

Thursday, September 9, 2019 - 10:30 am

As of the 8am National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecast update, Dorian has strengthened since yesterday -potential for impacts is going up. Sustained winds of 115mph (CAT3) and was about 70 miles S of Charleston SC. Dorian is currently moving north northwest at about 8mph. Dorian has begun to make the turn. A turn toward the northeast is anticipated by tonight, and a northeastward motion at a faster forward speed is forecast on Friday. On the forecast track, the center of Dorian will continue to move close to the coast of South Carolina today, and then move near or over the coast of North Carolina tonight and Friday. Dorian is currently forecast to be a CAT2 storm (105-100mph) as it crosses over/near the OBX

Based on this morning's NHC and NWS forecasts here is a summary of potential conditions for IOW (Note: while the forecast confidence has improved, all forecast information is highly dependent on the actual track of Dorian and is subject to change based on the actual track.)

Watches/Warnings. Isle of Wight is currently under a tropical storm warning, a storm surge warning and a flash flood watch. A Tropical Storm Watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 36 hours. A Storm Surge Warning means there is the potential for storm surge flooding greater than 3 feet above ground. within the next 36 hours. Storm surge in Hampton Roads is currently forecast in the 2-4 feet range.

Timing. The 8am NHC update has slowed the timing for Dorian has remained about the same. The main impacts from Dorian are possible as early as Thursday afternoon, but the more likely timing is currently for greatest impacts is after midnight through Friday afternoon/evening.

Winds. Based on the 5am NHC forecast, forecast wind speeds have increased slightly. In general, the National Weather Service is forecasting sustained winds in the high 20mph to mid-40mph range with gusts in the high-40mph to mid-50mph range (some gust nearing 60+mph are possible) for IOW. Winds will likely be highest in areas along the IOW/Suffolk border and along the James River. Note: the actual winds we will see is highly dependent on the actual track of Dorian.

Tornados. TORNADO CHANCES MAY BE INCREASING. Based on NWS morning forecast information and the current track for Dorian, the chance for tornados was increased to low from none. However, we are seeing tornado watches and warnings pop up in SC/NC. We checked with NWS and they said they are seeing supercells imbedded in Dorian's outer bands spinning up tornado, partially due to how close to the coast Dorian is moving. They anticipate the chance for tornados is likely increasing for Hampton Roads, but have no specific forecast updates for us yet. Typically these types of tornados are of a shorter duration and on the lower end of the tornado wind level scales. We'll update you as more information comes in.

Rain. The National Weather Service (NWS) is currently forecasting rains across the county of 4-6" with higher isolated amounts possible. Currently, looking like the areas receiving higher rain amounts could be in the 6-10" range. The majority of the rainfall will likely occur Thursday night into Friday afternoon. Rain could be very heavy at times and flash flooding is possible.

Coastal flooding. Coastal flooding impacts are about the same this morning. Flooding associated with storm surge could begin as early as Thursday night, with highest concerns during Friday's high tides. Moderate to major tidal flooding is predicted for with Friday night's high tide. – Friday night high tide at Sewell's point is forecast at 6.8 feet (they are seeing a significant amount of variation in the projected height – NWS believes somewhere between 6.5-7 feet is possible) and Jamestown is forecast at 5.1 feet. These tide levels would be similar to the 2006 Nor'Ida storm (6.63ft), Hurricane Sandy (6.81ft), with worst case similar to Hurricane Irene (7.55ft). (High tide on the Pagan River High will occur at: Thursday 4:35pm, Friday 4:58am & 5:38pm)

Blackwater River. Flooding along the Blackwater is not currently expected to be a significant issue. Blackwater river levels are currently forecast to stay below the Action level.

Shelters. As of this morning, IOW is still not planning to open emergency shelters for Dorian; however, this may change. We'll continue to assess the situation today. Shelter staff are on standby should forecast conditions indicate that shelters are necessary. We'll alert you if a decision is made to open shelters.

Closings. IOW county government and schools have not yet made any decisions about Friday operations.

Key Take-Aways

Hurricane Dorian



Wakefield, VA

WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

- ✓ Confidence is **HIGH** that the event will occur
- ✓ Confidence is **HIGH** regarding impacts



Prolonged periods of heavy rainfall is expected to lead to areas of flash flooding and water covered roads for portions of Eastern VA and Northeast NC.



Life threatening winds/wind damage is expected to lead to downed trees, power outages, and communication issues across portions of Eastern VA, Northeast NC, and Southeast MD. The most likely time of arrival is tonight into Friday morning based on the current NHC track.



Moderate to major tidal flooding is expected late tonight through Friday in the Bay and along the coast.



There is the potential for increased tornado activity, mainly across Northeast NC.



Marine conditions will become very dangerous to extreme due to increasing waves and the potential for tropical storm or hurricane force winds Thursday night into Saturday.

Wind Threat / Potential Impact

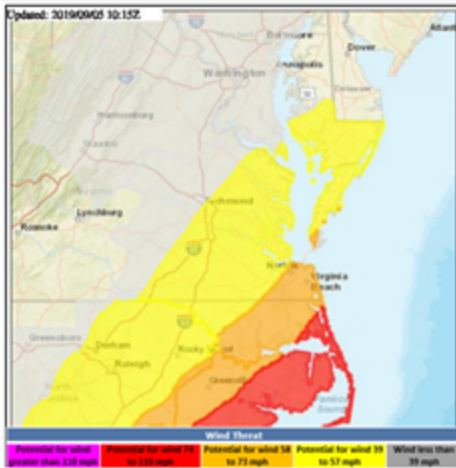
Hurricane Dorian



Wakefield, VA

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Updated: 20190905 10:15Z



Impacts

- Damage to porches, awnings, carports, sheds, and unanchored mobile homes. Unsecured lightweight objects blown about.
- Large trees snapped or uprooted, especially in areas where soils are saturated. Some roadway signs will be blown over.
- Some roads will be impassable from debris. Hazardous driving conditions on bridges and other elevated roadways.
- Scattered to widespread power and communication outages can be expected.

9/5/2019 6:43 AM

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Expected Storm Total Rainfall

Hurricane Dorian



Wakefield, VA

WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Storm Total Rainfall 0-84HRS

Valid Thu 8:00AM through Sun 8:00AM EDT

Weather Forecast Office
Wakefield, VA
Issued Sep-05, 2019 6:16 AM EDT



Note: There will likely be locally higher amounts

- A Flash Flood Watch is in effect for Northeast NC and Southeast VA through Friday
- Storm Total rainfall forecast valid Thursday afternoon through Saturday morning.
- Locally, most rain will occur Thursday night into Friday afternoon, lingering into Friday night along the coast.

9/5/2019 6:43 AM

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