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

FEMA Region 6
Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, February 27, 2018
Issued: 0800 CT

Day One Weather Hazards:

- ***Heavy rain/flooding possible for NE TX, N LA, into much of AR.***
- ***Critical fire weather conditions for much of NM into W TX/OK Panhandles.***

Isolated severe storms possible for portions of Central TX into NE TX.

Widespread minor to moderate river flooding across AR, E TX and LA.

National Weather Service

Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Prepared by: Brian Hoeth
817-978-1100 x 147

Key Points

River Flood Status

- Isolated major flooding is occurring and will continue this week in southern and northeast AR. Some homes could be impacted.
- Minor to moderate river flooding is occurring and will continue this week across E TX, N LA, AR. Impacts are mostly to secondary roads and agriculture.

Today

- Heavy rain/flooding possible in NE TX, N LA, AR
- Critical fire weather conditions for much of NM, W TX/OK Panhandles
- Isolated strong to severe thunderstorms w/ hail possible in central into NE TX

Wednesday

- Heavy rain/flood potential continues for NE TX, AR and N LA
- Severe storms possible over NE TX, S AR and N LA; hail and damaging winds are the main threats
- Critical fire weather conditions in E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, and portions of W TX/OK

Thursday - Saturday

- No significant weather threats
- Critical fire weather conditions Fri-Sat for NE NM, W TX/OK Panhandles

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix
Feb 27, 2018 through Mar 3, 2018

DAY / THREAT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Severe Storms	Central into NE TX	NE TX, S AR, N LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NE TX, N LA, AR	NE TX, N LA, AR			
Fire Weather	NM, W TX/OK Panhandles	E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W TX/OK		NE NM, W TX/OK Panhandles	NE NM, W TX/OK Panhandles
Winter					
River Flooding	S & NE AR →	→	→	→	→
	E TX, AR, LA →	→	→	→	→

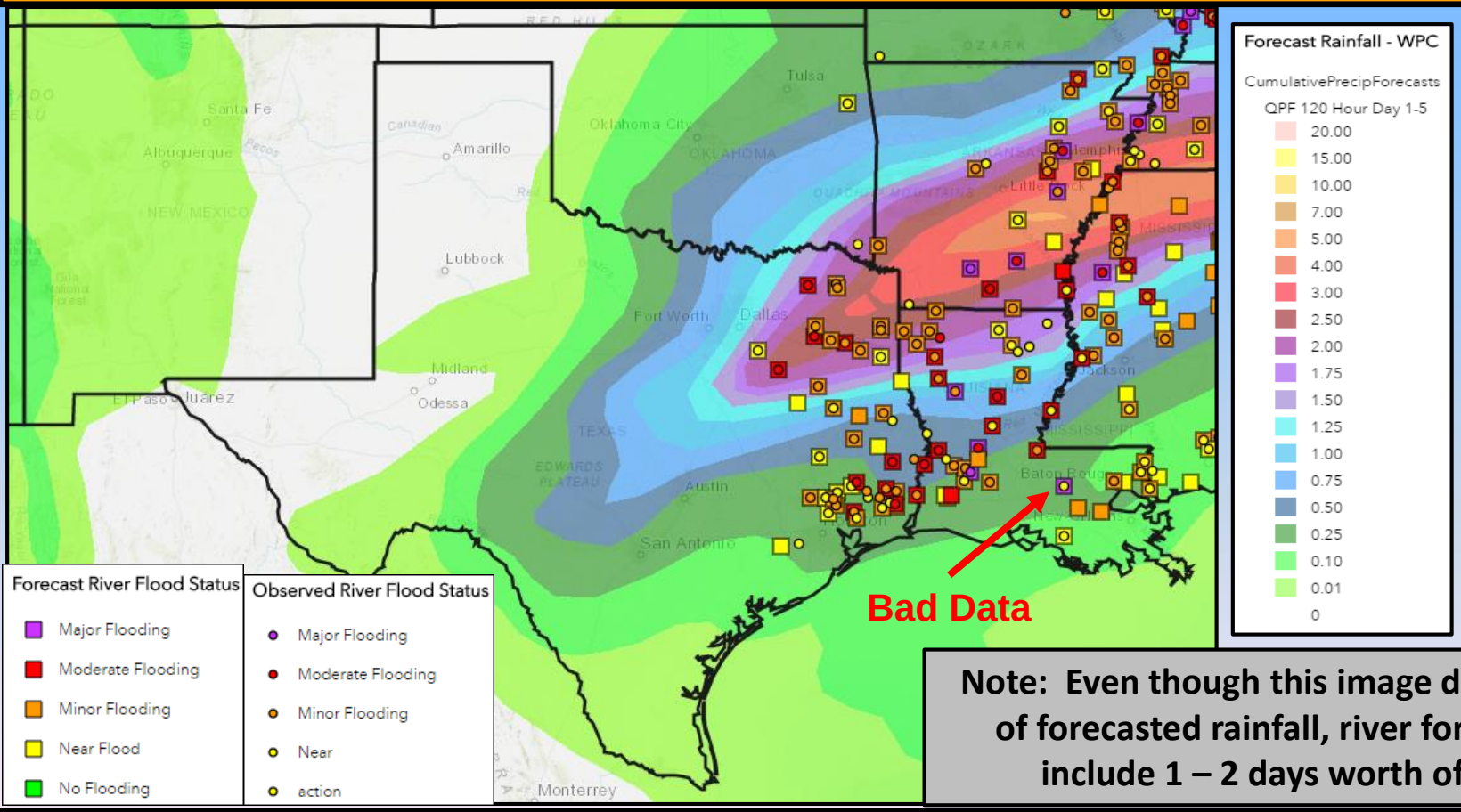
- No Weather Threats Expected
- Very Common – Happens Often
- Common – Happens Frequently
- Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
- Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
- Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

