

NOUS41 KWBC 111845
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 02-40
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
245 PM EDT TUE JUN 11 2002

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: JAMES E. LEE
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM FLASH FLOOD WARNING TEST AUGUST 12
TO OCTOBER 1 2002

EFFECTIVE MONDAY AUGUST 12 2002 AT 6 A.M. MOUNTAIN DAYLIGHT TIME /MDT/...5
A.M. MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME /MST/ AND PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME /PDT/... 1200
COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...FOUR WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ IN
THE SOUTHWESTERN U.S. WILL BEGIN TO ISSUE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING AND
FLASH FLOOD WARNING INFORMATION IN A SINGLE PRODUCT AS A TEST. THESE WFOS
WILL ISSUE COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS WHEN
THUNDERSTORMS THREATEN TO PRODUCE SERIOUS DAMAGE DUE TO STRONG
WINDS...LARGE HAIL AND FLASH FLOODING. WFOS PARTICIPATING IN THE TEST
INCLUDE TUCSON AND FLAGSTAFF AZ...LAS VEGAS NV AND SAN DIEGO CA.

INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS /SVR/ AND FLASH
FLOOD WARNINGS /FFW/ IS NORMALLY ISSUED SEPARATELY AND FOLLOWED UP ON
INDIVIDUALLY. HOWEVER...SUMMER THUNDERSTORMS IN THE DESERT SOUTHWEST CAN
PRODUCE BOTH DAMAGING WIND AND HAIL ALONG WITH HEAVY DOWNPOURS RESULTING
IN FLASH FLOODING. THIS TEST WILL HELP DETERMINE WHETHER STREAMLINED
WARNING DISSEMINATION WILL RESULT IN INCREASED LEAD TIME AND LESS WARNING
REDUNDANCY.

THE FOUR WFOS CAN STILL ISSUE WARNINGS SEPARATELY... BUT WILL ISSUE
COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNINGS WHEN APPROPRIATE.
WFOS WILL ISSUE COMBINED WARNINGS USING THE FLASH FLOOD WARNING HEADER
/WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADING WGUS5I KCCC...ADVANCED
WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ IDENTIFIER FFWCCC...WHERE
CCC IS THE IDENTIFIER OF THE WFO ISSUING THE INFORMATION/. SEE TABLE 1
FOR THE LIST OF COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING
PRODUCT IDENTIFIERS FOR THIS TEST. THE NAME OF THE COMBINED PRODUCT IN
THE MASS MEDIA DISSEMINATION HEADER IS...COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND
FLASH FLOOD WARNING. ALL SUBSEQUENT WARNING UPDATES...INCLUDING
CANCELLATION OF THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING PORTION OF A COMBINED
WARNING...WILL BE ISSUED IN A FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT /WMO HEADING WGUS8I
KCCC...AWIPS ID FLSCCC/.

TABLE 1 - COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING AND FOLLOW UP STATEMENT PRODUCT IDENTIFIERS

| NWS OFFICE | COMBINED WARNING | | FOLLOW-UP STATEMENT | |
|--------------|------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| | WMO HEADING | AWIPS ID | WMO HEADING | AWIPS ID |
| TUCSON AZ | WGUS55 KTWC | FFWTWC | WGUS85 KTWC | FLSTWC |
| FLAGSTAFF AZ | WGUS55 KFGZ | FFWFGZ | WGUS85 KFGZ | FLSFGZ |
| LAS VEGAS NV | WGUS55 KVEF | FFWVEF | WGUS85 KVEF | FLSVEF |
| SAN DIEGO CA | WGUS56 KSGX | FFWSGX | WGUS86 KSGX | FLSSGX |

WFOS WILL MENTION SEVERE THUNDERSTORM INFORMATION FIRST IN THE PRODUCT NAME...HEADLINES AND BODY OF THE WARNING UNTIL THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM PORTION IS CANCELED.

PARTICIPATING WFOS WILL CONDUCT A FOLLOW UP SERVICE EVALUATION. IN ADDITION TO REVIEWING HOW ISSUING COMBINED WARNINGS IMPACT OFFICE OPERATIONS...THEY WILL CONTACT AND INTERVIEW PRINCIPLE PARTNERS. THIS INCLUDES THE MEDIA...EMERGENCY MANAGERS...AND IF POSSIBLE...THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

EXAMPLES OF A COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING AND FOLLOW UP STATEMENT ARE SHOWN BELOW.

