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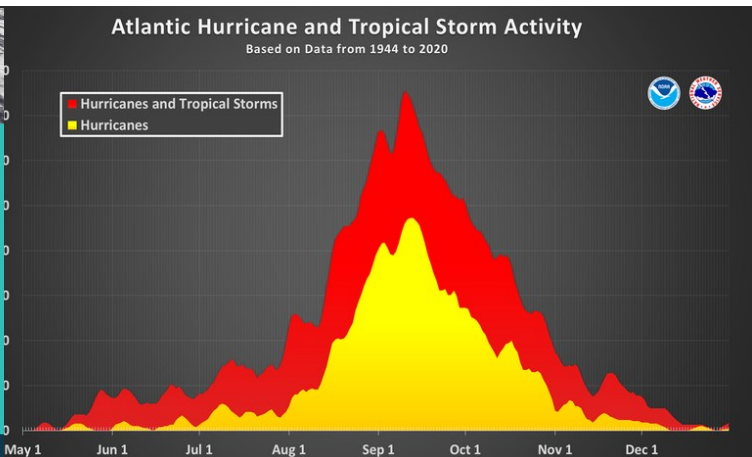
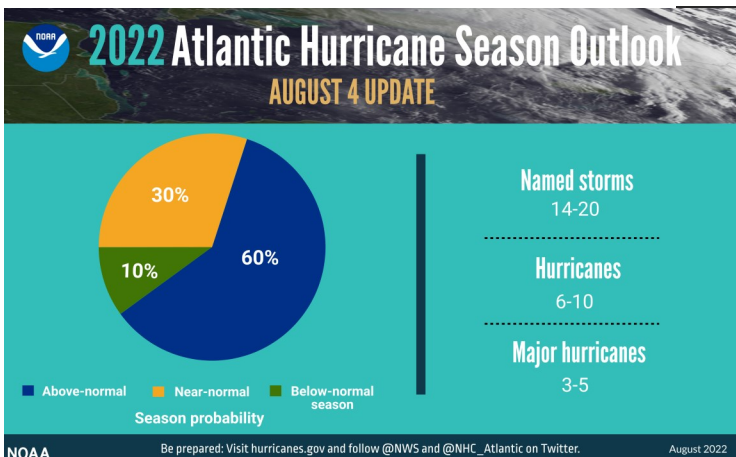
Tallahassee topics

NEWS AND NOTES FROM YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE.

The National Weather Service (NWS) office in Tallahassee, FL provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for Southeast Alabama, Southwest & South Central Georgia, the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend, and the adjacent Gulf of Mexico coastal waters. Our primary mission is the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the local economy.

Hurricane Mid-Season Review By Israel Gonzalez

Seasonal activity was near average based on the 30-year climatology (1991-2020) through July with 3 named storms: Alex (June 5th), Bonnie (July 1st), and Colin (July 2nd). The latter formed just off the coastal Carolinas and produced brief/minimal impacts to that region. On August 4th, NOAA released an [updated outlook](#) on this Atlantic Hurricane Season (*bottom-left figure*), which shows little change from the [initial May release](#). The probabilities of an above-normal season were reduced from 65% to 60%, while increasing from 25% to 30% for a near-normal season. We are now looking at 14-20 named storms, 6-10 hurricanes, and 3-5 major hurricanes. However, the Tropics have their work cut out for them to reach these predictions as August was unusually quiet. No systems formed that month for the 1st time since 1997 and only the 3rd time since 1950 - normal numbers are 3-4 named storms of which 1-2 become hurricanes. The start of September saw a quick rebound in activity as Danielle formed in the North Atlantic (September 1st), followed by Earl a day later, slightly north of the Lesser Antilles. Both systems went on to become the first hurricanes of the season, but posed no direct impacts to the US. Mid-September is the climatological peak of the season (*bottom-right figure*), followed by a secondary surge in October. Activity then gradually dwindles the remainder of the season, which ends on November 30th.



