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Public Information Statement 20-34 Updated National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD 340 PM EDT Wed Oct 26 2022

To: Subscribers:

-NOAA Weather Wire Service

-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network

-NOAAPort

Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Daniel Roman, Acting Chief

Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Seeking Public Comment and Review on Additions to Experimental Severe Weather Impact Graphics through April 30, 2023

Updated to include the following additional graphics: The Special Weather Statement and enhancements to increase equitable access to NWS information like the Spanish Versions of and Alternate Text for the graphics have been updated and added since the last comment period in 2020.

Through April 30, 2023, NWS is seeking public comment and review on additional NWS products displayed through the experimental Severe Weather Impact Graphics. An infographic depicting the warning area, information on the weather-related threat, and societal impact statistics will be automatically produced upon the initial issuance and follow-on updates to the included suite of NWS products.

Initial versions of these infographics only included watches and warnings for tornadoes and severe thunderstorms as well as flash flood warnings, but expansion in 2020 added Snow Squall Warnings, Dust Storm Warnings, Extreme Wind Warnings, and Special Marine Warnings. The additional products that will be added for this experimental period are:

Special Weather Statement (SPS)
Spanish Versions of all produced graphics
Alternate Text for graphics on Twitter in both English and Spanish.

The additional graphics are based on warning polygons or county/zone-based watch areas and will be distributed automatically via the Twitter feeds of issuing NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs).

The previous short-fuse watch and warning products for these graphics will continue to be produced and displayed on their unique Twitter accounts as well as the account of the issuing WFO:

@NWSTornado @NWSSevereTstorm @NWSFlashFlood The complete list of NWS products now being produced as experimental Severe Weather Impact Graphics includes:

Severe Thunderstorm (SVR) Watches and Warnings
Tornado (TOR) Watches and Warnings
Flash Flood Warnings (FFW)
Snow Squall Warnings (SQW)
Dust Storm Warnings (DSW)
Extreme Wind Warnings (EWW)
Special Marine Warnings (SMW)
Special Weather Statements (SPS)

During the experimental period, the graphics will be produced for these products issued for all WFOs. Spanish language graphics will be made available for at least 36 Weather Forecast Offices that have currently opted to produce the graphics where there is a high percentage of Spanish speaking individuals.

The experimental graphics for the newly included NWS products, as well as all previous graphics, are described in detail in a Product Description Document, available online at:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/
PDD Severe Weather Impact Graphics Ext2022.pdf

Comments and feedback on this experimental service may be directed to the NWS via an online survey form at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SevereWeatherImpactGraphics 2022-2023

Comments will be collected through April 30, 2023. After this period has ended, the NWS will evaluate feedback and determine whether to approve as operational for national implementation, discontinue the product, or revise and extend the experimental feedback period.

For questions regarding the information in this notice, please contact:

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Questions and comments may also be sent to: nws.ipwg@noaa.gov.

National Public Information Statements are online at: https://www.weather.gov/notification/
NNNN