

OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

Inasiguran I Tano' Guahan/Ufisinan Difensia Sibet 221-B Chalan Palasyo, Agana Heights, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 475-9600 / Fax: (671) 477-3727

Website: www.ghs.guam.gov

Samantha J. Brennan Homeland Security Advisor Charles V. Esteves Administrator

For Immediate Release February 24, 2022, 9:20 a.m. (ChST)

Fire Weather Watch in Effect; Hazardous Surf and Seas Remain
Outdoor Burning is Not Recommended; Inexperienced Swimmers Reminded to Stay Out of the Water

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office has the following advisories in effect:

A **fire weather watch** remains in effect for Guam through Friday afternoon. A fire weather watch means that critical fire weather conditions are forecast to occur. Sustained winds of 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 30 mph are expected during the afternoons through Friday. The highest threat is expected for the southern part of Guam, mainly along and south of Cross Island Road. Any fires that develop will likely spread rapidly. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

An **airport wind advisory** is in effect for the Guam International Airport until 6 p.m. this evening. Winds at 15 to 25 knots with gusts to 30 knots are possible.

A **high surf advisory** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6 a.m. Friday. Large breaking waves of 8 to 11 feet are expected along north facing reefs.

A high risk of rip currents remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through Sunday night. Dangerous rip currents are expected along north and east facing reefs. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from the shore into deeper water. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions. If caught in a rip current, do not swim against the current. Swim in a direction following the shoreline, face the shore and call or wave for help.

A **small craft advisory** remains in effect for the coastal waters of Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6 a.m. Monday. East winds of 15 to 25 knots, with gusts up to 30 knots, and seas of 8 to 12 feet are expected. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in hazardous conditions.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) remind the community to avoid hazardous sea and surf, especially north and east facing reefs and beaches. Heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs.

Visit the following links for the latest advisory information:

- · NWS Website: https://www.weather.gov/gum/
- NWS Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/
- · GHS/OCD Website: https://ghs.guam.gov/
- · GHS/OCD Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/

For more information, contact GHS/OCD Public Information Officer Jenna G. Blas at (671) 489-2540 or via email at jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov.