



## Hurricane Delta Advisory Bulletin

Risk Services Division

9 October 2020

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## HURRICANE DELTA

Status at 1000 AM CDT (1500 UTC) 9 October 2020

- Hurricane Delta is currently a Category 3 hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 115mph (185km/h)
- The center of Hurricane Delta is located at 28.0N 93.8W about 130miles (205km) SSW of Cameron, Louisiana
- Delta is moving N (360°) at 13mph (21km/h) toward the southwest Louisiana coast
- The center of Delta should make landfall along the coast of southwestern Louisiana later this afternoon or this evening and then move across central and northeastern Louisiana tonight and Saturday morning
- Delta will produce life-threatening storm surge, tropical-storm-force and hurricane-force winds, tornadoes, and torrential rainfall with flash flooding
- Hurricane-force winds extend outward to 40miles (65km) and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward to 160miles (260km)
- Delta is expected to bring hurricane conditions and a life-threatening storm surge to portions of the northern Gulf Coast later today
- Heavy rainfall will lead to significant flash flooding and minor to major river flooding in parts of Louisiana today and Saturday; additional flooding is expected across portions of the central Gulf Coast into the Lower Mississippi Valley



09 Oct 2020 16:51Z NOAA/NESDIS/STAR GOES-East GEOCOLOR

## Summary

At 1000 AM CDT (1500 UTC), the center of Hurricane Delta was located near 28.0N 93.8W about 130miles (205km) SSW of Cameron, Louisiana.

Delta is moving northward (360°) at 13mph (21km/h) toward the southwest Louisiana coast. A turn toward the north-northeast is expected this afternoon, followed by a northeastward motion during the day Saturday.

On the forecast track, the center of Delta should make landfall along the coast of southwestern Louisiana later this afternoon or this evening, and then move across central and northeastern Louisiana tonight and Saturday morning

Delta is currently a category 3 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 115mph (185 km/h). Slow weakening is expected before landfall with rapid weakening expected after the center moves inland.

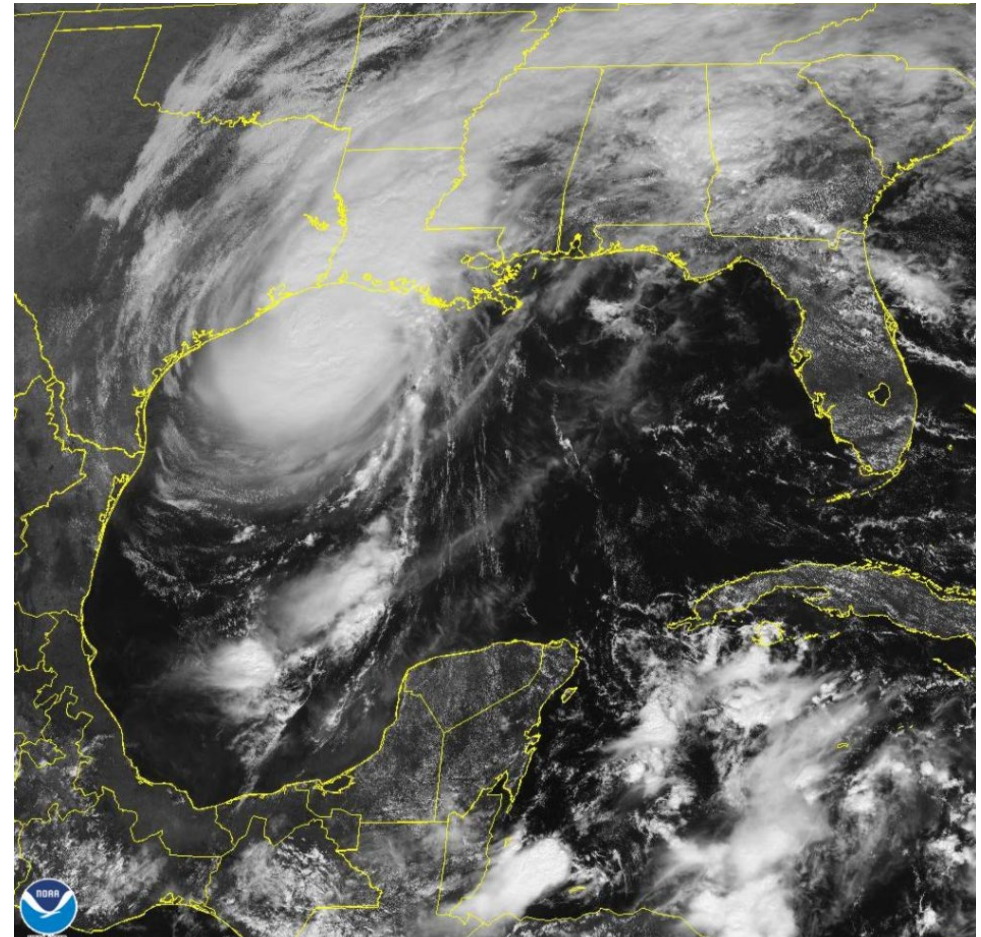
Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 40 miles (65 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 160 miles (260 km).

The latest estimated minimum central pressure is 962 mb (28.41 inches).

## Discussion

Delta has weakened slightly since the last update. Current motion is northward. This motion is expected to move to the north-northeast in the next few hours which will bring the center near or over the southwestern coast of Louisiana this afternoon or this evening. After landfall, Delta is expected to move generally northeastward through the Lower Mississippi and Tennessee Valleys until it dissipates.

