



# TROPICAL UPDATE



8:00 AM EDT

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Tropical Storm Sally, Hurricane Paulette, Tropical Depression Rene, Tropical Depression #20, Gulf of Mexico Low (20%), Invest 97L Near Cabo Verde Islands (70%), Next Tropical Wave (20%)

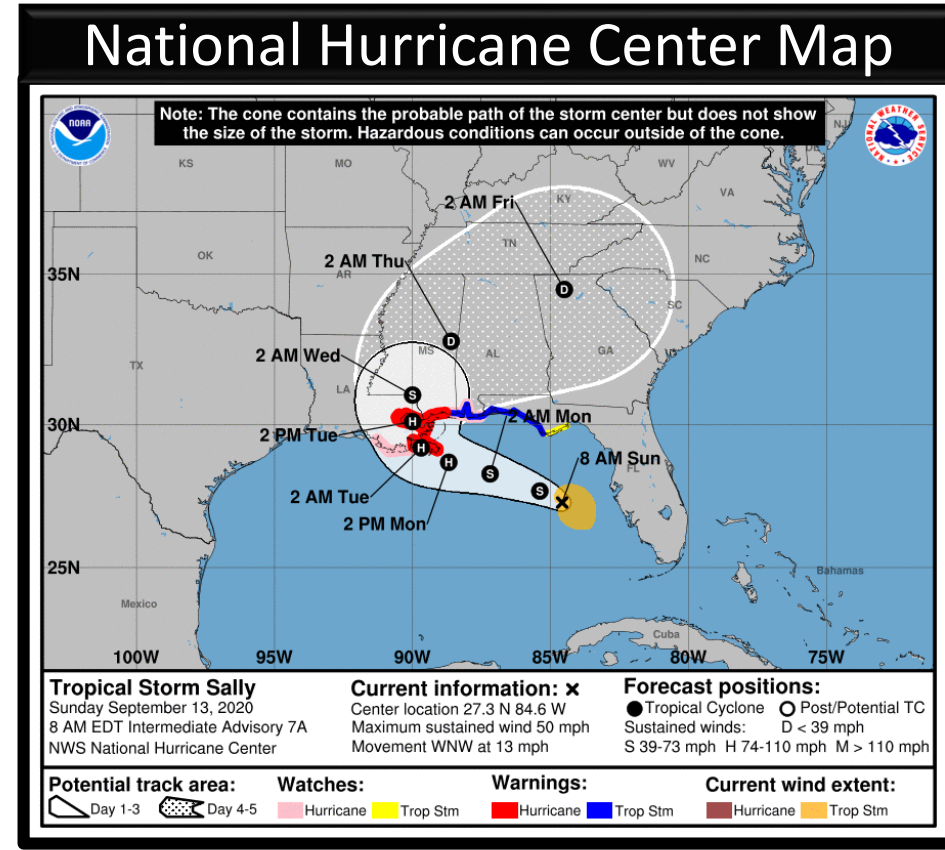
This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an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



# Tropical Storm Sally

8 AM ET Sunday: Florida Threats & Changes Since Last Packet

	MINIMAL	Low	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
WINDS					
STORM SURGE					
FLASH FLOODING					
TORNADOES					
	Low		MODERATE		HIGH
RIP CURRENTS					



## Overview/Recent Changes:

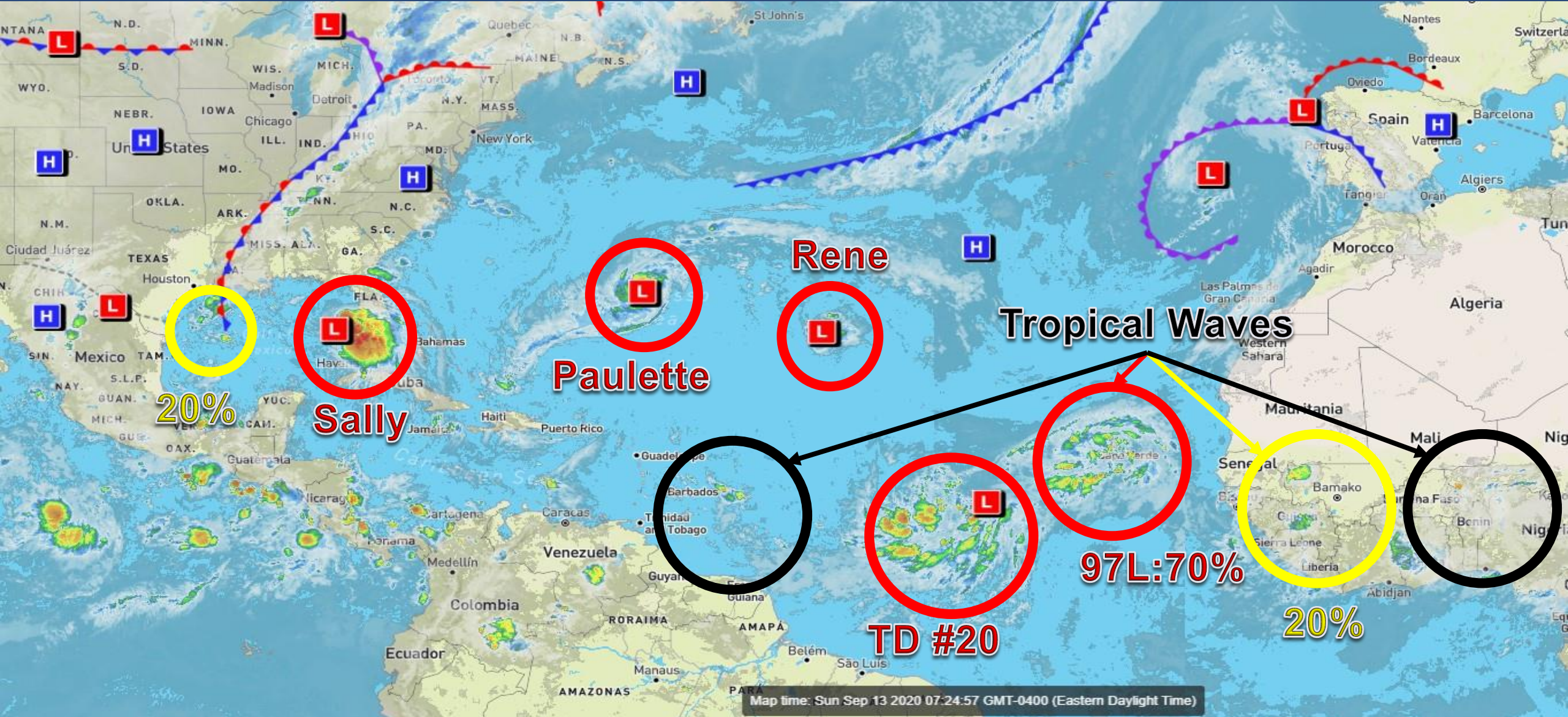
Sally continued to strengthen and organize overnight as it moves away from Southwest Florida. The Tropical Storm Watches have been upgraded to Warnings from coastal Escambia to Gulf County. The peak intensity for Sally has been increase to 100 mph (Category 2) but the track has shifted further west into Louisiana. Changes in track and intensity forecasts are still possible. Do NOT focus on the center of the cone as impacts will extend well outside of the forecast cone (i.e. heavy rainfall in the Panhandle).





# Atlantic Basin Satellite Image

Chance of development: — None — Low — Medium — High





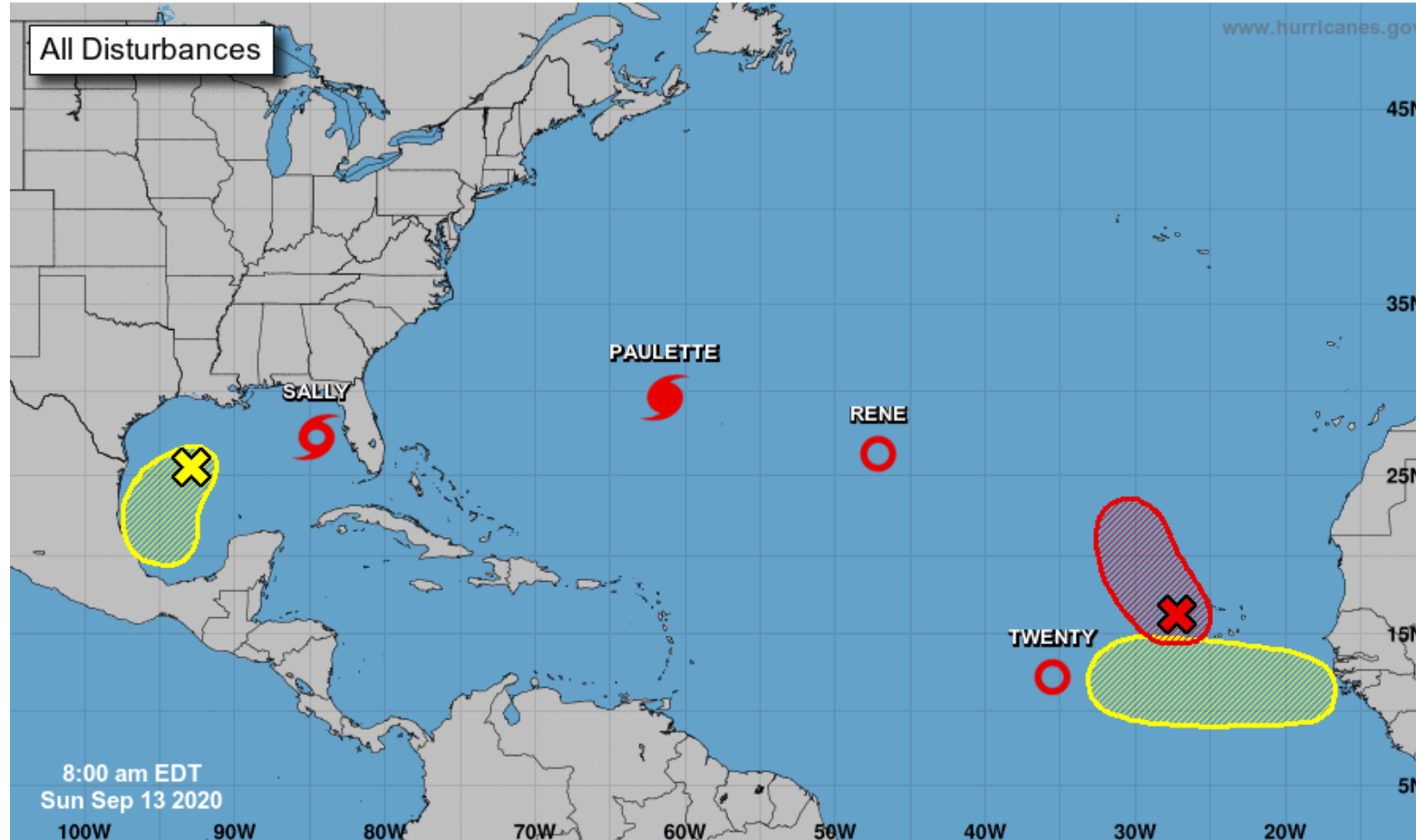


# Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Areas of Development During the Next 5 Days ([LINK](#))



## Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida

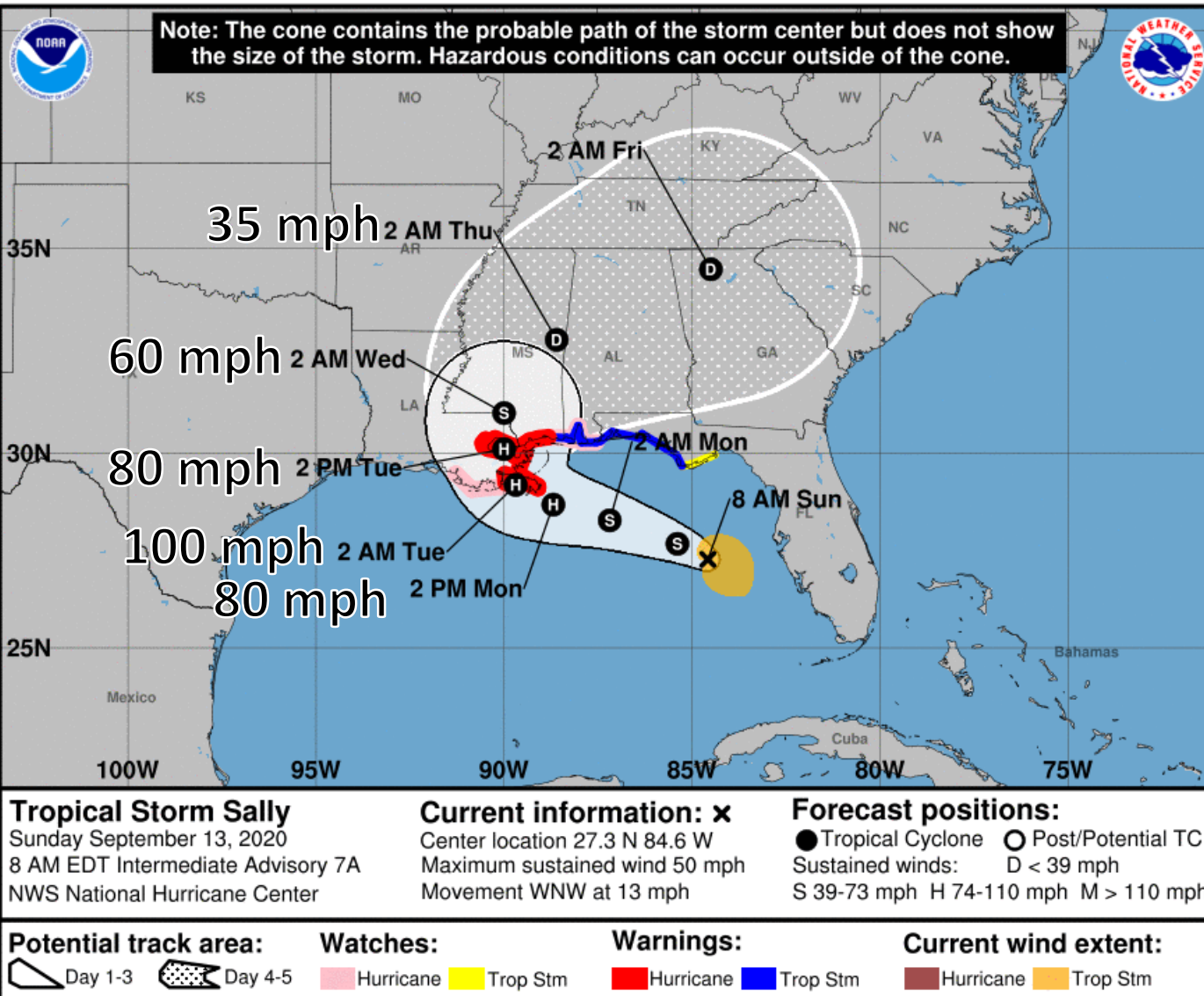


Current Disturbances and Five-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%  
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane  
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants



