Public Information Statement 16-35  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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To:   Subscribers:  
-NOAA Weather Wire Service  
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
-NOAAPort  
Other NWS Partners and Employees

From:   Ben Kyger  
Director, NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Changes to the NWS Forecast  
Website at forecast.weather.gov through  
November 15, 2016

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction Central Operations (NCO) is soliciting comments on changes to the Point Forecast application at: 
http://forecast.weather.gov

The purpose of these changes is to create a more usable interface with no duplication of service to users while providing a more modern service-oriented data structure.

The proposal to update the Point Forecast application will alter/deprecate a significant number of Uniform Resource Locators (URLs). Although in many cases the functionality is the same, the structure of the new site requires modifications to the URL. Users will be automatically redirected where possible to ease this transition for public customers; however, partners running automated processes to get NWS data from forecast.weather.gov will need to make sure that either their application properly follows these redirects or points directly to the new URL. The following pages and their new equivalent pages are below:

The following URLs and their equivalent pages are below:

forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php  
is replaced by  
forecast.weather.gov/point/

forecast.weather.gov/obslocal.php  
is replaced by  
forecast.weather.gov/zone/<zone-id>/obs#

wl.weather.gov/data/obhistory/XXX.html  
is replaced by  
forecast.weather.gov/obs/<siteid>/history
wl.weather.gov/data/obhistory/XXX.html is replaced by forecast.weather.gov/zone/<zoneid>/history

wl.weather.gov/glossary/index.php is replaced by forecast.weather.gov/glossary

forecast.weather.gov/product.php is replaced by forecast.weather.gov/products/<type>/siteId/<page>

forecast.weather.gov/product_types.php is replaced by forecast.weather.gov/products

wl.weather.gov/xml/current_obs/seek.php is replaced by forecast.weather.gov/obs/

wl.weather.gov/xml/current_obs/display.php is replaced by forecast.weather.gov/obs/<siteid>

forecast.weather.gov/netcdfheader.php is moved to an internal URL

forecast.weather.gov/gfestatus is moved to an internal URL

forecast.weather.gov/gfestatuslite.php is moved to an internal URL.

The following pages will be deprecated with this update and will no longer be available:

/error_404.php
/MkBackGround.php
/error.php
/showsigmz.php
/gridpoint_spa.php
/stations.php
/index.php
/showsigwx.php
/wxplanner_spa.php
/common.php
/zipcity.php
/siteNews.php
/obslocal_spa.php
/glossary.php
/sitestatus.php
/status.php
/gridpoint.php
/shmrn.php
/product_sites.php
In addition to the above changes, all URLs will be served only on SSL per Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Directive M-15-13 which can be found at https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/memoranda/2015/m-15-13.pdf

All URLs for forecast.weather.gov and www.weather.gov will be redirected to SSL and will only be accessible at https domain names.

The proposed new service is online for testing and feedback at:

https://forecast-v3.weather.gov

Comments will be accepted through November 15, 2016, via electronic survey at the following link:

If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive

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