

Enhanced Risk of Severe Thunderstorms

July 21, 2026
6:00 AM EDT

Level 3/5 Severe T-storm risk: Tuesday July 21

Next Update: Final Briefing

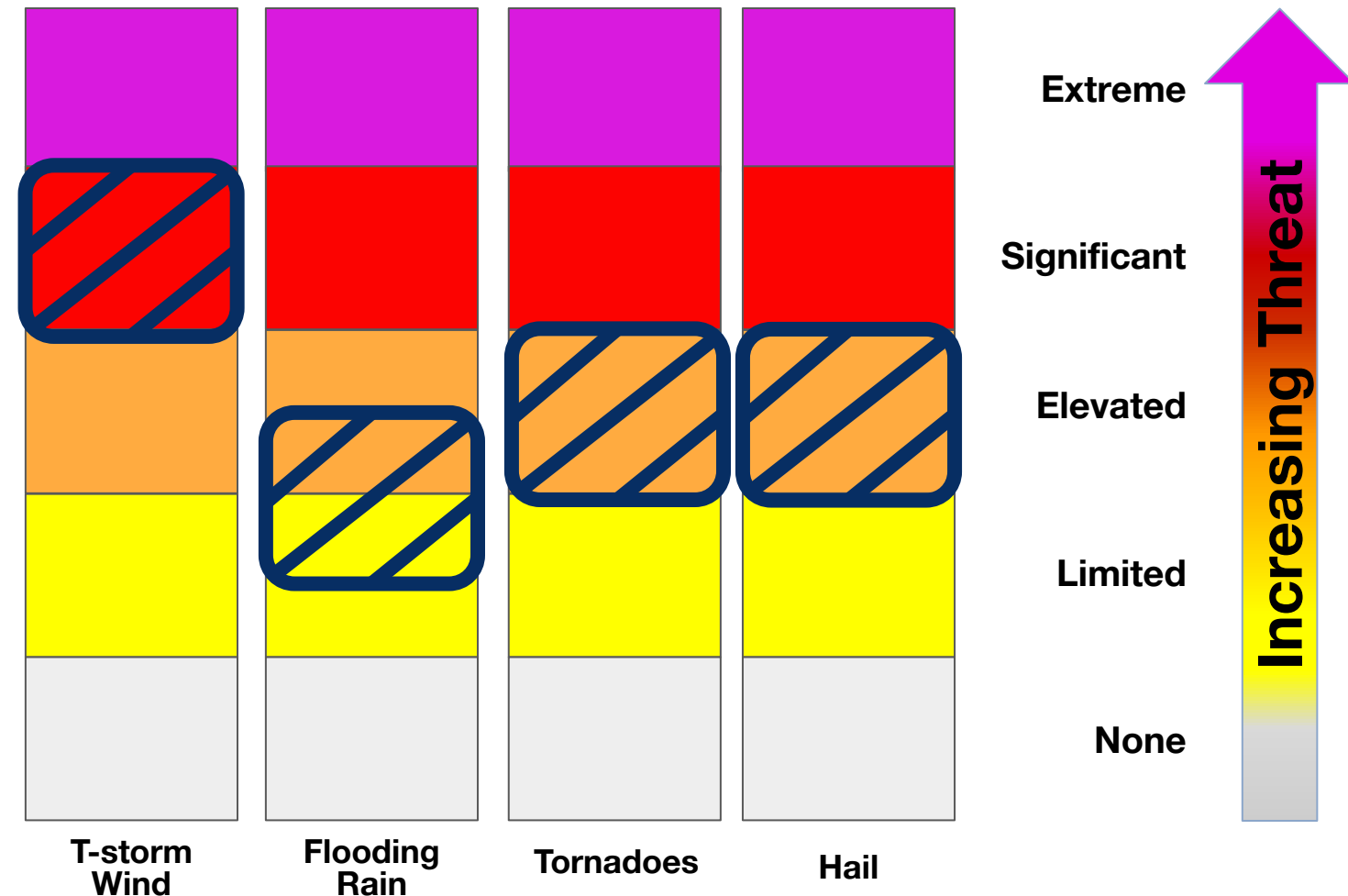
Key Messages

- Scattered to numerous severe thunderstorms are expected this afternoon into tonight
- Damaging wind gusts remain the primary threat, but all hazards including a few tornadoes, widely scattered flash flooding, and large hail are possible
- High confidence that several severe storms will occur with some reaching intensity levels you may only experience one or two times per year

NEW

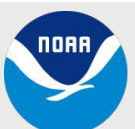
What Has Changed / Important Forecast Updates:

→ Included severe weather timing for this afternoon



More information here:

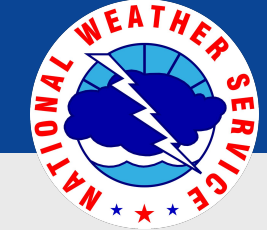
www.weather.gov/erh/ghwo?wfo=ctp



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National Weather Service
State College, PA



