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OPERATIONS AND SERVICES

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COORDINATION OF BEGINNING/ENDING OF NEARSHORE ISSUANCES

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This supplement updates the policy and procedures for the coordination of the beginning and ending of issuance dates/times for the Nearshore Forecast (NSH).

(signed by)
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Dec. 17, 2009
Date

COORDINATION OF BEGINNING/ENDING OF NEARSHORE ISSUANCES

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1. Introduction/Background. NWSI 10-312, issued October 6, 2008, “Great Lakes Marine Services”, Section 4.2.2 “Issuance Criteria” states, in part, “Specific dates [for seasonal beginning and ending of Nearshore Forecast issuances] are determined by responsible Regions.”
2. Central Region Policy. The continuation, or beginning and ending dates/time, of the issuance of the Nearshore Forecast (NSH) for each Central Region (CR) WFOs will be in accordance with the following:
 - 2.1. Lake Superior - The issuance of the Near Shore product/service will cease the day after the Sault Ste Marie (Soo) Locks close, and will resume seven calendar days prior to the day the Soo Locks open.
 - 2.2. Lake Michigan and Lake Huron - The issuance of the Near Shore product/service will continue year-round with one exception. Near Shore zones that are frozen to the point there is no ship/boat traffic, may discontinue the Near Shore issuances until the traffic resumes. Responsible WFOs must provide CRH with information/ documentation that the Near Shore zone(s) in question are non-usable due to ice conditions.
3. Central Region Procedure. For those instances where the WFO MIC believes the NSH should be suspended, he/she will seek approval the Central Region Marine Program Manager. In the regional program manager’s absence, approval should be obtained from the Chief, Central Region Integrated Services Division. After receiving approval, the WFO will include, below period 4 of the last NSH product of the year, a statement such as: “THIS IS THE LAST (AWIPS ID) ISSUANCE FOR (YEAR). THE (AWIPS ID) WILL AGAIN BE ISSUED AROUND APRIL 1 (YEAR).”