

NOUS41 KWBC 301345
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 08-34
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
945 AM EDT THU APR 30 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
- FAMILY OF SERVICES
- NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
- EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
- OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES.

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

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTING IMPROVED MARINE ZONE COVERAGE
ACROSS MATAGORDA BAY TEXAS: EFFECTIVE
JUNE 3 2008

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY JUNE 3 2008 AT 1030 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ OR 530 AM CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME /CDT/...THE NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE IN HOUSTON/GALVESTON TEXAS WILL RECONFIGURE ITS CURRENT MARINE ZONES FOR MATAGORDA BAY. EAST MATAGORDA BAY WILL BE MERGED WITH THE REMAINDER OF MATAGORDA BAY. THIS CHANGE SHOULD RESULT IN BETTER FORECAST SERVICES BY REALIGNING THE BAY AND COASTAL GULF ZONES FOR CLIMATOLOGICAL...GEOGRAPHICAL...AND BATHYMETRICAL EFFECTS.

CURRENTLY MARINE ZONE GMZ350 EXTENDS FROM THE MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL TO FREEPORT OUT TO 20 NAUTICAL MILES /NM/... INCLUDING EAST MATAGORDA BAY. EFFECTIVE JUNE 3 2008 EAST MATAGORDA BAY WILL BE REMOVED FROM THIS COASTAL GULF ZONE AND BE PLACED INTO MATAGORDA BAY ZONE GMZ330.

THESE RECONFIGURED ZONES ARE LISTED IN TABLE 1 BELOW. WFO HOUSTON/GALVESTON WILL CONTINUE TO ISSUE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS FOR THE RECONFIGURED ZONES IN TABLE 1 VIA THE PRODUCTS LISTED TABLE 2.

TABLE 1. MARINE ZONES BEING RECONFIGURED EFFECTIVE JUNE 3 2008. ZONE NAMES AND UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGC/ WILL NOT CHANGE ON JUNE 3 2008.

RECONFIGURED MARINE ZONE	UGC	COMMENT
MATAGORDA BAY	GMZ330	NOW INCLUDES EAST MATAGORDA BAY IN THIS ZONE GROUP
COASTAL WATERS FROM FREEPORT TO MATAGORDA	GMZ350	REMOVES EAST MATAGORDA BAY

SHIP CHANNEL TO OUT
TO 20 NM

FROM THIS ZONE GROUP

BECAUSE THE MARINE ZONES IN TABLE 1 WILL NOT CHANGE NAME OR
UGC...CUSTOMERS DO NOT HAVE TO TAKE ANY ACTION TO CONTINUE
RECEIVING THE MARINE TEXT PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 2 BELOW.

CUSTOMERS PROVIDING NWS GRAPHIC MARINE FORECASTS MUST
DOWNLOAD AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE TO CORRECTLY PROVIDE
GRAPHIC MARINE FORECASTS FOR EAST MATAGORDA BAY.

THIS UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD
FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/MARINEZONES.HTM

A MAP SHOWING THE TRANSFER OF EAST MATAGORDA BAY FROM GMZ350
TO GMZ330 IS POSTED ON THE WFO HOUSTON/GALVESTON WEBSITE AT
/USE LOWER CASE/:

WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/HGX/MARINE/POINT_CLICK_CHANGE.HTM

TABLE 2. WFO HOUSTON/GALVESTON MARINE TEXT PRODUCTS THAT
USE THE UGC DESIGNATORS /Z/ INCLUDING MARINE ZONES GMZ350
AND GMZ330. CUSTOMERS DO NOT HAVE TO TAKE ANY ACTION TO
CONTINUE RECEIVING THESE TEXT PRODUCTS.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
COASTAL WATERS FORECAST	FZUS54 KHGX	CWFHGX
MARINE WEATHER MESSAGE	WHUS74 KHGX	MWWHGX
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING	WHUS54 KHGX	SMWHGX
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT	FZUS74 KHGX	MWSHGX
HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT	WTUS84 KHGX	HLSHGX
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS44 KHGX	HWOHGX
WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION	WWUS64 KHGX	WCNHGX
UPPER TEXAS TIDE FORECAST AND INFORMATION	SOUS44 KHGX	TIDHGX

IF YOU QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS RECONFIGURATION OF
THE COASTAL WATERS FORECAST ZONES...CONTACT:

BRIAN KYLE	MELINDA BAILEY
MARINE FOCAL POINT	PUBLIC/MARINE METEOROLOGIST
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
HOUSTON/GALVESTON TX	SOUTHERN REGION HEADQUARTERS
1353 FM 646, #202	819 TAYLOR ST. RM 10A11
DICKINSON, TX 77539	FORT WORTH TX 76102
281-337-5074	817-978-1100 X107
BRIAN.KYLE@NOAA.GOV	MELINDA.BAILEY@NOAA.GOV

NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE POSTED AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM)

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