



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

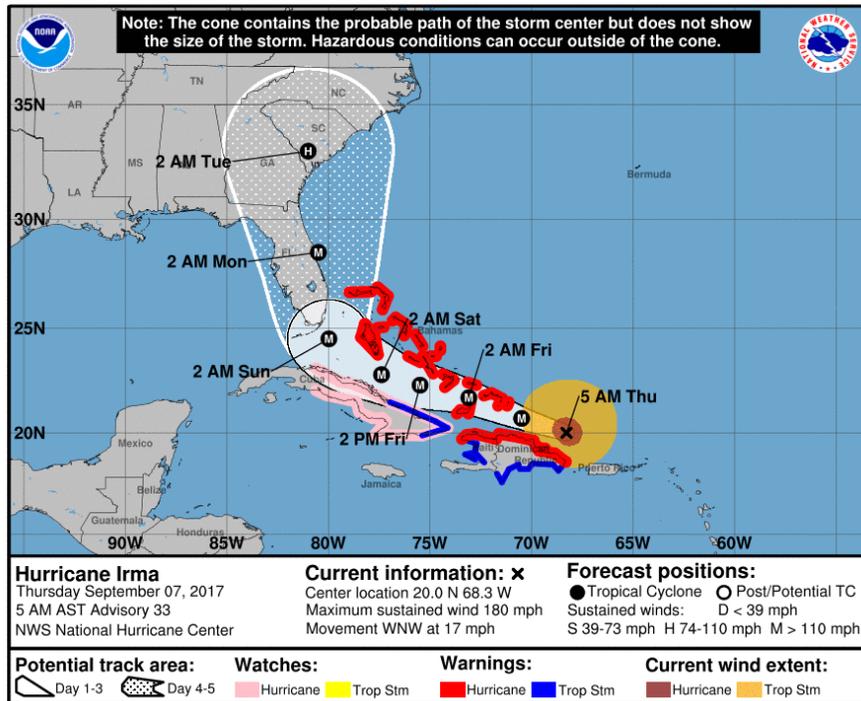
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## HURRICANE IRMA NOTICE - SEPTEMBER 7 - 10:00AM

North Myrtle Beach, SC – September 7, 2017 – Hurricane Irma is still a very strong Category 5 storm and continues to move through the islands towards Florida.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) forecast has Irma making an expected turn to the North and heading toward South Carolina (see accompanying photo showing "cone" tracking).

The photo showing wind speeds provides you with some idea of when we could feel the impacts of 40 MPH tropical storm force winds associated with Irma, IF the storm adheres to the currently forecast track. We know



Irma will turn north but exactly when remains uncertain, and there is still significant spread after the turn to the north.

Don't forget that the track that is emphasized is a snapshot of one tracking model. Please do not focus solely on the black dots as there is a lot of room to either side within the error cone. While the forecast has a possible landfall at the Georgia/South Carolina line, a high chance remains for a direct landfall in our area.

The one bit of better news is that the NHC forecast has Irma weakening as it moves north due to possible interaction with land. However, if Irma moves over the open water further away from Florida that could change.

Our best advice is repetitive but necessary: Prepare to leave. That way, if the storm does become more threatening and an evacuation is necessary, you will only have to jump in the car and go.

**PLAN AHEAD, AND, “KNOW YOUR ZONE”**

If you do not have a plan, we recommend that you visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) which offers good advice on how to prepare for a hurricane. The storm is still far enough out that you do have time to prepare for it, should it head for us.

*If* an evacuation is ordered (*none has been ordered at this time*), the order will refer to Zones. If you are not familiar with the Zone in which you reside in Horry County or North Myrtle Beach, you can access the information via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y9nj6mlb> . If the link does not work for you, visit [www.HorryCounty.org](http://www.HorryCounty.org) .

As we learn more, we will post information that pertains to our area on [www.nmb.us](http://www.nmb.us), Facebook/cityofnmb and Twitter @cityofnmb. We will also continue to use our Email News Groups.

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