

## APPENDIX A

### LOCAL NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS) OFFICE PRODUCTS

#### A.1 Hurricane/Typhoon Local Statements (HLS).

**A.1.1 Times and Circumstances of Issuance (HLS).** The HLS shall be issued by a NWS local office when its area of responsibility is affected by: (1) a tropical cyclone watch/warning, (2) evacuation orders, or (3) rumors that the local MIC feels should be countered by appropriate statements. These unnumbered products will be highly specific, designed to inform the media, local decision makers, and the public on present and anticipated storm effects in their county warning area (CWA) and adjacent coastal waters. An HLS shall also include those counties under an inland high wind watch/warning for hurricane force winds to help focus the threat for impacted inland counties. HLSs shall be issued at regular and frequent intervals, every 2 to 3 hours or more frequently as circumstances warrant when a tropical storm or hurricane is close to the coast. They localize detail to Tropical Cyclone Center's advisory releases and shall not conflict with or repeat advisory information that does not directly apply to the local office's CWA. Tornado, severe thunderstorm, and flash flood WARNINGS shall be issued independent of HLSs as stand-alone products. An HLS can take the place of severe weather, special weather, marine weather, coastal flood, and flash flood statements during storm situations. HLSs shall not be released immediately before an advisory unless information is coordinated with the appropriate Tropical Cyclone Center and--for watches or warnings--the valid initiation time is specified. HLSs do not need to immediately follow the issuance of a new hurricane advisory. Issuing them midway between advisories maintains a steady flow of information to the media and the public. Whenever a new advisory changes the potential impact on a local area, information needs to be distributed in a fresh HLS as soon as possible. HLSs should use tropical cyclone position estimates between advisories when appropriate. When tropical cyclones threaten the Samoas--American Samoa and Samoa--the two local offices shall coordinate with RSMC Nadi, CPHC, and with each other to determine the best integrated and internally consistent forecast of conditions expected in the area.

**A.1.2 Format and Content.** Format shall be standardized with "headlines by hazard" in accordance with instructions and examples in this appendix. Each section of the HLS shall be preceded by a content/topic header set off by three dots before and after each header. The order of information will be as consistent as possible. Information order can be prioritized and adjusted to focus on the greatest threat and most important information impacting the area. The "first" HLS should contain standard, generic preparedness information (board windows, fill vehicles with fuel, etc.) Before the first HLS, routine preparedness information about storing water, filling vehicles with gas, etc., will be released in public information statements (PNS). Information may be added to the end of the HLS describing where additional storm information can be found in supporting Center's TCP and TCM as well as PNSs and NOWs issued by the local office.

**A.1.3 Relationship of HLSs to the NOW.** The NOWcast (Short term Forecast) shall be a stand-alone product focused on conditions impacting the office's CWA for the next 0 to 6 hours. It will complement the HLS by providing critical storm information in the first eight lines.

**A.1.4 Optional Use of Special Weather Statements for Probability of Tropical Cyclone Conditions (SPS).** Special Weather Statements (SPS) are used to briefly describe tropical cyclone probabilities prior to HLS release. These statements are needed four times a day following the issuance of probabilities in the 0300, 0900, 1500, 2100 UTC hurricane or tropical storm advisories, or following the issuance of special advisories. The statement will refer to probabilities in the “totals” column instead of various time periods. The probability for your area should be included along with an explanation on how that probability compares to the surrounding coastal sections.

**A.2 Tornado, Severe Thunderstorm, and Flash Flood Warnings (TOR/SVR/FFW).** Warnings shall be issued when conditions warrant.

**A.3 Inland High Wind Watches and Warnings for Hurricane Force Winds (NPW).** When a tropical cyclone is expected to remain at hurricane strength well inland, inland high wind watches and warnings for hurricane-force winds shall be issued. Inland high wind watches for hurricane-force winds normally will not be issued beyond the second period of the forecast. Wind fields from the Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory of NHC will be used as guidance in the watch. Inland sections of coastal counties may be placed under inland high wind watches for hurricane-force winds versus using tropical cyclone watches when the effects of the tropical cyclone can be clearly described to the public. Coordination shall occur with all impacted offices and NHC before issuance. Watches will be highlighted in the appropriate forecasts and statements. Inland high wind warnings for hurricane-force winds normally will not be issued beyond the first period of the forecast. Wind fields from the Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory of NHC will be used as guidance in preparation of the warning. Inland sections of coastal counties may be placed under inland high wind warnings for hurricane-force winds versus using tropical cyclone warnings when the effects of the tropical cyclone can be clearly described to the public and not lead to confusion. Coordination shall occur with surrounding local offices and NHC prior to issuance. Warnings will be highlighted in the appropriate forecasts and statements.

