

**CONSERVE. PROTECT. LEAD.**



# **Texas Fire Potential Update**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>-May 7<sup>th</sup> , 2024**

**Texas A&M Forest Service Predictive Services**

# Fire Potential Notes May 3rd- May 7th, 2024

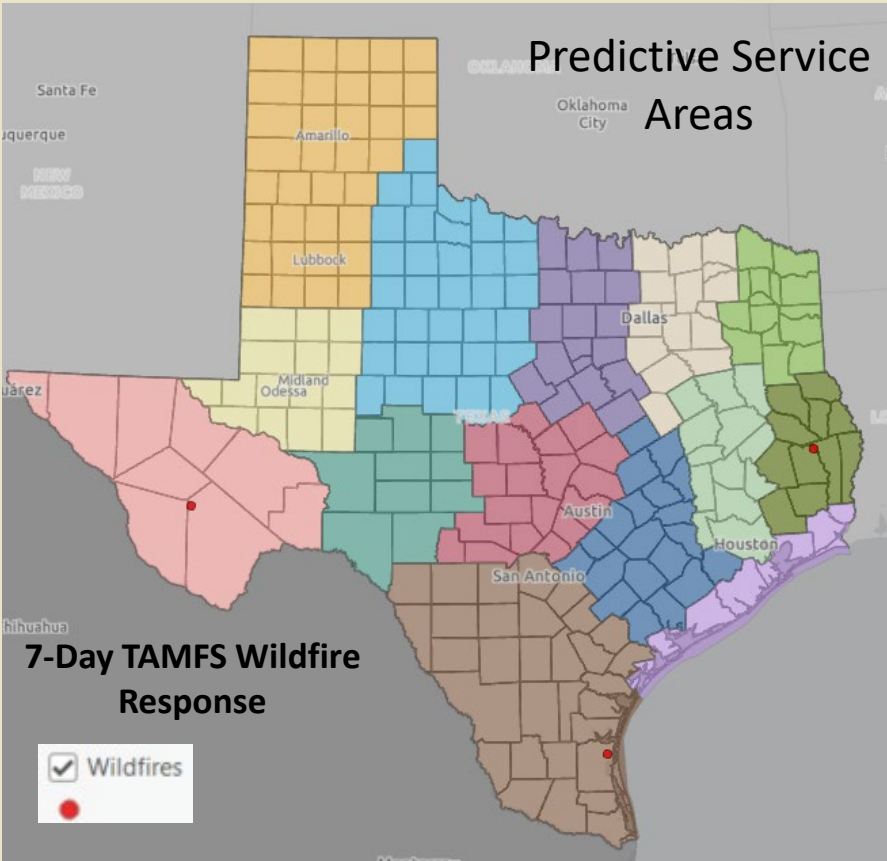
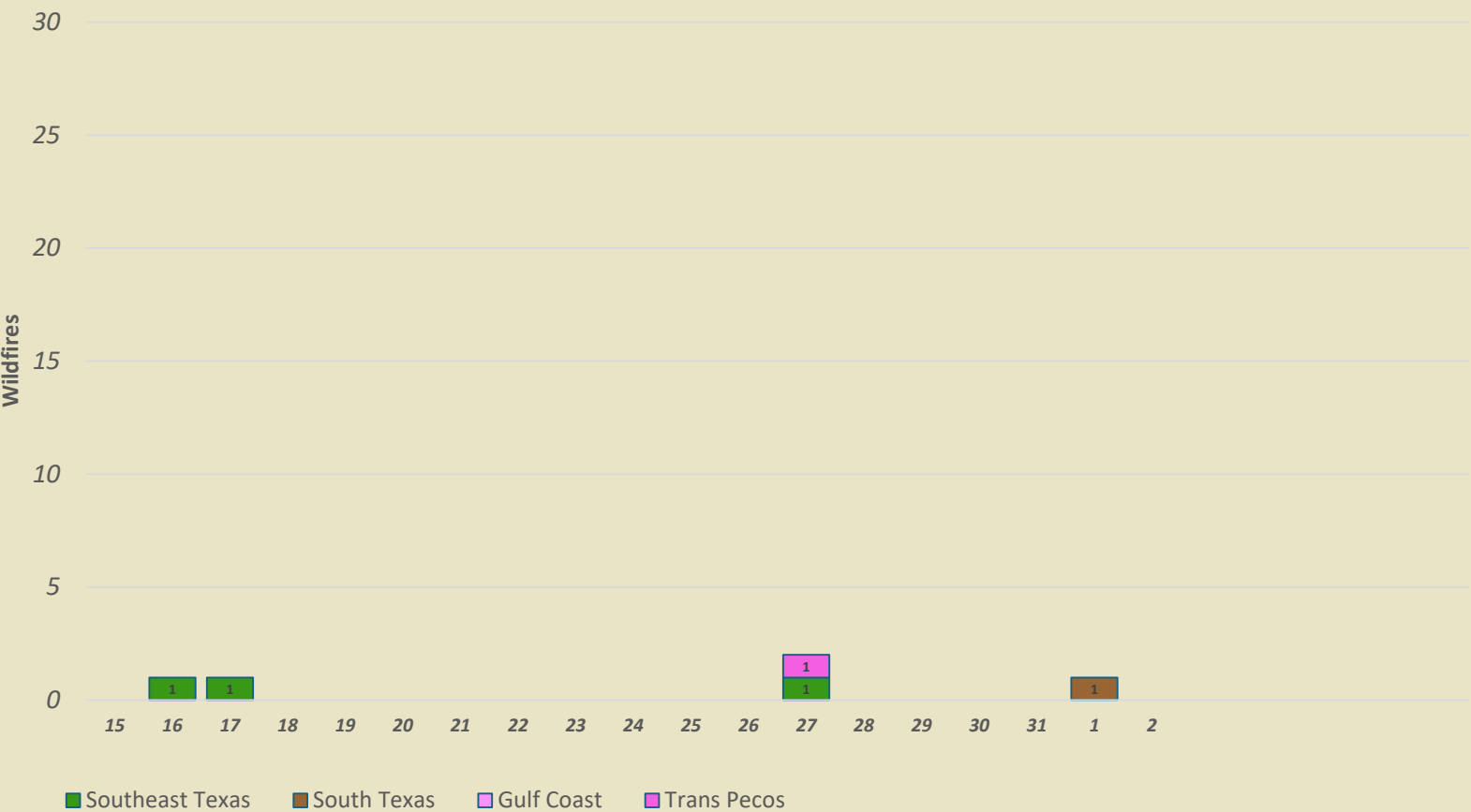


- Fire potential will be low as a moist fire environment prevails through Sunday. No critical fire weather is forecast through Sunday. Widespread rain and storms will keep fuel moisture normal to above normal for much of the state. Elevated fire weather in the mountains of the Trans Pecos will create low fire potential Friday and Saturday.
- Rainfall totals forecast over the next 7 days will be minimal in parts of South Texas, the Lower Gulf Coast, Trans Pecos west of US 385, and the northwestern High Plains. Emerging rainfall deficits over the last 30-days in South Texas is causing effective green grasses to fade into transition green and will support low initial attack fire potential by the middle of next week with the onset of very hot temperatures.
- Fuel moisture will remain normal to above normal Monday-Tuesday in the High Plains, keeping fire potential low despite being exposed to elevated to critical fire weather.

