

NOUS41 KWBC 131320
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-11
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Allison Allen, Chief
 Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Marine Zones for WFO Duluth, MN (DLH) and WFO
Marquette, MI (MQT): Effective March 30, 2021

On or about Wednesday, March 30, 2021, at 100 PM Central Daylight Time (CST), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Duluth, MN (DLH) and Marquette, MI (MQT) will add a new nearshore Marine Zone encompassing the offshore Apostle Islands in northwest Wisconsin across western Lake Superior. This new marine zone will be named "Outer Apostle Islands beyond 5 NM from Mainland" (LSZ150) and is part of WFO Duluth's marine responsibility.

The current zone LSZ162, ("Lake Superior west of a line from Saxon Harbor WI to Grand Portage MN beyond 5NM"), which is part of WFO Marquette's forecast responsibility, will be proportionally reduced in area to compensate for the new marine zone. The name of LSZ162 will remain unchanged. Additionally, a small fix is being made to the LSZ148 ("Oak Point to Saxon Harbor WI"), to fix a minor artifact in the geometry of the shape.

If March 30, 2021 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to April 1, 2021.

These changes have been made in coordination with the National Park Service, Coast Guard and other stakeholders to improve the service provided to the hundreds of thousands of people who visit the Apostle Islands each year by providing specific forecasts and warnings for the outer islands.

NWS will convert the current marine zone of LSZ162 into two separate zones. These zones are being divided to optimize issuance of forecast and hazard products for conditions that vary significantly in and around the Apostle Islands. The new zone is as follows:

LSZ150: Outer Apostle Islands beyond 5 NM from Mainland

Table 1: Universal Geographic Code (UGC): Current Marine Zone Forecast Name

LSZ162: Lake Superior west of a line from Saxon Harbor, WI to Grand Portage, MN beyond 5 NM

Table 2: UGC: New Marine Zone Forecast Name

LSZ162: Lake Superior west of a line from Saxon Harbor, WI to Grand Portage, MN beyond 5 NM
LSZ150: Outer Apostle Islands beyond 5 NM from Mainland

Table 3: NWS Products Affected by these Marine Zone Changes

AWIPS ID	WMO Heading	Product Name
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NSHDLH	FZUS53 KDLH	Nearshore Marine Forecast
MWDDLH	WHUS73 KDLH	Marine Weather Message
SMWDLH	WHUS53 KDLH	Special Marine Warning
AFDDLH	FXUS63 KDLH	Area Forecast Discussion
HWODLH	FLUS43 KDLH	Hazardous weather Outlook
WCNDLH	WWUS64 KDLH	Watch County Notification
GLFMQT	FZUS63 KMQT	Open Lake Forecast for Lake Superior
MWWMQT	WHUS73 KMQT	Marine Weather Message
AFDMQT	FXUS63 KMQT	Area Forecast Discussion
HWOMQT	FLUS43 KMQT	Hazardous Weather Outlook

NWS partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems recognize the new UGC (LSZ150) and new zone alignments and names.

Updated marine zone shapefiles are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/MarineZones>

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/dlh/apostle-islands-marine-zone-change>

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