



# Tropical Storm Idalia Briefing

6:00 PM




Wednesday, Aug 30, 2023

What has changed:  
Enhanced messaging for flood and tornado threat.  
Coastal Flood Warning (Outer Banks Dare).



# Situation Overview



## Tropical Storm Idalia

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
 <p><b>Flooding Rain</b></p>	<p><b>Significant impacts.</b></p> <p>Significant flash and urban flooding. Up to moderate river flooding.</p>	<p>Eastern North Carolina</p>	<p>Through Thursday for flash and urban flooding. Through the weekend for river flooding.</p>
 <p><b>Tornado</b></p>	<p><b>Significant impacts.</b></p> <p>Several to many tornadoes possible. Enhanced areas of damage.</p>	<p>Eastern NC, but especially near the southern coast.</p>	<p>Through 9 AM Thursday.</p>
 <p><b>Storm Surge &amp; Inundation</b></p>	<p><b>Moderate impacts.</b></p> <p>Localized inundation, moderate beach erosion, ocean overwash.</p>	<p>Oceanside: the entire coast. Soundside: Outer Banks from Buxton through Ocracoke, Downeast Carteret, Neuse, Pamlico, and Pungo Rivers.</p>	<p>Peaking Thursday afternoon through Friday.</p>



# Situation Overview

Tropical Storm Idalia

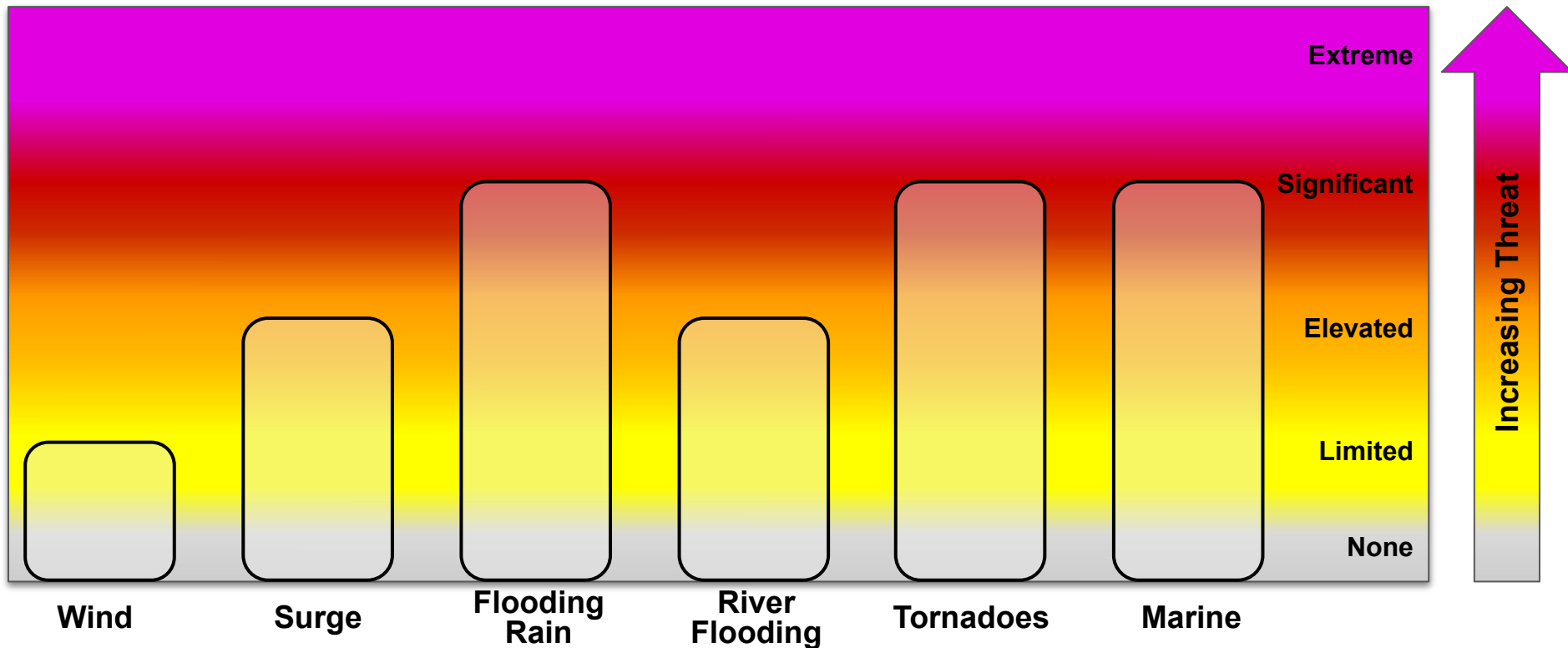
Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
 A black and white icon showing a tree with its branches being blown by wind, with a house partially visible in the background.	<p><b>Limited impacts.</b></p> <p>Scattered power outages.</p>	<p>Especially along the coast and Outer Banks.</p>	<p>Early Thursday morning through Friday.</p>
 A black and white icon of a large, curling wave crashing over a rocky shore.	<p><b>Significant impacts.</b></p> <p>Large dangerous seas, tropical storm force winds will produce life threatening conditions to mariners.</p>	<p>All coastal waters and Sounds.</p>	<p>Through Friday.</p>



