Red Flag Warnings: none

Fire Weather Watches: none

Flood Watch in effect for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands through this evening

Isolated thunderstorms affecting the TN Valley this morning will shift south into parts of GA and AL; expect a few storms across coastal NC, as well

Thunderstorms will be scattered over the central and southern FL peninsula, in addition to parts of Deep South TX

Widespread 90-degree highs are in store, but portions of TX, OK and AR will see readings eclipse the century mark

Additional flooding possible for PR and the USVI

Although Category 3 Fiona is beginning to accelerate to the north-northwest away from the Caribbean now, unstable air will remain in place, and some of the hurricane’s outer bands will bring scattered showers and thunderstorms today

Flooding rain potential will be on a more isolated to widely scattered basis than yesterday, but some areas have the potential to pick up a quick 1-3” of rain, with isolated 3-5” amounts possible into tonight; just as many areas will remain dry, however

Any additional rain will either slow the improvement of ongoing flooding or locally exacerbate it

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.
Predictive Services Large Fire Potential Today

- Moderate Risk for large fires today across much of OK due to hot, dry and unstable conditions, along with areas of critically dry fuels and S winds gusting up to 35 mph (highest northwest)
- Low Risk across the panhandles into far northwest/north TX, AR, northern MS/AL, western TN and western KY due to hot temperatures, areas of dry fuels and RH as low as 20-35%

Predictive Services Large Fire Potential Wednesday

- Moderate Risk for large fires Wednesday in an unstable, very hot and dry pre-frontal environment across OK into AR, northern MS and western TN where ERCs are forecast to approach the 90th percentile; RH will be as low as 18-25%; expect S winds up to 25 mph to shift N behind a front overnight and gust as high as 30-40 mph over the Plains
- Low Risk across the panhandles into far north TX and the TX mountains, extending east into much of the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic due to increasingly dry fuels, record highs in the 90s to near 100 and winds from 10-20 mph, locally higher

Predictive Services Large Fire Potential Thursday

- Low Risk from southern parts of central and eastern OK into northeast/east TX extending east ahead of a frontal boundary all the way to the East Coast – all due to very hot, dry and unstable conditions in the pre-frontal environment
- The front will bring changing winds and a risk for a few thunderstorms from the Appalachians into VA and NC by the afternoon; RH as low as 20-25% will be found all the way to the Gulf Coast

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.
10-hour dead fuel moisture is forecast to drop as low as 5-10% across portions of the Plains into the MS Valley and interior Southeast the next few days. Some improvement will occur in northern and northeast parts of the region where briefly cooler and more humid conditions move in with a frontal boundary, but drying should resume by early next week.

100-hour dead fuel moisture will drop below 15% over portions of TX, OK and AR into scattered areas across the Southeast the next few days. Most areas outside of the FL peninsula and south TX will continue to see a drying trend into early next week.

Increasingly low soil moisture is noted across the region, with large parts of OK, the Mid-Mississippi Valley and areas adjacent to the East Coast seeing values in the 0-100 cm depth below the 10th percentile (NASA SPoRT). There is large variability in the remainder of the region, but moist soils are most notable across northern LA into parts of central and southern MS, southwest/west FL and parts of the TX Rio Grande Valley.

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Forecast Rainfall the Next Week

- The dry overall pattern will continue across the Southern Area into early next week, with only south FL and some portions of the north-central and northeast geographic area set to pick up rainfall.
- Unstable air will be locked up across south FL and perhaps far south TX, where rainfall amounts of 1-2" are possible.
- Two frontal boundaries will be deprived of moisture but will be capable of producing up to 1" of rain in parts of the TN/OH Valleys and perhaps NC into eastern VA.

Heat Eases for Some Next Week

- After a period of record heat expected this week, a high pressure ridge will begin to build farther west, allowing strong cold fronts to spill into the East.
- Average temperatures heading into next week will be below normal across northeastern parts of the region, where highs will only reach the 60s and 70s for a number of days.
- Patchy frost is even possible on a few nights over the highest elevations of the Appalachians, with lower elevations seeing lows in the 40s.
- Widespread highs in the 90s should prevail across southern OK into TX into next week, with a few days likely near 90 across the Southeast ahead of the frontal boundaries.

Watching the Pattern Closely Late Next Week

- The large-scale weather pattern across the Atlantic and North America later next week is forecast to become highly amplified, with a trough of low pressure in the East and expansive ridges on either side.
- A tropical wave well east of the Caribbean now is shown by nearly all forecast guidance to traverse the Caribbean and head northwest around the edge of a high pressure ridge that builds in behind Fiona.
- Though confidence is extremely low in details, this pattern that is often a pre-cursor to tropical impacts in the U.S. this time of year should be watched closely by all interests along the Gulf Coast and East Coast as October approaches – see the Tropical Outlook for more.

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.