

TROPICAL UPDATE

8 AM EDT

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Hurricane Irma, Invest 94L (90%), and SW Gulf Tropical Wave (70%)

This update is intended for government and emergency response officials, and is provided for informational and situational awareness purposes only. Forecast conditions are subject to change based on a variety of environmental factors. For additional information, or for any life safety concerns with an active weather event please contact your County Emergency Management or Public Safety Office, local National Weather Service forecast office or visit the National Hurricane Center website at www.nhc.noaa.gov.

Atlantic Basin Satellite Image

09:00 05-SEP-2017 GMT Copyright © 1998-2016 WSI Corporation http://www.wsi.com

Tropical Waves BON Irma

Hurricane Irma 5 AM EDT Tue Sep 05 2017 Position 16.6 N 57.0 W Maximum Winds 150 mph Gusts 185 mph Movement W at 13 mph Minimum Pressure 937 mb (27.66 inches)

Ø

6

Blue Marble basemap imagery courtesy NASA

Satellite 10:47 AM UTC 6:47 AM EDT

wunderground.com

Steering Currents

KTS

100

70

50

30

20

15

10

High pressure in the central Atlantic will be the dominant contributor to Irma's direction over the next 4 days. The tropical wave in the southwest Gulf of Mexico will be slow to move over the next couple of days, but will drift northwest. The tropical wave in the open Atlantic will continue west or northwest.

5

IMSS ENV STEERING PRODUCT: 500-850 HPA LAYER (FOR TO MSLP RANGE: 990-999 HPA) 0900 UTC 055EP17

rma

Hurricane IRMA Model Track Guidance



35°N

30°N

25°N

20°N

15°N

10°N

85°W

80°W

75°W



70°W

65°W

60°W

55°W





Earliest Reasonable Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds





Current Wind Shear (Shaded) and Shear Tendency (Lines)

5

Irma continues to move within an environment of low wind shear, conducive for strengthening. Wind shear also remains light around the Atlantic tropical wave which will allow for gradual organization of that system. The tropical wave in the southwest Gulf of Mexico is experiencing moderate wind shear and is likely the cause for disorganization.

rma

Curren

Shear

KTS

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

10

-5



Sea Surface Temperatures Near Irma



💳 Category 4 🧉 🍎 – Hurricane/Typhoon

Hurricane IRMA Model Intensity Guidance







7 Day Cumulative Rainfall Forecast (does not account for higher totals)

17.4

These totals are based on an East Coast track and will likely be shifted today. Regardless, this system will have the potential to bring as much as 10-15" of rain as it moves northward.

1.25 1.00 0.75 WPC 7-DAY OPF 0.50 ISSUED: 0\$52Z TUE SEP 05 2017 0.25 VALID:12Z TUE SEP 05 2017 THRU:12Z TUE SEP 12 2017 0.10 FORECASTER: WPC 0.01 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

20.00

15.00

10.00 7.00

5.00

4.00 3.00

50



Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida





94L Satellite Imagery



GOES-FLOATER VISIBLE - SEP 5 17 11:15 UTC

Invest 94L Model Track Guidance



Invest 94L Model Intensity Guidance

COT

Wind Speed (kt)

30





Summary

- At 5am EDT Tuesday, Hurricane Irma was located about 320 miles east of the northern Leeward Islands, or about 1,620 miles east-southeast of Miami.
- Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 175 mph, making Irma a category 5 storm on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind scale.
- Some fluctuations in intensity are likely during the next day or two, but Irma is forecast to remain a powerful hurricane due to low wind shear and favorable sea-surface temperatures.
- Irma is moving toward the west near 14 mph, and this general motion is expected to continue today, followed by a turn toward the west-northwest tonight.
- Long-range models are predicting a northward turn to occur in about 6 days, but exactly when the turn occurs is still uncertain.
- Hurricane hunter aircraft will continue to investigate the system regularly through the week.
- A tropical wave southeast of Irma in the central Atlantic Ocean, designated as Invest 94L, is becoming better organized this morning.
- Although the center of circulation is still broad, conditions are expected to be favorable for development, and there is an 80% chance it could become a tropical storm today or tomorrow as it continues moving west-northwest.
- Storm models are in some disagreement, but a general west-northwest movement is expected over the next 5 days followed a more northwest or north turn this weekend along with gradual strengthening.
- Elsewhere, a tropical wave in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico is producing disorganized showers and thunderstorms.
- Moderate amounts of wind shear are limiting development, but some gradual organization is possible as the system slowly drifts to the northwest.
- The NHC has given this disturbance a 70% (high) chance of becoming a depression within the next five days as it stays nearly stationary in the southwest Gulf of Mexico.
- The next names on the 2017 Atlantic storm name list is Jose and Katia.

Florida Outlook

- South Florida lies within the NHC 5 day cone of error, but no watches or warnings are currently in effect.
- Wind impacts to South Florida from Irma could occur as early as Friday night.
- Although specifics on storm surge are not yet available, a storm of this size and intensity would have the ability to produce dangerous storm surge heights across portions of South Florida and the Florida Keys.
- In addition, rainfall amounts could reach as high as 10-15", but specifics on the location of high rainfall totals is still uncertain.
- The tropical wave in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico does not pose a direct threat to Florida.
- 94L does not pose a threat to Florida during the next 5-7 days. This system is likely to remain out to sea but will be monitored.

Another briefing packet will be issued this afternoon. Tropical packets will begin at least twice daily tomorrow. For more information, visit the NHC website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



TROPICAL UPDATE

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Florida Division of Emergency Management

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