



Tropical Update



11:00 AM EDT

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Melissa Still a Strong Category 2 Hurricane Approaching the Southeastern Bahamas this Morning; Forecast to Quickly Race Northeastward Across the Atlantic

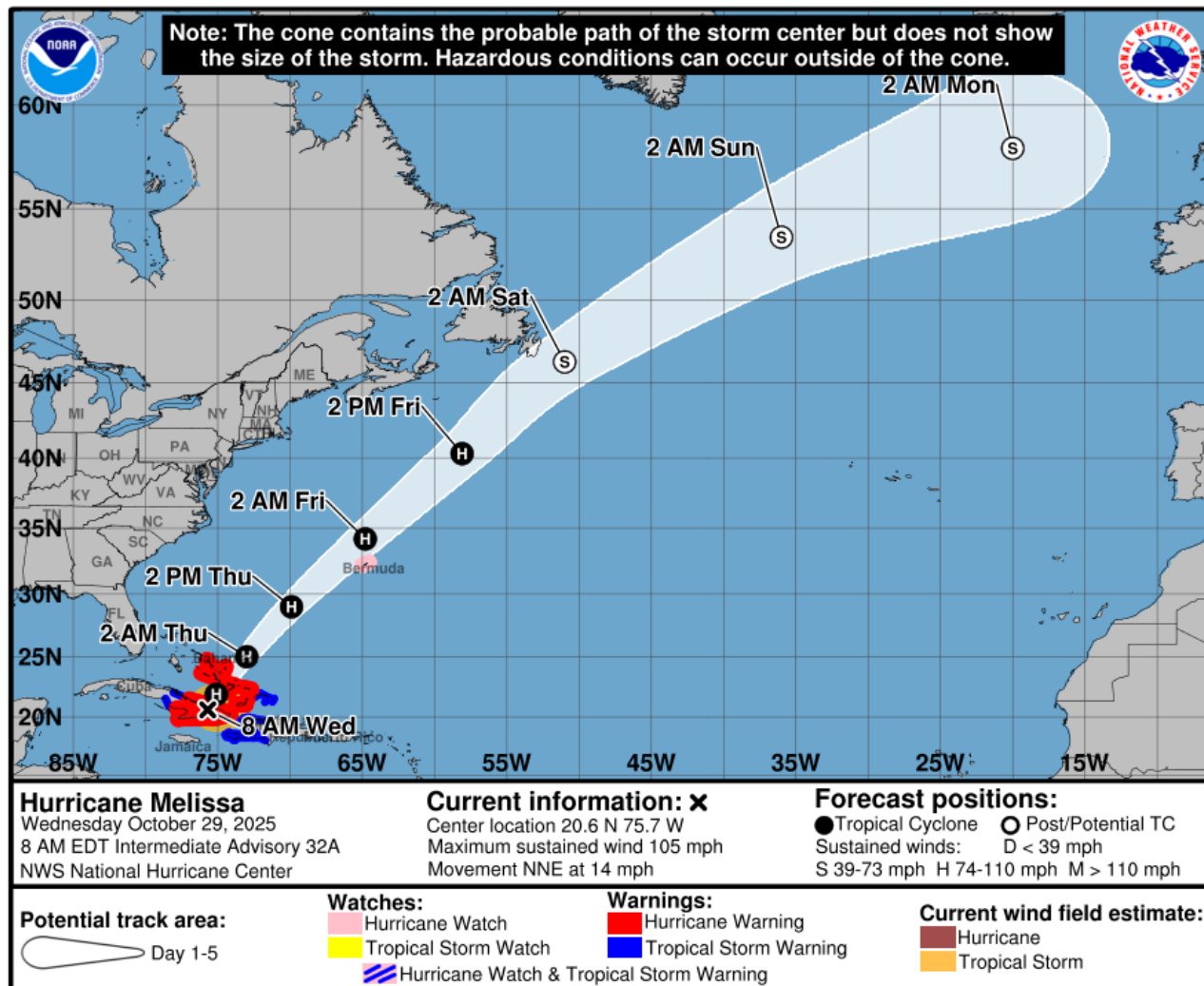
Cold Front Approaches Florida Today with Minimal Moisture and Cool, Pleasant Conditions in its Wake

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.



