



# HURRICANE FRANCINE BRIEFING

5:00 PMCT

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

**What has changed:**

- Francine is now a category 2 hurricane and should make its official landfall within the hour



# Situation Overview

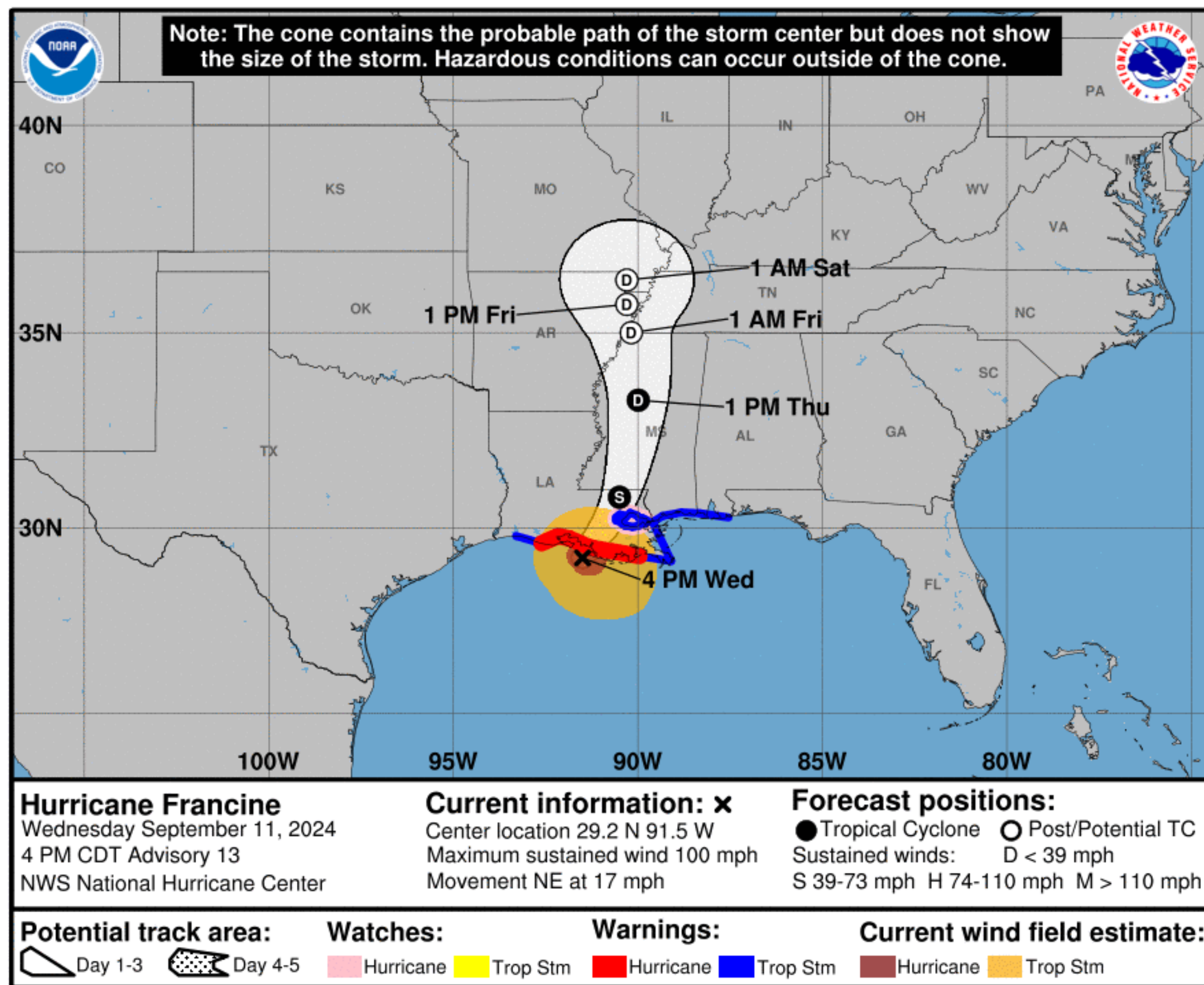
Hurricane Francine

- **Francine is now a category 2 hurricane, and will make landfall in the next hour somewhere near or just east of the Atchafalaya River**
- Conditions are rapidly deteriorating across areas south of the tidal lakes and strong winds/heavy rain will continue to spread inland through the evening
- Impacts from Francine will include moderate to life-threatening coastal flooding, damaging winds, heavy rain and a few tornadoes through tonight.



