

TROPICAL UPDATE

9 AM EDT

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Hurricane Lee, Tropical Storm Maria &

Caribbean Disturbance (40%)

This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an active weather event please contact your County Emergency Management or Public Safety Office, local National Weather Service forecast office or visit the National Hurricane Center website at www.nhc.noaa.gov.

Atlantic Basin Satellite Image





Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida





Steering Currents

Maria

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Q,

Maria and Lee will begin accelerating to the northeast today. The Caribbean disturbance (CD) will move slowly northward between two high pressure areas over the next couple of days.

50 W

КТS 100

70

50

30

20 15

10 5

Current Wind Shear (Shaded) and Shear Tendency (Lines)



Shear Tendency (KTS) Over Past 24 Hours

GOES-EAST 24 HOUR WIND SHEAR TENDENCY PRODUCT

Increasing – T 0900 UTC

28SEP17

SEP17 UW-

Decreasing

UW-CIMSS

MeIDAS

Hurricane Lee 5 AM EDT Thu Sep 28 2017 Position 32.5 N 57.2 W Maximum Winds 110 mph Gusts 130 mph Movement N at 9 mph Minimum Pressure 966 mb (28.52 in ches)

Blue Marble basemap imagery courtesy NASA

Satellite 12:27 PM UTC 8:27 AM EDT

wunderground.com



Tropical Storm Maria 5 AMEDT Thu Sep 28 2017 Position 36.8 N 71.0 W Maximum Winds 70 mph Gusts 85 mph Movement ENE at 8 mph Minimum Pressure 982/mb (28.99 inches)

Blue Marble basemap Imagery Courtesy NASA

Satellite 12:27 PM UTC 8:27 AM EDT

wunderground.com



Caribbean Satellite Image

12:00 28-SEP-2017 GMT Copyright © 1998-2017 WSI Corporation http://www.wsi.com



Forecast Rainfall - Next 3 Days



Locally heavy rainfall possible across the South Florida and Florida Keys. Locally heavier amounts up to 4" possible over next 48-72 hours.

Forecast Wave Height – Saturday & Sunday



Predominant Daytime Weather -Thursday



<u>Sky</u>: Mostly Sunny (North/Central FL) Partly/Mostly Cloudy (South FL) Light and variable wind

<u>Rain</u>: 50-70% South FL/Keys, 10-30% southern Central Florida

High Temperatures: Upper 80s-Mid 90s Heat Index 98-103°

<u>Hazards:</u> Heat Lightning

Gusty Winds Heavy Downpours

Predominant Nighttime Weather



<u>Sky</u>: Mostly Clear (North/Central FL) Mostly Cloudy (South FL) Light and variable wind

Rain: 10-30% mainland South FL 40% Keys

Low Temperatures: Upper 60s-Mid 70s (North) Mid to upper 70s (Central/South) Upper 70s/Low 80s (Keys)

<u>Hazards:</u> Occasional lightning Heavy Downpours

Summary

- At 5am EDT Thursday, Hurricane Lee was located about 445 miles east of Bermuda and moving north at 9 mph.
- A turn to the north-northeast is expected today along with an increase in forward speed, sending the storm into the colder waters of the North Atlantic.
- After briefly becoming a major hurricane yesterday, maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 110 mph, making Lee a strong category 2 hurricane. Additional weakening is expected and Lee should dissipate on Saturday.
- At 11am EDT Wednesday, Maria strengthened back into a hurricane .
- At 5am EDT Thursday, Maria was downgraded again to a tropical storm with maximum sustained winds near 70 mph.
- Tropical Storm Maria is located about 265 miles east of the North Carolina/Virginia border, or about 750 miles northeast of Jacksonville.
- Maria is moving toward the east-northeast near 8 mph, and the storm is expected to accelerate eastward through tonight with an even faster movement expected on Friday and Saturday before becoming post-tropical on Sunday.
- Elsewhere, a large area of showers and storms in the northwestern Caribbean Sea and across Cuba is associated with a broad surface trough interacting with an upper-level low.
- This disturbance is expected to move northward over the next few days, and a weak area of low pressure is likely to form from this weather system.
- Environmental conditions appear conducive for development before upper-level winds become less favorable early next week and there is a 40% (medium) chance of tropical cyclone formation near the East Coast of Florida this weekend.
- Computer models have not been run on this system, both global models suggest development of a low off the East-Central or Northeast Florida coast and then move west into the Peninsula while dissipating due to high wind shear.
- Significant development into a strong tropical system is not expected.

Florida Outlook

- Ocean swells from Maria are beginning to diminish along the Florida Coast and Lee does not pose a threat to Florida.
- Regardless of development, the Caribbean disturbance is likely to produce locally heavy rainfall over portions of southern Florida and the Florida Keys during the next several days.
- Heavy rainfall will also be possible along the entire Florida East Coast beginning Saturday and continuing through at least Tuesday.
- In addition, some breezy winds and gusts to 30mph are possible Friday-Sunday, especially near the immediate East Coast.
- These strong onshore winds will have the potential to produce elevated tides (especially along St. Johns River) and high waves that could result in additional coastal erosion.

Another briefing packet will be issued Thursday afternoon. For more information, visit the NHC website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



TROPICAL UPDATE

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Florida Division of Emergency Management

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