

NOUS41 KWBC 231158
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
750 AM EDT Fri May 23 2014

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From: Mark Tew
Chief, Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting comments for Experimental Potential Storm
Surge Flooding Map through November 30, 2014

Effective June 1, 2014 and continuing through November 30, 2014,
the NWS is seeking user feedback on experimental Potential Storm
Surge Flooding Map issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC).

Developed over the course of several years in consultation with
emergency managers, broadcast meteorologists, and others, this
new map will show:

- Geographical areas where inundation from storm surge could occur
- How high above ground the water could reach in those areas

Areas of flooding on the map are represented in different colors
based on water level:

- Blue: up to 3 feet above ground
- Yellow: greater than 3 feet above ground
- Orange: greater than 6 feet above ground
- Red: greater than 9 feet above ground

The map does not take into account wave action, freshwater
flooding from rainfall, flooding inside levees and overtopping of
levees.

The initial map will usually be issued at the same time as the
initial hurricane watch or, in some cases, a tropical storm
watch, for any portion of the Gulf or East Coast of the United
States. The map is based on the latest forecast track and
intensity for the tropical cyclone, and takes into account likely
forecast errors.

In association with every new NHC full advisory package, the map
is subject to change every 6 hours. Due to the processing time

required to generate the storm surge guidance and produce the map, it will be available about 60 minutes following advisory release.

The map represents a reasonable estimate of worst-case scenario flooding of normally dry land at particular locations due to storm surge. There is a 1-in-10 chance that the storm surge flooding at any particular location could be higher than the values shown on the map. The map is created from multiple runs of the Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) model. Additional information and examples of the map can be found online at:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/experimental/inundation>

The map will be available on the NHC website at:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/cyclones>

Users are encouraged to provide feedback on this new experimental product by using the brief survey and comment form available online at:

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

For technical questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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For policy 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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