



# Tropical Update



12:00 PM EDT

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

## Hurricane Idalia

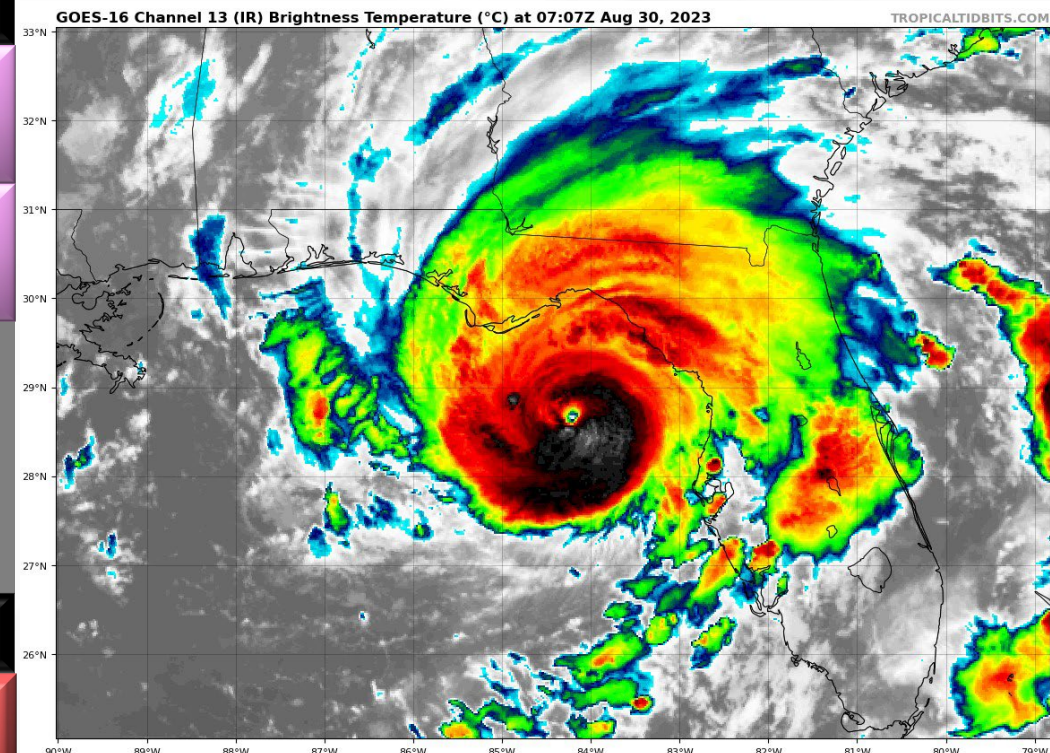
This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an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



# Hurricane Idalia

12:00 PM EDT Wednesday: 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:

At around 7:45 AM EDT, Idalia made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane in Keaton Beach. As of 11 AM EDT, Idalia is located 15 miles south-southeast of Valdosta, Georgia and 165 miles southwest of Savannah, Georgia. Maximum sustained winds have decreased to 90 mph, making Idalia a Category 1 hurricane. The system will continue to move north-northeastward to northeast into Northeast Florida and Southern Georgia throughout the day. Idalia will likely still be a hurricane as it moves into Southern Georgia and along the Georgia coast, away from Florida.

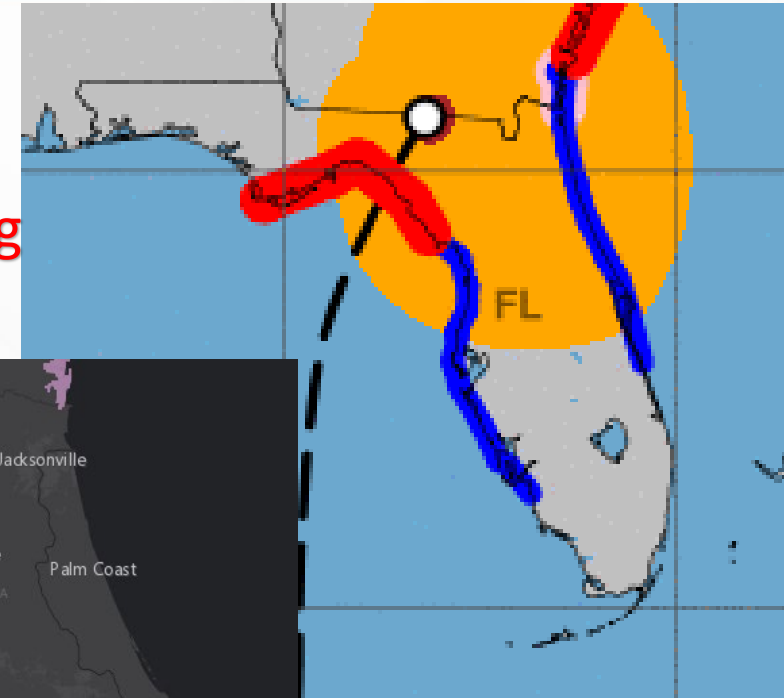


# Current Watches/Warnings

As of 11:00 AM EDT Wednesday

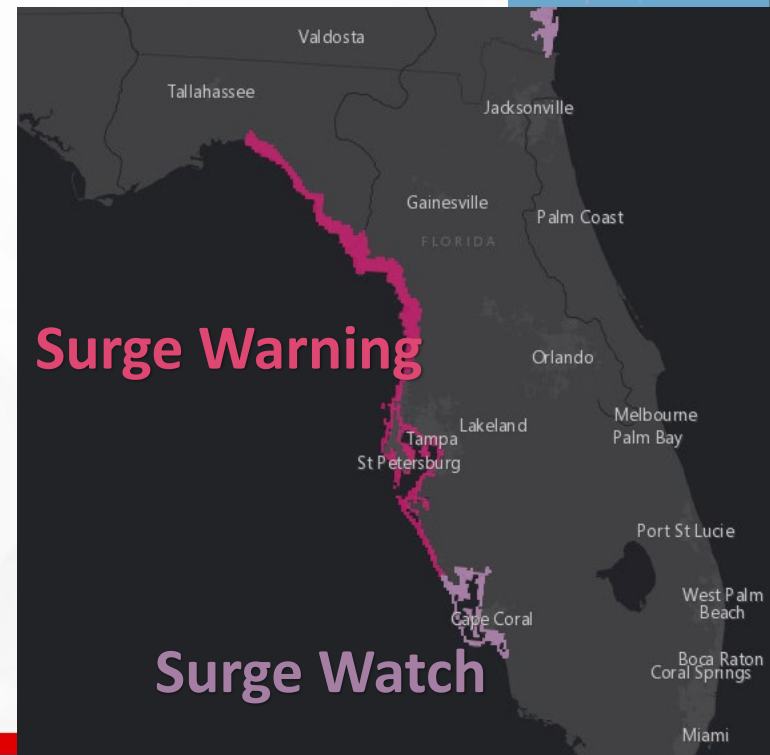
- **Hurricane Warning:**
  - Coastal Franklin, Wakulla, Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Suwanee, Lafayette, Dixie, Columbia, Baker
- **Tropical Storm Warning:**
  - Liberty, inland Franklin, Gadsden, Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Brevard, Osceola, Polk, Hardee, Desoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, coastal Collier, Gilchrist, Bradford, Union, Alachua, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Sumter, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee
- **Storm Surge Warning:**
  - Englewood (Charlotte/Sarasota border) northward to the Aucilla River (Jefferson/Taylor border), including Tampa Bay
- **Storm Surge Watch:**
  - Bonita Beach (Lee/Collier border) northward to Englewood (Charlotte/Sarasota border), including Charlotte Harbor

