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Public Information Statement 17-03 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
715 AM EDT Fri Oct 4 2019

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

From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments until April 15, 2020, on the
Experimental Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI)

Updated to add 51 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) for a total of 116 WFOs
across the Contiguous United States (CONUS) domain.

The NWS is soliciting comments on the Experimental WSSI until April 15,
2020. Experimental WSSI values will be produced for 116 NWS WFOs across
the contiguous 48 states.

The purpose of the experimental WSSI is to provide NWS forecasters,
partners, and the public with an indication of the severity of winter
weather hazards and the potential for related societal impacts. The
experimental WSSI does not depict official warnings and should always be
used in context with official NWS forecasts and warnings.

The experimental WSSI will be updated every 2 hours at approximately 0100
Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 0300 UTC, 0500 UTC, etc. No
communication system changes are required to view this web-based
information.

Additional information is provided in the Product Description Document
(PDD) at the link below:

[https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpWinterStormSeverityIndex_2019.p
df](https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpWinterStormSeverityIndex_2019.pdf)

Comments may be submitted via the survey link below. The survey link will
also be available on the WFO webpages:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Exp_WSSI_2019

If comments and experimental evaluation are favorable, the product may be
transitioned to operational status on a nationwide scale. NWS will issue
a Service Change Notice before operational implementation.

If you have questions, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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