



OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

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For Immediate Release

February 22, 2024, 8:30 a.m. (ChST)

Gusty Winds Expected through Today; Red Flag Warning in Effect; Hazardous Surf and Seas Remain

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office advised gusty winds are causing a high fire threat.

A **red flag warning** remains in effect until 6 p.m. this evening for Guam. East winds of 20 to 25 mph and humidity at 50 to 60 percent in the afternoon are expected. Any fires that develop will likely spread rapidly. Outdoor burning is not recommended.

A **high surf advisory** is in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 5 p.m. Friday along north and east facing reefs. Large breaking waves of 8 to 12 feet are expected. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions.

A **high risk of rip currents** is in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through Saturday afternoon. 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 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** is in effect for the coastal waters of Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan from 6 p.m. this evening to 4 p.m. Saturday. East winds of 15 to 20 knots, with gusts up to 30 knots, and seas of 8 to 12 feet are expected. Conditions will be hazardous to small craft. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in hazardous conditions.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) remind the community to avoid hazardous surf and seas. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water while the advisories are in effect. Heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs. Refrain from outdoor burning.

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.

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