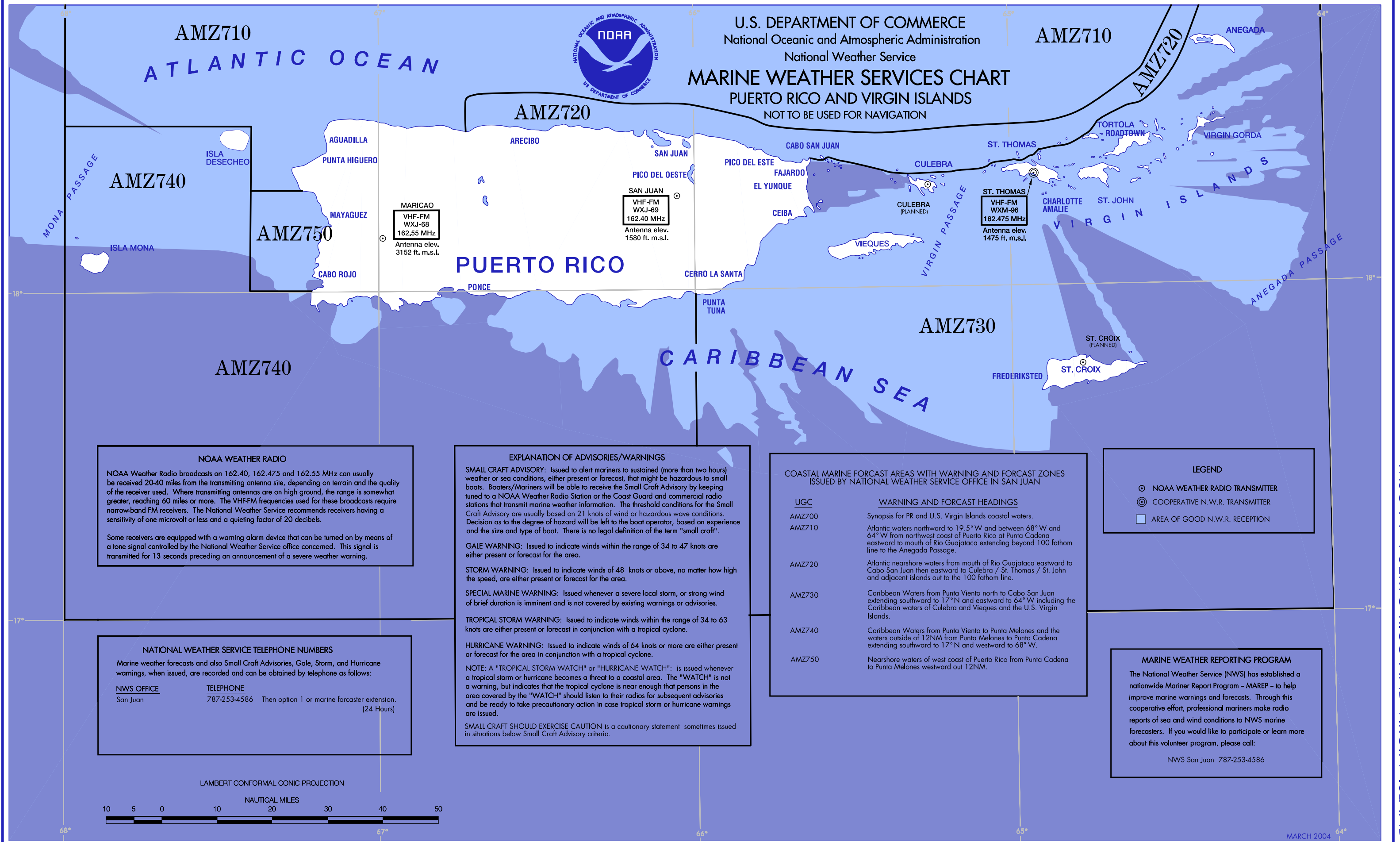


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Weather Service

# MARINE WEATHER SERVICES CHART PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS

NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION



**NOAA WEATHER RADIO**

NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts on 162.40, 162.475 and 162.55 MHz can usually be received 20-40 miles from the transmitting antenna site, depending on terrain and the quality of the receiver used. Where transmitting antennas are on high ground, the range is somewhat greater, reaching 60 miles or more. The VHF-FM frequencies used for these broadcasts require narrow-band FM receivers. The National Weather Service recommends receivers having a sensitivity of one microvolt or less and a quieting factor of 20 decibels.