Severe Thunderstorm Risk - Tuesday

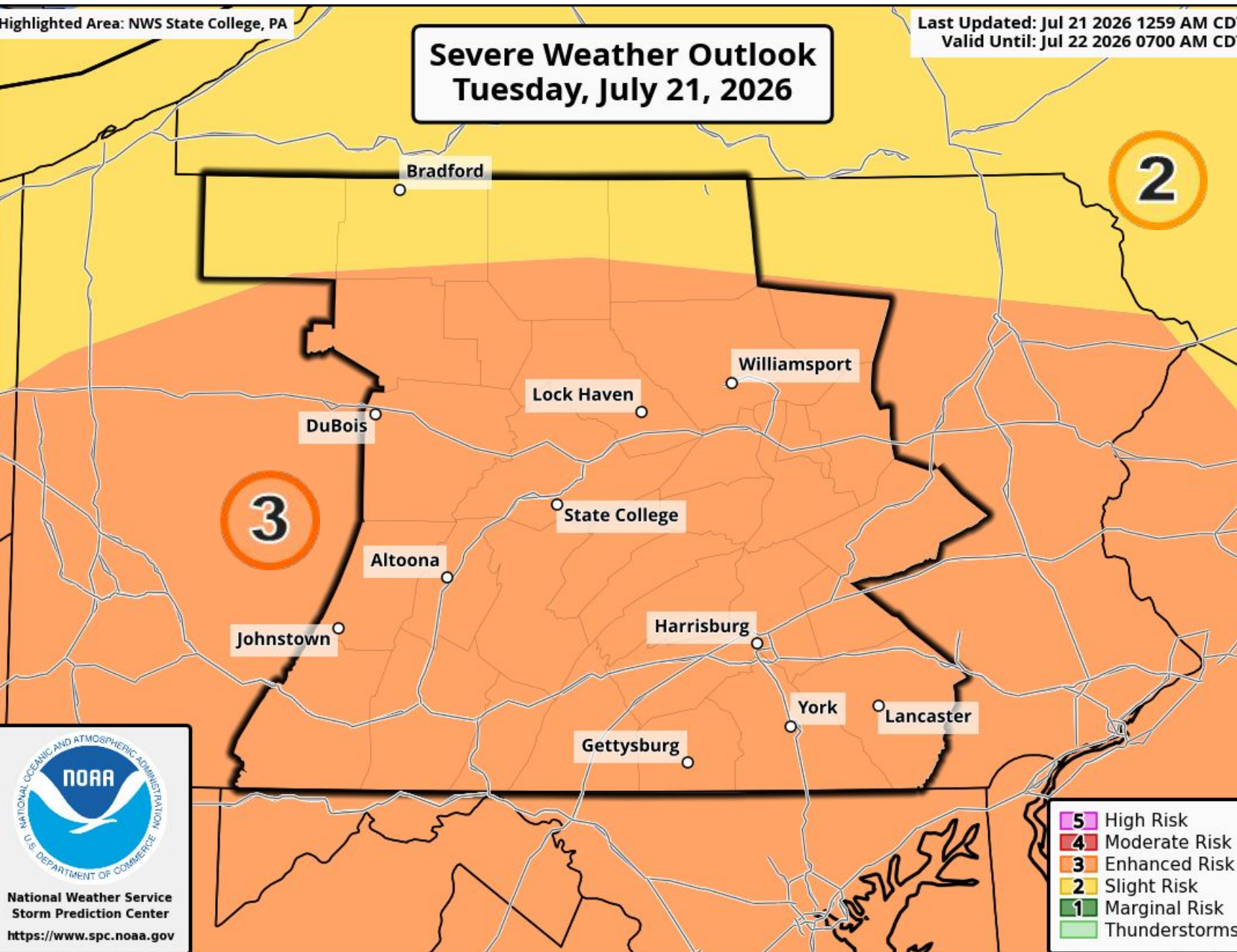
July 21, 2026
6:00 AM

Scattered to numerous severe t-storms expected Tuesday afternoon into Tuesday night

Highlighted Area: NWS State College, PA

Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Last Updated: Jul 21 2026 1259 AM CDT
Valid Until: Jul 22 2026 0700 AM CDT



- Level 3 out of 5 severe thunderstorm risk expanded through the Susquehanna Valley into eastern PA
- Most likely timing: This afternoon into tonight
- Damaging wind gusts remain the primary threat, but all hazards including a few tornadoes and large hail are possible
- High confidence that several severe storms will occur with some reaching intensity levels you may only experience 1x or 2x/year



An Enhanced Risk Means...

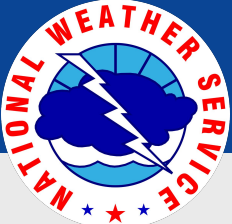
- Higher confidence/coverage in severe storms.
- A few significant severe storms may occur.

