



National Weather Service
Lake Charles, Louisiana
1:00 pm Thu Mar 17 2016

Weekly Weather Update

By Roger Erickson, Warning Coordination Meteorologist

TOP STORY:

River flooding continues for the next week along the Sabine and Red Rivers.

Rain and thunderstorms are expected today through Saturday morning.

	Low Temperatures	High Temperatures	Chance for Rain
Friday	60-65 F	75-80 F	50-60%
Saturday	55-60 F	65-70 F	30-50% AM
Sunday	42-47 F	60-65 F	2%
Monday	37-42 F	66-70 F	2%
Tuesday	44-50 F	71-74 F	5%
Wednesday	55-60 F	74-78 F	20%
Thursday	60-65 F	75-80 F	40-50%



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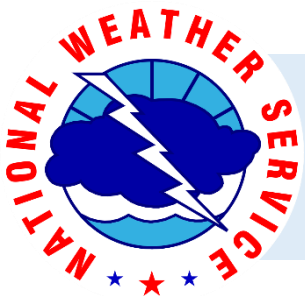
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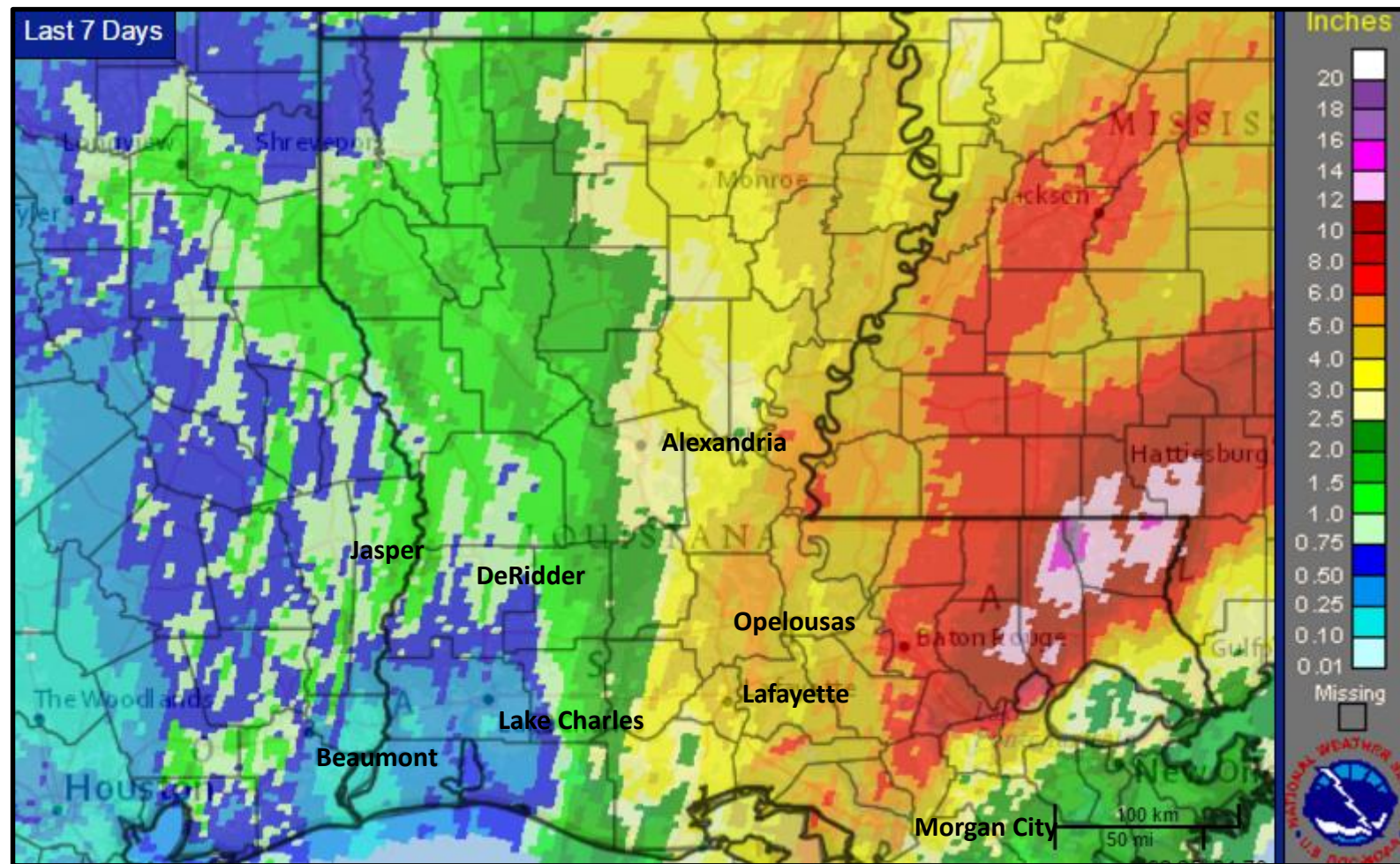
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Rainfall in the Past Week

The highest rain totals in the past 7 days was seen in our eastern area, where 3 to 6 inches of rain fell east of an Alexandria to Ville Platte to Crowley line.



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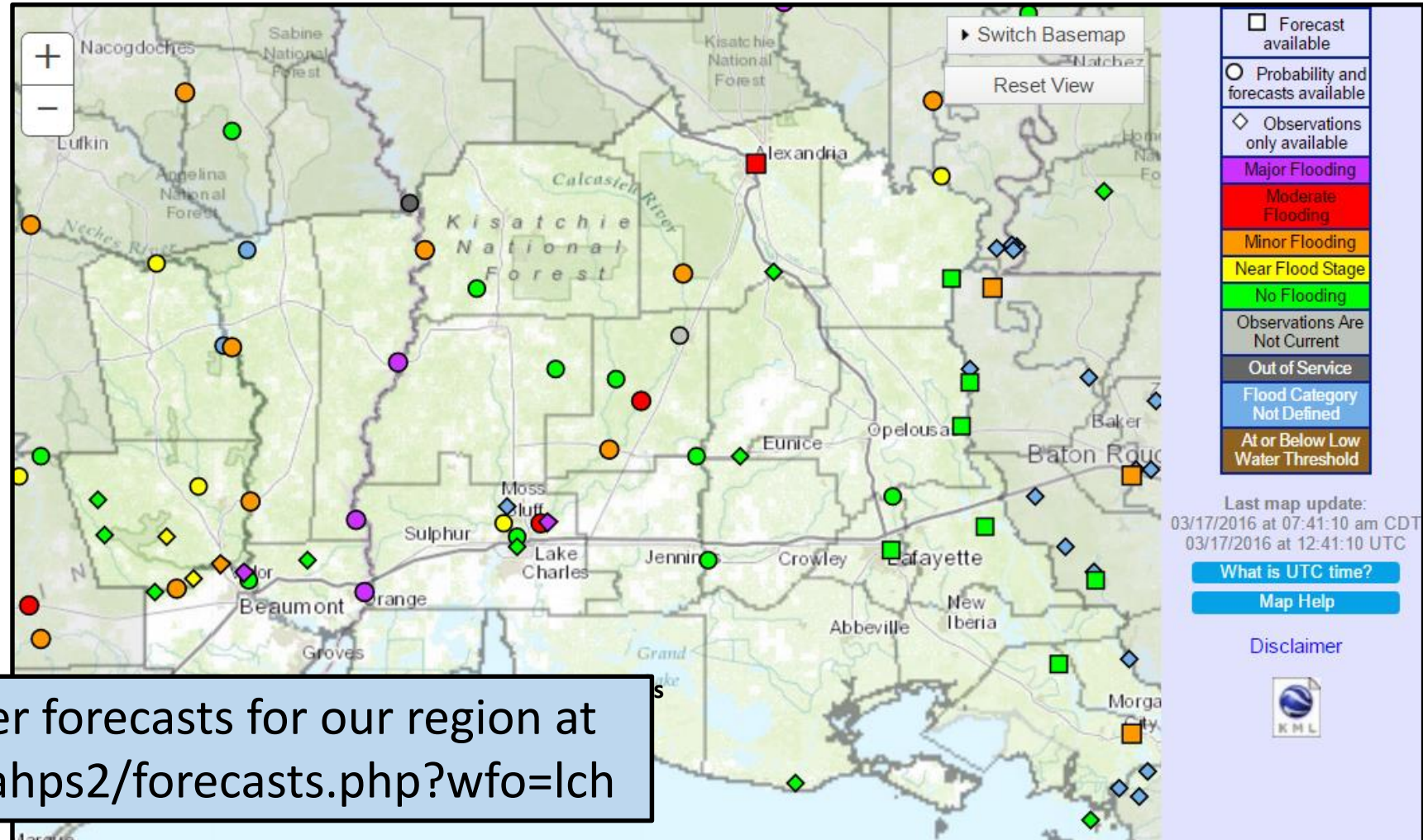
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River Forecasts

Major flooding is occurring on the Sabine, Neches, and Calcasieu Rivers. Major flooding is expected this weekend on the Red River near Alexandria.



You can find the latest river forecasts for our region at <http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/forecasts.php?wfo=lch>



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Sabine River Forecast

Sabine River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Toledo Bend Dam	172	172.33 ft	n/a
Burkeville	43	43.1 ft	Will fall below flood stage by tonight.
Bon Wier/Merryville	30	37.5 ft	Slowly falling, will remain above major flood (36 ft) through the weekend.
Deweyville/Starks	24	32.2 ft	Slowly falling, but stay above major flood (28 ft) through the weekend.
Orange	4	7.6 ft	Will hold near 7.5 ft through Friday, then slowly fall below major flood (6 ft) by Monday.

Water levels at the river gage in Orange will hold near 7.5 feet for another 24 hours, however water should slowly drain out of the city of Orange and areas north of I-10 towards Little Cypress during this time.



