



Tropical Update



1:00 PM EDT

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

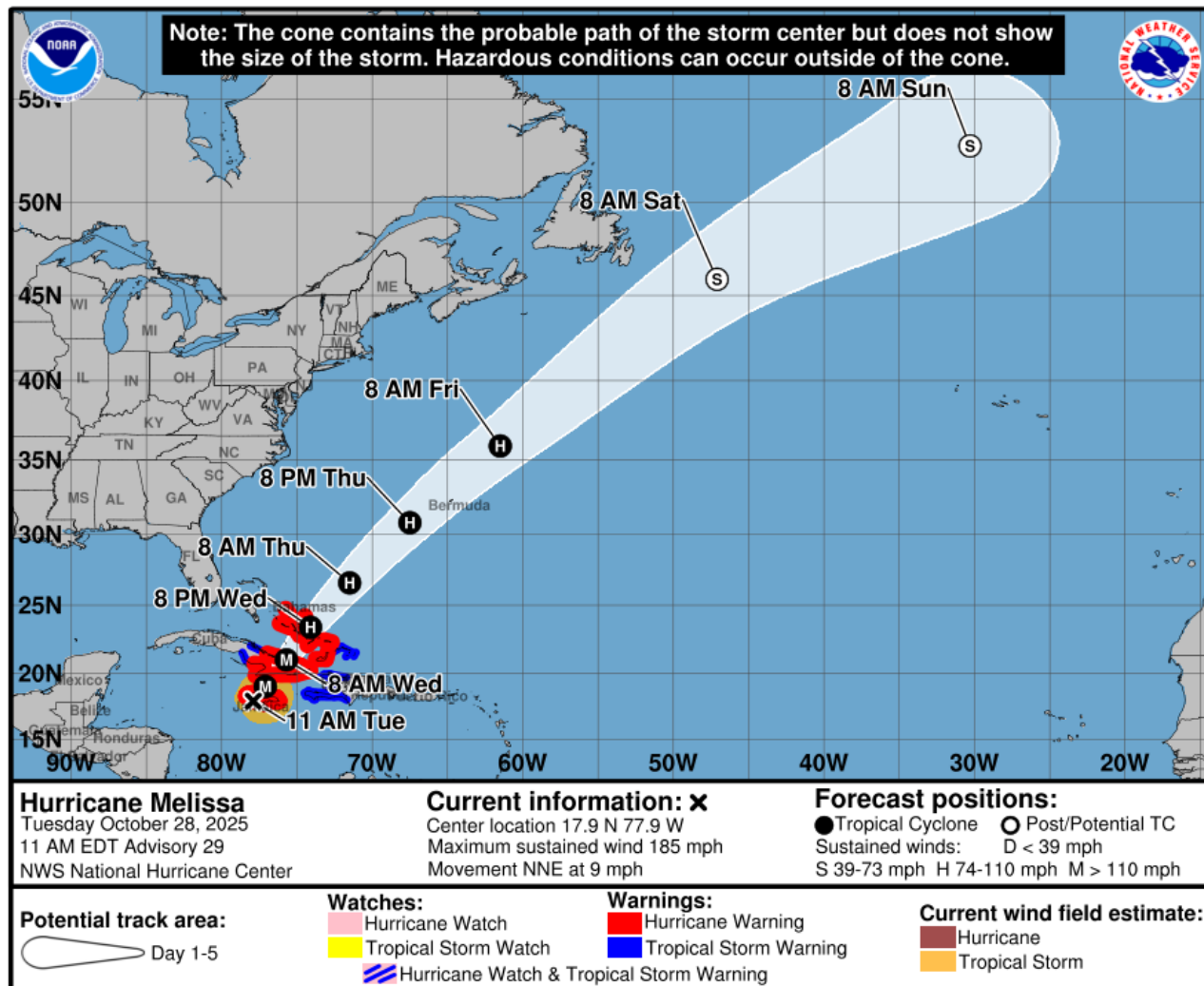
Category 5 Melissa Makes Landfall in Jamaica; Maximum Sustained Winds of 185 mph & Minimum Central Pressure of 892 mb Makes Melissa One of the Most Powerful Hurricane Landfalls on Record in the Atlantic Basin

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.