"Significant" defined as: 75+ mph gusts, 2+ inch hail, and/or tornado at least EF-2 (111+ mph)



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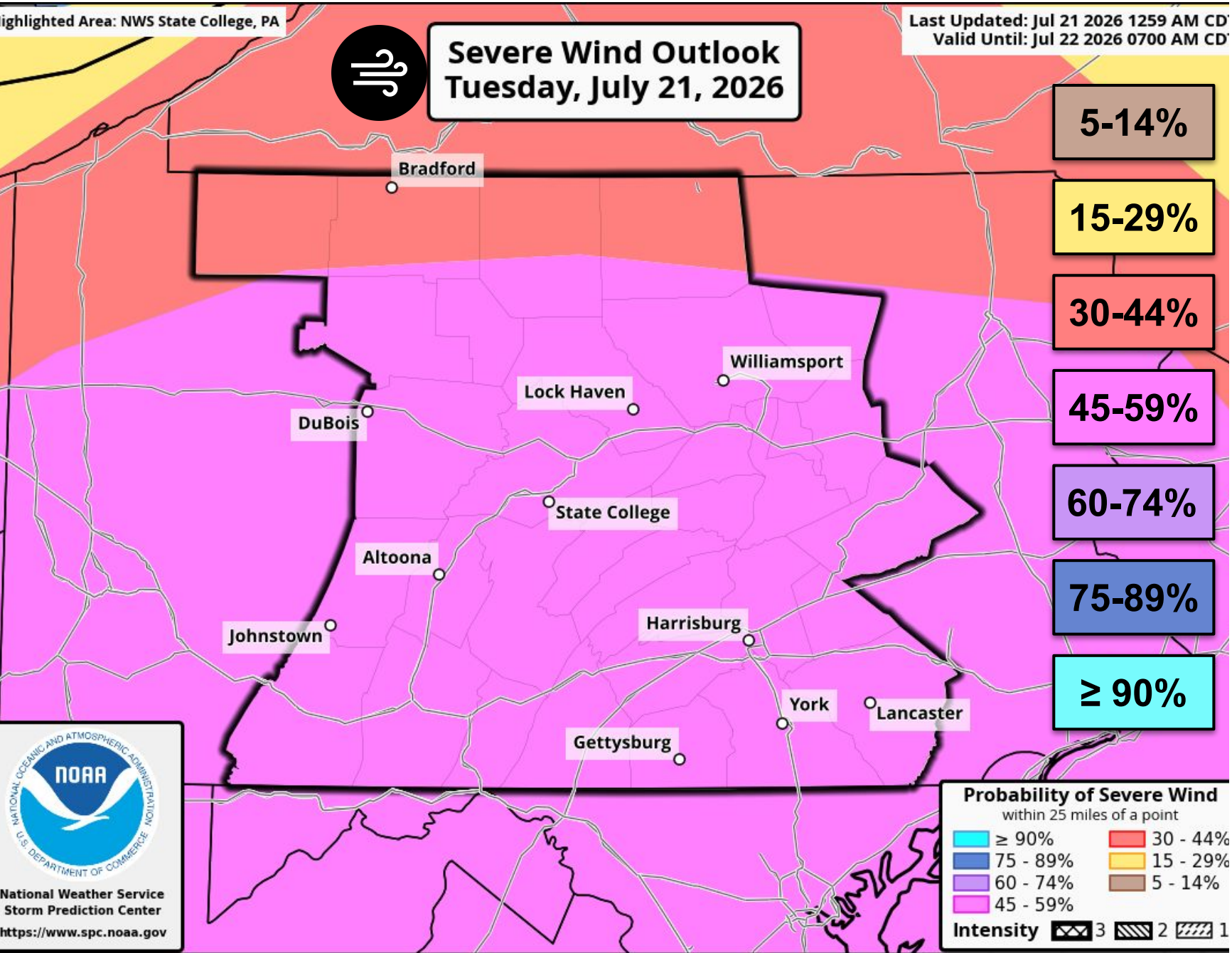
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Severe Wind Outlook: Tuesday

July 21, 2026
6:00 AM

Damaging thunderstorm wind gusts remain the primary/most likely severe storm hazard



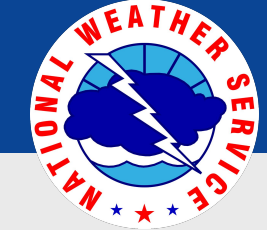
STRAIGHT LINE WINDS

- ✓ Straight line winds can exceed 100 mph, and affect large areas.
- ✓ Strong winds can knock over semi-trucks, trees and powerlines.
- ✓ Stay indoors away from windows.
- ✓ Avoid trees, power lines, and objects that could blow around.
- ✓ If driving, slow down and keep two hands on the wheel.