Hurricane Melissa

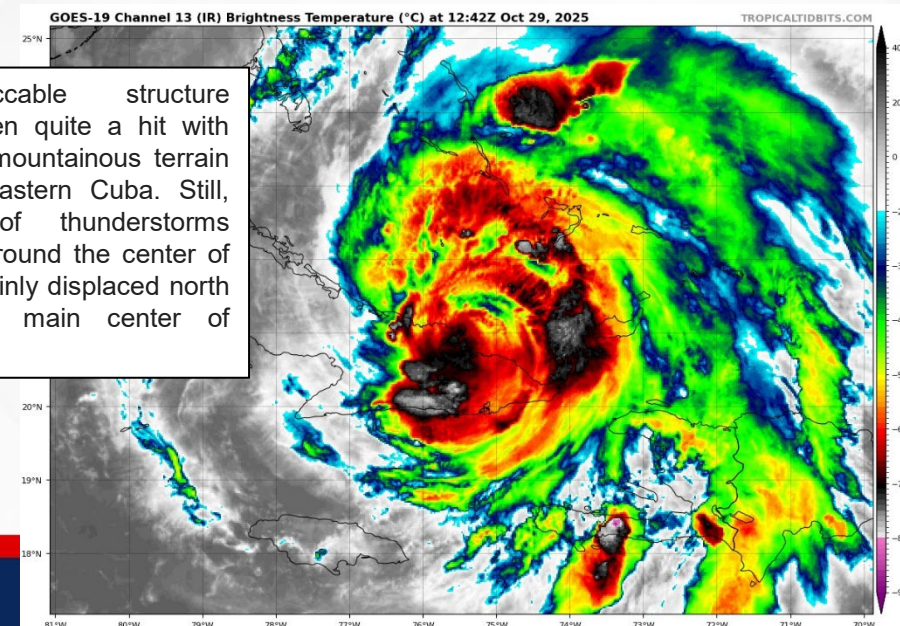
From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 150 miles S of the Central Bahamas
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 100 mph; Category 2
- **Current Movement:** NE at 14 mph
- **FL Watches/Warnings:** None

A faster northeastward motion is expected during the next few days. On the forecast track, the center of Melissa is expected to move further offshore Eastern Cuba this morning, move across the southeastern or central Bahamas today, and pass near or to the west of Bermuda late Thursday and Thursday night. Some slight strengthening is possible today and tomorrow with little change in strength thereafter. ***Melissa poses no direct threat to Florida, but this system continues to be closely monitored.***

Melissa's impeccable structure yesterday has taken quite a hit with passage over the mountainous terrain of Jamaica and eastern Cuba. Still, intense bands of thunderstorms continue to wrap around the center of Melissa, though mainly displaced north and east of the main center of circulation.





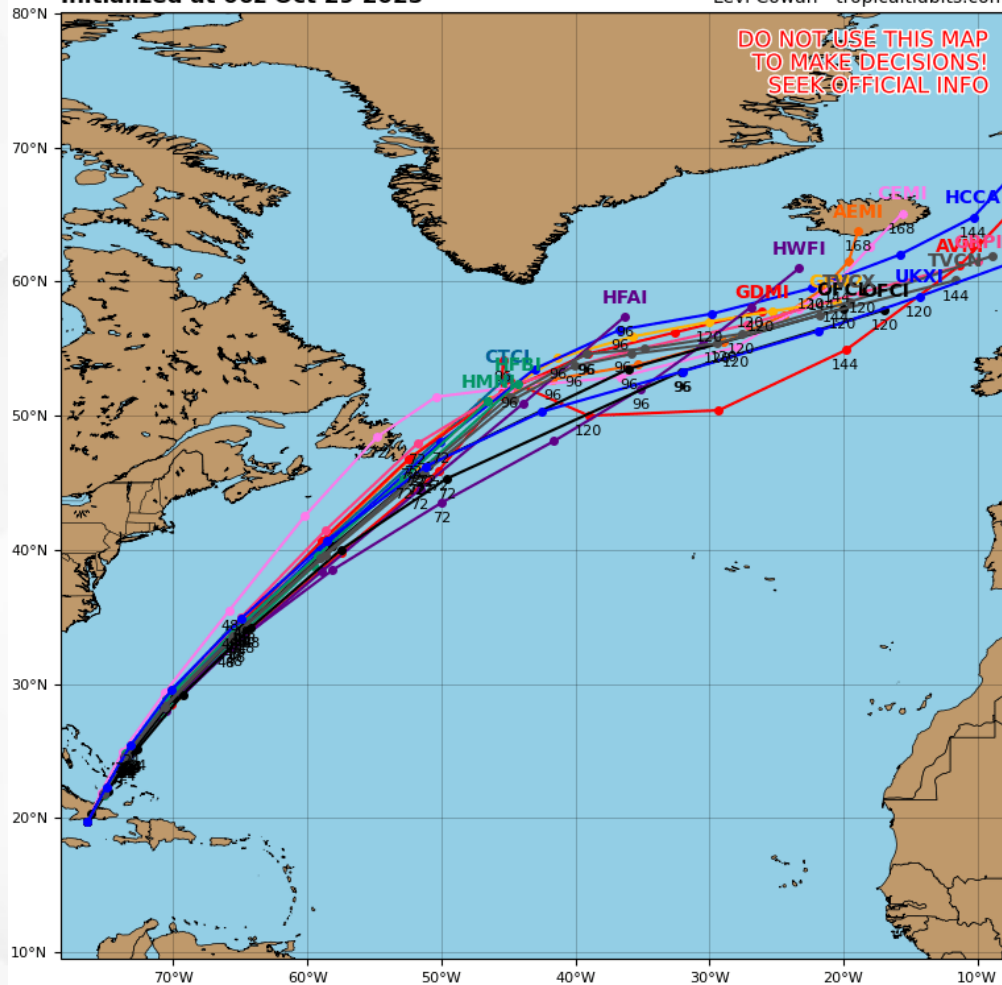
Computer Model Ensembles

Hurricane Melissa

Hurricane MELISSA Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 06z Oct 29 2025

