

NOUS41 KWBC 241200
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 14-60
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
315 EST Fri Nov 21 2014

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 in Fire and Public Weather Forecast Zones for
Orange and Riverside Counties, CA, effective
February 4, 2015

Effective February 4, 2015, at 1000 AM Pacific Standard Time,
1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast
Office in San Diego, CA, (WFO SGX) will divide the existing
Orange County, CA, fire/public zone into an immediate coastal
zone and an inland zone.

The additional inland zone will allow for improvement and more
accurate depiction of the significant temperature and humidity
differences observed between the coast and the inland plains and
better depict the threat for Santa Ana wind impacts and fire
weather danger in Orange County.

In addition, a new fire/public zone will be created for the San
Gorgonio Pass near Banning, CA. This region, between two large
mountain ranges of the San Bernardino Mountains to the north and
the San Jacinto Mountains to the south, is known for high winds.
The new zone will allow for better hazard distinction during wind
episodes which may not affect the Coachella Valley's major cities
such as Palm Springs.

Upon implementation of this change, fire and public forecasts and
related products for Orange County and the San Gorgonio Pass will
use the zone numbers and names shown below:

WFO San Diego, CA Fire/Public Forecast Zones

Zone Code	Fire/Public Zone Name
-----	-----
CAZ042 (Public)	Orange County Coastal
CAZ242 (Fire)	

This zone boundary will change. It will now cover the immediate coastal region including beaches and coastal cities west of I-405 and extreme southern portion of I-5

CAZ049 (Public) Orange County Inland
CAZ249 (Fire)

This new zone will include inland coastal valleys and plains of Orange County, mainly east of I-405 and including most of the I-5 corridor

CAZ065 (Public) San Gorgonio Pass near Banning
CAZ265 (Fire)

This new zone will cover the entire San Gorgonio Pass, separated by large mountain peaks to the north and south, which connects the Inland Empire and Coachella Valley along I-10.

Updated fire and public zone shapefiles are online at:

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

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

For more information, please contact:

Roger Pierce
Meteorologist-in-Charge
Roger.pierce@noaa.gov

or

Alexander Tardy
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
Alexander.tardy@noaa.gov

Weather Forecast Office
San Diego, CA 92127-1643
858-675-8700

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

\$\$