

Weekly Weather Outlook for Belize

Valid Time: Monday, Feb. 20, 2012 until Monday, Feb. 27, 2012

Feature(s) of Interest:

Evidence of the 2012 Dry Season is noticeable across Belize. The Dry Season could become more intense later in March, April and early May.

The feature of interest this working week will be a seasonally drier and stable East to South-easterly airflow over the NW Caribbean and Belize, generated by a weakening Atlantic High Pressure system and a broad, frontal low pressure system moving over and to the north of Texas during the next 24 to 48 hours.

A cold front will make its way slowly south-eastward across the Gulf of Mexico by early Friday, reaching a position from the Florida Keys to southern Yucatan by Saturday evening. The approach of this front could trigger off some localized thunderstorms over inland Belize on Saturday afternoon and evening. This frontal zone is likely to become diffused over Belize on Sunday, and will then dissipate.

The weather will be seasonally sunny and dry during most of this working week, with a fresh East to South-easterly breeze prevailing. The proximity of the cold front on Saturday evening and Sunday could provoke some afternoon and evening thunderstorms especially in the interior and north. Some showers and rain could affect most districts and coastal waters on Sunday. The rains will die away later on Monday and Tuesday.

Daily rainfall accumulations will be minimal from Monday through Saturday morning, ranging from a mere 0.01 to 0.10 of-an-inch. Daily rainfall totals will increase later on Saturday through Monday, with totals ranging from 0.25-0.50 of-an-inch over most districts and coastal waters.

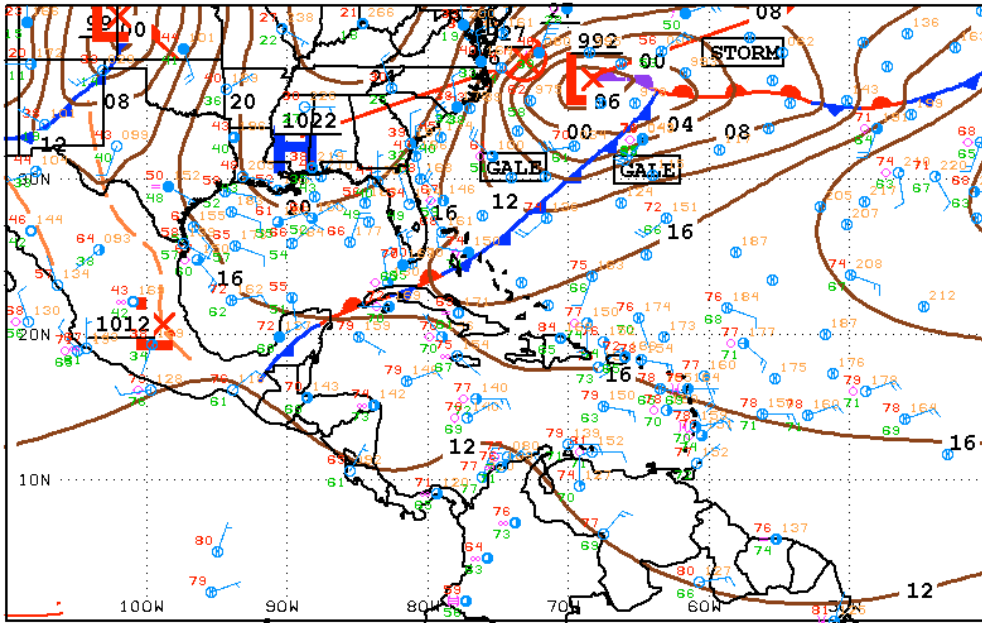


Fig. 1 INHC Surface Map valid for 9:00 am Monday, Feb. 20, 2012; showing weak, quasi-stationary front from the Bahamas to central Yucatan. The continental High behind the frontal boundary is predicted to move NE, resulting in a rapid return to a seasonal E to SE'ly airflow over the NW Caribbean and Belize.



