



TROPICAL UPDATE



5:00 PM EDT




Monday, August 24, 2020

Tropical Storm Laura &

Tropical Storm Marco

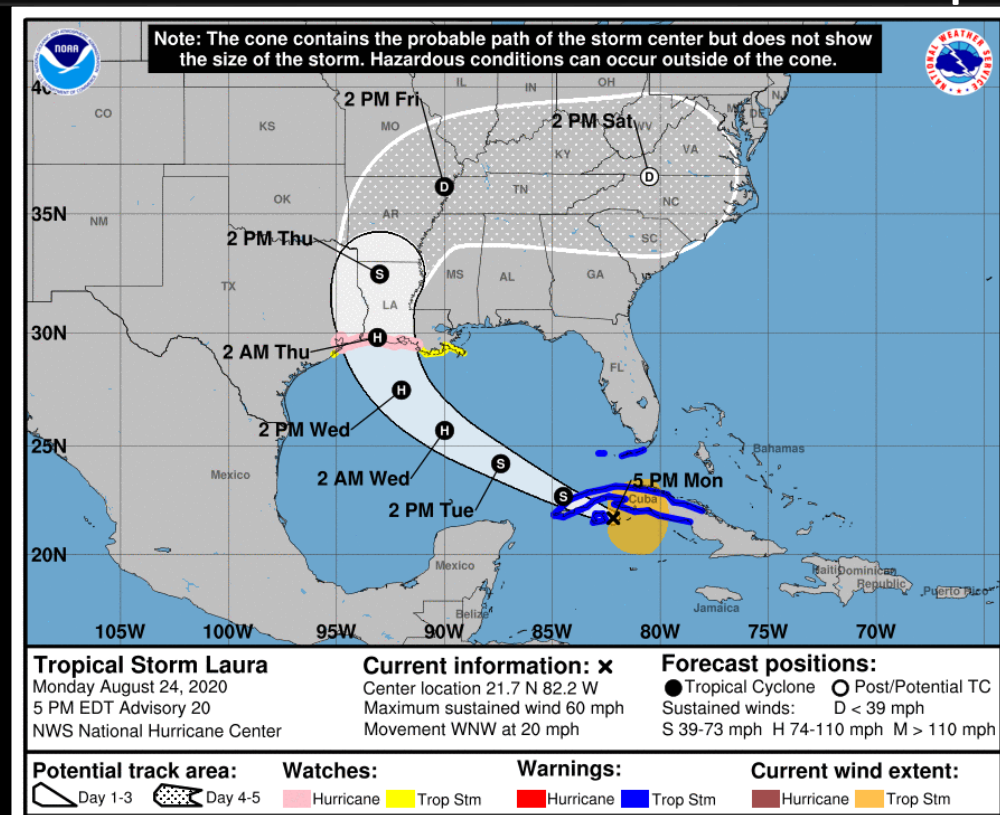
This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an 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 Storm Laura Monday, August 24

	MINIMAL	Low	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
 WINDS					
 STORM SURGE					
 FLASH FLOODING					
 TORNADOES					

	Low	MODERATE	HIGH
 RIP CURRENTS			

National Hurricane Center Map




Overview/Recent Changes:

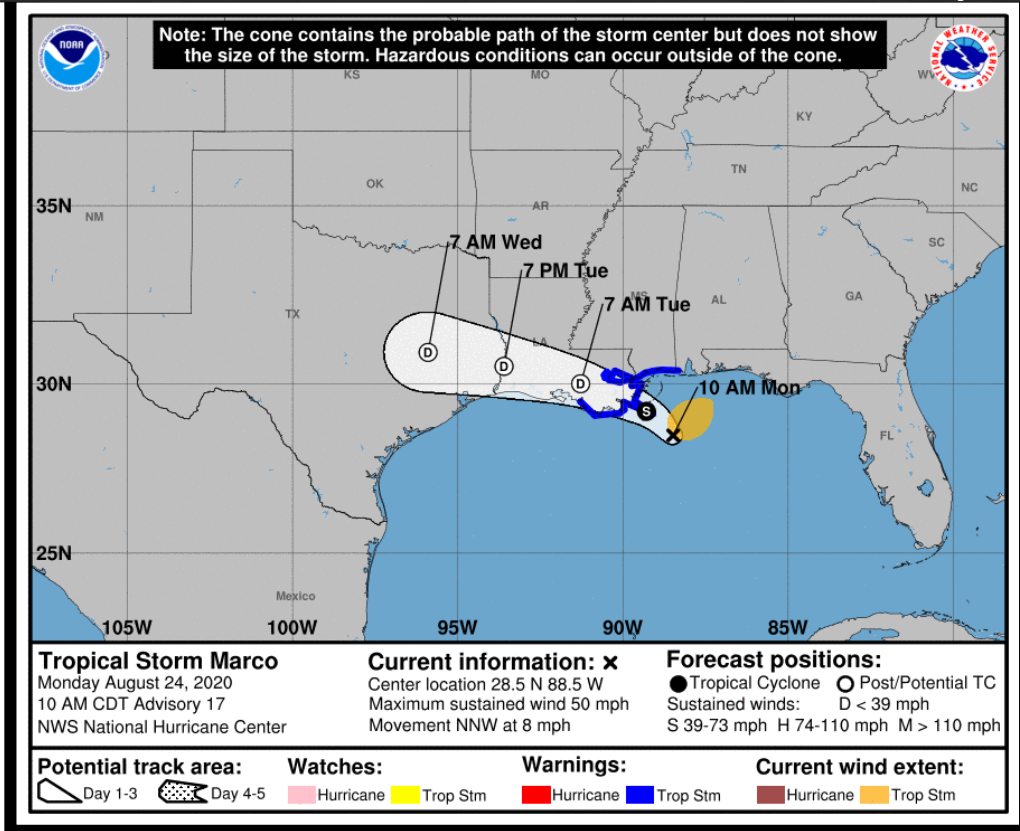
Tropical Storm Warning continues for the Lower and Middle Keys through tonight. Squalls continue across the Florida Keys with gusts 40-70 mph and 40-55 mph in far South Florida. Isolated tornado risk across the Keys with minor coastal flooding at high tide. Quick moving squalls pose little flash flood risk. Conditions improve across the Keys tomorrow morning.

Tropical Storm Marco Monday, August 24

	MINIMAL	Low	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
 WINDS					
 STORM SURGE					
 FLASH FLOODING					
 TORNADOES					

	Low	MODERATE	HIGH
 RIP CURRENTS			

National Hurricane Center Map



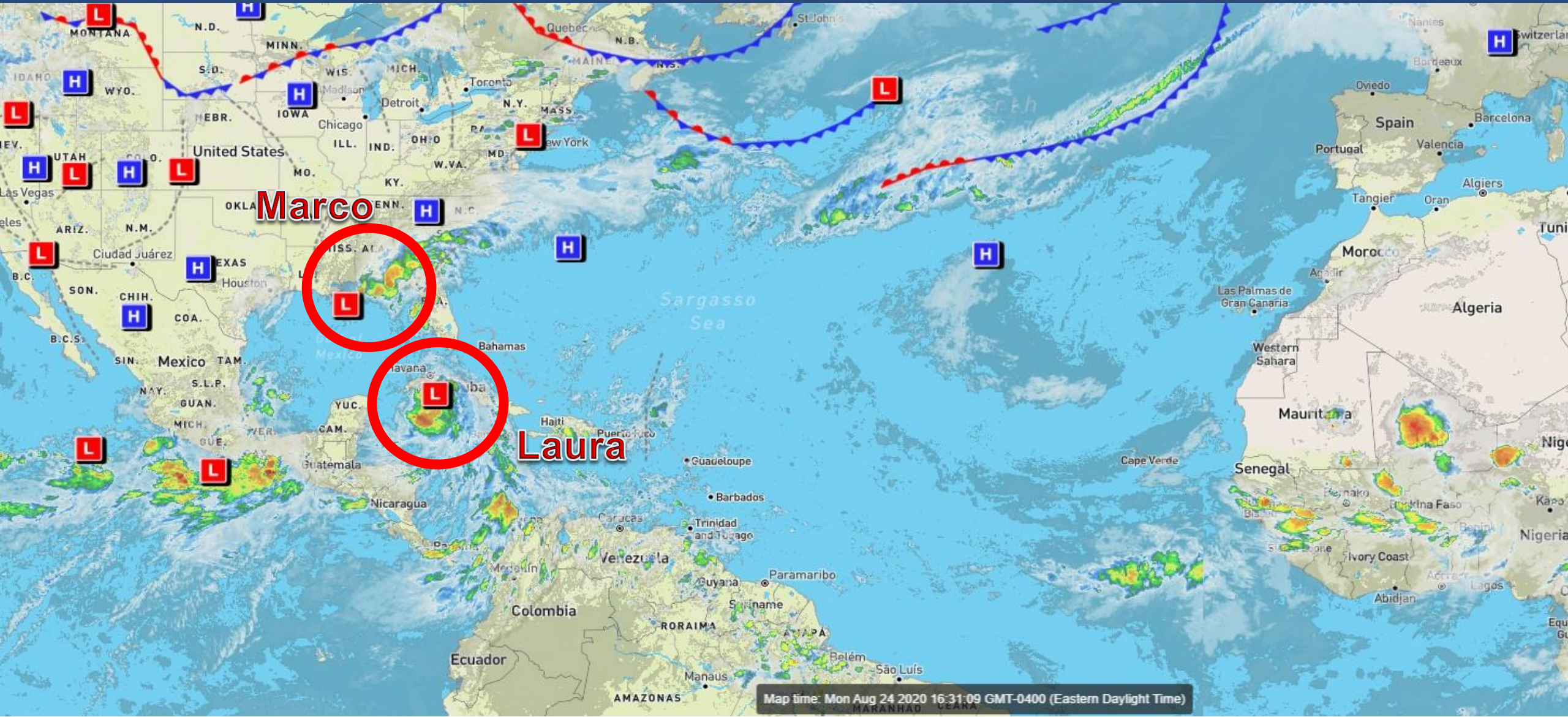
Overview/Recent Changes:

