Hurricane Delta Advisory Bulletin

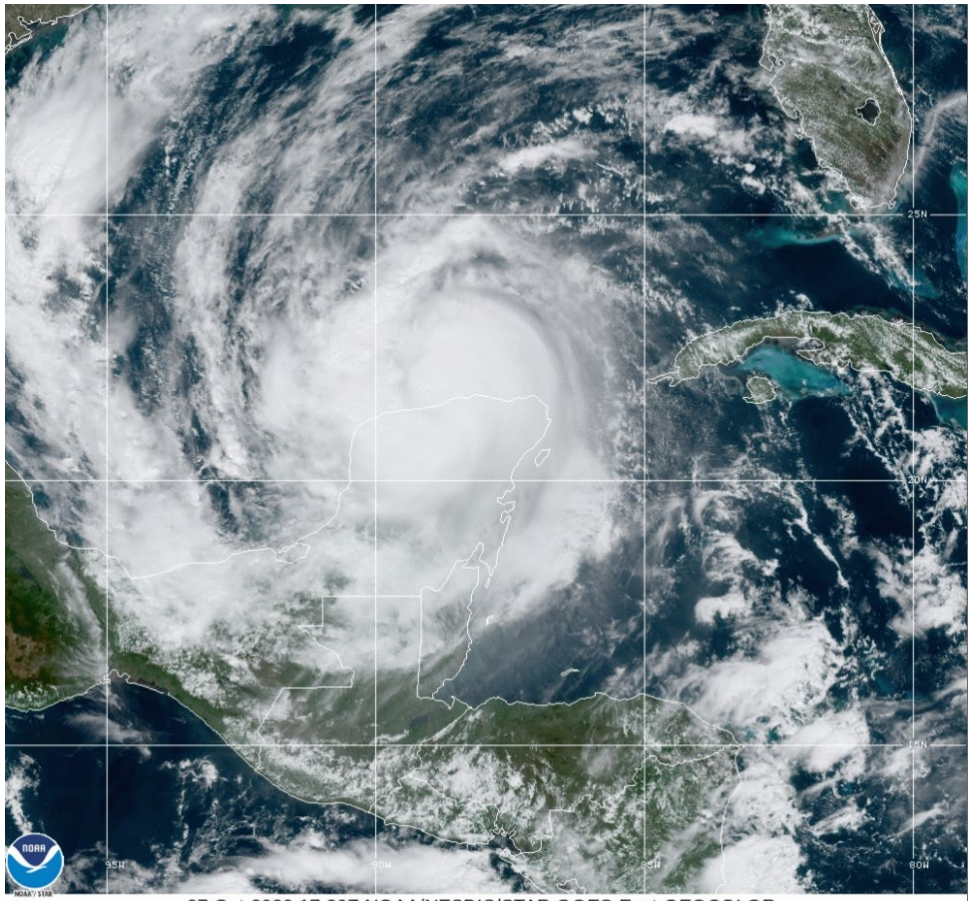
Risk Services Division

7 October 2020

Legal Notice

HURRICANE DELTA
Status at 100 PM CDT (1800 UTC) 7 October 2020

- The center of Hurricane Delta is located at 21.8N 88.8W about 115 miles (185km) W of Cabo Catoche, Mexico and 65miles (110km) ENE of Progresso, Mexico
- Delta is moving NW (305º) at 17mph (28km/h) and is expected to move over the southern Gulf of Mexico this afternoon through Thursday and approach the northern Gulf coast on Friday
- Delta will produce life-threatening storm surge, tropical-storm-force and hurricane-force winds, and torrential rainfall with flash flooding
- Maximum sustained winds are near 100mph (155km/h)
- Hurricane-force winds extend outward to 30miles (45km) and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward to 125miles (205km)
- Tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch areas along the Gulf coast by late Thursday night or early Friday with hurricane conditions possible within the hurricane watch area by Friday morning
- Friday through Saturday, Delta is expected to produce 4 to 8 inches of rain, with isolated maximum totals of 12 inches across portions of the central Gulf Coast north into portions of the Lower to Middle Mississippi Valley
- Life-threatening surf and rip current conditions will begin to affect portions of the northern and western Gulf coast on Thursday



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Summary

At 100 PM CDT (1800 UTC), the center of Hurricane Delta was located near 21.8 N, 88.8 W off the Yucatan Peninsula about 115 miles (185km) W of Cabo Catoche, Mexico and 65miles (110km) ENE of Progresso, Mexico.

