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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 14-09  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
400 PM EST Thu Feb 27 2014

To:       Subscribers:  
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          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:     Eli Jacks  
          Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Fire Weather Forecast Zones for Southeast Arizona:  
Effective April 1, 2014

Effective April 1, 2014 at 1100 AM Mountain Standard Time (MST), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Tucson, AZ (WFO TWC), will reconfigure and rename four fire weather forecast zones. Upon implementation of this change, all fire weather forecasts and related products for southeast Arizona will use the zone number and name shown below.

WFO Tucson has fire weather forecast responsibility for the southeast portion of Arizona. This zone reconfiguration better fits U.S. Forest Service Ranger Districts and the prevailing weather regimes in the area. The new zone numbers, names, and description of the zone area are listed below:

WFO Tucson, AZ Fire Weather Forecast Zones New Zone Code: New Zone Name  
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AZZ150: Western Pima-South Central Pinal-Tohono O'odham Nation-TDC

This zone includes western Pima county, south central Pinal county and the Tohono O'odham Nation.

AZZ151: Eastern Pima-Southeastern Pinal-Santa Cruz-Western Cochise-Coronado NF-TDC

This zone includes eastern Pima county, southeastern Pinal county, Santa Cruz county and the western portion of Cochise county. Mountains included in this zone are the Santa Catalinas, Rincons, Huachucas, Whetstones, Santa Ritas, Patagonias, Tumacacoris and the Canelo Hills.

AZZ152: Southern Graham-Central and Eastern Cochise-Southern Greenlee-Lower Elevations of the San Carlos Apache Nation in Graham County-Coronado NF-Safford BLM-TDC

This zone includes southern Graham county, central and eastern Cochise county, southern Greenlee county and the southern portion of the San

Carlos Apache Nation. Mountains included in this zone are the Chiricahuas, Pinalenos, Santa Therasas, Galiuros, Winchesters, Dragoons and Mules.

AZZ153: Northern Graham-Northern Greenlee-White and Gila Mountains-Apache Sitgreaves NF-SDC

This zone has an elevation of 5,000 feet or higher and includes northern Greenlee county and the higher elevations of the San Carlos Apache Nation in northern Graham county. The White and Gila Mountains are included in this zone.

These changes have been coordinated with the Tucson and Springerville Dispatch Centers and other fire weather partners and users in Arizona. Partners and users of WFO Tucson fire weather products will need to update their system(s) to continue receiving correct fire weather forecasts/products.

After these changes are implemented, Arizona fire zones AZZ146, AZZ147 and AZZ148 will no longer be used.

An updated fire weather zone shapefile 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:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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