

NOUS41 KWBC 302040  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-12  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
340 PM EST Thu Jan 30 2025

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

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

Subject: Replacing the Imperial Unit Feet with the Metric Unit Meter in  
National Marine Center High Seas Text and Graphical Products on or about  
May 15, 2025

On or about May 15, 2025, the National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction's (NCEP) Ocean Prediction Center (OPC), the National Hurricane Center's (NHC) Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB), and NWS Pacific Region (PR) will replace the imperial unit "feet" with the metric unit "meter" for wave heights in text and graphical products for the high seas. Responses from a recent public comment period indicated that users prefer wave information in high seas products in units of meters. Additionally, this change will align NWS high seas products with international partners and mariners and with existing high seas products.

This change does not include the NWS Coastal Waters Forecasts (CWF) products within 60 nautical miles (NM) of the U.S. coastline and the forecasts over the Great Lakes. This also does not affect the offshore zones that mostly go beyond 60 NM of the coast.

Text products in this change include:

AWIPS Identifier	WMO Heading	Geographic Descriptor
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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: [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 Weather Forecast Office (WFO HFO): 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 [digital.weather.gov](#) will continue to be able to be displayed in feet or meters.

A brief description of the change can be found at:

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

You can submit comments on this change at:

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

You can also submit comments to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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