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For Immediate Release

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High Risk of Rip Currents Expected through Friday; Red Flag Warning Remains in Effect *Inexperienced swimmers reminded to stay out of the water; Refrain from outdoor burning*

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

A **high risk of rip currents** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through Friday afternoon. Dangerous rip currents are expected along 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 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 5 p.m. Thursday. East winds of 15 to 25 knots with gusts up to 30 knots and seas of 8 to 10 feet are expected. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in hazardous conditions.

A **red flag warning** remains in effect for Guam until 6 p.m. this evening. A red flag warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now, or will shortly. Sustained winds of 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 30 mph are expected through the afternoon. 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.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) remind the community to avoid dangerous rip currents, especially along east facing reefs and beaches. Heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs. Also, 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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