FEMA

Prepared by
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David Sánchez

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, April 8, 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

- A few strong storms remain possible over E LA; damaging winds are the main threat.
- Marginal risk of excessive rainfall for SE AR and N LA. Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding possible.

Tuesday - Thursday

- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions over NM, W TX and W OK. (Tuesday & Wednesday)
- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions over S NM & W TX on Thursday.

Friday

- No significant weather impacts expected at this time, although another round of potentially heavy rain is possible next weekend across eastern portions of the Region.

River Flooding

- Moderate to Major river flooding will continue on the Mississippi River in E/SE LA.
  - Impacts to shipping and industrial activities on the river, numerous flooded roadways near the river.
  - Current forecasts show levels will continue to fall into next week. However, current forecasts do not account for any additional rainfall beyond 24 hours or any flooding from the upstream portions of the MS River.
- The Navasota River in E-Central TX is expected to rise in the next few days due to recent rainfall; State Highway 21 may become cut off, lowland flooding may occur, as well as agricultural impacts.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Apr 8, 2019 – Apr 12, 2019

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DAY / THREAT	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Severe Storms	E LA				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	SE AR, N LA				
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather		NM, W TX, W OK	NM, W TX, W OK	S NM, W TX	
River Flooding	E/SE LA E-Cntrl TX	E/SE LA E-Cntrl TX	E/SE LA	E/SE LA	E/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.

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

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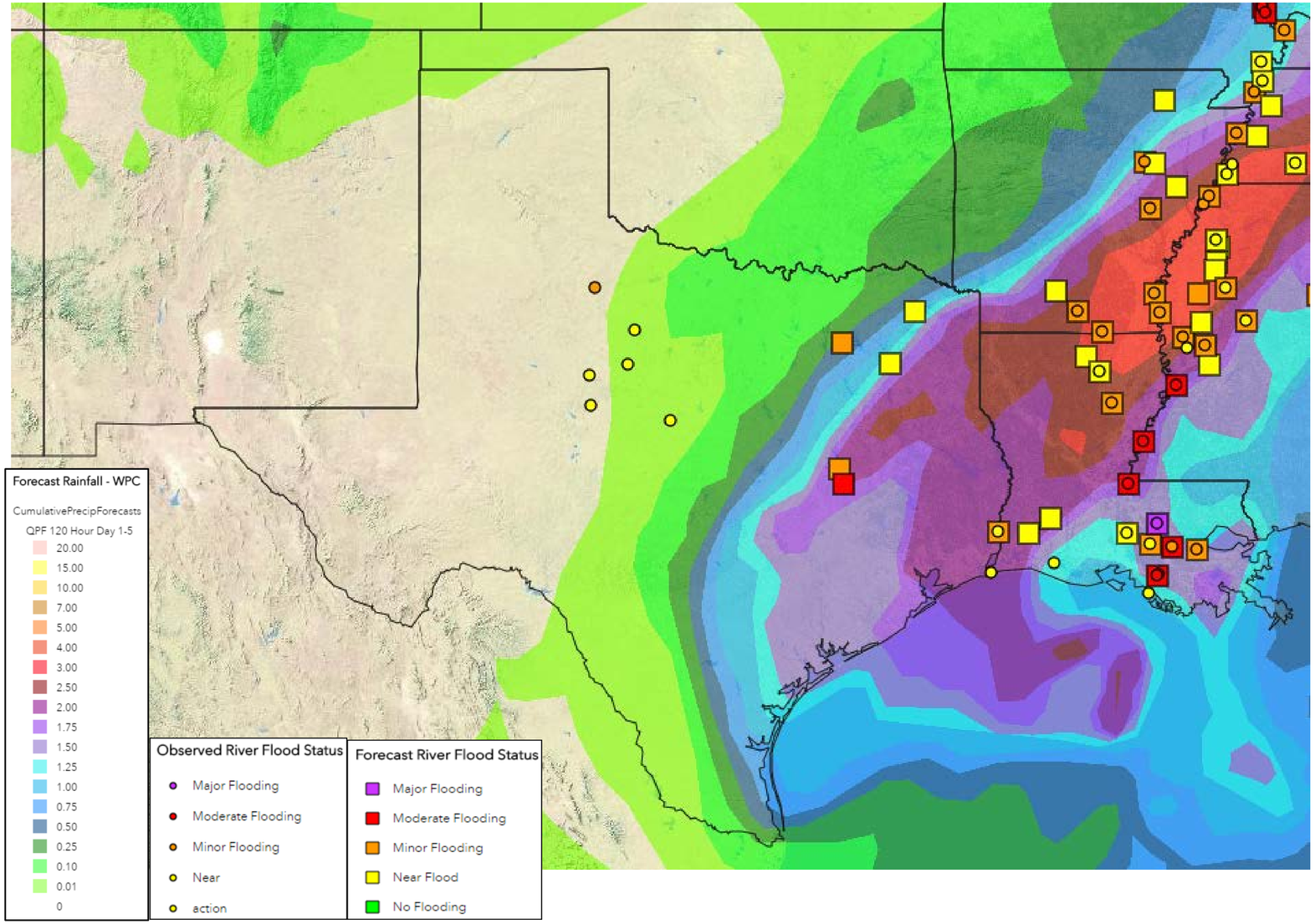
Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Moderate to Major river flooding will continue on the Mississippi River in E/SE LA.