Major Hurricane Melissa

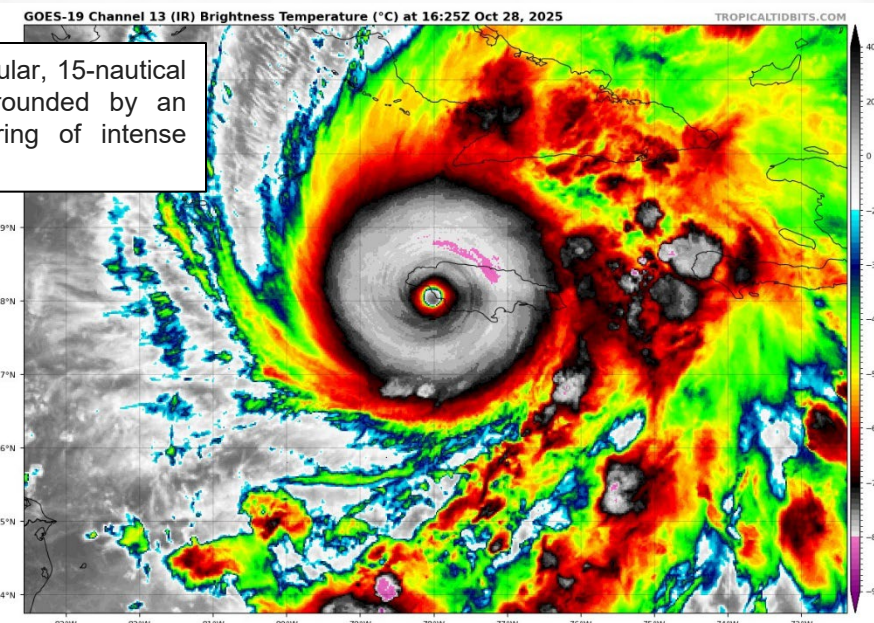
From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 25 miles SE of Negril, Jamaica
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 185 mph; Category 5
- **Current Movement:** NNE at 9 mph
- **FL Watches/Warnings:** None

A turn toward the northeast with an increase in forward speed is expected later today, followed by a faster northeastward motion on Wednesday and Thursday. On the forecast track, the core of Melissa is expected to make landfall on Jamaica during the next couple of hours, move across southeastern Cuba early Wednesday morning, and move across the southeastern Bahamas. Melissa will be an extremely dangerous major hurricane, and it will still be a strong hurricane when it moves across the southeastern Bahamas. ***Melissa poses no direct threat to Florida, but this system continues to be closely monitored.***

Melissa has a very circular, 15-nautical mile eye and is surrounded by an incredibly symmetric ring of intense thunderstorm activity.





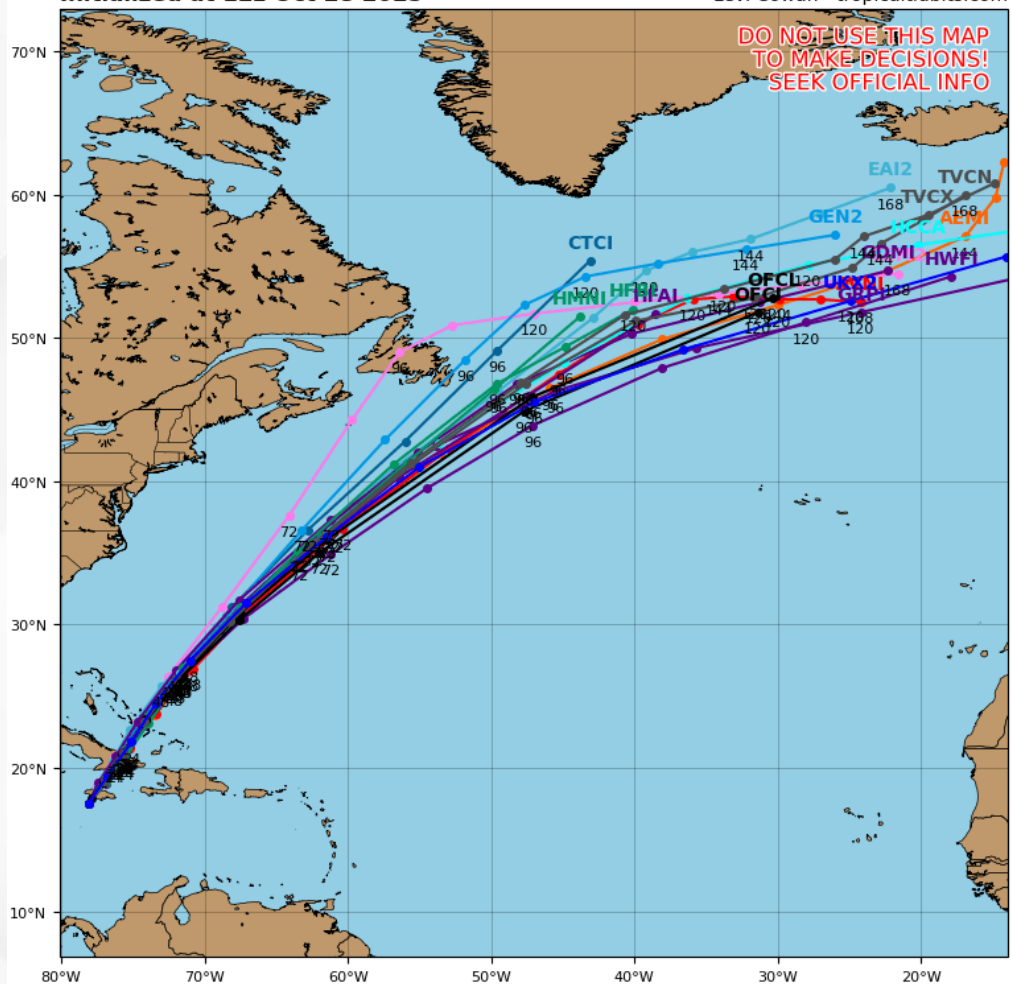
Computer Model Ensembles

Major Hurricane Melissa

Hurricane MELISSA Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 12z Oct 28 2025

