

Weekly Weather Outlook for Belize

Valid Time: April 17 – April 23, 2012

Feature(s) of Interest:

A trough of low pressure over western Yucatan ahead of a weak cold front in the central and SW Gulf of Mexico is inducing some instability over the Yucatan Peninsula, northern Guatemala and Belize. However, this activity will be short-lived as the southern portion of the cold front will weaken and the northern portion will move ENE to towards Florida over the next 24-36 hours.

The GFS model is projecting the movement of a vigorous low and associated cold front across the Texas and Louisiana Gulf coast and the Gulf of Mexico on Saturday and Sunday. This vigorous late-season frontal boundary will likely induce outbreaks of thunderstorms over Belize starting on Saturday and continuing on Sunday, when the front is expected to cross Yucatan and Belize. Conditions will improve rapidly on Monday and Tuesday as the system moves away from Belize.

Daily rainfall accumulations will be in the range of 0.10-0.25 of-an-inch over north-western and western areas on Monday and Tuesday of this week, with little rainfall elsewhere. Dry, hot conditions will continue countrywide on Tuesday through Friday of this week. Saturday should see some isolated thunderstorms beginning to develop, with increasing thunderstorm activity expected on Sunday, but diminishing later on Monday through Tuesday. Daily rainfall rates in the order of 0.75-1.00 inches are expected in the thundery weather on Saturday, Sunday and early Monday, but decreasing later on Monday through Tuesday over all areas of the nation.

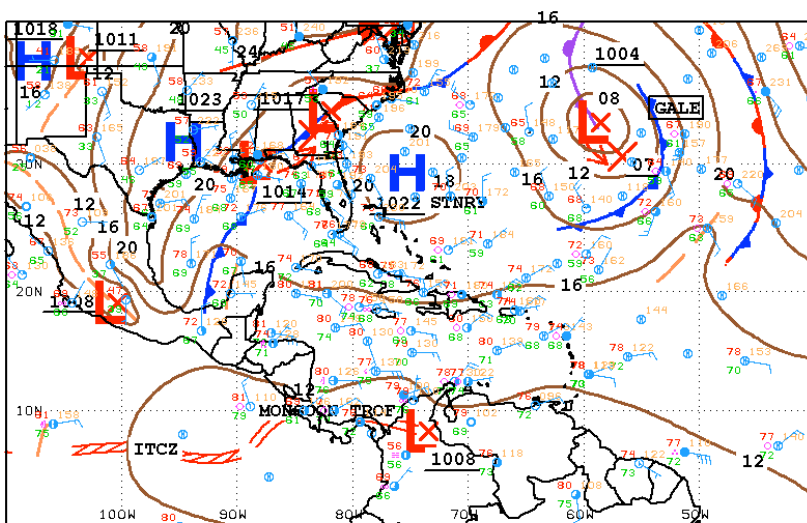


Fig. 1a NHC Surface map valid for 3:00 pm, Tuesday, April 17, 2012, showing weak cold front in the NW Gulf of Mexico and a weak surface trough in the Bay of Campeche extending into southern Mexico.



OSZ SOUTHWEST NORTH ATLANTIC SFC ANALYSIS
ISSUED: Wed Apr 18 08:20:33 UTC 2012

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER
MIAMI, FLORIDA
BY TAFB ANALYST: PAW
COLLABORATING CENTERS: NHC OPC HPC

