

NOUS41 KWBC 231904
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 15-02
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
205 PM EST Fri Jan 23 2015

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: New Fire and Public Forecast Zones and Boundary
Changes for Central and Northeast Virginia, effective
April 7, 2015

Effective Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at 900 AM Eastern Daylight
Time (EDT), 1300 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), several
changes will be made to existing fire and public forecast zones
in central, northeast and southeast Virginia.

These changes include splitting 7 existing fire and public
forecast zones in central and northeast Virginia into
14 zones. In addition, 2 fire and public zones in southeast
Virginia will be split into 3 zones. The new zones are shown
below in Table 1.

In all cases, fire and public zones are identical in zone name,
zone number and geographic extent.

These zones are being changed to improve warning accuracy in
highly populated areas in central and northeast Virginia. These
zones have climatological differences affecting precipitation
type during winter weather events. The changes will result in
more geographically precise forecasts, watch and warning
products and will enhance web-based graphical product
consistency and appearance.

The zone change in southeast Virginia will also result in more
geographically precise watch, warning and advisory products, and
improve warning accuracy during tropical cyclone and winter
storm events.

These zone changes require partners and users to take
appropriate action to receive the new zone products using the
Universal Generic Code (UGC) zone code format (Z) listed in
Table 1.

Products affected by this change are listed in Table 2. This list of products may not be exhaustive and other products which contain UGC (Z) may also be affected.

TABLE 1. New Fire and Public Zone Names and Numbers for Central, Northeast and Southeast Virginia

OLD ZONE NAME	OLD UGC(Z)	NEW ZONE NAME	NEW UGC (Z)
LOUISA	VAZ049	WESTERN LOUISA	VAZ509
		EASTERN LOUISA	VAZ510
HANOVER	VAZ063	WESTERN HANOVER	VAZ511
		EASTERN HANOVER	VAZ512
CHESTERFIELD	VAZ070	WESTERN CHESTERFIELD	VAZ513
INCLUDING			
OLONIAL HEIGHTS		EASTERN CHESTERFIELD	
		INCLUDING COLONIAL HGTS.	VAZ514
HENRICO	VAZ071	WESTERN HENRICO	
INCLUDING CITY		INCLUDING CITY OF	
OF RICHMOND		RICHMOND	VAZ515
		EASTERN HENRICO	VAZ516
KING WILLIAM	VAZ072	WESTERN KING WILLIAM	VAZ517
		EASTERN KING WILLIAM	VAZ518
KING AND QUEEN	VAZ073	WESTERN KING AND QUEEN	VAZ519
		EASTERN KING AND QUEEN	VAZ520
ESSEX	VAZ074	WESTERN ESSEX	VAZ521
		EASTERN ESSEX	VAZ522
YORK/POQUOSON	VAZ091	YORK	VAZ523
		HAMPTON/POQUOSON	VAZ525
HAMPTON/NEWPORT NEWS	VAZ094	NEWPORT NEWS	VAZ524
		HAMPTON/POQUOSON	VAZ525

TABLE 2. WFO AKQ Products affected by these changes:

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADER	AWIPS ID
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT	WWUS81 KAKQ	SPSAKQ
HURRICANE LOCAL STATEMENT	WTUS81 KAKQ	HLSAKQ
ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT	FPUS51 KAKQ	ZFPAKQ
ENHANCED LOCAL FORECAST	FEUS71 KAKQ	EOLAKQ
SHORT TERM FORECAST	FPUS71 KAKQ	NOWAKQ
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS41 KAKQ	HWOAKQ
NON-PRECIPIATION MESSAGE	WWUS71 KAKQ	NPWAKQ
WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE	WWUS41 KAKQ	WSWAKQ
AREA FORECAST MATRICES	FOUS51 KAKQ	AFMAKQ
FIRE WEATHER FORECAST	FNUS51 KAKQ	FWFAKQ

REGIONAL WEATHER STORY AWUS81 KAKQ RWSAKQ
FLOOD WATCH WGUS61 KAKQ FFAAKQ
HYDROLOGIC OUTLOOK FGUS71 KAKQ ESFAKQ
FIRE WEATHER WATCH WWUS81 KAKQ RFWAKQ
RED FLAG WARNING WWUS81 KAKQ RFWAKQ
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT WOUS41 KAKQ PNSAKQ
POINT FORECAST MATRICES FOUS51 KAKQ PFMAKQ
AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION FXUS61 KAKQ AFDAKQ
PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE
SUMMARY SXUS51 KAKQ HYDAKQ
DAILY RIVER AND LAKE SUMMARY FGUS51 KAKQ RVDKQ
HYDROLOGIC STATEMENT FGUS81 KAKQ RVSAKQ
HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY SRUS41 KAKQ RVAKQ
AIR QUALITY ALERT AEUS71 KAKQ AQAQKQ
AIR QUALITY FORECAST AEUS71 KAKQ AQIAKQ
COASTAL HAZARD MESSAGE WHUS41 KAKQ CFWAKQ

If you are affected by these changes, take the appropriate action so your system(s) recognize the new zone (Z) Universal Geographic Codes (UGC) and the new zone alignments.

An updated public zone shapefile is online at:

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

An updated fire zone shapefile is online at:

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

The proposed changes to the AKQ zone boundaries have been closely coordinated with local partners and users to be ready for implementation on April 7, 2015.

For more information, please contact:

Bill Sammler	John Koch
Warning Coordination Meteorologist	Public Program Leader
NWS Wakefield, VA	NWS Eastern Region HQ
Wakefield VA 23888-2742	Bohemia NY 11716
757-899-5732	631-244-0104
william.sammler@noaa.gov	john.koch@noaa.gov

National Service Change notices are online at:

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

\$\$