FEMA

Prepared by
Cindy Elsenheimer

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, December 26, 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.

Summary of the Upcoming Week

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Today

- Strong to severe thunderstorms possible today
  - Slight to Enhanced risk of severe storms across much of Central and E TX; damaging winds are the main threat, isolated tornadoes and hail also possible.
  - Marginal risk for strong to severe storms extends into S OK and W AR/LA
- Heavy rain/flash flooding possible across much of E TX and SE OK.
- Snow continues over W & N NM and TX/OK Panhandles; travel impacts likely.

Thursday

- Slight risk of severe storms over central LA early in the day; damaging winds are the main threat.
- Marginal risk of strong to severe storms remains across E TX, and into S AR and the rest of LA.
- Heavy rain/isolated flash flooding possible over LA, SE AR.

Friday - Sunday

- Another round of snow is expected over much of NM late Thursday into early Saturday.
- Wintry weather (mostly snow) chances over the Panhandles and OK on Saturday.

River Flooding

- Minor river flooding will continue this week over E TX, LA & AR.
- Additional rain this week may lead to additional (mostly minor) flooding across E TX and LA.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Dec 26, 2018 – Dec 30, 2018

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DAY / THREAT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Storms	Central TX	SE TX, Central LA			
	Central & E TX, S & SW OK, W LA & AR	SE AR, rest of LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	E TX, OK, W AR/LA	LA, SE AR			
Winter Weather	N & W NM, TX & OK Panhandles	NM	NM	NM, OK, Panhandles	
Fire Weather	TX Big Bend				
River Flooding	E TX, LA, AR	E TX, LA, AR	E TX, LA, AR	E TX, LA, AR	E TX, LA, AR

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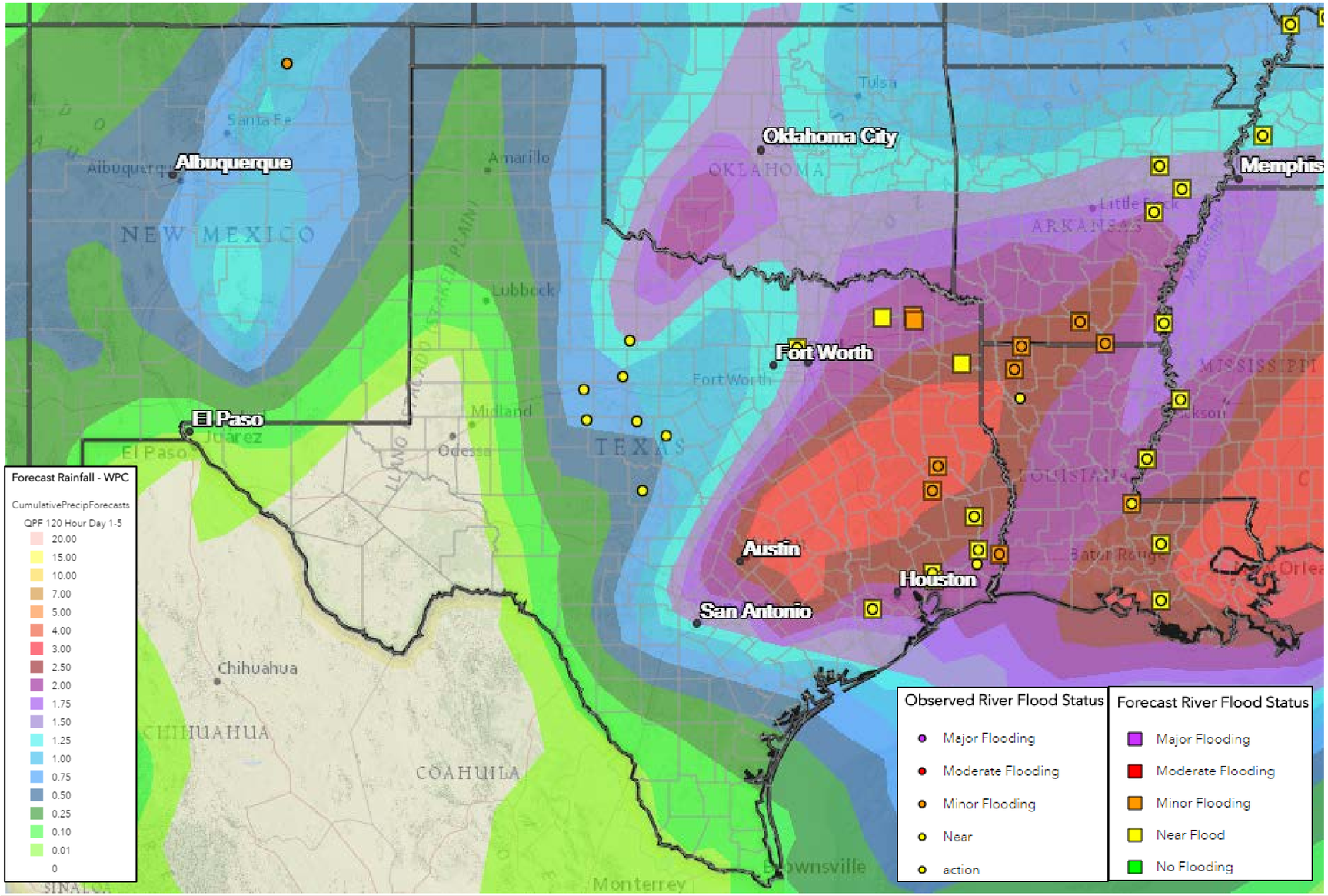
Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Minor river flooding will continue this week over E TX, LA and AR.

