

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PACIFIC REGION SUPPLEMENT 02-2004
APPLICABLE TO INSTRUCTION 10-314 and 10-320
SEPTEMBER 7, 2004***

***Operations and Services
Marine and Coastal Weather Services Program, NWSPD 10-3
Coastal/Lakeshore Flood Services, NWSI 10-320***

PACIFIC REGION HIGH SURF WARNING AND ADVISORY PROGRAM

NOTICE: This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>.

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(Signed) _____ 08/23/04
R. J. LaDouce Date
Director, Pacific Region

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1. Purpose. This supplement establishes Pacific Region’s policy on the issuance of high surf warning, advisory and cancellation messages.
2. Background. Pacific Region’s Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) and Weather Service Offices (WSOs) routinely deal with large and occasionally damaging surf events.
3. Policy. WFOs and WSOs will convey high surf advisories, warnings (if appropriate) and cancellation messages to the public, emergency management, media, and other customers with a High Surf Message (AWIPS Product Category CFW). WFOs and WSOs will issue advisories and/or warnings based upon locally determined criteria as required.
4. High Surf Message (AWIPS Product Category CFW)
 - 4.1 Functions.
 - a. A HIGH SURF WARNING informs the public and local officials that dangerously high surf poses a significant threat to life and property within the surf zone and potentially for some distance onshore.
 - b. A HIGH SURF ADVISORY informs the public and local officials that significant high surf will pose a threat to life and property within the surf zone and immediately onshore.
 - 4.2 Description.
 - 4.2.1 Issuance Criteria. WFOs and WSOs will issue the High Surf Message as required by local office policy and locally determined criteria.
 - 4.2.2 Issuance Time. A High Surf Message is an event-driven product. All WFOs and WSOs will issue high surf advisories and/or warnings when issuance criteria are forecast to

occur or are occurring. These offices should issue high surf advisories and/or warnings with sufficient lead time to meet customers' requirements.

- 4.3 Format. See examples in Appendix A for format.
- 4.3.1 Universal Geographic Code Type. High Surf Messages will use the (Z) form of the UGC.
- 4.3.2 Mass News Disseminator Broadcast Instruction Line. Not Applicable
- 4.3.2 Mass News Disseminator Product Type Line. The High Surf Message MND line is URGENT - HIGH SURF MESSAGE.
- 4.3.2 Content. The High Surf Message will include segmented advisory or warning information and may contain an overview section.
 - 4.3.2.1 Segmented Information. Each segment of the High Surf Message will include a headline followed by a descriptive text describing the event. Segments will be ordered as:
 - a. Cancellation
 - b. Warnings
 - c. Advisories
 - 4.3.2.2 Overview Section. The overview section is optional (required for WFO Honolulu). If included, it will precede the first segment and contain at least one of the following:
 - a. Overview Headline. A general headline statement may be included that summarizes the hazardous weather threat, expected time of development and area affected. The overview headline will begin and end with three periods (...) followed by a blank line.
 - b. Overview. A brief non-technical description of the event may also be included followed by (mandatory for WFO Honolulu) **SURF HEIGHTS ARE GIVEN IN FULL FACE VALUES**. This descriptive information will begin and end with a period (.).
- 4.4 Updates, Amendments, Cancellations and Corrections. WFOs and WSOs will send updated, amended, cancelled and corrected High Surf Messages with a High Surf Message (AWIPS Product Category CFW).

Appendix A - High Surf Message Examples

1. High Surf Advisory

WHHW40 PHFO 012000
CFWHFO

URGENT - HIGH SURF MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HONOLULU HI
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...Optional overview headline...

.OVERVIEW...Optional short overview. SURF HEIGHTS ARE GIVEN IN FULL FACE
VALUES.

HIZ002-003-006-007-021600-
KAUAI WINDWARD-KAUAI LEEWARD-OAHU NORTH SHORE-WAIANAE COAST-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY FOR NORTH AND WEST FACING SHORES OF KAUAI AND OAHU IN
EFFECT THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING...