Some receivers are equipped with a warning alarm device that can be turned on by means of a tone signal controlled by the National Weather Service office concerned. This signal is transmitted for 13 seconds preceding an announcement of a severe weather warning.

**EXPLANATION OF ADVISORIES/WARNINGS**

**SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY:** Issued to alert mariners to sustained (more than two hours) weather or sea conditions, either present or forecast, that might be hazardous to small boats. Boaters/Mariners will be able to receive the Small Craft Advisory by keeping tuned to a NOAA Weather Radio Station or the Coast Guard and commercial radio stations that transmit marine weather information. The threshold conditions for the Small Craft Advisory are usually based on 21 knots of wind or hazardous wave conditions. Decision as to the degree of hazard will be left to the boat operator, based on experience and the size and type of boat. There is no legal definition of the term "small craft".

**GALE WARNING:** Issued to indicate winds within the range of 34 to 47 knots are either present or forecast for the area.

**STORM WARNING:** Issued to indicate winds of 48 knots or above, no matter how high the speed, are either present or forecast for the area.

**SPECIAL MARINE WARNING:** Issued whenever a severe local storm, or strong wind of brief duration is imminent and is not covered by existing warnings or advisories.

**TROPICAL STORM WARNING:** Issued to indicate winds within the range of 34 to 63 knots are either present or forecast in conjunction with a tropical cyclone.

**HURRICANE WARNING:** Issued to indicate winds of 64 knots or more are either present or forecast for the area in conjunction with a tropical cyclone.

**NOTE:** A "TROPICAL STORM WATCH" or "HURRICANE WATCH": is issued whenever a tropical storm or hurricane becomes a threat to a coastal area. The "WATCH" is not a warning, but indicates that the tropical cyclone is near enough that persons in the area covered by the "WATCH" should listen to their radios for subsequent advisories and be ready to take precautionary action in case tropical storm or hurricane warnings are issued.

**SMALL CRAFT SHOULD EXERCISE CAUTION** is a cautionary statement sometimes issued in situations below Small Craft Advisory criteria.

**COASTAL MARINE FORECAST AREAS WITH WARNING AND FORECAST ZONES ISSUED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE IN SAN JUAN**

UGC	WARNING AND FORECAST HEADINGS
AMZ700	Synopsis for PR and U.S. Virgin Islands coastal waters.
AMZ710	Atlantic waters northward to 19.5°W and between 68°W and 64°W from northwest coast of Puerto Rico at Punta Cadena eastward to mouth of Rio Guajataca extending beyond 100 fathom line to the Anegada Passage.
AMZ720	Atlantic nearshore waters from mouth of Rio Guajataca eastward to Cabo San Juan then eastward to Culebra / St. Thomas / St. John and adjacent islands out to the 100 fathom line.
AMZ730	Caribbean Waters from Punta Viento north to Cabo San Juan extending southward to 17°N and eastward to 64°W including the Caribbean waters of Culebra and Vieques and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
AMZ740	Caribbean Waters from Punta Viento to Punta Melones and the waters outside of 12NM from Punta Melones to Punta Cadena extending southward to 17°N and westward to 68°W.
AMZ750	Nearshore waters of west coast of Puerto Rico from Punta Cadena to Punta Melones westward out 12NM.

**LEGEND**

- ⊙ NOAA WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTER
- ⊕ COOPERATIVE N.W.R. TRANSMITTER
- AREA OF GOOD N.W.R. RECEPTION

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Marine weather forecasts and also Small Craft Advisories, Gale, Storm, and Hurricane warnings, when issued, are recorded and can be obtained by telephone as follows:

NWS OFFICE	TELEPHONE
San Juan	787-253-4586 Then option 1 or marine forecaster extension. (24 Hours)

**MARINE WEATHER REPORTING PROGRAM**

The National Weather Service (NWS) has established a nationwide Mariner Report Program - MAREP - to help improve marine warnings and forecasts. Through this cooperative effort, professional mariners make radio reports of sea and wind conditions to NWS marine forecasters. If you would like to participate or learn more about this volunteer program, please call:

NWS San Juan 787-253-4586

