TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE PIERCE
CHIEF...HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: RECONFIGURATION OF COASTAL MARINE FORECAST ZONES ALONG ALASKA COASTS...EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2 1997

THE NWS WILL RECONFIGURE COASTAL MARINE FORECAST ZONES ALONG THE ALASKA COASTS ON DECEMBER 2 1997...AT 1300 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ OR 400 AM ALASKA STANDARD TIME. THESE RECONFIGURATIONS WILL PROVIDE MARINE WEATHER FORECASTERS THE ABILITY TO ISSUE MORE SITE-SPECIFIC FORECASTS TO USERS BY AFFORDING NEEDED FLEXIBILITY TO GROUP NEW SMALLER ZONES TOGETHER OR SEPARATE THEM TO MORE ACCURATELY HIGHLIGHT ONGOING AND PREDICTED WEATHER.

TABLES 1...2...AND 3 LIST PRODUCT CATEGORIES AFFECTED FOR THE NEW ZONES THAT FOLLOW. MARINE FORECAST ZONES ARE DEFINED BY RECOGNIZABLE GEOGRAPHIC LANDMARKS /COASTAL CITIES...CAPES...POINTS...ETC./ AND EXTEND UP TO 60 NAUTICAL MILES /NM/ OFFSHORE.

MARINE FORECAST ZONE IDENTIFIERS FOLLOW THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ CONVENTION SSZNNN...WHERE SS IN THESE CASES IS AN OCEAN AREA AND NNN IS THE ZONE /Z/ NUMBER...WHICH IS DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

LEFT N = ISSUING NWS OFFICE FOR WARNINGS
MIDDLE N = TYPE OF BODY OF WATER
RIGHT N = ZONE NUMBER SEQUENCE...INCREASING FROM NORTH TO SOUTH AND WEST TO EAST.

OTHER PRODUCTS ISSUED /NOT JUST COASTAL WATERS FORECASTS/ WILL BE AFFECTED BY ZONE RECONFIGURATIONS. THIS IS BECAUSE THE Z FORM OF THE UGC USED IN CERTAIN PRODUCTS WILL CONTAIN THE NEW ZONE NUMBERS TO FURTHER IDENTIFY SPECIFIC AREAS BY ZONE. THE MARINE PRODUCTS THAT USE THE Z FORM OF THE UGC ARE LISTED WITH THEIR NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ AND FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ IDENTIFIERS. USERS SELECTING INFORMATION FOR SPECIFIC ZONES WILL NEED TO USE THE NEW UGCS FOR THE RECONFIGURED ZONES.

THIS INFORMATION UPDATES APPENDICES A AND B OF WEATHER SERVICE OPERATIONS MANUAL CHAPTER D-51.
UPDATED MARINE ZONE MAPS WILL BE POSTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AT THE FOLLOWING URL /SMALL CASE/: 

HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/MODERNIZE/ST-MAPS/MAPS.HTM

+++ NOTE - SOME WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO//FOS HEADERS WILL BE CHANGED SOMETIME AFTER DECEMBER 2 1997. THE NWS OFFICE OF SYSTEMS OPERATIONS WILL BE SENDING SPECIAL NOTICES REGARDING SUCH CHANGES. ++++

TABLE 1: MARINE PRODUCT CATEGORIES FOR MARINE ZONES IN SECTIONS 1A THROUGH 1B /ISSUED BY JUNEAU AK EXCEPT WHERE NOTED/.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT</th>
<th>NWWS ID</th>
<th>WMO/FOS HEADER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL MARINE WARNING</td>
<td>JNUSMWJNU</td>
<td>WHAK77 PAJK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT</td>
<td>JNUMWSJNU</td>
<td>FZAK57 PAJK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMBINED TORNADO/SPECIAL MARINE WARNING</td>
<td>JNUTORJNU</td>
<td>WWAK47 PAJN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND SPECIAL MARINE WARNING</td>
<td>JNUSVRJNU</td>
<td>WWAK57 PAJN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT</td>
<td>JNUPNSJNU</td>
<td>ABAK34 PAJN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COASTAL WATERS FORECAST</td>
<td>........SEE BELOW........</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1A. COASTAL WATERS FORECAST JNUCWF061 FZAK61 PAJN
UGC ZONE

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PKZ110- SOUTHEAST ALASKA...INSIDE WATERS...DIXON ENTRANCE TO SKAGWAY
PKZ120- SOUTHEAST ALASKA...OUTSIDE WATERS...DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER
PKZ210- EASTERN GULF COAST...CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO CAPE SUCKLING

1B. COASTAL WATERS FORECAST JNUCWFYAK FZAK47 PAYA
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT JNUPNSYAK ABAK34 PAYA
/BOTH ISSUED BY YAKUTAT AK/
UGC ZONE

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PKZ211- YAKUTAT BAY

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THESE ZONES...OR WISH TO REQUEST HARD COPIES OF MARINE ZONE MAPS...YOU MAY CONTACT:

LAURA COOK                GREG MATZEN
NOAA/NWS W/OM12          NOAA/NWS W/WR1X2
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND  ANCHORAGE ALASKA
PH. 301-713-1677 X126    PH. 907-271-3507

BOTH PARTS OF THIS MESSAGE AND ALL NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /SMALL CASE/: 

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

END OF PART 1 OF 2
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