12Z SOUTHWEST NORTH ATLANTIC SFC ANALYSIS
ISSUED:
Mon Feb 20 14:40:07 UTC 2012

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER
MIAMI, FLORIDA
BY TRFB ANALYST: GARCIA
COLLABORATING CENTERS: NHC OPC HPC

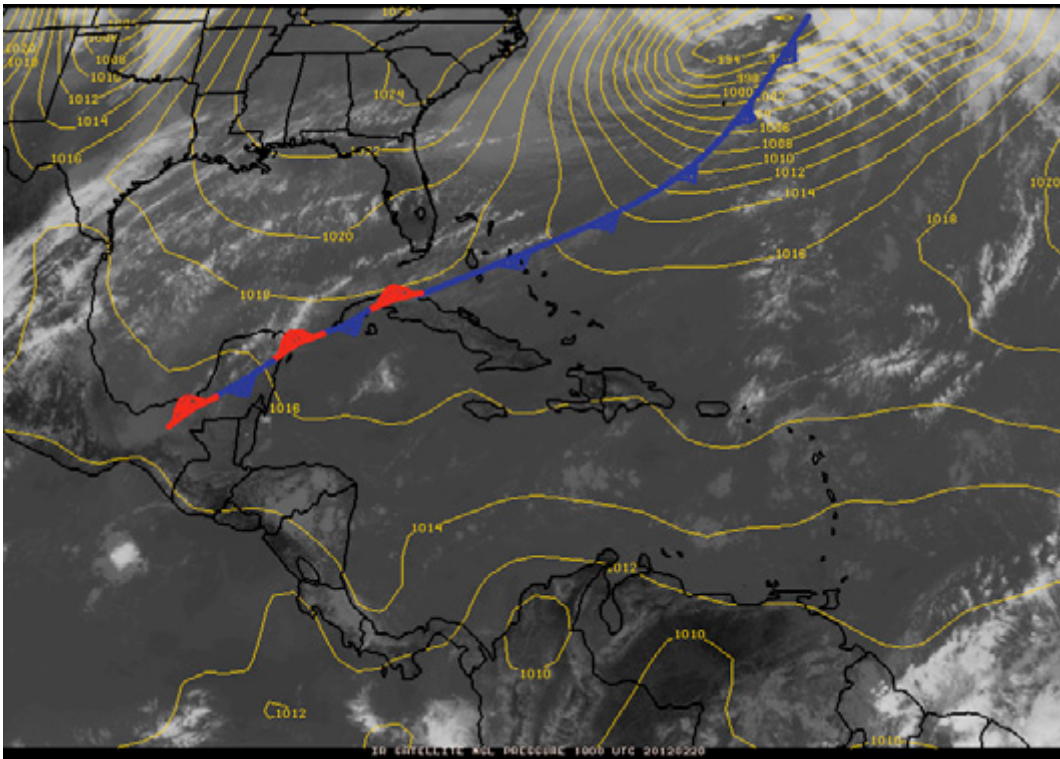


Fig. 2 Surface isobaric map valid for 12:00 pm, Monday, Feb. 20, 2012, superimposed on the 1:00 pm visible satellite image showing quasi-stationary front across central Yucatan, producing little in the form of deep, organized rain clouds. This frontal zone will dissipate over the next 24 hours.