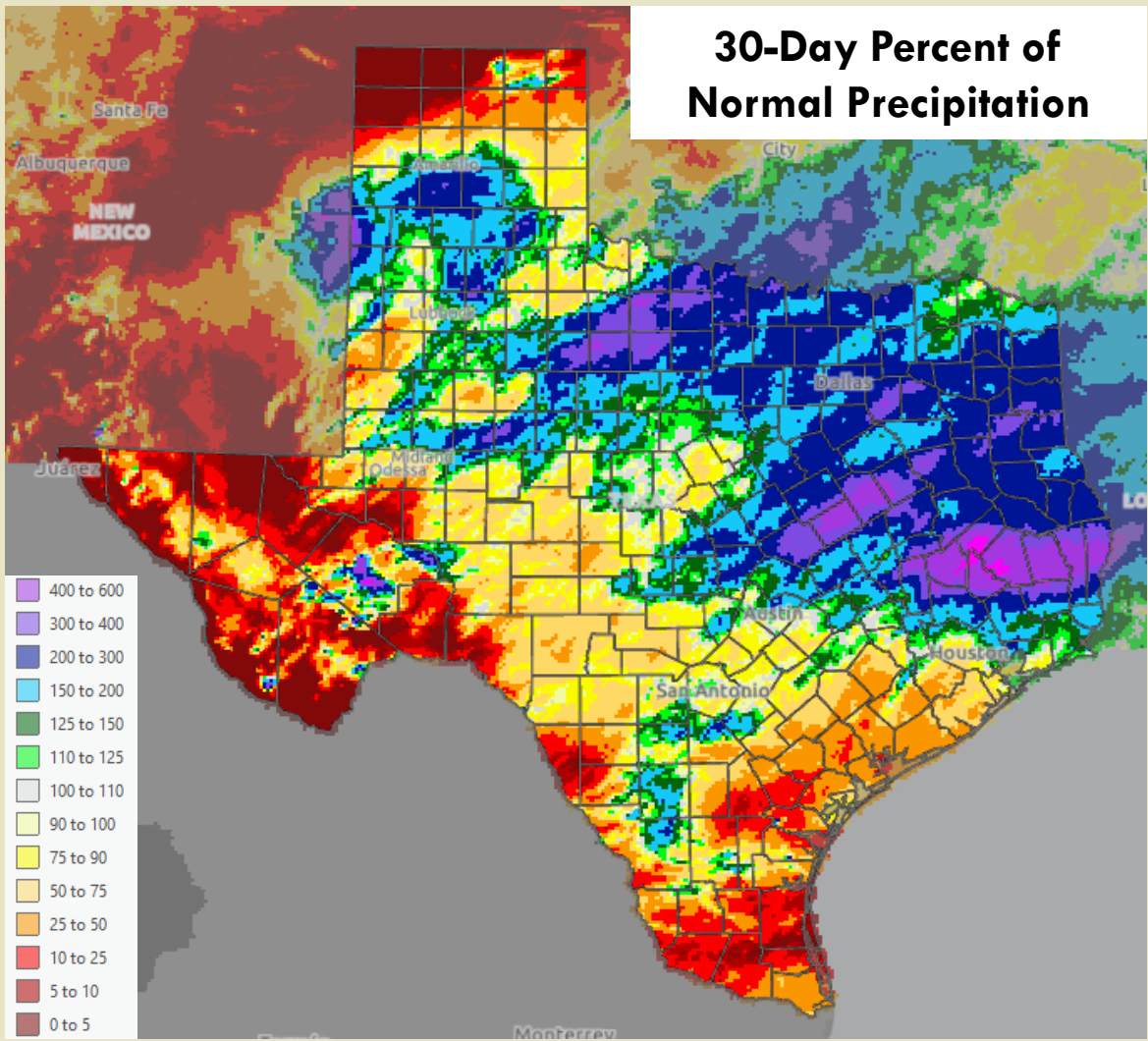
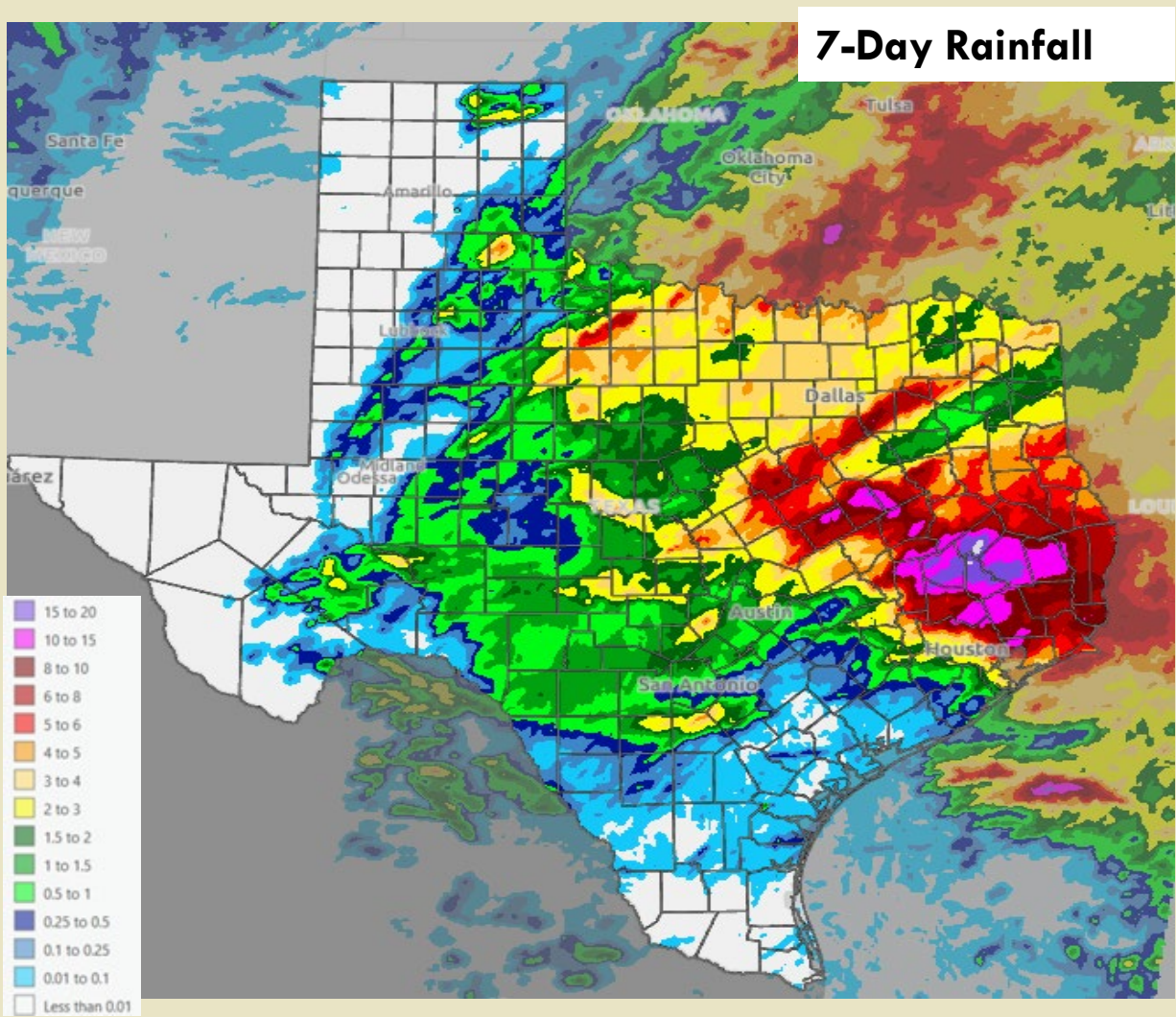
Fire activity has been limited over the last 7-days due to significant rainfall in the eastern two thirds of the state as well as lack of critical fire weather events in the High Plains or Trans Pecos.



April 15th-May 2nd , 2024 TAMFS Wildfire Response by Predictive Service Area

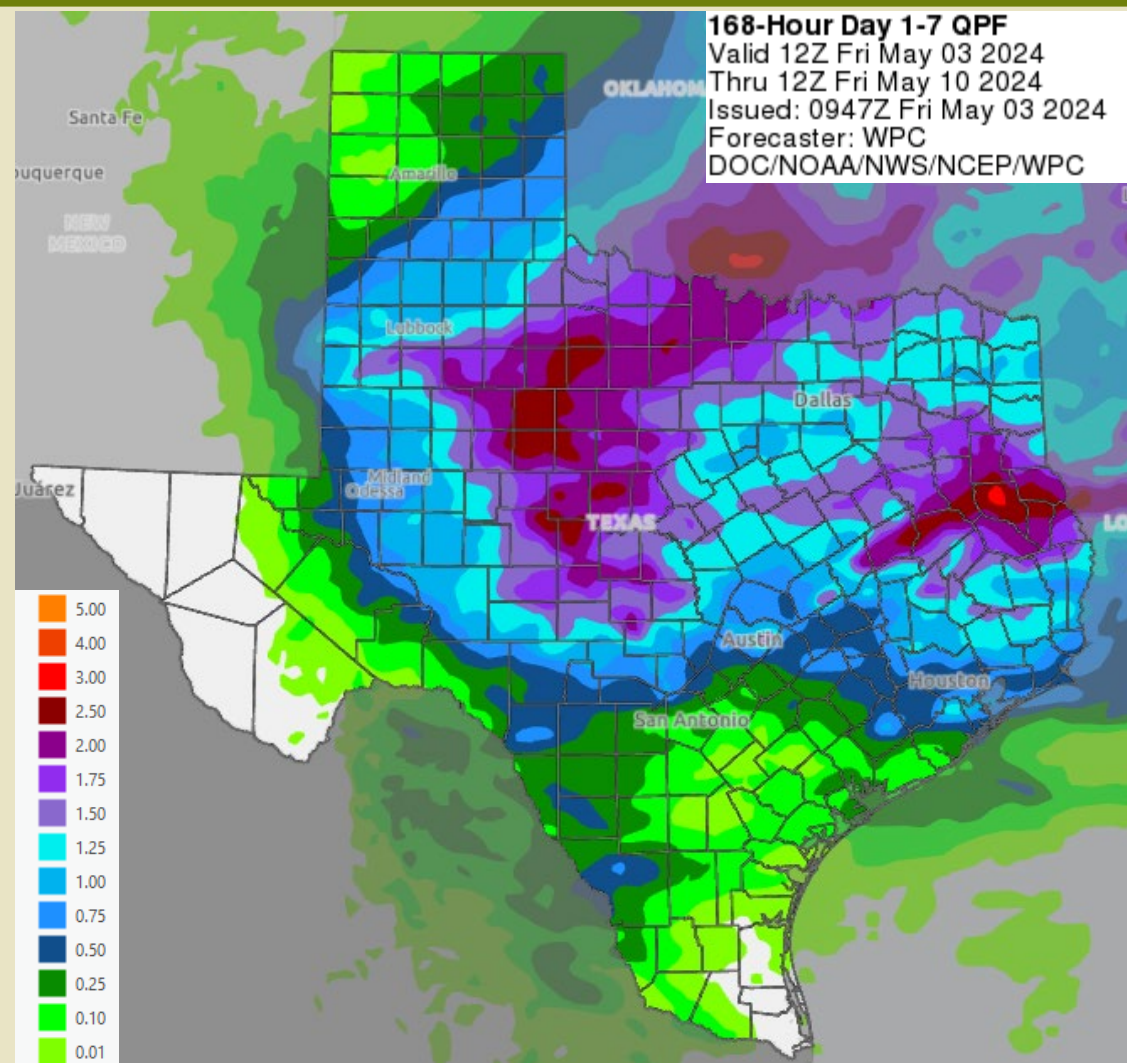
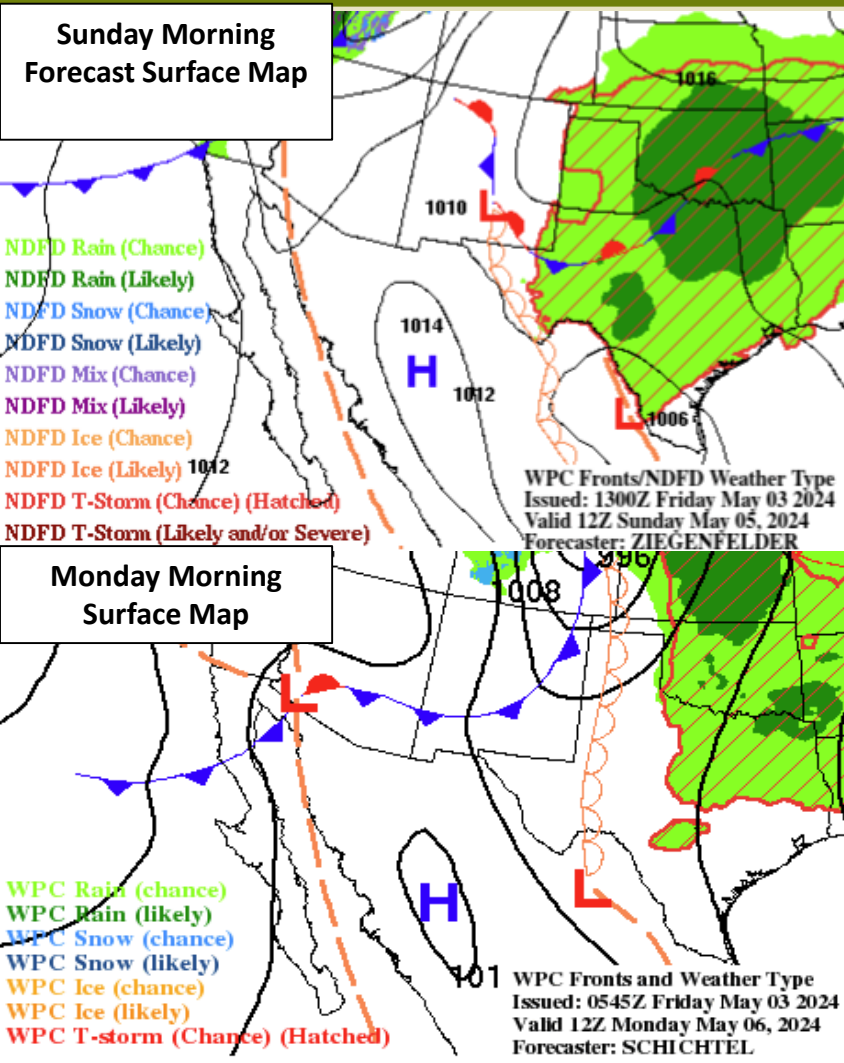


