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Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

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DESPP/DEMHS OCEAN STORM UPDATE 2:00 PM October 9th, 2019

LARGE OCEAN STORM WILL IMPACT CONNECTICUT WITH SOME WIND, WAVES ALONG THE COAST AND RAINFALL TONIGHT INTO THE DAY ON FRIDAY…NO WATCHES OR WARNINGS ISSUED AT THIS TIME…

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is tracking a disturbance off the coast of the Carolina's that has a 20% chance for tropical development during the next 2 days. The NHC has not issued any official forecasts for this disturbance at this time.

The GFS and NAM computer models are forecasting (see map far right) that this disturbance will merge with a low pressure system off the mid-Atlantic coast. The combined storm is forecast to intensify and move to the northeast during the next 24 hours. The ocean storm is then forecast to slow down and turn toward the Mid-Atlantic coast on Thursday. Although the storm is not expected to make landfall, the wind, rain, tides and waves from this storm are forecast to impact Connecticut and southern New England.

Based on the current computer track forecasts, we are currently expecting a long duration high end minor impact from winds, tides, waves and rain from this evening until Friday morning. More specifically the models are forecasting moderate north northeast winds at 20 – 25 MPH with gusts to 35 – 45 MPH especially along the coast (see graph to the right) from this evening until Friday evening with a total of 1" – 3" of total rainfall. The ground is fairly dry which should prevent significant flooding.

Tides are currently astronomically low which should also help prevent significant coastal flooding. However, widespread minor coastal flooding is still likely to occur as the north northeast winds begin to stack water up in Long Island Sound with each progressive tide cycle. The highest of the tide cycles are currently expected to occur Thursday evening and Friday morning with storm surges of 2 – 3 feet above normal high tide and waves between 4 – 7 feet in Long Island Sound. These tides and waves will likely cause high end minor flooding of low lying areas with a few locally moderate impacts. Some tree limbs may be downed and some power outages may occur, especially along the coast. The storm is forecast to move slowly away from our area this weekend.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security will continue to closely monitor this approaching storm. However, this will be the only update unless warnings are issued by the NWS.

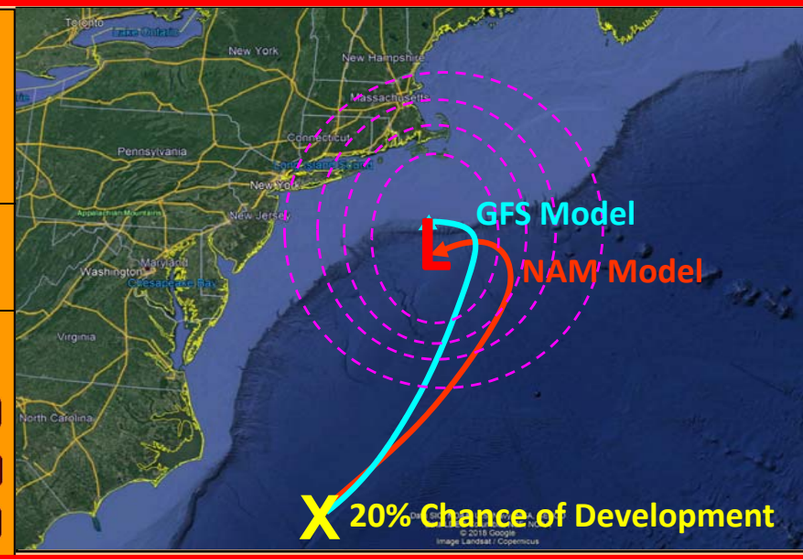
HAZARDS AT CLOSEST APPROACH THURS PM

PRIMARY HAZARDS	CURRENT NWS FORECAST
	TS · Strong TS · Hurricane · Cat 3 Hurricane
Sustained Winds: 25 MPH	
Gusts to: 45 MPH	

Waves and Rip Currents	Minor · Moderate · Major
New London: 4 – 7 Ft	

Coastal Flooding	Thurs PM High Tide	Level (NGVD)	Minor Mod Major
New London:	8:12 PM	3.7 Feet	
Bridgeport:	10:06 PM	6.3 Feet	
Stamford:	10:19 PM	6.8 Feet	

2-DAY GFS AND NAM MODEL FORECASTS



WIND AND RAINFALL TIMING