# Situation Overview

## Hurricane Francine



- Francine strengthened slightly and is now a category 2 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 90 mph.
- There have been no significant changes to the track or expected impacts

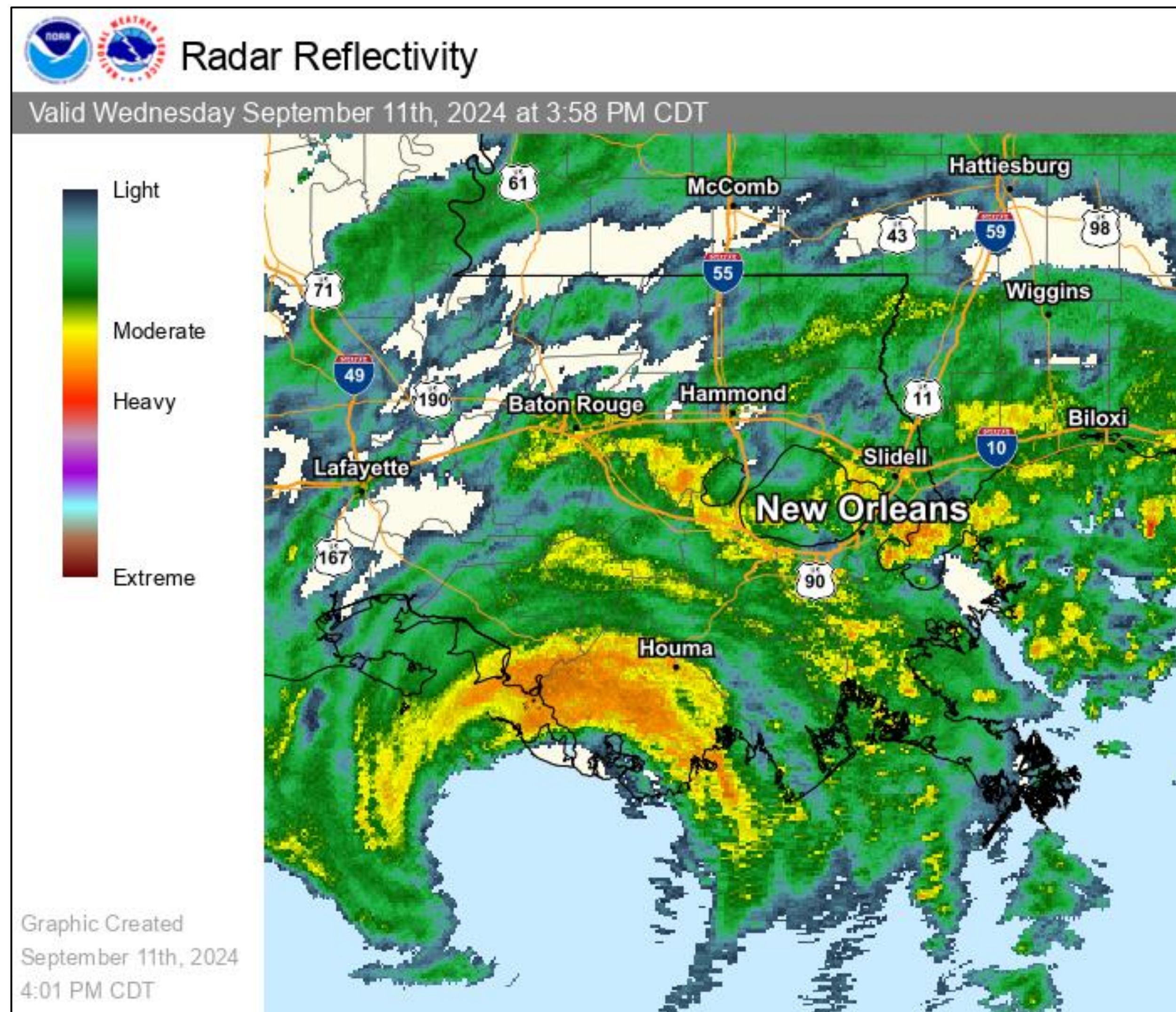
**NOTE:** Do not focus on the exact track.

Impacts can occur well outside the area enclosed by the cone.



