



Tropical Update



11:00 AM EDT

Saturday, September 28, 2024

Helene Recovery Weather

Hurricane Isaac & Tropical Storm Joyce

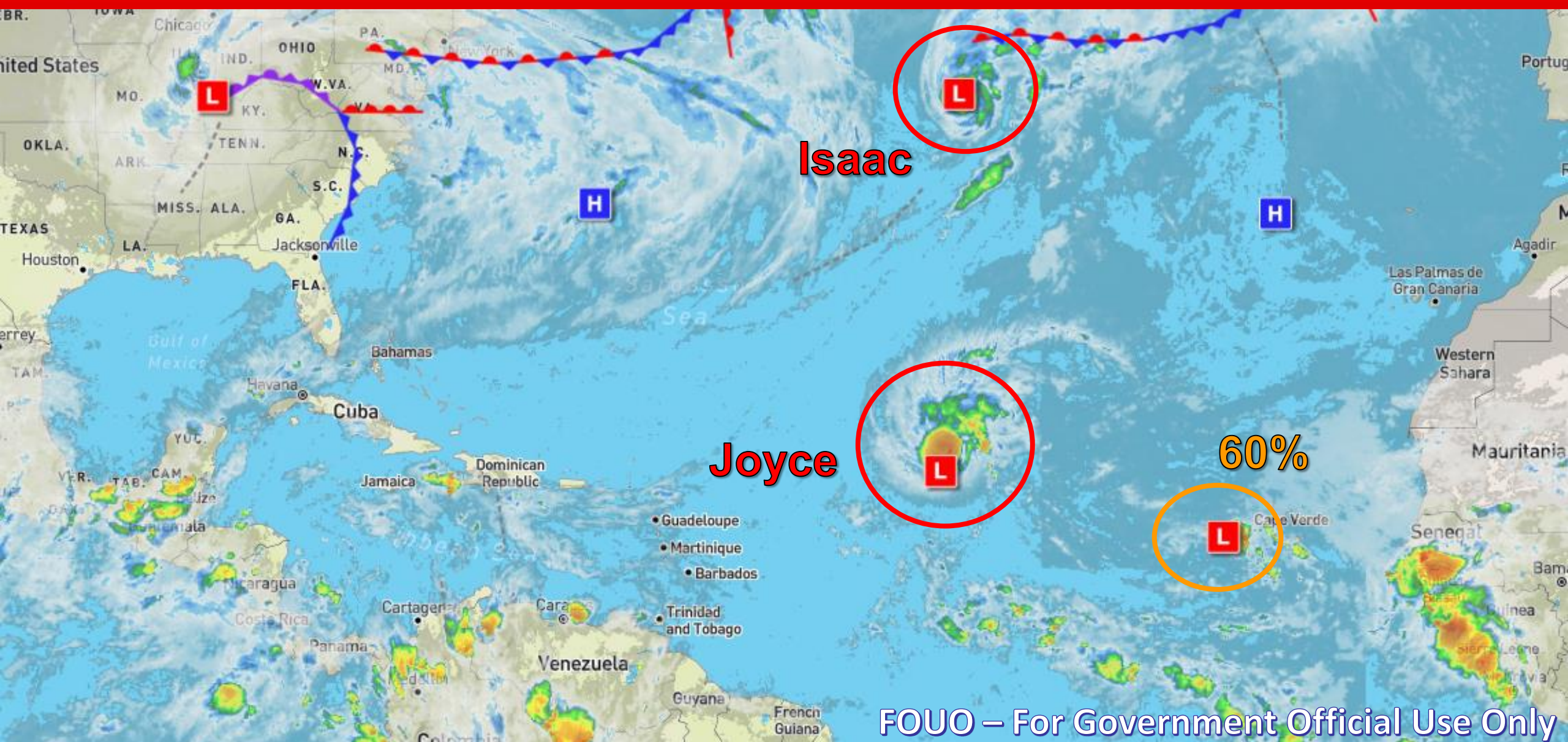
Eastern and Central Tropical Atlantic (60%) and Western Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico (40%)

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.



Atlantic Basin Satellite Image

Chance of development: None Low Medium High

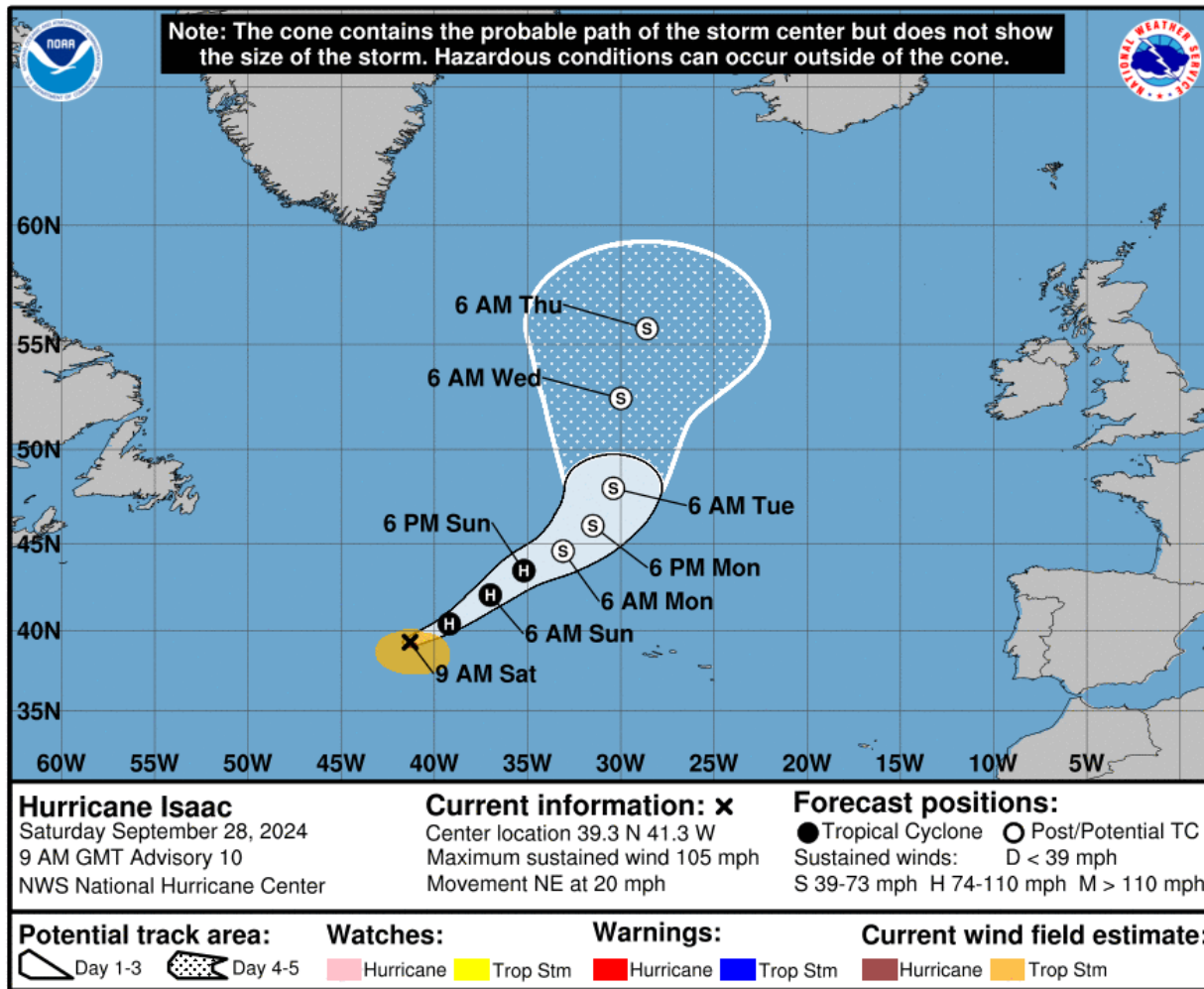


FOUO – For Government Official Use Only



Hurricane Isacc

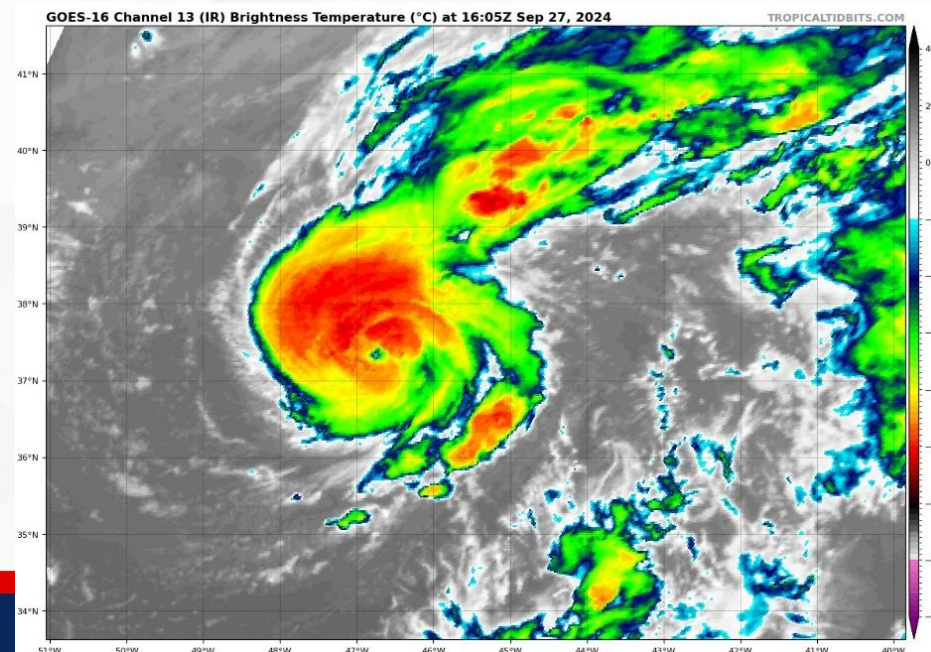
From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 695 miles WNW of the Azores
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 105 mph; Category 2
- **Current Movement:** ENE at 20 mph

A decrease in forward speed and a turn to the northeast is expected during the next couple of days. Gradual weakening is expected, and Isaac is expected to be a post-tropical cyclone on Monday.

