

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 19, 2003***

TROPICAL CYCLONE DANGER AREA

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Tropical Cyclone Danger Area is a graphical marine product depicting a tropical cyclones track (out to 72 hours) and shades in a danger area determined by adding 100, 200, and 300 nautical miles plus the 34 knot wind radii to the 24-, 48-, and 72- hour forecast position respectively in the Atlantic and east Pacific. For the central Pacific the shaded danger area will vary in width dependent upon the hurricane specialists confidence in the track and the length of the 34 knot wind radii. In addition, areas of possible tropical cyclone genesis (out to 36 hours) are included and depicted as either a circular, rectangle, oval, or polygon shaped area. The product is prepared by the TPC and covers the entire Atlantic north of the equator and the Pacific north of the equator from the Mexican and Central America coast west to 140 west. CPHC prepares a separate chart for 140 west to the International Dateline north of the equator.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The product is used to assist mariners and military agencies avoid high seas associated with tropical cyclones. Also, it provides guidance to users on possible tropical cyclone genesis.

3. Audience:

The target audience for this product includes: ocean going vessels, barge operators, private maritime organizations, recreational mariners, commercial fishing vessels, and military and government agencies.

4. Presentation Format:

The product is made available in a graphical format.

5. Feedback Method:

Continuous feedback is available via an Internet page e-mail link to the program managers in the Marine and Coastal Weather Services and to managers and marine focal points at the TPC. Additional feedback on this product is obtained at focus group meetings, boat shows, and customer surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the Tropical Cyclone Danger Area may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Scott Kiser W/OS21
Tropical Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13126

Silver Spring, MD 21910-3285

or e-mail questions and comments to: Scott.Kiser@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

The Tropical Cyclone Danger Area product is created using the official track and intensity products issued by the TPC hurricane specialists. The Tropical Cyclone Danger Area is a graphical marine product depicting a tropical cyclones track (out to 72 hours) and shades in a danger area determined by adding 100, 200, and 300 nautical miles plus the 34 knot wind radii to the 24-, 48-, and 72- hour forecast position respectively. In addition, areas of possible tropical cyclone genesis (out to 36 hours) are included and depicted as either a circular, rectangle, oval, or polygon shaped area.

2. **Availability:**

The product is disseminated four times per day during the hurricane season - 0400, 1000, 1600 and 2200 UTC (Z). It disseminated via the Internet, AWIPS, and U.S. Coast Guard Radio fax Broadcasts. Additional information on product dissemination is available at:

<http://weather.gov/om/marine/home.htm>.

The following Internet site is one location to access the Tropical Cyclone Danger Area product:

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

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of Marine and Coastal Services policy, areas of responsibility, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination for the Tropical Cyclone Danger Area product is described in NWS Instructions 10-601 made available on the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.