FEMA

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 http://www.srh.noaa.gov and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6
Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, March 31, 2017
Issued: 0800 CT

National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

***Day 1 Weather Impacts*: Critical fire weather conditions across S NM, W & NW TX this afternoon/evening.**

Slight risk of severe storms over the Central Panhandles late tonight.

Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt
817-978-1100 x 147

Key Points

Today

- Critical fire weather conditions over S NM into W & NW TX
- Slight risk of severe storms over the central TX/OK Panhandles late tonight, large hail is the main threats
  - Marginal risk extends into the rest of the Panhandles and W OK

This Weekend

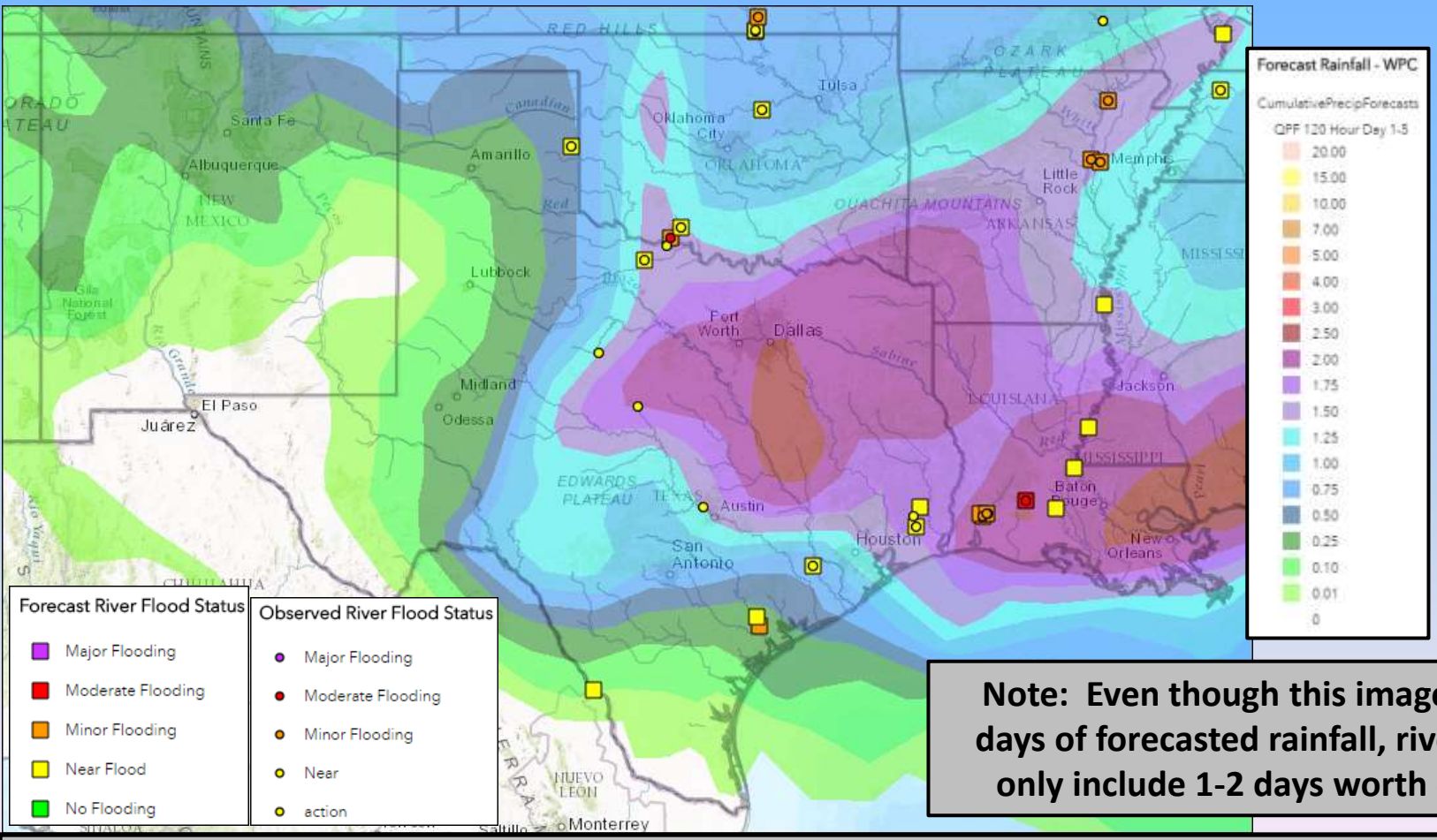
- Slight risk of severe storms from SW OK through W-Central TX on Saturday afternoon/evening; large hail is the main threat, damaging winds and brief heavy rainfall/isolated flooding possible
- Enhanced risk of severe storms over much of Central & E TX and W & Central LA on Sunday; large hail, damaging winds and tornadoes possible
  - Heavy rainfall/flash flooding is also possible on Sunday across these areas into the ArkLaTex