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com

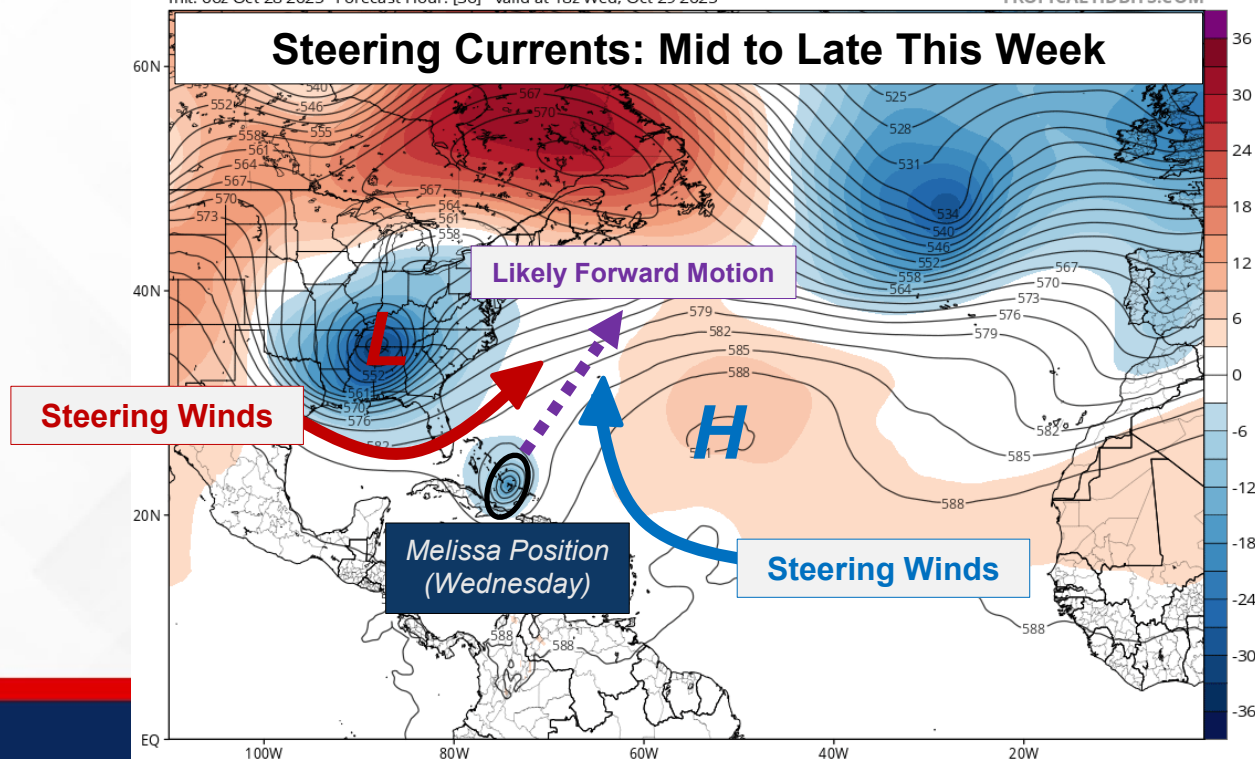


Computer model guidance is in very good agreement that Melissa will maintain its northeastward motion with some increase in forward speed. Melissa looks to reach eastern Cuba late tonight or early Wednesday, and the southeastern Bahamas on Wednesday with a quicker-forward speed. Ahead of a mature frontal system, Melissa will quickly move northeastward over the Atlantic after the 48-hour timeframe.

GEFS 500mb Geopotential Height & Anomaly (dam) (based on CFSR 1981-2010 Climatology)
Init: 06z Oct 28 2025 Forecast Hour: [36] valid at 18z Wed, Oct 29 2025

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Steering Currents: Mid to Late This Week