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

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-NOAA

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

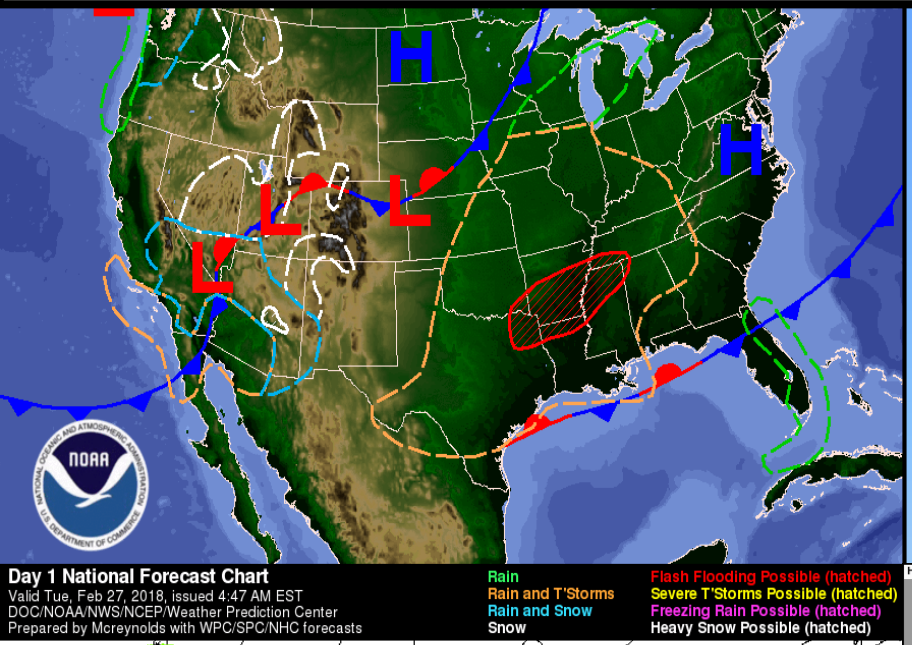
- **Isolated major river flooding is occurring and expected to continue this week in S & NE AR. Some homes could be impacted.**
- **Widespread minor to moderate river flooding is occurring & will continue this week in E TX, AR & LA. Impacts are mostly to secondary roads and agriculture.**
- **Additional rainfall over these same areas today & tomorrow is likely to prolong and may expand the current flooding.**



