

Unit 4: Making Informed Decisions

Unit Objectives



Unit Objectives

At the end of Unit 4, participants will be able to:

- Identify the components of the Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES).
- Explain clearance times and their use.
- Identify the capabilities of HURREVAC.
- Apply NHP products and services for planning and operational purposes.

What Have We Learned Today?





What Are Best Practices?





It's Not the Plan. It's the Process.

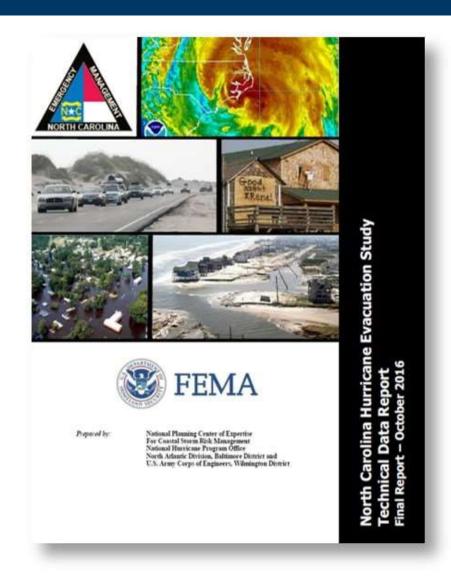


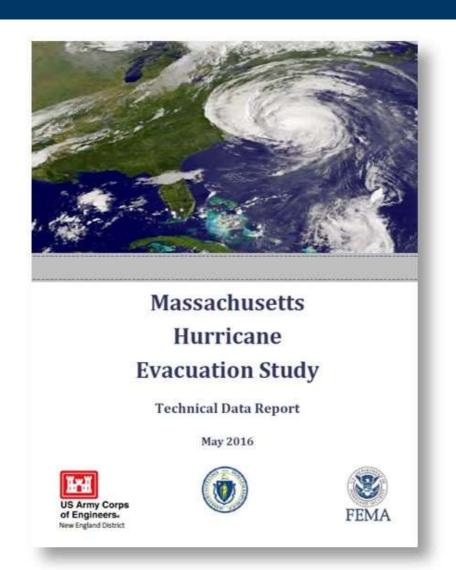
- **Step 1** Form a Collaborative Planning Team.
- **Step 2** Understand the Situation.
- **Step 3**Determine Goals and Objectives.
- **Step 4** Plan Development.
- **Step 5** Plan Preparation, Review & Approval.
- **Step 6**Plan Implementation & Maintenance.



Better Information – HES

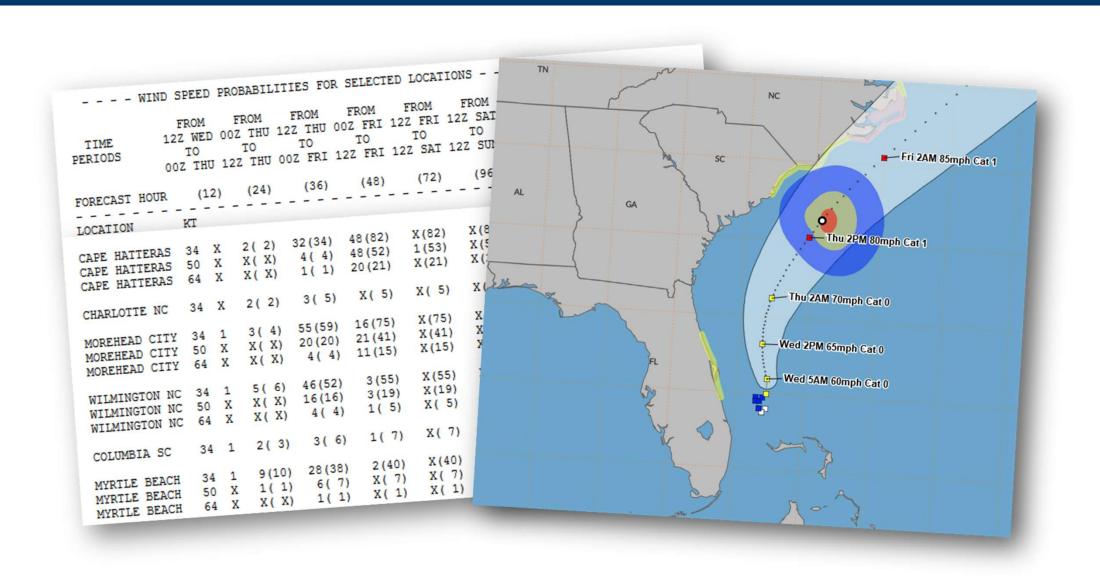






Right Tools, Time, and Reason





The Process: Study. Plan. Execute.





- Identify Hazards
- Determine Vulnerability
- Evacuation Timing

Plan

- Inform Hazards and Risk
- Develop Timelines
- Identify Triggers



- Monitor Threat
- Assess Risk
- Take Action

The Process: Study



Study

- Identify Hazards
- Determine Vulnerability
- Evacuation Timing

Plan

- Inform Hazards and Risk
- Develop Timelines
- Identify Triggers

Execute

- Monitor Threat
- Assess Risk
- Take Action

What Is Useful Information?



"We're not that much smarter than we used to be, even though we have *much more* information.

...that means the real skill now is learning how to pick out the useful information..."

The Signal and the Noise - Nate Silver

How Do the Hazards Affect You?



Resources

- Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES)
- **THIRA** Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
- Flood Risk Maps
- Hazus Modeling
- Historical Incidents
- Local Knowledge



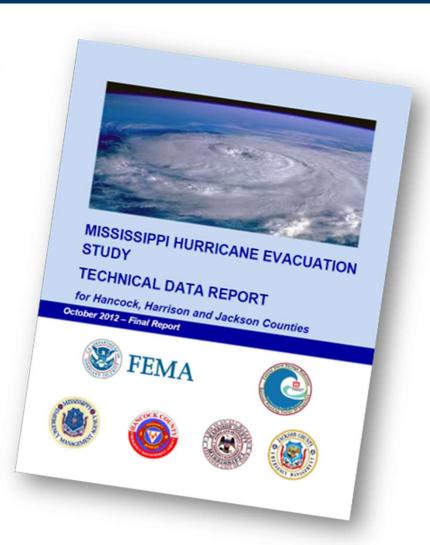
HES Components



Evacuation Study Components

- **Hazard Analysis**What will be wet and what stays dry?
- **Vulnerability Analysis**Who/what will be affected in your community?
- **Behavioral Analysis**What is the Public thinking?
- **Shelter Analysis** What are your shelter needs?
- Transportation Analysis

 How long does it take to evacuate?



Frequently Asked Questions 1



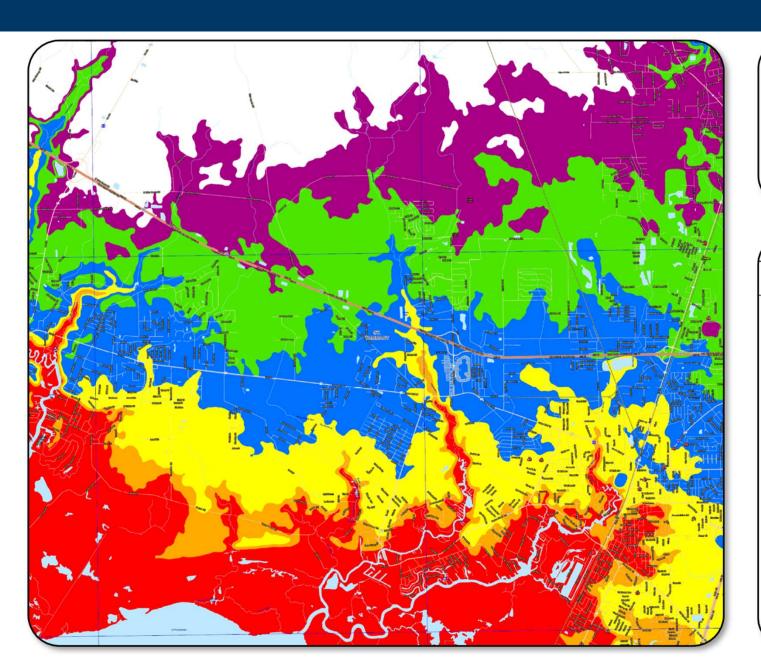
FAQs

- What will be wet? Dry?
- How high will the water get?
- How far inland?

Hazard Analysis

What's Wet and What's Dry?



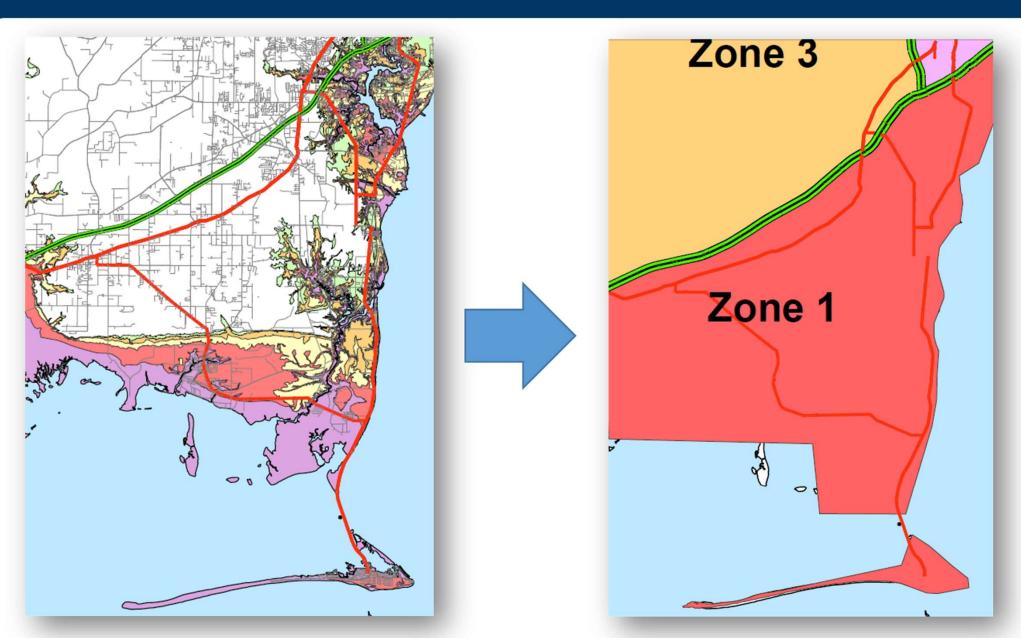


AREAS OF POSSIBLE FLOODING Tropical Storms and Category 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 Hurricanes Category 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 Hurricanes Category 2, 3, 4, and 5 Hurricanes Category 3, 4, and 5 Hurricanes Category 4 and 5 Hurricanes Category 5 Hurricanes



