

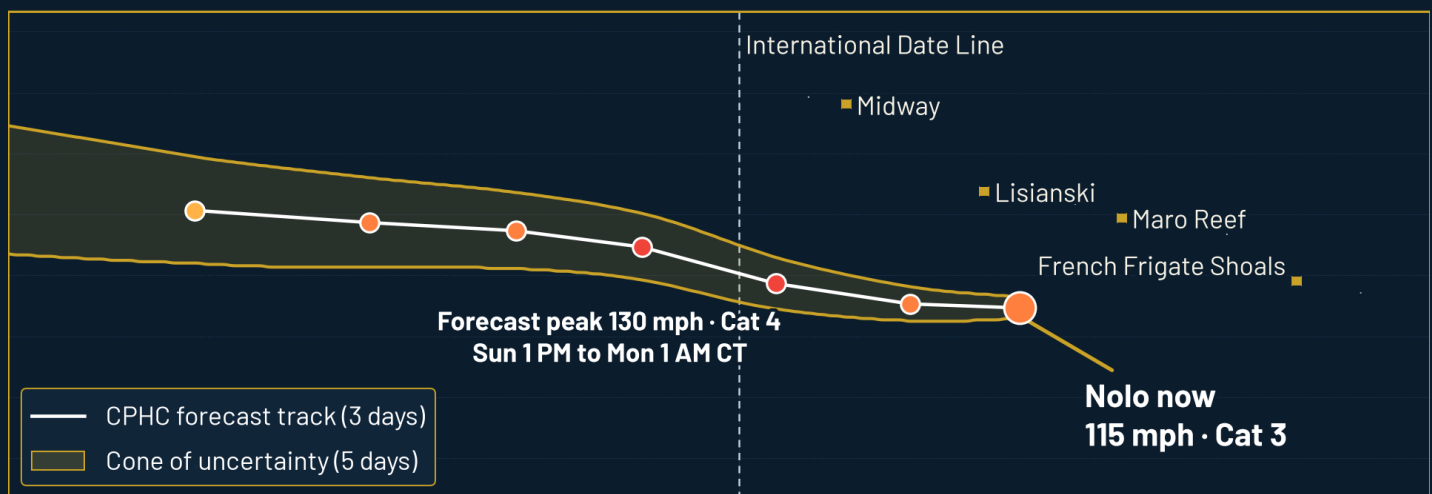
WEATHER REPORT

Nolo is a major hurricane · Flash flooding on the Gulf Coast · Rachel weakens

Saturday, October 3, 2026 · Issued 6:30 PM CT

INCREASING: NOLO IS A MAJOR HURRICANE

Nolo became a Category 3 major hurricane with 115 mph winds at Intermediate Advisory 52A (1 PM CT Sat), up from 110 mph this morning, and held there at Advisory 53 (4 PM CT). Pressure 959 mb. It is moving west at 17 mph and should cross the International Date Line on Sunday.



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Nolo is a major hurricane, forecast to peak near 130 mph (Category 4) Sunday as it races west, just south of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. In the U.S., NOAA's Weather Prediction Center has a Slight Risk of flash flooding on the central Gulf Coast tonight and Sunday, where 4 to 6 inches or more could fall. At 6:15 PM CT, NWS had 6 Flash Flood Warnings, including the New Orleans area. Off Mexico, Rachel has weakened to an 80 mph Category 1 and is forecast to become a tropical storm on Sunday.

Free to read · haildatahub.com · Sources: CPHC Advisory 53 · NHC Advisory 27 · NWS · WPC

1 · Hurricane Nolo: a major hurricane, crossing the date line Sunday



Hailie says: Nolo became a major hurricane this afternoon. CPHC says it could still strengthen through Sunday, possibly to Category 4, before gradual weakening begins Monday.

