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

Thursday, March 29, 2018
Issued: 0800 CT

Day One Hazards: ***Slight risk of severe thunderstorms remains over SE LA; damaging winds, hail and isolated tornadoes are possible.***

Ongoing heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over SE & E TX this morning as well as LA but will be moving east throughout the day and east of the Region by this evening.

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

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

Key Points

Today

- Slight risk of severe thunderstorms across SE LA; damaging winds, hail and isolated tornadoes are possible as well.
- Ongoing heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over SE & E TX this morning as well as LA but will be moving east throughout the day and east of the Region by this evening.

Friday

- No significant weather is expected

Saturday through Monday

- There is a chance of some additional rainfall beginning Saturday over areas that saw recent heavy rainfall in SE OK, NE TX and AR. While widespread flooding is not expected, so isolated flooding is possible. This chance will linger into Monday.

River Flood Status

- Major flooding is forecast for the Liberty on the Trinity River as releases from Lake Livingston continue to increase.
- The Atchafalaya River continues a flat crest at Morgan City, LA remains in moderate flood stage.
- Widespread minor river flooding continues across eastern portions of the Region due to recent and ongoing rainfall.
- San Antonio, Guadalupe, Trinity, Neches and Sabine will be the rivers that will take time to drain so will remain out of banks for an extended period. The Ouachita River in S AR/N LA is in moderate/major flood (roads under water, recreational areas flooded).
- Beyond the next 5 days, the potential for repeat flooding is possible in the MS and OH Valleys with rises on the OH and MS Rivers expected to below previous crests.
- The MS River at Baton Rouge has fallen into moderate flood; will continue to fall.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix
Mar 29, 2018 – Apr 2, 2018

DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms	SE LA				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	SE & E TX (early), LA		SE OK, AR, NE TX	E OK, AR	E OK, AR
Fire Weather					
Winter					
River Flooding	MS River (SE LA) →	→	→	→	→
	E OK, AR, E TX, LA	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.

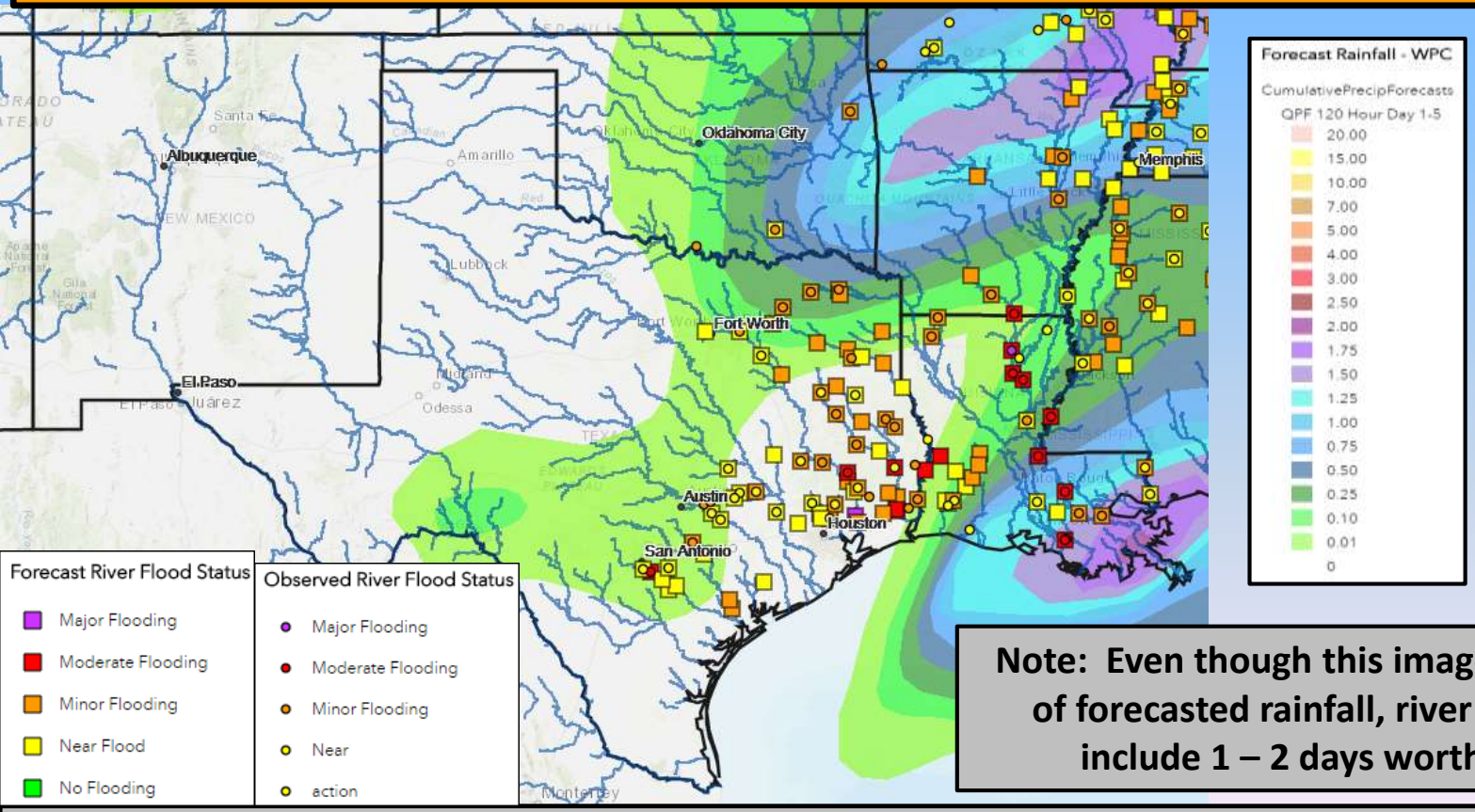
5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Widespread minor river flooding continues across eastern portions of the Region due to recent and ongoing rainfall. San Antonio, Guadalupe, Trinity, Neches and Sabine will be the rivers that will take time to drain so will remain out of banks for an extended period. The Ouachita River in S AR/N LA is in moderate/major flood (roads under water, recreational areas flooded).

