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Public Information Statement 24-39 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
805 AM EDT Tue Aug 27 2024

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

From: Greg Schoor, Chief
 Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments through October 16, 2024 on a
Proposal to Replace the Imperial Unit "Feet" with the Metric Unit "Meter"
in National Marine Center High Seas Text and Graphical Products

Updated to remove the proposed conversion of NWS offshore forecasts from
feet to meters and to extend the comment period.

Through Wednesday, October 16, 2024, the National Weather Service (NWS)
National Centers for Environmental Prediction's (NCEP's) Ocean Prediction
Center (OPC), the National Hurricane Center's Tropical Analysis and
Forecast Branch (TAFB), and NWS Pacific Region (PR) will be soliciting
comments on a proposal to replace the imperial unit "feet" with the metric
unit "meter" when providing wave heights in NWS National Marine Center
high seas products. The NWS has received input that customers would
prefer to have wave information provided in units of meters in National
Marine Center products especially for the high seas. Providing wave
information in meters for the high seas will also align the NWS with
international partners.

Please note that this does not affect NWS coastal waters forecasts within
60 NM of the coastline including the Great Lakes forecasts. This also
does not affect the offshore zone areas that go beyond 60 NM of the coast.

Text products in this proposed change include:

| AWIPS Identifier | WMO Heading ----- | Geographic Descriptor ----- |
|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| HSFAT1 | FZNT01 KWBC | High Seas Forecast METAREA IV |
| HSFAT2 | FZNT02 KNHC | High Seas Forecast ATLANTIC FROM 07N TO 31N W OF 35W INCLUDING CARIBBEAN SEA AND GULF OF MEXICO |
| HSFEPI | FZPN02 KWBC | High Seas Forecast METAREA XII |
| HSFEP1 | FZPN01 KWBC | High Seas Forecast PACIFIC N OF 30N AND S OF 67N E OF A LINE FROM BERING |

STRAIT TO 50N 160E

| | | |
|----------|------------------|---|
| HSFEP2 | FZPN03 KNHC | High Seas Forecast E PACIFIC FROM THE EQUATOR TO 30N E OF 140W AND 03.4S TO THE EQUATOR E OF 120W |
| HSFNP | FZPN40 PHFO | High Seas Forecast NORTH PACIFIC EQUATOR TO 30N BETWEEN 140W AND 160E |
| HSFSP | FZPS40 PHFO | High Seas Forecast SOUTH PACIFIC EQUATOR TO 25S BETWEEN 120W AND 160E |
| TCMAT1-5 | WTNT[21-25] KNHC | Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (NHC) |
| TCMAT1-5 | WTNT[21-25] KWNH | Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (WPC) |
| TCMCP1-5 | WTPA[21-25] PHFO | C Pacific Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (CPHC) |
| TCMEP1-5 | WTPZ[21-25] KNHC | E Pacific Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (NHC) |
| TCMEP1-5 | WTPZ[21-25] KWNH | E Pacific Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (WPC) |

Graphical products in this change include:

Ocean Prediction Center [Arctic](#), [Atlantic](#) and [Pacific](#) 24-hour wind and wave forecasts

Ocean Prediction Center [Atlantic](#) and [Pacific](#) wind/wave analyses

National Hurricane Center/Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch: [Atlantic](#) and [Pacific](#) Sea State analyses

National Hurricane Center/Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch: [Atlantic](#) and [Pacific](#) 24-hr, 48-hr, and 72-hr Wind/Wave forecasts

National Hurricane Center/Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch: [Atlantic](#) and [Pacific](#) High Wind/Seas forecasts

Honolulu Forecast Office Wind/Wave [analysis](#) and [24-hr](#), [48-hr](#), and [72-hr](#) forecast charts

Wave heights in the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) gridded binary (GRIB) files are in meters. The NDFD Graphical Display at <https://digital.weather.gov>, will continue to be able to be displayed in feet or meters.

A brief description of the proposal can be found at:

<https://ocean.weather.gov/proposed-meters.php>

You can submit comments on this proposal through October 16, 2024 at:

<https://ocean.weather.gov/survey-proposed-meters/index.php>

You can also submit comments to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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