

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

SUBJECT: Hurricane Zeta
SITREP #: 2020-8.3
ISSUED: Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 2:00 PM

WHAT HAS CHANGED

- Tropical Storm Warning Issued by NWS
- Timing is now slightly earlier
- Rainfall totals decreased

OVERVIEW

The remnants of Hurricane Zeta will impact the metro Atlanta region Thursday morning with heavy rain and high winds. Hurricane Zeta should make landfall along the SE Louisiana coast late Wednesday and track generally to the NNE through Mississippi and Alabama. The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a Tropical Storm Warning and a Flash Flood Watch for much of North Georgia, including Fulton County. For our region, the biggest threats will be from high winds and flash flooding. Note that inland Tropical Storm Warnings are rather rare and usually precede significant power outages. The first and last Tropical Storm Warning for Atlanta was from [Hurricane Irma in 2017](#), which caused 1.5 million customers to lose power throughout the state.

WIND

Wind gusts Thursday morning may exceed 50 mph, with sustained winds between 25-35 mph. This will likely lead to quite a few trees down and power outages in the metro Atlanta region, especially with the recent rains/saturated ground. Typically, we see minimal impacts to our campus electrical grid (mostly underground) from this level of wind. **However, especially for those who are teaching, learning and working remotely, widespread and lengthy power outages are possible.** Power outages exceeding 24 hours are likely if the outages are widespread. Residents in Midtown, Home Park and in Greek housing are more vulnerable to power interruptions since they are not on the campus grid.

FLOODING

Rainfall totals should be between 1-2". Because of recent excessive rainfall, many creeks and streams across North Georgia are already near capacity. On campus, the flooding threat is low, with the exception of some urban street flooding.

TIMING

The threat will be between 2AM – 10AM Thursday, with 5AM likely the peak for Atlanta.

NEXT STEPS

- The Georgia Tech Police Department Office of Emergency Management will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.
- Follow the GT Office of Emergency Management on twitter [@gtpdalerts](#).
- For the latest forecast information, please visit the National Weather Service at <http://weather.gov/atlanta>.

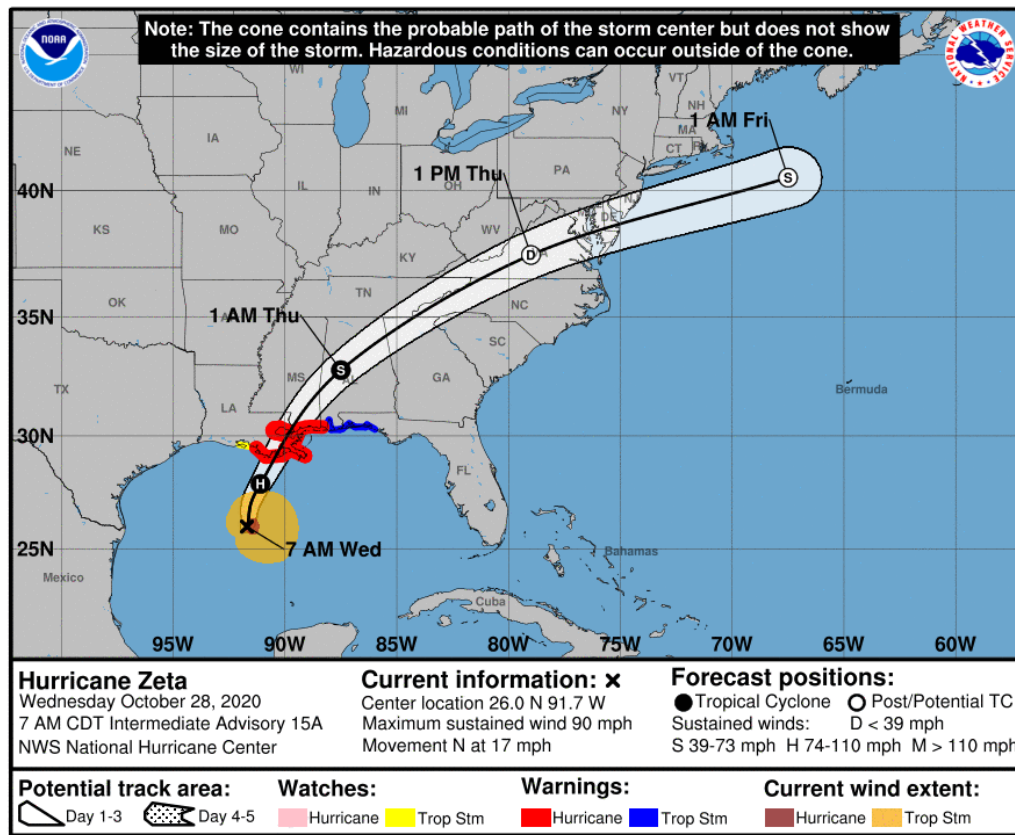


Figure 1: Hurricane Zeta 3-day forecast (NHC)



