



Hurricane Idalia Briefing

7:00 AM ET

Tuesday, Aug 29, 2023



Situation Overview

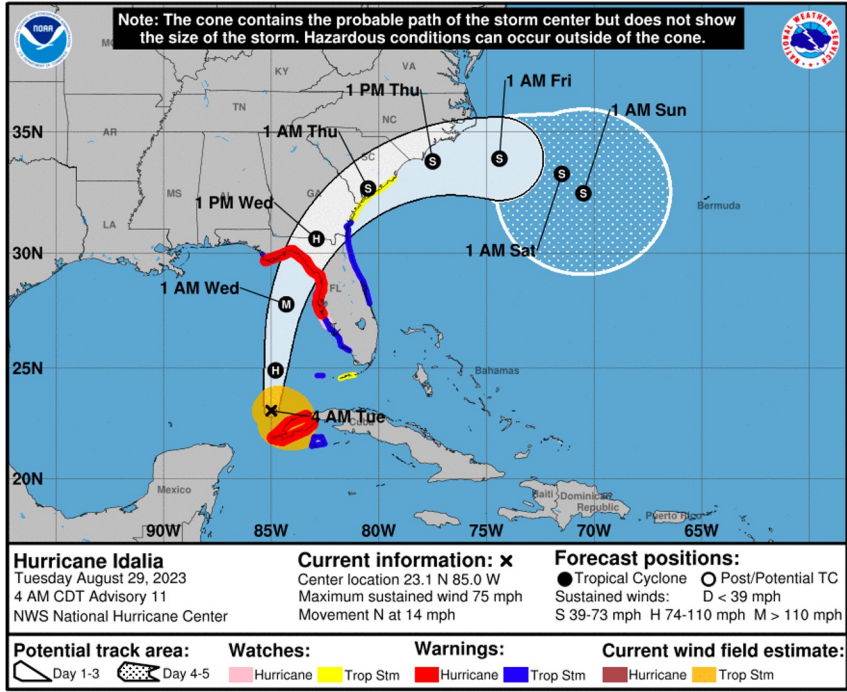
Hurricane Idalia

- **A Tropical Storm Warning remains in effect for the Dry Tortugas. A Tropical Storm Watch remains in effect for the Lower Florida Keys, from the west end of the 7 Mile Bridge through Key West.**
 - **Occasional thundery squalls with strong tropical storm force wind gusts and poor visibility in heavy downpours. Some tree and utility line damage may occur, with unsecured lightweight outdoor items blown about. The highest threat for squalls over the Lower Keys and waters to the west today through Wednesday. A tornado or two cannot be ruled out, especially during this afternoon.**
- **A Coastal Flood Warning is now in effect for the Lower Florida Keys, with a Coastal Flood Advisory now in effect for the Middle Florida Keys.**
 - **Coastal flooding up to 2 feet above average high tide (ground level at the immediate coastline) along the ocean-facing side of the Lower and Middle Keys, with a few oceanside locations in Key West possibly reaching 2.5 feet above average high tide. Coastal flooding near 1 foot above average high tide is possible along the ocean-facing side of the Upper Keys. Coastal flooding is possible today and again W**
- **Hurricane Idalia contains maximum sustained winds near 75 mph and is expected to move over the eastern Gulf of Mexico today well to the west of the Florida Keys, and reach the Gulf coast of Florida on Wednesday as an extremely dangerous major hurricane.**
- **Florida Keys residents and visitors should use caution today when driving due to windy and squally conditions. Plan for some coastal flooding with water levels to possibly reach 12 to 18 inches higher than what was reached during Monday's high tide.**



Situation Overview

Hurricane Idalia



NOTE: Do not focus on the exact track.
Impacts can occur well outside the area enclosed by the cone.

