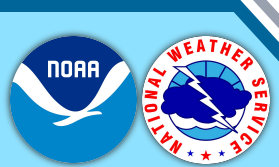


WELCOME

Florida Tropical Training Week 2026

**PRESENTED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICES
*SERVING THE STATE OF FLORIDA, NHC & FDEM***



TRAINING TIMELINE

DAY 1
(Monday)

**Getting
Ready**

DAY 2
(Tuesday)

**Hunker
Down**

DAY 3
(Wednesday)

**Post-Storm
Safety**

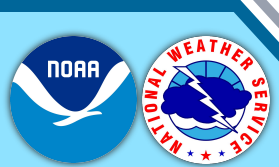
DAY 4
(Thursday)

**Lessons
Learned &
Panel
Discussion**

Training Website:

weather.gov/jax/FTTW2026





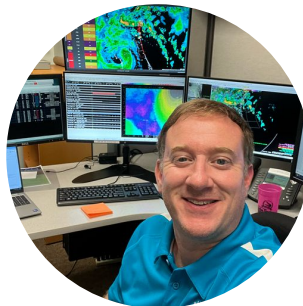
TODAY'S PRESENTERS

11 AM



Michael Vuotto
NWS
Key West, FL

1 PM

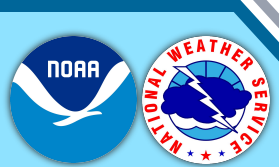


Ben Nelson
NWS
Jacksonville, FL

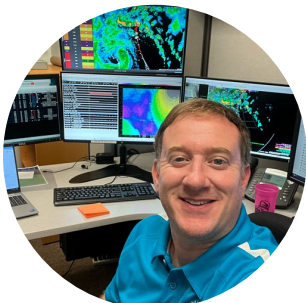
7 PM



Keily Delerme
NWS
Tampa, FL



CHAT ASSISTANTS



Ben Nelson
NWS
Jacksonville, FL



Matt Anderson
NWS
Tampa, FL



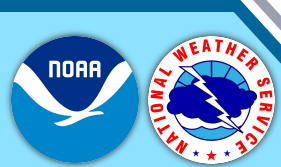
Kelly Delorme
NWS
Tampa, FL



Paige Klingler
NWS
Jacksonville, FL



Angie Enyedi
NWS
Jacksonville, FL



POLL QUESTION

What would you do differently having experienced a hurricane?

- a. Follow evacuation orders**
- b. Not go through the storm alone**
- c. At least a week of food/water/cash**
- d. Nothing different; I was prepared.**
- e. I have not been through a hurricane.**



Florida Tropical Training Week

Presented By Meteorologists From The National Weather Service

Recap of Days 1-3



DAY 1 - July 27th

Getting Ready



DAY 2 - July 28th

Hunker Down



DAY 3 - July 29th

Post Storm Safety



DAY 4 - July 30th

Lessons Learned

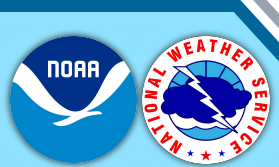


WWW.WEATHER.GOV

**BE PREPARED.
STAY AWARE.**

WWW.HURRICANES.GOV





KNOW YOUR ZONE

Are you in an evacuation zone?

Are you flood prone?

Are nearby roads flood prone?

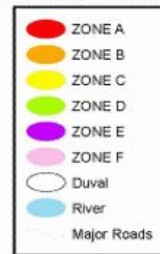
Are you able to be self-sufficient
for *numerous* days?

Visit your county [Emergency Management](#)
website or [Florida Division of Emergency
Management](#) for Evacuation Zone Map:

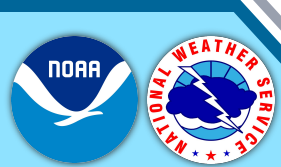


know your zone
floridadisaster.org/knowyourzone

DUVAL COUNTY EVACUATION ZONES



jaXGis
maps.coj.net/evsearch



EVACUATION PLAN

Hurricane Preparedness

DEVELOP AN EVACUATION PLAN



Find out today if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone and identify trusted sources for receiving evacuation orders. Plan for multiple options on where to go and how to get there. Have a go bag for supplies and a plan for your pets. Be prepared to leave immediately if ordered to evacuate.



Find out if you live in an evacuation zone



Plan several routes



Have a go bag for supplies



Plan for your pets



Follow evacuation orders if given

weather.gov/hurricane



Where will you go?

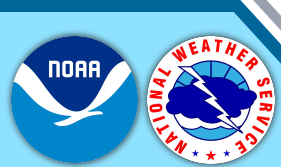
How will you get there?

Does shelter accept pets?

When will you go?

Available Guidance:

www.ready.gov/plan



WATCHES & WARNINGS

Watches
~ 48 hrs out

Conditions Possible

Finalize
preparedness

Stay Aware

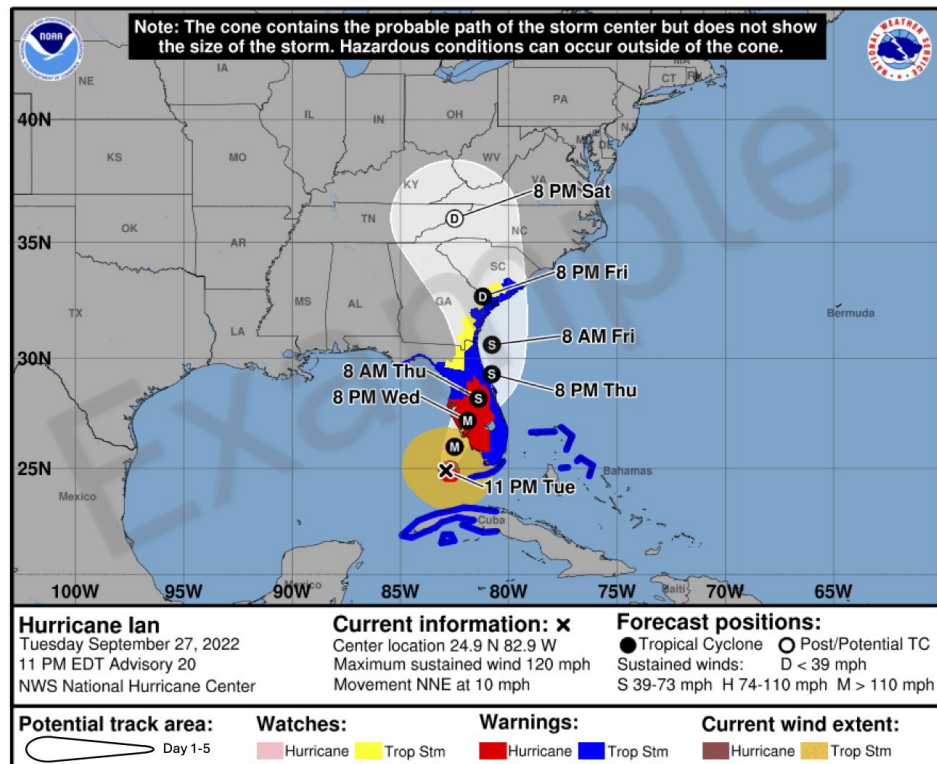
Evacuate or be
ready to evacuate

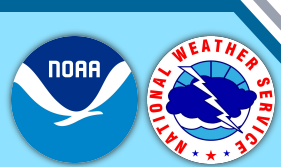
Warnings
~ 36 hrs out

Conditions Expected

Hunker down &
Stay sheltered

Listen for Tornado,
Flash Flood, and/or
Extreme Wind
Warnings to
shelter-in-place





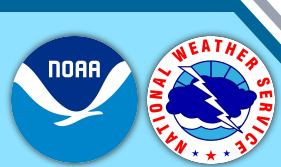
SIGN-UP FOR ALERTS

Have redundancy – if one method fails, you need a back up

Many communities offer free text & phone call alerts

Visit your county & state Emergency Management websites





POST STORM SAFETY

THE STORM PASSED,
BUT...

