

NOUS41 KWBC 011335  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-29  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
935 AM EDT Mon Apr 1 2019

TO:           Subscribers:  
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FROM:         Allison Allen  
              Chief, Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

SUBJECT:      Changes to the Post Tropical Cyclone text product  
              issued by WFOs following tropical cyclones effective on  
              or around June 1, 2019

The format of the Post Tropical Cyclone Report (PSH) text product NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will change effective on or around June 1, 2019.

The overall structure of the PSH text product will remain the same, but the format of Section E will be updated including modifications to the section title. The section header will be changed from:

E. MAXIMUM STORM SURGE AND STORM TIDE  
to:  
E. MAXIMUM OBSERVED WATER LEVEL (WL)

The phrase OFFICIAL TIDE GAUGES NOTED WITH LEADING G will be removed.

The first line of each observation will now include the NWS station identifier (ID) code, the location of the observation (city/town or station name) and the county/parish and state, followed by the peak measured water level in feet to two decimal places, the reference level (datum) of the observed value, the date and time (UTC) of the observation, and the source of the water level measurement.

The second line of each observation will include the latitude and longitude of the observed value in decimal degrees to four decimal places.

Section E will no longer contain the peak storm surge value and information pertaining to beach erosion. Beach erosion information may be included in Section G. STORM IMPACTS BY COUNTY if necessary. There will also no longer be individual remarks below each observation. Overall remarks (if necessary) may still be included at the end of the section.

These changes were made to standardize how maximum water level is reported by including only one peak overall height for each location during the event. Peak surge was removed because it only represents the departure from normal tide levels and often times does not coincide with maximum overall water level (when surge related inundation is greatest). Furthermore, the inclusion of the data source and reference datum removes ambiguity in the peak water level measurements, allowing for easier comparison of water levels collected by different agencies and across different WFOs.

These changes will ensure consistency of information provided across all WFOs required to issue the PSH product following tropical cyclones.

An example of the change can be found at:

[https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/PSH\\_example2.txt](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/PSH_example2.txt)

While the NWS continues to evaluate the format of the remaining sections of the PSH, no further changes are planned at this time.

Please send comments or requests for more information to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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