FEMA

Prepared by
Kurt M. Van Speybroeck

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, March 22, 2019

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.

Summary of the Upcoming Week

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Today

- Marginal risk area for strong/severe storms across E NM/WTX into the TX/OK Panhandles.

Tomorrow - Sunday

- Marginal risk area for strong/severe thunderstorms across SE OK/W AR - Sunday.

Monday - Tuesday

- No significant weather impacts expected.

River Flooding

- Moderate to major flooding will continue through March on the Mississippi River in E AR/E LA.
  - Impacts to shipping and industrial activities on the river, with numerous flooded roadways near the river.
- A few rivers in E TX and portions of AR/LA will remain in minor flood stage with minimal impacts.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 22, 2019 – Mar 26, 2019

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DAY / THREAT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Severe Storms	E NM TX/OK Panhandles		SE OK/AR		
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding					
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather					
River Flooding	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E 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.

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

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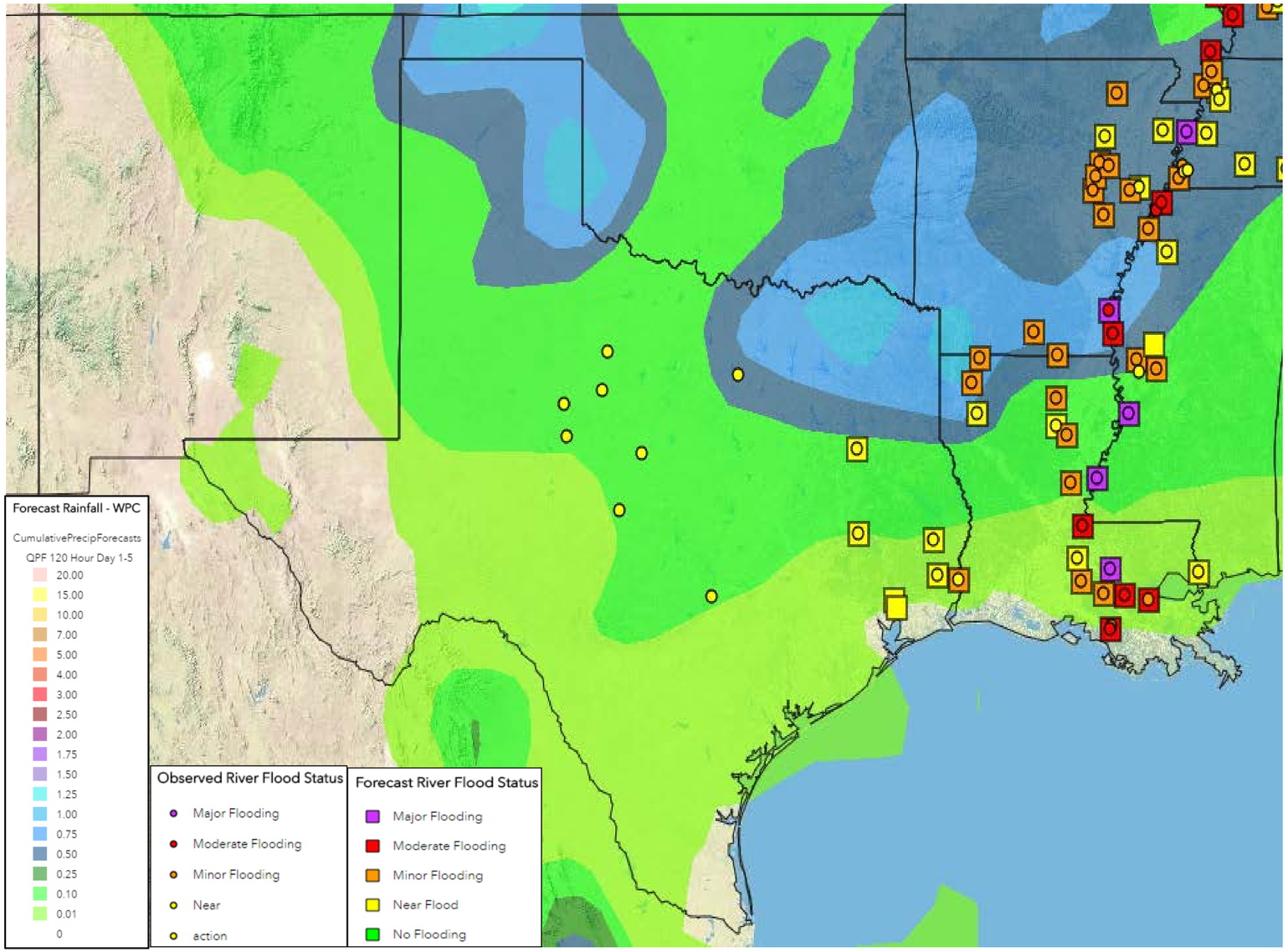
Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Moderate to Major flooding will continue through March on the Mississippi River in E AR/E LA.