Areas west of an active dryline have received limited rainfall over the last 7 days, as well as much of South Texas and the Lower Gulf Coast. Over the past 30-days rainfall deficits continue to emerge across South Texas and the Lower Gulf Coast.





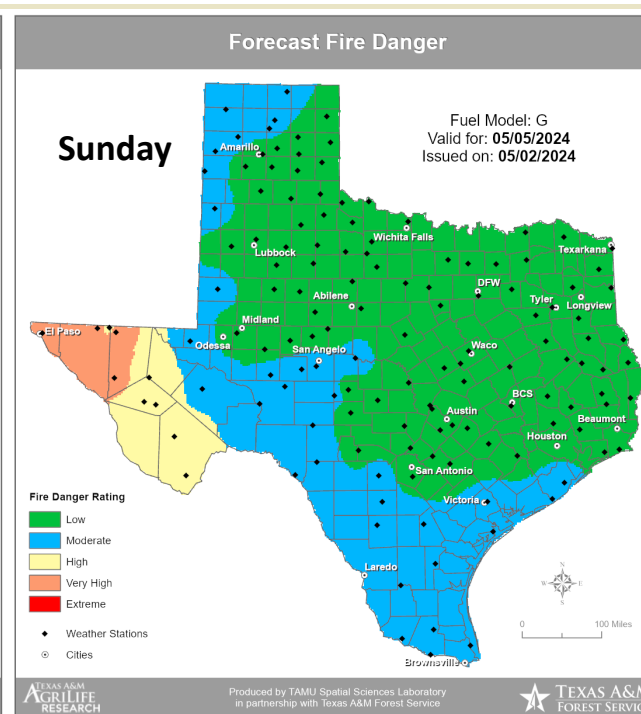
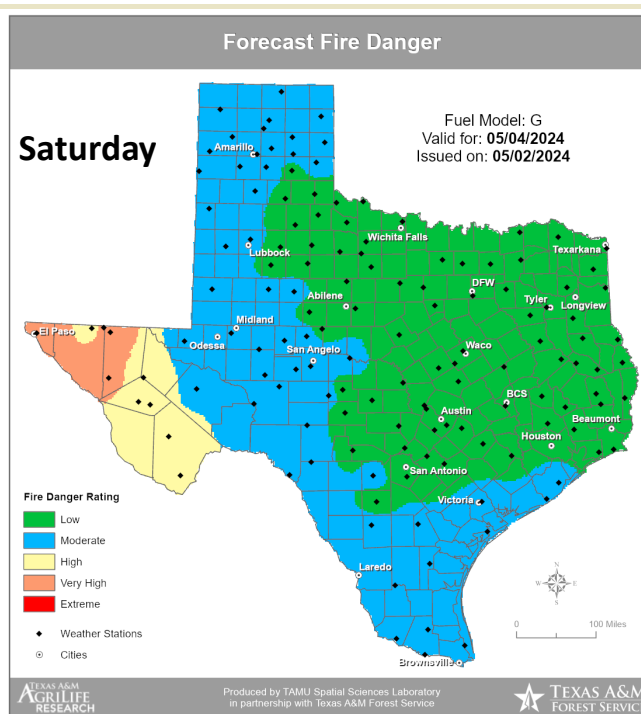
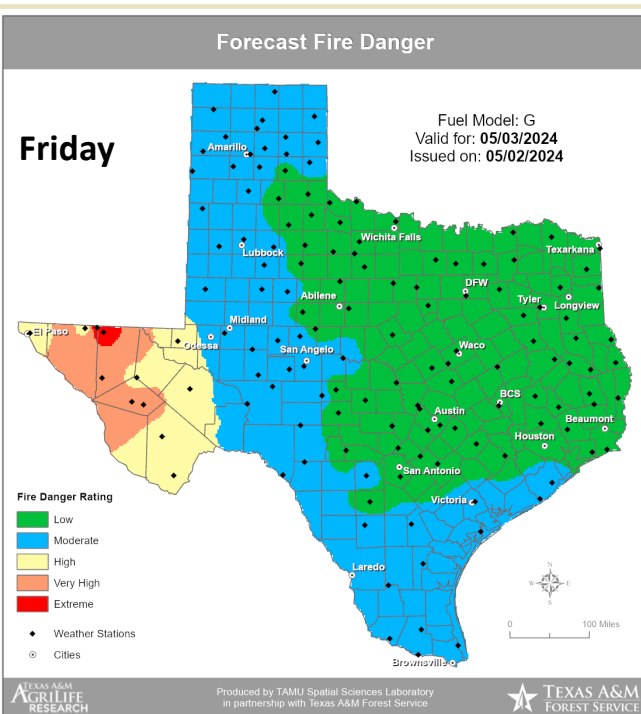
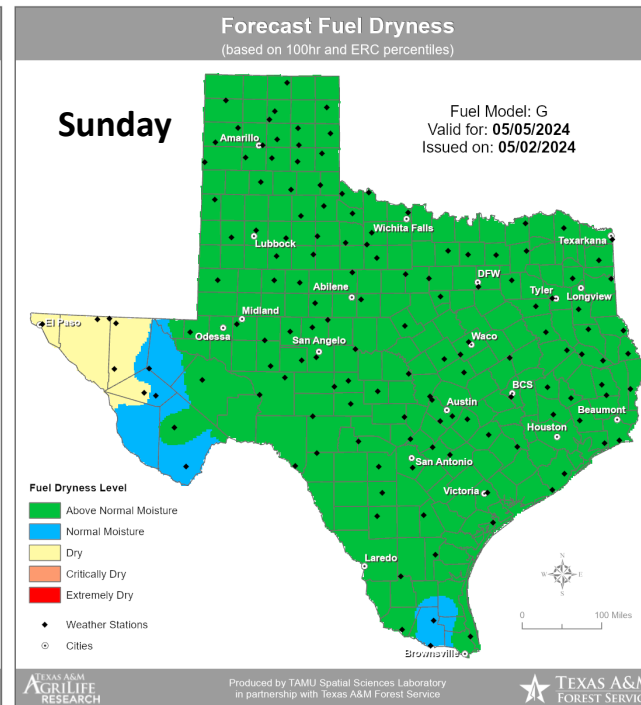
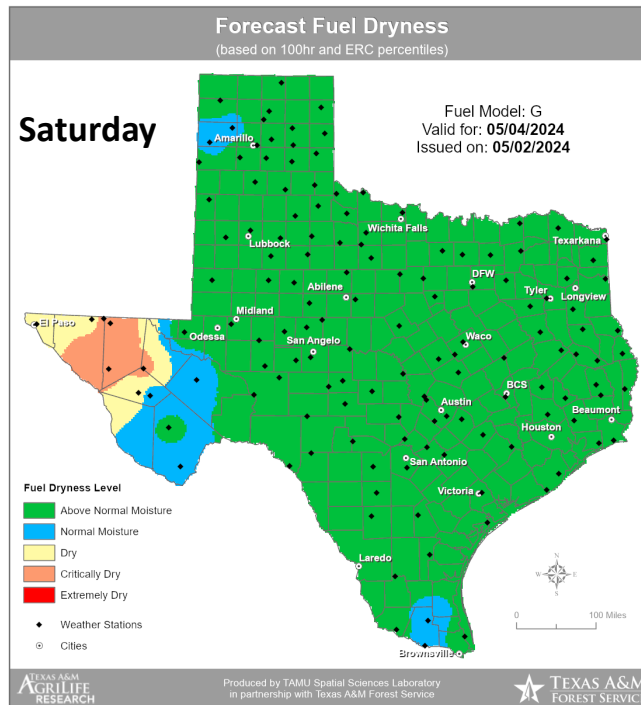
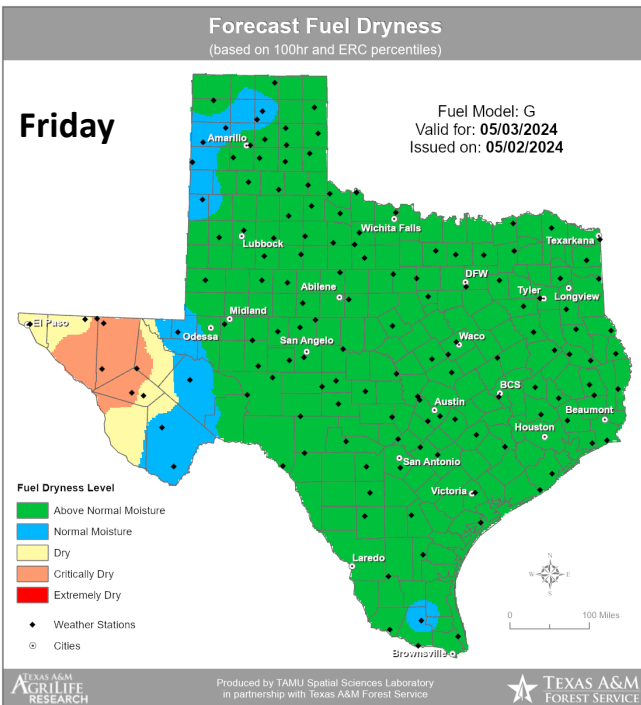
A dryline associated with a storm system over the central U.S. will cause dry and breezy conditions to emerge over west Texas by Monday. Over the next 5 days moisture will be prevalent across most of the state excluding parts of the Trans Pecos, northwestern High Plains, and South Texas.





