

Urgent – Marine Weather Message

Small Craft Advisory

Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Services

11:55 PM Wednesday 22 July 2020

A small craft advisory goes into effect for the waters of Antigua, Barbuda, Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands in the next 24 hours.

Locations (to be) affected: Open waters, mainly on the Atlantic side of the islands.

Timing: Thursday night until Sunday.

Synopsis: Hazardous seas, due to fresh winds resulting from a relatively tight pressure gradient is expected to cause a moderate to high threat level with the potential of significant to extensive impact to the life and property of mariners. A warning may be required for some areas late Friday and or Saturday.

Winds: East at 22 to 37 km/h (12 to 20 knots; 14 to 23 mph), with strong gusts to around 56 km/h (30 knots; 35 mph).

Seas (significant wave heights): 2 to near 3 metres (6 to 9 feet), occasionally or locally reaching over 3.5 metres (12 feet). Dominant wind wave period is 6 to 9 seconds.

Impacts (possible/likely/expected): Loss of life at sea; injuries to mariners; financial losses; disruption of fisheries and scarcity of fish products and disruption to marine transportation.

Precautionary/preparedness actions: A small craft advisory means that wind speeds of 21 to 33 knots and or wind waves and or wind swells of 7 feet or greater are expected to produce hazardous wave conditions to small crafts. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels should avoid navigating in these conditions.

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

Forecaster: Dale Destin