

# Tropical Storm Nana

## INFORMATION NOTE No. 1

AS OF 4:00 PM (AST) ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2020

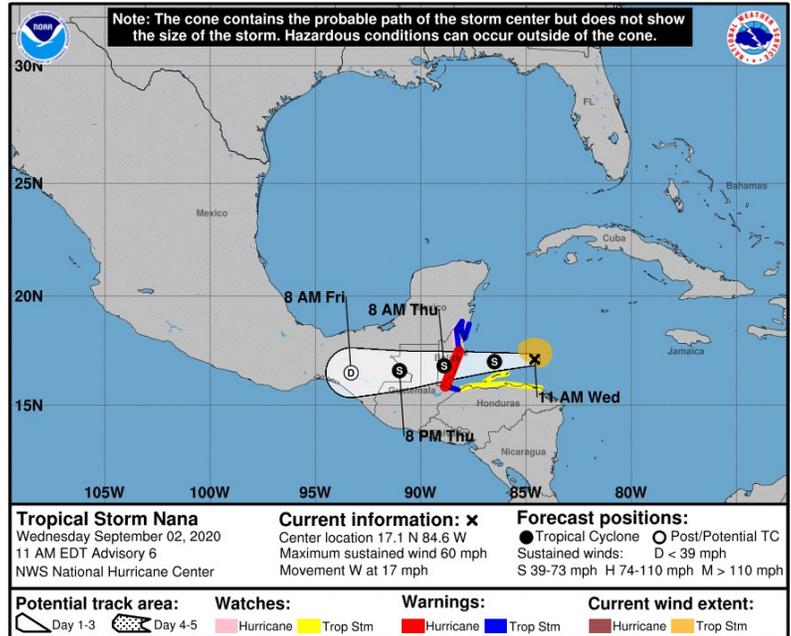
### Synopsis of Tropical Storm Nana

**LOCATION: 155 MILES/250 KM  
EAST OF BELIZE CITY**

**PRESENT MOVEMENT: WEST AT  
15 MPH/24 KM/H**

**HURRICANE WARNING IN  
EFFECT FOR:  
THE COAST OF BELIZE FROM  
BELIZE CITY SOUTHWARD TO  
THE BELIZE-GUATEMALA  
BORDER**

**HURRICANE WATCH IN EFFECT  
FOR:  
THE COAST OF BELIZE NORTH  
OF BELIZE CITY TO THE  
BELIZE-MEXICO BORDER**



### NHC Update

According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, as of 4:00 PM (AST) on 02 September 2020, the center of Tropical Storm Nana was located near Latitude 17.0 North and Longitude 85.9 West. Nana is moving toward the West near 15 mph (24 km/h). A Westward or West-Southwestward motion is expected tonight and Thursday. On the forecast track, Nana will be moving near but North of the coast of Honduras this evening, and the center should make landfall on the coast of Belize tonight or early Thursday. Maximum sustained winds are near 60 mph (95 km/h) with higher gusts. While Nana has not strengthened during the past several hours, strengthening is expected before landfall, and Nana could become a hurricane by the time the centre reaches the coast of Belize. Tropical-storm winds extend outward up to 70 miles (110 km) from the centre. The estimated minimum central pressure is 999 mb (29.50 inches).

Nana is expected to produce dangerous storm-surge which will raise water levels by as much as 3 – 5 feet above normal tide levels along the immediate coast near to the north of where the centre makes landfall. Near the coast, the surge will be accompanied by large destructive waves. Nana is expected to produce rainfall accumulations (through Friday) of 3 – 6 inches, with isolated totals of 8 inches.

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/refresh/MIATCPAT1+shtml/022035.shtml>

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## **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.*

**SATELLITE OBSERVATIONS:** The thunderstorm activity associated with TS Nana is now becoming more consolidated and this is a sign of strengthening. The motion of this activity will move the storm into Belize with an expectation that preceding impacts of storm surge and hurricane force winds will be evident within hours.

