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Public Information Statement, Comment Request: Amended  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
850 AM EST Tue Nov 18 2014

TO:     Subscribers:  
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FROM:   David Soroka  
       Acting Chief, Marine and Coastal Weather Services  
       Branch

SUBJECT: Amended: Comments sought through October 15, 2015, on  
          the Experimental Gerling-Hanson Wind Wave Plots

Amended to extend the comment period through October 15, 2015,  
and to expand to additional Coastal Weather Forecast Offices and  
National Centers

NWS is seeking comments through October 15, 2015, on experimental Gerling-Hanson Wind Wave Graphical Point Forecast Plots. The NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Eureka, CA, has developed a graphical vector plot of predefined point guidance for up to six wave systems (direction, height and period) and wind (direction, speed) through a 5-day period at 6-hourly increments. If the point is associated with a buoy location, the previous 24 hour observations, partitioned in the same manner as the forecast waves, are plotted in 3-hour intervals. The forecast wave information is from the Nearshore Wave Prediction System (NWPS) model output. The wind is forecaster derived. This project has been experimental in Western Region (WR) since 2012 and feedback has been positive. The experimental plots are now being tested in other regions and National Centers and feedback is being collected for proposed national implementation. NWS marine users can use the Gerling-Hanson Plots to quickly assess the wind and sea conditions out to 5 days. The Webpage highlights trends in the conditions and helps users identify times of favorable and hazardous conditions.

Since observed buoy data is also presented in the same format, users can evaluate the current conditions and forecast conditions at the same time. Users also can assess how the forecast is performing in the near term relative to current conditions because both views are on a plot for locations that have buoys. NWS forecasters also use the Gerling-Hanson Plots to determine which sets of wave data (up to a maximum of six individual wave systems) will be used as initial guidance for the official

gridded forecast.

The experimental Gerling-Hanson Wind Wave Plots are currently available in Western Region at Eureka (EKA), all Southern Region Coastal WFOs, including Puerto Rico, and the National Hurricane Center. Coastal WFOs in other regions and national centers will display the plots as the capability becomes available.

To view the Gerling-Hanson Plots, see

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/eka/marine/hansonPlots/>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/bro/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/crp/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/hgx/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/lch/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/lix/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/mob/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/tae/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/key/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/mfl/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/jax/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/sju/nwps/partition/CG1>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/rtimages/nhc/nwps/partition/CG1/>

For a description of this new product, see

<http://products.weather.gov/viewExperimental.php?selrow=408>

To provide feedback, see

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=HPGT>

The feedback period will run through October 15, 2015. At the end of the feedback period this product will be considered for national operational implementation.

Feedback, and questions, can also be sent to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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