Department of Commerce · National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration · National Weather Service

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AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

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<SIGNED> JUNE, 10, 2004

Dean P. Gulezian Date

Director, NWS Eastern Region

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- **Purpose.** The purpose of this Supplement is to provide guidance to Eastern Region (ER) Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) for composing Area Forecast Discussions and Hydrometeorological Discussions (AFD).
- **Philosophy.** The narrative AFD is intended to provide our customers and partners with the scientific reasoning behind the forecast and a summary of watches, warnings and/or

advisories in effect. They also serve to facilitate coordination between adjacent WFOs and National Centers for Environmental Prediction.

With the use of the Internet increasing, and the expansion of media/communications capabilities, our forecasts are reaching an ever-widening audience. This places our forecast products under increased scrutiny, particularly from the media. This is especially true of the AFD since it is a free-format, narrative product that allows forecasters to express their thoughts and reasoning behind the forecast. Forecasters should keep in mind that their discussions are being widely read and should **refrain from editorial and casual comments, and personal opinions**.

The content of AFDs should be limited to factual information pertaining to the current forecast and professional opinions only. The AFD will not be solely a restatement of the forecast. Many of our customers/partners have come to rely on the AFD for insight into our forecasts. Moreover, in response to our customers/partners, we have encouraged our forecasters to express their confidence in the forecast and numerical model performance within the AFDs. As with all NWS products and services, forecasters are expected to apply sound judgement and common sense.

- Area Forecast Discussion Content. The AFD will consist of two primary sections: (1) a narrative description of the forecast and associated reasoning, and (2) a summary of all outlook/watch/warning/advisory issuances. One previous AFD may be included for continuity (the date/time of the previous AFD must precede the text see Table 1). The inclusion a previous AFD may be useful when quick updates are done in between routine issuances. The discussions should focus on the most significant weather issues to affect a WFO's geographic area of responsibility during the seven day forecast period. Emphasis should be placed on those forecast periods where outlooks/watches/warnings/advisories are in effect, proposed, or are being considered. The discussions should also include significant changes from previous forecasts. The content of this product should be professional and remain focused on the science. The AFD will conform to the following format (reference: Table 1):
 - **3.1 Synopsis.** This section is optional, beginning with the string ".SYNOPSIS...". It should include a brief description of the synoptic pattern and the location/movement of relevant weather systems.
 - 3.2 Short Term. This section is mandatory, beginning with the string ".SHORT TERM..." followed by the period of time covered. The period of time that is covered within this section is left to the discretion of the forecaster(s). Typically, this section would cover the first 24 hours of the forecast period. The content of this section should focus on the most significant weather issues and forecast changes within the period and the scientific reasoning behind the forecast or the changes.
 - **Long Term.** This section is mandatory, beginning with the string ".LONG TERM..." followed by the period of time covered. The period of time that is covered within this section begins where the Short Term section ends and goes out to the end of the forecast period seven days. The content of this section should focus on the

- most significant weather issues and forecast changes within the period and the scientific reasoning behind the forecast and the changes.
- Aviation. This section is mandatory, beginning with the string ".AVIATION...". This portion of the AFD should be written to the NWS aviation customers: Center Weather Service Units (CWSU), Automated Flight Service Stations (AFSS), the Aviation Weather Center (AWC), pilots, and dispatchers. This section of the AFD should discuss the scientific reasoning and uncertainties regarding expected aviation-related conditions including ceiling heights, visibility restrictions, winds, and convection. Forecasters should use the aviation discussion to describe details not permitted in a Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF). For example, discuss differences between the Zone Forecast Product (ZFP) and TAFs. Do not update the aviation discussion each time a TAF is amended.
- **3.5 <u>Fire Weather.</u>** This section is optional, beginning with the string ".FIRE WX...". If included, the discussion should focus on the first 48 hours of the fire weather forecast with an emphasis on fire weather watch/red flag warning conditions.
- **Hydrology.** This section is optional, beginning with the string ".HYDROLOGY...". If included, the discussion should focus on hydrologic concerns within the first 5 days of the forecast. This may include Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) amounts, anticipated impacts on rivers, or flood potential.
- **Marine.** This section is optional, beginning with the string ".MARINE...". If included, this section should highlight the expected marine conditions within the coastal waters forecast domain.
- 3.8 <u>Watch/Warning/Advisory Information.</u> This section is mandatory, beginning with the string ".XXX WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...where XXX is the modernized three letter identifier of the issuing office. If a WFO's CWA covers multiple states, begin a new line with the two-letter state identification followed by three dots (...) and the list of applicable watches, warnings and advisories. An example of the format:

```
.OKX WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...
NY...NONE.
NJ...NONE.
CT...NONE.
MARINE...NONE.
```

