

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ALASKA REGION SUPPLEMENT 01-2011

APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-303

March 21, 2019

Operations and Services

Marine and Coastal Weather Services, NWSPD 10-03

Marine and Coastal Services Standards and Guidelines, NWSI 10-303

ALASKA MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES COMMUNICATION/DISSEMINATION

NOTICE: This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>.

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:

1. Removed Radio Broadcast (Section 2.2) as WSO VHF and HF radio dissemination ended in 2017.
2. Changed reference from Alaska Ice Desk to Alaska Sea Ice Program in Section 2.2.
3. Updated OS21 references to AFS26 in Section 2.2 owing to reorganization of NWSHQ.
4. Updated broken Kodiak radiofax product broadcast weblink in Section 2.2.
5. Removed Satellite Phone (Section 2.4) owing to primary usage for COOP communication purposes, not for marine user communication to gather observations.
6. Updated Table of Contents and Section numbers.

 /SIGNED/
Carven Scott
Regional Director

 March 7, 2019
Date

MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES COMMUNICATION/DISSEMINATION

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1. Purpose. The communications/dissemination procedures in the Alaska Region are described to augment the procedures in NWS Instruction 10-303.

2. Communication Systems.

2.1 NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) and Weather Blanket. Broadcasts from selected NOAA Weather Radio transmitters are re-broadcast through the United States Coast Guard (USCG) communications sites at mountain tops along the southern Alaskan coast. The Coast Guard re-broadcast “High Sites” that are currently operational are shown at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/aknwr.htm>

This collaborative effort is known as the Weather Blanket, which is further explained in Alaska Region Supplement 03-2004 at: <http://www.weather.gov/directives/030/030.htm> under NDS 30-2107.

2.2 Radiofax. Most radiofax products broadcast at Kodiak, Alaska are prepared by the Ocean Prediction Center specifically to meet the needs of Alaska marine users. The Alaska Sea Ice Program also produces sea ice forecast and analysis charts and sea surface temperature charts for broadcast over radiofax.

Content and scheduling are centrally managed by the Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch at NWSHQ (AFS26) in coordination with the Alaska Region marine program manager.

The Alaska Region hosts the system that runs the Kodiak radiofax; the Alaska Region Systems Integration Branch (SIB) performs operation and maintenance on the system.

Requests for changes to content or schedule will be submitted with explanation to the Alaska Region marine program manager and then coordinated through AFS26. Once properly vetted and approved in accordance with NWSI 10-303 and NWSI 10-1805, the AR SIB will make appropriate changes at the request of the AR marine program manager.

The radiofax products broadcast from Kodiak are listed at the NWS marine product dissemination information web page at: <https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/fax/alaskalatest.shtml>