

NOUS41 KWBC 151924 AAAA
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFO. STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-61...UPDATED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
330 PM EDT WED OCT 15 2003

TO FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER
WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS... OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
/NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM THERESE Z. PIERCE
CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT UPDATED...MODIFICATIONS TO MARINE ZONE BOUNDARIES IN
ALASKA AND FORMAT AND COMMUNICATIONS HEADING CHANGES TO
THE COASTAL WATERS FORECAST PRODUCTS IN ALASKA...
EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 19 2003 AND JANUARY 13 2004 AT 4 PM
ALASKA STANDARD TIME /AST/

ACTION USERS OF NWS MARINE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS ORIGINATING
FROM ALASKA MUST UPDATE THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
DIRECTORIES TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THESE PRODUCTS

UPDATED TO DELAY ALL DECEMBER 16 2003 IMPLEMENTATION DATES TO
JANUARY 13 2004

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFO/
IN ALASKA WILL IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO THE MARINE ZONE BOUNDARIES IN
THEIR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY THIS FALL. THE CHANGES WILL BE
IMPLEMENTED IN TWO PHASES. WFO JUNEAU WILL IMPLEMENT MOST OF
THEIR CHANGES FIRST...FOLLOWED BY WFO ANCHORAGE AND
WFO FAIRBANKS...ON THE FOLLOWING DATES.

WFO JUNEAU COASTAL WATERS WED. NOVEMBER 19 2003 4 PM AST
WFO JUNEAU OFFSHORE WATERS TUE. JANUARY 13 2004 4 PM AST
WFO ANCHORAGE TUE. JANUARY 13 2004 4 PM AST
WFO FAIRBANKS TUE. JANUARY 13 2004 4 PM AST

THE NEW ZONE NUMBERS AND GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS ARE LISTED IN
TABLE 2...AND PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES ARE LISTED IN
TABLE 3.

AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CONTAINING THE REALIGNED ZONES IS
AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES /USE LOWER
CASE LETTERS/...

www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/marinezones.htm

AND

<http://www.arh.noaa.gov/changes>

FOR PARTNERS AND CUSTOMERS WHO USE MARINE ZONE NUMBERS AS LOCATION CODES FOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO /NWR/ AND EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM /EAS/ APPLICATIONS...THE COASTAL AND OFFSHORE MARINE CODE LISTINGS FOR NWR AND EAS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/marinenwreas.htm

ALSO...THE COASTAL WATERS FORECAST /CWF/ AND OFFSHORE WATERS FORECAST /OFF/ TEXT PRODUCTS ISSUED IN ALASKA WILL BE MODIFIED. PRODUCT CHANGES WILL INCLUDE UPDATING THE FORMAT...DIVIDING THE CONTENTS INTO NEW COLLECTIVES...AND MODERNIZING THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADINGS AND AWIPS IDS. ONCE IMPLEMENTED... THESE CWF PRODUCTS WILL CONFORM TO NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION /NWSI/ 10-310...ENTITLED COASTAL MARINE FORECAST SERVICES...AND NWSI 10-311...ENTITLED OFFSHORE NAVTEX AND HIGH SEAS MARINE FORECAST SERVICES.

THE CWF AND OFF FORMAT CHANGES WILL INVOLVE MODIFYING THE WAY THE TEXT OF THE FORECAST IS PRESENTED. A FIVE DAY FORECAST WILL BE GIVEN FOR EACH MARINE AREA AND IT WILL BE PRESENTED IN A STRUCTURED PERIOD-BY-PERIOD FORMAT. THIS FORMAT USES THE DAYS OF THE WEEK TO DESCRIBE EACH PERIOD EXCEPT THE CURRENT DAY...WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS TODAY OR TONIGHT. ADVISORY AND WARNING CONDITIONS WILL BE HEADLINED AT THE TOP OF THE FORECAST FOR EACH MARINE ZONE.

CURRENTLY...THE FORECAST FOR THE FIRST TWO DAYS IS WRITTEN IN A NARRATIVE FORMAT THAT DESCRIBES THE TIMING OF MAJOR CHANGES IN WEATHER CONDITIONS RATHER THAN PROVIDING FORECASTS FOR STANDARDIZED TIME PERIODS. A THREE TO FIVE DAY EXTENDED FORECAST IS PROVIDED SEPARATELY...USUALLY ENCOMPASSING MORE THAN ONE FORECAST ZONE.

