



Tropical Update



11:00 AM EDT

Sunday, July 19, 2026

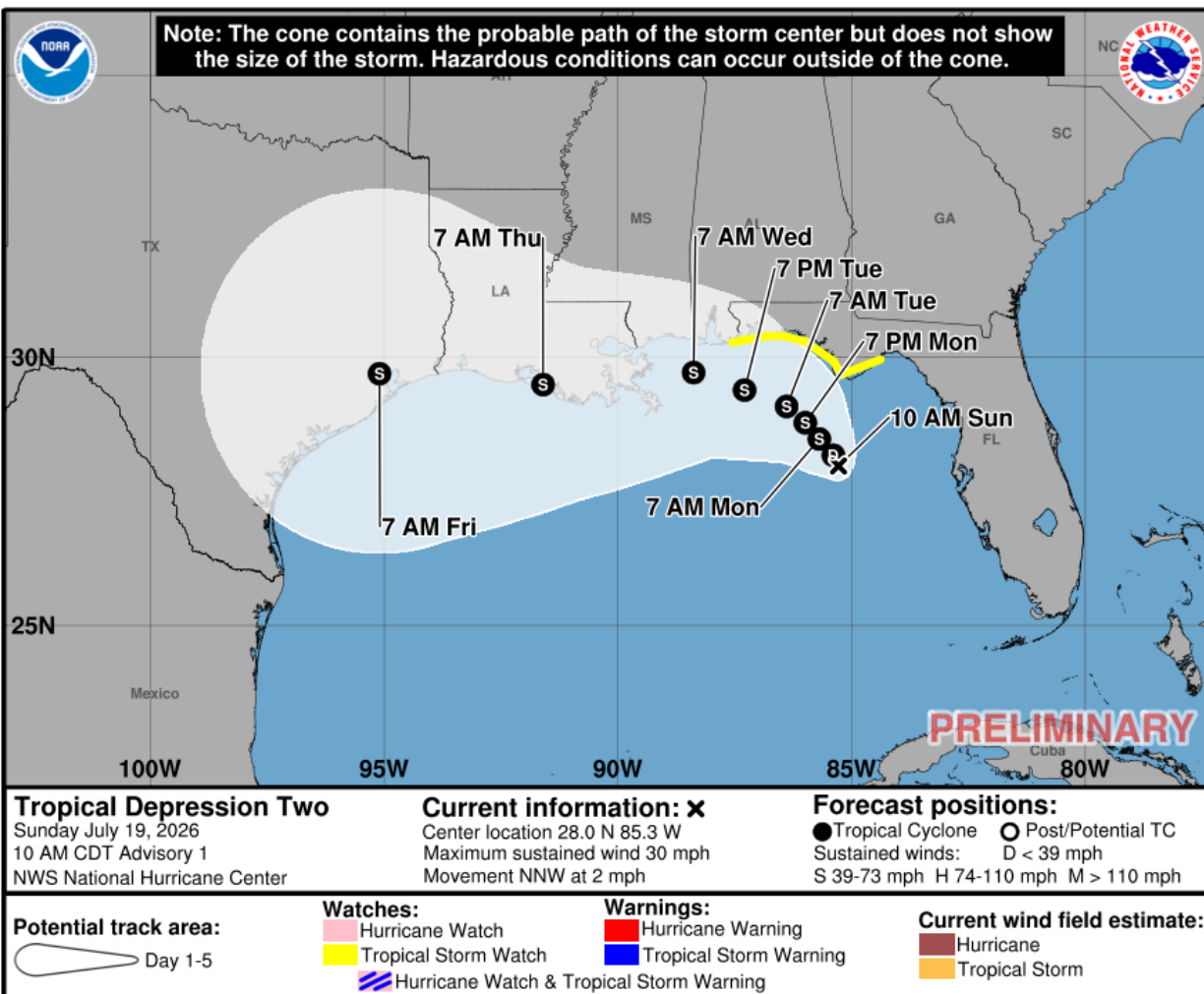
**Tropical Depression Two Forms Over the Northeast Gulf;
Steady Strengthening Expected as it Drifts Northwestward;
Heavy Rainfall Expected Along Gulf Coastal Locations**

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.



Tropical Depression Two

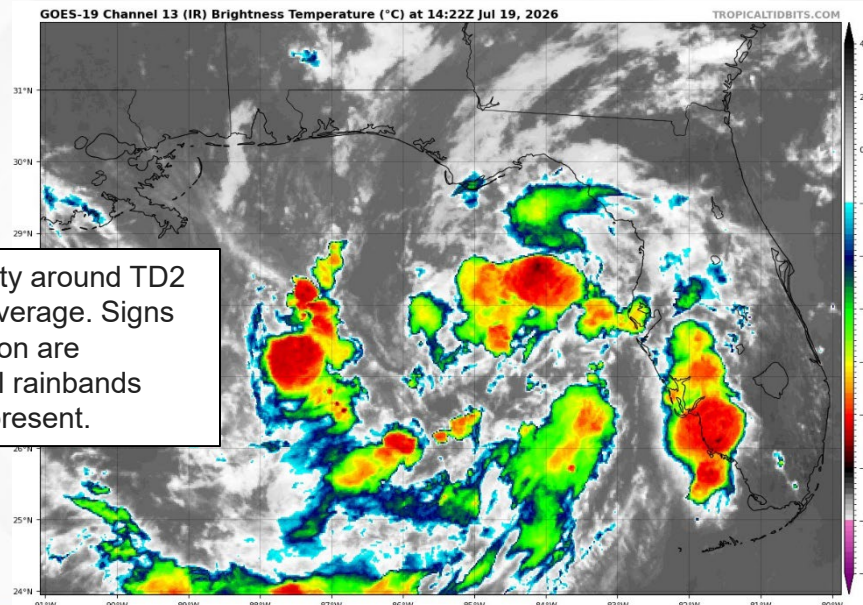
From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



