Questions: Tropical Cyclones

1. Is there evidence to indicate that the number of tropical cyclones is increasing in frequency?

2. What is the primary reason for the increase in natural disasters?

3. Which was the costliest tropical cyclone in recent history by dollar loss?

4. What was deadliest tropical cyclones in recent history?

5. What was the most intense tropical cyclone in recent history?

6. What are other names for tropical cyclones?

7. Which way do tropical cyclones spin in the Northern/Southern hemisphere and why?

8. What is the balance of forces that causes tropical cyclones?

9. Why don’t tropical cyclones form within 5° of the equator?

10. What is the Intertropical Convergence Zone?

11. What is the name for the ocean water that is blown onto the land during a tropical cyclone?

12. What are necessary components that allow tropical cyclones to form?

13. What is the “eye” of a tropical cyclone?

14. What is the name for the rings of clouds surrounding the central region in a tropical cyclone?

15. What scale is used in the US to denote the intensity of tropical cyclones?

16. At what wind speed (approximately) does a tropical storm become a tropical cyclone?

17. At what speed (approximately) does the eye of a tropical cyclone form?

18. What is the range of diameters for a tropical cyclone?

19. What is the “primary circulation” in a tropical cyclone?
20. What is the “secondary circulation” in a tropical cyclone?

21. What are the names of some of the centers that monitor and forecast tropical cyclone activity?

22. What are the names of some of the NASA/NOAA satellites that observe and monitor tropical cyclones?

23. Why does the ocean temperature change as the tropical cyclone passes over it?

24. Why are there so few tropical cyclones in the S Atlantic?

25. Define the term “Tropical Cyclongenesis”

26. At what times of the year do tropical cyclones form in the N/S hemispheres?

27. Define “recurvature”

28. Define “landfall” in the official sense

29. What diagram describes the interaction of multiple tropical cyclones?

30. What effects cause the dissipation or weakening of tropical cyclones?

31. What do the Hurricane Hunters do?

32. In tropical cyclone forecasts, which is generally more accurate, storm track forecasts or wind speed (intensity) forecasts?

33. What is the name of the 50-70 year cycle of North Atlantic hurricane activity?

34. Roughly how many tropical cyclones occur worldwide every year?

35. Has the energy of tropical cyclones increased or decreased in recent decades?

36. What is the expected impact of global warming on hurricane frequency and intensity?