

NOUS41 KWBC 191335  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-90  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
835 AM EST Fri Dec 19 2025

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

From:        Mary Mullusky, Chief  
              Operations Services Division

Subject: Changes to Public and Fire Forecast Zones for WFO Sacramento, CA  
effective March 3, 2026

Effective Tue, March 3, 2026, at 1:00 PM Pacific Standard Time (PST),  
2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office in  
Sacramento, CA (STO) will change Public and Fire Weather Forecast Zones  
encompassing all counties in their forecast area of interior Northern  
California. After this change, all forecasts and related products will  
use the zone numbers and names shown in Table 3 below.

If March 3, 2026 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation  
will be postponed to March 4, 2026 at 2100 UTC.

These changes will result in more geographically precise forecast, watch,  
warning, and advisory products and will enhance web-based graphical  
product consistency and appearance.

Twelve (12) current public zones and 15 current fire zones will be  
converted into 44 separate zones. These new zones are being divided to  
optimize issuance of hazard products for conditions that vary  
significantly due to topography and microclimate zones. The new zones  
are listed in Table 3.

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

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CAZ013: Shasta Lake Area / Northern Shasta County  
CAZ014: Burney Basin / Eastern Shasta County  
CAZ015: Northern Sacramento Valley  
CAZ016: Central Sacramento Valley  
CAZ017: Southern Sacramento Valley  
CAZ018: Carquinez Strait and Delta  
CAZ019: Northern San Joaquin Valley  
CAZ063: Mountains Southwestern Shasta County to Western Colusa  
          County  
CAZ066: Northeast Foothills/Sacramento Valley  
CAZ067: Motherlode  
CAZ068: Western Plumas County/Lassen Park

CAZ069: West Slope Northern Sierra Nevada

Table 2. UGC: Current Fire Forecast Zone Name

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CAZ213: Eastern Portion of Shasta/Trinity NF  
CAZ214: Burney Basin and Northeast Plateau in Shasta County  
Including Northwest Lassen NF north of Lassen NP  
CAZ215: Northern Sacramento Valley to Southern Tehama County  
Line Below 1000 ft  
CAZ216: Central Sacramento Valley including Glenn/Colusa/Yuba/  
Northern Sutter/Butte County Below 1000 ft  
CAZ217: Southern Sacramento Valley In Yolo/Sacramento/Far  
Western Placer/Southern Sutter and Solano County Below  
1000 ft - Excludes the Delta  
CAZ218: Eastern Delta  
CAZ219: Northern San Joaquin Valley in San Joaquin and  
Stanislaus Counties Below 1000 ft - Excludes the Delta  
CAZ220: Southern Motherlode From 1000 to 3000 ft/Calaveras and  
Tuolumne Counties  
CAZ221: Stanislaus National Forest  
CAZ263: Southeast Edge Shasta/Trinity NF and Western Portions of  
Tehama/Glenn RU  
CAZ266: Northern Sierra Foothills from 1000 to 3000 ft. Includes  
Nevada-Yuba-Placer RU and Anador-Eldorado RU  
CAZ267: Northern Motherlode From 1000 to 3000 ft. From Yuba To  
Amador Counties  
CAZ268: Northern Sierra Including Lassen NP and Plumas and  
Lassen NF/S West of the Sierra Crest - West of Evans  
Peak/Grizzly Peak/Beckworth Peak  
CAZ269: Tahoe - Eldorado National Forest  
CAZ279: Eastern Mendocino NF

