

Message from the Director:

Welcome to your National Weather Service (NWS) National Hurricane Center (NHC). Our primary goal is to provide timely and accurate forecast warnings to protect life.



Currently, 50 percent of the US population lives within 50 miles of the coast and the latest DOC/Census figures indicate the coastal population growth is even higher than projected. This lends directly to the importance of the NHC preparedness and warning activities.

Upon landfall of a tropical cyclone, the forecast and warning responsibility is led by the National Hurricane Center on a large scale and picked up by the National Weather Service local Forecast Offices on the local scale. The history of our Nation's southern and eastern coasts including our Caribbean Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have shown to be the most active tropical cyclone landfall areas in the world. All National Weather Services' forecasts and warnings are disseminated in collaboration with the local and state emergency management communities, government officials and first responders, the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security, and the media.

We ask our fellow Americans, neighbors and visitors to join us in a partnership in preparing ourselves and families for tropical cyclones before they threaten our communities. We encourage you to browse our [web site](#) and learn more about our products and to get tips on what you can do to be prepared. Please feel free to [contact us](#) with any comments, questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Proenza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

*Bill Proenza
Director*