Annex B: American Samoa

A. PURPOSE: The purpose of this Annex is to give specific heavy weather information for American Samoa.

B. GENERAL: The seven islands of American Samoa are part of a chain of islands 350 miles long. The five high islands are characterized by fertile valleys and hills, and in parts are densely forested. The islands are periodically subjected to severe cyclones. Being in the Southern Hemisphere, the Cyclone (Hurricane) season in American Samoa is opposite from Hawaii. It runs from **1 November through 30 April**.

Sector Honolulu operates a Marine Safety Unit (MSU) in American Samoa. It is a subordinate command to Sector Honolulu, has 4 members, and is commanded by a Lieutenant. The contact phone numbers are:

Office	684-633-2299
FAX	684-633-1933
Sup Cell	684-258-7001

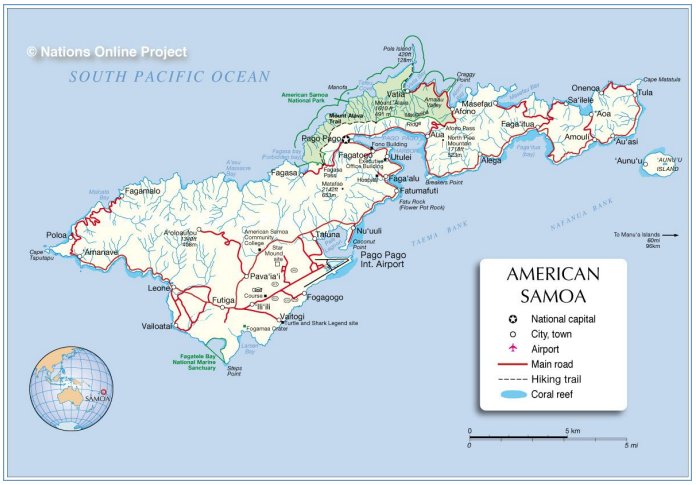


Figure B-1: American Samoa

1. Tutuila and Aunu'u

Tutuila, the largest of the seven islands, is 16 miles long and from 2 to 6 miles wide for a total area of 52 square miles. A densely wooded mountain range runs the length of the island and the highest peak is 2,141 feet. The capital city Pago Pago is located in about the middle of the island at the head of Pago Pago Harbor. Most of the southern shore is accessible by road, but most of the northern shore is not. Aunu'u is a small island about one mile in diameter and a mile off the eastern end of Tutuila.

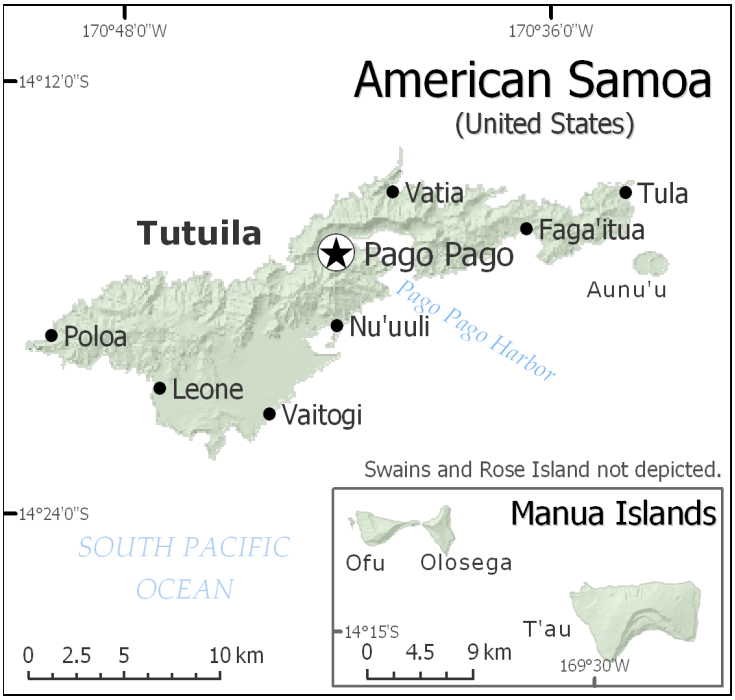


Figure B-2: Tutuila and Aunu'u Islands (14º18'S, 179º42'W)

2. <u>Manu'a Islands</u>

The Manu'a Islands is a cluster of three islands located east of Tutuila Island.

