



Tropical Cyclone Maysak

Tropical cyclone Maysak on July 4, 2026

Tropical cyclone Maysak developed over the northern South China Sea in early July 2026. On July 2-3, cyclone Maysak strengthened over the northern South China Sea while moving west-northwest. Meteorological agencies in Thailand and neighboring countries began issuing storm advisories. On July 3, the storm approached China's Hainan Island, prompting suspension of flights, ferry services, and maritime operations as strong winds and heavy rainfall affected the region. On July 4, the storm tracked toward the Gulf of Tonkin, remaining a tropical storm with maximum sustained winds of approximately 83 km/h.

Thailand's Meteorological Department continued issuing updated warnings (Storm Maysak No. 4–7), forecasting heavy rainfall and strong winds over parts of Thailand. It intensified into a severe tropical storm before making landfall in Quang Ninh Province, northern Vietnam, on the evening of July 4, 2026. The storm subsequently weakened as it moved inland toward southern China. Maysak produced strong winds, heavy rainfall, rough seas, coastal flooding, and localized infrastructure damage across parts of southern China, northern Vietnam, and neighboring areas. Authorities in several countries implemented precautionary measures, including suspending flights and ferry services, issuing weather warnings, evacuating residents from high-risk areas, and mobilizing emergency response teams.

Damage and losses

Impact on the affected area

Before landfall, southern China experienced widespread precautionary actions due to the approaching storm. Authorities suspended flights and ferry services to Hainan Island, halted some maritime transport, and warned residents about heavy rainfall and strong winds. These measures were intended to reduce risks from coastal flooding and dangerous sea conditions.

Northern Vietnam experienced the most severe impacts following the cyclone Maysak's landfall in Quang Ninh Province on July 4, 2026. Heavy rainfall affected several northern provinces, particularly Quang Ninh, Dien Bien, Lai Chau, and Son La, causing damage to housing, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, transportation, and public infrastructure. According to the Vietnam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority (VDDMA) and provincial reports, 1 person died in Lai Chau Province and 21 people (8 households) were evacuated from flood-prone areas. A total of 178 houses were damaged or had their roofs blown off, including 150 houses in Quang Ninh, 8 houses in Dien Bien, 12 houses in Lai Chau, and 8 houses in Son La. Meanwhile, 36 fishing boats were sunk or damaged by high waves in Quang Ninh. Approximately 866 hectares of aquaculture were damaged in Quang Ninh, and Son La Province, around 17 tons of farmed fish were lost after fish ponds overflowed. For infrastructure and public utilities, more than 850 trees were uprooted or damaged. 10 streetlight poles and several vehicles were damaged. A widespread power outage

affected Mong Cai City beginning on the evening of July 4. Initial reports also recorded approximately 30 houses with roof damage; subsequent provincial assessments later revised the total to 178 damaged houses.

Although cyclone Maysak did not make landfall in Thailand, its circulation strengthened the southwest monsoon, resulting in widespread heavy to very heavy rainfall across many parts of the country. The Thailand Meteorological Department warned of possible flash floods, runoff, strong winds, and rough seas in the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand, advising small vessels to remain ashore.

Agricultural devastation

Agricultural land:

Tropical cyclone Maysak caused significant agricultural damage across several northern provinces of Vietnam, particularly Quang Ninh, Lai Chau, Dien Bien, and Son La, due to heavy rainfall, strong winds, and localized flooding. The storm affected both crop production and aquaculture, posing challenges to local livelihoods and food production.

Affected crops:

A total of approximately 331 hectares of rice and seasonal crops were affected or flattened by the storm. The largest losses occurred in Lai Chau Province (217.6 hectares), followed by Quang Ninh (43 hectares), Son La (70.78 hectares), and Dien Bien (0.1 hectares). In addition to staple crops, 25.5 hectares of industrial crops were damaged in Quang Ninh, while 2.77 hectares of other crops were affected in Lai Chau.

The fisheries and aquaculture sector also sustained considerable losses. Approximately 866 hectares of aquaculture in Quang Ninh were damaged by flooding and rough weather conditions. In Son La Province, overflowing fish ponds resulted in the loss of approximately 17 tons of farmed fish, further impacting local agricultural production and farmers' incomes. Additionally, 36 fishing boats were sunk or damaged by high waves in Quang Ninh, disrupting coastal fishing activities.

Government responses and countermeasures

Governments across the affected countries implemented preparedness and response measures before, during, and after the passage of tropical cyclone Maysak to reduce risks to lives and property.

The Government of Vietnam, through the Vietnam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority (VDDMA), the National Centre for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting (NCHMF), and provincial authorities, implemented several emergency response measures, including:

- Issuing continuous weather forecasts and tropical cyclone warnings before landfall.
- Evacuating 21 people from eight households in flood-prone areas as a precautionary measure.
- Monitoring rainfall, river levels, and coastal conditions throughout the storm.
- Deploying local emergency response teams to assess damage and support affected communities.
- Conducting rapid post-disaster damage assessments covering housing, agriculture, fisheries, and public infrastructure.

- Restoring electricity and clearing fallen trees and damaged infrastructure following the storm.

Although the cyclone did not make landfall in Thailand, the Thailand Meteorological Department (TMD) issued a series of storm advisories (Storm Maysak Nos. 4–9) to minimize potential impacts from enhanced monsoon conditions. The advisories included recommendations to:

- Prepare for heavy to very heavy rainfall and possible flash floods.
- Monitor areas susceptible to landslides and runoff.
- Warn small vessels to remain ashore due to rough sea conditions in the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand.
- Follow official weather updates and emergency guidance until the storm weakened and dissipated.

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