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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-46 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
315 PM EST Thu Dec 21 2017

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:       Michelle Hawkins, Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Delayed Implementation of Impact-Based Warnings (IBW) at  
NWS Alaska Region Offices until February 21, 2018

Updated to delay implementation of IBW at NWS Alaska Region offices until  
February 21, 2018.

The NWS Alaska Region Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will transition to  
the IBW format effective February 21, 2018. The contiguous United States  
NWS (CONUS) WFOs transitioned operationally to the IBW format on May 10,  
2017 and NWS Pacific Region Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) and Weather  
Service Office Pago Pago, American Samoa, transitioned on October 2, 2017.

The NWS had been experimenting with the IBW format from 2013 to 2016 at a  
variety of WFOs and received positive feedback from the public, partners  
and social scientists. Severe Thunderstorm Warning (SVR), Tornado Warning  
(TOR), and Severe Weather Statement (SVS) products will be stratified into  
categories distinguishing extreme cases from base convective warnings.

Additional enhanced wording will be included to convey information about  
associated impacts, specific hazards expected, and recommended actions,  
both within the bullet statements and as part of the tag line codes.

Additional information and product examples are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/impacts>

A Product Description Document (PDD) outlining the products is online at:

[https://products.weather.gov/PDD/National IBW pdd 4 17.pdf](https://products.weather.gov/PDD/National%20IBW%20pdd%204%2017.pdf)

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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