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## For Immediate Release August 15, 2021, 12:15 p.m. (ChST)

## 16W Downgraded to a Tropical Depression; Tropical Storm Watch Remains in Effect

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office continues to monitor 16W, which has been downgraded from a tropical storm to a tropical depression. As of 10 a.m., the system was located near latitude 12.5 north and longitude 157.0 east, about 775 miles east-southeast of Saipan and 825 miles east of Guam. It is moving west at 15 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. 16W is expected to maintain this lesser intensity before regaining tropical storm status sometime Monday.

On its current track, 16W is expected to maintain this general course and speed the next couple of days, bringing it near Guam around midday Tuesday.

A **tropical storm watch** remains in effect for Guam, meaning damaging winds of 39 mph or more are possible within 24 to 48 hours. Tropical storm force winds are expected as early as Tuesday morning.

Although 16W was downgraded, it is expected to become a tropical storm once again. The community is reminded to take the following preparedness actions now:

- Those living in areas prone to flooding should be prepared to take action; clear drainage areas and unblock clogged storm drains in your area to minimize the chance of flooding.
- Stay up to date with the latest information. The system's track or intensity may change and advisories may be issued.
- Locate or prepare your emergency preparedness kits for your household; stock up on non-perishable food items and water for your household, flashlights, first-aid kits, batteries, matches or lighters, portable stove, toiletries, etc. Visit <u>https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit</u> for more information on what to include in your supplies list.
- Secure important documents such as birth certificates, tax papers, and insurance documents and keep copies in a water-proof bag.
- Clear loose debris around your yard and store any items that may become airborne with heavy winds.

Visit the following links for the latest advisory information:

- NWS Website: <u>https://www.weather.gov/gum/</u>
- NWS Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/</u>
- · GHS/OCD Website: <u>https://ghs.guam.gov/</u>
- · GHS/OCD Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/</u>

For more information, contact GHS/OCD Public Information Officer Jenna G. Blas at (671) 489-2540 or via email at jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov.