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From: Allison Allen
Chief, Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: NWS Hazard Simplification (Haz Simp) Project:
Soliciting Public Comments through January 11, 2018,
on Proposed Consolidation and Reformatting of NWS
Marine Hazard Messaging Products

NWS will be collecting comments through January 11, 2018, on a
proposed consolidation (i.e., reduction in the number of) and
reformatting of marine Watches, Warnings, Advisories (WWA), and
Statements.

This comment collection effort is a follow-up from an initial
consolidation and reformatting proposal. The original Public
Information Statement can be reviewed here:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/pns17-31hazsimp_marineaaa.htm

The initial survey proposed consolidation of all offshore marine
wave/wind products into a single "Marine Watch," "Marine
Warning," and "Marine Advisory." Based on feedback from the
initial comment period, only small craft advisories are being
proposed for consolidation at this time. No changes have been
made to the proposal for coastal product consolidation except
the name of the consolidated products from "Beach" to "Surf
Zone," based on feedback from the initial survey. The overall
changes proposed by the Haz Simp team are based on feedback from
the results of social science research. Analyses from these
efforts indicate that users are sometimes confused by the large
number of hazard messages or "products" NWS currently issues.
Feedback has also indicated NWS should apply a consistent
product formatting approach to communicate expected hazards and
associated impacts.

The survey for the proposed marine product changes is available
at the following link and will remain open through January 11,
2018:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P9B25ZY
Based on feedback received, NWS may implement some or all of the proposals. A Service Change Notice with minimum 75-day lead time would be issued in advance of any operational changes.

Additional information regarding the proposed product consolidation and reformatting may be found in the Product Description Document (PDD) at the link below:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/Marine%20PDDV2.pdf

Haz Simp Website:

http://www.weather.gov/hazardsimplification/

For more information, please email:

hazsimp@noaa.gov

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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