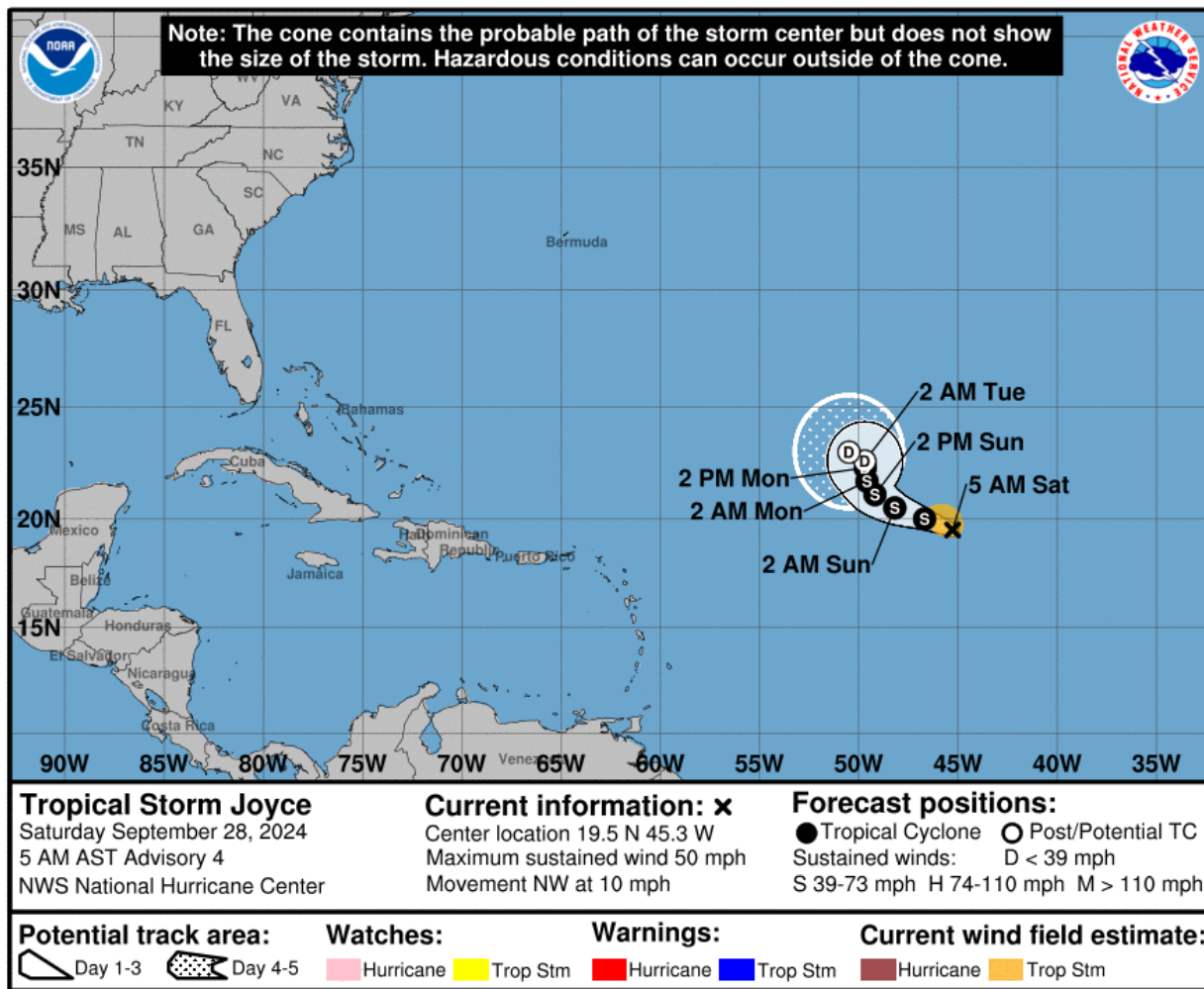
Isaac poses no threat to Florida.





Tropical Storm Joyce

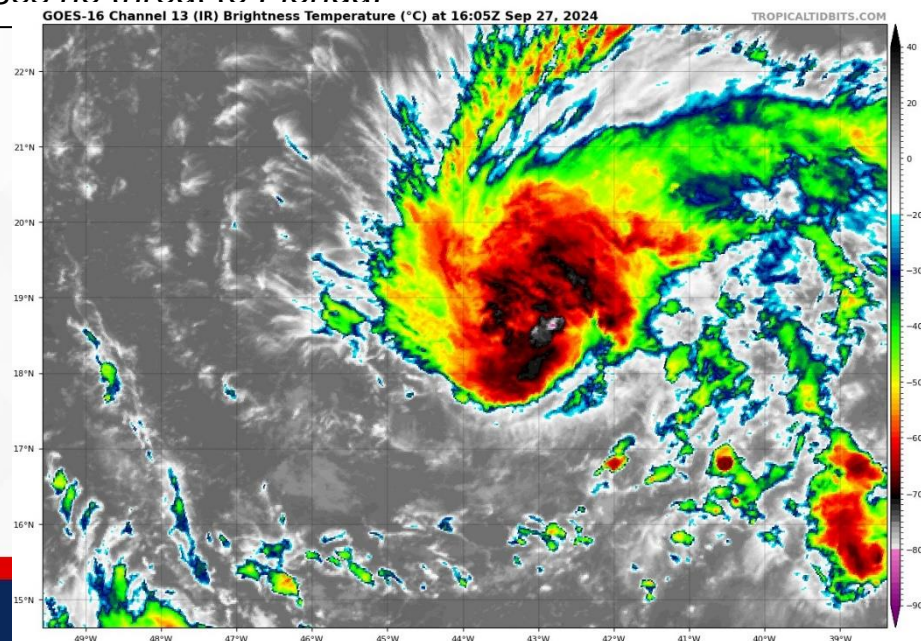
From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 1120 miles E of the Northern Leeward Islands
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 50 mph
- **Current Movement:** NW at 10 mph

A west-northwestward to northwestward motion with a decrease in forward speed is expected through Sunday. A slow turn toward the northwest and north is forecast Sunday night and Monday. Weakening is forecast to begin tonight or on Sunday, and Joyce could degenerate into a remnant low by early Tuesday.

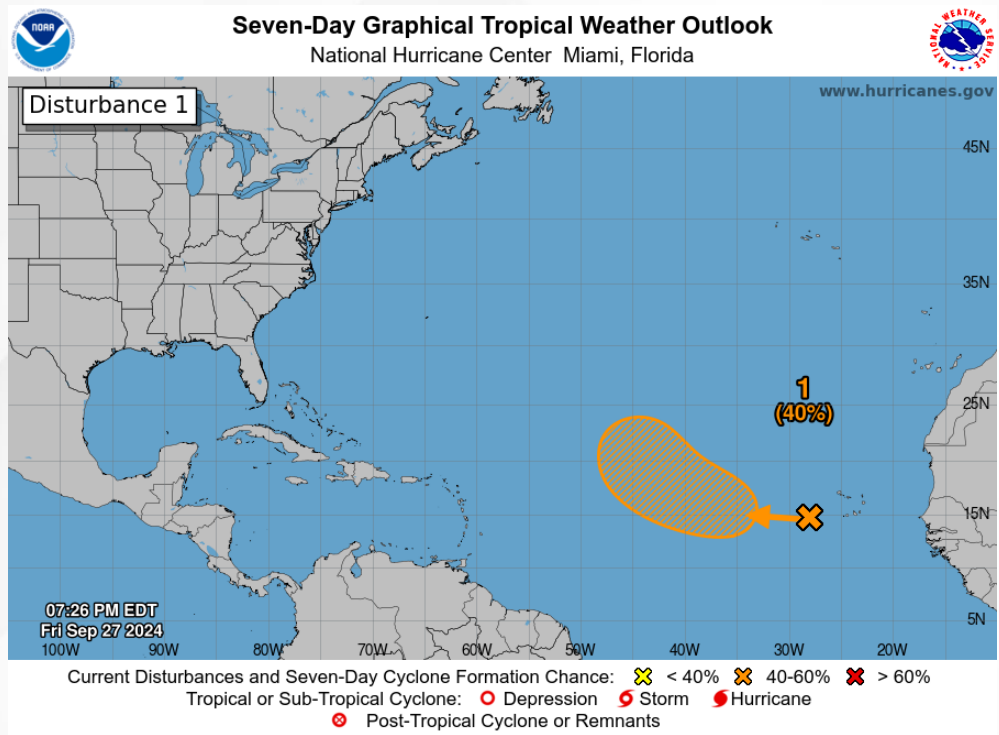
Joyce poses no threat to Florida.



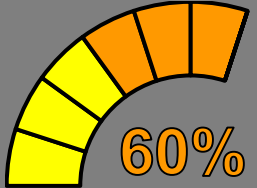


Tropical Weather Outlook

Disturbance 1 – Eastern & Central Tropical Atlantic



48 Hour Formation



7 Day Formation

A broad and elongated area of low pressure, associated with a tropical wave, is producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms near and to the west of the Cabo Verde Islands. Environmental conditions appear conducive for gradual development of this system. A tropical depression could form during the early or middle part of next week while the system moves toward the west and then northwest across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic.

