

For Immediate Release

May 27, 2023, 10:00 AM (ChST)

NWS to Collaborate with the University of Guam Drone Corps Program for Post-Mawar Damage Assessment

In effort to assess the impacts from Typhoon Mawar on Guam, the National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Office Guam will be visiting many different parts of the island in the coming week, collecting data and taking measurements. This assessment will be used to calculate estimated winds received in different areas of Guam.

A first-time component of such post-storm assessments on Guam will be the collaboration with Dr. Romina King and the University of Guam NASA Guam EPSCOR & Space Grant Drone Corps Program (UOG Drone Corps) for aerial reconnaissance of Guam's coastal and urban areas. Data provided via the drones will be used to evaluate coastal inundation and wave run-up while also assessing hard-to-reach inland and urban areas for damage, both to structures and vegetation.

Drone pilots are FAA Part 107b licensed and have hundreds of hours of flight time. The UOG Drone Corps is made possible from funds from NASA Space Grant and NASA EPSCOR.

Drone operations are tentatively planned to begin Saturday, May 27th, and will proceed in various areas after having received clearance from appropriate authorities.

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