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Public Information Statement 24-38
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1200 PM EDT Tue May 28 2024

To: Subscribers:
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From: Stephen W. Bieda III, Ph.D, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on the Proposed Changes to Fire Weather Products to Support Discontinuation of Haines Index and Lightning Activity Level (LAL) as Fire Weather Forecast Elements through August 1, 2024

The National Weather Service (NWS) is soliciting comments through August 1, 2024, on proposed changes to Fire Weather Forecast (FWF), local fire weather matrix, and local experimental fire weather products to assess discontinuation of Haines Index and LAL as Fire Weather Forecast Elements. The discontinuation is proposed due to new science demonstrating the forecast information is best assessed through other forecast fields. The forecast information conveyed through Haines and LAL would be alternatively found in other Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS) products, forecast discussions, and other forecast elements such as mixing heights, thunder probability, and quantitative precipitation forecasts (QPF).

Table 1. Operational NWS Product Potentially Affected by These Changes

Product Name	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Fire Weather Forecast	FNHW50	FWF

A description of the proposed discontinuation of Haines Index and LAL as Fire Weather Forecast Elements and examples of fire weather products using alternative information to replace Haines Index and LAL, can be found at the following link:

https://nsdesk.servicenowservices.com/api/g_noa/nwspc/res2/dd1c677887a2c6904b0fa8a60cbb3559

Input on the proposed discontinuation of Haines Index and LAL as Fire Weather Forecast Elements, and proposed replacement information is being sought from the core partner agencies and all other fire weather forecast users via the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProposedDiscontinuationofHainesIndexandLAL2024>

Additional Comments may be sent to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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