



Tropical Update



11:30 AM EDT

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Major Hurricane Milton

Preparations to Protect Life and Property, and To Be Ready for Long-Duration Power Outages Should Be Complete By Tonight; Today is the Last Full Day for Florida Residents; Milton To Be An Extremely Dangerous Hurricane Approaching West-Central Florida Coast Wednesday Night

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.

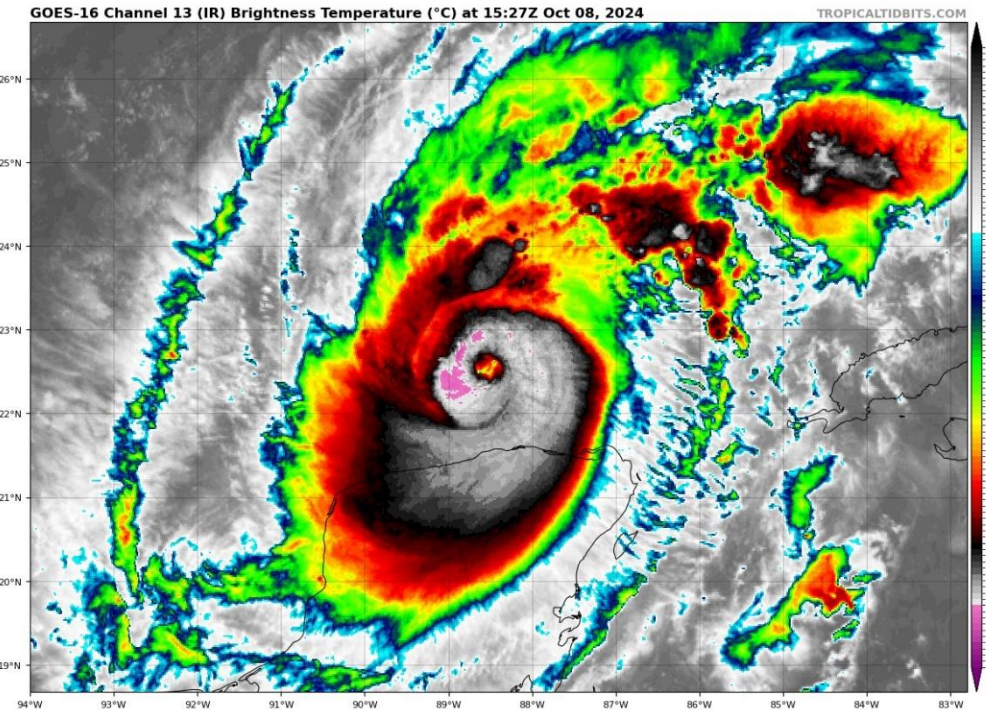


Major Hurricane Milton

11:00 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					



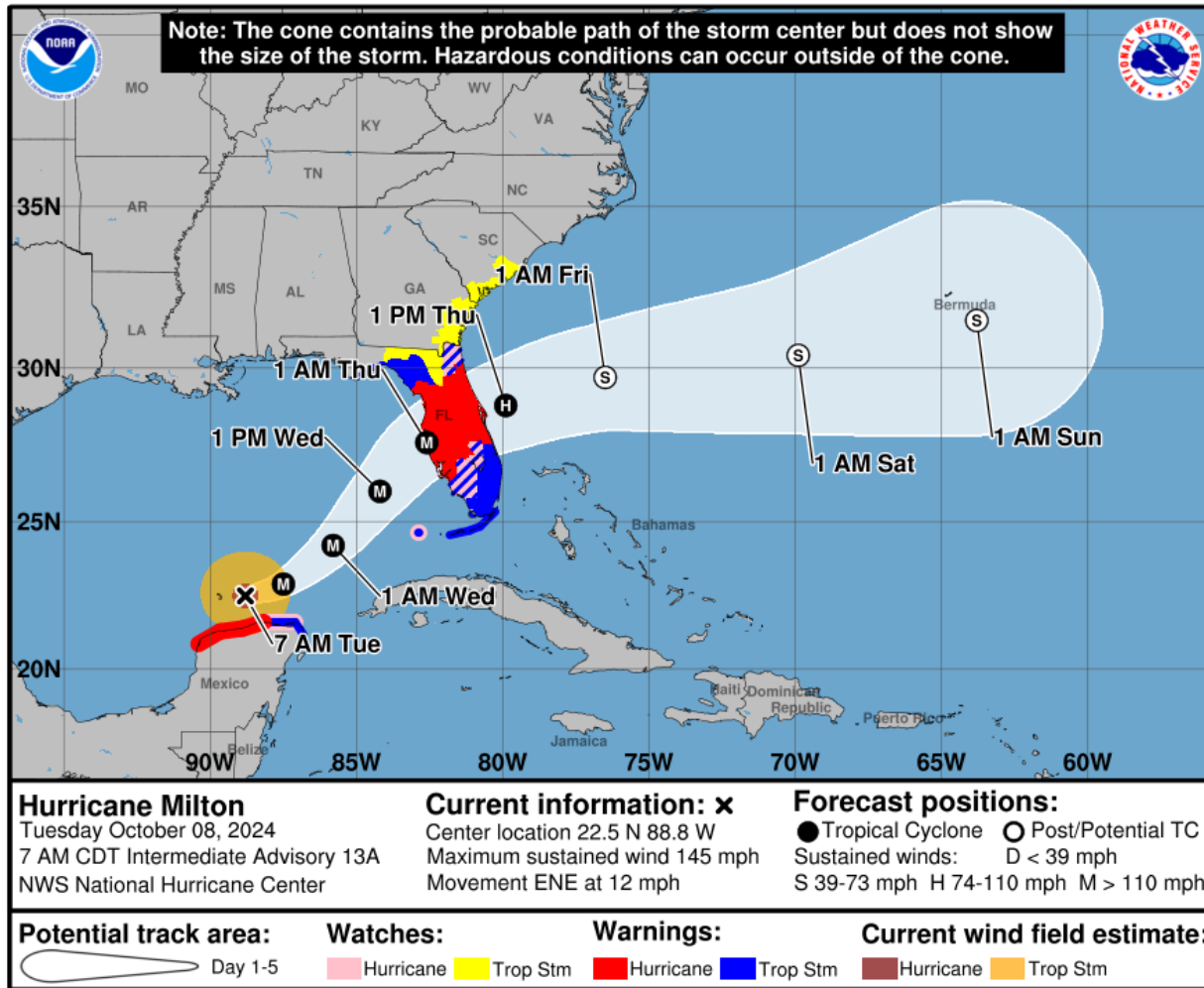
Satellite imagery as of 11:00 AM EDT

Overview/Recent Changes: As of 11:00 AM EDT, Milton is located about 520 miles southwest of Tampa, Florida and moving east-northeastward at 9 mph. A turn toward the northeast with an increase in forward speed is expected to begin later today and continue through Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of Milton will move across the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west-coast of Florida through Wednesday. The center is likely to make landfall along the West-Central coast of Florida on Wednesday night, and move east-northeastward across the central Florida through Thursday. Maximum sustained winds are near 150 mph with higher gusts. While fluctuations in intensity are expected, Milton is forecast to remain an extremely dangerous hurricane through landfall in Florida. Milton is forecast to retain Major Hurricane status and expand in size while it approaches the West Coast of Florida. Preparations to protect life and property, and to be ready for long-durations power outages, should be complete by tonight. Storm Surge Warnings have been extended southward along the Florida East Coast to Port Canaveral (Brevard County).



Major Hurricane Milton

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 520 miles SW of Tampa, Florida
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 150 mph, Category 4
- **Current Movement:** ENE at 9 mph

A turn toward the northeast with an increase in forward speed is expected to begin later today and continue through Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of Milton will move across the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west-central coast of Florida through Wednesday. The center is likely to make landfall along the west-central Florida Coast on Wednesday night and move east-northeastward across central Florida through Thursday night. 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.



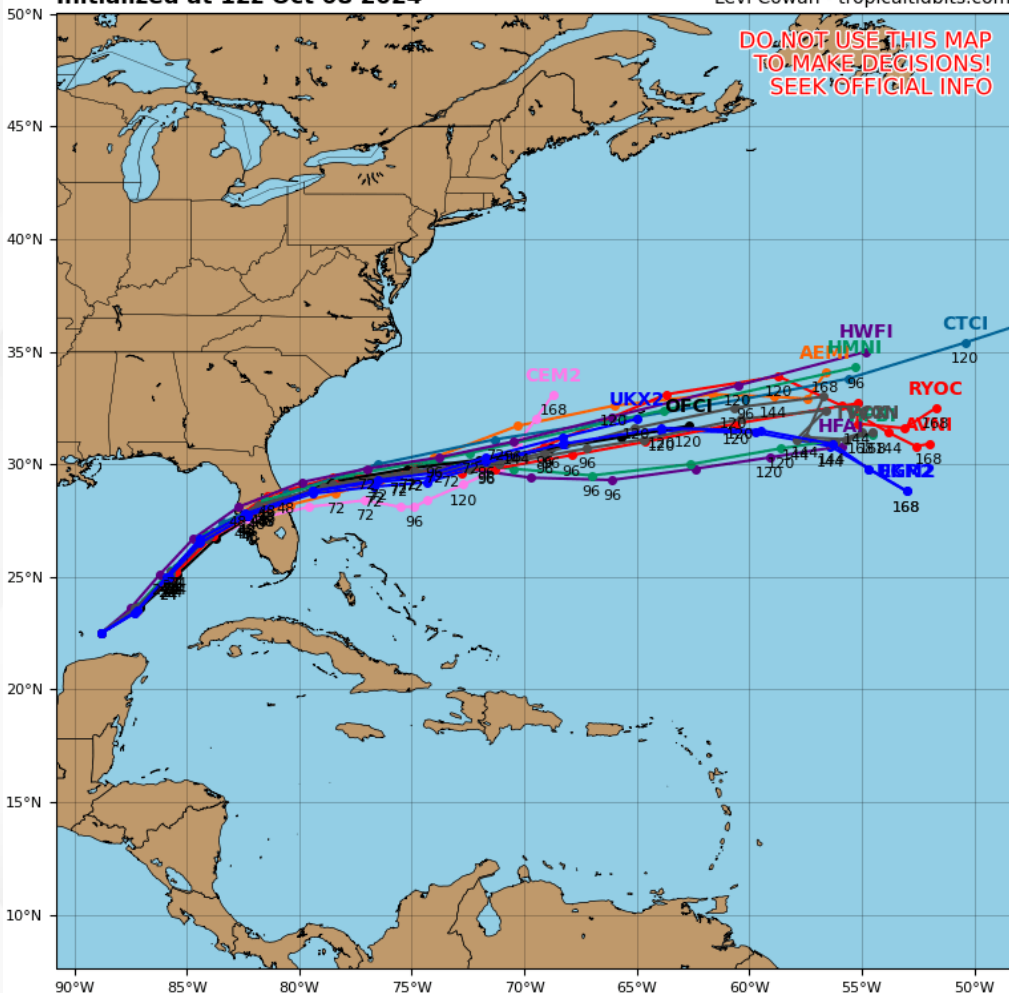
Forecast Computer Models – Next 5 Days

Major Hurricane Milton

Hurricane MILTON Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 12z Oct 08 2024