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com

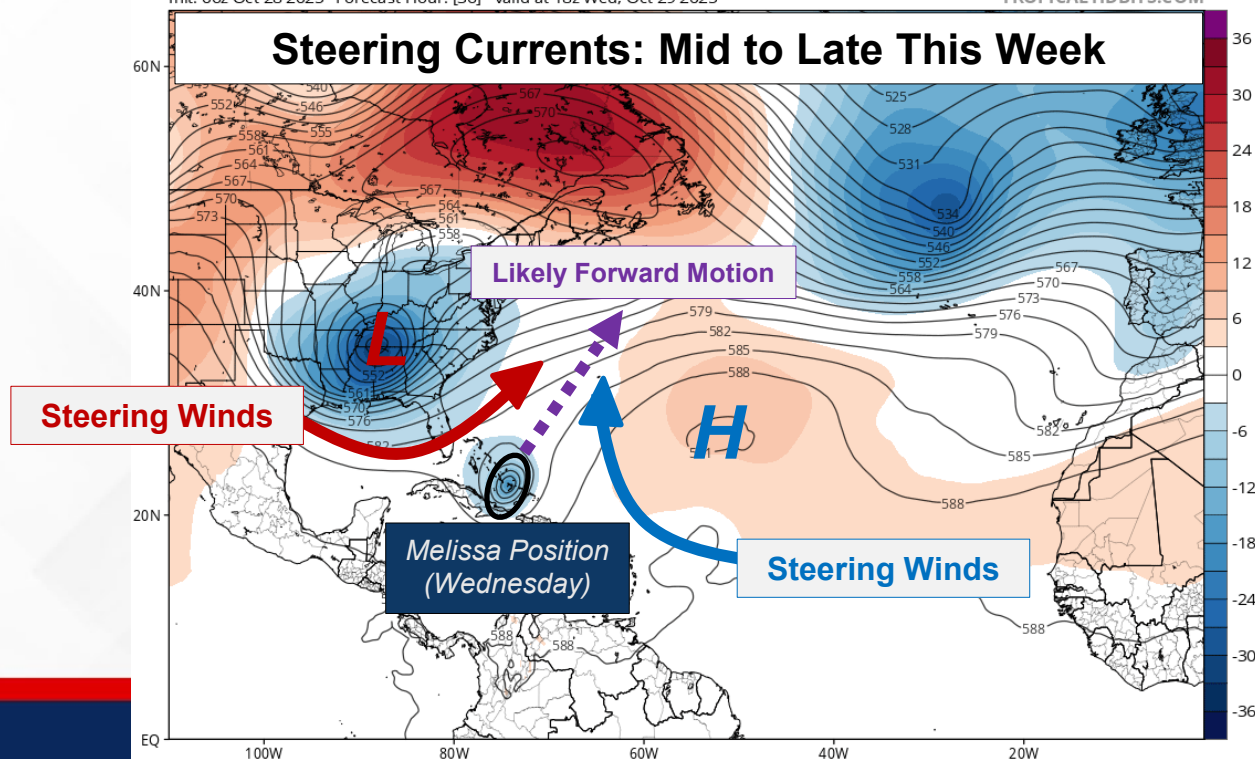


Computer model guidance is in very good agreement that Melissa will maintain its northeastward motion with increasing forward speed. Melissa will pass through the southeastern Bahamas today and tonight before emerging into the southwestern Atlantic on Thursday. Melissa will continue to pick up forward speed ahead of a mature frontal system as it approaches Bermuda and southeastern Canada in the next 2 to 3 days.

