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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-09
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
300 PM EST Thu Jan 6 2022

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

From: Kimberly McMahon, Acting Branch Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Weather Zones for NWS
 Weather Forecast Office New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA,
 Effective March 22, 2022

Effective on or about Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 3:00 PM Central Daylight Time (CDT), 2000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Slidell, Louisiana (LIX) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones encompassing St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Livingston, Ascension, Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Bernard 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 22, 2022 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to Tuesday, March 29, 2022.

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.

The existing zones are being reconfigured to optimize issuance of coastal flood and storm surge hazard products for conditions that vary significantly from the immediate coast to areas farther inland, and to better differentiate between areas inside and outside of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System levees.

Table 1: Current public zones and corresponding Universal Geographic Codes (UGC) for WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge

UGC: Current Public Zone Name

LAZ075: Northwestern St. Tammany Parish
LAZ072: Lower Tangipahoa Parish
LAZ050: Livingston Parish
LAZ049: Ascension Parish
LAZ061: Upper Jefferson Parish
LAZ068: Lower Jefferson Parish
LAZ063: Upper Plaquemines Parish
LAZ064: Upper St. Bernard Parish

LAZ070: Lower St. Bernard Parish

Table 2: Public zones and corresponding UGC for which WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge will issue forecasts and warnings effective March 22, 2022

UGC: New Public Zone Name

LAZ079: Northern St. Tammany Parish
LAZ080: Southwestern St. Tammany Parish
LAZ081: Central Tangipahoa Parish
LAZ082: Lower Tangipahoa Parish
LAZ083: Northern Livingston Parish
LAZ084: Southern Livingston Parish
LAZ085: Western Ascension Parish
LAZ086: Eastern Ascension Parish
LAZ087: Upper Jefferson Parish
LAZ088: Lower Jefferson Parish
LAZ068: Coastal Jefferson Parish (name change only)
LAZ089: Upper Plaquemines Parish
LAZ090: Central Plaquemines Parish
LAZ064: Upper St. Bernard Parish (name and zone number unchanged)
LAZ070: Lower St. Bernard Parish (name and zone number unchanged)

Table 3: Primary cities included in the new public zones effective March 22, 2022

UGC: Primary cities within New Zones

LAZ079: Covington, Folsom, Bush
LAZ080: Mandeville, Madisonville
LAZ081: Hammond, Tickfaw, Independence, Robert
LAZ082: Ponchatoula, Akers
LAZ083: Denham Springs, Walker, Livingston
LAZ084: Springfield, Killian, Whitehall, French Settlement
LAZ085: Sorrento, Acy
LAZ086: Gonzales, Prairieville, Geismar, Donaldsonville
LAZ087: Metairie, Kenner, Harahan, Westwego, Marrero, Gretna
LAZ088: Lafitte, Barataria, Jean Lafitte
LAZ068: Grand Isle
LAZ089: Belle Chasse
LAZ090: Braithwaite, Alliance
LAZ064: Chalmette, Meraux, Violet
LAZ070: Yscloskey, Delacroix, Shell Beach

Table 4: NWS products affected by the WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA, zone changes effective March 22, 2022

PRODUCT NAME	AWIPS ID	WMO HEADING
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NON PRECIPITATION WARNING/ WATCH/ADVISORY	NPWLIX	WWUS74 KLIX
WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE	WSWLIX	WWUS44 KLIX
FLOOD WATCH	FFALIX	WGUS64 KLIX

TABULAR STATE FORECAST	SFTLIX	FPUS64	KLIX
POINT FORECAST MATRICES	PFMLIX	FOUS54	KLIX
SHORT TERM FORECAST	NOWLIX	FPUS74	KLIX
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT	SPSLIX	WWUS84	KLIX
ZONE FORECAST	ZFPLIX	FPUS54	KLIX
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT	PNSLIX	NOUS44	KLIX
LOCAL TROPICAL WATCH/WARNING	TCVLIX	WTUS84	KLIX
EXTREME WIND WARNING	EWLIX	WTUS82	KLIX
HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT	HLSLIX	WTUS84	KLIX
COASTAL HAZARD MESSAGE	CFWLIX	WHUS44	KLIX
AIR QUALITY ALERT	AQALIX	AEUS74	KLIX
FIRE WEATHER FORECAST	FWFLIX	FNUS54	KLIX
FIRE WEATHER MESSAGE	RFWLIX	WWUS84	KLIX
HYDROLOGIC OUTLOOK	ESFLIX	FGUS72	KLIX
AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION	AFDLIX	FXUS64	KLIX
WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION	WCNLIX	WWUS64	KLIX

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 zone shapefiles are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/PublicZones>

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/FireZones>

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/Counties>

Verbal and graphical descriptions of the changes are online at:

www.weather.gov/lix/forecastzonechanges

If you have any questions, please contact:

Benjamin Schott
 Meteorologist-in-Charge
 Slidell, LA
 985-649-0429 x 222

or

Melinda Bailey
 NWS Southern Region Headquarters
 Fort Worth, TX
 817-978-1109 x 107

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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