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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-48 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
150 PM EDT Wed Jul 29 2020

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Bruce Entwistle  
              Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Operational Implementation of Graphical Forecasts for  
Aviation (GFA) for Hawaii and Portions of the Pacific Ocean: Effective  
August 4, 2020

Updated to announce a new implementation date of August 4, 2020, from July  
30, 2020.

Effective August 4, 2020, at 1900 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the  
GFA Expansion to Hawaii and portions of the Pacific Ocean, produced by the  
NWS Aviation Weather Center (AWC), will transition to operational status.

The current operational GFA domain includes the conterminous United States  
(CONUS), Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, and Western Atlantic Ocean. The  
GFA is designed to provide meteorological information in a graphical  
format equivalent to the text Area Forecast (FA) for the Gulf of Mexico  
and Caribbean Sea. The GFA includes observations and forecasts that  
provide data critical for aviation safety and are overlaid on high-  
resolution base maps. AWC continues to provide text FAs for the Gulf of  
Mexico, Caribbean Sea and portions of the Western Atlantic Ocean.

The GFA domain will now include graphically depicted information over  
Hawaii and portions of the North Pacific Ocean. The expansion of the GFA  
to these regions will make possible the deprecation of text FAs upon  
completion of a formal product termination review and notification  
process.

The GFA provides the meteorological information necessary to meet the  
needs of the Federal Aviation Administration, pursuant to Title 49 United  
States Code Section 44720.

The GFA is available at:  
<https://www.aviationweather.gov/gfa>

The Product Description Document can be found at:  
[https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD\\_Opl\\_GFAExpansiontoPacificOcean\\_2020.pdf](https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_Opl_GFAExpansiontoPacificOcean_2020.pdf)

For questions regarding the GFA, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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