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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
835 AM EDT Mon Oct 20 2014

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From: David Soroka
 Acting Chief, Marine and Coastal Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Proposed Changes to the
 Hurricane Local Statement through November 21, 2014

Reference: Soliciting Comments on an Experimental Hurricane
 Local Watch/Warning Product Issued October 20, 2014

Effective immediately and continuing through November 21, 2014,
the NWS is seeking user feedback on proposed changes to the
Hurricane Local Statement (HLS) for the 2015 hurricane season.

A recommendation from the Hurricane Irene Service Assessment was
to "improve the timing, readability, and usefulness of the HLS
issued by NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) when an area is
under tropical cyclone threat."

The following changes to the HLS, using input from social
scientists, are being proposed for the 2015 hurricane season for
the Atlantic Hurricane basin:

1. The HLS will not use Valid Time Event Codes (VTEC).
Additional information on VTEC can be found online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01017003curr.pdf>

2. The HLS will contain a succinct meteorological discussion
and will have impact and preparedness information for land
areas only (no marine areas). Product would be intended
for emergency managers, public and media.

This product is meant to be paired with the WFO Hurricane Local
Watch/Warning Product to provide the complete localized tropical
forecast from each WFO. For more information on the Hurricane
Local Watch/Warning Product, see the Public Information
Statement entitled Soliciting Comments on an Experimental
Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product issued October 20, 2014:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notif.htm>

A Product Description Document on the proposed changes to the HLS can be found at:

https://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD_HLS_Proposed_Changes_rev.pdf

A complete list of WFOs affected by the proposed changes above can be found at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/pns/WFOs-affected.pdf>

A static example of the proposed changes to the HLS can be found at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/pns/HLS-example.pdf>

As part of this proposal, the Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product, referenced above, and the Marine Weather Warning (MWW) will become the mechanism for issuing tropical watches/warnings at the WFO level in the Atlantic Hurricane basin.

There will be no change in the current format of the HLS issued by WFOs in the eastern, central and western Pacific Hurricane basins, except tropical cyclone watches and warning for marine zones will be moved to the MWW. WFOs affected are: San Diego, CA; Los Angeles/Oxnard, CA; Honolulu, HI and Guam.

Please provide feedback on the proposed changes at:

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

For questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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