Table 3. New UGC: New Public/Fire Forecast Zone Name

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CAZ121: Western Shasta County Mountains Above 3000 ft  
CAZ122: Western Shasta County Foothills Between 1000-3000 ft  
CAZ123: Shasta Lake Area and Interstate 5 Between 1000-3000 ft  
CAZ124: South-Central Shasta County Including Redding Metro  
CAZ125: Eastern Shasta County Foothills Between 1000-3000 ft  
CAZ126: Eastern Shasta County Mountains and Southern Cascades  
Above 3000 ft  
CAZ127: Burney Basin  
CAZ128: Lassen Volcanic National Park  
CAZ129: Sierra Nevada of Tehama-Butte-Plumas Counties Between  
1000-3000 ft  
CAZ130: Sierra Nevada of Tehama-Butte-Plumas Counties Above 3000  
ft  
CAZ131: Northern Motherlode Between 1000-3000 ft  
CAZ132: Sierra Nevada of Yuba-Sierra-Nevada-Placer Counties  
Between 3000-5000 ft Including Interstate 80  
CAZ133: Sierra Nevada of Sierra-Nevada-Placer Counties Above  
5000 ft Including Interstate 80  
CAZ134: Central Motherlode Between 1000-3000 ft  
CAZ135: Sierra Nevada of El Dorado and Amador Counties Between

3000-5000 ft Including Highway 50

CAZ136: Sierra Nevada of El Dorado-Amador-Northern Alpine  
Counties Above 5000 ft Including Highway 50

CAZ137: Southern Motherlode Between 1000-3000 ft

CAZ138: Sierra Nevada of Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties Between  
3000-5000 ft

CAZ139: Sierra Nevada of Calaveras-Tuolumne-Southern Alpine  
Counties Above 5000 ft

CAZ140: Tehama County Coast Range Above 3000 ft

CAZ141: Western Tehama County Foothills Between 1000-3000 ft

CAZ142: Northern Sacramento Valley in Tehama County

CAZ143: Glenn and Colusa County Coast Range Above 3000 ft

CAZ144: Central Glenn County Including Interstate 5

CAZ145: Eastern Glenn County

CAZ146: Butte County Below 1000 ft

CAZ147: Western Glenn and Colusa County Foothills Between  
1000-3000 ft

CAZ148: Central Colusa County Including Interstate 5

CAZ149: Eastern Colusa County

CAZ150: Sutter and Yuba Counties Below 1000 ft

CAZ151: Capay Hills of Yolo County and Vaca Hills of Solano  
County

CAZ152: Western Yolo County Including Capay Valley and  
Interstate 505

CAZ153: Central Yolo and Northeast Solano Counties Including  
Woodland and Davis

CAZ154: Sacramento Metro and Western El Dorado and Amador  
Counties

CAZ155: Central Solano County Including Fairfield and Vacaville

CAZ156: Southwestern Solano County Including Vallejo

CAZ157: Sacramento County Delta

CAZ158: San Joaquin County Delta

CAZ159: Central San Joaquin County Including Stockton Metro

CAZ160: Tracy Triangle Below 1000 ft

CAZ161: Northeastern San Joaquin Valley Below 1000 ft

CAZ162: Eastern Diablo Range Above 1000 ft

CAZ163: Western Stanislaus County Below 1000 ft Including  
Interstate 5

CAZ164: Central Stanislaus County Including Modesto Metro

Table 4. NWS products affected by these Public /Fire Weather  
forecast zone changes are listed below.

| Product Name                 | WMO Heading | AWIPS ID |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| -----                        | -----       | -----    |
| Zone Forecast                | FPUS52 KSTO | ZFPSTO   |
| Point Forecast Matrices      | FOUS52 KSTO | PFMSTO   |
| Tabular State Forecast       | FPUS62 KSTO | SFTSTO   |
| Area Forecast Discussion     | FXUS62 KSTO | AFDSTO   |
| Public Information Statement | NOUS42 KSTO | PNSSTO   |
| Non-Precipitation Message    | WWUS72 KSTO | NPWSTO   |
| Fire Weather Forecast        | FNUS52 KSTO | FWFSTO   |
| Fire Weather Message         | WWUS82 KSTO | RFWSTO   |
| Flood Watch                  | WGUS62 KSTO | FFASTO   |

|                           |             |        |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Hydrologic Outlook        | FGUS72 KSTO | ESFSTO |
| Winter Weather Message    | WWUS42 KSTO | WSWSTO |
| Special Weather Statement | WWUS86 KSTO | SPSSTO |

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/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>

Final versions of these shapefiles will be available on February 13, 2026.

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/sto/ZoneChanges2026>

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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