



National Weather Service
Lake Charles, Louisiana
1:00 pm Wed Mar 16 2016

Special Weather Update

By Roger Erickson, Warning Coordination Meteorologist

TOP STORY:

Major flooding is still ongoing on the Sabine, Neches, and Calcasieu Rivers. Major flooding is expected on the Red River in Alexandria this weekend.

	Lows	Highs	Wind	Chance for Rain
Today		80-85 F	SE 10-15 mph	20% tonight
Thursday	56-65 F	77-82 F	E 10-15 mph	30-40%
Friday	58-63 F	72-75 F	E 10-15 mph	40-60%
Saturday	52-58 F	63-68 F	N 15-20 mph	30-50%
Sunday	40-46 F	62-67 F	N 10-15 mph	5%
Monday	37-44 F	67-70 F	S 10-15 mph	5%
Tuesday	45-55 F	72-76 F	S 10-15 mph	10%



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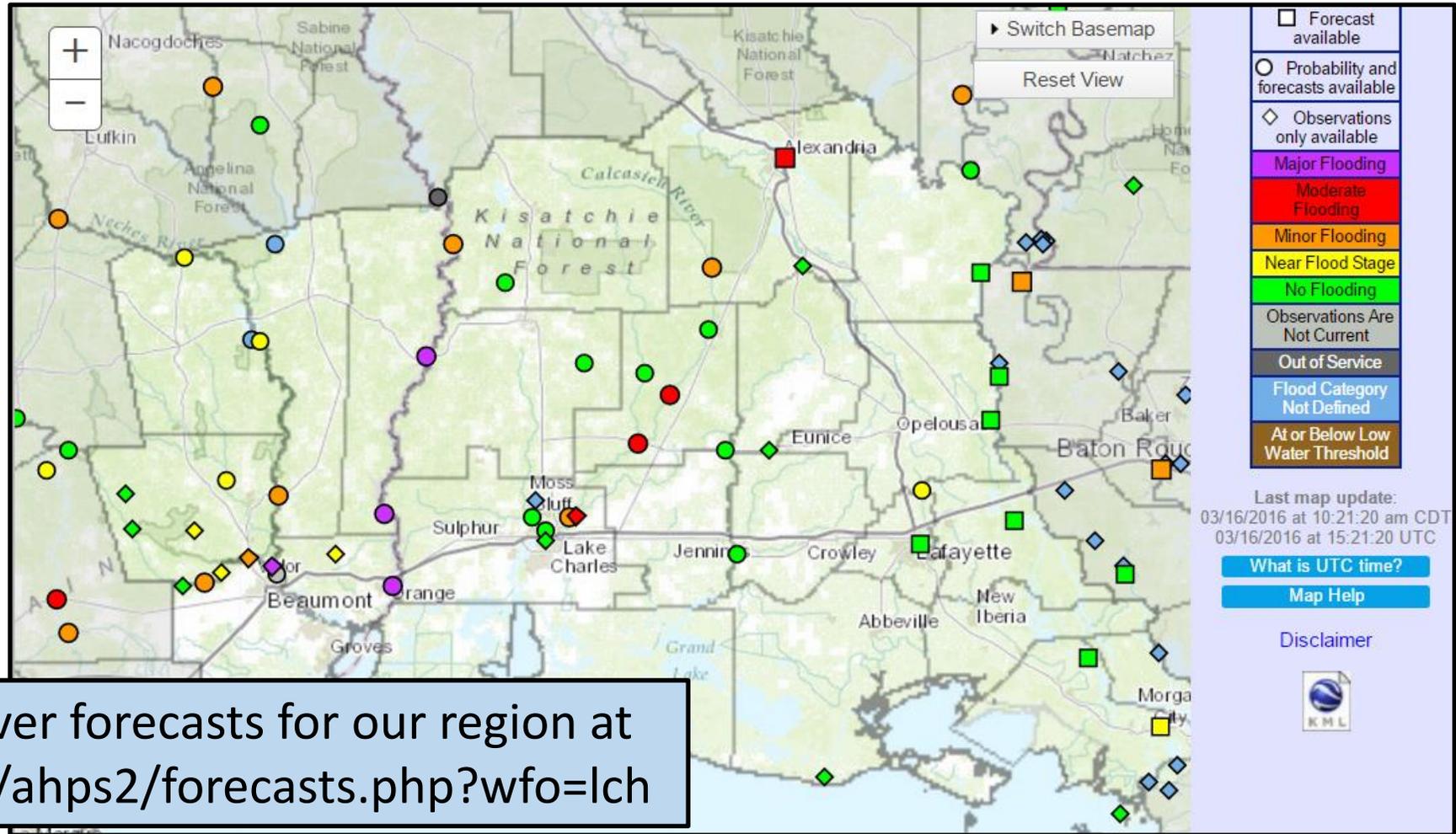
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River Forecasts

Major flooding has been seen along the Sabine, Calcasieu and Neches Rivers. The Red River is expected to become a major flood this weekend.