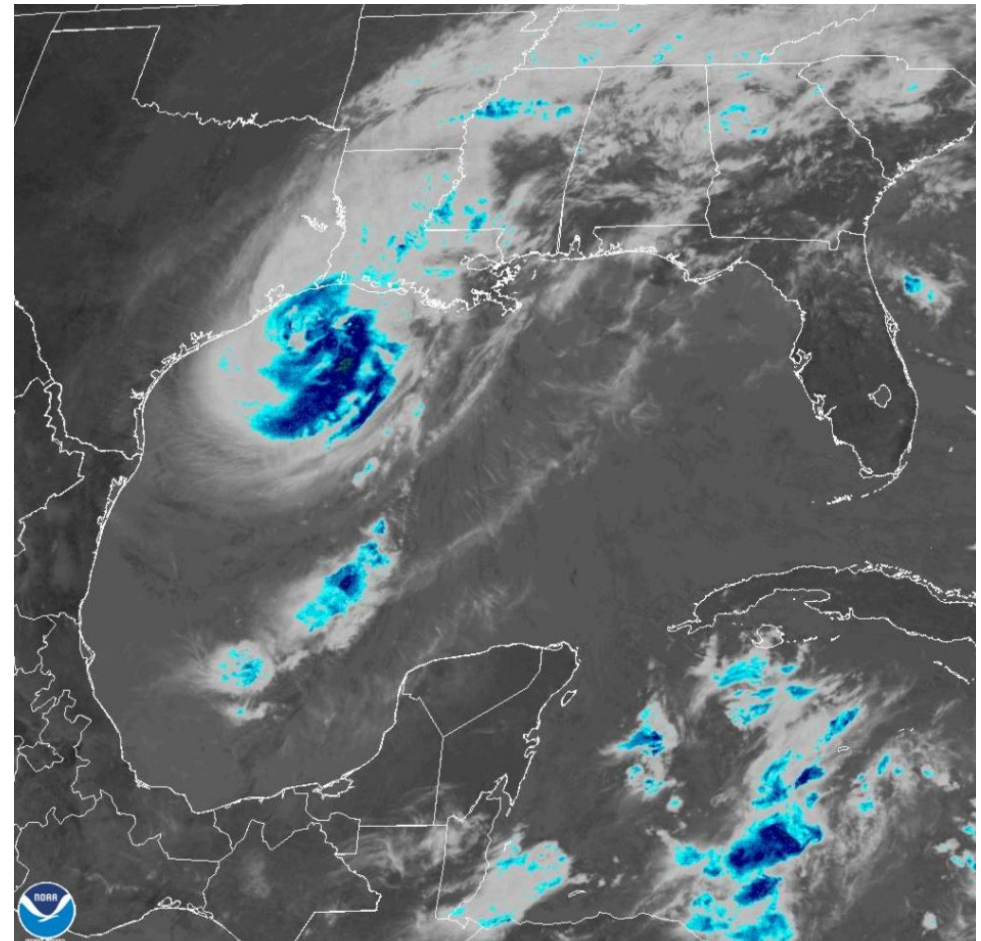
Continued weakening is expected prior to landfall. However, there will still be significant impacts from winds and storm surge.



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### Key Messages

1. Life-threatening storm surge is expected near and east of where Delta makes landfall this evening, and a Storm Surge Warning is in effect from High Island, Texas, to the mouth of the Pearl River. The highest inundation of 7 to 11 feet is expected somewhere between Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge and Morgan City, Louisiana. Water levels in this area will rise quickly this afternoon and evening as Delta approaches and efforts to protect life and property should be rushed to completion.
2. Hurricane-force winds are expected this afternoon and evening within portions of the Hurricane Warning area, especially along the coast of southwest Louisiana. Hurricane-force winds will also spread inland across portions of southern Louisiana near the path of Delta's center this evening and tonight.
3. Heavy rainfall will lead to significant flash flooding and minor to major river flooding in parts of Louisiana today and Saturday. Additional flooding is expected across portions of the central Gulf Coast into the Lower Mississippi Valley.



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**Watches and Warnings**

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|---|--|
| <b>Hurricane Warning in effect for:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ High Island Texas to Morgan City Louisiana</li></ul> |
|---|--|
- 
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Tropical Storm Warning in effect for:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ West of High Island to Sargent Texas</li><li>▪ East of Morgan City Louisiana to the mouth of the Pearl River, including New Orleans</li><li>▪ Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas</li></ul> |
|--|--|
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- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Storm Surge Warning in effect for:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ High Island, Texas to the Mouth of the Pearl River including Calcasieu Lake, Vermilion Bay, Lake Pontchartrain, Lake Maurepas, and Lake Borgne</li></ul> |
|---|--|
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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.

