FEMA

Prepared by:
Kurt Van Speybroeck

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

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.

Key Points

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Today

- Enhanced risk area for severe thunderstorms across E AR.
- Slight risk area for severe thunderstorms across TX into LA/AR.
- Isolated heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over SE TX into LA/AR.
- Elevated/critical Fire Weather conditions across E NM/W TX into central OK.

Wednesday

- Elevated/critical fire weather conditions across E NM/W TX into the TX/OK Panhandles.

Thursday

- No Significant Weather Impacts expected.

Friday - Saturday

- Strong/severe thunderstorms possible Friday across NE TX into NW LA.

River Flood Status

- Major flooding impacting some structures and roads continues on the Trinity River, the Neches River and on the Lower Sabine River at the TX/LA border.
- Rivers have crested but moderate flooding continues in SW LA on the Calcasieu River with impacts to several roads

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

April 3, 2018 – April 7, 2018

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DAY / THREAT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Strong/Severe Storms	E AR E TX LA/AR			NE TX/NW LA	
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	SE TX/LA				
Fire Weather	E NM/W TX Central OK	E NM/W TX TX/OK Panhandles			
Winter					
River Flooding	SE TX/SW LA →	→	→	→	→
	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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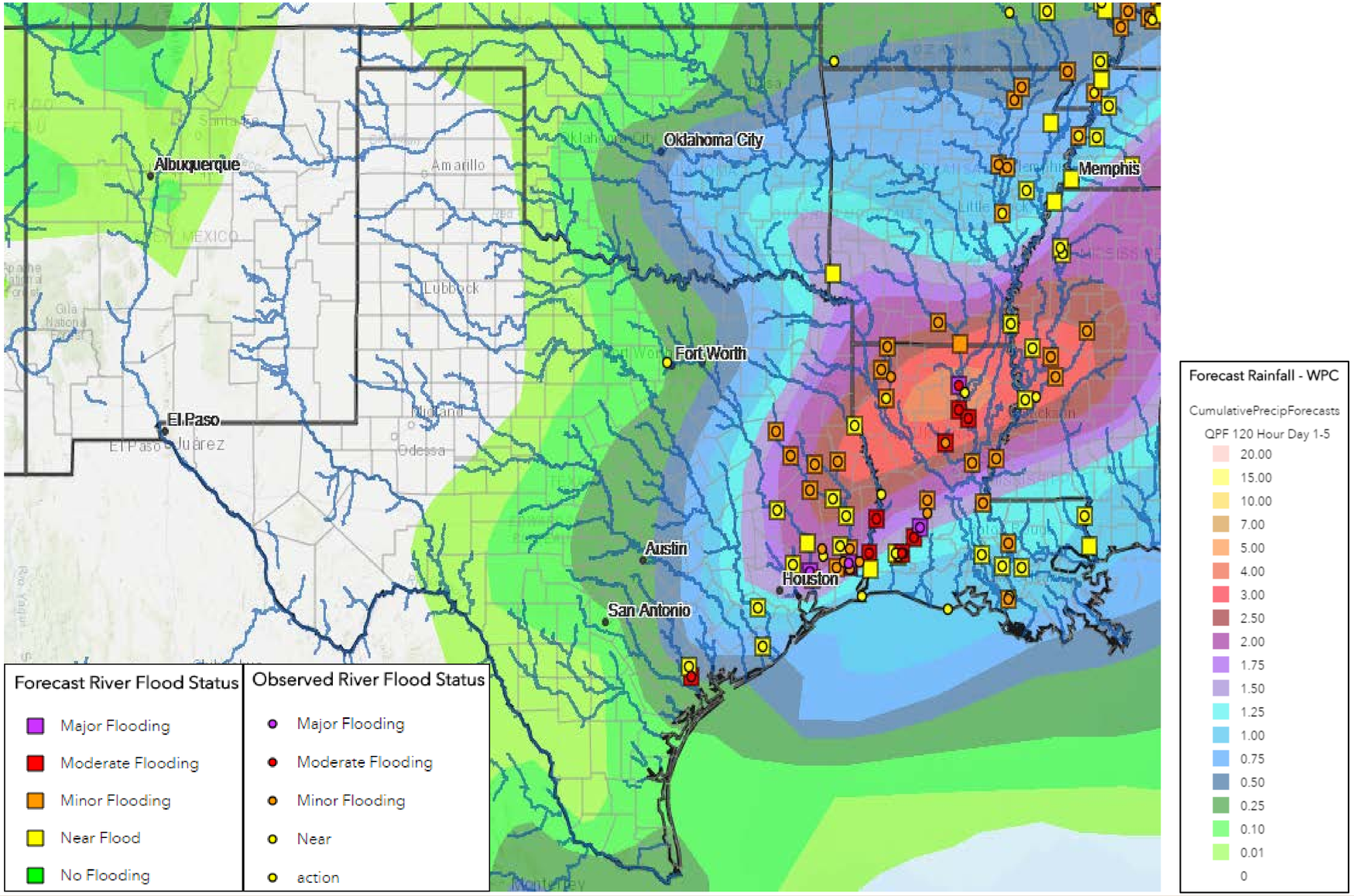
Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



