



FEMA



Prepared by
Todd Beal

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday August 25, 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 area today for heavy rain/flash flooding across LA.**
- **Tropical Storm Laura is expected to strengthen and move toward the TX/LA Coast by Wednesday bringing impacts to SW LA, SE TX and AR through Thursday.**

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix



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Aug 25, 2020 - Aug 29, 2020

DAY / THREAT	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Severe Storms		LA	LA, AR		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	LA, NM	SETX/SW LA	AR, LA	LA, AR	
		ETX/LA	E OK/TX/AR LA		
Fire Weather					
Tropical Winds / Surge		S LA/SETX	LA, ETX (AM)		
			LA, ETX, SAR		
Heat					
River Flooding		SETX SW LA	SETX, S LA	SETX, LA	SETX, 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



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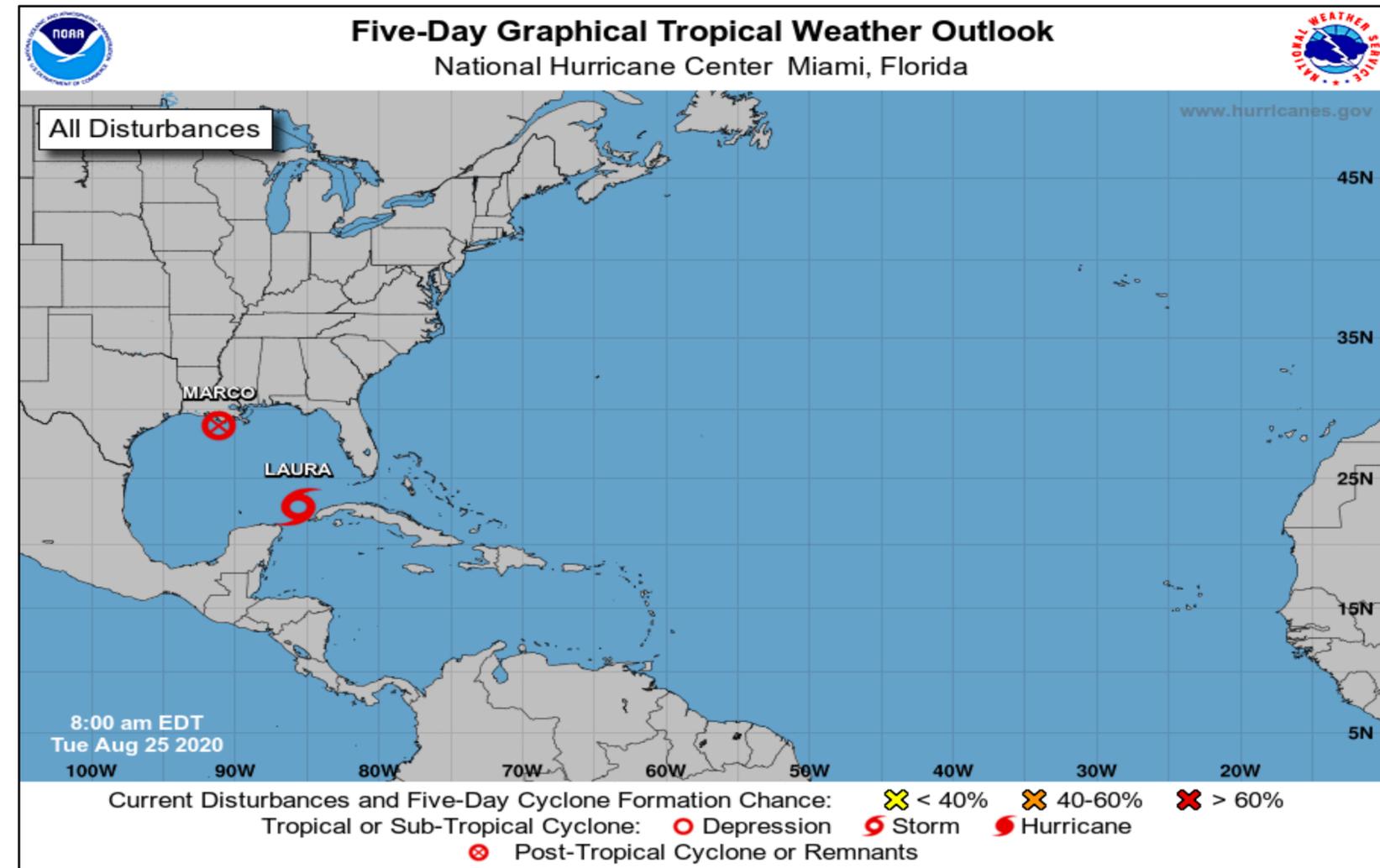
See next slides for more information

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 expected for LA / TX by Wednesday.



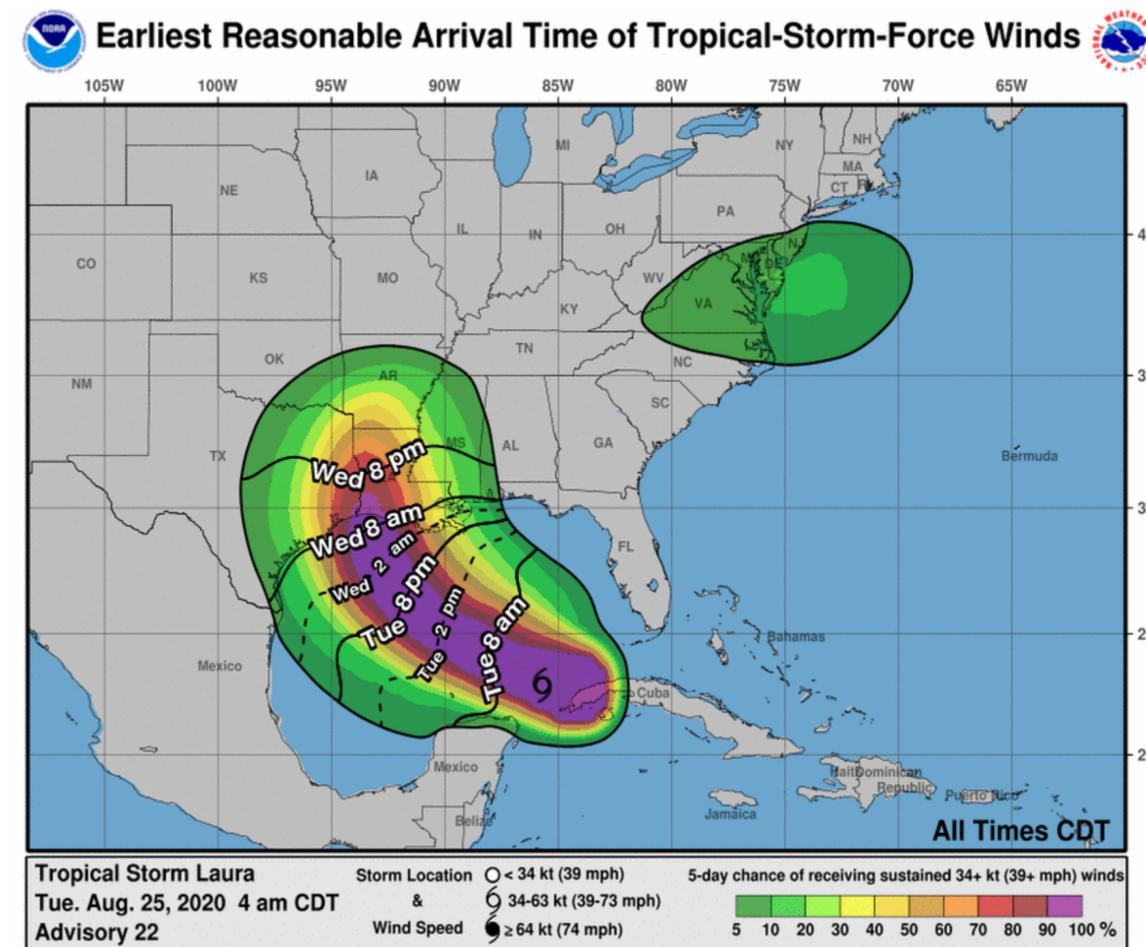
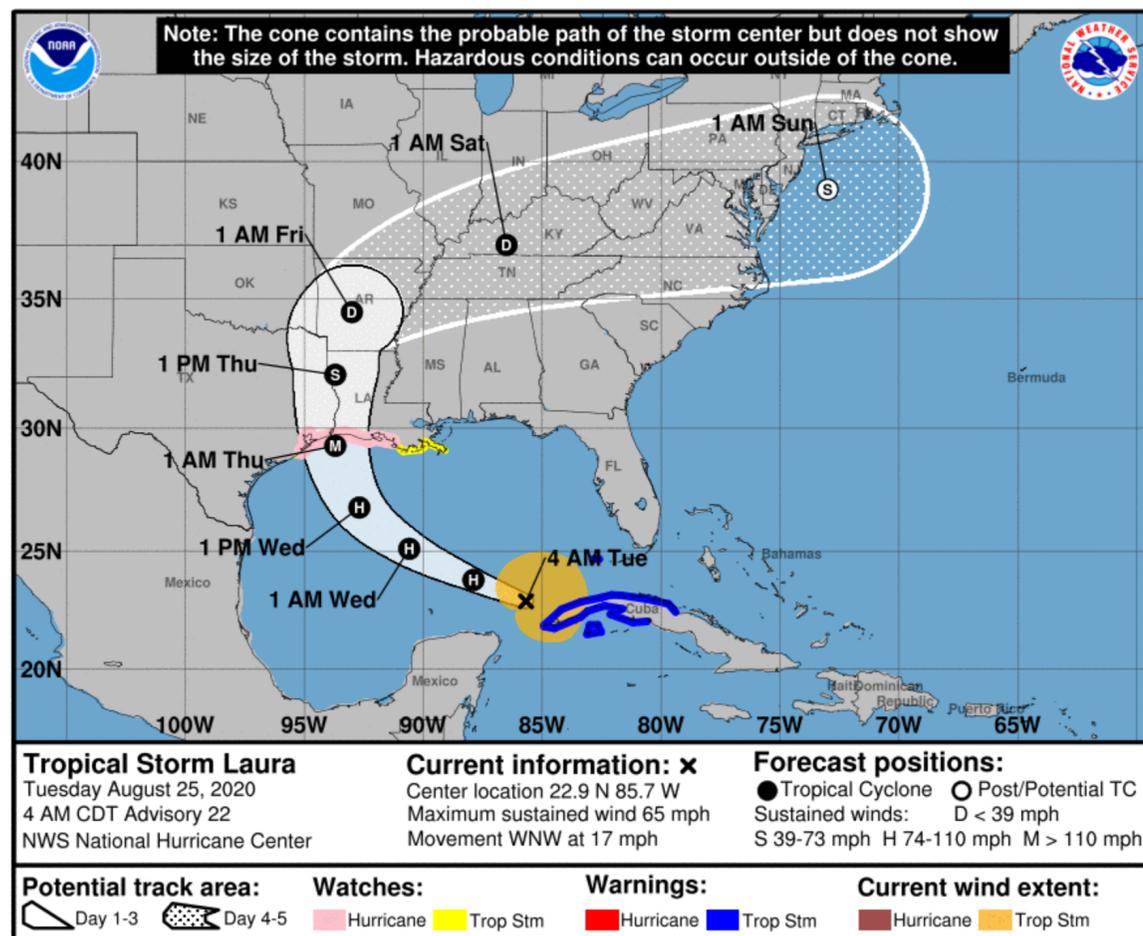
Tropical Storm Laura



