



National Weather Service Monterey Marine Zone Changes

Effective Date: December 3, 2013, 10 AM PST

Based on feedback from the marine community in the greater San Francisco Bay Area, the National Weather Service Office in Monterey will be reconfiguring three marine forecast zones. This will include Marine Zone PZZ570 (Point Arena to Pigeon Point Waters out 10-60 NM), Marine Zone PZZ575 (Pigeon Point to Point Piedras Blancas Waters out 10-60 NM, and Marine Zone PZZ530 (San Francisco, San Pablo, Suisun Bays and the West Delta). This reconfiguration will allow for more accurate forecast, watch, warning, and advisory information for the affected zones. It will base the forecasts more closely on typical wind and weather patterns in the area. Conditions frequently vary across the large zones from 10-60 NM, and the smaller forecast zones will allow for a more consistent forecast as well as warning and advisory products that are more accurate in their description of hazardous conditions. Splitting Zone PZZ530 in the San Francisco Bay along the Bay Bridge will separate the Bays into climatologically similar areas, as the northern portion is considerably windier with more frequent hazardous conditions than the southern portion.

[Figure 1](#) below depicts the present marine zone configuration. [Figure 2](#) depicts the changes that will go into effect on December 3, which create a split in zones PZZ570 and PZZ575 that lines up with the present zones closer to the shore. Zone PZZ530 will be split in the San Francisco Bay along the Bay Bridge. These reconfigurations will create three new marine zones: PZZ571, PZZ576, and PZZ531 as illustrated in Figure 2 below.

[A listing of all new names](#) of reconfigured zones appears near the end of the document.