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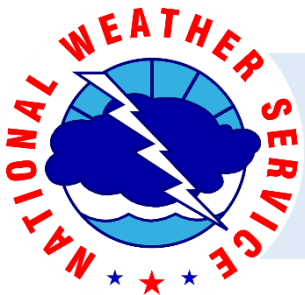
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Neches River Forecast

Neches River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Steinhagen Lake		82.03 ft	
Town Bluff	68	68.4 ft	Stay near flood stage through the weekend.
Evadale	17	17.8 ft	Stay in minor flood through the weekend.
Salt Water Barrier	4	8.3 ft	Slowly falling, will be below major flood (8 ft) by Friday.
Beaumont	4	7.2 ft	Slowly falling, but will remain above flood stage through the weekend.





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Other Texas River Forecasts

Village Creek

	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Kountze	17	14.1 ft	Has fallen below flood stage and will continue to fall.

Pine Island Bayou

	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Sour Lake	25	26.5 ft	Slowly falling, will go below flood stage (25 ft) by Saturday.

Cow Bayou

	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Mauriceville	17	12.72 ft	It is falling and will continue to fall through the weekend.





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Calcasieu River Forecast

Calcasieu River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Glenmora	12	13.9 ft	Currently falling, will be below flood stage late Sunday.
Oberlin	13	17.0 ft	It is falling and will be below flood stage on Sunday.
Kinder	16	19.3 ft	It is falling and will be below flood stage on Saturday.
Old Town Bay	4	7.4 ft	It is rising and will crest near 9.5 ft on Saturday.
Salt Water Barrier	4	3.7 ft	It will crest near 5 ft (minor flood) on Saturday.





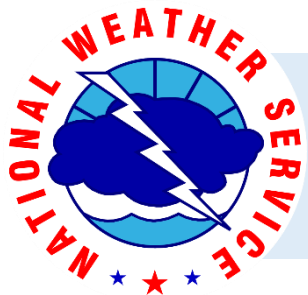
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Red River Area Forecasts

Red River and Black River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Alexandria	32	37.3 ft	It will crest in major flood around 40.5 ft Sunday night.
Acme	48	47.4 ft	Currently rising and will reach flood stage tonight, and crest in a moderate flood near 53 ft on Wednesday.

This will be a major flood for not just Alexandria, but any community along the Red River in Rapides and Avoyelles Parishes (Boyce, Pineville, Bayou Rigolette, Fifth Ward, Brouillette).
This could go down as one of the top 10 crests of the Red River.



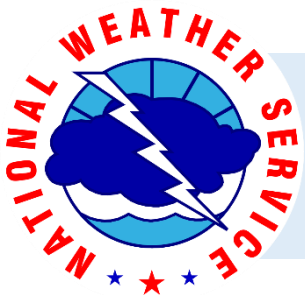


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Atchafalaya River Forecast

Atchafalaya River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Simmesport	47	34.4 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. The crest of 38 ft will happen next Wednesday.
Melville	34	26.6 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. The crest of 30 ft will happen next Wednesday.
Krotz Springs	29	23.7 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. The crest of 27 ft will happen next Thursday.
Butte LaRose	20	16.8 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. The crest of 19.5 ft will happen next Thursday.
Myette Point	15	9.1 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. It will crest near 11.5 ft on Friday March 25 th .
Morgan City	6	6.1 ft	It will continue to rise, and crest near 7.5 ft on Friday March 25 th .

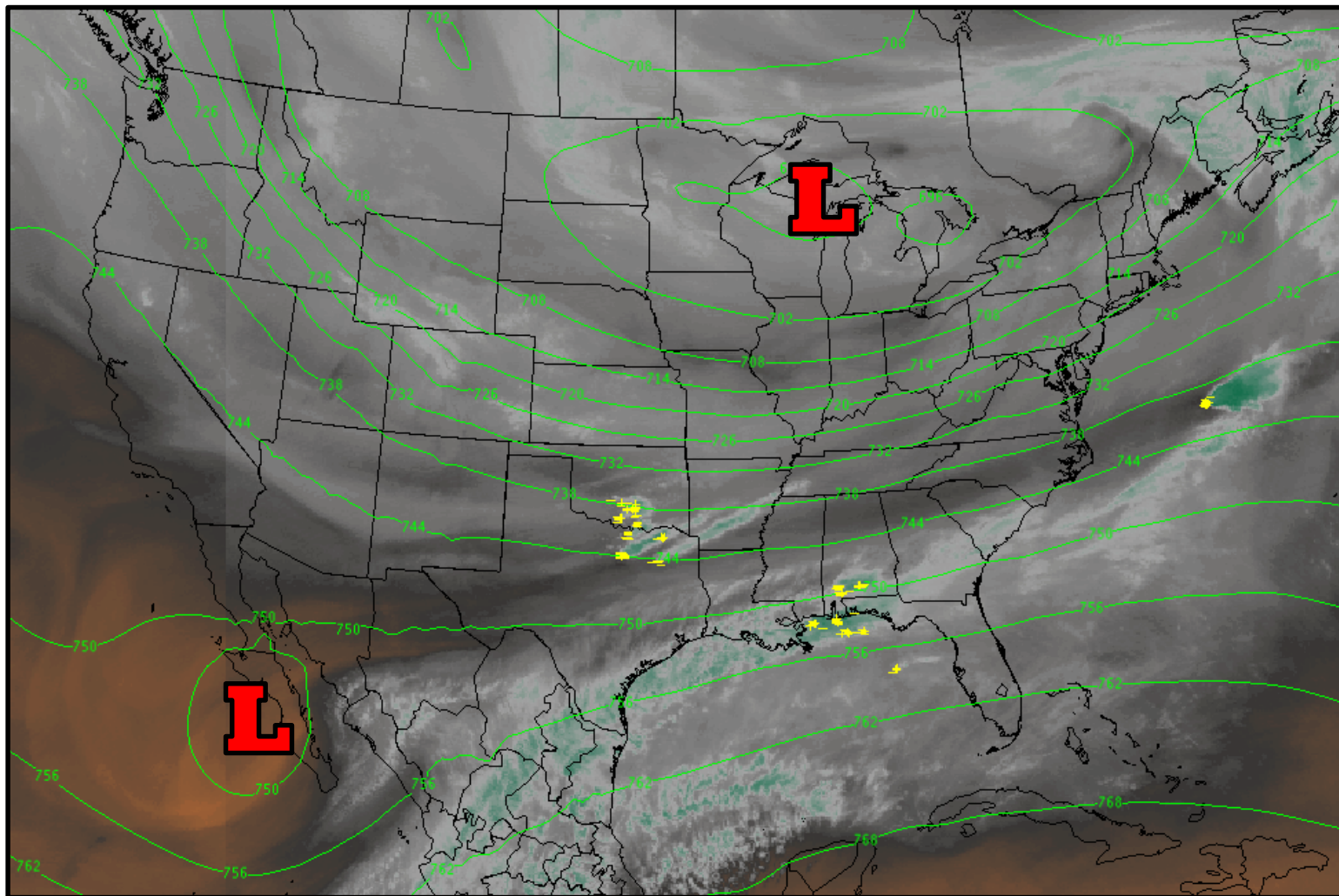




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US Water Vapor Weather Satellite

Mostly zonal flow is seen in the mid to upper parts of the atmosphere today across our region.



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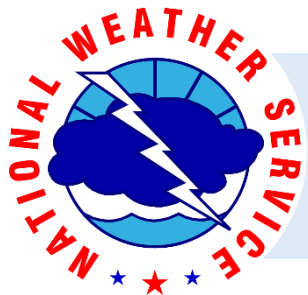
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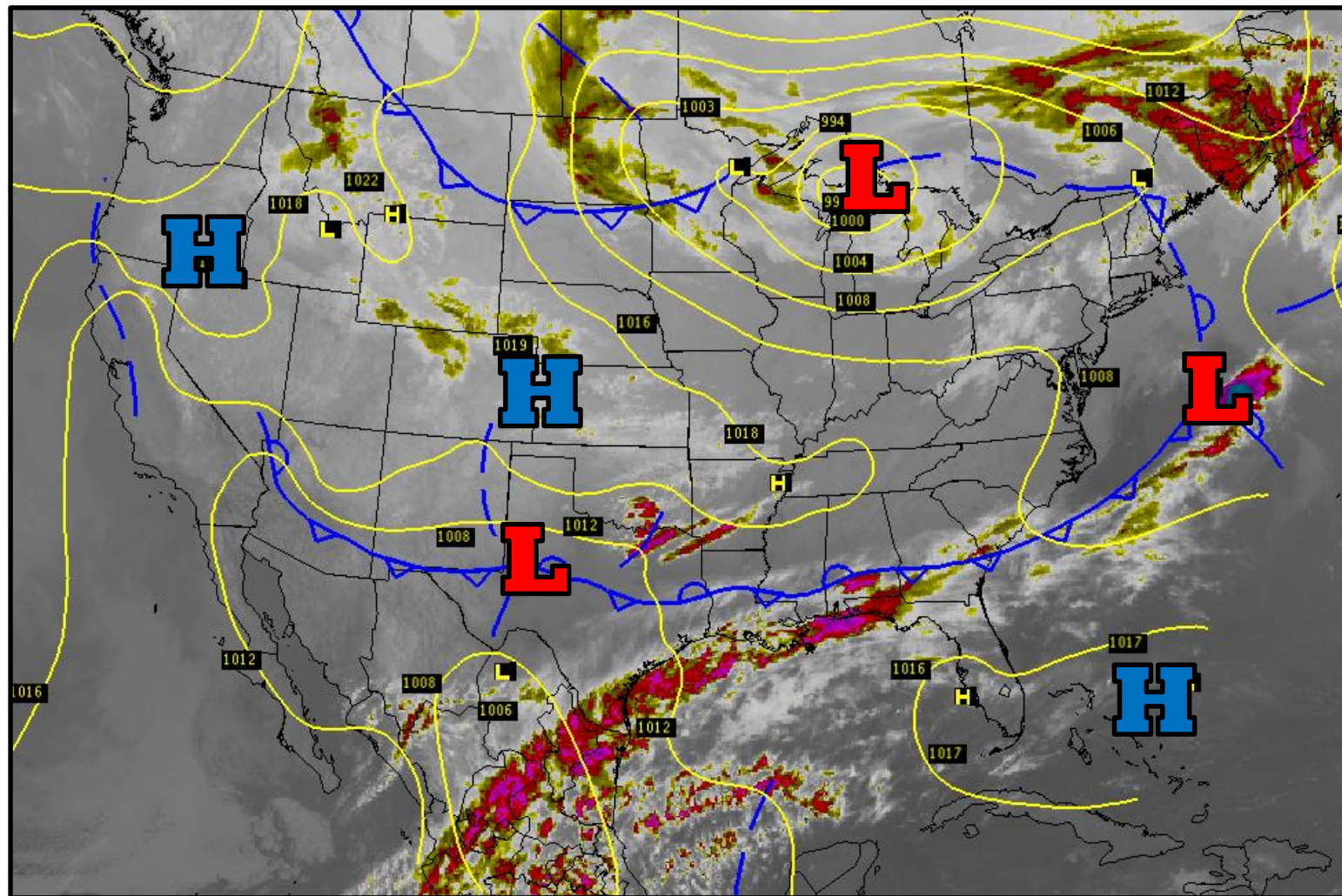
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US Infra-Red Weather Satellite

Two frontal systems drape west to east across the US. One is across the northern US and the other is across the southern US.