- **MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood. Current forecasts have levels dropping into Moderate flood next week. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected.**
- **Several other points remain at moderate flood.**
- **The Bonnet Carre Spillway is operating to reduce flow and maintain just under a 17.0ft stage at New Orleans. It will remain open for a couple of more weeks. No impacts are noted.**

Minor river flooding will continue for much of this week on the MS River in E AR.

Note: Current forecasts do not account for any additional rainfall beyond 24 hours or any additional flooding from the upstream portions of the Mississippi River.

The Navasota River in E-Central TX is expected to rise in the next few days due to recent rainfall; State Highway 21 may become cut off, lowland flooding may occur, as well as agricultural impacts.

Today's Weather

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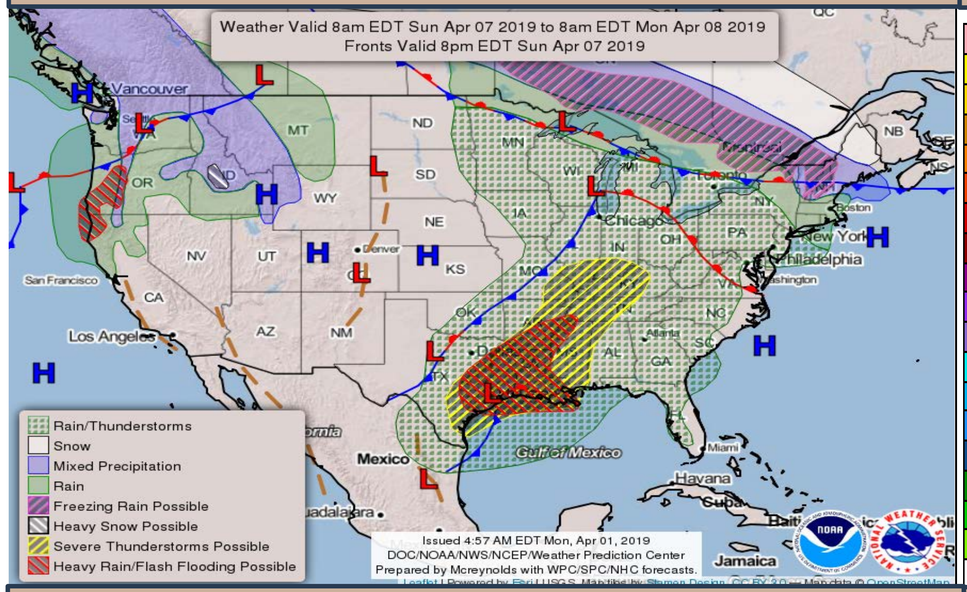
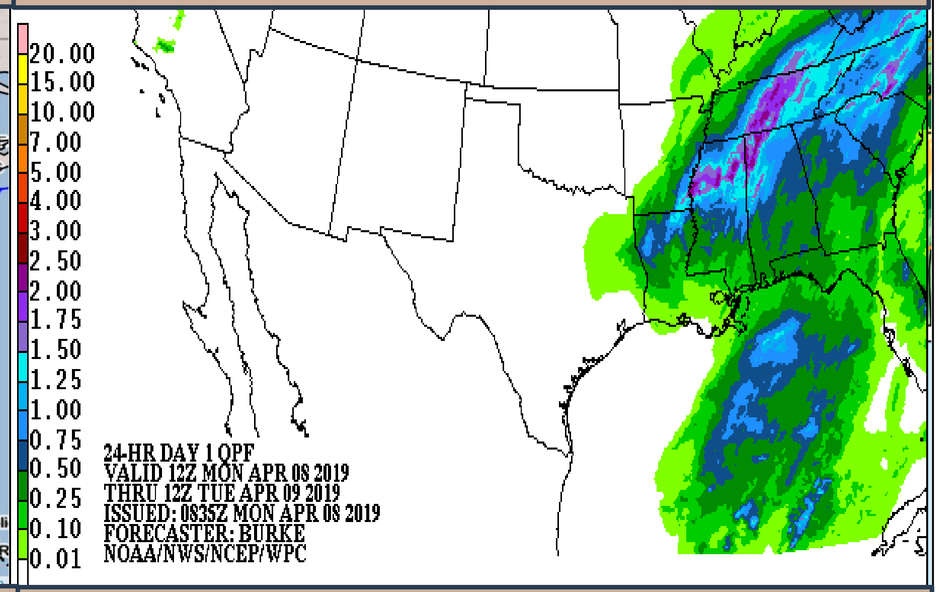
Forecast Chart



