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Hazardous Surf and Seas Remain; Inexperienced Swimmers Advised to Stay Out of the Water

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

Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due dangerous surf conditions.

A high surf advisory is in effect for Guam and Rota until 6 p.m. Friday along north and west facing reefs. Large surf of 7 to 9 feet today, building to 10 to 12 feet tonight, dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion are expected.

A **high risk of rip currents** is in effect for Guam and Rota through Friday afternoon along north and west facing reefs, and along east facing reefs beginning tonight through Friday afternoon. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from the shore into deeper water. 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 10 a.m. this morning to 6 p.m. Friday. Northeast winds of 15 to 25 knots, with gusts up to 30 knots, and seas of 9 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 seas and dangerous rip currents, especially north, west, and east facing reefs and beaches. Remain out of the water while the advisories are in effect.

Visit the following links for the latest advisory information:

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

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.