



TROPICAL UPDATE



8:00 AM EDT

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Tropical Storm Elsa

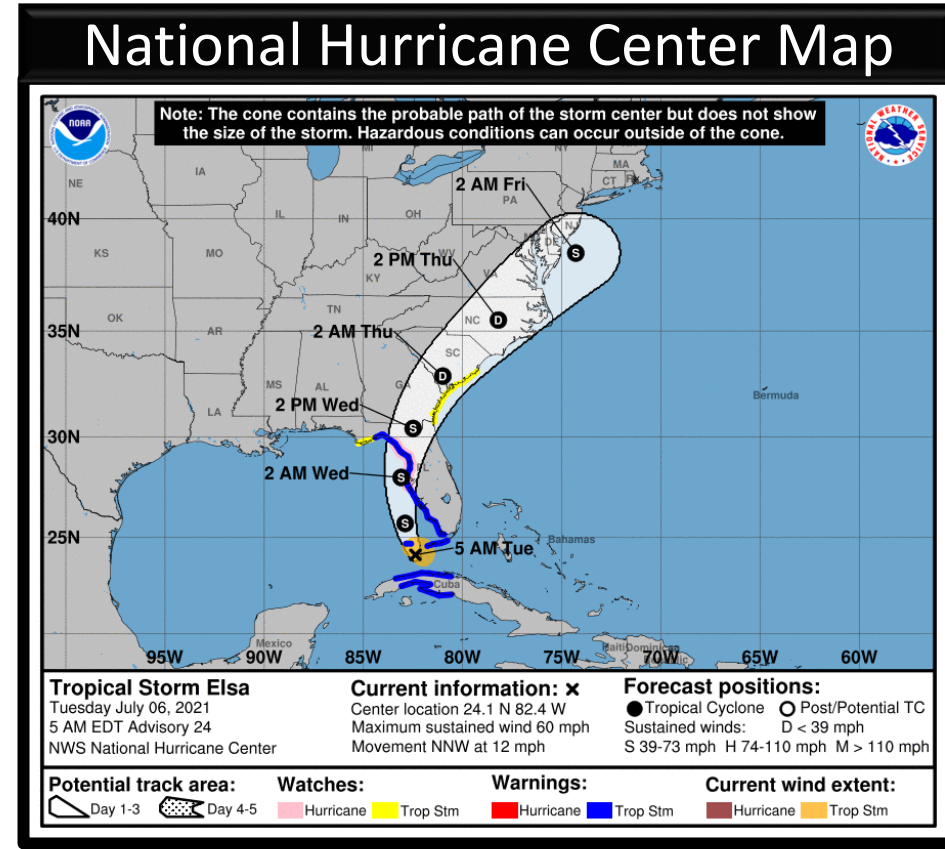
This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an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

8 AM 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 Hurricane Watches are in effect for the Nature Coast/eastern Big Bend from Dixie County to Pinellas County. Elsa will be near hurricane strength at landfall. The track remains the same along with surge, wind, and rainfall impacts. There is the potential for several tornadoes to occur today across the Peninsula.

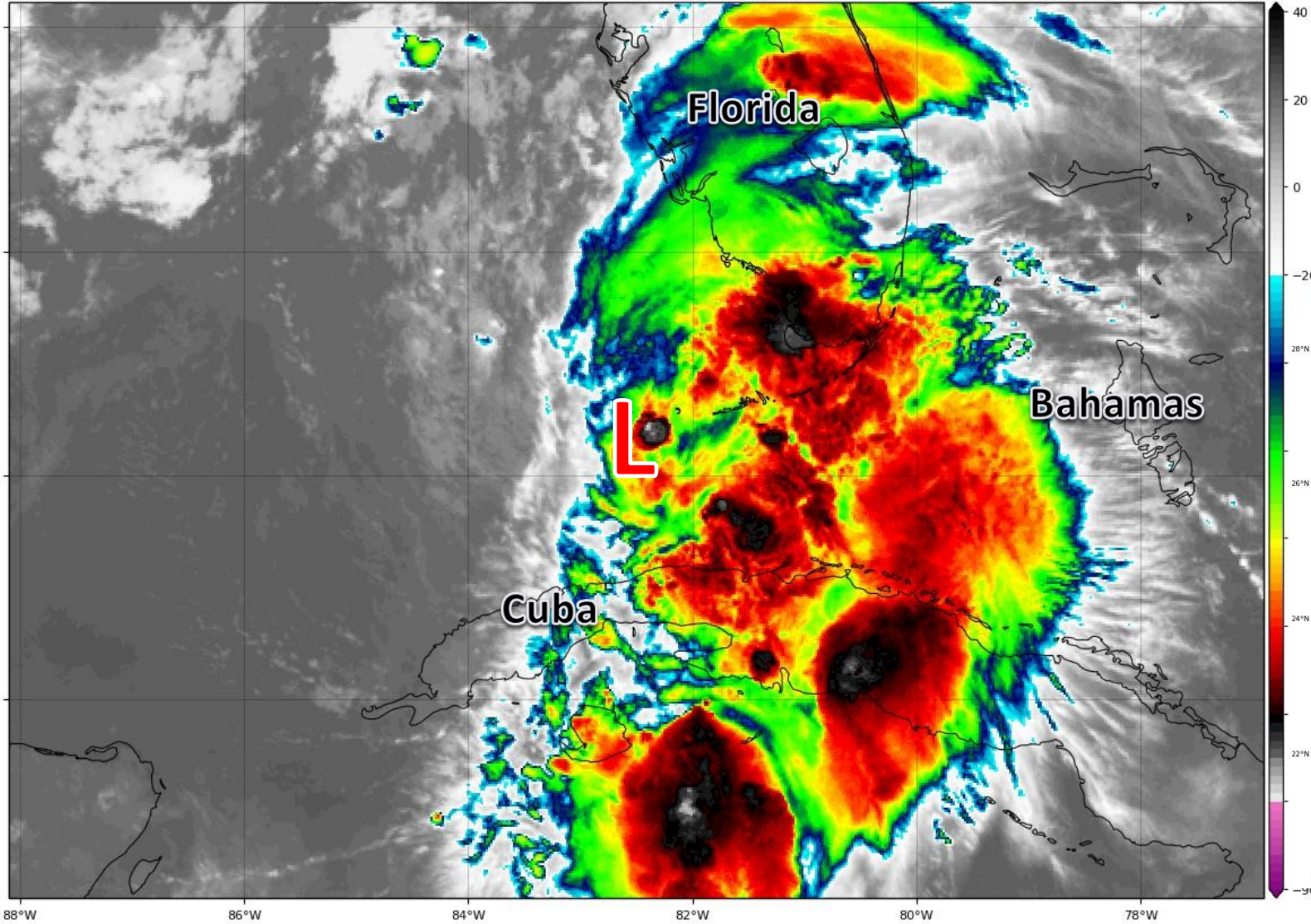


Satellite Imagery

Florida Straits – Tropical Storm Elsa

GOES-16 Channel 13 (IR) Brightness Temperature (°C) at 11:22Z Jul 06, 2021

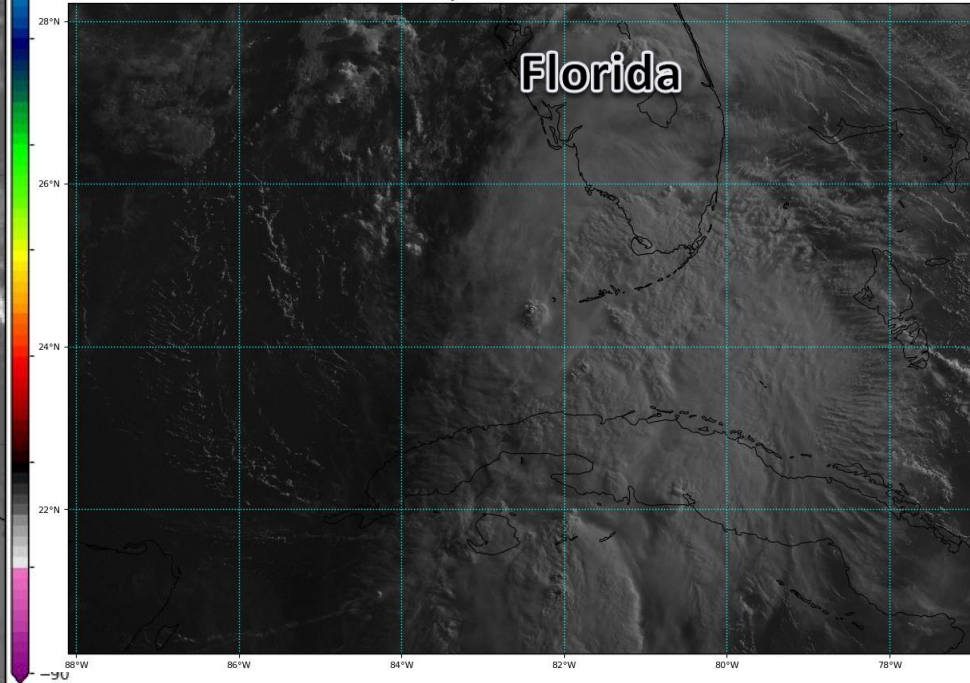
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM



Elsa has moved back over water with the center just west of Key West. Elsa remains disorganized, with all of the showers, thunderstorms, and wind on the eastern half of the storm.

GOES-16 Channel 2 (visible) Reflectance at 11:22Z Jul 06, 2021

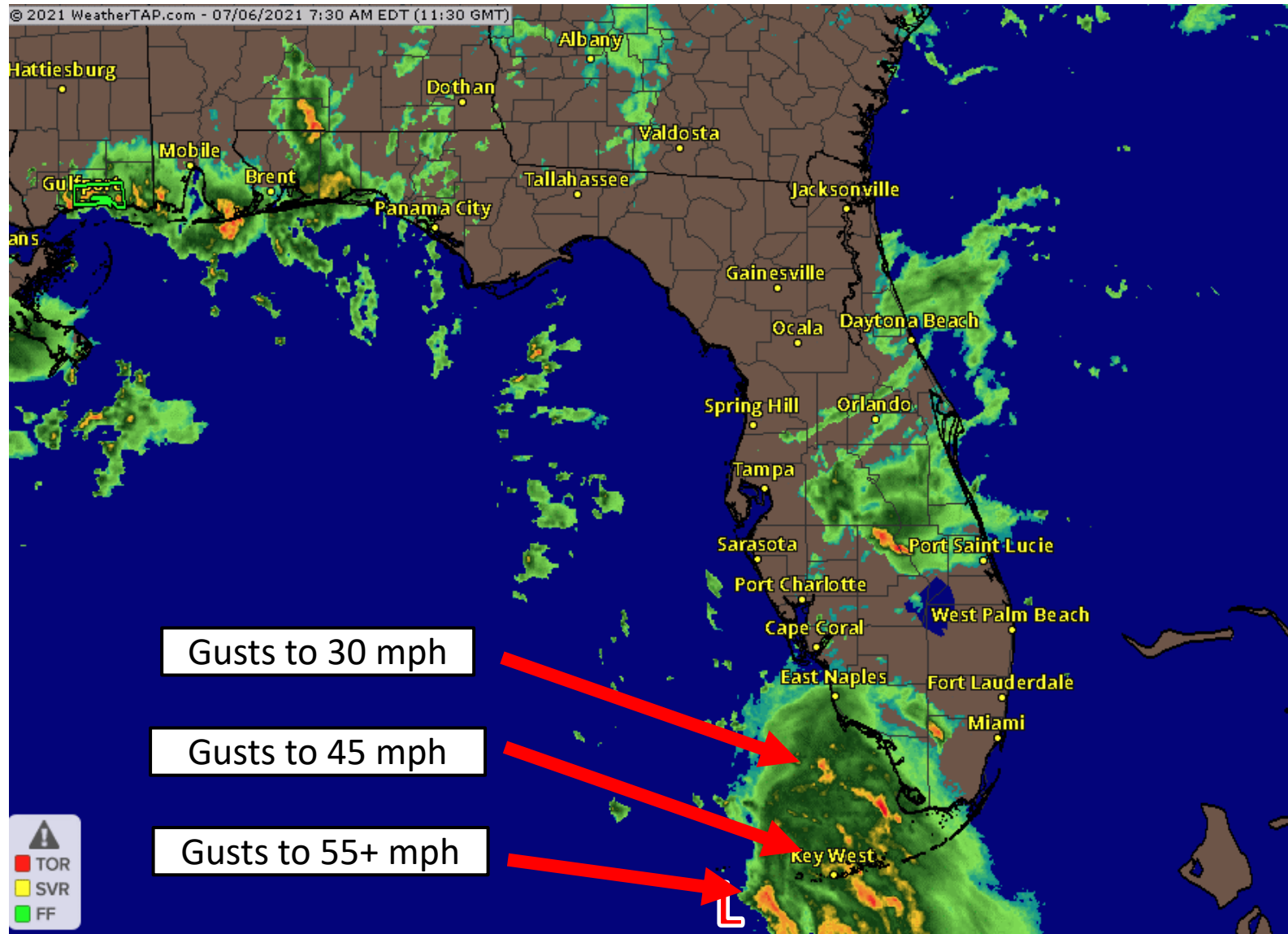
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM





Current Florida Radar

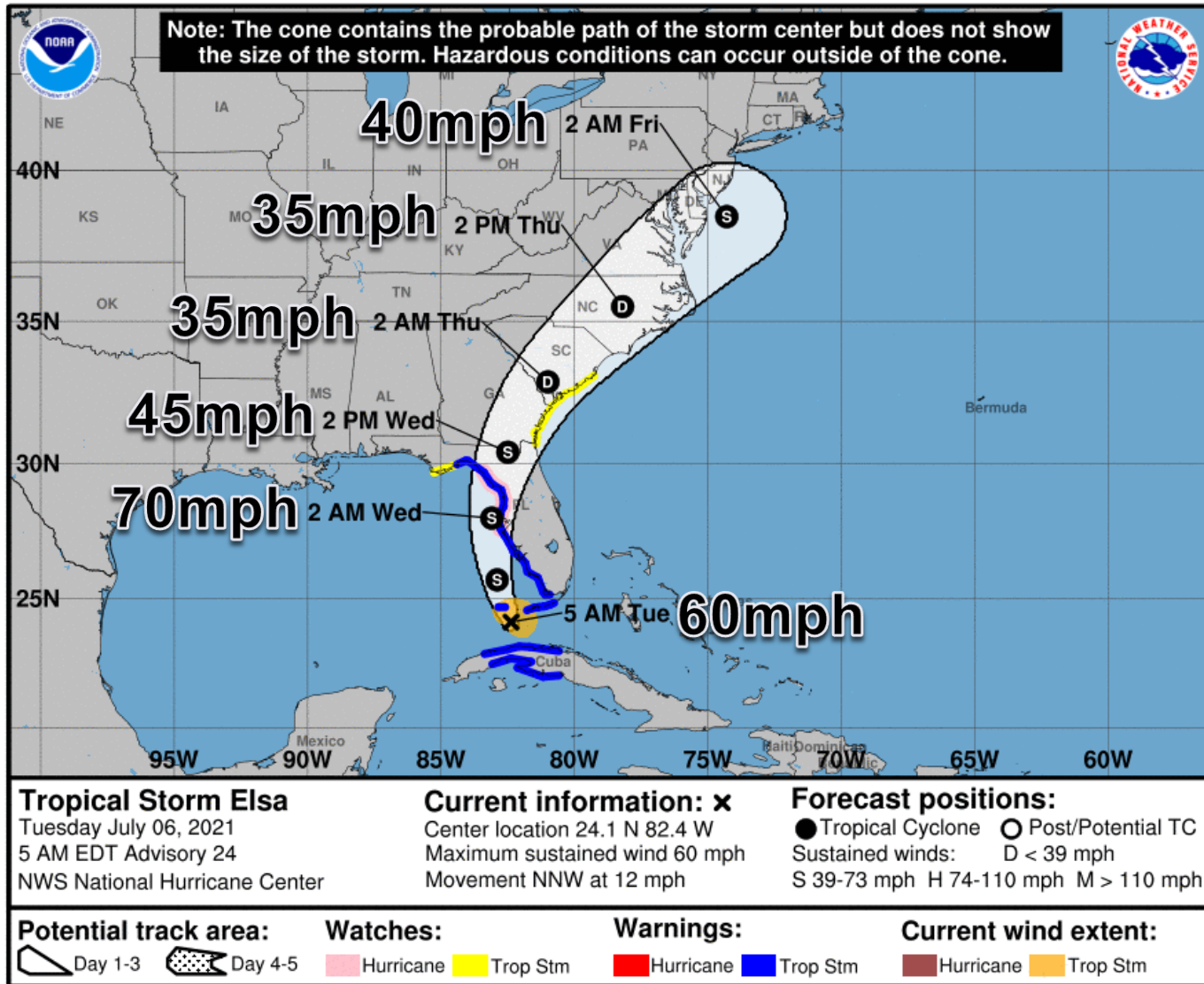
As of 7:30 AM ET





Official Forecast Track – Elsa

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



- The center of Elsa is about 50 miles west of Key West, FL, or near the Dry Tortugas, and moving to the north-northwest at 12 mph.
- Elsa remains a tropical storm with maximum sustained winds near 60 mph.
- Elsa is back over water and will continue northward just offshore of the West Coast of Florida.
- Some re-strengthening is possible to near hurricane strength, but it is not expected to be rapid or significant.
- Landfall appears most likely in the eastern Big Bend of Florida or Nature Coast north of Tampa Bay.
- The storm will remain 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

