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Public Information Statement 20-14
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Mike Angove, Chief (Acting)
 Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Weather Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Proposal to Change Small Craft
 Advisory to Small Craft Warning through May 24, 2020

Through May 24, 2020, the NWS is soliciting specific feedback on the proposal to change a Small Craft Advisory product to a Small Craft Warning product, including the headlines.

The NWS is considering a major change to the Watch, Warning, and Advisory (WWA) system. For information on this and other proposed changes see:

<https://www.weather.gov/hazardsimplification/>

As part of the proposed new system, NWS would remove the terms "Advisory," "Special Weather Statement," and "NOWcast" as headlines and streamline all sub-Watch and sub-Warning information into a single, plain language statement, with a few exceptions. One exception to this change includes the marine Small Craft Advisory (SCA) product.

Due to the critical nature and use of the information in the Small Craft Advisory product and the fact that associated conditions require vessels of a certain size to take protective action, NWS proposes renamed this product "Small Craft Warning" instead of converting it to a plain-language statement. The NWS regional criteria for issuing Small Craft Advisories would remain the same for Small Craft Warnings. Below is a link to the current regional SCA criteria:

<https://www.weather.gov/marine/faq#13>

A description of the proposal to change Small Craft Advisory to Small Craft Warning, product examples, and requirements explanation can be found at the following link:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ProposaltoChangeSmallCraftAdvisorytoWarning_2020.pdf

Please provide feedback by taking the survey at this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VZGX6BF>

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