



TROPICAL UPDATE



5:30 PM EDT

Monday, July 5, 2021

Tropical Storm Elsa

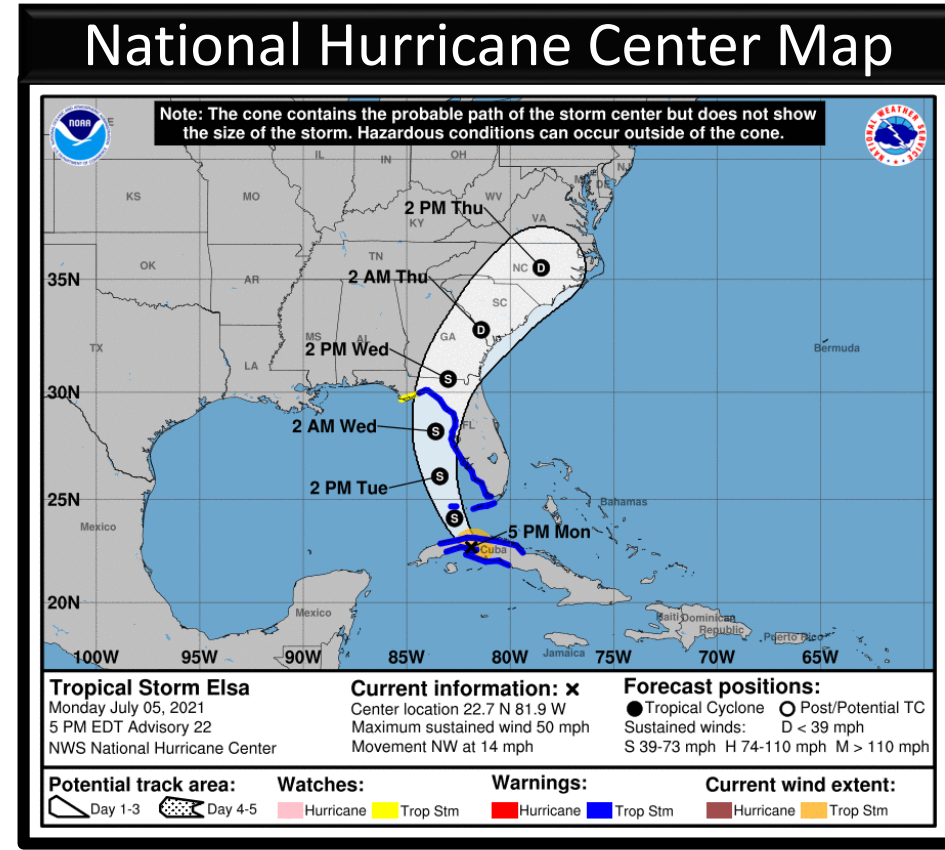
This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an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

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

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



Overview/Recent Changes:

New Storm Surge Warnings have been issued for the eastern Big Bend and much of the West Coast with Tropical Storm Warnings being extended farther northward and westward along the Big Bend. New Tropical Storm Watches have been issued for parts of the Suwannee River Valley and interior Northeast Florida. The flash flood threat is also increasing for the West Coast through Tuesday and Tuesday night.

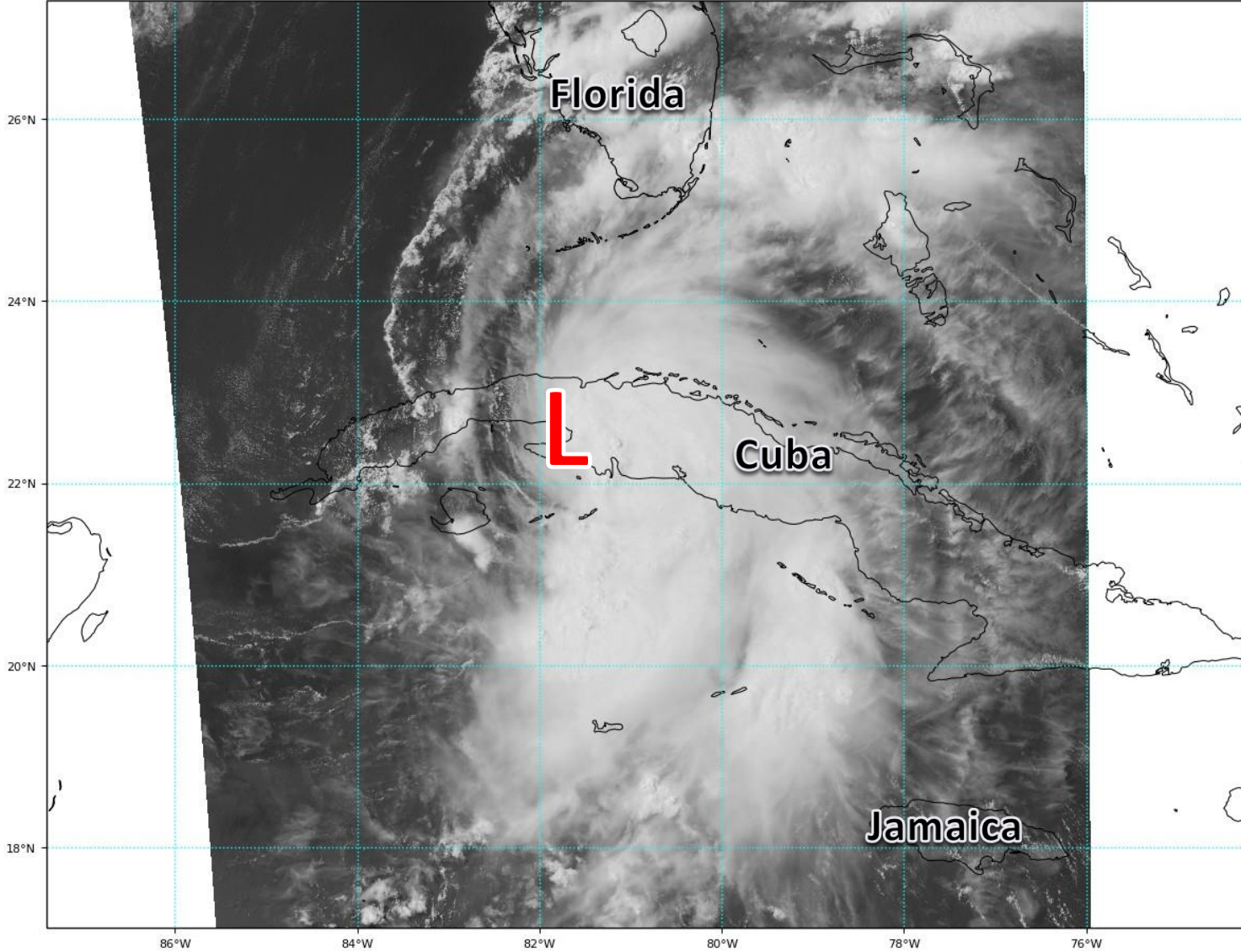


Satellite Imagery

Northwest Caribbean Sea – Tropical Storm Elsa

GOES-16 Channel 2 (visible) Reflectance at 19:39:31Z Jul 05, 2021

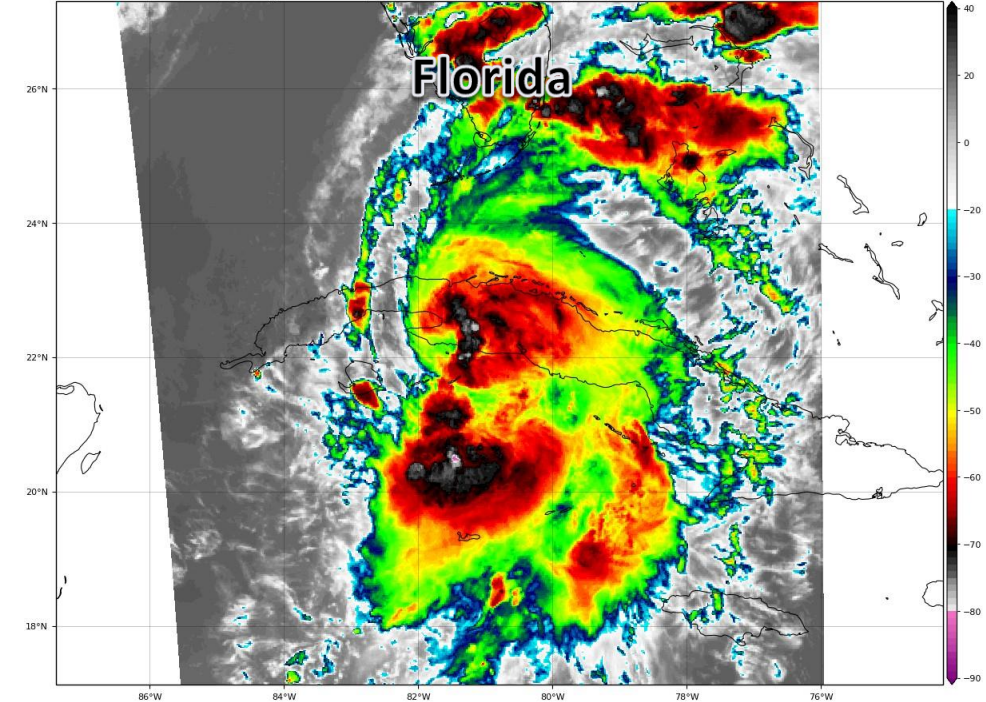
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM



Elsa has moved ashore in western and central Cuba and should emerge back into the Florida Straits or southeast Gulf of Mexico later tonight.