Hurricane Warning  
TS Warning



Surge Warning

Surge Watch

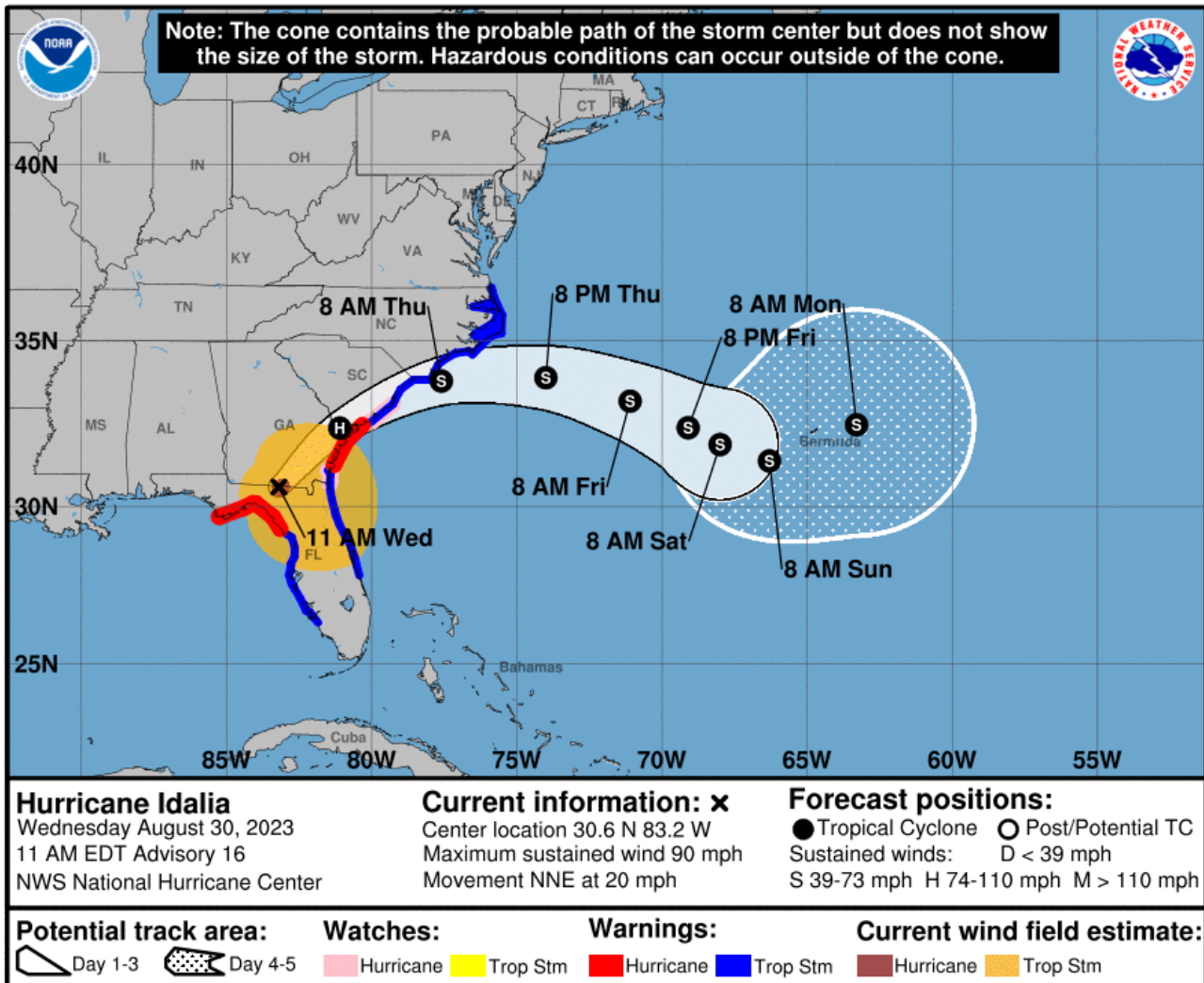






# Forecast Cone

## Hurricane Idalia ([LINK](#))



- **Location:** 15 miles SSE of Valdosta, GA; 165 miles SW of Savannah, GA
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 90 mph; Category 1
- **Current Movement:** NNE at 20 mph

A turn toward the northeast is expected later today, followed by an east-northeastward to eastward motion Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of Idalia will move across southeastern Georgia today, near the coast of South Carolina tonight, and just offshore the coast of southern North Carolina on Thursday. Idalia is then expected to move east-southeastward over the western Atlantic on Friday.

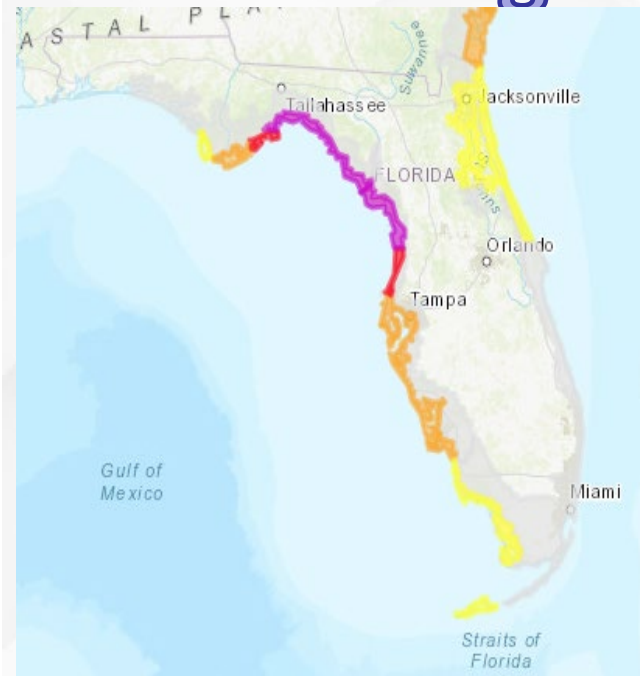
Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 25 miles from the center, and tropical storm-force winds extend up to 230 miles outward from the center.