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

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM

Steering Currents: Mid to Late This Week





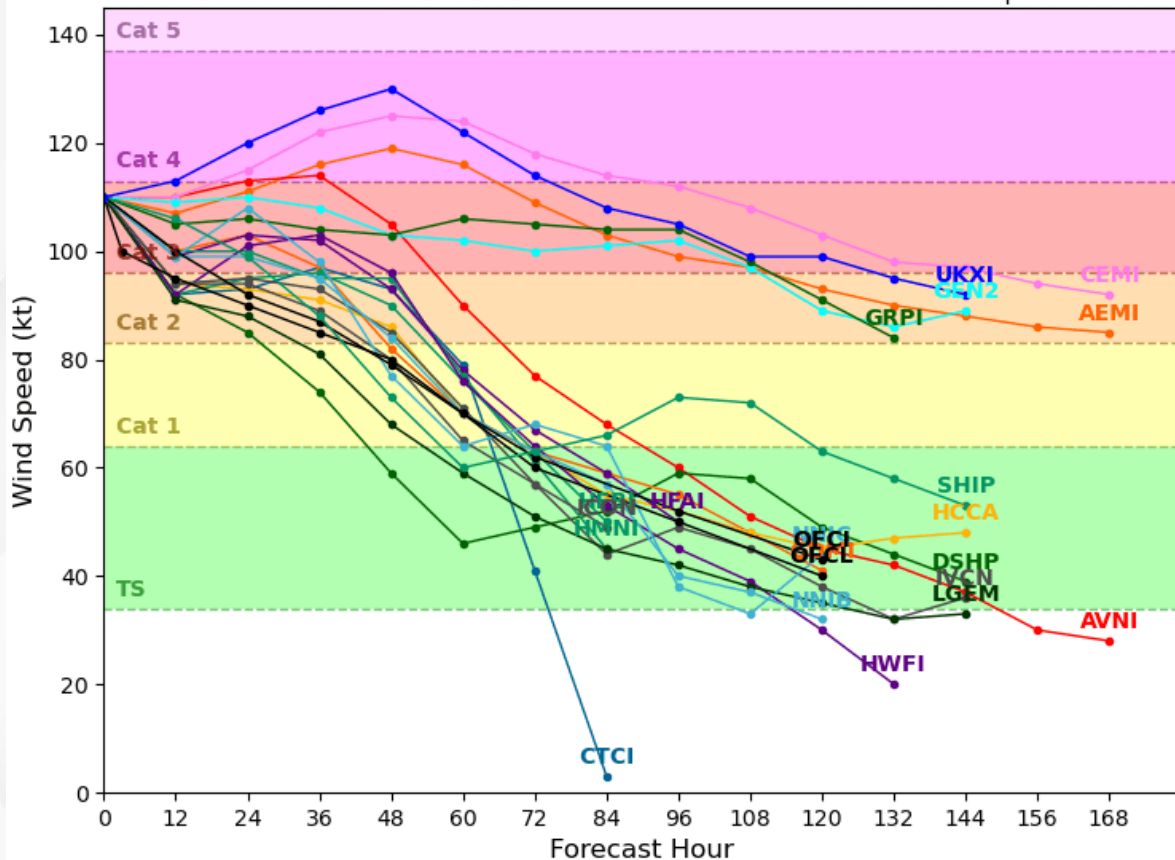
Computer Model Ensembles

Hurricane Melissa

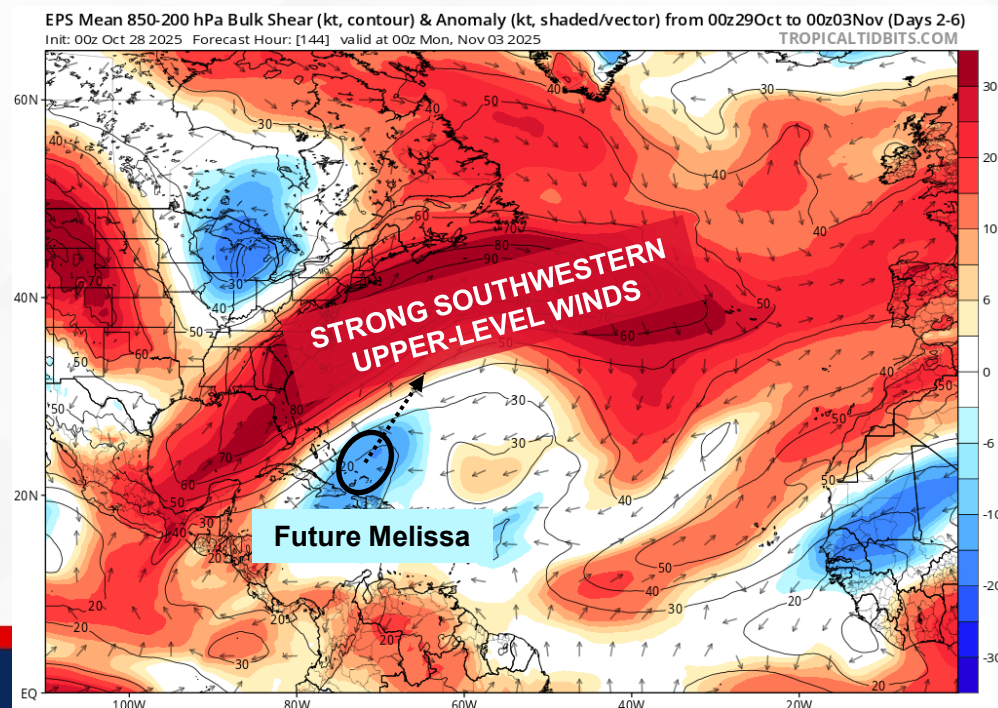
Hurricane MELISSA Model Intensity Guidance

Initialized at 06z Oct 29 2025

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com



Computer forecast models remain in good agreement that Melissa should continue to weaken with passage over the mountainous terrain of eastern Cuba this morning. Thereafter, computer forecast models agree that Melissa will remain at a steady intensity, or possibly slightly strengthen, passing through the southeastern Bahamas before strong southwesterly upper-level winds begin to impart steady weakening on Melissa. Still, Melissa will likely remain at hurricane strength when it passes near Bermuda later this week. Melissa will likely become a post-tropical system by day 3 or 4 as it becomes enveloped within a larger upper-level disturbance over southeastern Canada.