THE WEATHER PARAMETERS INCLUDED IN THE MARINE FORECASTS /WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED...WAVE HEIGHT...AND SIGNIFICANT WEATHER/ WILL NOT CHANGE. THE ONLY CHANGE RELATING TO CONTENT IS THE EXPANSION OF EXTENDED FORECAST INFORMATION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL MARINE AREA.

THE WMO HEADINGS AND AWIPS IDS FOR THE CWF PRODUCTS AND OFF PRODUCTS ARE ALSO BEING UPDATED DURING THIS TRANSITION. THESE CHANGES ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

TABLE 1. WMO HEADING AND AWIPS ID CHANGES THE COASTAL WATERS FORECASTS AND OFFSHORE MARINE FORECASTS IN ALASKA.

NOTE...SOME OLD COLLECTIVES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO OR THREE NEW ONES DUE TO INCREASING PRODUCT LENGTH. ALSO...WMO HEADINGS FOR CWF PRODUCTS ISSUED BY WFO ANCHORAGE WERE MODERNIZED IN SEPTEMBER 2003...SO THEY ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS LIST.

OLD WMO HEADING	OLD AWIPS ID	NEW WMO HEADING	NEW AWIPS ID	CHANGE DATE
FZAK61 PAJN	CWF061	FZAK51 PAJK	CWFAJK	11/19/03
	FZAK52 PAJK	CWFAEG		11/19/03
FZAK47 PAYA	CWIFYAK	FZAK57 PAYA	CWIFYAK	11/19/03
FZAK48 PADQ	CWFADQ	FZAK58 PADQ	CWFADQ	1/13/04
FZAK48 PAVD	CWFVDZ	FZAK58 PAVW	CWFVDZ	1/13/04
FZPN01 PANC	OFFANC	FZAK67 PAJK	OFFAJK	1/13/04
	FZAK61 PAFC	OFFAER		1/13/04
	FZAK62 PAFC	OFFALU		1/13/04
FZAK66 PAFA	CWF066	FZAK59 PAFG	CWFAFG	1/13/04

TABLE 2. MARINE ZONES IN EACH WFO GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WITH CORRESPONDING UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGC/.

...WFO JUNEAU...

ZONE NAME	UGC	WMO HEADING
SYNOPSIS FOR INSIDE WATERS		PKZ098 FZAK51 PAJK
GLACIER BAY	PKZ011	
NORTHERN LYNN CANAL		PKZ012
SOUTHERN LYNN CANAL		PKZ013
ICY STRAIT	PKZ021	
CROSS SOUND	PKZ022	
STEPHENS PASSAGE	PKZ031	
NORTHERN CHATHAM STRAIT		PKZ032
SOUTHERN CHATHAM STRAIT		PKZ033
FREDERICK SOUND	PKZ034	
SUMNER STRAIT	PKZ035	
CLARENCE STRAIT	PKZ036	
SYNOPSIS FOR OUTSIDE WATERS		PKZ099 FZAK52 PAJK
DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE DECISION		PKZ041
CAPE DECISION TO CAPE EDGE CUMBE		PKZ042
CAPE EDGE CUMBE TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER		PKZ043
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO ICY CAPE		PKZ051
ICY CAPE TO CAPE SUCKLING		PKZ052
SYNOPSIS FOR EASTERN GULF OF AK		PKZ398 FZAK67 PAJK
GULF OF ALASKA NORTH OF 55 DEGREES		
NORTH AND EAST OF 144 DEGREES		
WEST	PKZ310	

...WSO YAKUTAT...

ZONE NAME UGC WMO HEADING

SYNOPSIS FOR YAKUTAT BAY PKZ097 FZAK57 PAYA
YAKUTAT BAY PKZ053

...WFO ANCHORAGE...

ZONE NAME UGC WMO HEADING

SYNOPSIS FOR THE NORTH GULF COAST PKZ197 FZAK51 PAFC
CAPE SUCKLING TO GORE POINT PKZ120
RESURRECTION BAY PKZ121
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND PKZ125
PASSAGE CANAL PKZ129
BARREN ISLANDS AND KAMISHAK BAY PKZ130
KODIAK ISLAND WATERS GORE POINT TO
SITKINAK PKZ132
SHELIKOF STRAIT PKZ138
COOK INLET NORTH OF KAMISHAK AND
ENGLISH BAY PKZ140
KACHEMAK BAY PKZ141

