

# Tropical Storm Laura

## INFORMATION NOTE No. 1

AS OF 5:00 PM (AST) ON AUGUST 21, 2020

### LAURA TO BRING TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS TO LEEWARD ISLANDS

**LOCATION: 17.1N 61.2W**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 45 MPH...75 KM/H**

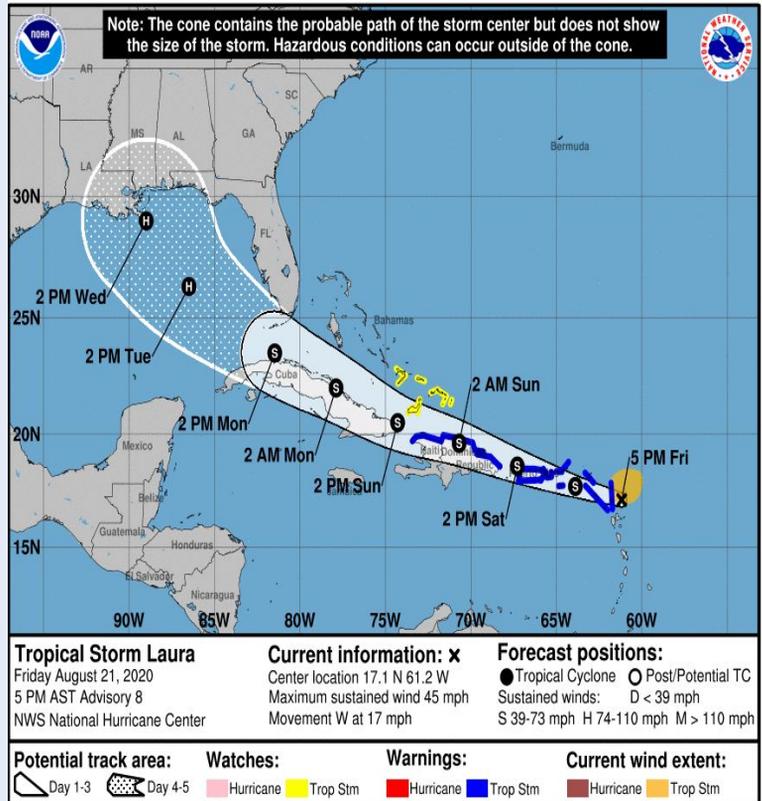
**PRESENT MOVEMENT: W OR 275 DEGREES AT 17 MPH...28 KM/H**

**TROPICAL STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FOR CDEMA PSs:**

- **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**
- **ANTIGUA & BARBUDA**
- **ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**
- **ANGUILLA**
- **MONTserrat**

**TROPICAL STORM WATCH IN EFFECT FOR CDEMA PSs:**

- **THE NORTHERN COAST OF HAITI**
- **SOUTHEASTERN BAHAMAS**
- **TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS**



### National Hurricane Centre (NHC) Update

According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, as of 5:00 PM (AST) on August 21, 2020, the center of Tropical Storm Laura was located near latitude 17.1 North, longitude 61.2 West. Laura is moving toward the west near 17 mph (28 km/h), and a generally west-northwestward motion at a faster forward speed is expected over the next couple of days.

On the forecast track, the center of Laura will move near or over portions of the Leeward Islands later today, near or over Puerto Rico Saturday morning, and near the northern coast of Hispaniola late Saturday and early Sunday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph (75 km/h) with higher gusts. Some slow strengthening is forecast during the next 48 hours.

## **Caribbean Institute For Meteorology And Hydrology (CIMH) Analysis**

*Disclaimer: The CIMH provides special weather interpretation of the current and forecasted tropical weather affecting the Caribbean Region and is NOT an official forecasting agency.*

The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) is closely monitoring this system as it continues on its trajectory towards the Lesser Antilles. CIMH has provided the below weather update as at Friday August 21, 2020.

**Weather** - Convective bands associated with T. Storm Laura has grown to be more compact over the last 24 hours. Thunderstorm clusters are now encroaching on to the Northern Leewards.

**Winds** - Maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph (75 km/h) with higher gusts. Some slow strengthening is forecast during the next 48 hours. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 150 miles (240 km) from the center.

**Rainfall/Flood** - Rainfall accumulations of up to 5 inches over portions of the N Leewards with the highest amounts up to 8 inches over portions of the British Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the Turks and Caicos Islands are possible during the passage of Laura. Rainfall totals up to 3 inches can be expected over the central Windwards.

**Seas** – Surf heights of 5 - 6 metres in open waters and are likely to pose a danger to seacraft and impact vulnerable coastlines in the Leeward Islands. Rough seas can be expected along the coasts of the northern Windwards.

## **Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Actions**

- The RRM and RCC remains activated to provide joint coordination of the regional preparedness and response planning operations.
- The RCC maintains communication with the Participating States under threat from Tropical Storm Laura to gain a sense of their preparedness; the RRM Partners have been alerted.
- CDEMA has developed an Operational Planning Guide for planning purposes to guide potential responses to states.
- CDEMA will continue to monitor the progress of the system and provide updates as information becomes available.

## Updates from the CDEMA Participating States



### ANGUILLA – Department of Disaster Management (DDM)

Updates/actions undertaken by DDM, Anguilla

- The government service was closed at 1:00pm today, August 21;
- Schools have been closed due to the approaching system;
- The private sector is taking direction from State on possible closure this afternoon;
- There has been no activation of shelters for TS Laura;
- There was a National Committee meeting on Wednesday August 19, and will not meet again until after the passage of the storm;
- There has been no pre-positioning of teams.



### ANTIGUA & BARBUDA – National Office of Disaster Services (NODS)

Updates/actions undertaken by NODS, Antigua

- The government service was closed as at midday today, August 21;
- National Systems have been activated for months due to COVID 19;
- COVID-19 kits were obtained by District Disaster Coordinators for use in shelters;
- The Airport is scheduled to be closed;
- Volunteer resources have been mobilized;
- There has been no arrangements made for pre-deployment however teams were tasked;
- Pre impact data analysis is ongoing.

## Updates from the CDEMA Participating States



### MONTSERRAT – Disaster Management Coordination Agency (DMCA)

Updates/actions undertaken by DMCA, Montserrat

- The DCMA has received a live update from the Antigua Meteorological Services and is not currently expecting severe impact for Montserrat- rains and gusts;
- The NEOC has not been activated;
- Skeleton staff will continue to monitor the system;
- The period of impact has been forecast to be between 4:00pm today, August 21 and up until 2:00pm tomorrow, August 22.



### ST. KITTS & NEVIS – National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

Updates/actions undertaken by NEMA, St. Kitts & Nevis

- The National Disaster Coordinator met with the Meteorological Office and was briefed on the status of the system as it relates to St. Kitts and Nevis;
- Other national stakeholders have been briefed and there was a pre-strike meeting of the Mitigation Council at midday today August 21;
- The NEOC was activated at 3:00pm today August 21;
- St. Kitts will mobilize and activate the National Plan;
- Pre-impact analysis will be done with the GIS and Planning Departments.