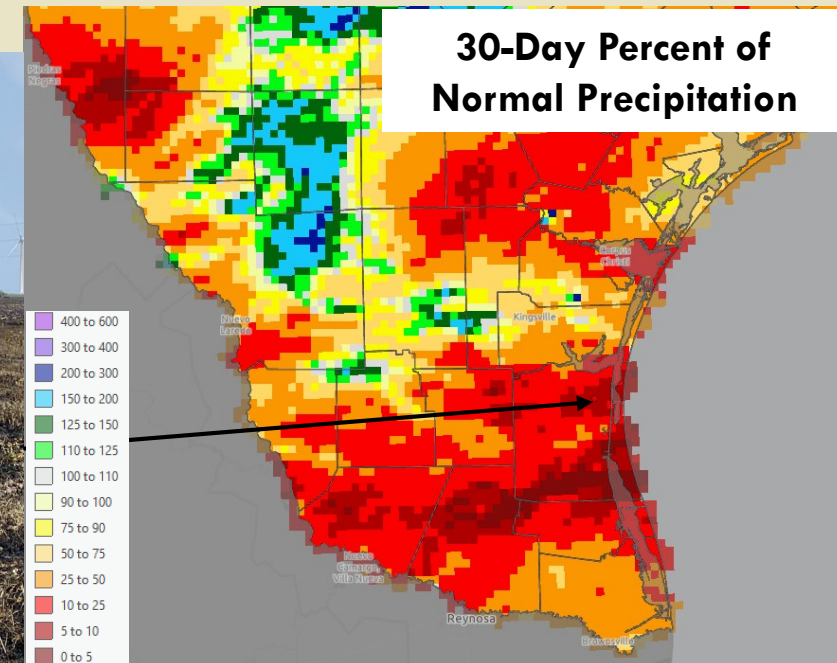
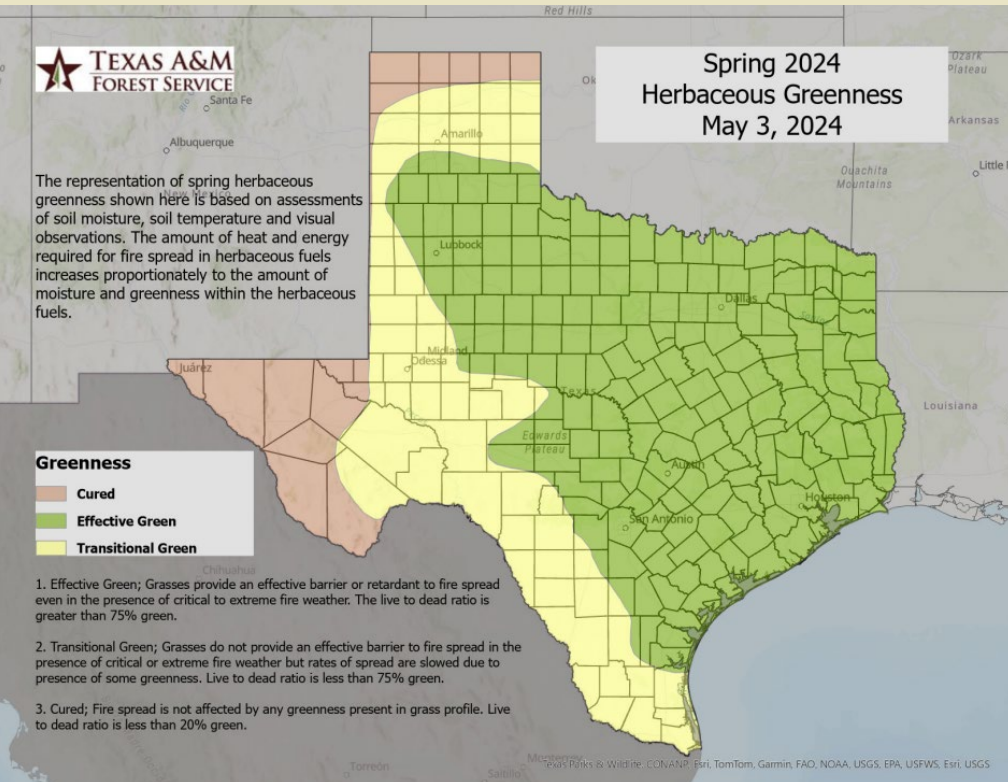
Forecast fuel dryness maps show a reduction in dry and critically dry fuels, limiting potential for a large fire in the Trans Pecos through Sunday.

The High Plains will gain fuel moisture through Sunday and linger into early next week. Areas of high to very high fire danger will be limited to the central and western Trans Pecos.





Rainfall deficits and high temperatures will cause effective green grasses to fade to transition green in South Texas. The Penescal Fire occurred May 1<sup>st</sup> in coastal grasslands in Kenedy County. Ground observations show grass fuel were transition green, indicating moisture deficits. Resistance to control was characterized as low.

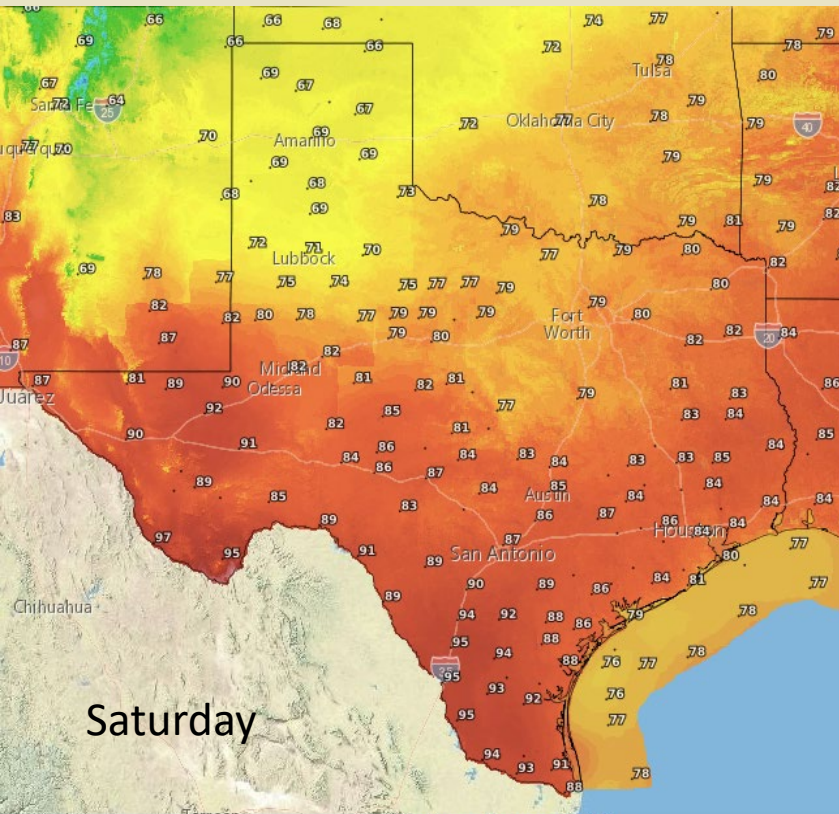


Green grasses seen on the Penescal Fire did provide some barrier of complete consumption. High temperatures and limited precipitation is causing curing of effective green fuels. Photo by Stephen Tanner.



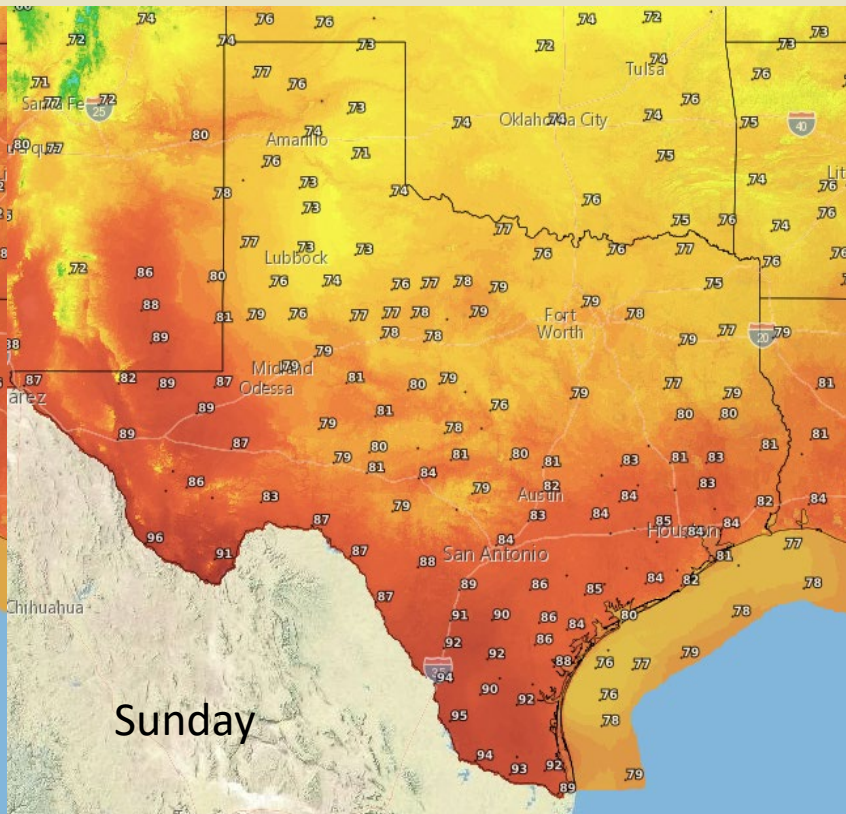


Temperatures will begin to trend upwards early next week as high pressure builds to the south.



