

Thunderstorm Coverage Increases | High Impact Flooding Likely SE California/SW Arizona

KEY POINTS

- Major to Extreme Risk heavy flooding rainfall in SW Arizona & SE California today through early Monday
- Widespread rainfall totals of 2-4" probable in SE California with isolated accumulations up to 8 inches possible resulting in significant and possibly locally catastrophic impacts
- Much lower amounts closer to around 0.25-0.50" across south-central Arizona through this weekend.

CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS BRIEFING

Wind Advisory issued for southeast California and southwest Arizona Sunday afternoon and evening.

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

Risk levels incorporate potential impacts from weather hazards and likelihood of occurrence. The weather hazard with the greatest risk will be listed first in the matrix.

	Sat 8/19	Sun 8/20	Mon 8/21	Tue 8/22	Wed 8/23
Phoenix Metro Area Including Maricopa & NW. Pinal Counties	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat
High Terrain SC AZ S. Gila County and Tonto NF Foothills in NE Maricopa County	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat
Southwest Arizona Including La Paz & Yuma Counties	Flash Flooding Thunderstorms	Flash Flooding Thunderstorms Wind	Flash Flooding Thunderstorms Wind	Thunderstorms Heat	Thunderstorms Heat
Southeast California Including Imperial & Eastern Riverside Counties	Flash Flooding Thunderstorms	Flash Flooding Thunderstorms Wind	Flash Flooding Thunderstorms Wind	Heat	Heat

Risk Levels	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
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DETAILS

Phoenix Metropolitan Area



Thunderstorms

Impacts:

Gusty winds, blowing dust, brief heavy rainfall, and lightning

Timing:

Minor Risk

- 30-60% chance through Tuesday, but likely only Minor impacts



Heat

Impacts:

Moderate Risk for heat-related illnesses for pets, livestock, and those who are sensitive to heat, especially those without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration.

Timing:

Minor HeatRisk

- Cooler than normal temperatures in the upper 90s to around 100 degrees this weekend.

Higher Terrain South Central Arizona (Southern Gila County & Tonto NF Foothills in Maricopa County)



Heat

Impacts:

Minor Risk for heat-related illnesses for pets, livestock, and those who are sensitive to heat, especially those without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration.

Timing:

Minor HeatRisk



Thunderstorms

Impacts:

Gusty winds, brief heavy rainfall, and lightning

Timing:

Daily

- 30-50% chance of storms through Tuesday with Minor impacts

Southwest Arizona (La Paz & Yuma Counties)



Flooding

Impacts:

Flowing washes, standing water, and impassible roads

Timing:

Through Monday

- Substantial increase in moisture and thunderstorms producing heavy rain beginning today
- **Flood Watch in effect from 8am today to 5pm Monday**
- Widespread storm total rainfall amounts over 2 inches possible



Thunderstorms

Impacts:

Gusty winds, areas of blowing dust, heavy rainfall, and lightning

Timing:

Moderate Risk today and Saturday, otherwise Minor

- 70-95% chance Saturday with stronger storm transitioning to heavy rain producers
- 50-90% chance of storms Sunday and Monday, but only Minor Risk
- A brief spin-up tornado is not out of the question Sunday



Wind

Impacts:

Difficult travel and lofted lightweight objects

Timing:

Sunday evening through Monday morning

- Winds will increase on the northern outer fringes of TC Hilary
- Gusts in excess of 45 mph may accompany rain bands and embedded thunderstorms
- Wind Advisory is in effect Sunday afternoon and evening



Heat

Impacts:

Moderate Risk for heat-related illnesses for pets, livestock, and those who are sensitive to heat, especially those without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration.

