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Service Change Notice 17-46 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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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

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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