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Service Change Notice 18-42
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1000 AM EDT Fri Apr 20 2018

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From: John D. Murphy
 Chief Operating Officer
 National Weather Service

Subject: Approval of Service Description Document describing NWS Impact-based Decision Support Services: Effective April 20, 2018

Effective April 20, 2018, the NWS has approved its Service Description Document (SDD) describing how NWS will provide impact-based decision support services (IDSS) to its core partners.

The enactment of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-25) codifies NWS provision of IDSS, making public safety a top priority. While NWS has provided decision support services to key decision makers for decades, this SDD clarifies an increased NWS focus on IDSS as part of Weather-Ready Nation efforts and the mandate of Public Law 115-25 provides the guidance and details necessary to achieve greater consistency of services across NWS and provides transparency for external stakeholders.

The SDD describes whom NWS will support with IDSS, level of service provided and our overall approach to providing this critical level of service to fulfill our mission. The document also recognizes the growing capacity of America's Weather and Climate Industry (AWCI) and others within the Weather, Water and Climate Enterprise to provide tailored support for an increasing range of users. The SDD describes NWS provision of IDSS in the broader context of Enterprise-wide support for key decision makers.

The approved SDD is the result of revisions to earlier versions of the document and incorporates input from various stakeholder groups. An analysis of comments received and how they were addressed is online at:

http://weather.gov/im/2014_SDD_and_IDSS_Philosophy_Comment_Response.pdf

The approved SDD may be accessed at:

http://weather.gov/im/IDSS_SDD_V1_0.pdf

This approved SDD is a first issuance (v1.0) and will be updated periodically. NWS will continue to assess and revise our guidance for providing IDSS based on internal input, feedback from our core partners, and input from partners in the Weather, Water and Climate Enterprise. NWS is committed to incorporate lessons learned from review, both informally, and in the context of post-event evaluations of IDSS services. These lessons learned will drive improvements, both in services to NWS core partners and in better recognizing and addressing any impacts to Enterprise partners to ensure high quality services that support safety of life and property in our nation.

For questions or comments regarding this notice, please contact:

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