



TROPICAL UPDATE



5:00 PM EDT

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Potential Tropical Cyclone Three

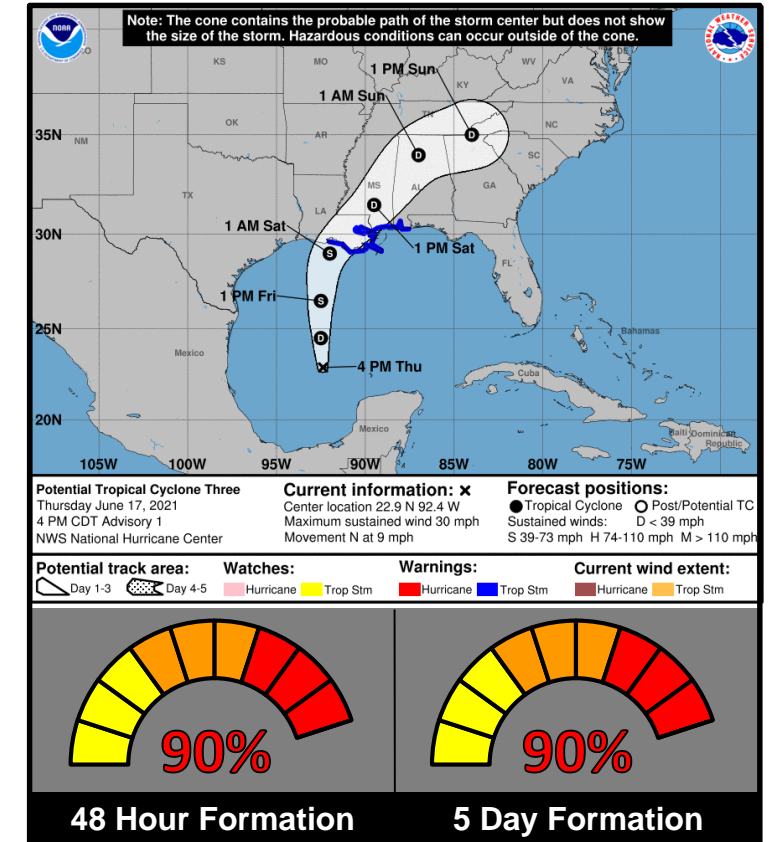
This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an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



Potential Tropical Cyclone Three

5 PM ET Thursday: Florida Threats & Changes Since Last Packet

	MINIMAL	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
WINDS					
STORM SURGE					
FLASH FLOODING					
TORNADOES					
RIP CURRENTS					



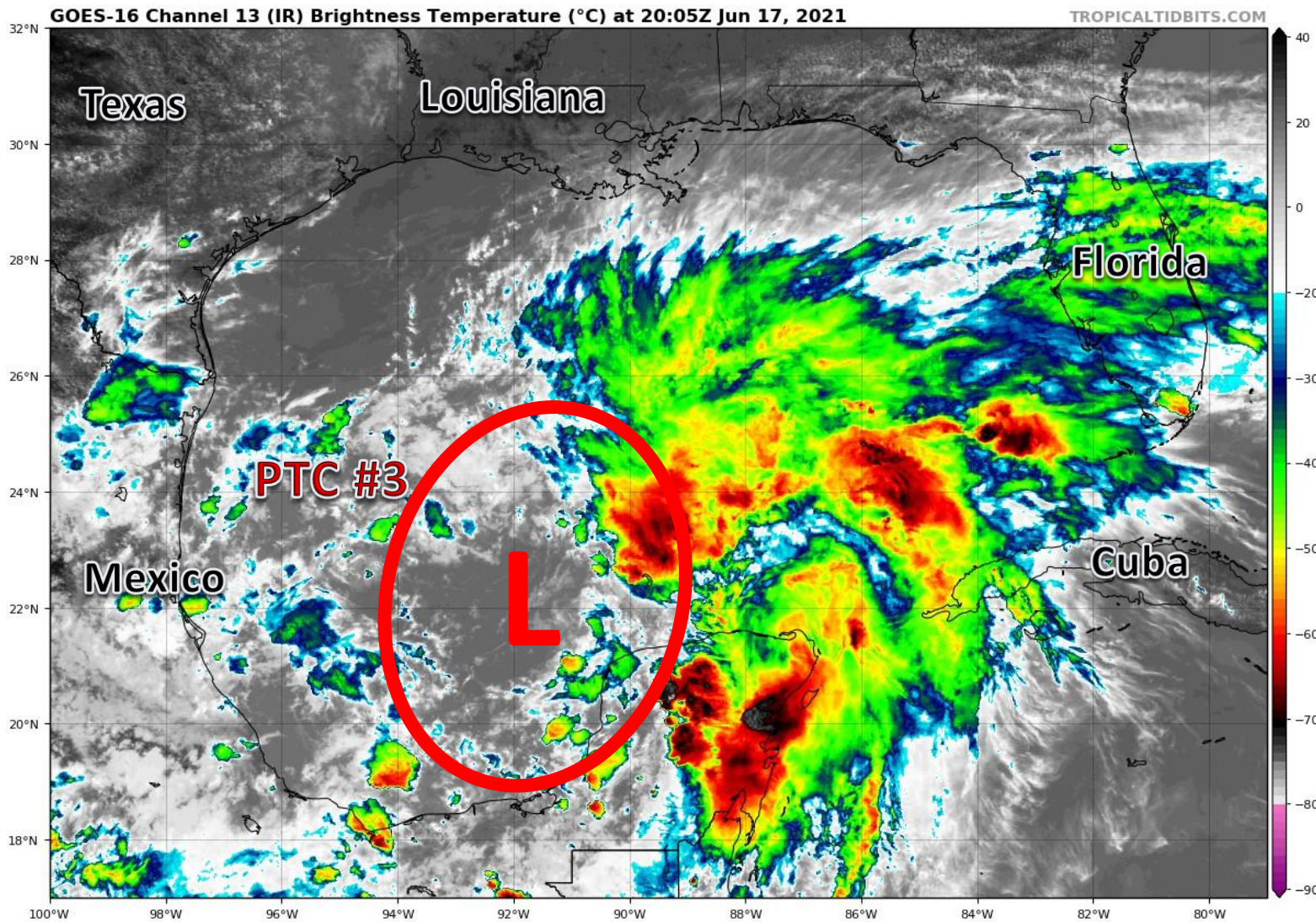
Overview/Recent Changes:

Invest 92L over the southwestern Gulf of Mexico has now been designated as Potential Tropical Cyclone #3 in order to issue Tropical Storm Warnings for the Gulf Coast not including Florida. This system will likely become a tropical or subtropical storm tonight or Friday, at which time it would be named Claudette. Despite making landfall in Louisiana, heavy rain, isolated tornadoes, and dangerous rip currents will be possible in the Panhandle.

