

NOUS41 KWBC 141655
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 26-80
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1255 PM EDT Mon Sep 14 2026

To: Subscribers:
 - NOAA Weather Wire Service
 - Emergency Managers Weather.Information Network
 - NOAAPort
 - NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Dave Michaud, Director
 NWS Central Operations

Subject: Enforcement of new cipher suite on some National Weather Service
Sites Effective date: March 2, 2027

Effective on or about March 2, 2027, beginning at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), National Weather Service (NWS) Central Operations (NCO) will be updating and improving the configuration for the secure protocols used on some NCO hosted websites and applications. These websites will no longer support less secure cipher suites on Transport Layer Security (TLS) 1.2. This will provide a more secure browsing experience and will bring us closer in line with NIST SP 800-52 Rev. 2 guidance.

The list of accepted ciphers can be found by referencing the table [here](#) and looking at the column ak-akamai-2020q1. Any browsers or services that make use of NCO web services and do not negotiate using one of the accepted ciphers will need to make modifications in order to avoid losing access to these services. For example, only Windows Server versions 2016 and later and Red Hat version 7 and later support the new cipher list. For browsers, Chrome needs to be version 70 or later, Firefox needs to be version 63 or later, and Edge needs to be version 79 or later.

In the event that the implementation date is declared a Critical Weather Day (CWD), or significant weather is occurring or is anticipated to occur, implementation of this change will occur at 1200 UTC on the next weekday not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring.

The changes affect the Domain Names listed below (and the Canonical Name, or C-Name, not listed) for the following websites:

amdar.ncep.noaa.gov
amdar.noaa.gov
api.weather.gov
forecast.weather.gov
marine.weather.gov
hads.ncep.noaa.gov
inws.ncep.noaa.gov
iris.ncep.noaa.gov
madis.ncep.noaa.gov

madis.noaa.gov
madis-data.ncep.noaa.gov
opengeo.ncep.noaa.gov
ra4-gifs-idp.weather.gov
ra4-gifs.weather.gov
radar.weather.gov
spot.weather.gov
ripcurrents.noaa.gov
weather.gov
www.nws.noaa.gov
www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov
www.weather.gov
www.wrh.noaa.gov
ntwc.arh.noaa.gov
ntwc.ncep.noaa.gov
tsunami.gov
www.tsunami.gov

Users wishing to test their application's ability to use the new cipher suite can use any of the following sites:

amdarqa.ncep.noaa.gov
hadsqa.ncep.noaa.gov
inwsqa.ncep.noaa.gov
madisqa.ncep.noaa.gov
madisqa-data.ncep.noaa.gov
preview-api.weather.gov
preview-forecast.weather.gov
preview-marine.weather.gov
preview.weather.gov
preview-opengeo.ncep.noaa.gov
preview-ra4-gifs.weather.gov
preview-radar.weather.gov
preview-spot.weather.gov

We will evaluate any feedback and decide whether to proceed. If you have any questions or concerns about the data or services affected by this change, please contact:

NCO Network and Security Division
NWS Central Operations
Scott Tieperman, ISSO
ncep.list.security@noaa.gov

and

NCO Onboarding Team
NWS Central Operations
Joshua Huber, Team Lead
idp-support@noaa.gov

NWS Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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