# Official Forecast Track

From the National Hurricane Center: Tropical Storm Sally



- The center of Tropical Storm Sally is located about 155 miles west of Port Charlotte, FL
- Maximum sustained winds are 50 mph, and Sally is moving to the west-northwest at 13 mph.
- Sally will continue strengthening as it moves west-northwestward over the Gulf of Mexico, and Sally will become a hurricane on Monday.
- Sally will slow down on Monday and Tuesday as it turns very slowly northward and eventually northeastward

**Sally will bring very heavy rainfall, tropical-storm-force wind gusts, minor storm surge, and isolated tornadoes to the Panhandle.**

**Do NOT focus on the center of the cone! The impacts can and will extend well outside of the cone!**



# Key Messages

## From the National Hurricane Center



### Key Messages for Tropical Storm Sally

Advisory 7: 5:00 AM EDT Sun Sep 13, 2020



1. An extremely dangerous and life-threatening storm surge is now expected, and a Storm Surge Warning is in effect for areas outside the southeastern Louisiana Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System from Port Fourchon Louisiana to the Mississippi/Alabama border. Residents in these areas should follow any advice given by local officials.

2. Hurricane conditions are expected by early Tuesday from Grand Isle, Louisiana to Ocean Springs, Mississippi, including Metropolitan New Orleans, with tropical storm conditions likely by Monday. Preparations should be rushed to completion in those areas.

3. Tropical Storm Sally is expected to produce flash flooding across southern and central Florida and prolong existing minor river flooding across Central Florida through Monday. Significant flash flooding and minor to isolated major river flooding is likely across portions of the Central Gulf Coast from Monday through the middle of the week.



For more information go to [hurricanes.gov](https://hurricanes.gov)



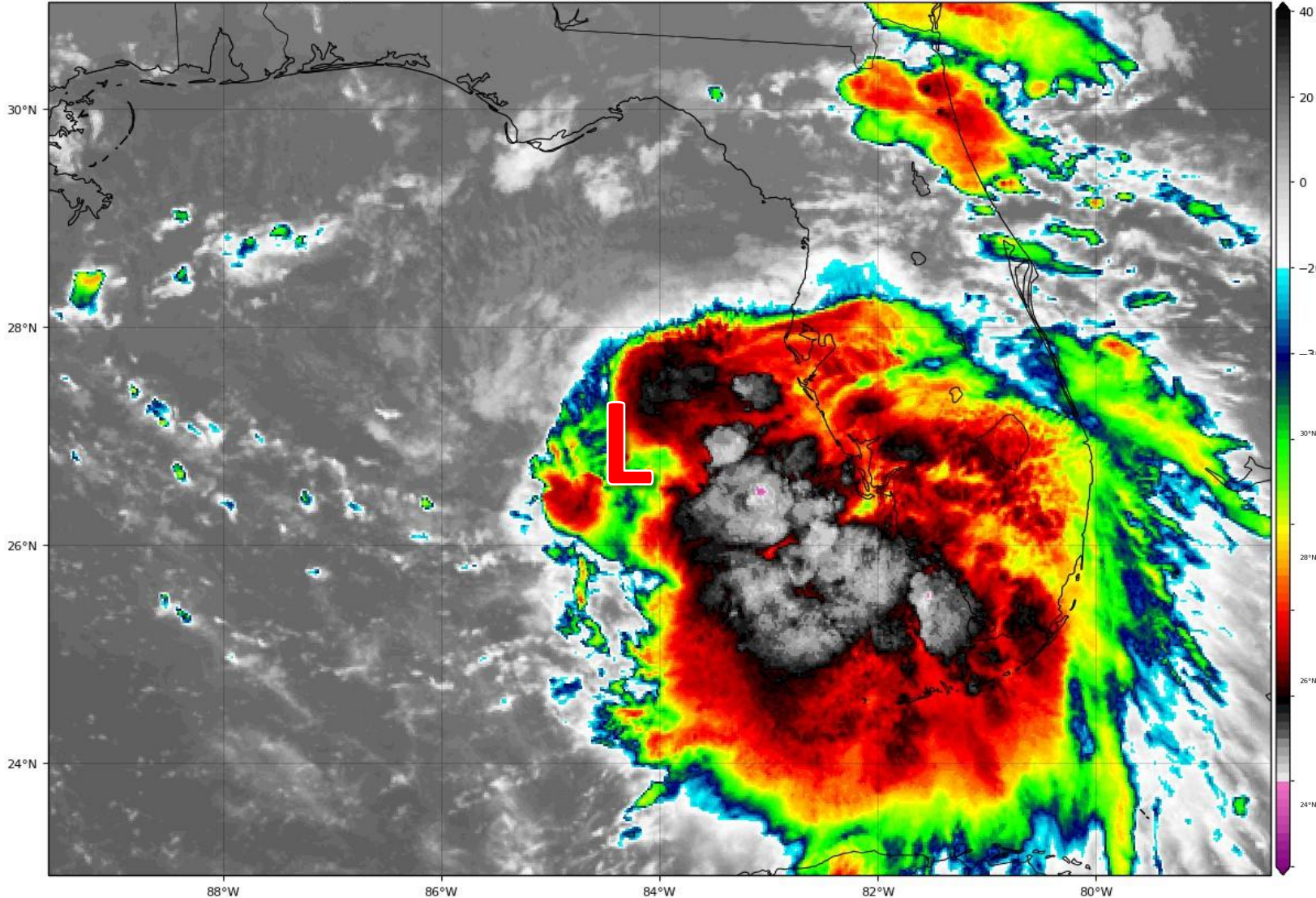


# Satellite Imagery

## Gulf of Mexico – Tropical Storm Sally

GOES-16 Channel 13 (IR) Brightness Temperature (°C) at 11:17Z Sep 13, 2020

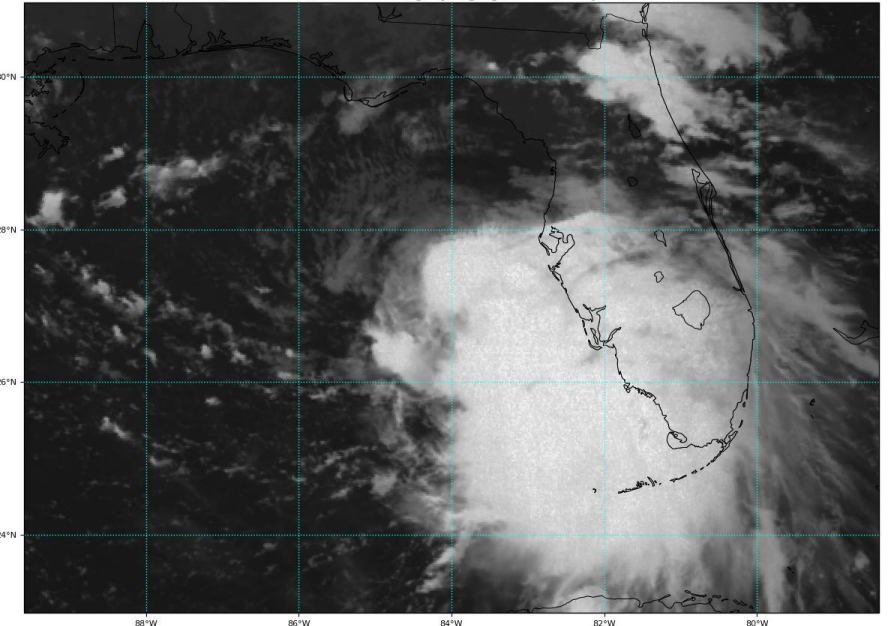
TROPICALTIDBITS.COM



Sally continues to organize. However, some light wind shear is still impacting the system and is prevent any rapid strengthening. Most of the rainfall is currently east and southeast of the center, marked by the 'L'.

GOES-16 Channel 2 (visible) / Channel 7 (shortwave IR) [Day/Night] at 11:12Z Sep 13, 2020

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM

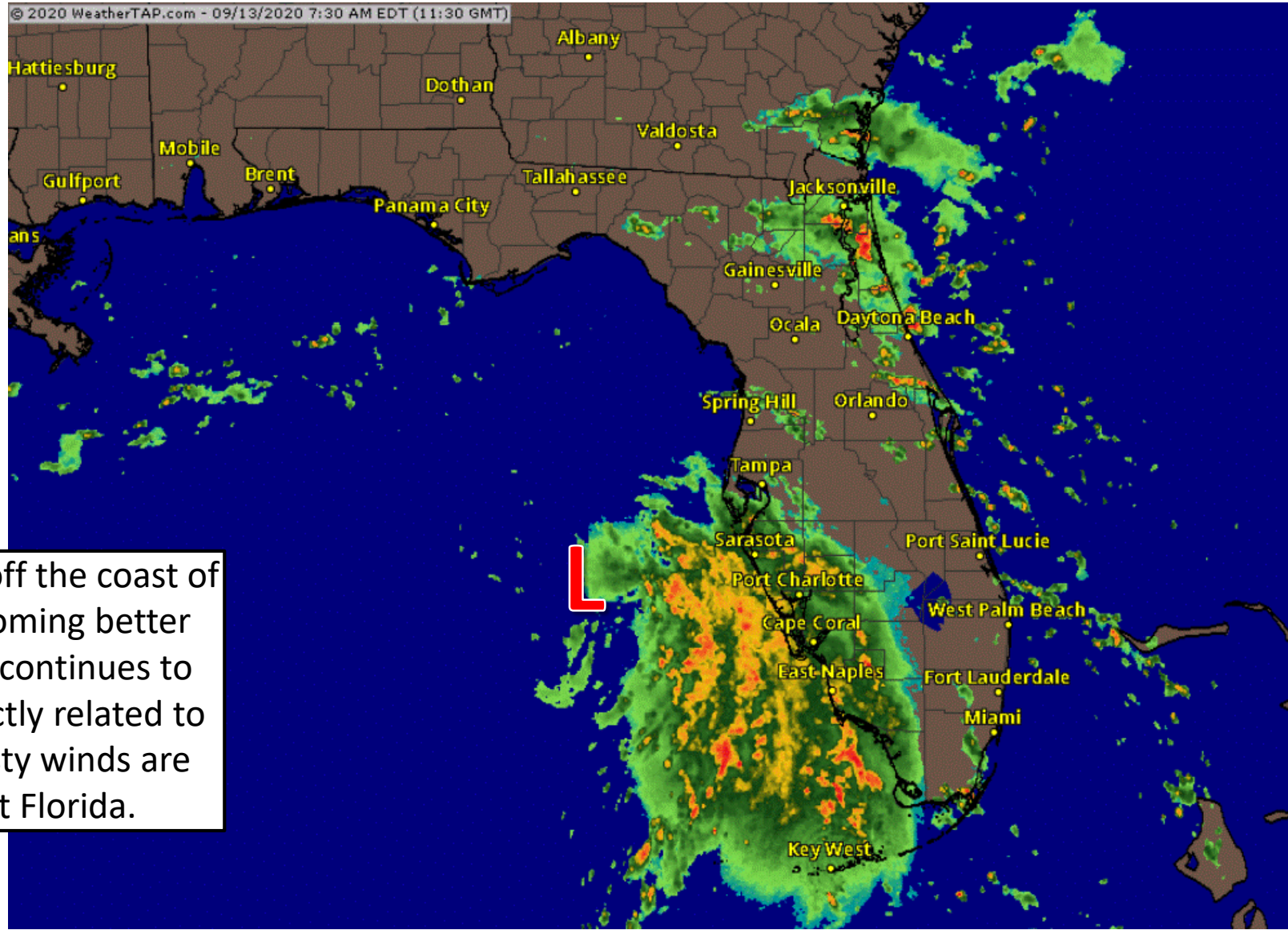






# Current Florida Radar

As of 7:30 AM ET



Tropical Storm Sally is located off the coast of Southwest Florida and is becoming better organized. Rainfall from Sally continues to impact the West Coast. Indirectly related to Sally, thunderstorms with gusty winds are moving through Northeast Florida.





