

NOUS41 KWBC 201230  
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Public Information Statement 20-56  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
830 AM EDT Mon Jul 20 2020

To:       Subscribers:  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          -NOAAPort  
          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:     Eli Jacks  
          Chief, Forecast Services Division

Subject: Spanish-Language Survey Now Available as NWS Solicits Comments  
through August 21, 2020 on Proposed Major Changes to the NWS Watch,  
Warning and Advisory (WWA) System

To view this Public Information Statement in Spanish see this link (*Para  
acceder al Comunicado de Informacion Publica en espanol presione aqui*):

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-56haz\\_simp\\_espanol\\_survey.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf2/pns20-56haz_simp_espanol_survey.pdf)

As the core outcome of the Hazard Simplification (Haz Simp) project, the NWS is collecting comments through August 21, 2020, on the proposed discontinuation of all "Advisory," "Special Weather Statement," and "Short Term Forecast" products. In their place, the NWS proposes the use of generic, plain language statements to convey information for lower-level hazardous events that are not expected to reach the "Watch" or "Warning" levels. All current "Watch" and "Warning" products, used to highlight hazards that pose a threat to life and property, would remain unchanged.

The purpose of this proposal is to address extensive social science research, which indicated three main concerns:

- 1) The large number of existing WWA products can create confusion for NWS partners and the public.
- 2) The formats of WWA and other key messaging products are inconsistent.
- 3) WWA headlines can be misunderstood, leading to unintended protective action or lack thereof.

Comments and feedback on these proposed changes may be directed to the NWS via an online survey form. Both English and Spanish versions of the survey are now available:

English Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/publicchazsimp>  
Spanish Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HazSimpSpanish>

Please send questions on this proposed change to [hazsimp@noaa.gov](mailto:hazsimp@noaa.gov) by August 21, 2020.

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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