



# National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

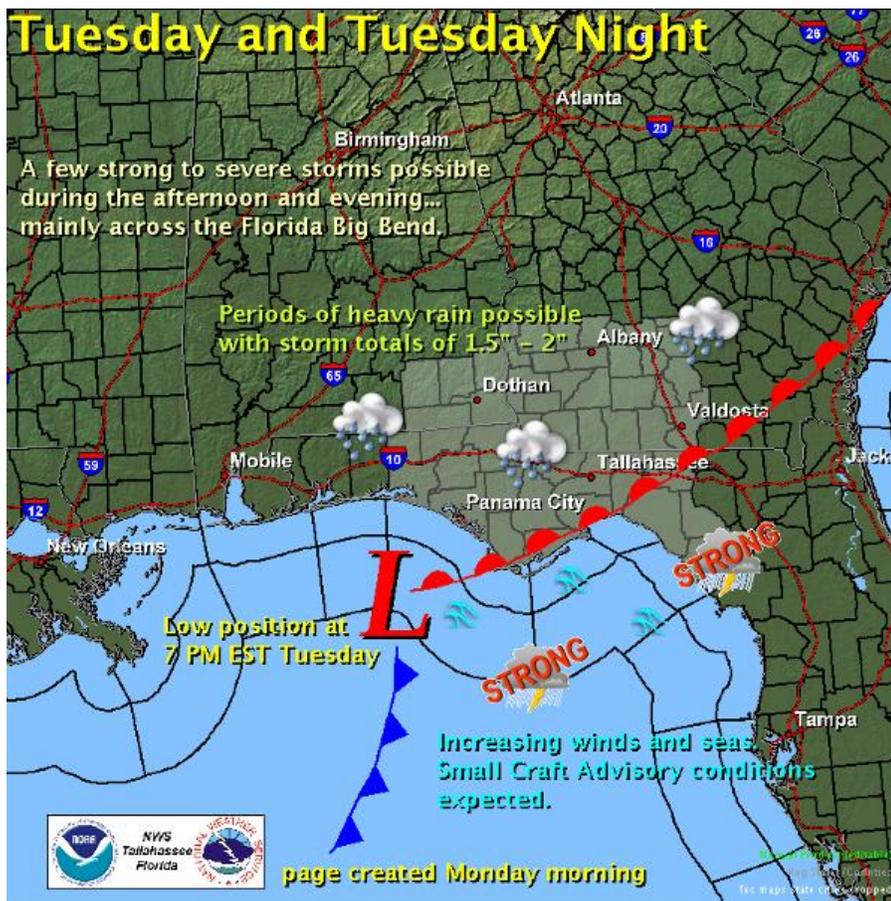


In this update:

- Slight Risk for severe storms Tuesday afternoon and evening for the Florida Big Bend
- 1.5-2 inches of rain across the region

## Key Points for this event:

- Strong wind fields will be very supportive of organized severe storms. However, cold waters over the Gulf of Mexico will limit instability and the overall severe threat.
- Locally heavy rainfall is expected, but the overall flood threat is low.

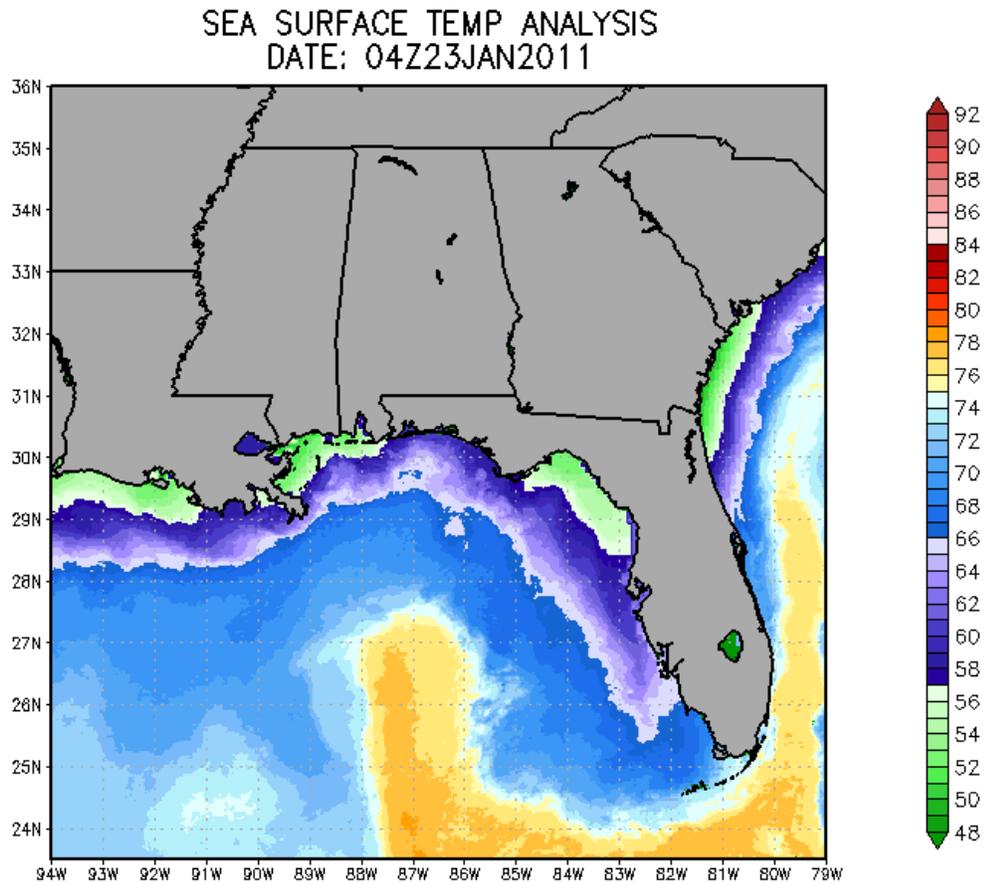


## The current weather picture and event summary:

A low pressure system will develop over the northwest Gulf of Mexico today and move across the northern Gulf tonight and Tuesday. By Tuesday evening, the low will be passing south of the Florida Panhandle as depicted in the image to the left. The low will then move northeast along its warm front to a position along the Georgia coast by around midnight. This system will bring widespread rain to the region with isolated thunderstorms, and increasing winds and seas over the Gulf coastal waters.