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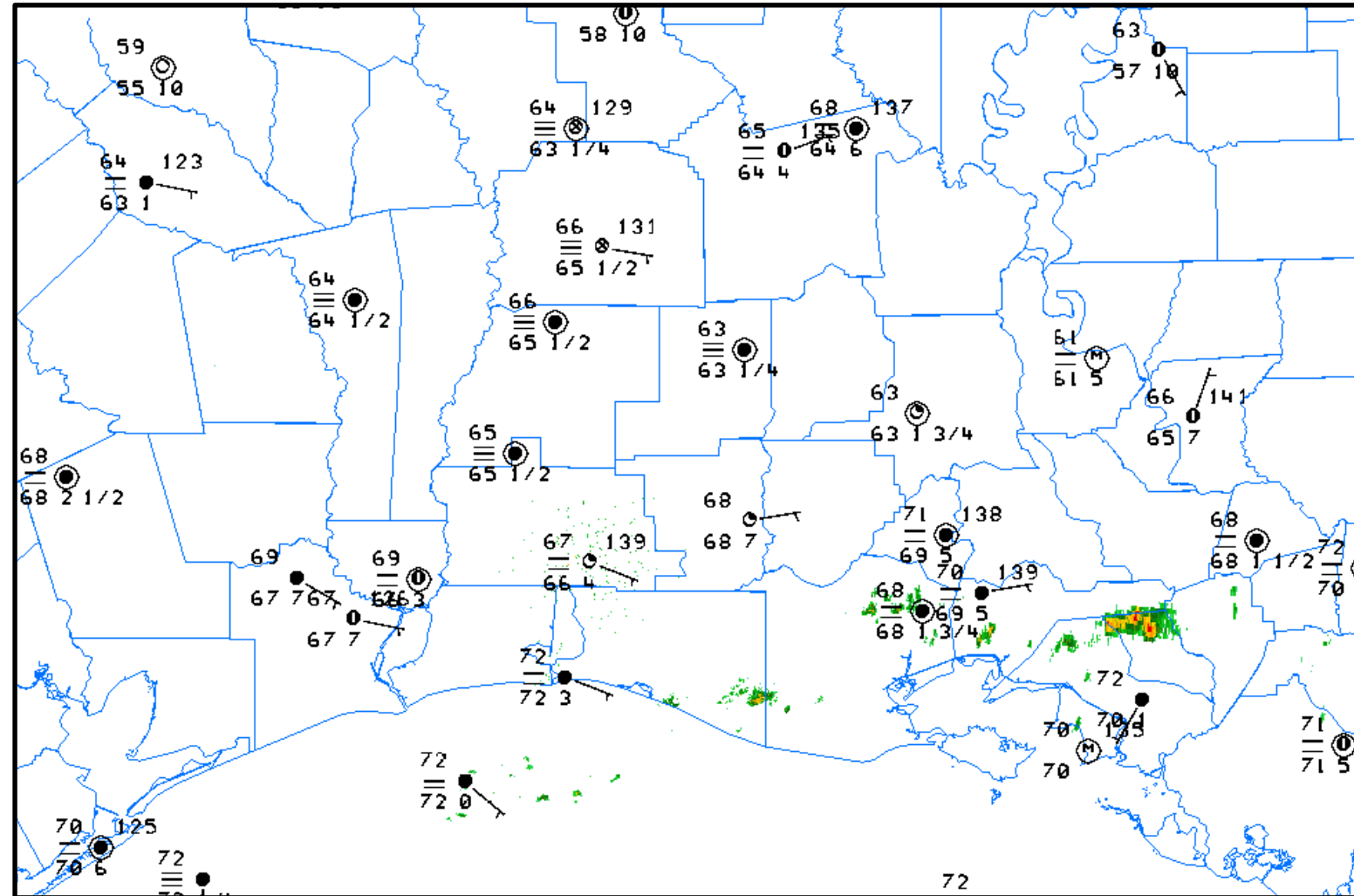
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6 am Weather Observations

This morning was foggy and temperatures ranged from 63 F at Oakdale and Opelousas to 72 F at Cameron and Patterson. Isolated thunderstorms were seen across parts of lower Acadiana.



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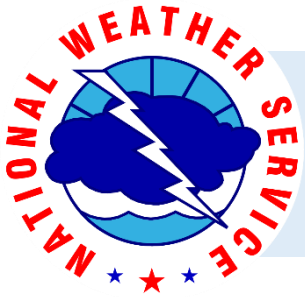
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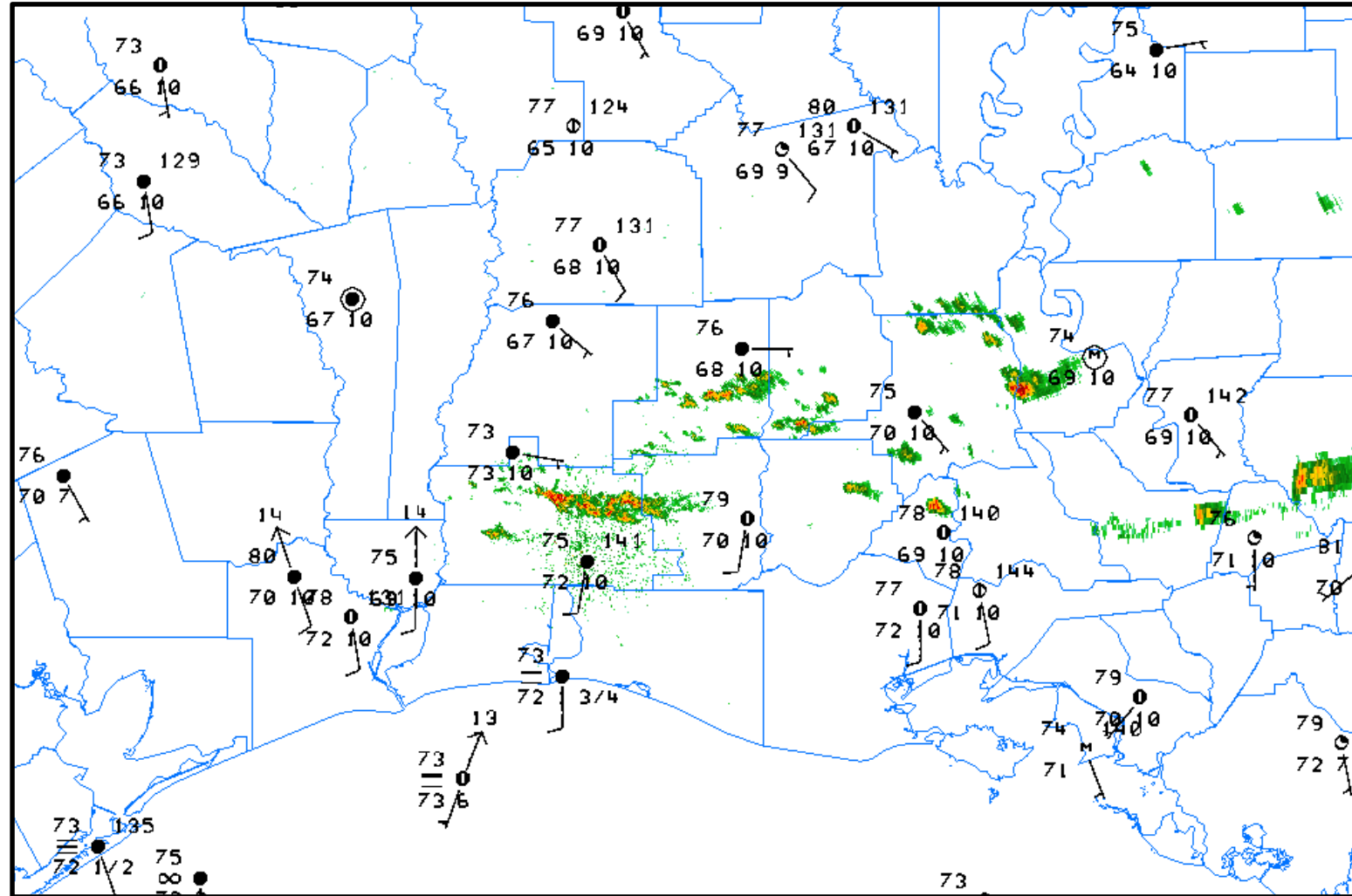
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12 pm Weather Observations

Widely scattered showers and thunderstorms were seen between I-10 and US 190 in Louisiana, moving north. Temperatures were in the mid 70s to lower 80s. Winds were south to southeast at 10 mph.