Monday - Tuesday

- Elevated fire weather conditions possible over S NM & W TX Tuesday

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Some isolated flooding is occurring from rainfall over the last few days.
May see additional minor rises over SE TX, LA & S AR by late this weekend with another round of (possibly heavy) rainfall expected.



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

For the latest on river flooding: http://water.weather.gov/ahps

*FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

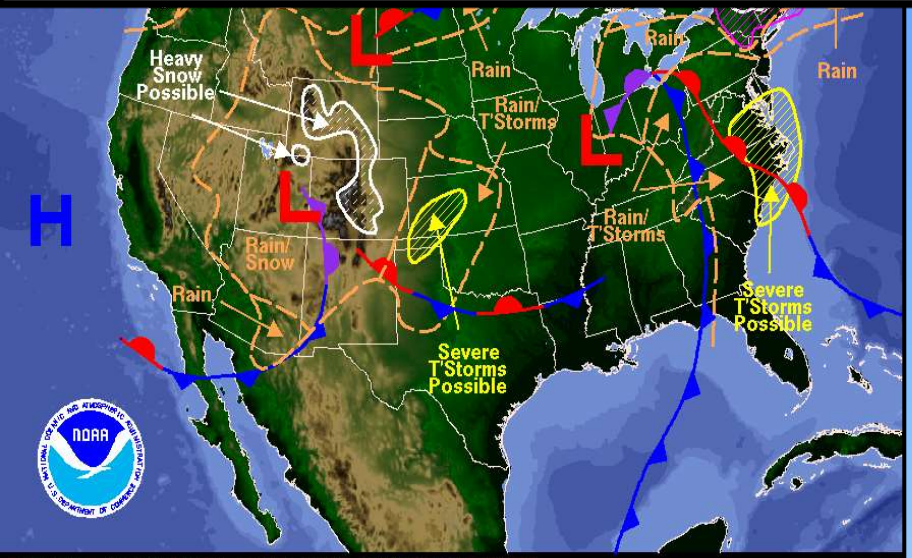
Mar 31, 2017 - Apr 4, 2017

	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Severe Weather	Central TX/OK Panhandles	SW OK, W-Central TX	E & Cntrl TX, W & Cntrl LA		
	Panhandles, W OK	OK, Central & E-Cntrl TX	Cntrl TX, LA, S AR		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding		W-Central TX	E TX, LA, ArkLaTex		
Fire Weather	S NM, W & NW TX	SE NM, W TX			S NM, W TX
River Flooding	SW OK, SW LA	SW LA	SE TX, S LA	SE TX, S 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