Major flooding is forecast for the Liberty on the Trinity River as releases from Lake Livingston continue to increase.

The MS River at Baton Rouge has fallen into moderate flood and will continue to fall through the weekend.

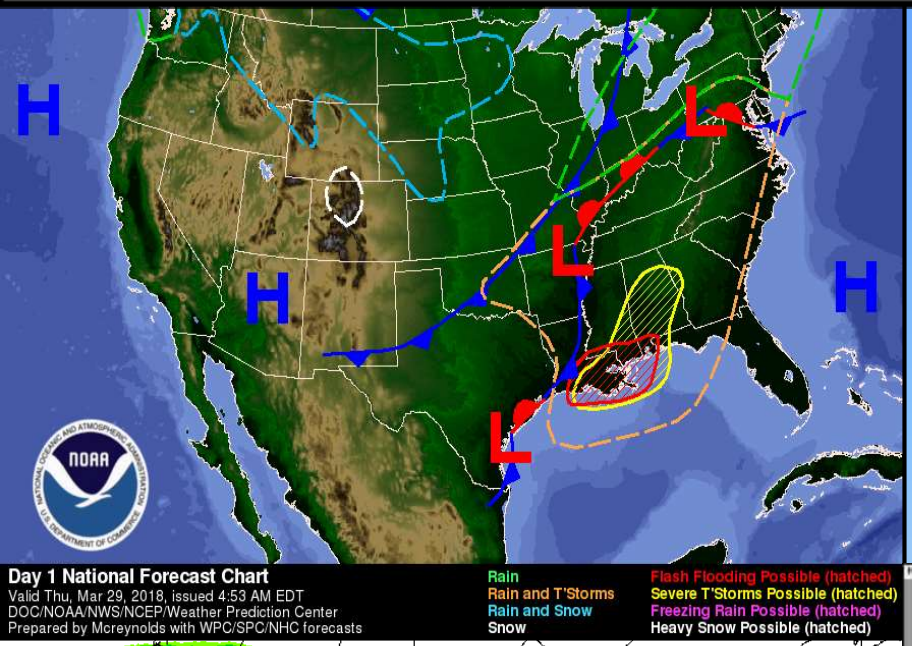
The Atchafalaya River continues a flat crest at Morgan City, LA and remains in moderate flood stage.