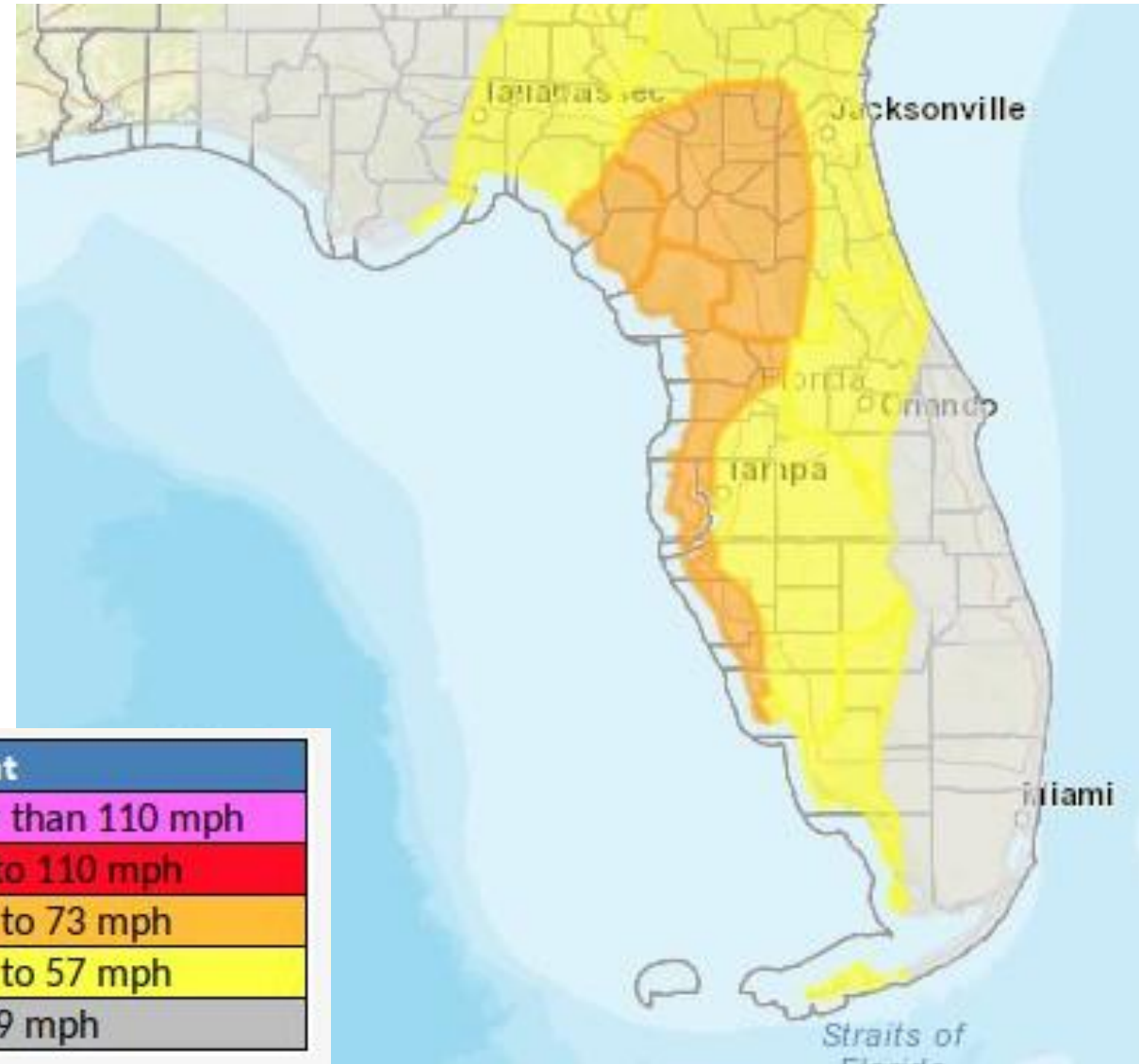
Tropical Storm Elsa

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

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

[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

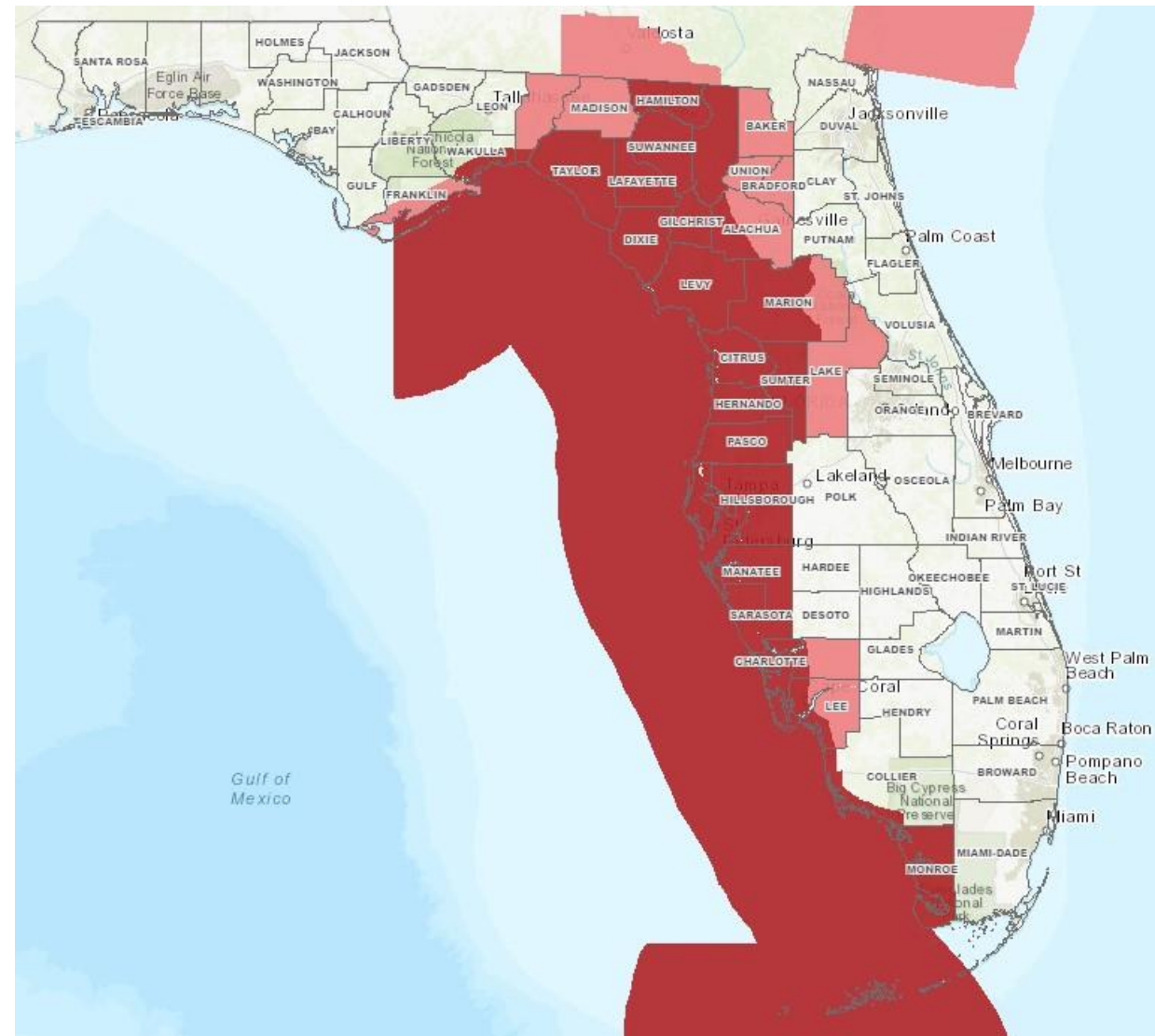
In Effect Until Further Notice

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 Jefferson, and coastal Wakulla Counties**
- **Western Alachua, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Suwannee, western and central Marion, Sumter, Columbia, and Hamilton County**

Tropical Storm Watches:

- **Inland Lee, inland Charlotte, Lake, eastern Marion, eastern Alachua, Madison, Baker, Union, Bradford, inland Jefferson, and coastal Franklin Counties**



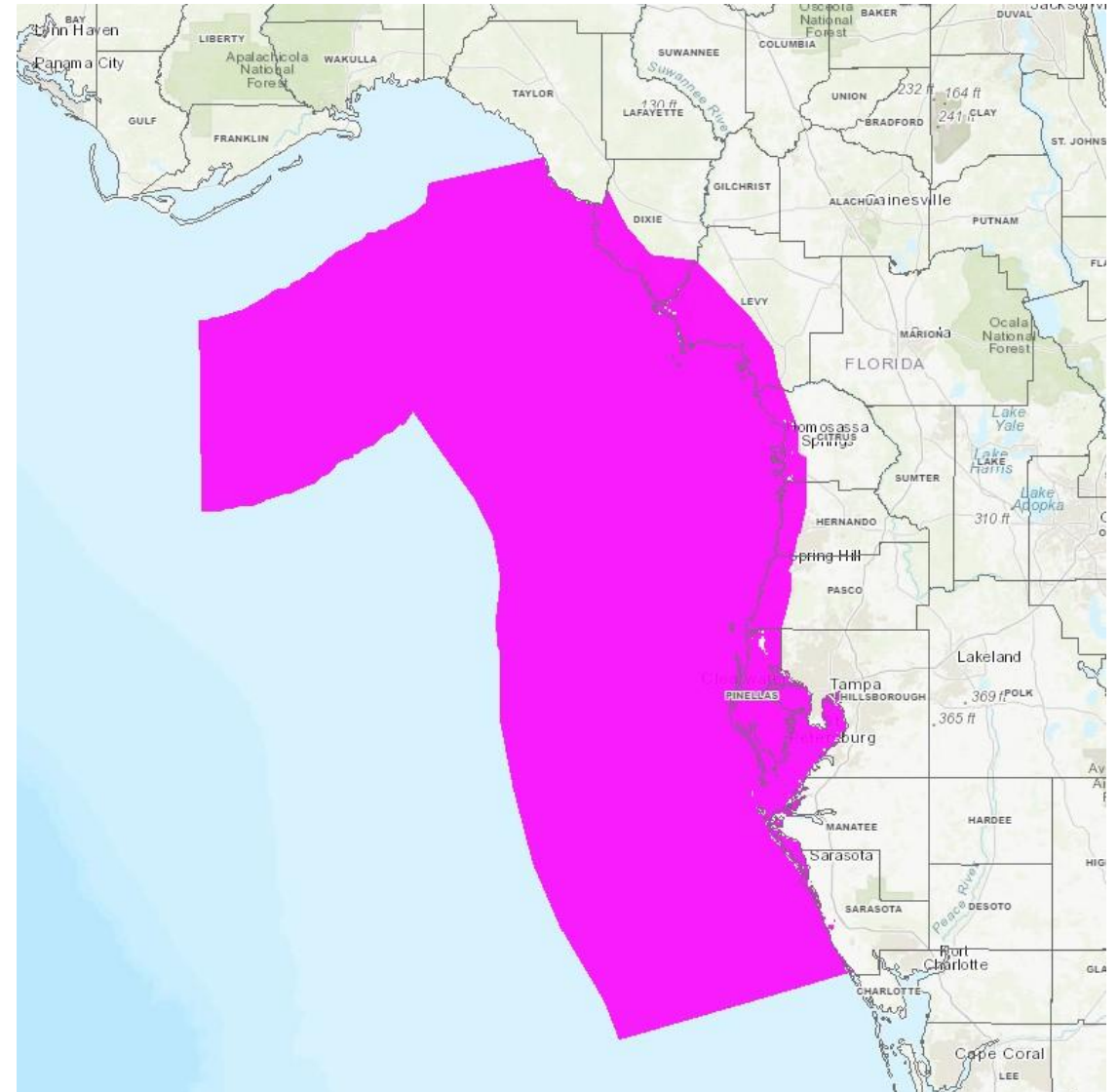


Wind Watches and Warnings

In Effect Until Further Notice

Hurricane Watches:

- Coastal portions of Dixie, Levy, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, and all of Pinellas County



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



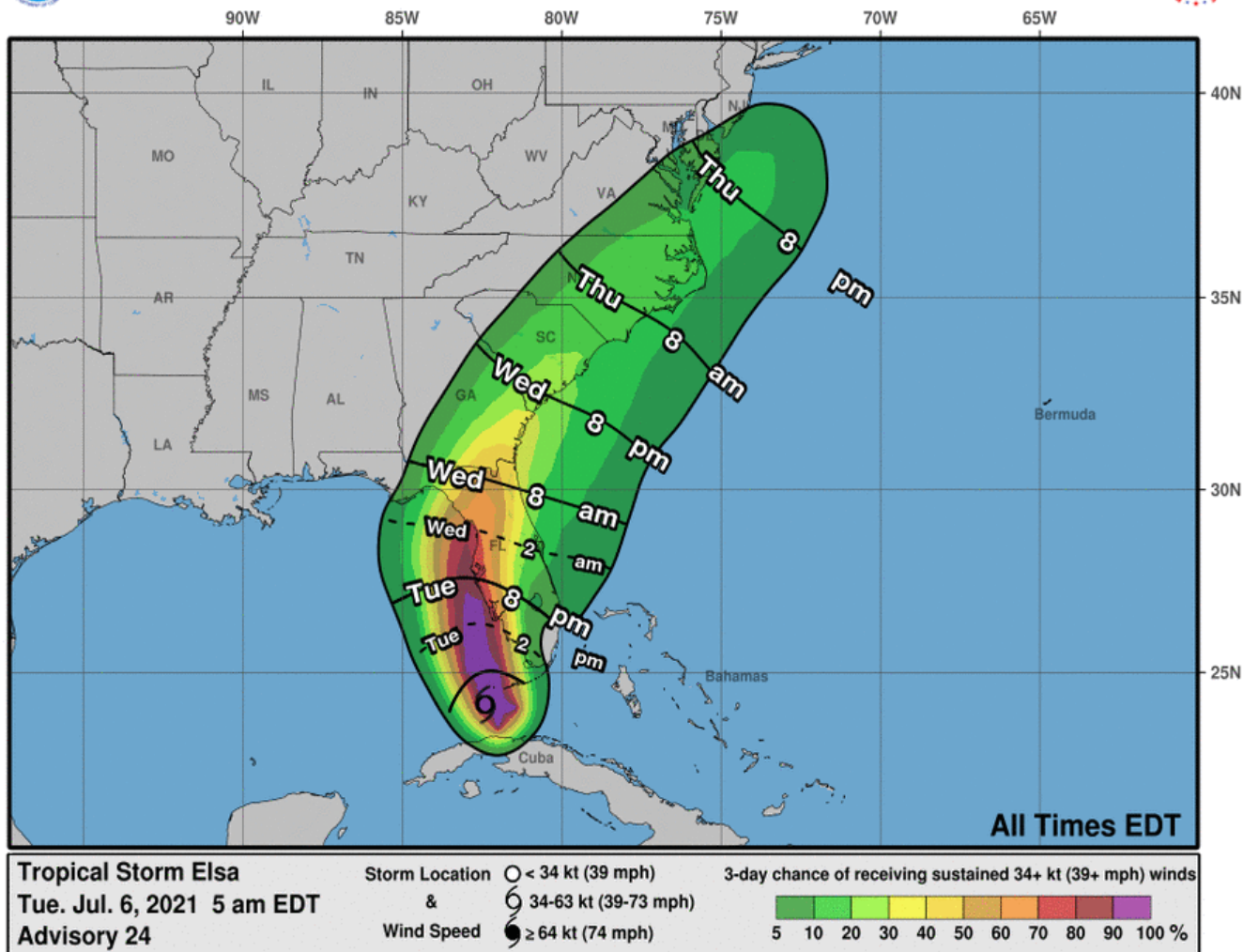
weather.gov/mob



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	100%	ONGOING
Marathon	6%	-6%
Naples	60%	+20%
Miami	3%	+/-0%
West Palm Beach	6%	-2%
Ft. Myers	40%	+19%
Tampa	82%	+18%
Orlando	28%	+12%
Cedar Key	71%	+20%
Tallahassee	10%	-12%
Gainesville	62%	+21%
Jacksonville	44%	+16%

