



National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

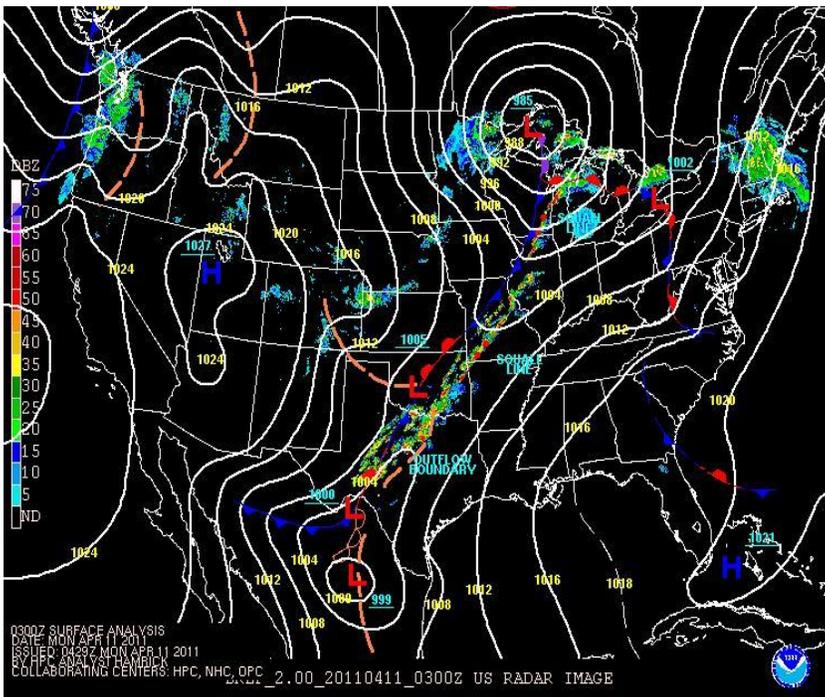


In this update:

- Isolated severe thunderstorms are possible late tonight into early Tuesday morning for South Alabama, portions of South Georgia, and portions of Northwest Florida.

Key Points for this event:

- A cold front will approach the region from the northwest tonight. A narrow band (or multiple bands) of showers and thunderstorms will precede this cold front. A few of these storms could be severe as they move quickly eastward. The main threat is damaging wind gusts, but an isolated tornado and/or hail up to quarter size are also possible.



The current weather picture and event summary:

Numerous showers and thunderstorms (some severe) were developing along a complex frontal system over the central U.S. This system will approach our area as a cold front later today, then move quickly southeastward through the region late tonight and early Tuesday. Although this system is expected to weaken as it reaches our area, there will be enough strong winds aloft and instability for a slight risk of severe weather.

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These Storm Prediction Center graphics (to the left) indicate the probabilities of severe weather occurring. The top graphic shows Southeast Alabama and portions of the Florida Panhandle in an overall “Slight Risk” for severe storms.



The middle image shows the probability of damaging wind gusts within 25 miles of a point. In this case it is about 15% for Southeast Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. For those not familiar with severe weather probabilities, they are NOT the same as rain chances. A 15% chance of rain means that rain is highly unlikely. However, for rare events like damaging winds, a 15% chance is actually not that low.



The bottom graphic shows that there is a 2-5% probability of a tornado within 25 miles of any point across much of our region.

Potential Impacts:

The main impact from this event will be downed trees and power lines. The most vulnerable structures would be mobile homes and sheds. Localized damage could be worse if an isolated tornado develops.

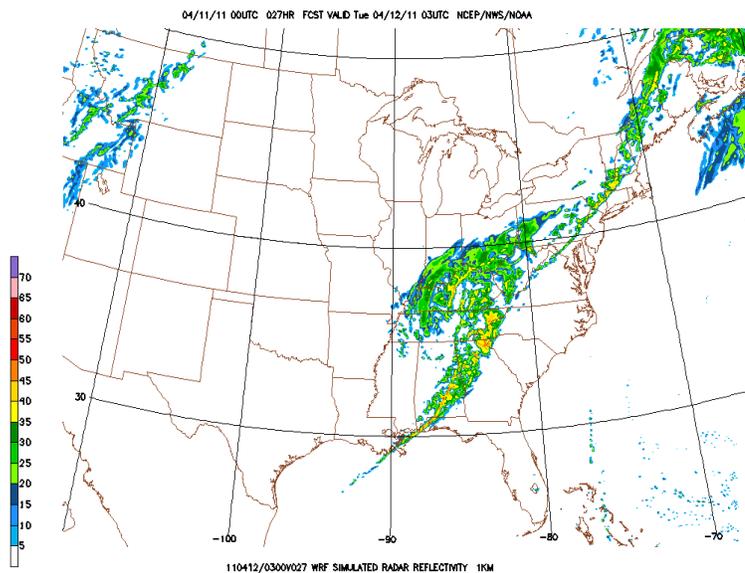
We do **not** expect this event to be nearly as widespread or severe as what occurred one week ago, when a severe squall line hit our area.