GOES-16 Channel 13 (IR) Brightness Temperature (°C) at 19:43:32Z Jul 05, 2021

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM





Current Florida Radar

As of 5:20 PM ET

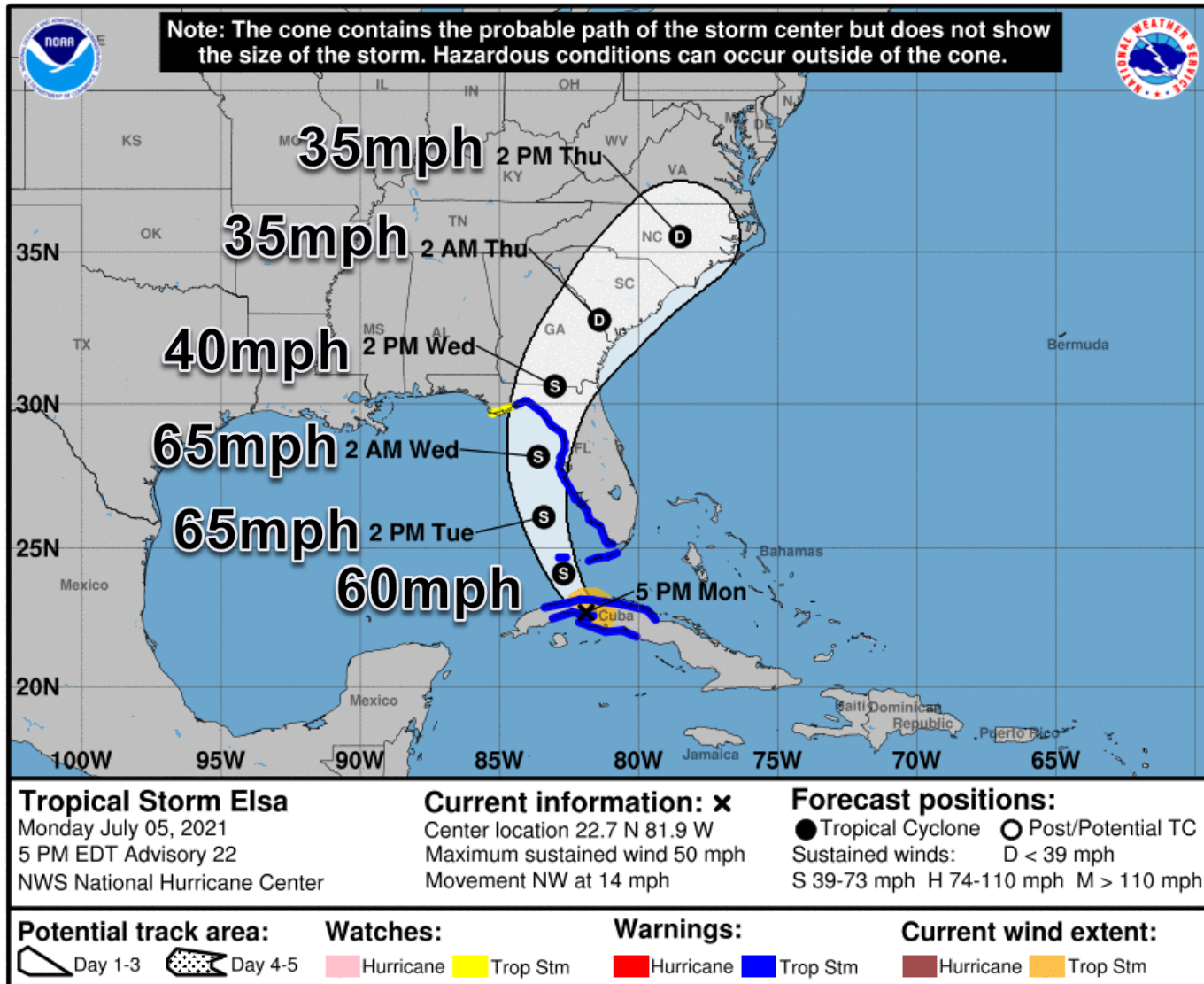


Outer bands and scattered thunderstorms are moving northward across South Florida with strong winds, torrential downpours, and isolated tornadoes.



Official Forecast Track – Elsa

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



- The center of Elsa is about 130 miles south of Key West, FL and moving to the northwest at 14 mph
- Elsa remains a tropical storm with maximum sustained winds near 50 mph.
- Elsa will move back over water late tonight after emerging from Cuba and head north over the eastern Gulf of Mexico.
- Some re-strengthening is possible after it emerges into the Gulf of Mexico and parallels the West Coast of Florida
- Landfall appears most likely in the eastern Big Bend of Florida. However, the storm will likely be lopsided with most of the rainfall to the east of the center impacting the entire West Coast as Elsa moves northward.



Damaging Wind Threat Overview

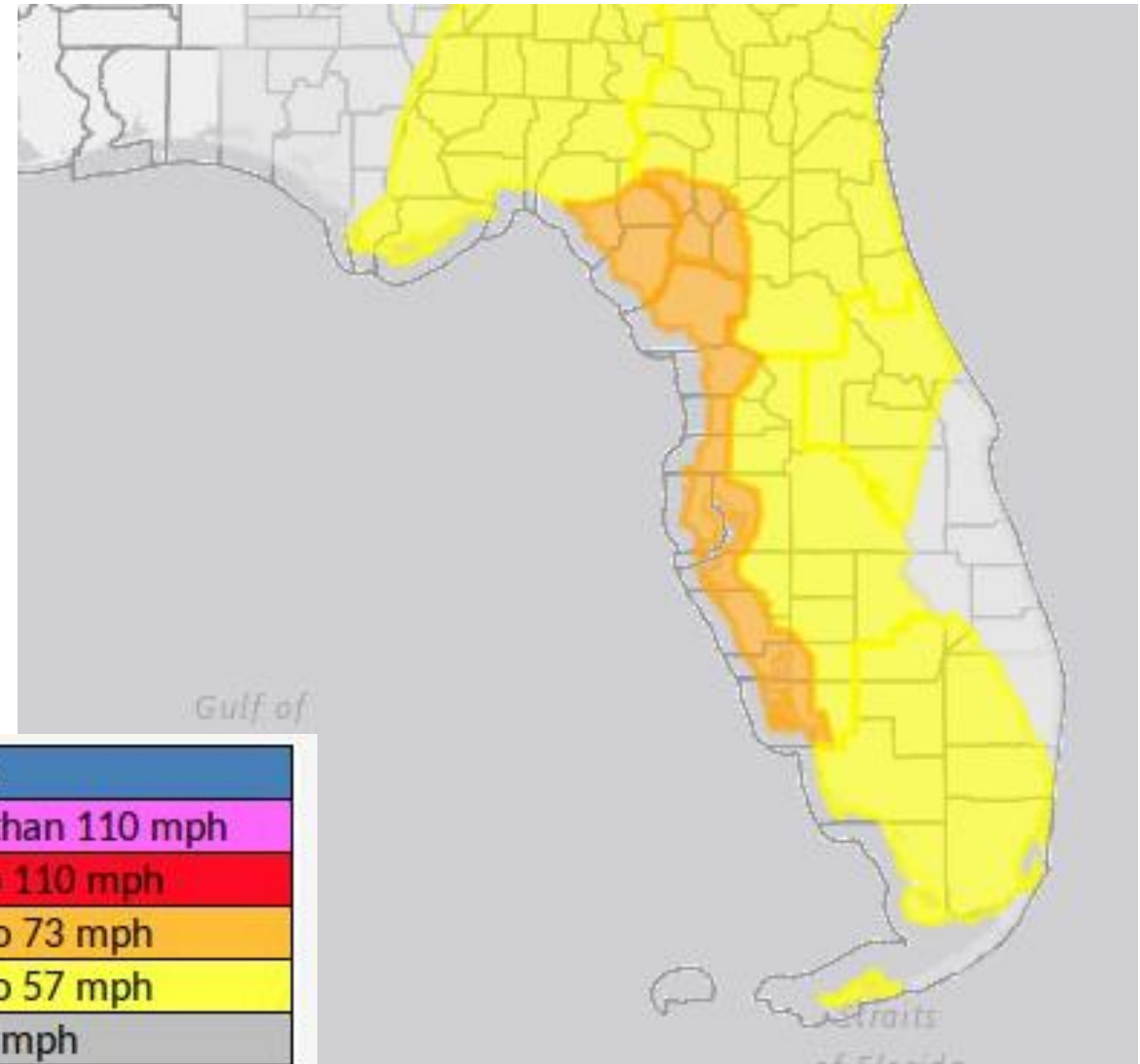
Tropical Storm Elsa

The greatest wind threat is along the immediate West Coast of Florida (west of I-75 and north of Naples) and inland Northeast Florida.

Still, tropical storm force wind gusts remain possible across any part of state except the Panhandle Tuesday-Wednesday.

[https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?
office=mfl](https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mfl)

Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab



Wind Threat
Potential for wind greater than 110 mph
Potential for wind 74 to 110 mph
Potential for wind 58 to 73 mph
Potential for wind 39 to 57 mph
Wind less than 39 mph



Wind Watches and Warnings

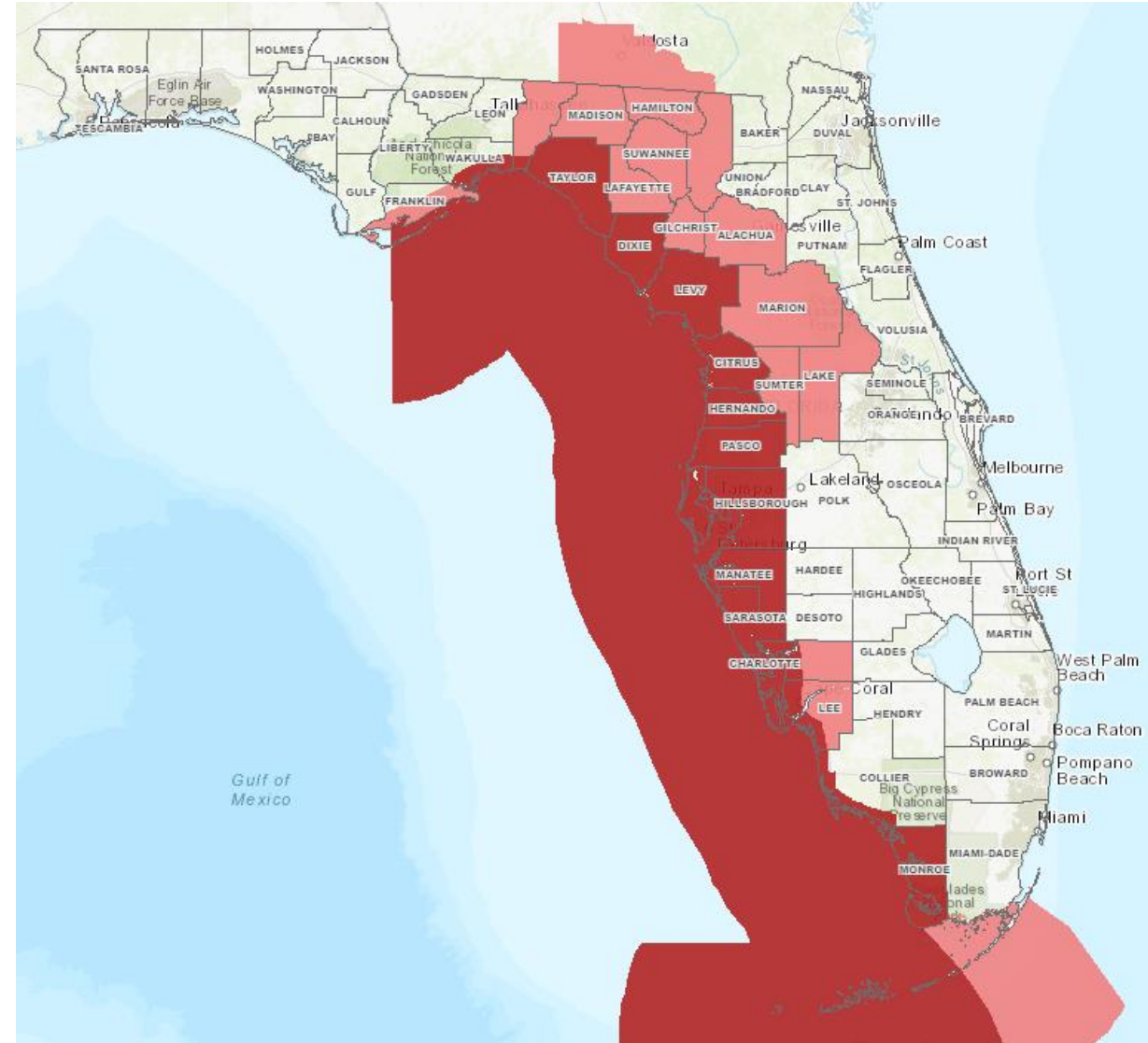
In Effect Until Further Notice

Tropical Storm Warnings:

- Lower & Middle Keys (Craig Key to Dry Tortugas)
- Mainland Monroe, coastal Collier, coastal Lee, coastal Charlotte, Sarasota, Manatee, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Levy, Dixie, Taylor, coastal Wakulla Counties

Tropical Storm Watches:

- Inland Lee, inland Charlotte, Sumter, Lake, Marion, Gilchrist, Alachua, Lafayette, Suwannee, Columbia, Hamilton, Madison, inland Jefferson, and coastal Franklin Counties



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



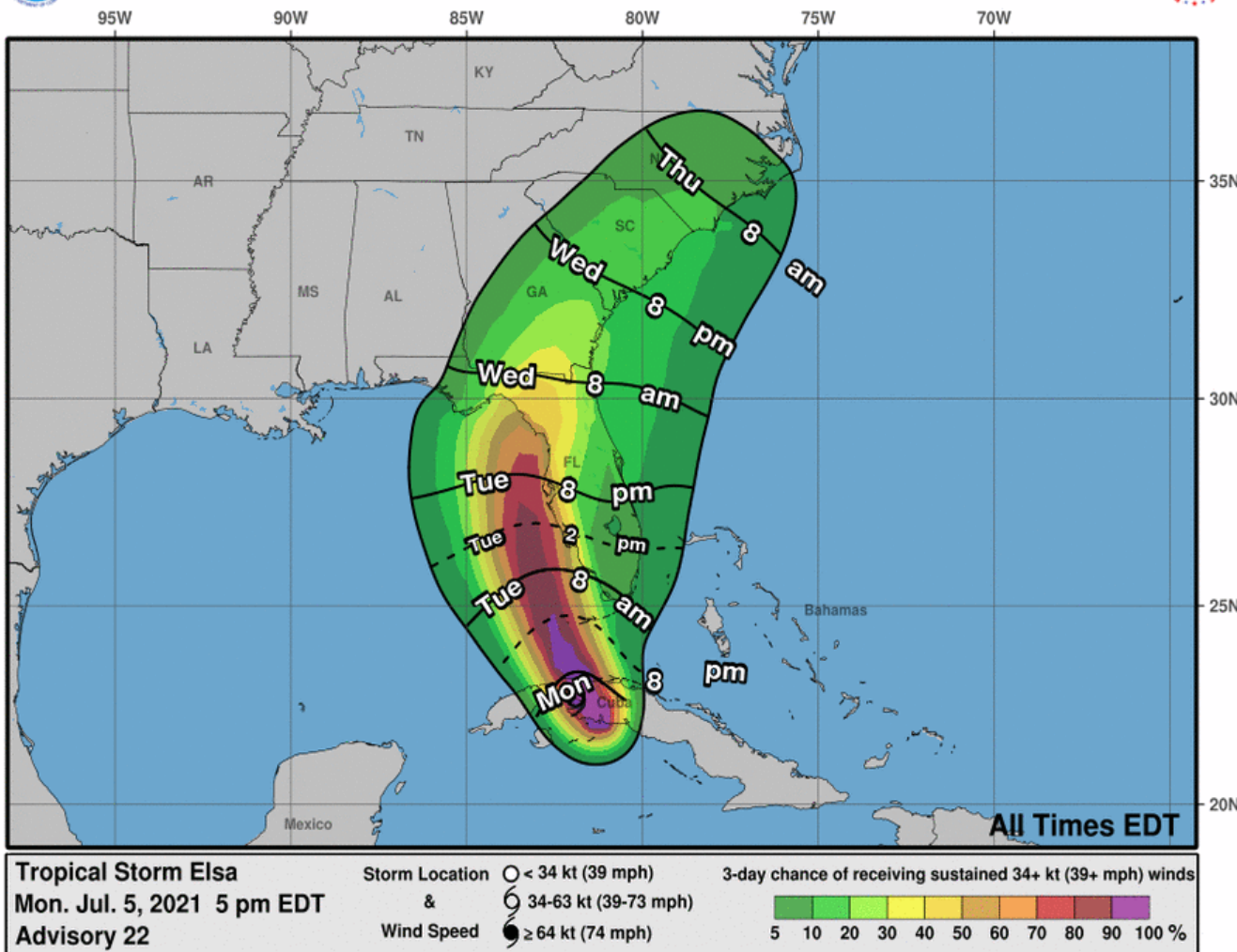
weather.gov/mob



Time of Arrival & Wind Speed Probabilities

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

0-3 Day Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds



City	Chance for TS Winds	Changes Since Last Packet
Key West	63%	+5%
Marathon	15%	-2%
Naples	40%	+1%
Miami	3%	-1%
West Palm Beach	8%	-2%
Ft. Myers	21%	-6%
Tampa	64%	+6%
Orlando	16%	-5%
Apalachicola	21%	-3%
Tallahassee	22%	+/-0%
Gainesville	41%	+1%
Jacksonville	28%	+1%

There has been little change in the chances of tropical storm force winds since the 11 AM ET advisory.

Tropical storm force winds are **most likely** to begin after midnight tonight in the Florida Keys, after daybreak tomorrow in Southwest Florida, Tuesday night across Central Florida, and early Wednesday morning in Northeast Florida.

The odds of hurricane force winds are less than 5% in the Florida Keys and along the West Coast.



Key Messages

From the National Hurricane Center



Key Messages for Tropical Storm Elsa Advisory 22: 5:00 PM EDT Mon Jul 05, 2021

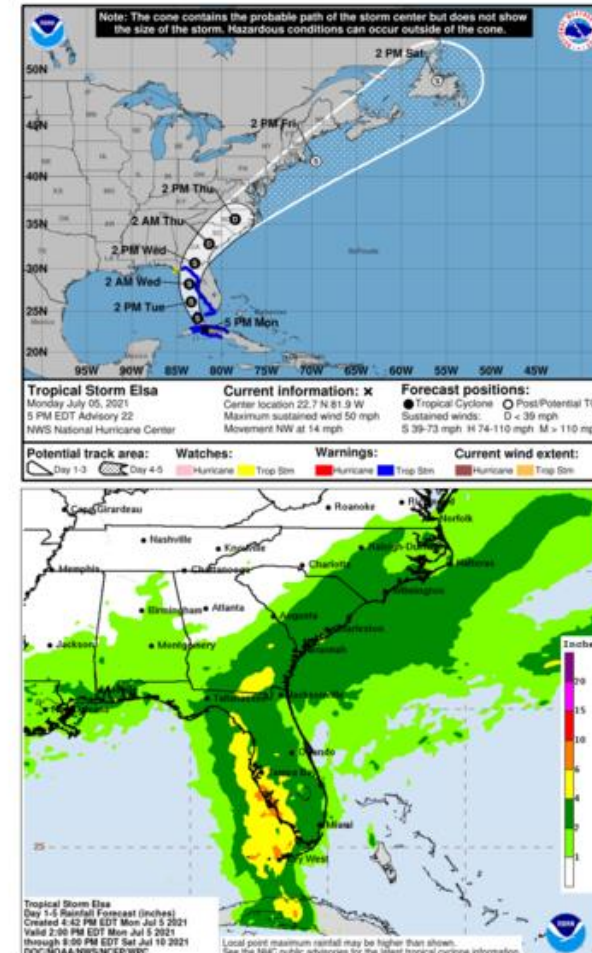


1. Heavy rain will impact the Cayman Islands and Cuba through tonight resulting in significant flooding and mudslides over Cuba. As Elsa approaches the Florida Keys, Florida Peninsula, and southeast Georgia through Wednesday, heavy rainfall may result in isolated flash, urban, and minor river flooding, with considerable flooding possible in southwest and western portions of Florida. Mid- to late-week, heavy rains across coastal South Carolina, North Carolina, and southeastern Virginia may result in isolated flash and urban flooding.

2. There is a danger of life-threatening storm surge along portions of the west coast of Florida Tuesday night and Wednesday, and a Storm Surge Warning has been issued for that area.

3. Tropical storm conditions are expected to continue across portions of central and western Cuba tonight, and spread northward across portions of the Florida Keys and the Florida west coast through Wednesday, where a Tropical Storm Warning is in effect.

4. There is a risk of tropical storm conditions along portions of the coasts of Georgia and the Carolinas Wednesday and Thursday.

