

NOUS41 KWBC 061640  
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 06-17  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
1240 PM EDT THU APR 6 2006

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: ELI JACKS  
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO THE NAMES OF SOME FIRE WEATHER ZONES IN CALIFORNIA:  
EFFECTIVE MAY 1 2006

EFFECTIVE MAY 1 2006 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE NWS  
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ IN SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA /SGX/ WILL IMPLEMENT  
CHANGES TO EXTREME SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA FIRE WEATHER ZONE NAMES.  
PLEASE NOTE...ONLY THE FIRE WEATHER ZONE NAMES ARE CHANGING. THE ACTUAL  
ZONE BOUNDARIES AND GEOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF THE FIRE WEATHER ZONES REMAIN  
THE SAME.

THE PURPOSE OF THE FIRE WEATHER ZONE NAME CHANGES IS TO SUPPORT A MORE  
EFFICIENT FORECAST PROCESS AND PROVIDE NWS FIRE WEATHER USERS WITH  
IMPROVED WATCH...WARNING AND FORECAST PRODUCTS.

ONCE THESE ZONE NAME CHANGES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED...THE FOLLOWING ZONE  
NAMES WILL BE USED IN ALL FIRE WEATHER FORECAST PRODUCTS ISSUED BY WFO SGX  
FOR EXTREME SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA:

FIRE WEATHER

ZONE NUMBER	NEW ZONE NAME
CA 242	ORANGE COUNTY COASTAL AREAS
CA 243	SAN DIEGO COUNTY COASTAL AREAS
CA 248	SAN BERNARDINO AND RIVERSIDE COUNTY VALLEYS- THE INLAND EMPIRE
CA 250	SAN DIEGO COUNTY INLAND VALLEYS
CA 255	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MOUNTAINS-INCLUDING THE MOUNTAIN TOP AND FRONT COUNTRY RANGER DISTRICTS OF THE SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST
CA 256	RIVERSIDE COUNTY MOUNTAINS-INCLUDING THE SAN JACINTO RANGER DISTRICT OF THE SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST
CA 257	SANTA ANA MOUNTAINS-INCLUDING THE TRABUCO RANGER DISTRICT OF THE CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
CA 258	SAN DIEGO COUNTY MOUNTAINS-INCLUDING THE PALOMAR AND DESCANSO RANGER DISTRICTS OF THE CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
CA 260	VICTOR VALLEY-APPLE VALLEY-LUCERNE VALLEY- YUCCA VALLEY- MORONGO VALLEY

FIRE WEATHER

ZONE NUMBER      NEW ZONE NAME

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CA 261            COACHELLA VALLEY-INCLUDING THE PALM SPRINGS SOUTH COAST  
                  DESERT DISTRICT  
CA 262            SAN DIEGO COUNTY DESERTS-INCLUDING THE ANZA BORREGO DESERT  
                  STATE PARK

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

PRODUCT	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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FIRE WEATHER WATCH	WWUS86 KSGX	RFWSGX
RED FLAG WARNING	WWUS86 KSGX	RFWSGX
FIRE WEATHER PLANNING FORECAST	FNUS56 KSGX	FWFSGX
NATIONAL FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM FORECAST	FNUS86 KSGX	FWMSGX

THE CORRESPONDING ZONE MAP SHAPEFILE CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/WSOM/HTML/FIREZONE.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/firezone.htm)

NWS CUSTOMERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE CHANGES TO THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS TO ACCOMMODATE THESE FIRE WEATHER ZONE NAME CHANGES.

ALTHOUGH THIS NOTIFICATION IS LESS THAN THE REQUIRED 120 DAYS AS SPECIFIED BY NWS INSTRUCTION 10-1805...THE NEW ZONE NAMES PROPOSED FOR IMPLEMENTATION WERE REQUESTED BY...AND HAVE BEEN CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH...LOCAL FIRE WEATHER PARTNERS AND USERS TO BE READY TO GO WITH THIS CHANGE ON MAY 1 2006.

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

JIM PURPURA  
METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA  
PHONE: 858-675-8700 EXT. 222  
EMAIL: [JIM.PURPURA@NOAA.GOV](mailto:JIM.PURPURA@NOAA.GOV)

-OR-

MIKE LAVIS OR ROB BALFOUR  
FIRE WEATHER PROGRAM  
SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA  
PHONE: 858-675-8700 EXT. 230 OR EXT. 247  
EMAIL: [MICHAEL.LAVIS@NOAA.GOV](mailto:MICHAEL.LAVIS@NOAA.GOV) OR [ROB.BALFOUR@NOAA.GOV](mailto:ROB.BALFOUR@NOAA.GOV)

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

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

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