

NOUS41 KWBC 262030 AAA
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-90 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
330 PM EST Thu Feb 26 2026

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: Updated: Changes to Public and Fire Forecast Zones for WFO
Sacramento, CA effective April 16, 2026

Updated to change the implementation date from March 3, 2026 to April 16, 2026 and final versions of the shapefiles will be available on March 24, 2026.

Effective, Thu, April 16, 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 April 16, 2026 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to April 20, 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 |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 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 |

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|---------------------------|--------|------|--------|
| 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 re 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 March 24, 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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