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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 24-62
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
120 PM EDT Fri May 31 2024

To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Gregory Schoor, Chief
 Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Limiting Tropical Information in High Seas Forecasts from 120
Hours to Only the First 48 Hours: Effective June 26, 2024

The NWS National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)'s Ocean Prediction Center (OPC), the National Hurricane Center (NHC)'s Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB), and the Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu, Hawaii (HFO) are limiting tropical cyclone information in the High Seas Forecast (HSF) text product to only the first 48 hours of the forecast period starting on Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

The HSF, detailed in NWS Instruction (NWSI) 10-311, describes the marine weather forecast and warning period as extending through the first 48 hours, in accordance with international standards and requirements. For tropical systems, it is noted that the highest tropical cyclone-based warning information is to be included for the 48-hour forecast. Limiting tropical cyclone information to the required 48 hours would reduce the HSF text product and broadcast time length and match NWS policy.

Alternative sources of data:

High seas mariners and customers will continue to have the entire 120-hour tropical cyclone information available via Inmarsat-C SafetyNet and Iridium Safetycast. The Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory (TCM), available at the same frequency as high seas forecasts of up to four times daily for each active tropical cyclone, contains the cyclone position, intensity, direction, and speed of motion. It also includes the current maximum radial extent of 12-foot seas, as well as the maximum radial extent of winds of 34, 50, and 64 knots in each of four quadrants around the storm. The forecast/advisory contains quantitative forecast information on the track and intensity of the cyclone valid 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 96, and 120 hours from the forecast's nominal initial time, with size information forecast out to 72 hours. By reducing redundancy with the TCM, HSF broadcasts will be more streamlined.

The TCM can be found as follows:

Product Title	WMO Header	AWIPS Identifier
Atlantic - NHC	WTNT/21-25/KNHC	TCMAT/1-5/
Atlantic - WPC	WTNT/21-25/KWNH	TCMAT/1-5/
Eastern North Pacific - NHC	WTPZ/21-25/KNHC	TCMEP/1-5/
Eastern North Pacific - WPC	WTPZ/21-25/KWNH	TCMEP/1-5/
Central North Pacific - CPHC	WTPA/21-25/PHFO	TCMCP/1-5/

There will be no changes to dissemination or product information for either the HSF or the TCM. Text products in this proposed change include:

AWIPS Identifier	WMO Header	Geographic Descriptor
HSFAT1	FZNT01 KWBC	High Seas Forecast METAREA IV
HSFAT2	FZNT02 KNHC	High Seas Forecast ATLANTIC FROM 07N TO 31N W OF 35W INCLUDING CARIBBEAN SEA AND GULF OF MEXICO
HSFEPI	FZPN02 KWBC	High Seas Forecast METAREA XII
HSFEP1	FZPN01 KWBC	High Seas Forecast PACIFIC N OF 30N AND S OF 67N E OF A LINE FROM BERING STRAIT TO 50N 160E
HSFEP2	FZPN03 KNHC	High Seas Forecast E PACIFIC FROM THE EQUATOR TO 30N E OF 140W AND 03.4S TO THE EQUATOR E OF 120W
HSFNP	FZPN40 PHFO	High Seas Forecast NORTH PACIFIC EQUATOR TO 30N BETWEEN 140W AND 160E
HSFSP	FZPS40 PHFO	High Seas Forecast SOUTH PACIFIC EQUATOR TO 25S BETWEEN 120W AND 160E

A public comment period (ref [Public Information Statement \(PNS\) 24-18](#)) from March 11 through April 11, 2024 resulted in the majority supporting the change.

Any additional comments can be sent to:

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