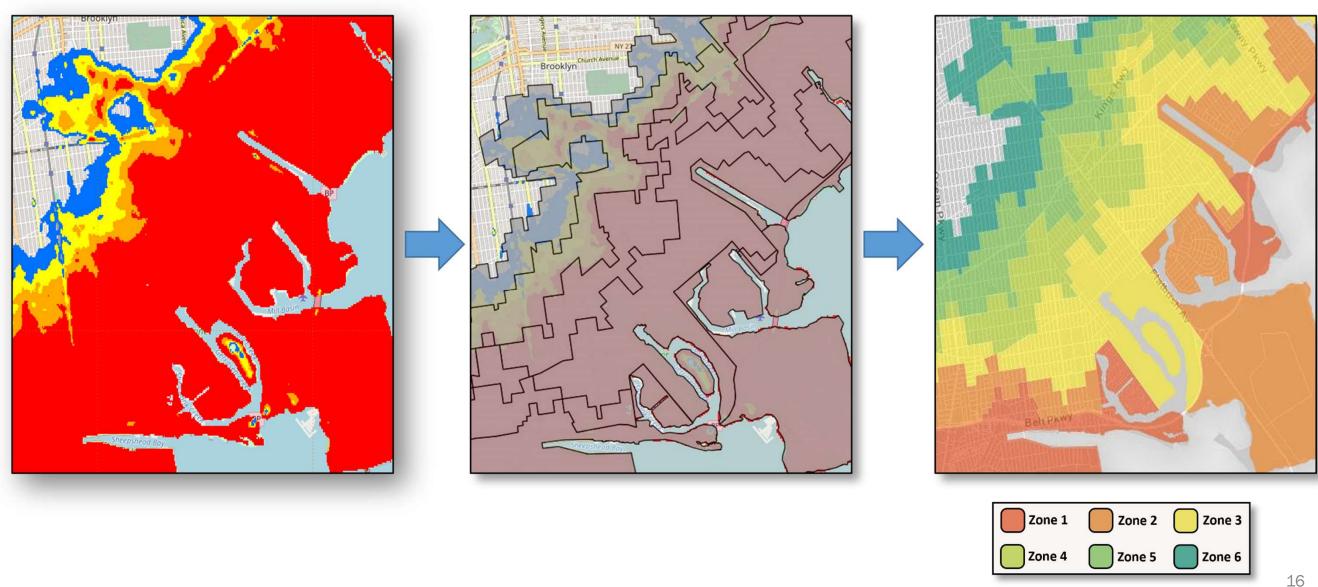
Building Evacuation Zones





Building Evacuation Zones 2





Storm Surge Heights by Direction

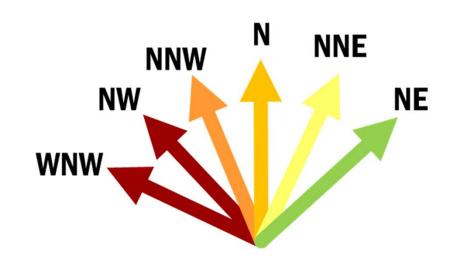


Storm Surge Heights

Directional MEOW Atlas

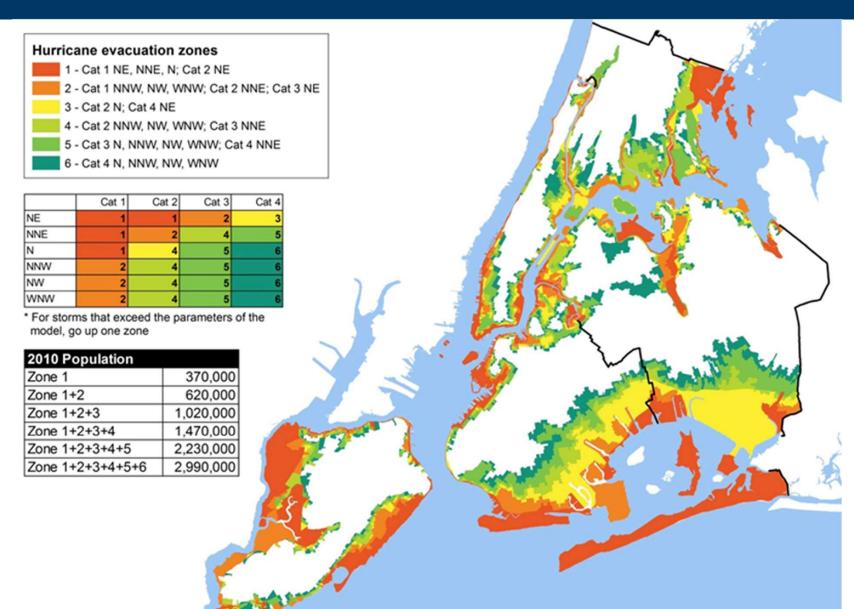
The direction of approach can be as important as the storm intensity

	WNW	NW	NNW	N	NNE	NE
Category 1	12.6	12.1	10.7	8.8	6.6	5
Category 2	20.9	20	20.1	16.5	11.4	8.1
Category 3	26.6	27.6	27.4	23.4	17	11.3
Category 4	32.4	33.9	33.9	30.6	21.7	14.6



NYC Evacuation Zones





Frequently Asked Questions 2



FAQs

- Who will be affected?
- What critical facilities are at risk?

Vulnerability Analysis

Who's at Risk from Storm Surge?



Hancock County, MS

County Surge Area	Permanent Residential Structures	Non-Permanent Residential Structures	Total Residential Structures	Commercial Structures	Industrial Structures	Tourist Structures
Category 1	2,281	0	2,281	89	0	1
Category 2	5,007	253	5,330	209	4	2
Category 3	9,059	338	9,397	520	7	9
Category 4	9,480	380	9,860	525	7	9
Category 5	10,020	437	10,457	544	7	9
Non-Surge Area	5,518	682	6,200	99	0	1

Hancock County, MS

Table 3-7: Vulnerable Structures by Storm Surge Area
Mississippi Hurricane Evacuation Study – Technical Data Report – 2012

What Facilities Are at Risk?



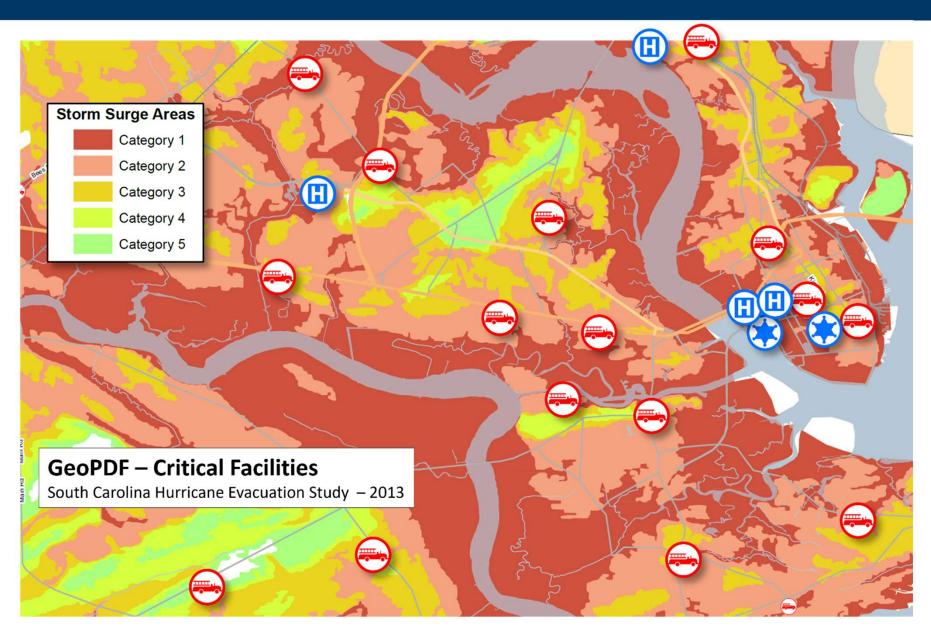
Hancock County, MS

Facility Type	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	None
Casino	2	-	-	-	-	-
Dam	-	-	-	3	-	19
EOC	-	-	-	-	1	-
Fire	3	2	4	1	1	4
Hazmat	-	4	-	-	-	1
Hospital	-	-	1	-	-	-
Hotels	2	2	5	-	-	1
Police	-	-	4	-	-	-
School	1	3	6	1	-	1
Senior Center	-	-	1	-	-	-
Shelter	-	-	-	-	-	5
TOTAL	7	12	25	6	2	32

Table 3-9: Critical Facilities Summary Table

What Facilities Are at Risk (GIS)?





Frequently Asked Questions 3



FAQs

- Will the public evacuate?
- Where will they go? How? When?
- Do they understand the threat?

Behavioral Analysis

What Are People Thinking?



Survey Results

- Serious under-concern about storm surge
- Evacuation intent often overstated
- Evacuation intent highest for:
 - Major hurricanes
 - Mandatory/Ordered evacuations
 - Households with children
 - People with recent real hurricane experience
- Often get 'False Experience' effect

Will the Public Evacuate?



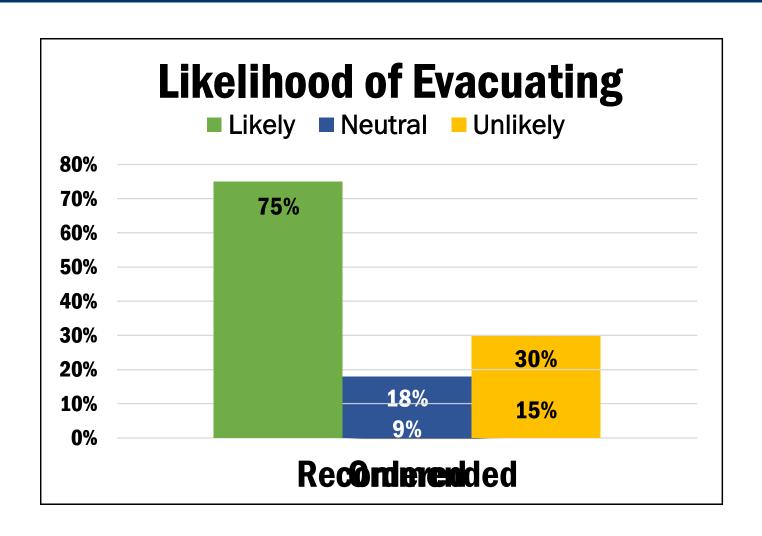
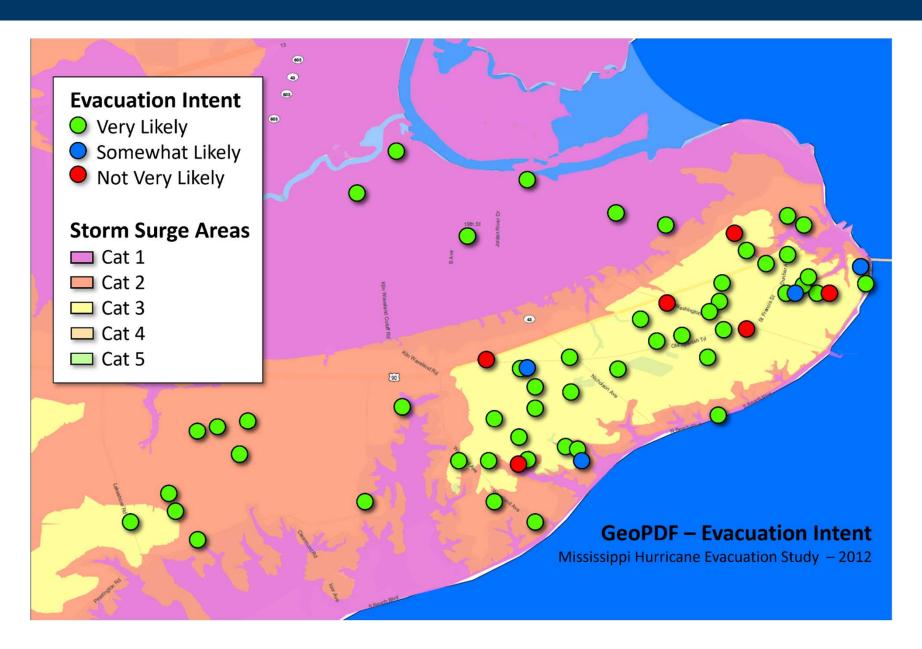


Figure 4-7: Cat 1-2 Hurricane and Likelihood of Leaving if Recommended or Ordered

Where Should I Focus My Outreach?





