



FEMA



Prepared by  
*Jennifer McNatt*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday August 21, 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](http://www.weather.gov/srh).



- **No significant weather is expected today/tomorrow.**
- **Tropical Depression 13 is expected to move towards Puerto Rico/USVI on Saturday, and while the current forecast keeps the system east of Region 6, there may be impacts that extend into LA early next week.**
- **Tropical Depression 14 is likely to be near the Yucatan Peninsula Saturday and looks to move into the western Gulf of Mexico early next week.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix



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Aug 21, 2020 - Aug 25, 2020

DAY / THREAT	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding			SE LA	Upper TX & LA Coasts	ETX, LA
Fire Weather					
Tropical Winds / Surge				TX/LA Coasts	ETX, LA
Heat					
River Flooding					

	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.*

# Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf



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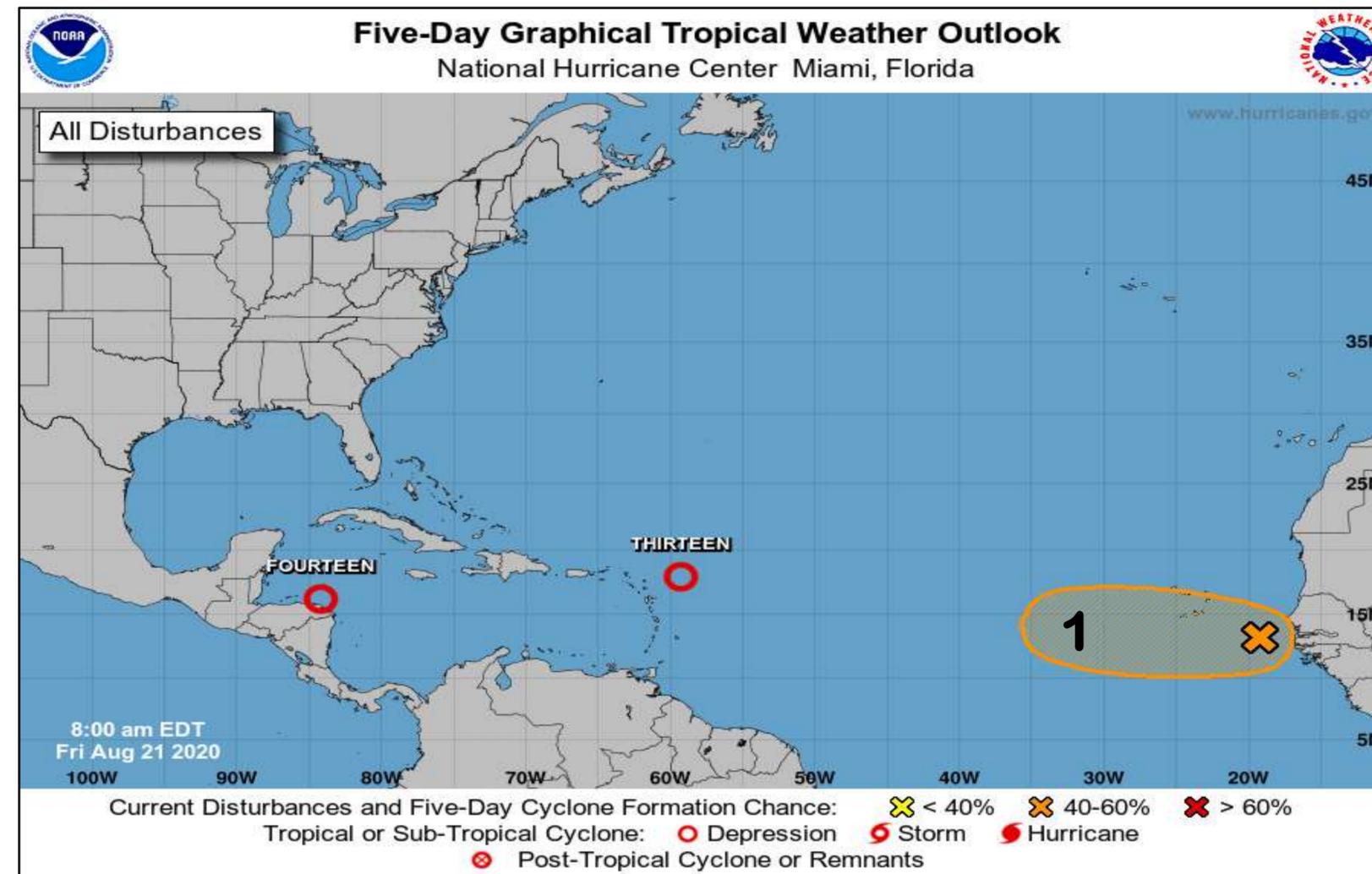
See next slide for more information

## Areas of Possible Development

Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
1	Medium	None in the next five days.

## Active Tropical Cyclones

Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
TD13	Extended forecast currently keeps this system east of Region 6, but it is something to keep an eye on.
TD14	Possible heavy rain and tropical storm force winds along the TX/LA coasts by Monday.

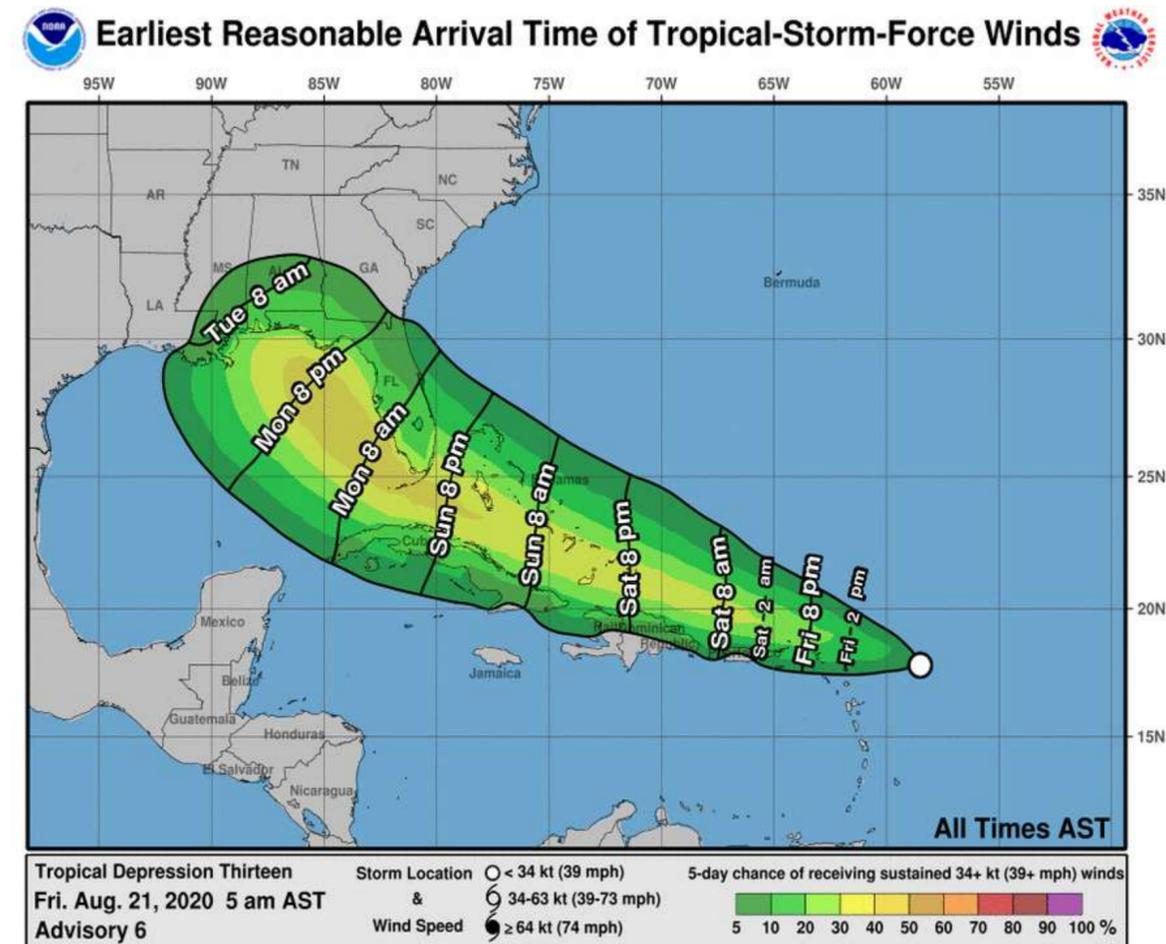
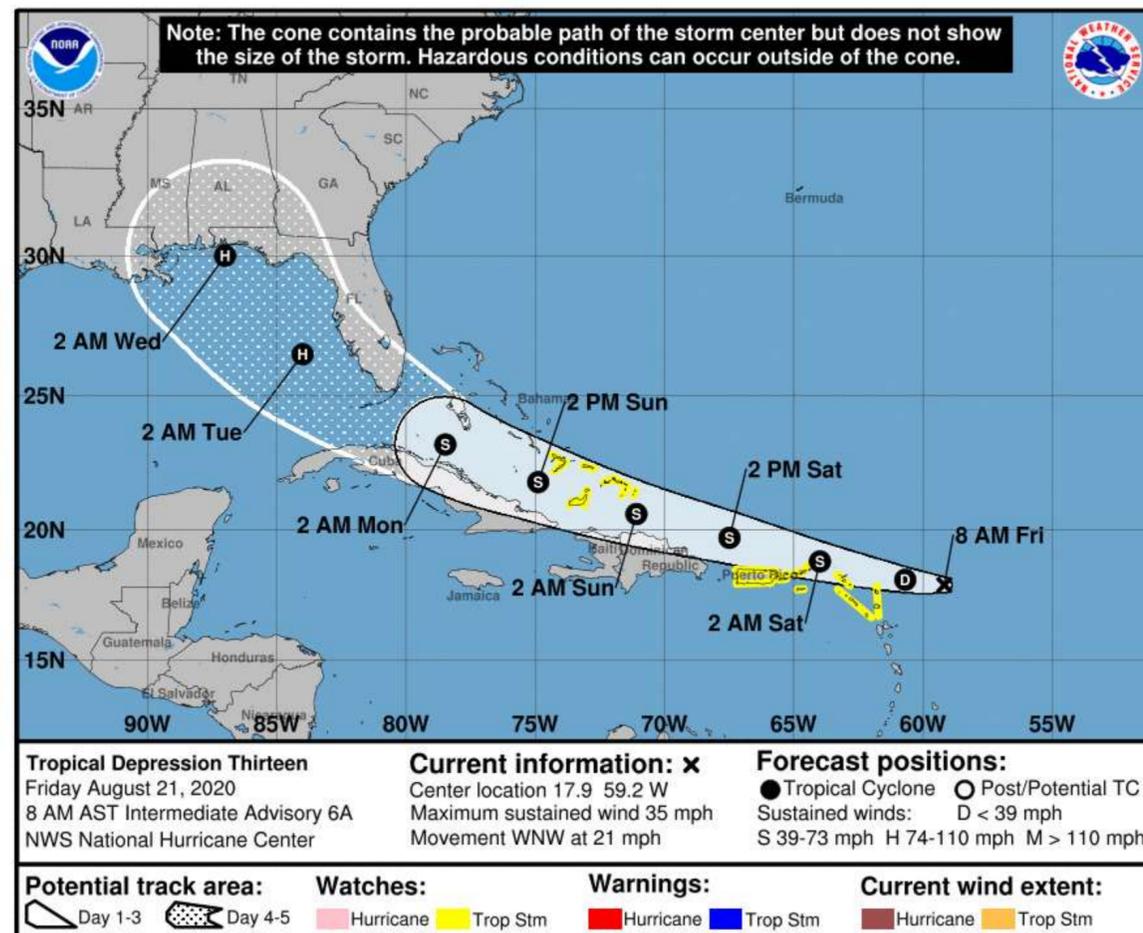