Additional rain this week may lead to additional (mostly minor) flooding across E TX and LA.

Today's Weather

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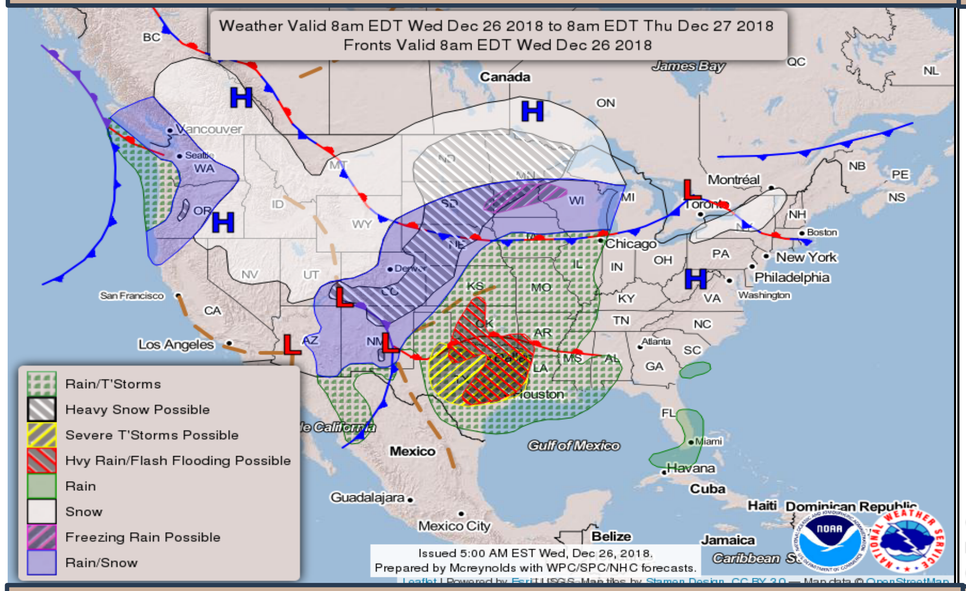
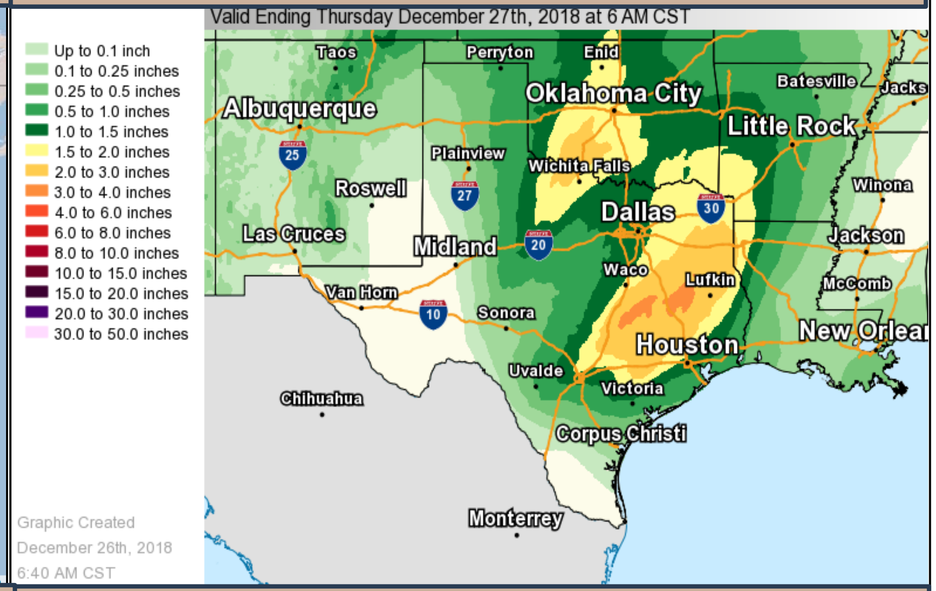
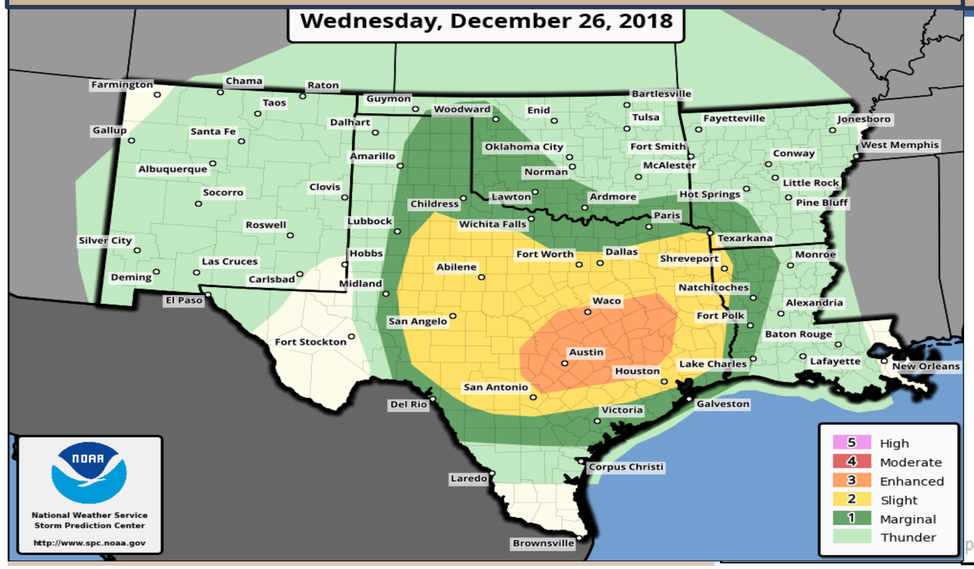
Forecast Chart



