

CONSERVE. PROTECT. LEAD.



Texas Fire Potential Update

March 11th – March 15th 2024

Texas A&M Forest Service Predictive Services

Fire Potential Notes March 11th- March 15th, 2024

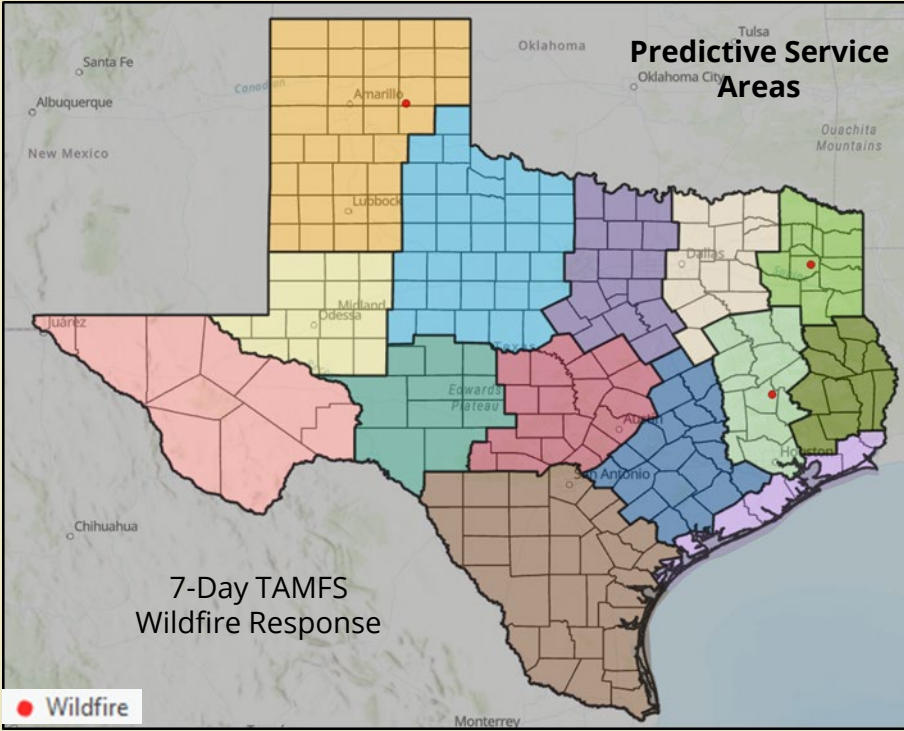
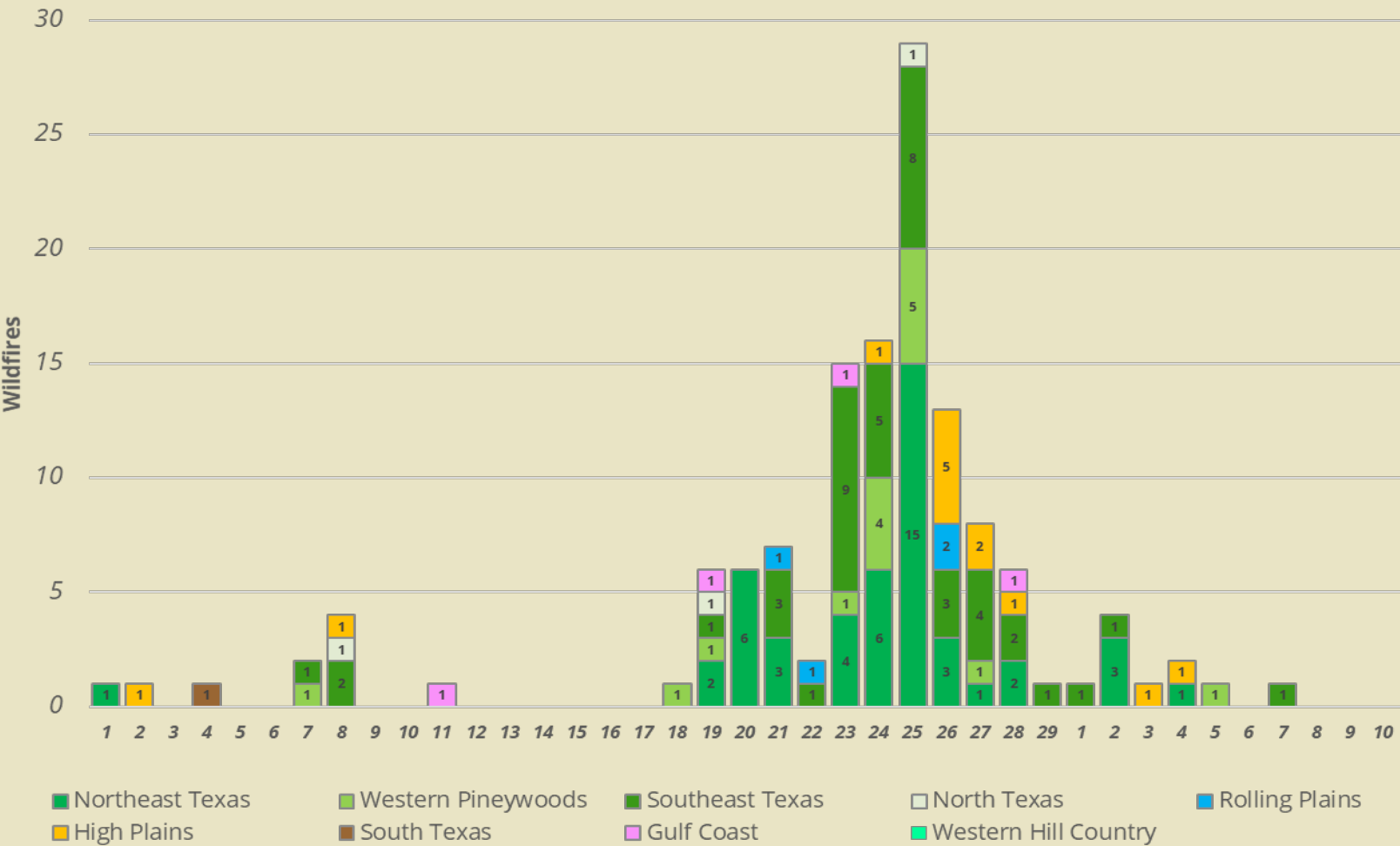


- An approaching storm system from the west and associated cold front will produce warm, dry, and breezy conditions for the western third of Texas Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Pre-frontal critical fire weather is expected to emerge between the dryline and cold front for the High Plains and upper Rolling Plains Wednesday afternoon.
- The fire environment Monday and Tuesday will support low to moderate initial attack fire potential generally north of Lubbock. Expect moderate resistance to control in above normal grass loading with the forecast of near normal fuel moisture and elevated to critical fire weather.
- **Wednesday's fire environment will support moderate potential for significant fires that have high resistance to control when dry, above normal grass loading is subjected to critical fire weather and very high fire danger around Amarillo, Lubbock, and Childress.**
- Forecast 100-hr fuel moisture below the 25th percentile may support low potential for initial attack fires in timber litter fuel for Southeast Texas through Wednesday as wind speeds approach 10 mph. Any fires that do occur will have low resistance to control.

