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

Subject: Changes to Public Forecast Zones for WFO Honolulu, Hawaii: Effective March 3, 2020

Effective March 3, 2020, at 800 AM Hawaii Standard Time (HST), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Honolulu, Hawaii, (HFO) will change Public Forecast Zones and Fire Weather Zones on the Big Island and Maui. The zones will be redefined to properly account for elevation break points.

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

One interior zone on Maui and two on the Big Island are defined by elevation but were not properly represented in the associated Geographic Information System (GIS) files. These zone changes will correct the inconsistencies in those GIS files. The zones to be changed are as follows:

HIZ022: Haleakala Summit (above 6,000 feet)
HIZ020: Windward Haleakala*
HIZ021: Leeward Haleakala*
HIZ027: Big Island Interior (5,000 to 8,000 feet)
HIZ028: Big Island Summit (above 8,000 feet)
HIZ023: Kona*
HIZ024: South Big Island*
HIZ025: Big Island North and East*
HIZ026: Kohala*

*Zones adjacent to HIZ022, HIZ027, and HIZ028 will have their boundaries adjusted based on the changes made to the three elevation-defined zones.
The zone changes described above will affect the following text products:

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</table>

The overall zone definitions are the same; the graphical depiction of the zones have been updated. NWS partners and users who utilize zone-based maps will need to update their files.

Updated shapefiles are online at:

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

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

https://www.weather.gov/hfo/state_zones

For more information, please contact:

John Bravender
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
Honolulu, HI
john.bravender@noaa.gov
808-973-5275

or

Bill Ward
ESSD Chief
NWS Pacific Region Headquarters
Honolulu, HI
bill.ward@noaa.gov
808-725-6010

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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