

Hurricane Erick hits Mexico’s Pacific coast

Aida Pelaez-Fernandez
REUTERS

MEXICO CITY – Hurricane Erick made landfall on the coast of Oaxaca, Mexico, on June 19 authorities said, potentially bringing intense rains and life-threatening floods and mudslides.

The storm made landfall around 5:30 a.m. local time in the town of Santiago Pinotepa Nacional, in the state of Oaxaca, as a Category 3 major hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 127 mph and gusts of 155 mph, Mexico’s national water commission, Conagua, said.

Scientists have warned that Erick, the first hurricane to make landfall in Mexico this hurricane season, could become the most intense hurricane along Mexico’s Pacific coast this early in the season, which runs from May to November.

Forecasters predict an above-average active season, with between eight and 11 hurricanes, and four to six of those reaching major hurricane status.

The storm center is expected to move inland over southern Mexico throughout June 19 with winds that could be especially destructive near its core, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said in a report.



A red flag warns beachgoers of dangerous conditions as Hurricane Erick strengthens along Mexico’s Pacific Coast on June 18. Erick is expected to make landfall June 19 as a Category 3 hurricane.

JORGE LUIS PLATA/REUTERS

Up to 16 inches of rain is expected to hit the states of Oaxaca and Guerrero, according to NHC.

Moving forward, “Erick is expected to rapidly weaken over the mountains of Mexico, and the system is likely to dissipate tonight or early Friday,” the center added.

“Heavy rainfall will lead to life-threatening flooding and mudslides, especially in areas of steep terrain,” NHC warned, as local authorities asked residents to remain vigilant.

Mexico’s Ministry of Environment and Conagua gave a similar warning, adding that waves in coastal areas were reaching up to 33 feet high.

Local media and videos shared on social networks showed flooded streets in some of the main tourist destinations along Mexico’s Pacific coast, such as Huatulco.

Oaxaca Governor Salomon Jara, in a post on X, urged residents to follow authorities’ recommendations and said shelters were available for those in areas at risk.

Mexican authorities have also been coordinating evacuation efforts for tourists in beach destinations, including Acapulco.

Study: Moms’ mental health declining

Natalie Eilbert and Madeline Heim
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Sheng Lee Yang has noticed a shift in concerns of moms and moms-to-be in a program her behavioral health organization offers in the Appleton, Wisconsin, area.

In the past, the primary focus was on what would happen during pregnancy and birth. Now, women are worried about how they are going to provide for basic needs of their babies, said Yang, executive director of Us 2 Behavioral Health, a nonprofit focused on culturally specific mental health needs.

“When people’s survival needs are not available to them, that’s going to completely impact their mental health,” said Yang, who is also a member of the Wisconsin Maternal Mortality Review Team.

Yang wasn’t surprised to learn that the mental well-being of mothers has taken a nosedive in recent years, especially for families who live below or near the poverty line or those who may not understand the medical terms used by doctors.



The JAMA study posits that maternal mortality could be a warning signal of broad declines in women’s overall health, including mental health.

JOVANNY HERNANDEZ/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL FILE

Those were the findings of a new study, published in May in JAMA Internal Medicine, that examined the self-reported mental health of nearly 200,000 female parents across the nation between 2016 and 2023. Only about 26% of moms reported “excellent” mental health in 2023, compared with about 38% in 2016.

In many respects, the study confirmed what so many health care professionals have been seeing on the front lines, especially during and after the COVID pandemic. As child care centers close, access to public assistance to affordable child care shrinks and the cost of living rises, Yang said, mothers are bearing ever-increasing stress. That’s especially true for moms with lower educational attainment, uninsured or publicly insured children, and single parents.

And while stress among fathers is significant, the JAMA report said mothers “warrant special attention.”

“We can’t keep going at this pace. It isn’t financially sustainable and it shouldn’t be socially acceptable to expect new mothers to work full-time, take care of their children, have money and access to everything,” Yang said.

