



Hurricane Readiness Meeting 2023

INTRODUCTION

Davie Breaux

***Deputy Port Director
Greater Lafourche Port Commission***



Welcome! We are



FOURCHON



FOURCHON

Greater Lafourche
Port Commission



**PORT
FOURCHON**

portfourchon.com



FOURCHON

GAO South Lafourche
Airport



@PortFourchon



@PortFourchon



@FourchonPort



@PortFourchon



@PortFourchon

Ready Today, Ready for Tomorrow

The location of Port Fourchon means we are in close proximity to the energy infrastructure in the Gulf of Mexico, but that same location also subjects the port to tropical storms and hurricanes. We have to be ready.



*It is the goal of the Port Commission
to address each storm in a manner that
strives for the continued safe operation
of port and airport facilities while
ensuring public safety.*



Hurricane Season Preparedness

During hurricane season (June 1-November 30), the Port Commission follows established protocols to prepare and respond to potential storm events, including:

- **Preparing GLPC facilities and equipment to minimize potential storm damage**
- **Meeting with employees to discuss responsibilities**
- **Maintaining contact with state and local government officials, parish and state offices of emergency preparedness, National Weather Service, US Coast Guard, NOAA, and more**
- **Providing up-to-date storm information to port and airport tenants, businesses, and the public**

HURRICANE SEASON OUTLOOK & PREPAREDNESS

Megan Williams

*Warning Coordination Meteorologist
National Weather Service
New Orleans/Baton Rouge*



HURRICANE HAZARDS AND COMMUNICATION



**2023 HURRICANE
SEASON**

**NATIONAL WEATHER
SERVICE**

New Orleans/
Baton Rouge

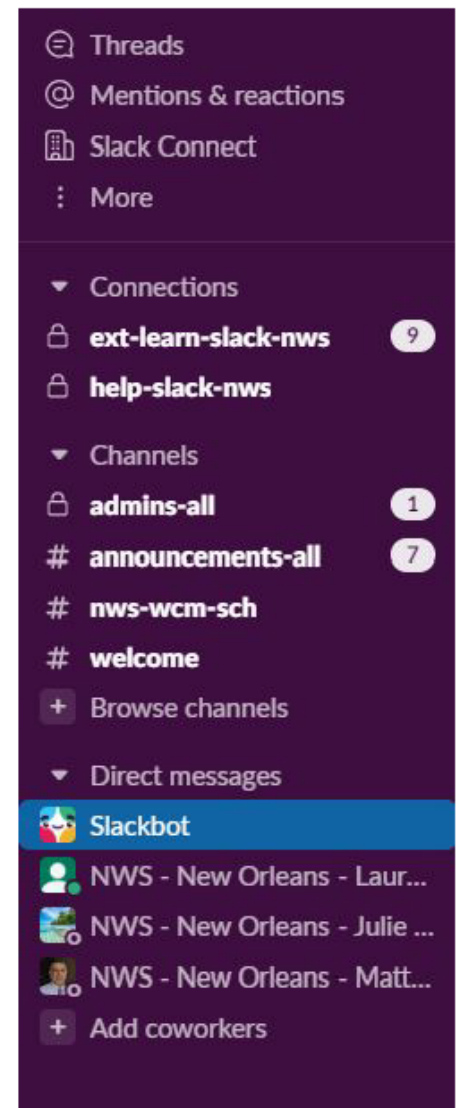
MEGAN WILLIAMS

Meteorologist



SLACK- NWSCHAT 2.0

- The NEW, stable, NWSChat will be on Slack
- NWS employees being trained now
- **Partner training will be coming this summer!**



RADAR IS ACTUALLY MOVING THIS DECEMBER!

NWS Slidell Radar is Moving

Weather Forecast Office
New Orleans



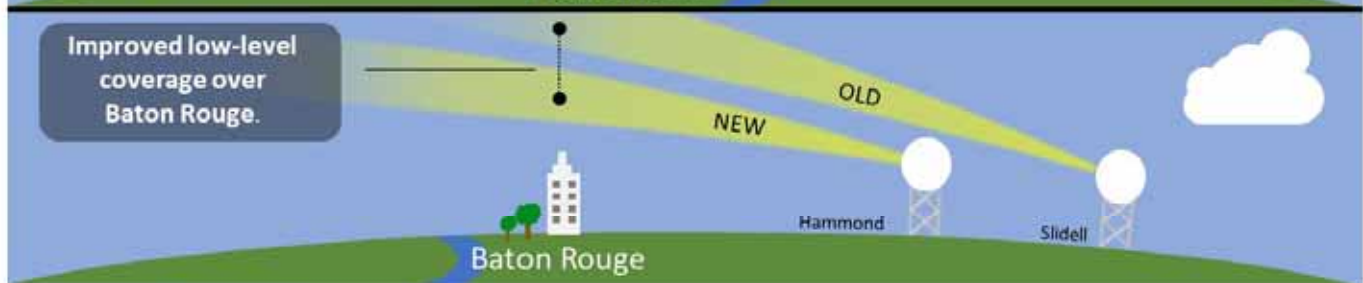
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Our radar will be moving from Slidell, LA to Hammond, LA this winter 2023-2024.
- The radar will scan closer to the ground to improve low-level coverage.
- See the examples below for more info on changes around the region.

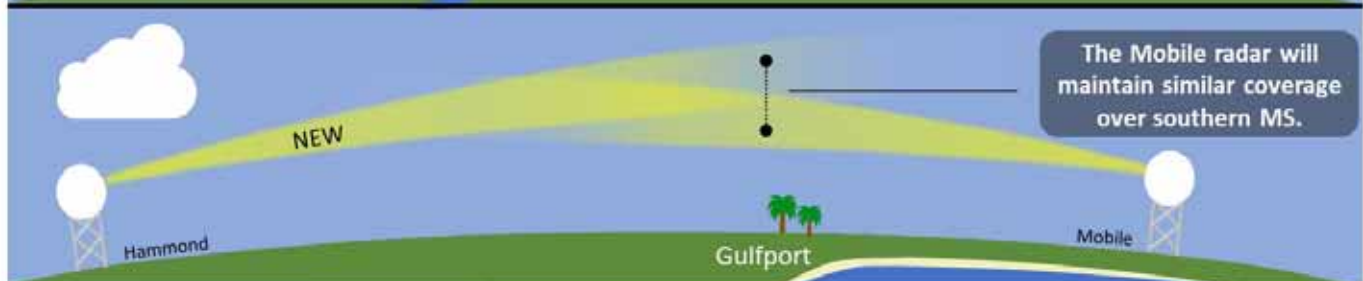
Similar low-level coverage
over New Orleans.



Improved low-level coverage
over Baton Rouge.



The Mobile radar will
maintain similar coverage
over southern MS.

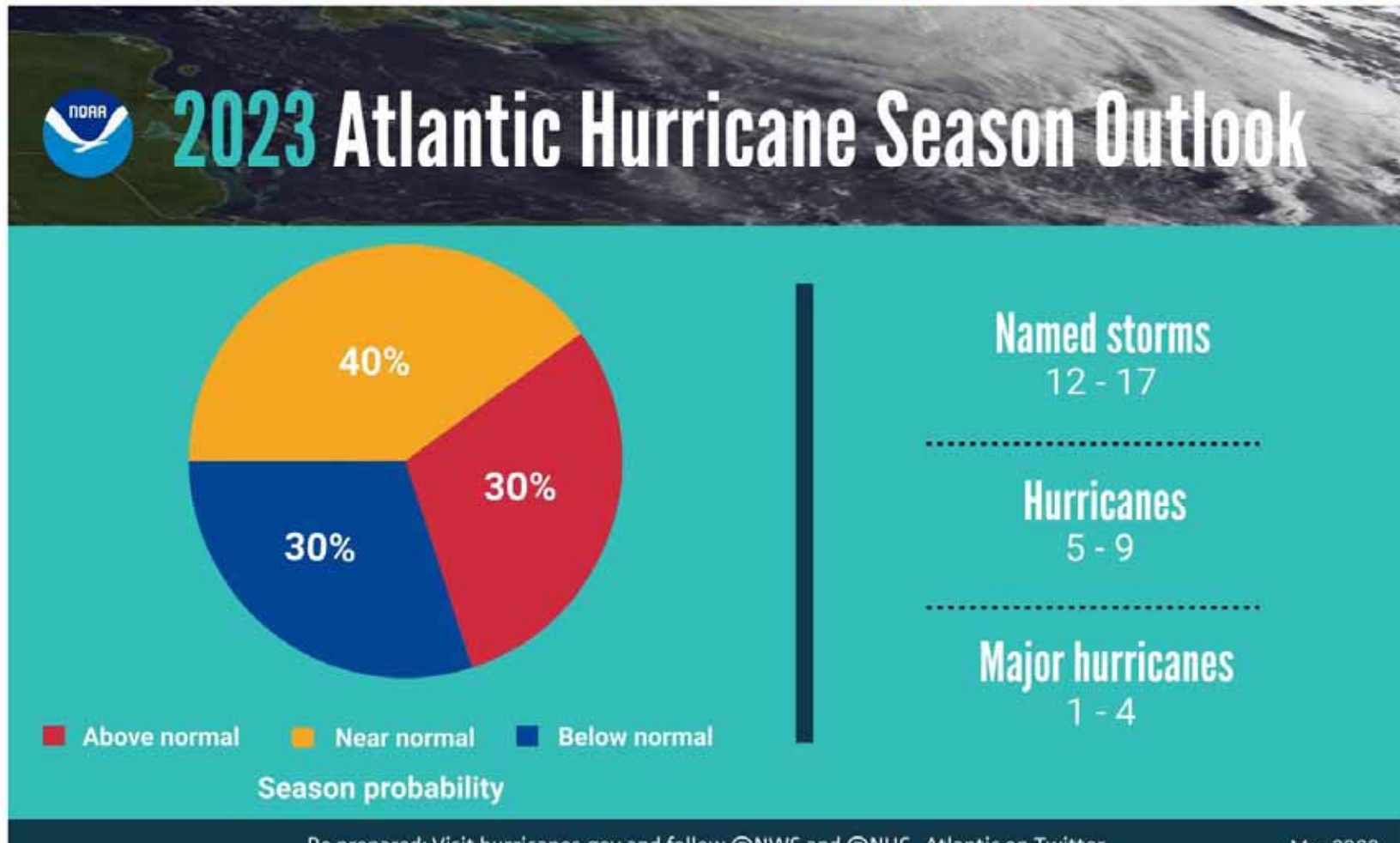


2023 ATLANTIC HURRICANE NAMES

Arlene	Harold	Ophelia
Bret	Idalia	Philippe
Cindy	Jose	Rina
Don	Katia	Sean
Emily	Lee	Tammy
Franklin	Margot	Vince
Gert	Nigel	Whitney

