

NOUS41 KWBC 211715
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-13
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
1215 PM EST FRI FEB 21 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: GLENN AUSTIN
ACTING CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: WATCH OUTLINE UPDATE MESSAGES FROM THE STORM PREDICTION CENTER:
EFFECTIVE APRIL 15 2003

ON TUESDAY...APRIL 15 2003 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...THE
STORM PREDICTION CENTER /SPC/ WILL BEGIN ISSUING AN EXPERIMENTAL TEXT
PRODUCT CALLED THE WATCH OUTLINE UPDATE MESSAGE /WOU/ FOR THE CONTINENTAL
UNITED STATES /CONUS/. THE WOU MESSAGE DEPICTS ALL COUNTIES AND
INDEPENDENT CITIES WITHIN A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM OR TORNADO WATCH AT THE
TIME OF INITIAL ISSUANCE. UPDATED WOUS ISSUED AT THE TOP OF EACH
HOUR...DEPICT THE COUNTIES AND INDEPENDENT CITIES REMAINING IN THE WATCH
AREA.

WOU/S ISSUED DURING THIS TEST ARE FOR EVALUATION PURPOSES ONLY. SPC WILL
USE THIS PRODUCT FOR FINAL TEST AND EVALUATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT
TO IMPLEMENT THE WOU AS SERVICE REPLACEMENT FOR THE STATE AREAL OUTLINE
STATEMENT /SLS/ ON OCTOBER 1 2003.

SPC WILL ISSUE INITIAL WOUS FOR THE CONUS. UPDATED WOUS WILL BE ISSUED
ONLY FOR AREAS IN WHICH WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ ARE ISSUING WATCH
COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES /WCN/ DURING THE OPERATIONAL TEST AND
EVALUATION PERIOD. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WCNS...REFER TO [SERVICE CHANGE
NOTICE 03-14](#). WOU MESSAGES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED DURING THIS TEST PERIOD
IF BACKUP SUPPORT FROM ANOTHER OFFICE IS REQUIRED.

FOR INFORMATION ON AND EXAMPLES OF WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION
MESSAGES...PLEASE SEE THE INTERNET SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/WATCH](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/watch)

CUSTOMERS WHO WISH TO RECEIVE THE WOU MESSAGES SHOULD ADD THE WOU
COMMUNICATIONS IDENTIFIER INDICATED IN TABLE 1 TO THE APPROPRIATE
DATABASES.

TABLE 1: WATCH OUTLINE UPDATE MESSAGE COMMUNICATIONS IDENTIFIERS

| MESSAGE TYPE ----- | WMO HEADING ----- | AWIPS ID ----- |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| WATCH OUTLINE UPDATE | WOUS64 KWNS | WOU/1-9/ |

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

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

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

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