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Public Information Statement 21-40
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1240 PM EDT Wed Jun 16 2021

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

Subject: Soliciting Comments through July 31, 2021 on
 Discontinuing the Satellite-Interpretation Message
 (SIM) from Weather Forecast Office Guam and
 replacing it with the Tropical Weather Discussion
 (TWD)

The NWS is accepting public comments until July 31, 2021, on a proposal to discontinue the Satellite Interpretation Message (SIM) text product produced by the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Guam. This product contains a description of synoptic weather features, significant weather areas, and significant cloud and meteorological features as determined by weather satellite imagery and other observational data. The product primarily was intended to provide information to weather offices in the western North Pacific Ocean that were previously unable to receive satellite imagery.

The NWS is proposing to terminate the SIM product and replace it with a Tropical Weather Discussion (TWD) product which can provide a more comprehensive assessment of hazards to users in the western North Pacific. The TWD product would routinely provide text information on tropical cyclones, tropical waves/disturbances, the location of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and associated convection along it, as well as information about other areas of significant convection.

You can find the most recent SIM here:

<https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?issuedby=GUM&product=SIM&site=nws&format=txt>

A product description and example of the Tropical Weather Discussion and the latest product are found at:

<https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/TropicalWeatherDiscussion.pdf>
<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/text/MIATWDAT.shtml>

An example/sample of what a Tropical Weather Discussion will look like from Guam can be found here:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/Guam_TWD_sample.pdf

The WFO Guam area of responsibility is defined here:

<https://www.weather.gov/gum/AOR>

If feedback supports this change, the NWS will send a Service Change Notice before terminating the SIM product and implementing the TWD for WFO Guam. Please send your feedback to:

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

If you have questions or require more information, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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