Southeast River Forecast Center

North Florida / South Georgia / Coastal North & South Carolina

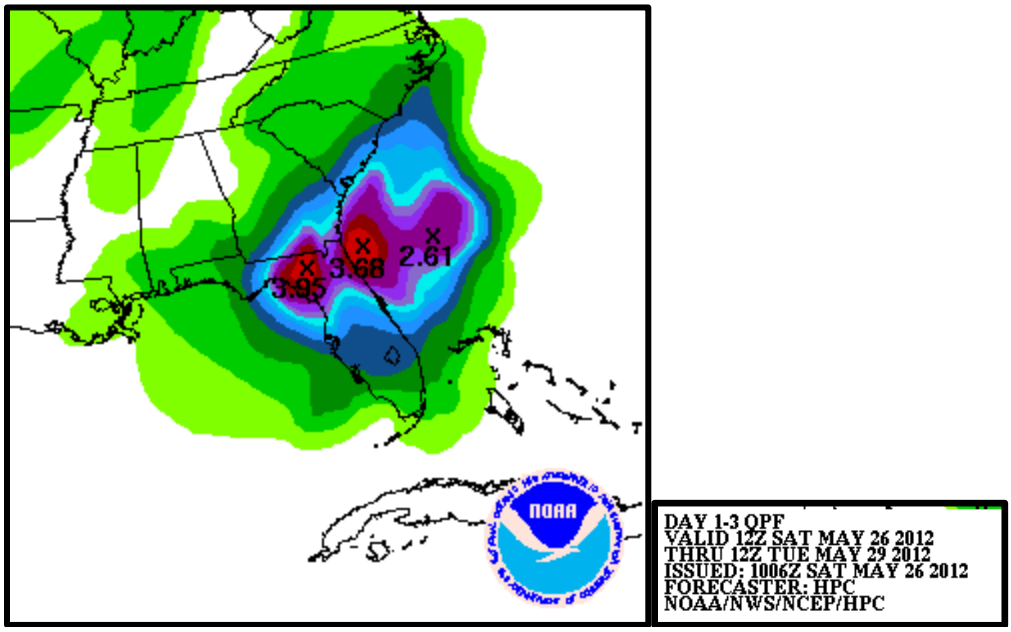
Hydrologic Vulnerability Assessment

Issued: 1130 AM Saturday, May 26, 2012