Watch/warning/advisory information should be provided in the following format:

- (1) type of watch/warning/advisory;
- (2) zone code(s) where watch/warning/advisory is in effect;
- (3) valid time of watch/warning/advisory in local time

```
.NC...WINTER STORM WARNING NORTHERN HALF OF CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA NCZ007>011-021>028-038>041-043 FROM 5 AM TO 5 PM THU. ...WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY NCZ042-073>078 5 AM TO 5 PM THU.
```

- **3.9** Forecaster(s) Name/Initials/Forecaster ID. This section is optional. The AFD should include either the last name(s), initials, or forecast ID number of the author(s) of the AFD. This can be done in several forms:
 - (1) MARSHALL
 - (2) JCP
 - (3) 12

- (4) SHORT TERM...FOSTER LONG TERM...MIGNONE MARINE/AVIATION...FITZSIMMONS
- Format Specifics. Each specialized section of the AFD will be followed by a double 3.10 ampersand "&&" and a line feed to indicate the end of the section. If the "PREVIOUS DISCUSSION" section is included, the initial "." and "&&" for each section in the previous AFD will be deleted.

Table 1. Routine Area Forecast Discussion (AFD) Format

```
ZCZC CCCAFDNNN
FXUS6i KNNN DDHHMM
AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE XXXX, XX
255 AM EST FRI FEB 13 2004
(1).SYNOPSIS...
                                                      OPTIONAL
(2).SHORT TERM (THROUGH SATURDAY NIGHT)...
                                                      MANDATORY
(3).LONG TERM (TUESDAY-THURSDAY)...
                                                      MANDATORY
(4).AVIATION...
                                                      MANDATORY
   & &
(5) .FIRE WEATHER...
                                                      OPTIONAL
(6).HYDROLOGY...
                                                      OPTIONAL
                                                      OPTIONAL
(7).MARINE...
(8).PREVIOUS DISCUSSION...
                                                      OPTIONAL
.NNN WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...
                                                      MANDATORY
SS...NONE.
SS...NONE.
MARINE...NONE.
$$
FORECASTER(S) NAME/INITIALS/ID
                                                      OPTIONAL
```

- 3.11 **Updates.** An AFD should be updated for changes/adjustments between required issuances. Not all mandatory or optional sections need to be included in an updated AFD - only those sections that contain new or updated information will be included. The phrase "...UPDATED" will be appended at the end of the MND header. See Example 9 in Appendix A for the format of an updated AFD, including format changes to a previous AFD.
- Contractions. AFDs should be composed in plain language to the extent possible. Limited 4. use of contractions is permitted (e.g., to avoid repetition of lengthy terms, commonly known/used contractions) as long as the contraction is contained in either the *United States* Aeronautical Contractions Handbook 7340.1R (see Appendix B) or the glossary (Appendix C).

NWS ERS 10-2004 JULY 1, 2004

Appendix A Area Forecast Discussion Examples

1. Synopsis Example:

.SYNOPSIS...

LOW PRESSURE WILL MOVE ALONG THE MAINE COAST TODAY...BEFORE EXITING THE REGION THROUGH NEW BRUNSWICK TONIGHT. A HIGH PRESSURE RIDGE WILL BUILD ACROSS NEW ENGLAND ON MONDAY UNDER BRISK NORTHWEST WINDS. THIS RIDGE WILL CREST ACROSS THE STATE ON TUESDAY.

2. Short Term Example:

.SHORT TERM (TODAY AND TONIGHT)...

COLD FRONT ENTERING WESTERN PORTIONS OF CT AND MA AT 4 AM. BACK EDGE OF
SHOWERS NOW ACROSS EASTERN MA AND MOVING STEADILY EAST...AND SHOULD EXIT THE
CAPE AND NANTUCKET AROUND DAYBREAK. SKIES WILL BEGIN TO CLEAR BEHIND THE
FRONT THIS MORNING...HOWEVER CLOUDS WILL REDEVELOP THIS AFTERNOON AS COLD AIR
ALOFT COMBINES WITH SHORT WAVE ENERGY CONTINUING TO ROTATE THROUGH THE
NORTHEAST. THERE MAY BE ENOUGH INSTABILITY AND LIFT TO TRIGGER A FEW LIGHT
SHOWERS ACROSS THE INTERIOR THIS AFTERNOON.

TRAILING SHORT WAVE TROF WILL MOVE ACROSS THE NORTHEAST LATER TODAY...ALONG WITH ITS ASSOCIATED SECONDARY COLD FRONT. MODEL SOUNDINGS AND TIME SECTIONS INDICATE WINDS WILL APPROACH WIND ADVISORY CRITERIA (SUSTAINED GREATER THAN 30 MPH AND GUST GREATER THAN 45 MPH) TONIGHT. GIVEN IT APPEARS A MARGINAL EVENT AND OCCURRING IN THE SECOND PERIOD...WILL HAVE DAYSHIFT RE-EVALUATE SITUATION TODAY WITH 12Z MODEL DATA. BEHIND THIS FRONT IS AN UNSEASONABLY COLD AIRMASS. TEMPERATURES IN THE TEENS AND 20S TONIGHT WILL COMBINE WITH A GUSTY WEST TO NORTHWEST WIND TO YIELD WIND CHILLS IN THE SINGLE DIGITS.

3. Long Term Example:

.LONG TERM (MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY) ... COLD AND BLUSTERY CONDITIONS WILL PREVAIL ON MONDAY. HIGH TEMPERATURES WILL AVERAGE A GOOD 10 TO 15 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL. THE POLAR VORTEX WILL MAKE ITS CLOSEST APPROACH OVER FAR NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND DURING THE LATE AFTERNOON HOURS. THE 500 AND 700 MILLIBAR FLOW REMAINS CYCLONIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY. LAPSE RATES SHOULD BE UNSTABLE ENOUGH TO PRODUCE A SCT-BKN LAYER OF STRATO-CUMULUS CLOUDS DURING THE AFTERNOON ESPECIALLY OVER THE INTERIOR HIGH TERRAIN. HOWEVER THE LAPSE RATES DO NOT LOOK UNSTABLE ENOUGH FOR ANY PRECIPITATION THREAT MONDAY AFTERNOON. SURFACE HIGH PRESSURE CRESTS OVER THE FORECAST AREA MONDAY NIGHT...LEADING TO ANOTHER VERY COLD NIGHT. DOES NOT APPEAR ANY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE RECORDS WILL BE BROKEN TUESDAY MORNING THOUGH RECORD AT BDL FOR 3/23 IS 9 DEGREES SET IN 1934 AND WILL NOT BE MORE THAN 5 DEGREES AWAY FROM REACHING IT. THEREAFTER A MODERATING TEMPERATURE TREND IS EXPECTED. HIGH PRESSURE HEADS OFFSHORE WITH A RETURN SW FLOW TUESDAY NIGHT AND WEDNESDAY. THE LATEST GFS AND CANADIAN GEM INDICATE A WARM FRONT IS EXPECTED TO DEVELOP TO THE SOUTH OF THE REGION ON WEDNESDAY. IN ADDITION A WEAK SHORT WAVE IS EXPECTED TO RIDE ALONG THE FRONT ON WEDNESDAY. DEVELOPING WARM AIR ADVECTION PATTERN...INCREASING MOISTURE AND WEAK ISENTROPIC LIFT WILL CAUSE SOME LIGHT RAIN OR DRIZZLE AND FOG PATCHES TO DEVELOP WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT ACROSS THE FORECAST AREA. THE FRONT IS EXPECTED TO BECOME OUASI-STATIONARY OVER THE FORECAST AREA WITH THE THREAT OF UNSETTLED WEATHER THROUGH THURSDAY NIGHT. HIGH PRESSURE WILL TEMPORARILY BUILD SOUTH OVER THE FORECAST AREA FROM SOUTHERN CANADA FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

