



FEMA



Prepared by
Jennifer McNatt

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Sunday August 23, 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.



- **Marginal risk of heavy rain/flash flooding across SE LA beginning today.**
- **Tropical Storm Marco is expected to become a hurricane today, and remain a hurricane when it approaches the northern Gulf Coast on Monday. It is likely to bring tropical storm to hurricane force winds, heavy rain, and dangerous storm surge to SE and S LA on Monday/Tuesday.**
- **Tropical Storm Laura is expected to move towards the Gulf Coast on Wednesday, possibly bringing impacts to at least LA, possibly E TX and AR into Thursday.**

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Aug 23, 2020 - Aug 27, 2020

DAY / THREAT	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
Severe Storms		SE LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	SE LA	SE LA	SE LA	LA	E AR
Fire Weather					
Tropical Winds / Surge		S LA	LA	S LA	LA, ETX, SAR
Heat					
River Flooding		SE LA	SE LA		

	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



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

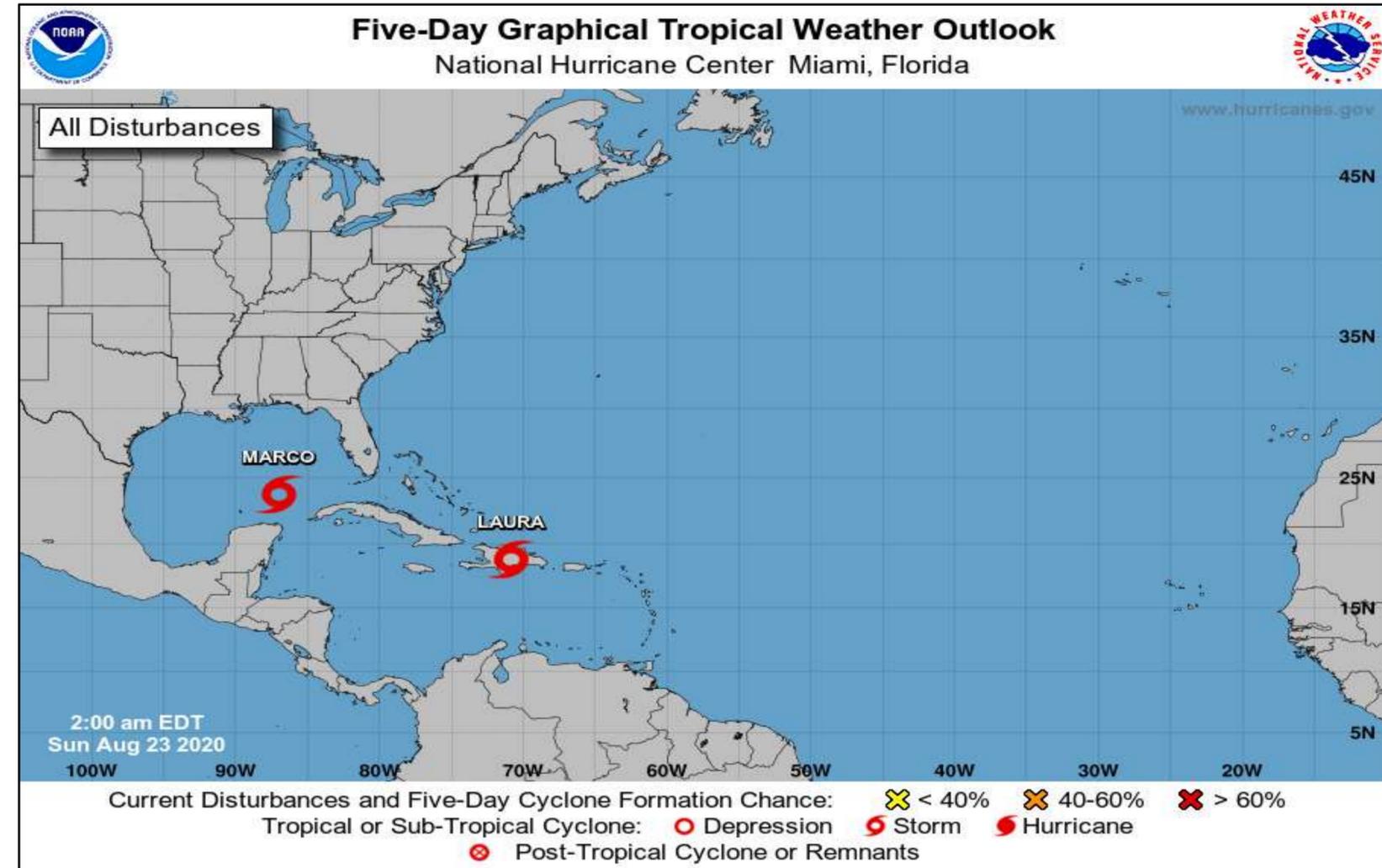
See next slides for more information

Areas of Possible Development

Area	Chance of Development	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6

Active Tropical Cyclones

Storm	Potential Impacts to FEMA 6
Laura	Impacts from Laura possible in LA by Wednesday.
Marco	Impacts from Marco likely in LA on Monday/Tuesday, TX on Wednesday.

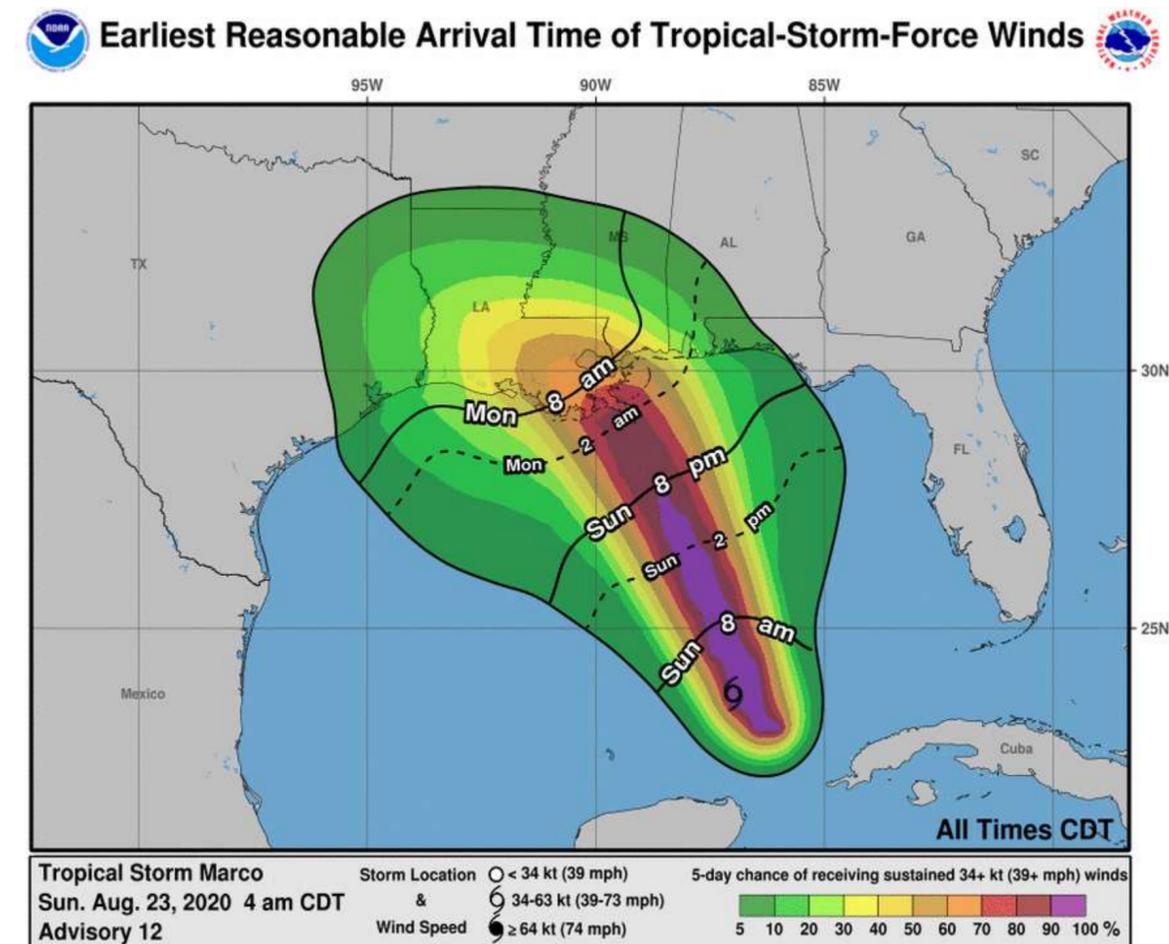
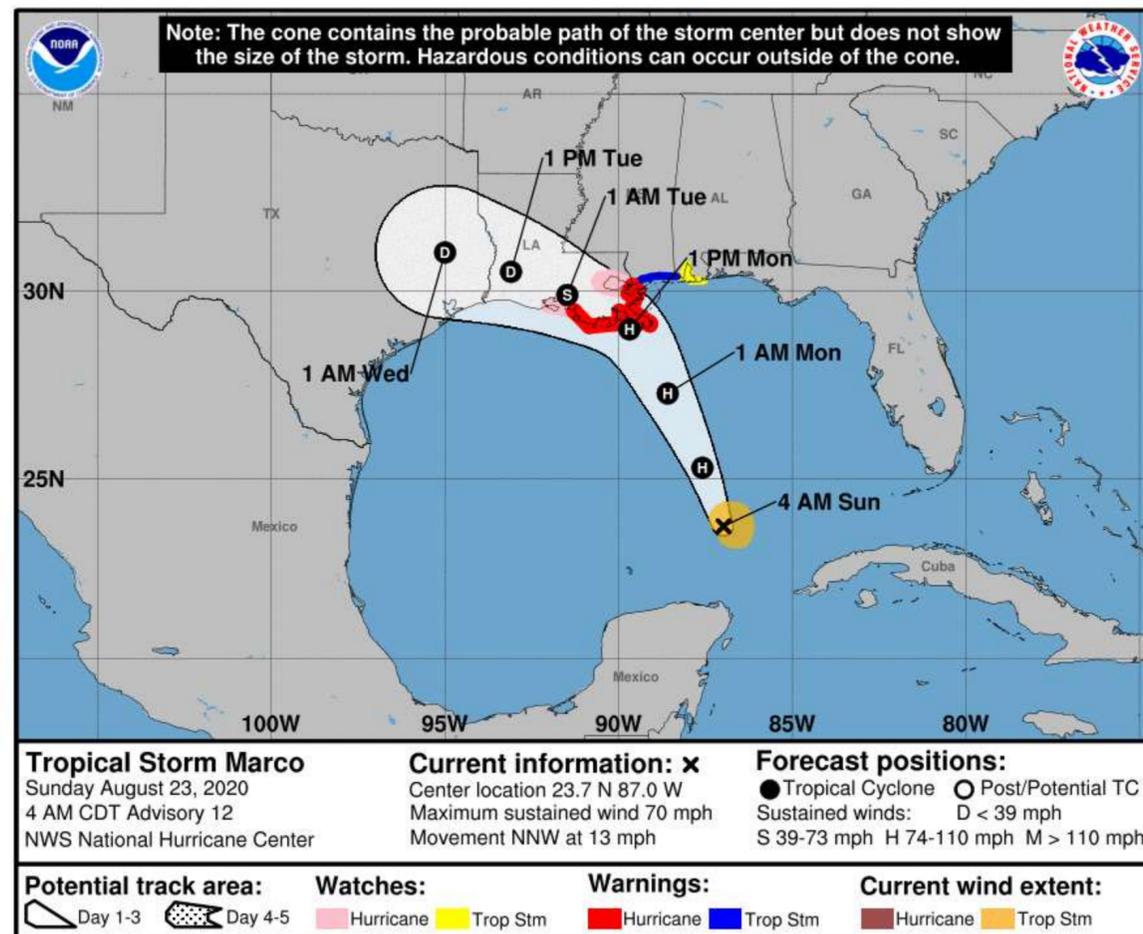