Field	Official (CPHC Advisory 53)
Time	11:00 AM HST / 4:00 PM CT Sat Oct 3
Location	23.2°N 173.1°W, about 210 mi SSE of Lisianski Island and 220 mi SW of Maro Reef
Intensity	115 mph (100 knots) · Category 3 major hurricane · 959 mb
Motion	West at 17 mph, with some more increase in speed over the next few days
Warning	Tropical Storm Warning: Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument from Maro Reef to Lisianski Island. (This morning the warning started at French Frigate Shoals.)
Wind field	Hurricane-force winds out to 30 mi; tropical-storm-force out to 150 mi
Hazards	Tropical storm conditions from Maro Reef to Lisianski Island through today; surf will likely flood some low-lying atolls
Date line	Expected to cross the International Date Line by Sunday midday Hawaii time

Nolo forecast (CPHC Forecast Advisory 53)

When (CT)	Position	Max winds	Strength
Sun 1 AM	23.3°N 175.8°W	125 mph	Category 3
Sun 1 PM	23.8°N 179.1°W	130 mph	Category 4
Mon 1 AM	24.7°N 177.6°E	130 mph	Category 4, west of the date line
Mon 1 PM	25.1°N 174.5°E	125 mph	Category 3
Tue 1 PM	25.6°N 166.6°E	105 mph	Category 2

The forecast peak was lowered from 140 mph this morning to 130 mph. Forecasts change; check the latest CPHC advisory. Cover map: cone from CPHC Advisory 53.

Nolo today

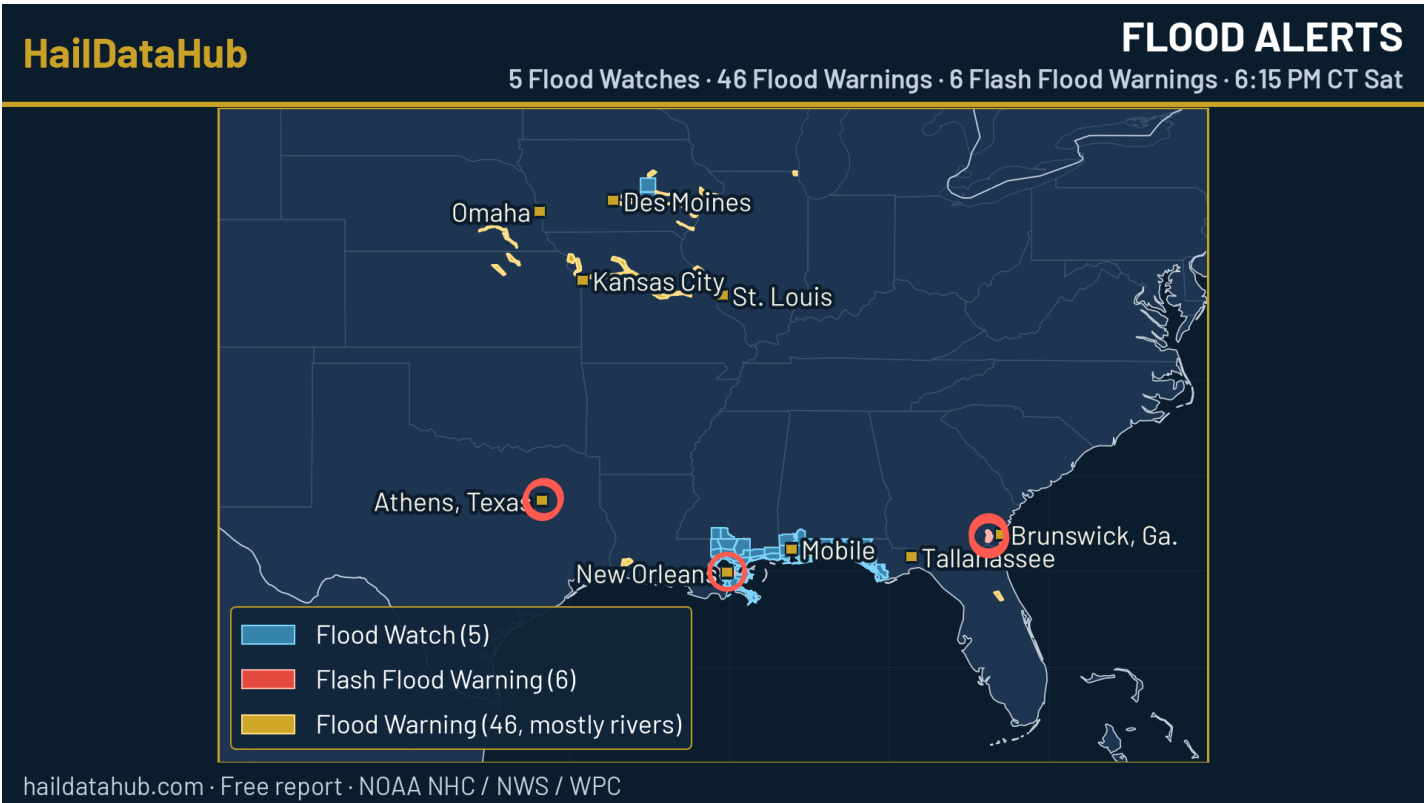
Time (CT)	Advisory	Status	Wind	Pressure
Sat 7 AM	51A	Hurricane, Cat 2	110 mph	964 mb
Sat 10 AM	52	Hurricane, Cat 2	110 mph	963 mb
Sat 1 PM	52A	Major hurricane, Cat 3	115 mph	959 mb
Sat 4 PM	53	Major hurricane, Cat 3	115 mph	959 mb

