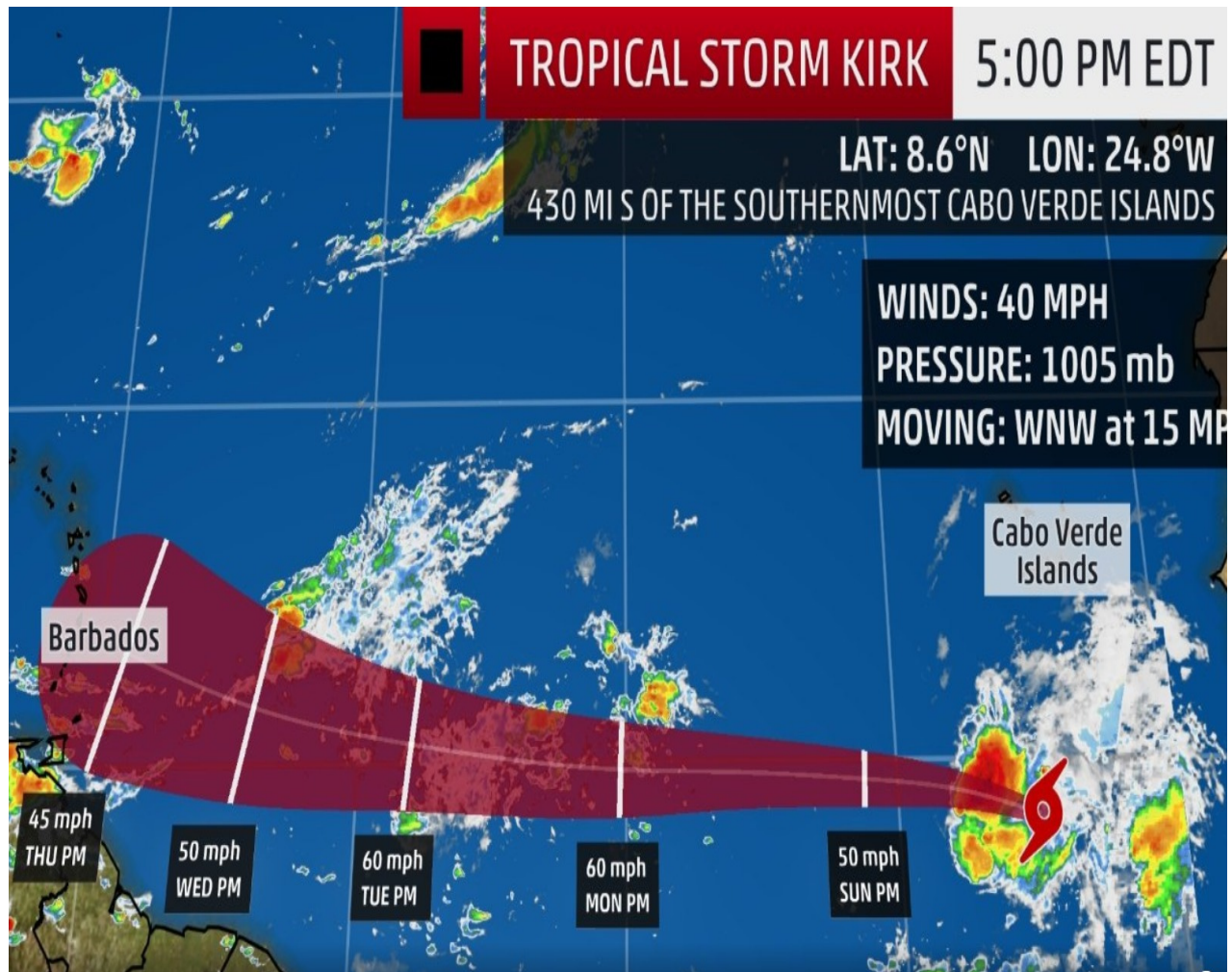


The Virgin Islands Consortium

Tropical Storm Kirk Forms In The Atlantic

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Staff **September 22, 2018**



Just when it seemed as if the Atlantic Ocean had gotten quiet and hope of a storm-free remaining hurricane season was afoot, Tropical Storm Kirk formed earlier today and is expected to increase in strength as it moves in a west, west-northwest direction towards the Lesser Antilles.

Kirk could potentially impact the USVI in some form during the upcoming weekend, according to the storm's projected path.

According to the National Hurricane Center, at 5:00 p.m. Saturday, the center of Tropical Storm Kirk was located near latitude 8.6 North, longitude 24.8 West. Kirk is moving toward the west-northwest near 15 mph (24 km/h), and a westward to west-

northwestward motion at a similar forward speed is expected to continue through tonight. A faster westward motion across the deep tropical Atlantic Ocean is expected Sunday through Tuesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 40 mph (65 km/h) with higher gusts. Some strengthening is forecast through Sunday, with little change in intensity expected on Monday and Tuesday. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 35 miles (55 km) from the center.

The estimated minimum central pressure is 1005 mb (29.68 inches).

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