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Service Change Notice 18-14
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
240 PM EST Fri Feb 2 2018

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

From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes in Fire and Public Zones for WFO Amarillo, TX,
effective May 1, 2018

Effective Tuesday May 1, 2018 at 100 PM CDT, 1800 Coordinated
Universal Time (UTC), Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Amarillo
(AMA), TX, will divide the existing Randall County, TX, public
and fire weather forecast zone into two zones: a new Palo Duro
Canyon zone and a Randall County zone.

Specifically, the split will be along the rim of the canyon and
will encompass the Palo Duro Canyon within Randall County,
Texas. These changes are intended to provide increased
flexibility and improved accuracy of forecast for various
watches, warnings, and advisories in the public and fire weather
programs. The current zone is shown below in Table 1. This zone
will be split into two zones shown in Table 2.

The Fire and Public Zone changes require partners and users to
take appropriate action to receive the new zone products using
the Universal Generic Code (UGC) zone code format (Z) listed in
Table 2.

Table 1: Current affected WFO AMA Public and Fire Weather
Forecast Zone

Current Fire/Public Zone Name	Current UGC (Z)
----- Randall County	----- TXZ017

Table 2: New WFO AMA affected Public and Fire Weather Forecast
Zones

New Fire/Public Zone Name	New UGC (Z)
----- Palo Duro Canyon	----- TXZ317
Randall County	TXZ017

All public and fire weather products from WFO AMA that use the Zone (Z) Universal Geographic Code (UGC) are affected by these changes. Partners and users should take the appropriate action to ensure systems recognize the new UGC (Z) and new zone alignments and names. These changes do not affect products using county (C) UGC.

Updated public and fire zone maps are online at:

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

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

Graphical depiction of WFO AMA's current and new Fire and Public Weather Forecast Zones are at the following website:

<https://www.weather.gov/ama/NewPaloDuroCanyonForecastZone>

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NWS National Service Change Notices are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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