Source: NHC/CPHC public advisory archive for Nolo (EP152026).

2 · Flash flooding on the Gulf Coast; river flooding in the Midwest



Hailie says: Heavy rain is hitting the central Gulf Coast tonight and Sunday. At 6:15 PM CT, NWS had 6 Flash Flood Warnings, 5 Flood Watches in the lower 48 and 46 Flood Warnings, mostly for Midwest rivers.



Map: HailDataHub. NWS Flood Watch zones, Flood Warning areas and Flash Flood Warnings (red rings) at 6:15 PM CT Saturday (data: NWS).

Item	Status (6:15 PM CT Sat, NWS and WPC)
Flash Flood Warnings	6: the New Orleans area (parts of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Charles parishes) until 7:30 PM CT; 2 in Henderson County, Texas, around Athens, where NWS says 6 to 9 inches of rain have fallen, until 9 PM CT; and 3 in southeast Georgia (Brantley, Camden and Charlton counties) until about 7 PM CT. Most of these were set to expire this evening.
Flood Watches	5 in the lower 48: southeast Louisiana including New Orleans, plus Pearl River, Pike and Walthall counties in Mississippi; coastal Mississippi; Mobile and Baldwin counties in Alabama with Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties in Florida (all through Sunday evening); the Florida Panhandle (through Monday morning); and a river Flood Watch for the Iowa River near Tama, Iowa. A 6th watch covers Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.
Rain amounts (NWS)	Mobile watch area: 4 to 6 more inches, locally up to 10. Coastal Mississippi: 4 to 7 inches, locally 8 to 10. Florida Panhandle: 3 to 7 more inches through Monday.
Flood Warnings	46, mostly river flooding: Missouri 17, Iowa 13, Nebraska 6, Kansas 4, Illinois 3, plus Florida, Louisiana, Alabama and New Mexico (a warning can cover more than one state).
Tonight (WPC)	Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) on the central Gulf Coast, higher-end from southeast Louisiana to the western Florida Panhandle; Interstate 10 from Biloxi to Mobile Bay is the main concern, with locally 4 to 6 inches or more. Slight Risk also on the lower Texas coast and in eastern North Carolina around New Bern (3 to 6 inches possible).

