

NOUS41 KWBC 312117  
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-12  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
400 PM EST FRI JAN 31 2003

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER  
WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS  
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
/NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: GLENN AUSTIN  
ACTING CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES  
BRANCH

SUBJECT: FORECAST ZONE CHANGES IN EASTERN NEW YORK AND WESTERN  
NEW ENGLAND...EFFECTIVE MARCH 31 2003

EFFECTIVE MONDAY...MARCH 31 2003 AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL  
TIME /UTC/...100 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME...SIX NEW FORECAST  
ZONES WILL BE CREATED IN EASTERN NEW YORK AND WESTERN NEW  
ENGLAND. THESE CHANGES AFFECT PRODUCTS ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL  
WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN ALBANY NEW YORK /ALY/.  
REFER TO TABLE 1 FOR NEW ZONE NAMES AND CODES. PRODUCTS  
AFFECTED BY THIS CHANGE ARE LISTED IN TABLE 2.

FULTON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL BE SPLIT INTO TWO PORTIONS...  
NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN. THE SOUTHERN PART WILL RETAIN THE ZONE  
NUMBER NYZ039 CURRENTLY USED FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THE  
NORTHERN PORTION WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE DESIGNATION NYZ082.  
THE SPLIT WILL SEPARATE THE MOHAWK VALLEY FROM THE HIGHER  
TERRAIN OF THE SOUTHERN ADIRONDACKS IN THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE  
COUNTY.

THE SOUTHEAST PORTION OF WARREN COUNTY NEW YORK WILL BE SPLIT  
OFF. THE NORTHERN PORTION WILL RETAIN THE ZONE NUMBER NYZ042  
CURRENTLY USED FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THE SOUTHEAST SEGMENT OF  
THE COUNTY WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE DESIGNATION NYZ083. THE  
SPLIT WILL BREAK THE UPPER HUDSON VALLEY PORTION OF THE COUNTY  
OFF FROM THE HIGH PEAKS OF THE EASTERN ADIRONDACKS IN THE  
NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTY.

WASHINGTON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL BE SPLIT INTO TWO  
PORTIONS...NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN. THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE  
COUNTY WILL RETAIN THE ZONE NUMBER NYZ043...CURRENTLY USED FOR  
THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THE SOUTHERN HALF WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE  
DESIGNATION NYZ084. THE SPLIT WILL SEPARATE THE CHAMPLAIN  
VALLEY PORTION OF THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE COUNTY FROM THE  
HIGHER TERRAIN OF THE NORTHERN TACONICS IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF  
THE COUNTY.

WINDHAM COUNTY VERMONT WILL BE SPLIT INTO TWO PORTIONS... EASTERN AND WESTERN. THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTY WILL RETAIN THE ZONE NUMBER VTZ014...CURRENTLY USED FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THE EASTERN PART OF THE COUNTY WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE DESIGNATION VTZ015. THE SPLIT WILL SEPARATE THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE COUNTY FROM THE GREENE MOUNTAINS IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTY.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS WILL BE SPLIT INTO TWO PORTIONS...NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN. THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE COUNTY WILL RETAIN THE ZONE NUMBER MAZ001...CURRENTLY USED FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THE SOUTHERN HALF WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE DESIGNATION MAZ025. THE SPLIT WILL SEPARATE THE HIGHER TERRAIN OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTY FROM THE MORE MODEST MOUNTAINS OF THE SOUTHERN BERKSHIRES.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY CONNECTICUT WILL BE SPLIT INTO TWO PORTIONS...NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN. THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE COUNTY WILL RETAIN THE ZONE NUMBER CTZ001...CURRENTLY USED FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY. THE SOUTHERN HALF WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE DESIGNATION CTZ013. THE SPLIT WILL SEPARATE THE HIGHER TERRAIN OF THE LITCHFIELD HILLS FROM THE BEGINNINGS OF THE COASTAL PLAIN IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTY.