OVERALL MADE AN ADJUSTMENT BY ADDING CHANCE POPS TO THE WEDNESDAY FORECAST

OVER THE SOUTHWESTERN HALF OF THE AREA. OTHERWISE JUST MINOR CHANGES TO WIND SPEEDS AND SKY COVER DURING THE FORECAST PERIOD. ADDED SOME ADDITIONAL CLOUD COVER TO THE INTERIOR MONDAY AFTERNOON AND THROUGHOUT THE FORECAST AREA WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

4. Aviation Example:

.AVIATION...

VFR UNTIL BAND OF RAIN/SNOW SHOWERS ASSOCIATED WITH APPROACHING COLD FRONT REACHES WESTERN SECTIONS AFTER 09Z...THEN EXITS EASTERN SECTIONS BY 14Z-15Z. SURFACE OBS AT 06Z SHOWED IFR IN SNOW ACROSS CENTRAL PA...BUT WITH THE LINE WEAKENING SOMEWHAT DUE TO DOWNSLOPE WSW FLOW AFTER EXITING THE APPALACHIANS WILL BE MORE OPTIMISTIC AND FORECAST BRIEF MVFR AT AT TERMINALS N OF NYC WHERE SNOW MORE LIKELY TO BE PART OF THE MIX. LIGHTNING STRIKES ALSO OCCURRING ATTM ACROSS CENTRAL PA...WITH 00Z ETA PROGGING MINIMAL SURFACE-BASED CAPE...STEEP H5-H8 LAPSE RATES AND H7 TEMPS OF -20C AS THE FRONT REACHES THE AREA THINK WE COULD SEE A FEW STRIKES TOO...HAVE NOT EXPLICITLY FORECAST THIS BUT HAVE MENTIONED CB IN CEILING FORECAST. GUSTY WESTERLY FLOW (20-25G35)TAKES OVER FOLLOWING FRONTAL PASSAGE THIS MORNING...DROPPING OFF SLIGHTLY DURING THE AFTERNOON AND THEN MORE SO AFTER SUNSET WITH LOSS OF DAYTIME HEATING AND SOME RESULTANT MIXING.

& &

5. Fire Weather Example:

.FIRE WX...

DRY CONDITIONS TO PERSIST ONE MORE DAY ACROSS INLAND COUNTIES. WILL RAISE RED FLAG WARNING FOR SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA AND MOST INLAND COUNTIES OF NEW JERSEY AS RH'S ARE FORECAST TO DIP BELOW 35 PERCENT LATE MORNING IN EARNEST...WITH CRITICAL RH'S FOR 4 TO 6 HOURS. WILL EXCLUDE CAPE MAY AND ATLANTIC COUNTIES AS RH'S MAY DIP BELOW 35 PERCENT ACROSS WESTERN HALF OF THESE COUNTIES FOR DURATIONS OF UP TO 3 HOURS. FOR DELAWARE AND NORTHEAST MARYLAND...CRITICAL RH'S OF 25 PERCENT OR LESS ARE FORECAST FOR AREAS MAINLY ALONG AND WEST OF U.S. HIGHWAY 13. RH'S TO GRADUALLY INCREASE EACH DAY...AT THIS TIME DO NOT ANTICIPATE RED FLAG EVENTS THE REST OF THE WEEK.

6. Hydrology Example:

.HYDROLOGY...

SHOWERS EXITING THE EASTERN ZONES EARLY THIS MORNING. RAINFALL GENERALLY A THIRD OF AN INCH WITH UP TO A HALF INCH ACROSS NORTHEASTERN NEW JERSEY AND INTO CONNECTICUT. LOCALIZED AMOUNTS OF 1 TO 1.5 INCHES ACROSS CONNECTICUT. DRY AFTER SHOWERS EXIT EAST UNTIL WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON WHEN A FEW HUNDREDTHS ARE POSSIBLE INTO THURSDAY.

7. Marine Example:

.MARINE..

