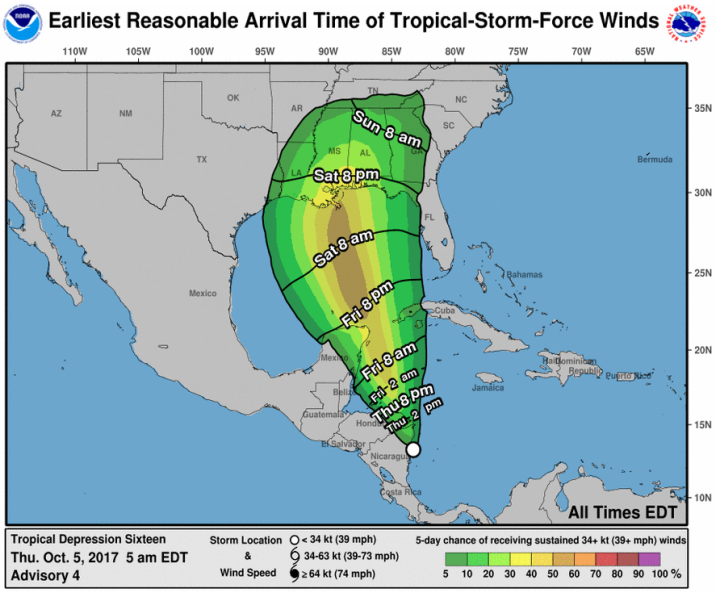
RECENT CHANGES TO NWS TROPICAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

ARRIVAL OF TROPICAL STORM WINDS



Experimental Graphics Now Operational

Graphics help identify when preparations should be complete

- **Earliest Reasonable Time of Arrival of TS-Force Winds**
  1 in 10 chance of TS-force winds before this time
- **Most Likely Time of Arrival of TS-Force Winds** (not shown)
  equal chances of TS-force wind before/after this time

NWS is exploring a similar graphic to inform recovery activities

48-HR HURRICANE FORCE WIND FORECAST

NHC will provide hurricane-force (64-kt) wind radii through 48h (previously through only 36h). This change should assist forecasters in placing hurricane watches.

Wireless Emergency Alerts

The NWS will request activation of wireless emergency alerts (WEA) when a Storm Surge or Extreme Wind Warning is in effect. The message on a wireless device within the warned area will read:

> NWS: Life-threatening STORM SURGE danger. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF LOCAL OFFICIALS.

Wireless carriers have not committed to a common date to enable WEA for these warnings.

They may be implemented by the wireless carriers at different times.

Potential Tropical Cyclones

What is a Potential Tropical Cyclone?

A potential tropical cyclone is a disturbance that is not yet a tropical cyclone, but one that NHC is issuing advisories and forecasts for because it poses the threat of bringing tropical storm or hurricane conditions to land areas within 48 hours.

Where and When Can I Find Watch/Warning Information for Potential Tropical Cyclones?

All products issued for tropical cyclones will also be issued for potential tropical cyclones. The issuance times for potential tropical cyclone products will be identical to the standard tropical cyclone product issuance times. NWS products for potential tropical cyclones will be issued until watches or warnings are discontinued or until the threat from wind or storm surge (as applicable) for land areas sufficiently diminishes.

Feedback is being solicited on this new capability and messaging

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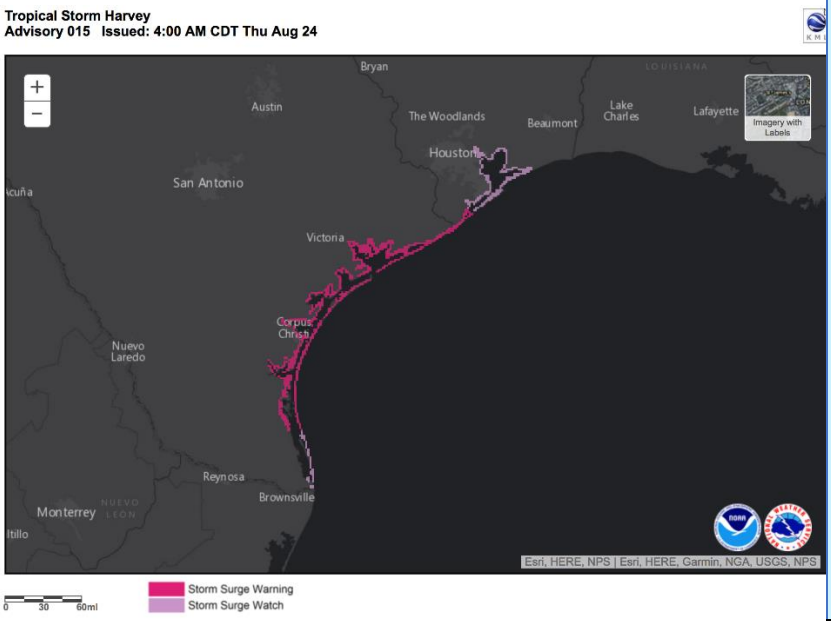
STORM SURGE WATCH/WARNING



