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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
1030 AM EDT MON SEP 29 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 PUERTO RICO/U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS COASTAL MARINE  
FORECAST ZONES...EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2 1997

THE NWS WILL RECONFIGURE PUERTO RICO AND U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS COASTAL  
MARINE FORECAST ZONES ON DECEMBER 2 1997...AT 1300 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL  
TIME /UTC/. THESE RECONFIGURATIONS WILL PROVIDE MARINE WEATHER  
FORECASTERS THE ABILITY TO ISSUE MORE SITE-SPECIFIC FORECASTS BY AFFORDING  
THEM 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.

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 FOR  
SPECIFIC ZONES WILL NEED TO USE THE NEW UGCs FOR THE RECONFIGURED ZONES.

TABLE 1. PRODUCT CATEGORIES AFFECTED BY PUERTO RICO MARINE ZONE RECONFIGURATIONS.

PRODUCT -----	NWWS ID -----	WMO/FOS HEADER -----
COASTAL WATERS FORECAST SPANISH VERSION	SJUCWFSJU SJUCWFSPN	FZCA42 TJSJ FZCA62 TJSJ
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING SPANISH VERSION	SJUSMWSJU SJUSMWSPN	WHCA42 TJSJ WHCA62 TJSJ
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT SPANISH VERSION	SJUMWSSJU SJUMWSSPN	FZCA42 TJSJ FZCA62 TJSJ
COMBINED TORNADO/SPECIAL MARINE WARNING SPANISH VERSION	SJUTORSJU SJUTORSPN	WFCA42 TJSJ WFCA62 TJSJ
COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM/ SPANISH VERSION	SJUSVRSJU SJUSVRSPN	WUCA42 TJSJ WCCA62 TJSJ
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT SPANISH VERSION	SJUPNSSJU SJUPNSSPN	AXCA42 TJSJ AXCA62 TJSJ

TABLE 2. NEW MARINE ZONES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2 1997 AT 1300 UTC...ISSUED BY SAN JUAN PR

UGC ---	ZONE ----
AMZ750	- ATLANTIC NEARSHORE WATERS FROM THE MOUTH OF RIO GUAJATACA PUERTO RICO...EASTWARD TO CABO SAN JUAN...THEN EASTWARD TO CULEBRA...ST. THOMAS...ST. JOHN AND THE ADJACENT ISLANDS...OUT TO THE 100 FATHOM LINE.
AMZ770	- ATLANTIC WATERS NORTHWARD TO 19.5 N AND BETWEEN 68 W AND 64 W...FROM THE NW COAST OF PUERTO RICO AT PUNTA CADENA EASTWARD TO THE MOUTH OF RIO GUAJATACA EXTENDING EASTWARD BEYOND THE 100 FATHOM LINE TO THE ANEGADA PASSAGE.
AMZ773	- CARIBBEAN WATERS FROM PUNTA VIENTO PUERTO RICO NORTH TO CABO SAN JUAN EXTENDING SOUTHWARD TO 17 N AND EASTWARD TO 64 W INCLUDING THE CARIBBEAN WATERS OF CULEBRA...VIEQUES AND OF THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS.
AMZ755	- NEARSHORE WATERS OF THE WEST COAST OF PUERTO RICO FROM PUNTA CADENA TO PUNTA MELONES EXTENDING WESTWARD OUT TO 12 NM.
AMZ775	- CARIBBEAN WATERS FROM PUNTA VIENTO PUERTO RICO TO PUNTA MELONES AND THE WATERS OUTSIDE OF 12 NM FROM PUNTA MELONES TO PUNTA CADENA...EXTENDING SOUTHWARD TO 17 N AND WESTWARD TO 68 W.

AMZ790 - OUTLOOK FOR PUERTO RICO AND U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS COASTAL WATERS.

THIS INFORMATION UPDATES APPENDICES A AND B OF WEATHER SERVICE OPERATIONS MANUAL /WSOM/ CHAPTER D-51. THIS MESSAGE IS POSTED ON THE FOLLOWING URL /USE LOWER CASE/: [HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm).

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](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/modernize/st-maps/maps.htm)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THESE ZONES...OR WISH TO REQUEST HARD COPIES OF MARINE ZONE MAPS...YOU MAY CONTACT:

LAURA COOK	MARIO VALVERDE
NOAA/NWS	NOAA/NWS
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND	FORT WORTH TEXAS
PHONE: 301-713-1677 X 126	PHONE: 871-978-2652 X 107

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

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

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