

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

LAZ040: St. Tammany Parish

LAZ062: Orleans Parish

Table 2: New UGC: New Public Forecast Zone Name

 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

 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
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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

If you have any questions, please contact:

Benjamin Schott
Meteorologist-in-Charge
Slidell, LA
985-649-0429. x 222

Melinda Bailey
NWS Southern Region Headquarters
Fort Worth, TX
melinda.bailey@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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