- **Major flooding impacting some structures and homes continues on the Trinity River, the Neches River and on the Lower Sabine River.**
- **The Calcasieu River has crested and is expected to be in moderate flood stage today with impacts to roads**

- **Isolated Major flooding continues for the Ouachita NE LA. Impacts to agricultural areas.**

4/3/2018 7:44 AM

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

www.weather.gov/srh

Today's Weather

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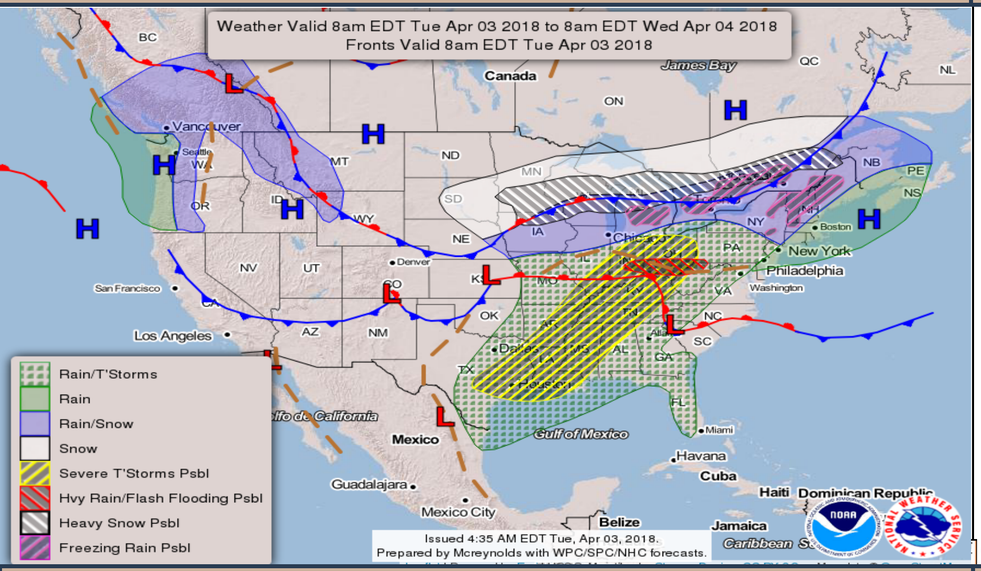
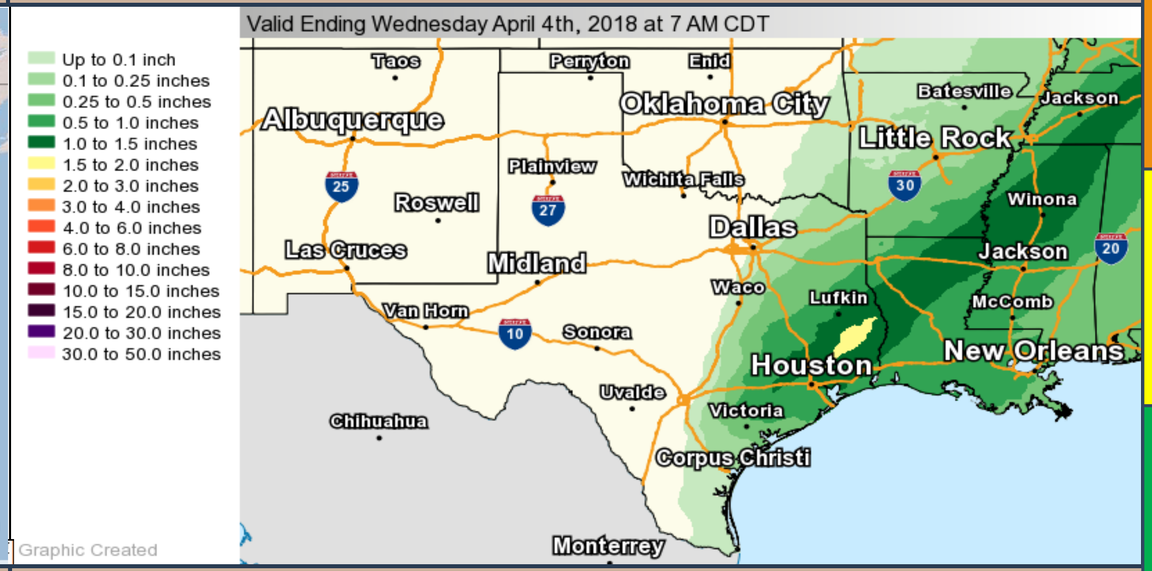
Forecast Chart