Arkansas

- **MS River is in moderate to major flood in eastern AR, with flooding of county roads/fields along the river and most land inside the levee protections.**

Louisiana

- **MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected.**
- **The Bonnet Carre Spillway is operating to reduce flow and maintain just under a 17.0ft stage at New Orleans. No significant impacts are noted.**

A few rivers in AR/LA and E TX are in minor flood stage with no impacts.

Today's Weather

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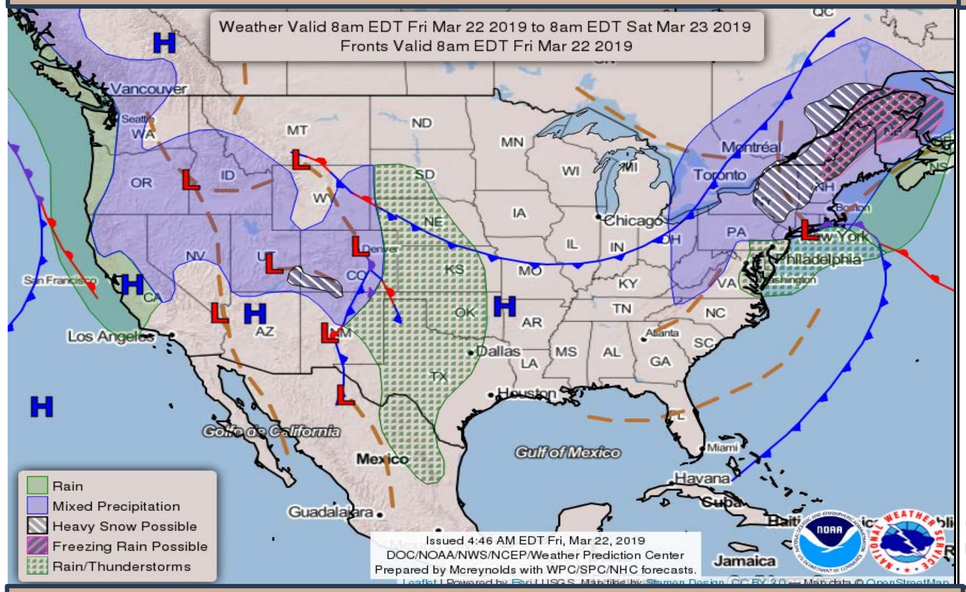
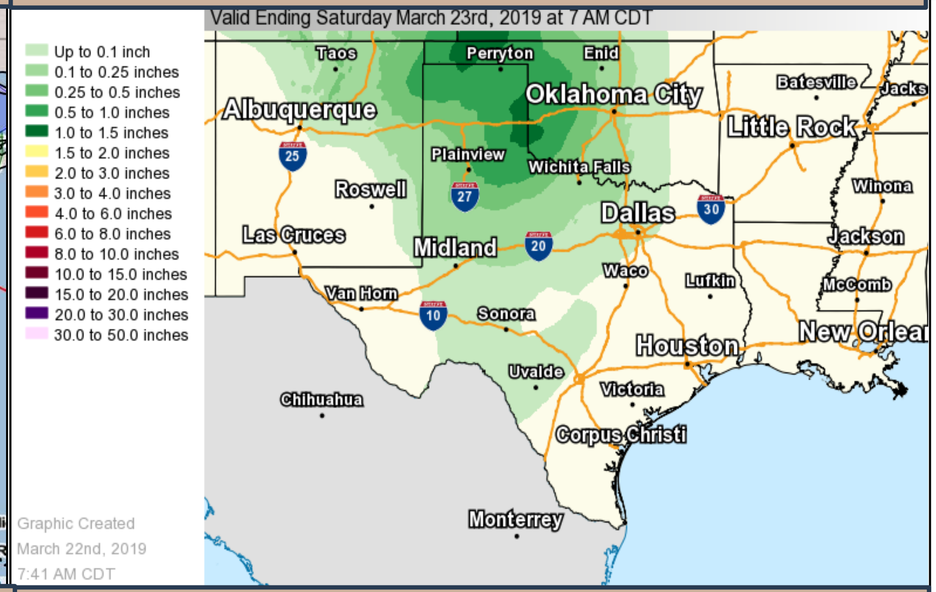
Forecast Chart