- **Location:** 155 miles S of Panama City, Florida
- **Maximum Sustained Winds:** 30 mph
- **Current Movement:** NNW at 2 mph
- **FL Watches/Warnings:** TS Watch from the Ochlockonee River to the FL/AL border

AM visible satellite imagery clearly show that former Invest 91L has attained a closed surface circulation. This, alongside a marked improvement in convective organization, has prompted the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to designate Tropical Depression TWO over the Northeastern Gulf. Aircraft reconnaissance is slated to investigate the storm later this afternoon, providing a better picture on TD2's organization and current intensity.

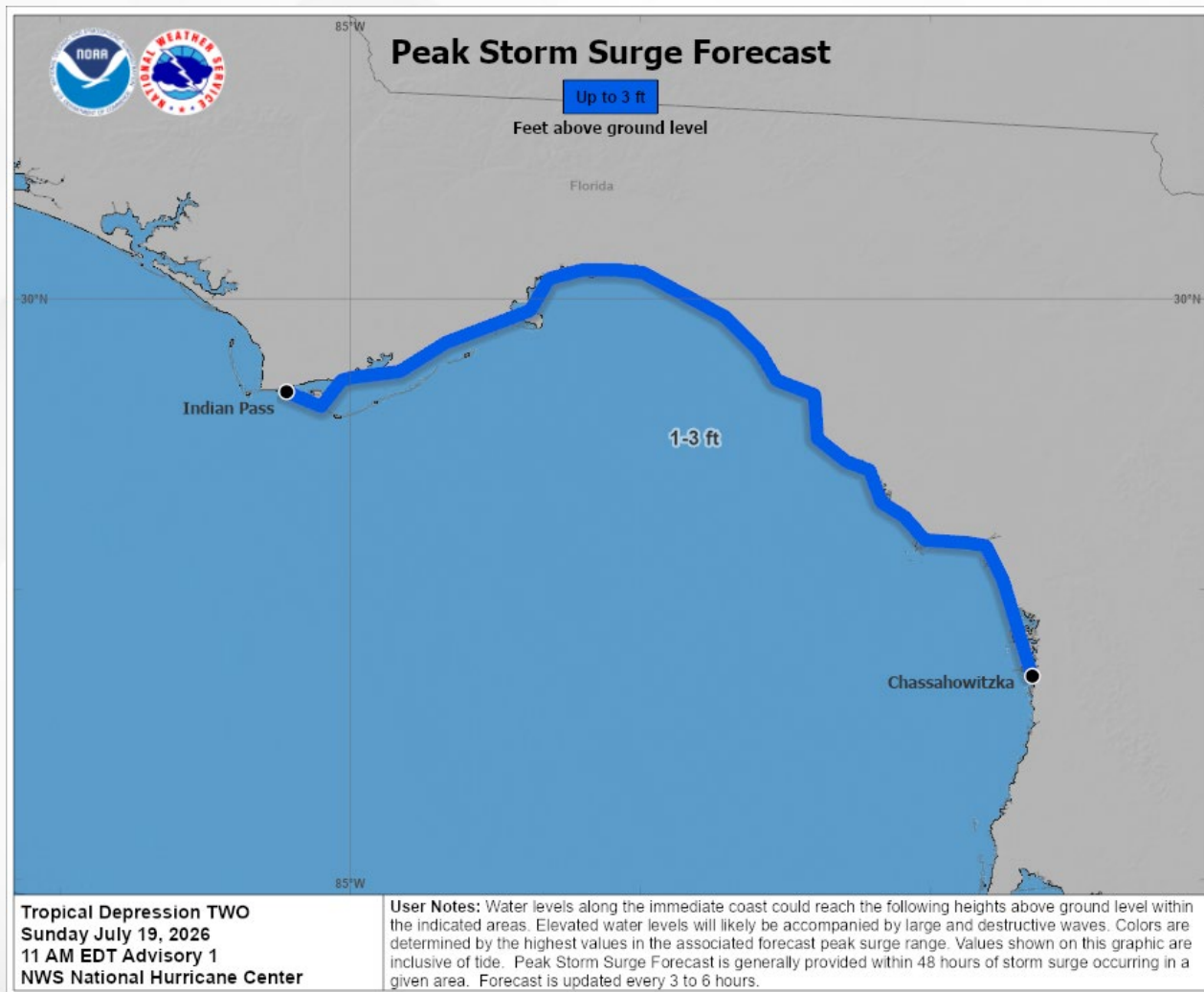
Thunderstorm activity around TD2 has increased in coverage. Signs of steady organization are apparent, with spiral rainbands (albeit broad) now present.





