Service Change Notice 22-13
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, Users and Employees

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

Subject: Reconfiguration of Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones by WFO San Francisco Bay Area, CA, Effective March 22, 2022

On or about Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 1:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time, 2000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office San Francisco Bay Area, CA (WFO MTR) will divide the North Bay Mountains and the East Bay Hills public and fire weather forecast zones into five new zones.

If March 22, 2022 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to March 29, 2022.

The North Bay Mountains and the East Bay Hills forecast zones will be divided to more accurately represent meteorological and climatological conditions. This change will allow for more refined watches and warnings in these zones and are expected to reduce overwarning in areas that otherwise would not need to be under a watch or warning.

The North Bay Mountains currently include the Marin and Sonoma County coastal ranges, the Mayacamas of Sonoma and Napa Counties, and the Napa county side of the Vaca Range, 1000 foot elevation and above. The new zones will subdivide this large geographical zone into three distinct climate zones. These will be the interior mountains, comprising the Napa County side of the Vaca Range and the Mayacamas of Sonoma and Napa Counties, the Sonoma County Coastal Range, and the Marin County Coastal Range, all 1000 foot elevation and above.

The East Bay Hills currently include areas in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties and Eastern Santa Clara County that have elevations of 1000 feet and above. The new zones will bifurcate this latitudinally large zone. The new northern zone, East Bay Hills, will consist of areas in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties that are 1000 foot elevation and above. The new southern zone, Eastern Santa Clara Hills, will consist of areas East of highway 101 in Santa Clara County that are 1000 foot elevation and above. The tables below detail the zone changes.

Table 1: Current Universal Geographic Codes (UGC): Current Public and Fire Weather Zone Forecast Name
CAZ507: North Bay Mountains
CAZ511: East Bay Hills and Diablo Range

Table 2: New UGC: New Public and Fire Weather Zone Forecast Name

CAZ502: Marin Coastal Range
CAZ503: Sonoma Coastal Range
CAZ504: North Bay Interior Mountains
CAZ514: Eastern Santa Clara Hills
CAZ515: East Bay Hills

Table 3: NWS products affected by the WFO San Francisco Bay Area, CA public and fire weather zone changes are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Name</th>
<th>WMO Heading</th>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone Forecast Product</td>
<td>FPUS56 KMTR</td>
<td>ZFPMTR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Forecast Matrices</td>
<td>FOUS56 KMTR</td>
<td>PFMMTR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabular State Forecast</td>
<td>FPUS66 KMTR</td>
<td>SFTMTR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Information Statement</td>
<td>NOUS46 KMTR</td>
<td>PNSMTR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/Advisory</td>
<td>WWUS76 KMTR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flood Watch</td>
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<td>FFAMTR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Weather Statement</td>
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<td>Winter Weather Message</td>
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<td>Area Forecast Discussion</td>
<td>FXUS66 KMTR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Weather Forecast</td>
<td>FNUS56 KMTR</td>
<td>FWFMTR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Weather Message</td>
<td>WWUS86 KMTR</td>
<td>RFWMTR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:
https://www.weather.gov/mtr/2022BayAreaZoneChanges

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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