# Hurricane Lidia ( 1993 )

Hurricane Lidia was the strongest tropical cyclone of the 1993 Pacific hurricane season . Forming from a tropical wave on September 8 , Lidia steadily organized and became a hurricane on September 10 . The hurricane continued to strengthen while developing a well @-@ defined eye , and peaked as a Category 4 hurricane on September 11 . However , it weakened considerably before making landfall in Sinaloa as a Category 2 storm . Lidia dissipated near Austin on September 14 and was later absorbed by a cold front . Across Mexico , the hurricane killed seven people ; over 100 @,@ 000 people were forced to evacuate their homes . A total of 160 homes were destroyed and 10 @,@ 000 people were left homeless because of the storm . In the United States , five people suffered injuries and storm damage totaled $ 8 million ( 1993 USD ) .

## Meteorological history

A westward @-@ moving tropical wave left the coast of Africa on August 24 . Initially , shower activity was minimal , but it increased somewhat as it approached the southern Lesser Antilles . Disorganized , the wave moved through the Southwestern Caribbean Sea on September 3 and 4 . The system quickly emerged into the Pacific Ocean , to the south of Central America . After September 7 , shower activity began to increase and the cloud pattern became more organized . At this time , the disturbance was located about 200 mi ( 320 km ) south of Salina Cruz . After becoming much better organized , it developed well @-@ defined banding features and a well @-@ defined atmospheric circulation . Based on this , the disturbance was upgraded into a tropical depression later that day . It continued to organize , and a nearby ship later reported near gale @-@ force winds far from its center . Based on this , the depression was upgraded into Tropical Storm Lidia overnight .

Meanwhile , Lidia was moving to the northwest at around 10 mph ( 15 km / h ) . On 0000 UTC September 9 , the tropical storm attained winds of 45 mph ( 75 km / h ) while located about 300 mi ( 480 km ) south @-@ southwest of Salina Cruz . After pausing in intensification for a while , Lidia resumed intensification later that day . Predicted to peak as a Category 2 hurricane on the Saffir ? Simpson hurricane wind scale ( SSHWS ) , the system developed very deep convection and a well @-@ defined outflow . Shortly thereafter , the National Hurricane Center ( NHC ) upgraded Lidia into a hurricane . Although Hurricane Lidia was expected to parallel the Pacific Coast of Mexico , the agency did note that Lidia could pose a threat to parts of the country . Late on September 9 , Hurricane Lidia finally developed an eye , and thus the NHC re @-@ assessed the intensity at 90 mph ( 150 km / h ) . Over the next six hours , a wind increase of 15 mph ( 25 km / h ) occurred , and the hurricane reached major hurricane intensity ( Category 3 or higher on the SSHS ) . Lidia was now predicted to threaten the Baja California Peninsula . At 1200 UTC on September 11 , Hurricane Lidia reached its peak wind speed of 150 mph ( 240 km / h ) as the hurricane developed a clear and distinct eye .

Thunderstorm activity near the eye soon decreased in coverage , and Lidia began a weakening trend . Because of two troughs , one over the northern Gulf of California and another over the Southwestern United States , the weakening system began to re @-@ curve northeast . Heading towards mainland Mexico , the hurricane weakened significantly a day after its peak , in which Lidia was only a mid @-@ level Category 2 hurricane . Continuing to weaken , Lidia made landfall in Sinaloa at 1800 UTC on September 13 . Shortly after landfall , Hurricane Lidia then accelerated northeastward and then east @-@ northeastward . It weakened to a depression just after crossing the international border with Texas . Tropical Depression Lidia dissipated near Austin on September 14 . The remnants of the cyclone were absorbed by a cold front .

## Preparations , impact , and aftermath

### Mexico

A tropical storm warning was issued from Acapulco to Cabo Corrientes at 2100 UTC September 21 , but was discontinued 18 hours later . On 0300 UTC September 12 a hurricane warning was issued for areas below La Paz . Twelve hours later , a tropical storm warning was issued for the remaining portion of Baja California Sur . The same day , a hurricane warning was issued for a large area of the mainland . However , all watches and warnings were discontinued on September 13 as the system had moved inland over Mexico .

Although no reports of tropical storm force winds over land were received by the NHC , it is estimated that near @-@ hurricane @-@ force winds occurred near Mazatlán . The following locations received more than 8 in ( 200 mm ) of rain ; 12 @.@ 72 in ( 323 mm ) fell in La Cruz / Elota , 12 @.@ 3 inches ( 310 mm ) fell in Ayolta , 8 @.@ 7 in ( 220 mm ) fell in La Cruz , and 8 @.@ 3 in ( 210 mm ) was recorded in Digue La Primeva . Seven deaths are fully attributed to the storm and 41 people perished in combination of Tropical Storm Beatriz , Hurricane Gert , and Lidia . In addition , one injury were reported . One person in Sinaloa was electrocuted , and another person died in Durango during the collapse of a dwelling . Three fishing boats were reported missing at sea . More than 10 @,@ 000 people were homeless , and damage was widespread in both of the states . Hundreds of shanty @-@ homes near Mazatlán were toppled , and 100 houses were destroyed in La Cruz . In Durango , 16 homes were destroyed and 4 @,@ 000 were damaged . In some areas of Nayarit , flooding destroyed several areas of agriculture . Near Culiacán , 1 @,@ 200 head of cattle were killed , and a 150 @-@ foot ( 46 m ) television tower was blown over . Utility poles , snapped trees and branches , and shredded billboards littered strreets . Water , telephone , and electricity were cut off . Due to lack of power , gas stationss were unable to pump . Many windows were smashed and widespread power and cell phone service outages were recorded . However , the hurricane avoided the more populated areas of the country , thus greatly reducing damage . About 100 @,@ 000 people were forced to evacuate their homes . During the aftermath of the storm , army troops provided blankets and food to the homeless .

= = = United States = = =

The remnants of Lidia , in combination of a cold front , prompted a tornado watch and flash flood watch for much of Texas . In Texas , six tornadoes were reported , with one of them causing over $ 8 million ( 1993 USD ) in damage . The Dallas @-@ Fort Worth area was hit hard . Strong winds , tornadoes and torrential downpours left broken trees , damaged buildings , and minor injuries in the wake of the storm . Johnson , Denton , Collin , Tarrant , and Dallas counties were the hardest hit . In northern Arlington , five people were injured when a roof was torn off of a hotel .