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Tropical Storm Laura is 85 miles northwest of the western tip of Cuba and moving west-northwest at 17 mph. Laura is expected to move across the Gulf of Mexico and increase to hurricane strength today.

Maximum sustained winds are near 65 mph with higher gusts. Laura is expected to be a hurricane late today and reach major hurricane status (CAT 3) by landfall late Wednesday.



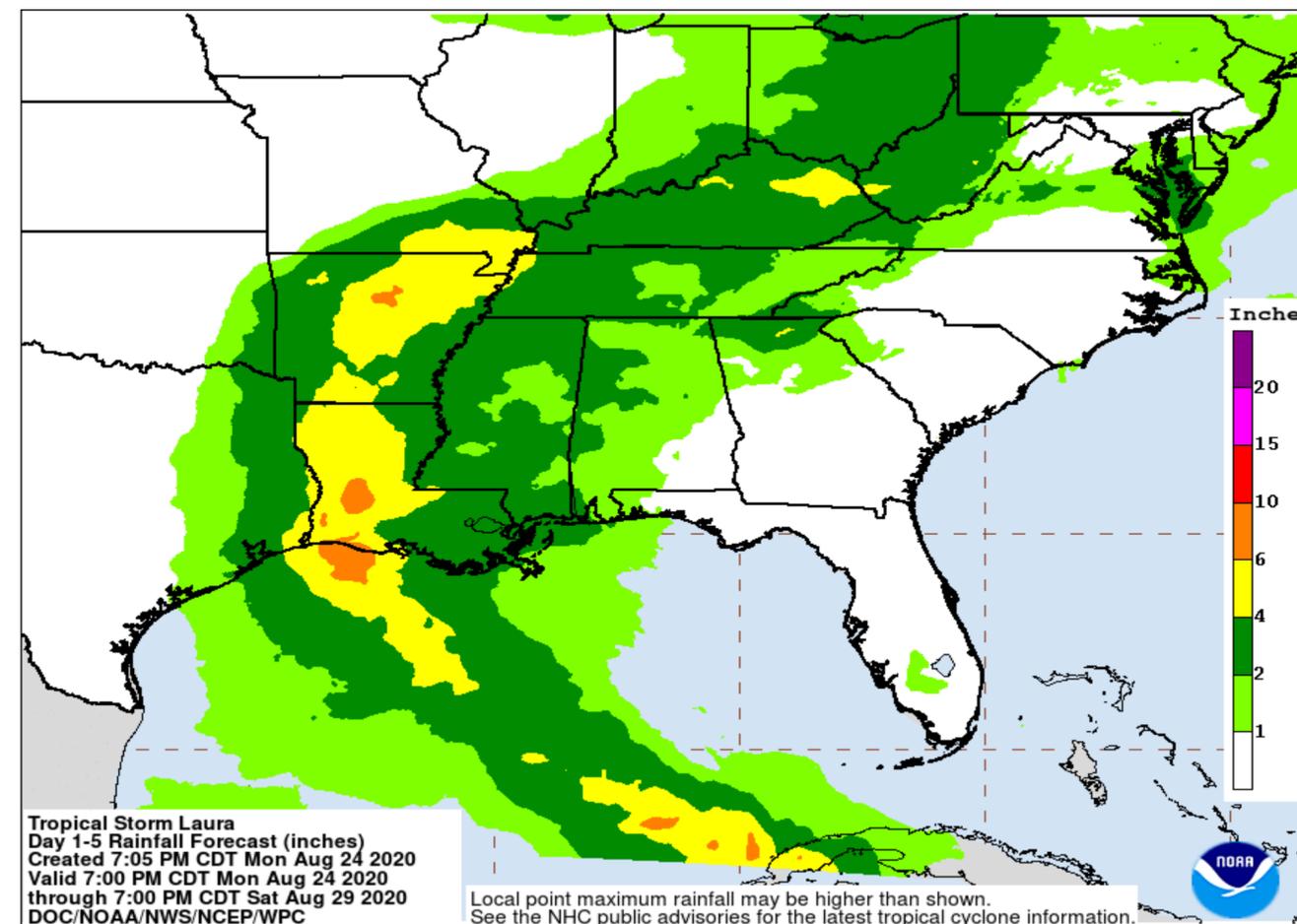
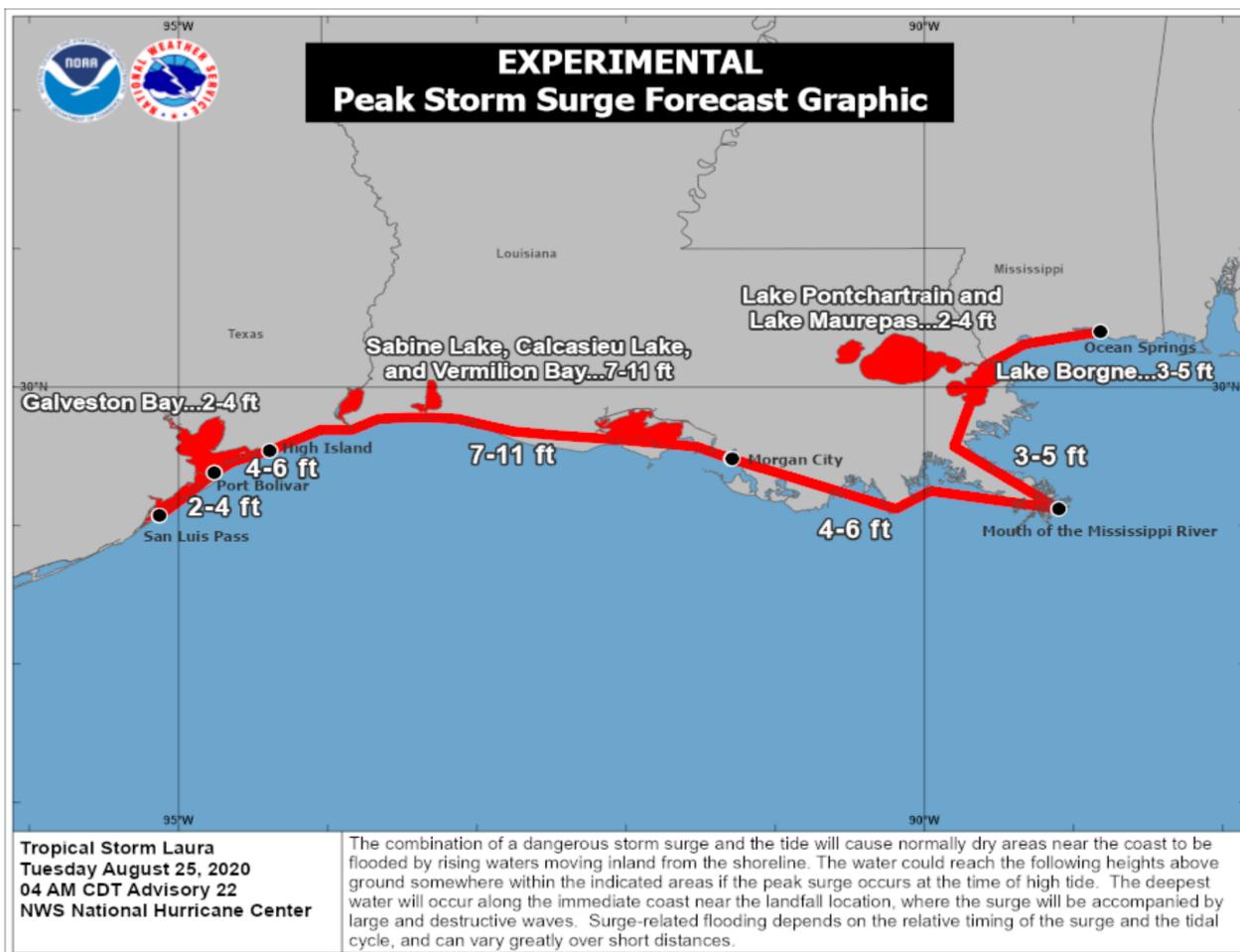
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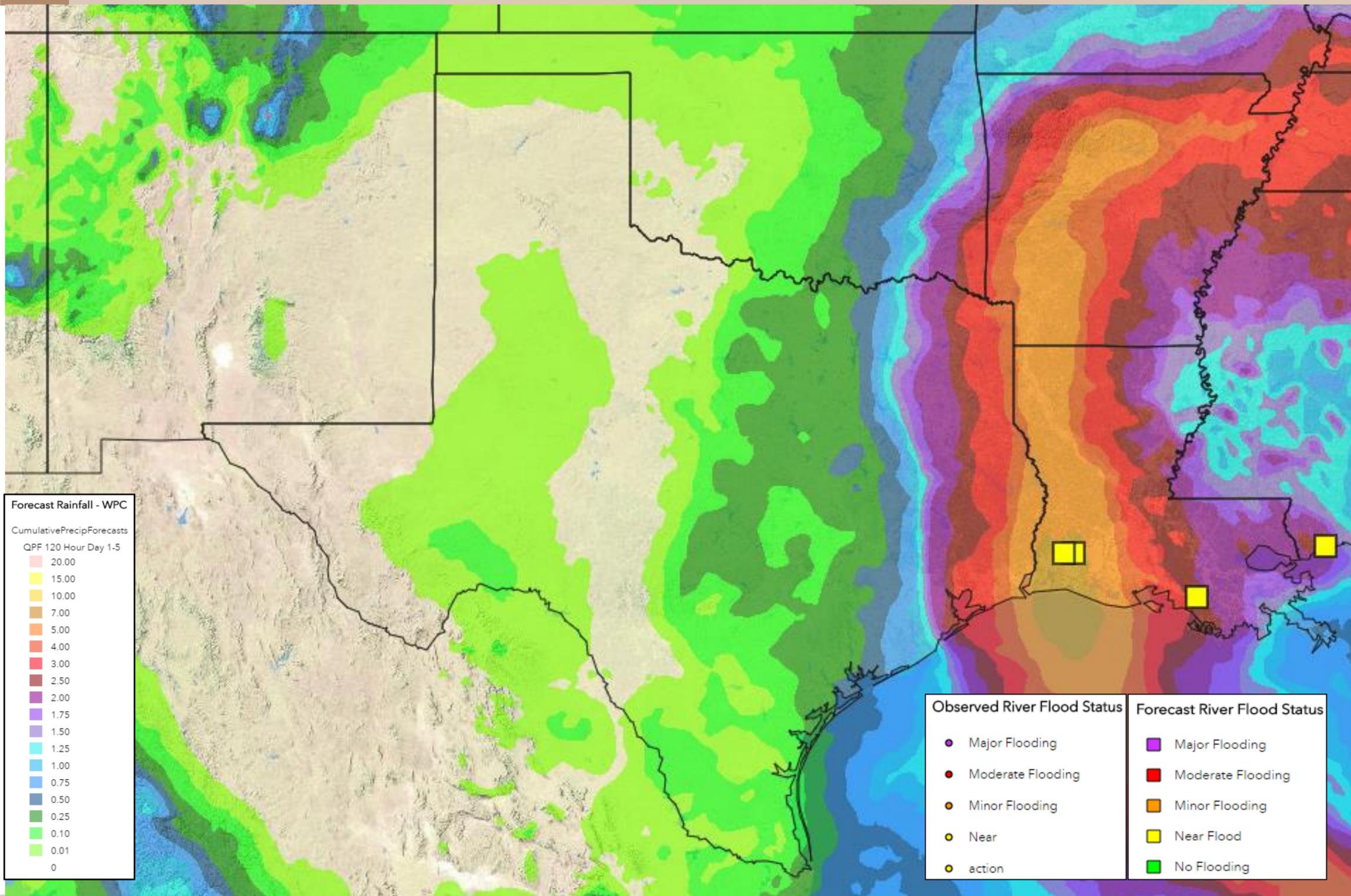


