

NOUS41 KWBC 121419
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 the NWS Storm Prediction Center
Public Severe Weather Outlook Product: 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 the NWS Storm Prediction Center (SPC) Public Severe Weather Outlook product (WOUS40 KWNS/PWOSPC).

This expansion in the number of available mixed-case text products continues the risk-reduction effort begun in 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 this SPC text product 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 other 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
carat = 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 { | } ~

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 customer systems that may be caused by mixed-case and the expanded punctuation/character set in this text product.

This product will be issued using mixed case text until June 30, 2014, at which time, a decision will be made regarding its continuance. Partners and users should be aware this product may revert back to all uppercase letters at the end of this phase of the risk reduction effort.

If you have questions, please contact:

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