



Ms. Marla Mann, Garrison Emergency Manager
(O) 305-437-2570
Email: marla.a.mann.civ@mail.mil

SCHurricaneHotline: 305-437-3919

<https://www.southcom.mil/>

This brief and other resources are available at:

SC Portal, USAG, OP&S, Shared Library: Hurricane Preparation





Overview

- South Florida Threats – Destructive Weather +
- Prepare Now
 - Be/Stay Informed
 - Make a Plan
 - Prepare Kit/s
- Sources of local information
- Frequently Asked Questions (Enhanced: By the numbers)

RIP CURRENTS
Break the Grip of the Rip!

Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer out to sea.

IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- ◆ Don't fight the current
- ◆ Swim out of the current, then to shore
- ◆ If you can't escape, float or tread water
- ◆ If you need help, call or wave for assistance

SAFETY

- ◆ Know how to swim
- ◆ Never swim alone
- ◆ If in doubt, don't go out

More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:
www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov
www.usla.org





South Florida Destructive Weather



Vaisala's National Lightning Detection Network® (NLDN®)
Cloud-to-Ground Lightning Incidence in the Continental U.S. (1997 - 2012)

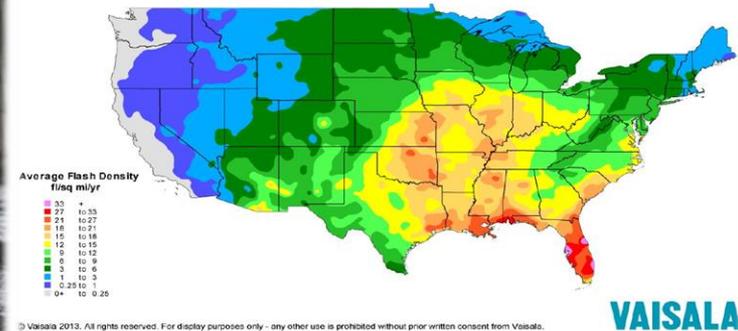


Figure 3: Cloud-to-ground lightning from 1997-2012, courtesy of Vaisala





Prepare Now

- **Be Informed / Stay Informed**
 - **Flood Zones / Surge Zones / Emergency Shelters**
 - **Storm Tracking and Monitoring**
- **Make a Plan (or Plans – consider different scenarios)**
 - **In Place in a Safe Room? Friend's house? Evacuation? Community Shelter?**
 - **Communication/linkup plan if family is at different locations?**
 - **Outdoor preparations - storm shutters, secure potential flying objects**
 - **Have you planned for special needs or pets? Medications?**
- **Build kit/s and review/replenish/cycle supplies (72 hours minimum)***
 - * 72hr for an emergency; Recommend a disaster kit/plan also for longer periods of no electricity or water.
- **Talk the plan over with your family; rehearse your plan**
- **Inform your relatives and supervisor of your plan and/or evacuation**





Storm Surge vs Flood Zones

Flood zone: Mapped by FEMA for use in the National Flood Insurance Program. Each flood zone designation tells homeowners exactly what the risk is for flooding at their property over a period of years, regardless of the cause. By law, all homes in high-risk zones carrying a mortgage must be covered by flood insurance.

The **Flood Zones** and the **Storm Surge Planning Zones** are determined by different methods and have different purposes.
Residents must check both zones.

Flood Zone Map



Storm Surge Map (SLOSH)



Storm Surge Planning Zones:

Based on hurricane storm surge determined by the National Hurricane Center using ground elevation and the area's vulnerability to water from lakes/oceans being pushed over land by a hurricane. The storm surge planning zones are marked from A through E.

You **CAN** be impacted by hurricane tidal surge flooding **WITHOUT** being in a 100 year flood plain!

You **CAN** be in a flood zone without being in a Storm Surge Planning Zone.

Evacuation zones are normally based on Storm Surge zones, but check with your county!





U.S. ARMY

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I bring my family and pets to the installation during a storm? Answer: No**
- **What if civil authorities direct my area evacuate but not SOUTHCOM? Answer: Obey civil authorities.**
- **What if I don't feel safe where I live, but there is no evacuation order? Answer: Plan. Decide early. Do what you need to do to feel and be safe. You are your own and your family's safety officer.**
- **Make arrangements with friends, or go to a shelter or hotel.**





U.S. ARMY

Frequently Asked Questions

- What if I have to work and my family will be alone during the storm? Answer: Plan. Decide early. Prepare. Act.
- When will I be released from duty? Answer: This is a Chief of Staff and USAG-Miami decision. In general, 48 hours prior to the arrival of destructive winds.
- Where can I learn the status of the installation? Answer: Chain of command, ALERT! MWNS notifications and the Hurricane Hotline (305) 437-3919.