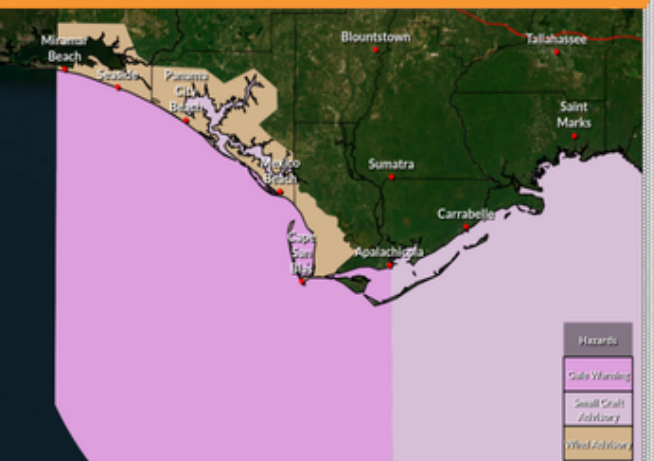


Cold Frontal Passage Today

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

Marine and Wind Hazards

Hazardous Boating Conditions for Small Craft



  NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
Tallahassee Florida
weather.gov/tallahassee
f @NWSTallahassee

NWS Tallahassee – Key Messages (Coastal Hazards)

- **Wind Advisory** for the FL Panhandle Coastal areas through early tonight.
- **Gale Warning** west of Apalachicola out to 60 NM through early tonight.
- **Small Craft Advisory** for all of the coastal waters through Thursday.



- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| SEAS | WIND |
| ● 6-9 feet offshore | ● W 20-30 kt, gust 35 kt |

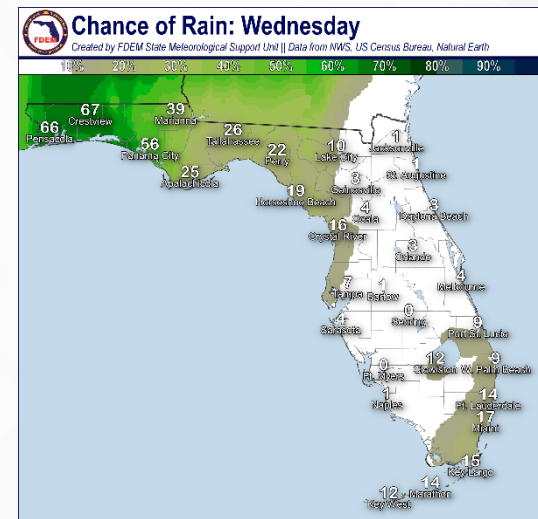
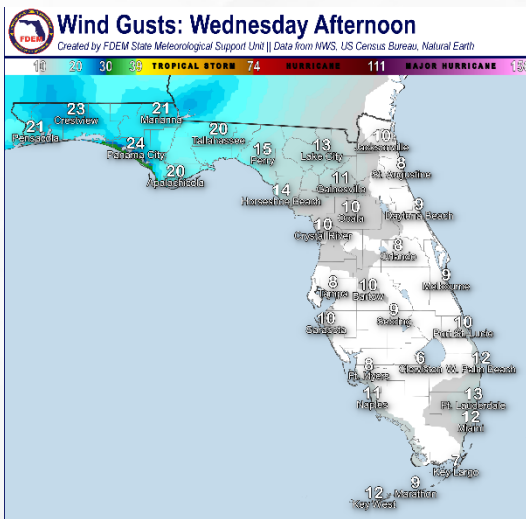


- Wind and wave conditions will be hazardous for small craft.
- Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in these conditions.

Updated: 3:00 AM ET October 29, 2025

The next cold front will approach and pass through the state today with a broken line of isolated to widely scattered showers ahead of and along the front. The greatest chance of rain will be over the far western Panhandle this morning (55-65% chance of rain), before the line of showers begins to weaken with eastward extent. An isolated shower is possible across the Big Bend and northern Peninsula later this afternoon and evening (15-25% chance of rain).

Breezy conditions will develop in the wake of the cold front, and a **Wind Advisory** is in effect along coastal Walton, Bay, and Gulf Counties through this evening where winds may gust **upwards of 40 mph** this afternoon. These breezy winds will create elevated surf of **5-7'** and a **High Surf Advisory** is in effect for coastal Gulf County until Thursday afternoon.





Coastal Flood Key Messages

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

Minor Tidal Flooding

through Early November



Minor Coastal Flooding
Near High Tides



St. Johns River from Jacksonville
Southward

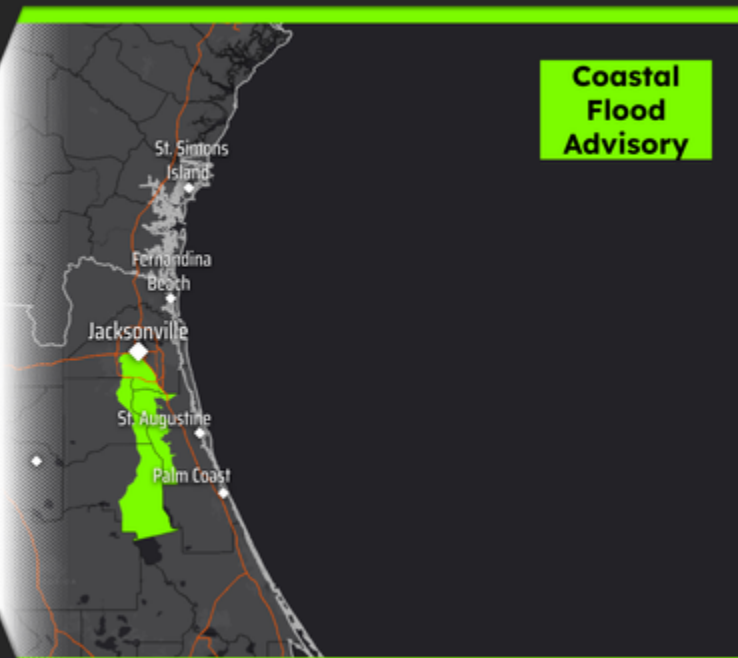


- Tidal flooding up to around 2 ft (above normally dry ground)
- Mainly nuisance tidal flooding
- Impacts to low lying areas, boat ramps, docks & some roads