# Current Radar View – 4:00 pm

Hurricane Francine



- Francine’s northern eyewall is already onshore and rain bands are moving through the area
- Rainfall rates in the heavier bands and especially parts of the eyewall will easily reach 3-4” per hour or higher, though the rates may not last for a full hour
- Flash flooding will be a concern where the heavier bands result in prolonged heavy rainfall



# Winds and Wind Gusts – 4:15 pm CDT

Hurricane Francine

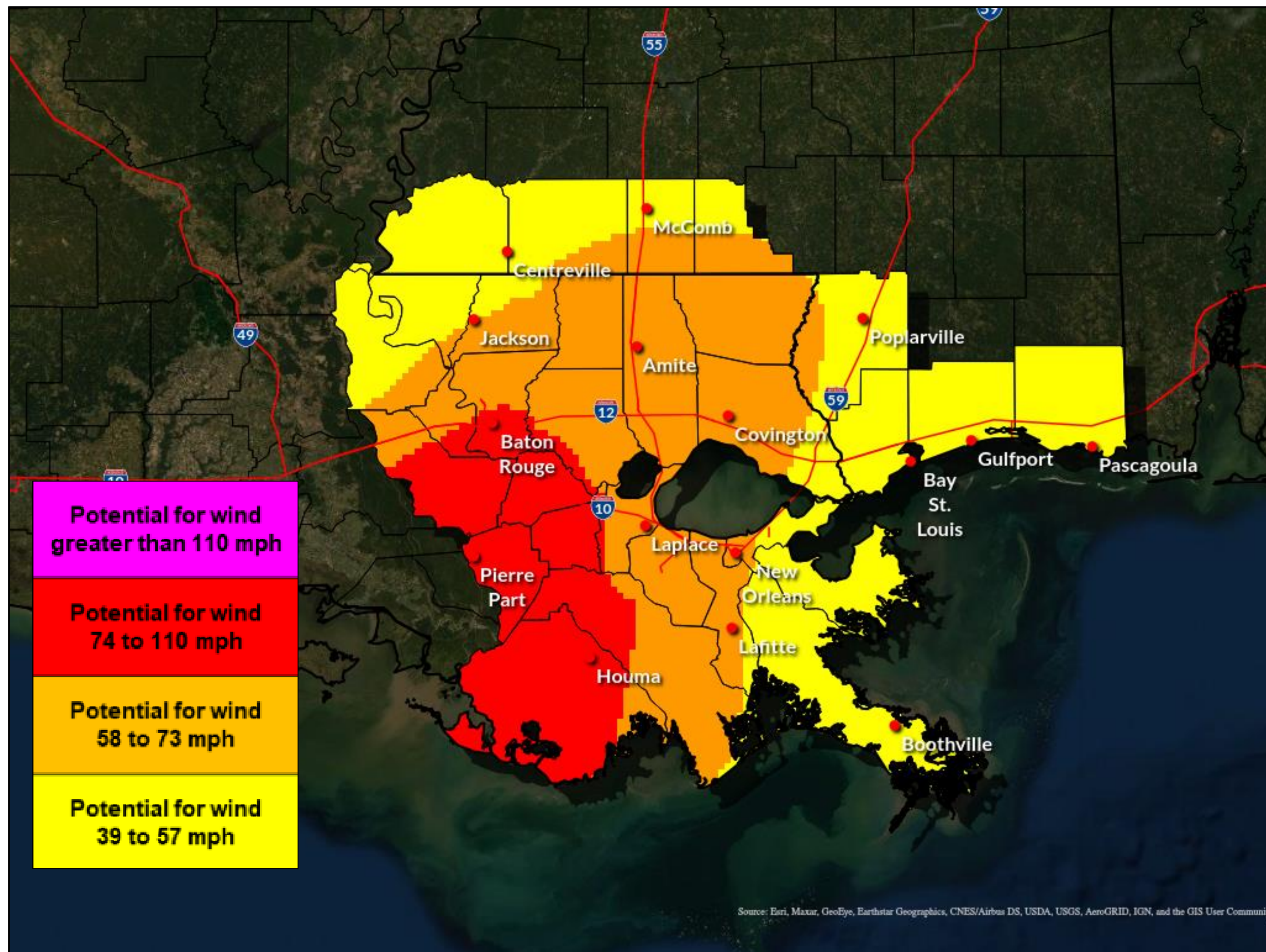


- Sustained tropical storm force winds have moved inland in portions of coastal Louisiana with some near-hurricane-force gusts
- A NOAA C-Man station near Eugene Island reported sustained winds of 74 mph with gusts to 87 mph at 3:48p
- Stronger winds still being observed over the water and will be possible as the eastern side of the eye wall starts to move inland