Timing:

Minor HeatRisk

- High temperatures cool into the upper 80s to lower 90s over the weekend and early next week

Southeast California (Imperial and Eastern Riverside Counties)



Flooding

Impacts:

Flowing washes, deep standing water, rock slides, and impassible roads

Timing:

Extreme: Sunday and Monday; Major: Today

- Substantial increase in moisture and thunderstorm coverage beginning Saturday
- **Flash Flood Watch in effect from 8am today to 5pm Monday**
- Widespread storm total rainfall amounts 2 -4 inches likely. Isolated areas with storm total rainfall up to 8 inches possible
- *Areas that typically don't experience flooding may see flooding during this event, and areas susceptible to flooding may experience extreme flood impacts during this event*



Thunderstorms

Impacts:

Gusty winds, areas of blowing dust, heavy rainfall, and lightning

Timing:

Moderate Risk Saturday, otherwise Minor Risk

- 80-100% chance of storms today through Monday
- Strong storms today transitioning to a heavy rain threat
- A brief spin-up tornado is not out of the question Sunday



Wind

Impacts:

Difficult travel and lofted lightweight objects

Timing:

Sunday evening through Monday morning

- Winds will increase on the northern outer fringes of TC Hilary
- Gusts in excess of 45 mph may accompany rain bands and embedded thunderstorms
- Wind Advisory is in effect Sunday afternoon and evening



Heat

Impacts:

Moderate Risk for heat-related illnesses for pets, livestock, and those who are sensitive to heat, especially those without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration.

Timing:

Moderate today, then Minor over the weekend

- High temperatures cool into the middle 80s to lower 90s over the weekend and early next week

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For the latest forecast updates, visit weather.gov/phoenix.

If you have questions or would like to submit weather reports, photos, or to unsubscribe from these briefings, email nws.phoenix@noaa.gov or call **Media - (602) 275-7417; EM - (602) 275-7003**.

