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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-98
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1200 PM EDT Fri Sep 1 2017

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: Termination of Common Alerting Protocol Version 1.1 CAP (v1.1) to be No Sooner than November 1, 2017

NWS will terminate CAP v1.1 no sooner than November 1, 2017. NWS also reminds users of the dissemination channels and documentation for Common Alerting Protocol version 1.2 (CAP v1.2).

Service Change Notice (SCN) 17-35, referenced below, announced the operational NWS implementation of Watches/Warnings/Advisories (WWA) in CAP v1.2 format effective on April 30, 2017. The notice identified a planned termination of CAP v1.1 no sooner than September 1, 2017:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn17-35capaaa.pdf>

NWS will continue providing CAP v1.1 until at least November 1, 2017 at:

<https://alerts.weather.gov>

On or after November 1, 2017, NWS will permanently cease production of CAP v1.1 in any form or on any NWS dissemination channel. A future SCN will specify the exact effective date of this service termination. Note that on the effective date, the documentation for accessing CAP v1.2 and the 7-day archive of NWS CAP v1.2 messages currently located at:

<https://alerts-v2.weather.gov/> will move to:
<https://alerts.weather.gov>

CAP v1.2 messages are provided through multiple dissemination channels, including the NWS Application Programming Interface (API), http and ftp file listings, and NOAAPort satellite broadcast as summarized in sections 1-3, below. More details are provided on the above webpage.

1. The NWS API endpoint at: <https://api.weather.gov> provides access to CAP v1.2 messages, a digest of active CAP v1.2 messages in Atomic Syndication Format (ATOM), and CAP content in JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) format. Users of the API have reported issues with the availability, timeliness, and time stamps in the ATOM and JSON formatted outputs via the API. These issues are being addressed and further updates

to these issues will be provided on the Change Log tab at:

<https://alerts-v2.weather.gov/documentation>

2. CAP v1.2 messages are available via http and ftp file listings at:

<http://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/DF.xml/DC.cap/>
<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/DF.xml/DC.cap/>

These file listings provide a traditional directory listing of all CAP alerts issued for the past seven days as well as directory lists (ls-l and ls-lt) for CAP consumers wishing to frequently check for any new CAP messages in the directory.

3. CAP v1.2 messages are available via NOAAPort satellite broadcast under the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Heading XOaa5i KWBC, where aa corresponds to US, AK, CA, GM, HW or ZS, and i is equal to 0 (zero) to 9.

As a reflection of continued improvements to NWS service delivery, NWS CAP v1.2 messages may periodically undergo minor changes or updates to the CAP elements or parameters. Since CAP is eXtensible Markup Language (XML)-based, these minor changes or updates should not impact the ability of NWS partners and users to properly parse the CAP messages; however, partners and users are encouraged to monitor the continuously-updated Change Log tab reference above for all changes or updates to the CAP v1.2 elements and parameters that might impact use of NWS CAP or provide additional value.

Since the release of SCN 17-35, NWS CAP v1.2 has been enhanced with the addition of CAP parameters for some convective warnings as noted in item 5 of the April 4 Change Log entry. These include hail size, wind gust potential, tornado potential, and tornado damage potential as well as storm motion, location, and time.

For operational issues including CAP access and connectivity, please contact:

Senior Duty Meteorologist
National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations
sdm@noaa.gov

For other non-operational technical questions, please contact:

Software Development Branch
NCEP Central Operations
nids.support@noaa.gov

For questions or suggestions about meteorological or hydrologic content within CAP messages and CAP documentation, contact:

Mike Gerber
Office of Dissemination
mike.gerber@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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