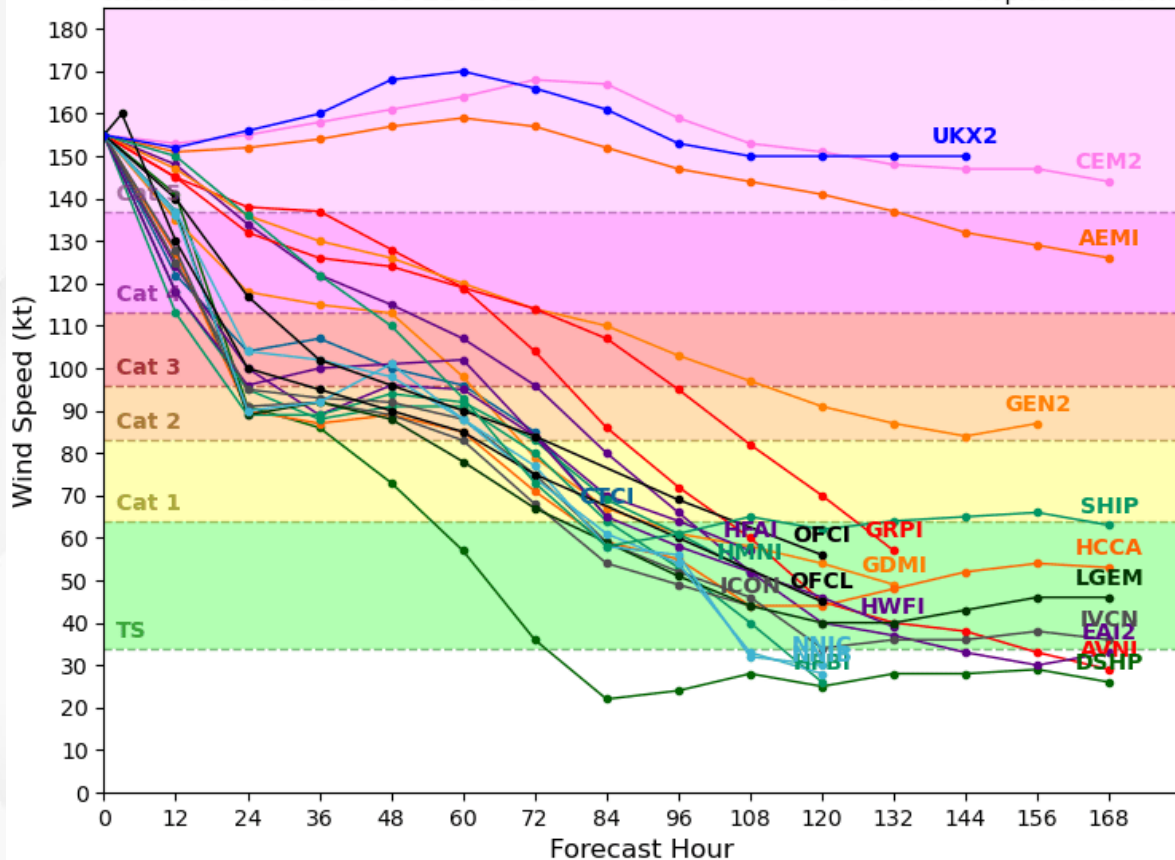
Computer Model Ensembles

Major Hurricane Melissa

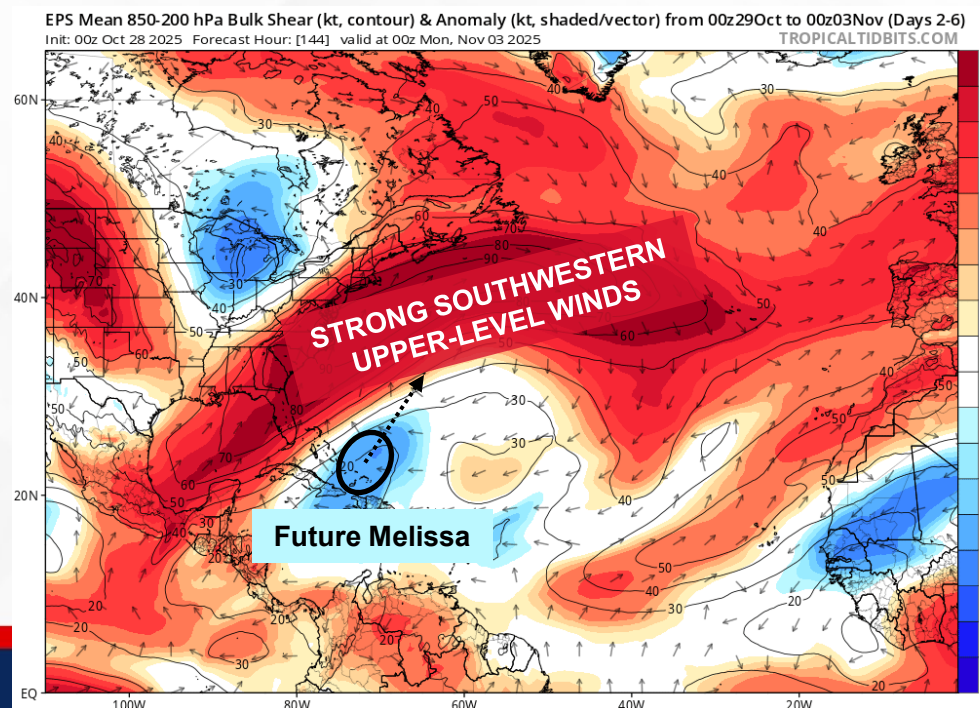
Hurricane MELISSA Model Intensity Guidance

Initialized at 12z Oct 28 2025

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com



Computer forecast models remain in good agreement that Melissa should weaken over the mountainous terrain of Jamaica. However, computer guidance still shows that Melissa will maintain major hurricane intensity until the center reaches eastern Cuba. After leaving Cuba, Melissa should encounter increasing southwesterly upper-level winds that result in steady weakening thereafter. Melissa will likely remain at hurricane strength when it passes near Bermuda later this week.





