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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 13-51
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
912 AM EDT Fri Aug 9 2013

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From: Mark Tew
 Chief, Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Coastal Marine Zone Boundaries Off Central California:
Effective December 3, 2013

Effective Tuesday, December 3, 2013, at 10:00 am Pacific Standard Time (PST), 1:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in San Francisco/Monterey, CA (MTR) will reconfigure marine zones PZZ570 - Point Arena to Pigeon Point 10 to 60 NM, PZZ575 - Pigeon Point to Point Piedras Blancas 10 to 60 NM, and PZZ530 - San Francisco, San Pablo, Suisun Bay and the West Delta.

Marine zone PZZ570 - Point Arena to Pigeon Point 10 to 60 NM, will be split into two separate zones at Point Reyes. This dividing line will match the dividing line currently used in the inner zones (out to 10 nautical miles (NM)). The current marine zone PZZ570 will be reconfigured to extend from Point Arena to Point Reyes 10 to 60 NM. A new marine zone, PZZ571, will extend from Point Reyes to Pigeon Point 10 to 60 NM.

Marine zone PZZ575, Pigeon Point to Point Piedras Blancas 10 to 60 NM, will be split into two separate zones at Point Pinos. This dividing line will match the dividing line currently used in the inner zones (out to 10 NM). The current marine zone PZZ575 will be reconfigured to extend from Pigeon Point to Point Pinos 10 to 60 NM. A new marine zone, PZZ576, will extend from Point Pinos to Point Piedras Blancas 10 to 60 NM.

The San Francisco Bay zone (PZZ530) will also be split into two separate zones with the Bay Bridge as the dividing line. The current marine zone, PZZ530, will encompass the San Pablo and Suisun Bays and the West Delta along with the portion of the San Francisco Bay that lies north of the Bay Bridge. A new marine zone, PZZ531, will encompass the San Francisco Bay South of the Bay Bridge. This marine zone configuration change is to better serve marine users along the central California coast and the San Francisco Bay. The smaller zones will result in forecasts that are more representative of expected weather and wave conditions due to local geography and the daily wind patterns through the complex terrain of the San Francisco Bay.

Table 1: Current MTR Marine Zones and Corresponding Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs)

Current Marine Zone Name -----	Current UGC -----
Waters from Point Arena to Pigeon Point 10-60 NM	PZZ570
Waters from Point Arena to Point Reyes 0-10 NM	PZZ540
Waters from Point Reyes to Pigeon Point 0-10 NM	PZZ545
Waters from Pigeon Point to Point Piedras Blancas 10-60 NM	PZZ575
Waters from Pigeon Point to Point Pinos 0-10 NM	PZZ560
Waters from Point Pinos to Point Piedras Blancas 0-10 NM	PZZ565
San Francisco, San Pablo, Suisun Bays and the West Delta	PZZ530
Monterey Bay	PZZ535

Table 2: Marine Zones and Corresponding UGCs for which WFO MTR Will Issue Forecasts and Warnings Effective December 3, 2013

New Marine Zone Name -----	New UGC -----
Waters from Point Arena to Point Reyes 10-60 NM	PZZ570
Waters from Point Reyes to Pigeon Point 10-60 NM	PZZ571
Waters from Point Arena to Point Reyes 0-10 NM	PZZ540
Waters from Point Reyes to Pigeon Point 0-10 NM	PZZ545
Waters from Pigeon Point to Point Pinos 10-60 NM	PZZ575
Waters from Point Pinos to Point Piedras Blancas 10-60 NM	PZZ576
Waters from Pigeon Point to Point Pinos 0-10 NM	PZZ560
Waters from Point Pinos to Point Piedras Blancas 0-10 NM	PZZ565
San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay, the West Delta and the San Francisco Bay North of the Bay Bridge	PZZ530
San Francisco Bay South of the Bay Bridge	PZZ531
Monterey Bay	PZZ535

Graphical images of the current and future marine zones listed in Tables 1 and 2 are online at:

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/MTR/marine/proposal_public.pdf

Table 3: WFO MTR Products Affected by the Marine Zone Changes Effective December 3, 2013

Product Name -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Coastal Waters Forecast	FZUS56 KMTR	CWFMTR
Marine Weather Message	WHUS76 KMTR	MWWWTR
Special Marine Warning	WHUS56 KMTR	SMWMTR
Marine Weather Statement	FZUS76 KMTR	MWSMTR
Watch County Notification	WWUS66 KMTR	WCNMTR

Users must make necessary changes to communications systems to accommodate these zone changes.

Shapefiles of the new marine weather zones for the NWS San Francisco/Monterey Bay office are available for download at:

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

For questions regarding these product changes, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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