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Service Change Notice 13-19
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1010 AM EST Tue Mar 5 2013

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-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Manager Weather Information Network
-NOAAPORT
Other NWS partners and NWS employees

From: Mark Tew
Chief, Marine and Coastal Services Branch

Subject: Elimination of the Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate
Product with the information provided in the
Tropical Cyclone Update Product Effective May 15, 2013

Effective May 15, 2013, the Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate (TCE) product issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) will be terminated. The information previously provided in the TCE will be provided in the Tropical Cyclone Update (TCU) product.

Effective June 26, 2013, the TCE product issued by WFO Guam will be terminated. The information previously provided in the TCE will be provided in a new TCU product issued by WFO Guam.

The TCE provides information regarding the center location of a tropical cyclone when it nears the coast and the center can be easily tracked with land-based radar. In recent years, the TCU was modified and now can include a summary block that conveys not only the storm's center location but also other key parameters. The TCU's summary block now contains all of the information previously conveyed in the TCE, so there is no longer a need for the TCE. In those situations where a TCE would have been issued, the NWS will issue a TCU instead. Substituting the TCU for the TCE provides the same continuous flow of information with the advantage of a fixed, easily decoded format within a single product.

The WMO headers and AWIPS IDs that will be discontinued are as follows:

Basin	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Atlantic	WTNT/51-55/ KNHC	TCEAT/1-5/
Eastern Pacific	WTPZ/51-55/ KNHC	TCEEP/1-5/
Central Pacific	WTPA/51-55/ KHFO	TCECP/1-5/
Western North Pacific	WTPQ/51-55/ PGUM	TCEPQ/1-5/

The WMO headers and AWIPS IDs for the TCU products issued by NHC and CPHC will remain unchanged and are as follows:

Basin	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Atlantic	WTNT/61-65/ KNHC	TCUAT/1-5/
Eastern Pacific	WTPZ/61-55/ KNHC	TCUEP/1-5/
Central Pacific	WTPA/61-55/ KHFO	TCUCP/1-5/

Currently WFO Guam does not issue TCU products but effective June 26, 2013, it will have the capability. The following new WMO Headers and AWIPS IDs will be used by WFO Guam when issuing a TCU product:

Basin	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Western North Pacific	WTPQ/61-65/ PGUM	TCUPQ/1-5/

Partners and users will need to update their system(s) to receive TCU products from WFO Guam.

If you have comments or questions please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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