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

Today's Weather

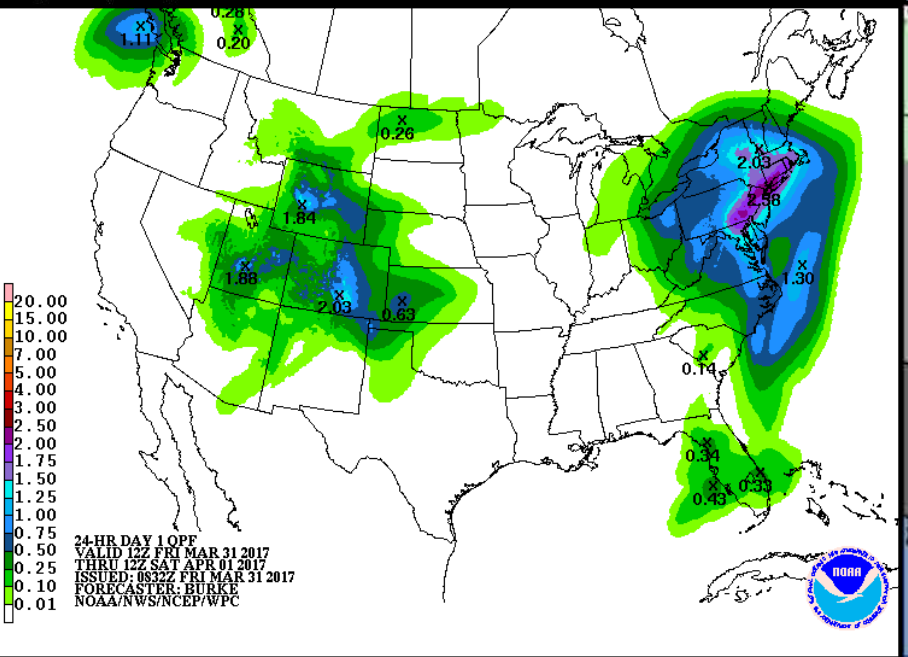


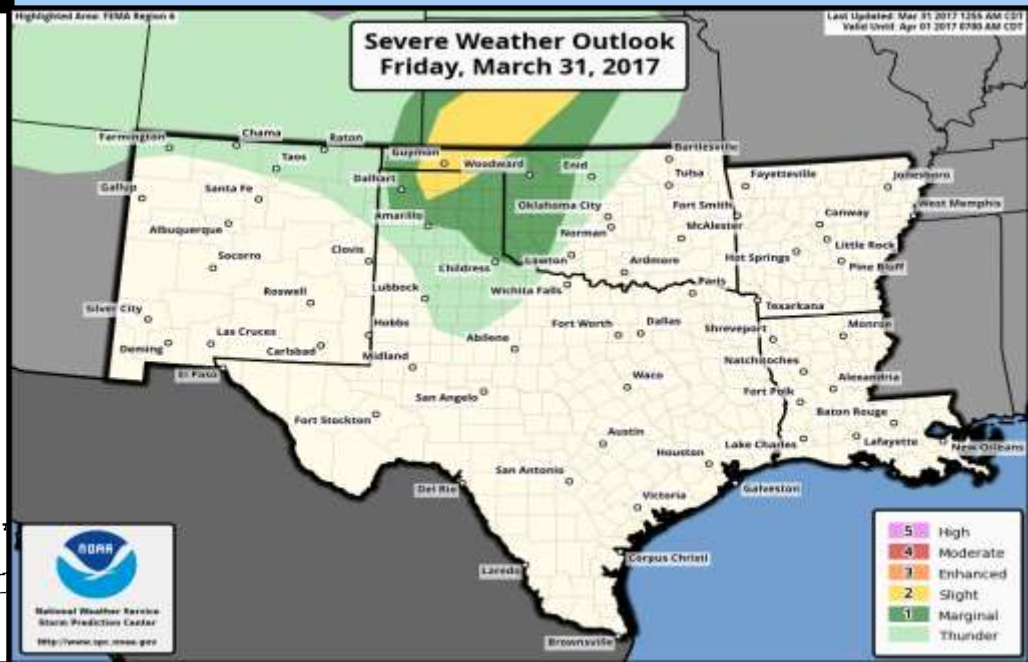
Weather Forecast for Fri, Mar 31, 2017, issued 4:48 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Critical fire weather conditions over S & Central NM, W & NW TX.

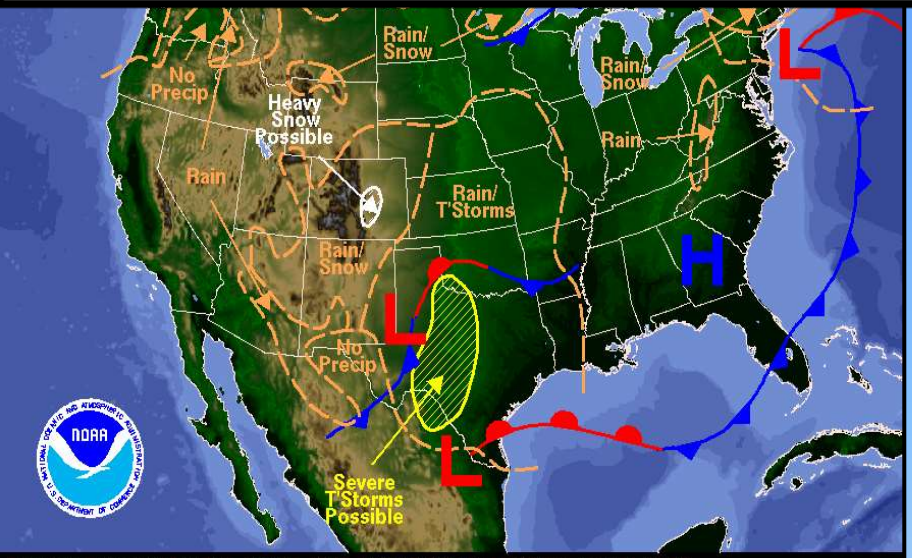
Slight risk of severe storms over the Panhandles late tonight; large hail is the main threat..