... but **WATER** & **WIND** hazards
may continue!



FLOODING



**WIND
DAMAGE**



After the Storm: **POWER OUTAGE**



Use flashlights, not candles

This will avoid risk of fire. Turn on flashlights before entering buildings, to avoid producing a spark that could ignite leaking gas.



Practice portable generator safety

Use outdoors, at least 20 feet away from doors/windows/garages to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Properly ground, and don't overload.

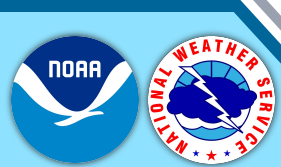


Be careful with food and water

Food in the fridge can start to spoil after as little as 4 hours. Drink bottled/boiled water only, as purification systems may not be working. Use camp stoves/grills outdoors only.

weather.gov





NEIGHBORLY ADVICE

“Do not go through a storm alone, stay in touch with your loved ones and neighbors.”

“Listen to reliable information and just stay up-to-date.”

“It is better to be over prepared instead of under prepared.”

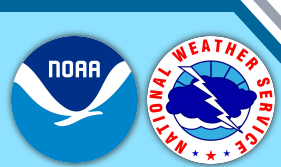
“Post storm, it is important to listen to local officials on when it is safe to return home.”

“Prepare what you can ahead of time so you aren't scrambling when it's down to the wire.”

“Get stocked up with important emergency supplies, like batteries, a radio, etc.”

“Always take the matter very serious regardless of the category of the storm.”

“Evacuate if you're told to do so, and do it early.”



PANEL DISCUSSION

Robbie Berg - National Hurricane Center (NHC)

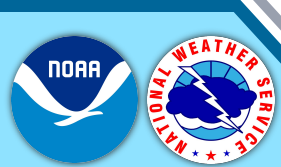
Amy Godsey - Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)

Robert Garcia - National Weather Service Miami

Mark Wool - National Weather Service Tallahassee

Moderators - Paige Klingler & Angie Enyedi NWS Jacksonville





PANEL DISCUSSION

Robbie Berg - National Hurricane Center (NHC)

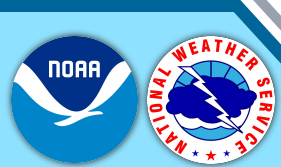
Amy Godsey - Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)

Robert Garcia - National Weather Service Miami

Will Ulrich - National Weather Service Melbourne

Moderators - Paige Klingler & Angie Enyedi NWS Jacksonville





Amy Godsey

Florida Division of
Emergency Management



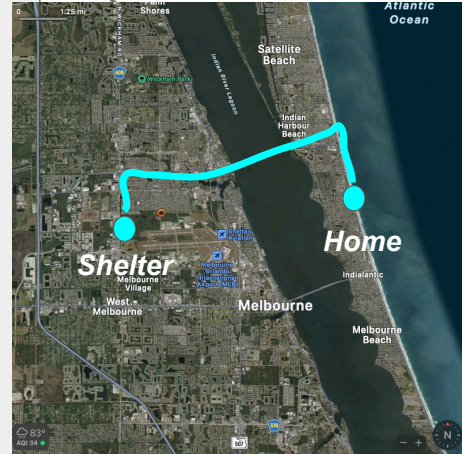
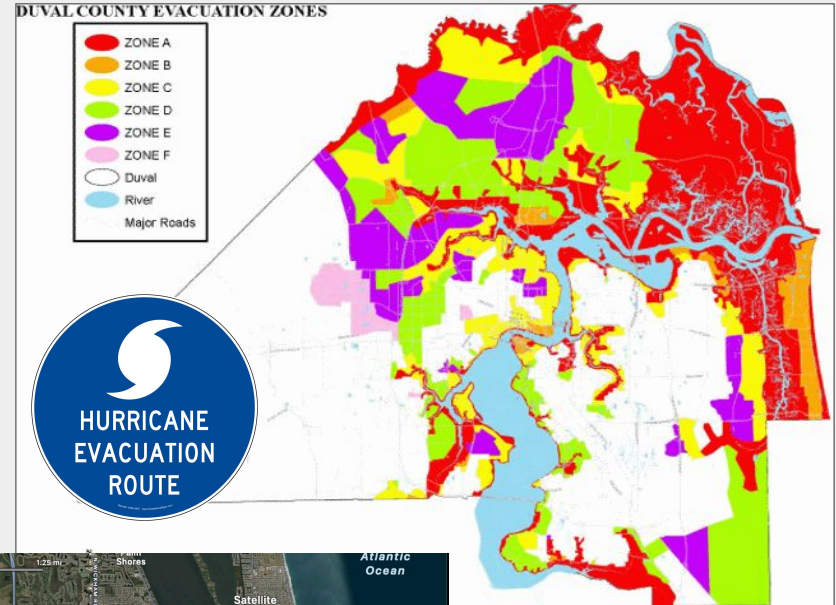
Amy serves as both the FDEM Chief Meteorologist and Operations Chief.

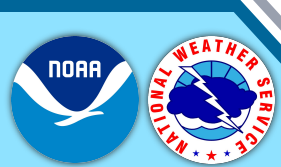
**What are your
agency roles?**

**What are your
responsibilities during
a tropical event?**

Who orders evacuations?

What's the difference between a voluntary and mandatory evacuation?





Evacuation Zone Map

Local officials call for evacuations.

