

LOX Hazards Quick Reference

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General Guidelines

Confidence <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warning: 80-100%• Advisory: 80-100%• Watch: 50-100%	Coverage <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local: 1-32%• Areas: 33-66%• Widespread 67-100%	Update Cycle: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warning: 6 hours• Advisory: 6 hours• Watch: 8-12 hours
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Non Precipitation Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Channel Islands Zones 549 and 550: Only High Wind Warnings issued

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Air Quality & Visibility			
Air Stagnation Advisory (AS.Y) NPWLOX	Weather conditions that contribute to poor natural ventilation for a period of days, with potentially poor air quality	0 – 2 hrs	
Ashfall Advisory (AF.Y) NPWLOX	Airborne ash plume resulting deposition at the surface, either directly from a volcanic eruption or from suspension of a significant amount of relic ash	0 – 2 hrs	
Dense Fog Advisory (FG.Y) NPWLOX	Areas of visibility to 1/4 mile or less for a period of 3 hours or more	0 – 36 hrs	
Dense Smoke Advisory (SM.Y) NPWLOX	Widespread visibility of 1/4 mile or less due to smoke	0 – 36 hrs	
Dust Storm Warning (DS.W) NPWLOX	Widespread visibility of 1/4 mile or less due to blowing dust	0 – 2 hrs	
Blowing Dust Advisory (DU.Y) NPWLOX	Widespread visibility 1/4 to 1 mile due to blowing dust	0 – 36 hrs	
Frost & Freeze			
Zones 36, 37, 38, 59: 1 st and 2 nd each season Nov 1 to Mar 31 Anytime Apr 1 to Oct 31	Zones 34, 35, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 547, 548, 87, 88: Issue any time of year.	Zones 51, 52, 53, 54: Never issue freeze warnings.	
Hard Freeze Warning (HZ.W) NPWLOX	Surface temperature of <=28 F for two or more consecutive hours over a widespread area	0 – 36 hrs	
Hard Freeze Watch (HZ.A) NPWLOX	Surface temperature of <=28 F for two or more consecutive hours over a widespread area	12 – 48 hrs	
Freeze Warning (FZ.W) NPWLOX	Surface temperature of 29-32 F for two or more consecutive hours over a widespread area	0 – 36 hrs	
Freeze Watch (FZ.A) NPWLOX	Surface temperature of 29-32 F for two or more consecutive hours over a widespread area	12 – 48 hrs	
Frost Advisory (FR.Y) NPWLOX	Surface temperature of 33-35 F for two or more consecutive hours over a widespread area	0 – 36 hrs	

Excessive Heat Warning (EH.W) NPWLOX	HeatRisk (Red to Magenta) over large area	0 – 36 hrs	For more information on the HeatRisk Program: https://goo.gl/Z1mK85
Excessive Heat Watch (EH.A) NPWLOX	HeatRisk (Red to Magenta) over large area possible	12 – 72 hrs	
Heat Advisory (HT.A) NPWLOX	HeatRisk (Orange to Red) over large area	0 – 36 hrs	
High Wind Warning (HW.W) NPWLOX	Areas of winds for more than 1 hour: Coastal/Valley Zones: Wind Sus \geq 40 mph or Gst \geq 58 mph Mountain/Desert Zones (Below 7000ft): Wind Sus \geq 45 mph or Gst \geq 58 mph Mountain/Desert Zones (Above 7000ft): Wind Sus \geq 55 mph or Gst \geq 75 mph	0 – 36 hrs	
High Wind Watch (HW.A) NPWLOX	Areas of winds for more than 1 hour: Coastal/Valley Zones: Wind Sus \geq 40 mph or Gst \geq 58 mph Mountain/Desert Zones (Below 7000ft): Wind Sus \geq 45 mph or Gst \geq 58 mph Mountain/Desert Zones (Above 7000ft): Wind Sus \geq 55 mph or Gst \geq 75 mph	12 – 48 hrs	
Wind Advisory (WI.Y) NPWLOX	Areas of winds for more than 1 hour Coastal/Valley Zones: Wind Sus \geq 30 mph or Gst \geq 35 mph Mountain/Desert Zones: Wind Sus \geq 35 mph or Gst \geq 45 mph	0 – 36 hrs	

Winter Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Channel Islands Zones 549 and 550: No Winter Hazards issued