# Tropical Depression 13



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**Tropical Depression 13 is moving west-northwest around 21 mph, and is expected to move near or north of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico on Saturday.**  
**Maximum sustained winds are near 35 mph with higher gusts. Gradual strengthening is forecast, and the depression is likely to become a tropical storm by the weekend.**  
**There is low confidence in the extended forecast at this point, especially in regards to the intensity of the system as it nears Florida.**



# Tropical Depression 14

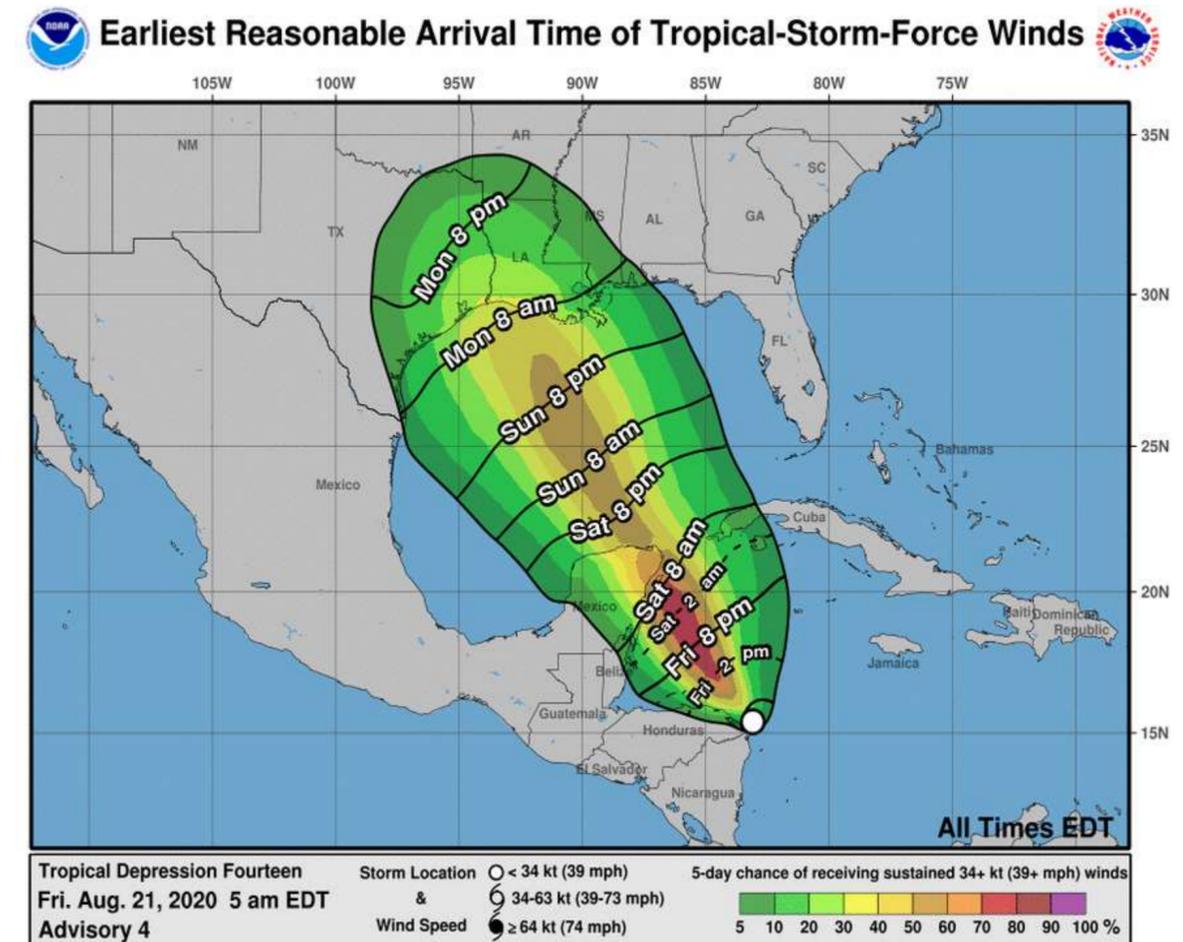


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**Tropical Depression 14 is moving west-northwest near 12 mph, and is expected to approach the east coast of the Yucatan Peninsula on Saturday.**

**Maximum sustained winds are near 35mph with higher gusts. Strengthening is forecast during the next couple of days, and the depression is expected to become a tropical storm later today, although some weakening is expected Saturday night as it traverses the Yucatan Peninsula.**

**There is lower confidence in the extended forecast at this point, especially in regards to the intensity of the system as it nears the Gulf Coast.**

