

Laura, myth and reality

August 2020

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David J. Phillip/Associated Press

Hurricane Laura, one of the most powerful storms to ever hit the U.S., has been downgraded to a tropical storm.

Laura swept ashore early in the day [as a Category 4 hurricane](#), pounding the Louisiana and Texas coasts with 150 m.p.h. winds that diminished as it moved inland. At least four people died, including a 14-year-old girl in Louisiana. Hundreds of thousands are without power. Above, Cameron, La.

The punishing storm surges and winds [hit some of the most industrialized parts of the southern U.S.](#), studded with fuel and petrochemical plants that can release toxic chemicals when damaged — and which are often near poor communities of color.

Gov. John Bel Edwards said Louisiana had suffered “extensive” damage, particularly the Lake Charles area. Texas officials reported less destruction than they had feared.

WHAT I READ

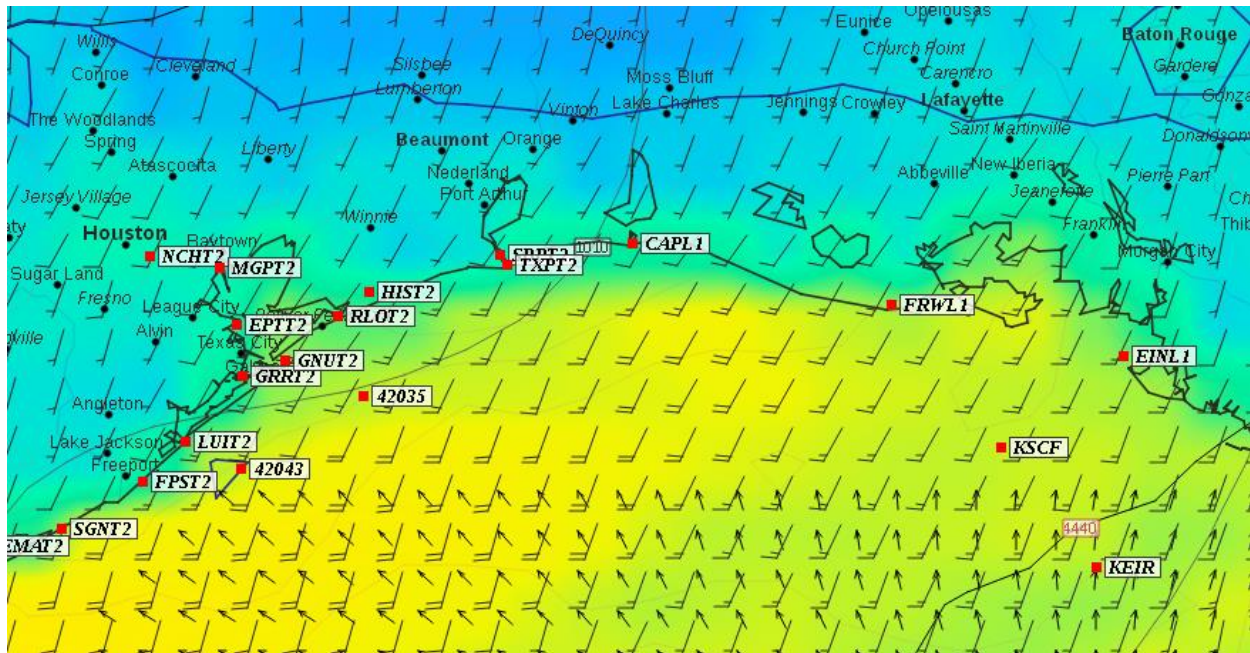
1. Hurricane Laura, **one of the most powerful storms to ever hit the U.S.**
 2. Laura swept ashore early in the day as a Category 4 hurricane, pounding the Louisiana and Texas coasts with **150 m.p.h. winds**
 3. The punishing storm surges and winds hit some of the most industrialized parts of the southern U.S.
 4. **Four** people died in one of the **most powerful** storms to ever hit the U.S.
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MY PUZZLED ANALYSIS

1,437 WEATHER STATIONS ARE DEPLOYED BY NOAA (NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION) ALONG U.S. SHORES

1,000 HAVE REPORTED IN THE PAST 8 HOURS

STATIONS IN THE AREA OF CONCERN:



