



# Tropical Update



12:30 PM EDT

Monday, October 7, 2024

## Major Hurricane Milton

**Milton Now a Category 5 Hurricane; Hurricane Watches Extended Inland Across Portions of Florida Peninsula;**

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).

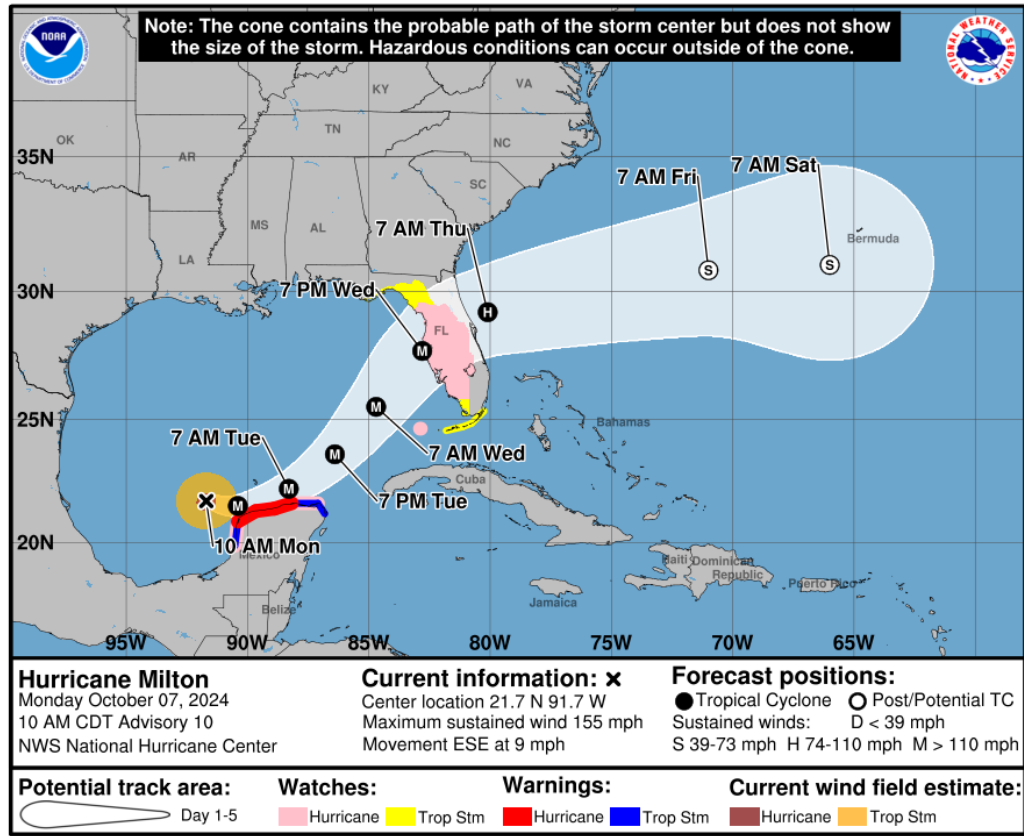


# Major Hurricane Milton

## 5:00 AM EDT Tuesday: Florida Threats & Changes Since Last Packet

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	MINIMAL	Low	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
WINDS					
STORM SURGE					
FLASH FLOODING					
TORNADOES					
	Low	MODERATE	HIGH		
RIP CURRENTS					

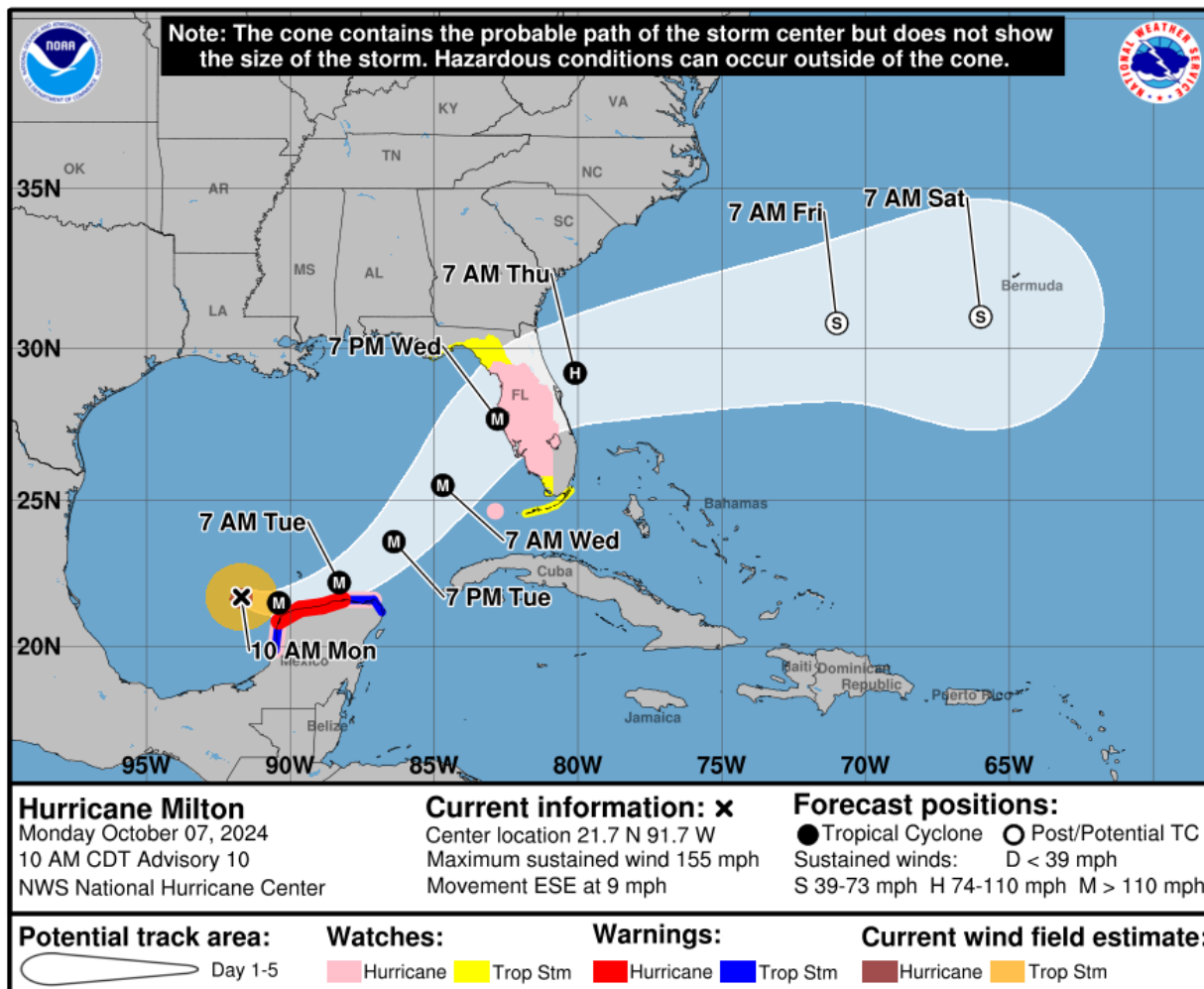


**Overview/Recent Changes:** An update from the National Hurricane Center at 11:55 AM EDT indicates that Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter aircraft have that Milton has strengthened into a category 5 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 160 mph with higher gusts. Major Hurricane Milton is located about 715 miles southwest of Tampa, Florida and moving east-southeastward at 9 mph. An eastward to east-southeastward motion is forecast through tonight, followed by a turn toward the east and northeast on Tuesday and Wednesday. On the forecast track, Milton is forecast to move near or just north of the Yucatan Peninsula today and Tuesday, then cross the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west coast of the Florida Peninsula by Wednesday. Milton is forecast to become a large hurricane over the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Tropical Storm and Hurricane Watch remain in effect along the Florida West and Gulf Coast and Hurricane Watches have been extending inland across the Florida Peninsula. A Hurricane Watch has been issued for Lake Okeechobee. Storm Surge Watches remain in effect along the Florida Gulf Coast from Flamingo northward to the mouth of the Suwannee River, including the Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay.



# Major Hurricane Milton

## From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)

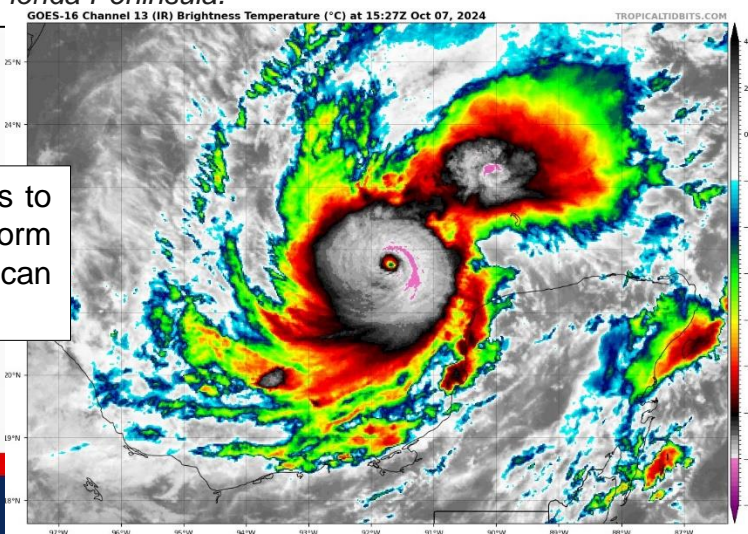


- **Location:** 720 miles SW of Tampa, Florida
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 155 mph, Category 4
- **Current Movement:** ESE at 9 mph

An eastward to east-southeastward motion is forecast through tonight, followed by a turn toward the east and northeast on Tuesday and Wednesday. On the forecast track, Milton is forecast to move near or just north of the Yucatan Peninsula today and Tuesday, then cross the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west coast of the Florida Peninsula by Wednesday. Data from NOAA and Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter Aircraft indicate that maximum sustained winds have increased to near 155 mph making Milton a category 4 hurricane. Milton is forecast to become a category 5 hurricane later today and become a large hurricane over the eastern Gulf of Mexico.

*Milton is forecast to be a major hurricane when it reaches the west coast of Florida midweek. There is an increasing risk of life-threatening storm surge and damaging winds for portions of the western Florida Peninsula beginning Tuesday night or early Wednesday and expanding eastward through the daytime hours. Storm Surge and Hurricane Watches are now in effect for portions of the west coast of the Florida Peninsula.*

Current satellite imagery continues to show very concentrated thunderstorm activity in the eyewall and an eye can clearly be seen.