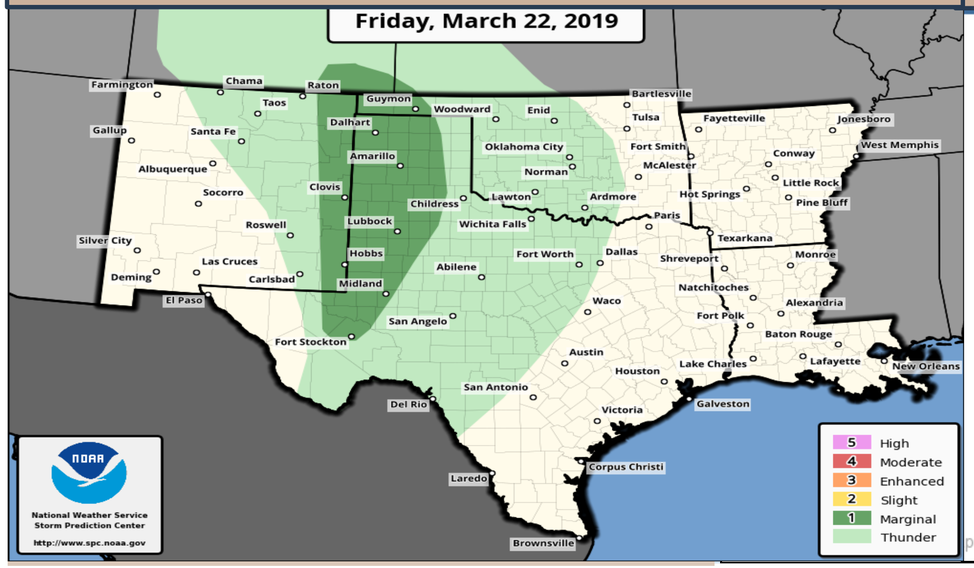


Forecast Rainfall



Marginal risk area for strong/severe thunderstorms across E NM into the TX/OK Panhandles.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

