



Tropical Update



6:30 PM EDT

Monday, October 7, 2024

Major Hurricane Milton

**Hurricane & Storm Surge Warnings Issued For Portions of Florida
Milton Poses an Extremely Dangerous Threat to Florida & Residents
Are Urged to Follow the Orders of Local Officials**

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.

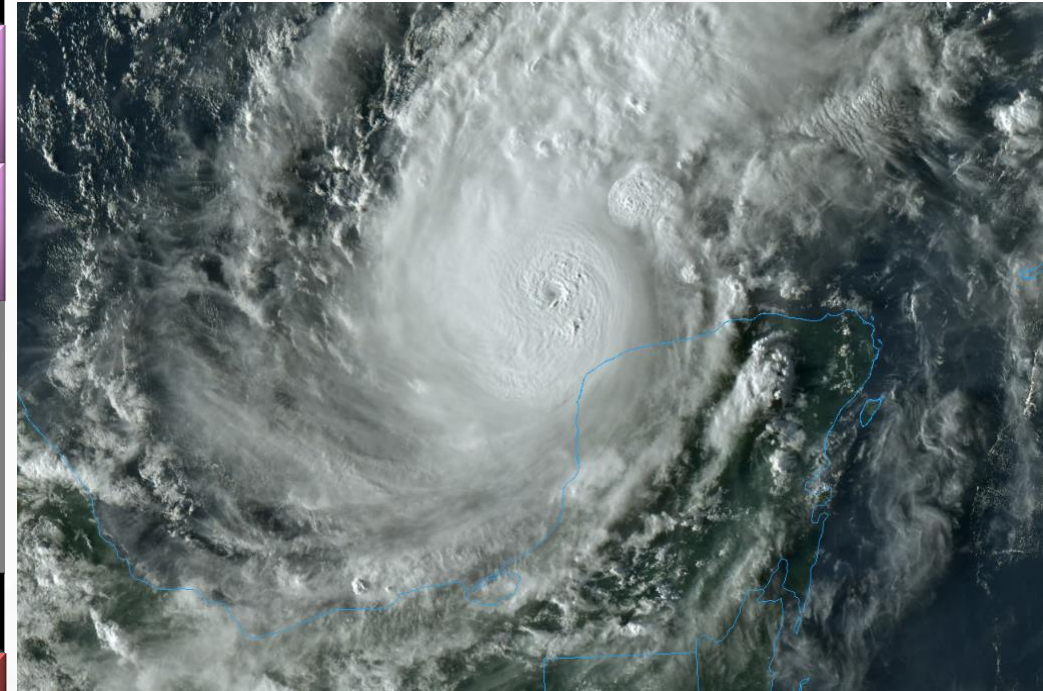


Major Hurricane Milton

5:00 PM EDT Monday: 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					



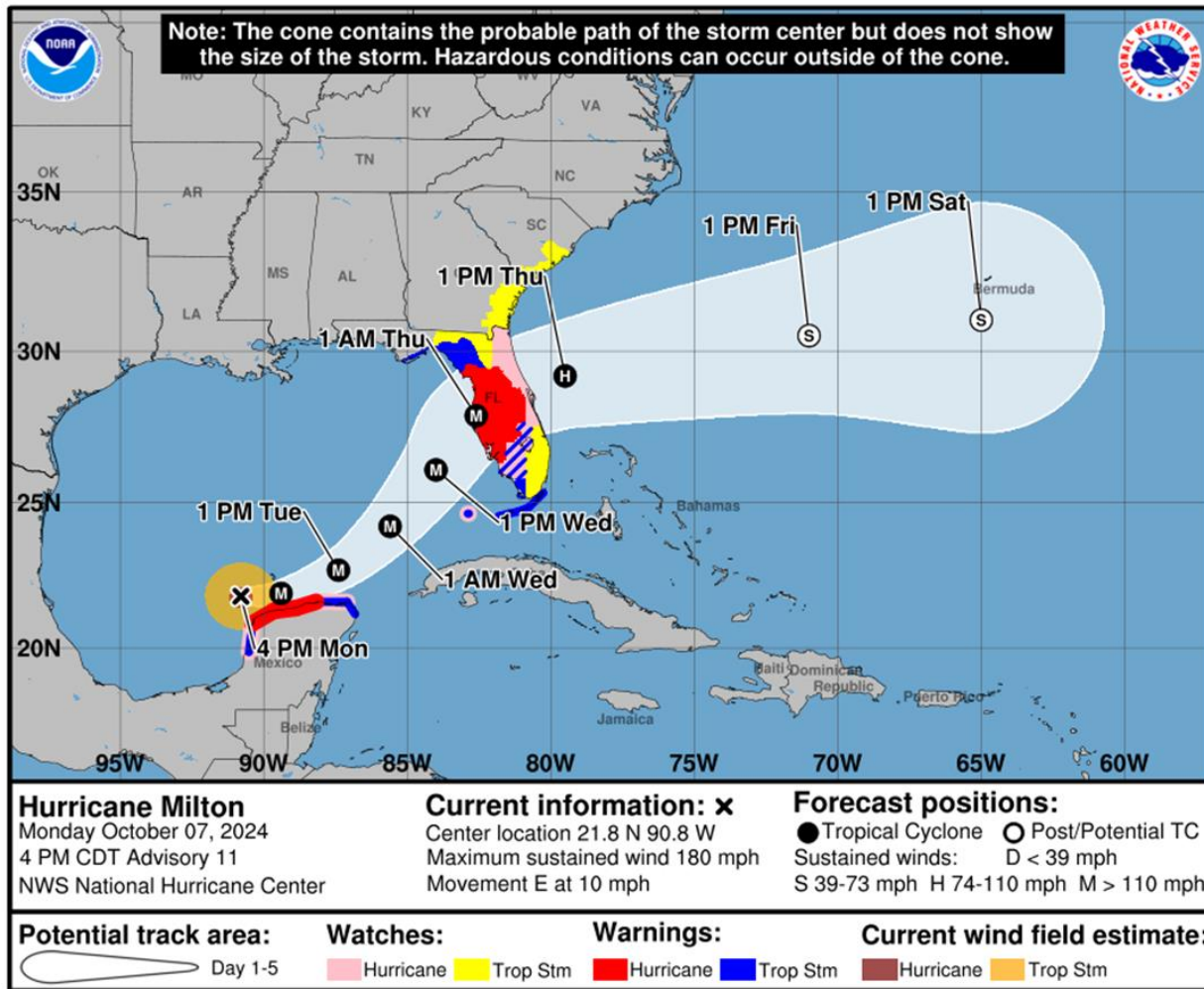
Current Satellite Imagery: 6:30 PM EDT

Overview/Recent Changes: Hurricane and Storm Surge Warnings have been issued for portions of the Florida West Coast with the 5:00 PM EDT Advisory, with Tropical Storm and Storm Surge Watches issued for the Florida East Coast. Milton poses an extremely serious threat to Florida, and residents are urged to follow the orders of Local Officials. Milton is currently located about 675 miles southwest of Tampa, Florida and is moving eastward at 10 mph. Maximum sustained winds are near 180 mph, making Milton a potentially catastrophic Category 5 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. While fluctuations in intensity are expected, Milton is forecast to remain an extremely dangerous hurricane through landfall in Florida.



