

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 06, 2003***

HIGH SURF ADVISORY

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The High Surf Advisory (MWS) is an alphanumeric product providing notification of potential dangerous and damaging/life-threatening surf conditions. Pacific Region also uses the High Surf Advisory for coastal wave inundation.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The High Surf Advisory is an event-driven product advising/warning of potentially dangerous or damaging and life-threatening surf conditions. After the initial issuance, coastal offices update the product every 6 hours or as needed for changing conditions or timing during the valid period of the advisory. These offices provide the High Surf Advisories for the protection of life and property and enhancing the nations economy.

3. Audience:

The target audience for the product includes: national, state, and local emergency managers; recreational beach-goers and mariners; military and government agencies; media; and the general public.

4. Presentation Format:

Coastal offices provide the products in an alphanumeric format and prepare them in a consistent manner. NWS policy documents describe any differences and are located on the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.

5. Feedback Method:

NWS is constantly seeking to improve its products based on user feedback. Customers can provide continuous feedback through e-mail links to the local program managers via the offices Internet web sites and via e-mail links to the program managers in the Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch, National Weather Service (NWS) Headquarters. The Pacific Region Offices and NWS Headquarters also obtain feedback through meetings with emergency managers, media personnel, boat shows participants, tourist officials, health representatives, and through Customer Surveys.

Technical and policy questions and comments for the High Surf Advisory/Warning may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Brian LaMarre W/OS21

Marine Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13118
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285.

or e-mail questions and comments to: Brian.Lamarre@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

Coastal offices prepare and disseminate the High Surf Advisories in alphanumeric format. The product contains a narrative description of surf heights forecasted, the timing of the high surf conditions, and specific cautions people should take. The offices write the product in a standard and concise format with all required elements.

2. **Availability:**

The High Surf Advisory is an event driven product and coastal offices issue as required to advise/warn of potentially dangerous or damaging, life-threatening surf conditions. After the initial issuance, these offices update the product every 6 hours or as needed for changing conditions or timing during the valid period of the advisory/warning. The offices disseminate the product via the Internet, the NOAA Weather Radio, EMWIN, HAWAS, and the NOAA Weather Wire. Additional information on Marine and Coastal product dissemination is available at:

<http://weather.gov/om/marine/home.htm>.

The following WWW Internet site is one location to access the MWS product:

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/pages/watchwarn.html>.

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of High Surf Advisory policy, area of responsibility, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination is located in NWS Instructions 10-314 and 10-320 and also in 10-310 which are available via the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.