Bottom Line



Why Do People Evacuate?

- They understand their vulnerability/risk
- They were told to evacuate

Frequently Asked Questions 4



FAQs

- Who will seek public shelter?
- How many shelter spaces are needed?
- In county? Out-of-county?

Shelter Analysis

Number of Shelter Spaces Needed?



Shelter Analysis Results

- **Shelter Locations** with respect to Evacuation Zones and Storm Surge flood risk areas
- Potential Demand
- Identification of Deficits
- Shelter Usage Rates for planning purposes
 - 3% to 8% (Coastal)
 - 10% (Inland)

What's Available?



Baldwin County, AL

Evacuation Scenario	Evacuating Population LOW OCCUPANCY	Evacuating Population HIGH OCCUPANCY	Shelter Demand LOW OCCUPANCY	Shelter Demand HIGH OCCUPANCY	Sheltering Capacity	Surplus/ Deficit LOW OCCUPANCY	Surplus/ Deficit HIGH OCCUPANCY
Category 1	60,660	101,821	1,576	1,990	8,239	6,663	6,249
Category 2	103,871	151,069	2,909	3,384	7,469	4,560	4,085
Category 3	113,773	162,005	3,567	4,052	7,469	3,902	3,417
Category 4	184,748	234,032	8,528	9,025	2,818	-5,710	-6,207
Category 5	211,125	260,502	10,898	11,295	0	-10,898	-11,395

Table 5-4: Evacuating Population and Public Sheltering Demand – Baldwin County

Alabama Hurricane Evacuation Study - Technical Data Report - 2012

Resources for Evacuating Populations



Table 6: Population Seeking Shelter and Capacity in Zone 1

Puerto Rico Hurricane Evacuation Study – Shelter Analysis Report – 2015

L	Shelter Demand	Potential Evacuees	Regular Capacity 7,953 Additional Needed	Emergency Capacity 15,906 Additional Needed	Assessment of Capacity
	1%	1,533	0	0	Regular Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	2%	3,065	0	0	Regular Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	3%	4,598	0	0	Regular Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	4%	6,131	0	0	Regular Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	5%	7,633	0	0	Regular Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	6%	9,196	1,243	0	Emergency Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	7%	10,728	2,775	0	Emergency Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	8%	12,261	4,308	0	Emergency Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	9%	13,794	5,841	0	Emergency Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	10%	15,326	7,373	0	Emergency Shelter Capacity Can Support Demand
	13%	19,924	11,971	4,018	Over Capacity
	15%	22,990	15,037	7,084	Over Capacity
	20%	30,653	22,700	14,747	Over Capacity

Frequently Asked Questions 5



FAQs

- Where will traffic back up?
- What is the road capacity?
- How long will it take to evacuate?

Transportation Analysis

How Long Will It Take to Evacuate?



Traffic Model Inputs

- Demographics
- Behavioral Assumptions
- Evacuation Routes
- Roadway Capacities
- Travel Destinations
- Evacuation Scenarios



Where Will the Traffic Problems Be?

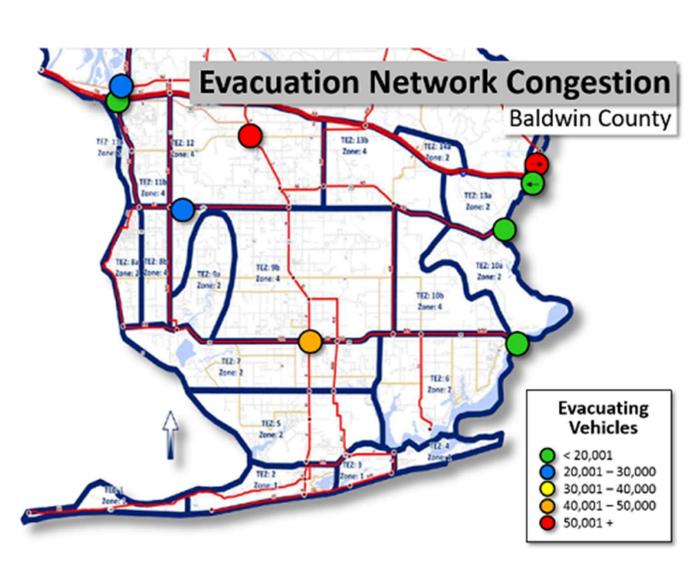


Transportation Analysis

- Traffic Patterns
 - Bottlenecks
 - Evacuating Vehicles

Clearance Times

- Response Rate
- Seasonal Population
- Evacuation Scenarios one-way, multi-state, etc.

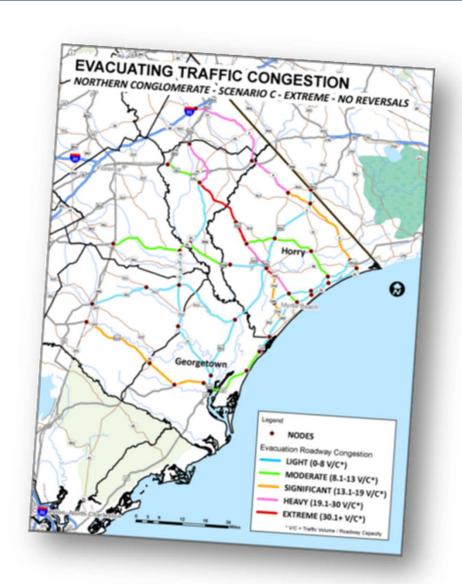


Modeled on the Road Network



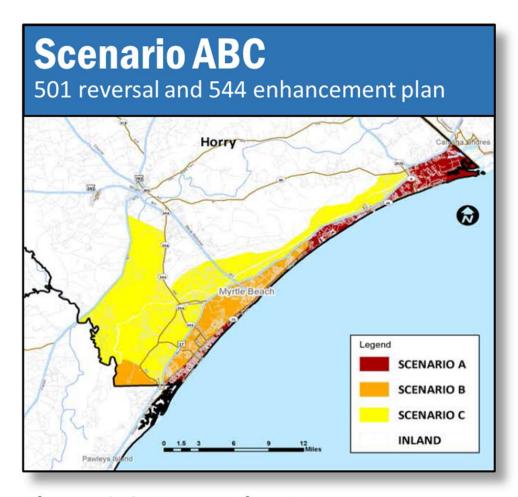
Clearance Times

- Time for the evacuating population to reach a point of safety
 - First evacuating vehicle enters the road network
 - Last vehicle reaches an assumed point of safety
 - Includes travel time and waiting in congestion
 - Doesn't relate to any one particular vehicle
 - Driven by bottlenecks



How Long Should Evacuation Take?





Horry County, SC

Scenario ABC (501 Reversal and 544 enhancement plan)

Response	Low Occupancy	Med Occupancy	High Occupancy	Extreme Occupancy
SLOW	22	26	29	31
MEDIUM	20	24	27	29
FAST	19	23	26	28
IMMEDIATE	18	22	25	27

Table 6-44: Evacuation Clearance Times – Scenario ABC

South Carolina Hurricane Evacuation Study – Technical Data Report – 2013

Figure 6-6: Evacuation Zones

South Carolina Hurricane Evacuation Study – Technical Data Report – 2013

The Process: Plan



Study

- Identify Hazards
- Determine Vulnerability
- Evacuation Timing

Plan

- Inform Hazards and Risk
- Develop Timelines
- Identify Triggers



- Monitor Threat
- Assess Risk
 - Take Action

Trust the Process



- **Step 1** Form a Collaborative Planning Team.
- **Step 2** Understand the Situation.
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- **Step 4** Plan Development.
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Frequently Asked Questions 6



FAQs

- What forces us to react?
- What is acceptable risk?
- What assumptions can I make?

Identify Hazard Triggers

What Forces You to Act?



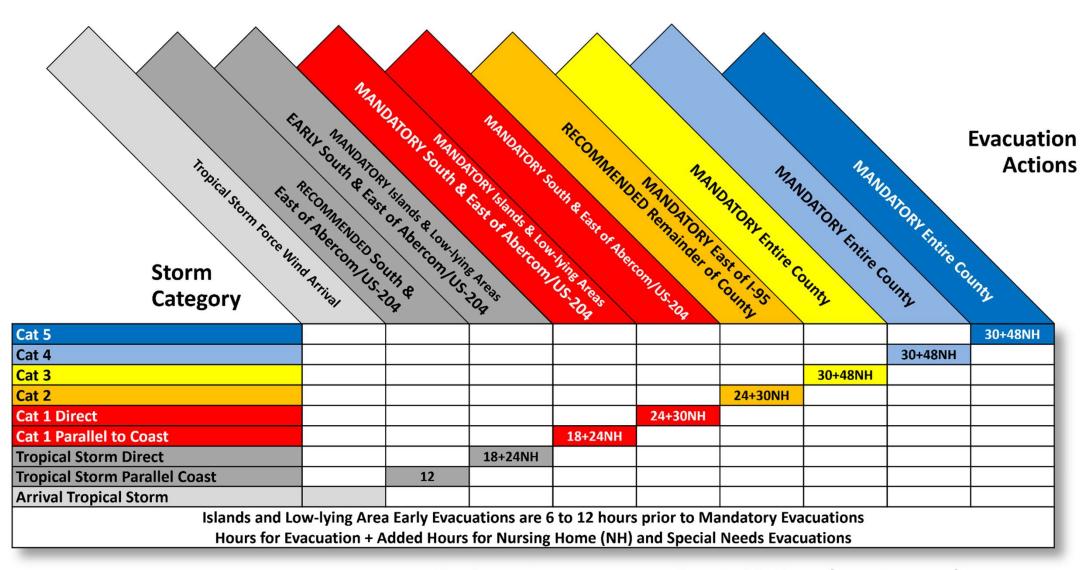
Lane Reversal Decision Factors

Decision Factor	Indicator
The storm's current/projected intensity and the public perception of the threat to their safety.	Category 3 or greater storm portrayed through the media as a significant threat will probably require the use of lane reversal.
Tourism occupancy: High tourist occupancy greatly increases evacuating population and thereby increases traffic congestion.	For a Category 1 or 2 storms, monitor traffic flow and have lane reversal ready.
	A Category 3 or greater storm will indicate the need for reversal.
	(Note: Beaufort County <u>requires</u> Highway 278 reversal during tourist season at 85% tourist occupancy)