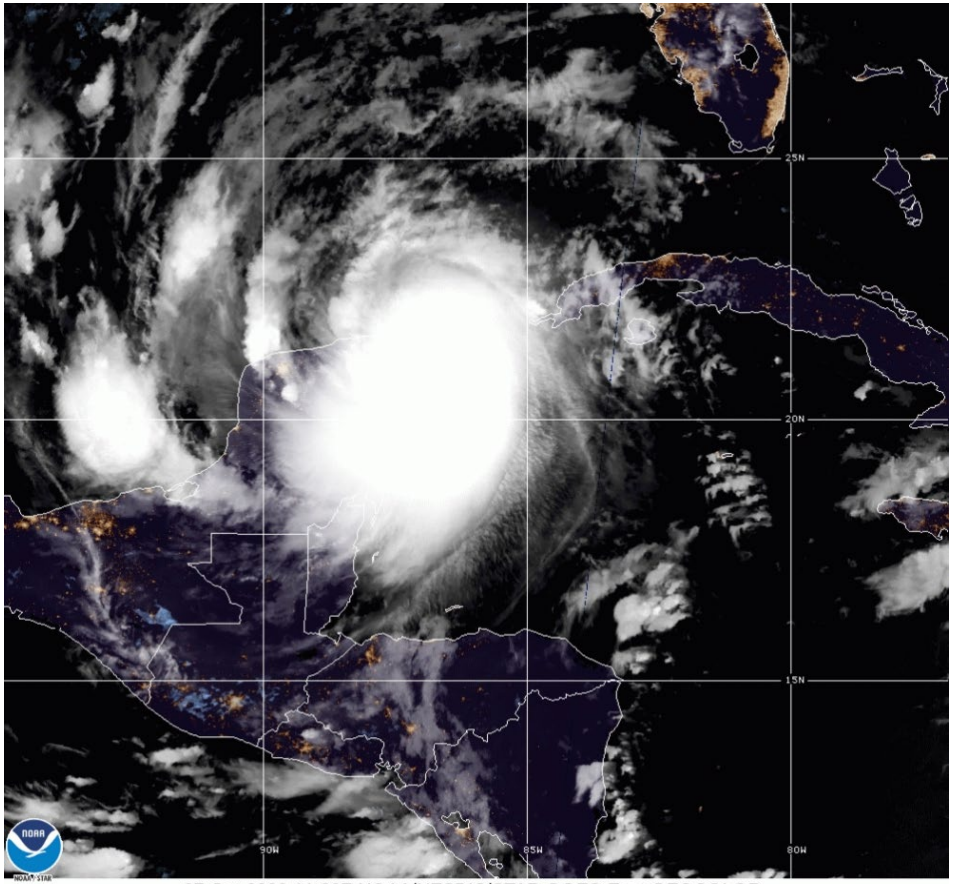
Delta is moving toward the northwest near 17 mph (28 km/h). A northwestward motion with a reduction in speed is expected over the next 24 hours followed by a north-westward motion late Thursday and a north-northeastward motion on Friday through Friday night.

On the forecast track, the center of Delta will move over the southern Gulf of Mexico this afternoon, be over the southern or central Gulf of Mexico through Thursday, and approach the northern Gulf coast within the hurricane watch area on Friday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 100 mph (155 km/h) with higher gusts. Re-strengthening is forecast when the hurricane moves over the southern and central Gulf of Mexico through Thursday, and Delta is expected to become a major hurricane again. Some weakening is forecast as Delta approaches the northern Gulf coast on Friday.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 30 miles (45 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 125 miles (205 km).

The latest estimated minimum central pressure is 975 mb (28.8 inches).



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Discussion

Once Delta moves over the southern Gulf of Mexico, warm waters and expected low vertical wind shear conditions are expected to allow for re-strengthening during the next 24 to 36 hours. After 48 hours, increasing southwesterly shear and cooler waters over the northern Gulf are likely to induce some weakening.

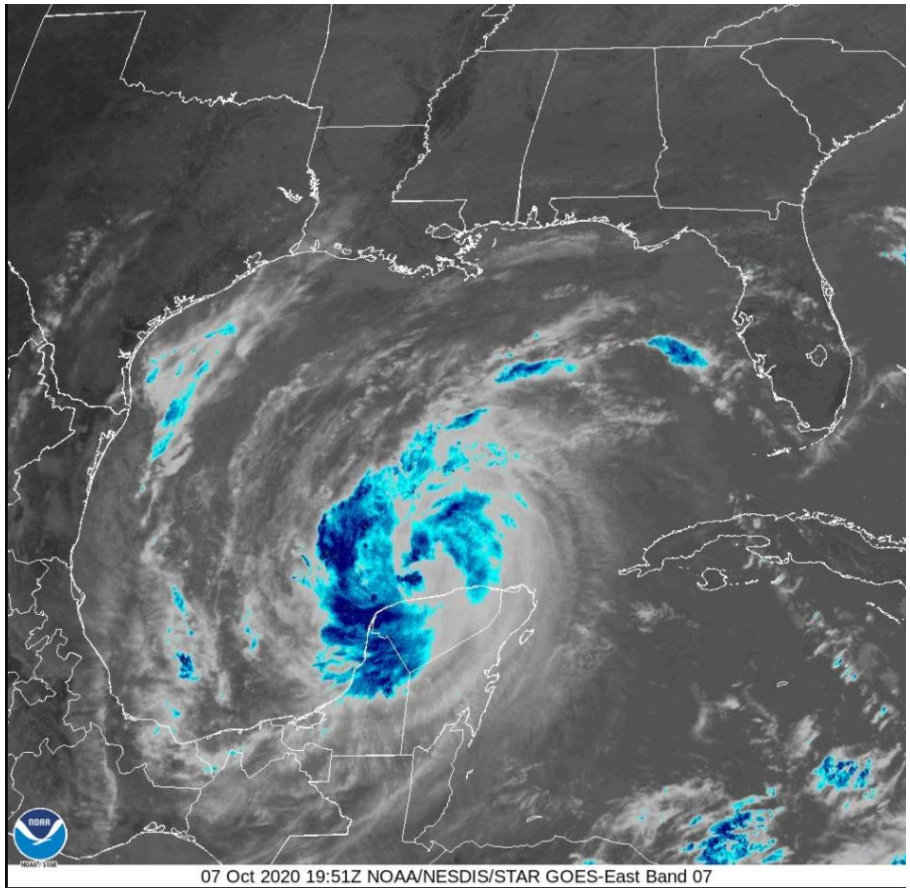
Delta is forecast to begin accelerating northward or north-northeastward toward the northern Gulf coast Thursday night and Friday.

Key Messages

1. Life-threatening storm surge and dangerous winds will continue within portions of the northern Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico into early afternoon. Heavy rainfall, which could lead to significant flash flooding, will affect the northern Yucatan Peninsula through early Thursday.

2. Delta is expected to grow in size as it approaches the northern Gulf Coast, where there is an increasing likelihood of life-threatening storm surge and dangerous hurricane-force winds beginning Friday, particularly for portions of the Louisiana coast. Storm Surge and Hurricane Watches are in effect, and residents in these areas should follow advice given by local officials.

