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PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 10-01  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
930 AM EST TUE JAN 5 2010

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

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

SUBJECT: CHANGE TO ISSUANCE CRITERIA FOR TROPICAL CYCLONE  
WATCHES AND WARNINGS ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL  
HURRICANE CENTER: EFFECTIVE FOR 2010 HURRICANE  
SEASON

EFFECTIVE WITH THE 2010 HURRICANE SEASON... THE NATIONAL  
HURRICANE CENTER /NHC/ WILL IMPLEMENT NEW ISSUANCE CRITERIA TO  
INCREASE THE LEAD TIME ASSOCIATED WITH TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCHES  
AND WARNINGS BY 12 HOURS. THIS INCREASE IN LEAD TIME HAS BEEN  
MADE POSSIBLE BY IMPROVEMENTS IN TROPICAL CYCLONE TRACK  
FORECASTING OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES. THE CHANGE IS EFFECTIVE  
ON MAY 15 2010 FOR THE EASTERN PACIFIC HURRICANE BASIN AND ON  
JUNE 1 2010 FOR THE ATLANTIC HURRICANE BASIN.

TROPICAL STORM WATCHES WILL GENERALLY BE ISSUED WHEN TROPICAL  
STORM CONDITIONS ARE POSSIBLE ALONG THE COAST WITHIN 48 HOURS.  
TROPICAL STORM WARNINGS WILL BE ISSUED WHEN THESE CONDITIONS ARE  
EXPECTED WITHIN 36 HOURS.

SIMILAR INCREASES IN LEAD TIME WILL APPLY TO HURRICANE WATCHES  
AND WARNINGS. THE HURRICANE WATCHES AND WARNINGS WILL GENERALLY  
BE TIMED TO PROVIDE 48 AND 36 HOURS OF NOTICE...RESPECTIVELY...  
BEFORE THE ONSET OF TROPICAL-STORM-FORCE WINDS. THIS THRESHOLD  
FORCES A SUSPENSION OF MANY HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES.

DETAILED DEFINITIONS FOR TROPICAL STORM AND HURRICANE WATCHES  
AND WARNINGS ARE POSTED ON LINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS:

[HTTP://WWW.NHC.NOAA.GOV/WATCHWARN\\_CHANGES.SHTML](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/watchwarn_changes.shtml)

TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCHES AND WARNINGS FROM NHC ARE CONVEYED  
THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING FORECAST PRODUCTS:

ATLANTIC HURRICANE BASIN:  
PRODUCT TYPE LINE AWIPS ID/S WMO HEADINGS  
TROPICAL CYCLONE PUBLIC ADVISORY TCPAT1-5 WTNT31-35 KNHC

TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST/ADVISORY TCMAT1-5 WTNT21-25 KNHC  
TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCH/WARNING TCVAT1-5 WTNT81-85 KNHC

EASTERN PACIFIC HURRICANE BASIN:

PRODUCT TYPE LINE AWIPS ID/S WMO HEADINGS  
TROPICAL CYCLONE PUBLIC ADVISORY TCPEP1-5 WTPZ31-35 KNHC  
TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST/ADVISORY TCMEP1-5 WTPZ21-25 KNHC  
TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCH/WARNING TCVEP1-5 WTPZ81-85 KNHC

THERE ARE NO CHANGES TO THE AWIPS IDENTIFIERS...WMO PRODUCT  
HEADINGS OR PRODUCT ISSUANCE TIMES FOR THE ABOVE PRODUCTS.

THE NHC IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL METEOROLOGICAL DECISIONS  
CONCERNING FORECASTING OF TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL SYSTEMS FOR  
THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AND THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN...NORTH OF THE  
EQUATOR AND EAST OF 140 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDE.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

JAMES FRANKLIN  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER  
11691 SW 17TH STREET  
MIAMI FLORIDA 33165  
305-229-4475

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF/HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif/htm)

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