# Threat Levels

Tropical Storm Idalia

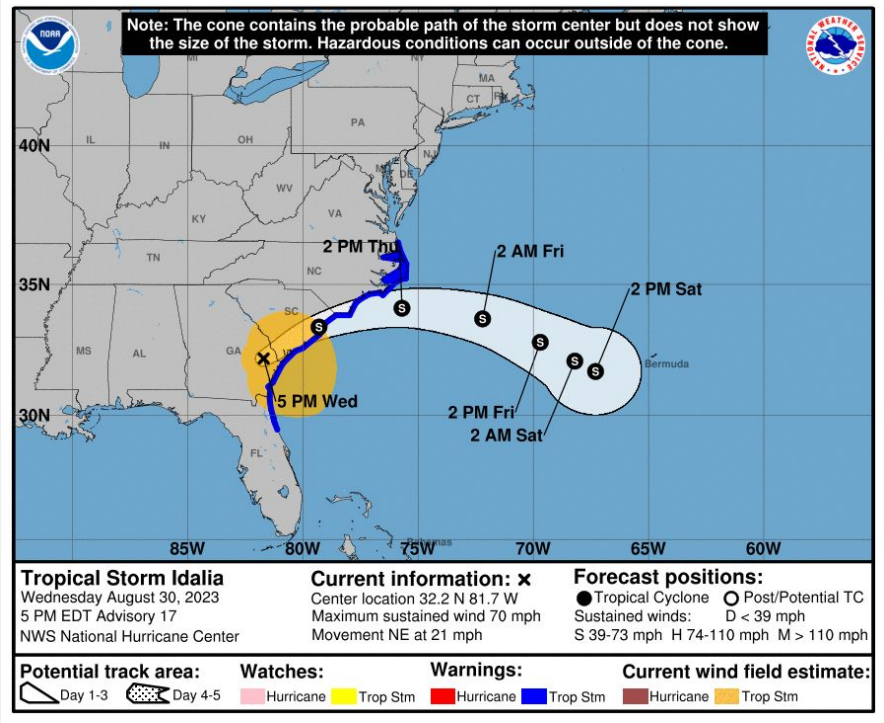
For information on specific hazards in this area, please go to: <https://www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=mhx>





# Situation Overview

## Tropical Storm Idalia



- Tropical Storm Idalia will move near or along the North Carolina coastline early Thursday.
- Impacts will begin tonight and last into Friday, even as Idalia moves away from our area.
- This is a good reminder that impacts can occur well away from the center of the storm or forecast “cone”.