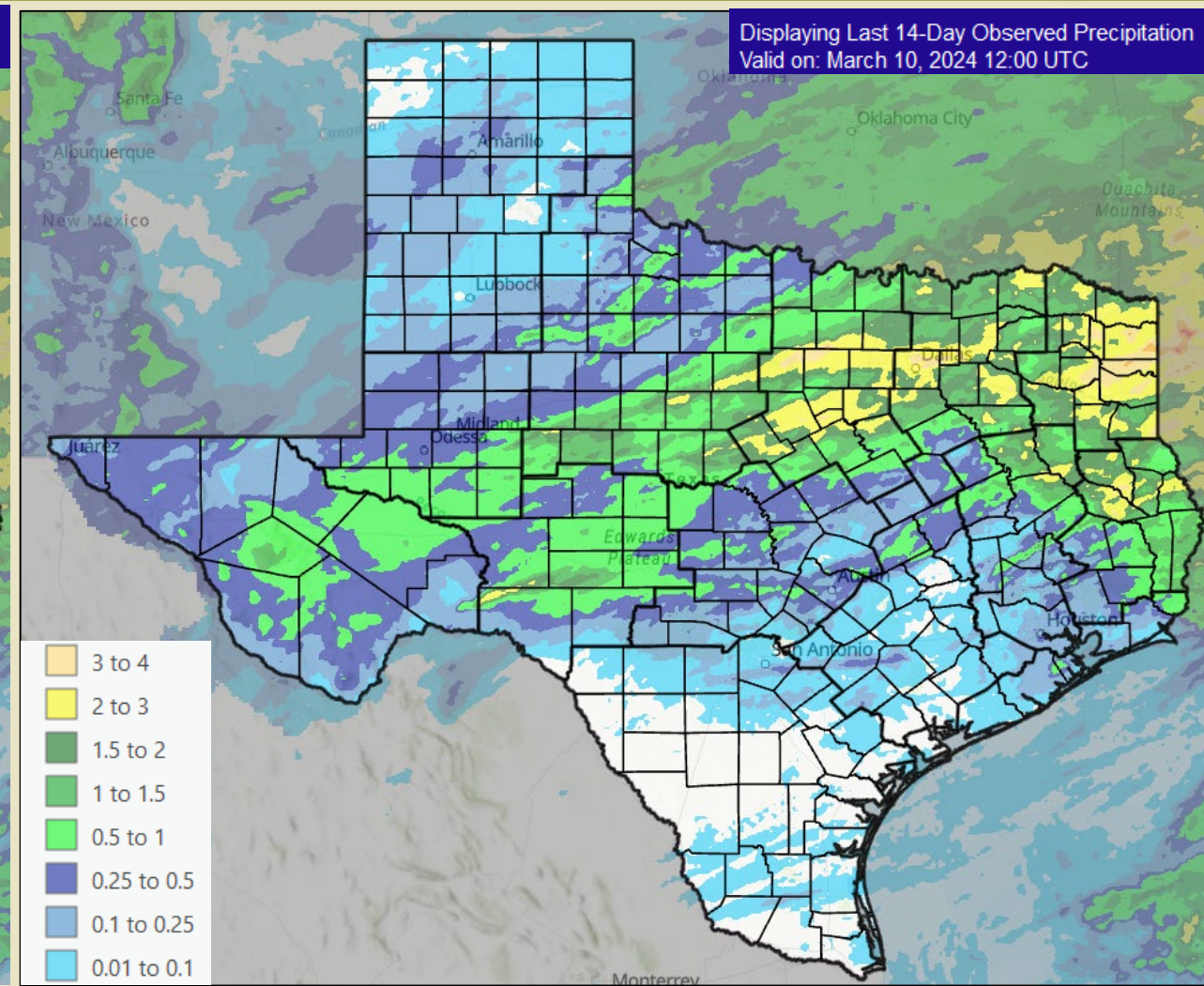
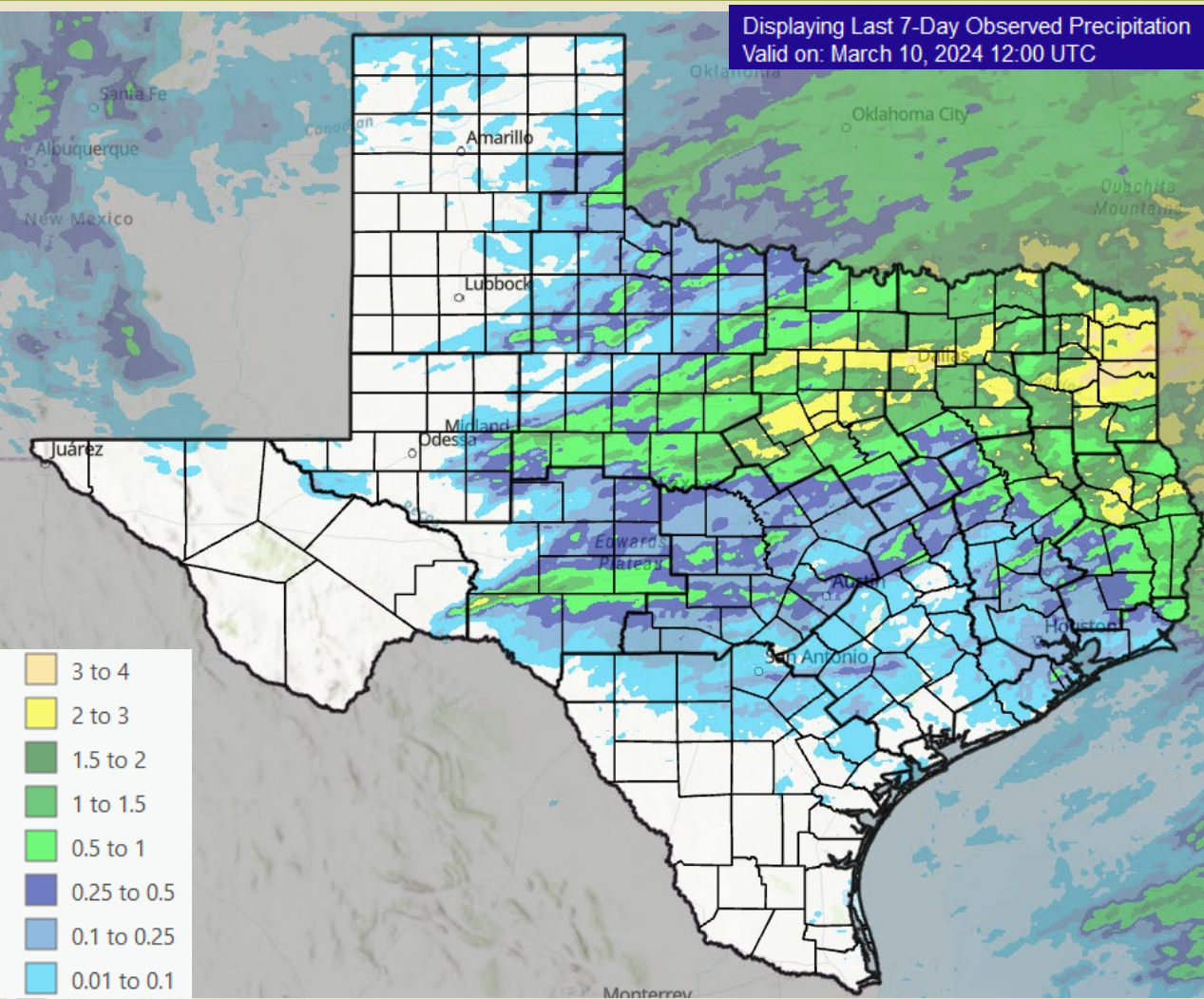
Texas A&M Forest Service wildfire response over the past 7 days has trended lower due to near or above normal fuel moisture.



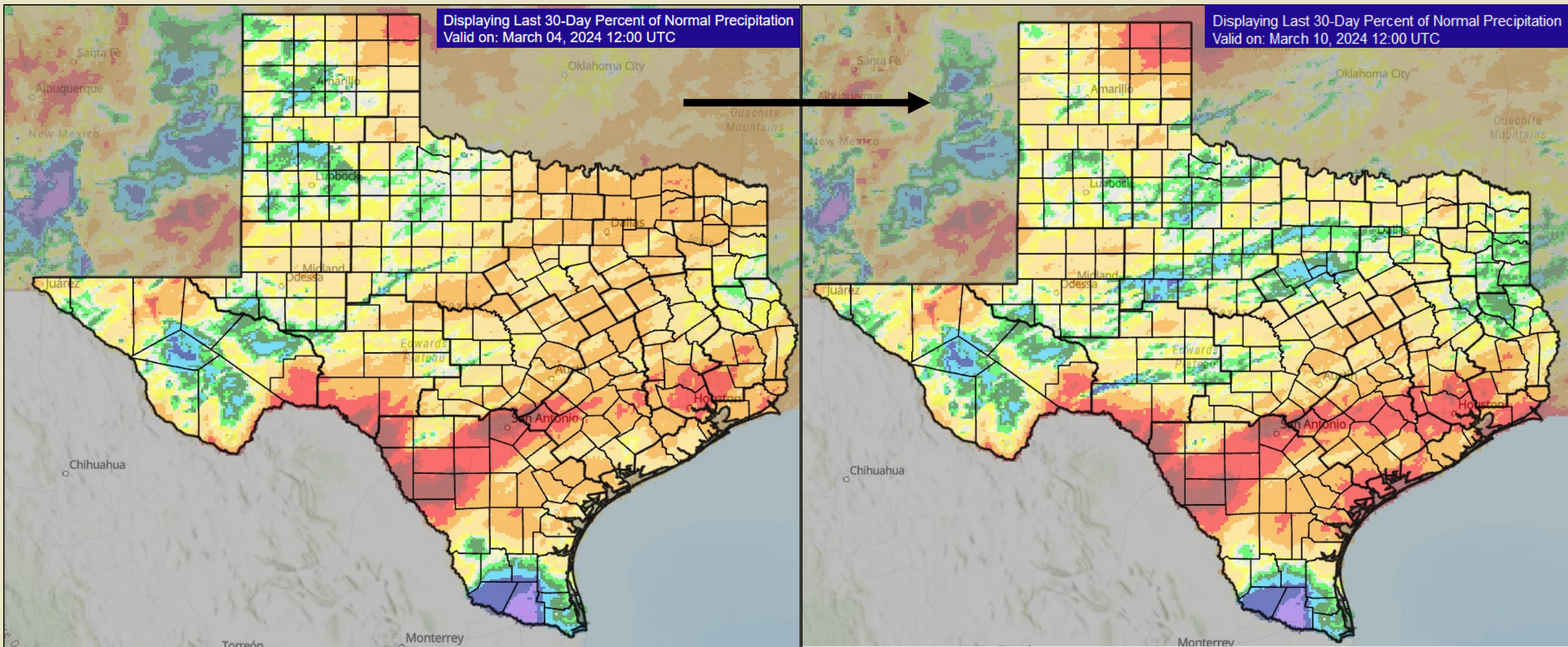
February 1st – March 10th , 2024 TAMFS Wildfire Response by Predictive Service Area



