

Friday, September 7, 2018 – 9:00 am

A quick update this morning on Florence. The forecast tracks have continued to trend to the west and further south - neither of which are in our favor as far as possible impacts from Florence. There is still a significant amount of uncertainty in the forecast. Based on the upcoming weekend, you should review your hurricane plans today and be prepared to implement them next week if necessary.

The key to her ultimate track will be a small window of opportunity for a low-pressure trough to drop between high pressure systems and "pull" her more northward. If Florence can't connect with that low-pressure opportunity, she'll continue more westward - which increases the chances of an east coast impact. The window of opportunity will likely open 4-5 days from now. If she doesn't pull more northward, the east coast could be dealing with impacts by this time next week. Still too soon to say where is most likely to be in her bulls eye, but **IF** she makes it to the east coast NC/VA is certainly high on the list of possibilities. It will likely be late this weekend or early next week before a clear forecast track locks in - what happens with that trough will be the key.

Florence was briefly a CAT4 storm before hitting an area with unfavorable weather conditions yesterday. Florence has currently weakened to tropical storm but is expected to re-strengthen. The models are still not great at forecasting future strength, but it is likely that Florence will be a major (CAT3) hurricane again within the next few days.

We continue to monitor Florence closely and will provide an update this evening (after the 5pm forecast update) and look for updates over the weekend.

