





11:30 AM EDT Friday, September 8, 2023 Idalia Recovery Weather Major Hurricane Lee & Tropical Storm Margot

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.





Severe Weather Outlook – Today From the Storm Prediction Center



There is a Marginal Risk for Severe Weather (level 1 of 5) outlooked for portions of North and Central Florida thunderstorms today as become increasingly numerous through the afternoon hours. Locally damaging wind gusts (45-60 mph), frequent lightning, of hail, torrential instance and downpours will be possible.

Timing: This Afternoon – Evening (1:00/2:00 PM EDT - 9:00/10:00 PM EDT)

Be sure you have multiple ways to receive weather notifications this afternoon and evening!

Flash Flood Outlook – Today From the Weather Prediction Center





The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a Marginal Risk for Flash Flooding (level 1 of 4) along portions of the East-Central Florida Coast today as showers and thunderstorms will be capable of producing very heavy rainfall rates (2-3"/hour). Localized flash flooding and ponding of water will be possible, especially for areas that see multiple rounds of heavy rain and thunderstorm activity.











MKCF1(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 7.92'

Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

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5-Day Forecast Rainfall

From the National Weather Service & Weather Prediction Center

Init: Fri 2023-09-08 12z WPC

120-Hour Precipitation (in) Ending Wednesday, Sep. 13, 2023 at 8 a.m. EDT



Increasing rain chances can be expected to continue through the next 5 days, courtesy of an approaching frontal boundary and the daily afternoon sea breeze. Rainfall totals of 1-2" can be expected over portions of the Florida Big Bend, Central Florida, and Southwest Florida, with locally high amounts of 3-5" possible along the Space Coast. The greatest rain chances can be expected over locations that receive multiple rounds of shower and thunderstorm activity. As grounds continue to saturate, a quicker onset to **ponding of** water and localized flooding will be possible through Saturday.







- Location: 565 miles E of the Northern Leeward Islands
- Maximum Sustained Winds: 155 mph; Category 4
- Current Movement: WNW at 13 mph
- FL Watches/Warnings: None

This west-northwestward motion is expected to continue through early next week with a significant decrease in forward speed. On the forecast track, Lee is expected to pass well north of the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico over the weekend and into early next week. Some fluctuations in intensity are likely over the next few days, however Lee is expected to remain a powerful hurricane through early next week. *Lee poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days, but this system will continue to be monitored. Dangerous beach and boating conditions could develop along the Florida East Coast early next week.*



Major Hurricane Lee

Hurricane LEE Model Track Guidance



Computer models remain in very good agreement over the next several days as Lee continues a west-northwestward motion, and will decrease forward speed during the 3-5-day timeframe as the western extent of the tropical area of high pressure weakens. Additional fluctuations in intensity (*moderate wind shear and eye wall replacement cycles*) will likely continue through Lee's life cycle over the central tropical Atlantic. Regardless, confidence remains high that Lee will remain a powerful hurricane during the next several days.



Coastal Impacts from Distant Lee



Long-period ocean swell from distant Lee will bring increasingly dangerous surf and an elevated risk of rip currents beginning as early as Monday along Florida's East Coast. Increased wave heights with persistent onshore flow could lead to potential beach erosion over multiple high tide cycles later next week. A High Surf Advisory may be required for portions of the Florida East Coast next week as forecast wave heights could reach criteria.





- Location: 580 miles WNW of the Cabo Verde Islands
- Maximum Sustained Winds: 40 mph
- Current Movement: WNW at 17 mph
- FL Watches/Warnings: None

This general motion is expected to continue for the next day or two, with a turn toward a more northwestward motion early next week. Some strengthening is forecast during the next day or so, and Margot is forecast to become a hurricane later this weekend.

Tropical Storm Margot poses no threat to Florida.



Model Forecasts – Next 5 Days Tropical Storm Margot

Tropical Storm MARGOT Model Track Guidance



Computer models are generally in good agreement for the next several days that Margot will continue a west-northwestward motion over the next 24-48 hours. After the 48-hour time period, Margot will then begin to move more in a northwestward motion, and some uncertainty across the computer models enters the days 3-5 forecast. There is decent agreement that Margot will gradually intensify throughout the forecast period, and Margot could become a hurricane in the next 72-96 hours.





Major Hurricane Lee:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Major Hurricane Lee is located about 565 miles east of the northern Leeward Islands, and is moving west-northwestward at 13 mph.
- This west-northwestward motion is expected to continue through early next week with a significant decrease in forward speed.
- On the forecast track, Lee is expected to pass well north of the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico over the weekend and into early next week.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 155 mph, making Lee a very strong Category 4 hurricane.
- Some fluctuations in intensity are likely over the next few days; however, Lee is expected to remain a powerful hurricane through early next week.
- This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days, but this system will continue to be monitored. Dangerous beach and boating conditions can be expected to develop along Florida's East Coast early next week.

Tropical Storm Margot:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Tropical Storm Margot is located about 580 miles west-northwest of the Cabo Verde Islands and is moving west-northwestward at 17 mph.
- This motion is expected to continue for the next day or two, with a turn towards a more northwestward motion early next week.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 40 mph, and some strengthening is forecast during the next day or so. Margot is forecast to become a hurricane later this weekend.
- Margot poses no threat to Florida.

Florida Outlook:

- Ongoing showers and thunderstorms to become increasingly numerous through the day, courtesy of the afternoon sea breeze and stalled frontal boundary (50-80% chance of rain).
- The primary concerns with this activity will be locally damaging wind gusts (45-60 mph), frequent lightning, hail, and torrential downpours (Marginal Risk for Severe Weather level 1 of 5).
- Showers and thunderstorms will increase in intensity and areal coverage throughout the peak heating hours of the day (mainly after 1:00-2:00 PM EDT) across North and Central Florida.
- Triple digit heat index values (98-101-degrees) return to portions of North and interior Central Florida this afternoon.
- River Flood Warnings continue for the Peace River near Arcadia (SR-70) and Myakka River near Myakka River State Park as minor flooding is forecast to linger into the weekend.
- The next name on the list Nigel.

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



Tropical Update



Created by:

Caitlyn Gillespie, Deputy State Meteorologist

Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com

State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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