

TROPICAL UPDATE



8:00 AM EDT

Monday, September 14, 2020

Tropical Storm Sally, Hurricane Paulette, Tropical Depression Rene, Tropical Storm Teddy, Tropical Depression #21, Gulf of Mexico Low (10%), Next Tropical Wave (40%)

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 Sally

8 AM ET Sunday: Florida Threats & Changes Since Last Packet





Overview/Recent Changes:

Sally did not strengthen overnight, but appears more organized on radar and satellite. Thus, strengthening to a hurricane is still forecast to occur later today. The track shifted east about 30-40 miles increasing the possibility of a landfall in Mississippi/Alabama with greater wind and rain impacts in the western Panhandle. A significant, multi-day rainfall event is becoming increasingly likely in the Pensacola area. Do NOT focus on the center of the cone as impacts will EXTEND WELL EAST of the forecast cone.



Tropical Weather Outlook

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

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From the National Hurricane Center: Tropical Storm Sally



- The center of Tropical Storm Sally is located about 130 miles south of Pensacola, FL
- Maximum sustained winds are near 65 mph and Sally is moving to the west-northwest at 8 mph.
- Sally will continue strengthening as it moves westnorthwestward over the Gulf of Mexico, and Sally should become a hurricane later today.
- Sally will slow down on Tuesday and Wednesday as it turns very slowly northward and eventually northeast.

Sally will bring very heavy rainfall, tropical-storm-force wind gusts, minor storm surge, and isolated tornadoes to the Panhandle.

Do NOT focus on the center of the cone! The impacts can and will extend well outside of the cone!

Key Messages

FDEN

From the National Hurricane Center

Key Messages for Tropical Storm Sally Advisory 11: 4:00 AM CDT Mon Sep 14, 2020

1. It is too early to determine where Sally's center will move onshore given the uncertainty in the timing and location of Sally's northward turn near the central Gulf Coast. Users should not focus on the details of the official forecast track, since NHC's average forecast error at 48 hours is around 80 miles, and dangerous storm surge, rainfall, and wind hazards will extend well away from the center.

2. An extremely dangerous and life-threatening storm surge is expected for areas outside the southeastern Louisiana Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System from Port Fourchon, Louisiana, to the Alabama/Florida border, where a Storm Surge Warning is in effect. Residents in these areas should follow any advice given by local officials.

3. Hurricane conditions are expected by late today within portions of the Hurricane Warning area from Morgan City, Louisiana, to the Mississippi/Alabama border, including Metropolitan New Orleans, with tropical storm conditions likely to begin by late this morning. Preparations should be rushed to completion in those areas.

4. Sally could continue to produce flash flooding across central and northern Florida and prolong existing minor river flooding across west-central Florida through today. Widespread significant flash flooding and minor to isolated major river flooding is likely across southeastern Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama through the middle of the week. Flooding impacts are expected to spread farther across the Southeast U.S. through the week.



For more information go to hurricanes.gov





Sally continued to organize overnight producing strong thunderstorms much closer to the center than previous days. However, it is still lopsided, with some light to moderate wind shear impacting the system. Most of the rainfall is currently east and southeast of the center, marked by the "L".



As of 7:15 AM ET



Tropical Storm Sally is located off the coast of the Panhandle and is becoming better organized. Rainfall from Sally continues to impact the West Coast with the outer rain bands now moving into the Panhandle.

FDEN



Damaging Wind Threat Overview

Tropical Storm Sally

Wind gusts of 30-50mph are possible across the Florida Panhandle in heavier showers/thunderstorms today, Tuesday, and possibly Wednesday.

Sustained tropical storm force winds around 40 mph with gusts to 55 mph are possible along the immediate coast of the Panhandle where the Tropical Storm Warnings are in effect.

In the western Panhandle, wind gusts of 60-70 mph could occur Tuesday/Tuesday night.

These risks may increase or decrease in the western Panhandle depending on the track and intensity of Sally.

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





Time of Arrival & Wind Speed Probabilities

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



Tallahassee: 13% (+2) Apalachicola: 32% (+1) Panama City: 45% (+4) Destin: 41% (+12) Milton: 52% (+17) Pensacola: 59% (+18) Pensacola NAS: 81%

With the tropical storm force wind field growing to the east and north of the center overnight, and the track shifting east, probabilities have increased.