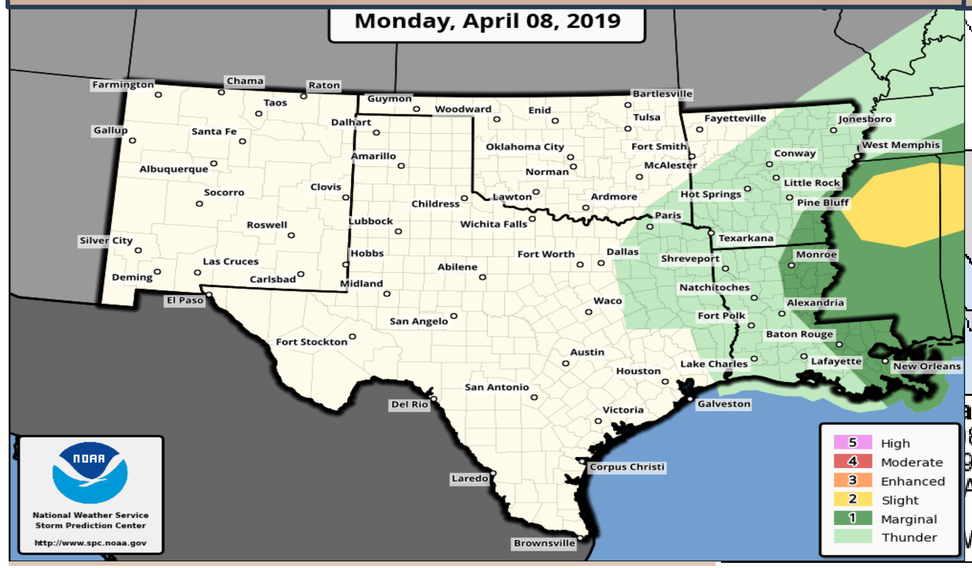
Forecast Rainfall



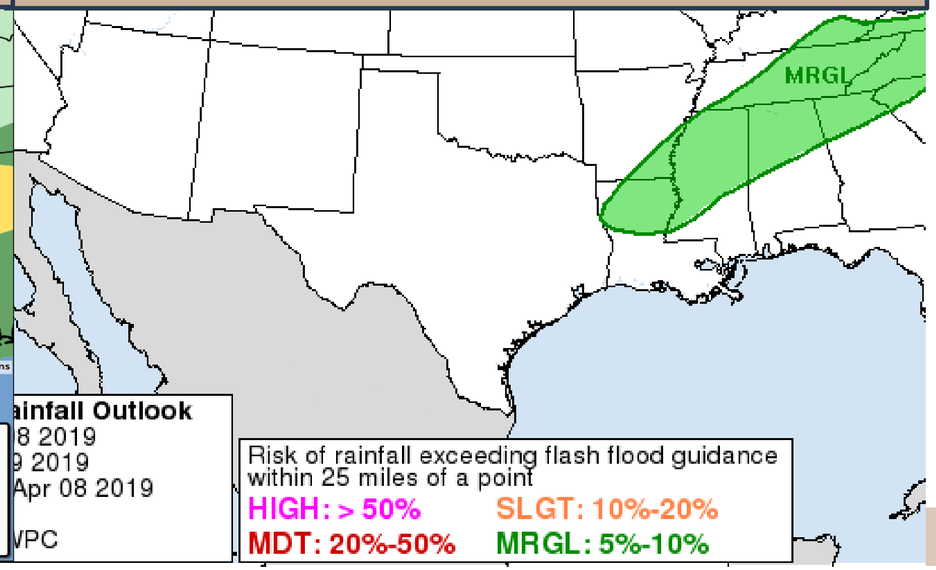
A few strong storms remain possible over E LA; damaging winds are the main threat.

