

## **Tropical storm hits Texas coast, closes schools**

Washington (dpa) - Tropical storm Bill made landfall Tuesday afternoon on the Texas coast, closing schools in Texas and Galveston as the region braced for flooding.

The National Hurricane Center issued a tropical storm watch for south-eastern parts of Texas and surrounding areas including the city of Houston.

Rainfall of 10 to 20 centimetres was expected, adding to the water troubles of the state that just recently experienced days of heavy rainfall and severe flooding.

The watch included the state of Oklahoma and areas that were hit by tornadoes and torrential rains a few weeks prior.

A flash flood watch was issued for Texas and parts of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri and Illinois.

The Houston and Galveston school districts, both near or on the coast, closed their doors for the day out of concern for safe transport of students.

There were dozens of flight cancellations in Houston, according to The Houston Chronicle. Eastern Texas was under a tornado watch due to the storm conditions.

The storm carried maximum sustained winds of around 95 km/h, the hurricane center said.

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