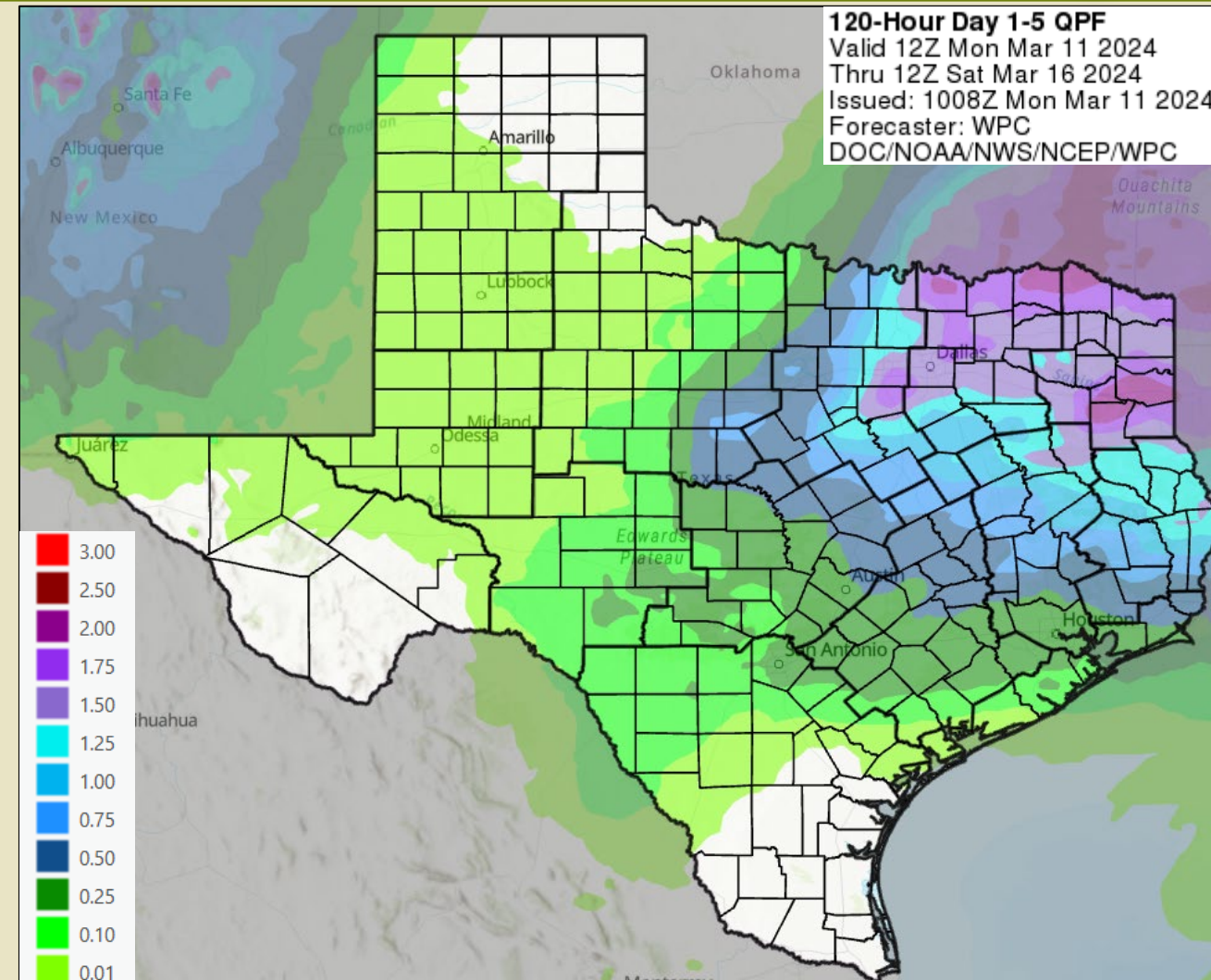
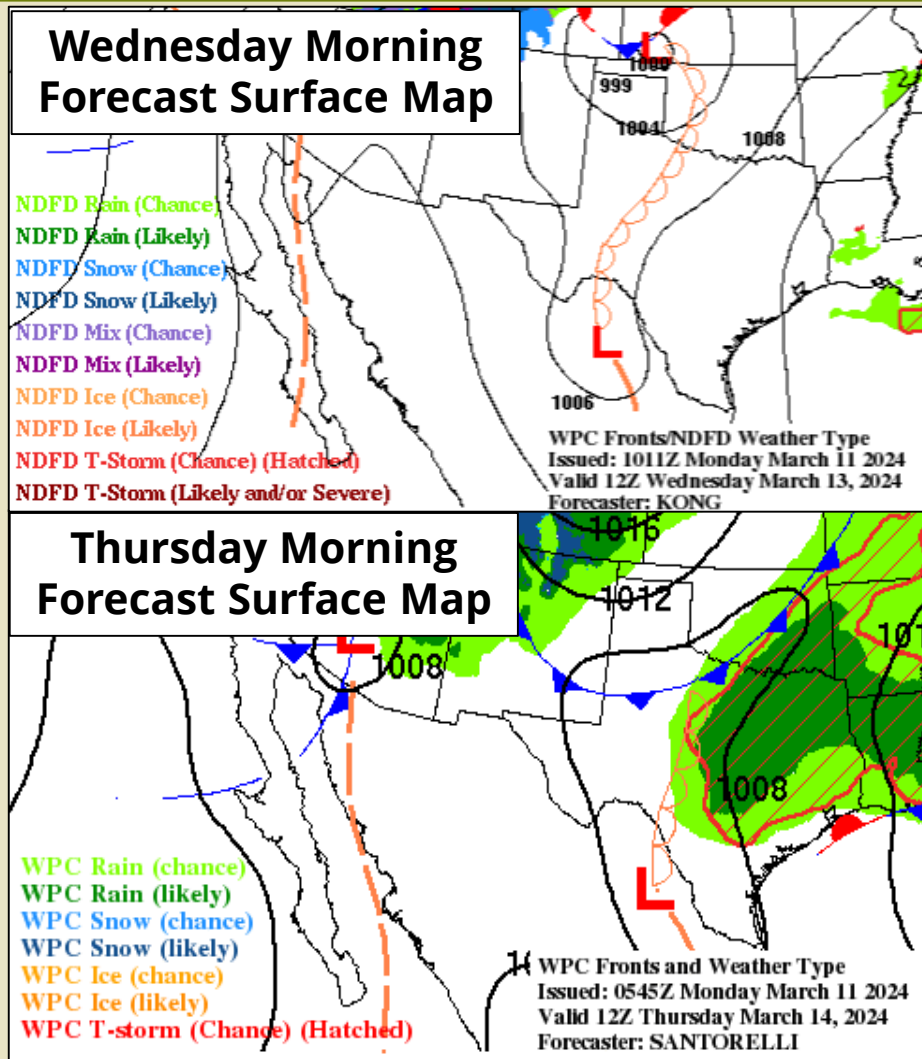
The 7 and 14 day estimated precipitation maps show 0.5-2 inch rainfall amounts along the Interstate 20 corridor with greater coverage for the northern half of East Texas. Increasing daytime and nighttime temperatures, increased soil moisture, and longer photo period should begin facilitating some green up of herbaceous fuel.



Emerging dryness has paused from the observed precipitation over the past 7 days for parts of the Rolling Plains, North Texas, and the northern half of East Texas. 30-day precipitation deficits of 50% or less than normal are expanding across the northeastern High Plains while dryness continues near the Rio Grande River with a corridor of 30-day deficits extending into Southeast Texas.



