

NOUS41 KWBC DDHHMM  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 12-09  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
138 PM EST Fri Feb 17 2012

TO:     Subscribers:  
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       -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
       -NOAAPORT  
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FROM     Eli Jacks  
          Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

SUBJECT: NWS Weather Forecast Office Charleston, SC,  
          Will Split the Fire Weather Forecast Zone for Berkeley  
          County, SC, Effective March 19, 2012

Effective Monday, March 19, 2012, at 2 pm EDT, 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Charleston (CHS), SC, will split its fire weather forecast zone for Berkeley County (SCZ045), SC, into two fire weather forecast zones: Inland Berkeley (SCZ045) and Tidal Berkeley (SCZ052). Splitting Berkeley County into two fire weather forecast zones will allow WFO CHS to provide more specific fire weather forecast and warning services.

Berkeley fire weather forecast zone (SCZ045) will retain its zone number because the fire weather climatology of the zone will not change significantly as a result of the split. This zone will, however, be given a new fire weather zone name, Inland Berkeley, to better identify its geographic extent. Tidal Berkeley fire weather forecast zone (SCZ052) will have a new zone name and number to account for its differing climatology.

Table 1. New fire weather zone (z) form of the Universal Geographic Code (UGC) and names for WFO CHS users:

New fire weather zone name	New UGC (z)	Old fire weather zone name	Old UGC (z)
Inland Berkeley	SCZ045	Berkeley	SCZ045
Tidal Berkeley	SCZ052	n/a	n/a

Table 2. Products affected by this change

Product name	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS52 KCHS	FWFCHS
Fire Weather Message	WWUS82 KCHS	RFWCHS

Detailed information regarding the reason for this change, as well as narrative and graphical depictions of the change, is online at:

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/fire/chs\\_zone.htm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/fire/chs_zone.htm)

This change will make WFO CHS fire weather zones for Berkeley County identical in name, number and geographic extent as the public weather zones for Berkeley County.

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/scn10-02ccb\\_chs\\_zone.txt](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/scn10-02ccb_chs_zone.txt)

Partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure their systems recognize the new UGC and zone alignments.

An updated fire weather zone shapefile is online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/firezone.htm>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change notices are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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