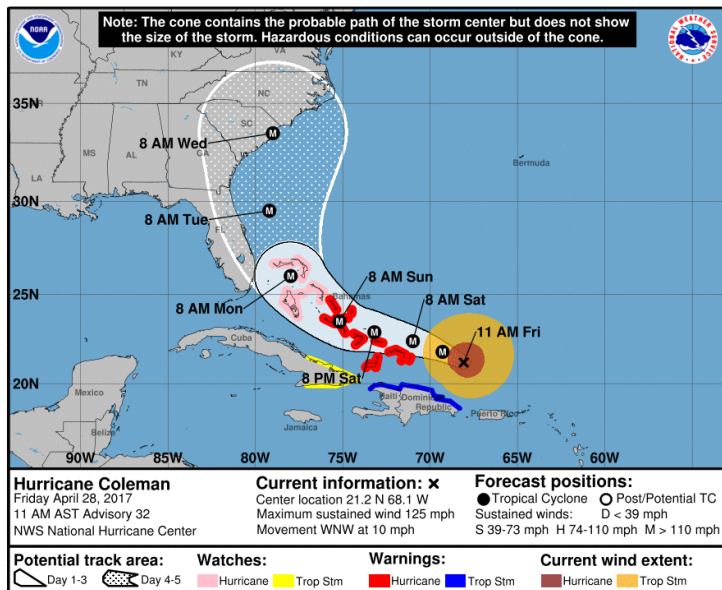
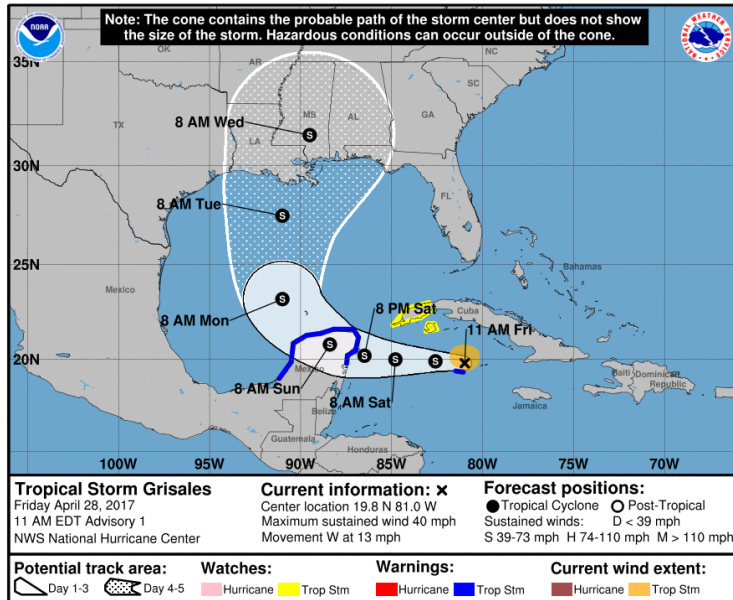


EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE

This briefing packet is part of the 2017 Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise for county and state emergency management officials. If you are not participating in the exercise, please disregard.



(EXERCISE) Summary:

- At 11am EDT Friday, Hurricane Coleman was located approximately 235 miles northwest of San Juan, Puerto Rico, or about 835 miles southeast of Miami, Florida.

- Maximum sustained winds have decreased to 125 mph (Category 3), but Coleman is expected to regain Category 4 status later today or tomorrow and remain a very powerful hurricane as it moves through the Bahamas.
 - The official forecast continues a west-northwest motion through the next 3 days, bringing Coleman into the southeastern Bahamas tonight and through the northwestern Bahamas by Monday.
 - However, computer track models continue to shift slightly west. Most of the models, including the official forecast, keeps Coleman just off the Florida East Coast, but a few models do bring the center of Coleman to the Florida Peninsula.
 - This is due to difference in the future strength of high pressure ridge in the central Atlantic. A stronger high pressure system, and/or a weaker Coleman, would steer the system closer to Florida while a weaker high pressure system would allow the center of Coleman to move further east.
 - Coleman is a large storm, with tropical storm force winds extending up to 205 miles from the center and hurricane force winds extending up to 85 miles from the center.
 - Also, the average NHC track errors at days 4 and 5 are on the order of 175 miles and 230 miles, respectively, so it is important not to focus on the line in the middle of the forecast track, especially given the large size of the storm.
 - Even if the center of the storm remains off the Florida East Coast, impacts can still be expected.
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- At 11am EDT Friday, Invest 96L was upgraded to Tropical Storm Grisales while located just north of the Cayman Islands in the northwestern Caribbean Sea. This location is also approximately 330 miles south of Key West, Florida.
 - Grisales is currently moving west near 13mph, and this motion is expected to continue for the next day or so before turning more to the west-northwest by Sunday.
 - A turn to the northwest and north is expected next week, and Grisales could approach the central Gulf Coast of the U.S. by Tuesday.
 - Maximum sustained winds are currently near 40mph, but strengthening is expected. If less land interaction with Mexico occurs, more intensification than what is shown in the official forecast is likely.
 - Also, while the official forecast calls for Grisales to remain a tropical storm through the next 5 days, some models are indicating that it could become a minimal hurricane while in the central Gulf of Mexico.

(EXERCISE) Florida Outlook:

- The eastern half of the Florida Peninsula remains within the 5 day cone of error for Hurricane Coleman.
- The probability for receiving tropical storm force winds in Florida now exceeds 50% for the eastern half of the Florida Peninsula, with many coastal East Coast counties now having a 60-70% chance of tropical storm force winds within the next 5 days. These same areas now have a 1 in 4 chance (25%) of receiving hurricane force winds within the next 5 days.

- No tropical storm, hurricane or surge watches or warnings are currently in effect for Florida, but will likely be issued later today.
- Regardless of track, Coleman is a very large storm and it has the potential to generate gusty winds and rough seas along the East Coast of Florida, along with coastal flooding, beach erosion, large waves and rip currents.
- Flooding is typically not a major concern on the western side of the storm, and the current forecast is for 1-3” of rain with isolated totals of 4-6” possible.
- Any additional or increased severity or impacts are dependent on the future track and size of the storm.
- It is too early to determine specific impacts to Florida from Tropical Storm Grisales.
- Expect at least an increase in ocean swells and wave heights early next week and the potential for heavy rainfall.

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