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Tomorrow's Weather

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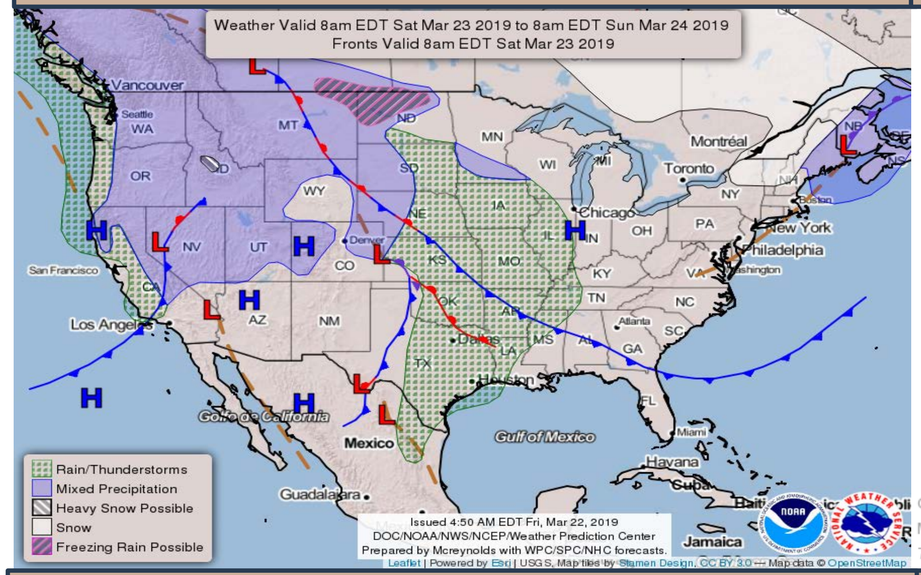
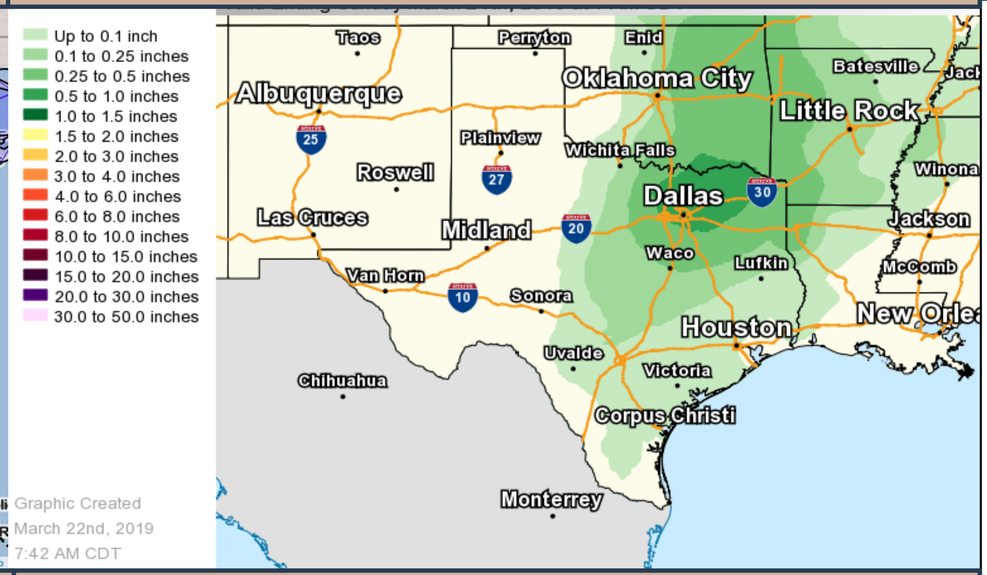
Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall



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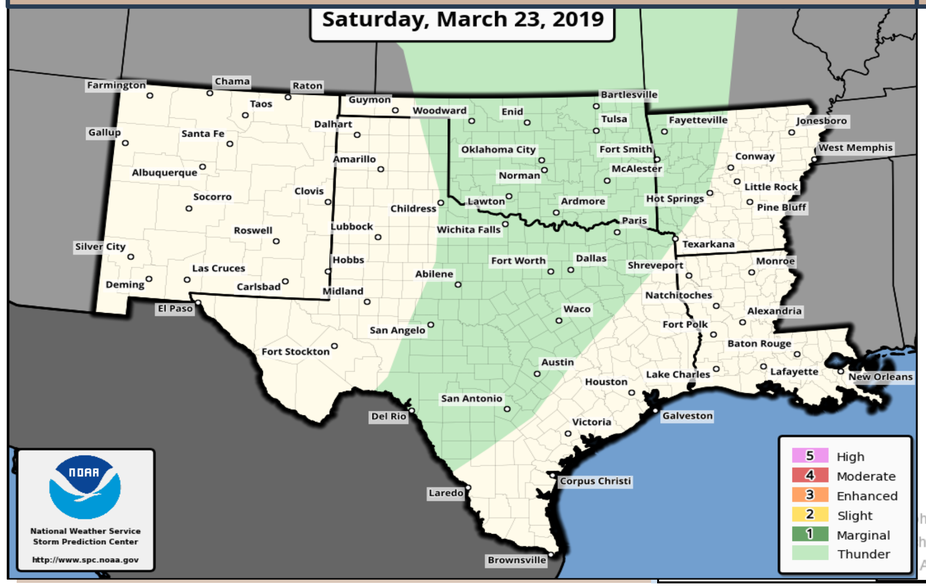
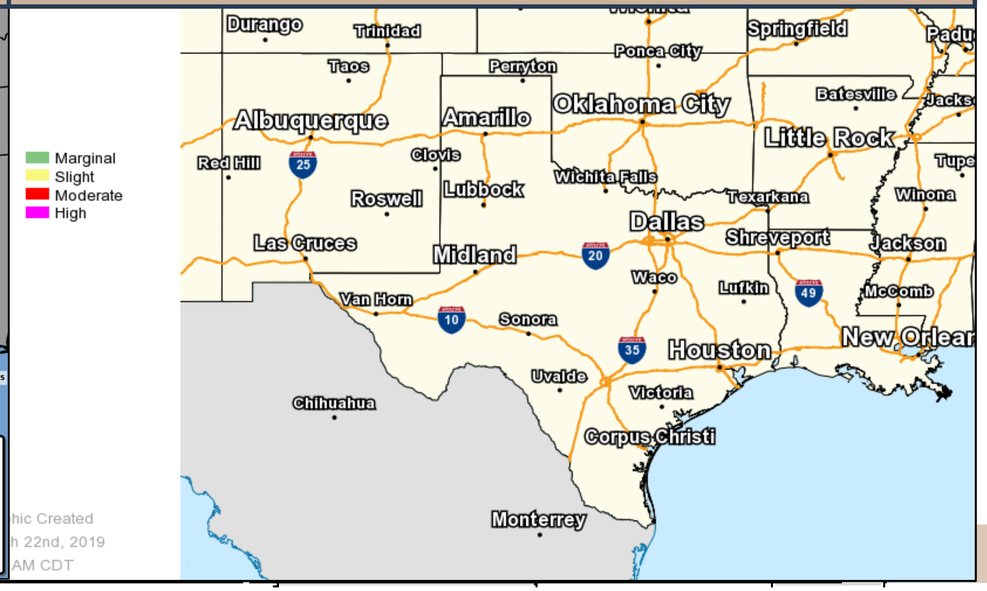


Excessive Rainfall Outlook



No significant weather impacts expected.

