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From: Eli Jacks
 Chief, Forecast Services Division

Subject: NWS Hazard Simplification Project Activity #2: Collecting Public Comment on a Proposed Consolidation and Reformatting of Winter Advisory, and Flooding Watch and Advisory Products through December 31, 2016

NWS is requesting comments on the latest stage of its Hazard Simplification project (Haz Simp) through December 31, 2016.

The purpose of the Haz Simp project is to explore options for simplifying and clarifying NWS hazard messaging, with a focus on the NWS Watch, Warning and Advisory (WWA) system.

On September 7, 2016, NWS announced the availability of a new webpage for the Haz Simp Project and also released the first in a series of public comment opportunities. At that time, we asked for comment on two, 4-color maps that are proposed for possible use on the NWS homepage (weather.gov). This survey is now closed and we are currently analyzing the results.

NWS now announces a second public comment opportunity; this time on a proposal to reduce the number of Watch and Advisory hazard messages (also called hazard "products") for flooding and winter precipitation. NWS is referring to this product reduction proposal as "consolidation." We also propose simplifying the format of these products.

Specifically, we are collecting comments on the following proposals:

- Options for consolidating the current Flash Flood Watch and Flood Watch products into one "Flood Watch" product.
- A proposal to integrate all information in current Flood Advisory messages (e.g., Urban and Small Stream, Arroyo and Small Stream, Small Stream, and Hydraulic Advisories) into one "Flood Advisory" product.
- Options for combining the three existing winter precipitation Advisory products (Winter Weather, Freezing Rain and Lake Effect Snow Advisories) into one "Winter Weather Advisory" product.

Below are two separate survey links. The first link requests your comments on proposals 1 and 2. The second link requests your comments on proposal 3.

A reformatting and shortening of the messaging products is proposed in all three cases and both surveys first check your understanding of the "Watch" and "Advisory" terms. Please take either or both surveys according to your level of interest.

Flooding Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDQXLJR>

Winter Precipitation Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CD2MV88>

Haz Simp Website:

<http://www.weather.gov/hazardsimplification/>

For more information, please email:

hazsimp@noaa.gov

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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