Peak Storm Surge

From the National Hurricane Center (NHC)



Storm surge is forecast to peak at **1-3'** across portions of the Big Bend coastline this week.

No storm surge watches or warnings are in effect at this point.



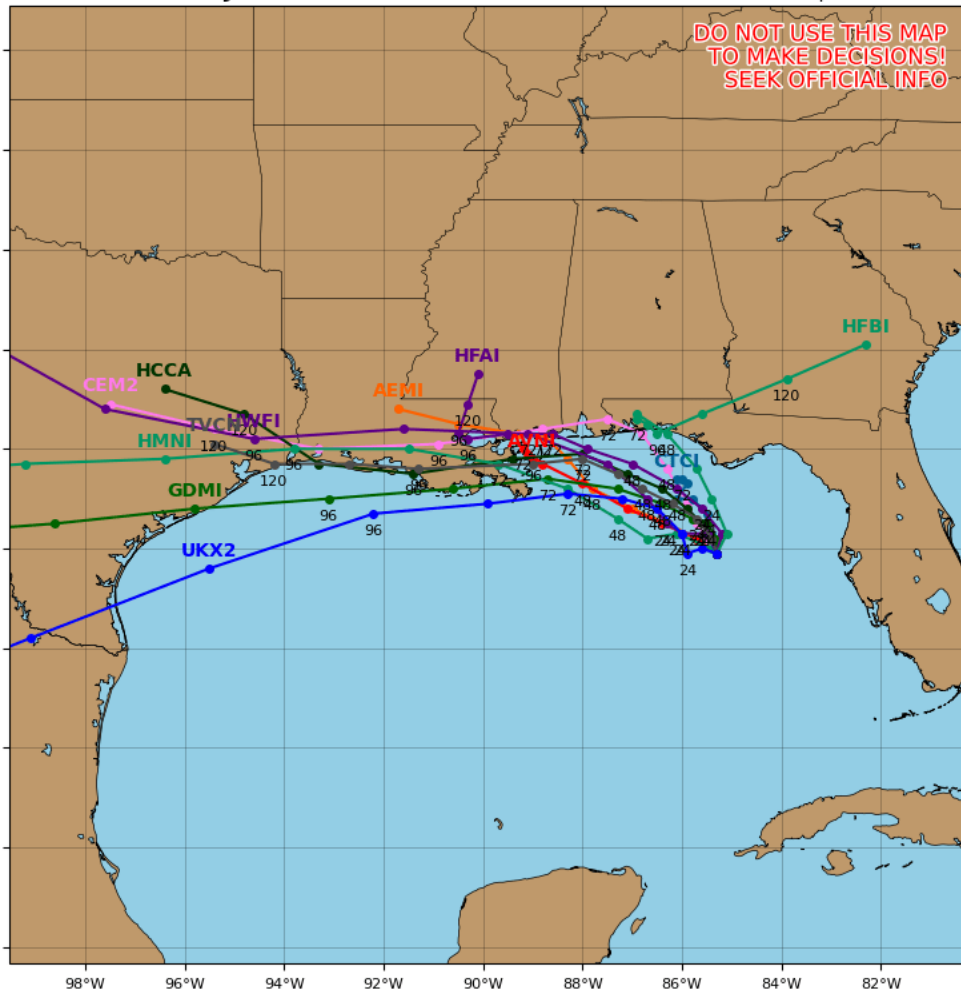
Computer Models (Deterministic)

