

NOUS41 KWBC 181325  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-50  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
925 AM EDT Tue Apr 18 2017

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

From:     Allison Allen  
          Chief, Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Use of Mixed-Case Text/95 ASCII Character Set in Selected Marine  
Text Products: Effective June 1, 2017

Effective Thursday June 1, 2017, NWS will transition the following marine  
(coastal and Great Lakes) text products issued by Weather Forecast Offices  
(WFO), NCEP National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the Ocean Prediction  
Center (OPC) from all capital letters to a mixed-case text format/expanded  
95 ASCII character set:

Product Name	AWIPS ID*
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Coastal Waters Forecast	CWFXXX
Great Lakes Open Lake Forecast	GLFXXX
Great Lakes Nearshore Marine Forecast	NSHXXX
Surf Zone Forecast	SRFXXX
Other Marine Reports	OMRXXX
Offshore Marine Forecast	OFFXXX
NAVTEX Marine Forecast	NAVXXX
Collaborative Nearshore Swell and	SRDHFO
Wind Forecast for Oahu	
Generalized Statewide Coastal Waters	CWFHI1
Forecast for Hawaii	

\*XXX is the WFO or Center Three-Letter ID.

Examples of marine text products in mixed case are online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/pns/mc-marine.docx>

All of the sample products are shown for sample formatting purposes only  
and have not been issued. If weather conditions prevent any WFO or Center  
from making this change on June 1, 2017, the change to the mixed-case text  
format will occur on the next suitable day.

This rollout of the mixed-case text format for marine products was preceded by the Marine Interpretation Message (MIM), issued by the Centers on November 30, 2016. See Service Change Notice (SCN) 16-46 posted at:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn16-46nhc\\_opc\\_mixedcase.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn16-46nhc_opc_mixedcase.pdf)

NWS will notify partners/users of future product implementations via Service Change Notices (SCN) with at least 30 days' lead-time. These notices will include AWIPS product identifiers and actual effective dates.

Partners and users of NWS text products should modify their systems to accommodate mixed case and the expanded character set. This change will make text products easier to read and allow users to click on links directly rather than requiring conversion to lowercase or mixed case.

If you have questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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