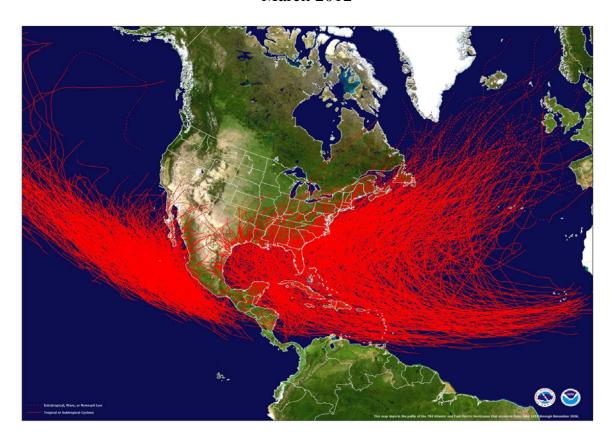
National Hurricane Center Product Description Document: A User's Guide to Hurricane Products

March 2012







Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Weather Service

National Centers for Environmental Prediction

National Hurricane Center

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NHC Text Product Descriptions

Tropical Cyclone¹ 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 24 to 48 hours. Any pertinent weather observations will also be included in this section.
- 4) A section that includes information on hazards to land such as storm surge/tide, 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 below. When coastal watches or warnings are in effect, Intermediate Public Advisories are issued at either two or three 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 or when watches or warnings are to be issued.

¹ In this document the term "tropical cyclone" is understood to also include subtropical cyclones.

Basin	Advisory Issuance Times (UTC)	Local Issuance Times During Daylight Saving Time	Local Issuance Times During Standard Time
Atlantic	0300, 0900, 1500,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	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., WTNT31 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while WTNT32 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, 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 MIATCPAT4 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

BULLETIN

HURRICANE IKE ADVISORY NUMBER 42

NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL092008

1000 PM CDT THU SEP 11 2008

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...IKE CONTINUES TO GROW IN SIZE BUT HAS NOT STRENGTHENED YET...
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...HURRICANE WARNING ISSUED FOR NORTHWESTERN GULF COAST...

SUMMARY OF 1000 PM CDT...0300 UTC...INFORMATION

LOCATION...25.5N 88.4W

ABOUT 580 MI...930 KM ESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI TEXAS

ABOUT 470 MI...760 KM ESE OF GALVESTON TEXAS

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...100 MPH...160 KM/H

PRESENT MOVEMENT...WNW OR 290 DEGREES AT 10 MPH...17 KM/H

MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...945 MB...27.91 INCHES

Product header/valid time

> Summary Table Formatted for Parsing

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

CHANGES WITH THIS ADVISORY ...

A HURRICANE WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED FROM MORGAN CITY LOUISIANA TO BAFFIN BAY TEXAS.

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED FROM SOUTH OF BAFFIN BAY TO PORT MANSFIELD TEXAS.

SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT...

- A HURRICANE WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR...
- * MORGAN CITY LOUISIANA TO BAFFIN BAY TEXAS
- A TROPICAL STORM WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR...
- * EAST OF MORGAN CITY TO THE MISSISSIPPI-ALABAMA BORDER...INCLUDING THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS AND LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN
- * SOUTH OF BAFFIN BAY TO PORT MANSFIELD

A HURRICANE WARNING MEANS THAT HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE WARNING AREA. A WARNING IS TYPICALLY ISSUED 36 HOURS BEFORE THE ANTICIPATED FIRST OCCURRENCE OF TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS...CONDITIONS THAT MAKE OUTSIDE PREPARATIONS DIFFICULT OR DANGEROUS. 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 THE NEXT 36 HOURS.

FOR STORM INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO YOUR AREA...INCLUDING POSSIBLE INLAND WATCHES AND WARNINGS...PLEASE MONITOR PRODUCTS ISSUED BY YOUR LOCAL WEATHER OFFICE.

DISCUSSION AND 48-HOUR OUTLOOK

Storm discussion and outlook for the next 48 hours

AT 1000 PM CDT...0300Z...THE CENTER OF HURRICANE IKE WAS LOCATED NEAR LATITUDE 25.5 NORTH...LONGITUDE 88.4 WEST. IKE IS MOVING TOWARD THE WEST-NORTHWEST NEAR 10 MPH...17 KM/H. A GENERAL WEST-NORTHWESTWARD MOTION IS EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT DAY OR SO...AND THE CENTER OF IKE SHOULD BE VERY NEAR THE COAST BY LATE FRIDAY.

Location and Movement

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS ARE NEAR 100 MPH...160 KM/H...WITH HIGHER GUSTS. IKE IS A CATEGORY TWO HURRICANE ON THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON SCALE. IKE IS FORECAST TO BECOME A MAJOR HURRICANE PRIOR TO REACHING THE COASTLINE.

Intensity

IKE REMAINS A VERY LARGE TROPICAL CYCLONE. HURRICANE FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 115 MILES...185 KM...FROM THE CENTER...AND TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 275 MILES...445 KM.

Size

Michael J. Brennan 5

Watch/Warning

Highlighted at the

Section with Changes

Top

THE LATEST MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE REPORTED BY A NOAA HURRICANE HUNTER AIRCRAFT WAS 945 MB...27.91 INCHES.

Pressure

HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND

Hazards Section

STORM SURGE...STORM SURGE WILL RAISE WATER LEVELS AS MUCH AS 10 TO 15 FT ABOVE GROUND LEVEL ALONG THE COAST WITHIN THE HURRICANE WARNING AREA...WITH LARGE AND DANGEROUS BATTERING WAVES...NEAR AND TO THE EAST OF WHERE THE CENTER OF IKE MAKES LANDFALL. STORM SURGE WILL RAISE WATER LEVELS AS MUCH AS 5 TO 7 FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL ALONG THE COAST WITHIN THE TROPICAL STORM WARNING AREA ALONG THE NORTHERN GULF COAST. THE SURGE COULD PENETRATE AS FAR INLAND AS ABOUT 10 MILES FROM THE SHORE WITH DEPTH GRADUALLY DECREASING AS THE WATER MOVES INLAND.