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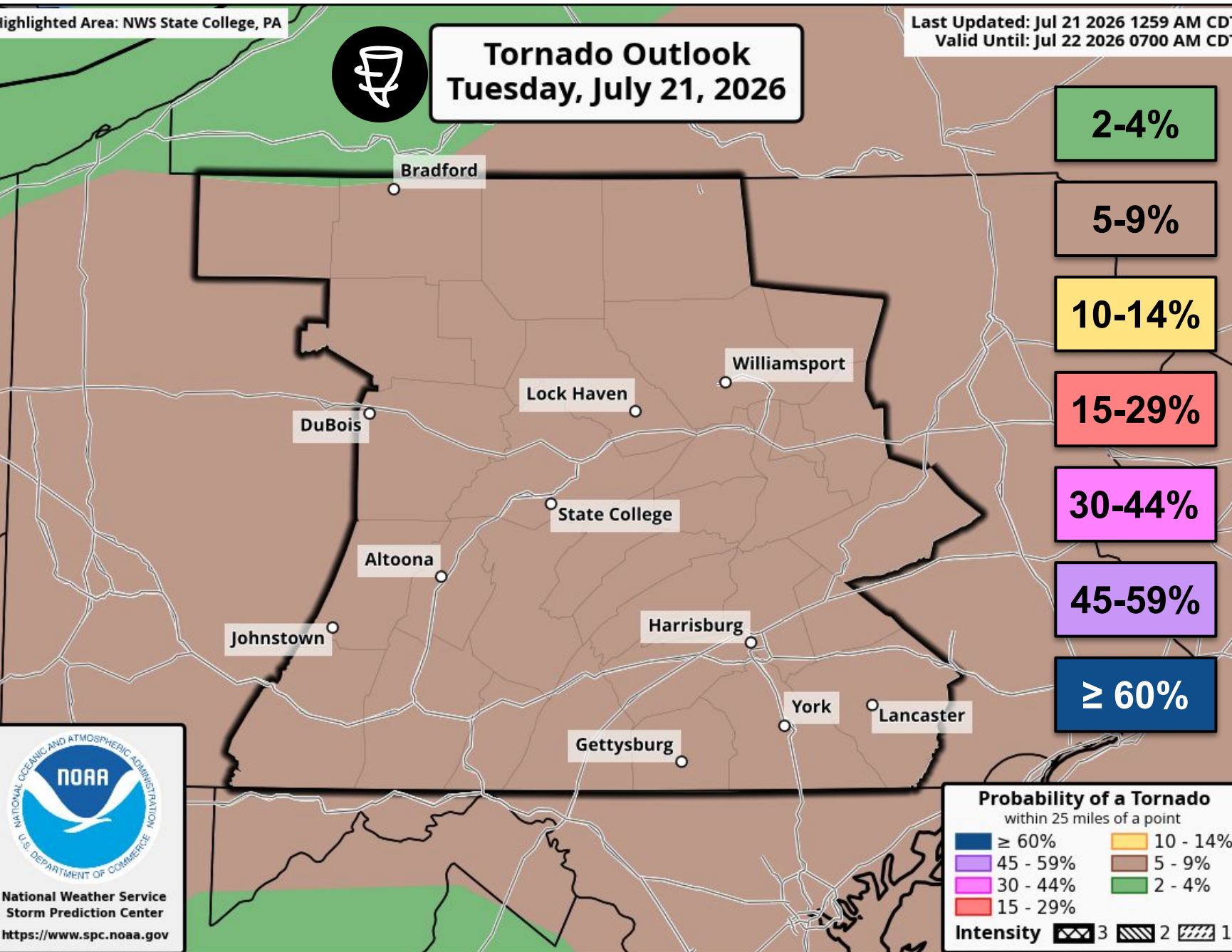
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Tornado Outlook: Tuesday

July 21, 2026
6:00 AM

A couple of tornadoes are possible



TORNADO TERMINOLOGY



Tornado Watch

Weather conditions could lead to the formation of severe storms and tornadoes. **BE PREPARED:** Know your safe location. Be ready to act quickly if a Warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching.

Tornado Warning

A tornado has been spotted or indicated by weather radar, meaning a tornado is occurring or expected soon. **TAKE ACTION:** There is imminent danger to life and property. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible.

Tornado Emergency

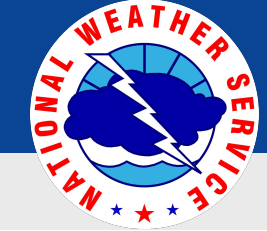
An exceedingly rare situation with a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage due to a confirmed violent tornado. **TAKE ACTION:** There is imminent danger to life and property. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible.



