

NOUS41 KWBC 151540
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 10-05
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
223 PM EST FRI JAN 15 2010

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

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

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO THE FIRE WEATHER ZONE FOR THE GREAT SMOKY
MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK IN TENNESSEE AND NORTH
CAROLINA EFFECTIVE MARCH 16 2010

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY MARCH 16 2010 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL
TIME /UTC/...NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ KNOXVILLE/TRI-
CITIES TN /MRX - MORRISTOWN TN/...WILL SPLIT ITS FIRE WEATHER
FORECAST ZONE FOR THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
/TNZ303/ INTO TWO FIRE WEATHER FORECAST ZONES...TENNESSEE
PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK /TNZ303/ AND
NORTH CAROLINA PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL
PARK /NCZ303/. THIS SPLIT WILL OCCUR ALONG THE TENNESSEE - NORTH
CAROLINA STATE LINE AND IMPROVE FIRE WEATHER SERVICES...
INCLUDING WATCH... WARNING AND FORECAST PRODUCTS FOR THE GREAT
SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK IN EASTERN TENNESSEE AND WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA.

MRX/S GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK FIRE WEATHER ZONE
TNZ303 WILL RETAIN ITS ZONE NUMBER BECAUSE THE CLIMATOLOGY OF
THE ZONE WILL NOT CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY. IT WILL HOWEVER BE GIVEN
A NEW ZONE NAME /TENNESSEE PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL PARK/ TO BETTER IDENTIFY ITS GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT. THE
NORTH CAROLINA PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL
PARK /NCZ303/ IS BEING ASSIGNED A NEW ZONE NAME AND NUMBER TO
ACCOUNT FOR ITS DIFFERING CLIMATOLOGY. THE NEW FIRE WEATHER ZONE
NCZ303 WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF WFO GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG
/GSP/.

ONCE THIS CHANGE HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED...THE FOLLOWING
GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTORS WILL BE USED FOR ALL FIRE WEATHER
FORECAST PRODUCTS ISSUED FOR THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL
PARK.

TABLE 1 - NEW FIRE WEATHER ZONE /Z/ FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL
GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ AND NAMES:

NEW FIRE	NEW	OLD FIRE	OLD
ZONE NAME	UGC /Z/	ZONE NAME	UGC /Z/
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TENNESSEE PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK	TNZ303	GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK	TNZ303

NORTH CAROLINA PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK	NCZ303	N/A	N/A
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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF TNZ303: THIS INCLUDES THE WESTERN PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK COMPLETELY IN TENNESSEE AND COVERS PORTIONS OF BLOUNT...SEVIER AND COCKE COUNTIES.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF NCZ303: THIS INCLUDES THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK COMPLETELY IN NORTH CAROLINA AND COVERS PORTIONS OF SWAIN AND HAYWOOD COUNTIES.

TABLE 2 - NWS WATCH...WARNING AND FORECAST PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES:

FOR WFO MRX/S FIRE WEATHER ZONE TNZ303

PRODUCT	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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FIRE WEATHER WATCH	WWUS84 KMRX	RFWMRX
RED FLAG WARNING	WWUS84 KMRX	RFWMRX
FIRE WEATHER PLANNING FORECAST	FNUS54 KMRX	FWFMRX
FIRE WEATHER NFDRS FORECAST	FNUS84 KMRX	FWMMRX
FIRE WEATHER SPOT FORECAST	FNUS74 KMRX	FWSMRX

FOR WFO GSP/S FIRE WEATHER ZONE NCZ303

FIRE WEATHER WATCH	WWUS82 KGSP	RFWGSP
RED FLAG WARNING	WWUS82 KGSP	RFWGSP
FIRE WEATHER PLANNING FORECAST	FNUS52 KGSP	FWFGSP
FIRE WEATHER NFDRS FORECAST	FNUS82 KGSP	FWMGSP
FIRE WEATHER SPOT FORECAST	FNUS72 KGSP	FWSGSP
POINT FIRE WEATHER FORECAST MATRIX	FOUS54 KGSP	PFWGSP

PARTNERS AND USERS SHOULD TAKE THE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ENSURE SYSTEM/S/ RECOGNIZE THE NEW UGC AND NEW ZONE ALIGNMENTS.

IN ADDITION RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FIRE WEATHER NATIONAL FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM /NFDRS/ POINT FORECAST FOR THE CHEROKEE RAWS SITE /ID 313902/ WILL TRANSFER FROM WFO MRX TO WFO GSP.

AN UPDATED FIRE WEATHER ZONE SHAPEFILE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
/USE LOWERCASE/:

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

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

LARRY GABRIC
METEOROLOGIST IN CHARGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
1549 GSP DRIVE
GREER SC 29651
864-848-9970 EXT. 222
LARRY.GABRIC@NOAA.GOV

GEORGE MATHEWS
METEOROLOGIST IN CHARGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
5974 COMMERCE BLVD
MORRISTOWN TN 37814
423-586-6429 EXT. 222
GEORGE.MATHEWS@NOAA.GOV

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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