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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 23-26
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1100 AM EST Thu Feb 23 2023

To: Subscribers:
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From: Greg Schoor, Chief
 Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Operational Implementation of Track and Error Cone Graphics for
 Tropical Cyclones in the South Pacific and Western North Pacific
 Basins Based on Forecasts Issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning
 Center, Effective on or about May 15, 2023

On or about May 15, 2023, the National Weather Service (NWS) will operationally implement the track and error cone graphics produced for tropical cyclones in the south Pacific and western north Pacific basins based on forecasts issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC). These graphics will be generated by the NWS Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC).

CPHC will produce Tropical Cyclone Track ("Cone") Graphics that reflect the analyses and forecasts provided in the TC Warning products issued by JTWC for the South Pacific and western North Pacific basins. These graphics will contain an error cone calculated in the same fashion as the operational graphics issued by CPHC for the central North Pacific, but they will not contain watch/warning information. To form the error cone, a set of circles are placed along the forecast track at each of the forecast positions, where the size of each circle is set so that it encloses 67 percent of the previous five years' official forecast errors. The cone is then formed by smoothly connecting the area swept out by the set of circles. Both 3-day and 5-day versions of this product will be created. These products will only be produced for any tropical cyclones JTWC is issuing warning bulletins on which have at least one forecast point within 10S-20S and 164.5W-178.5W for the South Pacific and within 0-25N and 180-130E for the western North Pacific.

The issuance of TC Warning text products from JTWC will trigger production of these new graphics. These products are routinely issued at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). JTWC TC Warning products can be found under the following World Meteorological Organization (WMO) identifiers:

JTWC Product	WMO ID
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Southern Hemisphere TC Warning	WTPS3[1-5] PGTW
Western North Pacific TC Warning	WTPN3[1-5] PGTW

More information on the products issued by JTWC can be found here:
<https://www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html?notices>

Examples of these Track and Error Cone Graphics for the South Pacific and western North Pacific basins can be found at:

South Pacific:

<https://www.weather.gov/ppg/spacTropicalExample>

Western North Pacific:

<https://www.weather.gov/gum/wpacTropicalExample>

Tropical Cyclone Track ("Cone") Graphics for the South Pacific basin using JTWC forecasts are provided operationally at the website listed below:
<https://www.weather.gov/ppg/spacTropical>

Tropical Cyclone Track ("Cone") Graphics for the western North Pacific basin using JTWC forecasts are provided operationally at the website listed below:
<https://www.weather.gov/gum/wpacTropical>

These graphics will be available shortly after the release of the corresponding TC Warning products from JTWC. The Tropical Cyclone Track ("Cone") Graphics will also be available in shapefile and KMZ formats and can be found on the same webpages noted above.

The webpages hosting the South Pacific and western North Pacific graphics will include a disclaimer that explains that the forecasts provided are based on information from JTWC. The disclaimer will also point users to the website of the respective WMO Regional Specialized Meteorological Center (RSMC) responsible for TC forecasts in the area for more information. The RSMC for the South Pacific is Nadi, Fiji. The RSMC for the western North Pacific is Tokyo, Japan.

Note: The products will not have a backup production site in a case where conditions or events exist that prevent the product from being issued from the original production source at JTWC.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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