

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST)

Situation Report #3
2015-10-01 Severe Weather
01 October 2015 1700
New information in red

Summary:

A complex weather system is bringing rain to the Commonwealth, and will intensify over the next several days. A low pressure system will bring heavy rainfall for the next several days, which will be exacerbated by already saturated soils from previous storm systems. Flash flooding and river flooding is expected across the Commonwealth. The National Weather Service has issued a Flash Flood Watch for the majority of the Commonwealth, east of the I-77 corridor. In addition, Hurricane Joaquin is now a Category 4 Hurricane currently located in the Bahamas. Hurricane Joaquin is currently forecasted to weaken prior to passing off of the coast of Virginia on Monday morning. Joaquin will still impact the Commonwealth with winds, additional rain, and coastal flooding. A lot of uncertainty still remains in the forecast of Joaquin, and a shift in track further east cannot be ruled out. No hurricane watches or warnings have been issued for the Commonwealth.

Contiguous States and FEMA Region III

FEMA Region III is conducting conference calls and developing a staffing plan in advance of the storm.

North Carolina Emergency Management has advised State Emergency Response Team partners of a possible activation of the State EOC for the weekend; however open sources are reporting an evacuation of Ocracoke Island.

State Actions

Governor McAuliffe declared a state of emergency on September 30, 2015 at 1704.

Local Actions

Local Declarations as of 1700 (16)

- Poquoson City
- Norfolk City
- Newport News City
- Patrick County
- Floyd County
- Isle of Wight
- Hampton City
- Mathews County
- Prince Edward County
- Surry County
- Lancaster County
- Westmoreland County
- Williamsburg City

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- Portsmouth City
- King and Queen County
- Charlotte County

Local EOCs Open as of 1700 (2)

- Winchester City
- Charlotte County

Local Evacuations (1)

- Lancaster issued a mandatory evacuation for low lying areas in the AM on 2 October 2015, shelters are also opening in the AM on 2 October 2015

Local Requests for Assistance as of 1700 (23)

- Requests include, but are not limited to water, meals, social media monitoring, and debris removal teams.

VEST/VDEM/VEOC

- A WebEOC incident, 2015-09-29 Severe Weather, has been created.
- VDEM is monitoring the weather and participating in coordination conference calls.
- Regional conference calls are occurring.

ESF # 1 Transportation

- As of 14:45 on October 1: 0 Interstates closed, 2 Primary roads closed (Lynchburg/Northern VA), 40 Secondary road closed (23 in Salem, remainder mainly Northern VA)
- Merry Point Ferry and Sunny Bank Ferry are closed until further notice

ESF #2 Communications

- Verizon, Sprint, and other private sector partners staffing the VEOC starting on Friday
- State radio cache are being requested by Sussex County

ESF #3 Public Works and Engineering

- Monitoring damage assessments in Augusta County
- Monitoring a locality led sandbagging operation in Bath County
- Tracking City of Danville reaching out to the Virginia Department of health – Office of Drinking Water
- Danville Water Authority may have to cease operations due to Dan River flooding
- City of Danville pre-positioning bottled water

ESF #4 Firefighting

- VDOF is mobilizing three Type 3 IMTs
- VDFFP is preparing to mobilize one agency MIST team to support VDEM Regional Operations
- DOF preparing for chain saw crews and IMT needs
- Working on five requests for IMT support

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ESF #5 Emergency Management

- **FEMA Region 3 IMAT arrived in Richmond today; ESF 8 requested as well**
- VDEM continues to coordinate conference calls

ESF #6 Mass Care

- **Floyd County plans to open a shelter 2 October 2015 at 1800 with Floyd DSS assisting**
- **Lancaster County plans to open a shelter 2 October at 1200**
- **Chesapeake plans to open two shelters on 3 October time TBD**