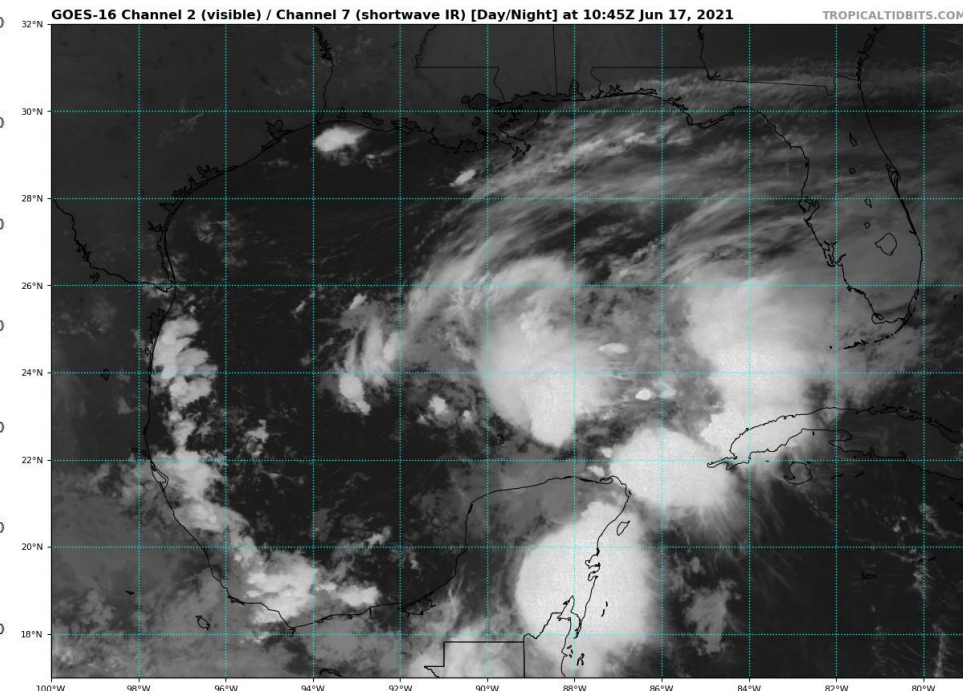


Satellite Imagery

Gulf of Mexico – Potential Tropical Cyclone Three



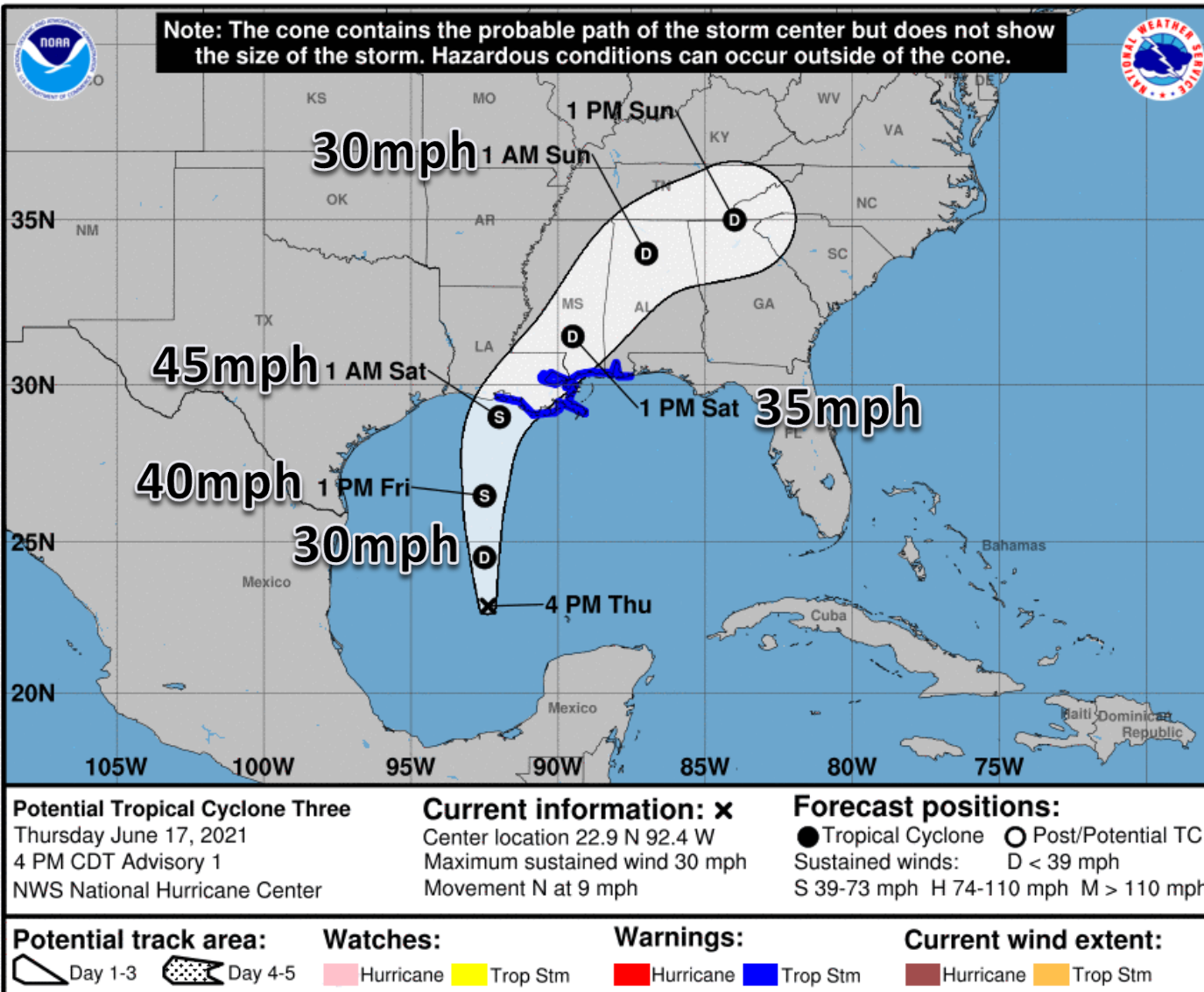
Potential Tropical Cyclone #3 remains disorganized. The center is still not well-defined and broad, and most thunderstorms are displaced to the east of the center. This will remain the case through PTC #3's life.





Official Forecast Track – PTC #3

From the National Hurricane Center – ([LINK](#))



- Potential Tropical Cyclone #3 has been designated in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico.
- PTC #3 is located about 475 miles south of Morgan City, LA, or about 610 miles south-southwest of Pensacola, FL.
- PTC #3 is moving to the north at 9 mph. This general motion is expected during the next day or so with a slight increase in forward speed.
- PTC #3 will then turn northeastward over the Southeast US.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 30 mph, and some strengthening is expected tonight and Friday.
- The next name on the list is Claudette.

*****DO NOT FOCUS ON WHERE THE CENTER GOES*****
Impacts will extend well to the east of the center of the storm, including the Florida Panhandle. Flash flooding, dangerous rip currents, and isolated tornadoes will all be possible.



Key Messages

From the National Hurricane Center



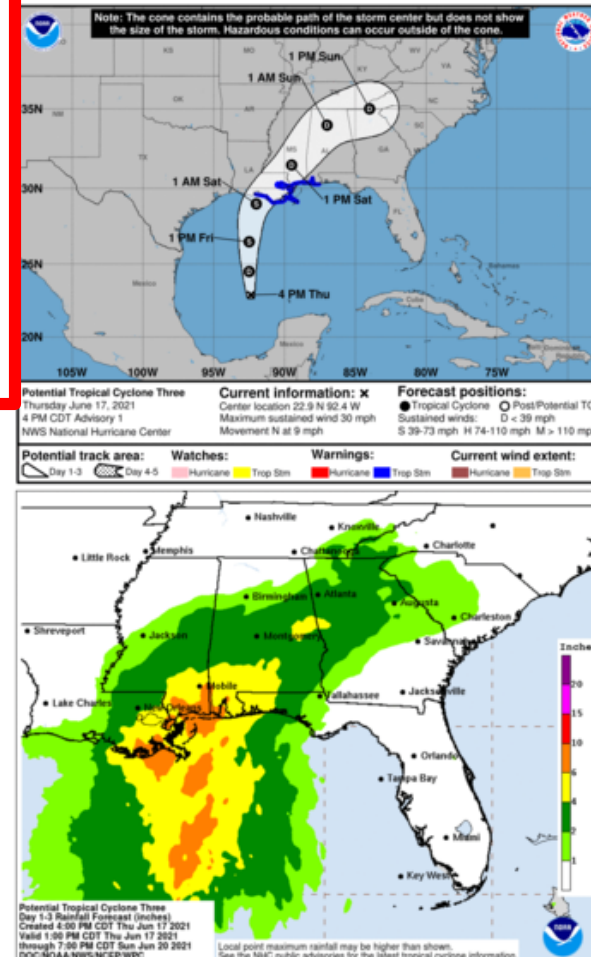
Key Messages for Potential Tropical Cyclone Three

Advisory 1: 4:00 PM CDT Thu Jun 17, 2021



1. The system is expected to produce heavy rainfall and considerable flash, urban, and small stream flooding beginning Friday and continuing through the weekend along the central Gulf coast and spreading northeastward into the Southern Appalachians.

2. Tropical storm conditions are expected to begin Friday in areas near and well to the east of the center along portions of the central Gulf Coast from Intracoastal City, Louisiana, to the Alabama/Florida border, including New Orleans.

