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Public Information Statement, Comments Requested  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
1225 PM EST Wed Nov 25 2015

TO:           Subscribers:  
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FROM:        Eli Jacks  
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          Forecast Services Division

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          Meteorological Services Division

SUBJECT:     Soliciting comments on Lake-Effect Snow (LES)  
          Warning Polygons at Weather Forecast Office (WFO)  
          Buffalo, NY, through April 30, 2016

WFO Buffalo, NY, is soliciting comments on the addition of latitude/longitude coordinates to segments of the Winter Weather Message text product (BUFWSWBUF). These coordinates will be added to products containing the LE.W (Lake Effect Snow Warning) Valid Time Event code for certain zones along Lake Ontario only. WFO Buffalo will begin issuing the experimental product with the coordinates on or about Tuesday, December 1, 2015.

When a Lake Effect Snow Warning is in effect for these areas, WFO Buffalo will also produce a graphic displaying these polygons at:

<http://www.weather.gov/buf/lespolygon>

Users with Geographic Information Systems will be able to use these coordinates to plot the areas most prone to heavy lake effect snow. NWS Buffalo will also provide a downloadable file of the geographic data on its Website.

The purpose of these polygons is to display small areas of intense snowfall with low visibility at sub-zone levels in upstate New York, where the highest impacts to transportation and commerce are expected.

Coordinates and polygons are only for experimental use. NWS Buffalo will continue to issue operational zone based Lake Effect Snow warning for these areas.

This winter only the following WFO Buffalo Public Zones will be included in this experiment:

Zone Number	Zone Name
NYZ001	Niagara
NYZ002	Orleans
NYZ003	Monroe
NYZ004	Wayne
NYZ005	Northern Cayuga
NYZ006	Oswego
NYZ007	Jefferson
NYZ008	Lewis
NYZ010	Northern Erie
NYZ011	Genesee

NYZ013  
NYZ014

Livingston  
Ontario

This experiment is part of a larger national project designed to improve dissemination of certain long fused watch and warning products that cover large geographic areas. Some of these weather phenomena tend to impact only small geographic locations, resulting in NWS alerting too broad an area. The feedback gathered from this experiment will help us provide more precise watches and warnings. Additional experiments with opportunity for comment and review will be provided as part of this National project.

You can find more information on this proposed national experiment at the link below:

[http://products.weather.gov/PDD/Polygon\\_PDD\\_10\\_15\\_15%20\(1\).pdf](http://products.weather.gov/PDD/Polygon_PDD_10_15_15%20(1).pdf)

Please submit comments from December 1, 2015, through April 30, 2016 via the short survey linked below:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=LESWP>

If you have questions, please contact:

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National NWS Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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