A NORTHWEST SWELL WILL PRODUCE SURF HEIGHTS AROUND 15 FEET...DECREASING TO
BELOW 10 FEET SUNDAY MORNING.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE
AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK.

\$\$

FORECASTER

High Surf Advisory for Guam

...A HIGH SURF ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT FOR THE MARIANAS AS OF 12 PM...

LARGE WEST SWELLS GENERATED BY STRONG MONSOON FLOW WILL PRODUCE HAZARDOUS
SURF HEIGHTS OF 12 TO 14 FEET ALONG SOUTHERN CLOCKWISE THROUGH NORTHWESTERN
EXPOSURES OF ALL ISLANDS.

AVOID VENTURING NEAR REEFS AND EXPOSED BEACHES DUE TO THE POTENTIAL FOR STRONG
RIP CURRENTS.

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FORECASTER

or

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY CANCELED FOR YAP AND PALAU AS OF 4 AM GUAM LST...

High Surf Advisory for American Samoa

WHZS50 NSTU 301700
SMWPPG

HIGH SURF ADVISORY STATEMENT NUMBER 6
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PAGO PAGO AS
6 AM SST FRI JUL 30 2004

...A HIGH SURF ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR SOUTH SHORES...

SURF HEIGHTS OF 10 TO 14 FEET WILL CONTINUE ALONG THE SOUTH SHORES
OF ALL ISLANDS OF AMERICAN SAMOA THROUGH FRIDAY.

HIGH TIDES: 629 PM FRI
648 AM SAT

BEACH GOERS ARE URGED TO STAY OUT OF THE WATER AND WELL AWAY
FROM THE SHORE BREAK DUE TO HAZARDOUS WAVE ACTION AND STRONG RIP

CURRENTS.

THE NEXT ADVISORY WILL BE AT 6 PM FRI OR SOONER IF CHANGES WARRANT.

LAULUSA=

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FAUTUAGA MO GALU MAUALULUGA
OFISA O LE TAU PAGO PAGO, AMERIKA SAMOA
6 VAVEAO ASO FARAILE IULAI 30 2004

...O LOO IAI PEA SE FAUTUAGA MO GALU MAUALULUGA...

O LE A VAAIA PEA GALU E 10 I LE14 FUTU LE MAUALULUGA I LE TALAFATAI I
SAUTE O LE ATUNU'U E O'O ATU LAVA I LE ASO FARAILE.

O LE A TOE SUA LE TAI: 629 AFIAFI ASO FARAILE
648 VAVEAO ASO TO'ANA'I

E FAUTUAINA AI LE MAMALU O LE ATUNU'U INA IA TAGA'I TOTO'A ANE I LE
MALOLOSII O GALU MA LE A'AVE O LE SAMI O LO'O IAI NEI.

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2. Combination High Surf Warning and Advisory

WHHW40 PHFO 012000
CFWHFO

URGENT - HIGH SURF MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HONOLULU HI
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...Optional overview headline...

.OVERVIEW...Optional short overview. SURF HEIGHTS ARE GIVEN IN FULL FACE VALUES.

HIZ002-003-006-007-021600-
KAUAI WINDWARD-KAUAI LEEWARD-OAHU NORTH SHORE-WAIANAE COAST-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF WARNING FOR NORTH AND WEST FACING SHORES OF KAUAI AND OAHU IN EFFECT UNTIL 6AM SUNDAY...

A LARGE NORTHWEST SWELL WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS SURF. SURF HEIGHTS WILL BE AT OR ABOVE 25 FEET...SLOWLY DECREASING SUNDAY.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK. THE HIGH SURF MAY ALSO RESULT IN SOME BEACH EROSION OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.
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HIZ012-013-017-019-021600-
MOLOKAI LEEWARD-MOLOKAI WINDWARD-WINDWARD WEST MAUI-MAUI CENTRAL VALLEY-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY FOR NORTH AND WEST FACING SHORES OF MOLOKAI AND MAUI IN EFFECT UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING...

A NORTHWEST SWELL WILL PRODUCE HEIGHTS AROUND 15 FEET...DECREASING TO BELOW 10 FEET SUNDAY MORNING.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK.