South Carolina Lane Reversal Factors

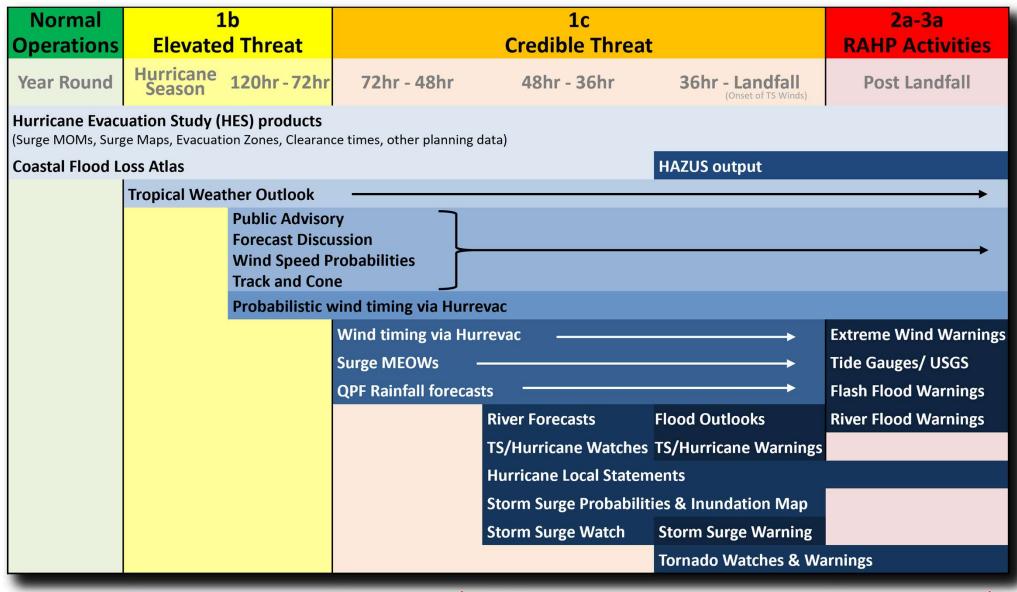
Storm Category vs. Evac Actions





When is Key Info Available?





Frequently Asked Questions 7



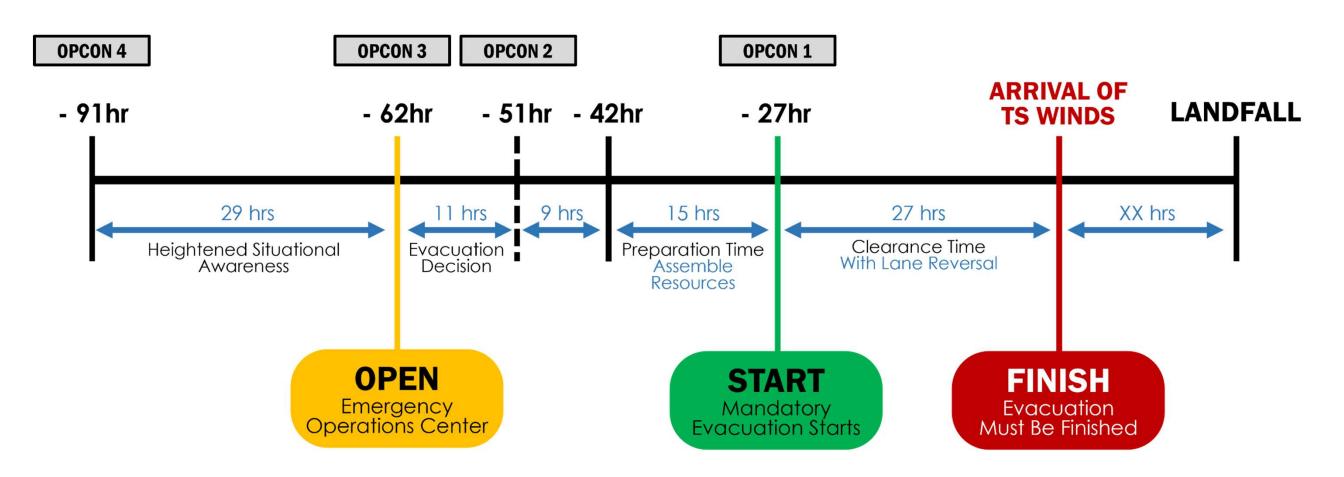
FAQs

- When do we open shelters?
- When do we need to deploy?
- How do we stay synchronized?

Decision Timelines

Evacuation Scenario Decision Timeline





Horry County Evacuation Timeline for ABC Scenario

Hurricane Readiness Checklist



Hurricane Preparedness – prior to June 1	PRIORITY LEVEL	PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE	STATUS OF TASK	DATE/TIME COMPLETED
Hurricane Planning				
Update local hurricane operation, evacuation plans and resource files				
Revise Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)				
Review local emergency management ordinances and update				
Test HURREVAC and/or other hurricane tracking software				
Review Stafford Act Policies with State Emergency Management				
Determine evacuation decision making authority w/ line of succession				
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)				
Replenish supplies and check equipment				
Test communication lines				
Update activation plans and train staff				
Update HURREVAC to latest version				4

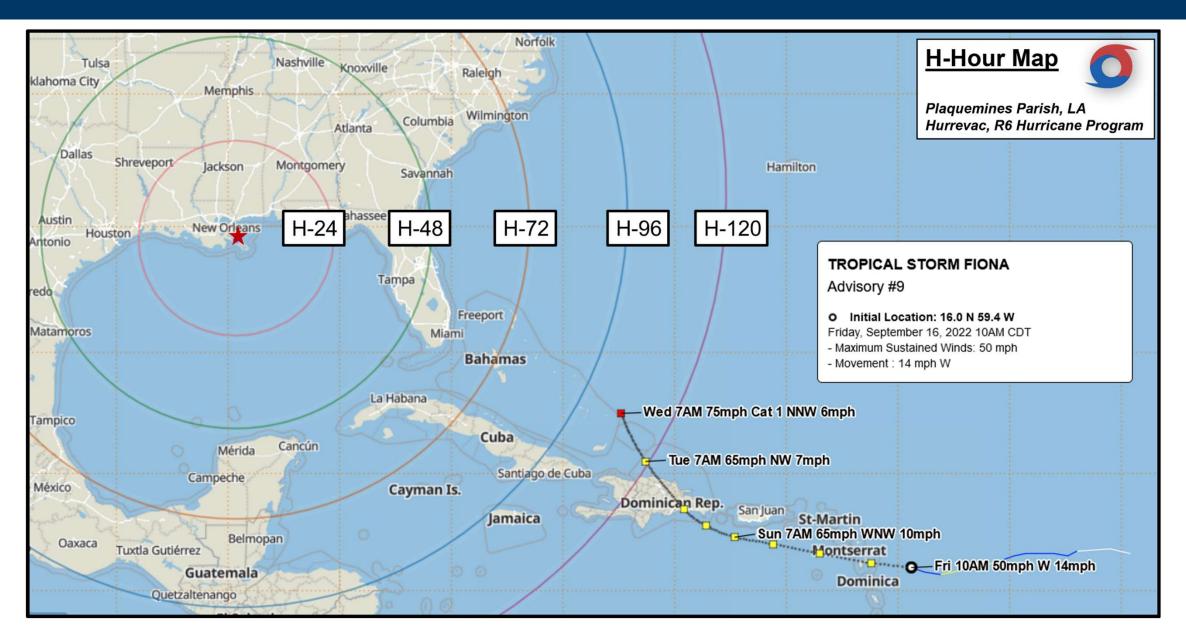
Hurricane Readiness Checklist 2



Storm Impacts Imminent (~36 hours) Hurricane Watches and Warnings Issued	PRIORITY LEVEL	PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE	STATUS OF TASK	DATE/TIME COMPLETED
Storm Watch				
Conference calls with NOAA local WFO/RFC/SPC				
Continue to monitor HURREVAC and other systems				
Monitor storm track and provide local government officials updates				
Anticipate the possible arrival of rainfall and tornados				
Monitor river stages and rainfall forecast				
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)				
Activate EOC (partial or full based on clearance times and threat)				
Request primary ESF support agencies provide EOC briefings				
Complete and distribute EOC situation reports, as applicable				
Prepare EOC facility- Mitigate for Winds, Water, etc.				

Time-Based Planning Assumptions





The Process: Execute



Study

- Identify Hazards
- Determine Vulnerability
- Evacuation Timing

Plan

- Inform Hazards and Risk
- Develop Timelines
- Identify Triggers

Execute

- Monitor Threat
- Assess Risk
- Take Action

Frequently Asked Questions 8



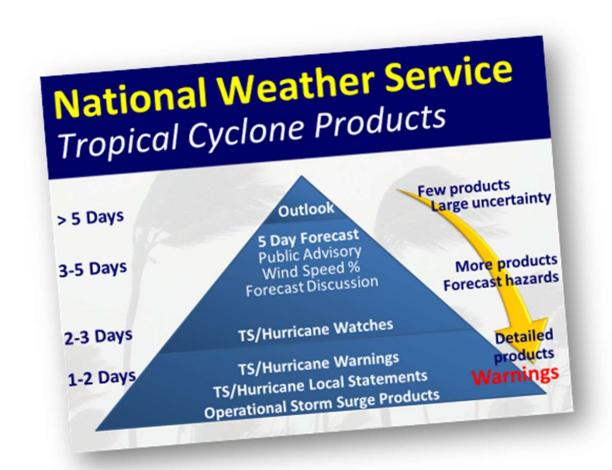
FAQs

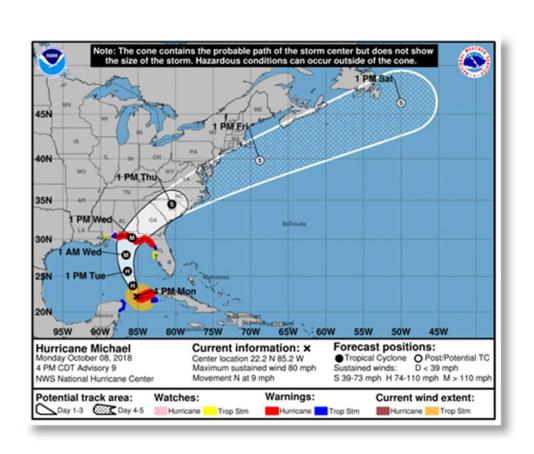
- What's the forecast?
- A threat to my community?
- When are hazards expected?

