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Public Information Statement 18-28 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
120 PM EDT Tue Sep 14 2021

To: Subscribers:
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From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments on the Experimental Avalanche
Weather Guidance Product through April 30, 2022

Updated to extend the comment period through April 30, 2022 and extend use
of this product to 27 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs).

During the winter of 2020-2021, the experimental Avalanche Weather
Guidance (AVG) product was produced at select WFOs across the United
States. These products provided the local avalanche centers with forecast
meteorological parameters critical to the centers' forecasts of avalanche
conditions and risk. The forecasts were also used by state and local
departments of transportation, emergency management, search and rescue
operations, commercial entities, recreation areas, and backcountry
enthusiasts in helping them prepare for weather conditions that they
should expect to encounter in avalanche-prone areas. Feedback received on
this product has been positive, with comments highlighting that the NWS
forecast information provided is critical in assisting avalanche
forecasters predicting avalanche stability and avalanche threats to life.

This season, beginning on or about November 1, 2021, the NWS is expanding
the scope of the product to include 27 WFOs (up from 24 WFOs last season).
Other changes include improving the display to allow for variable time
resolution and providing both a 12-hour and 24-hour clock. These changes
were made based on user feedback. This experimental AVG will be available
as a text-based product via NWS web pages and other NWS dissemination
systems.

The following WFOs will provide experimental AVG products beginning on or
about November 1, 2021. Users may need to update their databases to begin
receiving these products:

WFO	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Albuquerque	FWUS45 KABQ	AVGABQ
Great Falls	FWUS45 KTFX	AVGTFX
Missoula	FWUS45 KMSO	AVGGPI, AVGMSO
Pendleton	FWUS46 KPDT	AVGPDT
Pocatello	FWUS45 KPIH	AVGPIH

Reno	FWUS45	KREV	AVGREV
Riverton	FWUS45	KRIW	AVGRIW
Burlington	FWUS41	KBTV	AVGBTV
Gray	FWUS41	KGYX	AVGGYX
Boulder	FWUS45	KBOU	AVGBOU
Grand Junction	FWUS45	KGJT	AVGGJT
Pueblo	FWUS45	KPUB	AVGPUB
Billings	FWUS45	KBYZ	AVGBYZ
Boise	FWUS45	KBOI	AVGBOI
Elko	FWUS45	KLKN	AVGLKN
Flagstaff	FWUS45	KFGZ	AVGFGZ
Hanford	FWUS46	KHNX	AVGHNX
Las Vegas	FWUS45	KVEF	AVGVEF
Medford	FWUS46	KMFR	AVGMFR
Oxnard	FWUS46	KLOX	AVGLOX
Portland	FWUS46	KPQR	AVGPQR
Salt Lake City	FWUS45	KSLC	AVGSLC
Seattle	FWUS46	KSEW	AVGSEW
Spokane	FWUS46	KOTX	AVGOTX
Anchorage	FWAK48	PAFC	AVGAFC
Fairbanks	FWAK49	PAFG	AVGAFG
Juneau	FWAK47	PAJK	AVGAJK

A Product Description Document for the Experimental AVG is provided here:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpAvalancheWeatherGuidance_2021.pdf

The NWS is seeking comments on the Experimental AVG products through April 30, 2022 via the on-line survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AvalancheWeatherGuidance2021-2022>

After the comment and review period has ended, an assessment will be made to determine the next steps for the AVG products for the 2022-2023 winter season.

If you have questions or comments regarding the experimental Avalanche Weather Guidance, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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