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Service Change Notice 18-61
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Inclusion of Minor Additions to Storm Prediction Center (SPC) Convective Outlook Text Products: Effective April 26, 2018

The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) will make minor changes to the Convective Outlook text products. These changes will begin on April 26, 2018 at 1500 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) with the details listed below.

1. Inclusion of a Maximum Risk Hazard Table into the bottom of the text for the Day 2 Convective Outlooks.

The text product of the SPC Day 2 Convective Outlook will now include a text table indicating the Maximum Risk by Hazard (tornado, wind, hail). The graphical depiction of this product does not currently have separate forecasts for each of these hazards. However, these individual forecast probabilities are factored into the total severe probability for the Day 2 Convective Outlook but are not currently displayed. The intent of this table is to provide users with more information about these convective hazard types (tornado, wind, hail) that are driving the risk categories within Day 2 categorical outlook. The table will be placed at the bottom of the text narrative description and will show the maximum probability for each hazard, including significant severe, and the associated risk category for each hazard.

Example of the Maximum Risk Hazard Table (embedded with the Day 2 Outlook text product):

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...MAXIMUM RISK BY HAZARD...
Tornado:  10% SIG - Enhanced
Wind:     45% SIG - Moderate
Hail:      5%     - Marginal
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2. Simplified Risk Headlines at the top of Day 1-3 Convective Outlooks.

The SPC Convective Outlook headlines will be simplified by removing headlines for all severe risk categories below the greatest risk. Thus, for severe risk areas with multiple concentric probability contours, only the greatest risk area is described in a headline. In cases when there

are geographically separate and distinct severe risk areas, each will have a headline corresponding to the greatest risk. For multiple geographically separate severe risk areas of the same greatest risk category, they will be described in a single risk headline.

This change reduces the duplication of geographic region and state descriptors that commonly occur in association with severe risk areas that have multiple concentric probability contours.

Example case of the current and simplified headlines for the Convective Outlook products:

Simplified Risk Headlines...
...THERE IS A MARGINAL RISK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS EASTERN PA...MD...SOUTHERN NJ AND VICINITY...EASTERN SD AND NORTHERN NE... WESTERN ND...SOUTH CENTRAL MT...WESTERN NV INTO SOUTHERN OR...

Current Risk Headlines...
...THERE IS A MARGINAL RISK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS EASTERN PA...MD...SOUTHERN NJ AND VICINITY...

...THERE IS A MARGINAL RISK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS EASTERN SD AND NORTHERN NE...

...THERE IS A MARGINAL RISK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS WESTERN ND...

...THERE IS A MARGINAL RISK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS SOUTH CENTRAL MT...

...THERE IS A MARGINAL RISK OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS WESTERN NV INTO SOUTHERN OR...

If you have questions, please contact:

Bill Bunting
SPC Operations Branch Chief
Norman, OK
william.bunting@noaa.gov

or

Greg Schoor
NWS Severe Weather Services Program Leader
Norman, OK
gregory.m.schoor@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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