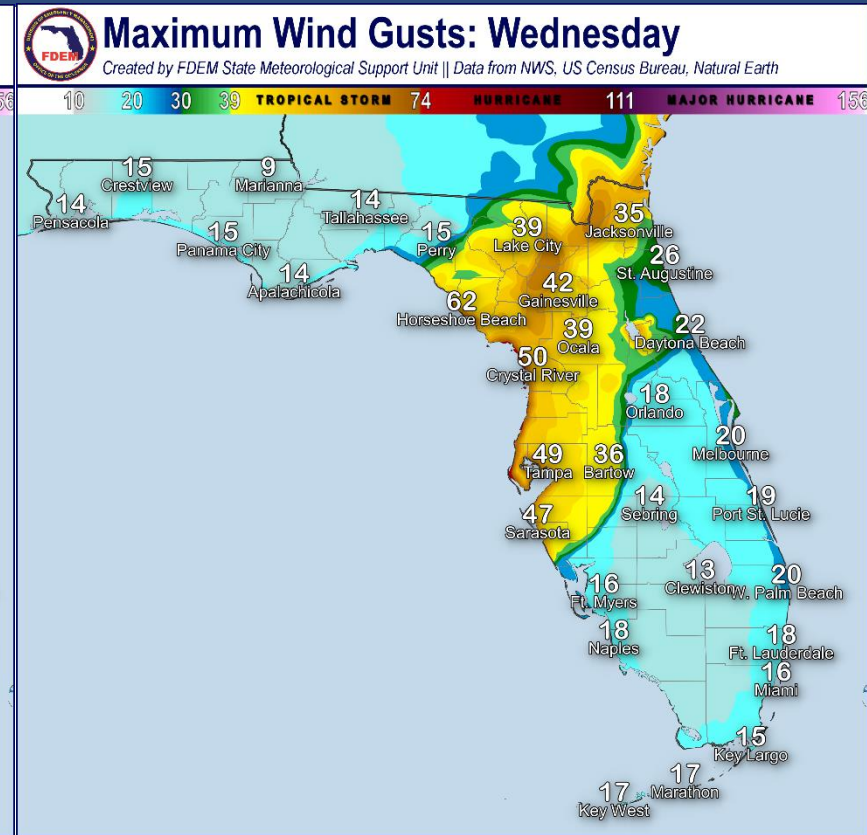
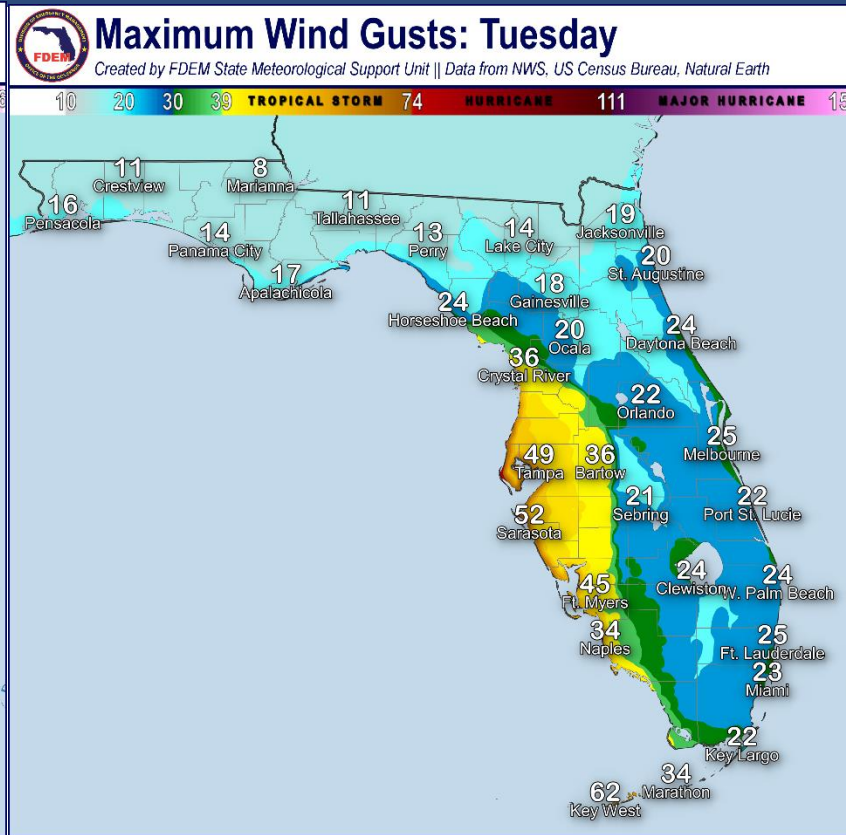
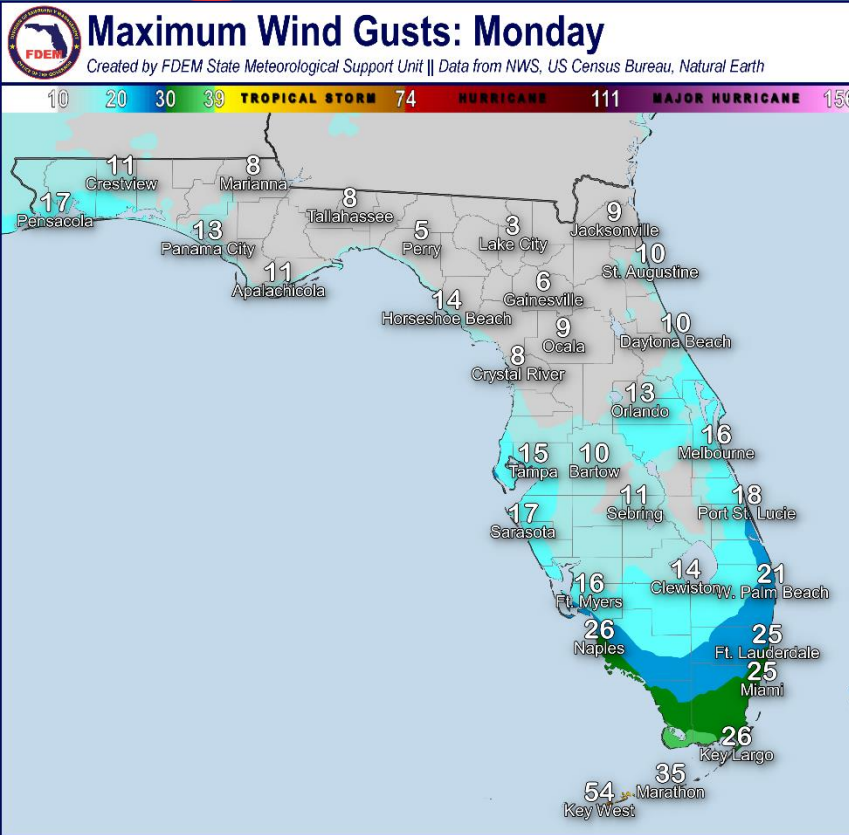


For more information go to hurricanes.gov



Max Wind Gusts Next 3 Days

Higher Gusts Possible in Thunderstorms



Winds will increase late today in far southern Florida and the Keys, across the western Florida Peninsula on Tuesday, and Northeast Florida on Wednesday.



Surge Watches and Warnings

In Effect Until Further Notice

https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics_at5+shhtml/114917.shtml?inundation#contents

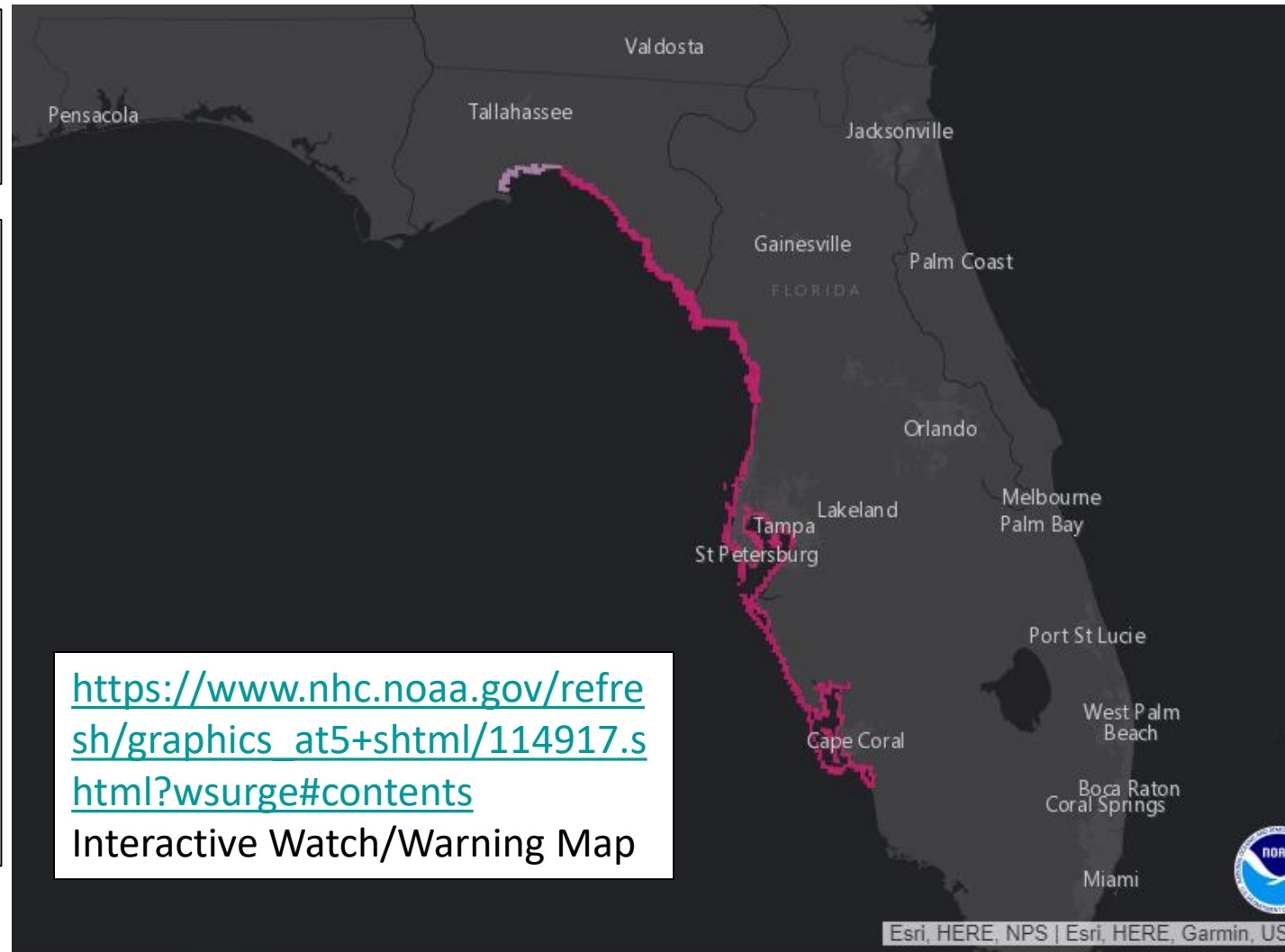
Interactive P-Surge Inundation Map

Storm Surge Warning:

- **From Bonita Beach to the Aucilla River, including Tampa Bay:** Taylor, Dixie, Levy, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee Counties

Storm Surge Watch:

- **From the Aucilla River to the Ochlockonee River:** Jefferson, Wakulla Counties



Storm Surge Warning
Storm Surge Watch

Storm Surge Warning

There is a **danger of life-threatening inundation** from rising water moving inland from the shoreline generally **within 36 hours**.

Promptly follow evacuation and other instructions from local officials.

Storm Surge Watch

There is a **possibility of life-threatening inundation** from rising water moving inland from the shoreline generally **within 48 hours**.

Promptly follow evacuation and other instructions from local officials.





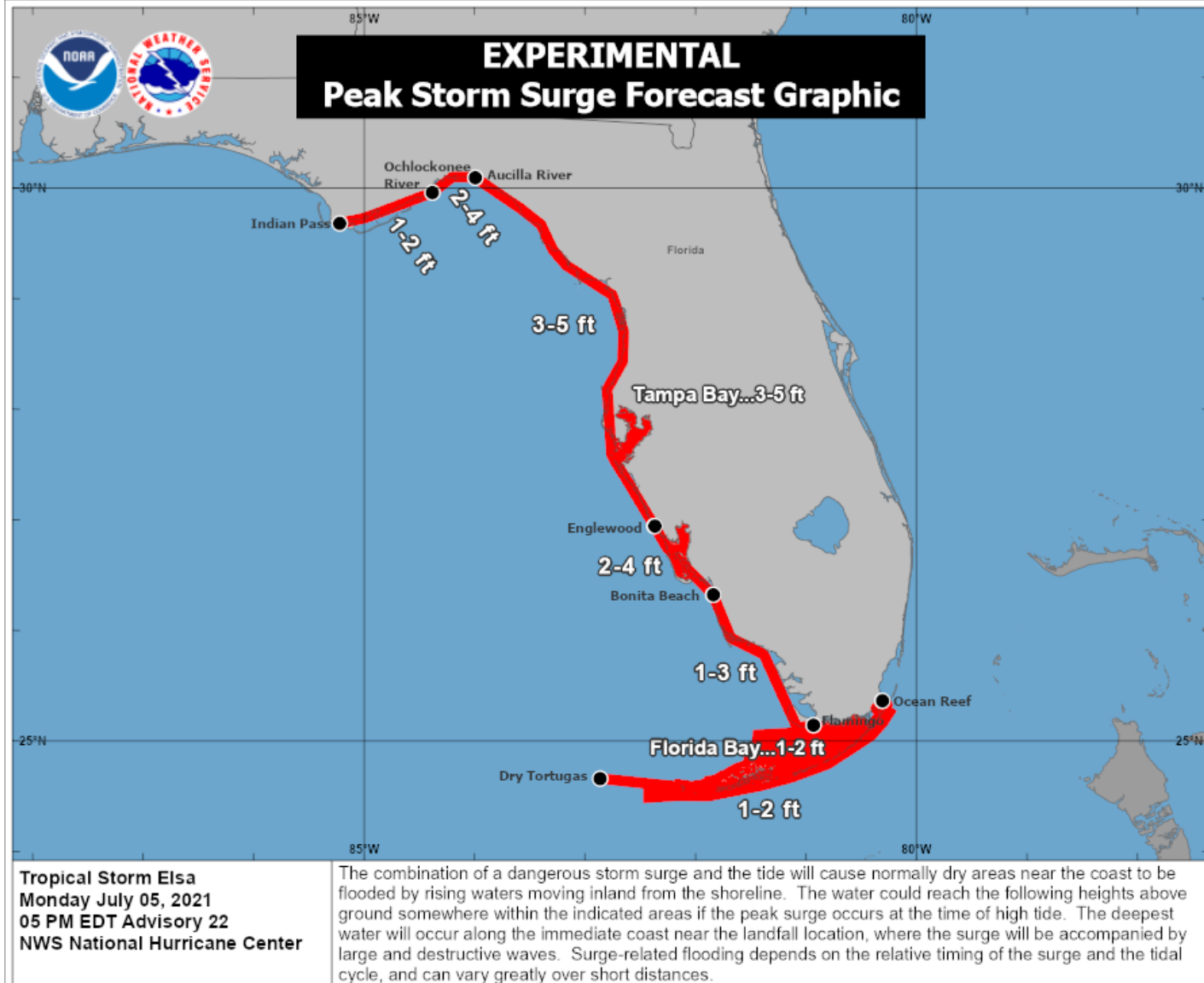
Storm Surge/Coastal Flooding

Tropical Storm Elsa

The highest storm surge is expected from the Aucilla River to Englewood where 3-5 feet of storm surge is now expected, including in Tampa Bay.

2-4 feet of storm surge is expected along the Big Bend coast from the Aucilla River to the Ochlockonee River and along the West Coast from Englewood to Bonita Beach.

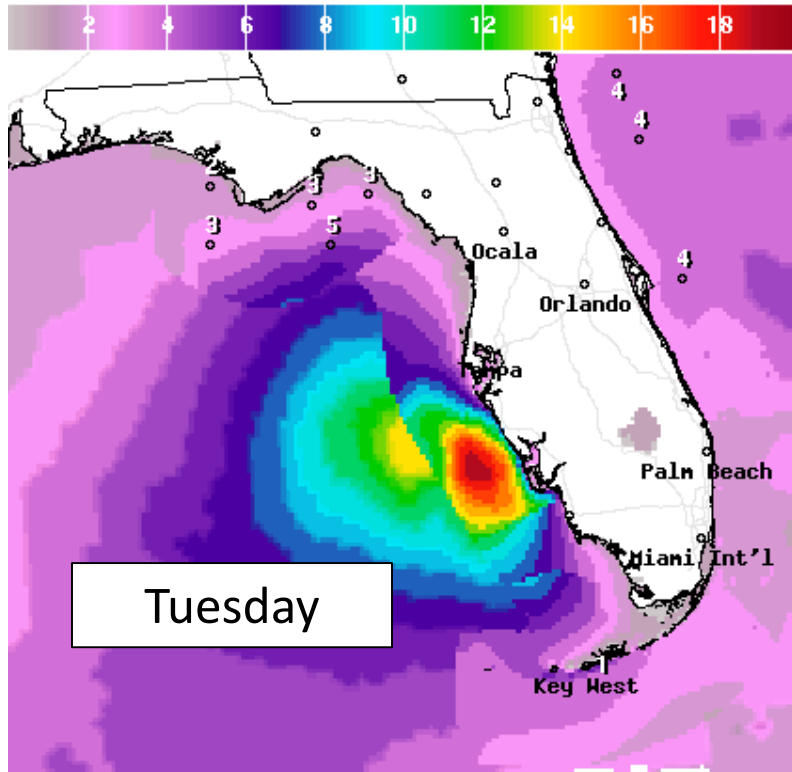
Storm surge will be around 3 feet or less along the remainder of the Big Bend from Indian Pass to the Ochlockonee River, Southwest Florida from Bonita Beach southward to Flamingo, and across the Florida Keys.





Forecast Wave Heights

Tuesday through Wednesday

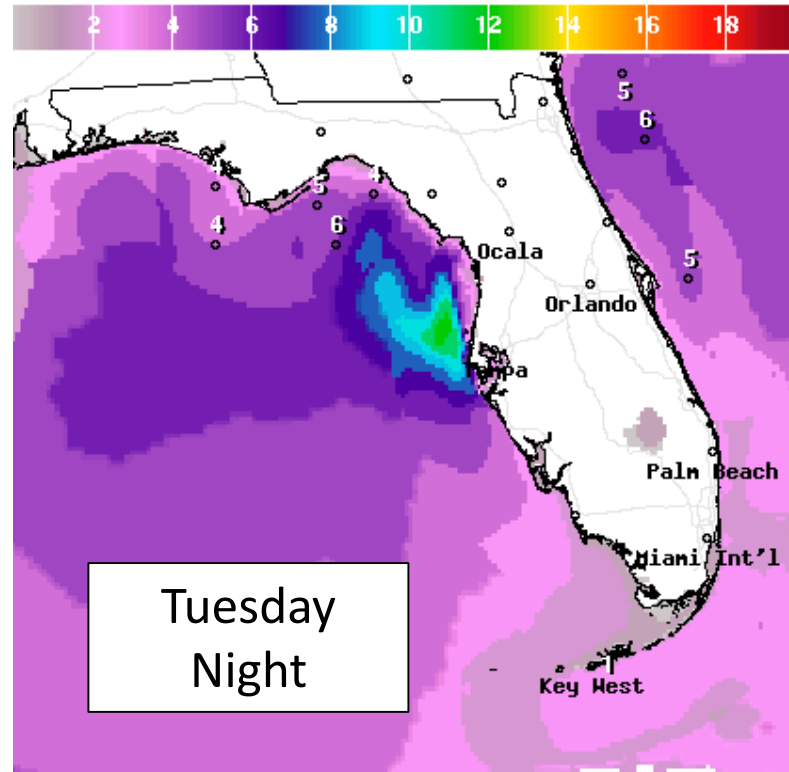


Wave Height(ft) Ending Tue Jul 06 2021 8PM EDT
(Wed Jul 07 2021 00Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

19z issuance Graphic created-Jul 05 3:28PM EDT

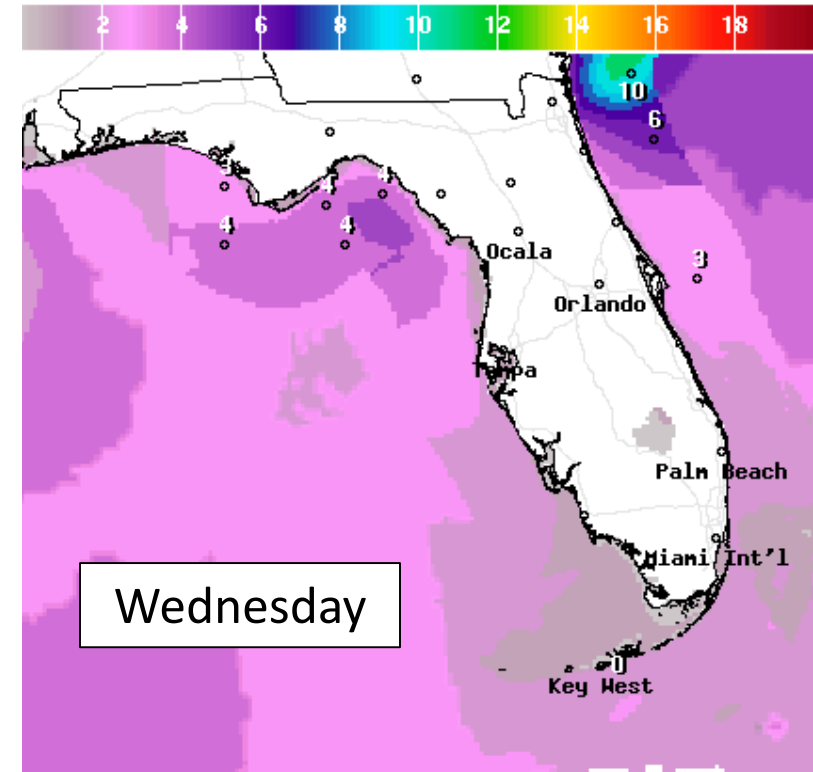


Wave Height(ft) Ending Wed Jul 07 2021 8AM EDT
(Wed Jul 07 2021 12Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

19z issuance Graphic created-Jul 05 3:29PM EDT



Wave Height(ft) Ending Wed Jul 07 2021 8PM EDT
(Thu Jul 08 2021 00Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