Sunday's Weather

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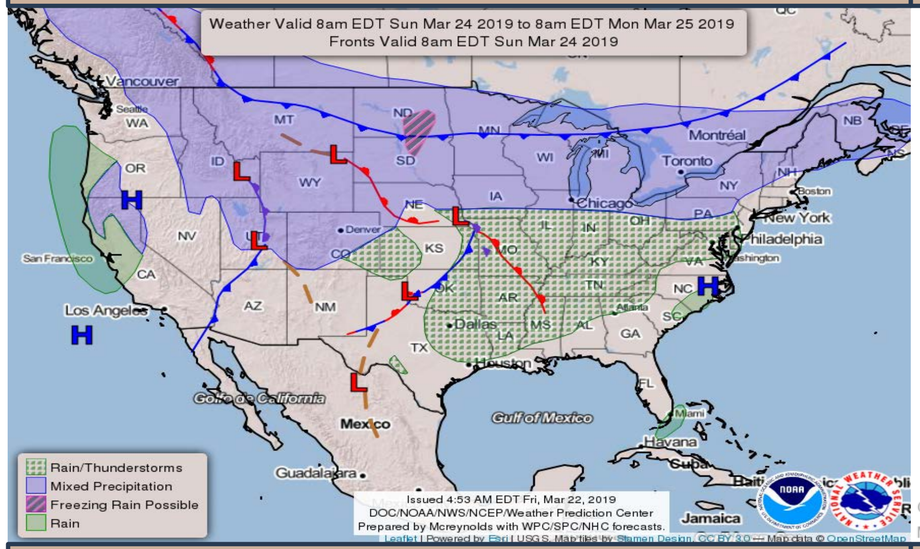
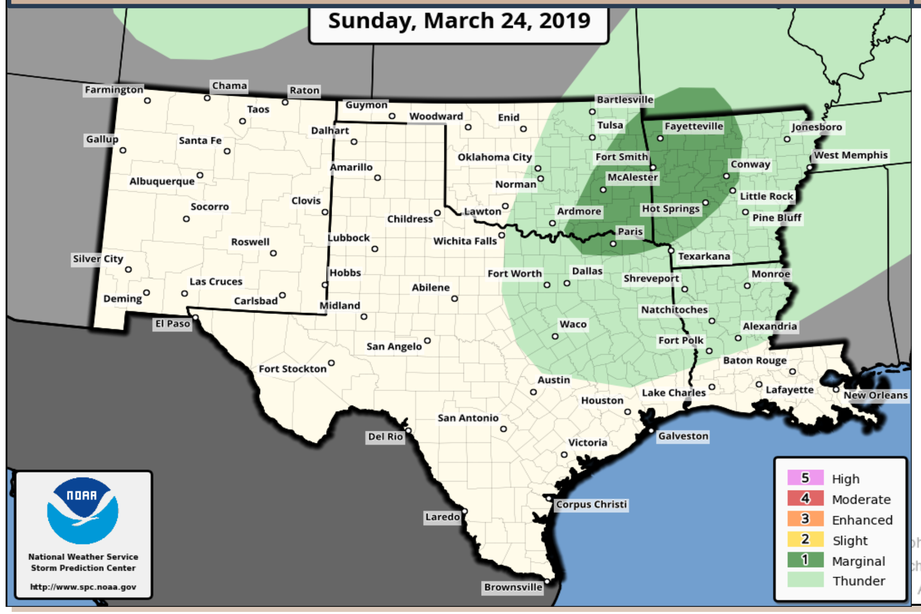
Forecast Chart



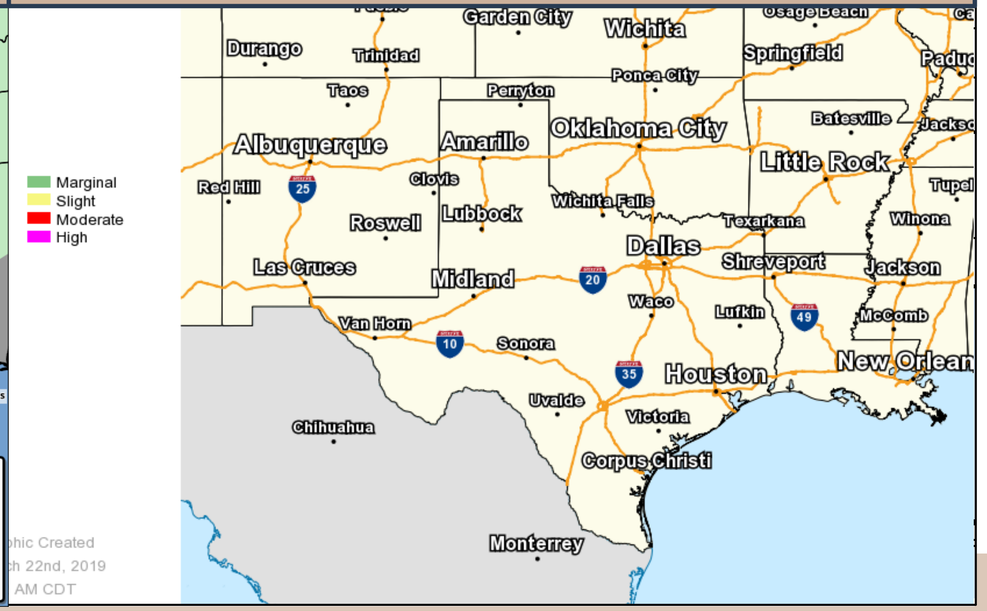
Forecast Rainfall

Isolated strong/severe storms across SE OK/AR.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



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Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Monday - Tuesday

