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Public Information Statement 16-12  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
943 AM EDT Mon May 16 2016

To:           Subscribers:  
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              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         John Murphy  
              Chief Operating Officer, National Weather Service

Subject: Comments Sought by July 15, 2016 on National Weather Service  
Philosophy for Impact-Based Decision Support Services

The NWS is soliciting comments until July 15, 2016 on a description of the Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS) operating philosophy it proposes to adopt as it moves forward in refining the scope of its products and services providing impact-based decision support services to support a Weather-Ready Nation (WRN).

The NWS Roadmap 2.0 is focused on building a WRN, which means building community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather-dependent impacts.

For information on the NWS Roadmap, see:

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

To implement our WRN Roadmap, the NWS is currently engaged in a process of examining its operating philosophy and internal operational structure to realign the NWS's resources, organization, and processes to achieve its WRN goals. The NWS aims to improve clarity about its intent, capabilities, and capacities to provide IDSS as well as work within the context of a broader Environmental Information Enterprise in meeting the public safety needs of the nation.

At this stage, we would like to articulate our proposed IDSS operating philosophy as we engage in providing these services and seek stakeholder input as we form this foundation for building further clarity on details of the NWS's plans for IDSS. A description of the NWS's IDSS operating philosophy is available at:

[http://weather.gov/sp/OWA IDSS Philosophy Material.pdf](http://weather.gov/sp/OWA_IDSS_Philosophy_Material.pdf)

This document describes our definition of IDSS and on whom we will focus our services. The intent is for the NWS to focus on building deep relationships with those government partners who have a mutual focus on public safety and who possess the authority for making public safety decisions and/or where there is an existing mandate for NOAA/NWS to engage

with these partners. The NWS plans to work with these partners to understand their operating needs and to become an integral resource supporting their operations in support of public safety.

Input on this material may be provided by July 15, 2016 to:

[nws.idss.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.idss.comments@noaa.gov)

We plan to follow up with more detailed information on how the NWS's plans to provide IDSS once we have had an opportunity to incorporate stakeholder feedback on these basic concepts of our operating philosophy. For those who have previously provided input on the NWS's plans for IDSS over the past few years, we appreciate your patience as we work to integrate those operational plans within the context of this overall operating philosophy and our internal review of the NWS's resources, capabilities, and operating structure. Some of the content may have changes from previous materials you have reviewed.

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/notification/archive>

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