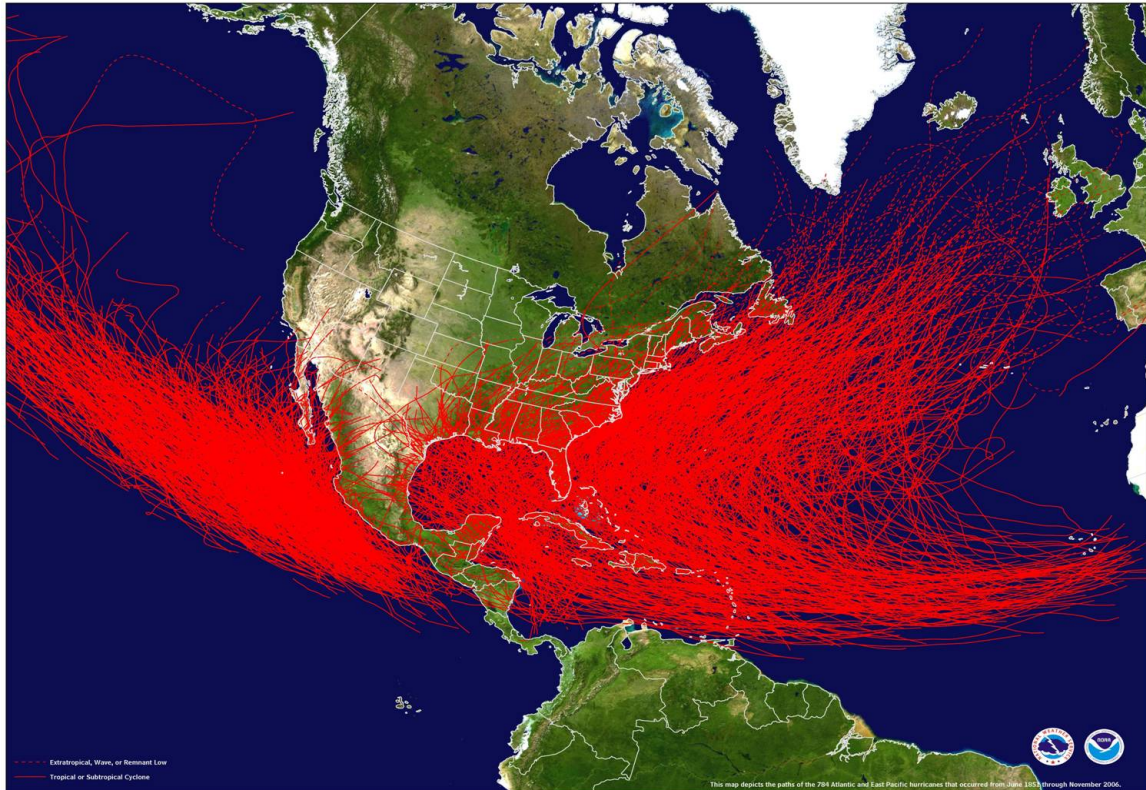


# **National Hurricane Center Product Description Document: A User's Guide to Hurricane Products**

June 2021



**Department of Commerce**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**National Weather Service**

**National Centers for Environmental Prediction**

**National Hurricane Center**

## **Table of Contents**

<b>1. National Hurricane Center Advisories.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. Text Products .....</b>	<b>5</b>
a. Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory.....	5
b. Tropical Cyclone Forecast Advisory .....	10
c. Tropical Cyclone Discussion .....	14
d. Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities.....	17
e. Tropical Cyclone Update .....	21
f. Tropical Cyclone Watch Warning Product .....	24
g. Aviation Tropical Cyclone Advisory.....	26
h. Tropical Weather Outlook .....	28
i. Special Tropical Weather Outlook .....	30
j. Monthly Weather Summary.....	32
<b>2. Graphical Products.....</b>	<b>34</b>
a. Tropical Cyclone Track Forecast Cone and Watch/Warning Graphic ..	34
b. Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities.....	37
c. Tropical-Storm-Force Wind Time-of-Arrival Graphics .....	39
d. Cumulative Wind History .....	41
e. Tropical Cyclone Wind Field Graphic.....	43
f. Storm Surge Watch and Warning Graphic .....	45
g. Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map .....	46
h. 48-Hour Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook .....	47
i. 5-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook .....	50
<b>3. Non-Operational Products .....</b>	<b>53</b>
a. Tropical Cyclone Reports .....	53
b. Seasonal Summary Table and Track Maps.....	53

# National Hurricane Center Tropical Cyclone<sup>2</sup> Advisories

Whenever a tropical cyclone is active, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) issues tropical cyclone advisory packages comprising a suite of official text and graphical products. Advisory packages are also issued for certain post-tropical cyclones<sup>3</sup> and potential tropical cyclones<sup>4</sup>. This suite of advisory products is issued every 6 hours, at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below<sup>5</sup>.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

The primary text products are the Public Advisory, the Forecast/Advisory, the Tropical Cyclone Discussion, and the Wind Speed Probability product. Graphical products include the track forecast cone/watch-warning graphic, wind speed probability graphics, arrival of tropical-storm-force wind graphics, the tropical cyclone wind field graphic, and a cumulative wind history graphic. A Storm Surge Watch and Warning Graphic will be available whenever life-threatening inundation from storm surge is possible along any portion of the Gulf or Atlantic coasts of the United States and along the coasts of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands within 48 hours. A potential storm surge flooding map, tropical cyclone storm surge probabilities, and exceedance probability graphics are also issued with each advisory whenever a storm surge watch or warning or a hurricane watch

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<sup>2</sup> Except when clear from context, in this document the term “tropical cyclone” is understood to also include subtropical cyclones, potential tropical cyclones, and post-tropical cyclones. The definition of these terms can be found in the NHC on-line glossary at: <http://www.hurricanes.gov/aboutgloss.shtml>

<sup>3</sup> Post-tropical cyclone advisories are issued when a post-tropical cyclone continues to pose a significant threat to life and property, and if the transfer or responsibility to another office would result in an unacceptable discontinuity of service.

<sup>4</sup> Advisories on potential tropical cyclones may be issued for disturbances that are not yet a tropical cyclone, but which pose the threat of bringing tropical storm or hurricane conditions to land areas within 48 hours.

<sup>5</sup> Local issuance times here are shown for the Eastern and Pacific time zones, however the time zone used will vary depending on the location of the tropical cyclone.

or warning is in effect for any portion of the Gulf or Atlantic coasts of the continental United States, and can be issued at other times as appropriate.

Intermediate Public Advisories are issued at 3-hour intervals between regular advisory packages when coastal tropical cyclone watches or warnings are in effect. A Special Advisory package may be issued at any time to advise of an unexpected significant change in the cyclone, or when watches or warnings for the United States need to be unexpectedly issued.

If a tropical cyclone dissipates, NHC advisories are discontinued. Under certain circumstances, advisory responsibility is transferred to the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center (WPC). This transfer will occur when a tropical depression or its remnants is inland over the conterminous United States or northern Mexico, poses a threat of heavy rains and flash floods in the United States, and is not forecast to regain tropical storm intensity or re-emerge over water.

NHC has the option to continue issuing advisory packages after tropical cyclones have become post-tropical (a post-tropical cyclone is any closed area of low pressure that used to be a tropical cyclone but no longer is one). NHC will continue its advisory packages on post-tropical cyclones when they pose a significant threat to life and property, and when the transfer of responsibility to another office would result in an unacceptable discontinuity in service. In addition, hurricane and tropical storm watches and warnings can remain in place for these systems. For systems that become post-tropical over water and no longer pose a significant threat to life and property, the meteorological agency with marine warning responsibility will assume responsibility for the system.

# NHC Text Product Descriptions

## Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory

**Product Description:** The Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory is the primary tropical cyclone information product intended for a general audience. It provides critical tropical cyclone watch, warning, and forecast information for the protection of life and property.

The Public Advisory has five sections:

- 1) A summary table of several cyclone parameters is placed at the top of the product in a fixed format that is suitable for parsing by computer software. This section contains the cyclone position in latitude and longitude coordinates, its distance from a well-known reference point, the maximum sustained winds, the cyclone's current direction and speed of motion, and the estimated or measured minimum central pressure.
- 2) A summary of all current coastal watches and warnings for the cyclone with recent changes to the watches and warnings highlighted at the top.
- 3) A discussion of the cyclone's current characteristics, including location, motion, intensity, and pressure and a general description of the predicted track and intensity of the cyclone over the next 72 hours. When conditions warrant, a discussion of the cyclone's forecast track and intensity through 5 days will be included. Any pertinent weather observations will also be included in this section.
- 4) A section that includes information on hazards to land, generally within the time period when watches and/or warnings are in effect. This section includes information on hazards such as storm surge, wind, rainfall, tornadoes, and rip currents associated with the cyclone.
- 5) A section that states the time of the next advisory issuance.

**Availability:** Public Advisories are part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table on the following page. When coastal watches or warnings are in effect, Intermediate Public Advisories are issued at 3-hour intervals between the regular Public Advisories. Special Public Advisories may be issued at any time to advise of an unexpected significant change in the cyclone's intensity or track or when watches or warnings for the United States are to be issued.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by system number, i.e., WTNT31 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic system that NHC has written advisories on in a given year, while WTNT32 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth system, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	WTNT31-5 KNHC	MIATCPAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTPZ31-5 KNHC	MIATCPEP1-5

Example:

```
ZCZC MIATCPAT1 ALL
TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM
```

```
BULLETIN
Hurricane Florence Advisory Number 56
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL062018
500 AM EDT Thu Sep 13 2018
```

*Product header/valid time*

```
...OUTER RAIN BANDS OF FLORENCE ARE APPROACHING THE COAST OF NORTH
CAROLINA...
...LIFE-THREATENING STORM SURGE AND RAINFALL EXPECTED...
```

*Headline*

```
SUMMARY OF 500 AM EDT...0900 UTC...INFORMATION
-----
LOCATION...32.8N 74.7W
ABOUT 205 MI...325 KM ESE OF WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA
ABOUT 250 MI...405 KM ESE OF MYRTLE BEACH SOUTH CAROLINA
MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...110 MPH...175 KM/H
PRESENT MOVEMENT...NW OR 315 DEGREES AT 15 MPH...24 KM/H
MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...956 MB...28.23 INCHES
```

*Summary table formatted for parsing*

## WATCHES AND WARNINGS

-----

*Watch/Warning section with  
changes highlighted at the top*

### CHANGES WITH THIS ADVISORY:

The Tropical Storm Watch from north of the North Carolina/Virginia border to Cape Charles Light Virginia and for the Chesapeake Bay south of New Point Comfort has been changed to a Tropical Storm Warning.

### SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

A Storm Surge Warning is in effect for...

- \* South Santee River South Carolina to Duck North Carolina
- \* Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds, including the Neuse and Pamlico Rivers

A Storm Surge Watch is in effect for...

- \* Edisto Beach South Carolina to South Santee River South Carolina
- \* North of Duck North Carolina to the North Carolina/Virginia border

A Hurricane Warning is in effect for...

- \* South Santee River South Carolina to Duck North Carolina
- \* Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds

A Hurricane Watch is in effect for...

- \* Edisto Beach South Carolina to South Santee River South Carolina

A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for...

- \* North of Duck North Carolina to Cape Charles Light Virginia
- \* Chesapeake Bay south of New Point Comfort

Interests elsewhere in the southeastern and mid-Atlantic states should monitor the progress of Florence.

A Storm Surge Warning means there is a danger of life-threatening inundation, from rising water moving inland from the coastline. For a depiction of areas at risk, please see the National Weather Service Storm Surge Watch/Warning Graphic, available at [hurricanes.gov](http://hurricanes.gov). This is a life-threatening situation. Persons located within these areas should take all necessary actions to protect life and property from rising water and the potential for other dangerous conditions. Promptly follow evacuation and other instructions from local officials

A Storm Surge Watch means there is a possibility of life-threatening inundation, from rising water moving inland from the coastline.

A Hurricane Warning means that hurricane conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area, in this case within the next 12 to 24 hours. Preparations to protect life and property should be nearing completion.

