



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 10, 2017

All Clear for Andros
Grand Bahama and Bimini remain under tropical storm warnings

NASSAU, The Bahamas - Tropical storm warning remains in effect for Grand Bahama and Bimini, as the centre of Irma is about to make landfall in the lower Florida Cays.

However, hurricane warnings for Andros have been discontinued. Hence, the All Clear has been given for that island, the largest island in The Bahamas archipelago.

Alert #42 issued by The Bahamas Department of Meteorology on Sunday, September 10 at 9am notes that the centre of Irma is about to make landfall in the lower Florida Cays.

See Alert:

TROPICAL STORM WARNING REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR GRAND BAHAMA AND BIMINI

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING MEANS THAT TROPICAL STORM CONDITIONS ARE AFFECTING OR CAN AFFECT THE AFOREMENTIONED AREAS WITHIN 36 HOURS.

AT 8AM EDT, THE CENTER OF HURRICANE IRMA WAS LOCATED NEAR LATITUDE 24.5 DEGREES NORTH AND LONGITUDE 81.5 DEGREES WEST OR ABOUT 160 MILES WEST-SOUTHWEST OF SOUTH BIMINI, 220 MILES SOUTHWEST OF WEST END GRAND BAHAMA, 260 WEST OF NEW PROVIDENCE.

IRMA IS MOVING TOWARD THE NORTHWEST NEAR 8 MPH. A TURN TOWARD THE NORTH-NORTHWEST AND AN INCREASE IN FORWARD SPEED ARE EXPECTED LATER TODAY, WITH THAT MOTION CONTINUING THROUGH MONDAY. ON THE FORECAST TRACK, THE EYE OF IRMA SHOULD MOVE OVER THE LOWER FLORIDA KEYS IN THE NEXT FEW HOURS, THEN MOVE NEAR OR OVER THE WESTERN COAST OF THE FLORIDA PENINSULAR LATER TODAY THROUGH TONIGHT.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS ARE NEAR 130 MILES PER HOUR WITH HIGHER GUSTS. IRMA IS A CATEGORY FOUR (4) HURRICANE ON THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE WIND SCALE. WHILE WEAKENING IS FORECAST, IRMA IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN A POWERFUL HURRICANE AS IT MOVES THROUGH THE FLORIDA KEYS AND NEAR THE WEST COAST OF FLORIDA.

HURRICANE FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 80 MILES FROM THE CENTER AND TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 220 MILES FROM THE CENTER.

TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS ARE PRESENTLY BEING EXPERIENCED OVER BIMINI AND WILL SPREAD INTO WEST END AND FREEPORT GRAND BAHAMA LATER THIS MORNING.

EXTENSIVE FLOODING CAN BE EXPECTED AS IRMA COULD PRODUCE RAINFALL AMOUNTS OF 2 TO 4 INCHES OVER BIMINI AND WESTERN GRAND BAHAMA.

SMALL CRAFT OPERATORS IN THE NORTHWEST BAHAMAS SHOULD REMAIN IN SAFE HARBOUR.

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