ESF #7 Logistics/Resource Support

- **Pre-staged pre-packed meals and bottled water**

ESF #8 Public Health

- **Office of Emergency Services alerted HMERT**
- **State Fair will close at 1900 1 October 2015 and will not re-open; this impacts the RAHD flu vaccine event scheduled for Saturday, which will need to be rescheduled**
- **Salem VA Medical Center removing water from several buildings, no impact to patient care at this time**

ESF #9 Search and Rescue

- Virginia State Police has one (1) swift water rescue team at the Floyd County Sheriff's Office.
- Virginia State Police has three swift water rescue teams enroute to Richmond to stage out of VSP headquarters
- **Preparing to issue EMAC requests, working to secure lodging and hosts for incoming assets**
- **Discussing plans with the Guard to possibly deploy aircraft to Lynchburg in advance of weather**
- **DCR can provide lodging for SRT assets on Eastern Shore**

ESF #10 Hazardous Materials Response

- **DEQ processing reports of sanitary sewer overflows and conducting conference calls**

ESF #12 Energy

- **Current statewide power outages: 2,753**

ESF #13 Public Safety

- **All VSP Divisions on non-restricted stand-by**
- **VSP SRT assets staged in Southwest, Central, and Tidewater areas**

ESF #14 Recovery and Mitigation

- **Requested FEMA Region 3 to task USACE-ESF 3 to develop model projections for debris, temporary roofing, housing, and emergency power based on Joaquin's track.**
- **Had initial conversation with FEMA Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Coordinator regarding PDA teams.**

ESF #15 Public Affairs

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- Conducting interviews (CNN, Weather Channel, WTOP)
- Monitoring social media
- Coordinated Governor's press conference

ESF #16 Military Affairs

- Determining where resources will be staged throughout the Commonwealth
- DMA will begin assembling forces on October 2, 2015

ESF #17 Volunteers and Donations

- Polling groups for types of assistance available
- Augmenting Request Management

Weather Forecast

Watches and Warnings

- The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a Flash Flood Warning for a majority of the Commonwealth, east of the I-77 corridor in Southwest Virginia through Saturday evening October 3.
- The NWS has issued a Flood Warning for the Dan River from Danville to South Boston, and on the Roanoke River near Randolph (Charlotte County/Halifax County boarder) until Saturday, October 3 at 12:30am.
- The NWS has issued a Coastal Flood Watch and Coastal Flood Advisory for the localities along the Chesapeake Bay and Eastern Shore until Saturday afternoon.

Southwest/West Central Virginia:

Tonight – showers likely with a low around 57. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 70%.

River Forecasts (as of 1600)

Dan River (Danville/South Boston)

- Currently at minor flood stage, forecasted to be at moderate flood stage by Saturday AM, and exceed major flood stage by Saturday PM

Roanoke River

- (Salem/Roanoke) – Expected to Exceed flood stage by Saturday AM, and approach major flood stage by Saturday PM.
- (Charlotte/Halifax border) – River is currently just below flood stage, forecasted to exceed flood stage by Saturday AM, and into moderate flood stage by Saturday PM.

James River

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- Forecast to exceed flood stage Saturday PM, and exceed into the moderate flood stage by Sunday PM

Appomattox River

- Expected to exceed flood stage by Saturday AM and approach moderate by Saturday PM

Northwest/Northern Virginia:

Tonight – rain with a low around 52. North wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New precipitation amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.

River Forecasts (as of 1600)

Rapidan River

- Expected to exceed flood stage (minor) by Saturday PM

Rappahannock

- Expected to exceed flood stage (minor) by Saturday AM

New River at Galax

- Expected to reach flood stage (minor) by Saturday PM

Central/Eastern Virginia:

Tonight – Rain, heavy at times. Low around 68. Northeast wind 14 to 17 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New precipitation amounts between 1 and 2 inches possible.