A Hurricane Watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area. A watch is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

A Tropical Storm Warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area.

For storm information specific to your area, including possible inland watches and warnings, please monitor products issued by your local National Weather Service forecast office.

## DISCUSSION AND OUTLOOK

## Storm discussion and outlook

At 500 AM EDT (0900 UTC), the center of Hurricane Florence was located near latitude 32.8 North, longitude 74.7 West. Florence is moving toward the northwest near 15 mph (24 km/h), and this general motion, accompanied by a gradual decrease in forward speed, is expected to continue through today. A turn to the west-northwest and west at an even slower forward speed is expected tonight and Friday, and a slow west-southwestward motion is forecast Friday night and Saturday. On the forecast track, the center of Florence will approach the coasts of North and South Carolina later today, then move near or over the coast of southern North Carolina and eastern South Carolina in the hurricane warning area tonight and Friday. A slow motion over eastern South Carolina is forecast Friday night through Saturday night.

## Location and movement

Maximum sustained winds are near 110 mph (175 km/h) with higher gusts. Little change in strength is expected before the center reaches the coast, with weakening expected after the center moves inland.

## Intensity

Florence is a large hurricane. Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 80 miles (130 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 195 miles (315 km). A NOAA buoy located about 80 miles (130 km) south of the center of Florence has recently reported sustained winds of 52 mph (83 km/h) with a gust to 64 mph (104 km/h).

## Size

The estimated minimum central pressure based on data from the aircraft is 956 mb (28.23 inches).

## Pressure

## HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND

## Hazards Section

**STORM SURGE:** The combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline. The water has the potential to reach the following heights above ground if peak surge occurs at the time of high tide...

Cape Fear NC to Cape Lookout NC, including the Neuse, Pamlico, Pungo, and Bay Rivers...9-13 ft

North Myrtle Beach SC to Cape Fear NC...6-9 ft

Cape Lookout NC to Ocracoke Inlet NC...6-9 ft

South Santee River SC to North Myrtle Beach SC...4-6 ft

Ocracoke Inlet NC to Salvo NC...4-6 ft

Salvo NC to North Carolina/Virginia Border...2-4 ft

Edisto Beach SC to South Santee River SC...2-4 ft

## Storm surge

The deepest water will occur along the immediate coast in areas of onshore winds, where the surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves. Surge-related flooding depends on the relative timing of the surge and the tidal cycle, and can vary



greatly over short distances. For information specific to your area, please see products issued by your local National Weather Service forecast office.

RAINFALL: Florence is expected to produce heavy and excessive rainfall in the following areas...

Coastal North Carolina into far northeastern South Carolina...20 to 30 inches, isolated 40 inches. This rainfall would produce catastrophic flash flooding and prolonged significant river flooding.

Rest of South and North Carolina into southwest Virginia...6 to 12 inches, isolated 24 inches.

*Rainfall*

WIND: Hurricane conditions are expected to reach the coast within the hurricane warning area this evening or early Friday. Winds are expected to first reach tropical storm strength by later this morning or early this afternoon, making outside preparations difficult or dangerous. Preparations to protect life and property should be nearing completion.

*Wind*

TORNADOES: A few tornadoes are possible in eastern North Carolina through Friday.

*Tornadoes*

SURF: Swells generated by Florence are affecting Bermuda, portions of the U.S. East Coast, and the northwestern and central Bahamas. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions. Please consult products from your local weather office.

*Surf*

NEXT ADVISORY

-----

Next intermediate advisory at 800 AM EDT.

Next complete advisory at 1100 AM EDT.

*Information on next  
Advisory issuance*

\$\$

Forecaster Brown

NNNN

## Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory

**Product Description:** The Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory contains current and forecast storm information in a fixed format suitable for parsing by computer software. It contains a list of all current coastal watches and warnings, cyclone position, intensity, and direction and speed of motion. It also includes the current maximum radial extent of 12-ft seas, as well as the maximum radial extent of winds of 34, 50, and 64 kt in each of four quadrants around the storm. The Forecast/Advisory contains quantitative forecast information on the track and intensity of the cyclone valid 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 96, and 120 h from the forecast's nominal initial time, with size information forecast out to 72 h. Tropical storm and 50-kt wind radii are forecast out to 72 h and hurricane-force wind radii are forecast out 48 h.

The Forecast/Advisory also contains the predicted status of the cyclone for each forecast time. This status may include any of the following: inland, dissipating, dissipated, or post tropical. "Post tropical" describes a cyclone that no longer possesses sufficient tropical characteristics to be considered a tropical cyclone; however these cyclones can continue to produce heavy rains and high winds. A remnant low is a post-tropical cyclone that no longer possesses the convective organization required of a tropical cyclone and has maximum sustained winds of less than 34 knots. An extratropical cyclone is a cyclone of any intensity for which the primary energy source results from the temperature contrast between warm and cold air masses.

**Availability:** Forecast/Advisories are part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. Special Forecast/Advisories may be issued at any time to advise of an unexpected significant change in the cyclone's intensity or track or when watches or warnings are to be issued.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by cyclone number, i.e., WTNT21 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while WTNT22 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	WTNT21-5 KNHC	MIATCMAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTPZ21-5 KNHC	MIATCMEP1-5

**Example:**

```
ZCZC MIATCMAT1 ALL
TTAA00 KNHC DDHMM
HURRICANE DELTA FORECAST/ADVISORY NUMBER    9
NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL      AL262020
2100 UTC TUE OCT 06 2020
```

*Product  
header/valid time*

CHANGES IN WATCHES AND WARNINGS WITH THIS ADVISORY...

THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA HAS DISCONTINUED THE TROPICAL STORM WATCH  
FOR THE PROVINCE OF LA HABANA.

SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT...

A HURRICANE WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR...

- \* TULUM TO DZILAM MEXICO
- \* COZUMEL

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR...

- \* CUBA PROVINCE OF PINAR DEL RIO
- \* ISLE OF YOUTH
- \* PUNTA HERRERO TO TULUM MEXICO
- \* DZILAM TO PROGRESSO MEXICO

A HURRICANE WARNING MEANS THAT HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED  
SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE WARNING AREA. PREPARATIONS TO PROTECT LIFE  
AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE RUSHED TO COMPLETION.

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING MEANS THAT TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE  
EXPECTED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE WARNING AREA WITHIN 36 HOURS.

INTERESTS ALONG THE NORTHERN GULF OF MEXICO COAST SHOULD MONITOR  
THE PROGRESS OF DELTA. HURRICANE AND STORM SURGE WATCHES WILL  
LIKELY BE ISSUED FOR A PORTION OF THIS AREA ON WEDNESDAY.

*Watch/  
Warning  
section*

HURRICANE CENTER LOCATED NEAR 18.9N 84.1W AT 06/2100Z  
POSITION ACCURATE WITHIN 15 NM

PRESENT MOVEMENT TOWARD THE WEST-NORTHWEST OR 300 DEGREES AT 15 KT

ESTIMATED MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE 956 MB  
EYE DIAMETER 5 NM  
MAX SUSTAINED WINDS 125 KT WITH GUSTS TO 150 KT.  
64 KT..... 25NE 20SE 15SW 20NW.  
50 KT..... 40NE 30SE 30SW 30NW.  
34 KT..... 90NE 80SE 60SW 80NW.  
12 FT SEAS..150NE 60SE 30SW 90NW.

*Current  
position,  
intensity, and  
structure*

WINDS AND SEAS VARY GREATLY IN EACH QUADRANT. RADII IN NAUTICAL  
MILES ARE THE LARGEST RADII EXPECTED ANYWHERE IN THAT QUADRANT.

REPEAT...CENTER LOCATED NEAR 18.9N 84.1W AT 06/2100Z  
AT 06/1800Z CENTER WAS LOCATED NEAR 18.5N 83.5W

FORECAST VALID 07/0600Z 20.2N 86.1W  
MAX WIND 135 KT...GUSTS 165 KT.  
64 KT... 25NE 20SE 15SW 20NW.  
50 KT... 40NE 30SE 30SW 30NW.  
34 KT...100NE 80SE 60SW 80NW.

*12 hour forecast*

FORECAST VALID 07/1800Z 21.8N 88.8W  
MAX WIND 105 KT...GUSTS 130 KT.  
64 KT... 25NE 20SE 15SW 20NW.  
50 KT... 50NE 40SE 20SW 40NW.  
34 KT...110NE 80SE 60SW 90NW.

*24 hour forecast*

FORECAST VALID 08/0600Z 23.0N 91.1W  
MAX WIND 110 KT...GUSTS 135 KT.  
64 KT... 30NE 25SE 20SW 25NW.  
50 KT... 60NE 40SE 30SW 40NW.  
34 KT...120NE 100SE 70SW 100NW.

*36 hour forecast*

FORECAST VALID 08/1800Z 24.4N 92.6W  
MAX WIND 115 KT...GUSTS 140 KT.  
64 KT... 30NE 25SE 20SW 30NW.  
50 KT... 60NE 50SE 40SW 50NW.  
34 KT...140NE 120SE 80SW 110NW.

*48 hour forecast*

FORECAST VALID 09/0600Z 25.9N 93.2W  
MAX WIND 115 KT...GUSTS 140 KT.  
50 KT... 60NE 50SE 40SW 50NW.  
34 KT...140NE 120SE 80SW 110NW.

*60 hour forecast*

FORECAST VALID 09/1800Z 28.0N 92.9W  
MAX WIND 110 KT...GUSTS 135 KT.  
50 KT... 60NE 60SE 40SW 50NW.  
34 KT...140NE 130SE 90SW 110NW.

*72 hour forecast*

EXTENDED OUTLOOK. NOTE...ERRORS FOR TRACK HAVE AVERAGED NEAR 150 NM  
ON DAY 4 AND 175 NM ON DAY 5...AND FOR INTENSITY NEAR 15 KT EACH DAY

OUTLOOK VALID 10/1800Z 32.4N 90.9W...INLAND  
MAX WIND 55 KT...GUSTS 65 KT.

*96 hour forecast*

OUTLOOK VALID 11/1800Z 35.5N 87.3W...POST-TROP/REMNT LOW  
MAX WIND 20 KT...GUSTS 30 KT.

*120 hour forecast*

REQUEST FOR 3 HOURLY SHIP REPORTS WITHIN 300 MILES OF 18.9N 84.1W

INTERMEDIATE PUBLIC ADVISORY...WTNT31 KNHC/MIATCPAT1...AT 07/0000Z

NEXT ADVISORY AT 07/0300Z

\$\$

FORECASTER BROWN

NNNN

## Tropical Cyclone Discussion

**Product Description:** The Tropical Cyclone Discussion describes the rationale for the forecaster's analysis and forecast of a tropical cyclone. It will typically discuss the observations justifying the analyzed intensity of the cyclone, a description of the environmental factors expected to influence the cyclone's future track and intensity, and a description of the numerical guidance models. It may also describe the forecaster's degree of confidence in the official forecast, discuss possible alternate scenarios, and highlight unusual hazards, and provide a summary of key messages. The product also includes a table of forecast positions and intensities in knots and miles per hour out to 120 h. This table also indicates the forecast status of the cyclone, which may include any of the following: inland, dissipated, or post tropical. "Post tropical" describes a cyclone that no longer possesses sufficient tropical characteristics to be considered a tropical cyclone; however these cyclones can continue to produce heavy rains and high winds. A remnant low is a post-tropical cyclone that no longer possesses the convective organization required of a tropical cyclone and has maximum sustained winds of less than 34 knots. An extratropical cyclone is a cyclone of any intensity for which the primary energy source results from the temperature contrast between warm and cold air masses.