**A.4 Inland High Wind Watches and Warnings for Subtropical and Extratropical Storms.** Local NWS offices will issue inland high wind watches and warnings for hurricane-force winds when a subtropical/extratropical storm is expected to spread hurricane/typhoon force winds well inland.

**A.5 Correction Procedures.** If, during a tropical situation, a NWS local office product needs correction, the reason for the correction shall be listed immediately after the header of the corrected product.

**A.6 Essential Contents of Hurricane Local Statements.**

**...Headline...**

Concise lead sentence or headline.

**...Areas Affected...**

Details of which counties, parishes, or cities are included in the HLS.

**...Watches Warnings...**

Watches and warnings in effect and counties or parishes to which they apply.

**...Storm Information...**

Present location, movement, and winds and expected time of onset of tropical storm/hurricane/typhoon force winds. (The tropical cyclone forecast/advisory should be used as guidance.)

**...Precautionary/Preparedness Actions...**

Short-term precautionary actions and times they should be completed. This includes any evacuation recommendations contained in the advisory or stated by local authorities. Listing these actions is particularly important once a tropical cyclone watch or warning is announced.

**...Storm Surge Flood and Storm Tide Impacts...**

Storm surge and storm tide (storm surge plus astronomical tide) information, including times various heights are expected, present heights, and their locations. Storm surge information must agree with Tropical Cyclone Center forecasts as included in the advisories. Storm tide information should be included because local officials might not have access to tide tables. Storm tide forecasts should be referenced to appropriate datums understood by local authorities. For many portions of the coast, this would be mean sea level although some areas use mean lower low water instead.

**...Tornado Impacts...**

Any required statements on potential tornado and flood/flash flood threats, rip currents, beach erosion, high wind warnings inland, etc.

**...Wind Impacts...**

Present winds and expected time of onset of tropical-storm or hurricane- force winds. (The tropical cyclone forecast/advisory should be used as guidance.)

**...Probability of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Conditions...**

Information on probability of hurricane/typhoon/tropical storm conditions is optional.

**...Next Update...**

Time of next or final statement.

Routine HLSs may cease when the tropical cyclone is no longer a threat to an office's CWA.

All HLSs shall use a mass media standard text heading as illustrated in the following examples. Use the (Z) form of the Universal Generic Code.

**A.7 Product Examples.**

**--EXAMPLE: HLS by Office Expecting a Direct Hit from a Major Hurricane--**

XXXHLSXXX  
TTAA00 XXXX 232200  
XXZ018>022-240100-

HURRICANE XXXXXXXX LOCAL STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE XXXXXXXX  
XXX PM EDT DAY MON Date Year

...EXTREMELY DANGEROUS HURRICANE XXXX TAKING AIM ON  
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA...

...Areas Affected...

THIS STATEMENT RECOMMENDS ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY RESIDENTS OF  
DADE...BROWARD...GLADES...HENDRY...AND COLLIER COUNTIES OF SOUTH  
FLORIDA IN PREPARATION FOR HURRICANE XXXXX.

...Watches Warnings...

A HURRICANE WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA  
COAST AND KEYS INCLUDING DADE AND BROWARD COUNTIES. A  
HURRICANE WARNING IS ALSO IN EFFECT FOR LAKE OKEECHOBEE AND  
COLLIER COUNTY.

...Storm Information...

HURRICANE XXXXXXXX REMAINS EXTREMELY STRONG WITH MAXIMUM  
WINDS OF 150 MPH. AT 5 PM EDT XXXXXXXX WAS CENTERED 240 MILES EAST  
OF MIAMI AND MOVING TOWARD THE WEST AT 16 MPH. AT PRESENT  
XXXXXX IS COMPARABLE TO THE GREAT 1926 AND 1928 HURRICANES  
WHICH DEVASTATED SOUTHEAST FLORIDA.

...Precautionary Actions...

RESIDENTS IN THE HURRICANE WARNING AREA MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE  
ACTION TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY BEFORE NIGHTFALL.  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS  
IN DADE AND BROWARD COUNTIES HAVE ORDERED AN EMERGENCY  
EVACUATION OF AREAS PRONE TO FLOODING BY HURRICANE TIDES FROM  
A CATEGORY FOUR HURRICANE. COLLIER...GLADES...AND HENDRY  
COUNTY OFFICIALS WILL BE ISSUING SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS AND  
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN. OFFICIALS OF THE FEDERAL  
EXECUTIVE BOARD ADVISE THAT ALL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WITHOUT  
EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES ARE EXCUSED FROM REPORTING FOR

WORK UNTIL THIS EMERGENCY IS OVER. LISTEN TO LOCAL RADIO AND TV FOR INSTRUCTIONS AS TO WHEN TO RETURN TO WORK. MOBILE HOME RESIDENTS IN THESE COUNTIES AND THE COUNTIES OF DADE... COLLIER...AND BROWARD SHOULD FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IF ORDERED TO EVACUATE. MANY OF THE DEATHS IN HURRICANES OCCUR IN MOBILE HOMES.

