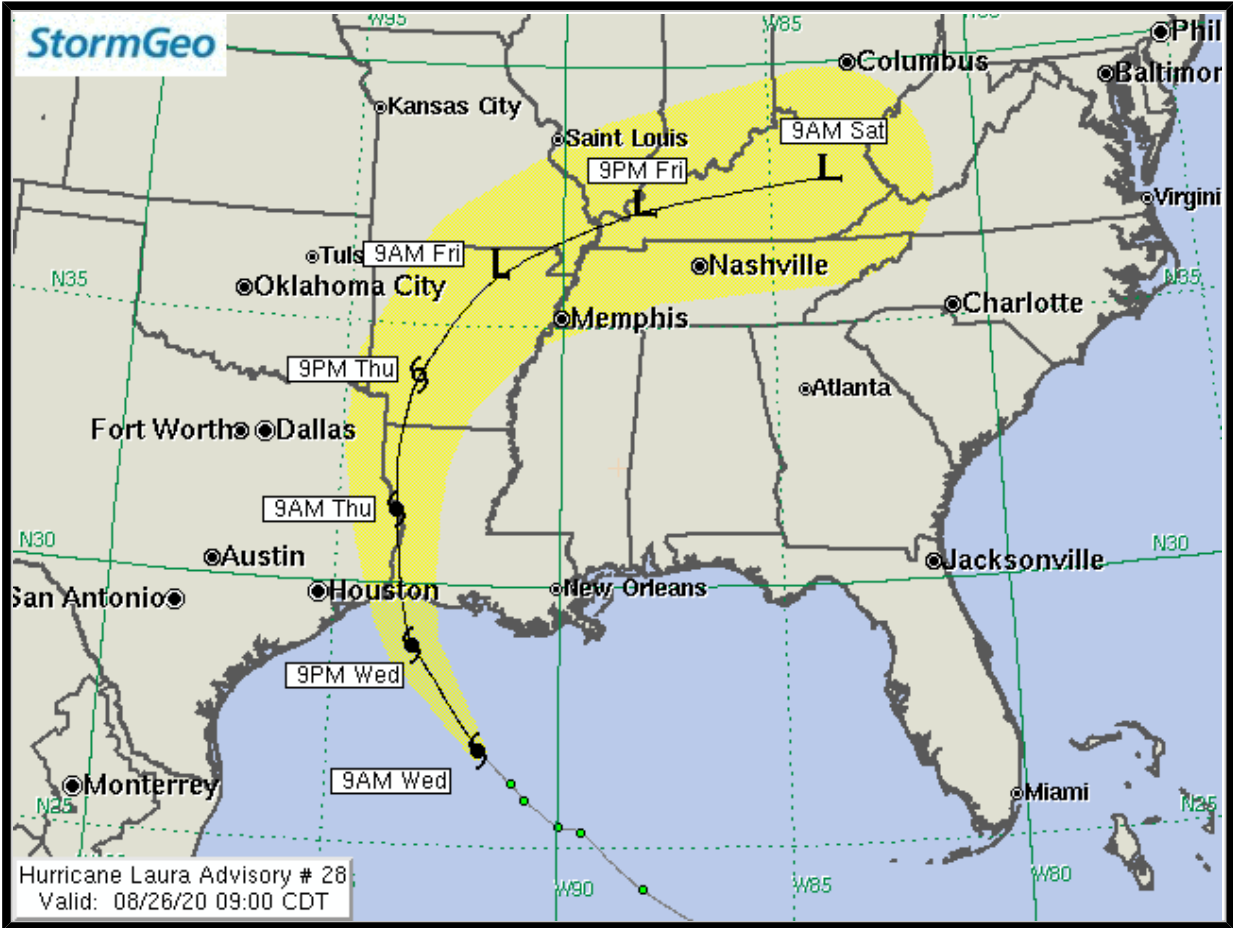


From: [StormGeo](#)
To: [Lindsey Falconer](#)
Subject: Hurricane Laura Advisory 28
Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 8:16:39 AM



Hurricane Laura Advisory 28

Valid: 09:00 AM CDT Wednesday August 26, 2020



Current Location: 26.8N, 91.7W
Geographic Reference: 240 miles SE of the TX/LA Border
Movement: North-northwest at 14 mph
Max Winds: 115 mph gusting to 145 mph
Current Hurricane Severity Index: 22 out of a possible 50 points (11 size, 11 intensity)
Max Predicted Hurricane Severity Index: 26 out of a possible 50 points (11 size, 15 intensity)
Current Radius of Tropical Storm-Force Winds: 150 miles
Max Predicted Radius of Tropical Storm-Force Winds: 150 miles
Organizational Trend: Strengthening Rapidly

Forecast Confidence: Average
Estimated Central Pressure: 958 mb

Key Points

1. We are now predicting Laura to be a Category 4 hurricane at landfall with max sustained winds of 140 mph.
2. While Laura is forecast to be stronger than Ike and Rita at landfall, it is expected to be smaller.