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com



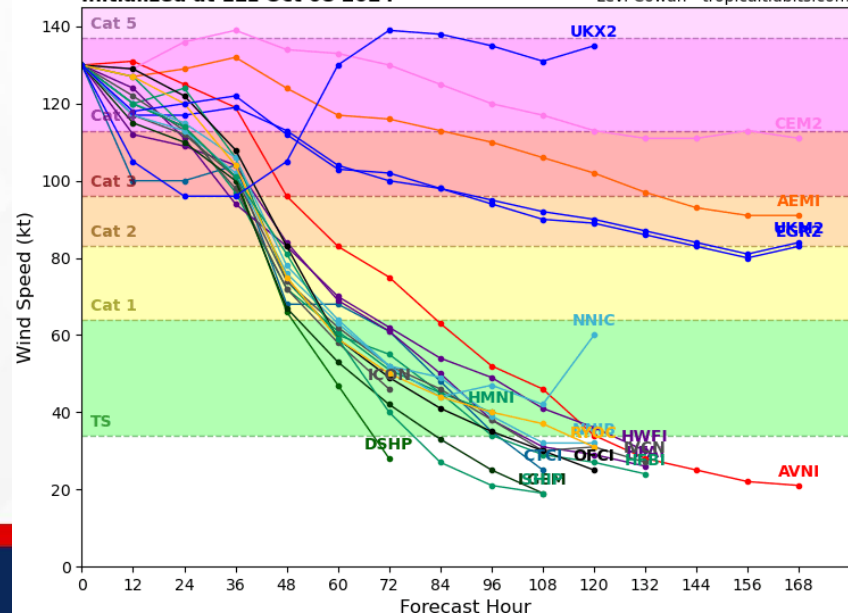
Recent aircraft data shows that Milton has turned a bit leftward and is moving east-northeastward. Milton is forecast to turn northeastward and begin accelerating later today as it moves between an upper-level disturbance and high pressure over the Greater Antilles. The track guidance is honed in on landfall along the west-central coast of Florida sometime Wednesday night; however, a reminder that even at 36-48 hours away, the National Hurricane Center track forecasts can be off by an average of 60-70 nautical miles. This means an exact landfall location cannot be pinpointed, especially if the system wobbles as it approaches the coast. After landfall, Milton is forecast to cross Florida and emerge over the Atlantic waters on Thursday.

Milton is expected to maintain major hurricane strength while it moves across the Gulf of Mexico and approaches the west coast of Florida. Stronger upper-level winds are expected to set in about 24 hours, but even if this causes some weakening, it will not be enough to keep Milton from beginning an extremely dangerous hurricane when it reaches shore. Additionally, the first stages of extratropical transition may be just underway as Milton is reaching the coast, which could slow the rate of weakening.

Hurricane MILTON Model Intensity Guidance

Initialized at 12z Oct 08 2024

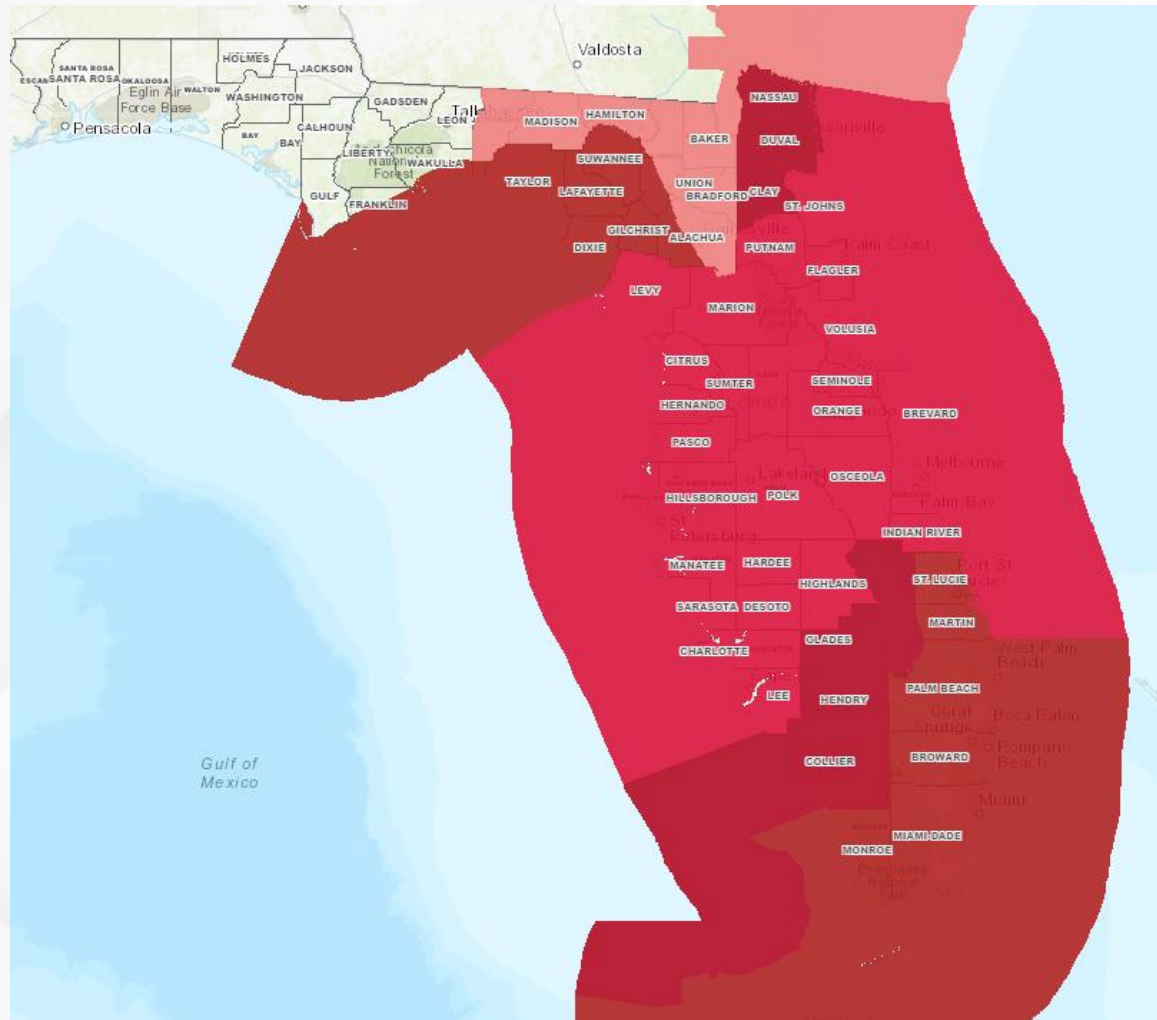
Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com





Current Tropical Wind Watches/Warnings

As of 11:00 AM EDT Tuesday



Hurricane Warning: St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Lake, Seminole, Brevard, Orange, Sumter, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Osceola, Indian River, Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, DeSoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee

Tropical Storm Warning: Coastal Franklin, Coastal Wakulla, Coastal Jefferson, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie, Gilchrist, Columbia, Alachua, Union, Bradford, Clay, Nassau, Duval, Clay, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Glades, Palm Beach, Hendry, Collier, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe (Florida Keys & Dry Tortugas)

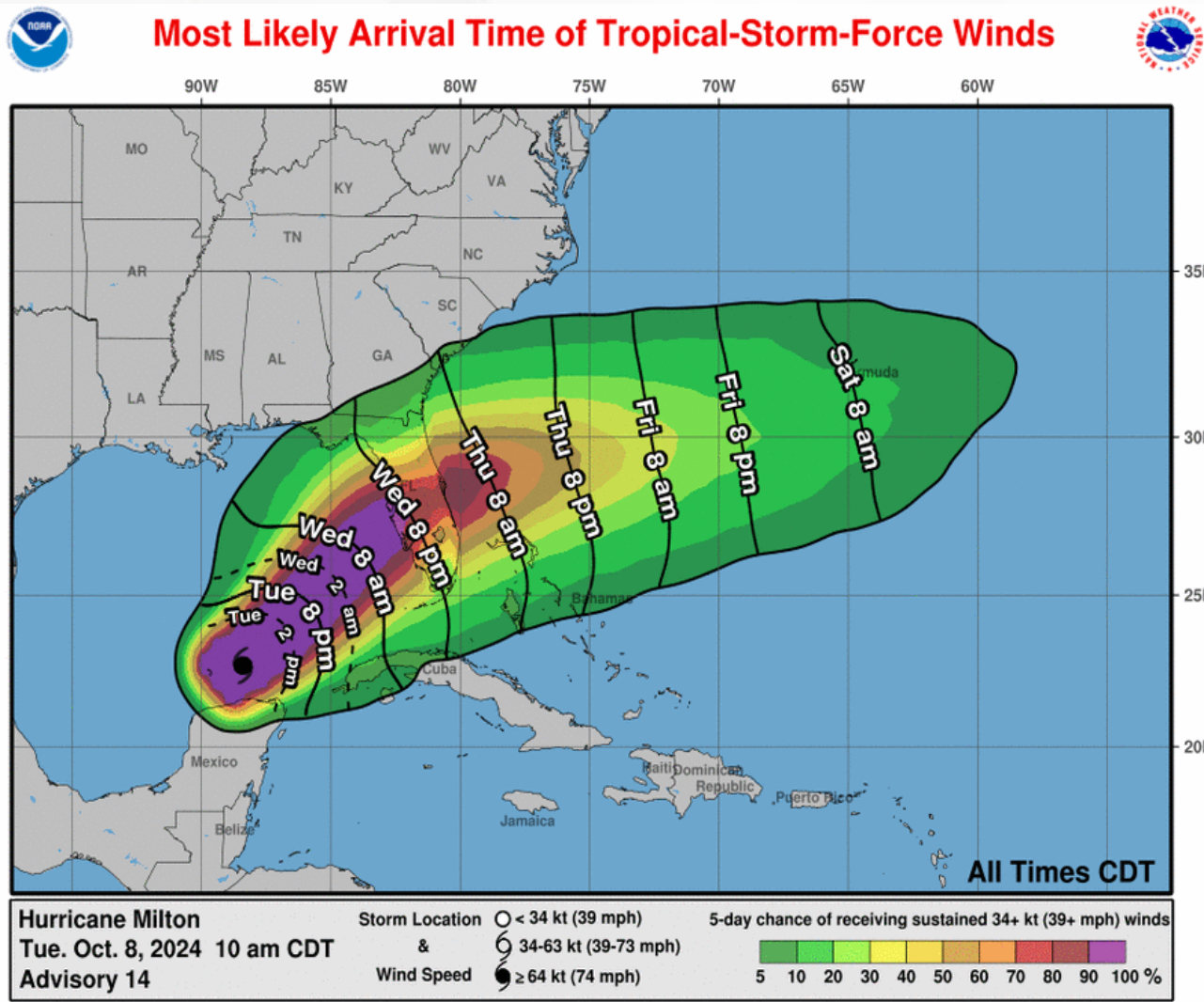
Hurricane Watch: Nassau, Duval, Clay, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, Collier, Dry Tortugas

