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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-80  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1130 AM EDT Wed Aug 26 2020

TO:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

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

SUBJECT:     The Winter Storm Severity Index for 116 Weather  
              Forecast Offices across CONUS will become operational  
              effective September 29, 2020.

Effective September 29, 2020 at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS will transition the experimental Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI) for 116 Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) across the Contiguous United States (CONUS) to operational status.

The purpose of the WSSI is to provide NWS forecasters, partners, and the public with an indication of the severity of winter weather hazards and the potential for related societal impacts. The WSSI does not depict official warnings and should always be used in context with official NWS forecasts and warnings.

The WSSI will be updated every 2 hours at approximately 0100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 0300 UTC, 0500 UTC, etc. No communication system changes are required to view this web-based information.

Additional information is provided in the Product Description Document (PDD) at the link below:  
[https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD\\_ExpWSSI\\_2020-2021.pdf](https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpWSSI_2020-2021.pdf)

For questions regarding the WSSI, please contact:

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

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