

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CENTRAL REGION SUPPLEMENT 05-2007  
APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-503  
May 15, 2007***

***Operations and Services  
Public Weather Services, NWSPD 10-5  
WFO Public Weather Forecast Products Specification, NWSI 10-503***

***GUIDELINES FOR INCLUSION OF AVIATION AND MARINE SECTIONS WITHIN  
THE AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION PRODUCT***

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**NOTICE:** This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>.

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***SUMMARY OF SUPPLEMENT:*** This Supplement establishes Central Region policy and guidelines for the inclusion and content of .AVIATION... and .MARINE... sections in the Area Forecast Discussion Product.

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May 1, 2007  
Date

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1. Purpose. This Supplement provides additional guidance to that contained in Section 2 and associated Appendix of NWSI 10-503. All instructions contained in NWSI 10-503 remain valid. This supplement establishes the requirement to include an .AVIATION... section in the regularly-scheduled AFD product, or to add an .AVIATION... section in an updated AFD product.

In addition, this supplement provides guidance for the inclusion of a .MARINE... section in the AFD for WFOs Marquette, Chicago, and Detroit.

2. Central Region Policy. Beginning on May 15, 2007, regularly-scheduled AFDs, or updated AFDs, issued by Central Region offices will include an .AVIATION... section that will provide a brief meteorological explanation of the reasoning behind the aviation forecasts issued by that office.

On the same date, regularly-scheduled AFDs, or updated AFDs, issued by Central Region offices with open lake responsibility will include a .MARINE... section that will include a brief meteorological explanation of the reasoning behind the marine forecasts issued by that office.

The .AVIATION... section should be placed after the .Discussion...  
Or .Short/Long Term... section.

Those Central Region offices with Near Shore responsibility have the option of including a .MARINE... section in their AFD.

The .MARINE... section should be placed after the .AVIATION... section.

3. Philosophy, Content and Guidelines. The content, terminology, and valid forecast periods of the Aviation and Marine sections in the AFD should meet the needs of the majority of the users in the Forecast Area (FA) who receive the AFD. It is the responsibility of each WFO to determine the primary users of its AFD product.

For the .AVIATION... section, typical users are Automated Flight Service Station (AFSS) personnel, dispatchers and other air carrier personnel, Center Weather Service Unit

(CWSU) personnel, Aviation Weather Center (AWC) personnel, General Aviation (GA) pilots, and staff of adjacent WFOs. There will always be an explanation of weather in the Aviation section of each AFD issued. If there is benign weather (“no weather”), there will be an explanation of WHY there is “no weather”.

For the .MARINE... section, typical users are the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), owners and operators of tugs, barges, boats, ships, marinas, shipping companies, recreational boaters and staff of adjacent WFOs. CR Great Lake offices may include local effects, such as rip currents if deemed appropriate.

The explanation, and terms used, for each of these sections should be geared toward the users. For example, WFOs with large airports and heavy commercial traffic may emphasize the short-term aviation forecasts (0 to 6 hours), while WFOs with mainly recreational (GA) aviation users may emphasize the aviation forecast/explanation out to 24 hours - or further.

The meteorological explanation for each section should be brief and succinct. We discourage long, involved, complex explanations in the Aviation and Marine Sections. The number of sentences in these sections, even in complex and/or changing weather conditions, should be limited to about eight. Since a general Narrative Discussion is already provided in each AFD issued, any explanation in these three sections should consist of information that adds to, or enhances, the Narrative Discussion. In the Aviation and Marine sections, you may refer readers/users to review specific portions of the Narrative Discussion or, the Narrative Discussion may refer readers/users to the appropriate Aviation or Marine Section.