

NOUS41 KWBC 091625  
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 07-06  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
1145 AM EST FRI MAR 09 2007

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER  
WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS  
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
/NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: ELI JACKS  
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN AREA FORECAST MATRICES...POINT FORECAST  
MATRICES...STATE FORECAST PRODUCTS AND ZONE FORECAST  
PRODUCT... EFFECTIVE WITH AWIPS BUILD 7.2

EFFECTIVE WITH EACH NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICES  
INSTALLATION OF AWIPS BUILD 7.2...THE FOLLOWING PRODUCT CHANGES  
OCCUR.

1. THE PRODUCT EXPIRATION TIME OF THE AREA FORECAST MATRICES  
/AFM/...POINT FORECAST MATRICES /PFM/...STATE FORECAST PRODUCT  
/SFP/...TABULAR STATE FORECAST PRODUCT /SFT/ AND ZONE FORECAST  
PRODUCT /ZFP/ CHANGES. THE PRODUCT EXPIRATION TIME FOR THESE  
PRODUCTS IS THE NEXT MANDATORY PRODUCT ISSUANCE TIME INSTEAD OF  
A STANDARD 15 HOURS FROM THE PRODUCT ISSUANCE TIME.

2. A NEW AFM/PFM VOLCANIC ASH FALL CODE /AF/ REPLACES THE OLD  
VOLCANIC ASH FALL CODE /VA/.

3. THE PROBABILITY OF PRECIPITATION /POP...USE LOWER CASE LETTER  
O/ IS INCLUDED IN THE ZFP FOR ALL CATEGORICAL /POP OF 80...90...  
OR 100/ FORECASTS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOT REQUIRED BY NWSI 10-  
503...WFO PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST PRODUCTS SPECIFICATION...  
DECEMBER 19 2005... SECTION 9.3.5.3.G...CASES WHERE NO POP VALUE  
IS REQUIRED.

4. NIGHTTIME POP IS INCLUDED IN THE SFT.

THESE POP CHANGES PROVIDE A MORE REPRESENTATIVE FORECAST FOR  
PRECIPITATION DURING THE FORECAST PERIOD.

5. ONE OF THE AFM/PFM PREDOMINANT SKY COVER CATEGORIES CHANGES.  
THE AFM/PFM PREDOMINANT SKY COVER GREATER THAN 50 PERCENT AND  
LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 87 PERCENT CATEGORY /CURRENTLY CODE BK/ IS  
SPLIT INTO TWO SEPARATE CATEGORIES:

A. SKY COVER CODE B1 /FORMERLY BK/ FOR CLOUD AMOUNTS GREATER  
THAN 50 PERCENT AND LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 69 PERCENT IS

EXPRESSED AS PARTLY SUNNY OR MOSTLY CLOUDY.

B. SKY COVER CODE B2 /FORMERLY BK/ FOR CLOUD AMOUNTS GREATER THAN 69 PERCENT AND LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 87 PERCENT IS EXPRESSED AS MOSTLY CLOUDY OR CONSIDERABLE CLOUDINESS.

THIS SKY COVER CODE CHANGE PROVIDES A MORE REPRESENTATIVE VALUE FOR CLOUD COVER AND MORE CLOSELY MATCHES THE AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM /ASOS/ CRITERIA. THE TABLE IN THE LINK BELOW DESCRIBES THE COMPLETE SKY COVER CODES AND EQUIVALENT SKY COVER EXPRESSIONS USED IN THE AFM/PFM.

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/RESOURCES/PFM\\_SKY\\_COVER\\_CODE.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/resources/pfm_sky_cover_code.htm)

AWIPS BUILD 7.2 SHOULD BE DEPLOYED BY MID-APRIL 2007. THE ABOVE CHANGES HAVE BEEN DETAILED IN NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION /NWSI/ 10-503...WFO PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST PRODUCTS SPECIFICATION SINCE DECEMBER 19 2005.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE CHANGES PLEASE CONTACT:

ANDY HORVITZ  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
1325 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
SILVER SPRING MD 20910  
PHONE: 301-713-1858 EXT. 166  
EMAIL: [ANDY.HORVITZ@NOAA.GOV](mailto:ANDY.HORVITZ@NOAA.GOV)

THIS AND ALL OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE POSTED ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

\$\$  
NNNN