# Threats & Impacts

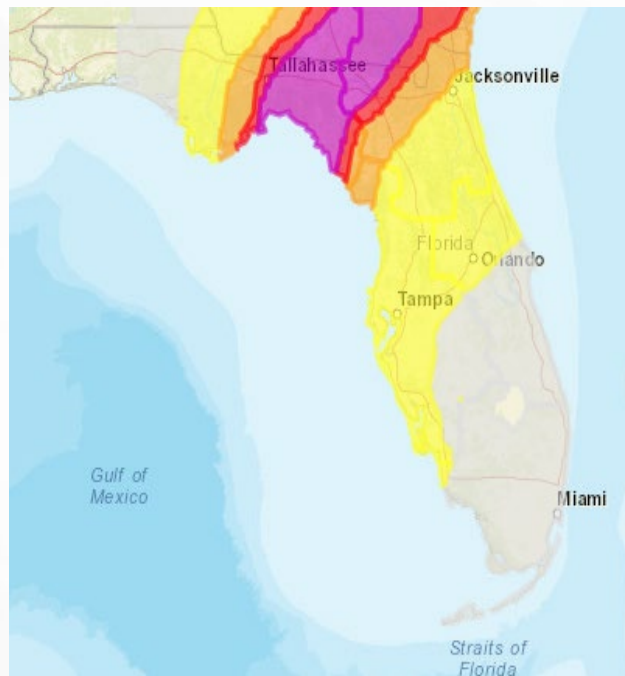
## From the National Weather Service

### Storm Surge



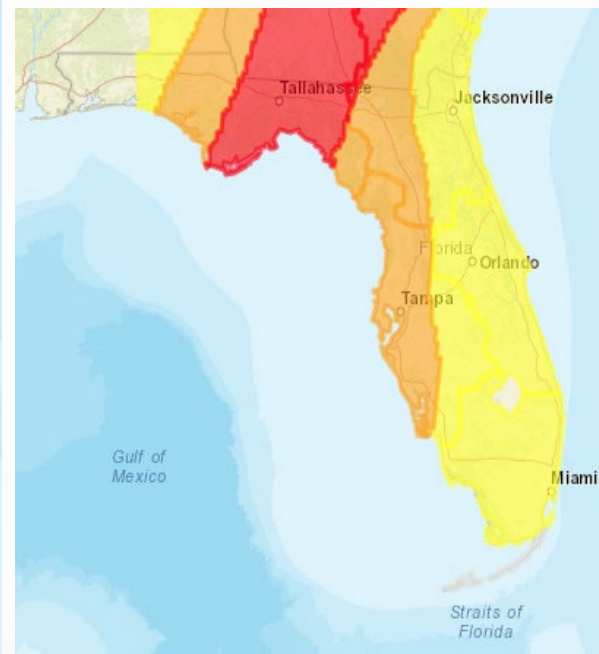
- \*Widespread deep inundation, powerful battering waves.
- \*Structural damage to buildings
- \*Locations may be uninhabitable for an extended period.
- \*Near-shore escape routes and secondary roads washed out or severely flooded.
- \*Massive damage to marinas, docks, boardwalks, and piers.
- \*Numerous small craft broken away from moorings with many lifted onshore and stranded.

### Wind



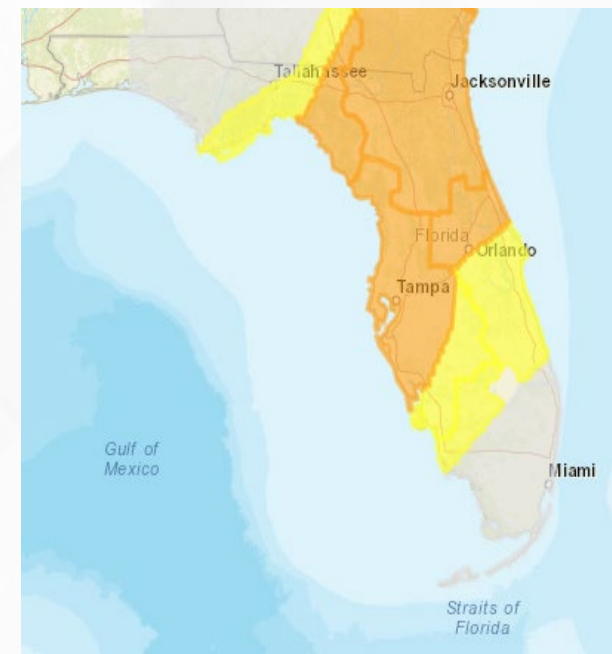
- \*Structural damage to buildings, some with complete roof and wall failures.
- \*Complete destruction of mobile homes.
- \*Locations may be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
- \*Numerous large trees snapped or uprooted.
- \*Many roads impassable from large debris.
- \*Widespread power and communications outages.

### Flooding



- \*Major rainfall flooding may prompt evacuations and rescues.
- \*Rivers and tributaries may rapidly overflow their banks in multiple places. Small streams, creeks, canals, and ditches may become dangerous rivers.
- \*Many road and bridge closures with some weakened or washed out.

### Tornadoes



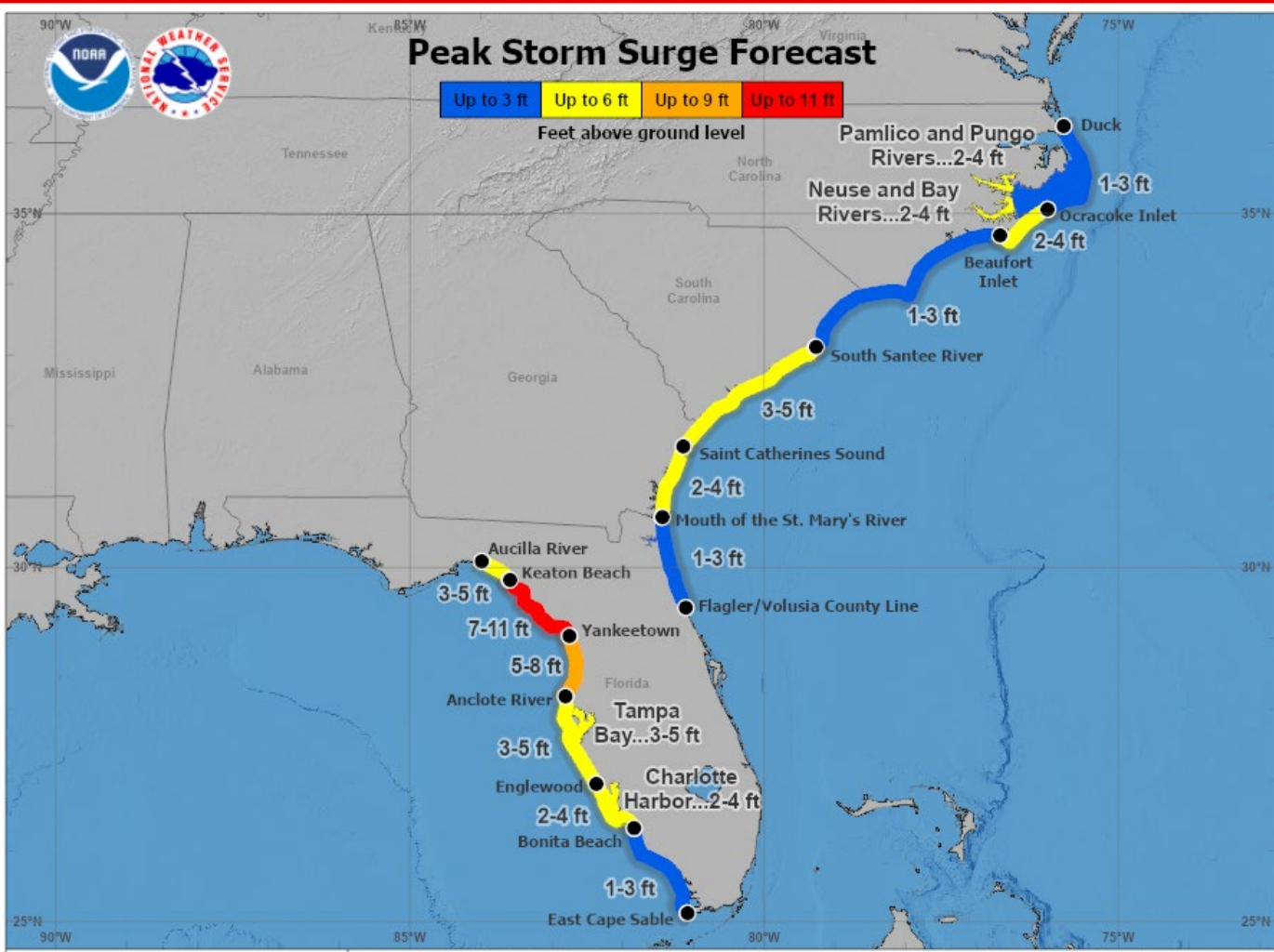
- \*Scattered tornadoes can hinder the execution of emergency plans.
- \*Spots of considerable damage, power loss, and communications failures.
- \*Locations could realize roofs torn off, mobile homes demolished, large trees snapped or uprooted, vehicles tumbled, and boats tossed about.





