

## **Special Marine Statement – High Surfs**

Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Services

1:00 AM Monday, 17 April 2017

### **A Special Marine Statement for High Surfs in Effect for Antigua and Barbuda Monday, 17 April to Wednesday, 19 April 2017.**

A combination of northerly swells and wind waves will create hazardous breaking waves, life threatening rip currents and potentially coastal flooding.

High surf (sea-bather) warning in effect for Antigua and Barbuda.

**Breaking waves:** 2 to 3 metres or 6 to 10 feet, occasionally exceeding 3.8 metres or exceeding 13 feet, mainly on Tuesday.

**Coastal flooding:** High tides combine with onshore winds and swells action will result in coastal flooding and beach erosion, mainly around high tides.

**Locations (to be) affected:** Mainly northern and eastern facing beaches and more so for Barbuda.

**Timing:** High risk of rip currents and high surfs through Wednesday. High risk of coastal flooding, mainly Tuesday.

**Impacts:** Strong currents that can carry even the strongest swimmers out to sea; beach erosion; sea water splashing onto low lying coastal roads is possible. High surfs can knock spectators off of exposed rocks and jetties. Breaking waves may occasionally impact harbours making navigating the Harbour channel dangerous.

**Precautionary/preparedness actions:** A high surf warning means that high surf will affect beaches in the advisory area, producing beach erosion and dangerous swimming conditions. Beachgoers should avoid the waters, especially those on the northern and eastern side of the islands.

Rip currents are powerful channels of water flowing quickly away from shore, which occur most often at low spots or breaks in the sandbar and in the vicinity of structures such as groins such as jetties and piers.

Please continue to monitor the bulletins and forecasts issued by the Antigua and Barbuda Meteorological Services.

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