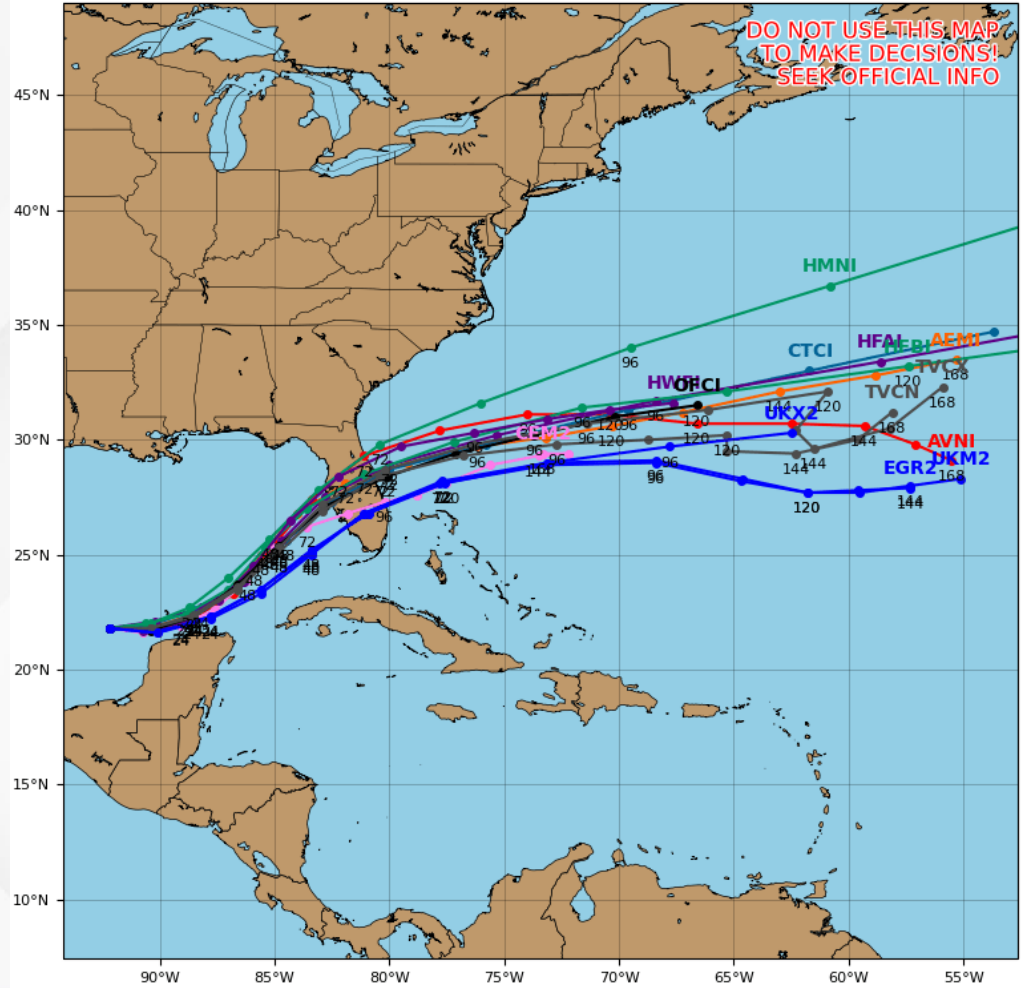
# Forecast Computer Models – Next 5 Days

## Major Hurricane Milton

### Hurricane MILTON Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 12z Oct 07 2024

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com



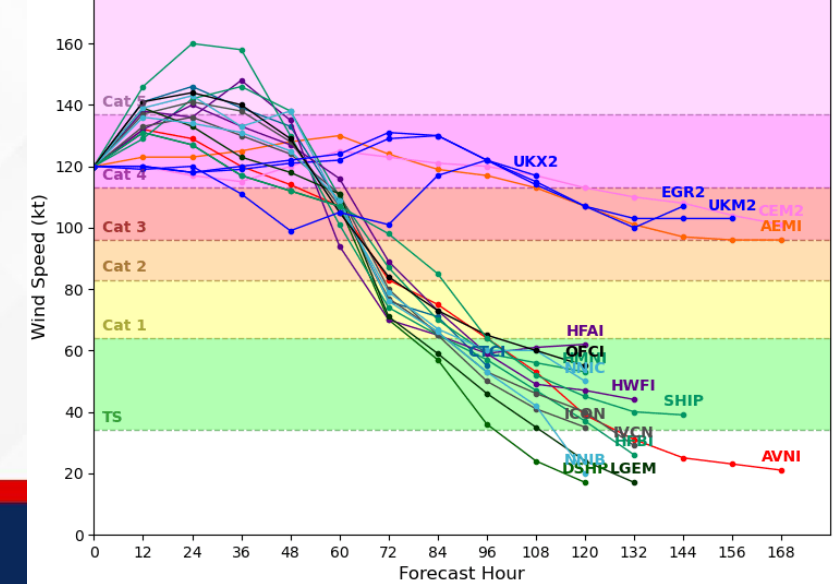
Computer model guidance continues to come into better agreement regarding Milton; however, there are still a few discrepancies. A new upper-level disturbance is forecast to dip into the northwestern Gulf of Mexico which will allow for Milton to move east-northeastward to northeastward at a faster forward speed. With this, the official NHC track has shifted just slightly northward and this forecast remains within close consensus of the computer model guidance. There remains significant disagreements as to the location and timing of landfall as the forward speed and amount of latitude the system is able to gain will be highly dependent on the placement of a frontal boundary dropping southward into Florida and the Gulf of Mexico.

Milton remains within favorable oceanic and atmospheric conditions. By tomorrow, Milton's intensity changes will be dictated by any eyewall replacement cycles the system undergoes. While this will allow for Milton to gradually weaken, it will allow for the system to grow larger. After 36 hours, Milton is forecast to interact with a much less favorable environment with stronger upper-level winds and dry air entering the system. Therefore, some weakening is anticipated before Milton reaches the Florida West Coast; however, computer forecast models show Milton being a large and powerful hurricane at landfall, with life-threatening hazards extending inland and beyond the center of the storm. After landfall, Milton should weaken and start to transition to an extratropical cyclone by 96 hours.

### Hurricane MILTON Model Intensity Guidance

Initialized at 12z Oct 07 2024

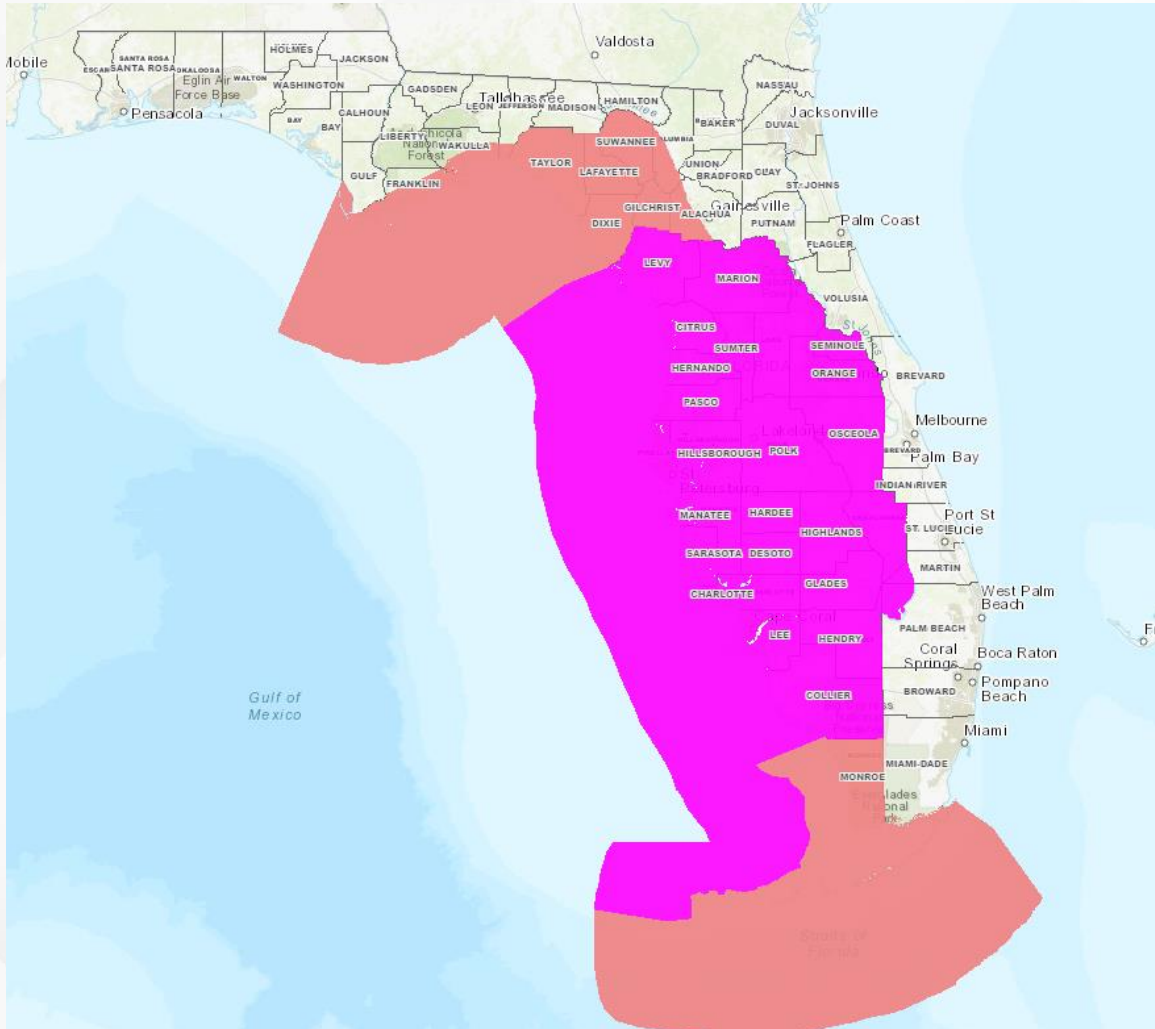
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# Current Tropical Wind Watches/Warnings

As of 11:00 AM EDT Monday

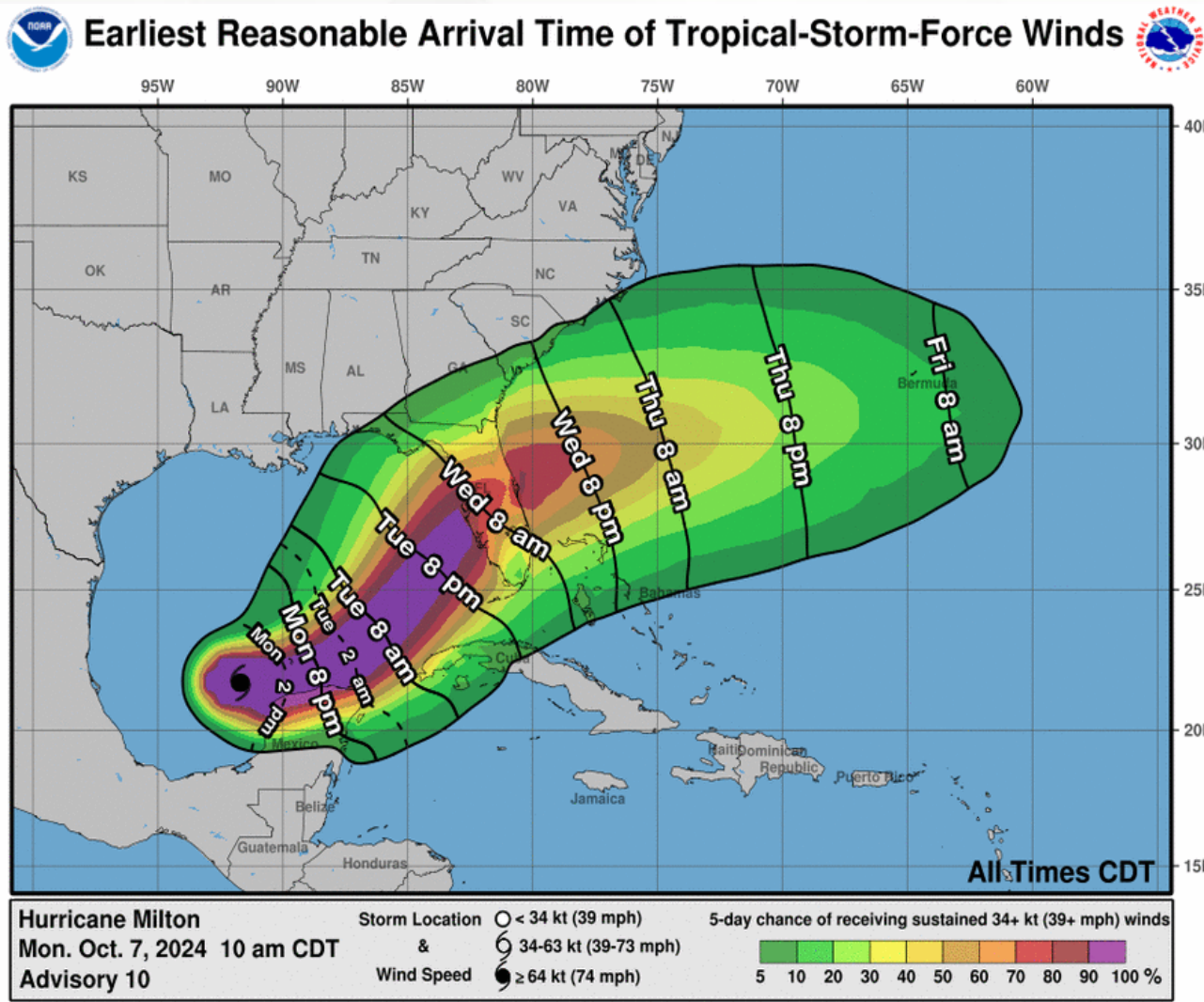


- **Hurricane Watch:** Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Hernando, Pasco, Polk, Orange, Osceola, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades, DeSoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Hendry, Collier, Dry Tortugas
- **Tropical Storm Watch:** Coastal Franklin, Coastal Wakulla, Coastal Jefferson, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, western Columbia, Gilchrist, Dixie, western Alachua, Monroe



