

LOX Marine Zone Changes October 2, 2012 11am PDT

Based on feedback from the marine community along the central California coast, the National Weather Service office in Oxnard will be splitting the current marine forecast zone PZZ670 into two zones (one from 0-10 nautical miles, and another from 10-60 nautical miles). The main reason motivating the requests has to do with how conditions near shore often vary significantly to conditions further offshore, and the current zone layout makes it difficult to create one forecast describing a large area with such significant differences.

Figure 1 shows the current marine zone layout, with the breakpoint between zone PZZ670 and PZZ673 at Point Arguello. Figure 2 shows the changes that will go into effect on October 2, creating the new near shore zone and shifting the break point from Point Arguello to Point Sal. The breakpoint change is due to conditions around Point Arguello usually echoing the conditions further offshore. This will also end up altering an additional zone (PZZ673).



Figure 1 – Current Marine Zone Layout



Figure 2 – October 2, 2012 Zone Changes

The new zone descriptions will be as follows:

PZZ670 Was: PT. PIEDRAS BLANCAS TO PT. ARGUELLO AND WESTWARD 60 NM
PZZ670 New: PT. PIEDRAS BLANCAS TO PT. SAL FROM 10 NM TO 60 NM
PZZ645 New: PT. PIEDRAS BLANCAS TO PT. SAL AND WESTWARD OUT TO 10 NM

PZZ673 Was: PT. ARGUELLO TO SANTA CRUZ ISLAND CA AND WESTWARD 60 NM
PZZ673 New: PT. SAL TO SANTA CRUZ ISLAND CA AND WESTWARD 60 NM

These changes are scheduled to go into effect on October 2, 2012 at 11am PDT.

Please email us with any comments/suggestions/concerns: w-lox.webmaster@noaa.gov

Read the official statement here: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notification/scn12-20marinelox.htm>