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Service Change Notice 20-19  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring, MD  
1115 AM EST Tue Feb 11 2020

To:           Subscribers:  
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From:         Michael Angove  
              Chief, Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services  
              Branch (Acting)

Subject:      Format Change to the Surf Zone Forecast Effective  
              April 22, 2020

Effective April 22, 2020, the Surf Zone Forecast (SRF) issued by coastal and Great Lake Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will be provided in a consistent format.

The SRF provides valuable and life-saving information about hazards in the surf zone to all populations along the beach. These populations includes the public as well as providers of beach safety services such as lifeguards.

Changes to the SRF are:

- Providing a consistent standard format to enable users to find surf zone information more easily, regardless of which beach they are visiting. The SRF will contain surf zone conditions out to 2 days with the option to extend the forecast out to 5 days.
- Adding definitions for Rip Current and Swim Risk at the bottom of each segment. Currently, many offices provide the definition next to the Rip Current or Swim Risk.

Examples of the new format can be found at:  
[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/SRF\\_Format.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/SRF_Format.pdf)

If you have questions please contact:

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