Local Resources

- Miami Dade Emergency Management
 - <http://www.miamidade.gov/oem>
- Broward Emergency Management
 - <http://www.broward.org/Hurricane>
- Local News and Weather
- *Battery operated radio*

Emergency Management Resources:

www.readysouthflorida.org (FL counties)

www.floridadisaster.org (FL state)

<https://www.ready.gov> (Federal)

SCHurricane Hotline: 305-437-3919

REMEMBER:

The JOC is NOT an info line

For SOUTHCOM Specific information

- SC Hurricane Hotline: 305-437-3919
- <https://www.southcom.mil>
- Your Supervisor





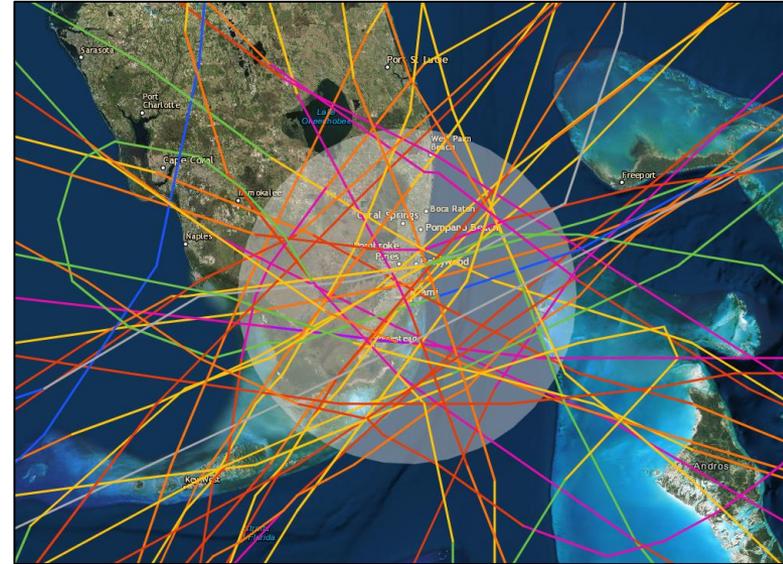
By the Numbers

- Be Informed/Stay Informed
- Make A Plan
- Build A Kit
- Risk after the Storm
- Recovery

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For SOUTHCOM Specific information

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**Tracks of hurricane
centers within
65 miles of
Miami since 1865
(39)**





Be Informed/Stay Informed

- **Weather**

- <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>
- Consider apps like “My Radar”, “Max Tracker” (local 10 news)
- Local News and Weather (Battery operated radio in kit!)

- **County Resources**

- Miami Dade Emergency Management
<http://www.miamidade.gov/oem> (App: ReadyMDC, plus alert signup available)
- Broward Emergency Management
<http://www.broward.org/hurricane> (Alert signup available)
- Palm Beach Public Safety (App: PBCDart; plus alert signup available)
<http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/dem/pages/default.aspx>

- **Emergency Management Resources**

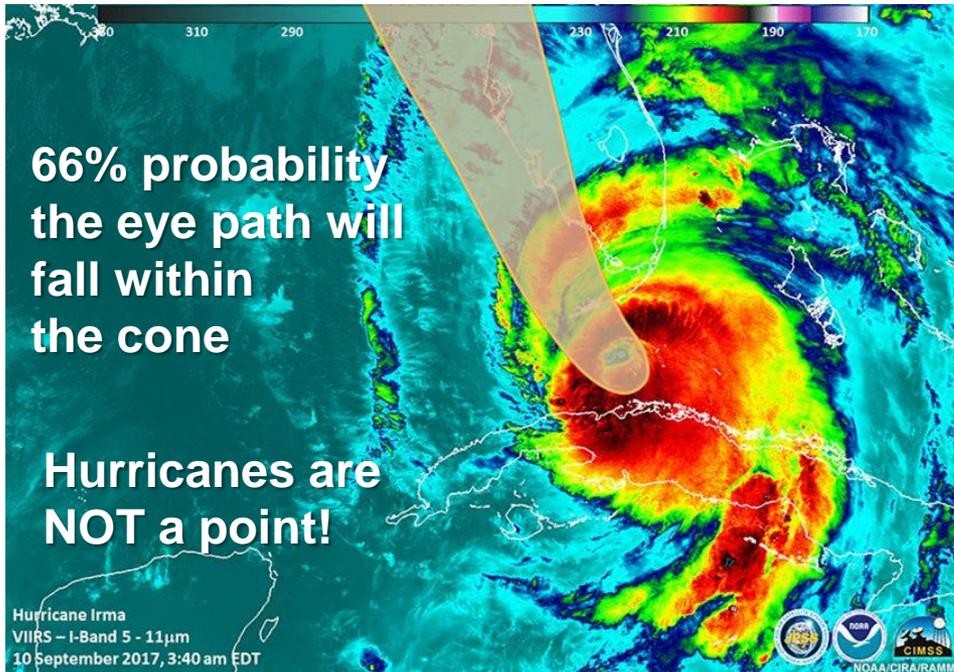
- www.readysouthflorida.org (FL counties)
- <https://floridadisaster.org> (FL state)
- <https://www.ready.gov> (Federal)





