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Service Change Notice 22-130
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
230 PM EST Thu Dec 15 2022

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Greg Schoor, Chief
 Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Coastal Marine Forecast Zones for
 WFO Fairbanks, AK: Effective March 8, 2023

Effective Wednesday March 8, 2023, by 12:00 PM Alaska Standard Time (AKST), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Fairbanks, Alaska (AFG) will implement comprehensive changes to coastal Marine Forecast Zones. All marine forecasts and related products will use the new zone numbers and names shown below.

If March 8, 2023 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to March 9, 2023.

NWS Alaska Region is coordinating a multi-phase effort to facilitate greater targeting of alerts for hazardous marine weather events across the state. As part of this effort, Marine Forecast Zones will be realigned across the state to improve the dissemination of warnings and forecast information. The change of coastal Marine Forecast Zones will result in enhanced safety and more geographically-representative forecasts, advisory, watch, and warning products. This change has been made in coordination with the United States Coast Guard and other partners and stakeholders.

Table 1: Current Universal Geographic Codes-Zone (UGC-Z): Current Coastal Marine Zone Forecast Names

PKZ200: Norton Sound
PKZ201: Etolin Strait to Dall Point
PKZ210: Dall Point to Wales
PKZ215: Kotzebue Sound
PKZ220: Wales to Cape Thompson
PKZ225: Cape Thompson to Cape Beaufort
PKZ230: Cape Beaufort to Point Franklin
PKZ235: Point Franklin to Cape Halkett
PKZ240: Cape Halkett to Flaxman Island
PKZ245: Flaxman Island to Demarcation Point

Table 2: New UGCs: New Coastal Marine Zone Forecast Names

PKZ801: Etolin Strait to Dall Point out to 15 NM
 PKZ802: Dall Point to Kwikpak Pass out to 15 NM
 PKZ803: Kwikpak Pass to Cape Stephens out to 15 NM
 PKZ804: Cape Stephens to Moses Point out to 15 NM
 PKZ805: Moses Point to Sledge Island out to 15 NM
 PKZ852: Norton Sound greater than 15 NM
 PKZ850: Etolin Strait to Kwemeluk Pass from 15 to 90 NM
 PKZ851: Southwest of Saint Lawrence Island from 15 to 100 NM
 PKZ816: South Side of Saint Lawrence Island out to 15 NM
 PKZ817: North Side of Saint Lawrence Island out to 15 NM
 PKZ853: Kwemeluk Pass to Kwikpak Pass from 15 to 90 NM
 PKZ806: Sledge Island to Wales out to 15 NM
 PKZ854: Sledge Island to Wales greater than 15 NM
 PKZ807: Wales to Cape Espenberg out to 15 NM
 PKZ808: Cape Espenberg to Motherwood Point out to 10 NM
 PKZ809: Motherwood Point to Cape Krusenstern out to 10 NM
 PKZ855: Kotzebue Sound greater than 10 NM
 PKZ810: Cape Krusenstern to Cape Thompson out to 15 NM
 PKZ856: Wales to Cape Thompson greater than 15 NM
 PKZ811: Cape Thompson to Cape Beaufort out to 15 NM
 PKZ857: Cape Thompson to Cape Beaufort from 15 to 85 NM
 PKZ812: Cape Beaufort to Point Franklin out to 15 NM
 PKZ858: Cape Beaufort to Point Franklin from 15 to 85 NM
 PKZ813: Point Franklin to Cape Halkett out to 15 NM
 PKZ859: Point Franklin to Cape Halkett from 15 to 75 NM
 PKZ814: Cape Halkett to Flaxman Island out to 15 NM
 PKZ860: Cape Halkett to Flaxman Island from 15 to 80 NM
 PKZ815: Flaxman Island to Demarcation Point out to 15 NM
 PKZ861: Flaxman Island to Demarcation Point from 15 to 75 NM

Table 3: NWS products affected by these marine zone changes are listed below.

| Product Name | WMO Heading | AWIPS ID |
|--|-------------|----------|
| ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Coastal Waters Forecast for Arctic Alaska | FZAK51 PAFG | CWFNSB |
| Coastal Waters Forecast for Northwest Alaska | FZAK52 PAFG | CWFWCZ |
| Special Marine Warning | WHAK59 PAFG | SMWAFG |
| Marine Weather Statement | FZAK79 PAFG | MWSAFG |
| Northern Alaska Forecast Discussion | FXAK69 PAFG | AFDAFG |
| Sea Ice Forecast for Western and Arctic Alaskan Coastal Waters | FZAK80 PAFC | ICEAFC |

NWS partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems recognize the new UGCs and new zone alignments and names.

In addition, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) listeners using receivers equipped with Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) will need to add new SAME location codes to their receivers prior to March 8, 2023. This is a critical requirement in order to continue receiving automated notifications of Special Marine Warnings. The new SAME location codes are

included in the updated database for Coastal and Offshore Marine Area and Zone Codes for NWR are online at: <https://www.weather.gov/gis/EasNWR>. Final SAME location codes will be available on January 17, 2023.

Preliminary shapefiles for marine zones are available online at: <https://www.weather.gov/gis/MarineZones>. Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on January 17, 2023.

For graphical depictions of these changes please refer to the link below: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/3ab59f270a474045b08dcd90f85b398b>

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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