

TROPICAL UPDATE

5 PM EDT

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Jose, and Hurricane Katia

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





Hurricane Irma 5 PM EDT Wed Sep 06 2017 Position 18.8 N 65.4 W Maximum Winds, 185 mph Gusts, 225 mph Movement WNW at 16 mph Minimum Pressure 914 mb (26.98 inches)

Blue Marble basemap imagery courtesy NASA

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Satellite 8:57 PM UTC 4:57 PM EDT

wunderground.com



Hurricane IRMA Model Track Guidance

Initialized at 18z Sep 06 2017

Track guidance continues to predict that the center of Irma will move very close or over the Florida Peninsula. However, there is some uncertainty in these tracks 35°N and even if the center stays offshore, impacts will be felt across much of the Florida Peninsula. 30°N 25°N 20°N 15°N 85°W 80°W 75°W 70°W 65°W

European and GFS ensemble models still can't rule out a West coast impact, but the majority of solutions is for the Peninsula or East Coast





> 1010 hPa 1000 - 1010 hPa

o-o 960 - 979 hPa o-o 940 - 959 hPa

50N

45N

40N

- 35N

< 940

ECMWF EPS 11L.IRMA --> Thru [156] hours

INIT: 12Z06SEP2017











Hurricane IRMA Model Intensity Guidance

Initialized at 18z Sep 06 2017

Levi Cowan - tropicaltidbits.com



SLOSH <u>maximum</u> storm surge estimates Cat 4 moving N @10mph. Zoomable map

http://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=d9ed7904dbec441a9c4dd

7b277935fad&entry=1



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

20.00 15.00 10.00 7.00 5.004.003.00 2.50 2.00 1.75 . 50 1.25 1.00 Irma has the potential 0.75 to bring 7-14" of 0.50 rainfall to parts of the 0.25 Florida Panhandle. 0.10 The highest totals will NOAA 0.01 depend on the final track of the system.

Hurricane Jose 5 PM EDT Wed Sep 06 2017 Position 13.9 N 45.8 W Maximum Winds 75 mph Gusts 90 mph Movement WNW at 16 mph Minimum Pressure 994 mb (29.34 inches)

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Blue Marble basemap imagery courtesy NASA

Satellite 8:38 PM UTC 4:38 PM EDT

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Hurricane JOSE Model Track Guidance



Hurricane JOSE Model Intensity Guidance



Forecast Hour





Hurricane Katia 5 PMEDT Wed Sep 06 2017 Position 21.7 N 95.1 W Maximum Winds 75 mph Gusts 90 mph Movement SE at 3 mph Minimum Pressure 992 mb (29.28 inches)

Blue Marble basemap imagery courtesy NASA,

5:09 PM EDT

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Summary

- At 5pm EDT Wednesday, Hurricane Irma was located about 55 miles east-northeast of San Juan, Puerto Rico, or about 1,060 miles east-southeast of Miami.
- Maximum sustained winds remain near 185 mph with higher gusts, keeping Irma a category 5 storm on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind scale. (Irma has now maintained 185 mph winds for 24 hours no Atlantic hurricane has ever stayed this strong for so long)
- 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-northwest near 16 mph, and this general motion is expected to continue for the next couple of days.
- On the forecast track, the extremely dangerous core of Irma will pass just north of Puerto Rico tonight, pass near or just north of the coast
- of Hispaniola Thursday, and be near the Turks and Caicos and southeastern Bahamas by Thursday evening.
- The core of Irma is forecast to approach Southeast Florida and the upper Florida Keys by Saturday evening.
- A northward turn is forecast to occur in about 3-4 days, but exactly when the turn occurs is still uncertain and would make a huge difference in the level of impact to portions of South Florida.
- As a reminder, do not focus on the center line of the forecast cone. The center of Irma still has the potential to move anywhere within the cone of uncertainty. Models have still not come into complete agreement and thus a west or east shift to the cone is still possible.
- Even if the center eventually remains offshore, impacts could be felt along much of the Florida Peninsula due to the large size of the storm.
- At 5pm EDT Wednesday, Jose became the 5th hurricane of the 2017 season while located 1,040 miles east of the Windward Islands, or about 2,375 miles southeast of Miami, Florida.
- Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 75mph (Category 1 hurricane), and additional strengthening is expected. Jose could be near major hurricane strength on Friday.
- Jose is expected to continue moving towards the west-northwest, approaching the northern Leeward Islands this weekend before turning northwest.
- At 5pm EDT Wednesday, Katia became the 6th hurricane of the 2017 season while located in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico about 325 miles south-southeast of the U.S./Mexico border, or about 890 miles west-southwest of Key West, Florida.
- Maximum sustained winds are near 75mph, making Katia a Category 1 hurricane.
- A slow southeast movement in the western Gulf of Mexico is expected over the next 2 days, eventually moving southwest and into eastern Mexico over the weekend.

Florida Outlook

- All of the Florida Peninsula and the Florida Big Bend lie within the NHC 5 day cone of error and could feel impacts from this system regardless of the eventual path.
- No watches or warnings are currently in effect, but could be issued as early as 5am Thursday for portions of South Florida and the Florida Keys, with additional watches possible for areas northward later on Thursday.
- The chances for tropical storm and hurricane winds continue to increase for the Florida Peninsula.
- There is currently a 1 in 3 chance of hurricane force winds across the Treasure Coast and Southeast Florida, as well as the upper Florida Keys within the next 5 days.
- Wind impacts to South Florida from Irma could occur as early as Friday night, with the most likely timeframe for tropical storm force winds arriving Saturday evening.
- A storm of this size and intensity would have the ability to produce dangerous storm surge heights across portions of South Florida, the Florida Keys and the Florida East Coast.
- Specifics on surge depth will be available tomorrow.
- In addition, rainfall amounts could reach as high as 8-15", but specifics on the location of high rainfall totals is still uncertain and dependent on the track of the system.
- Hurricane Jose does not pose a threat to Florida within the next 5-7 days, but should be monitored.
- Hurricane Katia does not pose a threat to Florida, but ocean swells from the system may affect portions of the Panhandle coast over the weekend and increase the rip current risk.

Another briefing packet will be issued Thursday morning. For more information, visit the NHC website at <u>www.hurricanes.gov</u>.



TROPICAL UPDATE

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State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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