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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 14-42  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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To:     Subscribers:  
       -Family of Services  
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       -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
       -NOAAPort  
       Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From:    Eli Jacks  
          Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject:  Operational Implementation of the Storm Prediction  
          Center (SPC) Categorical Day 1-3 Convective Outlooks  
          for CONUS, Effective October 22, 2014

Effective Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at 1500 Coordinated  
Universal Time (UTC), the SPC Categorical Day 1-3 Convective  
Outlooks for CONUS will transition from experimental to  
operational status.

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notification/pns14day1-3outlooks.htm>

After operational implementation, the SPC Categorical Day 1-3  
Convective Outlooks for the CONUS will include two new risk  
categories. Also, the associated text products will include these  
new categories and a new public-oriented, plain language national  
"SUMMARY" section above the "SYNOPSIS" or geographic area text  
discussion.

The addition of the new risk categories is based on customer  
feedback and the need to provide better consistency with other  
NWS products. Additional information and examples of these  
Outlooks (using historical data) are online at:

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/exper/dy1-3example/>

Currently, SPC uses the risk categories; SEE TEXT, SLIGHT,  
MODERATE and HIGH.

After operational implementation on October 22, 2014, the SPC  
will use the following categories:

Category 1 - "MARGINAL" replaces the current "SEE TEXT".

Category 2 - "SLIGHT" - little change, except the higher risk  
part of "SLIGHT" will become "ENHANCED".

Category 3 - "ENHANCED" is a new category to delineate areas of risk in the high end of the current "SLIGHT" risk, but below "MODERATE" risk.

Category 4 - "MODERATE" - no change.

Category 5 - "HIGH" - no change.

More information regarding these risk categories is online in the Product Description Document (PDD) at:

<http://products.weather.gov/viewlist.php>

The new "SUMMARY" section in the associated text products is a general 1-2 sentence statement of the severe weather expected, focused on the primary risk area, but including other risk areas when appropriate. The "SUMMARY" section facilitates consistent, forecaster-driven, concise communication for public consumption and for direct parsing into other products, such as the Public Severe Weather Outlook, web page headlines, social media communication, multimedia briefings, etc. The section header is a single line with the word "SUMMARY" preceded and followed by three-dot ellipses (...SUMMARY...).

The following products reflect these changes:

WMO Header AWIPS ID Description

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ACUS01 KWNS SWODY1 Day 1 Convective Outlook Discussion  
WUUS01 KWNS PTSDY1 Day 1 Convective Outlook Areal Outline  
PGWE46 KWNS RBG940 Day 1 Red Book Graphic Categorical Outlook  
LDIZ17 KWNS N/A Day 1 NDFD Categorical Outlook  
ACUS02 KWNS SWODY2 Day 2 Convective Outlook Discussion  
WUUS02 KWNS PTSDY2 Day 2 Convective Outlook Areal Outline  
PGWK48 KWNS RBG990 Day 2 Red Book Graphic Categorical Outlook  
LDIZ27 KWNS N/A Day 2 NDFD Categorical Outlook  
ACUS03 KWNS SWODY3 Day 3 Convective Outlook Discussion  
WUUS03 KWNS PTSDY3 Day 3 Convective Outlook Areal Outline  
PGWI47 KWNS RBG980 Day 3 Red Book Graphic Categorical Outlook  
LDIZ37 KWNS N/A Day 3 NDFD Categorical Outlook
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The points products (PTSDY1, PTSDY2, and PTSDY3) will include new labels "MRGL" (Marginal) and "ENH" (Enhanced).

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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