HURRICANE SCALE

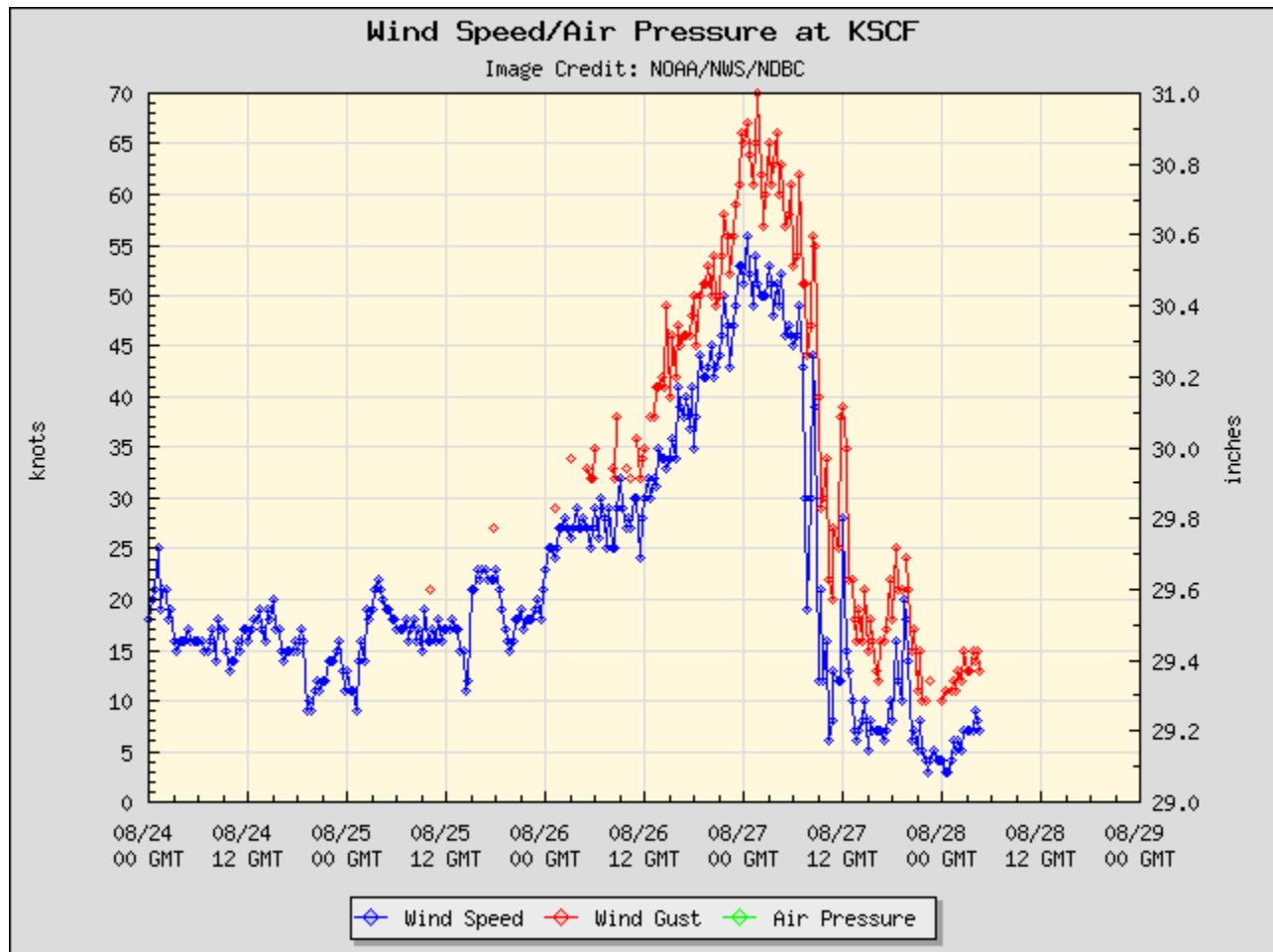
Saffir–Simpson scale

Category	Wind speeds (for 1-minute maximum sustained winds)			
	m/s	knots (kn)	mph	km/h
Five	≥ 70 m/s	≥ 137 kn	≥ 157 mph	≥ 252 km/h
Four	58–70 m/s	113–136 kn	130–156 mph	209–251 km/h
Three	50–58 m/s	96–112 kn	111–129 mph	178–208 km/h
Two	43–49 m/s	83–95 kn	96–110 mph	154–177 km/h
One	33–42 m/s	64–82 kn	74–95 mph	119–153 km/h