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



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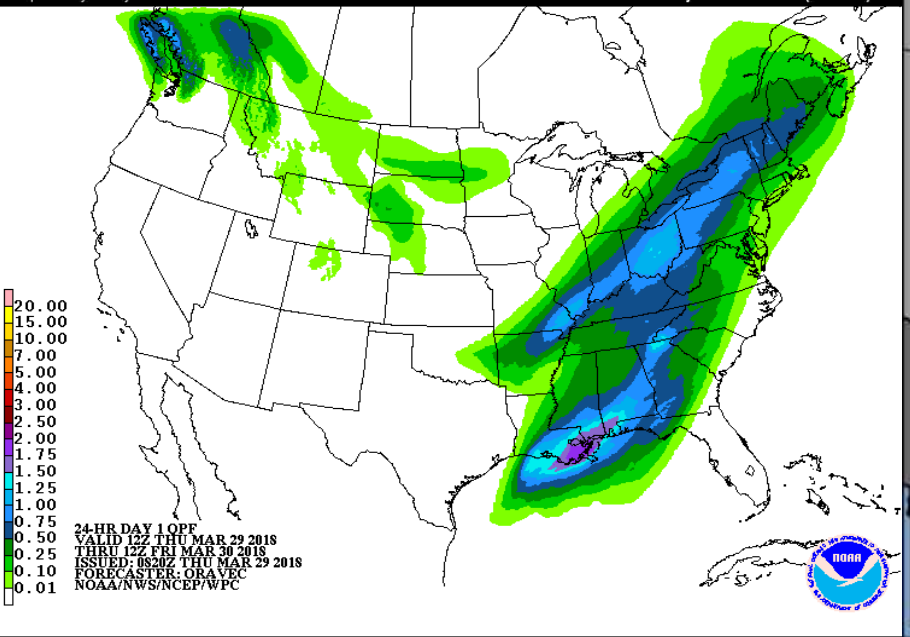
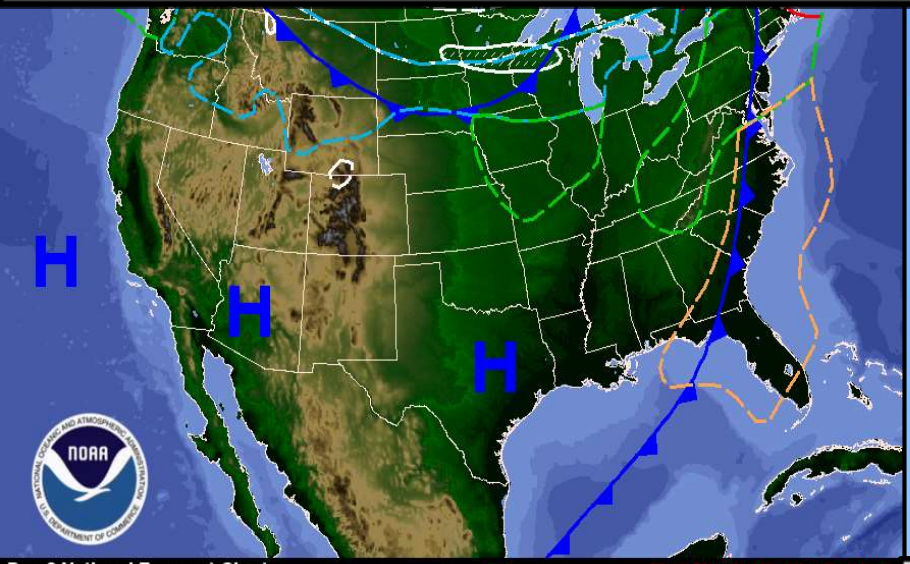
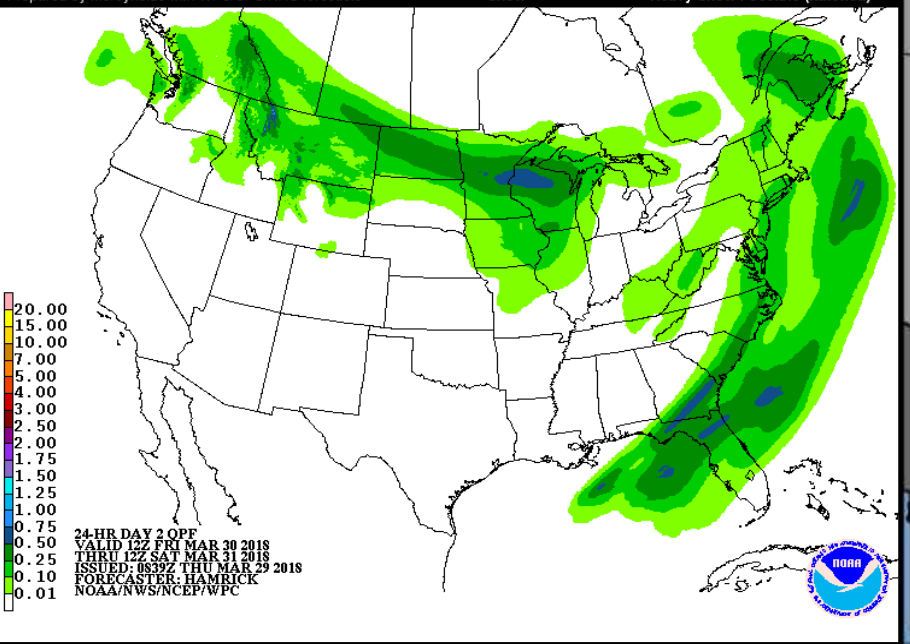
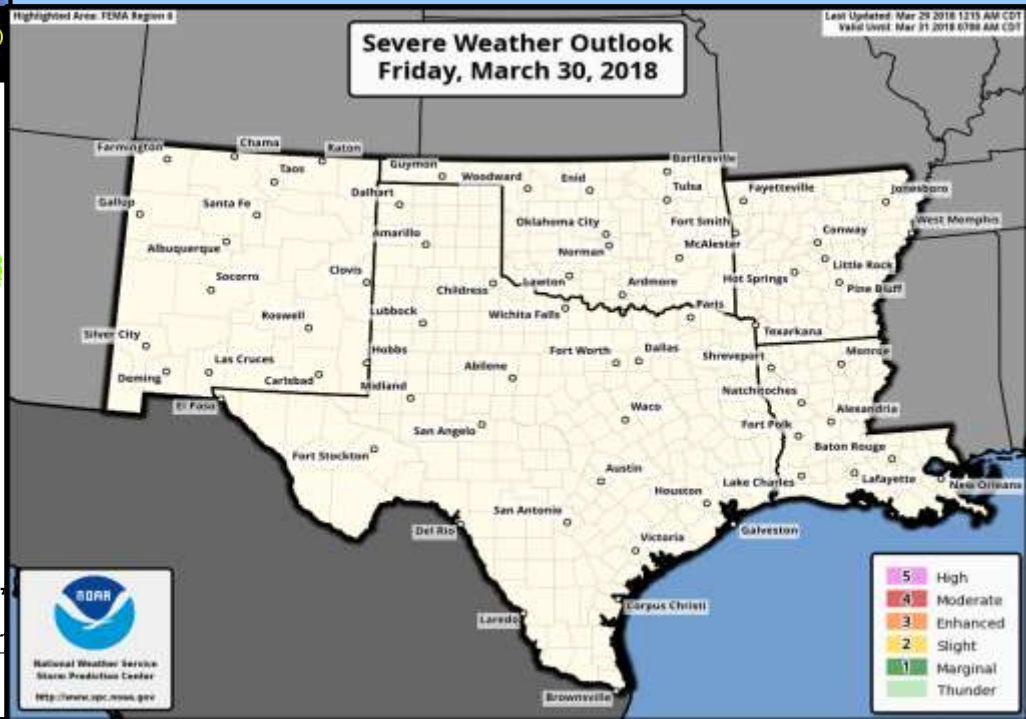