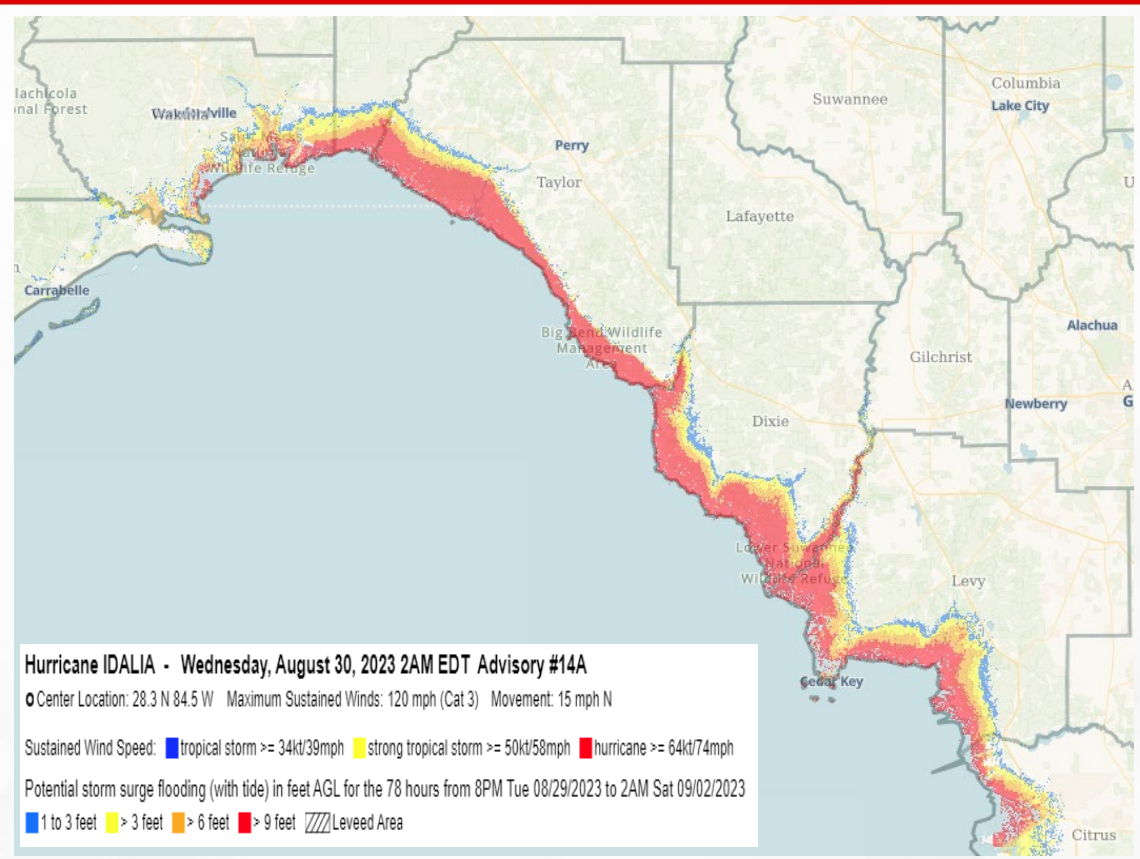
# Expected Storm Surge Values

From the National Hurricane Center

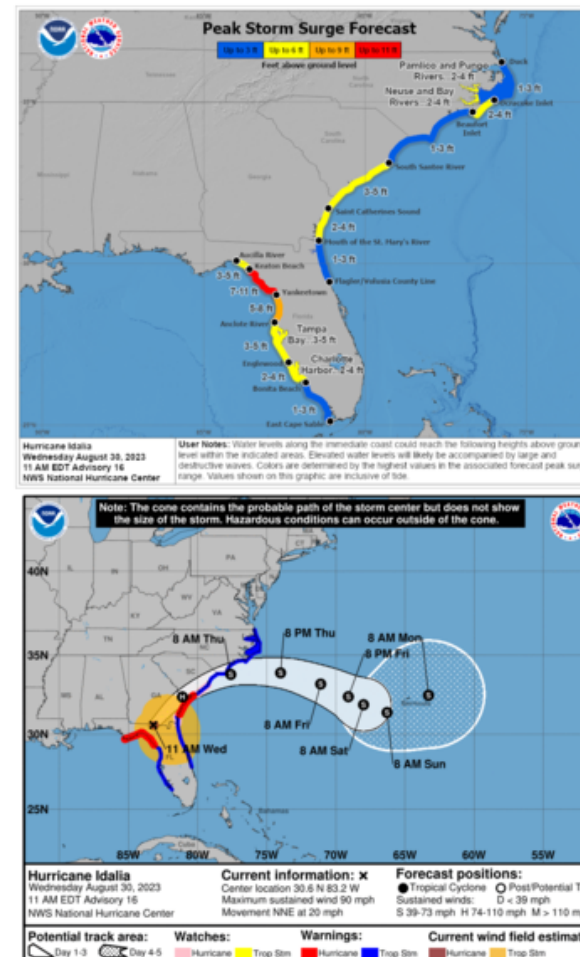
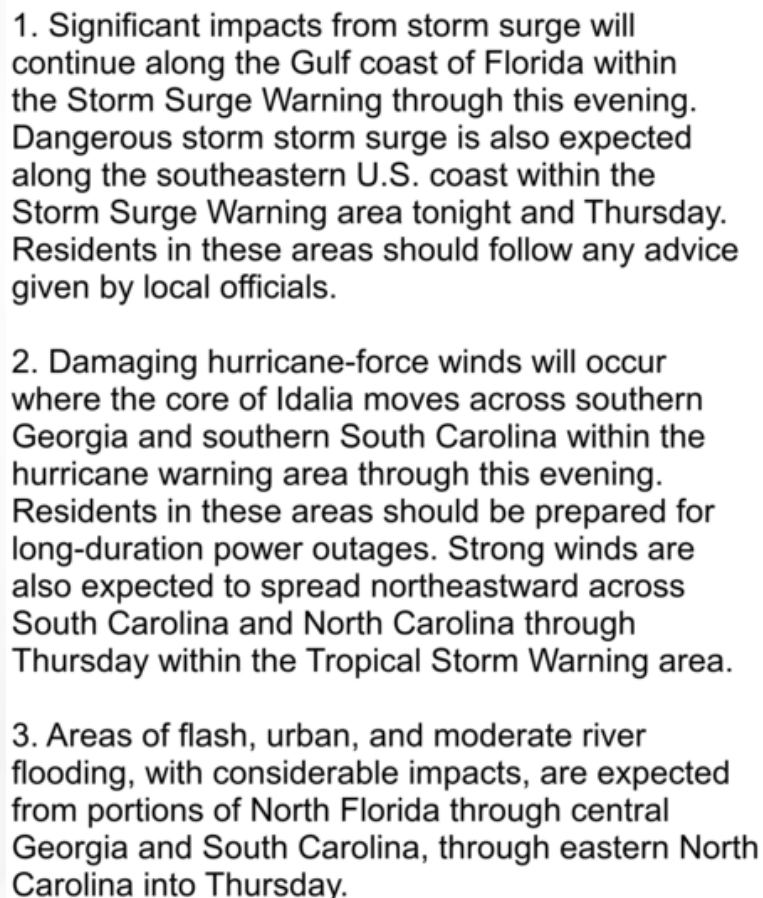