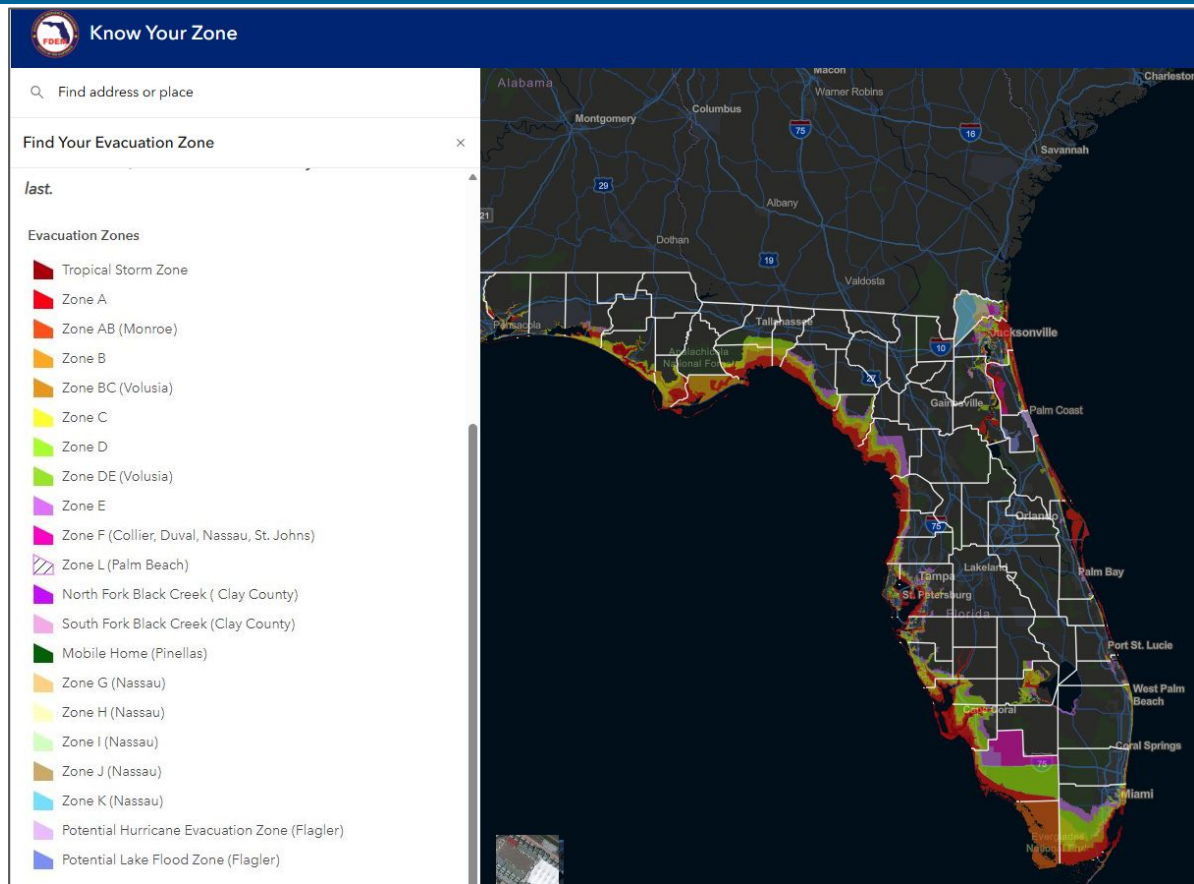
When asked to evacuate, LEAVE.
It is for YOUR safety!

Emergency personnel may not be
able to help you - you may be
isolated and alone.

**Know
Your
Zone!**



<https://www.floridadisaster.org/planprep/are/know-your-zone-know-your-home/>

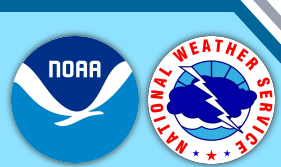


After a hurricane, how
do people know when
it is safe to return
home?



NWS MLB Irma Survey





Re-Entry

Only return when given **official clearance. Monitor Emergency Management announcements.**

Coastal & Island Residents: Re-entry may be done by zones. A 'clearance card' may be given to you. Take a picture of it for later reference.

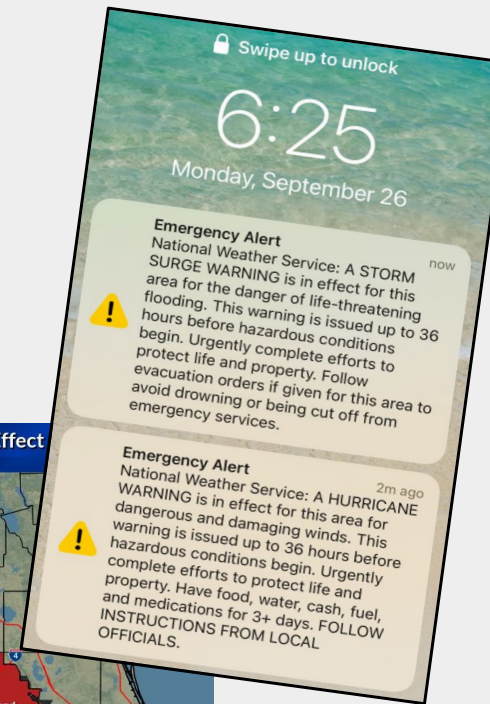
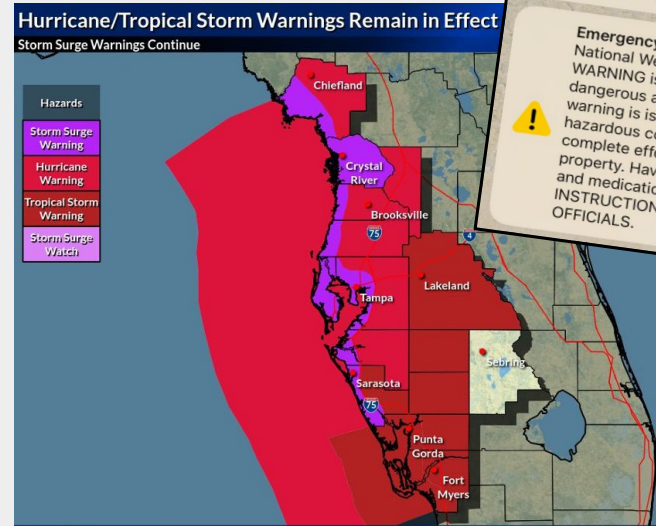
Hazards CONTINUE!

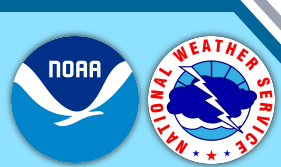
- ➔ Weakened structures
- ➔ Gas & electrical hazards
- ➔ Hidden flood water dangers
- ➔ Document damage



<https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/tips-returning-home-safely-after-disaster>

What is the best advice
you could give
someone who has
never been through a
tropical cyclone?

