

NOUS41 KWBC 251915  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 15-16  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
315 PM EDT Wed Mar 25 2015

To:       Subscribers:  
          -Family of Services  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          -NOAAPort  
          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:      John Guiney  
            Chief, Eastern Region Meteorological Services Division

Subject: Addition of Metadata to NWS Eastern Region Public Information  
Statements: Effective May 5, 2015

Effective Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), NWS Eastern Region Weather Forecast Offices will add metadata to the bottom of Public Information Statements (PNSs) used to summarize recent past weather such as snow accumulation, rainfall and wind gusts. This metadata will contain the same information found in the plain text portion of the message but will be in a format computers can decode and plot on a map.

The metadata will start immediately following a double ampersand (&&) with the heading \*\*\*\*\*METADATA\*\*\*\*\*. Each line following the header will contain information in comma separated value (CSV) format as follows:

:Event Date, Event Time, State, County, Reference City, Distance (miles)  
from Reference City, Direction from Reference City, Latitude, Longitude  
(in decimal degrees), Weather Event Type, Magnitude of Event, Weather  
Units, Report Source, Remarks.

Here is a sample of the new format:

NOUS41 KPBZ  
PNSPBZ  
PAZ016

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT SPOTTER REPORTS  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PITTSBURGH PA  
338 PM EST THU FEB 26 2015

THE FOLLOWING ARE UNOFFICIAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE PAST 8 HOURS  
FOR THE STORM THAT HAS BEEN AFFECTING OUR REGION. APPRECIATION IS  
EXTENDED TO SKYWARN SPOTTERS...COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS...MEDIA AND HIGHWAY  
DEPARTMENTS FOR THESE REPORTS.

\*\*\*\*\*STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL\*\*\*\*\*

LOCATION	STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL /INCHES/	TIME/DATE OF MEASUREMENT	COMMENTS
OHIO			
...JEFFERSON COUNTY			
1 WNW FOLLANSBEE	1.7	1255 PM 2/18	SOCIAL MEDIA
&&			

\*\*\*\*\*METADATA\*\*\*\*\*

:2/18/2015, 1255 PM, OH, JEFFERSON, FOLLANSBEE, 1, WNW, 40.3421, -80.6197,  
SNOW, 1.7, INCH, SOCIAL MEDIA, ELEV 1000

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Note this format change does not require any change to NOAA Weather Wire  
Service product identifiers, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)  
Headings or Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs).

For comments on the new format, contact:

Rick Watling  
NWS Eastern Region Headquarters  
E-mail: [richard.watling@noaa.gov](mailto:richard.watling@noaa.gov)  
Phone: 631-244-0123

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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