

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 04, 2003***

TROPICAL CYCLONE REPORTS

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Tropical Cyclone Report (TCR) is a post-event overview of a tropical cyclone comprised of a narrative describing the overall storm and a detailed listing of 6-hourly location and intensity data in both text and graphic format. National Hurricane Center (NHC) issues TCRs for tropical cyclone activity in the Atlantic and eastern north Pacific (north of the equator and east of 140 degrees west longitude) basins. Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) issues TCRs for tropical cyclone activity in the central North Pacific (north of the equator between 140W and 180 degrees west longitude) basin.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The TCR is the official record of each tropical cyclone within NHCs and CPHCs respective areas of responsibility and documents each storm's intensity (wind and pressure) and location throughout its lifetime. These detailed reports are used by various customers for research by academia, NWS verification and historical purposes.

3. Audience:

The target audience of the TCR is an extensive number of groups both internal and external to the National Weather Service (NWS) and includes: NHC and CPHC internal use; NWS management; national, state and local emergency managers; and federal and university researchers.

4. Presentation Format:

The TCR is a document with both text and graphics.

5. Feedback Method:

The National Weather Service (NWS) is constantly seeking to improve its products based on user feedback. Customers can provide continuous feedback through e-mail links to the local program managers via the offices' Internet web sites and via e-mail links to the program manager in the Marine and Coastal Weather Service Branch, National Weather Service Headquarters (NWSH). NHC, CPHC, and NWSH also obtain feedback through meetings with emergency managers and media personnel, outreach activities, and through customer surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the Tropical Weather Summary may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Scott Kiser W/OS21
Hurricane Program Manager

1325 East-West Highway, Station 13126
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285

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

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

The TCR is a document containing both text and graphics in which NHC and CPHC provide final documentation on each tropical cyclone occurring within their area of responsibility. NHC and CPHC base the final statistics presented in the TCR upon re-analysis of all data sources, both those available in real time as well as those available post-event.

2. **Availability:**

The NHC and the CPHC prepare TCRs within 90 days of any tropical cyclone that occurs within their respective Area of Responsibility (AOR). NHC and CPHC prepare the TCR as part of their season review. The Centers use this report to form the foundation of briefings on the past hurricane season to the NOAA/NWS Hurricane Conference, the MG PACOM Military Tropical Cyclone Conference, the Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference, plus several other hurricane-related conferences during the year. In addition, NHC and CPHC publish summaries based upon the TCR in the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Tropical Cyclone Report, NWS Technical Reports, and journal articles. Also the Centers disseminate the TCR via the internet. The following internet sites are locations to access the TCR product.

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pastall.html> (For TPCs report)
<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc> (For CPHCs report)

Additional information on tropical related product dissemination is available at:

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

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of the Tropical Cyclone Weather Services program, policy, abbreviations and definitions, standards and guidelines, and means of product dissemination are described in NWS Instructions 10-601. It is available on the Internet at:

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