

NOUS41 KWBC 252013  
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-18  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
415 PM EDT WED APR 25 2001

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER  
WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS...OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER  
SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...AND  
NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: JAMES E. LEE  
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION AND TESTING OF THE WATCH COUNTY  
NOTIFICATION MESSAGE FROM JUNE 26 TO AUGUST 24 2001 AT  
THE GLASGOW MT...BILLINGS MT...MISSOULA MT...GRAND  
RAPIDS MI...NASHVILLE TN...BUFFALO NY...AND CARIBOU ME  
FORECAST OFFICES

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY JUNE 26 2001 AT 8 A.M. LOCAL TIME.../1200 UTC  
IN THE EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME ZONE...1300 UTC IN THE CENTRAL  
DAYLIGHT TIME ZONE...1400 UTC IN THE MOUNTAIN DAYLIGHT TIME  
ZONE/...SEVEN NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICES WILL  
BEGIN SENDING TEST WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES /WCN...SEE  
TABLE ONE BELOW/. THE SEVEN NWS FORECAST OFFICES ARE:  
GLASGOW MT...BILLINGS MT...MISSOULA MT...GRAND RAPIDS MI...  
NASHVILLE TN...BUFFALO NY...AND CARIBOU ME. THE WCN MESSAGES  
WILL CONVEY STATUS INFORMATION /I.E. WHICH COUNTIES ARE IN OR ARE  
BEING CLEARED FROM/ FOR SEVERE THUNDERSTORM OR TORNADO WATCHES IN  
EACH OFFICE/S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. THIS TEST WILL END AT  
8 A.M. LOCAL TIME FRIDAY AUGUST 24 2001.

TABLE 1: TEST WATCH MESSAGES WILL BE ISSUED UNDER THE FOLLOWING  
COMMUNICATION IDENTIFIERS:

NWS OFFICE	WMO ID	AWIPS ID	PIL IDENTIFIER
GLASGOW MT	WWUS65 KGGW	WCNGGW	GTFWCNGGW
BILLINGS MT	WWUS65 KBYZ	WCNBYZ	GTFWCNBYZ
MISSOULA MT	WWUS65 KMSO	WCNMSO	GTFWCNMSO
GRAND RAPIDS MI	WWUS63 KGRR	WCNGRR	ARBWCNGRR
NASHVILLE TN	WWUS64 KOHX	WCNOHX	MEMWCNOHX
BUFFALO NY	WWUS61 KBUF	WCNBUF	BUFWCNBUF
CARIBOU ME	WWUS61 KCAR	WCNCAR	PWMWCNCAR

/END OF TABLE 1/

THE TEST WILL ALLOW THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TO ENSURE THAT  
THE PROGRAMS WHICH CREATE THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION RUN  
CORRECTLY AND ALSO ALLOW EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS TO  
DETERMINE WAYS TO UTILIZE THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES  
IN THEIR DISSEMINATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS. EXISTING

OPERATIONAL WATCH MESSAGES /I.E. SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENTS/ FROM EACH OFFICE WILL CONTINUE DURING THIS TEST PERIOD. THE TEST WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED IF BACKUP SUPPORT FROM ANOTHER NWS OFFICE IS REQUIRED DURING THIS TEST PERIOD.

THE WCN IS DESIGNED TO STREAMLINE WATCH INFORMATION FROM WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES...SO IT WILL BE USED TO CONVEY THE INITIAL ISSUANCE OF A CONVECTIVE WATCH...WHEN COUNTIES ARE BEING CLEARED FROM A WATCH...OR WHEN WATCHES ARE BEING CANCELED OR REPLACED BY NEW WATCHES.

THE WCN IS A SEGMENTED PRODUCT...WITH UNIQUE SEGMENTS FOR EACH ACTION TAKEN DURING A WATCH. SEGMENTS SHOWING COUNTIES IN A WATCH WILL BE SEPARATE FROM SEGMENTS DESCRIBING WHERE COUNTIES ARE BEING CLEARED FROM A WATCH. EACH SEGMENT WILL HAVE A CORRESPONDING VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ STRING DESCRIBING THE ACTIONS TAKEN IN THAT SEGMENT.