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FORECASTER

3. Combination Cancellation and High Surf Advisory

WHHW40 PHFO 012000
CFWHFO

URGENT - HIGH SURF MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HONOLULU HI
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...Optional overview headline...

.OVERVIEW...Optional short overview. SURF HEIGHTS ARE GIVEN IN FULL FACE VALUES.

HIZ023-026-012100-
KOHALA-KONA-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY CANCELLED FOR WEST COAST OF THE BIG ISLAND...

SURF HEIGHTS ARE BELOW ADVISORY CRITERIA OF 8 FEET AND WILL CONTINUE TO DECREASE THROUGH SUNDAY.

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HIZ002-003-006-007-012-013-017-019-021600-
KAUAI WINDWARD-KAUAI LEEWARD-OAHU NORTH SHORE-WAIAANAE COAST-
MOLOKAI LEEWARD-MOLOKAI WINDWARD-WINDWARD WEST MAUI-MAUI CENTRAL VALLEY-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY FOR NORTH AND WEST FACING SHORES OF
KAUAI...OAHU...MOLOKAI AND MAUI IN EFFECT UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING...

A NORTHWEST SWELL WILL RESULT IN SURF HEIGHTS AROUND 15 FEET...DECREASING TO
BELOW 10 FEET SUNDAY MORNING.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE
AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK.
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FORECASTER

4. Combination High Surf Warning, downgrade of High Surf Warning to Advisory, continuing High Surf Advisory and cancellation of High Surf Advisory

WHHW40 PHFO 012000
CFWHFO

URGENT - HIGH SURF MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HONOLULU HI
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...Optional overview headline...

.OVERVIEW...Optional short overview. SURF HEIGHTS ARE GIVEN IN FULL FACE
VALUES.

HIZ014-023-026-012100-
LANAI MAKAI-KOHALA-KONA-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY CANCELLED FOR WEST COAST OF THE BIG ISLAND AND LANAI...

SURF HEIGHTS ARE BELOW ADVISORY CRITERIA OF 8 FEET AND WILL CONTINUE TO
DECREASE THROUGH SUNDAY.

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HIZ003-006-007-021600-
KAUAI LEEWARD-OAHU NORTH SHORE-WAIAANAE COAST-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF WARNING FOR NORTH AND WEST FACING SHORES OF KAUAI AND OAHU IN
EFFECT UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING...

NWS PRS 02-2004 September 7, 2004

A LARGE NORTHWEST SWELL WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS SURF HEIGHTS AT OR ABOVE 25 FEET...SLOWLY DECREASING SUNDAY.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK. THE HIGH SURF MAY ALSO RESULT IN SOME BEACH EROSION OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.

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HIZ012-013-017-019-021600-
MOLOKAI LEEWARD-MOLOKAI WINDWARD-WINDWARD WEST MAUI-MAUI CENTRAL VALLEY-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF WARNING FOR NORTH AND WEST FACING SHORES OF MOLOKAI AND MAUI HAS BEEN DOWNGRADED TO HIGH SURF ADVISORY THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING...

A NORTHWEST SWELL WILL PRODUCE SURF HEIGHTS OF 15 TO 20 FEET...DECREASING ON SUNDAY.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK.

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HIZ003-008-009-020-025-021600-
KAUAI WINDWARD-OAHU KOOLAU-OLOMANA-WINDWARD HALEAKALA-BIG ISLAND NORTH AND EAST-
1000 AM HST SAT NOV 1 2003

...HIGH SURF ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR EAST FACING SHORES OF THE BIG ISLAND...MAUI...OAHU AND KAUAI UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING...

STRONG TRADEWINDS ARE RESULTING IN A LARGER THAN NORMAL SWELL FROM THE EAST. SURF HEIGHTS WILL BE AROUND 10 FEET...DECREASING TO BELOW 8 FEET SUNDAY MORNING.

THE HIGH SURF WILL PRODUCE DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. BEACH GOERS ALONG THE AFFECTED SHORES ARE ADVISED TO USE CAUTION AND STAY AWAY FROM THE SHORE BREAK.

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FORECASTER