Storm surge

WIND...BECAUSE IKE IS A VERY LARGE TROPICAL CYCLONE...WEATHER WILL DETERIORATE ALONG THE COASTLINE LONG BEFORE THE CENTER REACHES THE COAST. HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO REACH NORTHWESTERN GULF COAST WITHIN THE WARNING AREA FRIDAY AFTERNOON. WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO FIRST REACH TROPICAL STORM STRENGTH FRIDAY MORNING...MAKING OUTSIDE PREPARATIONS DIFFICULT OR DANGEROUS. PREPARATIONS TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE RUSHED TO COMPLETION.

Wind

RAINFALL...IKE IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE RAINFALL AMOUNTS OF 5 TO 10 INCHES ALONG THE CENTRAL AND UPPER TEXAS COAST AND OVER PORTIONS OF SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA...WITH ISOLATED MAXIMUM AMOUNTS OF 15 INCHES POSSIBLE. RAINFALL AMOUNTS OF 1 TO 2 INCHES ARE POSSIBLE OVER PORTIONS OF THE YUCATAN PENINSULA.

Rainfall

NEXT ADVISORY

NEXT INTERMEDIATE ADVISORY...100 AM CDT. NEXT COMPLETE ADVISORY...400 AM CDT.

Information on Next Advisory Issuance

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FORECASTER FRANKLIN

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, 72, 96, and 120 h from the forecast's nominal initial time, with size information forecast out to 72 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 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	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 MIATCMAT4 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL STORM DEAN FORECAST/ADVISORY NUMBER 11 NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL042007 0300 UTC THU AUG 16 2007

Product header/valid time

CHANGES TO WATCHES AND WARNINGS WITH THIS ADVISORY...

A HURRICANE WATCH HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS BY THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS...ST. LUCIA...MARTINIQUE...GUADELOUPE AND ITS DEPENDENCIES...SABA...AND ST. EUSTATIUS.

A TROPICAL STORM WATCH HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR ST. MAARTEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES.

SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT...

- A HURRICANE WATCH IS IN EFFECT FOR...
- * ST. LUCIA...MARTINIQUE...GUADELOUPE AND ITS DEPENDENCIES...SABA AND ST. EUSTATIUS
- A TROPICAL STORM WATCH IS IN EFFECT FOR...
- * ST. MAARTEN

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 WATCH MEANS THAT TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE POSSIBLE WITHIN THE WATCH AREA WITHIN $48\ \mathrm{HoURS}$.

Watch/ Warning section

TROPICAL STORM CENTER LOCATED NEAR 13.1N 50.2W AT 16/0300Z POSITION ACCURATE WITHIN 20 NM

PRESENT MOVEMENT TOWARD THE WEST OR 280 DEGREES AT 20 KT

ESTIMATED MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE 991 MB
MAX SUSTAINED WINDS 60 KT WITH GUSTS TO 75 KT

50 KT..... 20NE OSE OSW 20NW.

34 KT..... 60NE 45SE 30SW 45NW.

12 FT SEAS...210NE 60SE 60SW 150NW.

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 13.1N 50.2W AT 16/0300Z AT 16/0000Z CENTER WAS LOCATED NEAR 13.0N 49.2W

Current position, intensity, and structure

FORECAST VALID 16/1200Z 13.6N 53.2W MAX WIND 65 KT...GUSTS 80 KT.

64 KT 20NF OCE OCM 20NW

64 KT... 20NE OSE OSW 20NW.

50 KT... 30NE 30SE 20SW 30NW. 34 KT... 75NE 60SE 45SW 60NW.

12 hour forecast

FORECAST VALID 17/0000Z 14.2N 57.2W

MAX WIND 70 KT...GUSTS 85 KT.

64 KT... 20NE OSE OSW 20NW.

50 KT... 40NE 30SE 20SW 30NW.

34 KT... 90NE 70SE 50SW 80NW.

24 hour forecast

FORECAST VALID 17/1200Z 14.8N 61.1W

MAX WIND 75 KT...GUSTS 90 KT.

64 KT... 25NE 20SE 20SW 25NW.

50 KT... 50NE 40SE 30SW 45NW. 34 KT...100NE 75SE 60SW 90NW.

36 hour forecast

FORECAST VALID 18/0000Z 15.3N 64.7W MAX WIND 85 KT...GUSTS 105 KT.

50 KT... 50NE 40SE 30SW 45NW.

34 KT...100NE 75SE 60SW 90NW.

48 hour forecast

FORECAST VALID 19/0000Z 16.3N 71.5W MAX WIND 95 KT...GUSTS 115 KT.

50 KT... 50NE 40SE 30SW 45NW.

34 KT...110NE 90SE 75SW 100NW.

72 hour forecast

EXTENDED OUTLOOK. NOTE...ERRORS FOR TRACK HAVE AVERAGED NEAR 225 NM ON DAY 4 AND 300 NM ON DAY 5...AND FOR INTENSITY NEAR 20 KT EACH DAY

OUTLOOK VALID 20/0000Z 17.8N 78.5W MAX WIND 105 KT...GUSTS 130 KT.

96 hour forecast

OUTLOOK VALID 21/0000Z 19.5N 85.5W MAX WIND 115 KT...GUSTS 140 KT.