THESE CHANGES WILL ALLOW FORECASTS FOR EASTERN NEW YORK AND WESTERN NEW ENGLAND TO BE MORE AREA SPECIFIC.

AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CONTAINING THE REALIGNED ZONES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD BY FEBRUARY 10 2003 FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/pubzone.htm>

A MAP OF THESE NEW ZONES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT THE FOLLOWING URL ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/aly/images/newzone.jpg>

NWS CUSTOMERS WHO AUTOMATICALLY PROCESS PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 1 USING THE Z FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ MAY NEED TO PROGRAM THE NEW "Z" CODES INTO THEIR SYSTEM/S/ NO LATER THAN MARCH 31 2003 TO CONTINUE TO PROCESS THE PRODUCTS.

TABLE 1. OLD AND NEW ZONE NAMES AND ZONE CODES /"Z" FORM OF THE UGC/.

NEW	OLD		
NEW ZONE NAME	UGC /Z/	OLD ZONE NAME	UGC /Z/
NORTHERN FULTON	NYZ082	FULTON	NYZ039
SOUTHERN FULTON	NYZ039	FULTON	NYZ039
SOUTHEAST WARREN	NYZ083	WARREN	NYZ042
NORTHERN WARREN	NYZ042	WARREN	NYZ042
SOUTHERN WASHINGTON	NYZ084	WASHINGTON	NYZ043

NORTHERN WASHINGTON	NYZ043	WASHINGTON	NYZ043
EASTERN WINDHAM	VTZ015	WINDHAM	VTZ014
WESTERN WINDHAM	VTZ014	WINDHAM	VTZ014
SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE	MAZ025	BERKSHIRE	MAZ001
NORTHERN BERKSHIRE	MAZ001	BERKSHIRE	MAZ001
SOUTHERN LITCHFIELD	CTZ013	LITCHFIELD	CTZ001
NORTHERN LITCHFIELD	CTZ001	LITCHFIELD	CTZ001

TABLE 2. THE FOLLOWING ARE KEY PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES.

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
PUBLIC ZONE FORECAST	FPUS51 KALY	ZFPALY
DIGITAL ZONE FORECAST	FOUS51 KALY	RDFALY
FLOOD WATCH	WGUS61 KALY	FFAALY
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS41 KALY	HWOALY
NON-PRECIPITATION ADVSY/WATCH/WARNING	WWUS71 KALY	NPWALY
WINTER STORM ADVSY/WATCH/WARNING	WWUS41 KALY	WSWALY
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT	WWUS81 KALY	SPSALY
SHORT-TERM FORECAST	FPUS71 KALY	NOWALY
RED FLAG WARNING/FIRE WEATHER WATCH	WWUS81 KALY	RFWALY
FIRE WEATHER FORECAST	FNUS51 KALY	FWFALY
DAILY RIVER AND LAKE SUMMARY	FGUS51 KALY	RVDALB
HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY	SRUS41 KALY	RVAALB
HYDROLOGIC STATEMENT	FGUS81 KALY	RVSALB
HYDROLOGIC OR WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK	FGUS71 KALY	ESFALY
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT	NOUS41 KALY	PNSALY
FLASH FLOOD GUIDANCE /NY/	FOUS61 KTAR	FFGNY
FLASH FLOOD GUIDANCE /MA/	FOUS61 KTAR	FFGMA

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COUNTY CODES USED FOR TORNADO...SEVERE THUNDERSTORM...AND FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS...AS WELL AS CIVIL EMERGENCY MESSAGES AND SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENTS...REMAIN UNCHANGED SINCE THOSE PRODUCTS USE THE COUNTY /"C"/ FORM OF THE UGC.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS CHANGE...PLEASE CONTACT:

DICK WESTERGARD...WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST -OR-  
 GENE AUCIELLO...METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE  
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
 251 FULLER ROAD SUITE B-300  
 ALBANY NEW YORK 12203-3640  
 PHONE: 518-435-9571

THIS NOTICE AND OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING URL ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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