

TROPICAL UPDATE



9 AM EDT Wednesday, October 16, 2019 Bay of Campeche Low (50%)

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



A low pressure system over the Great Lakes will slowly draw the Bay of Campeche low northward over the Gulf of Mexico. Another system will turn the low to the northeast later this week.

Steering Currents

Color denotes the movement speed through the atmosphere and thin white lines denote direction. Tightly clustered white lines represent faster movement as well.



CIMSS ENV STEERING PRODUCT: 700-850 HPA LAYER (FOR TO MSLP RANGE: 1000-1010 HPA) 0900 UTC 1600719

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

Shear over the Bay of Campeche Low is low right now. However, shear in its path will be higher. This may result in a lopsided system as it turns northeastward. It will also likely limit the strength of this system.



Western Atlantic Sea Surface Temperatures and Anomalies





Bay of Campeche Low: A trough of low pressure located just offshore of the coast of southern Mexico, in the Bay of Campeche, is producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Gradual development is possible, and a tropical or subtropical cyclone could form late this week over the western or central Gulf of Mexico while the system is moving generally northeastward. An Air Force Reserve reconnaissance aircraft is scheduled to investigate the system this afternoon, if necessary.

- * Formation chance through 48 hours...low...30 percent.
- * Formation chance through 5 days...medium...50 percent.

Though impacts are becoming more likely for North Florida, it remains too early to determine the specific impacts to Florida.

Forecast Fronts and Weather Next Several Days



The low pressure system in the Bay of Campeche will lift slowly northward over the next couple days. A front will move through the Plains on Saturday, sweeping the low pressure system off to the northeast, possibly as a (sub)tropical depression or storm. The front will increase wind shear and likely cause the system to be lopsided with most of the rain on the east side.

Forecast Rainfall Totals Next 5 Days

Rainfall totals over the next 5 days are forecast to be between 1 and 3 inches across North Florida. Depending on the track of the system, these rainfall totals can change. Locally heavier rainfall totals are also possible.



Current River Levels

Numerous rivers across North Florida are in low water stage. With the current rainfall forecasts, river flooding is not expected.

0 Gauges: Major Flooding
0 Gauges: Moderate Flooding
2 Gauges: Minor Flooding
8 Gauges: Near Flood Stage
885 Gauges: No Flooding
199 Flood Category Not Defined
44 At or Below Low Water Threshold



Summary

Bay of Campeche Low

- A trough of low pressure has emerged into the Bay of Campeche and is gradually becoming better organized.
- The low pressure area is expected to drift slowly northward over the Bay of Campeche and western Gulf of Mexico before turning northeastward ahead of a cold front.
- Environmental conditions support gradual development, and a tropical or subtropical cyclone could form over the next few days.
- This system has a 30% (low) chance of development over the next 48 hours and a 50% (medium) chance of development over the next 5 days.
- As the system interacts with a cold front, rain will spread northward over the central and eastern Gulf Coast.
- Tropical Depression #15 dissipated earlier this morning near the Cabo Verde Islands.

Florida Outlook:

- The next name on the list is Nestor (NES-tor).
- Rain chances will likely increase by Friday into the weekend in association with the low pressure system. However, the with the river levels running very low, river flooding is currently not expected across North Florida.
- Waves will build later this week, which will increase the rip current risk along the Gulf Coast beaches into the weekend.
- It is too early to discuss any wind, coastal flooding, or tornado impacts.

The next tropics packet will be issued this afternoon if development chances increase. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



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