Coastal Flood Key Messages

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

Minor Tidal Flooding

Through Wednesday Night



Minor Coastal Flooding
Near High Tides



St. Johns River from Jacksonville
Southward

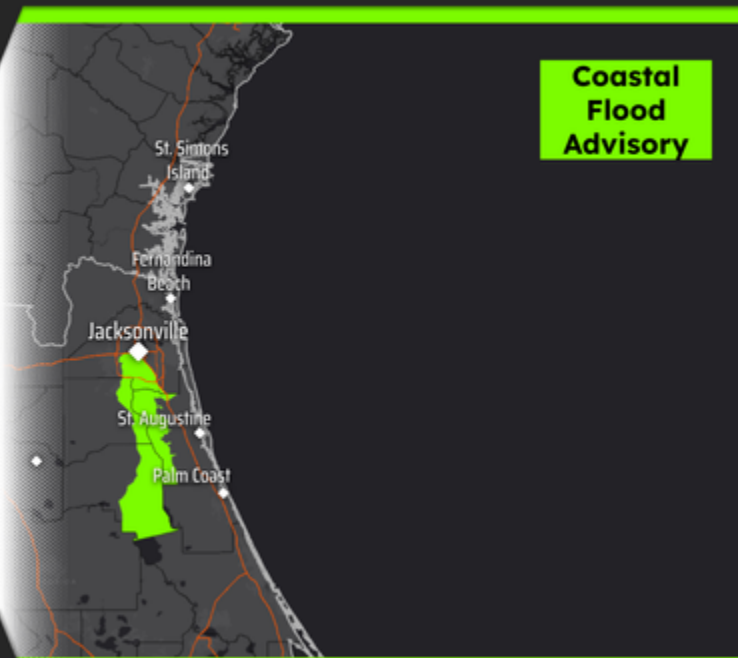


- Tidal flooding up to around 2 ft (above normally dry ground)
- Mainly nuisance tidal flooding
- Impacts to low lying areas, boat ramps, docks & some roads



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
Jacksonville, Florida

NWS Jacksonville – Key Messages (Coastal Flooding)