Major Hurricane Milton

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 675 miles SW of Tampa, Florida
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 180 mph, Category 5
- **Current Movement:** E at 10 mph

This general motion is expected through tonight, followed by a turn toward the east-northeast and northeast on Tuesday and Wednesday. On the forecast track, the center of Milton is forecast to move near or just north of the Yucatan Peninsula tonight and Tuesday, then cross the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west coast of Florida on Wednesday. Milton is a potentially catastrophic Category 5 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. While fluctuations in intensity are expected, Milton is forecast to remain an extremely dangerous hurricane through landfall in Florida.

Residents in Florida should closely follow the orders from their local emergency management officials, as Milton has the potential to be one of the most destructive hurricanes on record for West-Central Florida.

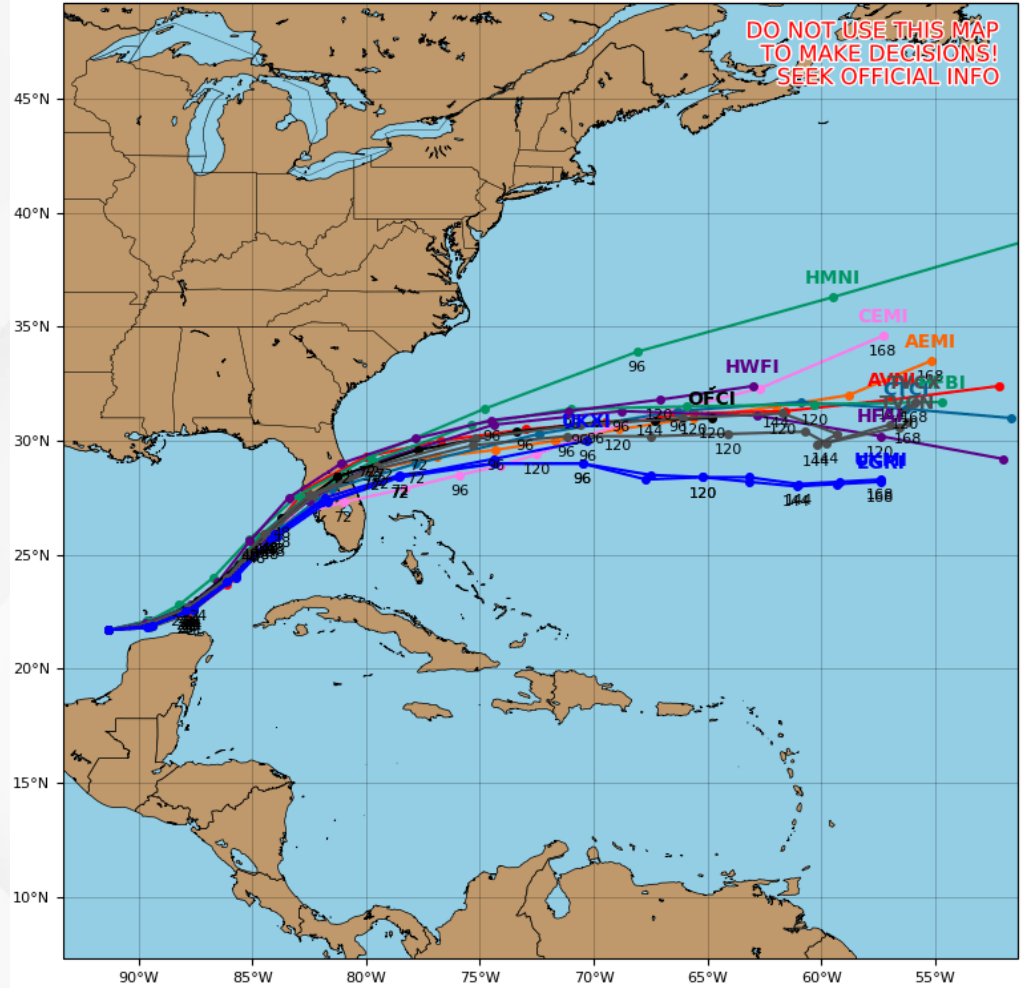


Forecast Computer Models – Next 5 Days

Major Hurricane Milton

Hurricane MILTON Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 18z Oct 07 2024 Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com

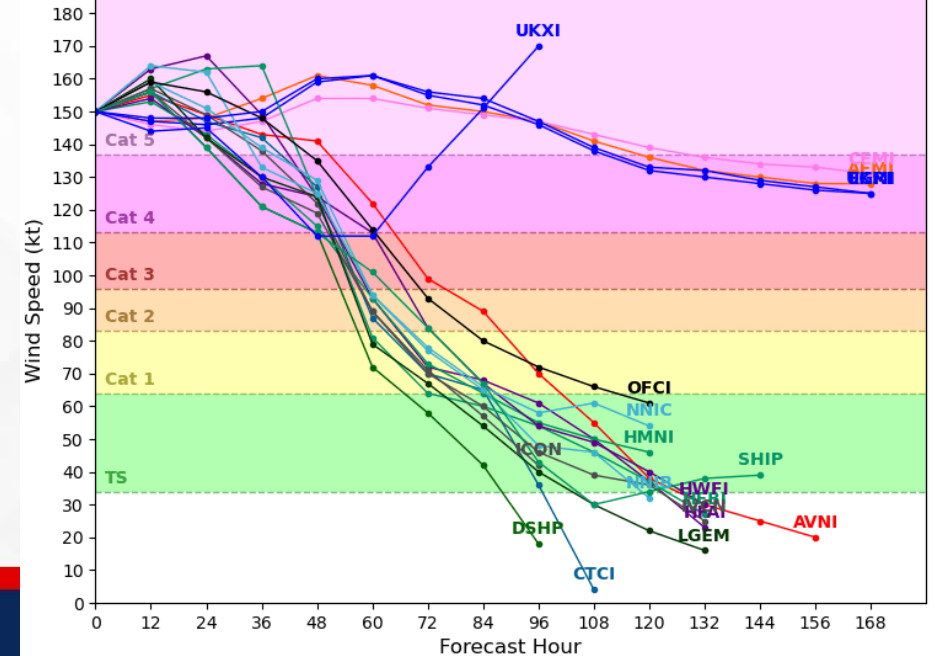


Computer forecast models are in good agreement that Milton will move close to the northern Yucatan Peninsula tonight and early Tuesday ahead of a mid-level disturbance over the northern Gulf of Mexico. This feature should then cause Milton to move east-northeastward to northeastward at a faster forward speed later on Tuesday and Wednesday. Little change was made to the previous forecast as computer model guidance works toward consensus.

Milton could strengthen more tonight with light upper-level wind and very warm waters providing a conducive environment. However, recent radar data indicate that Milton could be at the beginning of an eyewall replacement cycle; this evolution will likely cause the system to gradually weaken on Tuesday but grow larger. On Wednesday, Milton is forecast to encounter a less favorable environment with stronger upper-level winds and pockets of dry air. Regardless, Milton is forecast to be a large and powerful hurricane at landfall in Florida with life-threatening hazards at the coastline and well inland.

