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Service Change Notice 25-102 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
555 PM EST Thu Feb 26 2026

To: Subscribers:
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From: Mary Mullusky, Chief
 Operations Services Division

SUBJECT: Updated: Changes to Atlantic Marine Forecast Zones for the Ocean Prediction Center effective April 16, 2026

Updated to (1) change the implementation date from March 3, 2026 to April 16, 2026, (2) that the final versions of the shapefiles will be available on March 24, 2026, and (3) to update previous proposed zone changes.

Effective on Thu, April 16, 2026, at 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the Ocean Prediction Center will change Marine Forecast Zones encompassing its Atlantic offshore waters. Zone numbers will remain the same and only the western side of the inner offshore waters will change, which will be reflected in the shapefiles. Upon implementation of this change, all offshore marine forecasts from OPC will use the same zone numbers and zone names - see Table 1 below.

Other changes occurring at the same time involve near shore marine zones, with the outer extent expanding from approximately 20 NM offshore to 60 NM offshore. These marine zones areas are forecast by Weather Forecast Offices and for details please see [SCN:25-101](#), SUBJECT: Changes to Marine Zones for NWS Weather Forecast Offices From Caribou, ME to Charleston, SC Effective March 3, 2026, which also contains graphical depictions of the changes.

If April 16, 2026 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to April 20, 2026 at 2100 UTC.

These changes have been coordinated with partnering agencies and are part of a National Weather Service effort to make the offshore extent of coastal marine zones consistent throughout the conterminous United States. The zone numbers, names, and zone forecast area descriptions are listed below.

Table 1: The current zone numbers and zone area descriptions listed below where only the shapefiles will change.

Current zone number: Current zone name

ANZ800: Gulf of Maine to the Hague Line
ANZ805: Georges Bank between Cape Cod and 68W north of 1000 FM
ANZ810: South of New England between the Great South Channel
and Montauk Point to 1000 FM
ANZ815: South of Long Island between Montauk Point and Sandy
Hook to 1000 FM
ANZ820: Hudson Canyon to Baltimore Canyon to 1000 FM
ANZ825: Baltimore Canyon to Cape Charles Light to 100 NM
offshore
ANZ828: Cape Charles Light to Currituck Beach Light to 100 NM
offshore
ANZ830: Currituck Beach Light to Cape Hatteras to 100 NM
offshore
ANZ833: Cape Hatteras to Cape Fear to 100 NM offshore
ANZ835: Cape Fear to 31N to 1000 FM

There will be no shapefile changes to the OPC synopses listed below:

ANZ898: Synopsis for New England Waters
ANZ899: Synopsis for Mid Atlc Waters

Other previously communicated OPC offshore zones are no longer changing
at this time.

Updated coastal, offshore, and high seas zone shapefiles are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/gis/MarineZones>

Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on March 24, 2026.

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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