



Monroe County Florida Keys Weather Briefing

Strong Thunderstorm Potential Tuesday Night

Issued: January 9, 2024 – 9:00 am EST

This weather briefing is for emergency management and critical infrastructure core partners serving the Florida Keys of Monroe County.

**A SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT FOR ALL FLORIDA KEYS COASTAL WATERS
A COASTAL FLOOD STATEMENT IS IN EFFECT THROUGH THIS EVENING**

Bottom Line:

There is a potential for locally strong wind gusts and a marginal risk for damaging wind gusts and/or a brief tornado late this evening and tonight. Windy conditions are expected in the Florida Keys today, with winds decreasing later tonight.

Situation Overview:

Strong low pressure over the middle Mississippi Valley today will move rapidly northeast into the Great Lakes region tonight. The low will drive a cold front through the Keys late tonight and early Wednesday morning. A squall line in advance of the cold front will approach the Florida Keys this evening, but also be moving into a less-favorable environment for severe weather.

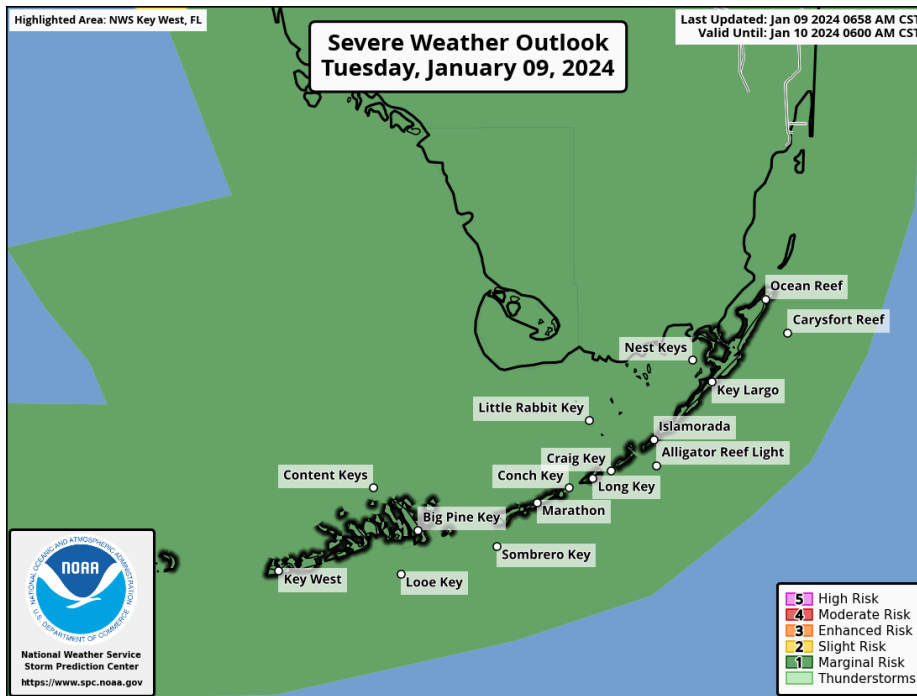
The squall line may produce strong wind gusts of 40 to 50 mph, with isolated damaging wind gusts near 60 mph and a brief tornado not out of the question.

The Storm Prediction Center has outlooked the Florida Keys for a MARGINAL RISK – Level 1 out 5 – for damaging wind gusts and a brief tornado or two for Tuesday and Tuesday night.

Preceding the heavy weather, south to southeast winds sustained 20 to 25 mph with frequent gusts near 30 mph will becoming south to southwest at 15 to 20 mph with gusts to 25 mph this evening. This will likely cause moderate oceanside overwash from wave action along oceanside-facing seawalls and bulkheads. Minor coastal flooding is possible, similar to the level of a king tide. As the wind shifts gradually later this evening, some minor coastal flooding similar to a king tide is also possible along low elevation streets and yards Gulfside of the Lower and Middle Keys.

This weather system is not expected to produce widespread heavy rainfall, with total amounts expected to be less than one inch throughout the Keys at this time. However, any heavy downpour especially this evening near the time of high tide could produce brief street and poor-drainage area flooding.

Winds are expected to decrease rapidly after the passage of the squall, with fair weather expected by Wednesday morning.



The Storm Prediction Center has outlooked the Florida Keys for a MARGINAL RISK (Level 1 out of 5) for severe weather Today & Tonight

Chance of Severe Weather Hazards Tuesday & Tuesday Night			
	Damaging Wind Gusts (Near 60 mph and higher)	Tornadoes	Large Hail (1" diameter or larger)
Florida Keys	5 to 14%	2 to 4%	Less than 5%

Table indicating the chance of each severe thunderstorm hazard type occurring within 25 nautical miles of a single location within the Florida Keys

Next Update

No additional briefings are scheduled at this time, unless any change to the potential impacts is forecast.

You may contact the NWS Key West at (305) 295-1316 extension 3 to speak with a meteorologist 24/7. Please contact us anytime if you need specific information (as best as the science allows) for critical hazardous weather information for decision support in your department's activities.



For additional information, visit our webpage at: <http://www.weather.gov/key>
 Or monitor us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/NWSKeyWest>
 Or Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NWSKeyWest>

Issued by: Jon Rizzo, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, NWS Florida Keys