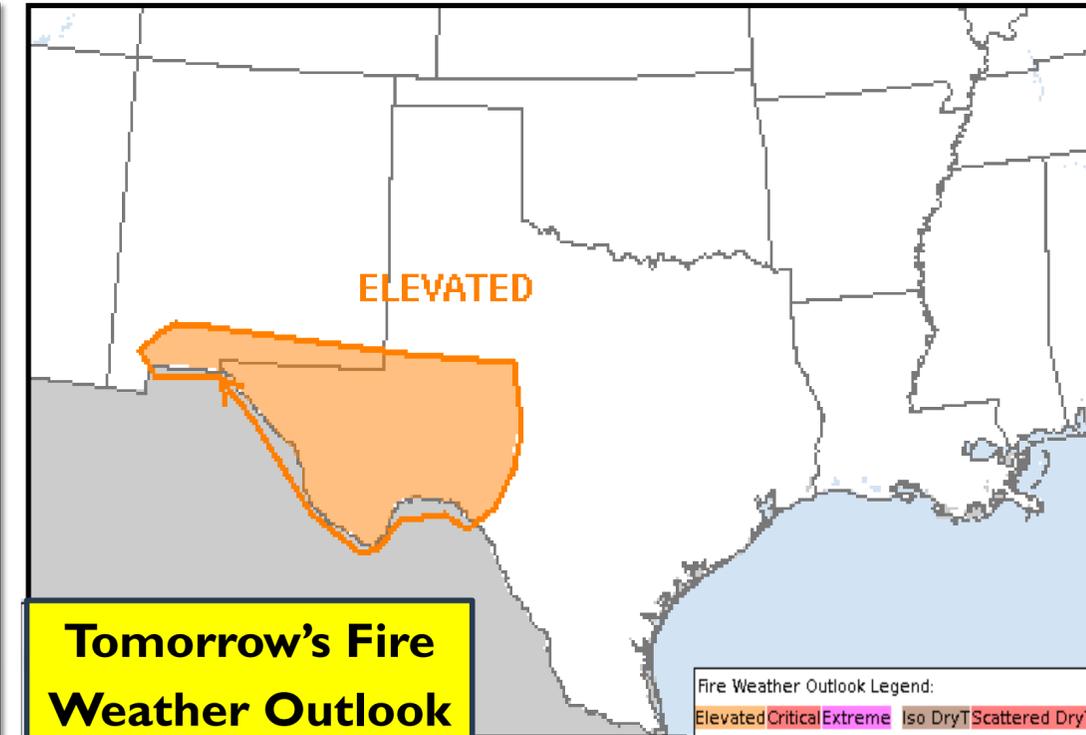
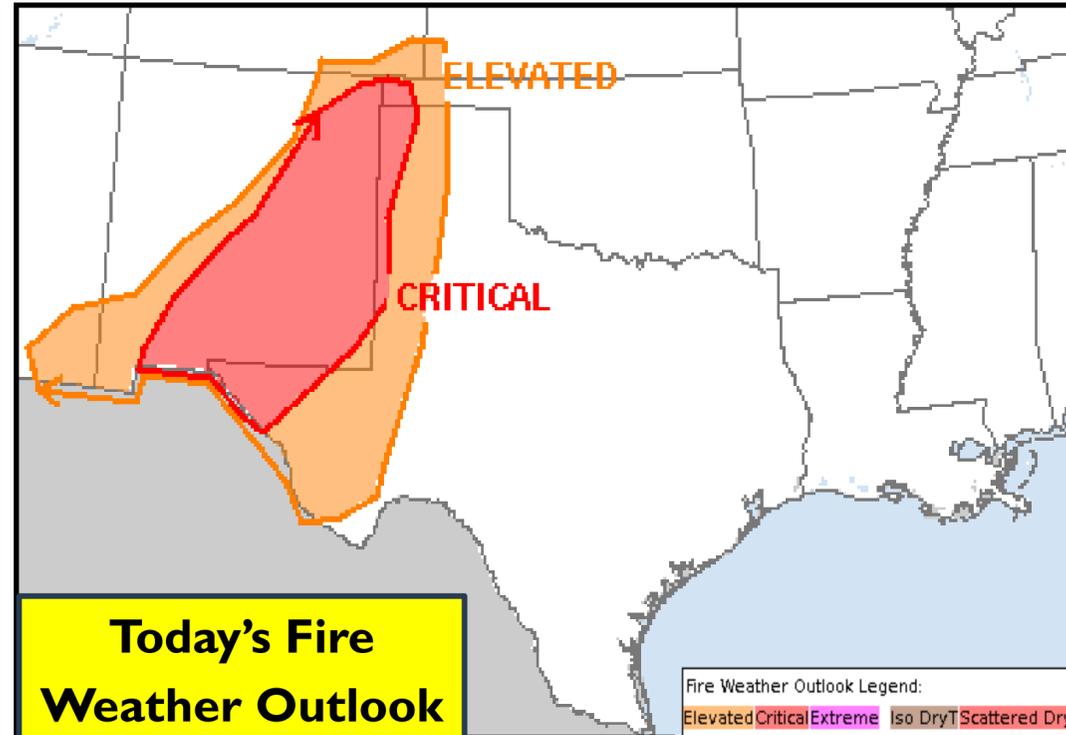
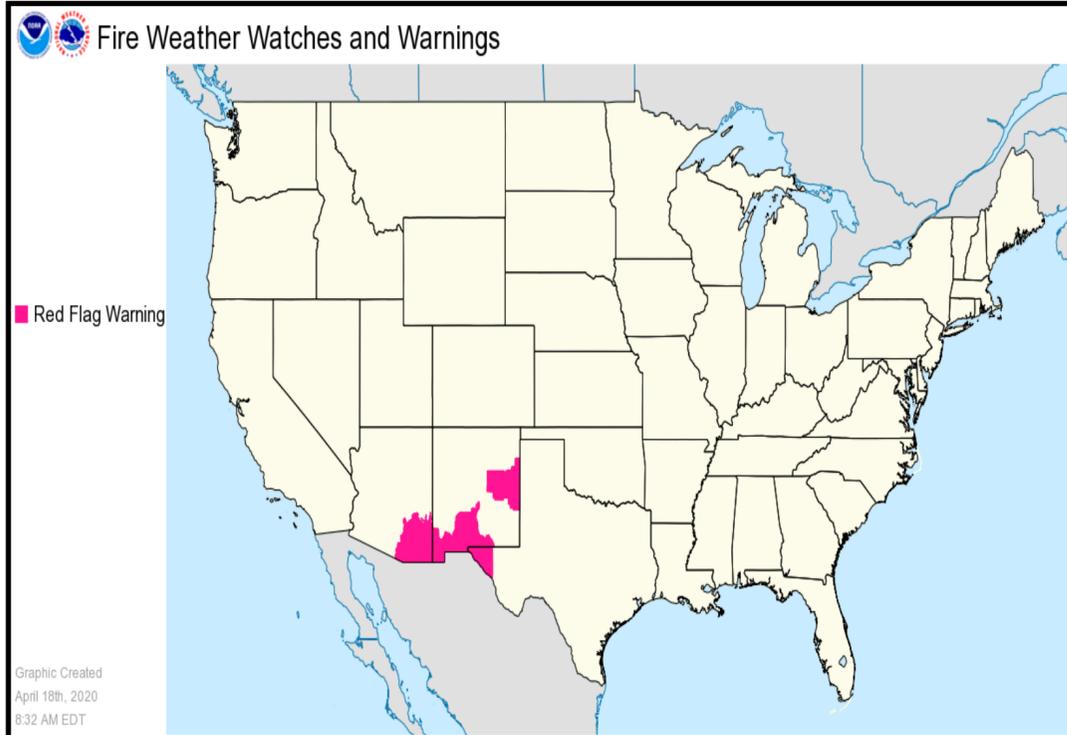
HIGH: > 50% **SLGT: 10%-20%**
MDT: 20%-50% **MRGL: 5%-10%**