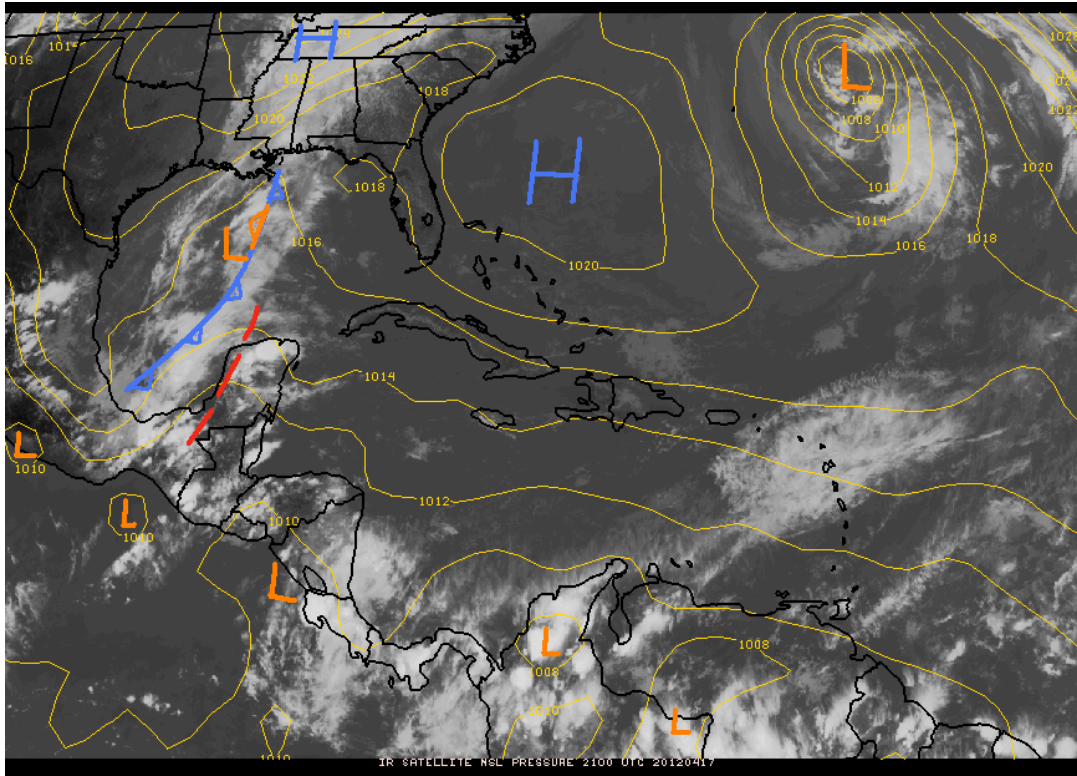


Fig. 1b Surface map and GOES IR Satellite picture valid for 3:00 pm, Tuesday, April 17, 2012, showing weak surface trough of low pressure over western Yucatan and the Bay of Campeche. Weak cold front in the central and SW Gulf of Mexico drifting eastward. Shallow rainclouds noted over southern and north-western Belize