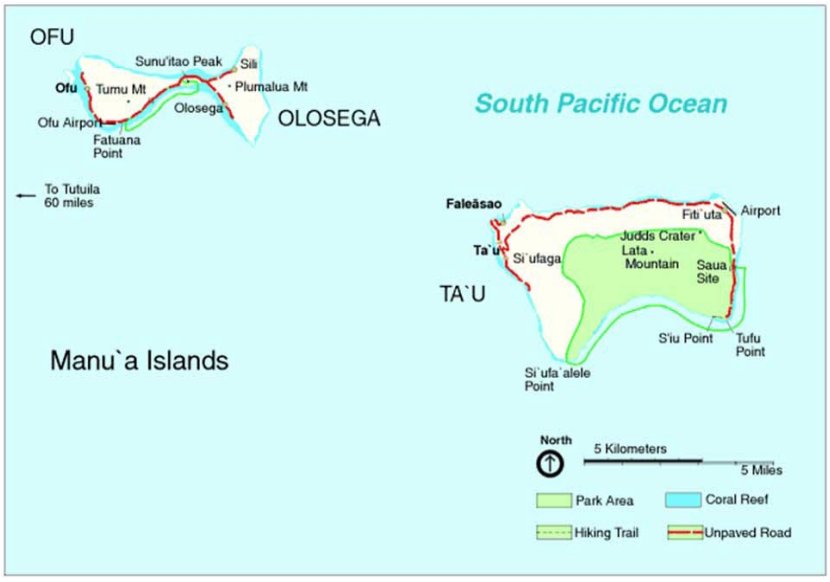


Figure B-3: Manu'a Islands (14º12'S, 169º0'W)

3. Ta'u

Ta'u Island is a rectangular island about 6 miles long and 2 to 4 miles wide for a total area of 17 square miles. The central peak is 3,170 feet high. The road runs only along the northern shore.

Figure B-4: Ta'u Island (14º14'S, 169º30'W)

4. Ofu and Olosega

Ofu and Olosega Islands are respectively 3 1/4 and 2 1/2 miles in their longest dimension and 1,621 and 2,095 feet high respectively. About half of their shoreline is accessible by road. These two islands are separated only by a narrow channel, and are about 7 1/2 miles to the northwest of Ta'u.

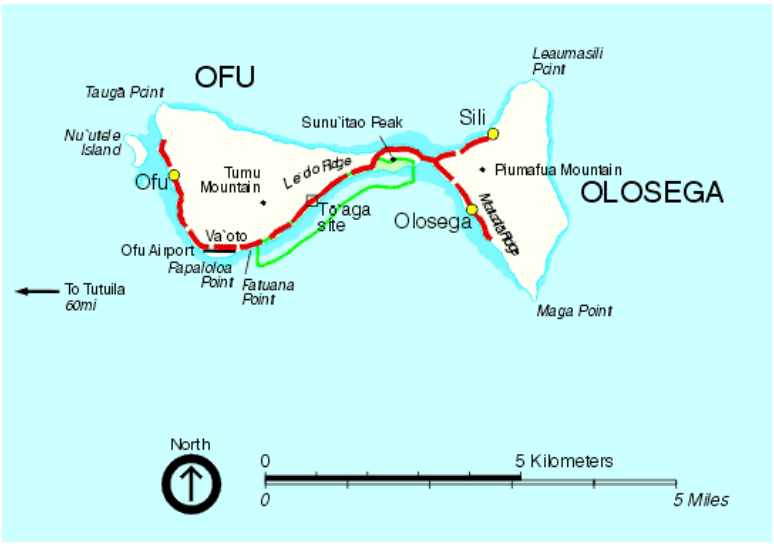


Figure B-5: Ofu and Olosega Islands (14º11'S, 169º40'W)

5. Swains Island

Swains Island is a low island about a mile and a half across. The highest point is about 25 feet (top of trees is about 100 feet). There is a shallow lagoon in the center of the island.