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Hail Outlook: Tuesday

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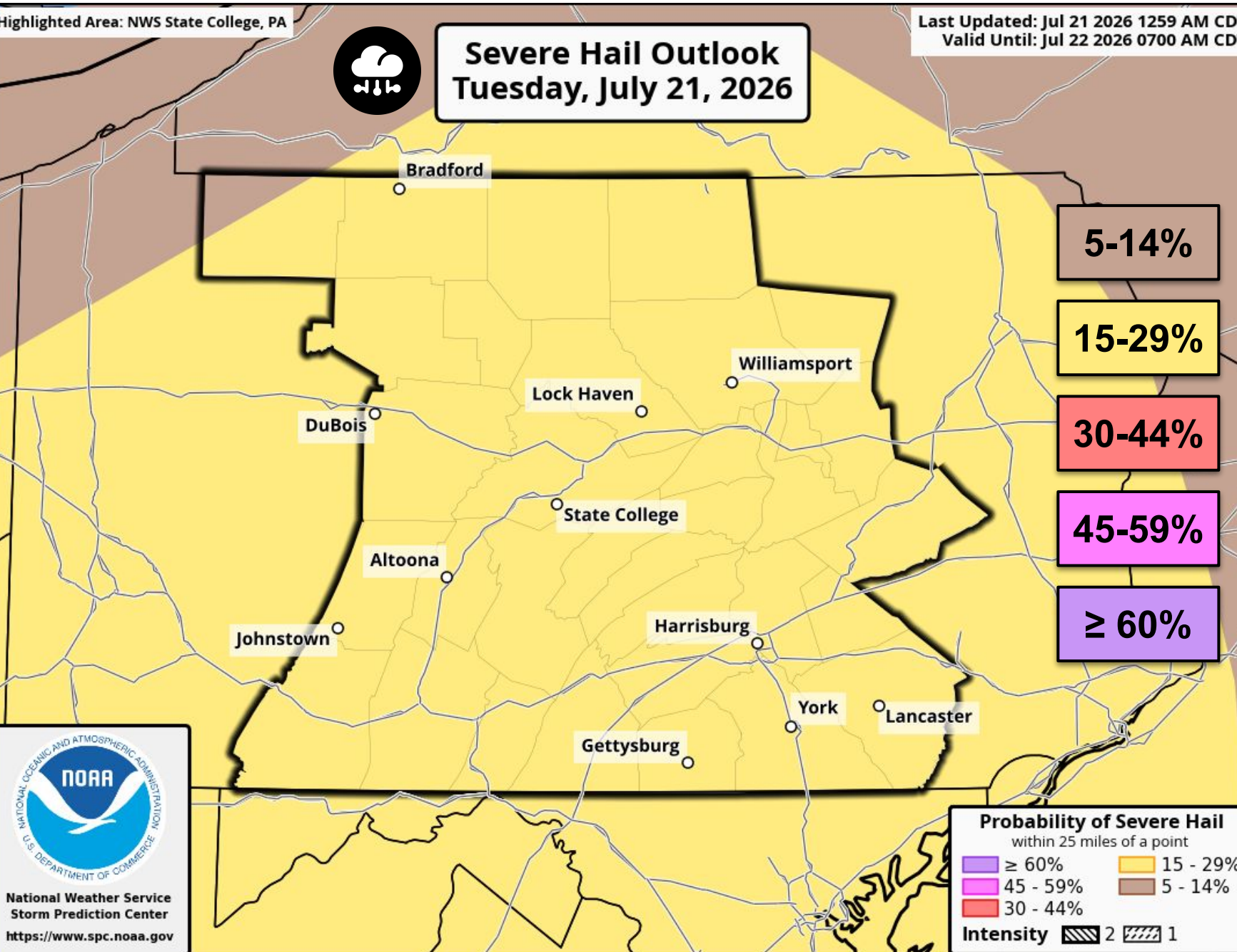
Large hail ≥ 1 " diameter possible

Highlighted Area: NWS State College, PA



**Severe Hail Outlook
Tuesday, July 21, 2026**

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Hail Size Chart



While the National Weather Service encourages the actual measurement of hail size, oftentimes, an object-to-size conversion can provide important information about hail that fall from thunderstorms. Below you will find a list of common objects used to describe the diameter of observed hail.



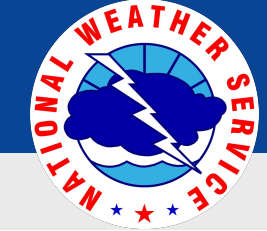
0.25 inches		2.00 inches	
Pea		Lime	
0.75 inches		2.50 inches	
Penny		Tennis Ball	
1.00 inches		2.75 inches	
Quarter		Baseball	
1.50 inches		4.00 inches	
Ping Pong Ball		Softball	
1.75 inches		4.50 inches	
Golf Ball		Grapefruit	

