

NOUS41 KWBC 151930 AAA
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-61 UPDATED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
330 PM EDT WED OCT 15 2003

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/
SUBSCRIBERS
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS
AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE Z. PIERCE
CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: UPDATED: MODIFICATIONS TO MARINE ZONE BOUNDARIES IN ALASKA AND
FORMAT AND COMMUNICATIONS HEADING CHANGES TO THE COASTAL WATERS FORECAST
PRODUCTS IN ALASKA...EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 19 2003 AND JANUARY 13 2004 AT 4
PM ALASKA STANDARD TIME /AST/

UPDATED TO DELAY ALL DECEMBER 16 2003 IMPLEMENTATION DATES TO JANUARY 13
2004.

ACTION: USERS OF NWS MARINE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS ORIGINATING FROM ALASKA
MUST UPDATE THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DIRECTORIES TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE
THESE PRODUCTS.

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ IN
ALASKA WILL IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO THE MARINE ZONE BOUNDARIES IN THEIR AREAS
OF RESPONSIBILITY THIS FALL. THE CHANGES WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN TWO
PHASES. WFO JUNEAU WILL IMPLEMENT MOST OF THEIR CHANGES FIRST...FOLLOWED
BY WFO ANCHORAGE AND WFO FAIRBANKS...ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

WFO JUNEAU COASTAL WATERS: WEDNESDAY...NOVEMBER 19 2003 AT 4 PM AST
WFO JUNEAU OFFSHORE WATERS: TUESDAY...JANUARY 13 2004 AT 4 PM AST
WFO ANCHORAGE: TUESDAY...JANUARY 13 2004 AT 4 PM AST
WFO FAIRBANKS: TUESDAY...JANUARY 13 2004 AT 4 PM AST

THE NEW ZONE NUMBERS AND GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS ARE LISTED IN TABLE
2...AND PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES ARE LISTED IN TABLE 3.

AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CONTAINING THE REALIGNED ZONES IS AVAILABLE
FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/MARINEZONES.HTM AND
[HTTP://WWW.ARH.NOAA.GOV/CHANGES](http://WWW.ARH.NOAA.GOV/CHANGES)

FOR PARTNERS AND CUSTOMERS WHO USE MARINE ZONE NUMBERS AS LOCATION CODES
FOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO /NWR/ AND EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM /EAS/
APPLICATIONS...THE COASTAL AND OFFSHORE MARINE CODE LISTINGS FOR NWR AND
EAS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

ALSO...THE COASTAL WATERS FORECAST /CWF/ AND OFFSHORE WATERS FORECAST /OFF/ TEXT PRODUCTS ISSUED IN ALASKA WILL BE MODIFIED. PRODUCT CHANGES WILL INCLUDE UPDATING THE FORMAT...DIVIDING THE CONTENTS INTO NEW COLLECTIVES...AND MODERNIZING THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADINGS AND ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ IDS. ONCE IMPLEMENTED...THESE CWF PRODUCTS WILL CONFORM TO NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION /NWSI/ 10-310...ENTITLED COASTAL MARINE FORECAST SERVICES...AND NWSI 10-311...ENTITLED OFFSHORE NAVTEX AND HIGH SEAS MARINE FORECAST SERVICES.

THE CWF AND OFF FORMAT CHANGES WILL INVOLVE MODIFYING THE WAY THE TEXT OF THE FORECAST IS PRESENTED. A FIVE DAY FORECAST WILL BE GIVEN FOR EACH MARINE AREA AND IT WILL BE PRESENTED IN A STRUCTURED PERIOD-BY-PERIOD FORMAT. THIS FORMAT USES THE DAYS OF THE WEEK TO DESCRIBE EACH PERIOD EXCEPT THE CURRENT DAY... WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS TODAY OR TONIGHT. ADVISORY AND WARNING CONDITIONS WILL BE HEADLINED AT THE TOP OF THE FORECAST FOR EACH MARINE ZONE.

CURRENTLY...THE FORECAST FOR THE FIRST TWO DAYS IS WRITTEN IN A NARRATIVE FORMAT THAT DESCRIBES THE TIMING OF MAJOR CHANGES IN WEATHER CONDITIONS RATHER THAN PROVIDING FORECASTS FOR STANDARDIZED TIME PERIODS. A THREE TO FIVE DAY EXTENDED FORECAST IS PROVIDED SEPARATELY...USUALLY ENCOMPASSING MORE THAN ONE FORECAST ZONE.

THE WEATHER PARAMETERS INCLUDED IN THE MARINE FORECASTS /WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED...WAVE HEIGHT...AND SIGNIFICANT WEATHER/ WILL NOT CHANGE. THE ONLY CHANGE RELATING TO CONTENT IS THE EXPANSION OF EXTENDED FORECAST INFORMATION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL MARINE AREA.

