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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 18-118 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
800 AM EST Fri Feb 22 2019

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather
 Branch

Subject: Updated: Implementing improved public zone coverage
 for WFO Midland/Odessa, TX, effective April 2, 2019

Updated to change implementation date to April 2, 2019 due to the Government Lapse in Appropriations and to inform users and partners there was an error in the original shapefile and an updated shapefile is now available with the file name "z_02ap19.zip".

Effective Tuesday April 2, 2019, at 100 PM Central Daylight Time (CDT), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS will realign public zones within the Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Midland/Odessa area of responsibility.

If April 2, 2019 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to April 4, 2019.

Nine current zones will be converted into fifteen separate zones. These new zones are being divided to optimize issuance of hazard products for conditions that vary significantly near the Rio Grande and higher elevations of west Texas and southeast New Mexico.

NMZ027 (Guadalupe Mountains of Eddy County) will include parts of Eddy County having elevations above 5000 feet.

NMZ028 (Eddy County Plains) will include those parts of Eddy County below 5000 feet.

TXZ057 (Van Horn and Highway 54 Corridor) will be divided among 4 segments: the Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains (TXZ271) above 5000 feet, the Van Horn and Highway 54 Corridor (TX272) including Culberson County west of the Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains below 5000 feet, Eastern Culberson County (TXZ273) east of the Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains below 5000 feet, and the Presidio Valley (TXZ281) including elevations below 4000

feet near the Rio Grande.

TXZ058 (Reeves County and Upper Trans Pecos) will be divided among 2 segments: Eastern Culberson County (TXZ273) east of the Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains and the Reeves County Plains (TXZ274).

TXZ074 (Davis/Apache Mountains Area) will be divided among 2 segments: the Davis Mountains (TXZ277) above 4800 feet and the Davis Mountains Foothills (TXZ278) for lower elevations.

TXZ079 (Presidio Valley) will be divided among 3 segments: the Chinati Mountains (TXZ275) including elevations above 4000 feet toward the Chinati Mountains, the Marfa Plateau (TXZ276) for elevations above 4000 feet in southern Presidio County, and the Presidio Valley (TXZ281) including areas near the Rio Grande in Presidio County below 4000 feet.

TXZ080 (Marfa Plateau) will be divided among 4 segments: the Chinati Mountains (TXZ275) above 5000 feet, the Marfa Plateau (TXZ276) including Presidio County above 4000 feet (excluding the Chinati and Davis Mountains), the Davis Mountains (TXZ277) above 4800 feet, and the Presidio Valley (TXZ281) below 4000 feet.

TXZ081 (Big Bend Area) will be divided among 4 segments: the Davis Mountains (TXZ277) above 4800 feet, Central Brewster County (TXZ279) including elevations from 3000 to 4800 feet (not including the Chisos Basin), the Chisos Basin (TXZ280) in southern Brewster County above 4500 feet, and Lower Brewster County (TXZ282) near the Rio Grande below 3000 feet.

TXZ258 (Guadalupe Mountains) will be divided among 4 segments: the Guadalupe Mountains in Texas above 7000 feet (TXZ270), the Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains (TXZ271) from 5000 to 7000 feet, the Van Horn and Highway 54 Corridor (TXZ272) west of the Delaware Mountains and below 5000 feet, and Eastern Culberson County (TXZ273) east of the Delaware mountains and below 5000 feet.

Table 1: Current public zones and corresponding Universal Geographic Codes (UGC) for WFO Midland/Odessa, TX

UGC: Current Public Zone Name

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- NMZ027: Guadalupe Mountains of Eddy County
- NMZ028: Eddy County Plains
- TXZ057: Van Horn and Highway 54 Corridor
- TXZ058: Reeves County and Upper Trans Pecos
- TXZ074: Davis/Apache Mountains Area
- TXZ079: Presidio Valley
- TXZ080: Marfa Plateau
- TXZ081: Big Bend Area
- TXZ258: Guadalupe Mountains

Table 2: Public zones and corresponding UGC for which WFO Midland/Odessa, TX, will issue forecasts and warnings effective March 5, 2019

UGC: New Public Zone Name

 NMZ027: Guadalupe Mountains of Eddy County
 NMZ028: Eddy County Plains
 TXZ270: Guadalupe Mountains Above 7000 Feet
 TXZ271: Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains
 TXZ272: Van Horn and Highway 54 Corridor
 TXZ273: Eastern Culberson County
 TXZ274: Reeves County Plains
 TXZ275: Chinati Mountains
 TXZ276: Marfa Plateau
 TXZ277: Davis Mountains
 TXZ278: Davis Mountains Foothills
 TXZ279: Central Brewster County
 TXZ280: Chisos Basin
 TXZ281: Presidio Valley
 TXZ282: Lower Brewster County

Table 3: Primary cities included in the new public zones effective March 5, 2019

UGC: Primary cities within New Zones

 NMZ027: Carlsbad Caverns
 NMZ028: Artesia, Carlsbad
 TXZ270: Guadalupe Peak
 TXZ271: Pine Springs
 TXZ272: Van Horn
 TXZ273: (no city)
 TXZ274: Pecos, Balmorhea
 TXZ275: Chinati Peak
 TXZ276: Marfa, Valentine
 TXZ277: Fort Davis
 TXZ278: Alpine, Kent
 TXZ279: Marathon, Panther Junction
 TXZ280: Chisos Basin
 TXZ281: Presidio
 TXZ282: Lajitas, Terlingua

Table 4: NWS products affected by the WFO Midland/Odessa, TX, public zone changes effective March 5, 2019:

PRODUCT NAME	AWIPS ID	WMO	HEADING
NON PRECIPITATION WARNING	NPWMAF	WWUS74	KMAF
WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE	WSWMAF	WWUS44	KMAF
FLOOD WATCH	FFAMAF	WGUS64	KMAF
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	HWOMAF	FLUS44	KMAF

AREA FORECAST MATRICES	AFMMAF	FOUS54	KMAF
TABULAR STATE FORECAST	SFTMAF	FPUS64	KMAF
SHORT TERM FORECAST	NOWMAF	FPUS74	KMAF
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT	SPSMAF	WWUS84	KMAF
ZONE FORECAST	ZFPMAF	FPUS54	KMAF
RECREATIONAL FORECAST	RECMAF	SXUS44	KMAF
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT	PNSMAF	NOUS44	KMAF

Users of WFO Midland/Odessa products must re-program affected hardware and software to continue correctly processing the above mentioned products.

Users accessing NWS graphical forecasts must download updated zone map shapefiles to correctly view forecasts for southeast New Mexico and southwest Texas. Updated zone map shapefiles containing the new public zones are available online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/AWIPSShapefiles>

Graphical images of the current and future public weather zones listed above are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/maf/news/2018/PublicZoneChangesMAF.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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