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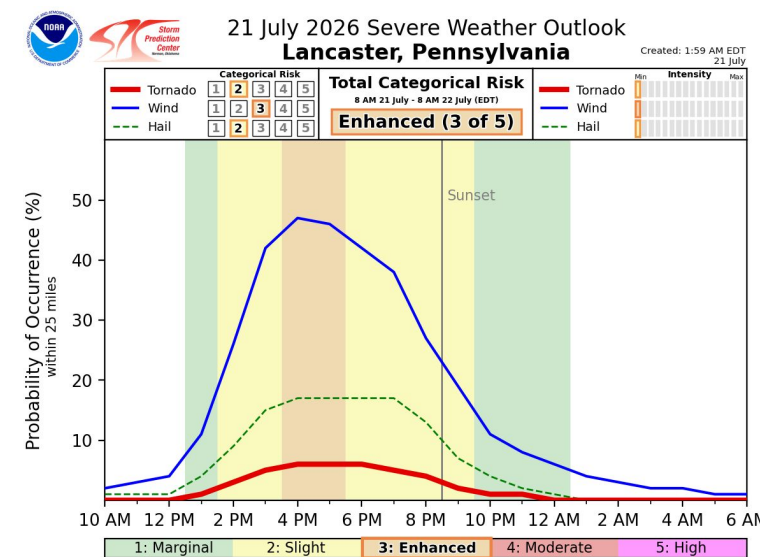
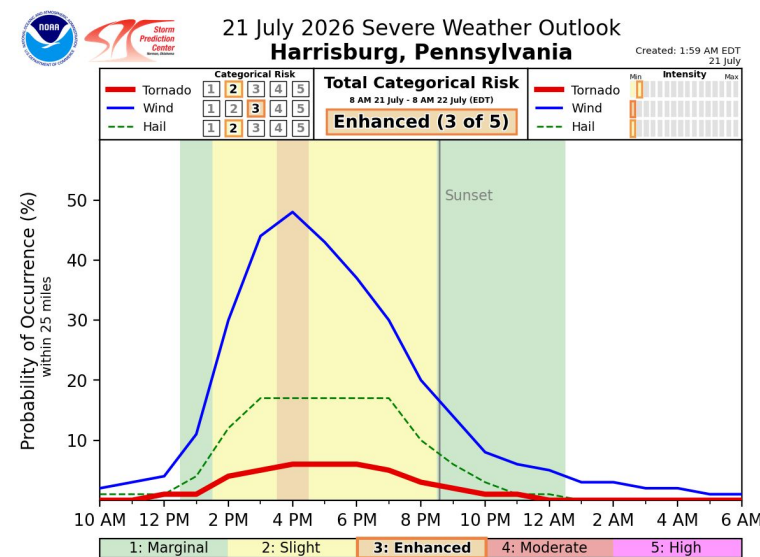
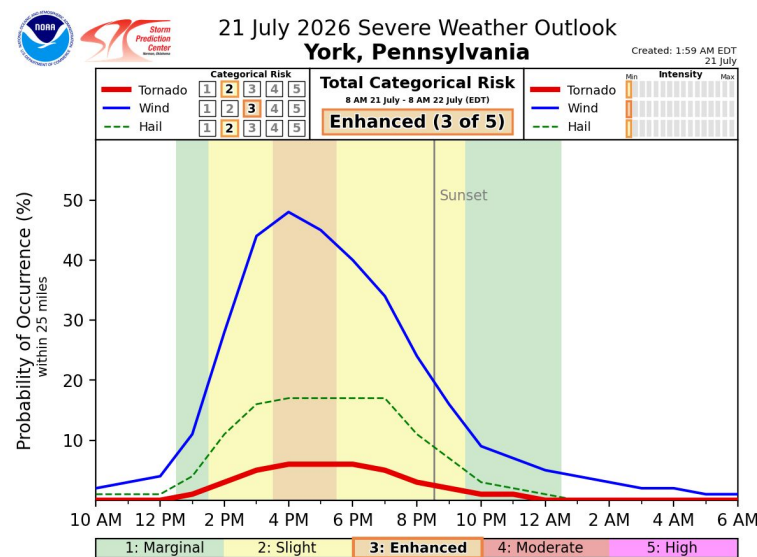
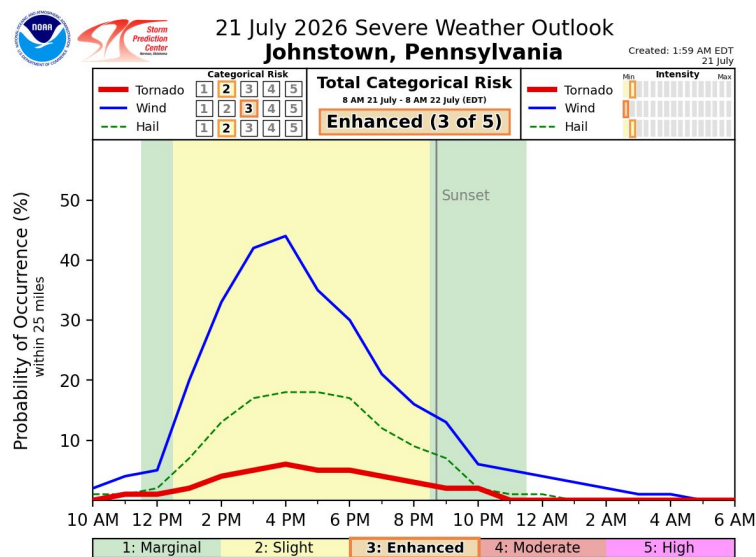
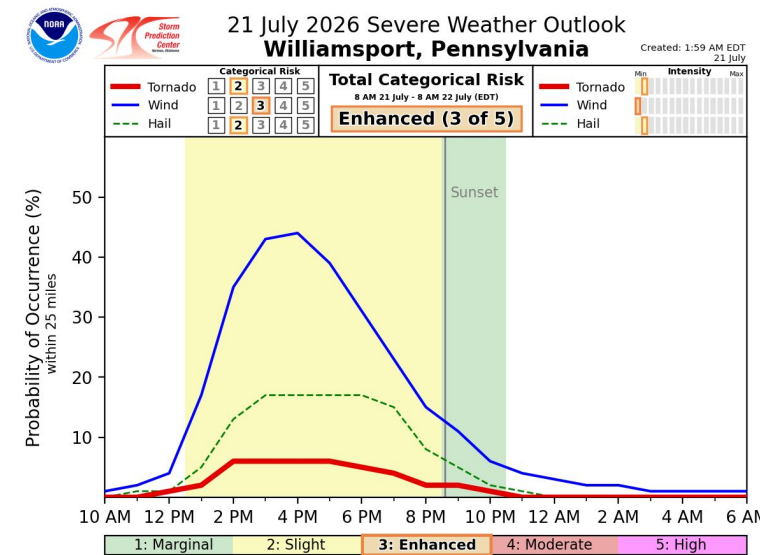
