



**NOAA** NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Central Pacific Hurricane Center, Honolulu, HI  
Contact Person: Mike Cantin, 808-973-5275

### **Hurricane Awareness Week: Marine Safety and Flooding**

During Hurricane Awareness Week 2012 the Central Pacific Hurricane Center will share a series of statements regarding tropical cyclones and their various threats to the State of Hawaii. Today's topic: Marine safety and flooding.

Being on or near the water during a hurricane is just about the most dangerous place you can be. Flash flooding caused by these storms is the number one weather related killer for tropical cyclones. In other words, more people are killed by flooding during hurricanes than by any other weather phenomena.

Tropical cyclones can drop many inches of rainfall over a short period of time, with rainfall intensity rates over 4 inches per hour. These intense rainfall rates lead to rapid rises in streams and rivers with flood related inundation very likely. Anyone residing near streams or other bodies of water during a hurricane should be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice. In addition, never drive or walk through flood waters. Turn around, don't drown.

Like their counterparts on land, mariners should do all they can to prepare for hurricanes. When it comes to the water it is best to avoid being in the vicinity of a tropical cyclone. Mariners should keep a close eye on the weather both when planning trips and while at sea. Tropical cyclone forecasts are available while away from shore via a radiofax transmission.

Keep in mind that there are errors associated with tracking a tropical cyclone. Storms can change course and intensity with little notice. When planning your safe route around the storm, keep in mind that the actual storm track will very likely vary from the forecasted track.

For more information about mariner safety during a hurricane go to:

[http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/HAW/marine\\_safety.php](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/HAW/marine_safety.php)



Central Pacific Hurricane Center, Honolulu, HI  
2525 Correa Rd. Suite 250, Honolulu, HI  
808-973-5270 (office) 808-973-5271 (fax)