Tomorrow's Weather

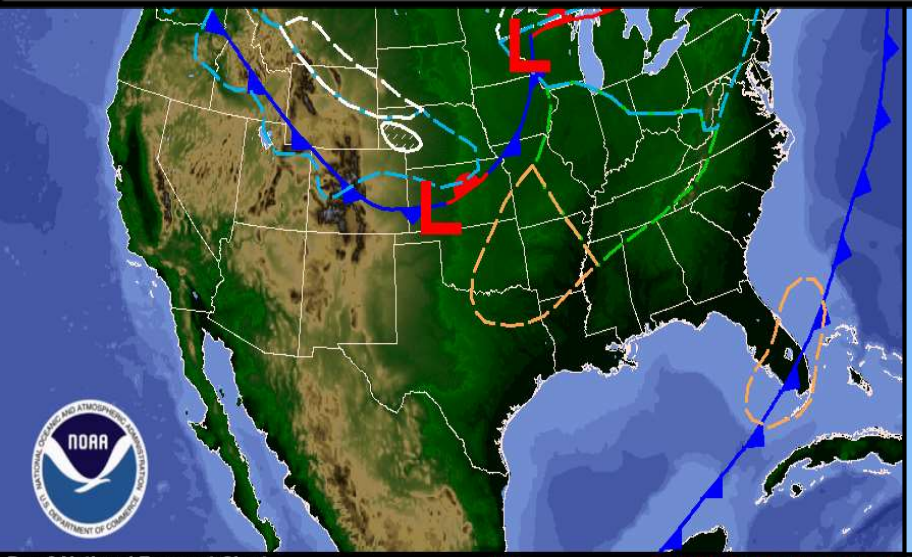


No significant weather expected.

