

Experimental Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product

Part I - Mission Connection

- a. Service Description – The experimental Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product is a segmented, automated product, with each segment being a discrete zone, containing tropical cyclone watches/warnings in effect, meteorological information, hazards (rain, storm surge, wind, tornadoes) and their potential impacts, and preparedness information at the Weather Forecast Office (WFO) level. The product is intended to be parsed by the weather enterprise.

For 2015, the proposal is for the Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product to become the WFO flagship product for disseminating tropical cyclone watches and warnings, currently done through the Hurricane Local Product (HLS), for the Atlantic hurricane basin when a tropical cyclone affects land areas of their County/Parish Warning Area (CWA).

- b. Purpose – Provide users the ability to automatically parse and distribute tropical cyclone information at the county/parish level to their customers.
- c. Audience – Users who decode and parse Valid Time Event Code (VTEC) coding.
- d. Presentation Format – Text.
- e. Feedback Method – Feedback may be provided at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=HLWWEXP>

Questions on this experimental service may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: John F. Kuhn
Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13124
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285
john.f.kuhn@noaa.gov
301-713-1677, x121

Part II - Technical Description

- a. Format & Science Basis - The Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product would be disseminated in text format and provide tropical cyclone information specific to a WFO's County Warning Area (CWA) in a one zone-one segment basis using Universal Geographic Code (UGC) and VTEC. The Tropical VTEC codes used are:

TR.A – Tropical Storm Watch
TR.W – Tropical Storm Warning
HU.A – Hurricane Watch
HU.W – Hurricane Warning

b. Product Availability – When tropical cyclone watches or warnings are in effect, the WFO Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product would be disseminated at a minimum of every six hours, though they can be issued more frequently depending upon the situation.

c. Additional Information

An example of the Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Product can be found at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/pns/TCV-example.pdf>

A full description of other NWS Tropical Cyclone Program products is provided in NWS Instruction 10-601, which is available on the Internet at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01006001curr.pdf>