If we run out of names on the main list, we will go to the supplemental list of names,
rather than the Greek alphabet

NOAA SEASONAL HURRICANE FORECAST



Average
is:

14

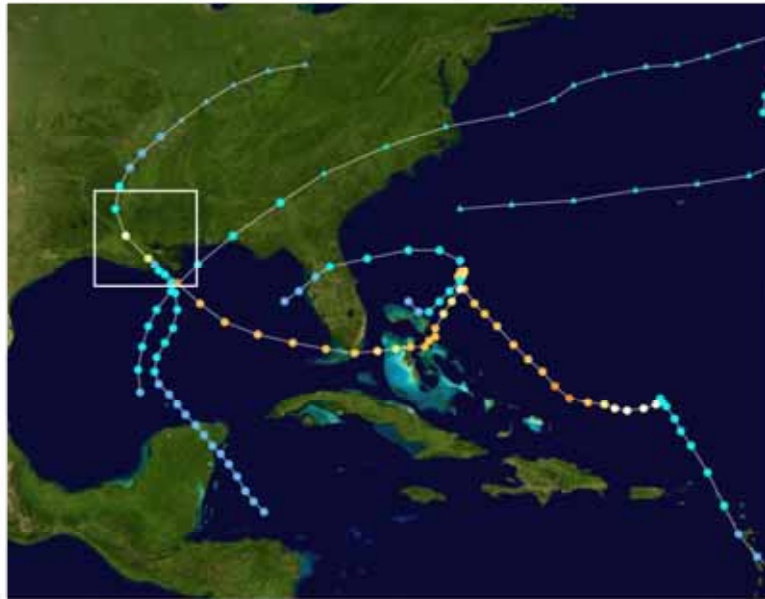
7

3

WHAT ABOUT EL NINO???

- We are heading into El Nino: 90+% chance it develops by Fall
 - “Typically” means a quieter hurricane season...
 - There is NO strong correlation between El Nino and slow GULF tropical seasons. **So the storms may not form in the Atlantic, but they can still form in the Gulf!**
 - Last year was La Nina, and we got nothing!
- But sea surface temperatures are also at a record high!

STRONG EL NINO YEARS



1965

It doesn't matter what
the forecast is if that
one storm hits us!



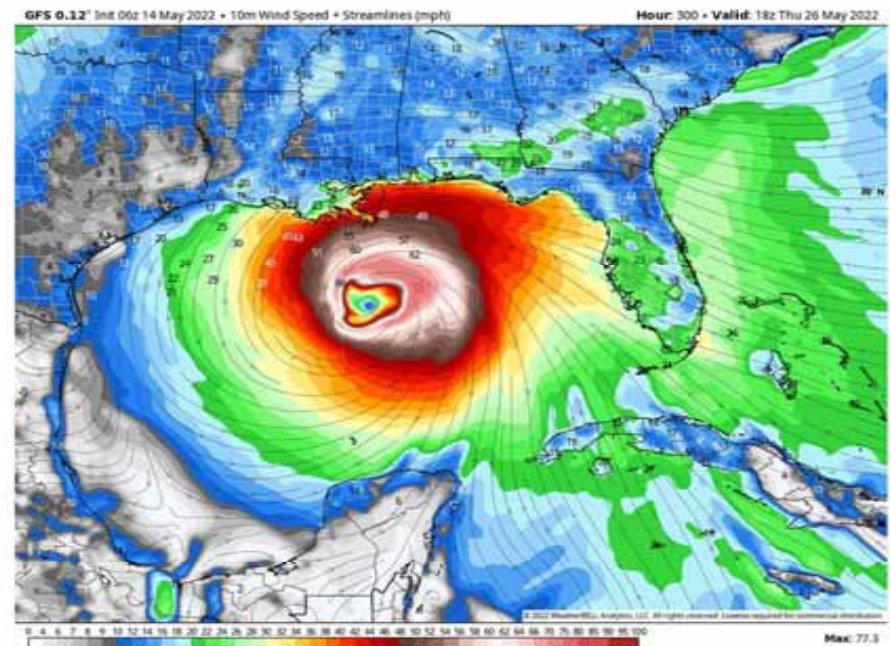
1957



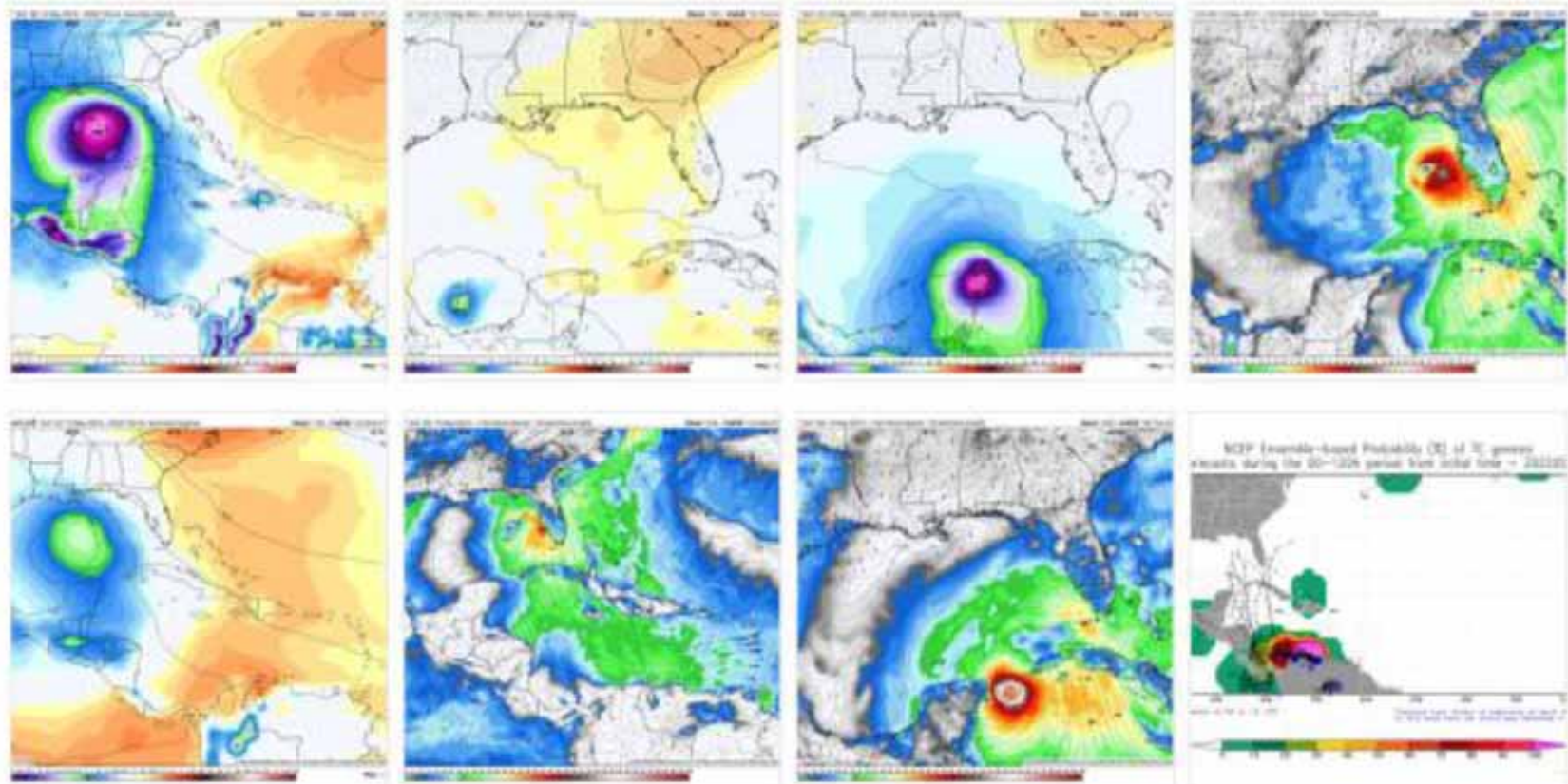
**SOCIAL
MEDIA**

“SOCIAL MEDIAROLOGISTS”

- Just because a forecast goes “viral” doesn’t mean it’s likely to happen.
- Individual models constantly create tropical systems.
- There is a 175 mile track error out 5 days. Imagine what that is at 10 days?!
- **We will NEVER hide a hurricane from you!**
- **NEVER follow someone who is showing just weather models.**

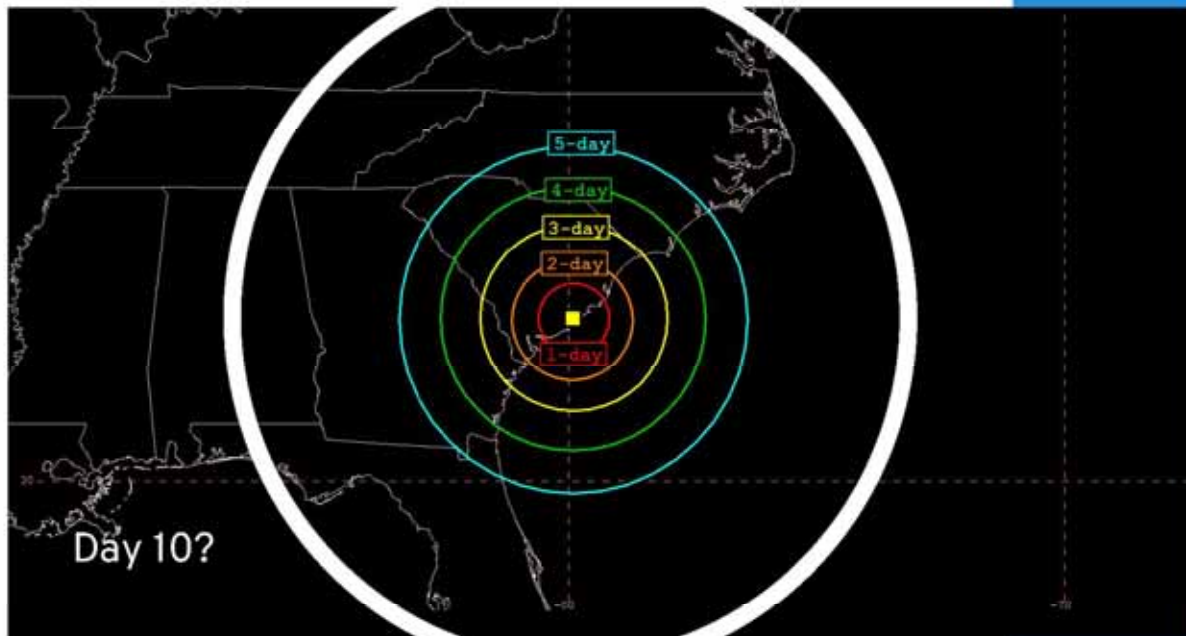


WHAT HURRICANE DO YOU THINK THESE IMAGES WERE FROM?



