Hurricane Ian
Special Weather Briefing #1

12:30 PM EDT
Monday, September 26, 2022

Prepared by: NWS Peachtree City/Atlanta
Key Points – as of 11AM Mon. 9/26

- Ian is now a hurricane and is forecast to rapidly intensify into a major hurricane (cat 3+) in the next 24-36 hours (through Tues PM)
  - Latest forecast track from NHC is a tick right/east of previous forecast
- The high uncertainty in the track beyond 48-72 hours (Wed/Thurs) cannot be overstated. Small shifts east or west in the track can result in significant differences in potential impacts for north & central GA.
- It’s also important not to focus on the center of the storm as impacts will be felt well away from the center (and even outside the forecast cone).

NOTE: NHC Updates on Ian will be every 3 hours.
• As of 11AM Monday (9/26)...
  • 100 miles W of Grand Cayman
  • 240 miles SE of western tip of Cuba
  • Nearly 1000 miles S of Georgia

• Minimum Central Pressure = 980 MB
  • 12-hour change: down 9 MB (strengthening)

• Max Winds = 80 MPH (up 5 mph since 5AM)

• Movement = Northwest at 13 MPH (little change in past 3-6 hours)
Potential Scenarios – explaining the Uncertainty

Hurricane Ian

- Ensemble “plume” of models showing where “Ian” could be early Friday (9/30) afternoon

- Dots = center of storm (midday Friday)

- Left / west-moving track (toward Panama City / green line) would bring worse impacts to north & central GA

- A right / east-moving track (Tampa to Cedar Key / blue line) would result in lesser-impacts to the area but would have to watch a curve back to NW after landfall

- Distance between the 2 tracks < 100 miles!
!!Caution!!

Potential Storm Intensity

Hurricane Ian

GFS Ensemble Forecast (initialized early Mon AM)

- Some weakening possible before landfall. Do NOT count on this happening. Models have a difficult time resolving intensity forecasts especially just before landfall.

Models show some weakening before landfall – don’t count on this!
Potential Impacts (Winds)

TS-force (>40 MPH) Wind Probabilities for next 5 days

- These probabilities are cumulative over a 5-day period (Mon AM - Sat AM)
- For example... City A has a 6% Wed, a 14% Thurs, and a 10% Fri... which adds up to a 30% cumulative chance over the 5-day period and would be in the yellow shaded area.
- Athens = 22%
- Columbus = 27%
- Macon = 32%
- Savannah = 42%
- Dade County = < 10%
- Atlanta = 20%

Too early to determine how strong winds will get, but tightening "pressure gradient" between HIGH to north and approaching Hurricane will increase winds (gusts 20+ mph) early as Wed afternoon – with a steady strengthening of winds expected as Ian approaches Thu/Fri.

Do NOT get locked into these numbers as they will change!!
Potential Impacts + Estimated Timing

Wind Probabilities

- Probability (%) to see Tropical-Storm-Force Winds (> 40 mph) + Earliest Reasonable Time of Arrival (for these winds)

- REMINDER: This is a 5-day forecast/graphic through early Saturday morning (10/1) that will change each day

- Far north GA = Thurs aftn/evening
- Atlanta = Thurs morning
- Athens = Thurs morning
- Columbus = late Wed night
- Macon = early Thurs morning
- Savannah = late Wed night
Latest 7-day Rainfall Forecast (most of this occurring in the (Days 4-7 / Thurs-Sun))

- NOTE: slight shift to the left/west will bring heaviest rain axis closer to north & central GA

- Even on its current forecast track, heavy rainfall (3+ inches) expected across a large portion of the area.

Note: There will likely be locally higher amounts
### Potential Threat/Risk Outlook

**Hurricane Ian**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day / Hazard</th>
<th>Tues – 9/27</th>
<th>Wed – 9/28</th>
<th>Thurs – 9/29</th>
<th>Fri – 9/30</th>
<th>Sat – 10/1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Damaging Wind</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20-30 mph</td>
<td>30-40 mph?</td>
<td>40+ mph?</td>
<td>Decreasing threat <strong>dependent on storm track &amp; motion</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Concern → duration of gusty winds + heavy rain</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Heavy Rainfall</strong></td>
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<td>South of Columbus to Macon</td>
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<td><strong>Tornadoes</strong></td>
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<td>Late? East of the center</td>
<td>East of the center</td>
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<td><strong>Flooding</strong></td>
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**Risk Level**

- None
- Limited
- Elevated
- Significant
- Extreme

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National Weather Service – Atlanta/Peachtree City
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Next Special Webinar / Briefing on Ian:
12:30 PM Tuesday, September 26, 2022

For the latest graphics and information go to: www.hurricanes.gov or weather.gov/ffc/tropical