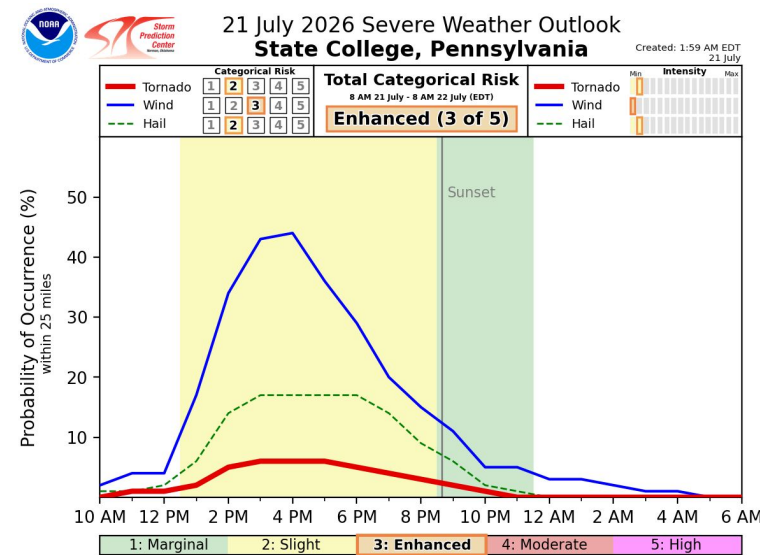
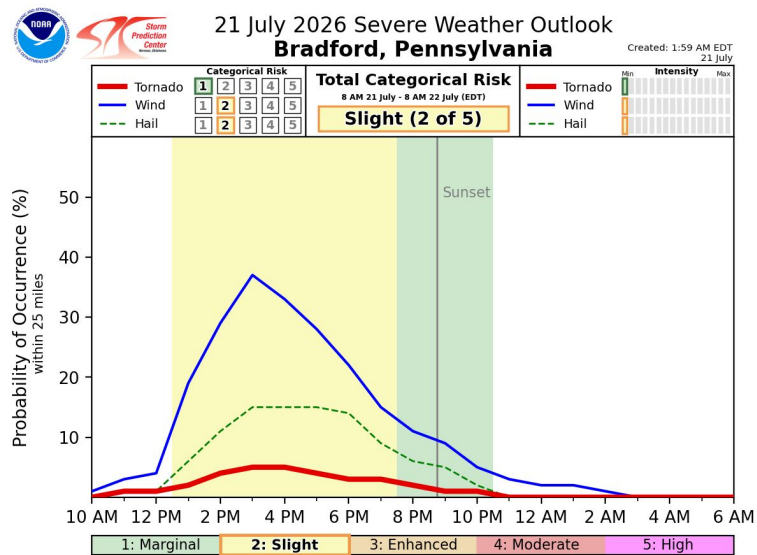
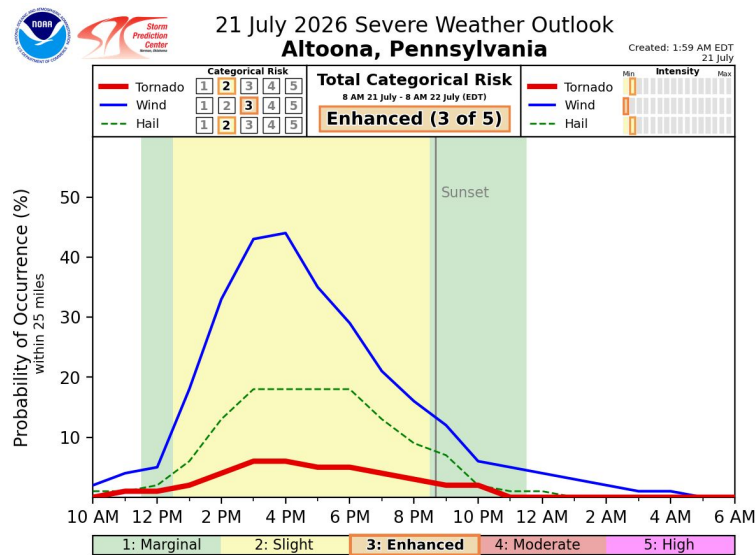
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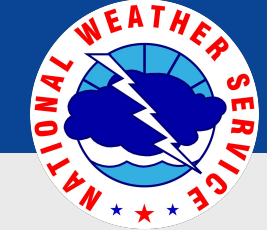


