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

From:    Gregory Schoor, Acting Chief
         Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones for WFO Juneau,
         AK: Effective September 7, 2022

Reference: Service Change Notice (SCN) 22-59: NWS is Creating a New
           Petersburg Borough and Changing the Hoonah-Angoon and Prince of Wales-
           Hyder Census Areas: Effective September 7, 2022

Effective Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 12:00 PM Alaska Daylight Time
(AKDT), 2000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast
Office in Juneau, Alaska (AJK) will complete changes to Public and Fire
Weather Forecast Zones throughout the County Warning Area (CWA). All
public and fire forecasts and related products will use the new zone
numbers and names shown below. Public and Fire zone boundaries will be
the same.

If September 7, 2022 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this
implementation will be postponed to September 8, 2022 at 2000 UTC.

These changes will result in more geographically-representative forecasts,
advisory, watch, and warning products and will enable more consistency in
web-based graphical forecast products. These changes are also intended to
help reduce the overalerting effects from the current zones in warnings
via NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) and the Emergency Alert System
(EAS) dissemination modalities.

WFO Juneau’s entire CWA is undergoing boundary realignment. Note that the
boundaries for all Public and Fire Weather zones are currently coincident.
The Public and Fire Weather zone names are the same and this practice will
continue. However, there are currently 13 existing zones and three new
zones will be added with this change, bringing the total number of Public
and Fire Weather zones to 16. All 13 existing Universal Geographic Codes
(UGCs) will be retired and 16 new UGCs will be introduced. In Alaska, all
UGCs use the UGC-Zone (UGC-Z) format. The Glacier Bay and Eastern
Chichagof Island zone names will be retained, though the boundaries for
both zones will change. Fourteen new zone names will be introduced to
enhance public communications by linking these areas with locally-known
and understood geographical names.
Current UGCs: Current Public and Fire Weather Zone Names
--------------------------------------------------------
AKZ017: Cape Fairweather to Cape Suckling Coastal Area
AKZ018: Taiya Inlet and Klondike Highway
AKZ019: Haines Borough and Lynn Canal
AKZ020: Glacier Bay
AKZ021: Eastern Chichagof Island
AKZ022: Salisbury Sound to Cape Fairweather Coastal Area
AKZ023: Cape Decision to Salisbury Sound Coastal Area
AKZ024: Eastern Baranof Island and Southern Admiralty Island
AKZ025: Juneau Borough and Northern Admiralty Island
AKZ026: Inner Channels from Kupreanof Island to Etolin Island
AKZ027: Dixon Entrance to Cape Decision Coastal Area
AKZ028: Southern Inner Channels
AKZ029: Misty Fjords

New UGCs: New Public and Fire Weather Zone Names
------------------------------------------------
AKZ317: City and Borough of Yakutat
AKZ318: Municipality of Skagway
AKZ319: Haines Borough and Klukwan
AKZ320: Glacier Bay
AKZ321: Eastern Chichagof Island
AKZ322: Cape Fairweather to Lisianski Strait
AKZ323: City and Borough of Sitka
AKZ324: Admiralty Island
AKZ325: City and Borough of Juneau
AKZ326: Petersburg Borough
AKZ327: Western Kupreanof Island and Kuiu Island
AKZ328: Prince of Wales Island
AKZ329: City and Borough of Wrangell
AKZ330: Ketchikan Gateway Borough
AKZ331: City of Hyder
AKZ332: Annette Island

NWS products affected by WFO Juneau, AK, Public and Fire Zone changes are listed below.

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<tr>
<th>Product Name</th>
<th>WMO Heading</th>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
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<td>Area Forecast Discussion</td>
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<td>AFDAJK</td>
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<td>Avalanche Weather Guidance</td>
<td>FWAK47 PAJK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coastal Flood Watch/Warning/Statement</td>
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<td>Fire Weather Message</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flood Warning</td>
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<td>FLWAJK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flash Flood Warning</td>
<td>WGAK57 PAJK</td>
<td>FFWAJK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Point Forecast Matrix                      FOAK57 PAJK   PFMAJK  
Tabular State Forecast                    FPAK67 PAJK   SFTAJK  
Hydrologic Outlook                       FGAK77 PAJK   ESFAJK  
Short Term Forecast                      FPAK77 PAJK   NOWAJK  
Tabular State Forecast                    FPAK67 PAJK   SFTAJK  
Motoring Forecast                        FPAK87 PAJK   TVLAJK  

NWS partners and users will need to make necessary changes to their communications systems to accommodate these weather forecast zone changes.

Updated public zone shapefiles are online at:

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

Since there are NWS partners with systems associating NWS public zones with county equivalent names and/or Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) codes, the updated zone-county correlation file is online at:

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

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/19ee524352484dfb97f1a25824ba97f0

For more information, please contact:
Jonathan Suk
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
NWS Juneau, AK
jonathan.suk@noaa.gov
907-790-6803

or

Jeff Garmon
Meteorologist-in-Charge
NWS Juneau, AK
jeff.garmon@noaa.gov
907-790-6804

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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