3. Flash, urban, small stream, and minor river flooding is likely Friday through Saturday from portions of the central Gulf Coast northward into portions of the Lower to Middle Mississippi Valley. As Delta moves farther inland, additional heavy rainfall is expected in the Ohio Valley and Mid Atlantic this weekend.



Watches and Warnings

Hurricane Warning in effect for:	▪ Tulum to Dzilam Mexico ▪ Cozumel
Hurricane Watch in effect for:	▪ High Island Texas to Grand Isle Louisiana
Tropical Storm Warning in effect for:	▪ Dzilam to Progreso, Mexico
Tropical Storm Watch in effect for:	▪ San Luis Pass to west of High Island Texas ▪ East of Grand Isle Louisiana to Bay St. Louis Mississippi, including New Orleans ▪ Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas
Storm Surge Watch in effect for:	▪ High Island, Texas, to the Alabama/Florida border including Calcasieu Lake, Vermilion Bay, Lake Pontchartrain, Lake Maurepas, Lake Borgne and Mobile Bay

A **Hurricane Warning** means that hurricane conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area. A warning is typically issued 36 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous. Preparations to protect life and property should be rushed to completion.

A **Hurricane Watch** means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area. A watch is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

A **Tropical Storm Warning** means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area within 36 hours.

A **Tropical Storm Watch** means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.

A **Storm Surge Warning** means there is a danger of life-threatening inundation, from rising water moving inland from the coastline, during the next 36 hours in the indicated locations. This is a life-threatening situation. Persons located within these areas should take all necessary actions to protect life and property from rising water and the potential for other dangerous conditions. Promptly follow evacuation and other instructions from local officials.

A **Storm Surge Watch** means there is a possibility of life-threatening inundation, from rising water moving inland from the coastline, in the indicated locations during the next 48 hours.

Hazards Affecting Land

RAINFALL:

- Through early Thursday, Delta is expected to produce 4 to 6 inches of rain, with isolated maximum totals of 10 inches, across portions of the northern Yucatan Peninsula. This rainfall may result in areas of significant flash flooding.
- Friday through Saturday, Delta is expected to produce 4 to 8 inches of rain, with isolated maximum totals of 12 inches across portions of the central Gulf Coast north into portions of the Lower to Middle Mississippi Valley. These rainfall amounts will lead to flash, urban, small stream, and minor river flooding. As Delta moves farther inland, 1 to 3 inches of rain, with locally higher amounts, is expected in the Ohio Valley and Mid Atlantic this weekend.

STORM SURGE

- A life-threatening storm surge will raise water levels in areas of onshore winds by as much as 6 to 9 ft above normal tide levels along the northern coast of the Yucatan Peninsula from Cabo Catoche to Progreso. Near the coast, the surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves.
- The combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline.

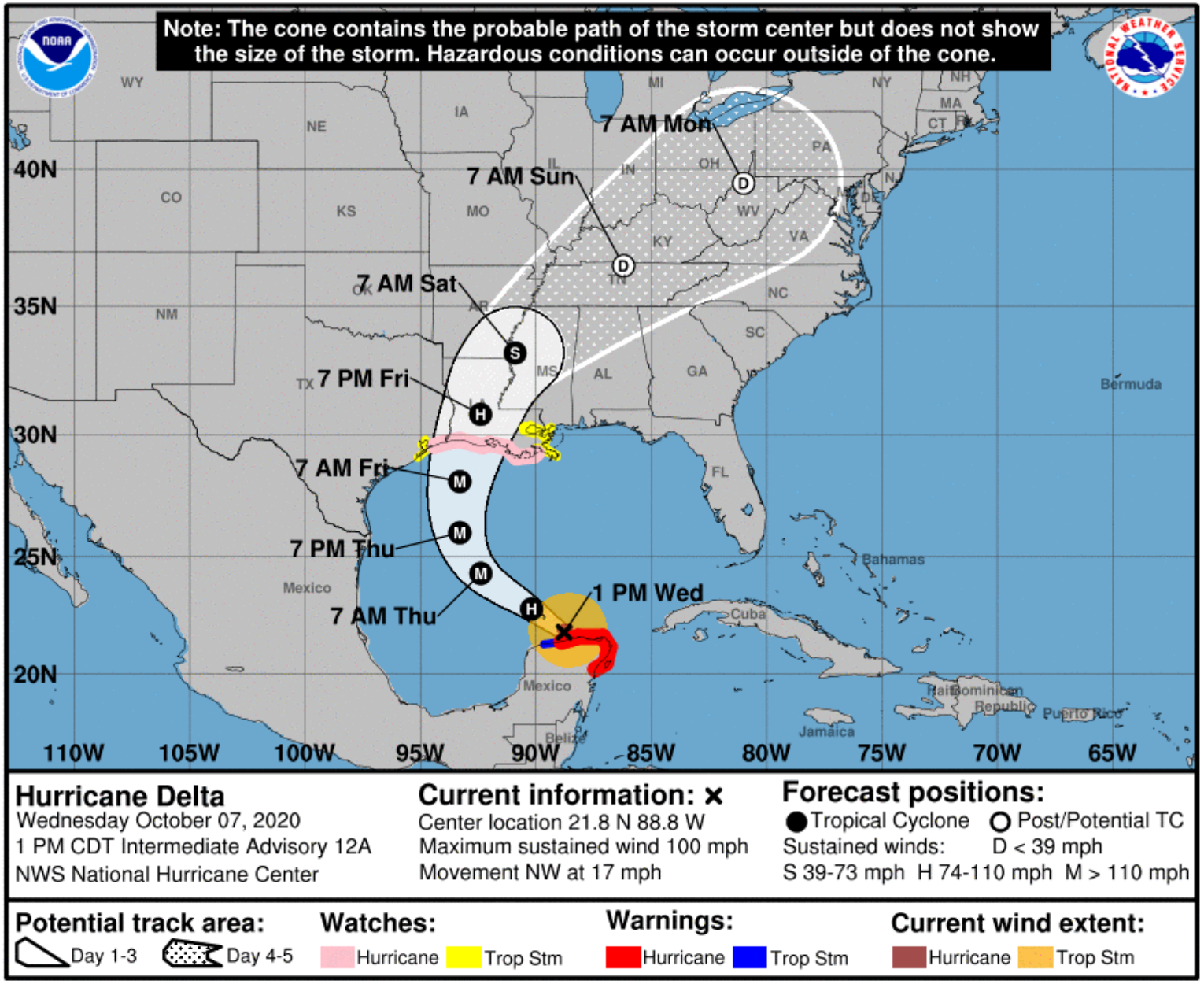
WIND:

