

Winter Weather Webinars for Blue Water Mariners Provided by the National Weather Service

The National Weather Service will be hosting their second annual live webinars on winter weather forecasting geared toward blue water mariners. These are available for up to 250 mariners with no cost to participants through GoToMeeting video conferencing. To sign up, register on-line at the links shown below the date/time of each.

“Northeast Pacific: Wind and Wave Forecasts and Warnings”

12:30-1:30 PM EST, Tuesday, December 14th

Register at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4246640881027219983>

“North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico: Wind and Wave Forecasts and Warnings”

12:30-1:30 PM EST, Thursday, December 16th

Register at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7116700481057465099>

Speakers:



Mr. Darin Figurskey
Chief, Operations Branch
Ocean Prediction Center

OPC's Ocean Forecast Branch issues warnings and forecasts in print (bulletins) and graphical formats, on a 24x7 basis up to five days in advance. Over 150 of these products are issued daily. They cover the North Atlantic Ocean from the west coast of Europe to the U.S. and Canadian east coast and the North Pacific Ocean from the U.S. and Canadian west coast to the east coast of Asia. OPC weather forecasts and warnings for these areas primarily ensure the safety of ocean-crossing commercial ships and other vessels on the high seas. Imbedded in these high seas areas are smaller offshore zones off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. These zones extend from near the coast seaward to just beyond the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zones, out to about 250 nm. OPC services ensure the safety of the extensive commercial and recreational fishing, boating, and shipping activities in these offshore waters.



Dr. Chris Landsea
Chief, Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch
National Hurricane Center

The Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB) within the National Hurricane Center makes forecasts of wind speeds/wave heights and issues wind Warnings year-round for 10,000,000 square nautical miles over the Atlantic Ocean north of the equator to 31°N and west of 35°W (including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea) as well as the eastern North Pacific Ocean north of the equator to 30°N. These wind warnings include tropical storms and hurricanes as well as winter storms, trade wind gales, and severe gap-wind events (for example, the "Tehuantepecers" south of Mexico). TAFB provides these forecasts under the auspices of both the U.S. National Weather Service and the International Maritime Organization. This presentation will review the analyses and forecast that are currently provided 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, as well as our impact-based decision support services for the U.S. Coast Guard, which relies upon the National Weather Service for weather forecasts and briefing support.