

GC Briefing

September 13, 2018

Weather Sentinel Tropical Storm Isaac

Tropical Storm Isaac is now moving away from the Lesser Antilles but still poses a residual threat for tropical storm conditions with heavy rainfall. The storm is expected by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to lose strength and structure due to heavy wind shear over the coming days as it moves into the Caribbean Sea.

Status at 11 AM EDT (15 UTC) Today (NHC)

Maximum Sustained Winds: 45 mph
Approximate Location: About 50 miles southwest of Dominica
Motion: West at 20 mph
Minimum Central Pressure: 1006 mb
Extent of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds from the Center: 160 miles
Status: Weakening tropical storm

Discussion

- Tropical Storm Isaac now sits about 50 miles southwest of Dominica, according to the National Hurricane Center (NHC). The storm is moving to the west at 20 mph, and this general motion is expected by the NHC to continue over the coming days, with some reduction in forward speed. This should take Isaac away from the Lesser Antilles today, and then into the eastern and central Caribbean Sea through the weekend.
- Concerning intensity, Isaac now carries maximum sustained winds of 45 mph. Isaac is expected by the NHC to gradually lose strength and structure over the coming days due to strong wind shear in the area. Some redevelopment is possible over the longer term and this will have to be monitored; model guidance is in disagreement on scenarios.
- Tropical storm watches and warnings remain active for areas under potential threat. Details can be found at www.nhc.noaa.gov.
- Hazards of concern include tropical storm conditions, to render downed trees and powerlines and perhaps some property damage continuing through the afternoon for affected areas. Heavy rainfall will also bring the threat of flooding and flash-flooding for certain affected

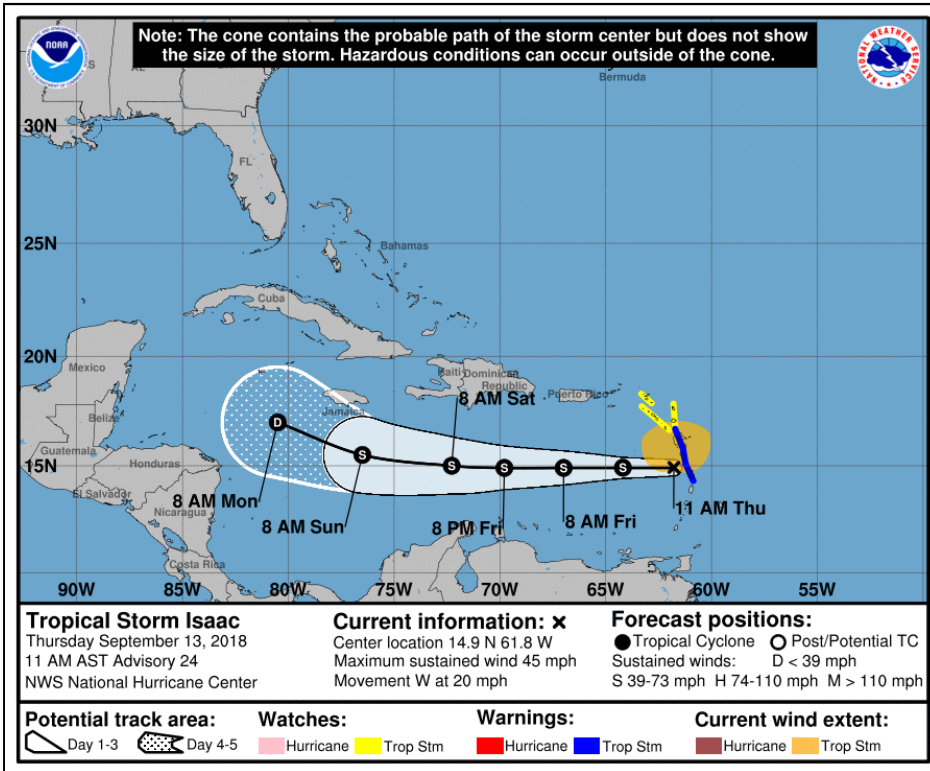
areas, with rainfall amounts as high as 2-4 inches and local amounts to 8 inches expected by the NHC.

Key Messages from The NHC

1. Isaac is expected to produce tropical-storm-force winds across portions of the Lesser Antilles into this afternoon, and tropical storm warnings are in effect for Martinique, Dominica, and Guadeloupe.
2. Tropical storm watches are in effect for Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua, Barbuda, Saba and St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, and St. Martin. Tropical storm conditions are possible on these islands today and interests on those islands should follow any advice given by their local officials.

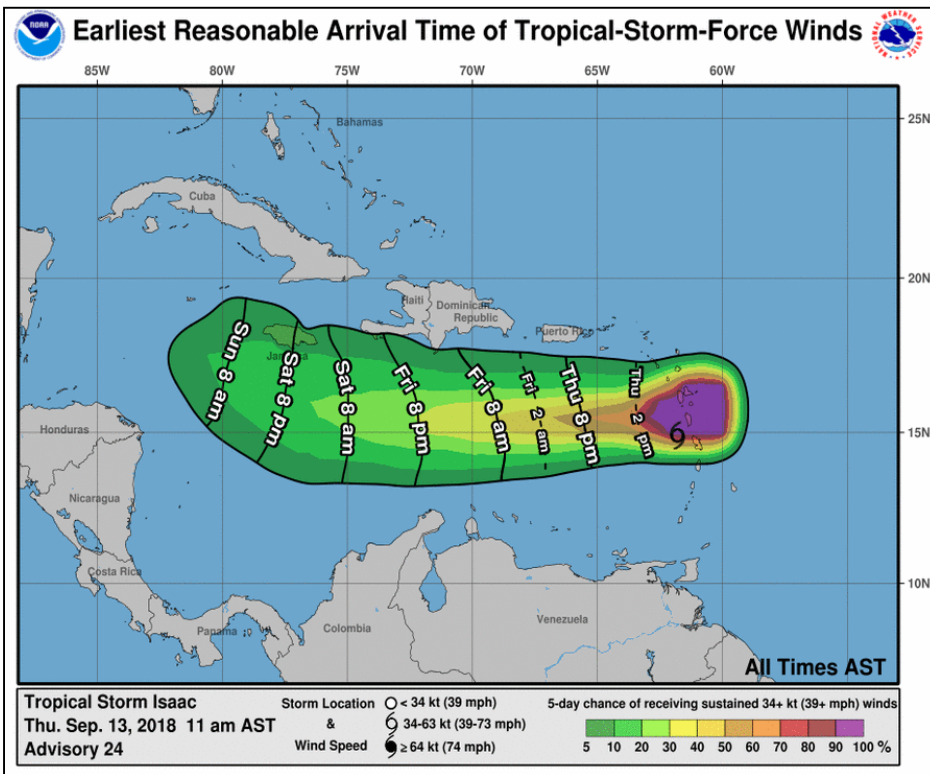
Further Sentinel updates will be issued on Isaac only if it poses an escalating and material threat to the Americas of Caribbean. Statements from the National Hurricane Center can be found at www.nhc.noaa.gov.

Local watches and warnings from official meteorological agencies, and statements from local emergency management agencies supersede this update, and should be closely heeded concerning matters of personal safety.



NHC Position and Best Forecast

SOURCE: NOAA/NHC



Earliest Reasonable Arrival Time of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds (Contours)

Probability of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds (Shaded)

SOURCE: NOAA/NHC

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