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

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

Today's Weather

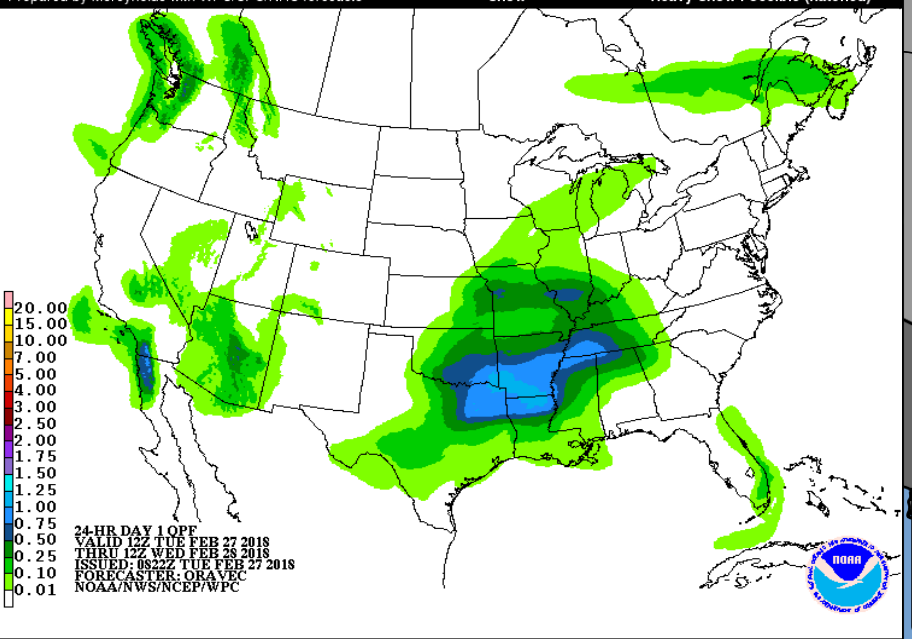


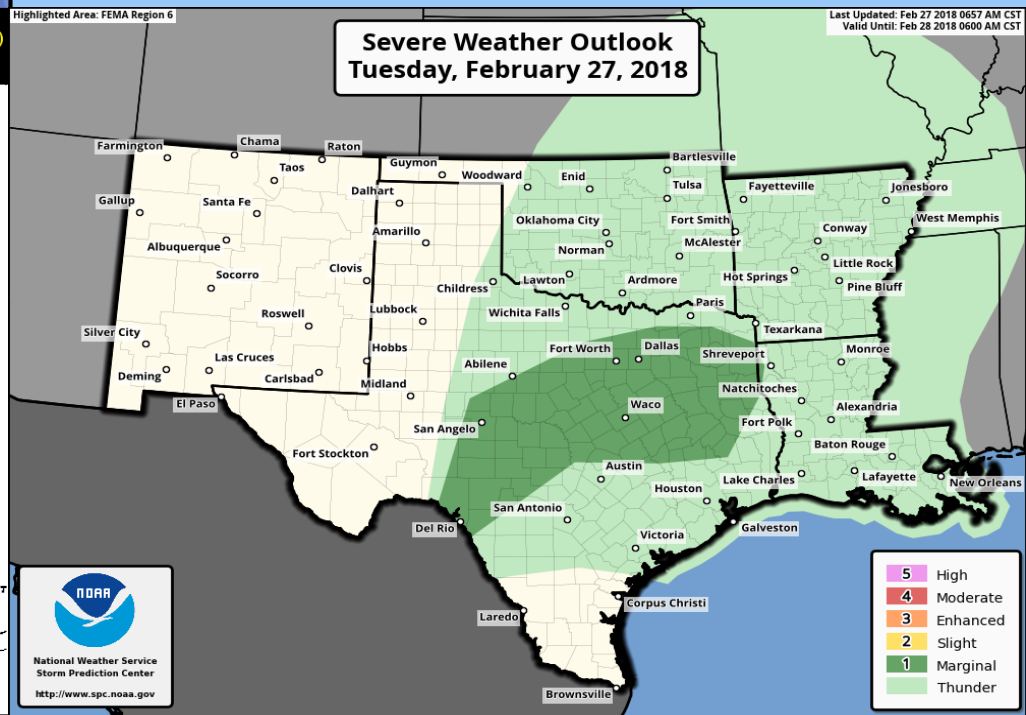
Heavy rain/flooding possible in NE TX, N LA, AR.

Critical fire weather conditions for much of NM into W TX/OK Panhandles.

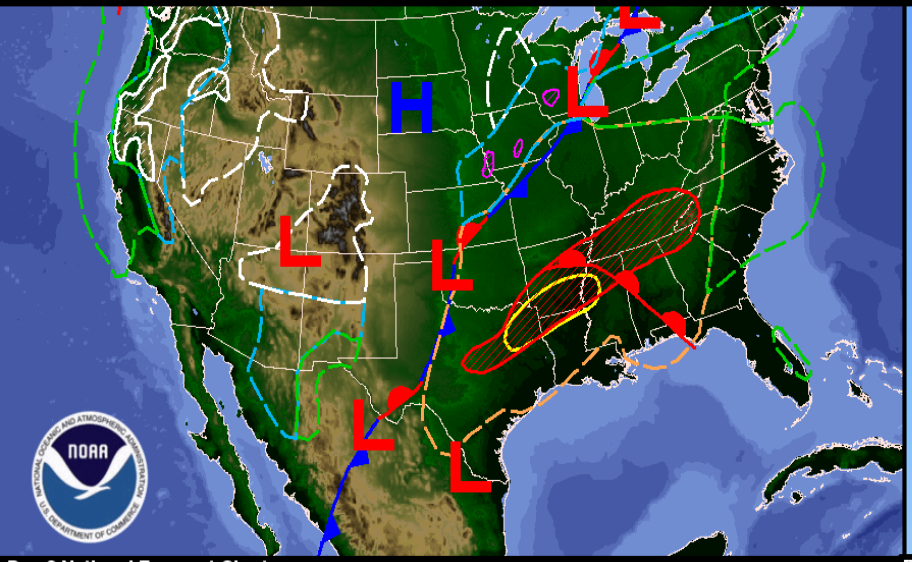
Isolated strong to severe storms possible over Central into NE TX; hail the main threat.

River flooding continues across AR, E TX and LA.





Tomorrow's Weather



Heavy rain/flash flooding in NE TX, N LA, AR.

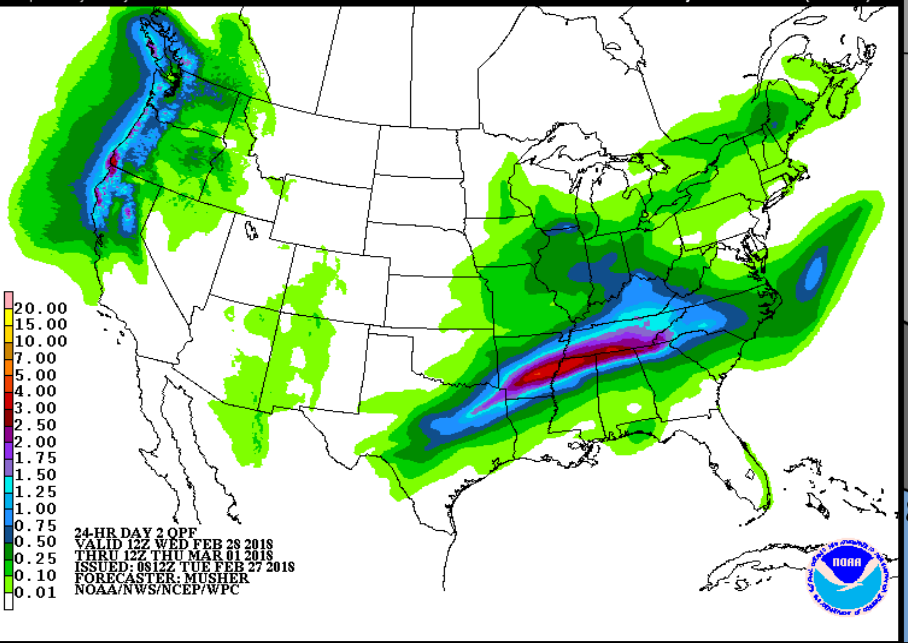
Severe thunderstorms possible in NE TX, S AR, N LA. Hail & damaging winds are the main threats.

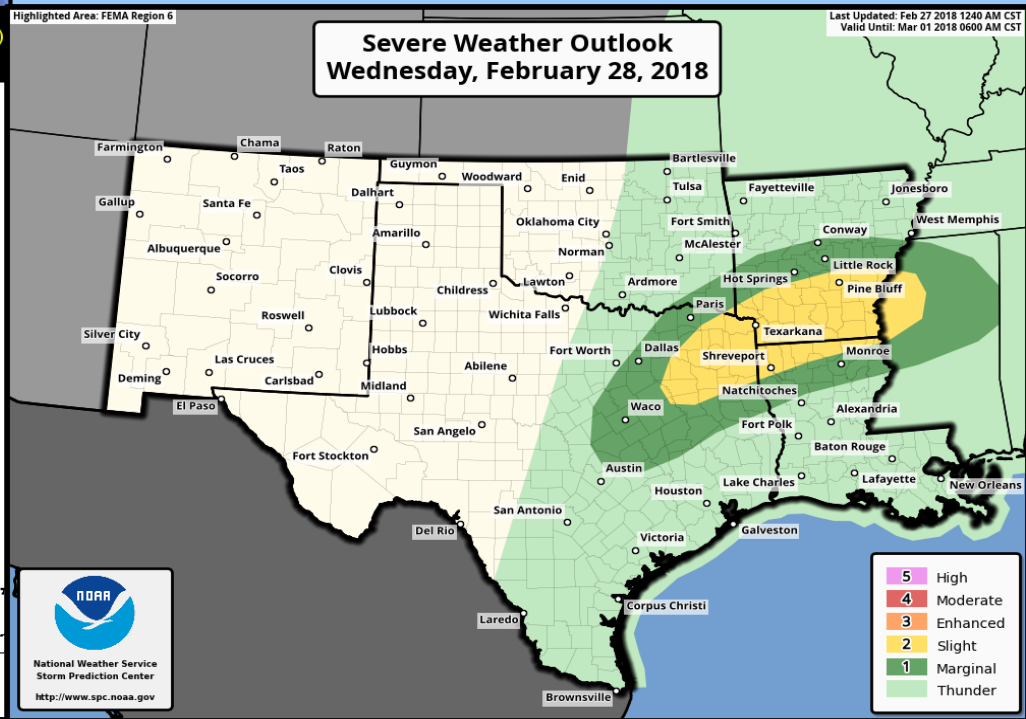
Critical fire weather conditions for E NM, TX/OK Panhandles, and portions of W TX/OK.

River flooding continues across AR, E TX and LA.

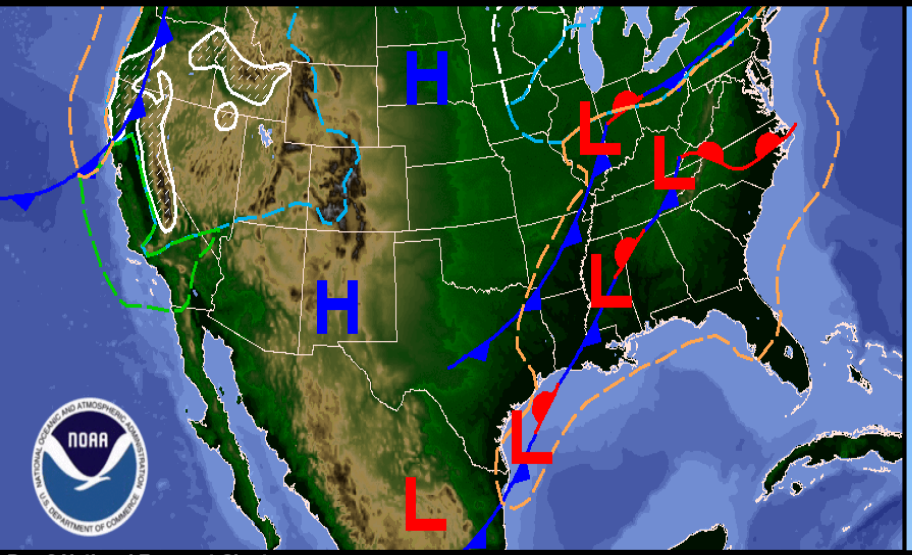
Day 2 National Forecast Chart
Valid Wed, Feb 28, 2018, issued 4:50 AM EST Tue, Feb 27, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)





Thursday's Weather

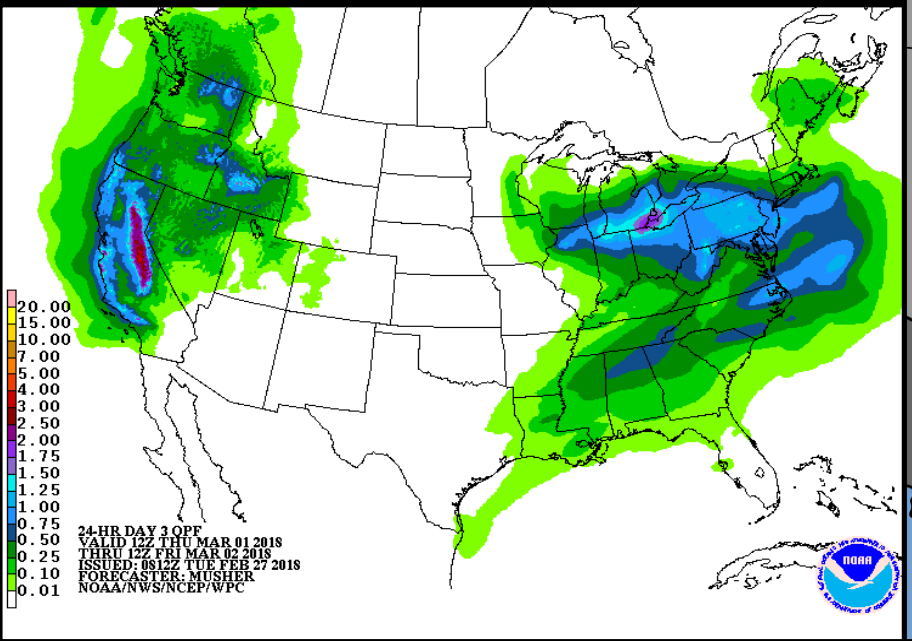


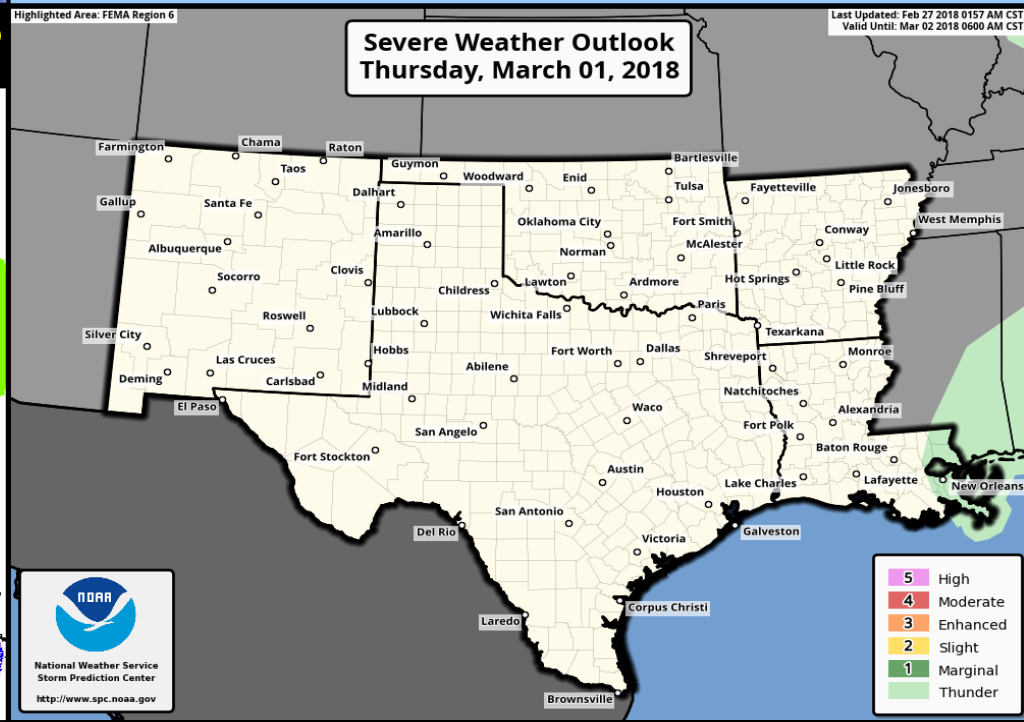
Day 3 National Forecast Chart
Valid Thu, Mar 01, 2018, issued 4:53 AM EST Tue, Feb 27, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