Fire Weather Outlooks



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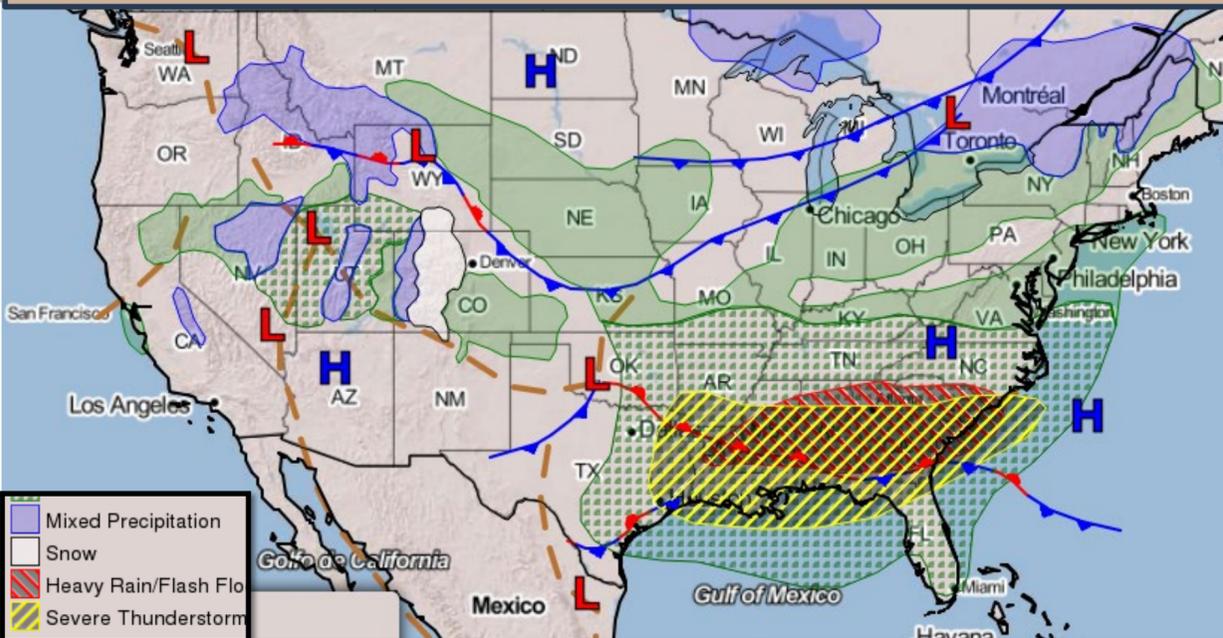


