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Service Change Notice 16-35, Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
730 AM EDT Mon Apr 15 2018

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPORT
 Other NWS partners and NWS employees

From: Ben Kyger
 Director, NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Updated: Implementation of changes to the NWS forecast
 website at forecast.weather.gov on or about
 July 10, 2019

Updated to change implementation date to on or about Monday,
July 10, 2019.

On or about Monday, July, 10 2019, the National Centers for
Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations (NCO) will
implement a major change to its Point Forecast application at:

<http://forecast.weather.gov>

The Public Information Statement (PNS) issued on October 17,
2016, to collect comments on this intended change is online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/pns16-35forecastgov.pdf>

Comments on these changes were generally favorable so NWS plans
to implement the new Point Forecast application. The purpose of
these changes is to create a more usable interface with no
duplication of service to users while providing a more modern
service-oriented data structure.

The October 17, 2016, PNS provided details on changes that will
be made to a variety of Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) in
association with this implementation. Partners and users are
encouraged to refer to this PNS for the specific technical details.

In addition to the updated URLs, two key updates to data sources
of the forecast application will be available in the July 10,
2019, release.

First, the data source for displaying observation data has been
updated to leverage use of Meteorological Assimilation Data
Ingest System (MADIS) Quality Controlled data. Included in this

observation update is application logic to retrieve observation data from the next geographically closest observational site if the geographically closest observational site does not have current observation data.

Second, the updated forecast application leverages data provided in Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) v1.2 format to display watches, warnings, and advisory products. Because Alaska Marine Zone products are not currently in CAP v1.2 format, users attempting to access point forecast data over open waters within the updated forecast application will be redirected to marine.weather.gov, where all Marine Zone products will be available. Alaska Marine Zone Warnings will remain available to our users through other NWS websites including including:

- Watches Warnings, and Advisories (WWA) Map: www.weather.gov/alerts.weather.gov
- Marine Point forecast application: marine.weather.gov
- Alaska Region website: www.weather.gov/alaska

The following link provides partners and users with a series of examples of how the user experience of the Point Forecast application will change on or about July 10 for certain key functions. Both before and after depictions are provided in each case.

<https://www.weather.gov/documentation/services-web-forecast>

Partners and users who have bookmarked forecast.weather.gov to access the Point Forecast pages will be taken to a page indicating the new URL they should bookmark to access the new page in the future.

In addition to the above changes, all URLs will be served only on SSL per Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Directive M-15-13 online at:

<https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/omb/memoranda/2015/m-15-13.pdf>

All URLs for forecast.weather.gov and www.weather.gov will be redirected to SSL and will be accessible only at https: domain names.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

Paul Iwugo
NCEP Central Operations
Software Development Branch
College Park, MD 20740
paul.iwugo@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are available at

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

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