# Timing of Arrival

## From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- Tropical storm-force conditions will most likely arrive along the West Florida coastline Wednesday morning to midday and spread eastward across the Florida Peninsula through the Wednesday daytime hours.
- Tropical storm-force winds could arrive as early as late Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning along the western Florida Peninsula.
- Probabilities (*shaded*) will continue to increase as Milton's landfall is closer in the forecast period.
- There remains quite a bit of uncertainty regarding the forward speed and progression of Milton, and thus the arrival time of tropical hazards; changes to the eventual track and timeline can be expected, it is important not to focus on single model runs or solutions!

Location	Probability
Key West	45% (-1%)
Naples	73% (-1%)
Fort Myers	64% (+2%)
Miami	20% (-3%)
West Palm	54% (+1%)
Venice	91% (+4%)
Tampa	89% (+8%)
Orlando	72% (+15%)
Cocoa Beach	81% (+10%)
Cedar Key	69% (+11%)
Daytona Beach	64% (+18%)
Gainesville	49% (+14%)
Jacksonville	34% (+11%)





# Key Messages

## From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



### Key Messages for Hurricane Milton Advisory 10: 10:00 AM CDT Mon Oct 07, 2024



1. Damaging hurricane-force winds are expected across portions of the northern coast of the Yucatan Peninsula. A life-threatening storm surge with damaging waves is also likely along portions of the northern coast of the Yucatan Peninsula.

2. There is an increasing risk of life-threatening storm surge and damaging winds for portions of the west coast of the Florida Peninsula beginning Tuesday night or early Wednesday. Storm Surge and Hurricane Watches are now in effect for portions of the west coast of the Florida Peninsula and residents in that area should follow any advice given by local officials and evacuate if told to do so.

3. Areas of heavy rainfall will impact portions of Florida today well ahead of Milton, with heavy rainfall more directly related to the system expected later on Tuesday through Wednesday night. This rainfall will bring the risk of considerable flash, urban, and areal flooding, along with the potential for moderate to major river flooding.



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



# Threats & Impacts

## From the National Weather Service

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### Storm Surge



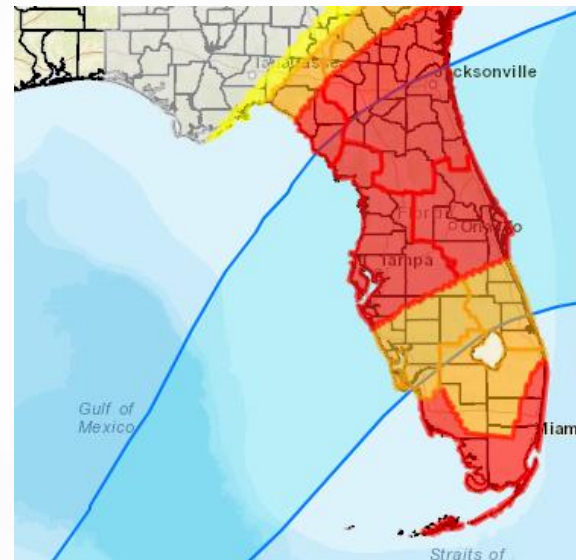
- Widespread deep inundation, with storm surge flooding greatly accentuated by powerful battering waves. Structural damage to buildings, with many washing away. Damage greatly compounded from considerable floating debris. Locations may be uninhabitable for an extended period.
- Near-shore escape routes and secondary roads washed out or severely flooded. Flood control systems and barriers may become stressed.
- Extreme beach erosion. New shoreline cuts possible.
- Massive damage to marinas, docks, boardwalks, and piers. Numerous small craft broken away from moorings with many lifted onshore and stranded.

### Wind



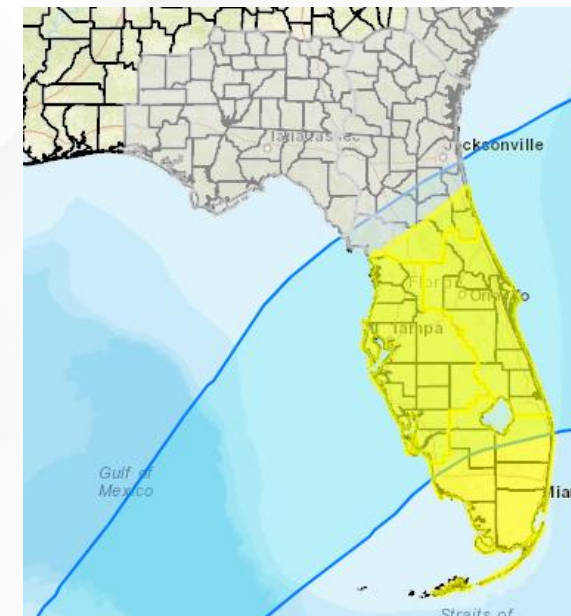
- Structural damage to sturdy buildings, some with complete roof and wall failures. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Damage greatly accentuated by large airborne projectiles. Locations may be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
- Numerous large trees snapped or uprooted along with fences and roadway signs blown over.
- Many roads impassable from large debris, and more within urban or heavily wooded places. Many bridges, causeways, and access routes impassable.
- Widespread power and communications outages.

### Flooding



- Major rainfall flooding may prompt many evacuations and rescues.
- Rivers and tributaries may rapidly overflow their banks in multiple places. Small streams, creeks, canals, and ditches may become dangerous rivers. Flood control systems and barriers may become stressed.
- Flood waters can enter many structures within multiple communities, some structures becoming uninhabitable or washed away. Many places where flood waters may cover escape routes. Streets and parking lots become rivers of moving water with underpasses submerged. Driving conditions become dangerous. Many road and bridge closures with some weakened or washed out.

### Tornadoes



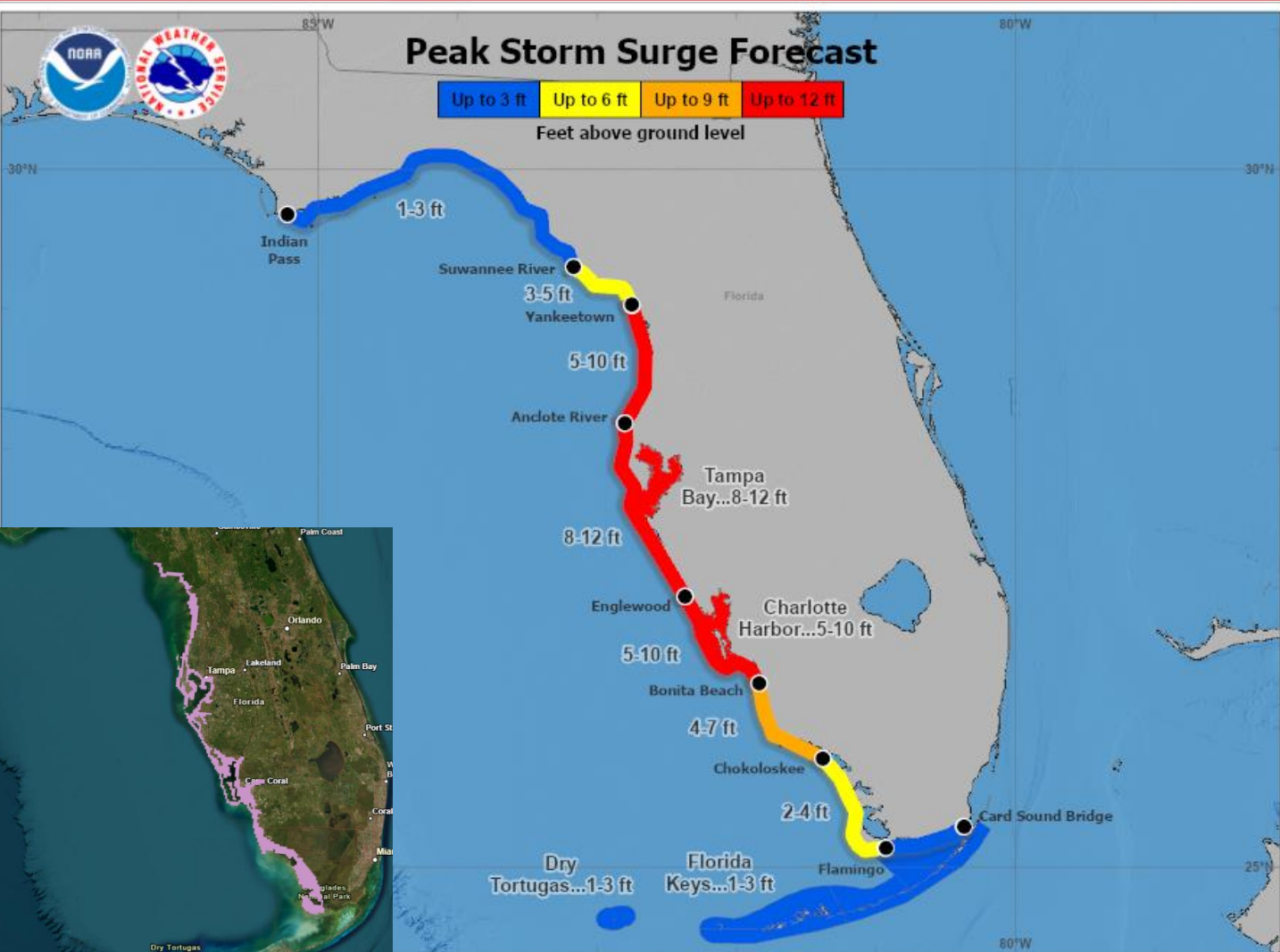
- The occurrence of isolated tornadoes can hinder the execution of emergency plans during tropical events.
- A few places may experience tornado damage, along with power and communications disruptions.
- Locations could realize roofs peeled off buildings, chimneys toppled, mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned, large tree tops and branches snapped off, shallow-rooted trees knocked over, moving vehicles blown off roads, and boats pulled from moorings.





# Current Storm Surge Watch

As of 5:00 AM EDT Monday



Hurricane Milton  
Monday October 07, 2024  
10 AM CDT Advisory 10  
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.

**Storm Surge Watches** have been issued from Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County) northward to the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County Line), including Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay.