Tomorrow's Weather



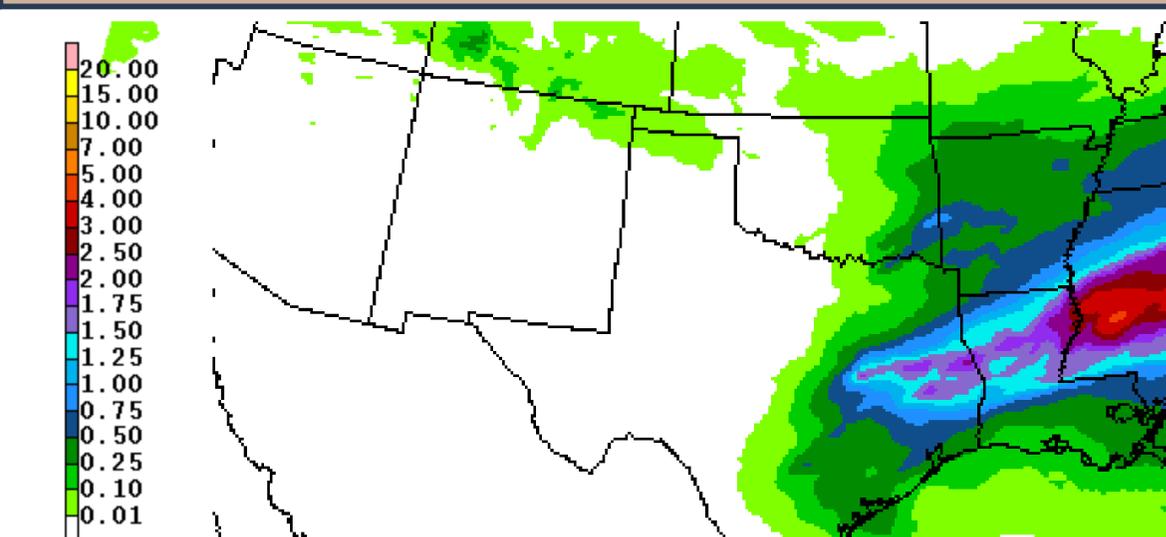
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Forecast Chart



Weather Valid 8am EDT Sun Apr 19 2020 to 8am EDT Mon Apr 20 2020
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Sun Apr 19 2020
Issued 4:36 AM EDT Sat, Apr 18, 2020
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Orrison with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

Forecast Rainfall

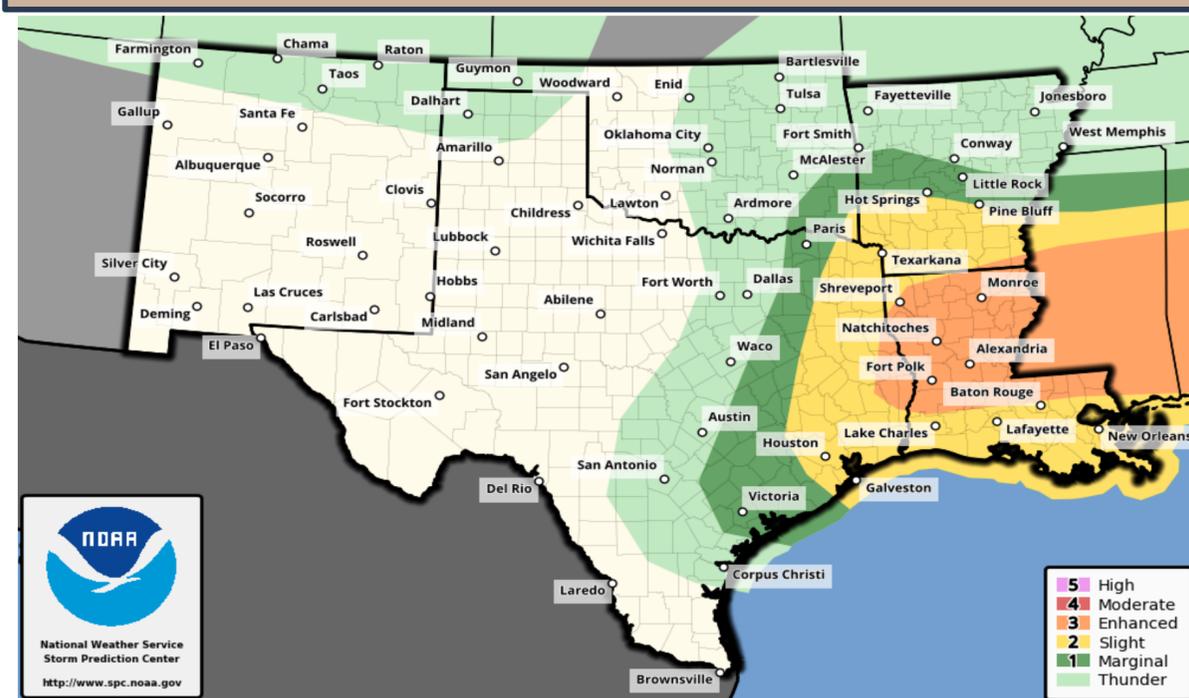


24-HR DAY 2 QPF
VALID 12Z SUN APR 19 2020
THRU 12Z MON APR 20 2020
ISSUED: 0841Z SAT APR 18 2020
FORECASTER: CHENARD
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