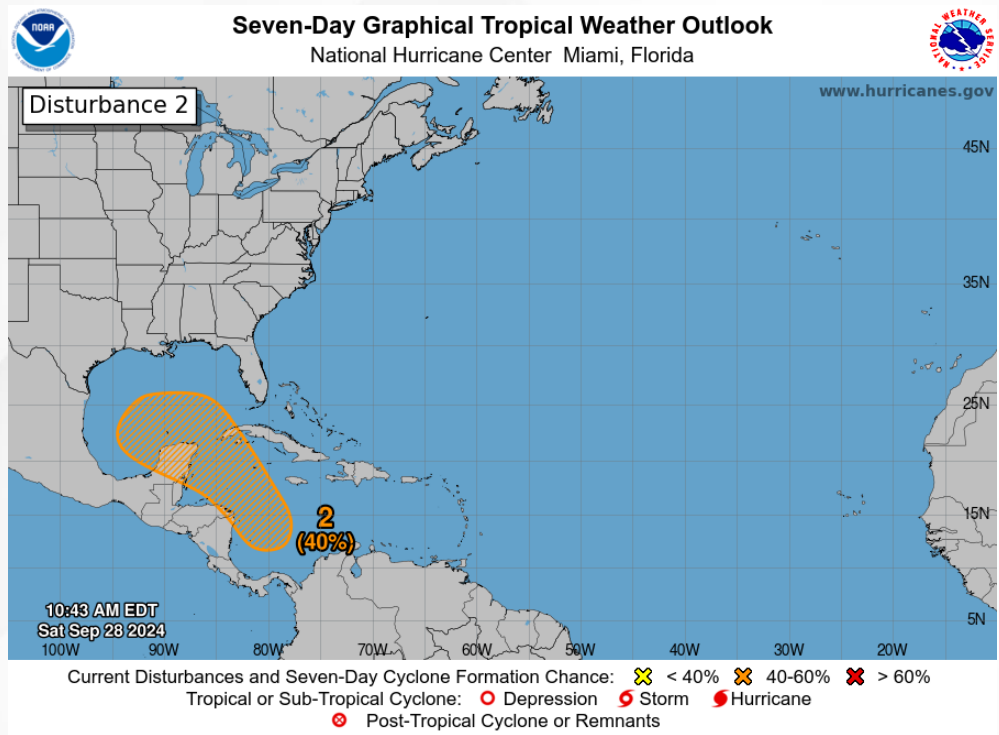
This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 7-10 days at least.

Chance of development through 48 hours... **low...20%.**
Chance of development through 7 days... **medium...60%.**



Tropical Weather Outlook

Disturbance 2 – Western Caribbean Sea & Gulf of Mexico



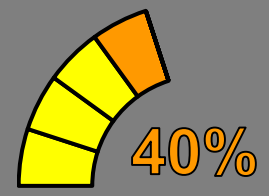
An area of low pressure could form over the western Caribbean Sea in a few days. Environmental conditions are expected to be conducive for additional development thereafter while the system moves generally northwestward. A tropical depression could form during the middle to latter part of next week as the system enters the Gulf of Mexico.

This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days at least but will continue to be monitored.

Chance of development through 48 hours...**low...near 0%.**
Chance of development through 7 days...**medium...40%.**

Near 0%

48 Hour Formation



40%

7 Day Formation

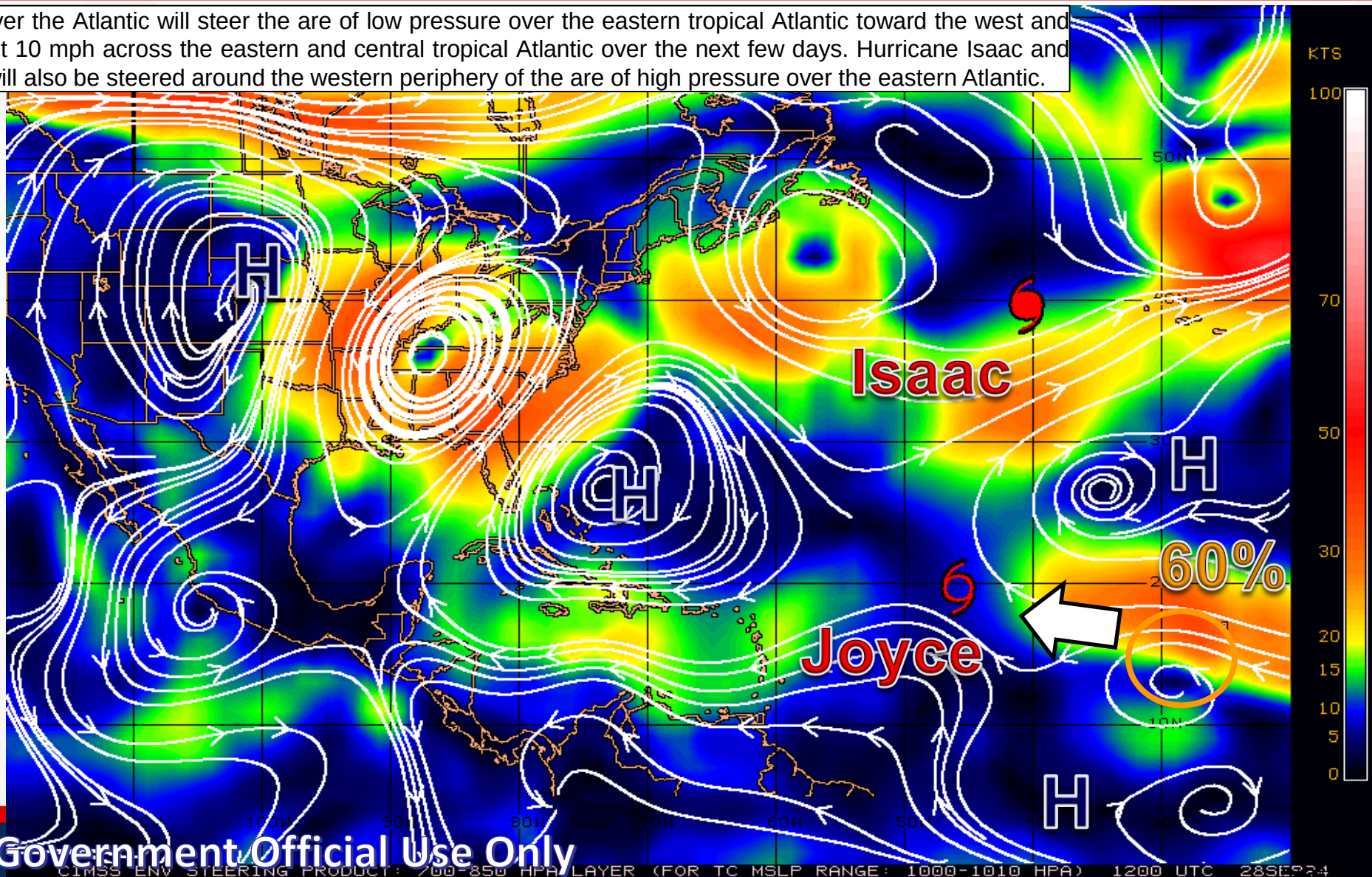


Steering Currents

What is Moving the System?

Color denotes the movement speed through the atmosphere and thin white lines denote direction. Tightly clustered white lines represent faster movement as well.

High pressure areas over the Atlantic will steer the area of low pressure over the eastern tropical Atlantic toward the west and then northwest at about 10 mph across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic over the next few days. Hurricane Isaac and Tropical Storm Joyce will also be steered around the western periphery of the area of high pressure over the eastern Atlantic.