River Forecasts (as of 1600)

James River

- Forecast to exceed flood stage Saturday AM, and exceed into the moderate flood stage by Sunday AM

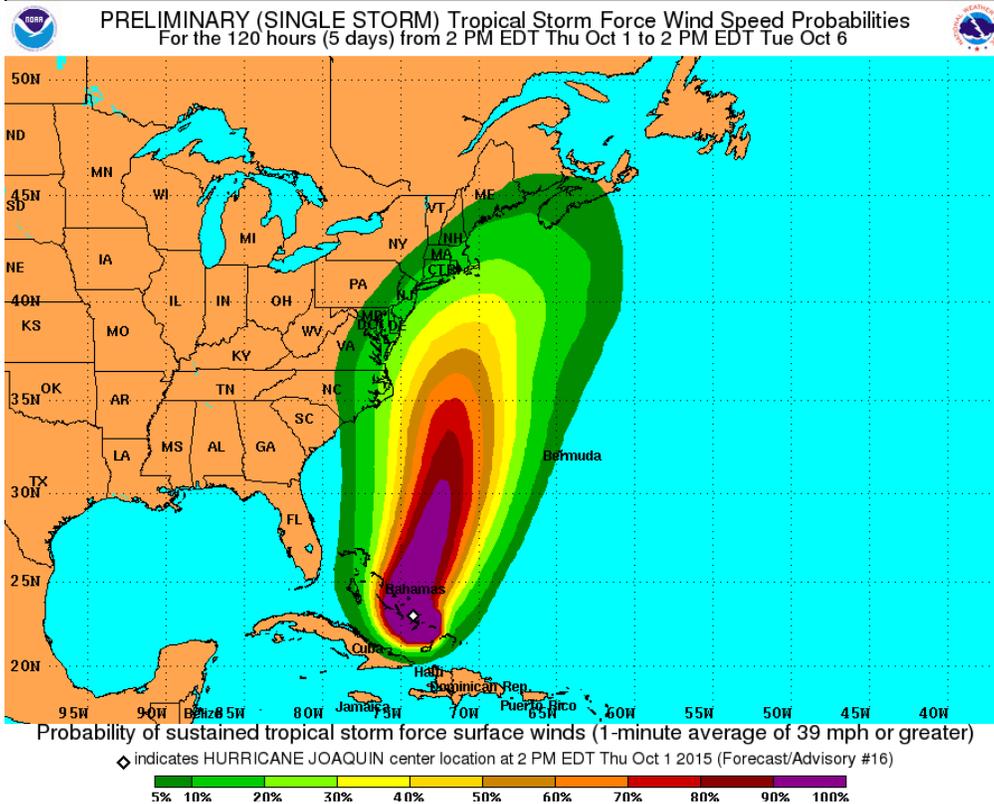
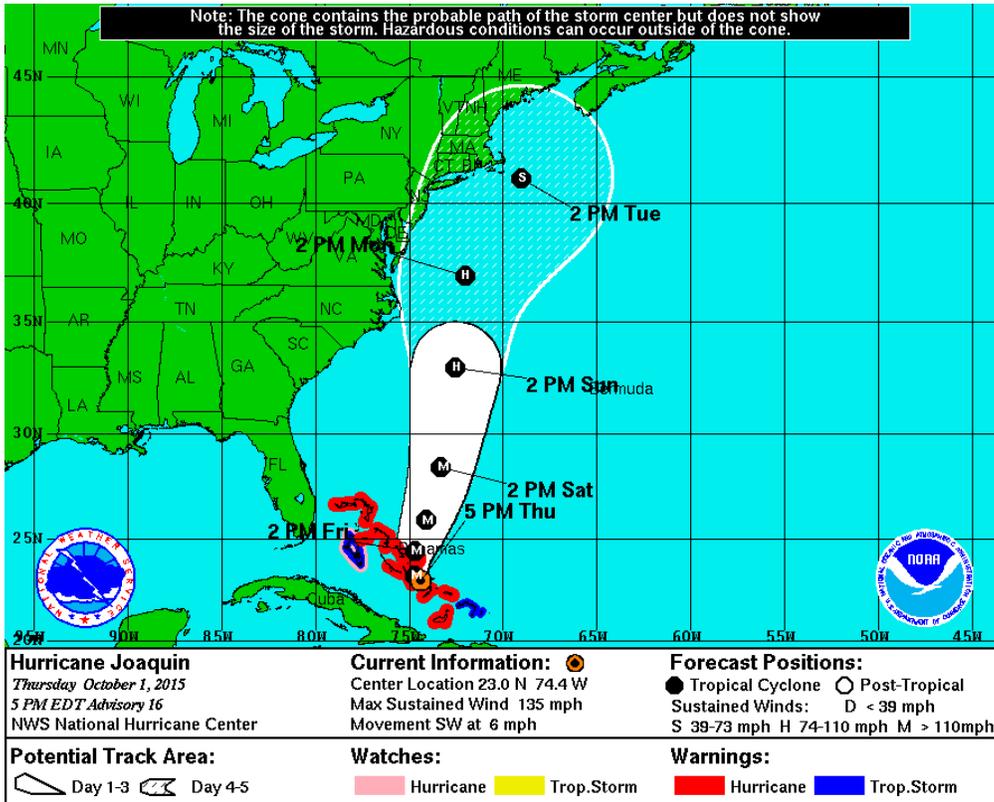
Meherrin River

