

NOUS41 KWBC 061146
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 09-36
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
746 AM EDT WED MAY 6 2009

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

FROM: CRAIG SCHMIDT
CHIEF...METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION
WESTERN REGION HEADQUARTERS SALT LAKE CITY UT

SUBJECT: EXPERIMENTAL CRITERION CHANGE FOR HAIL SIZE IN SEVERE
THUNDERSTORM WARNING DETERMINATION AT ALL WESTERN
REGION WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES FROM THREE-QUARTER
/0.75/ INCH TO ONE /1/ INCH IN DIAMETER OR LARGER
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 2009

ON JUNE 1 2009...ALL WESTERN REGION /WR/ WEATHER FORECAST
OFFICES /WFOS/ WILL BEGIN USING A NEW EXPERIMENTAL HAIL
CRITERION FOR DETERMINING WHEN TO ISSUE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM
WARNINGS /SVR/. IN AN EFFORT TO BETTER REPRESENT HAIL WHICH
PRODUCES DAMAGE AND TO REDUCE USER COMPLACENCY TO NUMEROUS
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS FOR THREE-QUARTER /0.75/ INCH
DIAMETER HAIL...THE WFOS IN WR WILL USE HAIL CRITERION OF ONE
/1/ INCH IN DIAMETER OR LARGER AS OPPOSED TO THE REFERENCED
/0.75/ INCH CRITERION. THERE IS NO CHANGE IN HAIL CRITERION FOR
AVIATION THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS /I.E. CONVECTIVE SIGMETS/ OR FOR
SPECIAL MARINE WARNINGS /SMW/.

A SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ ANNOUNCING THE NWS CENTRAL
REGION/S /CR/ SIMILAR EXPERIMENT IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE
LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIFICATION/SCN09-19HAIL_CHANGE.TXT](http://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIFICATION/SCN09-19HAIL_CHANGE.TXT)

A PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT /PDD/ FOR THIS WR EXPERIMENT IS
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/](http://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/)

THIS EXPERIMENT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR ALL AREAS IN EIGHT
WESTERN STATES: ARIZONA...CALIFORNIA...IDAHO...MONTANA...
NEVADA...OREGON...UTAH AND WASHINGTON.

NO CHANGE WILL OCCUR WITH RESPECT TO WIND SPEED IN SEVERE
THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS. WINDS EQUAL TO OR IN EXCESS OF 50 KNOTS
/58 MPH/ WILL REMAIN THE CRITERION.

FOR THUNDERSTORMS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE AROUND 3/4 INCH TO 7/8 INCH DIAMETER HAIL BUT REMAIN BELOW SEVERE WIND LIMITS...WR WFOS ARE EXPECTED TO USE THE SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT /SPS/... HEADLINED AS A SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY. WFOS WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO COLLECT AND DISTRIBUTE HAIL REPORTS THAT ARE THREE-QUARTERS /0.75/ INCH IN DIAMETER OR GREATER BY WAY OF THE LOCAL STORM REPORT /LSR/ AS USUAL.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/om/notif.htm)

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