120 hour forecast

REQUEST FOR 3 HOURLY SHIP REPORTS WITHIN 300 MILES OF 13.1N 50.2W

NEXT ADVISORY AT 16/0900Z

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FORECASTER BROWN

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. 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	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 MIATCDAT1 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

HURRICANE FELIX DISCUSSION NUMBER 15 NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL062007 1100 PM EDT MON SEP 03 2007 Product header/valid time

THERE HAVE BEEN NO ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT DATA SINCE 21Z...BUT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME STRUCTURAL CHANGES OVER THE PAST SEVERAL HOURS APPARENT IN MICROWAVE AND CONVENTIONAL IMAGERY. AN 18Z MICROWAVE PASS SHOWED THAT AN OUTER EYEWALL HAD FORMED...AND OVER THE PAST SEVERAL HOURS THE INNER EYEWALL HAS DECAYED IN INFRARED IMAGES AND THE OUTER FEATURE IS NOW MORE PROMINENT. RAW OBJECTIVE DVORAK NUMBERS ARE HIGHER THAN SIX HOURS AGO...UP TO T6.7...BUT I'M GUESSING THAT THE INNER CORE PRESSURE GRADIENT HAS NOT YET RECOVERED FROM THE EYEWALL REPLACEMENT...AND IT MAY TAKE A FEW MORE HOURS FOR THESE STRUCTURAL CHANGES TO BE REFLECTED IN THE WIND FIELD. THE ADVISORY INTENSITY IS BEING HELD AT 115 KT...WITH SOME RE-STRENGTHENING EXPECTED PRIOR TO LANDFALL IN ANOTHER 6-9 HOURS. ANOTHER RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT WILL BE IN THE HURRICANE AROUND 05Z.

THE INITIAL MOTION ESTIMATE IS 270/17...AS FELIX CONTINUES TO BE STEERED BY DEEP-LAYER HIGH PRESSURE TO THE NORTH OF THE CYCLONE. THERE IS A LITTLE LESS RIDGING AHEAD OF FELIX AND SO SOME DECREASE IN FORWARD SPEED IS LIKELY OVER THE NEXT 24 HOURS...BUT THE RIDGING SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO KEEP FELIX BASICALLY ON TRACK. MOST OF THE MODEL GUIDANCE KEEPS FELIX OUT OF THE BAY OF CAMPECHE...WITH ONLY THE 12Z UKMET AND 18Z NOGAPS TAKING FELIX BACK OVER WATER. THE 18Z UKMET...WHICH IS AVAILABLE ONLY OUT TO 48 HOURS...IS ALSO A LITTLE SOUTH OF ITS EARLIER RUN. THE OFFICIAL FORECAST HAS BEEN SHIFTED A LITTLE TO THE SOUTH OF THE PREVIOUS ADVISORY AND NOW KEEPS FELIX ENTIRELY OVER LAND. AS A RESULT OF THE SOUTHWARD ADJUSTMENT IN THE TRACK FORECAST...THE INTENSITY FORECAST IS ADJUSTED SHARPLY DOWNWARD AFTER 12 HOURS...AND IF THE TRACK FORECAST VERIFIES THE SMALL CIRCULATION OF FELIX IS LIKELY TO DISSIPATE MUCH EARLIER THAN SHOWN BELOW.

Free form forecast discussion

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FORECAST POSITIONS AND MAX WINDS
INIT 04/0300Z 14.4N 81.1W
                           115 KT 130 MPH
12H 04/1200Z 14.6N 83.5W
                           125 KT 145 MPH...INLAND
 24H 05/0000Z 15.1N 85.9W
                           65 KT 75 MPH...INLAND
 36H 05/1200Z 15.7N 88.1W
                             40 KT 45 MPH...INLAND
 48H 06/0000Z 16.4N 90.2W
                             30 KT 35 MPH...INLAND
                             25 KT 30 MPH...INLAND
 72H 07/0000Z 18.0N 94.0W
 96H 08/0000Z 19.5N 97.5W
                             20 KT 25 MPH...INLAND
120H 09/0000Z...DISSIPATED
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Forecast position and intensity table

\$\$ FORECASTER FRANKLIN

Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities

Product Description: The Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probability product is a tabular text product that provides probabilistic (i.e., the likelihood of an event, expressed as a percentage) information on the future intensity of a tropical cyclone, as well as the likelihood 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.

Information on cyclone intensity is given in the form of probabilities that the storm's intensity will fall into each of the following categories: the five hurricane categories of the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale, tropical storm, and tropical depression. The probability that the cyclone will dissipate is also given. These categorical forecasts are valid at 12, 24, 36, 48, 72, 96, and 120 h after the nominal initial time of the forecast.

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.

Individual 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	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 MIAPWSAT1 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL STORM TEST WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES NUMBER 1 NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL812008 2100 UTC WED APR 16 2008

AT 2100Z THE CENTER OF TROPICAL STORM TEST WAS LOCATED NEAR LATITUDE 25.3 NORTH...LONGITUDE 87.9 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
- I. MAXIMUM WIND SPEED (INTENSITY) PROBABILITY TABLE

CHANCES THAT THE MAXIMUM SUSTAINED (1-MINUTE AVERAGE) WIND SPEED OF THE TROPICAL CYCLONE WILL BE WITHIN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES AT EACH OFFICIAL FORECAST TIME DURING THE NEXT 5 DAYS.

PROBABILITIES ARE GIVEN IN PERCENT. X INDICATES PROBABILITIES LESS THAN 1 PERCENT.