Forecasted Rainfall

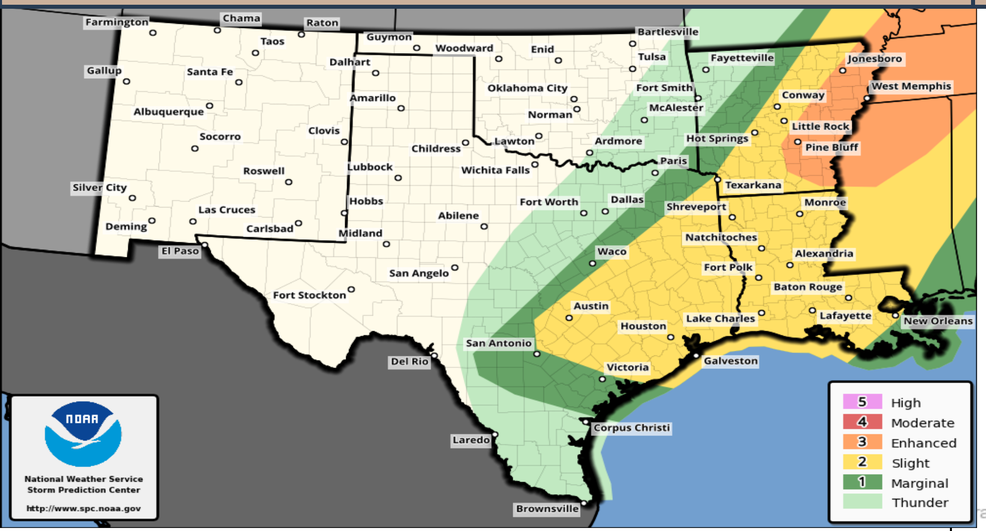


Enhanced risk area for severe thunderstorms across E AR.

Slight risk area for severe thunderstorms across TX into LA/AR.

Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding possible for E TX into LA/AR.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

www.weather.gov/srh

Today's Fire Weather

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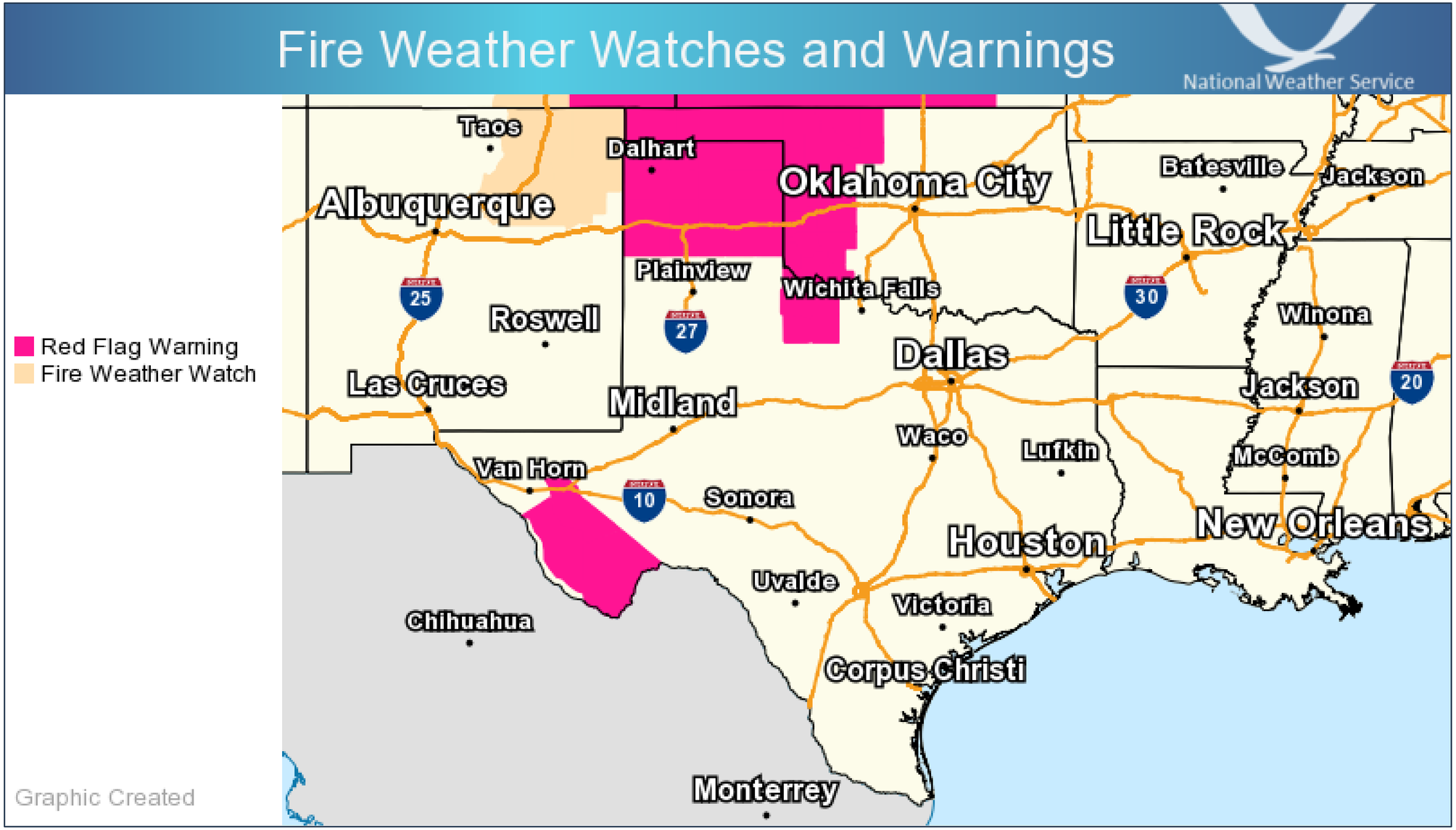

Critical Fire Weather Conditions for NE NM into TX/OK Panhandles and central OK.

