

# **PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT**

## **Tropical Weather Outlook**

**Approved:**

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**Acting Director, Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services**

**Date:**

# **Tropical Weather Outlook Product Description Document**

## **Part I - Mission Connection**

- a. Product Description – The Tropical Weather Outlook (TWO) provides probabilistic information, in 10-percent increments, about a system’s potential for developing into a tropical cyclone. The forecast and discussion is provided on a disturbance-by-disturbance basis out to 48 hours for the central Pacific basin and 120 hours for the Atlantic and east Pacific basins.
- b. Purpose - General assessment of activity in the tropics, pertaining to tropical cyclone formation by providing possible areas where tropical cyclones could develop.
- c. Audience – The product target audience includes other National Weather Service offices, media, emergency managers, and the general public.
- d. Presentation Format – Text which consists of one or more short paragraphs in non-technical language.
- e. Feedback Method

Policy questions and comments on the TWO may be addressed to:  
National Weather Service  
Attn: John F. Kuhn, W/OS21  
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13124  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

## **Part II - Technical Description**

- a. Format & Science Basis- The TWO is produced by the National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center, and provides a current assessment in plain language of areas of disturbed weather and their potential for tropical or subtropical cyclone formation over the next 48 hours for the central Pacific basin and 120 hours for the Atlantic and east Pacific basins. These outlooks are based on the current disturbance structure and recent trends, large-scale atmospheric and oceanic conditions, and model forecasts.
- b. Product Availability – The product will be issued four times daily during the hurricane season at 0000, 0600, 1200, and 1800 Coordinated Universal Time. Special TWOs can be issued at any time important changes have occurred that need to be conveyed before the next scheduled issuance.

The TWO can be found on the web at:  
Atlantic and East Pacific basins: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

Central Pacific basin: <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc>

c. Additional Information

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

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/010.htm>