**Availability:** Tropical Cyclone Discussions are part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. Special Discussions may be issued at any time to advise of an unexpected significant change in the cyclone or when watches or warnings are to be issued.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by cyclone number, i.e., WTNT41 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while WTNT42 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	WTNT41-5 KNHC	MIATCDAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTPZ41-5 KNHC	MIATCDEP1-5

### Example:

ZCZC MIATCDAT3 ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM  
Hurricane Laura Discussion Number 26  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL132020  
400 AM CDT Wed Aug 26 2020

*Product  
header/valid time*

Satellite images indicate that Laura has become a formidable hurricane since yesterday evening. Deep convection has intensified and become more symmetric, with an eye now trying to clear out. An earlier Air Force Hurricane Hunter mission found flight-level winds of 104 kt, along with peak SFMR values of 86 kt, which supported the 90-kt intensity on the intermediate advisory. Since that time, however, the cloud pattern has only continued to improve, so the initial wind speed is set to 95 kt for this advisory. Notably, the aircraft also recorded that the extent of the hurricane-force winds have increased substantially northeast of the center. A pair of Hurricane Hunter planes should be in the area within a couple of hours.

The hurricane has intensified a remarkable 40 kt during the past 24 hours, and there are no signs it will stop soon, with shear remaining low-to-moderate over the deep warm waters of the central Gulf of Mexico. Guidance is noticeably higher than before, so the new peak intensity will be raised to 115 kt, and some models are even a little higher. Increasing shear is expected to slightly weaken the hurricane close to landfall, so the new forecast keeps the previous 105-kt intensity near the coast. Laura will weaken rapidly after landfall, but it will likely bring hurricane-force winds well inland over western Louisiana and eastern Texas. In the extended range, there is some chance that Laura re-intensifies as a tropical cyclone off the Mid-Atlantic coast, instead of becoming part of a frontal system, but for now the forecast will stay extratropical at 96 hours and beyond.

*Free form  
forecast  
discussion*

Recent satellite shows that Laura has turned northwestward, now estimated at 13 kt. There are no substantial changes to the track forecast to report. The hurricane should gradually turn toward the northwest and north over the next day or two as it moves around the western periphery of a mid-level high. The models are in very good agreement on the center of Laura moving into extreme southwestern Louisiana or southeastern Texas in about 24 hours, so no changes were made to the previous NHC forecast. Later in the forecast period the weakened cyclone should turn toward the east-northeast and move with increasing forward speed while embedded within the mid-latitude westerlies. The official track forecast is shifted southward at longer range, not too far from the latest consensus track model predictions.

It should be mentioned Laura is now a large hurricane, and wind, storm surge, and rainfall hazards will extend far from the center. Do not use the cone graphic for any representation of these hazards, it is just for the center uncertainty.

*Key Messages. Note that  
these are not provided with  
every discussion*

Key Messages:

1. Life-threatening storm surge with large and dangerous waves is expected to produce potentially catastrophic damage from San Luis Pass, Texas, to the Mouth of the Mississippi River, including areas inside the Port Arthur Hurricane Flood Protection system. This surge could penetrate up to 30 miles inland from the immediate coastline in southwestern Louisiana and southeastern Texas. Actions to protect life and property should be rushed to completion as water levels will begin to rise later today.

2. Hurricane-force winds are expected tonight in the warning area from San Luis Pass, Texas, to west of Morgan City, Louisiana, and the strongest winds associated with Laura's eyewall will occur somewhere within this area. Hurricane-force winds and widespread damaging wind gusts are also expected to spread well inland into portions of eastern Texas and western Louisiana early Thursday.

3. Widespread flash flooding along small streams, urban areas, and roadways is expected to begin this afternoon into Thursday from far eastern Texas, across Louisiana and Arkansas. This will also lead to minor to isolated moderate freshwater river flooding. The heavy rainfall threat and localized flash and urban flooding potential will spread northeastward into the middle-Mississippi, lower Ohio and Tennessee Valleys Friday night and Saturday.

FORECAST POSITIONS AND MAX WINDS

INIT	26/0900Z	26.1N	90.7W	95 KT	110 MPH	
12H	26/1800Z	27.4N	92.4W	115 KT	130 MPH	
24H	27/0600Z	29.7N	93.5W	105 KT	120 MPH...	NEAR COAST
36H	27/1800Z	32.4N	93.7W	50 KT	60 MPH...	INLAND
48H	28/0600Z	34.8N	92.9W	30 KT	35 MPH...	INLAND
60H	28/1800Z	36.4N	91.0W	25 KT	30 MPH...	INLAND
72H	29/0600Z	37.3N	87.3W	30 KT	35 MPH...	INLAND
96H	30/0600Z	38.0N	74.5W	35 KT	40 MPH...	POST-TROP/EXTRATROP
120H	31/0600Z	44.0N	60.0W	45 KT	50 MPH...	POST-TROP/EXTRATROP

*Forecast  
position and  
intensity table*

\$\$

Forecaster Blake

NNNN



## Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities

**Product Description:** The Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probability product is a tabular text product that provides the likelihood (expressed as a percentage) of sustained (1-min average) winds meeting or exceeding specific thresholds at particular locations. There is also a graphical version of this product, described in part immediately below and more fully later in this document.

Location-specific information is given in the form of probabilities of sustained winds occurring at or above the thresholds of 34 kt (tropical storm force), 50 kt, and 64 kt (hurricane force), over specific periods of time as discussed below. These probabilities are provided for coastal and inland cities as well as for offshore locations (e.g., buoys). These probabilities are based on the track, intensity, and wind structure (size) forecasts from the National Hurricane Center and their historical error characteristics.

Two kinds of location-specific probabilities are defined below:

*Cumulative occurrence probabilities* – These values tell you the probability the wind event will *occur* sometime during the specified *cumulative* forecast period (0-12, 0-24, 0-36 hours, etc.) at each specific point. These values are provided in both the text and graphical form of the Surface Wind Speed Probability product. In the text product, the cumulative probabilities appear in parentheses (example provided below). The graphical products depict only cumulative values.

*Onset probabilities* – These values tell you the probability the wind event will *start* sometime during the specified individual forecast period (0-12, 12-24, 24-36 hours, etc.) at each specific point. These values are provided only in the text NHC product. They are the values outside of the parentheses.

**Availability:** This product is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. Special Wind Speed Probability products may be issued at any time to advise of an unexpected significant change in the cyclone or when watches or warnings are to be issued.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by cyclone number, i.e., FONT11 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while FONT12 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	FONT11-5 KNHC	MIAPWSAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	FOPZ11-5 KNHC	MIAPWSEP1-5

**Example:**

ZCZC MIAPWSAT4 ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL STORM ISAAC WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES NUMBER 23  
NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL092012  
2100 UTC SUN AUG 26 2012

AT 2100Z THE CENTER OF TROPICAL STORM ISAAC WAS LOCATED NEAR  
LATITUDE 24.2 NORTH...LONGITUDE 82.3 WEST WITH MAXIMUM SUSTAINED  
WINDS NEAR 50 KTS...60 MPH...95 KM/H.

Z INDICATES COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME (GREENWICH)  
ATLANTIC STANDARD TIME (AST)...SUBTRACT 4 HOURS FROM Z TIME  
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (EDT)...SUBTRACT 4 HOURS FROM Z TIME  
CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME (CDT)...SUBTRACT 5 HOURS FROM Z TIME

WIND SPEED PROBABILITY TABLE FOR SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

CHANCES OF SUSTAINED (1-MINUTE AVERAGE) WIND SPEEDS OF AT LEAST  
...34 KT (39 MPH... 63 KPH)...  
...50 KT (58 MPH... 93 KPH)...  
...64 KT (74 MPH...119 KPH)...

FOR LOCATIONS AND TIME PERIODS DURING THE NEXT 5 DAYS

PROBABILITIES FOR LOCATIONS ARE GIVEN AS OP(CP) WHERE  
OP IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE EVENT BEGINNING DURING  
AN INDIVIDUAL TIME PERIOD (ONSET PROBABILITY)  
(CP) IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE EVENT OCCURRING BETWEEN  
18Z SUN AND THE FORECAST HOUR (CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY)

PROBABILITIES ARE GIVEN IN PERCENT  
X INDICATES PROBABILITIES LESS THAN 1 PERCENT  
PROBABILITIES FOR 34 KT AND 50 KT ARE SHOWN AT A GIVEN LOCATION WHEN  
THE 5-DAY CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY IS AT LEAST 3 PERCENT.  
PROBABILITIES FOR 64 KT ARE SHOWN WHEN THE 5-DAY CUMULATIVE  
PROBABILITY IS AT LEAST 1 PERCENT.

- - - - WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES FOR SELECTED LOCATIONS - - - -

TIME PERIODS	FROM 18Z SUN TO 06Z MON		FROM 06Z MON TO 18Z MON		FROM 18Z MON TO 06Z TUE		FROM 06Z TUE TO 18Z TUE		FROM 18Z TUE TO 18Z WED		FROM 18Z WED TO 18Z THU		FROM 18Z THU TO 18Z FRI	
FORECAST HOUR	(12)		(24)		(36)		(48)		(72)		(96)		(120)	
LOCATION	KT													
FT PIERCE FL	34	9	2	(11)	X	(11)	X	(11)	X	(11)	X	(11)	X	(11)
W PALM BEACH	34	14	2	(16)	X	(16)	X	(16)	X	(16)	X	(16)	X	(16)
MIAMI FL	34	99	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)
MARATHON FL	34	99	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)
MARATHON FL	50	14	X	(14)	X	(14)	X	(14)	X	(14)	X	(14)	X	(14)
KEY WEST FL	34	99	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)
KEY WEST FL	50	99	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)
MARCO ISLAND	34	99	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)	X	(99)
FT MYERS FL	34	48	1	(49)	2	(51)	X	(51)	X	(51)	X	(51)	X	(51)
VENICE FL	34	37	5	(42)	2	(44)	1	(45)	X	(45)	1	(46)	X	(46)
TAMPA FL	34	18	8	(26)	3	(29)	2	(31)	X	(31)	1	(32)	X	(32)
TALLAHASSEE FL	34	X	7	( 7)	10	(17)	6	(23)	6	(29)	1	(30)	X	(30)
ST MARKS FL	34	1	9	(10)	9	(19)	6	(25)	5	(30)	1	(31)	1	(32)
APALACHICOLA	34	3	11	(14)	16	(30)	9	(39)	7	(46)	1	(47)	X	(47)
APALACHICOLA	50	X	X	( X)	2	( 2)	2	( 4)	1	( 5)	1	( 6)	X	( 6)
APALACHICOLA	64	X	X	( X)	X	( X)	1	( 1)	X	( 1)	X	( 1)	X	( 1)
PANAMA CITY FL	34	1	11	(12)	20	(32)	13	(45)	7	(52)	1	(53)	1	(54)
PANAMA CITY FL	50	X	X	( X)	3	( 3)	4	( 7)	3	(10)	1	(11)	X	(11)
PANAMA CITY FL	64	X	X	( X)	X	( X)	1	( 1)	1	( 2)	X	( 2)	X	( 2)
COLUMBUS GA	34	X	X	( X)	3	( 3)	6	( 9)	11	(20)	2	(22)	1	(23)
MONTGOMERY AL	34	X	X	( X)	7	( 7)	10	(17)	18	(35)	3	(38)	1	(39)
MONTGOMERY AL	50	X	X	( X)	X	( X)	X	( X)	5	( 5)	2	( 7)	X	( 7)
MONTGOMERY AL	64	X	X	( X)	X	( X)	X	( X)	1	( 1)	1	( 2)	X	( 2)
PENSACOLA FL	34	X	6	( 6)	24	(30)	25	(55)	14	(69)	2	(71)	X	(71)
PENSACOLA FL	50	X	X	( X)	2	( 2)	14	(16)	12	(28)	1	(29)	1	(30)
PENSACOLA FL	64	X	X	( X)	X	( X)	4	( 4)	5	( 9)	2	(11)	X	(11)
MOBILE AL	34	X	3	( 3)	22	(25)	31	(56)	20	(76)	2	(78)	X	(78)
MOBILE AL	50	X	X	( X)	2	( 2)	15	(17)	21	(38)	2	(40)	X	(40)
MOBILE AL	64	X	X	( X)	X	( X)	3	( 3)	12	(15)	1	(16)	X	(16)

Probability of winds of at least 34 kt beginning at Pensacola, FL during the 12-hour period from 06z Tuesday to 18z Tuesday

Cumulative probability of winds of at least 34 kt at Pensacola, FL for the 48-hour period ending at 18z Tuesday.