# Damaging Wind Threat Overview

## Tropical Storm Sally

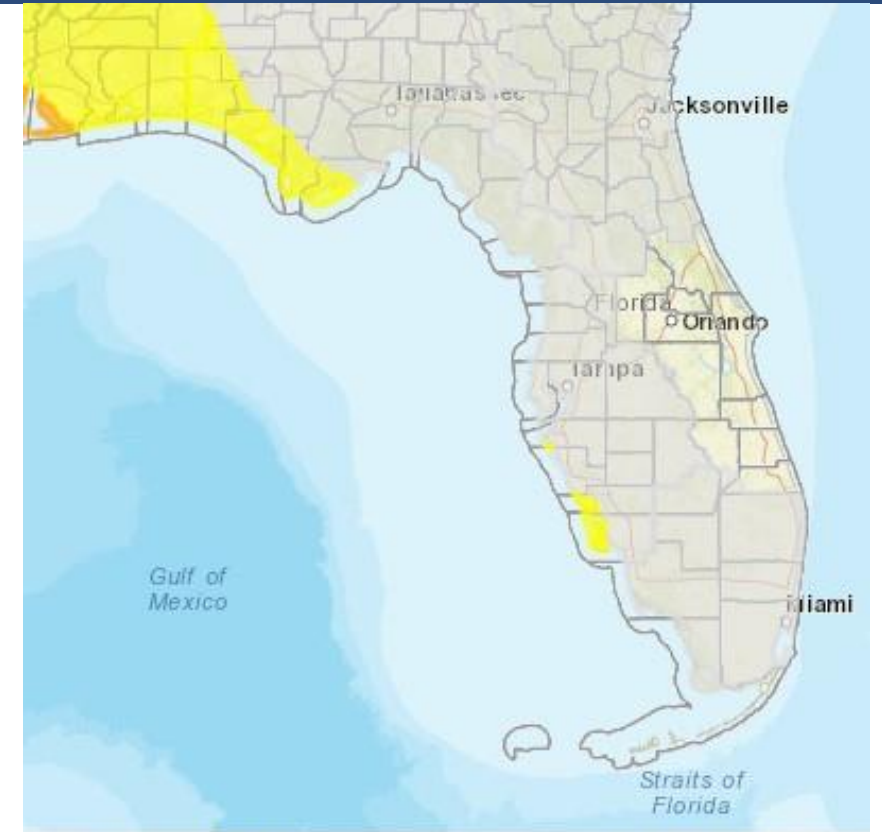
There is the possibility for tropical storm force wind gusts today along parts of the West Coast.

Sustained tropical storm force winds are most likely begin Monday afternoon in the eastern Panhandle, then spreading into the rest of the Panhandle Monday night into Tuesday. The threat is confined mainly to the coastal areas.

These risks may increase in the western Panhandle depending on the track and intensity of Sally.

[https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?  
office=mob](https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mob)

Click on “Threats and Impacts” Tab



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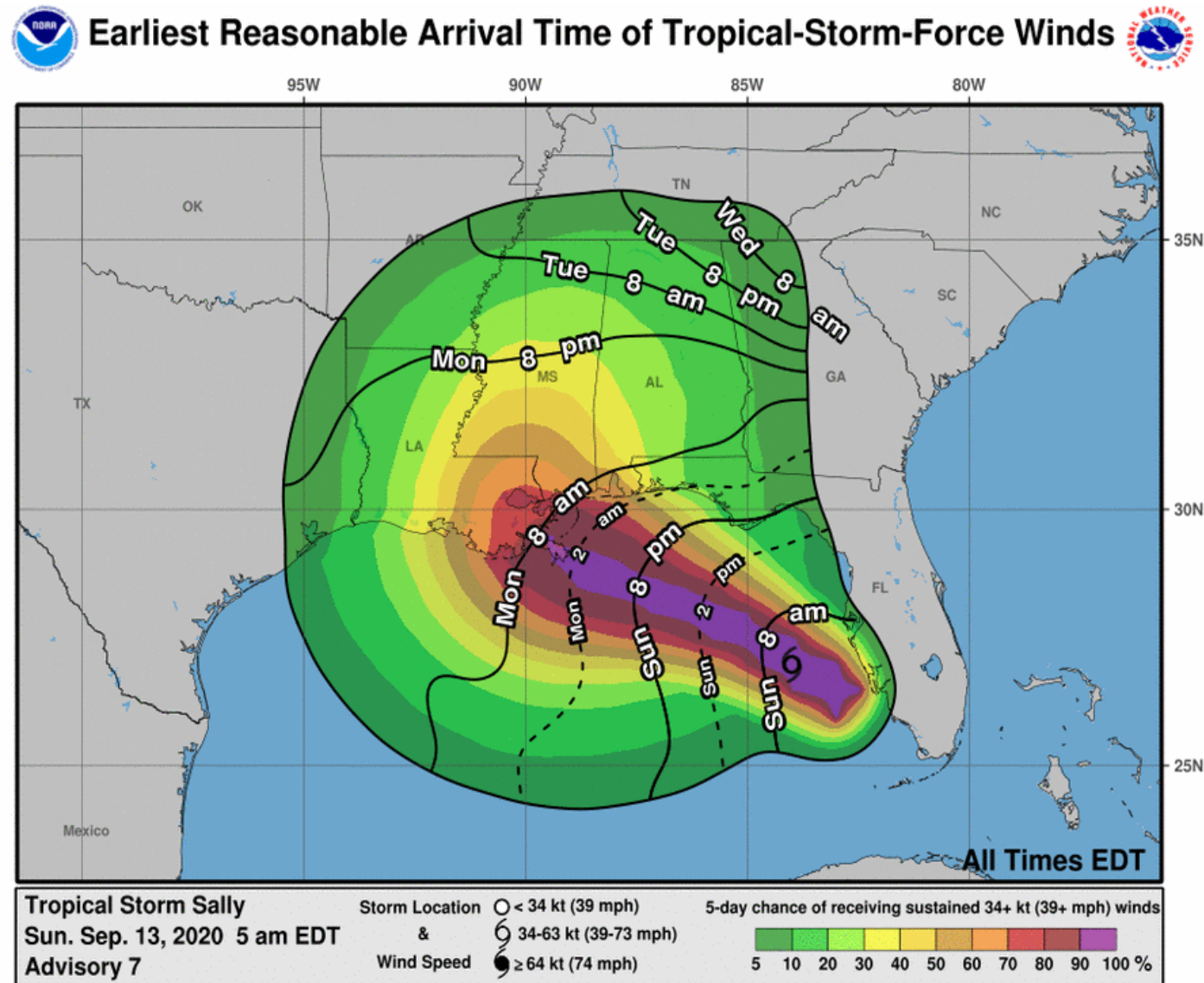
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Wind Threat
Potential for wind greater than 110 mph
Potential for wind 74 to 110 mph
Potential for wind 58 to 73 mph
Potential for wind 39 to 57 mph
Wind less than 39 mph



# Time of Arrival & Wind Speed Probabilities

**EARLIEST REASONABLE** Time of Arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds (>39 mph)



**Tampa: 5% (-6)**  
**Cedar Key: 8% (-4)**  
**Tallahassee: 10% (-3)**  
**Apalachicola: 22% (-7)**  
**Panama City: 27% (-7)**  
**Destin: 23% (-11)**  
**Milton: 29% (-8)**  
**Pensacola: 32% (-9)**

**The westward shift in track has decreased the chances of tropical storm force winds in the Panhandle.**

Tropical storm force wind gusts are possible along the West Coast today. Sustained tropical storm force winds could begin in the Panhandle as early as late tonight, but most likely Monday afternoon.





# Wind Watches and Warnings

In Effect Until Further Notice

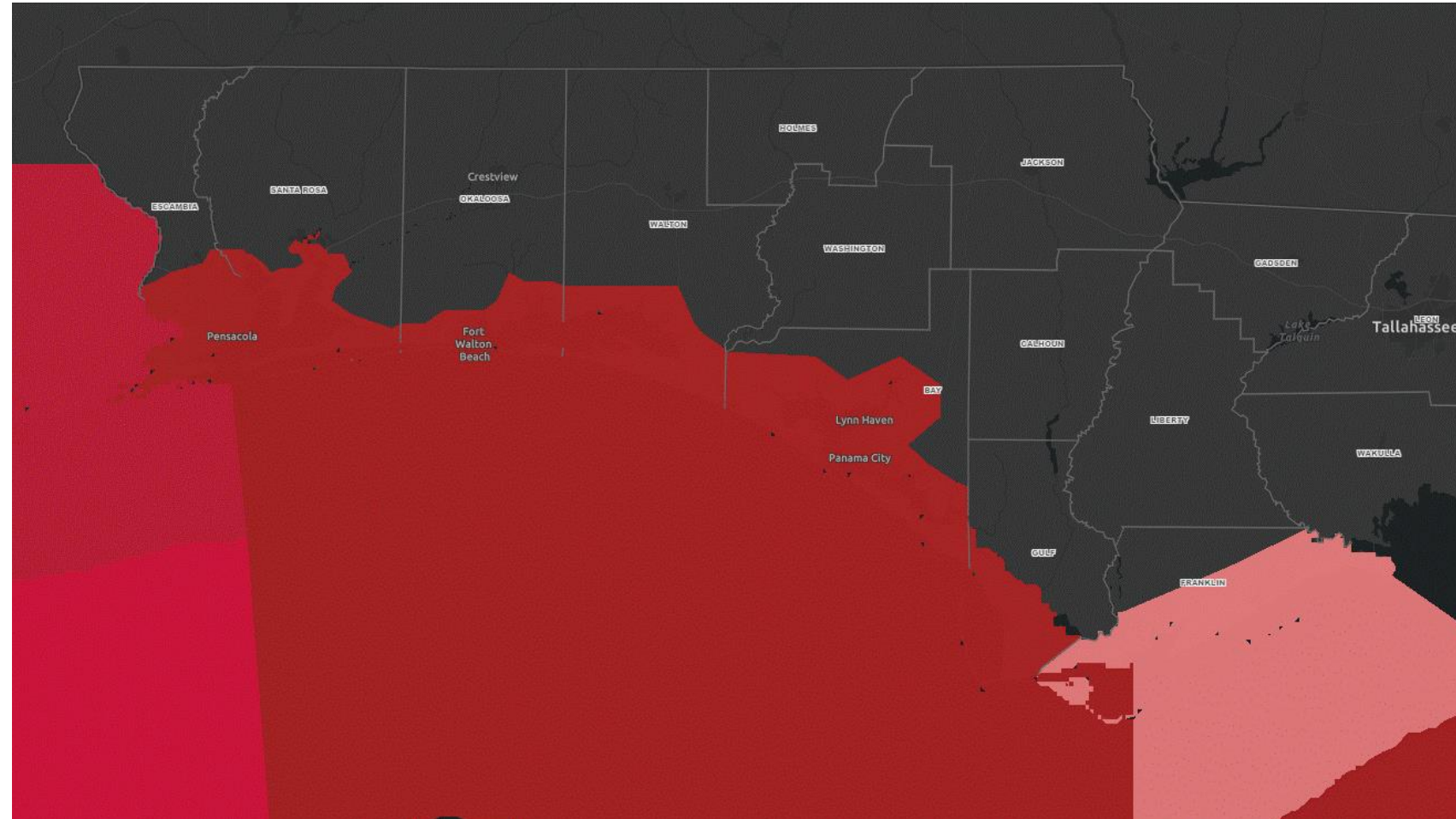
## **Tropical Storm Warnings:**

coastal Escambia, coastal Santa Rosa, coastal Okaloosa, south Walton, coastal Bay, and coastal Gulf.

## **Tropical Storm Watches:**

Coastal Franklin County

Impacts limited to isolated power outages and a few downed trees at this time.



# Tropical Storm & Hurricanes

## Watches Versus Warnings

### ***WATCH***

Tropical storm and/or hurricane conditions are **POSSIBLE** in Watch area

Issued up to 48 hours in advance of tropical storm force winds

### ***WARNING***

Tropical storm and/or hurricane conditions are **EXPECTED** in Warning area

Issued up to 36 hours in advance of onset of tropical storm force winds

Hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force. **Watches & Warnings are issued in advance of onset of tropical storm force winds, 39-73mph**



NWSMobile



[weather.gov/mob](https://weather.gov/mob)





# Flood Threat Overview

## Tropical Storm Sally

The greatest flood threat is across coastal southwest Florida, the western Big Bend, and the Panhandle. However, flooding is possible nearly anywhere in the state due to Sally today.

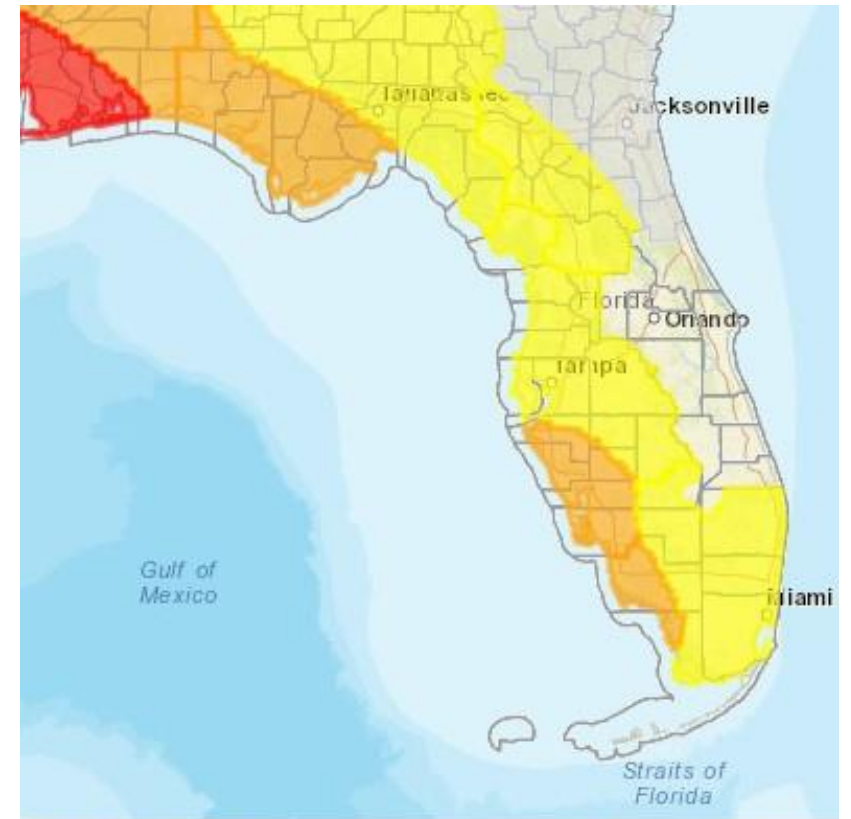
### 7 Day Rainfall Totals:

- **West Coast, South Florida, Keys:** 2-4"
- **Big Bend:** 3-6", locally 8"
- **Panhandle:** 6-12", locally 15-18"

**Flood Watches are in effect for much of the Peninsula.**  
**Flash Flood Watches issued for the Panhandle.**

[https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?  
office=mob](https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mob)

Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab



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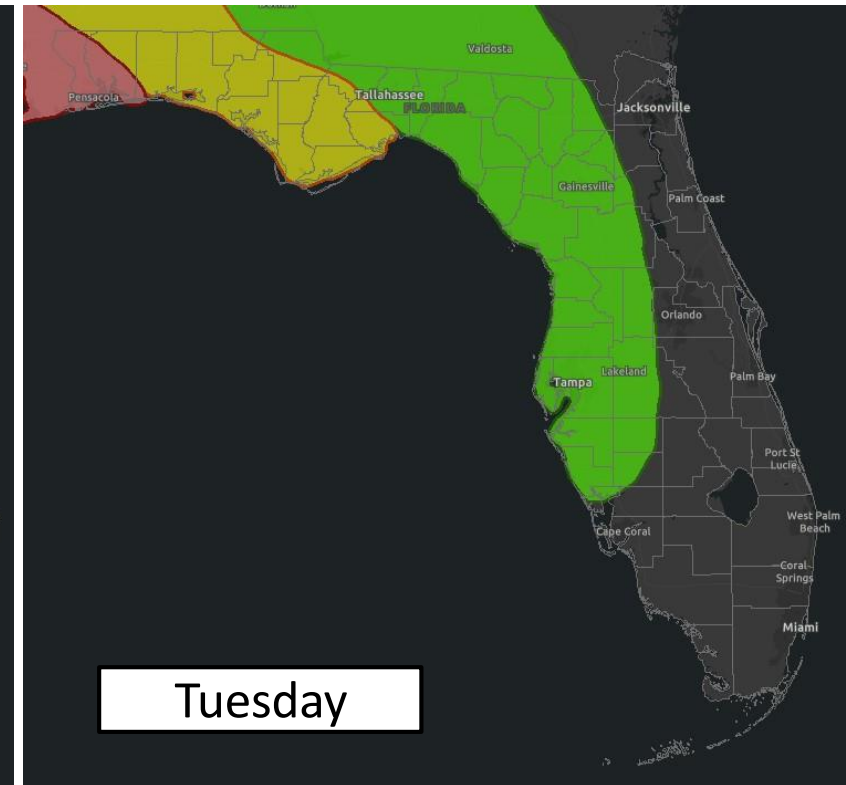
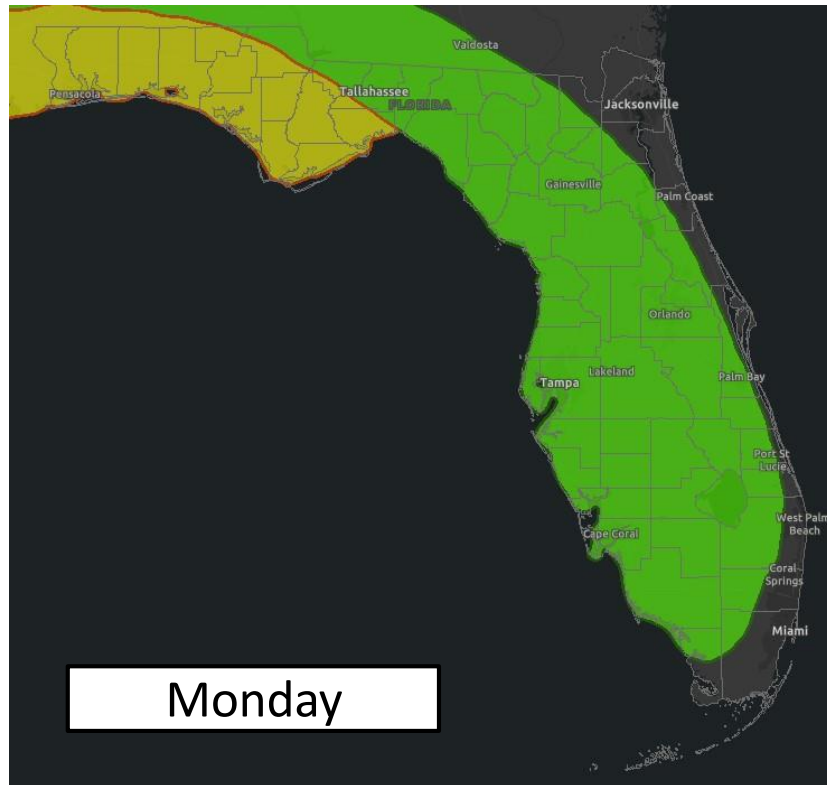
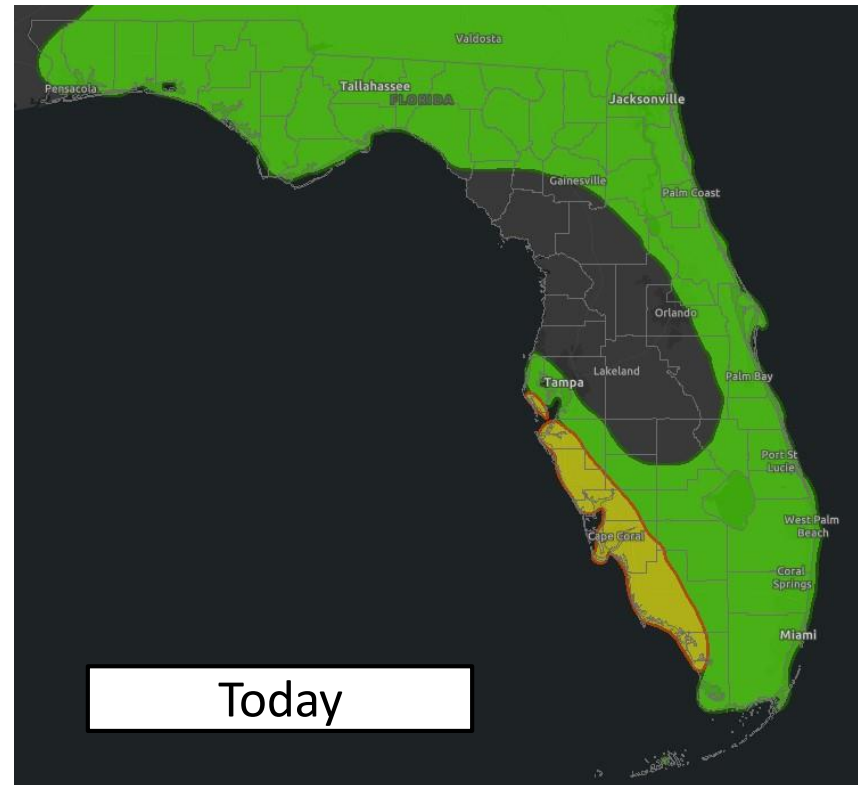
Flooding Rain Threat
Potential for extreme flooding rain
Potential for major flooding rain
Potential for moderate flooding rain
Potential for localized flooding rain
Little to no potential for flooding rain

[DISCLAIMER]



# Flash Flood Outlooks

From the Weather Prediction Center



Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point to the right of a line

**HIGH: > 50%**

**SLGT: 10%-20%**

**MDT: 20%-50%**

**MRGL: 5%-10%**

Heavy rainfall will lead to a threat of flash flooding across much of the state. The greatest threat will be in the western Panhandle Tuesday.



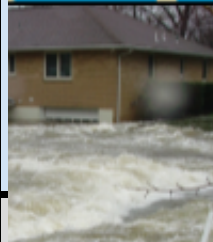




# Flash Flood Risk Categories

## Understanding the Weather Prediction Center Risk Scale

### Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

No Area/Label	MARGINAL (MRGL)	SLIGHT (SLGT)	MODERATE (MDT)	HIGH (HIGH)	
Flash floods are generally not expected.	Isolated flash floods possible	Scattered flash floods possible	Numerous flash floods likely	Widespread flash floods expected	
Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.	Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.	Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.	Severe, widespread flash flooding. Areas that don't normally experience flash flooding, could. Lives and property in greater danger.		
<a href="http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov">www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov</a> @NWSWPC					
Flash flooding near me?	Flash Flooding				
	NO Flash Flooding				
 WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER		<p>Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point to the right of a line</p> <p><b>HIGH: &gt; 50%</b>      <b>SLGT: 10%-20%</b></p> <p><b>MDT: 20%-50%</b>      <b>MRGL: 5%-10%</b></p>			



# Flood/Flash Flood Watches

NWS Links: [Mobile](#) | [Tallahassee](#) | [Tampa Bay](#) | [Melbourne](#) | [Miami](#)

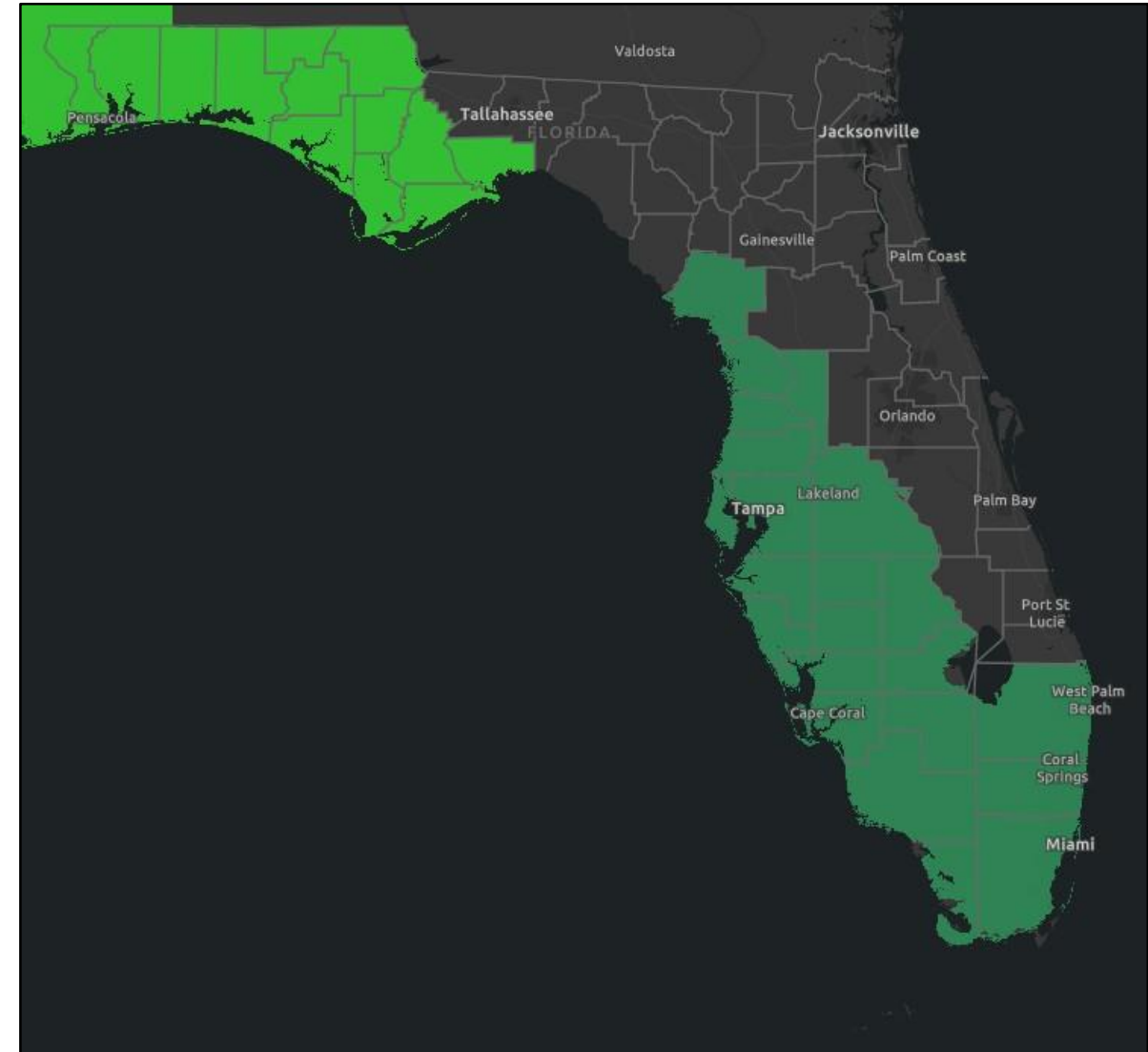
## **Flash Flood Watches until Thursday morning:**

All of Region 1 & Franklin, Liberty, and Wakulla County

## **Areal Flood Watches until this evening:**

All of Region 4 & 6 and Levy County

River flooding is also likely across North Florida as we head into next week. River flooding continues along the West Coast.

