

NOUS41 KWBC 051835 AAA
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 08-35...AMENDED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
235 XM EDT MON MAY 5 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: THOMAS GRAZIANO
CHIEF...HYDROLOGIC SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: AMENDED: TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY THE ISSUANCE OF
COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD
WARNINGS IN THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

BASED UPON FEEDBACK FROM OUR PARTNERS AND USERS...THE NWS
HAS DECIDED TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY THE ISSUANCE OF COMBINED
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS.

THIS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ WAS ORIGINALLY TO BE EFFECTIVE
TUESDAY JULY 1 2008 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/.

THE TEXT OF THE ORIGINAL SCN FOLLOWS:

NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFO/ IN THE WEST WILL ISSUE
COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS WHEN
CONDITIONS MEETING CRITERIA FOR BOTH TYPES OF WARNINGS RESULT
FROM THE SAME THUNDERSTORM. ALL NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES IN
WASHINGTON...OREGON...IDAHO...MONTANA...CALIFORNIA...NEVADA...
UTAH AND ARIZONA MAY ISSUE THE COMBINED WARNING. HOWEVER...
ISSUANCE OF THE COMBINED WARNING IS EXPECTED TO BE A VERY RARE
OCCURRENCE OUTSIDE OF THE SOUTHWESTERN STATES CALIFORNIA...
NEVADA...UTAH AND ARIZONA/ DURING THE SOUTHWEST MONSOON SEASON.

THE COMBINED WARNINGS AND FOLLOW-UP STATEMENTS WILL BE ISSUED
USING THE FLASH FLOOD WARNING /FFW/ AND FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT
/FFS/ AWIPS IDENTIFIERS.

THE COMBINED PRODUCT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AS A MEANS OF PROVIDING
WARNINGS FOR THUNDERSTORMS WITH BOTH FLASH FLOODING AND SEVERE
CHARACTERISTICS /LARGE HAIL AND/OR DAMAGING WINDS/. PREVIOUS
TESTS OF COMBINED WARNINGS WERE SUCCESSFUL WITH IMPLEMENTATION
PENDING OPERATIONAL USE OF VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ IN FLASH
FLOOD PRODUCTS. NOW THAT VTEC IS PROVIDED IN FLASH FLOOD
PRODUCTS...COMBINED WARNINGS ARE POSSIBLE AND PREFERRED BY LOCAL
DISSEMINATION PARTNERS WHERE THESE TYPES OF STORMS OCCUR.

DUE TO THE INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF THIS SCN...PRODUCT EXAMPLES

ARE NO LONGER ON-LINE.

TRADITIONAL FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS WILL CONTAIN A SINGLE PRIMARY VTEC LINE...WHILE COMBINED WARNINGS WILL CONTAIN TWO PRIMARY VTEC LINES...ONE FOR THE FLASH FLOOD WARNING AND ONE FOR THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING. NO SEPARATE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING TEXT PRODUCT /SVR/ WILL BE ISSUED IN THESE CASES. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE USE OF VTEC CODE CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEB SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

PARTNERS AND USERS WHO ALREADY RECEIVE NWS FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS DO NOT HAVE TO MAKE ANY CHANGES TO RECEIVE THE COMBINED WARNINGS.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THESE PRODUCTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

CRAIG SCHMIDT
CHIEF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
WESTERN REGION HEADQUARTERS
125 SOUTH STATE STREET ROOM 1311
SALT LAKE CITY UT 84138
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NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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