- **8-12' peak storm surge** is forecast from the Anclote River (Pasco/Pinellas County line) southward to Englewood (Sarasota/Charlotte County line), including Tampa Bay.
- **5-10' peak storm surge** is forecast from Yankeetown (Levy/Citrus County) southward to the Anclote River and from Englewood southward to Bonita Beach (Lee/Collier County line), including Charlotte Harbor.
- **4-7' of storm surge** is anticipated from Bonita Beach southward to Chokoloskee (Collier/Monroe County line).
- **2-5' of storm surge** is anticipated from the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County Line) southward to Yankeetown and from Chokoloskee southward to Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County)

*Surge values will be dependent on the future path of Milton, and updates to the forecast can be expected.*



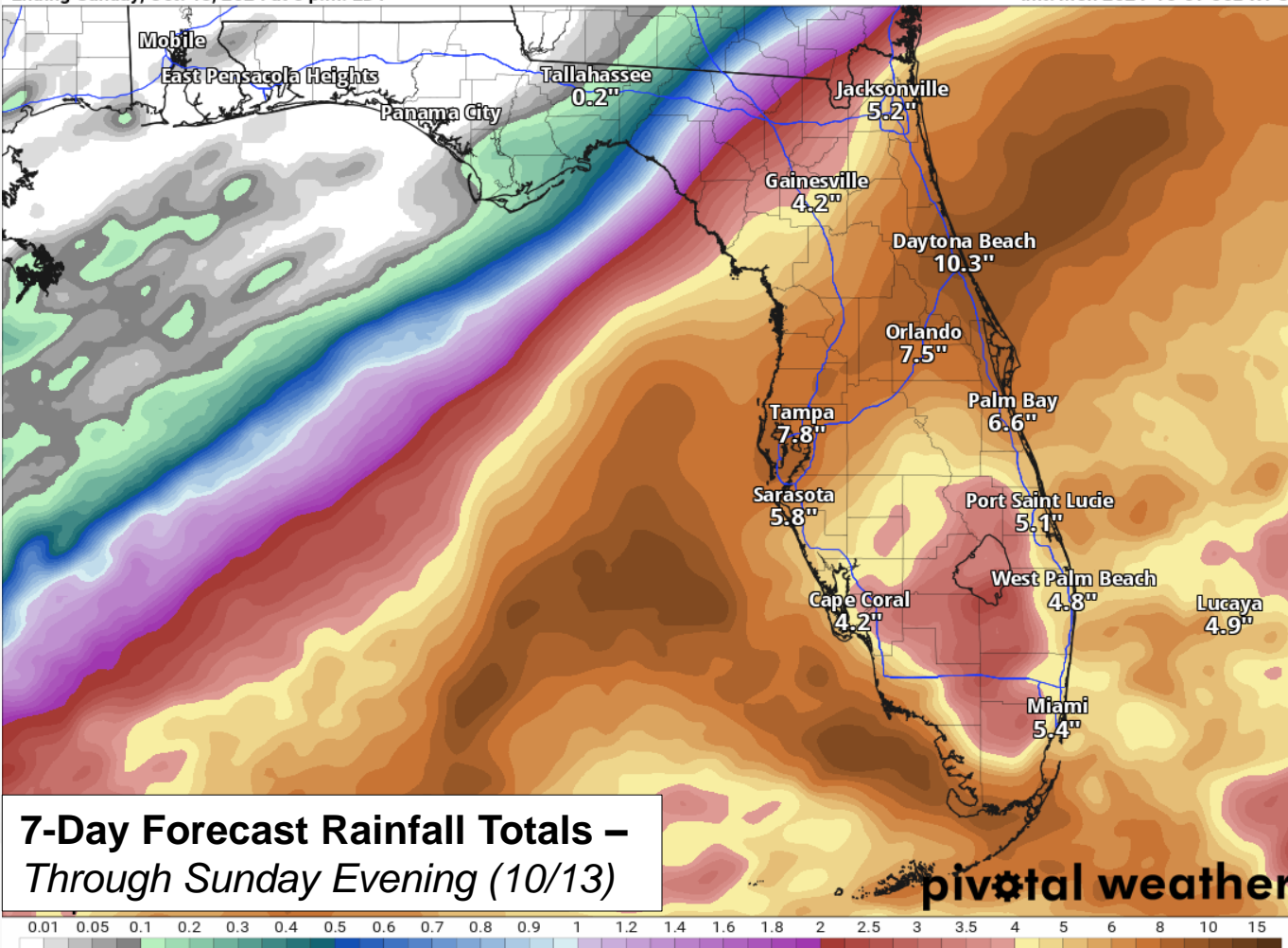
# Rainfall Totals – Next 7 Days

## From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

### 7-Day Precipitation (in)

Ending Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024 at 8 p.m. EDT

Init: Mon 2024-10-07 00z WPC



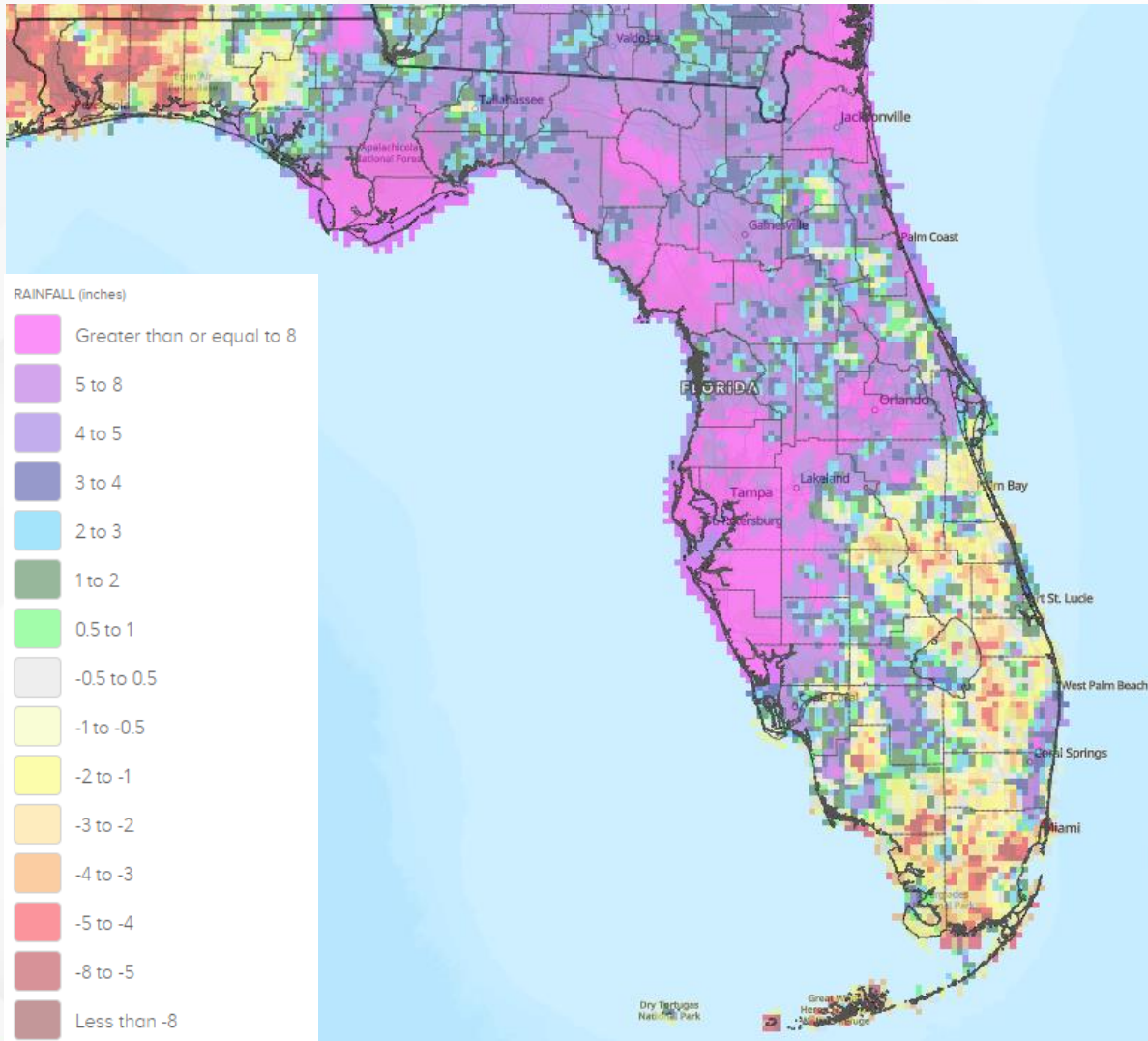
- Abundant tropical moisture streaming across the state and an incoming frontal boundary will maintain a wet and active weather pattern across the Peninsula to start the week, even prior to tropical impacts.
- *Rainfall totals heavily tied to the eventual track and forward speed of the system. With computer model guidance uncertainty regarding the exact track, there remains uncertainty as to where the heaviest rainfall can be expected.*
- Widespread rainfall totals near 5-10" with **locally higher totals in excess of 15"** are possible across portions of the Peninsula.
  - Drier air circulating along the southern side of the system as it moves across the Peninsula will keep heavy rainfall along the northern side of the system, allowing for widespread rainfall to extend into Northeast Florida.
  - Computer models are indicating the heaviest rainfall totals may occur along and north of the I-4 corridor across Central Florida and into Northeast Florida and along South Florida coastlines; however, the exact placement of these more significant totals will continue to be modified depending on the tropical disturbance's organization and track.
  - **Please continue to stay tuned for the latest computer forecast model guidance and trends in the subsequent days.**





# 60-Day Rainfall Departure From Normal

## From the National Weather Service



Much of the Big Bend and Northern Peninsula southward through the I-4 corridor and into West-Central and Southwest Florida have experienced rainfall totals greater than 5-10" above normal over the past 60-days. More localized areas have seen rainfall totals near 10-15" above normal over the past 60-days across with isolated higher totals near 15-20" over the past 60 days across portions of Apalachicola, the Suwannee Valley, Northeast Florida, and West-Central Florida.

Numerous North, West-Central, and Southwest Florida rivers are already running high and/or within flood stage at this time.

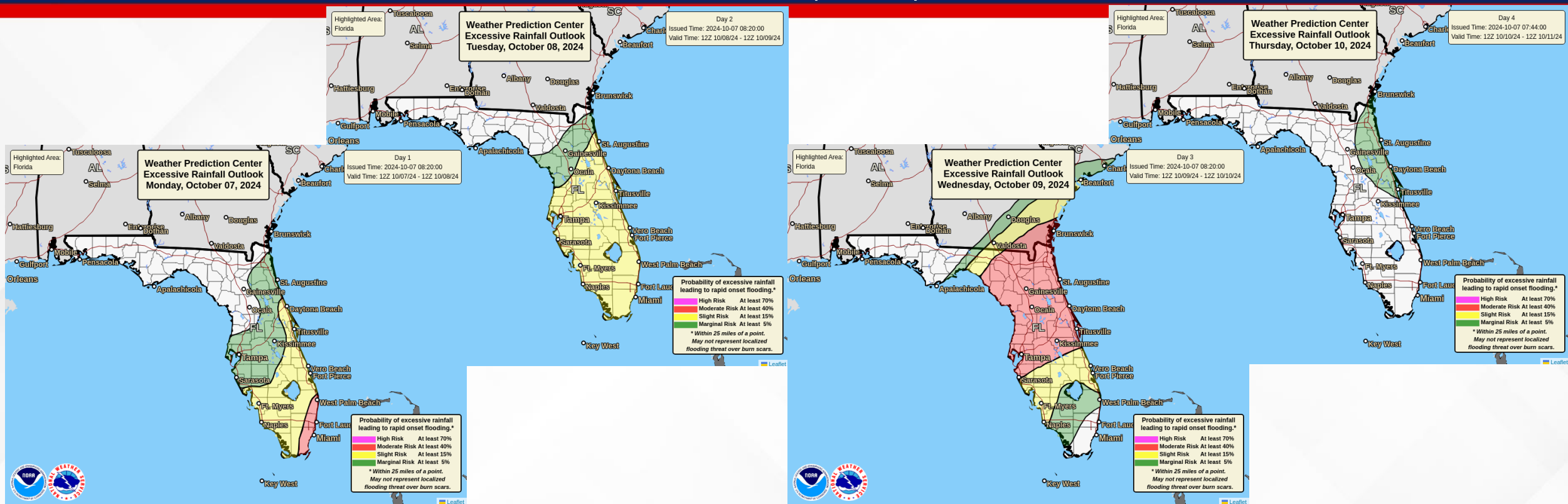
Saturated areas will be more vulnerable to heavy rainfall and a faster onset of flooding.