Severe Weather Outlook Timing

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Timing of Severe Weather for Today Across Central Pennsylvania

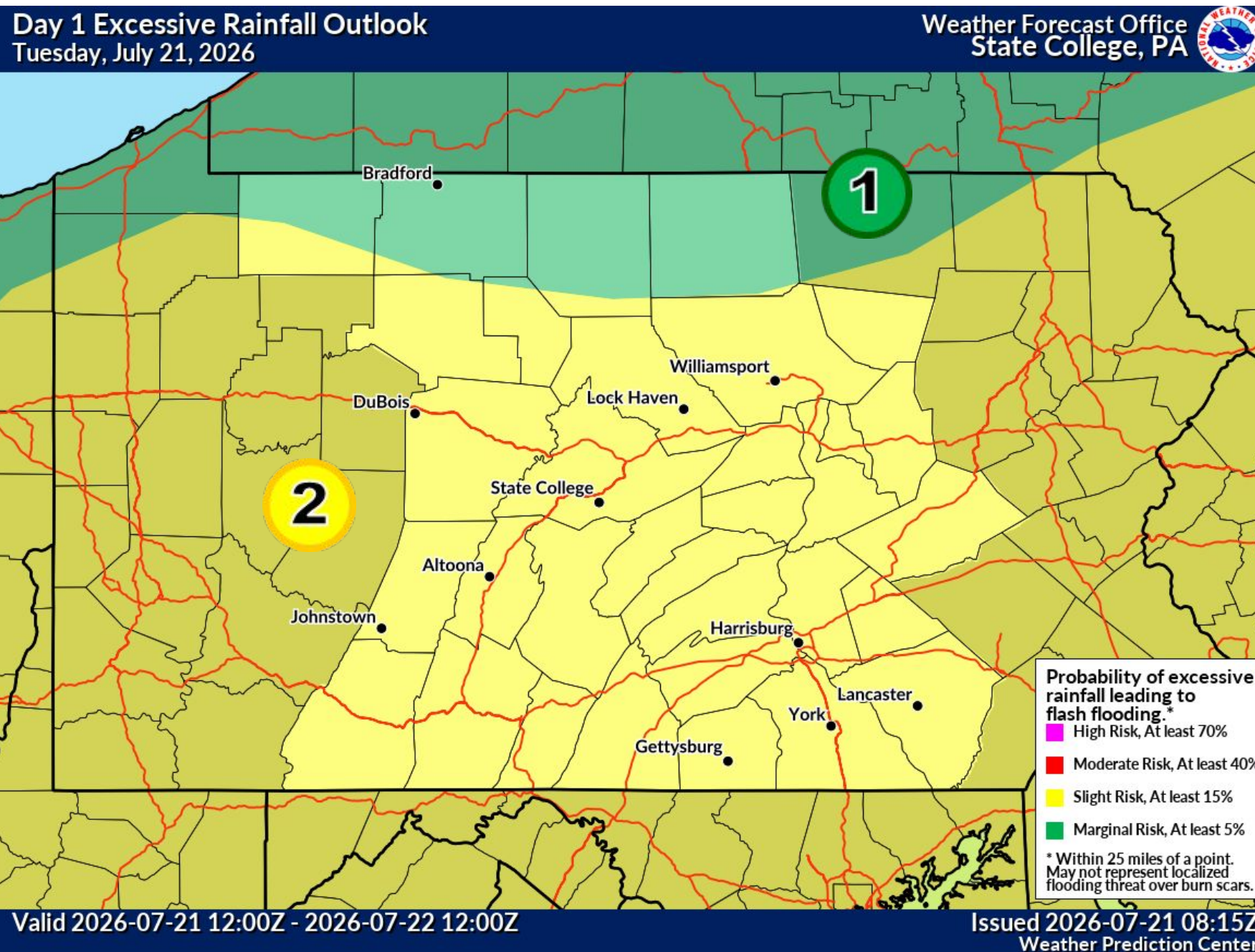




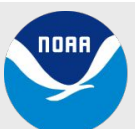
Excessive Rainfall Outlook - Tuesday

July 21, 2026
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Widely scattered instances of flash flooding possible

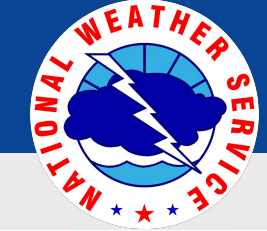


- Very high moisture content/availability will support torrential downpours with intense rain rates $>2''/\text{hr}$
- Backbuilding and repeat training on book-ends of storm segments are most favorable areas for flash flooding
- Fast storm motions should mitigate the risk of a more widespread/significant flash flood threat



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Contact and Next Briefing Information

July 21, 2026
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For the NWS State College, PA Service Area



**Final Briefing
Barring Significant Changes**



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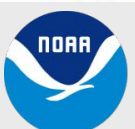
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