Tomorrow's Weather

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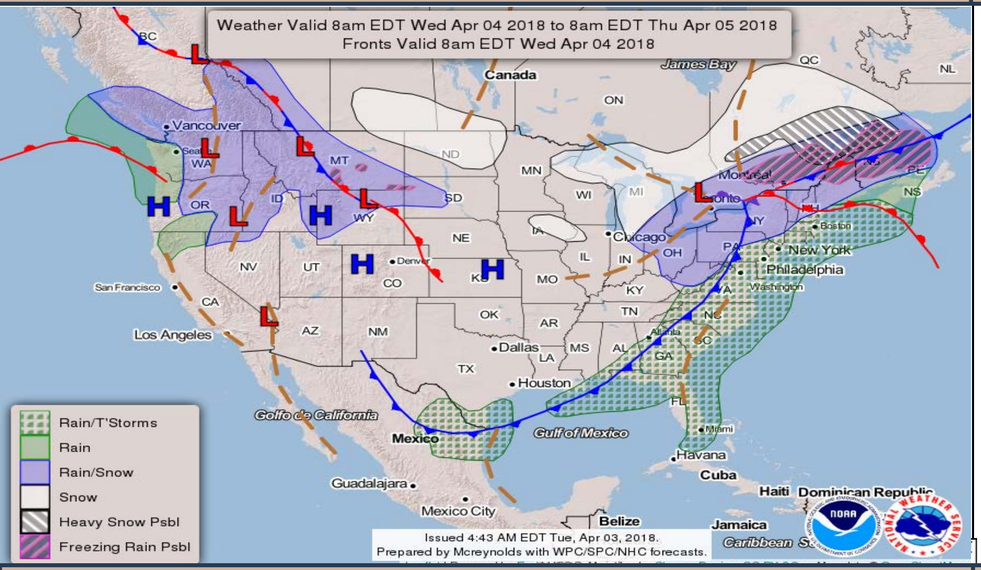
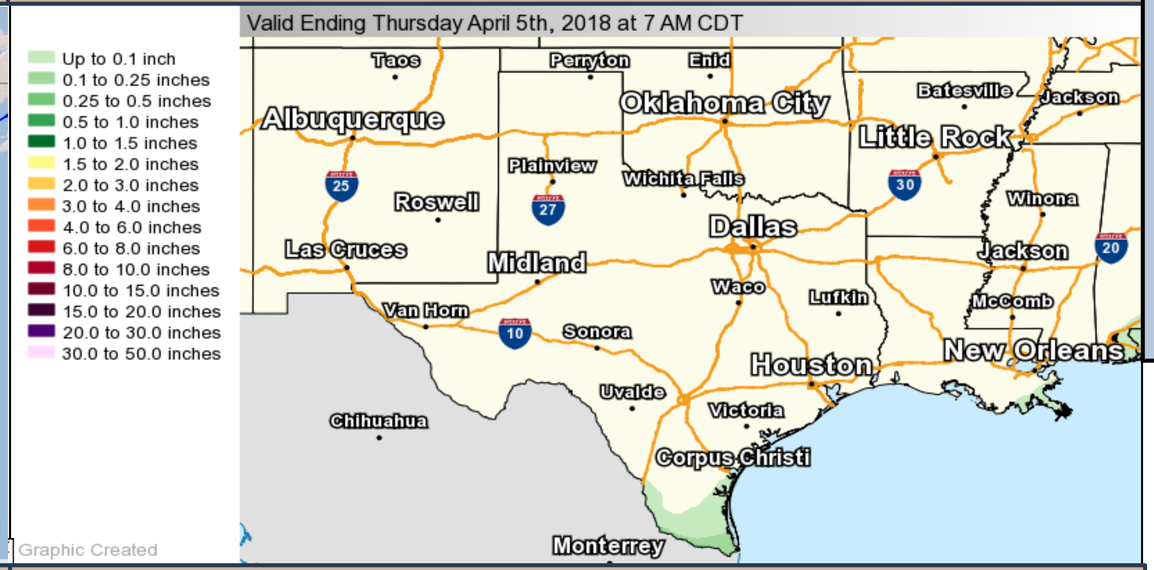
Forecast Chart