Tropical Storm Marco



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Tropical Storm Marco is 185 miles northwest of the western tip of Cuba and moving north-northwest at 13 mph. Marco is expected to become a hurricane today, and remain a hurricane when it approaches the northern Gulf Coast on Monday.



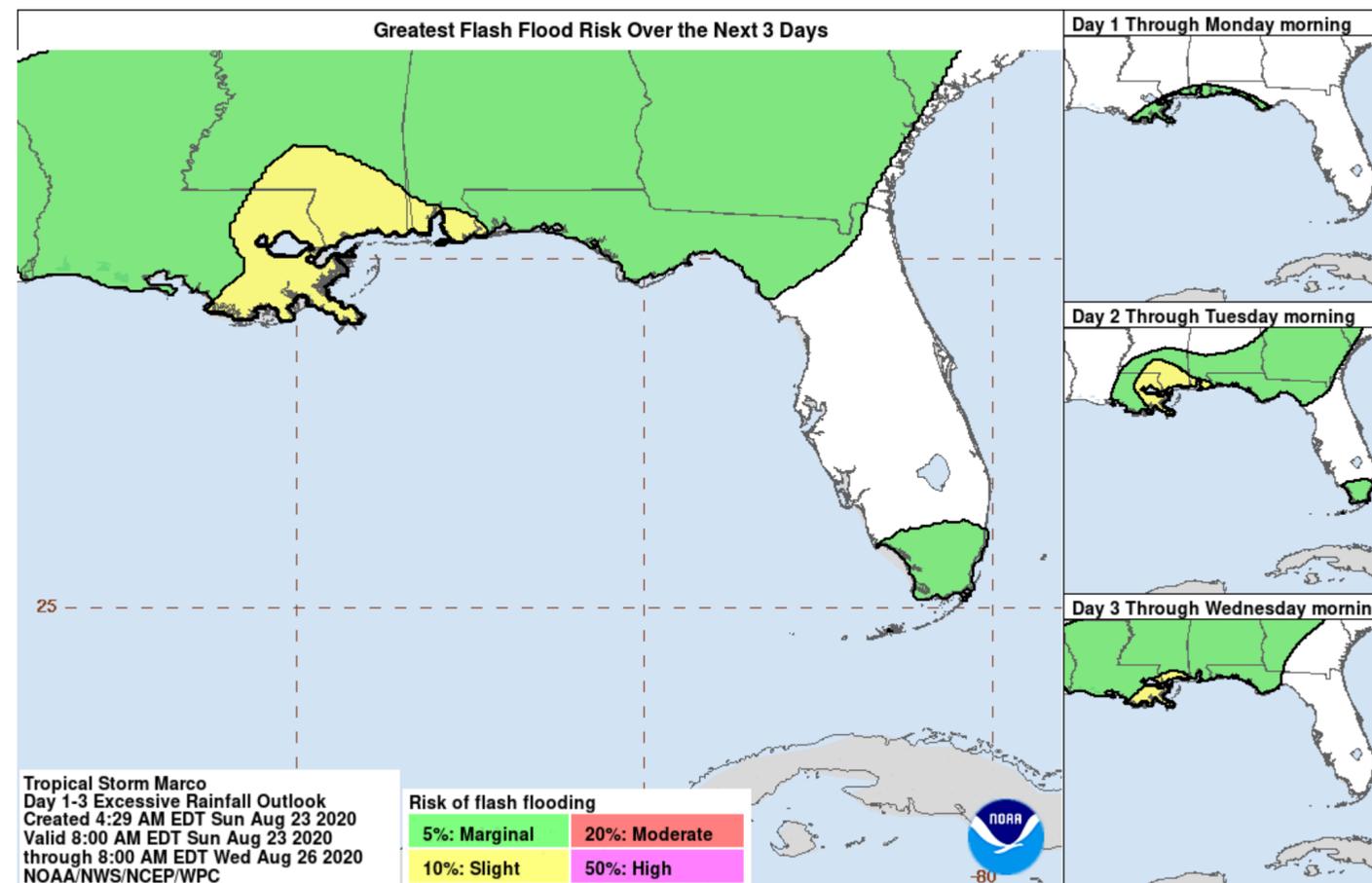
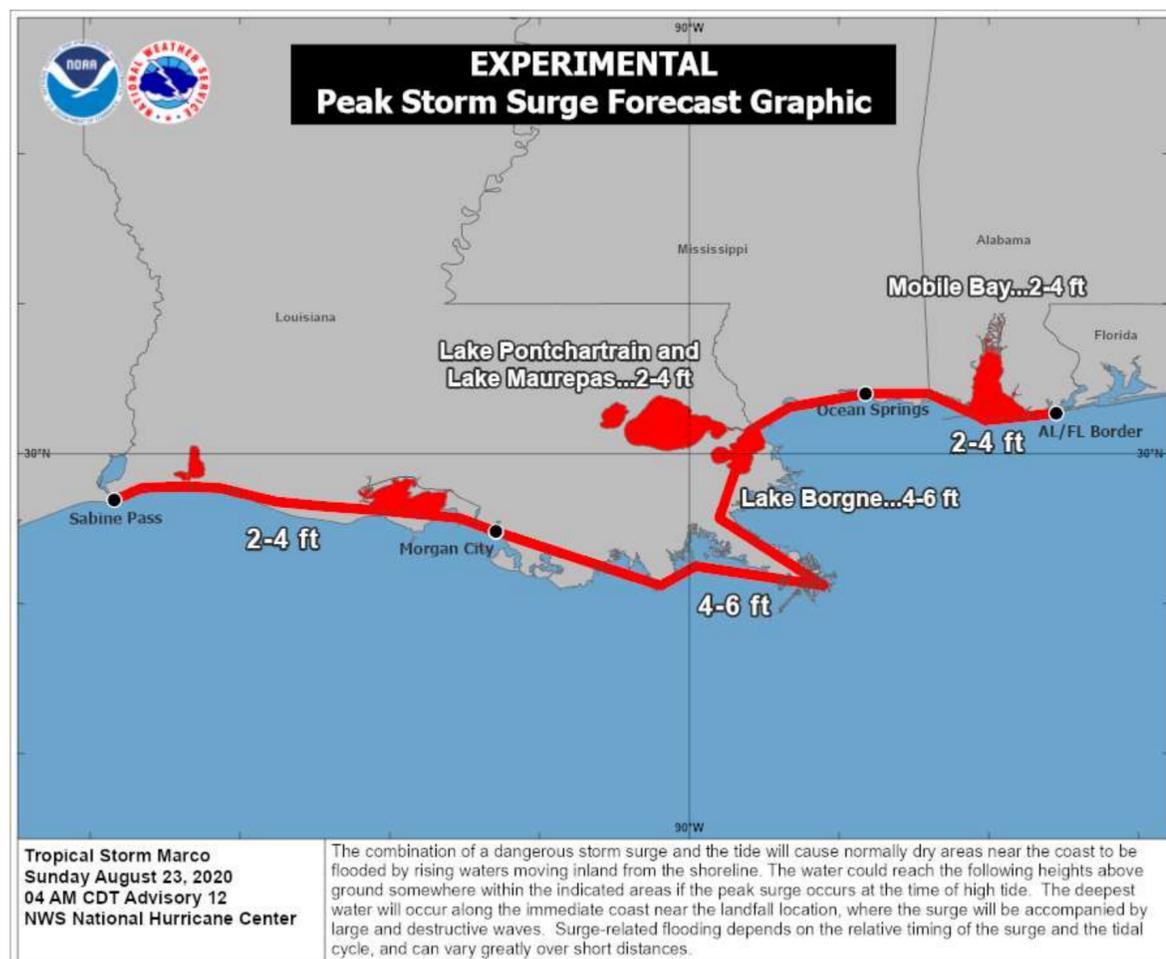
Tropical Storm Marco



