



# Guardian

## Forced Settings Guidance Document

OB8.1.1+

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As of AWIPS OB8.1.1, Guardian has provided a method to allow an AWIPS system to force various responses in Guardian, effectively and selectively overriding any user-customized settings that may be in effect. This is done via a text file that can contain multiple forced entries.

Guardian's original requirements targeted full user control, but based on user feedback on AWIPS OB7.2 systems, the need for some overriding capability was identified. These methods described in this document will provide a way to:

- Force Guardian to respond in certain ways for certain conditions
- Lock these forced responses so that they are under WFO office management control, and not under user control.

This document will provide guidance on how to properly define the forced settings.

### GuardianForced.txt

The text file used for defining the forced settings in Guardian is called "GuardianForced.txt" and is located in the `$FXA_DATA/workFiles/Guardian` directory. This file will not be delivered with any AWIPS build installation. It will not exist until it gets created by the WFO. If you wish to force responses in Guardian, and the file does not yet exist, create it with **write permissions for only user fxa!** Read permissions for all other users should be defined. Here is one way to do this (as user fxa on any machine):

```
cd /data/fxa/workFiles/Guardian
touch GuardianForced.txt
chmod 644 GuardianForced.txt
```

Define only one setting per line in this file. Use the format defined below.

### Entry Format

The following **pipe-delimited** format must be used for each forced setting listed in GuardianForced.txt:

```
SourceKey | Priority# | Category | simple_text_match | SettingsList
```

Entry Format Descriptions	
Format Item	Format Item Description
SourceKey	<i>(Required!)</i> Must be one of the Source keys listed in the Guardian Configuration GUI Source Key list.
Priority#	<i>(Required!)</i> Must be a priority that is presented in the Guardian

	Configuration GUI.	
<b>Category</b>	(optional!) If not blank, must be one of the Categories listed in the Guardian Configuration GUI, Category list.	
<b>simple_text_match</b>	<p>(optional!) If not blank, may be a simple text string. If this simple text string is found in the incoming message text, the forced settings will be applied.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is case sensitive.</li> <li>Do not use quotation.</li> <li><b>‘Regular expressions’ are not supported at this time!</b></li> </ul>	
<b>SettingsList</b>	<p>(Required.) This is a <b>comma-delimited</b> list of attribute/value pairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The attribute/values pairs must be separated by a colon (:).</li> <li>The attribute must be one of those listed in the Guardian configuration files in the \$FXA_DATA/workFiles/Guardian directory (ie: text, blink, audio, etc.) and the values must be valid values for the given attribute.</li> <li>Each attribute can only have one forced response for the other given format items. Conflicts will arise if more than one forced response is defined for the same set of conditions.</li> </ul> <p>The attributes (all lower case) and their valid values are:</p>	
	<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Valid values</b>
	<b>text</b>	0 (off) or 1 (on)
	<b>blink</b>	0 (off) or 1 (on)
	<b>popup</b>	0 (off) or 1 (on) or <i>bitmap/gif file name</i> (on with specific image)
	<b>audio</b>	0 (off) or 1 (on) or <i>sound file name</i> (on with specific sound file)
	<b>action</b>	blank or executable name
	<b>background</b>	valid color name (word or hex)
	<b>foreground</b>	valid color name (word or hex)
	<p>Here are some <i>SettingsList</i> examples:</p> <pre>popup:1,background:yellow,text:0 action:,text:1,blink:1 audio:1 audio:doh.wav</pre>	

Here are some example entries and what the forced response would be:

**ANNOUNCER | 1 | RADAR | TVS | audio:doorbell.au**

This will force the doorbell sound file to be played when Guardian receives a message with a Source key of “ANNOUNCER”, a Priority of “1”, a Category of “RADAR”, and when the text message contains the literal string “TVS”.

**SCAN | 0 | | popup:1,audio:tinkle.wav**

This will force a popup and the playing of the tinkle sound file when Guardian receives a message with a Source key “SCAN” and a Priority of “0”, no matter what the Category and message text is.

```
LOCALAPP | 3 | LOCAL | | popup:0,audio:0,text:1,blink:1,background:white
```

This will force the popup and audio to be **off**, and force a text message to be allowed, with blinking on and a background color of white for the Source key “LOCALAPP”, the Priority “3”, the special Category “LOCAL”, no matter what the message text is. The special qualities of the Category “LOCAL” are maintained. (The same would be true for the special Category “MONITOR”.) This does not control whether the Category is listed in any of the Text Sections or not, so the display of the text message itself will still depend on that.

### User customized vs. Forced settings.

Forced settings, when defined, will always override any user-defined settings. However, if no forced setting is defined, then the user-defined settings will still be active. For example: For the LOCALAPP example above, if the user-defined settings call for a white *foreground* for the Source key of “LOCALAPP”, the Priority of “3”, then any text being displayed by Guardian for these conditions will have a white foreground (and a white background in this example, which means the text will appear to be invisible, which is, of course, not desirable).

### Test!

First, re-start any Guardian sessions you wish to test with. Once you test successfully, you will want to **re-start all active Guardian sessions to activate the forced settings changes.**

Always, **always** use `sendMsgToGuardian` to test your forced settings. See the Guardian User’s Guide for details on how to use `sendMsgToGuardian` from the command line.