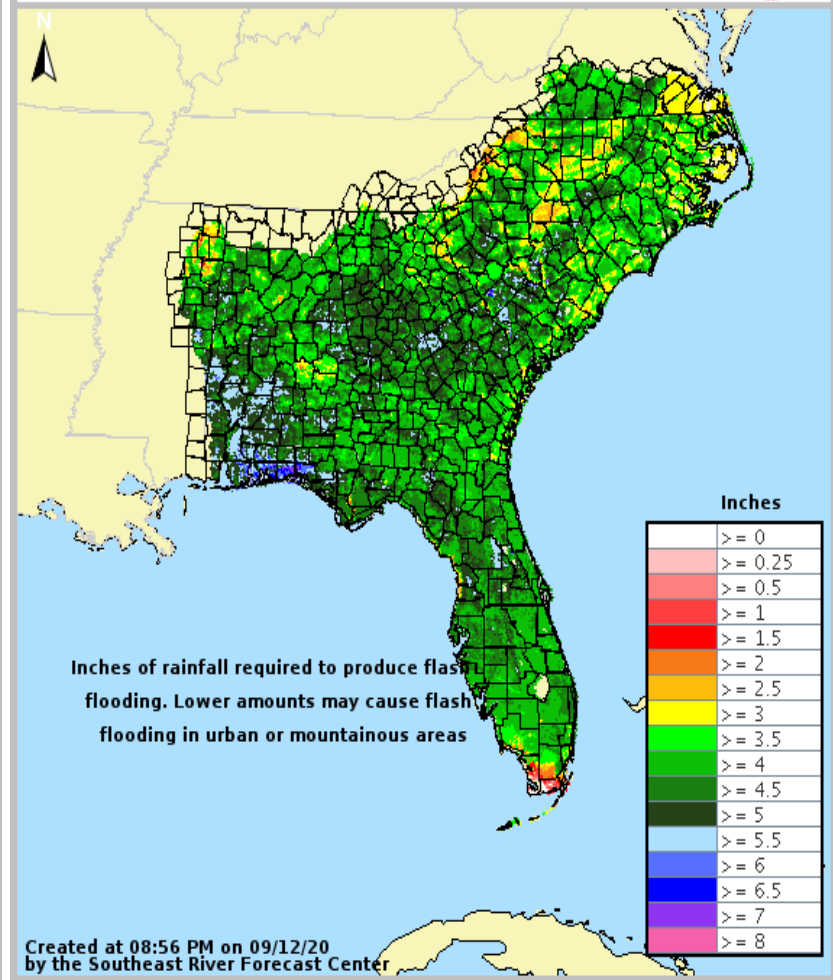
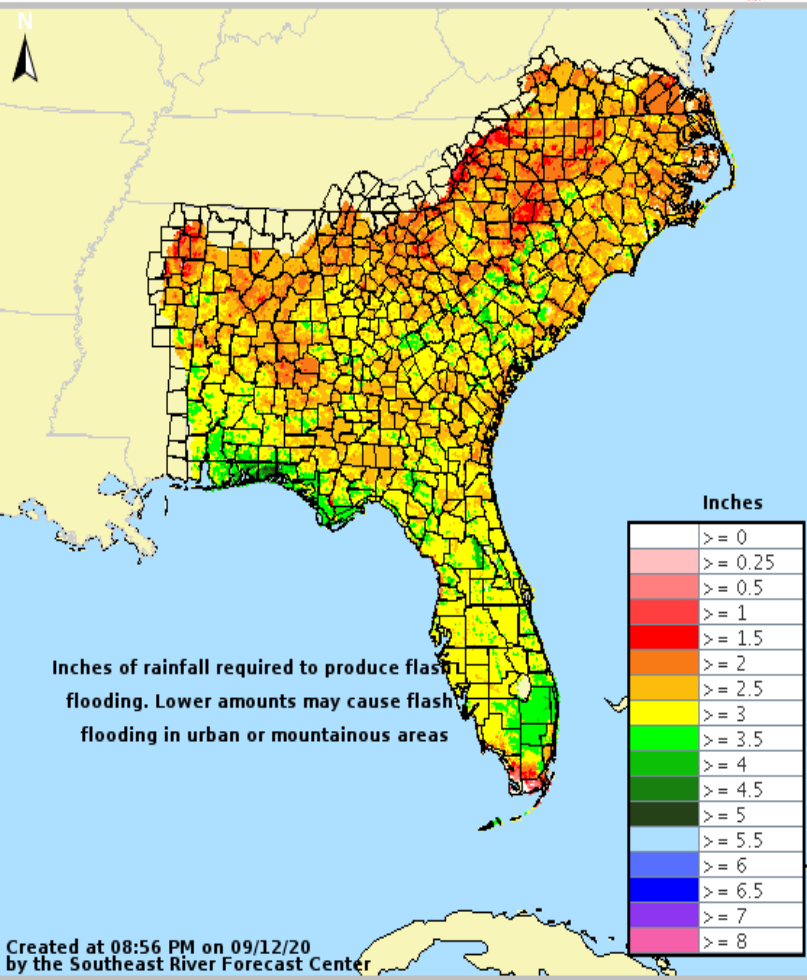






# Flash Flood Guidance

## How Much Rain is Needed to Create Flash Flooding?



Along the West Coast, it will only take about 1.5-3" of rain within 1 hour or 3-4" within 6 hours to cause flash flooding due to recent heavy rainfall.

Elsewhere in the state, it will take about 3-4" in 1 hour or 5+" within 6 hours to cause flash flooding.



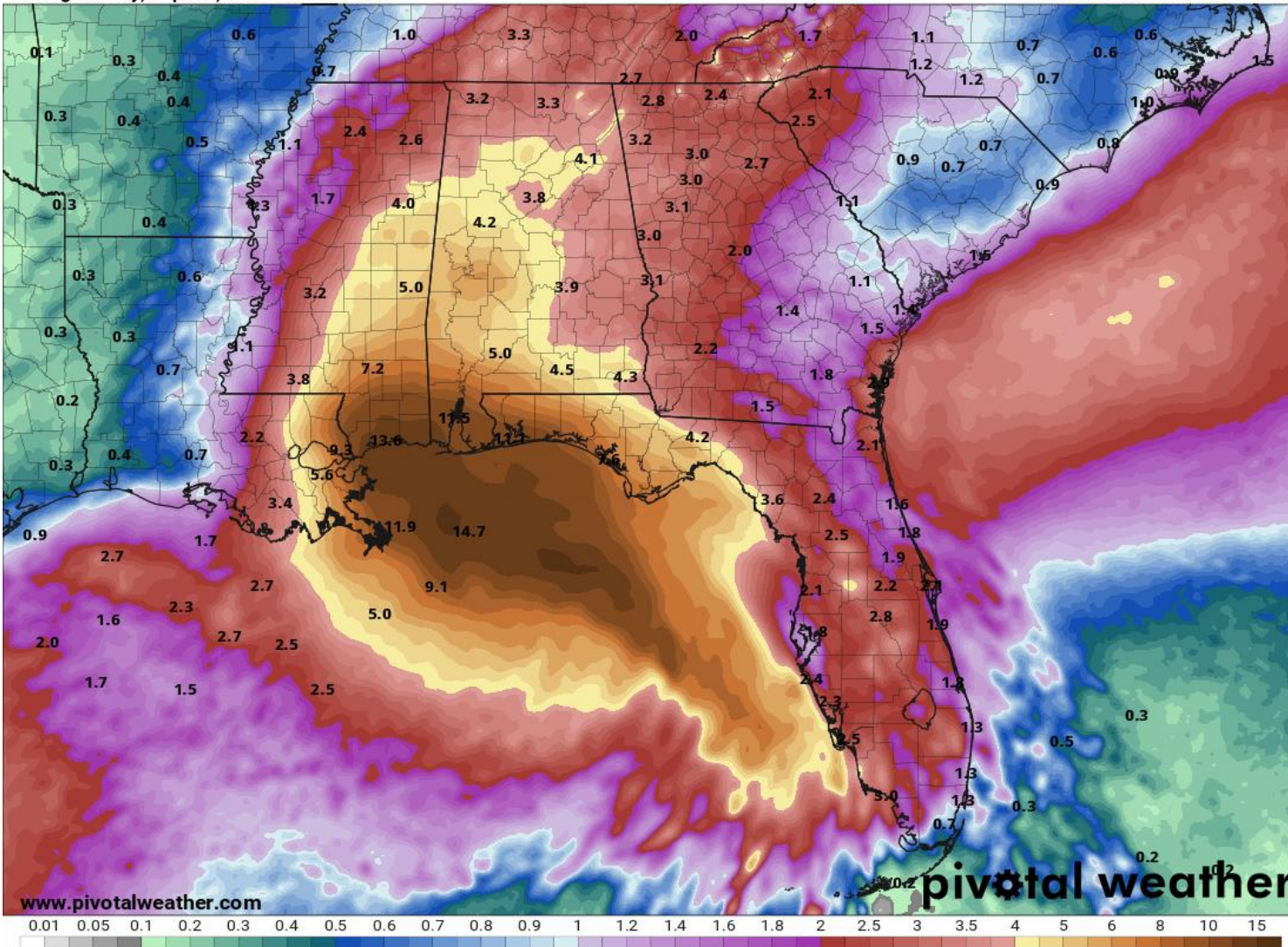
# Rainfall Totals Next 7 Days

Ending 8 AM ET Sunday 9/20 – Tropical Storm Sally

7-Day Precipitation (in)

Ending Sunday, Sep. 20, 2020 at 8 a.m. EDT

Init: Sun 2020-09-13 12z WPC



An additional 2-4" of rain is expected over the next 7 days in the Peninsula.

Rainfall totals of 4-6" are expected over the next 7 days in the Big Bend and 6-12" in the Panhandle. Localized totals of 12-18+" are possible in the western Panhandle.

Exact rainfall totals will depend on the track of Sally. Regardless, rainfall impacts will extend well away from the center.

These rainfall totals may also increase in Northwest Florida if the track were to shift northward or eastward.





# Current & Forecast River Flooding

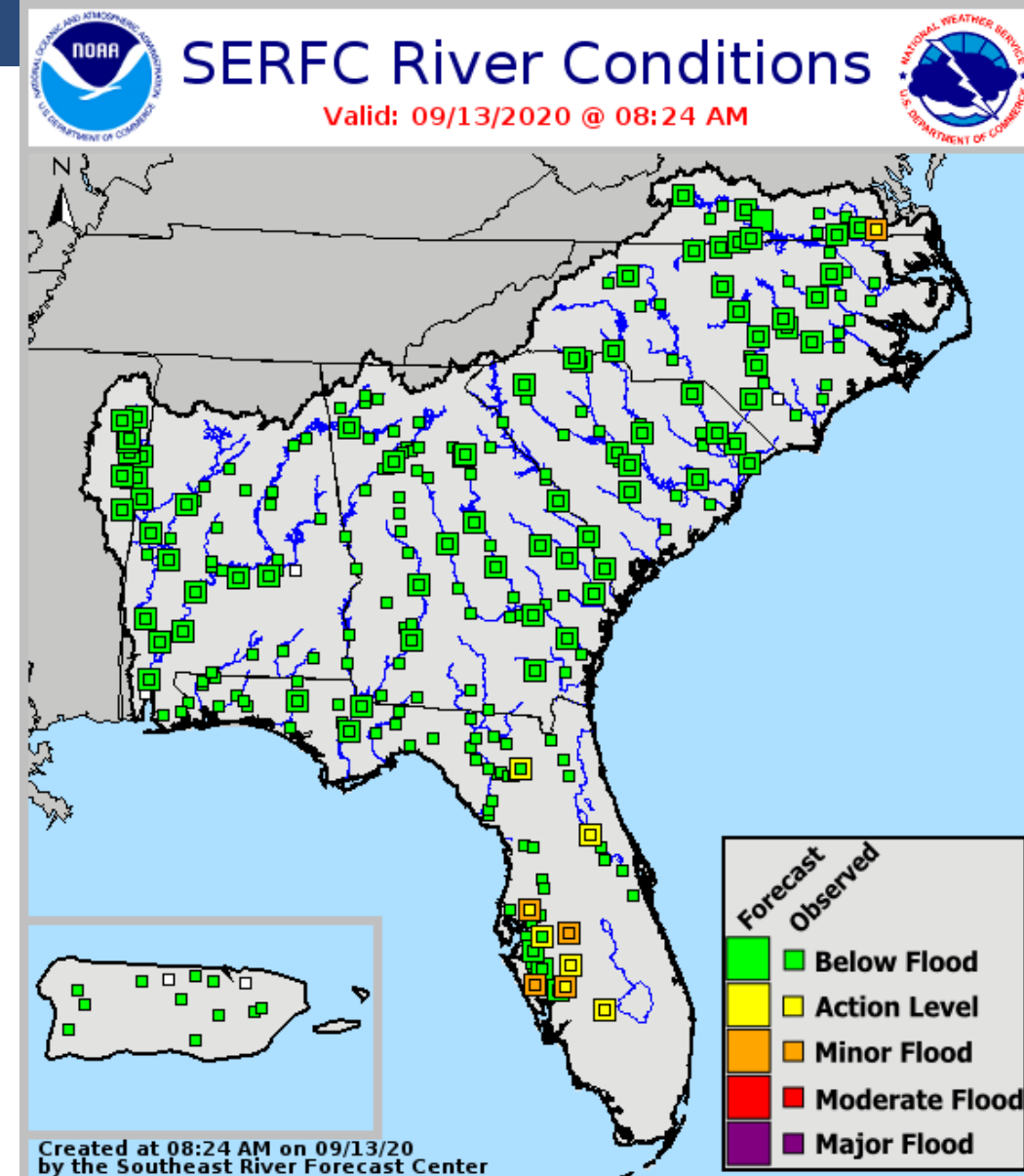
## Southeast River Forecast Center

### Rivers Currently in or Forecast to Reach **Minor Flood Stage**:

- [Peace River at Bartow](#) – STEADY
- [Peace River at Arcadia](#) – RISING
- [Myakka River at Myakka River State Park](#) – RISING
- [Ocklawaha River at Rodman Dam](#) – STEADY
- [Cypress Creek at Worthington Gardens](#) - RISING

With more heavy rainfall expected across the state, additional river rises may occur over the next several days, particularly in the Panhandle.