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	172.48 ft	n/a
Burkeville	43	44.2 ft	Will hold near flood stage through the weekend.
Bon Wier/Merryville	30	38.7 ft	Will remain above major flood (36 ft) through the weekend.
Deweyville/Starks	24	32.9 ft	Slowly falling, but stay above major flood (28 ft) through the weekend.
Orange	4	7.4 ft	Cresting this afternoon around 7.5 ft. It will stay above 6 ft (major flood) through the weekend.





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Neches River Forecast

Neches River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Steinhagen Lake		81.69 ft	
Town Bluff	68	68.0 ft	Stay near flood stage through the weekend.
Evadale	17	18.2 ft	Stay in minor flood through the weekend.
Salt Water Barrier	4	9.13 ft	Slowly falling, will be below major flood (8 ft) by Friday March 18 th .
Beaumont	4	Est. 8.6 ft	Near crest, will fall below moderate flood (7 ft) by Friday March 18 th but stay in minor flood this weekend.





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Other Texas River Forecasts

Village Creek

	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Kountze	17	14.9 ft	Has fallen below flood stage and will continue to fall.

Pine Island Bayou

	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Sour Lake	25	26.9 ft	Slowly falling, will go below flood stage (25 ft) by Friday March 18 th .

Cow Bayou

	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Mauriceville	17	16.69 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	14.3 ft	Currently falling, will be below flood stage by Sunday March 20 th .
Oakdale	12	Est. 9.9 ft	It is below flood stage and will continue to fall through the weekend.
Oberlin	13	18.6 ft	It is falling and will be below flood stage by Friday March 18 th .
Kinder	16	21.0 ft	It is falling and will be below flood stage by Saturday March 19 th .
Old Town Bay	4	5.5 ft	It is rising and will crest near 9.5 ft late Friday March 18 th .
Salt Water Barrier	4	2.9 ft	It will crest near 5 ft (minor flood) late Friday March 18 th .



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Red River Area Forecasts

Red River and Black River			
	Flood Stage	Latest Reading	Forecast
Alexandria	32	36.6 ft	It will crest in major flood around 40.5 ft on late Saturday March 19 th or early Sunday March 20 th .
Acme	48	46.5 ft	Currently rising and will reach flood stage by Friday March 18 th and crest in a moderate flood near 53 ft on Wednesday March 23 rd .

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	33.8 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. It will be near 37 ft by Sunday March 20 th .
Melville	34	26.2 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. It will be near 29 ft by Sunday March 20 th .
Krotz Springs	29	23.4 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. It will be near 26 ft by Sunday March 20 th .
Butte LaRose	20	16.5 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. It will be near 18.6 ft by Sunday March 20 th .
Myette Point	15	8.9 ft	It will continue to rise, but remain below flood stage. It will be near 10.5 ft by Sunday March 20 th .
Morgan City	6	5.9 ft	It will continue to rise, and be in moderate flood (7 ft) by Sunday March 20 th .



