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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 23-85  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
420 PM EDT Thu Jul 27 2023

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         National Data Buoy Center (NDBC)  
              Office of Observations Mission Services Branch

Subject: National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) will be Modifying the File  
Format and Filenames of Files Available for Download via Their Website:  
Effective on or about August 15, 2023

The NWS National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), on or about August 15, 2023,  
will modify their website to accommodate seven-character station IDs. The  
format of the latest observation file and hourly files will change. This  
will result in two changes:

(1) The station ID will be expanded from five characters to seven  
characters in the data files. Any parsing of the files will have to  
accommodate these two additional spaces. While most station IDs used at  
NDBC will remain five characters, a limited number of stations will have  
seven characters starting soon. The main files that will be impacted  
include the Latest Observation file and all files listed in the  
<https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/data/hourly2/> directory.

(2) In addition, the filename of limited stations will be seven characters  
vice the previous five characters, in the directories that make data  
available by station. The first station with the longer filename is  
expected to be available on or about September 1, 2023.

Additional details are available at the following URL:

<https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/fileformatchanges.shtml>

If you have any questions, please contact:

National Data Buoy Center  
Stennis Space Center, Mississippi  
Email: [webmaster.ndbc@noaa.gov](mailto:webmaster.ndbc@noaa.gov)

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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