

# SITUATION REPORT: Typhoon WUTIP

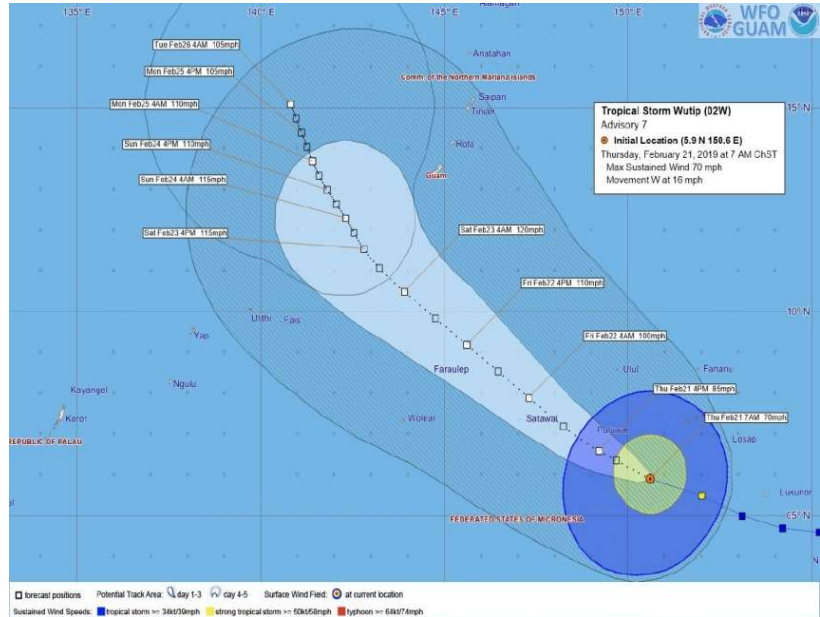
The Federated States of Micronesia | as of March 11, 2019

This report is compiled by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management in collaboration with FSM National, Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap State authorities and in-country partners. This is a compilation of Situation Reports received from the State Disaster Coordinating Offices and other partners. It covers the period from February 19 – March 11, 2019.



## Highlights

- On 22<sup>nd</sup> February, both Chuuk Governor Johnson Elimo and Yap Governor Henry Falan issued declarations of State of Emergency for various localities in their respective States due to damages caused by Typhoon Wutip. The FSM President, H.E. Peter M. Christian, issued a declaration of a National State of Emergency on the same day for affected localities in The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).
- On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Governor Johnson Elimo of Chuuk State issued a revised declaration of emergency due to the extent and severity of damages caused to infrastructure, food crops, and water source.
- Most affected islands are facing water and food security issues.
- Approximately 10,000 people have been reported to date to be affected and over 100 families displaced.
- The FSM Government has reached out to the international community for assistance on food, water and shelter.
- March 11<sup>th</sup>, the FSM President, H.E. Peter M. Christian, issued an 'Amended Emergency Declaration to do a further Declaration of Disaster' due to unfolding events and information gathered on certain islands mostly in Chuuk and Yap that sustained tremendous damages amounting to a major disaster.



Around <b>10,000</b> Affected Individuals	Over <b>90%</b> of crops reported to be destroyed in worst affected areas	Approx. <b>USD 1 MIL</b> worth of damages reported	Over <b>100</b> Families Displaced	<b>2</b> Weeks Food Assistance	Key needs: <b>Food, Water and Shelter</b>
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## Situation Overview

- 18-19 February – Special Weather Statements on a tropical disturbance southeast of Kosrae was issued by the National Weather Service alerting residents of Kosrae, Pohnpei and Chuuk to monitor the situation closely and heed instructions from local emergency management and weather service offices. Hazardous seas and surf across the region was advised.
- 18-22 February, Typhoon Wutip tracked from east to west of FSM, starting from Kosrae as a tropical disturbance. With damaging wind speeds of over 100mph, Typhoon Wutip tracked close to the Southwestern islands of Pohnpei, through the Mortlocks Islands and the Western Islands (Pattiw Islands) of Chuuk State, exiting the FSM territorial waters in the west after tracking close to some of Yap's outer islands.
- Damages have been reported across Pohnpei Main Island, the outer islands of Pohnpei (Sapwafik and Nukuoro), outer islands of Chuuk (Mortlocks Region and Northwest Region), and the outer islands of Yap (Satawal, Lamotrek, Elato, Faraulep and Piig).

