

NOUS41 KWBC 241735  
PNSWSH  
Service Change Notice 18-07  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
135 PM EST Thu Jan 25 2018

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

<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/kml/kmlproducts.php>.

The following text product will be modified:

AWIPS ID	WMO ID	Product Name
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QPFDFD	FXUS04 KWBC	Quantitative Precipitation Forecast Discussion

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.

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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