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Public Information Statement, Comment Request
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1100 AM EDT Wed Apr 1 2015

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

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

Subject: Soliciting comments on the Experimental Modernized Open Lakes
Forecast for the Great Lakes from April 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016

NWS is seeking user comments on the Experimental Modernized Open Lakes
Forecast for the Great Lakes from April 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016.

The Open Lake Forecast (GLF) is a text product issued by five primary
Great Lakes Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) to state expected weather
conditions within their marine forecast area of responsibility through Day
5. The primary offices responsible for issuing the GLF are:

WFO Marquette, MI (for Lake Superior)
WFO Detroit, MI (for Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair)
WFO Chicago, IL (for Lake Michigan)
WFO Cleveland, OH (for Lake Erie)
WFO Buffalo, NY (for Lake Ontario)

These offices routinely issue a GLF four times per day.

During the initial testing season, the experimental Open Lake Forecast
will be produced in parallel with the current operational Open Lake
Forecast by the WFO Detroit for the Open Lake waters of Lake Huron. Other
WFOs may add a similar parallel experimental Open Lake Forecast at a later
date.

The product format will be as follows:

OPEN LAKE FORECAST FOR LAKE HURON
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CITY STATE
TIME-DATE (example: 900 AM EDT FRI MMM DD YYYY)

.SYNOPSIS...

SSZXXX-XXX>XXX-DDHHMM- (UGC/FIPS CODING)

GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTORS

TIME-DATE (example: 900 AM EDT FRI MMM DD YYYY)

...HEADLINE...

.TODAY...
WEATHER.....
WIND (10M). KNOTS
WIND (30M). KNOTS
SIGNIFICANT WAVES. FEET/METERS
MAXIMUM WAVE (HIGHEST 5 PERCENT). FEET/METERS (ABOVE
THRESHOLD)

.TONIGHT...

.TOMORROW...

.TOMORROW NIGHT...

.FORECAST DAYS 3 THROUGH 5...
WEATHER...10M WIND. SIGNIFICANT WAVES

double dollar sign

This forecast is arranged in a tabular manner and provides weather, wind, and wave information in an easy to read format. The wind forecast features the wind at both the surface standard 10 meter height and a forecast value at 30 meters. The wave forecast features the standard significant wave height which represents the average height of the highest one-third waves and the maximum wave height which is the average of the highest one-tenth waves.

For details on this product enhancement, please see:

<https://products.weather.gov/viewExperimental.php?selrow=553>

Please provide comments by January 1, 2016 at:

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

During this comment period, a proactive effort will be made to educate users and partners of the product availability and use. At the end of the comment period, if comments are favorable, the modernized GLF will be evaluated for use at the other primary Great Lakes WFOs and a decision will be made whether to transition to operational, extend the comment period, or to discontinue the enhancement.

For more information please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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