

NOUS41 KWBC 241330  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-62  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
930 AM EDT Thu Jun 24 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 Forecast Zones for Central  
              California effective September 8, 2021

On or about Tuesday, September 8, 2021 at 900 AM Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), 1600 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Hanford, CA, (WFO HNX) will reconfigure and rename the public forecast zones in central California. Upon implementing this change, all weather forecasts and related products for central California will use the zone number and names shown in Table 2 below.

If September 8, 2021 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to September 15, 2021.

WFO Hanford, in conjunction with its partnering agencies, has revised the zone boundaries to better reflect the climatology, weather differences, and administrative needs of the area.

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

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CAZ179: West Side Hills  
CAZ180: San Joaquin Confluence  
CAZ181: Merced and Madera  
CAZ182: Western San Joaquin Valley  
CAZ183: Foggy Bottom  
CAZ184: Fresno  
CAZ185: Tulare County  
CAZ186: Southern Kings County  
CAZ187: Western San Joaquin Valley in Kern County  
CAZ188: Eastern San Joaquin Valley in Kern County  
CAZ189: Bakersfield  
CAZ190: Central Sierra Foothills  
CAZ191: Southern Sierra Foothills  
CAZ192: Central Sierra  
CAZ193: North Kings River  
CAZ194: Sequoia Kings  
CAZ195: Lake Isabella

CAZ196: Tehachapi Area  
 CAZ197: Fort Tejon  
 CAZ198: Indian Wells Valley  
 CAZ199: Kern County Desert

Table 2: UGC: New Public Zone Forecast Name

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 CAZ300: West Side Mountains North of Highway 198  
 CAZ301: Los Banos-Dos Palos  
 CAZ302: Merced-Madera-Mendota  
 CAZ303: Planada-LeGrand-Snelling  
 CAZ304: Coalinga - Avenal  
 CAZ305: West Side of Fresno and Kings Counties  
 CAZ306: Caruthers - San Joaquin - Selma  
 CAZ307: Fresno - Clovis  
 CAZ308: West Side Mountains South of Highway 198  
 CAZ309: Buttonwillow- Lost Hills - I5  
 CAZ310: Delano - Wasco - Shafter  
 CAZ311: Hanford - Corcoran - Lemoore  
 CAZ312: Visalia - Porterville - Reedley  
 CAZ313: Buena Vista  
 CAZ314: Bakersfield  
 CAZ315: Southeast San Joaquin Valley  
 CAZ316: South End San Joaquin Valley  
 CAZ317: Mariposa - Madera Foothills  
 CAZ318: Mariposa - Madera Lower Sierra  
 CAZ319: Fresno - Tulare Foothills  
 CAZ320: Fresno - Tulare Lower Sierra  
 CAZ321: South End Sierra Foothills  
 CAZ322: South End of the Lower Sierra  
 CAZ323: Yosemite NP Outside of the Valley  
 CAZ324: Yosemite Valley  
 CAZ325: San Joaquin River Canyon  
 CAZ326: Upper San Joaquin River  
 CAZ327: Kaiser to Rodgers Ridge  
 CAZ328: Kings Canyon NP  
 CAZ329: Grant Grove Area  
 CAZ330: Sequoia NP  
 CAZ331: South End of the Upper Sierra  
 CAZ332: Kern River Valley  
 CAZ333: Piute - Walker Pass (Basin?)  
 CAZ334: Tehachapi  
 CAZ335: Grapevine  
 CAZ336: Frazier Mountain Communities  
 CAZ338: Mojave Desert Slope(s)  
 CAZ337: Indian Wells Valley  
 CAZ339: Mojave Desert

Table 3: NWS products affected by the WFO Hanford, CA, public zone changes are listed below.

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Zone Forecast Product	FPUS56 KHNX	ZFPHNX

Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS56 KHNX	PFMHNX
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS66 KHNX	SFTHNX
Public Information Statement	NOUS46 KHNX	PNSHNX
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/ Advisory	WWUS76 KHNX	NPWHNX
Flood Watch/Warning/Advisory	WGUS66 KHNX	FFAHNX
Special Weather Statement	WWUS86 KHNX	SPSHNX
Winter Weather Message	WWUS46 KHNX	WSWHNX
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS66 KHNX	AFDHNX
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS56 KHNX	AFMHNX

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>

A graphical depiction of this change along with geographic descriptions of each new zone are online at:  
<https://www.weather.gov/hnx/ZoneChange>

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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