Hurricane MILTON Model Intensity Guidance

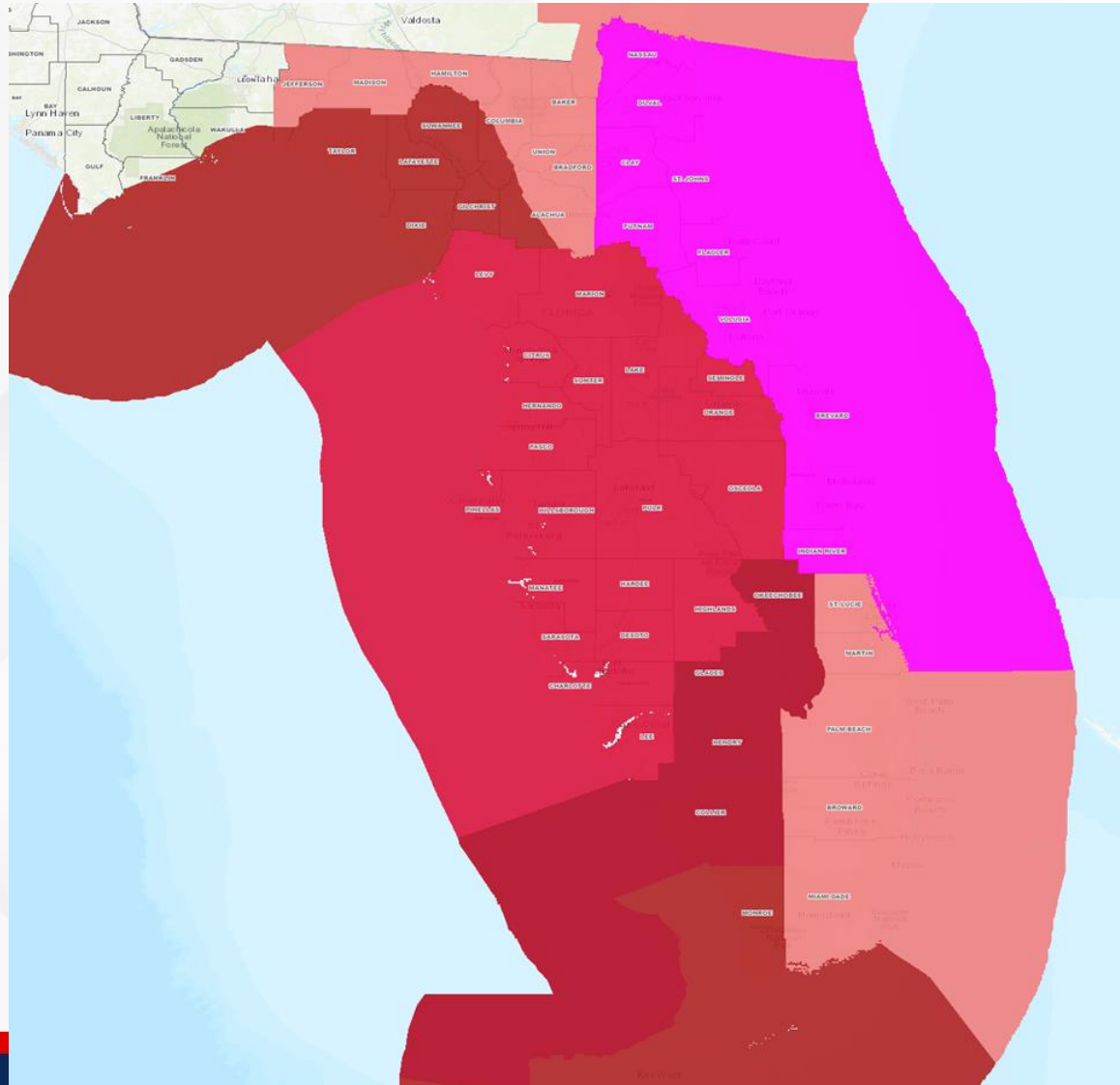
Initialized at 18z Oct 07 2024 Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com





Current Tropical Wind Watches/Warnings

As of 5:00 PM EDT Monday



Hurricane Warning: Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Polk, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Osceola

Tropical Storm Warning:

Coastal Franklin, Coastal Wakulla, Coastal Jefferson, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie, Gilchrist, Western Columbia, Western Alachua, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, Collier, Monroe

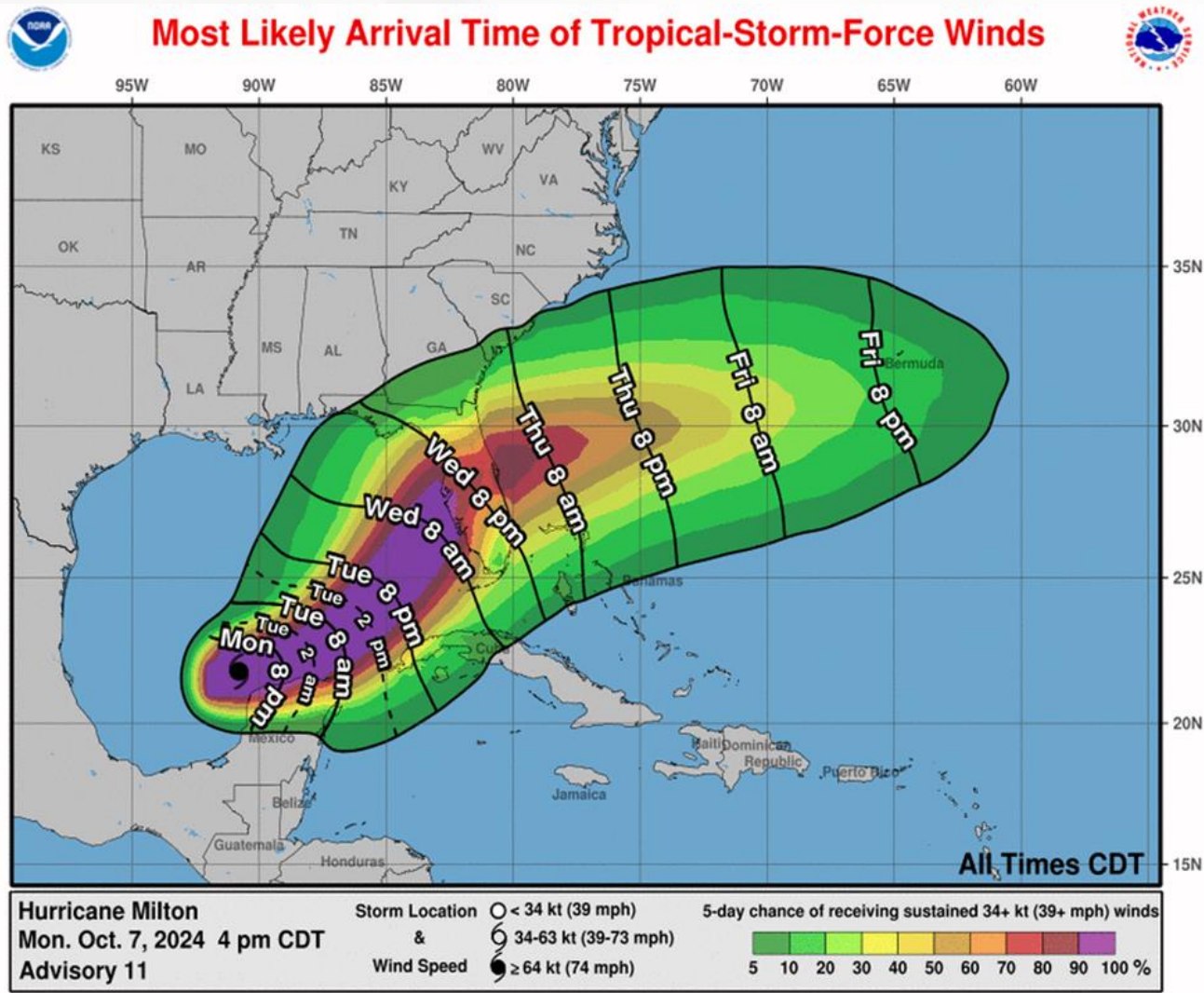
Hurricane Watch: Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, Collier

Tropical Storm Watch: Inland Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, Eastern Columbia, Baker, Union, Bradford, Eastern Alachua, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade



Timing of Arrival – Tropical Storm-Force Conditions

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.

