

Forecast Discussion

Gustav strengthened rapidly overnight from 80mph yesterday evening to a current 125mph, making Gustav a strong Category 3 hurricane. The rate of strengthening has slowed this morning, and crossing western Cuba may cause a brief dip in intensity when that occurs. But, extremely warm water is also in place across the southern Gulf, and with favorable wind conditions, Gustav is expected to become a Category 4 storm either right before or something shortly after crossing Cuba. NHC currently forecasts Gustav to peak at 140mph, but odds are good that Gustav will reach 150mph or more. Some weakening is likely prior to landfall, particularly if Gustav's forward speed slows as projected, and Gustav currently expected to be around the current intensity of 125mph at landfall. The forecast track hasn't really changed much, with a Louisiana landfall still expected on Tuesday. Hanna still has winds of 50mph today, and is only expected to strengthen very slowly over the next few days. Hanna will likely threaten Florida in about 6 or 7 days, and could still cross into the Gulf after that time.

Season Storm Summary

Type	Forecast	Average	So Far
Named Storms	14-16	10	8
Hurricanes	7-8	6	3

Storm Names for the 2008 Season

Arthur	Gustav	Marco	Teddy
Bertha	Hanna	Nana	Vicky
Cristobal	Ike	Omar	Wilfred
Dolly	Josephine	Paloma	Alpha
Edouard	Kyle	Rene	Beta
Fay	Laura	Sally	Gamma

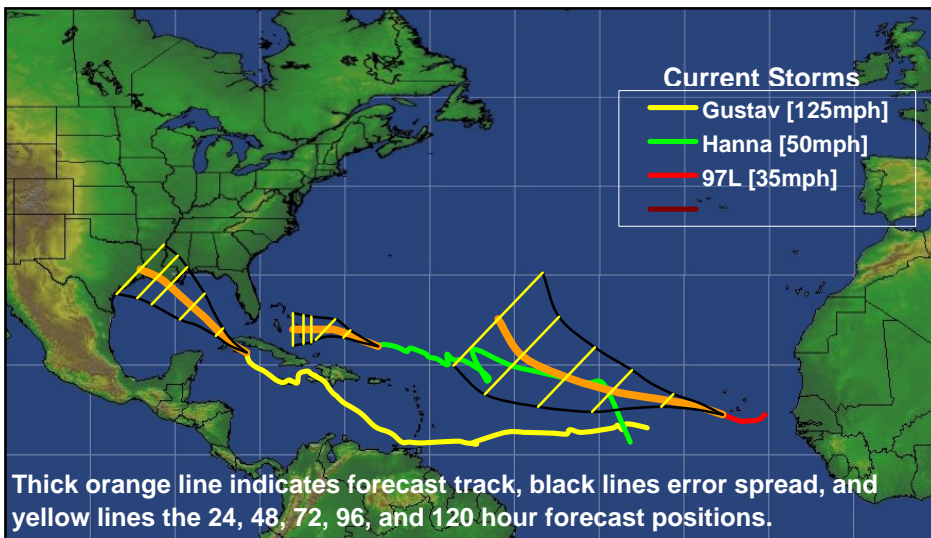
Saffir-Simpson Intensity Scale

Type	Winds
Tropical Depression	< 39mph
Tropical Storm	39-73 mph
Category 1 Hurricane	74-95 mph
Category 2 Hurricane	96-110 mph
Category 3 Hurricane	111-130 mph
Category 4 Hurricane	131-155 mph
Category 5 Hurricane	> 155 mph