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



# Inland Flooding Impacts

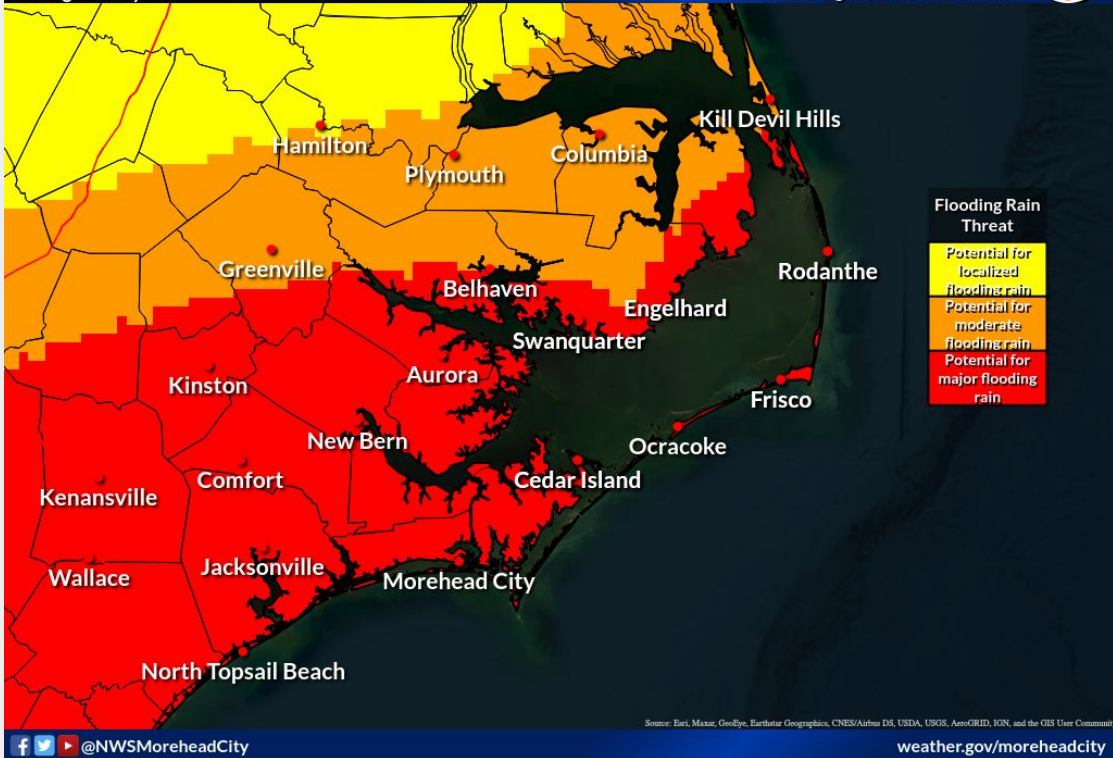
Tropical Storm Idalia

## Flooding Rain Threat

Through Friday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Aug 30, 2023 5:23 PM EDT



- Areas outlined in **Red** have the greatest potential for significant flash flooding through Thursday.
- Extreme rainfall rates could result in **urban and flash flooding which may prompt water rescues and even evacuations.**
- Driving conditions will become dangerous. **Potential for road and bridge closures with some weakened or washed out.** Smaller rivers, creeks and tributaries may rapidly overflow their banks in multiple places.



# Expected Storm Total Rainfall

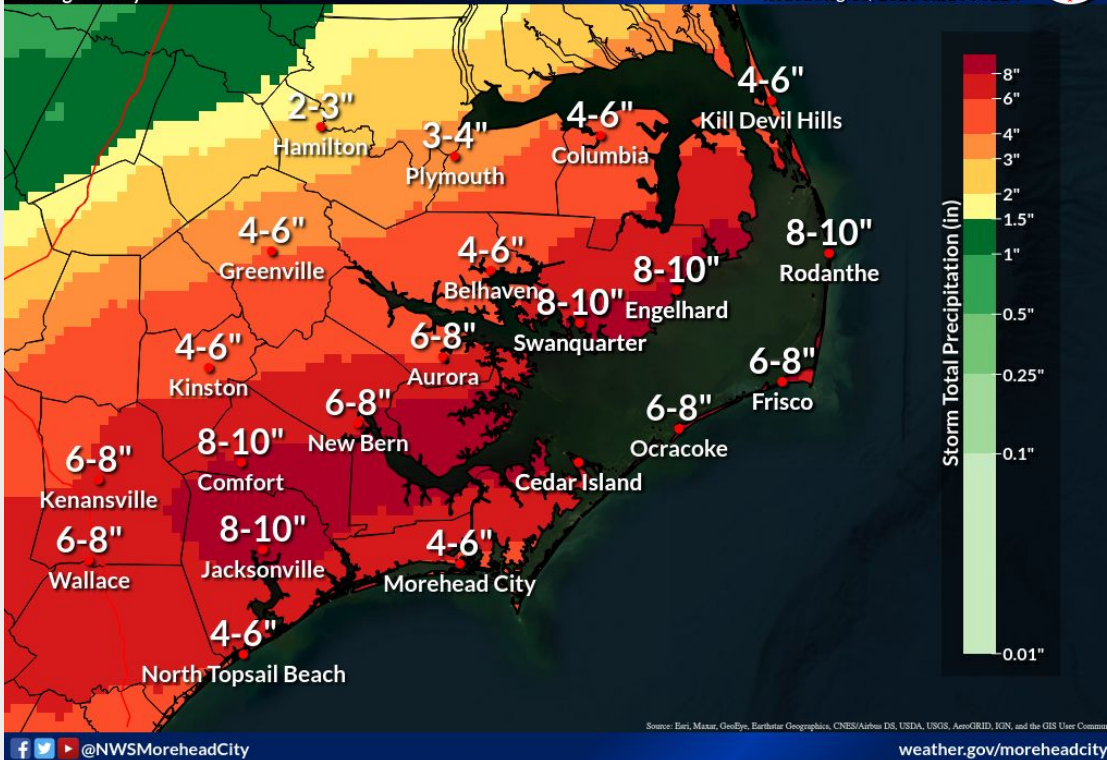
Tropical Storm Idalia

## Total Rainfall

Through Friday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Aug 30, 2023 5:21 PM EDT



- An average of **4" to 10"** of rain will be possible across Eastern NC, except far north and west, with isolated totals **up to 15"** possible.
- Significant urban and flash flooding is expected.