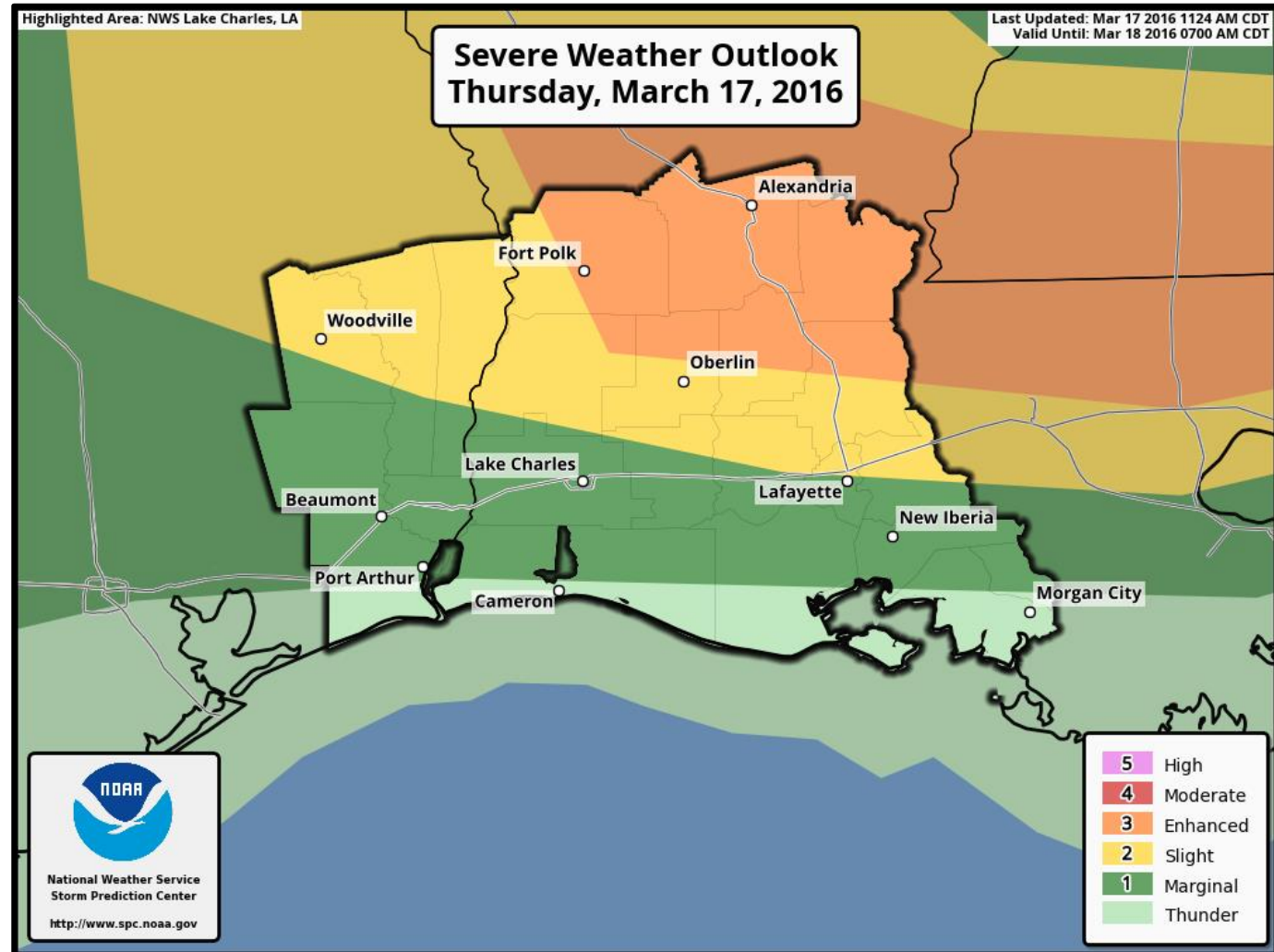




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Severe Weather Threat This Afternoon and Evening

The highest threat for severe storms this afternoon into tonight will be in central Louisiana. The primary threat is damaging winds and large hail. There is a very small chance for severe storms in the Beaumont to Lake Charles area.



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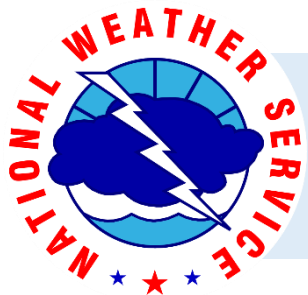
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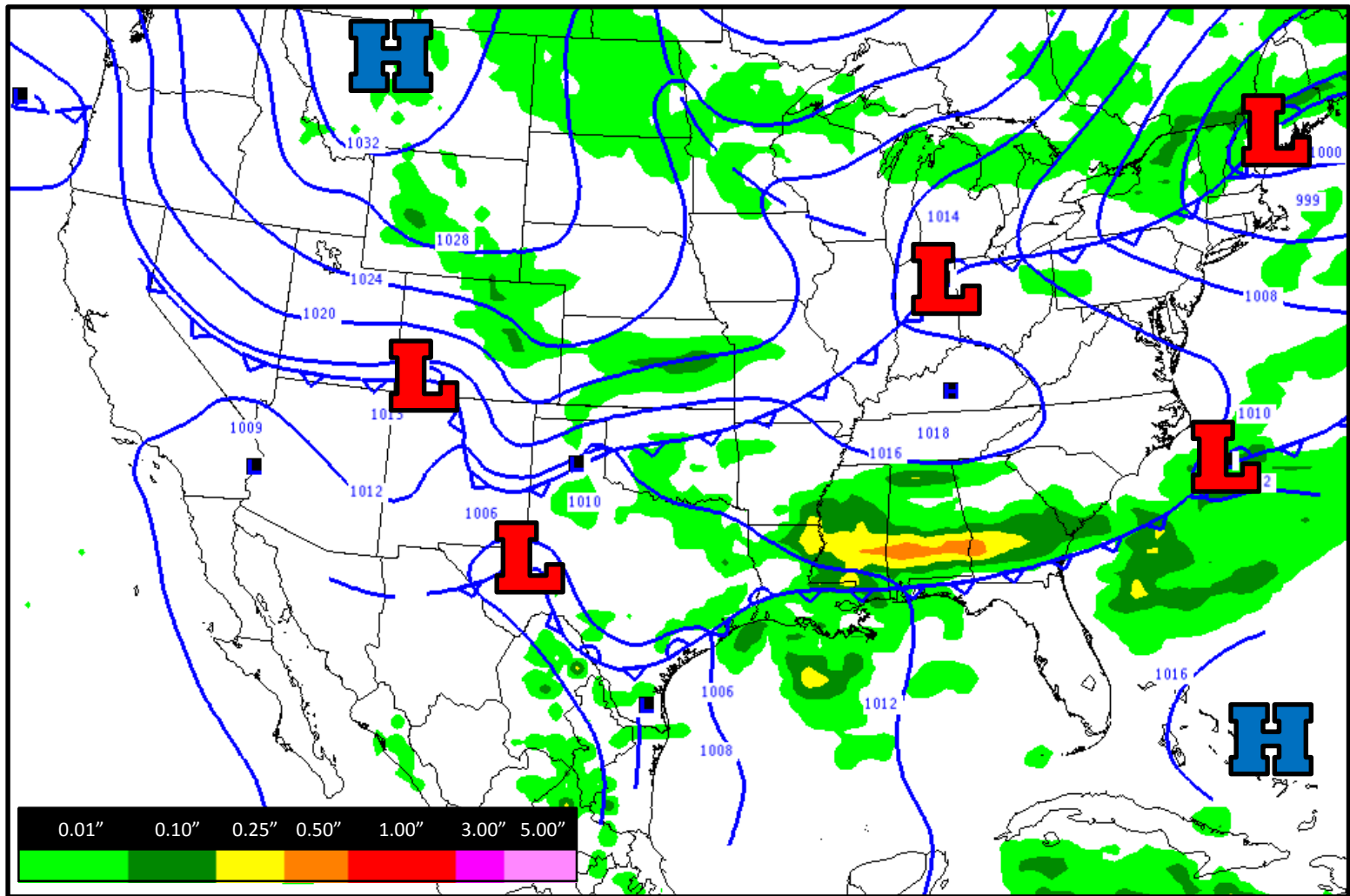
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6 am Friday March 18 2016

Low Temperature	60-65 F
High Temperature	75-80 F
Wind	SE 10-15 mph
Rain Chances	50-60%
Weather Hazards	Thunderstorms River Flooding



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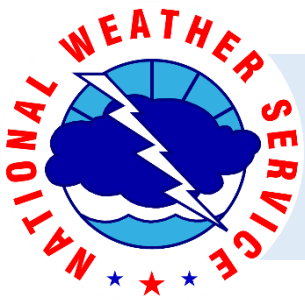
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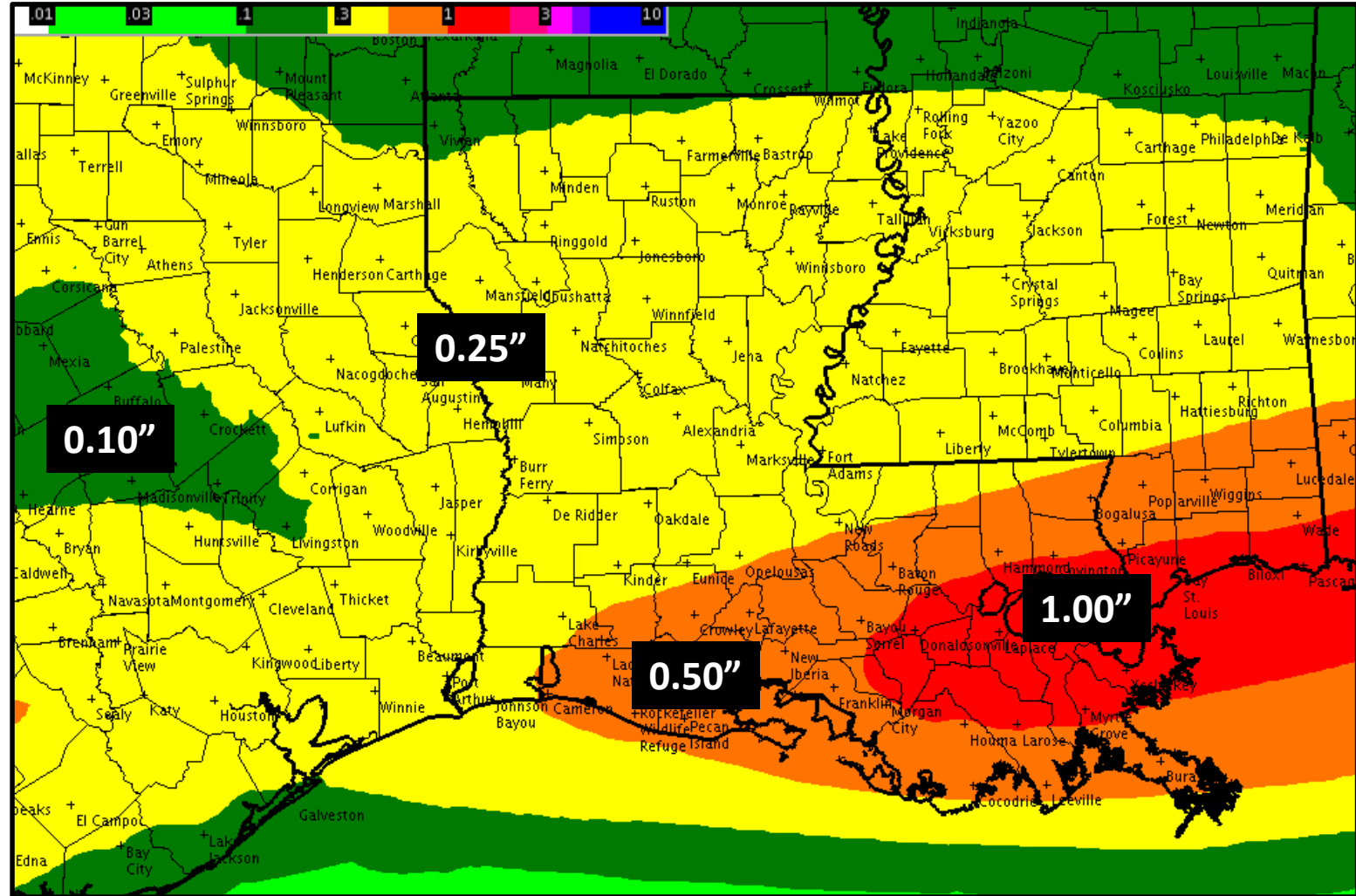
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Rain Totals Friday March 18 2016

