



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

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Tropical Disturbance Near Chuuk to Bring Locally Heavy Showers and Gusty Winds to Guam this Weekend

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office issued a special weather statement for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. NWS is monitoring a tropical disturbance, Invest 98W, centered just east of Chuuk. This is an evolving system.

At this time, there remains high uncertainty as to what extent the system will impact the Marianas. The NWS expects the system to pass near Chuuk on Friday and then head toward Guam by Saturday, possibly passing over or just south of Guam by Sunday morning. With steady intensification, this disturbance could pass as a tropical depression.

The latest forecast indicates Friday will be mostly cloudy with isolated showers and east winds of 10 to 15 mph. Saturday is expected to be cloudy with locally heavy showers and a chance of thunderstorms.

A **high risk of rip currents** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through 6 a.m. Friday for east facing reefs. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from the shore into deeper water. Inexperienced swimmers should 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, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 4 a.m. Friday. East to northeast winds of 15 to 20 knots, with frequent gusts of 25 knots, and seas of 6 to 8 feet are expected. 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 the latest information and be prepared to take action, if warranted.

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.