

Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle (AL072013)

Event Briefing

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1 INTRODUCTION

On 4 September 2013, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) produced a weather outlook on a tropical depression forming south of Puerto Rico. This tropical depression became Tropical Storm Gabrielle while located 70 miles (110 km) south of Ponce, Puerto Rico. Gabrielle brought heavy rains to Puerto Rico and adjacent islands. By the following day, Gabrielle was downgraded to a depression about 80 miles (170 km) west southwest of Ponce, Puerto Rico. This system continued to weaken and Gabrielle dissipated by the end of the day.

Gabrielle regenerated into a tropical storm about 185 miles (300 km) south of Bermuda on 10 September 2013. Throughout the day, the winds increased to 60 mph (95 km/h) as Gabrielle strengthened while approaching Bermuda.

The centre of Gabrielle passed 40 miles (65 km/h) west southwest of Bermuda in the morning of 11 September 2013. As the system drifted westward, the wind speed of Gabrielle slowly weakened to 35mph (55 km/h) and was downgraded to a tropical depression by the end of the day.

2 CCRIF MODEL OUTPUTS

Under CCRIF's loss calculation protocol, a CCRIF Multi-Peril Risk Estimation System (MPRES) report is required for any tropical cyclone affecting at least one of the 16 member countries with winds of greater than 39 mph. Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle qualified as a reportable event with Bermuda experiencing Tropical Storm force winds.

The wind footprint (Figure 1) is one of the outputs from the CCRIF model. The modelled wind speed is consistent with surface wind speed estimates from NOAA-NHC. CCRIF will also be requesting ground-based wind and other storm information from the relevant national and/or regional meteorological agencies in order to further verify the modelled wind field and storm surge.

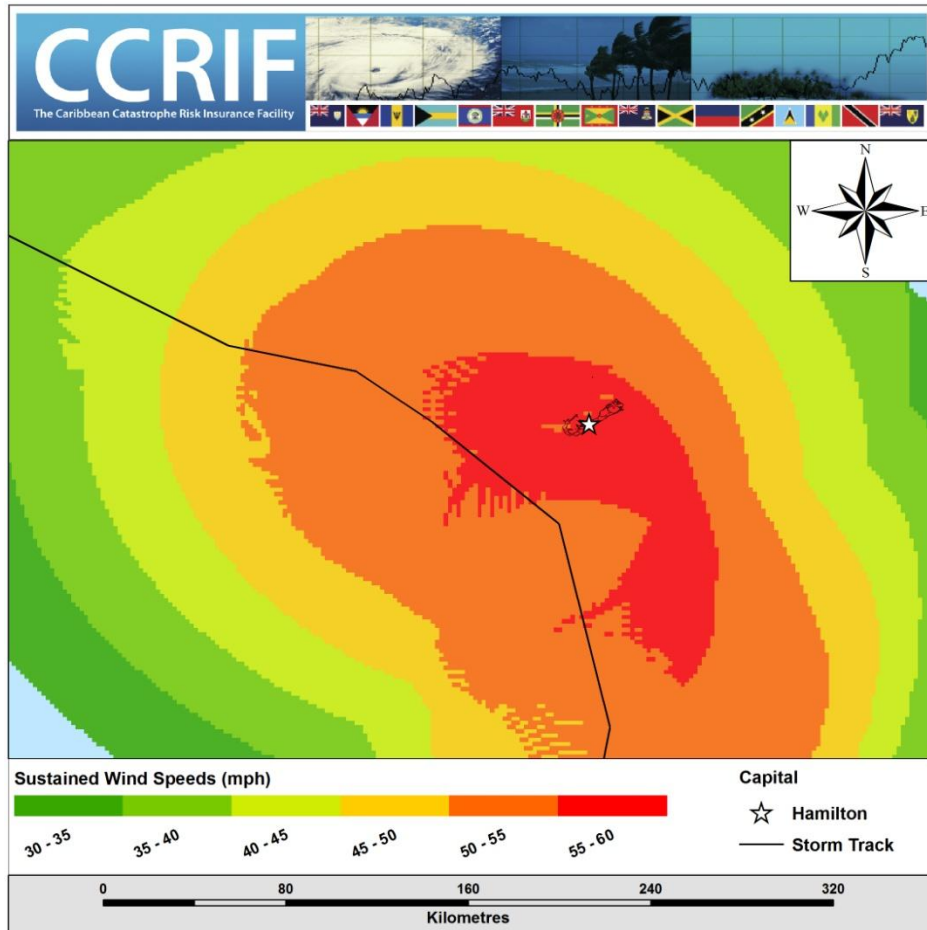


Figure 1 Map showing Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle affecting Bermuda. *Source: NHC & CCRIF/KAC MPRES.*

3 IMPACTS

Based on the MPRES footprint, Bermuda was the only CCRIF member country affected by at least Tropical Storm force winds from Gabrielle. There were reports of power outage and some flooding on the island.

These reports are corroborated by preliminary runs of the CCRIF loss model that generated government losses which were below Bermuda's trigger level and therefore no payout is due.