= Cyclone Urmil (2006) =

Tropical Cyclone Urmil (RSMC Nadi designation : 06F , JTWC designation : 07P) was a short lived storm of January 2006 that explosively intensified to reach its peak intensity as a high @-@ end Category 2 cyclone on the Australian Scale , just 12 hours after being named . Forming out of a tropical disturbance early on January 14 , Urmil quickly intensified before weakening just as quickly . The intensification was a result of the main convective banding feature wrapping around the center of circulation . However , the combination of high wind shear and the rapid movement of the cyclone caused convection to become separated from the center . By January 15 , the storm transitioned into an extratropical cyclone shortly before dissipating . Urmil had only minor effects on land ; scattered vegetation damage was reported in Tonga .

= = Meteorological history = =

Tropical Cyclone Urmil originated from a weak tropical disturbance over the open waters of the south Pacific Ocean on January 13 . Around 1800 UTC , the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) in Nadi , Fiji classified the system as Tropical Disturbance 06F , while it was located about 370 km (230 mi) west of Pago Pago , American Samoa . Forming in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Tam , the disturbance rapidly organized within an environment of favorable diffulence aloft , warm waters (29 ° C ; 84 @.@ 2 ° F) , and moderate wind shear . Six hours later , RSMC Nadi upgraded 06F to a tropical cyclone and gave it the name Urmil while it was situated near Niuatoputapu , Tonga . Shortly after , the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) issued a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert as the storm quickly traveled towards the south @-@ southeast . Around 0600 UTC on January 14 , the JTWC classified Urmil as Tropical Cyclone 07P .

During the following six hours , Urmil underwent explosive deepening as the main feeder band wrapped around the center of circulation . After the brief period of intensification , the storm reached its peak intensity with winds of 110 km / h (70 mph) according to both the RSMC Nadi and the JTWC , making it a high @-@ end Category 2 cyclone on the Australian Scale . The highly favorable environment , in combination with the fast forward motion of the storm , allowed Urmil to rapidly reach its peak intensity , despite wind shear reaching 35 km / h (25 mph) . However , as quickly as the storm strengthened , it began to weaken as convection weakened . With both wind shear and forward motion increasing , the cyclone quickly became disorganized . Around 0000 UTC on January 15 , the center of circulation was devoid of shower and thunderstorm activity . About six hours later , Urmil transitioned into an extratropical cyclone and was subsequently absorbed into the mid @-@ latitude westerlies .

= = Preparations and impact = =

Upon being designated Tropical Disturbance 06F , tropical cyclone alerts and strong wind warnings were issued for Niue , Tonga , the Cook Islands , and French Polynesia . A flood advisory and small craft advisory were issued for Samoa . Later that day , the strong wind warnings for the Cook Islands and French Polynesia were canceled , as Urmil no longer posed a threat to the islands . By January 15 , all of the warnings associated with Urmil were lifted .

Early on January 14 , 06F passed close to Tafahi and Niuatoputapu , produced heavy rains and near gale @-@ force winds over the islands . The highest winds in Tonga were recorded on Niuatoputapu ; sustained winds reached 35 km / h (25 mph) with gusts to 65 km / h (40 mph) . The winds caused minor damages , mainly limited to vegetation . Some fruit trees were damaged , mainly banana trees . The rains from Urmil exaggerated flooding produced by Cyclone Tam just a few days earlier .