Marginal risk of excessive rainfall for SE AR and N LA. Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding possible.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Tomorrow's Weather

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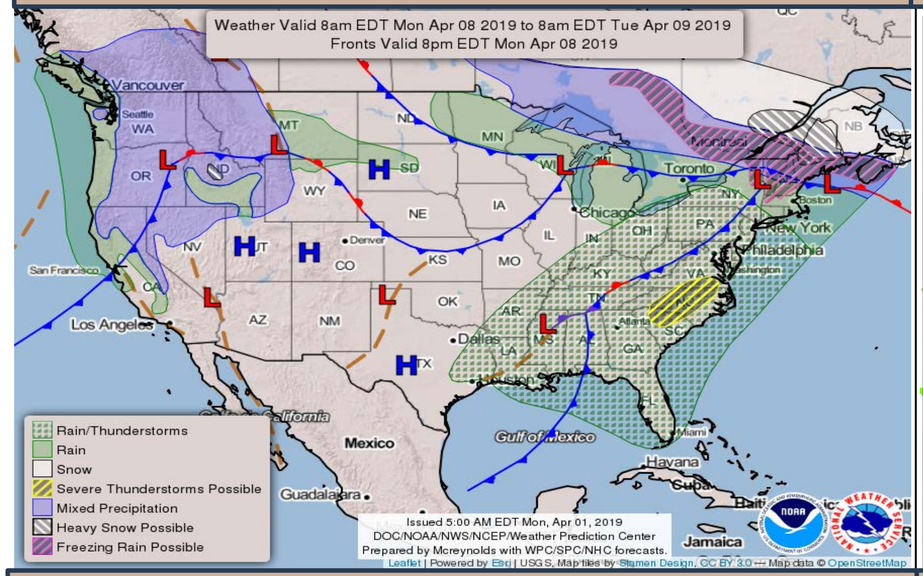
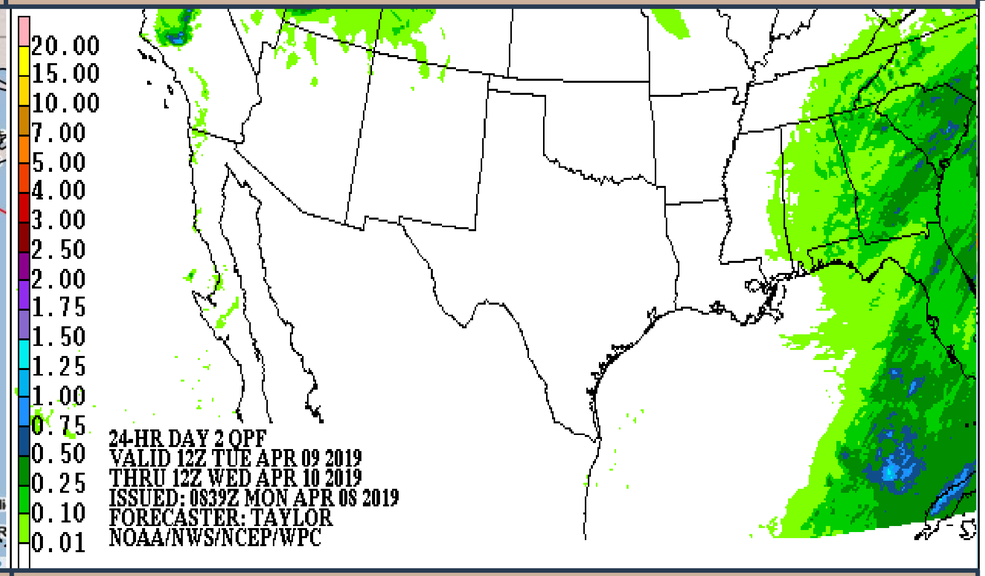
Forecast Chart