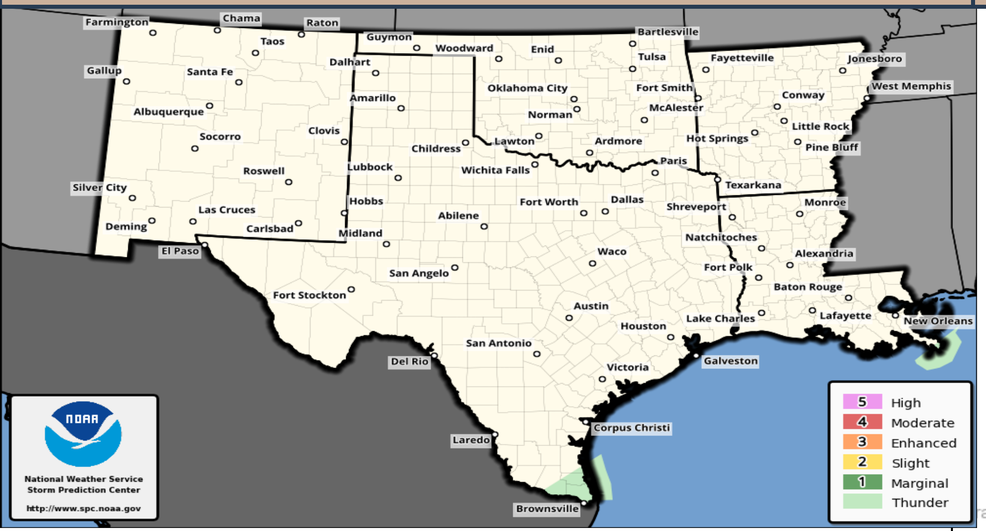


Forecasted Rainfall



No significant weather impacts.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

www.weather.gov/srh

Thursday's Weather

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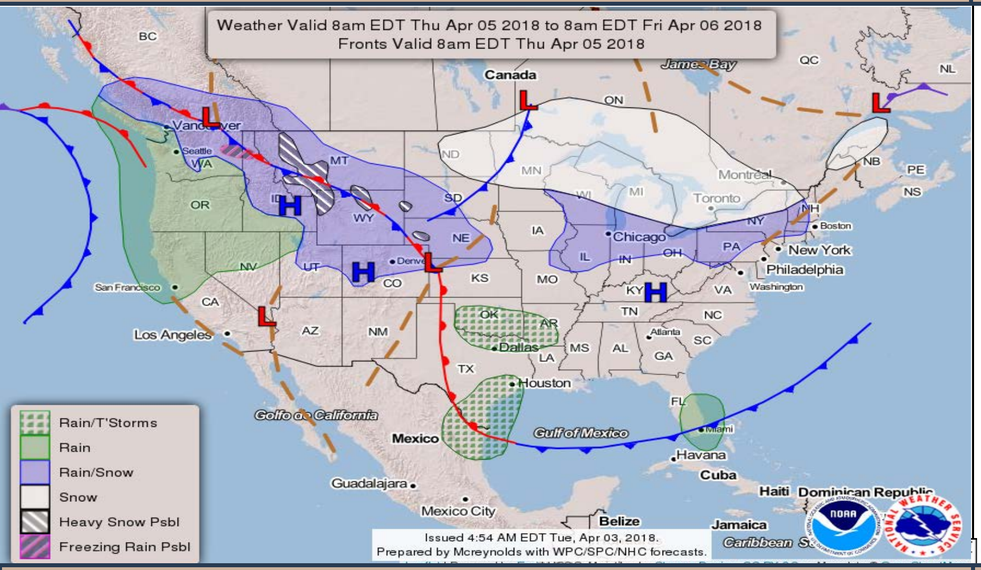
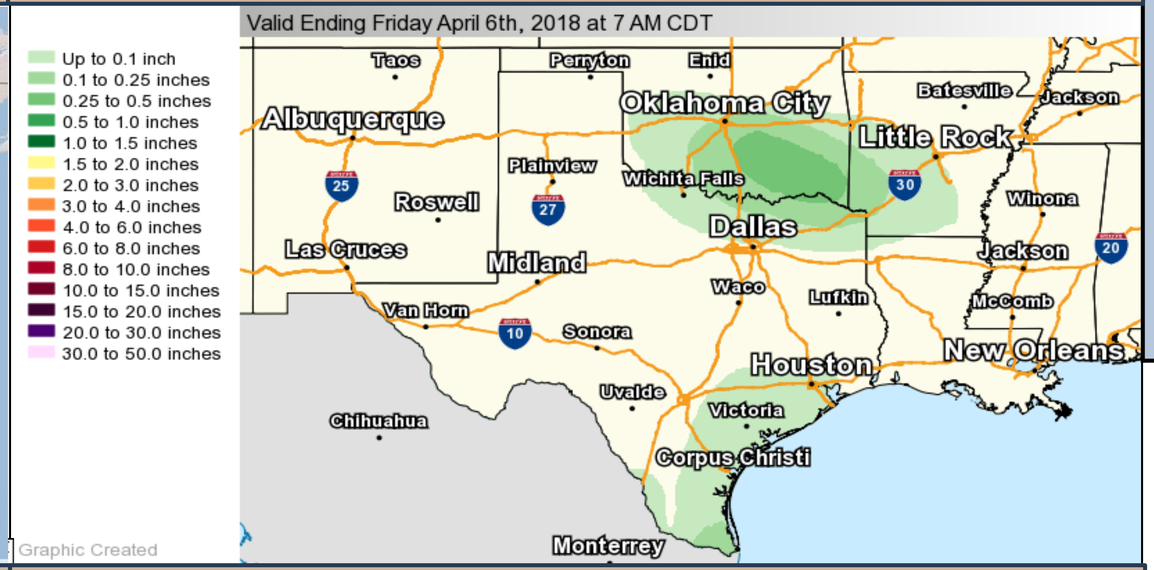
Forecast Chart

