

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SOUTHERN REGION SUPPLEMENT 03-2003
APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-313 and 10-314***

SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

***Operations and Services
Marine and Coastal Weather Services, NWSPD 10-3
Marine Weather, NWSI 10-313 and 10-314***

SOUTHERN REGION COASTAL MARINE FORECAST SERVICES

OPR: W/SR11x5 (M. Hinojosa)

Certified by: W/SR1 (J.Ladd)

Type of Issuance: Routine.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This supplement supersedes Southern Region Supplement 03-2003 dated September 28, 2004, filed with NWSI 10-313 and 10-314.

The following changes were made to this issuance:

1. Added information about latitude and longitude in the MWS when used as a follow-up to the SMW and created by WarnGen.

< Signed by >

September 14, 2006

Bill Proenza

Date

Director, Southern Region

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1. Description: This Supplement provides additional guidance and instructions for Special Marine Warnings (SMW) and Marine Weather Statements (MWS). Written instructions cannot address every situation. Operational personnel must exercise initiative and professional judgment to minimize risk to public safety and property in instances when written instructions do not provide appropriate guidance.
2. Special Marine Warnings. Reference Section 2.2.2 of NWSI 10-313.
 - a. Issuance. SMWs should be issued for local winds of 34 knots or greater that are expected to occur for 2 hours or less; and/or hail 3/4 inch or more in diameter; and/or waterspouts. For some weather situations, valid times of one hour or less may be more appropriate to provide users frequent updated information of rapidly changing convection. If conditions necessitate a valid time of the SMW in excess of two hours, a MWS should be issued throughout the event so the information for customers and partners does not become out-dated (see section 3.c below).
 - b. Do not headline a SMW in the Coastal Waters Forecast (CWF) product.
3. Marine Weather Statements. MWSs provide customers and partners with detailed marine weather information describing non-severe, but potentially hazardous, conditions and information for a variety of conditions not covered by warnings or routine forecasts. In addition, MWSs also provide follow-up information to Special Marine Warnings (SMW). When the MWS is used as a follow-up to the SMW created by WarnGen, include a recommended list of latitude/longitude points outlining the forecaster-drawn area of greatest impact.

Specifically, MWS are used:

- a. To cancel a SMW. MWSs will be used to cancel all or part of a SMW. (see Sections 2.4 of 10-313 and 2.2.2 of 10-314)
- b. To notify a SMW has expired. MWSs will be issued to provide notice a SMW has expired (see Sections 2.4 of 10-313 and 2.2.2 of 10-314). Using forecaster discretion due to particular events, MWSs can be issued for the last of a series of SMWs, i.e. when the event is over, instead of when each SMW expires.
- c. During a SMW. MWSs or Short Term Forecasts may be issued midway through the valid period of a SMW, as time and staffing permit, to heighten the awareness of the potential hazard. (see Section 2.2.2 of 10-314)
- d. To discuss ongoing or expected hazardous weather. Marine Weather Statements should be issued to discuss ongoing hazards affecting, or expected to affect, the marine community (see Section 2.2.2 of 10-314). Such as:
 - the onset of dense sea fog,
 - the timing of significant wind shifts/cold fronts/squall lines,

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- general advanced notice of expected warning conditions in the next 24 hours,
- strong thunderstorms just below SMW criteria,
- low water events,
- information regarding marine accidents or spills,
- ashfall from volcanoes and forest fires.

Additionally, include a call to action statement to promote marine safety.