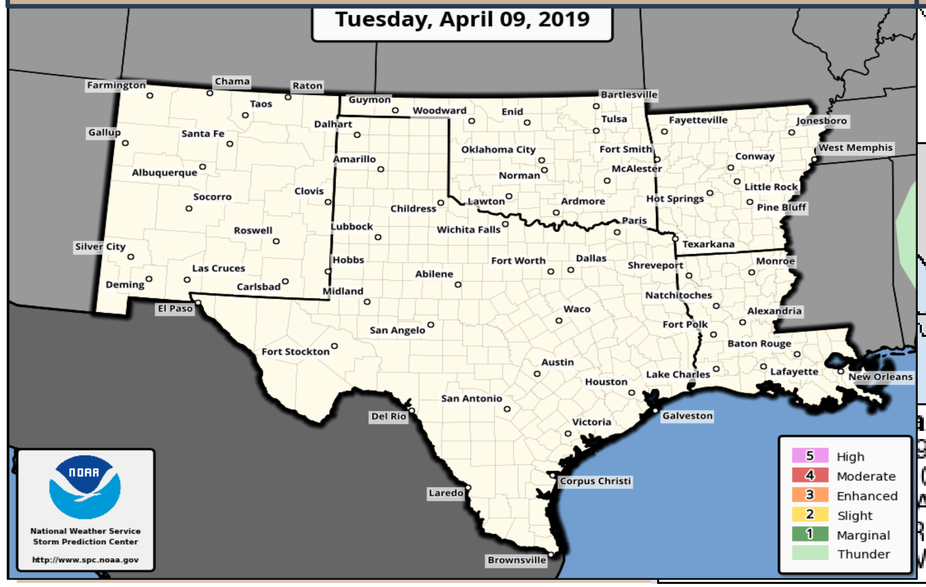


Forecast Rainfall



Elevated to critical fire weather conditions possible over most of NM, W TX and W OK.

Severe Weather Outlook



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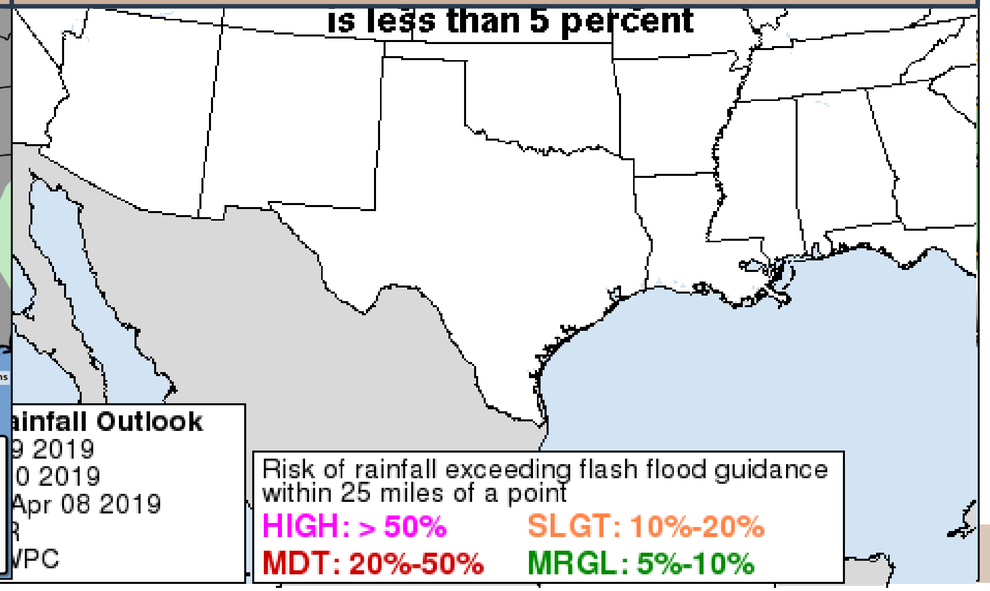