Issued: Tue, Oct 28, 2025 12:14 AM

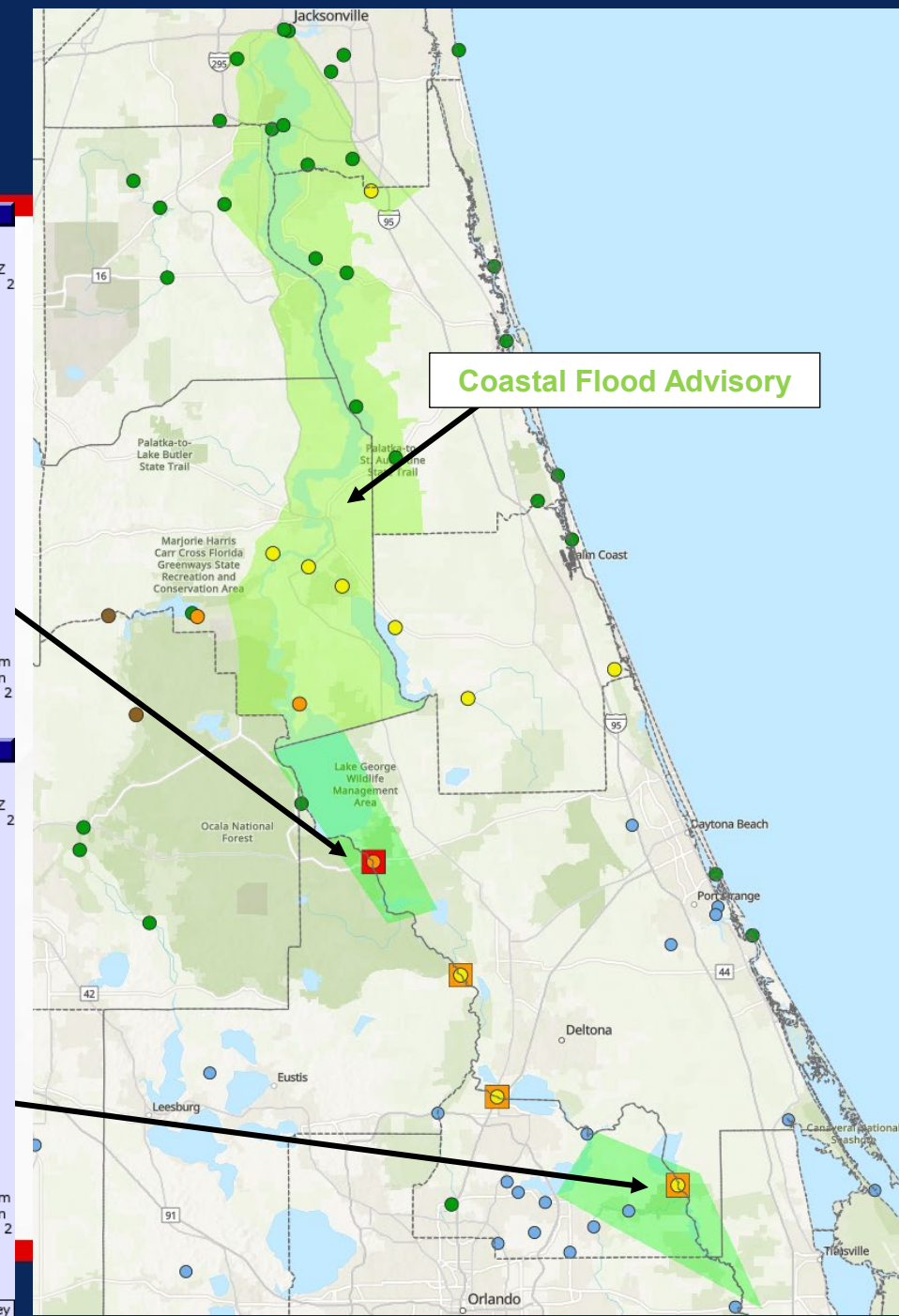
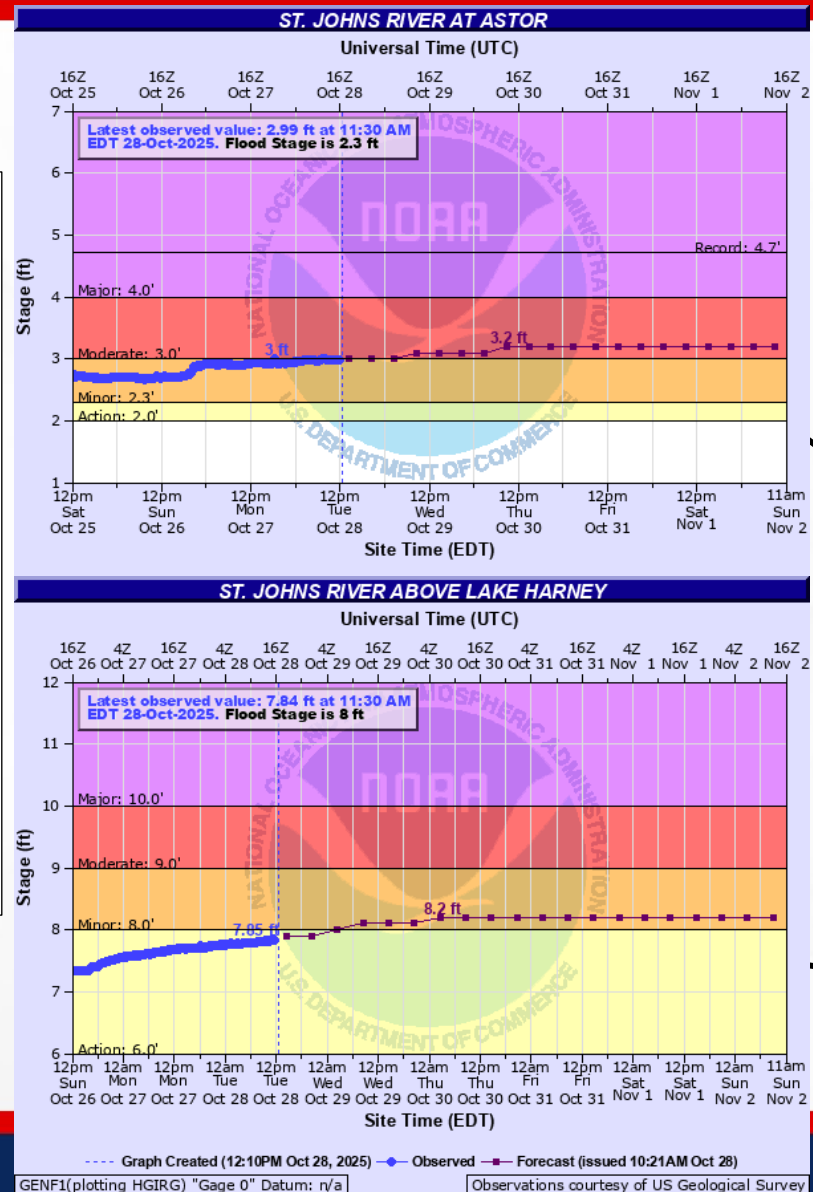
The National Weather Service in Jacksonville has issued a **Coastal Flood Advisory** for the St. Johns River basin from downtown Jacksonville southward to Satsuma where high tides were reaching **minor flood stage**, with peak inundation reaching 1.25-1.5' above normally dry ground. This trend will likely continue for the next couple of days, especially as excessive rainfall from this weekend enter the basin near the headwaters. Elevated water levels, particularly at or near times of high tide, can be expected through much of next week with the approach of the 11/5 Full Moon. *Additional adjustments into the Intercoastal Waterway or Northeast Florida coastline will be monitored and made as conditions warrant.*