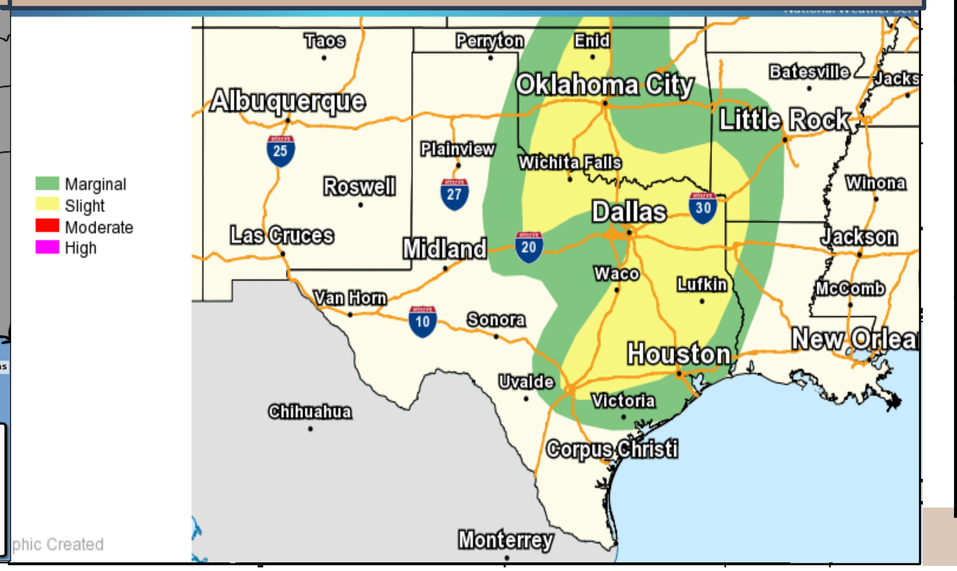
Forecast Rainfall



Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Enhanced risk for severe thunderstorms across Central TX. Damaging winds are the primary hazard with a few tornadoes possible

Slight risk for severe thunderstorms for Central & E TX with hail and damaging winds the primary hazards

Strong to severe thunderstorms possible across S OK, W AR/LA

Heavy rain/flash flooding possible across much of E TX and OK.

Snow continues over W & N NM into TX & OK Panhandles; travel impacts possible.

www.weather.gov/srh

Today's Fire Weather Outlook

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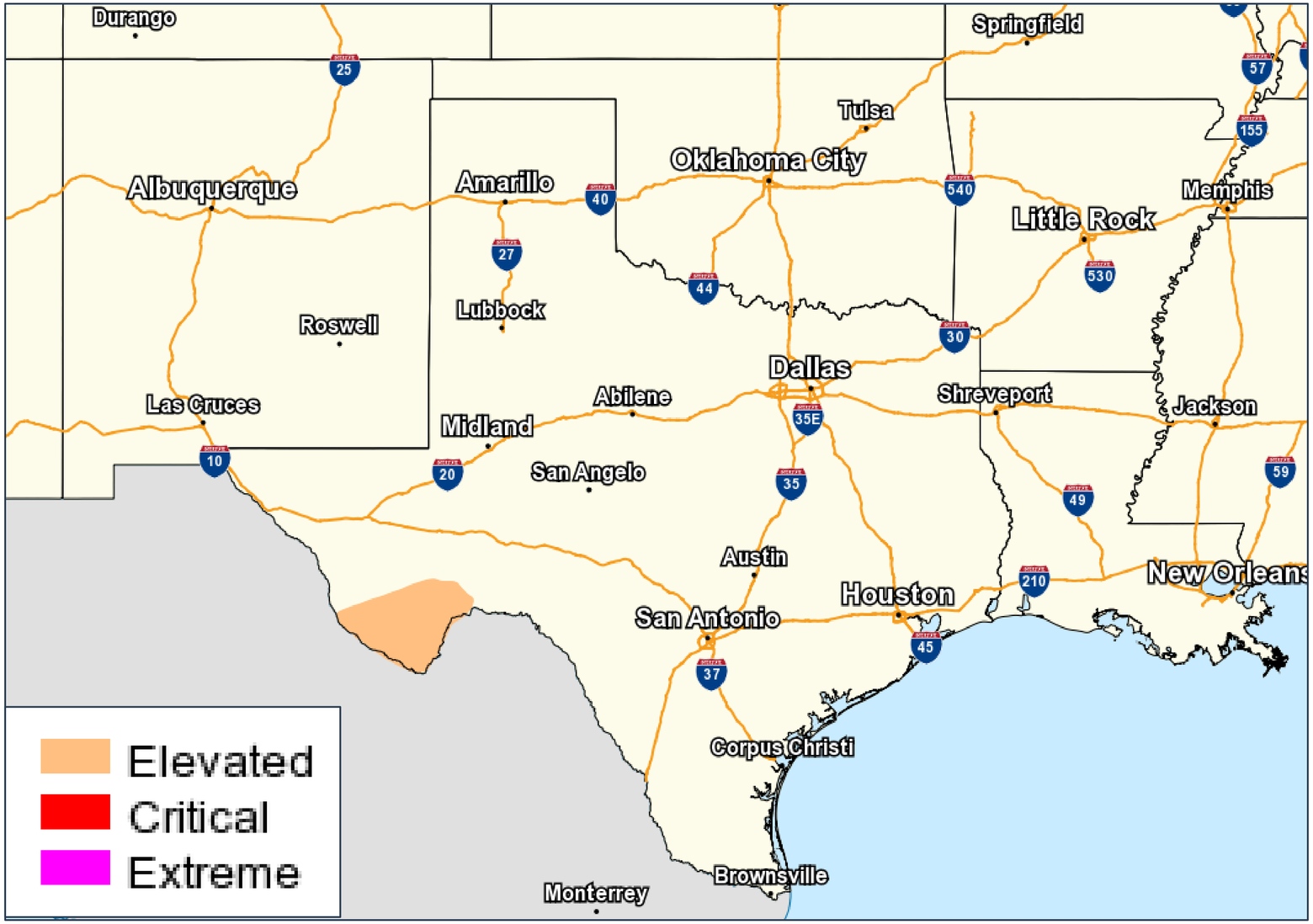
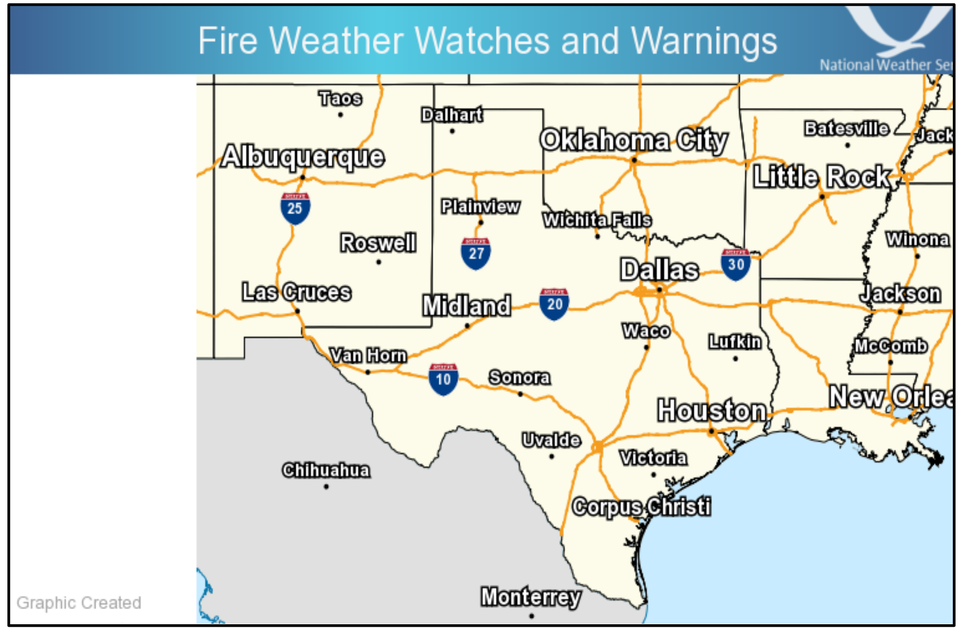