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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



Tropical Storm Laura will bring widespread heavy rainfall to portions of E TX, LA, and AR Wednesday through Thursday.

Significant river flooding is possible in SE TX along lower Sabine River and portions of the Neches River.

Minor to moderate river flooding possible across much of LA.



Flood Hazard Outlook (Prototype)

Includes General Flash and River Flood Hazards

NWC National Water Center

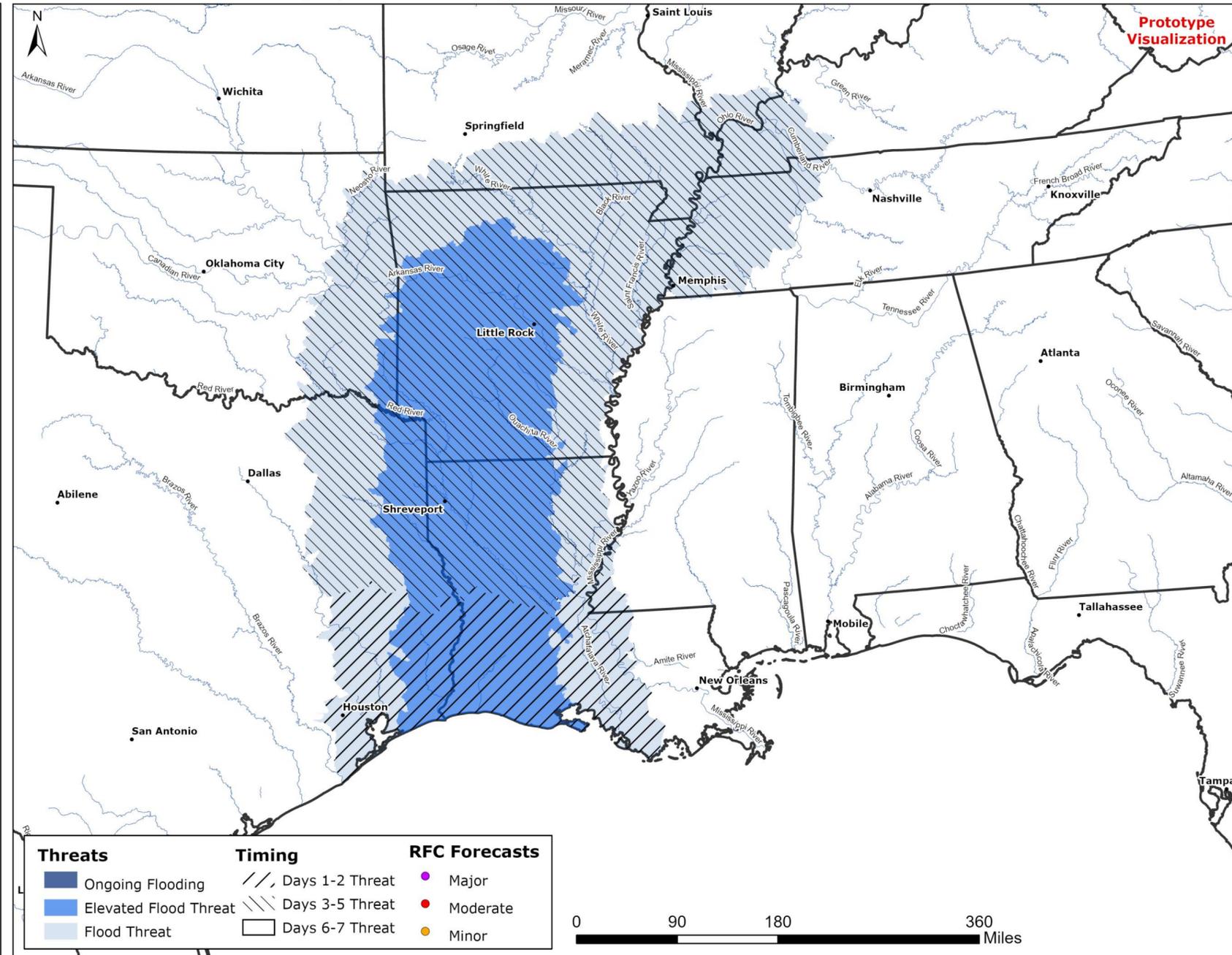
Issued: 11:30 UTC Aug 25, 2020 - Valid through 11:30 UTC Sept 1, 2020