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Blizzard Warning (BZ.W) WSWLOX	Sustained winds ≥ 35 mph Visibility $\leq 1/4$ mile Snow and blowing snow expected for 3 hours or more	0 - 36 hrs	
Blizzard Watch (BZ.A) WSWLOX	Sustained winds ≥ 35 mph Visibility $\leq 1/4$ mile Snow and blowing snow expected for 3 hours or more	12 - 72 hrs	
Freezing Rain Advisory (ZR.Y) WSWLOX	Light Icing: Accrual of ice up to $1/4$ inch thick due to freezing rain or drizzle	0 - 36 hrs	
Ice Storm Warning (IS.W) WSWLOX	Significant Icing: Accrual of ice of $1/4$ inch or more due to freezing rain	0 - 36 hrs	
Wind Chill Warning (WC.W) WSWLOX	Wind chill values ≤ -20 F	0 - 36 hrs	
Wind Chill Watch (WC.A) WSWLOX	Wind chill values ≤ -20 F	12 - 72 hrs	
Wind Chill Advisory (WC.Y) WSWLOX	Wind chill values -19 F to -10 F	0 - 36 hrs	
Winter Storm Warning (WS.W) WSWLOX	Heavy Snow Accumulation Mountain zones (Above 7000 ft): 12 " in 12 hrs or 18 " in 24 hrs Mountain zones (Below 7000 ft): 8 " in 12 hrs or 12 " in 24 hrs All Other Zones: 4 " in 12 hrs or 6 " in 24 hrs -OR- Sleet Accumulation $\geq 1/2$ inch -OR- Any snow accumulations AND High Wind Warning Criteria	0 - 36 hrs	
Winter Storm Watch	Heavy Snow Accumulation	12 - 72 hrs	

<p>(WS.A) WSWLOX</p>	<p>Mountain Zones (Above 7000 ft): 12" in 12 hrs or 18" in 24 hrs Mountain Zones (Below 7000 ft): 8" in 12 hrs or 12" in 24 hrs All Other Zones: 4" in 12 hrs or 6" in 24 hrs -OR- Sleet Accumulation >= 1/2 inch -OR- Any snow accumulations AND High Wind Warning Criteria</p>		
<p>Winter Weather Advisory (WW.Y) WSWLOX</p>	<p>Snow Accumulation Mountain Zones: 4-7" in 12 hrs Zones 37, 38, 59: 1-3" in 12 hrs All Other Zones: Dusting to 3" in 12 hrs -OR- Sleet Accumulation <= 1/2 inch -OR- Visibility <= 1/4 mile from blowing snow with sustained winds <= 35 mph</p>	<p>0 - 36 hrs</p>	

Hydrologic Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Hydrologic Outlook ESFLOX	There is a $\geq 50\%$ chance of a storm system bringing flooding or flash flooding to the area	36 - 96 hrs	
Flood Warning (FL.W) FLWLOX	Mainstem river or tributary flow rates exceed the flood flow rate guidance -OR- The magnitude of the flood changes to a higher category (i.e., minor to moderate, moderate to major) -OR- A dam has failed in such a way that the release of water will cause the downstream river to <u>slowly</u> rise	0 – 2 hrs	
Flood Watch (FA.A) FFALOX	A threat of mainstem river flooding -OR- Flooding that is hazardous to either life or property, or will cause a great amount of flood related problems	0 – 36 hrs	
Flood Advisory (FA.Y) FLSLOX	Nuisance flooding that causes minor inconveniences (urban flooding from poor drainage, minor flooding of low-lying areas)	0 – 2 hrs	
Flood Statement FLSLOX	Updates, cancellations, or subtraction of areas to Flood Warnings or Advisories	0 – 2 hrs	
Flash Flood Warning (FF.W) FFWLOX	Flash flooding that poses a threat to life and/or property -OR- USGS Debris Flow flash flood guidance reached -OR- Dam or levee failure	0 – 2 hrs	
Flash Flood Watch (FF.A) FFALOX	$\geq 50\%$ chance of Flash flooding that poses a threat to life and/or property -OR- $\geq 50\%$ chance of USGS Debris Flow flash flood guidance reached -OR- $\geq 50\%$ chance of Dam or levee failure	0 – 36 hrs	

Flash Flood Statement FFSLOX	Updates, cancellations, or subtraction of areas to Flash Flood Warnings	0 – 2 hrs	
Hydrologic Statement RVSLOX	CNRFC issues a river forecast product (RNORVFRSA) that indicates an observed or forecast river stage/flow at or above Flood Stage/Flow		

Fire Weather Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Channel Islands Zones 549 and 550: No Fire Weather Hazards issued

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
<p>Red Flag Warning (FW.W) RFWLOX</p>	<p>Dry Fuels AND:</p> <p>Zone 59: RH \leq 15% AND Wind Sustained \geq 25 mph AND Duration 8+ hours -OR- Forecaster discretion in coordination with GACC or local agency</p> <p>All Other Zones: RH \leq 15% AND Wind Sus \geq 25 mph or Gst \geq 35 mph AND Duration 6+ hours -OR- RH \leq 10% AND Wind Sus \geq 15 mph or Gst \geq 25 mph AND Duration 6+ hours -OR- Widespread or significant dry lightning -OR- Forecaster discretion in coordination with GACC or local agency</p>	<p>0 – 48 hrs</p>	
<p>Fire Weather Watch (FW.A) RFWLOX</p>	<p>Red Flag Warning Conditions possible (See Above)</p>	<p>18 - 96 hrs</p>	

Coastal Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Channel Islands Zones 549 and 550: No Coastal Hazards issued