- Hurricane and tropical storm conditions will continue within the warning area in the Yucatan peninsula during the next few hours. Tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch areas along the Gulf coast by late Thursday night or early Friday with hurricane conditions possible within the hurricane watch area by Friday morning.

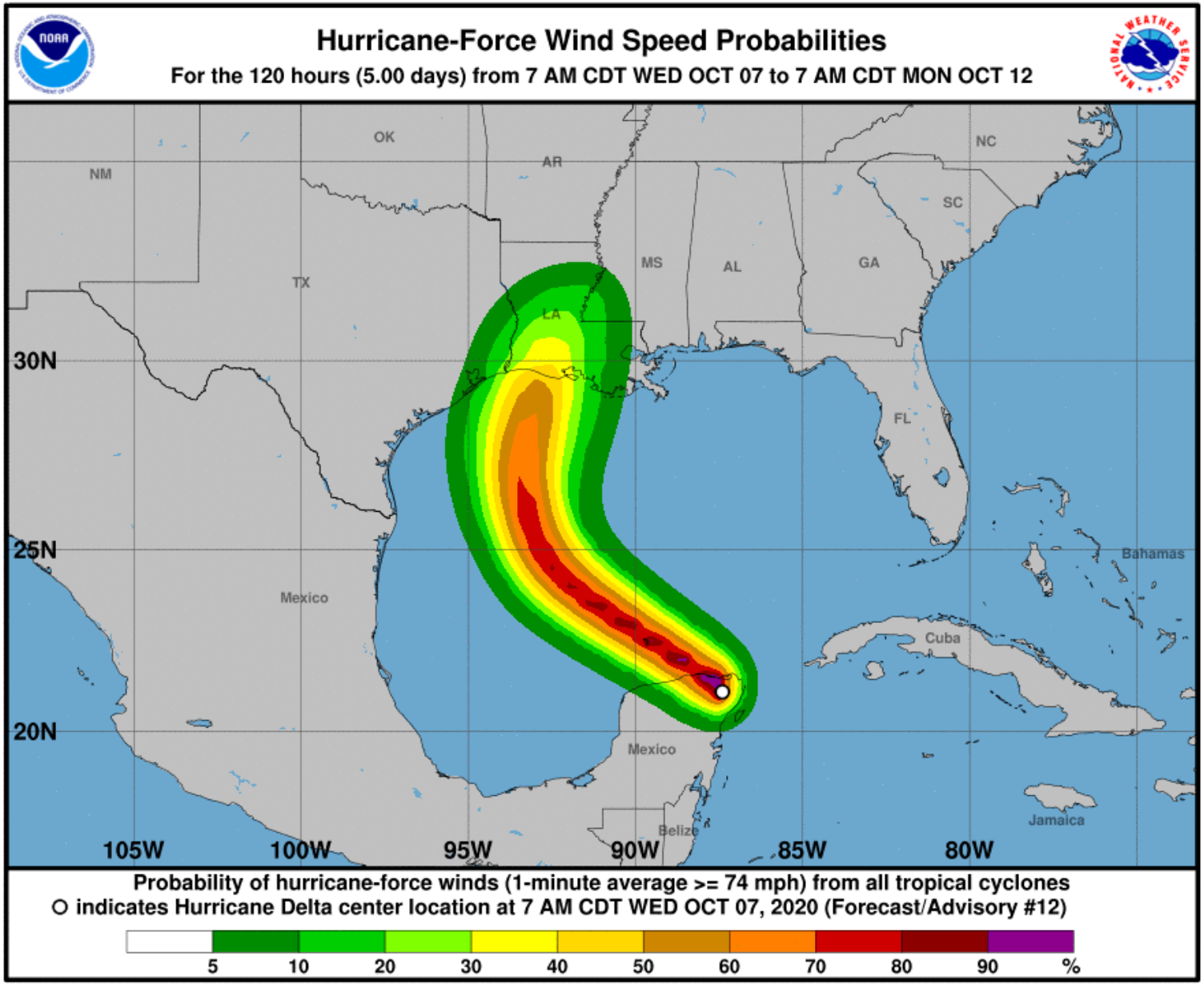
SURF

- Swells generated by Delta will affect land areas around the northwestern Caribbean Sea today. Swells will begin to affect portions of the northern and western Gulf coast on Thursday. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.

