

NOUS41 KWBC 011335
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-29
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Allison Allen, Chief
 Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Changes to the Post Tropical Cyclone Text Product Issued by WFOs
Following Tropical Cyclones: Effective on or around June 1, 2019

The format of the Post Tropical Cyclone Report (PSH) text product of NWS
Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will change effective on or around June
1, 2019.

The overall structure of the PSH text product will remain the same, but
the format of Section E will be updated including modifications to the
section title. The section header will be changed from:

E. MAXIMUM STORM SURGE AND STORM TIDE

to:

E. MAXIMUM OBSERVED WATER LEVEL (WL)

The phrase OFFICIAL TIDE GAUGES NOTED WITH LEADING G will be removed.

The first line of each observation will now include the NWS station
identifier (ID) code, the location of the observation (city/town or
station name) and the county/parish and state, followed by the peak
measured water level in feet to two decimal places, the reference level
(datum) of the observed value, the date and time (Coordinated Universal
Time (UTC)) of the observation, and the source of the water level
measurement.

The second line of each observation will include the latitude and
longitude of the observed value in decimal degrees to four decimal
places.

Section E will no longer contain the peak storm surge value and
information pertaining to beach erosion. Beach erosion information may
be included in Section G. STORM IMPACTS BY COUNTY if necessary. There
will also no longer be individual remarks below each observation.
Overall remarks (if necessary) may still be included at the end of the
section.

These changes were made to standardize how maximum water level is reported by including only one peak overall height for each location during the event. Peak surge was removed because it only represents the departure from normal tide levels and often times does not coincide with maximum overall water level (when surge related inundation is greatest). Furthermore, the inclusion of the data source and reference datum removes ambiguity in the peak water level measurements, allowing for easier comparison of water levels collected by different agencies and across different WFOs.

These changes will ensure consistency of information provided across all WFOs required to issue the PSH product following tropical cyclones.

An example of the change can be found at:

https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/PSH_example2.txt

While the NWS continues to evaluate the format of the remaining sections of the PSH, no further changes are planned at this time.

Please send comments or requests for more information to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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