# Flash Flood Outlooks – Next 5 Days

## From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

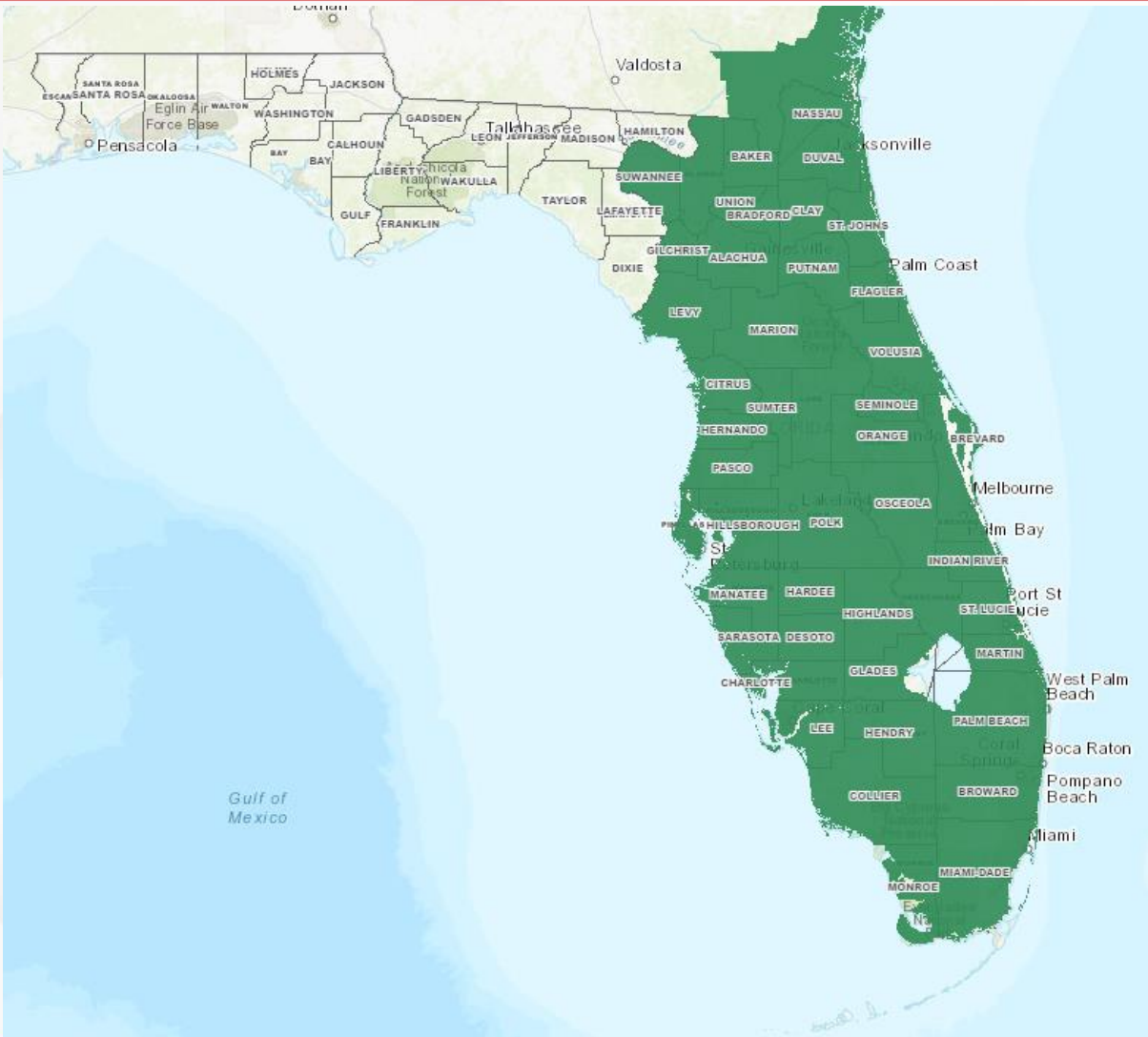


Widespread heavy rainfall can be expected to continue today and into Tuesday ahead of the outer bands of Milton, and the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the Southeast Metro, including the southern I-95 corridor, with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** extending from the Space Coast and through Southwest Florida and a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** from Northeast Florida through the I-4 corridor Monday. A **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** is maintained throughout most of the Peninsula and towards Northeast Florida on Tuesday with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending into southern portions of the Suwannee Valley. Coastal locations along the West Coast experienced flooding (both tidal and rainfall) due to Major Hurricane Helene, and any coastal or low-lying areas will remain vulnerable to additional rounds of rainfall. Heavy rainfall rates will also be a concern over already saturated and vulnerable soils; ponding water and instances of flooding will be possible, especially throughout the urban and poor drainage/low-lying areas in the Florida Peninsula. There remains uncertainty as to where the heaviest rainfall will fall as Tropical Storm Milton approaches and crosses the Florida Peninsula around mid-week. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across much of North and Central Florida, including the entire I-4 corridor, Wednesday with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** extending into portions of the Big Bend to Lake Okeechobee into Southwest Florida. Additional **Flood Watches** will likely be issued as details become clearer.



# Flood Watches

From the National Weather Service (NWS)



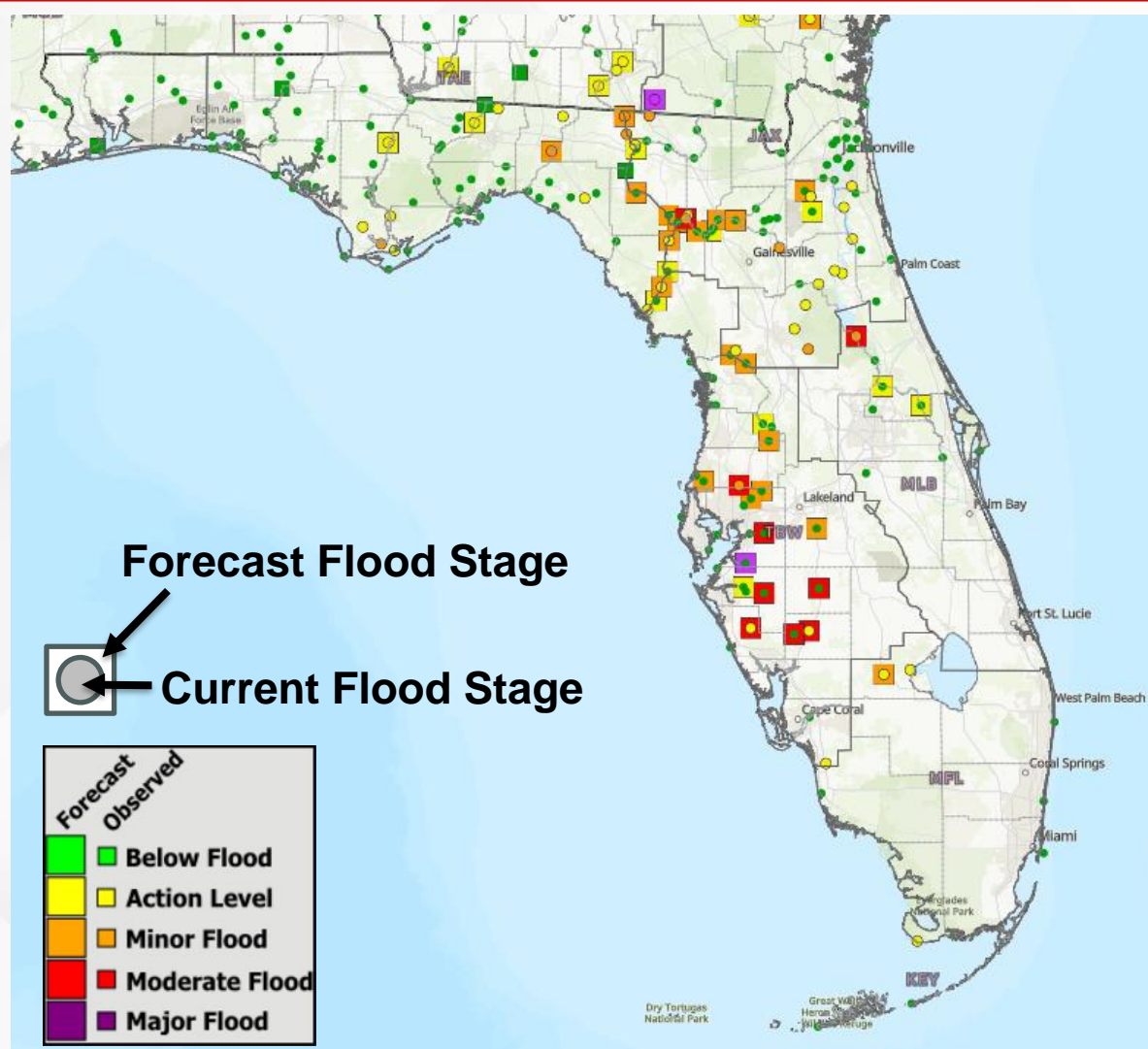
**Flood Watches** remain in effect for the Florida Peninsula, spanning from the Suwannee Valley and Northeast Florida and all throughout the Peninsula the following counties:

<b>Levy</b>	<b>Volusia</b>	<b>Citrus</b>	<b>Hernando</b>
<b>Pasco</b>	<b>Pinellas</b>	<b>Hillsborough</b>	<b>Manatee</b>
<b>Sarasota</b>	<b>Charlotte</b>	<b>Lee</b>	<b>Collier</b>
<b>Monroe</b>	<b>Hendry</b>	<b>Glades</b>	<b>Highlands</b>
<b>Hardee</b>	<b>DeSoto</b>	<b>Polk</b>	<b>Sumter</b>
<b>Lake</b>	<b>Seminole</b>	<b>Orange</b>	<b>Osceola</b>
<b>Brevard</b>	<b>Okeechobee</b>	<b>Indian River</b>	<b>St. Lucie</b>
<b>Martin</b>	<b>Palm Beach</b>	<b>Broward</b>	<b>Marion</b>
<b>Flagler</b>	<b>Putnam</b>	<b>Alachua</b>	<b>Gilchrist</b>
<b>St. Johns</b>	<b>Clay</b>	<b>Bradford</b>	<b>Union</b>
<b>Columbia</b>	<b>Suwannee</b>	<b>Baker</b>	<b>Duval</b>
<b>Nassau</b>			



# Current & Forecast River Conditions

## From the National Weather Service



A **River Flood Warning** remains in effect along the [St. Johns River at Astor](#) as water levels will remain within **Minor Flood Stage** over the next several days, rising into **Moderate Flood Stage** later this week as heavy rainfall occurs over trapped water levels within the basin.