Tropical Storm Watch: Inland Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton



Timing of Arrival – Tropical Storm-Force Conditions

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



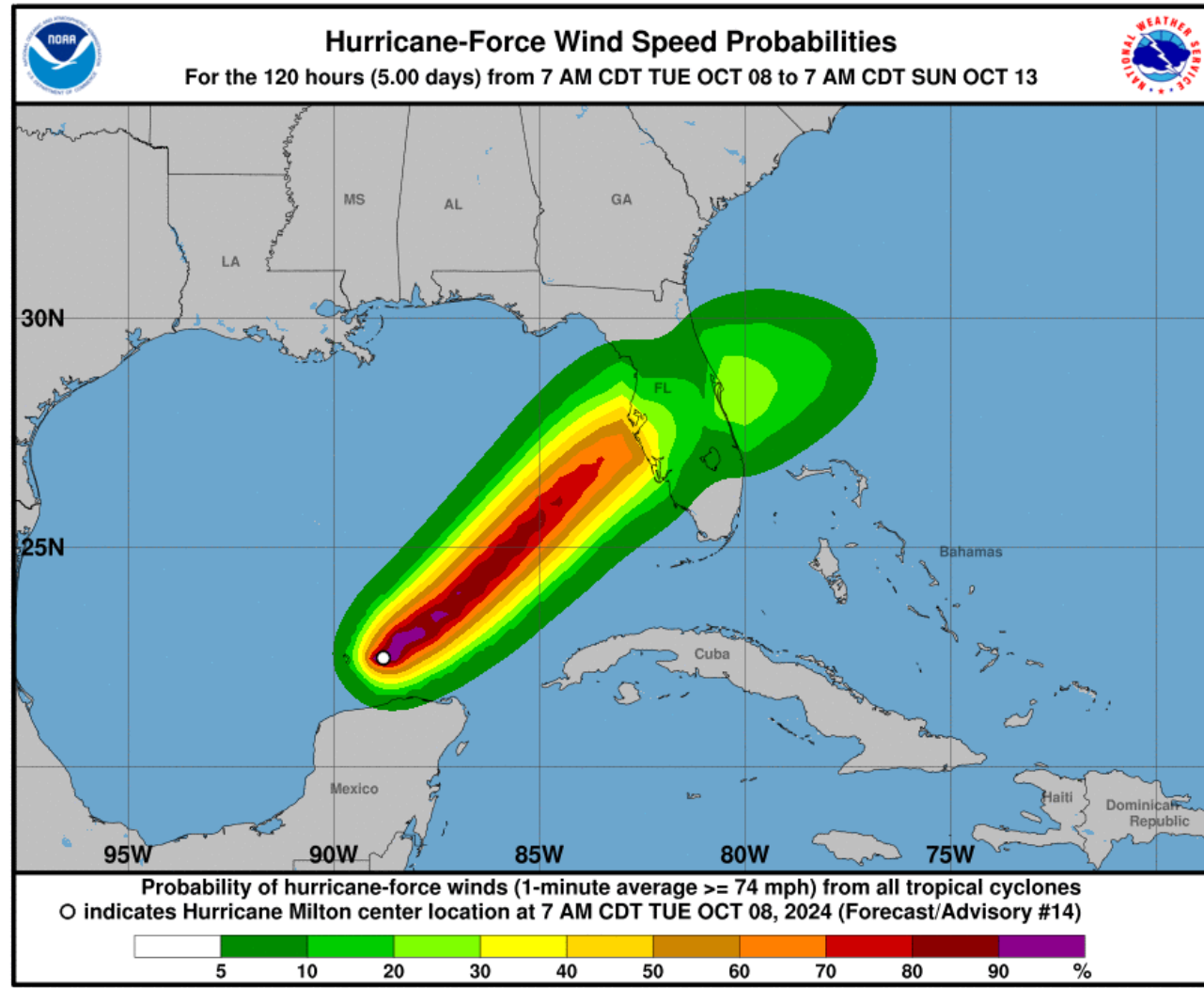
- Tropical storm-force conditions will most likely arrive along the West Florida coastline Wednesday evening and spread eastward across the Florida Peninsula through the overnight and early mornings hours on Thursday.
- Tropical storm-force winds could arrive as early as midday Wednesday along the western Florida Peninsula.
- Probabilities (*shaded*) will continue to increase as Milton's landfall is closer in the forecast period.

Location	Probability
Key West	28% (-12%)
Naples	75% (-5%)
Fort Myers	69% (-5%)
Miami	17% (-2%)
West Palm	61% (+1%)
Venice	96% (+/-0%)
Tampa	93% (+/-0%)
Orlando	77% (-1%)
Cocoa Beach	89% (+2%)
Cedar Key	61% (-4%)
Daytona Beach	56% (-5%)
Gainesville	32% (-9%)
Jacksonville	22% (-3%)



Hurricane-Force Wind Conditions

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



Probabilities will continue to increase as Milton's landfall is closer in the forecast period.

Location	Probability
Key West	0%
Naples	10%
Fort Myers	12%
Miami	0%
West Palm	6%
Venice	52%
Tampa	47%
Orlando	9%
Cocoa Beach	29%
Cedar Key	12%
Daytona Beach	4%
Gainesville	2%
Jacksonville	0%



Key Messages

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



Key Messages for Hurricane Milton

Advisory 14: 10:00 AM CDT Tue Oct 08, 2024

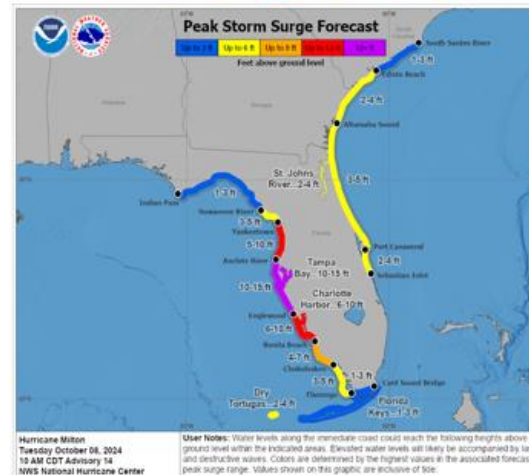


1. Damaging hurricane-force winds and a life-threatening storm surge with destructive waves are expected across portions of the northern coast of the Yucatan Peninsula today.

2. A large area of destructive storm surge, with highest inundations of 10 ft or greater, is expected along a portion of the west-central coast of the Florida Peninsula. If you are in the Storm Surge Warning area, this is an extremely life-threatening situation, and you should evacuate today if ordered by local officials. There will likely not be enough time to wait to leave on Wednesday.

3. 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 the peninsula. Preparations to protect life and property, and to be ready for long-duration power outages, should be complete by tonight.

4. Heavy rainfall across the Florida Peninsula through Thursday brings the risk of life-threatening flash and urban flooding along with moderate to major river flooding, especially in areas where coastal and inland flooding combine to increase the overall flood threat.



For more information go to hurricanes.gov

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Threats & Impacts

From the National Weather Service

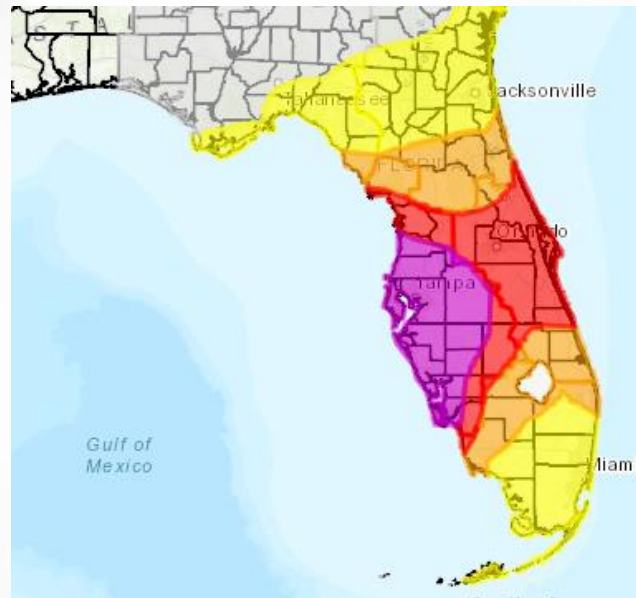
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Storm Surge



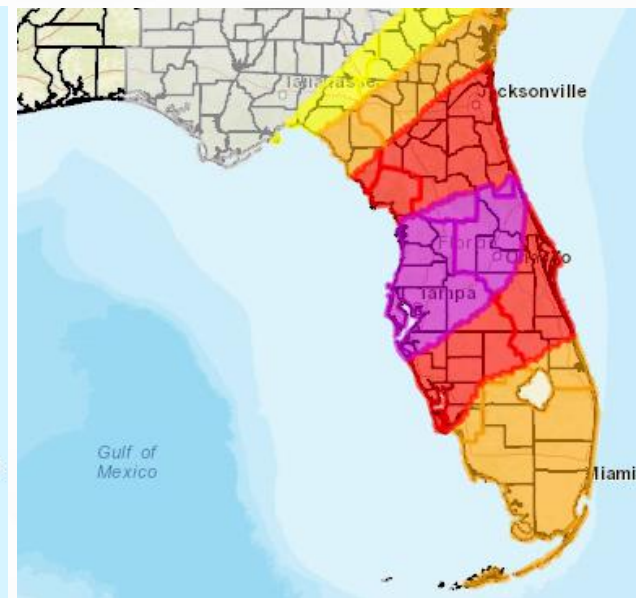
- Widespread deep inundation, with storm surge flooding greatly accentuated by powerful battering waves. Structural damage to buildings, with many washing away. Damage greatly compounded from considerable floating debris. Locations may be uninhabitable for an extended period.
- Near-shore escape routes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



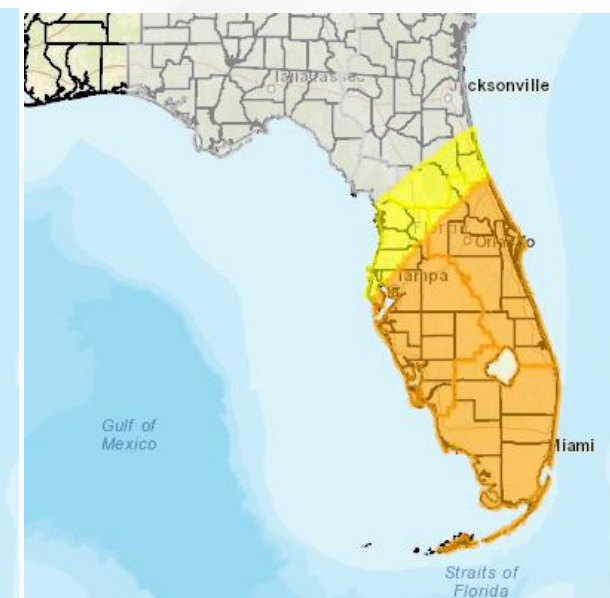
- Structural damage to sturdy buildings, some with complete roof and wall failures. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Damage greatly accentuated by large airborne projectiles. Locations may be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
- Numerous large trees snapped or uprooted along with fences and roadway 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