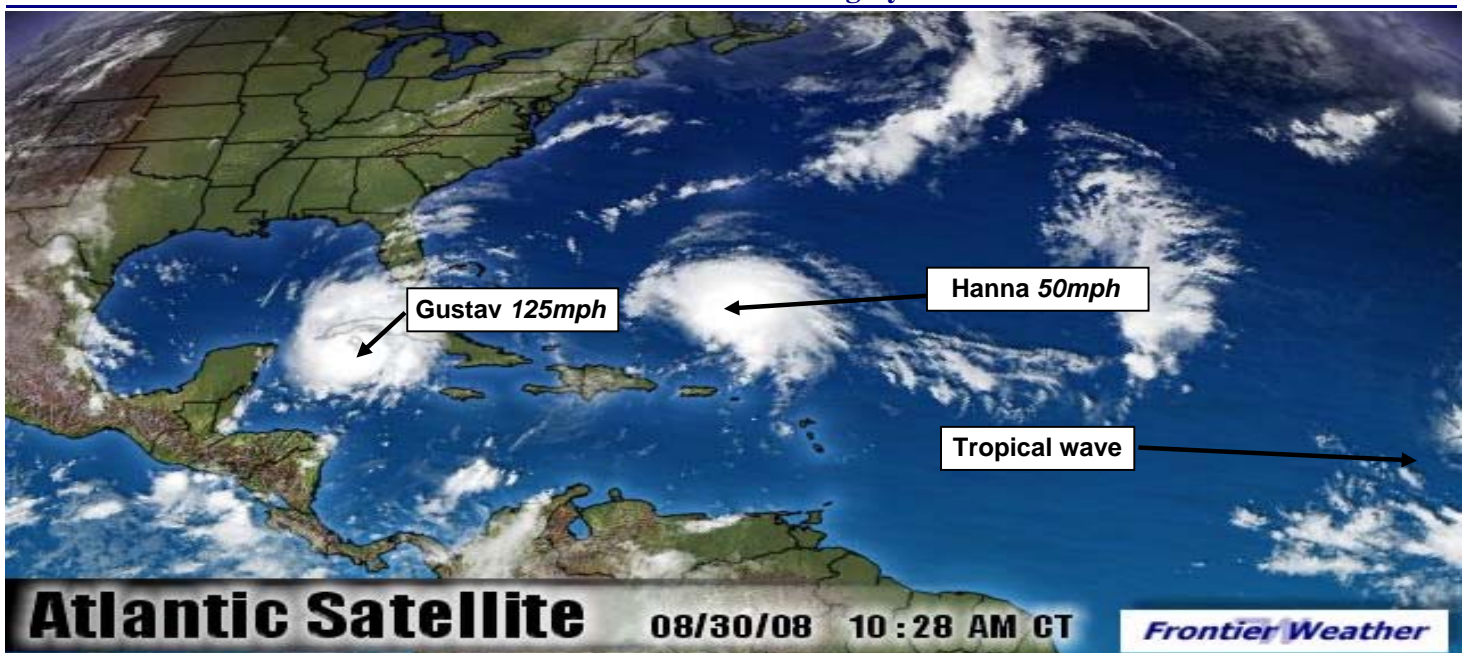
Normal Storm Distribution by Month

Month	Historical Average		2008	
	Storms	Hurr.	Storms	Hurr.
June	<1	<1	1*	0
July	1	<1	3	2
August	3	2	4	1
September	3	2	-	-
October	2	1	-	-
November	<1	<1	-	-

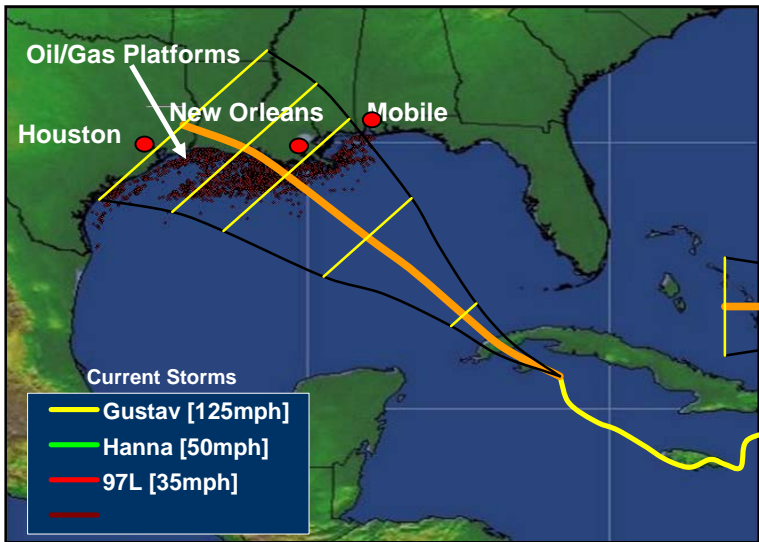
*Arthur was actually a May storm.



Current Satellite Imagery



Gulf of Mexico Focus



Gulf Oil/Gas Platform Threat Summary

Threat information for storm:	Gustav	Number	Percent
Platforms within 15 miles of storm track:		794	19.9%
Platforms within 50 miles of storm track:		2350	58.8%
Platforms within 150 miles of storm track:		3791	94.8%

The 15, 50, and 150 mile distances approximate the extent of the eyewall, hurricane force winds, and tropical storm force winds for an average storm.

Shut-in Statistics

Statistics as of: 8/30/2008	Num	%	Change
Manned Platforms Evacuated:	6	0.84	0.00%
Rigs Evacuated:	17	14.05	0.00%
Oil, BOPD Shut-in:	86,013	6.62	0.00%
Natural Gas, BCF/D Shut-in:	0.136	1.84	0.00%

Data from MMS, Department Of the Interior.

Atlantic Basin Forecast Model Tracks

