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Service Change Notice 10-49
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
923 AM EST Tue Nov 23 2010

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From: Therese Z. Pierce
Chief, Marine and Coastal Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Coastal Waters Marine Zones
For the Lower Chesapeake Bay of Southeastern
Virginia Effective April 5, 2011

Effective Tuesday April 5, 2011 at 200 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) or 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Wakefield, VA, will reconfigure its marine zones for the lower Chesapeake Bay.

Currently there are three marine zones covering the lower Chesapeake Bay. A new marine zone will be created to cover the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Marine observations, local studies, and customer feedback all reflect that conditions in this area can vary, at times significantly, from locations farther up the bay. This reconfiguration will serve to improve the precision of marine warnings, forecasts, and other services by allowing forecasters to be more area specific.

The marine zone with the Universal Geographic Code (UGC) ANZ632, zone name Chesapeake Bay from New Point Comfort to Cape Henry, VA, will be split into two separate zones effective April 5, 2011:

ANZ632 Mouth of Chesapeake Bay from New Point Comfort to Little Creek, VA.

One new marine zone will then be created:

ANZ634 Chesapeake Bay from Little Creek, VA, to Cape Henry, VA, including the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

Table 1 lists the current marine zones and corresponding UGCs which WFO Wakefield issues forecasts and warnings.

Table 2 lists the marine zones and corresponding UGCs which WFO Wakefield will issue forecasts and warnings effective April 5,

2011.

Table 3 lists all of the products issued by WFO Wakefield that will be affected by the marine zone changes.

Table 1. Current marine zones and corresponding UGCs which WFO Wakefield issues forecasts and warnings:

Current Marine Zone Name	Current UGC
Chesapeake Bay from Smith Point to Windmill Point	ANZ630
Chesapeake Bay from Windmill Point to New Point Comfort	ANZ631
Chesapeake Bay from New Point Comfort to Cape Henry	ANZ632
Currituck Sound	ANZ633
Coastal Waters from Fenwick Island to Chincoteague, VA out to 20 nm	ANZ650
Coastal Waters from Chincoteague, VA to Parramore Island, VA out to 20 nm	ANZ652
Coastal Waters from Parramore Island, VA to Cape Charles Light out to 20 nm	ANZ654
Coastal Waters from Cape Charles Light to Virginia-North Carolina border out to 20 nm	ANZ656
Coastal Waters from Virginia-North Carolina border to Currituck Beach Light out to 20 nm	ANZ658
Waters from Fenwick Island DE to Currituck Beach Light NC from 20 to 40 nm	ANZ670

TABLE 2. Marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which WFO Wakefield will issue forecasts and warnings effective April 5, 2011. This includes the new marine zones and the current marine zones listed in Table 1 above which will continue to be utilized, with modifications to boundaries as described above.

New Marine Zone Name	NEW UGC
Chesapeake Bay from Smith Point to Windmill Point	ANZ630
Chesapeake Bay from Windmill Point to New Point Comfort	ANZ631
Chesapeake Bay from New Point Comfort to Little Creek, VA	ANZ632
Currituck Sound	ANZ633
Chesapeake Bay from Little Creek, VA, to Cape Henry, VA including the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel	ANZ634
Coastal Waters from Fenwick Island	ANZ650

to Chincoteague, VA out to 20 nm
 Coastal Waters from Chincoteague, VA ANZ652
 to Parramore Island, VA out to 20 nm
 Coastal Waters from Parramore Island, VA ANZ654
 to Cape Charles Light out to 20 nm
 Coastal Waters from Cape Charles Light ANZ656
 to Virginia-North Carolina border out
 to 20 nm
 Coastal Waters from Virginia-North Carolina ANZ658
 to Currituck Beach Light out to 20 nm

Waters from Fenwick Island DE to Currituck ANZ670
 Beach Light NC from 20 to 40 nm

To view graphical images of the current marine zones listed
 in Table 1 go to the following web site:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/zone/east/akqmz.htm>

To view graphical images of the marine zones for which WFO
 Wakefield will issue forecasts and warnings effective April 5,
 2011 go to the following web site:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/akq/news/AKQMZ.html>

TABLE 3. WFO Wakefield products affected by the marine zone
 changes effective April 5, 2011:

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
Coastal Waters Forecast	FZUS51 KAKQ	CWFAKQ
Special Marine Warning	WHUS51 KAKQ	SMWAKQ
Marine Weather Statement	FZUS71 KAKQ	MWSAKQ
Marine Weather Message	WHUS71 KAKQ	MWWAKQ
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS81 KAKQ	HLSAKQ
Watch County Notification	WWUS61 KAKQ	WCNAKQ
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS41 KAKQ	HWOAKQ

Customers must reprogram affected hardware and software to
 continue correctly processing the products listed in Table 3.

Also customers providing NWS graphic marine forecasts must
 download an updated marine zone map shapefile to correctly
 provide graphic marine forecasts for the lower Chesapeake Bay.

An updated marine zone map shapefile containing the new zones is
 available for download from the following website:

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

If you have any questions or comments about this reconfiguration
 of WFO Wakefield coastal marine zones please contact:

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National Weather Service Change notices are posted at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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