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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 24-09
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
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From: Douglas C. Young, Chief
 Digital and Graphical Information Support Branch

Subject: WFO Fairbanks NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) Live Event Code Test for a Flash Flood Warning on February 28, 2024

The National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Fairbanks, the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Alaska Broadcasters Association plan to conduct a live code Flash Flood Warning test on Wednesday, February 28 at approximately 11:00 AM Alaska Standard Time (AKST) in the Denali Borough of central Alaska.

Across the contiguous United States, Universal Geographic Codes (UGCs) utilize the UGC-County (UGC-C) format for short-fused polygon warning products in World Meteorological Organization (WMO)-formatted text messages. However, in Alaska, these products utilize the UGC-Zone (Z) format. The purpose of the test is to issue a Flash Flood Warning in the UGC-C format to thoroughly evaluate the performance of all internal and external dissemination systems.

The emergency test message will be broadcast in a limited geographical area via audio and Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) tones over the NOAA Weather Radio station KPS504, with a transmitter located in Nenana, operating on a frequency of 162.400 MHz and the local KIAM radio station (AM 620 kHz and FM 91.9 MHz) in Nenana. The audio message will state that the message is only a test. The test will not be sent to cellphones via the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system, although in an actual Flash Flood Warning, this system would be used.

The test will be canceled if there are significant weather hazards in the area on February 28th. There is no backup date set for this test.

Table 1. The NWS Text Product to be Disseminated by WFO Fairbanks during the Test

Product Name -----	WMO Heading -----	AWIPS ID -----
Flash Flood Warning	WGAK59 PAFG	FFWAFG

For more information, please contact:

Ryan Metzger
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
NWS Fairbanks, AK
ryan.metzger@noaa.gov
907-458-3712

or

Tim Steffen
Dissemination Program Manager
Alaska Region Headquarters
timothy.steffen@noaa.gov
907-271-3886

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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