Item	Status (6:15 PM CT Sat, NWS and WPC)
Sunday (WPC)	Slight Risk across the Southeast and the lower Texas coast. Heaviest from Mobile to Tallahassee, where 5 to 8 inches are possible; WPC says an upgrade is possible depending on tonight.
Why (WPC)	A weak wave from the Gulf and record or near-record tropical moisture, with a slow cold front to the north

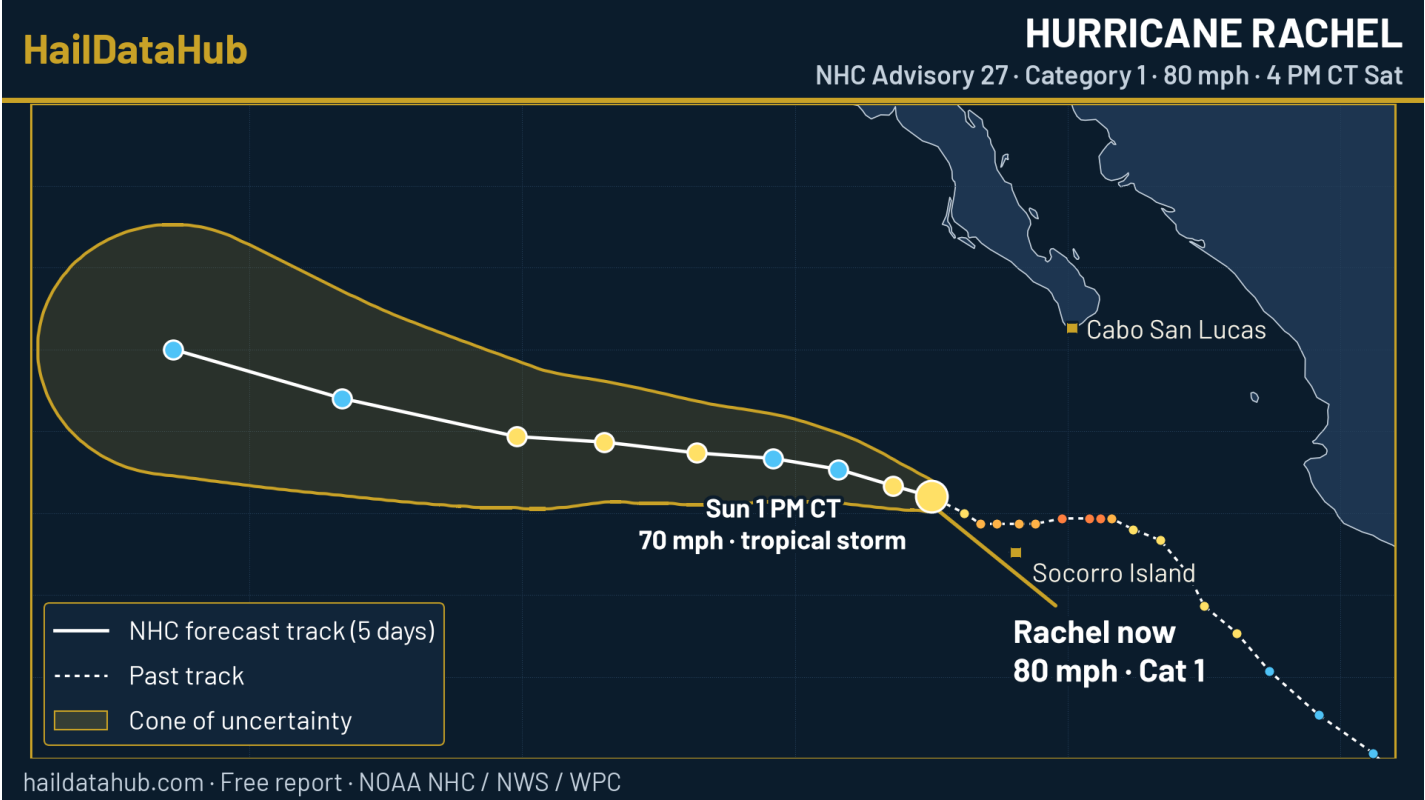
Turn Around, Don't Drown. Never drive into floodwater. River Flood Warnings can last for days after the rain ends.