NHC Forecasts

What NHC Forecasts?

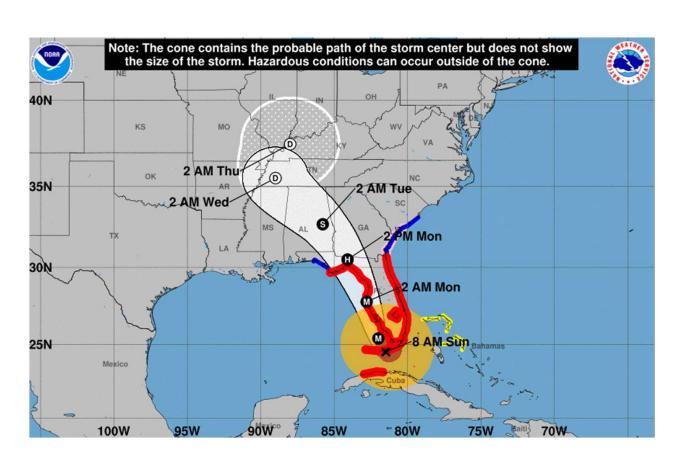


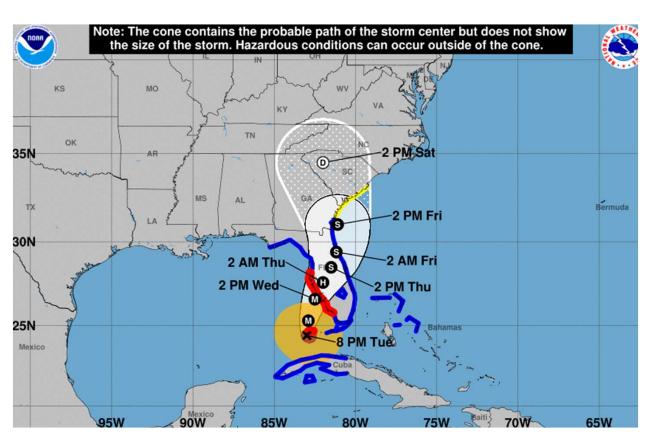




Storm Characteristics



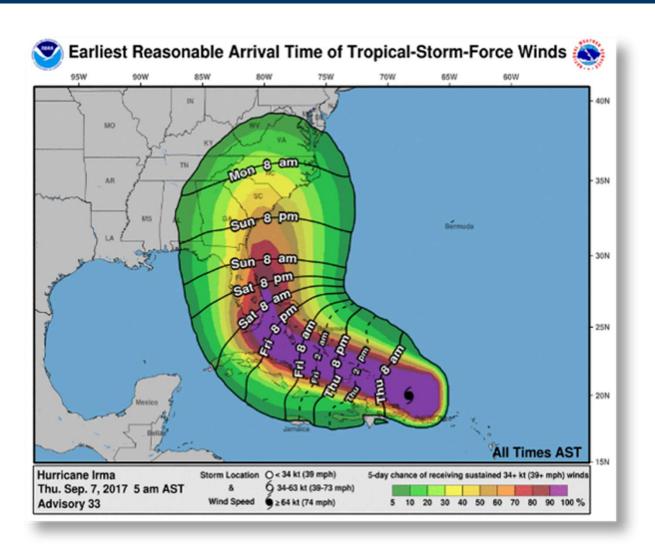




Where Is the Storm Going?

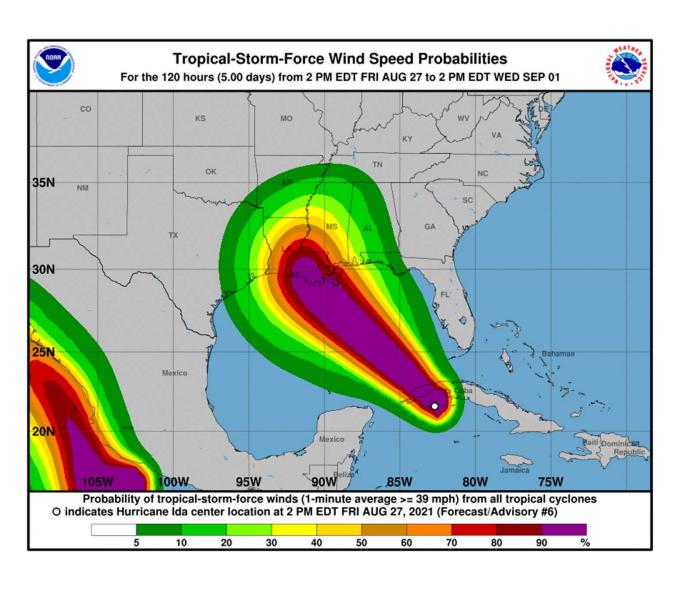


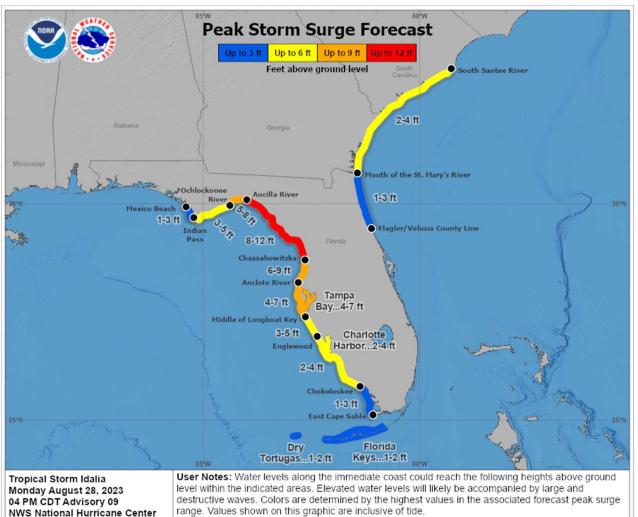
NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION								
TROPICAL STORM ISAAC WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES NUMBER 21 NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL092012 0900 UTC SUN AUG 26 2012								
WIND	SPEED	PROBABII	LITIES FO	OR SELEC	red Loca	ATIONS -		
PERIODS	ZZ WED TO	00Z THU TO	12Z THU TO	00Z FRI TO	FROM 12Z FRI TO 12Z SAT	12Z SAT TO	12Z SUN TO	
FORECAST HOUR	(12) KT	(24)	(36)	(48)	(72)	(96)	(120)	
PANAMA CITY FL PANAMA CITY FL PANAMA CITY FL	50 X	X (X)	1(1)	13(14)		2 (31)	1(32)	
PENSACOLA FL PENSACOLA FL PENSACOLA FL	34 X 50 X 64 X	X (X)	X(X)	32 (42) 6 (6) 1 (1)	28 (34)	5 (39)	1(40)	
MOBILE AL MOBILE AL MOBILE AL	34 X 50 X 64 X	X (X)	X(X)		35 (64) 22 (25) 8 (9)		1(34)	



Evaluate the Storm Threat







Frequently Asked Questions 9



FAQs

- What is the forecast?
- Evacuation start times?

HURREVAC

HURREVAC – Knowledge Check



Do you have a HURREVAC account?

- A. Yes, and I use it regularly.
- B. Yes, but I am unfamiliar with how to use it.
- C. I just registered for an account.
- D. I do not have an account.

HURREVAC 1



HURREVAC

- Hurricane tracking and decision support tool
 - Uses NHC forecast data
 - Calculates evacuation start times
- A resource for EMs during evacuations
 - Common forecast picture

Reports

- Wind timing
- Evacuation timing
- Storm summary



HURREVAC 2



HURREVAC

Web-based

- No downloads or software to install
- Use your computer, tablet, or phone
- Access your profile/preferences anywhere