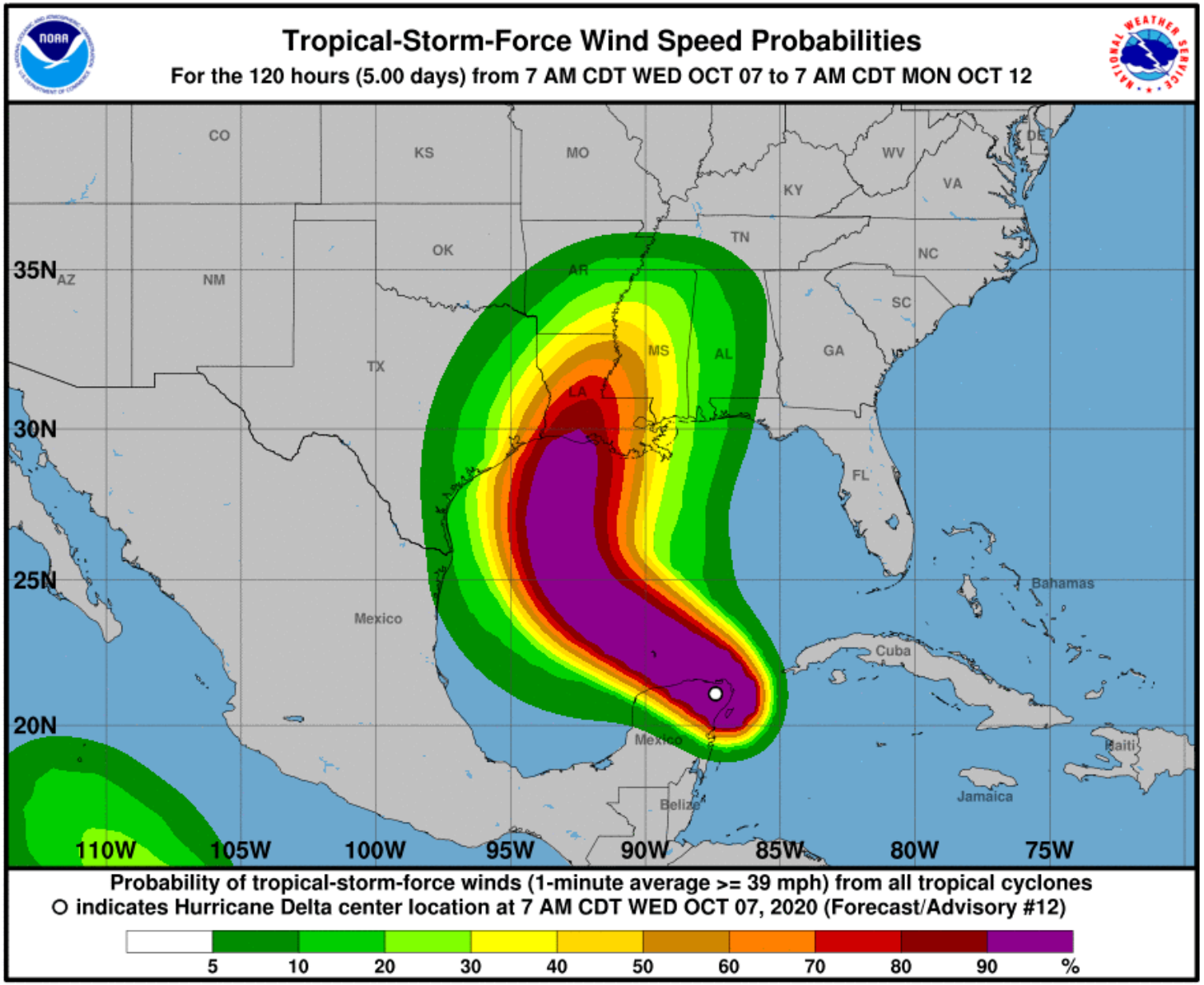
Current Predicted Path



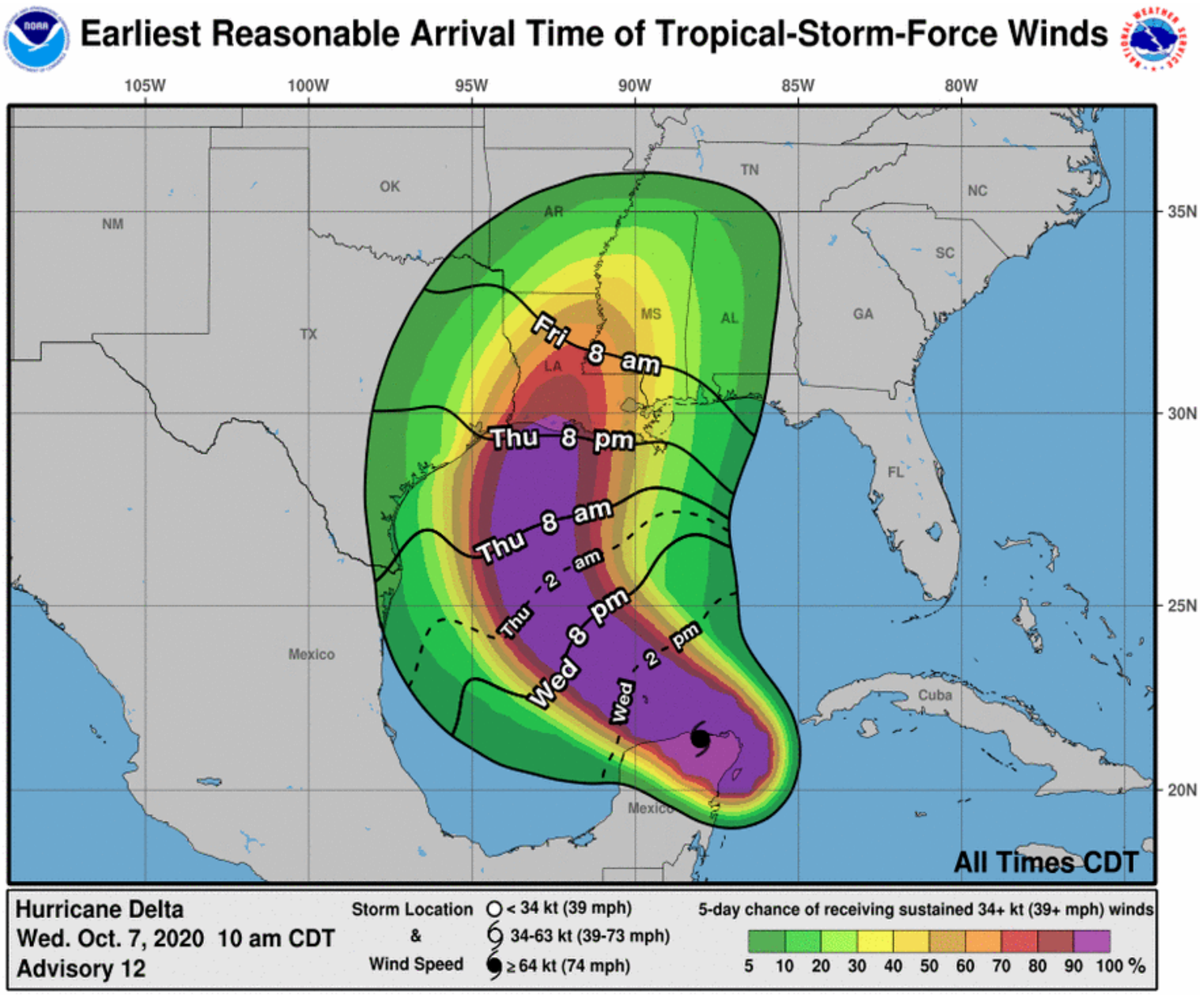
Hurricane-Force Wind Speed Probabilities



