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Service Change Notice 19-49
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Fiona Horsfall
 Chief, Climate Services Branch

Subject: Changes to the Drought Information Statement (DGT) Text Product
Issued by WFOs under Local Drought Conditions: Effective on or around
September 1, 2019

The format of the Drought Information Statement (DGT) text product issued
by NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will change effective on or around
September 1, 2019.

The overall structure of the DGT text product will remain the same, but
the section titles and the sections in which particular content is placed
have been modified. The section titles will be changed from:

HEADLINE
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS
CLIMATE SUMMARY
PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK
HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK
NEXT ISSUANCE DATE
RELATED WEB SITES
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

The new section titles will be:

HEADLINE
SYNOPSIS
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS
DROUGHT MITIGATION ACTIONS
LOCAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK
NEXT ISSUANCE DATE
RELATED WEB SITES
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
CONTACT INFORMATION

The SYNOPSIS section briefly describes the drought intensity and extent
as well as recent precipitation, temperature and hydrologic conditions
for the county warning and forecast area.

The SUMMARY OF IMPACTS section briefly describes reported drought impacts, such as impacts on crops or recreation areas.

The DROUGHT MITIGATION ACTIONS section lists reported state and local mitigation actions, such as water restrictions.

The LOCAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK section describes weather, climate and hydrologic outlooks for the county warning and forecast area.

These changes were made to enhance the readability of Drought Information Statements by consolidating the description of drought conditions, consolidating the description of the local drought outlook, and separating the description of drought impacts from the list of reported drought mitigation actions.

CONTACT INFORMATION provides a more accurate description of the content included in the last section.

While the NWS continues to evaluate the format of the DGT, no further changes are planned at this time.

Please send comments or requests for more information to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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