

NOUS41 KWBC 301345
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 08-34
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
940 AM EDT THU APR 30 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
-NOAAPORT
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: THERESE Z. PIERCE
CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTING IMPROVED MARINE ZONE COVERAGE ACROSS MATAGORDA BAY TEXAS: EFFECTIVE JUNE 3 2008

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY JUNE 3 2008 AT 1030 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ OR 530 AM CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME /CDT/...THE NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN HOUSTON/GALVESTON TEXAS WILL RECONFIGURE ITS CURRENT MARINE ZONES FOR MATAGORDA BAY. EAST MATAGORDA BAY WILL BE MERGED WITH THE REMAINDER OF MATAGORDA BAY. THIS CHANGE SHOULD RESULT IN BETTER FORECAST SERVICES BY REALIGNING THE BAY AND COASTAL GULF ZONES FOR CLIMATOLOGICAL...GEOGRAPHICAL AND BATHYMETRICAL EFFECTS.

CURRENTLY...MARINE ZONE GMZ350 EXTENDS FROM THE MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL TO FREEPORT OUT TO 20 NAUTICAL MILES /NM/...INCLUDING EAST MATAGORDA BAY. EFFECTIVE JUNE 3 2008...EAST MATAGORDA BAY WILL BE REMOVED FROM THIS COASTAL GULF ZONE AND BE PLACED INTO MATAGORDA BAY ZONE GMZ330.

THESE RECONFIGURED ZONES ARE LISTED IN TABLE 1 BELOW. WFO HOUSTON/GALVESTON WILL CONTINUE TO ISSUE FORECASTS AND WARNINGS FOR THE RECONFIGURED ZONES IN TABLE 1 VIA THE PRODUCTS LISTED TABLE 2.

TABLE 1. MARINE ZONES BEING RECONFIGURED...EFFECTIVE JUNE 3 2008. ZONE NAMES AND UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGCS/ WILL NOT CHANGE ON JUNE 3 2008

RECONFIGURED MARINE ZONE	UGC	COMMENT
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MATAGORDA BAY	GMZ330	NOW INCLUDES EAST MATAGORDA BAY IN THIS ZONE GROUP
COASTAL WATERS FROM FREEPORT TO MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL TO OUT TO 20 NM	GMZ350	REMOVES EAST MATAGORDA BAY FROM THIS ZONE GROUP

BECAUSE THE MARINE ZONES IN TABLE 1 WILL NOT CHANGE NAME OR UGC...CUSTOMERS DO NOT HAVE TO TAKE ANY ACTION TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE MARINE TEXT PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 2 BELOW.

CUSTOMERS PROVIDING NWS GRAPHIC MARINE FORECASTS MUST DOWNLOAD AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE TO CORRECTLY PROVIDE GRAPHIC MARINE FORECASTS FOR EAST MATAGORDA BAY.

THIS UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/MARINEZONES.HTM

A MAP SHOWING THE TRANSFER OF EAST MATAGORDA BAY FROM GMZ350 TO GMZ330 IS POSTED ON THE WFO HOUSTON/GALVESTON WEBSITE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/HGX/MARINE/POINT_CLICK_CHANGE.HTM

TABLE 2. WFO HOUSTON/GALVESTON MARINE TEXT PRODUCTS THAT USE THE UGC DESIGNATORS /Z/ INCLUDING MARINE ZONES GMZ350 AND GMZ330. CUSTOMERS DO NOT HAVE TO TAKE ANY ACTION TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THESE TEXT PRODUCTS.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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COASTAL WATERS FORECAST	FZUS54 KHGX	CWFHGX
MARINE WEATHER MESSAGE	WHUS74 KHGX	MWWHGX
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING	WHUS54 KHGX	SMWHGX
MARINE WEATHER STATEMENT	FZUS74 KHGX	MWSHGX
HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT	WTUS84 KHGX	HLSHGX
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS44 KHGX	HWOHGX
WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION	WWUS64 KHGX	WCNHGX
UPPER TEXAS TIDE FORECAST AND INFORMATION	SOUS44 KHGX	TIDHGX

IF YOU QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS RECONFIGURATION OF THE COASTAL WATERS FORECAST ZONES...CONTACT:

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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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