**Hurricane Idalia**  
Wednesday August 30, 2023  
11 AM EDT Advisory 16  
NWS National Hurricane Center

**User Notes:** Water levels along the immediate coast could reach the following heights above ground level within the indicated areas. Elevated water levels will likely be accompanied by large and destructive waves. Colors are determined by the highest values in the associated forecast peak surge range. Values shown on this graphic are inclusive of tide.



Peak storm surge values have decreased but remain elevated along the Gulf coast. The greatest Peak Storm Surge is along the Nature Coast as 7-11' is forecast from Keaton Beach to Yankeetown and 5-8' is forecast from Yankeetown to the Anclote River. Additional storm surge is forecast along the Gulf Coast with 3-5' from the Aucilla River to Keaton Beach and from the Anclote River to Englewood, 2-4' from Englewood to Bonita Beach, and 1-3' from Bonita Beach to East Cape Sable and from the Mouth of the St. Mary's River to the Flagler/Volusia County Line.



**For more information go to [hurricanes.gov](http://hurricanes.gov)**





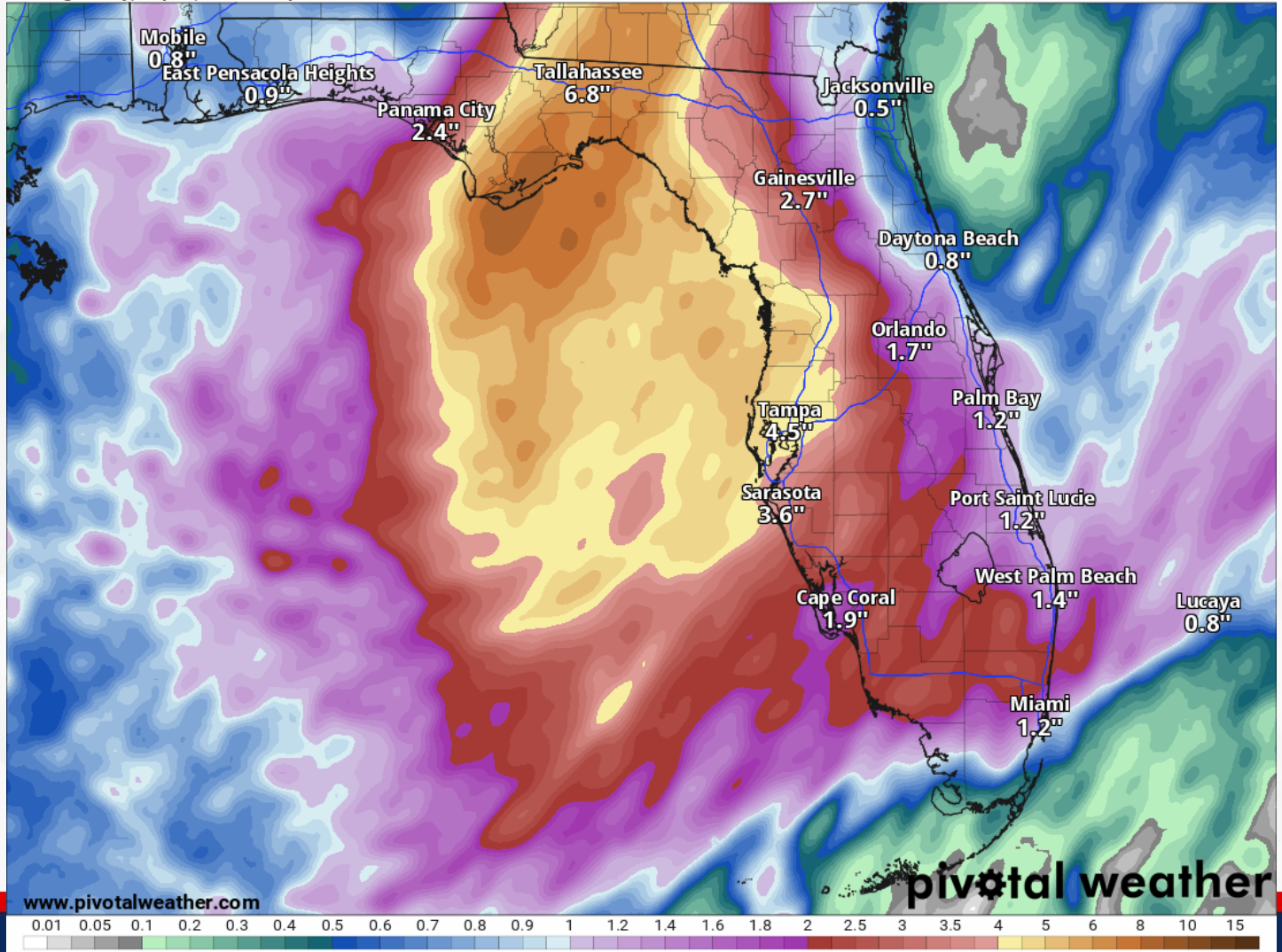
# 7-Day Forecast Rainfall

From the National Weather Service & Weather Prediction Center

72-Hour Precipitation (in)

