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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-67  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
330 PM EDT WED OCT 15 2003

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: TOM GRAZIANO  
CHIEF...HYDROLOGIC SERVICES BRANCH  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO NWS HYDROLOGY PRODUCTS...EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 9 2004

A FEW REFINEMENTS WILL BE MADE IN THE NWS HYDROLOGIC PRODUCT SUITE WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW VERSION OF NWS INSTRUCTION 10-922...ENTITLED WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS. THESE REFINEMENTS BECOME EFFECTIVE ON FEBRUARY 9 2004...WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE USE OF THE FLOOD WATCH PRODUCT TO PROVIDE ALL FOLLOW UP INFORMATION FOR PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FLOOD WATCHES...WHICH IS DELAYED UNTIL APRIL 1 2004 IN ALASKA...ARIZONA...CALIFORNIA...HAWAII...IDAHO...MONTANA...NEVADA... OREGON...UTAH AND WASHINGTON.

NEW NWS INSTRUCTION 10-922 IS AVAILABLE ON THE NWS NATIONAL DIRECTIVES SYSTEM WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DIRECTIVES/PD01009022B.PDF](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/PD01009022B.PDF)

REFINEMENTS TO THE HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS SUITE ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW...

1. FLOOD WATCH PRODUCTS /FFA/ WILL FOLLOW A CONSISTENT FORMAT. AFTER THE COMMUNICATION IDENTIFIER AND MASS NEWS DISSEMINATOR /MND/ HEADER BLOCK...INFORMATION WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

OPTIONAL OVERVIEW HEADLINE  
MAIN HEADLINE  
LIST OF COVERED AREAS  
DISCUSSION OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL BASIS FOR THE FLOOD WATCH  
STATEMENT DEFINING THE MEANING OF A WATCH  
CALL TO ACTION STATEMENT

THE LISTING OF COVERED AREAS WILL TYPICALLY BE COUNTIES LISTED HORIZONTALLY SEPARATED BY ELLIPSES. HOWEVER... IF THEIR NAMES ARE LONG...COVERED AREAS MAY ALSO BE LISTED VERTICALLY WITH ONE AREA ON EACH LINE.

2. FLOOD WATCH PRODUCTS WILL BE WORDED AS FLOOD WATCHES ONLY. IF THE PRODUCT IS EMPHASIZING THE POTENTIAL FOR FLASH FLOODING...THE HEADLINE WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN /OFFICE LOCATION/ HAS ISSUED A FLOOD WATCH FOR FLASH FLOODING IN /AREA NAME/ EFFECTIVE UNTIL...

IF THE POTENTIAL IS FOR LONGER TERM FLOOD EVENTS WHICH COULD REQUIRE LESS IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TO PROTECT LIVES AND PROPERTY... THE HEADLINE WILL BE WORDED AS FOLLOWS:

...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN /OFFICE LOCATION/ HAS ISSUED A FLOOD WATCH FOR /AREA NAME/ EFFECTIVE UNTIL...

3. FLOOD WATCH PRODUCTS WILL BE ISSUED TO PROVIDE ALL FOLLOW UP INFORMATION ON PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FLOOD WATCHES. PREVIOUSLY, FLOOD STATEMENTS /FLS/ WERE ISSUED TO PROVIDE UPDATED INFORMATION ON CURRENT FLOOD WATCHES.

EXAMPLES DISPLAYING THE ABOVE THREE CHANGES IN FLOOD WATCH PRODUCTS CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEBPAGE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/FLASHFLOOD/FFPRODUCTS.SHTML](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/flashflood/ffproducts.shtml)

THIS WEBSITE ALSO INCLUDES A LIST ORGANIZED BY NWS OFFICE OF WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADINGS AND ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ IDENTIFIERS FOR EACH FLOOD WATCH PRODUCT AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES.

NOTE: DUE TO OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PEAK SEASONAL FLOOD ACTIVITY...THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THIS PARTICULAR CHANGE WILL BE MONDAY...FEBRUARY 9 2004 FOR STATES EAST OF AND INCLUDING NEW MEXICO...COLORADO...WYOMING...SOUTH DAKOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA /STATES IN NWS CENTRAL...SOUTHERN AND EASTERN REGIONS/. THE EFFECTIVE DATE WILL BE THURSDAY...APRIL 1 2004 FOR ALASKA...ARIZONA...CALIFORNIA...HAWAII...IDAHO...MONTANA...NEVADA... OREGON...UTAH AND WASHINGTON /STATES IN NWS WESTERN... ALASKA AND PACIFIC REGIONS/.

4. LATITUDE/LONGITUDE POLYGON COORDINATES DEFINING A WARNING AREA WILL BE INCLUDED AT THE END OF FLASH FLOOD WARNING /FFW/ PRODUCTS.

EXAMPLES OF FLASH FLOOD WARNING PRODUCTS DISPLAYING THIS CHANGE CAN BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEBPAGE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/FLASHFLOOD/FFPRODUCTS.SHTML](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/flashflood/ffproducts.shtml)

THIS WEBSITE ALSO INCLUDES A LIST ORGANIZED BY NWS OFFICE OF WMO HEADINGS AND AWIPS IDENTIFIERS FOR EACH FLASH FLOOD WARNING PRODUCT AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES.

5. DOUBLE DOLLAR SIGNS /\$\$/ WILL BE INCLUDED AT THE END OF THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS:

PRODUCT TITLE -----	NNN OF AWIPS ID -----
HYDROLOGIC OUTLOOK	ESF
FLOOD WATCH	FFA
FLASH FLOOD WARNING	FFW
FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT	FFS
FLOOD WARNING	FLW
FLOOD STATEMENT	FLS
HYDROLOGIC STATEMENT	RVS
HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY	RVA
RIVER AND LAKE FORECAST PRODUCT	RVD
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #1	RR1
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #2	RR2
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #3	RR3
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #4	RR4
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #5	RR5
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #6	RR6
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #7	RR7
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #8	RR8
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA REPORT #9	RR9
MISCELLANEOUS HYDROLOGIC DATA REPORT	RRM
AUTOMATED DATA REPORT	RRA
DAILY HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA SUMMARY	HYD
WEEKLY HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA SUMMARY	HYW
MONTHLY HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA SUMMARY	HYM

NOTE: THE CHANGES DESCRIBED IN NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 5 ABOVE ARE ONLY THE FIRST STEP IN MODERNIZING THE NWS HYDROLOGIC PRODUCT SUITE. ON A FUTURE DATE TO BE DETERMINED...VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE FOLLOWING FIVE PRODUCTS:

FLOOD WATCH  
FLASH FLOOD WARNING  
FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT  
FLOOD WARNING  
FLOOD STATEMENT

A FUTURE SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE WILL BE SENT TO ANNOUNCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VTEC.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THESE CURRENT AND FUTURE PRODUCT CHANGES IN ANY NWS HYDROLOGIC PRODUCT...PLEASE CALL YOUR LOCAL NWS OFFICE OR CONTACT:

TIM HELBLE  
HYDROLOGIC SERVICES BRANCH  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND  
PHONE: 301-713-0006 EXT. 152

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

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

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