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

The combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline. 4-6ft of storm surge is expected from Morgan City to Ocean Springs, including Lake Borgne.

Marco is expected to produce rainfall accumulations of 2-4 inches with maximum amounts of 6 inches across the Central U.S. Gulf Coast through Tuesday. This may result in isolated areas of flash and urban flooding.



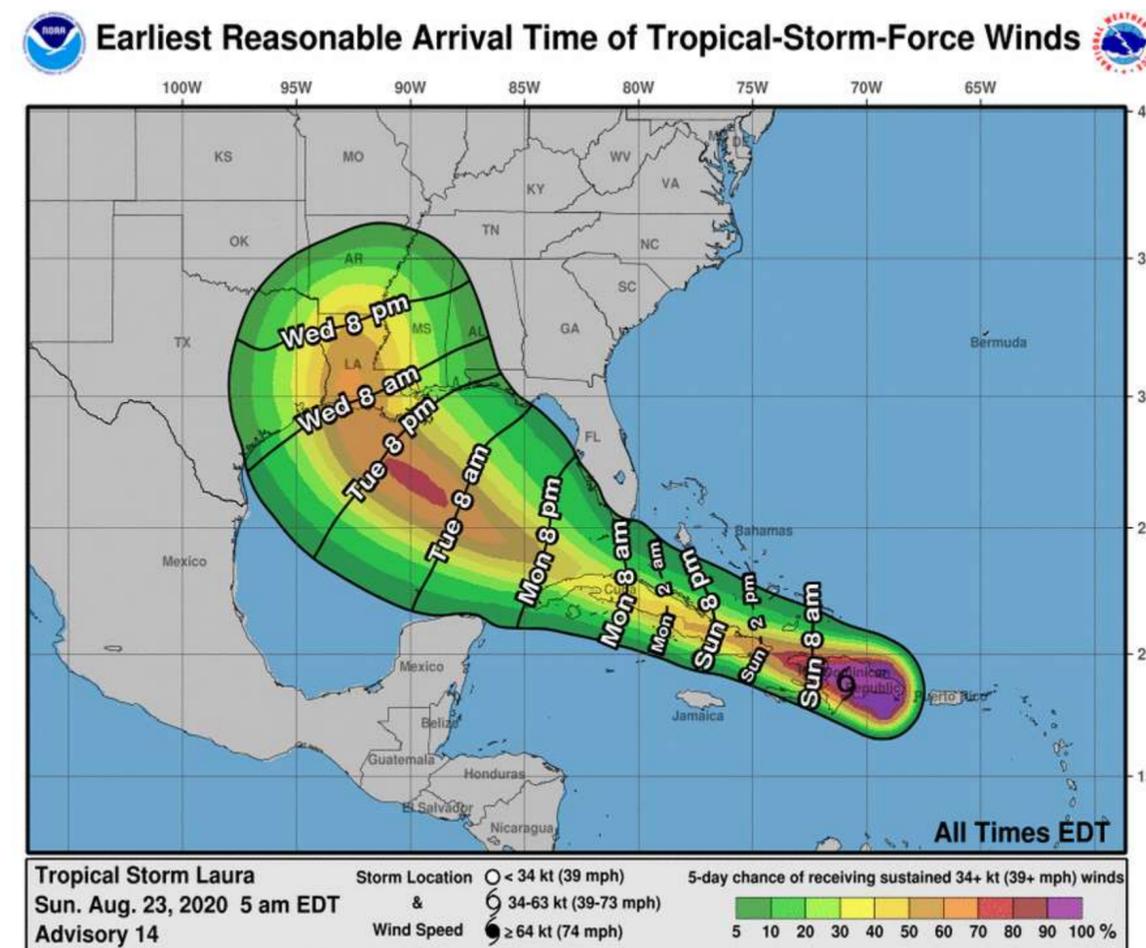
Tropical Storm Laura



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Tropical Storm Laura is 95 miles east of Port Au Prince and moving west-northwest at 18 mph. Laura is expected to move across Hispaniola today, be near or over Cuba tonight and Monday and over the SE Gulf Monday night and Tuesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph with higher gusts. No significant changes in strength are forecast during the next 36 to 48 hours while Laura moves over or near Hispaniola and Cuba. Strengthening is forecast once Laura moves into the Gulf of Mexico Monday night and Tuesday.

