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Service Change Notice 24-52
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Kari Sheets
 Chief, Weather Info. Distribution Services Branch

Subject: The National GIS Map Viewer (the "Viewer") Tropical Program Site
 Will Become Operational Effective on or about Tuesday,
 May 21, 2024

Effective on or about Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 1300 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Weather Service (NWS) National Geographic Information System (GIS) Map Viewer (the "Viewer") tropical program site hosted on the Amazon Web Services public cloud will transition from experimental to operational status. This is in addition to the operational sites from SCN 22-92:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/scn22-92_national_map_viewer_t2o.pdf.

The remaining program sites (Fire, Severe, Winter, Space, Climate, Aviation, and Marine) will remain experimental at this time. Once the remaining program sites are ready to transition to operational status, an additional Service Change Notice will be issued.

As NWS data and sources increase in size and frequency, providing the capability for assimilating the data and making it more easily accessible and viewable by NWS users and partners/stakeholders is paramount.

Interactive, web-based geospatial products, including geospatial services and map viewers, are universal methods to serve many of these assimilation needs. Interactive maps driven by geospatial services can serve all data from rapidly updating products (e.g., Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor [MRMS] data) to more traditional products (e.g., precipitation forecasts and event-driven watches and warnings). The NWS has developed the Viewer and program sites based on the aforementioned functional and data requirements provided by NWS staff based on feedback from their stakeholders.

The Viewer is the result of a NWS partnered effort with NOAA's National Ocean Service to leverage the Environment Response Management Application (ERMA) software and customize it to meet NWS' functional requirements. The following GIS program sites are transitioning to Operational status:

Tropical URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/tropical>

The following GIS program sites will remain experimental at this time:

Fire URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/fire>

Severe URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/severe>

Winter URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/winter>

Space URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/space>

Climate URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/climate>

Aviation URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/aviation>

Marine URL: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/marine>

Technical functionality and the "look and feel" will be consistent across all the Viewer program sites, but each program site will feature data most relevant to the type of weather, water, and/or climate focus areas represented by the program site.

Recent changes to the Tropical Program Site include:

1. Dynamic legend only displays the hazards in effect
2. Plain language field names (attributes)
3. [Peak Storm Surge](#) Graphics added as a new service
4. Improvements to Point Weather Forecast button functionality

Additional data and functionality will be added periodically in the future.

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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