



BAHMET 7.6A

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT

Updated at 6:00 PM EDT on Saturday, 24th October, 2026

**...GALE-FORCE CONDITIONS EXPECTED OVER THE NORTHERN BAHAMAS AND THE GULF STREAM FROM SUNDAY...
...HEAVY RAIN, FLASH FLOODING AND KING-TIDE COASTAL FLOODING EXPECTED...**

This statement updates the Special Weather Statement issued at 6:00 PM on Friday, 23rd October, 2026.

...Gale-force winds are expected over the Gulf Stream and the Atlantic waters north and east of Grand Bahama and Abaco from Sunday through Monday night. Near-gale conditions are expected elsewhere in the Northern and Northwest Bahamas from Sunday through Tuesday, with seas of 11 to 17 feet, locally higher, on Atlantic exposures...

...Heavy rain, flash flooding and strong to severe thunderstorms are expected in the Central and Southeast Bahamas tonight through Monday...

...The highest tides of the year (king tides) early next week, combined with large swells, will bring a significant risk of coastal flooding from Sunday through Wednesday...

This morning, a 1014-millibar low was centred near 24°N 69°W, about 280 miles east-northeast of Mayaguana, with a trough extending south-westward across Hispaniola. A stationary front extended from the central Atlantic to just north-east of Abaco, and a cold front was moving slowly south-eastward near 30°N. Strong high pressure is building southward over the western Atlantic. Low pressure is expected to deepen near the Central Bahamas tonight and Sunday, just south of the front. The tight pressure gradient between the high and the low will produce gale-force northeasterly winds over the Gulf Stream and the waters north and east of the Northern Bahamas from Sunday. The front is expected to stall from near Bermuda to the Central Bahamas on Monday. Winds and seas will then diminish very slowly through Thursday.

Abundant tropical moisture and an upper-level trough will keep weather unsettled across the Central and Southeast Bahamas tonight through Monday. Periods of heavy rain and scattered to numerous thunderstorms are expected, and some storms may become strong to severe. Showers and thunderstorms will spread into the Northwest and Northern Bahamas on Sunday and Monday. Rainfall totals of 2 to 4 inches are possible, with locally higher amounts in the Central and Southeast Bahamas. There is a moderate risk of flash flooding in low-lying and flood-prone areas.

Marine Impacts:

Winds and Seas:

Northeasterly winds will increase over the Northern and Northwest Bahamas tonight and Sunday. From Sunday afternoon through Monday night, winds of 25 to 30 knots, with gusts to gale force, will affect the Gulf Stream and the Atlantic waters north and east of Grand Bahama and Abaco. Elsewhere in the Northern and Northwest Bahamas, northeasterly winds of 20 to 25 knots, with gusts to 35 knots, are expected from Sunday night through Tuesday. Seas on Atlantic exposures will build to 11 to 17 feet on Sunday night and Monday, locally up to 19 feet, and will remain 9 to 14 feet through Wednesday. Over the Gulf Stream, northeasterly winds blowing against the current will produce steep, dangerous seas of 9 to 13 feet, occasionally 17 feet. In the Central and Southeast Bahamas, winds will be variable near the low. Strong winds and very rough seas will occur in and near thunderstorms, and seas on Atlantic exposures will build to 7 to 13 feet from Sunday night. Swells will break heavily across reefs, cuts and harbour entrances, making these passages dangerous to navigate.

Advice to Mariners:

Small craft should remain in port. All vessels should be secured now. Vessels should not attempt to cross the Gulf Stream from Sunday through Wednesday. Mariners should closely monitor marine forecasts, warnings and advisories issued by the Bahamas Department of Meteorology.

Rip Currents and Surf:

Life-threatening rip currents and dangerous surf are expected along Atlantic-facing and north-facing beaches in all regions from Sunday through at least Wednesday. This includes the northern beaches of New Providence and Grand Bahama. Beachgoers, swimmers and pleasure-craft operators should remain out of the water.