Fast Moving Storm

Fast Moving Storm

Typical Moving Storm

Slow Moving Storm

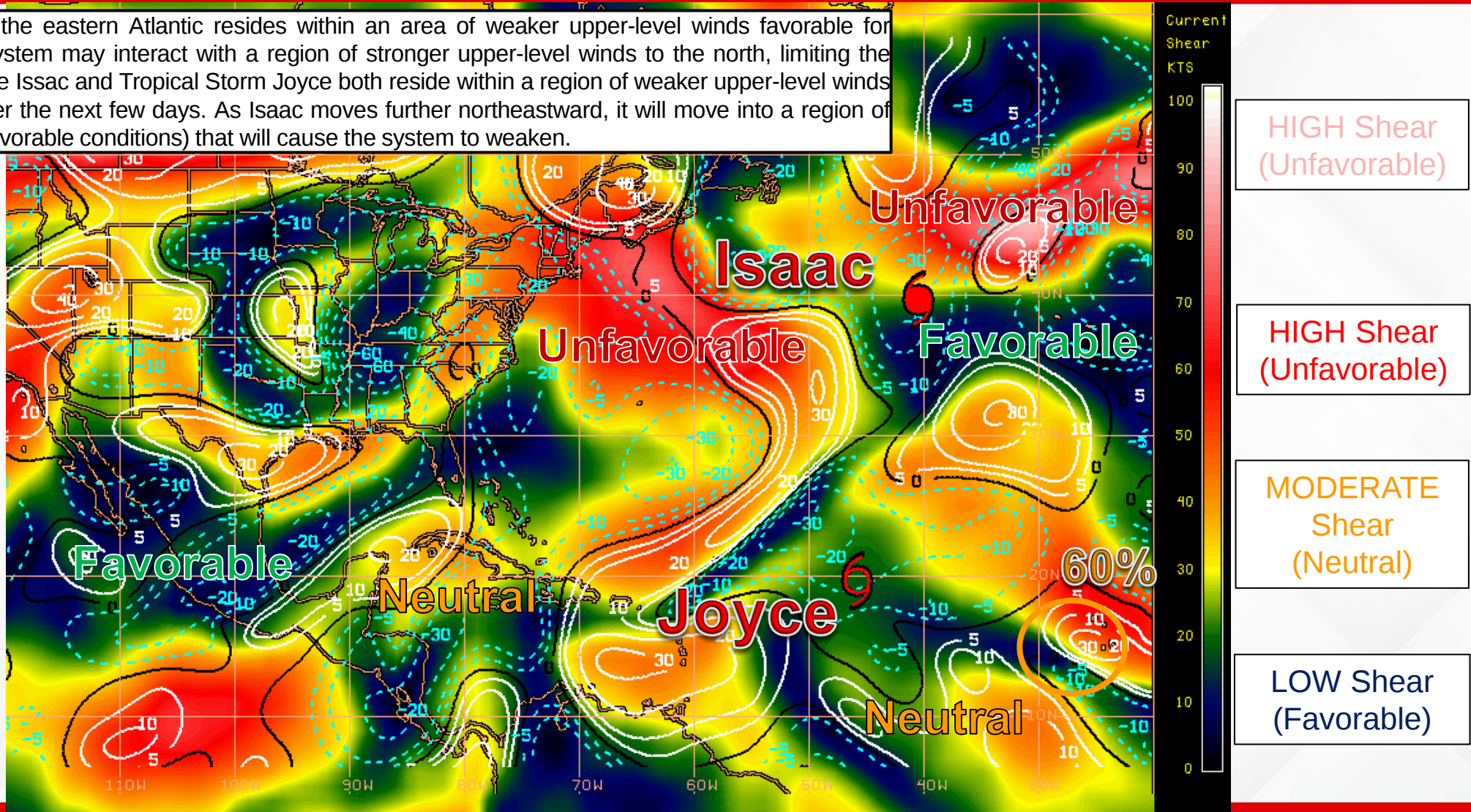


Wind Shear

Is the environment favorable for the system?

Color denotes the amount of wind shear and the lines denote how it have changed over the last 24 hours (dotted lines show decreasing shear and solid lines show increasing).

The area of low pressure in the eastern Atlantic resides within an area of weaker upper-level winds favorable for development; however, the system may interact with a region of stronger upper-level winds to the north, limiting the overall development. Hurricane Issac and Tropical Storm Joyce both reside within a region of weaker upper-level winds favorable for development over the next few days. As Isaac moves further northeastward, it will move into a region of strong-upper level winds (unfavorable conditions) that will cause the system to weaken.



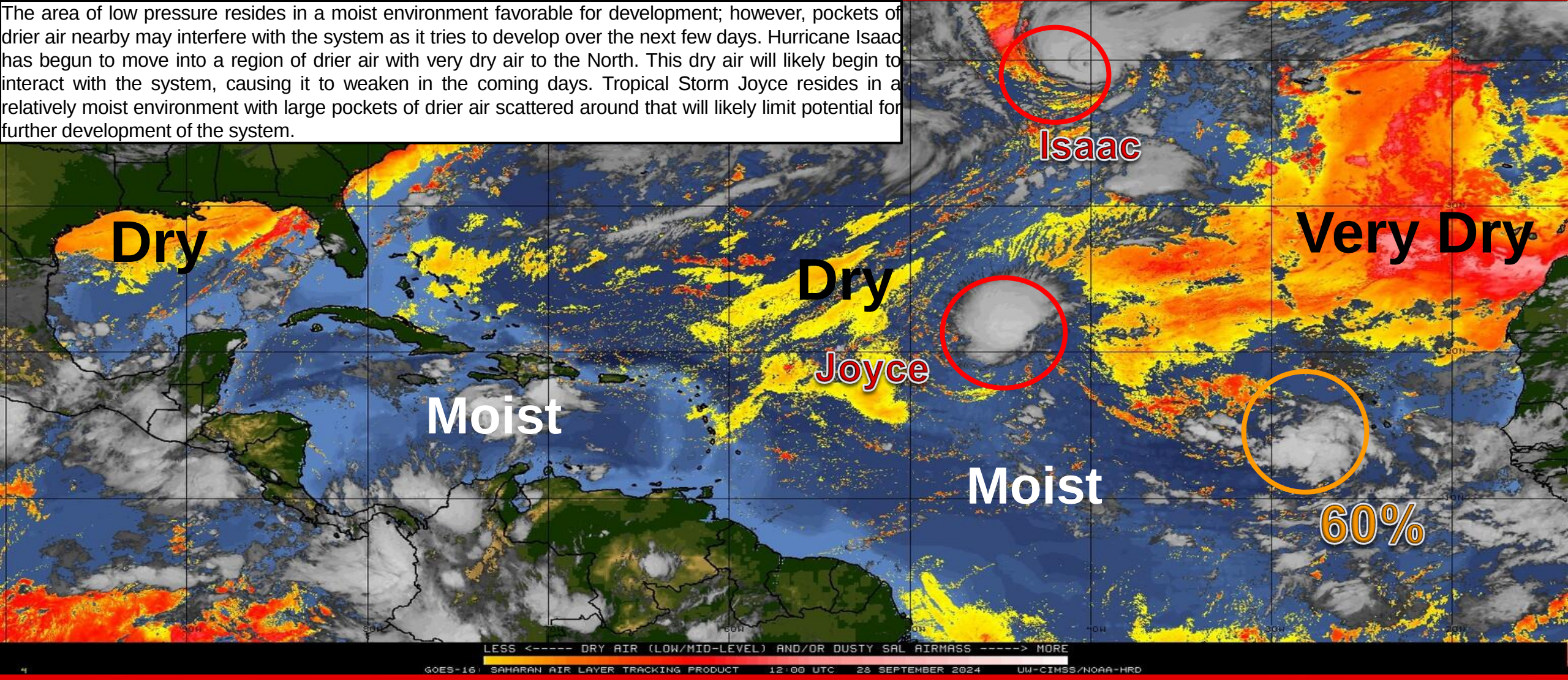


Dry Air & Saharan Dust

Is the environment favorable for the system?

Color denotes concentration of Saharan Dust or dry, stable air.

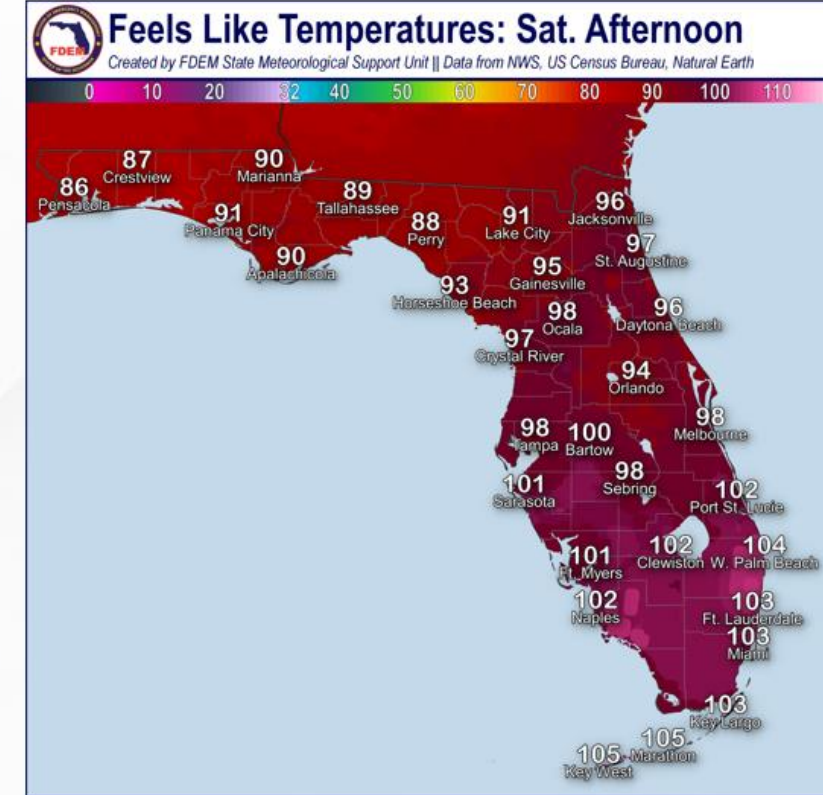
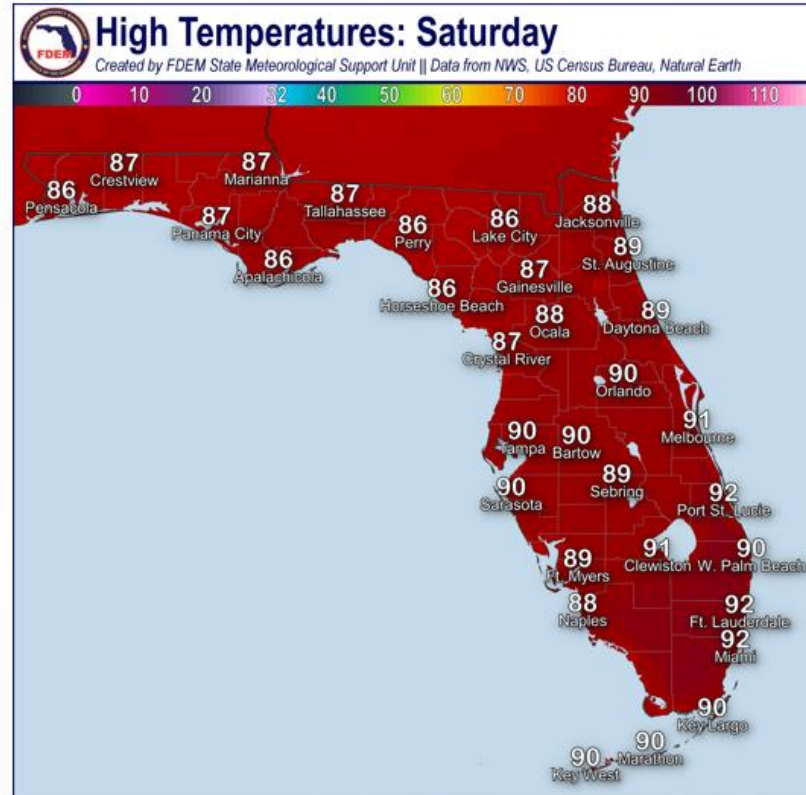
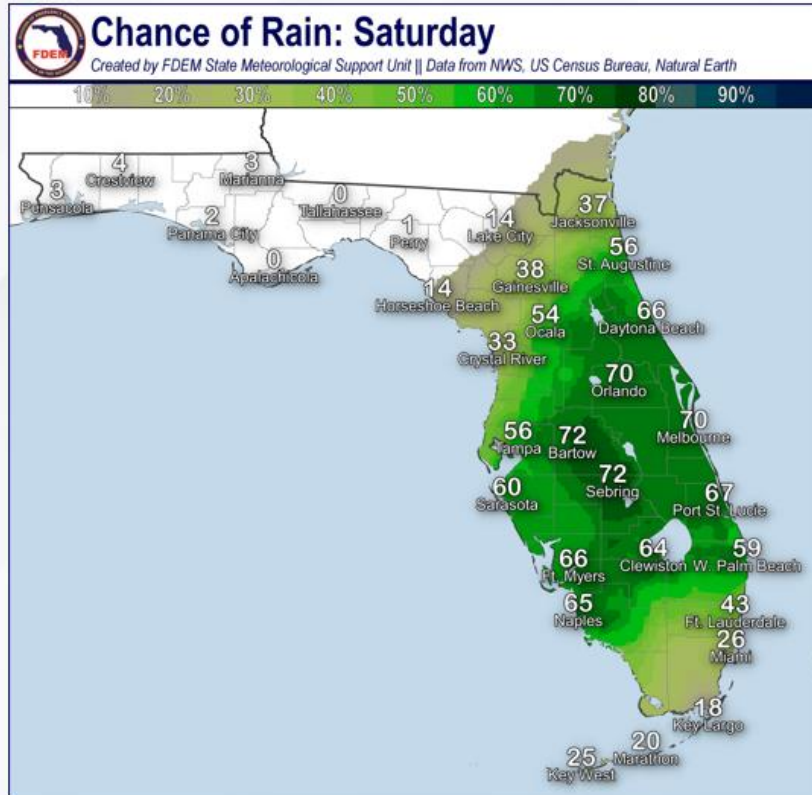
The area of low pressure resides in a moist environment favorable for development; however, pockets of drier air nearby may interfere with the system as it tries to develop over the next few days. Hurricane Isaac has begun to move into a region of drier air with very dry air to the North. This dry air will likely begin to interact with the system, causing it to weaken in the coming days. Tropical Storm Joyce resides in a relatively moist environment with large pockets of drier air scattered around that will likely limit potential for further development of the system.