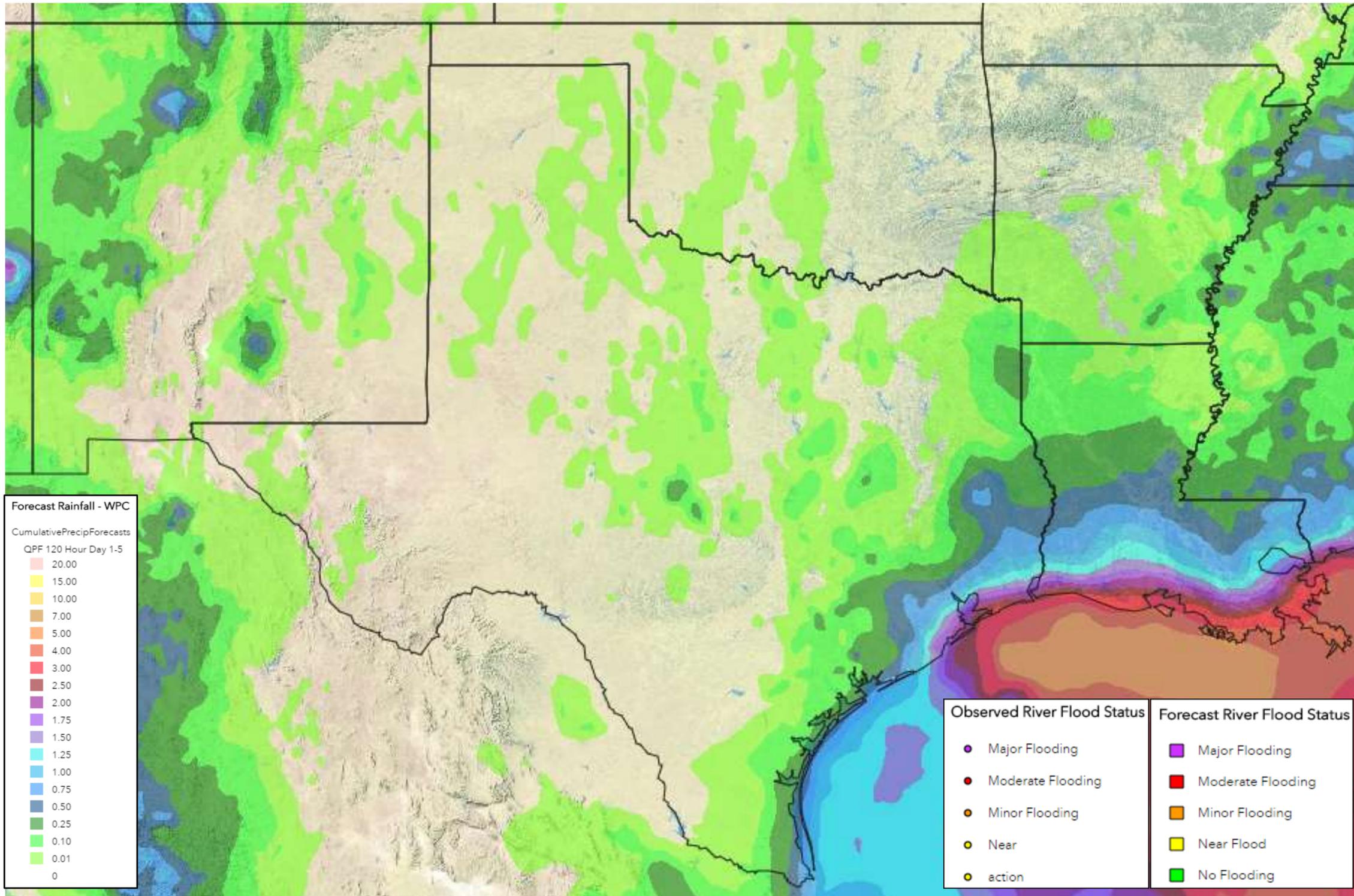


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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



**Rainfall along the Upper Texas Coast and Coastal LA is expected to begin Monday, and locations/amounts are likely to change as the forecast for Tropical Depression 14 evolves. It is too early to pinpoint specific river basins, but see next slide for a general overview of potential flooding.**



# Flood Hazard Outlook (Prototype)

Includes General Flash and River Flood Hazards



Issued: 11:30 UTC Aug 21, 2020 - Valid through 11:30 UTC Aug 28, 2020

## Flood Hazard Messages

(associated with TD 13 and 14)

• Tropical Depression Thirteen is expected to produce 3 to 6" over Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands through Sunday, with maxima up to 8" along eastern portions and the southern slopes of Puerto Rico. Locally heavy rainfall could lead to flash and urban flooding, potential mudslides, and minor river flooding.

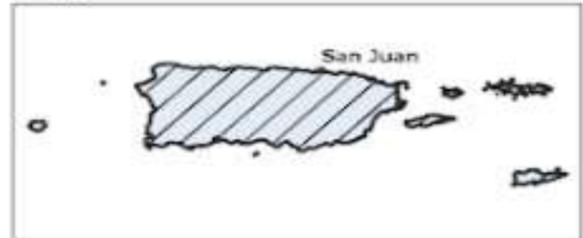
• Rainfall from TD-13 will impact south FL beginning Monday and move up the Gulf Coast to the FL Panhandle by Tuesday. Dry antecedent conditions exist for portions of south and central FL. However, flash and urban flooding, particularly across low-lying and poorly draining areas, will be possible where heavy rainfall materializes.

• Given the current forecast track of TD-14, rainfall could generate local hydrologic responses in the smaller creeks, streams, and urban drainages as early as Monday along the central or northwestern Gulf Coast. However, significant uncertainty remains in the track and intensity forecast. Portions of the TX/LA Gulf Coast have received up to 200% of normal precipitation over the past 30 days (RFC QPE) and current streamflow conditions across portions of East TX/West LA range from near normal to below normal (USGS).

*Disclaimer: This graphic is intended to provide a general flash and river flood hazard outlook. It is not intended to depict coastal flood risk due to storm surge. Please refer to the detailed products issued by local National Weather Service offices for official forecasts and warnings. [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)*



Threats	Timing	RFC Forecasts
Ongoing Flooding	Days 1-2 Threat	Major
Elevated Flood Threat	Days 3-5 Threat	Moderate
Flood Threat		Minor



# Today's Weather

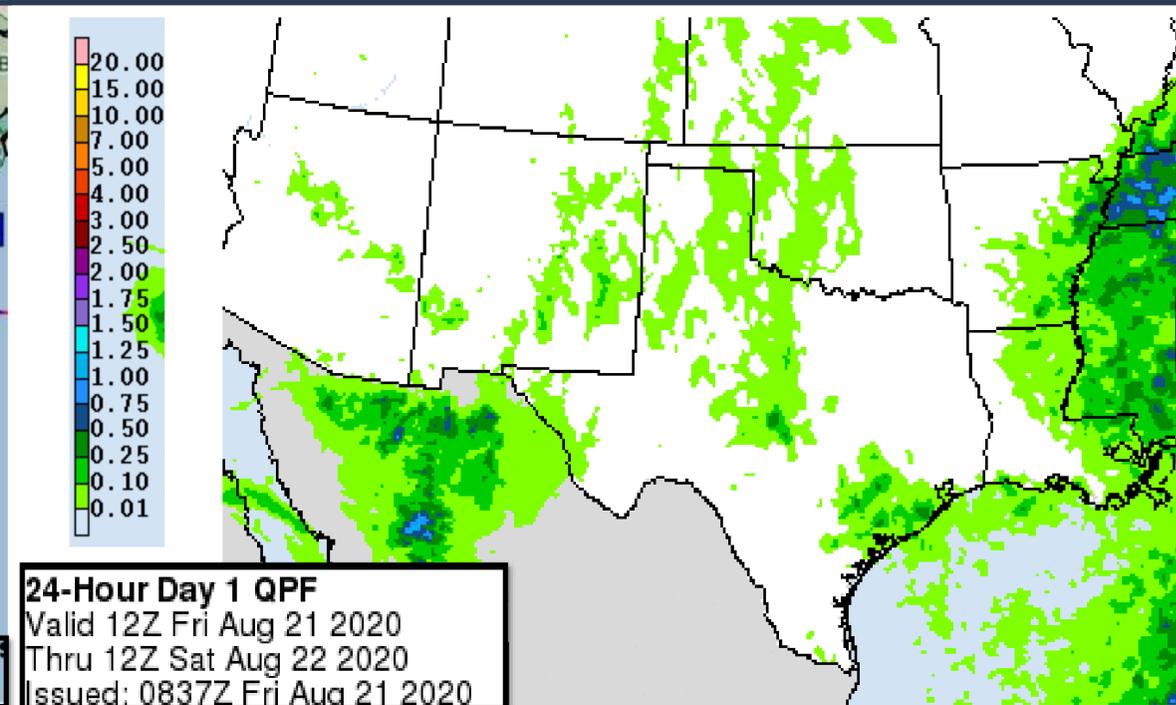
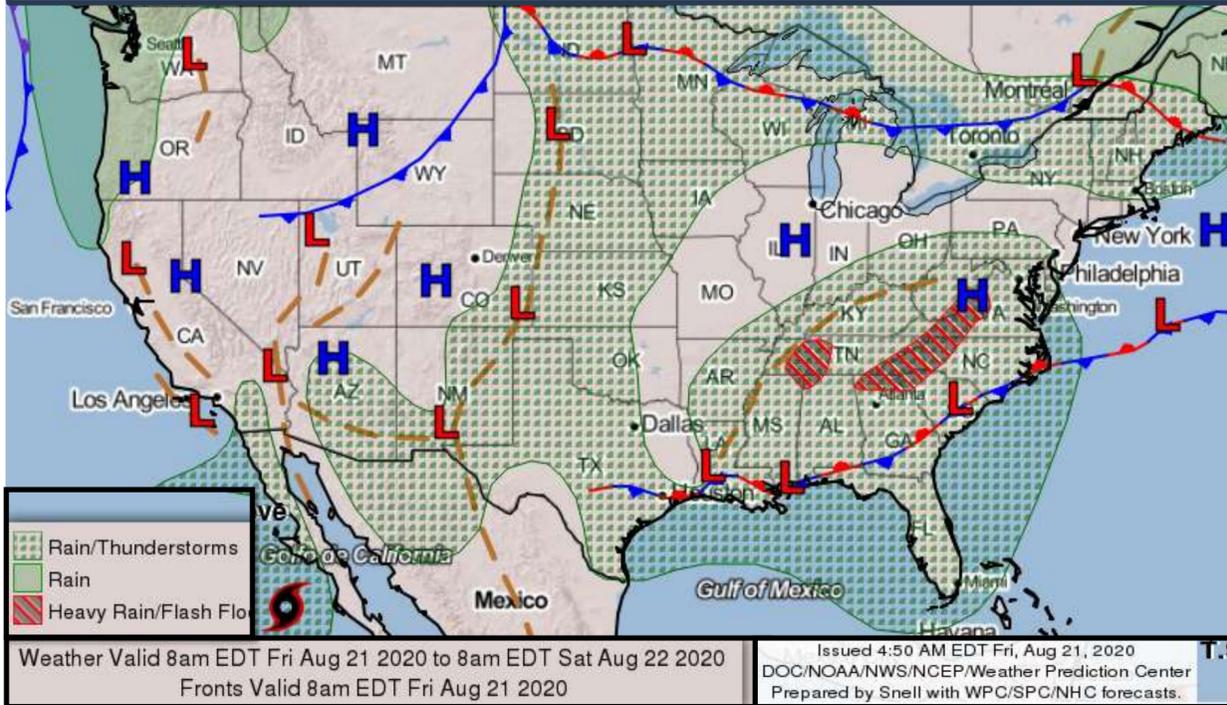