St. Johns River Flooding

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

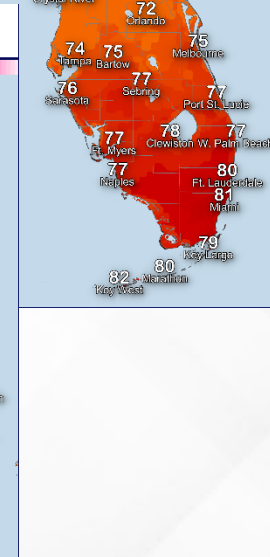
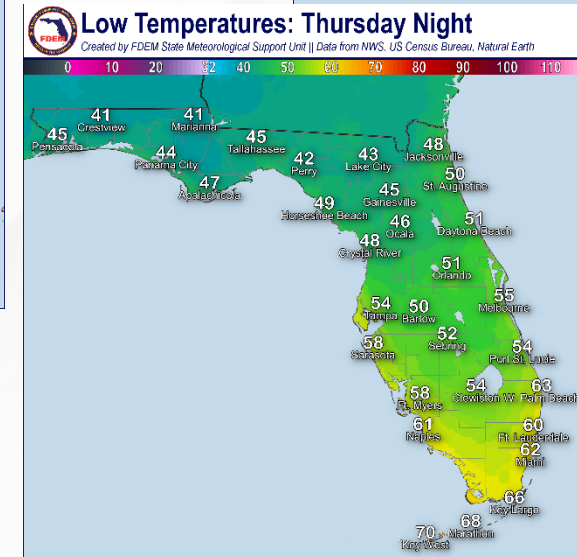
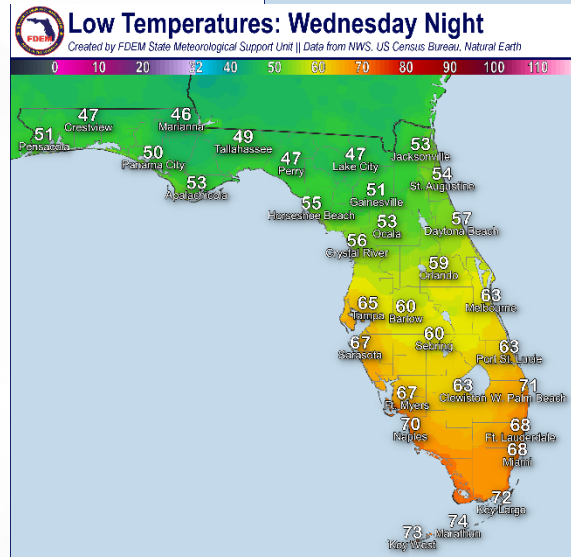
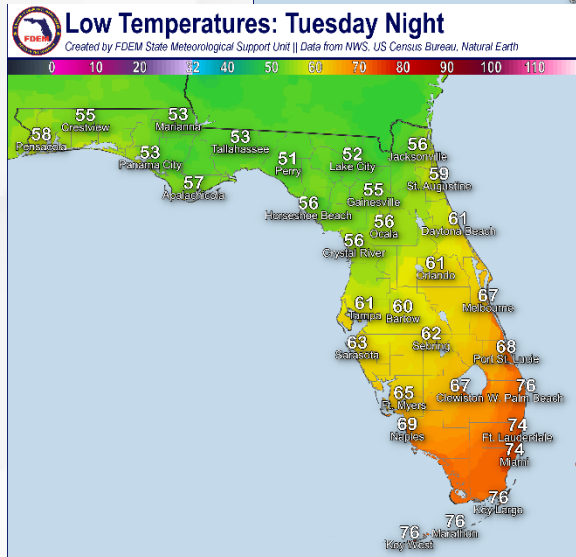
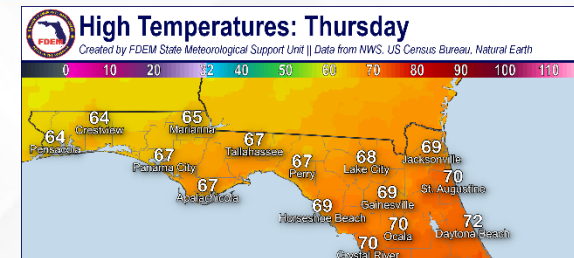
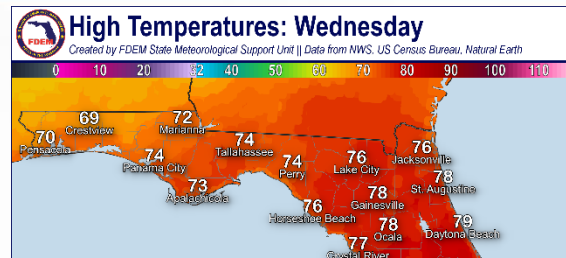
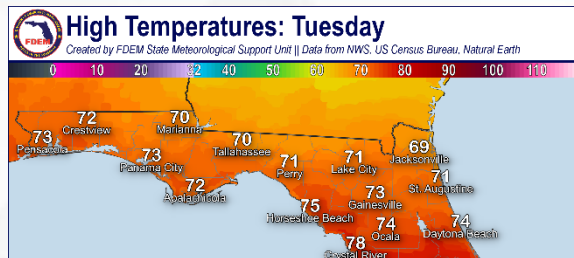
River Flood Warnings remain in effect for the St. Johns River at Astor and above Lake Harney as recent heavy rainfall runoff makes its way into the basin. The St. Johns River at Astor is forecast to rise into **moderate flood stage** well into the first week of November, with additional rises possible with upcoming astronomical tidal cycles. The St. Johns River above Lake Harney will reach **minor flood stage** within the next couple days and continue within elevated water levels until further notice.