THERE WAS NO STORM!

How good are the forecasts?



This is a good visual representation on how large that error is at Day 5. Imagine how large it is when you see a weather model showing it at day 10?



**General Timeline:
When do products
become available?**

NEW

7 DAYS OUT

- TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK



60 HOURS OUT*

- PSURGE (FOR SELECT, WELL-BEHAVED STORMS)



5 DAYS OUT

- NHC ADVISORY PACKAGES (CONE, WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES, TOA)
- SLOSH MOMS AND MEOWS*

48 HOURS OUT

- WATCH/WARNING PRODUCTS
- HURRICANE THREATS AND IMPACTS GRAPHICS
- PSURGE/INUNDATION FORECASTS

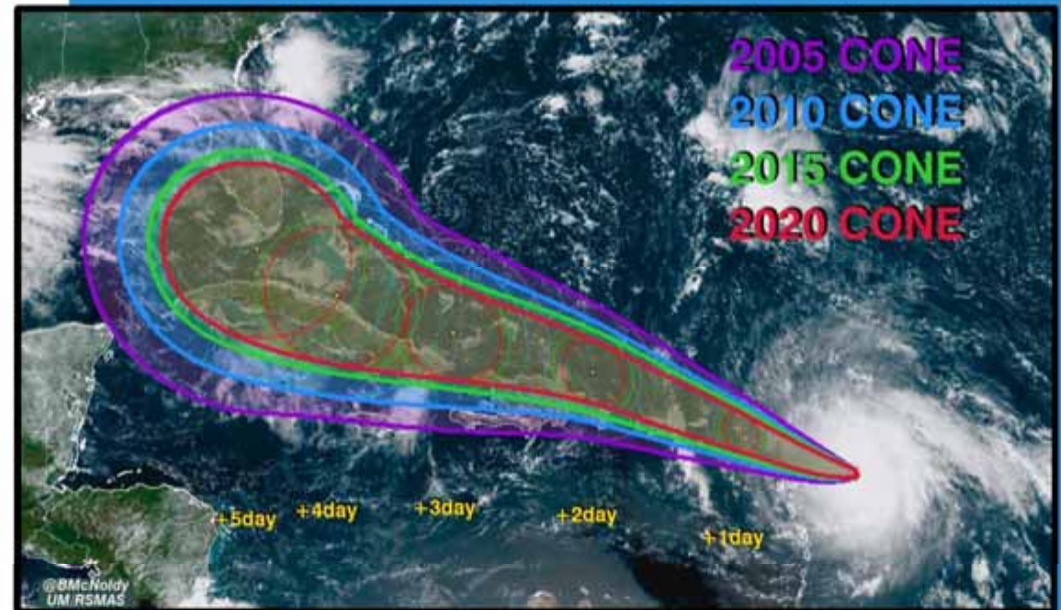


REVIEW: THE NHC ADVISORY CYCLE

- **When no watches/warnings in effect anywhere:**
 - Full advisory packages issued at 4a, 10a, 4p, 10p CDT
- **When watches/warnings are in effect somewhere:**
 - Full advisory packages issued at 4a, 10a, 4p, 10p CDT
 - Intermediate advisories issued at 1a, 7a, 1p, 7p CDT
- **When a storm with a well defined eye is within radar range:**
 - Full advisory packages issued at 4a, 10a, 4p, 10p CDT
 - Intermediate advisories issued at 1a, 7a, 1p, 7p CDT

WHAT THE CONE ACTUALLY IS

- Represents the most likely path of the CENTER of the storm- NO forecast of impacts.
- Created by connecting imaginary circles that represent 2/3 the average track error over the past 5 years.
- Small changes in size every year
- Does NOT change for every storm.



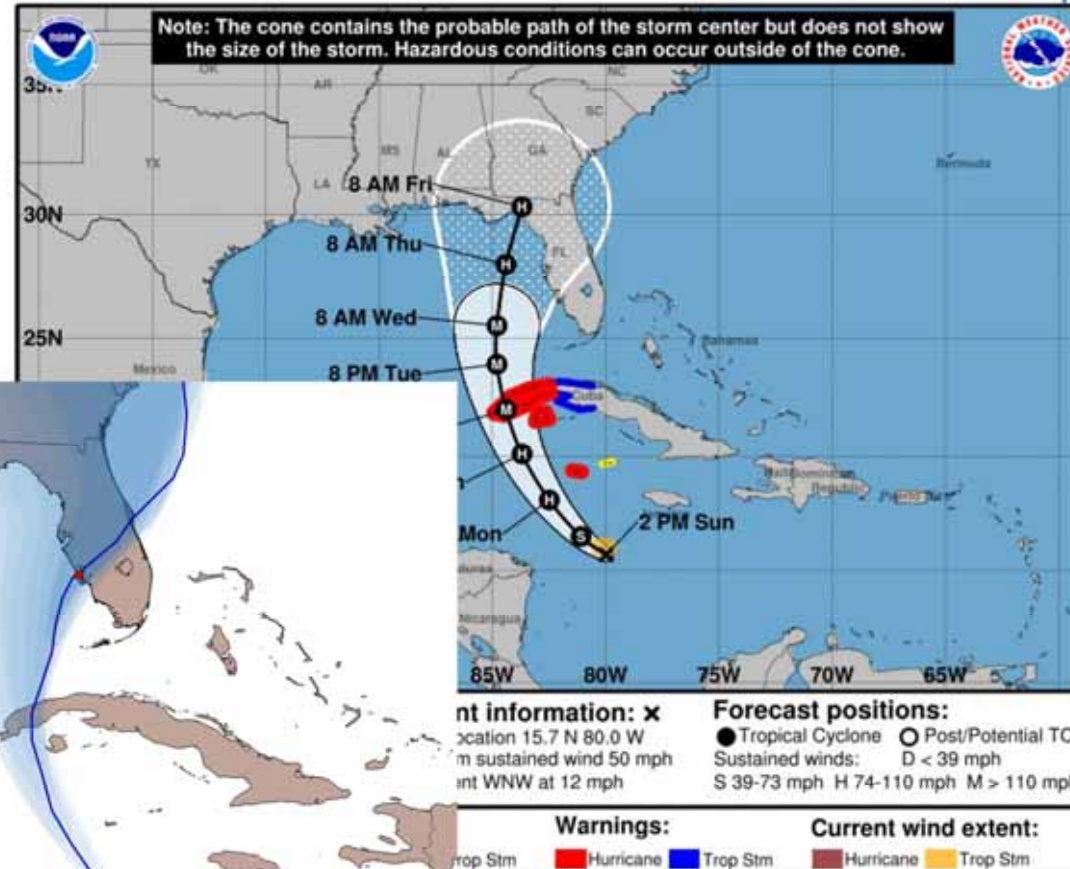
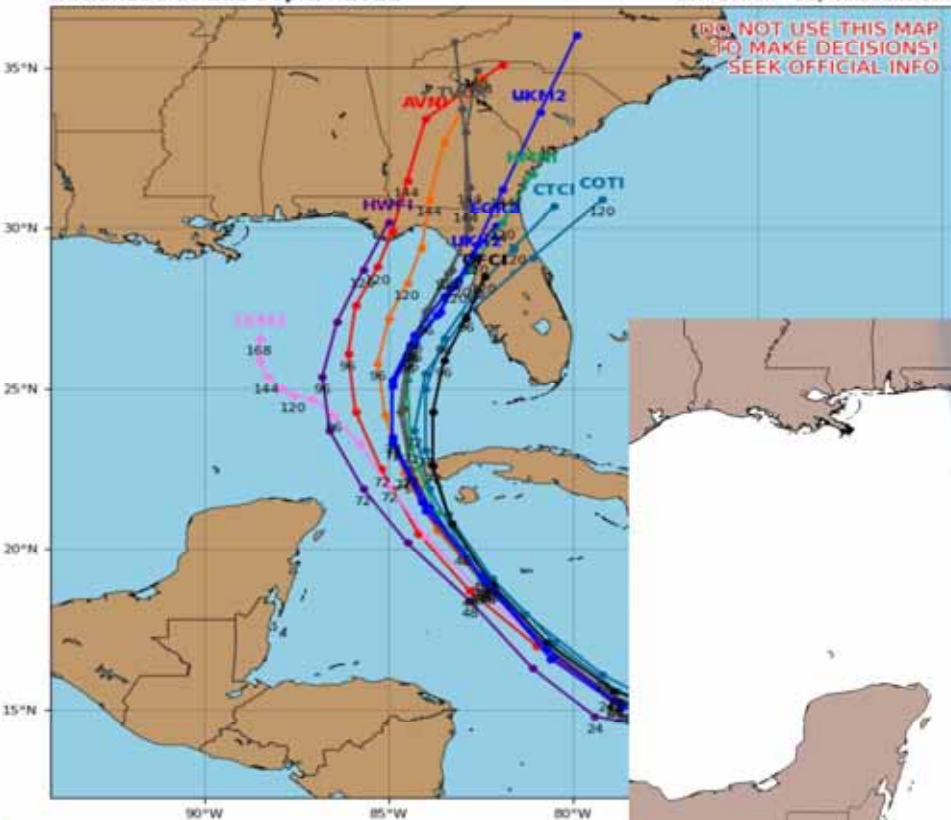
IAN EXAMPLE

Tropical Storm IAN Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 12z Sep 24 2022