COLD FRONT WILL PUSH THROUGH THE WATERS THIS MORNING...WITH A RELATIVELY WEAK S/SW GRADIENT TURNING TO THE W AND THEN NW BY AFTERNOON AND TIGHTENING AS LOW PRESSURE HEADS INTO THE CANADIAN MARITIMES AND TIGHTENS. HAVE DOWNGRADED GALE WARNING TO A STRONG SCA ON THE OCEAN WATERS AS THE SOUNDINGS ARE SHOWING A WELL MIXED BOUNDARY LAYER...BUT WITH A FAIRLY UNIFORM VERTICAL WIND PROFILE WITH ONLY OCCASIONAL MAX GUST TO 35 KT. THIS WAS COLLABORATED WITH BOX AND PHI. SEAS WILL SLOWLY SUBSIDE ON THE OCEAN AS A STRONG OFFSHORE FLOW FLATTENS WAVES. THE GRADIENT SLACKENS DURING THE DAY MON...ESPECIALLY BY EVENING AS HIGH PRESSURE BUILDS OVER THE WATERS FROM THE WEST. TRANQUIL CONDITIONS ON ALL WATERS MON NIGHT THROUGH EARLY WED AS HIGH MOVES ACROSS REGION. BY WED

NIGHT...SW FLOW BEGINS TO INCREASE OUT AHEAD OF A SLOW MOVING FRONTAL SYSTEM AND RETURN FLOW FROM OFFSHORE HIGH. &&

8. Complete Example:

FXUS61 KBOX 091934 AFDBOX

AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TAUNTON MA 330 PM EDT WED JUN 9 2004

.SHORT TERM (TONIGHT THROUGH THURSDAY NIGHT)...
A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH CONTINUES FOR CHESHIRE AND HILLSBOROUGH COUNTIES NH UNTIL 7 PM.

MONITORING CONDITIONS CLOSELY FOR ANY DEVELOPMENT OF SEVERE STORMS AS AIRMASS IS JUICED WITH CAPES >3000 J/Kg...LIFTED INDICES BELOW -3 AND SO FORTH...BUT HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH A BIT OF A MID LEVEL CAP TO GET STORMS GOING. STARTING TO SEE STORMS DEVELOP ACROSS CENTRAL NEW YORK...AND A FEW ARE TRYING TO SNEAK INTO SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE. POTENTIAL FOR SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND WILL LIE IN HOW ACTIVE THAT AREA IS ABLE TO BECOME DURING NEXT 3-6 HOURS.

BEYOND THE NEAR TERM...EXPECTING THE TRIGGER OF THIS CONVECTION...
THE COLD FRONT...TO PUSH THROUGH THE REGION OVERNIGHT. ANY
CONVECTION IS EXPECTED TO END FROM NORTH TO SOUTH AROUND MIDNIGHT...
BUT SHOWERS WILL LINGER AS THE UPPER LEVEL SYSTEM ASSOCIATED
WITH THIS FRONT WILL PUSH THROUGH THURSDAY MORNING. GFS TENDS TO
HANG THE PRECIPITATION SHIELD BACK ACROSS THE REGION DURING MOST OF
THURSDAY...WHILE THE ETA NOSES A RIDGE IN DURING THE AFTERNOON.
HAVE LEANED THIS FORECAST TOWARD THE FASTER ETA...AS IT SEEMS TO BE
HANDLING THIS AFTERNOONS CONVECTION AND FRONTAL POSITION FAIRLY
WELL.

ONCE THE CLOUDS CLEAR...LARGE HIGH PRESSURE FROM CENTRAL CANADA WILL TAKE OVER WITH CLEARING SKIES AND CHILLY TEMPERATURES THURSDAY NIGHT. OVERNIGHT LOWS WILL DROP DOWN TO AROUND 40 ACROSS SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND NORTHWESTERN MASSACHUSETTS...RATHER COOL FOR EARLY JUNE...AND MOST AREAS WILL SEE READINGS IN THE 40S EARLY FRIDAY MORNING.

.LONG TERM (FRIDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY)...

LARGE SLOW MOVING HIGH PRES WILL PRODUCE FAIR WEATHER OVER THE REGION THROUGH THE WEEKEND. NEXT SYS WILL APPROACH IN THE MON-TUE TIME FRAME. MODELS STILL AT ODDS OVER APPLIFICATION OF LONG WAVE IN THE EAST. WILL INCREASE CLOUDS MON WITH CHC POPS SHOWERS BY TUE.