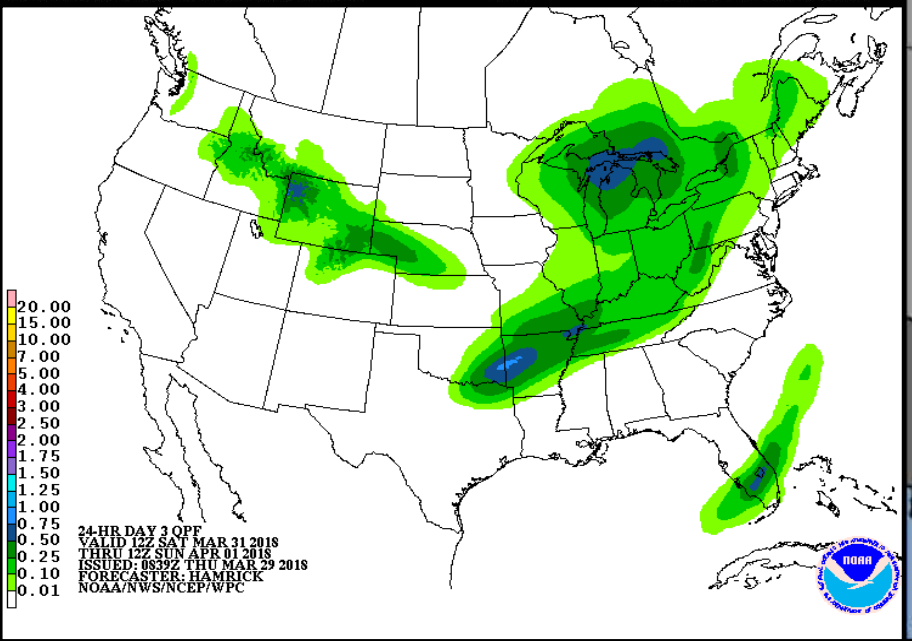


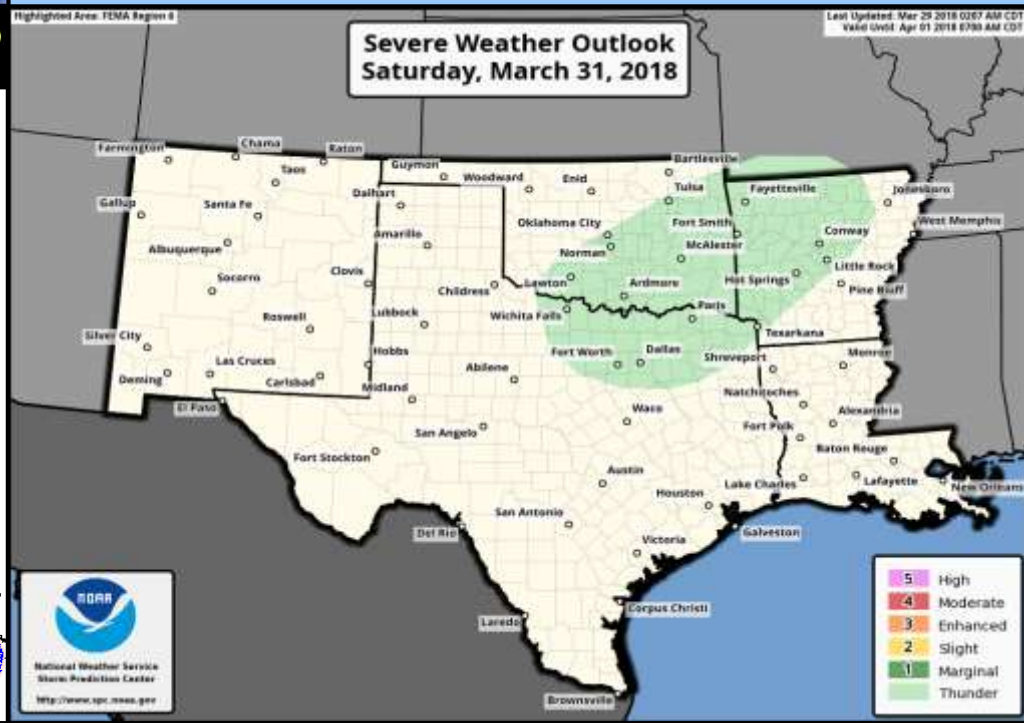


Saturday's Weather

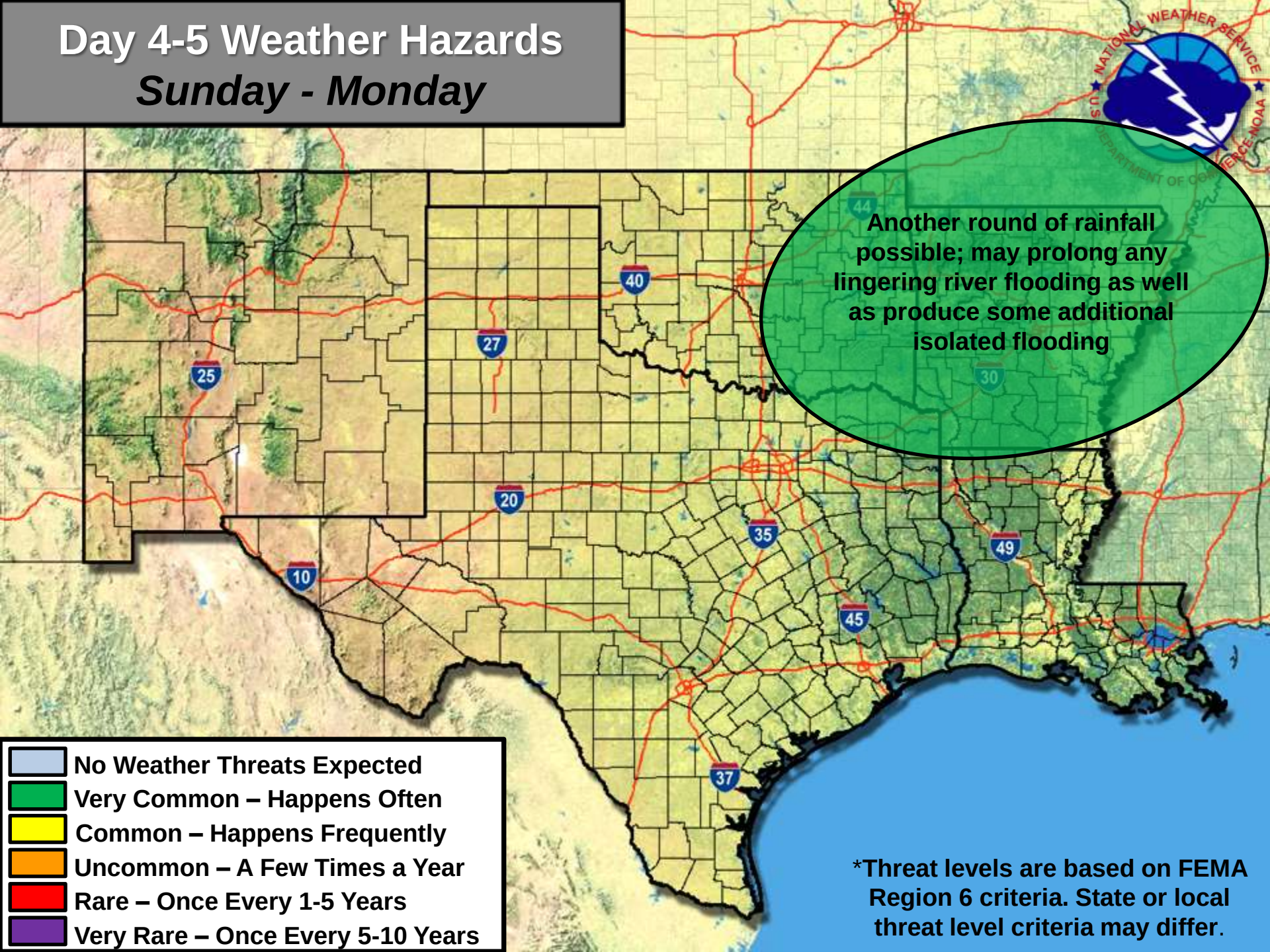


There is a chance of some additional rainfall over areas that saw recent heavy rainfall in SE OK, NE TX and AR. While widespread flooding is not expected, so isolated flooding is possible.