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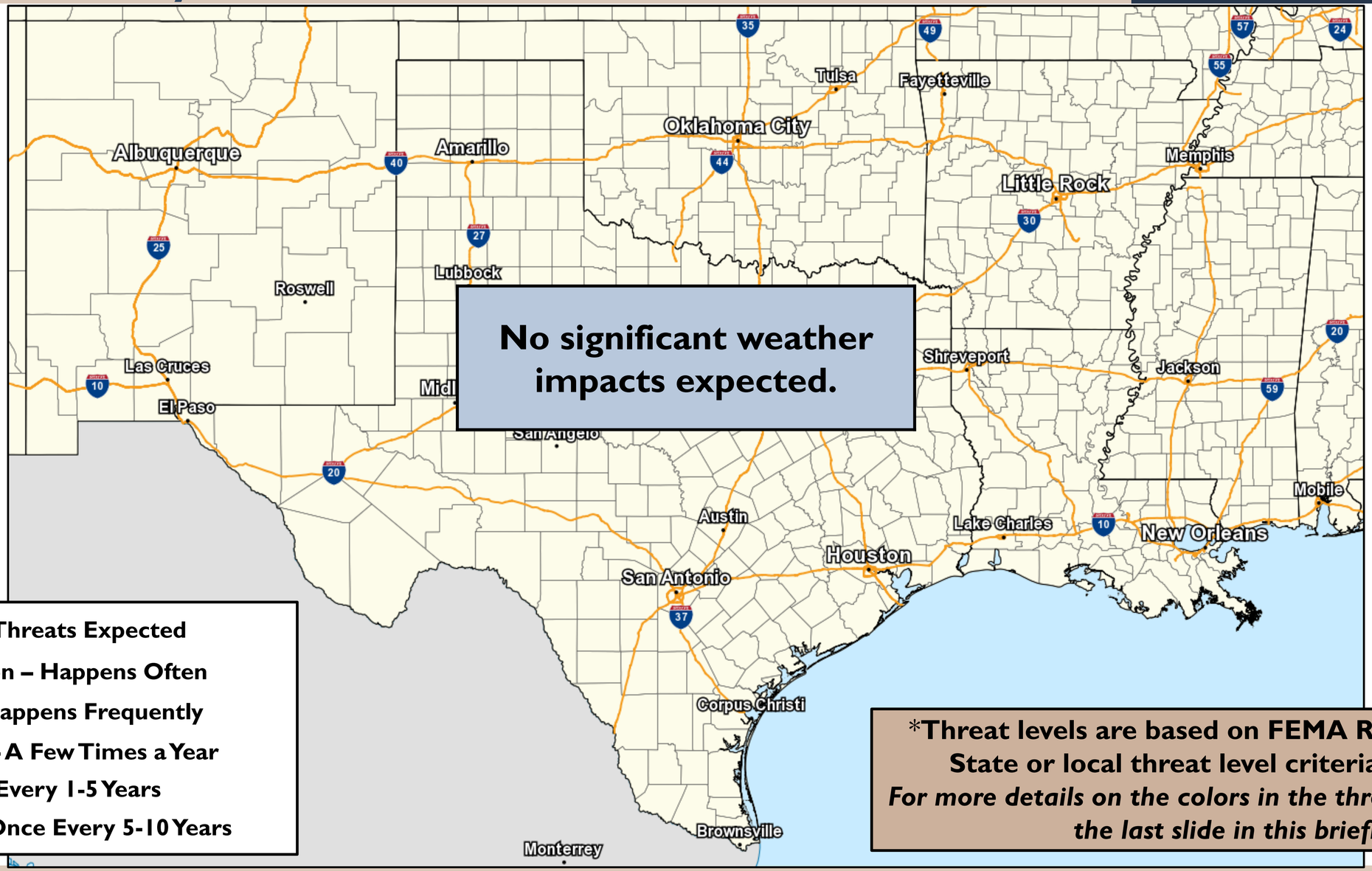

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Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