FOR A SUITE OF EXAMPLES SHOWING THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES FOR EACH CONVECTIVE WATCH SITUATION...PLEASE SEE THE INTERNET SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/wcn/wcnex.pdf>

FOR A DESCRIPTION OF VTEC AND ITS ELEMENTS...SEVERAL PRODUCT EXAMPLES...AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS...PLEASE SEE THE INTERNET SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/vtec/vtec.pdf>

CUSTOMERS WHO WISH TO RECEIVE THE WATCH COUNTY MESSAGES DURING THE TEST SHOULD ADD ONE OR MORE OF THE COMMUNICATION IDENTIFIERS LISTED IN TABLE ONE TO YOUR DATABASES. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO RECEIVE THE TEST WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES...NO SPECIFIC ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED. FURTHER SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES WILL BE ISSUED ONCE A DECISION IS MADE TO MAKE THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES OPERATIONAL.

EXAMPLE:

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WWUS65 KGGW 261930  
WCNGGW

WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION FOR WATCH #1002  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GLASGOW MT  
130 PM MDT SUN 26 MAY 1998

MTC019-091-105-270100-  
/CAN.KGGW.TO.A.1002.000000-270100/

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN GLASGOW HAS  
CLEARED A PORTION OF TORNADO WATCH #1002.  
COUNTIES CLEARED FROM THE TORNADO WATCH INCLUDE:

IN MONTANA:

VALLEY DANIELS SHERIDAN

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MTC055-083-085-270100-  
/CON.KGGW.TO.A.1002.000000-270100/

TORNADO WATCH #1002 REMAINS VALID UNTIL 700 PM MDT SUNDAY FOR THE  
FOLLOWING COUNTIES:

IN MONTANA:

ROOSEVELT RICHLAND MCCONE

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/END OF EXAMPLE/

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS... PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF  
THE METEOROLOGISTS IN CHARGE OR WARNING COORDINATION  
METEOROLOGISTS BELOW:

METEOROLOGIST IN CHARGE:      WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST:

JIM REA	TANJA FRANSEN
GLASGOW MT	GLASGOW MT
406-228-2850	406-228-2850
JAMES.REA@NOAA.GOV	TANJA.FRANSEN@NOAA.GOV

KEITH MEIER	STEPHAN KUHL
BILLINGS MT	BILLINGS MT
406-652-0851	406-652-0851
KEITH.MEIER@NOAA.GOV	STEPHEN.KUHL@NOAA.GOV

KIMBERLY BAILEY	PETER FELSCH
MISSOULA MT	MISSOULA MT
406-329-4715	406-329-4715
KIMBERLY.BAILEY@NOAA.GOV	PETER.FELSCH@NOAA.GOV

DAN HOUSER	MIKE HEATHFIELD
GRAND RAPIDS MI	GRAND RAPIDS MI
616-949-0643	616-956-5922
DANIEL.HOUSER@NOAA.GOV	MIKE.HEATHFIELD@NOAA.GOV

DERRELL MARTIN	JERRY ORCHANIAN
NASHVILLE TN	NASHVILLE TN
615-754-4633	615-754-4633
DERRELL.MARTIN@NOAA.GOV	JERRY.ORCHANIAN@NOAA.GOV

GUY TUCKER	STAN LEVINE
BUFFALO NY	BUFFALO NY

716-565-0204 EXT.222      716-565-0204 EXT.223  
GUY.TUCKER@NOAA.GOV      STANLEY.LEVINE@NOAA.GOV

LARRY GABRIC                  HENDRICUS LULOFS  
CARIBOU ME                  CARIBOU ME  
207-496-0138                  207-496-0139  
LARRY.GABRIC@NOAA.GOV      HENDRICUS.LULOFS@NOAA.GOV

...NOTE TO INTERNET USERS...  
THIS AND ALL OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE POSTED ON /USE  
LOWER CASE/:

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

END  
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