Marco continues to weaken, but the heavy rain bands are well to the northeast of the center currently impacting the Panhandle. A Flash Flood Watch is in effect for the Panhandle into tonight. A few tornadoes are also possible with a Tornado Watch in effect until midnight ET.



Atlantic Basin Satellite Image

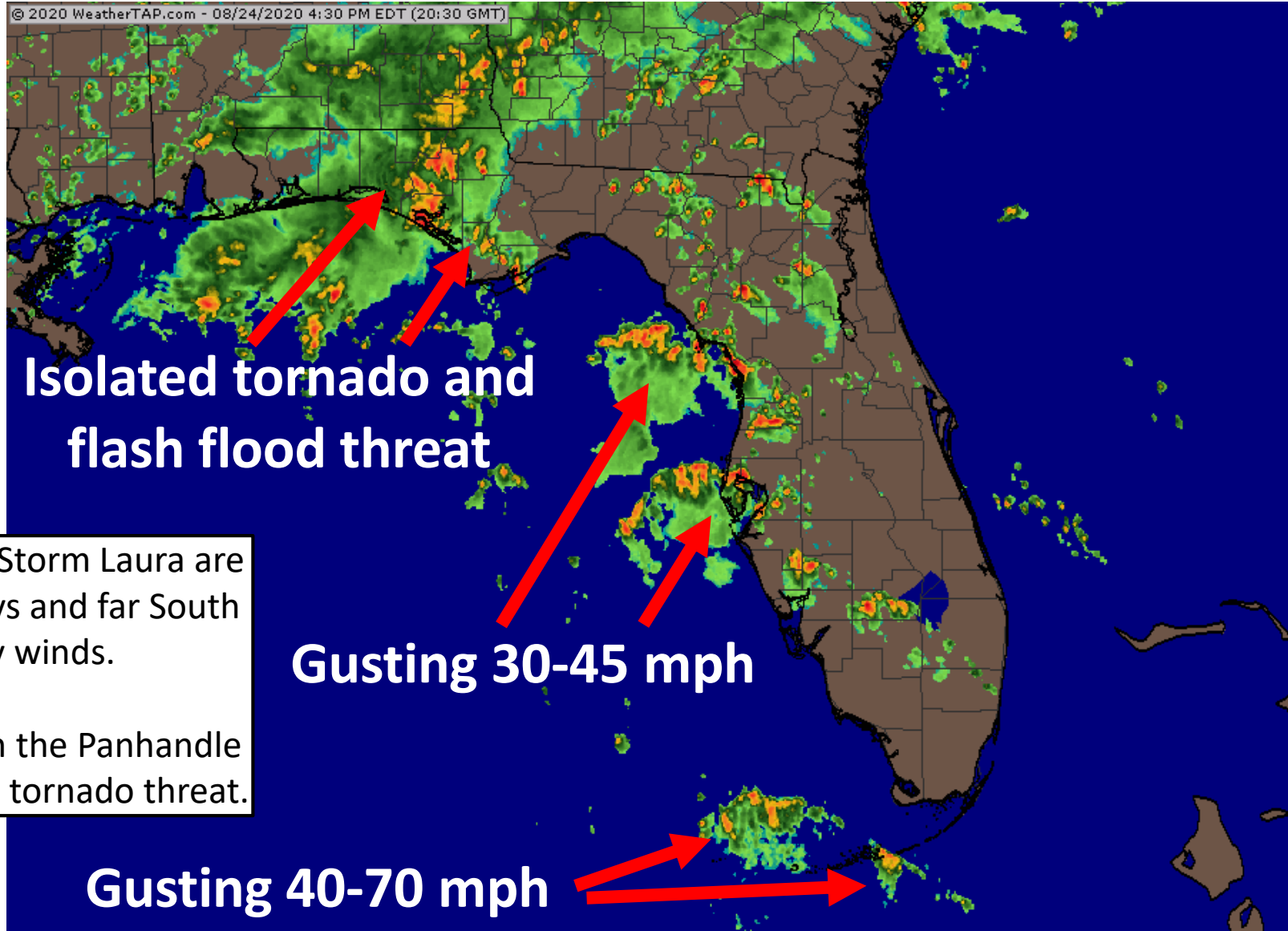
Chance of development: — None — Low — Medium — High





Current Florida Radar

As of 10:30 AM ET / 9:30 AM CT



Outer rain bands from Tropical Storm Laura are moving through the Florida Keys and far South Florida producing gusty winds.

Outer rain bands from Marco in the Panhandle pose an isolated flash flood and tornado threat.