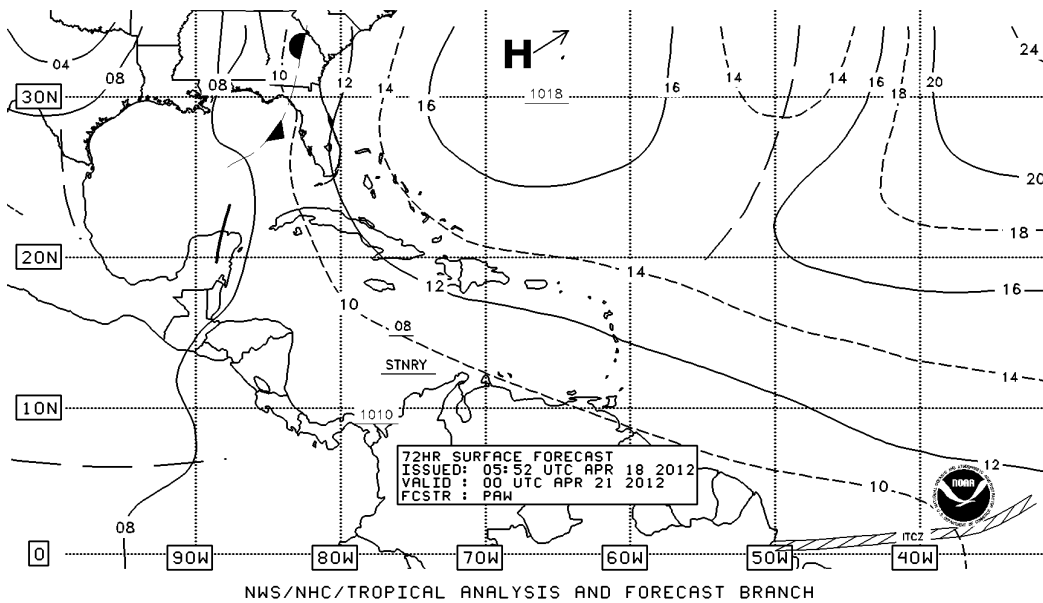


Fig. 2 NHC 72-hour forecast surface map valid for 6:00 am Thursday, April 20, 2012 showing quasi-stationary front over northern Florida extending into the NE Gulf of Mexico. Weak pressure gradient over southern Mexico and Central America, conducive to hot, dry weather.

04/17/12 12UTC 120HR FCST VALID Sun 04/22/12 12UTC NCEP/NHS/NOAA

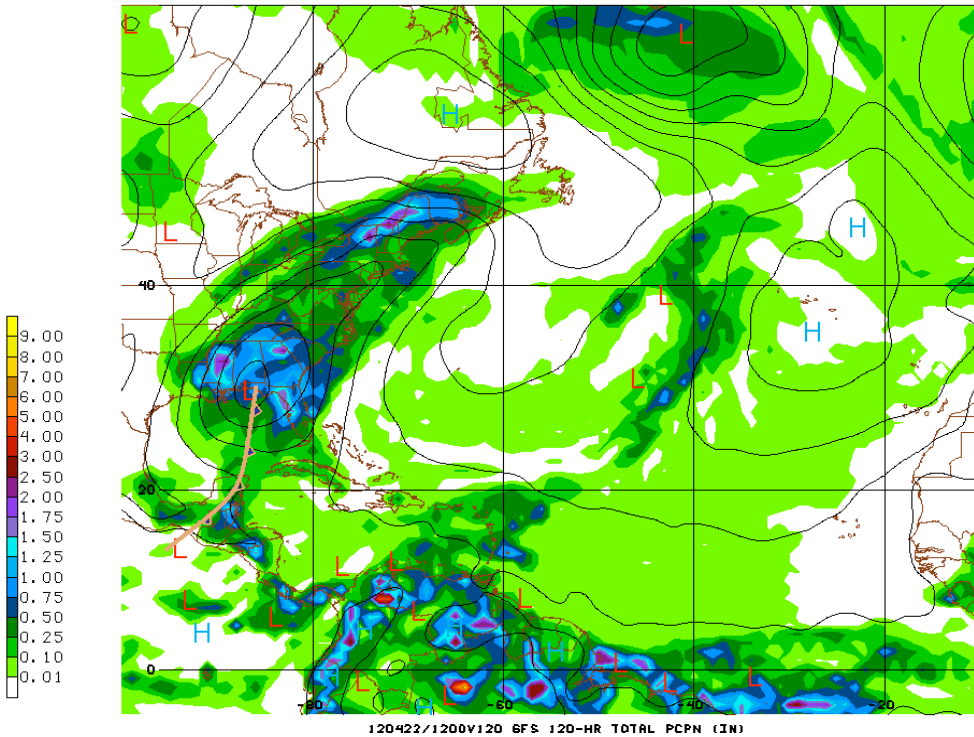


Fig. 3 120-hour rainfall projection of the GFS model, valid for 6:00 am Sunday, April 22, 2012 showing previous 24-hour rainfall accumulations of 0.75-1.00 inch of rainfall over northern and central Belize, as a vigorous late season cold front move over Yucatan and northern Belize.