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
Jacksonville, Florida

NWS Jacksonville – Key Messages (Coastal Flooding)



Issued: Wed, Oct 29, 2025 2:19 AM

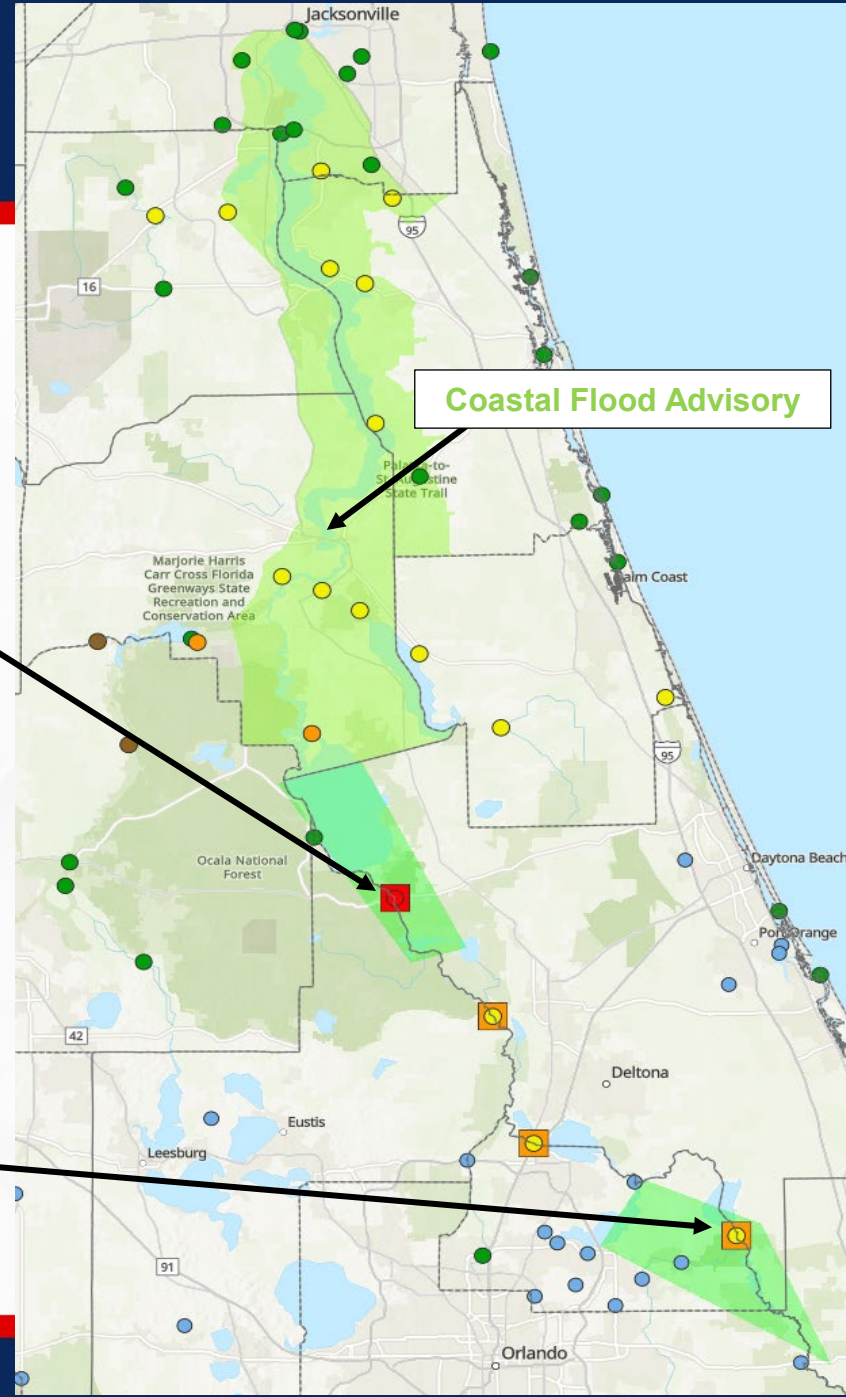
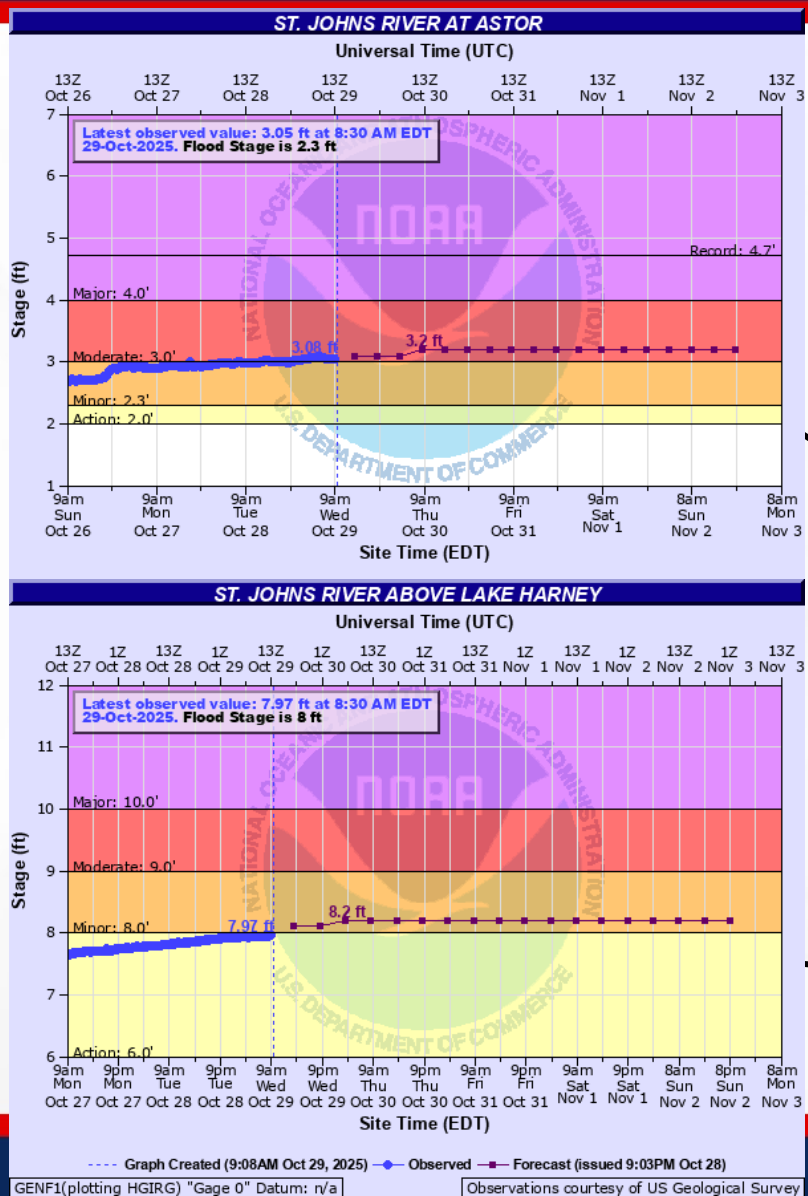
A **Coastal Flood Advisory** remains in effect for the St. Johns River basin from downtown Jacksonville southward to Satsuma where high tides may reach **minor flood stage**, with peak inundation reaching 1.5-2' above normally dry ground. This trend will likely continue for the next couple of days, especially as excessive rainfall from this weekend enter the basin near the headwaters. Given the upcoming 11/5 Full Moon, elevated water levels near and during times of high tide are likely to persist for at least the next week into early November. Additionally, some adjustments of the **Coastal Flood Advisory** may be needed in and around the Intercoastal Waterway and Northeast Florida coastline if conditions warrant.



