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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 02-23  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
410 PM EDT FRI OCT 4 2002

TO: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ OFFICES  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION /FAA/ CUSTOMERS  
FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER CUSTOMERS OF NWS AVIATION FORECASTS

FROM: MARK ANDREWS  
CHIEF...AVIATION SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: QUARTERLY AVIATION BACKUP TEST PLANNED SCHEDULED FROM 2000 UTC ON  
OCTOBER 16 2002 UNTIL 0400 UTC ON OCTOBER 17 2002

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING CHANGES HAVE NO IMPACT ON NOAA WEATHER WIRE  
SUBSCRIBERS.

ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16 2002...THE AVIATION WEATHER CENTER /AWC/ IN KANSAS  
CITY MISSOURI WILL CONDUCT ITS QUARTERLY SERVICE BACKUP TEST FROM 2000  
COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ OCTOBER 16 UNTIL 0400 UTC OCTOBER 17  
2002.

THE AIR FORCE WEATHER AGENCY /AFWA/ AT OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE WILL ASSUME  
FORECAST AND WARNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SIGMETS AND AIRMETS  
/SIERRA...ZULU...TANGO/ IN THE BOSTON...MIAMI...FORT  
WORTH...CHICAGO...SALT LAKE CITY AND SAN FRANCISCO FA AREAS...WHICH ARE  
NORMALLY PREPARED BY THE AWC. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLISHED BACKUP  
PROCEDURES...CONVECTIVE SIGMETS WILL NOT BE ISSUED DURING THE PERIOD THAT  
AFWA IS PROVIDING AWC BACKUP. INFORMATION FOR AREAS OF ACTIVE  
THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE ISSUED AS SIGMETS FOR CONVECTION IN NON-CONVECTIVE  
SIGMET FORMAT. NO AREA FORECASTS /FAS/ WILL BE ISSUED FOR THE  
BOSTON...MIAMI...FORT WORTH...CHICAGO...SALT LAKE CITY AND SAN FRANCISCO  
FA AREAS BETWEEN 2000 UTC AND 0400 UTC. EVENING FAS WILL BE ISSUED AT  
0400 UTC.

A REMINDER MESSAGE WILL BE APPENDED TO ALL AWC ALPHANUMERIC PRODUCTS ON  
THE EVENING AND MIDNIGHT SHIFT THE NIGHT BEFORE THE BACKUP TEST BEGINS.

ALSO...THE AWC...THE ALASKA AVIATION WEATHER UNIT /AAWU/...THE TROPICAL  
PREDICTION CENTER /TPC/ AND THE HONOLULU FORECAST OFFICE WILL CONDUCT  
QUARTERLY BACKUP TESTING OF METEOROLOGICAL WATCH OFFICE /MWO/ PRODUCTS  
FROM 2000 UTC ON OCTOBER 16 UNTIL 0400 UTC ON OCTOBER 17 2002.

THE AWC WILL ASSUME FORECAST AND WARNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE  
SIGMETS...AIRMETS...AREA FORECAST AND ROFORS FOR THE HONOLULU FORECAST  
OFFICE MWO AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

THE AWC WILL ASSUME WARNING RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AAWU MWO AREA FOR  
VOLCANIC ASH SIGMETS AT ALL ALTITUDES AND ROUTINE SIGMETS AT ALTITUDES  
ABOVE FLIGHT LEVEL 20000 FEET.

THE TPC TROPICAL ANALYSIS AND FORECAST BRANCH /TAFB/ WILL ASSUME FORECAST AND WARNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SIGMETS AND WEATHER WATCH OF FACA20 KPCI AND FAGX20 KPCI OVER THE FLIGHT INFORMATION REGIONS OF THE NEW YORK OCEANIC FIR...THE SAN JUAN OCEANIC FIR...THE MIAMI ATLANTIC FIR...THE MIAMI GULF OF MEXICO FIR AND THE HOUSTON OCEANIC FIR. THE FACA FOR 2130 UTC WILL BE ISSUED AT 2000 UTC FROM THE AWC.

THE HONOLULU HAWAII FORECAST OFFICE WILL ASSUME WARNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR SIGMETS FOR THE TWO OAKLAND OCEANIC FIRS THAT ARE NORMALLY UNDER THE WEATHER WATCH OF THE AWC IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE AVIATION BACKUP TEST... CONTACT:

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NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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