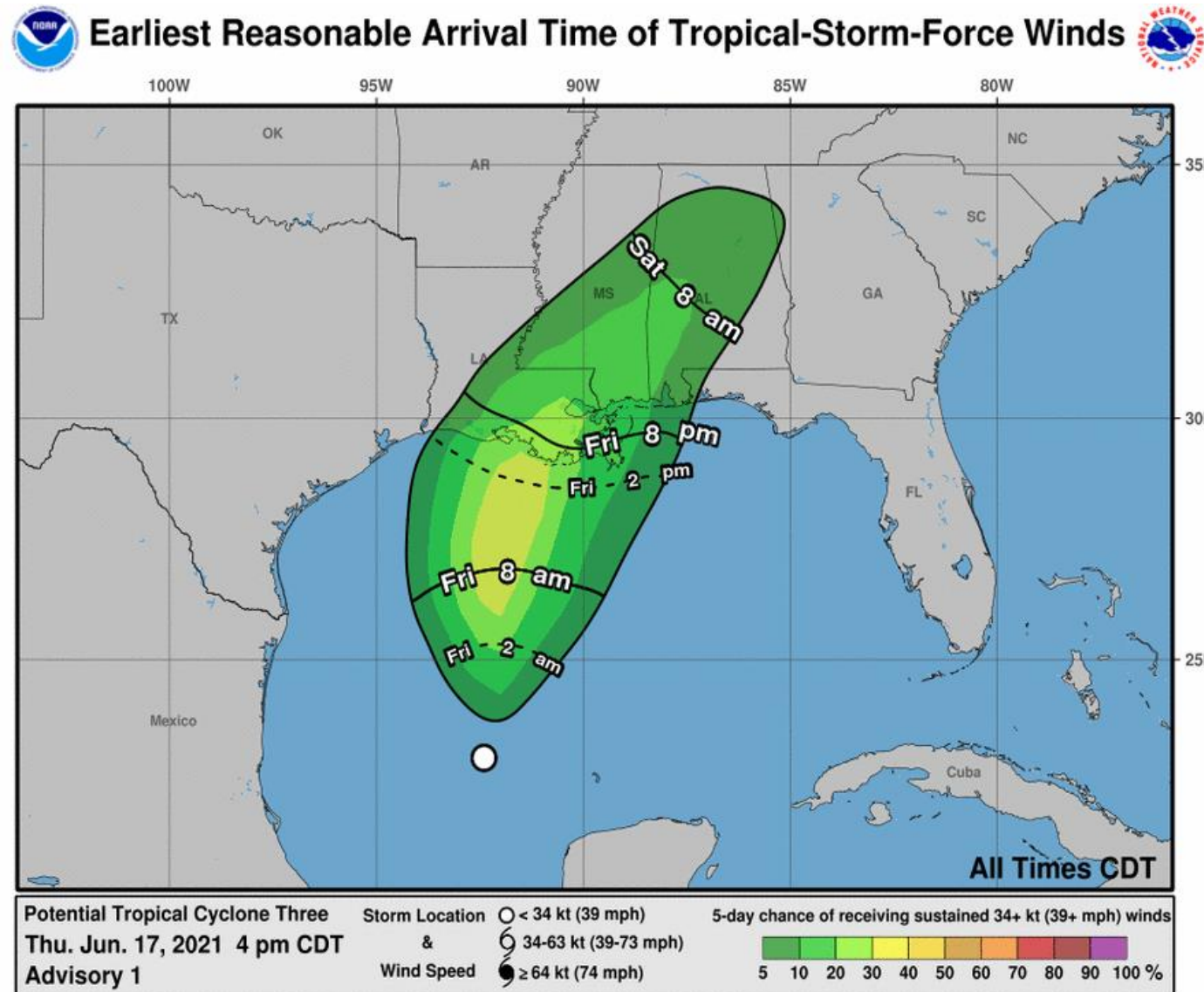


For more information go to hurricanes.gov



Time of Arrival & Wind Speed Probabilities

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



Pensacola NAS: 4%

Milton: 4%

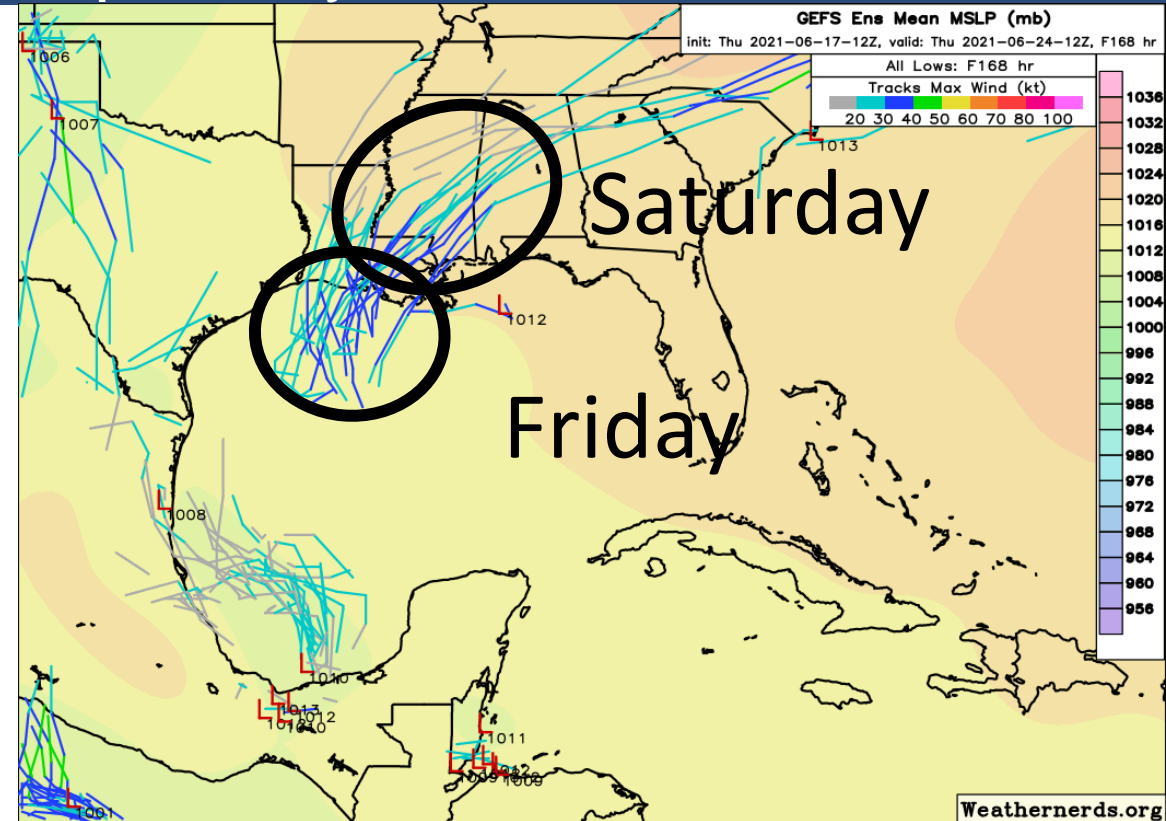
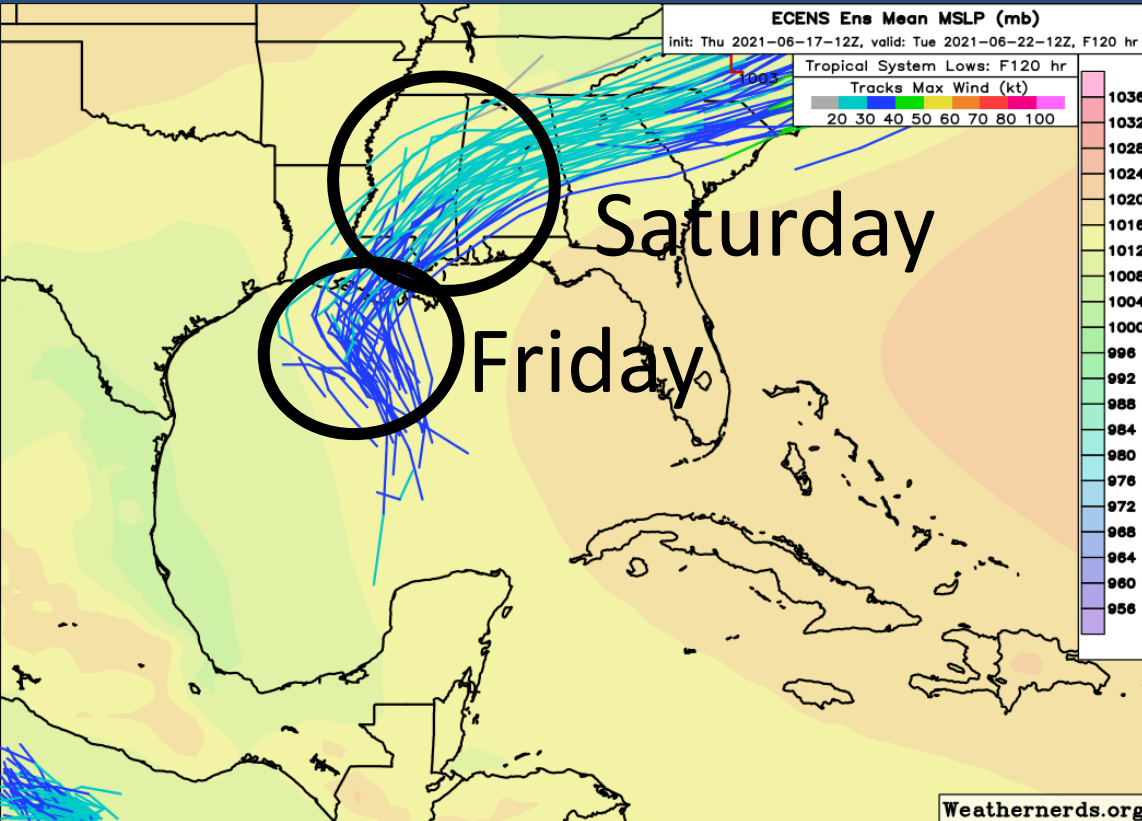
Destin 3%

IF tropical storm force winds were to occur in the western Panhandle, the could begin as early as Friday night, but would most likely begin Saturday morning.



Model Forecast Tracks Next 5 Days

Ensemble Models – Potential Tropical Cyclone Three



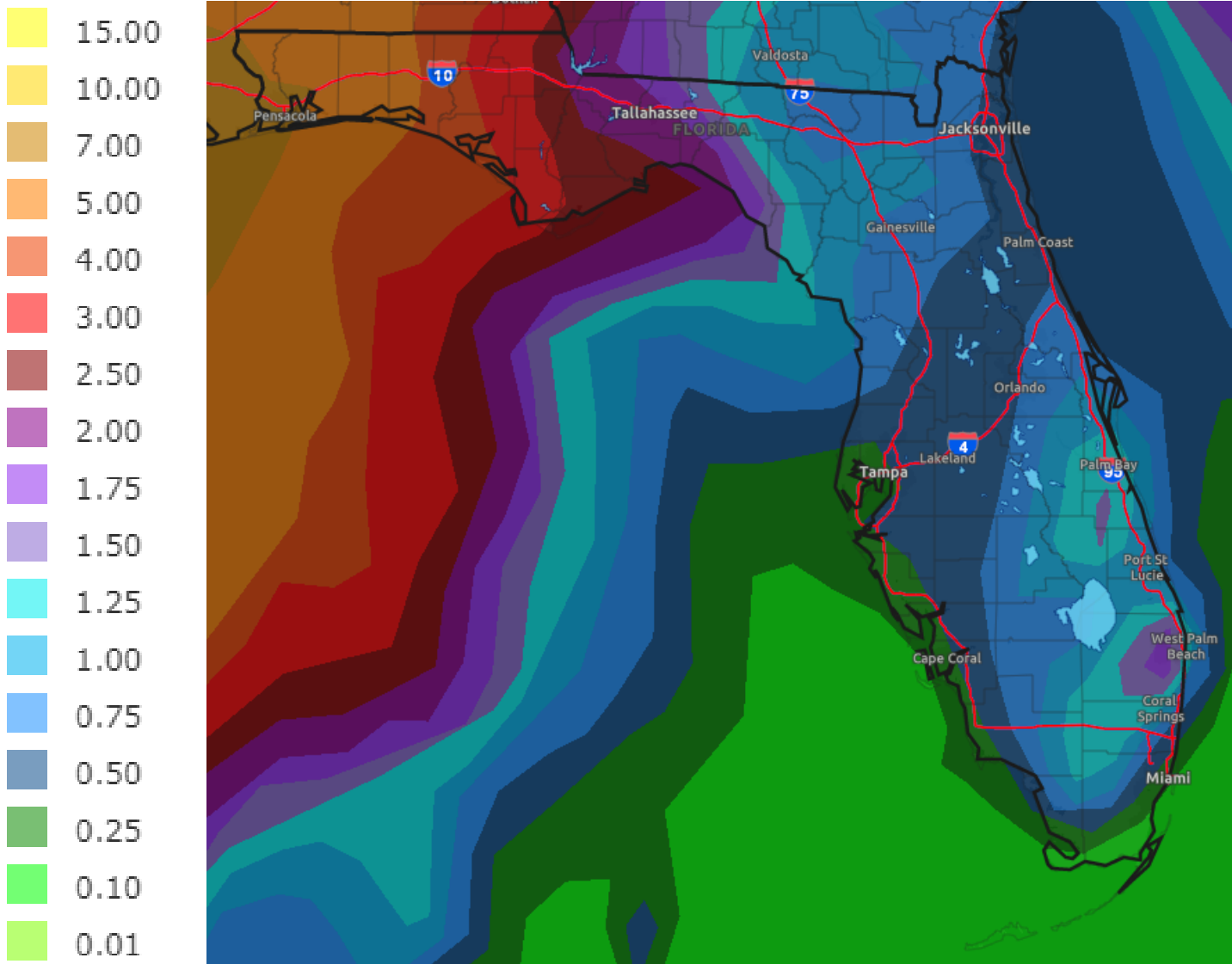
Depending on exactly where the center officially sets up and any center reformations, the system is likely headed toward Louisiana. Additionally, most models keep this weak—a mid-grade tropical storm at best. However, it's important to not focus on the exact center as this system approaches the coast.

Regardless of development, this system will likely be lopsided with most of the rainfall being (well) east of the center. Heavy rainfall is possible in the Panhandle even with “the center of the storm” tracking into western Louisiana.



Rainfall Totals Next 7 Days

Ending 8 AM ET Thursday



A widespread 4-8" of rain is currently forecast across the Panhandle over the next 7 days, possibly up to 10" in western areas. Localized higher amounts are possible. Rainfall totals of 2-4" are possible across the Big Bend.

These rainfall totals are highly dependent on the track and organization of the system, both of which are still uncertain.

The rainfall across the Peninsula is associated with thunderstorms over the next few days and is not related to the tropical system.

