### Town of St. James 2024 Annual Severe Storm Seminar

Mayor Jean Toner, Town of St. James

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• Mary Nash, Deputy Director, TOSJ Emergency Management

VIIRS – S-NPP – I-Band 5 - 11µm – Hurricane Dorian 3 September 2019, 2:43am EDT

#### **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

Building a Weather-Ready Nation // 1

NOAA

## Town of St. James

## **Mayor Jean Toner**

## Town of St. James

## **Emergency Management Team**

## Mary Nash Deputy Director

## St. James POA

## **President Bill Lendh**



## 2024 Hurricane Emergency Contingency

Plan

Based on standards promulgated by the Disaster Management Bureau and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)





# Before During After

June 6, 2024 Town of St. James Severe Storm Seminar

### **BEFORE the STORM**

#### □ Security Activities

- Scheduling Personnel and Emergency equipment
- Monitor By Roving Patrols roadways and bridges for flooding and possible closure, aid traffic control, and evacuation
- Control Restrict incoming traffic if directed by the Mayor
- Gates Disable entry gates when/ for mandatory evacuation

#### □ Direct clean up of all construction sites and monitor progress

### **BEFORE the STORM**

#### **Storm Water Infrastructure**

- Inspect System is free from debris
- Pumps Turn off pond well pumps
- Ponds Lower ponds as necessary (121 ponds, 12 pond control gates)

#### □ Secure the Beach Club, Parks, and POA Office



### **DURING the STORM**

Communicate to resident's gate closures / reopening Update POA communications if possible

### Tropical storms

- Provide gate security
- Monitor stormwater infrastructure
- Monitor road, pond, creek flooding and blockage

### Major hurricanes

- Security and POA staff leave
- Gates are locked in open position
- Continue status reporting to the EOC
- Maintain emergency contact information for staff



### **AFTER the STORM**

#### Determine re-entry criteria for staff and contractor personnel in coordination with EM

When contractors can resume work

#### □ Organize Security routines

- Personnel Scheduling
- Restore normal gate security, patrols, remote gates

#### □ Manage the Storm Water System

- Ensure the System is free from debris and is functional
- Close the pond gates and re-establish pond well pumps



### **AFTER the STORM**

Assess damage to roads, common property, parks, Beach Club and clean-up common property

□ Provide common property damage information to EM



# St. James Fire Department

**Chief Scott Boyer** 

SJFD – Hurricane / Severe Weather Seminar June 6, 2024 St. James Fire Department is a 100% volunteer organization:

#### **Services Provided:**

A: Fire Department – Two stations located within the gates of St. James to serve quick response to residents. Each are equipped with fire fighting equipment and other rescue vehicles. We have 45 firefighters & Drivers that man the stations when called on by C-Com.

B: EMS Department – EMS operates out of station 1 and has two ambulances that serve the residents of St James. We have 28 first responders assigned to these vehicles when called on by C-Com.

C: Fire Police – FP operate out of station 1 and goes direct to the incident to help traffic control and may assist EMS. We have 13 responders assigned to areas to control the scene when called on.

**Storm Expectations:** 

During severe weather the stations are manned with crews to respond to 911 calls that residents may incur if safe. What we mean by safe is if the winds are below 40 mph and precipitation is manageable we will send out crews to major areas of St James to clear roads for emergency vehicles to access if needed check on residents homes.

We are governed by county restrictions if an mandatory evacuation order has been put into place you need to evacuate. If this order is in place we will not respond, you are on your own.

There are too many scenarios to cover, but we will provide a quick and safe response to the needs of the community. Safety is our first concern for all first responders and residents. Here are a few safe examples of services provided after the storm and we are able to start checking on roads, residents and buildings.

Safe Example 1: Tree uproots and falls on your house, we will respond and see if anyone is trapped, if so we will try and get all residents out. We will not remove the tree on top of the house.

Safe Example 2: Your car or neighbor's car is upside down in the road. We will remove the car or cars from blocking that road. We will not tow it to a repair shop.

Safe Example 3: Your house or neighbor's house is on fire, we will respond and extinguish or contain the fire. If anyone is hurt our EMS will respond and provide aid as needed.

#### **Preventive Measures:**

All residents should pre-plan for this event days prior to actual day when the storm is expected to strike. The Emergency Management Center has guidelines for you to review and follow. Contact them now so you are familiar with their recommendations.

Everyone stay safe and we're here for you in time of need.

Regards,

Scott Boyer, Chief SJFD

# **Brunswick County**

## **Sheriff Brian Chism**

# **Brunswick County**

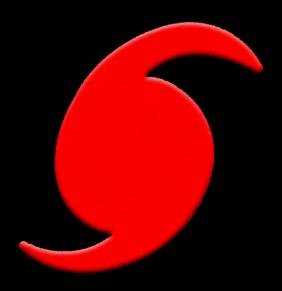
## First Sgt. TK Nowell



# Brunswick County Sheriff's Office

### **SHERIFF BRIAN M. CHISM**

# Hurricane Preparations and Response



### Storm response

- Anticipation of an upcoming storm
  - BCSO Command staff meet with various local, state and federal leaders to discuss and prepare for safe evacuation, shelter and the return of citizens to Brunswick County.
  - All essential emergency equipment and supplies will be checked.
- Upon storm approach
  - Voluntary evacuation issued
  - Shelters will open and staffed with deputies
  - All employees will be on 1 hour telephone standby

Storm response

- Awaiting impact
  - Mandatory evacuation will be issued.
  - All essential employees will be activated and given their assignments and areas.

HURRICANE

**EVACUATION** 

ROUTE

• One deputy assigned to Emergency Operations Center hotline.

### Personnel Assignment

 Increase patrol shift from 15 Deputies to 30 to provide maximum county wide coverage.

- Additional personnel are on standby for emergency situations:
  - Road Closures
  - Assist NCSHP with evacuation routes
  - Four wheel drive vehicles available for response throughout county
  - Bridge Closures

BCSO along with Emergency Management transports emergency supplies to pre-stage the opening of shelters.

## 911 Communications

- Operate on 12 hour shifts
  - 6am 6pm, 6pm 6am
  - 26 dispatchers divided between the 2 shifts



- Senior Supervisor is liaison between Emergency Management and 911 center for distributing information to first responders.
- Relay non-emergency calls to Emergency Operations Center.

## Animal Shelter

APS workers will be assigned to the shelter as necessary during storms.