- Expected to exceed flood stage by Saturday PM

Nottoway River

- Expected to approach flood stage by Saturday AM

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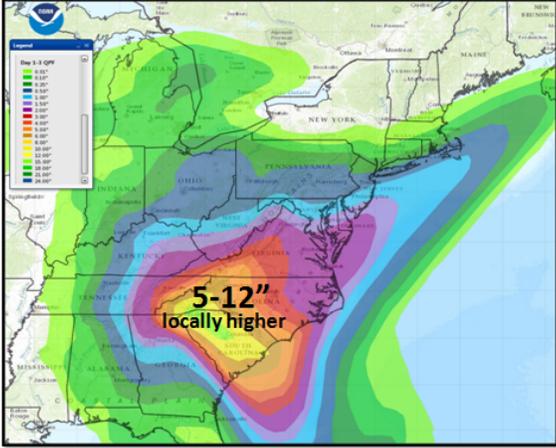


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WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER 3-DAY RAINFALL FORECAST





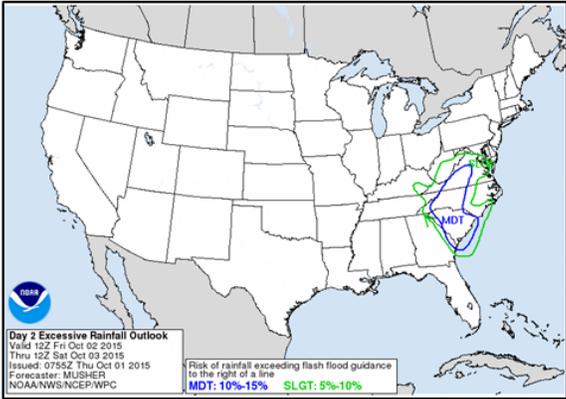
NWS/Weather Prediction Center
Three-Day Precipitation Forecast Valid through Sunday

- Heaviest rain will occur over the weekend, with widespread amounts of 5 to 12 inches, locally higher, across VA, NC and SC
- Heavy precipitation will cause flash flooding with potentially significant impacts
- Several rivers / streams are likely to exceed Major Flood Stage across the region
- Debris flows are possible in the Appalachians



WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER FLASH FLOOD OUTLOOKS

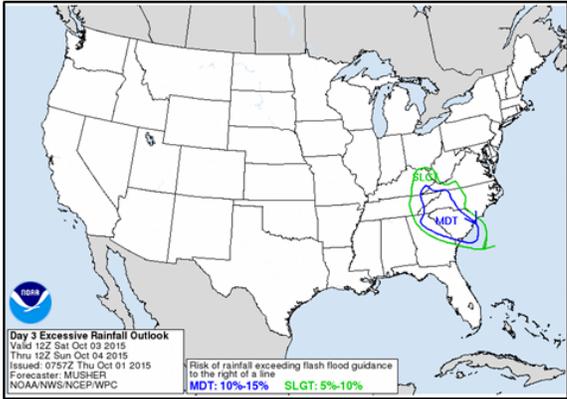




Day 2 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
 Valid 12Z Fri Oct 02 2015
 Thru 12Z Sat Oct 03 2015
 Issued: 0755Z Thu Oct 01 2015
 Forecaster: MUSHNER
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance to the right of a line
MDT: 10%-15% **SLGT: 5%-10%**

Friday / Friday Night

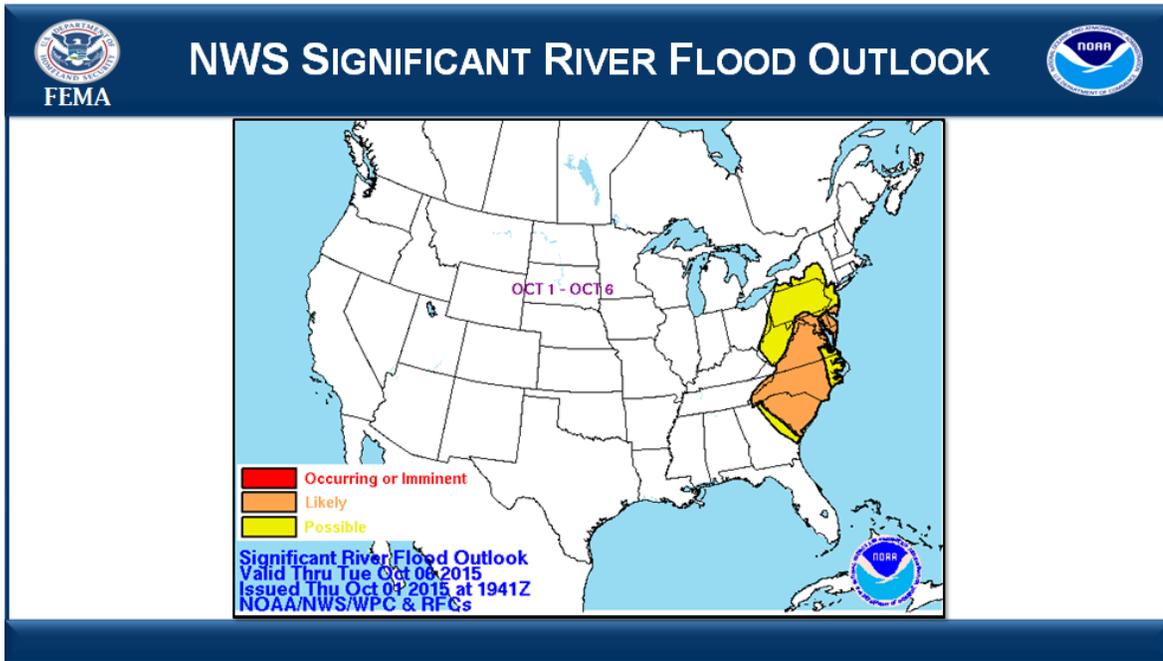


Day 3 Excessive Rainfall Outlook
 Valid 12Z Sat Oct 03 2015
 Thru 12Z Sun Oct 04 2015
 Issued: 0757Z Thu Oct 01 2015
 Forecaster: MUSHNER
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance to the right of a line
MDT: 10%-15% **SLGT: 5%-10%**

Saturday / Saturday Night

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Prepared by: VEST Planning Section

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