Location	Probability
Key West	49% (+4%)
Naples	76% (+3%)
Fort Myers	67% (+3%)
Miami	20% (+/- 0)
West Palm	55% (+1%)
Venice	93% (+2%)
Tampa	90% (+1%)
Orlando	73% (+1%)
Cocoa Beach	81% (+/- 0)
Cedar Key	70% (+1%)
Daytona Beach	64% (+/- 0)
Gainesville	48% (-1%)
Jacksonville	33% (-1%)



Key Messages

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



Key Messages for Hurricane Milton Advisory 11: 4:00 PM CDT Mon Oct 07, 2024

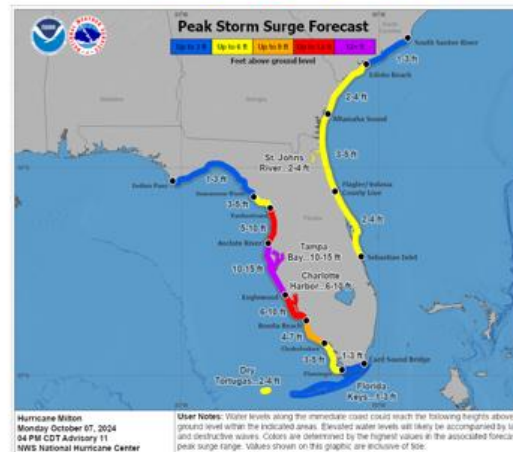


1. Damaging hurricane-force winds and a life-threatening storm surge with destructive waves are expected across portions of the northern coast of the Yucatan Peninsula through tonight.

2. Milton is expected to grow in size and remain an extremely dangerous hurricane when it approaches the west coast of Florida on Wednesday. A large area of destructive storm surge will occur along parts of the west coast of Florida on Wednesday. This is an extremely life-threatening situation and residents in those areas should follow advice given by local officials and evacuate immediately if told to do so.

3. Potentially devastating hurricane-force winds are expected along portions of the west coast of Florida where a Hurricane Warning is in effect. Milton is forecast to remain a hurricane as it crosses the Florida Peninsula and life-threatening hurricane-force winds, especially in gusts, are expected to spread inland across a portion of the entire Florida Peninsula. Preparations to protect life and property in the warning areas should be complete by Tuesday night since tropical storm conditions are expected to begin within this area early Wednesday.

4. 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.





Threats & Impacts

From the National Weather Service

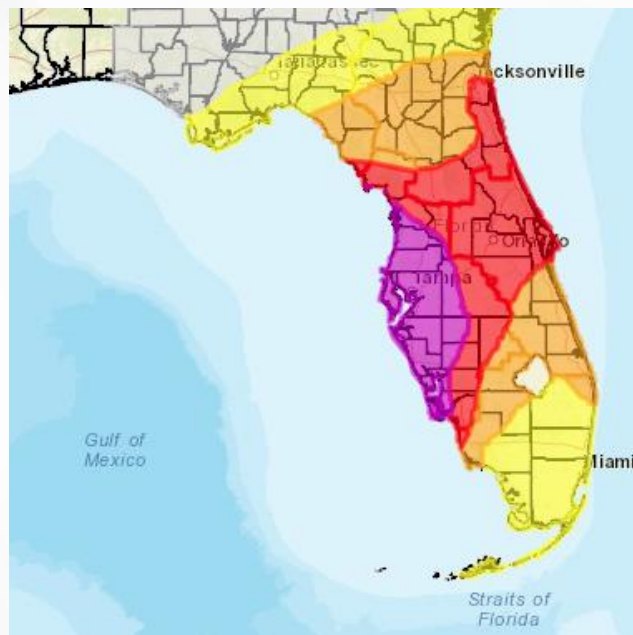
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Storm Surge



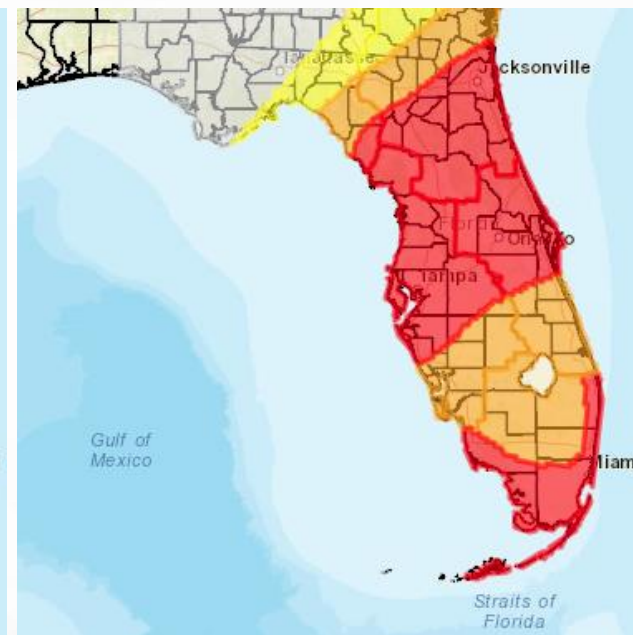
- Widespread deep inundation, with storm surge flooding greatly accentuated by powerful battering waves. Structural damage to buildings, with many washing away. Damage greatly compounded from considerable floating debris. Locations may be uninhabitable for an extended period.
- Near-shore escape routes 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