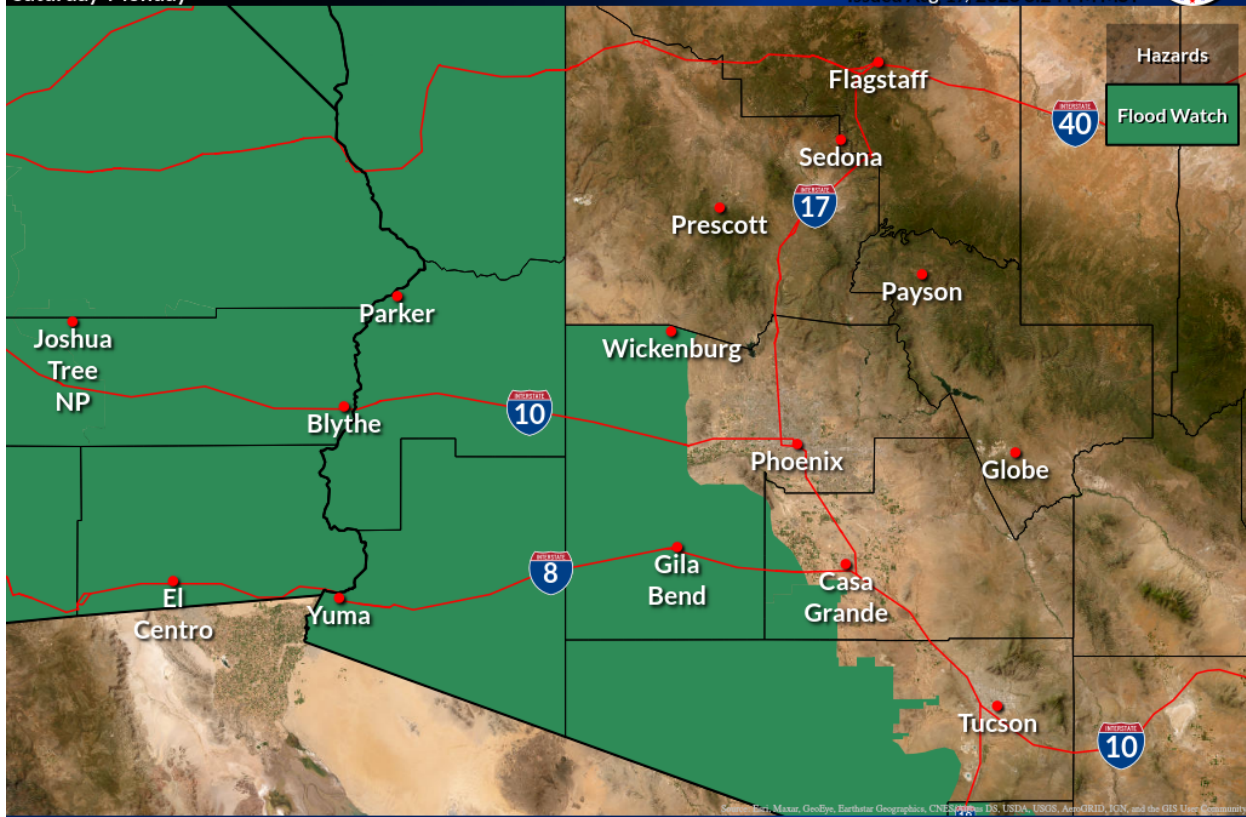
GRAPHICS

Flash Flood Watches

Saturday-Monday

