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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 15-02 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1230 PM EST Tue Feb 3 2015

To: Subscribers:
 -Family of Services
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

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

Subject: Amended: New Fire and Public Forecast Zones and Boundary Changes
for Central and Northeast Virginia: Effective April 7, 2015

Amended to add Web URL for graphical depiction of changes.

Effective Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at 900 AM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT),
1300 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), several changes will be made to
existing fire and public forecast zones in central, northeast and
southeast Virginia.

These changes include splitting seven existing fire and public forecast
zones in central and northeast Virginia into 14 zones. In addition, two
fire and public zones in southeast Virginia will be split into three
zones. The new zones are shown below in Table 1.

In all cases, fire and public zones are identical in zone name, zone
number and geographic extent.

A graphic depicting these changes is online at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/public/akq_zones.pdf

These zones are being changed to improve warning accuracy in highly
populated areas in central and northeast Virginia. These zones have
climatological differences affecting precipitation type during winter
weather events. The changes will result in more geographically precise
forecasts, watch and warning products and will enhance web-based graphical
product consistency and appearance.

The zone change in southeast Virginia will also result in more
geographically precise watch, warning and advisory products, and improve
warning accuracy during tropical cyclone and winter storm events.

These zone changes require partners and users to take appropriate action
to receive the new zone products using the Universal Geographic Code (UGC)
zone code format (Z) listed in Table 1.

Products affected by this change are listed in Table 2. This list of products may not be exhaustive and other products which contain UGC (Z) may also be affected.

Table 1. New Fire and Public Zone Names and Numbers for Central, Northeast and Southeast Virginia

Old Zone Name -----	Old UGC (Z) -----	New Zone Name(S) -----	New UGC (Z) -----
Louisa	VAZ049	Western Louisa Eastern Louisa	VAZ509 VAZ510
Hanover	VAZ063	Western Hanover Eastern Hanover	VAZ511 VAZ512
Chesterfield Including Colonial Heights	VAZ070	Western Chesterfield Including Colonial Heights Eastern Chesterfield	VAZ513 VAZ514
Henrico Including City of Richmond	VAZ071	Western Henrico Including City of Richmond Eastern Henrico	VAZ515 VAZ516
King William	VAZ072	Western King William Eastern King William	VAZ517 VAZ518
King and Queen	VAZ073	Western King and Queen Eastern King and Queen	VAZ519 VAZ520
Essex	VAZ074	Western Essex Eastern Essex	VAZ521 VAZ522
York/Poquoson	VAZ091	York Hampton/Poquoson	VAZ523 VAZ525
Hampton/Newport News	VAZ094	Newport News Hampton/Poquoson	VAZ524 VAZ525

Table 2. WFO AKQ Products Affected by These Changes

Product Name -----	WMO Header -----	AWIPS ID -----
Special Weather Statement	WWUS81 KAKQ	SPSAKQ
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS81 KAKQ	HLSAKQ
Zone Forecast Product	FPUS51 KAKQ	ZFPAKQ
Enhanced Local Forecast	FEUS71 KAKQ	EOLAKQ
Short Term Forecast	FPUS71 KAKQ	NOWAKQ
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS41 KAKQ	HWOAKQ
Non-Precipitation Message	WWUS71 KAKQ	NPWAKQ
Winter Weather Message	WWUS41 KAKQ	WSWAKQ
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS51 KAKQ	AFMAKQ
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS51 KAKQ	FWFAKQ

Product Name -----	WMO Header -----	AWIPS ID -----
Regional Weather Story	AWUS81 KAKQ	RWSAKQ
Flood Watch	WGUS61 KAKQ	FFAAKQ
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS71 KAKQ	ESFAKQ
Fire Weather Watch	WWUS81 KAKQ	RFWAKQ
Red Flag Warning	WWUS81 KAKQ	RFWAKQ
Public Information Statement	WOUS41 KAKQ	PNSAKQ
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS51 KAKQ	PFMAKQ
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS61 KAKQ	AFDAKQ
Precipitation and Temperature Summary	SXUS51 KAKQ	HYDAKQ
Daily River and Lake Summary	FGUS51 KAKQ	RVDAKQ
Hydrologic Statement	FGUS81 KAKQ	RVSAKQ
Hydrologic Summary	SRUS41 KAKQ	RVAAKQ
Air Quality Alert	AEUS71 KAKQ	AQAAKQ
Air Quality Forecast	AEUS71 KAKQ	AQIAKQ
Coastal Hazard Message	WHUS41 KAKQ	CFWAKQ

If you are affected by these changes, take the appropriate action so your system(s) recognize the new zone (Z) UGCs and the new zone alignments.

An updated public zone shapefile is online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/pubzone.htm>

An updated fire zone shapefile is online at:

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

The proposed changes to the AKQ zone boundaries have been closely coordinated with local partners and users to be ready for implementation on April 7, 2015.

For more information, please contact:

Bill Sammler
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
NWS Wakefield, VA
Wakefield, VA
757-899-5732
william.sammler@noaa.gov

John Koch
Public Program Leader
NWS Eastern Region Headquarters
Bohemia, NY
631-244-0104
john.koch@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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