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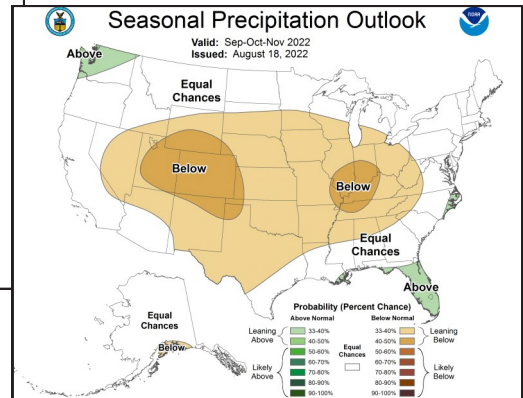
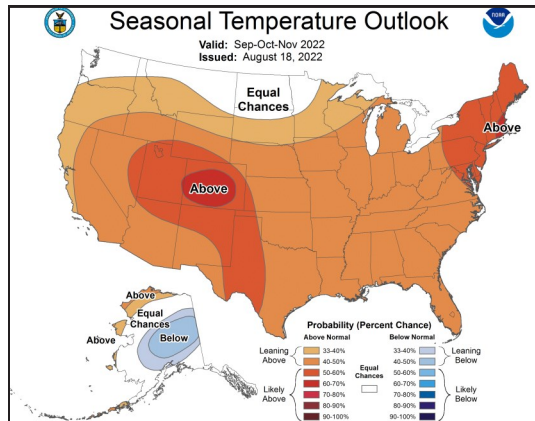
weather.gov/tae

Summer Highlights *By Israel Gonzalez*

June was very busy, but ironically this had nothing to do with the Tropics. The month was defined by two severe weather events and heat waves, record tying/breaking daily high temperature records, and pockets of heavy rainfall that led to localized flooding. On the 14th, severe storms plowed through the Tri-state area and resulted in multiple downed trees, strong wind gusts, and isolated flooding. Dangerous heat arrived in two waves mid-to-late month. The primary heat wave prompted the 1st Heat Advisories of the year from the 14th-19th. The secondary heat wave was more potent, which led to renewed issuances of Heat Advisories (22nd-24th), and Excessive Heat Watches/Warnings (23rd-24th) across the eastern FL Big Bend. Many locations either tied or broke daily record high temperatures, with widespread highs in excess of 100°!

July had no real noteworthy events outside of several bouts of strong to marginally severe storms and flash flooding. The Tri-state area did experience a period of wet/unsettled weather mid-month when a frontal system sagged down into the Southeast U.S. and lingered over the region for a few days. An area of disturbed weather was also present across the northern Gulf of Mexico for a couple days before moving ashore. In doing so, flash flooding occurred in the Panama City area on the 12th, followed by a couple of transient circulations that prompted a short-lived Tornado Warning in portions of Bay/Calhoun/Washington County, FL. On the 26th, NOAA launched Heat.gov, a new website to provide the public and decision-makers with clear, timely and science-based information to understand and reduce the health risks of extreme heat. More details can be found [here](#).

Bouts of wet, stormy weather defined much of August for Tallahassee and the Tri-state area. The most notable highlights occurred mid-to-late month from severe storms, tropical-like/windy conditions along the coast, and isolated flash flooding. On the 10th, several severe storms produced multiple wind damage/40+ mph gust reports with a church in Albany, GA sustaining damage from straight-line winds. A tropical disturbance lingering off the northern Gulf coast created windy conditions along the coast that caused St George Island Bridge to measure a peak gust of 54 mph! The region experienced several instances of minor and isolated flash flooding throughout the month with water rescues reported by local law enforcement on the 13th in Chattahoochee, FL.

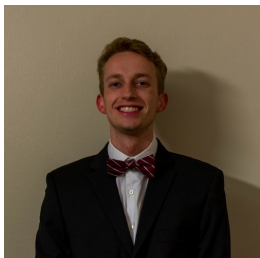


Climate Summary: From June-August, Tallahassee was slightly warmer than normal with a mean temperature of 82.6°F (0.6° > normal). An anomalously warm June and relatively cool July/August contributed to those temperatures. The highest recorded temperature was 104° on June 24th, which is 1° shy of tying the all-time record from June 11, 2015. The Tallahassee Airport reached triple digits on June 22nd for the first time since September 18, 2019 ending a 1007-day streak! Conversely, 66° on June 23rd was the lowest temperature reading, but that relative coolness would become a distant memory. Dating back to June 5th, the Tallahassee airport has seen minimum temperatures ≥ 70° through the remainder of meteorological summer (through August 31st), which became the longest such streak on record by September 4th at 92 consecutive days! Tallahassee also experienced a very wet summer with rainfall amounts of 30.97” (8.47” > normal). A few extreme instances of precipitation contributed to these anomalies: 3.54” fell in 1 hour on June 25th (3rd highest hourly accumulation on record); 11 consecutive days of measurable precipitation from July 18th-28th (9th longest on record); 13” of rain in July is the 12th wettest July on record. Overall, the summer of 2022 was the 7th wettest on record for Tallahassee.

