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Service Change Notice 24-25
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Greg Schoor, Chief
 Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Issuance of U.S. Tropical Watches/Warnings on Intermediate Advisories, Inclusion of Links in the Tropical Cyclone Public Advisories, and Updates to the Time Zone Referenced in the Eastern Pacific Tropical Cyclone Forecast Products Beginning May 15, 2024

This Service Change Notice describes three separate changes to National Weather Service (NWS) tropical cyclone products and services that will go into effect during the 2024 hurricane season on or about May 15, 2024. These changes are outlined below.

Issuance of U.S. Tropical Cyclone Watches and Warnings on an Intermediate Advisory:

Previously, NWS Tropical Watches and Warnings could only be issued with a full advisory package or Special Advisory package. Beginning on or about May 15, 2024, the NWS will be able to issue U.S. tropical cyclone watches and warnings with an intermediate public advisory. This will allow for additional flexibilities in the issuance of these watches and warnings. Impacts from this change will be visible in the Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory Product (TCP) as the product will now include any new tropical cyclone watches and warnings issued with the intermediate advisory. In addition, the cone graphic will reflect any coastal tropical wind watch/warning changes. In the event of significant or unexpected track or intensity forecast changes, tropical cyclone watches and warnings may still be issued via a Special Advisory, even if it is near the time of an intermediate advisory, to allow for a complete advisory package to capture the track/intensity forecast change.

An example of the TCP product with tropical watches and warnings issued at the intermediate advisory can be found here:

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/IntermediateAdvisorywUSWWIssuanceExample.txt>

Inclusion of Links in the Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (TCP):

To limit the length of the Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory product and direct the focus to the most significant and impactful hazards and areas,

the Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory product will include, as needed, a reference to websites that provide pertinent graphical hazard information beginning with the 2024 hurricane season. When numerous locations are affected, this will reduce or eliminate the need to list the peak storm surge values and rainfall amounts except for higher impact areas.

An example of the TCP product with links referencing the Peak Storm Surge graphic and the Weather Prediction Center rainfall graphic can be found here:

[https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/TCP Example with SS and Rainfall Web Link.txt](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/TCP%20Example%20with%20SS%20and%20Rainfall%20Web%20Link.txt)

Changes to the Time Zone of Reference in the Eastern Pacific Tropical Cyclone Forecast Products:

Beginning on or about May 15, 2024, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) will change the time zone of reference for their Eastern Pacific tropical cyclone forecast products. The time zone of reference is based on the initial position of the tropical cyclone at the advisory issuance time. The time zone that will appear in Eastern Pacific tropical cyclone products will be determined by the initial longitude of the tropical cyclone as follows:

- Central Standard Time will be used when the longitude at advisory time is east of 106.0W.
- Mountain Standard Time will be used when the longitude at advisory time is between 106.0W to 114.9W.
- During Daylight Saving Time, Pacific Daylight Time will be used when the longitude at advisory time is west of 115.0W. Otherwise, Pacific Standard Time will be used. Please note that this guidance applies to tropical cyclones that may affect Southern California.

Note: If the final forecast point for a tropical cyclone in the Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (TCM) is west of 140W, the advisory will use Hawaii Standard Time (HST).

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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