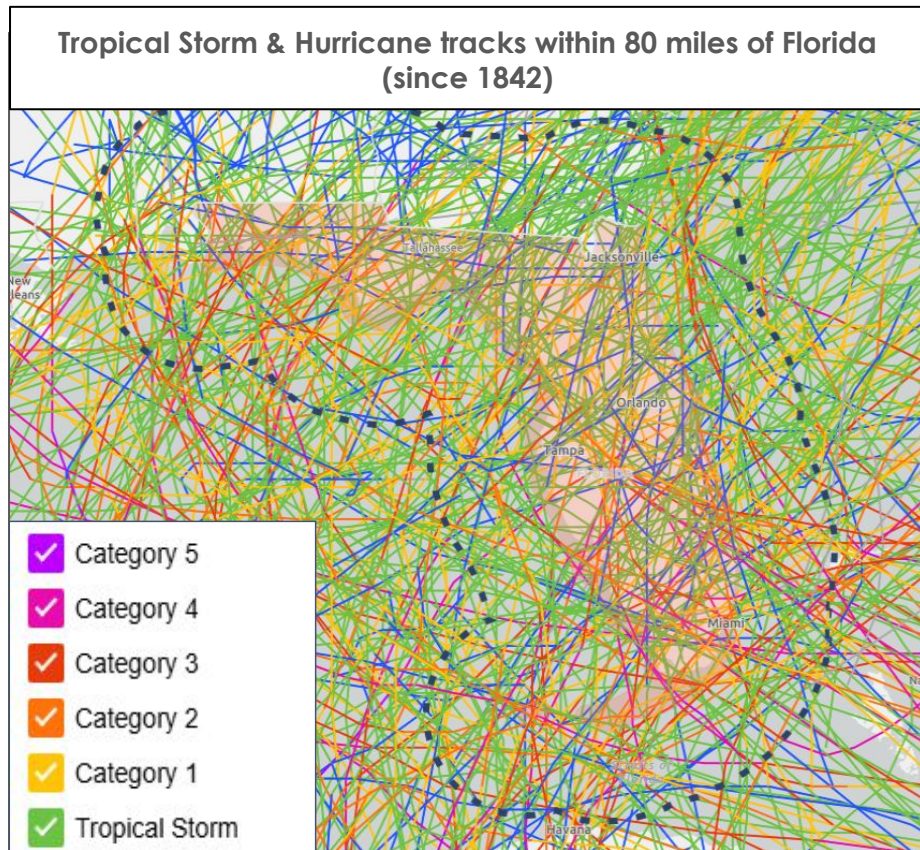


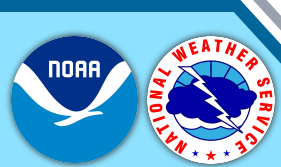


New to the Tropics

Nowhere in Florida is immune from tropical cyclones!

- **Visit your county Emergency Management website**
 - ◆ Are you in a flood zone?
 - ◆ What is your evacuation zone?
- **Sign-up for weather alerts**
- **Stay current with forecasts - they change!**





Robbie Berg

National Hurricane Center

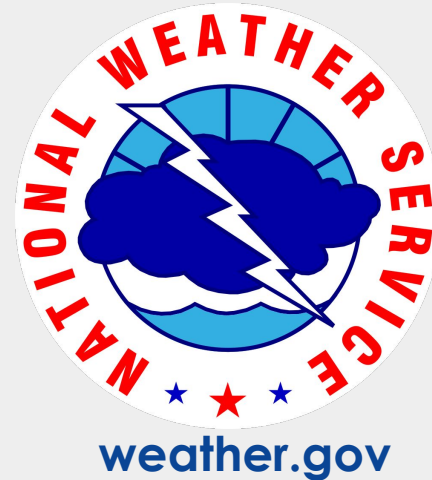


*Robbie serves as the Warning
Coordination Meteorologist for the
National Hurricane Center*

**What are your
agency roles?**

**What are your
responsibilities during
a tropical event?**

How is the National Hurricane Center forecast different from the local National Weather Service office hurricane forecast?



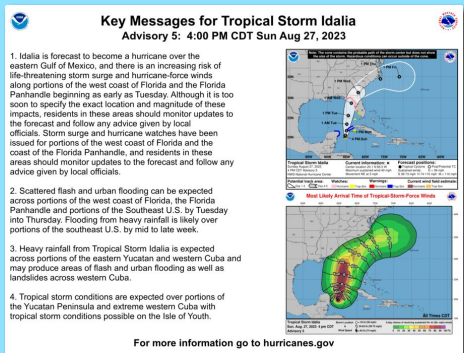
SAME FORECAST



Different Scales

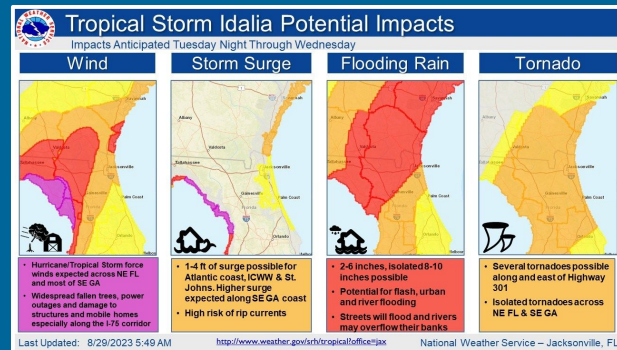
NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER

- Storm forecast – size, intensity, track
- Regional Scale View & Impacts
- National & State Level Support



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICES

- Downscale NHC forecast for local area
- County to City level View & Impacts
- State & County Level Support



Why did NHC update their operational cone for 2026?



