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Public Information Statement 24-66 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: George Jungbluth, Director
 Office of Dissemination

Subject: Updated: Potential API Gridded Forecast Data Outage from
December 22, 2024 through January 1, 2025

Updated to inform users of the potential for a temporary outage of the
API Gridded Forecast Data from December 22, 2024 through January 1, 2025.

The Office of Dissemination (DIS) and the National Centers for
Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations (NCO) continue to work
on fixing a critical bug that disrupts the dissemination of gridded
forecast data via the NWS Application Programming Interface (API) near
the end of the calendar year. While we still hope to avoid this outage,
it is becoming more likely that the outage will occur. In the event that
the bug fix cannot be implemented before December 22, technicians will
disable the API gridpoints endpoint and gridded forecast data will not be
available between December 22, 2024 through January 1, 2025. This
updated Public Information Statement is intended to inform users of this
potential outage and offer alternatives to help reduce the impact to
customers.

When this problem occurs, users will experience errors when making
requests to the API for gridded forecast data. Below are examples of the
types of requests that will fail:

<https://api.weather.gov/gridpoints/PQR/107,99/forecast>
<https://api.weather.gov/gridpoints/SGX/59,65/forecast/hourly>

The response returned to the user will be similar to this:

```
{  
  "correlationId": "eb6a80a", "title": "Service Unavailable",  
  "type": "https://api.weather.gov/problems/ServiceUnavailable",  
  "status": 503,  
  "detail": "An upstream data source is temporarily unavailable. Please  
try again later.",  
  "instance": "https://api.weather.gov/requests/eb6a80a"  
}
```

The following alternatives may help users reduce the impact of this data outage. Using the forecast.weather.gov Web Service:

- The forecast for a location is available via a single call to forecast.weather.gov using the latitude and longitude coordinates for that location:

[https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=\\$LAT&lon=\\$LON&FcstType=\\$FORMAT](https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=$LAT&lon=$LON&FcstType=$FORMAT)

where \$LAT and \$LON are in decimal degrees and \$FORMAT is either DWML or JSON.

Example:

<https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.5&lon=-94.5&FcstType=dwml>

- Using the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) Web Service:

The forecast for a location is available in various formats via requests to web services that deliver NDFD data. Details on what services are available and how to use them can be found at:

<https://vlab.noaa.gov/web/mdl/ndfd>

To report problems or operational issues with the API or forecast.weather.gov applications, please contact:

NCEP Central Operations Tech Control:
nco.ops@noaa.gov

To report problems or issues related with the NDFD web services, please contact:
nws.ndfd@noaa.gov

Please send all other comments and questions to:
nws.webfeedback@noaa.gov

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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