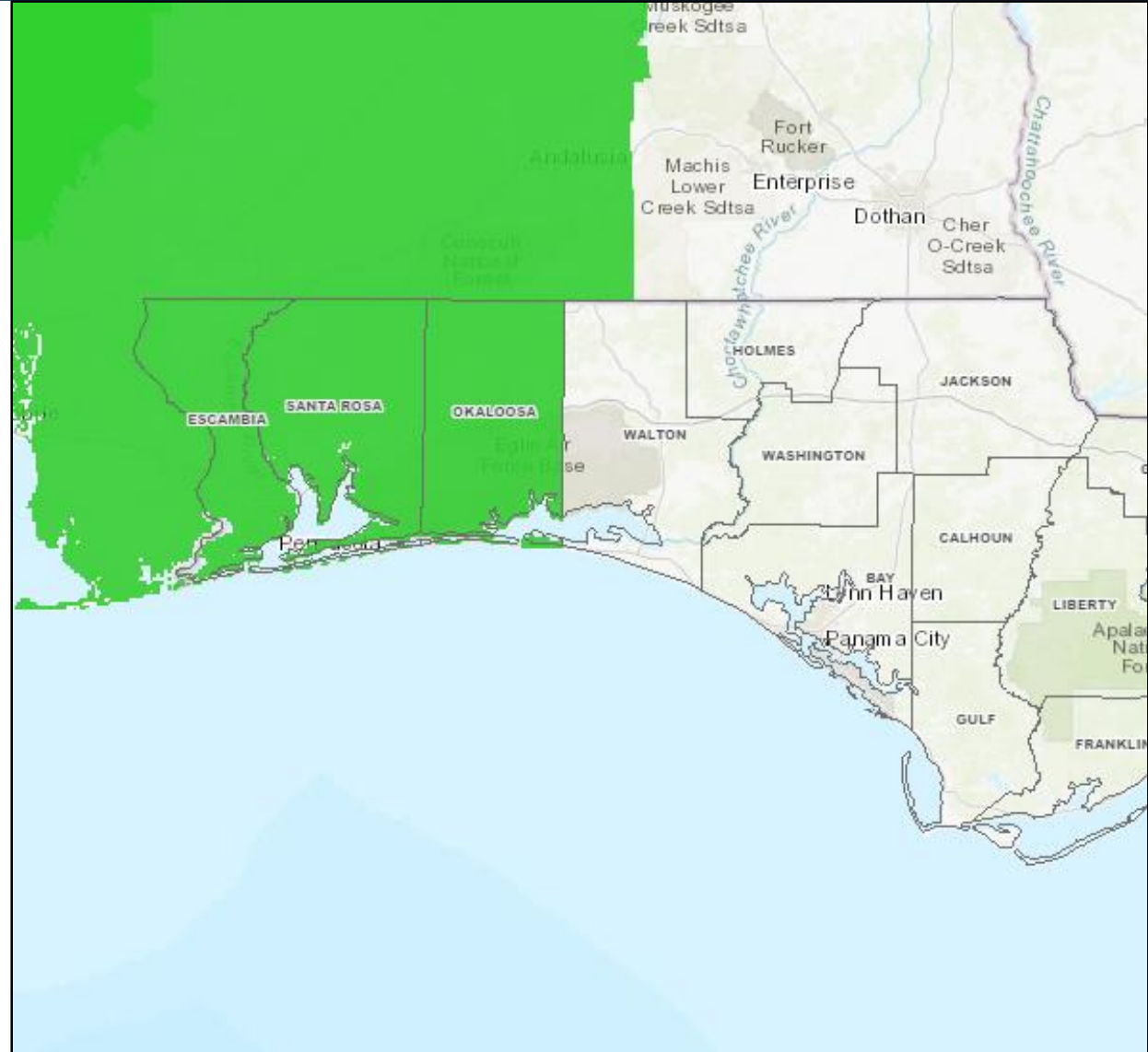


Flood Watches

Links: [NWS Mobile](#)

The Flash Flood Watch for Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties begins at 12 PM CT on Friday and ends 6 AM CT on Sunday.

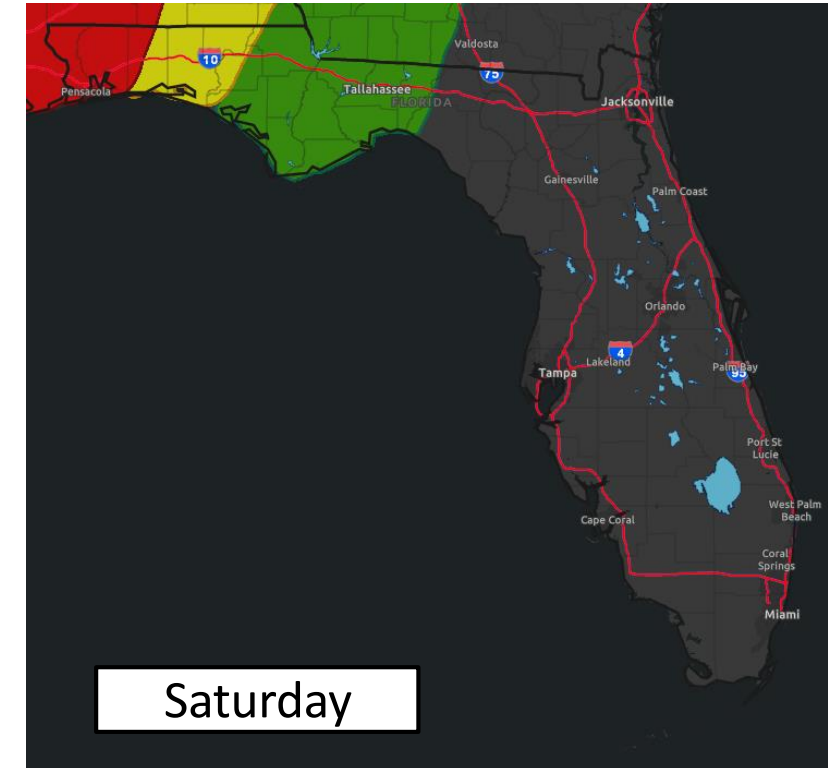
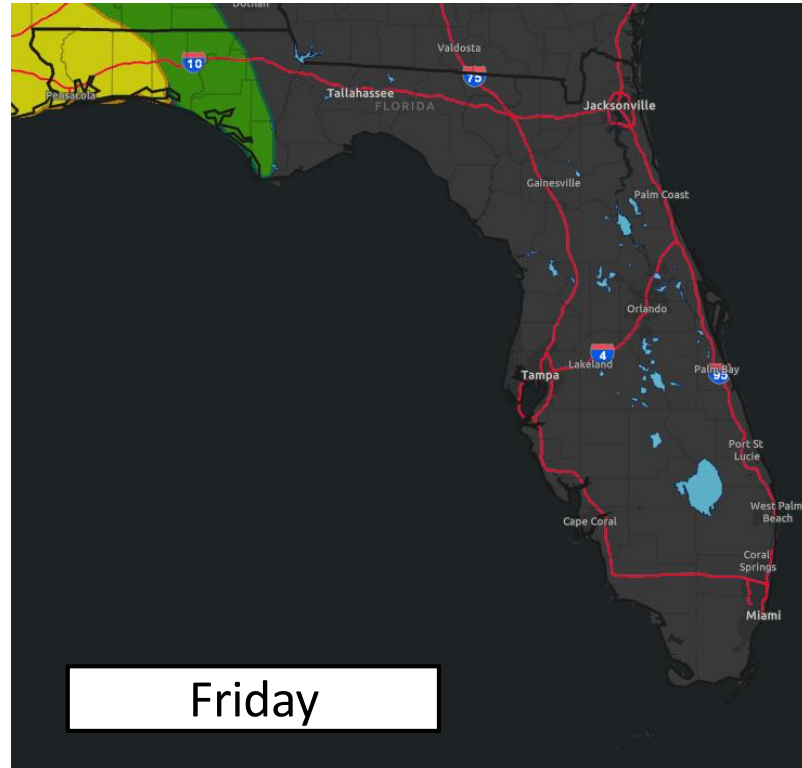
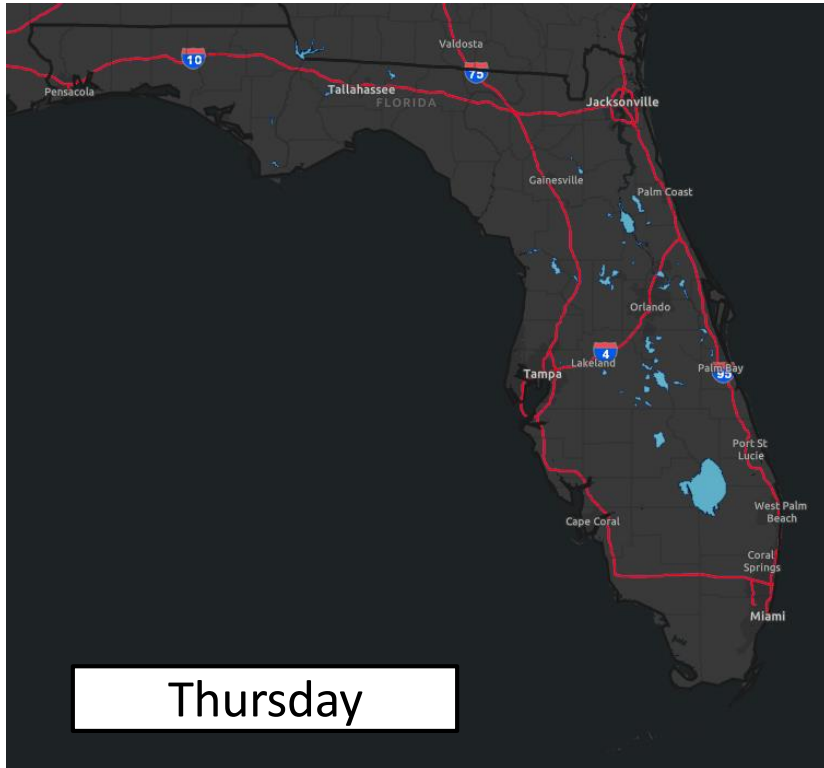
Widespread rainfall totals of 4-8 inches are expected with localized totals of 10 inches or more possible.





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 line

HIGH: > 50%

SLGT: 10%-20%

MDT: 20%-50%

MRGL: 5%-10%

Bands of heavy rain from PTC #3 are likely to impact the Panhandle beginning late Friday into Saturday. Should a heavy rain band begin training over the Panhandle, flash flooding would then become likely.