## Tropical Cyclone Update

**Product Description:** The Tropical Cyclone Update (TCU) is issued to inform users of significant changes in a tropical cyclone between regularly scheduled public advisories. Such uses include:

- To provide timely information of an unusual nature, such as the time and location of landfall, or to announce an expected change in intensity that results in an upgrade or downgrade of status (e.g., from a tropical storm to a hurricane).
- To provide a continuous flow of information regarding the center location of a tropical cyclone when watches or warnings are in effect and the center can be easily tracked with land-based radar.
- To provide advance notice that significant changes to storm information will be conveyed shortly, either through a subsequent TCU or Special Advisory.
- To announce changes to international watches or warnings made by other countries, or to cancel U.S. watches or warnings.
- To issue a U.S. watch or warning, but only if the TCU precedes a special advisory that will contain the same watch/warning information, and indicates the special advisory will be issued shortly.

When a TCU is issued and any storm summary information has changed from the previous Public Advisory (e.g., upgrade from tropical storm to hurricane), a storm summary section identical in format to that found in the Public Advisory will also be included. If new data suggest that a change in status of the tropical cyclone has occurred, but the forecaster is not prepared to update all of the storm information, a TCU can be issued without the storm summary information and indicate that another TCU or special advisory changing the storm status will be issued shortly. In that case, the first TCU will not officially change the storm status, but will simply provide users with the information that a change in status is forthcoming. If a TCU is issued to only modify watches and warnings and there are no changes to the storm summary information (e.g., position, intensity, movement, pressure, etc.) from the previous NHC public advisory, then the storm summary information will not be included in the TCU.

**Availability:** TCUs issued to provide updated center position information when watches/warnings are in effect are issued in between scheduled TCPs near the beginning of each hour. All other TCUs are issued on an event-driven basis.

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by cyclone number, i.e., WTNT61 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while WTNT62 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	WTNT61-5 KNHC	MIATCUAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTPZ61-5 KNHC	MIATCUEP1-5

**Example 1: TCU to provide a continuous flow of information when watches or warnings are in effect and the center can be easily tracked with land-based radar.**

ZCZC MIATCUAT4 ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

Hurricane Isaac Tropical Cyclone Update  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL092012  
1100 AM CDT Wed Aug 29 2012

*Product  
header/valid  
time*

...11 AM POSITION UPDATE...

A gust to 67 mph was recently reported at Shell Beach Louisiana.  
Tropical storm conditions are continuing along the Mississippi and  
Alabama coasts.

*Free form  
discussion*

SUMMARY OF 1100 AM CDT...1600 UTC...INFORMATION

-----  
LOCATION...29.6N 90.7W  
ABOUT 1 MI...2 KM W OF HOUMA LOUISIANA  
ABOUT 45 MI...75 KM SW OF NEW ORLEANS LOUISIANA  
MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...75 MPH...120 KM/H  
PRESENT MOVEMENT...NW OR 310 DEGREES AT 6 MPH...9 KM/H  
MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...972 MB...28.70 INCHES

*Summary Table  
Formatted for  
Parsing*

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Forecaster Stewart

**Example 2: TCU to change the status of a tropical cyclone**

ZCZC MIATCUAT4 ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

Hurricane Isaac Tropical Cyclone Update  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL092012  
1120 AM CDT Tue Aug 28 2012

*Product  
header/valid  
time*

...RECONNAISSANCE DATA INDICATE ISAAC FINALLY ACHIEVES HURRICANE  
STATUS...

Reports from and Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter Aircraft indicate  
that maximum winds associated with Isaac have increased to 75 mph (120  
km/h). On this basis, Isaac is being upgraded to a hurricane

*Free form  
discussion*

SUMMARY OF 1120 AM CDT...1620 UTC...INFORMATION

-----  
LOCATION...28.1N 88.6W  
ABOUT 75 MI...115 KM SSE OF THE MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
ABOUT 160 MI...250 KM SE OF NEW ORLEANS LOUISIANA  
MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...75 MPH...120 KM/H  
PRESENT MOVEMENT...NW OR 310 DEGREES AT 10 MPH...17 KM/H  
MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...975 MB...28.79 INCHES

*Summary Table  
Formatted for  
Parsing*

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Forecaster Stewart/Beven

NNNN

**Example 3 - TCU to notify users that change in status is forthcoming**

ZCZC MIATCUAT2 ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHMM

Tropical Depression Seven Tropical Cyclone Update  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL072008  
200 PM EDT Mon Aug 25 2008

*Product  
header/valid  
time*

Preliminary reports from an Air Force Hurricane Hunter aircraft indicate that Tropical Depression Seven has strengthened. A Special Advisory will be issued within the next 30 minutes to update the intensity forecast and watches and warnings for Hispaniola.

*Free form  
discussion*

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Forecaster Pasch

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**Example 4 - TCU to update watches or warnings (no change in storm summary information)**

ZCZC MIATCUAT4 ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHMM

Hurricane Ike Tropical Cyclone Update  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL092008  
600 PM AST Fri Sep 05 2008

*Product  
header/valid  
time*

At 600 PM AST (2200 UTC), the Government of the Bahamas has issued a Hurricane Watch for the Southeastern Bahamas, including the Acklins, Crooked Island, the Inaguas, Mayaguana, and the Ragged Islands, as well as for the Turks and Caicos Islands.

*Free form  
discussion*

No other changes are required from the 500 PM AST Advisory.

\$\$  
Forecaster Blake/Beven

## Tropical Cyclone Watch Warning Product

**Product Description:** The Tropical Cyclone Watch Warning product summarizes all new, continued, and canceled tropical cyclone wind and storm surge watches and warnings for the U.S. Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, in a form suitable for decoding by computer software.

**Availability:** This product is issued concurrently with all Tropical Cyclone Public Advisories (whether routine, Intermediate, or Special) for which a U.S. watch or warning is continued, posted, changed, or cancelled.

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by cyclone number, i.e., WTNT81 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while WTNT82 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	WTNT81-5 KNHC	MIATCVAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTNT81-5 KNHC	MIATCVEP1-5

### Example:

```
000
WTNT84 KNHC 081457
TCVAT4
```

```
MICHAEL WATCH/WARNING ADVISORY NUMBER 8
NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL      AL142018
1057 AM EDT MON OCT 8 2018
```

```
.HURRICANE MICHAEL
```

```
CAUTION...THIS PRODUCT ONLY APPROXIMATELY CONVEYS THE EXTENT OF
TROPICAL CYCLONE WIND AND SURGE WATCHES AND WARNINGS. PLEASE SEE THE
LATEST PUBLIC ADVISORY FROM THE NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER FOR THE
PRECISE LATERAL EXTENT OF WIND WATCHES AND WARNINGS ALONG THE
COAST...AS WELL AS THE APPROXIMATE LATERAL EXTENT OF SURGE WATCHES AND
WARNINGS. THE PRECISE EXTENT OF SURGE WATCHES AND WARNINGS CAN BE FOUND
IN THE NWS NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE HAZARD GRIDS.
```

```
FLZ014-015-027-108-112-114-115-118-127-128-134-204-206-082300-
/O.CON.KNHC.HU.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/
/O.CON.KNHC.SS.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/
1057 AM EDT MON OCT 8 2018 /957 AM CDT MON OCT 8 2018/
```

```
$$
```



FLZ050-139-142-148-149-151-155-082300-  
/O.CON.KNHC.SS.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/  
/O.CON.KNHC.TR.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/  
1057 AM EDT MON OCT 8 2018

\$\$

FLZ007>013-016>018-026-028-034-201>203-205-GAZ155>157-082300-  
/O.CON.KNHC.HU.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/  
1057 AM EDT MON OCT 8 2018 /957 AM CDT MON OCT 8 2018/

\$\$

GAZ123-125-127-142>146-158-159-082300-  
/O.UPG.KNHC.TR.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/  
/O.EXA.KNHC.HU.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/  
1057 AM EDT MON OCT 8 2018

\$\$

ALZ055>060-065>069-262>266-FLZ019-029-239-242-248-249-251-  
GAZ120>122-124-126-128>131-147-148-160-161-082300-  
/O.CON.KNHC.TR.A.1014.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/  
1057 AM EDT MON OCT 8 2018 /957 AM CDT MON OCT 8 2018/

\$\$

ATTN...WFO...MOB...TAE...TBW...

## Aviation Tropical Cyclone Advisory

**Product Description:** The Aviation Tropical Cyclone Advisory is issued to provide short-term tropical cyclone forecast guidance for international aviation safety and routing purposes. The Aviation Advisory lists the current cyclone position, motion, and intensity, and includes forecast positions and intensities valid 6, 12, 18, and 24 h after the advisory issuance time (0300, 0900, 1500, or 2100 UTC). This is in contrast to the forecast positions provided in the Tropical Cyclone Discussion and Forecast/Advisory, which are relative to the nominal initial times of 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 UTC. It is important to note that forecast values in the Aviation Tropical Cyclone Advisory are obtained by interpolation from the values contained in the Forecast/Advisory.

**Availability:** This product is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. Special Aviation Tropical Cyclone Advisory products may be issued at any time to advise of an unexpected significant change in the cyclone or when watches or warnings are to be issued.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below. The final numeric digit in each header is assigned on a rotating basis by cyclone number, i.e., FKNT21 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while FKNT22 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin	WMO Header(s)	AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	FKNT21-5 KNHC	MIATCAAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	FKPZ21-5 KNHC	MIATCAEP1-5

**Example:**

FKPZ22 KNHC 211436  
TCAPZ2

TROPICAL STORM GENEVIEVE ICAO ADVISORY NUMBER 21  
NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL EP122020  
1500 UTC FRI AUG 21 2020

TC ADVISORY

DTG:	20200821/1500Z
TCAC:	KNHC
TC:	GENEVIEVE
ADVISORY NR:	2020/021
OBS PSN:	21/1500Z N2500 W11448
MOV:	NW 09KT
INTST CHANGE:	WKN
C:	1001HPA
MAX WIND:	040KT
FCST PSN +6 HR:	21/2100Z N2544 W11543
FCST MAX WIND +6 HR:	035KT
FCST PSN +12 HR:	22/0300Z N2628 W11643
FCST MAX WIND +12 HR:	030KT
FCST PSN +18 HR:	22/0900Z N2713 W11746
FCST MAX WIND +18 HR:	025KT
FCST PSN +24 HR:	22/1500Z N2752 W11846
FCST MAX WIND +24 HR:	025KT
RMK:	THE FORECAST POSITION INFORMATION IN THIS PRODUCT IS INTERPOLATED FROM OFFICIAL FORECAST DATA VALID AT 0000... 0600...1200...AND 1800Z.
NXT MSG:	20200821/2100Z

## Tropical Weather Outlook

**Product Description:** The Tropical Weather Outlook discusses significant areas of disturbed weather and their potential for development during the next 5 days, including a categorical forecast of the probability of tropical cyclone formation during the first 48 hours, and during the entire 5-day forecast period. The 48 h and 5-day probabilities of formation for each disturbance are given to the nearest 10% and expressed in terms of one of the following categories: low probability of development (0-30%), medium probability (40-60%), and high probability of development (70-100%). The Outlook also includes a general description of locations of any active cyclones and their WMO and AWIPS headers during the first 24 hours of their existence.

**Availability:** Tropical Weather Outlooks are issued every six hours from 15 May–30 November for the Atlantic Basin and the eastern North Pacific Basin, at 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below.

Basin	Outlook Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0000, 0600, 1200, 1800	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm EDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0000, 0600, 1200, 1800	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm PDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm PST

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below.

Basin	WMO Header	AWIPS Header
Atlantic	ABNT20 KNHC	MIATWOAT
Eastern North Pacific	ABPZ20 KNHC	MIATWOEP

**Example:**

ZCZC MIATWOAT ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

Tropical Weather Outlook  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL  
800 PM EDT Mon Oct 14 2014

*Product  
header/valid  
time*

For the North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico:

The National Hurricane Center is issuing advisories on newly formed Tropical Depression Eleven, located in the central Gulf of Mexico.