Autumn Outlook: The Climate Prediction Center calls for equal chances (33%, *upper-left figure*) of above, below, or near-normal precipitation with probabilities “leaning above” normal (33-40%) for the Forgotten Coast, southeast Big Bend, and Suwannee Valley this upcoming Autumn (September-November). We are leaning towards above-normal (40-50% probability, *upper-right figure*) temperatures across the region. The normal Autumn mean temperature and precipitation in Tallahassee are 69.9° and 11.25”, respectively, with an average high/low temperature of 80.9°/58.8°. The average autumnal rainfall accumulation is half of the normal amount during the summer months. This year, the Equinox falls (no pun intended) on September 23rd.

Staffing Update by Israel Gonzalez

Another Pathways student was chosen and began interning with us in mid-September part time as she works towards a graduate degree in meteorology at FSU. Her name is Sophie Bignault (*bottom-right picture*), a recent graduate from Mississippi State University with previous connections to the Jackson, MS Forecast Office. We also recently announced the selection for our Meteorologist position, Joe Worster (*bottom-left picture*), a recent graduate from Ohio State University in atmospheric sciences. He is slated to join us in late September. Joe's arrival will make our staff nearly whole, with the exception of a vacant Electronic Technician position.



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israel.gonzalez@noaa.gov

We serve 48 counties across 3
states and work closely with
partners in the regions below:

Florida Panhandle
Florida Big Bend
Southeast Alabama
Southwest Georgia
South-Central Georgia

Employee Spotlight - Felecia Bowser,

For the Employee Spotlight, this Issue focuses on our Meteorologist-In-Charge who joined us in October 2021. Her name is Felecia Bowser (*pictured with her husband on the bottom right*), who also hails from NWS Jackson, and like our Warning Coordination Meteorologist/Newsletter Co-Author, Mark Wool, is a Penn State Alum. Get to know her better in the Q&A section below:

1. How did you become interested in meteorology?

I became interested in the weather when I was 7 years old. For my birthday, my parents purchased me a weather book that talked about basic meteorology (the water cycle, etc.). Since then, I became fascinated with all things weather from hurricanes, to flooding to tornadoes.

2. Could you describe your journey from a Forecaster to your current position as Meteorologist-In-Charge?

I started in the agency as a volunteer at the Lubbock, TX office. I was getting my Masters in Meteorology at Texas Tech University. A professor asked what I would like to do when I graduated and I told him that I wasn't sure. He said why don't you volunteer at the NWS Lubbock, TX office to see what you think. And that is when my interest soared! I wanted to be in a profession where I can be a civil servant, and no better way to combine that with my passion for meteorology than to work for the prestigious National Weather Service. My career trajectory started as a volunteer, to a SCEP (now Pathways Student Program), to a General Forecaster (now a GS 5-12 Meteorologist), to a Lead Forecaster in Shreveport, LA, to a Warning Coordination Meteorologist in Jackson, MS to now the Meteorologist-in-Charge at the wonderful Tallahassee office.

3. What vision do you have for the NWS Tallahassee office?

The vision for the office will be ever-changing, ever-evolving, and will need to be embraced by the entire office in order to make it successful! At this time, I foresee NWS Tallahassee to progress in innovative ways to deliver key weather messages to our partners and the public. The office is comprised of young and talented meteorologists that are not afraid to step out of the box and try something new. I will continue to cultivate and embrace their desire to try new and cool things; no one says that you cannot have a little fun while at the office! In addition, a work environment that is teachable, kind, forgiving and welcoming, is something I will work hard to maintain.

4. How does Tallahassee compare to your old stomping grounds in New Jersey?

Being from the northeast, I was used to the fast-paced environment with many things to do at my fingertips. Living in Tallahassee and thus living in the south, it is slower-paced, but there are still plenty of things to do whilst being surrounded by very kind people! My husband and I don't mind driving and so settling in and exploring FL is at the top of our list. We have easy access to Jacksonville, Tampa, Orlando (Disney World), Atlanta, GA just to name a few. We are excited to get to know the state even more.

5. What are your hobbies and interests when not working?

My hobbies include traveling, riding motorcycles, attending pro and college football and basketball games.





