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From: Mark A. Tew  
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Subject: Changes in Offshore Waters Marine Zones for the  
New England and West Central North Atlantic,  
and for the Washington, Oregon and California Waters  
in the Pacific Ocean Effective April 1, 2014

Effective Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at 2:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) or 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the Ocean Prediction Center (OPC) of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will reconfigure its marine zones for the offshore waters in the both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Atlantic offshore waters include New England and the west central North Atlantic. For the Pacific this includes the offshore waters of Washington, Oregon and California.

Currently there are 8 marine zones covering the OPC Atlantic offshore waters and 5 marine zones covering the Pacific offshore waters. These zones will be reconfigured into 18 for the Atlantic offshore waters and 19 marine zones to cover the Pacific offshore waters. Marine observations, local effects, and customer feedback all indicate that the current marine zones are too large to provide the necessary detail for the marine community. This reconfiguration will serve to improve the precision of marine warnings, forecasts and other services by allowing forecasters to be more area specific.

Table 1 lists the current marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which OPC issues forecasts and warnings.

Table 2 lists the marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which OPC will issue forecasts and warnings effective April 1, 2014.

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

Table 4 lists future product headers for USCG voice broadcasts

Table 1. Current marine zones and corresponding UGCs  
For which OPC issues offshore forecasts and warnings:

OPC Atlantic Ocean Offshore waters

UGC      Zone Name

- 
- ANZ080 - Synopsis for New England Waters.
  - ANZ081 - Gulf of Maine to the Hague Line. ANZ081
  - ANZ082 - Georges Bank from the Northeast Channel to the Great South Channel including the waters east of Cape Cod to the Hague Line.
  - ANZ083 - South of New England from the Great South Channel to Hudson Canyon including the waters south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Island out to 1000 fathoms.
  - ANZ089 - Synopsis for Mid Atlantic Waters.
  - ANZ084 - Hudson to Baltimore Canyon.
  - ANZ085 - Baltimore Canyon to Hatteras Canyon out to 36N 70W to 34N 71W.
  - ANZ086 - Hatteras Canyon to Cape Fear out to 34N 71W to 32N 73W.
  - ANZ088 - Cape Fear to 31N out to 32N 73W to 31N 74W.
  - ANZ094 - Baltimore Canyon to the Hague Line South of 1000 Fathoms

OPC Pacific Ocean Offshore waters

UGC      Zone Name

- 
- PZZ080 - Synopsis for Washington and Oregon Waters
  - PZZ081 - Cape Flattery to Cape Lookout
  - PZZ082 - Cape Lookout to Point St. George
  - PZZ089 - Synopsis for California Waters Offshore
  - PZZ083 - Point St. George to Point Arena
  - PZZ084 - Point Arena to Point Conception
  - PZZ085 - Point Conception to Guadalupe Island

Table 2. Marine zones and corresponding UGCs for which OPC will issue forecasts and warnings effective April 1, 2014:

OPC Atlantic Offshore Waters

NEW UGC    New Marine Zone Name

- 
- ANZ898 - Synopsis for New England waters.
  - ANZ899 - Synopsis for Mid Atlantic waters.
  - ANZ800 - Gulf of Maine to the Hague Line.
  - ANZ805 - Georges Bank between Cape Cod and 68W north of 1000 fathoms.
  - ANZ810 - South of New England between the Great South Channel and Montauk Point to 1000 fathoms.
  - ANZ815 - South of Long Island between Montauk Point and Sandy Hook to 1000 fathoms.
  - ANZ820 - Hudson Canyon to Baltimore Canyon to 1000 fathoms.
  - ANZ825 - Baltimore Canyon to Hatteras Canyon to 100 NM offshore.
  - ANZ828 - Cape Charles Light to Currituck Beach Light to 100 NM offshore.
  - ANZ830 - Currituck Beach Light to Cape Hatteras to 100 NM

offshore.

- ANZ833 - Cape Hatteras to Cape Fear to 100 NM offshore.
- ANZ835 - Cape Fear to 31N to 1000 FM.
- ANZ900 - Georges Bank between 68W and the Hague Line.
- ANZ905 - East of 69W to the Hague Line between 1000 fathoms and 39N.
- ANZ910 - East of 69W and south of 39N to 250 NM offshore.
- ANZ915 - Between 1000 fathoms and 39N west of 69W.
- ANZ920 - Baltimore Canyon to 69W east of 1000 fathoms and south of 38.5N to 250 NM offshore.
- ANZ925 - Baltimore Canyon to Hatteras Canyon between 100 NM and 250 NM offshore.
- ANZ930 - Hatteras Canyon to Cape Fear 100 NM and 250 NM offshore.
- ANZ935 - Cape Fear to 31N east of 1000 fathoms to 250 NM offshore.