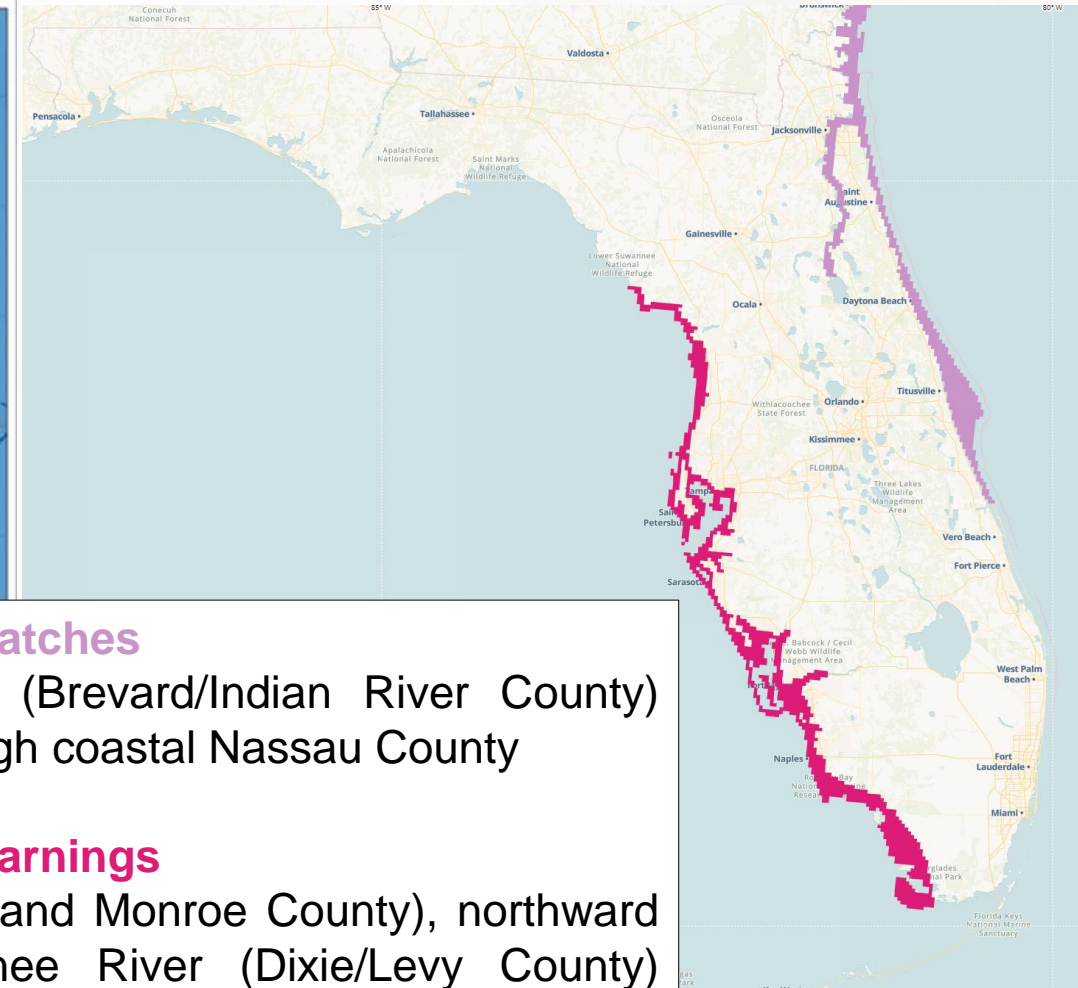
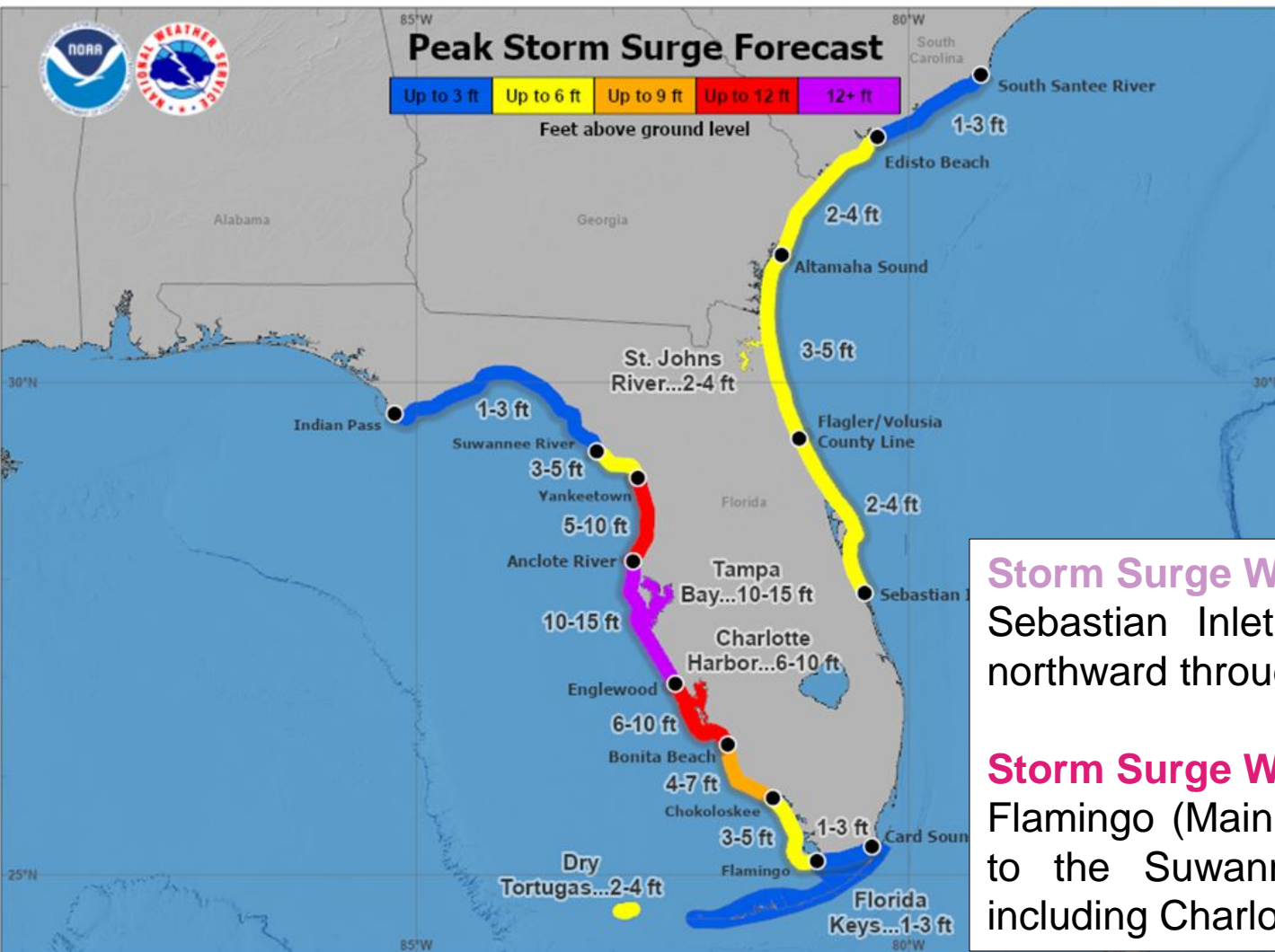


- The occurrence of isolated tornadoes can hinder the execution of emergency plans during tropical events.
- A few places may experience tornado damage, along with power and communications disruptions.
- Locations could realize roofs peeled off buildings, chimneys toppled, mobile homes pushed off foundations 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 Watches & Warnings

As of 5:00 PM EDT Monday



Storm Surge Watches

Sebastian Inlet (Brevard/Indian River County) northward through coastal Nassau County

Storm Surge Warnings

Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County), northward to the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County) including Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay.

Hurricane Milton
Monday October 07, 2024
04 PM CDT Advisory 11
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.

