

= Hurricane Sergio (2006) =

Hurricane Sergio was the third strongest Pacific hurricane in the month of November on record . The nineteenth named storm and eleventh hurricane of the 2006 Pacific hurricane season , Sergio developed from a tropical wave on November 13 about 460 miles (740 km) south of Manzanillo , Mexico , and steadily intensified as it tracked southeastward . It reached peak winds of 110 mph (175 km / h) on November 15 , and subsequently began to weaken due to increased wind shear as it turned to the north . Sergio later turned to the west , remaining well off the coast of Mexico , and dissipated on November 20 about 320 miles (515 km) west @-@ northwest of it originally formed .

Sergio produced light rainfall along the coast of Mexico , though its effects were minimal . The formation of Sergio marked the 2006 season as the busiest in 12 years and the first season in which more than one tropical storm formed in November . Sergio , in addition to being the strongest hurricane after November 1 , was also the longest @-@ lived Pacific tropical cyclone in November , lasting a total of seven days .

= = Meteorological history = =

A tropical wave crossed Central America and entered the eastern Pacific Ocean on November 7 . An area of convection along the wave tracked westward to the south of Central America and Mexico , and became more concentrated on November 12 while located about 400 miles (645 km) south of Acapulco . Later that day , Dvorak classification began on the disturbance , and the convection continued to organize . Early on November 13 , the National Hurricane Center indicated the possibility of the system developing into a tropical depression . Thunderstorm activity briefly decreased , though late on November 13 the system acquired enough circulation and organized convection for it to be designated Tropical Depression Twenty @-@ One @-@ E while located about 460 miles (740 km) south of Manzanillo , Mexico . Operationally , the depression was not upgraded until eleven hours later .

Initially , the tropical depression tracked to the northwest , and was forecast to peak as a 50 mph (80 km / h) tropical storm while continuing on a northwest motion . Located within an area of weak wind shear , deep convection increased near the center , and banding features became more pronounced . Anticyclonic flow aloft and a moist troposphere allowed the depression to intensify into Tropical Storm Sergio on November 14 . Shortly after becoming a tropical storm , Sergio turned to the southeast , believed to be due to the flow associated with a mid- to upper @-@ level trough to its northeast . It steadily intensified , and Sergio attained hurricane status on November 15 while located about 420 miles (675 km) southwest of Acapulco . With a small , distinct eye located in the center of the deep convection , Sergio rapidly intensified to attain peak winds of 110 mph (175 km / h) about 6 hours after becoming a hurricane .

Upon reaching peak strength , forecasters at the National Hurricane Center predicted Hurricane Sergio to intensify further to reach winds of 120 mph (195 km / h) . Shortly after peaking , the hurricane turned to the north and gradually weakened as wind shear from an upper @-@ level trough to its northwest increased . By early on November 17 , the low @-@ cloud circulation became partially exposed on the west side of the deep convection , and it is estimated that Sergio weakened to a tropical storm later that day . A ridge to its north and northeast turned the storm to the northwest and later to the west as Sergio gradually weakened . Deep convection reformed near the center on November 18 , resulting in a slight increase in winds , though vertical shear quickly weakened it again . Later that day , the storm made its closest approach to land , about 225 miles (360 km) southwest of Michoacán . Early on November 20 it degenerated into a tropical depression , and later that day Sergio dissipated about 360 miles (580 km) southwest of Manzanillo , Mexico , or about 320 miles (515 km) west @-@ northwest of where it originally formed . The remnants of Sergio continued westward for about a day before the minimal amount of convection diminished .

= = Impact and records = =

No tropical cyclone warnings or watches were issued in relation to Sergio . Several storm advisories indicated a slight threat to coastal regions of Mexico ; the National Hurricane Center assessed a 29 % probability of tropical storm @-@ force winds affecting Barra de Navidad in Jalisco . From November 16 and 17 , the outer rainbands of the hurricane dropped light precipitation along the Mexican coastline , peaking at 1 @.@ 97 inches (50 mm) at Tierra Colorada in Guerrero .

Sergio contributed to November 2006 being the most active November since Pacific hurricane records began , based on using the accumulated cyclone energy index . This record later became tied with another season nine years later . After Rosa formed a few days before Sergio , November 2006 became the first since 1961 to have more than one storm in the month . The hurricane is currently the third strongest in the month , as well as the longest @-@ lasting .