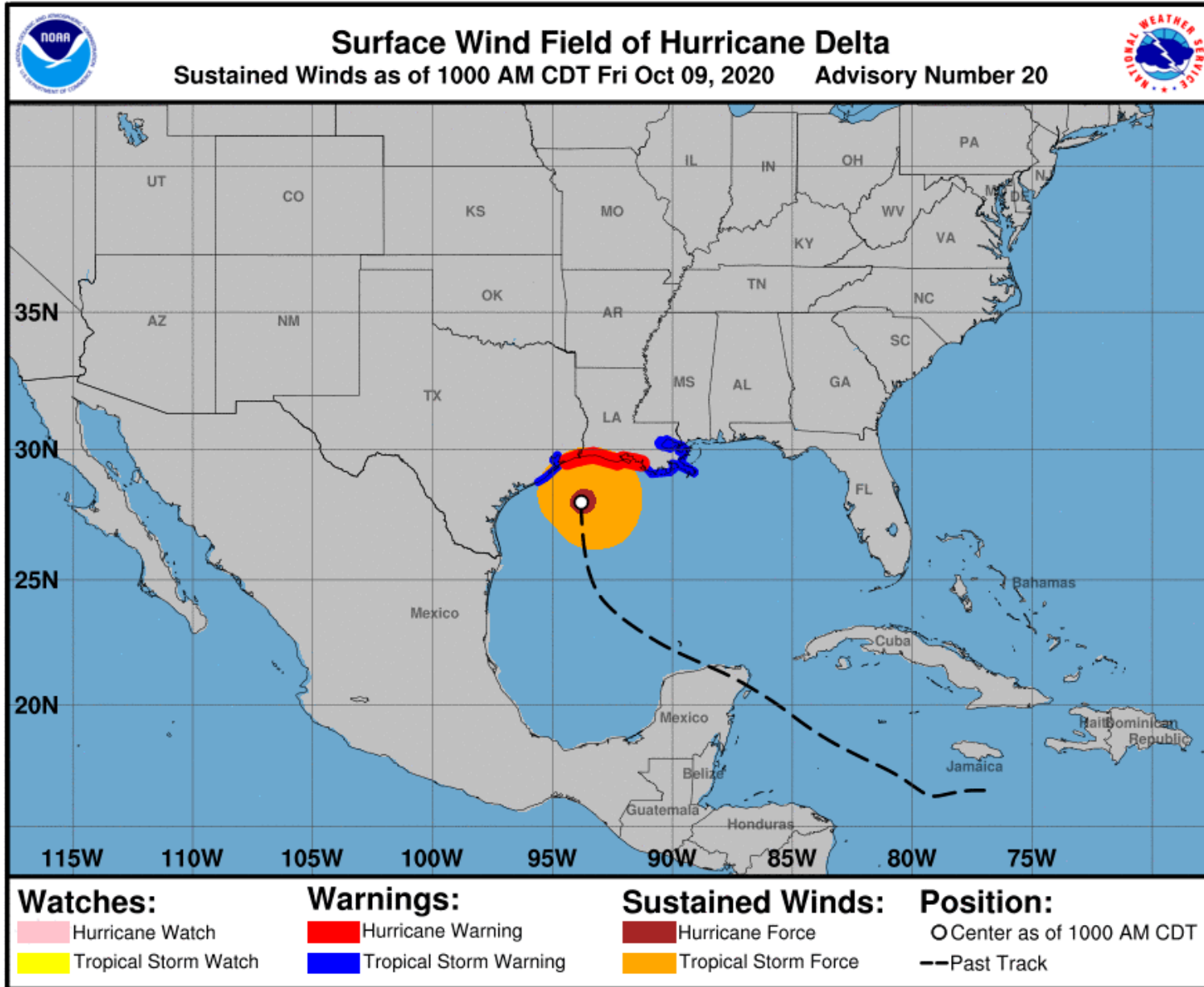
A **Storm Surge Warning** means there is a danger of life-threatening inundation, from rising water moving inland from the coastline, during the next 36 hours in the indicated locations. This is a life-threatening situation. Persons located within these areas should take all necessary actions to protect 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**

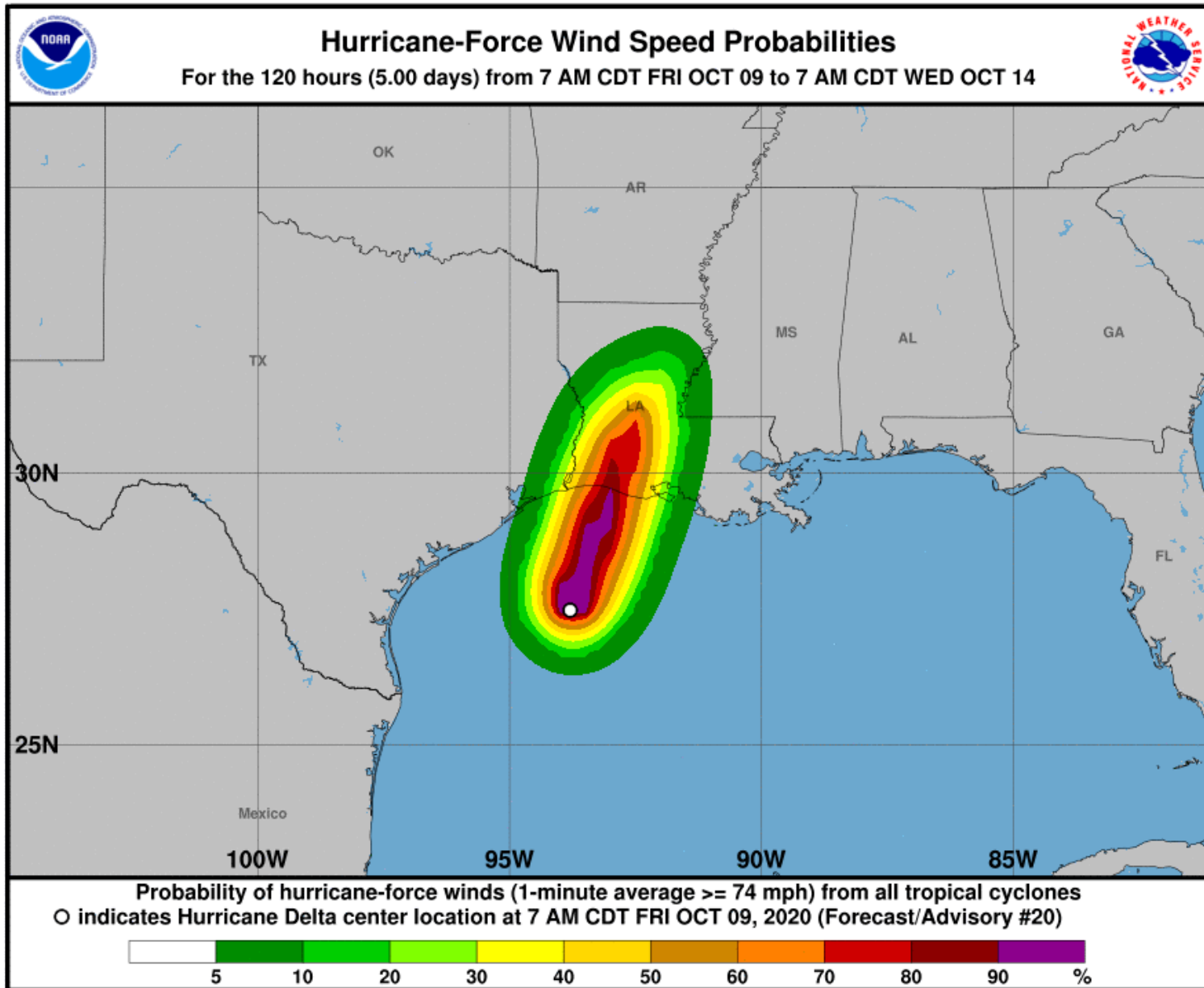
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- RAINFALL**
- Today through Saturday, Delta is expected to produce 5 to 10 inches of rain, with isolated maximum totals of 15 inches from southwest into central Louisiana. These rainfall amounts will lead to significant flash, urban, small stream, and minor to major river flooding.
  - As Delta moves farther inland, 1 to 3 inches of rain, with locally higher amounts, is expected in the Tennessee Valley and Mid Atlantic this weekend.
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- STORM SURGE**
- 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.
  - The deepest water will occur along the immediate coast near and to the east of the landfall location, where the surge will be accompanied by large and dangerous waves.
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- WIND:**
- Hurricane conditions are expected within the hurricane warning area by this afternoon or evening, with tropical storm conditions expected within this area in the next few hours.
  - Tropical storm conditions are expected within the tropical storm warning areas during the next several hours.
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- SURF**
- Swells generated by Delta are affecting portions of the northern and western Gulf coast in the next several hours. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.
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- TORNADOES**
- There is a risk of a few tornadoes today and tonight over southern portions of Louisiana and Mississippi.

