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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
 -Family of Services
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Cindy Woods
 Chief, Operations and Requirements Division
 Chief, Performance and Awareness Division

Subject: Use of Mixed-Case Letters in Select RiverPro Products at Select
Weather Forecast Offices: Effective on or About July 31, 2013

Effective on or about Wednesday, July 31, 2013, the NWS will expand its
mixed-case text Product Risk Reduction effort to include select RiverPro
products (Table 2) at some NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) (Table 3).

This expansion is a continuation of the risk-reduction effort begun August
2010. At that time, NWS began issuing national PNS products using mixed-
case letters and the expanded punctuation/character set (Table 1):

<https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn10-28mixed case.pdf>

and AFD, RWS and PNS products at select Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in
October 2011:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/pns11mixedcase.pdf>

The NWS first began seeking comments regarding mixed-case text products in
May 2010:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/pns10mixed case.pdf>

NWS partners and users of these WFO text products are encouraged to
consider NWS intent and comment regarding this next step in the risk
reduction effort. User feedback will help the NWS better plan the
eventual transition of all NWS text products to mixed case and the
expanded character set.

Please provide comments by June 30, 2014 at:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=mixed-case>

Use of mixed-case letters in text products will make them easier to read
and allow users to click on internet links directly rather than converting
them to lowercase or mixed-case. Additional punctuation and other

characters that are part of the international reference Alphabet No. 5 will also be included as appropriate.

Table 1: Allowed Mixed-Case Character Set

"space" ! " # \$ % ampersand ' () * + , - . / 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; left
carot = right carot ? @ A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y
Z [\] ^ _ ` a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z { | } ~

Table 2: RiverPro Products

ESF - Hydrologic Outlook
FFA - Flood Watch for Forecast Points
FLW - Flood Warning for Forecast Points
FLS - Follow-up to Flood Warning for Forecast Points
FLS - Flood Advisory for Forecast Points
RVS - Hydrologic Statement
RVA - Hydrologic Summary
RVD - River and Lake Forecast Product
HYx - Hydrometeorological Data Summary
RTP - Regional Temp and Precipitation
AGO - Agricultural Observations

Table 3: Participating Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs)

Central Region:

Kansas City/Pleasant Hill, MO - EAX
Louisville, KY - LMK
Paducah, KY - PAH
Central Illinois (Lincoln) - ILX
St. Louis, MO - LSX
Springfield, MO - SGF
Topeka, KS - TOP
Dodge City, KS - DDC
Indianapolis, IN - IND
Wichita, KS - ICT

Southern Region:

San Angelo, TX - SJT
Midland/Odessa, TX - MAF
Tulsa, OK - TSA

Western Region:

Medford, OR -MFR
Portland, OR - PQR
San Joaquin Valley/Hanford, CA - HNX
Pendleton, OR - PDT

In this phase of our risk reduction effort, partners and users will have the opportunity to further identify and correct any anomalous behavior of their systems and their customers' systems that may be caused by mixed case and the expanded punctuation/character set in these WFO text products.

These products will continue to be issued using mixed-case letters until each participating WFO transitions from the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) I to AWIPS II. Mixed-case letters and the expanded punctuation/character set for text products may not be supported in the initial AWIPS II software build. The NWS is working to minimize the impact of this transition on NWS users and will issue additional notices and statements as updated user information is available. Partners and users should be aware these products may revert back to using all uppercase letters at the end of this phase of the risk reduction effort.

If you have questions, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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