Elevated fire weather conditions across TX Big Bend



Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

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Fire Weather

Graphic Created

Severe Weather & Flooding

Flash Flood Watch

Graphic Created

Winter Weather Advisories in effect for W NM through this evening.

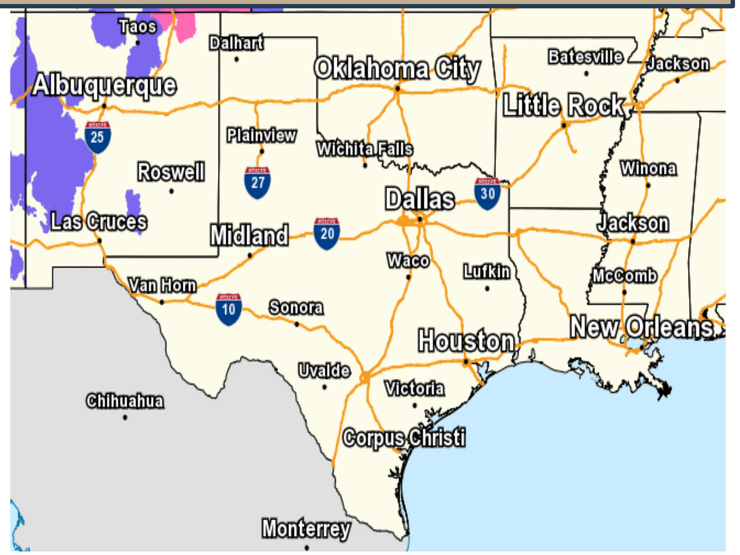
Strong & Gusty Winds

High Wind Warning
Lake Wind Advisory
Wind Advisory

Graphic Created

Winter Weather