St. Johns River Flooding

From the National Weather Service (NWS)

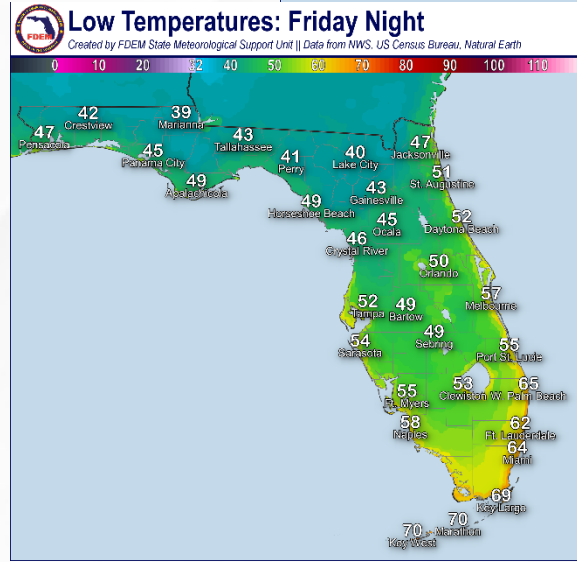
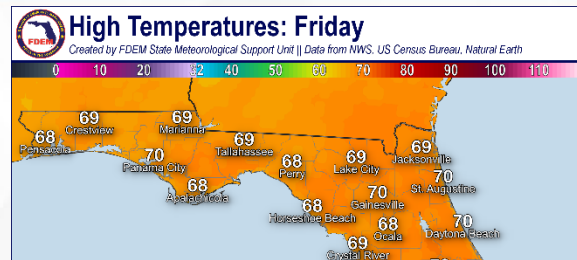
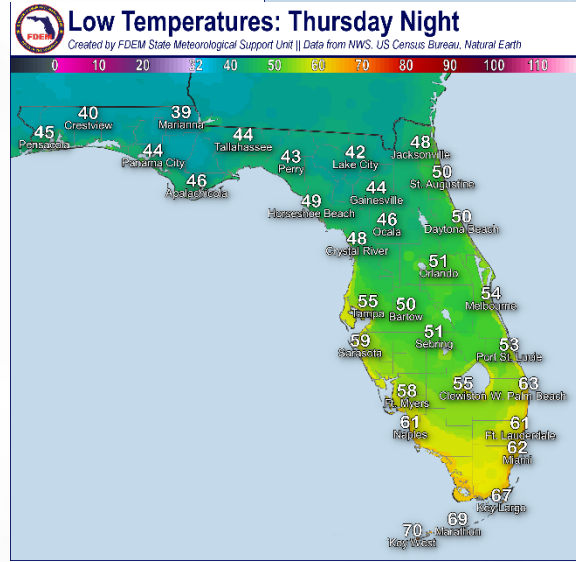
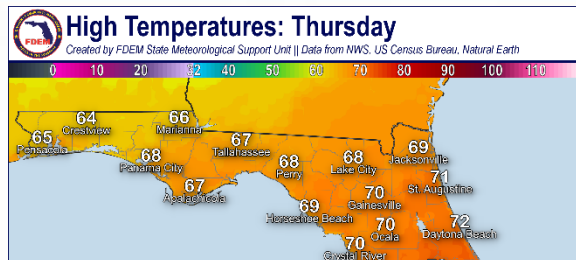
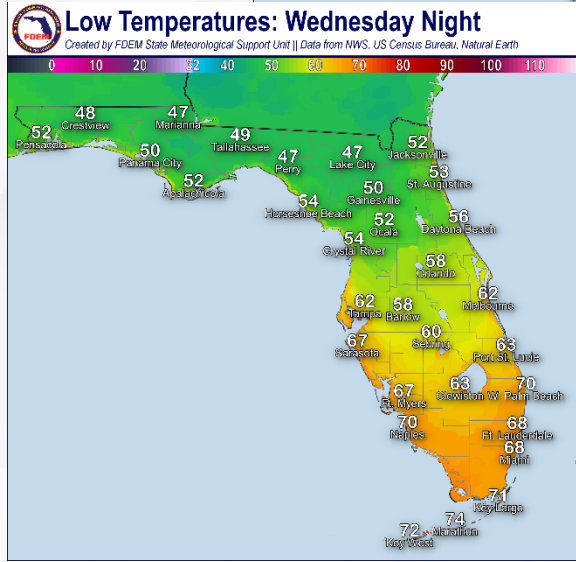
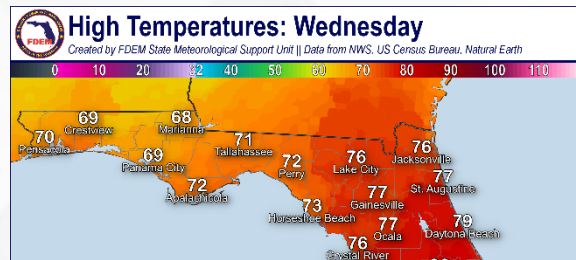
River Flood Warnings remain in effect for the St. Johns River at Astor and above Lake Harney as recent heavy rainfall runoff makes its way into the basin. The St. Johns River at Astor has risen into **moderate flood stage** and is expected to remain at this level well into the first week of November, 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 frontal system passing through the Panhandle and North Florida today will create quite a bit of disparity in high temperatures statewide. In the wake of the front, temperatures will only reach the upper 60s to lower 70s across the Panhandle with upper 70s to lower 80s expected elsewhere statewide. However, by Thursday afternoon, the cold front will have pushed fully across the state bringing highs down into the middle to upper 70s for even South Florida, which is quite a bit **below normal** for this time of year. Highs will remain in the middle to upper 60s for North Florida and upper 60s to lower 70s for Central 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 and Saturday morning in the lower 60s.



Summary

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Hurricane Melissa:

- As of 11:00 AM EDT, Melissa is located about 150 miles south of the Central Bahamas and is moving northeastward at 14 mph.
- A faster northeastward motion is expected during the next few days.
- On the forecast track, the center of Melissa is expected move further offshore Eastern Cuba this morning move across the southeastern or central Bahamas today, and pass near or to the west of Bermuda late Thursday and Thursday night.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 100 mph with higher gusts, making Melissa a Category 2 hurricane.
- Some slight strengthening is possible today into tomorrow with little change in strength thereafter.
- ***Melissa poses no direct threat to Florida, but this system continues to be closely monitored.***

Florida Outlook:

- Breezy conditions will develop in the wake of a cold front across the Panhandle this afternoon; A **Wind Advisory** is in effect along coastal Walton, Bay, and Gulf Counties through this evening where winds may gust upwards of 40 mph.
 - These breezy winds will create elevated surf of 5-7' and a **High Surf Advisory** is in effect for coastal Gulf County until Thursday afternoon.
- A **Coastal Flood Advisory** remains in effect for the St. Johns River basin from downtown Jacksonville southward to Satsuma where high tides have reached minor flood stage, with peak inundation reaching 1.5-2' above normally dry ground. This trend will likely continue for at least the next week, especially as excessive rainfall from this weekend enter the basin near the headwaters and as we approach the next Full Moon on 11/5.
- **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.
- Below normal high and low temperatures will spread across the state late this week in the wake of the cold frontal passage. 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 and Saturday morning in the lower 60s.
- The next name on the list is **Nestor** (*NES-tor*).



Tropical Update

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Created by:

Evan Newman, Assistant State Meteorologist

Evan.Newman@em.myflorida.com

State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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