**Potential Impacts:**

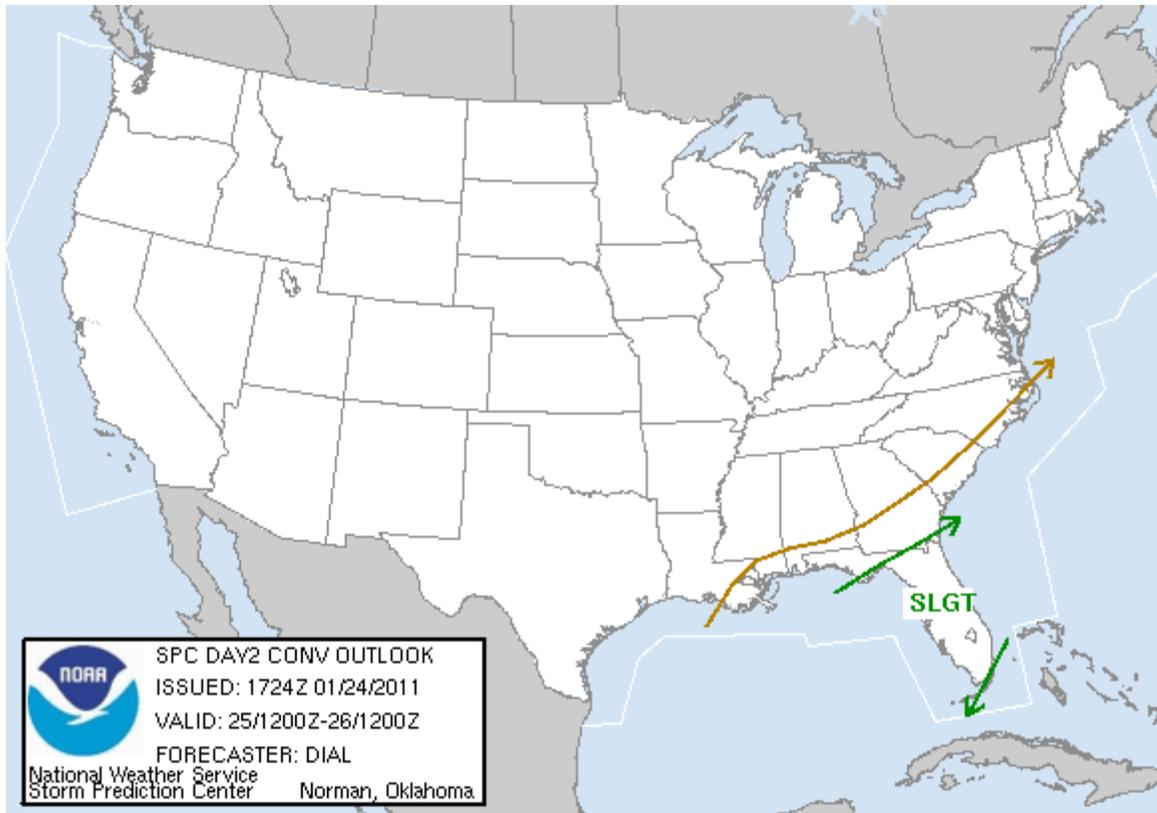
While wind fields look very favorable for organized severe storms, the overall low level instability is expected to remain very low. This is largely due to the very cool waters over the Apalachee Bay, where sea surface temperatures are only in the lower 50s as depicted in the image below.



GRADS: OOLA/IGES

2011-01-24-07:38

This cool marine layer will likely prevent storms, which may look impressive on radar, from producing damaging wind gusts or tornadoes. That said, a few strong to marginally severe storms cannot be ruled out and the Storm Prediction Center has indicated a Slight Risk for severe storms, as indicated in the image at the top of the next page. The most likely area for strong to severe storms will be over the southeast Florida Big Bend counties of Taylor, Lafayette and Dixie. The primary threat will be damaging wind gusts and isolated tornadoes.



Rain will begin over the Florida Panhandle in the pre-dawn hours Tuesday and spread north and east from there through the morning and into the afternoon. Heaviest rainfall totals will be in the afternoon and early evening. Rain should exit the eastern Florida Big Bend by around midnight. Storm total rainfall will average 1.5-2 inches across much of the with localized higher amounts up to 3 to 4 inches possible. These totals will be mainly beneficial and are not expected to produce significant flooding concerns. Along the coast, tides will run about a foot above normal from Tuesday evening into Wednesday morning.

**Summary:**

- Widespread 1.5- to 2-inch rainfall totals with isolated amounts up to 3 to 4 inches should not produce significant flooding concerns.
- Isolated strong to severe storms possible, mainly across the Florida Big Bend Tuesday afternoon and evening. Organized severe weather potential will be mitigated by poor low level instability.
- Tides will run about a foot above normal from Tuesday evening into Wednesday morning.

The National Weather Service in Tallahassee will continue to monitor this system closely today. If you have any questions, please give our office a call at 850-942-8833 or on our toll free line at 800-598-4562 and ask to speak to a meteorologist. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.