As of 5:00 am ET Tuesday, the center of Hurricane Idalia was located about 85 miles north of the western tip of Cuba. This position was also:

- 230 miles WSW of Key West
- 270 miles WSW of Marathon
- 320 miles WSW of Key Largo

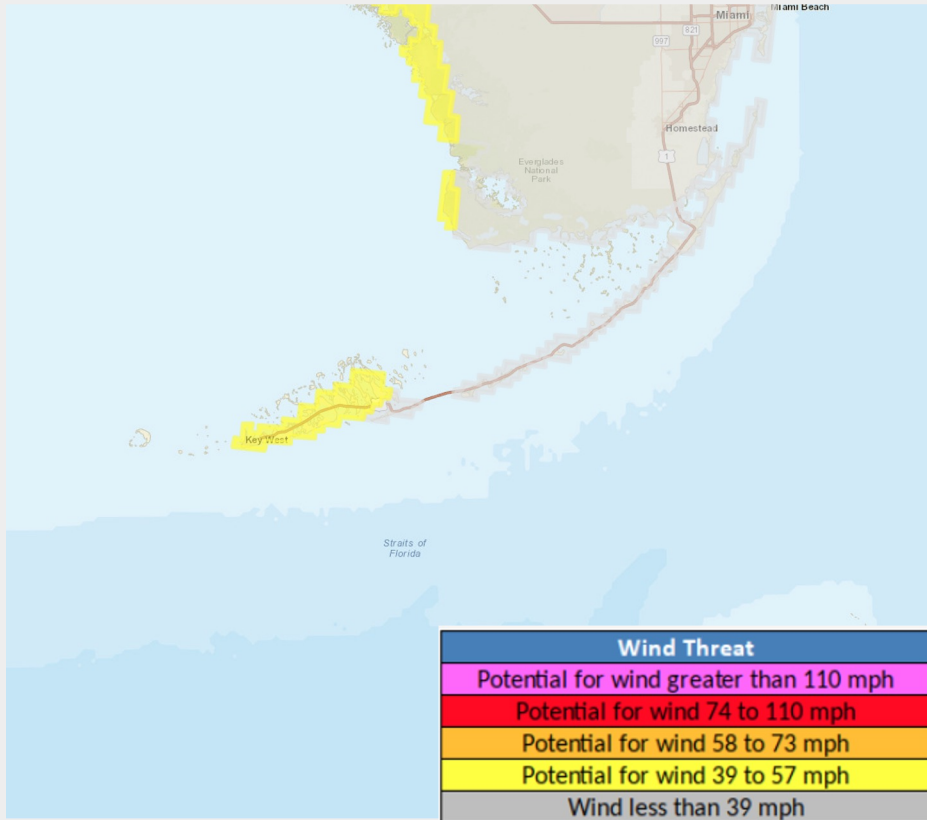
Idalia is moving north at 14 mph. A northward motion is expected today, followed by a faster north-northeast motion later today and Wednesday. Idalia is forecast to move over the eastern Gulf of Mexico today, passing well to the west of the Florida Keys, and reach the Gulf coast of Florida within the Hurricane Warning area on Wednesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 75 mph with higher gusts. Rapid intensification is likely through landfall, and Idalia is forecast to become an extremely dangerous major hurricane before landfall on Wednesday



Wind Threat / Potential Impact

Hurricane Idalia



There is a potential for limited wind impacts in the Lower Florida Keys:

Damage to porches, awnings, carports, sheds, and unanchored mobile homes. Unsecured lightweight objects blown about.

Several large tree limbs broken off. A few shallow-rooted trees may be uprooted. Some fences and roadway signs blown over.

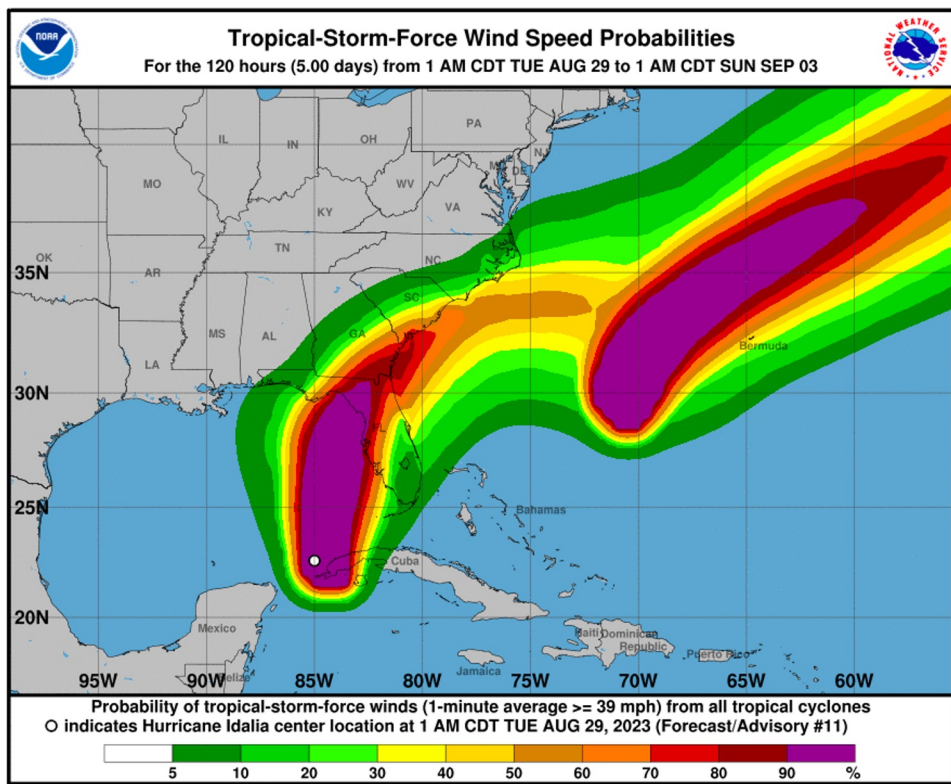
A few roads may be temporarily blocked by a fallen tree or tree limbs. Hazardous driving conditions on bridges and other elevated roadways.