Tropical Storm Arthur – Next 5 to 7 Days

Invest 91L Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 12z Jul 19 2026

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com

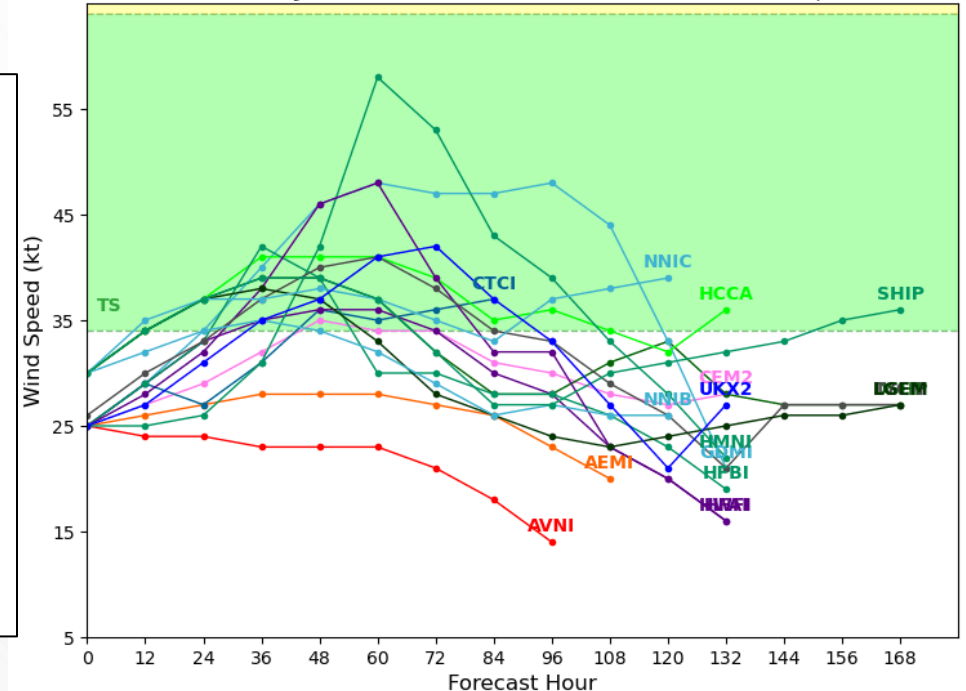


- A short term north/northwesterly storm motion will be followed by a sharp turn to the west. Chances for a direct FL landfall, while still possible, are becoming increasingly unlikely.
- Intensification should be slow in the short term as some nearby dry air and northeasterly shear impact the system.

Invest 91L Model Intensity Guidance

Initialized at 12z Jul 19 2026

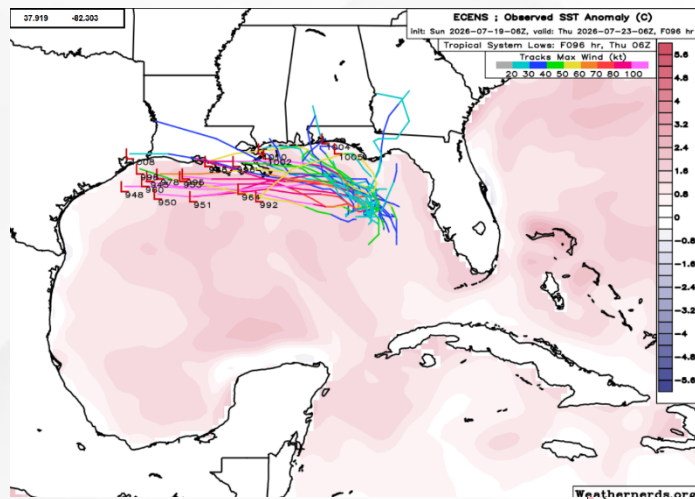
Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com



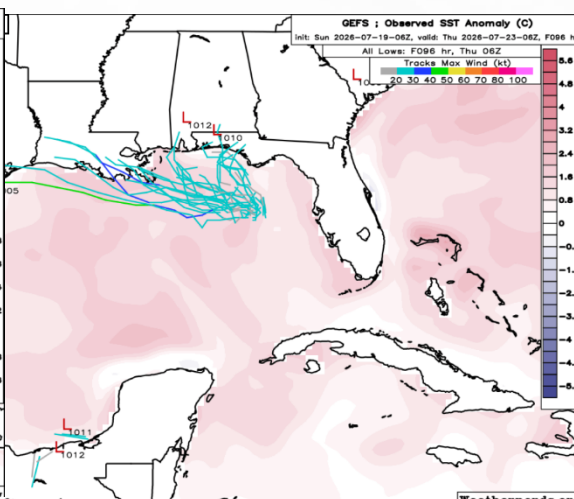


Computer Models (Ensemble)