FOLLOWED NCEP TEMP GUIDANCE IN THE DAY 3-7 PERIOD. SPREAD IN ENSM MOS IS NOT VERY LARGE. GENERALLY SEASONABLE TEMPS FOLLOWING THE CURRENT 2 DAY STRETCH OF MID SUMMER HEAT. &&

.AVIATION...

MAINLY VFR EXCEPT FOR MVFR VISIBILITIES ON CAPE COD AND THE ISLANDS WITH HAZE. EXPECT CLOUDS TO DEVELOP IN THE 3-4KFT RANGE DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE AFTERNOON. AS THE FRONT APPROACHES WITH ITS PRECIPITATION SHIELD...WILL SEE SOME MVFR CEILINGS AND VISIBILITIES WITH SHOWERS...SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS. EXPECT CEILINGS AS LOW AS 1500 FT AT KORH. EXPECT THE FRONT TO CLEAR THE COAST AROUND 12Z THURSDAY...WITH VFR VISIBILITIES AND SOME LEFTOVER MVFR CEILINGS

BUT THOSE WILL INCREASE TO VFR. SKIES WILL BECOME PARTLY CLOUDY BY 16Z EXCEPT ON THE SOUTH COAST...CAPE AND ISLANDS WHERE CLOUDS WILL LINGER PAST 18Z.

& &

.MARINE...

IN THE SHORT TERM...WILL HANG ON TO A SMALL CRAFT FOR SEAS TONIGHT ON THE OUTER WATERS ON THE INCREASING SOUTHWEST FLOW. BUOY 018 EAST OF NANTUCKET REPORTING 4-5 FOOT SEAS. AS THE FRONT CLEARS THE COAST AND NORTHEAST WINDS KICK IN...COULD SEE A BIT OF A SURGE EARLY THURSDAY MORNING WITH SOME GUSTS TO 25 KT. EXPECT WINDS AND SEAS TO SUBSIDE AS LARGE HIGH PRESSURE FROM CENTRAL CANADA BUILDS INTO NEW ENGLAND BY MIDDAY THURSDAY.

IN THE LONGER TERM...WE ARE IN FOR A PROLONGED PERIOD OF LIGHT WINDS AND CALM SEAS FRI INTO SUN AS HIGH PRESSURE BECOMES CENTERED OVER NEW ENGLAND. EXPECT LOCAL SEA BREEZES TO DEVELOP EACH AFTERNOON.

.HYDROLOGY...

BASIN AVERAGE RAINFALL OF 0.25 TO 0.75 INCH IS EXPECTED FROM LATER TODAY INTO THU...WHICH SHOULD HAVE MINIMAL EFFECT ON RIVER AND STREAM LEVELS. HOWEVER WE DO EXPECT TO SEE LOCALLY HIGHER RAINFALL AMOUNTS OF 1 TO 2 INCHES IN THUNDERSTORMS WHICH MAY PRODUCE MINOR URBAN AND POOR DRAINAGE FLOODING.

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.BOX WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...

CT...NONE.

MA...NONE.

NH...NONE.

RI...NONE.

MARINE...SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY FOR SEAS ANZ254-255.

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NEAR TERM...AED SHORT TERM...EVT LONG TERM...FN/DV

9. Update Example:

FXUS61 KOKX 100244 AAB AFDOKX

AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION...UPDATED NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE UPTON NY 1044 PM EDT WED JUN 9 2004

.SHORT TERM...

AN UPDATE TO GRIDS AND TEXT PRODUCTS COMING SOON TO CANCEL SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH 422. STORMS OVER CT WEAKENED AS THEY BECOME OUTFLOW-DOMINATED...AS SHOWN ON RADAR BY GUST FRONT MOVING WELL AHEAD INTO LONG ISLAND SOUND. BOUNDARY LAYER AHEAD OF STORMS ALSO QUITE STABLE WITH CIN VALUES OVER 100 J/KG PER 00Z ETA. STORMS MOVING INTO ORANGE COUNTY STILL COULD PRODUCE GUSTY WINDS AND SMALL HAIL...BUT THEY TOO SHOULD WEAKEN AS THEY MOVE SOUTHEAST INTO THE MORE STABLE AIR.

