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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 23-122
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
900 AM EST Thu Dec 21 2023

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: NWS Alerts Atomic Syndication Format (ATOM) Data Changes:
Effective on or about January 31, 2024

NWS and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will begin the transition of the NWS Alerts ATOM feed on or about January 31, 2024 to utilizing CAP 1.2 data provided by the NWS API at api.weather.gov. Users that pull data from alerts.weather.gov via tools such as curl or wget may need to make changes to ensure continuity of service. On January 31, the below alerts.weather.gov links will be redirected:

Requesting of individual zone/county alerts (ATOM version):

[https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/wwaatmget.php?x=\[A-Z\]\[A-Z\]\[Z|C\]\[0-9\]\[0-9\]\[0-9\]&y=0](https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/wwaatmget.php?x=[A-Z][A-Z][Z|C][0-9][0-9][0-9]&y=0)

Will be rewritten as a request to the NWS API:

<https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom?zone=<x parameter>>

Example:

<https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/wwaatmget.php?x=MDZ013&y=0>
<https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/wwaatmget.php?x=MDC033&y=0>

Will be rewritten as a request to the NWS API as:

<https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom?zone=MDZ013>
<https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom?zone=MDC033>

Requesting of all land based active alerts (ATOM version)

<https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/us.php?x=0>

Will be rewritten as a request to the NWS API:

https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom?region_type=land

Requesting of all marine alerts (ATOM version)

<https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/mzus.php?x=0>

Will be rewritten as a request to the NWS API:

https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom?region_type=marine

Requesting data for an entire state (ATOM version)

<https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/<state abbreviation>.php?x=0>

Will be rewritten as a request to the NWS API:

<https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom?area=<state abbreviation>>

The redirects will stay in place for a period of 60 days to allow users adequate time to update their application requests. On or about February 14th, 2024, the NWS will implement a new version of alerts.weather.gov at which time the dissemination by NWS of products formatted with the Common Alerting Protocol version 1.1 (CAP v1.1) will be terminated as advertised in Service Change Notice (SCN) 23-57

(https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf/2023_24/scn23-57_termination_cap_v1.1.pdf).

Any remaining requests being made to the Atomic Syndication Format (ATOM) formatted data currently served at alerts.weather.gov will need to be updated and can be replaced by requests to the ATOM formatted data available at the below links:

<https://api.weather.gov/alerts.atom>
<https://api.weather.gov/alerts/active.atom>

Further information about the NWS API and how data can be requested can be found at:

<https://www.weather.gov/documentation/services-web-api>

Additional information on how NWS alerts are geo-referenced can be found at:

https://www.weather.gov/media/documentation/docs/NWS_Geolocation.pdf

With the termination of CAP v1.1 data feed, alert headlines that were created from offshore forecasts issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the Ocean Prediction Center (OPC) will no longer be provided. The information contained within the forecasts was not sufficient to properly format them in CAP 1.2 format at this time. If in the future they become available, a new SCN will be issued.

As a result 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 NWS change notices for all changes or updates to the CAP v1.2 elements and parameters that might impact use of NWS CAP or provide additional value here:

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

For more information about CAP from NWS, please go to:

<https://vlab.noaa.gov/web/nws-common-alerting-protocol>

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

Senior Duty Meteorologist
NCEP Central Operations
sdm@noaa.gov

For other non-operational technical questions, please contact:

Integrated Dissemination Program Support
NCEP Central Operations
idp-support@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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