Tropical storm force wind gusts are possible along the coast of the Panhandle today. Sustained tropical storm force winds are most likely to begin this evening.



Hurricane Wind Speed Probabilities

Probabilities of Sustained Hurricane Force Winds (>74 mph)



Milton: 2% Pensacola: 3% Pensacola NAS: 6%

The odds of hurricane force winds in the far western Panhandle is currently less than 10%.



Wind Watches and Warnings In Effect Until Further Notice

Tropical Storm Warnings: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, south Walton, coastal Bay, and coastal Gulf.

Tropical Storm Watches: coastal Franklin County

Impacts limited to isolated power outages and a few downed trees.



Tropical Storm & Hurricanes Watches Versus Warnings





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





ther.gov/mob



Wind Speeds Today

Next 12 Hours

Wind speeds of 20-30 mph are expected in the Panhandle today, increasing tonight.

Higher gusts are likely in squalls!

The highest winds will likely occur tomorrow and tomorrow night.



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Flood Threat Overview

Tropical Storm Sally

The greatest flood threat is across the Panhandle and Big Bend starting tonight and continuing through the day on Wednesday. However, flooding is possible nearly anywhere in the state due to Sally today and tomorrow.

5 Day Rainfall Totals:

- Northeast Florida & Peninsula: 1-3"
- Big Bend: 2-4", locally 6"
- Panhandle: 6-10", locally 12"
- Pensacola: 10-15", locally 20"

Flash Flood Watches are in effect for the Panhandle until Thursday morning!

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



Flash Flood Outlooks

From the Weather Prediction Center



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

A significant flash flood risk exists in the western Panhandle through the middle of this week.

An isolated flash flood is possible across the Peninsula today and Tuesday.



Flash Flood Risk Categories

Understanding the Weather Prediction Center Risk Scale

Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

No Area/Label	MARGINAL (MRGL)	SLIGHT (SLGT)	MODERATE (MDT)	HIGH (HIGH)		
Flash floods are generally not expected.	Isolated flash floods possible	Scattered flash floods possible	Numerous flash floods likely	Widespread flash floods expected		
www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov @NWSWPC	Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.	Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.	Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.	Severe, widespread flash flooding. Areas that don't normally experience flash flooding, could. Lives and property in greater danger.		
Flash flooding near me?	(1,2,2,2,2,2)	$\{(A, A, b)\}$	res des			
WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER	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%					



Flood/Flash Flood Watches

NWS Links: Mobile | Tallahassee | Tampa Bay | Melbourne | Miami

Flash Flood Watches until Thursday morning: All of Region 1 & Franklin, Liberty, and Wakulla County

Areal Flood Watches until this evening:

Coastal Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier

River flooding is also likely across North Florida as we head into next week. River flooding continues along the West Coast.



Flash Flood Guidance

How Much Rain is Needed to Create Flash Flooding?



Along the West Coast, it will only take about 1.5-3" of rain within 1 hour or 3-4" within 6 hours to cause flash flooding due to recent heavy rainfall.

Elsewhere in the state, it will take about 3-4" in 1 hour or 5+" within 6 hours to cause flash flooding.

Rainfall Totals Next 5 Days

Ending 8 AM ET Saturday 9/19 – Tropical Storm Sally



An additional 1-3" of rain is expected over the next 5 days in the Peninsula and Northeast Florida. Significant rainfall is still to come in the Panhandle.

5 Day Rainfall Totals:

- Northeast Florida & Peninsula: 1-3"
- Big Bend: 2-4", locally 6"
- Panhandle: 6-10", locally 12"
- Pensacola: 10-15", locally 20"

Rainfall impacts will extend well away from the center.

These rainfall totals may also increase in Northwest Florida if the track were to shift northward or eastward.

PROFILE OF THE GOVERNOR

Current & Forecast River Flooding

Southeast River Forecast Center

Rivers Currently in or Forecast to Reach Minor Flood Stage:

- <u>Peace River at Bartow</u> RISING
- <u>Peace River at Arcadia</u> RISING
- <u>Myakka River at Myakka River State Park</u> RISING
- Ocklawaha River at Rodman Dam STEADY
- <u>Cypress Creek at Worthington Gardens</u> RISING

With heavy rainfall expected in Northwest Florida, additional river rises may occur over the next several days in the Panhandle.

More details on river levels available at the <u>Southeast River Forecast Center website</u>.