The [Withlacoochee River near Pinetta \(CR-150\)](#) has crested and water levels continue to gradually decline through **Minor Flood Stage**. The flood wave will progress down the Suwannee River well into next week and water levels will slowly decline. As flood waters from the Georgie headwaters continue to travel down the basins, additional **minor riverine flooding** will be possible along lower portions of the Suwannee River by late this week or this weekend. Backwater flooding is forecast along lower portions of the Santa Fe with the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) already experiencing **minor flooding** and expected to reach **Moderate Flood Stage** by next weekend.

The [Aucilla River at Lamont](#) has risen into **minor flood stage** over the next couple of days with widespread rainfall; however, water levels are forecast to fall back below flood stage in the next day or so.

**River Flood Warnings** have been issued for **minor to moderate flooding** along numerous West-Central Florida rivers, creeks, and waterways (including portions of the [Manatee River](#), [Myakka River](#), [Peace River at Zolfo Springs](#) and [at SR-70 Arcadia](#), [Horse Creek](#), and [Cypress Creek](#)) with widespread rainfall anticipated over the next few days. The [Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301](#) is forecast to reach **Major Flood Stage** by mid-to-late this week.

For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).





# River Flood Warnings

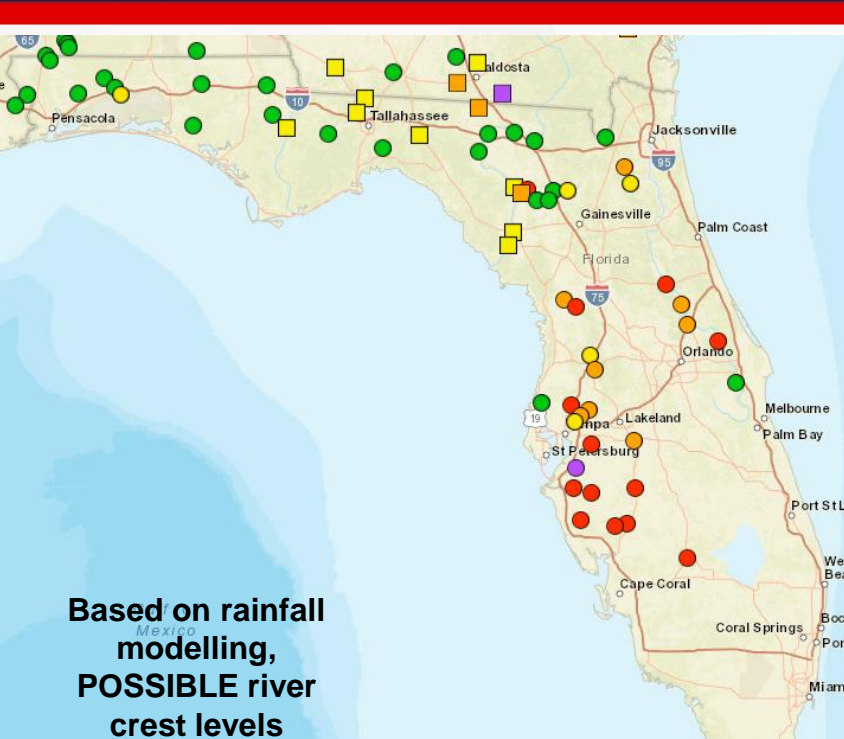
## From the National Weather Service

River Gauge	County(ies) Affected	Current Level	Crest Level	Record Level	Status	Crest Day	Warning Expires
<a href="#">Aucilla River at Lamont</a>	Jefferson, Madison, Taylor	Minor: 53.02 ft	Minor: 53.10 ft	58.80 ft	Cresting	6-Oct	2000 EDT 8-Oct
<a href="#">Cypress Creek at SR-54</a>	Pasco	Minor: 8.27 ft	Moderate: 11.70 ft	13.80 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Horse Creek near Arcadia at SR-72</a>	DeSoto	Below: 9.49 ft	Moderate: 14.50 ft	21.20 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301</a>	Hillsborough	Below: 8.27 ft	Major: 17.00 ft	20.10 ft	Steady	10-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Manatee River near Myakka Head at SR-64</a>	Manatee	Below: 7.98 ft	Moderate: 15.40 ft	20.90 ft	Steady	10-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Myakka River at Myakka River State Park</a>	Sarasota	Action: 6.87 ft	Moderate: 9.30 ft	12.80 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Peace River at Zolfo Springs</a>	Hardee	Below: 12.05 ft	Moderate: 20.40 ft	27.20 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Peace River at SR-70 Arcadia</a>	DeSoto	Action: 10.13 ft	Moderate: 14.00 ft	23.70 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates</a>	Columbia, Gilchrist, Suwannee	Minor: 17.36 ft	Moderate: 22.10 ft	33.40 ft	Rising	13-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">St. Johns River at Astor</a>	Volusia, Lake	Minor: 2.77 ft	Moderate: 3.70 ft	4.70 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
<a href="#">Withlacoochee River near Pinetta</a>	Hamilton, Madison	Minor: 75.12 ft	Minor: 77.10 ft	87.80 ft	Falling	Crested	1400 EDT 8-Oct



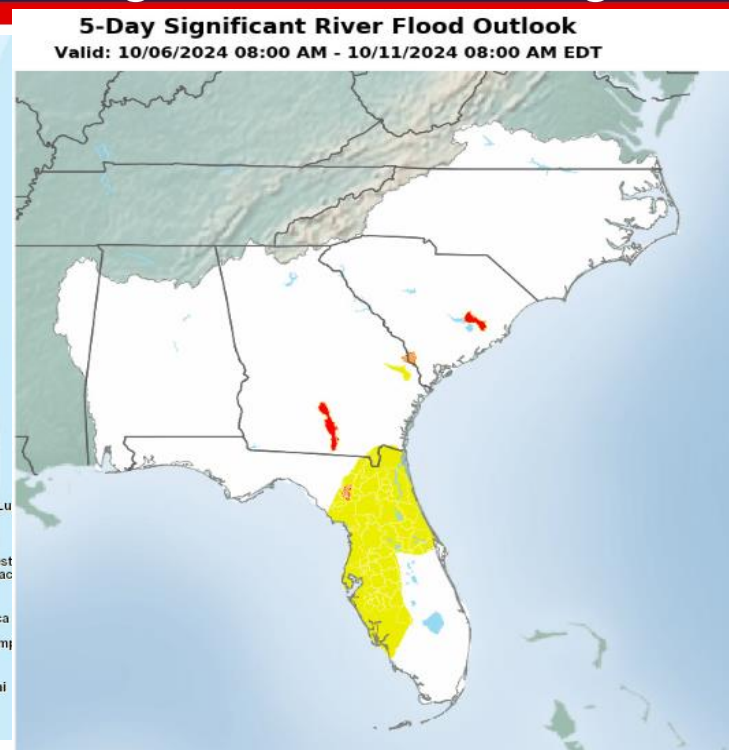
# Riverine Flooding

## Chance of River Flooding Based on Range of Forecast Rainfall



Based on rainfall modelling,  
**POSSIBLE** river crest levels

Chance of Exceedance		
30%	Level	70%
	Action	
	Minor Flood	
	Moderate Flood	
	Major Flood	
= less than 30% chance of reaching Action level		



Significant River Flooding impacts include road hazards and damage to residential, commercial, and/or agricultural areas. Evacuation may be required. Flash flooding or Minor river flooding are NOT included in this outlook. Check your local weather forecast frequently for the most up-to-date information for your area.

Shaded areas are the forecast region of the Southeast River Forecast Center

Significant River Flooding Not Expected	Significant River Flooding Possible Weather conditions indicate, without certainty that significant river flooding could occur
Significant River Flooding Likely Weather conditions indicate that significant river flood conditions can be expected	Significant River Flooding Occurring Significant river flooding is occurring at this time

Rivers, creeks/streams, and waterways across North and West-Central Florida are already running above normal for this time of year due to widespread heavy rainfall from Hurricane Debby & Helene. **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect along portions of the Withlacoochee, Aucilla, St. Johns, and several West-Central Florida rivers, creeks, and waterways for ongoing **minor flooding**.

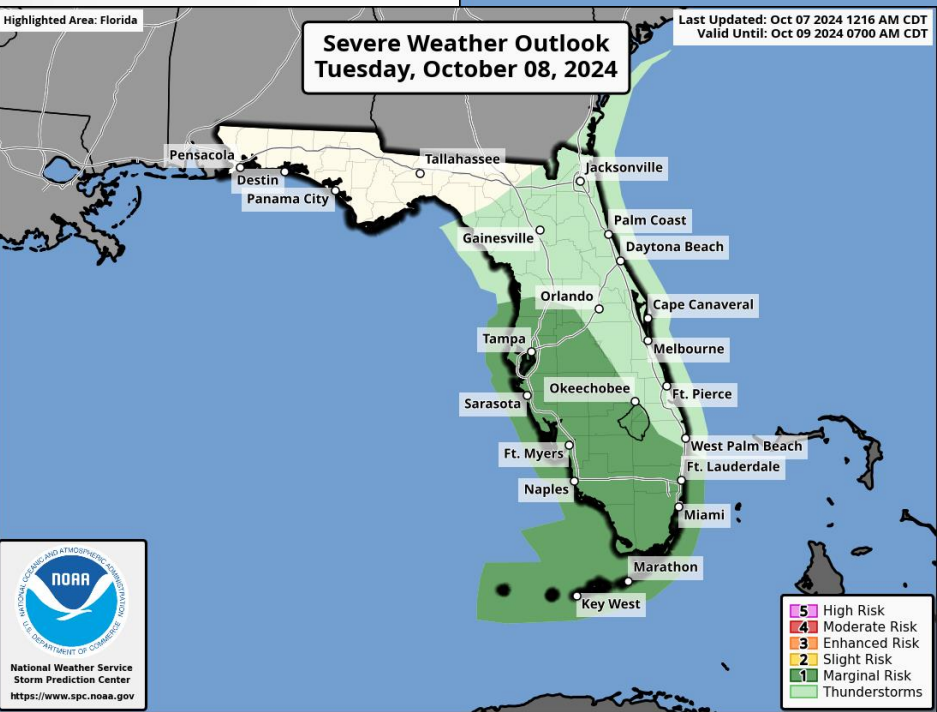
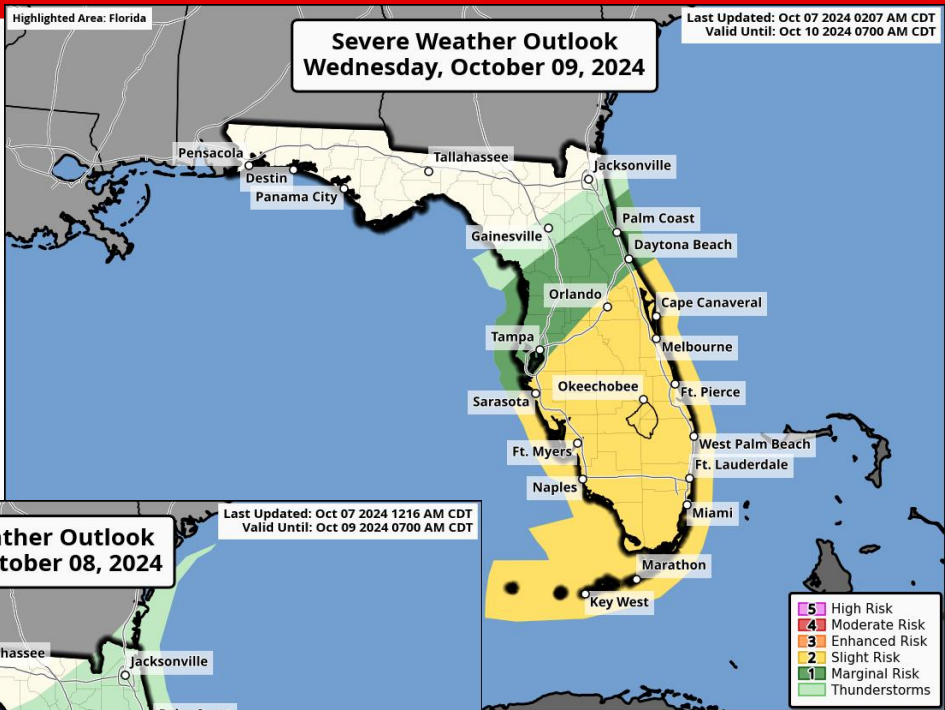
Water will continue to filter through the river basins and further downstream from heavy rainfall across the Southeast U.S. from Hurricane Helene over the next few weeks. Computer models are suggesting the potential for **minor flooding** along portions of the Suwannee River as excess heavy rainfall discharges through the basin from the Georgia headwaters with **minor to moderate backwater flooding** possible along the Santa Fe River. The Alapaha River near Jennings has risen into **Minor Flood Stage** and may continue to rise over the next week or so as the Alapaha River at Statenville, Georgia is cresting in major flood stage and the crest wave will move further downstream into Florida in the coming days.

