

NOUS41 KWBC 242141
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-63
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
530 PM EDT WED SEP 24 2003

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

FROM GLENN AUSTIN
ACTING CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT MODIFIED FORMAT...CHANGES TO
PUBLIC ZONE BOUNDARIES...AND PHASED IMPLEMENTATION...
EFFECTIVE BEGINNING NOVEMBER 19 2003

ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19 2003 AT 400 PM ALASKA STANDARD TIME
/AST/...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE
/WFO/ IN JUNEAU ALASKA WILL IMPLEMENT CHANGES CALLED FOR IN A NEW
DIRECTIVE...NWS INSTRUCTION 10-503...WFO PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST
PRODUCTS SPECIFICATION. THIS NEW DIRECTIVE SETS POLICY FOR AN
IMPROVED ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT /ZFP/ IN A MODIFIED FORMAT. THE
REMAINING ALASKAN WFOS...WFO ANCHORAGE AND WFO FAIRBANKS...WILL
IMPLEMENT THESE CHANGES ON TUESDAY...DECEMBER 16 2003.

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

THIS NEW DIRECTIVE EXTENSIVELY CHANGES THE ZFP FORMAT. THE MOST
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES ARE AS FOLLOWS.

1. THE DAY FOUR /4/ THROUGH DAY SEVEN /7/ 24-HOUR FORECASTS HAVE
BEEN BROKEN INTO 12-HOUR SEGMENTS...RESULTING IN SEAMLESS 13 OR
14 PERIOD FORECASTS DEPENDING UPON THE ISSUANCE TIME.
2. WIND FORECASTS ARE EXTENDED TO 60 HOURS.
3. THE DOT LESS THAN CODE /.</ USED TO MARK OPTIONAL SITE
SPECIFIC FORECASTS HAS BEEN REPLACED BY THE STANDARD DOUBLE
AMPERSAND /&&/ AND A CARRIAGE RETURN TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH
DISSEMINATION POLICY IN NWSI 10-1701...TEXT PRODUCT FORMATS AND
CODES.

THE 7-DAY ZFP WILL CONTINUE TO BE ROUTINELY ISSUED AT LEAST TWICE
DAILY. OTHER ISSUANCES WILL BE ON AN EVENT-DRIVEN BASIS. NO
COMMUNICATIONS CHANGES ARE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE IMPROVED ZFP.

THE FOLLOWING WEB LINK BELOW PROVIDES AN EXAMPLE OF THE MODIFIED

ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT FORMAT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notifications/zone_example0715.htm

ZFP POLICY...FORMAT...AND GENERIC EXAMPLES CAN BE FOUND IN NWS INSTRUCTION 10-503 LOCATED ON THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DIRECTIVES INTERNET WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/pd01005003a.pdf>

IN ADDITION...WFO JUNEAU WILL IMPLEMENT NEW PUBLIC ZONES IN ITS GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. THESE CHANGES WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 19 2003...AT 400 PM AST. THE NEW ZONES ARE LISTED IN TABLE 1. PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES ARE LISTED IN TABLE 2.

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

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/pubzone.htm>
/FILES WILL BE POSTED TO THE ABOVE SITE THURSDAY SEPT. 25TH/

AND

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

TABLE 1. NEW PUBLIC ZONES FOR WFO JUNEAU GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WITH CORRESPONDING UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGC/.

PUBLIC ZONE NAME	UGC
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO CAPE SUCKLING COASTAL AREA	AKZ017
TAIYA INLET AND KLONDIKE HIGHWAY	AKZ018
HAINES BOROUGH AND LYNN CANAL	AKZ019
GLACIER BAY	AKZ020
EASTERN CHICHAGOF ISLAND	AKZ021
SALISBURY SOUND TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER COASTAL AREA	AKZ022
CAPE DECISION TO SALISBURY SOUND COASTAL AREA	AKZ023
EASTERN BARANOF ISLAND AND SOUTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLAND	AKZ024
JUNEAU BOROUGH AND NORTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLAND	AKZ025
INNER CHANNELS FROM KUPREANOF ISLAND TO ETOLIN ISLAND	AKZ026
DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE DECISION COASTAL AREA	AKZ027
SOUTHERN INNER CHANNELS	AKZ028
MISTY FJORDS	AKZ029

TABLE 2. PRODUCTS THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY NEW PUBLIC ZONES AND UGCS. NOTE...W/W/A STANDS FOR WATCH/WARNING/ADVISORY.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
ZONE WEATHER FORECAST	FPAK57 PAJK	ZFPAJK
FIRE WEATHER ZONE FORECAST	FNAK57 PAJK	FWFAJK
RED FLAG WATCH/WARNING	WWAK67 PAJK	RFWAJK
MOTORING FORECAST	FPAK67 PAJK	TVLAJK
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING	WUAK57 PAJK	SVRAJK
SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENT	WWAK57 PAJK	SVSAJK
TORNADO WARNING	WFAK57 PAJK	TORJNU
COASTAL FLOOD WATCH/WARNING	FZAK68 PAJN	CFWJNU
FLOOD WATCH	WGAK67 PAJK	FLWAJK
FLASH FLOOD WARNING	WGAK57 PAJK	FFWAJK
FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT	WGAK77 PAJK	FFSAJK
FLOOD WARNING	WGAK47 PAJK	FLWAJK
FLOOD STATEMENT	WGAK87 PAJK	FLSAJK
RIVER STATEMENT	FGAK87 PAJK	RVSAJK
CIVIL EMERGENCY MESSAGE	WOAK47 PAJK	CEMAJK
WINTER WEATHER W/W/A FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK47 PAJK	WSWAJK
WINTER WEATHER W/W/A FOR THE EASTERN GULF COAST	WWAK47 PAYA	WSWYAK
WINTER WEATHER W/W/A FOR SOUTHERN SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK47 PANT	WSWANN
NON-PRECIPITATION W/W/A FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK77 PAJK	NPWAJK
NON-PRECIPITATION W/W/A FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK77 PAYA	NPWYAK
NON-PRECIPITATION W/W/A FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK77 PANT	NPWANN
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK87 PAJK	SPSAJK
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT FOR THE EASTERN GULF COAST	WWAK87 PAYA	SPSYAK
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT FOR SOUTHERN SOUTHEAST ALASKA	WWAK87 PAYA	SPSANN
SHORT TERM FORECAST FOR SOUTHEAST ALASKA	FPAK77 PAJK	NOWAJK
SHORT TERM FORECAST FOR THE EASTERN GULF COAST	FPAK77 PAYA	NOWYAK
SHORT TERM FORECAST FOR SOUTHERN SOUTHEAST ALASKA	FPAK77 PANT	NOWANN

NWS CUSTOMERS WHO AUTOMATICALLY PROCESS PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 2 USING THE ZONE /Z/ FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ MAY NEED TO PROGRAM THE NEW Z CODES INTO THEIR SYSTEMS NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 19 2003 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/>

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

AIMEE DEVARIS
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
ALASKA REGION PUBLIC PROGRAM MANAGER
ANCHORAGE AK
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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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