Friday will see around a quarter inch for most of the area, except for along and south of the I-10 corridor east of Lake Charles, where they could see half an inch of rain.



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Localized Flooding Possible

Be cautious in areas that normally drain into the Sabine, Neches, Calcasieu, and Red Rivers. Due to the high water levels on these rivers, localized flooding could occur due to poor drainage conditions when it is raining this afternoon through Saturday morning.



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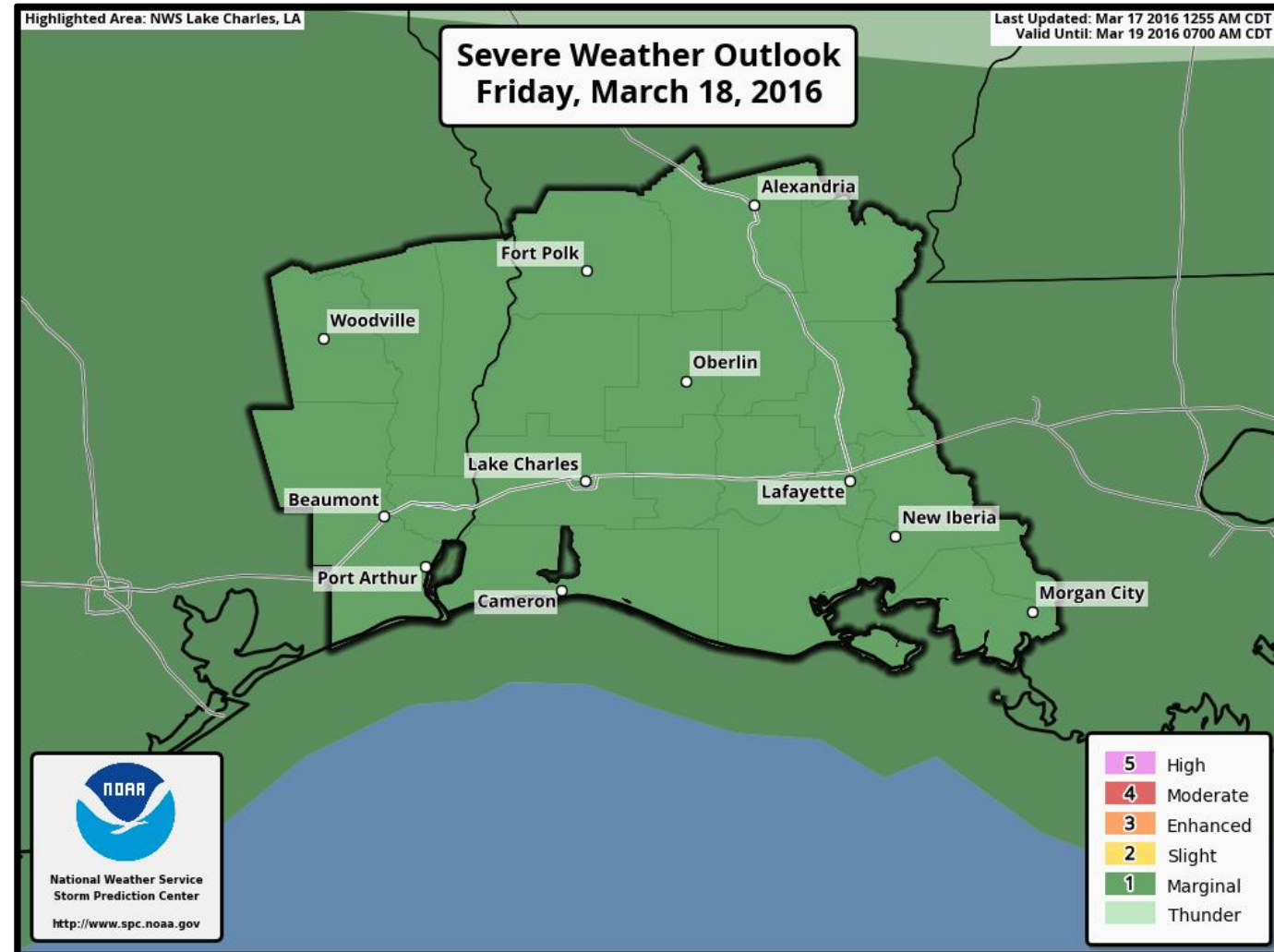
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Severe Weather Threat Friday March 18 2016

There is a very small threat for severe storms on Friday (5%). Large hail or damaging winds would be the primary threat.



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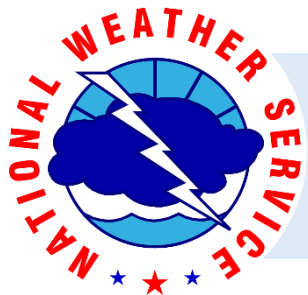
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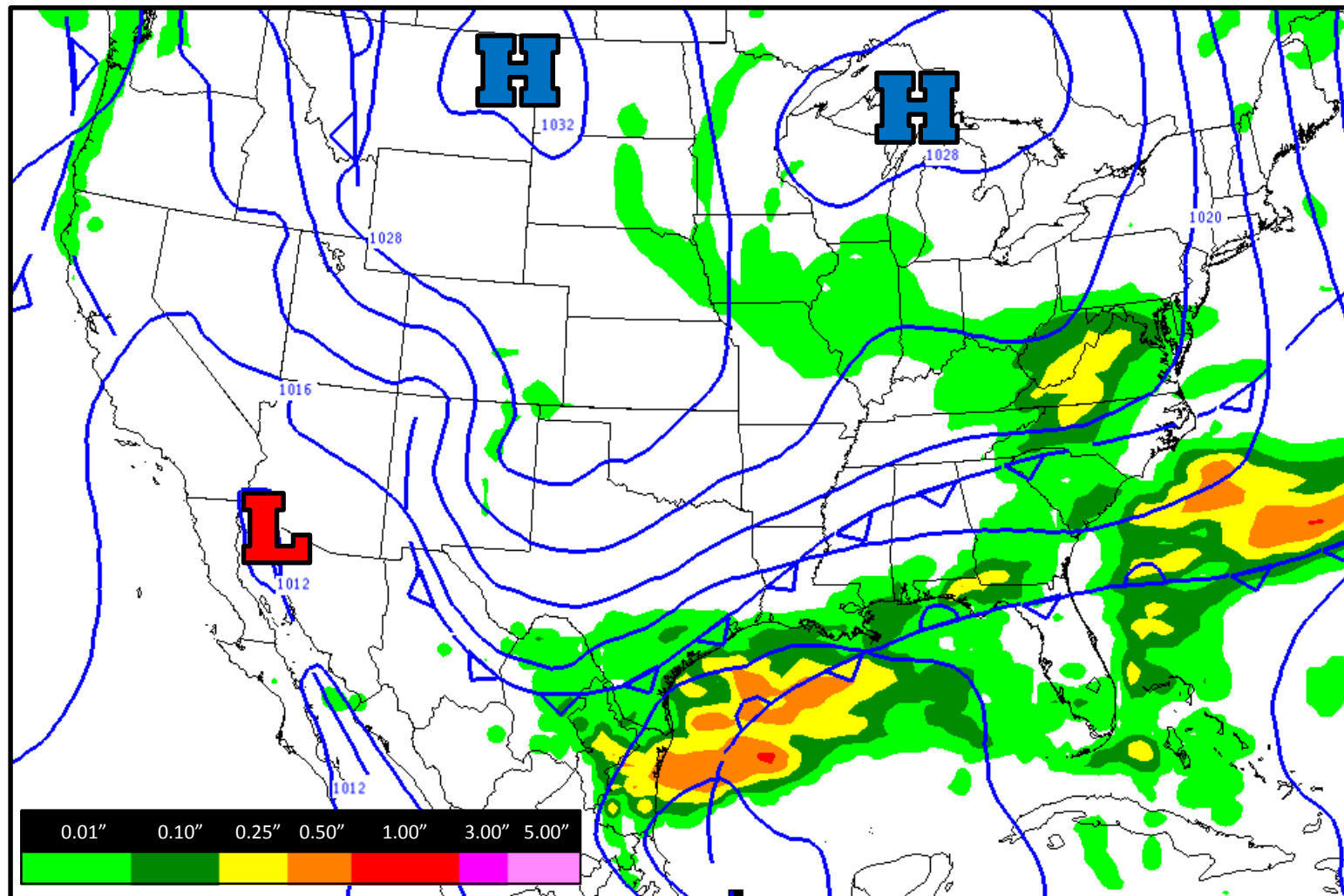
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6 am Saturday March 19 2016

