

NOUS41 KWBC 161330
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 26-26
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
930 AM EDT Mon Mar 16 2026

To: Subscribers:
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From: Jamie Rhome, Deputy Director
 National Hurricane Center

Subject: Changes to the Cone Depiction on the Track and Error Cone Graphics for Tropical Cyclones in the South Pacific and Western North Pacific Basins on or about May 15, 2026

On or about May 15, 2026, the National Weather Service (NWS) will adjust the cone depicted on the Tropical Cyclone (TC) Track and Error Cone ("Cone") Graphics produced for tropical cyclones in the South Pacific and western North Pacific basins that is based on forecasts issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC).

TC Track and Error Cone Graphics that reflect the analyses and forecasts provided in the TC Warning products issued by JTWC have been produced operationally for the South Pacific and western North Pacific basins since 2023. Traditionally, these graphics have been generated by the NWS Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) utilizing the forecast information from JTWC. Beginning for the 2026 hurricane season, these graphics will now be generated by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) based on the forecast information from JTWC.

To align with the NHC operational cone style that will be in place for the 2026 hurricane season, the days 1-5 cone on the Track Graphic will now be depicted in white. Previously, the cone for days 1-3 was shown in white while the track for days 4-5 was shaded with dots. Watch/warning information will not be plotted on the cone.

The South Pacific and western North Pacific Cone Graphics are only produced for tropical cyclones that JTWC is issuing warning bulletins on which have at least one forecast point within 10S-20S and 164.5W-178.5W for the South Pacific and within 0-25N and 180-130E for the western North Pacific.

Operational Tropical Cyclone Track ("Cone") Graphics for the South Pacific basin using JTWC forecasts are provided at the website listed below:

<https://www.weather.gov/ppg/spacTropical>

Operational Tropical Cyclone Track ("Cone") Graphics for the western North Pacific basin using JTWC forecasts are provided at the website listed below:

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

These graphics will be available shortly after the release of the corresponding TC Warning products from JTWC.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact:

NWS Tropical Program
National Hurricane Center
Email: tropical.program@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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