

## Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory Product Description Document

### Part I - Mission Connection

- a. Product Description - The Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (TCP) is a text product prepared by the National Weather Service's (NWS) National Hurricane Center (NHC), Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC), and Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Guam, for tropical cyclones in their respective basin of responsibility. NHC issues the TCP for all tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and east Pacific. CPHC issues the TCP for all tropical cyclones in the central Pacific. In the western Pacific WFO Guam issues TCPs. The product title depends on the intensity of the tropical cyclone, to include: Tropical Depression Advisory, Tropical Storm Advisory, and Hurricane/Typhoon Advisory. This product is also issued for subtropical storms.

Additionally, once NHC discontinues issuing forecasts/advisories and if the storm remains a threat to inland areas of the continental United States (US), the NWS's Weather Prediction Center (WPC) assumes responsibility for issuing the TCP.

- b. Purpose - The TCP is the primary tropical cyclone product issued to the public. The TCP provides critical tropical cyclone watch, warning, and forecast information. Issuance criteria for the TCP are provided in National Weather Service Instruction (NWSI) 10-601.
- c. Audience - The general public is the primary target audience for the product. However, this product is widely used by other NWS National Centers and WFOs; federal, state, and local government agencies; state and local emergency managers; nations in the Caribbean, Central America and West Pacific, media and maritime interests.
- d. Presentation Format - This is a text product. The TCP is organized into five sections. Each section will be introduced using one of the following section headers: Summary, Watches and Warnings, Discussion and 48-hour outlook, Hazards Affecting Land, and Next Advisory.

An online example of the TCP can be found at:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/help/tcp.shtml>

TCPs for active tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and East Pacific basins are provided at:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

TCPs for tropical cyclones affecting inland areas of the continental US are provided at:

<http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

TCPs for tropical cyclones affecting the Central Pacific basin are provided at:  
<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc/>

TCPs for tropical cyclones affecting WFO Guam are provided at:  
<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/>

e. Feedback Method

Technical and policy questions and comments may be addressed to:

National Weather Service  
Attn: John Kuhn, W/OS21  
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13124  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

or e-mail questions and comments to:[john.f.kuhn@noaa.gov](mailto:john.f.kuhn@noaa.gov)

## **Part II - Technical Description**

a. Format & Science Basis - The TCP product is a text product produced by hurricane forecasters providing a detailed current assessment and forecast for each tropical and subtropical system. The product is generally disseminated after coordination telephone calls have been made with affected WFOs, National Centers, such as the Storm Prediction Center and Weather Prediction Center, and Department of Defense.

b. Product Availability - The product is disseminated by NHC and CPHC at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). If watches and warnings are in effect, an intermediate TCP is issued at 0600, 1200, 1800, and 0000 UTC.

WFO Guam issues the TCP at 0400, 1000, 1600, and 2200 UTC. If watches and warnings are in effect, an intermediate TCP is issued at 0100, 0800, 1300, and 1900 UTC.

The product is made available via various means of dissemination such as: the Internet, U.S. Coast Guard Radio Broadcasts, the NOAA Weather Radio, NOAAPort and the NOAA Weather Wire.

c. Additional Information

A full description of this and other NWS Tropical Cyclone Weather Services Program Products is provided in NWSI 10-601, which is available on the Internet at:

<http://www.weather.gov/directives/010/010.htm>