

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

SUBJECT: Tropical Storm Zeta
SITREP #: 2020-8.1
ISSUED: Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 1:30 PM

OVERVIEW

The remnants of Tropical Storm Zeta will impact the metro Atlanta region Thursday morning with heavy rain, high winds and possible tornadoes. Zeta is expected to strengthen into a hurricane as it moves into the Gulf of Mexico today. It should make landfall along the SE Louisiana coast late Wednesday and track generally to the NNE through Mississippi and Alabama. For our region, the biggest threats will be from high winds, flash flooding and a possible tornado. Wind gusts Thursday morning may peak between 35-40 mph, with sustained winds above 20 mph. This will likely lead to quite a few trees down and power outages in the metro Atlanta region. Typically, we see minimal impacts to our campus electrical grid (mostly underground) from this level of wind. *However, for those who are teaching, learning and working remotely, you may experience some power loss Thursday morning in the metro region.* The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a Flash Flood Watch for North Georgia, including Fulton County from Wednesday morning through Thursday evening. Rainfall totals should be between 2-4", especially as Zeta should continue moving quickly to the NNE. Finally, an isolated tornado will be possible in this highly sheered environment. Remember that tornadoes spawned from tropical cyclones are often small, short-lived, and difficult to detect.

PRIMARY HAZARDS

- Winds gusting to 40 mph, bringing down rain-weakened trees and power lines.
- Isolated tornadoes will be possible.
- Flash flooding, especially where heavier bands train for a longer period.

TIMING

The main threat will be Thursday AM (5AM – Noon)

NEXT STEPS

- The Georgia Tech Police Department Office of Emergency Management will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.
- Follow the GT Office of Emergency Management on twitter [@gtpdalerts](https://twitter.com/gtpdalerts).
- For the latest forecast information, please visit the National Weather Service at <http://weather.gov/atlanta>.

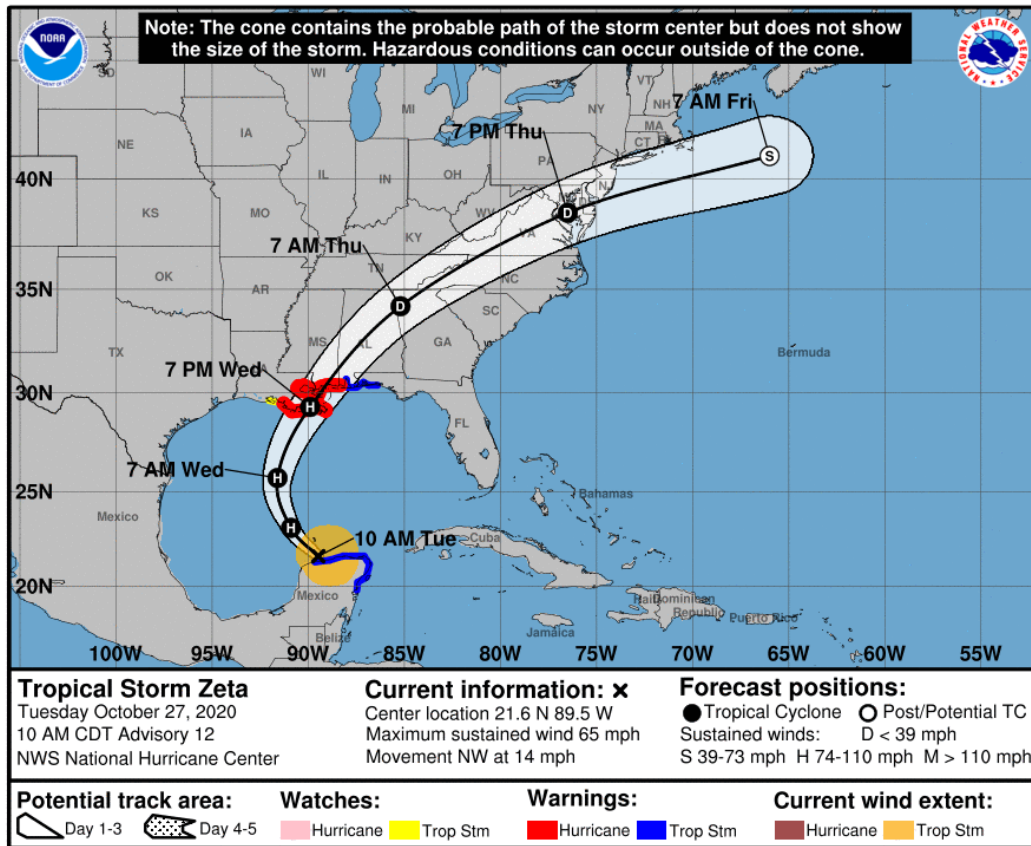


Figure 1: Hurricane Sally 3-day forecast (NHC)



Figure 2: Forecast Wind Gusts (NWS Atlanta)

