

NOUS41 KWBC 041900
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-10
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
200 PM EST FRI MAR 4 2005

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/
SUBSCRIBERS
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: DOUGLAS C. YOUNG
ACTING CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE FIRE WEATHER ZONES IN NEW
MEXICO: EFFECTIVE APRIL 28 2005

EFFECTIVE APRIL 28 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...NWS WEATHER
FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ IN ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO /ABQ/...EL PASO TEXAS
/EPZ/ AND MIDLAND TEXAS /MAF/ WILL IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO THEIR NEW MEXICO
FIRE WEATHER ZONE BOUNDARIES...ZONE DESCRIPTOR NAMES...AND WILL ADD THREE
/3/ NEW ZONE NUMBERS /NM113-115/.

WFO ALBUQUERQUE WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ZONES NM101-109. WFO EL PASO
WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ZONES NM110-113. WFO MIDLAND WILL HAVE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ZONES NM114-115.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHANGES IS TO SUPPORT A MORE EFFICIENT FORECAST PROCESS
AND PROVIDE NWS FIRE WEATHER CUSTOMERS WITH MORE FOCUSED WATCH...WARNING
AND FORECAST PRODUCTS.

ONCE THESE CHANGES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED...THE FOLLOWING GEOGRAPHICAL
DESCRIPTORS WILL BE USED IN ALL FIRE WEATHER FORECAST PRODUCTS ISSUED FOR
NEW MEXICO:

FIRE WEATHER ZONE NUMBER	ZONE DESCRIPTOR
-----	-----
NM101	NORTHWEST PLATEAU
NM102	NORTH CENTRAL MOUNTAINS
NM103	NORTHEAST HIGHLANDS
NM104	NORTHEAST PLAINS
NM105	NORTHWEST HIGHLANDS
NM106	MIDDLE RIO GRANDE VALLEY
NM107	SANDIA MANZANO AND GALLINAS MOUNTAINS
NM108	EAST CENTRAL PLAINS
NM109	WEST CENTRAL HIGHLANDS
NM110	SOUTHWEST MOUNTAINS
NM111	SOUTHWEST DESERTS AND LOWLANDS
NM112	SOUTH CENTRAL LOWLANDS AND SOUTHERN RIO GRANDE VALLEY
NM113	CAPITAN AND SACRAMENTO MOUNTAINS

NM114 GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS /NEW ZONE/
NM115 SOUTHEAST PLAINS /NEW ZONE/

NWS WATCH...WARNING AND FORECAST PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PRODUCT	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
-----	-----	-----
FIRE WEATHER WATCH	WWUS85 KABQ	RFWABQ
	WWUS84 KEPZ	RFWEPZ
	WWUS84 KMAF	RFWMAF
RED FLAG WARNING	WWUS85 KABQ	RFWABQ
	WWUS84 KEPZ	RFWEPZ
	WWUS84 KMAF	RFWMAF
FIRE WEATHER PLANNING FORECAST	FNUS55 KABQ	FWFABQ
	FNUS54 KEPZ	FWFEPZ
	FNUS54 KMAF	FWFMAF
NATIONAL FIRE DANGER RATING	FNUS85 KABQ	FWMABQ
SYSTEM FORECAST	FNUS84 KEPZ	FWMEPZ
	FNUS84 KMAF	FWMAF
SMOKE MANAGEMENT FORECAST	FNUS75 KABQ	SMFABQ

NWS CUSTOMERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES TO THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS TO ACCOMMODATE THE ZONE CHANGES AND ADDITIONS.

ALTHOUGH THIS NOTIFICATION IS LESS THAN THE REQUIRED 75 DAYS AS SPECIFIED BY NWS INSTRUCTION /NWSI/ 10-1805...THE ZONE BOUNDARY CHANGES PROPOSED FOR IMPLEMENTATION WERE REQUESTED BY...AND HAVE BEEN CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH...LOCAL FIRE WEATHER PARTNERS AND CUSTOMERS TO BE READY TO GO WITH THIS CHANGE ON APRIL 28 2005.

THE SHAPEFILES OF THE NEW FIRE WEATHER ZONES FOR THE NWS OFFICES IN ALBUQUERQUE...EL PASO AND MIDLAND ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/FIREZONE.HTM

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THESE PRODUCT CHANGES...PLEASE CONTACT:

BRENT WACHTER
FIRE WEATHER PROGRAM MANAGER
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO
PHONE: 505-244-9147
EMAIL: JOHN.WACHTER@NOAA.GOV

TOM BIRD
FIRE WEATHER PROGRAM MANAGER
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
SANTA TERESA NEW MEXICO
PHONE: 505-589-4088
EMAIL: TOM.BIRD@NOAA.GOV

GREG MURDOCH
FIRE WEATHER PROGRAM MANAGER
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
MIDLAND TEXAS
PHONE: 432-563-5006
EMAIL: GREGORY.MURDOCH@NOAA.GOV

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

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

\$\$
NNNN