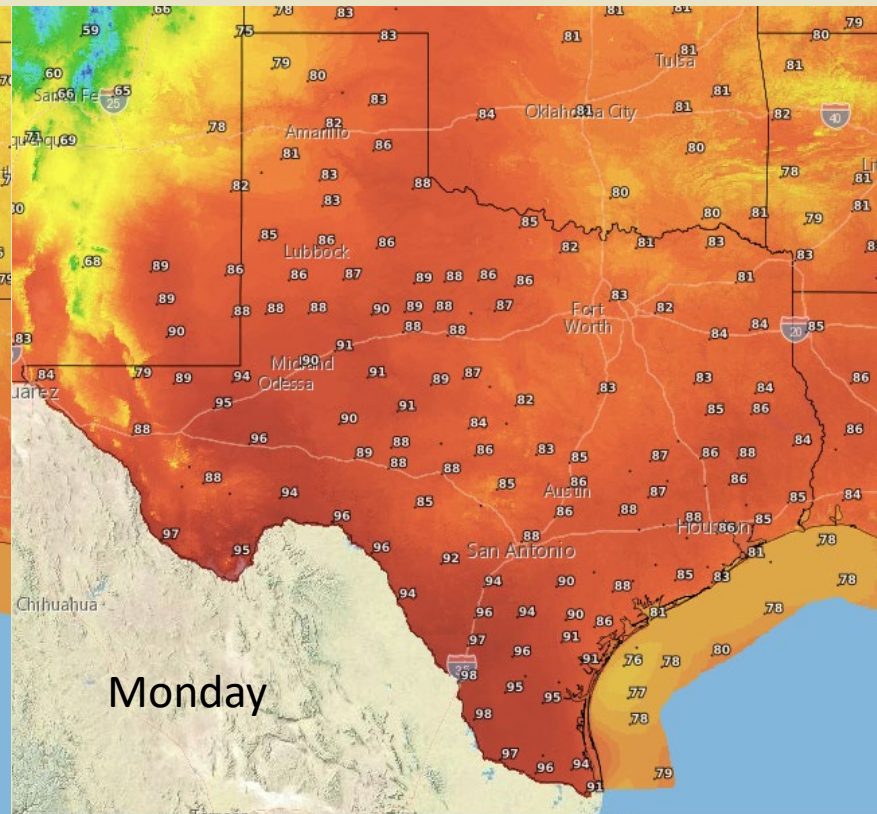
Saturday

Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Daytime High for: Sat, May 4 2024, 7 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 11:00 AM CDT



Sunday

Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Daytime High for: Sun, May 5 2024, 7 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 11:00 AM CDT



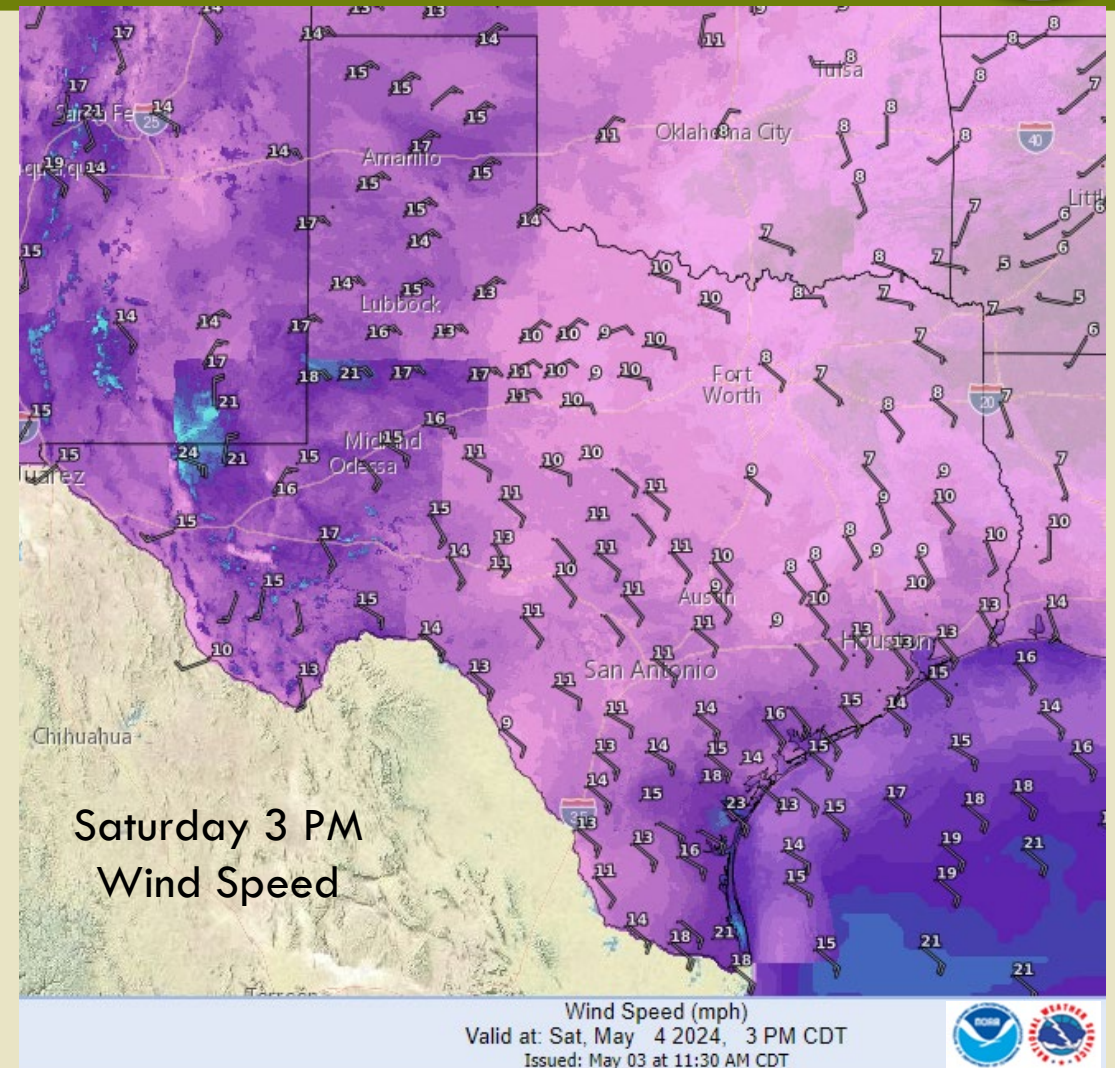
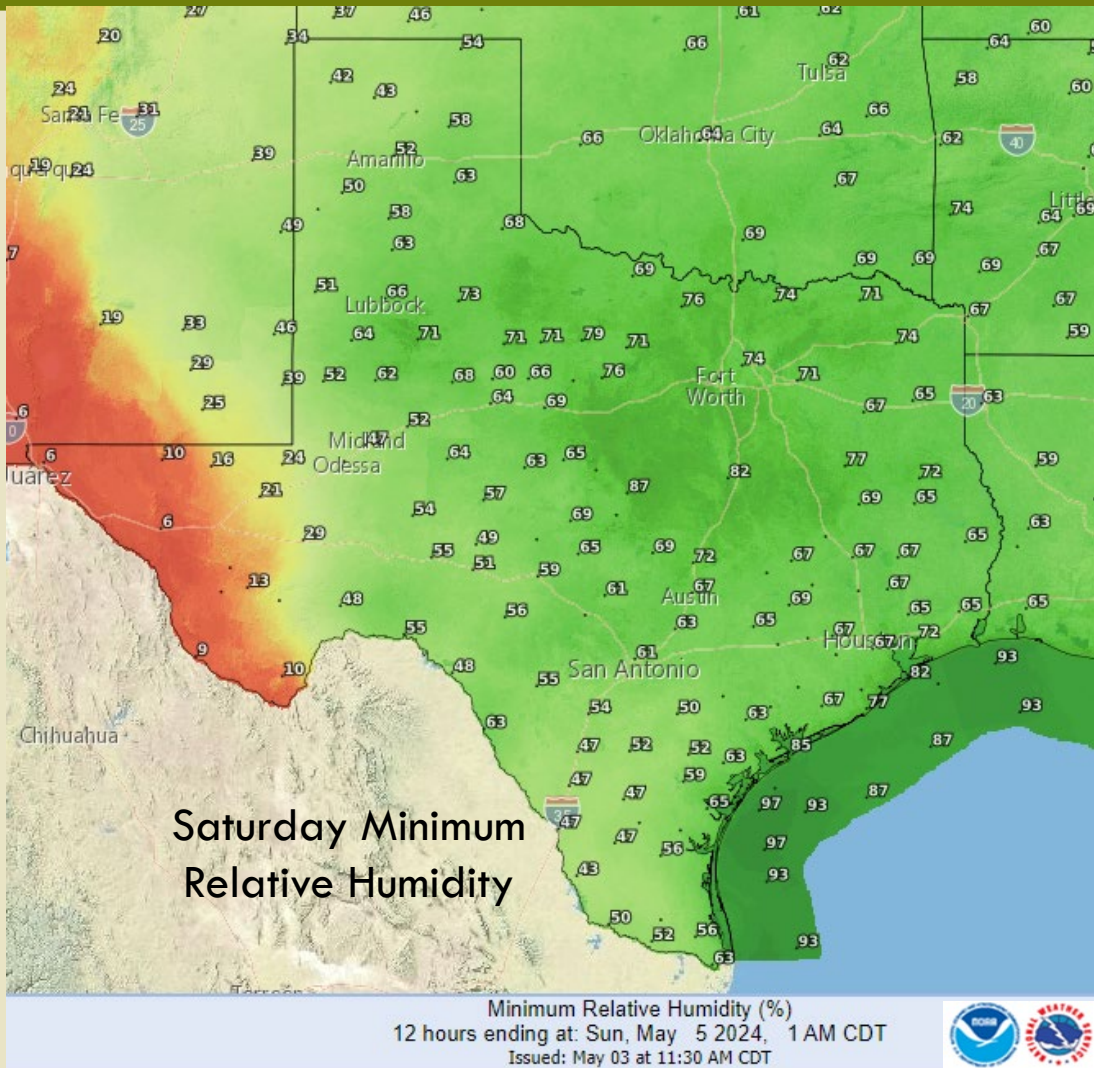
Monday

Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Daytime High for: Mon, May 6 2024, 7 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 7:00 AM CDT



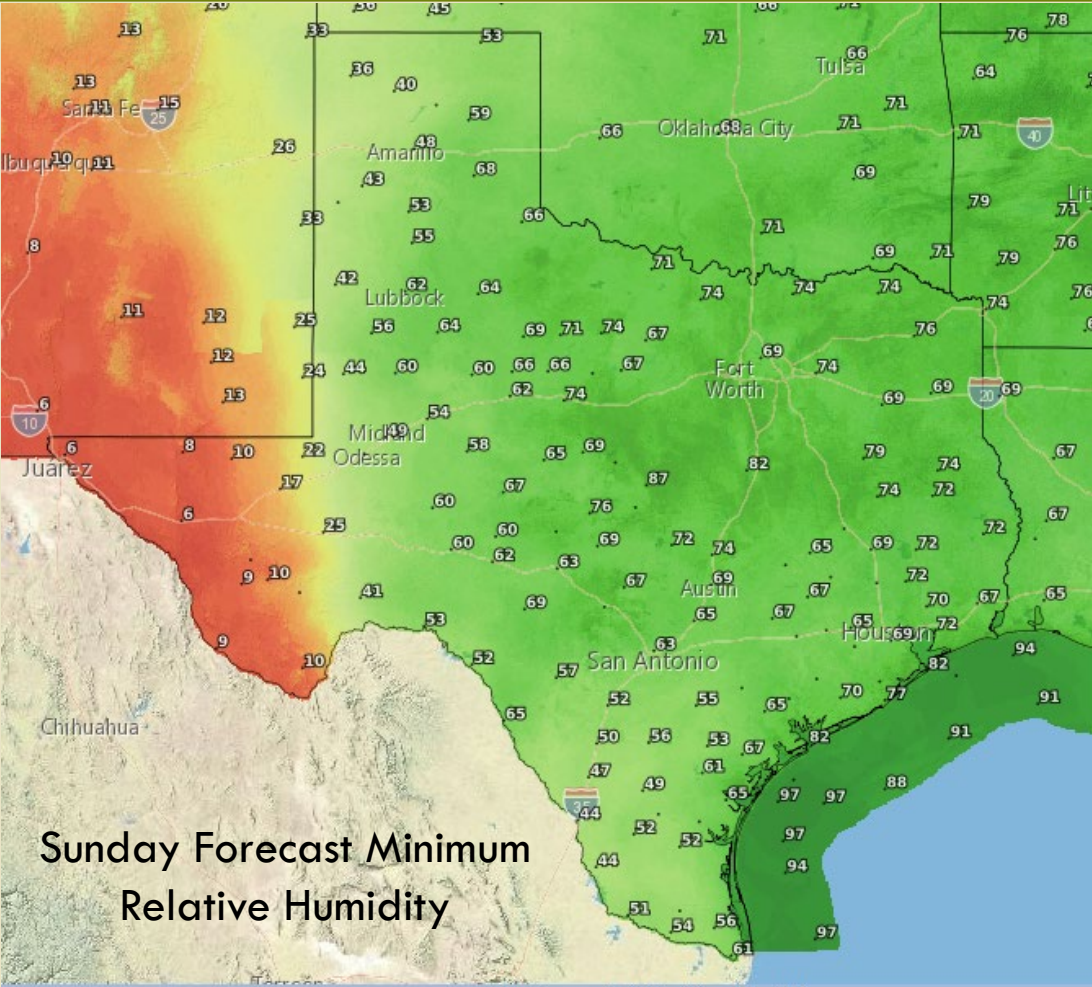


On Saturday, the only area of limited fire potential remain in the Trans Pecos. As the dryline backs further west any storm that develops Saturday afternoon could produce lightning over the Davis and Glass Mountains.



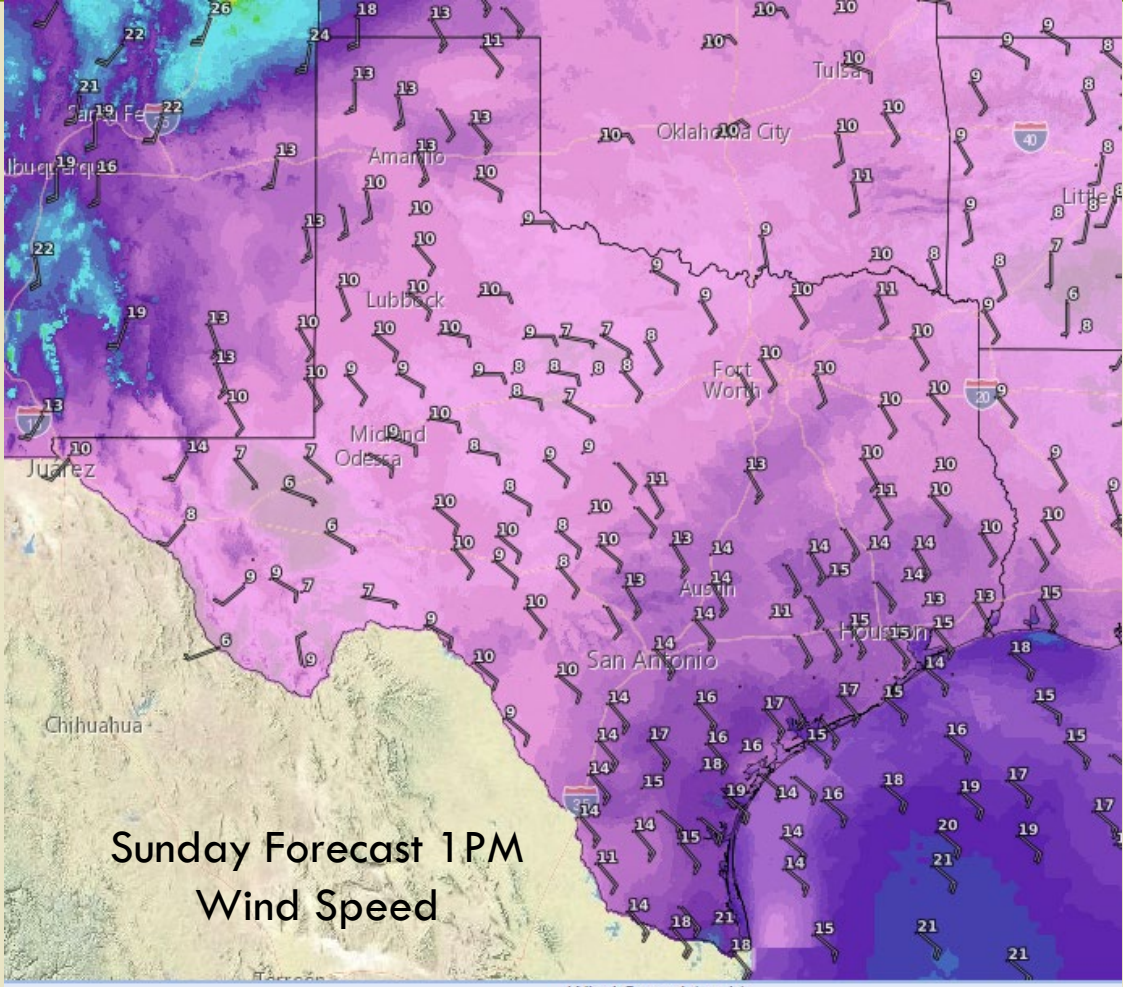


Sunday's fire environment will be characterized by higher humidity and modest winds in the High Plains. The Trans Pecos continues to be influenced by the dryline but will see only light winds. An approaching front will increase winds in the northwestern High Plains late in the afternoon Sunday, but normal fuel moistures will keep fire potential low.



Sunday Forecast Minimum  
Relative Humidity

Minimum Relative Humidity (%)  
12 hours ending at: Mon, May 6 2024, 1 AM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 7:00 AM CDT



