

TROPICAL UPDATE

FDF



Hurricane Isaias, Invest 93L (40%),

& Eastern Atlantic Tropical Wave (20%)

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.



Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Areas of Development During the Next 5 Days (LINK)

FDEI



Hurricane Isaias Friday, July 31



Overview/Recent Changes:

Isaias strengthened overnight, becoming a Category 1 Hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 80 mph. Additional strengthening is forecast over the next 48 hours as Isaias nears the East Coast of Florida. Tropical Storm Watches are in effect, and additional watches and warnings are possible today. Small shifts in the track will have large changes on the impacts.

Official Forecast Track

From the National Hurricane Center – Hurricane Isaias



- The center of Hurricane Isaias is about 550 miles southeast of Miami, Florida, moving to the NW at 17 mph.
- Maximum sustained winds are around 80 mph, making it a category 1 hurricane.
- Strengthening to a category 2 hurricane is forecast Saturday over the Bahamas (100 mph).
- The system will approach the Florida East Coast Saturday then move away from Florida late Sunday and Monday.
- There is still some uncertainty in whether the system comes onshore in Florida or if it remains offshore. Adjustments to the track and intensity forecast are still possible.
- A stronger hurricane is more likely to remain east of Florida, while a weakening system may move onshore.
- Tropical Storm Watches are in effect from Sebastian Inlet to Ocean Reef, including Lake Okeechobee



Satellite Imagery

Southwest Atlantic – Hurricane Isaias



Steering Currents

What is moving the system?

FDEM

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



Model Forecasts

Dynamical Models – Hurricane Isaias



Note the large spread in the models continues, as uncertainty continues with

how close Isaias will get to Florida.

Reds and oranges are stronger storms (hurricanes), and tend to keep the storm east of Florida and offshore.

If the system weakens (greens and blues, tropical storm to near hurricane strength), it is more likely to move onshore and bring more impacts to Florida.

Time of Arrival & Wind Speed Probabilities

MOST LIKELY Time of Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds (>39 mph)





Damaging Wind Threat Overview

Hurricane Isaias

The greatest wind threat is along the immediate coast (Treasure Coast) of Southeast Florida, mainly along and east of I-95.

Higher gusts to 70 mph may be possible Saturday and Sunday as Isaias makes its closest approach.

https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical? <u>office=mfl</u> Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab







Wind Watches and Warnings

In Effect Until Further Notice

Tropical Storm Watches are in effect from Sebastian Inlet to Ocean Reef, including Lake Okeechobee

Counties: Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, coastal and metro Miami-Dade





Tropical Storm & Hurricanes Watches Versus Warnings

WATCH

WARNING

Tropical storm and/or hurricane conditions are **POSSIBLE** in Watch area

Issued up to 48 hours in advance of tropical storm force winds

Tropical storm and/or hurricane conditions are **EXPECTED** in Warning area

Issued up to 36 hours in advance of onset of tropical storm force winds

Hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force. Watches & Warnings are issued in advance of onset of tropical storm force winds, 39-73mph





eather.gov/mob



Hurricane Wind Speed Probabilities

Probabilities of Sustained Hurricane Force Winds (>74 mph)



Only ~5% along the Treasure Coast.



Storm Surge Threat Overview

Hurricane Isaias

Only minor coastal flooding is expected in Southeast Florida, as storm surge of 1-2' is forecast.

However, Northeast Florida will be monitored, and details may become available later today.

There are no storm surge watches or warnings in effect.

Storm Surge ThreatPotential for storm surge flooding greater than 9 ft above groundPotential for storm surge flooding greater than 6 ft above groundPotential for storm surge flooding greater than 3 ft above groundPotential for storm surge flooding greater than 1 ft above groundLittle to no storm surge flooding

https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical? office=mfl Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab



Key Messages

From the National Hurricane Center



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Key Messages for Hurricane Isaias Advisory 13: 5:00 AM EDT Fri Jul 31, 2020

1. Isaias will produce heavy rains and potentially life-threatening flash flooding and mudslides across the Dominican Republic, northern Haiti, Turks and Caicos, and the Bahamas. Heavy rains associated with Isaias may begin to affect South and east-Central Florida beginning late Friday night, and the eastern Carolinas by early next week, potentially resulting in isolated flash and urban flooding, especially in low-lying and poorly drained areas. Isolated minor river flooding is possible in the Carolinas early next week.

2. Hurricane conditions and dangerous storm surge are expected in portions of the Bahamas today and Saturday, and Hurricane Warnings are in effect for these areas. Preparations to protect life and property should be rushed to completion.

3. Tropical storm conditions are possible along portions of the Florida east coast beginning Saturday, and a Tropical Storm Watch remains in effect. While storm surge watches are not currently needed for this area, they may be required later today if the forecast track shifts closer to the coast. Heavy rains associated with Isaias may begin to affect South Florida and east-Central Florida beginning late tonight, potentially resulting in isolated flash and urban flooding, especially in low-lying and poorly drained areas.