Shelters that are pet friendly will be announced at the time of sotrm APS worker will be onsite

- If you evacuate, take your pet with you! -No drop offs allowed-
  - Remember foods and medications
  - Limited to dogs and cats ONLY!

## Marine Patrol

- Marine Patrol units remain in water and on patrol until storm is a Category 1.
  - At that time, they are removed and safely stored until storm passes.
  - Captains remain on standby.
  - Airboat is used if flooding exists, and rescue is needed.



## **Detention Staff**

- Jail administration will increase the number of detention officers on day shift from **14 to 20.**
- On night shift an increase from 14 to 17 officers.
- This will provide maximum facility coverage.
- Cafeteria prepares to supply food for 2 weeks to operate on site.
- Generators fueled and tested
- Medical staff to remain onsite and prepare inventories for 2-3 weeks
- Weekenders are deferred and rescheduled



## Additional Resources

- SHERP
- High Rise Rescue Vehicles
- Multipurpose Hauler
- Command Bus
- 4WD vehicles
- Offroad UTV/Fourwheeler
- Aviation/Drones

### Local Emergency Shelter Locations



#### 2-3 Deputies assigned for 12 hr duty

### Town Creek Middle -School-Winnabow

Cedar Gove Middle School- Supply

West Brunswick High School - Shallotte



# **Brunswick County**

## **David McIntire**

Director Brunswick County Emergency Management



## Brunswick County Emergency Management

**Severe Weather Preparedness** 



Emergency Management Director David.mcintire@brunswickcountync.gov 910.253.5383

## **Right Actions and Right Attitude**

| Plans<br>(All of them)   | Supplies                  | Shelter-in-place<br>Vs.<br>Evacuate | Emergency<br>Notification<br>Systems           |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Be Detailed<br>Be Deliberate<br>Have a Back-Up (or 2)<br>Share w/Family &<br>friends | Personal<br>Family<br>Pet | Do I Stay or Do I Go?               | <b>ReadyBrunswick</b><br>Powered by Everbridge |

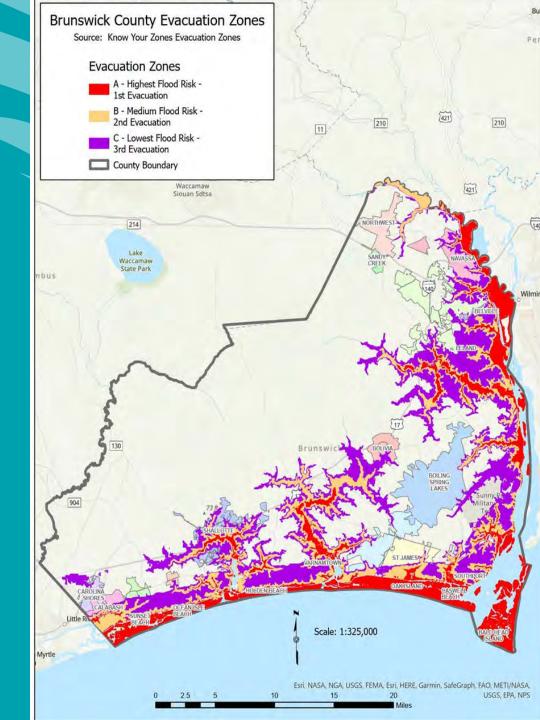
## Do <u>NOT</u> Make Plans Based on Hurricane Category Alone

- Where do you live?
- What are your specific needs?
- What are your resources?

- Do you have a back-up generator? Fuel?
- How well is your house built?

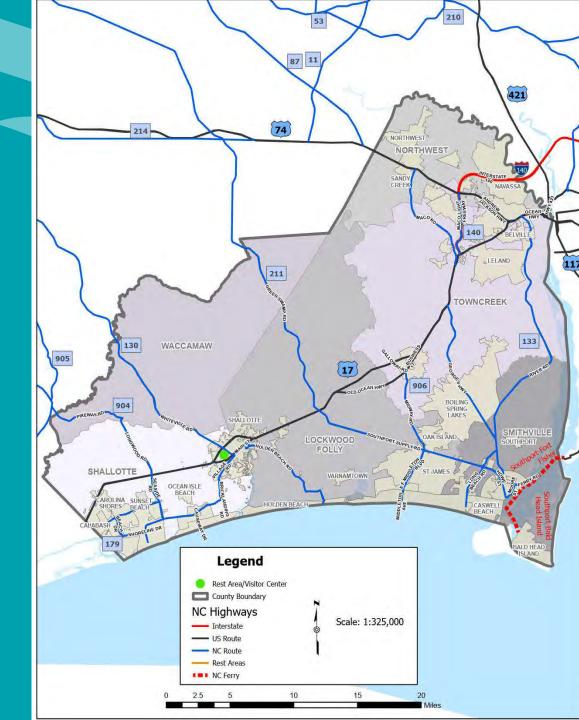
### Know Your Zone Your Evacuation Zone

https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergencymanagement/emergency-preparedness/know-yourzone



### Know Your Way Your Evacuation Routes

https://www.ncdot.gov/travelmaps/maps/Pages/evacuation-routes.aspx



### **Severe Storm Timeline**

#### **Before the Storm**

Make Plans Gather Supplies Gather Documents Shelter Considerations Sign Up For ReadyBrunswick Prepare Your Property.

#### **During the Storm**

Practice Generator Safety Shelter-in-Place Monitor Local Media Avoid The Use Of Candles.

#### After the Storm

Power Outages Flooded/Closed Roads Check Property Contact Insurance Company Always Be Safe.

# THANK YOU! ANY QUESTIONS?

David McIntire Emergency Management Director David.mcintire@brunswickcountync.gov 910.253.5383

Brunswick County Government Center Building C 3325 Old Ocean Hwy, Bolivia, NC 28422



# **Brunswick County**

# **Billy Howard**

## Access and Functional Needs Program

# Brunswick County Emergency Management

Access and Functional Needs

## Access and Functional Needs Populations

- Populations whose members may have additional needs before, during, and after an incident in functional areas, including but not limited to: maintaining independence, communication, transportation, safety, support, and health care.
- "It's not the *diagnosis* but the *needs* that should be addressed"

— June Isaacson Kailes, Disability Policy Consultant

### **C-MIST Strategy**

**Communication** - This category includes people who have limited or no ability to speak, see, hear or understand.

**Maintaining Health** - This category includes people who require assistance in managing activities of daily living such as eating, dressing, grooming, transferring and going to the toilet.