Expected Marine Alert Levels (see the latest BDM Marine Forecast for alerts in effect):

Region	Expected Alert	Period
Northern Bahamas	Gale Warning: Gulf Stream and Atlantic waters north and east of Grand Bahama and Abaco	Sunday – Monday night
	Near Gale Warning: remaining waters	Sunday – Tuesday
	Small Craft Advisory	Wednesday – Thursday
Northwest Bahamas	Near Gale Warning	Sunday afternoon – Tuesday
	Small Craft Advisory	Wednesday – Thursday
Central Bahamas	Small Craft Caution, with gusty winds and higher seas in thunderstorms	Tonight – Sunday
	Small Craft Advisory	Sunday night – Thursday
Southeast Bahamas	Small Craft Caution, with gusty winds and higher seas in thunderstorms	Tonight – Sunday
	Small Craft Advisory on Atlantic exposures	Sunday night – Wednesday

Projected Sea Heights for the Territorial Waters of the Bahamas

Period	Northern Bahamas	Northwest Bahamas	Central Bahamas	Southeast Bahamas
Tonight (24th October)	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 6–8 ft, building to 9–13 ft north of Grand Bahama and Abaco Gulf Stream: 5–7 ft, occasionally 9 ft	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 5–7 ft	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 4–6 ft	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 4–7 ft
Sunday (25th October)	Sheltered: 4–6 ft Atlantic: 8–12 ft, 10–15 ft north of Grand Bahama and Abaco Gulf Stream: 6–9 ft, building to 8–11 ft, occasionally 14 ft	Sheltered: 4–6 ft Atlantic: 8–12 ft	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 5–7 ft, building to 10–15 ft north of 24°N	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 5–8 ft
Sunday Night (25th October)	Sheltered: 6–8 ft Atlantic: 11–17 ft Gulf Stream: 8–11 ft, occasionally 14 ft	Sheltered: 6–8 ft Atlantic: 11–17 ft	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 6–9 ft, 12–19 ft north of 24°N	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 6–8 ft, 7–11 ft north of 23°N
Monday (26th October)	Sheltered: 6–8 ft Atlantic: 11–17 ft Gulf Stream: 9–13 ft, occasionally 17 ft	Sheltered: 6–8 ft Atlantic: 11–17 ft	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 7–11 ft, 12–18 ft north of 24°N	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 6–9 ft, 9–13 ft north of 23°N
Tuesday (27th October)	Sheltered: 5–7 ft Atlantic: 9–14 ft Gulf Stream: 9–12 ft, occasionally 15 ft	Sheltered: 5–7 ft Atlantic: 9–14 ft	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 7–10 ft, 9–14 ft north of 24°N	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 6–9 ft, 8–12 ft north of 23°N
Wednesday (28th October)	Sheltered: 5–7 ft Atlantic: 9–13 ft Gulf Stream: 8–11 ft, occasionally 14 ft	Sheltered: 5–7 ft Atlantic: 9–13 ft	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 6–9 ft, 9–13 ft north of 24°N	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 4–8 ft, 7–11 ft north of 23°N
Thursday (29th October)	Sheltered: 4–6 ft Atlantic: 7–11 ft Gulf Stream: 7–10 ft, occasionally 13 ft	Sheltered: 4–6 ft Atlantic: 7–11 ft	Sheltered: 3–5 ft Atlantic: 6–9 ft, 8–12 ft north of 24°N	Sheltered: 2–4 ft Atlantic: 4–7 ft, 7–10 ft north of 23°N

Land Impacts:

Coastal Flooding and Erosion:

The highest astronomical tides of the year (king tides) will occur early next week. Combined with large northeasterly swells and strong onshore winds, these tides will bring a significant risk of coastal flooding from Sunday through Wednesday, mainly around the morning and evening high tides. Moderate coastal flooding is likely, and major coastal flooding is possible, along north- and east-facing coastal roads and low-lying shorelines, especially in the Northern and Northwest Bahamas. Heavy rainfall at the time of high tide may worsen flooding by slowing drainage. Wave overwash and significant coastal erosion are likely along Atlantic-facing shorelines. Residents in coastal and low-lying areas should complete their preparations tonight. Motorists and pedestrians should avoid flooded coastal roads and keep away from sea walls and exposed shorelines.