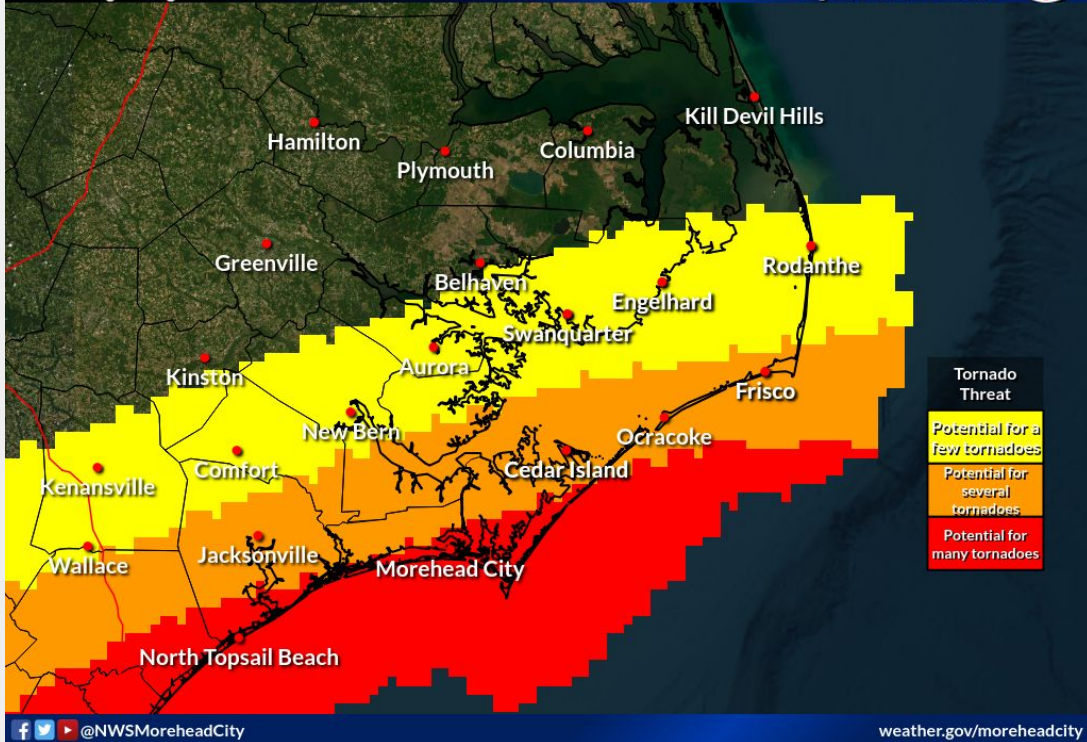
# Potential Tornado Impacts

Tropical Storm Idalia

## Tornado Risk

Valid through Tonight

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC  
Issued Aug 30, 2023 5:01 PM EDT