SYNOPSIS FOR SOUTHWEST ALASKA AND
THE ALEUTIANS PKZ199 FZAK52 PAFC
SITKINAK TO CASTLE CAPE PKZ150
CASTLE CAPE TO CAPE SARICHEF PKZ155
CAPE NEWENHAM TO PORT HEIDEN PKZ160
PORT HEIDEN TO CAPE SARICHEF PKZ165
CAPE NEWENHAM TO DALL POINT PKZ180
CAPE SARICHEF TO NIKOLSKI PKZ170
UNALASKA BAY PKZ171
NIKOLSKI TO ADAK PKZ172
ADAK TO KISKA PKZ175
KISKA TO ATTU PKZ176
PRIBILOF ISLANDS PKZ179
ST MATTHEW ISLAND PKZ185

SYNOPSIS FOR WESTERN GULF OF ALASKA PKZ399 FZAK61 PAFC
GULF OF ALASKA NORTH OF 55 DEGREES
NORTH AND WEST OF 144 DEGREES
WEST PKZ350

SYNOPSIS FOR CENTRAL BERING SEA PKZ499 FZAK62 AFC
SOUTH CENTRAL BERING SEA EAST OF
THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE PKZ410

...WSO KODIAK...

ZONE NAME UGC WMO HEADING

SYNOPSIS FOR CHINIAK AND MARMOT BAYS PKZ198 FZAK58 ADQ
CHINIAK BAY PKZ136
MARMOT BAY PKZ137

...WSO VALDEZ...

ZONE NAME	UGC	WMO HEADING
SYNOPSIS FOR VALDEZ PORT NARROWS AND ARM	PKZ196	FZAK58 PAVW
PORT OF VALDEZ	PKZ126	
VALDEZ NARROWS	PKZ127	
VALDEZ ARM	PKZ128	

...WFO FAIRBANKS...

ZONE NAME	UGC	WMO HEADING
SYNOPSIS FOR WESTERN ALASKA AND THE ARCTIC COAST	PKZ299	FZAK59 PAFG
NORTON SOUND	PKZ290	
DALL POINT TO WALES	PKZ295	
KOTZEBUE SOUND	PKZ200	
WALES TO CAPE LISBURNE	PKZ205	
CAPE LISBURNE TO CAPE HALKETT	PKZ210	
CAPE HALKETT TO DEMARCATION POINT	PKZ215	

TABLE 3. ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY NEW MARINE ZONES AND UGCS.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADINGS	AWIPS IDS
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING	WHAK57 PAJK	SMWAJK
	WHAK51 PAFC	SMWAER
	WHAK52 PAFC	SMWALU
	WHAK59 PAFG	SMWAFG
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT	FZAK87 PAJK	MWSAJK
	FZAK81 PAFC	MWSAER
	FZAK82 PAFC	MWSALU
	FZAK89 PAFG	MWSAFG

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL USERS OF NWS MARINE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS ORIGINATING FROM ALASKA MAKE SURE THAT THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DIRECTORIES EXACTLY MATCH THE HEADINGS LISTED IN TABLE 1. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL PREVENT THESE PRODUCTS FROM REACHING THEIR INTENDED AUDIENCE.

NWS CUSTOMERS WHO AUTOMATICALLY PROCESS PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 3 USING THE ZONE /Z/ FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE MAY NEED TO PROGRAM THE NEW Z CODES INTO THEIR SYSTEM/S/ TO CONTINUE TO PROCESS THE PRODUCTS.

A WEB PAGE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ALLOW USERS TO TEST THE CHANGES TO ENSURE THEY CAN DECODE THE MODIFIED PRODUCT CORRECTLY. SEE EXAMPLES AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

<http://www.arh.noaa.gov/changes>

ALL OTHER ALASKA REGION WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES WILL MODERNIZE THEIR COASTAL MARINE FORECASTS AND OFFSHORE MARINE FORECASTS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. LOOK FOR FUTURE SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES REGARDING THESE CHANGES.

NWSI 10-310 AND 10-311 ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

www.nws.noaa.gov/directives

CLICK ON 10-OPERATIONS AND SERVICES...AND THEN SCROLL DOWN AND CLICK ON 10-310 COASTAL MARINE FORECAST SERVICES OR 10-311 OFFSHORE NAVTEX AND HIGH SEAS MARINE FORECAST SERVICES.

PARTNERS/CUSTOMERS SHOULD NOTIFY THE FOLLOWING POINT OF CONTACT IF THEY BELIEVE THE CHANGES WILL ADVERSELY IMPACT THEIR OPERATIONS...OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THIS CHANGE...

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THIS NOTICE AND OTHER SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm

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