Explanation of Advisories/Warnings

Small Craft Advisory: A marine advisory for winds 23 to 33 knots that may cause hazardous conditions for operators of small vessels.

Gale Warning: Winds within the range of 34 to 47 knots are either present or forecast for the area.

Storm Warning: Winds of 48 to 63 knots are either present or forecast for the area. Not associated with a tropical storm.

Special Marine Warning: Issued whenever a severe local storm or strong wind of brief duration is imminent, or for volcanic ash fallout.

Heavy Freezing Spray: An accumulation of freezing water droplets on a vessel at a rate of 2 cm per hour or greater caused by a combination of cold water, wind, cold air temperature, and vessel movement.

Tsunami Warning/Watch: Issued by the National Weather Service National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, Alaska or the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Ewa Beach, Hawaii, for long period water waves which were generated by an earthquake and when issues as a warning are less than 2 hours travel time to the warning area. A watch is issued when waves are more than 2 hours travel time to the warning area.

U.S. Coast Guard Radio Broadcasts

HF weather broadcasts are on 2670 kHz and 6501 kHz (USB) from Kodiak at 0200 and 1645 UTC. Weather warnings are broadcast immediately upon receipt.

NAVTEX broadcasts

NAVTEX broadcasts are from Kodiak on station identifiers X and J and occur at the following times: 0330, 0535, 0915, 1330, 1730, 2130, 0330, 0750, 1150, 1550, 2055, 2355.

NOAA Weather Radio

Channel numbers, e.g. (WX1, WX2) etc. have no special significance but are often designated this way in consumer equipment. Other channel numbering schemes are also prevalent.

E-mail (ftpmail) Services

For questions, please call 301-713-1677, ext 128 or 301-713-0822, ext 122.