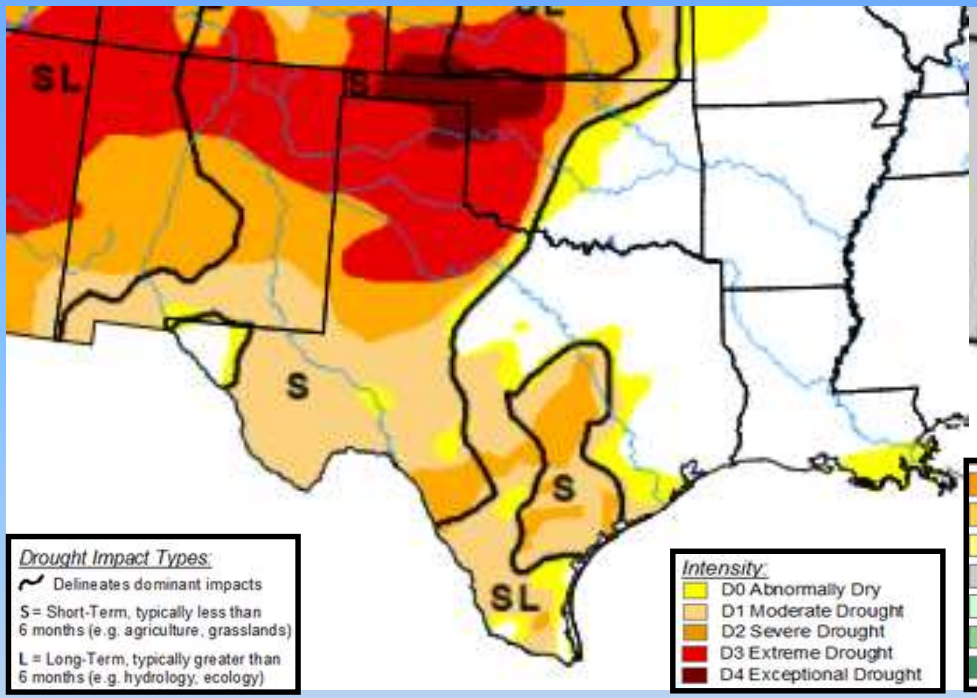


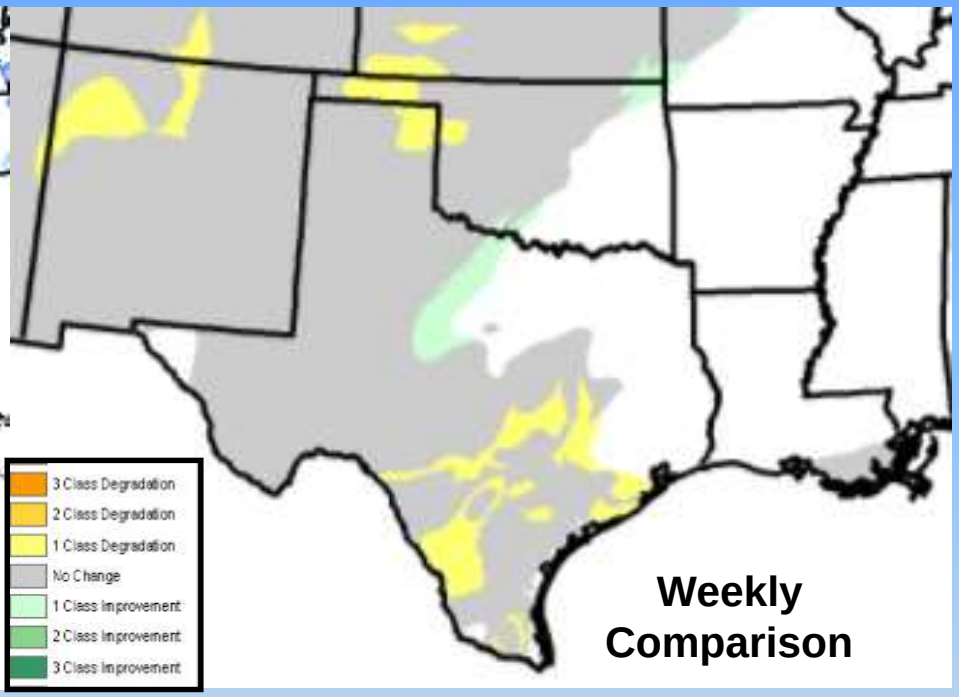
Day 4-5 Weather Hazards
Sunday - Monday



Drought Monitor Released March 29, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CDT, Tuesday, March 27, 2018