Isolated power and communications outages.



Tropical Storm Wind Speed Probabilities

Hurricane Idalia



Community	Chance of Sustained Tropical Storm Force Wind (34+ knots / 39+ mph)
Key West	19%
Marathon/Key Colony Beach	9%
Layton	8%
Islamorada	7%
Key Largo	7%
Ocean Reef	6%

The chances for sustained tropical storm-force winds have decreased, and range from near 1-in-5 at Key West to below 1-in-10 from Marathon through Ocean Reef.

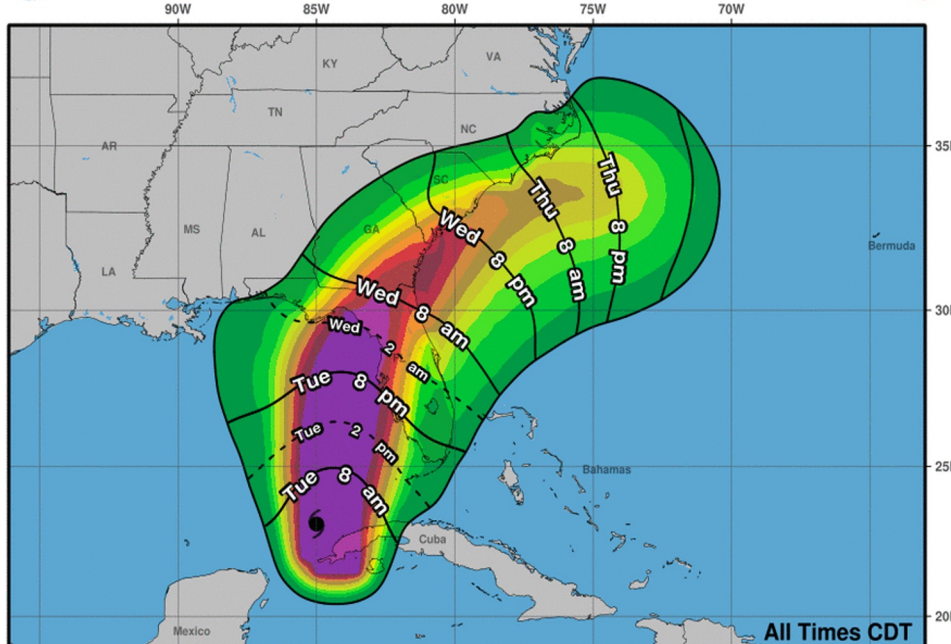
Military Partners: The chances for sustained destructive force (50 knot) winds are near 1% at Key West, and less than 1% from Marathon through Ocean Reef.