...Storm Surge and Tide Impacts...

THE THREAT OF COASTAL FLOODING WILL BE ON THE INCREASE THIS EVENING AS TIDAL STORM SURGES OF 7 TO 10 FEET ABOVE NORMAL SPREAD INLAND NEAR AND NORTH OF LANDFALL. TIDAL SURGE HEIGHTS MAY REACH 13 FEET ABOVE NORMAL IN BISCAYNE BAY. THE FLOODING OF LOW LYING COASTAL ROUTES IS IMMINENT.

...Wind Impacts...

TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS OF 40 TO 50 MPH WILL BEGIN POUNDING DADE AND BROWARD COUNTIES BY MIDNIGHT. HURRICANE CONDITIONS WILL AFFECT SOUTHEAST FLORIDA TOWARD DAYBREAK AND CONTINUE INTO THE MORNING HOURS AS XXXXXX MOVES INLAND AND LOSES SOME OF ITS INTENSITY. HIGH WINDS WILL SPREAD TO THE INTERIOR OF FLORIDA...IN SOME AREAS REACHING HURRICANE FORCE. HIGH WIND WARNINGS HAVE BEEN POSTED FOR THE INLAND COUNTIES OF GLADES AND HENDRY.

...Next Update...

THE NEXT SCHEDULED STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED BY THE MIAMI FORECAST OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AT 9 PM EDT. A RECORDING OF THE LATEST XXXXXXXX ADVISORY INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE BY CALLING...305-662-5702.

**--EXAMPLE: Short Term Forecast (NOWcast)--**

BHMNOWMOB  
TTAA00 KMOB 192130  
SHORT TERM FORECAST  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MOBILE AL  
430 PM CDT SAT AUG 19 1995

ALZ051>064-MSZ067-075-076-078-079-192330-

.NOW...

...HURRICANE GARY WILL MOVE ACROSS BALDWIN AND MOBILE COUNTIES BY 530 PM... SUSTAINED WINDS ABOVE 80 MPH WITH HIGHER GUSTS AND TORRENTIAL RAINFALL CAN BE EXPECTED AS THE RAINBAND

MOVES ACROSS. THE RAINBAND SHOULD WEAKEN SLIGHTLY AS IT MOVES ACROSS CLARKE...WASHINGTON...AND GEORGE COUNTIES BY 6 PM. BUT PEOPLE IN THESE COUNTIES SHOULD EXPECT WIND GUSTS TO NEAR HURRICANE FORCE AND EXTREMELY HEAVY RAINFALL.

&&

SCATTERED AREAS OF MODERATE TO HEAVY RAINFALL WILL CONTINUE ACROSS SOUTHERN ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI THROUGH 6 PM. BANDS OF STRONG STORMS WILL MOVE NORTHWESTWARD ACROSS THE AREA. EAST WINDS OF 30-40 MPH AND HEAVY RAIN WILL PERSIST WITH STRONGER WINDS AND HEAVIER RAINFALL NEAR THE RAINBANDS. TEMPERATURES ACROSS THE REGION WILL REMAIN IN THE 70S.

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**--EXAMPLE: Special Weather Statement--**

BHMSPSPNS  
TTAA00 KBHM 261400  
FLZ001>004-261600-

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PENSACOLA FL  
1000 AM EDT THU AUG 26 1992

...HURRICANE PROBABILITIES ARE INCREASING ALONG THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA COAST...

HURRICANE OPHELIA...NOW 350 MILES SOUTHEAST OF NEW ORLEANS...IS MOVING SLOWLY NORTH AT 5 MILES AN HOUR. THE PROBABILITY OF OPHELIA STRIKING PENSACOLA HAS INCREASED TO 12 PERCENT. THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA COAST AND THE ALABAMA COAST HAVE PROBABILITIES IN THE 10 TO 12 PERCENT RANGE WITH LOWER PROBABILITIES FOR THE REST OF THE GULF COAST. ACCORDINGLY...THE PROBABILITIES SUGGEST THAT GREATEST ATTENTION SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA AND ALABAMA COASTS.

A HURRICANE WATCH MAY BE ISSUED LATER TODAY FOR THE NORTHWEST COAST OF FLORIDA AND ADJACENT COUNTIES IN SOUTH ALABAMA. KEEP TUNED TO THIS STATION FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OPHELIA.

**--EXAMPLE: Inland High Wind Watch--**

CAENPWCAE  
TTAA00 KCAE 151430  
SCZ001>050-162200-

INLAND HIGH WIND WATCH FOR HURRICANE FORCE WINDS  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE COLUMBIA SC  
1030 AM EDT WED JUL 15 1995

...AN INLAND HIGH WIND WATCH FOR HURRICANE FORCE WINDS IS IN  
EFFECT FOR SOUTH CAROLINA FOR LATE TONIGHT INTO THURSDAY...

HURRICANE JENNIFER IS HEADED FOR SOUTH CAROLINA. THE NATIONAL  
HURRICANE CENTER HAS INDICATED THAT JENNIFER COULD MAKE  
LANDFALL BETWEEN ON THE COAST OF SOUTH CAROLINA LATE TONIGHT.  
JENNIFER IS A CATEGORY 3 HURRICANE AND IS EXPECTED TO RETAIN  
WINDS OF HURRICANE FORCE WELL INLAND AS IT MOVES NORTHWEST  
ACROSS THE STATE TOWARD WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

IF JENNIFER CONTINUES AT ITS PRESENT STRENGTH, SUSTAINED  
HURRICANE WINDS WILL DEVELOP ALONG THE COAST AFTER MIDNIGHT  
TONIGHT WITH HURRICANE WINDS SPREADING INLAND AS FAR AS  
COLUMBIA BY EARLY THURSDAY MORNING. PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE  
THAT JENNIFER COULD STILL CONTAIN HURRICANE FORCE WINDS BY THE  
TIME IT REACHES THE NORTHWESTERN PORTIONS OF THE STATE MIDDAY  
THURSDAY.

THIS WATCH MEANS THAT CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR JENNIFER  
TO SPREAD WINDS OF HURRICANE FORCE ACROSS INTERIOR SOUTH  
CAROLINA. IF YOU LIVE IN A MOBILE HOME OR A HOME THAT AFFORDS  
LITTLE PROTECTION FROM FLYING GLASS AND DEBRIS...DEVELOP  
OPTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE SHELTER NOW.

**--EXAMPLE: Inland High Wind Warning--**

SATNPWHOU  
TTAA00 KHGX 101030

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TX  
600 AM CDT FRI SEP 10 1995

HURRICANE FRED...LOCATED 60 MILES SOUTHEAST OF GALVESTON TX AT

6 AM CDT...IS MOVING TO THE NORTH NORTHWEST AT 10 MPH AND IS EXPECTED TO MAKE LANDFALL AROUND NOON CDT ON THE UPPER TEXAS COAST. FRED IS THEN FORECAST TO CONTINUE ON A NORTH NORTHWEST COURSE MOVING ACROSS HOUSTON AND REACHING THE SAN JACINTO NATIONAL FOREST BY LATE AFTERNOON. SUSTAINED WINDS OF 100 MPH WITH GUSTS TO 120 MPH SHOULD BEGIN SWEEPING ACROSS THE UPPER TEXAS COAST BY LATE MORNING.

TXZ177>179-197>199-210>212-102200-  
WALKER-SAN JACINTO-POLK-WASHINGTON-GRIMES-MONTGOMERY-  
COLORADO-AUSTIN-WALLER-

...INLAND HIGH WIND WARNING FOR HURRICANE FORCE WINDS...

WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO RAPIDLY INCREASE TO 50 TO 60 MPH BY 12 NOON AND 80 MPH WITH GUSTS TO 100 MPH BY MID AFTERNOON. 75 MPH WINDS WITH HIGHER GUSTS ARE LIKELY AS FAR INLAND AS HUNTSVILLE...NAVASOTA...AND LAKE LIVINGSTON BY LATE AFTERNOON.

BE PREPARED FOR NUMEROUS DOWNED TREES AND WIRES. DO NOT CROSS DOWNED WIRES...WHICH MAY STILL BE LIVE.  
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TXZ226-227-235-213-200-102200-  
WHARTON-FORT BEND-JACKSON-HARRIS-LIBERTY-

...INLAND HIGH WIND WARNING FOR HURRICANE FORCE WINDS...

WINDS FROM WHARTON TO HOUSTON AND LIBERTY ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO 50 TO 60 MPH THIS MORNING AND 90 MPH WITH GUSTS TO NEAR 110 MPH BY MIDDAY...DECREASING TO 50 TO 60 MPH LATE THIS AFTERNOON.

FLYING DEBRIS WILL POSE A MAJOR THREAT TO ALL STRUCTURES IN THE WARNED AREA...ESPECIALLY GLASS FROM HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS IN DOWNTOWN HOUSTON. PEOPLE LIVING IN MOBILE HOMES AND THOSE CONCERNED ABOUT THE ABILITY OF THEIR HOMES TO WITHSTAND HURRICANE WINDS SHOULD MOVE TO A STRONG BUILDING OR SHELTER IMMEDIATELY. BE PREPARED FOR NUMEROUS DOWNED TREES AND WIRES. TAKE SHELTER IN SMALL INTERIOR ROOMS OR REINFORCED STRUCTURES.  
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