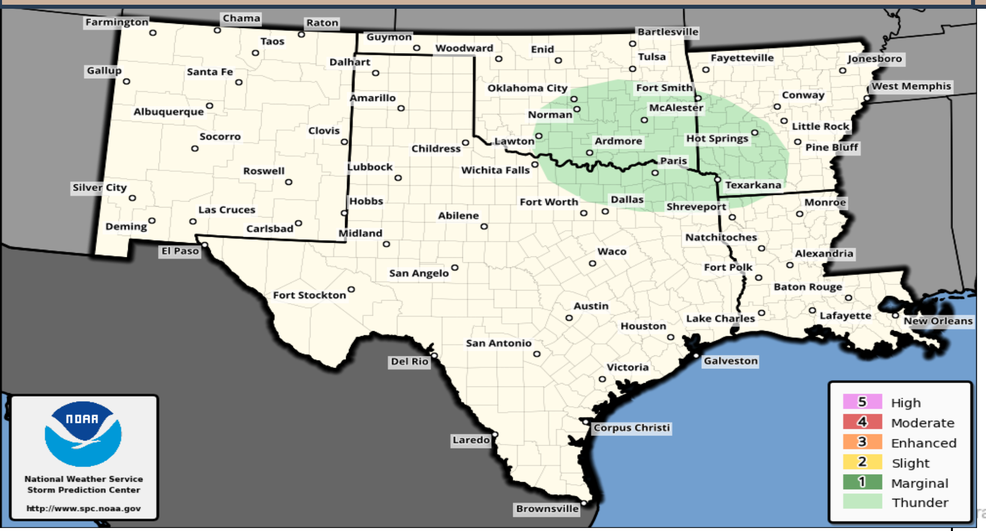


Forecasted Rainfall



No significant weather impacts.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

www.weather.gov/srh

Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Friday - Saturday

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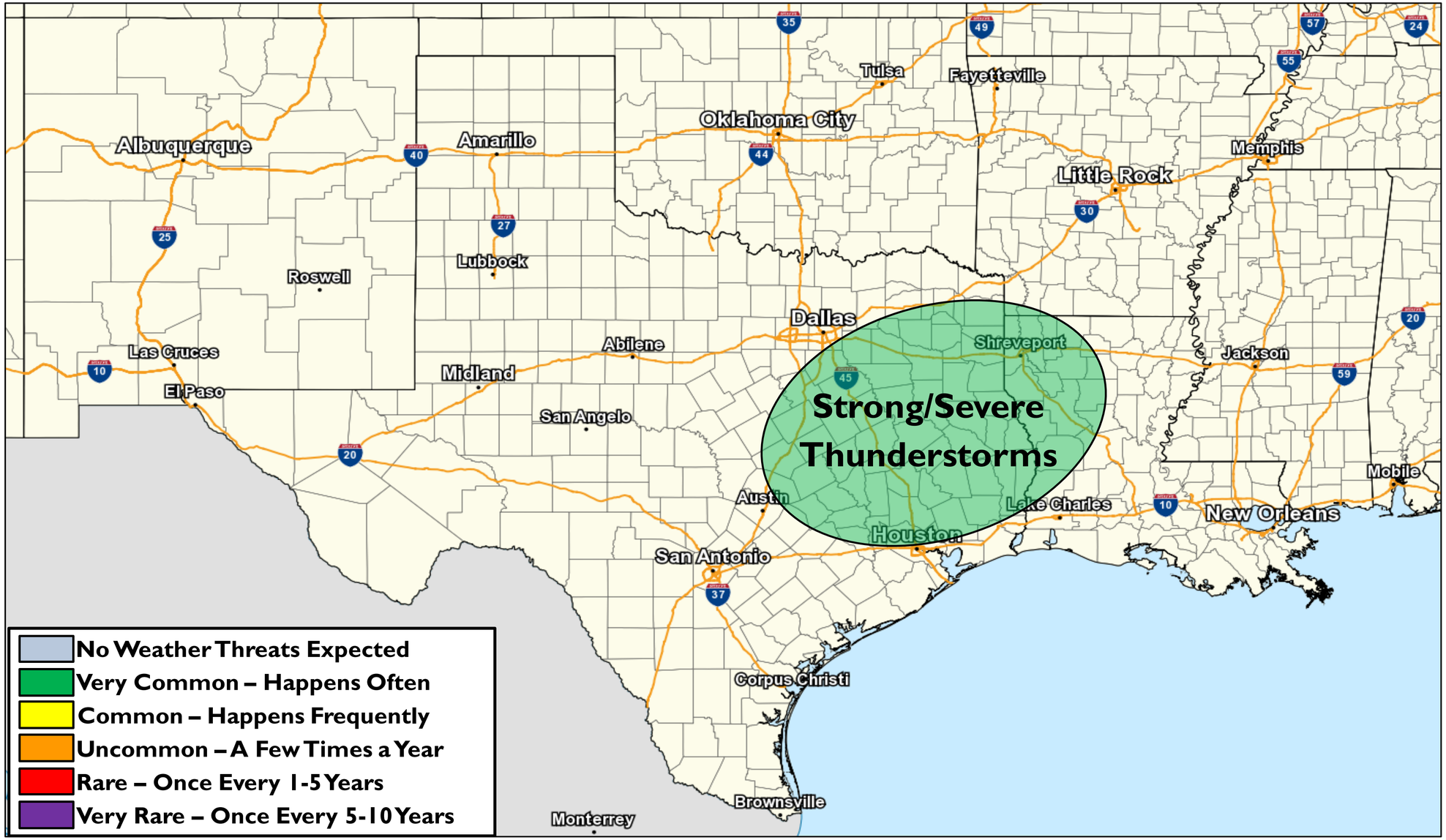

