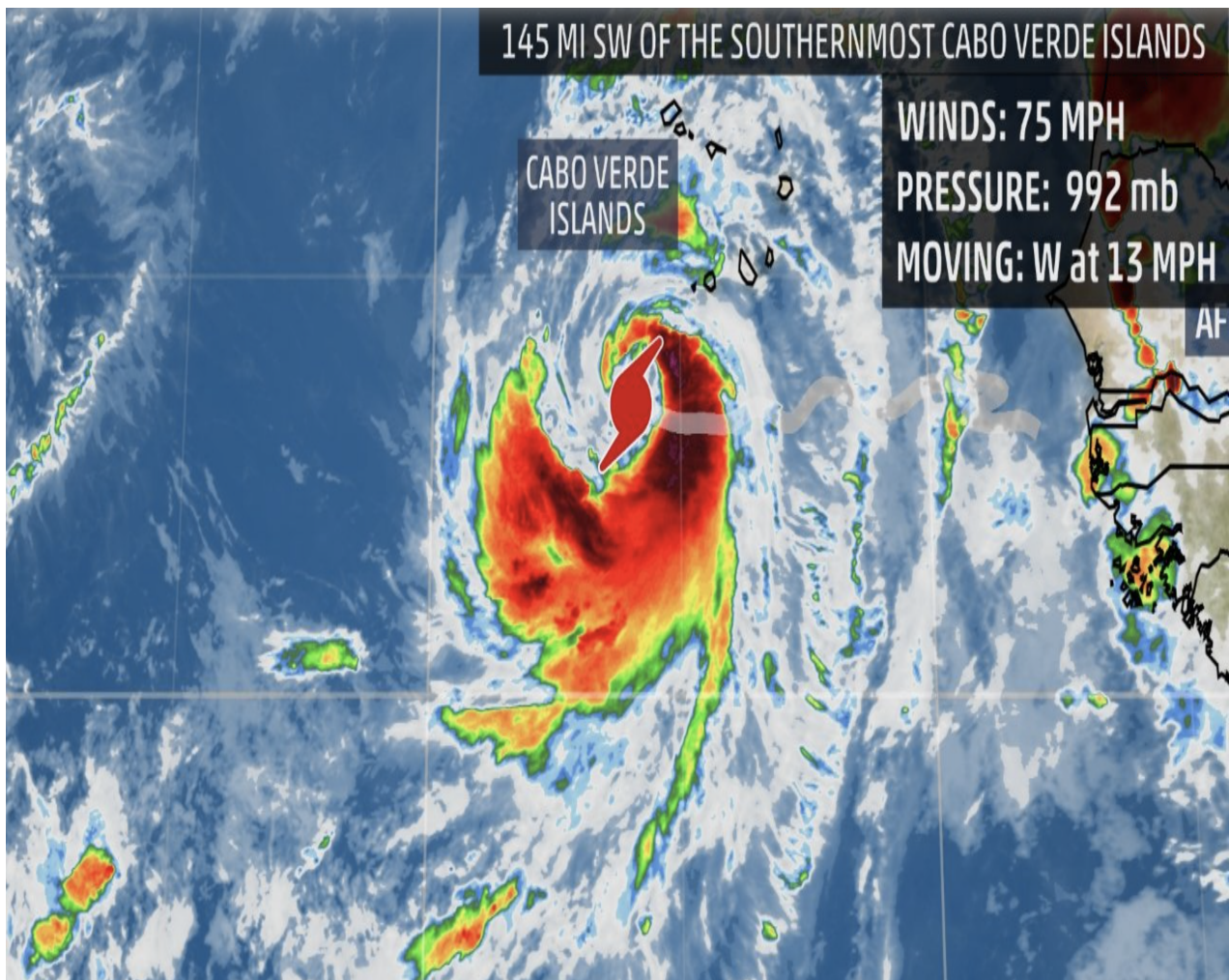


The Virgin Islands Consortium

Helene Is Now A Hurricane; Tropical Storm Isaac Projected To Become Hurricane Tonight

Hurricane Season / **Published On September 09, 2018 10:42 PM /**

Staff **September 09, 2018**



The two weather systems churning in the Atlantic Ocean continue to gain strength, with Helene now a Category 1 hurricane and Isaac projected to become one by tonight.

According to the National Hurricane Center's 5:00 p.m. advisory, the center of Tropical Storm Isaac was located near latitude 14.5 North, longitude 40.3 West. Isaac is moving toward the west near 12 mph (19 km/h) and is expected to accelerate during the next 36 hours. A westward motion is forecast to continue through the end of the week, with Isaac expected to move across the Lesser Antilles and into the eastern Caribbean Sea Wednesday night or Thursday.

Isaac's maximum sustained winds have increased to near 70 mph (110 km/h) with higher gusts. Additional strengthening is forecast, and Isaac is expected to become a hurricane tonight. Weakening is anticipated to begin by the middle of the week while Isaac approaches the Lesser Antilles.

Isaac's tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 45 miles (75 km) from the center. The estimated minimum central pressure is 997 mb (29.44 inches).

Hurricane Helene

At 5:00 p.m. today, the center of Hurricane Helene was located near latitude 13.4 North, longitude 26.0 West. Helene is moving toward the west near 13 mph (20 km/h), and a turn toward the west-northwest is expected on Monday, with a continued west-northwestward motion through Tuesday. On the forecast track, the center of Helene will continue to move away from the Cabo Verde Islands.

Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 75 mph (120 km/h) with higher gusts. Additional strengthening is forecast during the next 48 hours.

Helene's hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 15 miles (30 km) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 80 miles (130 km). The estimated minimum central pressure is 992 mb (29.30 inches).