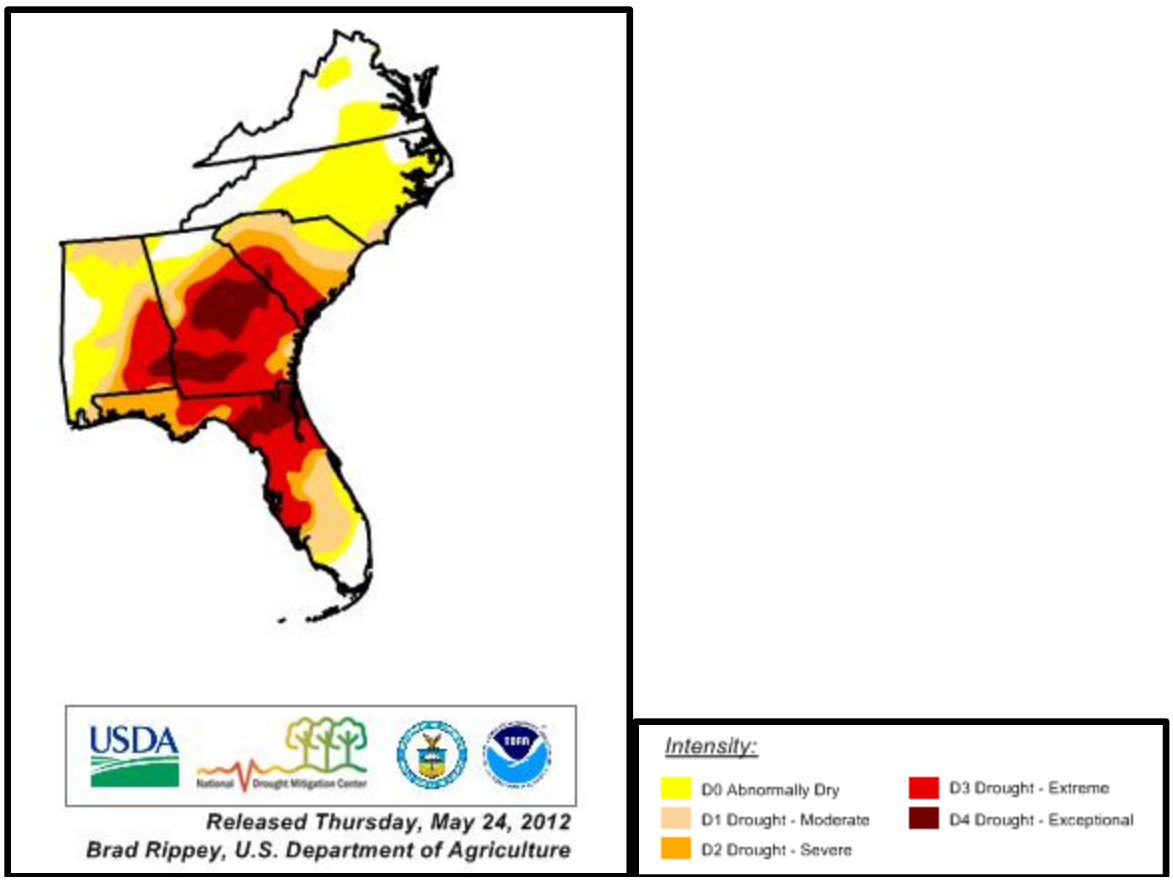
Potential Hydrologic Impacts:

Drought Alleviation
Minor Coastal Inundation and Flooding
Urban Flooding
Flash Flooding

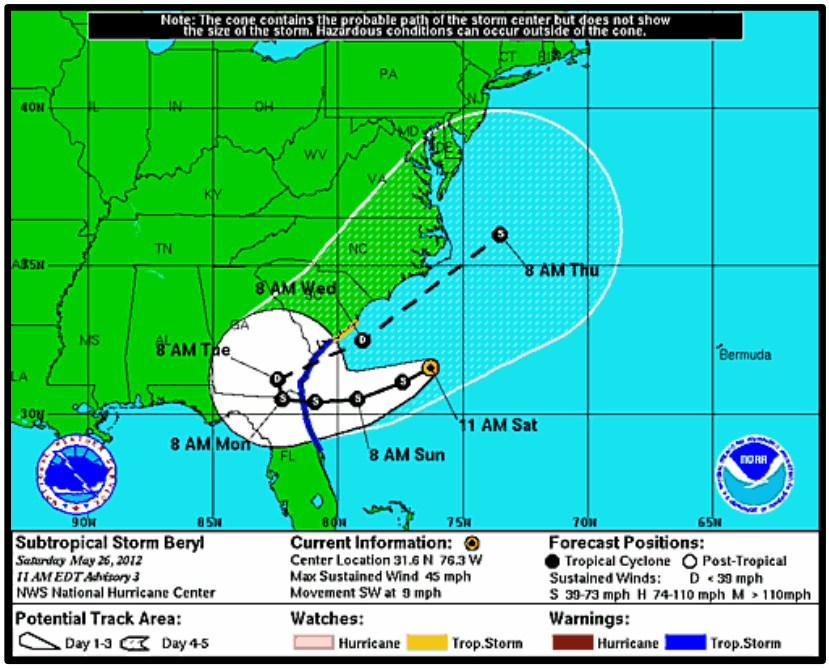
Focus Area: South Georgia and North Florida