**Independence** - This category includes people who are able to function independently if they have their assistive devices and/or equipment.

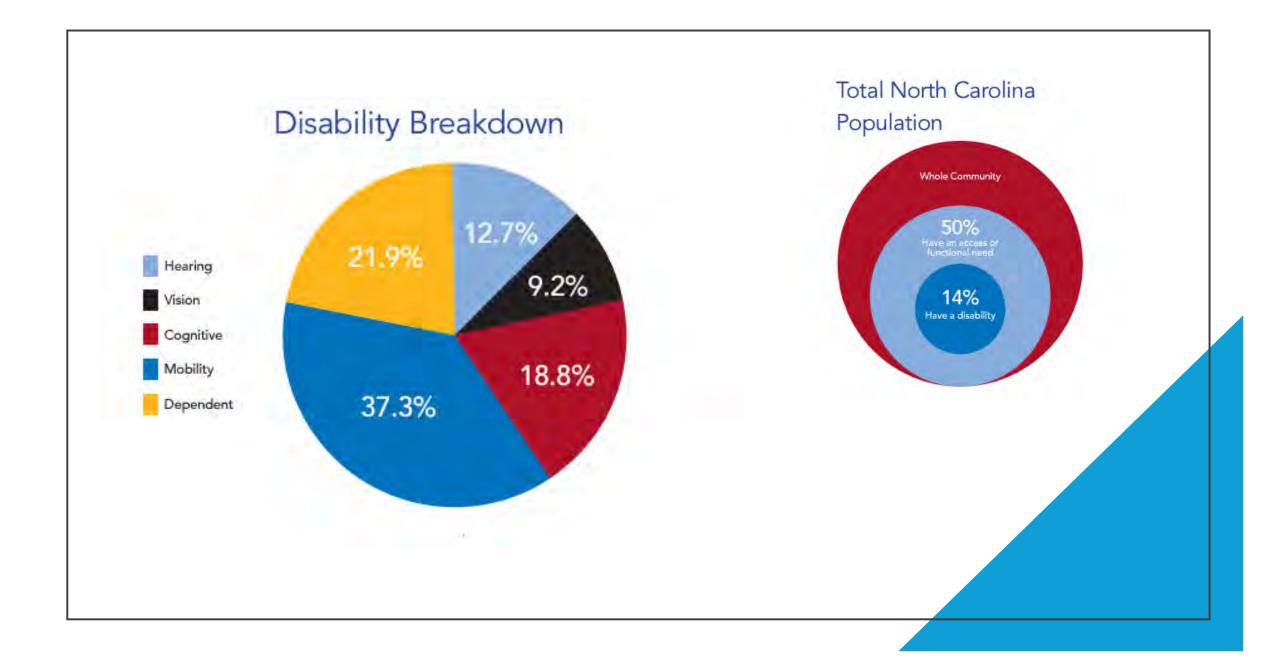
### C-MIST

**Services, Support and Self-Determination** - People with support needs may include those who have psychiatric conditions (such as dementia, Alzheimer's, or severe mental illness), addiction problems, brain injury, or become anxious due to transfer trauma.

**Transportation** - Emergency response requires mobility and this category includes people who are unable to drive because of disability, age, injury, poverty, addiction, legal restriction or have no access to a vehicle.

# Hurricane Katrina (2005)

- 38% did not evacuate because they had a disability or were caring for individuals with a disability. CBS News
- Katrina Shelter staff not only were not prepared to support people with access and functional needs, but had no idea where to turn for help



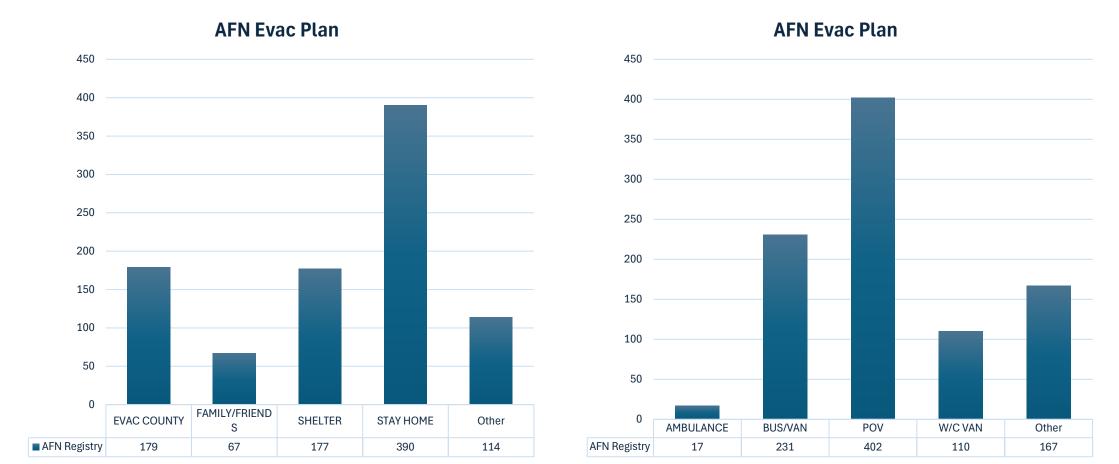
# Brunswick County

- Population 152,243 (2024 Estimate, https://www.census.gov/)
- With a disability 22,006 or 17.57% (2024 Estimate, https://www.census.gov/)
  - 8,953 or 40.7% with a mobility disability

# AFN Registry

 The AFN Registry is a voluntary, HIPAA compliant database of residents who have one or more AFN. Staff assist residents in the AFN Registry with creating personal emergency plans. In turn, this helps us plan for how many residents need transportation to shelters and residents' needs in shelters.

### **BWC AFN Registry**





#### Access & Functional Needs Registration Form

Brunswick County Emergency Services maintains a database of residents who may have additional needs before, during and after an emergency event (such as a hurricane) in functional areas which may include but are not limited <u>to:</u> maintaining independence, communication, transportation, supervision, and medical care. Residents in the Access & Functional Needs (AFN) Registry will be contacted by our staff when an emergency event is anticipated or has occurred. If you or someone you know would like to be included in the AFN Registry, please complete this form. The AFN Registry/Program is HIPAA compliant.