MIND THAT A 113 KNOT WIND CREATES FORCES MORE THAN 3 TIMES AS STRONG AS A 64 KNOT WIND

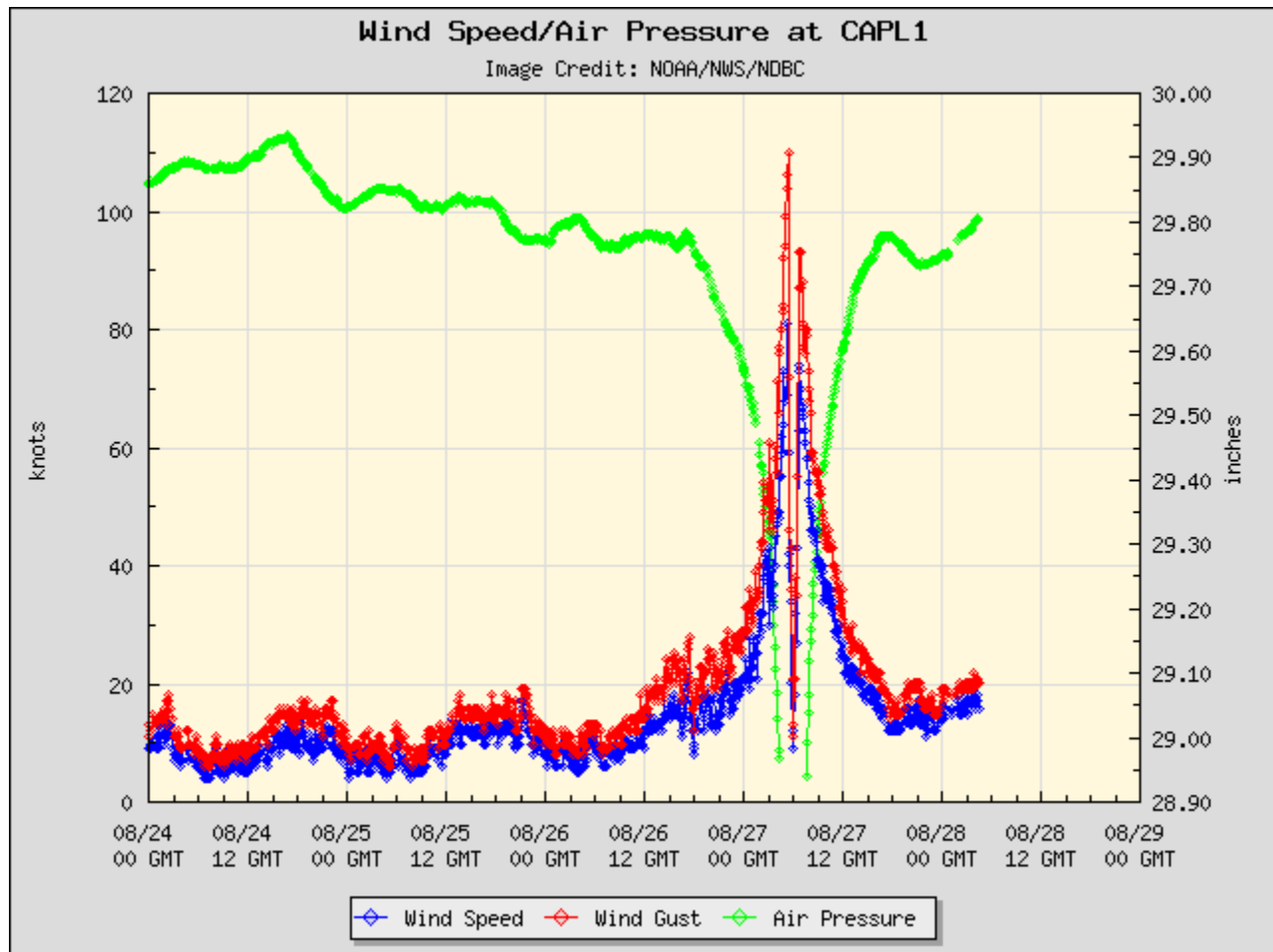