# Wind Threat / Potential Impact

Hurricane Francine

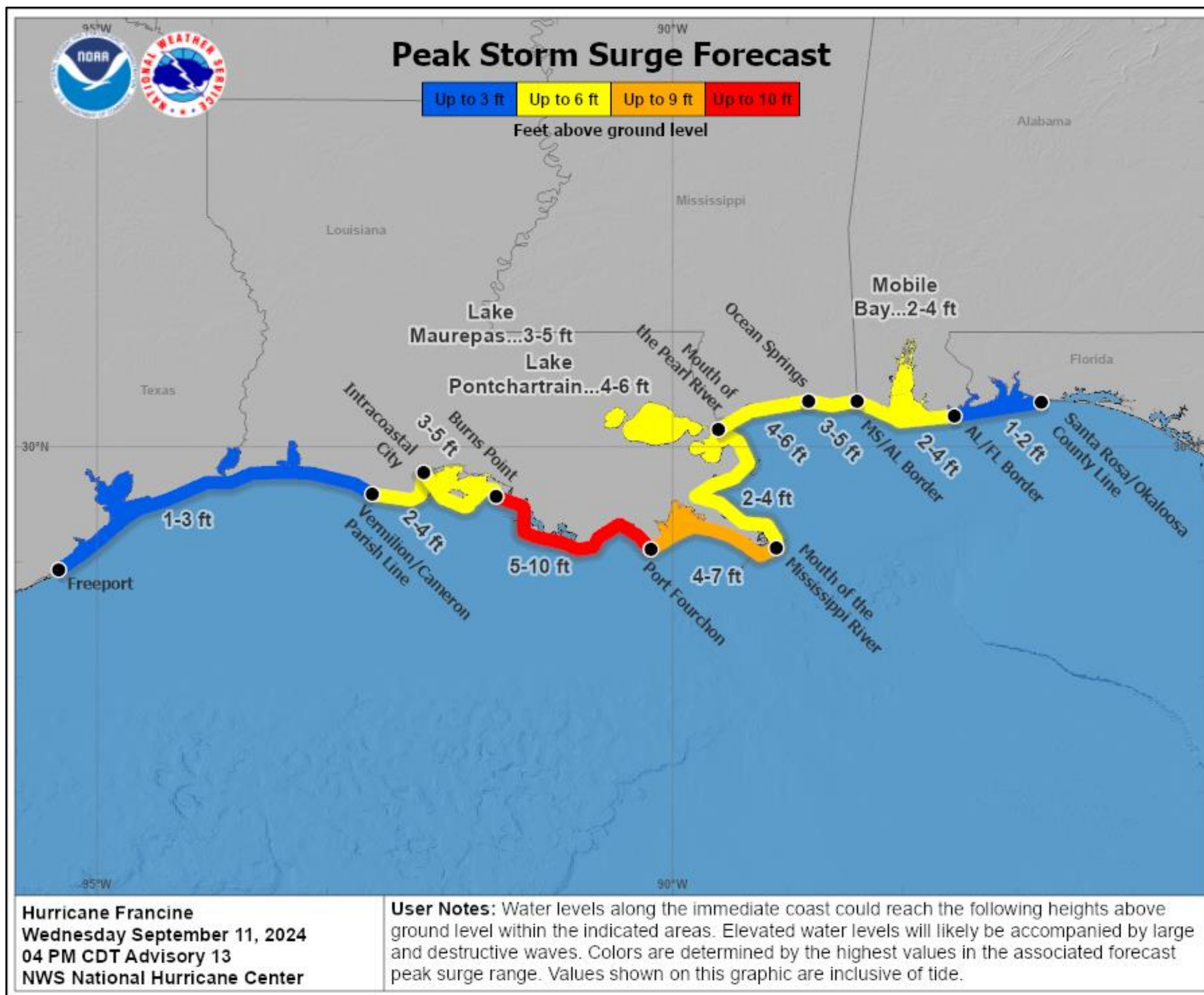


- Hurricane force winds, especially in gusts still possible across much of the river and bayou parishes. Damage will be most concentrated near where Francine's center works
- Strong tropical storm force winds are still possible across much of the area resulting in isolated to scattered damage
- Possible impacts include:
  - Damage to trees, mobile homes and some roofs
  - Power outages
  - Some trees downed due to soft soils