EXAMPLE 1: INITIAL ISSUANCE OF A COMBINED SVR/FFW

WGUS55 KTWC 131835
FFWTWC

AZC019-132000-
BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED
COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TUCSON AZ
1135 AM MST TUE AUG 13 2002

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TUCSON HAS ISSUED A

COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING FOR...CENTRAL PIMA COUNTY IN ARIZONA

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING UNTIL 12 NOON MST.
FLASH FLOOD WARNING UNTIL 100 PM MST.

AT 1135 AM MST... NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WITH VERY HEAVY RAIN OVER CENTRAL PIMA COUNTY...OR ABOUT 10 MILES SOUTH OF ROBLES JUNCTION...MOVING NORTHWEST AT 10 MPH.

THIS THUNDERSTORM WILL MOVE INTO REMOTE DESERT AREA 10 MILES WEST OF ROBLES JUNCTION BY 12 NOON.

DOPPLER RADAR SHOWED A VERY STRONG THUNDERSTORM WITH HEAVY RAIN AND WINDS IN EXCESS OF 60 MPH OVER HIGHWAY 286 ABOUT 10 MILES SOUTH OF ROBLES JUNCTION. BE PREPARED FOR DAMAGING WIND AND NEAR ZERO VISIBILITY DUE TO BLOWING DUST.

RAINFALL TOTALS IN EXCESS OF TWO INCHES ARE POSSIBLE IN THIS AREA. WASHES THAT MAY OVERFLOW WILL BE ALTAR WASH...FRESNAL WASH AND BOLA BLANCAS WASH. EXCESSIVE RUNOFF FROM THIS STORM WILL CAUSE FLASH FLOODING OF SMALL CREEKS AND STREAMS...COUNTRY ROADS...NORMALLY DRY WASHES AND ARROYOS...AS WELL AS FARMLAND ALONG THE BANKS OF CREEKS AND STREAMS.

NEVER ATTEMPT TO CROSS SWIFTLY FLOWING WATERS BY FOOT OR CROSS ROADWAYS COVERED BY WATER. VEHICLES CAUGHT IN RISING WATER SHOULD BE ABANDONED QUICKLY. MOVE TO HIGHER GROUND.

A COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING MEANS THAT DAMAGING WIND...HAIL AND FLOODING ARE IMMINENT OR OCCURRING.

LAT...LON 3196 11155 3182 11138 3193 11123 3207 11142

/END OF EXAMPLE 1/

EXAMPLE 2: FOLLOW UP STATEMENT FOR A COMBINED SVR/FFW CANCELING THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM THREAT

WGUS85 KTWC 131900
FLSTWC

AZC019-132000-
COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TUCSON AZ
1200 NOON MST TUE AUG 13 2002

...THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING FOR CENTRAL PIMA COUNTY NEAR ROBLES JUNCTION HAS EXPIRED...

...THE FLASH FLOOD WARNING FOR CENTRAL PIMA COUNTY NEAR THREE POINTS REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 100 PM...

THE STORM WHICH PROMPTED THE COMBINED SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND FLASH FLOOD WARNING IS NO LONGER PRODUCING DAMAGING WINDS. THIS THUNDERSTORM CONTINUES TO PRODUCE HEAVY RAINS. DOPPLER RADAR ESTIMATES 2 TO 3 INCHES OF RAIN HAS FALLEN IN AN AREA ABOUT 5 MILES SOUTH SOUTHWEST OF ROBLES JUNCTION. SHERIFFS DEPUTIES REPORT WATER FLOWING IN WASHES IN THE AREA. HIGHWAY 286 HAS BEEN CLOSED SOUTH OF ROBLES JUNCTION DUE TO WATER FLOWING ACROSS THE ROAD AT LOW WATER CROSSINGS.

THIS THUNDERSTORM CONTINUES TO PRODUCE HEAVY RAIN AND WASHES ARE EXPECTED TO FLOW IN THE AREA UNTIL 100 PM. PERSONS IN THE AREA SHOULD AVOID LOW WATER CROSSINGS AND NOT TRAVEL UNTIL WELL AFTER THE STORM HAS ENDED.

/END OF EXAMPLE 2/

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS... PLEASE CONTACT:

TOM AINSWORTH
WESTERN REGION WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST
PHONE: 801-524-4000
EMAIL: TOM.AINSWORTH@NOAA.GOV

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

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

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