

NOUS41 KWBC 142200  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-118  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
500 PM EST Wed Dec 14 2022

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

From:         Mary Mullusky, Chief  
              Forecast Services Division

Subject:      Changes to Fire Forecast Zones for WFOs Buffalo, NY,  
              Binghamton, NY, Albany, NY, New York/Upton, NY, and  
              Burlington, VT: Effective March 8, 2023

On or about Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 04:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Offices in Buffalo, NY (BUF), Binghamton, NY (BGM), Albany, NY (ALY), New York/Upton, NY (OKX), and Burlington, VT (BTV) will change Fire Weather Forecast Zones encompassing the entire state of New York. After this change, all fire forecasts and related products will use the new zone numbers and names shown below.

If March 8, 2023 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to March 9, 2023 at 2100 UTC.

The current zones which mirror the public zones will be converted into 14 zones to better reflect areas of similar topography, fuels, and weather. These changes are intended to more closely align the NWS fire weather zones to recently revised Fire Danger Rating Areas (FDRA), and to allow fire partners to better plan for and respond to fire concerns.

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

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NYZ001: Niagara  
NYZ002: Orleans  
NYZ003: Monroe  
NYZ004: Wayne  
NYZ005: Northern Cayuga  
NYZ006: Oswego  
NYZ007: Jefferson  
NYZ008: Lewis  
NYZ009: Northern Oneida  
NYZ011: Genesee  
NYZ012: Wyoming  
NYZ013: Livingston  
NYZ014: Ontario  
NYZ015: Yates  
NYZ016: Seneca

NYZ017: Southern Cayuga  
NYZ018: Onondaga  
NYZ019: Chautauqua  
NYZ020: Cattaraugus  
NYZ021: Allegany  
NYZ022: Steuben  
NYZ023: Schuyler  
NYZ024: Chemung  
NYZ025: Tompkins  
NYZ026: Northern St. Lawrence  
NYZ027: Northern Franklin  
NYZ028: Eastern Clinton  
NYZ029: Southeastern St. Lawrence  
NYZ030: Southern Franklin  
NYZ031: Western Clinton  
NYZ032: Northern Herkimer  
NYZ033: Hamilton  
NYZ034: Western Essex  
NYZ035: Eastern Essex  
NYZ036: Madison  
NYZ037: Southern Oneida  
NYZ038: Southern Herkimer  
NYZ039: Southern Fulton  
NYZ040: Montgomery  
NYZ041: Northern Saratoga  
NYZ042: Northern Warren  
NYZ043: Northern Washington  
NYZ044: Cortland  
NYZ045: Chenango  
NYZ046: Otsego  
NYZ047: Schoharie  
NYZ048: Western Schenectady  
NYZ049: Eastern Schenectady  
NYZ050: Southern Saratoga  
NYZ051: Western Albany  
NYZ052: Eastern Albany  
NYZ053: Western Rensselaer  
NYZ054: Eastern Rensselaer  
NYZ055: Tioga  
NYZ056: Broome  
NYZ057: Delaware  
NYZ058: Western Greene  
NYZ059: Eastern Greene  
NYZ060: Western Columbia  
NYZ061: Eastern Columbia  
NYZ062: Sullivan  
NYZ063: Western Ulster  
NYZ064: Eastern Ulster  
NYZ065: Western Dutchess  
NYZ066: Eastern Dutchess  
NYZ067: Orange  
NYZ068: Putnam  
NYZ069: Rockland  
NYZ070: Northern Westchester

NYZ071: Southern Westchester  
 NYZ072: New York (Manhattan)  
 NYZ073: Bronx  
 NYZ074: Richmond (Staten Is.)  
 NYZ075: Kings (Brooklyn)  
 NYZ078: Northwest Suffolk  
 NYZ079: Northeast Suffolk  
 NYZ080: Southwest Suffolk  
 NYZ081: Southeast Suffolk  
 NYZ082: Northern Fulton  
 NYZ083: Southeast Warren  
 NYZ084: Southern Washington  
 NYZ085: Southern Erie  
 NYZ087: Southwestern St. Lawrence  
 NYZ176: Northern Queens  
 NYZ177: Northern Nassau  
 NYZ178: Southern Queens  
 NYZ179: Southern Nassau

Table 2: UGC: New Fire Zone Forecast Name

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 NYZ200: Southern Tier  
 NYZ201: Lake Ontario Plains  
 NYZ202: St. Lawrence  
 NYZ203: Northern Adirondacks  
 NYZ204: Adirondack High Peaks  
 NYZ205: Champlain Valley (NY)  
 NYZ206: Southern Adirondacks  
 NYZ207: Upper Hudson Valley  
 NYZ208: Middle Hudson Valley  
 NYZ209: Catskills  
 NYZ210: Leatherstocking  
 NYZ211: Lower Hudson Valley  
 NYZ212: New York City  
 NYZ213: Long Island

Table 3: NWS products affected by these fire zone changes are listed below.

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS51 KALY	FWFALY
Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KALY	RFWALY
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS51 KBGM	FWFBGM
Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KBGM	RFWBGM
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS51 KBTV	FWFBTV
Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KBTV	RFWBTV
Fire Weather Planning	FNUS51 KBUF	FWFBUF

Forecast		
Fire Weather Watch/ Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KBUF	RFWBUF
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS51 KOKX	FWFOKX
Fire Weather Watch/ Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KOKX	RFWOKX

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

Preliminary shapefiles for public and fire weather forecast zones are available online at:

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

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

Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on January 17, 2023.

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/okx/FireWeatherZoneChanges>

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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