

NOUS41 KWBC 031729 AAA  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 15-02: Amended  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
1230 PM EST Tue Feb 3 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: Amended: New Fire and Public Forecast Zones and  
Boundary Changes for Central and Northeast Virginia,  
Effective April 7, 2015

Amended to add web url for graphical depiction of changes.

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.

A graphic depicting these changes is online at:

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/public/akq\\_zones.pdf](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/public/akq_zones.pdf)

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	VAZ094	NEWPORT NEWS	VAZ524
NEWS		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 RVDAKQ  
HYDROLOGIC STATEMENT FGUS81 KAKQ RVSAKQ  
HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY SRUS41 KAKQ RVAAKQ  
AIR QUALITY ALERT AEUS71 KAKQ AQAAKQ  
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:

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National Service Change notices are online at:

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

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