

August 31, 2017 – 4:45 pm

With the long holiday weekend about to start for many folks, we wanted to make sure everyone was aware that Hurricane Irma is currently making her way across the Atlantic and will likely be a major (Cat 3 or Cat 4) storm if she makes it all the way across the Atlantic. Irma is forecast to become a Cat 3 today and will likely be a Cat 4 as she nears the Lesser Antilles the beginning of next week. The majority of the early forecast models have Irma curving north and possibly making a run near/along the east coast. While it is MUCH TOO EARLY to have any definite forecast on where Hurricane Irma may go and what she will be when she gets where she's going, the early models are in good agreement that she will likely survive the trip across the Atlantic, will likely be a major Cat 4 (130+mph winds) hurricane, and could be as far west as Florida by late-next week.

Bottom Line, the models currently predict that Irma will make it across the ocean as a major hurricane. Where she'll head then is still uncertain. There is currently at least a 50/50 chance that she'll stay in the Atlantic (versus heading into the Gulf) and the east coast could be dealing with Irma in the next 6-15 days. **Check your hurricane plans and supplies NOW**, and hope for an equally strong cold front that nudges Irma well off shore or the US could be dealing with a second major hurricane in the next week or so.

We'll be watching Irma closely and will provide updates as information on Irma's projected track becomes better developed.

Keeping thinking those eastward thoughts!

