



Enough said!

The Briefing for November 10, 2023

The last Briefing was November 8 – 2023

How's your weather – <https://weather.com/>

Games this weekend!

[College Football Schedule for Week 11 - 2023 Season - ESPN](#)

Miami at FSU – 3:30 – ABC

Florida at LSU – 7:30 – SEC Network

Commissioners from Small Counties to Meet



Small County Coalition Fall Meeting

Wednesday, November 16 - 12:00-1:15pm - The Skylark Ballroom
Tampa Bay Grand Hyatt – Courtney Campbell Causeway

Purpose of the Meeting:

Receive Updates/Review Upcoming Activities
Adopt 2024 Legislative Agenda
Invited
Small County Coalition Members and Guests

Another Look at what's in the Disaster Relief Legislation

CS/HB 1C - *Disaster Relief* by Rep. Shoaf (SB 2C by Sen. Simon) provides additional funding for Hurricane Idalia recovery efforts. The Small County Coalition presented testimony in support of the legislation.

Here are funding provisions in the legislation.

- \$30 million to the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) to cover the local matching requirements of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance grants to local governments in the Hurricane Idalia Disaster Declaration.
- \$50 million to DEM for the Hurricane Recovery Grant Program. This program provides funding for repair and recovery projects in local governments covered by the Hurricane Idalia Disaster Declaration. **See message below from DEM Director Guthrie.**
- An additional \$3 million to DEM to provide planning and design grants for new emergency operations centers in fiscally constrained counties.
- \$10 million to the Small County Outreach Program, for transportation projects within the Hurricane Idalia Disaster Declaration.

- \$181.5 million to the Department of Financial Services for the My Safe Florida Home Program, which provides home inspections and hurricane-hardening residential improvements.
- \$25 million to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program.
- \$5 million to the Department of Commerce to provide Rural Infrastructure Fund Grants to fiscally constrained counties impacted by Hurricane Idalia.
- \$75 million for low- or zero-interest loans to eligible agriculture and aquaculture operations.
- \$37.5 million in grants for timber operations impacted by Hurricane Idalia.

The bill also includes a number of tax relief provisions that will help local farmers.

- A provision relating to tangible personal property in a farming operation, that was rendered unusable for at least 60 days by Hurricane Idalia, be assessed at its salvage value for the 2024 tax rolls;
- A provision for sales tax refunds for fencing and building materials associated with Hurricane Idalia recovery efforts on agricultural property; and
- A provision for a fuel tax refund for shipments and debris removal related to Hurricane Idalia recovery.

\$50 million Repair and Recovery Program for Hurricane Idalia Local Governments and School Districts Eligible

A Message From Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director Florida Division of Emergency Management Kevin.Guthrie@em.myflorida.com

The Florida Division of Emergency Management is pleased to announce information on an anticipated \$50 million Repair and Recovery Program for Hurricane Idalia.

Objective:

A funding opportunity is expected to become available for hurricane repair and recovery projects within counties declared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for individual assistance and public assistance (categories A-G) for Hurricane Idalia. The Division is authorized to approve requests for resources by local governments, independent special districts, and school boards, including charter schools.

Funds through this program can provide resources for the following:

- mitigation of local and county revenue losses and operating deficits;
- infrastructure repair and replacement, including road, sewer, and water facilities;
- beach renourishment;
- debris removal;
- Dredging of public waterways.

A local government may submit a request for resources to administer infrastructure repair, beach renourishment, and dredging of public waterways grants within the jurisdiction of the local government, provided that the grant program requires matching funds by grantees of at least 50 percent of project costs. The matching requirements for a project within a fiscally constrained county may be waived.

Program funds will be provided as grants for projects shown to be ineligible for funding from any other sources. All other funds provided through the Program will be issued as loans to eligible recipients. It will be the duty of each loan recipient to seek funding from all sources for which a project may be eligible, including but not limited to any available insurance coverage and funding through the FEMA Public Assistance process, and recipients will be required to demonstrate that an earnest effort has been made to recover funds from those sources for eligible projects. Recipients will be required to repay all loans received through the Program, up to the amount of any indemnification payments or other federal assistance received for eligible projects.

Projects for the mitigation of local and county revenue losses and operating deficits for jurisdictions will be considered when Florida Commerce funding from the Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan Program has been exhausted, or upon an applicant's denial of funding from that program by the Department. [Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan - FloridaJobs.org](https://www.floridajobs.org)

Grant/Loan Management:

The Repair and Recovery Program for Hurricanes Idalia will be managed through the Division of Emergency Management Enterprise Solution (DEMES). The Division's solution will have an application process and will require information to be submitted with the application. Examples of the additional information may include FEMA project worksheets, insurance claims, denials, determination memos, etc. The Florida Division of Emergency Management, in coordination with a contracted vendor, will provide two training sessions the week of November 13 - 17. Both trainings will be the same, you will only need to attend one session. The trainings will be conducted via webinar and a recording of the training will be available at: www.floridadisaster.org/demes

Training dates:

November 15 at 2:00 PM Registration Link for [Webinar 1](#)

November 16 at 2:00 PM Registration Link for [Webinar 2](#)

The portal will open in DEMES on November 17 to start the application intake process.

