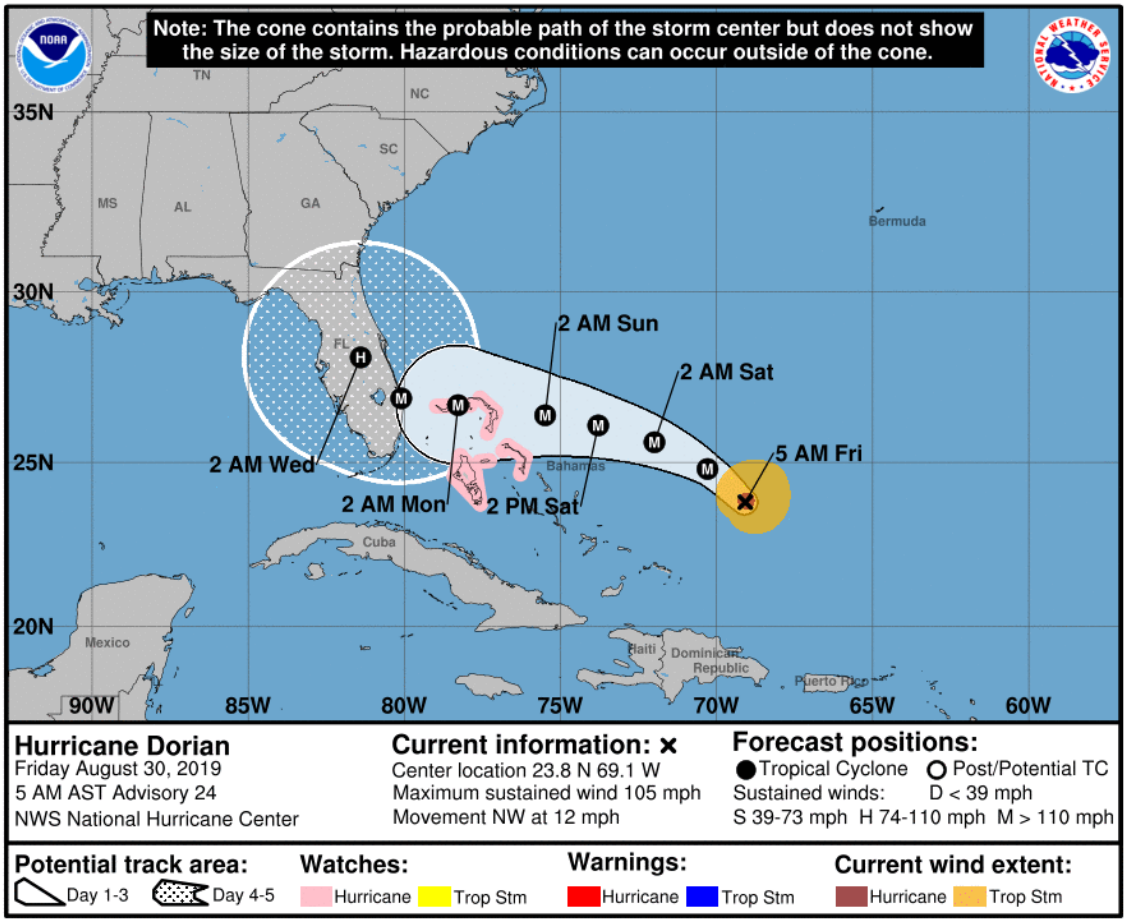
30 August 2019
(301152Z AUG 2019)

BULLETIN
HURRICANE DORIAN

Please distribute to all traffic nets and EMCOMM organizations
www.radio-relay.org

HURRICANE STATUS

The forecast path and anticipated intensity of Dorian are now coming into focus with Dorian expected to impact the Northwestern Bahamas and East Coast of Florida as a major hurricane. The projected path is shown in this graphic from the National Hurricane Center:



As with all forecasts, variables are present. Please consult subsequent forecasts for more specific information. A recent bulletin from the NWS National Hurricane Center is provided below. Please see latter portions of this bulletin for operational information pertaining to radio communications networks.

WTNT35 KNHC 301147
TCPAT5

BULLETIN
Hurricane Dorian Intermediate Advisory Number 24A
NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL052019
800 AM AST Fri Aug 30 2019

...AIR FORCE PLANE FINDS DORIAN A LITTLE STRONGER...