# Peak Storm Surge Forecast

Hurricane Francine

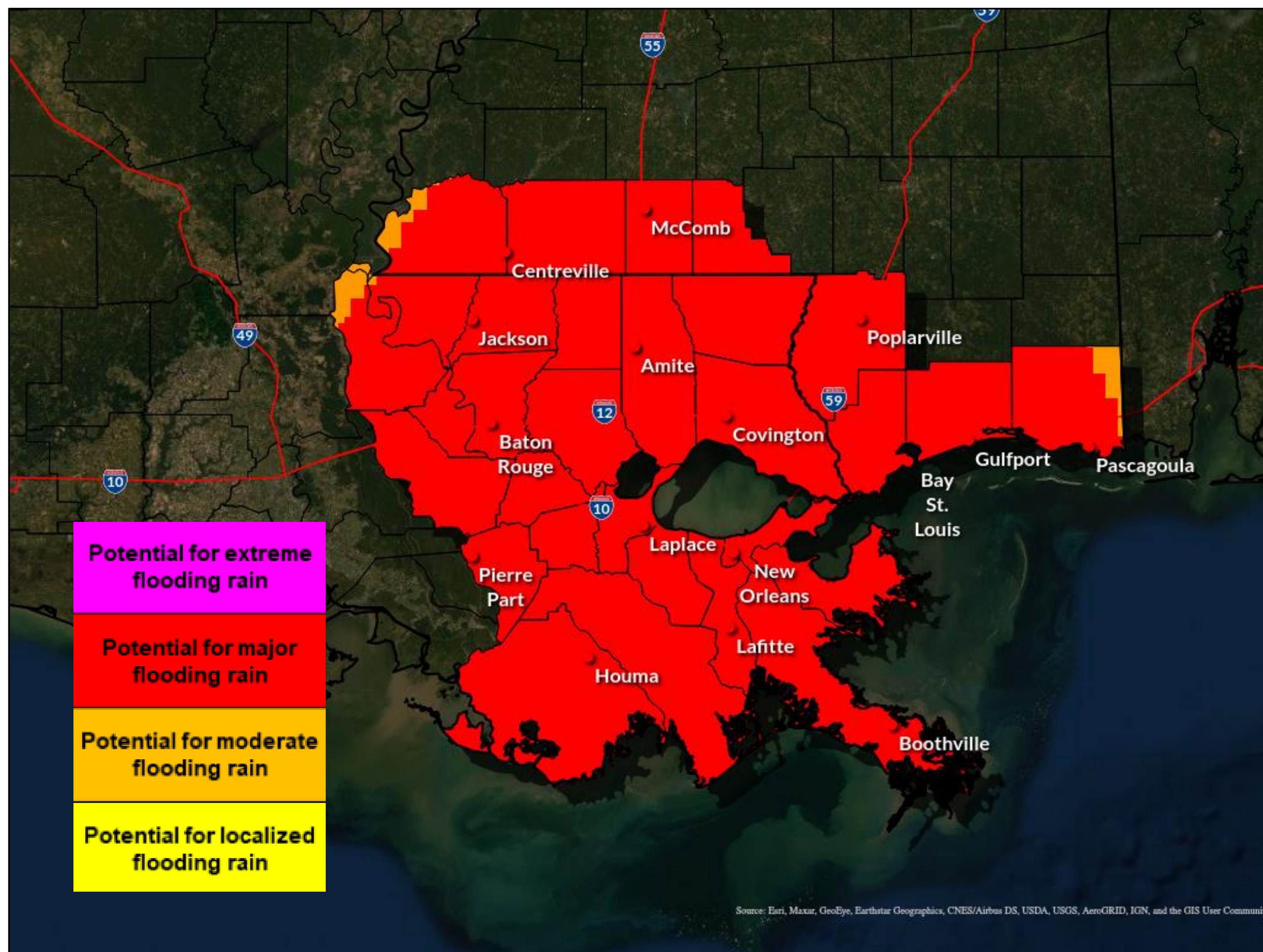


- Water levels have started rising again in coastal areas of SE LA as Francine nears landfall. Away from the landfall location water levels are still expected to be highest near high tide tonight/Thurs morning.
- The storm surge inundation could reach the following heights above ground level along the immediate coast. This does NOT represent any inland impacts.
- For potential water depths away from the coast, please reference the storm surge inundation map on NHC's website (it is delayed by about one hour from the forecast updates).



# Inland Flooding Impacts

Hurricane Francine



- A flood watch remains in effect for the entire area through 7am Thursday, with the heaviest rain expected today and tonight
- High rainfall rates and saturated soils could quickly result in flash flooding, especially in urban and poor drainage areas. Rises on area rivers are likely as the rain drains into them.
- Main impacts include:
  - Road closures due to flooding
  - Water evacuations may be necessary