Weather Forecast Office
Phoenix, AZ

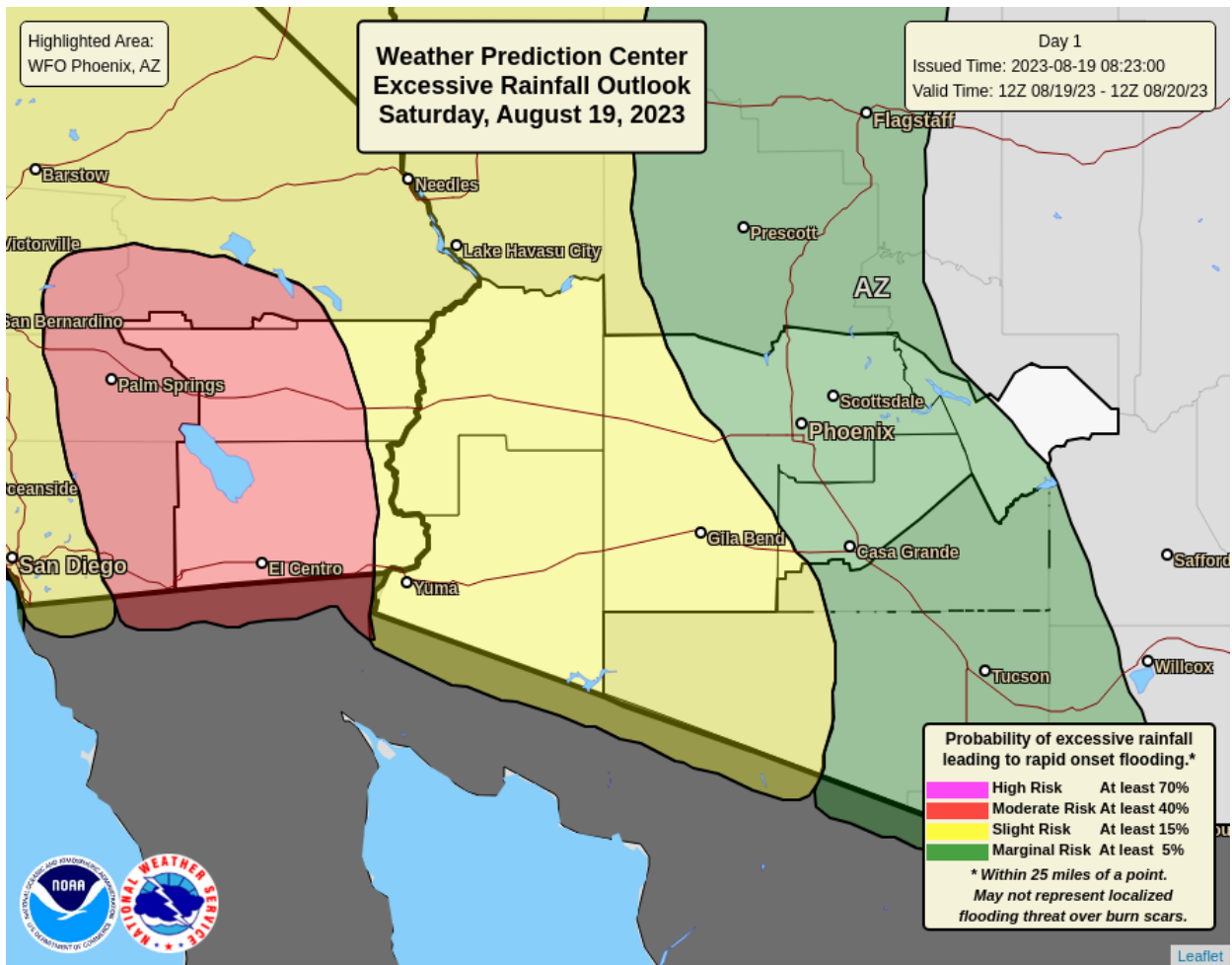