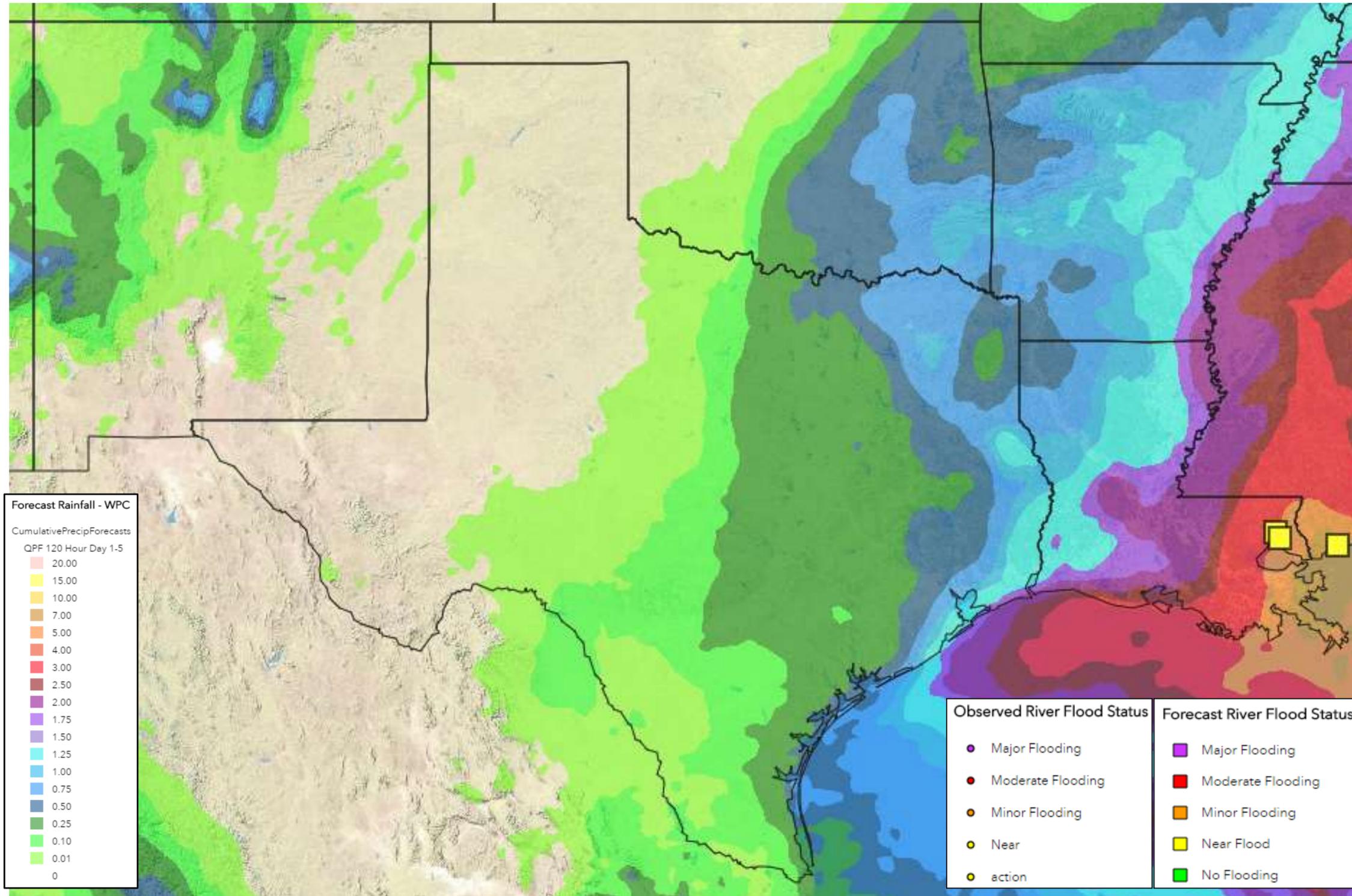


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



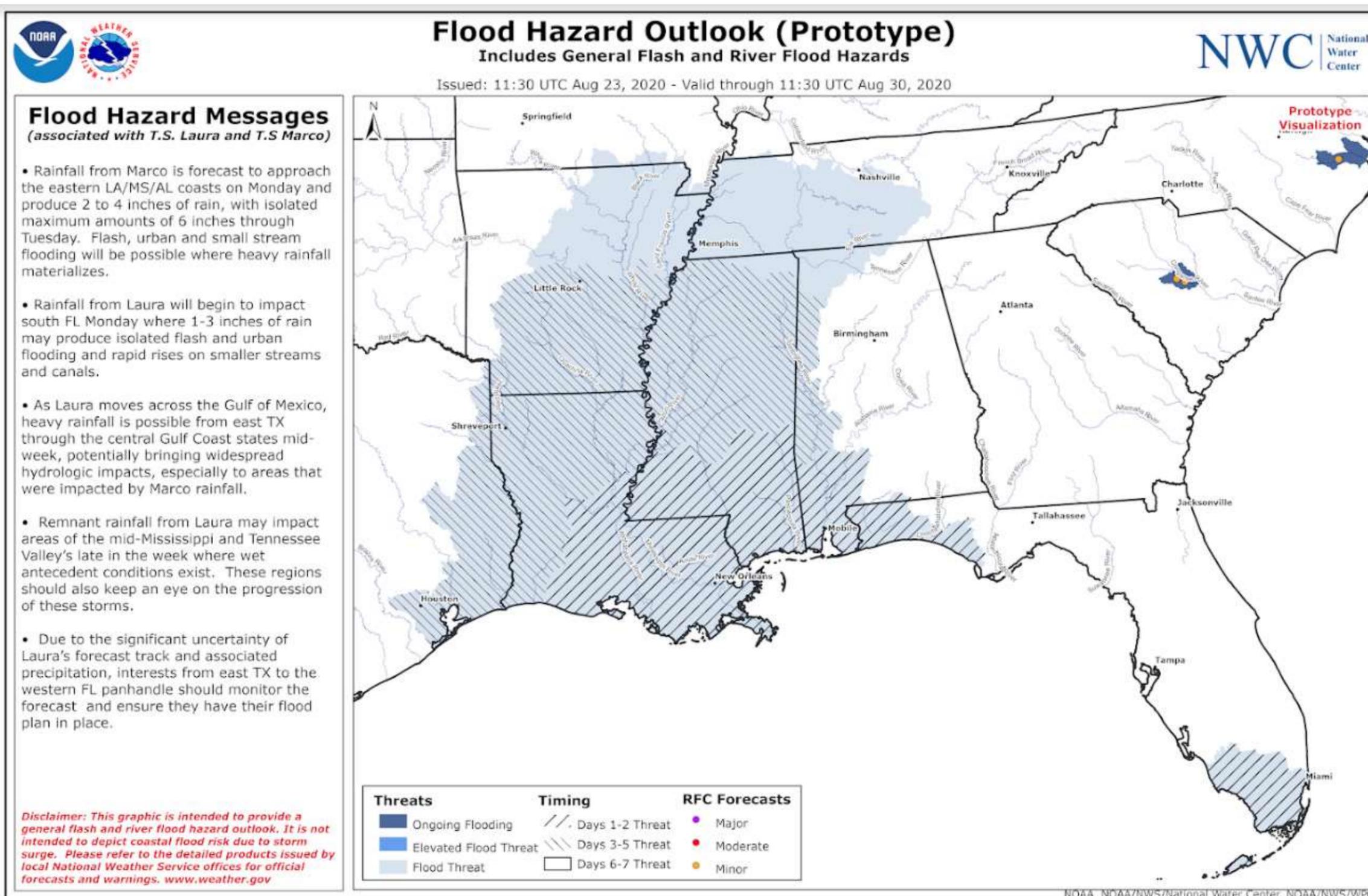
SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

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 from Marco, and may continue into later in the week, especially over S LA from Laura. It is too early to pinpoint specific river basins that may see flooding, but see next slide for a general overview.

Because rivers are below flood stage before the start of this rainfall, and due to antecedent conditions, the initial wave of rainfall is likely to produce only isolated minor river flooding. The rainfall from Laura later in the week, however, may lead to additional minor flooding.



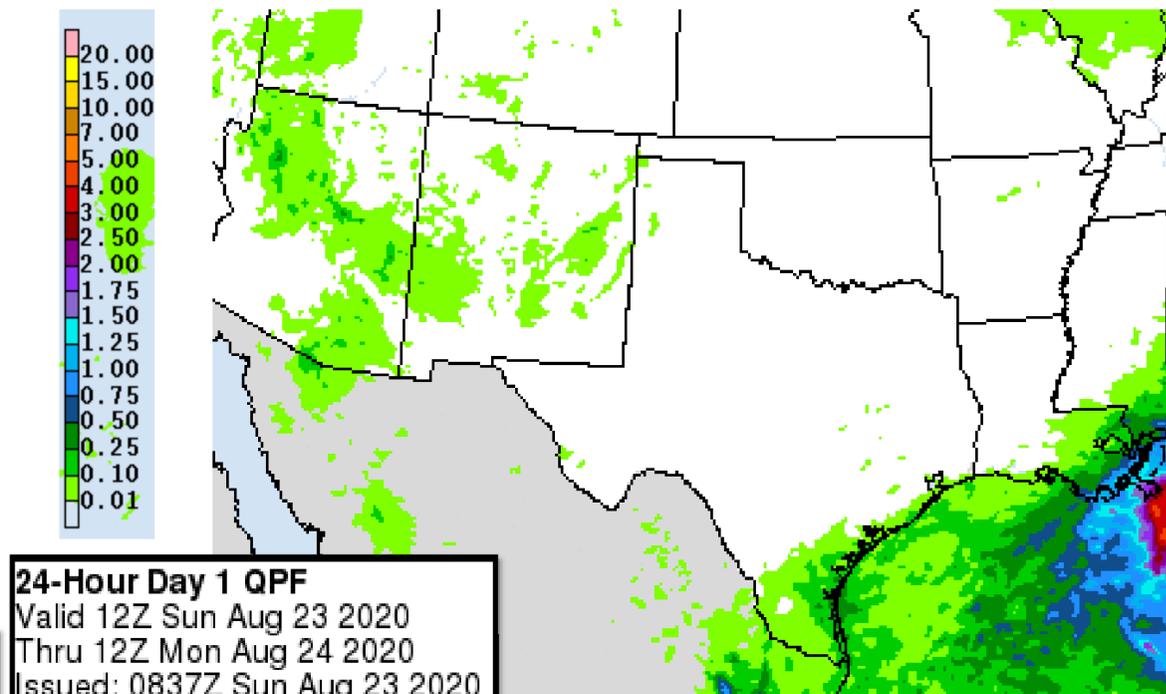
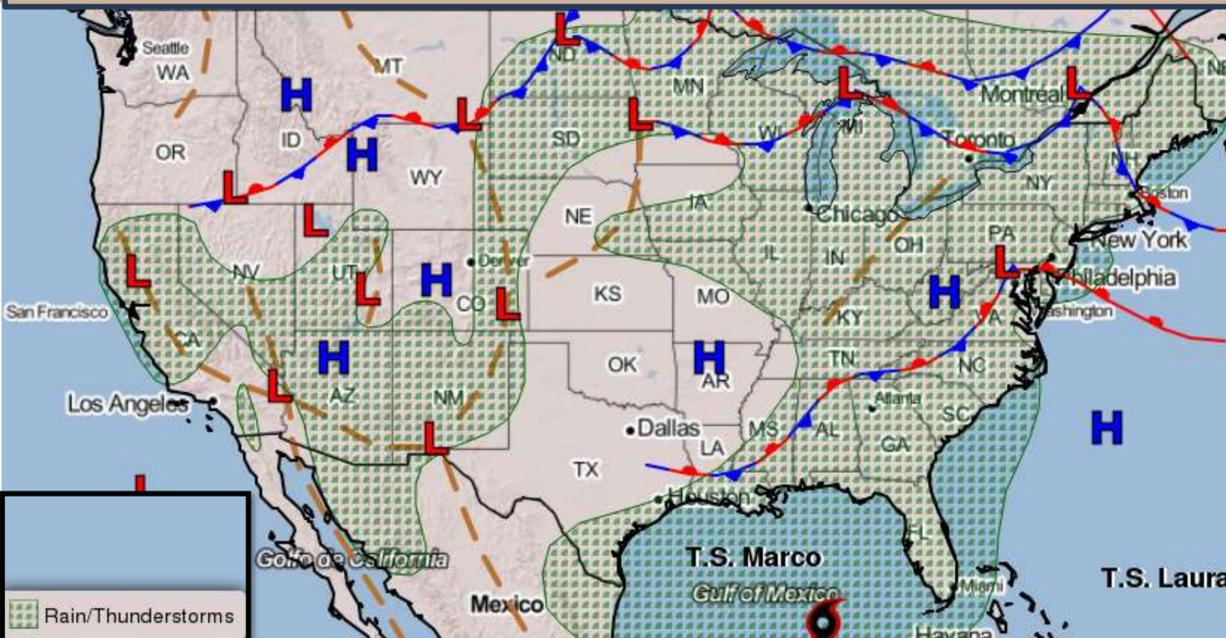
Today's Weather



