



June 4, 2013

## Atlantic Hurricane Season

This past weekend marked the beginning of the 2013 Atlantic hurricane season which runs from June 1 through November 30. In advance of the possible onset of heightened tropical storm activity, NOAA has released its **annual outlook** for the ensuing hurricane season with a prediction for another active season: 70 percent likelihood of 13 to 20 named storms, 7 to 11 of which could become hurricanes.

Considering the flood damages caused by Hurricane Isaac along the Gulf Coast and Hurricane Sandy (the second most devastating hurricane in U.S. history in terms of property damage) along the East Coast during the 2012 hurricane season, the importance of hurricane preparedness, including the financial protection of purchasing flood insurance, should be considered for mitigating property damage and covering losses. As a reminder, flood insurance must be in place before a flooding event begins for a flood loss to be covered, and in many cases there is a 30-day waiting period before a Standard Flood Insurance Policy will take effect.

Another factor to consider is that in the midst of this hurricane season there will be several changes to the NFIP beginning October 1. These changes are described in two recent FEMA bulletins from [March 29](#) and [May 3](#), and are primarily due to the implementation of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 ("BW 12"). For your reference, the CoreLogic "Guide to BW 12" is now available through our Flood Services [website](#) and can be used as a resource to help track the implementation of BW 12.

To help stay abreast of general topics that may impact the NFIP, you may wish to take advantage of the various webinars and workshops offered by the NFIP such as those being offered [this month](#). Regarding hurricane preparedness information through the NFIP, [FloodSmart.gov](#) (the official website of the NFIP that provides useful information regarding NFIP flood insurance coverage) is currently offering [resources](#) related to the 2013 hurricane season, including fact sheets for the various FEMA regions prone to hurricane flooding. Furthermore, FEMA has a "[Ready](#)" webpage dedicated to hurricane knowledge and preparedness which you may find to be an additional useful resource for you and your customers. Finally, last week CoreLogic released its fourth annual [Storm Surge Report for 2013](#). Among other things, the report reveals estimates on the number and value of homes exposed to hurricane-driven storm-surge damage along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts of the U.S.

Feel free to forward this alert to colleagues who may be interested in receiving this information, or who would like to [sign up](#) for future *Industry Alerts*.

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