Subject: Changes in Public Forecast Zones for Southeast Montana and Northeast Wyoming: Effective October 10, 2019

Updated to correct public zone number for Southern Wheatland and Southwestern Yellowstone zones; to correct implementation date to on or about October 10, 2019 and to change Critical Weather Day implementation date to October 15, 2019.

On or about Thursday, October 10, 2019, at 1200 PM Mountain Daylight Time (MDT), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Billings, MT (BYZ) will reconfigure, rename and add public forecast zones in southeast Montana and northeast Wyoming. After this change, all public forecasts and related products will use the zone numbers and names shown below.

If Thursday, October 10, 2019 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

WFO BYZ is making these changes to more accurately depict climatologically defined hazard areas for use in the Watch, Warning and Advisory program.

The new zone numbers, names, and descriptions are as follows:

Table 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Universal Geographic Code (UGC)</th>
<th>Reconfigured Public Zone Forecast Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTZ128</td>
<td>Southern Wheatland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTZ135</td>
<td>Southwestern Yellowstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTZ138</td>
<td>Southern Big Horn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTZ139</td>
<td>Southeastern Carbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTZ141</td>
<td>Northern Sweet Grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYZ198</td>
<td>Northeast Bighorn Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYZ199</td>
<td>Sheridan Foothills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2:
Universal Geographic Code (UGC)   New Public Zone Forecast Name
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MTZ169                            Bighorn Canyon
MTZ170                            Northern Carbon
MTZ171                            Pryor/Northern Bighorn Mountains
MTZ172                            Melville Foothills
MTZ173                            Northeastern Yellowstone

Table 3:
Universal Geographic Code (UGC)   Unchanged Public Zone Forecast Name
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MTZ029                            Musselshell
MTZ030                            Treasure
MTZ031                            Northern Rosebud
MTZ032                            Custer
MTZ033                            Fallon
MTZ034                            Northern Stillwater
MTZ036                            Powder River
MTZ037                            Carter
MTZ040                            Northern Park
MTZ042                            Golden Valley
MTZ056                            Red Lodge Foothills
MTZ057                            Northern Big Horn
MTZ058                            Southern Rosebud
MTZ063                            Judith Gap
MTZ064                            Paradise Valley
MTZ065                            Livingston Area
MTZ066                            Beartooth Foothills
MTZ067                            Absaroka/Beartooth Mountains
MTZ068                            Crazy Mountains

Table 4: NWS Products Affected by the WFO Billings, MT Public Zone Changes are Listed Below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
<th>WMO Heading</th>
<th>Product Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZFPBYZ</td>
<td>FPUS52 KBYZ</td>
<td>Zone Forecast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFMBYZ</td>
<td>FOUS52 KBYZ</td>
<td>Point Forecast Matrices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFTBYZ</td>
<td>FPUS62 KBYZ</td>
<td>Tabular State Forecast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNSBYZ</td>
<td>NOUS42 KBYZ</td>
<td>Public Information Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPWBYZ</td>
<td>WWUS72 KBYZ</td>
<td>Non-Precipitation Warnings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFABYZ</td>
<td>WGUS62 KBYZ</td>
<td>Flood Watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPSBYZ</td>
<td>WWUS82 KBYZ</td>
<td>Special Weather Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSBYBZ</td>
<td>WWUS42 KBYZ</td>
<td>Winter Weather Message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFDBYZ</td>
<td>FXUS62 KBYZ</td>
<td>Area Forecast Discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NWS partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems recognize the new UGC (Z) and new zone alignments and names.

Updated public zone shapefiles are online at: [https://www.weather.gov/gis/PublicZones](https://www.weather.gov/gis/PublicZones)
A graphical depiction of this change is online at: https://www.weather.gov/byz/NewPublicZones2019

For more information, please contact:

Tom Frieders
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
NWS Billings, MT
406-652-0851
tom.frieders@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at: https://www.weather.gov/notification/

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