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Forecast Chart

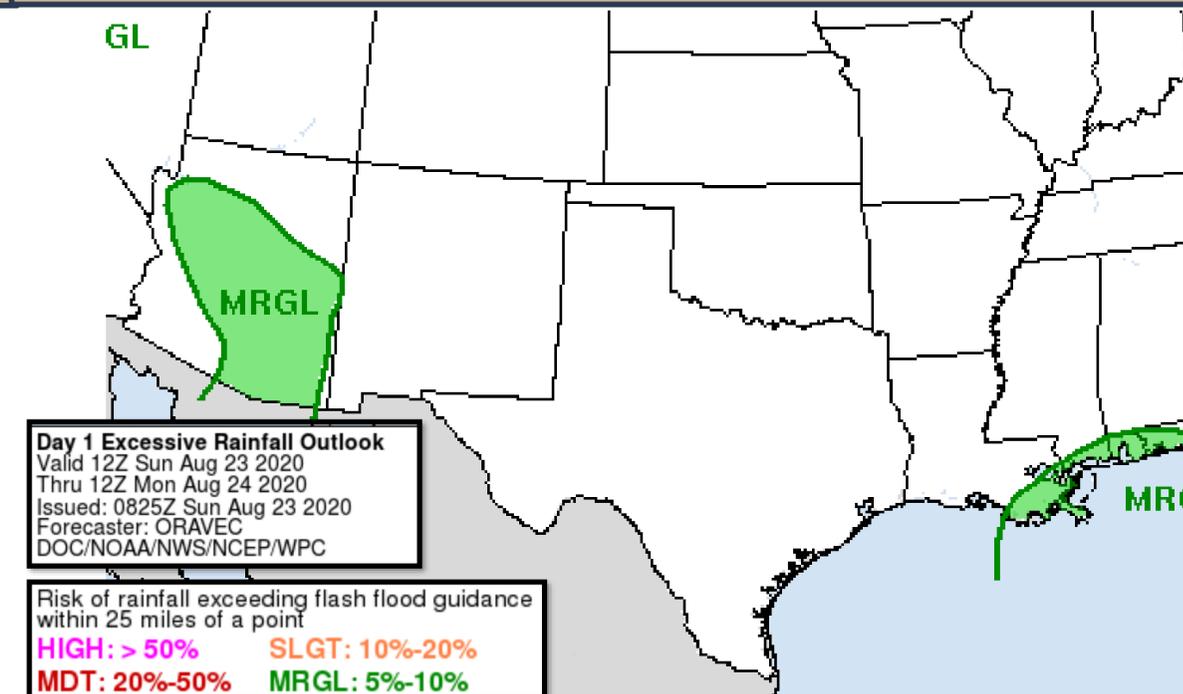
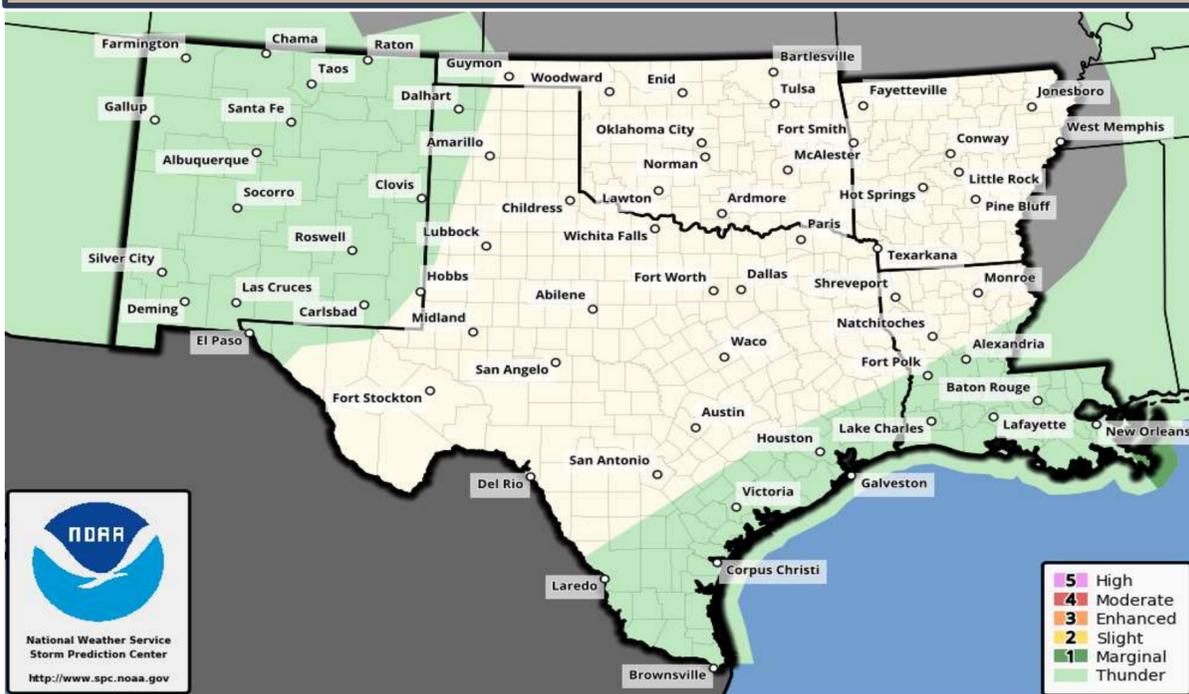
Forecast Rainfall



Heavy rain/flash flooding possible over SE LA.

