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Service Change Notice 16-05 National Weather Service Headquarters, Washington, DC 1015 AM EST Mon Feb 29 2016

- TO: Subscribers: -NOAA Weather Wire Service -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network -NOAAPORT -Other NWS partners and NWS employees
- FROM: Michelle Hawkins Acting Chief, Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch
- SUBJECT: Use of Mixed-case letters in select NWS National Hurricane Center Products effective May 15, 2016

Effective May 15, 2016, the NWS will expand its mixed-case text Product Risk Reduction effort to include an additional product (Table 1) issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB). The first issuance of the mixed-case Tropical Weather Discussion (TWD) will be 1800 UTC, May 15, 2016, 2 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). Products that were issued in mixed case in 2014 and 2015 will continue to be issued in mixed case (Table 2).

Table 1: NHC Additional Products

Product Name	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Tropical Weather Discussion (Atlantic)	AXNT20 KNHC	TWDAT
Tropical Weather Discussion (Eastern Pacific)	AXPZ20 KNHC	TWDEP
Table 2: NHC Continued Products		
Product Name	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (Atlantic)	WTNT31-35 KNHC	TCPAT1-5
Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (Eastern Pacific)	WTPZ31-35 KNHC	TCPEP1-5
Tropical Cyclone Update (Atlantic)	WTNT61-65 KNHC	TCUAT1-5

Tropical Cyclone Update (Eastern Pacific)	WTPZ61-65 KNHC	TCUEP1-5
Tropical Weather Summary (Atlantic)	ABNT30 KNHC	TWSAT
Tropical Weather Summary (Eastern Pacific)	ABPZ30 KNHC	TWSEP
Tropical Weather Outlook (Atlantic)	ABNT20 KNHC	TWOAT
Tropical Weather Outlook (Eastern Pacific)	ABPZ20 KNHC	TWOEP
Tropical Cyclone Discussion (Atlantic)	WTNT41-45 KNHC	TCDAT1-5
Tropical Cyclone Discussion (Eastern Pacific)	WTPZ41-45 KNHC	TCDEP1-5

This expansion in the number of available mixed-case text products is a continuation of the risk-reduction effort which began in August 2010. At that time, NWS began using mixed-case letters and the expanded punctuation/character set (Table 3):

Table 3: Allowed Mixed Case Character Set "space" ! " # \$ % & ' ( ) \* + , - . / 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; < = > ? @ A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z [ \ ] ^ \_ ` a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z { | } ~

Use of mixed-case letters in text products will make them easier to read and allow users to click on links directly rather than converting them to lower or mixed case. Additional punctuation and other characters that are part of the international reference Alphabet No. 5 will also be included as appropriate.

For more information, please contact:

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National Public Information Notices are online at:

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

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