

HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS

Tropical Weather Outlook – Situation Report 4

DATE AND TIME COVERED: 28/JUN/2010 07:00 hours

29/JUN/2010 19:00 hours

SUBJECT: TROPICAL STORM “ALEX” OUTLOOK

1. CURRENT SITUATION: “HURRICANE WARNING ISSUED”

Hidalgo County OEM is currently monitoring Tropical Storm “Alex”, which made landfall at the Yucatan Peninsula over the weekend and has emerged from the Bay of Campeche and as a weak tropical depression, and was upgraded to a “Tropical Storm” overnight. It is currently 505 miles Southeast of Brownsville and is now travelling North at 5 mph with sustained winds of 65 mph. It is expected to continue strengthening as it enters the Gulf of Mexico and develop into a Category 2 Hurricane by 01:00 on Wednesday, in the middle of the Western Gulf. As of Monday, computer models are suggesting that the landfall point has moved North and will now make landfall as a Category 2 Hurricane somewhere between La Cruz, (Mx.) and Baffin Bay Texas, about 50-75 miles South of Brownsville. Either way, the RGV region is now in the 24 hour strike zone and will be affected by wind, rain, and/or tornadic activity (dependent on landfall location). We will see effects of the storm Wednesday afternoon into early Thursday morning when landfall is forecast. All models are in agreement until Wednesday evening about the projected track and spread out to the aforementioned locales.

SUMMARY OF 1000 PM CDT...0300 UTC...INFORMATION

LOCATION...21.0N 91.6W ABOUT 440 MI...710 KM ESE OF LA PESCA MEXICO ABOUT 505 MI...810 KM SE OF BROWNSVILLE TEXAS MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS...65 MPH...100 KM/HR PRESENT MOVEMENT...N OR 0 DEGREES AT 5 MPH...7 KM/HR MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE...985 MB...29.09 INCHES

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

CHANGES WITH THIS ADVISORY...

A HURRICANE WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR THE COAST OF TEXAS SOUTH OF BAFFIN BAY TO THE MOUTH OF THE RIO GRANDE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO HAS ISSUED A HURRICANE WARNING FROM THE MOUTH OF THE RIO GRANDE TO LA CRUZ.

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR THE COAST OF TEXAS FROM BAFFIN BAY TO PORT OCONNOR.

A HURRICANE WARNING MEANS THAT HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE WARNING AREA. A WARNING IS TYPICALLY ISSUED 36 HOURS BEFORE THE ANTICIPATED FIRST OCCURRENCE OF TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS...CONDITIONS THAT MAKE OUTSIDE PREPARATIONS DIFFICULT OR DANGEROUS. PREPARATIONS TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE RUSHED TO COMPLETION.

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING MEANS THAT TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE WARNING AREA WITHIN 36 HOURS.

FOR STORM INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO YOUR AREA IN THE UNITED STATES...INCLUDING POSSIBLE INLAND WATCHES AND WARNINGS...PLEASE MONITOR PRODUCTS ISSUED BY YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE. FOR STORM INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO YOUR AREA OUTSIDE UNITED STATES...PLEASE MONITOR PRODUCTS ISSUED BY YOUR NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE.

DISCUSSION AND 48-HOUR OUTLOOK

AT 1000 PM CDT...0300 UTC...THE CENTER OF TROPICAL STORM ALEX WAS LOCATED NEAR LATITUDE 21.0 NORTH...LONGITUDE 91.6 WEST. ALEX IS MOVING TOWARD THE NORTH NEAR 5 MPH...7 KM/HR...AND A GRADUAL TURN TOWARD THE NORTHWEST WITH SOME INCREASE IN FORWARD SPEED IS EXPECTED ON TUESDAY...FOLLOWED BY A GRADUAL TURN TOWARD THE WEST-NORTHWEST ON WEDNESDAY.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS HAVE INCREASED TO NEAR 65 MPH...100 KM/HR...WITH HIGHER GUSTS. ADDITIONAL STRENGTHENING IS FORECAST...AND ALEX IS LIKELY TO BECOME A HURRICANE ON TUESDAY.

TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 70 MILES...110 KM FROM THE CENTER.

THE MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE REPORTED BY AN AIR FORCE RESERVE HURRICANE HUNTER AIRCRAFT IS 985 MB...29.09 INCHES.

HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND

RAINFALL...ALEX IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE TOTAL RAINFALL ACCUMULATIONS OF 5 TO 10 INCHES OVER PORTIONS OF NORTHEASTERN MEXICO AND SOUTHERN TEXAS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

ALEX IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE ADDITIONAL RAINFALL ACCUMULATIONS OF 3 TO 6 INCHES OVER SOUTHERN MEXICO AND THE YUCATAN PENINSULA THROUGH TUESDAY. ISOLATED MAXIMUM AMOUNTS OF 10 INCHES ARE POSSIBLE OVER MOUNTAINOUS AREAS. THESE RAINS COULD CAUSE LIFE-THREATENING FLASH FLOODS AND MUD SLIDES.

WIND...TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO APPROACH THE COAST WITHIN THE HURRICANE AND TROPICAL STORM WARNING AREAS ON WEDNESDAY...MAKING OUTSIDE PREPARATIONS DIFFICULT OR DANGEROUS.

STORM SURGE...A DANGEROUS STORM SURGE WILL RAISE WATER LEVELS BY AS MUCH AS 3 TO 5 FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL ALONG THE IMMEDIATE COAST NEAR AND TO THE NORTH OF WHERE THE CENTER MAKES LANDFALL. THE SURGE COULD PENETRATE AS FAR INLAND AS SEVERAL MILES FROM THE SHORE WITH DEPTH GENERALLY DECREASING AS THE WATER MOVES INLAND. NEAR THE COAST...THE SURGE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY LARGE AND DESTRUCTIVE WAVES.

NEXT ADVISORY

NEXT INTERMEDIATE ADVISORY...100 AM CDT. NEXT COMPLETE ADVISORY...400 AM CDT.

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FORECASTER PASCH/KIMBERLAIN

Two contingency planning/coordination conference call took place with the State Operations Center on Monday at 10:30 hours and 16:00 hours to continue readiness evaluations for potential landfall at the above mentioned areas. A joint decision was made to start pre-staging state assets into the RGV (Hidalgo County) in anticipation of potential landfall based on available computer model information. Self-sufficient state assets in the form of personnel, equipment and supplies have started arriving into the area and will continue for the next 24 hours and will make themselves available for assignment via normal County/DDC channels. SOC/Local coordination calls will continue during the week.

County Department Head meeting was held at the EOC at 14:00 hours.

The County EOC will start operations on Tuesday at 08:00 and will be fully operational for 12 hours. (Dependent on storm activity in the Gulf.) A decision shall be made as to when to enter into 24/7 operations as the week progresses.

No evacuation order has been issued for Hidalgo County.

Sand-Bag Issuance – a coordinated effort to release sand-bags by cities and county precincts was made and media outlets will be notified. Release started at 14:00 hours and will continue on Tuesday.

Residents living in low-lying areas and/or those areas that normally flood are being asked to make preparations for flood conditions by mid-week.

Residents living in mobile homes, and or substandard wooden structures are asked to make preparations for high wind conditions by mid-week.

Local shelter preparations are underway and locations will be announced through local news media outlets in a timely manner.

Media personnel are asked to contact County PIO Cari Lambrecht to coordinate interviews and obtain information as of Monday, June 28th, 2010.

The JIC is operational and all news releases/public information will be coordinated via this mechanism.

City & County Elected/Appointed officials met at the McAllen EOC at 18:00 hours for coordination purposes. The media was subsequently briefed after the meeting.

County Agencies Current Activity:

All County agencies, departments, and offices are asked to commence preparations for a potential tropical storm event on or about Wednesday or Thursday.

