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Service Change Notice 15-44  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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To:       Subscribers  
          -Family of Services  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          -NOAAPort  
          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:     Mark Tew, Acting Chief  
          Digital and Graphical Information Support Branch

Subject: Reminder: Changes to the County Name and the Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) Code for Shannon County, SD: Effective for NWS Products and Services on October 1, 2015

Reference: [Service Change Notice \(SCN\) 15-31](#)

Reminder - Effective Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 1600 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 10:00 AM Mountain Daylight Time (MDT), all NWS products and services will no longer use the name Shannon County and the FIPS Code 46113; NWS will begin using the name Oglala Lakota County and the FIPS Code 46102.

The original, corrected, Service Change Notice follows:

The name of Shannon County, SD, changed to Oglala Lakota County, SD, effective May 1, 2015. Because of the extensive coordination and planning required by the weather enterprise and the emergency management community to successfully complete this change, the official date of change for NWS products and services for the county name change and the FIPS code change will be October 1, 2015, at 1600 UTC, 10:00 AM MDT.

Major points to be aware of for NWS products and services:

- The county name will change from Shannon to Oglala Lakota. The existing county boundaries will not change.
- The FIPS code changes from 46113 to a 46102. FIPS codes are assigned and maintained by the U.S. Census Bureau.
- The Universal Geographic Code by County (UGC-C) will change from SDC113 to SDC102.
- The NWS public forecast zone name will change from Shannon to Oglala Lakota. The existing UGC by Zone (UGC-Z), SDZ042, remains unchanged,
- No NWS fire weather zone names or numbers will change.

The UGC-C, used in some NWS products and the county portion of the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) code, is derived from the FIPS code. Therefore, on October 1, 2015, the NWS will discontinue using the current FIPS code for Shannon County (46113) and begin using the new FIPS code (46102) for Oglala Lakota County. The correct county code is critical for receiving tornado, severe thunderstorm, and flash flood watch, warning, and follow-up products.

A complete list of Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Rapid City, SD (UNR) products affected by the UGC-C change, the county name change and/or the public forecast zone name change is online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/dissemination/unr.docx>

Updated Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) county and public forecast zone shapefiles reflecting the new county name and county FIPS/SAME code change are online, respectively, at:

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

All NWS partners and users and weather radio owners who receive products that rely on the NWR SAME code will need to reprogram their equipment no later than October 1, 2015. We recommend people program the new code (46102) at their earliest convenience, keep the current code (46113) in their systems until October 1, 2015, and delete the old code (46113) after the implementation.

Instructions on reprogramming your weather radio are in the owner's manual or available from the manufacturer of your radio, your local retailer, or online at the radio manufacturer's web site. A list of many weather radio receiver manufacturers is online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrrcvr.html#consumers>

NWS SAME code information is available at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/nwrsame.html>

or by calling a toll-free number: 1-888-NWR-SAME (1-888-697-7263).

All NWS partners and users who receive NWS products and parse exact text strings will need to change Shannon County to Oglala Lakota County in their software and systems operations.

In the event October 1, 2015, is declared a Critical Weather Day (CWD) or significant weather is occurring, or forecast to occur, in or near Oglala Lakota County, SD, implementation of this NWS change will occur at 1600 UTC on the next weekday not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring in or near Oglala Lakota County, SD.

Additional details on the upcoming changes will be posted on the WFO Rapid City homepage at:

[www.weather.gov/unr/](http://www.weather.gov/unr/)

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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