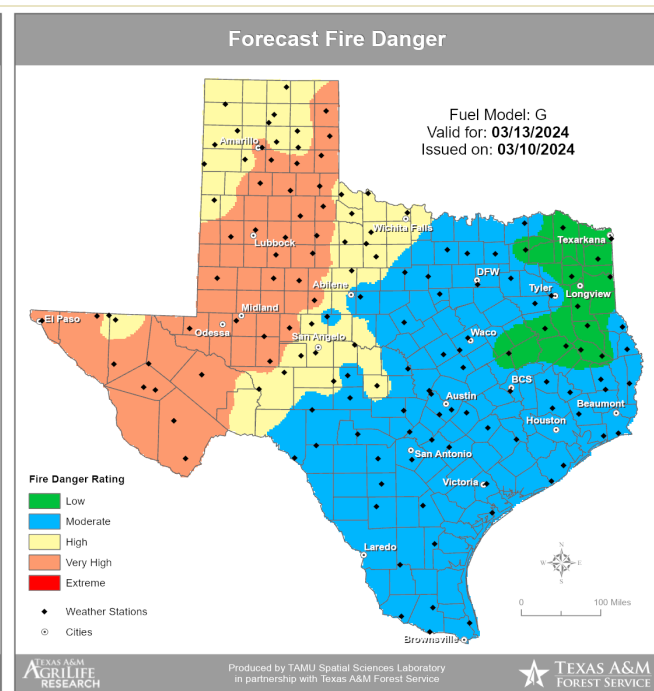
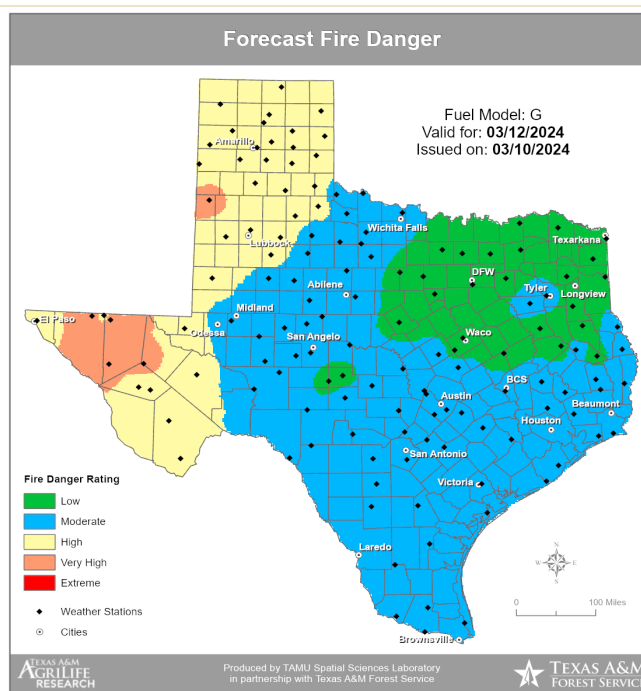
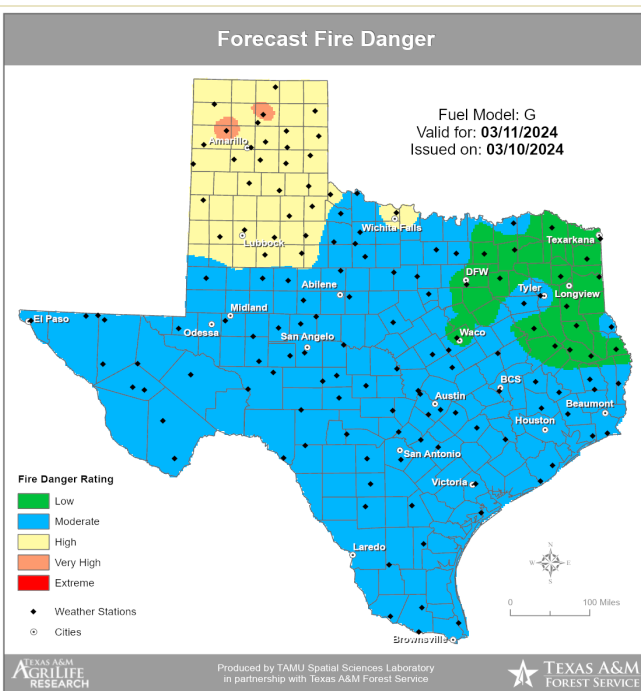
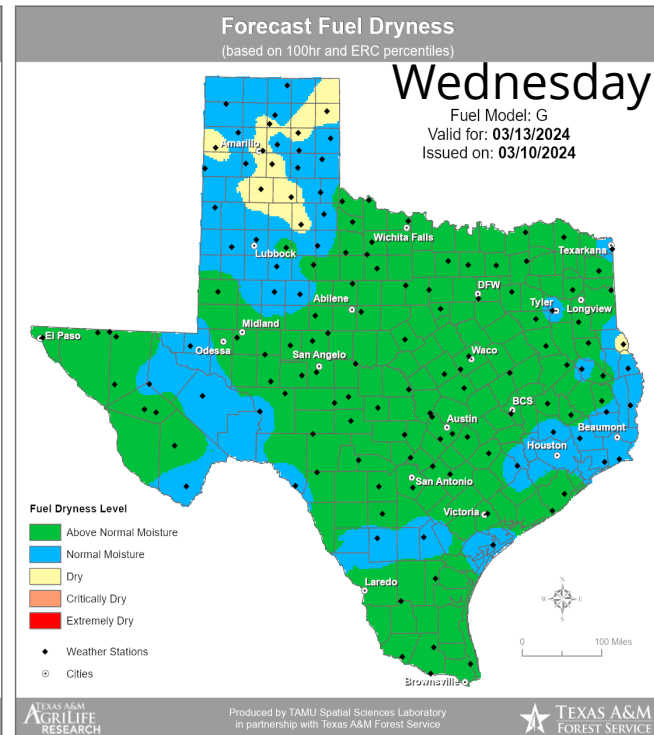
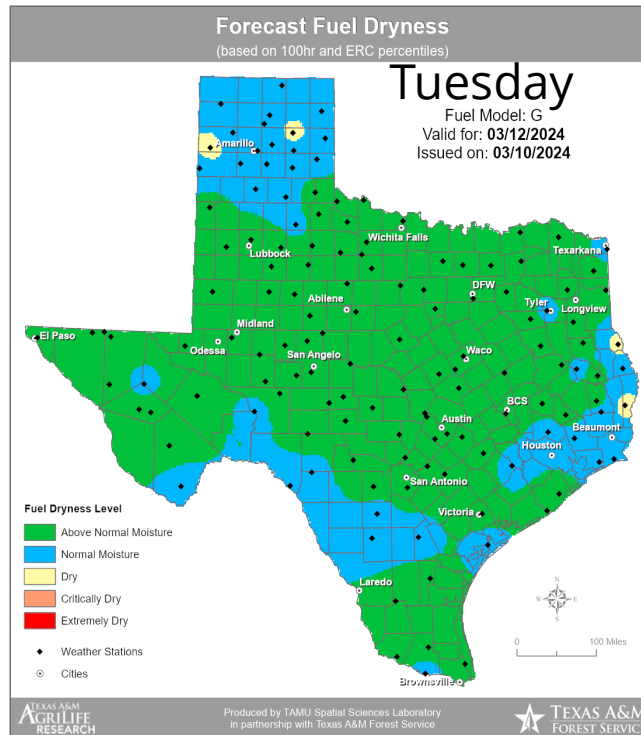
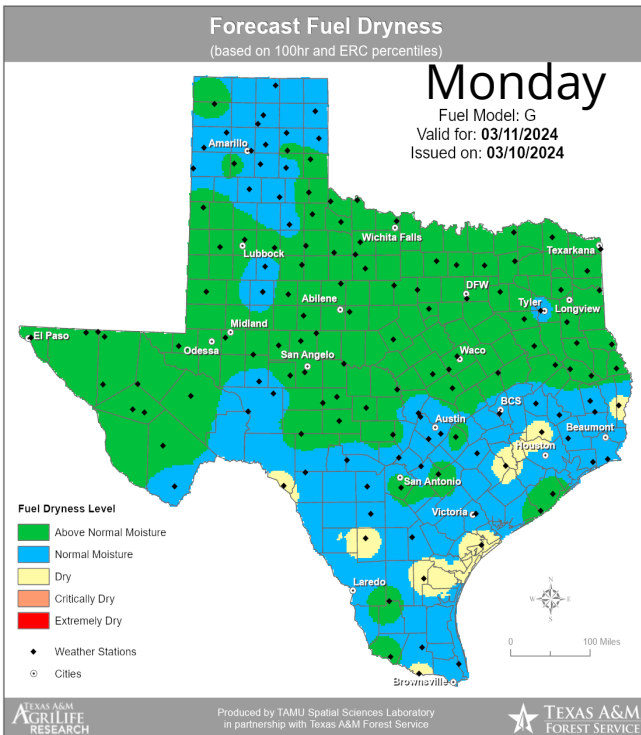
An approaching storm system from the west and associated cold front will produce warm, dry, and breezy conditions for the western third of Texas Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Critical fire weather is expected to emerge between the dryline and cold front for the High and upper Rolling Plains Wednesday afternoon. East and North Texas may observe rain and thunderstorms Thursday and Friday, moistening fuels, keeping fire potential low.



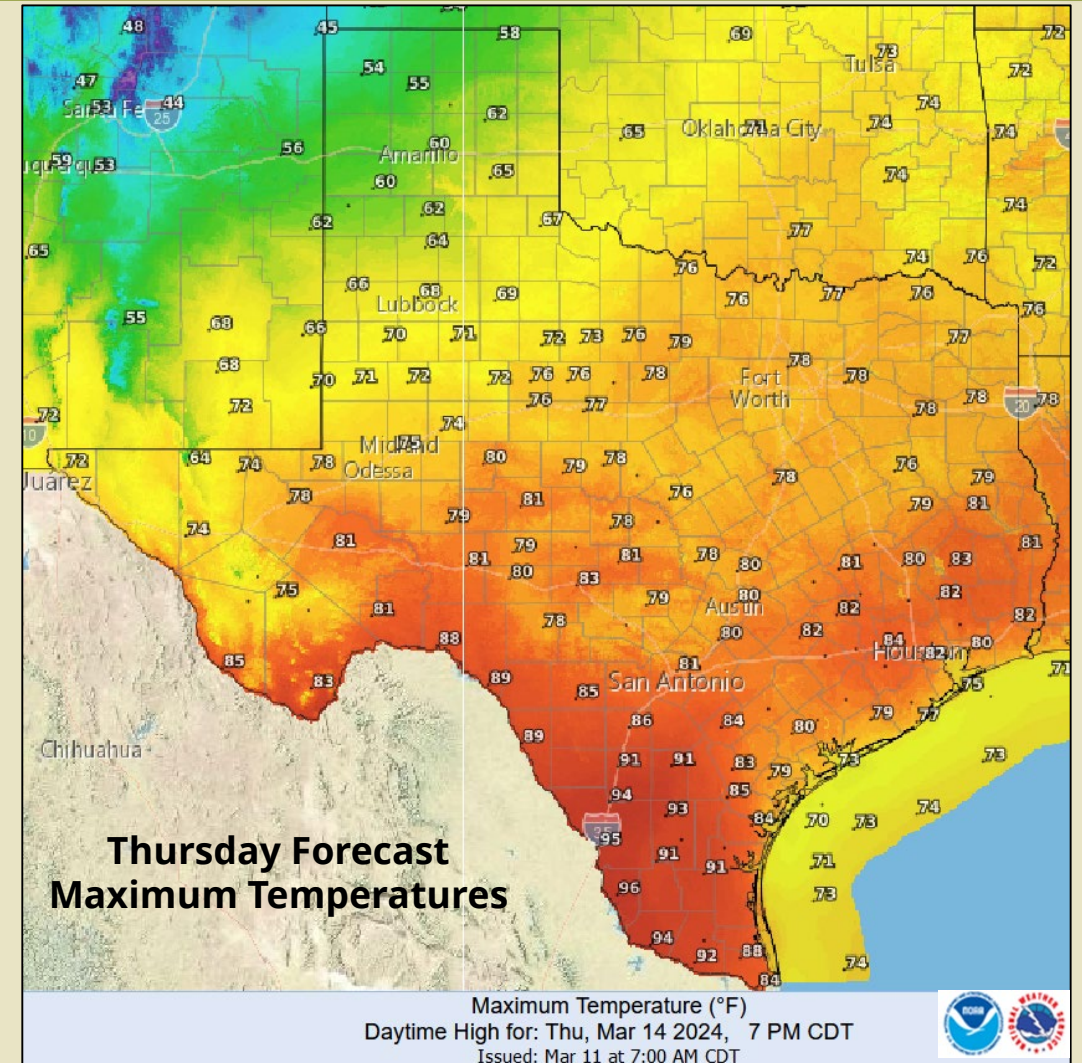
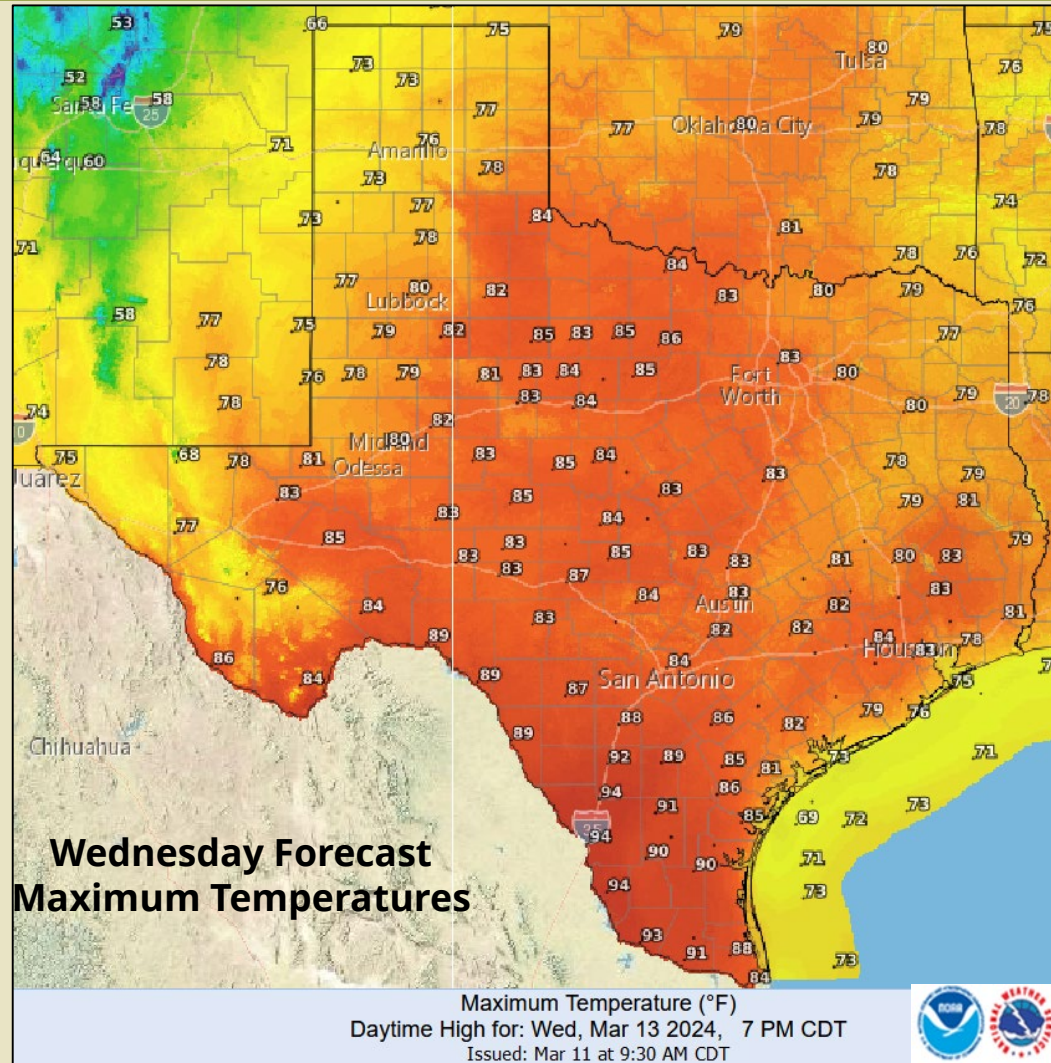