SLOSH Display

- MOMs & MEOWs
- MEOW mixer

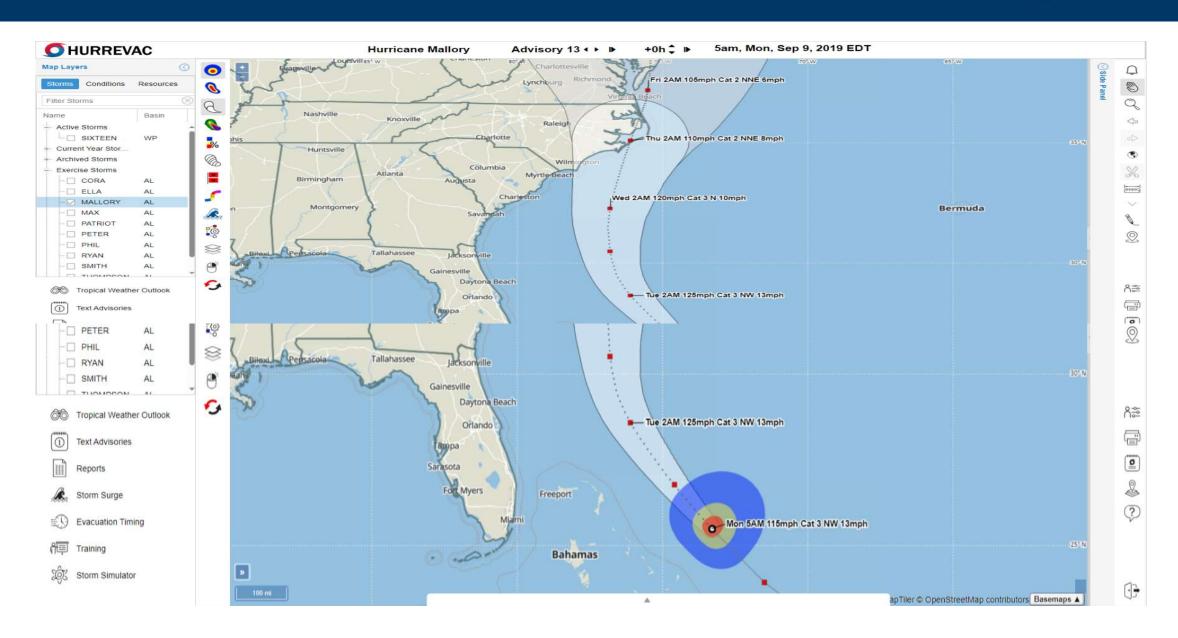
Register online

– https://register.HURREVAC.com/



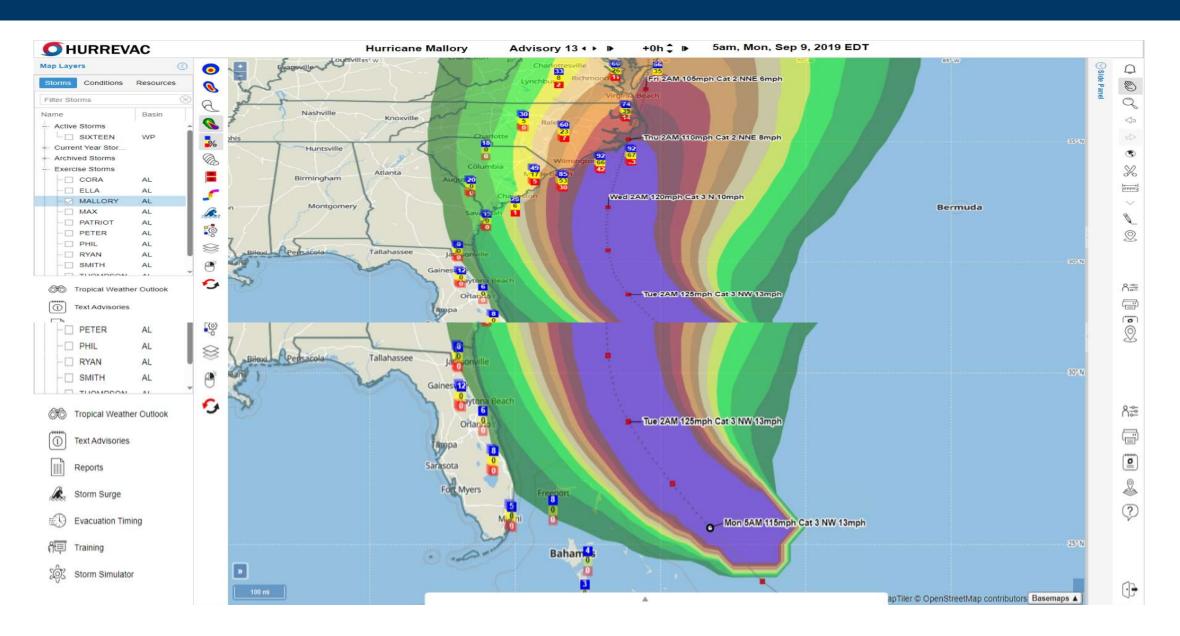
Forecast Track





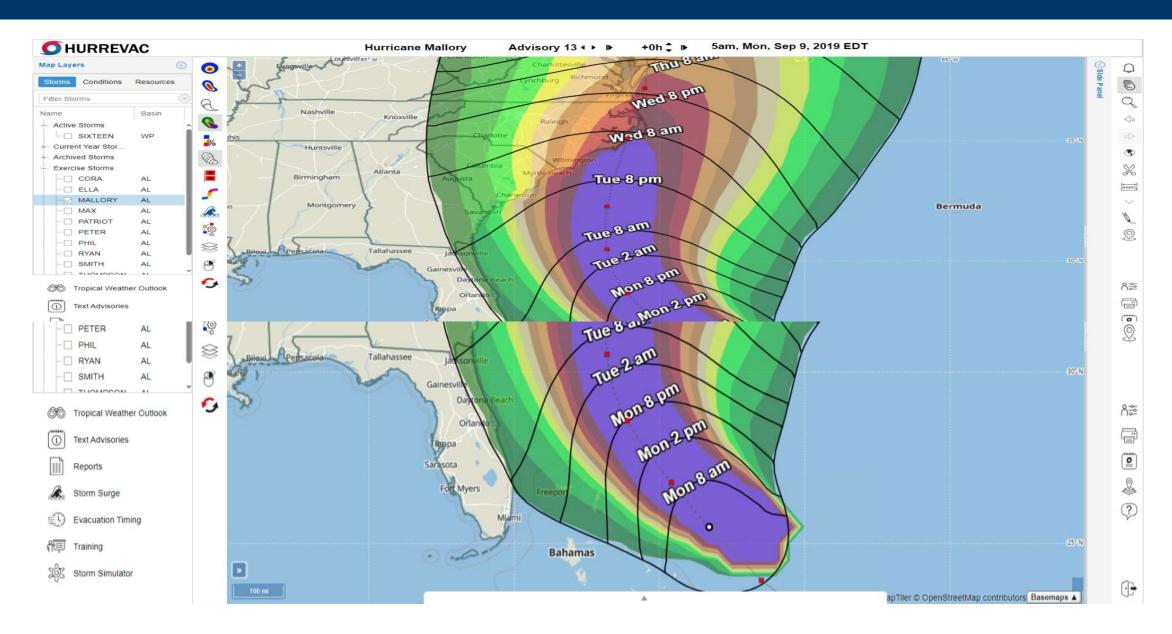
Wind Threat - Probabilities





Wind Threat - Time of Arrival





Wind Timing - Report



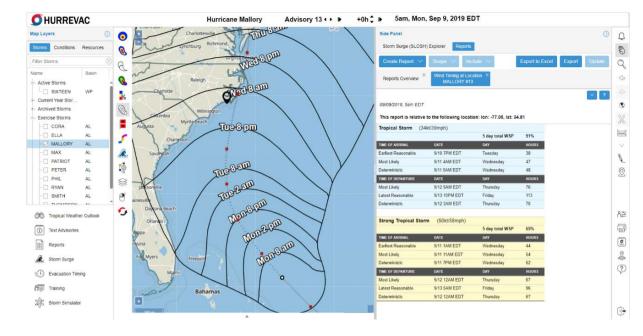
Reports Overview

Wind Timing at Location × MALLORY #13

09/09/2019, 5am EDT

This report is relative to the following location: Ion: -77.05, lat: 34.81

Tropical Storm	(34kt/39mph)		
		5 day total WSP	91%
TIME OF ARRIVAL	DATE	DAY	HOURS
Earliest Reasonable	9/10 7PM EDT	Tuesday	38
Most Likely	9/11 4AM EDT	Wednesday	47
Deterministic	9/11 5AM EDT	Wednesday	48
TIME OF DEPARTURE	DATE	DAY	HOURS
Most Likely	9/12 9AM EDT	Thursday	76
Latest Reasonable	9/13 10PM EDT	Friday	113
Deterministic	9/12 3AM EDT	Thursday	70



Wind Timing – All Affected Areas

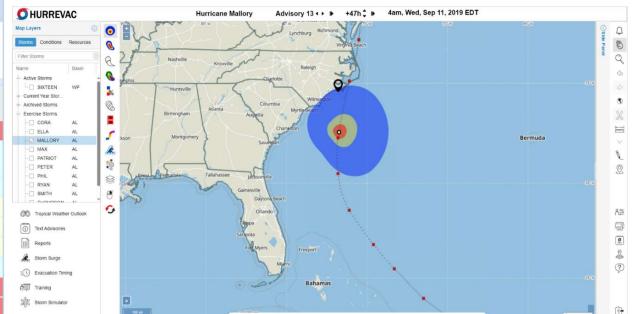


Wind Timing MALLORY #13

The purpose of the wind timing table is to show when specific wind thresholds are expected to be exceeded at a particular location.

Displaying data in NC for: Counties

							1
State	County	34kt Start	50kt Start	64kt Start	64kt End	50kt End	34kt End
NC	Carteret	09/11 3am	09/11 1pm	09/11 5pm	09/12 3am	09/12 3am	09/12 3am
NC	New Hanover	09/11 3am					09/12 3am
NC	Brunswick	09/11 3am					09/12 3am
NC	Onslow	09/11 4am	09/11 6pm			09/11 10pm	09/12 3am
NC	Jones	09/11 5am	09/11 7pm			09/12 12am	09/12 3am
NC	Craven	09/11 5am	09/11 5pm			09/12 3am	09/12 3am
NC	Pender	09/11 5am					09/12 3am
NC	Hyde	09/11 6am	09/11 4pm	09/11 9pm	09/12 3am	09/12 3am	09/12 3am
NC	Dare	09/11 6am	09/11 5pm	09/11 11pm	09/12 3am	09/12 3am	09/12 3am
NC	Pamlico	09/11 6am	09/11 6pm	09/12 12am	09/12 3am	09/12 3am	09/12 3am
NC	Beaufort	09/11 7am	09/11 8pm			09/12 3am	09/12 3am
NC	Duplin	09/11 8am					09/12 3am



Evacuation Start Times



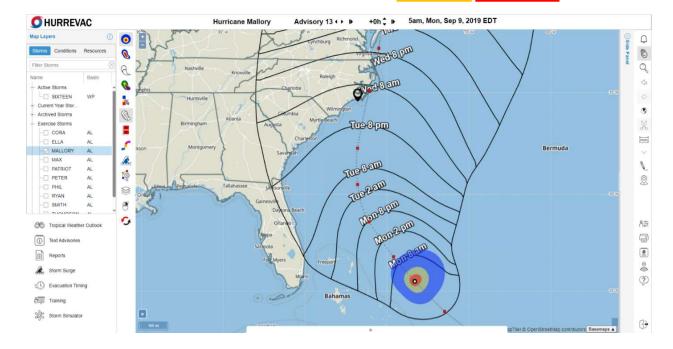
Evacuation Timing MALLORY #13

09/09/2019, 5:00 am

The purpose of the evacuations timing table is to show, for each location, when the onset of tropical-storm-force winds is expected and provide the earliest and latest times for making evacuation decisions based on the range of evacuation scenarios and settings that the user has selected.

This report uses your saved Evacuation Scenarios and Timeline actions.

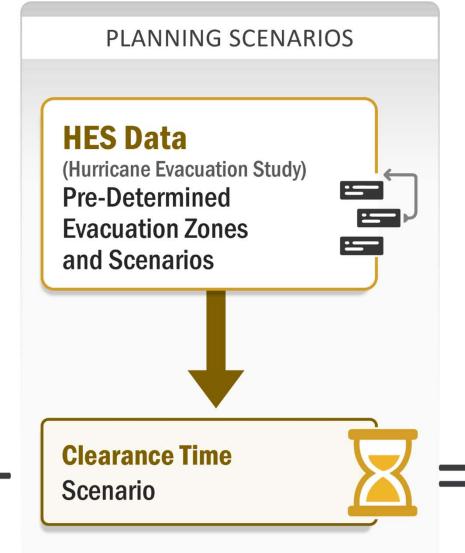
State	County	Scenario	Earliest-Reasonable TS Onset Time	Most-Likely TS Onset Time	Clearance Time	Earliest Evac Start Time	Latest Evac Start Time	TS WSP (%)
NC	Carteret	B/Slow/Worst/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	39 hrs	Mon 04 AM	Mon 01 PM	93
NC	Carteret	B/Mod/Med SP/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	35 hrs	Mon 08 AM	Mon 05 PM	93
NC	Carteret	B/Fast/High SP/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	34 hrs	Mon 09 AM	Mon 06 PM	93
NC	Carteret	B/Imm/Low SP/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	30 hrs	Mon 01 PM	Mon 10 PM	93

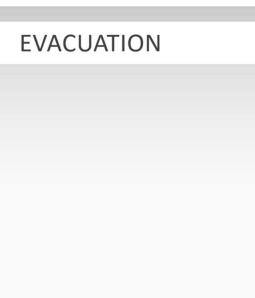


Calculating Evacuation Start Time









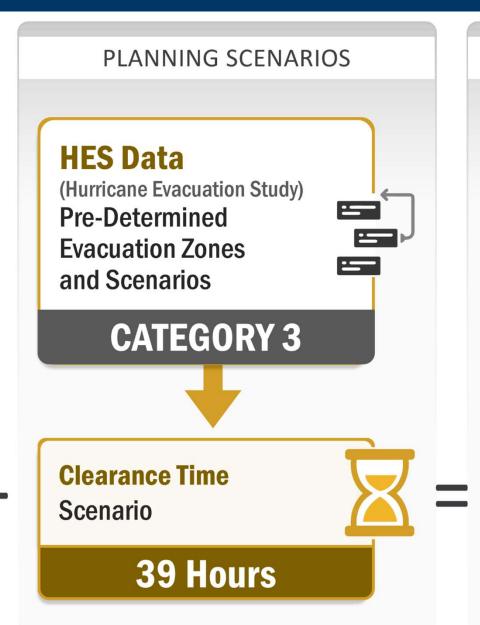
EvacuationStart Time

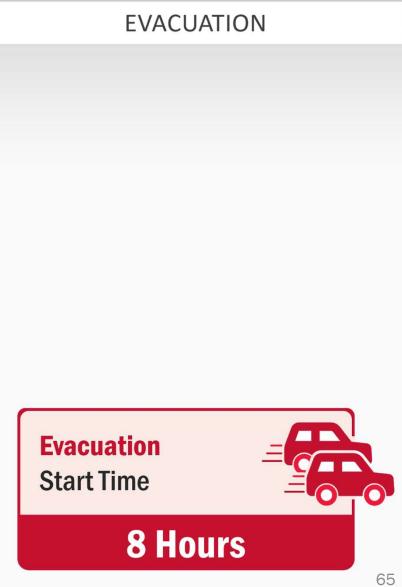


Calculating Evacuation Start Time 2









Evacuation Scenarios



Evacuation Scenarios Timeline	Actions Timing Arcs							
State: North Carolina	County: Carteret Use Base Location							
HURREVAC makes recommendations for evacuation start times based on how long it takes to evacuate a vulnerable population ahead of the arrival of tropical-storm-force winds (34kt/39mph). To utilize this capability of the program, you must first select one or more evacuation scenarios from a region's Hurricane Evacuation Study. Refer to the Study's technical data report, or ask your state's Hurricane Program Manager for guidance on making selections appropriate to a particular storm situation.								
	<u>Technical Data Report</u>							
Total Evacuation hours: 3	39 ————————————————————————————————————							
Scenario:	Scenario B	~						
Response:	Slow (9 hour) response	~						
Seasonal Population:	Worst-case number of evacuees from seasonal population	~						
Scope of Reported Time:	Time to evacuate the county	~						
Scenario already saved								

Evacuation Start Times (cont.)



Evacuation Timing MALLORY #13



09/09/2019, 5:00 am

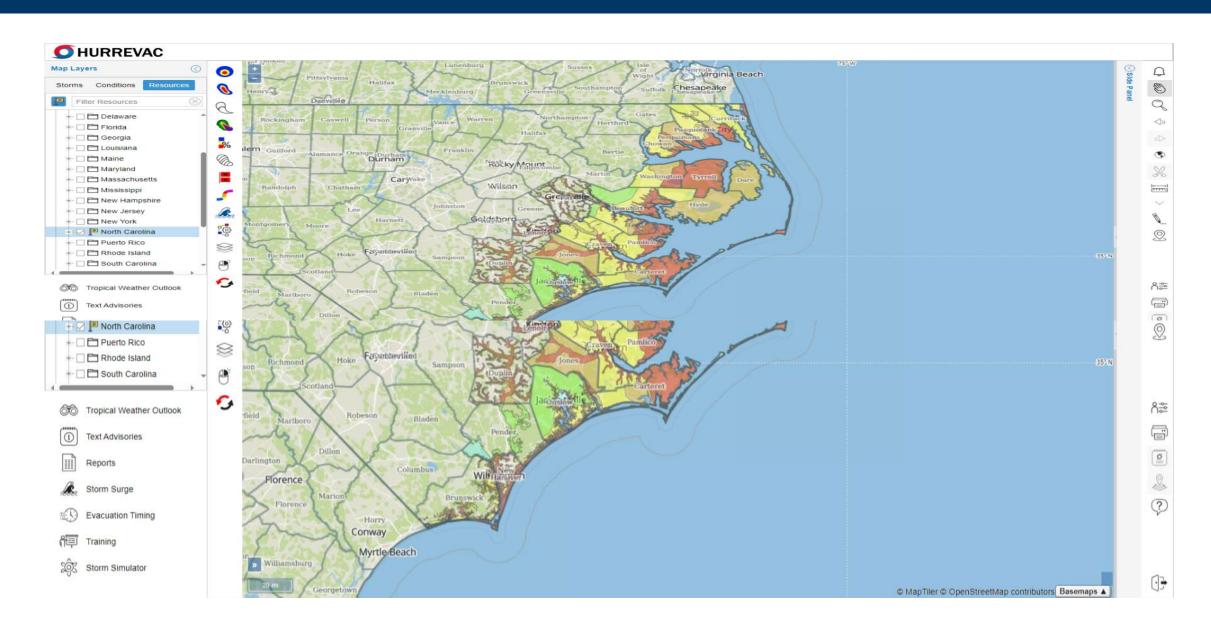
The purpose of the evacuations timing table is to show, for each location, when the onset of tropical-storm-force winds is expected and provide the earliest and latest times for making evacuation decisions based on the range of evacuation scenarios and settings that the user has selected.

This report uses your saved Evacuation Scenarios and Timeline actions.

State	County	Scenario	Earliest-Reasonable TS Onset Time	Most-Likely TS Onset Time	Clearance Time	Earliest Evac Start Time	Latest Evac Start Time	TS WSP (%)
NC	Carteret	B/Slow/Worst/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	39 hrs	Mon 04 AM	Mon 01 PM	93
NC	Carteret	B/Mod/Med SP/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	35 hrs	Mon 08 AM	Mon 05 PM	93
NC	Carteret	B/Fast/High SP/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	34 hrs	Mon 09 AM	Mon 06 PM	93
NC	Carteret	B/Imm/Low SP/County	Tue 07 PM	Wed 04 AM	30 hrs	Mon 01 PM	Mon 10 PM	93

