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SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 10-09 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC 1032 AM EST MON FEB 1 2010

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:

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OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE Z. PIERCE

CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTING IMPROVED MARINE ZONE COVERAGE FOR MISSISSIPPI AND SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA COASTAL WATERS: EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 2010

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY JUNE 1 2010 AT 100 PM CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME /CDT/ OR 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE LOUISIANA WILL RECONFIGURE ITS CURRENT COASTAL WATERS ZONES FOR MISSISSIPPI AND SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA. THIS RECONFIGURATION WILL PROVIDE BETTER FORECAST SERVICES BY REALIGNING THE COASTAL ZONES FOR CLIMATOLOGICAL...GEOGRAPHICAL AND BATHYMETRIC EFFECTS.

FOUR NEW INNER COASTAL MARINE ZONES WILL BE CREATED TO BETTER ACCOUNT FOR DIURNAL AND NOCTURNAL WIND FLUCTUATIONS FOUND IN THE LARGE INNER COASTAL WATERS AS WELL AS SHALLOW WATER WAVE PROCESSES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO DIFFERING SEA STATES. NEW ZONES WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING:

- GMZ532 WILL COVER THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND AREA
- GMZ534 WILL COVER LAKE BORGNE
- GMZ536 WILL COVER THE CHANDELEUR SOUND AREA
- GMZ538 WILL COVER THE BRETON SOUND AREA

GMZ530 COVERING LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND LAKE MAUREPAS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED. THE REMAINING ORIGINAL ZONES HAVE BEEN DIVIDED AND REALIGNED TO PROVIDE HIGHER RESOLUTION AND BETTER ACCURACY OF FORECASTED METEOROLOGICAL VARIABLES WATCHES AND WARNINGS.

TABLE 1 LISTS ALL OF THE PRODUCTS ISSUED BY WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE MARINE ZONE CHANGES.

TABLE 2 LISTS ALL THE CURRENT MARINE ZONES AND UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGC/S/ FOR WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE.

TABLE 3 LISTS ALL THE MARINE ZONES AND UGC/S/ FOR WHICH WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE WILL ISSUE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 2010.

TABLE 1. WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THE MARINE ZONE CHANGES EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 2010

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
COASTAL WATERS FORECAST	FZUS54 KLIX	CWFLIX
MARINE WEATHER MESSAGE	WHUS74 KLIX	MWWLIX
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING	WHUS54 KLIX	SMWLIX
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT	FZUS74 KLIX	MWSLIX
HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT	WTUS84 KLIX	HLSLIX
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS44 KLIX	HWOLIX
WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION	WWUS64 KLIX	WCNLIX
SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI	SOUS44 KLIX	TIDLIX
TIDE FORECAST		

TABLE 2. CURRENT MARINE ZONES AND CORRESPONDING UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGCS/ FOR WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE

CURRENT MARINE ZONE NAME	CURRENT UGC
LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN/LAKE MAUREPAS	GMZ530
COASTAL WATERS FROM THE SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO LOWER ATCHAFALAYA RIVER LOUISIANA OU	GMZ550 T 20 NM
COASTAL WATERS FROM PASCAGOULA MISSISSIPPI TO THE SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER OUT 20 NM	GMZ555

COASTAL WATERS FROM THE SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE GMZ570
MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO LOWER ATCHAFALAYA RIVER LOUISIANA FROM 20 TO 60 NM

COASTAL WATERS FROM PASCAGOULA MISSISSIPPI TO THE GMZ575 SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER FROM 20 TO 60 NM

TABLE 3. MARINE ZONES AND CORRESPONDING UGCS FOR WHICH WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE WILL ISSUE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 2010.

NEW MARINE ZONE NAME	NEW UGC
LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN/LAKE MAUREPAS MISSISSIPPI SOUND LAKE BORGNE CHANDELEUR SOUND BRETON SOUND	GMZ530 GMZ532 GMZ534 GMZ536 GMZ538
COASTAL WATERS FROM PASCAGOULA MISSISSIPPI TO STAKE ISLAND LOUISIANA OUT 20 NM	GMZ557
COASTAL WATERS FROM STAKE ISLAND LOUSIANA TO SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER OUT 20 NM	GMZ555
COASTAL WATERS FROM SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO PORT FOURCHON LOUISIANA OUT 20 NM	GMZ552

COASTAL WATERS FROM PORT FOURCHON LOUISIANA TO GMZ550 LOWER ATCHAFALAYA RIVER LOUISIANA OUT 20 NM

COASTAL WATERS FROM PASCAGOULA MISSISSIPPI TO GMZ577 STAKE ISLAND LOUISIANA FROM 20 TO 60 NM

COASTAL WATERS FROM STAKE ISLAND LOUISIANA TO GMZ575 SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER FROM 20 TO 60 NM

COASTAL WATERS FROM SOUTHWEST PASS OF THE GMZ572 MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO PORT FOURCHON LOUISIANA FROM 20 TO 60 NM

COASTAL WATERS FROM PORT FOURCHON LOUISIANA TO GMZ570 LOWER ATCHAFALAYA RIVER LOUISIANA FROM 20 TO 60 NM

BECAUSE OF THESE RECONFIGURED MARINE ZONES...NEW MARINE ZONE NAMES AND NEW UGC/S/ IN TABLE 3...CUSTOMERS MUST REPROGRAM AFFECTED HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE TO CONTINUE PROCESSING THE PRODUCTS IN TABLE 1.

AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CONTAINING THE NEW BOUNDARIES FOR THESE MARINE ZONES 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 EXISTING AND ADDITIONAL MARINE ZONES THAT WILL BE EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 2010 IS POSTED ON THE WFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE MARINE PAGE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/LIX/?N=MARINEZONECHANGES

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THESE CHANGES...CONTACT:

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NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

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