

APPENDIX B

DEFINING POINTS FOR TROPICAL CYCLONE WATCHES/WARNINGS

The coastal areas placed under tropical storm and hurricane/typhoon watches and warnings are described through the use of "breakpoints" or geographical positions. The National Weather Service (NWS) designates the locations along the U.S. East, Gulf, and California coasts, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii. Individual countries across the Caribbean, Central America, and South America provide coastal locations for their areas of responsibility to the NWS for the National Hurricane Center's use in tropical cyclone advisories when watches/warnings are issued by international partners. For graphical representations of the breakpoints, see http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/breakpoints_graphics.shtml. An additional source for breakpoint information is NWS Instruction 10-605, located at <http://www.weather.gov/directives>.