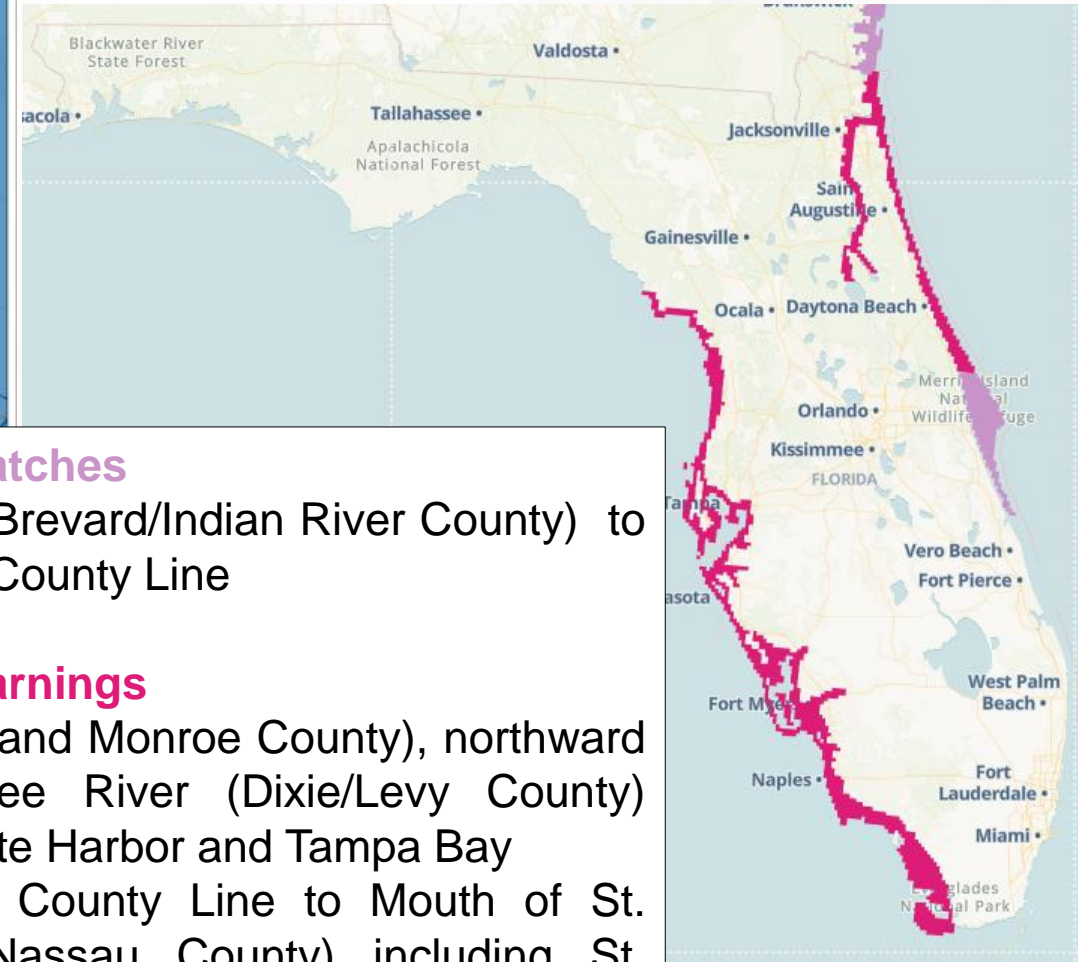
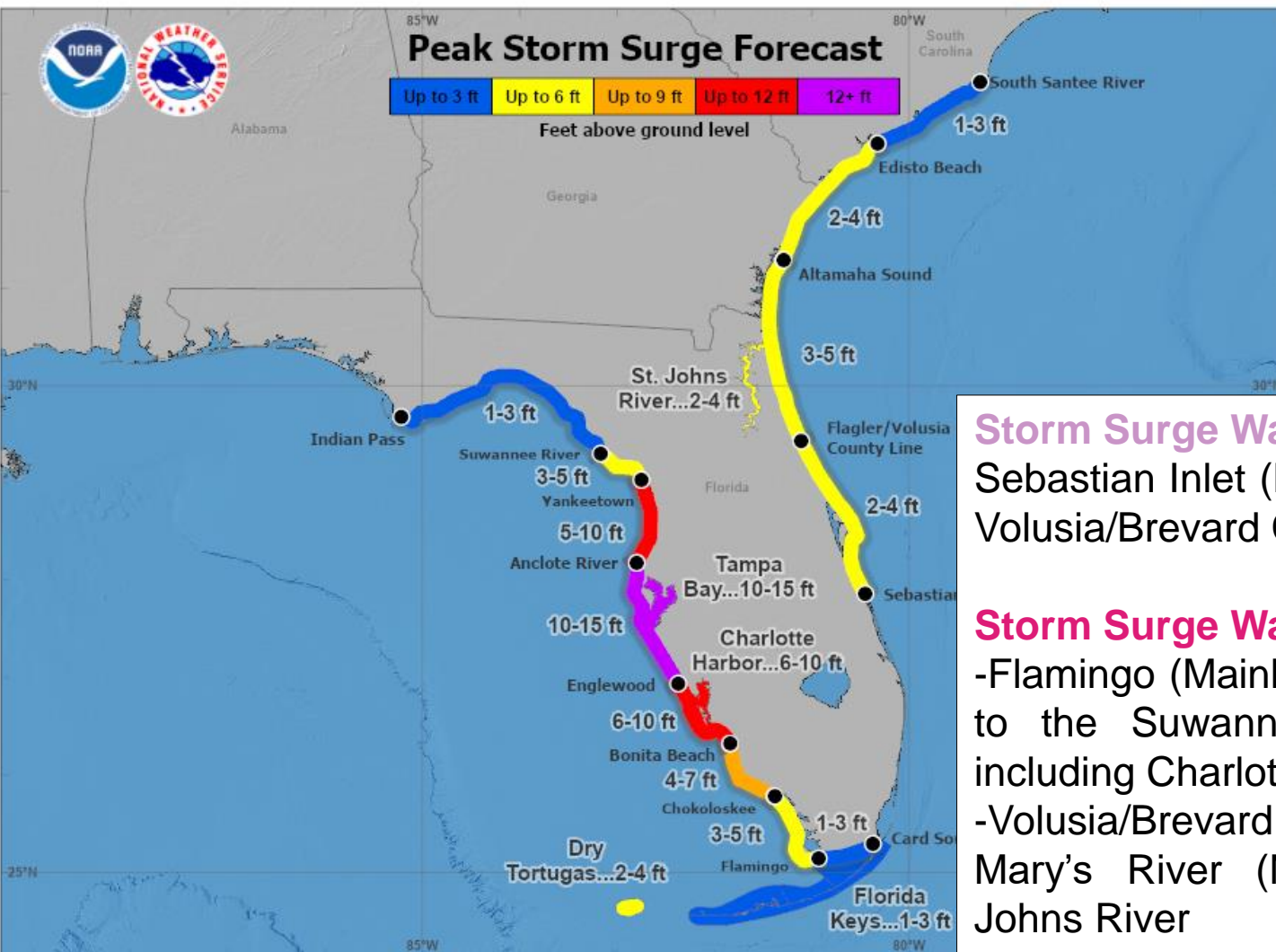


- The occurrence of scattered tornadoes can hinder the execution of emergency plans during tropical events.
- Several places may experience tornado damage with a few spots of considerable damage, power loss, and communications failures.
- Locations could realize roofs torn off frame houses, mobile homes demolished, boxcars overturned, large trees snapped or uprooted, vehicles tumbled, and small boats tossed about. Dangerous projectiles can add to the toll.



Current Storm Surge Watches & Warnings

As of 8:00 AM EDT Tuesday



Storm Surge Watches

Sebastian Inlet (Brevard/Indian River County) to Volusia/Brevard County Line

Storm Surge Warnings

-Flamingo (Mainland Monroe County), northward to the Suwannee River (Dixie/Levy County) including Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay
-Volusia/Brevard County Line to Mouth of St. Mary's River (Nassau County) including St. Johns River

Hurricane Milton
Tuesday October 08, 2024
04 AM CDT Advisory 13
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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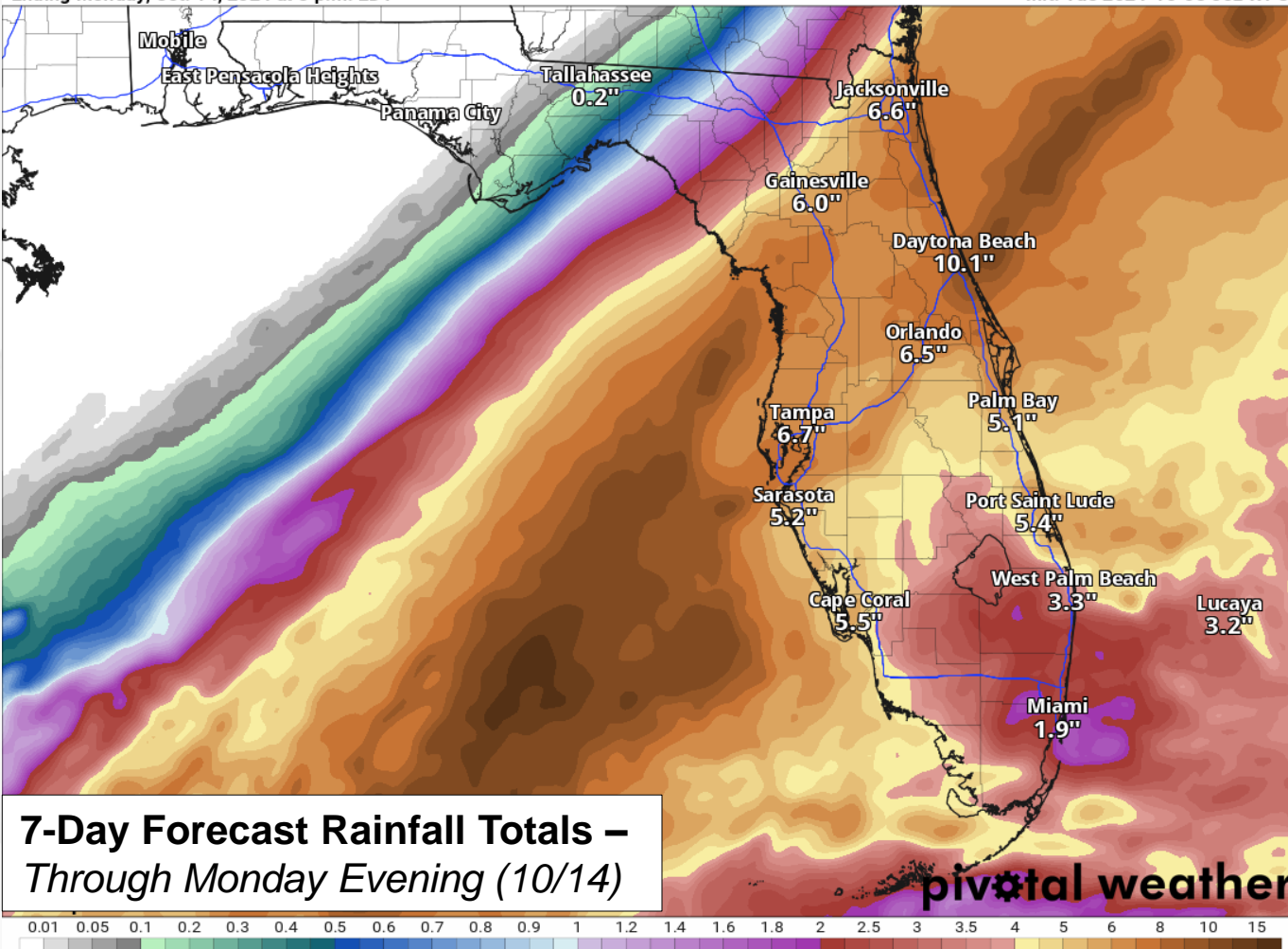
Rainfall Totals – Next 7 Days