THE WMO HEADINGS AND AWIPS IDS FOR THE CWF PRODUCTS AND OFF PRODUCTS ARE ALSO BEING UPDATED DURING THIS TRANSITION. THESE CHANGES ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

TABLE 1: WMO HEADING AND AWIPS ID CHANGES THE COASTAL WATERS FORECASTS AND OFFSHORE MARINE FORECASTS IN ALASKA.

NOTE...SOME OLD COLLECTIVES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO OR THREE NEW ONES DUE TO INCREASING PRODUCT LENGTH. ALSO...WMO HEADINGS FOR CWF PRODUCTS ISSUED BY WFO ANCHORAGE WERE MODERNIZED IN SEPTEMBER 2003...SO THEY ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS LIST.

OLD WMO HEADING -----	OLD AWIPS ID -----	NEW WMO HEADING -----	NEW AWIPS ID -----	CHANGE DATE -----
FZAK61 PAJN	CWF061	FZAK51 PAJK	CWFAJK	11/19/03
		FZAK52 PAJK	CWFAEG	11/19/03
FZAK47 PAYA	CWIFYAK	FZAK57 PAYA	CWIFYAK	11/19/03
FZAK48 PADQ	CWFADQ	FZAK58 PADQ	CWFADQ	1/13/04
FZAK48 PAVD	CWFVDZ	FZAK58 PAVW	CWFVDZ	1/13/04
FZPN01 PANC	OFFANC	FZAK67 PAJK	OFFAJK	1/13/04
		FZAK61 PAFC	OFFAER	1/13/04
		FZAK62 PAFC	OFFALU	1/13/04
FZAK66 PAFA	CWF066	FZAK59 PAFG	CWFAFG	1/13/04

TABLE 2: MARINE ZONES IN EACH WFO GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WITH CORRESPONDING UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGC/.

...WFO JUNEAU...

ZONE NAME -----	UGC ---	WMO HEADING -----
SYNOPSIS FOR INSIDE WATERS	PKZ098	FZAK51 PAJK
GLACIER BAY	PKZ011	
NORTHERN LYNN CANAL	PKZ012	
SOUTHERN LYNN CANAL	PKZ013	
ICY STRAIT	PKZ021	
CROSS SOUND	PKZ022	
STEPHENS PASSAGE	PKZ031	
NORTHERN CHATHAM STRAIT	PKZ032	
SOUTHERN CHATHAM STRAIT	PKZ033	
FREDERICK SOUND	PKZ034	
SUMNER STRAIT	PKZ035	
CLARENCE STRAIT	PKZ036	
SYNOPSIS FOR OUTSIDE WATERS	PKZ099	FZAK52 PAJK
DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE DECISION	PKZ041	
CAPE DECISION TO CAPE EDGE CUMBE	PKZ042	
CAPE EDGE CUMBE TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER	PKZ043	
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO ICY CAPE	PKZ051	
ICY CAPE TO CAPE SUCKLING	PKZ052	
SYNOPSIS FOR EASTERN GULF OF AK	PKZ398	FZAK67 PAJK
GULF OF ALASKA NORTH OF 55 DEGREES NORTH AND EAST OF 144 DEGREES WEST	PKZ310	

...WSO YAKUTAT...

ZONE NAME -----	UGC ---	WMO HEADING -----
SYNOPSIS FOR YAKUTAT BAY	PKZ097	FZAK57 PAYA
YAKUTAT BAY	PKZ053	

...WFO ANCHORAGE...

ZONE NAME -----	UGC ---	WMO HEADING -----
SYNOPSIS FOR THE NORTH GULF COAST	PKZ197	FZAK51 PAFC
CAPE SUCKLING TO GORE POINT	PKZ120	
RESURRECTION BAY	PKZ121	
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND	PKZ125	
PASSAGE CANAL	PKZ129	
BARREN ISLANDS AND KAMISHAK BAY	PKZ130	
KODIAK ISLAND WATERS GORE POINT TO SITKINAK	PKZ132	
SHELIKOF STRAIT	PKZ138	
COOK INLET NORTH OF KAMISHAK AND ENGLISH BAY	PKZ140	
KACHEMAK BAY	PKZ141	
SYNOPSIS FOR SOUTHWEST ALASKA AND THE ALEUTIANS	PKZ199	FZAK52 PAFC
SITKINAK TO CASTLE CAPE	PKZ150	
CASTLE CAPE TO CAPE SARICHEF	PKZ155	
CAPE NEWENHAM TO PORT HEIDEN	PKZ160	
PORT HEIDEN TO CAPE SARICHEF	PKZ165	
CAPE NEWENHAM TO DALL POINT	PKZ180	

