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Service Change Notice 22-126
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
500 PM EST Wed Dec 14 2022

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

From: Mary Mullusky, Chief
 Forecast Services Division

Subject: Changes to Public Forecast Zones for WFO New York, NY (OKX):
 Effective March 8, 2023

Reference: Service Change Notice 22-118: Changes to Fire Forecast Zones
for WFOs Buffalo, NY, Binghamton, NY, Albany, NY, New York/Upton, NY,
and Burlington, VT: Effective March 8, 2023:
https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/scn22-118_fire_forecast_zones_ny.pdf

Effective Wednesday, March 8, 2023, by 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in New York, NY (OKX) will complete minor changes to Public Forecast Zones in and around New York City including New York, Bronx, Richmond, Queens, and Westchester counties in southeastern New York and Bergen, Hudson, Essex, and Union counties in northeastern New Jersey. These changes will result in slight expansions of each zone to fully incorporate the adjacent waterways of the Hudson River, East River, and Newark Bay. There will be no change to zone names or numbers, and the affected zones will continue to use the zone names and numbers shown in the table below.

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

These changes will result in more streamlined operations at WFO New York, NY with no noticeable impact to WFO forecast and warning operations, although users of NWS shapefiles will notice minor modifications.

In addition to these public weather forecast zones changes, there will also be changes to the fire weather forecast zones noted in SCN 22-118 reference above.

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

NYZ071: Southern Westchester
NYZ072: New York (Manhattan)
NYZ073: Bronx

NYZ074: Richmond (Staten Is.)
NYZ176: Northern Queens
NJZ006: Hudson
NJZ104: Eastern Bergen
NJZ106: Eastern Essex
NJZ108: Eastern Union

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

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

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

For a graphical depictions of these changes please refer to the link below:

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

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices can be found online at:

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

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