A few strong storms possible late tonight over the rest of the Panhandles into W OK.





Tomorrow's Weather

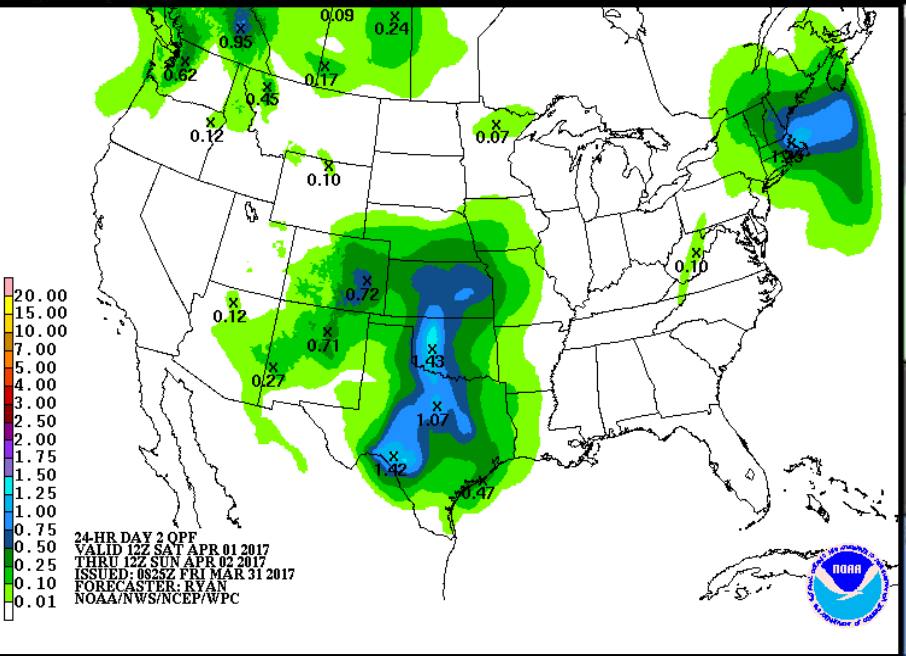


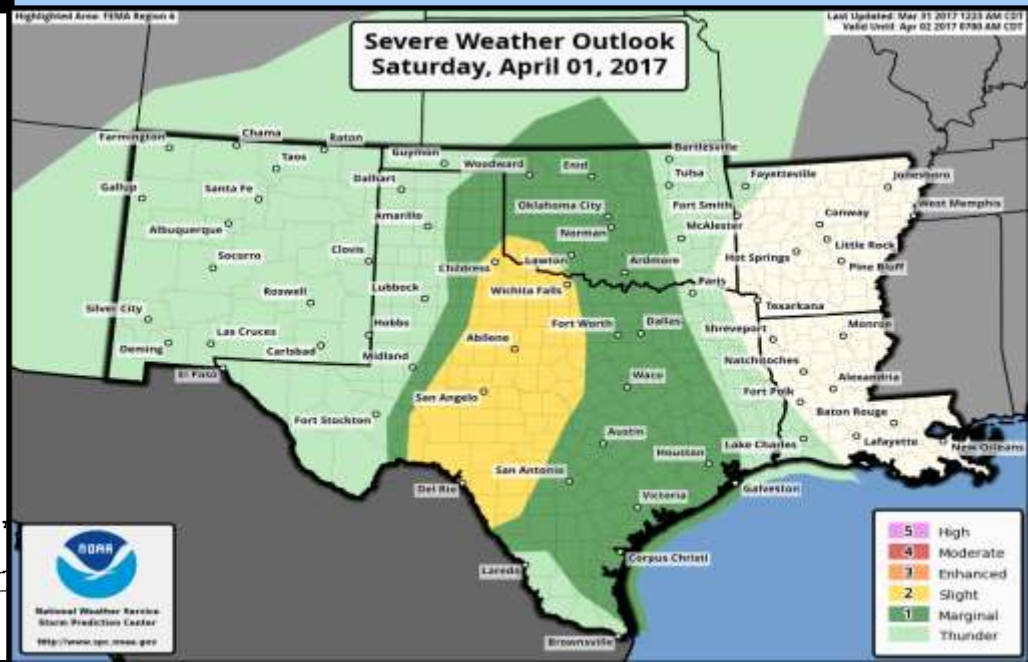
Weather Forecast for Sat, Apr 01, 2017, issued 5:01 AM EDT Fri, Mar 31, 2017
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Slight risk of severe storms over SW OK and W-Central TX late Saturday afternoon into Saturday night; large hail is the main threat, may also see damaging wind gusts and brief heavy rainfall.