A broad area of low pressure located a couple of hundred miles south-southwest of Jamaica is accompanied by showers and thunderstorms. This disturbance remains disorganized, and development, if any, should be slow to occur over the next couple of days while it moves slowly northwestward. Environmental conditions are expected to be marginally conducive for some development when the system moves over the northwestern Caribbean Sea and the southern Gulf of Mexico later this week. Locally heavy rainfall is possible over portions of Haiti and Jamaica today, and will likely spread across the Cayman Island and eastern Cuba on Tuesday.

- \* Formation chance through 48 hours...low...10 percent.
- \* Formation chance through 5 days...low...30 percent.

A trough of low pressure could form over the extreme southwestern Gulf of Mexico and Bay of Campeche in a few days...and some development of this system is possible by midweek.

- \* Formation chance through 48 hours...low...near 0 percent.
- \* Formation chance through 5 days...low...20 percent.

*Free form  
discussion  
about  
existing  
disturbances*

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Public advisories on Tropical Depression Eleven are issued under WMO header WTNT31 KNHC and under AWIPS header MIATCPAT1. Forecast/Advisories on Tropical Depression Eleven are issued under WMO Header WTNT22 KNHC and under AWIPS header MIATCMAT1.

\$\$  
Forecaster Brown  
NNNN

*Product header  
information for  
active tropical  
cyclones that have  
formed within the  
past 24 h*

## Special Tropical Weather Outlook

**Product Description:** A Special Tropical Weather Outlook is issued when there have been important changes with areas of disturbed weather over tropical or subtropical waters that need to be conveyed before the next scheduled release of the Tropical Weather Outlook. The potential for tropical cyclone formation for each disturbance within the next 48 hours, and 5 days is given to the nearest 10% and expressed in terms of one of the following categories: low probability of development (0-30%), medium probability (40-60%), and high probability of development (70-100%). The Special Tropical Weather Outlook can be used to report the findings of reconnaissance aircraft missions, and can also be used to discuss disturbances when Tropical Weather Outlooks are not routinely issued. The disturbance being updated in the Special Tropical Weather Outlook will be highlighted at the top of the product, and other systems discussed in previous Tropical Weather Outlooks will also be included.

**Availability:** This is an event-driven product issued as needed.

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below.

Basin	WMO Header	AWIPS Header
Atlantic	ABNT20 KNHC	MIATWOAT
Eastern North Pacific	ABPZ20 KNHC	MIATWOEP

## Example

Special Tropical Weather Outlook  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL  
530 PM EDT Wed Jun 5 2013

For the North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico:

Special Outlook issued to update discussion on the low pressure area in the Gulf of Mexico.

*Product  
header/valid  
time*

Updated...An Air Force reconnaissance aircraft was able to identify a well-defined circulation in the low pressure area over the east-central Gulf of Mexico late this afternoon. Based on this finding, the National Hurricane Center will initiate advisories on Tropical Storm Andrea within the next hour or so.

- \* Formation chance through 48 hours...high...near 100 percent.
- \* Formation chance through 5 days...high...near 100 percent.

Although the shower activity associated with a tropical wave located a little less than 1000 miles east of the Lesser Antilles has increased some, the wave is heading westward toward a region where the upper level winds are not favorable for development.

- \* Formation chance through 48 hours...low...10 percent.
- \* Formation chance through 5 days...low...20 percent.

*Free form  
discussion*

\$\$

Forecaster Berg

## Monthly Tropical Weather Summary

**Product Description:** The Monthly Tropical Weather Summary briefly describes the previous month's tropical cyclone activity and provides a summary table for all of the season's tropical cyclones to date.

**Availability:** The Monthly Tropical Weather Summary is issued at 8 am local time on the first day of the month following each month of the hurricane season. The Tropical Weather Summary issued on 1 December will give a brief account of the entire season.

**Product Headers:** WMO and AWIPS headers are given in the table below.

Basin	WMO Header	AWIPS Header
Atlantic	ABNT30 KNHC	MIATWSAT
Eastern North Pacific	ABPZ30 KNHC	MIATWSEP

### Example:

ABNT30 KNHC 011156  
TWSAT

Monthly Tropical Weather Summary  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL  
800 AM EDT Fri Oct 01 2010

For the North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico

Eight tropical storms formed in the Atlantic Basin during the month of September. Three of these storms, Igor, Julia, and Karl, became major hurricanes, and Lisa reached hurricane status. These numbers are well above the long-term (1944-2009) averages of 4 tropical storms, 2 hurricanes, and about 1 major hurricane for the month of September. Also, the formation of eight named storms ties 2002 for the record number of named storms formation in the month of September. In terms of accumulated cyclone energy (ACE), which measures the combined strength and duration of tropical storms and hurricanes, tropical cyclone activity in September was about 78 percent above average.

So far this season, overall tropical cyclone activity to date is about 53 percent above the long-term median.

Reports on individual cyclones, when completed, are at the web site of the National Hurricane Center: [www.hurricanes.gov/2014atlan.shtml](http://www.hurricanes.gov/2014atlan.shtml)

SUMMARY TABLE



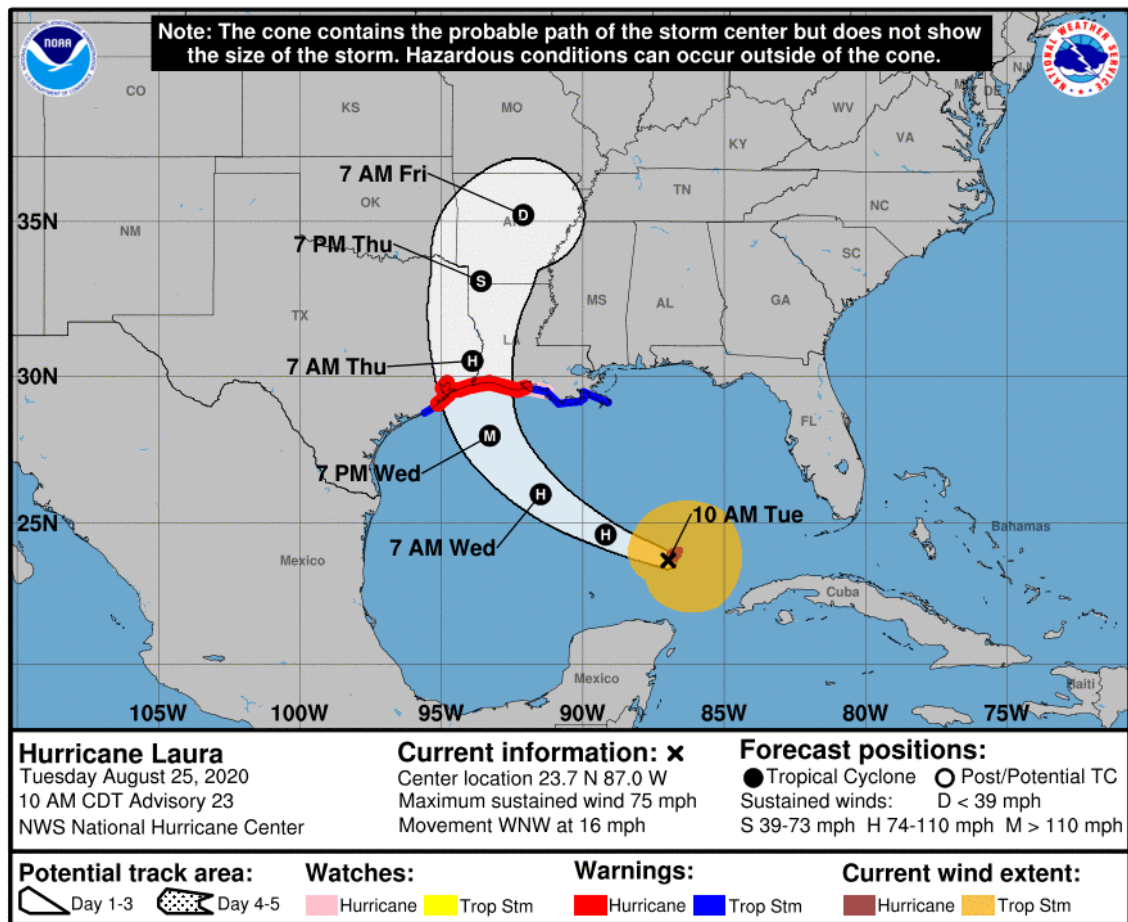
Name	Dates	Max Wind (MPH)
H Alex	25 Jun-2 Jul	105
TD Two	7-8 Jul	35
TS Bonnie	22-24 Jul	40
TS Colin	2-8 Aug	60
TD Five	10-11 Aug	35
MH Danielle	21-31 Aug	135
MH Earl	25 Aug-5 Sep	145
TS Fiona	30 Aug-4 Sep	60
TS Gaston	1-2 Sep	40
TS Hermine	6-8 Sep	65
MH Igor	8-21 Sep	155
MH Julia	12-20 Sep	135
MH Karl	14-18 Sep	120
H Lisa	21-26 Sep	80
TS Matthew	23-26 Sep	60
TS Nicole	28-29 Sep	40

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Hurricane Specialist Unit

# NHC Graphical Product Descriptions

## Tropical Cyclone Track Forecast Cone and Watch/Warning Graphic



**Product Description:** This graphic depicts the most recent NHC track forecast of the center of a tropical cyclone along with an approximate representation of associated coastal areas under a hurricane warning (red), hurricane watch (pink), tropical storm warning (blue) and tropical storm watch (yellow). The “X” indicates the current position of the center of the tropical cyclone. The black dots show the NHC forecast position of the center at the times indicated. The letter inside the dot indicates the forecast strength of the cyclone category: (D)epression, (S)torm, (H)urricane, (M)ajor hurricane, or remnant (L)ow. Systems forecast to be post-tropical are indicated by white dots with black letters indicating intensity using the thresholds given above. For example, a post-tropical system forecast to have winds of 65 kt would be depicted by a black H inside a white dot, even though it is not a hurricane.

The cone represents the probable track of the center of a tropical cyclone, and is formed by enclosing the area swept out by a set of circles (not shown) along the forecast track (at 12, 24, 36 hours, etc.). The size of each circle is set so that two-thirds of historical official forecast errors over a 5-year sample fall within the circle. The circle radii defining the cones in 2017 for the Atlantic and eastern North Pacific basins are given in the table below.

Radii of NHC forecast cone circles for 2021, based on error statistics from 2016–2020:

<b>Forecast Period (hours)</b>	<b>2/3 Probability Circle, Atlantic Basin (nautical miles)</b>	<b>2/3 Probability Circle, Eastern North Pacific Basin (nautical miles)</b>
12	27	25
24	40	37
36	55	51
48	69	64
60	86	77
72	102	89
96	148	114
120	200	138

One can also examine historical tracks to determine how often the *entire* 5-day path of a cyclone remains completely within the area of the cone. This is a different perspective that ignores most timing errors. For example, a storm moving very slowly but in the expected direction would still be within the area of the cone, even though the track forecast error could be very large. Based on forecasts over the previous 5 years, the entire track of the tropical cyclone can be expected to remain within the cone roughly 60-70% of the time.

It is important to remember that tropical cyclones are not a point. Their effects can span many hundreds of miles from the center. The area experiencing hurricane force (one-minute average wind speeds of at least 74 mph) and tropical storm force (one-minute average wind speeds of 39-73 mph) winds can extend well beyond the white areas shown enclosing the most likely track area of the center. A version of this graphic also shows the areas potentially being affected by the sustained (1 min average) winds of tropical storm force (in orange) and hurricane force (in red) at the time of the advisory issuance. Users are reminded that the wind radii represent the maximum possible extent of a given wind speed within particular quadrants around the tropical cyclone. As a result, not all locations falling within the orange or red shaded areas will be experiencing sustained tropical storm or hurricane force winds, respectively.

