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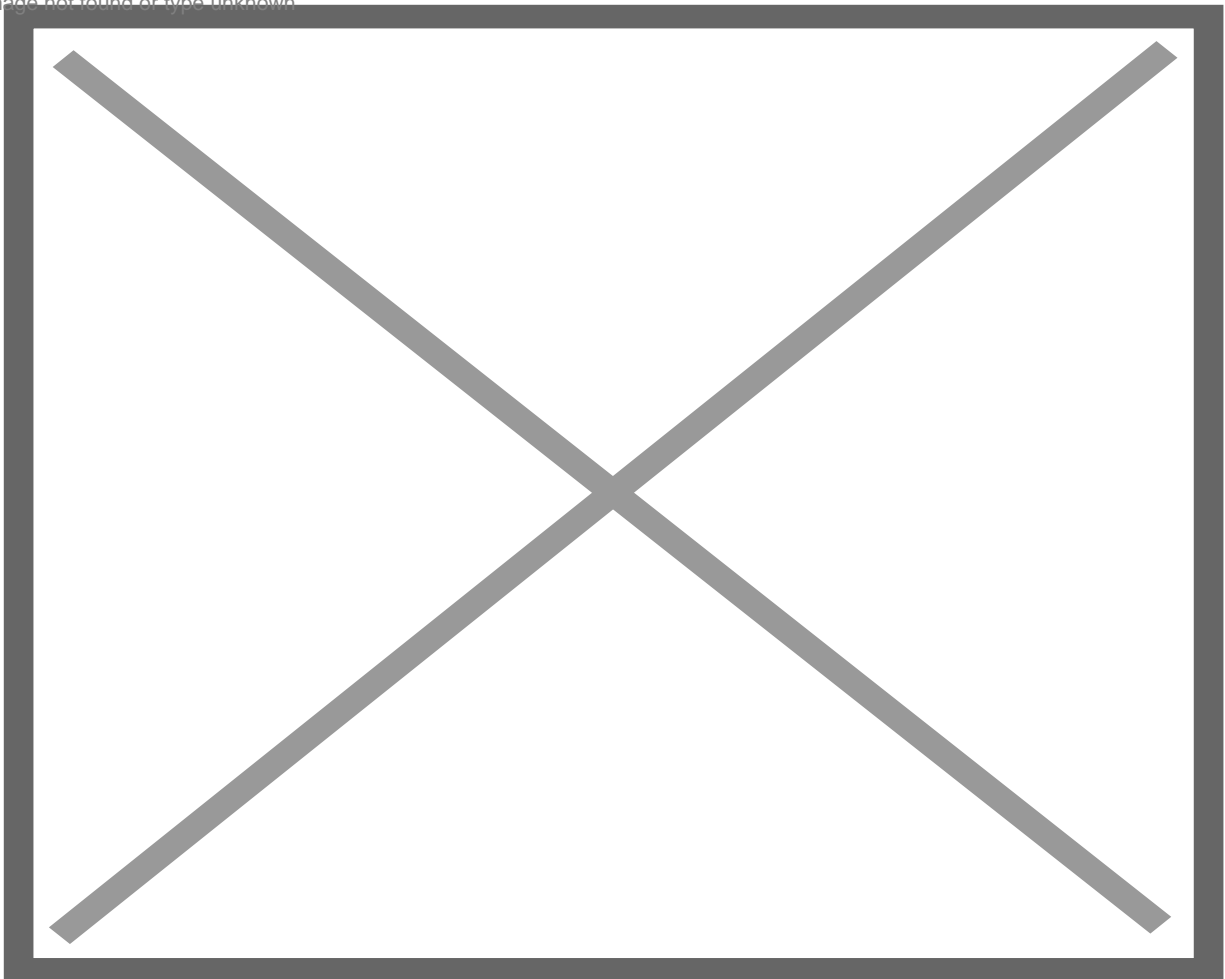
Moderate to Severe Saharan Dust Plume to Blanket U.S. Virgin Islands and PR This Weekend

Starting today, a significant plume of Saharan Dust will affect the region, with another wave expected from Sat. afternoon through Sun., bringing hazy skies, reduced visibility, and potential health risks

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Satellite image of Saharan dust on July 12, 2024.

The National Weather Service (NWS) in San Juan today issued a weather regarding a significant Saharan Dust event expected to impact Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Classified as a Moderate to Severe event, the plume of Saharan Dust will begin affecting the region today, with another pulse anticipated from Saturday afternoon through at least Sunday afternoon.

The Saharan Dust event is forecasted to bring hazy skies, reduced visibility, and potential health impacts to the affected areas.

According to the NWS briefing, today's initial wave will be followed by a second pulse that is expected to last from Saturday afternoon through at least Sunday afternoon. The dust is anticipated to create significant haze, reducing visibility and potentially causing health issues for sensitive individuals.

Common symptoms associated with exposure to Saharan Dust include:

- Nose irritation
- Sinusitis
- Allergies
- Asthma exacerbation
- Throat irritation
- Eye and skin irritation
- Acute bronchitis
- Risk of respiratory infection

The National Weather Service will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of the public.

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