

NOUS41 KWBC 291859
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 15-05
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
 -Family of Services
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS partners and NWS employees

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

Subject: Addition of SUMMARY Section to Storm Prediction
 Center (SPC) Public Watch Notification Message (SEL)
 Effective April 14, 2015

Effective Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 1500 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the SPC will add a new SUMMARY section to Public Watch Notification Messages (AWIPS ID SEL#). This additional section will be in the free text area following the bullet format of the primary threat information statements. The section header is a single line with the word SUMMARY followed by a three dot ellipsis (SUMMARY...).

The new SUMMARY section is a general 1-2 sentence statement of the severe weather expected in and close to the watch area. This new section facilitates consistent, forecaster-driven, concise communication for public consumption. The SUMMARY is intended to be useful for a variety of communication needs including web page headlines, social media and multimedia briefings.

In addition, the technical meteorological discussion section (DISCUSSION..) that follows the double ampersand at the bottom of the product will no longer be included in the SEL. discussion section is primarily for meteorological professionals. This information will be included in a Mesoscale Discussion (MD) product issued immediately after the SEL if the forecaster believes there is new information superseding the pre-watch MD.

This change will support nearly simultaneous transmission of the SEL containing public preparedness information and the Watch Outline Update (WOU) product, which contains a computer-friendly description of the watch spatial and temporal information.

The SUMMARY section in an MD associated with the watch and issued immediately after the SEL will be identical to the SUMMARY section in the SEL.

There are no changes to format or content to the MD product.

An example of the SEL with the SUMMARY section and an associated MD are online at

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/misc/newsel.html>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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