

OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

Inasiguran I Tano' Guahan/Ufisinan Difensia Sibet 221-B Chalan Palasyo, Agana Heights, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 475-9600 / Fax: (671) 477-3727

Website: www.ghs.guam.gov

Esther J.C. Aguigui Homeland Security Advisor Charles V. Esteves Administrator

For Immediate Release August 27, 2023, 8:15 a.m. (ChST)

Heavy Rainfall and Gusty Winds Expected through Wednesday; Hazardous Surf and Seas Remain

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office continues to monitor a developing tropical system, known as Invest 93W, located west of Saipan. As part of the tropical system, a southwesterly monsoon flow is strengthening, with the strongest winds located south of Guam. As 93W continues to strengthen over the coming days and drifts eastward, the monsoon flow will lift northward to encompass all of the Marianas.

Impacts for the Marianas through Wednesday evening include sustained winds increasing to between 15 and 25 mph with gusts up to 35 mph for Monday afternoon through Tuesday night, particularly near heavier showers and thunderstorms. Rainfall amounts of 4 to 8 inches, with locally higher amounts are possible.

Those living in flood-prone areas should take action; clear drainage areas and unblock storm drains to minimize flooding. Residents and visitors are advised to take the following precautionary actions:

- Stay up to date with the latest information;
- Be prepared to take action if warranted;
- Remain out of hazardous surf and seas for south and west facing reefs;
- If driving, be alert for low visibilities and slippery roads in heavy rain;
- Slow down where water is ponding on the road;
- Turn Around, Don't Drown. Avoid walking or driving through flood waters. Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away;
- Do not camp, park, or hike along streams, and rivers, during heavy rainfall. These areas can flood quickly and with little warning.

A **high surf advisory** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6 a.m. next Saturday. Large breaking waves of 9 to 11 feet for west facing reefs and 7 to 9 feet for south facing reefs are expected. Remain out of the water due to dangerous swimming and surf conditions.

A high risk of rip currents remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through late Friday night along south and west facing reefs. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from the shore into deeper water. Remain out of the water due to dangerous conditions. If caught in a rip current, do not swim against the current. Swim in a direction following the shoreline, face the shore and call or wave for help.

A **small craft advisory** remains in effect for the coastal waters of Guam and Rota until 6 a.m. next Saturday. Southwest winds of 15 to 25 knots, with gusts up to 40 knots, and seas of 8 to 11 feet, increasing to 10 to 14 feet for Tuesday and Wednesday, are expected. Conditions will be hazardous to small craft. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in hazardous conditions.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) remind the community to stay up to date with NWS products. Practice caution while traveling in heavy rain, driving below the speed limit and allowing enough braking distance between vehicles.

Visit the following links for the latest advisory information:

· NWS Website: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

· NWS Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/

GHS/OCD Website: https://ghs.guam.gov/

· GHS/OCD Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/

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.

-###-