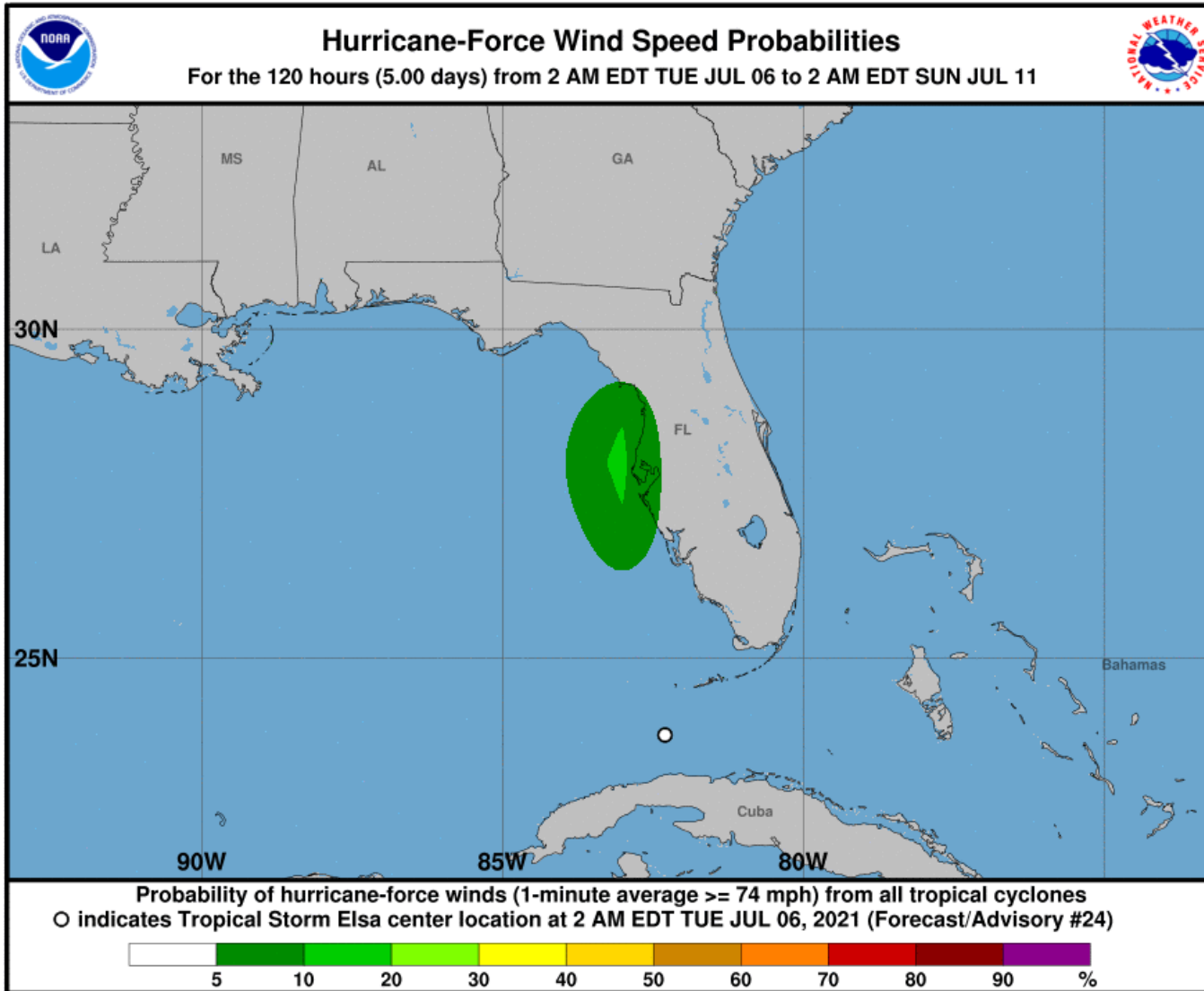
The odds of tropical storm force winds have increased along the West Coast and in Northeast Florida.

Tropical storm force winds are ongoing in gusts in Key West, and **most likely** to begin after Noon this afternoon from Naples to Tampa, and tonight from Tampa to Cedar Key, and tomorrow morning across Northeast Florida.



Hurricane Wind Speed Probabilities

Probabilities of Sustained Hurricane Force Winds (>74 mph)



Cedar Key: 6%
Tampa: 7%
Venice: 6%
Gainesville: 3%
Jacksonville: 1%

Odds of hurricane force winds are low but not zero. The greatest chance (nearing 10%, or 1 in 10), is along the immediate coast from Clearwater to Cedar Key, where the Hurricane Watch is in effect.

If these winds were to occur, it would be late tonight, or first thing tomorrow morning as landfall occurs.



Key Messages

From the National Hurricane Center



Key Messages for Tropical Storm Elsa Advisory 24: 5:00 AM EDT Tue Jul 06, 2021



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

2. There is a danger of life-threatening storm surge along portions of the west coast of Florida tonight and Wednesday, and a Storm Surge Warning is in effect for that area.

3. A Hurricane Watch has been issued for a portion of the west-central and Big Bend coast of Florida, where hurricane conditions are possible tonight and early Wednesday. Tropical storm conditions are expected across portions of the Florida Keys and much of the west coast of the state, where a Tropical Storm Warning is in effect.

4. A Tropical Storm Watch has been issued for the Georgia coast and portions of the South Carolina coast, where tropical storm conditions are possible late Wednesday and early Thursday.

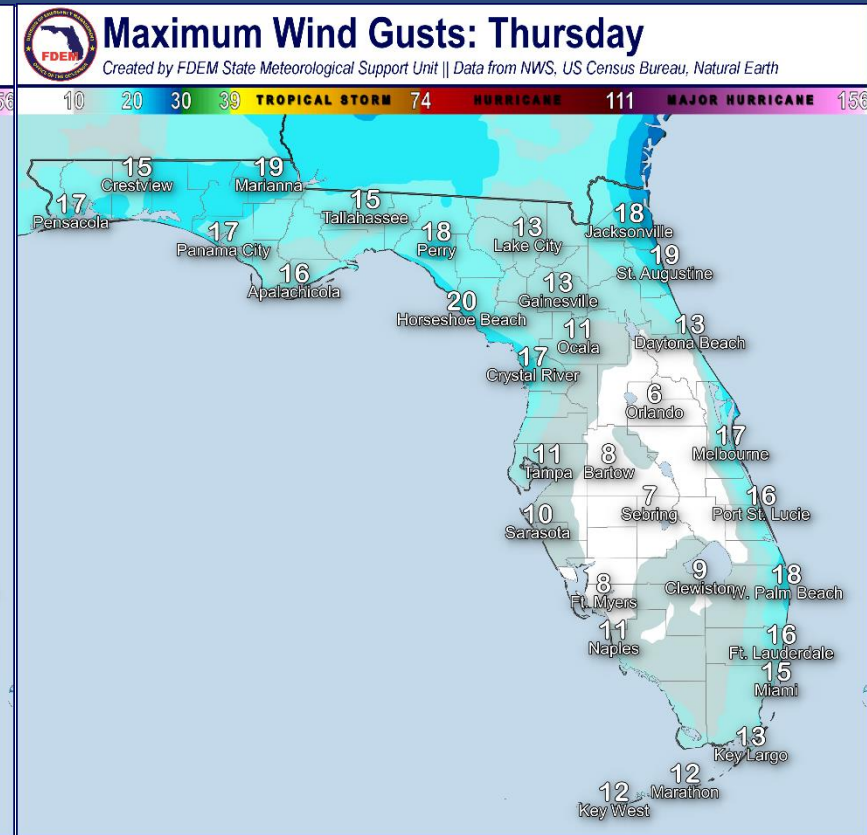
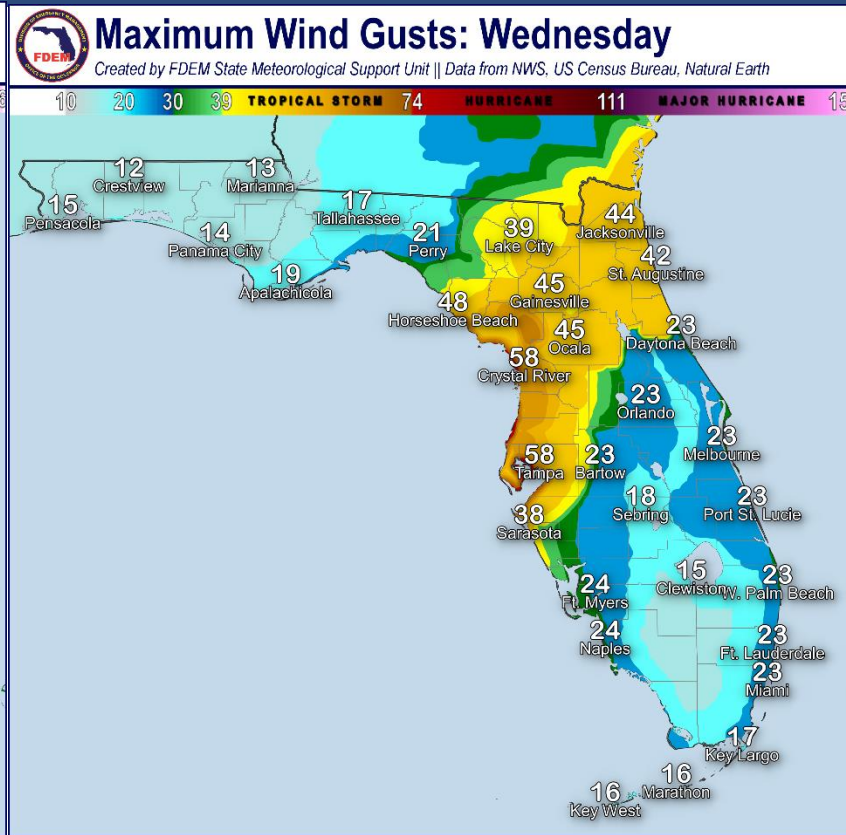
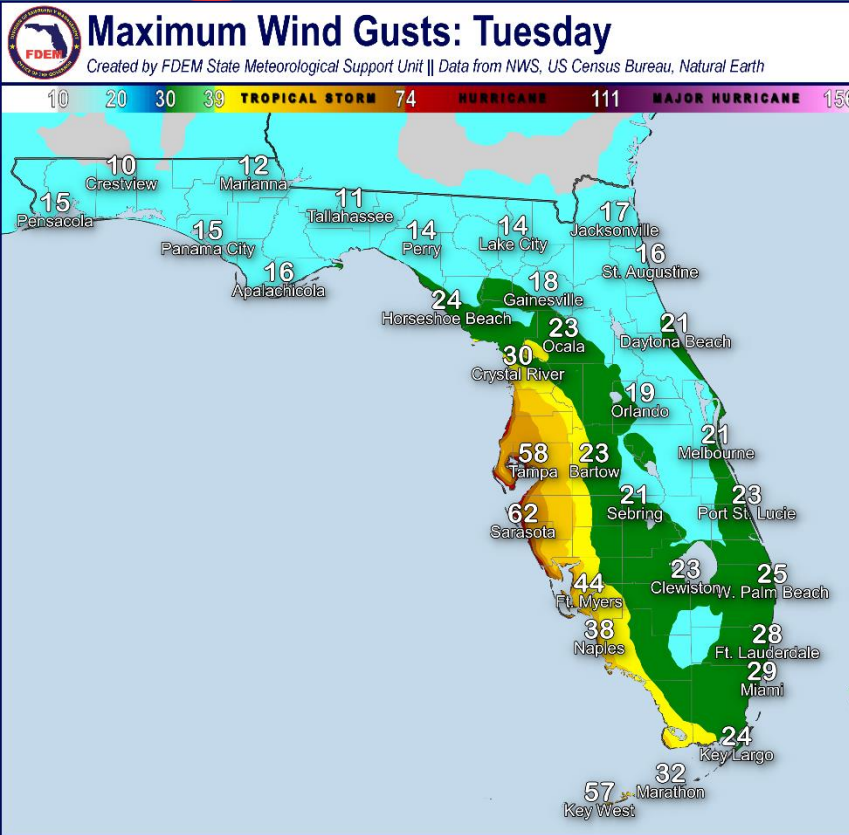


For more information go to hurricanes.gov



Max Wind Gusts Next 3 Days

Higher Gusts Possible in Thunderstorms



Higher gusts are possible in heavy thunderstorms and along the immediate coastline of the eastern Big Bend and Nature Coast!



