17 photos show Hurricane Florence's devastating flooding from the sky

An official looks out a Blackhawk Helicopter at homes surrounded by floodwaters due to Hurricane Florence on Monday in Conway, South Carolina. Many rivers in the Carolinas are approaching record flood stages, and officials say their levels will continue to rise through the week. Sean Rayford/Getty Images

Hurricane Florence has broken rainfall records since it made landfall late last week, dumping more than 35 inchesof rain in some areas of North Carolina.

Since hurricanes are classified by wind speed, Florence's downgrade to a tropical storm after it reached land didn't mean any relief from devastating amounts of rain that caused rivers in the Carolinas to spill over into nearby communities.

State, weather, and military officials, as well as news organizations, have used aircraft to capture images to monitor the storm's damage. Take a look at the water that officials say is still rising.

As the storm moved on but flooding continued, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration used remotesensing cameras on an aircraft to capture a series of images of the storm's damage.

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A team of NOAA aviators and sensor operators captured the images using specialized remote-sensing cameras aboard NOAA's King Air aircraft flying above the area at an altitude of 1,600 to 5,000 feet.

NOAA HURRICANE FLORENCE IMAGERY

Sources: NOAA, Newsweek

As of Tuesday afternoon, the map included the edges of coastal communities from South Carolina to Virginia.

■ NOAA HURRICANE FLORENCE IMAGERY Explore the full interactive map »

Since the storm's retreat, photographers, state officials, and thousands of US troops have also surveyed the extent of flooding, capturing specific looks at dramatic floods.

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An official looks out a Blackhawk Helicopter at homes surrounded by floodwaters due to Hurricane Florence on Monday in Conway, South Carolina. Sean Rayford/Getty Images Source: Washington Post

About 70 miles from Myrtle Beach, the community of Dillon, South Carolina, was in Florence's path and experienced heavy flooding.

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Floodwaters from Hurricane Florence in Dillon on Monday. Gerald Herbert/AP

In New Bern, North Carolina, rescue officials used boats and rafts to rescue 455 people trapped in their homes by floods over the weekend.

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Rescuers use a small boat to go house to house checking for flood victims from Florence in New Bern on Saturday.

Steve Helber/AP Source: Business Insider

Officials in the Carolinas warned that the storm's lower wind speeds and lessening rainfall shouldn't be interpreted as a weakened threat, as rising floodwaters are still the biggest danger.

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Cars submerged in Fayetteville, North Carolina, on Monday. Gerald Herbert/AP Source: Business Insider

After only a few days on land, the storm has left at least 32 people dead and knocked out power for more than 1 million residents.

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A picket fence submerged in Lumberton, North Carolina, on Monday. Gerald Herbert/AP

The runways at Curtis L. Brown Jr. Field in Elizabethtown, North Carolina, were still surrounded by floodwaters on Monday.

▲ Gerald Herbert/AP

Planes were left stranded in the water.

Image: Second Herbert/AP

Stretches of Interstate 95 were closed — if not underwater — in North and South Carolina.

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An I-95 exit sign in Lumberton, North Carolina. Jason Miczek/Reuters *Source: Post and Courier*

By Tuesday, the North Carolina Department of Transportation was still advising drivers not to travel along many stretches of I-95 and I-40 in the southeast corner of the state.

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A pickup truck drives on a flooded road past a farmhouse surrounded by flooded

fields in Hyde County, North Carolina, on Saturday. Steve Helber/AP Photo Source: NCDOT

Floodwaters also swallowed low-lying train tracks in Dillon, where rivers are approaching record flood stages. Officials say their levels could continue to rise through the week.

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Floodwaters flow over train tracks in Dillon, South Carolina, on Monday. Sean Rayford/Getty Images Source: SC Now

Also seen surrounded by water was the Rock Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Lumberton, which also weathered Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

▼ Jason Miczek/Reuters Source: CNN

The combination of rising rivers and rainfall in Lumberton caused officials to warn that the worst flooding is yet to

come.

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An aboveground pool surrounded by floodwaters in Lumberton, North Carolina. Gerald Herbert/AP Source: CNN

This wastewater-treatment plant in Marion, South Carolina, was just above water on Monday.

Image: Second Herbert/AP
■ Gerald Herbert/AP

Heavy rains flooded a cemetery in Marion after Florence was downgraded to a tropical depression.

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A flooded cemetery in Marion, South Carolina, on Sunday. Gerald Herbert/AP

It will most likely take weeks or months to clean up all the damage Florence left behind.

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A downed tree uprooted by Florence next to flooded homes in New Bern, North Carolina, on Saturday.

AP Photo/Steve Helber Source: WIS-TV SEE ALSO: What it's really like to fly into a hurricane, and why it's a critical part of your forecast

DON'T MISS: Scientists calculated the impact humans had on Hurricane Florence's recordbreaking rainfall forecasts — here's how we've made it so much wetter

Source: https://www.businessinsider.com/hurricane-florence-aerial-photos-floodin g-maps-2018-9

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