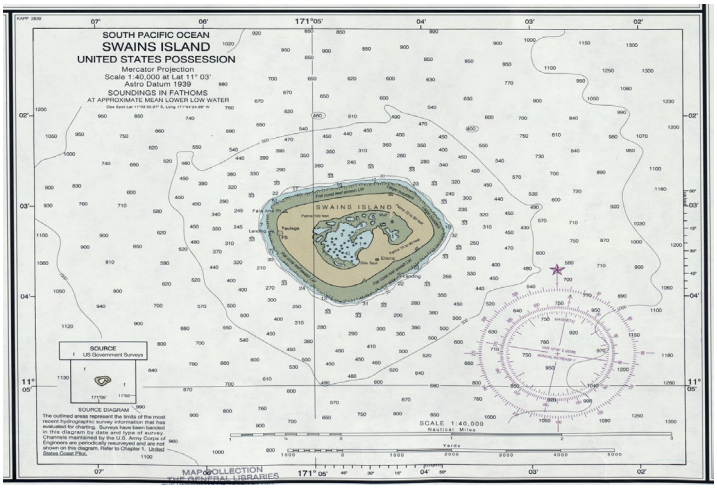


Figure B-6: Swains Island (11º04'S, 171º05'W)

6. Rose Atoll

Rose Atoll is one of the world's smallest atolls at less than 2 miles in diameter. There are two low sandy islets in the atoll (Rose Island with 18 acres and Sand Island with 2 acres), and the highest point (tops of palm trees) is about 65 feet. The atoll has been a National Wildlife Refuge since 1973, and the refuge boundary is the seaward low water mark and extends across the mouth of the main channel into the lagoon.

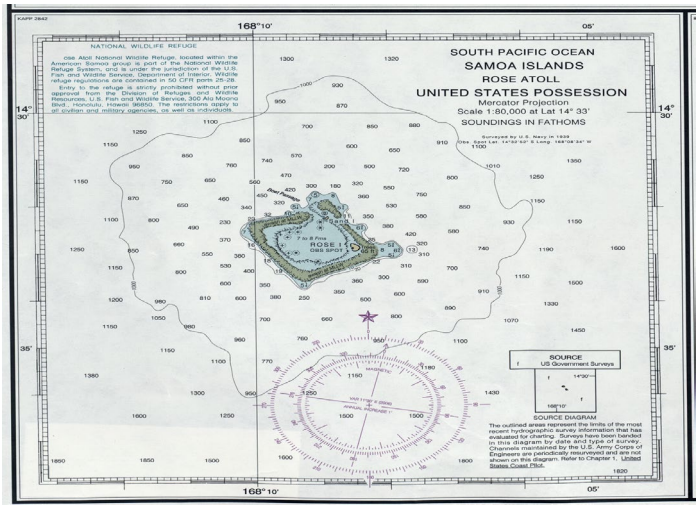


Figure B-7: Rose Atoll (14º33'S, 168º09'W)

C. COMMAND

MSU Samoa response organization may be structured in various ways according to the severity of the incident and possible external requirements. The organization may retain its standard department structure, adopt a unit ICS structure, and become a part of USCG Sector Honolulu's ICS structure, or any combination that fits the emergency. A possible ICS organization chart is included as Figure 4 in Section 2 of the Natural Disaster Plan.

Command Posts: The MSU Command Post will remain at the MSU unless the unit is damaged beyond reasonable use or is expected to be damaged beyond reasonable use. The second choice for a Command Post is at the Territorial EOC, located near the Pago, Pago International Airport.

D. RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EXECUTION CHECKLIST

The following checklists are organized chronologically with Preparatory, Storm, Response and Recovery phases.

Port Heavy Weather Conditions

Port Heavy Weather Conditions are set by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COTP) Pago Pago for commercial ports and are used to manage port restrictions needed to protect life, vessels, facilities, and the environment. National Weather Service products assist in determining timelines for the setting of Port Conditions. Port Conditions will adjust for each specific commercial port as the threat of severe weather increases.

Port Heavy Weather Conditions will be provided simultaneously with specific requirements to port stakeholders via Marine Transportation System Recovery Unit (MTSRU) phone calls or emails, Marine Safety Information Bulletins, Broadcast Notice to Mariners on VHF-16 and 22A, and Coast Guard HOMEPORT website postings.

Port Conditions are set contingent upon the storm's course and speed. ***Should the storm increase in speed, Port Conditions may be accelerated.***

Tropical Storm Force Wind Arrival	PORT CONDITIONS
SEASONAL ALERT (Nov 1-Apr 30)	N/A
72 HOURS	WHISKEY
48 HOURS	X-RAY
24 HOURS	YANKEE
12 HOURS	ZULU

Whiskey & X-Ray

Tropical Storm Force Winds (39 mph) are expected within 72/48 hours.