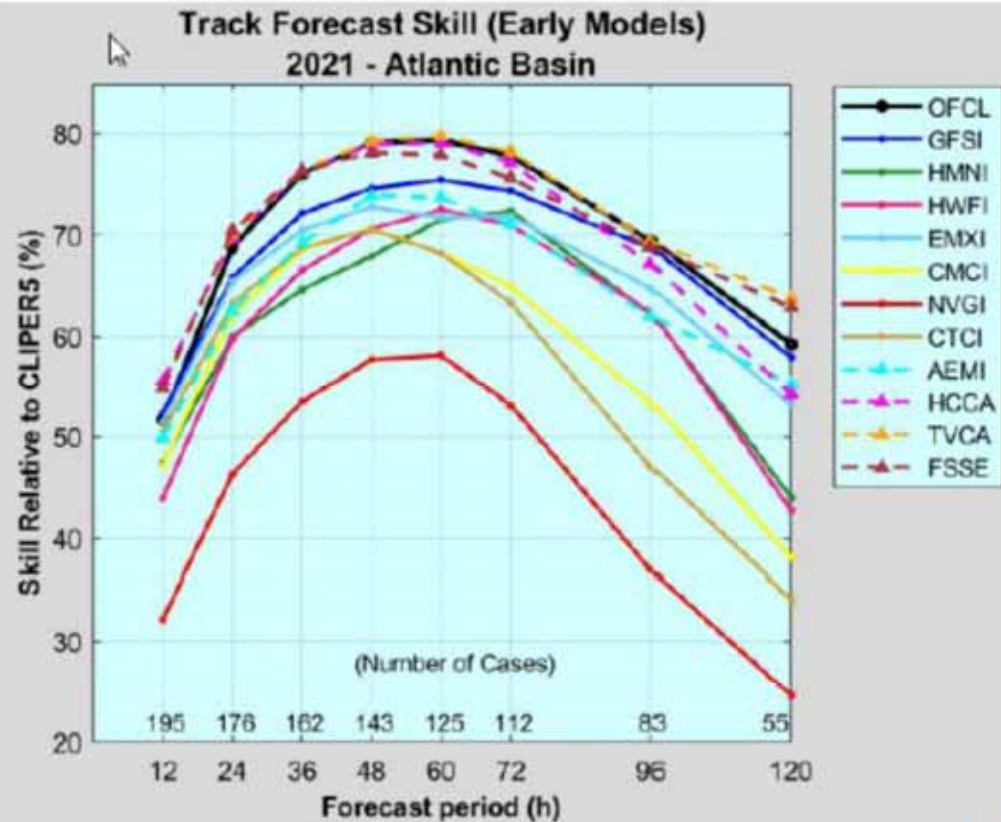
Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com

DO NOT USE THIS MAP
TO MAKE DECISIONS!
SEEK OFFICIAL INFO



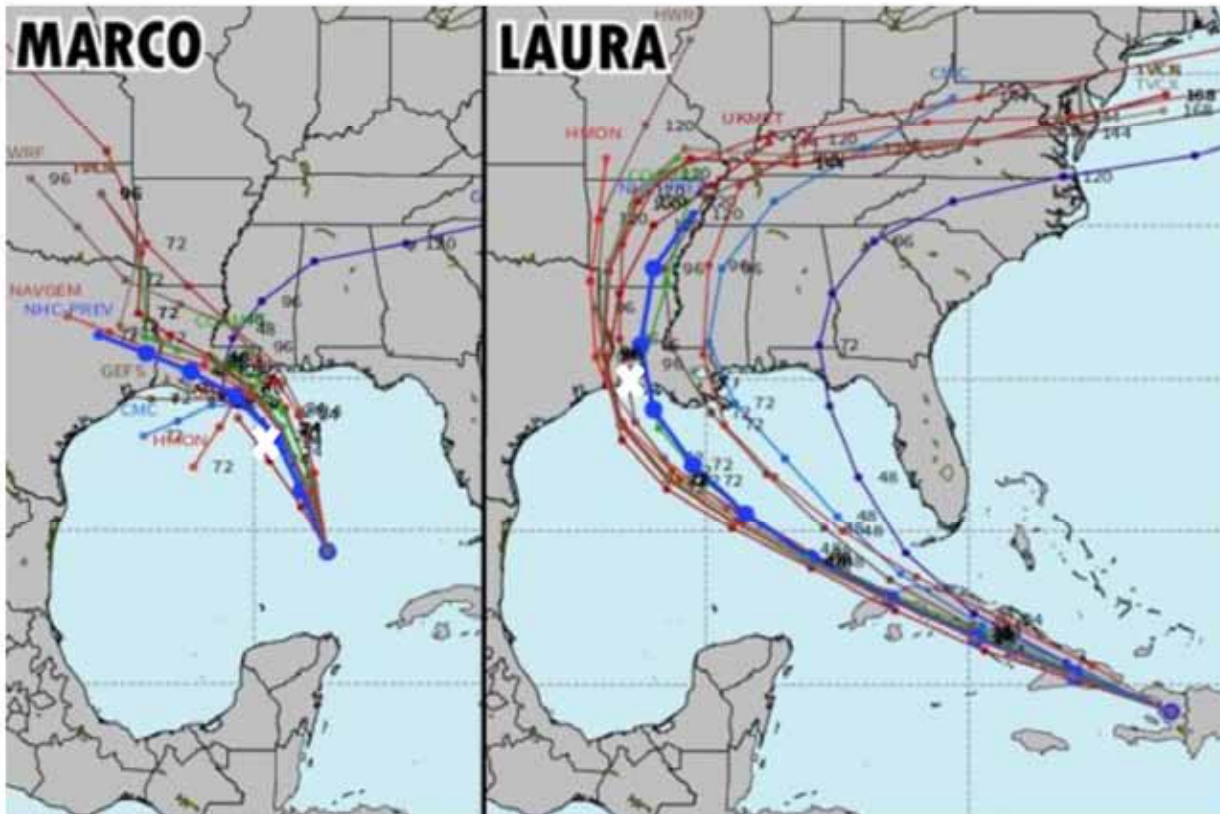
WHAT WEATHER MODEL SHOULD YOU USE FOR YOUR HURRICANE FORECASTING?

- The GFS (American model)
- The Euro (European model)
- The UKMET (UK model)
- The HWRF (Hurricane model)
- I like Spaghetti
- You shouldn't.



- In 2021, no individual model performed better than the official NHC track forecasts.
- A few consensus aids (dashed lines) did slightly outperform NHC at early lead times.

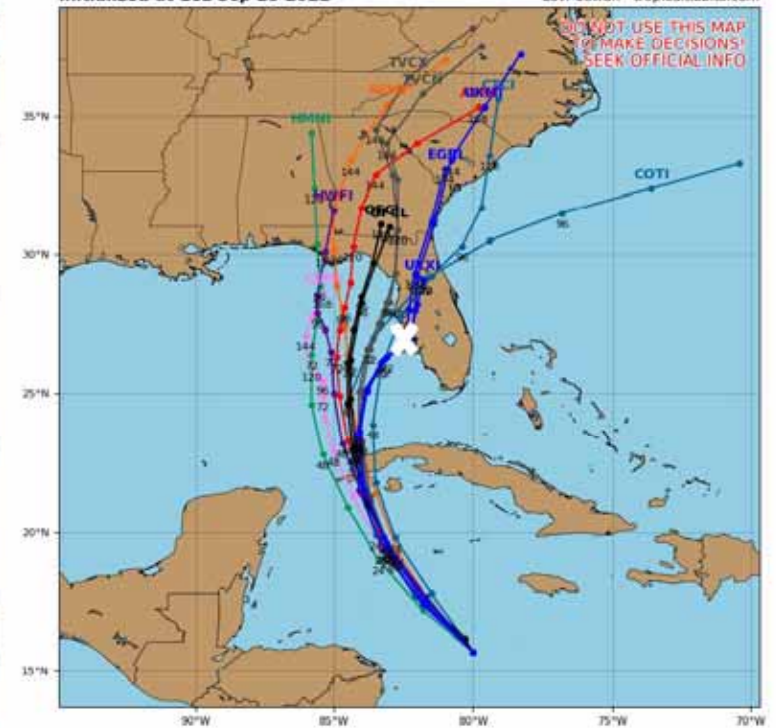
SPAGHETTI MODELS- PICK YOUR FAVORITE LINE



Tropical Storm IAN Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 18z Sep 25 2022

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com





WIND HAZARDS AND COMMUNICATION

THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON **WIND** SCALE

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale


Category 1 - 5

1

WIND: 74-95 mph

DAMAGE: Very dangerous winds will produce some damage

2

WIND: 96-110 mph

DAMAGE: Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage

3

WIND: 111-129 mph

DAMAGE: Devastating damage will occur

4

WIND: 130-156 mph

DAMAGE: Catastrophic damage will occur

5

WIND: 157 mph or higher

DAMAGE: Catastrophic damage will occur



WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES



- Available for 34kt, 50kt, 64kt wind speeds out 5 days
- Remember, low probabilities can be significant!

HOW ARE THEY MADE?

Based on 1,000 realistic alternative scenarios created using:

- Official NHC track and intensity forecast
- Historical NHC track and intensity forecast errors
- Climatology and persistence wind radii model

Uses model spread to account for track uncertainty.

