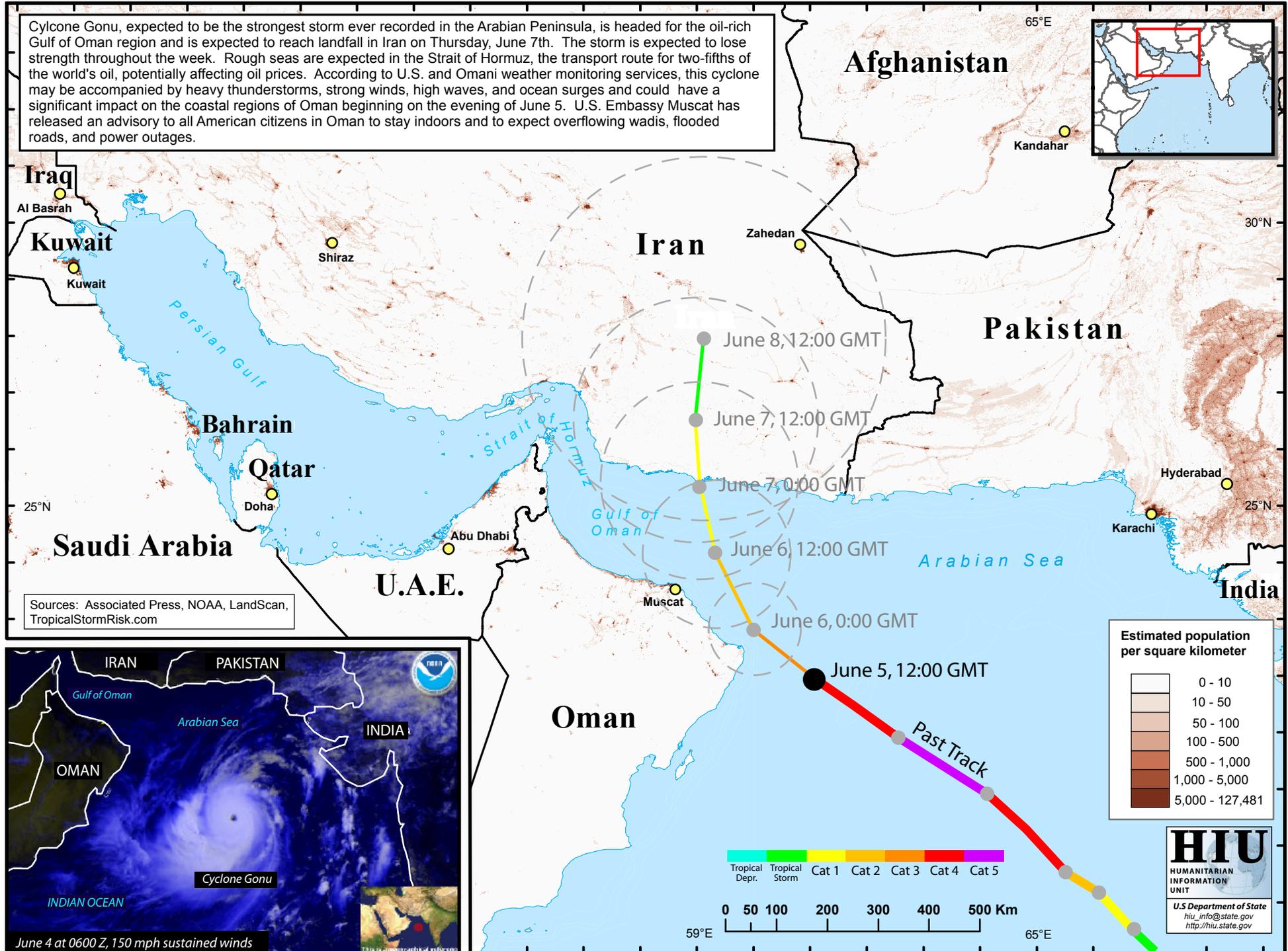


# Arabian Peninsula: Cyclone Gonu - Strongest Storm Ever Recorded

June 5, 2007

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Cyclone Gonu, expected to be the strongest storm ever recorded in the Arabian Peninsula, is headed for the oil-rich Gulf of Oman region and is expected to reach landfall in Iran on Thursday, June 7th. The storm is expected to lose strength throughout the week. Rough seas are expected in the Strait of Hormuz, the transport route for two-fifths of the world's oil, potentially affecting oil prices. According to U.S. and Omani weather monitoring services, this cyclone may be accompanied by heavy thunderstorms, strong winds, high waves, and ocean surges and could have a significant impact on the coastal regions of Oman beginning on the evening of June 5. U.S. Embassy Muscat has released an advisory to all American citizens in Oman to stay indoors and to expect overflowing wadis, flooded roads, and power outages.



Sources: Associated Press, NOAA, LandScan, TropicalStormRisk.com

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