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Timing:

The following images are **FORECAST** snapshots of what the radar network would be showing if this model makes a perfect forecast. They are meant to show **approximate** timing of the squall line, and should not be taken literally as small scale features like these are very difficult to model accurately, and these forecasts can be off by at least an hour or two on either side of the forecast time.

Forecast radar image for 11 PM EDT (10 PM CDT) tonight:



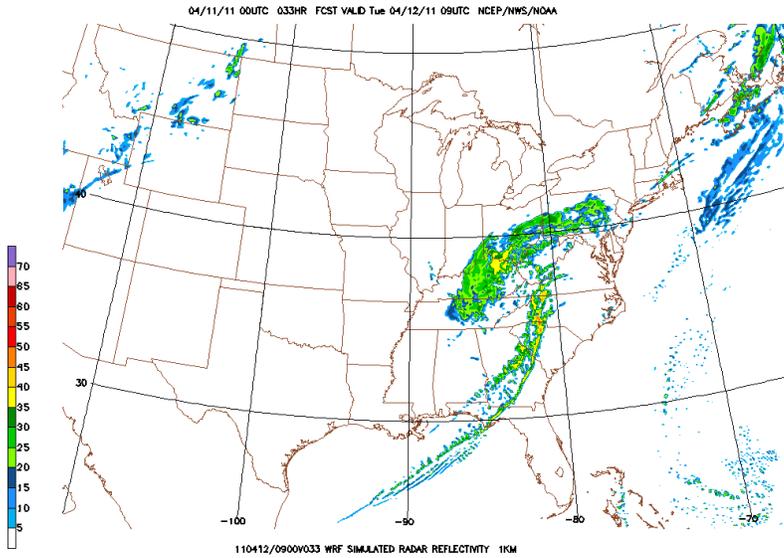
Forecast radar image for 2 AM EDT (1 AM CDT) Tuesday:



Believe it or not, this is not the same briefing packet that we handed out last week. It just so happens that the forecast timing and location of this system are very similar to the system that moved through the area last Monday night/Tuesday morning. The models are in good agreement that a narrow band of showers & thunderstorms will enter Southeast Alabama and the Florida Panhandle from the northwest late tonight, then move east into Southeast Georgia and North Florida around dawn on Tuesday.

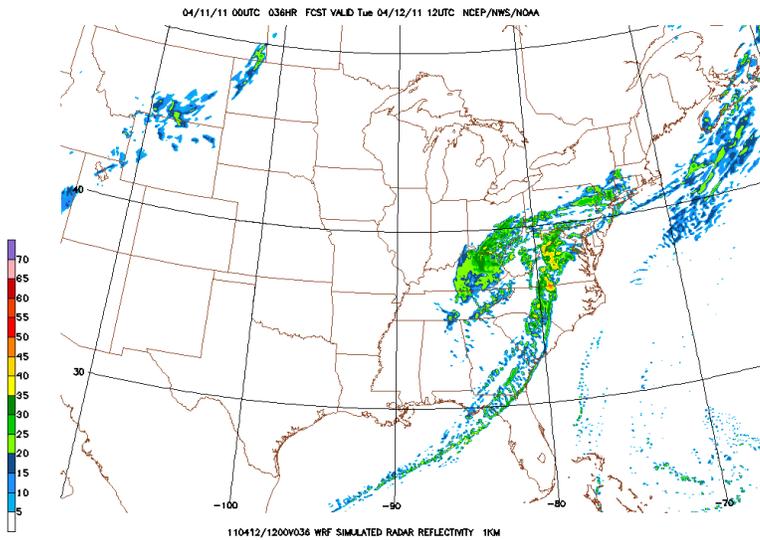
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Forecast radar image for 5 AM EDT (4 AM CDT) Tuesday:



These forecast radar images on the left clearly show a weakening system, which is why the Storm Prediction Center cut off the Slight Risk near the Apalachicola River.

Forecast radar image for 8 AM EDT (7 AM CDT) Tuesday:



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Summary:

- Isolated severe thunderstorms possible late tonight through early Tuesday morning.
- Damaging winds are the main threat, but an isolated tornado and/or large hail up to quarter size are also possible.

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. You can also reach us on our Southern Linc phone at 1*77*184.