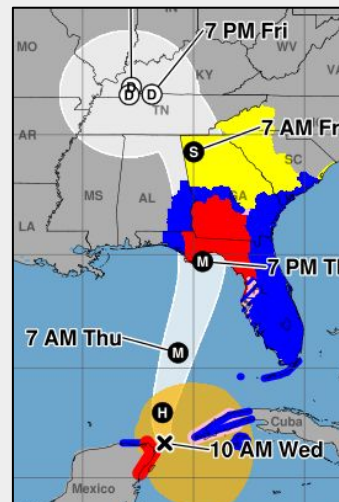
Previous Cone

Only coastal
hurricane &
tropical storm
watch/warnings



New Cone

Includes coastal &
inland hurricane &
tropical storm
watch/warnings

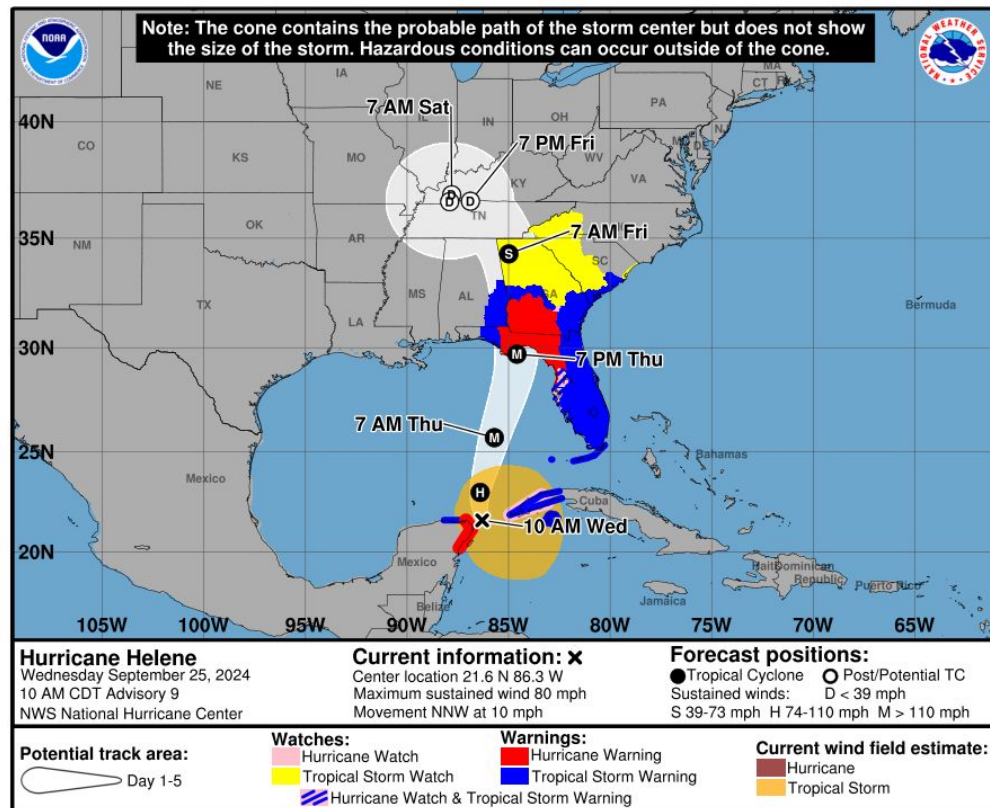


Hurricane Helene

CONE GRAPHIC

- Potential forecast track of CENTER
- Displays coastal & inland tropical storm & hurricane watches warnings to better convey inland wind risk
- Impacts OUTSIDE of cone!

	Tropical Storm ≥ 39 mph	Hurricane ≥ 74 mph
Watch	Potential within 48 hrs	
Warning	Expected within 36 hrs	



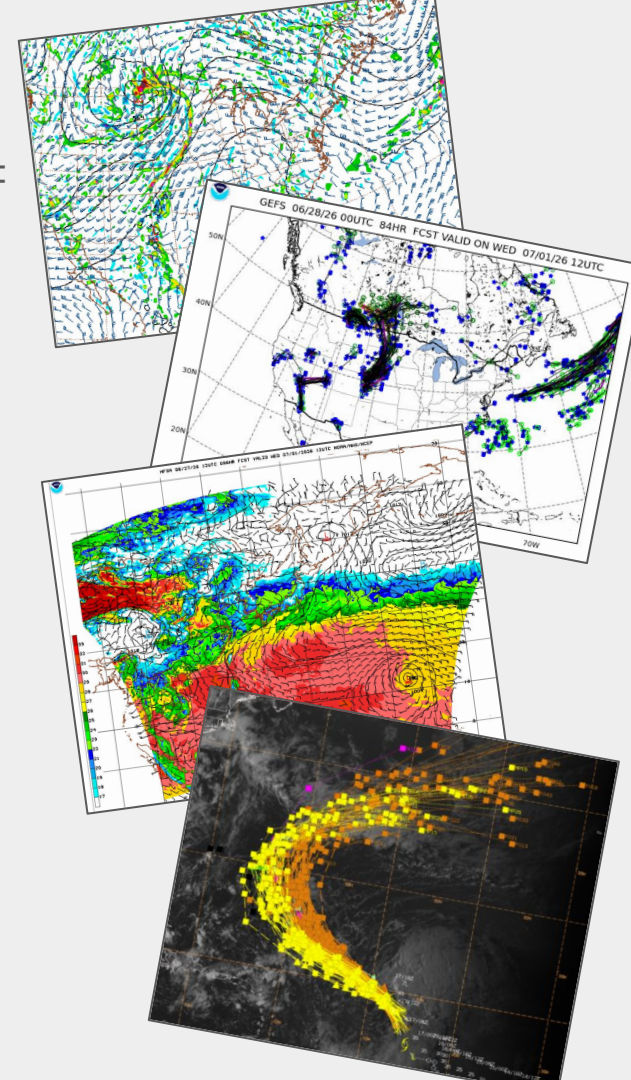
Which forecast model is the best?

Global
GFS, ECMWF

Regional
HAFS, HWRF

Statistical
SHIPS, LGEM

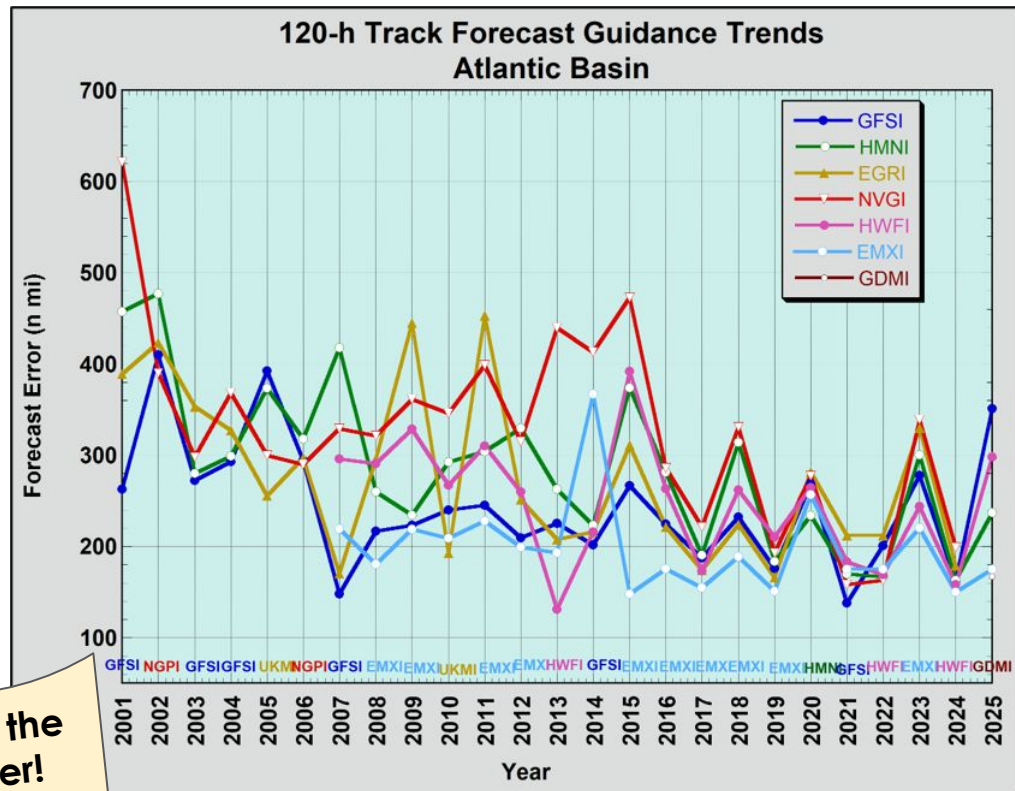
AI
GDM, ECAI

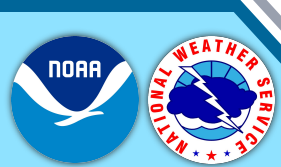


Tropical Models

- BEST performing model often varies season to season
- NHC track forecasts consistently outperform other models
- NHC considers ALL models when preparing forecasts
- Some models represent the environment better, others better represent track or intensity

The BEST guidance is from the National Hurricane Center!