From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

7-Day Precipitation (in)

Ending Monday, Oct. 14, 2024 at 8 p.m. EDT

Init: Tue 2024-10-08 00z WPC

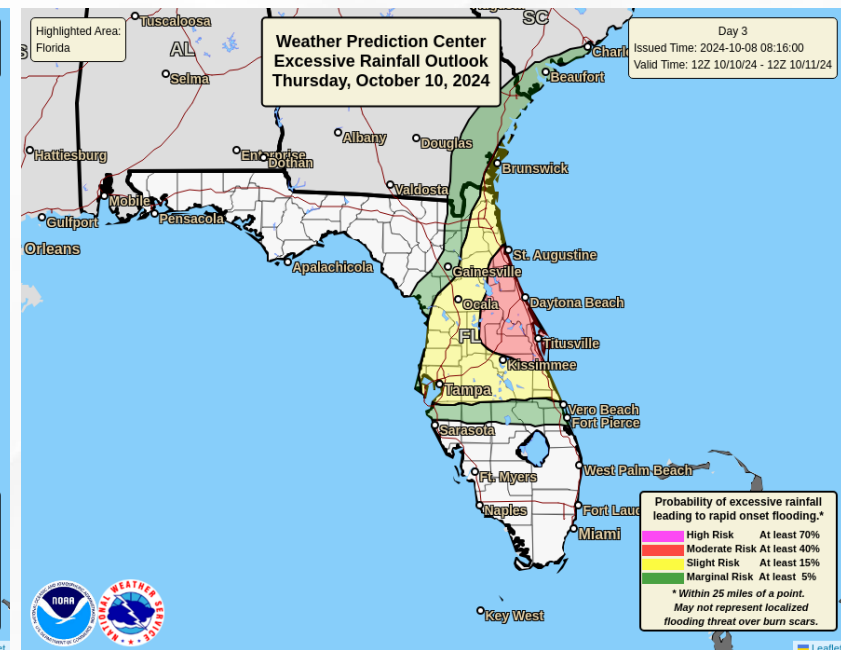
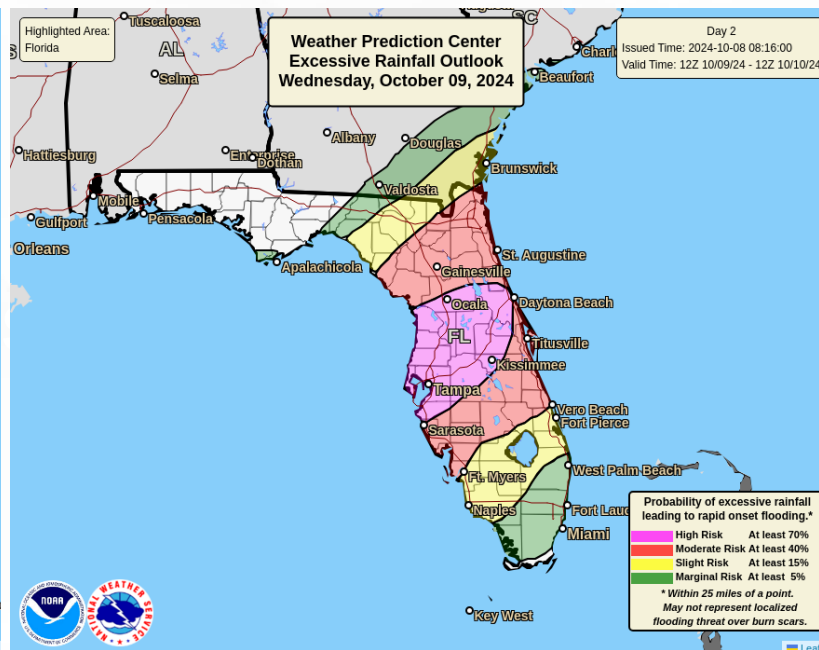
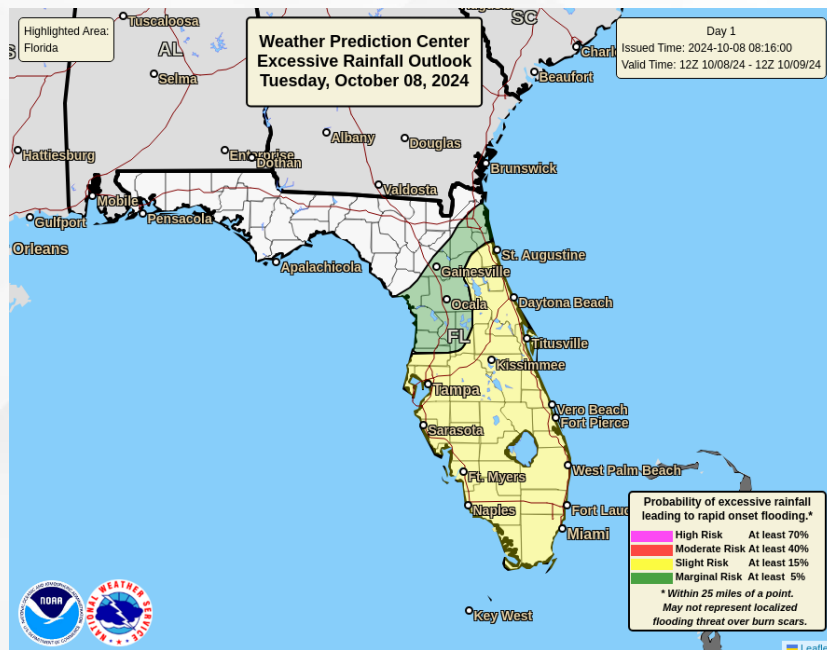


- Rainfall totals heavily tied to the eventual track and forward speed of the system. With computer model guidance uncertainty regarding the exact track, there remains uncertainty as to where the heaviest rainfall can be expected.
- Widespread rainfall totals near 5-12" with **locally higher totals in excess of 18"** 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)

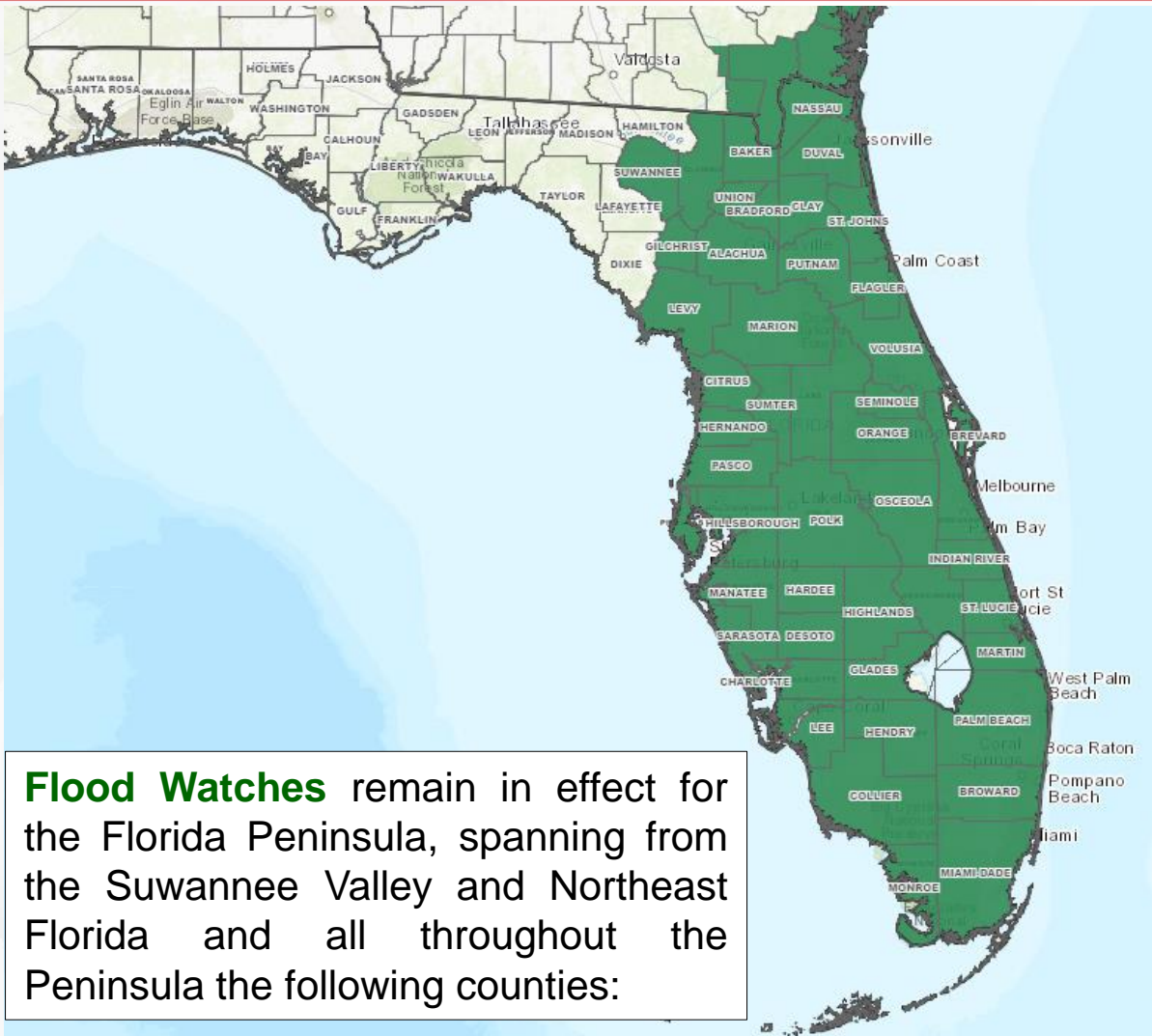


Widespread heavy rainfall can be expected to continue today ahead of the outer bands of Milton, and the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** throughout much of the Peninsula and Keys and into Northeast Florida today with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending into Nature Coast and farther into Northeast Florida. 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. WPC has issued a rare **High Risk (level 4 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the I-4 corridor and northward through the Nature Coast for Wednesday as Milton approaches the west coast of Florida and moves onshore. A **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** spreads across much of North and Central Florida Wednesday with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** extending into portions of the Northwestern Peninsula and into South Florida. A **Slight to Moderate Risk (level 2-3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is maintained north of Lake Okeechobee through Central Florida and into Northeast Florida Thursday as Milton makes its way off the Florida East Coast.



