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Service Change Notice 17-77 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
730 AM EDT Thu Sep 7 2017

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPORT  
              Other NWS partners and NWS employees

From:         Eli Jacks,  
              Chief, Forecast Services Division

Subject:      Updated: NWS Hazard Simplification Project:  
              Implementation of Consolidated and Re-formatted NWS  
              Winter Messaging Products on October 2, 2017

Updated effective date to October 2, 2017, from October 1, 2017

Effective October 2, 2017, NWS will implement changes to its winter weather messaging products within the NWS Watch, Warning and Advisory (WWA) system. Details on these changes, which include reducing (consolidating) the number of WWA products, and standardizing, simplifying and shortening(re-formatting)our winter and flood-based WWA products, were provided in a Public Information Statement(PNS)issued April 11, 2017:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/pns17hazsimp.htm>

Note that the April 11 PNS proposed changes to flood WWA products as well as to winter weather products. At this time, only the changes to winter products will be implemented. A separate Service Change Notice will be issued in association with planned changes to NWS flood-based WWA products at a later date.

The changes to the winter product suite are based on results of a series of social science research engagements and comments collected from the survey referenced in the above PNS. Analyses from these efforts indicate that users are sometimes confused by the large number of individual hazard messages or "hazard products" NWS currently issues. Feedback has also indicated NWS should apply a consistent and simplified product formatting approach to communicate expected hazards and associated impacts.

The survey results indicated that a majority of users favored the changes as proposed. A listing of the changes, along with examples of how the winter weather WWA products will be consolidated and re-formatted, are contained in the Product Description Document (PDD) at the link below:

<http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDDforWinterProductsConsolidationandReformatting.pdf>

Presentations and additional information on these upcoming changes and plans for the NWS Hazard Simplification (Haz Simp) Project may be accessed at the Haz Simp Website:

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

A link to the decision analysis document with respect to these changes may be accessed at:

<http://products.weather.gov/PDD/DecisionAnalysis.pdf>

For more information, please email:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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