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PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 05-28
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1252 PM EDT THU JUN 30 2005

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA
WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/
SUBSCRIBERS...NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL
WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS
AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: THOMAS GRAZIANO
ACTING CHIEF...HYDROLOGIC SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: FOLLOW UP TO SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-56...
IMPLEMENTATION OF VTEC IN HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS

REFER TO: SCN 04-51 /CORRECTED/ TRANSMITTED AUGUST 18 2004
SCN 05-56 TRANSMITTED NOVEMBER 23 2004

FOLLOWING UP SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 04-56...IMPLEMENTATION
OF VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/...THE NEW STANDARDIZED SEGMENTED
FORMATS FOR MOST HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS HAS BEEN DELAYED AND IS NOW
RESCHEDULED TO OCCUR IN PHASES AS DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE.

ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 01 2005 AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME
/UTC/... ALL WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFO/ IN THE CONTIGUOUS
UNITED STATES /CONUS/ WILL OPERATIONALLY IMPLEMENT VTEC AND A
STANDARDIZED SEGMENTED FORMAT IN THE FOLLOWING HYDROLOGIC
PRODUCT:

FLOOD WATCH /FFA/

IF NOVEMBER 1 2005 IS DECLARED A NATIONAL CRITICAL WEATHER DAY...
IMPLEMENTATION WILL OCCUR ON THE NEXT WEEKDAY NOT DECLARED A
CRITICAL WEATHER DAY.

ON MONDAY DECEMBER 05 2005 AT 1200 UTC...17 WFOS WILL BEGIN AN
OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION /OTE/ OF VTEC AND NEW
STANDARDIZED SEGMENTED FORMATS FOR THE FOLLOWING HYDROLOGIC
PRODUCTS:

FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLW/
FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST
POINTS /FLS/
AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLW/
FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLS/
FLOOD STATEMENT - AREAL ADVISORIES /FLS/
FLOOD ADVISORY FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLS/

FLOOD WATCH FOR FORECAST POINTS /FFA/

IN ADDITION...WFOS PARTICIPATING IN THE OTE WILL BEGIN USING VTEC
IN THE FOLLOWING HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS:

FLASH FLOOD WARNING /FFW/
FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT /FFS/

THIS OTE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FOLLOWING 17 WFOS:

MONTEREY CALIFORNIA /MTR/
PENDLETON OREGON /PDT/
PORTLAND OREGON /PQR/
SEATTLE WASHINGTON /SEW/
SPOKANE WASHINGTON /OTX/
KANSAS CITY /PLEASANT HILL/ MISSOURI /EAX/
LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY /LMK/
OMAHA NEBRASKA /OAX/
SPRINGFIELD MISSOURI /SGF/
ALBANY NEW YORK /ALY/
BLACKSBURG VIRGINIA /RNK/
CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA /CHS/
MT HOLLY NEW JERSEY /PHI/
WAKEFIELD VIRGINIA /AKQ/
HOUSTON TEXAS /HGX/
MIAMI FLORIDA /MFL/
MORRISTOWN TENNESSEE /MRX/

BEFORE THE OTE STARTS...ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 01 2005...SELECTED
WFOS WILL BEGIN ISSUING THE OTE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS AS PART OF A
RISK REDUCTION ACTIVITY. THE WFOS PARTICIPATING IN THIS RISK
REDUCTION ACTIVITY WILL BE IDENTIFIED ON THE VTEC WEB SITE AT:
[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/VTEC](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/vtec) AS SOON AS THEIR LOCATIONS HAVE
BEEN SELECTED.

PENDING SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE OTE AT THE ABOVE
OFFICES...NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FORMATS AND VTEC IN
THE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS DESCRIBED ABOVE IS SCHEDULED TO OCCUR ON
APRIL 4 2006.

THE NEW NATIONALLY CONSISTENT PRODUCT FORMAT WILL MAKE IT EASIER
TO READ AND OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM FLOOD WARNINGS...
STATEMENTS...AND ADVISORIES. SEGMENTATION WILL ALLOW MULTIPLE
ACTIONS TO BE PROVIDED IN A SINGLE PRODUCT. FOR EXAMPLE...A
SINGLE FLOOD STATEMENT FOLLOWING UP A PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FLOOD
WARNING COULD HAVE A SEGMENT CONTINUING THE FLOOD WARNING FOR ONE
FORECAST POINT AND A SECOND SEGMENT CANCELLING THE FLOOD WARNING
FOR ANOTHER FORECAST POINT.

EXAMPLES OF HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS IN THE NEW FORMAT WITH VTEC CAN
BE FOUND IN THE LATEST DRAFT OF NWS MANUAL 10-923...WHICH IS
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

http://www.weather.gov/OS/VTEC/VTEC_HYDRO.PDF

PROCEDURES ON THE CONTENT...FORMAT...AND APPLICATION OF VTEC IN
HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS CAN BE FOUND IN NWS INSTRUCTION 10-922 ONLINE
AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DIRECTIVES/010/PD01009022G.PDF](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/PD01009022G.PDF)

MORE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VTEC CAN BE FOUND AT THE VTEC WEB
SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/VTEC](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/vtec)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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THIS AND OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE POSTED ON /USE
LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

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