

NOUS41 KWBC 131855
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-06
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
255 PM EST Wed Jan 13 2021

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

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

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Weather Zones for NWS
 Weather Forecast Office New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA,
 effective March 30, 2021

On or about Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 100 PM Central Daylight Time (CDT), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Slidell, LA, (LIX) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones encompassing St. Tammany and Orleans Parishes in southeast Louisiana. After this change, all public and fire forecasts and related products will use the new zone numbers and names shown below.

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

These changes are intended to provide increased flexibility and improved accuracy of forecast, watch, warning, and advisory products in the public and fire weather programs.

Two current zones will be split into four zones. These new zones are being divided primarily to optimize issuance of coastal flood and storm surge hazard products for conditions that vary significantly from Lake Borgne into Lake Pontchartrain.

LAZ040 (St. Tammany Parish) will be split into two zones: Areas generally east of Bayou Liberty and south of the I-10 and I-12 corridors will be called southeast St. Tammany Parish (LAZ076); The remainder of St. Tammany Parish will be renamed Northwest St. Tammany Parish (LAZ075).

LAZ062 (Orleans Parish) will be split into two zones: Areas outside of both the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System and the New Orleans East Maxent levee will be named Eastern Orleans Parish (LAZ078). The remainder of Orleans Parish will be renamed western Orleans Parish (LAZ077).

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

 LAZ040: St. Tammany Parish
 LAZ062: Orleans Parish

Table 2: New UGC: New Public Forecast Zone Name

 LAZ075: Northwest St. Tammany Parish
 LAZ076: Southeast St. Tammany Parish
 LAZ077: Western Orleans Parish
 LAZ078: Eastern Orleans Parish

Table 3: Primary cities included in the new public zones effective March 2, 2021

UGC: Primary cities within New Zones

 LAZ075: Covington, Mandeville, Pearl River, Folsom
 LAZ076: Slidell
 LAZ077: New Orleans
 LAZ078:

Table 4: NWS products affected by the WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA, public zone changes.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/ Advisory	WWUS74 KLIX	NPWLIX
Winter Weather Watch/Warning/ Advisory	WWUS44 KLIX	WSWLIX
Flood Watch	WGUS64 KLIX	FFALIX
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS54 KLIX	AFMLIX
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS64 KLIX	SFTLIX
Short Term Forecast	FPUS74 KLIX	NOWLIX
Special Weather Statement	WWUS84 KLIX	SPSLIX
Zone Forecast Product	FPUS54 KLIX	ZFPLIX
Public Information Statement	NOUS44 KLIX	PNSLIX

Local Tropical Watch/Warning	WTUS84	KLIX	TCVLIX
Extreme Wind Warning	WTUS82	KLIX	EWFLIX
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS84	KLIX	HLSLIX
Coastal Hazard Message	WHUS44	KLIX	CFWLIX
Air Quality Alert	AEUS74	KLIX	AQALIX
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS54	KLIX	FWFLIX
Fire Weather Message	WWUS84	KLIX	RFWLIX
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS72	KLIX	ESFLIX

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 and Fire Weather 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:
www.weather.gov/lix/forecastzonechanges

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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