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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 26-20
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Terrance J. Clark
Director, WSR-88D Radar Operations Center

Subject: Change to NEXRAD Level III Product Dissemination on or about March 23, 2026

WSR-88D Build 24.1 includes the addition of a supplemental low elevation angle at one additional site, Boston MA (KBOX). Therefore, the following change to Level III product dissemination will occur when Build 24.1 is deployed on or about March 23, 2026.

Table 1 contains the WMO Headings and products that will be disseminated when the Boston WSR-88D radar scans elevation angles below 0.5 degrees.

TABLE 1: RADAR PRODUCT WMO HEADINGS AND RPCCDS DIRECTORY NAMES

WMO HEADING TTAAII NNN	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION AND ELEVATION	RPCCDS FTP DIRECTORY
SDUS6i NZQ	Base Reflectivity 0.54nm X 1deg 94/DR 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.p94rz
SDUS5i NZB	Base Reflectivity 0.13nm X 0.5deg 153/SDR 0.3-0.4DEG	n/a
SDUS6i NZU	Base Velocity 0.13nm X 1deg 99/DV 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.p99vz
SDUS5i NZG	Base Velocity 0.13nm X 0.5deg 154/SDV 0.3-0.4DEG	n/a
SDUS6i NZF	Power Removed Control 113/PRC 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.113fz
SDUS8i NZX	Differential Reflectivity 159/DZD 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.159xz
SDUS8i NZC	Correlation Coefficient 161/DCC 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.161cz
SDUS8i NZK	Specific Differential Phase 163/DKD 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.163kz
SDUS8i NZH	Hydrometeor Classification 165/DHC 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.165hz
SDUS8i NZM	Melting Layer 166/ML 0.3-0.4DEG	DS.166mz

Note: The abbreviation DEG is used to denote degrees elevation angle, while deg denotes degrees azimuth angle resolution.

These products will be available via NOAAPORT and the RPCCDS FTP site https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/DF.of/DC.radar/ at the indicated directory names. Exceptions are that super-res reflectivity and velocity products (153/SDR, 154/SDV) are only disseminated on NOAAPORT and SDUS6i products are only disseminated on RPCCDS.

Table 2 contains the lower elevation WSR-88D site added with Build 24.1, WMO Headings indicating the originating area (I) and site (CCCC), the elevation angle and middle character of the NNN AWIPS ID group, and the year that the lower elevation angle scan will begin.

TABLE 2: AWIPS AND RADAR SITE WMO HEADINGS OF LOWER ELEVATIONS

WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID	SITE LOCATION	ELEVATION	BEGIN
TTAAII CCCC	NNNXXX	CITY AND STATE	ANGLE/N	YEAR
SDUSi1 KBOX	nnnBOX	Boston, MA	0.3/Z	2026

Lower elevation product dissemination began in 2020 and sites have been added over time (see SCN 20-42, SCN 23-96, SCN 24-09, SCN 24-73). A complete list of sites, their elevation angle, and when they were added is at https://www.roc.noaa.gov/webssm/low-elevation.php

Base Tilt is the name given to VCPs that include the additional lower elevation angle. Sites can disable and enable the Base Tilt. When Base Tilt is enabled, the additional lower elevation cut is scanned, and the General Status Message will have Bit 7 set in the VCP Supplemental Data field and the Base Tilt angle will appear in the Elevation 1 field. Depending on the Base Tilt status, the 0.5 degree or the lower elevation angle scan will be repeated when SAILS or MRLE are enabled. A description of SAILS and MRLE is available at https://www.roc.noaa.gov/radar-techniques.php

Please direct comments or report impacts from this change to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:
https://www.weather.gov/notification/

NNNN