The fire environment Monday and Tuesday will support low to moderate initial attack fire potential generally north of Lubbock. Expect moderate resistance to control in above normal grass loading with the forecast of near normal fuel moisture and elevated fire weather.

Wednesday's fire environment will support moderate potential for significant fires that have high resistance to control when dry, above normal grass loading is subjected to fire effective weather and very high fire danger near Amarillo, Lubbock, and Childress.



Limited cloud cover and forecast max temperatures in the upper 70s to low 80s will support increased ignition potential in dry, above normal grass loading Wednesday around Amarillo, Childress, and Lubbock. The cold front passage late Wednesday and Thursday will produce cooler temperatures and elevated humidity.

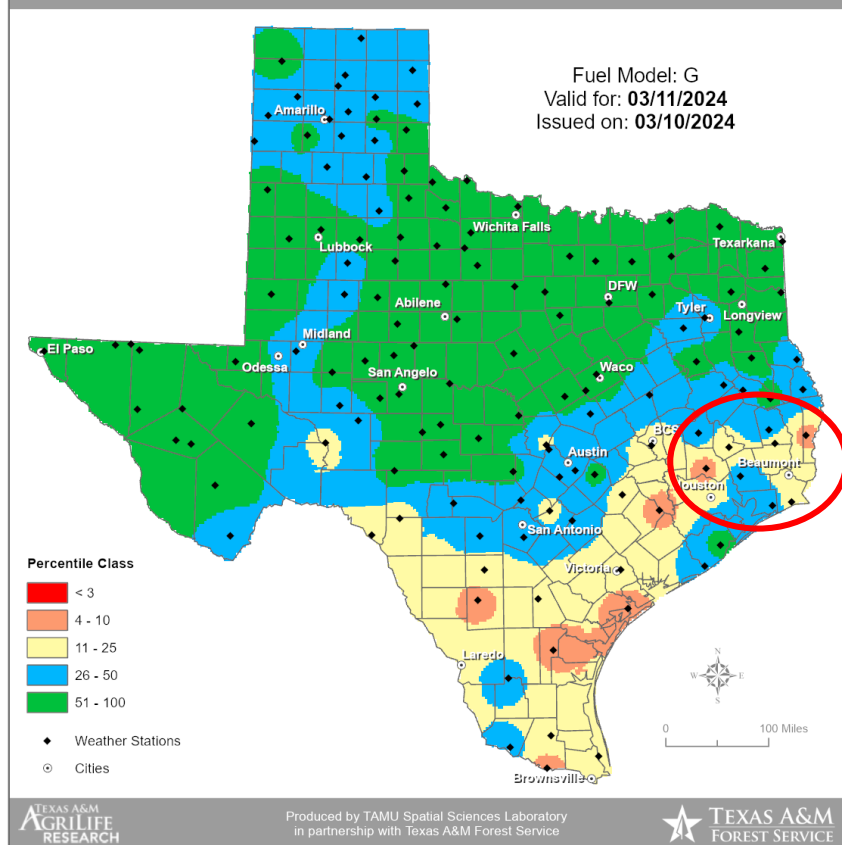


Forecast 100-hr fuel moisture below the 25th percentile may support low potential for initial attack fires in timber litter fuel for Southeast Texas through Wednesday as wind speeds approach 10 mph. Any fires that do occur will have low resistance to control. Increased surface moisture and rainfall potential Thursday will limit fire potential Thursday and Friday in East Texas.



