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Public Information Statement PNS 17-08 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
825 AM EST Wed Feb 15 2017

To: Subscribers:
-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: William Bauman
Chief, Aviation and Space Weather
Services Branch

SUBJECT: Updated: Soliciting public comments through
October 31, 2017, on changes to the legacy Collaborative
Convective Forecast Product (CCFP).

Updated subject line to correctly identify legacy product name
as Collaborative Convective Forecast Product (CCFP)

Effective 1930 UTC February 15, 2017, the NWS Aviation Weather
Center (AWC) in Kansas City, MO, will begin production of the
Traffic Flow Management (TFM) Convective Forecast (TCF). TCF is
a high confidence graphical representation of forecasted
convection meeting specific criteria of coverage, intensity,
and echo top height.

From March 1 through October 31 the TCF will be collaboratively
produced by meteorologists at the AWC in Kansas City and
embedded at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air
Traffic Control System Command Center (ATCSCC) in Warrenton,
VA, at the Center Weather Service Units (CWSU) embedded at the
FAA's Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), and at various
airlines and authorized organizations. NWS is soliciting public
comments on these changes through October 31, 2017.

The TCF graphics are produced every 2 hours, 24 hours a day,
and valid at 4-, 6-, and 8-hours after issuance time. The TCF
domain is the Flight Information Regions (FIR) covering the 48
contiguous states and adjacent coastal waters. It also includes
the Canadian airspace south of a line from Thunder Bay,
Ontario, to Quebec City, Quebec. The Canadian portion of the
forecast is available from April 1 through September 30.

The TCF is used by air traffic management decision makers in
support of convective weather mitigation strategies within the
National Airspace System. The TCF is designed to meet the needs
of TFM decision makers at the ATCSCC, ARTCC Traffic Management
Units (TMU), and airline and corporate Flight Operations

Centers. The TCF issuance supports the FAA's Strategic Planning Webinar.

The Collaborative Convective Forecast Product (CCFP), generated through October 2014, had been the scheduled Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) product for over 10 years. The FAA identified an operational need to supplement the CCFP with an event-driven, collaborative forecast product; resulting in the Collaborative Aviation Weather Statement (CAWS) and automated CDM Convective Forecast Planning guidance.

Over the past two years, the FAA, NWS, and airline industry conducted an Operational Demonstration of the CAWS and CCFP. The results of this operational demonstration led to the evolution of the CCFP requirements. The CCFP is being renamed as the TCF and replaces the production and dissemination of the CAWS and CCFP. The TCF provides the meteorological information necessary to meet the needs of the FAA pursuant to Title 49 United States Code Section 44720.

TCF dissemination:

1) Posted on the AWC website by February 16, 2017:

<http://www.AviationWeather.gov/tcf>

2) NWS Telecommunications Gateway

3) FAA Traffic Situation Display (TSD)

The Product Description Document can be found at:

<http://products.weather.gov/PDD/TCFPDD.pdf>

NWS is accepting comments on these changes through October 31, 2017, via the online survey below:

www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=TFMTCF

For further information, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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