19z issuance Graphic created-Jul 05 3:29PM EDT

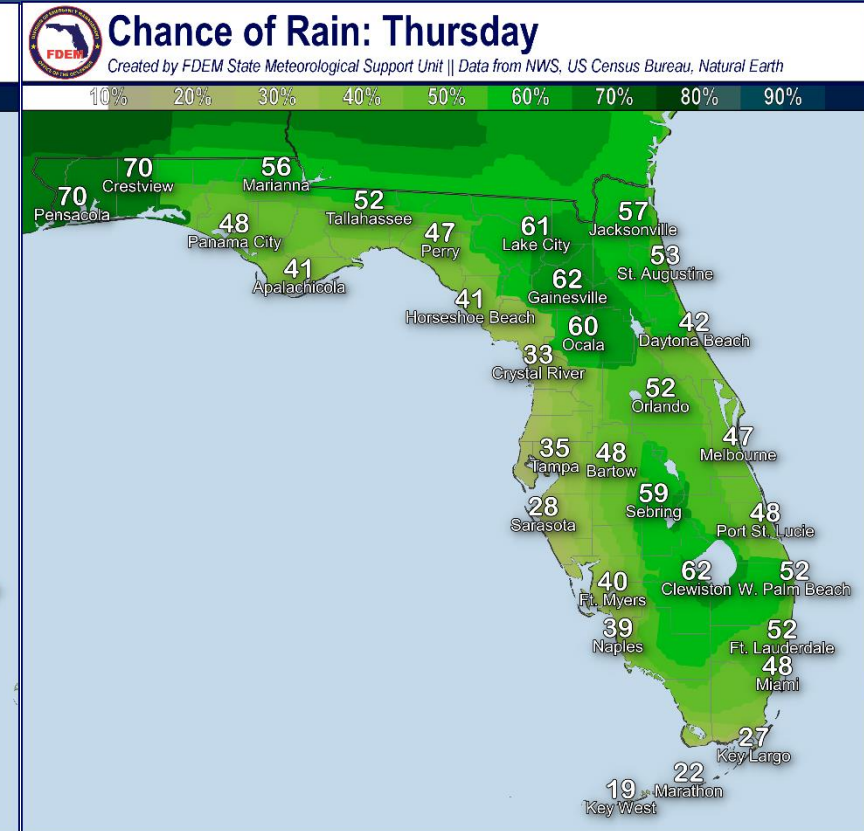
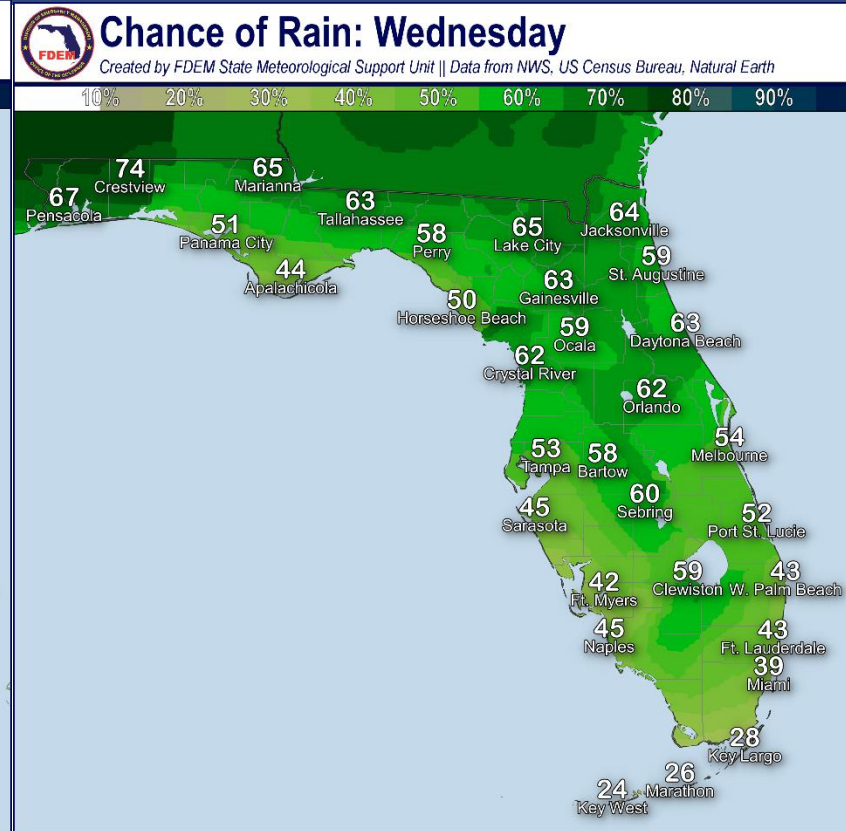
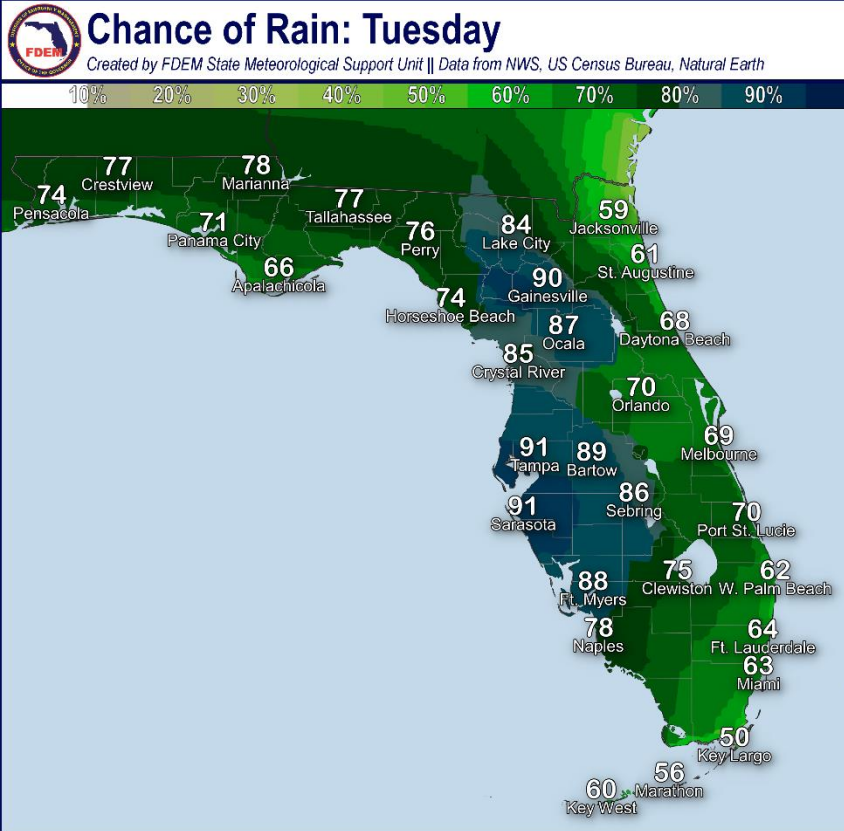


Surf will build along many Florida beaches as Elsa moves near and over the state. This will result in dangerous rip currents at nearly all Florida beaches. Minor to moderate beach erosion should be expected along parts of the West Coast with dune overwash possible in a few locations. High surf will shift to Northeast Florida by Wednesday.



Forecast Rain Chances

Tuesday through Thursday – Tropical Storm Elsa

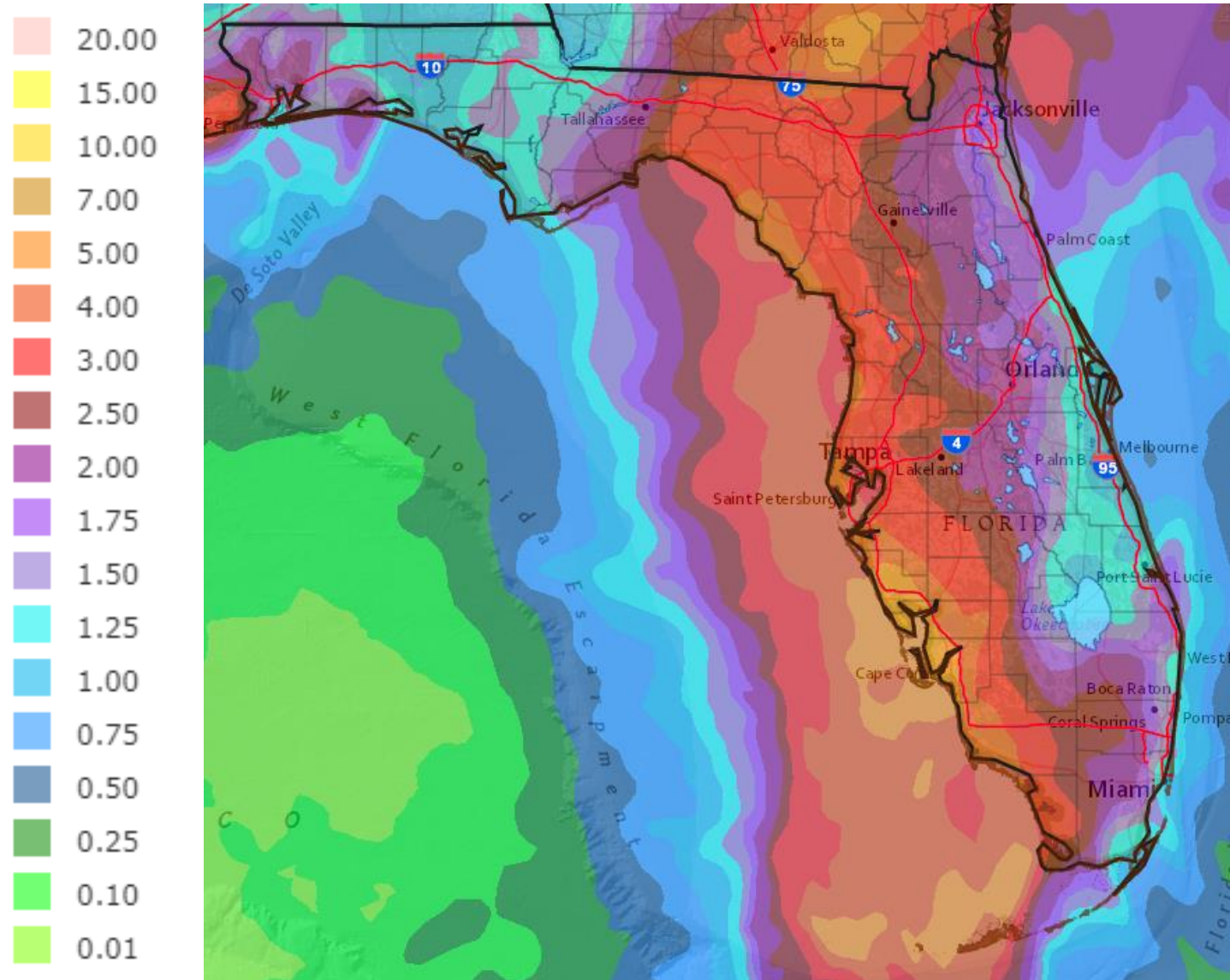


As Elsa moves up the West Coast, rain bands will move up the Peninsula Tuesday. Rain chances will decrease on Wednesday as Elsa exits, but tropical moisture will remain across the state, leading to scattered to numerous storms both Wednesday and Thursday.



Rainfall Totals Next 72 Hours

Ending 8 AM ET Thursday



Through the next 3 days, rainfall totals of 3-5" are expected along the West Coast & Northeast Florida with localized totals of 6-8" possible.

Rainfall totals will be less along the East Coast and Panhandle- from 1-3".