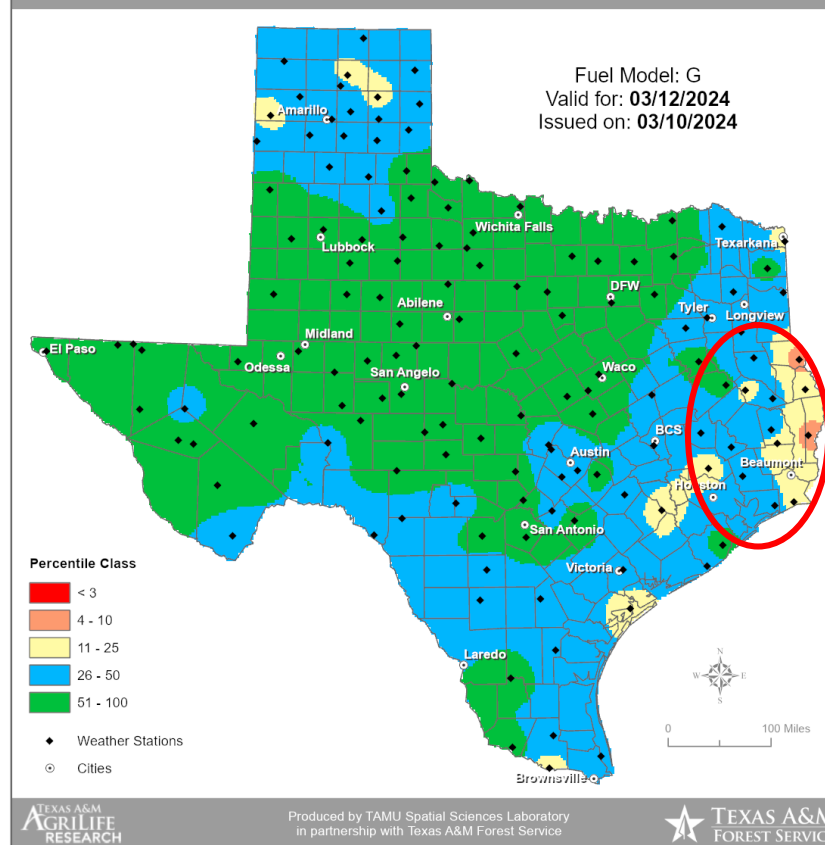
Monday

Forecast 100 Hour Fuel Moisture Percentile



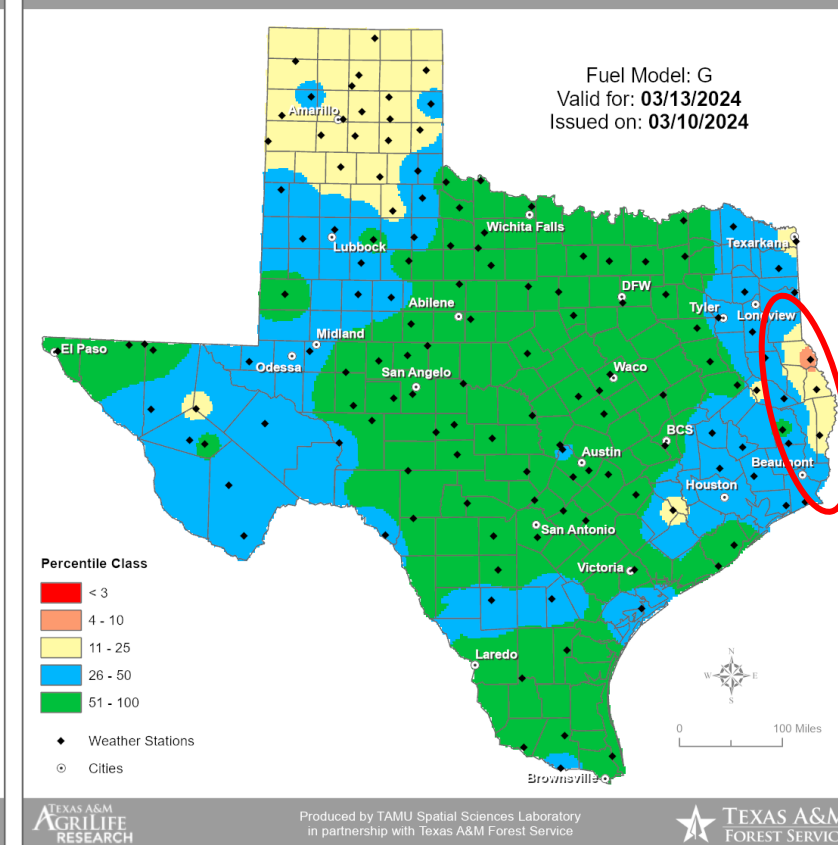
Tuesday

Forecast 100 Hour Fuel Moisture Percentile

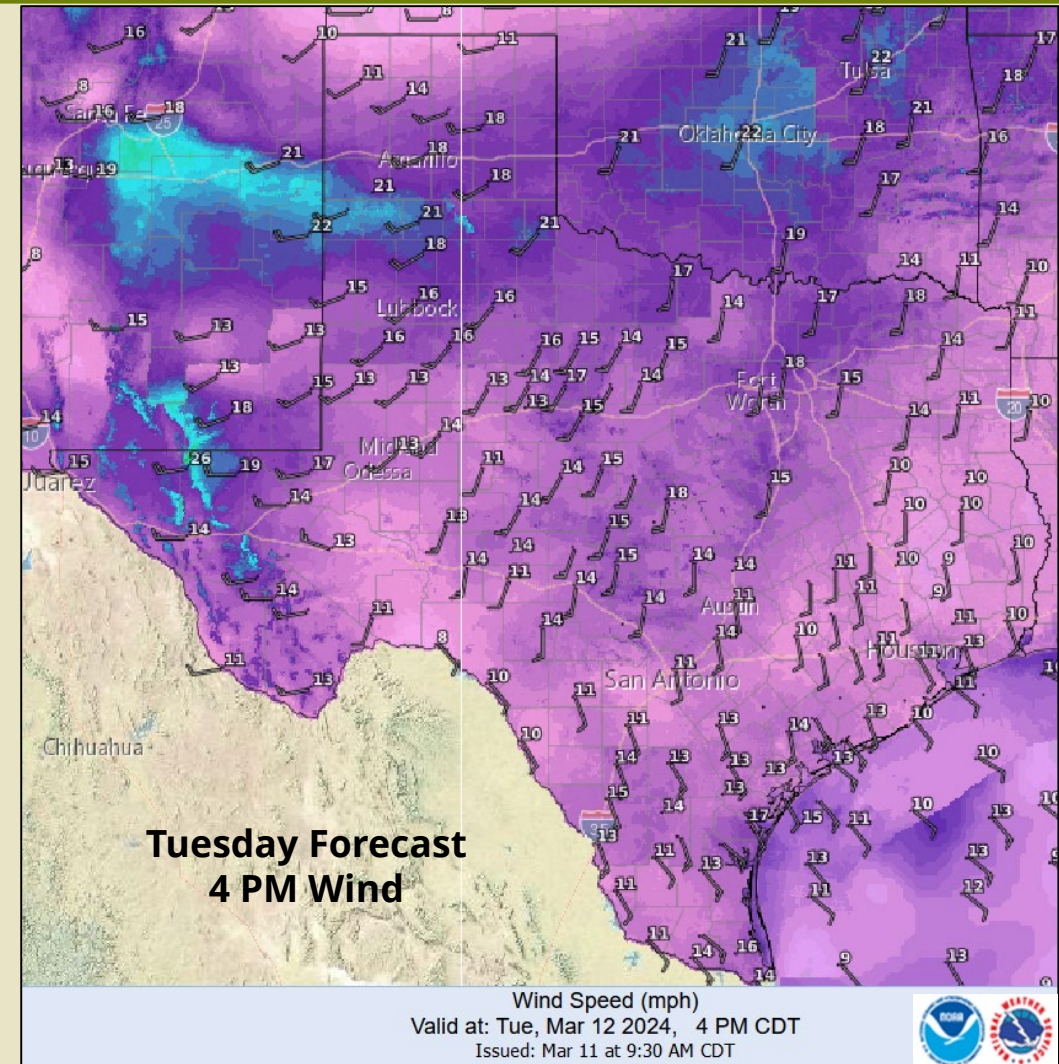
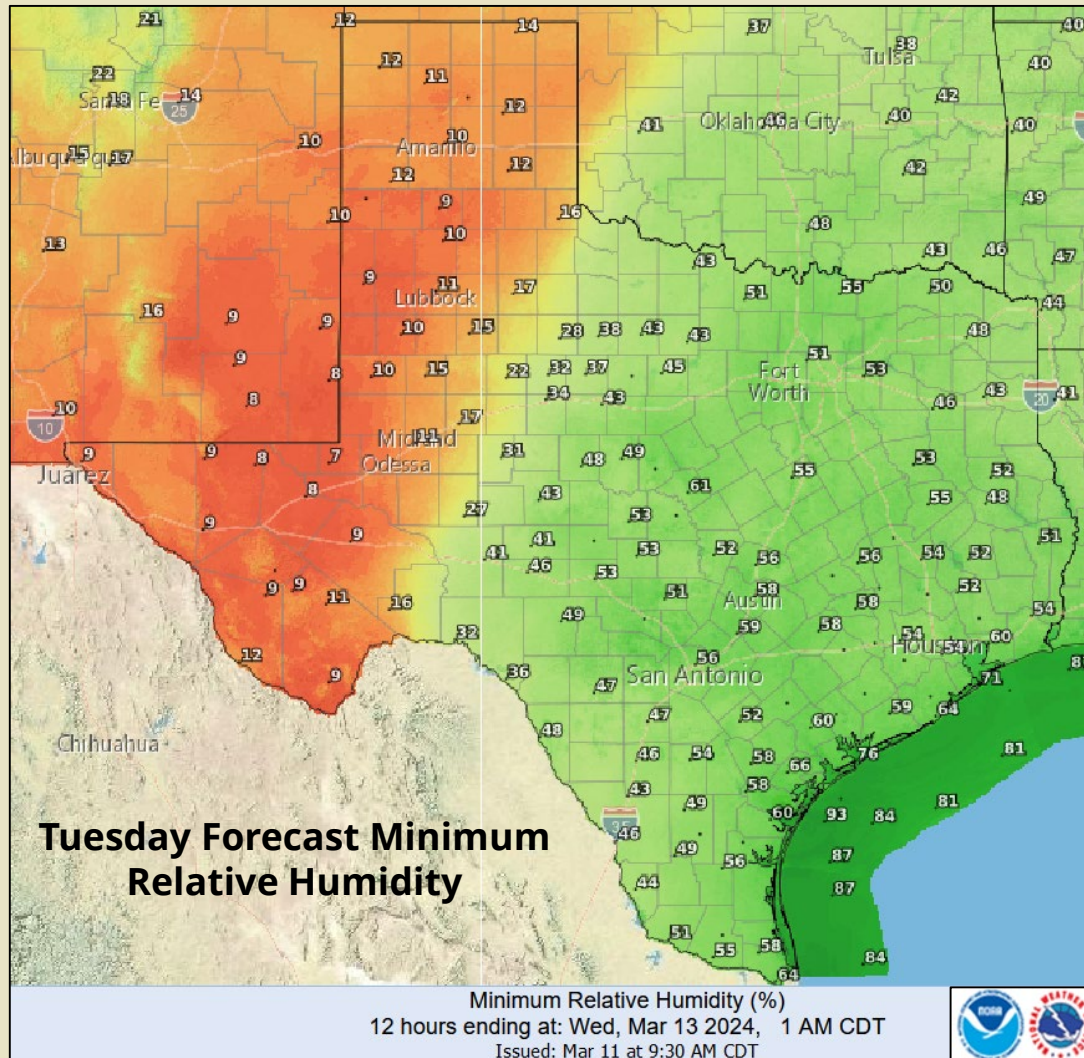