Ending Friday, Sep. 1, 2023 at 8 p.m. EDT

Init: Wed 2023-08-30 00z WPC



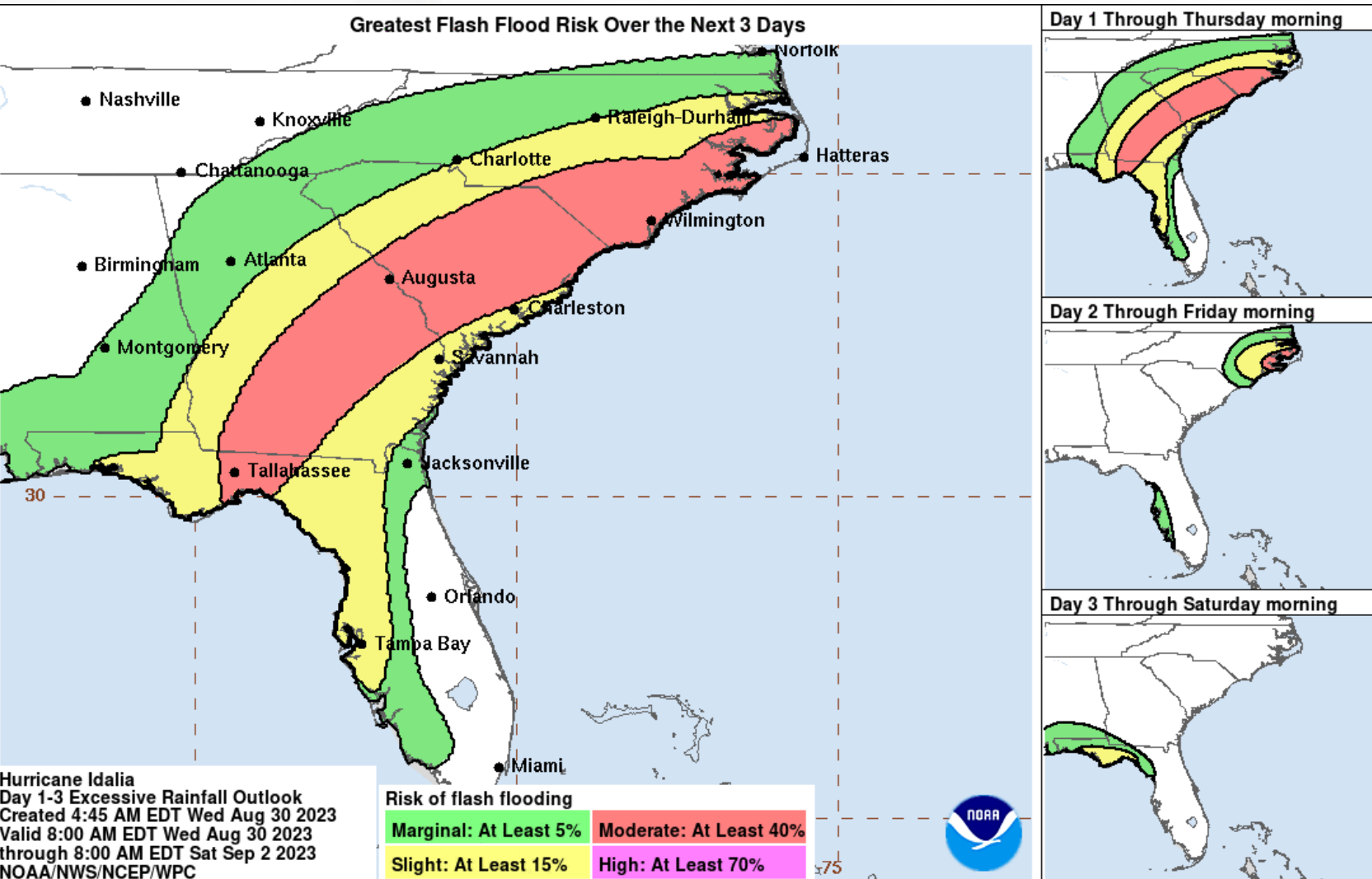
Exact rainfall amounts will be track-dependent, but there is the potential for heavy rainfall amounts of 6-8", with the higher amounts to the right of the track of the system. Isolated locations could receive up to 12" of rain from this system, the Apalachee Bay coastline and Florida Big Bend being the most at risk for these higher amounts.





# Flash Flood Outlook

## From the Weather Prediction Center



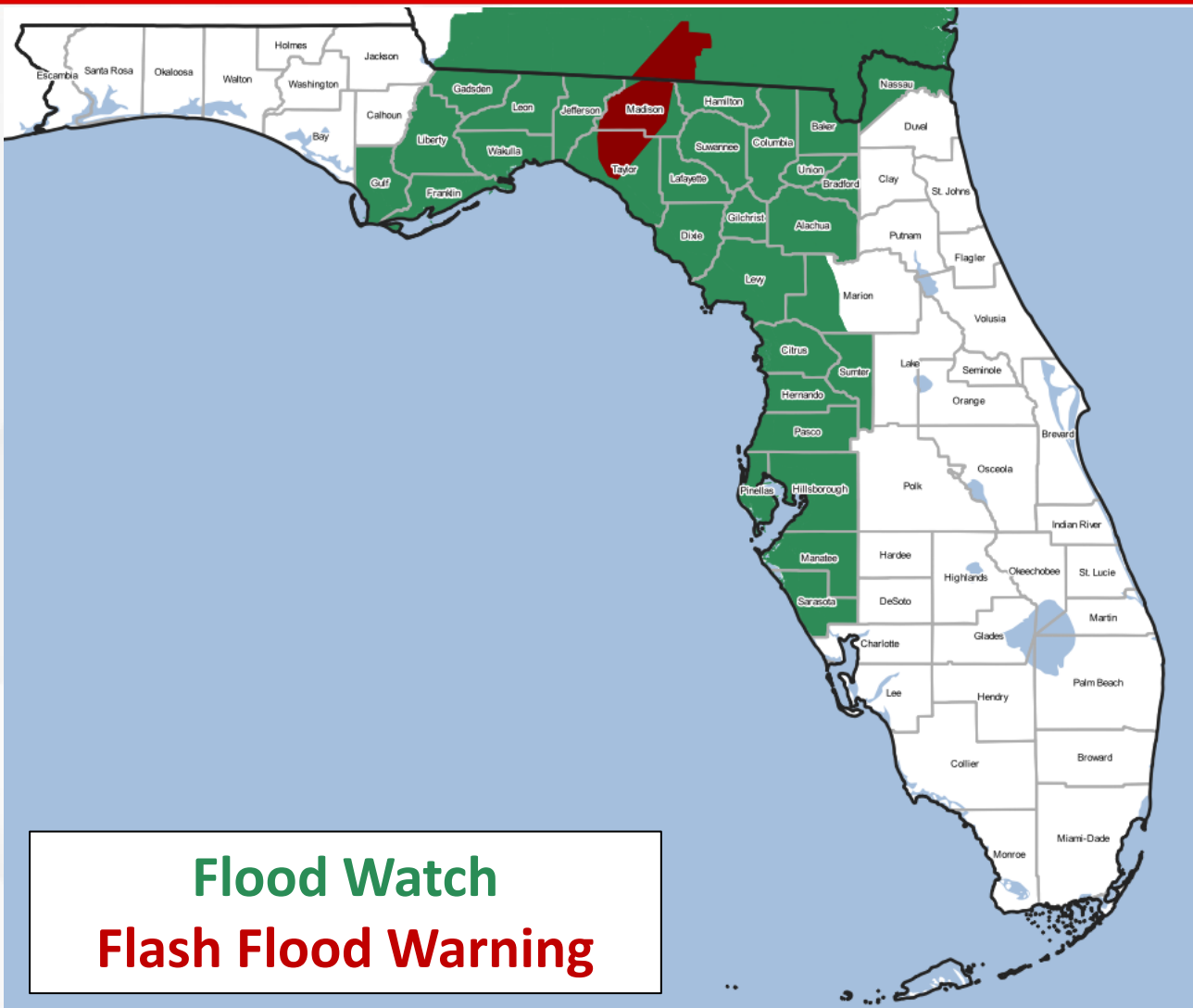
MARGINAL (MRGL)	SLIGHT (SLGT)	MODERATE (MDT)
Isolated flash floods possible	Scattered flash floods possible	Numerous flash floods likely
Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.	Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.	Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.

A **Moderate Risk for Flash Flooding (level 3 of 4)** continues for the eastern Florida Panhandle today, with a lingering risk of flooding residing along the Florida Gulf Coast into the weekend.