Winter Storm Warning
Winter Weather Advisory



Graphic Created

Tomorrow's Weather

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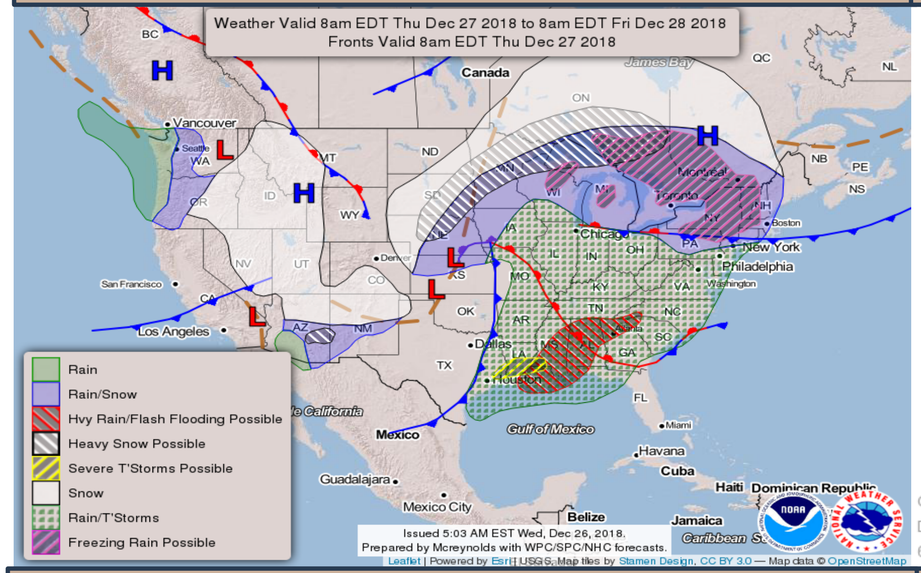
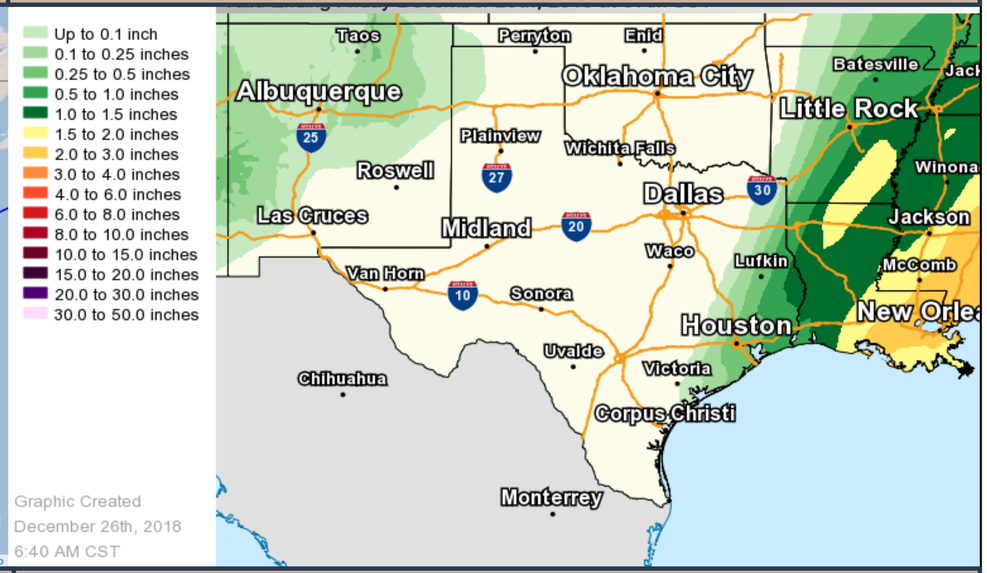
Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall

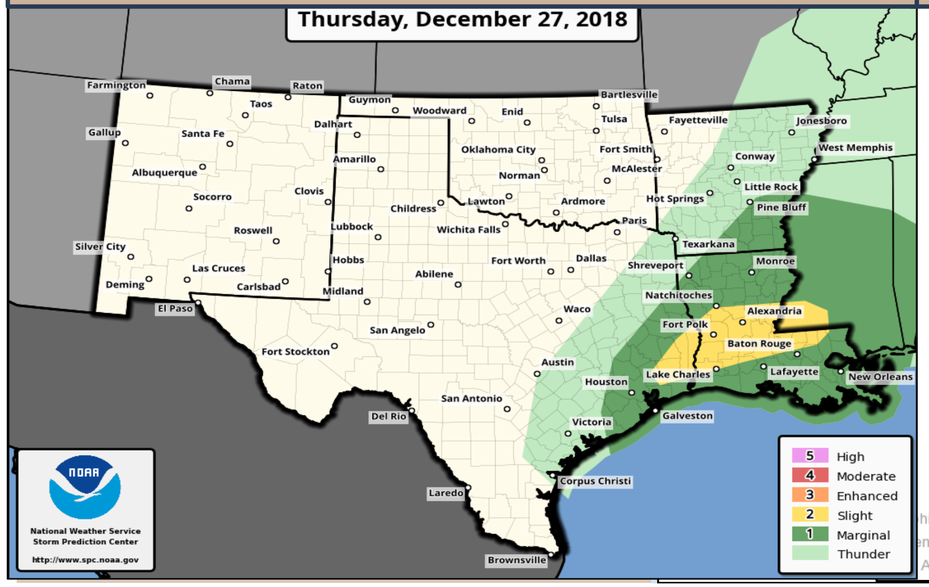


Slight risk of severe storms over E TX and Central LA early in the day.

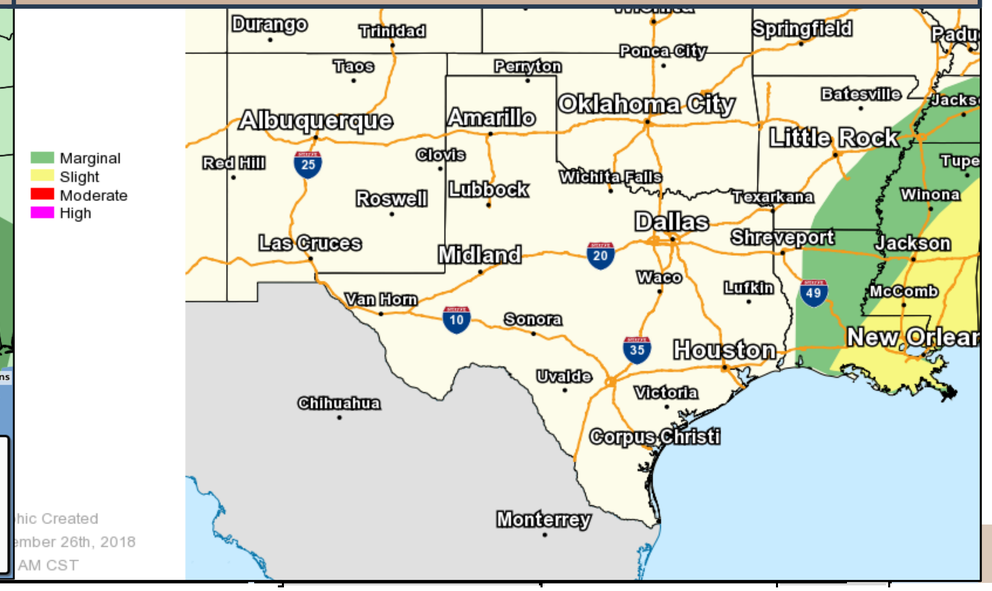
Heavy rain/isolated flooding possible over SE LA.