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## Forecast Chart

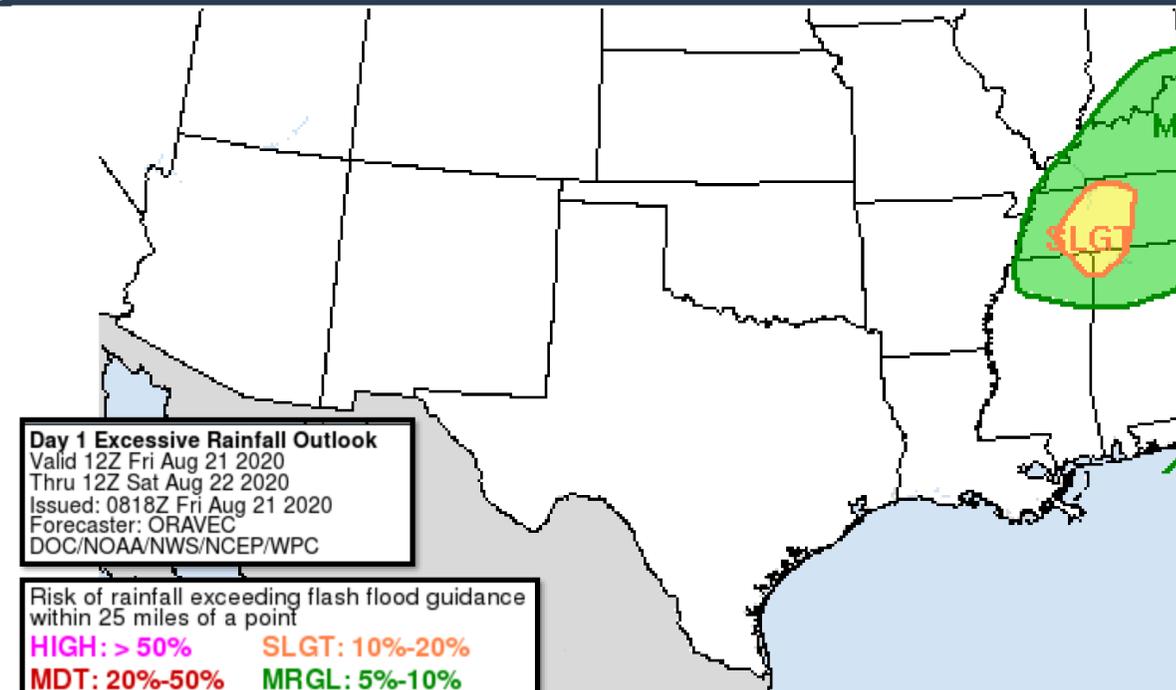
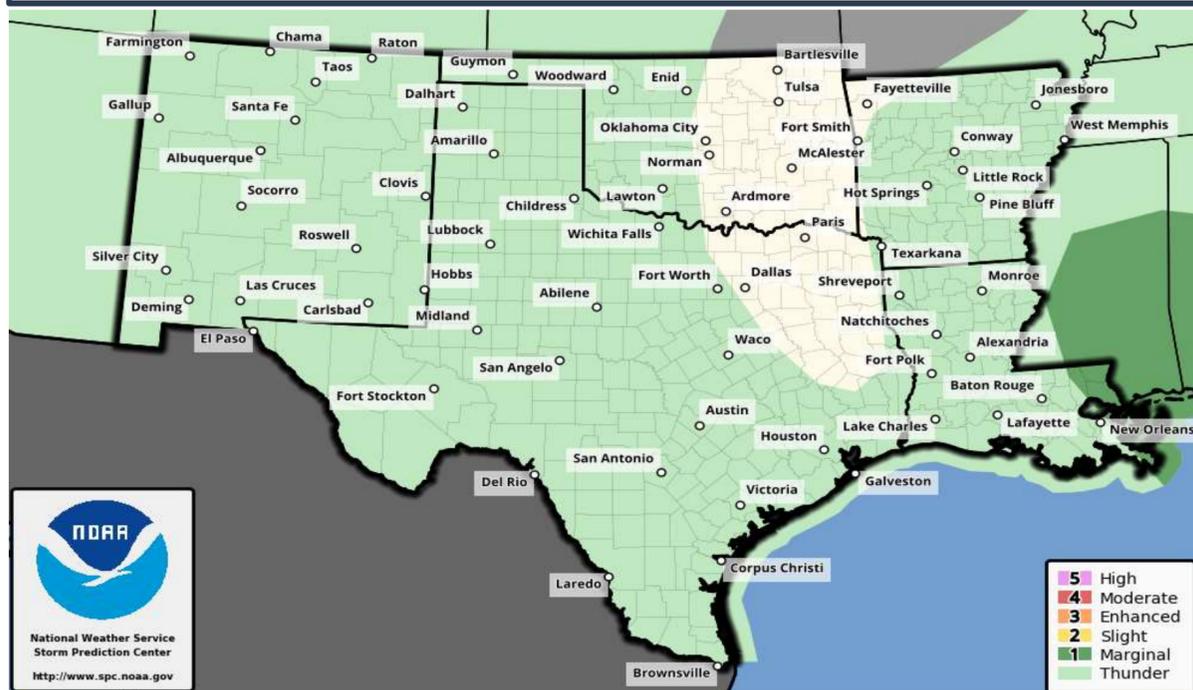
## Forecast Rainfall

