

NOUS41 KWBC 191335
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-90
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
835 AM EST Fri Dec 19 2025

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

From: Mary Mullusky, Chief
 Operations Services Division

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Forecast Zones for WFO Sacramento, CA
effective March 3, 2026

Effective Tue, March 3, 2026, at 1:00 PM Pacific Standard Time (PST),
2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in
Sacramento, CA (STO) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones
encompassing all counties in their forecast area of interior Northern
California. After this change, all forecasts and related products will
use the zone numbers and names shown in Table 3 below.

If March 3, 2026 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation
will be postponed to March 4, 2026 at 2100 UTC.

These changes will result in more geographically precise forecast, watch,
warning, and advisory products and will enhance web-based graphical
product consistency and appearance.

Twelve (12) current public zones and 15 current fire zones will be
converted into 44 separate zones. These new zones are being divided to
optimize issuance of hazard products for conditions that vary
significantly due to topography and microclimate zones. The new zones
are listed in Table 3.

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

CAZ013: Shasta Lake Area / Northern Shasta County
CAZ014: Burney Basin / Eastern Shasta County
CAZ015: Northern Sacramento Valley
CAZ016: Central Sacramento Valley
CAZ017: Southern Sacramento Valley
CAZ018: Carquinez Strait and Delta
CAZ019: Northern San Joaquin Valley
CAZ063: Mountains Southwestern Shasta County to Western Colusa
 County
CAZ066: Northeast Foothills/Sacramento Valley
CAZ067: Motherlode
CAZ068: Western Plumas County/Lassen Park

CAZ069: West Slope Northern Sierra Nevada

Table 2. UGC: Current Fire Forecast Zone Name

CAZ213: Eastern Portion of Shasta/Trinity NF
CAZ214: Burney Basin and Northeast Plateau in Shasta County
Including Northwest Lassen NF north of Lassen NP
CAZ215: Northern Sacramento Valley to Southern Tehama County
Line Below 1000 ft
CAZ216: Central Sacramento Valley including Glenn/Colusa/Yuba/
Northern Sutter/Butte County Below 1000 ft
CAZ217: Southern Sacramento Valley In Yolo/Sacramento/Far
Western Placer/Southern Sutter and Solano County Below
1000 ft - Excludes the Delta
CAZ218: Eastern Delta
CAZ219: Northern San Joaquin Valley in San Joaquin and
Stanislaus Counties Below 1000 ft - Excludes the Delta
CAZ220: Southern Motherlode From 1000 to 3000 ft/Calaveras and
Tuolumne Counties
CAZ221: Stanislaus National Forest
CAZ263: Southeast Edge Shasta/Trinity NF and Western Portions of
Tehama/Glenn RU
CAZ266: Northern Sierra Foothills from 1000 to 3000 ft. Includes
Nevada-Yuba-Placer RU and Anador-Eldorado RU
CAZ267: Northern Motherlode From 1000 to 3000 ft. From Yuba To
Amador Counties
CAZ268: Northern Sierra Including Lassen NP and Plumas and
Lassen NF/S West of the Sierra Crest - West of Evans
Peak/Grizzly Peak/Beckworth Peak
CAZ269: Tahoe - Eldorado National Forest
CAZ279: Eastern Mendocino NF

Table 3. New UGC: New Public/Fire Forecast Zone Name

CAZ121: Western Shasta County Mountains Above 3000 ft
CAZ122: Western Shasta County Foothills Between 1000-3000 ft
CAZ123: Shasta Lake Area and Interstate 5 Between 1000-3000 ft
CAZ124: South-Central Shasta County Including Redding Metro
CAZ125: Eastern Shasta County Foothills Between 1000-3000 ft
CAZ126: Eastern Shasta County Mountains and Southern Cascades
Above 3000 ft
CAZ127: Burney Basin
CAZ128: Lassen Volcanic National Park
CAZ129: Sierra Nevada of Tehama-Butte-Plumas Counties Between
1000-3000 ft
CAZ130: Sierra Nevada of Tehama-Butte-Plumas Counties Above 3000
ft
CAZ131: Northern Motherlode Between 1000-3000 ft
CAZ132: Sierra Nevada of Yuba-Sierra-Nevada-Placer Counties
Between 3000-5000 ft Including Interstate 80
CAZ133: Sierra Nevada of Sierra-Nevada-Placer Counties Above
5000 ft Including Interstate 80
CAZ134: Central Motherlode Between 1000-3000 ft
CAZ135: Sierra Nevada of El Dorado and Amador Counties Between

3000-5000 ft Including Highway 50

CAZ136: Sierra Nevada of El Dorado-Amador-Northern Alpine
Counties Above 5000 ft Including Highway 50

CAZ137: Southern Motherlode Between 1000-3000 ft

CAZ138: Sierra Nevada of Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties Between
3000-5000 ft

CAZ139: Sierra Nevada of Calaveras-Tuolumne-Southern Alpine
Counties Above 5000 ft

CAZ140: Tehama County Coast Range Above 3000 ft

CAZ141: Western Tehama County Foothills Between 1000-3000 ft

CAZ142: Northern Sacramento Valley in Tehama County

CAZ143: Glenn and Colusa County Coast Range Above 3000 ft

CAZ144: Central Glenn County Including Interstate 5

CAZ145: Eastern Glenn County

CAZ146: Butte County Below 1000 ft

CAZ147: Western Glenn and Colusa County Foothills Between
1000-3000 ft

CAZ148: Central Colusa County Including Interstate 5

CAZ149: Eastern Colusa County

CAZ150: Sutter and Yuba Counties Below 1000 ft

CAZ151: Capay Hills of Yolo County and Vaca Hills of Solano
County

CAZ152: Western Yolo County Including Capay Valley and
Interstate 505

CAZ153: Central Yolo and Northeast Solano Counties Including
Woodland and Davis

CAZ154: Sacramento Metro and Western El Dorado and Amador
Counties

CAZ155: Central Solano County Including Fairfield and Vacaville

CAZ156: Southwestern Solano County Including Vallejo

CAZ157: Sacramento County Delta

CAZ158: San Joaquin County Delta

CAZ159: Central San Joaquin County Including Stockton Metro

CAZ160: Tracy Triangle Below 1000 ft

CAZ161: Northeastern San Joaquin Valley Below 1000 ft

CAZ162: Eastern Diablo Range Above 1000 ft

CAZ163: Western Stanislaus County Below 1000 ft Including
Interstate 5

CAZ164: Central Stanislaus County Including Modesto Metro

Table 4. NWS products affected by these Public /Fire Weather
forecast zone changes are listed below.

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Zone Forecast	FPUS52 KSTO	ZFPSTO
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS52 KSTO	PFMSTO
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS62 KSTO	SFTSTO
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS62 KSTO	AFDSTO
Public Information Statement	NOUS42 KSTO	PNSSTO
Non-Precipitation Message	WWUS72 KSTO	NPWSTO
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS52 KSTO	FWFSTO
Fire Weather Message	WWUS82 KSTO	RFWSTO
Flood Watch	WGUS62 KSTO	FFASTO

Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS72 KSTO	ESFSTO
Winter Weather Message	WWUS42 KSTO	WSWSTO
Special Weather Statement	WWUS86 KSTO	SPSSTO

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

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

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

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

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

Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on February 13, 2026.

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/sto/ZoneChanges2026>

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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