

NOUS41 KWBC 181330  
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 24-76  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
830 AM EST Wed Dec 18 2024

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From:         Judy Ghirardelli, Chief  
              Decision Support Branch  
              Meteorological Development Laboratory  
              NWS Office of Science and Technology Integration

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Proposed Changes to the Probabilistic Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge (P-Surge) Model through January 22, 2025

The NWS Meteorological Development Laboratory (MDL) is proposing to upgrade the Probabilistic Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge (P-Surge) model for the 2025 Hurricane Season. NWS is seeking comments on the proposed changes through January 22, 2025. The changes to P-Surge being proposed include:

- A. Discontinue the provision of probabilities of > 0 ft above ground level.
- B. Provide guidance for the Hawaiian Islands of Hawai'i, Maui, Kaho'olawe, Lana'i, Moloka'i, O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau.
- C. Correct some computational grids. Most of the corrections fixed minor issues with the grid specification. The exception was the correction for the Mobile, AL computational grid which fixed the way it handled the levee system in New Orleans.
- D. Update error statistics for CONUS and Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands to reflect the National Hurricane Center's current forecasting skill.

Regarding the discontinuation of the probability products for > 0 ft above ground level, the model is initialized with a water level typically between 0.5 and 1.0 ft to account for sea level rise, subsidence, and other long-term disruptions in water levels. So, the probability of > 0 ft will very often be 100%, which limits the usefulness and necessity of the product for decision making. When the probability of storm surge > 0 ft above ground level is less than 100%, it represents noise and is not a meaningful representation of the risk and therefore has the potential to be misinterpreted.

For providing comments on the proposal, please use the feedback form which can be accessed via this link:

<https://forms.gle/vKP4u8PqGLGnYp2o9>

Alternatively, you can provide questions, comments, or requests before January 22, 2025 by sending an email to: [arthur.taylor@noaa.gov](mailto:arthur.taylor@noaa.gov) with a subject of: "P-Surge v3.1 feedback".

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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