Flash Flood Risk Categories

Understanding the Weather Prediction Center Risk Scale

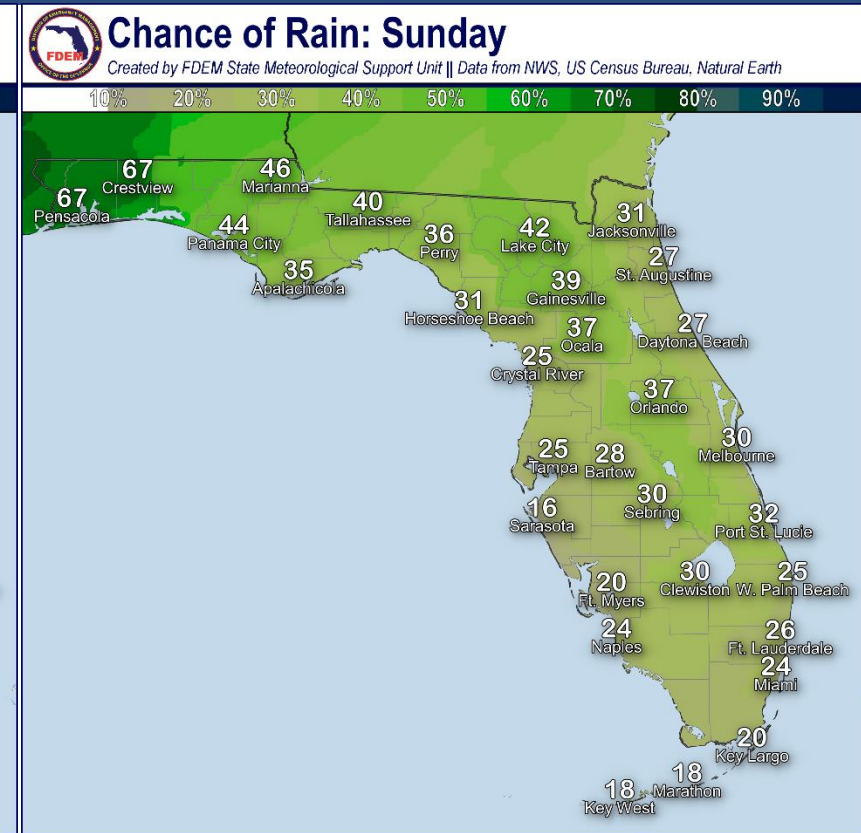
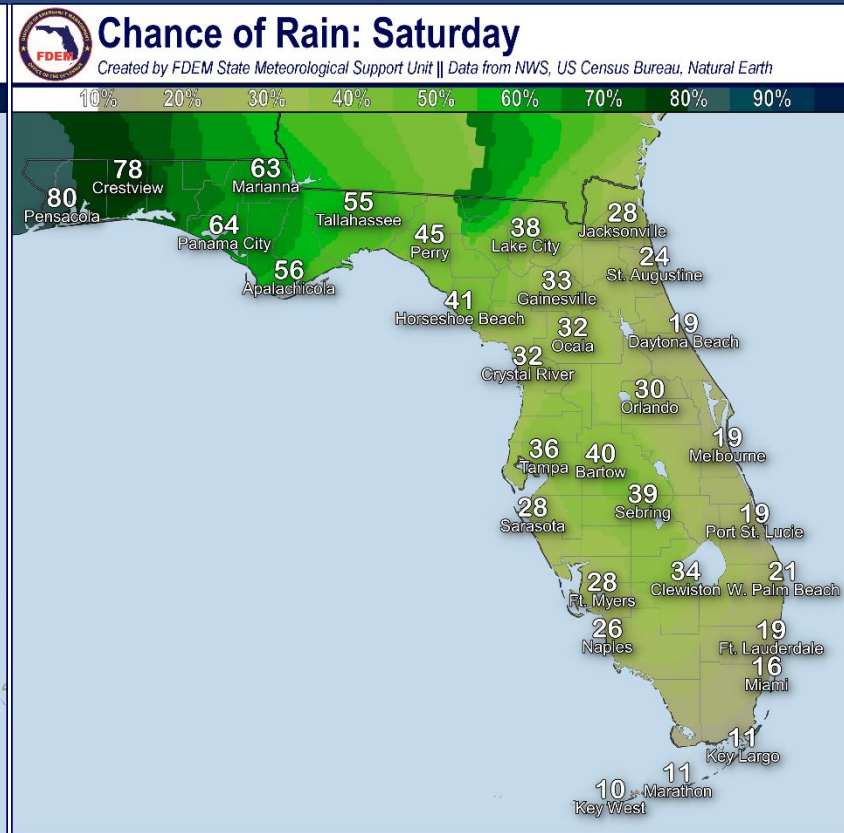
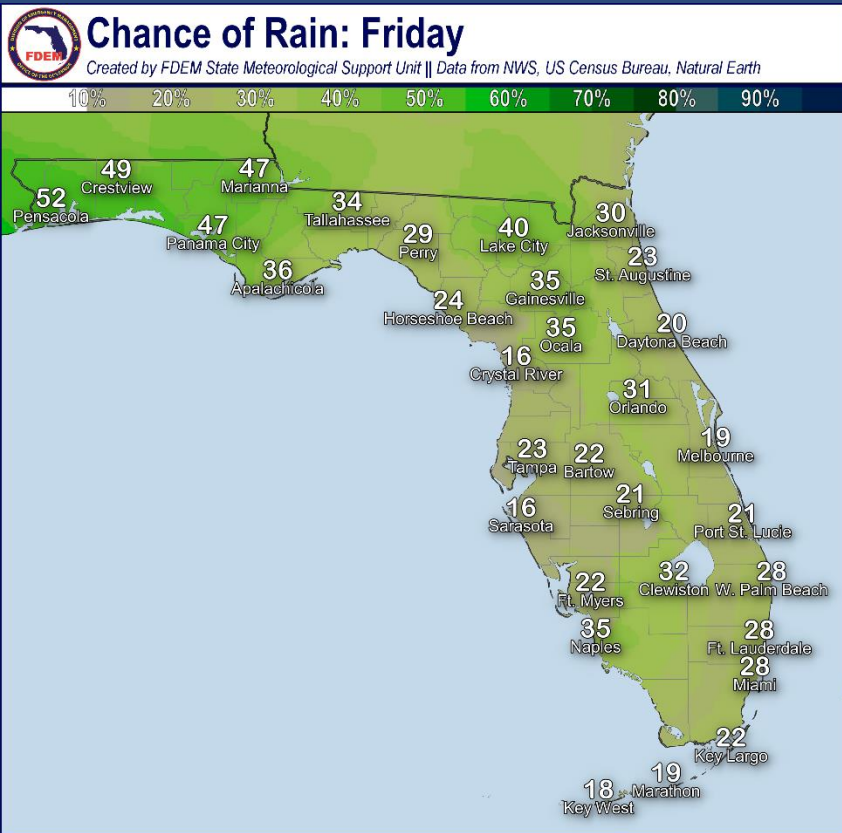
Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

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?	Flash Flooding NO Flash Flooding	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><di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Forecast Rain Chances

Friday through Sunday – PTC #3

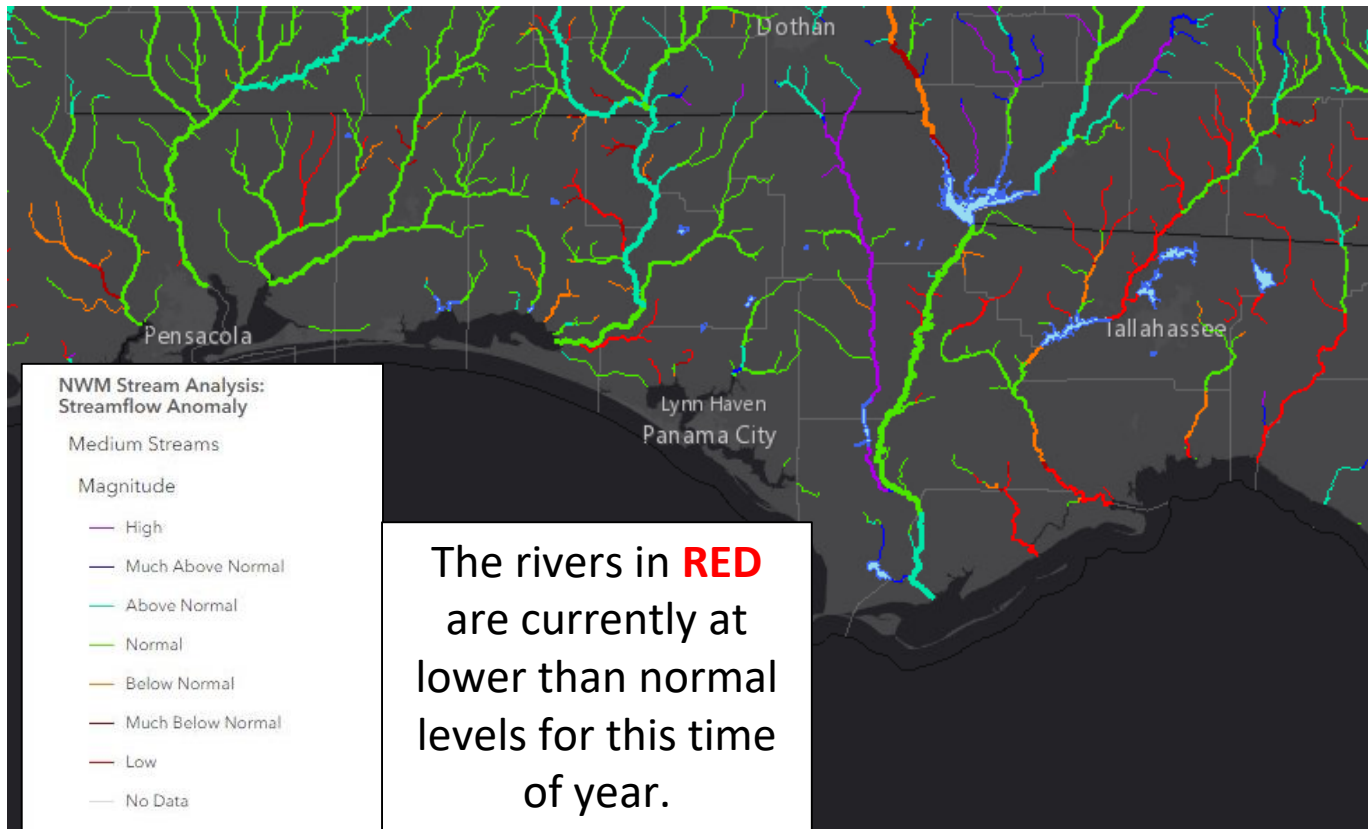


Rain chances will begin increasing Friday in the western Panhandle and continue increasing into this weekend across the Panhandle and Big Bend. Locally heavy rainfall will be the primary threat. A low-end tornado threat is also possible with any of the cells in the bands.

