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Public Information Statement 18-20
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Allison Allen
 Chief, Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Proposed Format Change to the Surf Zone
Forecast through August 31, 2018

The NWS is seeking public comment on proposed format changes to the Surf
Zone Forecast (SRF) through August 31, 2018.

The SRF provides valuable and life-saving information about hazards in
the surf zone to all potentially impacted populations along the beach,
including the public and providers of beach safety services, e.g.,
lifeguards. As a result of updates applied at different times and
locations to this product over the last several years, there is a need to
restore a consistent national format.

Proposed changes to the SRF:

- National standard format: A consistent format will enable users to find
surf zone information more easily, regardless of which beach they are
visiting. The SRF will contain surf zone conditions out to two days with
the option to extend the forecast out to five days.

- Definitions for Rip Current and Swim Risk will be located at the bottom
of the product. Currently, many offices provide the definition next to
the Rip Current or Swim Risk, which makes the forecast product length
longer.

Examples of the proposed SRF format can be found at:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/srf_examples.pdf

If you have questions or comments, please contact:

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