

NOUS41 KWBC 262210 AAA  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-98 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
510 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, Fire Weather, and Marine Forecast  
Zones for NWS Weather Forecast Office Charleston, SC 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 on Thu, April 16, 2026, at 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (CST),  
2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time  
(UTC), NWS Weather Forecast Office in Charleston, SC (CHS) will complete  
adjustments to the boundaries of existing Public and Fire Weather  
Forecast Zones encompassing Charleston, Berkeley, Colleton, Beaufort, and  
Jasper Counties in coastal South Carolina, and Chatham, Bryan, Liberty,  
and McIntosh Counties in coastal Georgia. Additionally, there will  
be adjustments to the boundaries of the marine zones covering the coastal  
waters out to 20 NM offshore and the Charleston harbor. Public, fire  
weather, and marine zone numbers will also be adjusted.

If April 16, 2026 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation  
will be postponed to April 20, 2026 at 2100 UTC.

These changes are intended to better represent current coastal geography  
and improve the functionality of internal systems.

Table 1: Current Public and Fire Weather Zone UGC Numbers and Names:

Current UGC: Public Zone Name  
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SCZ050: Charleston  
SCZ052: Tidal Berkeley  
SCZ049: Coastal Colleton  
SCZ048: Beaufort  
SCZ047: Inland Jasper  
SCZ051: Coastal Jasper

GAZ118: Inland Chatham  
GAZ119: Coastal Chatham

GAZ116: Inland Bryan  
GAZ117: Coastal Bryan  
GAZ138: Inland Liberty  
GAZ139: Coastal Liberty  
GAZ140: Inland McIntosh  
GAZ141: Coastal McIntosh

Table 2: New Public and Fire Weather Zone UGC Numbers and Names

New UGC: Public Zone Name

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SCZ150: Charleston  
SCZ152: Tidal Berkeley  
SCZ149: Coastal Colleton  
SCZ148: Beaufort  
SCZ147: Inland Jasper  
SCZ151: Coastal Jasper

GAZ218: Inland Chatham  
GAZ219: Coastal Chatham  
GAZ216: Inland Bryan  
GAZ217: Coastal Bryan  
GAZ238: Inland Liberty  
GAZ239: Coastal Liberty  
GAZ240: Inland McIntosh  
GAZ241: Coastal McIntosh

Table 3: Current Marine Zone UGC Numbers and Names:

Current UGC: Marine Zone Name

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AMZ330: Charleston Harbor  
AMZ350: Coastal waters from South Santee River to Edisto Beach  
SC out 20 NM  
AMZ352: Coastal waters from Edisto Beach SC to Savannah GA out  
20 NM  
AMZ354: Coastal waters from Savannah GA to Altamaha Sound GA out  
20 NM, including Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary

Table 4: New Marine Zone UGC Numbers and Names:

New UGC: Marine Zone Name

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AMZ340: Charleston Harbor  
AMZ360: Coastal waters from South Santee River to Edisto Beach  
SC out 20 NM  
AMZ362: Coastal waters from Edisto Beach SC to Savannah GA out  
20 NM  
AMZ364: Coastal waters from Savannah GA to Altamaha Sound GA out  
20 NM, including Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary

Table 5: NWS products affected by the WFO Charleston, SC public, marine, and fire weather zone changes

Product Name -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Air Quality Alert	AEUS72 KCHS	AQACHS
Air Quality Index Forecast	AEUS72 KCHS	AQICHS
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS52 KCHS	AFMCHS
Zone Forecast Product	FPUS52 KCHS	ZFPCHS
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS52 KCHS	PFMCHS
Recreational Forecast	SXUS42 KCHS	RECCHS
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS62 KCHS	SFTCHS
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS62 KCHS	AFDCHS
Special Weather Statement	WWUS82 KCHS	SPSCHS
Public Information Statement	NOUS42 KCHS	PNSCHS
Non-Precipitation Weather Hazards Message	WWUS72 KCHS	NPWCHS
Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning	WTNT81 KNHC	TCVAT1-5
Local Tropical Watch/Warning	WTUS82 KCHS	TCVCHS
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS82 KCHS	HLSCCHS
Coastal Hazard Message	WHUS42 KCHS	CFWCHS
Flood Watch	WGUS62 KCHS	FFACHS
Winter Weather Message	WWUS42 KCHS	WSWCHS
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS52 KCHS	FWFCHS
Fire Weather Message	WWUS82 KCHS	RFWCHS
Coastal Waters Forecast	FZUS52 KCHS	CWFCHS
Surf Zone Forecast	FZUS52 KCHS	SRFCHS
Marine Weather Message	WHUS72 KCHS	MWWCHS
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS72 KCHS	HWOCHS
Special Marine Warning	WHUS52 KCHS	SMWCHS
Marine Weather Statement	FZUS72 KCHS	MWSCHS
Watch County Notification	WWUS62 KCHS	WCNCHS

NWS partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems reflect the new zone alignments and numbers.

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

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

Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on March 24, 2026.

Text and graphical descriptions of the changes are online at:

[www.weather.gov/chs/2026forecastzonechanges](http://www.weather.gov/chs/2026forecastzonechanges)

If you have any questions, please contact:

Carl Barnes  
Science and Operations Officer  
Charleston, SC  
843-744-5860  
[carl.barnes@noaa.gov](mailto:carl.barnes@noaa.gov)

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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