

= Tropical Storm Julio (2002) =

Tropical Storm Julio in 2002 was a weak and short lived tropical storm that made landfall along the southern Mexican coast . An area of convection organized into a tropical depression on September 25 . Initially forecast to stay offshore , the depression headed northward and strengthened into a tropical storm that same day . Julio turned to the northwest and peaked as a minimal tropical storm just before landfall near Lázaro Cárdenas , on September 26 . The storm soon weakened into a tropical depression and later on September 26 , it rapidly dissipated over Mexico .

Prior to making landfall , tropical cyclone warnings and watches were issued for a portion of the Pacific coast of Mexico . After making landfall , three fatalities and 18 injuries were reported from Julio when a bus flipped over . Around 100 houses in Acapulco and Zihuatanejo were damaged or washed away by flash flooding . In the latter city , many trees were brought down and numerous streets were flooded . The highest rainfall reported was 16 @. @ 10 in (409 mm) at Zihuatanejo and La Unión , resulting in devastation . In all , about 2 @, @ 000 homes were flooded while 100 families were evacuated . About a month after Julio , Hurricane Kenna affected some of the same locations as Julio .

= = Meteorological history = =

The origins of Tropical Storm Julio were from a persistent monsoon @-@ like area of convection (possibly related to Hurricane Isidore) that was situated off the west coast of Central America on September 21 . Convective activity generally increased over the next two days , and it is estimated that a poorly defined surface circulation developed late on September 23 . The low gradually became better organized and at 0000 UTC on September 25 , the National Hurricane Center (NHC) reported that the disturbance had developed into Tropical Depression Thirteen @-@ E about 100 mi (160 km) southwest of Acapulco .

Initially , the storm was expected to pass very close to the Mexican coast and attain a peak intensity of 60 mph (95 km / h) . Shortly thereafter , the NHC upgraded the depression into Tropical Storm Julio based on intensity estimates from the Dvorak technique . By this time , Julio was now expected to move onshore the Mexican coast and meander . At 0000 UTC on September 26 , Tropical Storm Julio attained its peak intensity of 45 mph (70 km / h) while also reaching its minimum barometric pressure of 1 @, @ 000 mb (30 inHg) . At peak , the storm was centered just west @-@ northwest of Lázaro Cárdenas . After turning northwest , Julio made landfall along the coast of Southwestern Mexico . After landfall , Julio rapidly deteriorated over the mountainous terrain . At 1200 UTC September 26 , the storm was downgraded into a tropical depression . Even though the storm was initially expected to enter the extreme southern Gulf of California and regain tropical storm strength , Julio dissipated near Manzanillo later that day instead .

= = Preparations , impact , and aftermath = =

Upon becoming a tropical cyclone , tropical cyclone warnings and watches were issued for portions of the Pacific coast of Mexico ; a tropical storm warning was issued from Zihuatanejo to Punta San Telma while a tropical storm watch was in effect from Punta San Telma to Manzanillo . On September 26 , once the storm had weakened into a depression over land , all the watches and warnings were dropped . While making landfall , Zihuatanejo reported 40 mph (65 km / h) winds , with gusts up to 50 mph (80 km / h) at 2042 UTC September 25 . In addition , a peak pressure of 1 @, @ 002 @. @ 3 mb (29 @. @ 60 inHg) was reported . The highest rainfall reported was 16 @. @ 10 inches (409 mm) at Zihuatanejo and La Unión , Guerrero . Record rainfall was reported in Guerrero .

Tropical Storm Julio was responsible for heavy rains to Zihuatanejo , where 100 homes were damaged or destroyed . Across the city , numerous roofs were damaged and many trees fell . Many houses and streets were flooded as well . Meanwhile , in Acapulco , heavy rains triggered flash

flooding that damaged another 100 houses . Throughout Colima , many rivers overflowed its banks . Furthermore , 2 @, @ 000 homes were flooded . Roughly 100 families were evacuated to shelters in Michoacán .

In addition , many small shacks lost their roof due to the storm 's high winds . On the outskirts of the Taxco , situated 95 mi (155 km) inland , a school bus carrying 40 kids flipped over , killing three and injuring 18 others . An estimated 2700 acres (700 ha) of crops were lost because of the storm . Parts of Guerrero were later declared a disaster area . However , the city of Zihuaranejo was quickly cleaned up proceeding the storm . About a month after Julio , Hurricane Kenna affected some of the same locations that Julio impacted .