

NOUS41 KWBC 091845 AAA  
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 19-15 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
245 PM EDT Thu Apr 9 2020

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From:         Mike Angove, Acting Chief  
              Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject:      Updated: Soliciting comments on the experimental  
              Tropical-Storm-Force Winds Timing Base Data  
              through November 30, 2020

Updated to extend comment period through November 30, 2020.

The NWS is seeking user feedback on experimental Tropical-Storm-Force Winds Timing Base Data issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) through November 30, 2020.

NHC began providing experimental Tropical-Storm-Force Winds Timing Base Data during the 2018 hurricane season. For details, please see NWS Public Information Statement 18-18:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/pns18-18toa\\_base-data.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/pns18-18toa_base-data.pdf)

and

Service Change Notice 18-39

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn18-39time\\_arrival\\_graphics.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn18-39time_arrival_graphics.pdf)

These base data are used to create the Time of Arrival Graphics found on the NHC website:

<http://hurricanes.gov>

These base data allow users to calculate the timing of tropical-storm-force winds from a tropical cyclone in their specific areas of interest. The data are provided in epoch (seconds since Jan 01, 1970, Universal Coordinated Time (UTC)) format. A user can convert this date to match their local time zone if desired.

NHC creates the timing information using the same Monte

Carlo wind speed probability model currently used to determine the risk of tropical-storm- and hurricane-force winds at individual locations. This model constructs 1,000 plausible scenarios using the official NWS tropical cyclone forecast and its historical errors. Additional information on this product and the underlying technique are online at:  
[http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/about/pdf/About Windspeed Probabilities.pdf](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/about/pdf/About_Windspeed_Probabilities.pdf)

The base data will be updated with each new NHC (Atlantic and East Pacific basins) or Central Pacific Hurricane Center (Central Pacific basin) full advisory package issued at 0300, 0900, 1500 and 2100 UTC.

When the NWS is issuing advisories, the base data will be available for download at the following ftp address:  
<https://ftp.nhc.ncep.noaa.gov/toa/>

Users will need the wgrib2 program to decode the data. Information about this program can be found here:  
[https://www.weather.govmdl/degrrib\\_home](https://www.weather.govmdl/degrrib_home)

The file naming structure sequentially orders the archived data files by using a 3 digit advisory number as depicted below:

```
BBSSYYYY_TOA_TOD_34kt_adv###.grib2
  Where B = basin ID (AL = Atlantic, EP = East Pacific,
                    CP = Central Pacific)
        S = Storm ID (sequential number assigned to
                    storms within the basin)
        Y = Year
        ### = 3 digit advisory number for this Storm ID
```

Users are encouraged to provide feedback on this experimental product to:

[Tropical.Program@noaa.gov](mailto:Tropical.Program@noaa.gov)

For technical and policy questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:  
<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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