Flood Hazard Messages

(associated with T.S. Laura)

- Rainfall from Laura is expected to impact east TX through central LA Wednesday night and move northward into eastern Oklahoma and Arkansas on Thursday. Expected storm totals of 4 to 8 inches, with isolated maximum amounts of 12 inches, will cause widespread flash and urban flooding, small streams and creeks to overflow their banks, and minor to isolated moderate river flooding.
- Interests in this region should continue to monitor the forecast and ensure they have their flood plan in place.
- Late week, heavy rainfall from the remnants of Laura may impact areas of the mid-Mississippi, Tennessee, and Lower Ohio Valleys where wet antecedent conditions exist. These regions should continue to monitor the forecast.

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

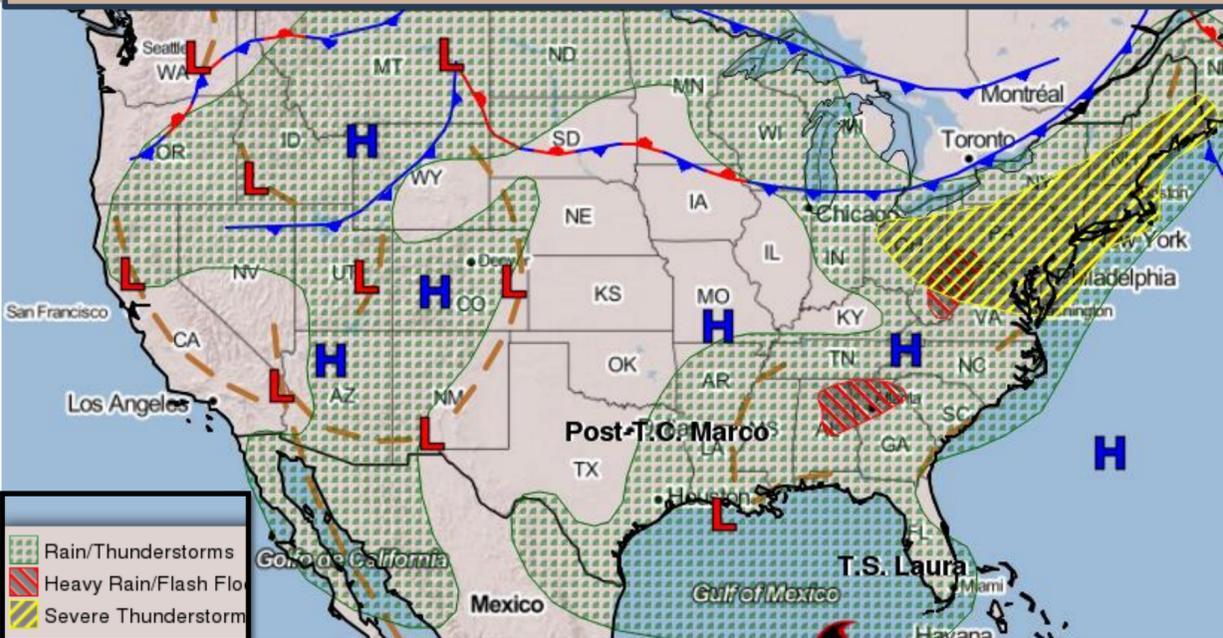


Today's Weather



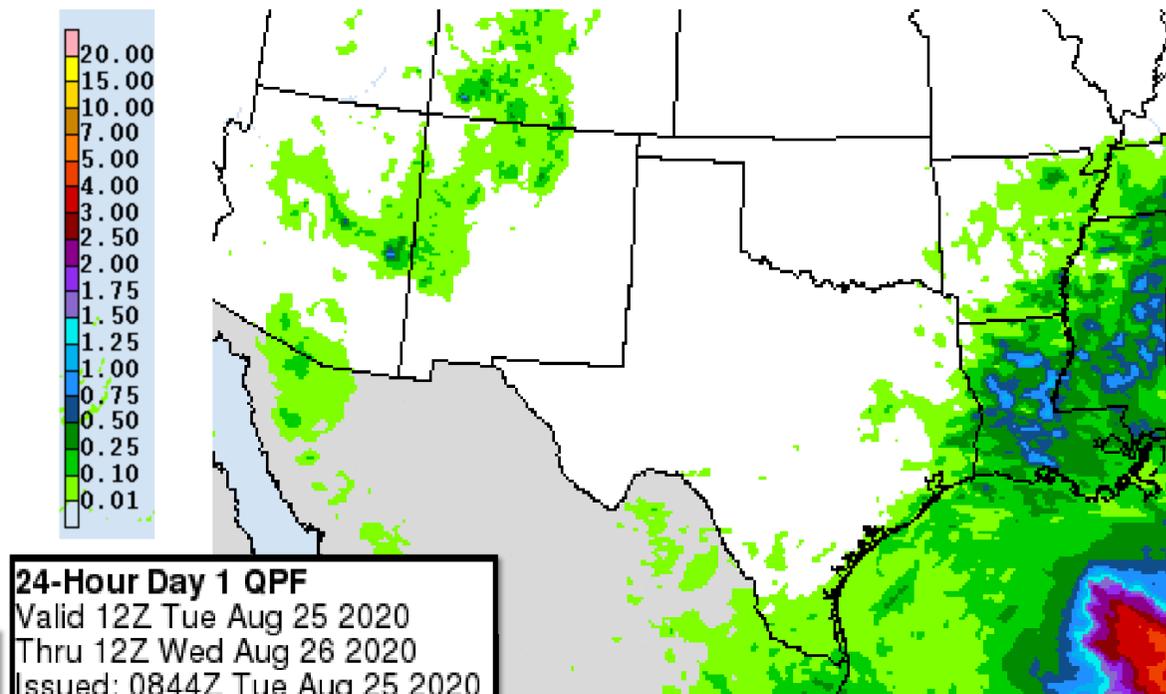
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Forecast Chart



Weather Valid 8am EDT Tue Aug 25 2020 to 8am EDT Wed Aug 26 2020
Fronts Valid 8am EDT Tue Aug 25 2020
Issued 5:03 AM EDT Tue, Aug 25, 2020
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Snell with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

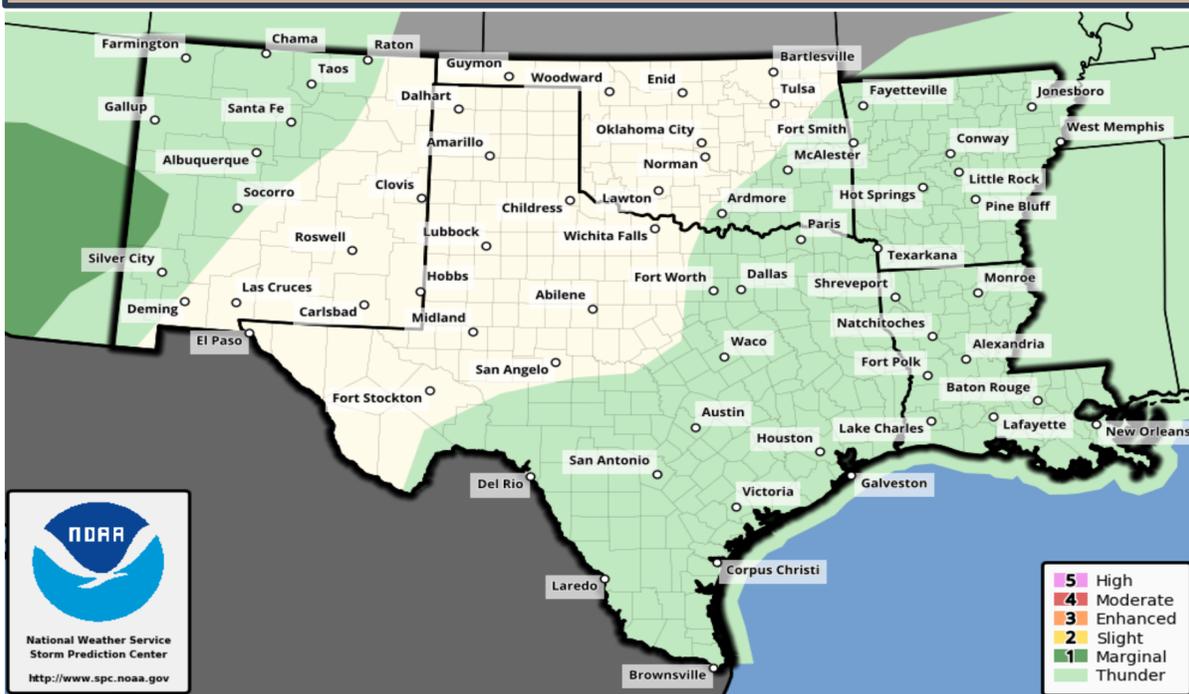
Forecast Rainfall



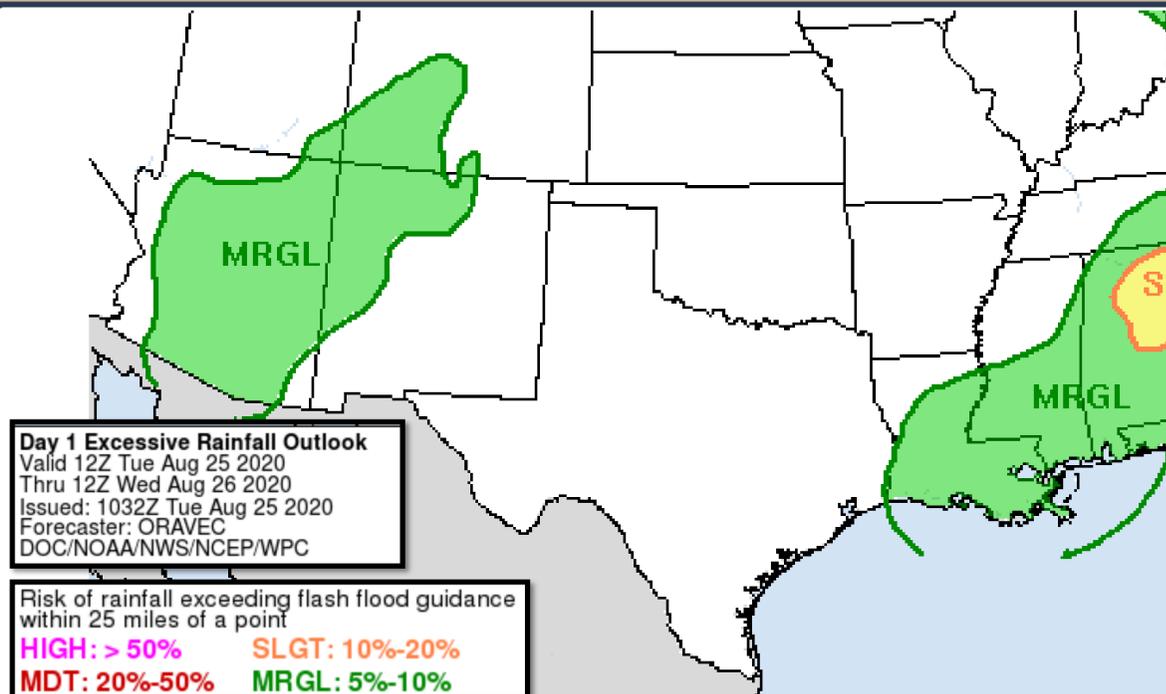
24-Hour Day 1 QPF
Valid 12Z Tue Aug 25 2020
Thru 12Z Wed Aug 26 2020
Issued: 0844Z Tue Aug 25 2020

Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding across LA, NM.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Day 1 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
Valid 12Z Tue Aug 25 2020
Thru 12Z Wed Aug 26 2020
Issued: 1032Z Tue Aug 25 2020
Forecaster: ORAVEC
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

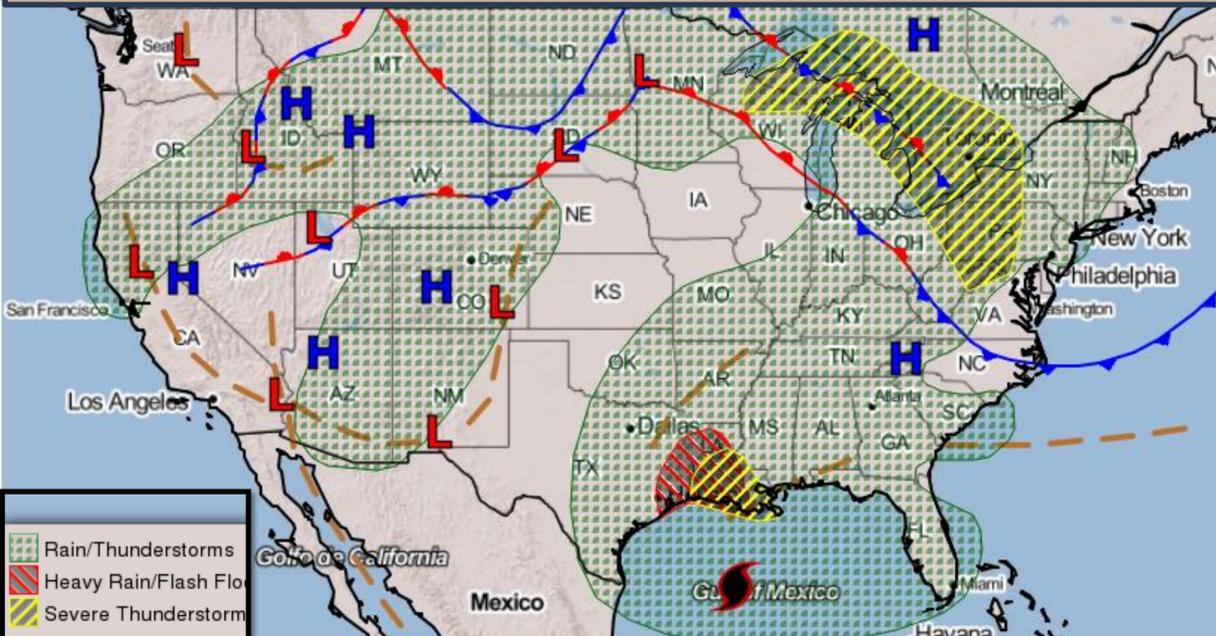
Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point
HIGH: > 50% **SLGT: 10%-20%**
MDT: 20%-50% **MRGL: 5%-10%**

