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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, Users and 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  
Geographic 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 Randall County	----- TXZ317 TXZ017

All public and fire weather products from WFO AMA that use the Zone (Z)  
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>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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