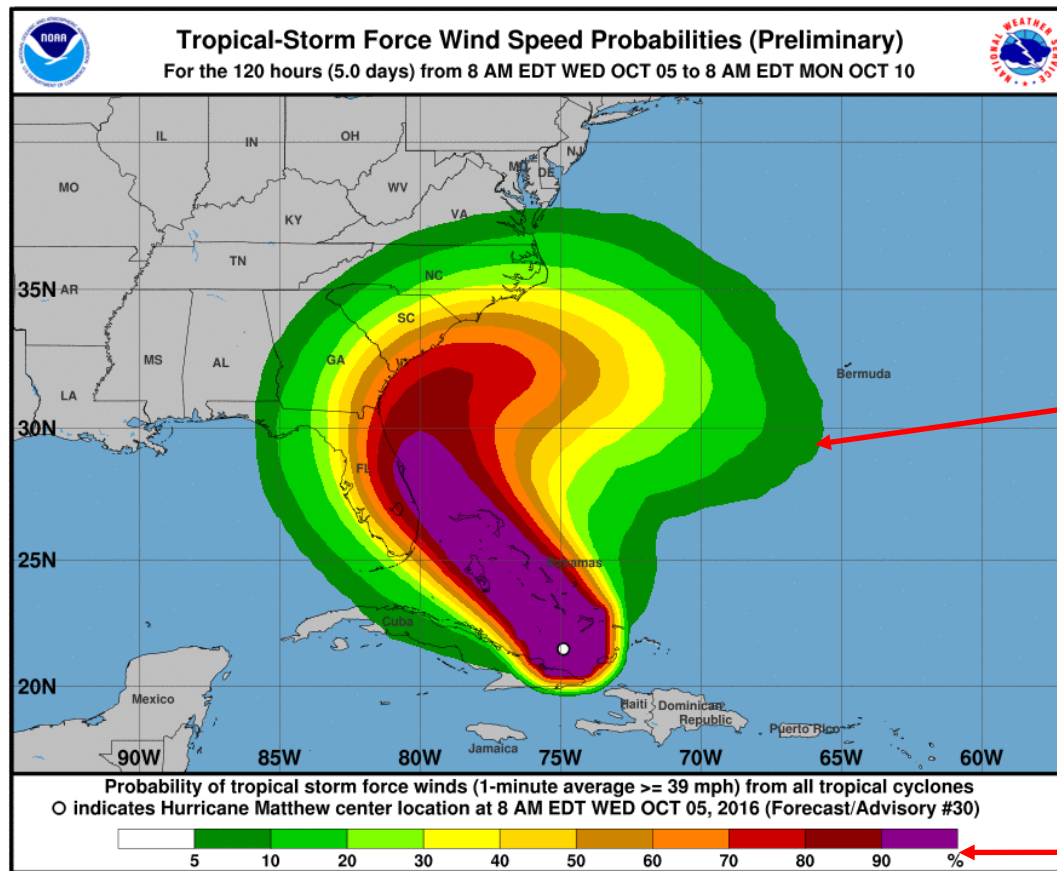
The distribution of hurricane and tropical storm force winds in this tropical cyclone can be seen in the Cumulative Wind Distribution graphic described below.

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table on

the next page. When coastal watches or warnings are in effect, the graphic will be updated at either two or three hour intervals concurrent with the issuance if Intermediate Public Advisories. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Advisories.

Basin	Graphic Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

## Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities



To determine the probability of sustained winds exceeding a threshold (in this example 39 mph or tropical storm force) for a particular location, match the colors depicted on the map with the corresponding probability ranges below.

**Product Description:** This graphic depicts the probability (likelihood, expressed as a percentage) that sustained (1-min average) winds meeting or exceeding specific thresholds will occur at particular locations over particular intervals of time. These probabilities are based on the track, intensity, and wind structure (size) forecasts from the National Hurricane Center and their historical error characteristics. Separate graphics are provided for the 34 kt (tropical storm force), 50 kt, and 64 kt (hurricane force) wind thresholds.

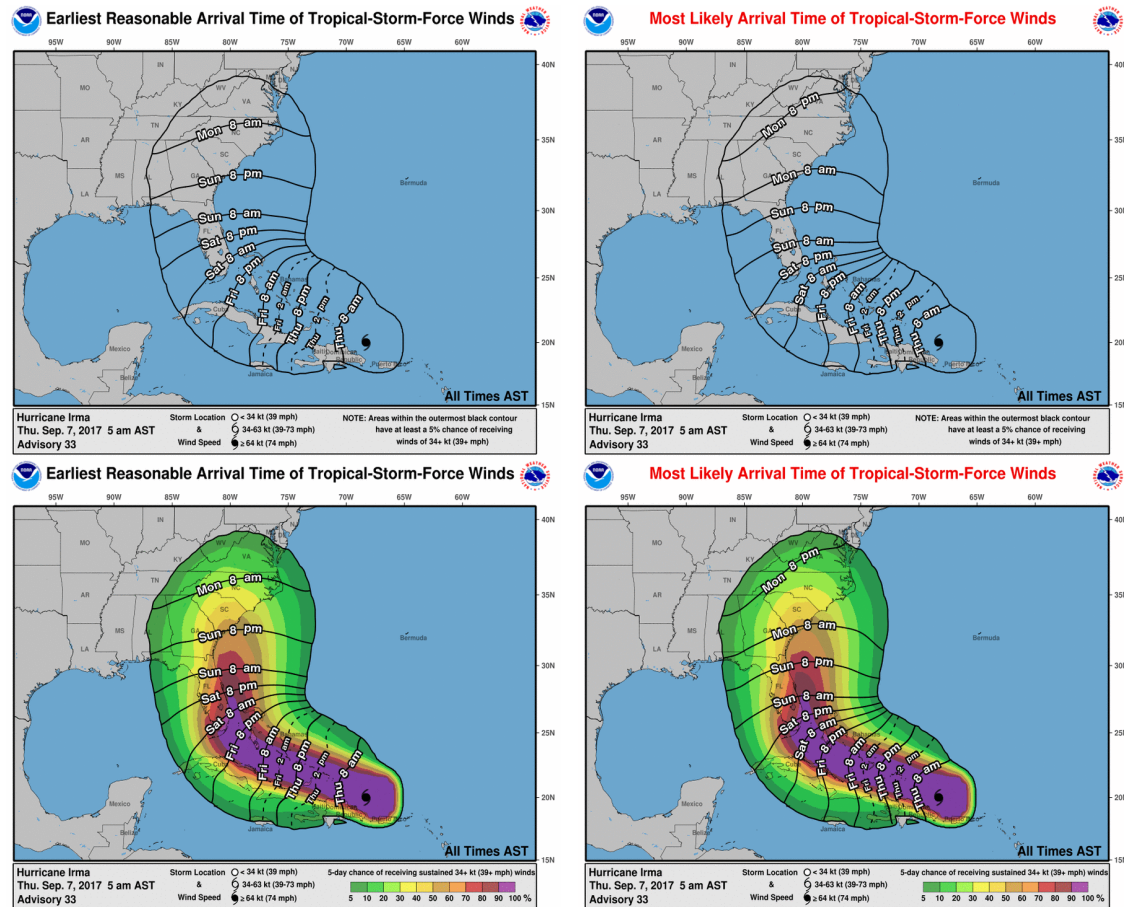
The graphic provides location-specific *cumulative occurrence probabilities* – these values tell you the probability the wind event will occur sometime during the specified cumulative forecast period (0-12, 0-24, 0-36 hours, etc., out to 0-120 h) at each specific point. The images can be looped to show how the threat evolves over the five-day period of the forecast.

*It is important for users to realize that probabilities that may seem relatively small (e.g., 5-10%) may still be quite significant. Users are urged to consider the potentially large costs (in terms of lives, property, etc.) of not preparing for an extreme event.*

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Public Advisories.

Basin	Graphic Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

## Tropical-Storm-Force Wind Time-of-Arrival Graphics



**Product Description:** These graphics depict the earliest reasonable and most likely arrival times of sustained (1-min average) tropical storm force winds at a particular location on the map. These probabilities are based on the track, intensity, and wind structure (size) forecasts from the National Hurricane Center and their historical error characteristics. For many users, preparations for hazardous winds ideally should be completed by the earliest reasonable arrival time.

The earliest reasonable arrival time is based on the time at which the first 10% of the wind speed probability realizations bring tropical-storm force winds to a given location. The most likely time of arrival is the time at which the arrival of tropical storm force winds at a given location is equally likely to occur before or after the indicated time. The arrival times are shown along a series of black contours with the times depicted in local time, with the time zone based on the initial location of the cyclone.

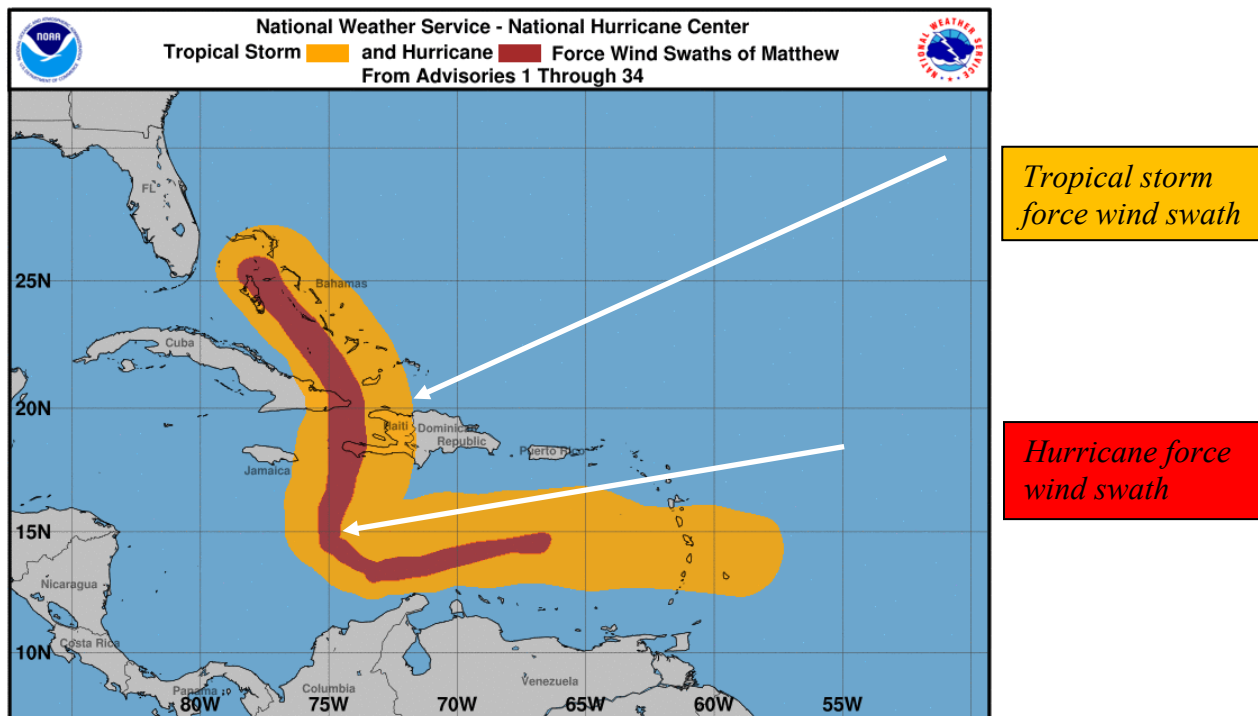
A second version of the graphics also depicts the cumulative probability likelihood, expressed as a percentage) that sustained (1-min average) 34-kt winds thresholds will occur at particular locations during the next 5 days in color filled contours.

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Public Advisories.