Broad decline in women’s health

The physical health of moms in the United States has long been under scrutiny, as the country continues to see higher rates of maternal mortality than other high-income countries around the world. Statistics are especially startling for Black and Native American women, who are about three times as likely to experience a pregnancy-related death than their White counterparts.

The JAMA study posits that maternal mortality could be a warning signal of broad declines in women’s overall health, including mental health.

Notably, mental health declines began before the COVID pandemic. That detail is also mentioned in an August 2024 advisory from former U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy about parental mental health, which noted that 41% of parents say most days they are so stressed they cannot function.

Parents’ mental health has trickle-down impacts, too, the surgeon general’s advisory said. Children whose parents have mental health conditions can face increased risk of struggling with mental health conditions themselves.

Hard to afford basic needs

Sarah Ornst Bloomquist, executive director and co-founder of Moms Mental Health Initiative in Wisconsin, said the JAMA study was a “huge validation” for moms.

Postpartum anxiety and depression are the most common mental health issues among the women she works with. The causes, she said, show little sign of improvement: expensive child care, insufficient time off work, health care costs and increased isolation.

“This attitude that, ‘You have a baby, you’ve got to deal with the consequences of it,’ doesn’t work,” Bloomquist said. “We need to make sure we’re supporting someone to have a baby and making sure they can be successful in that, not just leave them alone.”

Misconceptions about pregnancy and mental health can hamper someone seeking help, she added, like assuming you can’t get treatment for mental health conditions during pregnancy, chalking up symptoms of depression to “baby blues,” or viewing mental health struggles as a character flaw.

“Every woman who’s going through it thinks to herself, ‘What’s wrong with me? What did I do wrong? Maybe I shouldn’t have become a mother,’” she said.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, beginning at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the items may be heard, to consider adoption of the following ordinance:

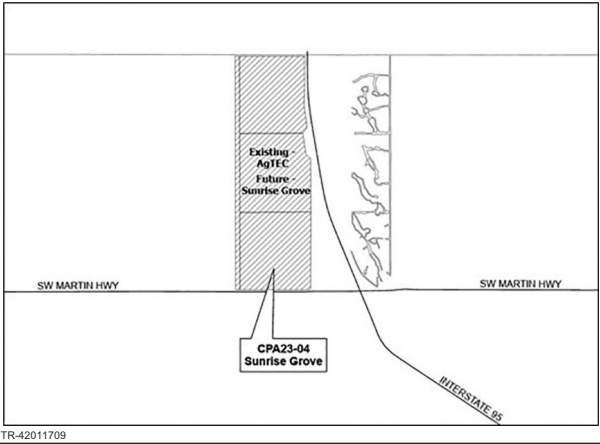
AN ORDINANCE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT 23-04, SUNRISE GROVE TEXT, AMENDING THE TEXT OF CHAPTER 4, FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE MARTIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This a request by Lucido and Associates, on behalf of Martin Triangle Property, LLC and Sunrise Grove Commerce Center, LLC, for site-specific text amendments to Chapter 4, Future Land Use Element. The amendment proposes to change the name of the future land use designation from AgTEC to Sunrise Grove and add a permitted use to the future land use.

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. The meeting will be held in the Commission Chambers on the first floor of the Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida. Written comments may be mailed to: Paul Schilling, Director, Martin County Growth Management Department, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996. For further information, including copies of the original application documents or agenda items, contact Samantha Lovelady, Principal Planner, Growth Management Department at (772) 288-5664.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding are entitled, at no cost, to the provision of certain assistance. This does not include transportation to and from the meeting. Please contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at (772) 320-3131, or the Office of the County Administrator at (772) 288-5400, or in writing to 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL, 34996, no later than three days before the hearing date. Persons using a TTY device, please call 711 Florida Relay Services.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at the meetings or hearings of any board, committee, agency, council, or advisory group, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.



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