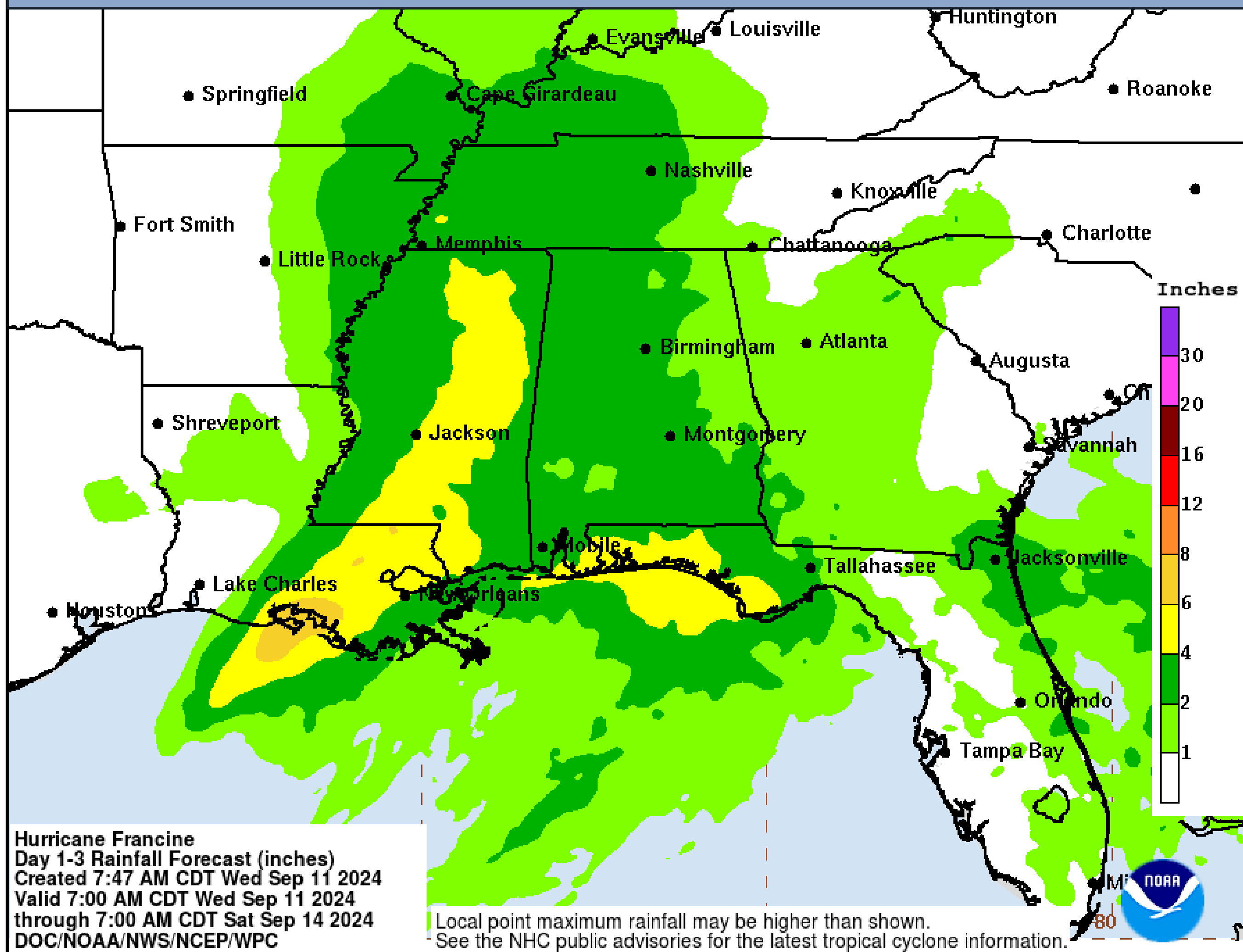




# Storm Total Rainfall Forecast

Hurricane Francine

**Note: Locally higher amounts possible**

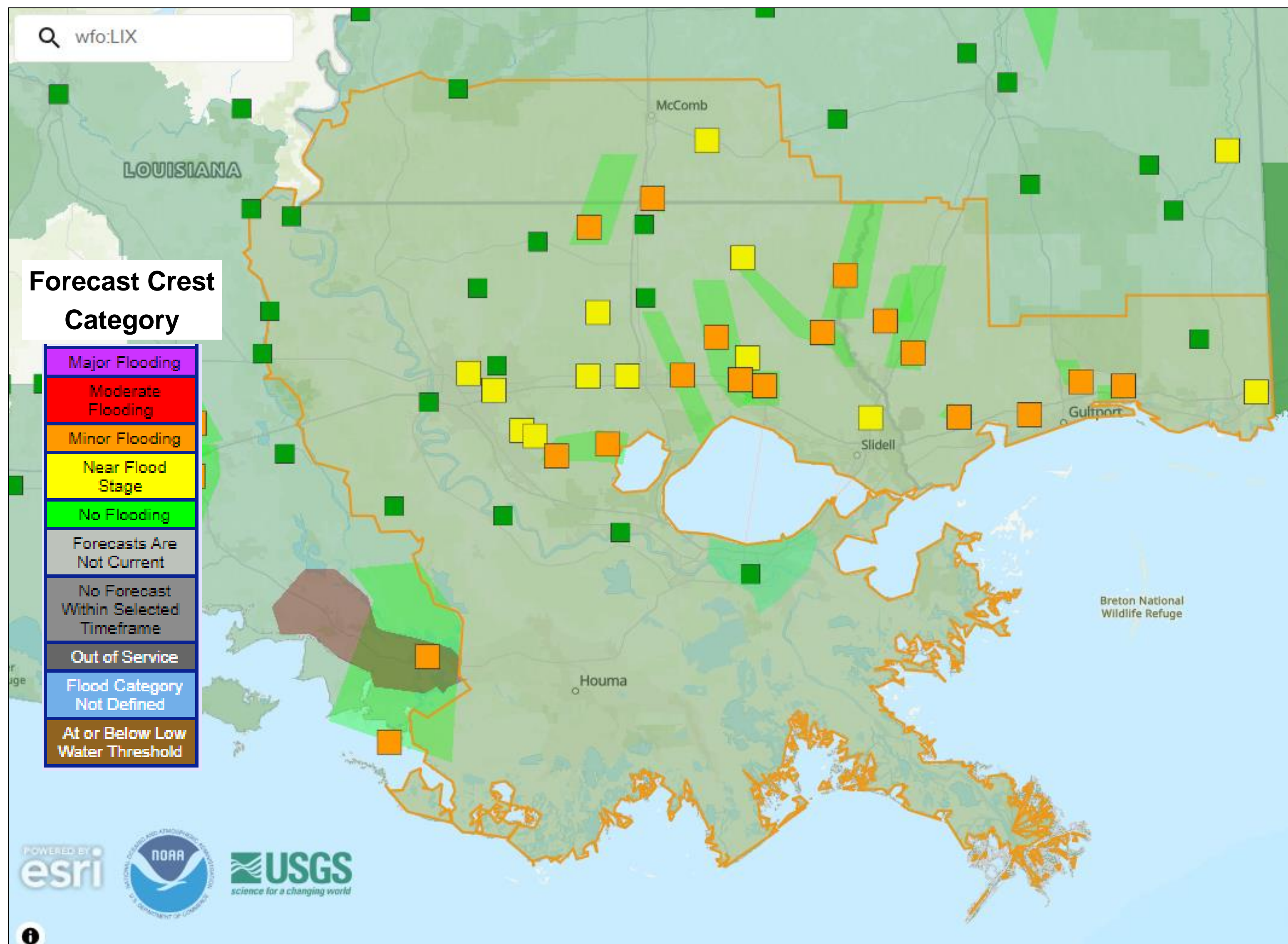


- The rainfall forecast has remained steady
- Widespread totals of 4-8" are forecast with locally higher amounts possible. Some areas could see up to 12" of rain
- **Exact totals will depend on where the heavier bands set up**
- Locally, most rain will occur today and tonight



