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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 02-25 CORRECTED  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
120 PM EDT MON APR 22 2002

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: JAMES E. LEE  
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CORRECTED: NEW NWS PROBABILISTIC HEAT INDEX PRODUCT  
SUITE...EFFECTIVE MAY 1 2002

...CORRECTED ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/  
IDENTIFIERS FOR NEW PRODUCTS...NOTED BELOW...

ON MAY 1 2002...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WILL BEGIN DISTRIBUTING A NEW  
PRODUCT...THE PROBABILISTIC HEAT INDEX. THE NEW PRODUCT SUITE WILL  
INCLUDE A SET OF GRAPHICS DEPICTING THE PROBABILITY OF THE AVERAGE DAILY  
HEAT INDEX EXCEEDING SELECTED THRESHOLDS FOR THE CONTINENTAL U.S. /CONUS/.  
A COMPANION TEXT PRODUCT WILL ALSO BE ISSUED WITH THE SAME DATA IN TABULAR  
FORM. THE FORECASTS WILL BE PREPARED AT THE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION /NCEP/ BY THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PREDICTION  
CENTER /HPC/ AND WILL BE ISSUED DAILY AROUND 3 PM EDT. THE PRODUCTS WILL  
COVER THE PERIOD FROM THREE TO SEVEN DAYS AHEAD. THESE PRODUCTS WILL  
REPLACE THREE TO SEVEN DAY AVERAGE HEAT INDEX PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY NCEP/S  
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER /CPC/.

THE NEW PRODUCT SUITE IS INTENDED TO GIVE CUSTOMERS AN EARLY INDICATION OF  
ANY SIGNIFICANT HEAT RELATED PROBLEMS. THE HEAT INDEX IS CALCULATED BY  
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BOTH THE TEMPERATURE AND THE HUMIDITY AND IS A MORE  
ACCURATE INDICATOR OF DISCOMFORT THAN THE TEMPERATURE ALONE. STUDIES HAVE  
SHOWN THAT THE THRESHOLD FOR DANGER DUE TO HEAT RELATED STRESS IS AN  
AVERAGE DAILY HEAT INDEX OF 85 DEGREES OR HIGHER.

THE HEAT INDEX IS CALCULATED FOR EACH LOCATION BASED ON HPC FORECASTS.  
THEY ARE CONVERTED TO PROBABILISTIC VALUES BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE  
AVERAGE ERROR OF THE HPC HEAT INDEX FORECAST AT A SPECIFIC LOCATION AND  
FORECAST DAY.

THE GRAPHICS WILL DISPLAY THE PROBABILISTIC HEAT INDEX FORECAST FOR DAYS  
THREE THROUGH SEVEN AND WILL INCLUDE CHARTS FOR THE 85...90...AND 95  
DEGREE THRESHOLD. PROBABILITIES OF 10...40...70 PERCENT WILL BE CONTOURED  
ON EACH MAP. THE TEXT PRODUCT WILL INCLUDE THE DAILY AVERAGE HEAT INDEX  
FORECAST VALUE AS WELL AS THE PROBABILITY OF THE HEAT INDEX EXCEEDING 70/  
75/ 80/ 85/ 90/ 95/ 100/ AND 105 DEGREES.

THE FOLLOWING WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADINGS/AWIPS IDS ARE FOR GRAPHICS COVERING THE CONUS.

DAY	HI	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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3	85	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG385 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
3	90	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG390 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
3	95	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG395 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
4	85	PTNM98 KWNH	RBG485 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
4	90	PTNM98 KWNH	RBG490 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
4	95	PTNM98 KWNH	RBG495 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
5	85	PTNO98 KWNH	RBG585 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
5	90	PTNO98 KWNH	RBG590 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
5	95	PTNO98 KWNH	RBG595 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
6	85	PTNQ98 KWNH	RBG685 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
6	90	PTNQ98 KWNH	RBG690 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
6	95	PTNQ98 KWNH	RBG695 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
7	85	PTNS98 KWNH	RBG785 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
7	90	PTNS98 KWNH	RBG790 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
7	95	PTNS98 KWNH	RBG795 < CORRECTED AWIPS ID

THE PROBABILISTIC HEAT INDEX FORECAST TEXT BULLETIN IS SENT IN TWO PARTS /EAST AND WEST/:

AREA	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
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EAST	FMUS23 KWNH	PRBEHI < CORRECTED AWIPS ID
WEST	FMUS24 KWNH	PRBWHI < CORRECTED AWIPS ID

IN ADDITION...HPC DISSEMINATES THESE PRODUCTS AND RELATED INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET. THE URL ADDRESS AVAILABLE MAY 1 IS /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.HPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/HEAT\\_INDEX/](http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/heat_index/)

THE FOLLOWING 3- TO 7-DAY CPC HEAT FORECASTS WILL BE DISCONTINUED AND BE REPLACED BY THE REVISED DAY-TO-DAY FORMAT /FOR DAYS THREE TO SEVEN/ FROM THE HPC...BEGINNING MAY 1 2002:

...DISCONTINUED...

AVG. HEAT INDEX	WMO HEADER	AWIPS ID
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CRITERIA A /85F+ FOR 3+ DAYS/	PTAM90 KWNC	RBGHI1
CRITERIA B /90F+ FOR 2+ DAYS/	PTAM95 KWNC	RBGHI2
CRITERIA C /95F+ FOR 1+ DAY/	PTAM00 KWNC	RBGHI3
STATION PLOT /MAX HEAT INDEX/	PTNK98 KWNC	RBGHX3

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ANY OF THESE CHANGES...YOU CAN CONTACT:

KEVIN MCCARTHY  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
NCEP HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PREDICTION CENTER  
PHONE: 301-763-8000 X 7304  
EMAIL: [KEVIN.MCCARTHY@NOAA.GOV](mailto:KEVIN.MCCARTHY@NOAA.GOV)

OR

DAVID REYNOLDS  
CHIEF...NCEP/HPC FORECAST OPERATIONS BRANCH  
PHONE: 301-763-8000 X 7317  
EMAIL: [DAVID.REYNOLDS@NOAA.GOV](mailto:DAVID.REYNOLDS@NOAA.GOV)

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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