Surge Watches and Warnings

In Effect Until Further Notice

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

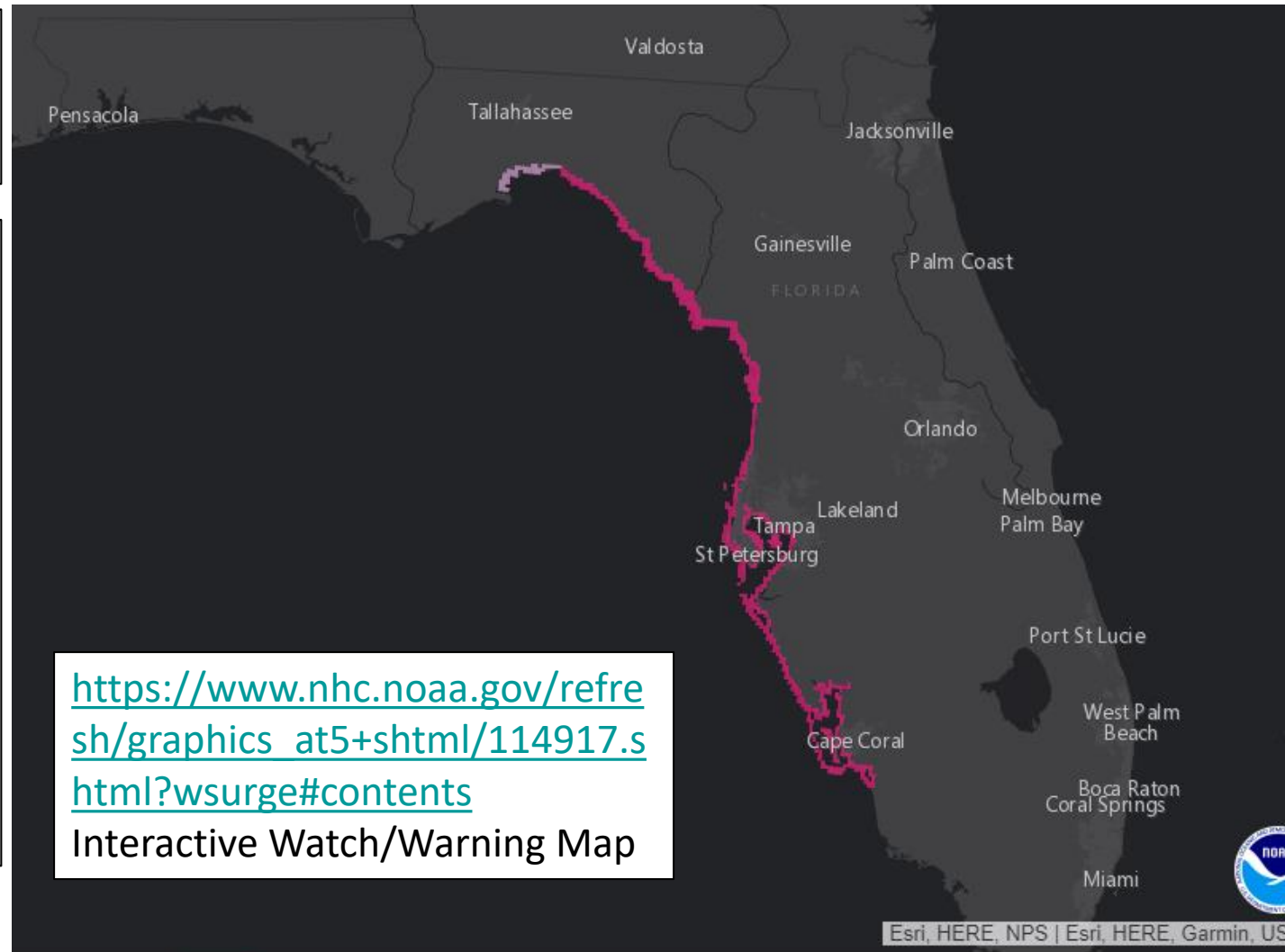
Interactive P-Surge Inundation Map

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



60mi

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.





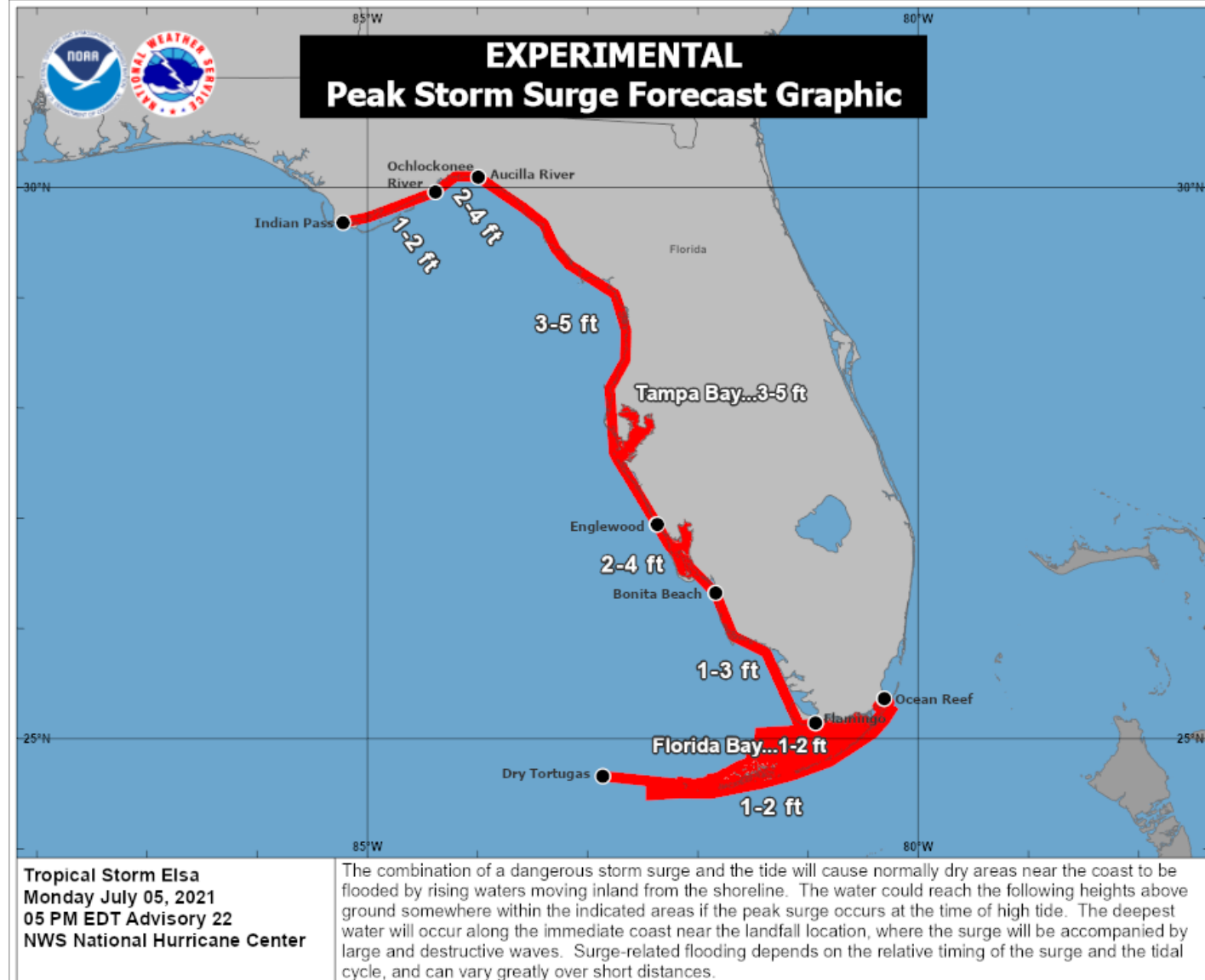
Storm Surge/Coastal Flooding

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.

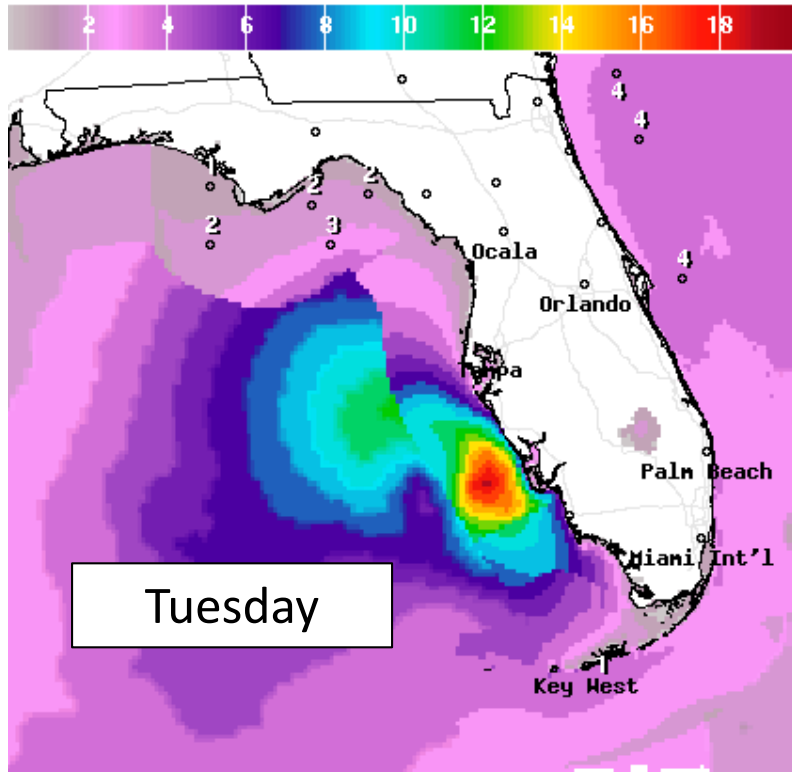
Storm surge will be around 3 feet or less along the remainder of the Big Bend from Indian Pass to the Ochlockonee River, Southwest Florida from Bonita Beach southward to Flamingo, and across the Florida Keys.





Forecast Wave Heights

Tuesday through Wednesday



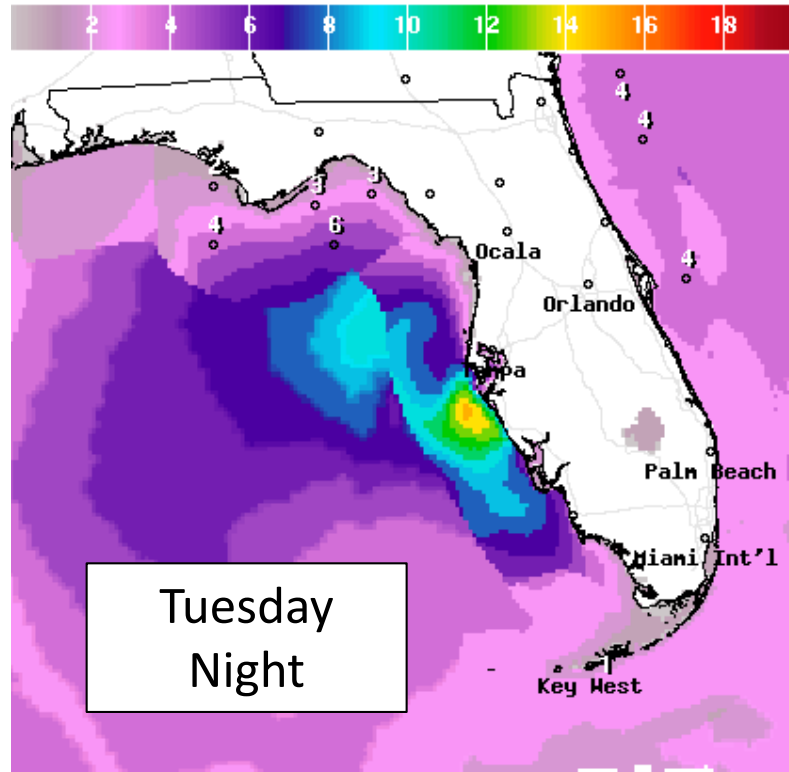
Wave Height(ft) Ending Tue Jul 06 2021 8PM EDT
(Wed Jul 07 2021 00Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

10z issuance

Graphic created-Jul 06 6:28AM EDT



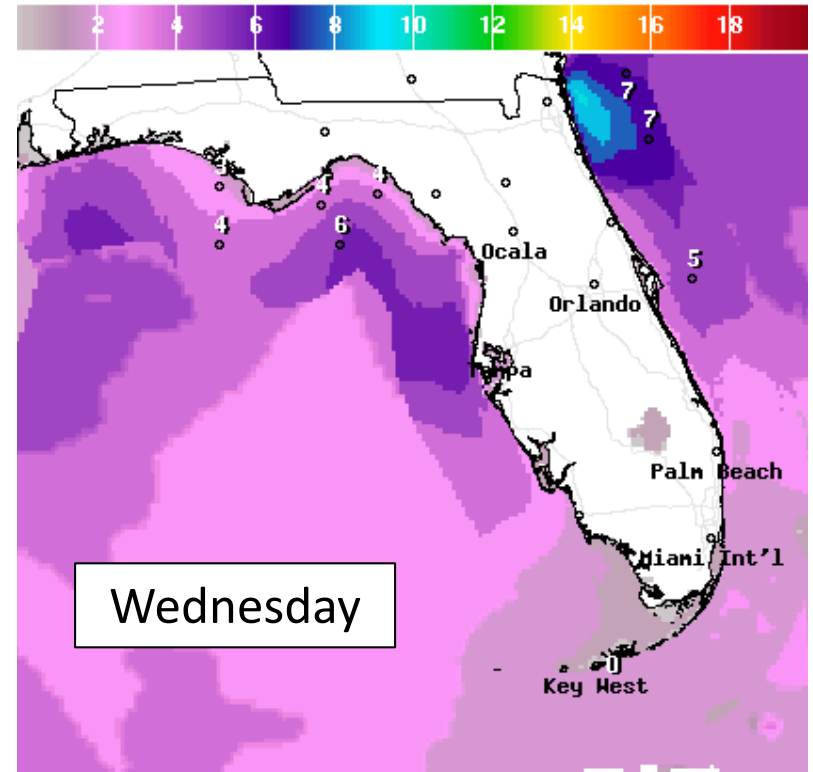
Wave Height(ft) Ending Wed Jul 07 2021 2AM EDT
(Wed Jul 07 2021 06Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

10z issuance

Graphic created-Jul 06 6:28AM EDT



Wave Height(ft) Ending Wed Jul 07 2021 2PM EDT
(Wed Jul 07 2021 18Z)



National Digital Forecast Database

10z issuance

Graphic created-Jul 06 6:29AM EDT



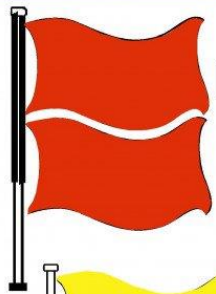
Surf will build along many Florida beaches as Elsa moves near and over the state. This will result in dangerous rip currents at nearly all Florida beaches. Minor to moderate beach erosion should be expected along parts of the West Coast with dune overwash possible in a few locations. High surf will shift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



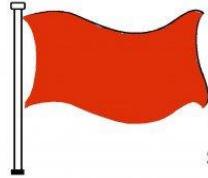
Rip Current Outlook

Today

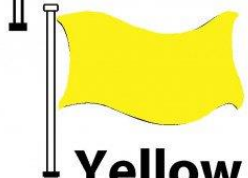
BEACH FLAG WARNING SYSTEM



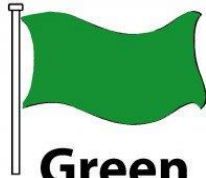
Double Red
Water Closed to
Public Use



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



Yellow
Medium Hazard
(light surf and or
currents)



