



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SOUTHERN
 REGION
 819 Taylor Street, Room 10E09
 Fort Worth, TX 76102

October 28, 2022

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Dear Mr. Ebert and Mr. Peters,

There is one (1) Gulf of Mexico (GOM) AWOS Offshore Weather Deviation Area, also known as a weather box, (defined by two weather reporting stations within 40 NM) that is eligible for permanent approval following a provisional test period of 12 months or more without any discrepancy reports. The weather box pairing eligible for transition from provisional approval to permanent approval is provided in the chart below and depicted in orange on the map on page 2 of this letter. None of the AWOS locations revealed a trend of inaccurate weather reports in accordance with our guidance issued on March 8, 2017.

The one (1) weather box is receiving permanent approval effective today, October 28, 2022:

10/28/2022	Pairing Station 1		Pairing Station 2		NWS Provisional Approval Date
#	Block No. / Platform Name	FAA LID	Block No. / Platform Name2	FAA LID3	
1	Eugene Island 251A	EKE	Ship Shoal 241	PZZ	9/10/2021



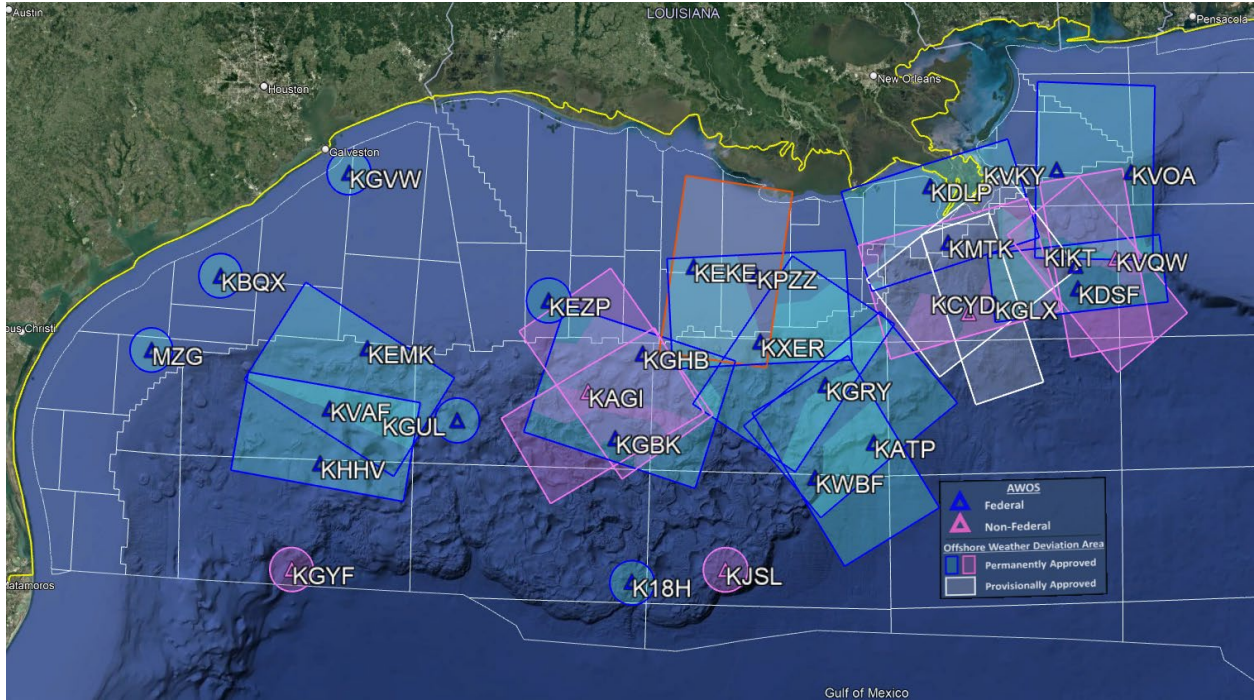


Image 1. Gulf of Mexico Weather Box Pairing Map.

Our joint FAA-NWS policy regarding using destination weather for certificate holders in the GOM has proved beneficial to operators while maintaining safety as a top priority. FAA Advisory Circular 90-80C Section 4.7.2 dated December 12, 2017 addresses the use of offshore observation areas in the Gulf of Mexico. These so-called “weather boxes”, no larger than 60 x 80 NM, must have at least 2 approved AWOS weather stations within each box. The observations are used for destination weather to any platform within that particular weather box.

Sincerely,

Paul G Witsaman

Paul G. Witsaman
Regional Aviation Meteorologist