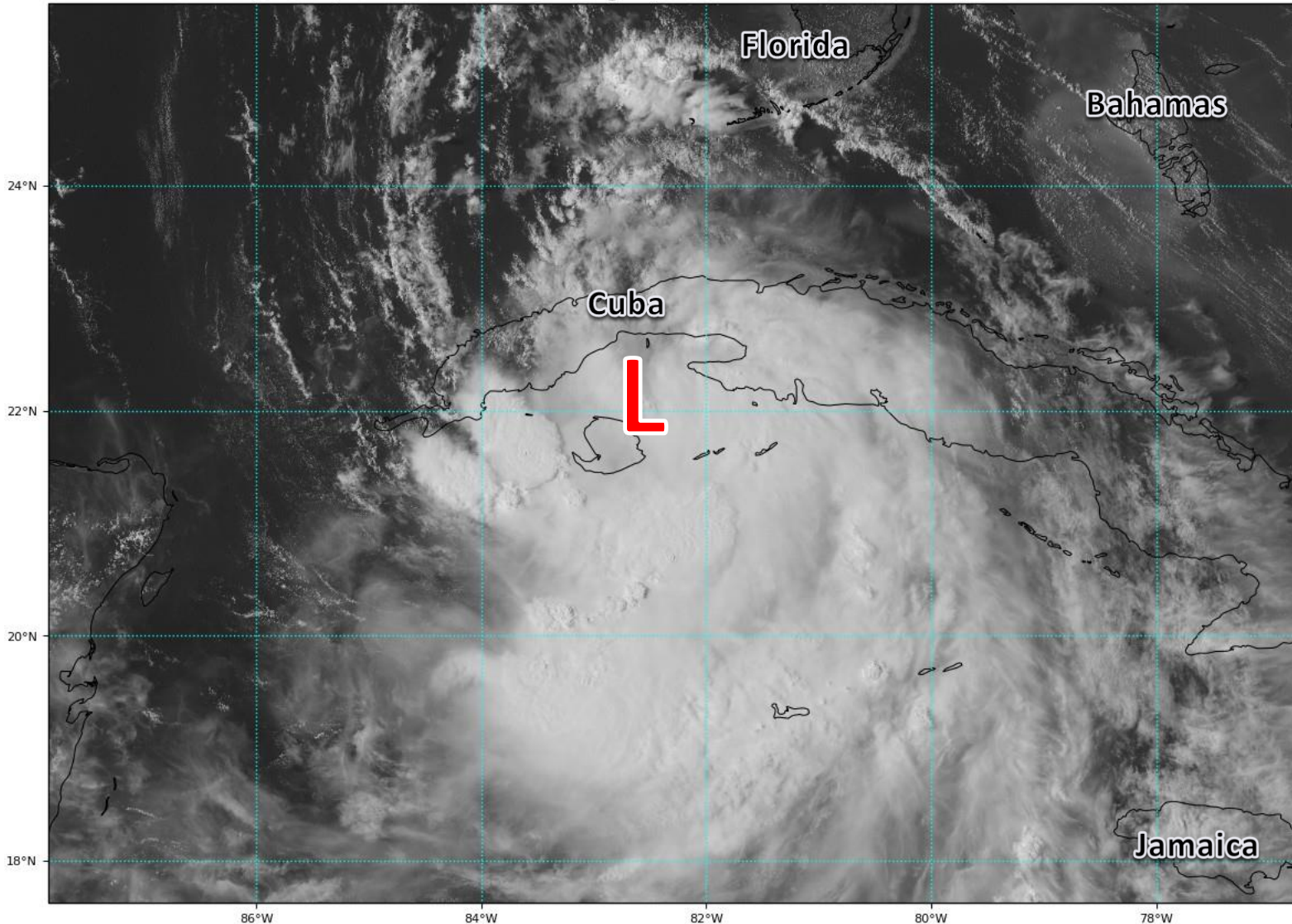


Satellite Imagery

Northwest Caribbean – Tropical Storm Laura

GOES-16 Channel 2 (visible) Reflectance at 20:32Z Aug 24, 2020

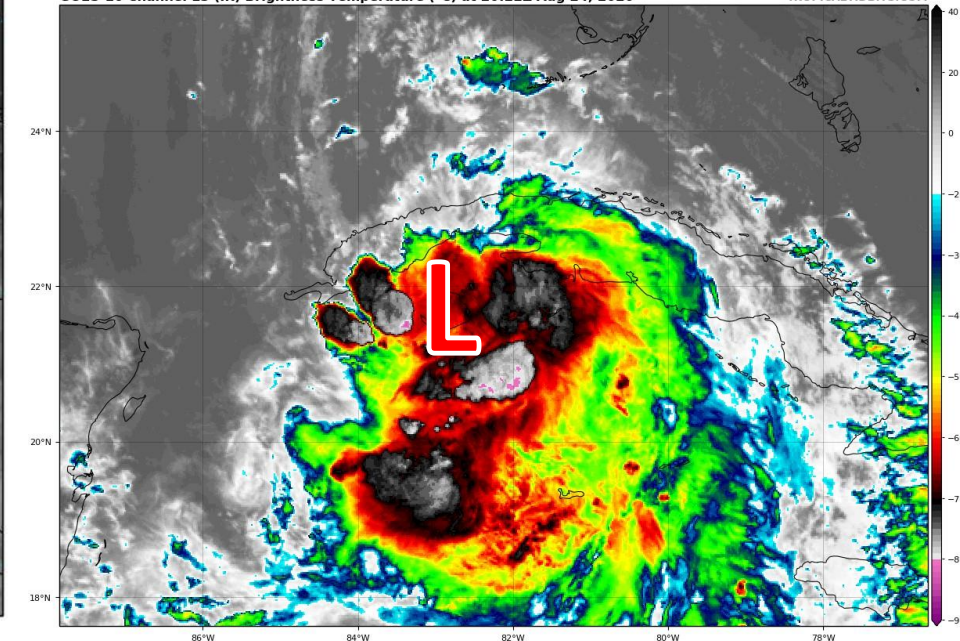
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM



Tropical Storm Laura continues to become better organized, with the center south of Cuba. The system may briefly be disrupted by Cuba tonight but the land interaction is not expected to be significant. Strengthening will continue in the Gulf of Mexico.

GOES-16 Channel 13 (IR) Brightness Temperature (°C) at 20:22Z Aug 24, 2020

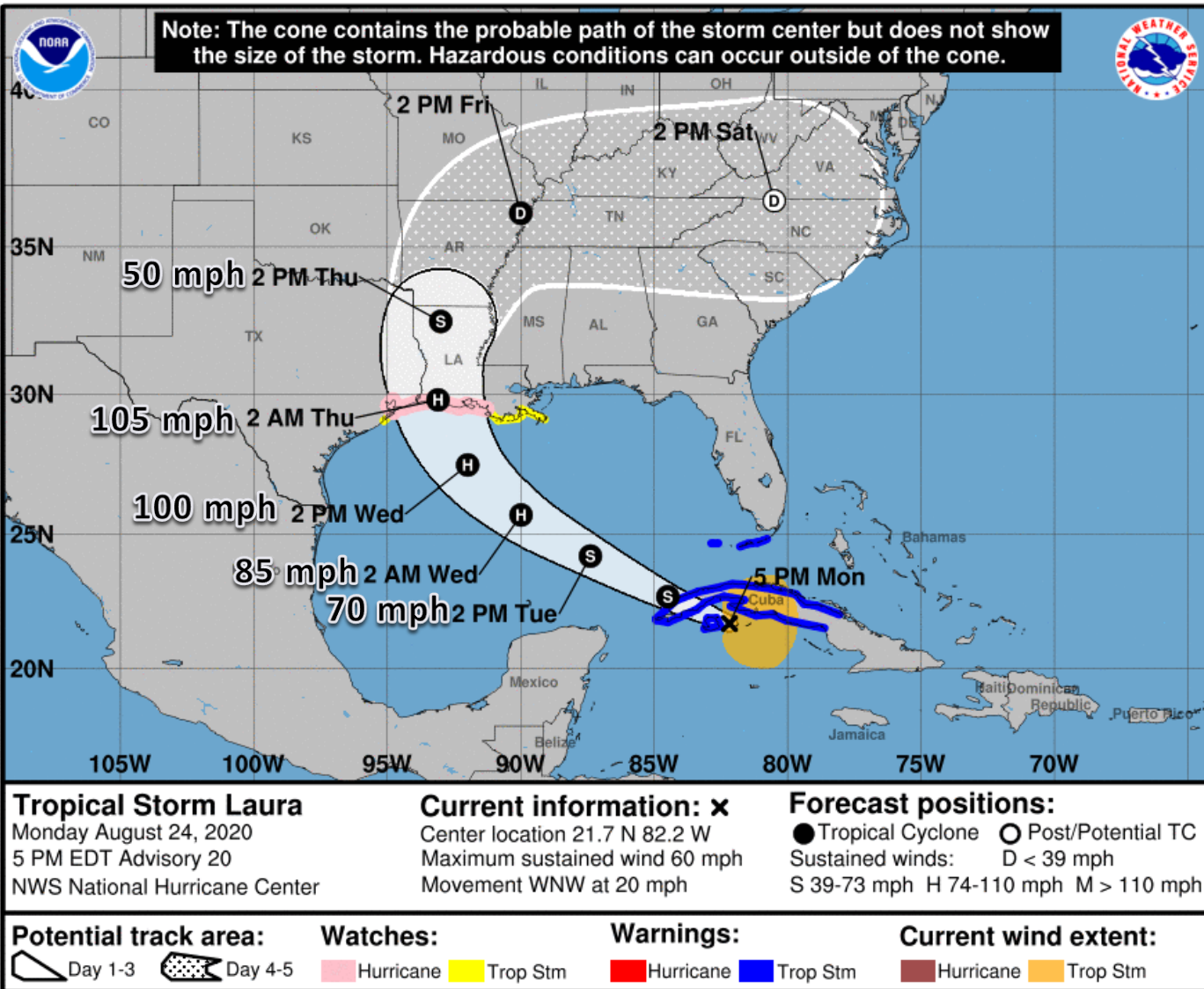
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM





Official Forecast Track

From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Storm Laura



- The center of Tropical Storm Laura is located near the Isle of Youth, or about 175 miles south of Key West, Florida.
- Maximum sustained winds remain at 60mph. Laura's strength should remain nearly steady as it passes over western Cuba followed by significant strengthening over the Gulf of Mexico.
- Laura is moving toward the west-northwest at 20 mph, and a northwestward motion should continue for the next few days.
- Laura is making its closest approach to the lower Florida Keys. A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for the Lower and Middle Keys.
- Once in the Gulf of Mexico, a strengthening hurricane is forecast to turn north towards Texas and Louisiana with a Category 2 currently forecast. If the storm is quick or organized once in the Gulf, a Major Hurricane can't be ruled out.