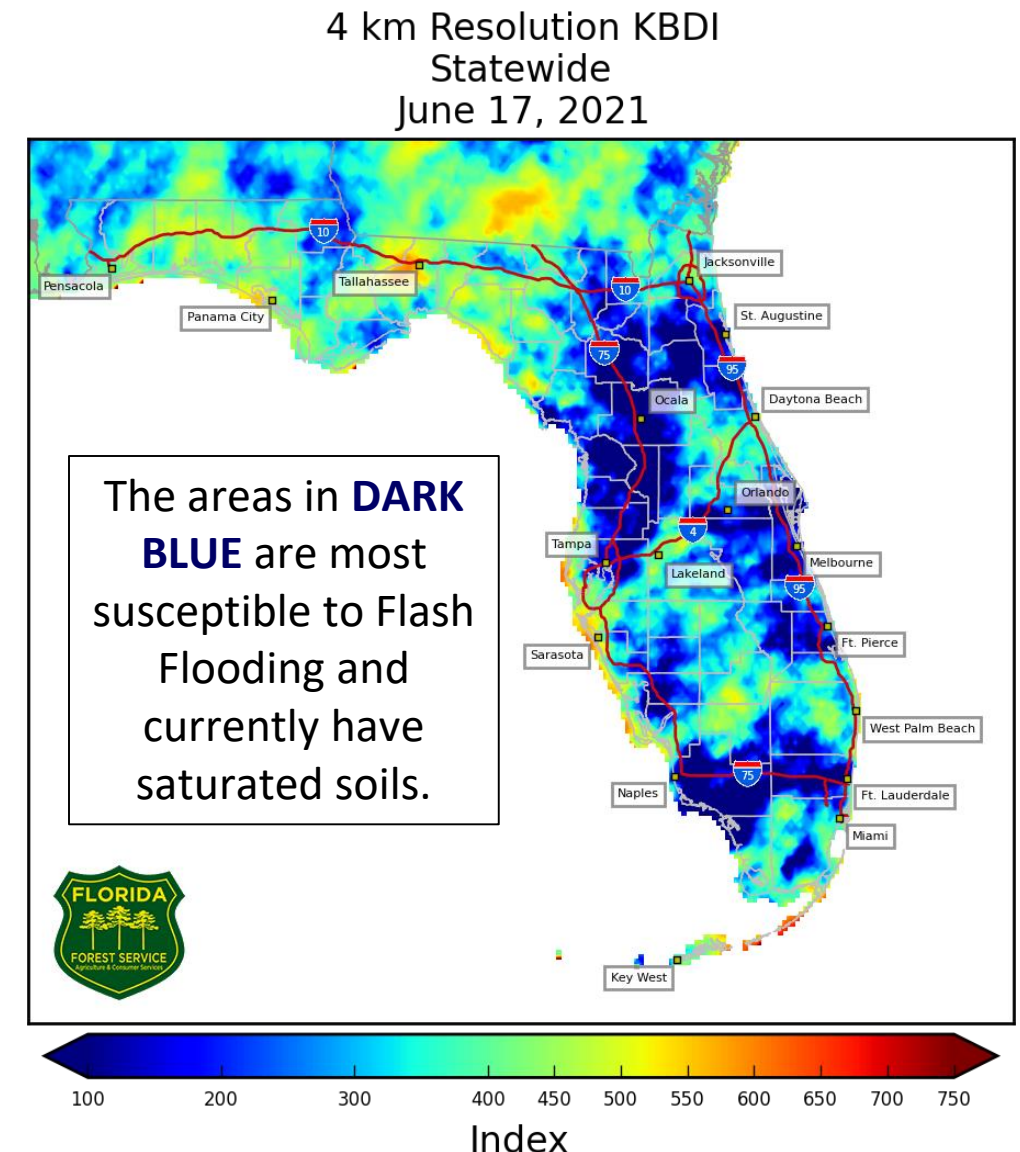


Streamflow Anomaly – Soil Moisture

KB Drought Index – [Full Report from the Florida Forest Service](#)



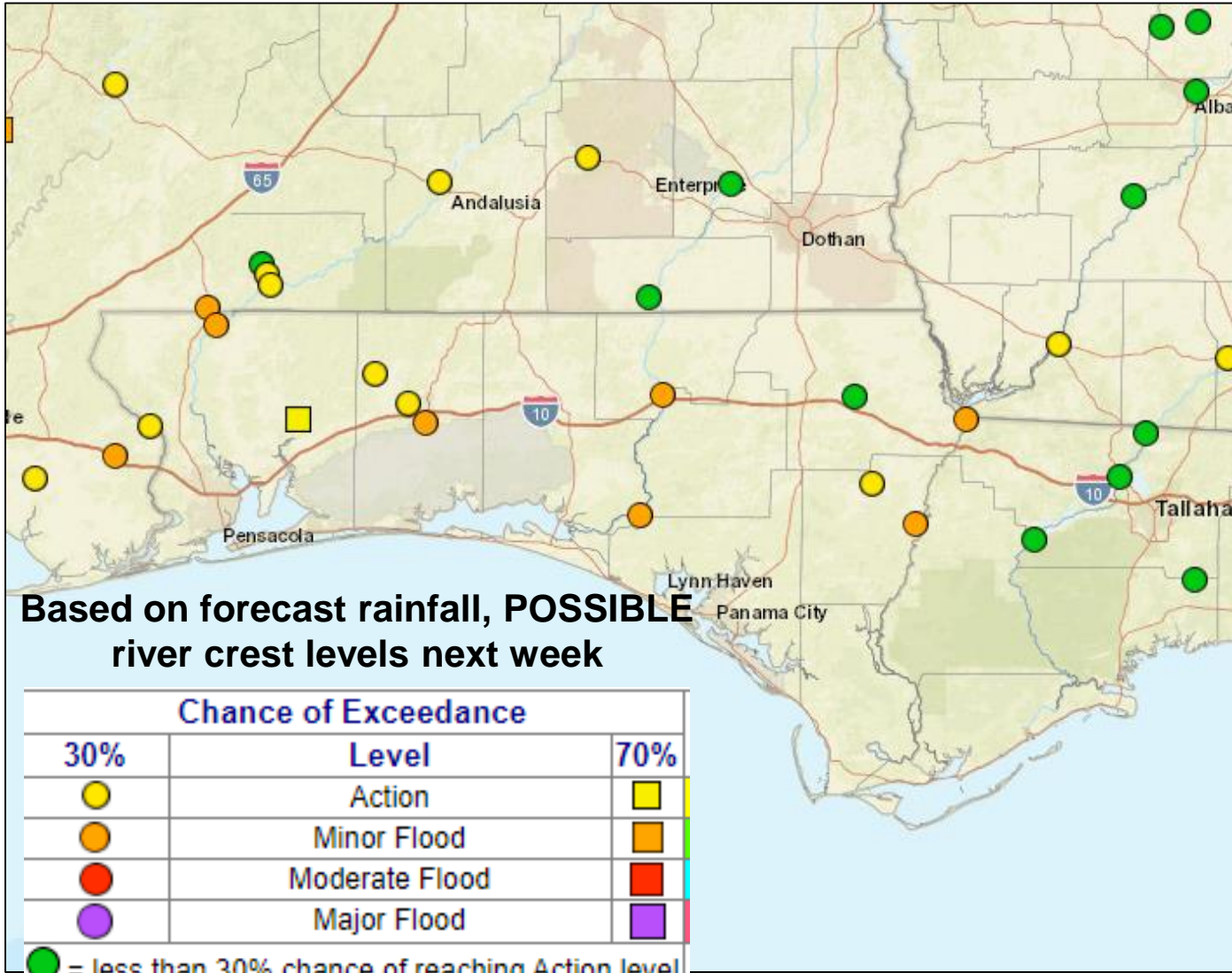
Streamflows along many Panhandle rivers are running near to below normal. This is due to recent dry weather across the Panhandle where KBDI values are largely between 350 and 550. The Choctawhatchee and Chipola Rivers are most susceptible as they are running above normal.





Possible River Flooding

Chance of River Flooding Based on Range of Forecasted Rainfall



With the recent dry weather, rivers are running below normal. This will help mitigate any significant river flooding.

It will likely take over 5-7" of rain to result in minor river flooding in the Panhandle.



Severe Weather Outlook

From the Storm Prediction Center

5 - High

Widespread severe storms expected

4 - Moderate

Widespread severe storms likely

3 - Enhanced

Numerous severe storms possible

2 - Slight

Scattered severe storms possible

1 - Marginal

Isolated severe storms possible

Thunderstorms

No severe storms expected

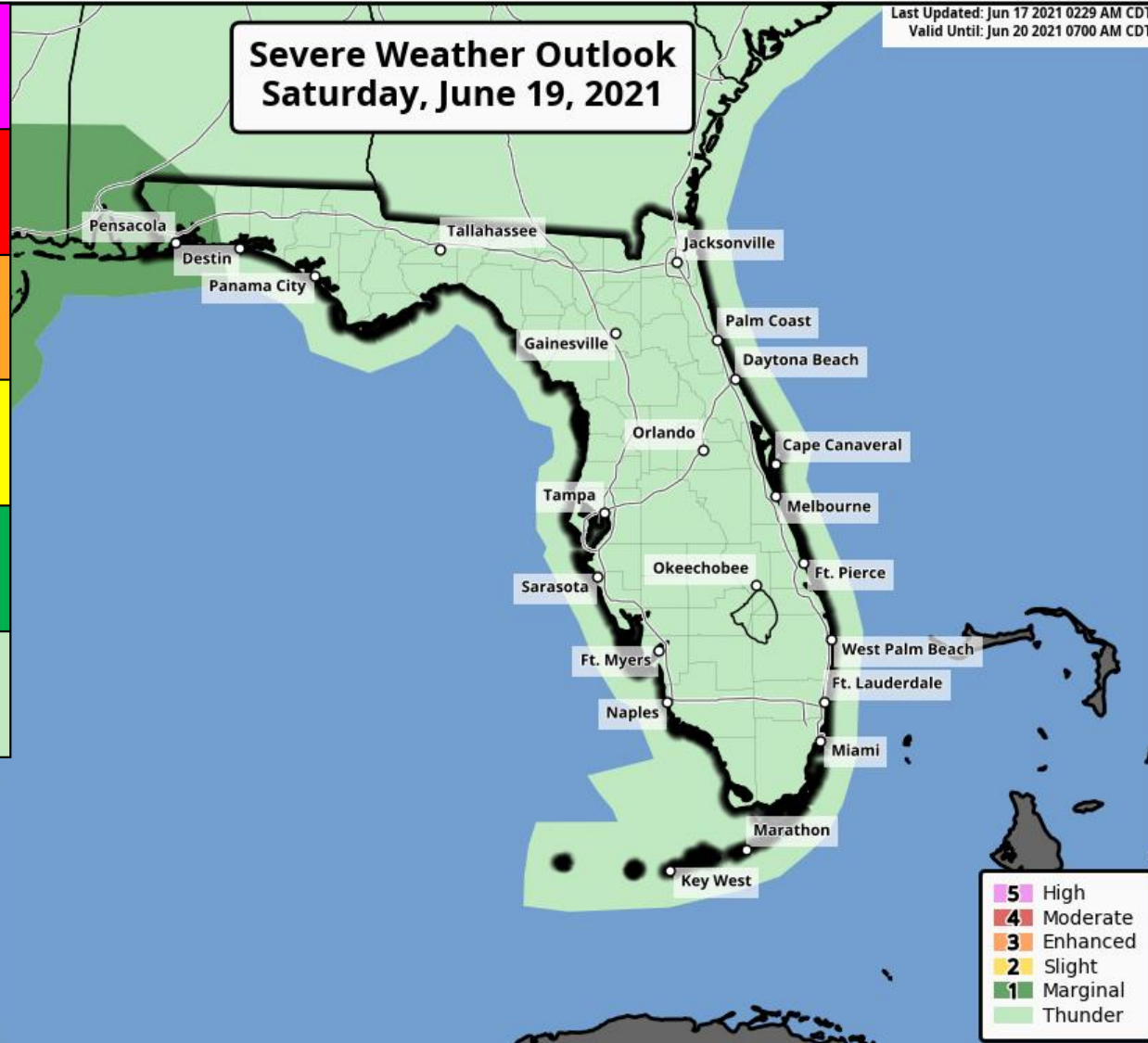


National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

Severe Weather Outlook Saturday, June 19, 2021

Last Updated: Jun 17 2021 0229 AM CDT
Valid Until: Jun 20 2021 0700 AM CDT



As the outer bands of PTC #3 move onshore on Saturday, there will be a low-end tornado threat.