SUMMARY OF 800 AM AST...1200 UTC...INFORMATION

LOCATION...24.2N 69.4W
ABOUT 255 MI...410 KM ENE OF THE SOUTHEASTERN BAHAMAS
ABOUT 505 MI...815 KM E OF THE NORTHWESTERN BAHAMAS
MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...110 MPH...175 KM/H
PRESENT MOVEMENT...NW OR 320 DEGREES AT 12 MPH...19 KM/H
MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...972 MB...28.70 INCHES

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

CHANGES WITH THIS ADVISORY: None.

SUMMARY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

A Hurricane Watch is in effect for...
* Northwestern Bahamas

A Hurricane Watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area. A watch is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds, conditions that make outside preparations difficult or dangerous.

Interests in southern and central Florida should monitor the progress of Dorian.

For storm information specific to your area, please monitor products issued by your national meteorological service.

DISCUSSION AND OUTLOOK

At 800 AM AST (1200 UTC), the center of Hurricane Dorian was located near latitude 24.2 North, longitude 69.4 West. Dorian is moving toward the northwest near 12 mph (19 km/h), and this motion is expected to continue through today. A slower west-northwestward to westward motion is forecast to begin tonight and continue through the weekend. On this track, Dorian should move over the Atlantic well east of the southeastern and central Bahamas today, approach the northwestern Bahamas Saturday, and move near or over portions of

the northwestern Bahamas on Sunday.

Data from an Air Force Reserve reconnaissance aircraft indicate that maximum sustained winds have increased to near 110 mph (175 km/h) with higher gusts. Strengthening is forecast during the next few days, and Dorian is expected to become a major hurricane later today. Dorian is likely to remain an extremely dangerous hurricane while it moves near the northwestern Bahamas and approaches the Florida peninsula through the weekend.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 25 miles (35 km) from the center, and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 105 miles (165 km).

The minimum central pressure just reported by the Air Force reconnaissance plane was 972 mb (28.70 inches).

HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND

WIND: Hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area by Sunday, with tropical storm conditions possible by Saturday night or Sunday morning.

STORM SURGE: A life-threatening storm surge will raise water levels by as much as 10 to 15 feet above normal tide levels in areas of onshore winds in the northwestern Bahamas. Near the coast,the surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves.

RAINFALL: Dorian is expected to produce the following rainfall accumulations this weekend into the middle of next week:

Northwestern Bahamas and coastal sections of the Southeast United States...6 to 12 inches, isolated 15 inches.
Central Bahamas...1 to 2 inches, isolated 4 inches.

This rainfall may cause life-threatening flash floods.

SURF: Swells are likely to begin affecting the east-facing shores of the Bahamas and the southeastern United States coast during the next few days. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions. Please consult products from your local weather office.

NEXT ADVISORY

Next complete advisory at 1100 AM AST.

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Forecaster Avila

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PREPAREDNESS

EmComm program managers in the affected area should prepare now for a potentially serious event. Some preparedness steps to consider include:

- Ensure that equipment at key stations, such as EOCs, hospitals, relief agencies and similar public service facilities is tested and working correctly. When practical, test standby power systems, emergency lighting and similar resources. Inspect antenna mounts, transmission lines and related items carefully.
- Disasters directly impact volunteers, thereby diminishing the level of staffing available within volunteer programs. Ensure that mutual aid arrangements are in place with nearby EmComm groups. Address issues such as identification, security requirements and staging. Include your EMA in these discussions.
- Identify and tentatively assign volunteers to provide liaison to external networks.. Examples include the Hurricane Watch Net, RRI/NTS nets, SHARES, MARS, etc.
- Create a preliminary frequency plan. Assign repeaters/nets in advance to anticipated emergency management functions (e.g. hospital net, shelter net, general coordination net, etc.).
- Identify primary, secondary and perhaps tertiary frequencies/repeaters/modes for key functions.
- Prepare packets of message forms, maps and other operational materials for distribution to volunteers at staging areas.
- Consider assigning volunteers to monitor FRS channel one in support of the *National SOS Radio Network* program (see below). This can be done from both home and mobile stations. Distribute the radio public service announcement audio file to local broadcast stations for use should a hurricane warning be issued. The audio files are available at:

  http://radio-relay.org/emcomm/national-sos-radio-network/

EmComm volunteers in the affected area should also prepare for a potentially serious event. Preparedness steps to consider include:

- The first priority of a volunteer is to make arrangements for the safety and security of one's family.
- Inspect any equipment to be used in an emergency. Ensure storage batteries are charged. Store enough gasoline for a generator. Test portable communications equipment.
- Fill your automobile gasoline tank.
- Have appropriate clothing, rain gear and personal protective equipment available for deployment.
- Advise your local EC or other EmComm manager if you are available to assist.
- If you cannot deploy, but will remain at home, be prepared to assist your neighbors by providing connectivity to emergency services or welfare message originations via RRI/NTS in the event of a cellular outage.
- Monitor FRS Channel 1 in your neighborhood for requests for emergency assistance or messaging via the National SOS Radio Network.