More details on river levels available at the [Southeast River Forecast Center website](#).





# Storm Surge Threat Overview

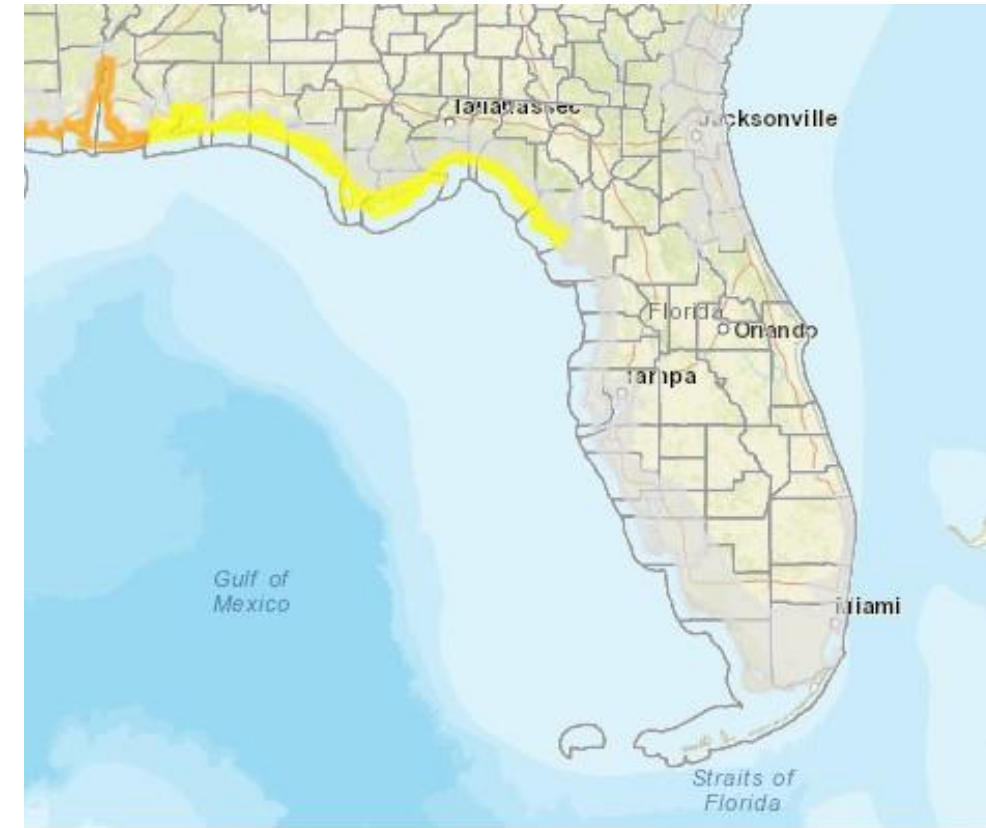
## Tropical Storm Sally

About 1-3' of storm surge is expected across the Panhandle and Big Bend through the next few days.

Tides are already running about 1' above normal along the Gulf Coast at high tide, which could result in some nuisance flooding of normally flood-prone areas.

Minor flooding is expected at high tide starting tonight and continuing through the middle of the week in the Panhandle and Big Bend.

If the surge threat increases in the Panhandle, then Storm Surge Watches may be issued in the western Panhandle.



[Download KML]

[Download Image]

### Storm Surge Threat

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 9 ft above ground

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 6 ft above ground

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 3 ft above ground

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 1 ft above ground

Little to no storm surge flooding

[https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?  
office=mob](https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mob)

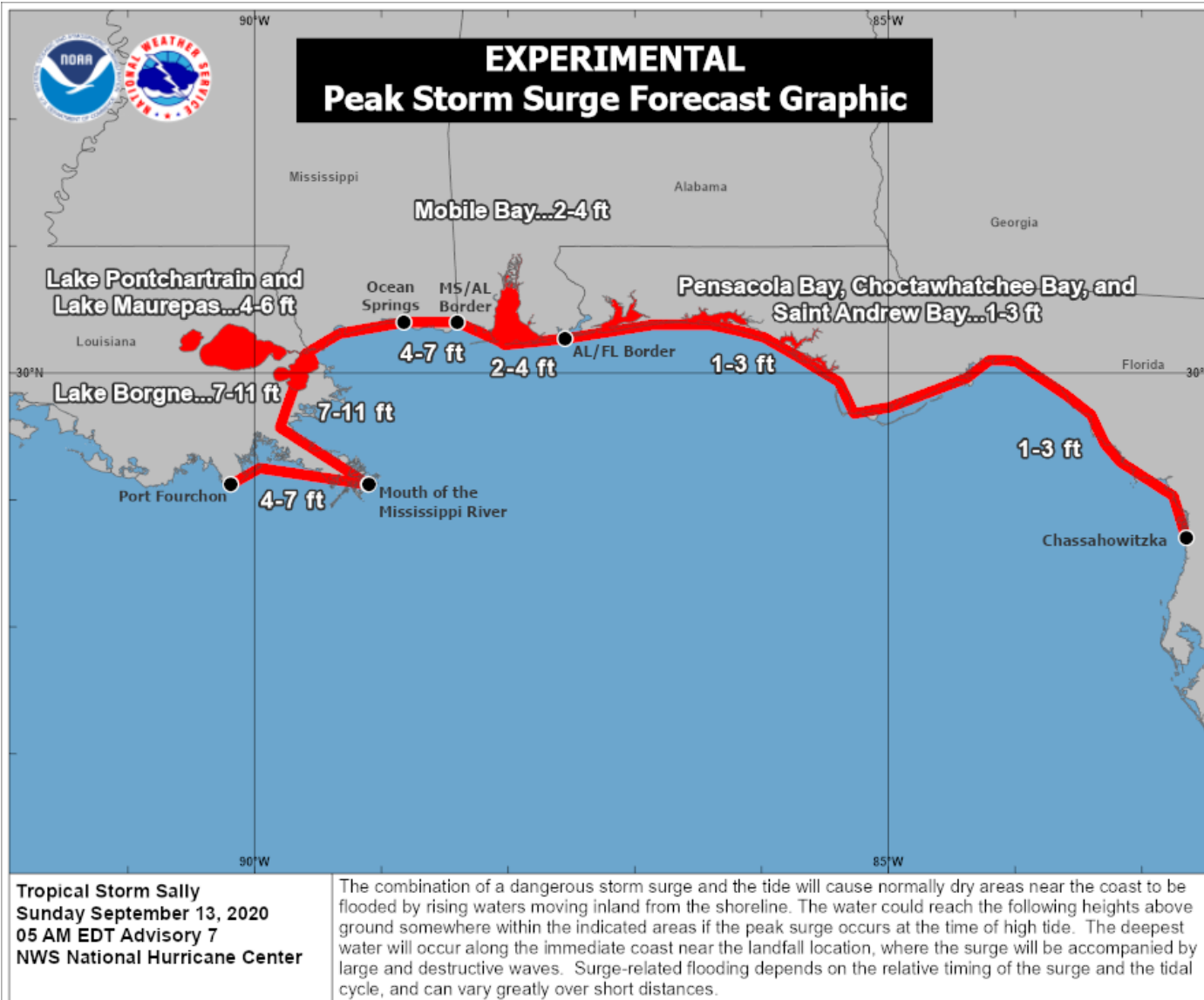
Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab





# Storm Surge/Coastal Flooding

## Through Mid-Week





# Tornado Threat Overview

## Tropical Storm Sally

Isolated tornadoes are possible in the Panhandle and western Big Bend starting tonight in the outer rain bands from Sally.



[Download KML]

[Download Image]

Tornado Threat	
Potential for outbreak of tornadoes	
Potential for many tornadoes	
Potential for several tornadoes	
Potential for a few tornadoes	
Tornadoes not expected	

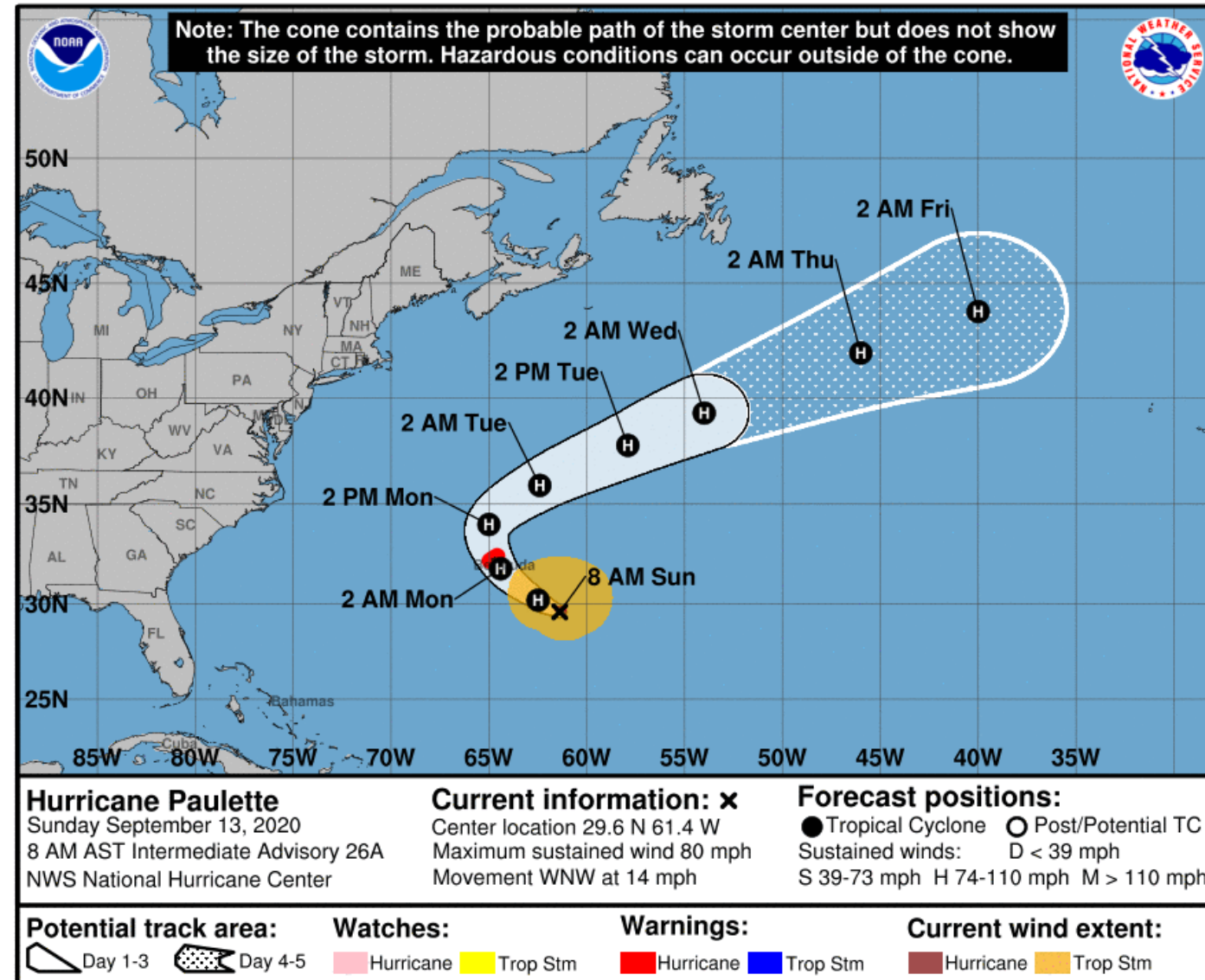
[https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?  
office=mob](https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mob)

Click on "Threats and Impacts" Tab



# Official Forecast Track

From the National Hurricane Center – Hurricane Paulette



- The center of Paulette is located about 280 miles southeast of Bermuda
- Maximum sustained winds are 80 mph, and Paulette is moving to the west-northwest at 14 mph.
- Strengthening is forecast to continue as Paulette will move near or over Bermuda Monday morning.
- Paulette could become a major hurricane as it turns northeastward Tuesday/Wednesday.

