

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 – 9:45 am

As of the 8am National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecast update Hurricane Michael was located about 60 miles NNW of the western tip of Cuba. Michael currently is currently a CAT 1 (85mph) storm. Steady to rapid strengthening is forecast during the next day or so, and Michael is forecast to become a major hurricane by Tuesday night. Hurricane-force winds currently extend outward up to 35 miles from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 175 miles.

On the forecast track, the center of Michael will move over the southeastern Gulf of Mexico tonight, then move across the eastern Gulf of Mexico Tuesday and Tuesday night. The center of Michael is expected to move inland over the Florida Panhandle or Florida Big Bend area on Wednesday, and then move northeastward across the southeastern US Wednesday night and Thursday.

It's still too soon for specific forecast information for Isle of Wight. Based on information from the NHC and the National Weather Service (NWS) this morning looks like we could see:

Tropical Force Winds – Hampton Roads has a

- 19% chance of tropical force winds (39+mph)
- 3% chance of strong tropical force winds (58+mph)

Rain – NWS is currently forecasting 4-6” of rain for our area.

Timing – most likely timing for impacts will be mid-day Thursday through Friday morning.

Coastal Flooding – Due to the storm direction and the speed at which it is currently forecast to be moving off the coast, coastal flooding is not anticipated to be a significant issue from Michael.

Forecast trend – While the last several forecast tracks have trended the storm slightly south as it exits off the US mainland into the Atlantic, most of SE Virginia remains in the forecast error cone.