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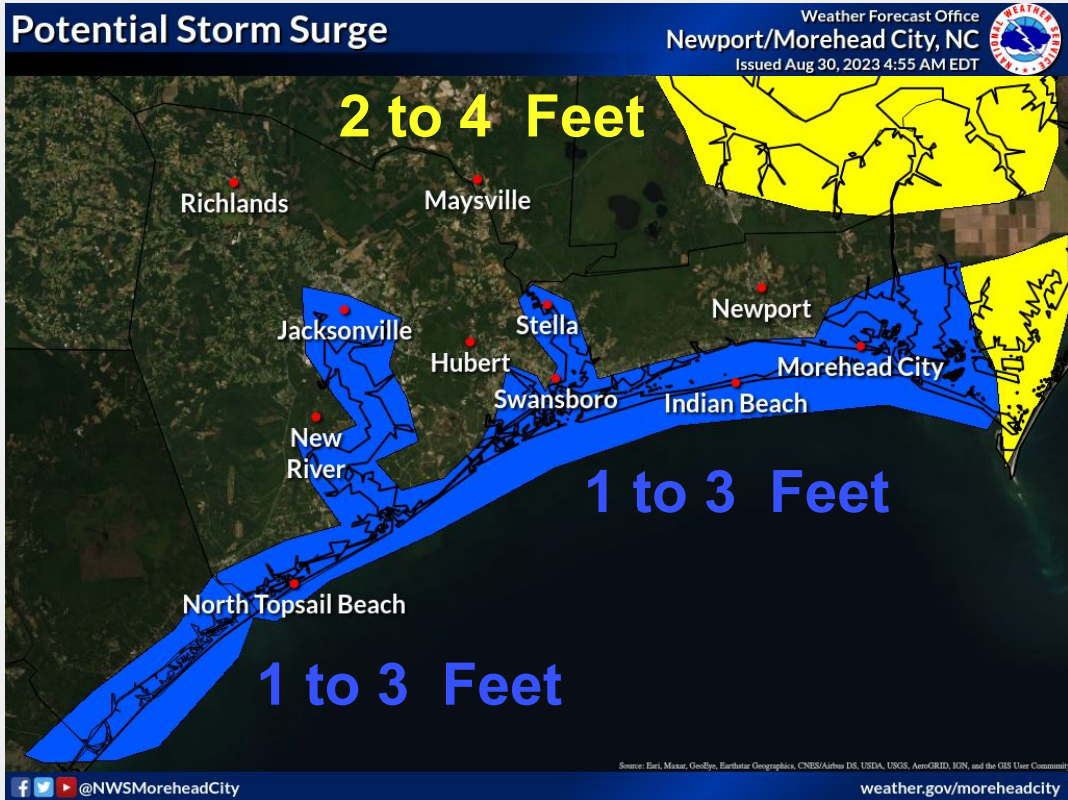
- Highest threat shaded in **Red and Orange** areas.
- Timing is now through 9 AM Thursday.
- Potential for several to many tornadoes. Enhanced areas of damage possible.
- **Nighttime tornadoes are particularly dangerous!** Have multiple ways to receive warnings, and at least one that can wake you up at night!





# Potential Storm Surge Impacts

Tropical Storm Idalia



- Moderate impact  
**(Yellow shaded areas):**  
Areas of inundation with moderate damage to marinas, docks.
- Elevated impact  
**(Blue Shaded Areas):**  
Localized inundation, mainly along immediate shorelines and in low-lying spots.

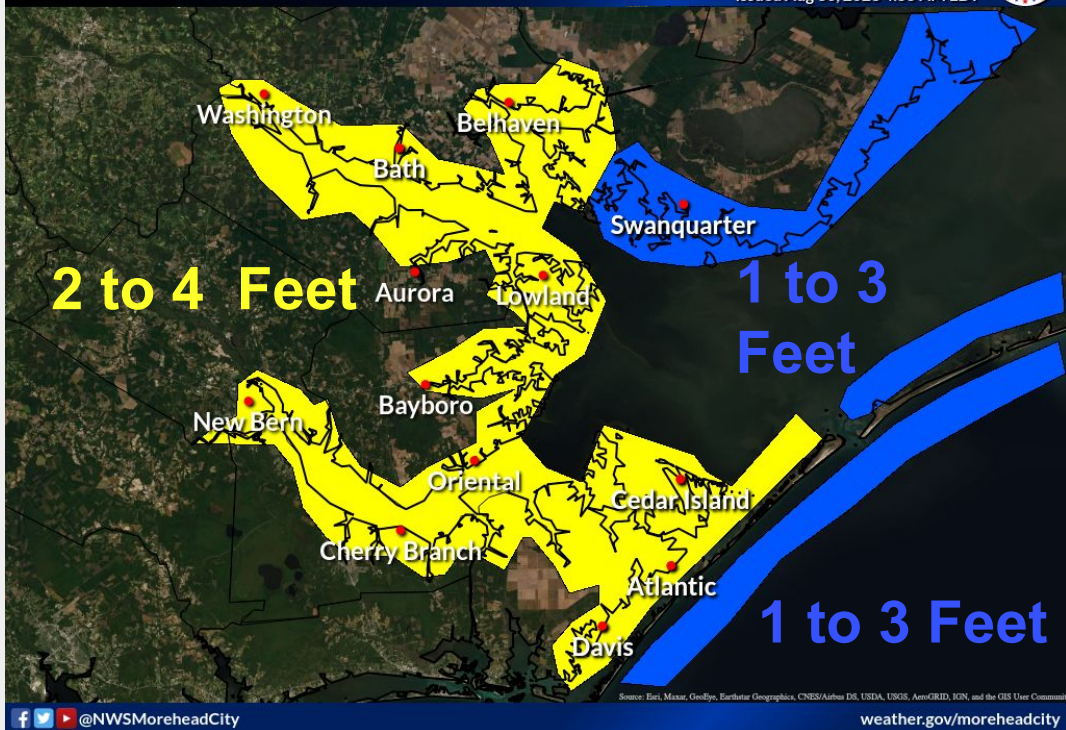


# Potential Storm Surge Impacts

Tropical Storm Idalia

## Peak Storm Surge Through Friday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC  
Issued Aug 30, 2023 4:55 AM EDT