Wednesday

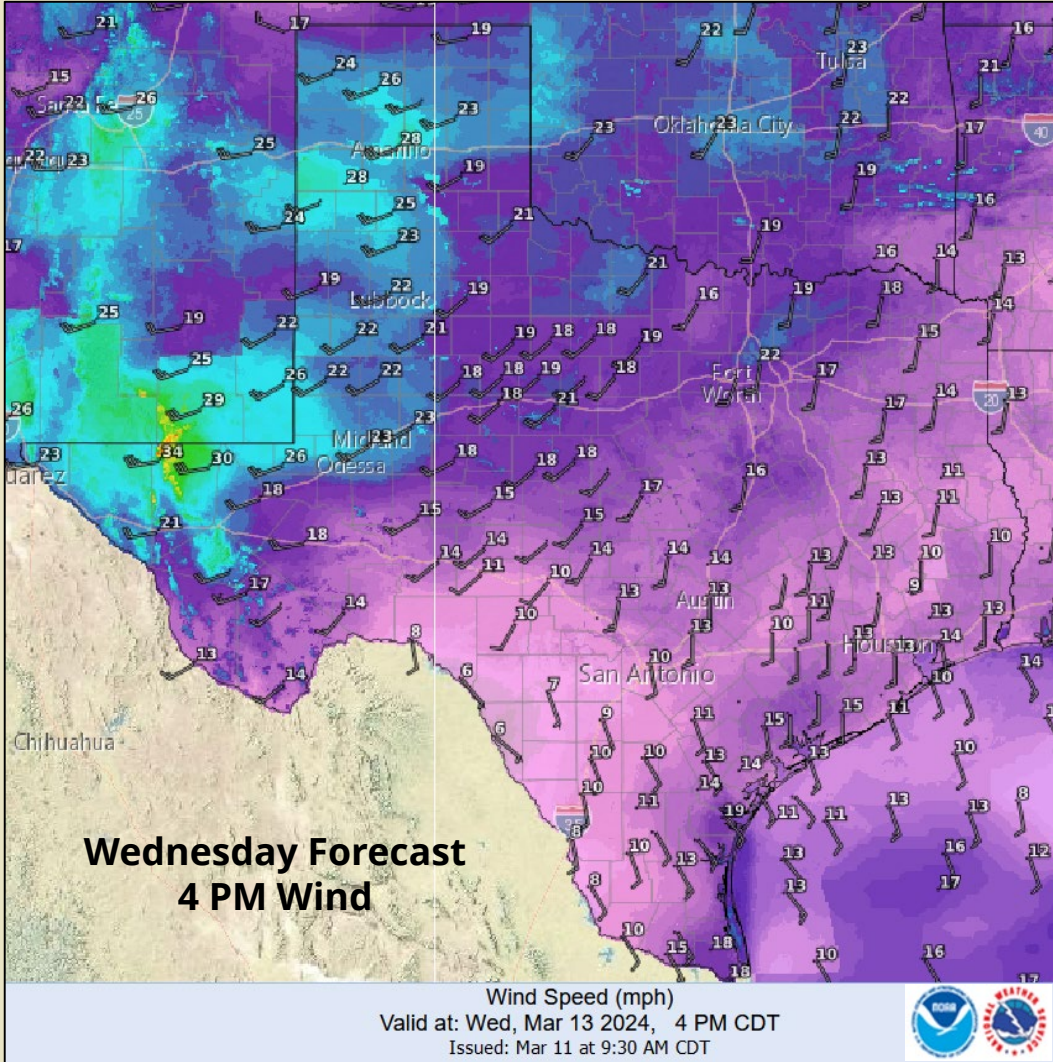
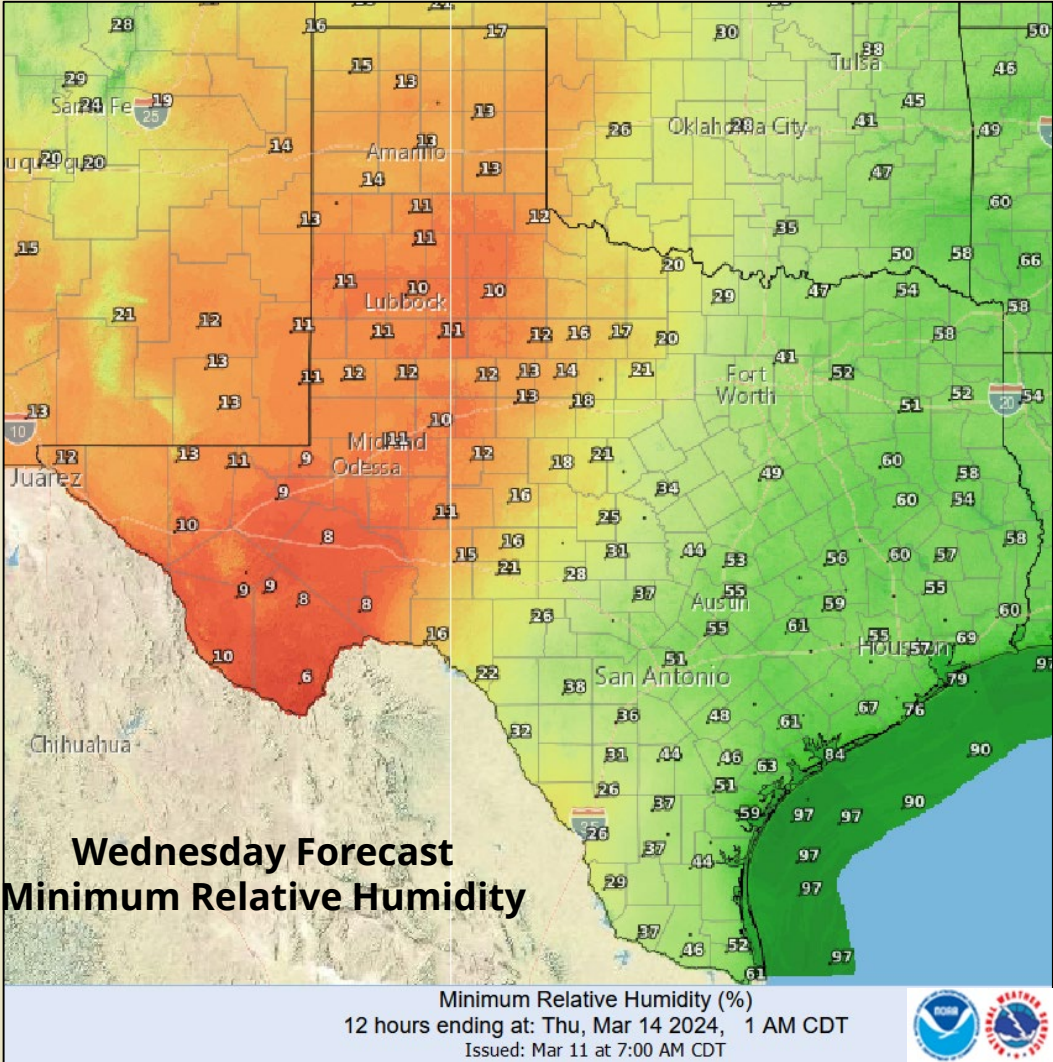
Forecast 100 Hour Fuel Moisture Percentile



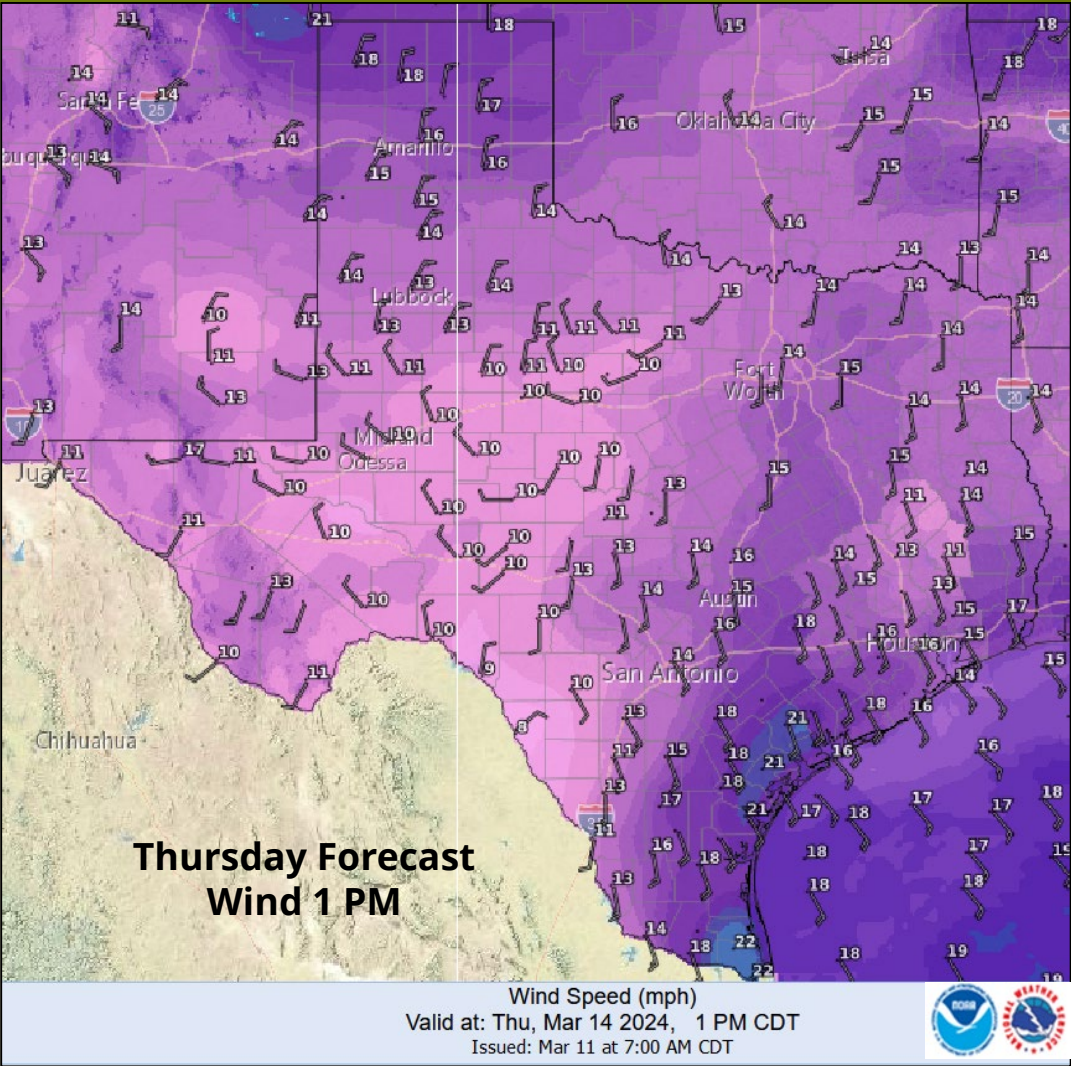
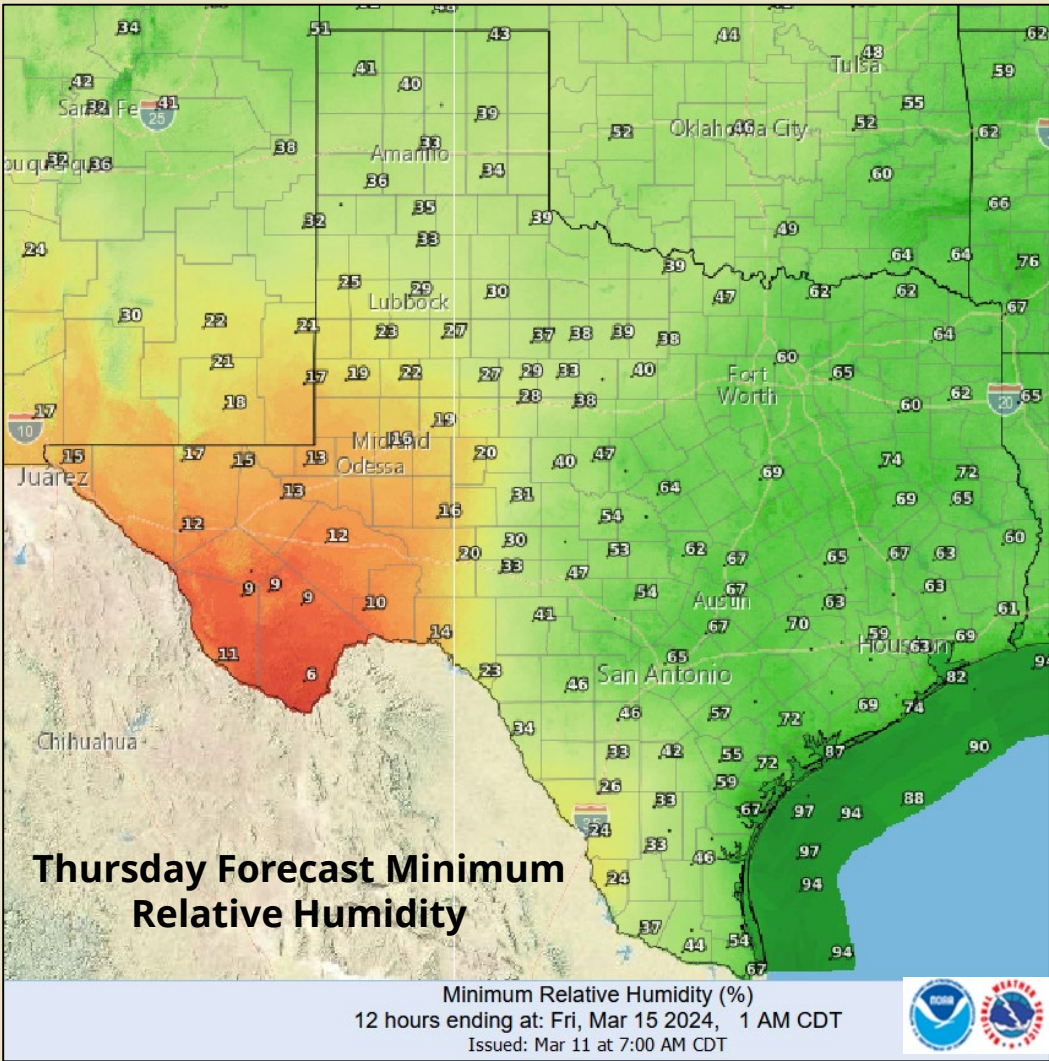
Near normal fuel moisture and elevated fire weather in the High Plains **Tuesday** will result in low to moderate initial attack fire potential. Any new fires will have moderate resistance to control in above normal grass loading. Initial attack fire potential will remain low in the Southern Plains and northern Trans Pecos where grass loading is lower.