Flood Watches

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

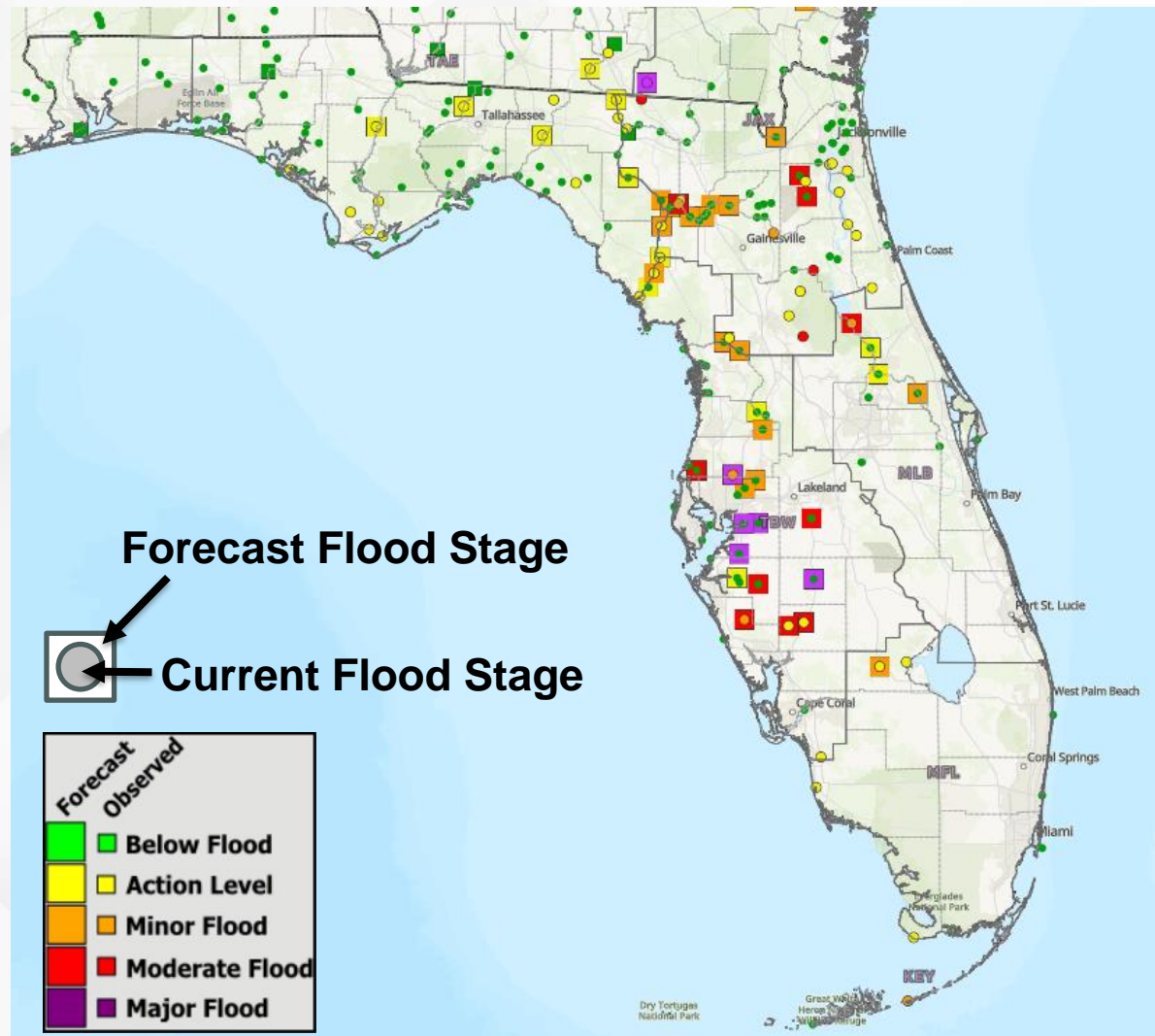


Levy	Volusia	Citrus	Hernando
Pasco	Pinellas	Hillsborough	Manatee
Sarasota	Charlotte	Lee	Collier
Monroe	Hendry	Glades	Highlands
Hardee	DeSoto	Polk	Sumter
Lake	Seminole	Orange	Osceola
Brevard	Okeechobee	Indian River	St. Lucie
Martin	Palm Beach	Broward	Marion
Flagler	Putnam	Alachua	Gilchrist
St. Johns	Clay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

Numerous **River Flood Warnings** have been issued for **minor to moderate flooding** along North and West-Central Florida rivers, creeks, and waterways (including portions of the [Manatee River](#), [Myakka River](#), [Hillsborough River](#), Peace River [at SR-60 Bartow](#) and [at SR-70 Arcadia](#), [Horse Creek](#), [Fisheating Creek](#), and [North Fork](#) and [South Fork Black Creek](#)) with widespread rainfall anticipated over the next few days. The [Alafia River at Riverview near US-301](#) and [at Lithia Pinecrest](#), [Peace River at Zolfo Springs](#), [Cypress Creek at SR-54](#), and [Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301](#) is forecast to reach **Major Flood Stage** by mid-to-late this week.

Additional **River Flood Warnings** will likely be issued over the next few days with numerous other rivers, creeks, and waterways forecast to reach **minor to moderate flood stage**.

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
Alafia River at Riverview near US-301	Hillsborough	Below: 2.94 ft	Major: 12.90 ft	9.40 ft	Rising (Tidal)	10-Oct	1532 EDT 10-Oct
Alafia River at Lithia Pinecrest Road at Lithia	Hillsborough	Below: 8.49 ft	Major: 19.60 ft	28.50 ft	Steady	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
Cypress Creek at SR-54	Pasco	Minor: 8.48 ft	Major: 12.20 ft	13.80 ft	Rising	TBD	Until Further Notice
Fisheating Creek at Palmdale	Glades	Action: 6.25 ft	Minor: 7.90 ft	12.40 ft	Steady	TBD	Until Further Notice
Hillsborough River near Zephyrhills	Hillsborough	Below: 4.12 ft	Minor: 12.80 ft	15.30 ft	Steady	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
Horse Creek near Arcadia at SR-72	DeSoto	Action: 10.64 ft	Moderate: 15.00 ft	21.20 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
Little Manatee River near Wimauma at US-301	Hillsborough	Below: 7.82 ft	Major: 18.20 ft	20.10 ft	Steady	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
Manatee River near Myakka Head at SR-64	Manatee	Below: 7.88 ft	Moderate: 15.80 ft	20.90 ft	Steady	10-Oct	Until Further Notice
Myakka River at Myakka River State Park	Sarasota	Minor: 7.13 ft	Moderate: 9.90 ft	12.80 ft	Rising	TBD	Until Further Notice
North Fork Black Creek near Middleburg	Clay	Below: 5.84 ft	Moderate: 20.00 ft	27.90 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
South Fork Black Creek near Penney Farms	Clay	Below: 4.89 ft	Moderate: 18.50 ft	29.40 ft	Steady	10-Oct	Until Further Notice
Peace River at SR-60 Bartow	Polk	Below: 6.95 ft	Moderate: 9.20 ft	11.10 ft	Rising	TBD	Until Further Notice
Peace River at Zolfo Springs	Hardee	Below: 12.24 ft	Major: 22.30 ft	27.20 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
Peace River at SR-70 Arcadia	DeSoto	Action: 10.13 ft	Moderate: 14.90 ft	23.70 ft	Steady	TBD	Until Further Notice
Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates	Columbia, Gilchrist, Suwannee	Minor: 17.98 ft	Moderate: 21.40 ft	33.40 ft	Rising	TBD	Until Further Notice
Santa Fe at Worthington Springs	Alachua, Bradford, Union	Below: 54.69 ft	Minor: 63.90 ft	71.20 ft	Steady	12-Oct	Until Further Notice
St. Johns River at Astor	Volusia, Lake	Minor: 2.86 ft	Moderate: 3.90 ft	4.70 ft	Rising	11-Oct	Until Further Notice
St. Marys River near Macclenny	Baker, Nassau	Below: 4.42 ft	Minor: 14.90 ft	24.40 ft	Steady	11-Oct	Until Further Notice



Additional Rivers to Monitor

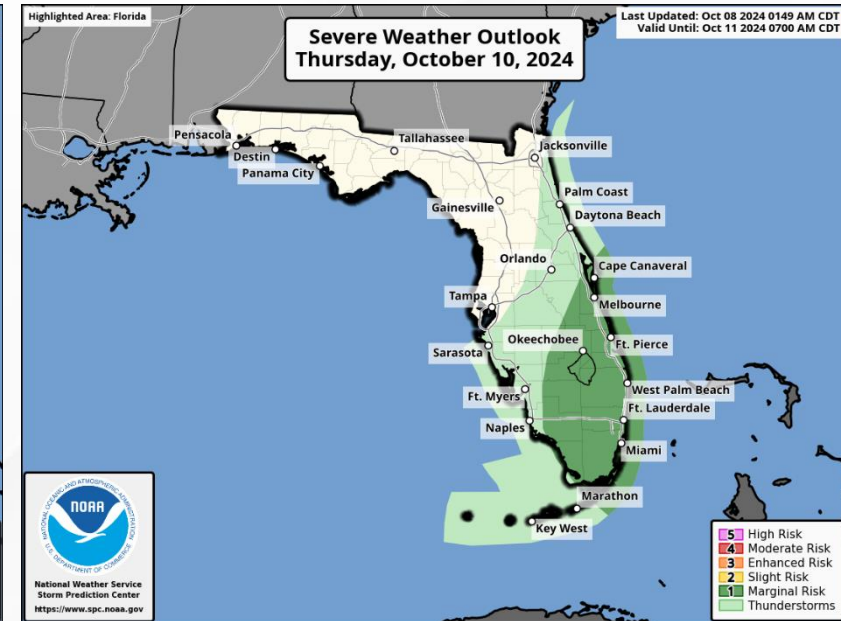
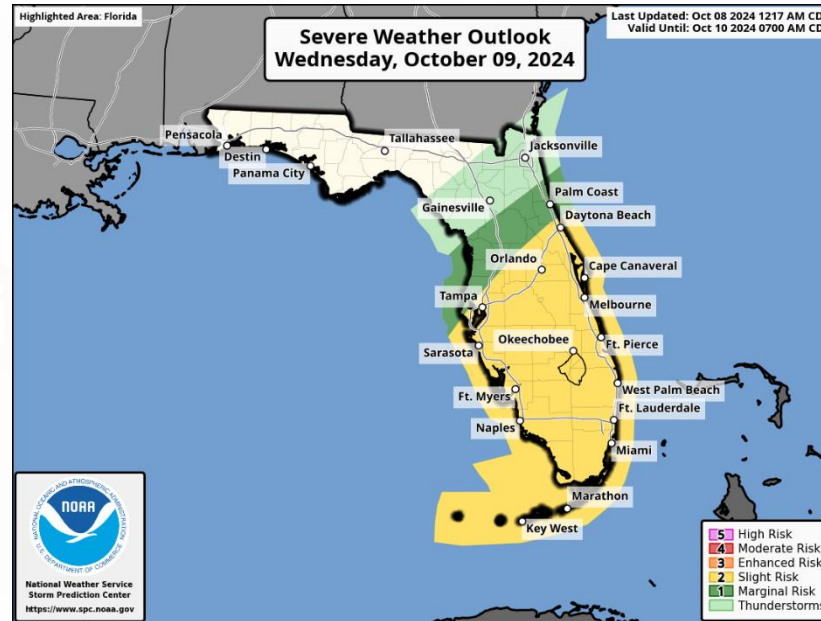
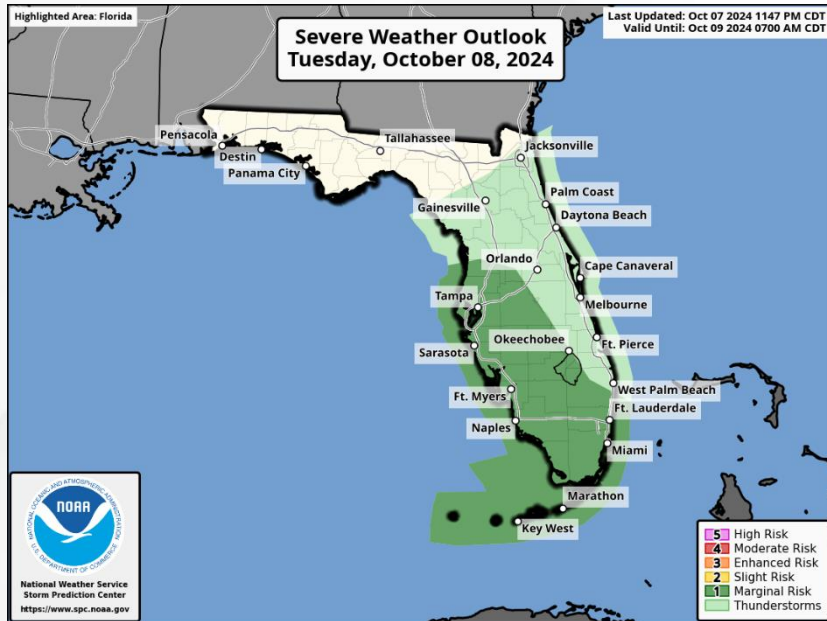
From the National Weather Service