ACTUAL READINGS, FROM EAST TO WEST

KSCF: NEVER EXCEEDED TROPICAL STORM STATUS

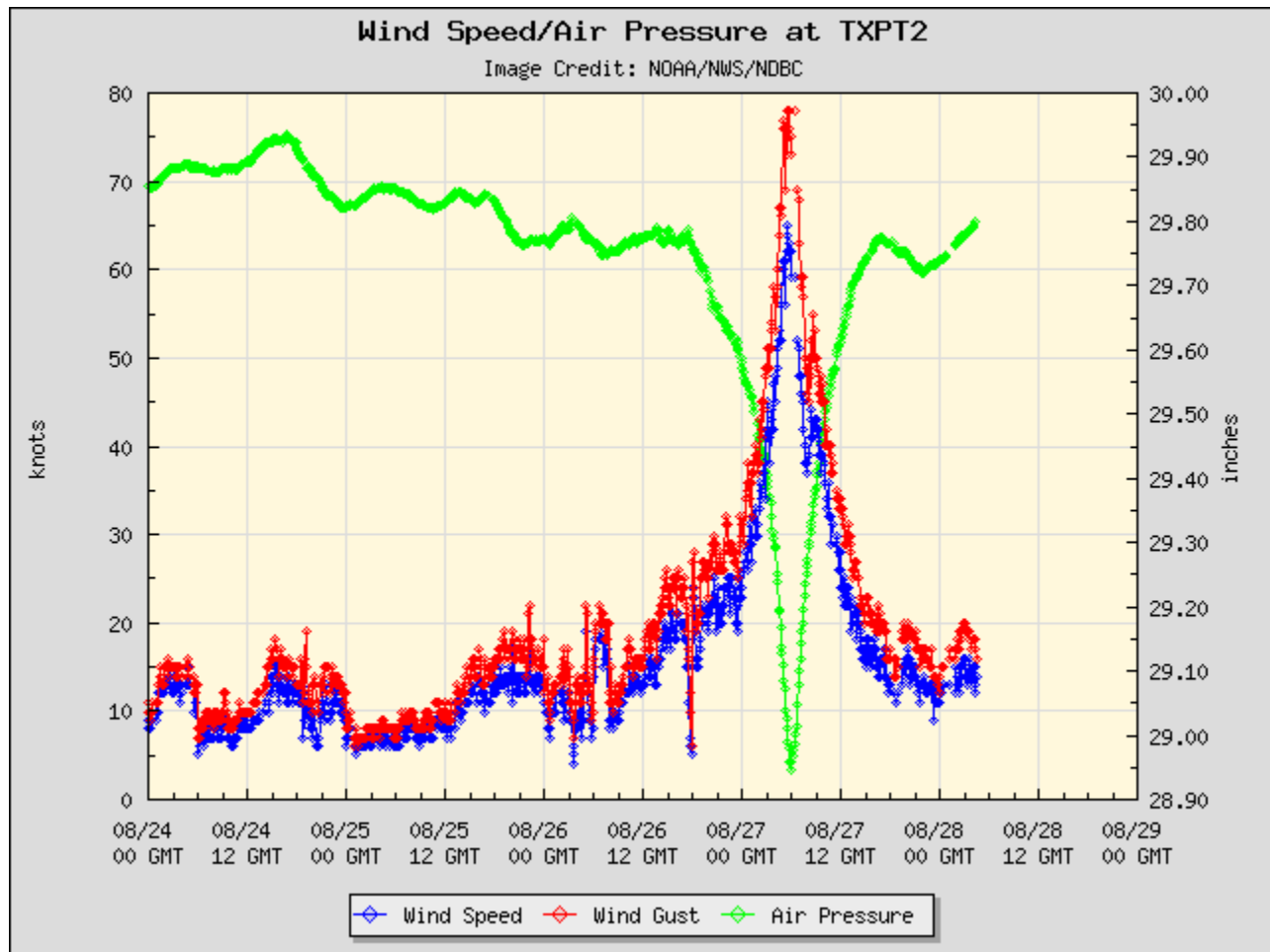