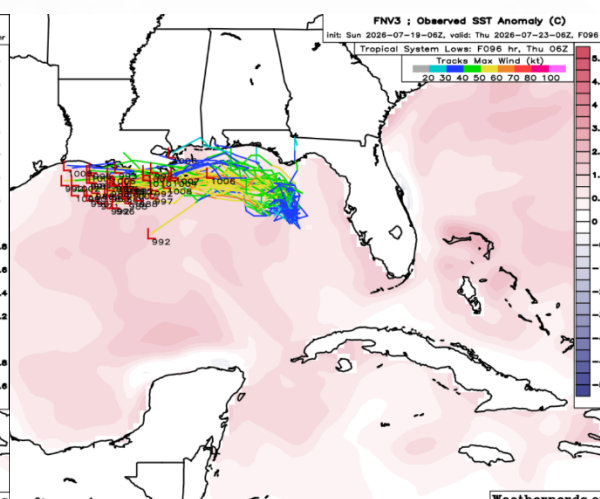
Next 4-Days



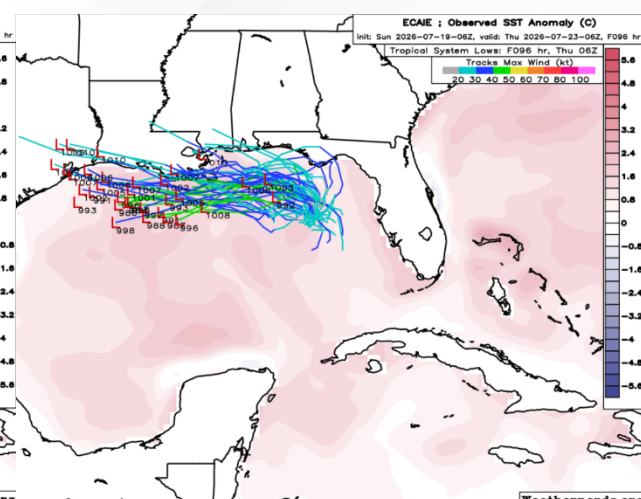
ECENS



GEFS



GDM



ECAI

A significant uptick in tropical development across nearly all available pieces of ensemble model guidance was observed in this morning's runs. The ECENS, ECAI, and the GDM ensembles all depict steady-to-rapid strengthening of TD2 over the next couple of days as it drifts west-north-westward. While the GEFS has also seen an uptick in activity (relative to previous GEFS runs), it remains the outlier in how bearish it is for TD2's future strengthening. Given the growing consensus across most other models and the ongoing organization apparent on satellite and radar presentations, more emphasis on the ECENS/GDM/ECAI solutions is warranted.

The westward trend has continued overnight, with most all ensemble members depicting a brief northward motion over the next day followed by a nearly due west motion through the work week. Ensemble members depicting a stronger storm also tend to show a sharper west turn. All this to say, the threat of a **direct** landfall in the state of FL are declining. Heavy rainfall, gusty winds, and rough surf are still expected along all Gulf facing locations regardless of TD2's exact track.