MAX	IMUM V	WIND SPEE	ED (INTE	NSITY) PI	ROBABILI:	ΓIES	-
VALID TIME 06 FORECAST HOUR	Z THU 12	18Z THU 24	06Z FRI 36	18Z FRI 48	18Z SAT 72	18Z SUN 96	18Z MON 120
DISSIPATED TROP DEPRESSION TROPICAL STORM HURRICANE	X 1 86 13	X 2 49 50	1 9 53 37	3 12 59 27	25 33 34 8	54 26 15 5	58 18 15 10
HUR CAT 1 HUR CAT 2 HUR CAT 3 HUR CAT 4 HUR CAT 5	12 1 X X	44 5 1 X	31 2 X X	21 2 x x	6 1 X X X	3 1 X X X	7 2 1 X
FCST MAX WIND	55KT	65KT	65KT	55KT	35KT	15KT	5KT

Categorical
maximum wind
speed (intensity)
probabilities for
various intensity
stages and for the
five categories on
the SaffirSimpson
Hurricane Scale

In this example, the probability of the cyclone being a category 1 hurricane at 36 hours is 31%, while at 48 hours the probability is 21%.

II. 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 IP(CP) WHERE

- IP IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE EVENT BEGINNING DURING AN INDIVIDUAL TIME PERIOD (INDIVIDUAL PROBABILITY)
- (CP) IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE EVENT OCCURRING BETWEEN 18Z WED 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 - - - -

PERIODS	FROM 8Z WE TO 6Z TH	D 06Z TH	FROM U 18Z THU TO U 06Z FRI	TO	TO	FROM 18Z SAT TO 18Z SUN	FROM 18Z SUN TO 18Z MON	
FORECAST HOUR	(1	2) (24) (36)	(48)	(72)	(96)	(120)	
COLUMBUS GA COLUMBUS GA	_	X 1(1 X X(X	, , ,	8(12) 1(1)	8(20) 2(3)	1(21) X(3)	X(21) X(3)	
MONTGOMERY AL MONTGOMERY AL MONTGOMERY AL	50	X 1(1 X X(X X X(X) X(X)	17(26) 3(3) 1(1)	7(33) 4(7) X(1)	1(34) X(7) 1(2)	X(34) X(7) X(2)	Probability of winds of at least 34 kt beginning at Mobile, AL
PENSACOLA FL PENSACOLA FL PENSACOLA FL	50	2 12(14 X X(X X X(X) 4(4)	14(47) 6(10) 2(3)	2(49) 2(12) X(3)	X(49) X(12) 1(4)	X(49) X(12) X(4)	during the 12- hour period from 06z Friday to 18z Friday
GFMX 290N 870W GFMX 290N 870W GFMX 290N 870W	50	7 28(35 X 3(3 X X(X	7(10) 2(2)	4(54) 3(13) X(2)	1(55) X(13) 1(3)	X(55) X(13) X(3)	X(55) 1(14) X(3)	Cumulative probability of winds of at least
MOBILE AL MOBILE AL MOBILE AL	50	1 13(14 X X(X X X(X) 7(7)	20 59 14(21) 4(5)	1(22) 1(6)	X(62) X(22) X(6)	X(62) 1(23) X(6)	34 kt at Mobile, AL for the 48- hour period ending at 18z
GULFPORT MS GULFPORT MS	34 50	2 15(17 X 1 1	, ,	17(66) 15 27)	3(69) 2(29)	1(70) X(29)	X(70) 1(30)	Friday.
\$\$ FORECASTER NNNN	Ó	0 + 1	+ 11 +	15 = 27		probabilit	ies from 0-48	lividual onset 8 hours is equal to ence probability at

Tropical Cyclone Update

Product Description: The Tropical Cyclone Update is a brief statement issued in lieu of or preceding a special advisory to inform of significant changes in a tropical cyclone or to post, modify, or cancel watches or warnings. 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. 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: This is an event-driven product issued as needed.

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 KNH		MIATCUAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTPZ61-5 KNHC	MIATCUEP1-5

Example 1: TCU to change the status of a tropical cyclone

ZCZC MIATCUAT4 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL STORM CLAUDETTE TROPICAL CYCLONE UPDATE
NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL042009
1215 PM EDT SUN AUG 16 2009

Product header/valid time

...DEPRESSION BECOMES TROPICAL STORM CLAUDETTE...

DATA FROM THE NOAA DOPPLER RADAR IN TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA INDICATE THAT SURFACE WINDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEPRESSION HAVE INCREASED TO 40 MPH...65 KM/H...MAKING THE DEPRESSION TROPICAL STORM CLAUDETTE.

Free form discussion

SUMMARY OF 1215 PM EDT...1715 UTC...INFORMATION

LOCATION...28.7N 84.6W

ABOUT 75 MI...120 KM SSE OF APALACHICOLA FLORDIA

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...40 MPH...65 KM/H

PRESENT MOVEMENT...NW OR 320 DEGREES AT 14 MPH...23 KM/H

MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...1011 MB...29.85 INCHES

\$\$

FORECASTER ROBERTS/BRENNAN

NNNN

Example 2 - TCU to notify users that change in status is forthcoming

ZCZC MIATCUAT2 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL DEPRESSION SEVEN TROPICAL CYCLONE UPDATE
NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL072008
200 PM EDT MON AUG 25 2008

Product header/valid time

Summary Table

Formatted for

Parsing

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

\$\$ FORECASTER PASCH

NNNN

Example 3 - TCU to update watches or warnings (no change in storm summary information)

ZCZC MIATCUAT4 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

HURRICANE IKE TROPICAL CYCLONE UPDATE
NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL092008
600 PM AST FRI SEP 05 2008

Product header/valid time

AT 6 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

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Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate

Product Description: Tropical Cyclone Position Estimates are used to provide a continuous flow of information regarding the center location of a tropical cyclone when warnings are in effect.

Availability: Position Estimates are issued hourly in between 2-hourly Intermediate Public Advisories. Intermediate Public Advisories are issued at 2-hourly intervals whenever tropical storm or hurricane warnings are in effect and coastal radars are able to provide reliable hourly center positions.