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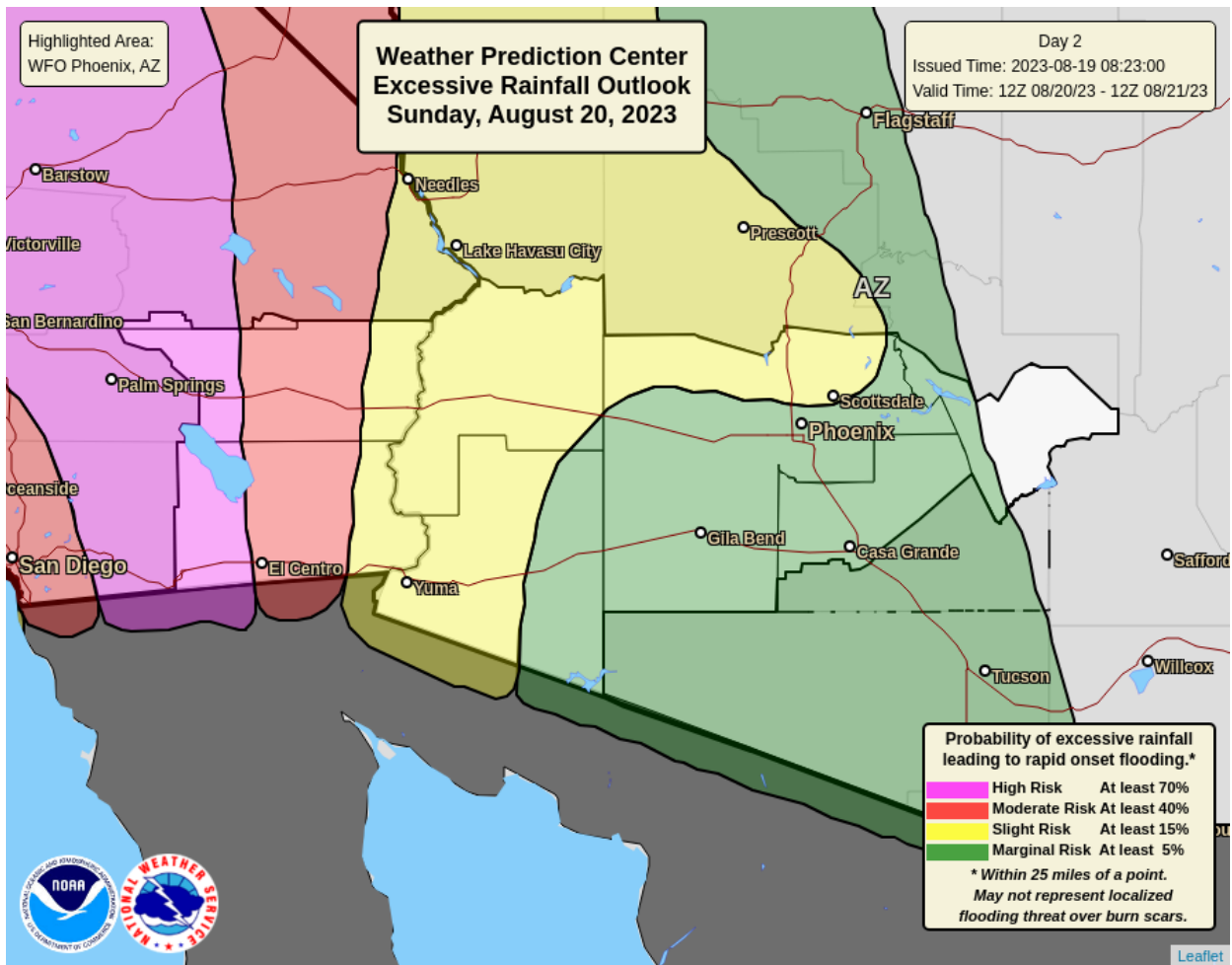
NWSPhoenix