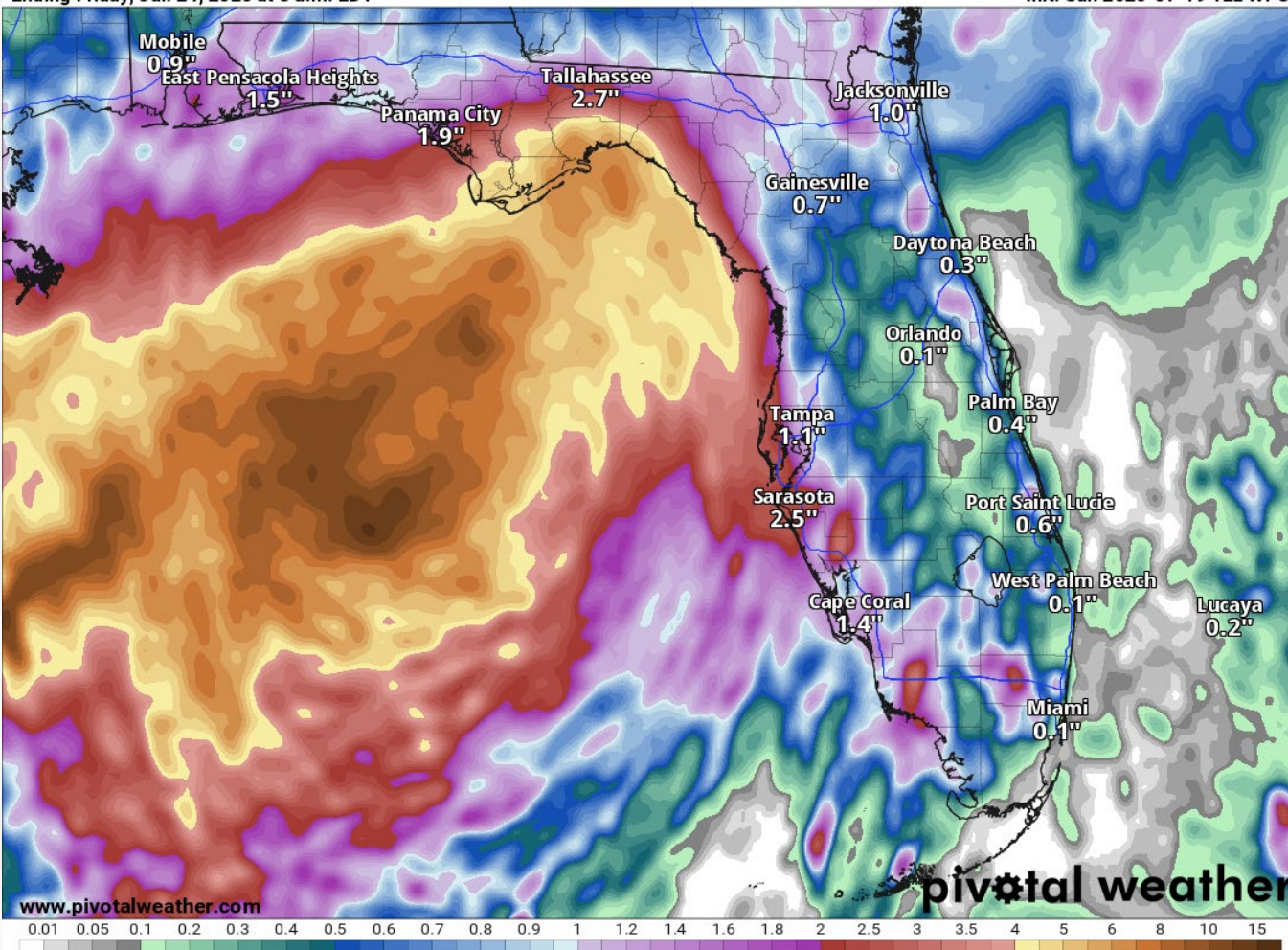


Forecast Rainfall Totals – Next 5 Days

From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

120-Hour Precipitation (in)
Ending Friday, Jul. 24, 2026 at 8 a.m. EDT

Init: Sun 2026-07-19 12z WPC



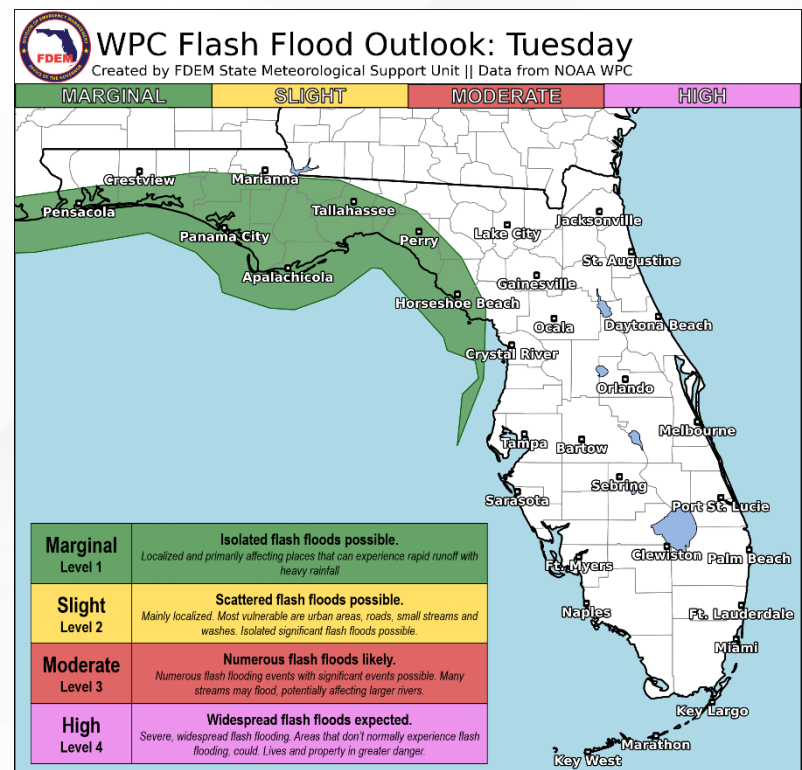
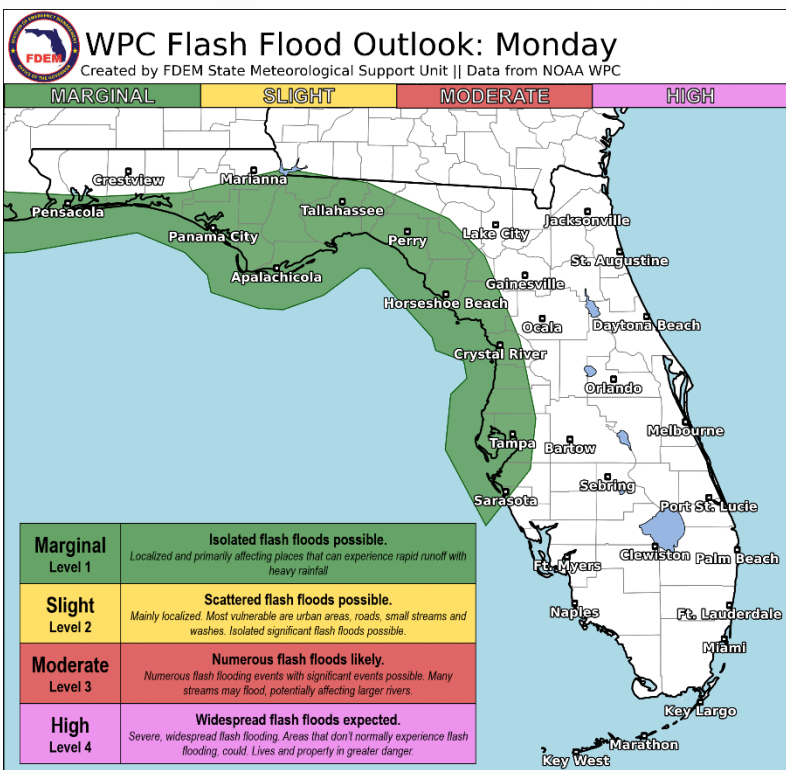
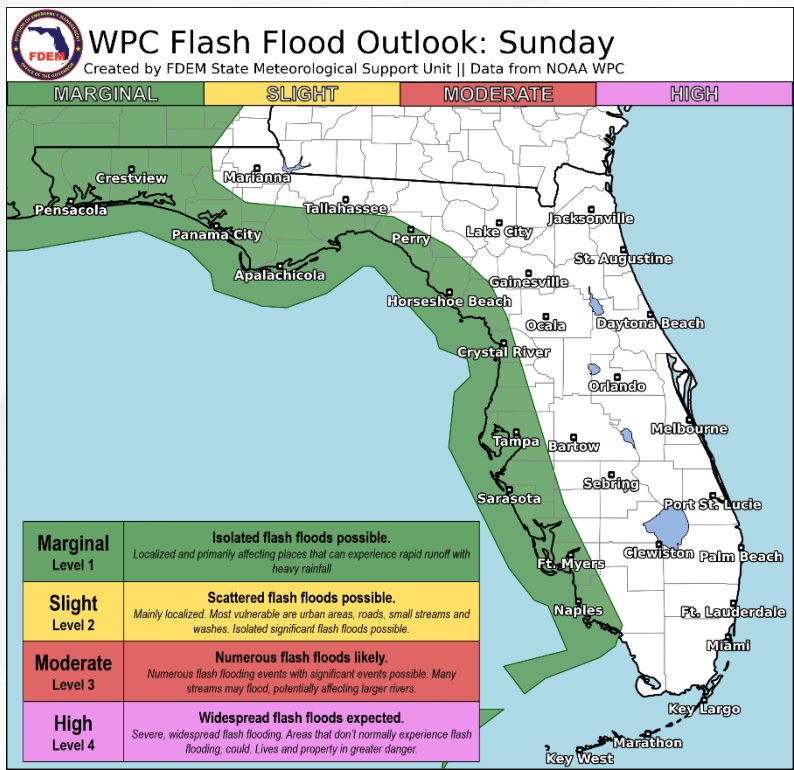
Rainfall forecasts have shifted slightly north and westward in accordance with recent model trends that TD2. Current 5-day forecast rainfall accumulations from the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) indicate a sharp gradient in rainfall accumulations, with the highest amounts, **4-6"** confined to the immediate coastline along the eastern Panhandle, with **2-4"** more likely within inland Panhandle locations. Higher amounts, upwards of **6-8"**, are possible in isolated locations within the Coastal Panhandle - especially in any areas that see repeated impacts from TD2's outer rainbands. An additional **1-2"** of rain is possible along the immediate West Coast over the next five days. *The sharp gradient of forecast rainfall totals makes the forecast especially sensitive to the exact track of TD2. A track closer to the coastline will expand higher rainfall totals farther inland.* Lesser rainfall amounts are forecast through the remainder of the Peninsula, where a general 1-3" is expected in areas that do receive scattered rainfall. Flash flooding may be more prone to occur over the West Coast and Big Bend given the ongoing long-term drought conditions.

Marginal Risks (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding are outlooked across various portions of the state through Thursday.



Flash Flood Outlook – Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday

From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)



The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) has outlooked a **Marginal Risk (Level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across various Gulf-facing Florida locations in anticipation of **multiple rounds of heavy rainfall** associated with TD2. As is often the case with multi-day flash flooding events, further revisions to these outlooks may be needed as forecasts become more clear and previous days' rainfall totals influence future day's flash flooding risk.



Excessive Rainfall Outlook

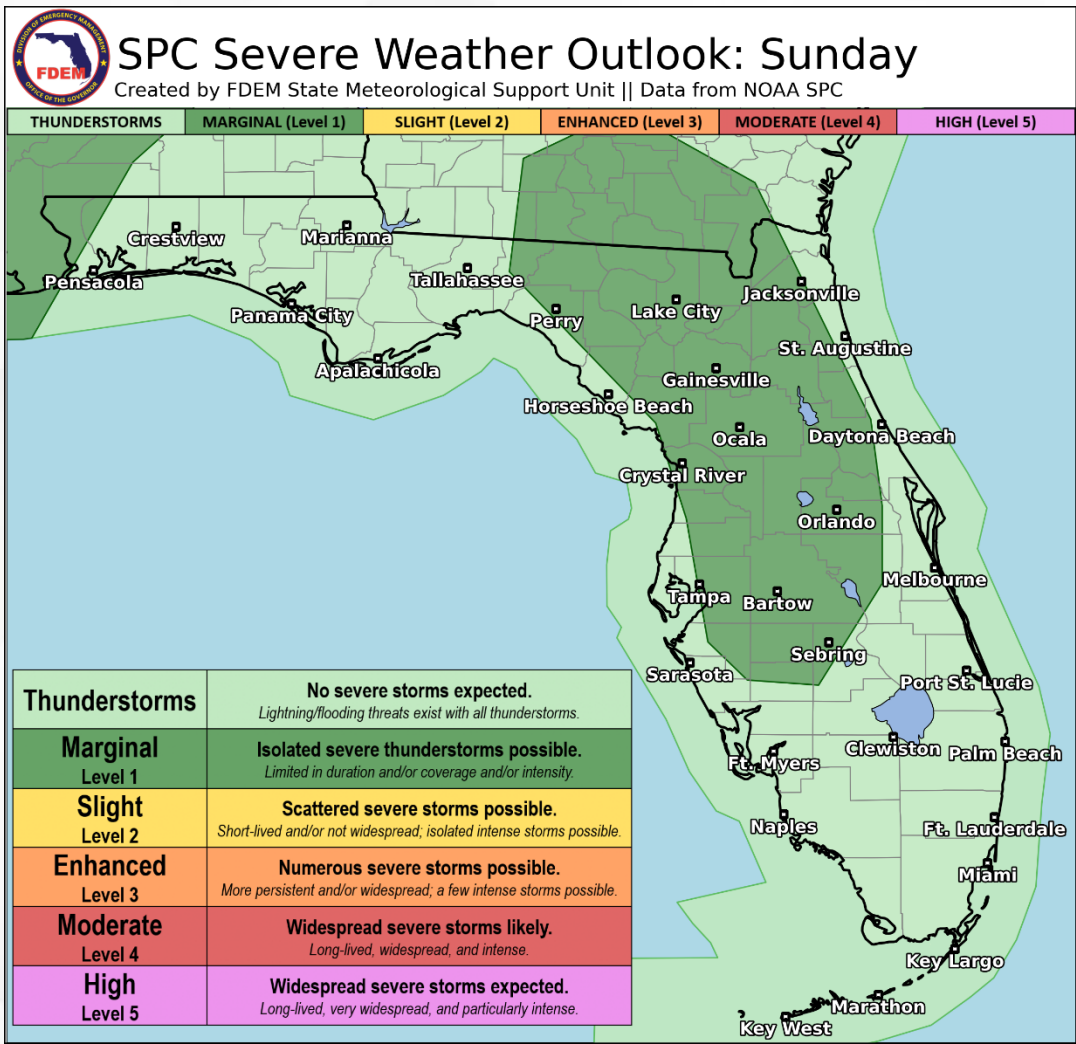
From the Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories				
No Area/Label	MARGINAL (MRGL)	SLIGHT (SLGT)	MODERATE (MDT)	HIGH (HIGH)
Flash floods are generally not expected.	Isolated flash floods possible	Scattered flash floods possible	Numerous flash floods likely	Widespread flash floods expected
www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov @NWSWPC	Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.	Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.	Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.	Severe, widespread flash flooding. Areas that don't normally experience flash flooding, could. Lives and property in greater danger.
Flash flooding near me?	Flash Flooding NO Flash Flooding			
 WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER				



Severe Weather Outlook – Sunday

From the Storm Prediction Center (SPC)



The Storm Prediction Center (WPC) has outlooked a **Marginal Risk (Level 1 of 4) for Severe Weather** across Central/North-Central FL and along the Western Panhandle today. The primary threat is **isolated damaging wind gusts (60mph+)** in spiral rainbands associated with TD2 that will be sweeping across the state later this afternoon.



Summary

What: AM visible satellite imagery clearly show that former Invest 91L has attained a closed surface circulation. This, alongside a marked improvement in convective organization, has prompted the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to designate Tropical Depression TWO over the Northeastern Gulf. **Tropical Storm Watches have been issued** for coastal locations from the Ochlockonee River west to the FL/AL state line. Aircraft reconnaissance is slated to investigate the storm later this afternoon, providing a better picture on TD2's organization and current intensity. Peak surge values of **1-3'** are possible within the Big Bend associated with TD2. TD2 will slowly drift north/northwestward over the next day or two followed by a sharper turn to the west later this week. **A direct landfall** along the Florida coast appears unlikely at this time, though not impossible. Regardless, **heavy rainfall** and **isolated damaging winds** are possible in the coming days as TD2's outer rain bands sweep across the state. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** are outlooked across various portions of the state through Thursday. Forecast rainfall accumulations over the next 5-days are highest along coastal Panhandle locations, at around **4-6"**, with **2-4"** more likely within inland Panhandle and West Coast locations. Additionally, a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** is outlooked across Central/North-Central Florida this afternoon for the threat of **isolated damaging wind gusts (60mph+)**.

Where & When: West-Central FL, Central FL, Central/Eastern Panhandle, Big Bend – Today through Wednesday Night

Potential Impacts:

- A general **4-6"** of rainfall is forecast across coastal Panhandle locations. Elsewhere across the inland Panhandle and the West Coast, a general **2-4"** of rain is expected.
 - Locally higher totals **upwards of 6-8" or more** cannot be ruled out, especially along the immediate coast given the slow-moving nature of TD2 and the potential for repeated impacts from outer rain-bands capable of producing very high rainfall rates.
- Flash flooding may be more prone to occur across the West Coast of Florida and throughout the Big Bend given multiple days of heavy rainfall over areas experiencing ongoing long-term drought conditions.
- Isolated instances of **strong to severe thunderstorms** capable of producing **damaging wind gusts (60mph+)** are possible across Central and North-Central FL this afternoon.
- Peak storm surge values of **1-3'** is possible within the Big Bend.

The next briefing packet will be issued **Monday**. For the latest official weather updates, see products from your local National Weather Service office, the [Storm Prediction Center](#), and the [Weather Prediction Center](#).



Severe Weather Update



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State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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