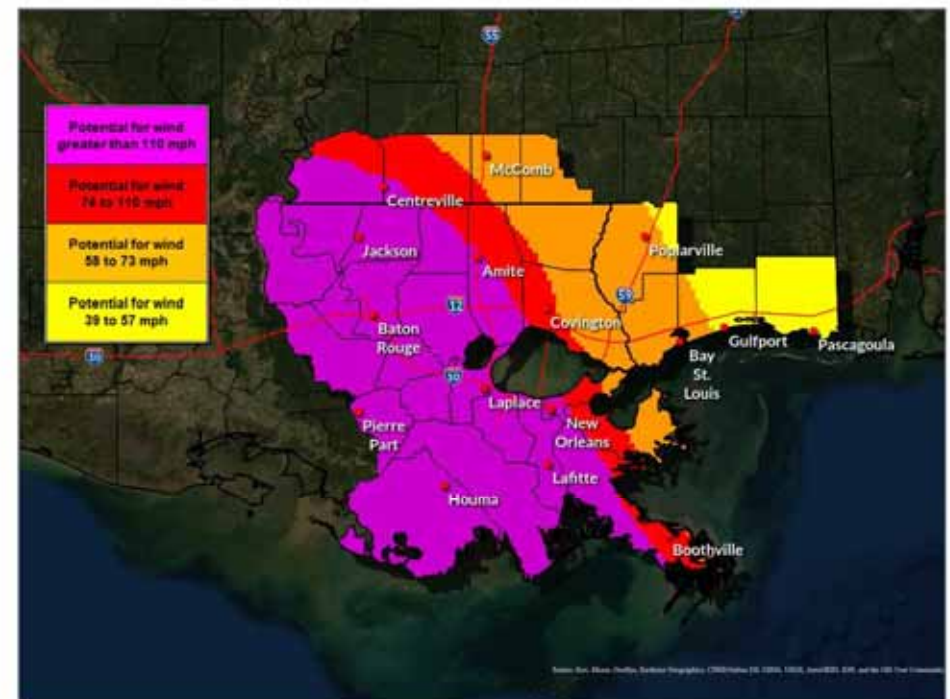
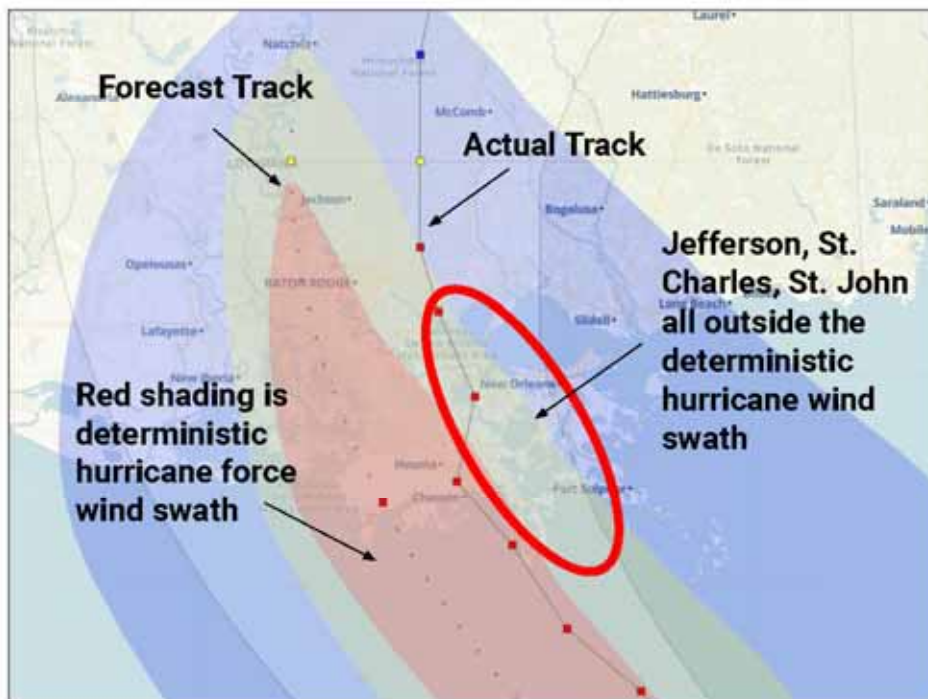


HURRICANE THREATS AND IMPACTS GRAPHICS (HTI)

- Probabilistic forecast based on the current NHC advisory and accounting for reasonable forecast errors
- Wind, Tornado, Surge, Flooding
- Provides the POTENTIAL of what you should prepare for- likely will **be higher** than what is in the forecast
- Example from Hurricane Ida 10am 8/28.



WHY USE HTI'S?



All graphics associated with the 10am CDT forecast 8/28 for Hurricane Ida

TIME OF ARRIVAL GRAPHICS

- Provides probabilistic time of arrival of 34 KT/39 MPH winds
- Earliest reasonable is based on 10% threshold- 90% chance that the storm will arrive AFTER the time on the graphic.
- Most likely is based on 50% threshold.

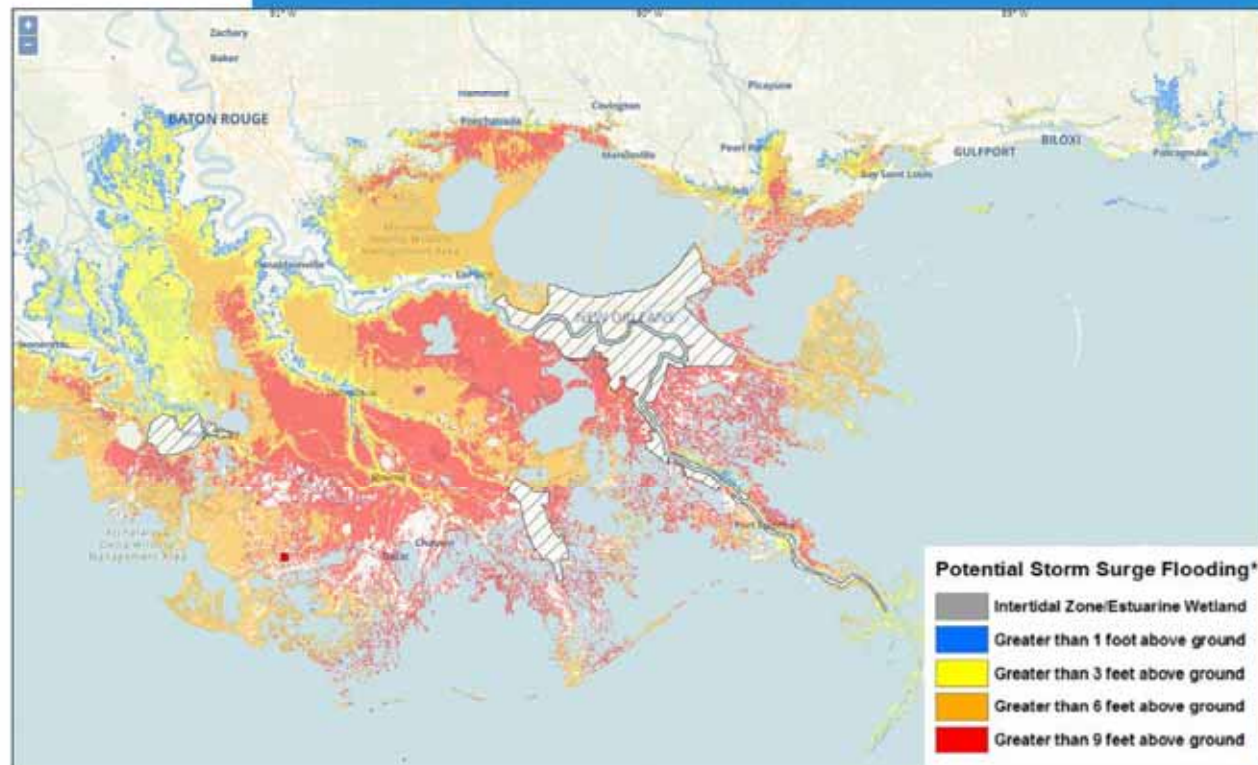


STORM SURGE



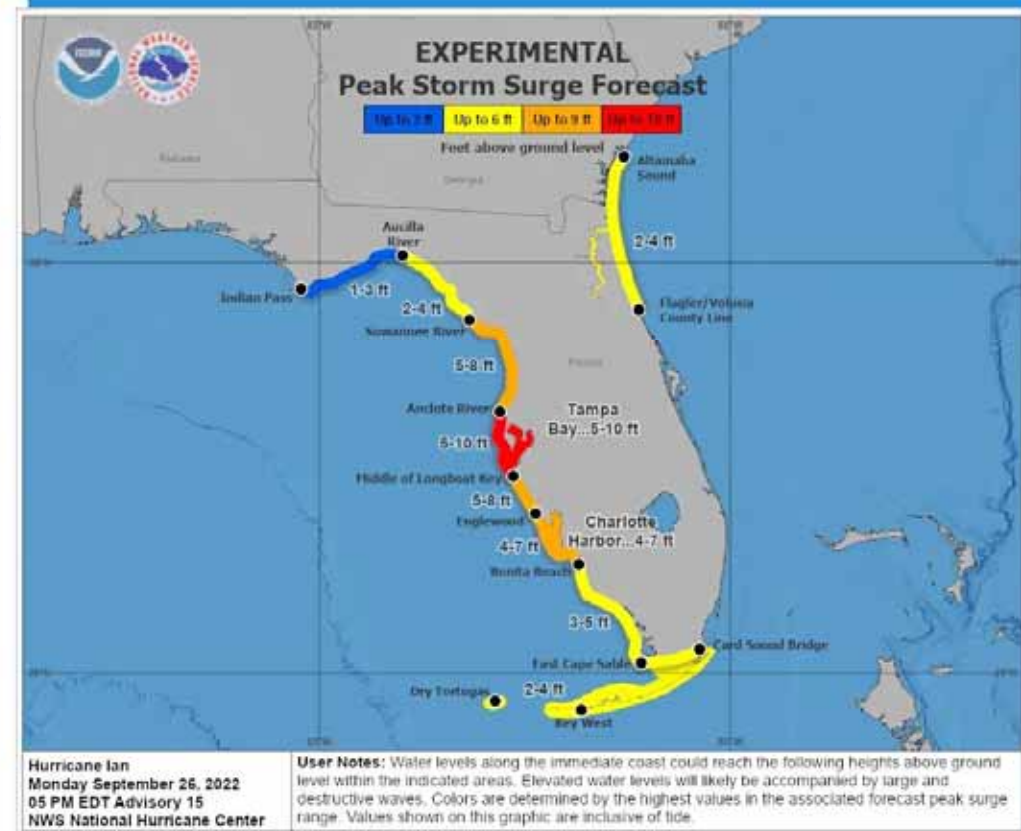
STORM SURGE FLOODING MAP

- Based on probabilistic surge forecasts
- Provides a reasonable worst case inundation at each location based on the current NHC forecast track and intensity.
- Shows how high above ground the water is forecast to go, in 3 feet intervals.



PEAK STORM SURGE FORECAST GRAPHIC

- Provides potential peak inundation values along the open coast
- Not everywhere will see these values
- Does NOT indicate potential depths away from the open coast
- Available around advisory time when watches/warnings are in effect.



