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Service Change Notice 17-90  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
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To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Michelle Hawkins, Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Impact-Based Warnings (IBW) to Become Operational at NWS Pacific  
Region Offices: Effective October 2, 2017

The NWS Pacific Region Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) and Weather Service Office Pago Pago, American Samoa, will transition to the IBW format effective October 2, 2017. Alaska Region WFOs will transition to the IBW format no later than December 31, 2017. The contiguous United States (CONUS) NWS WFOs transitioned operationally to the IBW format on May 10, 2017.

The NWS has been experimenting with the IBW format since 2013 at a variety of WFOs. Successes with this format along with comments received from the public, partners, and social scientists have all been positive.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning (SVR), Tornado Warning (TOR), and Severe Weather Statement (SVS) products will be stratified into categories distinguishing extreme cases from base convective warnings. Additional enhanced wording will be included to convey information about associated impacts, specific hazards expected, and recommended actions, both within the bullet statements and as part of the tag line codes.

Additional information and product examples are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/impacts>

A Product Description Document (PDD) outlining the products is online at:

[http://products.weather.gov/PDD/National\\_IBW\\_pdd\\_4\\_17.pdf](http://products.weather.gov/PDD/National_IBW_pdd_4_17.pdf)

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National Service Change Notices are online at:  
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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