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Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Michael J. Szkil
 Chief, Awareness Branch

Subject: Anticipated Changes to the County Name and the Federal
Information Processing Series (FIPS) Code for Shannon County, SD, in 2015

On November 4, 2014, the voters of Shannon County, SD, approved a measure changing the county name to Oglala Lakota County. The South Dakota State Legislature is expected to pass a resolution to change the county name in early 2015. The Governor is then expected to publicly proclaim the new name, which takes effect on the first day of the month following the proclamation. As a result, the U.S. Census Bureau will also change the county FIPS code.

This Public Information Statement provides the weather enterprise with initial notice of anticipated upcoming changes to NWS products and services. NWS will issue a detailed Service Change Notice (SCN) as soon as an effective date has been established for the county name change and a new FIPS code has been assigned by the Census Bureau. The SCN will contain details on changes to affected NWS products, required reprogramming for NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) receivers equipped with Special Area Message Encoding (SAME), and a link to revised shapefiles for maps. Additionally, Emergency Alert System (EAS) participants will need to reprogram EAS receivers.

Because of the extensive coordination and planning required by the weather enterprise and the emergency management community to successfully complete this change, the NWS official change date for the county name and the FIPS code will occur after the change date set by the Governor's proclamation.

Once set, additional details on the upcoming changes will be posted on the NWS Rapid City, SD, homepage at:

www.crh.noaa.gov/unr/

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