**No significant weather expected.**



## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



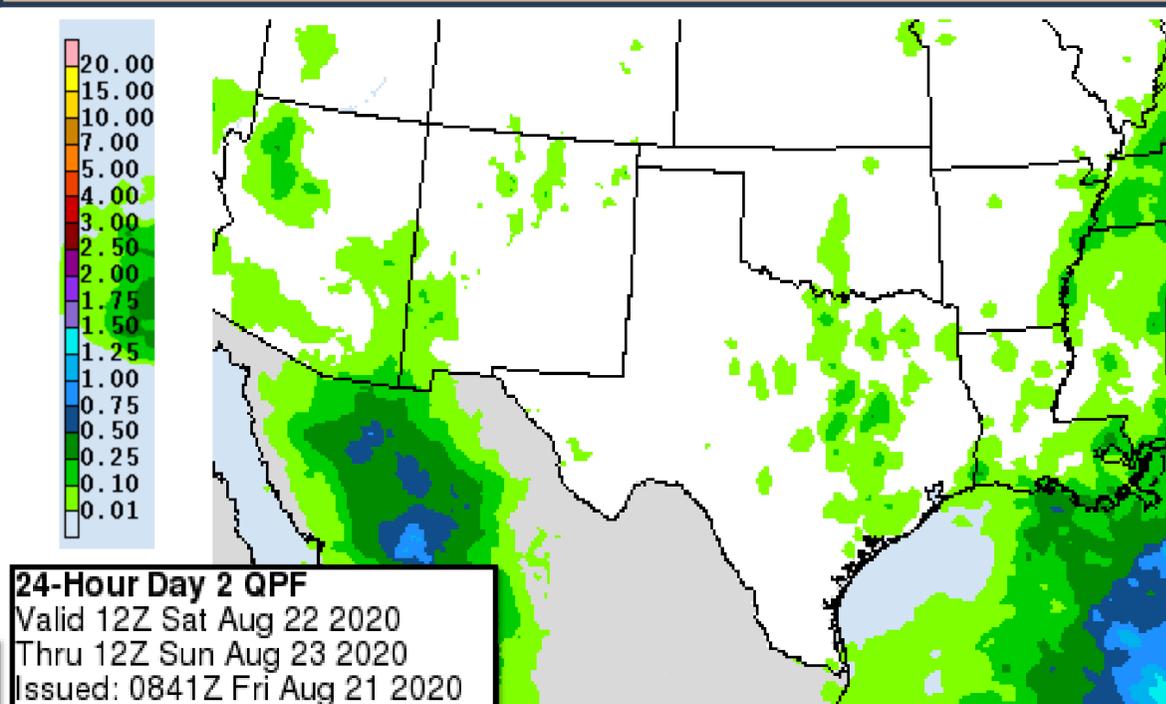
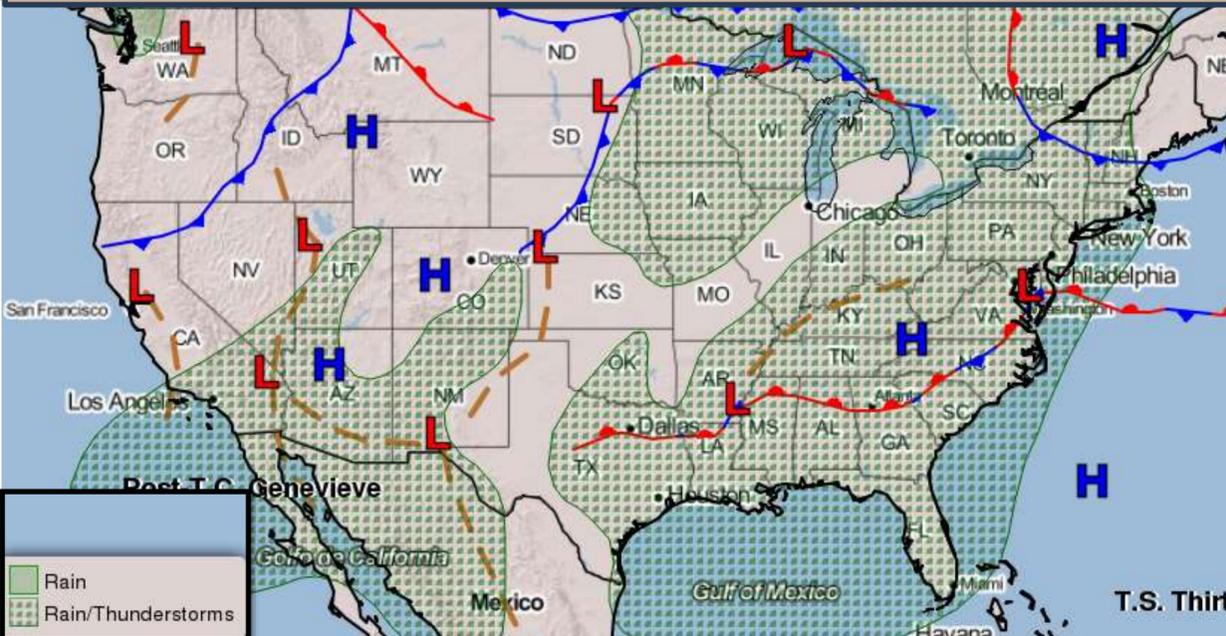
# Tomorrow's Weather



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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall



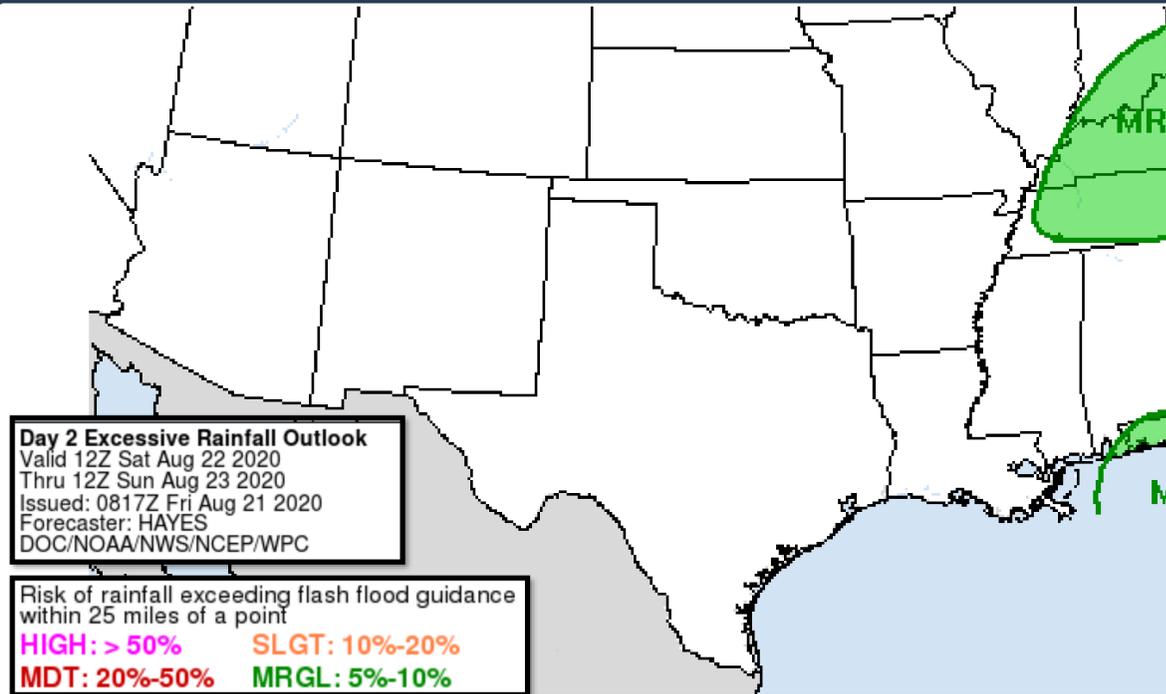
**No significant weather expected.**

Weather Valid 8am EDT Sat Aug 22 2020 to 8am EDT Sun Aug 23 2020  
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Sat Aug 22 2020  
Issued 4:52 AM EDT Fri, Aug 21, 2020  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Snell with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

**24-Hour Day 2 QPF**  
Valid 12Z Sat Aug 22 2020  
Thru 12Z Sun Aug 23 2020  
Issued: 0841Z Fri Aug 21 2020

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



**Day 2 Excessive Rainfall Outlook**  
Valid 12Z Sat Aug 22 2020  
Thru 12Z Sun Aug 23 2020  
Issued: 0817Z Fri Aug 21 2020  
Forecaster: HAYES  
DOC/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%**

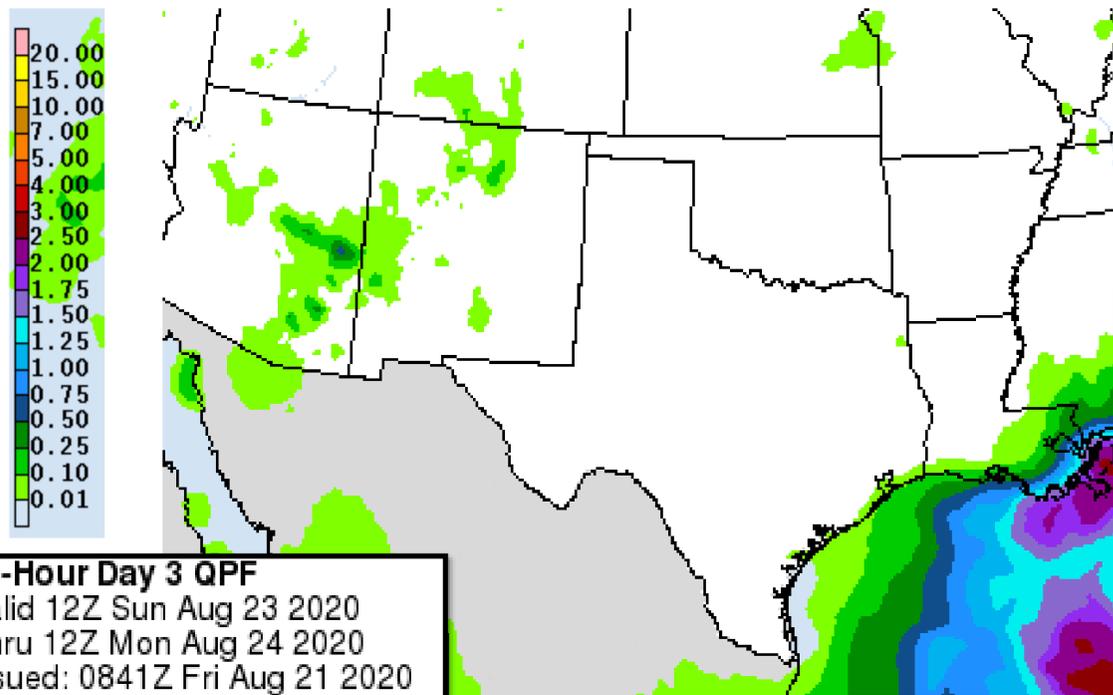
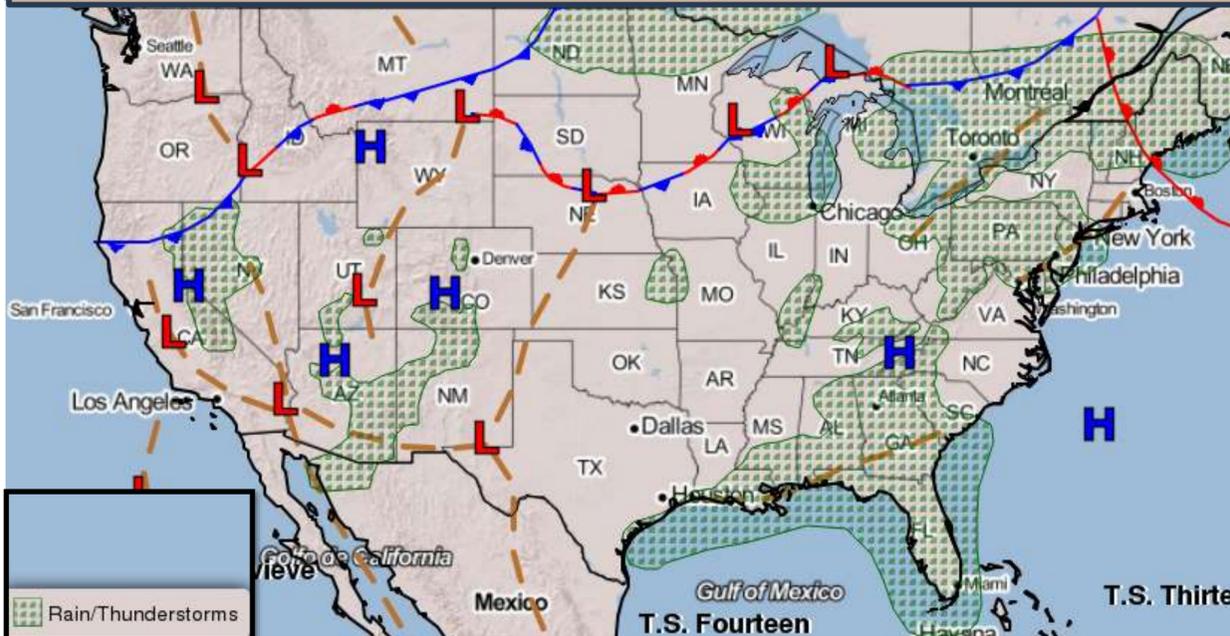
# Sunday's Weather