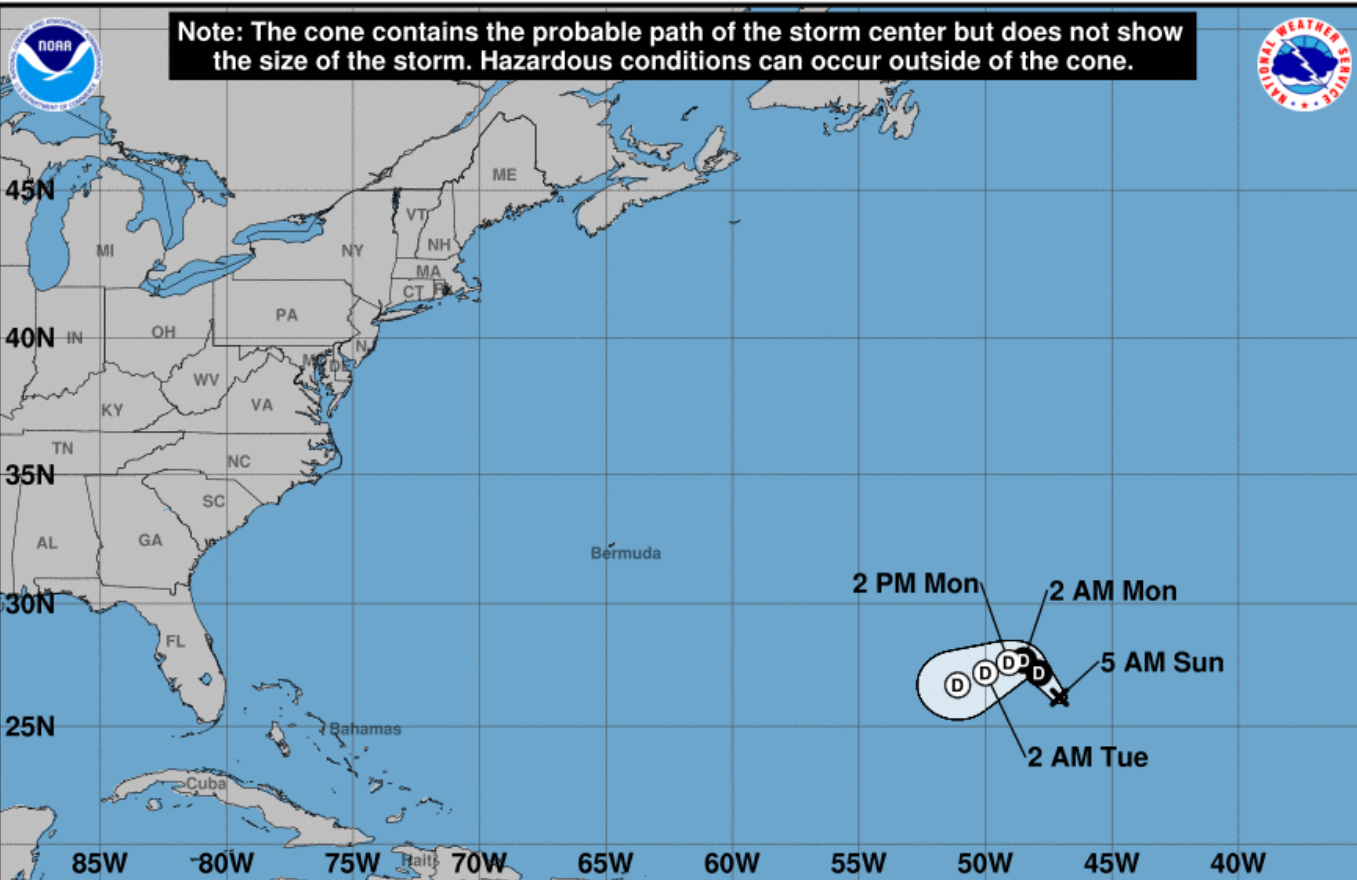
**Direct impacts from Paulette are not expected, but swells will impact the East Coast this week, increasing the risk for rip currents.**





# Official Forecast Track

## From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Depression Rene



- The center of Tropical Depression Rene is located 1,160 miles east-northeast of the northern Leeward Islands
- Maximum sustained winds are 30 mph, and the system is moving to the northwest at 14 mph.
- Rene is likely to dissipate sometimes on Monday or Tuesday in the open waters of the Atlantic.

**This system is not a threat to Florida, or the U.S.**

### Tropical Depression Rene

Sunday September 13, 2020  
5 AM AST Advisory 25  
NWS National Hurricane Center

### Current information: x

Center location 26.2 N 47.1 W  
Maximum sustained wind 30 mph  
Movement NW at 14 mph

### Forecast positions:

● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post/Potential TC  
Sustained winds: D < 39 mph  
S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110 mph

### Potential track area:

Day 1-3 Day 4-5

### Watches:

Hurricane Trop Stm

### Warnings:

Hurricane Trop Stm

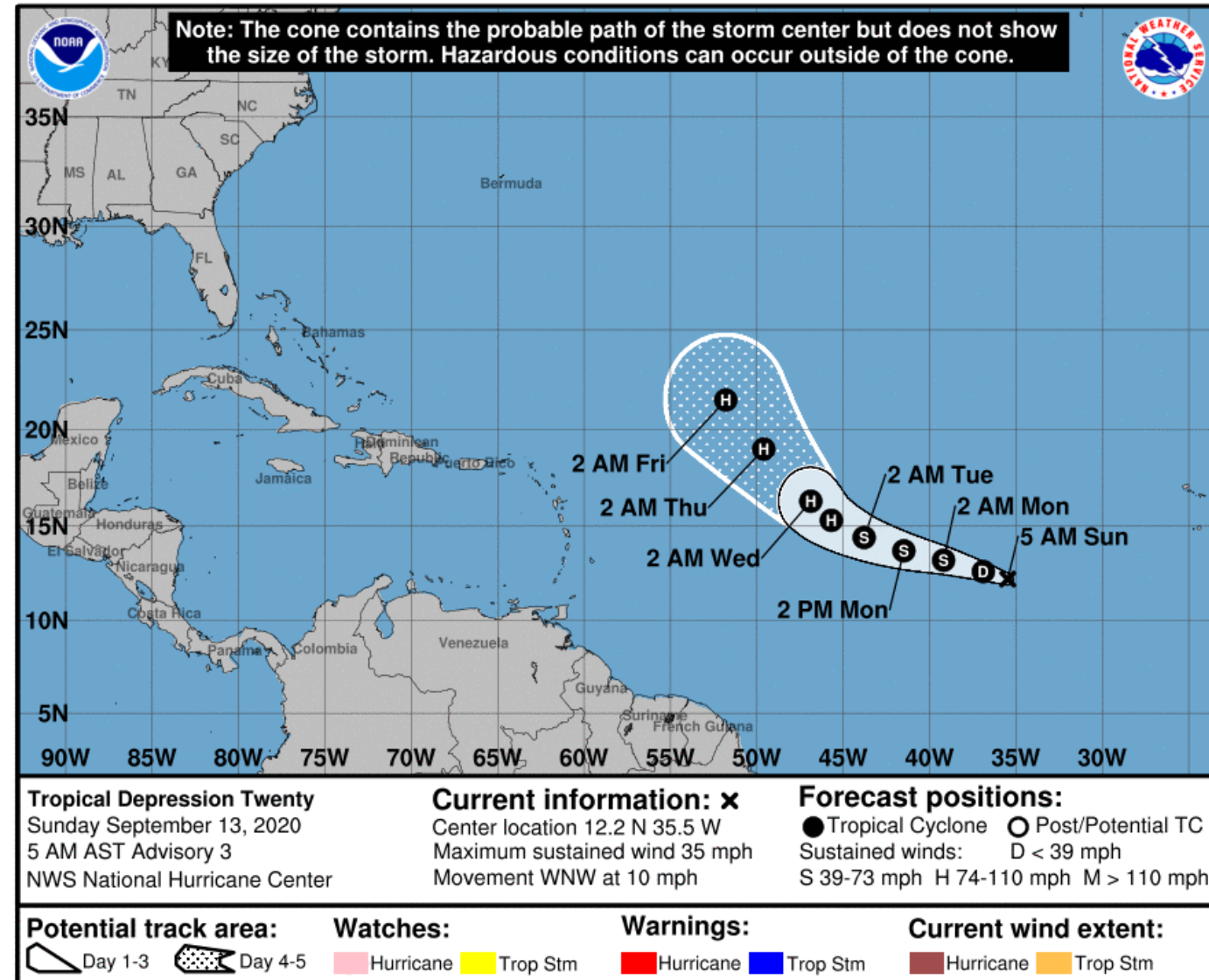
### Current wind extent:

Hurricane Trop Stm



# Official Forecast Track

## From the National Hurricane Center – Tropical Depression #20



- The center of Tropical Depression #20 is located about 1,745 miles east of the Lesser Antilles.
- Maximum sustained winds are at 35 mph, and the system is moving to the west-northwest at 10 mph.
- TD #20 will likely become a tropical storm by Monday, and it could become a hurricane by Wednesday.
- A gradual turn towards the northwest is expected mid-week, keeping the system out of the Caribbean.

**This system does not need to be monitored at this time.**



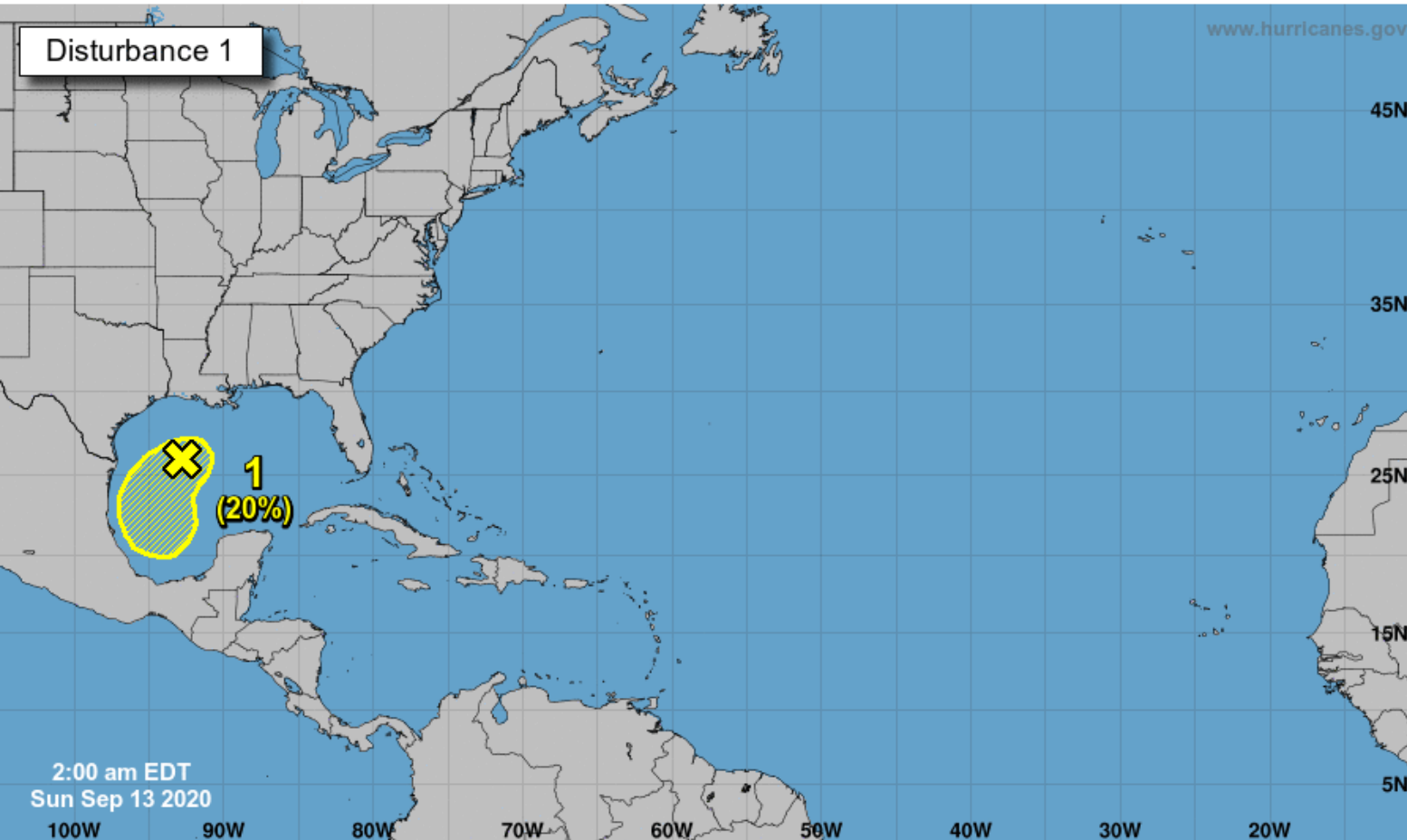
# Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Area of Development During the Next 5 Days ([LINK](#))



## Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



A surface trough over the west-central Gulf of Mexico is producing limited shower activity.

While some slow development of this system is possible, strong upper-level winds associated with Tropical Storm Sally will probably limit the chances of tropical cyclone formation through Monday.

The disturbance is forecast to move southwestward and then southward over the west-central and southwestern Gulf of Mexico through the next few days.