Wednesday's Weather

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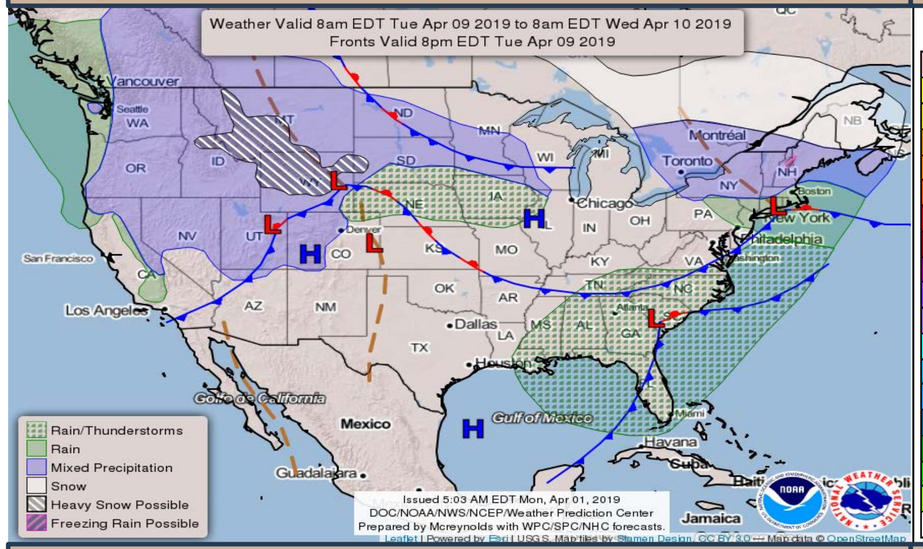
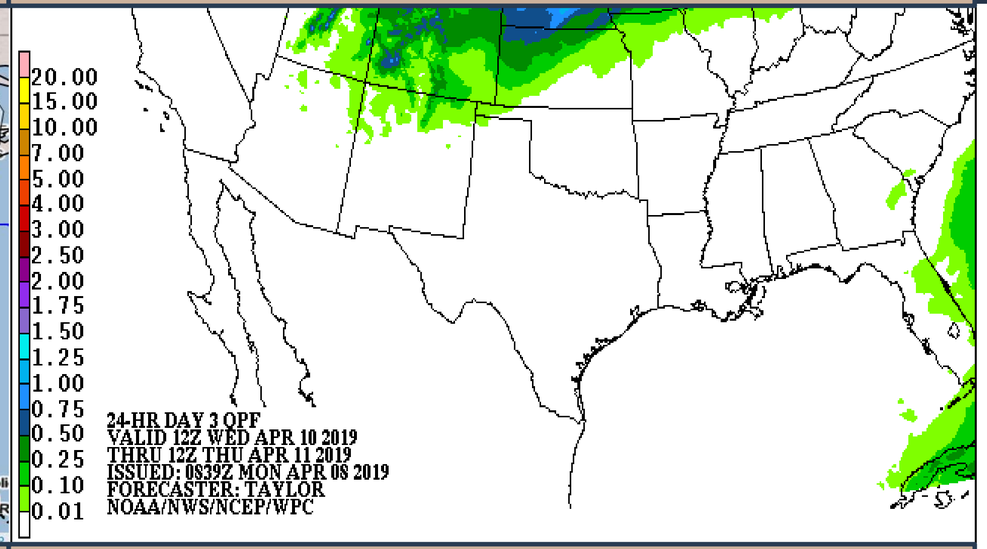
Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall



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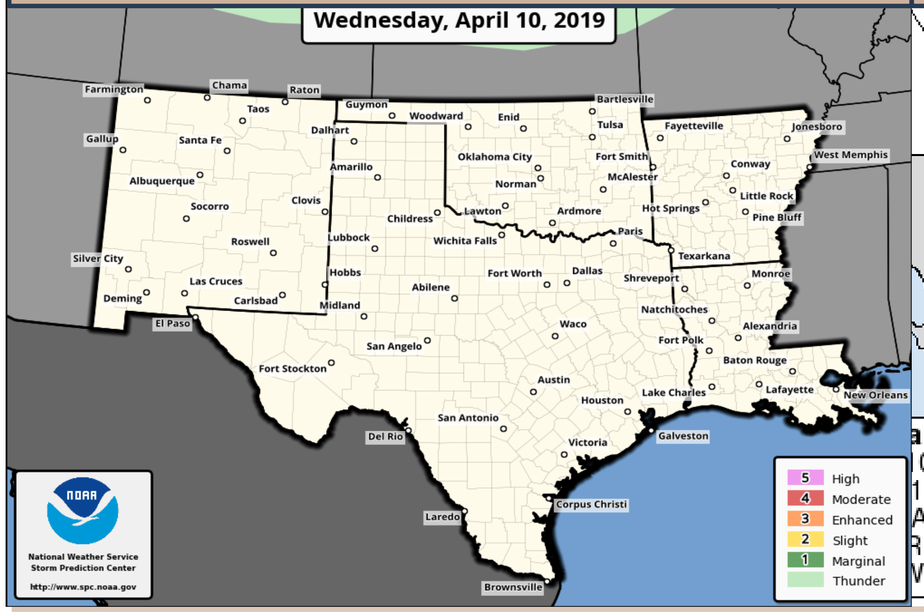
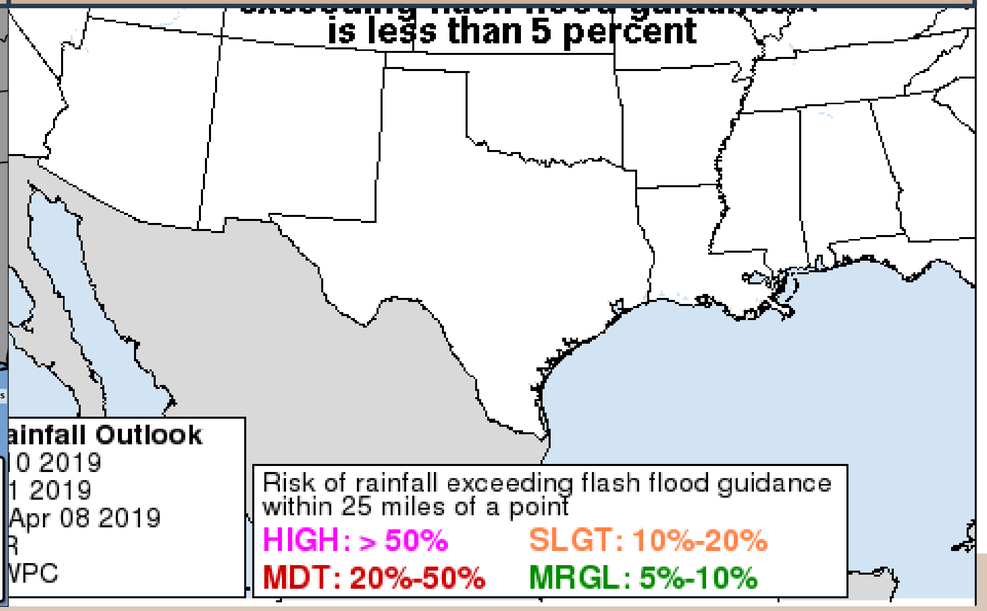
Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Thursday - Friday