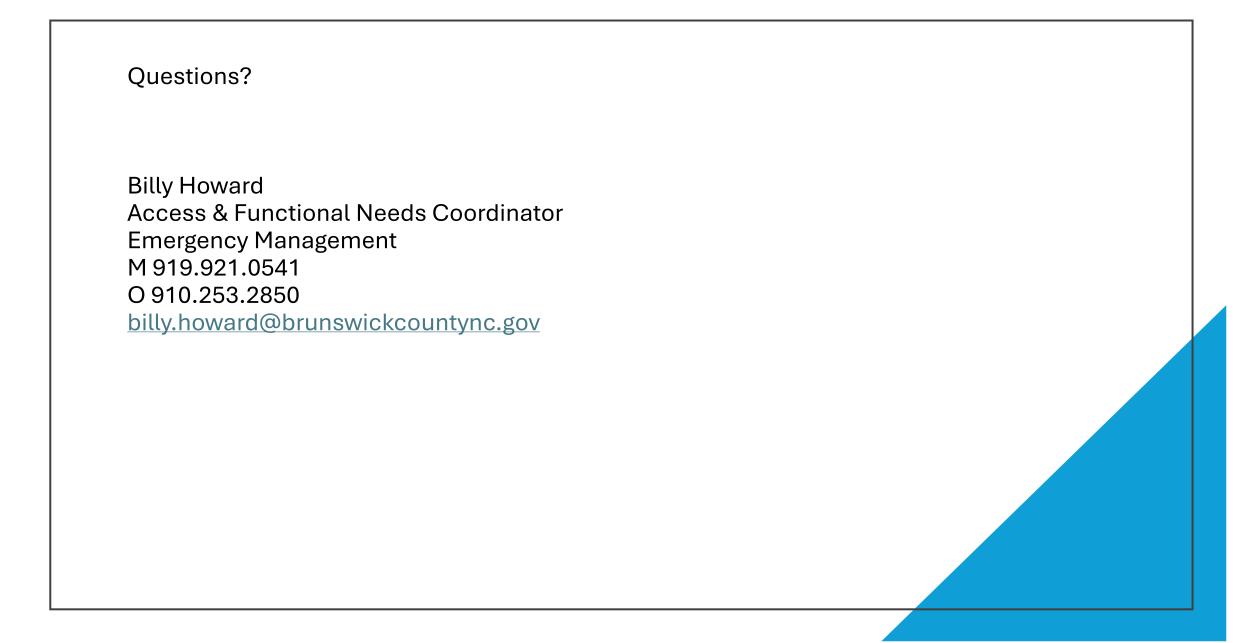
| Last Name;                          | Name: First Name: |              |                        |           |            |                |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| Date of Birth:                      | Gender:           | Male         | Female                 | Prefer no | t to provi | de a selection |
| Physical Street Address:            |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
| City/State/Zip:                     |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
| Mailing Address (if different):     |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
| Cell Phone:                         | Ho                | me/Other Ph  | ones:                  |           |            |                |
| Email Address:                      |                   | 4            | Primary Languag        | e:        |            |                |
| Physician Name/Location:            |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
| Physician Phone:                    | P                 | harmacy & L  | ocation:               |           |            |                |
| Caregiver Name:                     |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
| Caregiver Phone:                    |                   | Caregiver Er | nail:                  |           |            |                |
| Caregiver relationship:             |                   |              | <u>Resides</u> w/patie | nt:Yes    | No         | Sometimes      |
| Other Emergency Contact Name/Phon   | e:                |              |                        |           |            |                |
| Service/Companion Animals & Pets: _ |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
|                                     |                   |              |                        |           |            |                |
| Residence Type: Mobile Home         |                   | louseA       | partment/Condo         | Other:    |            | _              |
| Primary Evacuation Plan:Stay Ho     | omeGo to          | Shelter      | Stay w/Others          | s Locally | _Evacuat   | e County       |

# How to sign up for the AFN Registry

- Website https://forms.brunswickcountync.gov/Forms/ac cessneeds
- Access & Functional Needs Registration Form
- Duke Energy Card

# References

- https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergencymanagement/access-and-functional-needs-emergency-management
- https://www.census.gov/
- https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/interactive\_map.html
- https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergencymanagement/em-operations/fast-resources
- https://www.brunswickcountync.gov/203/Emergency-Management



# WECT First Alert Chief Meteorologist

# Gannon Medwick

# FIRST ALERT WEATHER HURRICANE SEASON 2024 Gannon Medwick WECT News Chief Meteorologist

## WEATHER HURRICANE RATINGS

CATEGORIES OF THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE RATING SCALE

- Maximum sustained winds of 74 to 95 mph
- 2 Maximum sustained winds of 96 to 110 mph
- 3 Maximum sustained winds of 111 to 129 mph
- 4 Maximum sustained winds of 130 to 156 mph
- Maximum sustained winds at or greater than 157 mph

## WEATHER HURRICANE RATING SHORTFALLS

THE CATEGORY 1 TO 5 SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE RATING SCALE IS NOT COMPREHENSIVE

Hurricane features covered by the Saffir-Simpson Scale: maximum winds

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Hurricane features NOT covered by the Saffir-Simpson Scale: maximum gusts, tornado threat, rainfall potential, flash flood threat, river flood threat, storm surge threat, symmetry of storm, storm speed, storm duration, landfall angle

### **1. STAY ALERT**

Don't let summer lull you. A quiet tropical weather landscape can turn active in a hurry.

### 2. HAVE A KIT

Fresh water, food, and medicine are not wants. They're needs. Refresh your kit often.

**3. UPDATE YOUR STORM PLAN OFTEN Property vulnerabilities, dietary and medicinal needs, and evacuation routes can all change year to year.** 

### **4. BE PATIENT**

The season is long and the evolution of an individual storm can be, too. A US threat is almost never definable until it's seen how a storm navigates the Caribbean islands.

5. LEARN THE "CONE OF UNCERTAINTY" A common pitfall is only focusing on the center line of a forecast cone... ...and there are others.

### 6. RELY ON FORECASTS, NOT MODELS Models are digital storm simulations. Forecasts are crafted by meteorological professionals and are almost always more accurate and actionable.

7. FOCUS ON IMPACTS, NOT LABELS Storm labels don't tell you the full story. A Cat. 1 hurricane can be more destructive than a Cat. 3 hurricane. Look for impact-based forecasts.

