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Public Information Statement 22-55
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1230 PM EDT Fri Aug 26 2022

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

From: Daniel Roman, Acting Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Public Comment Period for the Transition of the South Central
Alaska Mountain Forecast from the Recreational Forecast Issued by Weather
Forecast Office (WFO) Anchorage through September 26, 2022

WFO Anchorage is soliciting comments and feedback through September 26,
2022 regarding the potential transition of the South Central Alaska
Mountain Forecast from the REC to the AVG.

WFO Anchorage currently utilizes the Recreational Forecast product (REC)
to provide partners and members of the public weather information for
winter-time backcountry conditions for select locations in South Central
AK, specifically for snow amounts, winds and other integral conditions for
avalanche potential.

The experimental Avalanche Weather Guidance (AVG) product could be used to
replace the REC should it become operational. The AVG would provide more
detailed Avalanche weather information and forecasts in 6-hour intervals
across more localized areas than the REC. This would result in an
improvement over the REC forecast and eliminate the need for it. As the
issuing office for both the REC and the AVG, WFO Anchorage is seeking to
potentially transition to the new AVG, thereby providing a better product
for its user groups.

For an example of a previous Recreational (REC) product:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/rec_forecast_example.pdf

The experimental Avalanche Weather Guidance (AVG) product will look like
it does in the example below, but with an additional discussion and
graphics included in the product. The site will also include a map of
each localized area with graphical versions of the forecast included.

<https://www.weather.gov/afc/avalancheweather>

Link to example Avalanche Weather Guidance (AVG) from WFO Anchorage:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/afc_avg.pdf

Please submit comments regarding the transition of the REC to the AVG at:

anchorage.weather@noaa.gov

Additional questions and comments can be directed to:

Noelle Runyan, Acting Meteorologist-in-Charge
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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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