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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-08...UPDATED NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC 420 PM EST THU MAR 6 2003

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS

NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS

EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/

SUBSCRIBERS

NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS

OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: GLENN AUSTIN

ACTING CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: UPDATED: FORECAST ZONE CHANGES IN WESTERN NEW YORK: EFFECTIVE APRIL 30 2003

UPDATED EFFECTIVE DATE - THE EFFECTIVE DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM MONDAY...MARCH 31 TO WEDNESDAY...APRIL 30 2003. THE UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CAN NOW BE DOWNLOADED...SEE THE WEBSITE BELOW IN PARAGRAPH SIX /6/

EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY...APRIL 30 2003 AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...100 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME...ERIE COUNTY IN NEW YORK WILL BE SPLIT INTO TWO FORECAST ZONES - NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN. NORTHERN ERIE COUNTY WILL RETAIN THE ZONE NUMBER NYZ010 CURRENTLY USED FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY...AND WILL INCLUDE THE CITY OF LACKAWANNA...THE TOWNS OF WEST SENECA...ELMA...MARILLA AND POINTS NORTH. SOUTHERN ERIE COUNTY WILL RECEIVE THE NEW ZONE DESIGNATION NYZ085...AND WILL INCLUDE THE TOWNS OF HAMBURG...ORCHARD PARK...AURORA...WALES AND POINTS SOUTH. THE FORECAST BOUNDARY SEPARATING NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN ERIE COUNTY ROUGHLY CORRESPONDS TO ALTERNATE ROUTE 20 /ROUTE 20A/.

THIS CHANGE AFFECTS PRODUCTS ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN BUFFALO NEW YORK /BUF/. REFER TO TABLE 1 FOR NEW ZONE NAMES AND CODES. PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THIS CHANGE ARE LISTED IN TABLE 2.

THIS CHANGE WILL ALLOW FORECASTS FOR ERIE COUNTY NEW YORK TO BE MORE AREA SPECIFIC.

NWS CUSTOMERS WHO AUTOMATICALLY PROCESS PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 1 USING THE Z FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ MAY NEED TO PROGRAM THE NEW Z CODES INTO THEIR SYSTEM/S/ NO LATER THAN APRIL 30 2003 TO CONTINUE TO PROCESS THE PRODUCTS.

AN UPDATED ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CONTAINING THE RECONFIGURED ZONES IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/PUBZONE.HTM

TABLE 1. OLD AND NEW ZONE NAMES AND ZONE CODES /Z FORM OF THE UGC/

NEW ZONE NAME	NEW UGC /Z/	OLD ZONE NAME	UGC /Z/
NORTHERN ERIE	NYZ010	ERIE	NYZ010
SOUTHERN ERIE	NYZ085 - NEW 2	ZONE -	

TABLE 2. THE FOLLOWING ARE KEY PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
PUBLIC ZONE FORECAST	FPUS51 KBUF	ZFPBUF
DIGITAL FORECAST	FOUS51 KBUF	RDFBUF
FLOOD WATCH	WGUS61 KBUF	FFABUF
HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK	FLUS41 KBUF	HWOBUF
NON-PRECIPITATION ADVISORY/WATCH/WARNING	WWUS71 KBUF	NPWBUF
WINTER STORM ADVISORY/WATCH/WARNING	WWUS41 KBUF	WSWBUF
SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT	WWUS81 KBUF	SPSBUF
SHORT-TERM FORECAST	FPUS71 KBUF	NOWBUF
PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT	NOUS41 KBUF	PNSBUF
FIRE WEATHER FORECAST	FNUS51 KBUF	FWFBUF
FLOOD STATEMENT	WGUS71 KBUF	FFSBUF
FLOOD WARNING	WGUS81 KBUF	FLWBUF
DAILY RIVER AND LAKE SUMMARY	FGUS51 KBUF	RVDBUF
COASTAL FLOOD WATCH/WARNING/STATEMENT	WHUS41 KBUF	CFWBUF
HYDROLOGIC/WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK	FGUS51 KBUF	ESFBUF
DAILY OBSERVATIONS	SXUS51 KBUF	HYDBUF
RECORD REPORT	SXUS71 KBUF	RERBUF
STATE FORECAST FOR WESTERN NEW YORK	FPUS61 KBUF	SFPNY

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COUNTY CODES USED FOR TORNADO...SEVERE THUNDERSTORM...AND FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS...AS WELL AS CIVIL EMERGENCY MESSAGES AND SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENTS...REMAIN UNCHANGED SINCE THOSE PRODUCTS USE THE COUNTY /C/ FORM OF THE UGC.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

DARIN FIGURSKEY -OR- STAN LEVINE

METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

BUFFALO NEW YORK BUFFALO NEW YORK

PHONE: 716-565-0103 EXT. 222 PHONE: 716-565-0204 EXT. 223

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

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