River Gauge	County(ies) Affected	Current Level	Crest Level	Record Level	Status	Crest Day	Warning Expires
Alapaha River near Jennings	Columbia	Moderate: 87.18 ft	N/A	93.30 ft	Rising	N/A	No Warning Issued
Anclote River near Elfers at Little Road	Pasco	Below: 13.09 ft	Minor: 20.50 ft	27.70 ft	Steady	11-Oct	No Warning Issued
Hillsborough River at Morris Bridge	Hillsborough	Below: 28.31 ft	Minor: 33.00 ft	34.70 ft	Steady	TBD	No Warning Issued
Ocklawaha River at Rodman Dam	Putnam	Moderate: 6.05 ft	N/A	9.70 ft	Rising	N/A	
Ocklawaha River at Moss Bluff	Marion	Moderate: 45.55 ft	N/A	N/A	Rising	N/A	No Warning Issued
Santa Fe River near Hildreth	Gilchrist, Suwannee	Below: 17.66 ft	Minor: 21.50 ft	33.40 ft	Rising	TBD	No Warning Issued
Santa Fe River near Fort White	Columbia, Gilchrist	Below: 21.38 ft	Minor: 24.70 ft	35.40 ft	Steady	TBD	No Warning Issued
Santa Fe River near High Springs	Alachua, Columbia	Below: 31.63 ft	Minor: 38.70 ft	48.50 ft	Steady	13-Oct	No Warning Issued
Santa Fe River at O'leno State Park	Alachua, Columbia, Union	Below: 39.35 ft	Minor: 51.90 ft	57.10 ft	Steady	12-Oct	No Warning Issued
St. Johns River above Lake Harney	Seminole, Volusia	Below: 5.99 ft	Minor: 8.50 ft	12.70 ft	Rising	TBD	No Warning Issued
Suwannee River at Branford (US-27)	Gilchrist, Lafayette, Suwannee	Below: 21.95 ft	Minor: 25.90 ft	38.10 ft	Rising	TBD	No Warning Issued
Suwannee River at Rock Bluff near Bell (CR-340)	Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette	Action: 15.17 ft	Minor: 18.10 ft	N/A	Rising	TBD	No Warning Issued
Suwannee River at Manatee Springs	Dixie, Levy	Action: 5.29 ft	Minor: 7.30 ft	16.00 ft	Rising	TBD	No Warning Issued
Withlacoochee River at US-41 Dunnellon	Citrus, Levy, Marion	Below: 28.18 ft	Minor: 29.90 ft	33.00 ft	Steady	TBD	No Warning Issued
Withlacoochee River near Holder at SR-200	Citrus, Marion, Sumter	Below: 6.45 ft	Minor: 8.80 ft	13.30 ft	Rising	TBD	No Warning Issued
Withlacoochee River at US-301 Trilby	Hernando, Pasco	Below: 9.26 ft	Minor: 13.20 ft	20.40 ft	Falling	TBD	No Warning Issued



Isolated Tropical Tornadoes

From the Storm Prediction Center (SPC)



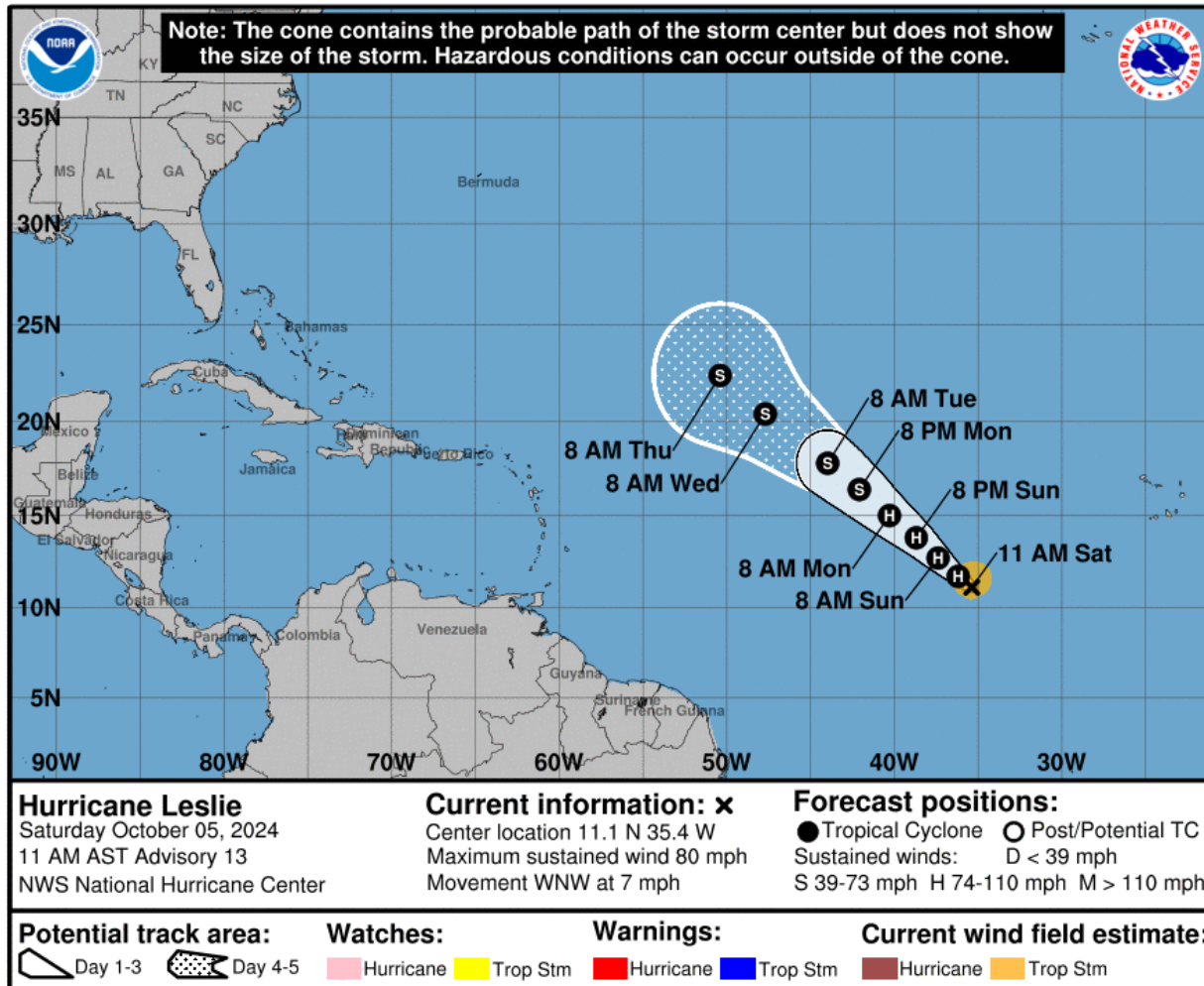
The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** for **Severe Weather** along much of the western Florida Peninsula and across South Florida and the Keys tonight into Wednesday and a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** for **Severe Weather** along and south of the I-4 corridor with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** extending northward towards Gainesville Wednesday as isolated tropical tornadoes will be possible within Hurricane Milton's outer rainbands. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** is maintained across South Florida and along lower portions of the Central-East Coast Thursday as trailing outer bands may continue to move through as Milton moves off the East Coast of Florida.

Tornado Watches and Warnings will be issued as conditions warrant.



Tropical Storm Leslie

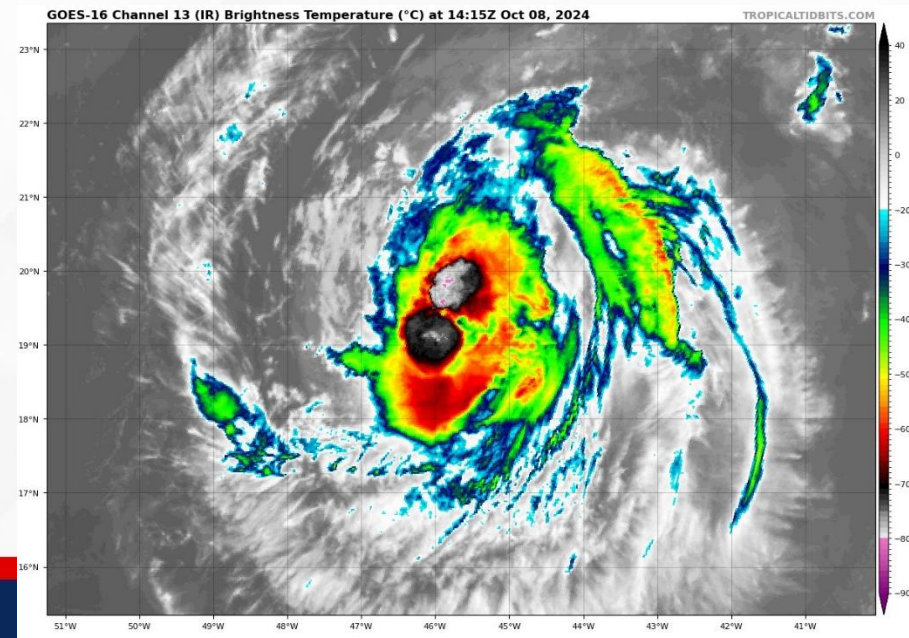
From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 1335 miles WNW of the Southernmost Cabo Verde Islands
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 70 mph
- **Current Movement:** NW at 13 mph

This general motion is expected to continue over the next couple of days followed by a turn toward the north on Thursday. Leslie should gradually weaken during the next several days.

