

NOUS41 KWBC 171810  
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 08-20  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
210 PM EDT MON MAR 17 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:  
-FAMILY OF SERVICES  
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE  
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK  
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE Z. PIERCE  
CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO TROPICAL CYCLONE PROBABILISTIC WIND  
SPEED TEXT PRODUCTS: EFFECTIVE MAY 15 2008

REFER TO: SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 08-19: TRANSMITTED  
MAR 17 2008

BASED ON USER FEEDBACK...SEVERAL ENHANCEMENTS TO THE TROPICAL  
CYCLONE PROBABILISTIC WIND SPEED TEXT /PWS/ PRODUCTS BECOME  
EFFECTIVE MAY 15 2008. THIS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING SUITE OF  
PRODUCTS:

BASIN	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
ATLANTIC	FONT/11-15/ KNHC	PWSAT/1-5/
EASTERN PACIFIC	FOPZ/11-15/ KNHC	PWSEP/1-5/
CENTRAL PACIFIC	FOPA/11-15/ PHFO	PWSCP/1-5/

1. A MAXIMUM WIND SPEED /INTENSITY/ PROBABILITY TABLE...DENOTED  
AS SECTION I...WILL BE ADDED. THE TABLE WILL PROVIDE  
PROBABILITIES THAT THE MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WIND SPEED OF THE  
TROPICAL CYCLONE WILL BE WITHIN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES  
AT EACH OFFICIAL FORECAST TIME IN THE NEXT 5 DAYS:

- DISSIPATED
- TROPICAL DEPRESSION
- TROPICAL STORM
- HURRICANE
- EACH SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE CATEGORIES 1 THROUGH 5.

2. THE EXISTING TABLE IN THE CURRENT PWS PRODUCTS WILL BE  
DENOTED AS SECTION II AND IDENTIFIED AS THE WIND SPEED  
PROBABILITY TABLE FOR SPECIFIC LOCATIONS. ADDITIONALLY THE  
CURRENT LOCATION-SPECIFIC PROBABILITIES DO NOT INCLUDE LOCATIONS  
HAVING A CUMULATIVE 5-DAY PROBABILITY LESS THAN 2.5 PERCENT.  
THIS THRESHOLD WILL BE LOWERED TO 1.0 PERCENT FOR THE 64-KNOT  
PROBABILITIES ONLY.

3. THE PORTION OF THE EXISTING PRODUCT...NOW DENOTED AS WIND  
SPEED PROBABILITIES FOR FORECAST POSITIONS...PROVIDING WIND SPEED

PROBABILITIES AT THE OFFICIAL FORECAST POINTS THROUGH 120 HOURS...WILL BE ELIMINATED. THIS INFORMATION IS REPLACED BY THE NEW TABLE IN SECTION I...PROVIDING MAXIMUM WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES FOR THE FULL AREAL EXTENT OF THE STORM THROUGH 120 HOURS.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE ENHANCED PWS TEXT PRODUCTS IS PROVIDED ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/HURRICANE/PDFS/WIND-PROB.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/os/hurricane/pdfs/wind-prob.pdf)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT

SCOTT KISER  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH  
1325 EAST WEST HWY ROOM 13126  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND 20910  
PHONE: 301-713-1677 EXTENSION 121

NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

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