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BULLETIN

Hurricane Maria Intermediate Advisory Number 7A NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL152017 200 AM AST Mon Sep 18 2017

...STRENGTHENING MARIA EXPECTED TO BECOME A MAJOR HURRICANE BY THE TIME IT REACHES THE LEEWARD ISLANDS...

SUMMARY OF 200 AM AST...0600 UTC...INFORMATION

LOCATION...14.4N 59.0W
ABOUT 90 MI...145 KM NNE OF BARBADOS
ABOUT 170 MI...270 KM ESE OF DOMINICA
MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...90 MPH...150 KM/H
PRESENT MOVEMENT...WNW OR 290 DEGREES AT 13 MPH...20 KM/H
MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...977 MB...28.85 INCHES

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

CHANGES WITH THIS ADVISORY:

None.

SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

- A Hurricane Warning is in effect for...
- * Guadeloupe
- * Dominica
- * St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat
- * Martinique
- A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for...
- * Antiqua and Barbuda
- * Saba and St. Eustatius
- * St. Lucia
- A Hurricane Watch is in effect for...
- * U.S. Virgin Islands
- * British Virgin Islands
- * Saba and St. Eustatius
- * St. Maarten
- * St. Martin and St. Barthelemy
- * Anguilla
- A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for...
- * Barbados
- * St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- A Hurricane Warning means that hurricane conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area. Preparations to protect life and property should be rushed to completion.
- A Tropical Storm Warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area within 36 hours.
- A Hurricane Watch means that hurricane conditions are possible

within the watch area. A watch is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

A Tropical Storm Watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.

Interests elsewhere in the Lesser Antilles, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic should monitor the progress of this system. Additional Hurricane and Tropical storm Warnings may be issued for portion of the Leeward and Virgin Islands on today, and Hurricane Watches will likely be issued for Puerto Rico and the nearby islands this morning.

For storm information specific to your area in the United States, including possible inland watches and warnings, please monitor products issued by your local National Weather Service forecast office. For storm information specific to your area outside the United States, please monitor products issued by your national meteorological service.

DISCUSSION AND 48-HOUR OUTLOOK

At 200 AM AST (0600 UTC), the center of Hurricane Maria was located by Martinique radar near latitude 14.4 North, longitude 59.0 West. Maria is moving toward the west-northwest near 13 mph (20 km/h), and this motion with a decrease in forward speed is expected through Tuesday night. On the forecast track, the center of Maria will move across the Leeward Islands late today and tonight and then over the extreme northeastern Caribbean Sea Tuesday and Tuesday night.

Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 90 mph (150 km/h) with higher gusts. Rapid strengthening is forecast during the next 48 hours, and Maria is expected to become a major hurricane before it moves through the Leeward Islands.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 15 miles (30 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 105 miles (165 km).

The estimated minimum central pressure is 977 mb (28.85 inches).

HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND

WIND: Hurricane conditions are first expected within portions of the Leeward Islands by late today, with tropical storm conditions beginning during the day today. Hurricane conditions are possible within the hurricane watch area by Tuesday, with tropical storm conditions possible tonight. Tropical storm conditions are possible in the tropical storm watch area through tonight.

STORM SURGE: A dangerous storm surge accompanied by large and destructive waves will raise water levels by as much as 5 to 7 feet above normal tide levels near where the center of Maria moves across the Leeward Islands.

RAINFALL: Maria is expected to produce total rain accumulations of 6 to 12 inches with isolated maximum amounts of 20 inches across the central and southern Leeward Islands, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, through Wednesday night. Maria is also expected to produce total rain accumulations of 2 to 4 inches with isolated maximum amounts of 8 inches over the remaining northern Leeward Islands from Barbuda to Anguilla, as well as the Windward Islands and Barbados. Rainfall on all of these islands could cause life-threatening flash floods and mudslides.

SURF: Swells generated by Maria are affecting the Lesser Antilles. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions. Please consult products from your local weather office.

NEXT ADVISORY

Next complete advisory at 500 AM AST.

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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YouTube

NHC Blog: "Inside the Eye"

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Preparedness Guide (PDF) Hurricane Hazards Watches and Warnings Marine Safety Ready.gov Hurricanes Weather-Ready Nation **Emergency Management Offices**

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

NOAA Hurricane Research Division Joint Hurricane Testbed **Hurricane Forecast Improvement** Program

OTHER RESOURCES

Q & A with NHC NHC/AOML Library Branch NOAA: Hurricane FAQs National Hurricane Operations Plan WX4NHC Amateur Radio

NWS FORECAST OFFICES

Weather Prediction Center **Storm Prediction Center** Ocean Prediction Center **Local Forecast Offices** Central Pacific Hurricane Center

WORLDWIDE TROPICAL CYCLONE CENTERS

Canadian Hurricane Centre Joint Typhoon Warning Center Other Tropical Cyclone Centers WMO Severe Weather Info Centre



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