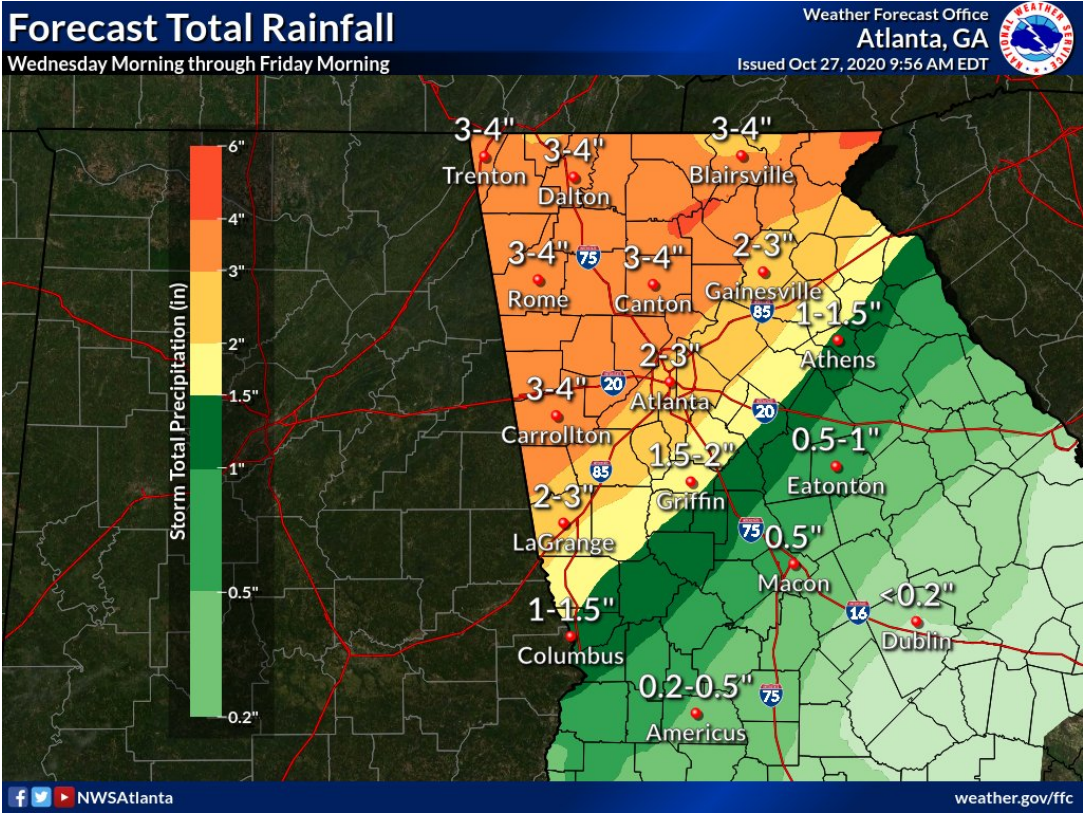


Figure 3: Forecast Rainfall Totals (NWS Atlanta)

