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Service Change Notice 12-16
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Eli Jacks
Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Fire Weather Forecast Zones for Utah
Effective April 30, 2012

Effective Monday April 30, 2012, at 600 AM Mountain Daylight Time, 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Offices in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Grand Junction, Colorado, will reconfigure the fire weather forecast zones for Utah to align with the boundaries of the National Fire Danger Rating Areas. Upon implementation of this change, all fire weather forecasts and related products for Utah will use the zone number and name shown below. Utah fire weather forecast zones UTZ420 through UTZ449 will no longer be used.

Table 1: WFO Salt Lake City Fire Weather Forecast Zones in UT

Zone Code	New Zone Name
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UTZ478	Salt Lake Desert
This zone includes the Great Salt Lake Desert and the Wasatch Front from Nephi to the Idaho Border.	

UTZ479	Wasatch Mountains
This zone includes the Wasatch Mountains, Wasatch Mountain Valleys, the Cache Valley and the Bear River Valley along the Wyoming border.	

UTZ480	Uinta Mountains
This zone includes the north slopes of the Uinta Mountains in Summit County.	

UTZ481	Western Ashley National Forest
This zone includes the south slopes of the Uinta Mountains in Duchesne County.	

UTZ482	Western Uintah Basin
This zone includes the western portion of the Uintah Basin in	

Duchesne County.

UTZ483 Southern Ashley National Forest

This zone includes Ashley National Forest in the extreme eastern portion of Wasatch County and southwest Duchesne County.

UTZ484 Western Book Cliffs

This zone includes the West Tavaputs Plateau and the western portion of the Book Cliffs.

UTZ488 Manti-La Sal National Forest

This zone includes the northern portion of the central mountains, otherwise known as the Wasatch Plateau. This area is mostly contained within Sanpete County.

UTZ489 San Rafael Swell

This zone includes Castle Country and the San Rafael Swell.

UTZ492 Central Utah West Desert

This zone includes much of southeast Utah from Lake Powell eastward to the Colorado border, and north to about the latitude of Moab.

UTZ493 Central Utah Mountains

This mountainous zone lies mainly within the counties of Sevier and Piute, as well as the western portion of Wayne County.

UTZ494 Canyonlands

This zone includes the Henry Mountains, Canyonlands, and the eastern portion of Capitol Reef National Park.

UTZ495 Color Country West Desert

This zone includes most of the lower elevation areas of Iron and Beaver Counties.

UTZ496 Color Country Mountains

This zone includes the higher terrain of southwest Utah from the Pine Valley Mountains, eastward to Boulder Mountain, and the western portion of Capitol Reef National Park.

UTZ497 Mojave Desert

This zone includes the northern portion of the Arizona Strip, within Washington County, Utah.

UTZ498 Grand Staircase

This zone includes the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Kane and southern Garfield Counties, as well as the Lake Powell region.

Table 2: WFO GJT Fire Weather Forecast Zones in UT:

Zone Code New Zone Name

UTZ485 Eastern Ashley National Forest

This zone includes the Uinta Mountains of Daggett and Uintah Counties.

UTZ486 Eastern Uintah Basin

This zone includes the eastern Uintah Basin in Uintah County.

UTZ487 Eastern Book Cliffs

This zone includes the East Tavaputs Plateau and the eastern portion of the Book Cliffs.

UTZ490 Colorado River Basin

This zone contains the low elevations surrounding the Colorado River between the Colorado-Utah border and Moab.

UTZ491 Southeast Utah

This zone includes much of southeast Utah from Lake Powell eastward to the Colorado border, and north to about the latitude of Moab.

These changes have been requested by and coordinated with the Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center, Utah Interagency Fire Centers and other fire weather partners and users in Utah.

Additional information regarding these fire weather forecast zones changes is online at:

www.nws.noaa.gov/os/fire/ut-fzones.doc

Partners and users of WFO SLC fire weather products will need to update their system(s) to continue receiving correct fire weather forecasts/products.

An updated fire weather zone map shapefile containing the new zones is online at:

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

If you have any questions or comments please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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