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Public Information Statement 21-39
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Allison Allen, Chief
 Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on a Proposal to Discontinue Small Craft
Exercise Caution Headline through August 13, 2021

Through August 13, 2021, the Southern Region of the National Weather
Service (NWS) is soliciting specific feedback on the proposal to
discontinue the Small Craft Exercise Caution (SCEC) headline in the
Coastal Waters Forecast text product.

This is a second request for comments to gather additional feedback. The
first request was held from February 2021 through April 2021 at this link:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns21-11scec_discontinue.pdf

As part of the NWS Hazard Simplification project, the NWS is considering a
major change to the Watch, Warning, and Advisory (WWA) system. For
information on this, see:

<https://www.weather.gov/hazardsimplification/>

Related comment periods on Small Craft Advisory and High Surf Advisory
have garnered positive public feedback:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-14small_craft_advisoryaab.pdf

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-66exp_high_surf.pdf

Example of proposed change:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/ref/sample_scec_products.pdf

The NWS is proposing this change for several reasons. First, the SCEC
headline does not have associated Valid Time Event Code (VTEC) encoding to
accompany the headline issuance for alerting purposes. Second, the
detailed forecast information within the product will not change within
the coastal waters forecast products for a mariner to make a prudent
decision. Finally, the Southern Region NWS Coastal Forecast Offices are

only the offices that issue this headline and the NWS is seeking to simplify our products and communicate threats more clearly and consistently.

Please provide feedback by filling out this survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Discontinue_SCEC

For more information, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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