

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 – 6:15 pm

As of the 5pm National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecast update, Dorian has strengthened since this morning. Sustained winds of 110mph (strong CAT2) and was about 150 miles S of Charleston SC. Dorian is currently moving north northwest at about 8mph. Dorian still hasn't made the turn yet. A turn to the north is expected tonight, followed by a turn to the north-northeast on Thursday and a turn toward the northeast on Thursday night. A northeastward motion at a faster forward speed is forecast on Friday. On the forecast track, the center of Dorian will approach the coast of South Carolina tonight, move near or over the coast of South Carolina on Thursday, and move near or over the coast of North Carolina Thursday night and Friday.

Based on this evening'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 5pm NHC update has slowed the timing for Dorian impacts slightly. Impacts from Dorian are possible as early as Thursday morning, but the more likely timing is currently for greatest impacts is before dawn Friday through Friday afternoon/evening.

Winds. Based on the 5pm NHC forecast, IOW still has an increased chance for seeing tropical storm force winds. North of RT258 currently has 20-30% and south of RT258 & Carrsville has about a 30-40% chance of seeing tropical force winds and a 0% chance for hurricane force winds. In general, the National Weather Service is forecasting sustained winds in the high 20mph to high-30mph range with gusts in the 40mph to mid-50mph range for IOW. Winds will likely be highest in areas along the IOW/Suffolk border and along the James River. Currently looking like the potential for highest winds may be in the southern end of the county. Note: the actual winds we will see is highly dependent on the actual track of Dorian.

Tornados. Based on NWS forecast information and the current track for Dorian, the chance for tornados is low to none.

Rain. The National Weather Service (NWS) is currently forecasting rains across the county of 3-4" with higher isolated amounts possible. Currently, looking like the areas receiving higher rain amounts could be in the 4-8" 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 have increased since 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 7 feet and Jamestown is forecast at 4.8 feet. These tide levels would be similar to the 2006 Nor'Ida storm, slight worse than Sandy. (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. Based on the current forecast, IOW does not anticipate opening emergency shelters for Dorian. However, shelter staff are on standby should forecast conditions indicate that shelters are necessary.

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 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 Thursday night into Friday morning based on the current NHC track.
- Moderate to major tidal flooding is expected late Thursday 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.

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Potential Storm Surge Impacts
Hurricane Dorian

Wakefield, VA
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Updated: 2019/09/04 23:00Z

9/4/2019 6:05 PM www.weather.gov/akq

Impacts

- Severe flooding will cause extensive inundation and flooding of numerous roads and buildings resulting in a significant threat to life and property.
- Substantial coastal damage and severe erosion to dunes is expected.
- Numerous roads will be impassable, with many unprotected cars submerged.
- Flood waters may extend well away from the coast.

Wind Threat / Potential Impact
Hurricane Dorian

Wakefield, VA
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Updated: 2019/09/04 23:00Z

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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.