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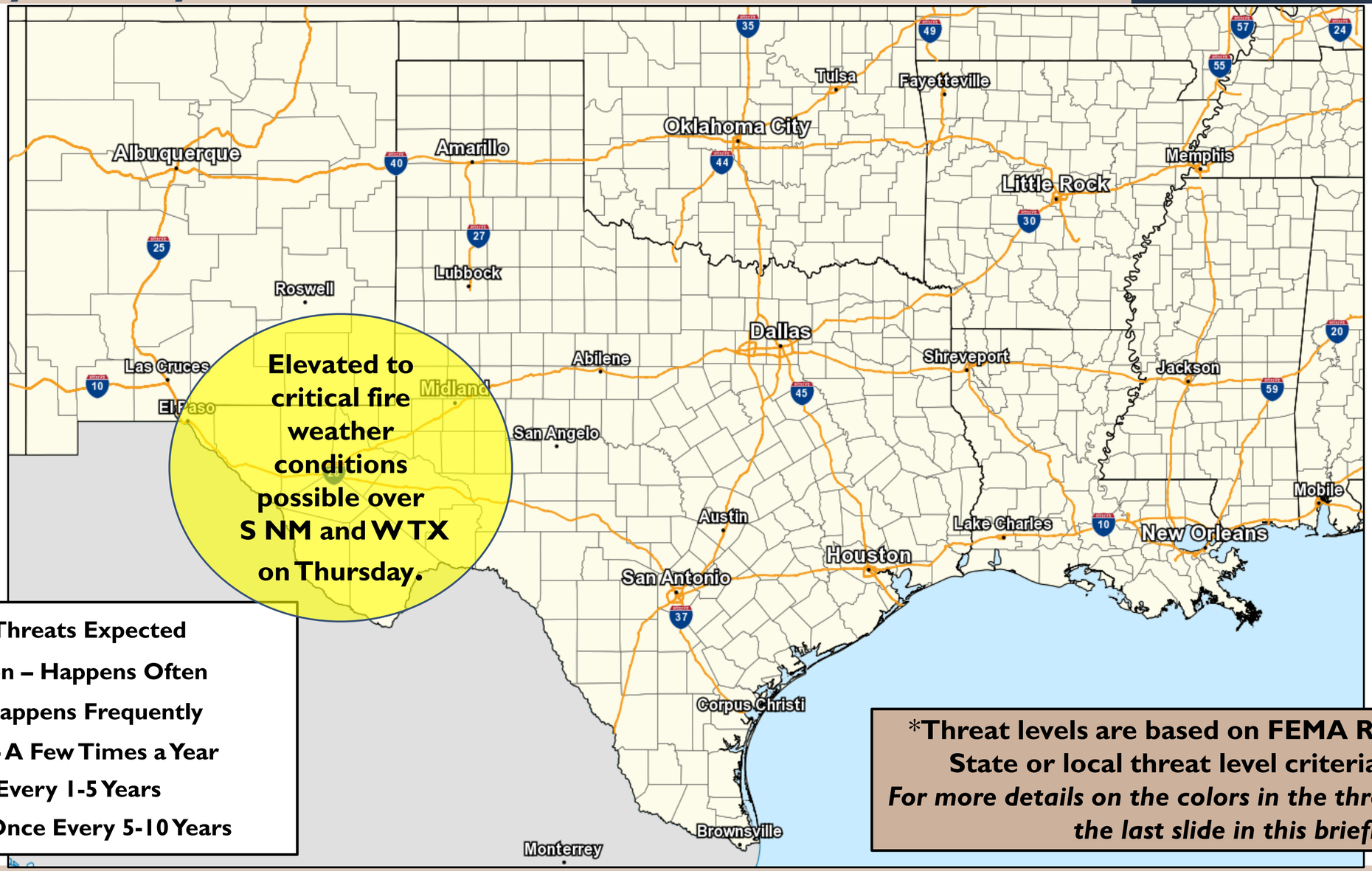