GUIDANCE FOR ROUTING OF MESSAGE TRAFFIC

At present, RRI Networks remain in routine configuration. Changes to operational status may be made depending on the progress of the storm and its impacts. The following guidance anticipates the requirement for emergency communications services:

Emergency communications program managers requiring use of the RRI traffic system may access any operational RRI/NTS network to establish initial communications and begin originating record message traffic. Net managers should accept message traffic from the disaster area and then route it via the most expedient method. Options include the RRI Digital Traffic Network (DTN), IATN CW circuits or direct transfer to the destination region or section network.

A complete list of nets is available to all EmComm operators on the RRI Web Page at:

http://radio-relay.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/TrafficNets.pdf

Upon commencing with the *systematic* origination of priority or welfare precedence message traffic, and at the earliest possible convenience, a priority radiogram requesting emergency communications support should be transmitted to the RRI National Emergency Communications Coordinator (NECC). The radiogram should identify the general source location (typically a state or region) of the traffic and the anticipated priority of traffic to be originated. This information will be used to identify any specific point-to-point circuits or other specialized routings required to support local emergency operations. For example, if quantities of message traffic are to be originated to a specific agency, the destination of that agency should be identified in the request.

Contact Information for the RRI NECC is:

JAMES WADES WB8SIW
810 SKYLINE DRIVE
MARION IL 62959
269-650-0215
JAMES DOT WADES ATSIGN RADIO HYPHEN RELAY DOT ORG

Priority (Agency) Message Traffic

Operational message traffic bearing the "priority" precedence will be routed immediately to an outlet if available. If an outlet is unavailable, the receiving station should immediately undertake delivery of the message traffic if possible. IATN circuits and DTN are recommended for expediting the flow or priority messages.

Welfare Message Traffic

At present, disaster welfare inquiries *destined for* the affected area are not being accepted. This restriction will remain in place until further notice. A later bulletin will provide guidance regarding DWI message traffic if circumstances warrant, the demand is present, and if the circuit capacity is available.

Welfare message traffic *leaving* the affected area may be injected into any available net. However, it is recommended that stations planning to originate welfare traffic in quantity notify the RRI NECC so that special routings and inject points may be assigned.

If originating welfare radiograms via Winlink using the RRI Radiogram Form template, please be certain to select the correct RRI destination region depending upon the destination address.

Digital Traffic Stations and RRI-Winlink Liaisons

Upon transition into emergency status*, RRI Winlink Liaison Stations* and *RRI Digital Traffic Stations* should increase the frequency of their connects to the network to expedite the flow of any messages originated within the disaster area. The recommended minimum connect frequency will be identified in an operational "QNC" radiogram if emergency status is required.

National SOS Radio Network and Hamwatch Program

The *National SOS Radio Network* can provide a valuable community service in the event of a localized or widespread cellular outage.

Radio operators monitor FRS channel one for citizen requests for assistance or information. The broader local Amateur Radio Service infrastructure, in turn, provides connectivity to local emergency services, relief agencies or, in the case of welfare traffic, the broader national messaging layer.

GMRS/FRS connectivity into the local neighborhoods also provides a rich source of situational awareness data for use by emergency management and relief agencies.

The following link contains a suitable public service announcement for use by local broadcast stations:

http://radio-relay.org/emcomm/national-sos-radio-network/

The Neighborhood Hamwatch Program can also prove to be an excellent tool for supporting local VOADs and community groups active in disaster response. Here is a link to more information on the Radio Relay International Web Page:

http://radio-relay.org/emcomm/neighborhood-hamwatch/

Radio Relay International – Requests for Assistance:

RRI networks are operating on schedule and, as always, the RRI Digital Traffic Network operates 24/7/365. These resources remain available for outgoing welfare message traffic. Requests from net managers or EMCOMM coordinators for specialized communications circuits or additional network cycles to support either operational or welfare message traffic should be directed to:

James Wades
Radio Relay International
National Emergency Communications Coordinator
269-650-0215

END