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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 14-04
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Michael J. Szkil
 Chief, Awareness Branch
 Performance and Awareness Division
 Office of Climate, Water and Weather Services

Subject: NWS Capable of Activating Wireless Emergency Alerts for Tsunami
Warnings: Effective January 31, 2014

As of Friday, January 31, 2014, NWS is capable of activating Wireless
Emergency Alert (WEA) capable cell phones for the most critical Tsunami
Warnings. With this capability, NWS will activate WEA for Tsunami
Warnings in situations where a Tsunami Watch or Tsunami Advisory was not
previously in effect.

This capability is a first step toward enabling WEA activation for all
Tsunami Warnings by May 2014.

On June 28, 2012, NWS began disseminating its most critical warnings to
the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert and
Warning System (IPAWS) for broadcast on WEA capable cell phones.

The NWS also activates WEA for:

Tornado Warnings
Flash Flood Warnings
Hurricane and Typhoon Warnings
Extreme Wind Warnings
Dust Storm Warnings

NWS is also developing future capabilities that will allow activation of
WEA for weather and hydrologic events based on expected event impact
rather than by warning type alone.

All major wireless carriers and hundreds of smaller carriers are taking
part in WEA on a voluntary basis. To find out if your phone is WEA-
capable or if you have other questions related to the receipt of WEA on
your cell phone, please contact your wireless carrier or check the link:

<http://ctia.org/wea>

For information about WEA as related to the NWS, please visit:

<https://weather.gov/wirelessalerts>

For general information about WEA, please visit:

<http://www.fema.gov/wireless-emergency-alerts>

For information about FEMA IPAWS, please visit:

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws>

For questions or comments about NWS participation in IPAWS or WEA, please contact:

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For information about the NWS Tsunami Program, please visit:

<http://www.tsunami.gov/info.php>

For Tsunami related questions or comments, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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