Marginal risk of strong to severe thunderstorms over S AR, E TX and much of LA

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



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Friday's Weather

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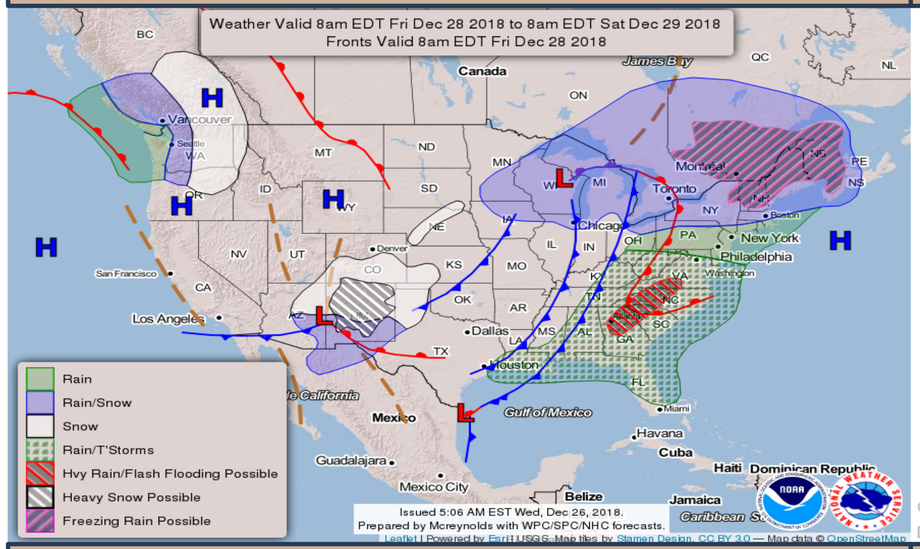
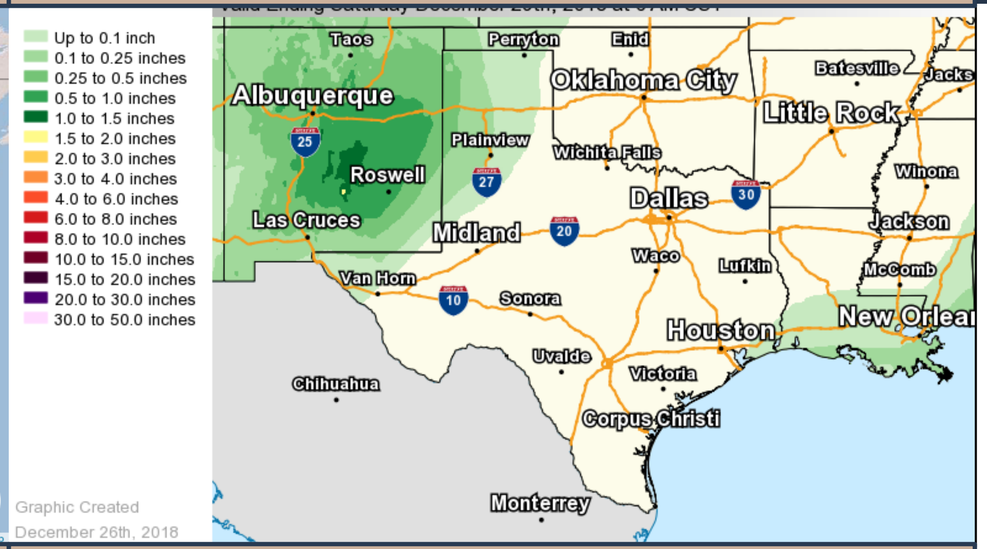
Forecast Chart

