



THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

USVI JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Contact

Richard Motta

340-474-2399

Gerry Yandel

340-474-2662

www.vi.gov

richard.mottajr@go.vi.gov

gerry.yandel@go.vi.gov

Hurricane Watch Issued for USVI; Hurricane Warning Issued for Puerto Rico

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS — The National Weather Service has updated its forecasting of Tropical Storm Fiona and issued a Hurricane Warning for Puerto Rico, including Vieques and Culebra, and a Hurricane Watch for the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The USVI remains under a Tropical Storm Warning.

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 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.

A Tropical Storm Warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected somewhere within the warning area within 36 hours. A Tropical Storm Watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.

Data from Air Force Reserve and NOAA Hurricane Hunter aircraft indicate that Fiona's center has re-formed farther east. At 11 a.m. AST, the center of Tropical Storm Fiona was located near latitude 16.3 North, longitude 63.5 West.

Fiona is moving toward the west near 8 mph and a west-northwestward motion at a similar forward speed is expected to begin later today, followed by a turn toward the northwest by Sunday evening.

On the forecast track, the center of Fiona is expected to move near or south of the Virgin Islands this evening, approach Puerto Rico tonight, and move near or over Puerto Rico Sunday night. Fiona should then move near the Dominican Republic on Monday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 60 mph with higher gusts. Strengthening is forecast during the next few days, and Fiona is expected to become a hurricane by Sunday or Sunday night while moving near Puerto Rico.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 125 miles from the center.

For accurate and updated information regarding Tropical Storm Fiona, go to the Government of the Virgin Islands Joint Information Center at vi.gov/jic/.

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