

The red area east of Florida indicates gale-force winds (34 knots or higher), the threshold for marine warnings. The other colors show lesser areas of concern. The hatched blue/orange represents winds of 23–33 knots and seas at least 8 feet; the blue represents seas of at least 8 feet; and the orange represents winds of 23-33 knots.

These experimental warning polygons are the first of their kind for the National Weather Service's (NWS's) marine program at the National Center level. NWS and the National Ocean Service's Office of Coast Survey are working together on the Precision Navigation effort to define the international standards to portray weather information such as warning polygons for winds of gale, storm, and hurricane force. The standards for graphical and gridded formats for display in electronic charting systems are also being defined under the Precision Navigation effort. NWS is working with the NOAA's Global Systems Division to develop a next generation of Hazard Services to produce and disseminate marine forecasts including warning polygons. The Hazards Services effort will result in future updates for providing warning polygons for the mariner, to include additional NWS centers in a standard way. By harnessing technological advancements with improved forecasting products, we are better assisting mariners in their ship routing decisions to stay safe and protect their cargo.

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