- Moderate impact

**(Yellow shaded areas):**

Areas of inundation with moderate damage to marinas and docks.

- Elevated impact

**(Blue Shaded Areas):**

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



# Potential Storm Surge Impacts

Tropical Storm Idalia

## Peak Storm Surge Through Friday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC  
Issued Aug 29, 2023 4:29 PM EDT



- Elevated impact

**(Blue Shaded Areas):**

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

Ocean overwash, likely impacting NC-12, especially at periods of high tide (Thursday evening/Friday Morning).

Moderate beach erosion.



# Wind Threat / Potential Impact

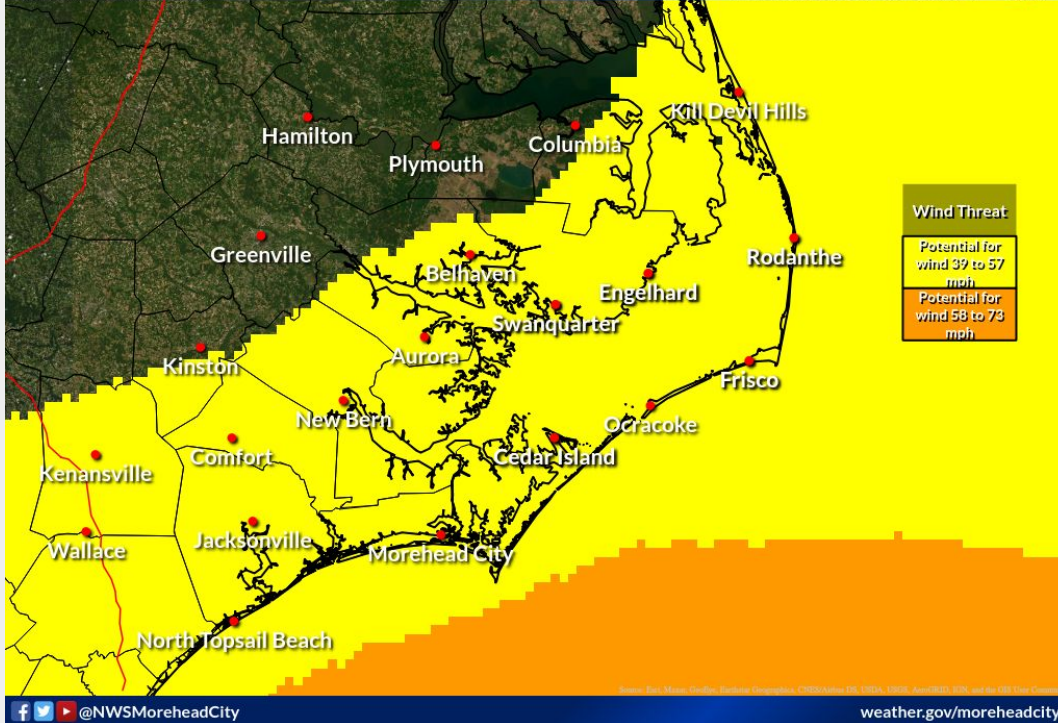
Tropical Storm Idalia

## Wind Threat

Through Thursday Night

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Aug 30, 2023 5:01 PM EDT



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There is a potential for:

- Scattered power and communication outages.
- Highest potential will be in the **Yellow Shaded** area, closer to the coast.



