

More Saharan dust to impact the US

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African Dust Forecast

More African dust is making its way west this week. This round is expected to impact Florida and the Gulf Coast through the weekend, as well as Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Saharan Air Layer is a phenomena that happens every year. It's getting so much attention this year because it's one of the largest outbreaks since the 1970s.

From mid-June to mid- August pulses of dust move off the coast of African, into the Atlantic Ocean. These surges happen every three to five days.

The Saharan Air Layer helps to suppress tropical activity due to the air being dry, warm and having winds strong enough to hinder any tropical development. It also brings a hazy, milky look to the sky in areas seeing a surge in the dust. If there's just the right amount of dust, it makes sunrises and sunsets more vivid. But the increase in dust can cause breathing problems for those with lung issues, sensitive allergies and asthma.