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook

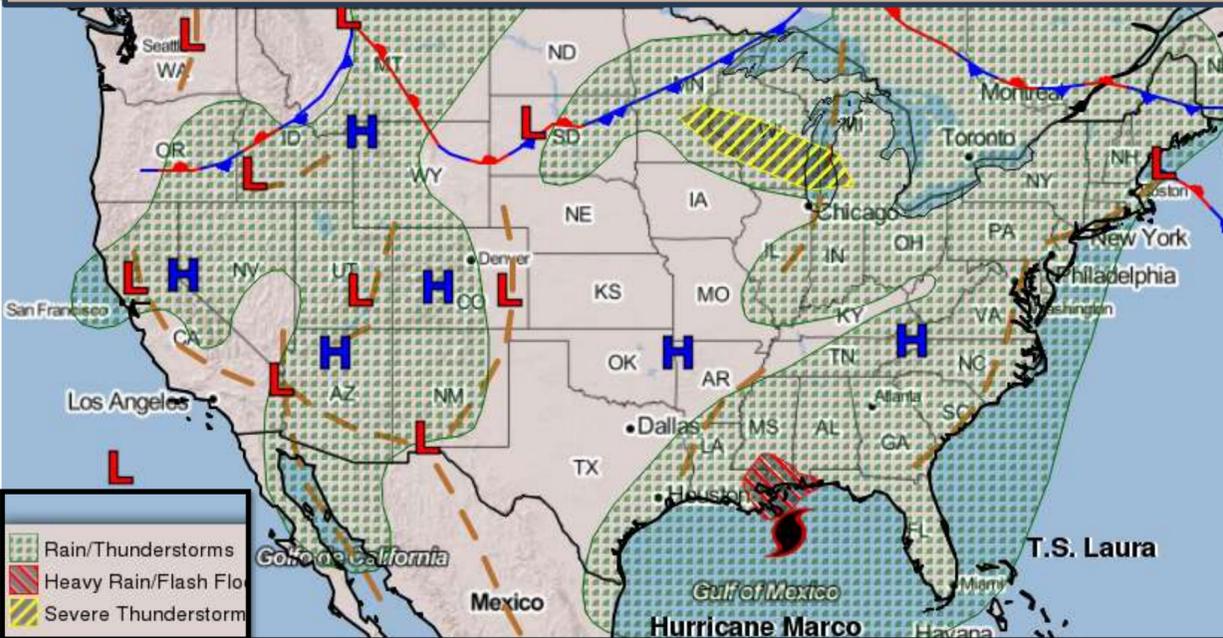


Tomorrow's Weather

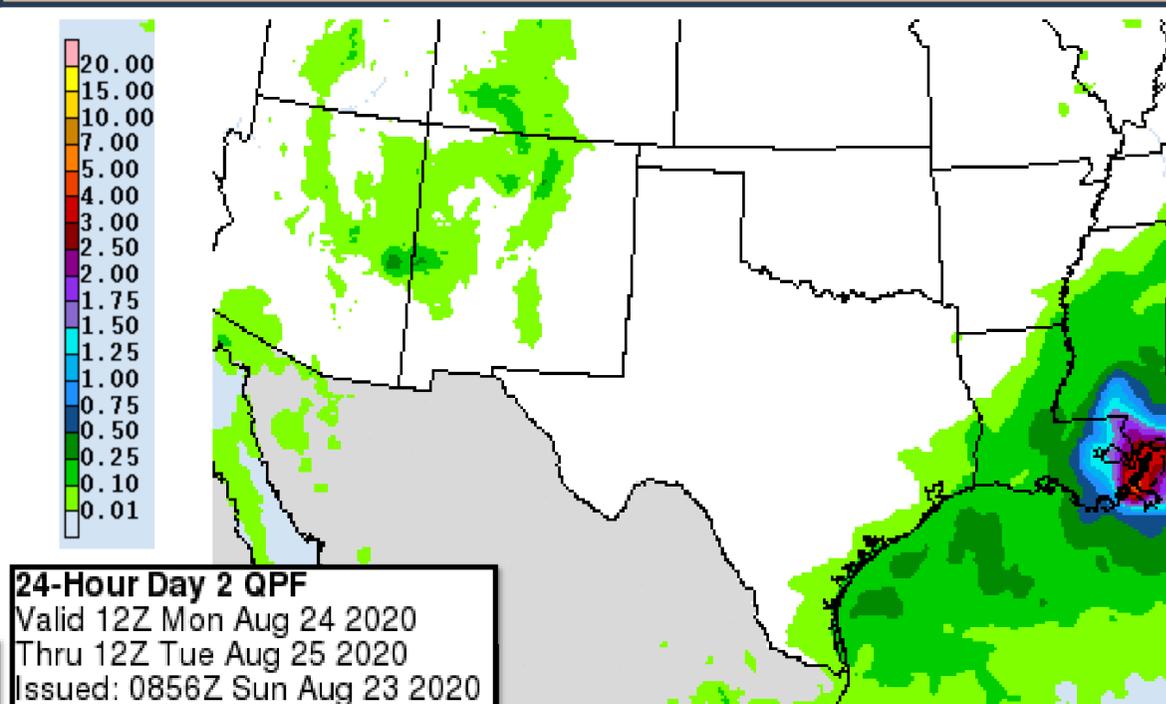


SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall



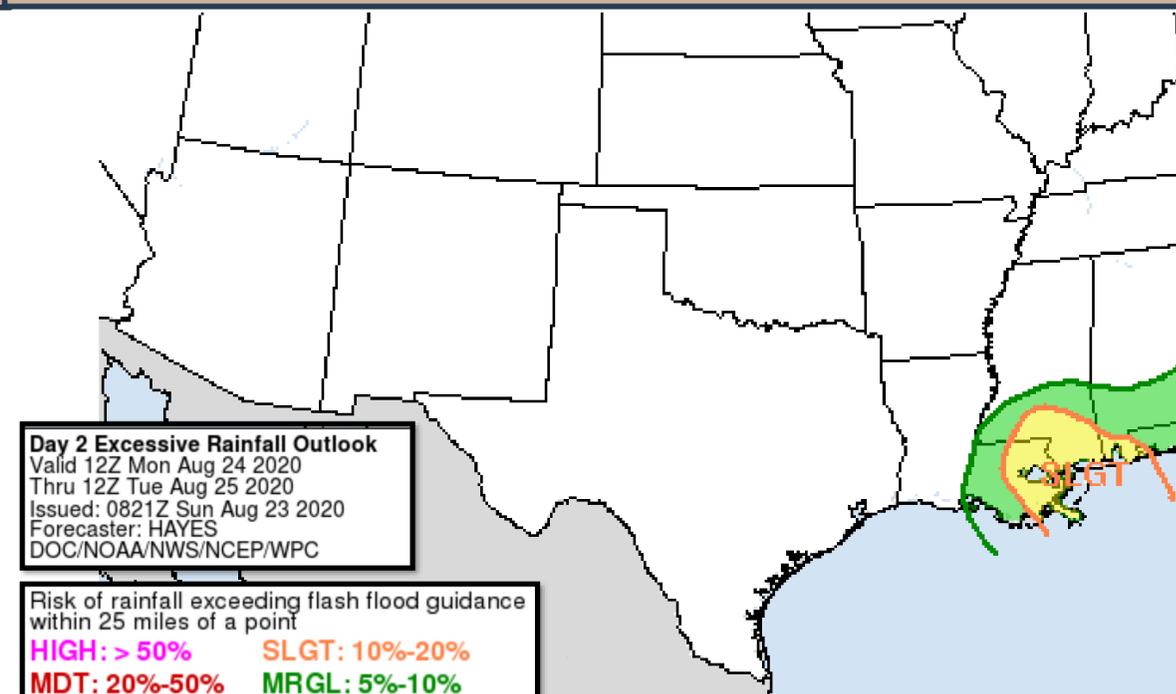
Heavy rain/flash flooding possible over SE LA.

Tropical storm force winds from Marco are possible in S LA beginning on Monday, hurricane force winds are possible over SE LA.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Storm Surge of 4-6ft is possible from Morgan City to Ocean Springs, including Lake Borgne.

An isolated tornado possible in SE LA.

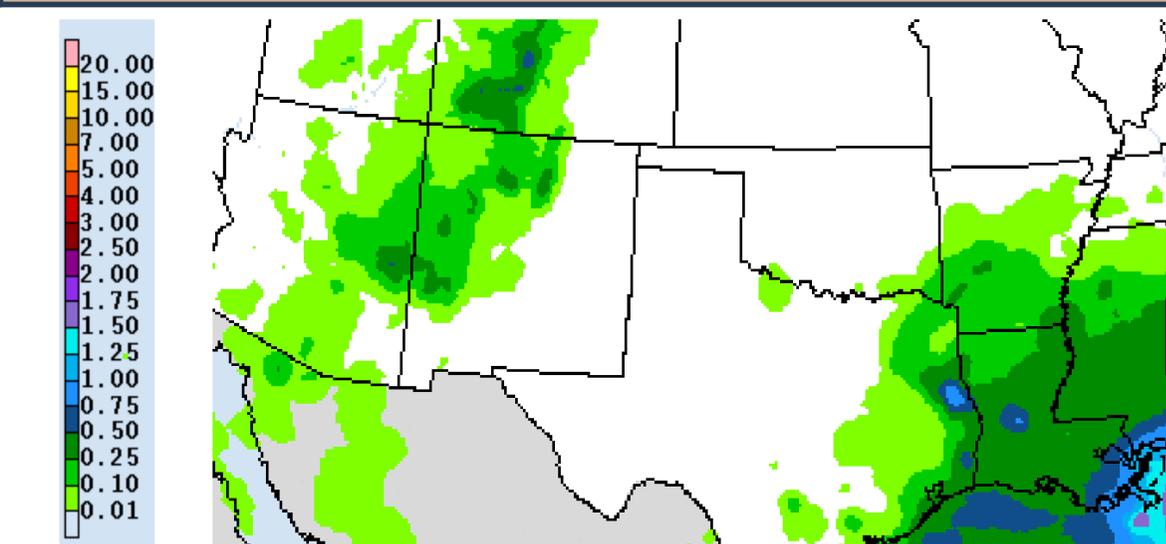
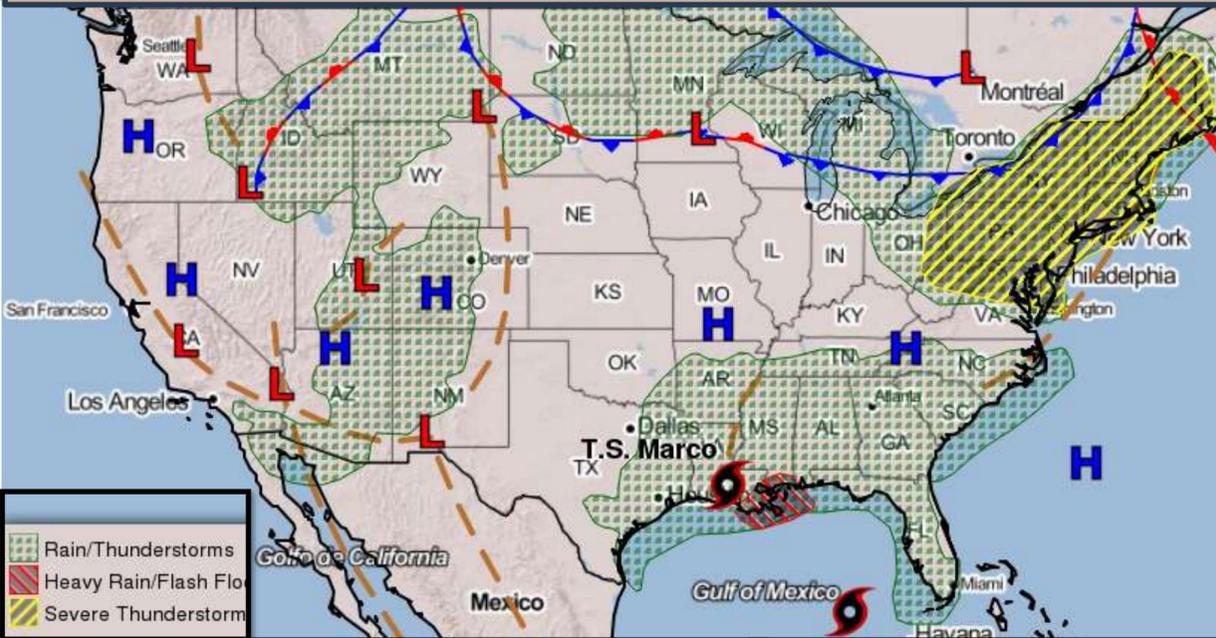
Tuesday's Weather



