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Service Change Notice 22-03
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
300 PM EST Thu Jan 6 2022

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

From: Kimberly McMahon, Acting Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes to Public Forecast Zones for NWS Burlington, VT:
 Effective March 22, 2022

On or about Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 4:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), 2000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Burlington, Vermont (BTV) will change Public Weather Forecast Zones encompassing Windsor County in southeastern Vermont. After this change, all public forecasts and related products will use the new zone numbers and names shown below.

If March 22, 2022 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to March 29, 2022.

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

One current zone will be converted into two separate zones. These new zones are being divided to optimize issuance of hazard products for conditions that vary significantly between the lower elevations of the Connecticut River Valley to the east and the higher elevations of the southern Green Mountains to the west. The new zones are as follows:

VTZ020: Western Windsor County will include parts of western Windsor County having primarily mountainous terrain with elevations above 2500 feet.

VTZ021: Eastern Windsor County will include the lower elevations of eastern Windsor County, specifically the Connecticut River Valley.

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

VTZ012: Windsor County

Table 2: UGC: New Public Zone Forecast Name

VTZ020: Western Windsor County
VTZ021: Eastern Windsor County

Table 3: NWS products affected by the NWS Burlington, VT public zone changes are listed below.

PRODUCT NAME	AWIPS ID	WMO HEADING
Special Weather Statement	SPSBTV	WWUS81 KBT
Zone Forecast	ZFPBTV	FPUS51 KBT
Hazardous Weather Outlook	HWOBTV	FLUS41 KBT
Non-Precipitation Warning/ Advisory/Watch	NPWBTV	WWUS71 KBT
Winter Weather Message	WSWBTV	WWUS41 KBT
Flood Watch	FFABTV	WGUS61 KBT
Public Information Statement	PNSBTV	NOUS41 KBT
Point Forecast Matrices	PFMBTV	FOUS51 KBT
Area Forecast Matrices	AFMBTV	FOUS51 KBT
Area Forecast Discussion	AFDBTV	FXUS61 KBT
Air Quality Alert	AQABTV	AEUS71 KBT
Regional Weather Roundup	RWRBTV	ASUS41 KBT
Tabular State Forecast	SFTVT	FPUS61 KBT

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 forecast 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:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/btv/NewPublicZones.pdf>

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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