Most Likely Time of Arrival

Hurricane Idalia

0-3 Day Most Likely Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds



Hurricane Idalia
Tue. Aug. 29, 2023 4 am CDT
Advisory 11

Storm Location & Wind Speed
 ○ < 34 kt (39 mph)
 ○ 34-63 kt (39-73 mph)
 ● ≥ 64 kt (74 mph)

3-day chance of receiving sustained 34+ kt (39+ mph) winds
 5 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 %

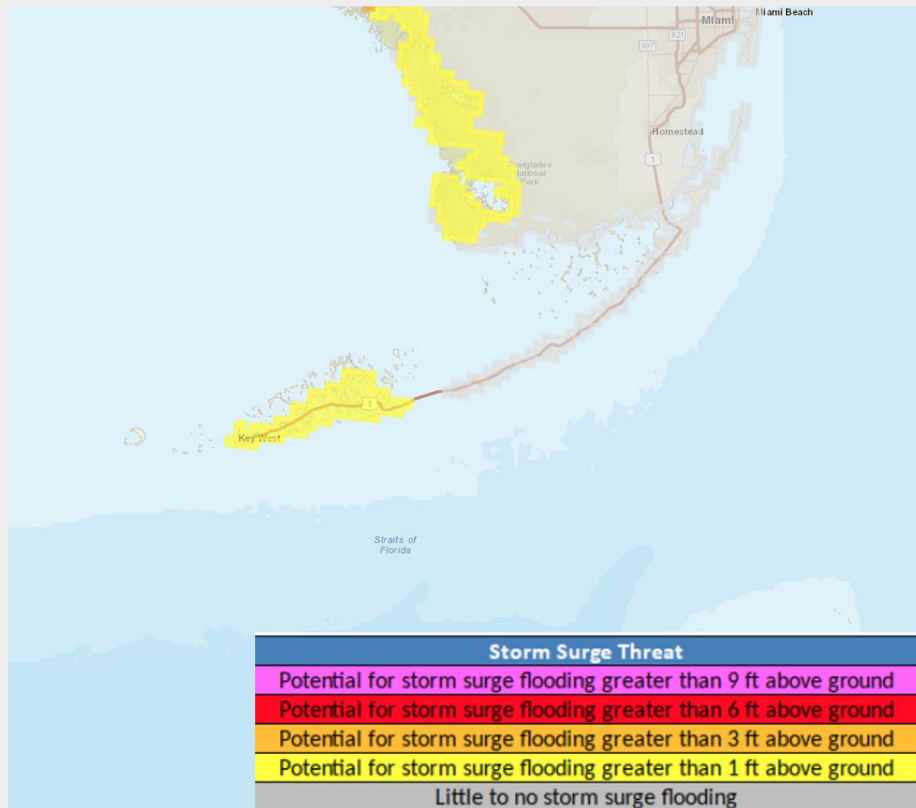
All Times CDT

The most likely arrival time for any tropical storm force winds in the Dry Tortugas would be midday today, with any remaining potential for near-tropical storm force winds for the Lower Florida Keys beginning early this afternoon.



Potential Storm Surge Impacts

Tropical Storm Idalia



There is a potential for storm surge flooding up to 2 feet above ground level at the immediate coastline, especially oceanside for the Middle and Lower Florida Keys:

Localized flooding mainly along immediate shorelines and in low-lying spots.

Portions of streets and parking lots flooded by seawater with some portions impassible. Driving conditions will be dangerous in places where surge water covers the road.

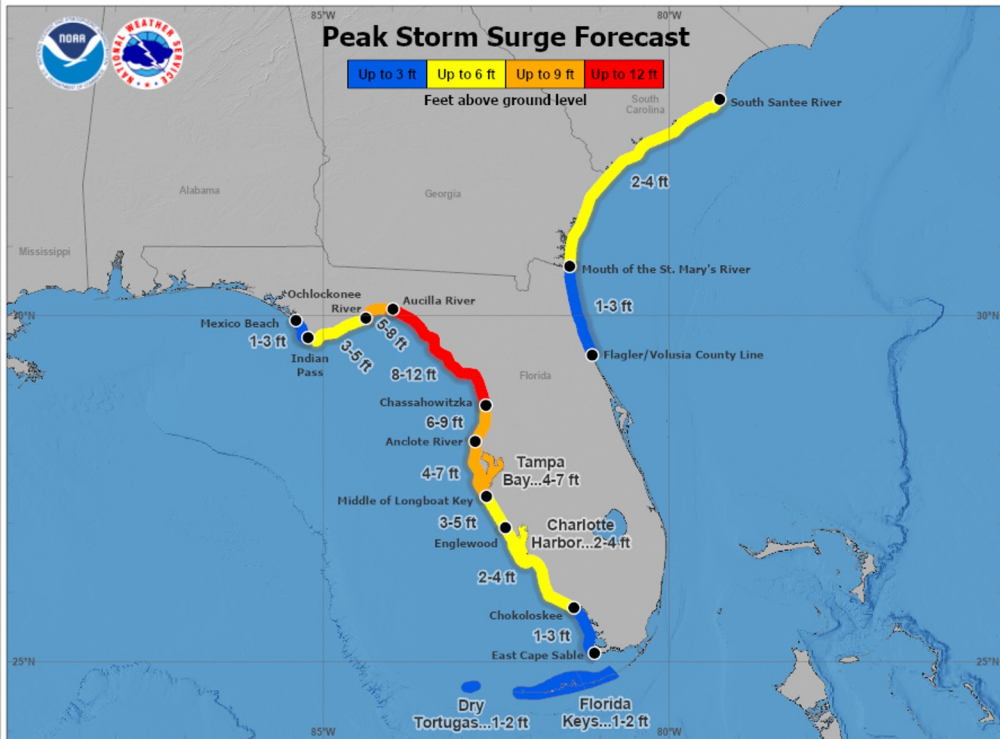
Minor to moderate beach erosion.