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.PREV DISCUSSION...

SHORT TERM...

A COLD FRONT WILL APPROACH FROM THE NW TONIGHT AND WILL THEN MOVE SLOWLY S OF

LONG ISLAND ON THU. WITH WLY WINDS IN THE THE LOWER LEVELS...JUST SOME SCATTERED SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS MAY POP UP THRU EARLY THIS EVE...MAINLY INLAND. WE/LL HAVE TO WATCH ACTIVITY AROUND THE GREAT LAKES FOR THE OVERNIGHT PERIOD. OTHERWISE...SHOWERS LIKELY ON THURSDAY AS THE COLD FRONT DRAGS SLOWLY ACROSS THE LOCAL AREA AND AN UPPER LEVEL TROF MOVES THRU.

A CHANCE OF SHOWERS INTO THU EVE...MAINLY ACROSS EXTREME SRN PORTIONS. OTHERWISE...HIGH PRES BUILDS NOSES INTO THE AREA RESULTING IN FAIR WEATHER. THE SURFACE FRONT DOESN'T MOVE TOO FAR OFF TO OUR S AND SW...SO THE FORECAST COULD CHANGE IF THE HIGH DOESN'T BUILD IN STRONG ENOUGH.

LONG TERM..

I STAYED FAIRLY CLOSE TO HAND PROGS THROUGHOUT. NO MAJOR CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS FORECAST.

AVIATION...

LOTS OF HAZE BEING REPORTED WITH VSBYS AT SEVERAL OF THE AIRPORTS RUNNING BETWEEN 4 AND 6SM AT THIS TIME. SOME IMPROVEMENT POSSIBLE DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE AFTERNOON...BUT THEN VSBYS LIKELY TO LOWER AGAIN AS SUNSET APPROACHES WITH LOWERING SUN ANGLE. WITH REGARD TO PRECIPITATION...SOME PRE FRONTAL ACTIVITY POSSIBLE ACROSS THE INTERIOR LATER THIS AFTERNOON. DON'T BELIEVE COASTAL AREA TERMINALS WILL SEE ANY OF THIS. HOWEVER...OVERNIGHT THE CHANCE OF SHOWERS WILL INCREASE FOR ALL LOCATIONS AS THE FRONT DRIFTS SOUTHWARD. BULK OF THIS ACTIVITY WILL BE WITH AND IN WAKE OF FRONTAL BOUNDARY WITH THIS THREAT CONTINUING BEYOND THE END OF CURRENT TAF. WIND SPEEDS SHOULD NOT PRESENT ANY PROBLEMS NEXT 24 HOURS...ALTHOUGH DIRECTION A BIT TRICKY TO COME UP WITH AS THERE WILL BE VARIOUS BOUNDARIES TO DEAL WITH.

MARINE...

A COLD FRONT WILL APPROACH THE LOCAL WATERS TONIGHT FROM THE NORTH. GRADIENT IS SOMEWHAT TIGHT...BUT SEAS ARE SLOW TO RESPOND. BEST CHANCE AT ACHEIVING SCA SEAS ON THE OCEAN WILL BE OVER OUR EASTERNMOST ZONE THIS EVENING. HOWEVER...WILL NOT INCLUDE ANYONE IN A SCA ATTM SINCE IT WILL BE VERY MARINGAL. WILL WATCH TRENDS AND SEE HOW SEAS RESPOND TO THE SWLY WINDS.

HYDROLOGY...

POTENTIAL FOR 1/4 TO 1/2 INCH OF RAINFALL...MAINLY ON THURSDAY ASSOCIATED WITH A SLOW MOVING COLD FRONT DROPPING ACROSS THE AREA. NO PROBLEMS EXPECTED...BESIDES POSSIBLE POOR DRAINAGE STREET FLOODING WITH ANY HEAVIER STORMS THAT DEVELOP.

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.OKX WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...

CT...NONE.

NJ...NONE.

NY...NONE.

MARINE...NONE.

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