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Coastal Flood Warning (CF.W) CFWLOX	Damaging coastal flooding. See Criteria Matrix in Marine SDM for water level & surf thresholds	0 - 36 hrs	
Coastal Flood Watch (CF.A) CFWLOX	Potential for damaging coastal flooding. See Criteria Matrix in Marine SDM for water level & surf thresholds	24 – 48 hrs	
Coastal Flood Advisory (CF.Y) CFWLOX	Minor but impactful coastal flooding. See Criteria Matrix in Marine SDM for water level & surf thresholds	0 - 36 hrs	
High Surf Warning (SU.W) CFWLOX	Areas of surf: Zones 34, 35: Surf ≥ 20 ft Zones 39, 40, 41, 87 ≥ 15 ft	0 - 36 hrs	
High Surf Advisory (SU.Y) CFWLOX	Areas of surf: Zones 34, 35: Surf ≥ 10 ft Zones 39, 40, 41, 87 ≥ 7 ft	0 - 36 hrs	
Beach Hazards Statement (BH.S) CFWLOX	Elevated rip current and jetty dangers on a High Impact day -OR- Long range outlook for high confidence High Surf or Coastal Flooding. See Criteria Matrix in Marine SDM for water level & surf thresholds	0 - 48 hrs 2 – 5 day (outlook)	

Marine Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Hurricane Force Wind Warning (HF.W) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts >= 64 kt for 2 hrs or more	0 – 24 hrs	
Hurricane Force Wind Watch (HF.A) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts >= 64 kt for 2 hrs or more	12 - 48 hrs	
Storm Warning (SR.W) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts 48 - 63 kt for 2 hrs or more	0 - 24 hrs	
Storm Watch (SR.A) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts 48 - 63 kt for 2 hrs or more	12 - 48 hrs	
Gale Warning (GL.W) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts 34 - 47 kt for 2 hrs or more	0 - 24 hrs	
Gale Watch (GL.A) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts 34 - 47 kt for 2 hrs or more	12 - 48 hrs	
Small Craft Advisory (SC.Y) MWWLOX	Sustained Wind or Gusts 21 - 33 kt for 2 hrs or more -OR- Hazardous Sea Conditions	0 - 24 hrs	
Small Craft Advisory For Hazardous Seas (SW.Y) MWWLOX	Hazardous Sea Conditions: Seas >= 10 ft @ any period -OR- Seas >= 9 ft @ period <= 9 sec -OR- Seas >= 8 ft @ period <= 8 sec -OR- Seas >= 7 ft @ period <= 7 sec -OR- Seas >= 6 ft @ period <= 6 sec -OR-	0 - 24 hrs	
Marine Weather Statement MWSLOX	SMW Supplements -OR- General Convective Potential -OR- Northeast Wind at Avalon Harbor - OR- Breaking Waves at Harbors -OR- Widespread Dense Fog -OR- Tsunami Events Details -OR- Hazardous Materials Spills -OR- Coastal Flooding Affecting Harbors -OR- Extended Outlook for Warning Conditions	0 - 24 hrs 2 – 5 day (outlook)	

Severe Weather/Convection Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Severe Thunderstorm Warning (SV.W) SVRLOX	Hail Diameter ≥ 1 " -OR- Convective Winds ≥ 58 mph -OR- Severe Wind Damage Reports	0 – 2 hrs	
Severe Thunderstorm Watch (SV.A) WCNLOX	SPC issues a Severe Thunderstorm Watch Outline Statement	0 – 48 hrs	
Tornado Warning (TO.W) TORLOX	A tornado is sighted, reported by a reliable source, or indicated to be likely occurring or forming in radar data	0 – 2 hrs	
Tornado Watch (TO.A) WCNLOX	SPC issues a Severe Thunderstorm Watch Outline Statement	0 – 48 hrs	
Severe Weather Statement (SV.S) SVSLOX	Follow-up product for Severe Thunderstorm and Tornado Warnings	0 – 2 hrs	
Significant Weather Advisory SPSLOX	For organized strong thunderstorms that are expected to remain below severe limits.	0 – 2 hrs	

Tropical Cyclone Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Hurricane Local Statement HLSLOX	Tropical Prediction Center places any part of the WFO LOX county warning area under a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Watch or Warning or Evacuation Order -OR- To dispel rumors or clarify tropical cyclone information affecting the WFO LOX county warning area (MIC or AMIC approved)	0 – 2 hrs	

Tsunami Hazards [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Tsunami Warning SPSLOX	NTWC in Alaska issues a Tsunami Warning for any part of the LOX WFO. (Water rise \geq 3.3 ft)	0 – 2 hrs	
Tsunami Watch SPSLOX	NTWC in Alaska issues a Tsunami Watch for any part of the LOX WFO.	0 – 2 hrs	
Tsunami Advisory SPSLOX	NTWC in Alaska issues a Tsunami Advisory for any part of the LOX WFO. (Water rise 1.0 to 3.2 ft)	0 – 2 hrs	

Other Hazard Related Products [\(Back To Top\)](#)

Hazard	Criteria	Time Window	Notes
Hazardous Weather Outlook HWOLOX	Summary of weather hazards affecting or expected to affect the WFO LOX area during the next 7 days.		
Short Term Forecast NOWLOX	Ongoing or forecast weather conditions less than warning or advisory criteria expected	0 – 6 hrs	
Special Weather Statement SPSLOX	Significant or unusual weather event(s) forecast to occur	1 – 3 days	