Chance for strong/severe thunderstorms across NE TX/NW LA.

- 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.

Drought Monitor (Released Mar 29th, 2018)

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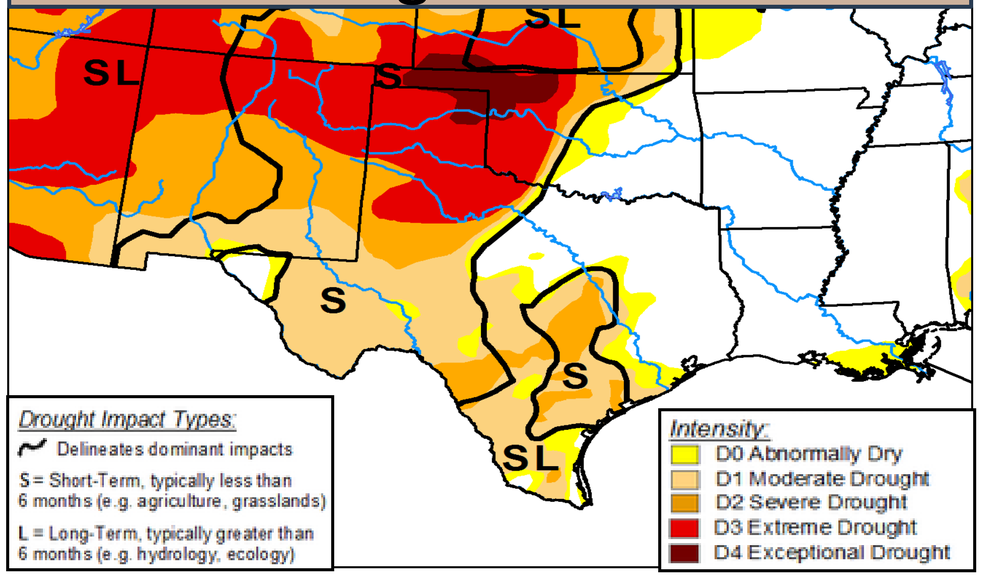
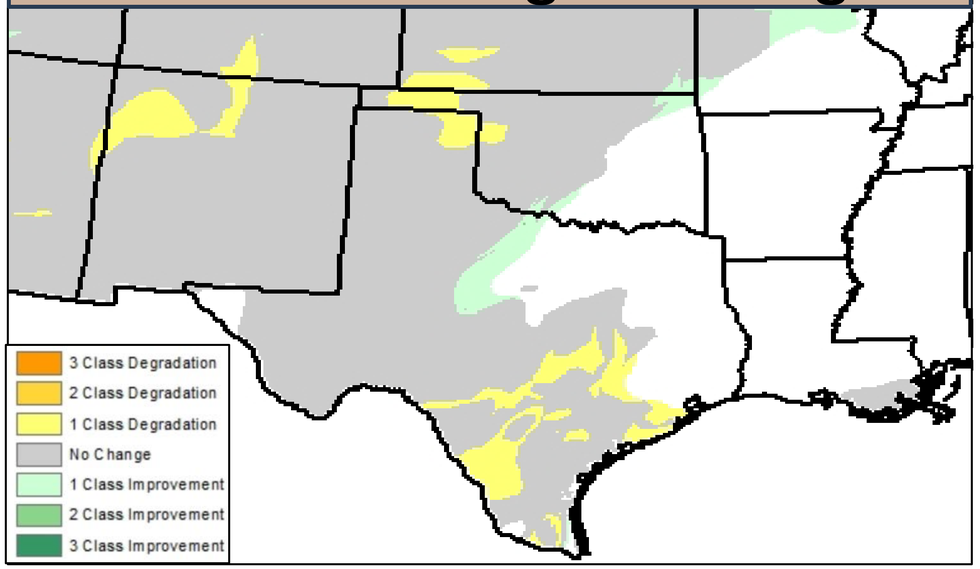
Data valid as of 7am CDT, Tuesday, March 27th, 2018

