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Hawai'i Governor David Ige Advises Visitors to be Prepared, Stay Safe and Use Common Sense During Hurricane Lane

HONOLULU – Governor David Ige today held a press conference today to provide an update on efforts being taken to help residents and visitors cope with the anticipated effects of Hurricane Lane.

The governor emphasized that everyone should plan for the onset of very strong winds, hazardous surf conditions, torrential rainfall and heavy flooding until the hurricane completes its pass of the Hawaiian Islands this weekend.

Governor lge urged residents and visitors to shelter in place in homes and lodging accommodations, respectively, and to have access to a 14-day supply of food and water. Shelters are being opened statewide for those needing to evacuate flood zone areas.

Hawai'i has approximately 270,000 travelers currently visiting the islands statewide. Governor Ige strongly advised all visitors to be prepared, stay safe and use common sense until Hurricane Lane passes the islands. He said visitors should listen to the safety information and updates provided by airlines, hotels and media and heed their advice.

The governor noted that residents and visitors should stay off the roadways while high winds and rainfall are underway and that no one should attempt to drive across moving water. He noted that certain highways will be closed for public safety. Closures include Maui's Hāna Highway, Oʻahu's Pali Highway in the Kailua-bound direction starting Thursday at 8:00 p.m., and Kauaʻi's Kūhiō Highway between Wainiha and Hāʻena on the north shore.

For a complete listing of road closures statewide, please refer to the Hawai'i State Department of Transportation Highways Division's website at http://hidot.hawaii.gov/hurricane-lane/.

In addition, Governor Ige today formally requested and received approval for a Presidential Disaster Declaration on behalf of the State of Hawai'i. The declaration authorizes the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide appropriate assistance for emergency measures required to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe.

As of 2:00 p.m. HST, Hurricane Lane was approximately 225 miles south of the island of Hawai'i and moving at 8 miles per hour in a west-northwesterly track, with maximum sustained winds of 150 miles per hour. The category 4 hurricane is projected to weaken as the massive storm completes its pass south of the Hawaiian Islands.

Hurricane Lane is projected to pass south of the island of Hawai'i late tonight and then pass south of, but close to, Maui, Lāna'i and Moloka'i starting Thursday afternoon, and O'ahu and Kaua'i sometime Friday lasting through Saturday.

A hurricane warning is in effect for the island of Hawai'i, as well as the islands of Maui, Lāna'i and Moloka'i, meaning that hurricane conditions should be expected. A hurricane watch is currently in effect for O'ahu and Kaua'i, meaning that hurricane conditions are possible.

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Weather Information

Up-to-date online information on the trek of Hurricane Lane is available at the following:

National Weather Service Forecast: www.weather.gov/hawaii Central Pacific Hurricane Center: www.weather.gov/cphc Hurricane Preparedness: www.facebook.com/PrepareNOWHI/

Real Time Satellite Image: Click to View

Media Updates

Reliable, accurate and timely information about Hurricane Lane on a statewide basis can be accessed

at the following media outlets in Hawai'i:

Honolulu Star-Advertiser: www.staradvertiser.com Hawai'i News Now: www.hawaiinewsnow.com

KHON: www.khon2.com
KITV: www.kitv.com

Emergency Notifications

The public can sign up to receive emergency notifications at the following webpages:

County of Hawaii: county of Honolulu: hnl.info/alerts/login.php
County of Kauai: county of Maui: http://www.co.maui.hi.us/list.aspx

For tourism updates please visit the Alerts page of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority: https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/news/alerts/

Travelers planning a trip to the Hawaiian Islands who have questions can contact the Hawaii Tourism United States Call Center at 1-800-GOHAWAII (1-800-464-2924).

About the Hawai'i Tourism Authority

The <u>Hawai'i Tourism Authority</u> is responsible for strategically managing the State of Hawai'i's marketing initiatives to support tourism. HTA's goal is to optimize tourism's benefits for Hawai'i, while being attentive to the interests of travelers, the community and visitor industry. Established in 1998 to support Hawai'i's leading industry and largest employer, HTA continually strives to help ensure the sustainability of tourism's success.

For more information about HTA, please visit www.hawaiitourismauthority.org. Follow updates about HTA on Facebook, Twitter (@HawaiiHTA) and its YouTube Channel.

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