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Public Information Statement 21-39  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
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To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
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              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Allison Allen, Chief  
              Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on a Proposal to Discontinue Small Craft  
Exercise Caution Headline through August 13, 2021

Through August 13, 2021, the Southern Region of the National Weather  
Service (NWS) is soliciting specific feedback on the proposal to  
discontinue the Small Craft Exercise Caution (SCEC) headline in the  
Coastal Waters Forecast text product.

This is a second request for comments to gather additional feedback. The  
first request was held from February 2021 through April 2021 at this link:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns21-11scec\\_discontinue.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns21-11scec_discontinue.pdf)

As part of the NWS Hazard Simplification project, the NWS is considering a  
major change to the Watch, Warning, and Advisory (WWA) system. For  
information on this, see:

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

Related comment periods on Small Craft Advisory and High Surf Advisory  
have garnered positive public feedback:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-14small\\_craft\\_advisoryaab.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-14small_craft_advisoryaab.pdf)

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-66exp\\_high\\_surf.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-66exp_high_surf.pdf)

Example of proposed change:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/sample\\_scec\\_products.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/sample_scec_products.pdf)

The NWS is proposing this change for several reasons. First, the SCEC  
headline does not have associated Valid Time Event Code (VTEC) encoding to  
accompany the headline issuance for alerting purposes. Second, the  
detailed forecast information within the product will not change within  
the coastal waters forecast products for a mariner to make a prudent  
decision. Finally, the Southern Region NWS Coastal Forecast Offices are

only the offices that issue this headline and the NWS is seeking to simplify our products and communicate threats more clearly and consistently.

Please provide feedback by filling out this survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Discontinue\\_SCEC](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Discontinue_SCEC)

For more information, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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