All county agencies, departments, and offices are asked to report readiness status to Emergency Management at the following email address: HCOEM@hidalgocountyjudge.com

- 2. **AREAS AFFECTED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD:** None
- 3. **RESPONDING AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS:**
 - a) **County Judge's Office** – monitoring situation, participating in coordination conference calls.
 - b) **Office of Emergency Management** – monitoring situation, preparing sit-reps, preparing incident action plan. Partial EOC staffing is expected by Monday afternoon.
 - c) **Health and Human Services** – preparing EOC for occupancy / activation.
- 4. **CASUALTIES:** *Normal conditions - no casualties / injuries to report.*

County	City/Area	Injured	Dead	Missing
Hidalgo		0	0	0
- 5. **DAMAGES (Cumulative)** *Normal conditions – no damages to report.*

	<u>date</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
Homes	0	0
Other Structures	0	0
- 6. **EVACUATIONS:** none
- 7. **HIGHWAY CONDITIONS:** *ALL HIGHWAYS and ROADWAYS are operating under normal conditions.*

HIGHWAY	CURRENT CONDITIONS	TIME	REPORTED BY

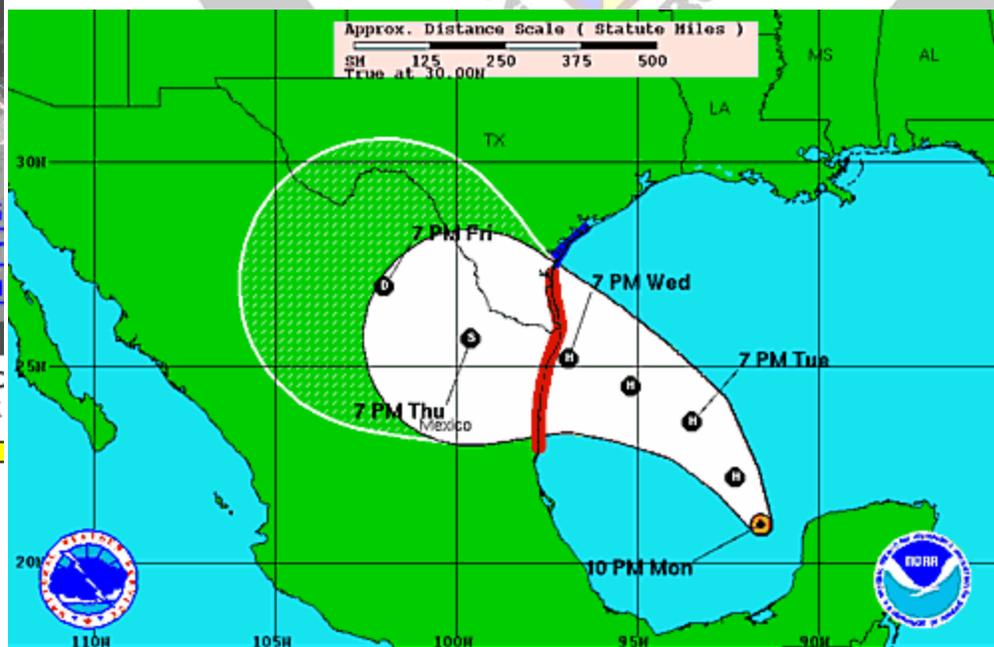
COMMENTS: OEM will continue to monitor the tropical weather activity and issue additional situation reports as needed.



48-hour formation potential: ■ Low <30% ■ Medium 30-50% ■ High >50%



800 PM
Outline
Outlook



Tropical Storm Alex Monday June 28, 2010 10 PM CDT Advisory 14 NWS TPC/National Hurricane Center	Current Information: Center Location 21.0 N 91.6 W Max Sustained Wind 65 mph Movement N at 5 mph	Forecast Positions: ● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph
Potential Track Area: Day 1-3 Day 4-5	Watches: Hurricane Trop.Storm	Warnings: Hurricane Trop.Storm

ADDITIONAL STATEMENT:

WX

Rene A. Ramirez, County Judge / EM Director
PREPARED BY: A.A. "Tony" Peña, Jr. – Hidalgo County EMC
Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management 28/JUL/2010 22:34