Tomorrow's Weather



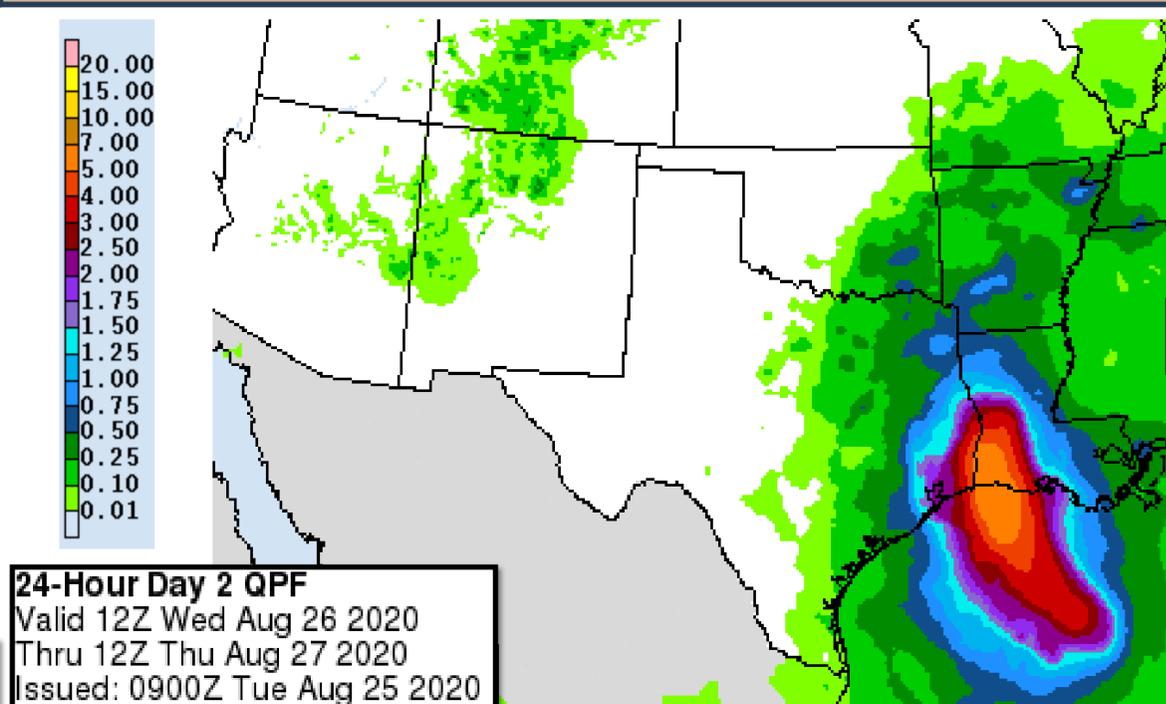
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Forecast Chart



Weather Valid 8am EDT Wed Aug 26 2020 to 8am EDT Thu Aug 27 2020
 Fronts Valid 8am EDT Wed Aug 26 2020
 Issued 4:53 AM EDT Tue, Aug 25, 2020
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
 Prepared by Snell with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts.

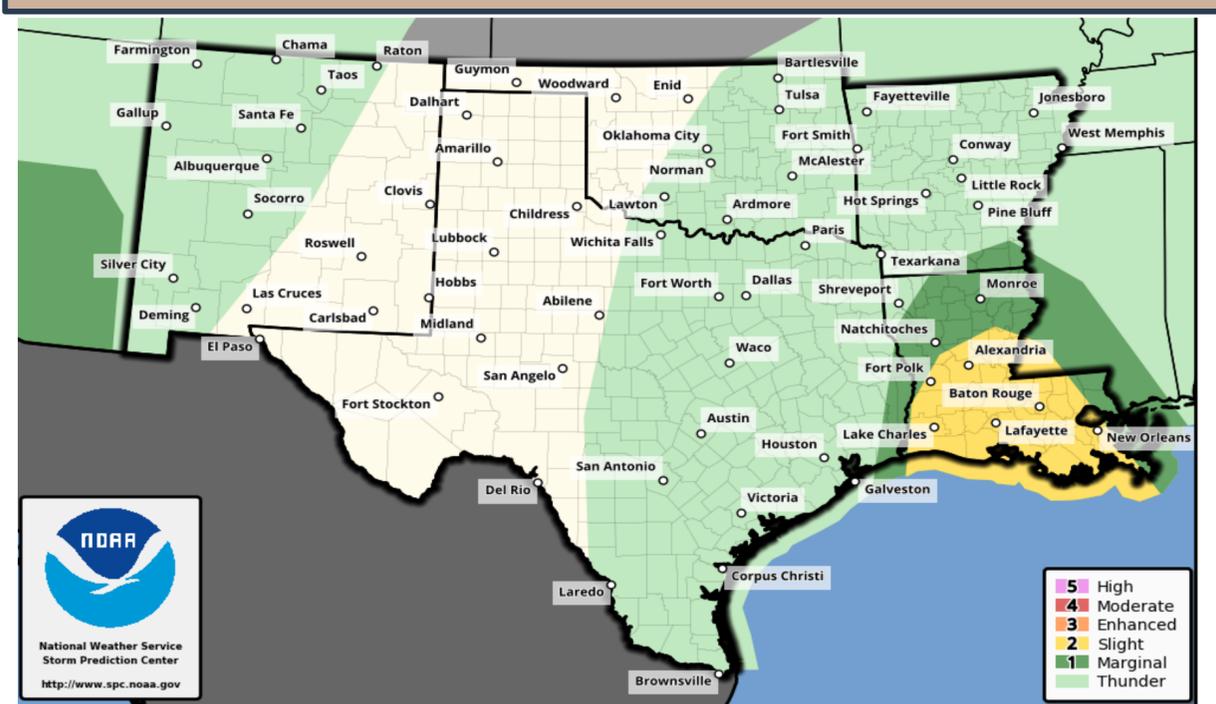
Forecast Rainfall



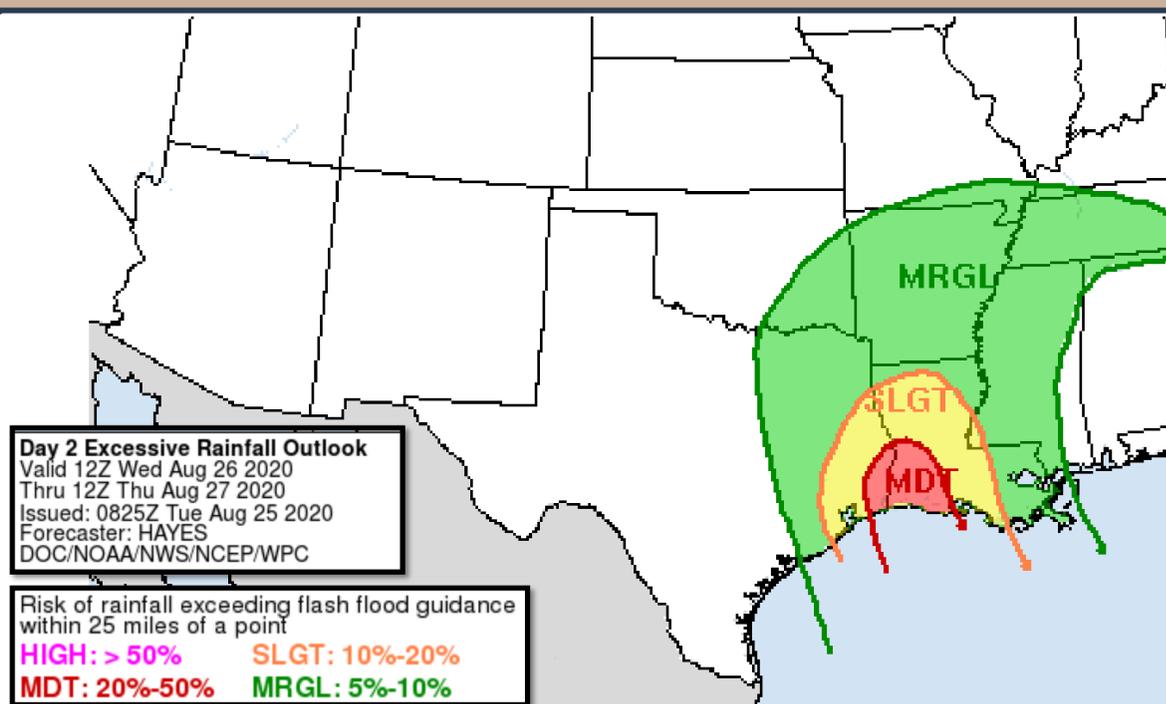
Hurricane impacts from Laura.

- Hurricane winds across SE TX/SW LA
- Storm surge across SE TX/S LA.
- Heavy rain/flash flooding
- Isolated tornadoes.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



