## TO PREVENT A DISASTER...MAKE CORRECT, CAUTIOUS DECISIONS

### If a high surf advisory is in effect, you should:

- > Not swim near the reef
- > Not surf outside the reef line
- > Restrict beach activities to near shore

### Additionally:

- > Waves can break across reefs, channels and inlets, preventing boat operators from safely returning the boats to port
- > If you choose to be out in the coastal waters during high surf, exercise extreme caution and be aware that seas and surf can be very unpredictable.

#### REMEMBER...

- > GET INFORMED PRIOR TO ENJOYING WATER ACTIVITIES
- > STAY TUNED TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO BROADCASTS
- > DIAL 211 FOR THE LATEST FORECASTS
- > CHECK THE PUBLIC SURF FORECAST FOR SURF AND RIP CURRENT CONDITIONS

The National Weather Service's Weather Forecast Office on Guam issues these advisories for your safety!

### National Weather Service's Weather Forecast Office Guam Advisories and Warnings of Interest:

### **Small Craft Advisory:**

Sustained winds in excess of 25 mph or frequent gusts of 29 mph or greater are expected or are occurring.

### **Gale Warning:**

Sustained winds of 39 to 54 mph are expected or are occurring.

### **Tropical Storm/Typhoon Watch:**

Sustained winds of 39 mph or more associated with a tropical storm or typhoon are possible within 48 hours.

### **Tropical Storm Warning:**

Sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph are expected within 24 hours or are occurring.

### **Typhoon Warning:**

Sustained winds of 39 mph or more associated with a typhoon are expected in 24 hours or are occurring.

### **High Surf Advisory:**

Surf heights of 9 feet or greater on North, South and West facing exposures or 12 feet or greater on East facing exposures are expected or are occurring.

### **High Surf Warning:**

Surf heights of 15 feet or greater are expected or occurring on any exposure.



# WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT! ASK QUESTIONS

CONTACT: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE GUAM.

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# What you need to know about surf and a

# High Surf Advisory









National Weather Service
Weather Forecast Office Guam



## HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHAT THE LOCAL SURF IS LIKE?

The daily Public Surf Zone Forecast will indicate the surf and rip current risk on island beaches/exposures.

# HOW WILL YOU KNOW IF THERE IS A HIGH SURF ADVISORY IN EFFECT?

The public forecast will have one of the following headlines:

...A HIGH SURF ADVISORY IS NOW/IN EFFECT...

...A HIGH SURF ADVISORY REMAINS
IN EFFECT...



### WHO IS AFFECTED BY

### **HIGH SURF:**

**Swimmers** 

Surfers

Snorkelers

Divers

Fishermen

Reefwalkers

Windsurfers

Jet Skiers

Canoe Paddlers

**Boat Operators** 

Some Coastal Residents

## WHO INFORMS THE PUBLIC OF HIGH SURF CONDITIONS?

The National Weather Service,
Weather Forecast Office Guam
monitors the surf conditions on Guam,
Rota, Tinian and Saipan utilizing a surf
spotter network, satellite ocean
information, and computer models.
When dangerous conditions exist or
are expected, the Weather Forecast
Office issues High Surf Advisories.

High Surf Advisories are broadcast on the National Weather Service's NOAA Weather Radio, are displayed on its website at <a href="http://www.weather.gov/guam/">http://www.weather.gov/guam/</a> and are sent to the local media.



### WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR ISSUING A HIGH SURF ADVISORY?

Surf heights of 9 feet or greater on North, South and West facing exposures or 12 feet or greater on East facing exposures.

### WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

The advisory means the surf is dangerous. Waves breaking on the reef can produce life-threatening rip currents that can overcome you and sweep you over the reef.

# HOW CAN YOU STAY INFORMED OF THE LATEST SURF CONDITIONS?

Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) for the latest forecast.
Scheduled forecast times are 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. NWR broadcasts are available 24 hours a day.

### **NWR Frequencies & Channels:**

**Guam:** WXM85, 162.40 MHz or VHF Weather Channel 2.

**Saipan:** WXM86, 162.55 MHz or VHF Weather Channel 1.

You can also access the latest forecasts by dialing 211 (cell or line) on Guam or in the CNMI.

Visit our internet homepage at:

### weather.gov/gum

The National Weather Service, Weather Forecast Office Guam may issue advisories for one or more of the Mariana Islands.