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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall



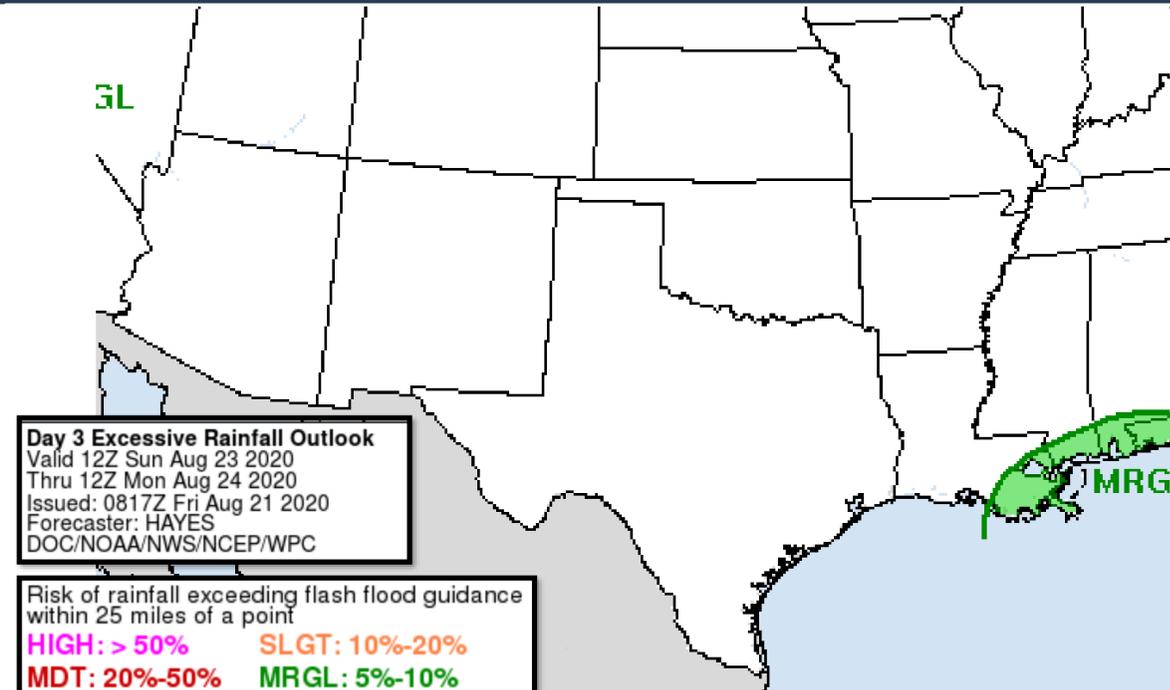
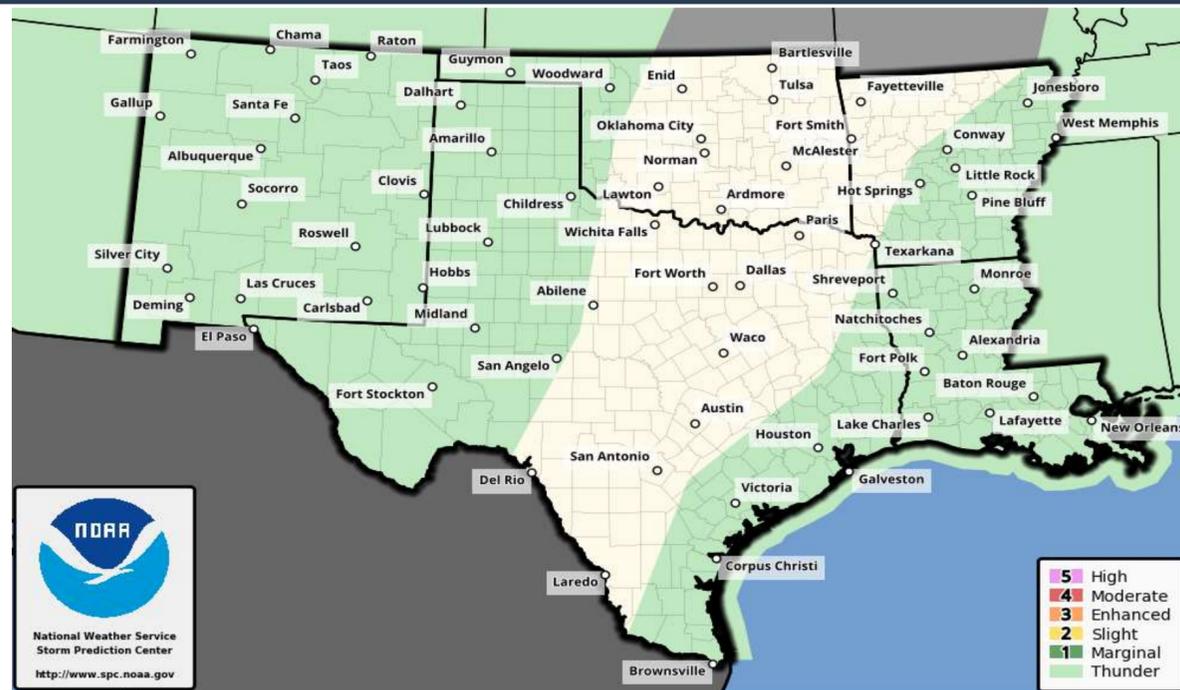
**Heavy rain/flash flooding possible over SE LA.**

Weather Valid 8am EDT Sun Aug 23 2020 to 8am EDT Mon Aug 24 2020  
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Sun Aug 23 2020  
Issued 4:41 AM EDT Fri, Aug 21, 2020  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Mullinax with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

**24-Hour Day 3 QPF**  
Valid 12Z Sun Aug 23 2020  
Thru 12Z Mon Aug 24 2020  
Issued: 0841Z Fri Aug 21 2020

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



**Day 3 Excessive Rainfall Outlook**  
Valid 12Z Sun Aug 23 2020  
Thru 12Z Mon Aug 24 2020  
Issued: 0817Z Fri Aug 21 2020  
Forecaster: HAYES  
DOC/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%**