Storm Surge Threat Overview

Tropical Storm Sally

About 1-3' of storm surge is expected across the Panhandle and Big Bend through the next few days. Some parts of the Pensacola area could see up to 4'.

Tides are already running about 1-2.5' above normal along the Panhandle and Big Bend right now, which is resulting in beach erosion and minor flooding.

Minor flooding is expected at high tide through the middle of the week in the Panhandle and Big Bend.

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



Storm Surge/Coastal Flooding

Through Mid-Week

FDEM





Gulf of Mexico at Panama City Beach

Hydrograph Link



3 Water begins to flood low lying areas in Camp Helen State Park and on south facing portions of Powell Lake in Bay County. Areas near beach access continue to flood. Erosion from wave action begins along the Bay County Beaches.

2.2 Where breaks in the dune line tobeach access exist, water begins to floodaccess areas from Inlet Beach to St AndrewsState Park in Panama City Beach.

1.7 Water reaches the dune line in several places along the Bay County Beaches.



Gulf of Mexico at Apalachicola

<u>lydrograph Link</u>



2.7 In Apalachicola, Water Street floods as well as the Battery Park under the John Gorrie Bridge. In Eastpoint, low lying areas near the causeway begin to flood at this level.

2.2 In Gulf County, water will overwash SR-30E at the Stump Hole. Backyards of residences on the north side of Indian Pass Lagoon will begin to flood. Water approaches Indian Pass Road on the west side of the Lagoon.

1.9 The boat ramp at the city docks in Apalachicola will flood.



Forecast Wave Heights

Early This Week



High surf of 7-10 feet is expected at Panhandle Beaches with 3-5 feet along the rest of the Gulf Coast. Wave heights will begin to decrease in the Gulf on Wednesday. In the Atlantic, swells from distance Hurricane Paulette will continue wave heights 3-5' even after Sally moves inland. Minor beach erosion is also likely with a few spots of more significant erosion possible in the western Panhandle.



Rip Current Outlook



Breezy winds from Tropical Storm Sally and distant swells from Hurricane Paulette along the East Coast are creating a HIGH rip current risk at ALL Florida beaches.



PHICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Severe Weather Outlooks

From the Storm Prediction Center



Isolated tornadoes are possible in the Panhandle and western Big Bend starting later today in the outer rain bands from Sally, and continuing through Tuesday and Wednesday.

Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

THUNDERSTORMS	1 - MARGINAL	2 - SLIGHT	3 - ENHANCED	4 - MODERATE	5 - HIGH
(no label)	(MRGL)	(SLGT)	(ENH)	(MDT)	(HIGH)
No severe*	Isolated severe	Scattered	Numerous	Widespread	Widespread
thunderstorms	thunderstorms	severe storms	severe storms	severe storms	severe storms
expected	possible	possible	possible	likely	expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> 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	

From the National Hurricane Center – Hurricane Paulette



- Paulette made landfall over Bermuda overnight
- Strengthening is forecast to continue as Paulette could become a major hurricane as it turns northeastward Tuesday/Wednesday.

Paulette poses no direct threat to Florida, but swells will impact the East Coast this week, increasing the risk for rip currents.

From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Depression Rene



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• Rene is likely to dissipate later today in the open waters of the Atlantic.

This system is not a threat to Florida.

From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Storm Teddy



- The center of Tropical Storm Teddy is located about 1,400 miles east of the Lesser Antilles.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 40 mph, and the system is moving to the westnorthwest at 14 mph.
- Teddy is likely to become a hurricane on Tuesday and a major hurricane by Friday.
- A gradual turn towards the northwest is expected mid-week, keeping the system out of the Caribbean.

This system does not need to be monitored at this time and is likely to recurve out to sea.

From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Storm Teddy



- A short-lived tropical depression formed near the Cabo Verde Islands overnight and is expected to be short-lived as it moves northwest into a hostile environment.
- It may briefly become a tropical storm. The next name on the list is Vicky.

This system poses no threat to land.

Tropical Weather Outlook

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





Disorganized showers and thunderstorms over the western and southwestern Gulf of Mexico are associated with a weak area of low pressure.

Development of this system is not expected due to strong upper-level winds while it moves slowly southwestward and then southward over the western Gulf of Mexico during the next few days.

This system poses no threat to Florida.