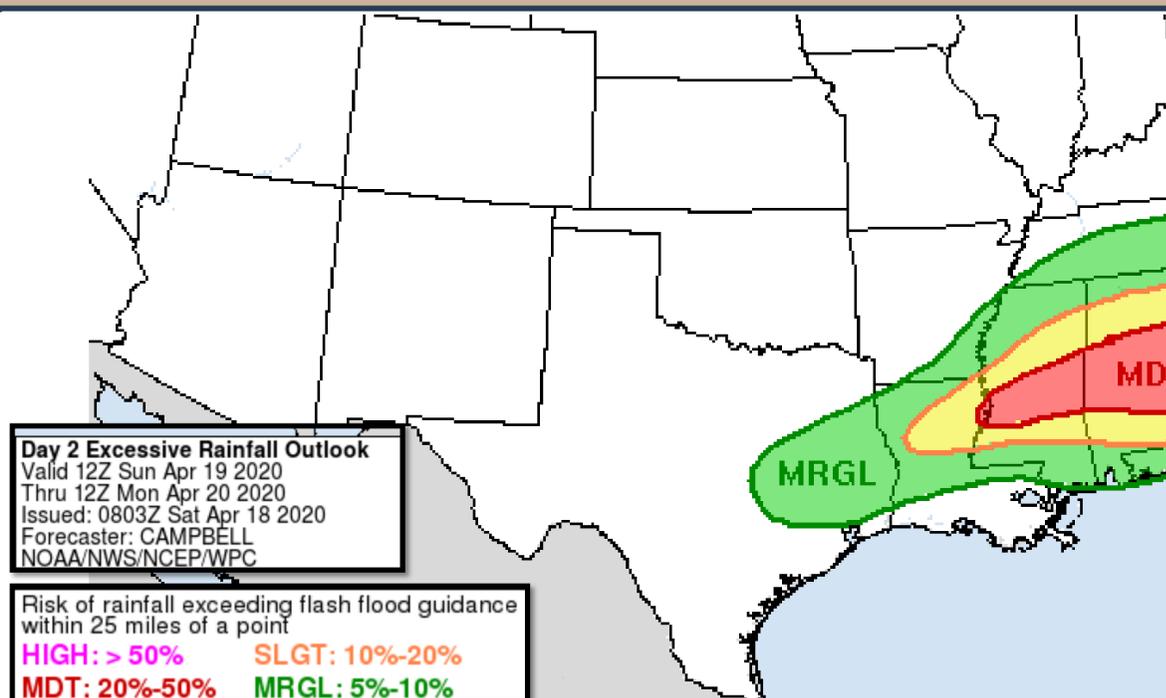
Severe storms expected across LA, ETX and SAR. Damaging winds, large hail, and tornadoes possible.

Isolated heavy rain and flash flooding across ETX into LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 2 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Valid 12Z Sun Apr 19 2020
Thru 12Z Mon Apr 20 2020
Issued: 0803Z Sat Apr 18 2020
Forecaster: CAMPBELL
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point
HIGH: > 50% **SLGT: 10%-20%**
MDT: 20%-50% **MRGL: 5%-10%**

