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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 24-107
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Stephen W. Bieda III, Ph.D, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Discontinuation of Haines Index and Lightning Activity Level (LAL) as Fire Weather Forecast Elements in Fire Weather Products: Effective on or about February 1, 2025

On or about February 1, 2025, the NWS will discontinue Haines Index and Lightning Activity Level (LAL) as Fire Weather Forecast Elements in Fire Weather Products, including the Fire Weather Forecast (FWF), spot forecasts, local fire weather matrix, and local experimental fire weather products.

The discontinuation is proposed due to new science demonstrating the forecast information is best assessed through other forecast fields. The forecast information currently conveyed through Haines and LAL can be alternatively found in other Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS) products, forecast discussions, and other forecast elements such as mixing heights, thunder probability, and quantitative precipitation forecasts (QPF).

Table 1. Operational NWS Products Potentially Affected by These Changes

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Fire Weather Forecast	FNHW50	FWF
Spot Forecast	FNUS75	FWS
Fire Weather Matrix	FNUS85	FWM

A description of the discontinuation of Haines Index and LAL as Fire Weather Forecast Elements and examples of fire weather products using alternative information to replace Haines Index and LAL, can be found at the following link:

https://nsdesk.servicenowservices.com/api/g_noa/nwspc/res2/2def70a48756d2144b0fa8a60cbb35ac

For any feedback on the discontinuation of Haines Index and LAL as Fire Weather Forecast Elements, and proposed replacement information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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