*Formation chance through 48 hrs...low...near 0% *Formation chance through 5 days...low...10%

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Tropical Weather Outlook

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



A tropical wave near the west coast of Africa is producing disorganized shower and thunderstorm activity.

Environmental conditions appear to be conducive for slow development of the system this week as the wave moves westward at about 10 mph over the far eastern tropical Atlantic.

This system does not need to be monitored at this time.

*Formation chance through 48 hrs...low...10% *Formation chance through 5 days...medium...40%



Overall Summary

Tropical Storm Sally

- The center of Tropical Storm Sally is located about 130 miles south of Pensacola, FL
- Maximum sustained winds are near 65 mph and Sally is moving to the west-northwest at 8 mph.
- Sally will continue strengthening as it moves west-northwestward over the Gulf of Mexico, and Sally should become a hurricane later today.
- Sally will slow down on Tuesday and Wednesday as it turns very slowly northward and eventually northeast.
- Heavy rainfall, gusty winds, and minor coastal flooding is expected in the Panhandle.

Gulf of Mexico Low

• A trough of low pressure over the southwestern Gulf of Mexico is not expected to develop due to hostile upper-level winds from Sally.

Hurricane Paulette

• Paulette made landfall over Bermuda overnight and is now moving out to sea. It is forecast to briefly become a major hurricane.

Tropical Depression Rene

• Rene is forecast to dissipate later today and poses no threat to land.



Overall Summary

Tropical Storm Teddy (formerly Tropical Depression #20)

- The center of Tropical Storm Teddy is located about 1,400 miles east of the Lesser Antilles.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 40 mph, and the system is moving to the west-northwest at 14 mph.
- Teddy is likely to become a hurricane on Tuesday and a major hurricane by Friday.
- A gradual turn towards the northwest is expected mid-week, keeping the system out of the Caribbean.
- It is most likely to continue heading out to sea later in the week.

Tropical Depression #21 (formerly Invest 97L)

- A short-lived tropical system has developed near the Cabo Verde Islands. It will not be a threat to land.
- It may briefly become a tropical storm. The next name on the list is Vicky.

Next Tropical Wave Over Africa

- A tropical wave near the west coast of Africa is producing disorganized shower and thunderstorm activity.
- Environmental conditions appear to be conducive for slow development of the system this week as the wave moves westward at about 10 mph over the far eastern tropical Atlantic.
- The National Hurricane Center gives this system a 10% (low) chance of development over the next 48 hours but a 40% (medium) chance over the next 5 days.



Florida Outlook

Florida Outlook:

- Impacts will extend well outside of the cone! It is important to not focus on the center of the forecast track for Tropical Storm Sally.
- Even with a landfall to the west in Louisiana/Mississippi, a significant rainfall event is forecast for the western Panhandle.
- Tropical Storm Sally will likely produce heavy rainfall and gusty winds across the Panhandle on Monday, Tuesday, and possibly Wednesday.
- Tropical Storm Warnings: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, south Walton, coastal Bay, and coastal Gulf
- Tropical Storm Watches: coastal Franklin County
- Tropical storm force winds could begin along the Panhandle as early as later this morning, but more likely beginning this evening. Gusts to tropical storm force have already been observed along the coast in squalls.
- An additional 1-3" of rainfall is expected in Northeast Florida and the Peninsula over the next couple of days. Localized near 6" are possible.
- 6-10" of rainfall is expected in the Panhandle with localized totals of 12-18" possible.
- Rises on rivers are expected along the West Coast and in Northwest Florida over the next several days.
- Flood Watches continue for coastal Southwest Florida until this evening with Flash Flood Watches for the Panhandle until Thursday morning.
- Isolated tornadoes are possible in the Panhandle and Big Bend today and continuing through mid-week.
- Minor coastal flooding is expected at high tides over the next several days in the Panhandle and Big Bend. 1-3' of storm surge is expected in these areas with up to 4' in Pensacola. Coastal Flood Advisories are in effect.
- High surf, dangerous rip currents, and beach erosion are expected at Panhandle beaches for the next several days.
- Paulette will generate swells that reach the Atlantic beaches, elevating the rip current risk through the end of the week.
- Direct impacts from any other systems in the tropics are not expected.

The next briefing packet will be issued Monday evening with the 5PM advisory, unless there are significant changes before then. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



TROPICAL UPDATE



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