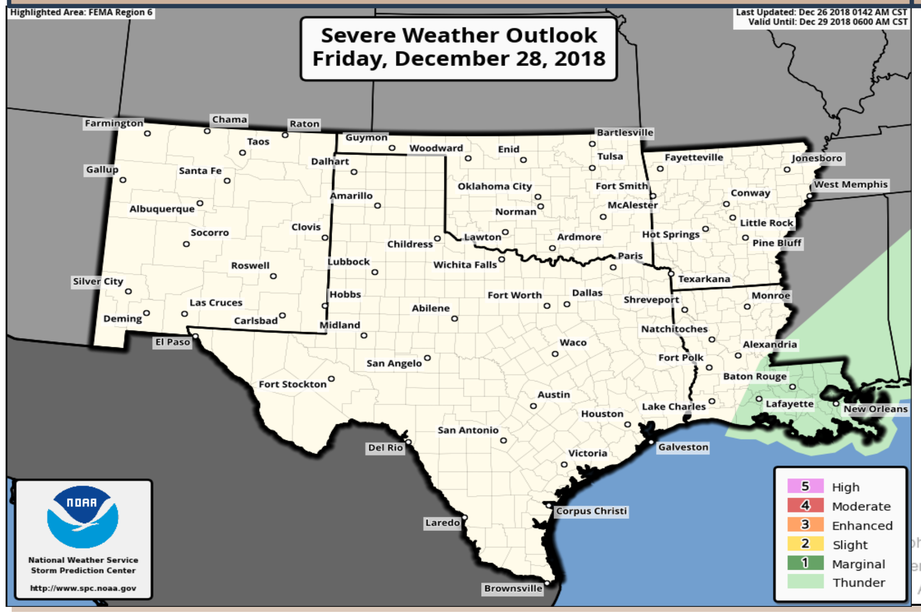


Forecast Rainfall

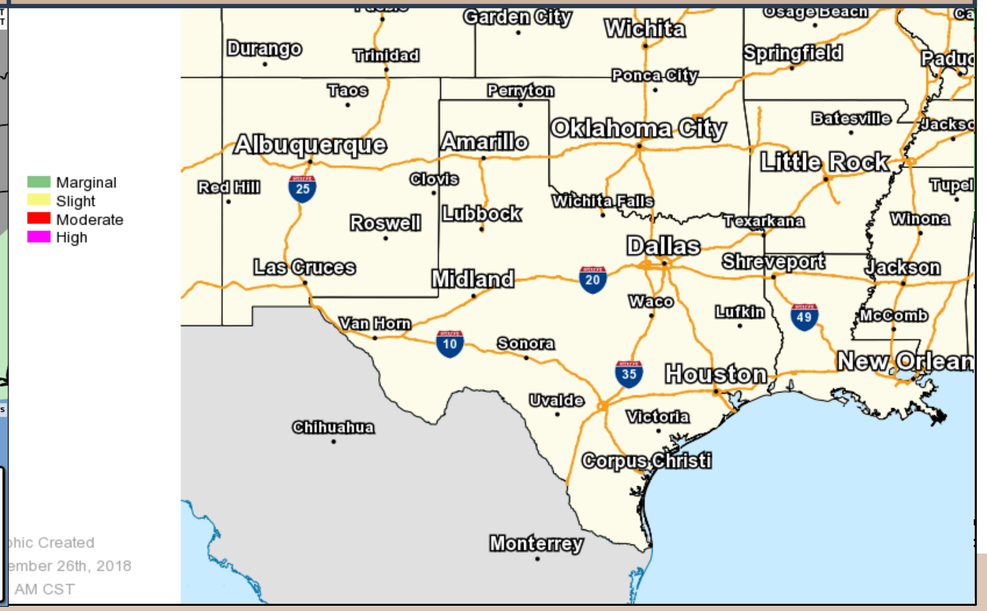


Another round of snow is expected over much of NM late Thursday into early Saturday.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



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Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Saturday - Sunday

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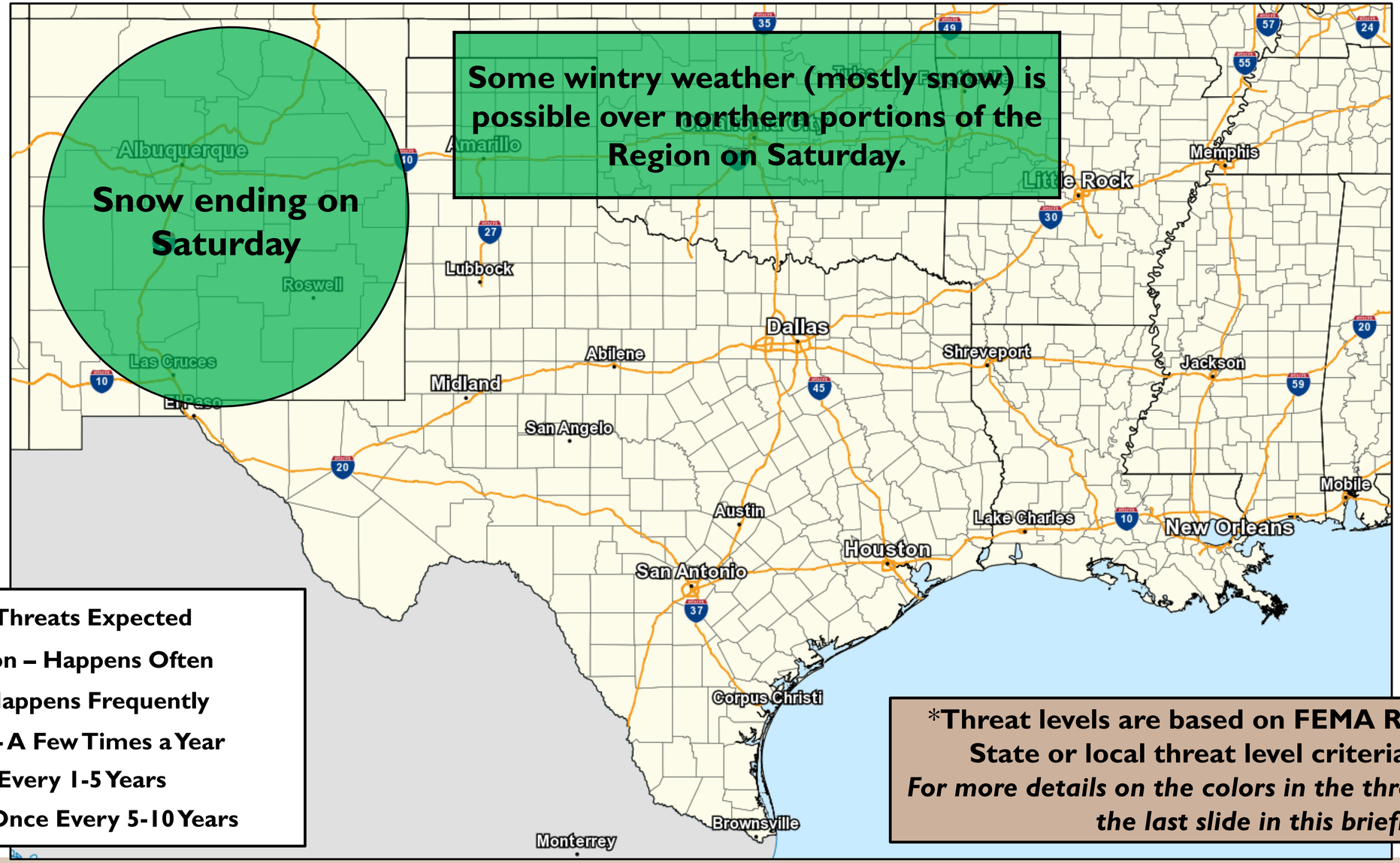