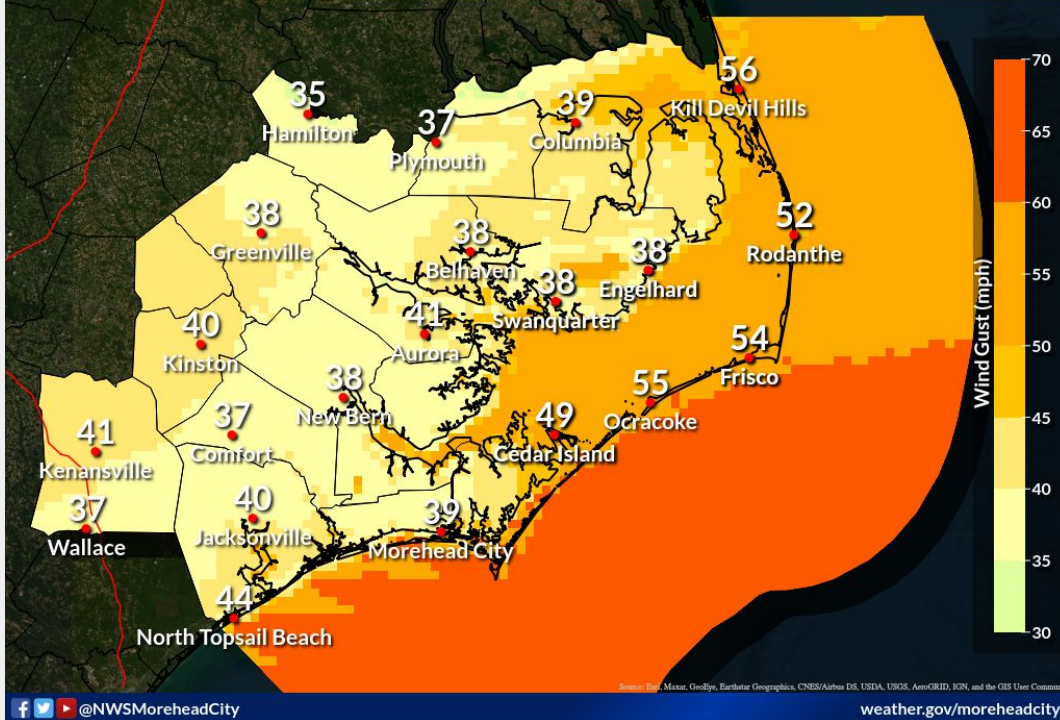
# Maximum Wind Gusts

Tropical Storm Idalia

## Maximum Wind Gusts

Through Friday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC  
Issued Aug 30, 2023 5:08 PM EDT



- Highest wind speeds expected near the coast.
- Strongest winds are anticipated Thursday through Thursday evening.

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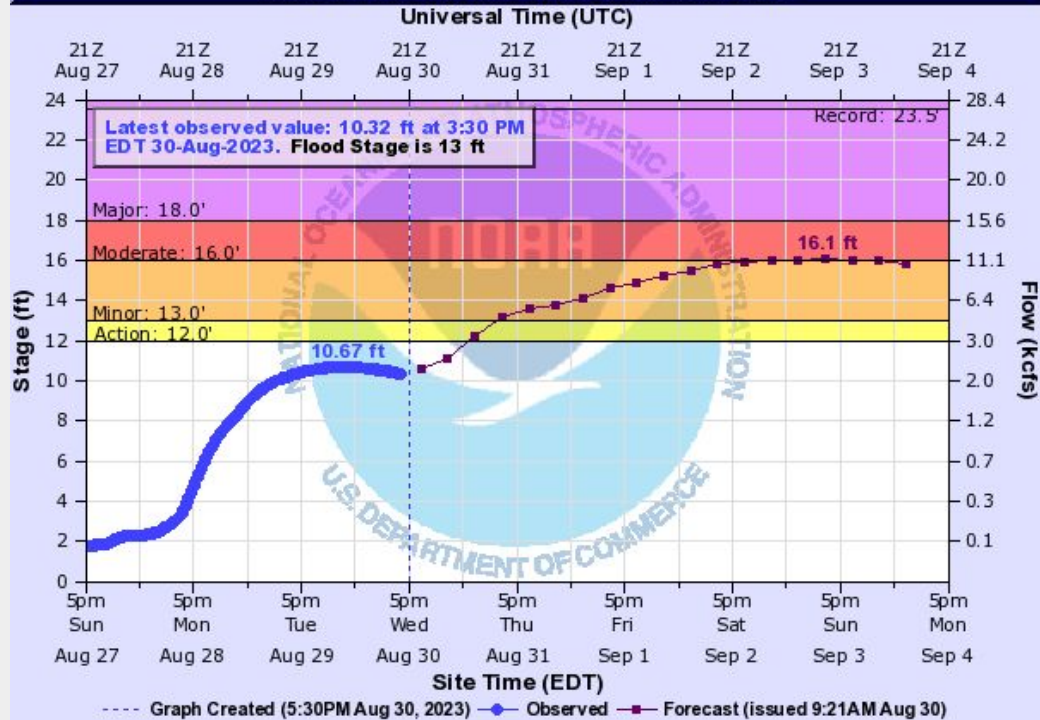
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# Expected River Flooding