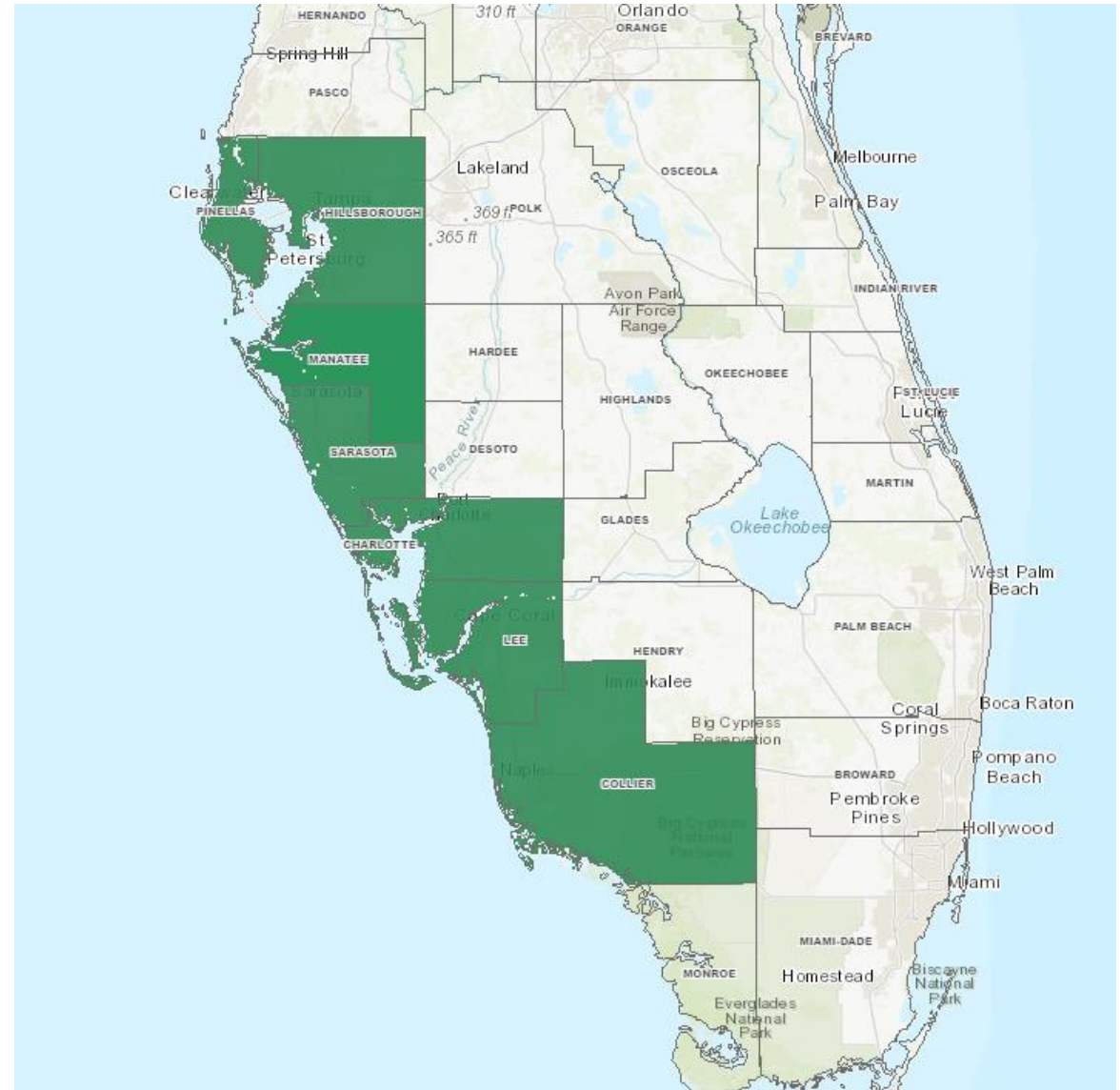


Flood Watches

[NWS Tampa](#) | [NWS Miami](#)

Areal Flood Watch:

- **Until Late Tuesday Night:** Charlotte, Collier, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, Sarasota in West Central Florida



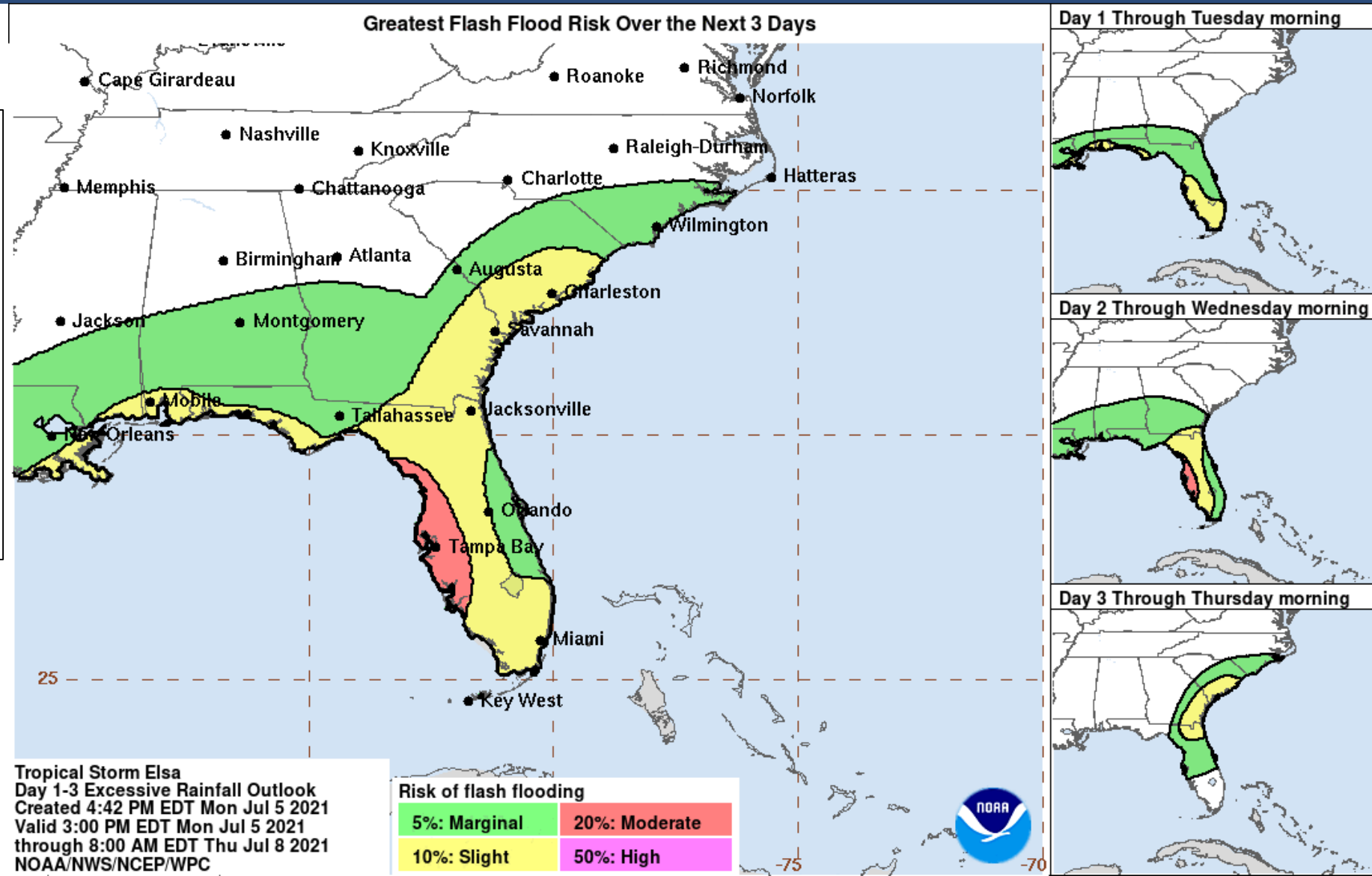


Flash Flood Outlook

3-Day Event Summary

Very heavy rainfall is expected with Tropical Storm Elsa, especially along the West Coast.

There is now a **Moderate Flash Flood Risk** (level 3 of 4) for the West Coast Tuesday into Wednesday morning.





Current & Forecast River Flooding

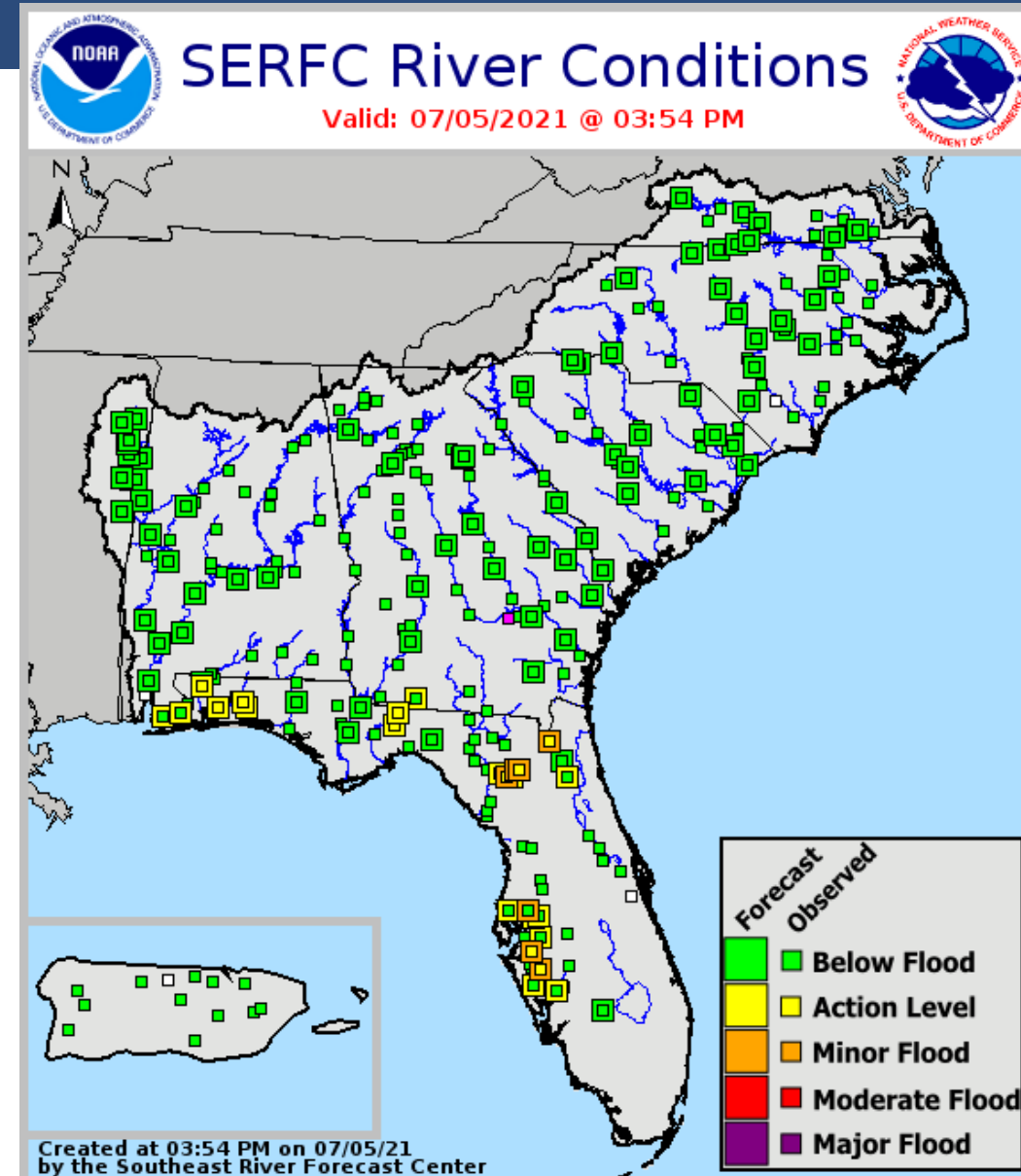
Southeast River Forecast Center

Rivers Currently in or Forecast to Reach Flood Stage:

- [St. Marys River near Macclenny](#) - **MINOR**
- [Santa Fe River at Worthington Springs](#) - **MINOR**
- [Santa Fe River at O'leno State Park](#) - **MINOR**
- [Santa Fe River near Fort White](#) - **MINOR**
- [Cypress Creek at Worthington Gardens](#) - **MINOR**
- [Little Manatee River near Wimauma](#) - **MINOR**
- [Manatee River near Myakka Head](#) - **MINOR**

Additional rises are possible depending on where Elsa's rain bands set up.

More details on river levels available at the [Southeast River Forecast Center website](#).