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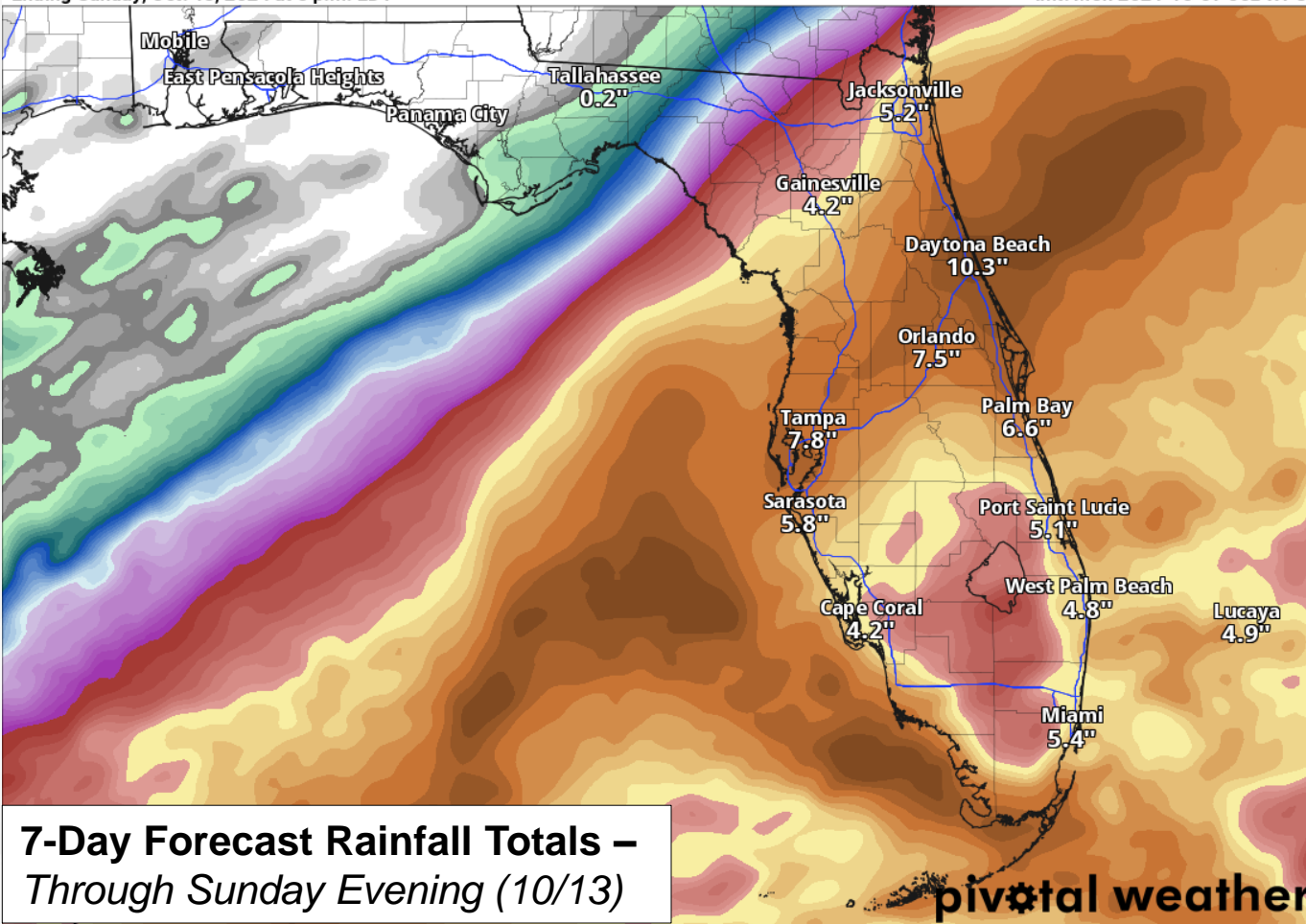
Rainfall Totals – Next 7 Days

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



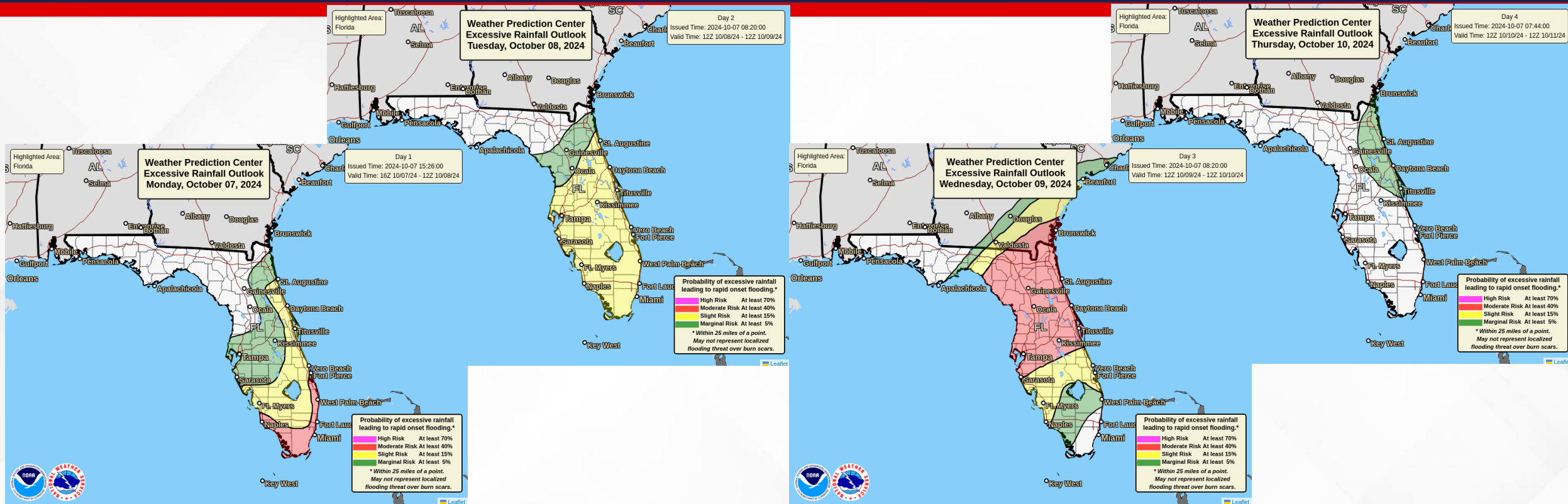
**7-Day Forecast Rainfall Totals –
Through Sunday Evening (10/13)**

- 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.