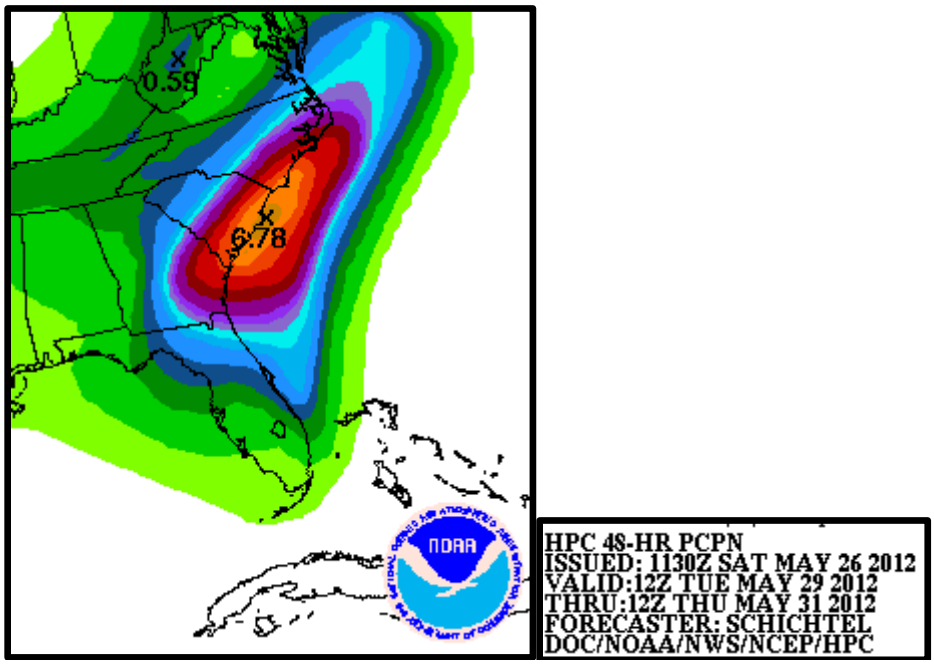
Subtropical Storm Beryl has formed off the coast of the Carolinas. This system is forecast to move west-southwest into North Florida through Memorial Day. The NOAA Hydrometeorological Prediction Center's (HPC) Day 1 to 3 forecast rainfall total from 8 AM Saturday, May 26, through 8 AM Tuesday, May 29, is shown above. These rainfall totals will be welcome in this drought-stricken area of north Florida and south Georgia as shown below in the latest US Drought Monitor. Locally heavy rainfall may produce urban or flash flooding, but the very dry antecedent soil moisture conditions will mitigate the river flooding potential in this area.



Beryl is forecast to be picked up by an approaching trough early next week. Models generally agree on this solution. However, the exact timing and path of this change in motion will of course determine the location of heaviest rainfall on Tuesday, May 29, and beyond.



HPC's Day 4-5 rainfall forecast is shown below and is based on the current National Hurricane Center's (NHC) forecast track. The orientation of this axis, and perhaps forecasted rainfall totals, may change as the timing and track of Beryl's turn become more certain.



Rivers in coastal Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina are typically slow to respond to locally heavy rain. Given the dry antecedent soil moisture conditions in most of this area, *widespread river flooding is not expected.* SERFC's Multi-Model Meteorological Ensemble Forecast System (MMEFS) output suggests the possibility of a couple of rivers in coastal South Carolina reaching a bankfull condition, but the average solution does not. These output are available for review at http://www.srh.noaa.gov/serfc/?n=hydrologicensembles. It is important to note that they are raw model guidance, not forecasts, and are to be used to heighten awareness, more broadly describe possible scenarios, and gage confidence.

Important note: This assessment is for informational use only. Many of these parameters will change as the system nears. Information will be updated over the next few days based on new guidance. Keep up-to-date on SERFC and local WFO hydrologic products, forecasts, and warnings.

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