

NOUS41 KWBC 131955  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-06  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
255 PM EST Wed Jan 13 2021

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

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

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Weather Zones for NWS Weather Forecast  
Office New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA: Effective March 30, 2021

On or about Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 100 PM Central Daylight Time  
(CDT), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast  
Office in Slidell, LA, (LIX) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast  
Zones encompassing St. Tammany and Orleans Parishes in southeast  
Louisiana. After this change, all public and fire forecasts and related  
products will use the new zone numbers and names shown below.

If March 30, 2021 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation  
will be postponed to April 1, 2021.

These changes are intended to provide increased flexibility and improved  
accuracy of forecast, watch, warning and advisory products in the public  
and fire weather programs.

Two current zones will be split into four zones. These new zones are  
being divided primarily to optimize issuance of coastal flood and storm  
surge hazard products for conditions that vary significantly from Lake  
Borgne into Lake Pontchartrain.

LAZ040 (St. Tammany Parish) will be split into two zones: Areas generally  
east of Bayou Liberty and south of the I-10 and I-12 corridors will be  
called southeast St. Tammany Parish (LAZ076); the remainder of St. Tammany  
Parish will be renamed Northwest St. Tammany Parish (LAZ075).

LAZ062 (Orleans Parish) will be split into two zones: Areas outside of  
both the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System and the New  
Orleans East Maxent levee will be named Eastern Orleans Parish (LAZ078).  
The remainder of Orleans Parish will be renamed western Orleans Parish  
(LAZ077).

Table 1: Current Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs): Current Public  
Forecast Zone Name

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LAZ040: St. Tammany Parish  
LAZ062: Orleans Parish

Table 2: New UGC: New Public Forecast Zone Name

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LAZ075: Northwest St. Tammany Parish  
LAZ076: Southeast St. Tammany Parish  
LAZ077: Western Orleans Parish  
LAZ078: Eastern Orleans Parish

Table 3: Primary Cities Included in the New Public Zones Effective March 2, 2021

UGC: Primary Cities within New Zones  
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LAZ075: Covington, Mandeville, Pearl River, Folsom  
LAZ076: Slidell  
LAZ077: New Orleans  
LAZ078: None.

Table 4: NWS Products Affected by the WFO New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA Public Zone Changes

Product Name -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/Advisory	WWUS74 KLIX	NPWLIX
Winter Weather Watch/Warning/Advisory	WWUS44 KLIX	WSWLIX
Flood Watch	WGUS64 KLIX	FFALIX
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS54 KLIX	AFMLIX
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS64 KLIX	SFTLIX
Short Term Forecast	FPUS74 KLIX	NOWLIX
Special Weather Statement	WWUS84 KLIX	SPSLIX
Zone Forecast Product	FPUS54 KLIX	ZFPLIX
Public Information Statement	NOUS44 KLIX	PNSLIX
Local Tropical Watch/Warning	WTUS84 KLIX	TCVLIX
Extreme Wind Warning	WTUS82 KLIX	EWLIX
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS84 KLIX	HLSLIX
Coastal Hazard Message	WHUS44 KLIX	CFWLIX
Air Quality Alert	AEUS74 KLIX	AQALIX
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS54 KLIX	FWFLIX
Fire Weather Message	WWUS84 KLIX	RFWLIX
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS72 KLIX	ESFLIX

NWS partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems recognize the new UGC (Z) and new zone alignments and names.

Updated Public and Fire Weather zone shapefiles are online at:

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

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

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

[www.weather.gov/lix/forecastzonechanges](http://www.weather.gov/lix/forecastzonechanges)

If you have any questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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