

Urgent – Marine Weather Message

Small Craft Warning

Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Services

6:40 PM Friday 15 July 2022

...Small craft warning goes into effect tonight for Antigua and Barbuda...

Locations to be affected: Especially open Atlantic waters.

Timing: Midnight tonight until 2 am Sunday.

Synopsis: Fresh to strong and gusty winds are expected to cause a combination of wind waves and wind swells to reach hazardous levels, especially in open waters on the Atlantic sides of the islands. The threat level to the life, livelihood, property and infrastructure of mariners is forecast to remain high, and there is the potential for extensive impacts. A small craft warning means that wind speeds of 41 km/h or higher (22 knots or higher) and or wind waves and or wind swells of 2.7 metres (9 feet) or greater are occurring or imminent.

Winds over open waters: East at 26 to 41 km/h (14 to 22 knots; 16 to 25 mph), with strong gusts to around 63 km/h (34 knots; 39 mph).

Seas (significant wave heights): 2 to 2.7 metres (6 to 9 feet), occasionally or locally reaching near 3.5 metres (12 feet). **Wind waves and or wind swells:** 2 to 2.7 metres or 6 to 9 feet and occasionally higher. The dominant wind wave period is 6 to 9 seconds.

Potential impacts: Loss of life; injuries; capsize or damage or loss of vessels and marine equipment; sea search and rescue disruptions; cancellations to sea transportation; scarcity of seafood; cancellation to marine recreation and businesses and economic losses.

Caution: Small craft operators should stay in or near port, seek safe harbour, alter course, and/or secure their vessels from severe conditions.

Please continue to monitor these hazardous, life-threatening marine conditions. Stay tuned to updates coming out of the Met Office via antiguamet.com, facebook.com/abmetservice and twitter.com/abmetservice

Forecaster: Dale Destin