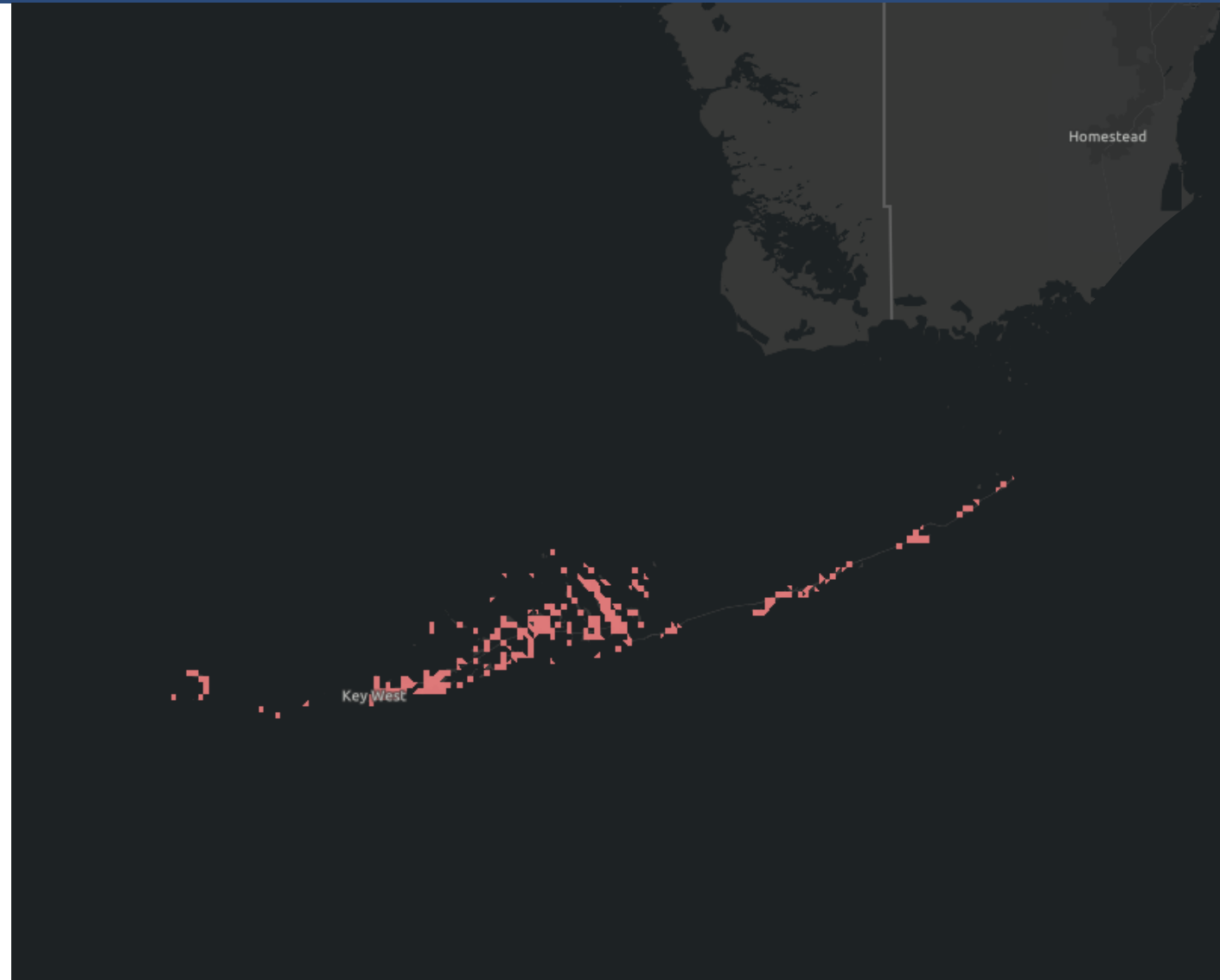
Wind Watches and Warnings

In Effect Until Further Notice

Tropical Storm Warnings are in effect for the Lower and Middle Florida Keys – including– The Dry Tortugas, Key West, and Marathon.

Gusts 50-70 mph in squalls.

69mph gust in downtown Key West earlier this afternoon!



Tropical Storm & Hurricanes

Watches Versus Warnings

WATCH

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

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

WARNING

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**



NWSMobile

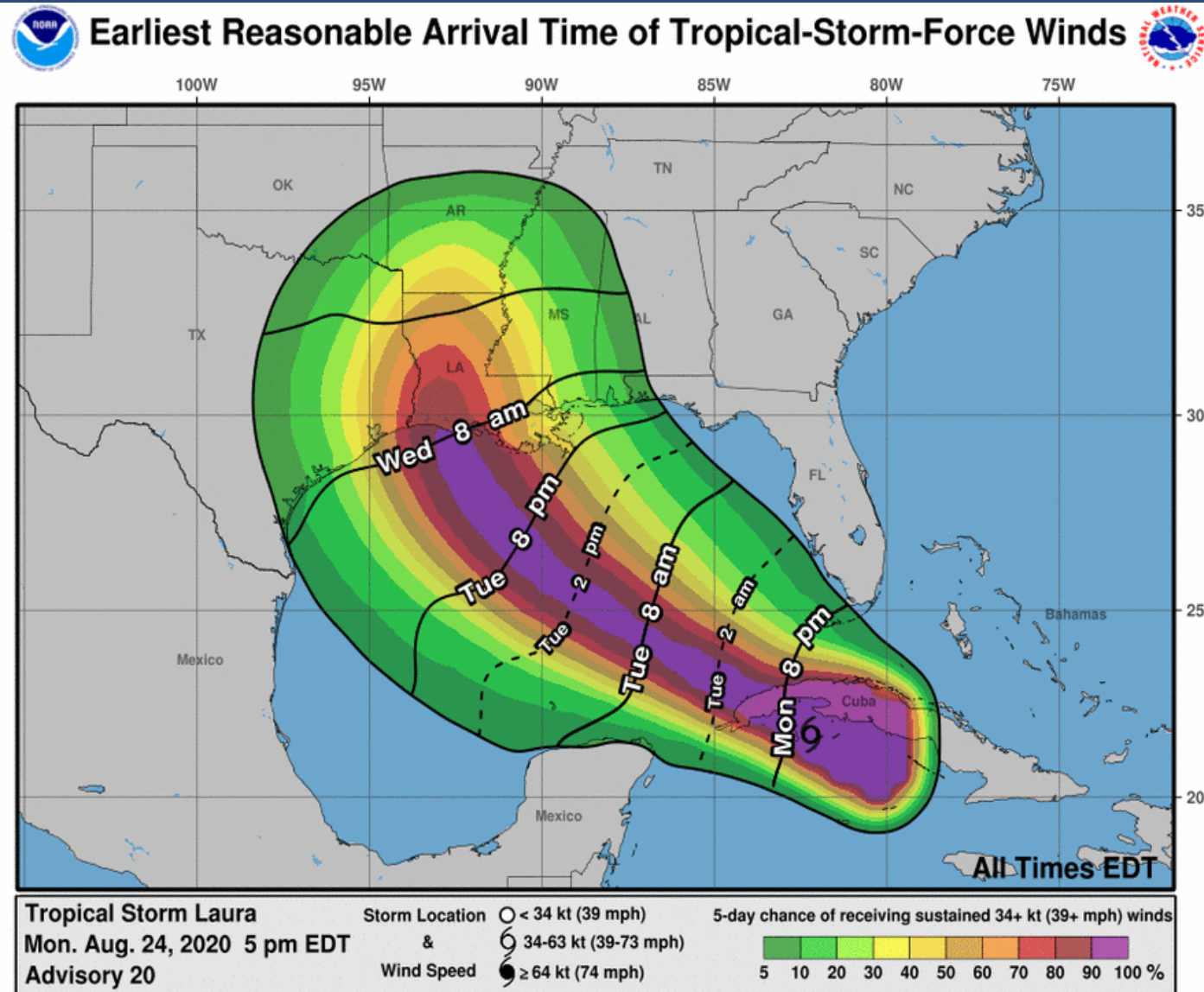


weather.gov/mob



TS Laura: Time of Arrival & Wind Speed Probabilities

EARLIEST REASONABLE Time of Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds (>39 mph)



Tropical storm force gust are ongoing in squalls across the Keys, and will continue tonight.