To enter, transit, or remain within the port, vessels must comply with the following requirements:

1) The COTP **may** restrict the operations of, or deny entry into the port to, vessels carrying oil or certain hazardous materials as cargo. The COTP will seek to minimize the number of vessels >200 GTs in port. Operators of vessels >200 GTs wishing to remain in port must submit a mooring plan to the Coast Guard and American Samoa Port Administration (AMSAM PA), if they want to moor at a State owned or operated harbor.

2) The COTP, in consultation with AMSAM PA, will review each request to remain in port on a case-by-case basis. Requests to remain in port can be found through AMSAM PA website (*Harbor Movement Request*). These requests should also be emailed to: SecHonoMTSRU@uscg.mil MSUAmericanSamoa@uscg.mil

3) Vessels with permission to remain in port should be moored to piers designed to moor vessels of their respective size during heavy weather. Open areas of piers should be cleared of possible debris hazards. Timely correction of hazardous conditions may significantly eliminate or reduce the loss of life and property damage during heavy weather.

4) Vessel transits will be permitted so long as it is safe under forecasted weather conditions.

5) At Port Heavy Weather Condition X-Ray all vessels should prepare to complete cargo operations and depart port within 36 hours. Early coordination with Harbor Pilots is essential during port evacuations.

Yankee

Tropical Storm Force Winds (39 mph) are expected within 24 hours.

In addition to the requirements of Port Condition X-Ray, the below are in effect:

1) Port is closed to incoming traffic without specific approval of COTP. Unless specifically approved by the COTP, cargo operations must stop within the next 12 hours and lightering and bunkering are to cease.

2) The USCG works closely with AMSAM PA through the MTSRU for vessel movements. Vessel operators are encouraged to coordinate with AMSAM PA through the MTSRU to make arrangements in advance to remain in port.

3) If vessels or facilities refuse to follow the COTP safety recommendations or fail to make adequate preparations, the COTP will issue orders to require appropriate actions.

4) A safety zone may be enforced to close harbor entry for harbor(s) within the COTP zone when Port Condition Yankee is set, restricting vessel entry, and will remain in effect until terminated by the COTP.

Zulu

Tropical Storm Force Winds (39 mph) are expected within 12 hours.

In addition to the requirements of Port Condition Yankee, the below are in effect:

1) Port is closed.

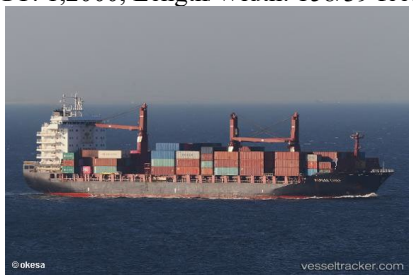
2) No terminal, facility or vessel operations are permitted and any vessel entering or transiting within the port without specific COTP permission.

Recovery

Port re-opening will be closely coordinated by the MTSRU to reduce the risk of damage to vessels, and to assess the conditions of channels, piers, aids to navigation, waterfront facilities, or other infrastructure.

EXAMPLES of Vessels over 200 GTs

LADY SAMOA IV Passenger Ferry.
GT: 1,2000, Length/Width: 158/39 feet



PAPUAN CHIEF. Container ship.
GT: 18,723, Length/Width: 577/92feet

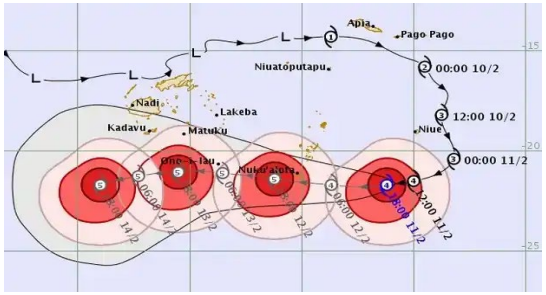
NORD VISION – Chemical tankship
GT: 29,671, Length/Width: 600/106 feet

THE WORLD. Cruise Ship
GT: 43,188, Length/Width: 644/98 feet

Hurricane Season Preparedness

The COTP will set Hurricane Season Preparedness for Hawaii from June 1st to November 30th and for American Samoa from November 1st to April 30th. Each hurricane season, port users shall take the time to review their heavy weather plans for all vessels and facilities.