- In Pohnpei, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, a Joint Assessment Team from National, State and IOM were deployed to Sapwafik and Nukuoro to verify the damages. The main damage caused especially in Nukuoro was the impact of salt water intrusion on crops.
- Damages to primary and secondary power lines were reported by Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC) to the Pohnpei Disaster Coordinating Office (DCO). Repairs are still ongoing on the secondary lines.
- According to the Pohnpei DCO a consolidated report on the damages will be submitted shortly. A state declaration might be warranted depending on the extent of damages caused.
- In Chuuk, from 20-21 February, An Executive Order was issued to activate their Command Post. On 21<sup>st</sup> February, reports started coming in of fallen trees, salt water inundation and damaged homes. Displaced families living near the shorelines were evacuated to typhoon shelters and families living further inland.
- On 26<sup>th</sup> February, a team of 13 from the State Government, IOM and Red Cross were deployed to the Pattiw Islands carrying provisions from the state (food and water). In addition, other essentials from Red Cross and IOM (Tarpaulins, Blankets, Shelter Tool Kits, Jerry Cans and R/O Units).
- On 28<sup>th</sup> February, a Joint Assessment team from State and National were deployed to the Pattiw Islands including Onoun with additional food and water assistance.
- On 26<sup>th</sup> February the Yap State DCO deployed a team of 6 personnel for assessment of affected islands. The assessment team met with island chiefs and community members to assess damage and report back to the Yap DCO for necessary provisions.
- Funding status: The National Government decreed funds up to USD200K, the Chuuk State Governor decreed funds up to USD150K and the Yap State Governor decreed funds up to USD62K. The Geographical layout of FSM, poses a logistics challenge.

## Gaps, Needs and Response:

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### Coordination

Coordination is conducted through the National and States Emergency Operation Centers (EOC). At the national level, the Cabinet Taskforce is chaired by the Secretary of DECEM. The States EOCs are chaired by the Disaster Coordinating Officers.

### Education

- In Chuuk, schools on some of the outer islands were closed due to major damages and displaced families seeking shelter at the schools.
- In the outer islands of Yap, reports came in from some of the affected islands on damages caused to the schools. Extent of damage is unknown there may be interruptions to school sessions.
- Damages to school supplies for Chuuk and Yap in the outer islands are still unknown. Assessments are still ongoing for validation.

### Food Security

- The widespread damage to crop has exacerbated the food security/livelihoods conditions of the drought affected islands as many crops were inundated salt water.
- In Pohnpei, the outer island of Nukuoro experienced salt water inundation to its main crop. Over 90% was damaged according to the assessment conducted by the National, State and IOM team.
- In Chuuk, over 90% of crops in the Northwest and Mortlocks Regions were damaged by strong winds and salt water inundation.
- The main crops (Taro) in the Northwest and Mortlocks Regions were reported as rotten and inedible. They were able to salvage some to last a week.
- In Yap, according to the first team that was deployed, food crops have minor damages.
- Collectively, all of the affected areas, especially in Chuuk and Pohnpei, will face long-term food insecurity.
- In Chuuk, the 1<sup>st</sup> Response Team distributed Food Assistance to the Pattiw Islands on 26<sup>th</sup> February. Another scheduled delivery is set for the 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**Northwest Region: Shipped out on 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Island	Rice	Ramen	Canned Meat
Houk	200 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Pullap	200 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Tamatam	200 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Puluwat	200 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Onoun	200 sacks	N/A	75 cases

**Upper Mortlocks: Shipped out on 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Island	Rice	Ramen	Canned Meat
Nama	100 sacks	150 cases	50 cases
Losap	100 sacks	150 cases	50 cases
Piisemwar	100 sacks	150 cases	50 cases

**Mid Mortlocks: Shipped out on the 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Island	Rice	Ramen	Canned Meat
Namoluk	200 sacks	150 cases	75 cases

**Lower Mortlocks: Scheduled to Ship out on 11<sup>th</sup> March**

Island	Rice	Ramen	Canned Meat
Ettal	200 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Moch	150 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Kuutu	250 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Satowan	150 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Ta	250 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Oneop	250 sacks	300 cases	75 cases
Lekinioch	150 sacks	300 cases	75 cases

**Health**

- In Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap Main and outer islands, there were no reports of major injuries and fatalities.
- In Yap, reports of damages to dispensaries were submitted. Medicines were part of the relief assistance being sent to affected areas.
- Despite no major injuries and fatalities being reported, possibility of sickness outbreaks (communicable diseases) due to lack of drinking water and fresh water (refer to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) is high in the affected islands.

**Infrastructure**

- All affected States have reported damage to infrastructure, including Schools, Dispensaries, Community Halls and Churches. Damages reported range from minor to total destroyed.
- In Pohnpei, primary and secondary lines were affected. Until today, they are still working on the secondary lines.
- The Joint Damage Assessments are still ongoing; the accurate assessment on infrastructure is still forthcoming in all affected states.

**Shelter**

- In Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap, all affected areas have reported main dwellings that have damages raging from minor to total destroyed.
- The Schools, Community Halls and Gymnasiums (only selected islands have one) in the outer islands of Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap are being used for shelter.
- Most of the outer islands are still using out-houses for restrooms. Reports indicated that a lot of out-houses were damaged.