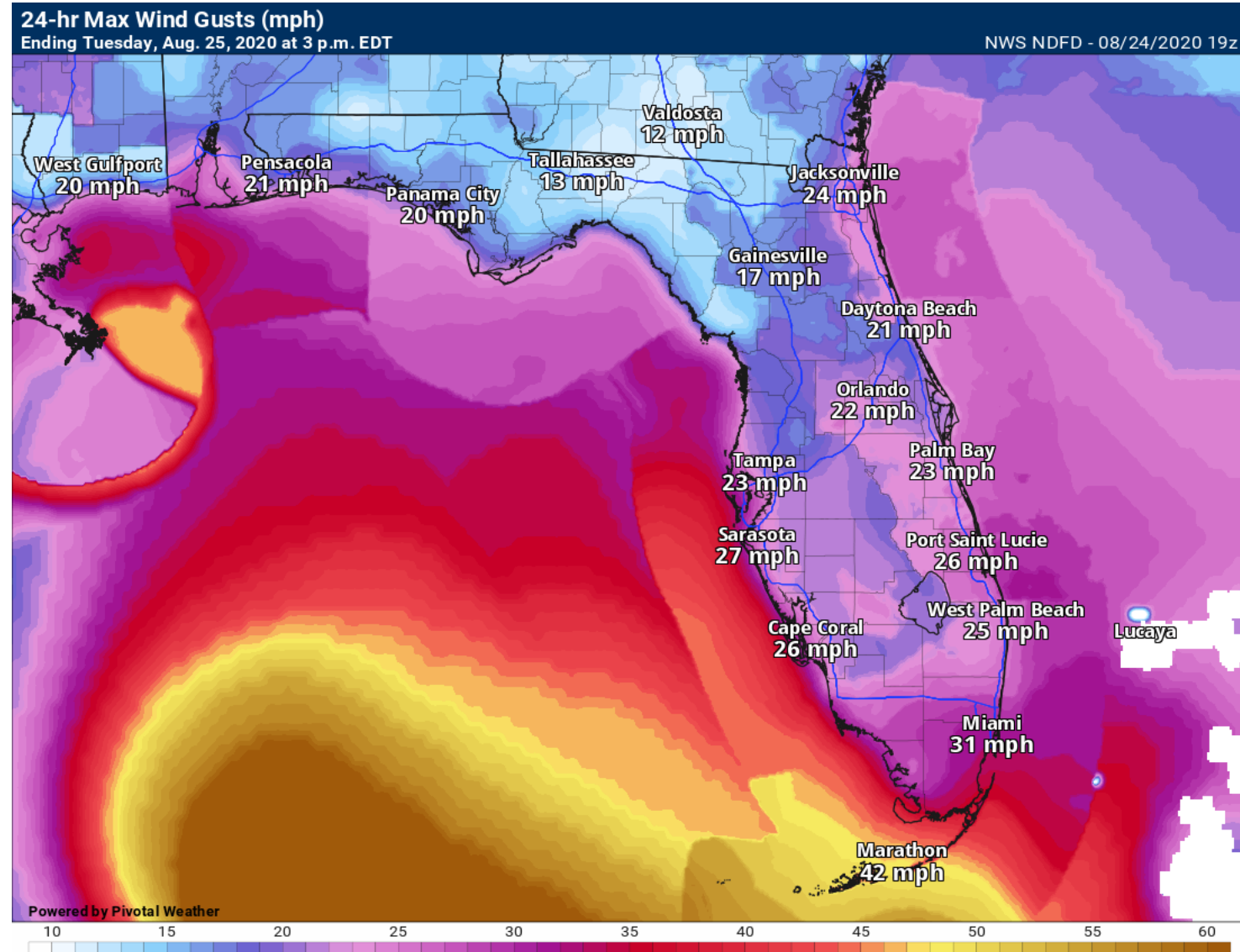
Maximum Wind Gusts

Next 24 Hours

Wind gusts to 70 mph are possible across the Florida Keys tonight as Laura makes its closest approach to the south, but most will be 35-45 mph outside of squalls.

Gusts to 30 mph are possible across the rest of the Peninsula, possibly 45 mph in any thunderstorms.

In the western Panhandle, gusts 25-35 mph are likely along the coast.



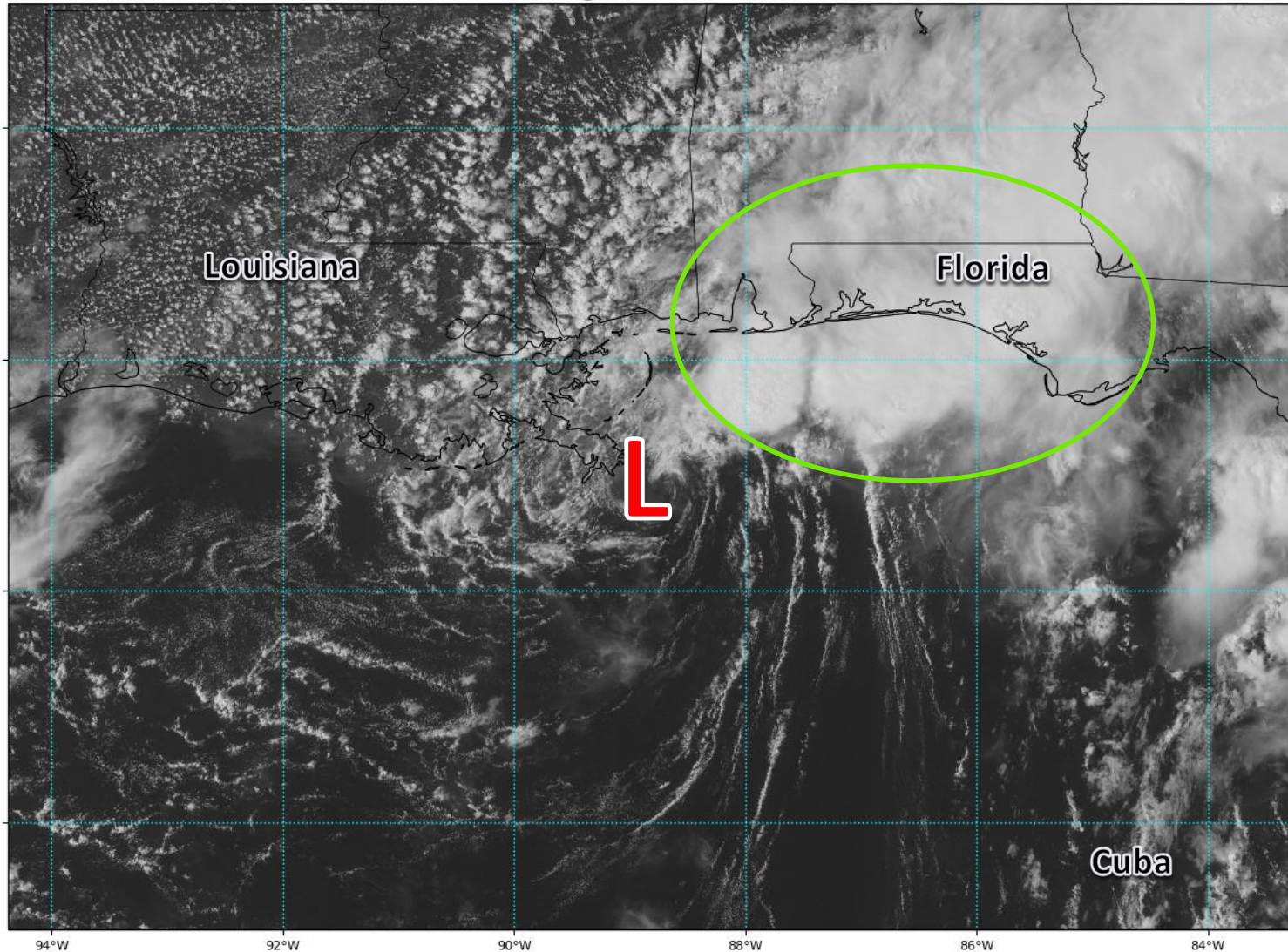


Satellite Imagery

Northern Gulf of Mexico – Tropical Storm Marco

GOES-16 Channel 2 (visible) Reflectance at 20:22Z Aug 24, 2020

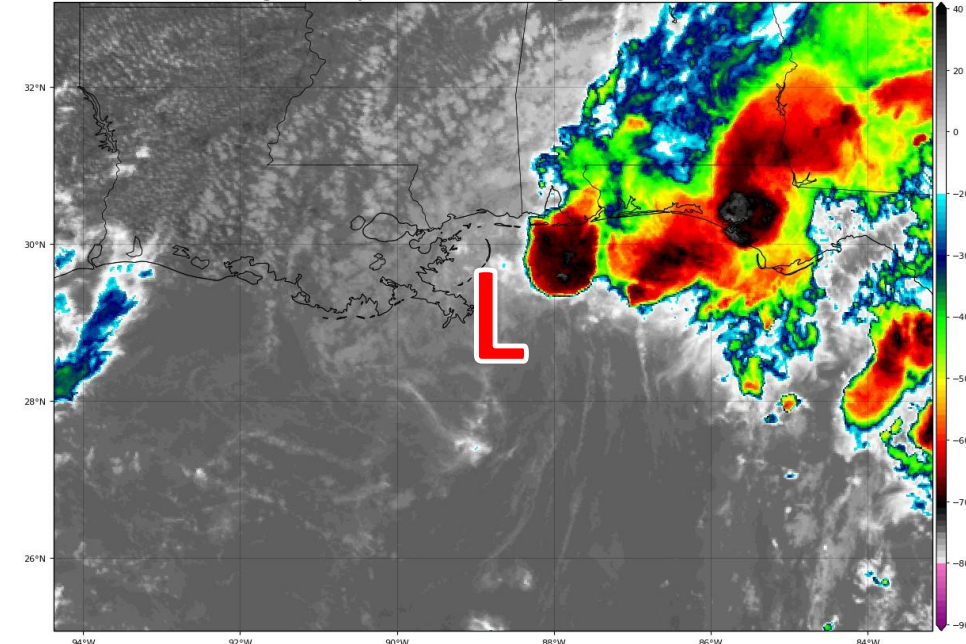
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM



Marco is void of thunderstorms near the center. All of the showers and thunderstorms are to the northeast of the center near the Florida Panhandle. Marco is quickly weakening and near landfall in Southeast Louisiana.

