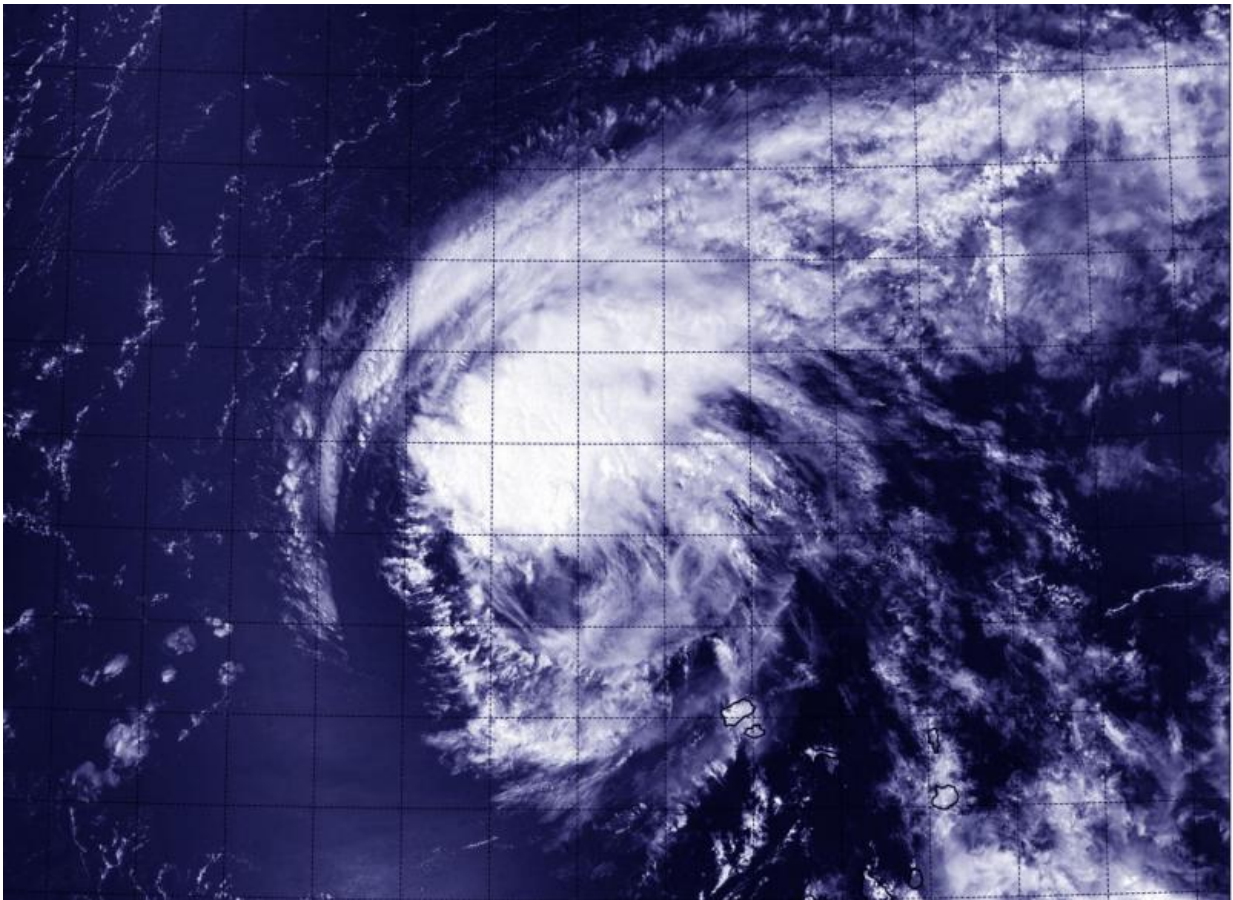


NASA-NOAA satellite shows fred facing a fizzling future

September 1 2015, by Rob Gutro



This visible image from NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite shows thunderstorms diminishing in Tropical Storm Fred on Sept. 1 at 11:04 a.m. EDT. Credit: NASA/NOAA/NRL

Fred was a hurricane on August 31 and weakened to a tropical storm on September 1 after moving through the Cape Verde Islands and the storm faces more obstacles in the coming days. Visible imagery from NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite on September 1 showed a less organized storm than on the previous day.

Fred continues to quickly weaken. The strongest thunderstorms near the center of the storm decreased in coverage and have become less organized in visible imagery from the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument aboard NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite. Suomi NPP flew over Fred on September 1 at 11:04 a.m. EDT.

At 11 a.m. EDT (1500 UTC) on September 1, the center of Tropical Storm Fred was located near latitude 18.3 North, longitude 27.0 West. That's about 255 miles (410 km) northwest of the Cape Verde Islands.

Maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 50 mph (85 kph), and the National Hurricane Center (NHC) expects additional weakening during the next 48 hours, and Fred is forecast to become a tropical depression by late Wednesday, September 2. The estimated minimum central pressure is 1003 millibars.

Fred was moving toward the west-northwest near 10 mph (17 kph), and this general motion is expected to continue during the next couple of days.

Fred faces more factors that will make it fizzle over the next several days. The tropical storm is expected to move into an area with increasing southwesterly wind shear (winds that can tear a tropical cyclone apart), some dry air in the mid-levels of the atmosphere, and cooler sea surface temperatures. All of those factors will help weaken the now weaker [tropical storm](#).

The NHC noted that Fred is expected to weaken to a [tropical depression](#) in 36 to 48 hours (by September 3) and become a remnant low in 2 to 3 days, but this could occur sooner.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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