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Service Change Notice 20-48 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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TO: Subscribers:
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FROM: Bruce Entwistle
 Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

SUBJECT: Updated: Operational Implementation of Graphical
 Forecasts for Aviation (GFA) for Hawaii and portions
 of the Pacific Ocean Effective August 4, 2020

Updated to announce a new implementation date of August 4, 2020,
from July 30, 2020.

Effective August 4, 2020, at 1900 Universal Coordinated Time
(UTC), the GFA Expansion to Hawaii and portions of the Pacific
Ocean, produced by the NWS Aviation Weather Center (AWC), will
transition to operational status.

The current operational GFA domain includes the conterminous
United States, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, and Western
Atlantic Ocean. The GFA is designed to provide meteorological
information in a graphical format equivalent to the text Area
Forecast (FA) for the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. The GFA
includes observations and forecasts that provide data critical
for aviation safety and are overlaid on high-resolution base
maps. AWC continues to provide text FAs for the Gulf of Mexico,
Caribbean Sea and portions of the Western Atlantic Ocean.

The GFA domain will now include graphically depicted information
over Hawaii and portions of the North Pacific Ocean. The
expansion of the GFA to these regions will make possible the
deprecation of text FAs upon completion of a formal product
termination review and notification process.

The GFA provides the meteorological information necessary to
meet the needs of the Federal Aviation Administration, pursuant
to Title 49 United States Code Section 44720.

The GFA is available at:
<https://www.aviationweather.gov/gfa>

The Product Description Document can be found at:
https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_Opl_GFAExpansiontoPacificOcean_2020.pdf

For questions regarding the GFA, please contact:

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NWS Service Change Notices are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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