
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 8:02 PM
To: Richard Kahn; J E
Subject: HURRICANE MARIA UPDATE -- TUE SEPT 19 -- 11 AM

FYI

POTENTIALLY CA=ASTROPHIC HURRICANE MARIA CONTINUES WEST- NORTHWESTWARD TOWARD THE VIRGIN ISLANDS AND PUERTO RICO

At 11 a.m., the center of potentially catastrophic Category Five Hurricane Maria was located near 16.3 degrees north, 63.1 degrees west or about 150 miles southeast of St.=Croix. A Hurricane Warning remains in effect for the Virgin Islands.=/div>

Maria is moving toward the west-northwest near 10 mph, and this general motion is expected to continue through Wednesday night. On the forecast track, the eye of Maria will move over the northeastern Caribbean Sea today, and then=pass near or over the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico on Wednesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 160 mph with higher gusts. Some fluctuations in intensity are likely during the next day or two, but Maria is forecast to remain an extremely dangerous Category Four or Five hurricane until it moves near or over the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 35 miles from the center=and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 140 miles. A NOAA=buoy located a little west of the center, recently reported 1-min average winds of 69 mph and a wind gust of 83 mph.

ESTIMATED STORM=IMPACT

On the current forecast track, the center of Maria will pass within ten miles of St. Croix around 2 a.m. Wednesday=. At that time, Hurricane Maria will be a Category Four Hurricane with sustained winds of 155 miles per hour.

WIND IMPACT

St. Croix will begin to feel the effects of tropical storm force wind= (winds between 39-73 miles per hour) around 2 p.m. today with hurricane force winds (winds stronger than 74 miles per hour) affecting St. Croix for seven hours beginning at 11 p.m. tonight. The highest sustained wind=forecast for St. Croix will occur around 2 a.m. Wednesday with sustained winds reaching 145 miles per hour.

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