Vessels will generally **NOT** be permitted to enter or remain in lay-up status for Hurricane Season.



Tropical Cyclone Gita - 2018: Illustrates a storm track prompting the progression of Port Conditions.

Recovery Activities

Storms have the potential to cause a range of damage to the port. Post storm assessments can reveal if the port suffered damage which may affect or disrupt the maritime transportation system.

The MTSRU has the sole focus on re-opening the port for after a disruption. It is primarily staffed by Coast Guard and other government personnel and is augmented by local marine industry experts and harbor stakeholders.

Captain of the Port Pago Pago

Port Heavy Weather Conditions

USCG MSU American Samoa
P.O. Box 249
Pago Pago, AS 96799
(684) 633-2299
MSUAmericanSamoa@uscg.mil

MTSRU
SecHonoMTSRU@uscg.mil

Sector Honolulu Command Center
SCCHonolulu@uscg.mil

Coast Guard HOMEPORT Website
https://homeport.uscg.mil/port-directory/honolulu

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Appendix 1 to Annex B: TC-COR V (Seasonal Alert)

DTG/INIT

_____ Review appropriate plans and references prior to December 1. Brief all hands on conditions and actions. (LT)

_____ Set up and maintain Heavy Weather status boards. Track all hurricanes and tropical storms that threaten American Samoa. Maintain storm plots using National Weather Service updates/internet; National Hurricane Center website: www.nhc.noaa.gov. Anticipate storm force winds forward of the eye of a storm. (PO)

_____ Notify the maritime community of the beginning of cyclone season. (PO)

_____ Validate all POCs as necessary prior to 1 December. Send copy of updates to SEC HONO Emergency Management Staff. (PO)

_____ Provide awareness to MSU personnel. Sponsor a heavy weather meeting to provide information on heavy weather/hurricane awareness and familiarity with MSU Heavy Weather Plan. Procure and disseminate literature on preparation for a hurricane, including information on survival supplies, food, water, alternative cooking methods, home protection, safe guarding possessions, etc. (See Red Cross or contact SEC HONO for supplies). Provide warning of dangers of flooding in low-lying near coastal locations and the need to find alternative safe housing if member lives therensure personnel are aware that high schools are also the shelters on the island. (PO)

_____ Review plans for quarters and safety of members. (LT)

_____ Inventory and replenish Heavy Weather locker provisions as necessary. Ensure sufficient inventory of flashlights and spare dry batteries. (PO)

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Appendix 2 to Annex B: TC-COR IV (72 Hour Alert)

DTG/INIT

_____ Notify SEC HONO Command Center. (LT)

_____ Notify maritime community via cellphone, email, or Channel 16. (LT)

_____ Ensure all actions for TC-COR V have been completed. (LT)

_____ Brief all hands on conditions and actions. (LT)

_____ Notify all personnel, including reserves, of current TC-COR, and update personnel status on Personnel Status Board. (PO)

_____ Evaluate need to reduce liberty or leave, plan for recall of personnel required to attain higher condition of readiness. (LT)

_____ At the end of each day, contact SEC HONO Command Center to provide POC and phone number. (LT)

_____ Establish contact and coordinate activities with American Samoa EOC: (684) 633-2331 to ensure the timely dissemination of information. EOC is located at the TEMCO office with the alternate EOC at the stadium. (LT)

_____ Ensure appropriate notifications are conducted, advising the port community of the changing conditions of readiness. (LT)

_____ Ensure lay-up facilities are adequately secured. (LT)

_____ Conduct/coordinate harbor patrols to identify potential hazardous situation. Determine locations of tank ships and LPG vessels within storm area and determine their intentions. Survey facilities to determine if any vessels will be required to leave the port prior to storm arrival. Use "Request to Remain in Port - Commercial Vessel Survey". (LT)

_____ Maintain a minimum of 75% fuel in vehicles. (PO)

_____ If CG housing inaccessible then temporary housing for unit personnel will be at a local Hotel. Contact SEC HONO for funding; obligate unit funds if necessary. (LT)

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Appendix 3 to Annex B: TC-COR III (48 Hour Readiness)

