

NOUS41 KWBC 131830  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-03  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
230 AM EST Wed Jan 13 2021

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

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

Subject:      Changes to Public Forecast Zones for Weather Forecast  
              Office Honolulu effective March 30, 2021

On or about Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 800 AM Hawaii Standard Time (HST), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Honolulu, HI, (HFO) will change Public Forecast Zones on Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, Maui and the Big Island in the state of Hawaii. Zones will be updated to better align with high impact coastal events.

If March 30, 2021, is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to April 1, 2021.

Beginning with the 2022 hurricane season, HFO is planning to issue storm surge watches and warnings for the state of Hawaii. These products are zone based and use breakpoints along the coast to help communicate the hazard extent. This change will align the public forecast zones to the storm surge communication points to ensure consistent information during these high impact events. In addition, this realignment will also reduce confusion and improve messaging during high surf warnings and advisories.

NWS will split 11 current zones into 26 new zones and adjust boundaries of five additional zones, noted in Table 2 below. These zone changes will optimize the issuance of hazard coastal products while also capturing weather conditions that vary significantly across the terrain of the islands.

Table 1: Current Universal Geographic Codes (UGC): Current Public Forecast Zone Name

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HIZ001: Niihau  
HIZ002: Kauai Windward  
HIZ003: Kauai Leeward  
HIZ005: Oahu South Shore  
HIZ006: Waianae Coast  
HIZ007: Oahu North Shore  
HIZ008: Oahu Koolau  
HIZ009: Olomana  
HIZ010: Central Oahu  
HIZ011: Waianae Mountains  
HIZ012: Molokai Windward  
HIZ013: Molokai Leeward  
HIZ014: Lanai Makai  
HIZ015: Lanai Mauka  
HIZ016: Kahoolawe  
HIZ017: Maui Windward West  
HIZ018: Maui Leeward West  
HIZ019: Maui Central Valley  
HIZ020: Windward Haleakala  
HIZ021: Leeward Haleakala  
HIZ022: Haleakala Summit  
HIZ023: Kona  
HIZ024: South Big Island  
HIZ025: Big Island North and East  
HIZ026: Kohala  
HIZ027: Big Island Interior  
HIZ028: Big Island Summit

Table 2: New UGC: New Public Zone Forecast Name

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HIZ001: Niihau  
HIZ029: Kauai North  
HIZ030: Kauai East  
HIZ031: Kauai South  
HIZ003: Kauai Southwest  
HIZ004: Kauai Mountains  
HIZ032: East Honolulu  
HIZ033: Honolulu Metro  
HIZ034: Ewa Plain  
HIZ006: Waianae Coast  
HIZ007: Oahu North Shore  
HIZ035: Koolau Windward  
HIZ036: Koolau Leeward  
HIZ009: Olomana  
HIZ010: Central Oahu

HIZ011: Waianae Mountains  
 HIZ035: Molokai Windward  
 HIZ036: Molokai Southeast  
 HIZ037: Molokai North  
 HIZ038: Molokai West  
 HIZ039: Molokai Leeward South  
 HIZ040: Lanai Windward  
 HIZ041: Lanai Leeward  
 HIZ042: Lanai South  
 HIZ015: Lanai Mauka  
 HIZ016: Kahoolawe  
 HIZ017: Maui Windward West  
 HIZ018: Maui Leeward West  
 HIZ043: Maui Central Valley North  
 HIZ044: Maui Central Valley South  
 HIZ045: Windward Haleakala  
 HIZ046: Kipahulu  
 HIZ047: South Maui/Upcountry  
 HIZ048: South Haleakala  
 HIZ022: Haleakala Summit  
 HIZ023: Kona  
 HIZ051: Big Island South  
 HIZ052: Big Island Southeast  
 HIZ053: Big Island East  
 HIZ054: Big Island North  
 HIZ026: Kohala  
 HIZ027: Big Island Interior  
 HIZ028: Big Island Summit

Table 3: NWS products affected by this public forecast zone change.

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Area Forecast Discussion	FXHW60 PHFO	AFDHFO
Coastal Hazard Message	WHHW40 PHFO	CFWHFO
Fire Weather Forecast	FNHW50 PHFO	FWFHFO
Fire Weather Message	WHHW80 PHFO	RFWHFO
Flood Watch	WGHW60 PHFO	FFAHFO
Hurricane Local Statements	WTHW80 PHFO	HLSHFO
Hydrologic Outlook	FGHW70 PHFO	ESFHFO
Non-Precipitation Warnings	WHHW70 PHFO	NPWHFO
Point Forecast Matrices	FOHW50 PHFO	PFMHFO
Public Information Statement	NOHW40 PHFO	PNSHFO
Special Weather Statement	WHHW80 PHFO	SPSHFO
State Forecast	FPHW60 PHFO	SFPHFO

Surf Zone Forecast	FZHW52	PHFO	SRFHFO
Tabular State Forecast	FPHW60	PHFO	SFTHFO
Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning	WTHW80	PHFO	TCVHFO
Tsunami Information Statement	WEHW42	PHEB	TIBHWX
Tsunami Message	WEHW40	PHEB	TSUHWX
Winter Weather Message	WVHW40	PHFO	WSWHFO
Zone Forecast Product	FPHW50	PHFO	ZFPHFO

NWS partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems recognize the new UGCs and new zone names.

Updated public zone 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](https://www.weather.gov/hfo/state_zones)

and

<https://arcg.is/1PCPGP>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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