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall



Heavy rain/flash flooding possible over S LA/SE TX.

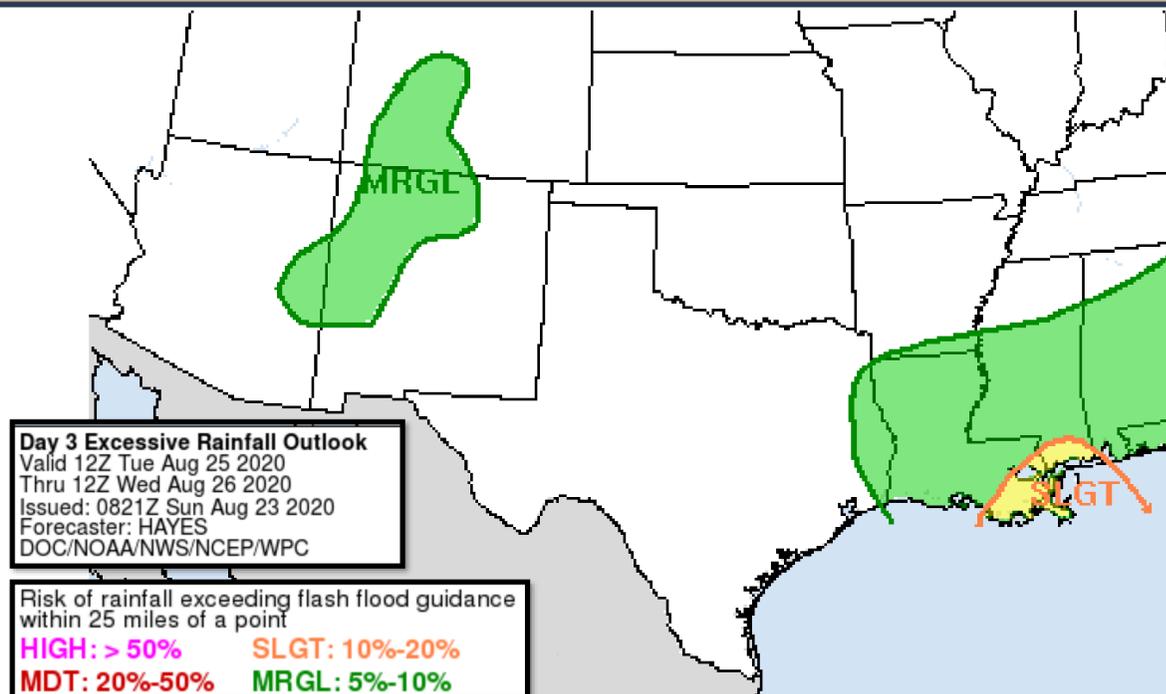
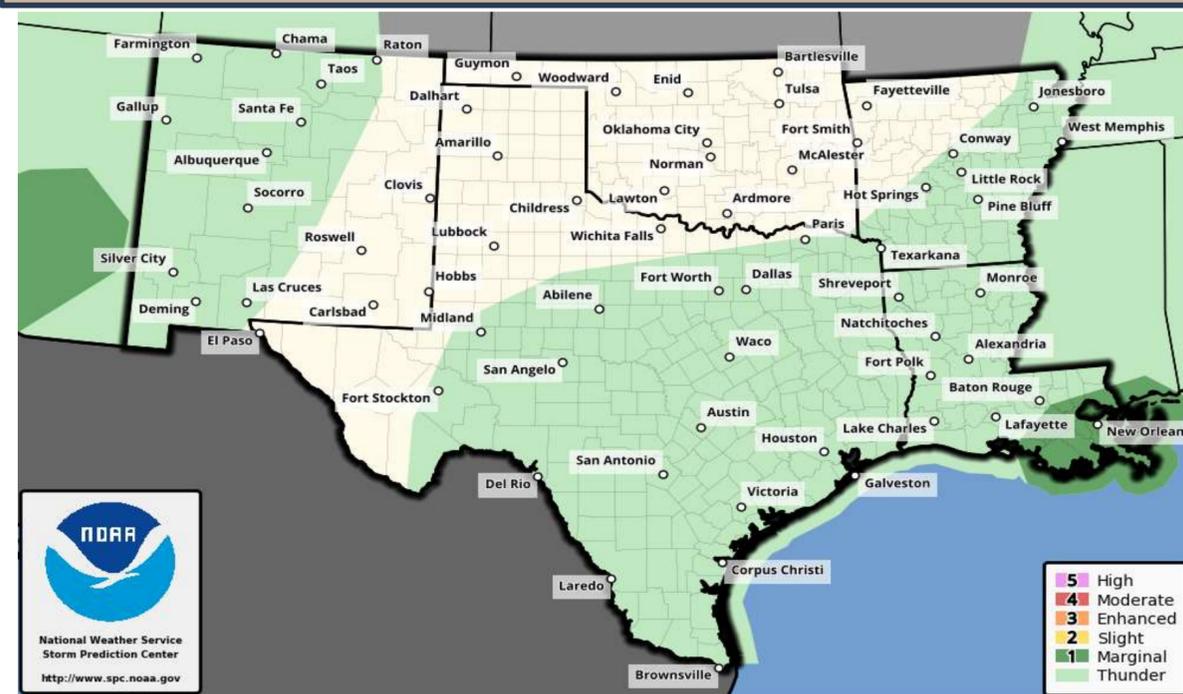
Tropical storm force winds from Marco are possible across LA. Tropical storm force winds may arrive over extreme SE LA as early as Tuesday night.

Weather Valid 8am EDT Tue Aug 25 2020 to 8am EDT Wed Aug 26 2020
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Tue Aug 25 2020
Issued 4:39 AM EDT Sun, Aug 23, 2020
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mullinax with WPC/SPO/NHC forecasts.

24-Hour Day 3 QPF
Valid 12Z Tue Aug 25 2020
Thru 12Z Wed Aug 26 2020
Issued: 0856Z Sun Aug 23 2020

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 3 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Valid 12Z Tue Aug 25 2020
Thru 12Z Wed Aug 26 2020
Issued: 0821Z Sun Aug 23 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