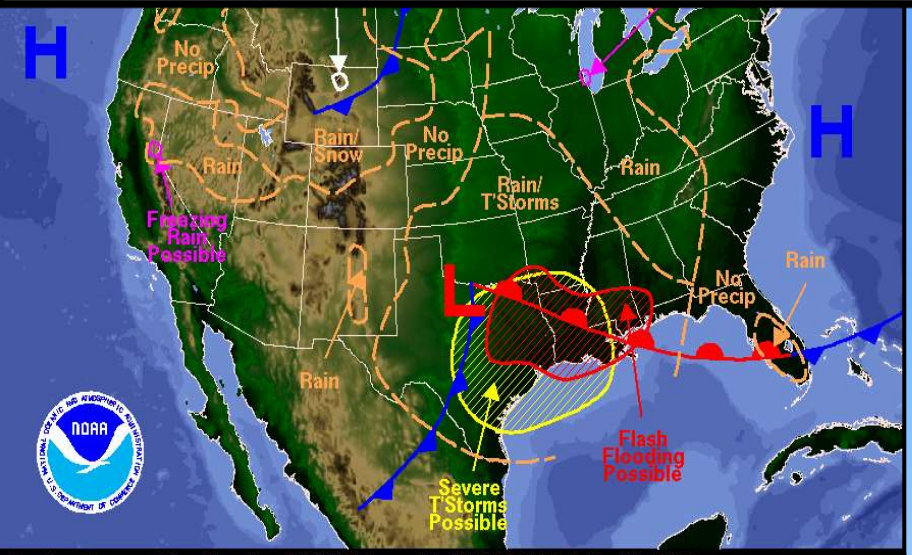
A few strong to severe storms possible into OK and Central/E-Central TX as well Saturday afternoon/evening…and the TX Coastal Plains late Saturday night.

Elevated fire weather conditions over SE NM & W TX.



