TO:       Subscribers:
- NOAA Weather Wire Service
- Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- NOAAPort
Other NWS partners, users, and employees

FROM:     David Novak
Director, Weather Prediction Center

Subject:  Use of mixed-case text/95 ASCII character set and
removal of coded Isohyet Points in the Quantitative
Precipitation Forecast Discussion effective
February 26, 2018

Effective Monday, February 26, 2018, at 1200 Coordinated
Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental
Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will
transition the Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
discussion to a mixed case text/expanded 95 ASCII character set
format.

In addition, WPC will discontinue the coded isohyet points which
represent the vertices of the forecast accumulation contours:
.01 inch, .25 inch, etc. These points are currently appended to
the end of the discussion text. The contouring information will
remain available in gridded and GIS formats elsewhere on the WPC
website. GIS formatted data is available at

The following text product will be modified:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWIPS ID</th>
<th>WMO ID</th>
<th>Product Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QPFPFD</td>
<td>FXUS04 KWBC</td>
<td>Quantitative Precipitation Forecast Discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expansion in the number of available mixed-case text products is
a continuation of the NWS transition to the use of mixed-case
letters. Use of mixed-case letters in text products will make
them easier to read and allow users to click on links directly
rather than converting them to lower or mixed case. Partners and
users of WPC text products should modify their systems to
accommodate mixed case and the expanded character set.

If a Critical Weather Day (CWD) prevents this change on February
26, 2018, the product format change will take effect on the next
non-CWD day.
For more information, please contact:
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Science and Operations Officer
Email: mark.klein@noaa.gov
Phone: (301) 683-1490

National Service Change Notices are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm

NNNN