Minor damage possible to marinas, docks, boardwalks, and piers. A few small craft may be broken away from moorings.



Peak Storm Surge

Hurricane Idalia



Tropical Storm Idalia
 Monday August 28, 2023
 04 PM CDT Advisory 09
 NWS National Hurricane Center

User Notes: Water levels along the immediate coast could reach the following heights above ground level within the indicated areas. Elevated water levels will likely be accompanied by large and destructive waves. Colors are determined by the highest values in the associated forecast peak surge range. Values shown on this graphic are inclusive of tide.

Over the middle and lower Florida Keys, coastal flooding up to 2 feet above the average higher high tide (ground level at the immediate coastline) is possible, and a few oceanside locations in Key West could see slightly higher values.

Coastal flooding around 1 foot above average higher high tide (ground level at the immediate coastline) is possible.

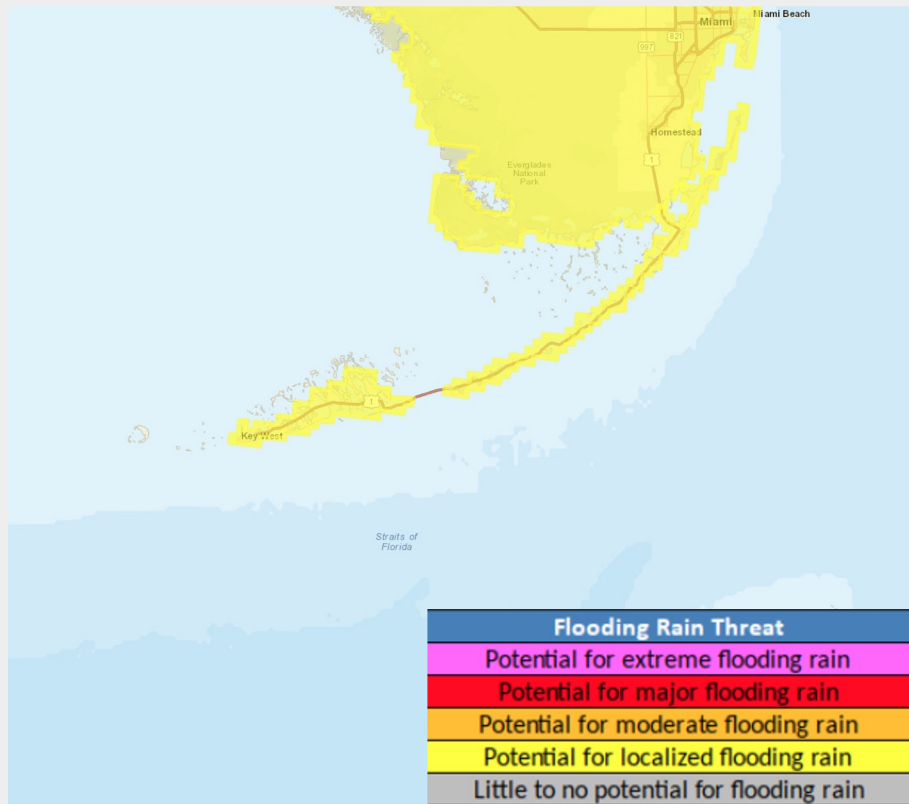
The greatest coastal flooding potential is likely to be on the oceanside of the middle and lower Florida Keys with both the Tuesday and Wednesday morning high tides.