Monday's Weather

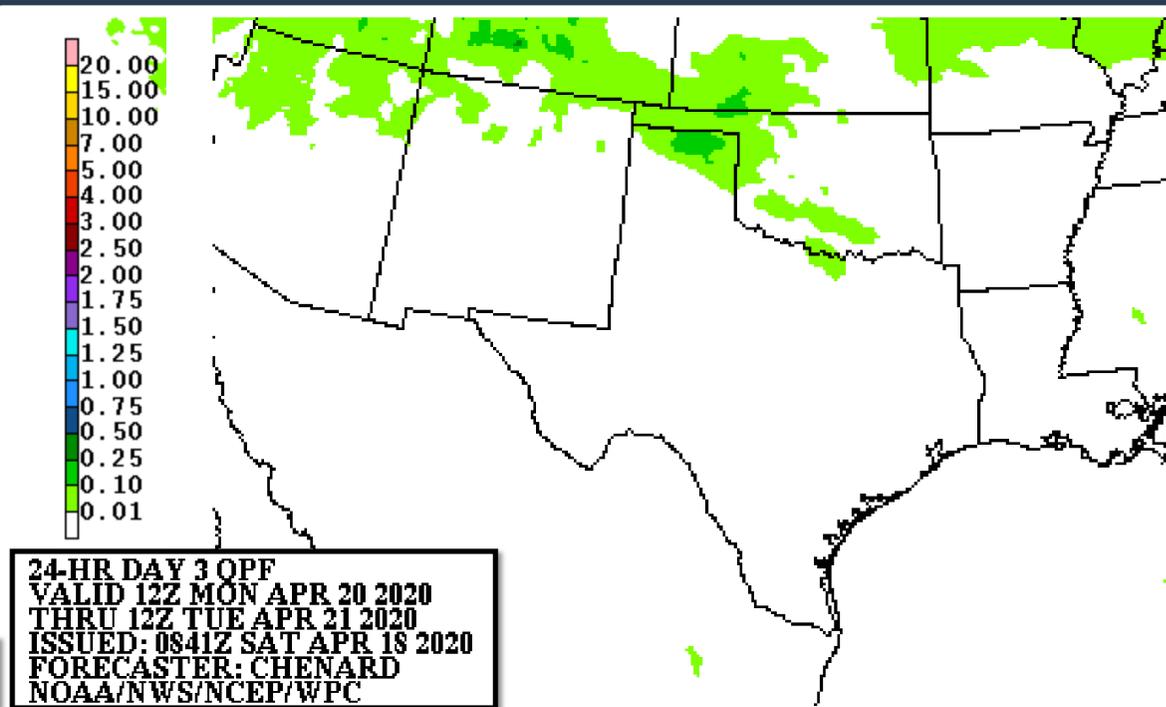
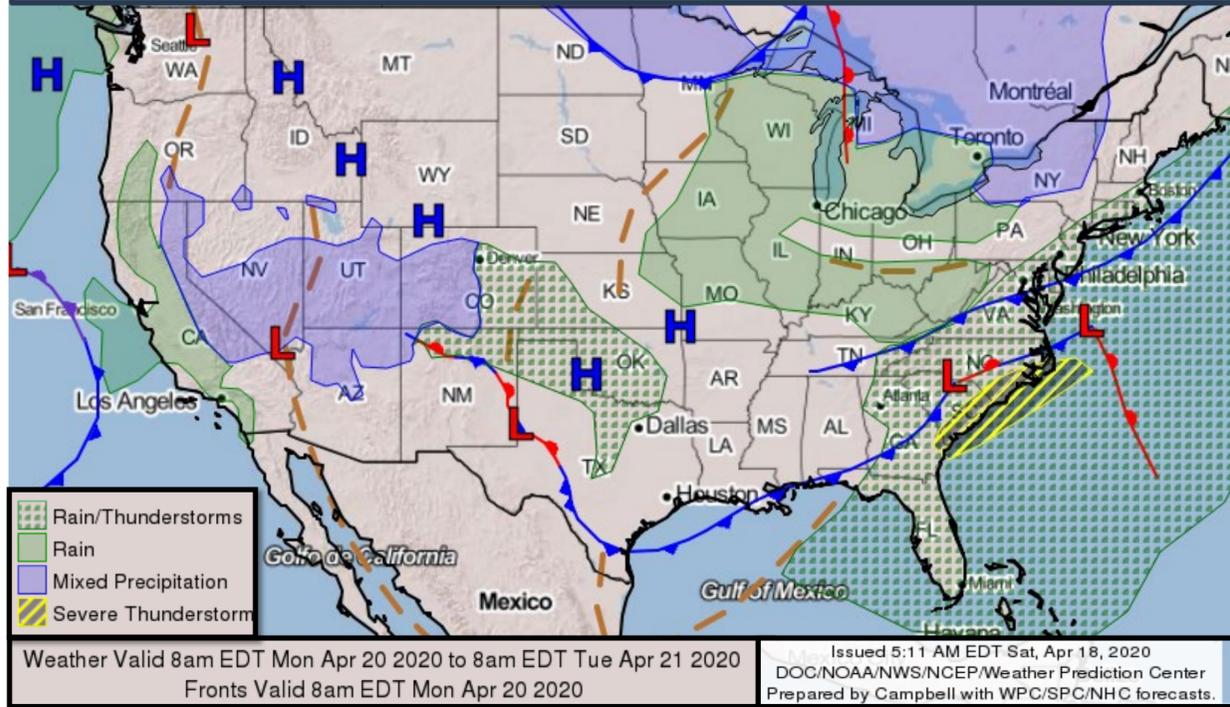