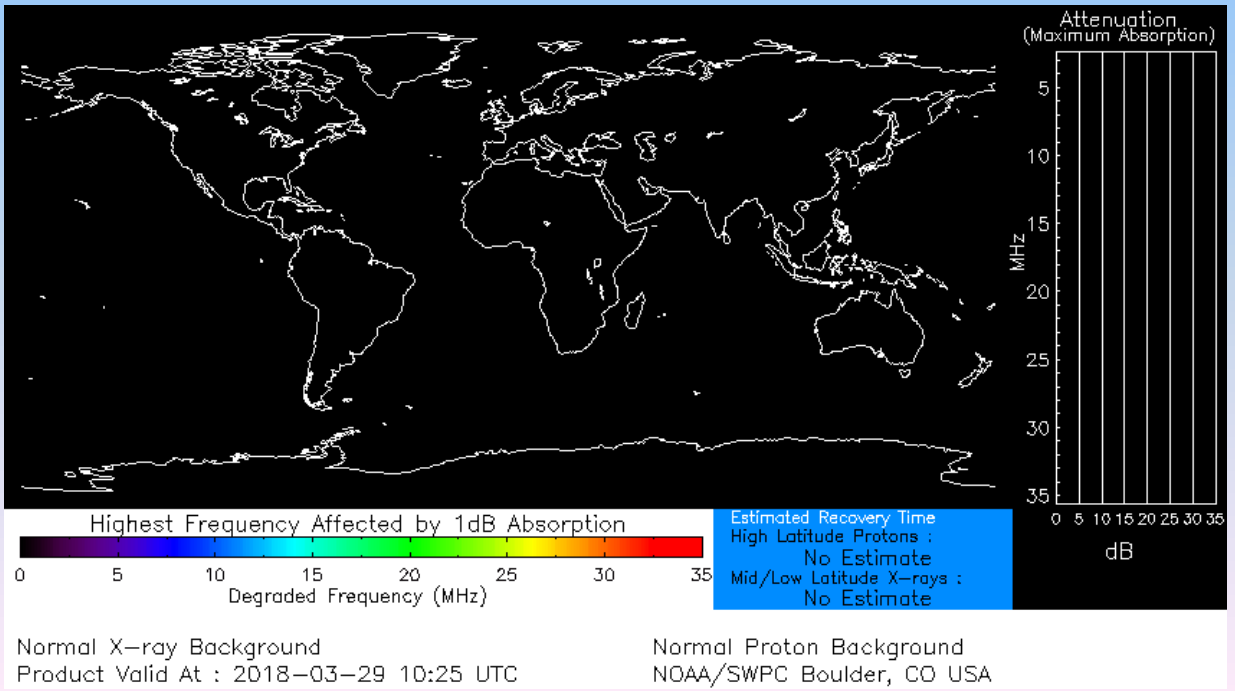
Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)				
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	2.37%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	34.93%	34.93%	0.00%	0.00%
Texas	15.08%	15.08%	0.11%	0.00%
New Mexico	34.06%	25.60%	0.00%	0.00%

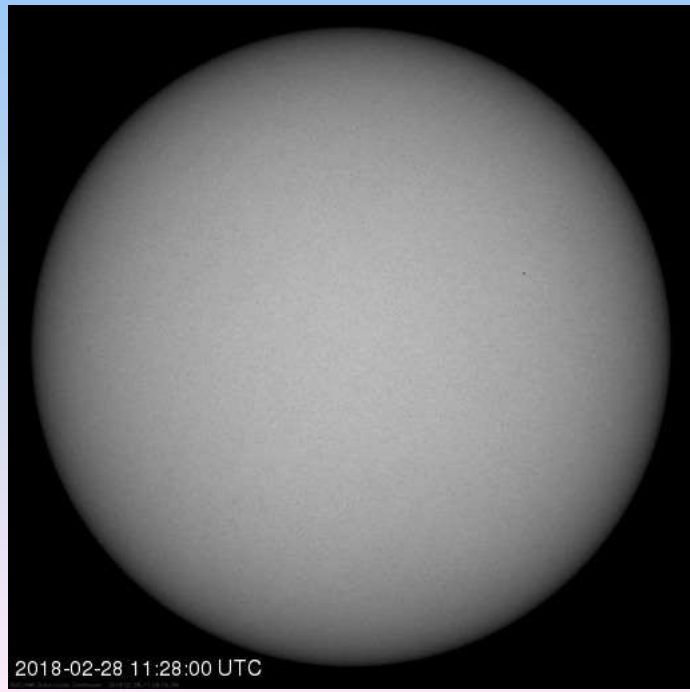
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
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