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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-07
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
917 AM EST Mon Jan 30 2017

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Allison Allen
 Chief, Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Experimental Waterspout Coding to Special Marine Warnings (SMW) and Marine Weather Statements (MWS) for All Marine Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in the CONUS will Become Operational: Effective April 4, 2017

Effective Tuesday, April 4, 2017, the experimental addition of a forecast tag labeled "WATERSPOUTS" at the bottom of Special Marine Warnings (SMW) and Marine Weather Statements (MWS) that follow-up SMWs will transition to operational for all marine WFOs in the conterminous United States (CONUS) and Puerto Rico. The transition to operational will occur for marine WFOs in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and for Weather Service Office (WSO) Pago Pago at a later date. An amended Service Change Notice will be issued at that time.

Transitioning this experimental addition to operational will bring these tags into conformity with how they are done within the Severe Thunderstorm Warning product; therefore, improving the communication of crucial decision support and risk assessment information to partners and users within the guidelines of governing policy and the existing operational environment.

All CONUS WFOs will now always include a tag at the end of the SMWs and MWSs that follow-up SMWs, which designates the threat expected: Waterspout, Wind or Hail.

The permanent addition of Waterspout adds a plain text line below the product after the dollar sign, dollar sign and the LAT...LON information.

For example:

[dollar sign, dollar sign]

LAT...LON 4298 8242 4261 8252 4261 8253 4276 8248 4294 8245
TIME...MOT...LOC 1400Z 263DEG 40KT 4284 8289 4244 8291
WATERSPOUT...POSSIBLE
HAIL...[greater than].75IN WIND...40KTS

[dollar sign, dollar sign] NAME

The additional information is also found elsewhere within the product, simply summarized on the lines below. If the threat does not exist, the tag line is omitted.

For details on this product enhancement, please see:

<http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDDSMWaterspoutTags2017.pdf>

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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