The Storm Prediction Center has outlined Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties in a Marginal Risk for severe weather (level 1 of 5).



Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

Understanding the Storm Prediction Center Risk Scale

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 <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	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



**Thunderstorms
(no label)** No severe* thunderstorms expected
Lightning/flooding threat exists with all thunderstorms
Winds to 40 mph and small hail possible



**1 Marginal Risk
(MRGL)** *Isolated severe thunderstorms possible*
Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity
Wind to 40-60 mph, hail up to 1", and low tornado risk



**2 Slight Risk
(SLGT)** *Scattered severe storms possible*
Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms
One or two tornadoes
Reports of strong winds and wind damage
Hail ~1", isolated 2"



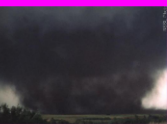
**3 Enhanced Risk
(ENH)** *Numerous severe storms possible*
More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense
A few tornadoes
Several wind damage reports
Damaging hail, 1"-2"



**4 Moderate Risk
(MDT)** *Widespread severe storms likely*
Long-lived, widespread and intense
Strong tornadoes
Widespread wind damage
Destructive hail, 2" or greater



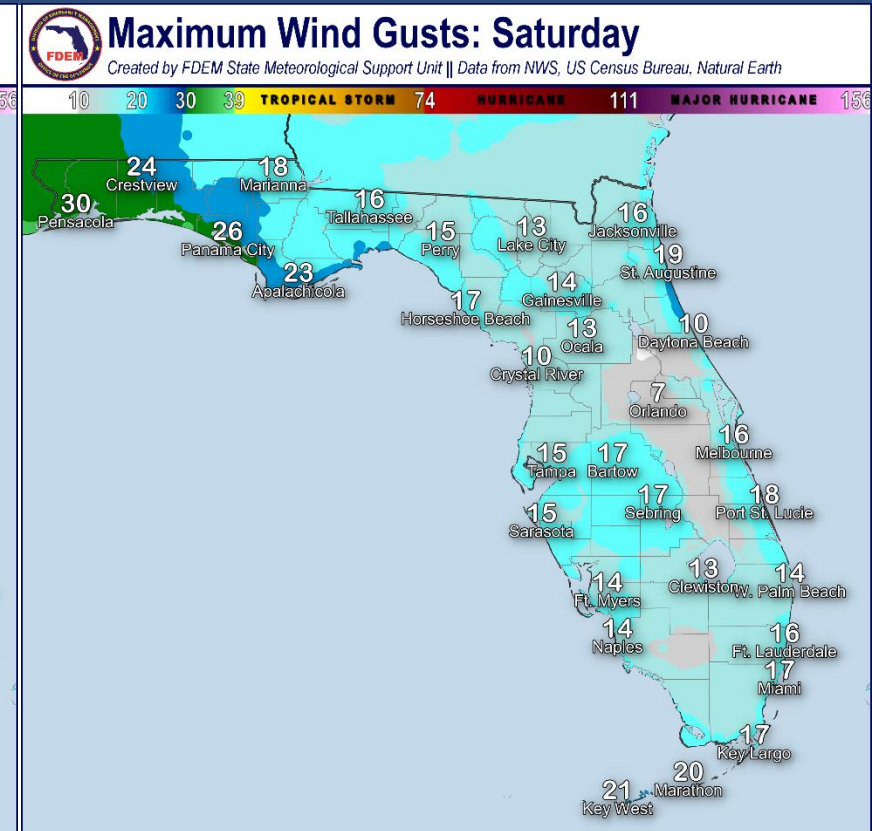
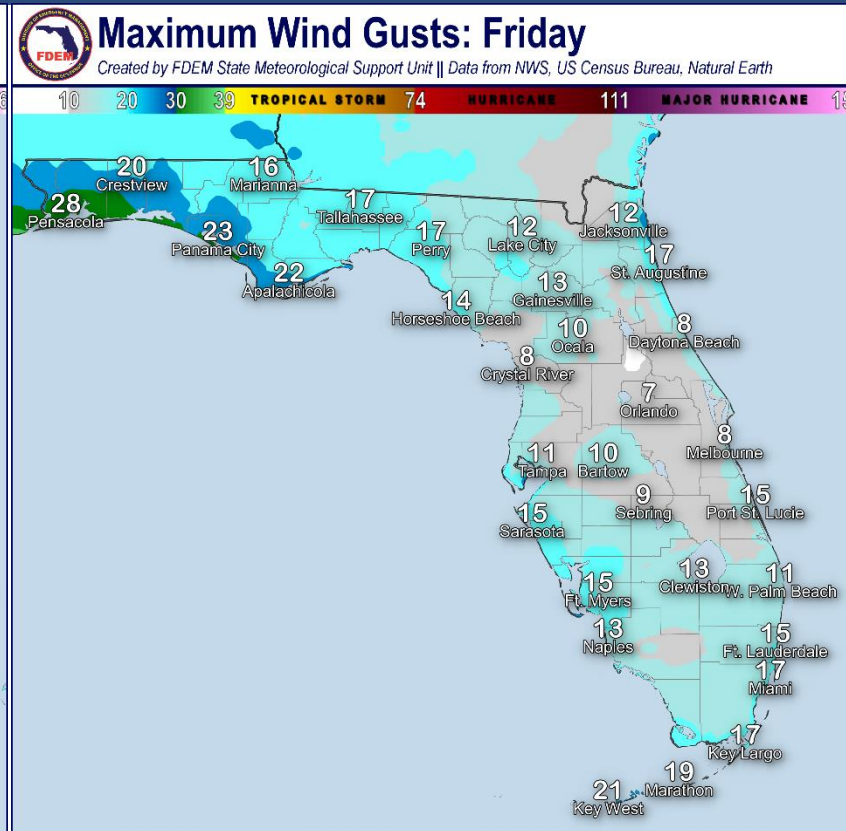
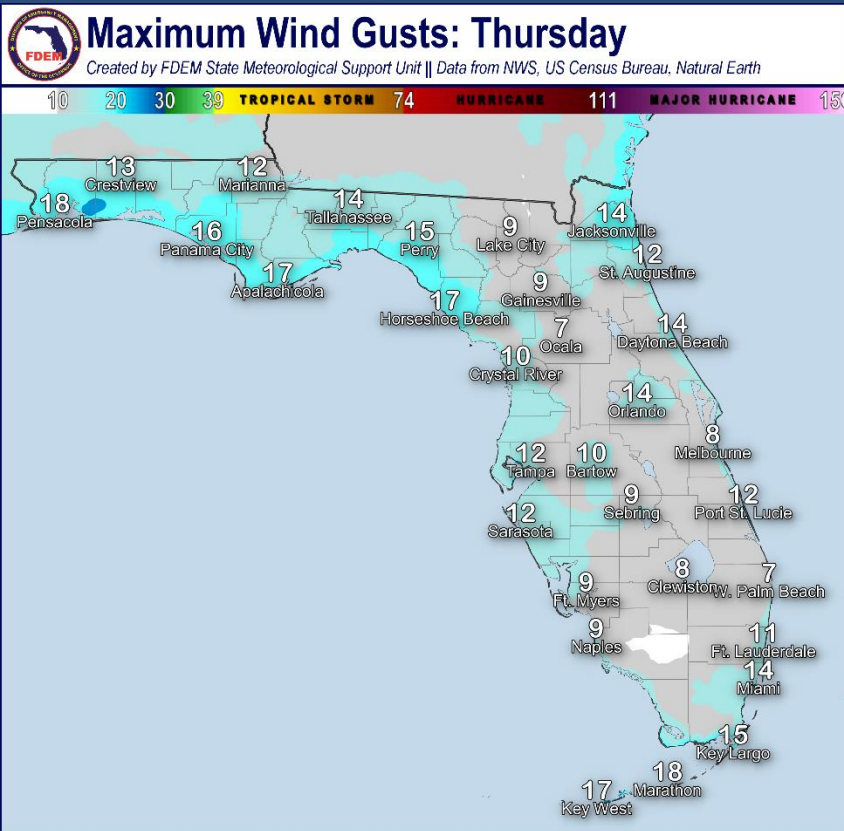
**5 High Risk
(HIGH)** *Widespread severe storms expected*
Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense
Tornado outbreak
Derecho





Forecast Maximum Wind Gusts

Next 3 Days

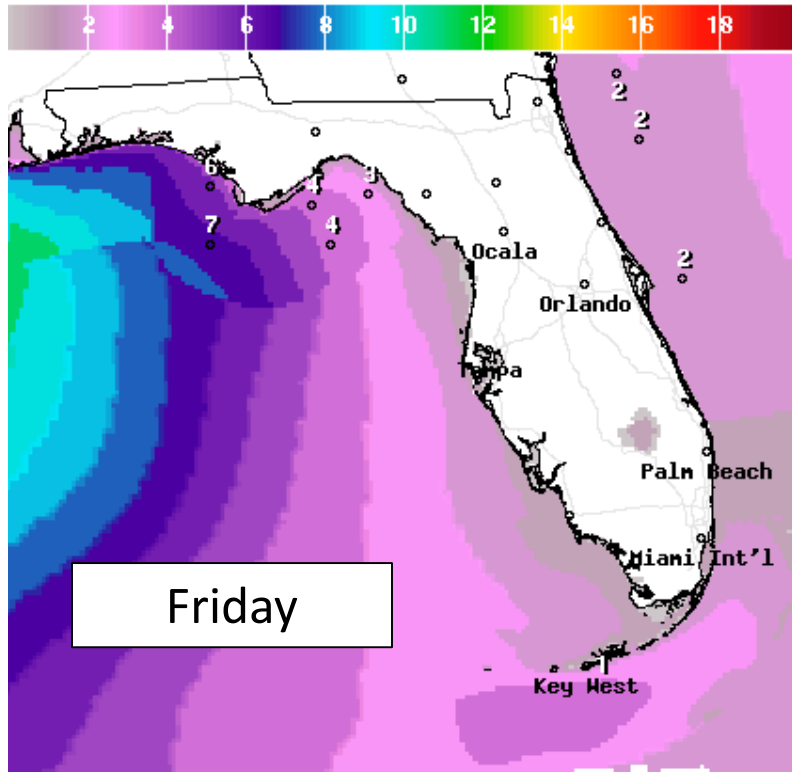


Gusty winds are possible, but gusts will generally top out around 30-35 mph, especially along the coast in the western Panhandle. Higher wind gusts are possible in the stronger storms in the outer rain bands. Wind Advisories may be needed for parts of the Panhandle.



