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Public Information Statement, Comment Request National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC 905 AM EDT Mon Aug 10 2015

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From: Mike Dion, Acting Chief

Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Experimental Impact-Based Marine Hazard Grids until June 30, 2016

The NWS is accepting comments until June 30, 2016, on Experimental Impact-Based Marine Hazard Grids (IBH) being tested at the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Medford, OR, (MFR). Additional coastal WFOs along the Gulf of Mexico may participate at a future date. A Public Information Statement (PNS) will be sent out at that time.

The Experimental IBH provides the marine community with a detailed depiction of expected adverse weather conditions. Unlike zone-based hazards, the Experimental IBH also show parts of zones where no hazard is expected, which allows for continued marine operations. The NWS Weather-Ready Nation concept calls for improving information to users and partners to enhance decision support. Providing additional hazard details fills that requirement. The details, combined with the separation of hazards, allow mariners to make informed decisions based upon their vessel capabilities and personal level of skill.

The hazard grid information can be viewed at:  $\frac{\text{http://digital.weather.gov}}{\text{Select "Hazards" from the drop-down menu.}}$ 

The Experimental IBH are described in detail, with sample graphics included, in a Product Description Document available online at:

http://products.weather.gov/viewExperimental.php?selrow=559

Please provide comments on this experimental service via a short online survey at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=IBMHG

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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