

NOUS41 KWBC 271651
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 09-24
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1250 PM EDT FRI MAR 27 2009

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
-OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES.

FROM: ELI JACKS
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT IMPLEMENTATION OF IMPROVED PUBLIC ZONE COVERAGE
FOR THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL PORTIONS OF NEW
MEXICO EFFECTIVE JULY 22 2009

EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY JULY 22 2009 AT 0300 PM MOUNTAIN DAYLIGHT
TIME /MDT/...2100 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE NWS
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO /ABQ/
WILL ISSUE PUBLIC FORECAST AND WARNING PRODUCTS USING NEW PUBLIC
ZONE BOUNDARIES.

WFO ABQ PUBLIC ZONE BOUNDARIES ARE BEING CHANGED TO BETTER
INCORPORATE LOCAL TOPOGRAPHY AND CLIMATOLOGY ACROSS NORTHERN AND
CENTRAL NEW MEXICO. SEVERAL EXISTING ZONES HAVE BEEN REDUCED IN
SIZE TO MITIGATE THE SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES IN CLIMATE AND
ELEVATION IN THE ZONES CURRENTLY IN USE.

THE MAJORITY OF THE CHANGES ARE REFLECTED WITHIN THE HIGHER
TERRAIN OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN NEW MEXICO WHILE MINIMAL
ADJUSTMENTS WERE MADE TO THE EASTERN PLAINS.

SOME OF THE MAJOR CHANGES TO THE CURRENT ZONE CONFIGURATION
INCLUDE

- DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN THE EASTERN AND WESTERN SLOPES OF THE
SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS
- SEPARATION OF THE SAN JUAN AND JEMEZ MOUNTAINS
- REDUCTION IN SIZE OF THE ZONES THAT INCLUDE THE NORTHEAST
HIGHLANDS AND THE ESTANCIA VALLEY.
- IMPROVED SEPARATION OF MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS ACROSS WEST
CENTRAL NEW MEXICO ALONG WITH THE PLACEMENT OF THE SANTA FE
METRO AREA IN ITS OWN ZONE.

THE LINK BELOW OFFERS THE FOLLOWING:

- GREATER DETAIL REGARDING WHY THESE PUBLIC ZONE CHANGES ARE
BEING MADE
- GRAPHICAL DEPICTIONS OF THE CURRENT AND NEW PUBLIC ZONES
- TEXT LISTINGS OF OLD AND NEW PUBLIC ZONE NAMES AND UNIVERSAL

GEOGRAPHIC CODES /UGC/S/

-A TABLE OF WFO ABQ PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE PUBLIC ZONE
CHANGES ARE AVAILABLE ON LINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.SRH.WEATHER.GOV/ABQ/ZONES/2009PUBLICZONES.PHP](http://www.srh.weather.gov/abq/zones/2009publiczones.php)

PARTNERS AND OTHER USERS MUST TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO
CONTINUE CORRECTLY PROCESSING ALL WFO ABQ PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY
THIS CHANGE.

UPDATED PUBLIC ZONE MAP SHAPEFILES ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD
FROM THE FOLLOWING WEB SITE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/PUBZONE.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/pubzone.htm)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

JESUS HARO	MELINDA BAILEY
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ALBUQUERQUE NM 87106	FORT WORTH TX 76102
505-243-0702 X223	817-978-1100 X107

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm)

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