3 · Hurricane Rachel: weakening, forecast to become a tropical storm Sunday

DECREASING: RACHEL

Down 10 mph in about 12 hours, from 90 mph (Advisory 25, 4 AM CT) to 80 mph (Advisory 27, 4 PM CT). Pressure rose from 969 to 977 mb. NHC forecasts Rachel to weaken to a tropical storm on Sunday, then possibly restrengthen to a hurricane Monday.

Field	Official (NHC Advisory 27)
Time	2:00 PM MST / 4:00 PM CT Sat Oct 3
Location	19.8°N 112.5°W, about 270 mi SW of the southern tip of Baja California
Intensity	80 mph (70 knots) · Category 1 · 977 mb
Motion	West-northwest at 5 mph; slow tonight, then west to west-northwest and a bit faster from Sunday
Watches	No coastal watches or warnings
Wind field	Hurricane-force winds out to 45 mi; tropical-storm-force out to 150 mi
Hazards	Life-threatening surf and rip currents for west-central Mexico through the weekend and the Baja California Peninsula through Monday
Forecast	75 mph by 1 AM CT Sun, then a 70 mph tropical storm Sunday afternoon and Monday morning, back to about 80 mph by Tuesday (NHC Forecast Advisory 27)



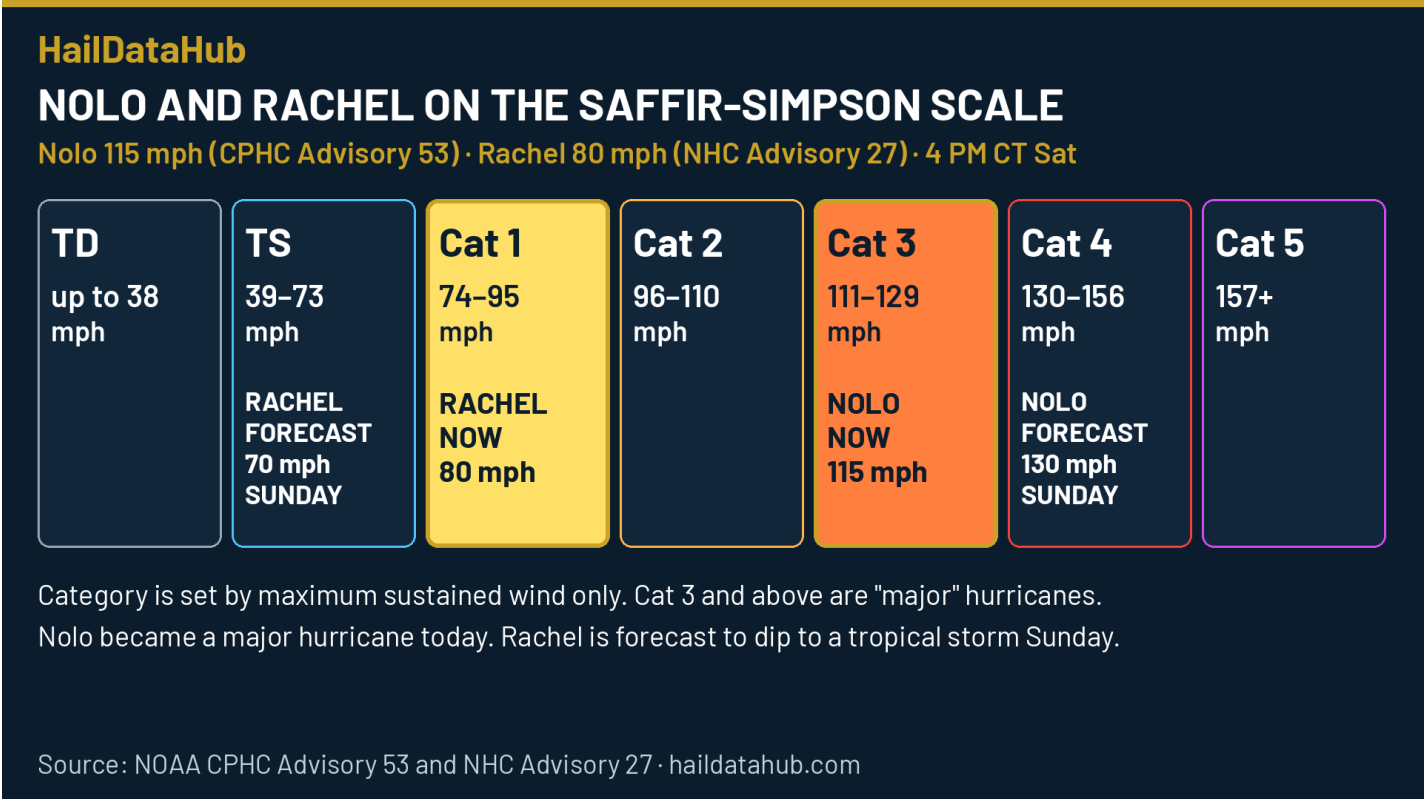
Rachel storm history

Day (NHC advisory)	Status	Wind	Pressure	Trend
Thu Oct 1 · Advisories 19–20	Hurricane, Cat 3 (major)	120 mph	950 mb	Peak
Fri Oct 2 · Advisory 22 (10 AM CT)	Hurricane, Cat 2	110 mph	959 mb	Below major strength
Fri Oct 2 · Advisory 23 (4 PM CT)	Hurricane, Cat 2	105 mph	963 mb	Down 5 mph
Sat Oct 3 · Advisory 25 (4 AM CT)	Hurricane, Cat 1	90 mph	969 mb	Down 15 mph