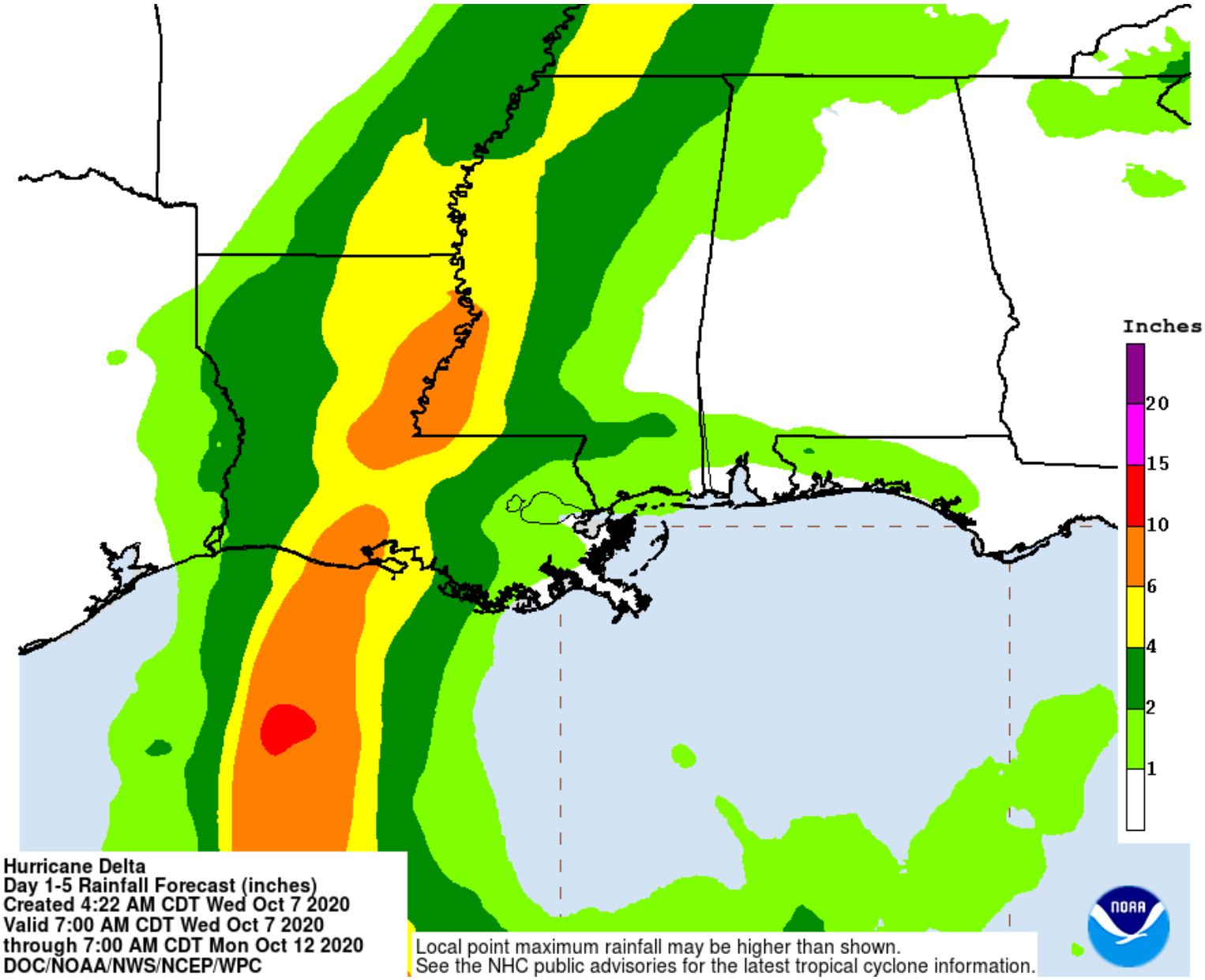
Tropical-Storm-Force Wind Speed Probabilities