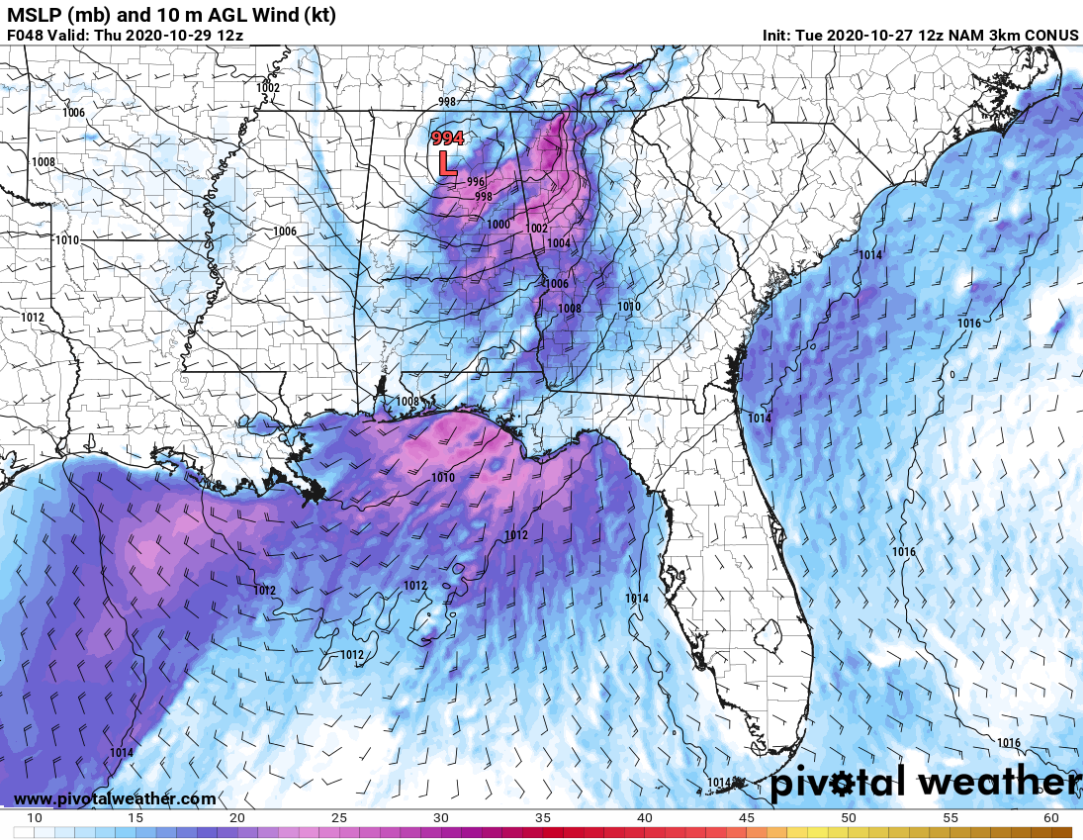


Figure 4: NAM 3km 20201027 12Z, MSLP & 10m Wind at 12Z Thursday (8AM)

1 km AGL Reflectivity (dBZ), Type, 1000-500 mb Thickness (dam)
F048 Valid: Thu 2020-10-29 12z

Init: Tue 2020-10-27 12z NAM 3km CONUS

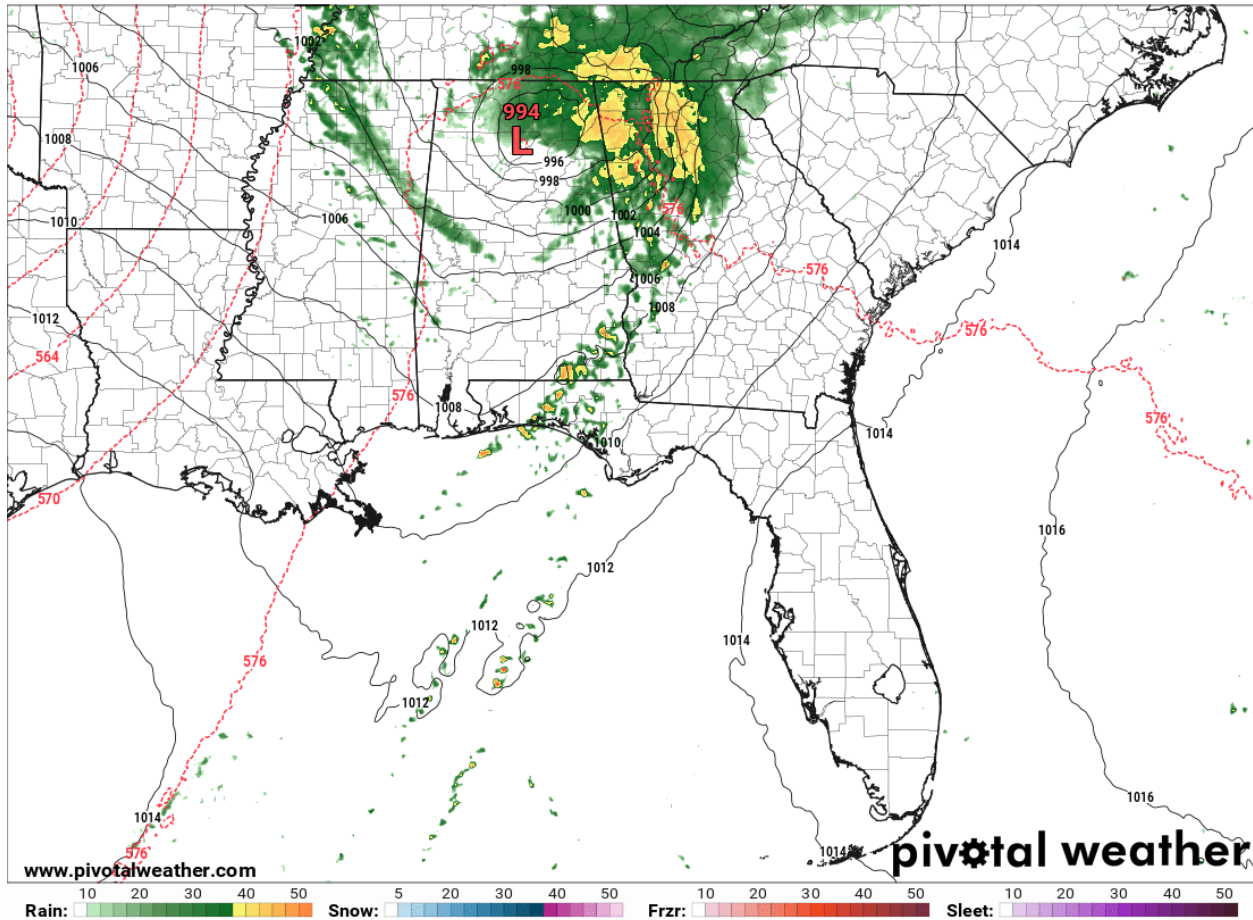


Figure 5: NAM 3km 20201027 12Z, Reflectivity at 12Z Thursday (8AM)