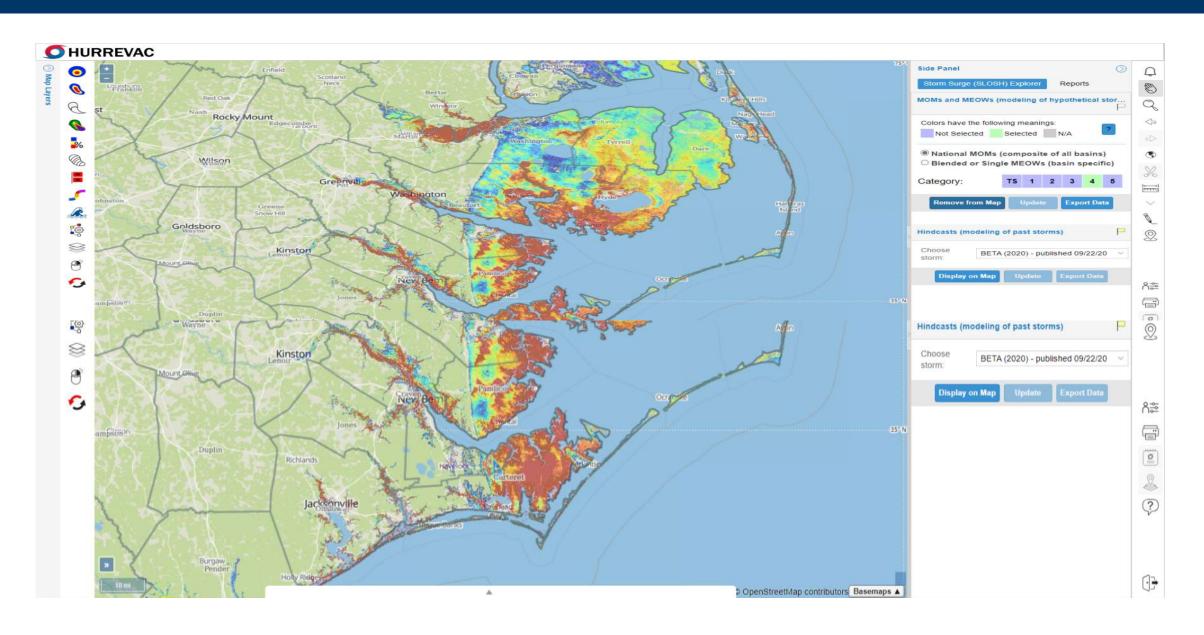
Evacuation Zones





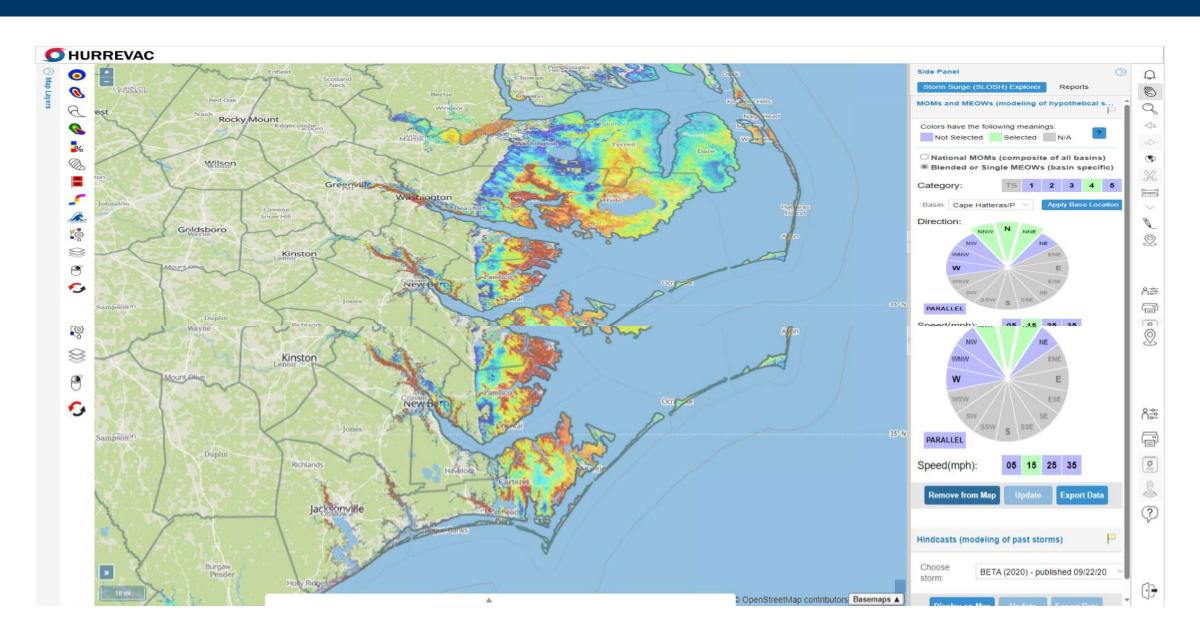
Surge Threat - SLOSH MOMs





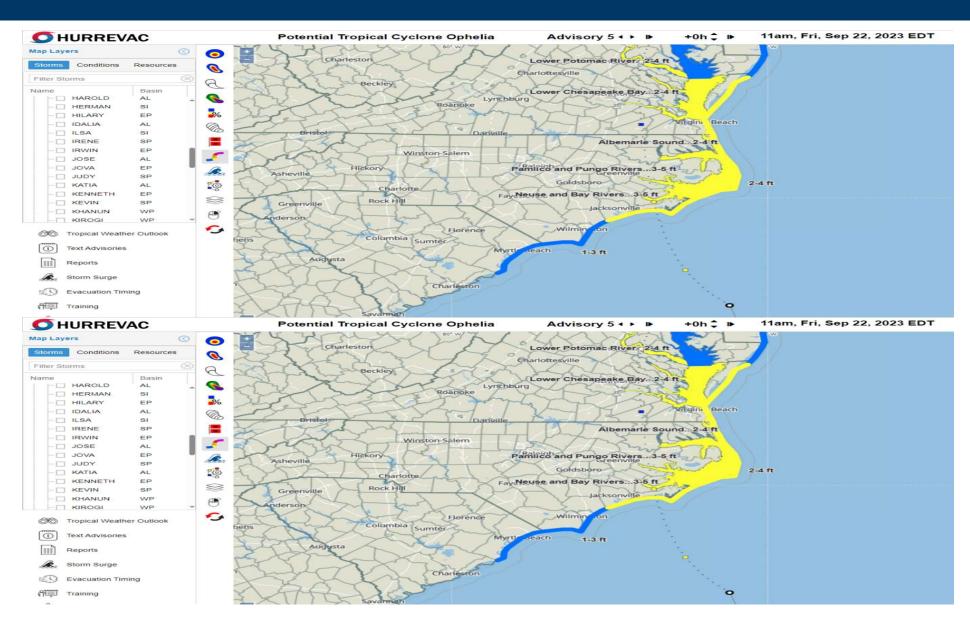
Surge Threat - SLOSH MEOWs





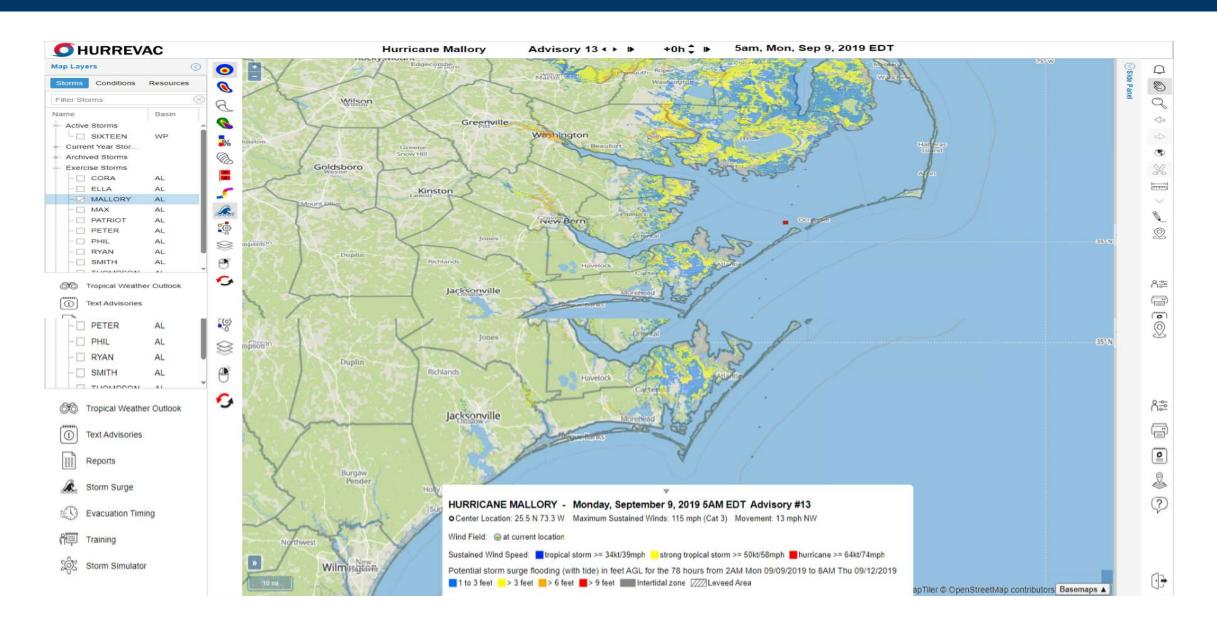
Surge Threat - Peak Storm Surge





Surge Threat – Potential Inundation





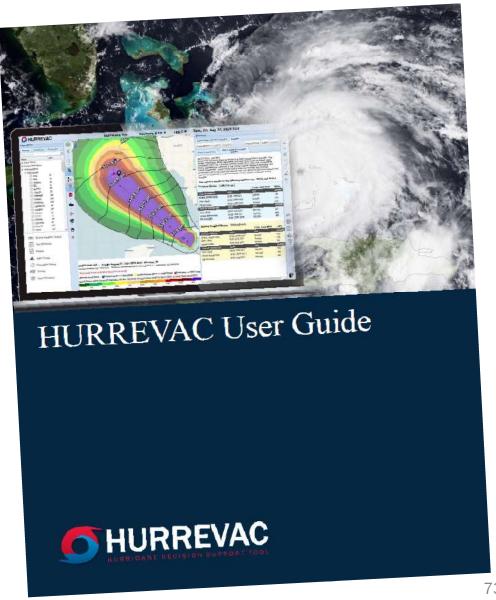
HURREVAC Account Registration



Registration

https://register.hurrevac.com/





Frequently Asked Questions 10



FAQs

- Confidence? Contingencies?
- What is the forecast/evacuation timing?
- Can we get a briefing?

Hurricane Liaison Team

Background



HLT Background

- Initial idea arose in the early 1990s
- Proven during response to the 1995 Hurricane Season
 - Erin and Opal
- Formalized in 1996
 - Request from Governor of Florida to FEMA and NHC Director
- Full-time positions at NHC

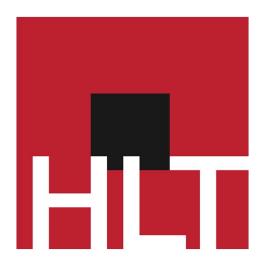


Mission



"The Hurricane Liaison Team's mission is to improve our Nation's capability to respond to hurricanes through the rapid exchange of critical information

between the National Hurricane Center and Federal, State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Emergency Managers."



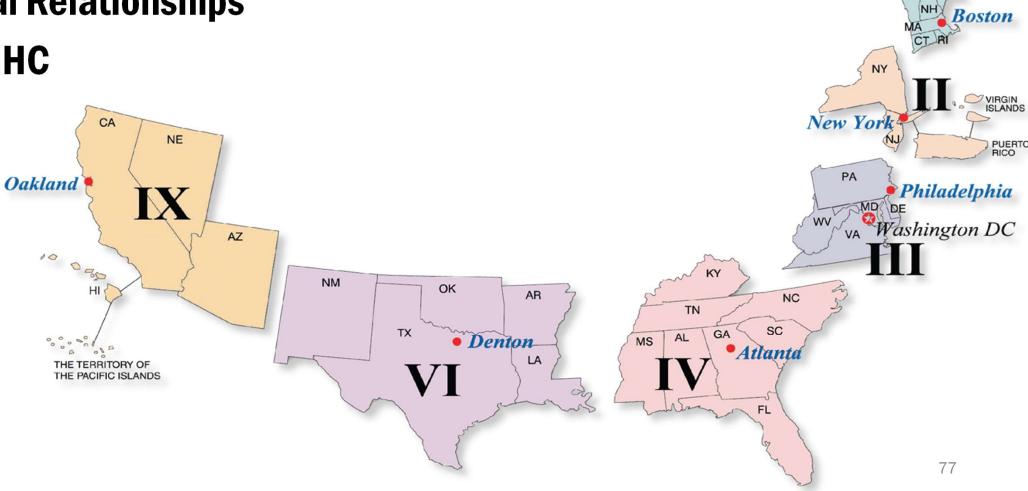
Regional Program Managers



Technical Knowledge

State/Local Relationships

Deploy to NHC



Responsibilities



HLT Responsibilities

- Real-time interpretation, assessment, and guidance
 - Apply NHC forecasts with Regional, State, and local response evacuation plans
- Forum for EMs to ask questions
 - Reinforce decisions
 - Assist with the use of NHC forecasts and predictive modeling
- Provide NHC visibility on EM protective actions
 - Improve messaging



Unit Review



Unit Review

- Identify the components of the Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES).
- Explain clearance times and their use.
- Identify the capabilities of HURREVAC.
- Apply NHP products and services for planning and operational purposes.

Questions/Comments





Course Review 1



Course Review

 Unit 1: Explain the hurricane life cycle, climatology, and associated hazards to coastal communities.

 Unit 2: Describe when NHC products are available for tropical cyclone events and how to use them to determine threats from an approaching storm.

Course Review 2

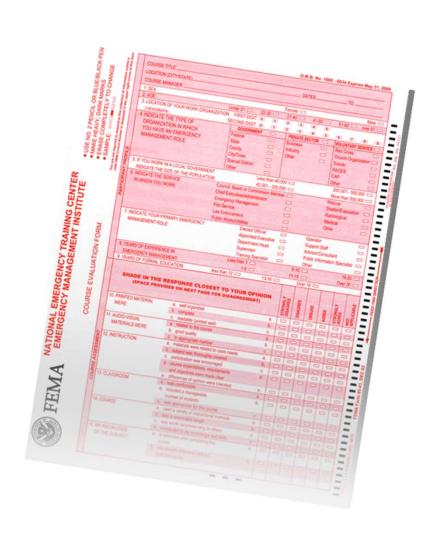


Course Review

- Unit 3: Explain the uncertainties of NHC forecasts that must be considered in emergency management decision making.
 - Describe the storm surge threat and how to assess potential impacts.
- Unit 4: Explain the components of Hurricane Evacuation
 Studies (HES) and how they can inform planning for hurricanes.
 - Identify the resources available for evacuation planning and response and how to use them.

EMI Evaluation Form





- Please complete
- Rate topics and instructors from Scale of 1 (lowest) - 5 (highest)
- Write in comments to improve the training!