- Not all of the shelters have proper restrooms to accommodate the displaced families.
- Shelters are not providing food and water. Provisions are being distributed by the government.
- Security is also a concern when many people are housed in small buildings.
- The shelters are temporary housings for short term use, especially the schools.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- In Chuuk State, water sources on the islands of Houk, Puluwat, Tamatam and Pulap are no longer drinkable. Their water source, catchment and shallow wells are deemed contaminated by salt water spray from high winds and sea water inundation.
- The Mortlocks Region has also reported contaminated water sources, no longer drinkable.
- In Yap State, the residents of the islands of Satawal, Lamotrek, Elato, Faraulep and Piig are in need of water assistance. Drinking water sources will soon be exhausted.
- All of the states have reported contamination and limited fresh water resources, all the affected islands are expected to face sanitation and hygienic problems, ranging from drinking, cooking and bathing due to no clean water.
- In Chuuk, the 1<sup>st</sup> Response Team distributed Drinking Water Assistance to the Pattiw Islands on 26<sup>th</sup> February. Another scheduled delivery is set for the 11<sup>th</sup> March.

### Pattiw Islands: Shipped out on 26<sup>th</sup> February

Island	Bottled Water
Houk	125 cases
Pulap	125 cases
Tamatam	125 cases
Puluwat	125 cases

### Mid Mortlocks: Scheduled to ship out on 11<sup>th</sup> March

Island	Bottled Water
Ettal	200 cases
Kuutu	200 cases

### Lower Mortlocks: Scheduled to ship out on 11<sup>th</sup> March

Island	Bottled Water
Satowan	100 (5 gall)
Ta	100 (5 gall)

- In Yap, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Deployment Team distributed drinking water to the following outer islands. In addition, 2 R/O Units from IOM were sent to Satawal and Lamotrek.

### Yap Outer Islands: Shipped out on 28<sup>th</sup> February

Island	Bottled Water
Satawal	81 cases
Faraulap and Piig	62 cases
Lamotrek	70 cases
Elato	50 cases

- The National Government will also be supplementing the states on Food and Water Assistance for distribution to the affected islands of Chuuk and Yap. The FSM National Government vessel, MS Caroline Voyager, is scheduled to depart on or about 13<sup>th</sup> March for relief delivery. In addition, chainsaws have also been purchased for distribution to areas most needed to clear fallen trees from public roadways and private homes.

## Logistics

- The Geographical Layout of FSM has always posed logistical challenges to assist the outer islands. The response time can take up to a week or more depending on how many islands are affected and if Patrol Boats or Ships are in use.
  - *In Pohnpei, the main island is accessible by plane, car and ship. Nukuoro is only accessible by boat.*
  - *In Chuuk, the Northwest and Mortlocks Regions are accessible by ship and some islands are also accessible by smaller planes. Onoun has the only accessible airstrip for the Northwest Region at the moment. The other airstrips in the Northwest and Mortlocks Region have huge debris that needs to be removed. The smaller airplanes cannot land.*
  - *In Yap, the affected islands are only accessible by ship.*
- Communities in the affected islands are still coping with the removal of huge fallen trees (Breadfruit and Coconuts) on their main roads and around their residential areas.
- All of the affected outer islands do not have ports or Jedi docks. If the tides are low or the currents are strong, this could cause delays in unloading relief assistance to the affected areas.
- There are 2 patrol boats and 1 vessel available for the response. Smaller vessels from the private sector are also being used. However, given the logistics challenges faced, there is a need for greater sea transport capacity.

## Responses

- In Pohnpei, the State Disaster Coordinating Team deployed their first team to do assessments on 20<sup>th</sup> February. In addition, they have sought assistance from the affected municipalities' disaster focal points to assist with the assessments for the main island.
- For Nukuoro and Sapwafik, a Joint Assessment Team from National, State and IOM was deployed on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.
- In Chuuk, their 1<sup>st</sup> Response Team was deployed on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>, a team of 13 from State, Red Cross and IOM to Pattiw Islands. The team was sent to do assessments in addition to delivering food and water supplies and other prepositioning needs from Red Cross and IOM.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Chuuk State response team was deployed for Upper Mortlocks and Nomuluk on 4<sup>th</sup> March also to do an assessment and deliver food, water supplies and prepositioning items from Red Cross and IOM.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Chuuk Response Team is also preparing for deployment for Mid and Lower Mortlocks to deliver food, water supplies and prepositioning items from Red Cross and IOM.
- Currently, Chuuk has exhausted their decreed funds and is requesting National to assist.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> National team was deployed to do Joint Damage Assessments with the state on 28<sup>th</sup> February to the Pattiw Region carrying food and water that did not make the first trip for Onoun.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> National team was sent out on 7<sup>th</sup> March, to do Joint Damage Assessment with State in the Mortlocks Region.
- In Yap, the 1<sup>st</sup> team from state was deployed on 26<sup>th</sup> February to do assessment on the affected areas with the assistance of Red Cross and IOM.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> team from Yap State was deployed on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb with Water, Medicine and other relief supplies from Red Cross and IOM.

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