Links to Monitor the Legislative Session

[Link to the Florida Senate](#)

[Link to the Florida House of Representatives](#)

[The Florida Channel](#)

Headlines Around The State

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis now says Donald Trump's 2018 endorsement didn't matter

FlaPol: Looking ahead: Ron DeSantis campaign sees 'increased significance' to upcoming Gavin Newsom debate

FlaPol: Rick Scott says the race for the Republican presidential nomination is over

WaPo: Voters drub Moms for Liberty 'parental rights' candidates at the ballot

WLRN: Two years after roof collapse at Broward school, students and staff are still in portables

FlaPol: New legislation would let Gov. DeSantis remove local officials who take down Confederate monuments

Politico: Pro-Palestinian groups targeted by DeSantis still allowed at Florida universities

AP: Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds says DeSantis, not Trump, is the best Republican to win the 2024 election

Times: Florida board advances rule limiting discussion of social issues on campus

FlaPol: Kathleen Passidomo announces inaugural workshop on Live Healthy proposal

FlaPol: Report finds 'no evidence' Fabián Basabe harassed aides. Accusers' lawyer slams 'shoddy' investigation.

FlaPol: Ethics commission tosses verbal abuse complaint Fabian Basabe aide filed against Aventura Mayor

FlaPol: Florida's clean energy moo-vement: FNGA urges the Senate to help more Florida farms get on board

Herald: 'It's hard to survive and live.' Broward teachers rally for raises, against insurance costs

FlaPol: Grant for new deputies comes at a multimillion-dollar cost to Citrus County

WUSF: A PEN America report documents increased censorship in classrooms

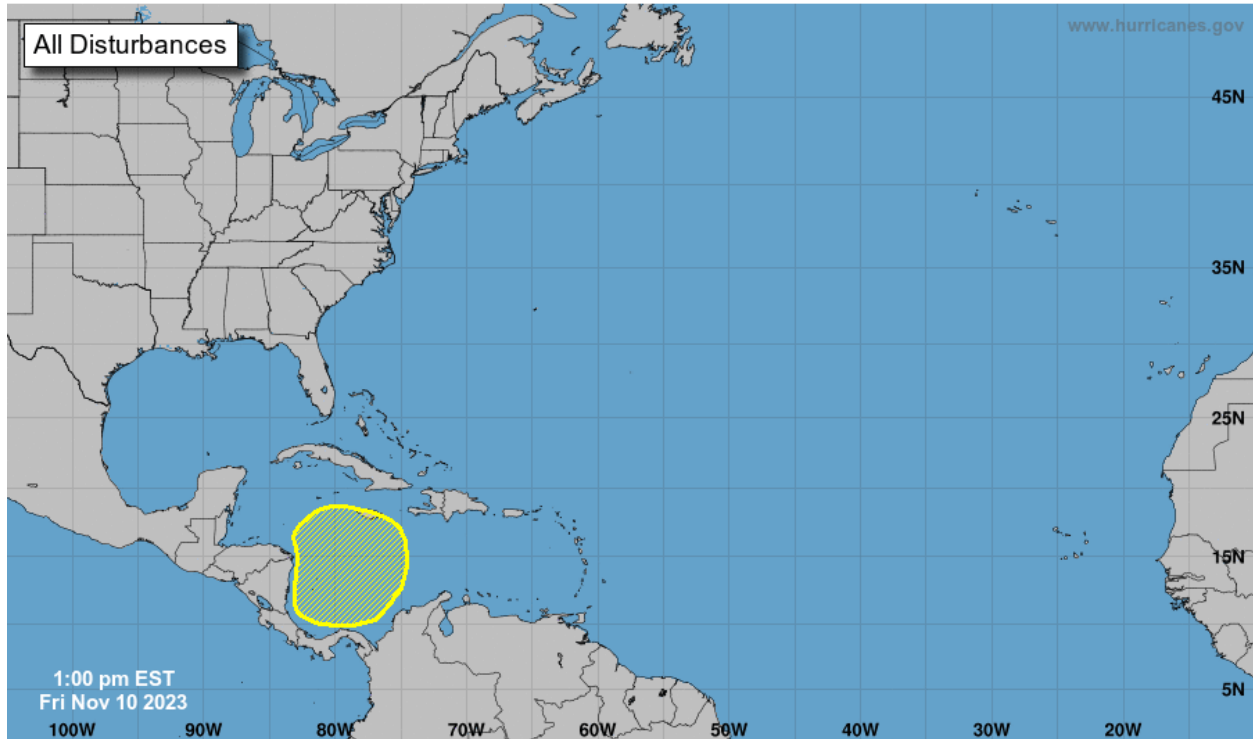
Tropical Outlook

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Seven-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

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The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School Representing District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email _cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button.