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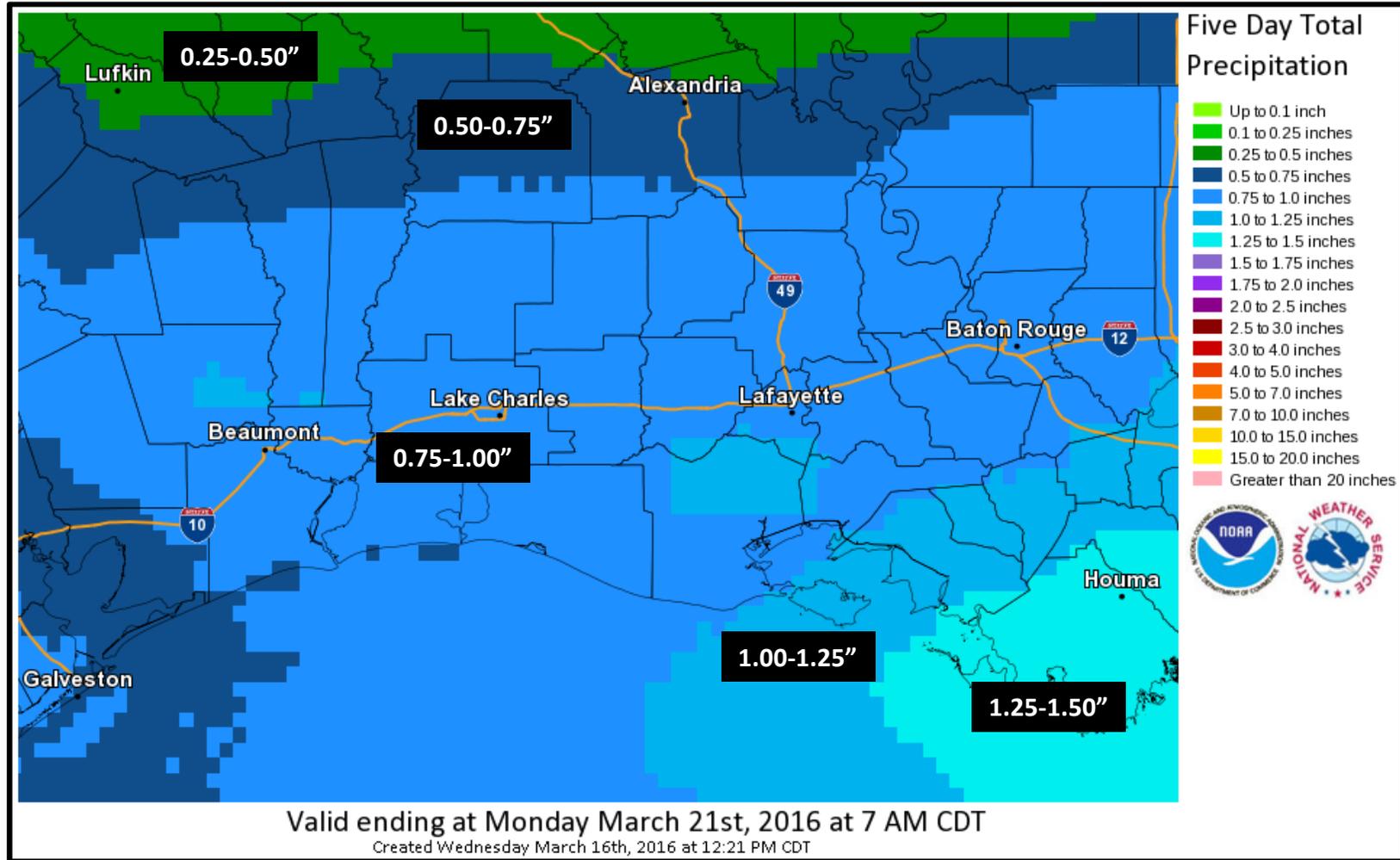
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Rain Totals Forecast

Rain totals will occur mainly Thursday and Friday, before tapering off Saturday. Areas that are currently flooded will see localized additional flooding due to poor drain off conditions.



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Weather Summary

- Rain and a few thunderstorms is expected Thursday and Friday, before tapering off Saturday. In general, between 0.50" and 1.50" of rain is expected. This will not cause significant rises along the main rivers, but it will result in localized flooding where water can not drain off adequately.
- For people working outdoors, conditions will be favorable for some lightning strikes Thursday and Friday. Stay alert and if you hear thunder, move indoors.
- Winds will shift to blowing out of the north this weekend, which will help in lowering water levels, especially in counties and parishes along and south of Interstate-10.



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River Summary

- The Sabine River is cresting near the Orange/I-10 area this afternoon. The Sabine River will slowly fall through the weekend, but remain in major flood status for Bon Wier, Deweyville, and Orange.
- The Neches River is near a crest in Beaumont, and will show a slow fall through the weekend. Minor flooding will continue further upsteam at Town Bluff and Evadale.
- Pine Island Bayou is in minor flood, but will be below flood stage by Friday.



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River Summary

- The Red River will crest in a major flood category near 40.5 ft late Friday March 18th and early Saturday March 19th.
- The Calcasieu River is falling at Glenmora, Oakdale, Oberlin, and Kinder, but still rising at Old Town Bay. A crest near 9.5 ft will occur late Friday March 18th and early Saturday March 19th.
- Most of the Atchafalaya River will not flood. The exception is Morgan City which will reach near 7 ft by Sunday March 20th.



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