





11:30 AM EDT Saturday, September 9, 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.















Riverine Flooding



A **River Flood Warning** remains in effect for the <u>Myakka River at Myakka River</u> <u>State Park</u>. Minor flooding is ongoing and is forecast to continue through Tuesday. Water levels are forecast to fall below flood stage this Tuesday.



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5-Day Forecast Rainfall

From the National Weather Service & Weather Prediction Center

120-Hour Precipitation (in) Ending Thursday, Sep. 14, 2023 at 8 a.m. EDT



Decreasing rain chances can be expected through early next week, courtesy of drier air moving in across the state as the frontal boundary dissipates. Rainfall totals of 1-2" can be expected over portions of the Florida Big Bend, Central Florida, and Southwest Florida, with locally higher totals of 3-5" possible along the Coastal Peninsula and South Florida. 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 Sunday.







- Location: 350 miles ENE of the Northern Leeward Islands
- Maximum Sustained Winds: 115 mph; Category 3
- Current Movement: WNW at 12 mph
- FL Watches/Warnings: None

This motion is expected to continue through early next week with a significant decrease in forward speed beginning later today and Sunday. On the forecast track, Lee is expected to pass well north of the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico over the into early next week. Little change in strength is expected today, but gradual restrengthening is forecast on Sunday and Monday. 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



Computer models remain in very good agreement over the next several days as Lee continues a west-northwestward motion, decreasing in 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 major hurricane during the next several days.



Coastal Impacts from Distant Lee Atlantic Coast Beaches



Long-period ocean swells 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: 970 miles WNW of the Cabo Verde Islands
- Maximum Sustained Winds: 45 mph
- Current Movement: WNW at 12 mph
- FL Watches/Warnings: None

A west-northwestward to northward motion is expected during the next day or so, followed by a north-northwestward to northward motion forecast to begin late Sunday. Gradual strengthening is forecast over the next several days, and Margot is forecast to become a hurricane early next week.

Tropical Storm Margot poses no threat to Florida.



Model Forecasts – Next 5 Days Tropical Storm Margot



Computer models are generally in good agreement for the next several days that Margot will continue a west-northwestward motion over the next 24 hours. After the 24-hour time period, Margot will then begin to move more in a north-northwestward to northward 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 350 miles east-northeast of the northern Leeward Islands, and is moving west-northwestward at 12 mph.
- This motion is expected to continue through early next week with a significant decrease in forward speed beginning later today and Sunday.
- On the forecast track, Lee is expected to pass well north of the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico into early next week.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 115 mph, making Lee a Category 3 hurricane.
- Little change in strength is expected today, but gradual strengthening is forecast to occur on Sunday and Monday.
- 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 970 miles west-northwest of the Cabo Verde Islands and is moving west-northwestward at 12 mph.
- A west-northwestward to northward motion is expected during the next day or so, followed by a north-northwestward to northward motion forecast to begin late Sunday.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph, and gradual strengthening is forecast over the next several days. Margot is forecast to become a hurricane early next week.
- Margot poses no threat to Florida.

Florida Outlook:

- Ongoing showers and thunderstorms will become increasingly numerous through the day, courtesy of the afternoon sea breeze and stalled frontal boundary (40-60% chance of rain).
- Despite no organized risk for severe weather, locally damaging wind gusts (45-60 mph), frequent lightning, hail, and torrential downpours cannot be ruled out in isolated strong to severe thunderstorms in North and Central Florida.
- Showers and thunderstorms will increase in intensity and areal coverage throughout the peak heating hours of the day across the Northern and Central Peninsula and into the Big Bend.
- Triple digit heat index values (98-101-degrees) return to portions of Apalachicola and South Florida this afternoon.
- River Flood Warning continues for the Myakka River near Myakka River State Park as minor flooding is forecast to linger into the beginning of the week.
- The next name on the list Nigel.

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



Tropical Update



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