Low Temperature	55-60 F
High Temperature	65-70 F
Wind	N 10-15 mph Gusts 30 mph
Rain Chances	30-50%
Weather Hazards	Thunderstorms River Flooding



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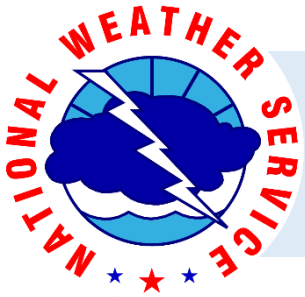
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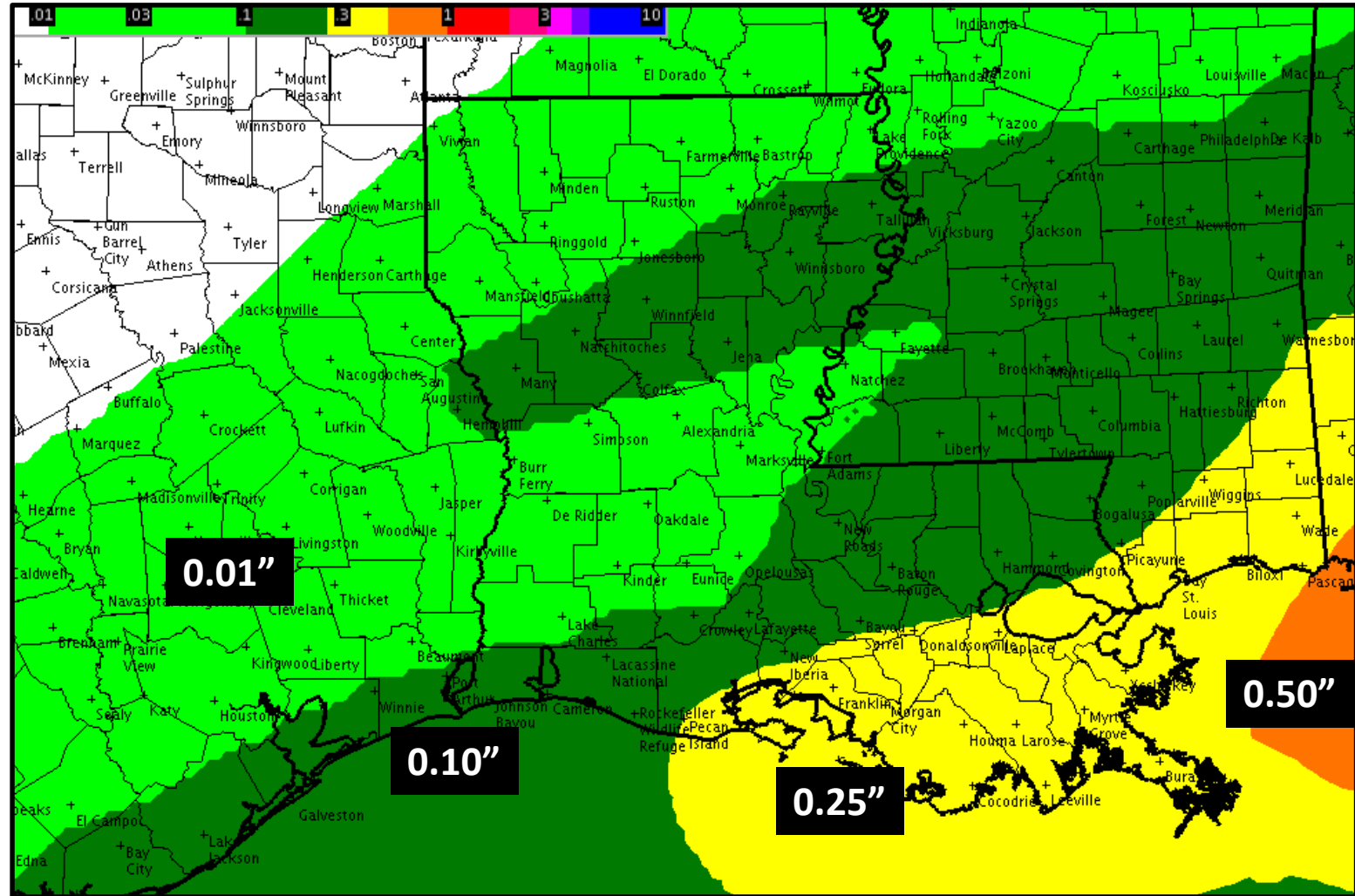
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Rain Totals Saturday March 19 2016

Saturday will see the most rain in lower Acadiana, where they could have around a quarter inch. Most of this rain should occur in the morning.



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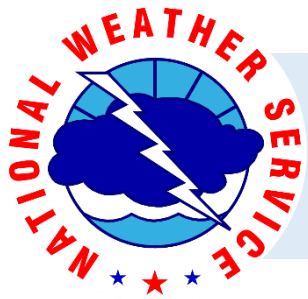
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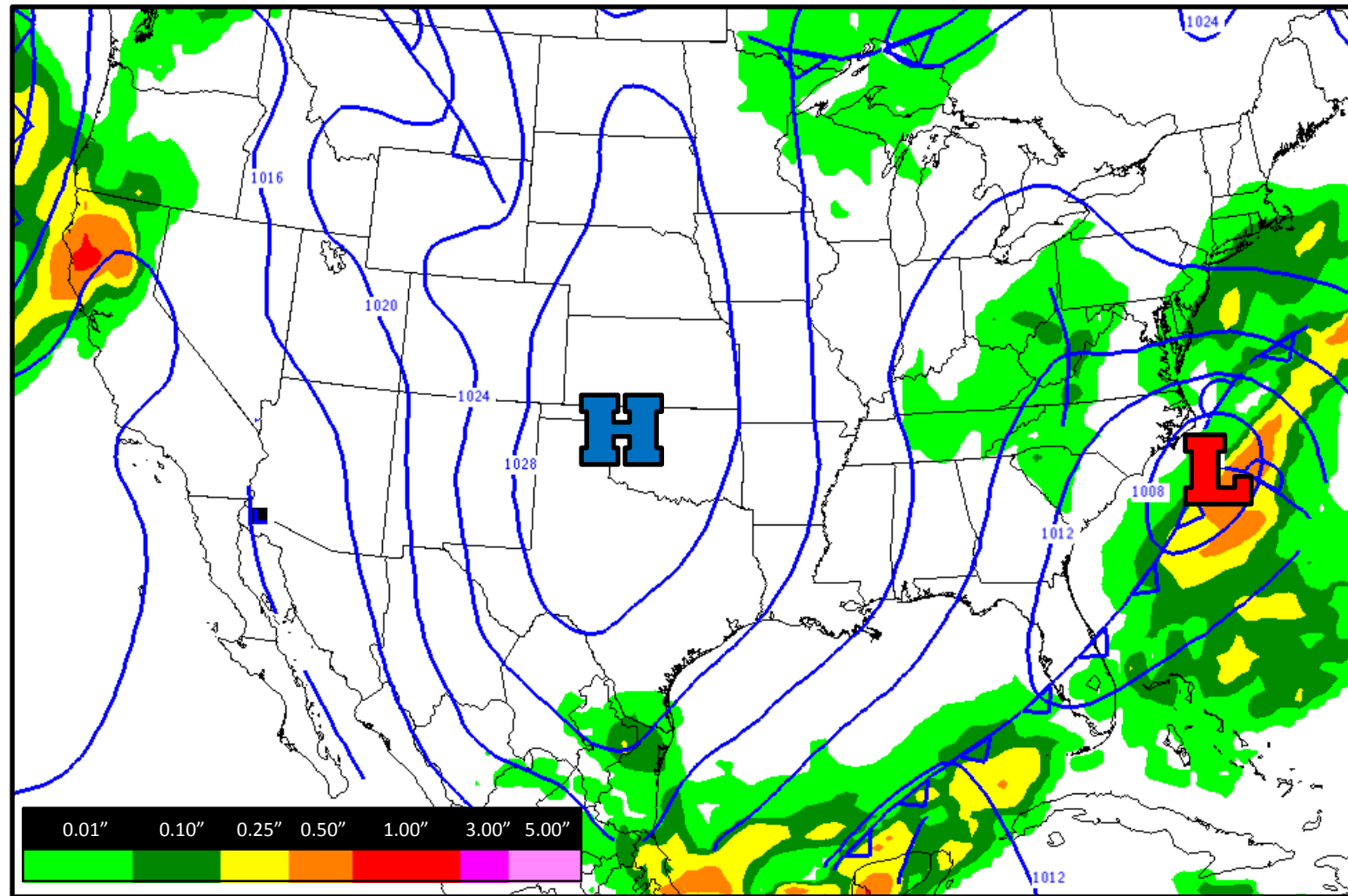
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6 am Sunday March 20 2016

Low Temperature	42-47 F
High Temperature	60-65 F
Wind	N 10-15 mph Gusts 25 mph
Rain Chances	2%
Weather Hazards	River Flooding



