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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 16-36  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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From:         John Ferree, Acting Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

              Tim Oram, Acting Chief  
              Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Watches May Include Outer Marine  
Zones: Effective September 29, 2016

Effective Thursday, September 29, 2016, at 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), Continental U.S. Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Watches may include outer marine zones. Currently, Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm watches can only include the near-shore marine zones, out to approximately 20 miles offshore. This change allows watches to extend to the outer marine zones, to approximately 60 miles offshore.

Inclusion of the outer marine zones in some Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Watches will give a more complete understanding of the severe thunderstorm risk to mariners, particularly in the Gulf of Mexico and off the Atlantic Coast. Tornado Watches and Severe Thunderstorm Watches will only include the outer marine zones when the adjacent near-shore marine zones are included in the watch.

This change only affects Tornado Watches and Severe Thunderstorm Watches. Warnings are not impacted by this change, and only Special Marine Warnings will continue to be issued in these outer marine zones. There is not a change to product formats.

Maps of the inner and outer coastal marine zones around the contiguous U.S. (CONUS) are posted at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/zone/usamz.htm>  
(click marine coastal areas for detail).

These zones are described further in NWS Instruction 10-302 found at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01003002curr.pdf>

List of additional marine zones potentially included in a tornado or severe thunderstorm watch:

GMZ170 ANZ070 AMZ170 PZZ170  
GMZ175 ANZ071 AMZ172 PZZ173  
GMZ270 ANZ170 AMZ174 PZZ176  
GMZ275 ANZ172 AMZ176 PZZ270  
GMZ370 ANZ174 AMZ178 PZZ275  
GMZ375 ANZ270 AMZ270 PZZ370  
GMZ470 ANZ271 AMZ272 PZZ376  
GMZ472 ANZ272 AMZ274 PZZ470  
GMZ475 ANZ273 AMZ276 PZZ475  
GMZ570 ANZ370 AMZ370 PZZ570  
GMZ572 ANZ373 AMZ372 PZZ571  
GMZ575 ANZ375 AMZ374 PZZ575  
GMZ577 ANZ470 AMZ470 PZZ576  
GMZ670 ANZ471 AMZ472 PZZ670  
GMZ675 ANZ472 AMZ474 PZZ673  
GMZ770 ANZ473 AMZ570 PZZ676  
GMZ775 ANZ475 AMZ572 PZZ775  
GMZ870 ANZ670 AMZ575  
GMZ873 ANZ672 AMZ670  
GMZ876 ANZ674 AMZ671  
GMZ676 ANZ676  
GMZ033 ANZ678  
GMZ034  
GMZ055  
GMZ075  
GMZ074  
GMZ073  
GMZ072

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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