

## 11 AM EDT

# Saturday, August 17, 2019 Weak Low over NE Florida (20%) & Big Bend and West Coast Flooding

This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an active weather event please contact your County Emergency Management or Public Safety Office, local National Weather Service forecast office, or visit the National Hurricane Center website at www.hurricanes.gov.

## **Atlantic Basin Satellite Image**

Chance of development: — None \_ Low \_ Medium \_ High



#### **Steering Currents**

KTS Ц Л 30 20 15 The weak trough of low pressure over NE FL will @ \$ 00 10 move to the northeast around the western edge of a large high pressure area. CIMSS ENV STEERING PRODUCT: 700-850 HPA LAYER (FOR TO MSLP RANGE: 1000-1010 HPA) 1200 UTC 17AUG19

#### Wind Shear (shaded) and Wind Shear Tendencies (contoured)





#### Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



15N

5N

20W

**X** > 60%



Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants



#### Florida Radar as of 11 AM EDT

Showers and thunderstorms, some with locally heavy rainfall continue to move onshore of the eastern Big Bend and West Coast. The flood potential will continue today through Monday.

## **Flood Alerts**

Flood Watches are in effect for the eastern Big Bend, Nature Coast, and Suwannee River Valley through tonight or early Sunday morning

Areal Flood Warnings continue for parts of Taylor, Dixie, Levy, and Citrus Counties.

Several River Flood Warnings are in effect along much of the West Coast.



## Estimated Rainfall Totals Last 5 Days

Much of the West Coast has seen about 4-8" of rainfall over the last 5 days. Along the Nature Coast, most places have seen about 6-12" of rain. Localized totals in Dixie and Levy Counties have exceeded 12-16".



#### Estimated 30 Day Rainfall



**30 Day Rainfall** 

**Departures** 

Rainfall over the last 30 days has been very abundant across the Peninsula with most areas seeing 10-15 inches of rain. Localized areas in the Peninsula have seen 15-20"+, which is about 4-8"+ above average. This is also about 150-300% of normal rainfall. Rainfall in the Panhandle is about 1-3" below average for the last 30 days.

#### Rainfall Totals Through the Weekend

The eastern Big Bend and the Nature Coast will see the highest rainfall totals through the next 3 days. Rainfall totals of 3-5" are possible in this area with localized higher totals of 5-8" possible. 2-3" of rain are possible in the Big Bend and eastern Panhandle and along the West Coast over the next 5 days. Typical pop-up thunderstorms across the rest of the state could yield locally heavy rainfall.





#### Flash Flood Outlooks This Weekend

Each day, there is a risk of flash flooding in Florida. For today, there is a **Slight Risk** (level 2 of 4) for flash flooding across the eastern Big Bend and Nature Coast with a **Marginal Risk** (level 1 of 4) elsewhere in the Big Bend and Peninsula. On Sunday and Monday, there is a **Marginal Risk** for all of North Florida and the northern part of the Peninsula.

#### **Rainfall Needed to Cause Flash Flooding**



Along the Nature Coast, it will only take about 1-2" within 1 hour or 2-3" with 6 hours to produce flash flooding due to extremely saturated conditions.

Elsewhere in the state, it will take about 2-4" in 1 hour or 4-6" within 6 hours to cause flash flooding

#### Current Drought Monitor and Keetch-Byram Drought Index



Soils are very saturated across nearly all of the Peninsula, and the additional rainfall is not needed and may lead to additional flooding concerns. However, parts of North Florida are still in moderate to severe drought, and the rainfall would be welcome in those areas.

#### **Current/Forecast River Statuses and 3-Day Rainfall**

Several River Flood Warnings remain in effect across West Central Florida. Rivers are rising across much of the Peninsula. Several rivers across West Central Florida are in or expected to rise to minor flood stage. The Peace River at Arcadia could rise into moderate flood stage. Several other rivers across the Peninsula are in or rising to action stage.







 8 ft. – Flooding begins at the recreation area on State Road 54.



- 13 ft. River Drive and Squirrel Run Way downstream of County Road 640 are completely covered by water. One home begins to flood.
- 12 ft. Water begins to affect River Drive and Squirrel Run Way downstream of County Road 640.



11 ft. – The river overflows its banks.



- 15 ft. Low sections of State Road 64 start to flood.
- 11 ft. Private road and bridge 1 mile downstream flood. Agricultural, rural Kibler area begins to flood.



- 8.5 ft. Most of Myakka State Park is closed.
- 8 ft. The main road at Myakka State Park floods.
- 7 ft. Trails, picnic areas, and parking lots at Myakka State Park flood.







- 15 ft. River Acres is impacted
- 14 ft. Peace River Campground flood and 6 homes at River Acres are impacted.
- 13 ft. Peace River Estates floods affecting several dozen homes.
- 12 ft. The Girl Scout camp floods.
- 11 ft. Access roads to River Acres become flooded.



- 14 ft. Buildings in Hidden Acres flood.
- 12 ft. The access road to Hidden Acres is impassable.
- 11 ft. Secondary roads in Hidden Acres and Royal Palm begin to flood.

#### **Minor Coastal Flooding Possible**



Tides are running about 1-2' above normal along the Dixie and Levy County coasts. This could result in some minor flooding, and a Coastal Flood Advisory is in effect through this evening. If heavy rainfall occurs near high tide, it may be difficult for the tide to drain, resulting in some possible minor flooding.

#### Summary:

- What:
  - A weak trough of low pressure over Northeast Florida will move northeastward along the coast of Georgia and the Carolinas. This system has a 10% chance of formation during the next 48 hours and 20% during the next 5 days.
  - Heavy rainfall and possible flooding is expected across much of the Big Bend, West Coast, and northern Peninsula. Isolated flooding is possible elsewhere in the state.
  - <u>3-5" in the eastern Big Bend and Nature Coast (localized 5-8");</u> 2-3" in North Florida and the Peninsula.
  - River flooding will continue across much of the western Peninsula.
  - Minor coastal flooding is possible in Dixie and Levy Counties
- Where: The highest threat of flash flooding will be in the Big Bend, West Coast, and northern Peninsula—Slight Risk of flash flooding (level 2 of 4) Saturday.
- When: This weekend and possibly early next week. River flood impacts continue into next week. Coastal flood impacts decrease after today.
- Potential Impacts: Heavy rainfall may produce flooding in areas where abundant rain has fallen over the last month and soils are saturated. Minor to moderate river flooding will be possible across West Central Florida into next week. Heavy rainfall combined with strong westerly winds may prevent tides from draining, resulting in minor coastal flooding in Dixie and Levy Counties.

Another update may be issued Sunday morning, especially if flood issues continue. For the latest tropics information, please see the latest outlooks from the <u>National Hurricane Center</u>. For the latest flood updates, see the latest products from your local National Weather Service, the <u>Southeast River Forecast Center</u>, and the <u>Weather Prediction Center</u>.



# TROPICAL UPDATE



#### Created by:

## Cameron Young, Assistant State Meteorologist <u>Cameron.Young@em.myflorida.com</u> State Meteorological Support Unit Florida Division of Emergency Management

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at <u>https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic\_id=SERT\_Met\_Tropics</u>. Other reports available for subscription are available at <u>https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?preferences=true</u>