Severe Weather Outlook Monday

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

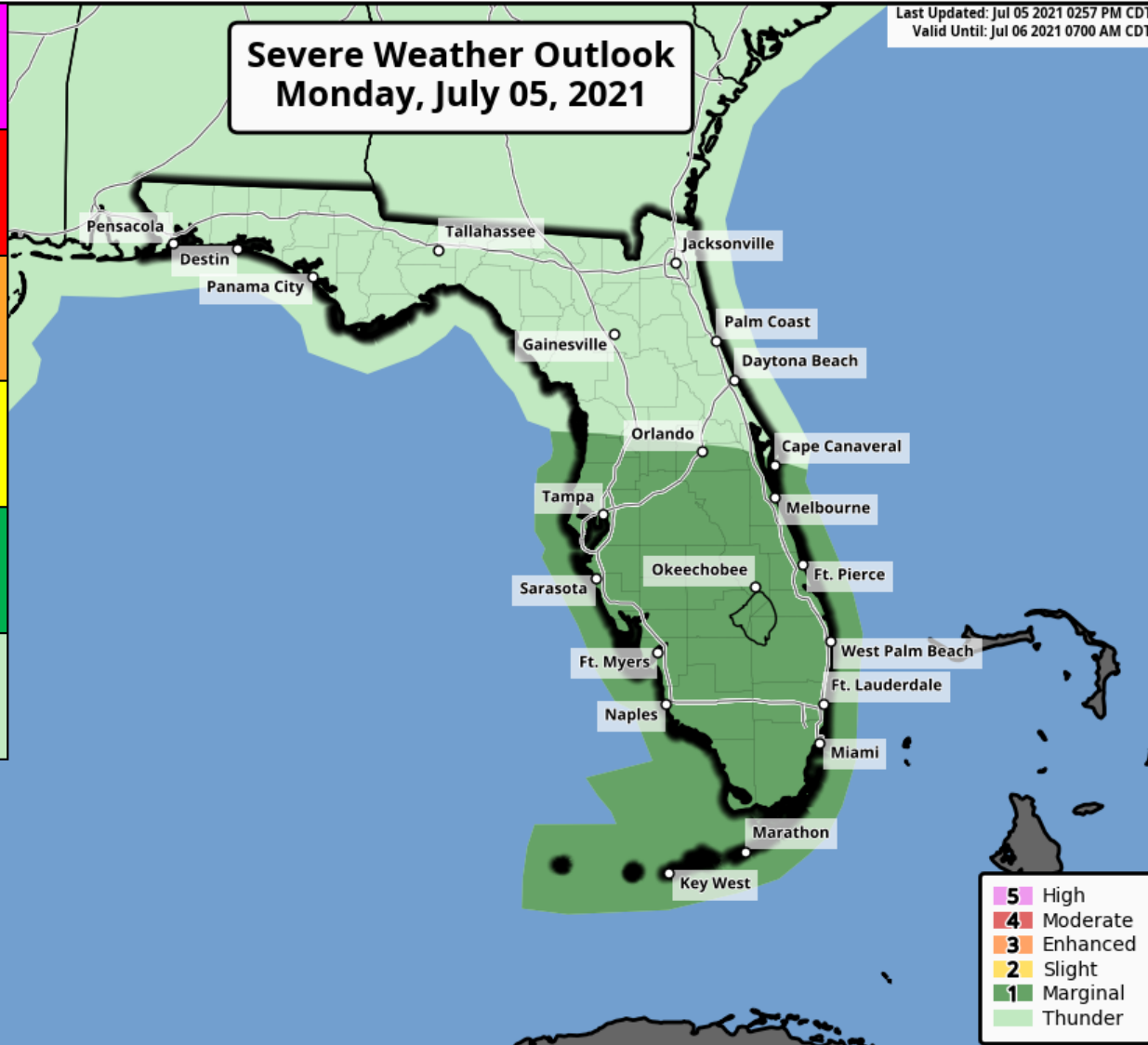
Isolated severe storms possible

Thunderstorms

No severe storms expected

Severe Weather Outlook Monday, July 05, 2021

Last Updated: Jul 05 2021 0257 PM CDT
Valid Until: Jul 06 2021 0700 AM CDT



As the outer bands from Elsa move into South Florida and the Florida Keys today/tonight, isolated tornadoes are possible. There is a **Marginal Risk** (level 1 of 5) of Severe Weather.

THUNDERSTORMS
(no label)

No severe*
thunderstorms
expected

Lightning/flooding
threats exist with all
thunderstorms

1 - MARGINAL
(MRGL)

Isolated severe
thunderstorms
possible

Limited in duration
and/or coverage
and/or intensity



National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center

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



Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday

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

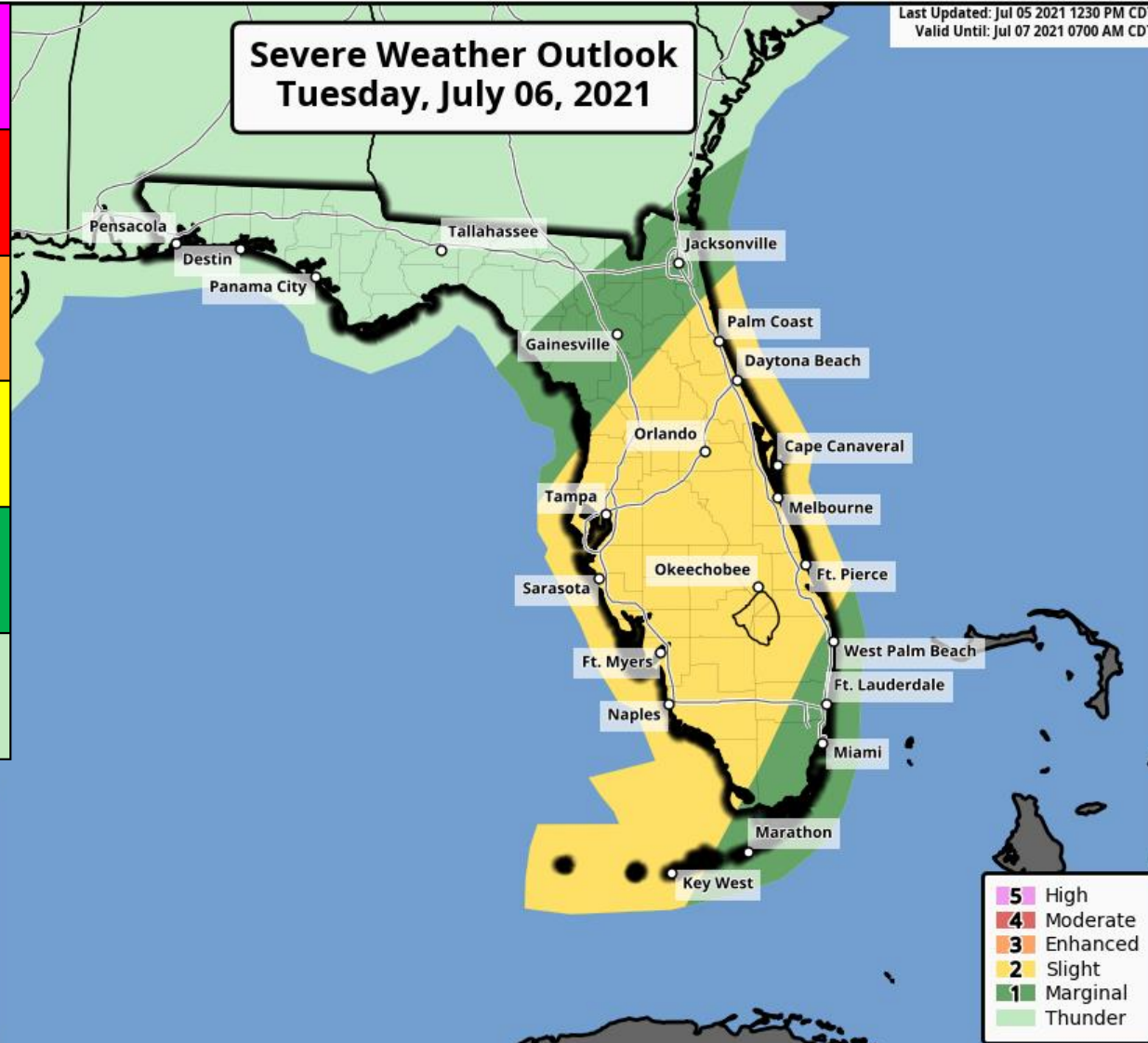
Isolated severe storms possible

Thunderstorms

No severe storms expected

Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday, July 06, 2021

Last Updated: Jul 05 2021 1230 PM CDT
Valid Until: Jul 07 2021 0700 AM CDT



As Elsa moves northward, rain bands will move across the western half of the Peninsula. Isolated tornadoes will be possible and there is a **Marginal to Slight Risk** (level 1-2 of 5) of Severe Weather.

1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)

Isolated severe
thunderstorms
possible

Limited in duration
and/or coverage
and/or intensity

2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)

Scattered
severe storms
possible

Short-lived and/or
not widespread,
isolated intense
storms possible



National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center

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



Overall Summary

Tropical Storm Elsa

- The center of Elsa is about 130 miles south of Key West, FL and moving to the northwest at 14 mph with max winds around 50 mph.
- Elsa made landfall in Cuba and is weakening as it moves across land. Late tonight, Elsa will move back over water and head north over the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Some slight re-strengthening is possible after it emerges into the Gulf of Mexico.

Florida Outlook:

- Do not focus on the exact forecast points as impacts will extend well outside of the forecast cone. The storm will likely be lopsided with most of the rainfall to the east of the center impacting the entire West Coast as Elsa moves northward.
- **Tropical Storm Warnings:** Middle and Lower Keys (Craig Key to Key West & Dry Tortugas); Citrus, Dixie, Hernando, Hillsborough, Levy, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota and Taylor; Coastal portions of Charlotte, Collier, Lee, Jefferson and Wakulla; Mainland Monroe.
- **Tropical Storm Watch:** Alachua, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Lake, Madison, Marion, Sumter, Suwannee, Coastal Franklin, and Inland Jefferson, Lee, and Charlotte.
- Tropical storm force winds from 40-65 mph are possible, particularly in gusts with bands of showers/thunderstorms on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- **Storm Surge Warning:** Bonita Beach to the Aucilla River, or the coastal areas of Charlotte, Citrus, Dixie, Hernando, Hillsborough, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Taylor.
- **Storm Surge Watches:** Coastal areas of Jefferson and Wakulla County.
- Storm Surge values of 3-5' are expected from the Aucilla River to Englewood with 2-4' from the Ochlockonee to the Aucilla and from Englewood to Bonita Beach. 1-3' elsewhere in the Big Bend, Southwest Florida, and the Keys.
- **Flood Watch:** Collier, Charlotte, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, Sarasota in West Central Florida.
- A widespread 3-5" of rain is possible across the eastern Big Bend, Northeast Florida, and West Coast over the next 3 days with localized totals of 6-8". This could result in some urban or flash flooding early next week due to wet/saturated soils as well as some minor river flooding. Additional Flood Watches may be needed.
- Saturated soils will make trees more susceptible to falling in strong winds.
- Dangerous rip currents are expected at most Florida beaches. Minor to moderate beach erosion is also possible along West Coast beaches with dune overwash.
- There is a threat of isolated tornadoes through tonight in South Florida and the Keys, spreading up the Peninsula through Tuesday.

The next briefing packet will be issued Tuesday morning, unless significant changes warrant an update tonight. 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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