8. AVOID PROVOCATIVE SOCIAL MEDIA Shocking and frightful storm material tends to trend on social media. Beware of content that seems designed to elicit a quick, cheap, emotional response.

### **9. STICK WITH ACCREDITED SOURCES.**

Time-tested outlets like the National Hurricane Center and institutions who put their names and faces on their products are a good start.

### **10. DON'T PANIC**

Positive, constructive energy always beats unfocused anxiety.

## WEATHER STAY CONNECTED

#### SCAN THE OR CODE FOR YOUR FREE WECT WEATHER APP

WECTO FIRST ALERT WEATHER



First Alert Hurricane Center... WECT.com/hurricane & the WECT Weather App

Daily Forecast & Blog... WECT.com/weather & the WECT Weather App

Social Media... Facebook: Meteorologist Gannon Medwick WECT - X: @medwick - IG: @gannonmedwick

Shootin' the Breeze... WECT.com/anywhere or wherever you stream!

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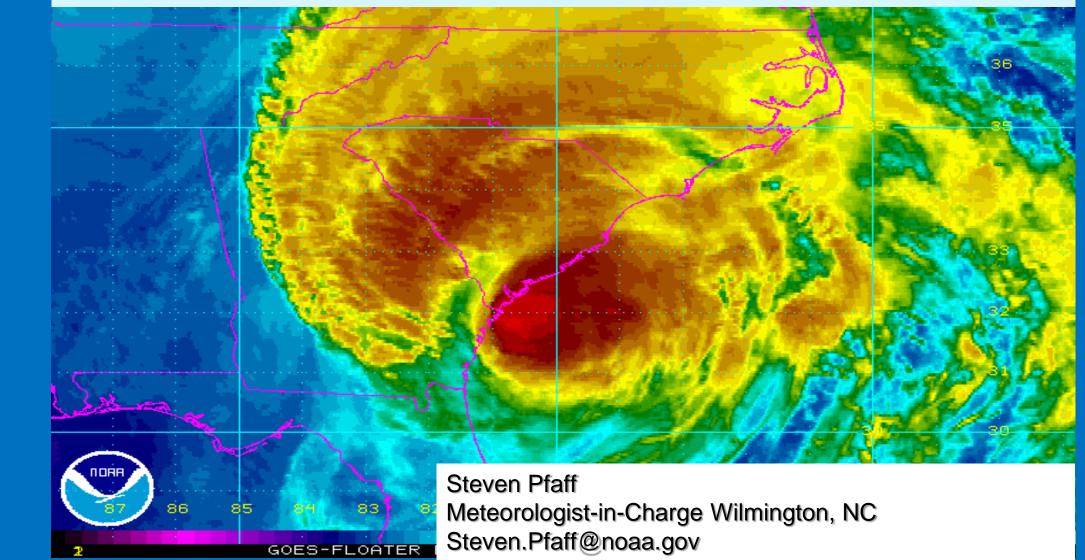
# National Weather Service Wilmington, NC

# **Steve Pfaff**

## Warning Coordinator Meteorologist

### 2024 Hurricane Season

Town of St. James



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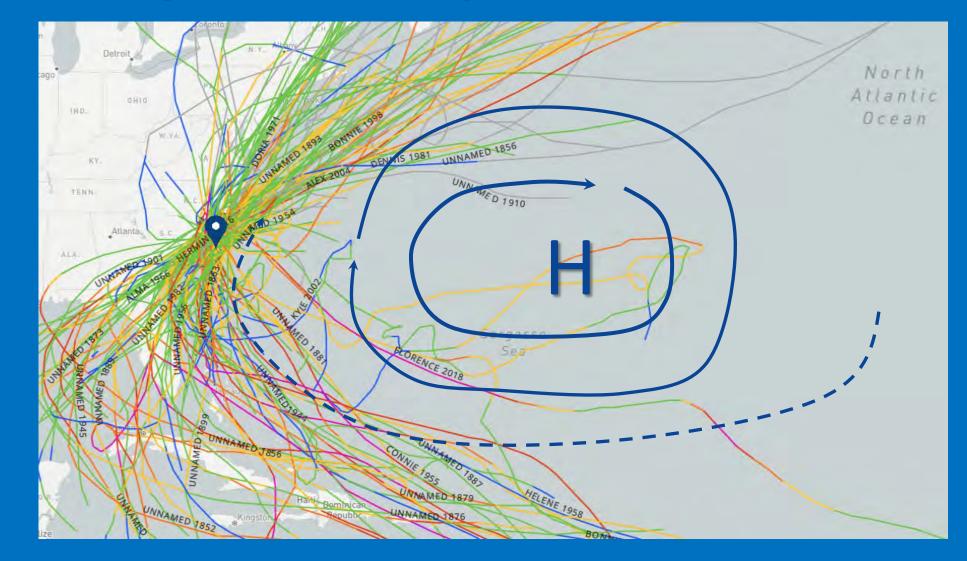
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### Why us? Primary Hurricane Tracks



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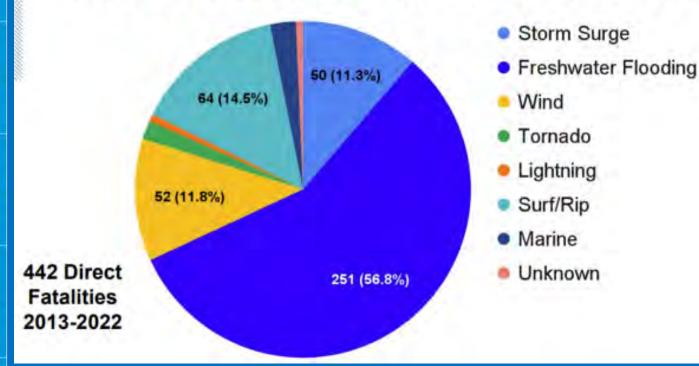
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### Direct U.S. Fatalities 2013-2022

WATER KILLS IN TROPICAL CYCLONES



Water accounts for ~85% of all direct deaths

 Although there have been fewer storm surge deaths the past several years – storm surge has the potential greatest loss of life

Lots of vehicle related flood fatalities in recent years

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## **Understanding Flooding Impacts**



- 6 inches of flowing water to push a car off the road
- Road may be washed out ightarrow
- Weight of vehicle may collapse the road
- Turn Around Don't Drown!

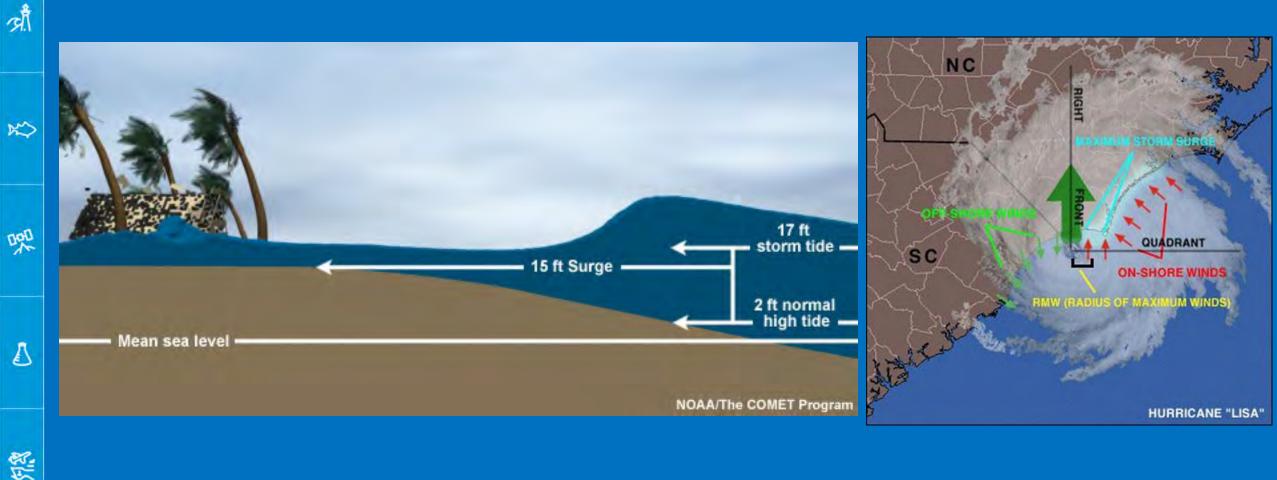
#### **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

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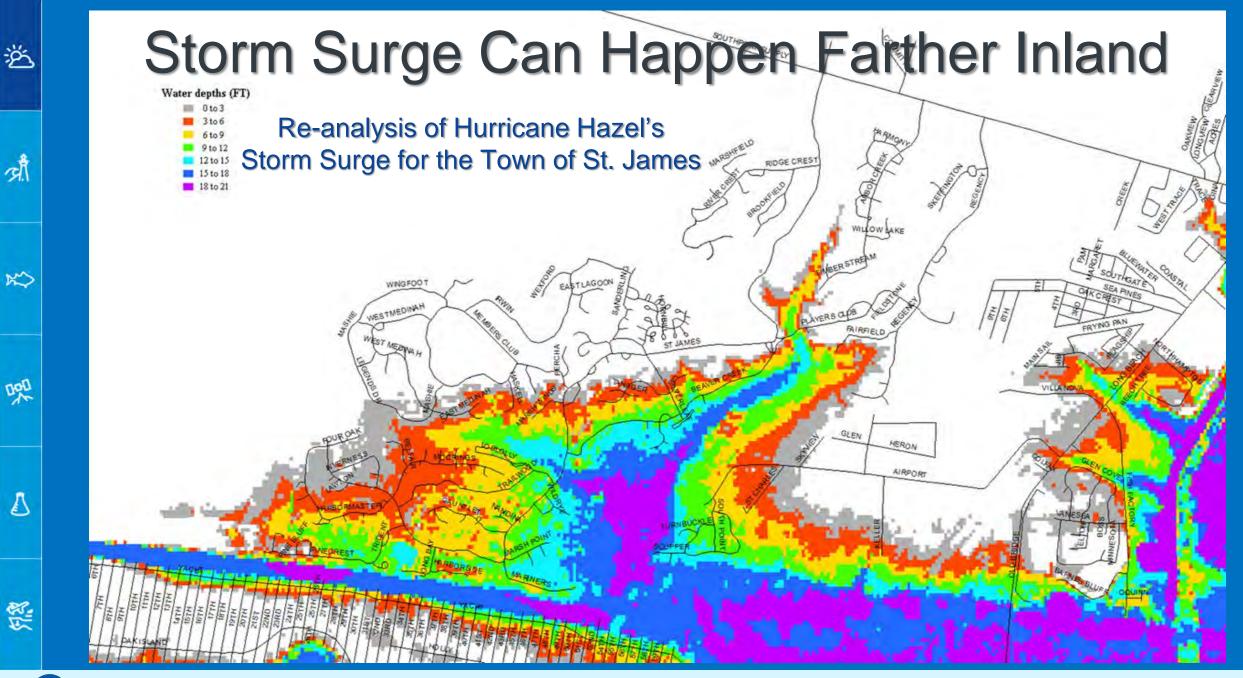
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### **Understanding Storm Surge**



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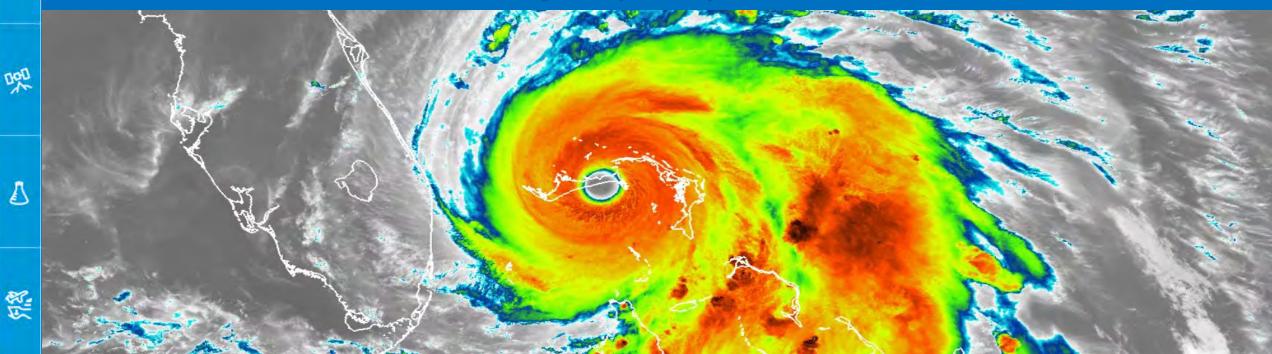


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## Hurricane Season Outlook Primary Ingredients • ENSO phase: La Nina = Strike 1 • Atlantic sea surface temperatures = Strike 2

- Rainfall trends in the Sahel region of Africa???
- Saharan Air Layer (SAL)???