04/17/12 12UTC 120HR FCST VALID SUN 04/22/12 12UTC NCEP/NHS/NOAA

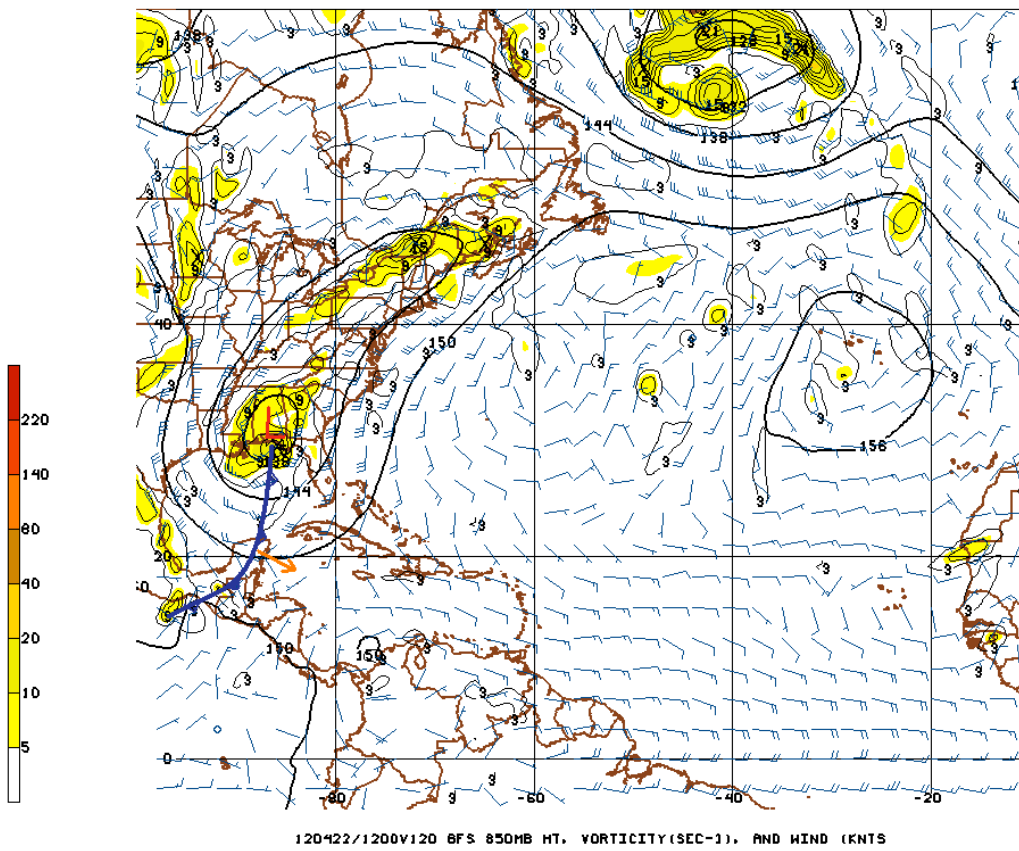




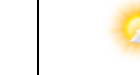
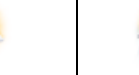



Fig. 4 GFS 850 mb (5,000ft) level vorticity projection valid for 6:00 am Sunday, April 22, showing vigorous late season frontal zone heading ESE across Southern Mexico to Belize.

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sunday
Apr. 16, 2012	Apr. 17, 2012	Apr. 18, 2012	Apr. 19, 2012	Apr. 20, 2012	Apr. 21, 2012	Apr. 22, 2012
						
Sunny with cloudy spells. Brief, isolated showers.	Sunny with cloudy spells. Isolated showers possible.	Sunny and hot. Isolated showers	Sunny, hot and dry	Sunny, hot and dry	Sunny, hot with isolated, afternoon thunderstorms	Cloudy with outbreaks of thunderstorms especially over northern and western areas
Rainfall: 0.10-0.25 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.10-0.25 of-an-inch	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: 0.25-0.50 of-an-inch	Rainfall: 0.75-1.00 inch

Monday

April 16, 2012

R. Frutos, Agrometeorologist/Hydrologist