### **Summary**

- Tropical storm Nana projected to become a Hurricane later today just as it moves in Belize. The storm is located just 365 miles or 585 Km east of Belize with sustained winds near 60 mph and a central pressure of 997mb on the cusp of becoming a Hurricane.
- The government of Belize has issued a Hurricane Watch for the entire coast of Belize from north of Punta Barrios, Guatemala, northward to south of Chetumal, Mexico.
- On its current track, Hurricane force winds are expected to impact Belize by late Wednesday with possible impacts of damage to weak infrastructure, snapping or uprooting of weak trees and power outages.
- Swells generated by TS Nana will begin to affect Belize Wednesday evening. Open-water wave heights of 3 - 4m can be expected, resulting in high surf and dangerous seas conditions along the coast and throughout the cayes.
- Max. rainfall amounts of 6 to 8 inches over portions of South-Eastern districts of Belize can be expected. Rugged topography will enhance the possibility of flash flooding in southern districts. Coastal flooding is likely to be enhanced by storm-surge. However, Barrier Reef and Cayes may present some shelter to the coast.
- Coastal flooding may result in dangerous driving conditions, especially along the Southern Highway. Traffic delays and disruption to public transportation can be expected. Thunderstorm activity could also result in electrical outages.

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

- The CDEMA Coordinating Unit (CU) Contingency Plan was activated as at 01 September 2020.
- The Regional Coordination Center (RCC) remains partially activated since March 2020.
- The Regional Response Teams have been placed on ALERT (CARICOM Disaster Assessment and Coordination (CDAC), CARICOM Operational Support Team (COST) and the Rapid Needs Assessment Team (RNAT). The Regional Security System (RSS) have been requested to place the CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU) on ALERT. The Caribbean Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) have been requested to place the Regional Search and Rescue (RSAR) Teams on ALERT.
- CDEMA and the UN Resident Coordinator (Belize) Co-Chaired a meeting of the Regional Response Mechanism Partners - Caribbean Development Partners Group - Disaster Management (CDPG-DM), and National Disaster Coordinators (NDCs) at 1:00 PM today, 02 September 2020.
- The CDEMA CU urges all Participating States and members of the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) to monitor the progress of this system.
- There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the CDPG-DM and NDOs on Thursday 03 September 2020 at 1:00 pm.
- The CDEMA CU will continue to monitor the system and provide updates as necessary.

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## Updates from the CDEMA Participating States



### BELIZE – National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)

- As at Wednesday 02 September 2020 at 9:30 AM (Belize time), a Hurricane Warning was declared for Belize City (Southward) and a Tropical Storm Warning for other parts of the country.
- Priority concerns are for severe wind damage, flooding, storm-surge, and risk of drowning; The public is strongly encouraged to take appropriate precautions . This includes activating family emergency plans and preparations to seek safe shelter if necessary.
- All Emergency Operations Centres (Command Centres) countrywide are activated. Road-works were continuing on the Mile-38 section of the George Price Highway. Final preparations are being made with respect to the opening of Emergency Shelters. Government Ministries are in transition, where only essential staff who were engaged in the Ministry's Emergency Plan and those working NEMO duties should be in office, or as directed by their CEO in accordance with their Ministry Emergency Plan.

#### COVID 19 SHELTER PROTOCOLS:

- All persons in high-risk coastal areas are reminded that IF the need arose for them to evacuate and they were: (1) not COVID positive, (2) not in quarantine, (3) not awaiting a test result or (4) being contact-traced, and (5) not showing symptoms, they should move early. Persons in shelters were required to wear a mask.
- The elderly and persons with underlying health conditions must not occupy the same space with normal persons. Persons showing symptoms will be contained in a separate section of the shelter building.
- Hand washing /sanitizing must be done before entering a shelter. Shelter Wardens will allocate shelter space. Social distance must be adhered to and shelters must be sanitized on a regular basis.
- Shelter Managers must monitor and correct hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette. The Ministry of Health (MoH) will conduct daily monitoring of shelters to detect people who are sick and showing signs of COVID19. The Shelter Management Team (Public Officers/Volunteers) MUST use PPE.