Additional heavy rainfall near-term and in association with Major Hurricane Milton will likely lead to instances of potential rapid onset flooding across North and Central Florida waterways. Widespread **minor to moderate flooding** is likely, with **major flooding** possible near maximum rainfall totals.



# Isolated Tropical Tornadoes

From the Storm Prediction Center (SPC)



The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** along much of the western Florida Peninsula and across South Florida and the Keys Tuesday night into Wednesday and a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Severe Weather** along and south of the I-4 corridor with a **Marginal Risk** extending northward towards Gainesville Wednesday as isolated tropical tornadoes will be possible within Hurricane Milton's outer rainbands.

Tornado Watches and Warnings will be issued as conditions warrant.

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
No severe* thunderstorms expected	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered severe storms possible	Numerous severe storms possible	Widespread severe storms likely	Widespread severe storms expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense

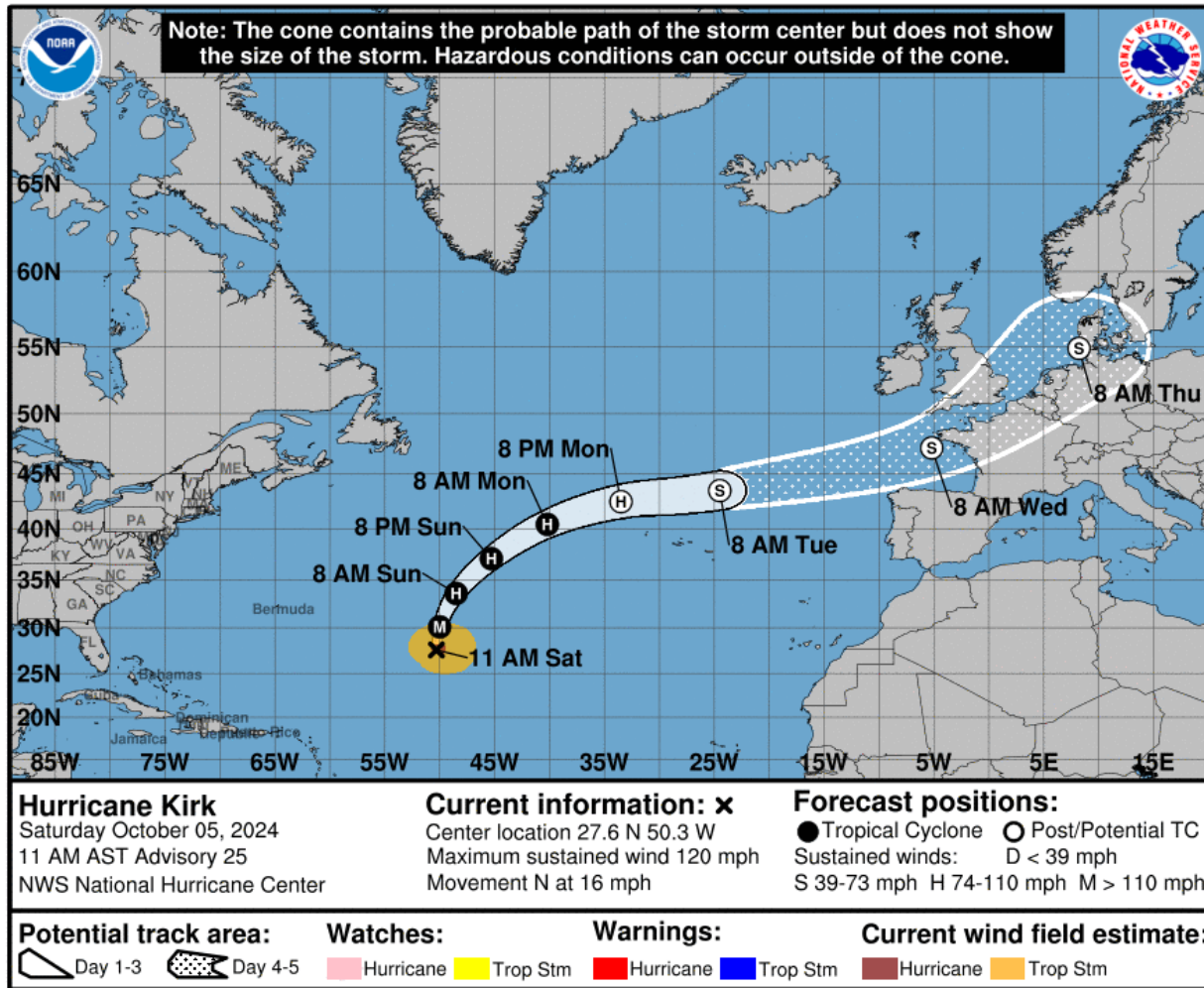






# Post-Tropical Cyclone Kirk

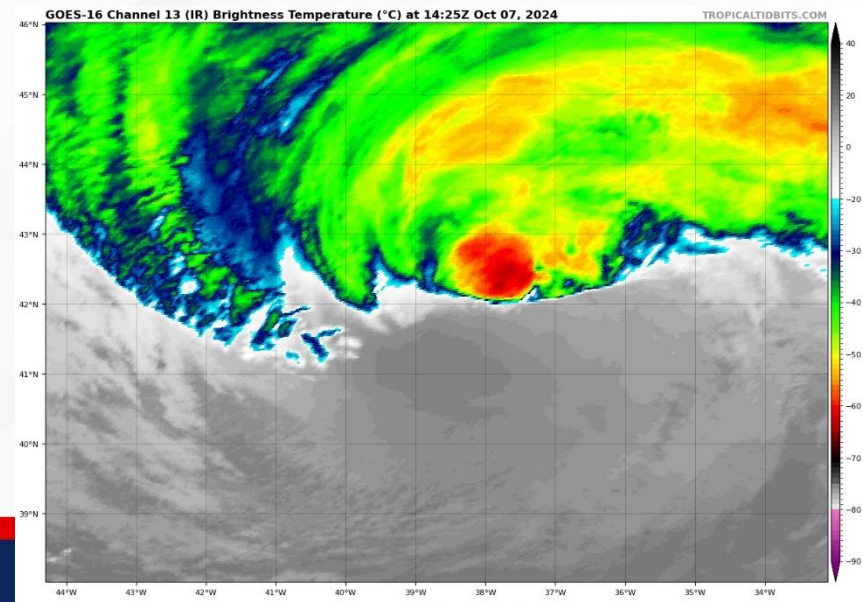
## From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 655 miles WNW of the Azores
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 75 mph
- **Current Movement:** NE at 29 mph

An even faster east-northeastward motion is expected during the next couple of days. Although gradual weakening is expected, Kirk is forecast to remain a large and strong extratropical low during the next couple of days.

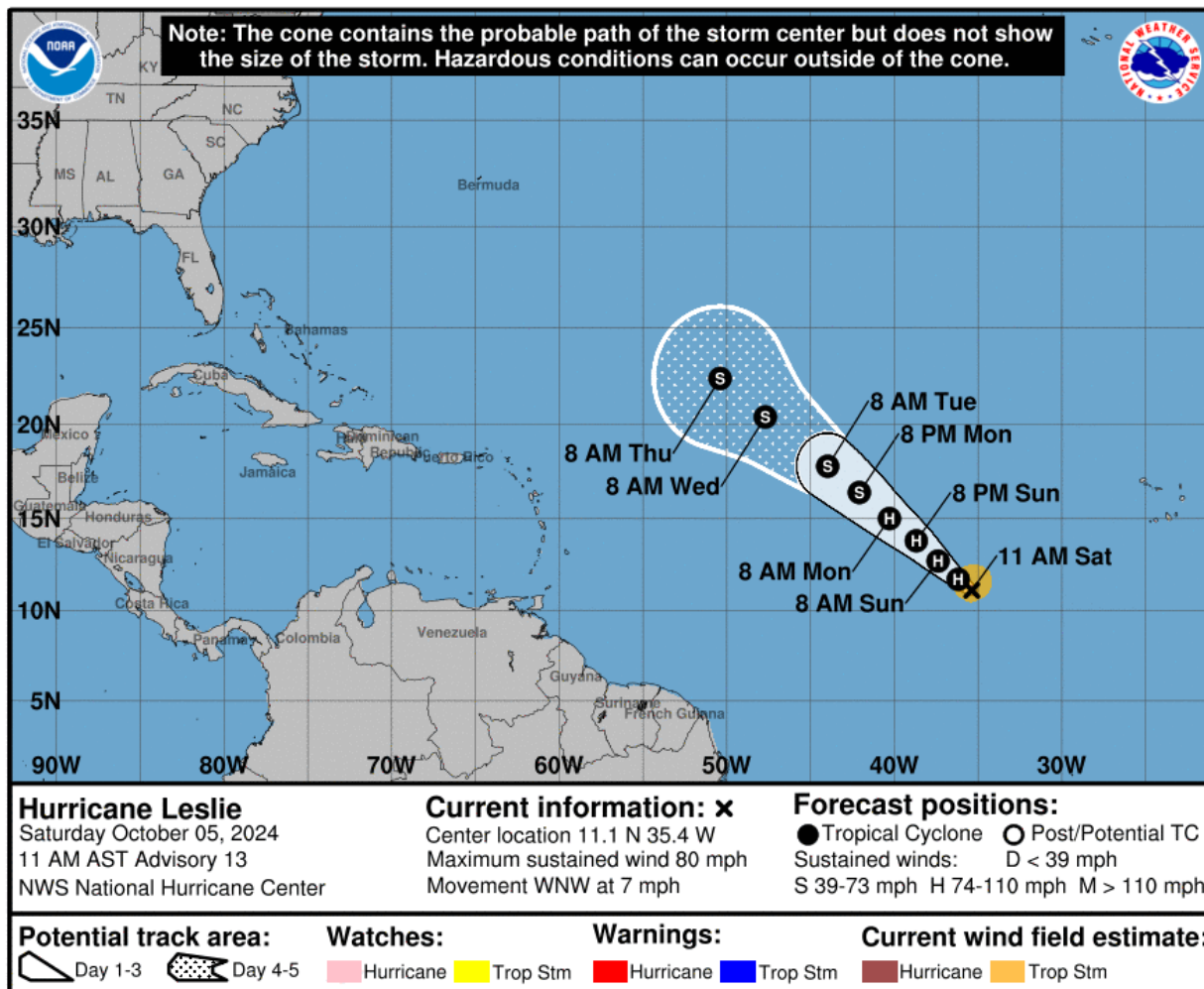
*Kirk poses no direct threat to Florida. This is the last Public Advisory issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) on this system.*