Recovery Weather - Saturday

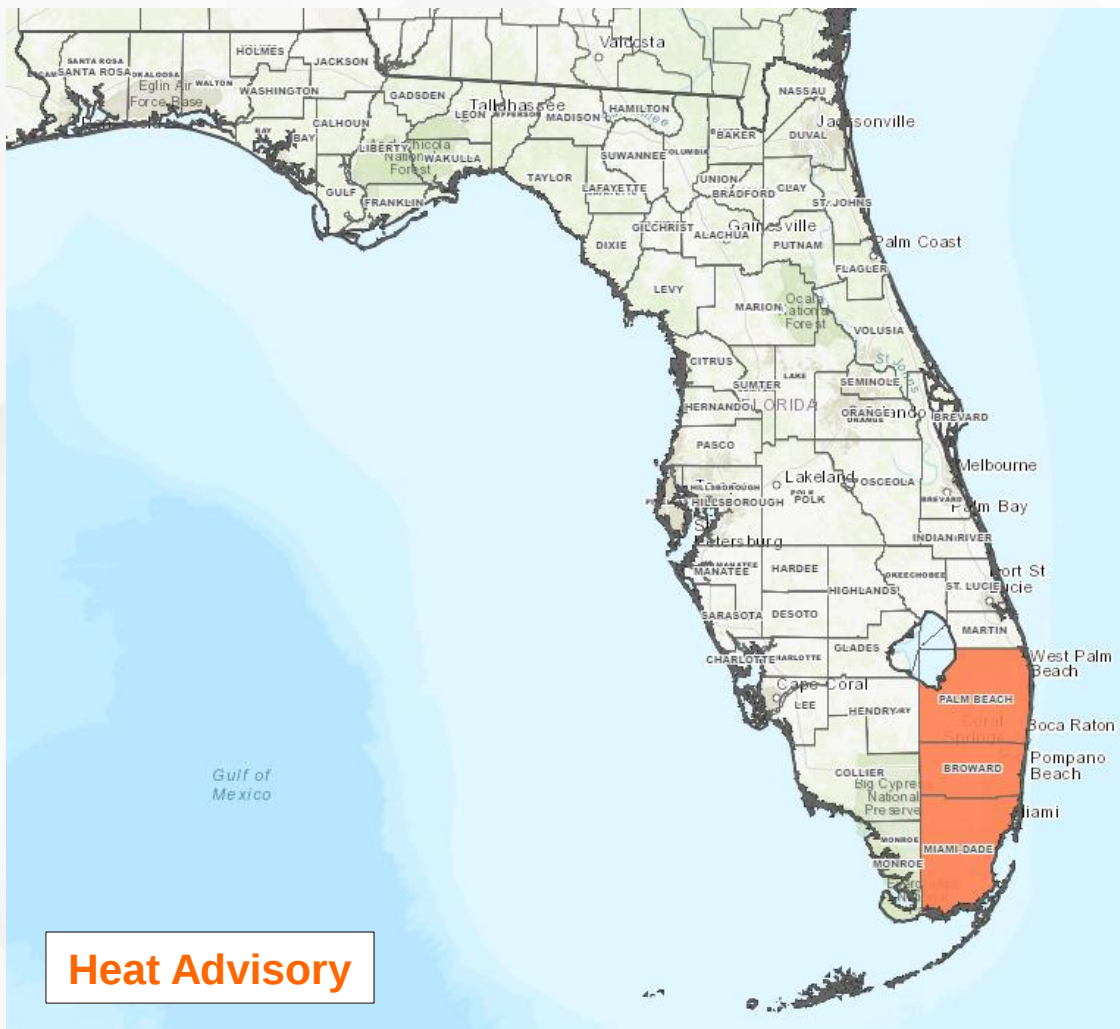
Rain Chances, High Temperature & Feels-Like Temperature





Heat Advisories

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

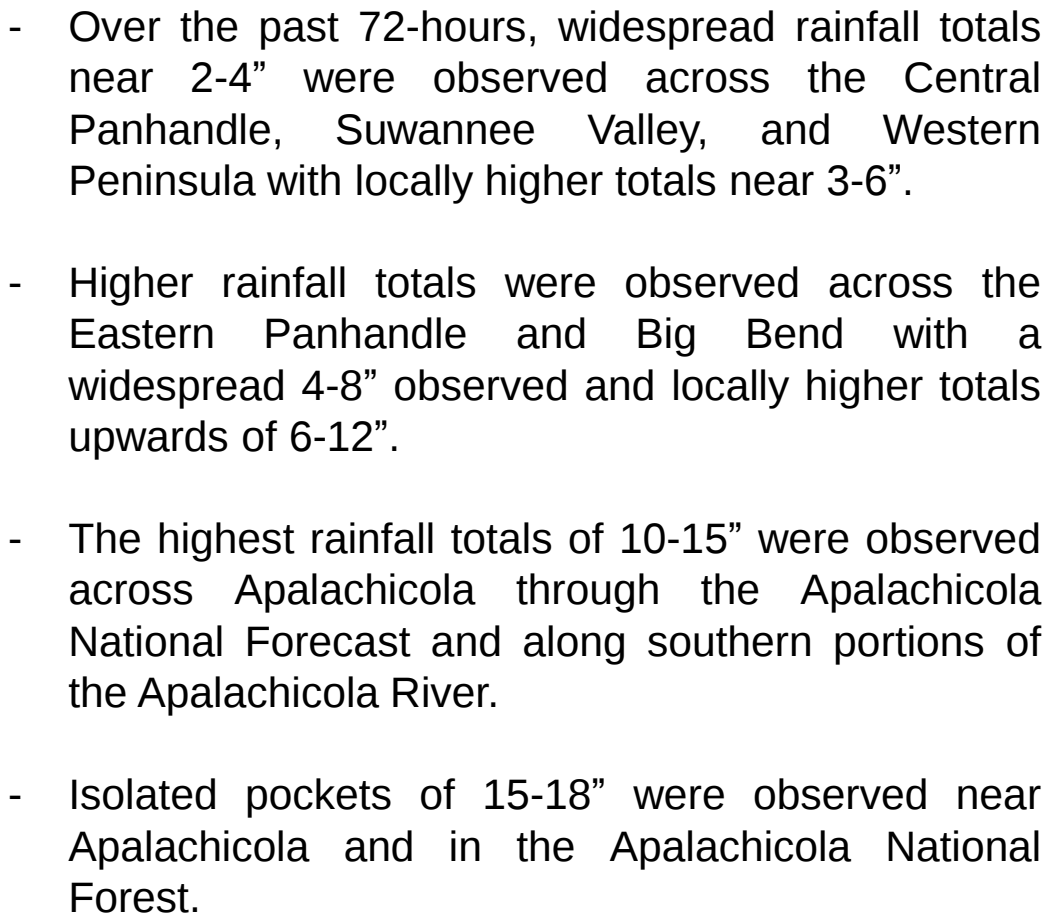


High temperatures in the middle 80s to middle 90s can be expected across the Sunshine State today.