weather.gov/psr

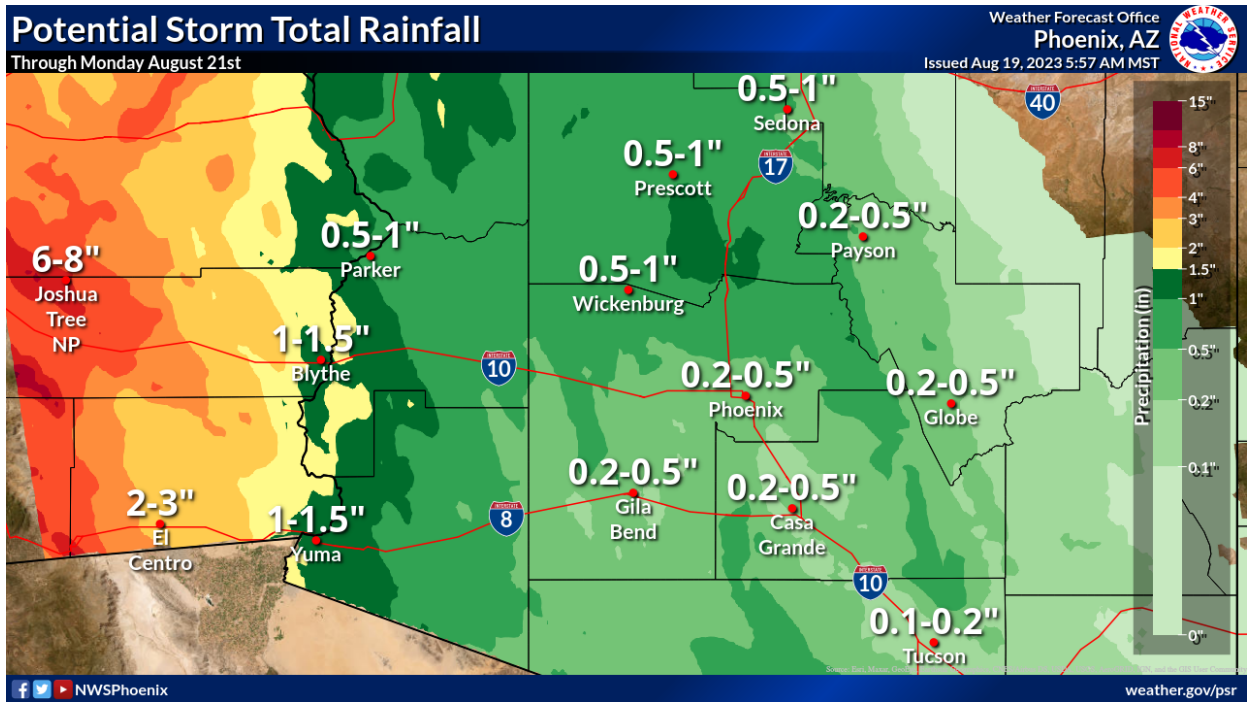
Flood Watch Map.png



PSR Excessive Rainfall Outlook



PSR Excessive Rainfall Outlook

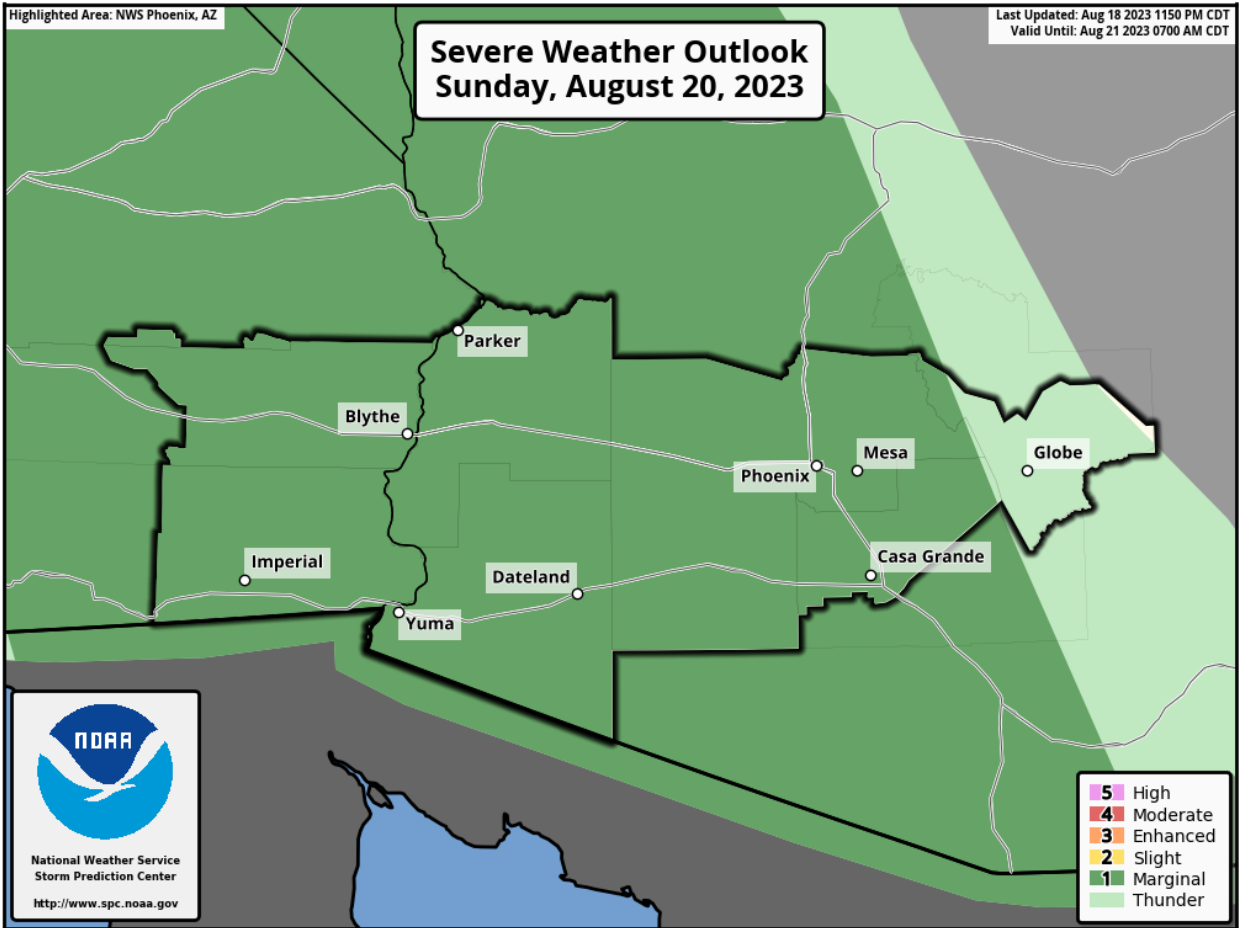


Potential Storm Total Rainfall

Highlighted Area: NWS Phoenix, AZ

Last Updated: Aug 18 2023 1150 PM CDT
Valid Until: Aug 21 2023 0700 AM CDT

Severe Weather Outlook Sunday, August 20, 2023



PSR Severe Weather Outlook