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Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

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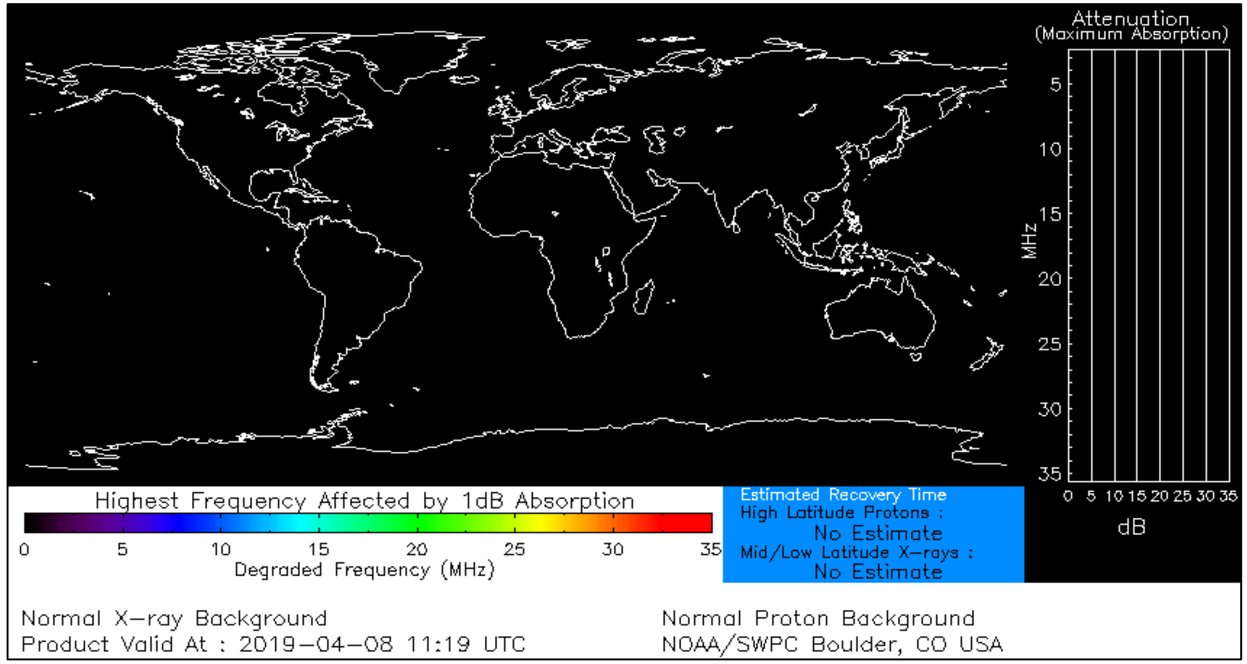
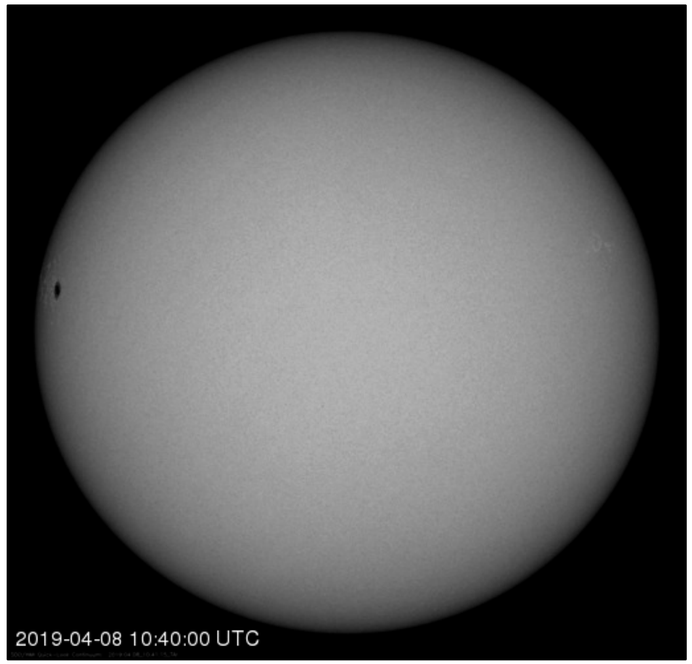
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[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

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E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: http://www.weather.gov/srh

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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.