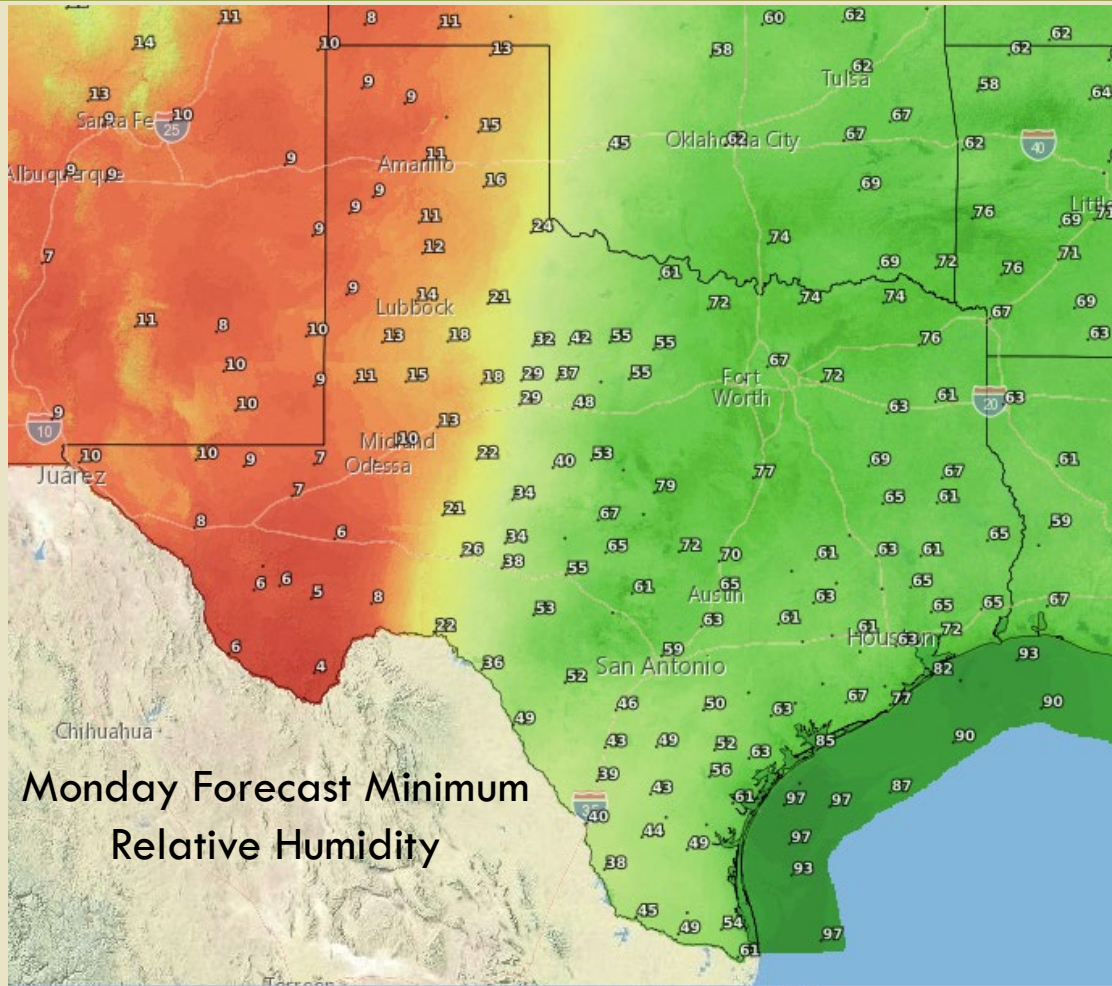
Sunday Forecast 1 PM  
Wind Speed

Wind Speed (mph)  
Valid at: Sun, May 5 2024, 1 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 12:00 PM CDT



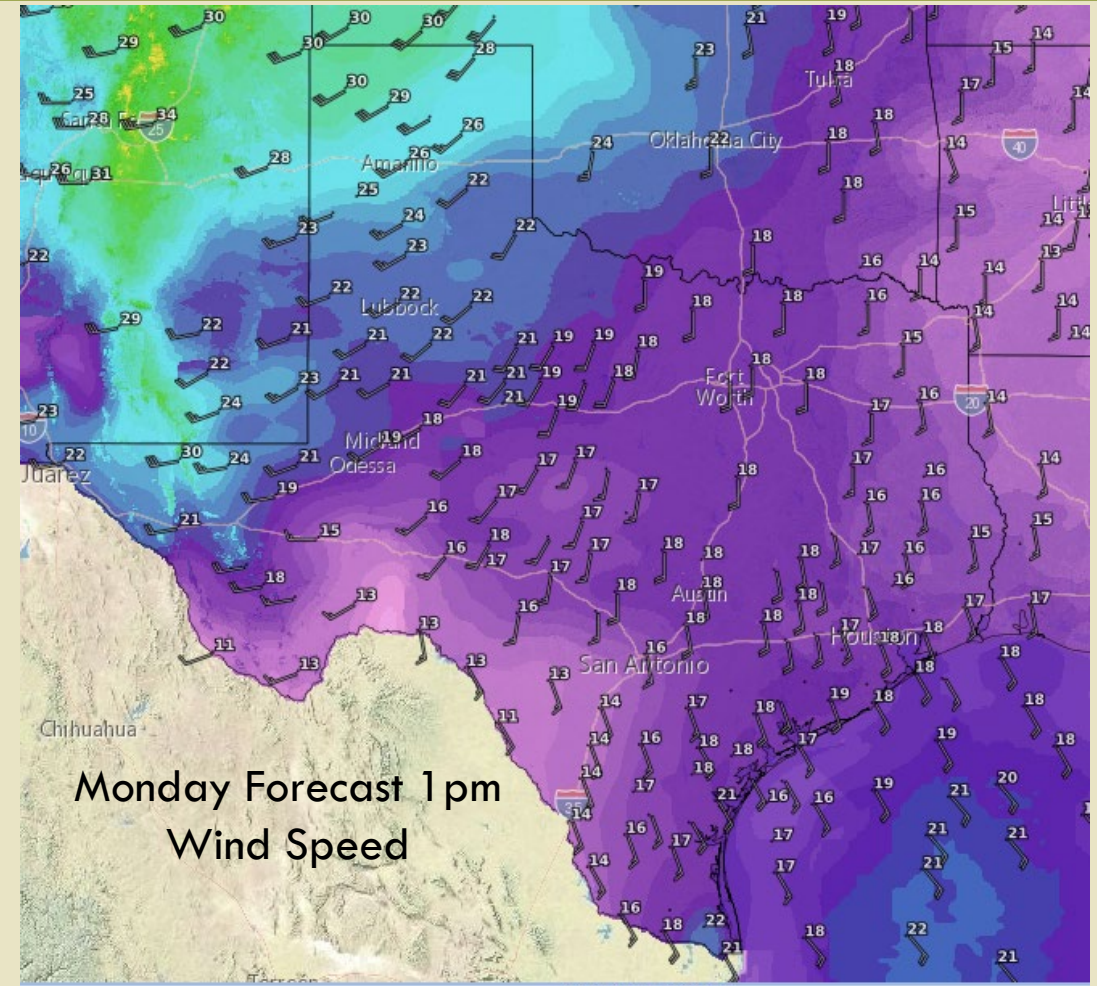


On Monday, elevated to critical fire weather characterized by low RH and wind >25 mph emerges west of a dryline in the northwestern High Plains. Above normal fuel moisture will keep fire potential low for the western Canadian River drainage. High fuel loading of cured grasses remains and could result in a fire with low to moderate resistance to control.



Monday Forecast Minimum  
Relative Humidity

Minimum Relative Humidity (%)  
12 hours ending at: Tue, May 7 2024, 1 AM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 7:00 AM CDT



Monday Forecast 1pm  
Wind Speed

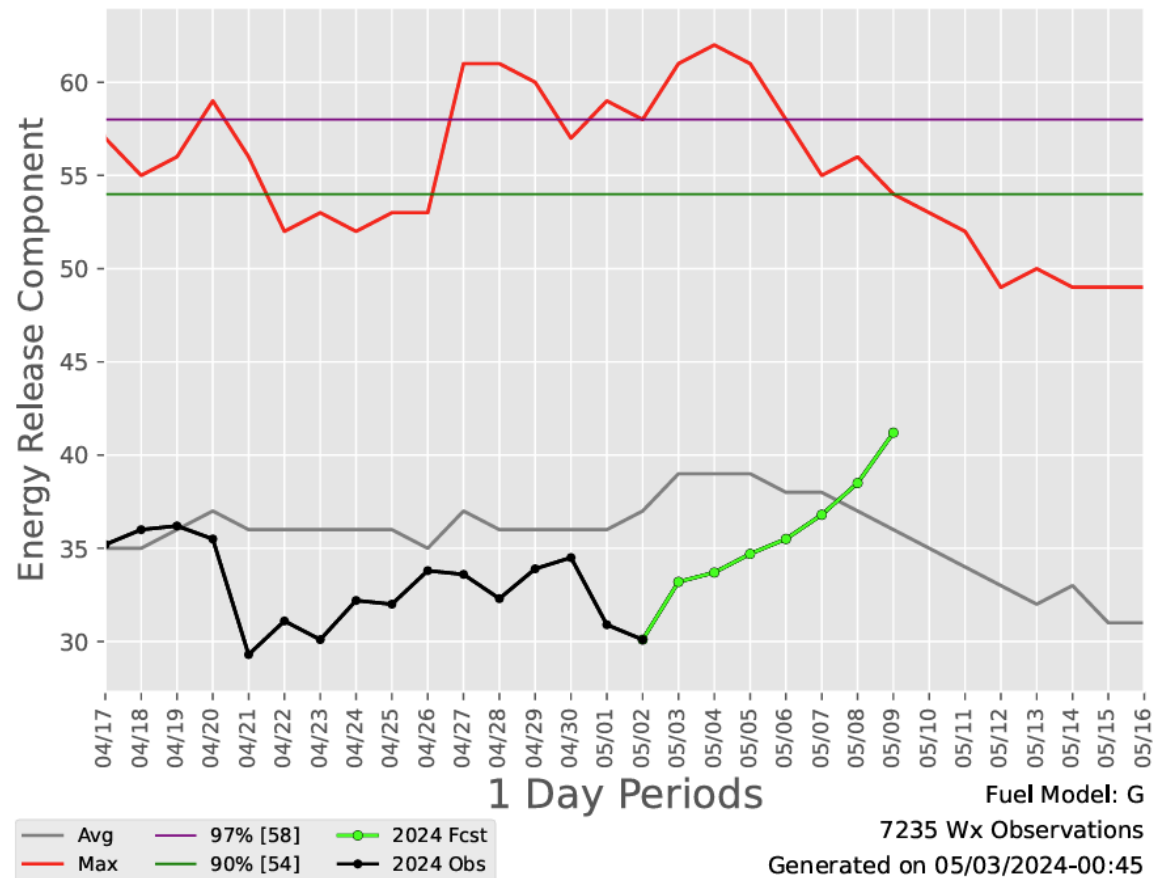
Wind Speed (mph)  
Valid at: Mon, May 6 2024, 1 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 7:00 AM CDT