High Temperatures & Low Temperatures – Next 3 Days

From the National Weather Service (NWS)



The active weather pattern will allow for another frontal system to advance through the Sunshine State this week; while rain and embedded thunderstorm activity will be more scattered than Monday, **below normal temperatures** will be felt later this week. Afternoon high temperatures will rise into the upper 60s to middle 70s today and Wednesday along the I-10 corridor with highs reaching the upper 70s to middle 80s through the Florida Peninsula. By Thursday, afternoon high temperatures will remain in the lower to middle 60s across North Florida, the lower 70s throughout Central Florida, and the upper 70s to lower 80s across South Florida. Low temperatures on Thursday night will bring some of the coolest mornings of the season, with low temperatures falling into the **lower 40s** across the Florida Panhandle; *a few interior North Florida locations may even see **upper 30s** for the first time this fall.* Elsewhere, lows in the upper 40s to middle 50s spread throughout the Central and interior Southern Peninsula, with coastal South Florida waking up Friday morning in the lower 60s.



Summary

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Major Hurricane Melissa:

- As of the 1:00 PM EDT position update, Category 5 Melissa makes landfall in Jamaica with maximum sustained winds of 185 mph; this marks Melissa as one of the most powerful hurricane landfalls on record in the Atlantic Basin.
- A turn toward the northeast with an increase in forward speed is expected later today, followed by a faster northeastward motion on Wednesday and Thursday.
- On the forecast track, the core of Melissa is expected to make landfall on Jamaica during the next couple of hours, move across southeastern Cuba early Wednesday morning, and move across the southeastern Bahamas.
- Melissa will be an extremely dangerous major hurricane, and it will still be a strong hurricane when it moves across the southeastern Bahamas.
- ***Melissa poses no direct threat to Florida, but this system continues to be closely monitored.***

Florida Outlook:

- The National Weather Service in Jacksonville has issued a **Coastal Flood Advisory** for the St. Johns River basin from downtown Jacksonville southward to Satsuma where high tides were reaching minor flood stage, with peak inundation reaching 1.25-1.5' above normally dry ground. This trend will likely continue for the next couple of days, especially as excessive rainfall from this weekend enter the basin near the headwaters.
- Elevated water levels, particularly at or near times of high tide, can be expected through much of next week with the approach of the 11/5 Full Moon. Additional adjustments into the Intercoastal Waterway or Northeast Florida coastline will be monitored and made as conditions warrant.
- **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect for the St. Johns River at Astor and above Lake Harney as recent heavy rainfall runoff makes its way into the basin.
- The active weather pattern will allow for another frontal system to advance through the Sunshine State this week; while rain and embedded thunderstorm activity will be more scattered than Monday, below normal temperatures will be felt later this week.
- Low temperatures on Thursday night will bring some of the coolest mornings of the season, with low temperatures falling into the lower 40s across the Florida Panhandle; *a few interior/rural North Florida locations may even see upper 30s for the first time this fall.* Elsewhere, lows in the upper 40s to middle 50s spread throughout the Central and interior Southern Peninsula, with coastal South Florida waking up Friday morning in the lower 60s.
- The next name on the list is **Nestor** (*NES-tor*).



Tropical Update

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State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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