NOUS41 KWBC 161400 PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 07-52 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC 1000 AM EDT TUE OCT 16 2007

- TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES
- FROM: ELI JACKS CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF OPERATIONAL WEB-BASED WEATHER ACTIVITY PLANNER: EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 15 2007

EFFECTIVE THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15 2007 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...0700 AM EST...THE NWS WILL MAKE AVAILABLE OPERATIONALLY THE WEB-BASED INTERFACE ENTITLED WEATHER ACTIVITY PLANNER /WAP/. IF NOVEMBER 15 2007 IS A CRITICAL WEATHER DAY...THE IMPLEMENTATION MAY BE POSTPONED. IN THAT CASE...USERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THAT DECISION VIA SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

THE WAP IS AN EASY-TO-USE INTERFACE THAT PERMITS PUBLIC ACCESS TO NWS DIGITAL FORECAST INFORMATION. THE WEBPAGE INTERFACE ALLOWS AN INDIVIDUAL TO ENTER A RANGE OF VALUES FOR SPECIFIC WEATHER PARAMETERS AND OBTAIN A FORECAST FOR THE DEFINED AREA OF INTEREST. THE FORECAST DATA IS OBTAINED DIRECTLY FROM THE LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE /WFO/ DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE AND PRESENTED IN A GRAPHICAL DISPLAY. AVERAGE CONDITIONS FOR A FIVE KILOMETER GRID BOX NEAREST TO THE USER-SELECTED LATITUDE/LONGITUDE POINT FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS ARE SHOWN.

A SAMPLE WAP OUTPUT CAN BE GENERATED BY REPLACING THE SITE VARIABLE /SITE = XXX/ OF THE LINK BELOW WITH A WFO ID. THE FOLLOWING LINK /USE LOWER CASE/ IS FOR THE SALT LAKE CITY WAP /SITE = SLC/:

HTTP://FORECAST.WEATHER.GOV/WXPLANNER.PHP?SITE=SLC

THE WAP HELPS SATISFY E-GOV INITIATIVES BY PROVIDING AN AVENUE TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENT PROVIDED WEATHER DATA. THE INTENDED AUDIENCE INCLUDES EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO HAVE A NEED TO ASSESS FORECAST CONDITIONS FOR A DEFINED SET OF PARAMETERS AND ASSOCIATED THRESHOLDS AT A SPECIFIC LOCATION OF INTEREST.

THE WAP WILL INITIALLY BE AVAILABLE AT 119 WFO WEBSITES ACROSS THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES /CONUS/...HAWAII...PUERTO RICO...U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS AND GUAM. A FUTURE SCN WILL BE ISSUED WHEN ALASKA REGION WFOS BEGIN PROVIDING THE WAP SERVICE.

A LINK ENTITLED WEATHER ACTIVITY PLANNER WILL BE LOCATED IN THE MENU ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE OF EACH WFO/S HOMEPAGE UNDER THE FORECASTS SECTION.

IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

ANDY HORVITZ FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH NOAA-NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS SILVER SPRING MARYLAND PHONE: 301-713-1868 X 166 EMAIL: <u>ANDY.HORVITZ@NOAA.GOV</u>

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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