



Phases of Emergency Operations on Gulf Beach

Phase One: Clear the Beach

Beach Conditions: Storm surge is projected to be 1 foot to 3 feet above the mean high tide

1. Removal of lifeguard stands, trash cans, poles, and port-a-potties from the beach; items are placed on the side of access roads until further notice.
2. Lifeguards will patrol beach by beach rescue trucks and ATVs.
3. Media is notified.

Phase Two: Close the Beach Access Roads (beach is still open, no cars)

Beach Conditions: Storm surge is projected to be 3 to 5 feet above mean high tide

1. Access roads that do not have gates will be barricaded with road closure signage and water barricades; gates will be locked at Whitecap and Access Road 3A.
2. Signage will then be flipped down at each of the access roads and parking lots. (WARNING: Dangerous Surf, Stay Out of the Water, No Lifeguards on Duty).
3. CCPD and Beach Lifeguards assist with clearing the beach of vehicles; barricades are placed in front of the access roads.
4. Beach-goers are told they can park at Windward Parking Lot, Packery Channel Boat Ramp Parking Lot and/or behind the barricades on each access road.
5. Lifeguards are no longer patrolling beach; they are on-call (with CCFD).
6. Media is notified; including local island businesses, hotels, and condos.

Phase Three: Close Windward Parking Lot, Packery Channel Boat Ramp Lot and Beach

Beach Conditions: Storm surge is projected to be 5 to 8 feet above mean high tide

1. Beach lifeguards (with the assistance of CCPD) will notify surfers and swimmers that the beach is closed and it is no longer safe to be in the water.
2. Beach-goers that are still on the beach itself, will be warned (i.e. Windward Parking Lot and Packery Channel Parking Lots).
3. Windward and Packery Channel Boat Ramp Parking Lots will be locked.
4. Lifeguards are no longer on the beach period.
5. Media is notified; including local island businesses, hotels, and condos.

Phase Four: Assess the Damage and Clean-up

Beach Condition: Storm surge is below 1 foot above mean high tide

1. City staff goes out and surveys damaged area; takes in account the amount and type of debris. In addition, the quantity of sand along the access roads and sand conditions is assessed.
2. Once the tide has gone down and equipment can reach the beach, Beach Ops will begin clean-up by clearing the debris and removal of sand. (Public Safety: While Beach Ops is working on cleaning and clearing the road, the road will remain close.)
3. Priority of work: Windward Parking Lot, Zahn Road, Access Road 3A, Whitecap, Seawall Walkway, Access Road 2, and Access Road 6.
4. Once clean: trash cans, port-a-potties, trash poles and lifeguards stands (if in season) will be placed back on the beach.
5. Media is notified daily of beach access road openings.