CAPL1: NEVER EXCEEDED CATEGORY 1 STATUS

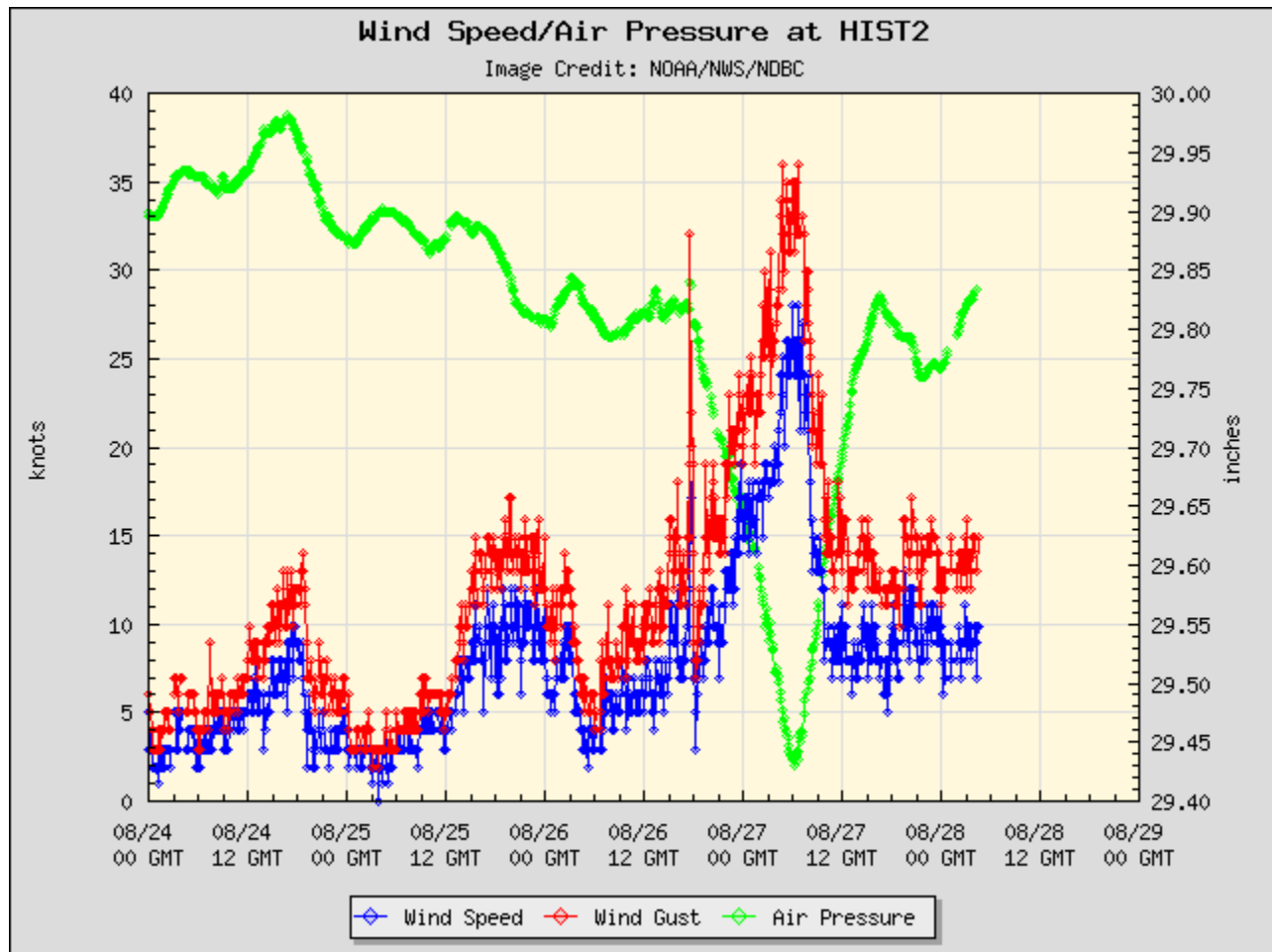
THE STATION IS LOCATED RIGHT AT CAMERON, LA