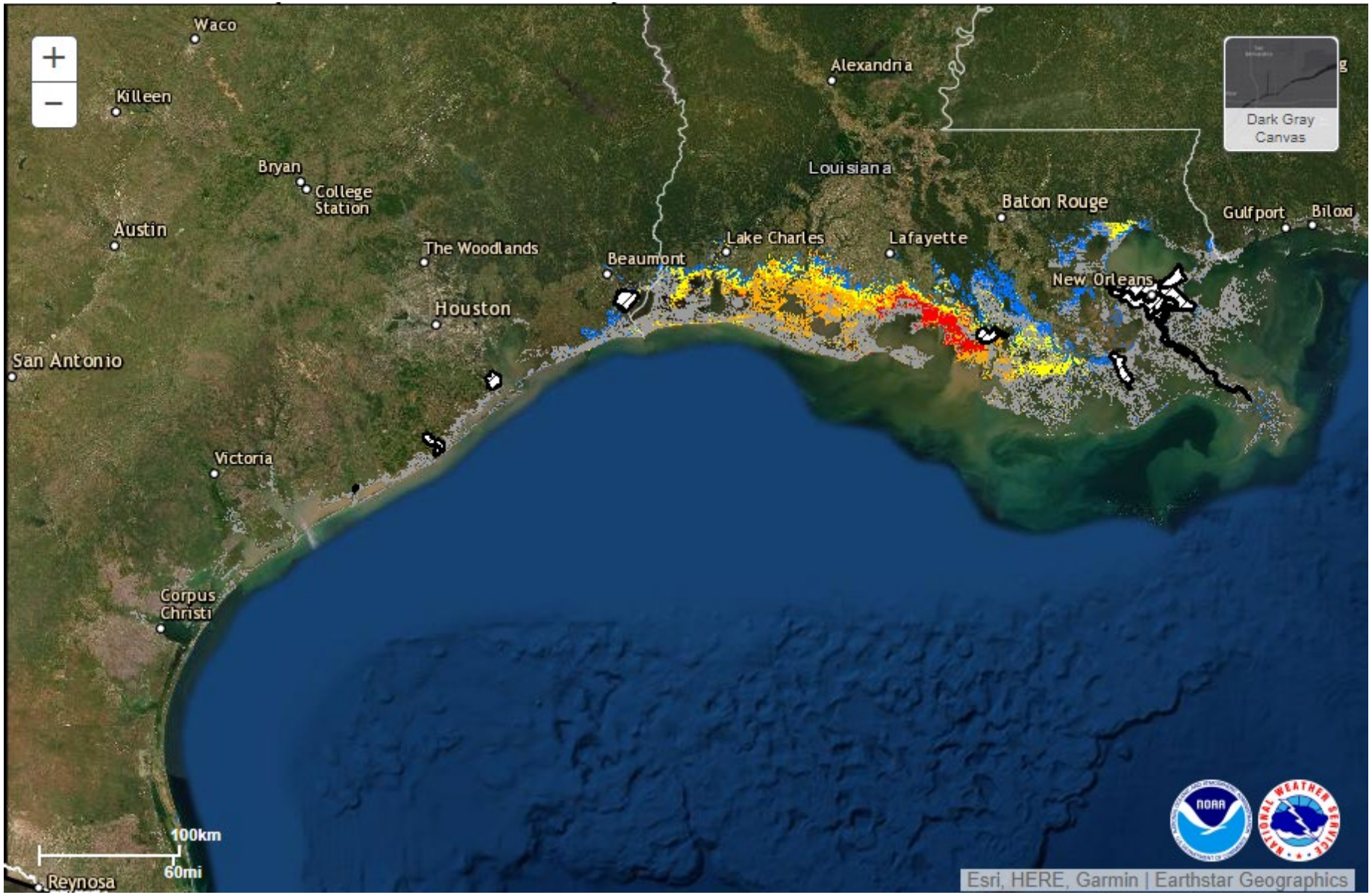
Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds



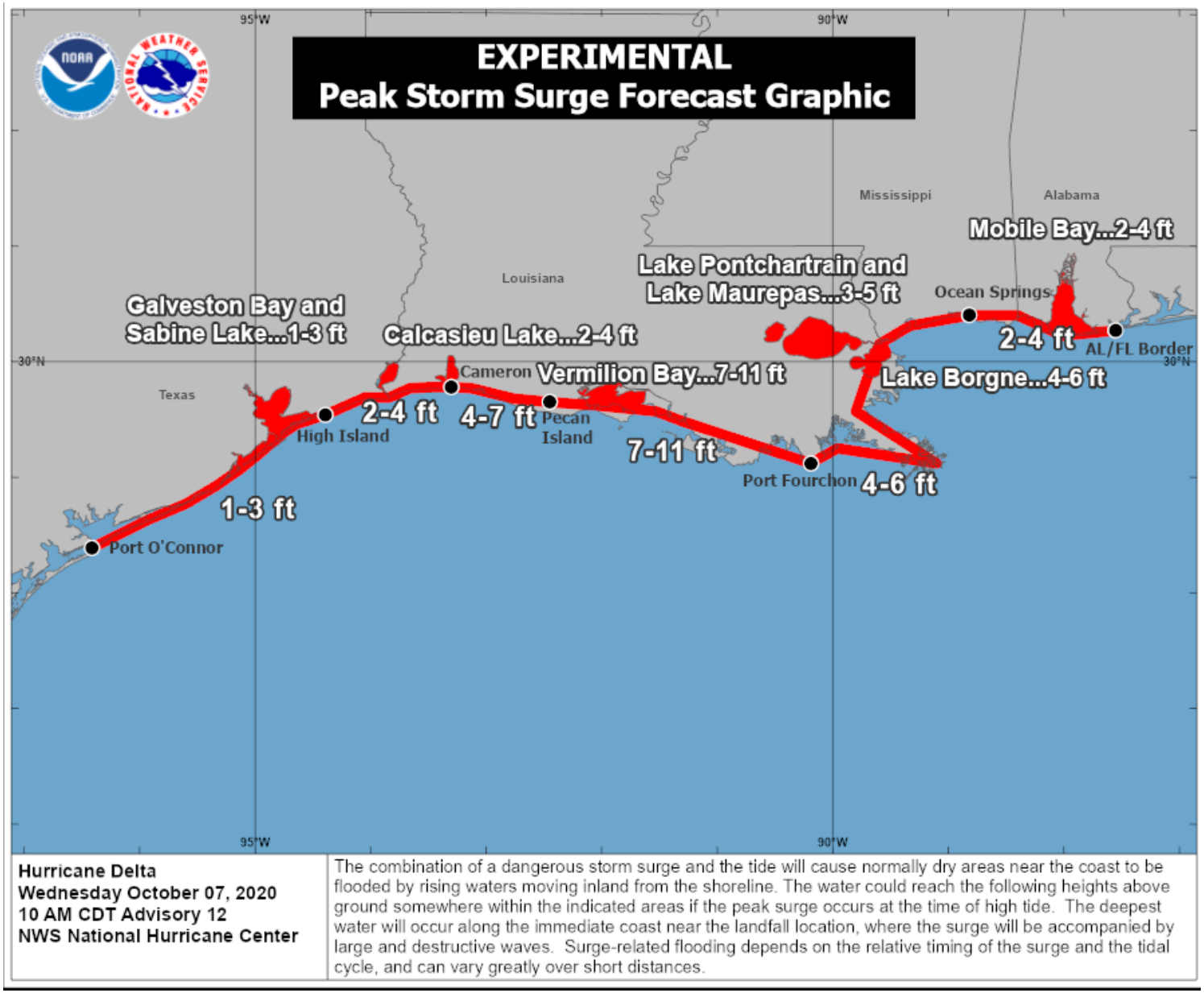
Rainfall Potential



Storm Surge Inundation Potential



Storm Surge Potential



Safety Procedures & Readiness

Hurricane Hazards

While hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property, tropical storms and depressions also can be devastating. The primary hazards from tropical cyclones (which include tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes) are storm surge flooding, inland flooding from heavy rains, destructive winds, tornadoes, and high surf and rip currents.

- Storm surge is the abnormal rise of water generated by a storm's winds. This hazard is historically the leading cause of hurricane related deaths in the United States. Storm surge and large battering waves can result in large loss of life and cause massive destruction along the coast.
- Storm surge can travel several miles inland, especially along bays, rivers, and estuaries.
- Flooding from heavy rains is the second leading cause of fatalities from landfalling tropical cyclones. Widespread torrential rains associated with these storms often cause flooding hundreds of miles inland. This flooding can persist for several days after a storm has dissipated
- Winds from a hurricane can destroy buildings and manufactured homes. Signs, roofing material, and other items left outside can become flying missiles during hurricanes.
- Tornadoes can accompany landfalling tropical cyclones. These tornadoes typically occur in rain bands well away from the center of the storm
- Dangerous waves produced by a tropical cyclone's strong winds can pose a significant hazard to coastal residents and mariners. These waves can cause deadly rip currents, significant beach erosion, and damage to structures along the coastline, even when the storm is more than 1,000 miles offshore

Now is the time to prepare. All residents and visitors in the path of the Hurricane should review these tips:

- Check to make sure your emergency kit is stocked and test your family communications plan.
- Know your evacuation routes and how to find higher ground. Determine where you would go, and how you would get there if instructed to evacuate. *If directed to evacuate by local officials,* ***evacuate.***

Stay vigilant and continue to monitor local radio or TV stations and local emergency management officials for updated weather and emergency information.

- The FEMA App (available in English and Spanish) provides National Weather Service alerts (for up to 5 areas), emergency kit checklists, directions to open shelters, safety preparation tips and more.
- Make plans to secure your property:
  - Cover all of your home's windows. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8" marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.
  - Reinforce your garage doors; if wind enters a garage it can cause dangerous and expensive structural damage.
  - Plan to bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans, and anything else that is not tied down.
  - Determine how and where to secure boats and other marine craft.
- You can safely install a generator for emergencies. Remember, never run a generator inside and keep it away from windows, doors, and vents.
- If using candles, please use caution. If possible, use flashlights instead. If you must use candles, do not burn them on or near anything that can catch fire.
- Your phone is an important tool to ensure your family's safety. Make sure to charge your phone and other electronic devices.
- Businesses of all sizes are encouraged to follow local public safety authority direction and to share safety messaging with employees in order to reduce risk.
- If you have a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) flood insurance policy, you may be eligible for reimbursement for actions taken to protect your property. Call your insurance agent to find out more.

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is a 1 to 5 rating based on a hurricane's sustained wind speed. This scale estimates potential property damage. Hurricanes reaching Category 3 and higher are considered major hurricanes because of their potential for significant loss of life and damage. Category 1 and 2 storms are still dangerous, however, and require preventative measures. In the western North Pacific, the term "super typhoon" is used for tropical cyclones with sustained winds exceeding 150 mph.

Category	Sustained Winds	Types of Damage Due to Hurricane Winds
1	74-95 mph 64-82 kt 119-153 km/h	**Very dangerous winds will produce some damage:** Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
2	96-110 mph 83-95 kt 154-177 km/h	**Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage:** Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
3 (major)	111-129 mph 96-112 kt 178-208 km/h	**Devastating damage will occur:** Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
4 (major)	130-156 mph 113-136 kt 209-251 km/h	**Catastrophic damage will occur:** Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
5 (major)	157 mph or higher 137 kt or higher 252 km/h or higher	**Catastrophic damage will occur:** A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.

For Additional Information:

American Red Cross	http://www.redcross.org/
US Coast Guard Storm Center	https://www.uscg.mil/news/stormcenter/
US National Hurricane Center	www.nhc.noaa.gov
US Federal Emergency Management Agency	http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes
FEMA – Mobile App	https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app
FEMA – Flooding	https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1522342356506-54bd8d92d0d0d07bca4c1250ebde2b21/Flood_508.pdf
Ready Gov	www.ready.gov
Listo Gov (Spanish)	www.listo.gov
Emergency Management Agencies	https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies
Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency	http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=417
Smart Traveler Enrollment Program	https://step.state.gov/