Surface Wind Field

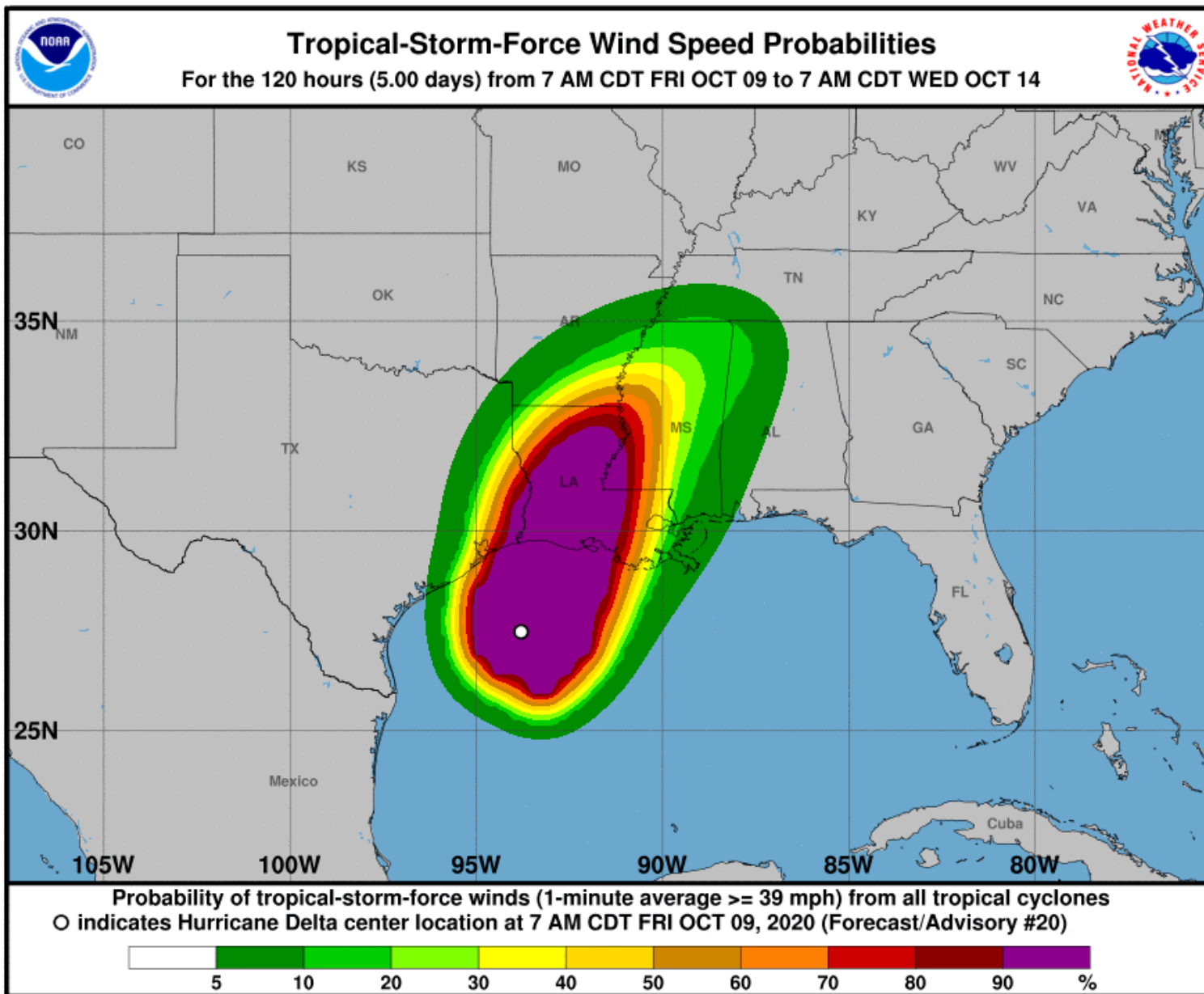




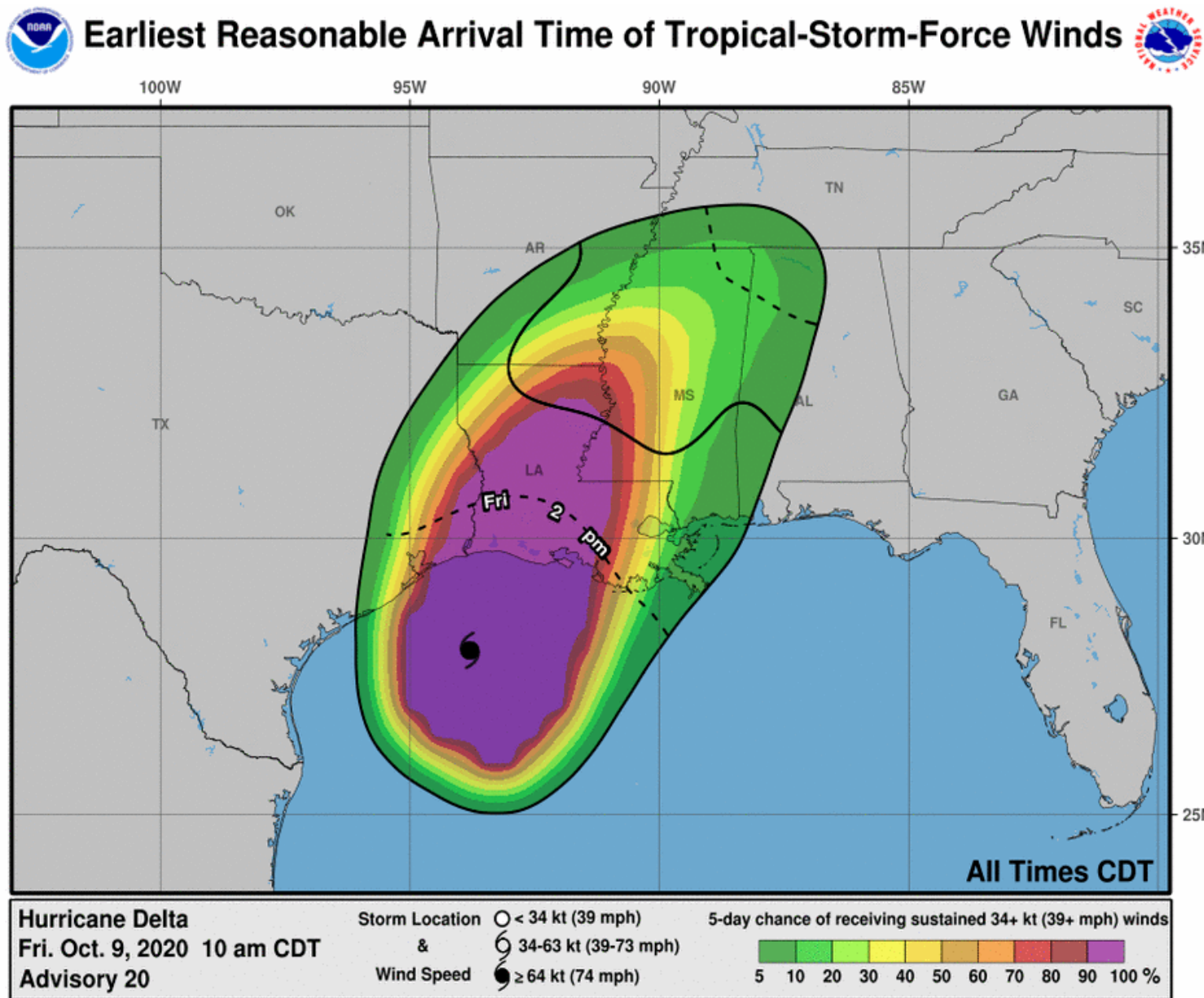
Hurricane-Force Wind Speed Probabilities