# Flood Watch and Flash Flood Warning

In Effect Through This Evening



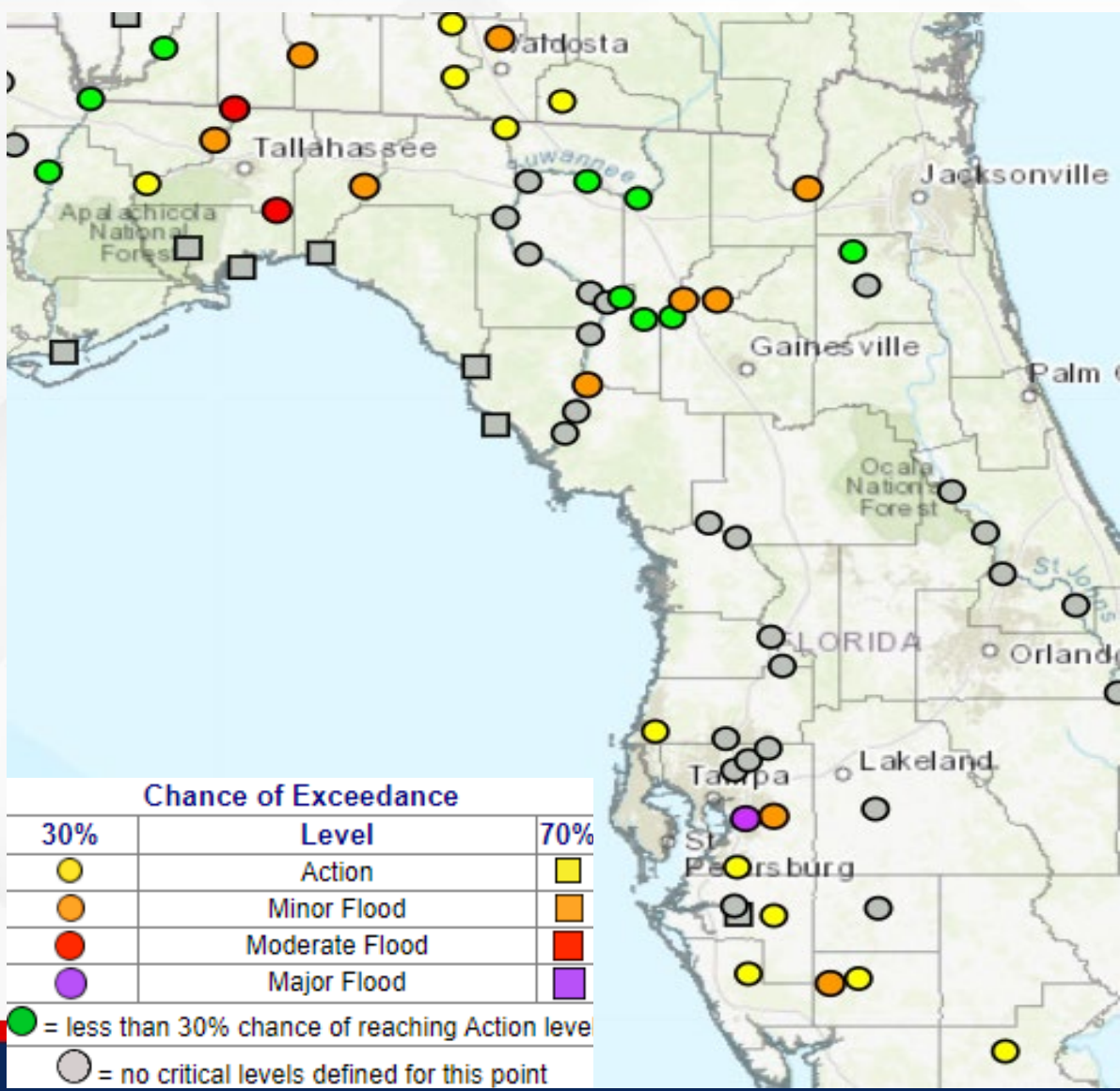
A **Flood Watch** remains in effect for the eastern Florida Panhandle, the Big Bend, Suwannee River Valley, and along the Florida Gulf Coast. Heavy rainfall within Idalia's outer rainbands will likely lead to areas of flash flooding, especially over locations that experience multiple rounds of extreme tropical rainfall rates.

A **Flash Flood Warning** is in effect until just after noon in Madison and Taylor counties as between 1-3" of rain and additional rainfall of 1-3" is possible.



# Riverine Flooding

From the National Weather Service



Recent dry conditions have kept North Florida and Nature Coast rivers, creeks, and tributaries below flood stage for the last couple of weeks. As Hurricane Idalia continues to push through North Florida, several rounds of intense rainfall can continue to be expected. A **River Flood Warning** is in effect for [Alafia River at Riverview](#) as storm surge associated with Idalia has caused water levels to rise to **Major Flood Stage** and are forecast to remain in **Major Flood Stage** today. A **River Flood Warning** will go into effect this afternoon/evening for [St. Marks River near Newport On Old Magnolia Rd](#) as water levels are forecast to reach **Moderate Flood Stage** within the next few days. Additional River Flood Warnings will go into effect this afternoon/evening for [Suwannee River Near Wilcox – US19](#) and [St. Marys River Near Macclenny](#) as they are forecast to reach **Minor Flood Stage**. Friday, River Flood Warnings will go into effect for the Santa Fe River at [Worthington Springs](#) and [O’Leno State Park](#) and for [Alafia River at Lithia Pinecrest Rd at Lithia](#) as water levels rise to **Minor Flood Stage**.





# Tornado Watch

In Effect Until 3:00 PM EDT



The **Tornado Watch** has expended in time in extent and is now in effect for the Northern Peninsula into Central Florida through 3:00 PM. This includes the following counties:

*Baker, Flagler, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Hamilton, Polk, Sumter, Levy, Citrus, Pasco, Hernando, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Volusia, Osceola*