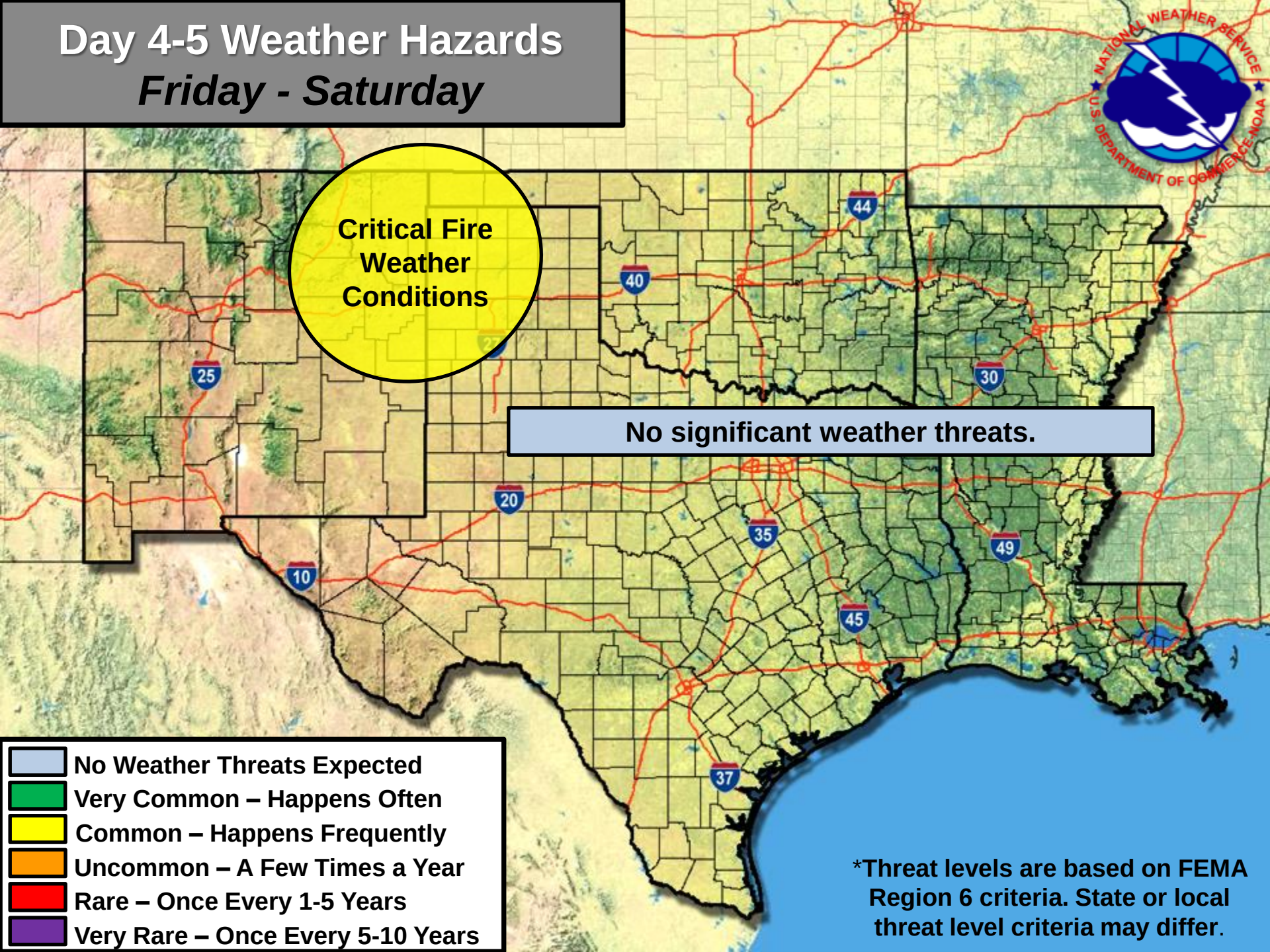
No significant weather threats.