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Forecast Chart

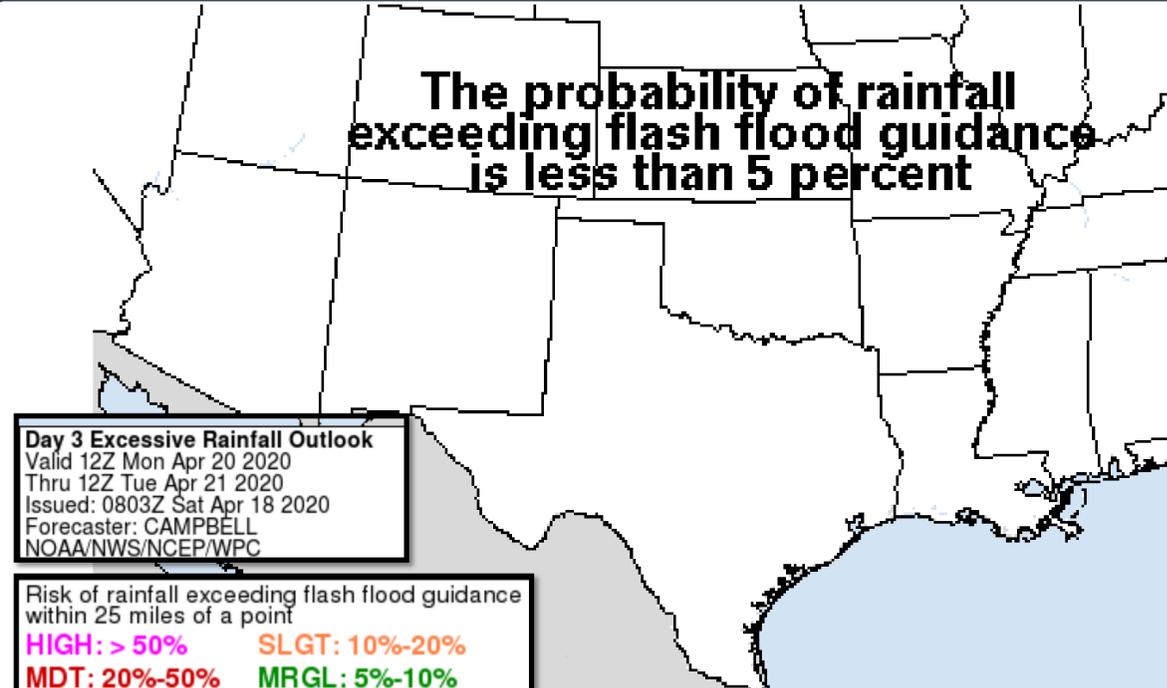
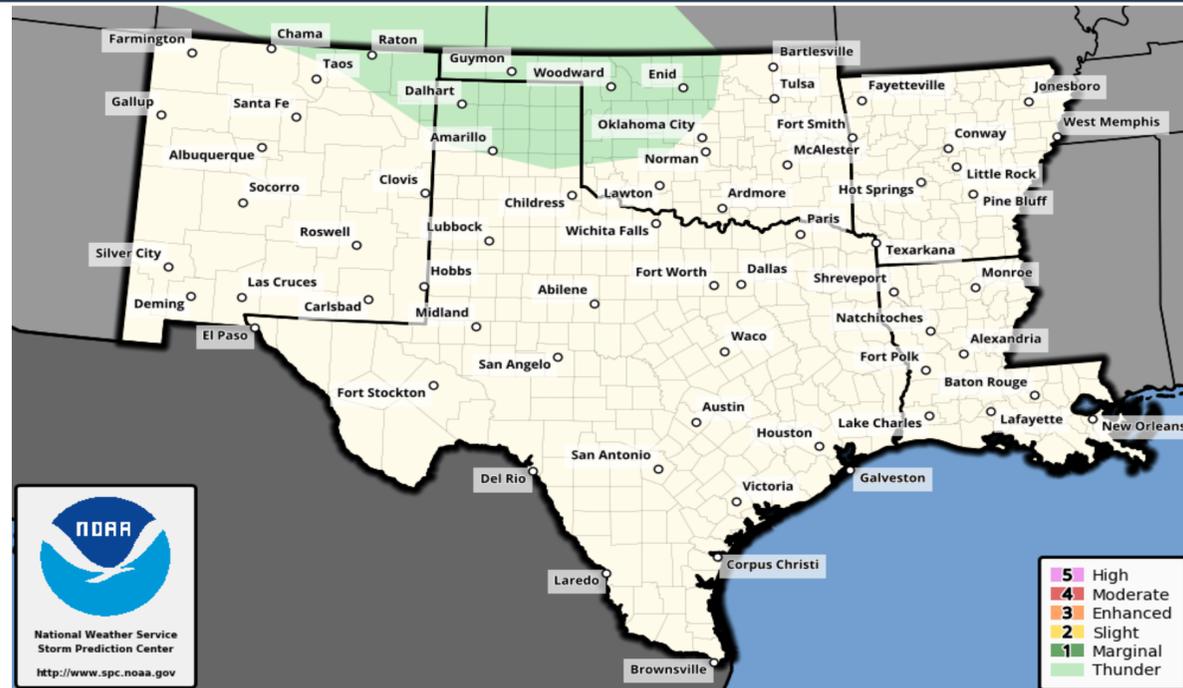
Forecast Rainfall

No significant weather impacts expected.



Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



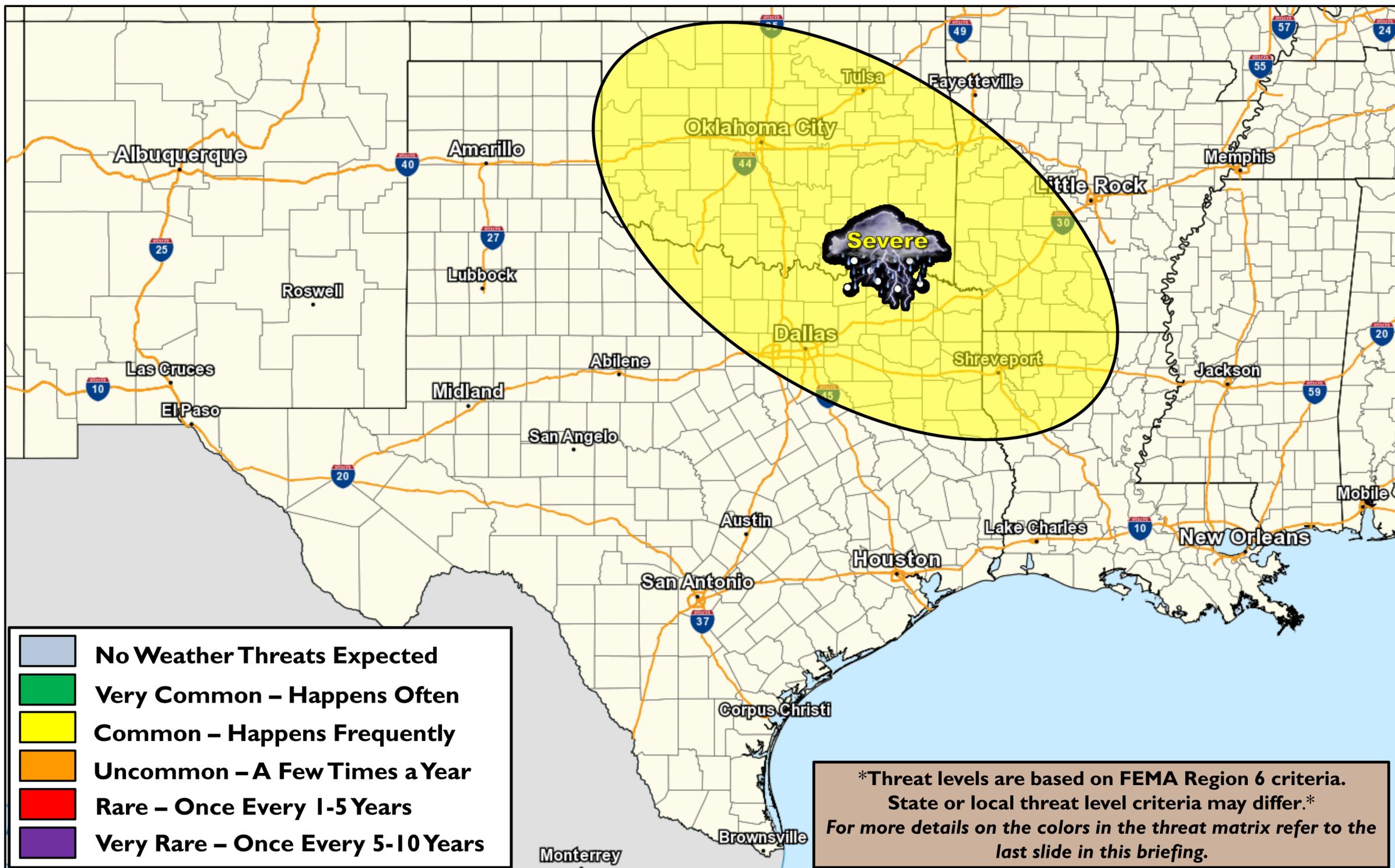
Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Tuesday - Wednesday



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Severe thunderstorms on
Wednesday.

