

Tropical Storm Rafael forms over eastern Caribbean Sea

Reuters

MIAMI (Reuters) - Tropical Storm Rafael formed over the eastern Caribbean Sea on Friday, triggering storm warnings for Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and several other islands, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said.

Rafael was centered about 125 miles west-southwest of the island of Dominica and was moving north-northwest at 12 miles per hour.

It had top sustained winds of 40 mph and was forecast to move on a northern path that posed no threat to the United States or the Gulf of Mexico, where U.S. oil and gas operations are clustered.

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