Understand the Cone

- Cone predictions have improved, but are often misinterpreted as impact area vs. storm center (eye) path
- NOAA acknowledges intensity predictions are unreliable
- Rapid changes require constant monitoring
- Wind speed category 'downgrade' does not necessarily mean less threat: Hide from wind; Run from water.





Make a Plan

- **Know your Storm Surge/Evacuation Zone**

- Miami Dade Storm Surge Interactive map (also on Ready MDC app):
<http://mdc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4919c85a439f40c68d7b3c81c3f44b58>
- Broward Storm Surge/Evacuation:
<http://www.broward.org/Hurricane/Pages/EvacuationRoutes.aspx>
- Palm Beach County Surge/Evacuation (also on PBC Dart app):
<https://www.discover.pbc.gov/org/publicsafety/dem/Publications/Evacuation%20-Zones.pdf>

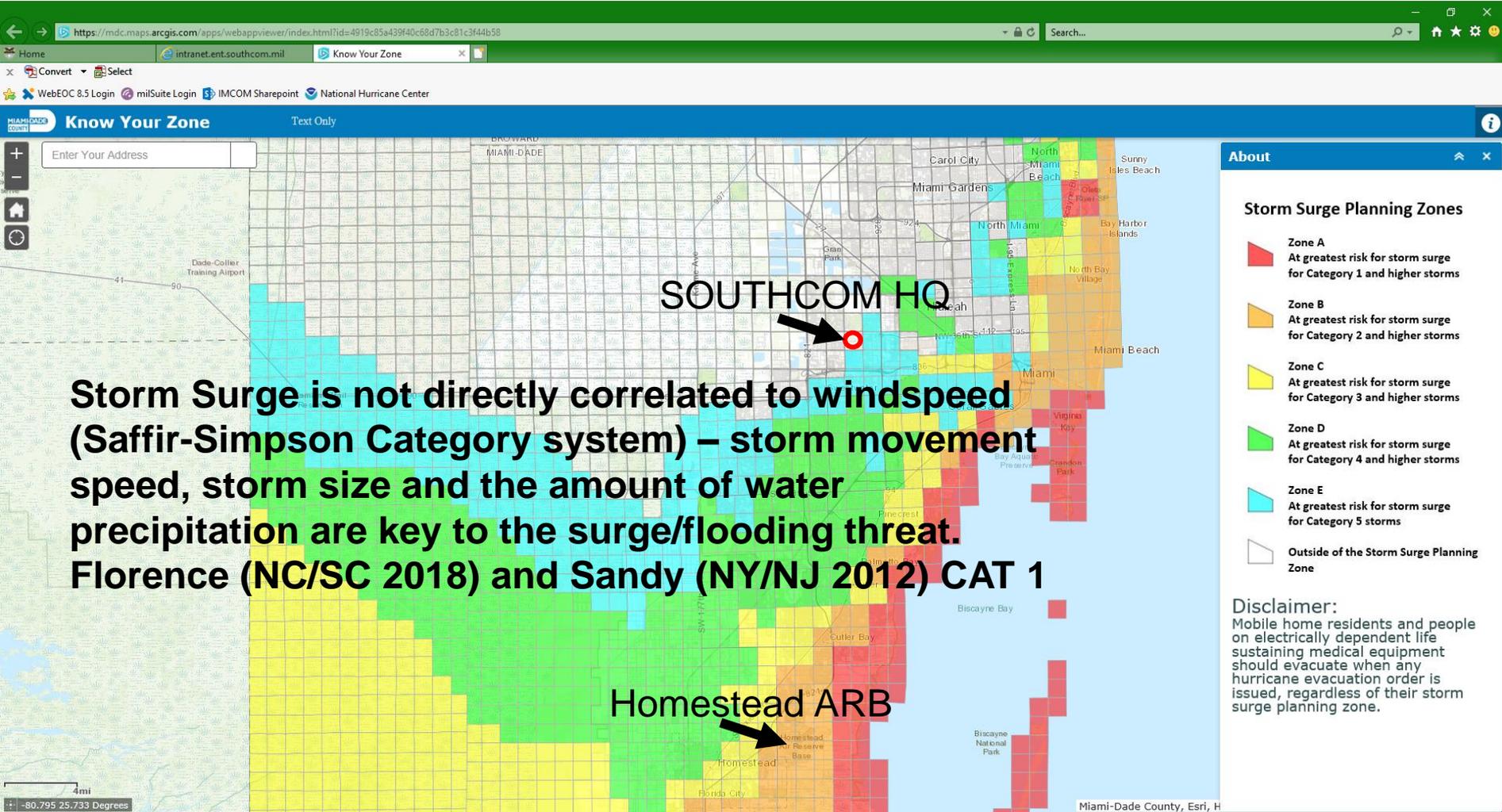
- **County Resources**

- Emergency Management Resources and Counties have planning information
- In Place in a “safe room”? Friends house? Evacuation?
- Any special needs or pets? Medical or dietary issues? Infants/children?
(refills/refrigeration/medical devices/toys/comfort items)
- Communication/linkup plan if family is at different locations or TDY?
- Include checklists, they work! (For example, home/outdoor preparations?)
- Fail to plan=plan to fail. Avoid competing with desperate people post storm.





Storm Surge



Storm Surge is not directly correlated to windspeed (Saffir-Simpson Category system) – storm movement speed, storm size and the amount of water precipitation are key to the surge/flooding threat. Florence (NC/SC 2018) and Sandy (NY/NJ 2012) CAT 1

<http://mdc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4919c85a439f40c68d7b3c81c3f44b58>





Build a Kit/s

- **Build kit/s and review/replenish/cycle supplies (72 hours minimum)**
 - 72 hours is an “emergency” kit
 - Create a “disaster” kit for longer periods of no electricity or water (14-30 days) – even minor hurricanes may result in week(s) of power loss/boil water orders
 - Talk the plan and kit over with your family – get input!
 - Use checklists – particularly for the last minute top off/tasks
- **Exercise the plan – find gaps and instill confidence**
 - For example, 3 hours in safe room; 3 meals from kit; no lights or plug-in electricity for 1 night (spare batteries, power bank, card games)
 - Does your spouse have access to everything to be ready without you if you are TDY or deployed?
- **Inform your relatives and supervisor of your plan and/or evacuation**