Summer Outreach Efforts

By Mark Wool

Management-Admin Team

Felecia Bowser, MIC
Mark Wool, WCM
Parks Camp, SOO
Doug Sherrick, ESA
Jennifer Nichols, ASA
Brian Coats, ITO
Kelly Godsey, Hydrologist
Ricardo Humphreys, OPL

Lead Forecasters

Don Van Dyke
Jessica Fieux
Blair Scholl
Andy Haner
Karleisa Rogacheski

Forecasters

Lance Franck
Wright Dobbs
Eric Bunker
Israel Gonzalez
Kristian Oliver
Jasmine Montgomery
Molly Merrifield
Cameron Young
Joe Worster

Pathways Interns

Becca Darish
Sophie Bignault

Electronic Technicians

Aaron Basti
Vacant

June was a busy month for outreach, particularly with regard to hurricane preparedness. Warning Coordination Meteorologist, Mark Wool, kicked off the month by participating in an annual Leon County Press Conference on the topic on the first. The next day, Mark gave the first of six hurricane preparedness talks to various Leon County Senior Center Groups from across the county. Mark spoke to at the Miccosukee Community Center on the 2nd, the Good Shepherd Catholic Church on the 8th, the Woodville Community Center on the 9th, the Lake Jackson Community Center on the 16th, and the Fort Braden Community Center on the 21st. Forecaster Cameron Young took over for the final event at the Chaires Community Center on the 28th. Mark, Senior Service Hydrologist Kelly Godsey and Senior Forecaster Jessica Fieux conducted a tropical training session for core partners on the 6th. Mark then spoke about the hurricane season outlook at the Big Bend Healthcare Coalition (HCC) meeting on the 7th and the Apalachee LEPC meeting on the 15th. Kelly deliver the seasonal outlook to Georgia's Region L HCC on the 15th. Forecasters Kristian Oliver and Jasmine Montgomery talked general weather safety at Wakulla County's Summer Day Camp on the 28th, part of the organization's Disaster Safety Week. Jessica attended the FL Region 2 quarterly emergency management meeting on the 30th. Media interviews through the month were given to the *Valdosta Daily Times*, *The Panama City News Herald*, and WDDQTalk 92.1 FM.

July was a slow month for outreach with a couple of interviews given to the *Panama City News Herald*.

In August, Mark delivered a mid-season hurricane season outlook to the Chattahoochee Rotary Club on the 22nd. On the 31st, Mark connected once again with the Leon County Senior Center to deliver a hurricane season preparedness talk to their Grandparents as Parents group.

Partner Spotlight: Thomas G. Bevis, Tallahassee Community College EM By Mark Wool

1. How did you get into emergency management?

I majored in Fire and Emergency Services at the University of Florida which allowed me to gravitate toward EM activity during my law enforcement career.

2. How do you think the EM function at a college differs from that of a city or county?

I think the main difference is the logistics of a college campus versus the large footprint of a city or county. All my EM needs are on campus and allow for an immediate response from a standpoint of Facilities, Student Services, Executive Leadership, and the TCC Police Department for public safety and life safety issues.

3. What has been your most challenging experience in EM?

I would say the Deep Water Horizon Oil-Spill in 2010 was the most challenging. During that stage of my career, I was with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of Law Enforcement and we, along with the Office of the Secretary for DEP, transitioned to the State of Florida EOC for over four months. During that time period, we worked on potential impact mitigation with all north-west Florida coastal counties and then ultimately response missions as the oil impacted the Florida beaches. We relied heavily on EOC weather personnel regarding water current, wind speed and direction, and wave intensity. All of those factors played a role in the flow direction and speed of the oil slicks within the Gulf of Mexico.

4. Describe your relationship with the National Weather Service.

Since my appointment as EM for Tallahassee Community College, I have worked more closely with NWS than at any other time in my career. During those days when weather is a major factor, the emails, alerts, and the ability to speak directly to the staff at the NWS operations desk is extremely valuable. This was never more evident than my need for real-time weather information during an outdoor concert held on the college campus in late July 2022. NWS provided an initial Google meeting for a weather update and projection two days prior to the event. Additionally, the NWS provided real-time weather updates on event day as weather moved in. The Chief of Police for TCC was part of the unified command for the event and the emails and phone conversations with the NWS gave him the ability to act accordingly in advance of the weather that ultimately arrived.