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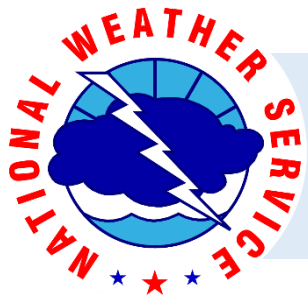
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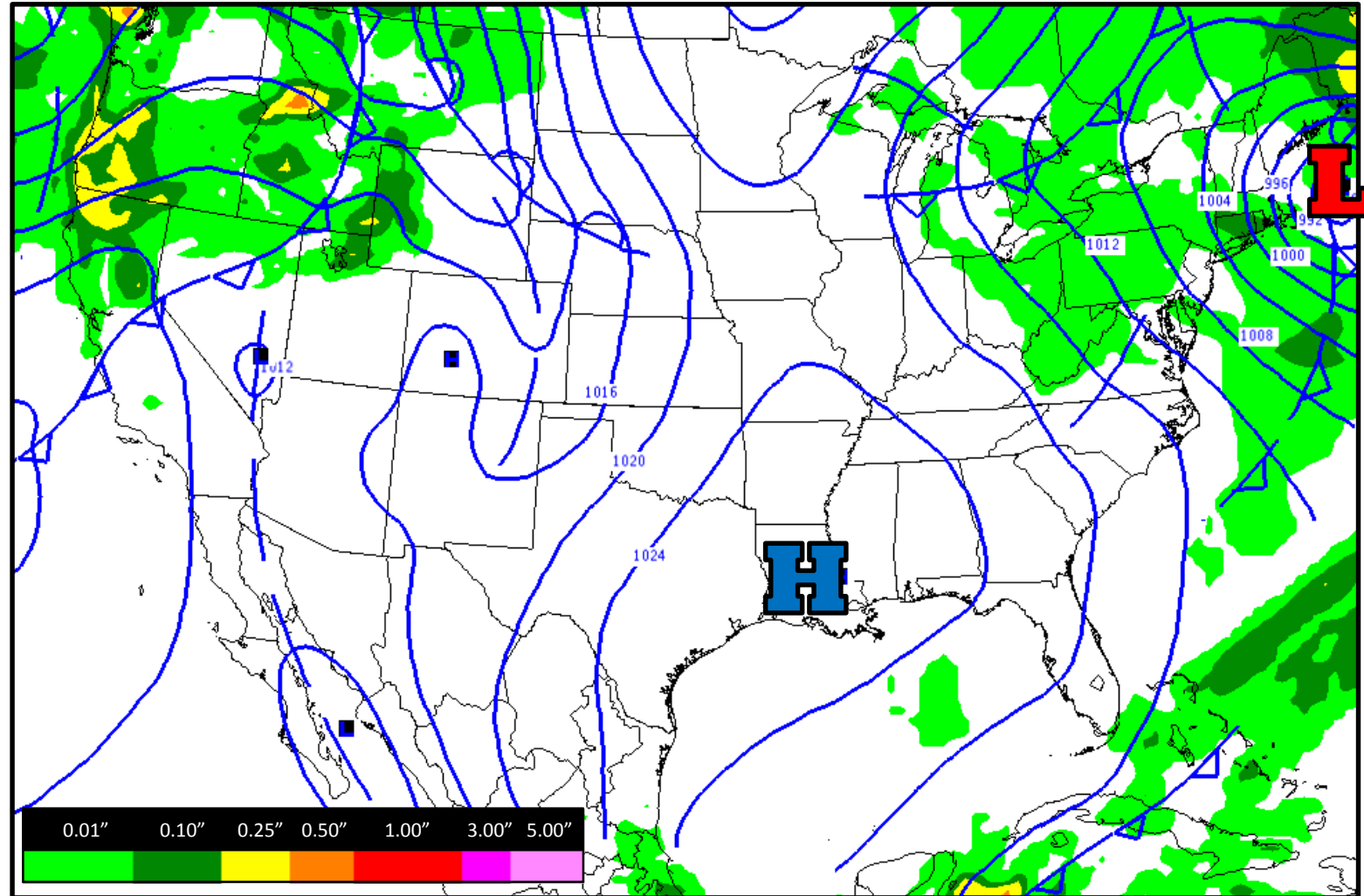
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6 am Monday March 21 2016

Low Temperature	37-42 F
High Temperature	66-70 F
Wind	SE 10-15 mph
Rain Chances	2%
Weather Hazards	River Flooding



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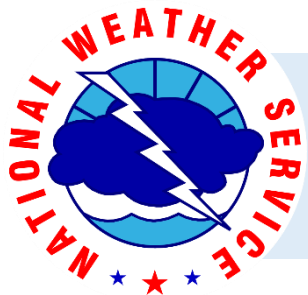
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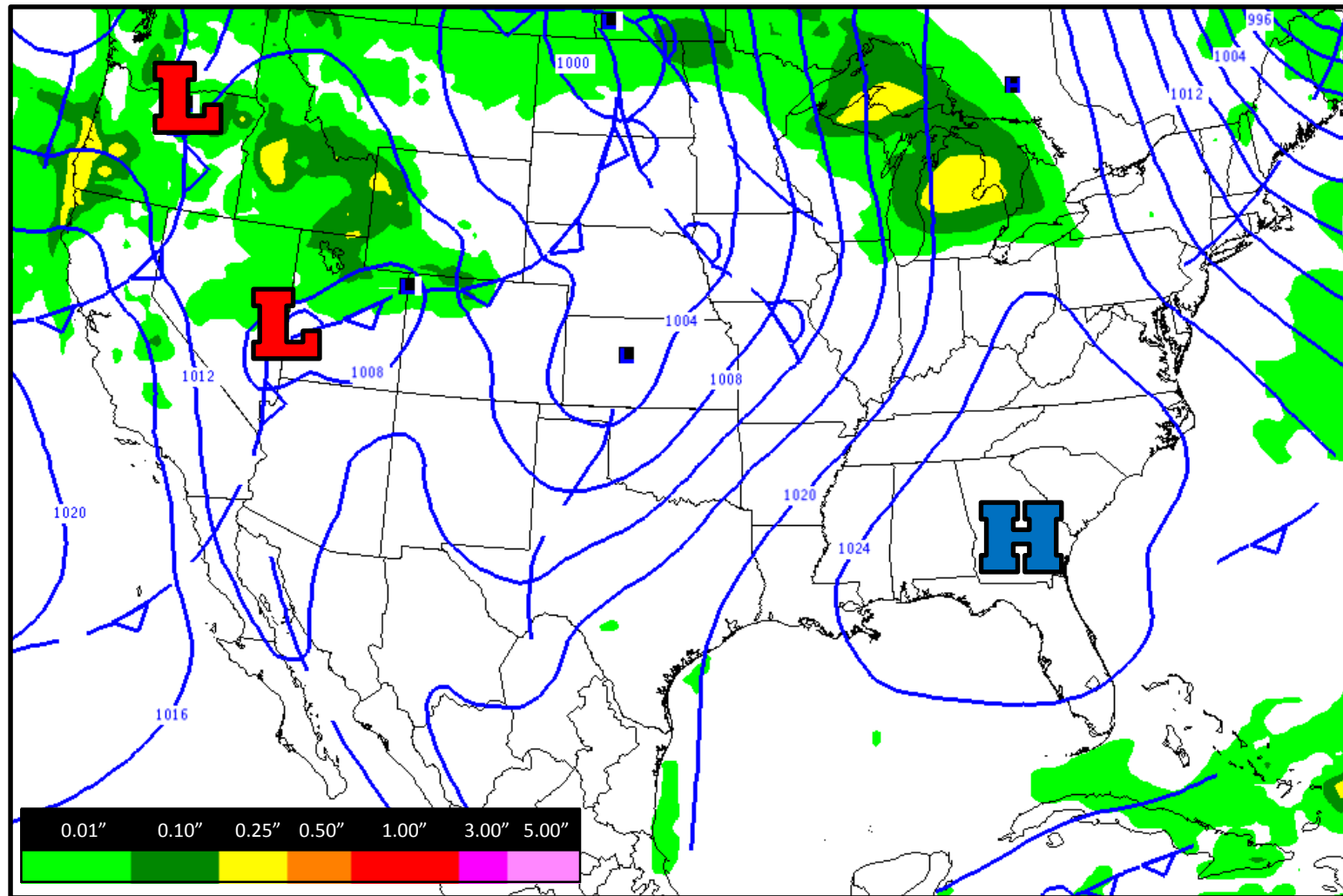
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6 am Tuesday March 22 2016

Low Temperature	44-50 F
High Temperature	71-74 F
Wind	S 10-15 mph
Rain Chances	5%
Weather Hazards	River Flooding



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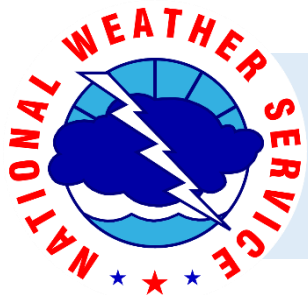
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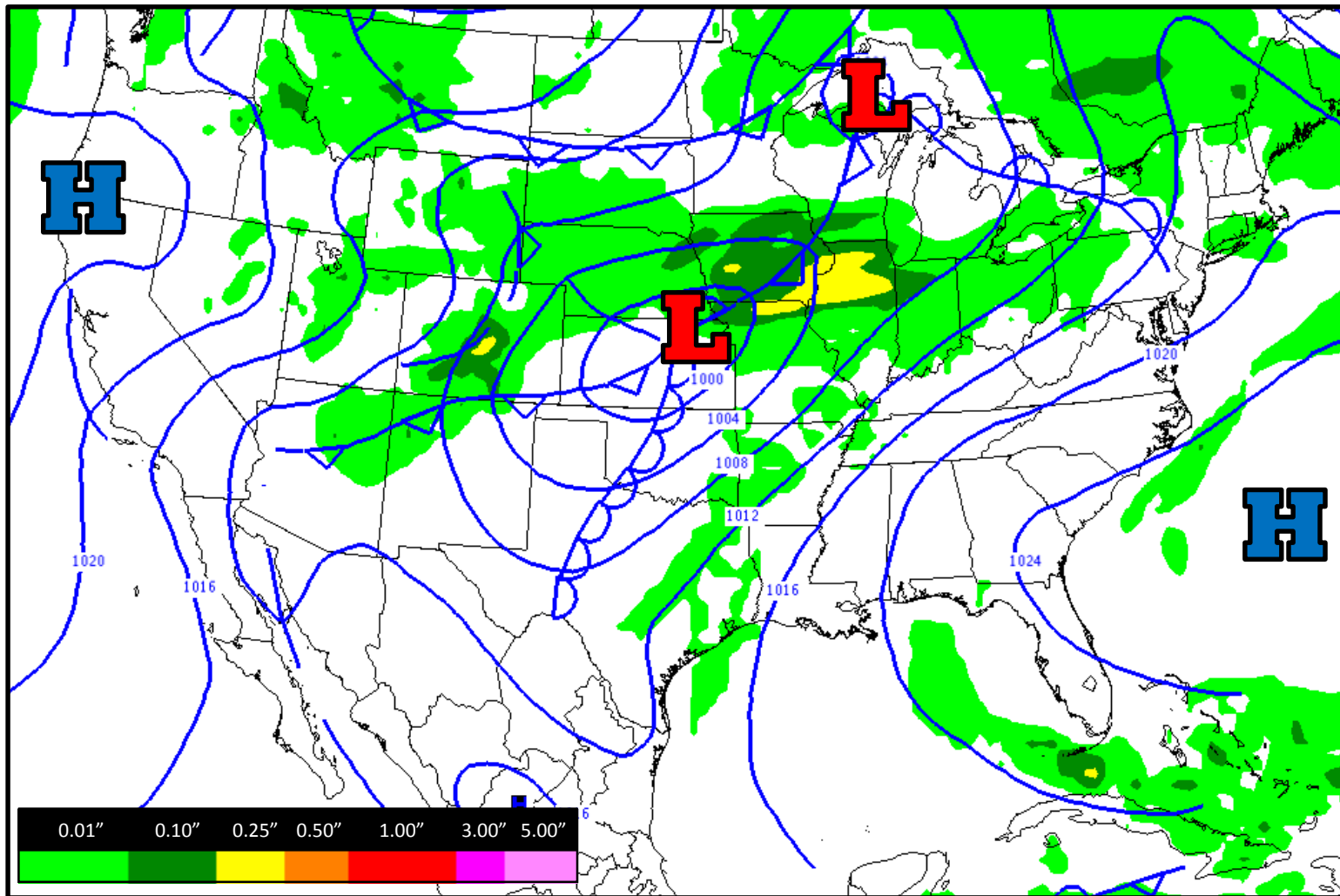