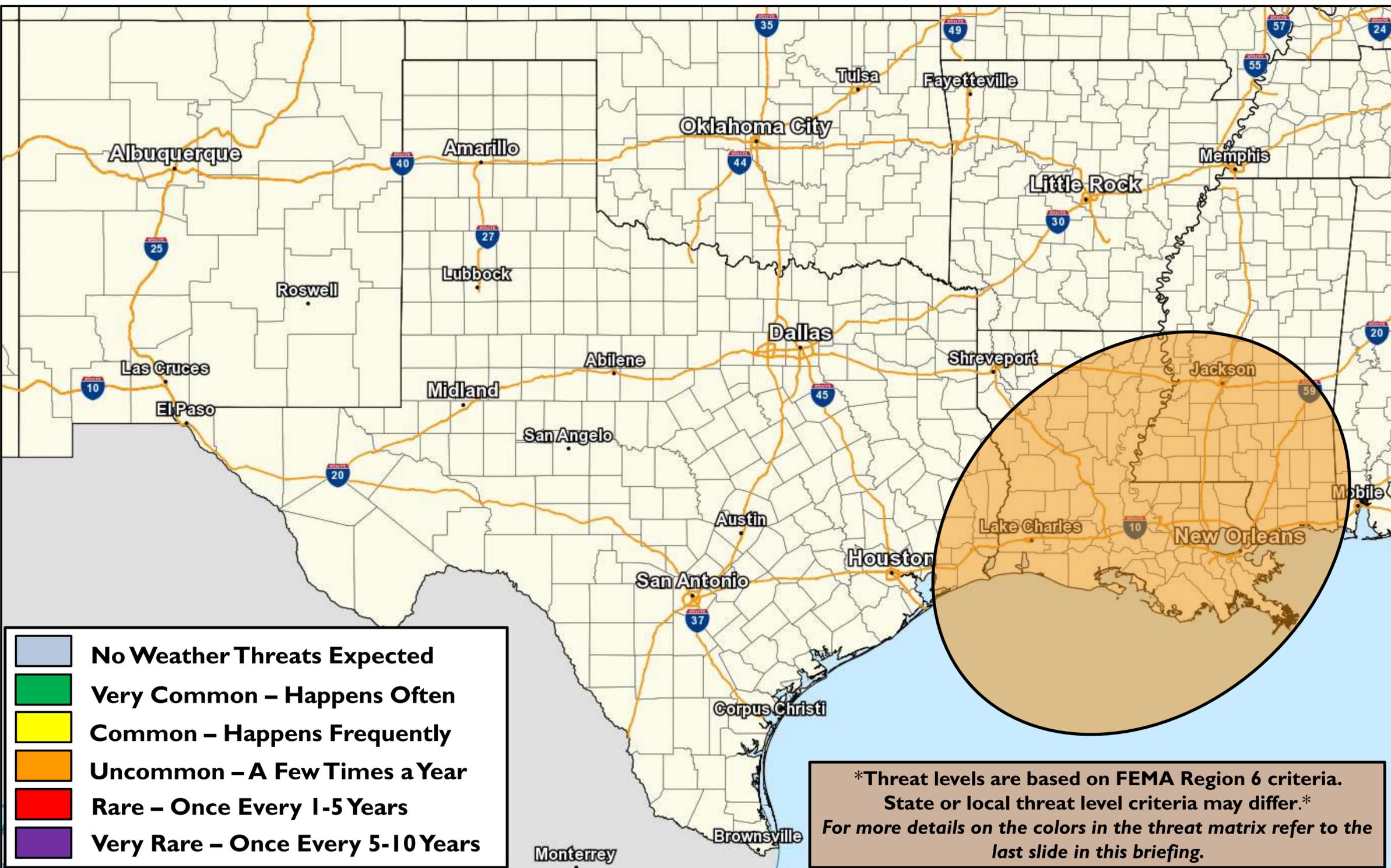
Wednesday - Thursday



SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

Isolated heavy rain possible in SE TX and LA from Marco and Laura.

Tropical Storm to Hurricane force winds from Laura are expected Wednesday. Additional storm-related hazards from Laura are possible during this time period as well (heavy rain, surge).

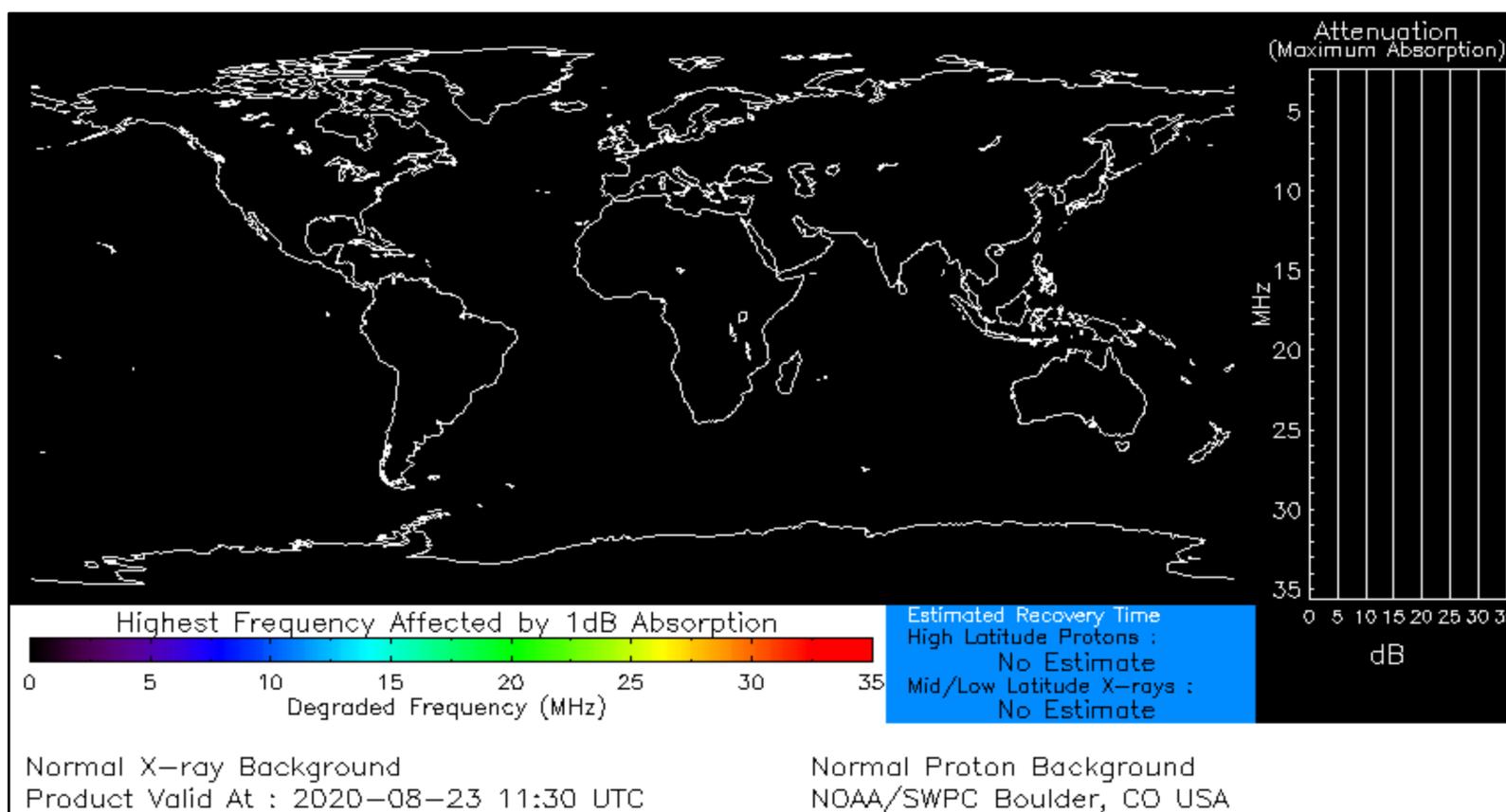


Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



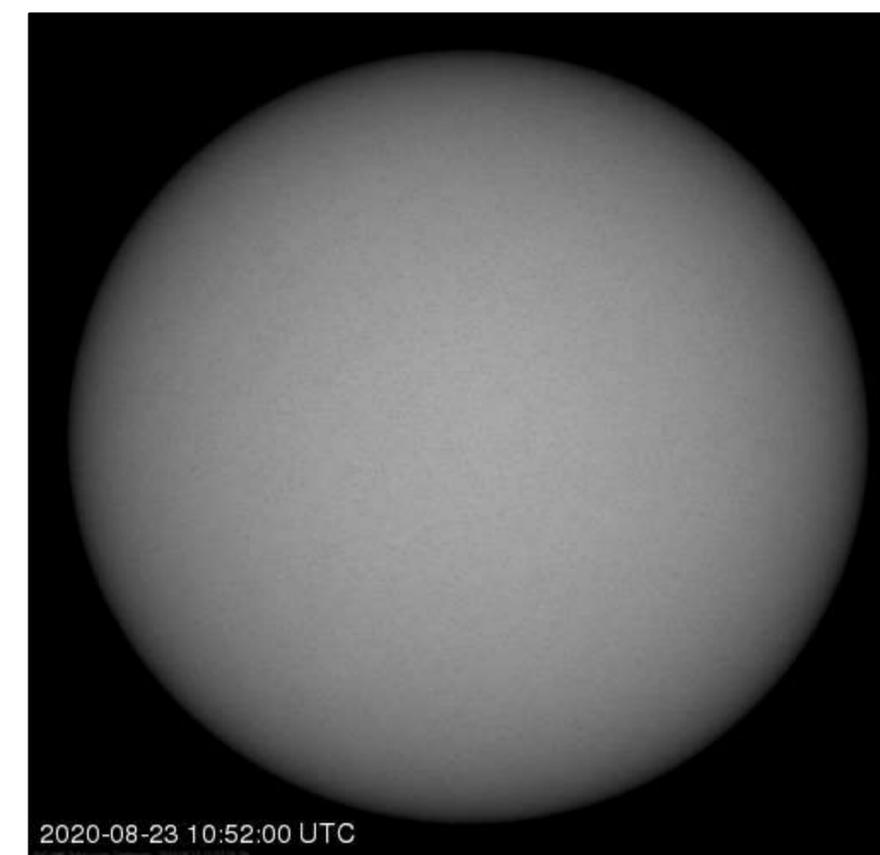
SR ROC
REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
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.