

# GC Briefing

September 15, 2018

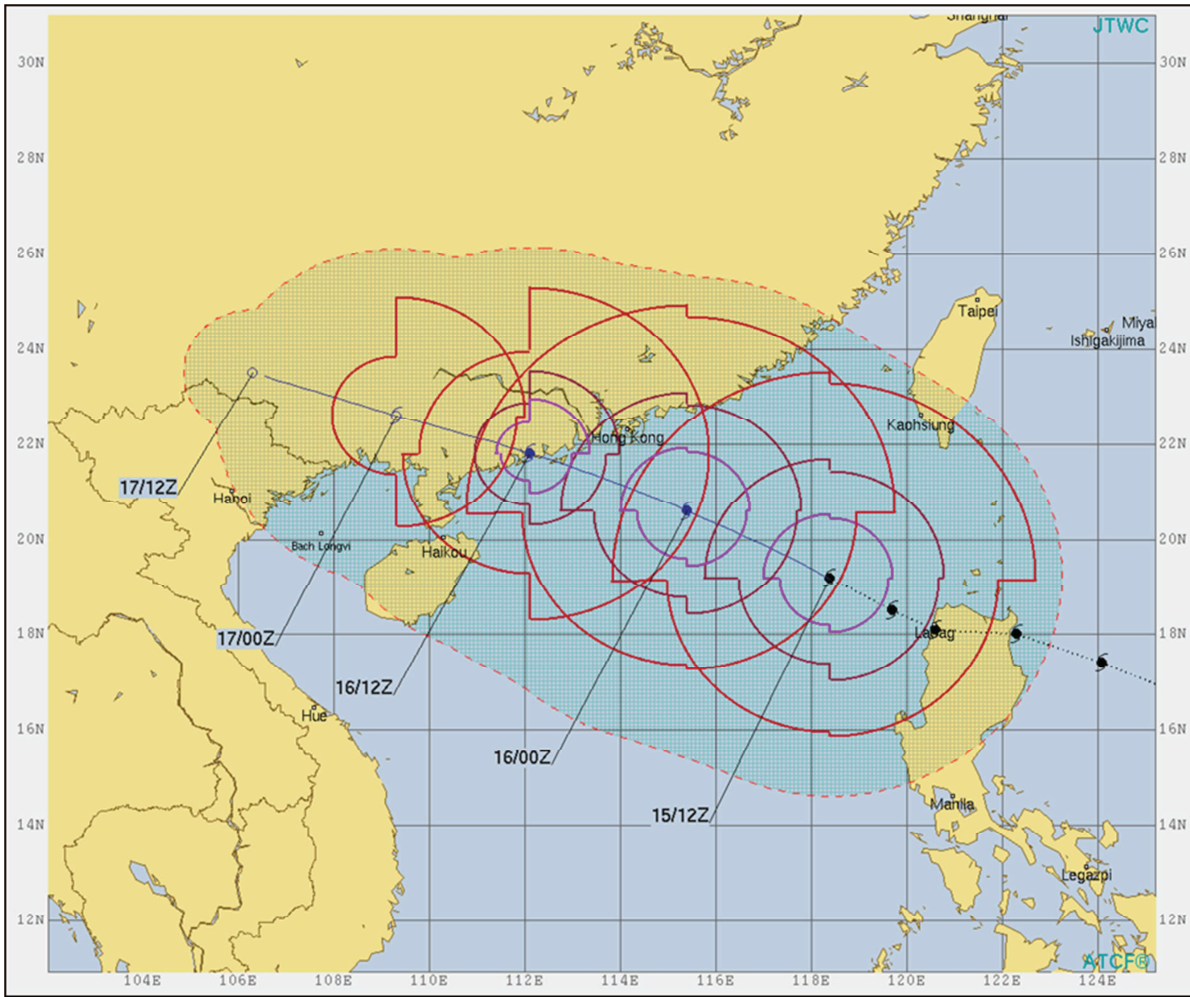
## Weather Sentinel Super Typhoon Mangkhut

In the Northwest Pacific Basin, Typhoon Mangkhut now carries one-minute sustained winds of around 195 km/hr (120 mph), a category three on the Saffir-Simpson Scale. According to the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), the storm will approach the coast of Mainland China to the west of Hong Kong around 12 UTC September 16, with some weakening forecast prior to landfall. Mangkhut crossed the Northern Philippines just after 18 UTC September 14 as a super typhoon according to the JTWC, with 1-minute sustained winds of around 270 km/hr (165 mph), a category five on the Saffir-Simpson Scale. Significant impacts due to wind, rain and associated flooding have been reported by media in the affected area.

### Discussion

- Super Typhoon Mangkhut crossed Luzon in the Northern Philippines just after 18 UTC September 14, at which time 1-minute sustained winds of around 270 km/hr (165 mph) were reported by the JTWC. Mangkhut made landfall as a category five on the Saffir-Simpson Scale. At least 500 mm (20 inches) of rain was unofficially reported in parts of Luzon according to initial media statements. Extensive structural damage has been reported to homes in the affected area along with flooding, flash-flooding and mudslides. Initial reports also indicate damage to agricultural interests in the affected area.
- The storm has since cleared the area and moved into the South China Sea, located about 555 km (345 miles) southeast of Hong Kong as reported by the JTWC at 12 UTC September 15. Mangkhut has weakened since crossing the Northern Philippines and now carries 1-minute sustained winds of around 195 km/hr (120 mph), a category three on the Saffir-Simpson Scale. A central pressure of 950 hPa (mb) was recently reported by the Japan Meteorological Agency.
- The storm is moving west-northwest at around 26 km/hr (16 mph). As the storm follows the southern edge of a subtropical ridge to the north, the JTWC is forecasting Mangkhut to continue on a general track to the west-northwest. On this track, the storm should approach Mainland China just west of Hong Kong around 12 UTC September 16. The JTWC is forecasting 1-minute sustained winds of around 150 km/hr (90 mph) by this time, following some weakening prior to landfall due to increasing wind shear.
- The storm should render downed trees and powerlines with variable structural damage for areas well away from the center of circulation, with more severe damage adjacent to the core and near the coast. Heavy rainfall with flooding and flash-flooding is also possible for areas under threat (including a residual threat for the Northern Philippines). A storm surge will also bring the threat of coastal flooding, especially for areas along and to the right of the track of the storm. Official agencies maintain statements and warnings for areas under threat.

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.



**Position and Best Forecast (12 UTC September 15)**

SOURCE: JTWC

<http://www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/products/wp2618.gif>

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