

AVMA Situation Report 2 – Hurricane Frances

Date: 9/3/04

Location: Southeast Florida

VMAT Update:

22 VMAT members are on their way to a staging area in Southern Pines, North Carolina. The VMAT will most likely be deployed to Florida just after Hurricane Frances hits to assist the local veterinary community. Additional information will be posted as it becomes available once VMAT is deployed.

For information on how you can help support VMAT and animal disaster preparedness, please visit www.avmf.org.

For more information on VMAT and to learn how you and your clients can prepare for disasters visit www.avma.org/disaster.

Incident Update:

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/storm/content/weather/special/storm/2004/atlantic/frances/news.html>

Most of Florida's east coast nailed plywood over windows, idled in line for gas and fled coastal areas by the hundreds of thousands as powerful Hurricane Frances, twice as big as brother Charley of three weeks ago, slowed every so slightly.

Across the state, 2.5 million Floridians are under evacuation orders, the largest number in state history.

BULLETIN

HURRICANE FRANCES ADVISORY NUMBER 40
NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL
5 PM EDT FRI SEP 03 2004
FORECASTER AVILA

...OUTER SQUALLS OF DANGEROUS HURRICANE FRANCES MOVING OVER THE FLORIDA EAST COAST...WEATHER SHOULD BEGIN TO DETERIORATE GRADUALLY...

A HURRICANE WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR THE EAST COAST OF FLORIDA FROM FLORIDA CITY NORTHWARD TO FLAGLER BEACH...INCLUDING LAKE OKEECHOBEE. A HURRICANE WARNING ALSO REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR THE NORTHWESTERN BAHAMAS.

A HURRICANE WARNING MEANS THAT HURRICANE CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED WITHIN THE WARNING AREA WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS. PREPARATIONS TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY SHOULD BE RUSHED TO COMPLETION.

AT 5 PM EDT...2100Z...A TROPICAL STORM WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED FROM NORTH OF FLAGLER BEACH NORTHWARD TO FERNANDINA BEACH. A HURRICANE WATCH AND A TROPICAL STORM WARNING ARE NOW IN EFFECT FROM NORTH OF FLAGLER BEACH NORTHWARD TO FERNANDINA BEACH.

A TROPICAL STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR THE MIDDLE AND UPPER FLORIDA KEYS FROM SOUTH OF FLORIDA CITY SOUTHWARD TO THE SEVEN MILE

BRIDGE...INCLUDING FLORIDA BAY.

FRANCES HAS BEEN WOBBLING BUT IN GENERAL IS MOVING TOWARD THE WEST-NORTHWEST NEAR 8 MPH...13 KM/HR. A WEST-NORTHWEST TO NORTHWESTWARD MOTION WITH SOME DECREASE IN FORWARD SPEED IS EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 24 HOURS. ON THIS TRACK...THE CORE OF HURRICANE FRANCES WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE NEAR OR OVER THE NORTHWESTERN BAHAMAS TODAY AND WILL BE NEAR THE FLORIDA COAST ON SATURDAY.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS ARE NEAR 115 MPH...185 KM/HR. WITH HIGHER GUSTS. SOME FLUCTUATIONS IN INTENSITY ARE FORECAST DURING THE NEXT 24 HOURS.

HURRICANE FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 85 MILES...140 KM ..FROM THE CENTER...AND TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS EXTEND OUTWARD UP TO 185 MILES...295 KM.

MINIMUM CENTRAL PRESSURE REPORTED BY A HURRICANE HUNTER PLANE WAS 959 MB...28.32 INCHES.

STORM SURGE FLOODING OF 6 TO 14 FEET ABOVE NORMAL TIDE LEVELS...ALONG WITH DANGEROUS BATTERING WAVES...CAN BE EXPECTED NEAR THE EYE OF FRANCES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND. STORM SURGE FLOODING OF 4 TO 6 FEET ABOVE NORMAL TIDE LEVELS CAN BE EXPECTED ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE OTHER ISLANDS OF THE BAHAMAS. COASTAL STORM SURGE FLOODING OF 4 TO 5 FEET ABOVE NORMAL TIDE LEVELS...ALONG WITH LARGE AND DANGEROUS BATTERING WAVES...CAN BE EXPECTED NEAR AND TO THE NORTH OF WHERE THE CENTER MAKES LANDFALL IN FLORIDA. STORM SURGE FLOODING OF 6 FEET ABOVE NORMAL LAKE WATER LEVEL IS EXPECTED IN LAKE OKEECHOBEE.

RAINFALL AMOUNTS OF 7 TO 12 INCHES...LOCALLY AS HIGH AS 20 INCHES...ARE POSSIBLE IN ASSOCIATION WITH FRANCES.

SWELLS GENERATED BY FRANCES WILL BE AFFECTING PORTIONS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN COAST OF THE UNITED STATES. THESE SWELLS COULD CAUSE DANGEROUS SURF AND RIP CURRENTS.