Basin	Graphic Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST



## Cumulative Wind History



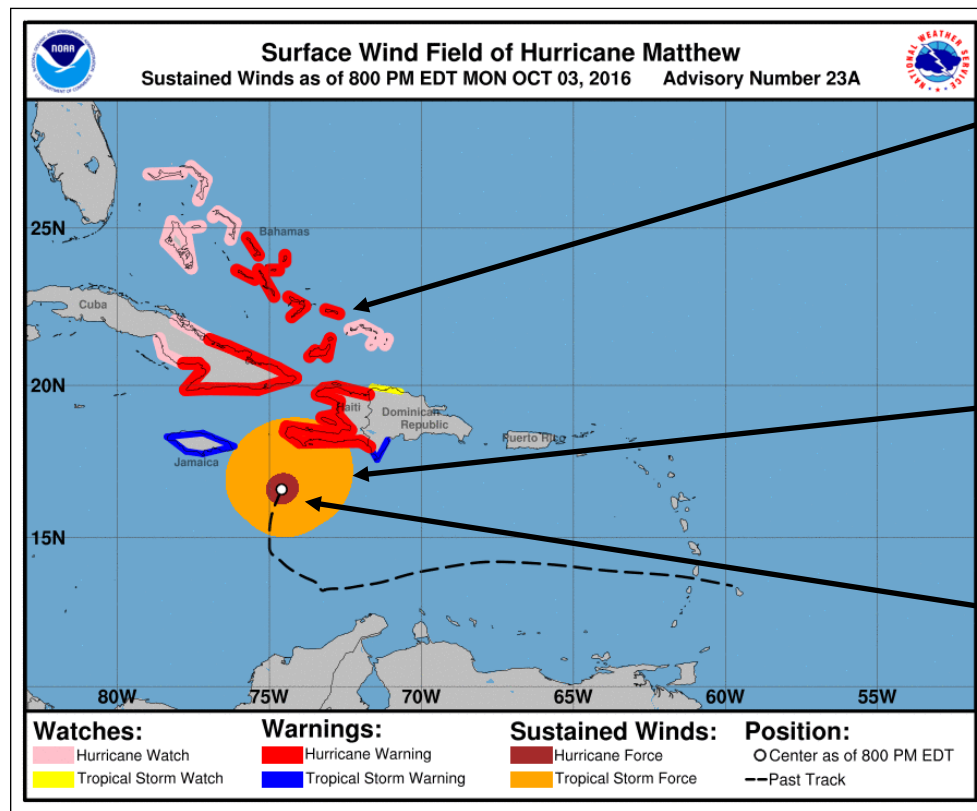
**Product Description:** This graphic shows how the size of the storm has changed, and the areas potentially affected so far by sustained winds of tropical storm force (in orange) and hurricane force (in red). The display is based on the wind radii contained in the set of Forecast/Advisories indicated at the top of the figure. Users are reminded that the Forecast/Advisory wind radii represent the maximum possible extent of a given wind speed within particular quadrants around the tropical cyclone. As a result, not all locations falling within the orange or red swaths will have experienced sustained tropical storm or hurricane force winds, respectively.

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table at the top of the following page. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Public Advisories.

Basin	Graphic Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST

Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST
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## Tropical Cyclone Wind Field Graphic



- Includes representation of coastal areas under a hurricane warning (red), hurricane watch (pink), tropical storm warning (blue) and tropical storm watch (purple).
- Graphic shows the areas potentially being affected by the sustained winds of tropical storm force (in orange) and hurricane force (in red)
- Current position of the center of the tropical cyclone shown with white dot while the past track is shown with a dashed line.

**Product Description:** This graphic shows the areas potentially being affected by the sustained (1 min average) winds of tropical storm force (in orange) and hurricane force (in red). The display is based on the wind radii contained in the latest Forecast/Advisory (indicated at the top of the figure). Users are reminded that the Forecast/Advisory wind radii represent the maximum possible extent of a given wind speed within particular quadrants around the tropical cyclone. As a result, not all locations falling within the orange or red shaded areas will be experiencing sustained tropical storm or hurricane force winds, respectively.

In addition to the wind field, this graphic shows an approximate representation of coastal areas under a hurricane warning (red), hurricane watch (pink), tropical storm warning (blue) and tropical storm watch (purple). The white dot indicates the current position of the center of the tropical cyclone, and the dashed line shows the previous track of the center of the tropical cyclone.

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table at the top of the next page. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Public Advisories.

Basin	Graphic Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm EDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0300, 0900, 1500, 2100	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm PDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm PST

## Storm Surge Watch and Warning Graphic

Tropical Storm Harvey  
Advisory 015 Issued: 4:00 AM CDT Thu Aug 24

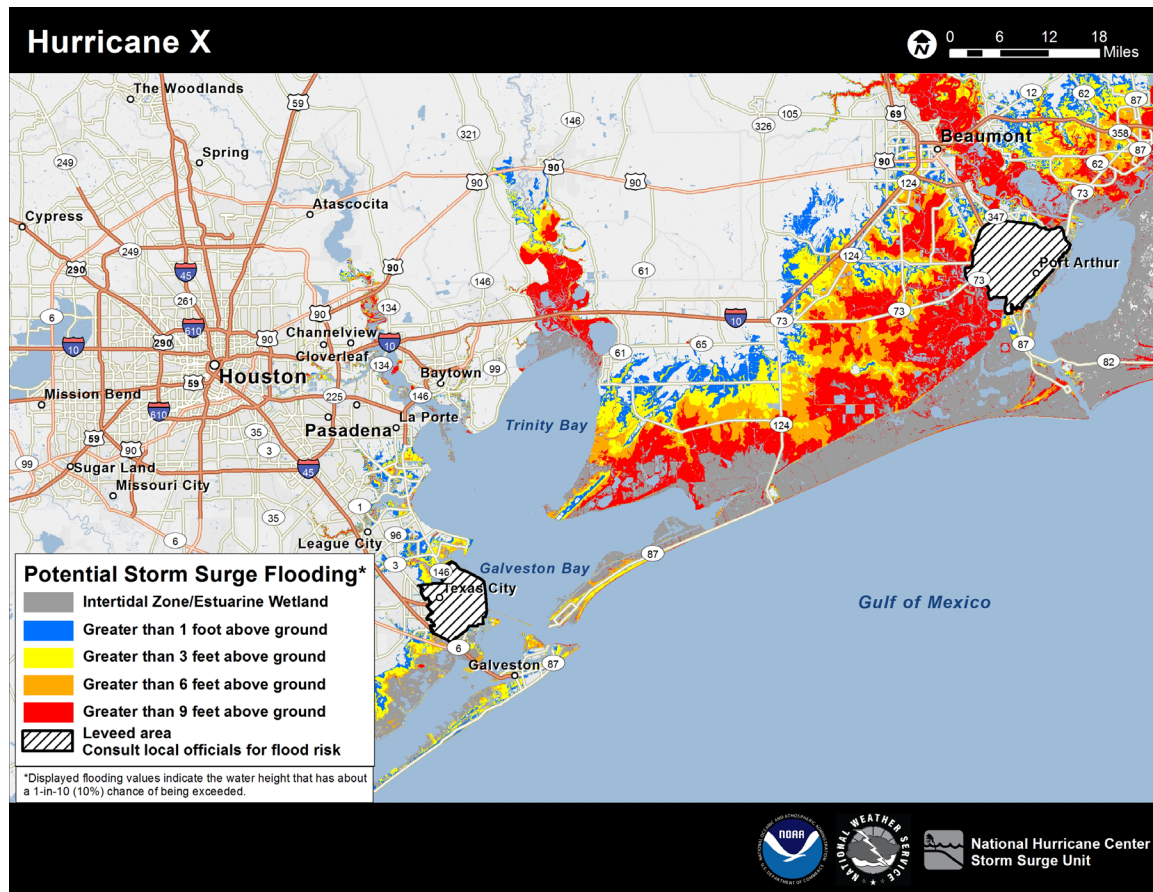


**Product Description:** Storm surge is rising water moving inland from the shoreline, pushed onshore by the force of the wind. The storm surge watch/warning graphic displays areas under a storm surge watch or warning. A storm surge warning means that there is a danger of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland from the shoreline somewhere within the specified area, generally within 36 hours. A storm surge watch means that life-threatening inundation is possible somewhere within the specified area, generally within 48 hours.

Due to forecast uncertainty, the actual areas that experience life-threatening inundation may differ from the areas shown on this map. All persons, regardless of whether or not they are in the highlighted areas shown by the graphic, should promptly follow evacuation orders and other instructions from local emergency management officials.

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC whenever storm surge watches or warnings are in effect along any portion of the Gulf or Atlantic coasts of the continental United States.

## Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map

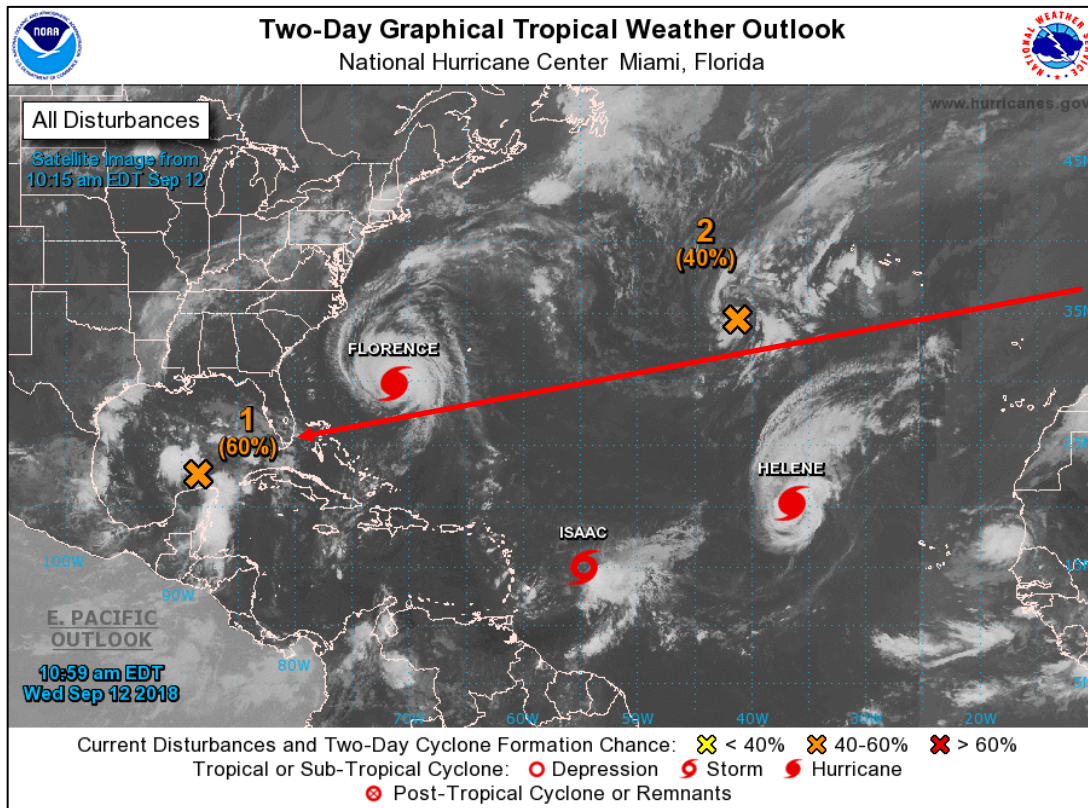


**Product Description:** The Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map shows geographical areas where inundation from storm surge could occur and how high above ground the water could reach in those areas. The map is based on the latest forecast track and intensity of the tropical cyclone, and takes into account likely forecast errors. The shading represents inundation levels that have a 10 percent chance of being exceeded, which can therefore be thought of as representing a reasonable worst-case scenario for any individual location. The first map will usually be issued at the same time as the initial hurricane watch or, in some cases, with a tropical storm watch. The map is subject to change every six hours in association with every new NHC full advisory package.

**Availability:** This graphic is part of a suite of products issued for active cyclones every six hours at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 UTC, whenever a hurricane or storm surge watch or warning is in effect for any portion of the Gulf or Atlantic coasts of the continental United States. The graphic can be issued at other times as appropriate, including for some tropical storm watches or warnings. *Due to the processing time required to produce the map, there will generally be a delay of an hour or more in the posting of this graphic to the NHC web site, or soon after the availability of the Probabilistic Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge and Tide products.*



## 48-Hour Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook



Area 1 in the graphic corresponds with area 1 discussed in the text below. Users can also mouse over the disturbance in the graphic and a pop-up window will appear providing the same text as below.

ZCZC MIATWOAT ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHMM

Tropical Weather Outlook  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL  
800 AM EDT Wed Sep 12 2018

For the North Atlantic...Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico:

The National Hurricane Center is issuing advisories on Hurricane Florence, located over the western Atlantic Ocean, on Hurricane Helene, located over the eastern Atlantic, and on Tropical Storm Isaac, located several hundred miles east of the Lesser Antilles.

