

TROPICAL UPDATE

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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





Bahama Low: An area of cloudiness and thunderstorms located over the Straits of Florida is forecast to spread northeastward during the next day or two. Environmental conditions are expected to become conducive for development, and this system is likely to become a tropical or subtropical depression or storm this weekend when it is located near or north of the northwestern Bahamas. The system is forecast to move generally northeastward over the western Atlantic early next week. Regardless of development, the disturbance is expected to bring locally heavy rainfall and gusty winds to portions of southeastern Florida and the central and northwestern Bahamas over the next couple of days. The next Special Tropical Weather Outlook on this system will be issued by 3 PM EDT today, or earlier, if necessary.

*Formation chance through 48 hours...medium...40 percent.

*Formation chance through 5 days...high...70 percent.

High pressure over Florida will weaken a bit, allowing for the Bahama Low to move out to sea. Another cold front will move through later this week and early next week, taking the Bahama Low out to sea.

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.



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



Western Atlantic Sea Surface Temperatures and Anomalies



Model Ensemble Track Guidance



Models are in good agreement for the system's track to the northeast, away from Florida. <u>Direct impacts to Florida are not expected.</u> Locally heavy rainfall is possible over the next couple days, with the greatest chance of heavy rain in Southeast Florida and the Keys. There is a Marginal Risk of flash flooding for South Florida on Friday.

Significant, wetting rainfall is not expected across North Florida for the next 7 days.



Forecast Rainfall Totals Next 7 Days



Stalled Front Keeps Elevated Rain Chances Across South Florida & Keys This Weekend





<u>Rain Chances</u> <u>Thursday - Sunday</u>

Rain chances will increase across the Peninsula through Friday, then decrease again through Sunday. The best chances for showers and thunderstorms will be along the Southeast Florida coast and in the Keys. However, scattered thunderstorms may occur in Central Florida as well.

Widespread severe weather is not expected. However, gusty winds of 40-50 mph, waterspouts, locally heavy downpours, and frequent lightning will accompany the stronger storms.



<u>Wind Gusts</u> Thursday & <u>Friday</u>

Gusty winds are also possible outside of the showers and storms. Wind gusts of 25-35 mph are possible in the Peninsula. Gusts up to 40 mph are possible in spots, particularly in coastal Southeast Florida. However, winds will gradually decrease over the weekend as the system pulls away from Florida.



Waves will remain high into the weekend as the system becomes better organized. This combined with breezy easterly winds will result in a high rip current risk for Atlantic beaches through this weekend.





Summary

<u>Bahama Low</u>

- An area of low pressure is forecast to develop along a frontal boundary near the Bahamas Friday or this weekend
- This disturbance could become gradually organized later this week and it could become a tropical or subtropical depression/storm.
- The system is expected to move northeast around an area of high pressure, heading away from the state of Florida.
- The National Hurricane Center gives this system a 40% (medium) chance of formation during the next 48 hours, but a 70% (high) chance of formation during days 2-5.
- If this system were to attain tropical storm intensity, the first name on the list is Arthur.

Florida Outlook:

- Indirectly related to the system, rain chances will continue to increase over the Peninsula through Friday before tapering this weekend.
- Widespread rainfall totals of 2-3" are expected across Southeast Florida and the Florida Keys. Localized totals could be 4-6".
- Due to ongoing drought conditions, significant or widespread flooding is not expected.
- Some brief periods of minor street flooding in urban and low-lying areas is possible.
- Frequent lightning, gusty winds, and waterspouts are also possible in the stronger showers and storms.
- Windy conditions are possible outside of thunderstorms—gusts of 25-40 mph possible in the Peninsula.
- The rip current risk will likely remain high at Atlantic beaches into this weekend.

The next tropics packet will be issued Friday morning. If significant changes occur with this afternoon's outlook, then another packet will be issued this afternoon. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



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