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

FROM: ELI JACKS

CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: EXPERIMENTAL WEB-BASED WEATHER SAFETY PLANNER: EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 7 2006

EFFECTIVE THURSDAY DECEMBER 7 2006 AT 1800 UNIVERSAL COORDINATED TIME /UTC/...100 PM EST...THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION /NOAA/ NWS WILL MAKE AVAILABLE AN EXPERIMENTAL WEB-BASED INTERFACE ENTITLED WEATHER SAFETY PLANNER /WSP/.

THE WSP IS AN EASY TO USE INTERFACE THAT PERMITS PUBLIC ACCESS TO NWS DIGITAL FORECAST INFORMATION. THE WEB PAGE INTERFACE ALLOWS AN INDIVIDUAL TO ENTER A RANGE OF VALUES FOR SPECIFIC WEATHER PARAMETERS AND OBTAIN A FORECAST FOR THE DEFINED AREA OF INTEREST. THE INPUT IS FORECAST DATA DIRECTLY PULLED FROM THE LOCAL WFO DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE. THE RESULTING DATA IS PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF A GRAPH AND REPRESENTS AVERAGE CONDITIONS FOR A 5 KILOMETER GRID BOX NEAREST TO THE USER-SELECTED LATITUDE/LONGITUDE POINT FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS. THE TOOL HELPS SATISFY E-GOV INITIATIVES BY PROVIDING AN AVENUE TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENT PROVIDED WEATHER DATA.

THE INTENDED AUDIENCE INCLUDES EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO HAVE A NEED TO ASSESS FORECAST CONDITIONS FOR A DEFINED SET OF PARAMETERS AND ASSOCIATED THRESHOLDS AT A SPECIFIC LOCATION OF INTEREST.

THE EXPERIMENTAL WSP WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING NINE /9/ WFO WEBSITES ACROSS THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES AND HAWAII /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

WFO CHARLESTON WV: HTTP://WWW.ERH.NOAA.GOV/RLX/
WFO UPTON/NEW YORK CITY NY: HTTP://WWW.ERH.NOAA.GOV/OKX/
WFO RAPID CITY SD: HTTP://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/UNR/
WFO PUEBLO CO: HTTP://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/PUB/
WFO MORRISTOWN TN: HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/MRX/
WFO AUSTIN/SAN ANTONIO TX: HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/EWX/
WFO TUCSON AZ: HTTP://WWW.WRH.NOAA.GOV/TWC/
WFO BOISE ID: HTTP://WWW.WRH.NOAA.GOV/BOI/
THE WSP WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK FOR THE 90 DAY PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 7 2006 THROUGH MARCH 7 2007 IN ACCORDANCE WITH NWS INSTRUCTION 10-102...NEW OR ENHANCED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES...SECTION 6.3. COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK MAY BE PROVIDED ONLINE BY CLICKING ON THE WSP INTERFACE COMMENT/FEEDBACK LINK OR VIA THE FOLLOWING URL /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:  

HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=WXSAFPLAN

THE WSP WILL REMAIN EXPERIMENTAL UNTIL ALL FEEDBACK HAS BEEN ASSESSED AND A TECHNICAL ANALYSIS COMPLETED. AT THAT TIME NWS WILL DETERMINE WHETHER TO TRANSITION THE EXPERIMENTAL WSP TO OPERATIONAL STATUS...DISCONTINUE THE SERVICE...OR REVISE AND RETAIN THE WSP AS AN EXPERIMENTAL SERVICE FOR A REDEFINED PERIOD OF REVIEW. IF A DECISION IS MADE TO MAKE THE WSP OPERATIONAL...NWS WILL USE A STANDARD WSP AT ALL WFOS...REPLACING ANY SIMILAR EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCTS.

MORE DETAILS REGARDING THE WEATHER SAFETY PLANNER WILL BE ISSUED IN A PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT /PDD/ BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE EXPERIMENTAL PERIOD. THE PDD WILL BE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:  

HTTP://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/VIEWLISTE.PHP

IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PLEASE CONTACT:  

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THIS AND ALL OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:  

HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM

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