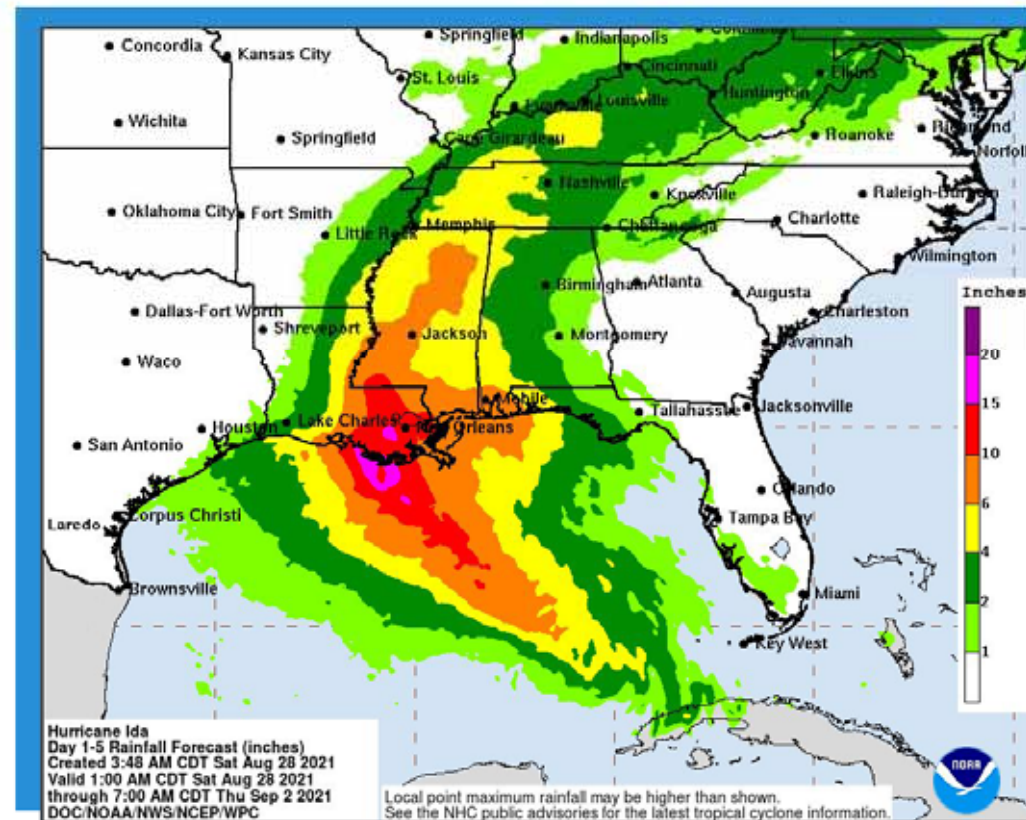


NOFD

FLOODING RAIN

DETERMINISTIC RAINFALL FORECAST (QPF)

- Rainfall forecast graphics for tropical systems are created with a broader color scale .
- They are hosted on both the WPC and NHC website and typically include 3 to 5 days of rainfall depending on the storm.



RESOURCES

www.weather.gov/neworleans

www.weather.gov/srh/tropical?office=lix

www.nhc.noaa.gov

www.facebook.com/NWSNewOrleans

www.twitter.com/NWSNewOrleans

www.weather.gov/lix/embrief

(includes link to latest briefing slides and recording)

And last but not least... US! If you're struggling to put together the pieces, give us a call. We're here to help!

QUESTIONS?!?!?

LAUREN NASH

LAUREN.NASH@NOAA.GOV

STORM PREPARATION & EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Michael Kinler

*Chief, Port Fourchon Harbor Police
Greater Lafourche Port Commission*



GLPC Storm Phases

Official evacuation orders come from the parish president, but the Port Commission closely monitors Gulf weather activity that may affect Port Fourchon and the South Lafourche Airport. GLPC reports on approaching storms using these storm phases:

- **Seasonal Alert**
- **Phase I - Storm Watch**
- **Phase II - Voluntary Evacuation**
- **Phase III - Recommended Evacuation**
- **Phase IV - Mandatory Evacuation**
- **Phase V - Storm in Port**
- **Recovery Phase**

Seasonal Alert

This alert indicates the beginning of hurricane season, which lasts from June 1 through November 30 of each year.

- **This seasonal alert serves as a reminder that as storm season begins, it is time to review your facility's plan for storm season and share any updates to your contact information with GLPC.**
- **There is no specific storm or weather condition associated with this phase.**



Phase 1: Storm Watch

This phase indicates that GLPC is monitoring a weather condition in the Gulf that is expected to affect the Gulf Coast. Port personnel will begin sending weather updates to port facilities.



- When you see a Phase 1 alert, there is a weather condition developing, and we are watching it for potential effects to the port area.
- Be thoughtful of stockpiling any loose material or excess items that could fly or be damaged if Port Fourchon is affected by a storm.
- At Phase 1, the Emergency Storm Harbor Marina just inside the South Lafourche Levee System at the Golden Meadow lock will be activated for use by commercial fishing vessels seeking refuge from an approaching storm on a first come, first served basis.

Phase 2: Voluntary Evacuation

This phase indicates that tropical force winds are expected to be in Port Fourchon within 72 hours.

- Begin securing, fastening down, or moving equipment out of port.
- Determine special needs and intentions of vessels moored at your facility.
- Update your contact people and confirm evacuation plans.



NOTE: Evacuation times may vary dependent upon storm conditions, i.e., projected path, storm strength and forward speed, pre-storm weather, and road conditions.

Phase 3: Recommended Evacuation

This phase indicates that tropical force winds are expected to be in Port Fourchon within 50 hours.

- Non-essential personnel should evacuate port.
- Secure hazards and clear nonessential equipment from facility grounds such as pallets, lumber, stone, etc.
- All small craft owned by the facility that can be hauled out or trailered should be removed from the water and secured well away from the effects of possible storm surge and high winds.
- Prepare office areas to minimize water intrusion damage.
- Secure your buildings to prevent storm damage by applying storm shutters or plywood over windows or doors.
- Secure fuel tanks and storage areas.
- Check regularly for up-to-date info from the Port Commission on the approaching storm.

Note: No NEW mooring dolphin rentals will be accepted once Phase 3 is activated. All unleased mooring dolphins will be considered first come, first served until the storm has passed.



Phase 4: Mandatory Evacuation

This phase indicates that tropical force winds are expected to be in Port Fourchon within 36 hours.

- All remaining personnel should evacuate port.
- Shut off your facility's utilities (water, power, gas) to minimize damage.

NOTE: Twelve hours after mandatory evacuation has been ordered, LA 1 will be closed to all vehicles south of the Leon Theriot Lock in Golden Meadow.



LA 1 Closure at Leon Theriot Lock in Golden Meadow



**POLICE
CHECK POINT
AHEAD
AUTHORIZED
VEHICLES
ONLY**





Gate

**Checkpoint at Leon Theriot Lock
in Golden Meadow**

Port Fourchon Harbor Police: Last Ones Out, First Ones In



Phase 5: Storm in Port

This phase indicates that tropical force winds are expected to be in Port Fourchon within 24 hours.

- GLPC Ordinance No. 71 applies in Phase 5: No unattended vessels in the port area.
- Check regularly for updates from the Port Commission via email or social media.



Recovery Phase

This phase indicates that the storm has passed and port personnel are entering the area, assessing the damages to highways and facilities, and clearing debris and power lines.



- The purpose of the Recovery Phase is to ensure that Port Fourchon is safe and operational as soon as possible after a storm.
- As soon as safety allows, a port re-entry team will coordinate a damage assessment of all waterways and roadways leading into and out of Port Fourchon.
- **Please stay out of the area until you are given clearance.** Your presence may hamper or delay recovery efforts. Neither vessels nor aircraft shall enter the port until port damage assessment has been completed and the all clear is given.

Clearing Roadways of Storm Debris



Bringing in Crews and Equipment



Surveying Roadways and Waterways



- **The Port Commission will notify you** when limited or full access is given to tenants to return and assess any damages to their facilities.



Post-Storm Re-Entry

- Expect roadblocks on roadways leading to the port, including LA 1 & LA 3235.
- No one will be allowed through a checkpoint until the road is safe and has been cleared for re-entry.
- When it is safe to re-enter, you will be notified.
- You may be expected to show identification upon re-entry. Bring your ID, TWIC, and parish re-entry credentials.





**Potential Checkpoint on Hwy. 3090 at
GLPC's Fourchon Operations Center**

**POLICE
CHECK POINT
AHEAD
AUTHORIZED
VEHICLES
ONLY**





**Potential checkpoint on LA 1
toward Grand Isle**

**POLICE
CHECK POINT
AHEAD
AUTHORIZED
VEHICLES
ONLY**

Questions?

Greater Lafourche Port Commission

www.portfourchon.com

LAFOURCHE PARISH POST-STORM RE-ENTRY

Eric Benoit

*Office of Emergency Preparedness
Lafourche Parish Government*





LAFOURCHE PARISH GOVERNMENT

RE-ENTRY PROGRAM UPDATES



CONTACT INFO

- ERIC BENOIT
- [erichb@lafourchegov.org](mailto:ericb@lafourchegov.org)
- 985-493-6922
- www.parishreentry.com/lafourche

COMMUNICATIONS

John Crochet

*Director of Information Technology
Greater Lafourche Port Commission*



Storm Season Communications

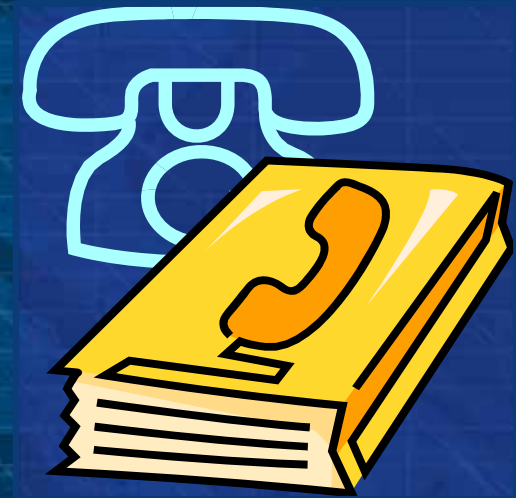
- **BE PREPARED:** Make sure the Port Commission has your current contact information, and vice versa, so that we can stay in touch regarding storm events.
- **KEEP YOURSELF INFORMED:** We send out updates via email, text, and social media, and we post them on our Weather & Storm Info webpage at *www.portfourchon.com* along with storm-related information and resources.

Tenant Information We Request

We ask for updated contact information from our tenants every year. Why?

To keep our port and airport users safe and informed during emergencies.

You can find multiple options for updating important contact information on our *Weather & Storm Info* webpage at www.portfourchon.com.



Emergency Notification/ FSO Contact Info Form

- This form is used to identify your facility's ***Facility Security Officer (FSO)***, who is the person responsible for securing your facility.
- The FSO will be the first to receive facility-specific safety, security, and recovery updates from the Greater Lafourche Port Commission.
- Please use this form to update your FSO's name and most current contact information.



READY TODAY.
READY FOR TOMORROW.

Emergency Notification/FSO Contact Info Form

Please use this form to update name and contact information for your facility's FSO (Facility Security Officer), who is the person responsible for securing your facility. In the event of an emergency, the FSO will be the first to receive facility-specific safety, security, and recovery updates from the Port Commission. Send completed forms via email to info@portfourchon.com or via fax to (985) 632-6703.