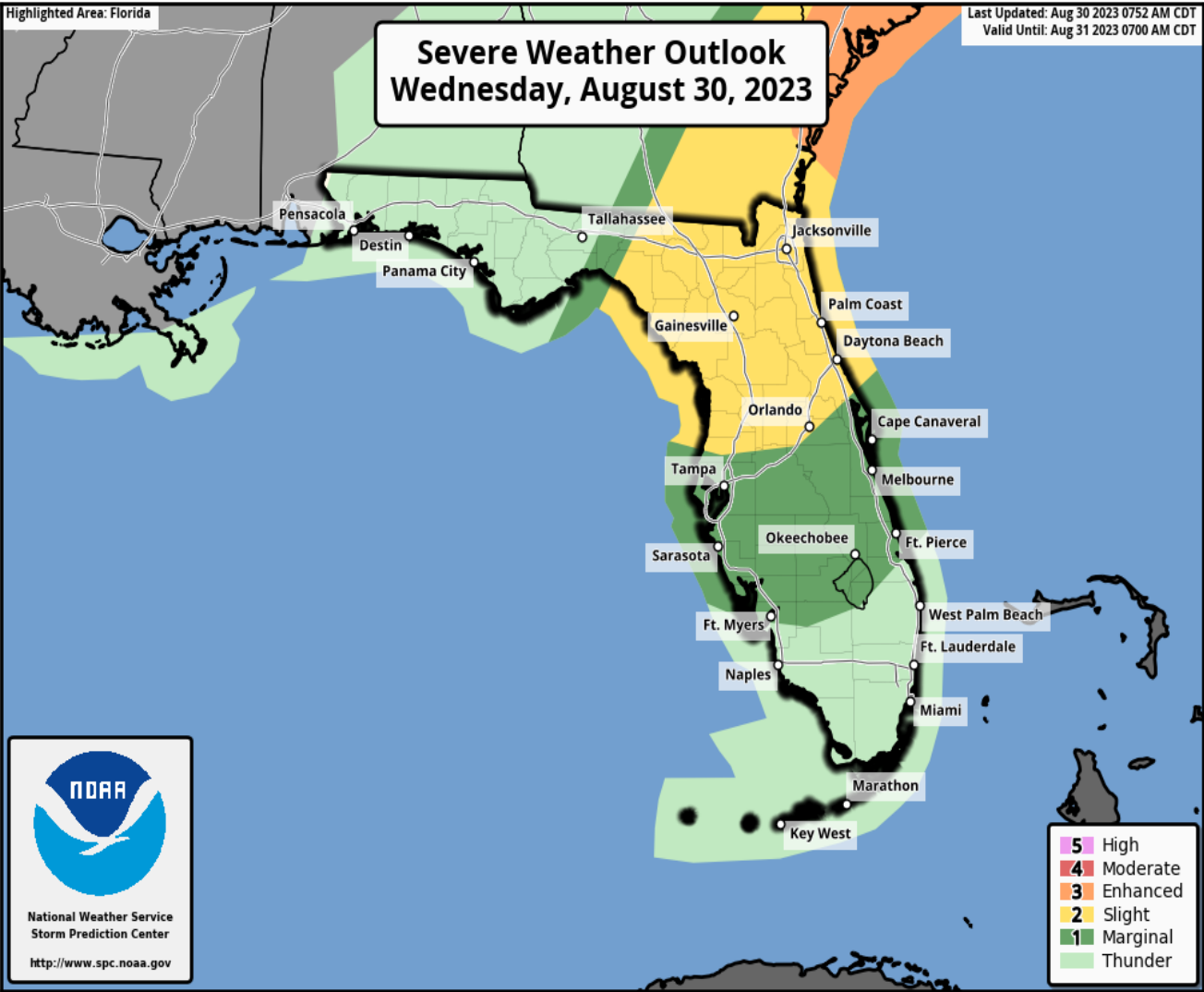
Additional Tornado Watches and Warnings will may be issued this afternoon.



# Severe Weather Outlook – Today

## 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



A **Slight Risk for Severe Weather (level 2 of 5)** continues to spread along and north of the I-4 corridor as Idalia approaches the Florida Big Bend. Tornadoes may be embedded within the outer rain bands of Idalia. The risk for severe weather will expand northeastward through the Suwannee River Valley and Northeast Florida Coast through the afternoon hours.

Locally gusty conditions within Idalia’s training rainfall bands this afternoon, even after the storm’s center has moved over the Florida-Georgia stateline.



# Elevated Rip Current Risk

## Panhandle & East Coast Beaches



A **moderate to high risk of rip currents** can be expected along all Florida coastlines today. Dangerous beach and marine conditions can be expected, with **High Surf Warnings** in effect along the Florida Panhandle today as breakers in the surf zone may reach 7-11' as Idalia advances north-northeastward to the Florida Big Bend.





# Summary

## Hurricane Idalia:

- At around 7:45 AM EDT, Idalia made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane in Keaton Beach.
- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Idalia is located about 15 miles south-southeast of Valdosta, GA, 165 miles southwest of Savannah, GA, and is moving north-northeastward at 20 mph.
- A turn toward the northeast is expected later today, followed by an east-northeastward to eastward motion Thursday.
- Maximum sustained winds have weakened to 90 mph, making Idalia a Category 1 hurricane.
- On the forecast track, the center of Idalia will move across southeastern Georgia today, near the coast of South Carolina tonight, and just offshore the coast of southern North Carolina on Thursday. Idalia is then expected to move east-southeastward over the western Atlantic on Friday.
- Idalia will continue to weaken now that the center is inland; However, Idalia is likely to still be a hurricane through this afternoon and evening while moving across southern Georgia and southern South Carolina.
- Idalia is forecast to weaken to a tropical storm while moving near the coasts of northeastern South Carolina and North Carolina tonight and on Thursday.
- Tropical Storm Warnings, Hurricane Warnings, and Storm Surge Watches/Warnings continue across the Big Bend, Northeast and West Florida.

The next briefing package will be issued on Wednesday Evening. For the latest information, please visit the National Hurricane Center website.



# Summary

## Florida Outlook:

- **Hurricane Warning:** Coastal Franklin, Wakulla, Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Suwanee, Lafayette, Dixie, Columbia, Baker
- **Tropical Storm Warning:** Liberty, inland Franklin, Gadsden, Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Brevard, Osceola, Polk, Hardee, Desoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, coastal Collier, Gilchrist, Bradford, Union, Alachua, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Sumter, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee
- **Storm Surge Warning:** Charlotte/Sarasota border northward to the Jefferson/Taylor border, including Tampa Bay
- **Storm Surge Watch:** Lee/Collier border northward to the Charlotte/Sarasota border, including Charlotte Harbor
- Hurricane and Tropical storm winds continue across the Big Bend, North Florida, and West-Central Florida.
- Conditions should begin to improve around midday for portions of Central Florida, and during the early afternoon hours across the central and western Big Bend. Tropical Storm conditions should exit the eastern Big Bend mid to late afternoon, and exit Northeast Florida around sunset.
- Storm surge values are currently near 2-4' near and south of Tampa Bay, but water levels are rising in Apalachee Bay. 7-11' of surge is forecast from Keaton Bach to Yankeetown, 5-8' from Yankeetown to the Anclote River, and 3-5' from the Aucilla River to Keaton Beach.
- Storm surge of 1-3' will also be possible along the Northeast coast from the Mouth of the St. Mary's River to the Flagler/Volusia County line, and the Florida Keys.
- Isolated tornadoes in the eastern outer bands of Idalia are a concern today. There is a Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Severe Weather along the eastern Florida Big Bend, Northeast Florida and through Central Florida. A Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather extends across southern Central Florida.
- A Tornado Watch is in effect for Baker, Flagler, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Hamilton, Polk, Sumter, Levy, Citrus, Pasco, Hernando, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Volusia, Osceola until 3pm.
- A Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding can be expected today along the Big Bend from Idalia bringing heavy and intense rainfall to the Gulf Coast. The Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding extends along North Florida and through Southwest Florida.
- A Flood Watch remains in effect along portions of the Big Bend, Nature Coast, and West-Central Florida through tonight.
- River Flood Warnings will go into effect this afternoon/evening and Friday morning for multiple Nature Coast and Suwannee River Valley rivers as rainfall associated with Idalia is forecast to rise water levels into minor to moderate flood stage. The Alafia River at Riverview is at Major Flood Stage.

The next briefing package will be issued on Wednesday Evening. For the latest information, please visit the National Hurricane Center website.



# Tropical Update



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**State Meteorological Support Unit**

**Florida Division of Emergency Management**

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