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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 13-18  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
350 PM EST Mon Mar 4 2013

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Subject: Sheltered Waters Along Part of North Carolina Coastline  
Will Transfer from Marine Zones to Fire and Public  
Zones Effective April 2, 2013

Effective Tuesday, April 2, 2013, at 2 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Wilmington, NC, will transfer its sheltered waters (i.e., the intracoastal waters, tidal creeks, etc.) from marine zones (AMZ250 and AMZ252) to fire zones (NCZ106, NCZ108, and NCZ110) and public zones (NCZ106, NCZ108, and NCZ110). In addition the sheltered portion of marine zone AMZ158 that extends south of the Onslow/Pender county line into WFO Wilmington's area of responsibility will transfer to fire zone NCZ106 and public zone NCZ106. This marine area was incorrectly included in marine zone AMZ158, Coastal Waters from Cape Lookout to Surf City, NC, out 20 NM.

All these waters are between the Onslow/Pender county line (near Surf City, NC) and the Little River Inlet, SC (near the NC/SC border) and are sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean. Their weather is more like the adjacent fire and public zones than the marine zones they are currently in. The modified zones are listed in Tables 1 and 2 below. WFO Wilmington will continue to issue forecasts and warnings for the modified zones in Tables 1 and 2 via the products in Table 3.

Table 1. Marine zones being modified. The zone names and Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs) will not change.

Marine Zone Name	UGC	Comment
Coastal Waters from Cape Lookout to Surf City, NC	AMZ158	Removes waters south of Onslow/Pender county line

out 20 NM sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean

Coastal Waters from Surf City AMZ250 Removes waters sheltered to Cape Fear NC out 20 NM from the Atlantic Ocean

Coastal Waters from Cape Fear AMZ252 Removes waters sheltered NC to Little River Inlet SC from the Atlantic Ocean out 20 NM

Table 2. Fire and Public zones being modified. The zone names and UGCs will not change.

Fire Zone Name	UGC	Comment
Coastal Pender	NCZ106	Now includes waters sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean
Coastal New Hanover	NCZ108	Now includes waters sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean
Coastal Brunswick	NCZ110	Now includes waters sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean

Public Zone Name	UGC	Comment
Coastal Pender	NCZ106	Now includes waters sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean
Coastal New Hanover	NCZ108	Now includes waters sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean
Coastal Brunswick	NCZ110	Now includes waters sheltered from the Atlantic Ocean

This change also affects WFO Wilmington’s County and County Warning Area (CWA) shapefiles.

Partners and users providing NWS forecasts must download updated map shapefiles to correctly provide forecasts for the sheltered waters along part of North Carolina’s coastline between Onslow/Pender county line (near Surf City, NC), and the Little River Inlet, SC, available online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/marinezones.htm>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/firezone.htm>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/pubzone.htm>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/cwa.htm>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/county/html/county.htm>

A graphical depiction of this change is also available at:

[http://www.erh.noaa.gov/ilm/ILM\\_Sheltered.pdf](http://www.erh.noaa.gov/ilm/ILM_Sheltered.pdf)

Table 3. NWS text products affected by the WFO ILM transfer of its sheltered waters from marine zones (AMZ158, AMZ250 and AMZ252) to fire (NCZ106, NCZ108, and NCZ110) and public (NCZ106, NCZ108, and NCZ110) zones.

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
Coastal Waters Forecast	FZUS52 KILM	CWFILM
Marine Weather Message	WHUS72 KILM	MWWILM
Special Marine Warning	WHUS52 KILM	SMWILM
Marine Weather Statement	FZUS72 KILM	MWSILM
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS82 KILM	HLSILM
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS42 KILM	HWOILM
Watch County Notification	WWUS62 KILM	WCNILM
Coastal Hazard Message	WHUS42 KILM	CFWILM
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	WUUS52 KILM	SVRILM
Tornado Warning	WFUS52 KILM	TORILM
Severe Weather Statement	WWUS52 KILM	SVSILM
Special Weather Statement	WWUS82 KILM	SPSILM
Zone Forecast	FPUS52 KILM	ZFPILM
Short Term Forecast	FPUS72 KILM	NOWILM
Tsunami Message	WEXX20 PAAQ	TSUAT1
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS52 KILM	FWFILM
Red Flag Watch/Warning	WWUS82 KILM	RFWILM
Watch Outline Update	WOUS64 KWNS	WOU <sub>n</sub> (n=1-9)
Surf Zone Forecast	FZUS52 KILM	SRFILM

Users do not have to take any action to continue receiving these text products.

If you have any questions or comments about this transfer of sheltered waters along part of the North Carolina coastline from marine zones to fire and public weather zones please contact:

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National Weather Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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