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## For Immediate Release December 29, 2023, 8:05 a.m. (ChST)

## High Risk of Rip Currents and Small Craft Advisory Expected through the Weekend

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office advised a **high risk of rip currents** will be in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan from 6 p.m. this evening through Sunday night for east facing reefs of the Marianas. 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** will be in effect for the coastal waters of Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan from 6 p.m. this evening to 5 p.m. Sunday. Northeast winds of 15 to 25 knots, with gusts up to 30 knots, and seas of 7 to 11 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. Remain out of the water while the advisories are in effect. Heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs.

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: 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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