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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE PART 1 OF 2 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC 900 AM EDT TUE SEP 23 1997

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS

NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE PIERCE

CHIEF...HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: RECONFIGURATION OF ATLANTIC COASTAL MARINE FORECAST ZONES ALONG THE SOUTHEAST U.S. COAST...EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2 1997 ...PART 1 OF 2-PART MESSAGE...

THE NWS WILL RECONFIGURE ATLANTIC COASTAL MARINE FORECAST ZONES ALONG THE SOUTHEAST U.S. COASTLINE ON DECEMBER 2 1997...AT 1300 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ OR 800 AM EST. THESE RECONFIGURATIONS WILL PROVIDE MARINE WEATHER FORECASTERS THE ABILITY TO ISSUE MORE SITE-SPECIFIC FORECASTS TO USERS BY ALLOWING NEEDED FLEXIBILITY TO GROUP NEW SMALLER ZONES TOGETHER OR SEPARATE THEM TO MORE ACCURATELY HIGHLIGHT ONGOING AND PREDICTED WEATHER.

TABLE 1 LISTS THE PRODUCT CATEGORIES AFFECTED. TABLE 2 IS A LIST OF THE NEW ZONES. 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 IN TABLE 1 WITH THEIR NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ AND FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ IDENTIFIERS. USERS SELECTING INFORMATION BY SPECIFIC ZONES WILL NEED TO USE THE NEW UGCS FOR THE RECONFIGURED ZONES.

THIS INFORMATION UPDATED 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 /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

TABLE 1. PRODUCT CATEGORIES AFFECTED BY ZONE RECONFIGURATIONS.

PRODUCT NWWS ID WMO/FOS HEADER++++ -----\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ CWF/ COASTAL WATERS FORECAST CCCCWFXXX FZUS6 KXXX SMW/ SPECIAL MARINE WARNING CCCSMWXXX WMUS1 KXXX OR WMUS01 MWS/ MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT CCCMWSXXX FZUS60 KXXX TOR/ COMBINED TORNADO/SPECIAL CCCTORXXX WFUS1 KXXX OR WFUS01 MARINE WARNING SVR/ COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM CCCSVRXXX WUUS1 KXXX OR WUUS01 AND SPECIAL MARINE WARNING PNS/ PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT CCCPNSXXX ABUS34 KXXX

XXX IS THE ISSUING OFFICE CCC IS THE NWWS SATELLITE UPLINK SITE

++++ NOTE - 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 2. NEW MARINE ZONES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2 1997 AT 1300 UTC.

2A. CWF ISSUED BY RALEIGH/DURHAM DC XXX = RDU CCC = RDU SMW MWS TOR SVR PNS ISSUED BY MOREHEAD CITY NC XXX = MHX CCC = RDU

UGC ZONE

AMZ150- COASTAL WATERS FROM CURRITUCK BEACH LIGHT TO OREGON INLET NC OUT 20 NM

AMZ152- COASTAL WATERS FROM OREGON INLET TO CAPE HATTERAS NC OUT 20 NM AMZ154- COASTAL WATERS FROM CAPE HATTERAS TO OCRACOKE INLET NC OUT 20 NM

AMZ156- COASTAL WATERS FROM OCRACOKE INLET TO CAPE LOOKOUT NC OUT 20 NM

AMZ158- COASTAL WATERS FROM CAPE LOOKOUT TO SURF CITY NC OUT 20 NM

AMZ130- ALBEMARLE SOUND

AMZ135- PAMLICO SOUND

2B. CWF ISSUED BY RALEIGH/DURHAM DC XXX = RDU CCC = RDU SMW MWS TOR SVR PNS ISSUED BY WILMINGTON NC XXX = ILM CCC = RDU

AMZ250- COASTAL WATERS FROM SURF CITY TO CAPE FEAR NC OUT 20 NM

AMZ252- COASTAL WATERS FROM CAPE FEAR TO LITTLE RIVER INLET NC OUT 20 NM

AMZ190- OUTLOOK FOR NC-VA BORDER TO LITTLE RIVER INLET NC OUT 20 NM INCLUDING ALBEMARLE AND PAMLICO SOUNDS

2C. CWF ISSUED BY COLUMBIA SC XXX = CAE CCC = CAE

SMW MWS TOR SVR PNS ISSUED BY WILMINGTON NC XXX = ILM CCC = RDU

AMZ254- COASTAL WATERS FROM LITTLE RIVER INLET NC TO MURRELLS INLET SC OUT 20 NM

AMZ256- COASTAL WATERS FROM MURRELLS INLET TO CAPE ROMAIN SC OUT 20 NM

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

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

END OF PART 1 OF 2 NNNN