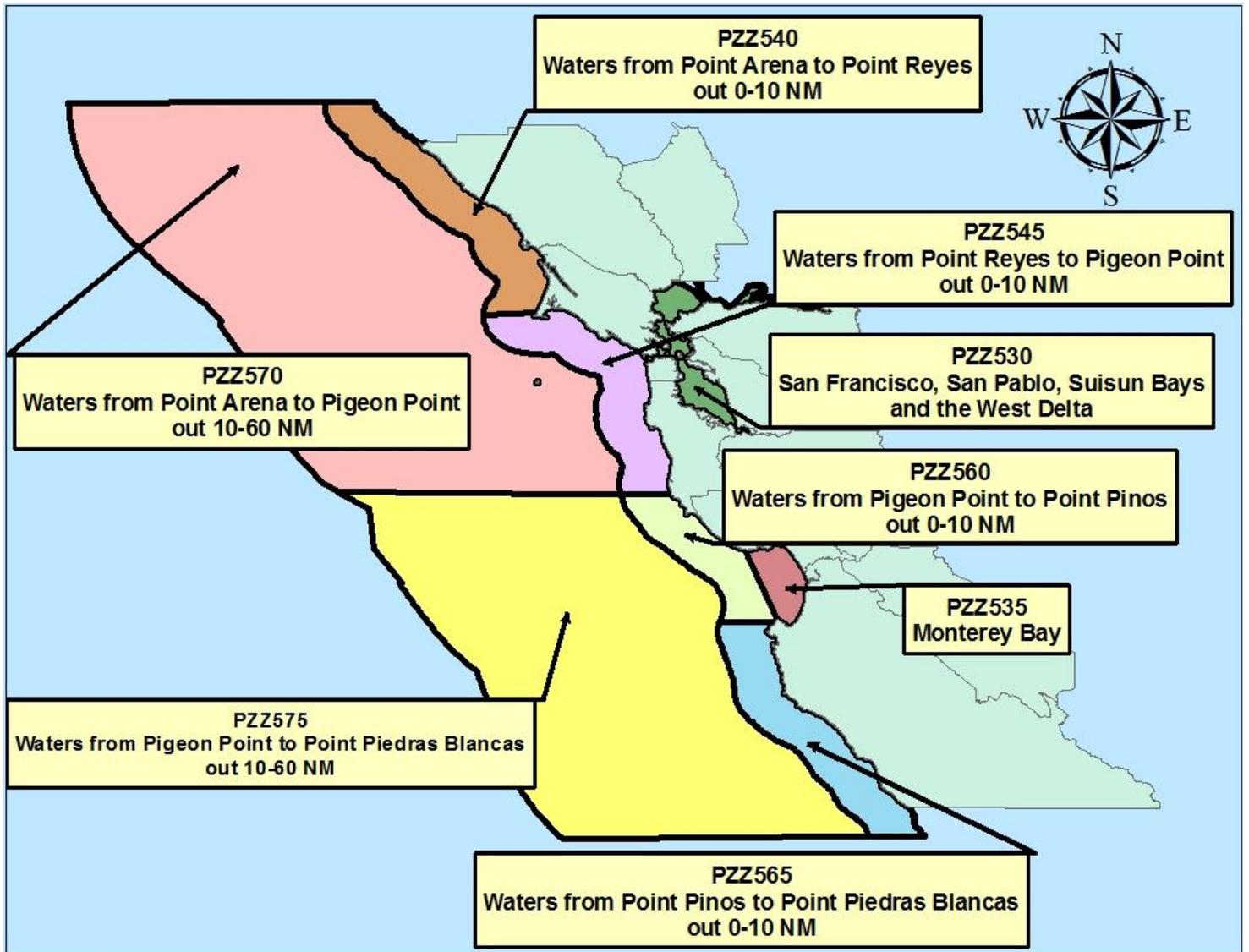


Figure 1: NWS Monterey Current Marine Zone Configuration

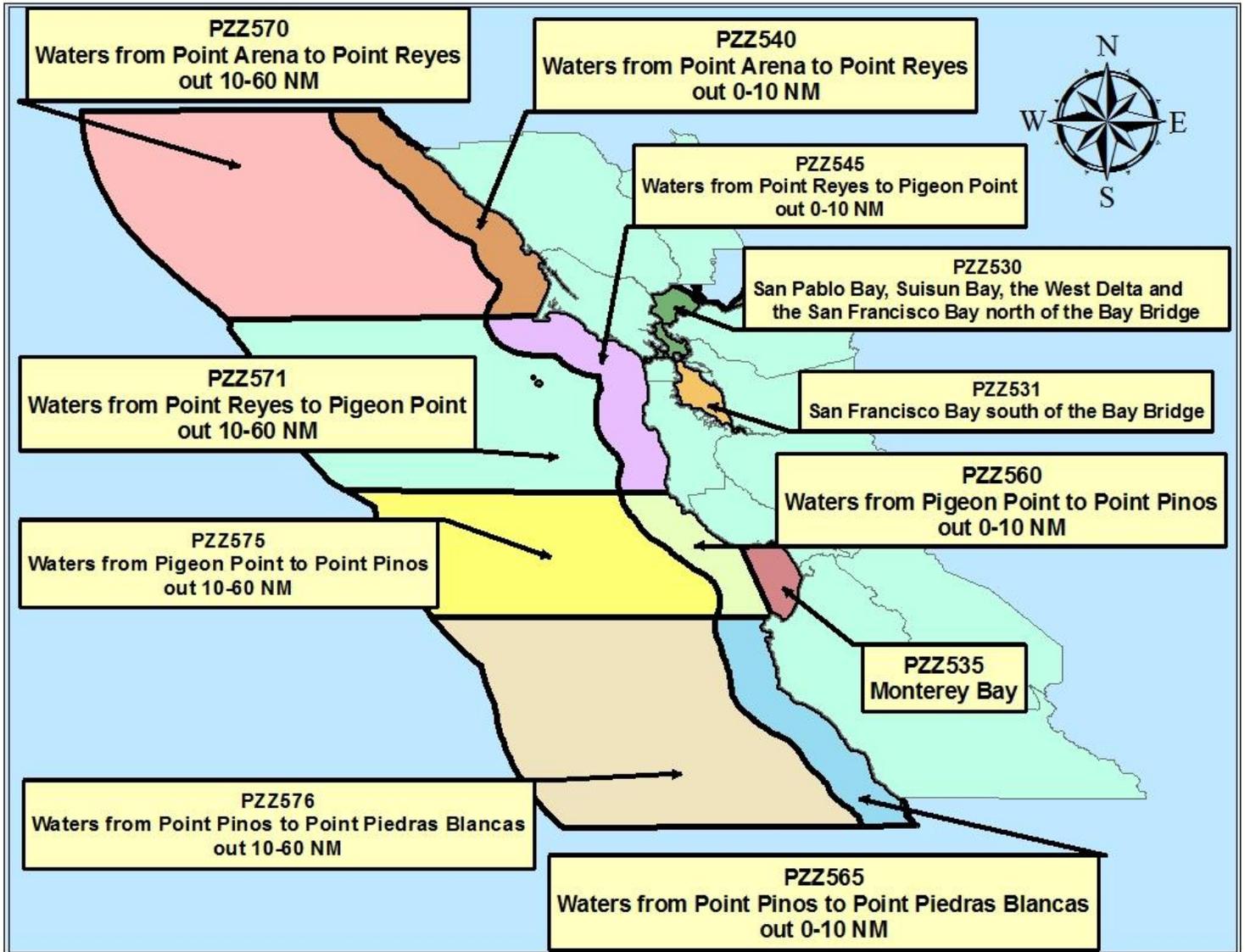


Figure 2: NWS Monterey New Marine Zone Configuration



New descriptions of all zones that will be reconfigured are as follows:

PZZ530: San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay, the West Delta and the San Francisco Bay north of the Bay Bridge

PZZ531: San Francisco Bay South of the Bay Bridge

PZZ570: Waters from Point Arena to Point Reyes out 10-60 NM

PZZ571: Waters from Point Reyes to Pigeon Point out 10-60 NM

PZZ575: Waters from Pigeon Point to Point Pinos out 10-60 NM

PZZ576: Waters from Point Pinos to Point Piedras Blancas out 10-60 NM

These changes are scheduled to go into effect on December 3, 2013 at 10 AM PST.

Please email with any concerns/comments/suggestions: nws.bayarea@noaa.gov

Read the official statement here:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notification/scn13-51monterey_marine_zone.htm