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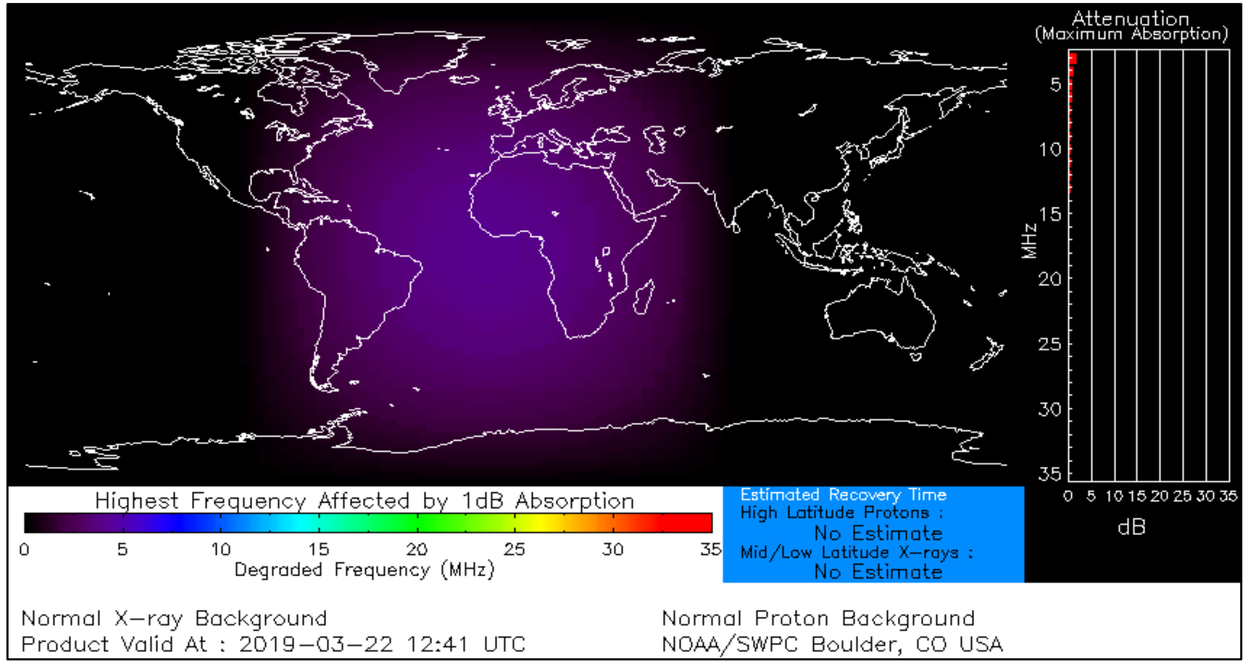
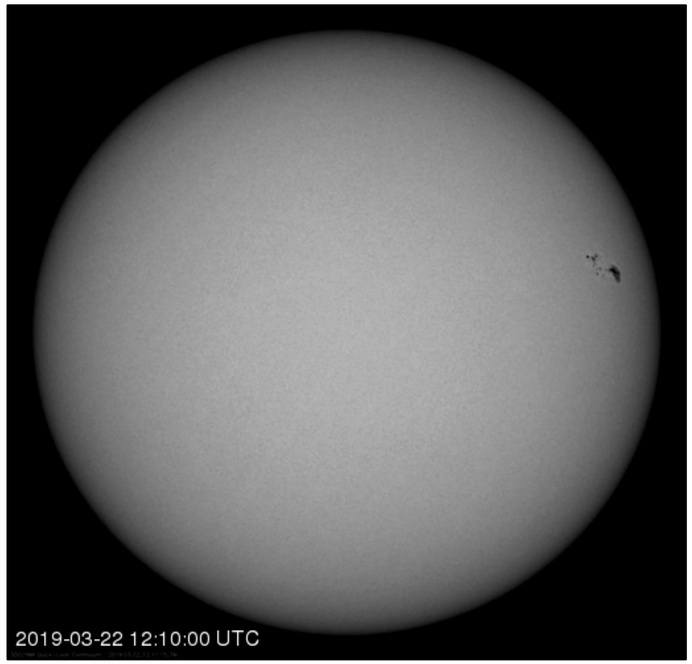
	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Moderate (G2) Storm (Max Kp = 6)	Minor (G1) Storm (Max Kp = 5)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	5%	5%	5%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	15%	15%	15%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[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

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https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern

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

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.