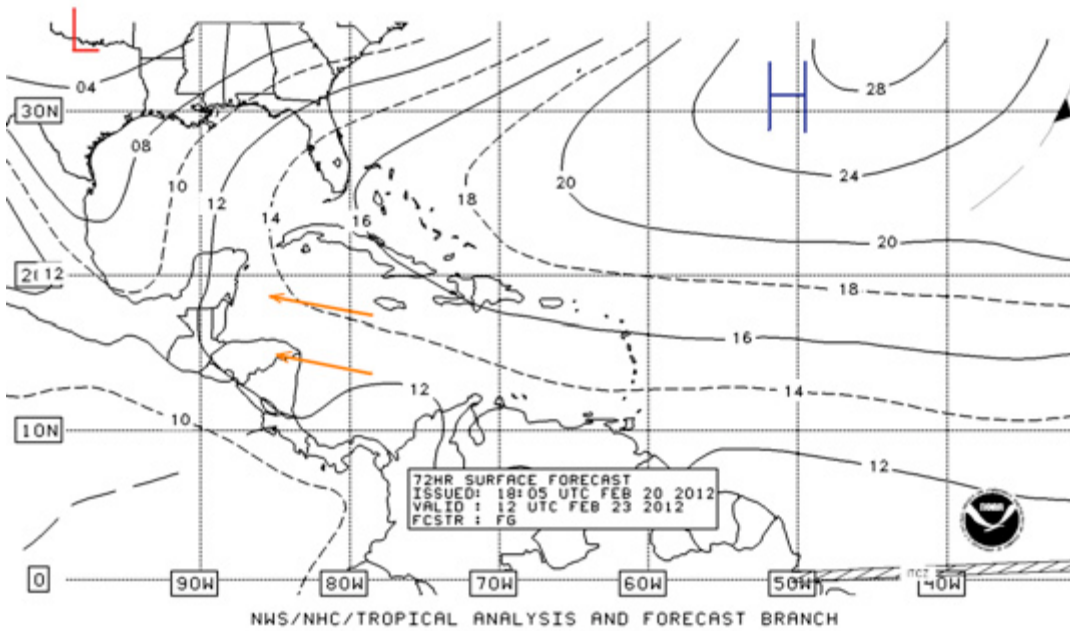


Fig. 3 NHC 72-hour forecast surface map valid for 6:00 am Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012 showing seasonal SE'ly airflow prevailing over the NW Caribbean and Belize and High Pressure ridge weakened over the region and a major low pressure system develops over the Texas area.

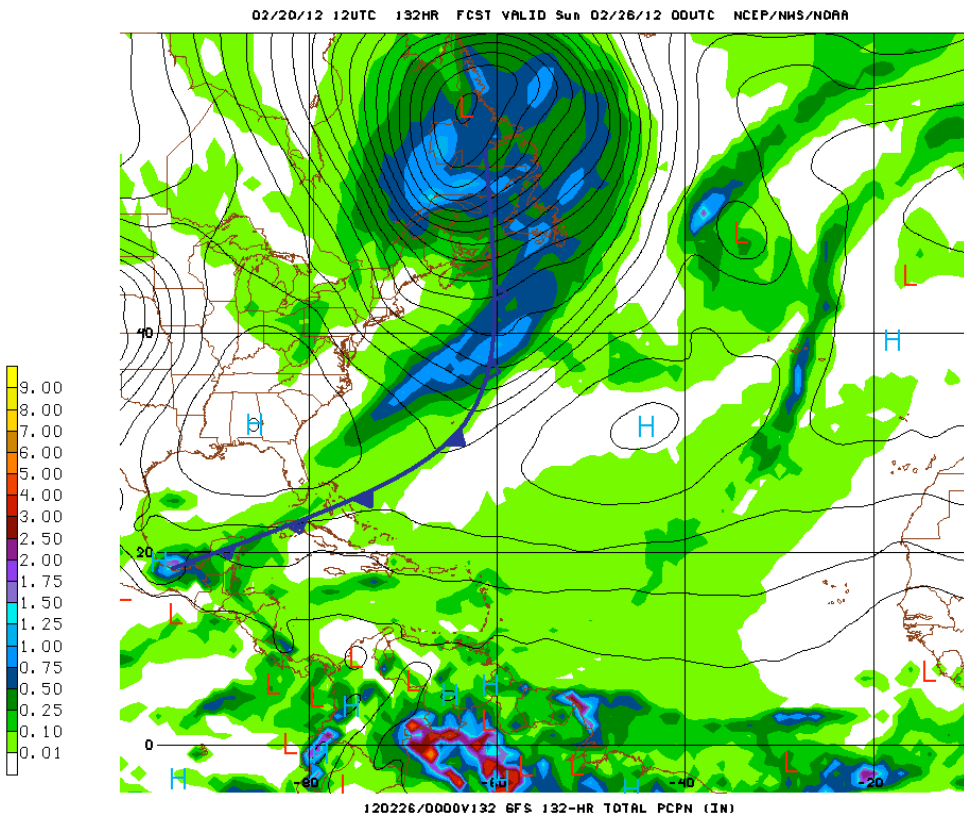









Fig. 4 GFS model, 132 hour rainfall projection, showing accumulations of 0.25-0.50 of an-inch of rainfall over coastal Belize, as of 6:00 pm, Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012, as a cold front approach from the NW and a continental high builds over the south-east USA. This front will become diffused and weakened over Belize on Sunday.

Belize Five-day Outlook for Agriculture and Industry...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sunday
Feb. 20, 2012	Feb. 21, 2012	Feb. 22, 2012	Feb. 23, 2012	Feb. 24, 2012	Feb. 25, 2012	Feb 26, 2012
						
Mostly sunny with isolated showers.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers.	Sunny with cloudy spells. Few showers mainly over the northern and north-western areas.	Cloudy & mild with some showers concentrated mainly over central and northern districts and coast.
Rainfall: 0.01- 0.10 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.01-0.10 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.01-0.10 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.10-0.25 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.10-0.25 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.25-0.50 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.25-0.50 of-an-inch

Monday,
Feb. 20, 2012

R. Fuentes, Agrometeorologist/Hydrologist