

NOUS41 KWBC 271338
PNSWSH

Public Information Notice
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 NWS National
Hurricane Center Products Effective on or about May
15, 2015

Effective on or about May 15, 2015, the NWS will expand its mixed-case text Product Risk Reduction effort to include additional products (Table 1) issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC). Products that were issued in mixed case in 2014 will continue to be issued in mixed case (Table 2).

Table 1: NHC Additional Products

Product Name	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
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Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (Atlantic)	WTNT31-35 KNHC	TCPAT1-5
Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (Eastern Pacific)	WTPZ31-35 KNHC	TCPEP1-5
Tropical Cyclone Update (Atlantic)	WTNT61-65 KNHC	TCUAT1-5
Tropical Cyclone Update (Eastern Pacific)	WTPZ61-65 KNHC	TCUEP1-5
Tropical Weather Summary (Atlantic)	ABNT30 KNHC	TWSAT
Tropical Weather Summary (Eastern Pacific)	ABPZ30 KNHC	TWSEP

Table 2: NHC Continued Products

Product Name -----	WMO Header -----	AWIPS ID -----
Tropical Weather Outlook (Atlantic)	ABNT20 KNHC	TWOAT
Tropical Weather Outlook (Eastern Pacific)	ABPZ20 KNHC	TWOEP
Tropical Cyclone Discussion (Atlantic)	WTNT41-45 KNHC	TCDAT1-5
Tropical Cyclone Discussion (Eastern Pacific)	WTPZ41-45 KNHC	TCDEP1-5

This expansion in the number of available mixed-case text products is a continuation of the risk-reduction effort which began in August 2010. At that time, NWS began issuing National Public Information Notice (PNS) products using mixed-case letters and the expanded punctuation/character set (Table 3):

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

AFD, RWS and PNS products at select Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in October 2011:

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

some RiverPro generated products at select WFOs in July 2013:

<pns13atan1096riverpro.txt>

and the PWO product issued by the Storm Prediction Center in July 2013:

<pns13spcmixedcase.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 NHC text products are encouraged to consider the 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 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 lower 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 3: Allowed Mixed Case Character Set

"space" ! " # \$ % & ' () * + , - . /
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; < = > ?
@ 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 { | } ~

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 customer's systems that may be caused by mixed case and the expanded punctuation/character set in these text products.

Partners and users should be aware these products may revert back to using all uppercase letters at any time if the NHC determines it to be necessary to meet operational requirements.

For more information, please contact:

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National Public Information Notices are online at:

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

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