Sat Oct 3 · Advisory 26 (10 AM CT)	Hurricane, Cat 1	85 mph	973 mb	Down 5 mph
Sat Oct 3 · Advisory 27 (4 PM CT)	Hurricane, Cat 1	80 mph	977 mb	Down 5 mph

Source: NHC public advisory archive for Rachel (EP182026).

4 · Where Nolo and Rachel stand on the Saffir-Simpson scale

Nolo is a Category 3 major hurricane at 115 mph and could reach Category 4 on Sunday. Rachel is a Category 1 at 80 mph, near the bottom of the hurricane range, and is forecast to dip to a tropical storm Sunday. Forecasts change, so check the latest advisory.



Graphic: HailDataHub (data: CPHC Advisory 53, NHC Advisory 27).

Category	Wind (mph)	Wind (knots)	Nolo and Rachel
Category 1	74–95	64–82	Rachel now: 80 mph (70 knots), 977 mb
Category 2	96–110	83–95	Nolo this morning: 110 mph
Category 3 (major)	111–129	96–112	Nolo now: 115 mph (100 knots), 959 mb
Category 4 (major)	130–156	113–136	Nolo forecast peak Sun: 130 mph
Category 5 (major)	157+	137+	

Below Category 1: a tropical storm has sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph. Sources: NHC Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale · CPHC Nolo Advisory 53 and Forecast Advisory 53 · NHC Rachel Advisory 27 and Forecast Advisory 27.

5 · Polo: final advisory (wrap-up)

DISSIPATED: POLO

NHC issued its final advisory on the remnants of Polo (Advisory 38) at 10 PM CT Tuesday, Sept. 29. Polo is no longer an active storm, and WPC does not tie it to this weekend's U.S. rain.