PLEASE PRINT

Company Name: _____

FSO (Facility Security Officer)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Email Address: _____

Facility Physical Address: _____

Facility Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone #: _____

Fax #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Company Website: _____

Does your facility have a security and safety plan? _____ If so, would you be willing to share it? _____ *

Does your facility have a hurricane/weather plan? _____ If so, would you be willing to share it? _____ *

**To share security and safety and/or hurricane/weather plans, please email Fourchon Harbor Police at harborex@portfourchon.com.*

Port Fourchon Operations Center

180 A.G. Rappelet Road
Port Fourchon, LA 70357
Phone: (985) 396-2750

Greater Lafourche Port Commission Administration Office

19829 East Main Street
Cul. Off. LA 70345
Phone: (985) 632-6701
Fax: (985) 632-6703
Email: gpc@portfourchon.com
www.portfourchon.com

GAO - South Lafourche Leonard Miller, Jr. Airport

149 King Air Drive
Galliano, LA 70354
Phone: (985) 475-6701

Cybersecurity Contact Info Form

- This form is used to identify your facility's **Cybersecurity Contact**, who is the person responsible for securing your facility's cyber data and technology.
- The Cybersecurity/ CISO/ IT contact will be the first to receive facility-specific cybersecurity and data or technology-related updates from the Port Commission.
- Please use this form to update your Cybersecurity Contact's name and most current contact information.



READY TODAY.
READY FOR TOMORROW.

Cybersecurity Contact Info Form

Please use this form to update contact information for your facility's cybersecurity contact, who is the person responsible for securing your facility's cyber data and technology. The *Cybersecurity/ CISO/ IT Contact* will be the first to receive cybersecurity updates and potential threat information from the Port Commission. Send completed forms via email to info@portfourchon.com or via fax to (985) 632-6703.

PLEASE PRINT

Company Name: _____

Cybersecurity/CISO/IT Contact

Name: _____

Title: _____

Email Address: _____

Facility Physical Address: _____

Facility Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone #: _____

Fax #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Company Website: _____

Other Important Contact Info: _____

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149 King Air Drive
Galliano, LA 70354
Phone: (985) 475-6701

Directory Listing Contact Info Form

- This form is used to add or update your facility's most current directory listing information.
- The Port Commission's website directory is where the public looks for information to contact companies and facilities in Port Fourchon and at the South Lafourche Airport, including:
 - Physical and mailing addresses
 - Phone and fax numbers
 - Company website, if desired
- *This information is published in our port and airport directories at www.portfourchon.com and is publicly accessible online.*



READY TODAY.
READY FOR TOMORROW.

Directory Listing Contact Info Form

Please use this form to update your port or airport facility's directory listing information, which is published online at www.portfourchon.com under CONTACT US, PORT FOURCHON, and SOUTH LAFOURCHE AIRPORT tabs. Our web directory is where the public looks for information on port and airport companies. Send completed forms via email to info@portfourchon.com or via fax to (985) 632-6703.

PLEASE PRINT

Company Name: _____

*DBA Name, if any: _____

*Doing Business As

☐ PORT FOURCHON FACILITY ☐ SL AIRPORT FACILITY ☐ OTHER-Specify: _____

Facility Physical Address: _____

Facility Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone #: _____

Office Fax #: _____

Company Website: _____

If you would like to add your company's website to its directory listing on www.portfourchon.com, please check here: ☐

Facility Contact Person Name: _____

Title: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Other Important Contact Info: _____

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Port Fourchon, LA 70357

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Galliano, LA 70354

Phone: (985) 475-6701

Public Information Update Signup Form

This form is used for *both tenants and the public* to sign up to receive informational email updates from the Greater Lafourche Port Commission, including:

- Local Road & Bridge Updates
- Bayou, Floodgate, & Lock Updates
**in conjunction with the South Lafourche Levee District*
- Weather & Storm Season Updates
- Port Commission Meeting Notices
- Port Commission Press Releases
- Seaport & Airport Facilities Notices

You can also subscribe online on our NOTIFY ME webpage.



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Name: _____ Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____ Other: _____

Choose which updates you would like to receive:

___ **Local Road & Bridge Updates** - Updates on roadways and bridges, including construction advisories and closure notices affecting South Lafourche and the Port Fourchon area

___ **Bayou, Floodgate, & Lock Updates** - Updates on local waterways, including bayou closures and lock and/or floodgate notices affecting waterways in South Lafourche and the Port Fourchon area

___ **Weather & Storm Season Updates** - Updates on weather impacting the South Lafourche area, including Port Fourchon and the South Lafourche Airport, as well as storm season notices

___ **Port Commission Meeting Notices** - GLPC committee and board meeting notices and links to agendas

___ **Port Commission Press Releases** - GLPC press releases featuring Greater Lafourche Port Commission, Port Fourchon, and South Lafourche Airport news and information

