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Service Change Notice 23-87
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1250 PM EDT Tue Aug 1 2023

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

From: Stephen W. Bieda III, Ph.D., Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Corrections to Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones for WFO
Riverton, WY: Effective September 19, 2023

Effective Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 03:00 PM Mountain Daylight Time (MDT), 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Riverton, WY (RIW) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zone names within the Bighorn Basin in north-central Wyoming. After this change, all forecasts and related products will use the zone numbers and names shown in Table 2 below.

If September 19, 2023 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to September 21, 2023 at 2100 UTC.

These changes will correct misspellings in the zone names when referenced as physical entities.

Three public zones and two fire weather zones will be changed to correct the spelling. The new zone names are listed in Table 2.

Table 1. Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs): Current Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zone Names

WYZ004: North Big Horn Basin
WYZ005: Southwest Big Horn Basin
WYZ006: Southeast Big Horn Basin
WYZ275: North Big Horn Basin/Worland BLM
WYZ282: South Big Horn Basin/Worland BLM

Table 2. UGC: New Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zone Names

WYZ004: North Bighorn Basin
WYZ005: Southwest Bighorn Basin
WYZ006: Southeast Bighorn Basin
WYZ275: North Bighorn Basin/Worland BLM
WYZ282: South Bighorn Basin/Worland BLM

Table 3. NWS Products Affected by the WFO Riverton, WY Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zone Changes

Product Name -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Air Quality Alert	AEUS75 KRIW	AQARIW
Area Forecast Matrices	FOUS55 KRIW	AFMRIW
Zone Forecast	FPUS55 KRIW	ZFPRIW
Point Forecast Matrices	FOUS55 KRIW	PFMRIW
Recreational Forecast	SXUS45 KRIW	RECRW
Tabular State Forecast	FPUS65 KRIW	SFTRIW
Area Forecast Discussion	FXUS65 KRIW	AFDRIW
Hazardous Weather Outlook	FLUS45 KRIW	HWORIW
Short Term Forecast	FPUS75 KRIW	NOWRIW
Special Weather Statement	WWUS85 KRIW	SPSRIW
Public Information Statement	NOUS45 KRIW	PNSRIW
Non-Precipitation Watch/Warning/Advisory	WWUS75 KRIW	NPWRIW
Fire Weather Forecast	FNUS55 KRIW	FWFRIW
Fire Weather Message	WWUS85 KRIW	RFWRIW
Fire Danger Statement	FNUS65 KRIW	RFDRIW
Flood Watch	WGUS65 KRIW	FFARIW
Hydrologic Outlook	FGUS75 KRIW	ESFRIW
Winter Weather Message	WWUS45 KRIW	WSWRIW

NWS partners and users will need to make necessary changes to their communications systems to accommodate these weather forecast zone changes.

Preliminary shapefiles for public and fire weather forecast zones are available online at:

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

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

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

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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