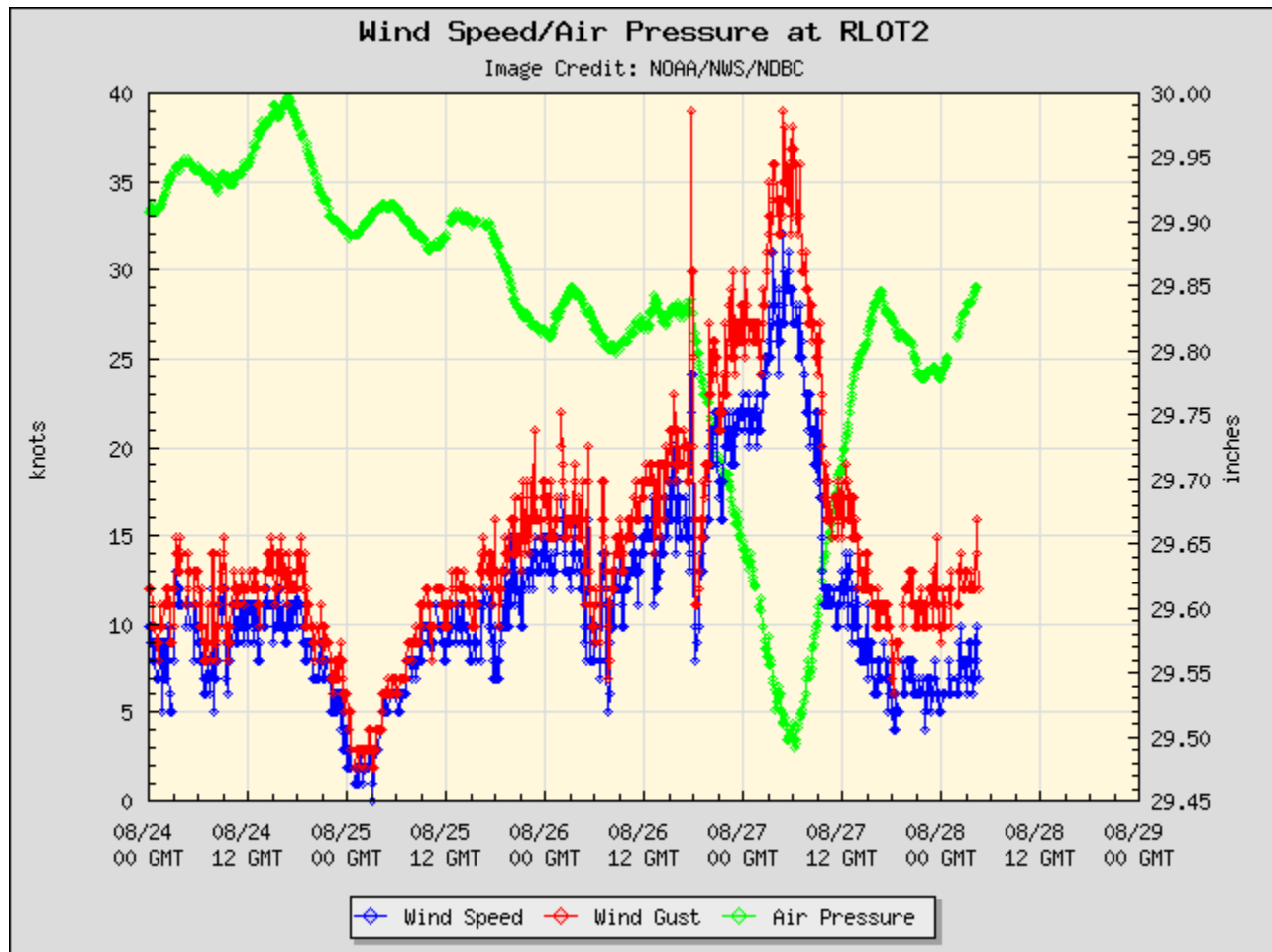
TXTP1: REMAINED A TROPICAL STORM, BARELY MISSED CATEGORY 1 STATUS



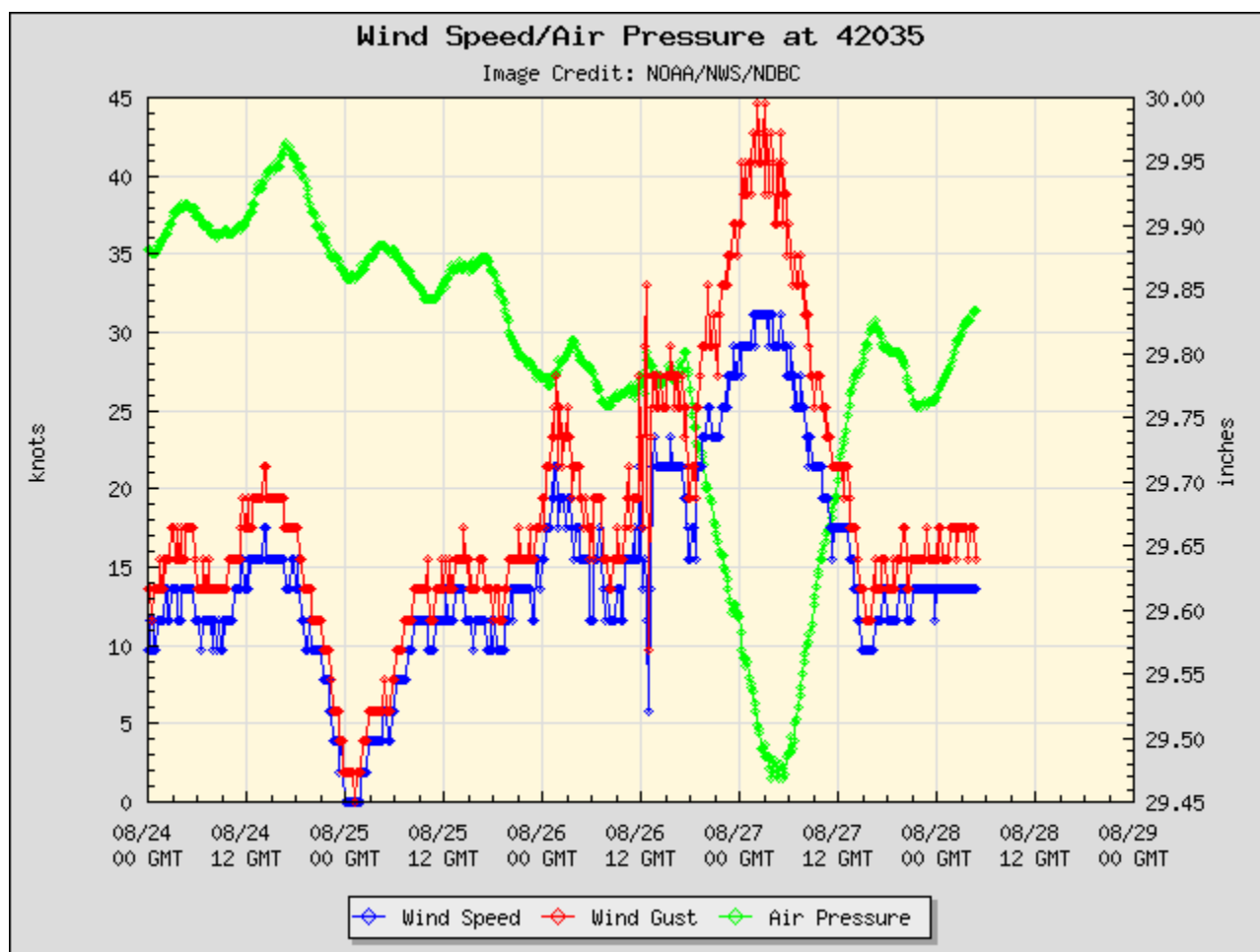
HIST2: NEVER WAS EVEN A STORM



RLOT2: NEVER WAS EVEN A STORM



42035: NEVER WAS EVEN A STORM



READINGS AT CAPL1

M	D	TIM	WDI	WSP	GS	WV	DP	AP	MW	PR	PTD	AT	WT	DE	SA	VI	TID
M	D	E	R	D	T	HT	D	D	D	ES	Y	MP	MP	WP	L	S	E
		(GM		kts	kts	ft	sec	sec		in	in	°F	°F	°F	psu	n	ft
		T)															mi
08	27	0912	WS W	40.0	55. 9	-	-	-	-	29.3 5	-	79.9	83.1	-	-	-	-
08	27	0906	WS W	41.0	52. 1	-	-	-	-	29.3 4	-	80.4	83.1	-	-	-	-
08	27	0900	WS W	40.0	52. 1	-	-	-	-	29.3 2	-	80.2	83.1	-	-	-	-
08	27	0854	WS W	41.0	54. 0	-	-	-	-	29.3 1	-	79.9	83.3	-	-	-	-

