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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-25
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Mike Angove
 Acting Chief, Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services
 Branch

Subject: National Hurricane Center (NHC) Tropical Cyclone JavaScript
 Object Notation file transition to operational on or about
 May 15, 2020

Effective on or about May 15, 2020, the Tropical Cyclone JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) file provided on hurricanes.gov will transition to operational status. The National Hurricane Center will continuously update this file whenever tropical cyclone forecasts are being made by the NWS in the Atlantic, East Pacific and Central Pacific basins. When no forecasts have been issued in the past 12 hours, NHC will produce an empty JSON file.

An example of the Tropical Cyclone JSON file can be found here:
https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/productexamples/NHC_JSON_Sample.json

This single file will include up to 27 URLs per tropical cyclone that link to storm-specific tropical cyclone products. Each file will contain analysis and forecast information for every active tropical cyclone in the aforementioned basins. Each specific tropical cyclone will contain a set of information that will begin with the storm ID. The tropical cyclone storm ID is formatted as follows:

BBCCYYYY (e.g., ep112017)

Where: (BB) is the basin (al - North Atlantic; ep - East Pacific; cp - Central Pacific)

Where: (CC) is the cyclone number for that year (01, 02...)

Where: (YYYY) is the 4-digit year

Following the tropical cyclone storm ID are standardized strings of vital analysis information about the tropical cyclone, including its name, intensity and movement. An entry for the time at which this information was last updated immediately follows this analysis information. The remainder of the product includes a listing of each tropical cyclone product.

These products include tropical cyclone advisory text products such as the Tropical Cyclone Discussion (TCD) and graphical products such as the Tropical Cyclone Track and Watch/Warning Graphic (also known as the "cone graphic") and the Most Likely Time of Arrival of Tropical-Storm-Force Winds Graphic.

Each product has sublistings that contain the tropical cyclone advisory number of the most recent product posted, the issuance time of the product and, as applicable, the URL where the latest text file can be found, the zip file(s) with the product data URL(s), and/or the kmz format file URL(s).

Each forecast product and piece of analysis information listed in the sample JSON file will always be present so long as advisories have been issued within the past 12 hours for the tropical cyclone.

The data in the Tropical Cyclone JSON file will be continuously updated to provide links to the latest products associated with the active tropical cyclones. Users can avoid reprocessing of data that has already been ingested because the latest update time is included for each individual product.

The Tropical Cyclone JSON file can be found here:
<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/CurrentStorms.json>

For technical and policy questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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