GOES-16 Channel 13 (IR) Brightness Temperature (°C) at 20:22Z Aug 24, 2020

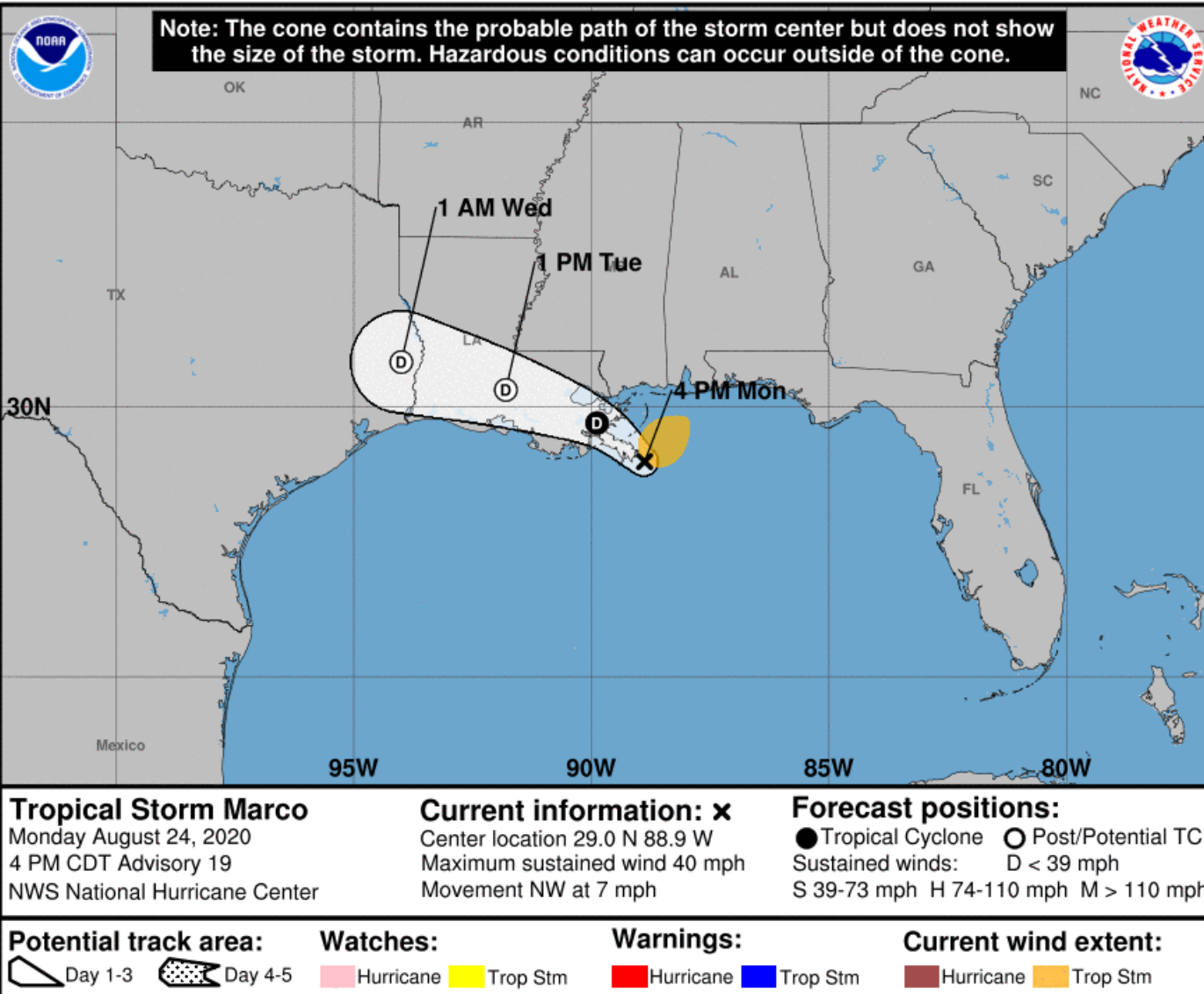
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM





Official Forecast Track

From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Storm Marco



- The center of Marco is located about 125 miles southwest of Pensacola, Florida.
- Marco continues to weaken with winds now only around 40 mph. All wind and surge warnings have been cancelled.
- Marco is moving toward the NW at 7 mph.
- **Wind shear is keeping most of the showers and thunderstorms northeast of the center. Even as the storm continues west, numerous rain bands are expected in the Panhandle tonight**



Flood Threat Overview

Tropical Storm Marco

The greatest flood threat is across the coastal Panhandle and in the urban areas of Pensacola. Outer rain bands may train over the same area tonight and poses a flash flood threat.

An additional 1-3" of rain is expected with localized areas picking up 4-8".

Flash Flood Watch for southern Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa County through Tuesday morning, and Bay, Gulf, Franklin, Liberty, Walton and Wakulla until **tonight**.



<https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mob>

Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab

Flooding Rain Threat	
Potential for extreme flooding rain	
Potential for major flooding rain	
Potential for moderate flooding rain	
Potential for localized flooding rain	
Little to no potential for flooding rain	









Tornado Threat Overview

From the Storm Prediction Center – Marco & Laura

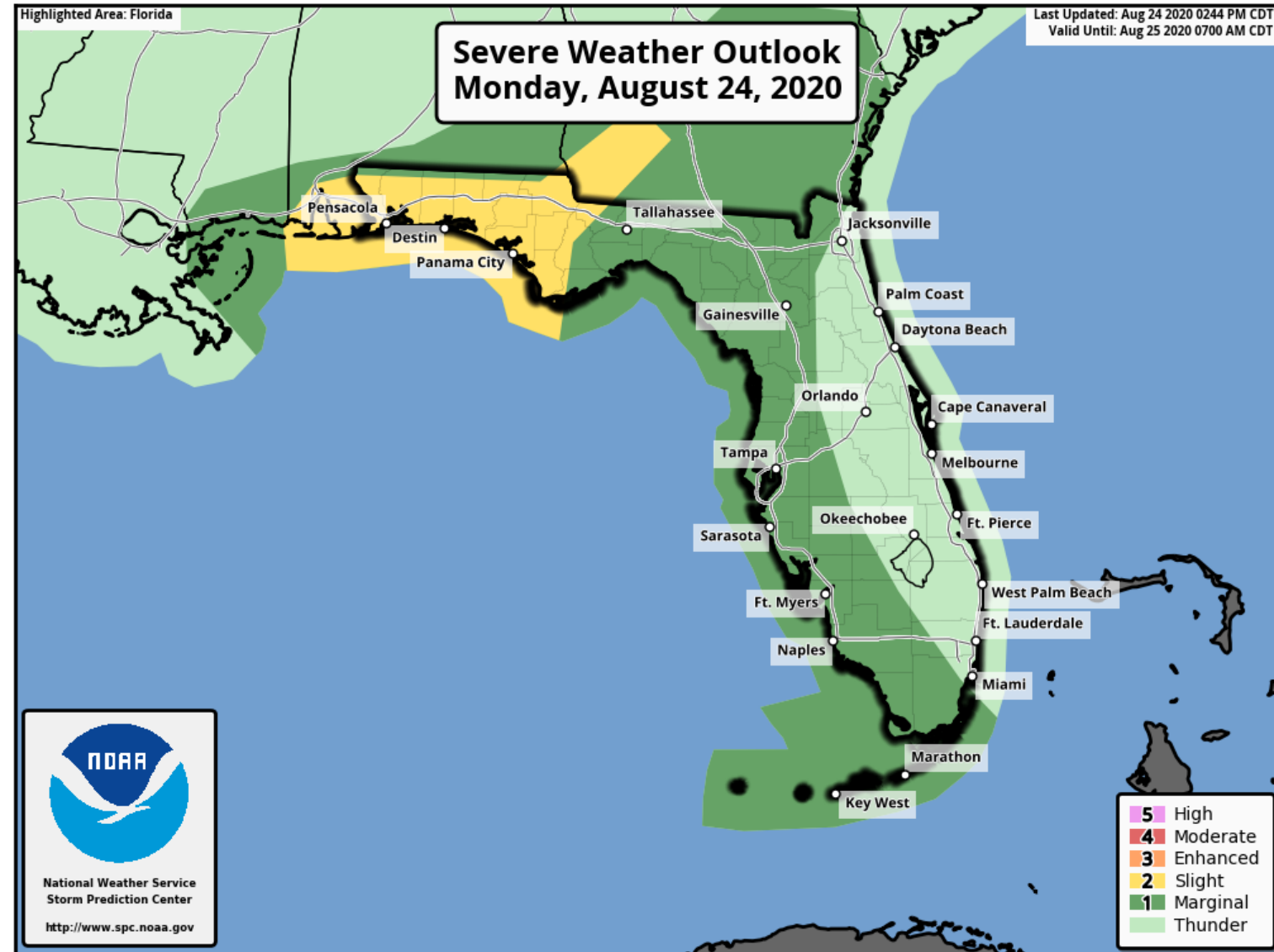
Isolated tornadoes are possible in the outer bands of Marco across the Panhandle and Big Bend, and from the outer bands of Laura across the Keys.

Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
No severe* thunderstorms expected	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered severe storms possible	Numerous severe storms possible	Widespread severe storms likely	Widespread severe storms expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with all thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense
					

* NWS defines a severe thunderstorm as measured wind gusts to at least 58 mph, and/or hail to at least one inch in diameter, and/or a tornado. All thunderstorm categories imply lightning and the potential for flooding. Categories are also tied to the probability of a severe weather event within 25 miles of your location.

National Weather Service
www.spc.noaa.gov





Tornado Threat Overview

From the Storm Prediction Center – Marco

Tornado Watch

Valid Until
12:00 AM EDT Tuesday
August 25, 2020

Threat Information



TORNADOES

A Couple Tornadoes
Possible



HAIL

Isolated Hail Up To
No Hail Size Possible



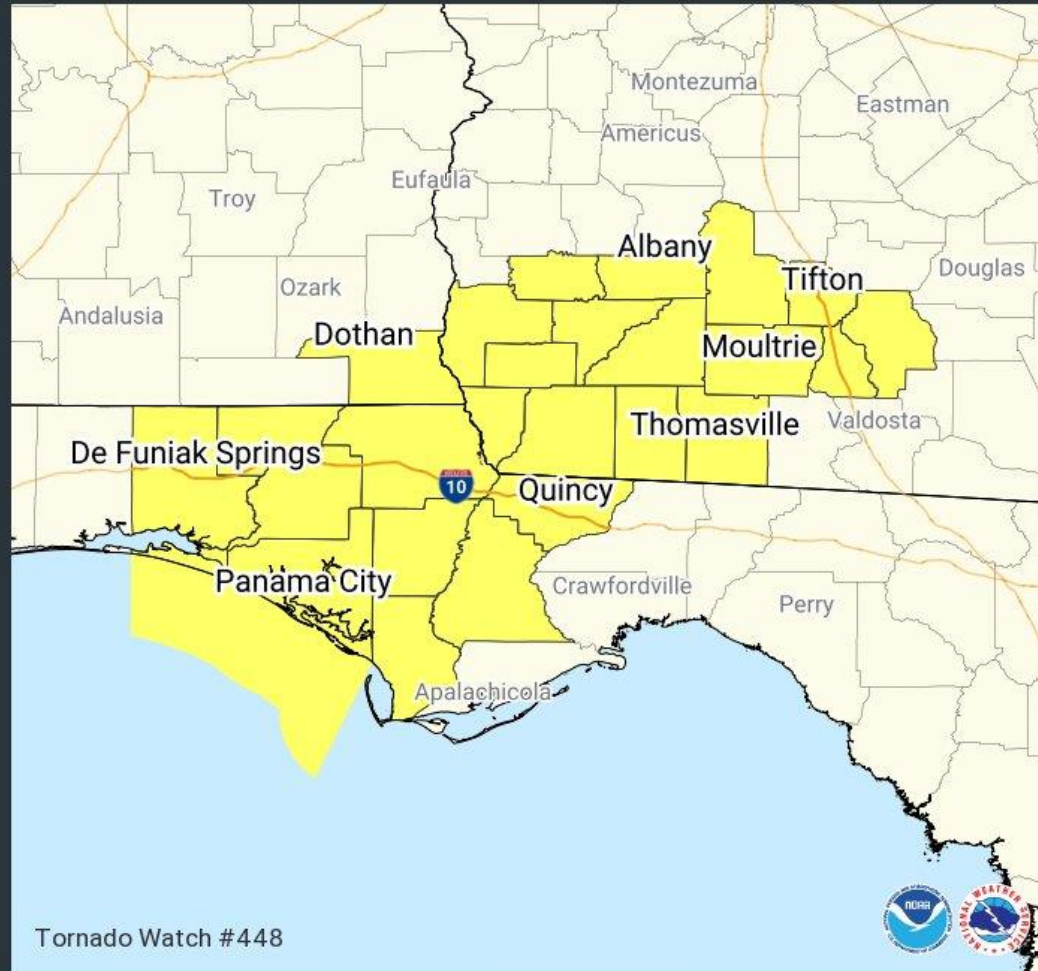
WIND

Isolated Gusts
Up To 70 MPH Possible

Potential Exposure



Population: 903,614
Schools: 330
Hospitals: 34

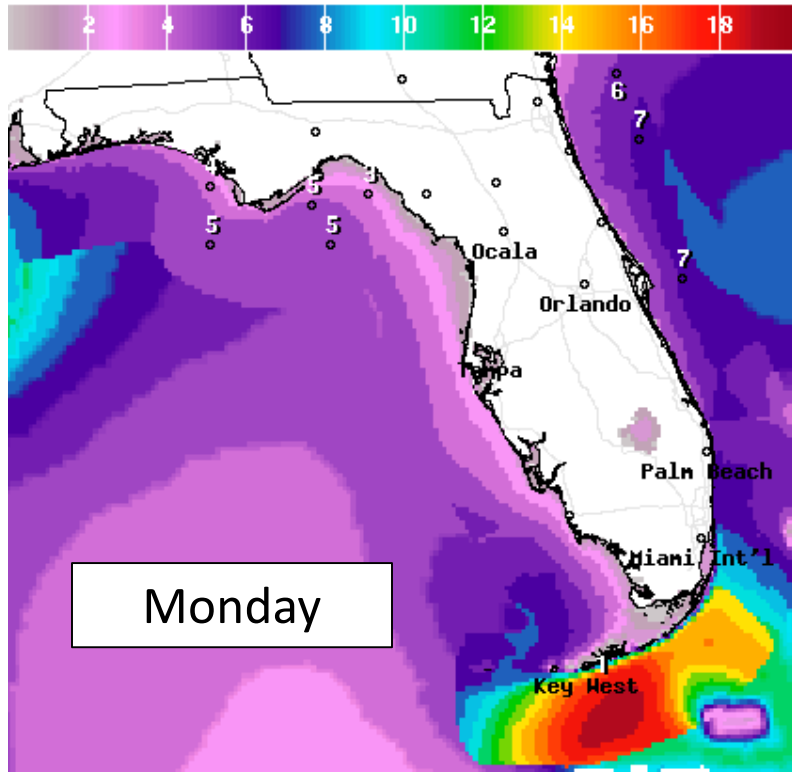


Tornado Watch #448



Forecast Wave Heights

Early This Week



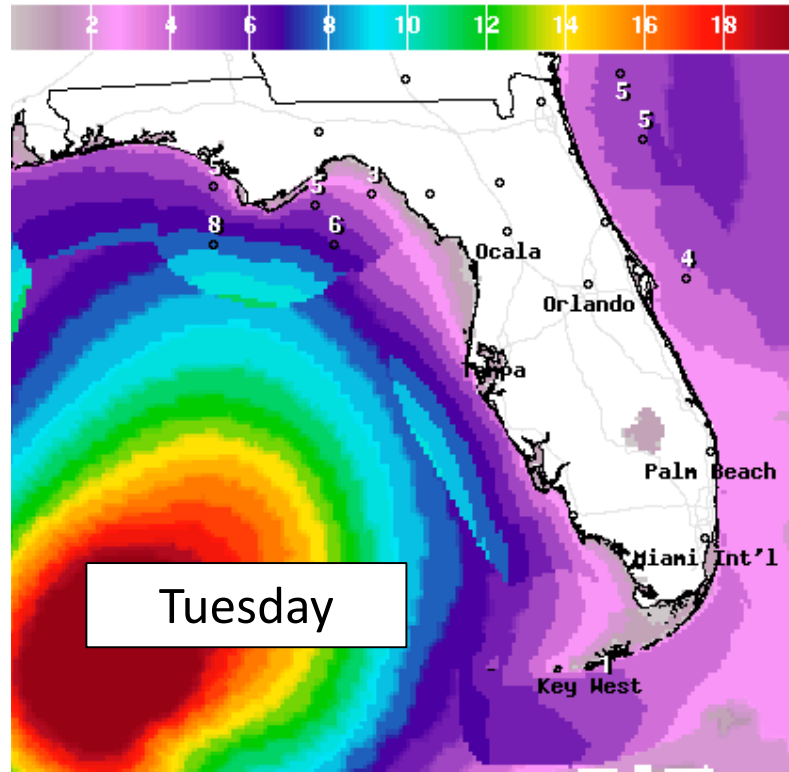
Wave Height(ft) Ending Mon Aug 24 2020 2PM EDT
(Mon Aug 24 2020 18Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

14z issuance

Graphic created-Aug 24 10:15AM EDT



Wave Height(ft) Ending Tue Aug 25 2020 2PM EDT
(Tue Aug 25 2020 18Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

14z issuance

Graphic created-Aug 24 10:16AM EDT



High Surf Advisory until midnight.