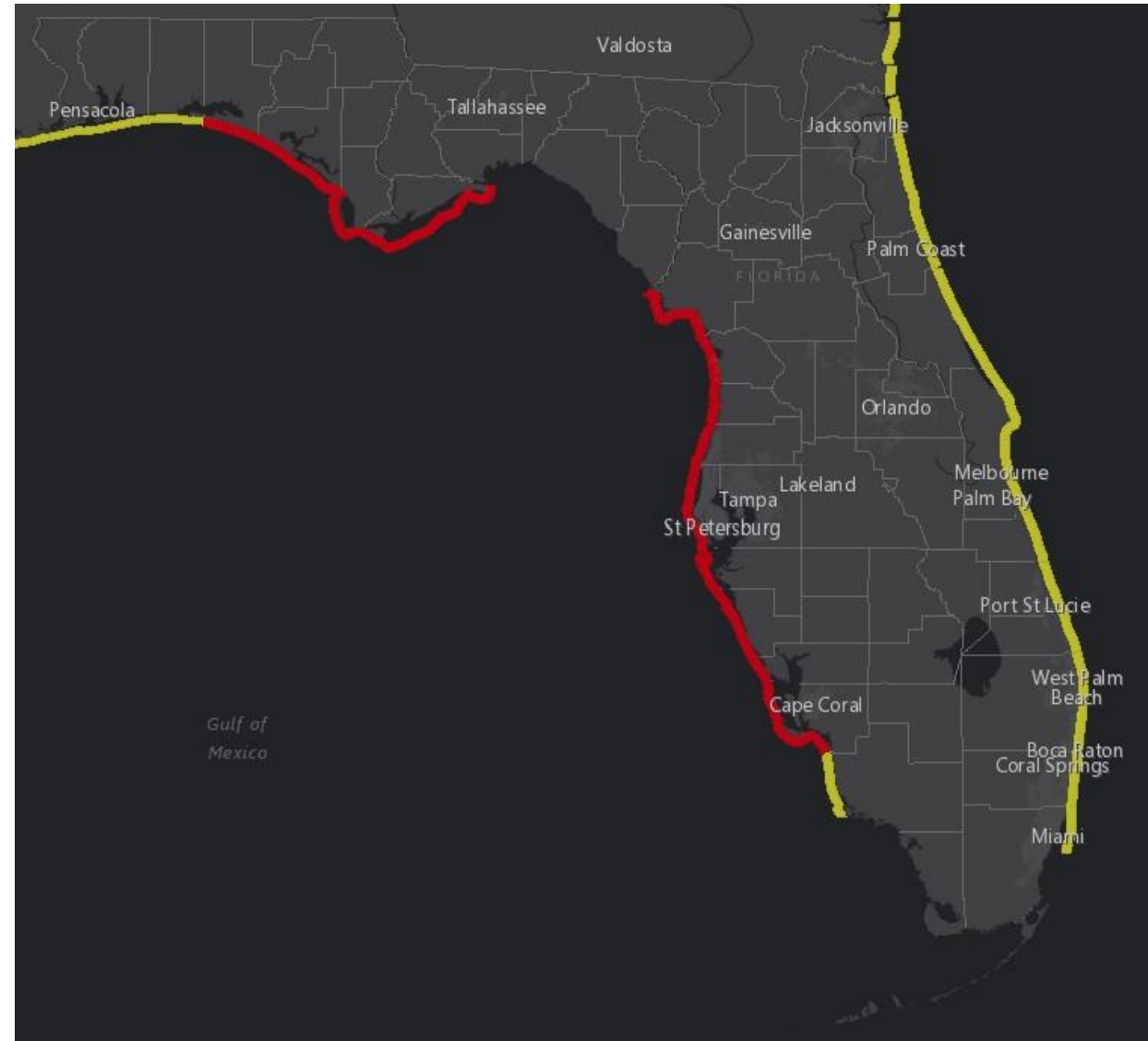
Green
Low Hazard
(calm conditions)



Purple
Marine Pest
(jellyfish, stingrays
& dangerous fish)

Dangerous rip currents statewide!

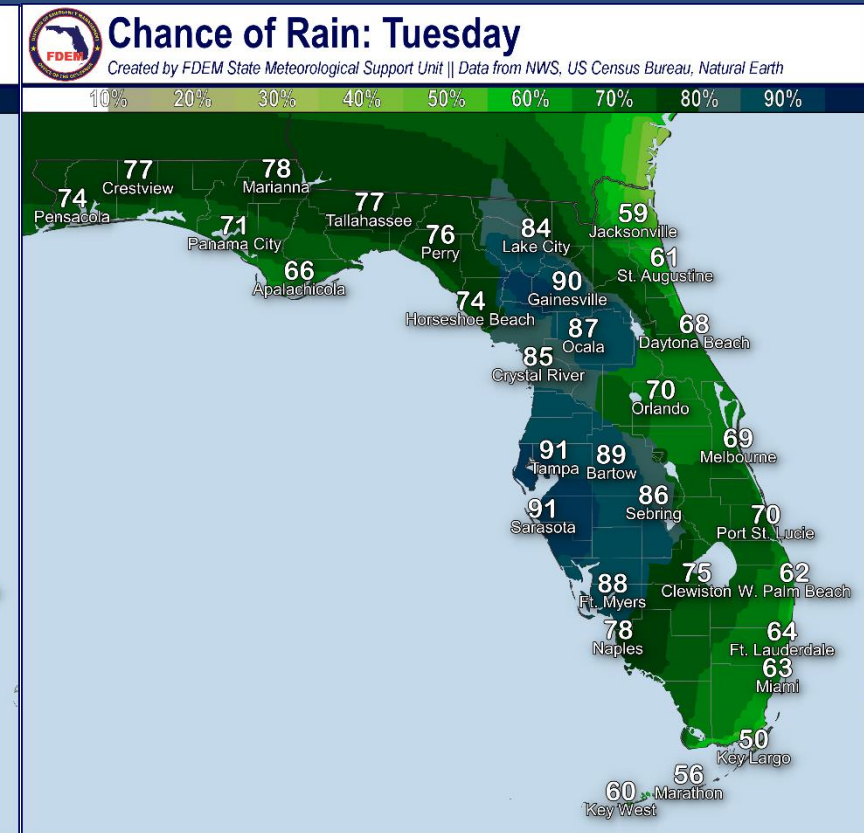
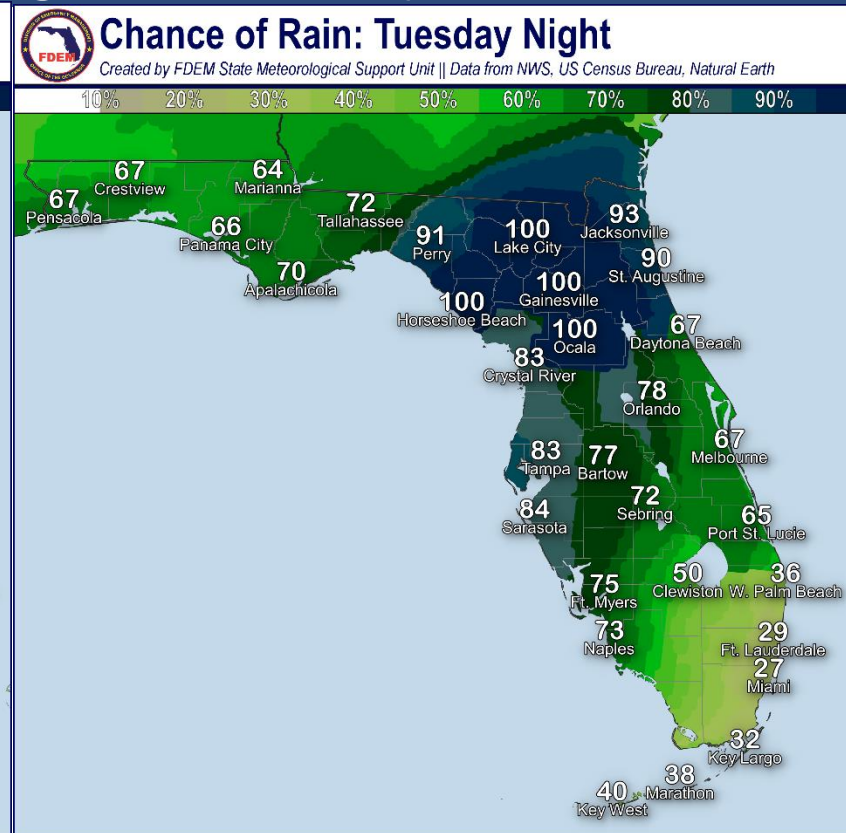
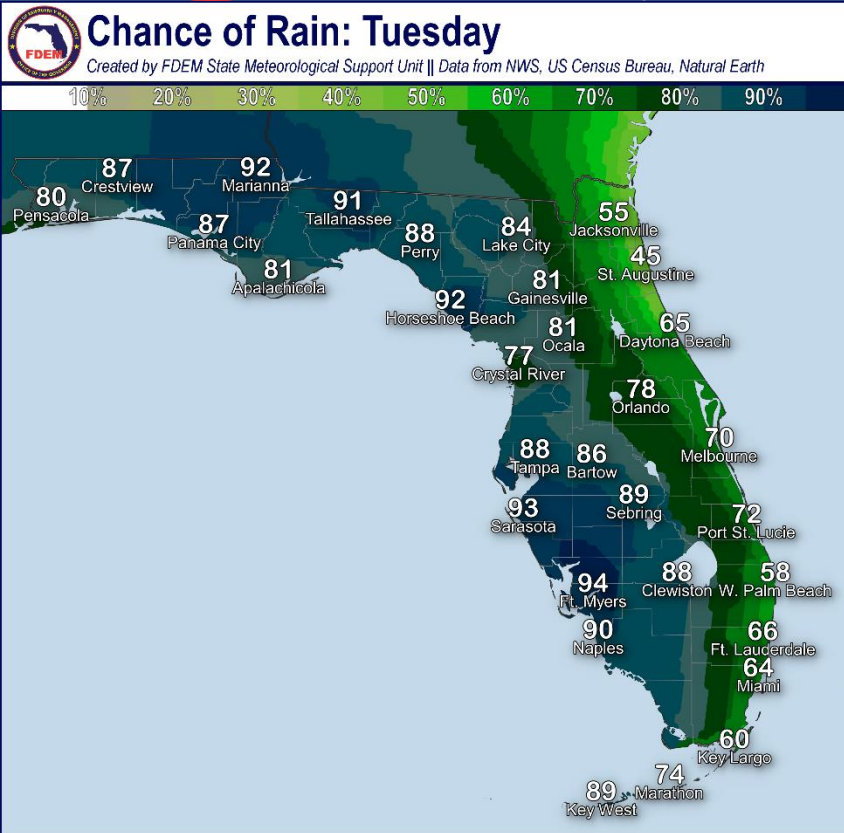
Dune overwash possible along the West Coast!





Forecast Rain Chances

Tuesday through Thursday – Tropical Storm Elsa

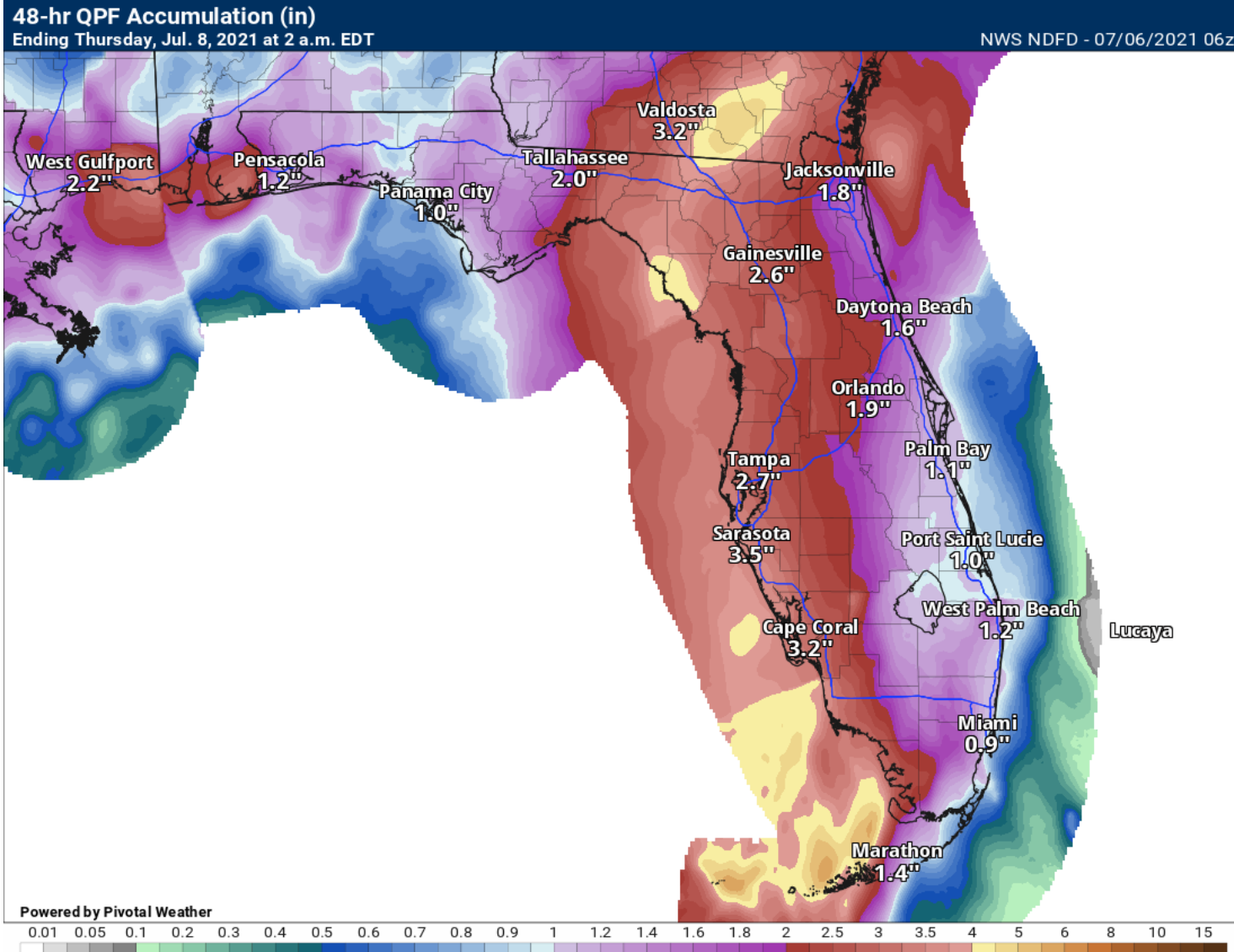


As Elsa moves up the West Coast, rain bands will move up the Peninsula Tuesday. Rain chances will decrease on Wednesday as Elsa exits, but tropical moisture will remain across the state, leading to scattered to numerous storms both Wednesday and Thursday.



Rainfall Totals Next 48 Hours

Ending 2 AM ET Thursday



Through the next 48 hours, 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".

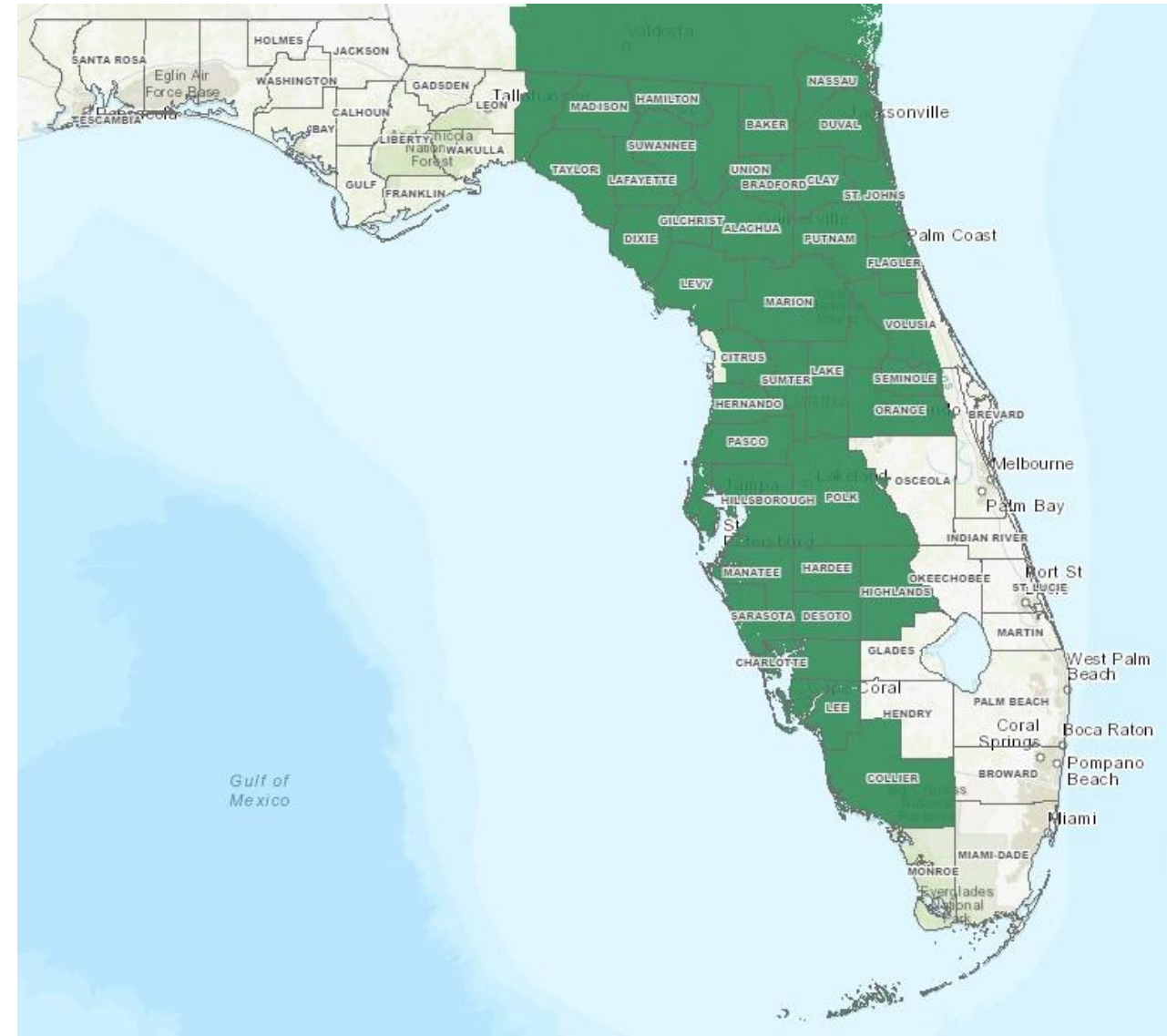


Flood Watches

[NWS Tampa](#) | [NWS Miami](#) | [NWS Jacksonville](#) | [NWS Tallahassee](#) | [NWS Melbourne](#)

Areal Flood Watch:

- **Until Late Tuesday Night:** All of Northeast Florida, the West Coast, the eastern Big Bend, and Orlando metro area.



