TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: PAUL STOKOLS...ACTING CHIEF  
FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: EXPANDED CODED CITIES FORECAST AND NEW DIGITAL FORECAST PRODUCTS FROM NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE IN CARIBOU ME...EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1 AND DECEMBER 4 2000

ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1 2000...AT 400 PM EST...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN CARIBOU MAINE BEGAN ISSUING AN EXPANDED VERSION OF THE CODED CITIES FORECAST FOR CARIBOU AND BANGOR. ON MONDAY DECEMBER 4 2000...AT 400 PM EST...THE NUMBER OF LOCATIONS LISTED IN THE CODED CITIES FORECAST WILL EXPAND TO A TOTAL OF TEN. THESE LOCATIONS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

BANGOR
BAR HARBOR
CARIBOU
CLAYTON LAKE
EASTPORT
FRENCHVILLE
GREENVILLE
HOULTON
MILLINOCKET
PRESQUE ISLE

ALSO ON DECEMBER 4 2000...A NEW PRODUCT CALLED THE DIGITAL ZONE FORECAST WILL BE ISSUED. THE DIGITAL FORMAT OF THESE PRODUCTS WILL FACILITATE AUTOMATED PROCESSING BY COMPUTERS.

EXPANDED CODED CITIES FORECAST...

THE EXPANDED CODED CITIES FORECAST IS SIMILAR TO THE EXISTING PRODUCT FOR DAYS 1 AND 2...BUT WILL INCLUDE FORECASTS OUT TO FIVE DAYS. THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADER IS UNCHANGED...AND CONTINUES TO BE FPUS41 KCAR. THE NINE-CHARACTER PRODUCT INFORMATION LIST /PIL/ IDENTIFIER...PWMCCFCAR...ALSO REMAINS UNCHANGED. CUSTOMERS WILL NOT NEED TO MAKE ANY COMMUNICATION HEADER CHANGES TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS PRODUCT.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE FIRST ENTRY OF THE EXPANDED CODED CITIES FORECAST...

FPUS41 KCAR 162030
CCFCAR
THE THIRD TEXT LINE IS IDENTICAL TO THE OLD CODED CITIES FORECAST. ON THE FOURTH LINE... RRR IS AN EXAMPLE OF A STRING OF THREE ONE LETTER WEATHER FORECAST FOR DAYS THREE...FOUR AND FIVE...FOLLOWED BY THE TEMPERATURE FORECAST FOR THE LAST FIVE PERIODS. THE STRING OF ZEROES AT THE END OF THE FOURTH LINE REPRESENTS PLACE HOLDERS FOR SEVEN ADDITIONAL 12-HOUR PERIODS OF PRECIPITATION PROBABILITIES.

DIGITAL ZONE FORECAST...

THE DIGITAL ZONE FORECAST IS A NEW PRODUCT WHICH DISPLAYS FORECASTED WEATHER PARAMETERS IN UP TO 3-HOUR INTERVALS. THE INFORMATION IN A 3-HOURLY INTERVAL COMBINED WITH THE MATRIX FORMAT...CREATES A MORE DETAILED FORECAST AND ALSO MAKES IT EASIER FOR THE USER TO OBTAIN THE WEATHER PARAMETER/S/ OF CHOICE. IT IS ESSENTIALLY A DIGITAL DISPLAY OF THE OLD ZONE FORECAST IN MUCH GREATER DETAIL AND WITH FORECAST PROJECTIONS OUT TO FIVE DAYS. THE NARRATIVE VERSION OF THE ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT /ZFP/ WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE.

THE WMO HEADER FOR THIS PRODUCT WILL BE FOUS51 KCAR. THE NINE-CHARACTER PIL IDENTIFIER WILL BE PWMRDFCAR. CUSTOMERS WILL NEED TO ADD THESE IDENTIFIERS TO THEIR COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS IF THEY WISH TO RECEIVE THE DIGITAL ZONE FORECAST.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE DIGITAL ZONE FORECAST...
MEZO01-004-010518-
NORTHWEST AROOSTOOK-NORTHEAST AROOSTOOK-NORTHERN SOMERSET-NORTHERN
PISCATAQUIS-INCLUDING...ALLAGASH...CLAYTON LAKE...DICKEY...BAXTER STATE
PARK... RIPOGENUS DAM...CARIBOU...MADAWASKA...PRESQUE ISLE...HARDWOOD
MOUNTAIN
318 PM EDT THU AUG 31 2000

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END OF EXAMPLE

FURTHER DETAILS ON HOW TO INTERPRET THIS PRODUCT CAN BE FOUND ON THE
INTERNET WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE/: 
WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/ER/RLX/PRODEX/RDFEXPLANATION.HTML

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THESE NEW PRODUCTS...PLEASE CALL
THE NWS CARIBOU OFFICE AT 207-496-0148. EXT. 222 FOR LARRY GABRIC OR EXT.
223 FOR HENDRICHUS LULOFS.
NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/: 

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

END
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