

NOUS41 KWBC 052035  
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 09-19  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
335 PM EST THU MAR 5 2009

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:  
-FAMILY OF SERVICES  
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE  
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK  
-NOAAPORT  
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: KIM RUNK  
CHIEF...INTEGRATED SERVICES DIVISION  
CENTRAL REGION HEADQUARTERS  
KANSAS CITY MISSOURI

SUBJECT: EXPERIMENTAL CRITERION CHANGE FOR HAIL SIZE IN SEVERE  
THUNDERSTORM WARNING DETERMINATION AT ALL CENTRAL REGION WEATHER FORECAST  
OFFICES FROM THREE-QUARTER /0.75/ INCH TO ONE /1/ INCH IN DIAMETER OR  
LARGER: EFFECTIVE BY OR BEFORE JULY 1 2009

IN A ROLL OUT IMPLEMENTATION FROM APRIL 1 THROUGH JULY 1 2009...ALL  
CENTRAL REGION /CR/ WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ WILL BEGIN USING A NEW  
EXPERIMENTAL HAIL CRITERION FOR DETERMINING WHEN TO ISSUE SEVERE  
THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS /SVR/. IN AN EFFORT TO BETTER REPRESENT HAIL WHICH  
PRODUCES DAMAGE AND TO REDUCE USER COMPLACENCY TO NUMEROUS SEVERE  
THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS FOR THREE-QUARTER /0.75/ INCH DIAMETER HAIL...THE  
WFOS IN CR WILL USE HAIL CRITERION OF ONE /1/ INCH IN DIAMETER OR LARGER  
AS OPPOSED TO THE REFERENCED /0.75/ INCH CRITERION. THERE IS NO CHANGE IN  
HAIL CRITERION FOR AVIATION THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS /I.E...CONVECTIVE  
SIGMETS/ OR FOR SPECIAL MARINE WARNINGS /SMW/.

THIS EFFORT IS AN EXPANSION OF A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT CONDUCTED IN THE  
KANSAS OVER THE LAST FOUR SEVERE WEATHER SEASONS WHERE WFOS USED THE ONE  
/1/ INCH CRITERION FOR SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS. DUE TO THE  
OVERWHELMING POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THIS CHANGE...THE ENTIRE CENTRAL REGION  
WILL TEST THE NEW EXPERIMENTAL HAIL CRITERION WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR  
FURTHER EXPANSION ACROSS NWS IN THE FUTURE.

A PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT /SDD/ FOR THIS EXPERIMENT IS AVAILABLE  
ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/](http://products.weather.gov/)

A MAP SHOWING AFFECTED OFFICES IS ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIFICATION/RESOURCES/CR WFOS.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/os/notification/resources/cr_wfos.pdf)

NO CHANGE WILL OCCUR WITH RESPECT TO WIND SPEED AND SEVERE THUNDERSTORM  
WARNINGS. WINDS EQUAL TO OR IN EXCESS OF 50 KNOTS /58 MPH/ WILL REMAIN  
THE CRITERION.

FOR THUNDERSTORMS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE 3/4 INCH TO 7/8 INCH DIAMETER HAIL BUT REMAIN BELOW SEVERE WIND LIMITS...WFOS MAY ISSUE A SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY USING THE SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT /SPS/ PRODUCT OR THE SHORT TERM FORECAST /NOW/ PRODUCT. WFOS WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO COLLECT AND DISTRIBUTE HAIL REPORTS THAT ARE THREE-QUARTERS /0.75/ INCH IN DIAMETER OR GREATER BY WAY OF THE LOCAL STORM REPORT /LSR/ IN AS NEAR REAL TIME AS POSSIBLE.

FOR QUESTIONS ON THIS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE...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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