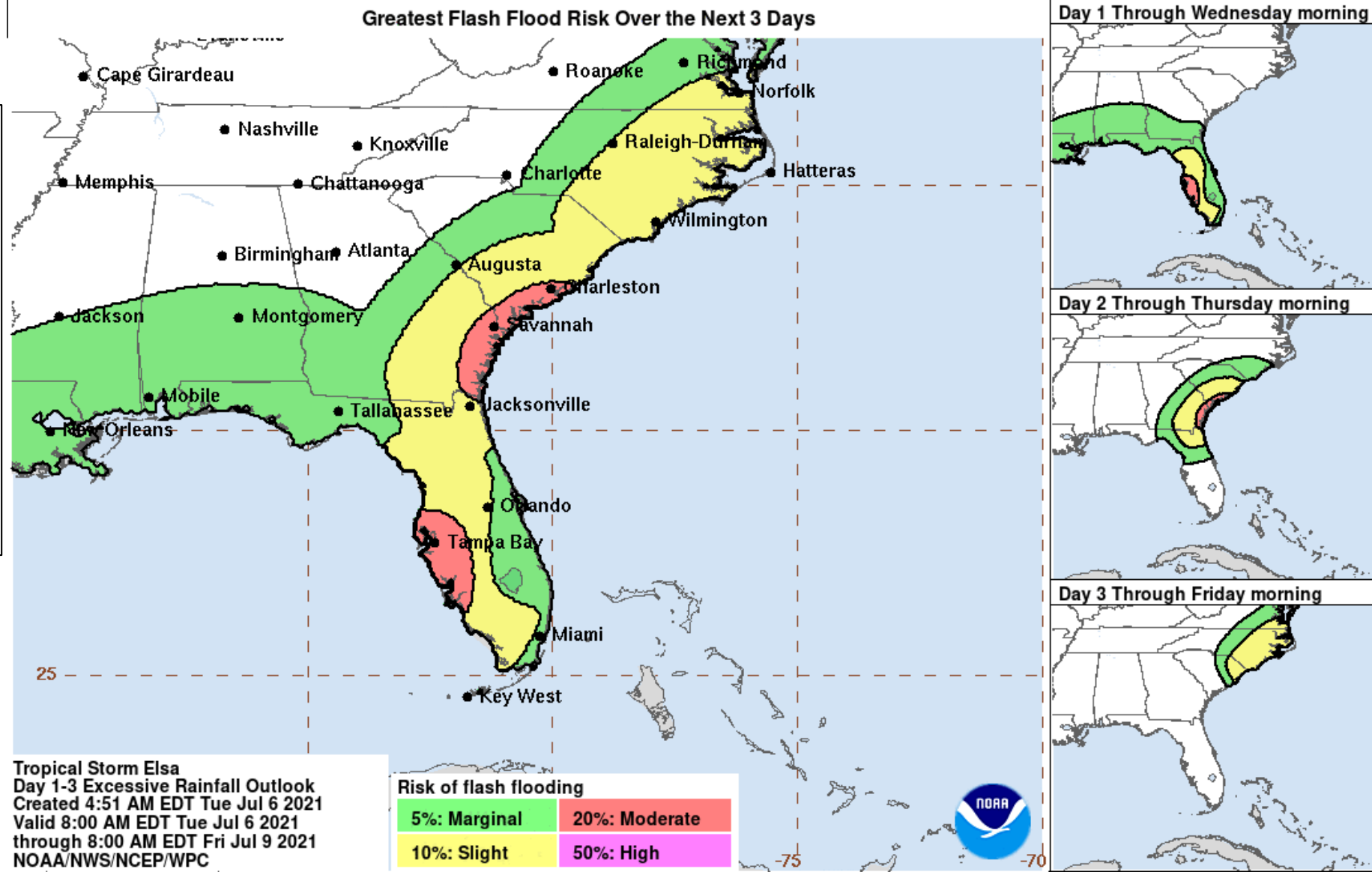


Flash Flood Outlook

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.




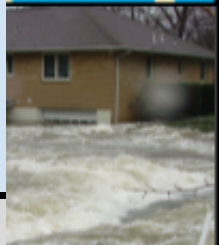




Flash Flood Risk Categories

Understanding the Weather Prediction Center Risk Scale

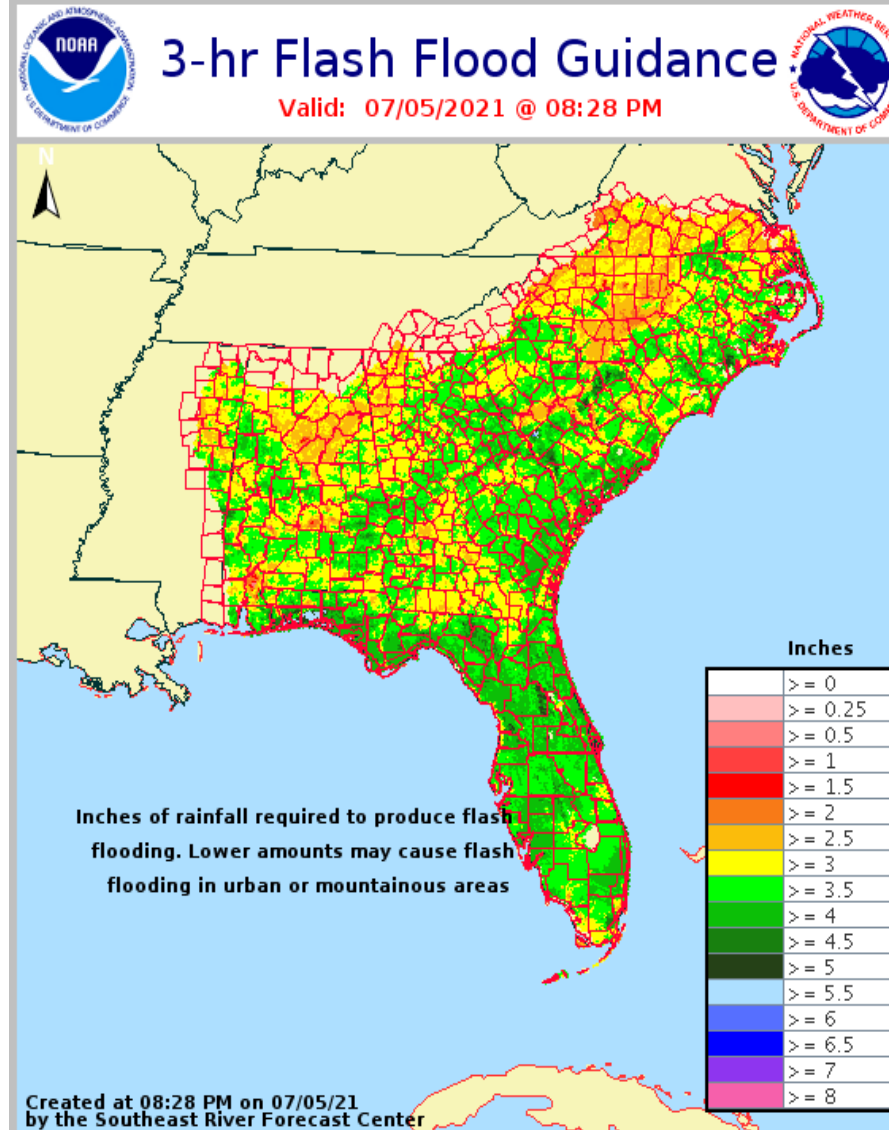
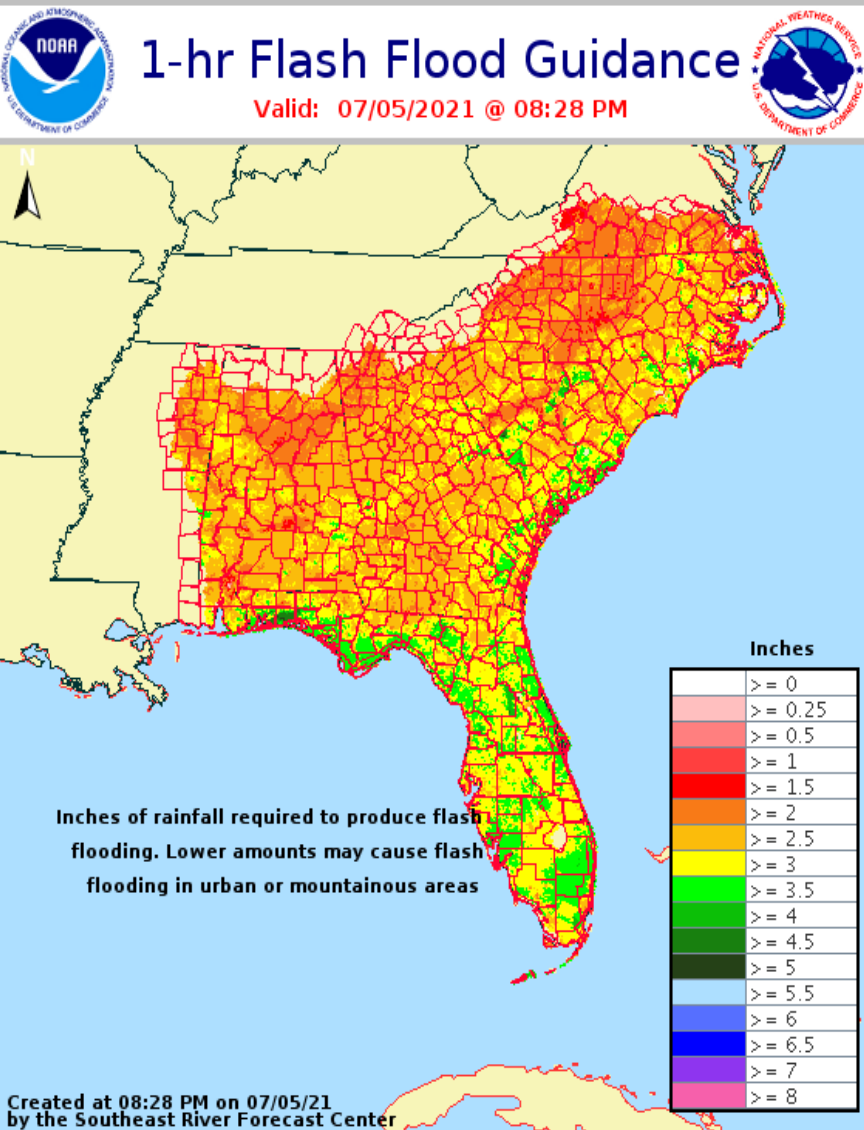
Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

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



Flash Flood Guidance

How Much Rain is Needed to Create Flash Flooding?