Field	Official (NHC Remnants of Polo Advisory 38, final)
Time	8:00 PM MST Tue Sep 29 / 10:00 PM CT
Location	30.5°N 108.0°W, about 245 mi NE of Guaymas
Intensity	35 mph · 996 mb (remnants)
Peak	180 mph, 892 mb (Category 5) at Advisory 9, Tue Sep 22; 180 mph again at Advisories 20–21, Fri Sep 25 (900 and 913 mb)



Map: HailDataHub. Past track from NHC data; final position from NHC Advisory 38.

6 · Top weather stories this evening

1) Hurricane Nolo: a Category 3 major hurricane at 115 mph (CPHC Advisory 53), up from 110 mph this morning. Could reach Category 4 Sunday; crosses the International Date Line Sunday. Tropical Storm Warning from Maro Reef to Lisianski Island.

2) Gulf Coast flash flooding: WPC Slight Risk tonight and Sunday from southeast Louisiana to the Florida Panhandle; 6 Flash Flood Warnings at 6:15 PM CT, including New Orleans and Athens, Texas. 46 Flood Warnings, mostly Midwest rivers.

3) Hurricane Rachel: Category 1 at 80 mph (NHC Advisory 27), down 10 mph since this morning, forecast to become a tropical storm Sunday. No coastal watches or warnings; dangerous surf for Mexico and Baja.

4) Eastern Pacific: NHC gives an area expected to form south of southern Mexico a near-0% chance of becoming a tropical depression in 48 hours and 80% within 7 days. Atlantic: no development expected in the next 7 days.

What changed since Saturday morning

- Nolo: Category 2, 110 mph (Advisory 51A) to **Category 3 major, 115 mph (Advisory 53)**; pressure 964 to 959 mb; forecast peak lowered from 140 to 130 mph
- Rachel: Category 1, 90 mph (Advisory 25) to **Category 1, 80 mph (Advisory 27)**; pressure 969 to 977 mb; now forecast to dip to a tropical storm Sunday
- Flood alerts: Flood Warnings down from 55 to **46**; lower-48 Flood Watches up from 3 to **5**, now including New Orleans; Flash Flood Warnings up from 0 to **6**

7 · What to do + sources

If you live on the Gulf Coast or in the Southeast

- Never drive into floodwater; flash flooding is most likely in urban and poor-drainage areas
- Southeast Louisiana to the Florida Panhandle: heavy rain continues tonight and Sunday
- Follow your NWS forecast office and county emergency management; river flooding can last after the rain stops

If you follow Hawaii and Mexico impacts

- Papahānaumokuākea: Tropical Storm Warning from Maro Reef to Lisianski Island
- Mexico and Baja: no coastal watches for Rachel, but life-threatening surf and rip currents through the weekend, and through Monday in Baja

Free alerts

Free storm news, no paywall. Optional alerts: <https://haildatahub.com/alerts/> · Main site: <https://haildatahub.com/>

Official sources (clickable)

Source	URL
Nolo public advisory	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/HFOTCPCP2.shtml
Nolo forecast advisory	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/HFOTCMCP2.shtml
Rachel public advisory	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/MIATCPEP3.shtml
Rachel forecast advisory	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/MIATCMCP3.shtml
Polo final advisory (38)	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/archive/2026/ep17/ep172026.public.038.shtml
Polo Advisory 9 (first peak)	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/archive/2026/ep17/ep172026.public.009.shtml
NHC active storms	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/CurrentStorms.json
NHC Pacific outlook	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/MIATWOEP.shtml
NHC Atlantic outlook	https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/MIATWOAT.shtml
NWS active Flood Watches	https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active?event=Flood%20Watch
NWS active Flood Warnings	https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active?event=Flood%20Warning
NWS Flash Flood Warnings	https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active?event=Flash%20Flood%20Warning
WPC rainfall discussion	https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=qpferrd
HailDataHub storm article	https://haildatahub.com/hurricane-polo-ep172026-cat4-sw-mexico-rainbands-2026-09-23/
HailDataHub alerts	https://haildatahub.com/alerts/

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