Flash Flood Outlooks – Next 5 Days

From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

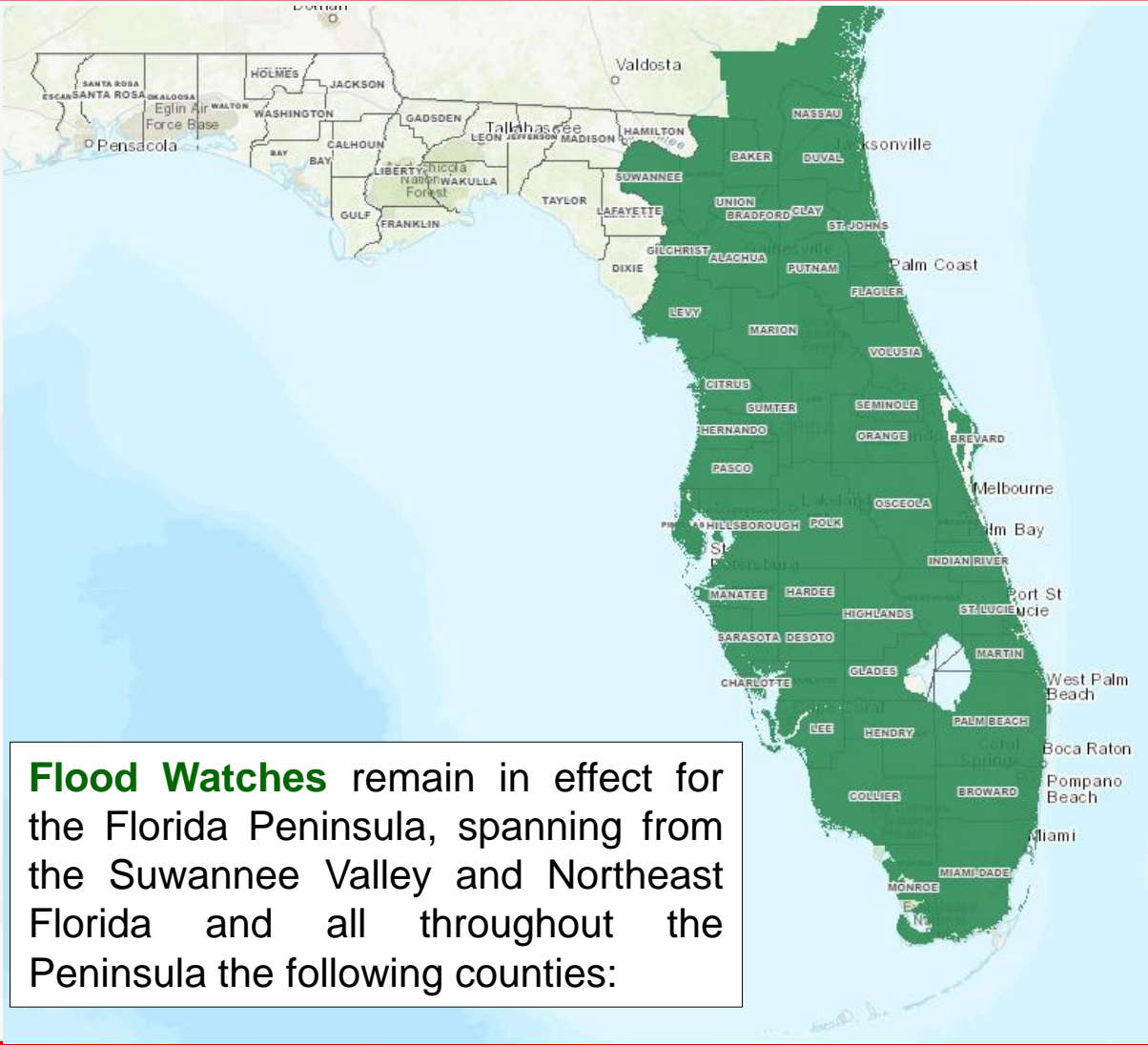


Widespread heavy rainfall can be expected to continue today and into Tuesday ahead of the outer bands of Milton, and the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the Southeast Metro, including the southern I-95 corridor, with a **Slight 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)

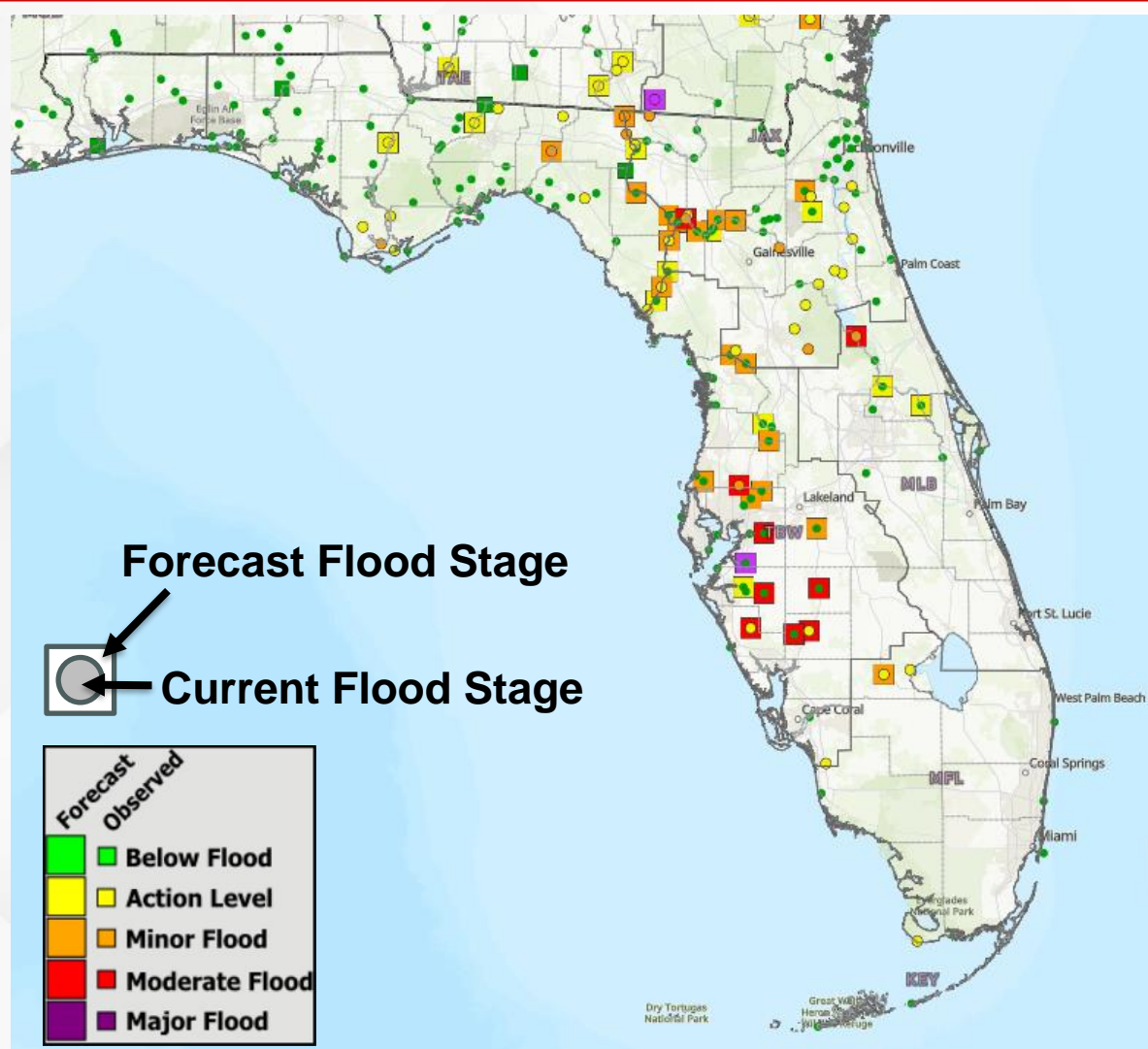


Levy	Volusia	Citrus	Hernando
Pasco	Pinellas	Hillsborough	Manatee
Sarasota	Charlotte	Lee	Collier
Monroe	Hendry	Glades	Highlands
Hardee	DeSoto	Polk	Sumter
Lake	Seminole	Orange	Osceola
Brevard	Okeechobee	Indian River	St. Lucie
Martin	Palm Beach	Broward	Marion
Flagler	Putnam	Alachua	Gilchrist
St. Johns	Clay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



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.

