

NOUS41 KWBC 291805 AAA  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-69 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
205 PM EDT Thu Oct 29 2020

TO:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS partners and NWS employees

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

SUBJECT:      Updated: Changes to the boundaries of Fire Weather  
              Forecast Zones in central and eastern South Dakota and  
              northeast Nebraska served by WFOs Aberdeen, SD,  
              (ABR) and Sioux Falls, SD (FSD) effective November 10

Updated to change the effective date due to a Critical Weather  
Day declaration.

The planned Fire Weather Zone changes scheduled for October 29,  
2020, are delayed until November 10, 2020. On November 10, the  
WFO Aberdeen and WFO Sioux Falls will change their current fire  
weather forecast zone boundaries in central and eastern South  
Dakota. The WFO Sioux Falls will also change the boundary of a  
single zone in northeast Nebraska.

If November 10, 2020, is declared a Critical Weather Day, this  
implementation will be postponed to November 17, 2020.

The new fire weather forecast zone boundaries will align with  
county boundaries. These changes were necessary to create more  
detailed fire weather forecasts by reducing the size of fire  
zones.

Fire weather forecast zone numbers will change as a result  
of these zone boundary adjustments. Graphical descriptions of  
the old and new fire weather forecast zones are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/abr/2020firezonechange>  
<https://www.weather.gov/fsd/firezonechange2020>

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

WFO Aberdeen Products	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Fire Weather Watch	WWUS83 KABR	RFWABR
Red Flag Warning	WWUS83 KABR	RFWABR
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS53 KABR	FWFABR

WFO Sioux Falls Products	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Fire Weather Watch	WWUS83 KFSD	RFWFSD
Red Flag Warning	WWUS83 KFSD	RFWFSD
Fire Weather Planning Forecast	FNUS53 KFSD	FWFFSD

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 ABR and WFO FSD is online at:

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

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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