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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-92
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1010 AM EDT Tue Aug 8 2017

To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Allison Allen
 Chief, Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Implementing Improved Marine Zone Coverage for Coastal Waters
Along the Florida Panhandle: Effective December 5, 2017

Effective Tuesday December 5, 2017 at 200 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST),
100 pm Central Standard Time (CST), 1900 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC),
NWS will realign marine zones within Weather Forecast Office (WFO)
Tallahassee and Mobile areas of responsibility for coastal waters along
the Florida Panhandle to better align with the National Hurricane Center
(NHC) breakpoints. The changes involves the following marine zones:

The first change moves the westernmost edge of GMZ750 and GMZ770 from
Destin to the Okaloosa and the Walton county line where the new NHC
breakpoint is defined.

The second change splits Coastal Waters from Apalachicola to Okaloosa-
Walton County Line out to 20 NM into two zones. The zones will now be
Coastal Waters from Okaloosa-Walton County Line to Mexico Beach out to 20
NM, zone 750, and Coastal Waters from Mexico Beach to Apalachicola out to
20 NM, zone 752.

The third change splits coastal waters from Apalachicola to the Okaloosa-
Walton County Line, 20 to 60 NM, into two zones. The zones will now be
coastal waters From Okaloosa-Walton County Line to Mexico Beach, 20 to 60
NM, zone 770, and coastal waters from Mexico Beach to Apalachicola 20 to
60 NM, zone 772.

The marine zone code and name GMZ635, Choctawhatchee Bay, will be split
into two sections: the western portion of the new Choctawhatchee Bay
marine zone on the Okaloosa county side will be GMZ635, Western
Choctawhatchee Bay. The eastern portion of the new Choctawhatchee Bay
marine zone on the Walton County side will become GMZ636, Eastern
Choctawhatchee Bay.

Table 1: Current Marine Zones and Corresponding Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs) for WFO Mobile, AL

UGC: Current Marine Zone Name

GMZ655: Coastal waters from Destin to Pensacola, FL, out 20 NM
GMZ675: Waters from Destin to Pensacola, FL, from 20 to 60 NM
GMZ650: Coastal waters from Pensacola, FL to Pascagoula, MS, out 20 NM
GMZ670: Waters from Pensacola, FL to Pascagoula, MS, from 20 to 60 NM
GMZ630: North Mobile Bay GMZ631: South Mobile Bay
GMZ632: Mississippi Sound GMZ633: Perdido Bay Area
GMZ634: Pensacola Bay Area including Santa Rosa Sound
GMZ635: Choctawhatchee Bay

Table 2: Current Marine Zones and Corresponding UGCs for WFO Tallahassee, FL

UGC: Current Marine Zone Name

GMZ730: Apalachee Bay or Coastal Waters from Keaton Beach to Ochlockonee River, FL, out to 20 NM
GMZ755: Coastal Waters from Ochlockonee River to Apalachicola, FL, out to 20 NM
GMZ775: Waters from Suwannee River to Apalachicola, FL, from 20 to 60 NM
GMZ750: Coastal waters from Apalachicola to Destin, FL, out 20 NM
GMZ765: Coastal waters from Suwannee River to Keaton Beach, out 20 NM
GMZ770: Waters from Apalachicola to Destin, FL, from 20 to 60 NM

Table 3: Marine Zones and Corresponding UGCs for which WFO Mobile, AL will Issue Forecasts and Warnings Effective December 5, 2017

UGC: Marine Zones Effective December 5, 2017

GMZ655: Coastal waters from Okaloosa-Walton County Line to Pensacola, FL, out 20 NM
GMZ675: Waters from Okaloosa-Walton County Line to Pensacola, FL, from 20 to 60 NM
GMZ650: Coastal waters from Pensacola, FL to Pascagoula, MS, out 20 NM
GMZ670: Waters from Pensacola, FL, to Pascagoula, MS, from 20 to 60 NM
GMZ630: North Mobile Bay
GMZ631: South Mobile Bay
GMZ632: Mississippi Sound
GMZ633: Perdido Bay Area
GMZ634: Pensacola Bay Area including Santa Rosa Sound
GMZ635: Western Choctawhatchee Bay
GMZ636: Eastern Choctawhatchee Bay

Table 4: Marine Zones and Corresponding UGCs for which WFO Tallahassee, FL will Issue Forecasts and Warnings Effective December 5, 2017

UGC: Marine Zones Effective December 5, 2017

GMZ730: Apalachee Bay or Coastal Waters from Keaton Beach to Ochlockonee River, FL, out to 20 NM
GMZ755: Coastal Waters from Ochlockonee River to Apalachicola, FL, out to 20 NM
GMZ775: Waters from Suwannee River to Apalachicola, FL, from 20 to 60 NM

GMZ750: Coastal Waters from Okaloosa-Walton County Line to Mexico Beach out to 20 NM
 GMZ752: Coastal Waters from Mexico Beach to Apalachicola out to 20 NM
 GMZ765: Coastal waters from Suwanee River to Keaton Beach, out 20 NM
 GMZ770: Coastal Waters from Okaloosa-Walton County Line to Mexico Beach 20 to 60 NM
 GMZ772: Coastal Waters from Mexico Beach to Apalachicola 20 to 60 NM

Graphical images of the current and future marine weather zones listed above are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/tae/marine_zone_changes

Table 5: NWS Products Affected by the WFO Mobile, AL, Marine Zone Changes Effective December 5, 2017:

Product Name -----	AWIPS ID -----	WMO Heading -----
Coastal Waters Forecast	CWFMOB	FZUS54 KMOB
Special Marine Warning	SMWMOB	WHUS54 KMOB
Marine Weather Statement	MWSMOB	FZUS74 KMOB
Marine Weather Message	MWWMOB	WHUS74 KMOB
Hurricane Local Statement	HLSMOB	WTUS84 KMOB
Watch County Notification	WCNMOB	WWUS64 KMOB
Hazardous Weather Outlook	HWOMOB	FLUS44 KMOB
Special Weather Statement	SPSMOB	WWUS84 KMOB
Tsunami Message	WEXX20	PAAQ TSUAT1
Watch Outline Update	WOUS64	KWNS WOUUn (n=1-9)

Table 6: NWS Products Affected by the WFO Tallahassee, FL Marine Zone Changes Effective December 5, 2017:

Product Name -----	AWIPS ID -----	WMO Heading -----
Coastal Waters Forecast	CWFTAE	FZUS52 KTAE
Special Marine Warning	SMWTAE	WHUS52 KTAE
Marine Weather Statement	MWSTAE	FZUS72 KTAE
Marine Weather Message	MWWTAE	WHUS72 KTAE
Hurricane Local Statement	HLSTAE	WTUS82 KTAE
Watch County Notification	WCNTAE	WWUS62 KTAE
Hazardous Weather Outlook	HWOTAE	FLUS42 KTAE
Special Weather Statement	SPSTAE	WWUS82 KTAE
Tsunami Message	WEXX20	PAAQ TSUAT1
Watch Outline Update	WOUS64	KWNS WOUUn (n=1-9)

Users of WFOs Mobile and Tallahassee products must reprogram affected hardware and software to continue correctly processing the above mentioned products.

Users accessing NWS graphical marine forecasts must download updated zone map shapefiles to correctly view forecasts for the Gulf of Mexico waters along the Florida panhandle. Updated zone map shapefiles containing the new zones are available online at:

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

If you have any questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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