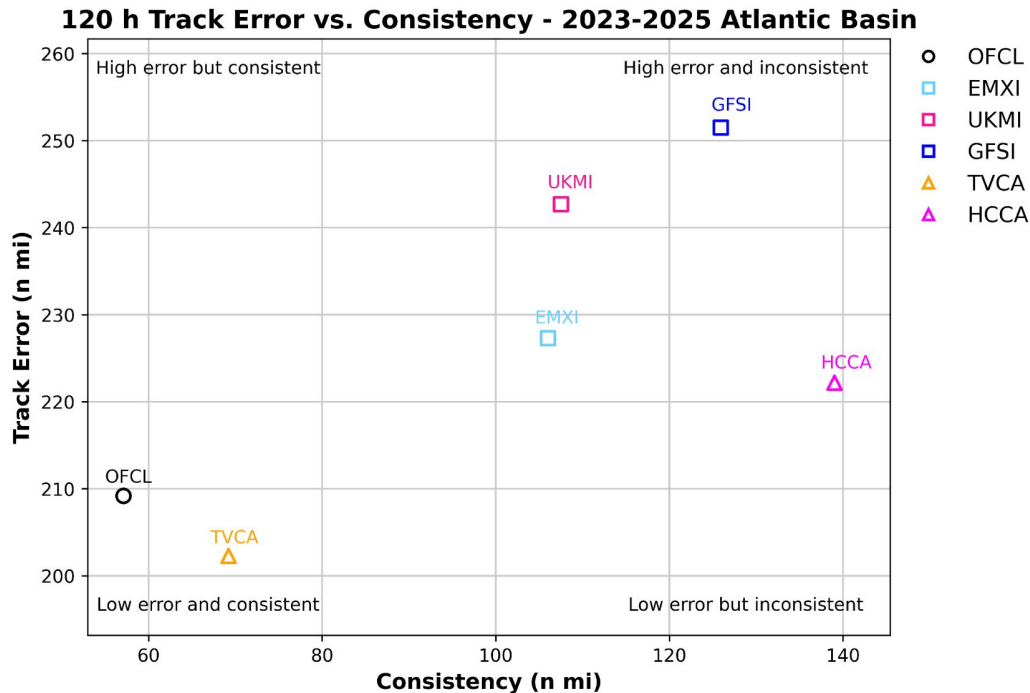


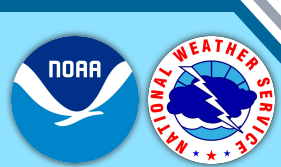


Tropical Models

- NHC forecasts are not only more accurate than many of the models, but they're also more consistent
- NHC forecasts don't "bounce around" every 6 hours like the models often do
- Instills more trust and confidence in the forecast!

The BEST guidance is from the National Hurricane Center!



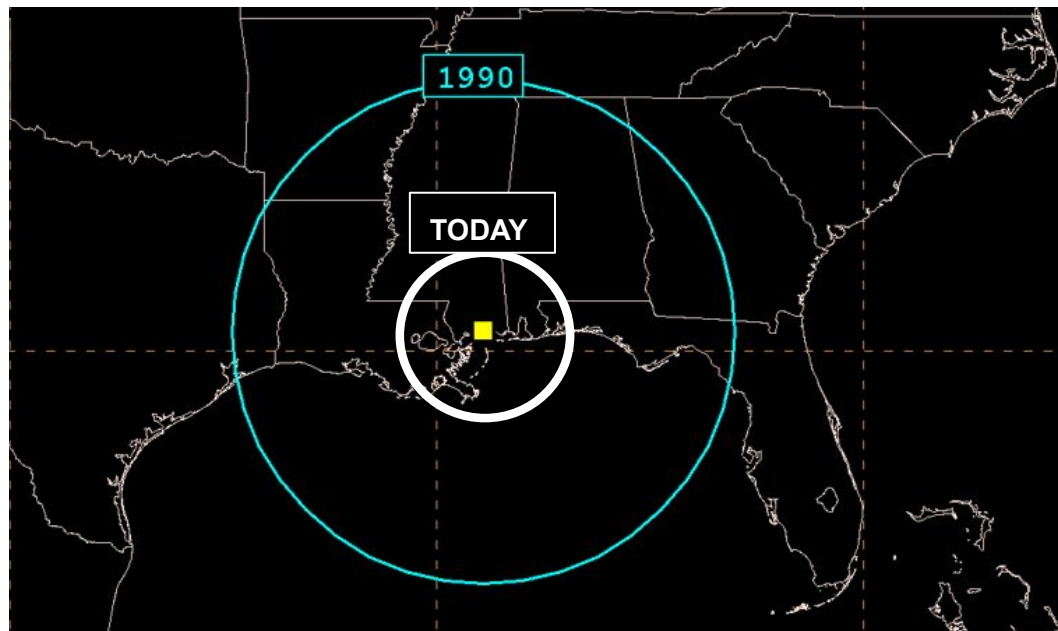


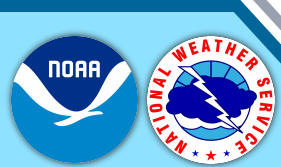
Forecast Improvements

- NHC track errors are about 70% smaller today compared to 1990
- Advancements in hurricane science & technology



3-day Average NHC Track Error





Robert Garcia

National Weather
Service Miami



*Robert serves as the Warning
Coordination Meteorologist for the
Miami National Weather Service.*

**What are your
agency roles?**

**What are your
responsibilities during
a tropical event?**

I heard it's a SUPER El Niño year.

Does that mean a low tropical threat this year?

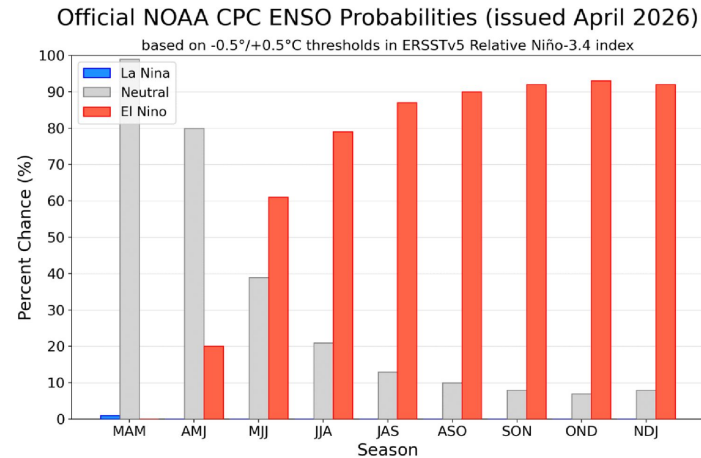


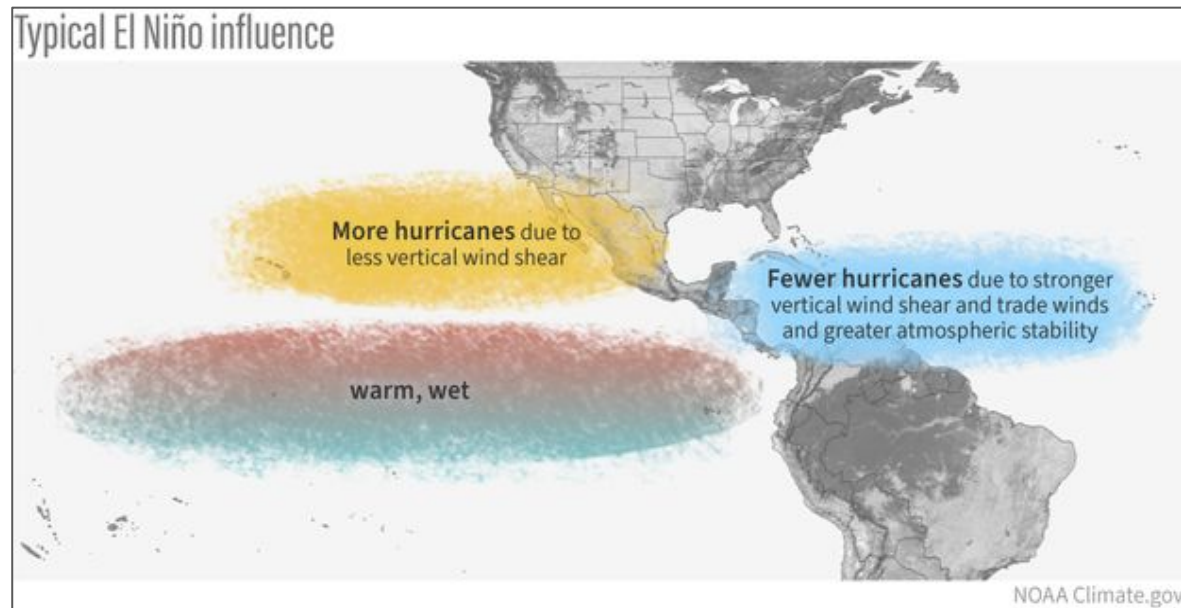
Figure 7. Official ENSO probabilities for the Niño 3.4 relative sea surface temperature index (5°N - 5°S , 170°W - 120°W) minus tropical mean (20°N - 20°S). The relative index is re-scaled to match the variance of the traditional index. Figure updated 9 April 2026. Higher resolution image/table: https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso/roni/probabilities.php

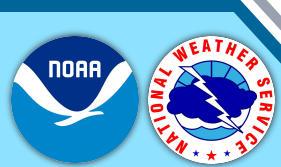
El Niño

El Niño is above average ocean water temperatures in the equatorial Pacific

Super El Niño = When the departure is $\geq 2^{\circ}\text{C}$

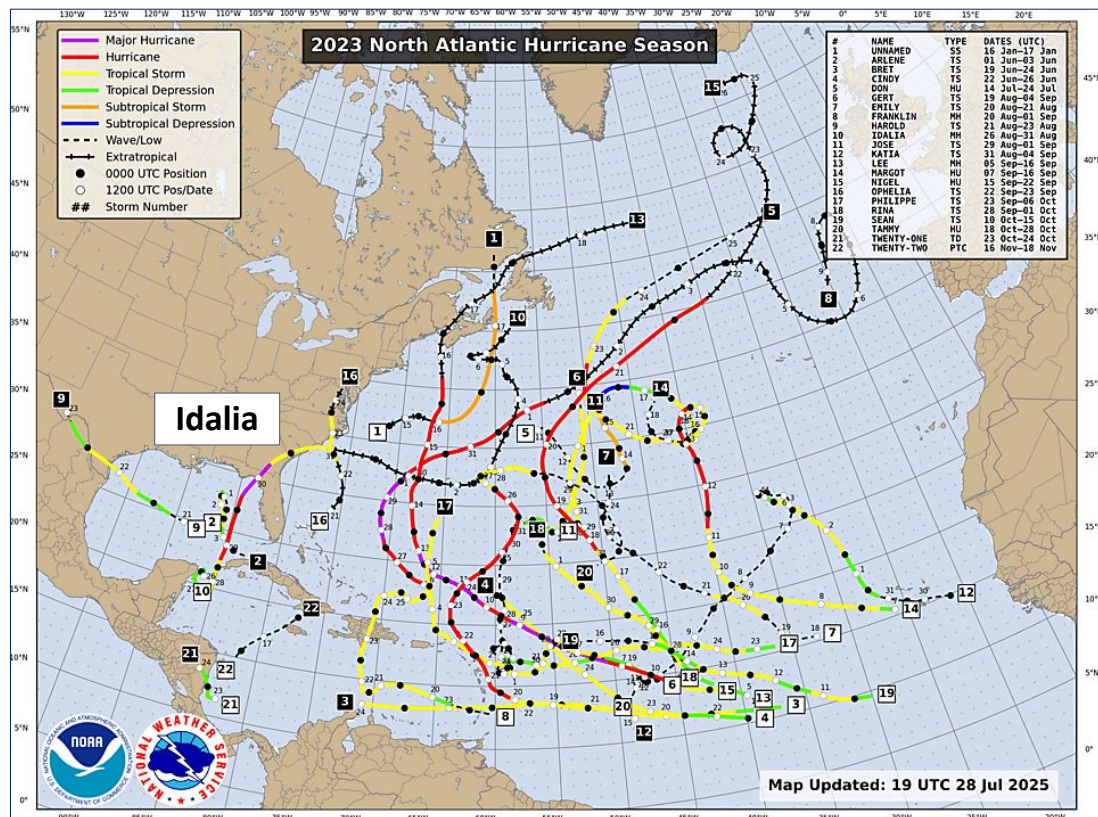
El Niño brings higher winds across the Atlantic basin & more stability (sinking air), which can limit tropical cyclone development

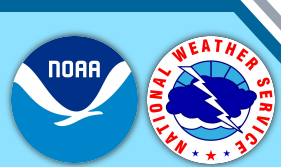




Seasonal Outlooks

- Outlooks do not predict landfalls or impacts
- Below 'average' seasons in 2023 (Idalia), 1992 (Andrew) & 1989 (Hugo) but VERY significant US Major Hurricanes
- It takes is one local storm for it to be a bad year.