Lingering moisture will cause temperatures to feel like they are in the **upper 90s and triple digits (100-110)** through the Peninsula and Keys this afternoon.

Heat Advisories will go into effect along Southeast Florida at 10:00 AM EDT this morning and remain in effect until 6:00 PM EDT this evening for **heat indices of 105-110-degrees** expected this afternoon.

With response and recovery efforts underway, remember to practice heat safety throughout the day. Wear light clothing, drink plenty of water, and take frequent breaks from outdoor activities.





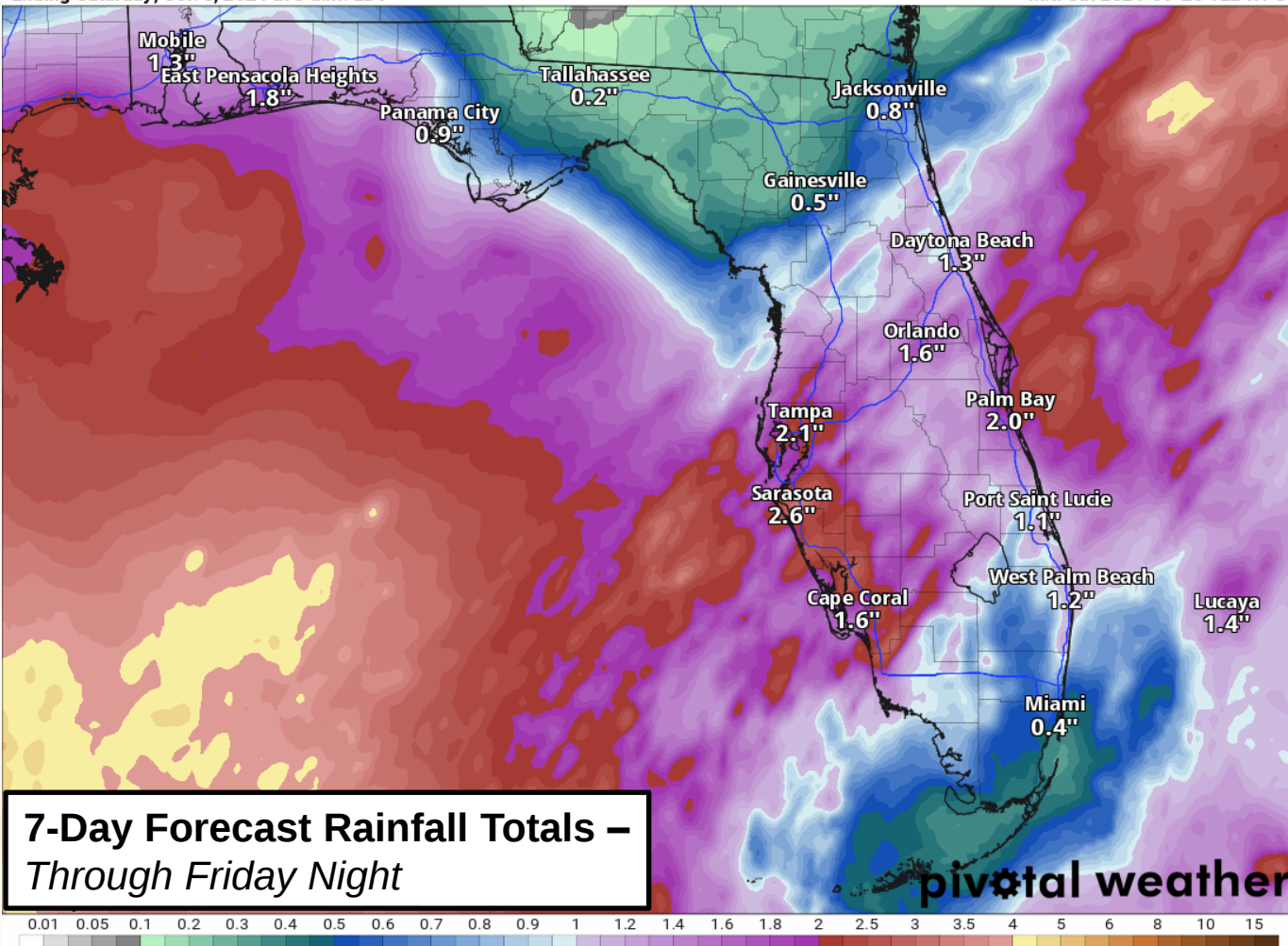
Rainfall Totals – Next 7 Days

From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

7-Day Precipitation (in)

Ending Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024 at 8 a.m. EDT

Init: Sat 2024-09-28 12z WPC

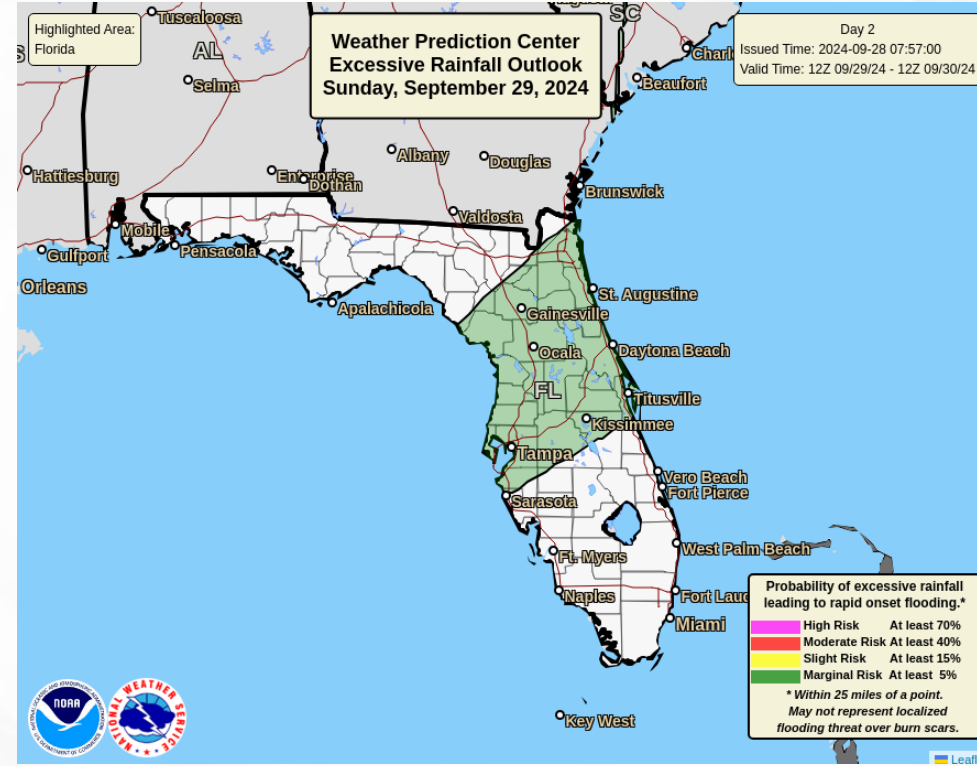
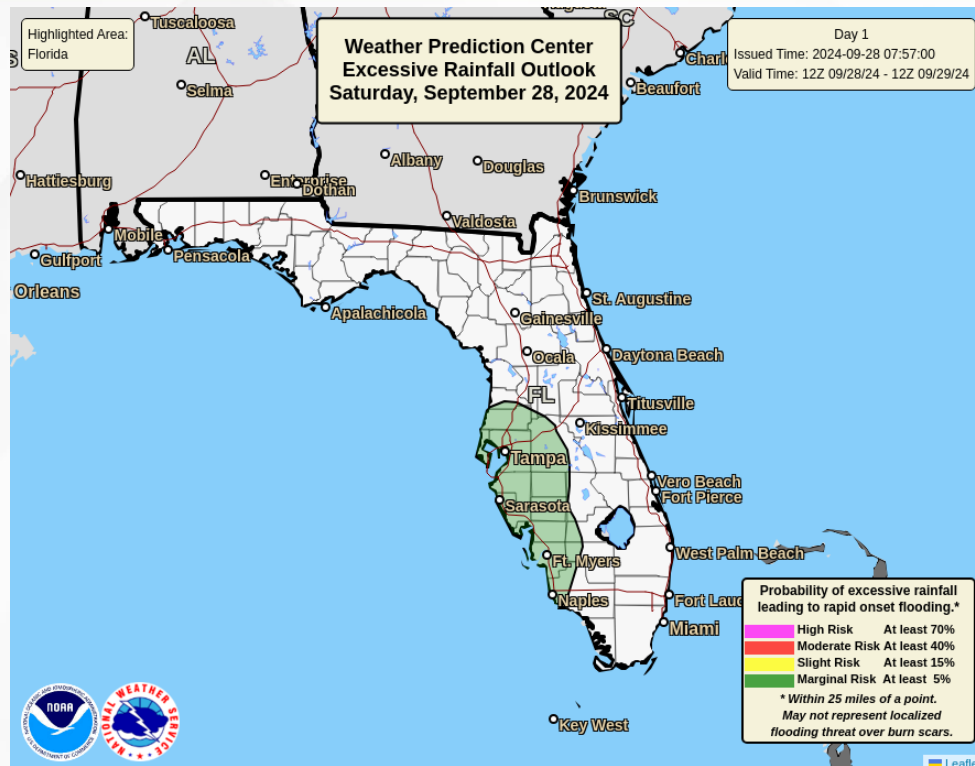


- Remnants of Helene will linger over Tennessee and Kentucky through the weekend and finally move into the Atlantic by Tuesday or Wednesday next week. A frontal boundary extends from these remnants and across the Northern Florida Peninsula near the I-4 corridor, where it will likely linger through the weekend.
- A band of moisture across the Peninsula near and south of this frontal boundary will allow scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms to continue across portions of the Peninsula through the weekend while drier in filtering in elsewhere limits activity.
- A large area of high pressure building in over the Midwest U.S. will shift over the Eastern U.S. early to mid week allowing for the return of a more typical summertime weather pattern.
- Widespread rainfall totals near 1-3" can be expected through the Peninsula over the next 7 days with locally higher totals upwards of 3-5" possible.



