



Hurricane Conditions (HURCONs)

Hurricanes are organized systems of strong thunderstorms with a defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 64 knots (74 mph) or more.

Hurricane conditions indicate when the forecast winds will be **sustained 50 knots or greater**.

- **HURCON 5** – Destructive winds are possible **within 96 hours**.
 - Initiate preparations for aircraft evacuation. For tropical storm or higher, initiate evacuation preparations for all aircraft, as appropriate, and non-essential personnel.
 - Appoint and equip Hurricane Essential Teams (HET) as required.
- **HURCON 4** – Destructive winds are possible **within 72 hours**.
 - Aircraft evacuation initiated. Begin preparatory actions. Declare L-hour. Initiate non-flyable aircraft hanging/mooring procedures.
 - Determine if TAFB evacuation is required based upon arrival of 50kt/57mph winds and projected storm intensity. Activate HET, perform 100% accountability for all personnel.
- **HURCON 3** – Destructive winds are possible **within 48 hours**.
 - Launch Aircraft (L-Hour), aircraft evacuation completed (within first 18 hours).
 - Issue recommend/mandatory evacuation order via ICCD. Begin facility and equipment beddown.
- **HURCON 2** – Destructive winds are possible **within 24 hours**.
 - All aircraft and personnel (except “ride-out” members) evacuation completed.
 - Pre-identified essential personnel will remain in place as needed in order to receive/launch any CONR-1AF(AFNORTH) aircraft that may arrive after non-essential personnel have been released/evacuated. Decide whether to evacuate or shelter Base Recovery Element (BRE). BRE teams will evacuate at the direction of the Ride Out Element (ROE)/CC only if a Category 3 hurricane, or higher, is predicted to make landfall at TAFB.
- **HURCON 1** – Destructive winds are possible **within 12 hours**. Seek shelter.
- **HURCON 1C** – **Caution:** Winds of 40-57 mph/35-49 kts sustained are occurring.
- **HURCON 1E** – **Emergency:** Winds of 58mph/50kts sustained and/or gusts of 69mph/60 kts, or greater, are occurring.
- **HURCON 1R** – **Recovery:** Destructive winds have subsided and are no longer forecast to occur; survey and work crews are permitted to determine extent of the damage and to establish safe zones around hazards (e.g. downed power lines, unstable structures). Non-essential personnel are asked to remain indoors. HETs will conduct necessary actions to safely and systematically close and re-open Tyndall AFB after a hurricane or hurricane-like event.
- **All clear** – Hurricane conditions are terminated.

EVACUATION		VOLUNTARY	MANDATORY
Applies To		Non-Mission Essential Personnel	All with the exception of the ROE/BRE
Duty Status		Must take leave	TDY status/Admin leave
Entitlements	Mil	No entitlements paid	Yes, paid travel and per diem
	Civ/Dep		Yes, if approved by the FW/CC



Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

Storm Category	Wind Speed		Potential Damage/Effects
	Knots	MPH	
Hurricane Cat I	64-82	74-95	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage: Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
Hurricane Cat II	83-95	96-110	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage: Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
Hurricane Cat III	96-112	111-129	Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
Hurricane Cat IV	113-136	130-156	Catastrophic damage will occur: Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
Hurricane Cat V	Above 137	Above 157	Devastating/Catastrophic damage will occur: A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.