DTG/INIT

_____ Notify SEC HONO Command Center. (LT)

_____ Ensure actions for TC-COR IV have been completed. (LT)

_____ Prepare to relocate to alternate command center, TEMCO, as necessary based on predicted path and severity of the storm and ability to sustain operations in the Pago Plaza under those conditions. (LT)

_____ Review liberty schedule. Consider revisions of liberty/leave status. (LT)

_____ Remind all hands on home preparedness and general MSU procedures. (LT)

_____ Ensure that all work areas, buildings, and property are properly secured. (LT)

_____ At the end of each day, contact SEC HONO Command Center to provide POC and phone number. (LT)

_____ Notify all personnel, including reserves, of current TC-COR, and provide personnel status to maintain Personnel status board. (PO)

_____ Brief personnel on housing policies and remind personnel that the high schools serve as evacuation shelters. (PO)

_____ Monitor national weather reports for potential storms and disseminate pertinent information. (PO)

_____ Check vessel arrivals reported for next 72 hours. Update the status board. (PO)

_____ Ensure appropriate notifications are conducted, advising the port community of the changing conditions of readiness. Draft appropriate warning and email to port community. (LT)

_____ Contact all facilities and agents, advise them of condition and determine status and intentions of vessels and facilities. Update the status board. (PO)

_____ Initiate a twice-daily situation briefing for the COTP. (LT)

_____ Conduct Harbor Patrols. Inspect vessel moorings carefully and facilities for missile hazards. (PO)

_____ Fuel vehicles to 100%. (PO)

_____ Ensure emergency relief equipment is moved to a safe location if necessary. (PO)

_____ Establish 2 hour recall list of personnel essential to attain TC-COR II and TC-COR I. (PO)

_____ Ensure backup all ADP system files. (PO)

_____ Check all communications equipment. Charge all portable radios and cellular phones. (PO)

Appendix 4 to Annex B: TC-COR II (24 Hour Warning)

DTG/INIT

_____ Notify SEC HONO Command Center. (LT)

_____ Ensure actions for TC-COR III have been completed. (LT)

_____ Anticipate full closure of the port at the onset of Heavy Weather COR I. Email MSIB prohibiting commercial and private vessels from entering port. Local authority is harbormaster and/or TEMCO. (LT)

_____ Anticipate full closure of the port at the onset of TC-COR I. Closure authority is from American Samoa Port Administration. Commence vessel evasion, and if necessary, recommend government closure of port by appropriate harbor master, shipping interests, and marine terminals. (LT)

_____ Consider revisions of liberty and leave status. Recall all personnel, cancel liberty/leave and request Reserve call-up from SEC HONO as appropriate. (LT)

_____ Provide Storm Briefing to all MSU personnel. Include personnel on liberty and leave status remaining in the area. (LT)

_____ Notify all personnel, including reserves, of current TC-COR, and update Personnel status board. (PO)

_____ Ensure personnel are informed of post-storm all hands muster locations. Primary location is MSU, with the secondary location is at TEMCO. Establish and distribute the times for post-storm all hands muster. (LT)

_____ Provide general storm information and let personnel know what supplies they will need to have (radios, water, cash, etc.). Identify a particular TV and radio station to listen to for CG specific information. Remind people to look out for each other, as psychological stress levels may be high. (LT)

_____ Ensure to the maximum extent possible that all personnel keep hard hats, coveralls, steel toed boots and gloves with them. (PO)

_____ Monitor vessel movements. Anticipate no vessels will be allowed into port upon setting of TC-COR II without specific COTP approval. (LT)

_____ Contact SEC HONO Command Center at the end of day to provide POC and phone number. (LT)

_____ Prepare safety zone message for release in TC-COR I or as appropriate. (PO)

_____ Ensure Broadcast Notice to Mariners (See Appendix G) accurately reflect COTP orders/harbor closures. (LT)

_____ Update list of available tugs on status board. (PO)

_____ If appropriate authority orders evacuation, ensure preparations completed for protection of CG property prior to evacuation. (LT)

_____ Ensure all bunkering and lightering ops are terminated. (PO)

_____ As conditions apply, advise all bulk oil facilities of the need to remove oil products from lines from the fueling manifold back to the first valve inside containment, to reduce impact from possible pipeline breaks. (PO)

_____ Conduct Port Assessment/Harbor Patrols as necessary. Inspect vessel moorings carefully and facilities for missile hazards. (PO)