4. There is a risk of impacts from winds, heavy rainfall, and storm surge late this weekend from the northeastern Florida coast and spreading northward along the remainder of the U.S. east coast through early next week. The details of the track and intensity forecast remain uncertain, and it is too soon to determine the magnitude and location of these potential impacts, but interests along the entire U.S. east coast should monitor the progress of Isaias and updates to the forecast.



For more information go to hurricanes.gov



Forecast Wave Heights

This Weekend



High surf of 8-11 feet is expected along East Coast beaches this afternoon. This will result in dangerous rip currents. Minor to significant beach erosion is expected.



Rip Current Outlook



Rough surf and high water levels will keep the rip current risk high at Atlantic beaches through the weekeknd.





From the Weather Prediction Center (LINK)





Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point to the right of a line HIGH: > 50% SLGT: 10%-20% MDT: 20%-50% MRGL: 5%-10%



Rain Chances Next 3 Days



Rain chances in Southeast Florida will begin tonight, then across the Peninsula

on Saturday, and into Northeast Florida by Sunday.



Forecast Rainfall Totals Next 7 Days

- About 4-6" of rain are possible along the East Coast, 2-4" inland
- Localized totals double these amounts will be possible.
- Isolated flash flooding possible, especially in the urban areas of Southeast Florida
- A western track would lead to higher rainfall totals across the Peninsula
- An eastern track would lower rain totals and keep most of the rain offshore.





Streamflow Anomaly – Soil Moisture

KB Drought Index – Full Report from the Florida Forest Service



Streamflows are near to below normal across the entire Peninsula, but soils remain quite saturated. If heavier rainfall occurs, then flash flooding will be a concern.

Most rivers are able to handle 3-5" of rainfall, but flooding concerns may rise if heavier rainfall occurs.

Flash Flood Guidance

How Much Rain is Needed to Create Flash Flooding?



In general, more than 3 or 4" of rain in a short period of time will result in flash flooding.

Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Area of Development During the Next 5 Days (LINK)



An area of low pressure located a couple of hundred miles east-southeast of the Cabo Verde Islands is producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms. This low has a small window of opportunity to become a tropical depression today while it moves northward at about 10 mph before environmental conditions become less conducive for development.

The next name on the list is Josephine.

This system does not pose a threat to Florida.

*Formation chance through 48 hrs...medium...40% *Formation chance through 5 days...medium...40%

Model Forecast Tracks

FDE

Ensembles, Dynamical, and Statistical Models



Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Area of Development During the Next 5 Days (LINK)



A westward-moving tropical wave located about 1000 miles east of the Lesser Antilles is producing a limited amount of shower activity. Some slow development of this system is possible while it turns northwestward over the western Atlantic early next week.

The next name on the list is Josephine.

This system does not pose a direct threat to Florida at this time.

*Formation chance through 48 hrs...low...near 0% *Formation chance through 5 days...low...20%



Overall Summary

Hurricane Isaias

- Isaias continued to reorganize overnight, with the center located about 550 miles southeast of Miami, FL, moving northwest at 17 mph.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 80 mph (Category 1 Hurricane). Strengthening is forecast, and Isaias is forecast to become a category 2 hurricane with winds near 100 mph on Saturday in the Bahamas.
- Thereafter, some weakening may occur as the system nears Florida and turns northward. More weakening would tend to mean a track closer to Florida, where a stronger hurricane is more likely to remain offshore.
- A north to northeast motion is expected early next week with the system paralleling the East Coast of the United States.

Invest 93L (Cabo Verde Islands)

- A tropical wave near the Cabo Verde Islands is showing some signs of organization. Environmental conditions are currently favorable for development, but only over the next 36 hours.
- This system has a 40% chance of forming into a tropical depression before moving over colder waters.
- This system poses no threat to Florida.

Eastern Atlantic Tropical Wave

- A tropical wave about halfway between the Caribbean and Africa is producing limited shower activity as it moves west.
- Some slow development of this system is possible next week while it turns northwest over the western Atlantic.
- This system is not forecast to be a direct threat to Florida, but may prolong the rip current risk into next week.



Overall Summary

Florida Outlook:

- Isaias poses a direct threat to Florida starting as early as tonight, but more likely beginning Saturday morning.
- Tropical Storm Watch: Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, coastal and metro Miami-Dade
- Wind gusts from 40-65 mph are generally forecast in the watch area on Saturday and Sunday.
- Heavy rainfall of 4-6" with localized totals possibly double that will be possible across the East Coast. Rainfall will be dependent on the track of Isaias.
- Soils remain saturated from the fairly active wet season across much of the Peninsula, which could lead to an elevated flash flood threat this weekend.
- Streamflows in the Peninsula are running near to below normal, and it may take more than 3-5" of rain to cause flooding issues along the rivers in the Peninsula.
- Isolated tornadoes may be possible, especially if the center moves over the state.
- It remains too early to get specific about storm surge impacts to the state, but the potential exists for some storm surge impacts along the East Coast, particularly in Northeast Florida. Only 1-2' is currently forecast in Southeast Florida.
- Elevated surf, dangerous rip currents, and beach erosion will be likely at most Atlantic beaches this weekend.

The next briefing packet will be issued later this morning with the 11 AM ET advisory. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



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