CAPE SARICHEF TO NIKOLSKI	PKZ170	
UNALASKA BAY	PKZ171	
NIKOLSKI TO ADAK	PKZ172	
ADAK TO KISKA	PKZ175	
KISKA TO ATTU	PKZ176	
PRIBILOF ISLANDS	PKZ179	
ST MATTHEW ISLAND	PKZ185	
SYNOPSIS FOR WESTERN GULF OF ALASKA	PKZ399	FZAK61 PAFC
GULF OF ALASKA NORTH OF 55 DEGREES		
NORTH AND WEST OF 144 DEGREES WEST	PKZ350	
SYNOPSIS FOR CENTRAL BERING SEA	PKZ499	FZAK62
AFC SOUTH CENTRAL BERING SEA EAST OF		
THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE	PKZ410	

...WSO KODIAK...

ZONE NAME	UGC	WMO HEADING
-----	---	-----
SYNOPSIS FOR CHINIAK AND MARMOT BAYS	PKZ198	FZAK58 ADQ
CHINIAK BAY	PKZ136	
MARMOT BAY	PKZ137	

...WSO VALDEZ...

ZONE NAME	UGC	WMO HEADING
-----	---	-----
SYNOPSIS FOR VALDEZ PORT NARROWS AND ARM	PKZ196	FZAK58 PAVW
PORT OF VALDEZ	PKZ126	
VALDEZ NARROWS	PKZ127	
VALDEZ ARM	PKZ128	

...WFO FAIRBANKS...

ZONE NAME	UGC	WMO HEADING
-----	---	-----
SYNOPSIS FOR WESTERN ALASKA AND THE		
ARCTIC COAST	PKZ299	FZAK59 PAFG
NORTON SOUND	PKZ290	
DALL POINT TO WALES	PKZ295	
KOTZEBUE SOUND	PKZ200	
WALES TO CAPE LISBURNE	PKZ205	
CAPE LISBURNE TO CAPE HALKETT	PKZ210	
CAPE HALKETT TO DEMARCATION POINT	PKZ215	

TABLE 3: ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY NEW MARINE ZONES AND UGCS.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADINGS	AWIPS IDS
-----	-----	-----
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING	WHAK57 PAJK	SMWAJK
	WHAK51 PAFC	SMWAER
	WHAK52 PAFC	SMWALU
	WHAK59 PAFG	SMWAFG
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT	FZAK87 PAJK	MWSAJK
	FZAK81 PAFC	MWSAER
	FZAK82 PAFC	MWSALU
	FZAK89 PAFG	MWSAFG

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL USERS OF NWS MARINE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS ORIGINATING FROM ALASKA MAKE SURE THAT THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEM DIRECTORIES EXACTLY MATCH THE HEADINGS LISTED IN TABLE 1. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL PREVENT THESE PRODUCTS FROM REACHING THEIR INTENDED AUDIENCE.

NWS CUSTOMERS WHO AUTOMATICALLY PROCESS PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 3 USING THE ZONE /Z/ FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE MAY NEED TO PROGRAM THE NEW Z CODES INTO THEIR SYSTEM/S/ TO CONTINUE TO PROCESS THE PRODUCTS.

A WEB PAGE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ALLOW USERS TO TEST THE CHANGES TO ENSURE THEY CAN DECODE THE MODIFIED PRODUCT CORRECTLY. SEE EXAMPLES AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.ARH.NOAA.GOV/CHANGES](http://www.arh.noaa.gov/changes)

ALL OTHER ALASKA REGION WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES WILL MODERNIZE THEIR COASTAL MARINE FORECASTS AND OFFSHORE MARINE FORECASTS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. LOOK FOR FUTURE SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES REGARDING THESE CHANGES.

NWSI 10-310 AND 10-311 ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DIRECTIVES](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives)

CLICK ON 10: OPERATIONS AND SERVICES...THEN SCROLL DOWN AND CLICK ON 10-310: COASTAL MARINE FORECAST SERVICES OR 10-311: OFFSHORE NAVTEX AND HIGH SEAS MARINE FORECAST SERVICES.

PARTNERS/CUSTOMERS SHOULD NOTIFY THE FOLLOWING POINT OF CONTACT IF THEY BELIEVE THE CHANGES WILL ADVERSELY IMPACT THEIR OPERATIONS...OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THIS CHANGE...

AIMEE DEVARIS
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
ALASKA REGION MARINE PROGRAM MANAGER
ANCHORAGE ALASKA
PHONE: 907-271-3507
E-MAIL: AIMEE.DEVARIS@NOAA.GOV

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

\$\$
NNNN