



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric**  
**Administration**  
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SOUTHERN  
 REGION  
 819 Taylor Street, Room 10E09  
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March 26, 2024

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Dear Mr. Ebert and Mr. Peters,

There are two (2) Gulf of Mexico (GOM) AWOS Offshore Weather Deviation Areas, also known as a weather boxes, (defined by two weather reporting stations within 40 NM) that are eligible for permanent approval following a provisional test period of 12 months or more without any discrepancy reports. The weather box pairings eligible for transition from provisional approval to permanent approval are provided in the charts below and depicted in white on Image 1 and 2 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 two (2) weather boxes receiving permanent approval effective today, March 26, 2024:

#	Pairing Station 1		Pairing Station 2		NWS Provisional Approval Date
	Block No. / Platform Name 1	FAA LID 1	Block No. / Platform Name 2	FAA LID 2	
1	Green Canyon 433 / King's Quay	KMKQ	Green Canyon 787 / Atlantis	KATP	2/23/2023
2	Green Canyon 433 / King's Quay	KMKQ	Green Canyon 338 / Front Runner	KGRY	2/23/2023



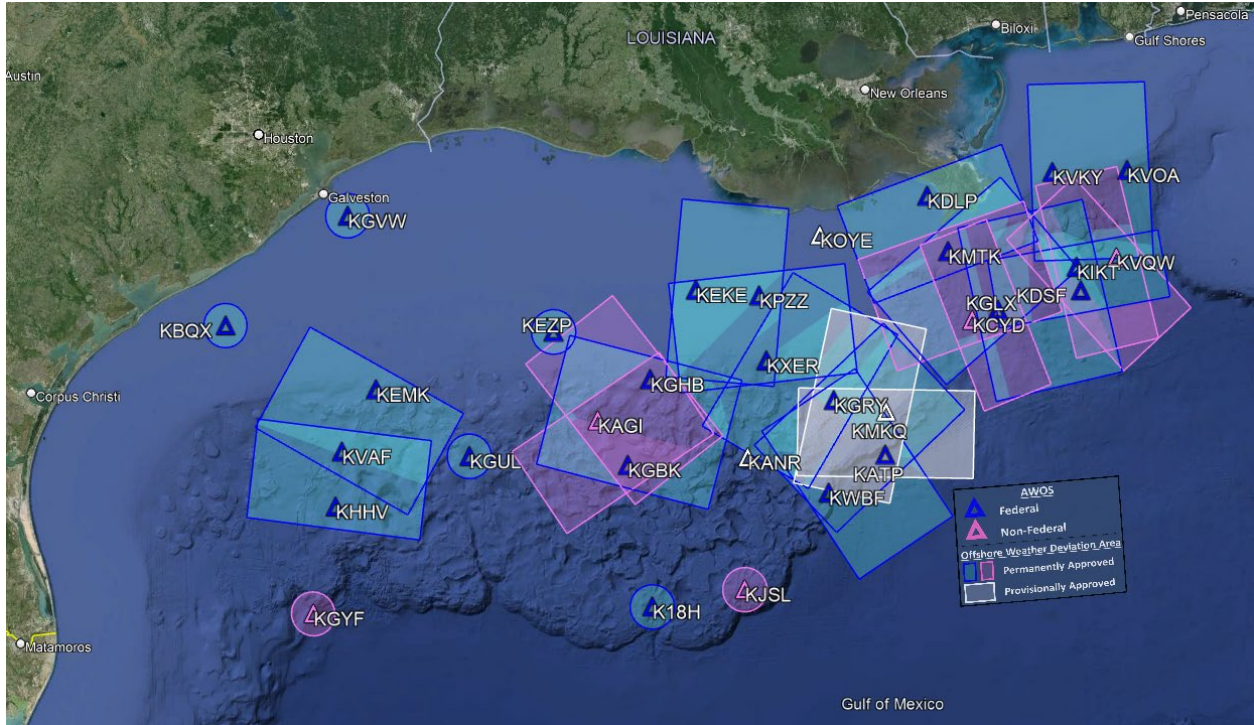


Image 1. Total Gulf of Mexico AWOS Coverage Map

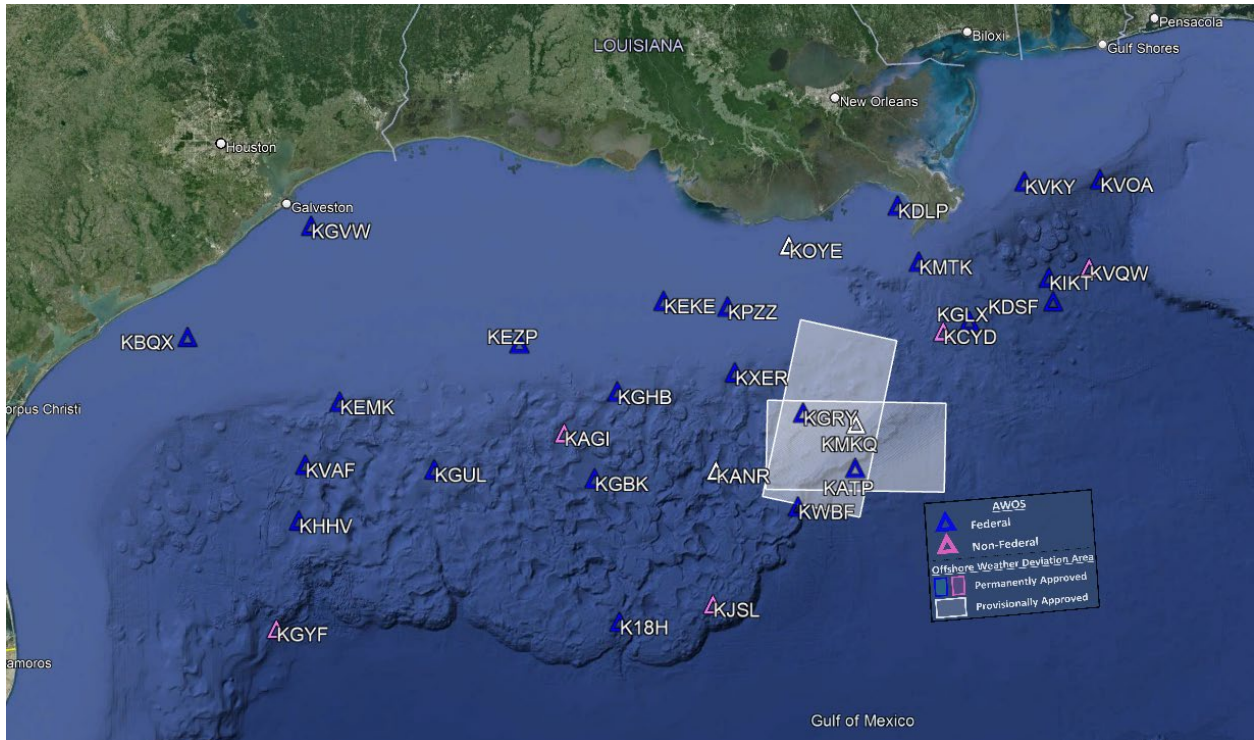


Image 2. Gulf of Mexico AWOS Locations and Provisionally Approved Weather Boxes

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  
Regional Aviation Meteorologist