Forecast Wave Heights

Friday through Sunday



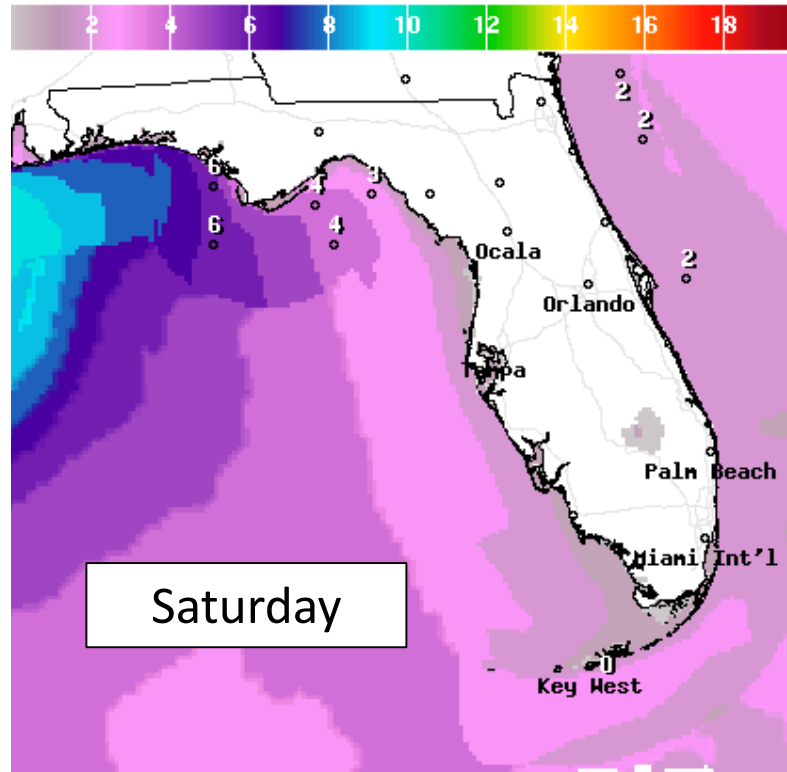
Wave Height(ft) Ending Fri Jun 18 2021 8PM EDT
(Sat Jun 19 2021 00Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

14z issuance

Graphic created-Jun 17 10:18AM EDT



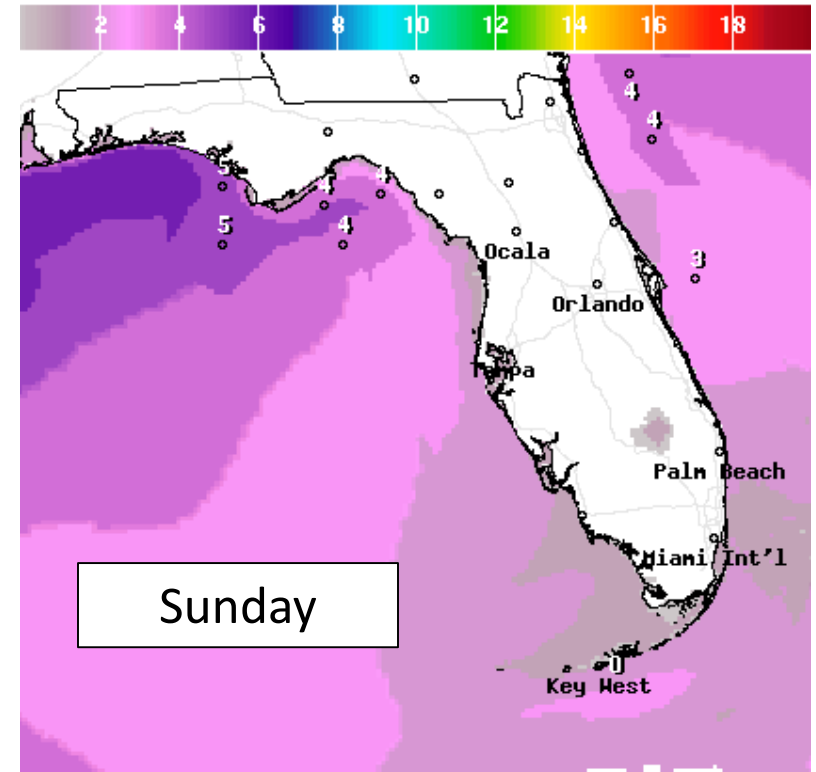
Wave Height(ft) Ending Sat Jun 19 2021 2PM EDT
(Sat Jun 19 2021 18Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

20z issuance

Graphic created-Jun 17 4:16PM EDT



Wave Height(ft) Ending Sun Jun 20 2021 8PM EDT
(Mon Jun 21 2021 00Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

19z issuance

Graphic created-Jun 17 3:24PM EDT



Surf will begin to build along the Panhandle beaches late Thursday into Friday and remain elevated through the weekend. A High Surf Advisory is in effect from Escambia to Gulf Counties. Dangerous rip currents are likely along the Panhandle beaches. Some swells may affect the West Coast beaches late in the weekend.

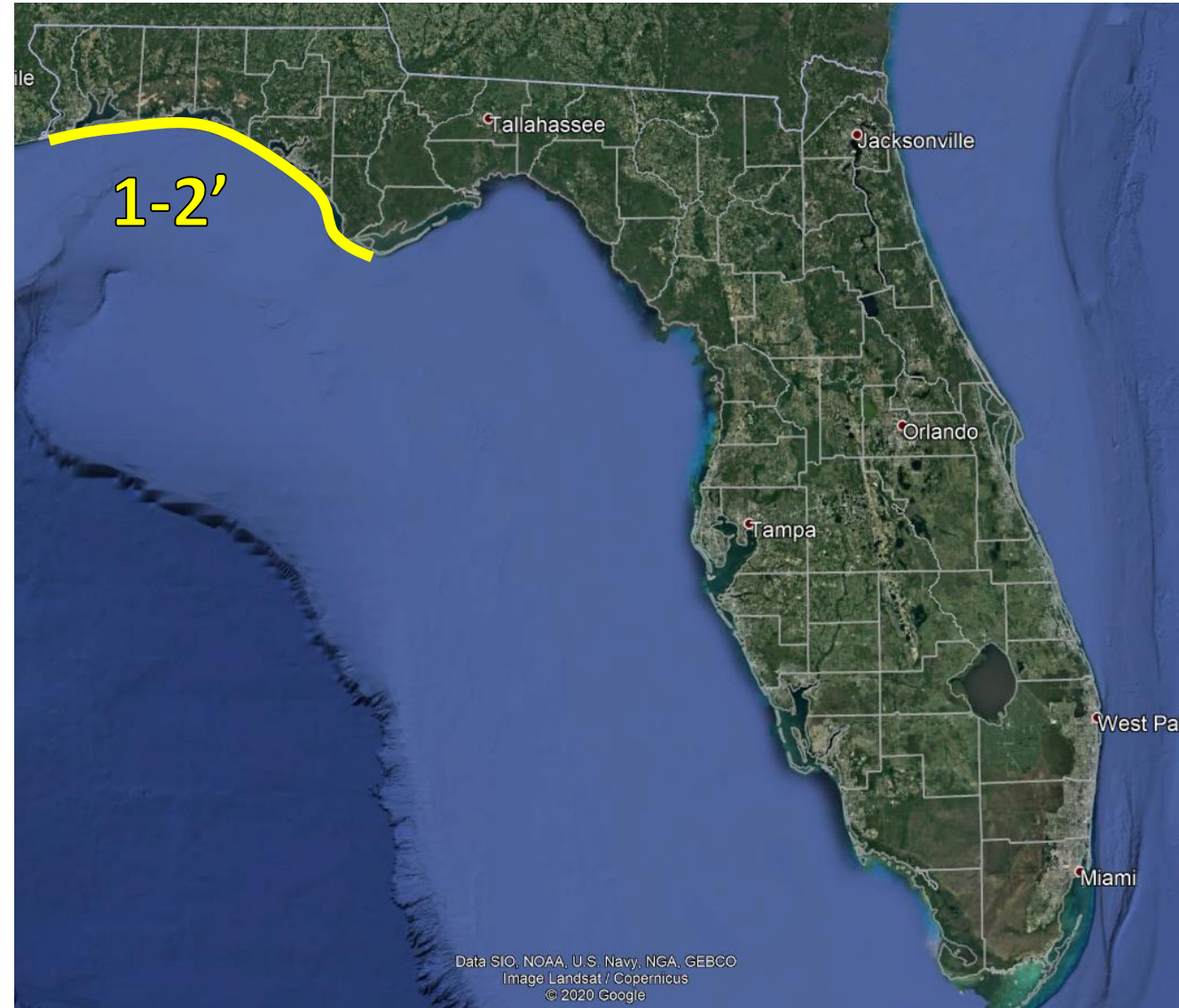


Storm Surge/Coastal Flooding

This Weekend

Onshore winds associated with PTC #3 will result in some nuisance to minor coastal flooding along the Gulf Coast, mainly in the normally flood prone areas.

Tides could run as much as 1-2' above normal in the Panhandle, especially if the storm moves closer to southeast Louisiana.





Overall Summary

Florida Outlook:

Potential Tropical Cyclone #3

- In order to issue Tropical Storm Warnings for parts of the Gulf Coast, the National Hurricane Center has designated Invest 92L in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico as Potential Tropical Cyclone #3. Note that there are no tropical-related warnings for Florida.
- PTC #3 is located about 610 miles south-southwest of Pensacola, moving north at 9 mph. This general motion will continue over the next day or so, then turn northeastward after landfall over the southeastern United States.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 30 mph. Some additional strengthening is expected prior to landfall, and PTC #3 will likely become a tropical or subtropical storm later tonight or Friday. This system has a 90% (high) chance of formation.
- With this system being lopsided, most of the rainfall will be on the eastern side, which could bring heavy rainfall to the Panhandle even with a landfall in western Louisiana.
- About 4-8" of rain (locally 10"+) is expected in the Panhandle, with 2-4" of rain expected in the Big Bend.
- Flash Flood Watches are in effect for Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa Counties. Flash flooding will become likely if bands of heavy rainfall begin training over the same locations. There is a Moderate Risk of flash flooding (level 3 of 4) for the western Panhandle on Saturday.
- Significant river flooding is not expected as rivers are low, but some minor river flooding cannot be ruled out where heavier rainfall occurs.
- A low-end tornado threat is possible in the western Panhandle on Saturday, and the Storm Prediction Center has outlined these areas in a Marginal Risk of flash flooding (level 1 of 5). The tornado threat could also extend into Sunday.
- High Surf Advisories are in effect for the beaches from Escambia through Gulf County. Dangerous rip currents and high surf are expected along Gulf Coast beaches by the end of the week and through the weekend.
- Tides may run as much as 1-2 feet above normal in the Panhandle.
- The next name on the list is Claudette (klaw-DET).

The next briefing packet will be issued Friday morning. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at www.hurricanes.gov.



TROPICAL UPDATE



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State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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