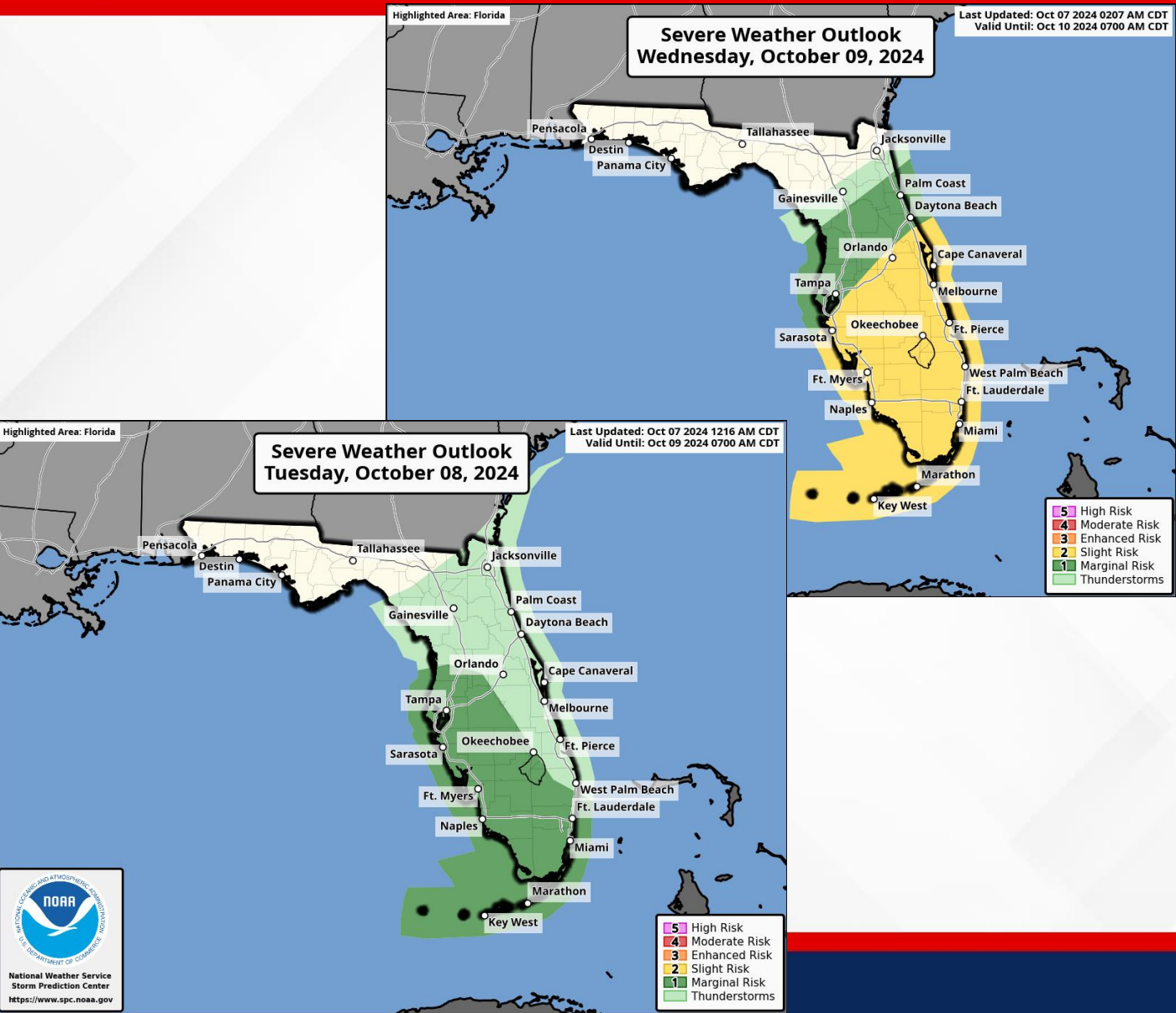
River Flood Warnings have been issued for **minor to moderate flooding** along numerous West-Central Florida rivers, creeks, and waterways (including portions of the [Manatee River](#), [Myakka River](#), [Peace River at Zolfo Springs](#) and [at SR-70 Arcadia](#), [Horse Creek](#), and [Cypress Creek](#)) 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](#).



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 all 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



Summary

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Major Hurricane Milton:

- With the 5:00 PM EDT advisory, Major Hurricane Milton is located about 675 miles southwest of Tampa, Florida and moving eastward at 10 mph.
- This general motion is expected through tonight followed by a turn toward the east-northeast and northeast on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- On the forecast track, the center of Milton is forecast to move near or just north of the Yucatan Peninsula, then cross the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approaches the west coast of the Florida Peninsula on Wednesday.
- Satellite data indicate that maximum sustained winds have increased to near 180 mph with higher gusts, and Milton is a potentially catastrophic category 5 hurricane.
- While fluctuations in intensity are expected, Milton is forecast to remain an extremely dangerous hurricane through landfall in Florida.
- Potentially devastating hurricane-force winds are expected along portions of the Florida West Coast where a Hurricane Warning is in effect.
 - There is an increasing risk for life-threatening impacts along the West Coast of the Florida Peninsula beginning Wednesday and continuing to spread inland across the Peninsula as Milton approaches the coast.
 - 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.
- Milton is forecast to remain a hurricane as it crosses the Florida Peninsula and life-threatening hurricane-force winds, especially in gusts, are expected to spread inland across a portion of the entire Florida Peninsula.

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



Summary

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Florida Outlook:

- **Hurricane Warnings** are in effect for the following counties:
 - Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Lake, Seminole, Hernando, Pasco, Polk, Osceola, Manatee, Hardee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Highlands, Charlotte and Lee
- **Tropical Storm Warnings** are in effect for the following counties:
 - Coastal Franklin, coastal Wakulla, coastal Jefferson, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, Gilchrist, Dixie, western Alachua, Lake Okeechobee, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, Collier, Monroe including Dry Tortugas
- **Hurricane Watches** are in effect for the following counties:
 - Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, Collier and Dry Tortugas
- **Tropical Storm Watches** are in effect for the following counties:
 - Inland Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, eastern Columbia, Baker, Union, Bradford, eastern Alachua, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade
- **Storm Surge Warnings** are in effect from the West Coast of Florida from Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County) northward to the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County Line), including Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay.
- **Storm Surge Watches** have been issued from Sebastian Inlet to the Florida-Georgia state line, including the St. Johns River (Brevard/Indian River County Line to Nassau County).
- **Peak Storm Surge forecasts:**
 - Anclote River (Pasco/Pinellas County Line) to Englewood (Sarasota/Charlotte County Line), including Tampa Bay: **10-15'**
 - Englewood (Sarasota/Charlotte County Line) to Bonita Beach (Lee/Collier County Line), including Charlotte Harbor: **6-10'**
 - Yankeetown (Levy/Citrus County Line) to Anclote River (Pasco/Pinellas County Line): **5-10'**
 - Bonita Beach (Lee/Collier County Line) to Chokoloskee (Collier/Monroe County Line): **4-7'**
 - Suwannee River to Yankeetown and Chokoloskee to Flamingo: **3-5'**
 - Flagler/Volusia County Line to Florida-Georgia state line: **3-5'**
 - Sebastian Inlet to Flagler/Volusia County Line: **2-4'**
 - Dry Tortugas: **2-4'**
 - St. Johns River: **2-4'**
 - *Surge values will be dependent on the future path of Milton and its approach to the Florida West Coast, 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.
 - **Flood Watches** extend from the Suwannee Valley, Northeast Florida and throughout the entire Peninsula.
- 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 to moderate 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.*

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



Tropical Update

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