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Service Change Notice 14-66 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Eli Jacks
 Acting Chief, Forecast Services Division

Subject: Amended: Changes to the Hurricane Local Statement: Effective May 7, 2015

Amended effective date from June 1 to May 7, 2015, due to a high chance of a subtropical or tropical cyclone developing near the southeast United States coast.

Amended examples to change "Significant Potential Impacts" section header to "Potential Impacts".

Corrected to note that for the eastern, central and western Pacific Hurricane basins, there will be no change in the current format of the HLS.

Effective May 7, 2015, the NWS will implement changes to the Hurricane Local Statement (HLS). The changes are in response to a recommendation from the Hurricane Irene Service Assessment to "improve the timing, readability, and usefulness of the HLS issued by NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) when an area is under tropical cyclone threat."

The following changes to the HLS, using input from social scientists, will take place in 2015 for WFOs issuing the HLS in the Atlantic hurricane basin:

- The HLS will not use Valid Time Event Codes (VTEC). Additional information on VTEC can be found online at:

<https://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01017003curr.pdf>

- The HLS will become a non-segmented product. All land forecast zones will be included in every issuance.

- The HLS will contain a succinct meteorological discussion and will have sections containing generalized local impact and preparedness information for land areas only. Potential impact information is ordered based upon the greatest expected impact. Possible sections are wind, storm surge, flooding rain, tornadoes, and other coastal hazards. Only those sections

with a legitimate threat will be included.

- The HLS will no longer be the disseminating mechanism for issuing tropical cyclone watches and warnings in a WFO's area of responsibility. Local tropical cyclone watches and warnings in effect will be issued through the following WFO products:

Land zones: Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product. Please see [Service Change Notice 14-67](#). The HLS is meant to be paired with the Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product to provide a complete localized tropical forecast from each WFO.

WFO marine zones: Marine Weather Message (MWW). A Service Change Notice detailing this change will be sent out at a later date.

A complete list of WFOs affected by the changes above can be found at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hurricane/resources/wfos.pdf>

There will be no change to World Meteorological Organization (WMO) headers or Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) IDs for the HLS.

Examples of the HLS for the Atlantic hurricane basin can be found at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/pns/HLS_example1.txt

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/pns/HLS_example2.txt

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/pns/HLS_example3.txt

For the eastern, central and western Pacific Hurricane basins, there will be no change in the current format of the HLS. Tropical cyclone watches and warnings for WFO marine zones also will be moved to the MWW. WFOs affected are:

San Diego, CA
Los Angeles/Oxnard, CA Honolulu, HI
Guam

For questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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