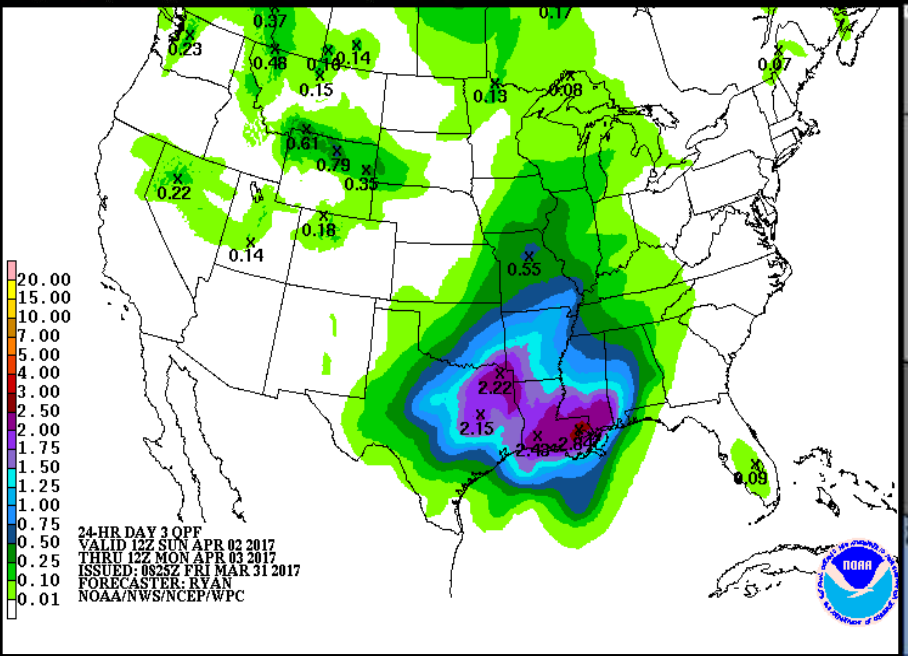


Sunday's Weather



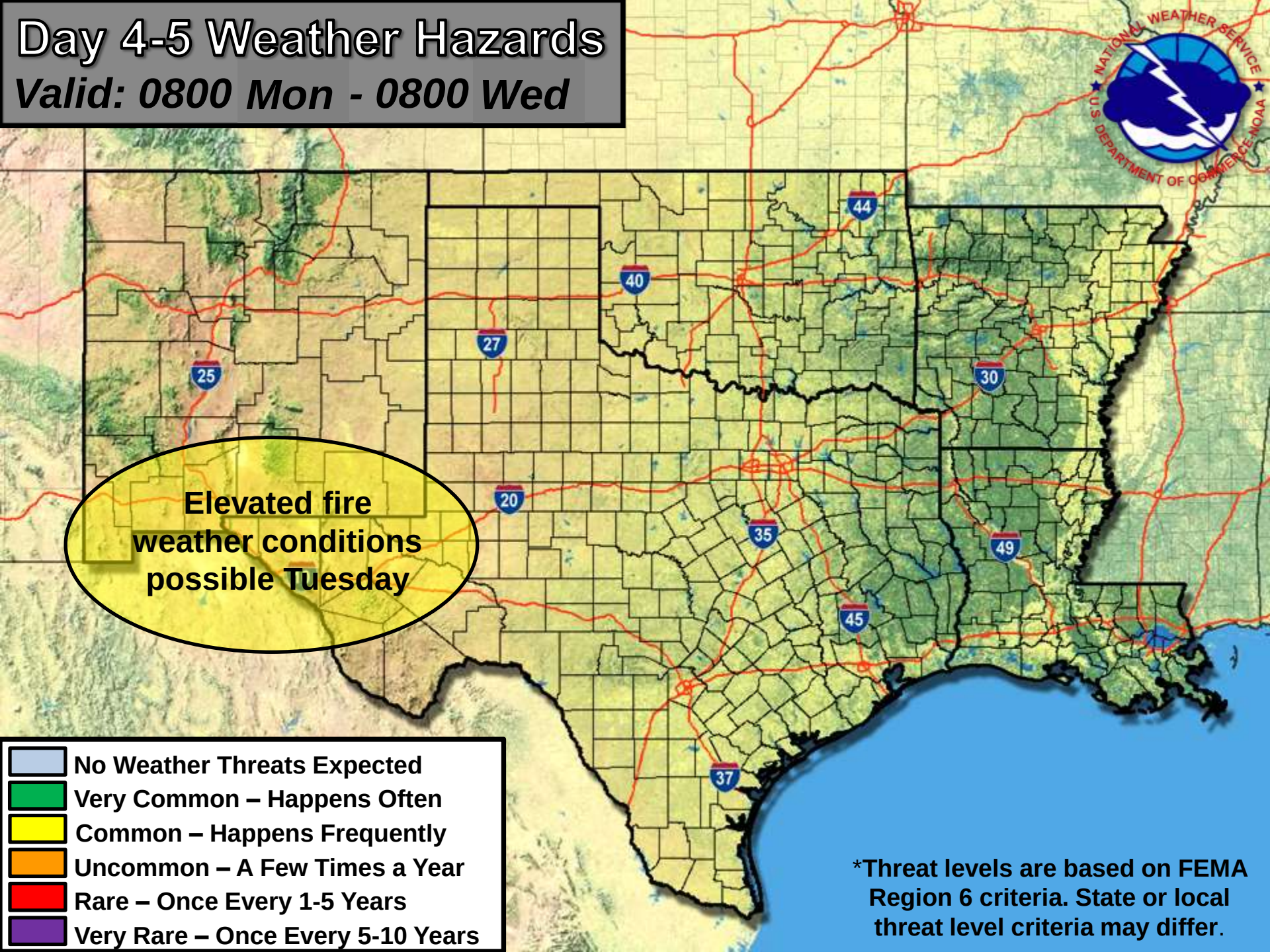
Enhanced risk of severe storms over much of Central & E TX and W & Central LA Sunday/Sunday night; large hail, damaging winds and tornadoes possible.

Isolated heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible across much of E TX into LA and the ArkLaTex.