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., WTNT51 KNHC would be used for the first, sixth, and eleventh Atlantic cyclones, while WTNT52 KNHC would be used for the second, seventh, or twelfth cyclones, and so on.

Basin WMO Header(s)		AWIPS Header(s)
Atlantic	WTNT51-5 KNHC	MIATCEAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTPZ51-5 KNHC	MIATCEEP1-5

Example:

ZCZC MIATCEAT4 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

HURRICANE IRENE TROPICAL CYCLONE POSITION ESTIMATE
NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL092011
400 AM EDT SAT AUG 27 2011

Product header/valid time

AT 400 AM EDT...0800 UTC...THE CENTER OF HURRICANE IRENE WAS ESTIMATED BY AN AIR FORCE RESERVE HURRICANE HUNTER AIRCRAFT AND NOAA DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR TO BE NEAR LATITUDE 33.9 NORTH... LONGITUDE 76.6 WEST...OR ABOUT 50 MILES SOUTH OF CAPE LOOKOUT NORTH CAROLINA.

A NOAA C-MAN STATION AT CAPE LOOKOUT NORTH CAROLINA RECENTLY REPORTED A SUSTAINED WIND OF 67 MPH...107 KM/H...AND A GUST TO 76 MPH...122 KM/H. A WEATHERFLOW STATION IN FORT MACON NORTH CAROLINA RECENTLY REPORTED A WIND GUST OF 85 MPH...137 KM/H.

Free form discussion

SUMMARY OF 400 AM EDT...0800 UTC...INFORMATION

LOCATION...33.9N 76.6W

ABOUT 50 MI...80 KM S OF CAPE LOOKOUT NORTH CAROLINA MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...90 MPH...150 KM/H PRESENT MOVEMENT...NNE OR 20 DEGREES AT 14 MPH...22 KM/H MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...952 MB...28.11 INCHES

NNNN

Tropical Cyclone Watch Warning Product

Product Description: The Tropical Cyclone Watch Warning product summarizes all new, continued, and canceled tropical cyclone watches and warnings issued by the National Hurricane Center 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	Basin WMO Header(s)	
Atlantic	WTNT81-5 KNHC	MIATCVAT1-5
Eastern North Pacific	WTNT81-5 KNHC	MIATCVEP1-5

Example:

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WTNT82 KNHC 020902
TCVAT2
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BARRY WATCH/WARNING BREAKPOINTS/ADVISORY NUMBER 3 NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL AL022007 500 AM EDT SAT JUN 2 2007

.TROPICAL STORM BARRY

FLZ028-034-039-042-048-049-050-051-055-060-061-062-065-021500-/O.CON.KNHC.TR.W.1002.000000T0000Z-00000T0000Z/ 500 AM EDT SAT JUN 2 2007

 KEATON-BEACH-FL
 29.82N 83.60W

 BONITA-BEACH-FL
 26.33N 81.85W

\$\$

FLZ018-027-021500-/O.CON.KNHC.TR.A.1002.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/ 500 AM EDT SAT JUN 2 2007

ST-MARKS-FL KEATON-BEACH-FL 30.10N 84.20W 29.82N 83.60W

\$\$

ATTN...WFO...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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	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:

FKPZ23 KNHC 070835 TCAPZ3

HURRICANE FELICIA ICAO ADVISORY NUMBER 15 NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL EP082009 0900 UTC FRI AUG 07 2009

TC ADVISORY

DTG: 20090807/0900Z

TCAC: KNHC TC: FELICIA NR: 015

PSN: N1730 W13424 MOV: WNW 09KT C:0960HPA MAX WIND: 100KT

FCST PSN + 06 HR: 071500 N1758 W13516 FCST MAX WIND + 06 HR: 090KT

FCST PSN + 12 HR: 072100 N1824 W13612

FCST MAX WIND + 12 HR: 080KT

FCST PSN + 18 HR: 080300 N1848 W13712

FCST MAX WIND + 18 HR: 075KT

FCST PSN + 24 HR: 080900 N1906 W13818

FCST MAX WIND + 24 HR: 070KT

THE FORECAST POSITION INFORMATION IN

THIS PRODUCT IS INTERPOLATED FROM

OFFICIAL FORECAST DATA VALID AT 0000...

0600...1200...AND 1800Z.

NXT MSG: 20090807/1500Z

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Tropical Weather Outlook

Product Description: The Tropical Weather Outlook discusses significant areas of disturbed weather and their potential for development during the next 48 hours, including a categorical forecast of the probability of tropical cyclone formation. The potential for tropical cyclone formation for each disturbance within the next 48 hours is given to the nearest 10% and expressed in terms of one of the following categories: low probability of development (<30%), medium probability (30-50%), and high probability of development (>50%). The Outlook also includes the 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 1 June – 30 November for the Atlantic Basin and from 15 May–30 November for 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,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
	1800	8 pm EDT	7 pm EST
Eastern	0000, 0600, 1200,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
North Pacific	1800	11 pm PDT	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 MIATWOEP ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL 1100 AM PDT THU JUN 17 2010

Product header/valid time

Free form

discussion

FOR THE EASTERN NORTH PACIFIC...EAST OF 140 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDE..

THE NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER HAS ISSUED THE LAST ADVISORY ON TROPICAL DEPRESSION TWO-E...WHICH DISSIPATED OFF THE SOUTHERN COAST OF MEXICO THIS MORNING. THE NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER IS ISSUING ADVISORIES ON NEWLY FORMED TROPICAL STORM BLAS LOCATED ABOUT 265 MILES SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF MANZANILLO MEXICO.