Storm Surge Warning (Watch) - The *danger (possibility)* of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland from the shoreline within the specified area, generally within 36 (48) *hours*, in association with an ongoing or potential tropical cyclone, a subtropical cyclone or a post-tropical cyclone.

The Storm Surge Warning is the First NWS Grid-Based Warning

Storm Surge Watches and Warnings are issued on a grid rather than for entire NWS zones or counties. Users are encouraged to use the Keyhole Markup Language (KML) files available on the NHC website, rather than the Valid Time Event Code (VTEC) in the TCV products, to obtain the most timely and accurate depiction of the Storm Surge Watch/Warning area, as the VTEC will alert a larger area than intended.

Relationship to NWS Coastal Flood Products

If conditions warrant, Coastal Flood products can be issued for an NWS zone when tropical wind watches/warnings are issued, but not when storm surge watches/warnings are issued. The Coastal Hazards Message (CFW) will describe the ranges of water levels above ground (inundation) during tropical events and be horizontally consistent with the TCV and HLS products.

Where Can I Find Storm Surge Watch/Warning Information During a Hurricane?

- Graphic on NHC website, including downloadable KML file (*hurricanes.gov*)
- National Gridded Forecast Database grid (*http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ndfd/*)
- Approximate representation of the watch/warning area in terms of NWS zones in National and Weather Forecast Office (WFO) TCV products
- Approximate representation in the Watch/Warning section of the NHC Public Advisory using coastal breakpoints
- NWS WFO Hurricane Local Statements (HLS)

POST TROPICAL CYCLONE REPORT (PSH)

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E. MAXIMUM OBSERVED WATER LEVEL (WL)...
-----------------------------------------------------------------------
ID     CITY/TOWN        COUNTY      STATE  WL    DATUM  DATE/    SOURCE
       OR LOCATION                         (FT)         TIME
-----------------------------------------------------------------------
GISL1  GRAND ISLE       JEFFERSON     LA  1.21  MHHW   30/1248 NOS
29.2633  -89.9567

PTFL1  BELLE PASS/FOUR LAFOURCHE      LA  2.44  MHHW   29/1342 NOS    I
29.1150  -90.2000

BCFL1  BONNET CARREY    ST. JOHN      LA  2.42  MHHW   29/2012 NOS
30.0683  -90.3900

REMARKS .........
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Changes to Section E of the PSH:

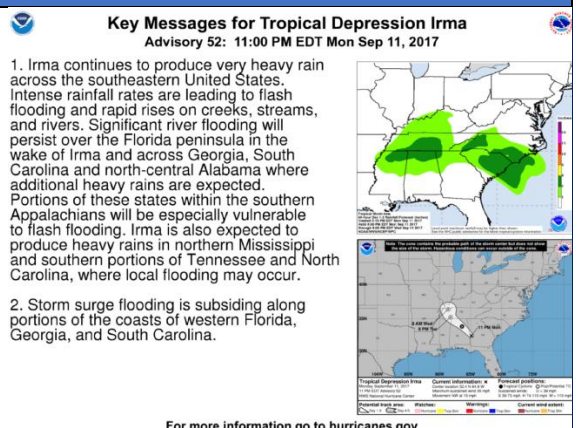
- Planned Implementation: Fall 2018
- Name change from "Storm Surge" to "Observed Water Level"
- Reports will show the peak reported water levels at a site rather than tide and storm surge separately
- Station ID, lat/long, and source of the data will be provided

Feedback is welcome on future improvements

KEY MESSAGES

KEEPING EVERYONE ON THE SAME PAGE

- Key messages are provided for tropical cyclones with U.S. watches and/or warnings in the NHC Tropical Cyclone Discussion (TCD).
- NHC also provides these messages with accompanying graphics via Facebook and Twitter (@NHC_Atlantic)
- Weather Forecast Offices provide key messages for your local area.
- You can find key message from your WFO through their social media account(s): weather.gov/srh/tropical#social



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