



## OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

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### For Immediate Release

December 19, 2022, 4:20 p.m. (ChST)

### **High Risk of Rip Currents and Small Craft Advisory Remain in Effect; Inexperienced Swimmers Advised to Stay Out of the Water**

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office advised a northwest swell, generated by strong gale-force winds behind a cold front located south of Japan, is approaching the Marianas.

A **high risk of rip currents** remains in effect for east facing reefs of Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through late Tuesday night. 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.

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

A **small craft advisory** remains in effect until 6 a.m. Wednesday. Seas of 7 to 10 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 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](mailto:jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov).

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