Prior to Storm

• Confirm and Verify Access to Key Systems

- Ensure info in DEERS is correct via milconnect: <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>
- Verify **ALERT!** Information in system
- Know your Service's accountability system process
 - Army personnel – Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (ADPAAS) at <https://adpaas.army.mil> or 800-833-6622
 - Air Force – Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (AFPAAS) via the AF Portal at <https://afpaas.af.mil> or by calling 800-435-9941, is also a mobile app for smart phones via the webpage
 - Navy – Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil> or call the 24-Hour Navy EOCC at 877-414-5358 or 1-866-827-5672
 - Marine – Marine Online at <https://www.mol.usmc.mil>
 - Coast Guard – Coast Guard Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (CGPAAS) via <https://cgpaas.uscg.mil>
- Confirm you have the latest copy of your organization's recall roster





Post Storm

- **After the Storm**

- Monitor the news before, during and after the storm for information on curfews, shelters, relief centers, contaminated water
- Contact relatives/supervisor with your status (consider texting)
- Minimize calls and driving to allow emergency calls, first responders and utility repair personnel to get through
- Keep receipts and take photos of damage if possible
- No generators indoors (or near air vents, windows), nor grill indoors
- Avoid injury – limited emergency response capability (e.g., removing debris/cutting down trees/traversing flooded areas)

- **Post Storm Potential Conditions and Hazards**

- Prolonged loss of utilities and public services; downed power lines
- Contaminated water, boil water orders
- Debris blocked/flooded streets – do not trust what you cannot see!
- Missing traffic lights/stop signs
- Shortage of food, water, fuel and supplies





Recovery

- **Official Work Related Key Items**
 - At first opportunity, re-establish accountability via Service and Section
 - Monitor ALERT! for notifications and installation information – including re-opening
 - Inform chain of command of damage/family issues impacting your return
- **Personal Key Items**
 - You are your family's and your own SAFETY OFFICER
 - If storm caused significant damage to your area, whether or not you evacuated, always carry an official ID with home's address to regain access to the area if you leave
 - Take photographs
 - Perform damage assessment
 - Upload insurance and FEMA apps to assist in claims submissions