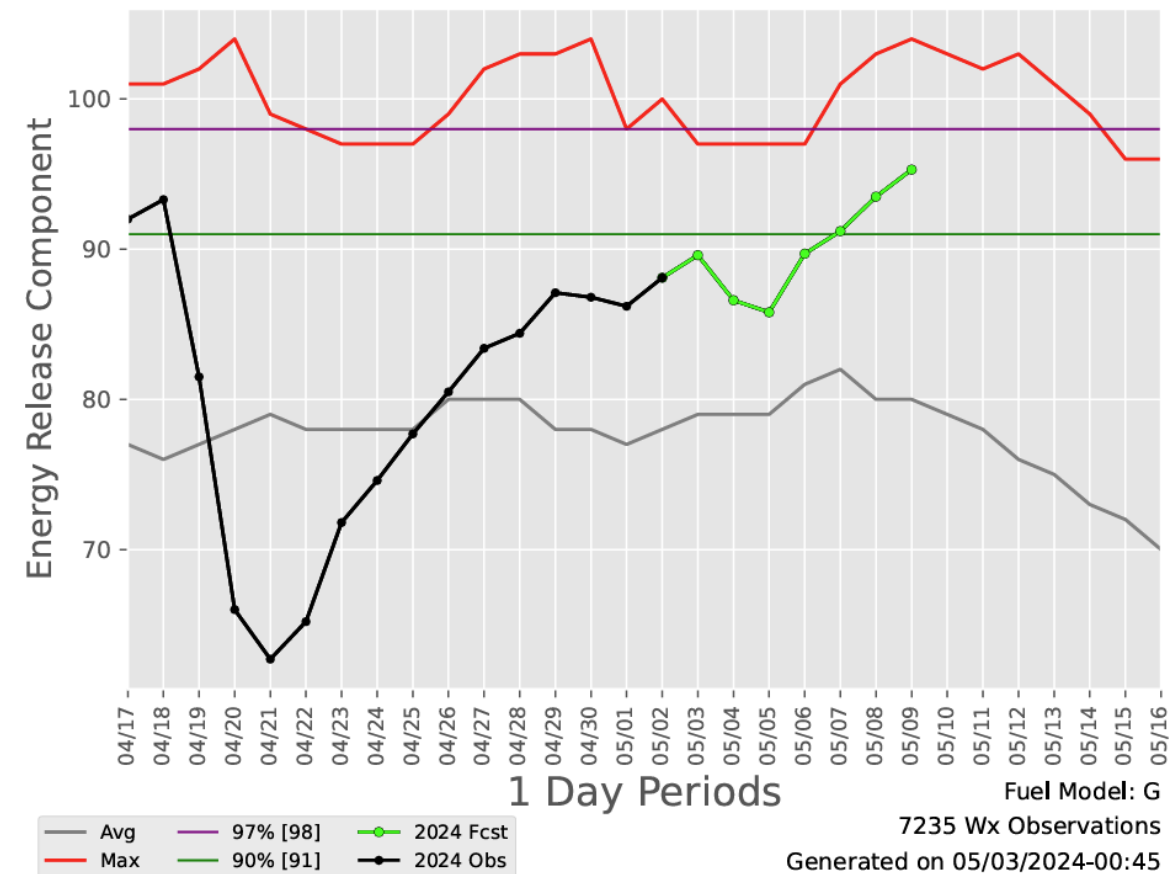
Above normal temperatures and emerging rainfall deficits in South Texas is reflected by rising ERC values. Effective green up in South Texas grasses will fade in areas that see limited precipitation this weekend. In the Trans Pecos fuels will see limited moisture recovery this weekend and are forecast to exceed the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile by mid week.



**SOUTH TEXAS Predictive Service Area**  
2007-2024 - 30 Day Depiction



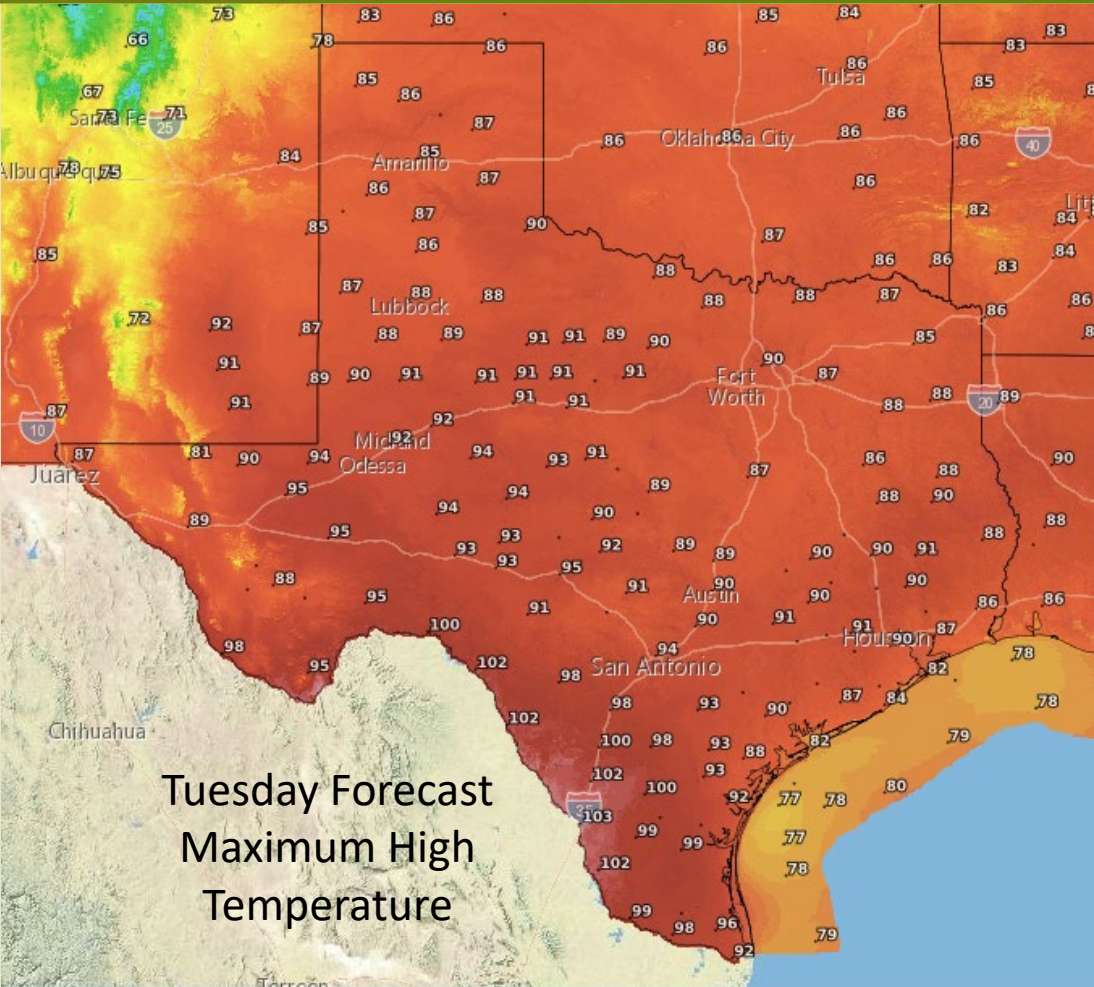
**TRANS PECOS Predictive Service Area**  
2007-2024 - 30 Day Depiction





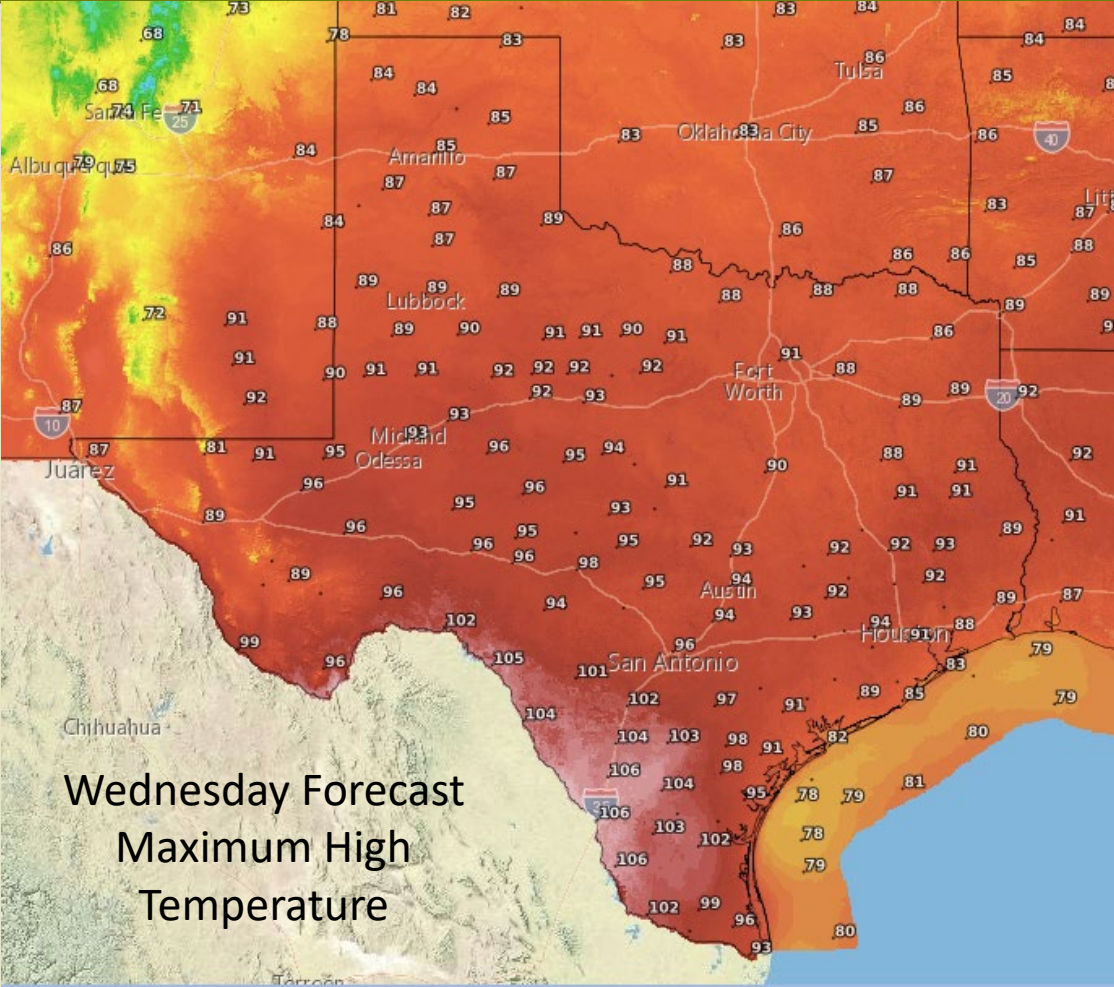


Well above normal temperatures are forecast Tuesday and Wednesday for South Texas and will continue to wilt grasses and may support increased ignition potential.



Tuesday Forecast  
Maximum High  
Temperature

Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Daytime High for: Tue, May 7 2024, 7 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 1:00 PM CDT



Wednesday Forecast  
Maximum High  
Temperature

Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Daytime High for: Wed, May 8 2024, 7 PM CDT  
Issued: May 03 at 1:00 PM CDT

