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Public Information Statement 17-11A
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Allison Allen
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Subject: Changes to the Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook
(GTWO) Issued by the National Hurricane Center: Effective on or
around May 15, 2017

Effective on or about May 15, 2017, the content of the Graphical
Tropical Weather Outlook (GTWO) issued by the National Hurricane
Center (NHC) will be modified. The majority of the changes have
been necessitated to accommodate potential tropical cyclones.

A potential tropical cyclone is a disturbance that is not yet a
tropical cyclone, but one for which the NWS has begun issuing
tropical cyclone watches or warnings because it poses the threat
of bringing tropical storm or hurricane conditions to land areas
within 48 hours.

Summary of changes:

The current location of all active tropical cyclones will be
included on the 5-day GTWO.

The current location of potential tropical cyclones will be
included on the 2-day and 5-day GTWO.

The current location of the potential tropical cyclones will be
depicted by an x, with the number of the potential cyclone
(e.g., One) displayed above the x. The x will be color coded
based on the forecast likelihood of tropical cyclone formation
during the 2- or 5-day period corresponding to that graphic:

Yellow, 30 percent or less chance
Orange, 40-60 percent chance

Red, 70 percent or greater chance

A swath showing the forecast development area of the potential tropical cyclone will not be shown on the 5-day GTWO to avoid confusion with the existing 5-day track forecasts that will be provided for those systems.

The current location of potential tropical cyclones will not be included in the shapefile that accompanies each issuance of the GTWO. Users will be directed to the shapefiles accompanying the full forecast advisory for potential tropical cyclones. The forecast advisory shapefiles will include the current location and forecast track of the potential tropical cyclone.

If you have questions or comments, please contact:

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