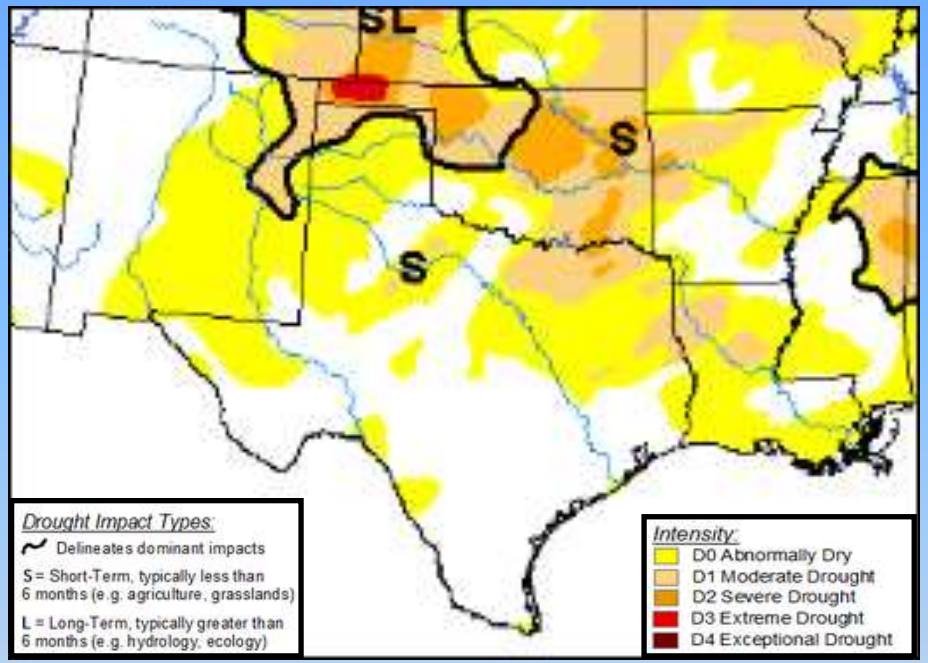
Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