1. Cloudiness and showers associated with a trough of low pressure over the south-central Gulf of Mexico have decreased since yesterday and the Air Force reconnaissance plane scheduled to investigate the system for today will likely be cancelled. However, upper-level winds are forecast to become a little more conducive for development, and a tropical depression could still form Thursday or Friday before the system reaches the western Gulf Coast. Regardless of development, heavy rainfall and gusty winds are expected across portions of northeastern Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana late this week, and interests there should monitor the progress of this system.

\* Formation chance through 48 hours...medium...60 percent.

\* Formation chance through 5 days...medium...60 percent.

2. A non-tropical area of low pressure located several hundred miles west-southwest of the Azores is producing a large area of showers and thunderstorms and gale-force winds. This system could gradually acquire tropical or subtropical characteristics during the next couple of days while it meanders over the northeastern Atlantic Ocean, and before it becomes absorbed by a larger trough of low pressure. For more information, see High Seas Forecasts issued by the National Weather Service.

\* Formation chance through 48 hours...medium...40 percent.

\* Formation chance through 5 days...medium...50 percent.

3. An area of low pressure is expected to develop near Bermuda late this weekend or early next week. Some gradual development is possible after that time while the system drifts westward over the western Atlantic.

\* Formation chance through 48 hours...low...near 0 percent.

\* Formation chance through 5 days...low...20 percent

High Seas Forecasts issued by the National Weather Service are under AWIPS header NFDHSFAT1, WMO header FZNT01 KWBC, and available on the Web at <https://ocean.weather.gov/shtml/NFDHSFAT1.shtml>.

Forecaster Avila

**Product Description:** The 48-hour Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook depicts significant areas of disturbed weather and their potential for development during the next 48 hours. The Outlook also shows the locations of any active tropical cyclones and potential tropical cyclones that NHC is issuing advisories on. The location of areas of disturbed weather on the graphic are denoted by an X and numbered, with text discussions for each disturbance given beneath the graphic. The potential for tropical cyclone formation for each disturbance within the next 48 hours will be indicated by the color of the X: yellow indicates a low probability of development (0-30%), orange indicates medium likelihood (40%-60%), and red indicates a high likelihood of development (70-100%). Potential tropical cyclones that NHC is issuing advisories on will be denoted by an X color-coded by the probability of development, and the number of the potential tropical cyclone will be shown above the X. The graphic is interactive; users can mouse over cyclones or disturbances in the graphic and pop-up windows will appear with cyclone advisory information or the text Outlook discussion for that disturbance. Clicking on a tropical cyclone symbol or a potential tropical cyclone will take the user to a new web location that contains all advisories and products for that system.

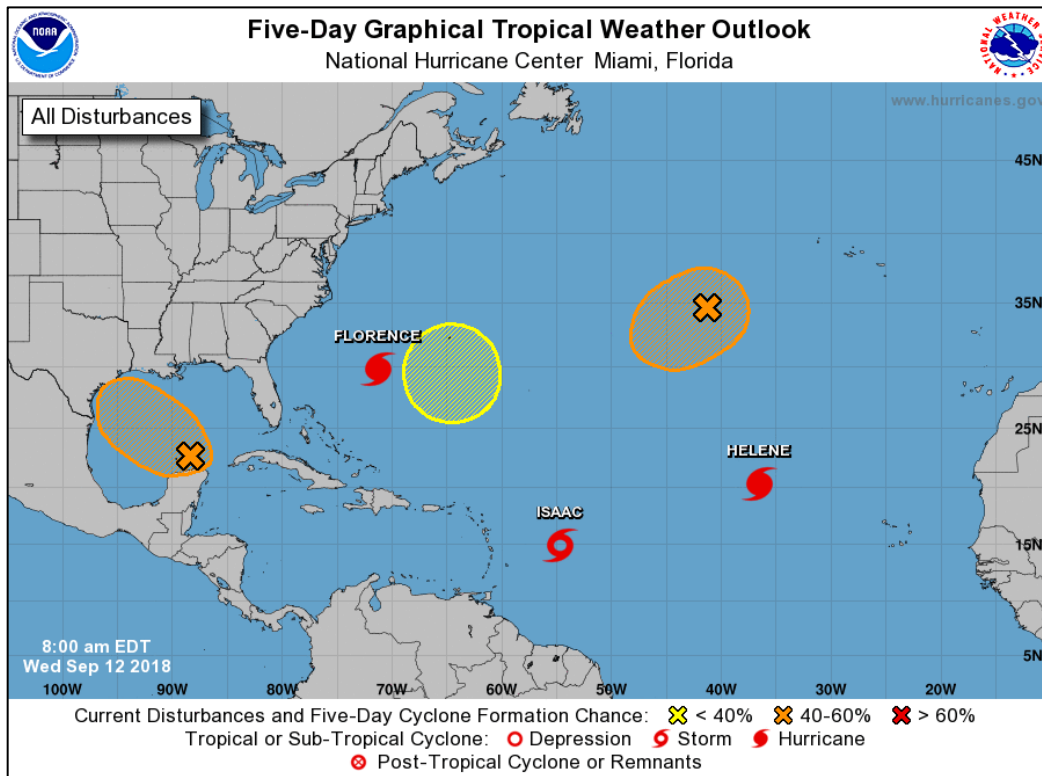
Information on the motion and potential impacts of each disturbance is available in the text descriptions but is not displayed graphically.

**Availability:** Graphical Tropical Weather Outlooks are issued every six hours from 15 May–30 November for the Atlantic Basin and the eastern North Pacific Basin, at 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table at the top of the next page. The Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook is also updated whenever a Special Tropical Weather Outlook is issued.



Basin	Outlook Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0000, 0600, 1200, 1800	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm EDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0000, 0600, 1200, 1800	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm PDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm PST

## 5-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook



ZCZC MIATWOAT ALL  
TTAA00 KNHC DDHMM

Tropical Weather Outlook  
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL  
800 AM EDT Wed Sep 12 2018

For the North Atlantic...Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico:

The National Hurricane Center is issuing advisories on Hurricane Florence, located over the western Atlantic Ocean, on Hurricane Helene, located over the eastern Atlantic, and on Tropical Storm Isaac, located several hundred miles east of the Lesser Antilles.

1. Cloudiness and showers associated with a trough of low pressure over the south-central Gulf of Mexico have decreased since yesterday and the Air Force reconnaissance plane scheduled to investigate the system for today will likely be cancelled. However, upper-level winds are forecast to become a little more conducive for development, and a tropical depression could still form Thursday or Friday before the system reaches the western Gulf Coast. Regardless of development, heavy rainfall and gusty winds are expected across portions of northeastern Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana late this week, and interests there should monitor the progress of this system.

\* Formation chance through 48 hours...medium...60 percent.

\* Formation chance through 5 days...medium...60 percent.

2. A non-tropical area of low pressure located several hundred miles west-southwest of the Azores is producing a large area of showers and thunderstorms and gale-force winds. This system could gradually acquire tropical or subtropical characteristics during the next couple of days while it meanders over the northeastern Atlantic Ocean, and before it becomes absorbed by a larger trough of low pressure. For more information, see High Seas Forecasts issued by the National Weather Service.

\* Formation chance through 48 hours...medium...40 percent.

\* Formation chance through 5 days...medium...50 percent.

3. An area of low pressure is expected to develop near Bermuda late this weekend or early next week. Some gradual development is possible after that time while the system drifts westward over the western Atlantic.

\* Formation chance through 48 hours...low...near 0 percent.

\* Formation chance through 5 days...low...20 percent

High Seas Forecasts issued by the National Weather Service are under AWIPS header NFDHSFAT1, WMO header FZNT01 KWBC, and available on the Web at <https://ocean.weather.gov/shtml/NFDHSFAT1.shtml>.

Forecaster Avila

**Product Description:** The 5-day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook provides formation potential for individual disturbances during the next 5-day period. The areas enclosed on the graph represent the potential formation area during the forecast period<sup>5</sup>. The areas are color-coded based on the potential for tropical cyclone formation during the next 5-days. Areas in yellow indicate a low probability of development (0-30%), orange indicates medium likelihood (40-60%), and red indicates a high likelihood of development (70-100%). The location of existing disturbances is indicated by an X. If the formation potential of an existing disturbance does not include the area in which the disturbance is currently location, an arrow will connect the current location of the disturbance to its area of potential formation. Areas without an X or connected by an arrow to an X indicate that the disturbance does not currently exist, but is expected to develop during the 5-day period. Potential tropical cyclones that NHC is issuing advisories on will be denoted by a X and the number of the potential tropical cyclone will be shown above the X; note, however, that formation areas are not provided for potential tropical cyclones. The graphic is interactive; users can mouse over disturbances in the graphic and pop-up windows will appear with the text Outlook discussion for that disturbance. Clicking on a disturbance will take the user to a graphic that shows only that disturbance. Beginning in 2017, active tropical cyclones and potential tropical cyclones will be depicted on this graphic. Clicking on a tropical cyclone symbol or a potential tropical cyclone will take the user to a new web location that contains all advisories and products for that system.

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<sup>5</sup> Development areas for potential tropical cyclones that NHC is issuing advisories on will not be depicted on the graphic.

**Availability:** Graphical Tropical Weather Outlooks are issued every six hours from 15 May–30 November for the Atlantic Basin and the eastern North Pacific Basin, at 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table on the next page. The Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook is also updated whenever a Special Tropical Weather Outlook is issued.

Basin	Outlook Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0000, 0600, 1200, 1800	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm, 8 pm EDT	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm, 7 pm EST
Eastern North Pacific	0000, 0600, 1200, 1800	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm PDT	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm PST

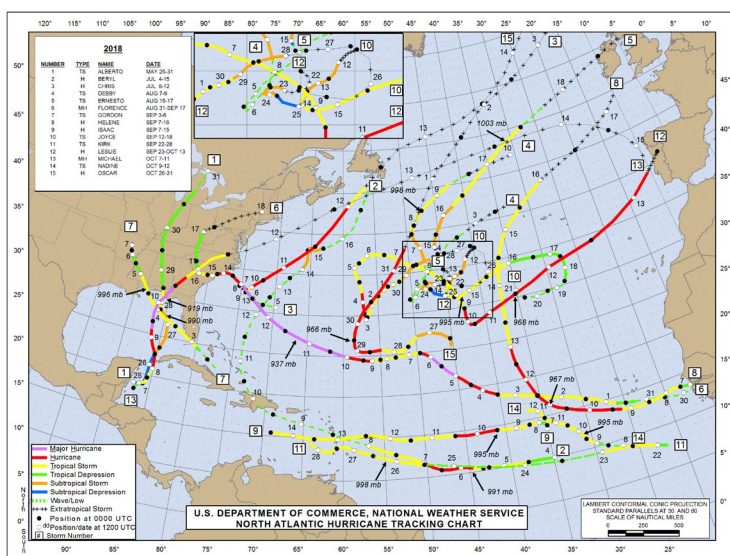
# NHC Non-Operational Product Descriptions

## Tropical Cyclone Reports

**Product Description:** The National Hurricane Center's Tropical Cyclone Reports (TCRs) contain comprehensive information on each storm, including a final best track and synoptic history, meteorological statistics, casualties and damage, and a forecast and warning critique.

**Availability:** TCRs are available in the data archive portion of the NHC website ([www.nhc.noaa.gov/data#tcr](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/data#tcr)) in pdf format. The time to prepare a TCR after the tropical cyclone has ended can vary from a couple of weeks to several months, depending on the longevity of the cyclone, available data, and the extent of the cyclone's impacts.

## Seasonal Summary Table and Track Maps



**Product Description:** The National Hurricane Center publishes a seasonal summary table and seasonal track map near the beginning of each month from July through December. The table provides a summary of all of the season's tropical cyclones to date and the map shows the tracks of all of the season's tropical cyclones. The data for each tropical cyclone are considered preliminary until the Tropical Cyclone Report is issued. The seasonal summary table and track maps can be found in the archive section of the NHC website with the season's tropical cyclone reports.