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

SUBJECT: CREATION OF THREE NEW OFFSHORE MARINE ZONES...AN EXPERIMENTAL SEASONAL MARINE SYNOPSIS AND AN EXPERIMENTAL SEASONAL OFFSHORE FORECAST PRODUCT FOR U.S. ARCTIC OCEAN WATERS NORTH OF ALASKA: EFFECTIVE JUNE 2 2009

ON TUESDAY JUNE 2 2009 AT 1200 UNIVERSAL COORDINATED TIME /UTC/ OR 400 AM ALASKA DAYLIGHT TIME /ADT/...THE NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN FAIRBANKS ALASKA WILL IMPLEMENT THREE NEW MARINE ZONES AND A SYNOPSIS FOR ITS OFFSHORE WATERS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY IN U.S. ARCTIC WATERS. THE NEW ZONES AND SYNOPSIS ARE LISTED IN TABLE 1. THE NEW PRODUCT NAME AND IDENTIFIERS CREATED ARE LISTED IN TABLE 2.

THE EXPERIMENTAL OFFSHORE FORECAST PRODUCT AND MARINE SYNOPSIS FOR THESE NEW ZONES WILL BE ISSUED NO EARLIER THAN JUNE 2 2009. SEASONAL AVAILABLILITY OF THE OFFSHORE FORECAST WILL DEPEND ON THE EXTENT OF OPEN WATER VERSUS SEA ICE COVERAGE. DURING THIS SEASON THE EXPERIMENTAL FORECAST PRODUCT AND MARINE SYNOPSIS SHOULD BE ISSUED TWICE DAILY AT 4 AM AND 4 PM LOCAL ALASKA TIME...WITH UPDATES AS NEEDED.

THIS IS AN EXPERIMENTAL SERVICE. USERS OF THE PRODUCT ARE ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK BY USING THE BRIEF SURVEY AND COMMENT FORM AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/: WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=OFFSHOREARCTIC

NWS WILL EVALUATE THE SURVEYS DURING AND AFTER THE ARCTIC WATERS OFFSHORE FORECAST SEASON. IF FEEDBACK FROM MARINERS IS FAVORABLE...THE NWS WILL ISSUE THE SEASONAL OFFSHORE FORECAST PERMANENTLY.
AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE WITH THE NEW ZONES IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:
WWW.WEATHER.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/MARINEZONES.HTM

TABLE 1: NEW OFFSHORE MARINE ZONES AND SYNOPSIS FOR WFO FAIRBANKS OFFSHORE WATERS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WITH CORRESPONDING UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGCS/.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW MARINE ZONES</th>
<th>UGC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN U.S. ARCTIC OFFSHORE</td>
<td>PKZ500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRAL U.S. ARCTIC OFFSHORE</td>
<td>PKZ505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN U.S. ARCTIC OFFSHORE</td>
<td>PKZ510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYNOPSIS FOR U.S. ARCTIC OFFSHORE</td>
<td>PKZ599</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 2: PRODUCTS THAT WILL BE CREATED AND AFFECTED BY NEW MARINE ZONES AND UGCS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT NAME</th>
<th>WMO HEADING</th>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFSHORE WATERS FORECAST FOR U.S. ARCTIC</td>
<td>FZAK69</td>
<td>OFFAFG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CUSTOMERS MUST REPROGRAM AFFECTED HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE TO RECEIVE THIS NEW PRODUCT AND NEW UGCS.

BOTH EXAMPLES OF THE NEW TEXT PRODUCTS AND MAPS SHOWING THE NEW MARINE ZONES ARE POSTED AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:
HTTP://PAFG.ARH.NOAA.GOV/ARCTIC.PHP

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE CHANGES...PLEASE CONTACT:

JOHN DRAGOMIR
METEOROLOGIST IN CHARGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
FAIRBANKS AK
907.458.3704
JOHN.DRAGOMIR@NOAA.GOV

NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:
HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

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