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Public Information Statement 16-35
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
           -NOAA Weather Wire Service
           -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
           -NOAAPort
           Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Ben Kyger
           Director, NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Changes to the NWS Forecast Website at
forecast.weather.gov through November 15, 2016

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction Central Operations (NCO)
is soliciting comments on changes to the Point Forecast application at:

http://forecast.weather.gov

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 proposal to update the Point Forecast application will alter/deprecate
a significant number of Uniform Resource Locators (URLs). Although in
many cases the functionality is the same, the structure of the new site
requires modifications to the URL. Users will be automatically redirected
where possible to ease this transition for public customers; however,
partners running automated processes to get NWS data from
forecast.weather.gov will need to make sure that either their application
properly follows these redirects or points directly to the new URL. The
following pages and their new equivalent pages are below:

forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/point/

forecast.weather.gov/obslocal.php
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/zone/<zone-id>/obs#

w1.weather.gov/data/obhistory/XXX.html
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/obs/<siteid>/history

w1.weather.gov/data/obhistory/XXX.html
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/zone/<zoneid>/history

w1.weather.gov/glossary/index.php
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/glossary

forecast.weather.gov/product.php
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/products/<type>/siteId/<page>

forecast.weather.gov/product_types.php
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/products

w1.weather.gov/xml/current_obs/seek.php
is replaced by:
forecast.weather.gov/obs/

w1.weather.gov/xml/current_obs/display.php
forecast.weather.gov/obs/<siteid>

forecast.weather.gov/netcdfheader.php is moved to an internal URL

forecast.weather.gov/gfestatus is moved to an internal URL

forecast.weather.gov/gfestatuslite.php is moved to an internal URL.

The following pages will be deprecated with this update and will no longer
be available:

/error_404.php
/MkBackGround.php
/error.php
/showsigmz.php
/gridpoint_spa.php
/stations.php
/index.php
/showsigwx.php
/wxplanner_spa.php
/common.php
/zipcity.php
/siteNews.php
/obslocal_spa.php
/glossary.php
/sitestatus.php
/status.php
/gridpoint.php
/shmrn.php
/product_sites.php
/MapClick_spa.php
/preview.php

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

https://www.whitehouse.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 only be accessible at https: domain names.

The proposed new service is online for testing and feedback at:

https://forecast-v3.weather.gov

Comments will be accepted through November 15, 2016, via electronic survey at the following link:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=PFCSTCHANGES

If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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