_____ If there is danger of flooding of the MSU, prepare for relocating the MSU Command Post to the Coast Guard housing compound. (LT)

_____ Establish and monitor communications on VHF CH 16. Additional channels may be used and are listed for informational purposes. (PO)

(a) VHF-FM freq.'s:
156.3 MHz - Channel 6 (Ship to ship SAR)
156.6 MHz - Channel 12 (Port operations ship to shore)
156.65 MHz - Channel 13 (Bridge to bridge)
156.8 MHz - Channel 16 (Distress/calling)*
157.1 MHz - Channel 22A (Vessel working)
157.15 MHz - Channel 23A (Primary CG working)*
157.05 MHz - Channel 21 (Internal CG working)
157.075 MHz - Channel 81 (CG marine environmental response)
157.175 MHz - Channel 83 (CG command & control)

(b) UHF freq.'s:
243.0 MHz - Distress
282.2 MHz – On scene joint SAR
240.6 MHz - SAR Datum Buoy
275.1 MHz - SAR Datum Buoy
381.7 MHz - Air/Surface
381.8 MHz - Air/Surface
383.9 MHz - Air/Surface*

(c) HF freq.'s:
8773.0 kHz (USB)*
2183.4 (2182) kHz - (COMMCOM Emergency comms net)
2676.4 kHz - (COMMCOM Emergency comms net)

5423.9 kHz - (CG/non-CG working)

_____ Activate and use the following communications equipment, if relocation necessary and above numbers inoperative: (PO)
(a) INMARSAT: (808) 434-1237
(b) Cellular: (684)258-7001/7002/7003/7004

_____ Recall additional personnel as necessary to maintain readiness. (LT)

_____ Ensure TAD personnel en route to Samoa are informed and have alternate plans. (PO)

_____ Park MSU vehicles as far apart as practical at TEMCO. (PO)

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Appendix 5 to Annex B: TC-COR I (12 Hour Danger)

DTG/INIT

_____ Notify SEC HONO Command Center. (LT)

_____ Ensure actions for TC-COR II have been completed. (LT)

_____ Re emphasize the location to check in after the storm is first at the MSU, if unavailable, then at the TEMCO. Establish the time and method for personnel to check-in after the storm passes. (LT)

_____ At the end of each day, contact SEC HONO Command Center to provide POC and phone number. (LT)

_____ Notify all personnel, including reserves, of current TC-COR, and update Personnel status board. Notify personnel of location, time, and method of check-in after the storm passes. (PO)

_____ Ensure Personnel Status Boards are current and all personnel are accounted for. (PO)

_____ Develop ICS for Post Storm Response & Recovery. Develop list of personnel and fill Incident Support Team billets. (LT)

_____ Make a copy of the CG-4819 (Classified Document Control Log). Keep one copy in the safe and take one copy away from unit. Note: Classified Material to remain in the unit safe (classified addendum to MSN Volume VIII.). (LT)

_____ Conduct final harbor patrol/survey to identify storm locations of all large vessels. (PO)

_____ Complete warnings to shipping and small craft. (PO)

_____ From the time TC-COR I is set until the storm has passed use extreme caution when dispatching any forces for assistance missions. (PO)

_____ Ensure appropriate notifications are conducted, advising the port community of the changing conditions of readiness. (PO)

_____ Establish communications with Emergency Management agencies as necessary. Send a representative to the EOC if appropriate. (PO)

_____ Move computer equipment to inner office space away from windows. Cover equipment with plastic or tarps. (PO)

_____ Secure all electrical systems except those associated with alarms. Secure office.

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Appendix 6 to Annex B: Response Operations

As the heavy weather reaches landfall, its course of action becomes more predictable and it usually reduces in strength. Actions and plans for staging relief operations can now be initiated and executed, respectively, since relatively safe areas and impacted areas are now known. Keep in mind that it may take a few days to a couple of weeks after the storm has passed before outside assistance arrives.

