

NOUS41 KWBC 062000
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-11
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 and Employees

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

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Forecast Zones for NWS Weather
 Forecast Office Little Rock, AR: Effective March 22, 2022

Effective on or about Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 3:00 PM Central Daylight Time (CDT), 2000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Little Rock, Arkansas (LZK) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones for portions of Northern and Western Arkansas. After this change, all public and fire forecasts and related products will use the new zone numbers and names indicated below.

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

The change will split 11 forecast zones in the Ouachita and Ozark Mountains based largely on elevation and climatology. The split will allow for more flexibility and improved accuracy of forecasts and long-fused watches, warnings and advisory products for those zones.

Table 1: Current public and fire weather forecast zones and corresponding Universal Geographic Codes (UGC) for WFO Little Rock, AR. These zone numbers will be discontinued.

UGC: Current Public/Fire Zone Name

ARZ003: Boone County
ARZ012: Newton County
ARZ013: Searcy County
ARZ021: Johnson County
ARZ022: Pope County
ARZ023: Van Buren County
ARZ030: Logan County
ARZ037: Scott County
ARZ038: Yell County
ARZ040: Polk County
ARZ041: Montgomery County

Table 2: New Public and Fire weather Zones and corresponding UGC for WFO

Little Rock, AR

UGC: New Public/Fire Zone Names

ARZ103: Boone County Except Southwest
ARZ203: Boone County Higher Elevations
ARZ112: Newton County Lower Elevations
ARZ212: Newton County Higher Elevations
ARZ113: Searcy County Lower Elevations
ARZ213: Northwest Searcy County Higher Elevations
ARZ313: Eastern, Central and Southern Searcy County Higher Elevations

ARZ121: Southern Johnson County
ARZ221: Johnson County Higher Elevations
ARZ122: Southern Pope County
ARZ222: Pope County Higher Elevations
ARZ123: Southeast Van Buren County
ARZ223: Van Buren County Higher Elevations
ARZ130: Western and Northern Logan County
ARZ230: Southern and Eastern Logan County
ARZ137: Northern Scott County
ARZ237: Central and Southern Scott County
ARZ138: Northwest Yell County
ARZ238: Yell County Excluding Northwest
ARZ140: Polk County Lower Elevations
ARZ240: Northern Polk County Higher Elevations
ARZ340: Southeast Polk County Higher Elevations
ARZ141: Central and Eastern Montgomery County
ARZ241: Northern Montgomery County Higher Elevations
ARZ341: Southwest Montgomery County Higher Elevations

Table 3: NWS products affected by the WFO Little Rock, AR public and fire zone changes effective March 22, 2022

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
-----	-----	-----
Hurricane Local Statement	WTUS84 KLZK	HLZLZK
Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning	WTNT84 KNHC	TCVAT1-5
Hurricane Local Watch/Warning Statement	WTUS84 KLZK	TCVLZK
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS54 KLZK	FWFLZK
Fire Weather Message	WWUS84 KLZK	RFWLZK
Zone Forecast	FPUS54 KLZK	ZFPLZK
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS54 KLZK	PFMLZK
Public Information Statement	NOUS44 KLZK	PNSLZK
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning /Advisory	WWUS74 KLZK	NPWLZK
Flood Watch	WGUS64 KLZK	FFALZK
Special Weather Statement	WWUS84 KLZK	SPSLZK
Winter Weather Message	WWUS44 KLZK	WSWLZK
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS64 KLZK	AFDLZK
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS44 KLZK	HWOLZK
Air Quality Alert Message	AEUS74 KLZK	AQALZK

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/lzk/newzones.htm>

If you have any questions, please contact:

Jim Reynolds
Meteorologist-in-Charge
WFO Little Rock, Arkansas
North Little Rock, AR
501-392-3354

or

Melinda Bailey
NWS Southern Region Headquarters
Fort Worth, TX
904-741-4470, x223

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

NNNN