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6 am Wednesday March 23 2016



Low Temperature	55-60 F
High Temperature	74-78 F
Wind	S 10-15 mph Gusts 25 mph
Rain Chances	20%
Weather Hazards	River Flooding Thunderstorms



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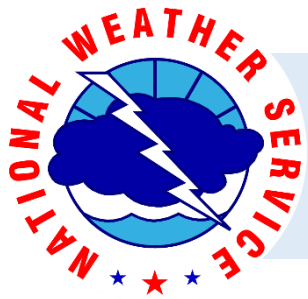
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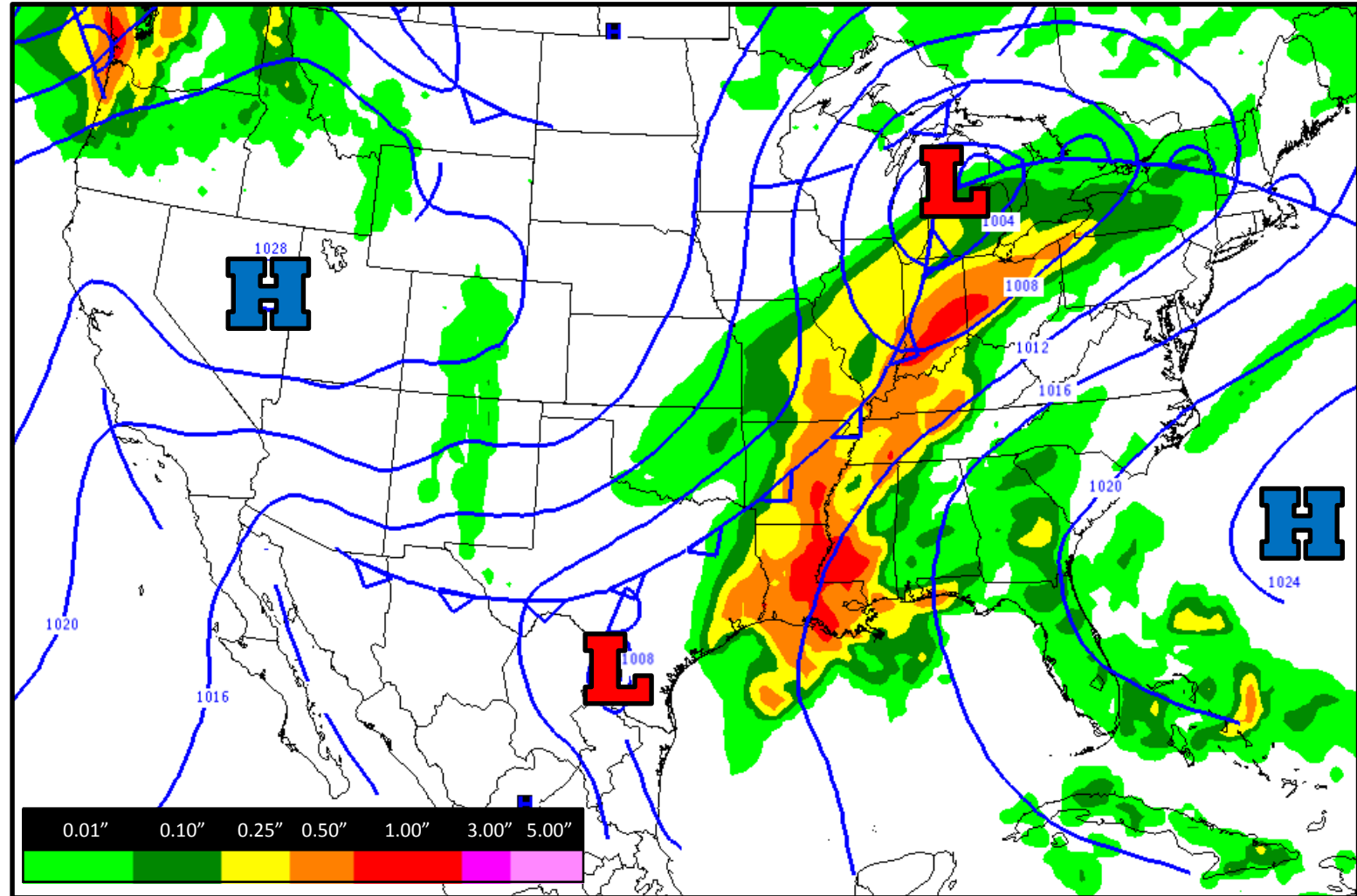
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6 am Thursday March 24 2016

Low Temperature	60-65 F
High Temperature	75-80 F
Wind	S 10-15 mph
Rain Chances	40-50%
Weather Hazards	River Flooding Thunderstorms



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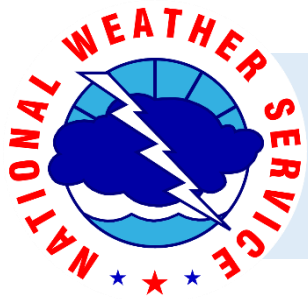
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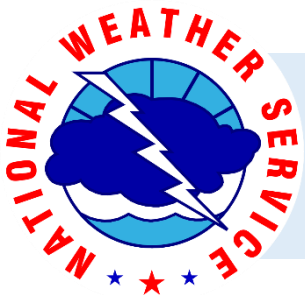
Weekly Weather Summary Table

Color Codes Except for Temperatures
Yellow = Low Threat
Orange = Moderate Threat
Red = High Threat

Color Codes For Temperatures
Yellow=5 F above normal
Orange=10 F above normal
Red=15 F above normal
Vry Lt Blue=5 F below normal
Lt Blue=10 F below normal
Blue=15 F below normal

Weather	Friday 3/18/16	Saturday 3/19/16	Sunday 3/20/16	Monday 3/21/16	Tuesday 3/22/16	Wednesday 3/23/16	Thursday 3/24/16
Rain Total	0.25-1.00"	0.10-0.35"	None	None	None	<0.10"	0.25-1.00"
T-Storm/ Lightning	Scattered	Isolated	None	None	None	Isolated	Scattered
Tornado/Hail /Dmg Wind	Isolated	None	None	None	None	None	None
Wind	SE 10-15 mph	N 10-15 mph Gust 30 mph	N 10-15 mph Gust 25 mph	SE 10-15 mph	S 10-15 mph	S 10-15 mph Gust 25 mph	S 10-15 mph
Tide	Above Normal	Below Normal	Below Normal	Above Normal	Above Normal	Above Normal	Above Normal
Wave Height	Near: 2-3 ft Off: 3-4 ft	Near: 2-3 ft Off: 4-6 ft	Near: 2-4 ft Off: 5-7 ft	Near: 1-2 ft Off: 3-5 ft	Near: 1-2 ft Off: 3-5 ft	Near: 1-2 ft Off: 3-5 ft	Near: 1-2 ft Off: 3-5 ft
Temperature	Low: 60-65 High: 75-80	Low: 55-60 High: 65-70	Low: 42-47 High: 60-65	Low: 37-42 High: 66-70	Low: 44-50 High: 71-74	Low: 55-60 High: 74-78	Low: 60-65 High: 75-80





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Weekly Weather Summary

- Rain and a few thunderstorms are expected this afternoon through Saturday morning. Highest rain totals will be in south central Louisiana where they could see over an inch. There is a small risk for severe storms this afternoon and evening into Friday.
- Cooler temperatures are expected behind a front this weekend. Highs will be in the 60s. Lows Sunday morning will be in the 40s and Monday morning they will range from the mid 30s in central Louisiana to the lower 40s along I-10.
- The next rain event will start next Wednesday, but next Thursday looks like a better chance for rain and a few thunderstorms.



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Weekly Weather Summary

- River flooding continues along the Sabine, Neches, Calcasieu, Red River, and the Atchafalaya River near Morgan City.
- Crests have occurred along the Sabine and Neches rivers, but the Calcasieu River will crest at Old Town Bay on Saturday, the Red River near Alexandria will crest late Sunday, and the Atchafalaya River near Morgan City will crest next Friday.
- Be cautious in areas that normally drain into the Sabine, Neches, Calcasieu, and Red Rivers. Due to the high water levels on these rivers, localized flooding could occur due to poor drainage conditions when it is raining this afternoon through Saturday morning.



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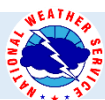
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- Along the coast, tides will run above normal with the southerly winds tonight through early Saturday, then run below normal Saturday afternoon through Sunday, and return to above normal conditions next week. Minor flooding during high tide can be expected when tides are above normal.



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