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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 that the NWS Application Programming Interface (API) will be upgraded on Thursday, December 12, 2024, to resolve the end of calendar year bug. The update should allow users to continue to retrieve gridded forecast data without any issues.

The Office of Dissemination (DIS) and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations (NCO) have finished fixing a critical bug that had previously disrupted the dissemination of gridded forecast data via the NWS Application Programming Interface (API) near the end of calendar year 2023. This updated Public Information Statement is to inform users that the fix for this bug will be installed on or about December 12, 2024 and users should not expect to experience the end of year outage.

In the unlikely event this problem does occur, 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 at 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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