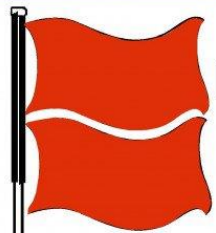
High surf of 4-8 feet is expected at Panhandle Beaches with 3-6 feet along the Atlantic. High wave heights will continue through mid-week as Marco departs and Laura moves into the Gulf. Minor beach erosion is likely with a few spots of more significant erosion possible in the western Panhandle.



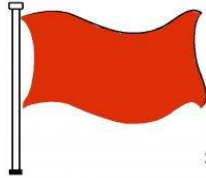
Rip Current Outlook

Today

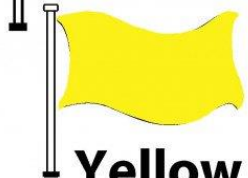
BEACH FLAG WARNING SYSTEM



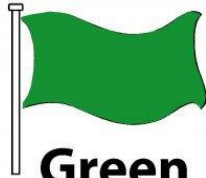
Double Red
Water Closed to
Public Use



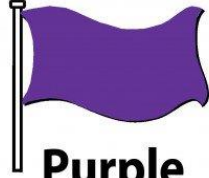
Red
High Hazard
(rough conditions,
such as strong surf
and or currents)



Yellow
Medium Hazard
(light surf and or
currents)

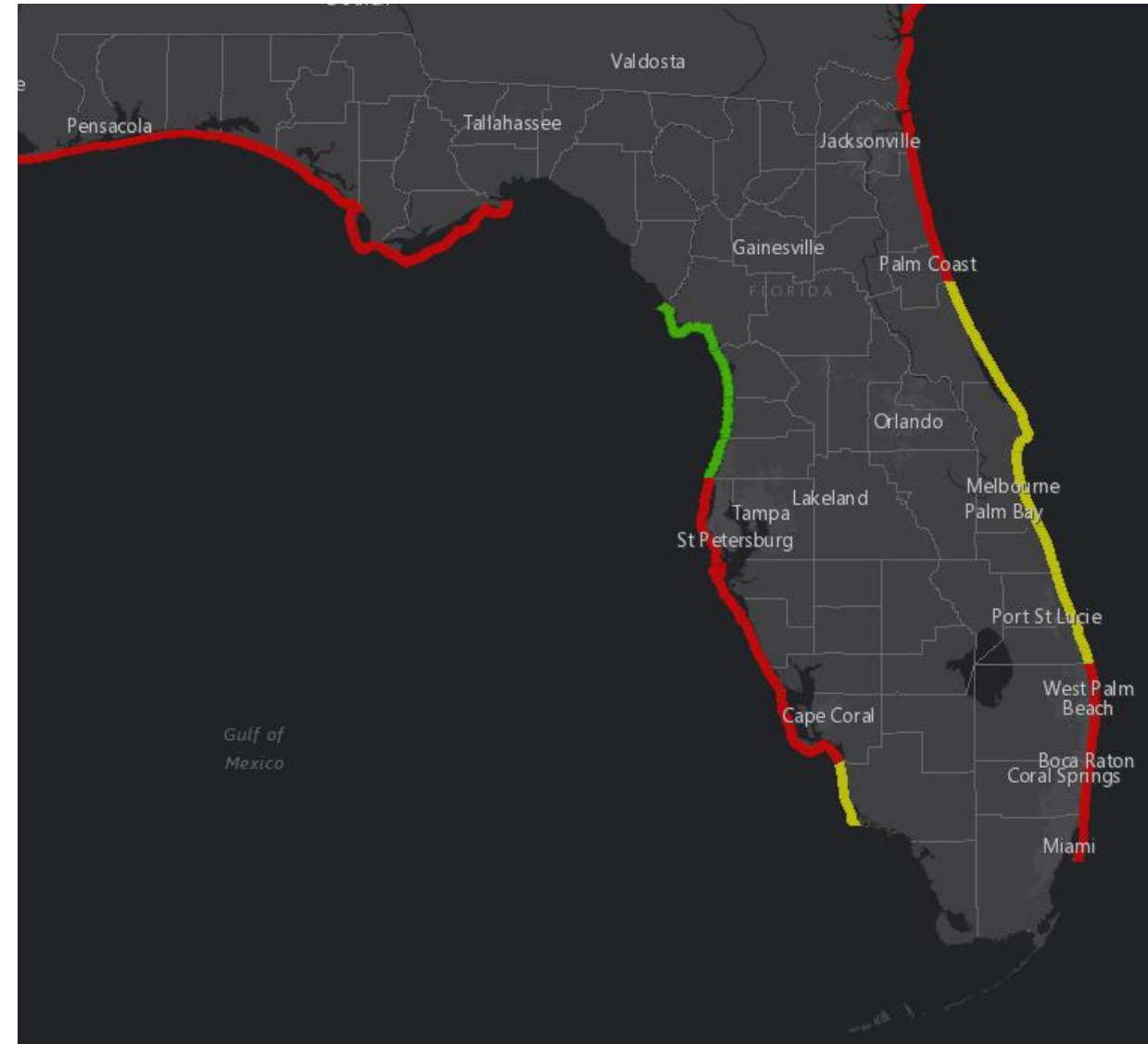


Green
Low Hazard
(calm conditions)



Purple
Marine Pest
(jellyfish, stingrays
& dangerous fish)

Elevated rip current risk statewide, with the greatest threat in the Panhandle and Southeast Florida.





Overall Summary

Tropical Storm Laura – Near Cuba

- The center of Tropical Storm Laura is located near the Isle of Youth, or about 175 miles south of Key West, Florida.
- Maximum sustained winds remain at 60mph. Laura's strength should remain nearly steady as it passes over western Cuba followed by significant strengthening over the Gulf of Mexico.
- Laura is moving toward the west-northwest at 20 mph, and a northwestward motion should continue for the next few days.
- Laura is making its closest approach to the lower Florida Keys. A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for the Lower and Middle Keys.
- Once in the Gulf of Mexico, a strengthening hurricane is forecast to turn north towards Texas and Louisiana with a Category 2 currently forecast. If the storm is quick or organized once in the Gulf, a Major Hurricane can't be ruled out.

Tropical Storm Marco – Northern Gulf of Mexico

- The center of Marco is located about 125 miles southwest of Pensacola, Florida.
- Marco continues to weaken with winds now only around 40 mph. All wind and surge warnings have been cancelled.
- Marco is moving toward the NW at 7 mph.
- **Wind shear is keeping most of the showers and thunderstorms northeast of the center. Even as the storm continues west, numerous rain bands are expected in the Panhandle tonight**



Florida Summary

Florida Outlook:

- **Tropical Storm Laura:**
 - A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for the Lower and Middle Florida Keys.
 - Tropical storm force winds are ongoing in squalls the Florida Keys: 50-70mph, 30-45mph outside of squalls
 - Minor coastal flooding is possible at high tide tonight, with water levels around 1'.
 - Isolated tornadoes are possible in any outer bands across South Florida and the Keys Monday.
 - Quick moving squalls will limit the flash flood threat.
 - Dangerous rip currents and high surf are expected at all Florida beaches from Laura and Marco. Minor to locally significant beach erosion is expected. Wave heights 3-6' along Atlantic beaches.
- **Tropical Storm Marco:**
 - Even with the center going west of Florida, rainfall extends well east of the center and will impact the Panhandle tonight.
 - Flash Flood Watch until late tonight for much of the Panhandle and western Big Bend.
 - Locally heavy rainfall may lead to isolated flash flooding, especially where outer bands train over the same areas in the western Panhandle. 2-4" of rain are forecast, with localized totals of 6-8+".
 - Depending on how much rain falls, minor river flooding is possible over the next few days.
 - Isolated tornadoes are possible in any other bands across the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend throughout Monday, especially along the immediate coast. A Tornado Watch is in effect until 11 PM CT for the eastern and central Panhandle.
 - Minor coastal flooding is possible at high tide with tides running about 1-2' above normal.
 - Dangerous rip currents and high surf are expected at all Florida beaches from Laura and Marco. Minor to locally significant beach erosion is expected. Wave heights 4-8' in the Panhandle on Monday.

The next briefing packet will be issued Tuesday Morning with the 11 AM advisory. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at www.hurricanes.gov.



TROPICAL UPDATE



Created by:

Michael Spagnolo, Deputy State Meteorologist

Michael.Spagnolo@em.myflorida.com

State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic_id=SERT_Met_Tropics.

Other reports available for subscription are available at:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?preferences=true>