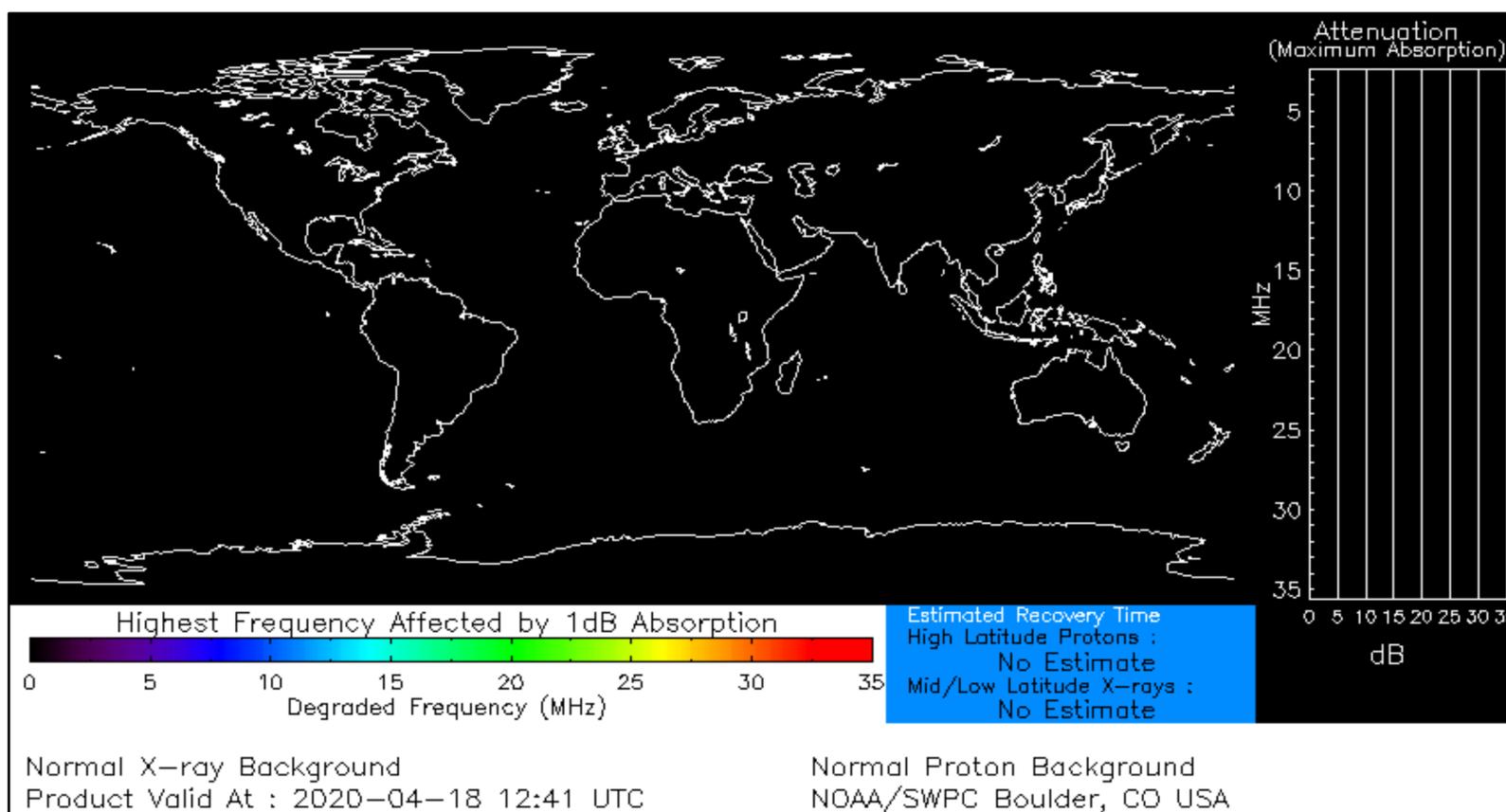


Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



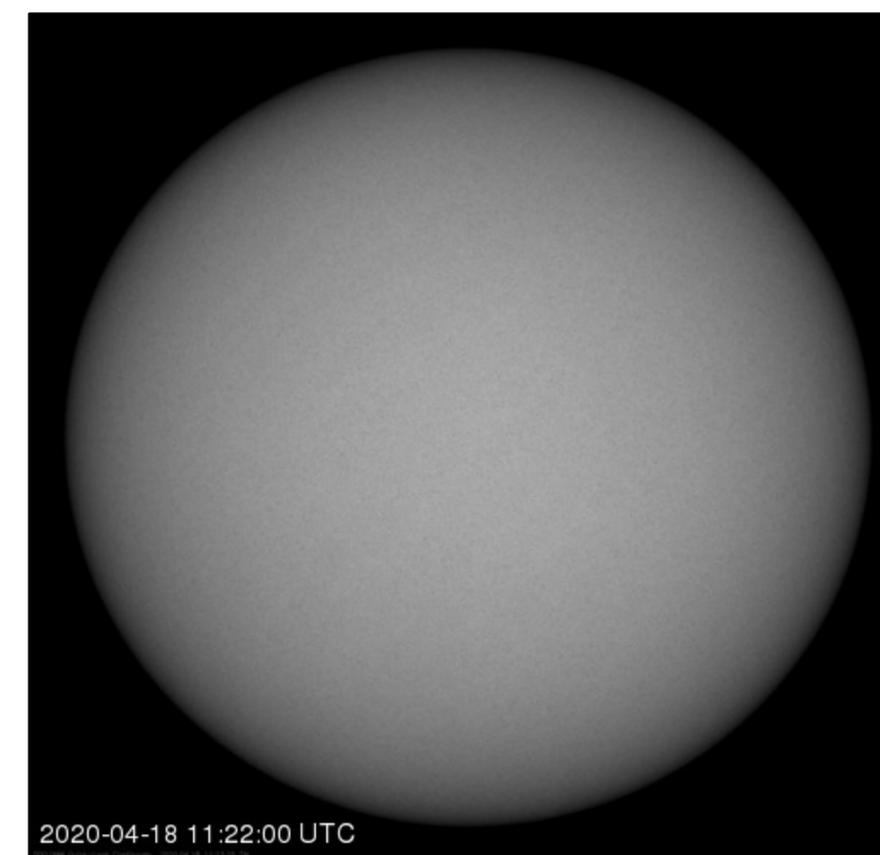
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	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Active (Max Kp = 4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)





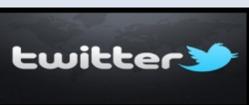
For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather "Threat" Matrix

Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<p style="text-align: center;">Very Common</p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines</p>	<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</p>	<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 <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</p> <p>Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life</p>	<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</p>	<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;">Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</p> <p>Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life</p>	<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</p>	<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;">Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</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>	<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</p>	<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;">Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</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>	<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</p>	<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.