



Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine Briefing

7:00 AM ET

Tuesday, Sep 24, 2024

...for the Florida Keys of Monroe County



Situation Overview

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine

- A Tropical Storm Watch remain in effect for the Lower Florida Keys - west of Seven Mile Bridge - and the Dry Tortugas. A Tropical Watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.
- Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine over the northwestern Caribbean Sea is expected to strengthen over the next few days while moving northwest into the southeast Gulf of Mexico, becoming a hurricane on Wednesday as it moves north or north northeastward over the eastern Gulf of Mexico.
- There remains some uncertainty in the level of potential impacts to the Florida Keys until PTC Nine develops a well-defined center of circulation. However, these impacts are forecast to include:
 - Storm Surge flooding, with potential saltwater flooding of 1 to 3 feet above ground level at the shore/lowest elevations. A Coastal Flood Watch has been issued for all of the Florida Keys from Wednesday evening through Thursday afternoon.
 - Frequent thundery squalls with wind gusts 55 to 65 mph, with the potential for tropical storm force winds over the Lower Florida Keys. These winds may arrive in the Keys as early as Wednesday morning, but most likely will arrive Wednesday evening.
 - Heavy rainfall possible with amounts most likely in the 2 to 4 inch range, a few locations as much as 6 inches through Friday.
- Residents and visitors in the Florida Keys should closely monitor the progress of Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine over the next few days, and be prepared to secure loose outdoor objects from strong wind gusts and take protective actions against saltwater and rain flooding.



Situation Overview

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



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

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine is expected to move northwestward today and tonight, followed by a faster northward to north-northeastward motion Wednesday and Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of the system is forecast to move over the eastern Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday and Thursday.

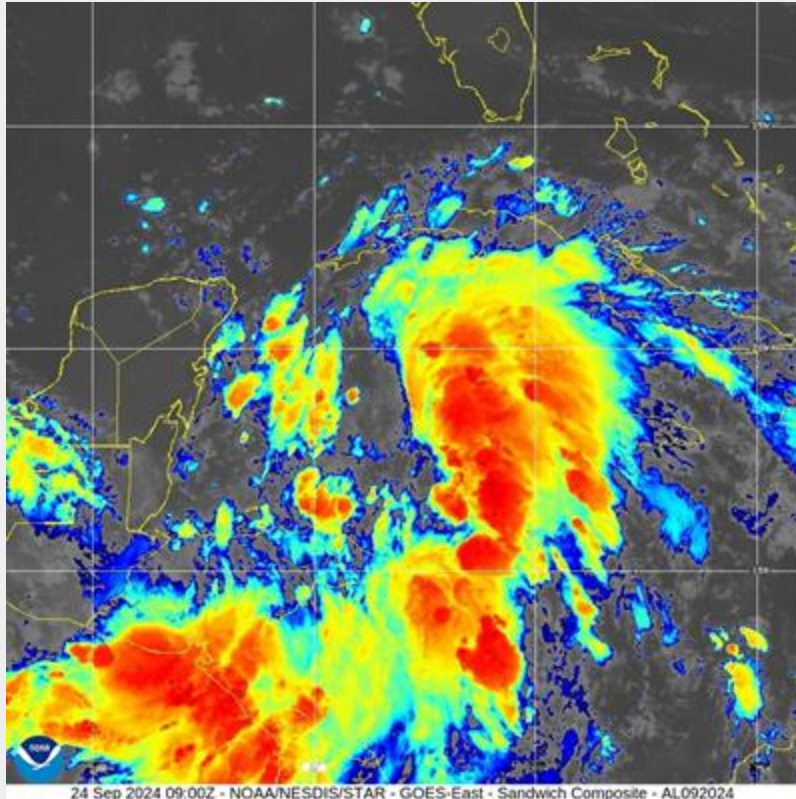
Strengthening is expected during the next few days, and the system is forecast to become a hurricane on Wednesday and continue strengthening on Thursday as it moves across the eastern Gulf of Mexico, passing west of the Florida Keys.

Remember - the forecast track error cone only represents the $\frac{2}{3}$ chance that the center of the potential tropical cyclone will track, and NOT the area of weather impacts.



Current Satellite View

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



- Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine was located over the northwestern Caribbean Sea as of 5:00 am ET.
- Moving toward the northwest near 8 mph.
- Maximum sustained winds were near 35 mph with higher gusts.



Wind Threat / Potential Impact

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



| Wind Threat |
|---|
| Potential for wind greater than 110 mph |
| Potential for wind 74 to 110 mph |
| Potential for wind 58 to 73 mph |
| Potential for wind 39 to 57 mph |
| Wind less than 39 mph |

There is a potential for limited wind impacts from sustained winds of 30 to 40 mph with frequent gusts near 45 mph.

Thundery squalls may produce *localized* wind gusts of 55 to 65 mph.

- Downed tree limbs with a few downed trees possible.
- Isolated to scattered power outages
- Some fences or signs may be damaged.
- Hazardous crosswinds on elevated bridges, including Boca Chica, Niles Channel, and 7 Mile Bridges.



Tropical Storm Wind Speed Probabilities

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



| Community | Chance of Sustained Tropical Storm Force Wind (34+ knots / 39+ mph) |
|---------------------------|--|
| Key West | 27% |
| Marathon/Key Colony Beach | 17% |
| Layton | 15% |
| Islamorada | 14% |
| Key Largo | 12% |
| Ocean Reef | 10% |

The chances for sustained tropical storm-force winds were nearly steady throughout the Florida Keys, ranging from just above 1-in-4 at Key West to around 1-in-10 at Ocean Reef

The chances for sustained 50-knot strong tropical-storm force winds are 1% or less throughout the Florida Keys.



Earliest Reasonable Time of Arrival

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



- The earliest reasonable time of arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds for the Lower Florida Keys is Wednesday morning.
- However, the most likely time for the arrival of Tropical Storm Force Winds in the Lower Keys is during Wednesday evening.



Most Likely Time of Arrival

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



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Potential Storm Surge Impacts

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



Storm Surge Threat

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 9 ft above ground

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 6 ft above ground

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 3 ft above ground

Potential for storm surge flooding greater than 1 ft above ground

Little to no storm surge flooding

There is a potential for:

- Storm surge (saltwater) flooding in 1 to 3 feet above ground level causing saltwater flooding of the lowest elevation streets, parking lots and waterfront yards. Some waterfront streets may be temporarily impassable.
- Moderate beach erosion and minor damage to docks, and a few small craft may drag or break moorings.
- Heavy oceanside wave overwash of seawalls, docks and streets is possible, especially near the time of high tide.
- Timing: Wednesday night and Thursday morning oceanside, and possibly Gulfside late Thursday.
- A Coastal Flood Watch is now in effect for all of the Florida Keys from Wednesday evening through Thursday afternoon.



Rainfall Flooding Impacts

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine



| Flooding Rain Threat |
|--|
| Potential for extreme flooding rain |
| Potential for major flooding rain |
| Potential for moderate flooding rain |
| Potential for localized flooding rain |
| Little to no potential for flooding rain |

There is a potential for:

- Locally flooding rainfall, with 2 to 4 inches with isolated amounts of around 6 inches, with most rainfall falling from tonight through Friday.
- Street flooding and flooding of low-elevation, poor drainage areas is possible in the rain bands, especially near the times of high tides.



Key Take-Aways

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Local Resources

Potential Tropical Cyclone Nine

Next Briefing:
Tuesday 12:00 PM ET



Web: weather.gov/key



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