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Service Change Notice 24-115
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1055 AM EST Mon Dec 23 2024

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

From: Stephen W. Bieda III, Ph.D., Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Forecast Zones for WFO Tallahassee,
FL: Effective March 18, 2025

Effective Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight (EDT),
2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in
Tallahassee, FL (WFO TAE) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast
Zones encompassing Liberty County in the Florida Big Bend. The Liberty
County Forecast Zone will be split into Northern Liberty County and
Southern Liberty County. After this change, all forecasts and related
products will use the zone numbers and names shown in Table 2 below.

If March 18, 2025 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation
will be postponed to Month 19, 2025 at 2100 UTC.

These changes will result in more geographically precise forecast, watch
and warning products for the general public and will enhance web-based
graphical product consistency and appearance.

The current zone will be converted into two separate zones. The existing
zone is being divided to optimize the issuance of tropical hazard
products based on conditions that vary significantly from areas in
Liberty County very near the coast to areas much farther inland. The
change will also allow for the optimization of other forecast products
that are impacted by proximity to the coast, such as Fire Weather
products.

Table 1. Universal Geographic Code (UGC): Current Public/Fire Forecast
Zone Name

FLZ026: Liberty County

Table 2. UGCs: New Public/Fire Forecast Zone Name

FLZ025: Northern Liberty County
FLZ125: Southern Liberty County

Table 3. NWS Products Affected by the WFO Tallahassee, FL Public/Fire Weather Forecast Zone Changes

Product Name -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS52 KTAE	AFMTAE
Zone Forecast	FPUS52 KTAE	ZFPTAE
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS52 KTAE	PFMTAE
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS62 KTAE	SFTTAE
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS62 KTAE	AFDTAE
Special Weather Statement	WWUS82 KTAE	SPSTAE
Public Information Statement	NOUS42 KTAE	PNSTAE
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/Advisory	WWUS72 KTAE	NPWTAE
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS52 KTAE	FWFTAE
Fire Weather Message	WWUS82 KTAE	RFWTAE
Fire Danger Statement	FNUS62 KTAE	RFDTAE
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS82 KTAE	HLSTAE
Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning	WTNT81 KNHC	TCVAT1-5
WFO Tropical Cyclone Product		
Tsunami Message	WEXX20 PAAQ	TSUAT1
Flood Watch	WGUS62 KTAE	FFATAE
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS72 KTAE	ESFTAE
Flood Warning	WGUS42 KTAE	FLWTAE
Flood Statement	WGUS82 KTAE	FLSTAE
Winter Weather Message	WWUS42 KTAE	WSWTAE

NWS partners and users will need to make necessary changes to their communications systems to accommodate these public/fire weather forecast zone changes.

Preliminary shapefiles for public/fire weather forecast zones are available online at:

- <https://www.weather.gov/gis/PublicZones>
- <https://www.weather.gov/gis/FireZones>
- <https://www.weather.gov/gis/Counties>

Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on February 28, 2025.

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

- <https://www.weather.gov/tae/TallahasseeZoneChangeNotification>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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