Fire potential will peak on Wednesday as critical fire weather overspreads dry, above normal grass loading near Amarillo, Childress, and Lubbock. Moderate potential for a large fire with high resistance to control is possible in and around river drainages.



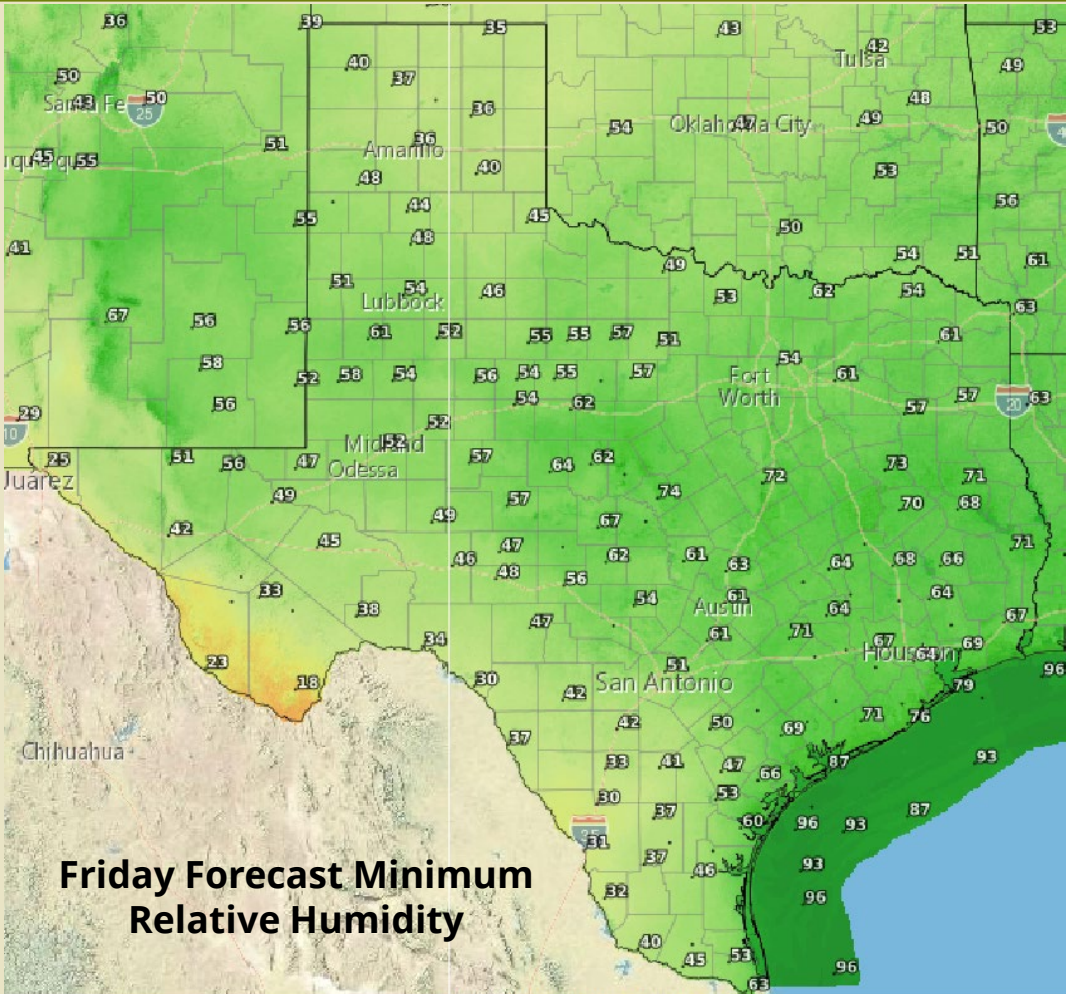
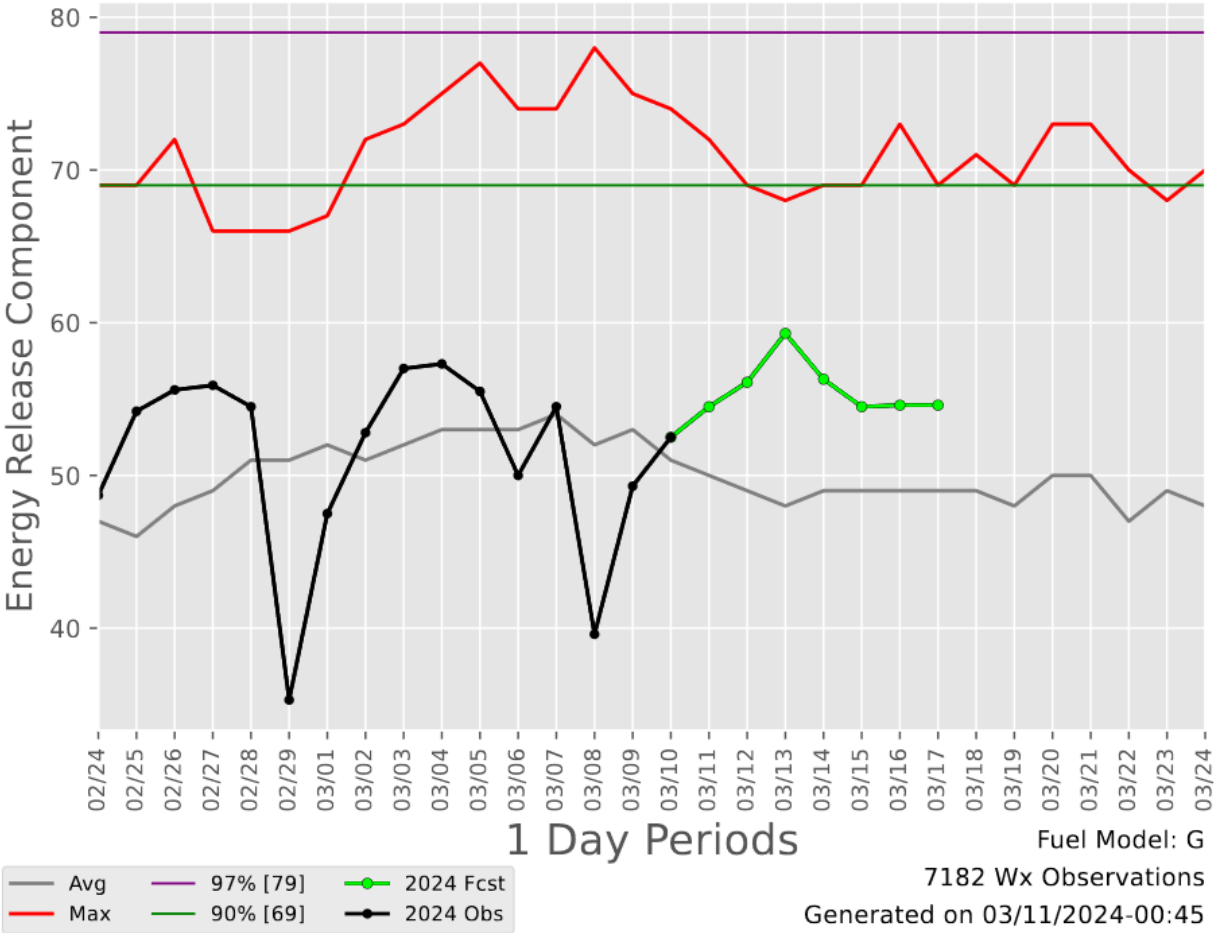
As the cold front progresses south, cooler temperatures, increased relative humidity, and lower winds will keep fire potential low in the High Plains. Fire potential will remain low across the rest of the state as Gulf surface moisture increases.



Forecast energy release component trends indicate dryness peaking Wednesday for the High Plains before decreasing as cooler temperatures and increased relative humidity increase fuel moisture, decreasing ERC values, keeping fire potential low Thursday and Friday.



HIGH PLAINS Predictive Service Area
2007-2024 - 30 Day Depiction



Friday Forecast Minimum
Relative Humidity

Minimum Relative Humidity (%)
12 hours ending at: Sat, Mar 16 2024, 1 AM CDT
Issued: Mar 11 at 7:00 AM CDT