AN AREA OF DISTURBED WEATHER ASSOCIATED WITH A TROPICAL WAVE IS CENTERED SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF THE GULF OF TEHUANTEPEC. DEVELOPMENT...IF ANY...IS EXPECTED TO BE SLOW TO OCCUR AS THE SYSTEM MOVES SLOWLY TO THE WEST-NORTHWEST. THERE IS A LOW CHANCE...10 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

ELSEWHERE...TROPICAL CYCLONE FORMATION IS NOT EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

33

PUBLIC ADVISORIES ON TROPICAL STORM BLAS ARE ISSUED UNDER WMO HEADER WTPZ33 KNHC AND UNDER AWIPS HEADER MIATCPEP3. FORECAST/ADVISORIES ON BLAS ARE ISSUED UNDER WMO HEADER WTPZ23 KNHC AND UNDER AWIPS HEADER MIATCMEP3.

\$\$ FORECASTER BROWN/BLAKE NNNN

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 is given to the nearest 10% and expressed in terms of one of the following categories: low probability of development (<30%), medium probability (30-50%), and high probability of development (>50%). The Special Tropical Weather Outlook can be used to report the findings of reconnaissance aircraft missions, and can also be used for disturbances outside of the normal hurricane season 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

ABPZ20 KNHC 211453 TWOEP

SPECIAL TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL 755 AM PDT SUN JUN 21 2009 Product header/valid time

FOR THE EASTERN NORTH PACIFIC...EAST OF 140 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDE..

SPECIAL OUTLOOK ISSUED TO UPDATE DISCUSSION OF LOW PRESSURE AREA SOUTH OF ACAPULCO MEXICO.

UPDATED...SATELLITE IMAGES INDICATE THAT SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AREA OF LOW PRESSURE CENTERED ABOUT 150 MILES SOUTHWEST OF ACAPULCO MEXICO CONTINUE TO BECOME BETTER ORGANIZED... BUT THE LOW-LEVEL CENTER OF CIRCULATION IS NOT YET WELL-DEFINED. ONLY A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THIS SYSTEM WOULD RESULT IN THE FORMATION OF A TROPICAL DEPRESSION...AND ADVISORIES COULD BE INITIATED LATER TODAY. THERE IS A HIGH CHANCE...90 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING

Free form discussion

THE NEXT 48 HOURS. HEAVY RAINS COULD AFFECT PORTIONS OF THE SOUTHERN AND SOUTHWESTERN COAST OF MEXICO DURING THE NEXT DAY OR TWO...AND INTERESTS IN THIS REGION SHOULD MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF THIS SYSTEM.

AN AREA OF LOW PRESSURE LOCATED ABOUT 1600 MILES SOUTHWEST OF THE SOUTHERN TIP OF BAJA CALIFORNIA IS PRODUCING A DISORGANIZED AREA OF SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS. DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SYSTEM...IF ANY... WILL BE SLOW TO OCCUR AS IT MOVES EAST-NORTHEASTWARD AT 5 TO 10 MPH OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS. THERE IS A LOW CHANCE...20 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

ELSEWHERE...TROPICAL CYCLONE FORMATION IS NOT EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

\$\$
FORECASTER BERG/PASCH

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 TPC/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 FORMING 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...USE LOWER-CASE LETTERS...HTTP://WWW.NHC.NOAA.GOV/2010ATLAN.SHTML

SUMMARY TABLE

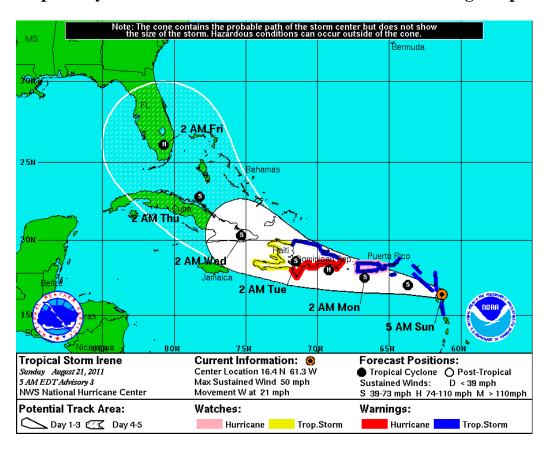
NAME DATES MAX WIND (MPH)

Н	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
Η	LISA		21-26	SEP	80
TS	MATTHEW		23-26	SEP	60
TS	NICOLE		28-29	SEP	40

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FORECASTER KIMBERLAIN/BRENNAN/BLAKE

NHC Graphics 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 orange circle 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 be 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 2012 for the Atlantic and eastern North Pacific basins are given in the table below.

Radii of NHC forecast cone circles for 2012, based on error statistics from 2007-2011:

Forecast Period (hours)	2/3 Probability Circle, Atlantic Basin (nautical miles)	2/3 Probability Circle, Eastern North Pacific Basin (nautical miles)
12	36	33
24	56	52
36	75	72
48	95	89
72	141	121
96	180	170
120	236	216

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. 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 below. 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST

Eastern 0 North Pacific	300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
	2100	8 pm PDT	7 pm PST

Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities



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.