# River Crest Forecasts

Hurricane Francine

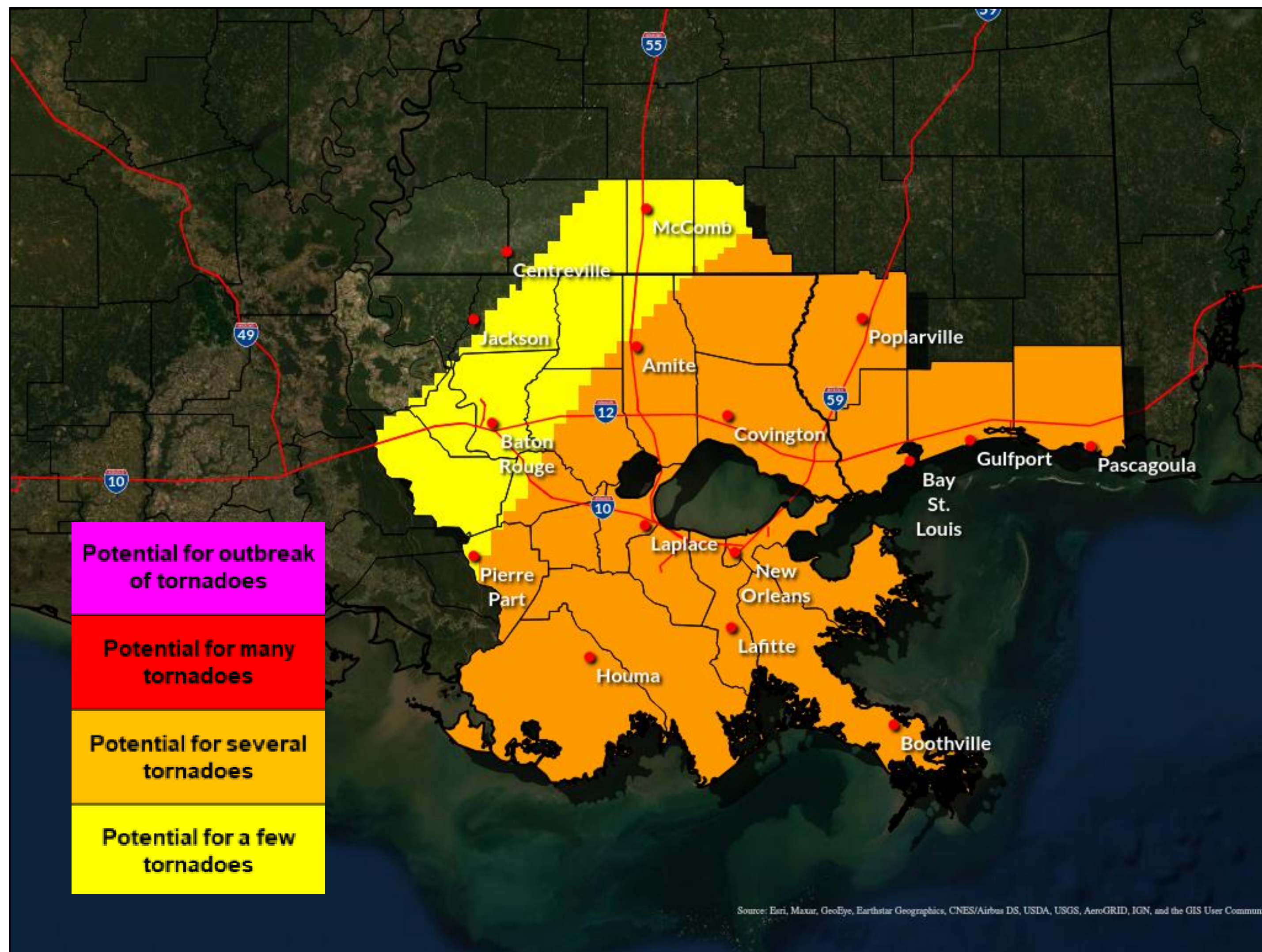


- Forecasts include 48 hours of future rainfall (through Friday morning)
- Based on the current rainfall forecast, minor flooding is forecast at several points across the north shore and Mississippi coast
- These forecasts are **LIKELY** to change depending on where the heaviest rain actually falls



# Potential Tornado Impacts

Hurricane Francine



- Several tornadoes are possible as the rain bands continue to move through the area
- Tornadoes are most likely to the east/right of Francine's center



# Key Take-Aways

## Hurricane Francine



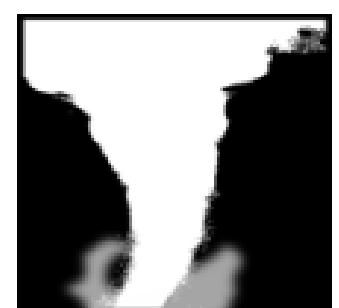
Scattered to possibly widespread damage to trees, powerlines & some structures, with the most concentrated damage where Francine's center tracks. Most of the area could experience damaging winds, especially in gusts. Sustained hurricane force winds will be limited to areas near Francine's center, but could extend inland to just southwest of Lakes Pontchartrain/Maurepas from where it makes landfall.



Life-threatening storm surge expected. Some areas could be cut off and some lower local levees could be overtopped. Water levels are rising and will peak at various times depending on location through tonight and tomorrow morning.



Major impacts from flooding rain will be possible, mainly where any rain bands result in prolonged periods of heavy rain. The heaviest rain is expected now through tonight. Ponding of water in low lying areas, flash flooding, and rises on area rivers will be possible. Based on the current forecast, minor flooding is forecast along some area rivers from the north shore through the Mississippi Coast.



Several tornadoes are possible in Francine's rain bands through tonight, mainly east of Francine's track





Dangerous and life-threatening marine conditions likely across the coastal waters, especially west of the Mississippi River





# Contact Info:


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