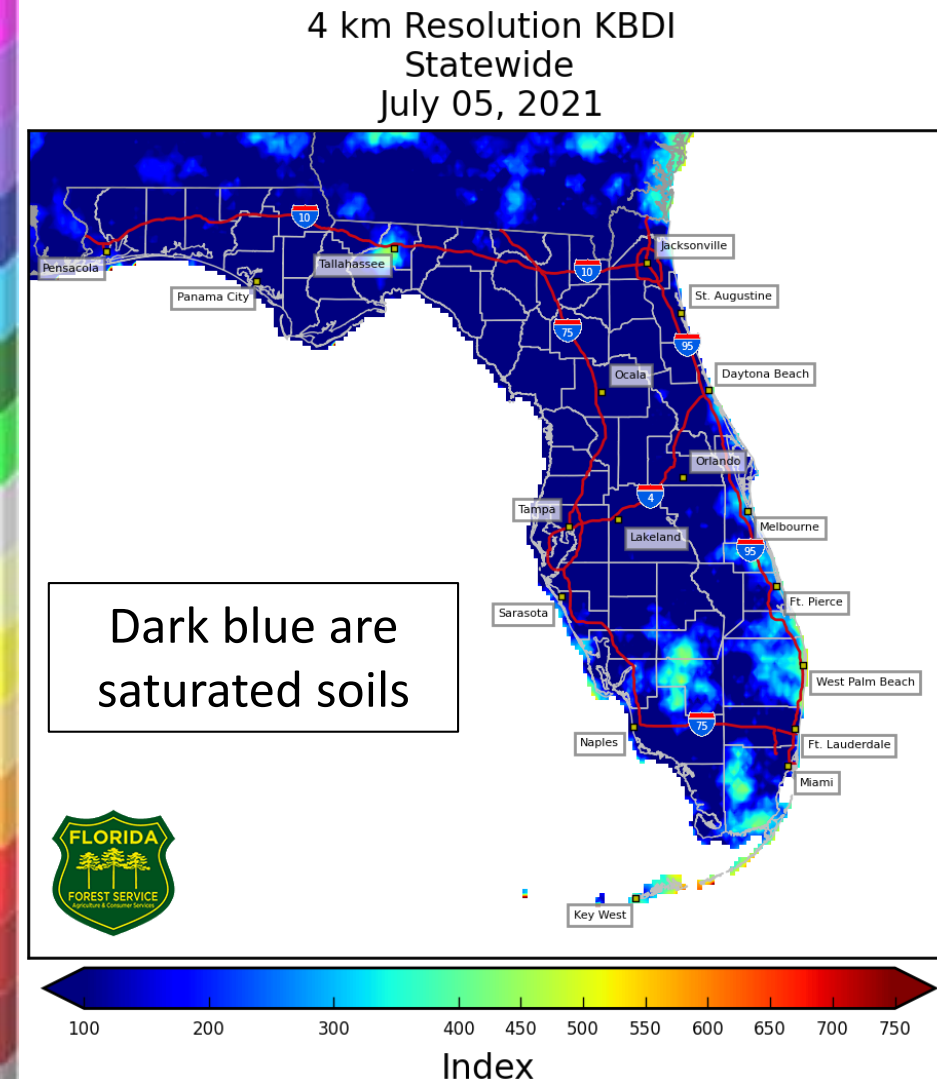
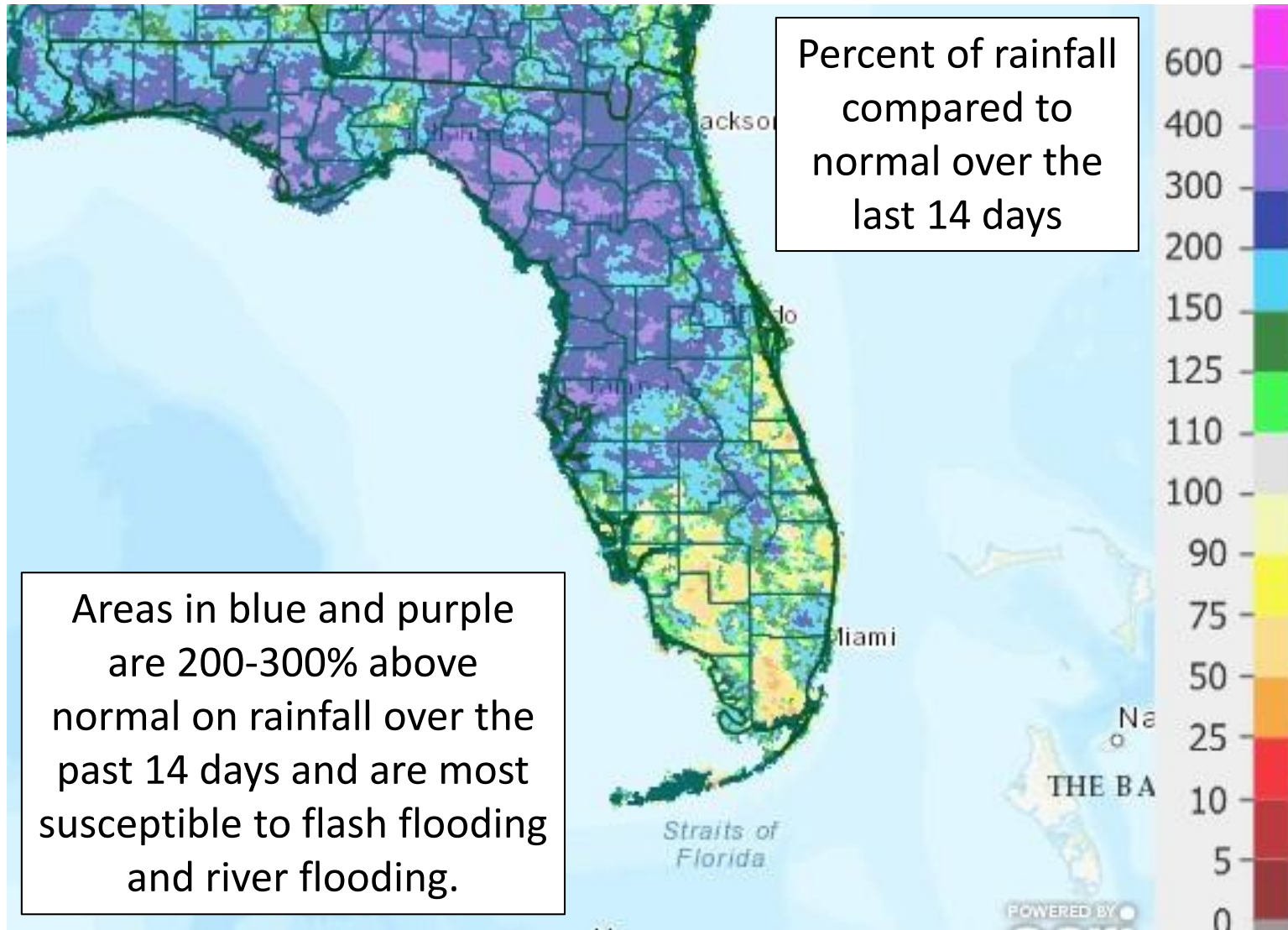


3-4" of rain in 3 hours will be enough to cause flash flooding across most of the state, or more than 2-3" in an hour.



Rainfall Departures

How Wet Has It Been Compared to Normal?





Current & Forecast River Flooding

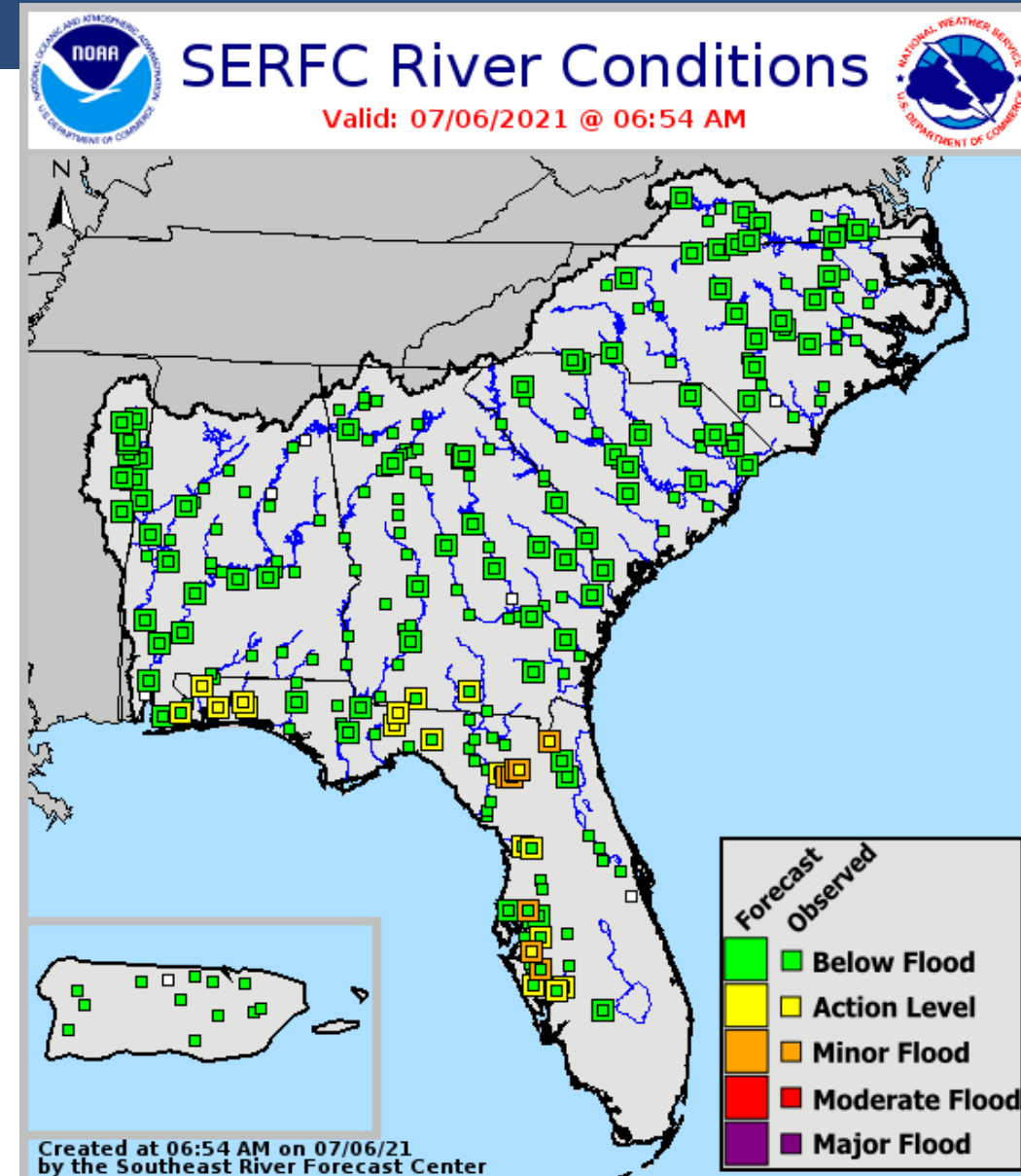
Southeast River Forecast Center

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](#).

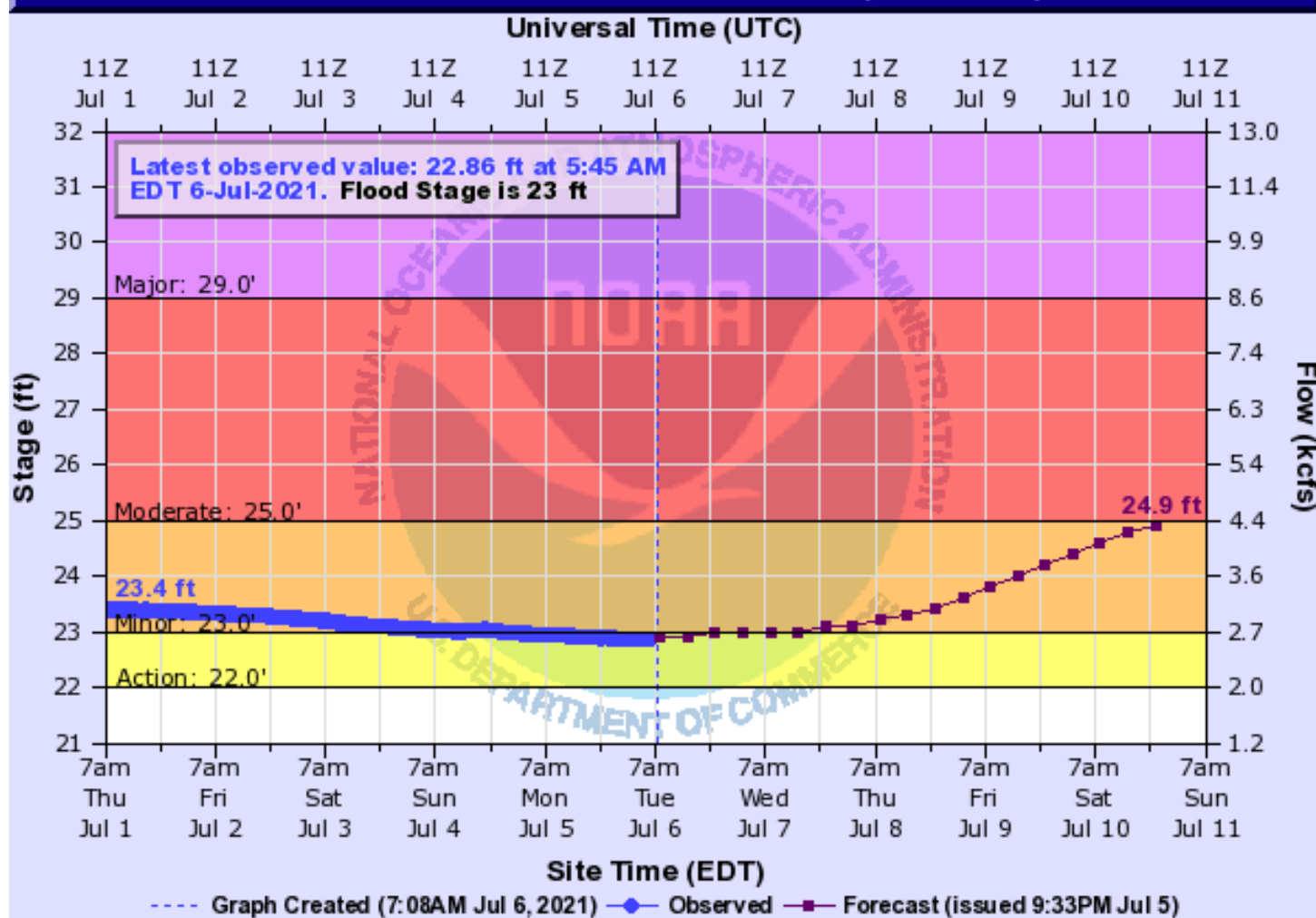




Santa Fe River near Fort White

[Hydrograph Link](#)

SANTA FE RIVER NEAR FORT WHITE (IN NAVD88)



FWHF1(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 0'

Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

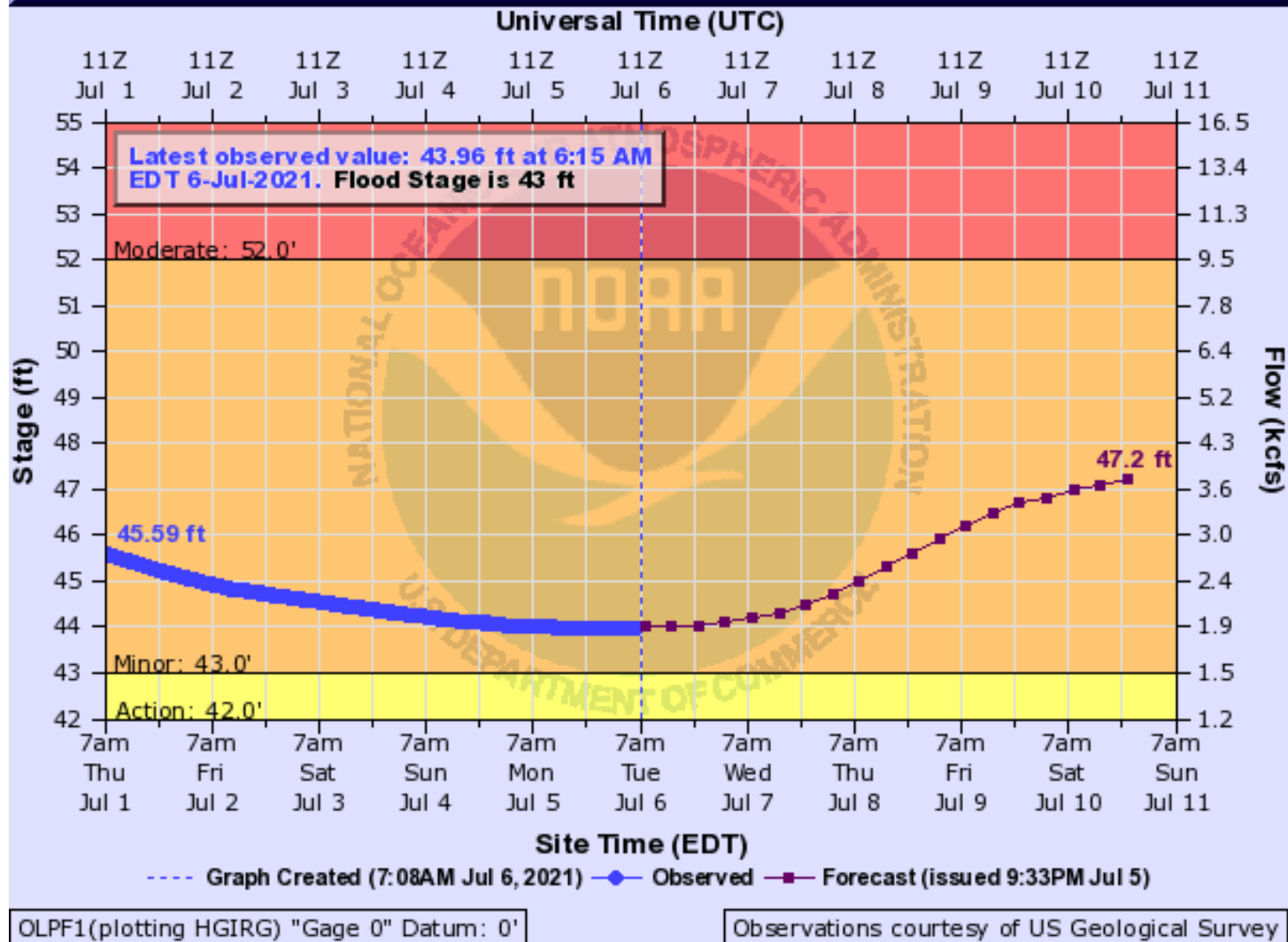
- 29 Major damage and disruption to the community is expected. Roads will be cut off and many homes will be surrounded by water. Boat wash damage to homes will be severe.
- 25 Damage to homes at low elevation as well as basement areas underneath homes on stilts is likely.
- 23.25 Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission begins enforcement of a no wake zone on the Santa Fe River from the centerline of the US 27 Bridge downstream to one-half mile upstream from the State Road 47 Bridge.
- 23 Minor damage to dwellings is possible due to boat wash.