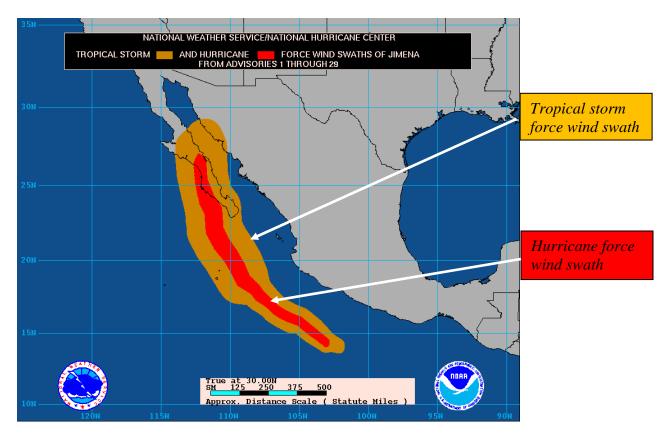
The graphic provides location-specific *cumulative occurrence probabilities* – these values tell you the probability the wind event will occur sometime during the specified cumulative forecast period (0-12, 0-24, 0-36 hours, etc., out to 0-120 h) at each specific point. The images can be looped to show 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	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 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	7 pm PST

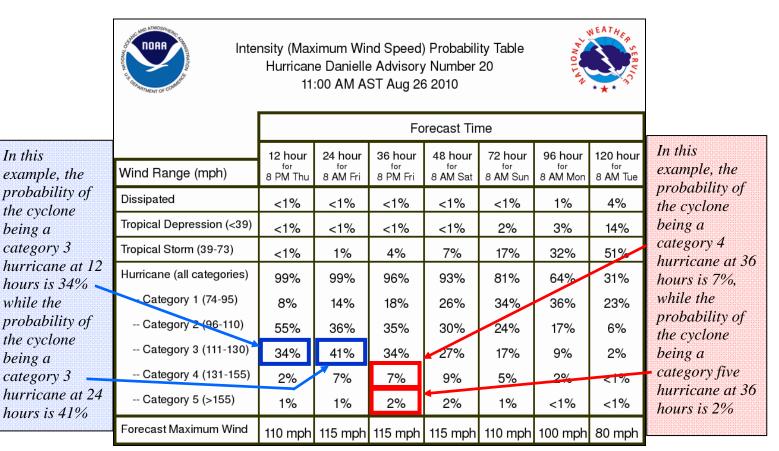
Maximum 1-minute Wind Speed Probability Table

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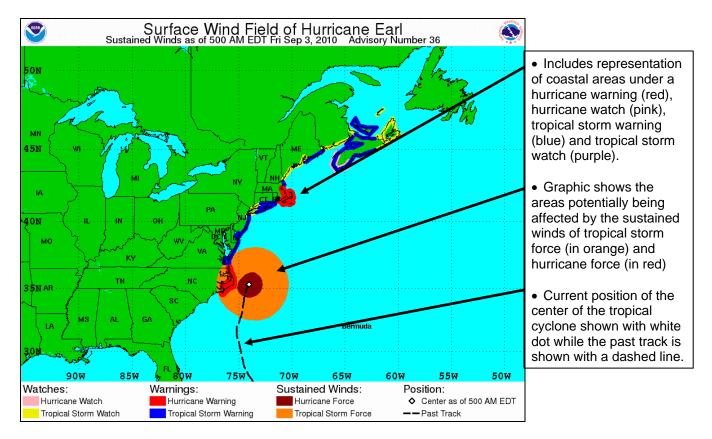


Product Description: This product shows the probability that the maximum sustained (1-minute) surface wind speed of the tropical cyclone will be within various intensity ranges (tropical depression, tropical storm, the five hurricane categories of the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale, or dissipated) during the next 120 hours. Like the Tropical Cyclone Wind Speed Probability Product, these probabilities are based on the NHC track and intensity forecasts and their historical error characteristics. However, these probabilities apply to the maximum sustained surface wind associated with the cyclone, and not to winds that could occur at specific locations. It is also important to note that this table cannot be used to estimate the intensity of a tropical cyclone at landfall!

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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	7 pm PST

Tropical Cyclone Wind Field Graphic



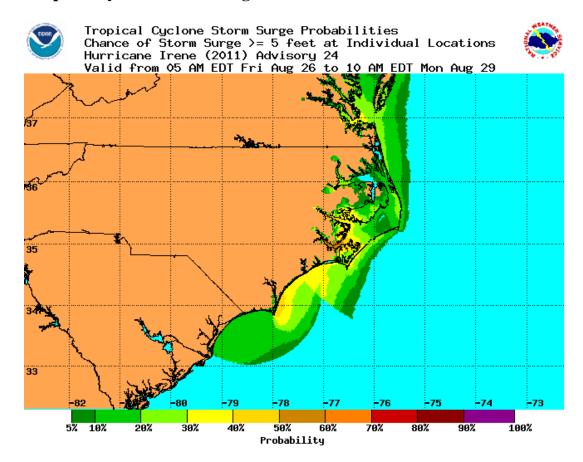
Product Description: This graphic shows the areas potentially being affected by the sustained (1 min average) winds of tropical storm force (in orange) and hurricane force (in red). The display is based on the wind radii contained in the latest Forecast/Advisory (indicated at the top of the figure). 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 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,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
	2100	11 pm EDT	10 pm EST
Eastern	0300, 0900, 1500,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
North Pacific	2100	8 pm PDT	7 pm PST

Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge Probabilities

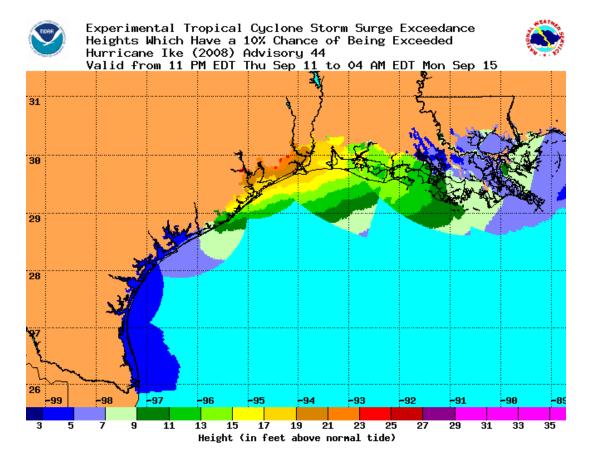


Product Description: The Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge Probabilities graphics depict the likelihood that a specified storm surge in one-foot increments from 2 to 25 feet above normal tide levels will occur at particular locations during the next 72 hours. The probabilities are based on storm surge values from the Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) model, the current official NHC tropical cyclone track and intensity forecast, and the error characteristics of those forecasts. The probabilities also include the effects of storm size variability.

