

NOUS41 KWBC DDHHMM  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 13-31  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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From: Eli Jacks  
Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Some Fire Weather Forecast Zones for Idaho  
Effective May 16, 2013

Effective Thursday, May 16, 2013, at 6 AM Mountain Daylight Time, 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Boise (WFO BOI) and Pocatello (WFO PIH) Idaho will reconfigure several fire weather forecast zones in Idaho to better capture climatological weather patterns across southern and southwest Idaho. Upon implementation of this change, all fire weather forecasts and related products for the changed zones in Idaho will use the Universal Geographic Code (UGC) zone number, name and geographic description shown below.

Table 1: WFO Boise ID Fire Weather Forecast Zones in Idaho

Old Zone UGC Number	New Zone UGC Number	New Zone Name
IDZ404	IDZ421	Southern Boise National Forest (NF)/Western Sawtooth NF

This zone is being modified to push its current eastern boundary to the Camas/Blaine county line. This extension is already under the NWS Boise County Warning Area for its public zones.

IDZ408	IDZ420	Treasure Valley Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
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This zone is being modified to pull its eastern boundary back to the west at the Ada/Elmore county line.

IDZ418	IDZ424	Western Twin Falls BLM
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Starting from where the Forest Service boundary and the Ada/Elmore county line, go southward to the Snake River. Then follow the Snake River to 42 degrees 40 minutes north latitude.

Go due east to the Snake River, then follow the river to Highway 75, then northward to the Lincoln/Camas county line. From there, go due west to the Elmore county line. Follow the Forest Service boundary to the Ada/Elmore county line.

IDZ419      IDZ423      Owyhee Mountains

The modification to this zone will pull its eastern border from the Jarbidge River back to the Bruneau River.

N/A      IDZ426      Southern Highlands

This is a new zone number and name. This zone will extend along 42 degrees 40 minutes north latitude to the Snake River on the east and the Bruneau River on the West, then southward to the Nevada/Idaho state line on the southwest corner and fire zone IDZ427 on the southeast corner.

Table 2: WFO Pocatello ID Fire Weather Forecast Zones in Idaho

IDZ409      IDZ425      Middle Snake River Valley/Twin Falls BLM north of the Snake River

This zone is bordered on the on the north by a portion of the Lincoln county line and highway 26/93, to the east by dirt roads called Crystal Ice Cave Road and Minidoka to Arco Road. The zone is bordered to the south by the Snake River and to the west by Highway 75.

IDZ412      IDZ427      Goose Creek and Raft River Valley/Southern Sawtooth NF/Twin Falls BLM south of the Snake River

This zone is bordered to the north by the Snake River and to the east by portions of the Cassia county line and the Sawtooth NF boundary. The zone is bordered to the south by the Idaho/Utah State line, to the west the zone is bordered by a point 7 miles east of Twin Falls southward to the Sawtooth NF boundary, then a diagonal line to Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir Dam along the Three Creeks Highway to the town of Three Creeks, then extends the border southward along Three Creek to the Nevada/Idaho border.

IDZ477      IDZ422      Sawtooth Range/Northern Sawtooth NF

This zone is bordered on the north by the Salmon River and to the east by the Pioneer Mountains. The zone is bordered to the west by the Camas/Blaine county line and to the south by the Lincoln county line.

These changes have been coordinated with the Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center and other fire weather partners/users in Idaho.

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

Table 3: WFO BOI Fire Weather Products Affected by this Change:

Product Name	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS55 KBOI	FWFBOI
Fire Weather Watch/ Red Flag Warning	WWUS85 KBOI	RFWBOI
National Fire Danger Rating System	FNUS85 KBOI	FWMBOI

Table 4: WFO PIH Fire Weather Products Affected by this Change:

Product Name	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS55 KPIH	FWFPIH
Fire Weather Watch/ Red Flag Warning	WWUS85 KPIH	RFWPIH
National Fire Danger Rating System	FNUS85 KPIH	FWMPIH

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>

More information on these new fire weather zones is online at:

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/boi/firewx/change20130516.php>

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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