Our Forecast

A reconnaissance plane investigating Laura this morning is finding that Laura's central pressure is falling rather rapidly. Max sustained winds appear to be at least 115 mph, making Lara a Category 3 hurricane. Landfall is predicted to occur in western Cameron Parish, southwest of Lake Charles around 1 AM tomorrow. Max sustained winds at landfall are predicted to be 140 mph, though Laura could be a little stronger or weaker than that.

Once Laura reaches the coast, it will accelerate northward along the Texas/Louisiana border while slowly weakening. This will mean a shorter duration of Laura's strongest winds along its path on Thursday. However, since Laura may be strengthening at landfall, it will weaken more slowly inland. This could allow tropical storm-force sustained winds to reach as far north as Arkansas, and hurricane-force winds to reach nearly to Shreveport.

Laura will likely transition to an extratropical storm system over western Tennessee on Friday evening. This low will likely still be producing strong squalls with wind gusts to tropical storm strength at that time, though sustained winds should be below tropical storm strength.

At 140 mph, Laura is forecast to be stronger than Hurricanes Ike and Rita, both of which devastated this area. While Laura has expanded a little in terms of size, it remains much smaller than Ike and Rita. This is why we are expecting the tidal surge to peak at around 14-17 feet into Cameron Parish, LA instead of the 20 feet or more that occurred with Ike and Rita.

Inland flooding is also a possibility from Laura. Some areas could see more than 15 inches of rain.

Expected Impacts on Land

Northern Gulf Coast: Severe wind and tidal surge damage is expected near where the eye makes landfall. Expect extended power outages within 40 miles either side of the track. Outside of the eyewall, widespread power outages will be possible, along with major coastal flooding. Widespread street flooding could also occur.

Expected Impacts Offshore

Gulf of Mexico: Squalls and very rough conditions prevail off the middle Louisiana coast at present. These heavy squalls should stay north and east of the blocks off the lower Texas coast, such as Alaminos Canyon, and southwest and west of the blocks off the southeast Louisiana coast, such as Mississippi Canyon. Conditions offshore will be improving quickly on Thursday morning as Laura moves well inland.

Squalls could reach the blocks along the upper Texas and central Louisiana coast on Wednesday morning. Improving conditions are expected during the day on Thursday as Laura moves well inland and weakens. Seas could approach 40 feet near the center.

Our next advisory will be issued by 3 PM CDT

Meteorologist: Chris Hebert

Forecast Confidence: Average							Hurricane Severity Index		
Fcst Hour	Valid	Lat.	Lon.	Max Sustained Winds	Max Gusts	Category	Size	Intensity	Total
0	9AM CDT Wed Aug 26	26.80N	91.70W	115 mph	145 mph	Category 3	11	11	22
12	9PM CDT Wed Aug 26	28.80N	93.20W	130 mph	160 mph	Category 4	11	15	26
17	2AM CDT Thu Aug 27	29.80N	93.50W	140 mph	175 mph	Category 4	10	16	26
24	9AM CDT Thu Aug 27	31.40N	93.70W	85 mph	105 mph	Category 1	3	6	9
26	11AM CDT Thu Aug 27	31.90N	93.70W	75 mph	90 mph	Category 1	3	5	8
29	2PM CDT Thu Aug 27	32.60N	93.70W	60 mph	75 mph	Tropical Storm	2	3	5
36	9PM CDT Thu Aug 27	34.00N	93.30W	40 mph	50 mph	Tropical Storm	1	1	2
48	9AM CDT Fri Aug 28	35.90N	91.60W	35 mph	45 mph	Tropical Depression	0	1	1
60	9PM CDT Fri Aug 28	37.20N	88.20W	35 mph	45 mph	Extratropical Low	0	1	1
72	9AM CDT Sat Aug 29	37.80N	83.70W	35 mph	45 mph	Extratropical Low	0	1	1

The yellow cone represents track error from the previous five years. Over the past five tropical cyclone seasons, the center of the storm tracked within the yellow cone 75% of the time. The cone does not represent the forecast uncertainty in the current advisory for this storm. In addition, strong winds, very high tides, large waves, and heavy rainfall can often extend well outside the yellow cone.