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Public Information Statement, Comment Request  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
848 AM EDT Mon Apr 18 2011

To:           Subscribers:  
              -Family of Services  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:        Iftikhar Jamil  
              NWS Chief Information Officer  
  
              David B. Caldwell, Director  
              NWS Office of Climate, Water and Weather Services

Subject: Soliciting Public Comments Through April 30, 2012 on  
Experimental Local NWS Facebook Pages and Enhancement to National NWS  
Facebook Page

The NWS is currently seeking comments on provision of environmental information via experimental local Facebook pages and the national NWS Facebook page. Facebook is a commonly used social networking service which allows participants to share information with other users. NWS has already established an effective national Facebook presence for purposes of outreach and education and has prototyped several local Facebook pages to explore expansion of this presence to the field office level.

The local NWS Facebook pages will provide a complementary means to disseminate important information about hazardous weather conditions. The local pages also will be used for public outreach and education and to direct users to official NWS websites. The enhanced national Facebook page may now also include environmental information of national significance in addition to outreach and education.

Experimental local Facebook pages are available at this time for the following NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs):

WFO Fort Worth, TX:  
[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.FortWorth.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.FortWorth.gov)

WFO Seattle, WA:  
[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Seattle.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Seattle.gov)

WFO Pleasant Hill, MO:  
[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.PleasantHill.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.PleasantHill.gov)

WFO Honolulu, HI and Central Pacific Hurricane Center:  
[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Honolulu.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Honolulu.gov)

WFO Norman, OK:

[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Norman.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Norman.gov)

WFO New York, NY:

[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.NewYorkNY.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.NewYorkNY.gov)

WFO Billings, MT:

[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Billings.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Billings.gov)

Alaska Region offices:

[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Alaska.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Alaska.gov)

National Hurricane Center:

[www.Facebook.com/US.NOAA.NationalHurricaneCenter.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NOAA.NationalHurricaneCenter.gov)

North Central River Forecast Center:

[www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.NCRFC.gov](http://www.Facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.NCRFC.gov)

It is NWS's intent to implement local Facebook pages for all NWS offices. New pages will be added gradually throughout the comment/review period. A search within Facebook for "US National Weather Service" will identify current pages.

Experimental local Facebook pages will serve as a supplemental channel to disseminate environmental information. Availability of this service is subject to constraints of Facebook service availability and to availability of users' internet service. Users should not rely on this service as the primary means of receiving alerts/warnings of hazardous weather. NWS alerts/warnings are available on NOAA Weather Radio and on our official website: <https://www.weather.gov/>. Responses to users' posts are made on a time-available basis and may be limited, especially during periods of severe weather.

Additional information on the experimental Facebook pages may be found at:

[http://products.weather.gov/PDD/facebook\\_sdd.pdf](http://products.weather.gov/PDD/facebook_sdd.pdf)

Users must have valid Facebook accounts to search for pages or post content. Information on Facebook can be found at:

<http://www.facebook.com/>

Comments on this experimental service may be provided through April 30, 2012 at:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=lofb>

Disclaimers regarding NWS use of social media services can be found at:

<http://www.weather.gov/disclaimer.php>

<http://www.weather.gov/credits.php#socialmedia>

If you have comments or questions regarding this Public Information Statement, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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