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 cost (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, whenever a hurricane watch or hurricane warning is in effect for any portion of the Gulf or Atlantic coasts of the continental United States. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Public Advisories. *Due to the nature of the computations involved in producing this product, however, there will generally be a delay of an hour or more in the posting of this graphic to the NHC web site.*

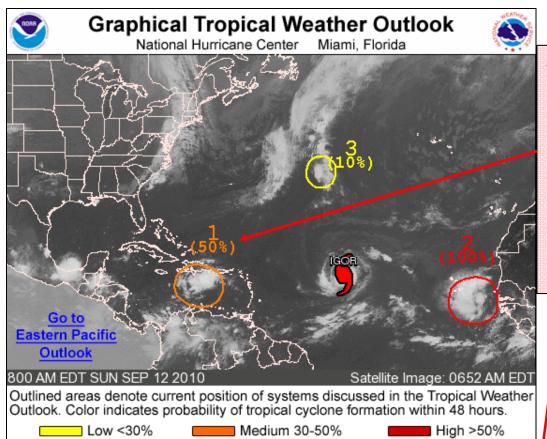
Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge Exceedance Probabilities



Product Description: The storm surge exceedance probabilities show the storm surge height, in feet above normal tide level, which has a specific probability of being exceeded in the next 3 days. The available probability thresholds range from 10 to 90 percent, at 10 percent intervals. The probabilities are based on storm surge values from the Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) model, the current official NHC tropical cyclone track and intensity forecast, and the error characteristics of those forecasts. The probabilities also include the effects of storm size variability.

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 watch or hurricane warning is in effect for any portion of the Gulf or Atlantic coasts of the continental United States. The graphic will also be updated with the issuance of Special Public Advisories. *Due to the nature of the computations involved in producing this product, however, there will generally be a delay of an hour or more in the posting of this graphic to the NHC web site.*

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 popup window will appear providing the same text as below.

ZCZC MIATWOAT ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK
NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL
800 AM EDT SUN SEP 12 2010

FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC...CARIBBEAN SEA AND THE GULF OF MEXICO...

THE NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER IS ISSUING ADVISORIES ON HURRICANE IGOR...LOCATED ABOUT 1230 MILES EAST OF THE NORTHERN LEEWARD ISLANDS.

1. SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS REMAIN DISORGANIZED IN ASSOCIATION WITH A BROAD AREA OF LOW PRESSURE LOCATED OVER THE EAST-CENTRAL CARIBBEAN SEA. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS STILL APPEAR FAVORABLE FOR GRADUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SYSTEM...AND A TROPICAL DEPRESSION COULD FORM DURING THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS AS IT MOVES WESTWARD AT 10 TO 15 MPH. THERE IS A MEDIUM CHANCE...50 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS. REGARDLESS OF DEVELOPMENT...LOCALLY HEAVY RAINFALL IS POSSIBLE IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS...PUERTO RICO...HISPANIOLA...JAMAICA AND CUBA DURING THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. THESE RAINS COULD CAUSE LIFE-THREATENING FLASH FLOODS AND MUD SLIDES...ESPECIALLY IN MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN.

- 2. SATELLITE DATA INDICATE THAT THE AREA OF LOW PRESSURE LOCATED ABOUT 315 MILES EAST-SOUTHEAST OF THE SOUTHERNMOST CAPE VERDE ISLANDS HAS CONTINUED TO BECOME BETTER ORGANIZED...AND A TROPICAL DEPRESSION APPEARS TO BE FORMING. IF CURRENT TRENDS CONTINUE...ADVISORIES WILL BE INITIATED LATER THIS MORNING...AND WATCHES OR WARNINGS WILL LIKELY BE REQUIRED FOR PORTIONS OF THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. THERE IS A HIGH CHANCE...NEAR 100 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS AS IT MOVES GENERALLY WESTWARD AT 10 TO 15 MPH.
- 3. A WEAK AREA OF LOW PRESSURE LOCATED ABOUT 900 MILES EAST-NORTHEAST OF BERMUDA CONTINUES TO PRODUCE DISORGANIZED SHOWER ACTIVITY.

 DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SYSTEM APPEARS UNLIKELY BEFORE IT IS ABSORBED BY A FRONTAL SYSTEM IN THE NEXT DAY OR SO. THERE IS A LOW CHANCE ...10 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS AS IT MOVES NORTHWARD AT 20 TO 25 MPH.

ELSEWHERE...TROPICAL CYCLONE FORMATION IS NOT EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

\$\$ FORECASTER BRENNAN NNNN

The 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. Areas of disturbed weather on the graphic are circled 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 enclosing circle: yellow indicates a low probability of development (<30%), orange indicates medium likelihood (30-50%), and red indicates a high likelihood of development (>50%). 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 will take the user to a new web location that contains all advisories and products for that cyclone.

It is important to note that the areas depicted in the Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook represent only the *current location* of the weather systems. Information on motion and potential impacts is available in the text descriptions but is not displayed graphically.

Availability: Graphical Tropical Weather Outlooks are issued every six hours from 1 June–30 November for the Atlantic Basin and from 15 May–30 November for the eastern North Pacific Basin, at 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 UTC. Local issuance times are shown in the table below. 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,	2 am, 8 am, 2 pm,	1 am, 7 am, 1 pm,
	1800	8 pm EDT	7 pm EST
Eastern	0000, 0600, 1200,	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm,	4 am, 10 am, 4 pm,
North Pacific	1800	11 pm PDT	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 archives section of the NHC/TPC website 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.