

NOUS41 KWBC DDHHMM
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Service Change Notice 12-46
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Mark Tew
Chief, Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch

Subject: Implementing Improved Marine Zone Coverage for
Florida Keys Coastal Waters Effective April 2, 2013

Effective Tuesday, April 2, 2013, at 2 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) or 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Key West, Florida, will adjust its current coastal waters zones for the Florida Keys. This adjustment will provide improved marine weather warning and forecast services for portions of the Gulf of Mexico and Barnes Sound.

1. The southwestern portion of GMZ033 and the northern portion of GMZ034 will be expanded northward to latitude 25 degrees north.
2. GMZ032 will be split, with GMZ035 added north of the lower Florida Keys.
3. Barnes Sound will be transferred from the WFO Miami area of responsibility (AMZ630) to the WFO Key West area of responsibility (GMZ031).

Table 1 lists all the products issued by WFO Key West that will be affected by the marine zone changes.

Table 2 lists all the marine zones and corresponding Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs) for which WFO Key West currently issues marine warnings, advisories, and forecasts.

Table 3 lists all the marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which WFO Key West will issue warnings, advisories, and forecasts effective April 2, 2013.

Table 1: WFO Key West products affected by the marine zone changes effective April 2, 2013.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
COASTAL WATERS FORECAST	FZUS52 KKEY	CWFKEY
MARINE WEATHER MESSAGE	WHUS72 KKEY	MWWKEY
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING	WHUS52 KKEY	SMWKEY
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT	FZUS72 KKEY	MWSKEY
HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT	WTUS82 KKEY	HLSKEY
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS42 KKEY	HWOKEY
WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION	WWUS62 KKEY	WCNKEY
SHORT TERM FORECAST	FPUS72 KKEY	NOWKEY

Customers must reprogram affected hardware and software to continue processing the products in Table 1.

Table 2: Current marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which WFO Key West issues marine warnings, advisories, and forecasts.

CURRENT MARINE ZONE NAME	UGC
Florida Bay including Blackwater and Buttonwood Sounds	GMZ031
Bayside and Gulfside from Craig Key to Halfmoon Shoal out to 5 fathoms	GMZ032
Gulf waters from East Cape Sable to Chokoloskee 20 to 60 nm out and beyond 5 fathoms	GMZ033
Gulf of Mexico including Dry Tortugas and Rebecca Shoal Channel	GMZ034
Hawk Channel from Ocean Reef to Craig Key out to the reef	GMZ042
Hawk Channel from Craig Key to west end of Seven Mile Bridge out to the reef	GMZ043
Hawk Channel from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to Halfmoon Shoal out to the reef	GMZ044
Straits of Florida from Ocean Reef to Craig Key out 20 nm	GMZ052
Straits of Florida from Craig Key to west end of Seven Mile Bridge out 20 nm	GMZ053
Straits of Florida from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to south of Halfmoon Shoal out 20 nm	GMZ054
Straits of Florida from Halfmoon Shoal to 20 nm west of Dry Tortugas out 20 nm	GMZ055
Straits of Florida from Ocean Reef to Craig	GMZ072

Key 20 to 60 nm out

Straits of Florida from Craig Key to west end of Seven Mile Bridge 20 to 60 nm out GMZ073

Straits of Florida from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to south of Halfmoon Shoal 20 to 60 nm out GMZ074

Straits of Florida from Halfmoon Shoal to 20 nm west of Dry Tortugas 20 to 60 nm out GMZ075

Table 3: Marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which WFO Key West will issue marine warnings, advisories, and forecasts effective April 2, 2013 are listed below:

MARINE ZONE NAME	UGC
Florida Bay including Barnes Sound, Blackwater Sound, and Buttonwood Sound	GMZ031
Bayside and Gulfside from Craig Key to West End of Seven Mile Bridge	GMZ032
Gulf of Mexico from East Cape Sable to Chokoloskee 20 to 60 nm out and beyond 5 fathoms	GMZ033
Gulf of Mexico including Dry Tortugas and Rebecca Shoal Channel	GMZ034
Gulf of Mexico from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to Halfmoon Shoal out to 5 fathoms	GMZ035
Hawk Channel from Ocean Reef to Craig Key out to the reef	GMZ042
Hawk Channel from Craig Key to west end of Seven Mile Bridge out to the reef	GMZ043
Hawk Channel from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to Halfmoon Shoal out to the reef	GMZ044
Straits of Florida from Ocean Reef to Craig Key out 20 nm	GMZ052
Straits of Florida from Craig Key to west end of Seven Mile Bridge out 20 nm	GMZ053
Straits of Florida from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to south of Halfmoon Shoal out 20 nm	GMZ054
Straits of Florida from Halfmoon Shoal to	GMZ055

20 nm west of Dry Tortugas out 20 nm

Straits of Florida from Ocean Reef to Craig Key 20 to 60 nm out GMZ072

Straits of Florida from Craig Key to west end of Seven Mile Bridge 20 to 60 nm out GMZ073

Straits of Florida from west end of Seven Mile Bridge to south of Halfmoon Shoal 20 to 60 nm out GMZ074

Straits of Florida from Halfmoon Shoal to 20 nm west of Dry Tortugas 20 to 60 nm out GMZ075

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

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

Maps showing the existing marine zones and the marine zones effective April 2, 2013 are posted on the WFO Key West web page at:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/key/?n=marinezonechanges>

For questions or comments about these changes please contact:

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NWS Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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