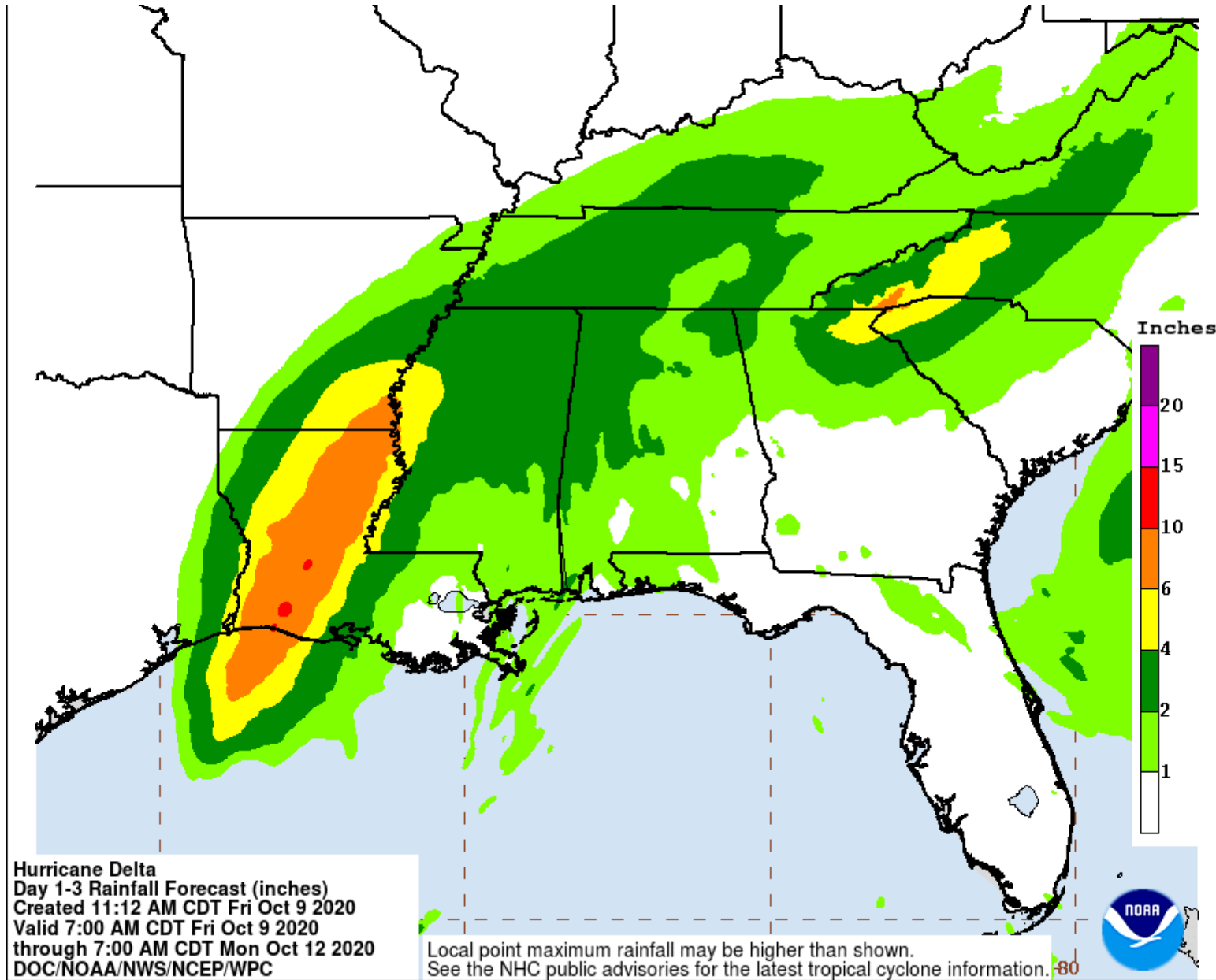
Tropical-Storm-Force Wind Speed Probabilities



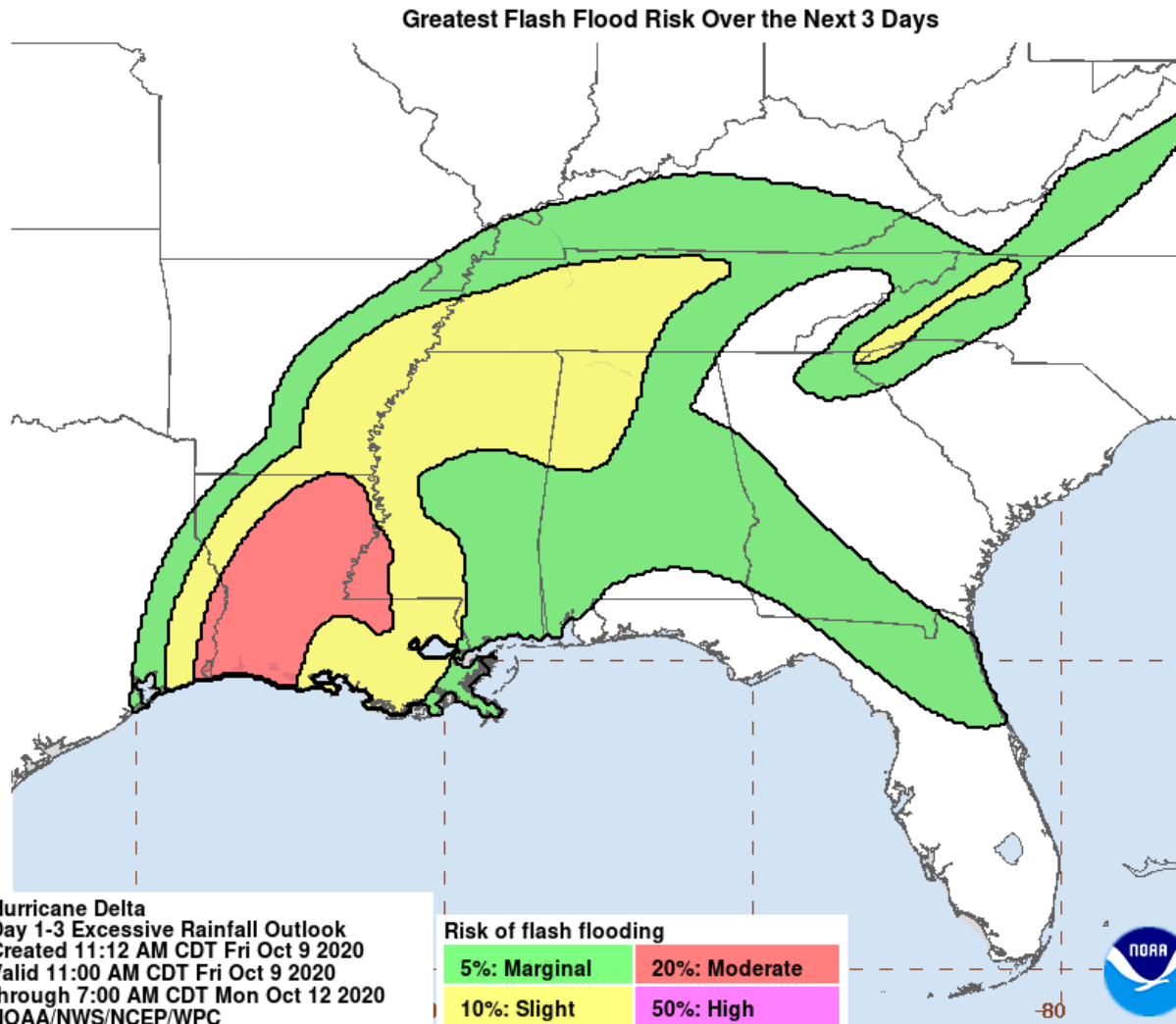
Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds



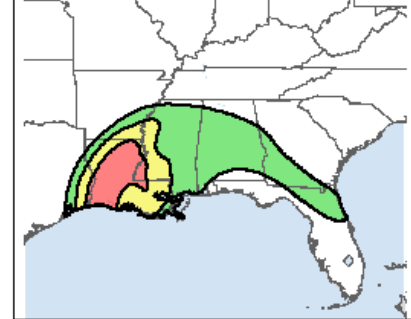
Rainfall Potential



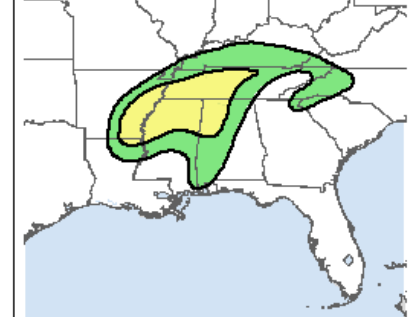
Flash Flood Potential



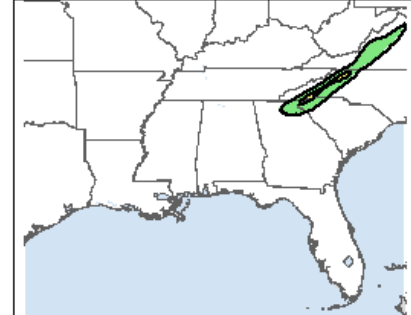
**Day 1 Through Saturday morning**



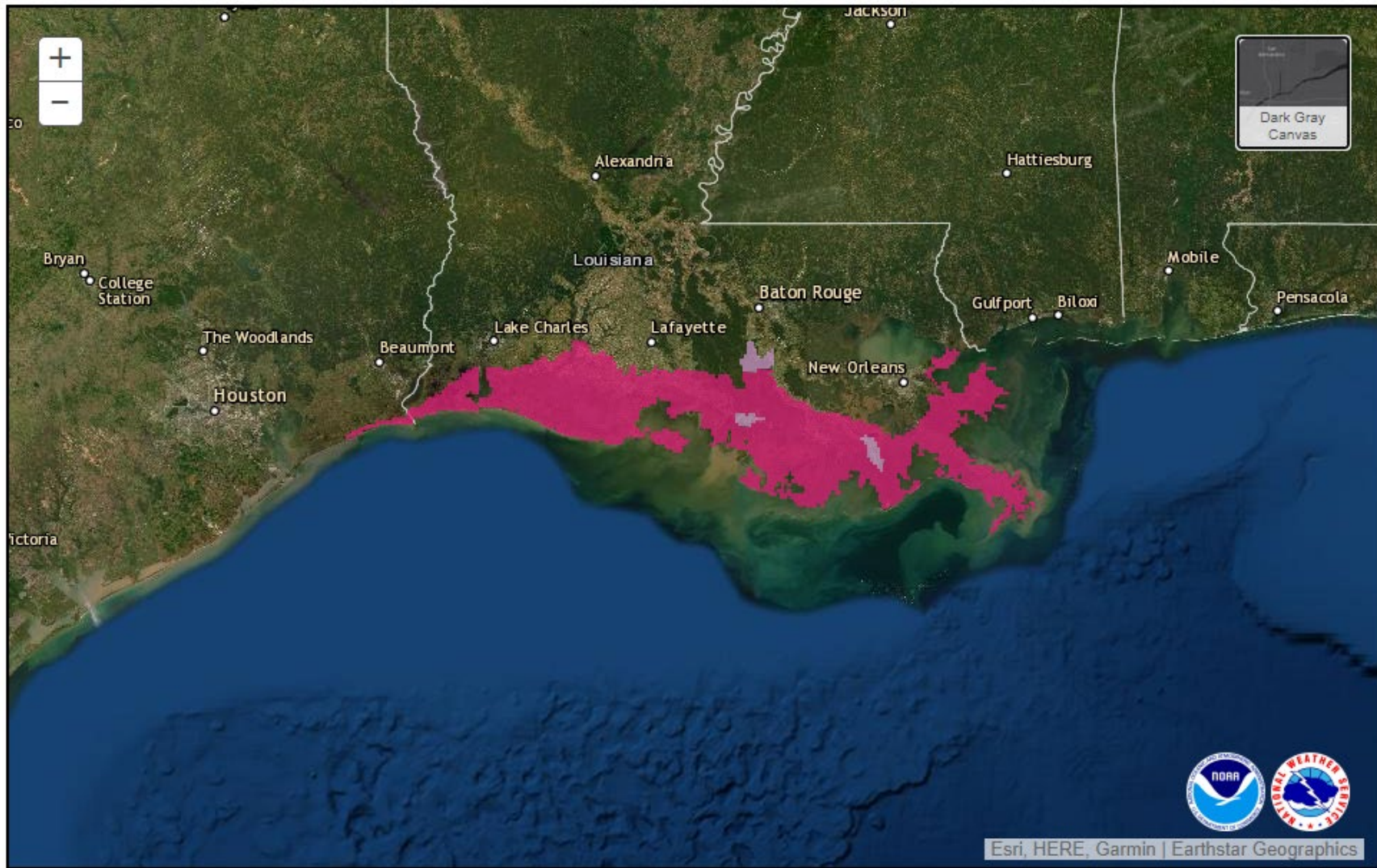
**Day 2 Through Sunday morning**



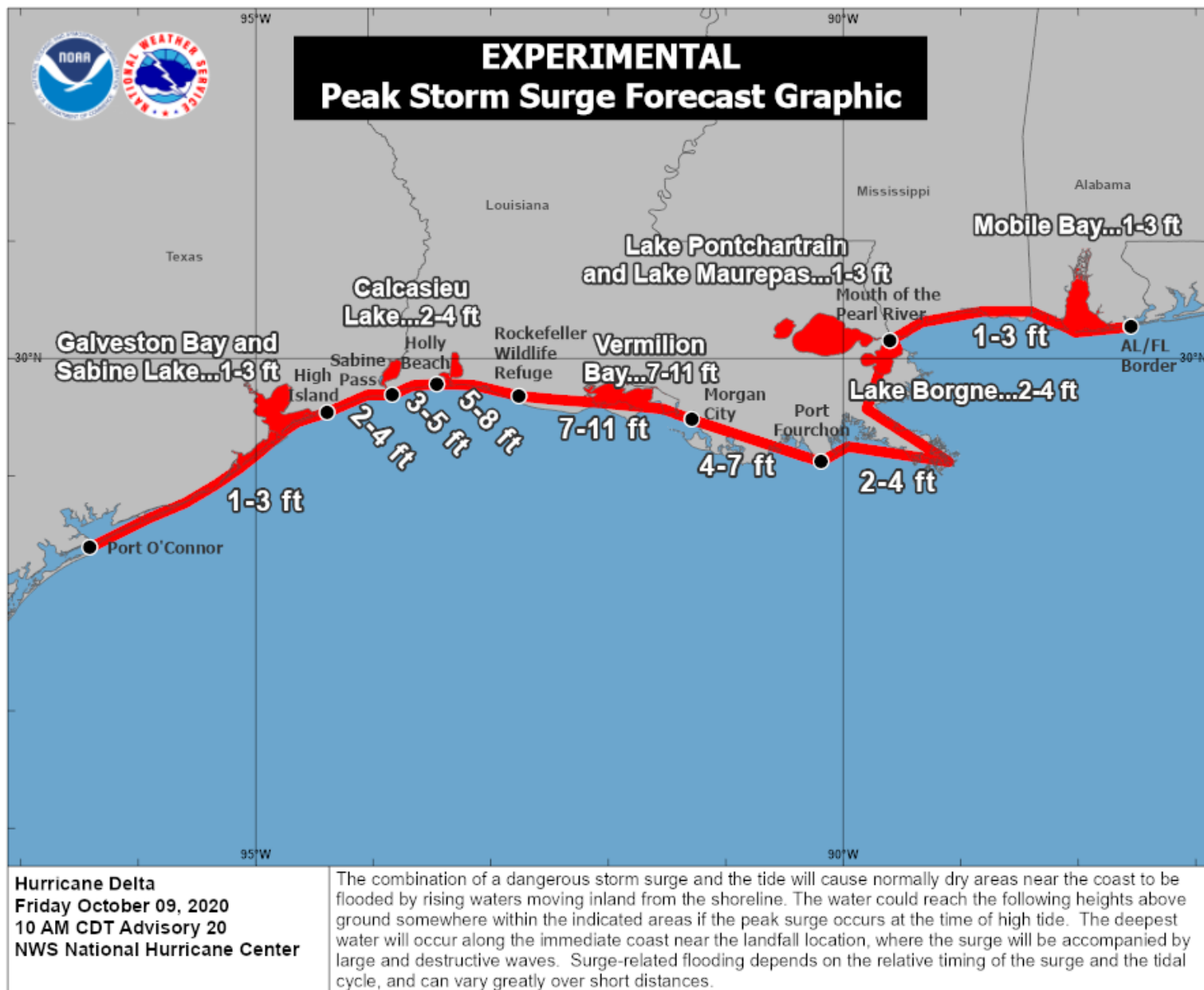
**Day 3 Through Monday morning**



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	<b>Very dangerous winds will produce some damage:</b> 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	<b>Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage:</b> 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	<b>Devastating damage will occur:</b> 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	<b>Catastrophic damage will occur:</b> 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	<b>Catastrophic damage will occur:</b> 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	<a href="http://www.redcross.org/">http://www.redcross.org/</a>
US Coast Guard Storm Center	<a href="https://www.uscg.mil/news/stormcenter/">https://www.uscg.mil/news/stormcenter/</a>
US National Hurricane Center	<a href="http://www.nhc.noaa.gov">www.nhc.noaa.gov</a>
US Federal Emergency Management Agency	<a href="http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes">http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes</a>
FEMA – Mobile App	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app">https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app</a>
FEMA – Flooding	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1522342356506-54bd8d92d0d0d07bca4c1250ebde2b21/Flood_508.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1522342356506-54bd8d92d0d0d07bca4c1250ebde2b21/Flood_508.pdf</a>
Ready Gov	<a href="http://www.ready.gov">www.ready.gov</a>
Listo Gov (Spanish)	<a href="http://www.listo.gov">www.listo.gov</a>
Emergency Management Agencies	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies">https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies</a>
Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency	<a href="http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&amp;view=wrapper&amp;Itemid=417">http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&amp;view=wrapper&amp;Itemid=417</a>
Smart Traveler Enrollment Program	<a href="https://step.state.gov/">https://step.state.gov/</a>