

NOUS41 KWBC 262110 AAA  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-91 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
410 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 Las Vegas, NV effective April 16, 2026

Updated to correct city name in the Subject. Additionally, 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/2:00 PM Pacific Standard Time/Mountain Standard Time (PST/MST), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Las Vegas, NV (VEF) will change Public Forecast Zones encompassing Clark County in southern Nevada, Inyo County in southeast California, and Mohave County in northwest Arizona. After this change, all forecasts and related products will use the zone numbers and names shown in Table 2 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 and warning products for the general public and will enhance web-based graphical product consistency and appearance.

Four current zones will be converted into eight separate zones. These new zones are being divided to optimize issuance of hazard products for conditions that vary significantly in the Colorado River Valley along the Nevada/Arizona border, Hualapai Mountains in central Mohave County, and the Owens Valley in Inyo County, California. The new zones are listed in Table 2.

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

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AZZ003: Northwest Deserts  
AZZ036: Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
CAZ520: Owens Valley  
NVZ021: Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Table 2. UGC: New Public Forecast Zone Names

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 AZZ570: Lake Mead - AZ Side  
 AZZ571: Lake Mohave - AZ Side  
 AZZ575: Hualapai Mountains  
 AZZ576: Northwest Deserts  
 CAZ582: Owens Valley North  
 CAZ581: Owens Valley South  
 NVZ025: Lake Mead - NV Side  
 NVZ026: Lake Mohave - NV Side

Table 3. NWS products affected by the WFO Las Vegas, NV Public forecast zone changes are listed below.

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Avalanche Watch	WOUS45 KVEF	AVAVEF
Avalanche Warning	WOUS45 KVEF	AVWVEF
Special Avalanche Bulletin	WWUS85 KVEF	SABVEF
Winter Weather Message	WWUS45 KVEF	WSWVEF
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/ Advisory	WWUS75 KVEF	NPWVEF
Flood Watch	WGUS65 KVEF	FFAVEF
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS75 KVEF	ESFVEF
Zone Forecast	FPUS55 KVEF	ZFPVEF
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS55 KVEF	PFMVEF
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS65 KVEF	SFTVEF
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS65 KVEF	AFDVEF
Special Weather Statement	WWUS85 KVEF	SPSVEF
Public Information Statement	NOUS45 KVEF	PNSVEF

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 forecast zones are available online at:

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

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/vef/2026zonechanges>

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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