08	27	0848	WS W	46.0	55. 9	-	-	-	-	29.2 9	-	78.8	83.1	-	-	-	-
08	27	0842	WS W	44.1	56. 9	-	-	-	-	29.2 7	-	78.6	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0836	WS W	44.1	55. 9	-	-	-	-	29.2 6	-	77.5	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0830	WS W	46.0	58. 1	-	-	-	-	29.2 4	-	77.5	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0824	WS W	45.1	58. 1	-	-	-	-	29.2 2	-	77.7	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0818	WS W	48.0	59. 1	-	-	-	-	29.1 9	-	77.4	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0812	WS W	49.9	59. 1	-	-	-	-	29.1 7	-	77.2	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0806	WS W	46.0	66. 0	-	-	-	-	29.1 5	-	77.0	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0800	WS W	51.1	73. 0	-	-	-	-	29.1 2	-	77.4	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0754	WS W	54.0	68. 0	-	-	-	-	29.0 7	-	77.4	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0748	WS W	54.0	69. 9	-	-	-	-	29.0 4	-	77.5	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0742	WS W	58.1	79. 1	-	-	-	-	28.9 9	-	77.2	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0736	WS W	58.1	80. 0	-	-	-	-	28.9 4	-	77.2	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0730	WS W	61.0	80. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.2	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0724	WS W	62.9	76. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.2	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0718	WS W	66.0	76. 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0712	WS W	65.1	81. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0706	WS W	67.0	88. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0700	W	68.0	87. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.4	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0654	W	69.9	93. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.4	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0648	W	73.0	93. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.2	83.7	-	-	-	-

08	27	0642	W	74.0	93. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.4	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0636	W	62.9	87. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	78.3	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0630	W	42.9	55. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	79.5	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0624	WS W	27.0	35. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	80.8	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0618	SW	32.1	38. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.4	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0612	WS W	18.1	21. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.8	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0606	WS W	12.0	13. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.4	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0600	SW	8.9	11. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.0	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0554	ESE	11.1	21. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	81.9	83.1	-	-	-	-
08	27	0548	SE	20.0	35. 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.4	83.1	-	-	-	-
08	27	0542	ESE	34.0	42. 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.8	82.9	-	-	-	-
08	27	0536	ESE	40.0	46. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	82.2	82.8	-	-	-	-
08	27	0530	ESE	42.0	72. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	81.5	82.4	-	-	-	-
08	27	0524	E	59.1	109 .9	-	-	-	-	-	-	80.2	82.0	-	-	-	-
08	27	0518	ENE	81.0	106 .1	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.2	81.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0512	ENE	69.0	103 .9	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.2	81.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0506	ENE	68.0	99. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.2	82.0	-	-	-	-
08	27	0500	ENE	68.0	94. 0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.0	82.8	-	-	-	-
08	27	0454	ENE	73.0	92. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.4	82.8	-	-	-	-
08	27	0448	ENE	59.1	83. 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.0	82.9	-	-	-	-
08	27	0442	ENE	63.9	82. 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	76.3	83.1	-	-	-	-

08	27	0436	ENE	62.0	80.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	76.8	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0430	ENE	55.0	80.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.0	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0424	ENE	55.0	76.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	76.8	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0418	ENE	49.0	76.9	-	-	-	-	28.97	-	76.6	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0412	ENE	48.0	66.0	-	-	-	-	28.98	-	76.8	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0406	NE	49.0	71.1	-	-	-	-	29.03	-	76.8	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0400	NE	47.0	55.9	-	-	-	-	29.07	-0.45	76.6	83.5	-	-	-	-
08	27	0354	ENE	40.0	58.1	-	-	-	-	29.11	-	77.2	83.3	-	-	-	-
08	27	0348	NE	45.1	60.0	-	-	-	-	29.14	-	77.2	83.7	-	-	-	-
08	27	0342	NE	36.9	49.0	-											

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER TRAVELED TO CAMERON, LA (I HAVE), SEE SATELLITE MAP BELOW AND THINK ABOUT ITS REPORTEDLY BEING AMONG THE "*MOST INDUSTRIALIZED PARTS OF THE SOUTHERN U.S.*"



I'M JUST SAYING.

MMM August 28, 2020