Flash Flooding:

Heavy rainfall tonight through Monday may cause flash flooding of roads, homes and low-lying areas, especially in the Central and Southeast Bahamas. Residents in flood-prone areas should clear drains and move valuables to higher ground. Motorists should not drive through flooded roads.

Severe Thunderstorms:

Strong to severe thunderstorms are possible tonight through Monday over the Central and Southeast Bahamas and parts of the Northwest Bahamas. Residents should stay indoors and away from windows during thunderstorms, and should not shelter under trees. The BDM will issue Severe Weather Warnings as required.

Wind Hazards:

Strong and gusty northeasterly winds from Sunday through Tuesday may topple loose objects, signs and tree limbs, and may cause power interruptions in the Northern and Northwest Bahamas. Residents should secure loose outdoor items, furnishings and construction materials tonight.

Projected Wind Speeds and Gusts for the Bahamas

Period	Northern Bahamas	Northwest Bahamas	Central Bahamas	Southeast Bahamas
Tonight (24th October)	NE 15–20 kt 20–30 kt north of Grand Bahama and Abaco Gusts to 35 kt	NE 15–20 kt Gusts to 25 kt	E 10–20 kt Stronger gusts in thunderstorms	Light and variable, becoming E–SE near 10 kt Stronger gusts in thunderstorms
Sunday (25th October)	NE 15–20 kt, increasing to 20–25 kt 25–30 kt over the Gulf Stream and north of Grand Bahama and Abaco Gusts to 40 kt	NE–E 15–20 kt, increasing to 20–25 kt in the afternoon Gusts to 30 kt	E 10–15 kt Stronger gusts in thunderstorms	SE–S 10–15 kt Stronger gusts in thunderstorms
Sunday Night (25th October)	NE 20–25 kt 25–30 kt over the Gulf Stream and north of Grand Bahama and Abaco Gusts to 40 kt	NE 20–25 kt Gusts to 35 kt	E 10–15 kt NE–E 20–25 kt over Atlantic waters	SE 10–20 kt Gusts to 25 kt
Monday (26th October)	NE 20–25 kt 25–30 kt over the Gulf Stream and north of Grand Bahama and Abaco Gusts to 40 kt	N–NE 20–25 kt Gusts to 35 kt	SE 10–15 kt, shifting NW–N N–NE 20–25 kt over Atlantic waters	S–SW 15–20 kt Gusts to 25 kt
Tuesday (27th October)	NE 15–25 kt 25–30 kt over the Gulf Stream Gusts to 35 kt	NE 15–20 kt, increasing to 20–25 kt at night Gusts to 30 kt	W–NW 10–15 kt, becoming E 15–20 kt at night	S–SW 10–20 kt, becoming SE
Wednesday (28th October)	NE–E 15–20 kt 20–30 kt over the Gulf Stream Gusts to 30 kt	NE–E 15–20 kt Gusts to 25 kt	E 10–15 kt	E–SE 10–15 kt
Thursday (29th October)	NE–E 10–15 kt 20–25 kt over the Gulf Stream	NE–E 10–15 kt	E near 10 kt	E near 10 kt

**Gale-force gusts (34 knots or more) shown in red. Sheltered = offshore waters in the lee of the islands and banks. Atlantic = Atlantic-exposed waters. Gulf Stream = waters west of Bimini and Grand Bahama.*

The BDM will continue to monitor this system closely and will issue further statements as necessary. The exact position and strength of the low remain uncertain, and changes to the forecast winds, seas and rainfall are possible. Residents should complete their preparations tonight.

BDM urges residents to closely monitor all weather updates and forecasts broadcast on television and radio, as well as through its WhatsApp channel and Facebook page (Bahamas Meteorology). Additionally, the BDM offers a user-friendly, regularly updated website to ensure the most current information is easily accessible: <https://met.gov.bs>.

Issued by:
The Bahamas Department of Meteorology