

## TROPICAL UPDATE



### 11:30 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**

11 AM ET Monday: Florida Threats & Changes Since Last Packet

8 PM Thu

65W

Sustained winds: D < 39 mph

Tropical Cyclone O Post/Potential TC

S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110 mph

Current wind extent:

Forecast positions:

Warnings:

Hurricane Trop Stm

Trop Stm

60W



**Overview/Recent Changes:** 

No changes to track or intensity forecast. Additional Tropical Storm Watches and Warnings have been issued for inland portions of Northeast Florida. Elsa is making its closest approach to Key West at this time.

## Current Florida Radar

As of 11:30 AM ET

RGENCY

FDEM





### Official Forecast Track – Elsa

#### From the National Hurricane Center – (LINK



- The center of Elsa is about 65 miles west-northwest of Key West, FL, or near the Dry Tortugas, and moving to the north-northwest at 10 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.
- Re-strengthening is now expected, with Elsa near hurricane strength at landfall
- Landfall appears most likely in the eastern Big Bend of Florida or Nature Coast north of/near 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 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, Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, Manatee, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Levy, Dixie, Taylor, Jefferson, and coastal Wakulla Counties
- Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Suwannee, Marion, Madison, Sumter, Columbia, Hamilton, and Union County

#### **Tropical Storm Watches:**

Lake, inland Nassau, western Duval, western Clay





# Wind Watches and Warnings

#### In Effect Until Further Notice

#### **Hurricane Watches:**

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





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+sh tml/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/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.





### 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

WS 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.

FDF

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?	$1 \le 1 \le 2$	$\{(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)\}$	<u>restats:</u>	235,635
WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER	withi HIG		ling flash flood gu bint to the right of SLGT: 10%-20° MRGL: 5%-109	a line %



## Current & Forecast River Flooding

Southeast River Forecast Center

#### Rivers Currently in or Forecast to Reach Flood Stage:

- <u>St. Marys River near Macclenny</u> MINOR
- <u>Santa Fe River at Worthington Springs</u> MINOR
- <u>Santa Fe River at O'leno State Park</u> MINOR
- <u>Santa Fe River near High Springs</u> MINOR
- <u>Santa Fe River near Fort White</u> **MODERATE**
- <u>Santa Fe River at Three River Estates</u> MINOR
- <u>Cypress Creek at Worthington Gardens</u> MINOR
- <u>Alafia River at Lithia</u> MINOR
- <u>Little Manatee River near Wimauma</u> MINOR
- <u>Manatee River near Myakka Head</u> MINOR
- <u>Myakka River at Myakka River State Park</u> MINOR

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



## Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday

#### From the Storm Prediction Center



FDEM

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	2 - SLIGHT	
(MRGL)	(SLGT)	
Isolated severe	Scattered	
thunderstorms	severe storms	
possible	possible	
Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	

### Severe Weather Outlook Wed.

#### From the Storm Prediction Center



FDEM

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

1 - MARGINAL	2 - SLIGHT
(MRGL)	(SLGT)
Isolated severe	Scattered
thunderstorms	severe storms
possible	possible
Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible



## **Overall Summary**

#### **Tropical Storm Elsa**

- The center of Elsa is about 55 miles west-northwest of Key West, FL and moving to the north-northwest at 10 mph with max sustained winds around 60 mph.
- Elsa has moved back over water and some gradual strengthening to near hurricane strength is expected 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, Hillsborough, Levy, Pasco, and all of Pinellas County
- Tropical Storm Warnings: Middle and Lower Keys (Craig Key to Key West & Dry Tortugas); Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Charlotte, Dixie, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Gilchrist, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union; Coastal portions of Collier and Wakulla; Mainland Monroe.
- Tropical Storm Watch: Lake County and the western portions of Clay, Duval, and Nassau County.
- Tropical storm force winds from 40-70 mph are expected in the warning areas, with gusts to hurricane force (75 mph) in the Hurricane Watch 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 this evening after the 5 PM ET advisory. 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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