River flooding continues across AR, E TX and LA.



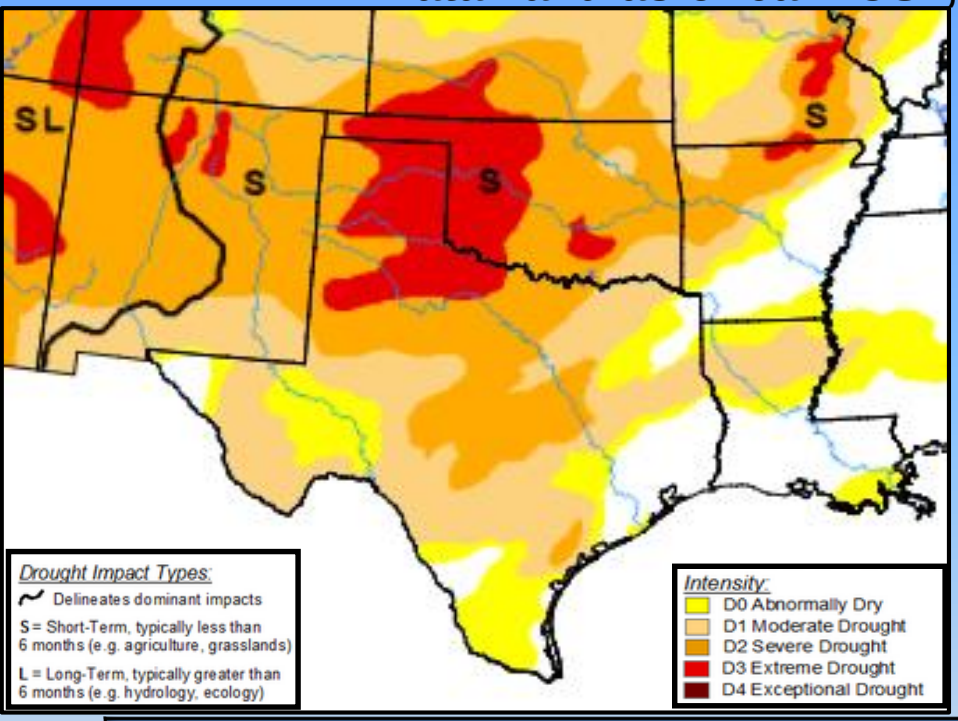


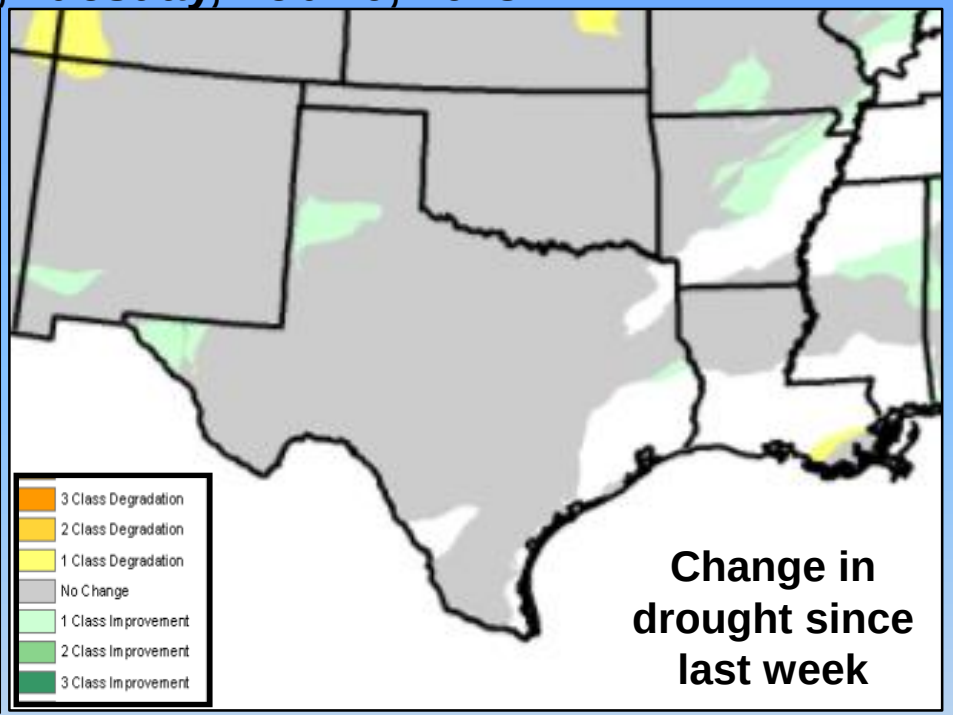
Day 4-5 Weather Hazards
Friday - Saturday



