

NOUS41 KWBC 202015 AAA  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 18-120 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
415 PM EST Wed Feb 20 2019

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Manager Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:        Michelle Hawkins, Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Change in Fire Weather Forecast Zones and Boundaries  
for WFO Morristown, TN and WFO Nashville, TN: Effective April 2, 2019

Updated to change implementation date to April 2, 2019 due to the  
Government Lapse in Appropriations.

Effective 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) April 2, 2019, the NWS  
Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in Morristown, TN, (MRX) and Nashville,  
TN, (OHX) will change the current fire weather forecast zones to be  
identical to the current public weather forecast zones.

Current fire weather forecast zones for WFO OHX in middle Tennessee  
(TNZ400, TNZ501, TNZ502) will transition to county-based zones. Current  
fire weather forecast zones for WFO MRX in east Tennessee (TNZ150,  
TNZ200, TNZ300, TNZ301, TNZ302, TNZ303), southwest Virginia (VAZ600) and  
southwest North Carolina (NCZ300), will transition to county-based zones.

If April 2, 2019 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation  
will be postponed to April 4, 2019.

Transitioning to smaller county-based zones will provide a more accurate  
and detailed forecast for the MRX and OHX fire weather community. By  
moving to county-based zones both WFOs will have the ability to adjust  
zone groupings dependent upon expected weather conditions. MRX will keep  
the split counties in east Tennessee for mountain fire weather zones.

Additionally, due to forecast familiarity and associated forecast  
accuracy, WFO OHX will take over fire weather responsibility from WFO MRX  
for Coffee, Grundy, Van Buren and Franklin counties in south central  
Tennessee.

The following section details the breakup of the current Fire Weather  
Zones into the new county-based zones and transfer of fire weather  
responsibility.

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 150, East Tennessee District - East, will be  
broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ015	Hancock	MRX
TNZ016	Hawkins	MRX
TNZ017	Sullivan	MRX
TNZ038	Grainger	MRX
TNZ039	Hamblen	MRX
TNZ040	Northwest Cocke	MRX
TNZ042	Northwest Greene	MRX
TNZ044	Washington	MRX
TNZ046	Northwest Carter	MRX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 200, East Tennessee District - West, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ012	Scott	MRX
TNZ013	Campbell	MRX
TNZ014	Claiborne	MRX
TNZ035	Morgan	MRX
TNZ036	Anderson	MRX
TNZ037	Union	MRX
TNZ067	Roane	MRX
TNZ068	Loudon	MRX
TNZ069	Knox	MRX
TNZ070	Jefferson	MRX
TNZ071	Northwest Blount	MRX
TNZ073	North Sevier	MRX
TNZ086	Northwest Monroe	MRX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 300, Cumberland District - South, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ081	Sequatchie	MRX+
TNZ083	Rhea	MRX
TNZ084	Meigs	MRX
TNZ085	McMinn	MRX
TNZ098	Marion	MRX
TNZ099	Hamilton	MRX
TNZ100	Bradley	MRX
TNZ077	Coffee	OHX
TNZ079	Grundy	OHX
TNZ080	Van Buren	OHX-
TNZ097	Franklin	OHX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 301, Northern Cherokee National Forest, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ018	Johnson	MRX
TNZ041	Cocke Smoky Mountains	MRX
TNZ043	Southeast Greene	MRX
TNZ045	Unicoi	MRX
TNZ047	Southeast Carter	MRX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 302, Southern Cherokee National Forest, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ087	Southeast Monroe	MRX
TNZ101	West Polk	MRX
TNZ102	East Polk	MRX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 303, TN portion of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ072	Blount Smoky Mountains	MRX
TNZ074	Sevier Smoky Mountains	MRX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 400, Cumberland District - North, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ009	Macon	OHX
TNZ010	Clay	OHX
TNZ011	Pickett	OHX
TNZ029	Trousdale	OHX
TNZ030	Smith	OHX
TNZ031	Jackson	OHX
TNZ032	Putnam	OHX
TNZ033	Overton	OHX
TNZ034	Fentress	OHX
TNZ063	Cannon	OHX
TNZ064	De Kalb	OHX
TNZ065	White	OHX
TNZ066	Cumberland	OHX
TNZ078	Warren	OHX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 501, Highland Rim District - North, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ005	Stewart	OHX
TNZ006	Montgomery	OHX
TNZ007	Robertson	OHX
TNZ008	Sumner	OHX
TNZ023	Houston	OHX
TNZ024	Humphreys	OHX
TNZ025	Dickson	OHX
TNZ026	Cheatham	OHX
TNZ027	Davidson	OHX
TNZ028	Wilson	OHX
TNZ059	Williamson	OHX
TNZ062	Rutherford	OHX

Tennessee Fire Weather Zone 502, Highland Rim District - South, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
TNZ056	Perry	OHX
TNZ057	Hickman	OHX
TNZ058	Lewis	OHX
TNZ060	Maury	OHX
TNZ061	Marshall	OHX
TNZ075	Bedford	OHX
TNZ076	Moore	OHX
TNZ092	Hardin	OHX
TNZ093	Wayne	OHX
TNZ094	Lawrence	OHX
TNZ095	Giles	OHX
TNZ096	Lincoln	OHX

North Carolina Fire Weather Zone 300, Nantahala National Forest, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
NCZ060	Cherokee	MRX
NCZ061	Clay	MRX

Virginia Fire Weather Zone 600, Jefferson National forest/Virginia Forestry District 6, will be broken up into the following new Zone Numbers and new Zone Names:

New Zone Number	New Zone Name	WFO
-----	-----	---
VAZ001	Lee	MRX
VAZ002	Wise	MRX
VAZ002	Wise (City of Norton)	MRX
VAZ005	Scott	MRX
VAZ006	Russell	MRX
VAZ008	Washington	MRX
VAZ008	Washington (City of Bristol)	MRX

Once again, Coffee (TNZ077), Grundy (TNZ079), Van Buren (TNZ080) and Franklin (TNZ097) will transfer from MRX to OHX. Graphical descriptions of the old and new fire weather forecast zones are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/mrx/firezonechange-2019>

and

<http://www.weather.gov/ohx/firezonechange-2019>

NWS watch, warning and forecast products affected by these changes are:

Product	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
-----	-----	-----
Fire Weather Watch	WWUS84 KMRX	RFWMRX
Red Flag Warning	WWUS84 KMRX	RFWMRX
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS54 KMRX	FWFMRX
Fire Weather Watch	WWUS84 KOHX	RFWOHX
Red Flag Warning	WWUS84 KOHX	RFWOHX
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS54 KOHX	FWFOHX

NWS partners and users will need to make necessary changes to their communications systems to accommodate these fire weather forecast zone changes.

A shapefile of the new fire weather forecast zones for WFO OHX and MRX is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/AWIPSShapefiles>

For more information, please contact:

Sam Roberts  
Fire Weather Program Leader  
NWS Morristown, TN  
423-586-3771  
[sam.roberts@noaa.gov](mailto:sam.roberts@noaa.gov)

or

John Cohen  
Fire Weather Program Leader  
NWS Nashville, TN  
615-754-8500  
[john.cohen@noaa.gov](mailto:john.cohen@noaa.gov)

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

NNNN