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PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-51 CORRECTED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
730 AM EDT WED AUG 18 2004

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: THOMAS GRAZIANO
CHIEF...HYDROLOGIC SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CORRECTED: CHANGE TO STANDARDIZED...VTEC-ENCODED FORMAT FOR
HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS...EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 8 2005

CORRECTED TO CHANGE EFFECTIVE DATE IN SUBJECT LINE FROM FEBRUARY 8 2004 TO
FEBRUARY 8 2005.

FOLLOWING UP ON THE [PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT OF MAY 28 2004](#) AND
[SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-05 DATED AUGUST 2 2004](#)...AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE OPERATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/...ON
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 08 2005 AT 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...ALL
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES WILL OPERATIONALLY IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING
PRODUCTS IN A STANDARDIZED FORMAT WHICH INCORPORATES VTEC AND USES
SEGMENTATION WHEN APPROPRIATE:

FLOOD WATCH /FFA/
FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLW/
FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS /FLS/
AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLW/
FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP AREAL FLOOD WARNING /FLS/ FLOOD STATEMENT -
ADVISORIES /FLS/

THE NEW NATIONALLY CONSISTENT FORMAT WILL MAKE IT MUCH EASIER TO READ AND
OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM FLOOD WATCHES... WARNINGS...STATEMENTS AND
ADVISORIES. SEGMENTATION WILL ALLOW MULTIPLE ACTIONS TO BE PROVIDED IN A
SINGLE PRODUCT. FOR EXAMPLE...A SINGLE FLOOD WATCH PRODUCT FOLLOWING UP A
PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FLOOD WATCH COULD HAVE THREE SEGMENTS...ONE WHICH
CANCELS THE WATCH FOR PART OF ITS ORIGINALLY ISSUED AREA...A SECOND WHICH
CONTINUES THE WATCH FOR THE REMAINING PART OF THE ORIGINAL AREA...AND A
THIRD WHICH EXTENDS THE WATCH INTO A NEW AREA.

EXAMPLES OF FLOOD WATCH...FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS...FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS...AREAL FLOOD WARNING...FLOOD STATEMENT - FOLLOW UP AREAL FLOOD WARNING...AND FLOOD STATEMENT - ADVISORY PRODUCTS IN THE NATIONALLY CONSISTENT FORMAT MAY BE ACCESSED AT THE FOLLOWING SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/WATER/SEGMENTED](http://www.weather.gov/os/water/segmented)

MORE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON VTEC CAN BE FOUND AT THE VTEC WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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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