

Tropical Storm FLORENCE (UPDATE)

Prepared by: Echo Charlie-07

CSRA AmRRON Daily Summary 2018_09_14

Key Judgments:

Hurricane Florence made landfall on near Wrightsville Beach, NC as a category 1 hurricane before losing power and weakening to a tropical storm.

Rainfall and winds are continuing to cause catastrophic damage across the region. Rivers are beginning to rise in the affected area due to the excessive rainfall.

Emergency rescue services have been able to rescue hundreds of people. These services are beginning to suspend operations in many areas overnight due to dangerous conditions.

AmCON Level remains at Level-1 (Active Incident – Regional).

Introduction:

The National Hurricane Center is reporting that at 2000L, the center of tropical storm Florence was located by NOAA Doppler radar near latitude 33.9 North, longitude 78.8 West. Florence is moving toward the west near 3 mph. A slow westward to west-southwestward motion is expected through Saturday. On the forecast track, the center of Florence will move farther inland across extreme eastern SC tonight and Saturday. Florence will then move generally northward across the western Carolinas and the central Appalachian Mountains early next week.

As of Friday, 14 September at 0300Z, the AmCON is being raised to Level-1 (Active Incident – Regional) due to the landfall of hurricane Florence.

Power outages and extensive damage along the coast are being reported. Flooding and wind damage is expected to cause widespread sustained power outages.

The Signals Operating Instructions (SOI) are being implemented. Nets are being operated by two SIGCENs in NC (Piedmont Triad) and the GA/SC central border, as well as multiple NCSs across the country.

Twenty meter nets will only run twice a day at 1400Z and 2000Z, in both voice and digital (Contestia 4/250) modes. Refer to the AmRRON Activation PDF for further guidance.

SPECIAL NOTE: Please remember to make a special effort to call out on the CH3 (FRS, MURS, CB) at the appointed times to get information out to your community and to listen for parties in distress.

Florence has weakened to a tropical storm after making landfall near Wrightsville Beach, NC September 13th. At 2000L 14 September, the storm was centered about 15 miles north-northeast of Myrtle Beach, SC and 55 miles east-southeast of Florence, SC moving west at 3mph. The maximum sustained winds are 70 mph and the minimum central pressure is 975millibars.

Recovery operations are ongoing along the coast of North Carolina.

Information:

Continuing to monitor nets and health and wellness of Golf-8-Romeo in Wilmington. Briefly lost contact with him. Made contact again at 1300L via text of another friend in TX on amateur radio with Golf-8-Romeo stating grid down, no power, no cell service , but all other conditions normal. Later, another AmRRON operator made contact with his status as A NC H N Y Y N Y and lower winds.

Another amateur radio operator near Dallas, NC, reported 17mph winds with gusts up to 32mph. No rain, but expecting 10in. One Red Cross shelter was in place.

Local operators are watching the following key infrastructure: lakes, roadways, shelter sites, hotels, etc.

Local lake levels are:

Clarks Hill at 326.97 feet with full pool at 330.0 feet at 0800L, 14 Sep
Greenwood at 438.40 feet with full pool at 440.0 feet at 0000L, 14 Sep
Hartwell at 661.17 feet with full pool at 660.0 feet at 0700L, 14 Sep
Jocassee at 93.56 feet with full pool at 100.0 feet at 1900L, 14 Sep
Keowee at 97.36 feet with full pool at 100.0 feet at 1900L, 14 Sep
Lake Bowen at 814.72 feet with full pool at 815.0 feet at 0000L, 14 Sep
Murray at 355.09 feet with full pool at 360.0 feet at 2030L, 14 Sep
Oconee at 434.53 feet with full pool at 435.0 feet at 0800L, 14 Sep
Russell at 471.73 feet with full pool at 475.0 feet at 2000L, 14 Sep

Outlook:

Emergency services and volunteers began rescue efforts in many areas. Hundreds of rescues have already been reported across the region with many more individuals awaiting rescue with conditions continuing to develop/worsen.

Sources:

Hurricane Florence Advisory Number 62A

<http://www.lakelevels.info/USA/Georgia/>

<http://www.lakelevels.info/USA/South-Carolina>