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Public Information Statement 19-19 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1215 PM EDT Thu Jun 6 2019

To: -Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners and Employees

From: Allison Allen
 Chief, Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting comments on Experimental
 Modernized Open Lakes Forecast for the Great
 Lakes through November 30, 2019

Updated to change WFO Chicago to WFO Milwaukee as the primary
office for Lake Michigan.

The National Weather Service (NWS) is seeking comments on
Experimental Modernized Open Lakes Forecast for the Great
Lakes through November 30, 2019.

The Open Lake Forecast (GLF) is a text product issued by
five primary Great Lakes Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) to
state expected weather conditions within their marine
forecast area of responsibility through Day 5. The primary
offices responsible for issuing the GLF are:

WFO Marquette (for Lake Superior)
WFO Detroit (for Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair)
WFO Milwaukee (for Lake Michigan)
WFO Cleveland (for Lake Erie)
WFO Buffalo (for Lake Ontario)

These offices routinely issue a GLF four times per day.

During comment and review, the experimental modernized Open Lake
Forecast will be produced in parallel with the current
Operational Open Lake Forecast by all five primary Great Lakes
WFOs.

The product format for the Experimental Modernized Open Lake
Forecast will be as follows:

Experimental Modernized Open Lake Forecast for Lake XXXX
National Weather Service City State
TIME-DATE (example: 900 AM EDT Sat Sep 30 2018)

.SYNOPSIS...text

SSZXXX-XXX>XXX-DDHHMM- (UGC/FIPS CODING)
GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTORS
TIME-DATE (example: 900 AM EDT Sat Sep 30 2018)

...HEADLINE...

.TODAY...
Weather.....
Sfc winds....Knots
100-FT Winds....Knots
Sig waves.....Feet
Ocnl waves (Highest 10 percent whenever wave heights of six feet
or higher are forecast)...Feet

.TONIGHT...

.TOMORROW...

.TOMORROW NIGHT...

.FORECAST DAYS 3 THROUGH 5...
Weather...Surface wind...Significant waves

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This forecast is arranged in an easy to read format and provides weather, wind and wave information. The mandatory elements are surface and 100-foot wind speed/direction, significant waves, maximum (occasional) waves, and significant weather.

The Day 3-5 forecast will be in narrative format and will only include weather, significant wave height, and surface wind speed and direction. Before the end of the evaluation period, additional elements may be added to the format to test the capacity for expansion within the GLF. This could include Probability of Gale Force wind, return frequency of maximum (occasional) waves, or wave period.

This experimental product format is available online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/greatlakes/modernized>

as well as a side-by-side comparison between modernized and existing formats. For details on this product enhancement, see the following Product Description Document (PDD):

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpGLFModernized_2019.pdf

Please provide comments by Nov 30, 2019, on the proposal to provide the Modernized Open Great Lakes Forecast at all Great Lakes offices using the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpOpenLakes>

During this comment period, a proactive effort will be made to educate users and partners of the product availability and use. At the end of the comment period, a decision will be made to choose one of the following options:

- Transition to operational at all Great Lakes Forecast Offices
- Extend the comment period
- Discontinue the enhancement

For questions on this product, contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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