Tropical Storm Idalia

## N.E. CAPE FEAR RIVER NEAR CHINQUAPIN



CHIN7(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 17.28'

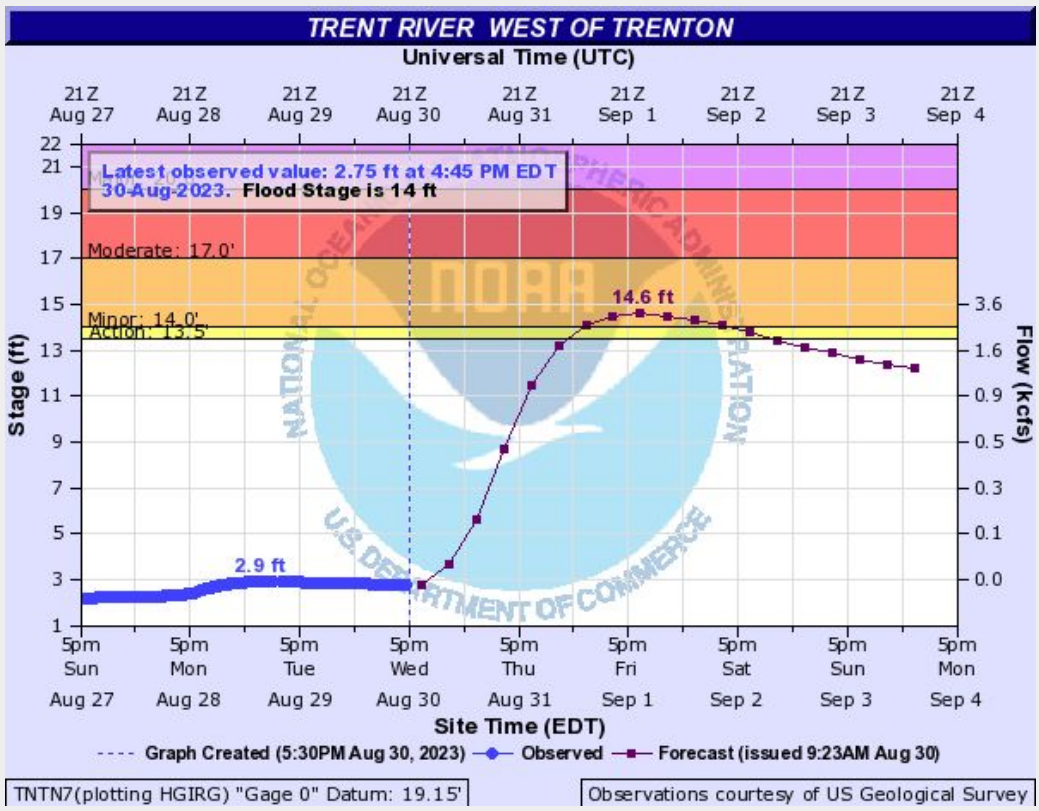
Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

- Already elevated river levels in the NE Cape Fear basin as a result of heavy rainfall earlier this week.
- **This will introduce a greater river flood potential as a result of heavy rainfall from Idalia.**
- Forecast to crest at Moderate Flood Stage Saturday afternoon.



# Expected River Flooding

Tropical Storm Idalia



- Though river levels are currently below normal, the **Trent River is expected to rapidly rise** through the day Thursday and into Friday as 8 to 10 inches of rainfall across the basin.
- Currently forecast to crest at Minor Flood Stage Friday night, however the forecast may rise higher with later updates.



# Key Take-Aways

## Tropical Storm Idalia

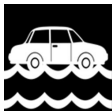
Confidence is **HIGH** that the event will occur  
Confidence is **HIGH** regarding impacts



Significant impacts from flash/urban flooding possible - 4" to 10" of rain. Isolated up to 15".  
Minor to Moderate River flooding possible into the weekend.



Several to many tornadoes are possible, which may produce enhanced areas of damage.



Inundation of low-lying areas possible, especially for areas adjacent to the southern Pamlico Sound including the Neuse, Bay, Pamlico, and Pungo Rivers. Also along the Outer Banks.



Tropical storm force winds expected especially toward the coast and Outer Banks.



Dangerous marine conditions expected across the coastal waters.





# Local Resources

Tropical Storm Idalia

Next Briefing:  
9 AM Thursday  
Method: Email



**Web:** [www.weather.gov/mhx](http://www.weather.gov/mhx)



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