**This system poses no threat to Florida.**

**\*Formation chance through 48 hrs...low...10%**

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

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





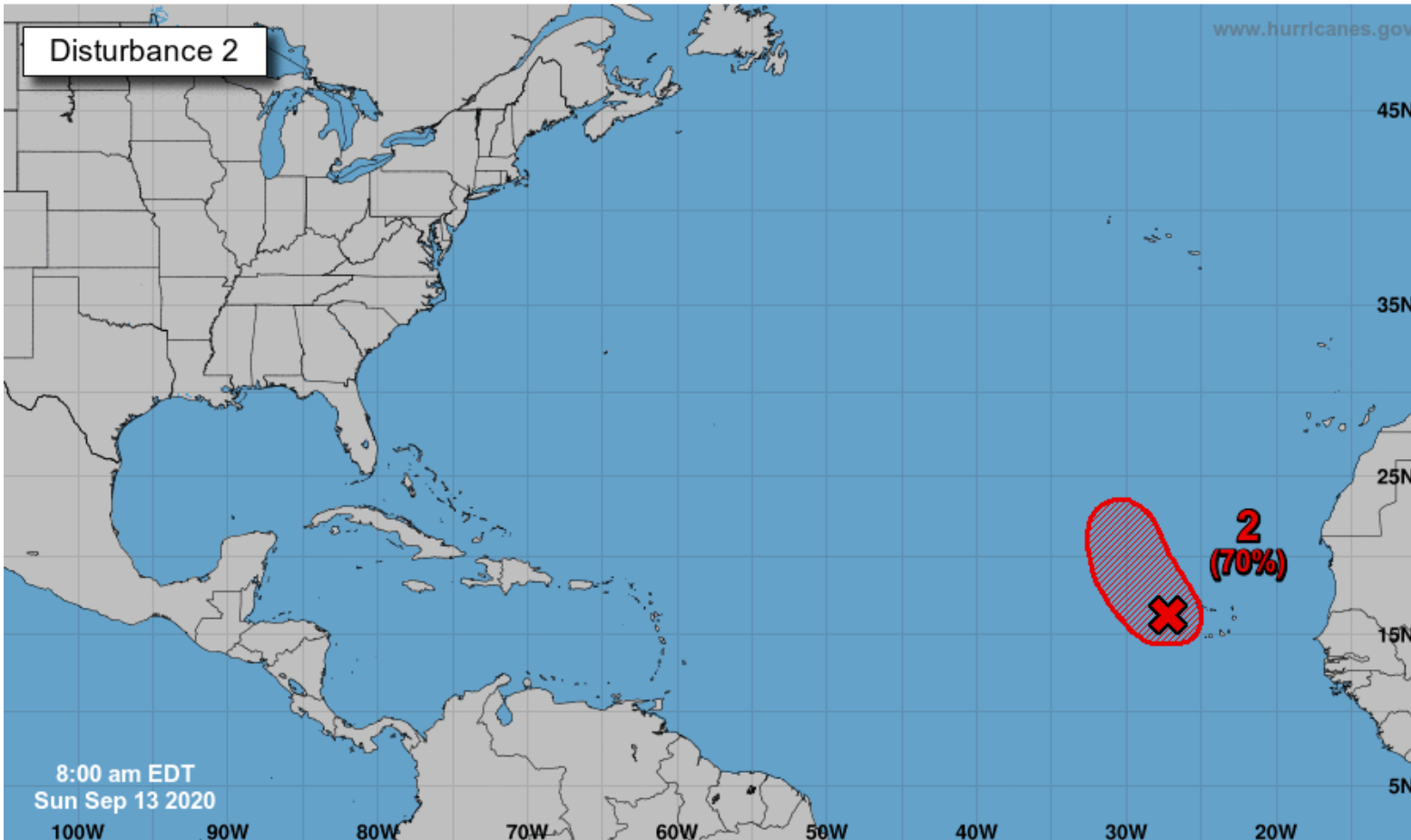
# Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Area of Development During the Next 5 Days ([LINK](#)) – Invest 97L



## Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



An area of low pressure is located a little over a hundred miles west of the Cabo Verde Islands.

Although the low's circulation appears somewhat elongated, the associated shower and thunderstorm activity is showing some signs of organization.

Environmental conditions are expected to be conducive for additional development during the next day or so while the system moves toward the north-northwest at 5 to 10 mph, and a tropical depression is likely to form before it moves over colder waters and into an area of strong upper-level winds by Tuesday.

This system poses no threat to Florida, or the U.S.

**\*Formation chance through 48 hrs...high...70%**

**\*Formation chance through 5 days...high...70%**

Current Disturbances and Five-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%

Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane

Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants



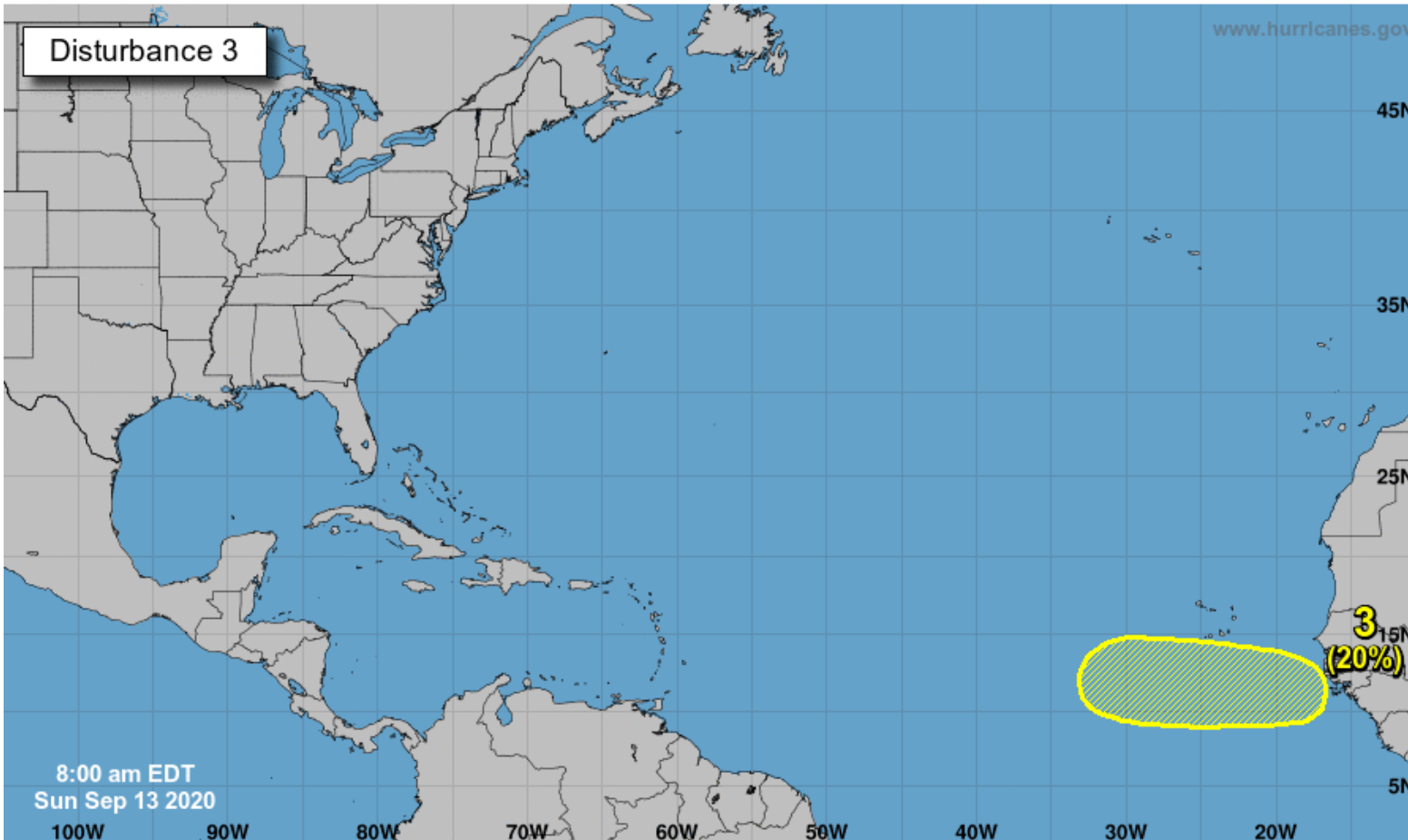
# Tropical Weather Outlook

Possible Area of Development During the Next 5 Days ([LINK](#)) – Invest 97L



## Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



A tropical wave is forecast to move off the west coast of Africa within the next couple of days.

Some gradual development of the system will be possible thereafter as the disturbance moves slowly westward over the far eastern tropical Atlantic.

**This system does not need to be monitored at this time.**

**\*Formation chance through 48 hrs...low...near 0%**

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

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



# Overall Summary

## **Tropical Storm Sally**

- The center of Tropical Storm Sally is located about 155 miles west of Port Charlotte, FL
- Maximum sustained winds are 50 mph, and Sally is moving to the west-northwest at 13 mph.
- Sally will continue strengthening as it moves west-northwestward over the Gulf of Mexico, and Sally will become a hurricane on Monday.
- Sally will slow down on Monday and Tuesday as it turns very slowly northward and eventually northeastward towards Louisiana and Mississippi.
- This system will bring heavy rainfall, gusty winds, minor coastal flooding, and isolated tornadoes to parts of Florida over the next several days.

## **Gulf of Mexico Low**

- A trough of low pressure over the northwestern Gulf of Mexico will move southwestward during the next couple of days.
- Significant development of this system is not expected due to hostile upper-level winds created by nearby Tropical Storm Sally.
- This system has a 10% (low) chance of formation during the next 48 hours and a 20% (low) chance of formation during the next 5 days.

## **Hurricane Paulette**

- The center of Paulette is located about 280 miles southeast of Bermuda with maximum sustained winds near 80 mph.
- Paulette is moving to the west-northwest at 14 mph and strengthening is forecast to continue as Paulette will move near or over Bermuda Monday morning. Paulette could become a major hurricane as it turns northeastward Tuesday/Wednesday.
- Swells from Paulette will cause dangerous rip currents along the East Coast of the United States through the end of the week.

## **Tropical Depression Rene**

- The center of Tropical Depression Rene is located 1,160 miles northeast of the northern Leeward Islands moving to the northwest at 14mph.
- Maximum sustained winds are only 30 mph, and Rene is likely to dissipate sometime on Monday/Tuesday in the open waters of the Atlantic.





# Overall Summary

## **Tropical Depression #20**

- The center of Tropical Depression #20 is located about 1,745 miles east of the Lesser Antilles.
- Maximum sustained winds are at 35 mph, and the system is moving to the west-northwest at 10 mph.
- TD #20 will likely become a tropical storm by Monday, and it could become a hurricane by Wednesday.
- A gradual turn towards the northwest is expected mid-week, keeping the system out of the Caribbean.

## **Invest 97L (near the Cabo Verde Islands)**

- An area of low pressure is located a little over a hundred miles west of the Cabo Verde Islands and it is moving to the north-northwest into the open waters of the eastern Atlantic.
- Environmental conditions are expected to be conducive for a development during the next day and a tropical depression is likely to form before it moves over colder waters and into an area of strong upper-level winds by Tuesday.
- The National Hurricane Center gives this system a 70% (high) chance of development over the next 48 hours and 5 days.

## **Next Tropical Wave Over Africa**

- A tropical wave is forecast to move off the west coast of Africa within the next couple of days.
- Some gradual development of the system will be possible thereafter as the disturbance moves slowly westward over the far eastern tropical Atlantic.
- The National Hurricane Center gives this system a near 0% (low) chance of development over the next 48 hours but a 20% (low) chance over the next 5 days.



# Florida Outlook

## Florida Outlook:

- **Impacts will extend well outside of the cone! It is important to not focus on the center of the forecast track for Tropical Storm Sally.**
- Tropical Storm Sally will likely produce heavy rainfall and gusty winds across much of the state, particularly near the West Coast today and the Panhandle on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.
- Tropical Storm Warnings: coastal Escambia, coastal Santa Rosa, coastal Okaloosa, south Walton, coastal Bay, and coastal Gulf
- Tropical Storm Watches: coastal Franklin County
- Tropical storm force winds could begin along the Panhandle as early as late tonight or Monday morning, but more likely beginning Monday evening and Monday night.
- An additional 2-4" of rainfall is expected along the West Coast over the next 7 days. Localized totals of 6" are possible.
- 6-12" of rainfall is expected along the Panhandle and western Big Bend with localized totals of 12-18" possible.
- Rises on rivers are expected along the West Coast and in Northwest Florida over the next several days.
- Flood Watches continue for the West Coast today with Flash Flood Watches for the Panhandle until Thursday morning.
- Isolated tornadoes are possible in the Panhandle and Big Bend starting late tonight and continuing through mid-week.
- Minor coastal flooding is expected at high tides over the next several days in the Panhandle and Big Bend. 1-3' of storm surge is expected in these areas.
- High surf and dangerous rip currents are expected for Gulf beaches for the next several days.
- Paulette could generate swells that reach the Atlantic beaches, possibly elevating the rip current risk later this week.
- Direct impacts from any other systems in the tropics are not expected over the next several days.

The next briefing packet will be issued Sunday evening with the 5PM advisory, unless there are significant changes before then. For the latest information on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center website at [www.hurricanes.gov](http://www.hurricanes.gov).



# TROPICAL UPDATE



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