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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 14-10
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1100 AM EST Fri Feb 28 2014

To: Subscribers:
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 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
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 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

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

Subject: Changes in Fire Weather Forecast Zones for Puerto Rico and the
U.S. Virgin Islands: Effective April 1, 2014

Effective April 1, 2014, at 800 AM Atlantic Standard Time (AST), 1200
Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in San
Juan, PR, will reconfigure the fire weather forecast zones for Puerto Rico
and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) to align with the boundaries of the
National Fire Danger Rating Areas. Upon implementation of this change,
all fire weather forecasts and related products for PR and the USVI will
use the zone number and name shown below.

Specifically, fire weather zone PRZ020 was separated into four new zones:
PRZ025, PRZ026, VIZ001 and VIZ002 (including two new zones for the USVI).
Zone PRZ021 was separated into two different mountain ranges: PRZ023 and
PRZ024.

Table 1: Fire Weather Products Affected by These Changes

Product Name:	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNCA52 TJSJ	FWFSJU
Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning	WWCA82 TJSJ	RFWSJU
Rangeland/Grassland Fire Danger Statement	FNCA52 TJSJ	RFDSJU

Table 2: Unchanged WFO San Juan Fire Weather Forecast Zones in PR and the
USVI

Zone Code: Zone Name

PRZ014: South Coastal Plain and Mona Island
This zone includes the Aguirre State Forest, Guanica State Forest, Guanica
Dry Forest, Boqueron State Forest, the Cabo Rojo and Cartagena Lagoon
National Wildlife Refuges and the Mona Island Nature Reserve in PR.

PRZ015: Southern Hills
This zone includes the south slopes of PR including the Maricao State
Forest.

PRZ016: North Coastal Plain

This zone includes the Pinones State Forest, and the cities of Arecibo and San Juan, PR.

PRZ017: Northern Hills

This zone includes the north slopes of PR including the Guajataca and Vega Alta State Forests.

PRZ018: West Coast

This zone includes the west coast of PR including the city of Mayaguez, PR.

PRZ019: Eastern Interior

This zone includes the cities of Caguas and Humacao, PR.

PRZ022: Luquillo Mountain Range

This zone includes El Yunque National Rain Forest, PR.

Table 3: Changed WFO San Juan Fire Weather Forecast Zones in PR and the USVI

New Zone Code: New Zone Name

PRZ023: Central Mountain Range

This zone includes the Rio Abajo and Guilarte State Forests and Toro Negro Forest Reserve in PR.

PRZ024: Cayey Mountain Range

This zone includes the Carite State Forest Reserve, PR.

PRZ025: Vieques

This zone includes the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge, PR.

PRZ026: Culebra

This zone includes the Culebra National Wildlife Refuge, PR.

VIZ001: Saint Thomas and Saint John, USVI

This zone includes Charlotte Amalie and the Virgin Islands National Park, USVI.

VIZ002: Saint Croix, USVI

This zone includes Christiansted and the Salt River Bay National Historic Park, USVI.

These changes have been requested by and coordinated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Puerto Rico Fire Corps, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other fire weather partners and users in PR and the USVI.

Additional information regarding these fire weather forecast zones changes is online at:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/sju/?n=firezonechanges>

Partners and users of WFO San Juan (SJU) fire weather products will need to update their system(s) to continue receiving correct fire weather forecasts/products.

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

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

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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