Flash Flood Outlooks – Next 2 Days

From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

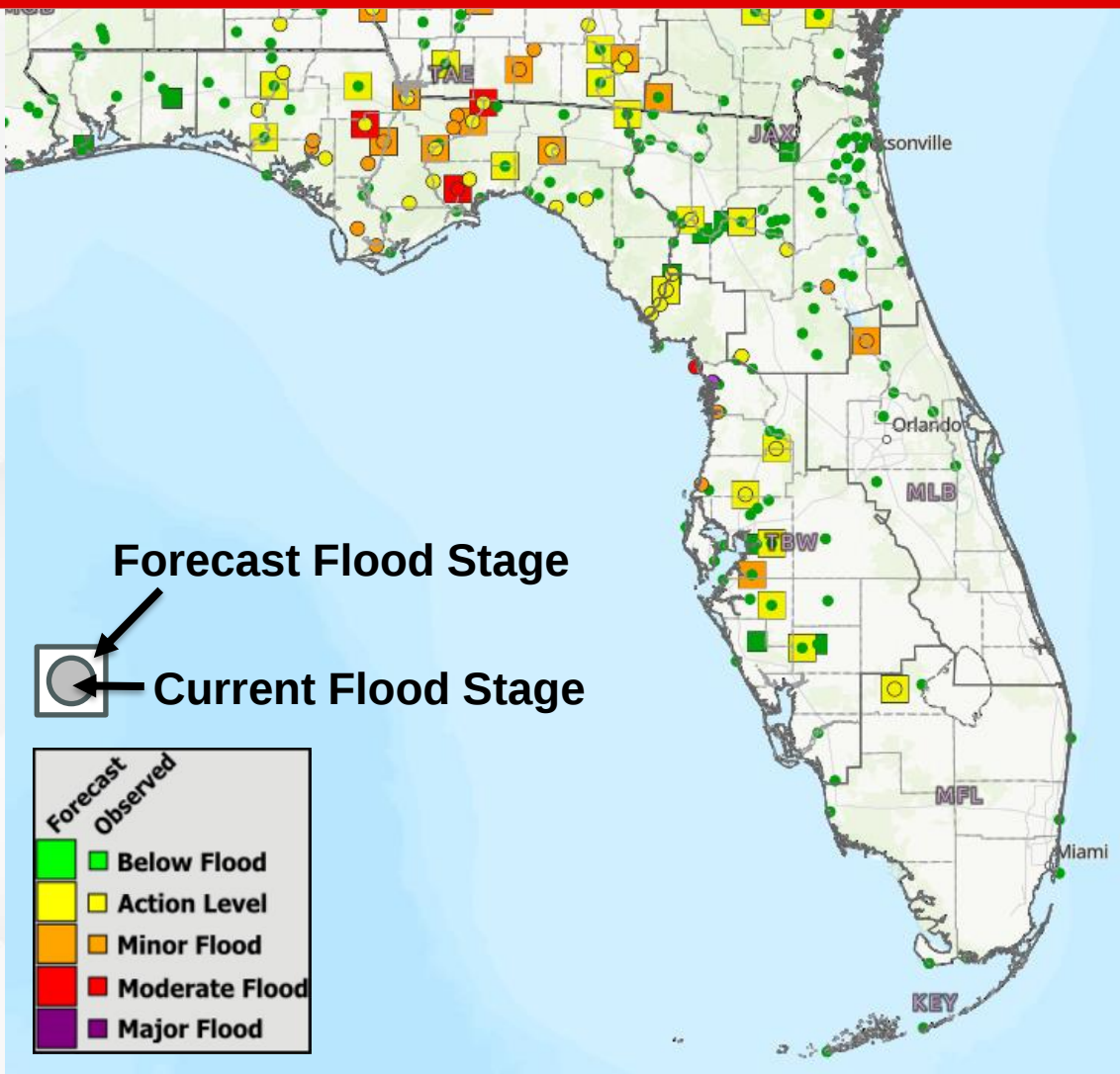


The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across portions of Southwest and West-Central Florida today and along and north of the I-4 corridor through the Northern Peninsula Sunday. A band of abundant moisture will yield scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms across Central Florida, some of which may be capable of producing locally heavy rainfall throughout the day. Locally heavy downpours along urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas and over saturated grounds may give way to localized instances of **flooding**. Coastal and low-lying areas along Florida's Gulf Coast will remain vulnerable to additional rounds of rainfall thanks to recent and lingering flooding and saturated grounds. This band of moisture will shift northward into the Northern Peninsula Sunday, continuing the potential for heavy rainfall over saturated and vulnerable areas.



Current & Forecast River Conditions

From the National Weather Service



A **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect along the [St. Johns River at Astor](#) as water levels very slowly decline but remain within **minor flood stage** due to trapped tides within the river basin.

A **River Flood Warning** is in effect for the [Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301](#) with **minor flooding** forecast later this weekend due to recent heavy rainfall from Hurricane Helene.

Numerous **River Flood Warnings** have also been issued across the Big Bend as water level rises have begun to rise from widespread heavy rainfall observed before and from Hurricane Helene.

Moderate flooding is ongoing along the [Sopchoppy River near Sopchoppy](#) as water levels have recently crested and begun to gradually decline.

Along the [Apalachicola River near Blountstown](#), water levels have reached **Minor Flood Stage** are expected to continue gradually rising into next week.

Water levels along the [Chipola River near Altha \(CR-274\)](#) and the [Ochlockonee River near Concord \(CR-12\)](#) have risen into Action Stage (bank-full) and are forecast to continue gradually rising, reaching **Moderate Flood Stage** late this weekend or early next week.

Water levels have risen into Action Stage along the [Chattahoochee River at George W. Andres Lock and Dam](#), [Aucilla River at Lamont \(US-27\)](#), [Apalachicola River at Woodruff Dam](#), and portions of the Ochlockonee River ([near Havana](#) and [near Bloxham](#)) and water levels are forecast to continue rising, reaching **Minor Flood Stage** later this weekend and into next week.

Numerous other local river creeks, and waterways have seen water level rises in response to locally heavy rainfall and widespread rainfall from Hurricane Helene, with many within Action Stage to **Minor Flood Stage**. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).



River Flood Warnings

From the National Weather Service

FOUO – For Government Official Use Only

River Gauge	County(ies) Affected	Current Level	Crest Level	Record Level	Status	Crest Date	Warning Expires
Apalachicola River at Woodruff Dam	Calhoun, Gadsden, Jackson, Liberty	Action: 57.66 ft	Minor: 63.70 ft	76.30 ft	Falling	1-Oct	Until Further Notice
Apalachicola River near Blountstown	Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Liberty	Minor: 18.10 ft	Minor: 22.20 ft	28.60 ft	Rising	2-Oct	Until Further Notice
Aucilla River at Lamont (US-27)	Jefferson, Madison, Taylor	Action: 51.82 ft	Minor: 54.00 ft	58.80 ft	Rising	2-Oct	Until Further Notice
Chattahoochee River at George W. Andrews Lock and Dam	Jackson	Action: 102.55 ft	Minor: 111.00 ft	128.30 ft	Rising	30-Sep	1900 CDT 10-Sep
Chipola River near Altha (CR-274)	Calhoun	Action: 18.24 ft	Moderate: 24.00 ft	33.50 ft	Rising	24-Sep	1300 CDT 1-Oct
Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301	Hillsborough	Below: 9.49 ft	Minor: 12.80 ft	20.10 ft	Rising	29-Sep	Until Further Notice
Ochlockonee River near Concord (CR-12)	Gadsden, Leon	Action: 34.18 ft	Moderate: 40.90 ft	45.70 ft	Rising	1-Oct	Until Further Notice
Ochlockonee River near Havana (US-27)	Gadsden, Leon	Action: 21.91 ft	Minor: 29.50 ft	35.10 ft	Rising	1-Oct	Until Further Notice
Ochlockonee River near Bloxham (SR-20)	Leon, Liberty, Wakulla	Action: 19.92 ft	Minor: 20.50 ft	32.60 ft	Rising	28-Sep	0800 EDT 29-Sep
Sopchoppy River near Sopchoppy	Wakulla	Moderate: 32.40 ft	Moderate: 33.17 ft	36.80 ft	Falling	Crested	Until Further Notice
St. Johns River at Astor	Volusia, Lake	Minor: 2.53 ft	Minor: 2.70 ft	4.70 ft	Falling	Crested	Until Further Notice

Last Updated: 0608 EDT 9/28

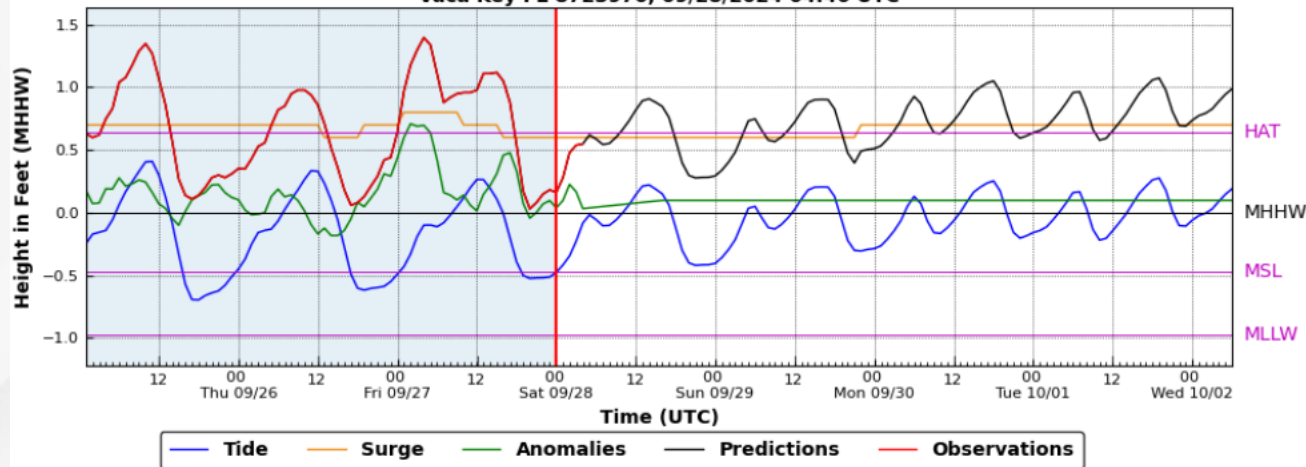
For more details on the hydrographs as well as impact statements, click the links for each river gauge.



Coastal Flooding Continues

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

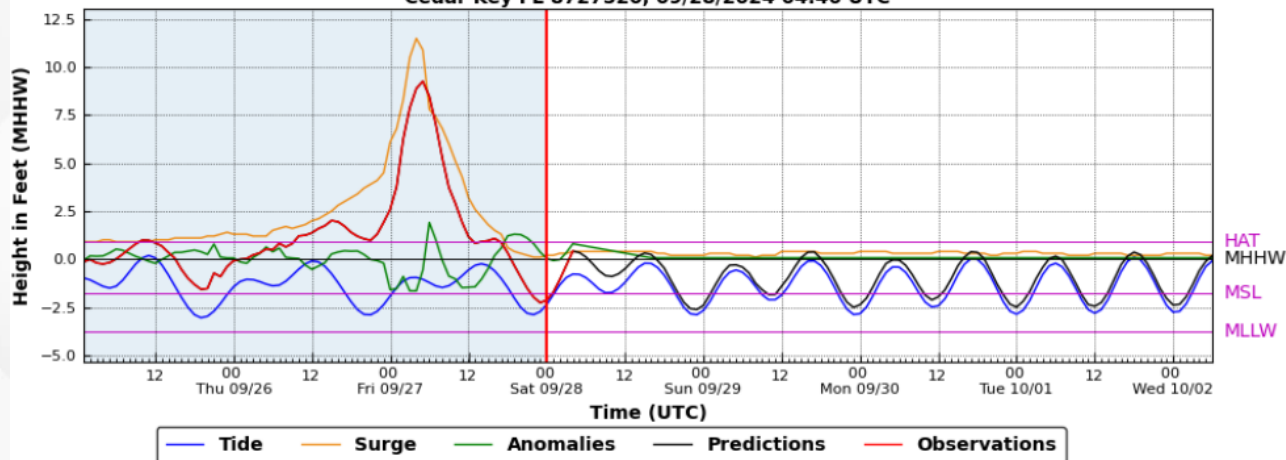
Vaca Key FL 8723970, 09/28/2024 04:46 UTC



A **Coastal Flood Advisory** is in effect for Bayside communities of the Upper Keys through 11:00 PM this evening, although water levels continue to fall steadily, as saltwater flooding 1-1.5' above ground near and at times of high tide persists.

Coastal Flood Statements remain in effect for the Middle and Lower Florida Keys until 5:00 AM EDT this morning for **minor saltwater flooding** about 1' above ground level persist around the hours of high tide.

Cedar Key FL 8727520, 09/28/2024 04:46 UTC



Water levels along Florida Gulf Coast beaches continue to gradually subside following impacts from Hurricane Helene. While coastal flooding is not anticipated elsewhere today, **elevated water levels** may linger near and during times of high tide along Florida Gulf Coast beaches as breezy winds and ocean swells linger in the wake of Helene.



Summary

FOUO – For Government Official Use Only

Hurricane Isaac:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Hurricane Isaac is located about 695 miles west-northwest of the Azores and moving east-northeast at 20 mph.
- A decrease in forward speed and a turn to the northeast is expected during the next couple of days.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 105 mph with higher gusts.
- Gradual weakening is expected, and Isaac is expected to be a post-tropical cyclone on Monday.
- *Isaac poses no threat to Florida.*

Tropical Storm Joyce:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Tropical Storm Joyce is located about 1120 miles east of the Northern Leeward Islands and moving northwest at 10 mph.
- A west-northwestward to northwestward motion with a decrease in forward speed is expected through Sunday.
- A slow turn toward the northwest and north is forecast Sunday night and Monday.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 50 mph with higher gusts.
- Weakening is forecast to begin tonight or on Sunday, and Joyce could degenerate into a remnant low by early Tuesday.
- *Joyce poses no threat to Florida.*

Eastern and Central Tropical Atlantic:

- A broad and elongated area of low pressure, associated with a tropical wave, is producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms near and to the west of the Cabo Verde Islands.
- Environmental conditions appear conducive for gradual development of this system.
- A tropical depression could form during the early or middle part of next week while the system moves toward the west and then northwest across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic.
- *This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 7-10 days at least.*
- The NHC is outlooking a **low (20%) chance of development** over the next 48 hours, and a **medium (60%) chance of development** over the next 7 days.

Western Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico:

- An area of low pressure could form over the western Caribbean Sea in a few days.
- Environmental conditions are expected to be conducive for additional development thereafter while the system moves generally northwestward.
- A tropical depression could form during the middle to latter part of next week as the system enters the Gulf of Mexico.
- *This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days at least but will continue to be monitored.*
- The NHC is outlooking a **low (near 0%) chance of development** over the next 48 hours, and a **medium (40%) chance of development** over the next 7 days.
- The next name on the list is Kirk (kurk).

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



Summary

FOUO – For Government Official Use Only

Florida Outlook:

- Over the past 72-hours, widespread rainfall totals near 2-4" were observed across the Central Panhandle, Suwannee Valley, and Western Peninsula with locally higher totals near 3-6".
 - Higher rainfall totals were observed across the Eastern Panhandle and Big Bend with a widespread 4-8" observed and locally higher totals upwards of 6-12".
 - The highest rainfall totals of 10-15" were observed across Apalachicola through the Apalachicola National Forest and along southern portions of the Apalachicola River.
 - Isolated pockets of 15-18" were observed near Apalachicola and in the Apalachicola National Forest.
- A frontal boundary extending from the remnants of Helene and across the Northern Florida Peninsula near the I-4 corridor will increase moisture across the Northern Peninsula, combating the westerly to southwesterly winds filtering in drier air and allowing for isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms today with the sea breezes.
- Drier air will also filter into South Florida and the Keys today; however, there is enough available moisture to allow for a few showers and thunderstorms this afternoon.
- A tail of abundant tropical moisture across Central Florida from the remnants of Helene will allow for scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms this afternoon and evening.
- Locally strong thunderstorms producing frequent lightning, gusty winds, and heavy downpours cannot be ruled out through the Peninsula during peak heating hours of the day.
- There is a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across portions of Southwest and West-Central Florida today as additional rounds of heavy rainfall may be possible over saturated grounds.
- High temperatures in the middle 80 to middle 90s statewide today with heat indices in the upper 90s and triple digits (100-105) through the Peninsula and Keys.
- **Heat Advisories** will go into effect later this morning along Southeast Florida for **heat indices of 105-110-degrees** expected this afternoon.
- Breezy winds with gusts near 15-25 mph can be expected throughout the day, calming to 5-10 mph overnight.
- With calm conditions developing overnight, areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** and **low clouds** will be possible along the Peninsula overnight and early Sunday morning.
- Numerous **River Flood Warnings** have also been issued across the Big Bend as water level rises have begun to rise from widespread heavy rainfall observed before and from Hurricane Helene; riverine flooding will likely continue to be a concern for several river over the next several days or even weeks.
 - **Moderate flooding** is occurring or forecast along the Sopchoppy River near Sopchoppy, Chipola River near Altha (CR-274), and the Ochlockonee River near Concord (CR-12).
 - **Minor flooding** is occurring or forecast along the Apalachicola River near Blountstown, Chattahoochee River at George W. Andres Lock and Dam, Aucilla River at Lamont (US-27), Apalachicola River at Woodruff Dam, and portions of the Ochlockonee River (near Havana and near Bloxham).
 - **Minor flooding** continues along the St. Johns River at Astor due to trapped tides and is forecast for the Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301 due to recent heavy rainfall.
- Water levels along Florida Gulf Coast beaches and the Keys continue to gradually subside following impacts from Hurricane Helene.
 - While coastal flooding is not anticipated elsewhere today along Florida Gulf Coast beaches, **elevated water levels** may linger near and during times of high tide.
 - Coastal Flood Advisories and Statements remain in effect along the Keys for minor saltwater flooding during high tide hours.

The next briefing packet will be issued on Sunday morning. For the latest information, please visit the [National Hurricane Center website](#).



Tropical Update

FOUO – For Government Official Use Only



Created by:

Melissa James, Assistant State Meteorologist

Melissa.James@em.myflorida.com

Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist

Kennedy.Tartt@em.myflorida.com

State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic_id=SERT_Met_Tropics.

Other reports available for subscription are available at:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?preferences=true>