

NOUS41 KWBC 141315
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-132
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
915 AM EST Thu Dec 14 2017

TO: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPORT
 Other NWS partners, users, and employees

FROM: Kathryn Gilbert
 Acting Director, Weather Prediction Center

Subject: Use of Mixed-Case Text/95 ASCII Character Set in
 Selected NWS Weather Prediction Center Products
 Effective January 23, 2018

Effective Tuesday, January 23, 2018, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will continue its transition of text products to a mixed case text/expanded 95 ASCII character set format. This phase of the transition will apply to select products issued by WPC.

The following text products will be transitioned:

AWIPS ID	WMO ID	Product Name
PMDHMD	FXUS10 KWNH	Model Diagnostic Discussion
QPFERD	FOUS30 KWBC	Excessive Rainfall Discussion
PMDAK	FXAK02 KWNH	Alaska Extended Forecast Discussion

These products are in addition to the NCEP/WPC Short Range Prognostic Discussion and Hawaii Discussion issued using the mixed case/95 ASCII character set since April 2013. This expansion in the number of available mixed case text products is a continuation of the NWS transition to the use of mixed-case letters. Use of mixed-case letters in text products make them easier to read and allow users to click on links directly rather than converting them to lower or mixed case. Partners and users of WPC text products should modify their systems to accommodate mixed case and the expanded character set.

Examples of Weather Prediction Center products already converted to mixed case are online for sample formatting purposes:

<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=pmdspd>

<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/discussions/hpcdiscussions.php?disc=pmdhi>

NWS Weather Prediction Center will notify users/partners of future text product transitions to mixed case/expanded 95 ASCII character set format via Service Change Notices with 30 days lead time. These notices will include AWIPS product identifiers and effective dates.

If a Critical Weather Day prevents this change on January 23, 2018, the mixed case text format change will take effect on the next available day.

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

NNNN