

Hurricane Igor & Tropical Storm Julia

As of 5 AM EDT Monday Hurricane Igor was centered about 940 miles east of the northern Leeward Islands with top winds of 150 mph. Large and powerful Igor is moving west at 13 mph.

Hurricane Igor rapidly intensified to a category 4 on the Saffir-Simpson hurricane wind scale Sunday. Even though the intensity leveled off overnight additional strengthening is still possible over the next few days. Igor could become the first category 5 hurricane since Hurricane Felix in the Caribbean Sea in September 2007. Igor should continue to move west, gradually turning towards the west-northwest on Tuesday. Igor is not a threat to any land areas for the foreseeable future. **TROPICAL STORM JULIA** As of 5 AM EDT Tropical Storm Julia was located about 30 miles south-southwest of the southernmost Cape Verde Islands with maximum sustained winds of 40 mph. Julia is moving toward the west-northwest at 13 mph. This motion should continue Monday with a turn toward the northwest with a decrease in forward speed is expected on Tuesday. Tropical Storm Julia is making its closest pass to the southernmost Cape Verde Islands this morning and should move away from the islands later this afternoon and tonight. A tropical storm warning has been issued for the southern Cape Verde Islands including Maio, Sao Tiago, Fogo and Brava. Tropical storm conditions are expected to last into the afternoon with gradually improving conditions this evening. Rainfall of 2 to 4 inches and locally up to 8 inches are expected which could cause life-threatening flash floods and mudslides. After Julia moves west of the Cape Verde Islands Monday night it would not be a threat to any other land areas through at least late week. Additional steady strengthening is forecast during the next couple of days. Julia could become a hurricane Tuesday.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN A trough of low pressure over the central Caribbean Sea produces numerous showers and thunderstorms over western Haiti, eastern Cuba and Jamaica today. This system currently lacks a well defined circulation. Environmental conditions are conducive for slow development as the disturbance moves toward the western Caribbean Sea tonight and Tuesday. Interests along the Yucatan Peninsula and Central America should monitor the progress of the system as it approaches Tuesday night and Wednesday. **PACIFIC OCEAN** The Pacific Ocean is void of any tropical cyclones.