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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-105  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1130 AM EST Tue Dec 17 2020

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners and Employees

From:       Michelle Hawkins  
Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Public and Fire Forecast Zones and Boundary  
Changes for NWS Gray, ME: Effective, March 3, 2020

Effective March 3, 2020, at 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 100 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST), one county public and fire weather forecast zone for NWS Weather Forecast Office Gray, ME, (GYX) will be adjusted into different zones. The Interior Cumberland segment of Cumberland County, ME, will be split along a line at Naples Town Center, southwest to Sebago and northeast to Casco. This change will result in county segments of Interior Cumberland Highlands and Central Interior forecast zones.

If March 3, 2020, is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to March 10, 2020.

These changes are intended to provide increased flexibility and improved accuracy of forecasts in the public and fire weather programs. These changes will result in more geographically precise forecasts as well as watch, and warning products for the public and will enhance web-based graphical product consistency and appearance.

These zone changes require partners and users to take appropriate action to receive the new zone products using the Universal Generic Code (UGC) zone code format (Z) listed in Table 2. Products affected by this change are listed in Table 3.

Table 1: WFO GYX Current Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones

Current Zone Name -----	Current UGC (Z) -----	Zone Type -----
Interior Cumberland	MEZ019	Land

Table 2: New WFO GYX Current Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones

New Zone Name -----	New UGC (Z) -----	Zone Type -----
Central Interior Cumberland	MEZ019	Land
Interior Cumberland Highlands	MEZ033	Land

Table 3: WFO GYX Products Affected by Changes

PRODUCT NAME -----	WMO HEADER -----	AWIPS ID -----
Special Weather Statement	WWUS81 KGYX	SPSGYX
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS81 KGYX	HLSGYX
Local Tropical Watch/Warning	WTUS81 KGYX	TCVGYX
Extreme Wind Warning	WTUS81 KGYX	EWVGYX
Zone Forecast Product	FPUS51 KGYX	ZFPGYX
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS41 KGYX	HWOGYX
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/ Advisory	WWUS71 KGYX	NPWGYX
Winter Weather Watch/Warning/ Advisory	WWUS41 KGYX	WSWGYX
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS51 KGYX	AFMGYX
Fire Weather Message	FNUS51 KGYX	FWFGYX
Flood Watch/Warning/Advisory	WGUS61 KGYX	FFAGYX
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS71 KGYX	ESFGYX
Fire Weather Watch	WWUS81 KGYX	RFWGYX
Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KGYX	RFWGYX
Public Information Statement	NOUS41 KGYX	PNSGYX
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS51 KGYX	PFMGYX
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS61 KGYX	AFDGYX
Precipitation and Temperature Summary	SXUS51 KGYX	HYDGYX
Daily River and Lake Summary	FGUS51 KGYX	RVDGYX
Hydrologic Statement	FGUS81 KGYX	RVSGYX
Air Quality Alert	AEUS71 KGYX	AQAGYX
Air Quality Forecast	AEUS71 KGYX	AQIGYX

If you are affected by these changes, take the appropriate action so your systems recognize the new zone (Z) Universal Geographic Codes (UGC) and the new zone alignments.

Updated public and fire zone map shapefiles are available for download at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/PublicZones>  
<https://www.weather.gov/gis/FireZones>

A graphic depicting these changes is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gyx/CumberlandCountyZoneChange>

The proposed changes to the GYX zone boundaries have been closely coordinated with local partners and users to be ready for implementation on March 3, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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