Santa Fe River near O'Leno

[Hydrograph Link](#)

SANTA FE RIVER AT O'LENO STATE PARK (IN NAVD88)



- 52 A barn floods upstream of O'leno State park in Alachua County at this level.
- 45 Numerous walking trails in O'leno State Park are flooded on the Alachua County side of the river. Flooding begins to affect local roads north of Buzzard Roost Prairie in Columbia County.
- 43 Access to river gage becomes limited as the Bible Camp Road boat ramp becomes flooded and the last half mile of Bible Camp Road begins to flood in Columbia County. Overland flooding begins past the Santa Fe River sink in the park and will cut-off access road to south end of the park.
- 42 Boat ramp at the end of Bible Camp Road begins to flood.

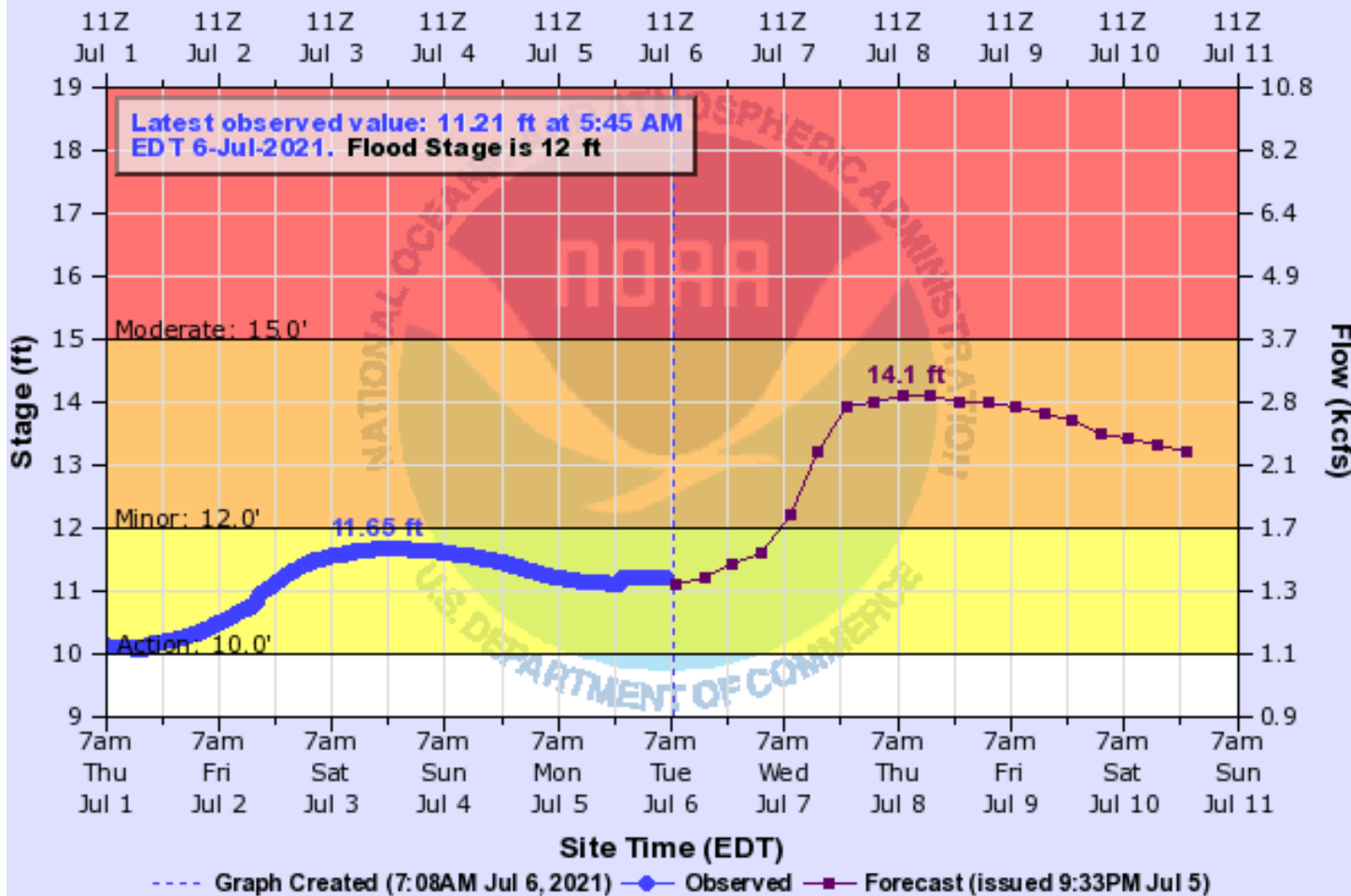


St. Marys River near Macclenny

[Hydrograph Link](#)

ST. MARYS RIVER NEAR MACCLENNY

Universal Time (UTC)



MACF1(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 40'

Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

- 16 Access roads on both sides of the river in Florida and Georgia are flooded, including the entire low lying stretch of St. Mary's River Bluff Road on the Georgia side which cuts off 40 to 50 homes. On the Florida side, the lower end of St. Mary's Cove Road past the public boat ramp becomes flooded and cuts off access to 20 to 30 homes. The Stokes Road Bridge over the river is generally closed due to high water.
- 15 Flooding begins to impact the lower end of Steel Bridge Road on the Florida side and cuts off access to the river gage as well as access to several homes.
- 14 Flooding of bottomlands along the river and some lower access roads including the lower half of St. Mary's River Bluff Road which cuts off 15 to 20 homes on the Georgia side.
- 12 Minor flooding of low lying areas and timber lands including some properties along St. Mary's River Bluff Road and the Cypress Landing Resort on the Georgia side.



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

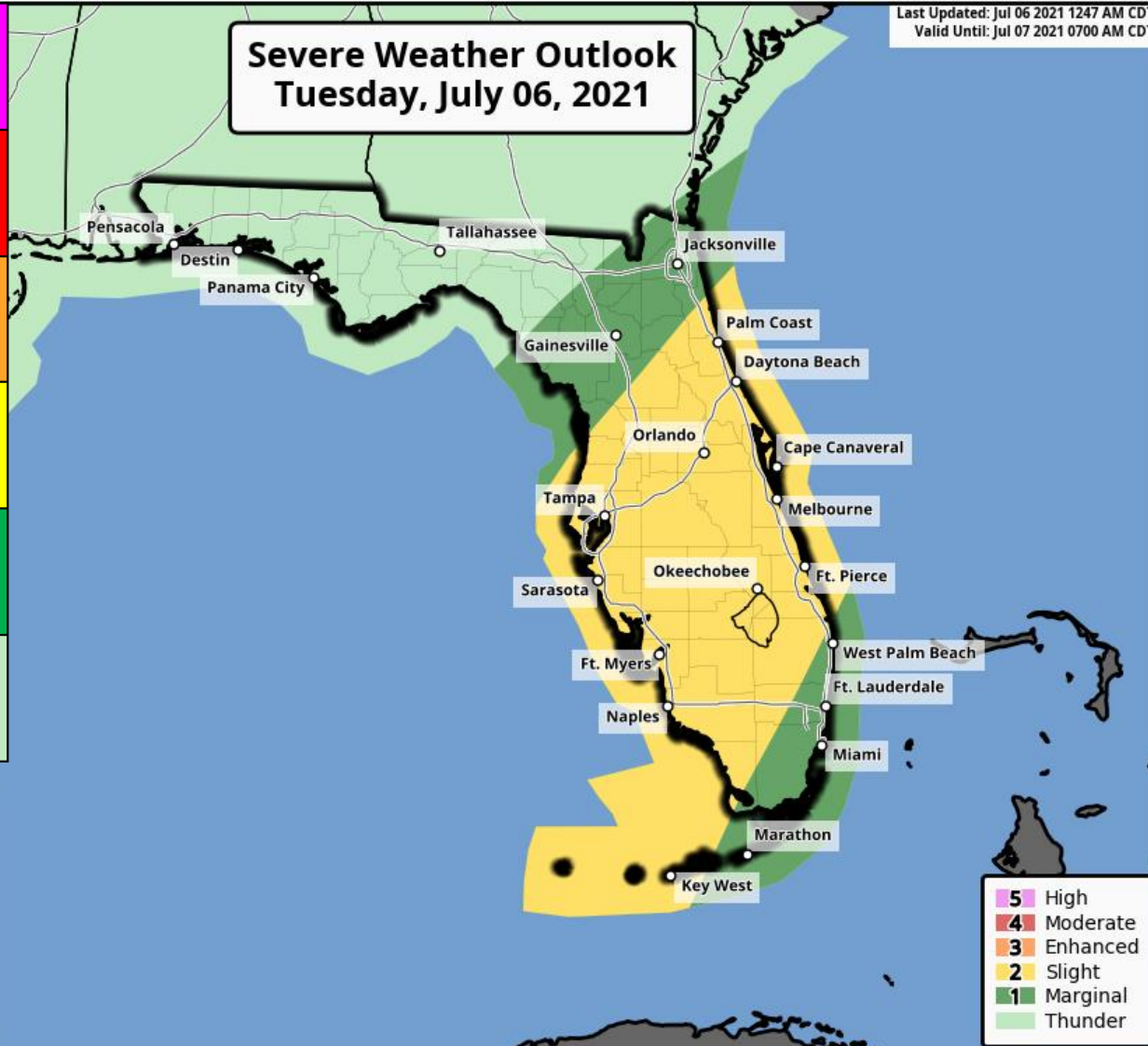
Isolated severe storms possible

Thunderstorms

No severe storms expected

Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday, July 06, 2021

Last Updated: Jul 06 2021 1247 AM CDT
Valid Until: Jul 07 2021 0700 AM CDT



As the outer bands from Elsa move across Northeast Florida and the Peninsula today and tonight, there is the potential for several tornadoes.

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>



Severe Weather Outlook Wed.

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

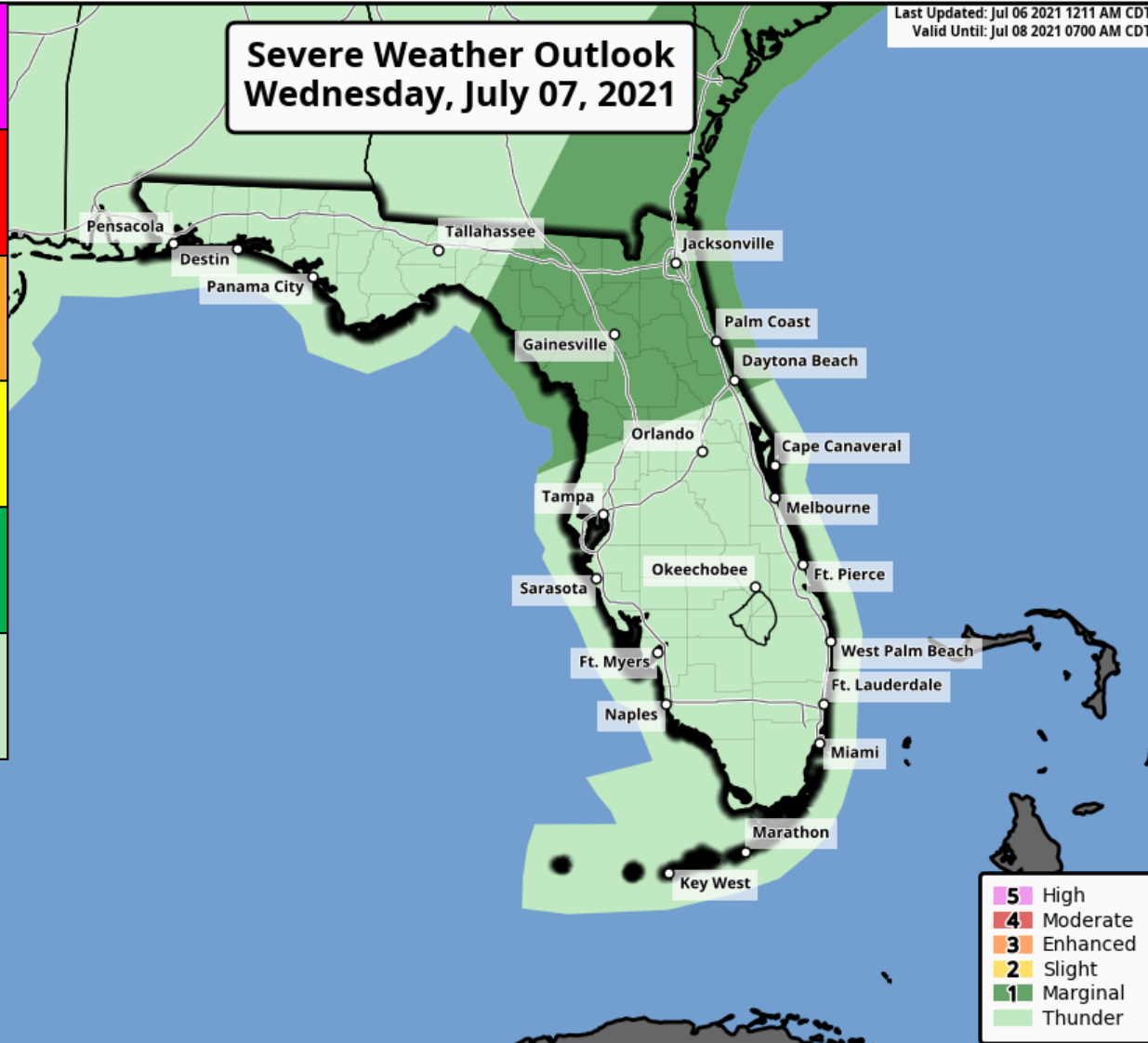
No severe storms expected



National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov>

Severe Weather Outlook Wednesday, July 07, 2021

Last Updated: Jul 06 2021 1211 AM CDT
Valid Until: Jul 08 2021 0700 AM CDT



As Elsa moves northward and make landfall Wednesday morning, a few tornadoes will remain possible across Northeast Florida.

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



Overall Summary

Tropical Storm Elsa

- The center of Elsa is about 50 miles west of Key West, FL and moving to the north-northwest at 12 mph with max sustained winds around 60 mph.
- Elsa has moved back over water and some gradual strengthening to near hurricane strength is possible over the next 24 hours. Landfall is expected along the Nature Coast early tomorrow morning. The storm remains lopsided with nearly all of the wind, rain, surge, and tornado threat on the eastern half of the storm.

Florida Outlook:

- **Hurricane Watch:** Coastal portions of Citrus, Dixie, Hernando, Levy, Pasco, and all of Pinellas County
- **Tropical Storm Warnings:** Middle and Lower Keys (Craig Key to Key West & Dry Tortugas); Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Levy, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Sumter, Suwannee, and Taylor; western portions of Alachua; western and central portions of Marion; Coastal portions of Charlotte, Collier, Lee, Jefferson and Wakulla; Mainland Monroe.
- **Tropical Storm Watch:** Baker, Bradford, eastern Alachua, eastern Marion, Lake, Madison, Union; coastal portions of Franklin' Inland portions of Jefferson, Lee, and Charlotte.
- Tropical storm force winds from 40-70 mph are possible, particularly along the immediate coastline with gusts in squalls across inland areas.
- **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 Southwest Florida and the Keys.
- **Flood Watch:** All of Northeast Florida, the West Coast, the eastern Big Bend, and the Orlando metro landfall
- 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.
- Saturated soils due to 200-300% of normal rainfall over the last two weeks will make trees more susceptible to falling in strong winds.
- Dangerous rip currents are expected at all Florida beaches. Minor to moderate beach erosion is also possible along West Coast beaches with dune overwash.
- A few to several tornadoes are expected across Northeast, Central, and South Florida today, tonight, and Wednesday morning.

The next briefing packet will be issued mid-day after the 11 AM ET advisory, 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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