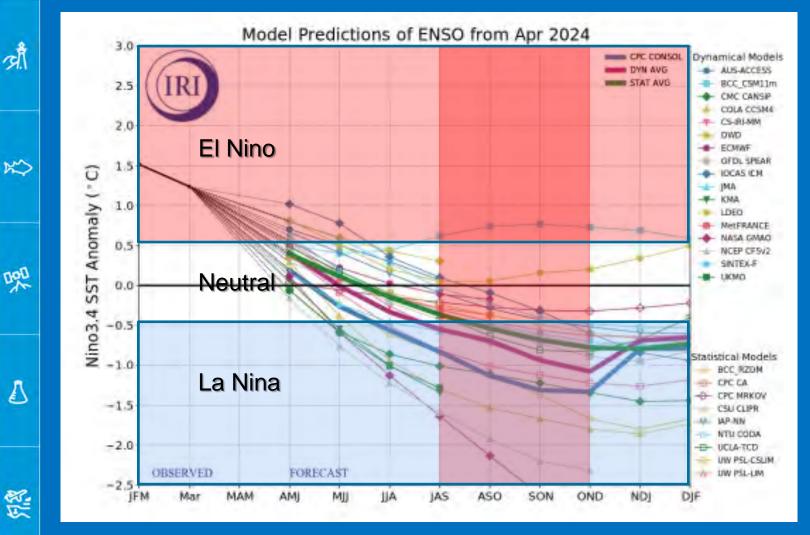


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## **ENSO (El Nino Southern Oscillation)**



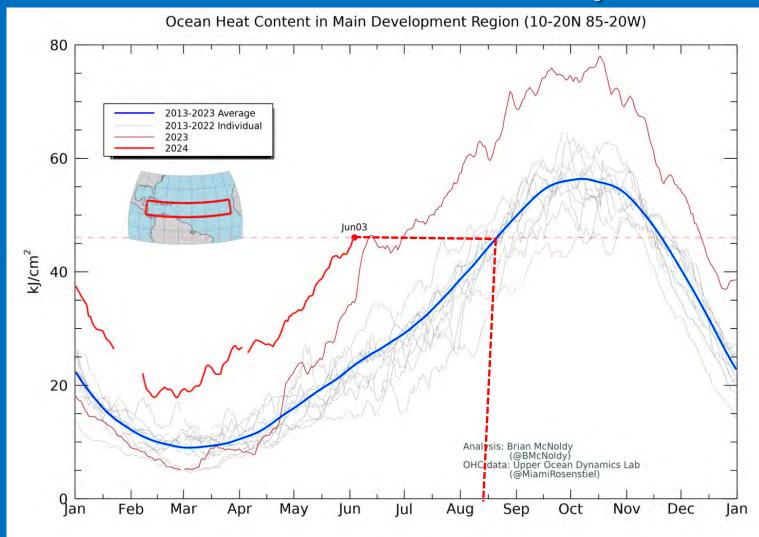
- The ENSO outlook is for a Neutral or La Nina phase developing by the peak of hurricane season
- Neutral/La Nina phases typically support a more active hurricane season

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### **Ocean Heat Content/Temperatures**



University of Miami - https://bmcnoldy.earth.miami.edu/tropics/ohc/

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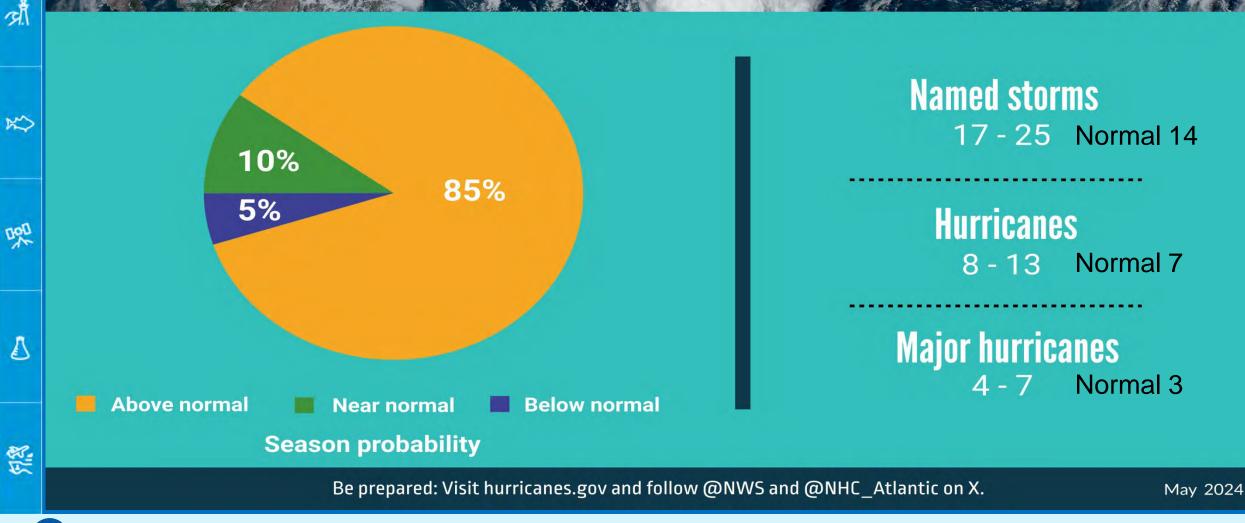
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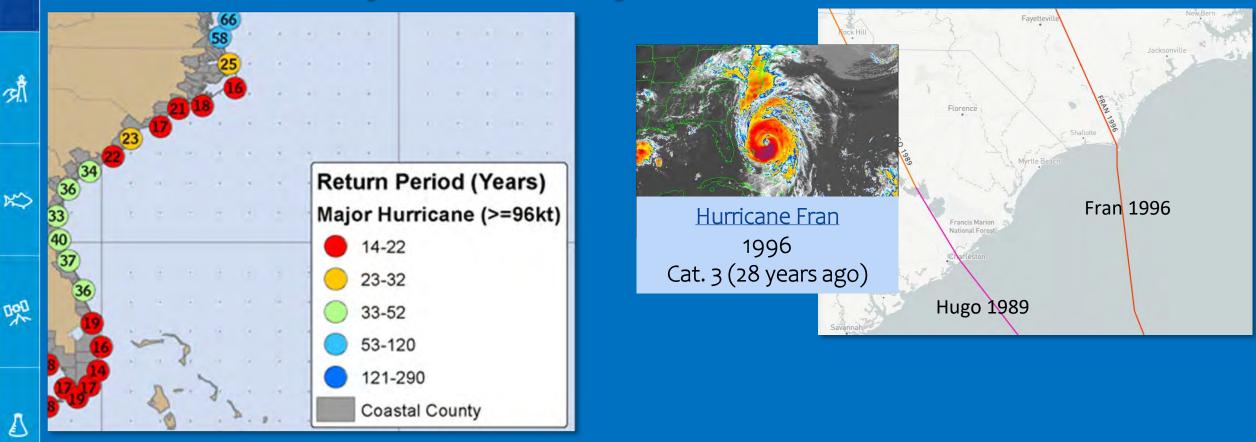
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# 124 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook



#### **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

### Is this the year a major hurricane returns???



- We have not experienced a major hurricane (Cat 3-5) since Hugo '89 for northeast SC & since Fran '96 for southeast NC
- We are way over-due for a "significant wind impact" storm!!!

#### NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

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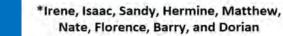
## Hurricane Messaging Challenges and "Traps"

Focus on impacts, not just the Saffir-Simpson Scale

Since 2010

In the U.S., Category 1 hurricanes\* have caused:

#### 175 direct deaths \$105 billion



"weakening" or "degraded" The Latest: Florence Downgraded to a Category 1 Hurricane lorence downgraded to a Category 1 hurricane with top sustained winds of 90 mph (150 kph). ept. 13, 2018

Be careful with terms like



the NHC specialists **Tropical Storm Jerry** will soon be a hurricane. Here's what the spaghetti models

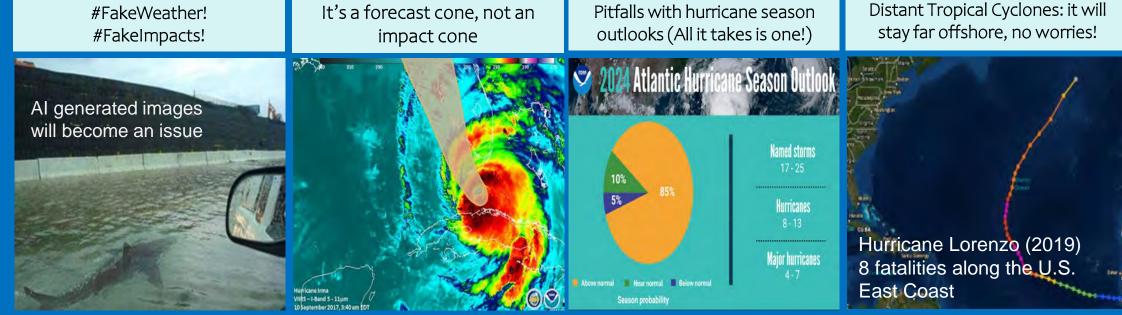
Spaghetti vs. NHC Forecasts! Stick with NWS/NHC – Please! NO

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## Hurricane Messaging Challenges and Traps

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### Hurricane Preparedness



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2024 Alberto Beryl Chris Debby Ernesto Francine Gordon Helene Isaac Joyce Kirk Leslie Milton Nadine Oscar Patty Rafael Sara Tony Valerie William

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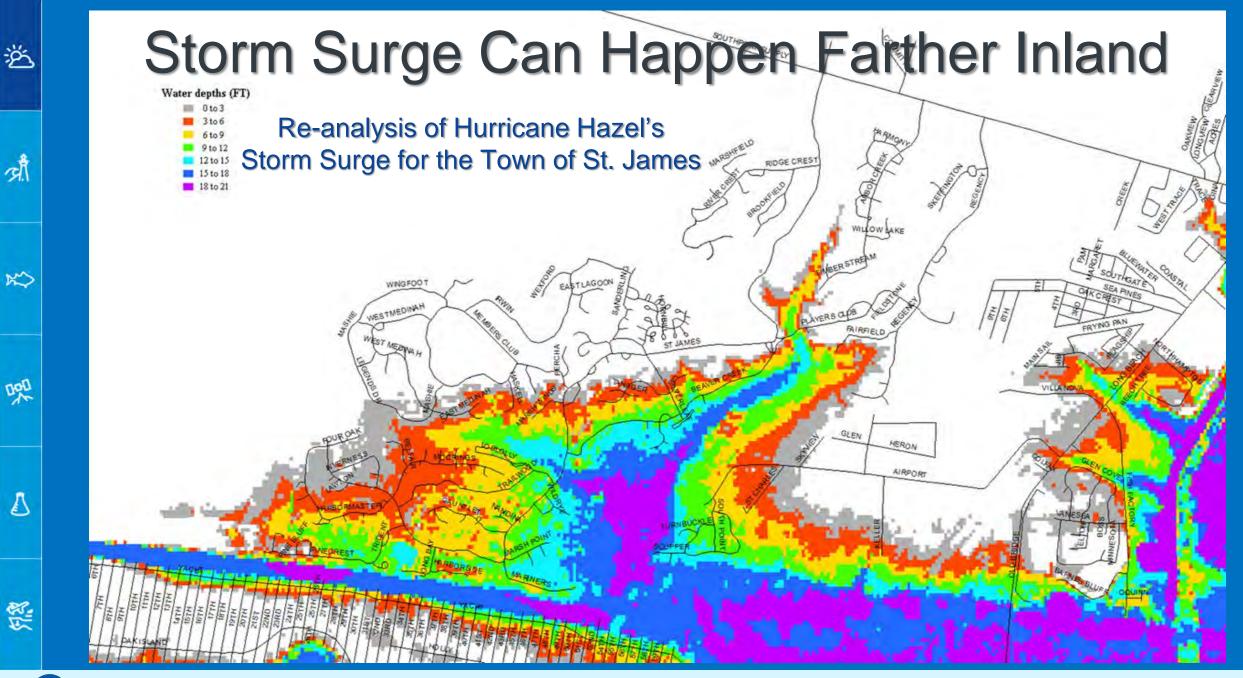
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# Thank you!!!

### Steven.Pfaff@noaa.gov





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