#### OPC Pacific Offshore Waters

NEW UGC    New Marine Zone Name

- 
- PZZ898 - Synopsis for Washington and Oregon waters.
  - PZZ899 - Synopsis for California waters.
  - PZZ800 - Cape Flattery to Cape Shoalwater between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ805 - Cape Shoalwater to Cape Lookout between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ810 - Cape Lookout to Florence, OR between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ815 - Florence, OR to Point St. George between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ900 - Cape Flattery to Cape Shoalwater between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.
  - PZZ905 - Cape Shoalwater to Cape Lookout between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.
  - PZZ910 - Cape Lookout to Florence, OR between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.
  - PZZ915 - Florence, OR to Point St. George between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.
  - PZZ820 - Point St. George to Point Arena between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ825 - Point Arena to Pigeon Point between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ830 - Pigeon Point to Point Piedras Blancas between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ835 - Point Piedras Blancas to Santa Cruz Island, CA between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ840 - Santa Cruz Island, CA to San Clemente Island, CA between 60 NM and 150 NM offshore.
  - PZZ920 - Point St. George to Point Arena between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.
  - PZZ925 - Point Arena to Pigeon Point between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.
  - PZZ930 - Pigeon Point to Point Piedras Blancas between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.

PZZ935 - Point Piedras Blancas to Santa Cruz Island, CA  
between 150 NM and 250 NM offshore.

PZZ940 - Santa Cruz Island, CA to 120W between 150 NM and  
250 NM offshore.

PZZ945 - 120W to San Clemente Island, CA between 150 NM and  
250 NM offshore.

To view images of the current marine zones and the proposed  
marine zones for which OPC will issue forecasts and warnings  
effective April 1, 2014 go to the following web site:

[http://www.opc.ncep.noaa.gov/new\\_zones.php](http://www.opc.ncep.noaa.gov/new_zones.php)

TABLE 3. OPC products affected by the marine zone changes  
effective April 1, 2014:

Atlantic Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
Offshore Waters Forecast	FZNT21 KWBC	OFFNT1
Offshore Waters Forecast	FZNT22 KWBC	OFFNT2
Boston MA NAVTEX Forecast	FZNT23 KWNM	OFFN01
Portsmouth VA NAVTEX Forecast	FZNT24 KWNM	OFFN02
Charleston SC NAVTEX Forecast	FZNT25 KWNM	OFFN03

  

Pacific Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
Offshore Waters Forecast	FZPN25 KWBC	OFFPZ5
Offshore Waters Forecast	FZPN26 KWBC	OFFPZ6
Astoria OR NAVTEX Forecast	FZPN24 KWMN	OFFN09
San Francisco CA NAVTEX Forecast	FZPN23 KWMN	OFFN08
Cambria CA NAVTEX Forecast	FZPN22 KWMN	OFFN07

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

Also customers using a graphical representation of these zones  
must download an updated marine zone map shapefile to correctly  
depict the marine forecast areas for the Atlantic and Pacific  
Ocean offshore marine zones.

An updated marine zone map shapefile containing the new zones  
effective April 1, 2014 is available for download from the  
following website:

[www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/marinezones.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/marinezones.htm)

To meet the time constraints for broadcast via U.S. Coast Guard  
NAVTEX, the NAVTEX products will combine the forecasts for the  
zones so are similar to the NAVTEX forecasts before  
reconfiguration.

To meet the time constraints for voice broadcast via the U.S.  
Coast Guard, four new products will be made available as listed  
in Table 4. These products will combine forecasts for the

18 zones in the Atlantic and 19 zones in the Pacific in such a way that they will be similar to the Offshore Waters Forecasts before reconfiguration.

TABLE 4. Future Product Headers for USCG Voice Broadcasts:

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
Broadcast Text for offshore New England	FZNT33 KWBC	NFDOFFN31
Broadcast Text for offshore mid Atlantic	FZNT34 KWBC	NFDOFFN32
Broadcast Text for offshore Washington/Oregon	FZNT35 KWBC	NFDOFFN35
Broadcast Text for offshore California	FZNT36 KWBC	NFDOFFN36

If you have any questions or comments about this reconfiguration of OPC offshore waters marine zones please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are posted at:

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

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