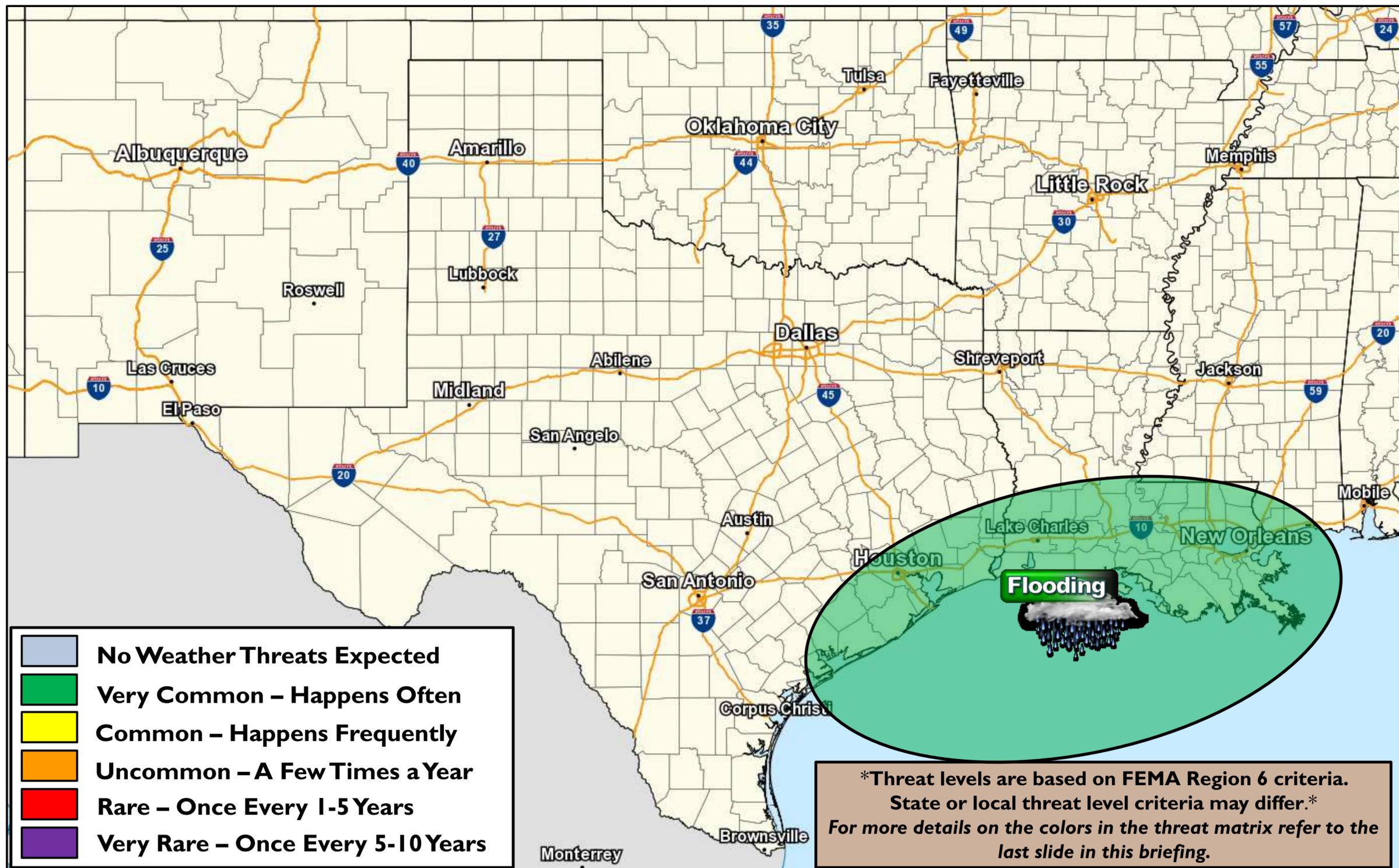


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

## Monday - Tuesday



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Isolated heavy rain possible along the LA and Upper TX Coast on Monday/Tuesday, but is dependent on the eventual track of Tropical Depression 14 and possibly Tropical Depression 13.

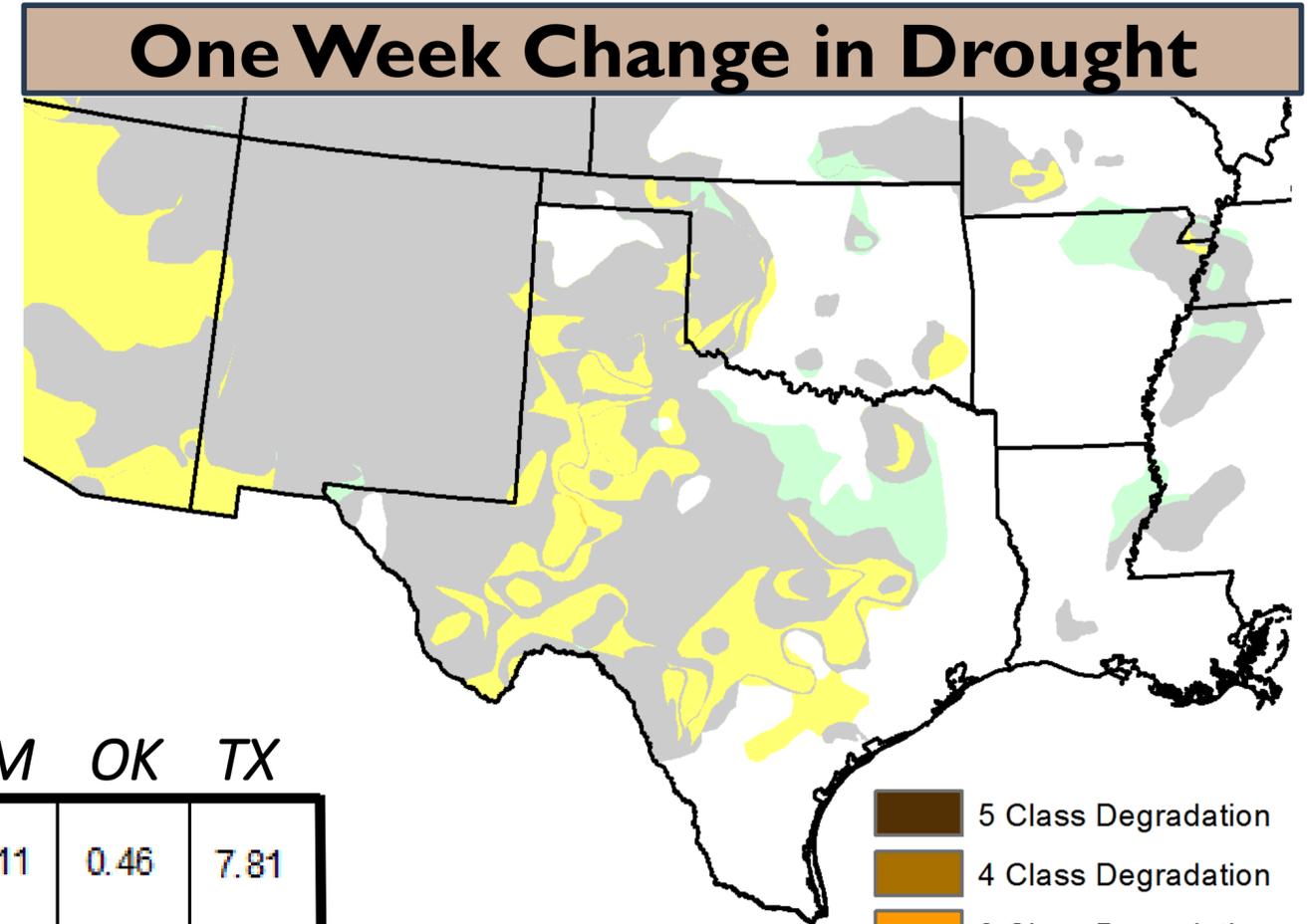
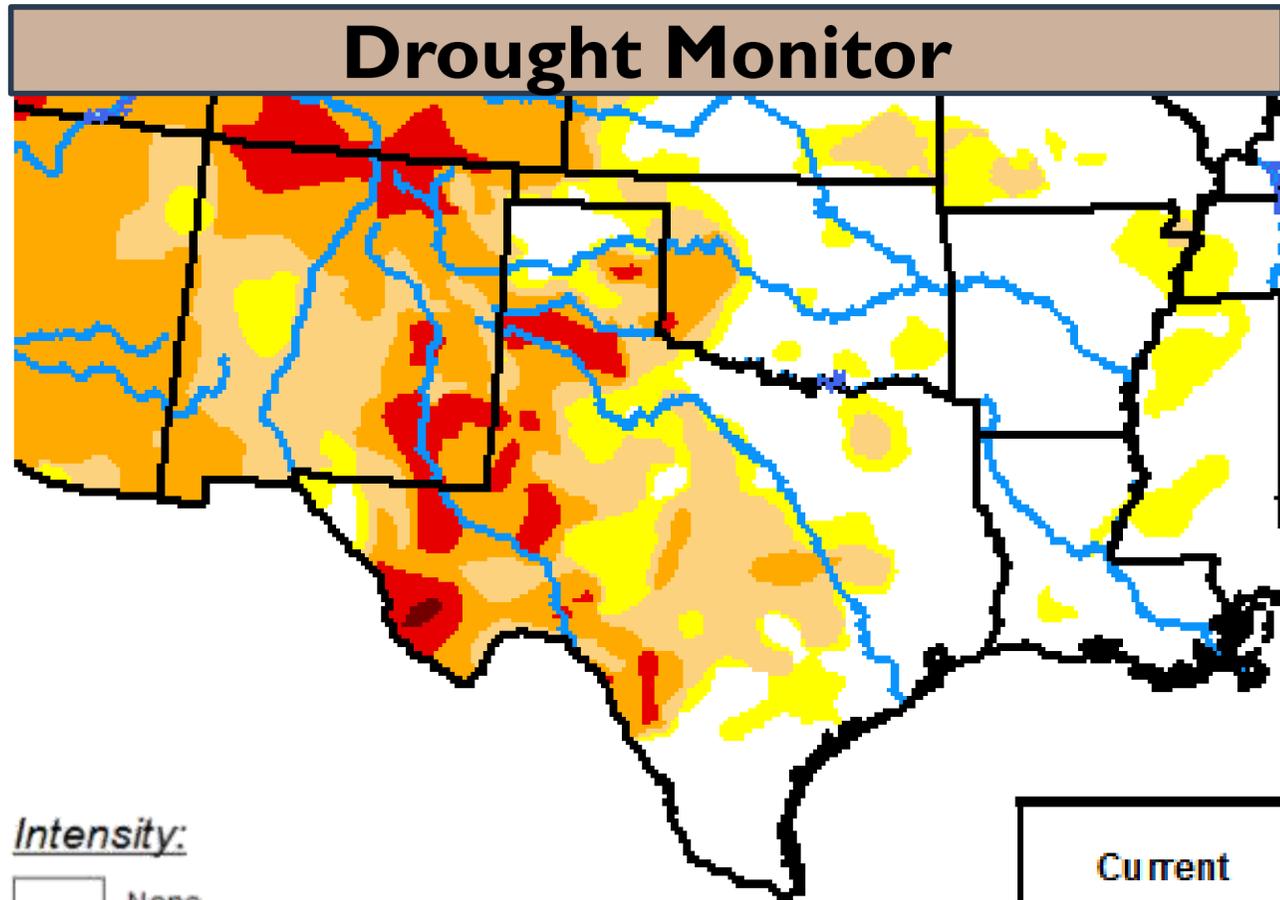
Tropical Storm force winds are possible as early as Monday evening over SE LA, and along the TX/LA coasts late Monday.