Locally heavy downpours from squalls may flood streets where drainage is inhibited by the high saltwater levels.



Inland Flooding Impacts

Hurricane Idalia



There is the potential for limited flooding rain impacts in the Florida Keys of up to 2 inches with isolated higher amounts.

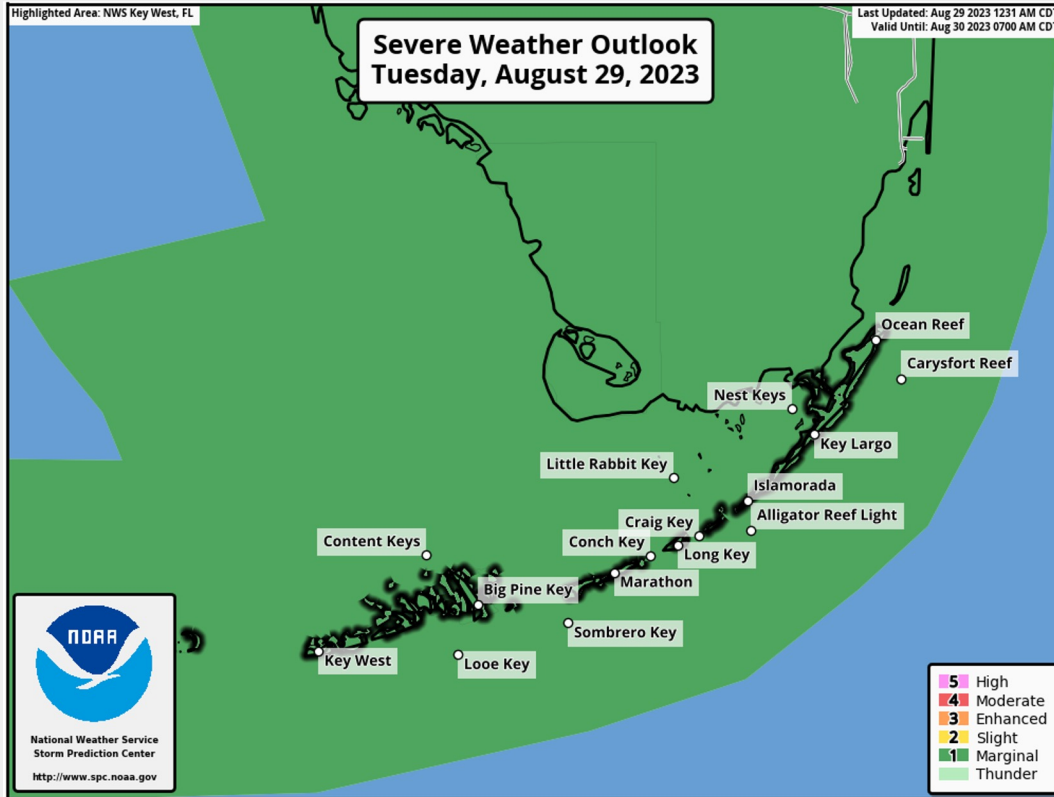
The rainfall is likely to come from the total of several fast-moving squalls.

Due to coastal flooding from a combination of the passage of Idalia to the west and the upcoming spring tides with the full moon phase, street flooding may occur very quickly during the passage of the squalls, especially during the morning and midday hours today and Wednesday.



Tornado Potential

Hurricane Idalia



While an isolated tornado cannot be ruled out, the marginal risk for severe weather indicated today and tonight is mainly for the possibility of locally damaging wind gusts with thundery rain squalls.

The greatest threat for these damaging wind gusts will be this afternoon.



Key Take-Aways

Hurricane Idalia

- **A Tropical Storm Warning remains in effect for the Dry Tortugas. A Tropical Storm Watch remains in effect for the Lower Florida Keys, from the west end of the 7 Mile Bridge through Key West.**
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Local Resources

Hurricane Idalia

Next Briefing:
12:00 PM ET Today August 29th

...except sooner if there are significant changes to expected impacts in the Florida Keys of Monroe County



Web: www.weather.gov/key



Phone: (305) 295-1316 x3



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