Drought Monitor Released February 22, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, Feb 20, 2018





Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

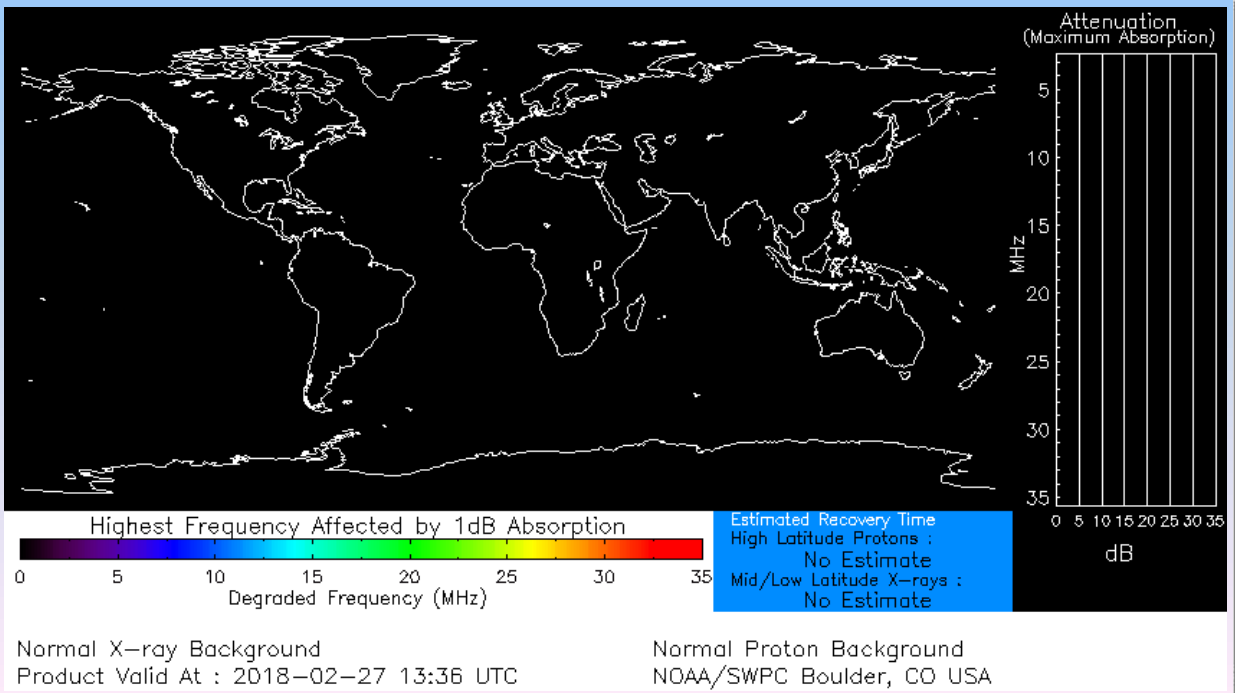
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	1.91%	2.37%	0.00%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	37.80%	37.80%	0.00%	0.18%
Texas	11.13%	13.07%	0.00%	0.53%
New Mexico	5.23%	3.96%	0.00%	0.00%

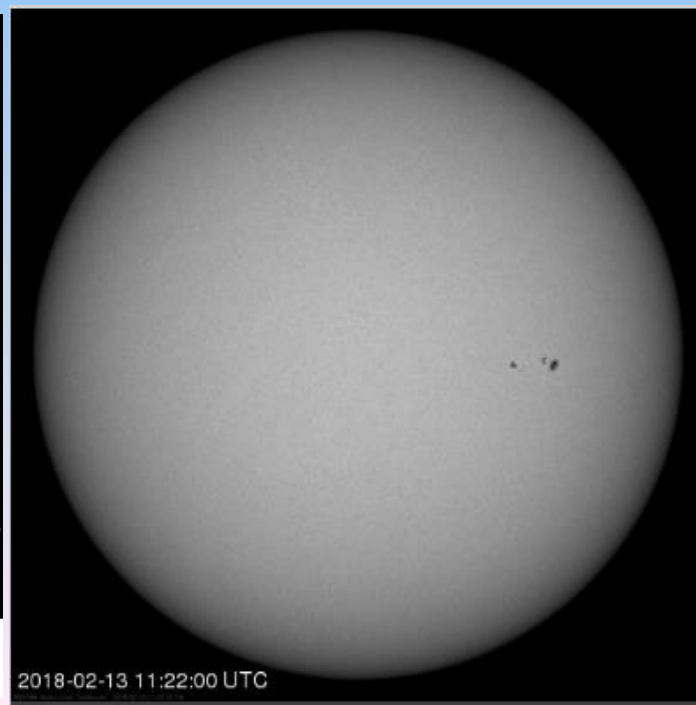
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
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]





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