



A Weather-Ready Nation

HAPA Project Report

Volume 3, Issue 4, November 12, 2016

Disclaimer

This is an EXPERIMENTAL project report based on the Hovmoller Analysis and Prognostics Approach (HAPA) conducted at the WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge Forecast Office (WFO LIX). This report is a means of bringing situational awareness to large scale events and potential impacts that may require decision support or emergency response activities in the foreseeable future. This project is NOT a long range forecast product for day-to-day conditions. HAPA is an interpretative method of integrating established numerical model guidance, climatological and earth systems monitoring and subject matter expertise from various sources to provide an outlook to potential weather hazards in the 8 to 60 day range. The intended audience of this report is media, NWS partners, stakeholders, and the general public. **Users must refer to the latest official NWS forecasts and outlooks for any decision-making activities.**



WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA

Election Day Over—Looking to Thanksgiving and Christmas Weather

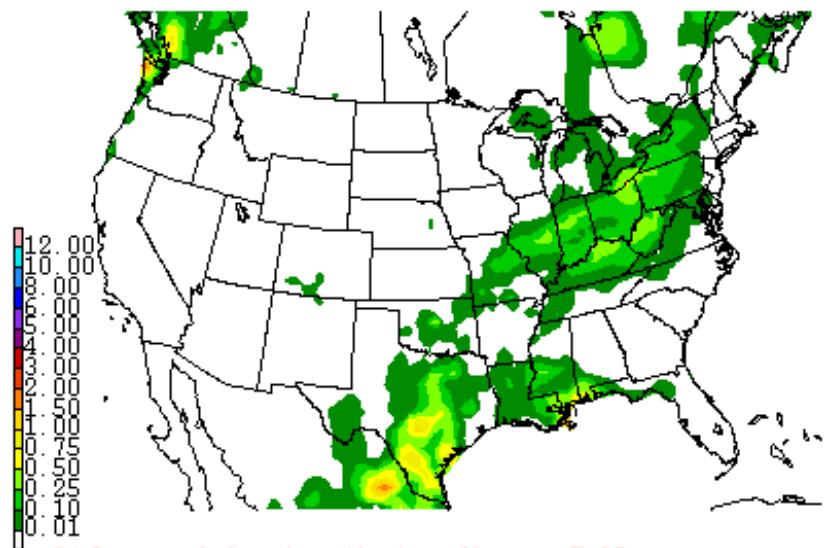
The last report was focusing on impactful weather on Election Day. The general forecast was calling for rainfall over Texas and the Ohio Valley with a lead time of 12 days. The 24 hour rainfall map ending the morning of Wednesday, November 9th clearly showed the heaviest rains on Election Day was clearly over central and north Texas, with a large swath of rainfall in the Midwest across the entire Ohio Valley and eastern Great Lakes States. This was a pretty accurate forecast that was keying on a couple of detectable features about two weeks in advance with some sense of confidence.

Veteran's Day found little in the way of impactful weather nationwide, with dry conditions across much of the nation and seasonably normal temperatures. This, too, was accurately indicated two weeks in advance.

Looking ahead to the upcoming holiday season, the heavy travel days associated with Thanksgiving may have some issues to consider, particularly at a few of the major hub cities like Chicago and Denver on Thanksgiving Eve with what should be a strong front with active

weather ahead it to bring low ceilings and rainfall in the Midwest States, and possibly winter weather impacts at Denver on the cold side of the system. Thanksgiving weekend, for the return travel days, the system is expected to move south and east to bring impacts, and possible severe weather to the Gulf States and the Eastern Seaboard on the Saturday and early Sunday timeframe (Nov 26-27). As of this writing, Thanksgiving Day is 13 days away.

For Christmas Day, a lead time of 42 days, the only indication of sensible weather potential is a feature that should bring cold air to the Deep South. If any moisture is available to allow precipitation, then some snow flurries may be possible in the far interior portions of the Gulf States and the Tennessee Valley.



24-hr Precipitation (in.) Ending at 7:00 A.M. E.S.T.

Outlooks and dates for consideration

Nov 18 [6 days out]: A strong frontal system will likely bring rainfall and storminess to the middle of the nation, may lose punch as it nears the gulf coast.

Nov 23-24 [11- 12 days out]: Thanksgiving Day travelers may have some weather to contend with coming through Denver eastward through Chicago. Given that these are two major airline hubs, air travel may be a challenge across a large portion of the national air-space due to impacts at these locations at times.

Nov 26-28 [14-16 days out]: The weekend following Thanksgiving may be impacted by the system moving through the eastern part of the U.S. and the Gulf States. Could not rule out some potential for severe weather in the Gulf States on the 27th if conditions are right. Hub cites like Chicago, New York and Atlanta may be impacted with delays due to weather conditions.

Dec 8 [26 days out]: There is a distinct indication of some energy that may impact the middle of the nation with severe weather and cold air intrusion around this day.

Dec 14 [32 days out]: An Alberta Clipper type front will probably sweep across the northern states on this day.

Dec 17 [35 days out]: Some re-enforcement of cold air may bring freeze conditions well south around this date.

Dec 25 [43 days out]: Christmas for much of nation may be weather free except for seasonably cool temperatures. The exception may be subtle weather feature that could move through the mid-latitudes to bring a potential of snow flurries and light snow accumulations in the northern parts of the Gulf States and across the Tennessee Valley. Other locations may be limited in moisture or too warm to experience a White Christmas.

A more detailed, technical explanation of these outlooks are available upon request to the e-mail address below.

Contact Information

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November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Note for next report: Our WFO office will be undergoing some internal reconfiguration of furniture, computers and office layout that will take a week to complete. This will be ongoing about the time the next report is due. The best effort will be made to complete an updated report, but may be delayed due to the office makeover and potential weather being called for on and around November 27th.

Meanwhile—have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!

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