

Erica Krauss

From: CHRUpdates <CHRUpdates@chrobinson.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 5:03 PM
Subject: CH Robinson - Hurricane Laura - Tuesday evening update

August 25, 2020 update on Hurricane Laura

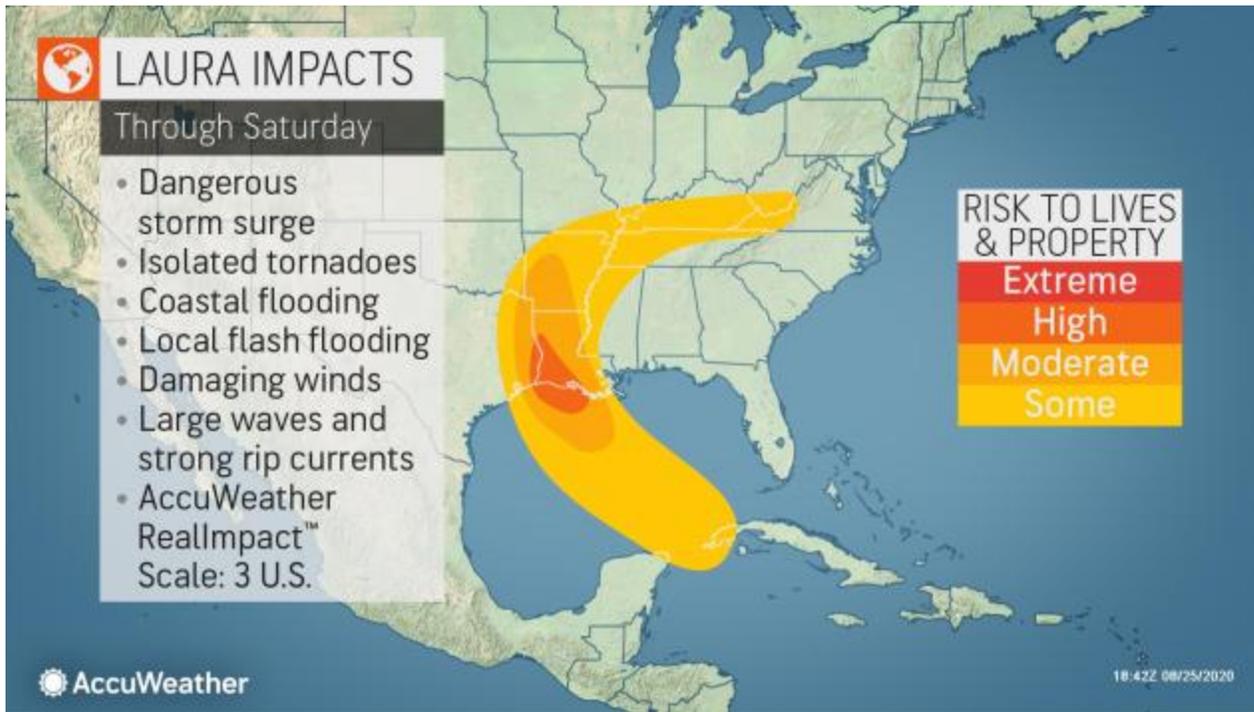
Some updated information concerning Hurricane Laura is below as well as the expected transportation impacts from yesterday. This is a developing situation and we will be providing updated, relevant information as it becomes available. Our next update is planned for mid-day Wednesday.

It has become increasingly likely that Laura will intensify to a major hurricane reaching category 3 or 4 by landfall near the Texas/Louisiana border. Impacts will be felt not only on the coast but also well inland. We will continue to monitor the situation and keep our customers up to date on impacts related to their business. Please reach out to your CH Robinson or TMC representative for more information.

More info:

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/hurricane/hurricane-laura-could-slam-into-gulf-coast-as-category-3-storm/800521>
<https://weather.com/storms/hurricane/news/2020-08-25-hurricane-laura-forecast-texas-louisiana>





From: CHRUpdates
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 12:20 PM
Subject: CH Robinson Tropical Weather Advisory - August 24

Transportation impacts

Domestic supply chains are already in a fragile state at the moment; **please see the attached Client Advisory from last week on the current state of the transportation market.** Hurricanes are fairly localized events, however their impacts can be felt hundreds of miles away in logistics terms as markets react to the event. Hurricane Harvey in 2017 is a great example; Houston was the epicenter receiving 50+ inches of rain, but effects rippled out country-wide. Harvey was an historical storm, and a similar situation is not expected at this time, however we find ourselves in the midst of a worldwide pandemic unlike anything we have encountered before, and a transportation infrastructure that is exceptionally volatile and stretched thin. Unlike 2017, it will not take a Harvey-like storm to cause wide-ranging implications to transportation and supply chain markets.

In the short term, we expect shippers located in the Gulf Coast areas to try and push out as much freight as possible prior to the arrival of Laura, while at the same time available trucks will attempt to flee the area seeking safety. Both actions should tighten an already tight capacity market in the South. LTL terminals near the affected areas will likely begin limiting operations soon and closures should be expected once the storm nears landfall. Recently, rising truckload rates have pushed freight into the LTL market, swamping many services centers and causing delays and other service issues. Those impacts are becoming more widespread and should be anticipated and planned for. Intermodal (rail) has not been immune to the effects, with struggles all over but primarily in Southern California and Texas.

Bottom line, all aspects of the US surface transportation network are experiencing varying levels of stress at the moment, and the weeks ahead are looking increasingly difficult. A large hurricane hitting the Texas coast only amplifies all of the existing factors regardless of your proximity to the storm.

Laura

Attention quickly will turn to Laura. While currently a tropical storm located south of Cuba, Laura is expected to intensify quickly when it enters the Gulf of Mexico late tonight. A hurricane is certain, but it's strength and eventual landfall location remain up for debate. Recent forecast updates have pushed the storm track more to the west, and also have predicted a stronger storm. If these trends hold, Houston would be the largest city in the projected path. Current forecasts have impacts reaching the Texas and Louisiana coasts as soon as Wednesday night. As always, forecasts should be expected to change, especially when we are 2-3 days out. Preparations have likely already begun for many in the forecasted area, with activity heating up tomorrow as the storm path becomes more certain. More information to come in the following days.



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