DTG/INIT

_____ If not already done, designate location of post-disaster command post. (LT)

_____ Gather personnel at post-disaster command post. Establish contact with SEC HONO Command Center as soon as possible. SEC HONO's response personnel will mobilize to America Samoa to assist with response operations. (LT)

_____ Account for all personnel, by location and status. Initiate searches for missing persons. (LT)

_____ Prepare for influx of personnel and equipment and for a heavy influx of damage assessments or relief requests. (PO)

_____ Provide SCC with a list of personnel incapacitated through injuries to themselves or their families, or loss of housing that should be replaced. (PO)

_____ Assess situation and determine whether to stand-up ICS or to continue with the standard command structure. (LT)

_____ Establish Objectives: (LT)

- _____ (a) Reconstitute Unit
- _____ (b) SAR Assistance [no action taken]
- _____ (c) Overflight survey
- _____ (d) Open Shipping Channels
- _____ (e) Stop pollution
- _____ (f) Contact inspected vessels, UPVs, UTVs and facilities.

_____ Account for all ships which remained in port, obtain status of waterfront facilities. Update status boards. (PO)

_____ Issue or re-issue Safety Zones as needed for severely damaged ports and liaison with Harbor Masters. Ensure appropriate notifications are conducted, advising the port community of port status and response operations. (PO)

_____ As operations permit, organize work parties for community assistance. Make assignments of personnel and equipment to do initial assessment of sectors.(LT)

_____ SEC HONO facilitate using CCGD14/PACAREA ATON assets as necessary to assess ATONs. (SEC HONO IMT)

_____ SEC HONO facilitate using CCGD14 assets and personnel as necessary. (IMT)

_____ Request Public Affairs Team from CCGD14 as necessary. (IMT)

_____ Request overflight of entire impacted area for initial assessment of damage if necessary. (IMT)

_____ Transmit request for resources after overflight assessment is performed. (LT)

_____ Determine and submit a prioritized needs report to SEC HONO, by any means available following post heavy weather overflight. Describe amount of damage, list of immediate needs and operational capability within 6 hours of storm passage. (LT)

_____ Send Task Forces to conduct surveys of AOR for the following: (PO)

- _____ (a) Persons and vessels in distress.
- _____ (b) Pollution.
- _____ (c) Hazards to navigation/debris.
- _____ (d) Displaced/damaged navigation aids.

_____ Send damage assessment teams to check status of port. Equip each team with a video camera if possible. (LT)

- _____ (a) Commercial and recreational harbors.
- _____ (b) Oil facilities and stored supplies. Damage may require special COTP regulations if products are to be delivered to an alternate facility.

_____ Request SEC HONO, USACE, NOAA and local pilot's associations survey commercial channels as soon as possible. (IMT)

_____ Repair and return all CG equipment and property to operational status using the following priorities. (LT)

- _____ (a) Personnel casualties;
- _____ (b) Communications;
- _____ (c) Buildings and other facilities;

_____ Return to evacuated facilities as soon as safety permits. (LT)

_____ Establish safety zones around damaged ships and/or facilities. (PO)

_____ Begin pollution cleanup as needed. Request assistance from PST if necessary. (IMT)

_____ Inspect damaged vessels. (LT)

_____ Dispatch investigation teams to vessel casualties/deaths. (LT)

_____ Monitor private industry's use of vessels for crisis evacuations. (PO)

_____ Update SEC HONO Command Center at least twice daily. Include any personnel items, address status of communications, results of damage assessment teams, request help where needed, and notable events. (PO)

_____ Consider the need to conduct a meeting with other federal, territorial, and local agencies involved in the heavy weather response operations. (LT)

_____ Restore computer systems. (PO)

_____ Secure financing for purchasing, contracting etc. (PO)

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Appendix 7 to Annex B: Recovery Operations

For the CG these are primarily rebuilding processes of our own damages. The CG overall role is minor compared to the American Samoan government and other federal agencies (FEMA). Unit to assist as necessary.

DTG/INIT

_____ Ensure CGMA funds are available. (IMT)

_____ Return to SEASONAL ALERT status if appropriate. (LT)

_____ Ensure all impacted CG personnel receive comparable CG assistance as appropriate and are aware of CG benefits and the limitations. (IMT)

_____ Compile lessons learned. (PO)

_____ Update status boards. (PO)

_____ Check in TAD personnel, assign positions, and set up berthing and transportation to sites. (PO)

_____ Check in equipment. (PO)

_____ Processes housing, travel, and damage claims. (PO)

_____ Ensure all funds expended are properly documented. (PO)

_____ Secure funding strings for personnel, equipment, supplies, berthing, food and transportation. (PO)

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