

NOUS41 KWBC 121419
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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TO: Subscribers:
-Family of Services
-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
-NOAAPORT
Other NWS partners and NWS employees

FROM: Cindy Woods
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Chief, Performance and Awareness Division

SUBJECT: Use of Mixed Case Letters in Select RiverPro Products
at Select Weather Forecast Offices Effective on or
About July 31, 2013

Effective on or about Wednesday, July 31, 2013, the NWS will expand its mixed case text Product Risk Reduction effort to include select RiverPro products (Table 2) at some NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) (Table 3).

This expansion is a continuation of the risk-reduction effort begun August 2010. At that time, NWS began issuing national PNS products using mixed case letters and the expanded punctuation/character set (Table 1):

http://www.weather.gov/os/notification/scn10-28mixed_case.txt

and AFD, RWS and PNS products at select WFOs in October 2011:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/pns11mixedcase.txt>

The NWS first began seeking comments regarding mixed case text products in May 2010:

http://www.weather.gov/os/notification/pns10mixed_case.txt

NWS partners and users of these WFO text products are encouraged to consider NWS intent and comment regarding this next step in the risk reduction effort. User feedback will help the NWS better plan the eventual transition of all NWS text products to mixed case and the expanded character set.

Please provide comments by June 30, 2014, at:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=mixed-case>

Use of mixed case letters in text products will make them easier to read and allow users to click on internet links directly rather than converting them to lowercase or mixed case. Additional punctuation and other characters that are part of the international reference Alphabet No. 5 will also be included as appropriate.

Table 1: Allowed Mixed Case Character Set

"space" ! " # \$ % ampersand ' () * + , - . /
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; left caret = right caret ?
@ A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O
P Q R S T U V W X Y Z [\] ^ _
` a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o
p q r s t u v w x y z { | } ~

Table 2: RiverPro Products

RIVERPRO Products
ESF - Hydrologic Outlook
FFA - Flood Watch for Forecast Points
FLW - Flood Warning for Forecast Points
FLS - Follow-up to Flood Warning for FP
FLS - Flood Advisory for Forecast Points
RVS - Hydrologic Statement
RVA - Hydrologic Summary
RVD - River and Lake Forecast Product
HYx - Hydrometeorological Data Summary
RTP - Regional Temp and Precipitation
AGO - Agricultural Observations

Table 3: Participating WFOs

Central Region
Kansas City/Pleasant Hill, MO - EAX
Louisville, KY - LMK
Paducah, KY - PAH
Central Illinois (Lincoln) - ILX
St. Louis, MO - LSX
Springfield, MO - SGF
Topeka, KS - TOP
Dodge City, KS - DDC
Indianapolis, IN - IND
Wichita, KS - ICT

Southern Region
San Angelo, TX - SJT
Midland/Odessa, TX - MAF
Tulsa, OK - TSA

Western Region
Medford, OR -MFR
Portland, OR - PQR
San Joaquin Valley/Hanford, CA - HNX
Pendleton, OR - PDT

In this phase of our risk reduction effort, partners and users will have the opportunity to further identify and correct any anomalous behavior of their systems and their customers' systems that may be caused by mixed case and the expanded punctuation/character set in these WFO text products.

These products will continue to be issued using mixed case letters until each participating WFO transitions from AWIPS I to AWIPS II. Mixed case letters and the expanded punctuation/character set for text products may not be supported in the initial AWIPS II software build. The NWS is working to minimize the impact of this transition on NWS users and will issue additional notices and statements as updated user information is available. Partners and users should be aware these products may revert back to using all uppercase letters at the end of this phase of the risk reduction effort.

If you have questions, please contact:

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National Public Information Notices are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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