

Watches and Warnings

Tropical Storm Watch

Issued when a tropical storm or tropical storm conditions will pose a threat to coastal areas within 36 hours. A tropical storm watch will not be issued if the system is forecast to attain tropical storm strength.

Tropical Storm Warning

Issued when tropical storm conditions with sustained wind speeds of 39 to 73 mph are expected in the coastal areas within 24 hours.

Hurricane Watch

Issued for a coastal area when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

Hurricane Warnings

Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in the coastal areas within 24 hours. Hurricane conditions include winds of 74 mph or higher, and/or dangerously high tides and waves. Action for protection of life and property should begin immediately when the warning is issued. It should be noted that some additional action may be necessary, depending on the weather system, prior to a warning being issued.