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Service Change Notice 12-15
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
250 PM EDT Fri Mar 30 2012

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 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Eli Jacks
 Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Four Fire Weather Forecast Zone Names for Western Washington: Effective April 30, 2012

Effective Monday April 30, 2012, at 500 AM Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Seattle, Washington (SEW) will rename four fire weather forecast zones for western Washington. These changes will reduce confusion from the ambiguous names currently in place and provide zone naming consistency between WFO Seattle fire weather and public weather zones.

Upon implementation of this change, fire weather forecasts and related products for Western Washington will utilize the zone number and name shown below:

Zone Code	Current Zone Name	New Zone Name
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WAZ656	West Slopes of the North Cascades	Northeast Puget Sound Lowlands generally below 1,500 Feet
WAZ657	West Slopes of the Central Cascades	Southeast Puget Sound Lowlands generally below 1,500 Feet
WAZ658	North Cascades	West Slopes of the North Cascades generally above 1,500 Feet
WAZ659	Central Cascades	West Slopes of the Central Cascades generally above 1,500 Feet

These changes have been coordinated with the Bureau of Land Management, Department of Natural Resources, National Park Service, the National Forest Service and other fire weather partners and users in western Washington.

An updated fire weather zone map shapefile containing the new zone names is online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/firezone.htm>

If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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