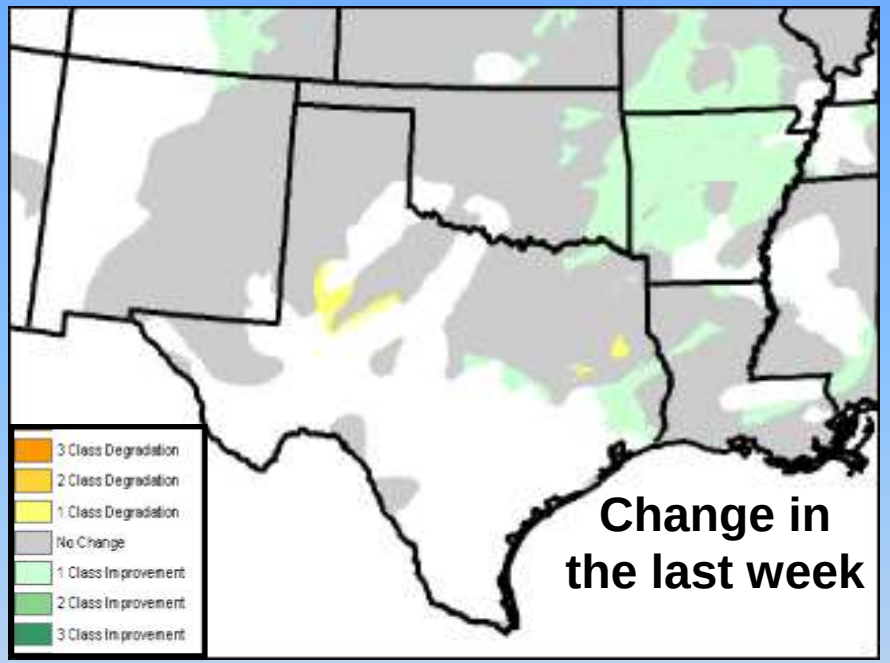
Valid: 0800 Mon - 0800 Wed



Drought Monitor Released March 30th, 2017

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 28th, 2017





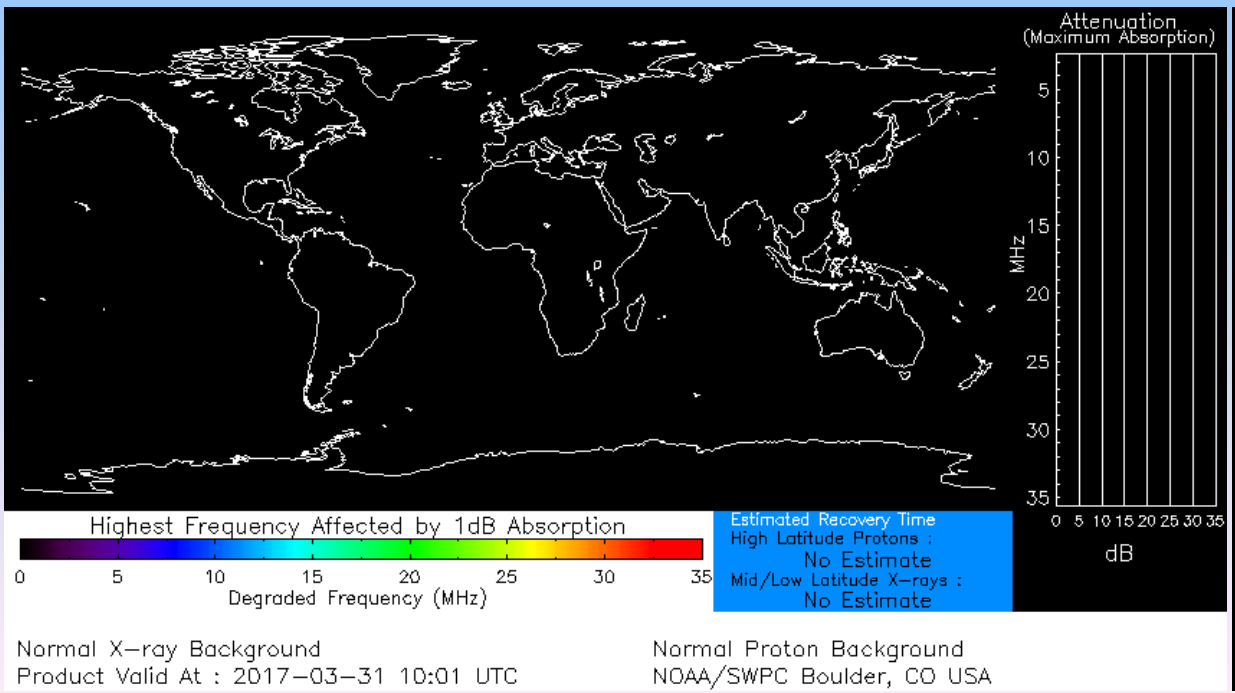
Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)				
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Oklahoma	2.99%	3.17%	3.14%	0.00%
Arkansas	0.00%	2.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.04%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

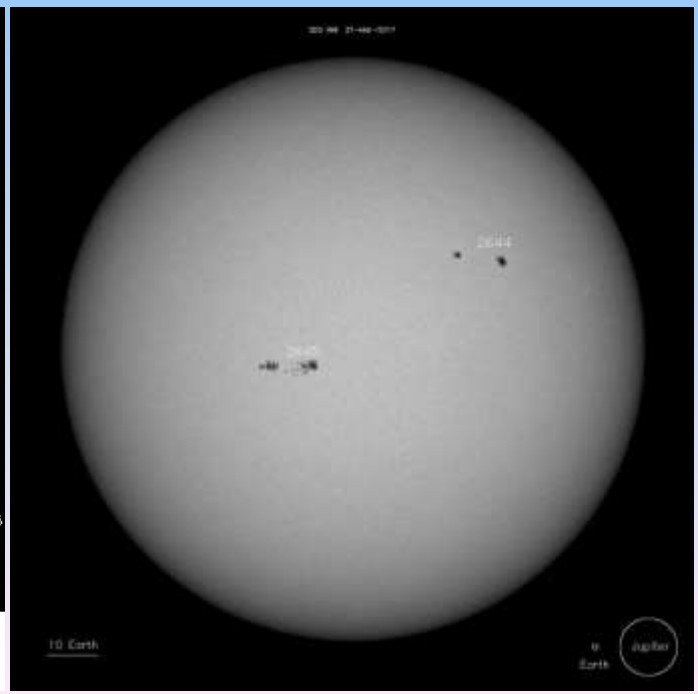
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	10%	10%	10%
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]





Information provided by:

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

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: http://www.weather.gov/srh (**NEW link!!**)

facebook https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern

twitter @NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.

Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	**Definition**	**Criteria**	**Example(s)**
Green	**Very Common** 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	**Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently** 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	**Uncommon – A Few Times a Year** 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	**Rare – Once every 1-5 Years** 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	**Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years** 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