Drought Monitor



One Week Change in Drought



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%	42.40%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	7.07%	0.00%
Oklahoma	34.93%	34.45%	3.12%	3.17%
Texas	14.19%	14.16%	0.76%	0.00%
New Mexico	25.50%	17.08%	0.00%	0.00%

Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

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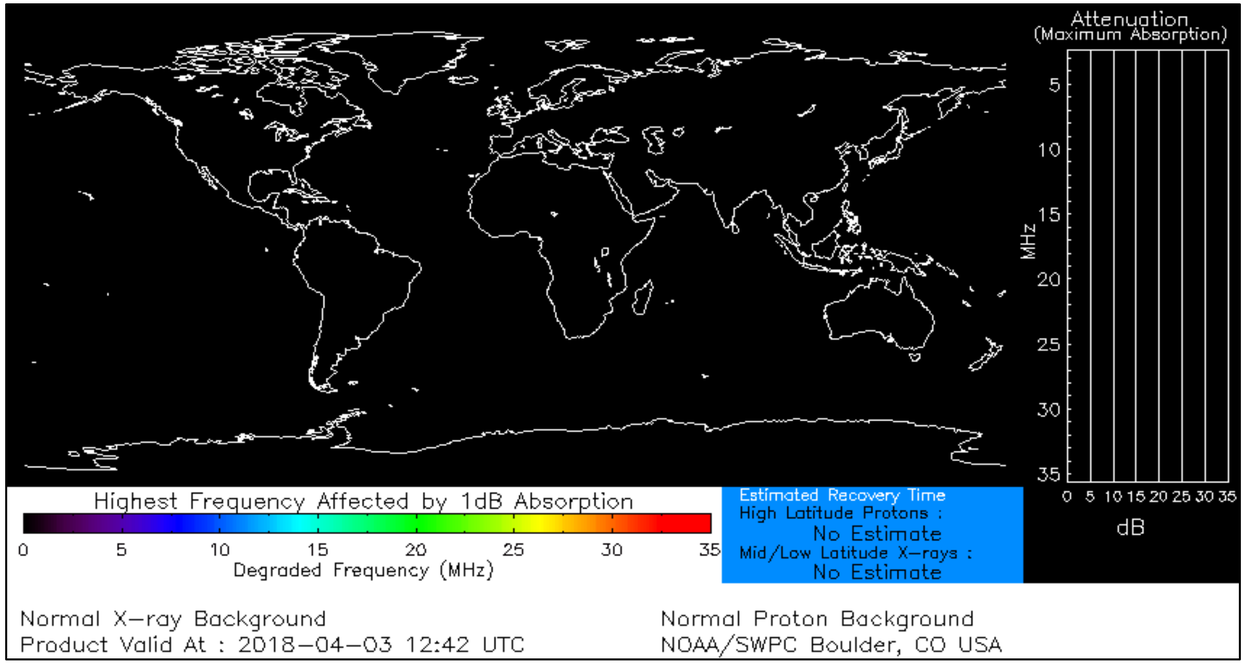
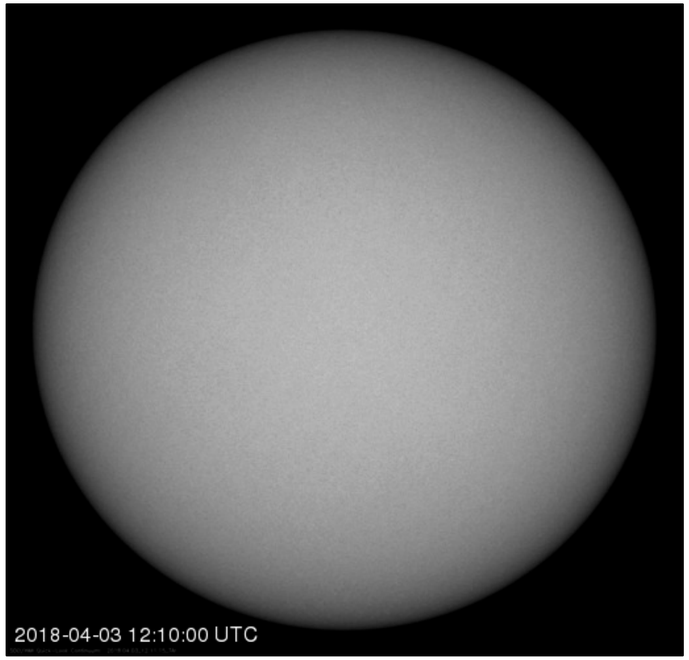
	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales

Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text



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

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