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WHCA31 TAPA TROPICAL STORM JERRY ALERT STATEMENT ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES 5:30 PM ECT WED, SEP 18, 2019

THIS IS FOR THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS.

AT 500 PM AST (2100 UTC), THE CENTER OF TROPICAL STORM JERRY WAS LOCATED NEAR LATITUDE 15.0 NORTH, LONGITUDE 50.5 WEST OR 750 MILES EAST-SOUTHEAST OF THE LEEWARDS AND 960 EAST-SOUTHEAST OF THE BVI'S

JERRY IS MOVING TOWARD THE WEST-NORTHWEST NEAR 15 MPH (24 KM/H). A WEST-NORTHWEST MOTION AT A SLIGHTLY FASTER FORWARD SPEED IS EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS. ON THE FORECAST TRACK, THE CENTER OF JERRY WILL BE NEAR OR NORTH OF THE NORTHERN LEEWARD ISLANDS FRIDAY AND THE NORTHERN BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS ON EARLY SATURDAY.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS HAVE INCREASED TO NEAR 60 MPH (95 KM/H) WITH HIGHER GUSTS. JERRY IS FORECAST TO BECOME A HURRICANE ON THURSDAY, WITH LITTLE CHANGE IN STRENGTH ANTICIPATED ON FRIDAY OR SATURDAY.

TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 45 MILES (75 KM) FROM THE CENTER.

BASED ON THE LATEST INFORMATION, JERRY CONTINUES ON A PATH WHICH WILL TAKE IT NORTH OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS ON FRIDAY AS A HURRICANE. BECAUSE OF THE UNCERTAINTY OF ITS EVENTUAL TRACK, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT JERRY COULD STILL TAKE A PATH CLOSER TO THE NORTHERN LEEWARDS AND AS A RESULT, A TROPICAL STORM WATCH MAY BE ISSUED FOR SPECIFIC ISLANDS AT 8 PM THIS EVENING. RESIDENTS OF THE LEEWARDS AND BVI SHOULD REVIEW THEIR HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PLANS AND BE PREPARED TO ACT IN THE EVENT THAT A TRACK CLOSER TO THE ISLANDS IS REALIZED.

ALL RESIDENTS ARE URGED TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF JERRY CLOSELY.

REPEATING THE 5 PM ECT POSITION, 15.0 N, 50.5 W. MOVEMENT TOWARD THE WEST-NORTHWEST NEAR 15 MPH. MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS ARE NEAR 60 MPH. THE MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE IS 1000MB.

THE NEXT ADVISORY WILL BE AT 8 PM ECT