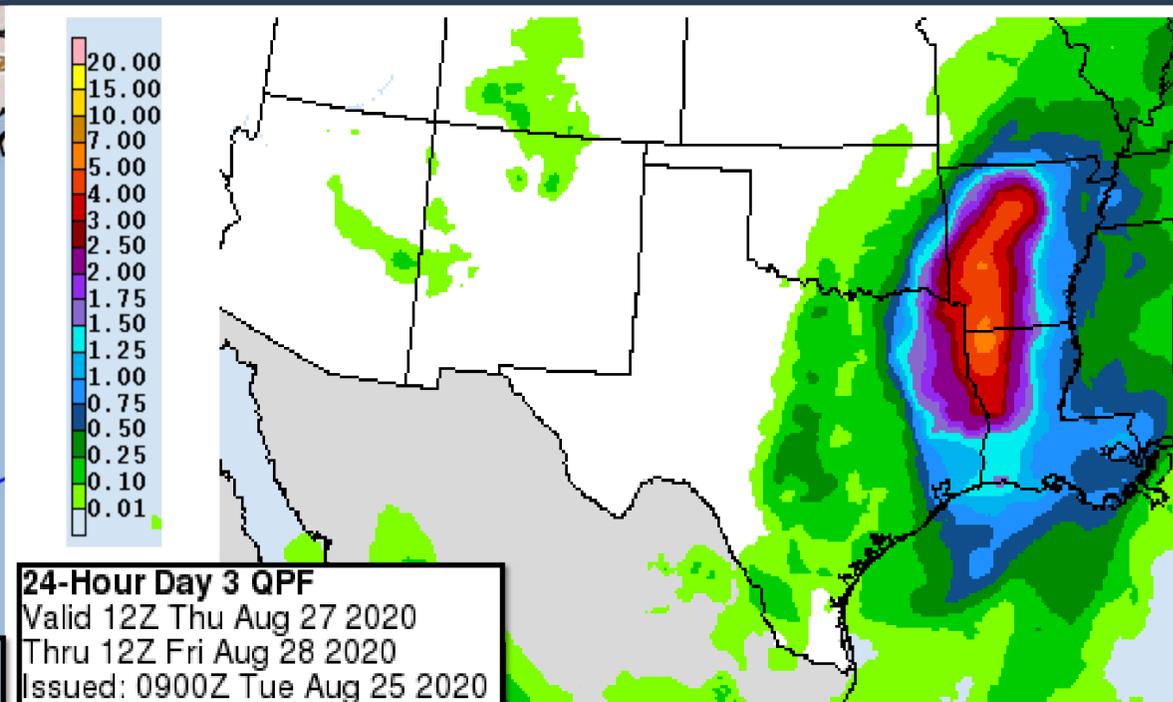
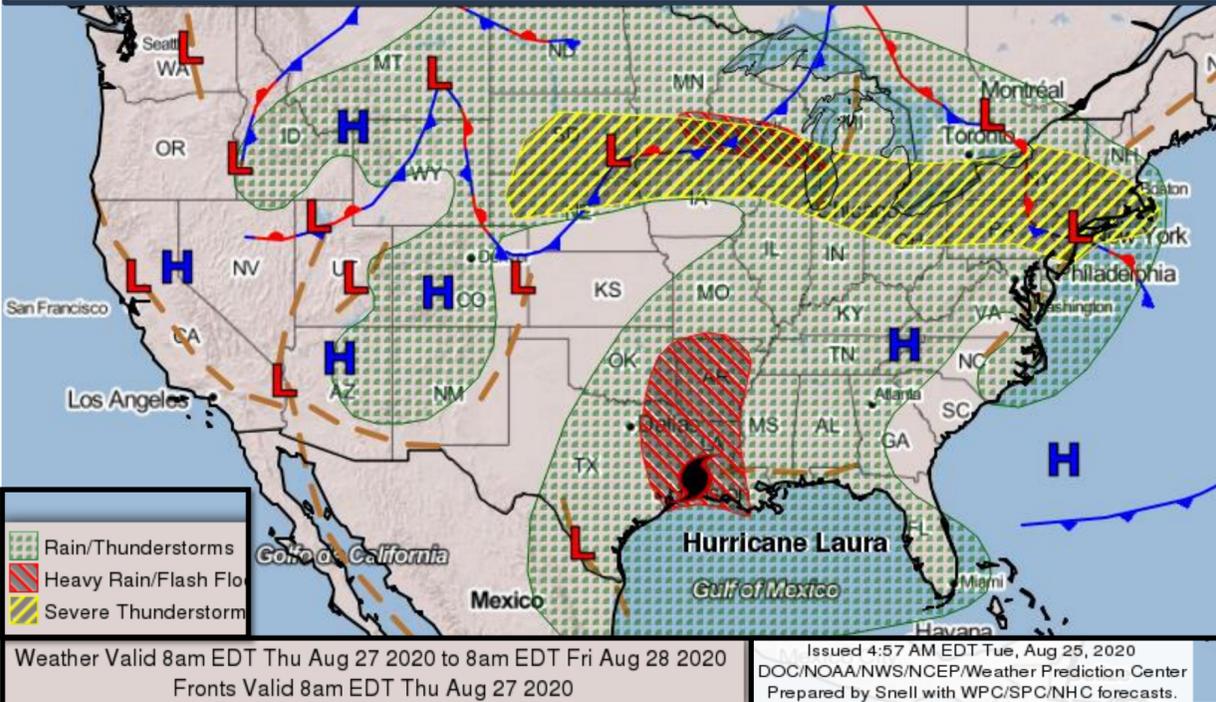
Thursday's Weather



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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

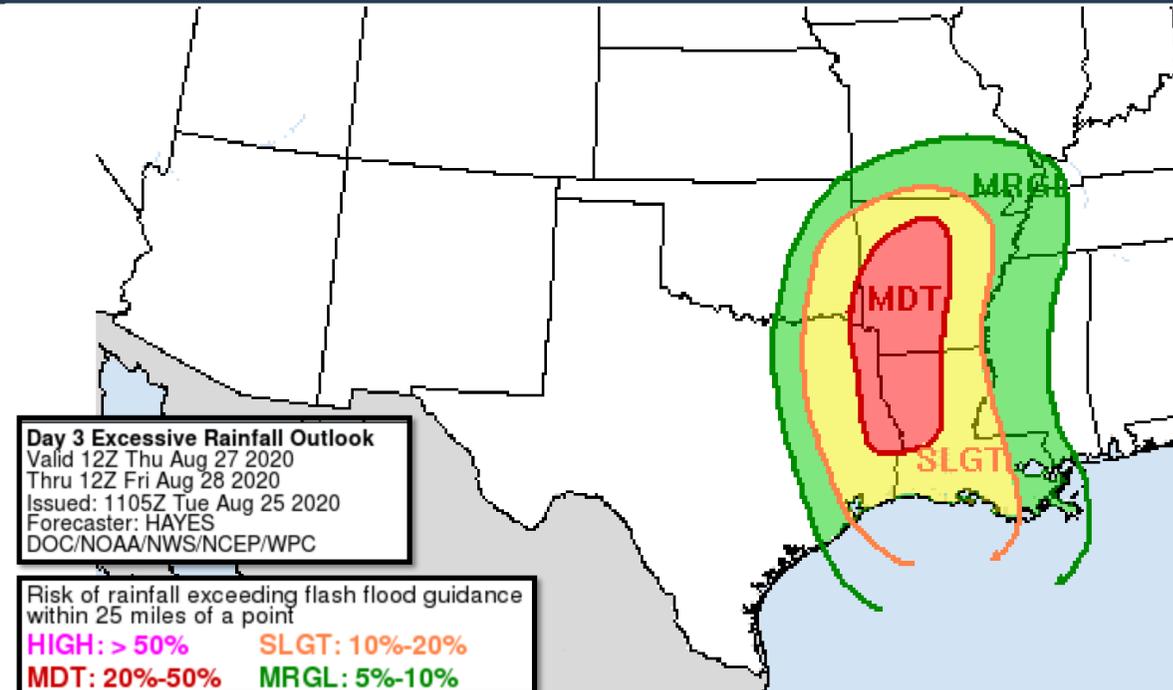


Heavy rain/flash flooding possible over S LA/SE TX.

Tropical storm force winds from Laura are possible across ETX, LA.