Mark Wool

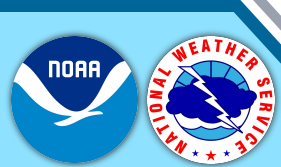
National Weather
Service Tallahassee



*Mark serves as the Warning
Coordination Meteorologist for the
Tallahassee National Weather Service.*

**What are your
agency roles?**

**What are your
responsibilities during
a tropical event?**



Will Ulrich

National Weather
Service Melbourne



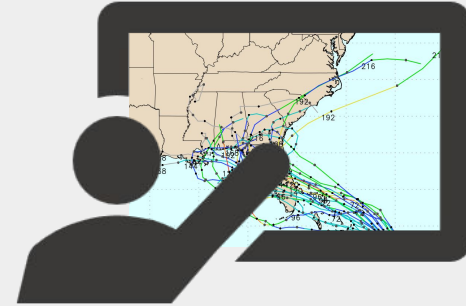
*Will serves as the Warning
Coordination Meteorologist for the
Melbourne National Weather Service.*

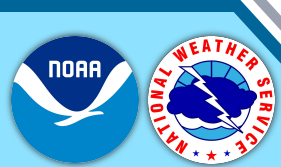
**What are your
agency roles?**

**What are your
responsibilities during
a tropical event?**

**How do I know if the
information I see on
Social Media is reliable?**

FORECAST SOURCE CAUTION





NON-CREDIBLE SOURCES

SENSATIONALISM/HYPE vs SCIENCE

- Show one forecast model
- Specific impacts too early
- Early landfall prediction

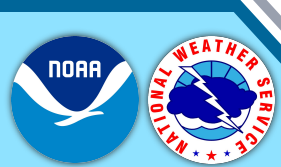
SOCIAL MEDIA-ROLOGISTS

- Hype vs Science
- Clicks vs Credibility
- Distant Friends/Family (*good intentions*)

“10 day forecast - landfall in southwest Florida!”



Image made with Generative AI



CREDIBLE SOURCES

GOVERNMENT SOURCES



NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER ~ hurricanes.gov

Storm-scale forecasts: *size, intensity, track*

 NWSNHC  @NHC_Atlantic



LOCAL NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ~ weather.gov

Downscaled NHC Forecast: *local impacts, where, when*

(for your local office: click the map or enter your ZIP code)

NWS @NWS



**What is a common
hurricane survivor story?**

**I will NEVER
stay again.**

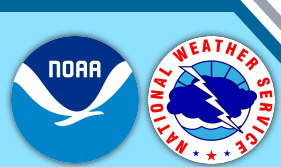


Relative to an approaching tropical cyclone, what keeps you up at night?

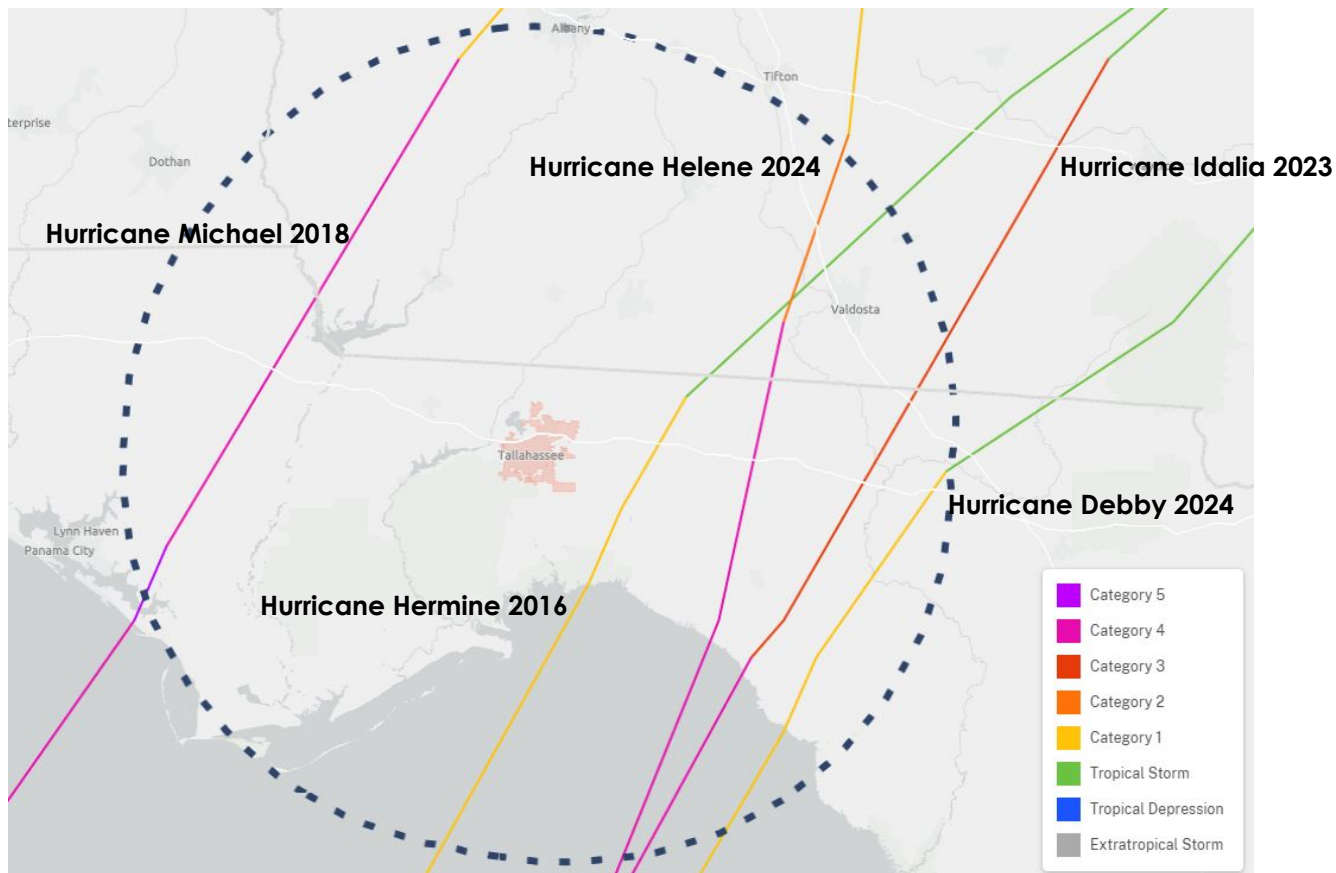
**Rapid
Intensification.**

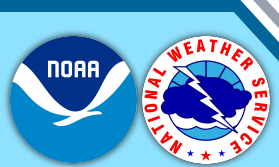
**Population
Complacency.**





TALLAHASSEE CLOSE CALLS





TRAINING COMPLETE!

**Thank you for attending Florida
Tropical Training Week!**

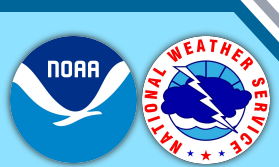
**Seasonal
Readiness**

**Monitoring
the Tropics**
Days 6-7

**Gearing Up
for Impacts**
Days 3-5

Hunker Down
<48 hrs to
Impact

**Post-Storm
Safety**



THANK YOU!

Training Website



FL Tropical Training 2026



**BE PREPARED.
STAY AWARE.**

Submit questions



via Google Forms



Certificate Of Completion



**Thank you for attending Day 4 of
Florida Tropical Training Week
July 30th 2026**

**PRESENTED BY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE,
NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER, AND
FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**