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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 23-57
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
400 PM EDT Thu May 4 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: Termination of Common Alerting Protocol Version 1.1 (CAP v1.1):
Effective no Sooner than January 8, 2024

NWS and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will
implement a new version of alerts.weather.gov in early 2024, at which time
the dissemination by NWS of products formatted with the Common Alerting
Protocol (CAP) version 1.1 (CAP v1.1) will be terminated. With this
change, NWS will still support and distribute products in the CAP version
1.2 (CAP v1.2). The change to alerts.weather.gov will be advertised in a
separate notice, and its effective date may be affected by a declaration
of either Critical Weather Day (CWD) or an Enhanced Caution Event (ECE).

As noted in Service Change Notice (SCN) 17-35:

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

the implementation of CAP v1.2 would have an overlap period with CAP v1.1,
and CAP v1.1 would be terminated after that overlap period. CAP v1.2 was
implemented February 24, 2021, as advertised in SCN 21-01:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/scn21-
01cap_handler_v2aac.pdf

and NWS has supported both versions of CAP since that time.

Current documentation for accessing CAP v1.2 and the 7-day archive of NWS
CAP v1.2 is located at:

https://www.weather.gov/documentation/services-web-alerts
https://alerts-v2.weather.gov/

CAP v1.2 messages are provided through multiple dissemination channels,
including the NWS Application Programming Interface (API), https file
listings, and the NOAAPort satellite broadcast as summarized in sections
1-3, below. These dissemination channels for CAP v1.2 will not change
with the new version of alerts.weather.gov.

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. The API specification and other helpful documentation can be found at:

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

2. CAP v1.2 messages are available via Geographic Information System (GIS) shapefiles at:

https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/DF.sha/DC.cap/

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 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 notice directives 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 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

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

National Service Change Notices are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification

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