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



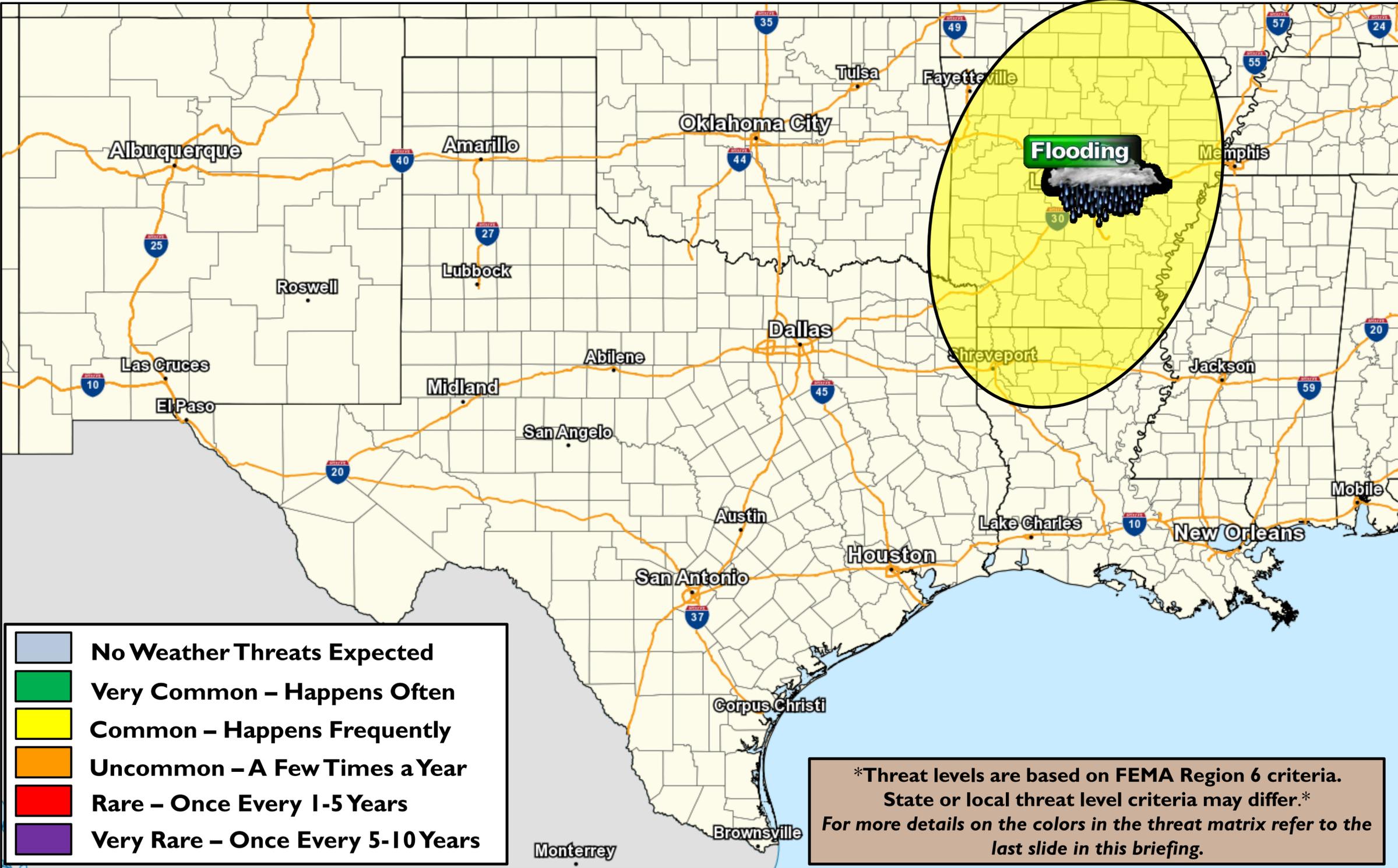
Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Friday - Saturday



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Isolated heavy rain possible in AR and LA from Laura.

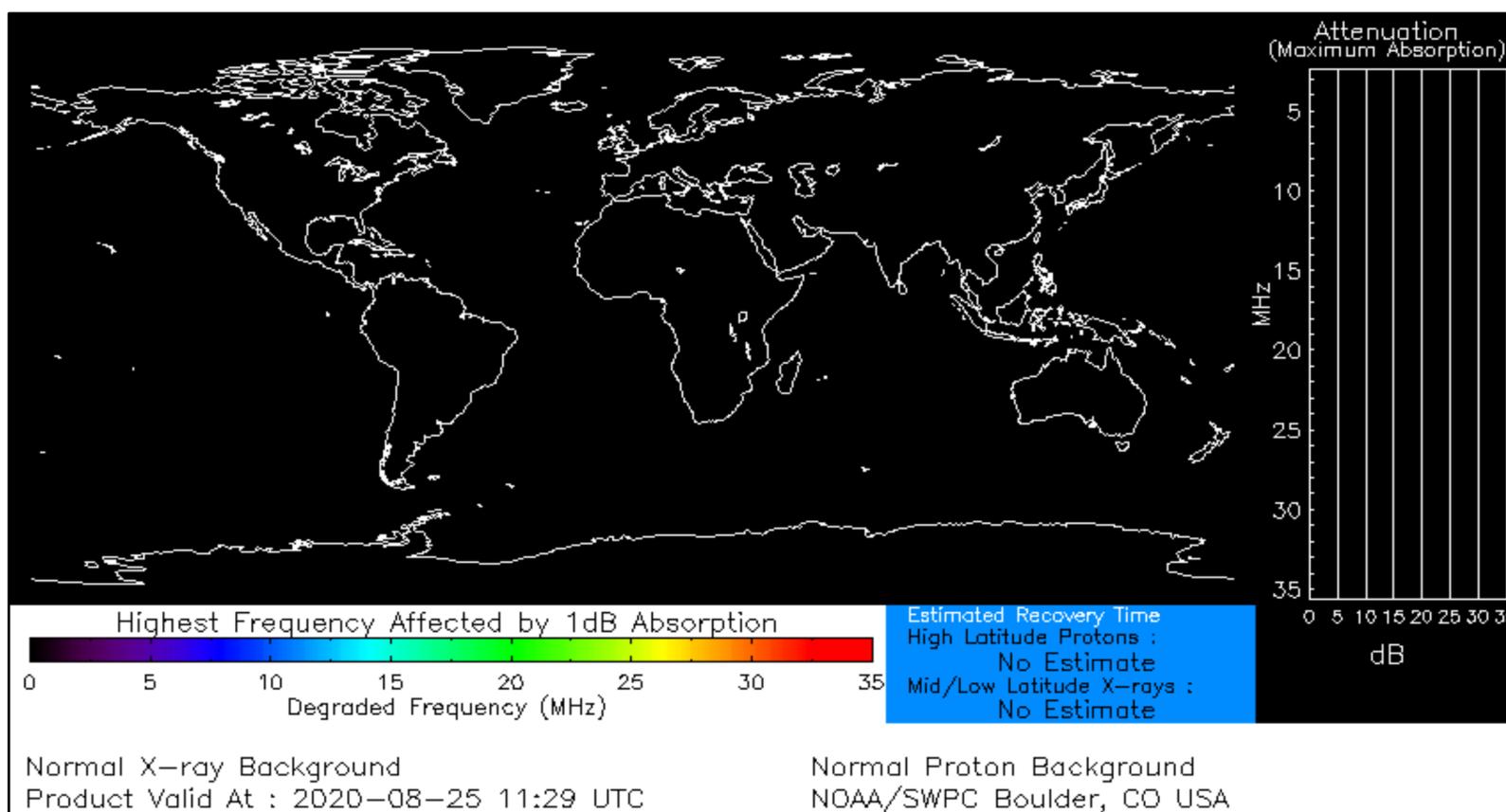


Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



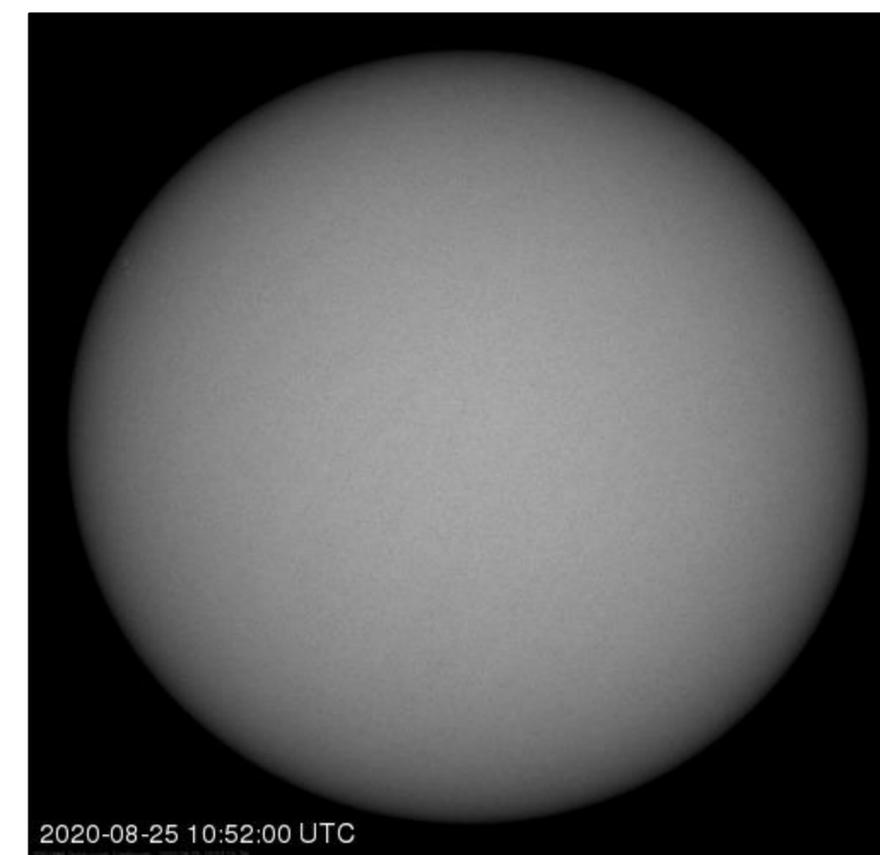
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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[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.