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





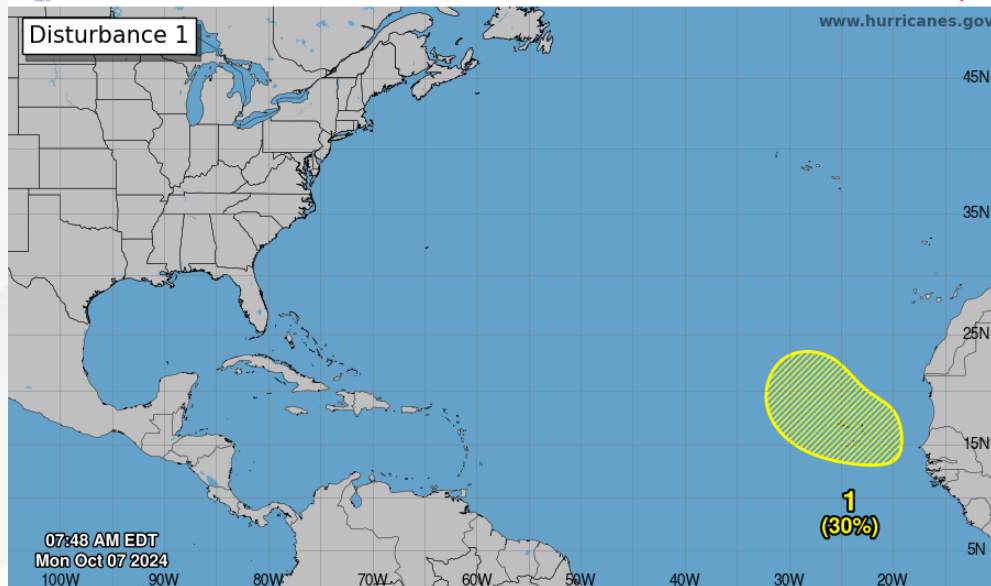
Tropical Weather Outlook

Disturbance 1 – Southwestern Atlantic



Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Seven-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: ✕ < 40% ✕ 40-60% ✕ > 60%
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: ○ Depression ○ Storm ○ Hurricane
○ Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants



20%

48 Hour Formation



30%

7 Day Formation

A broad area of low pressure is near the northern Bahamas with disorganized shower and thunderstorm activity. Some development of this system is possible during the next day or so while the low moves northeastward to east-northeastward around 15 mph. Upper-level winds are likely to increase later in the week, which should limit further development.

This system poses no direct threat to Florida.

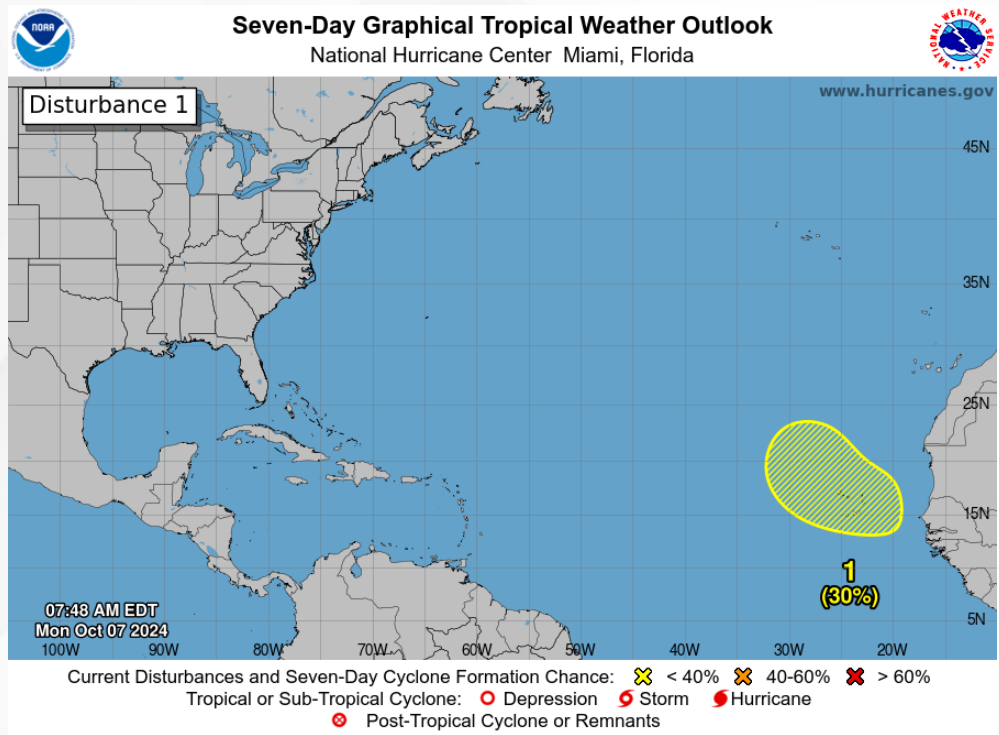
Chance of development through 48 hours... **low...20%**

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



Tropical Weather Outlook

Disturbance 2 – Eastern Tropical Atlantic



Near 0%

48 Hour Formation



20%

7 Day Formation

A tropical wave is expected to move off the west coast of Africa in a couple of days. Afterward, environmental conditions appear only marginally favorable for some limited development of this system while it moves westward or west-northwestward across the eastern tropical Atlantic, moving near the Cabo Verde Islands on Thursday or early Friday.

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...20%**



Summary

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Major Hurricane Milton:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Milton is located about 520 miles southwest of Tampa, Florida and moving east-northeastward at 9 mph.
- A turn toward the northeast with an increased in forward speed is expected to begin later today and continue through Thursday.
- On the forecast track, the center of Milton will move across the eastern Gulf of Mexico and approach the west-central coast of Florida on Wednesday night and move east-northeastward across central Florida through Thursday.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 150 mph with higher gusts making Milton an extremely dangerous category 4 hurricane.
- While fluctuations in intensity are expected, Milton is forecast to remain an extremely dangerous hurricane through landfall.
 - Devastating hurricane-force winds are expected long portions of the west coast of Florida.
 - Milton is forecast to remain a hurricane as it crosses the Florida Peninsula, with life-threatening hurricane-force wind especially in gusts, are expected to spread inland across the Peninsula.
 - Preparations to protect life and property, and to be ready for long-duration power outages, should be complete tonight.
 - Milton's wind field is expected to expand as it approaches Florida. The official forecast shows the hurricane and tropical storm-force winds roughly doubling in size by the time it makes landfall.
- Milton has the potential to be one of the most destructive hurricanes on record for West-Central Florida.

Tropical Storm Leslie:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Leslie is located about 1435 miles west-northwest of the Southernmost Cabo Verde Islands and moving northwestward at 13 mph.
- This general motion is expected today, followed by a turn to the north late Wednesday and to the northeast by Friday.
- Maximum sustained winds remain near 70 mph with higher gusts.
- Little significant chance in strength is forecast during the next 48 hours.
- *Leslie poses no direct threat to Florida through the next 10 days, at least.*

Southwestern Atlantic:

- A broad area of low pressure is near the northern Bahamas with disorganized shower and thunderstorm activity.
- Some development of this system is possible during the next day or so while the low moves northeastward to east-northeastward around 15 mph.
- Upper-level winds are likely to increased later in the week, which should limit further development.
- The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is outlooking a **low (20%) chance** for development through the next 48 hours, and a **low (20%) chance** for development through the next 7 days.
- *This system poses no direct threat to Florida.*

East Tropical Atlantic:

- A tropical wave is expected to move off the west coast of Africa in a couple of days.
- Afterward, environmental conditions appear only marginally favorable for some limited development of this system while it moves westward or west-northwestward across the eastern tropical Atlantic, moving near the Cabo Verde Islands on Thursday or early Friday.
- The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is outlooking a **low (near 0%) chance** for development through the next 48 hours, and a **low (20%) chance** for development through the next 7 days.
- *This system poses no direct threat to Florida through the next 10 days, at least.*

The next briefing packet will be issued on Tuesday evening. 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:** St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Lake, Seminole, Brevard, Orange, Sumter, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Osceola, Indian River, Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, DeSoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee
- **Tropical Storm Warnings** are in effect for the following counties: Coastal Franklin, Coastal Wakulla, Coastal Jefferson, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie, Gilchrist, Columbia, Alachua, Union, Bradford, Clay, Nassau, Duval, Clay, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Glades, Palm Beach, Hendry, Collier, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe (Florida Keys & Dry Tortugas)
- **Hurricane Watches** are in effect for the following counties: Nassau, Duval, Clay, Okeechobee, Glades, Hendry, Collier, Dry Tortugas
- **Tropical Storm Watches** are in effect for the following counties: Inland Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, Eastern Columbia, Baker, Union, Bradford, Eastern Alachua,
- **Storm Surge Warnings** are in effect for:
 - Flamingo (Mainland Monroe) northward to the Suwannee River (Levy/Dixie County Line), including Charlotte Harbor and Tampa Bay
 - Port Canaveral (Brevard County) northward to the mouth of the St. Mary's River, including the St. Johns River (Nassau County)
- Storm Surge Watches are in effect for:
 - South of Port Canaveral (Brevard County) to Sebastian Inlet (St. Lucie/Indian River County Line)
- **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.*

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Summary

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Florida Outlook Cont.:

- 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 5-12”** with locally higher totals **in excess of 18”** are possible across portions of the Peninsula.
 - This rainfall brings the risk for life-threatening flash, urban and areal flooding along with moderate to major riverine flooding.
 - 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.
 - The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** throughout most of the Peninsula and towards Northeast Florida today with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending into southern portions of the Suwannee Valley.
 - **A rare High Risk (level 4 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked along the I-4 corridor and northward through the Nature Coast for Wednesday as Milton approaches the west coast of Florida and moves onshore. A **Moderate Risk (level 3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** spreads across much of North and Central Florida Wednesday with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** extending into portions of the Northwestern Peninsula and into South Florida.
 - A **Slight to Moderate Risk (level 2-3 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is maintained north of Lake Okeechobee through Central Florida and into Northeast Florida Thursday as Milton makes its way off the Florida East Coast.
 - **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**.
 - Numerous **River Flood Warnings** have been issued as 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.
 - Heavy rainfall across the Florida Peninsula through Thursday brings the risk for life-threatening flash and urban flooding along with moderate to major riverine flooding, especially in areas where coastal and inland combine to increase the overall flood threat.
- 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.*
 - A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** is maintained across South Florida and along lower portions of the Central-East Coast Thursday as trailing outer bands may continue to move through as Milton moves off the East Coast of Florida.

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



Tropical Update

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State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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