___ **Seaport Facilities Notices** - Notices for people who work at Port Fourchon facilities or tenant companies

___ **Airport Facilities Notices** - Notices for people who work at SL Airport facilities or tenant companies

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Cut Off, LA 70345

Phone: (985) 632-6701
Fax: (985) 632-6703
Email: glpc@portfourchon.com

www.portfourchon.com

GAO - South Lafourche Leonard Miller, Jr. Airport

149 King Air Drive
Galliano, LA 70354

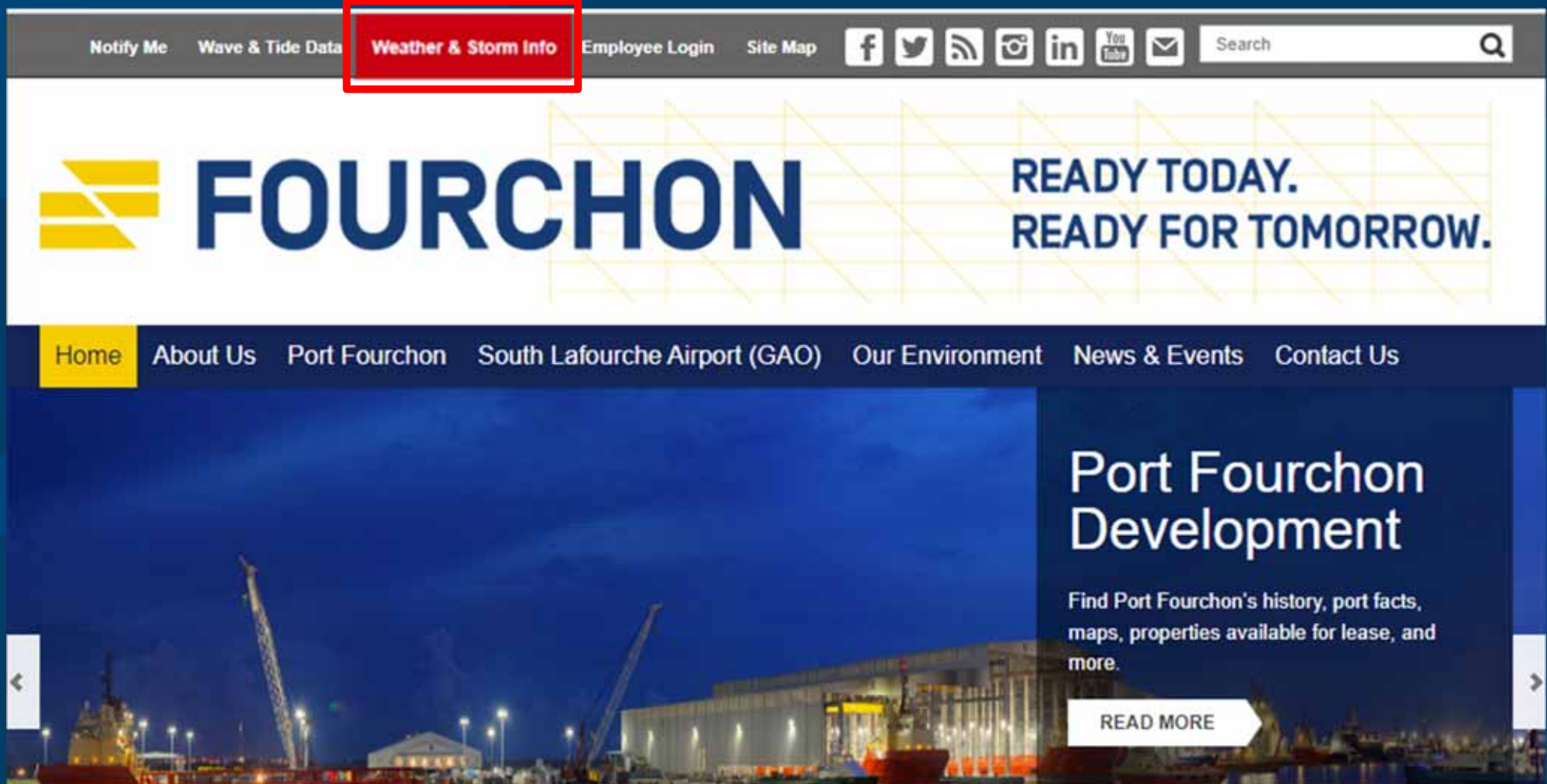
Phone: (985) 475-6701

Information We Share: Communications

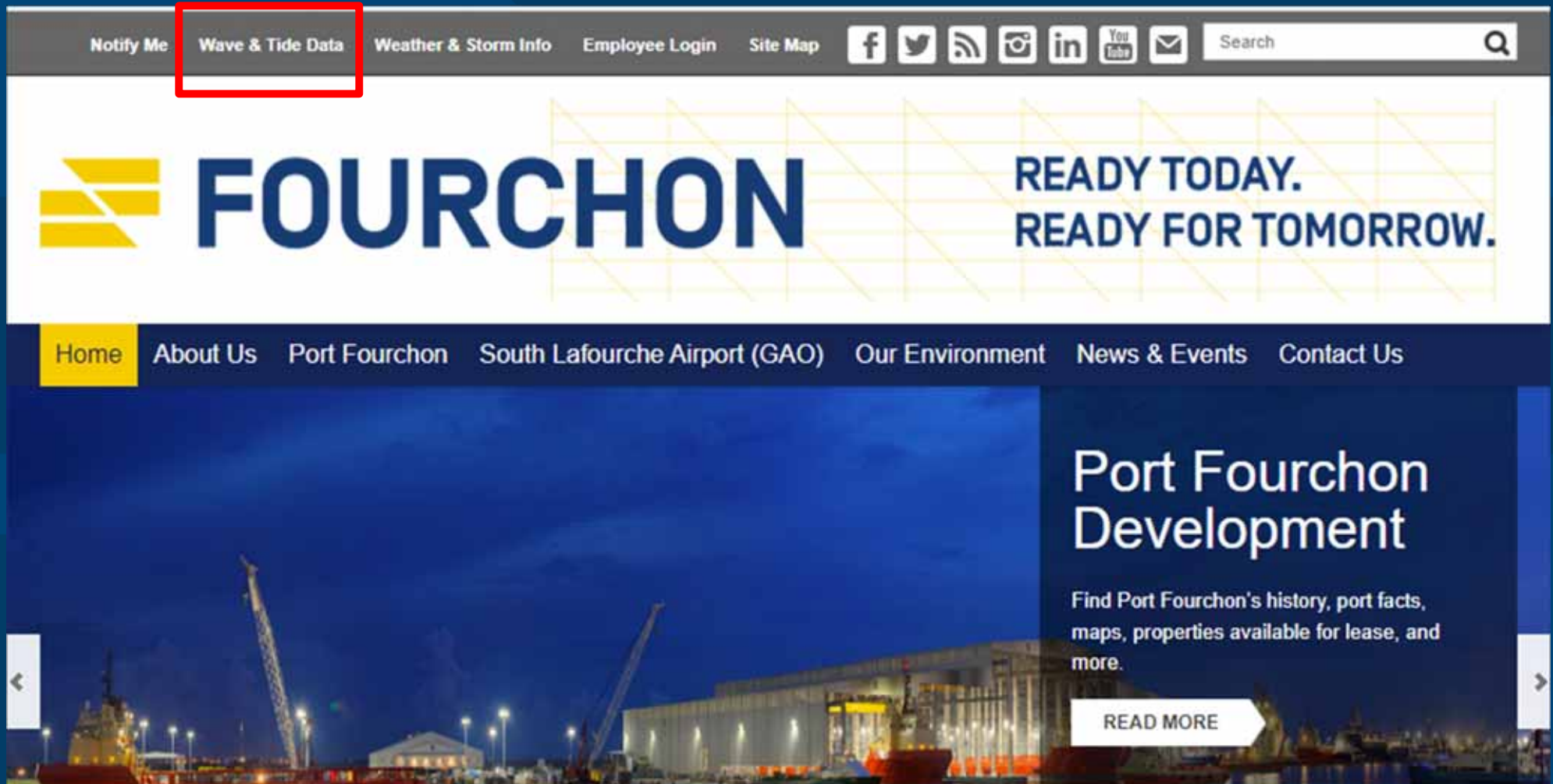
To keep our tenants informed, the Port Commission has instituted numerous ways for you to get up-to-date storm-related information as it pertains to Port Fourchon.

- **Port Commission Website – www.portfourchon.com**
 - Find the latest weather and storm-related information on our WEATHER & STORM INFO page
- **Email Notifications**
 - Sign up for notifications and manage your subscription preferences on our NOTIFY ME webpage
- **Social Media**
 - Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram
- **Public Service Announcements**
 - Broadcast updates on local radio and/or television stations

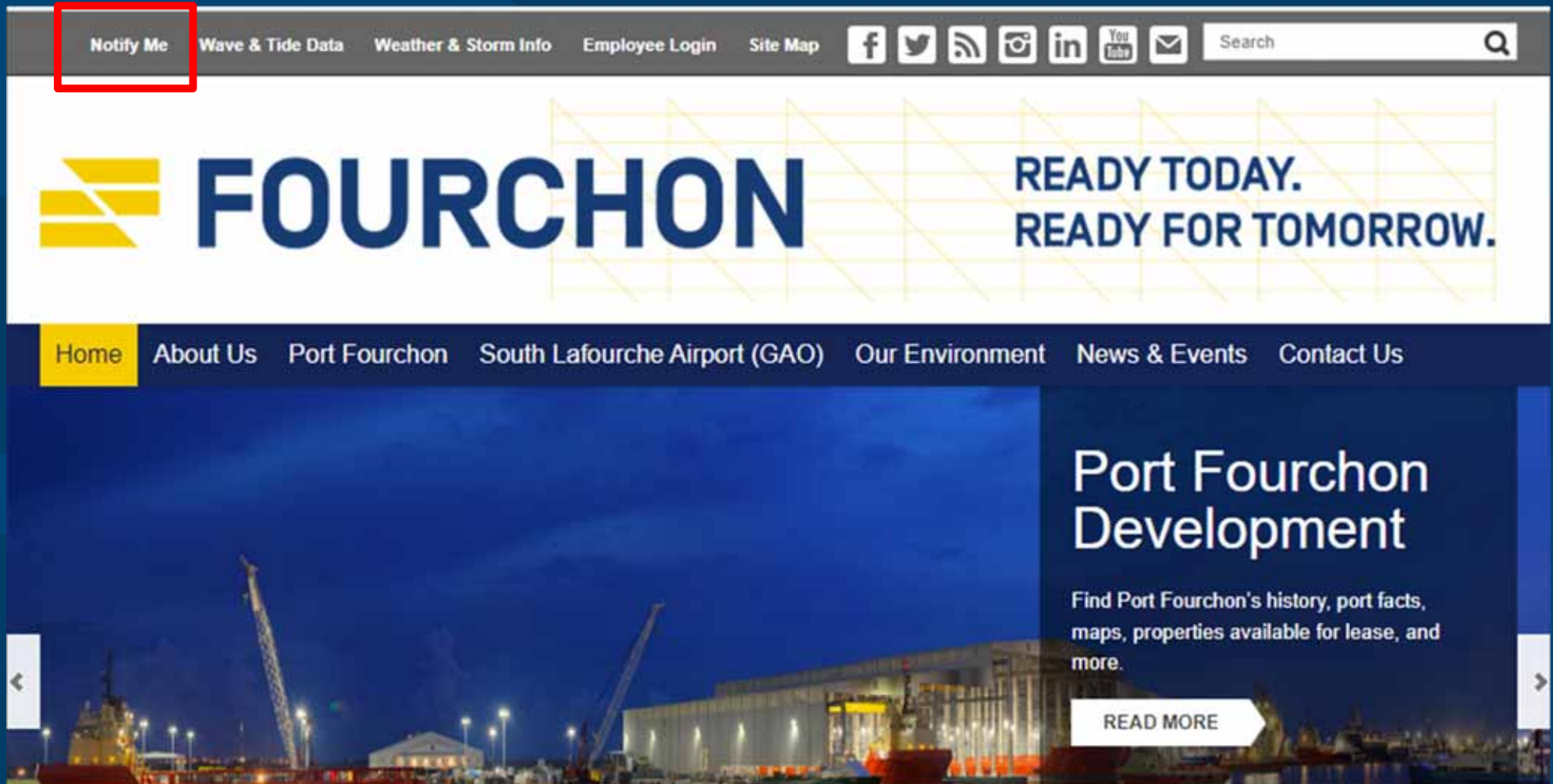
Website Feature: WEATHER & STORM INFO



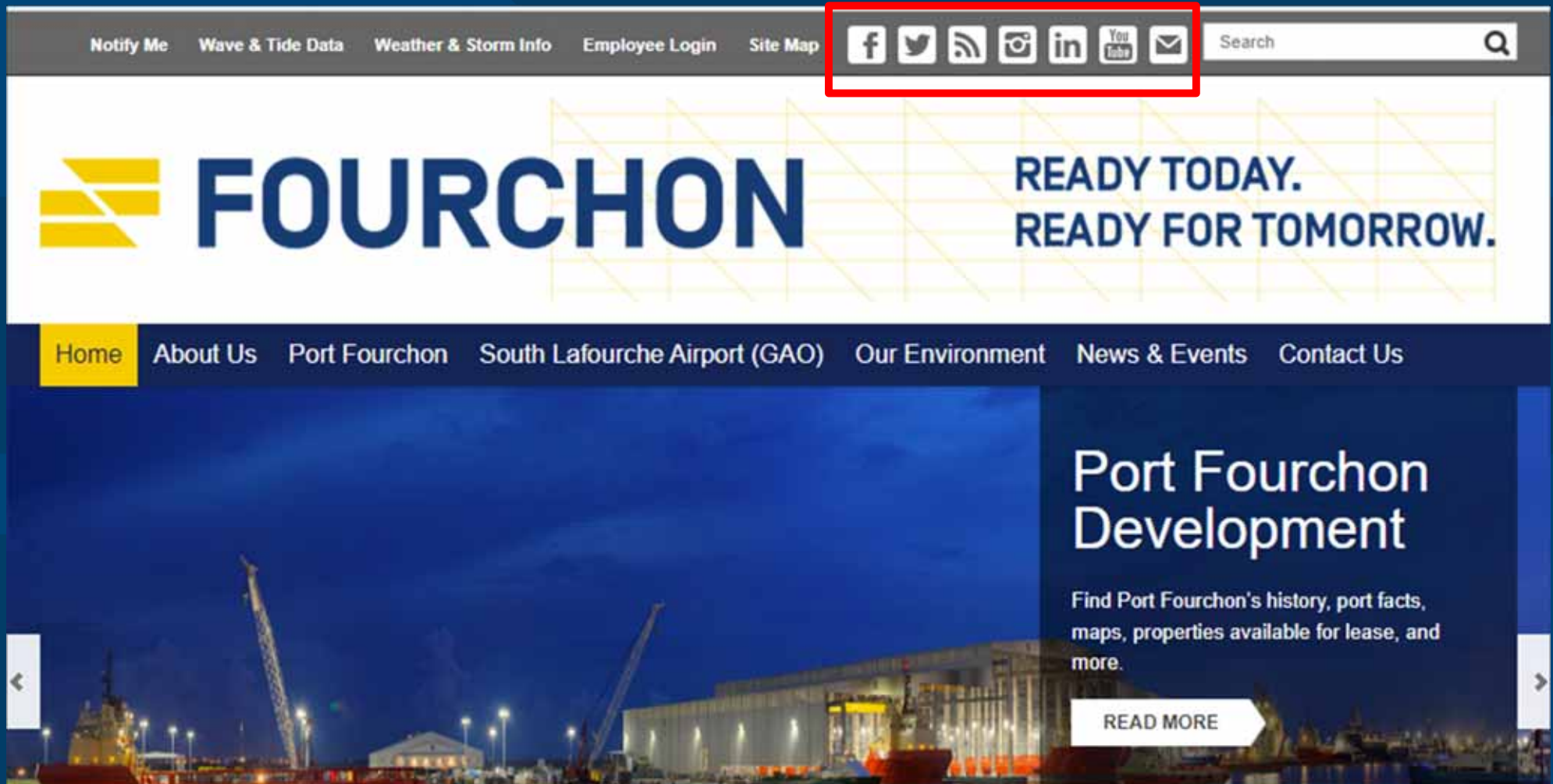
Website Feature: WAVE & TIDE DATA



Website Feature: NOTIFY ME



Website Feature: SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS



***THANK YOU for viewing the
2023 Hurricane Readiness Meeting
Presentation***

We Are  FOURCHON

We Are  FOURCHON