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Public Information Statement 25-68 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1020 AM EDT Mon Nov 17 2025

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From: Dr. Avichal Mehra
 Deputy Director, Ocean Prediction Center

Subject: Updated: Soliciting comments through December 1, 2025 on the proposed reduction in coverage areas for the High Seas Forecast near the Equator and International Dateline

Updated to extend comment period through December 1, 2025

The National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction's (NCEP) Ocean Prediction Center (OPC) and Pacific Region are soliciting comments through Monday December 1, 2025 on a proposal to:

(1) align the western boundary of NWS Pacific Ocean text high seas forecasts (HSF) from approximately 160 degrees E to 180 degrees E. This would align the boundary with the international date line and also the western boundary of METAREA XII. (2) align the southern boundary of the NWS Pacific Ocean text HSFs from 25 degrees S to the Equator (0 degrees S) west of 120 degrees W, aligning with the northern boundary of METAREA XIV.

A graphical depiction of these proposed changes is available online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/marine/HighSeasPacificProposal>

The result would be the NWS discontinuing forecasts for the overlapping sections west of the date line from 160 degrees to 180 degrees E longitude and for the overlapping sections south of the Equator (0 degrees S) and west of 120 degrees W to 25 degrees S. Text high seas forecasts for METAREA XII in its entirety will continue to be issued by the NWS.

WMO METAREAs, including METAREA XII, can be found at:
<https://wwmiws.wmo.int/>

Pacific Ocean text HSFs issued by the OPC and WFO Honolulu, HI (HFO) currently extend beyond the international date line south of the Aleutian Islands to 160 degrees E, and across the South Pacific to 25 degrees S west of 120 degrees W. These areas are well beyond the METAREA XII boundaries and overlap with forecasts for METAREAs XI, XIII, and XIV. The proposed change is to align the NWS HSF boundaries with METAREA XII's western and southern boundaries by discontinuing those portions of the

NWS HSF forecasts that overlap with METAREAs X, XI, XIII, and XIV. Text high seas forecasts for METAREA XII in its entirety will continue to be issued by the NWS.

High seas text forecasts for METAREA X are issued by Australia, METAREA XI are issued by Japan and METAREA XIV by New Zealand. These can all be found at the WMO WWMIWS website (<https://wwmiws.wmo.int/>), along with text products using the WMO identifiers FQAU20 AMMC, WWJP90 RJTD and FQPS01 NFFN.

High seas forecasts for METAREA XIII are the responsibility of the Russian Federation. High seas forecasts for METAREA XIII should be found online through the WMO WWMIWS website (<https://wwmiws.wmo.int/>), along with text products using the WMO identifier FQRA01 RUVV.

NAVTEX products are issued by the Russian Federation for portions of METAREA XIII. The Japanese Meteorological Agency (JMA) also includes significant weather in METAREA XIII in its METAREA XI high seas forecast product.

Text HSFs for METAREA XII in its entirety will continue to be issued by the NWS. These text HSFs can be found at a variety of web sites, including <https://ocean.weather.gov> and <https://weather.gov/hfo/marine>, and using WMO identifiers found in Table 2 below.

In addition, gridded forecasts will continue to be produced (https://www.weather.gov/hfo/enhanced_cpacfull) across the larger chart analysis area across the Pacific between 30 degrees S and 30 degrees N and from the North American continent to 130 degrees E covering all NWS areas of responsibility in the tropical Pacific.

Table 1: NWS Product Proposed Being Eliminated:

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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High Seas Forecast South Mid-Pacific	FZPS40 PHFO	HSFSP

Table 2: NWS Product Proposed Reduced Areas:

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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High Seas Forecast Northeast Pacific	FZPN01 KWBC	HSFEP1
High Seas Forecast East Pacific	FZPN02 KWBC	HSFEPI
High Seas Forecast North Mid-Pacific	FZPN40 PHFO	HSFNP

Please submit comments regarding the proposal by December 1, 2025 to:

Melinda Bailey
National Weather Service
Marine Program Manager and
Coordinator for METAREAs IV and XII
Silver Spring, Maryland
melinda.bailey@noaa.gov

National Public Information Statements are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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