# Hurricane Leslie

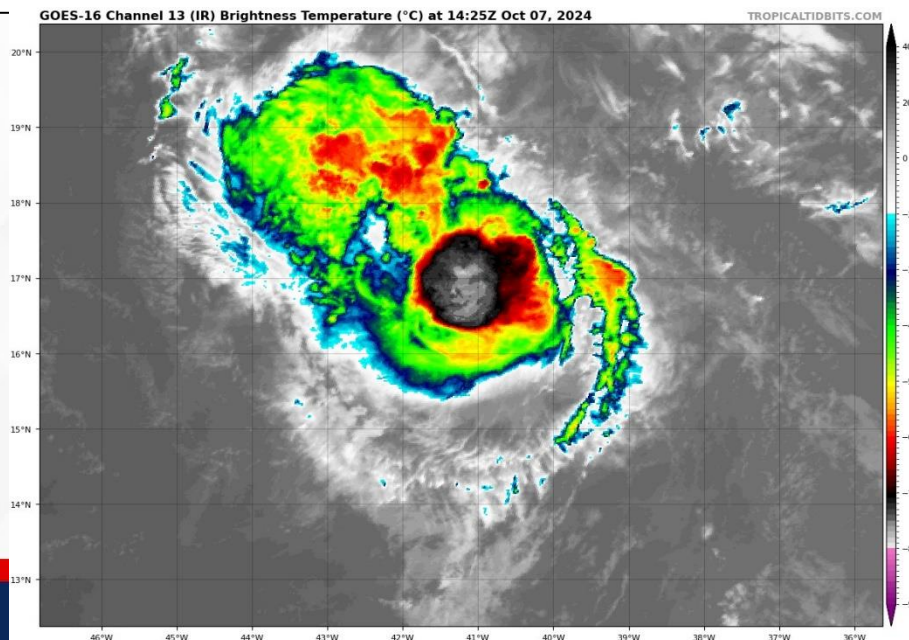
## From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 1120 miles W of the Southernmost Cabo Verde Islands
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 85 mph
- **Current Movement:** NW at 13 mph

This general motion is expected to continue over the next few days followed by a turn toward the north-northwest on Friday. Gradual weakening is forecast through the week, and Leslie is expected to weaken to a tropical storm in a day or so.

*Leslie poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 10 days, at least.*

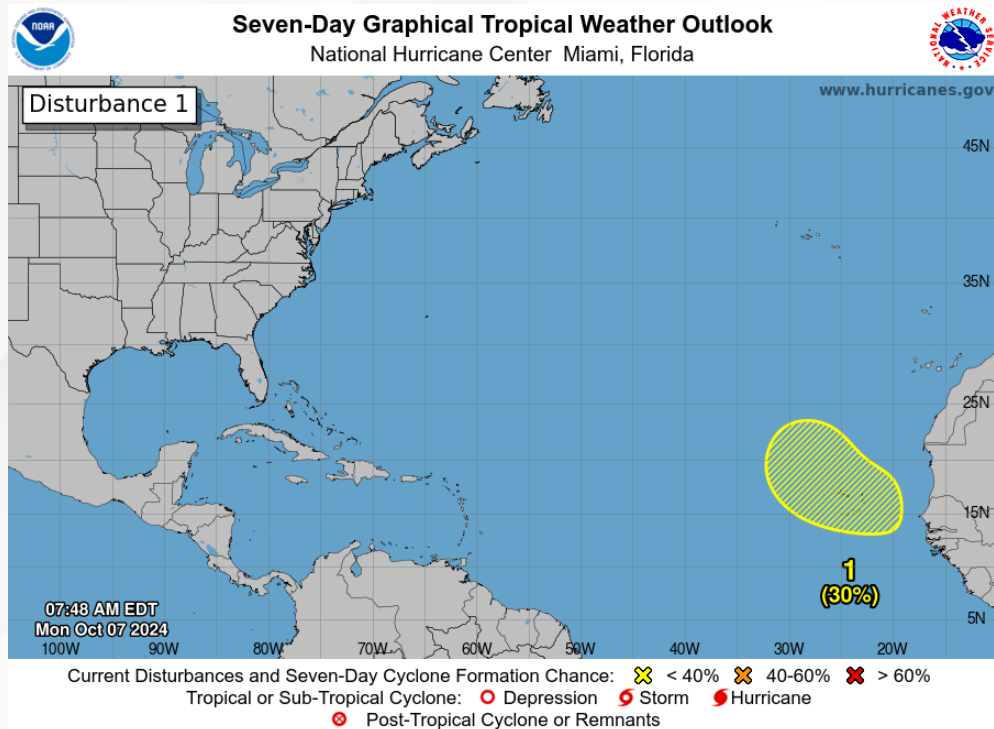






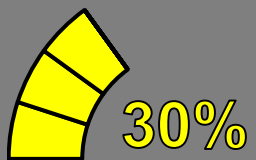
# Tropical Weather Outlook

## Disturbance 1 – Far Eastern Tropical Atlantic



**Near 0%**

48 Hour Formation



**30%**

7 Day Formation

A tropical wave is expected to move off the west coast of Africa in a few days. Afterward, environmental conditions appear marginally favorable for some development of this system while it moves westward or west-northwestward across the eastern tropical Atlantic. The system is expected to move near or over the Cabo Verde Islands on Thursday or early Friday, and interests there should monitor its progress.

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

Chance of development through 48 hours... **low...near 0%**

Chance of development through 7 days...**low...30%**





# Summary

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## **Major Hurricane Milton:**

- Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter aircraft data indicated Milton has strengthened into a category 5 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 160 mph with higher gusts.
- Milton is located about 715 miles southwest of Tampa, Florida and moving east-southeastward at 9 mph.
- An eastward to east-southeastward motion is forecast through tonight, followed by a turn toward the east and northeast on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- On the forecast track, Milton is forecast to move near or just north of the Yucatan Peninsula today and Tuesday, then cross the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west coast of the Florida Peninsula by Wednesday.
- Milton is forecast to become a category 5 hurricane later today and become a large hurricane over the eastern Gulf of Mexico.
- There is an increasing risk of life-threatening storm surge and damaging winds for portions of the western Florida Peninsula beginning late Tuesday night to early Wednesday and expanding eastward through the daytime hours.
- Changes to the eventual track and timeline can be expected, it is important not to focus on single model runs or solutions!

## **Post-Tropical Cyclone Kirk:**

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Hurricane Kirk is located about 655 miles west-northwest of the Azores and moving northeastward at 29 mph.
- An even faster east-northeastward motion is expected during the next couple of days.
- Maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 75 mph with higher gusts.
- Although gradual weakening is expected, Kirk is forecast to remain a large and strong extratropical low during the next couple of days.
- Kirk poses no direct threat to Florida.

## **Hurricane Leslie:**

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Hurricane Leslie is located about 1120 west of the southernmost Cabo Verde Islands and moving northwestward at 13 mph.
- This general motion is expected to continue over the next few days followed by a turn toward the north-northwest on Friday.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 85 mph with higher gusts.
- Gradual weakening is forecast through the week, and Leslie is expected to weaken to a tropical storm in a day or so.

## **Far Eastern Tropical Atlantic:**

- A tropical wave is expected to move off the west coast of Africa in a few days.
- Afterward, environmental conditions appear marginally favorable for some slow development of this system while it moves westward or west-northwestward across the eastern tropical Atlantic.
- The system is expected to move near or over the Cabo Verde Islands on Thursday and Friday, and interests there should monitor.
- The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is outlooking a low (near 0%) chance for development through the next 48 hours and a low (30%) chance through the next 7 days.
- This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 7-10 days at least.
- The next name on the list is Nadine (*nay-DEEN*).

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



# Summary

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## Florida Outlook:

- **Hurricane Watches** have been issued for the following counties: *Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Hernando, Pasco, Polk, Orange, Osceola, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades, DeSoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Hendry, Collier, Dry Tortugas*
- **Tropical Storm Watches** have been issued for the following counties: *Coastal Franklin, Coastal Wakulla, Coastal Jefferson, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, western Columbia, Gilchrist, Dixie, western Alachua, Monroe*
- There is a danger of life-threatening storm surge along portions of the West Coast of Florida.
  - **Storm Surge Warnings** have been issued from Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County) northward to the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County Line), including Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay.
  - **8-12' peak storm surge** is forecast from the Anclote River (Pasco/Pinellas County line) southward to Englewood (Sarasota/Charlotte County line), including Tampa Bay.
  - **5-10' peak storm surge** is forecast from Yankeetown (Levy/Citrus County) southward to the Anclote River and from Englewood southward to Bonita Beach (Lee/Collier County line), including Charlotte Harbor.
  - **4-7' of storm surge** is anticipated from Bonita Beach southward to Chokoloskee (Collier/Monroe County line).
  - **2-5' of storm surge** is anticipated from the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County Line) southward to Yankeetown and from Chokoloskee southward to Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County)
  - *Surge values will be dependent on the future path of Milton, and updates to the forecast can be expected.*
- Areas of heavy rainfall will impact portions of Florida today and Tuesday, well ahead of Milton, with rainfall more directly tied to Milton expected late Tuesday and Wednesday.
  - Widespread rainfall totals near 5-10" with **locally higher totals in excess of 10-15"** are possible across portions of the Peninsula.
  - *Rainfall totals heavily tied to the eventual track and forward speed of the system. With computer model guidance uncertainty regarding the exact track, there remains uncertainty as to where the heaviest rainfall can be expected.*
  - Widespread heavy rainfall can be expected to continue today and into Tuesday ahead of the outer bands of Milton, and the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the Southeast Metro, including the southern I-95 corridor, with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** extending from the Space Coast and through Southwest Florida and a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** from Northeast Florida through the I-4 corridor Monday.
  - A **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** is maintained throughout most of the Peninsula and towards Northeast Florida on Tuesday with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending into southern portions of the Suwannee Valley.
  - The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across much of North and Central Florida, including the entire I-4 corridor, Wednesday with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** extending into portions of the Big Bend to Lake Okeechobee into Southwest Florida.
  - A **Flood Watches** are in effect across much of the Peninsula as **flash, urban, and areal flooding** will be possible. Additional **Flood Watches** may be issued further northward as warranted.
- Rivers, creeks/streams, and waterways across North and Central Florida are already running above normal for this time of year due to widespread heavy rainfall from Hurricane Debby. **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect along portions of the Withlacoochee, Aucilla, St. Johns, and several West-Central Florida rivers, creeks, and waterways for ongoing **minor flooding**.
  - Heavy rainfall is anticipated this week, likely leading to water level rises in the Florida Peninsula. Computer models are currently suggesting there is potential for widespread **minor to moderate flooding** across West-Central Florida waterways, with instances of **major flooding** possible near the maximum rainfall totals.
- Outer bands moving onshore may bring **isolated tropical tornadoes** along the Florida West Coast late Tuesday into early Wednesday morning (**Marginal Risk for Severe Weather – level 1 of 5**) and along much of the Peninsula throughout the day Wednesday (**Marginal to Slight Risk for Severe Weather – level 1-2 of 5**).
  - Tornado Watches and Warnings will be issued as conditions warrant.
- There is an increasing risk of life-threatening impacts for portions of the west coast of Florida Peninsula beginning late Tuesday or Wednesday; *however, the extent and locations of these impacts remain uncertain as it will be heavily tied to the eventual track and forward speed of the system.*

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



# Tropical Update

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