- No Weather Threats Expected
- Very Common – Happens Often
- Common – Happens Frequently
- Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
- Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
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Space Weather 3-Day Forecast

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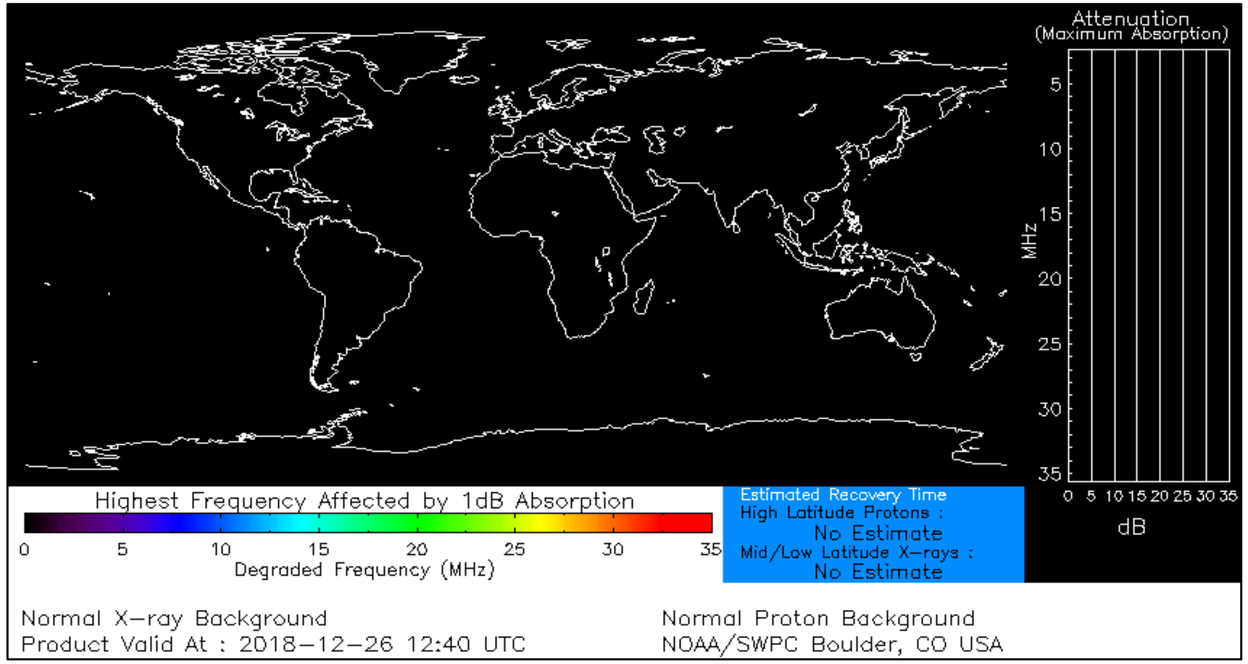
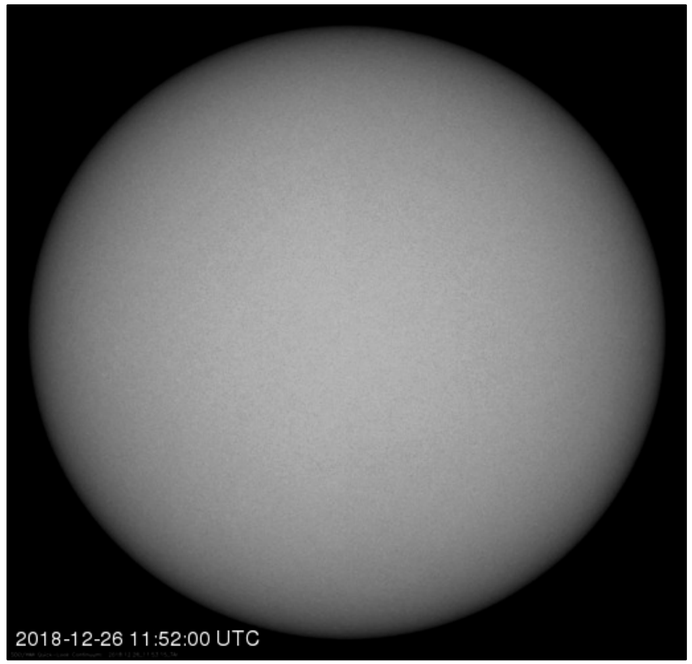
	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[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

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