Figure 2: Tropical Storm Warning (NWS Atlanta)



Figure 3: Forecast Wind Gusts (NWS Atlanta)

Total Rainfall Forecast

Through Friday Morning

Weather Forecast Office
Atlanta, GA

Issued Oct 28, 2020 10:15 AM EDT

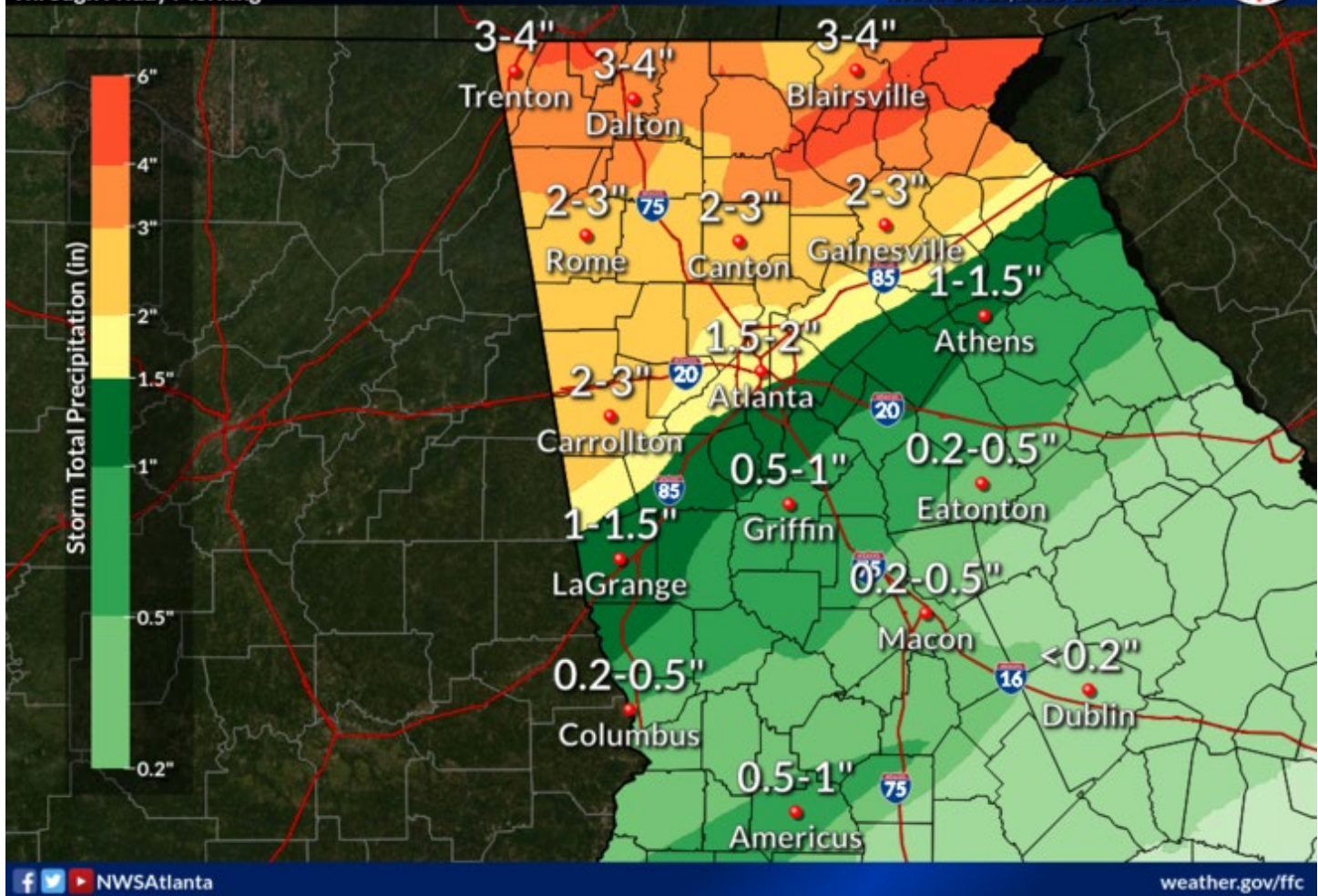


Figure 4: Forecast Rainfall Totals (NWS Atlanta)