# Drought Monitor (Released Aug 20, 2020)



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Data valid as of 8 am ET on Tuesday, August 18, 2020



**Intensity:**

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

	AR	LA	NM	OK	TX
<b>Current</b>	0.00	0.00	15.11	0.46	7.81
<b>Last Week</b> <i>08-11-2020</i>	0.00	0.00	14.99	0.00	4.88
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>05-19-2020</i>	0.00	0.00	4.44	0.00	0.34
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>08-20-2019</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.56

**Drought Conditions (Percent Area)**

**D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)**

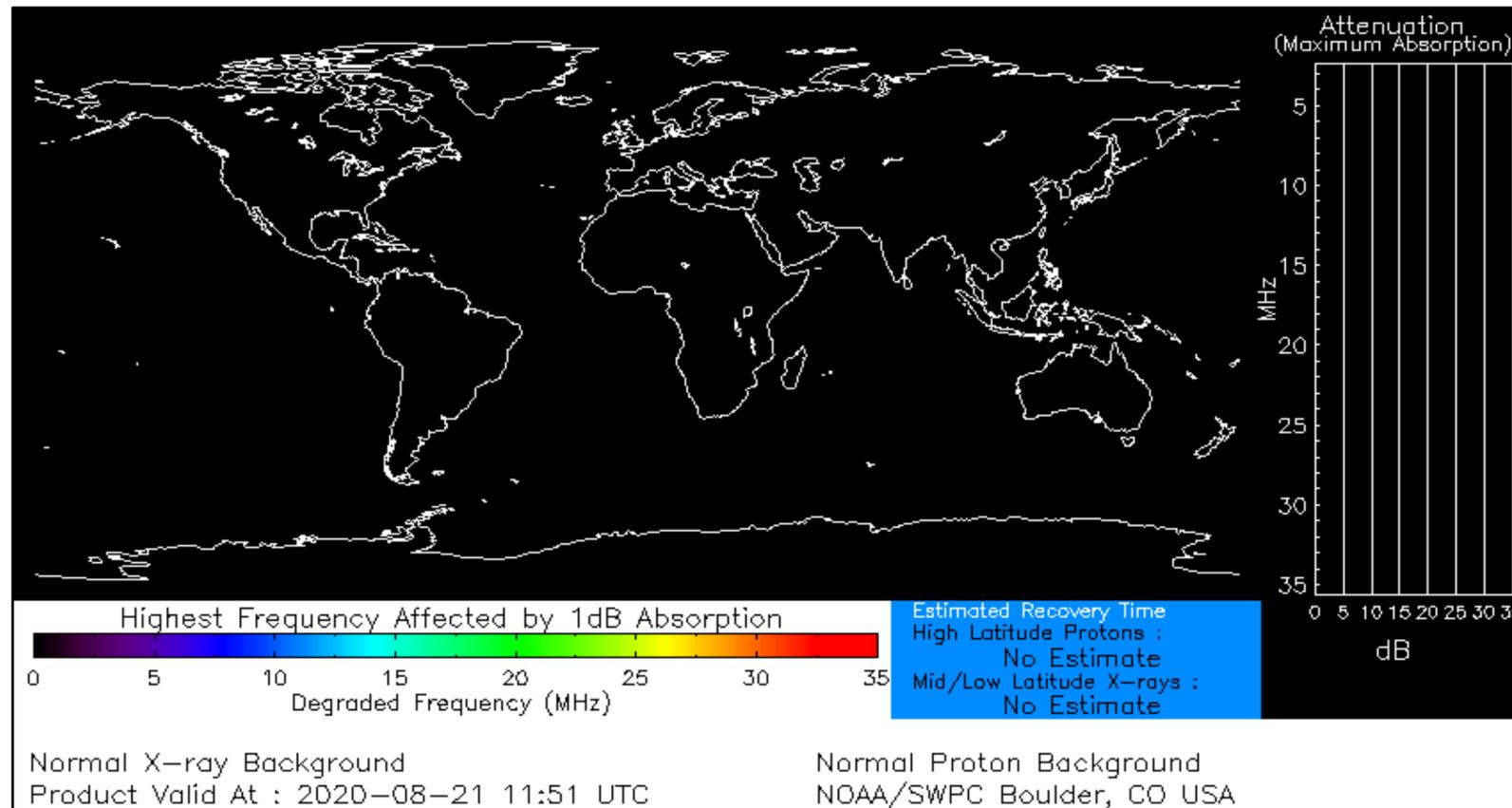
- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



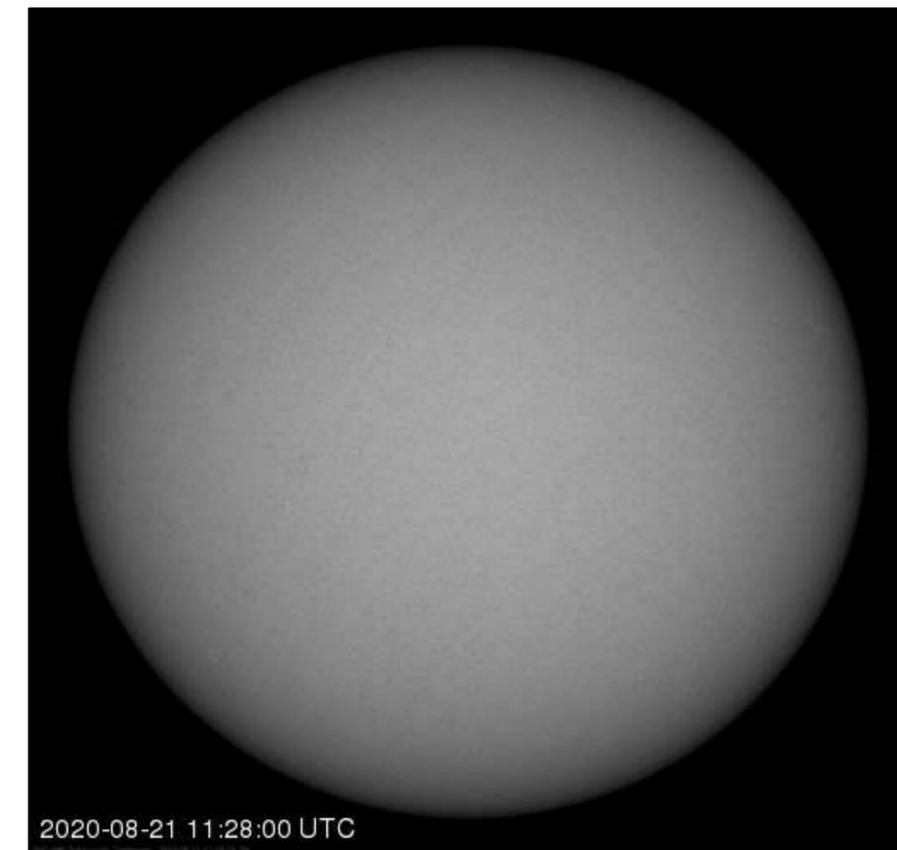
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	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Geomagnetic Storms</b>	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
<b>Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)</b>	1%	1%	1%
<b>Radio Blackout (R1-R2)</b>	1%	1%	1%
<b>Radio Blackout (R3-R5)</b>	1%	1%	1%



[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](mailto: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;"><b>Very Common</b></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"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b></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"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b></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"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b></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"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b></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"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov).**