

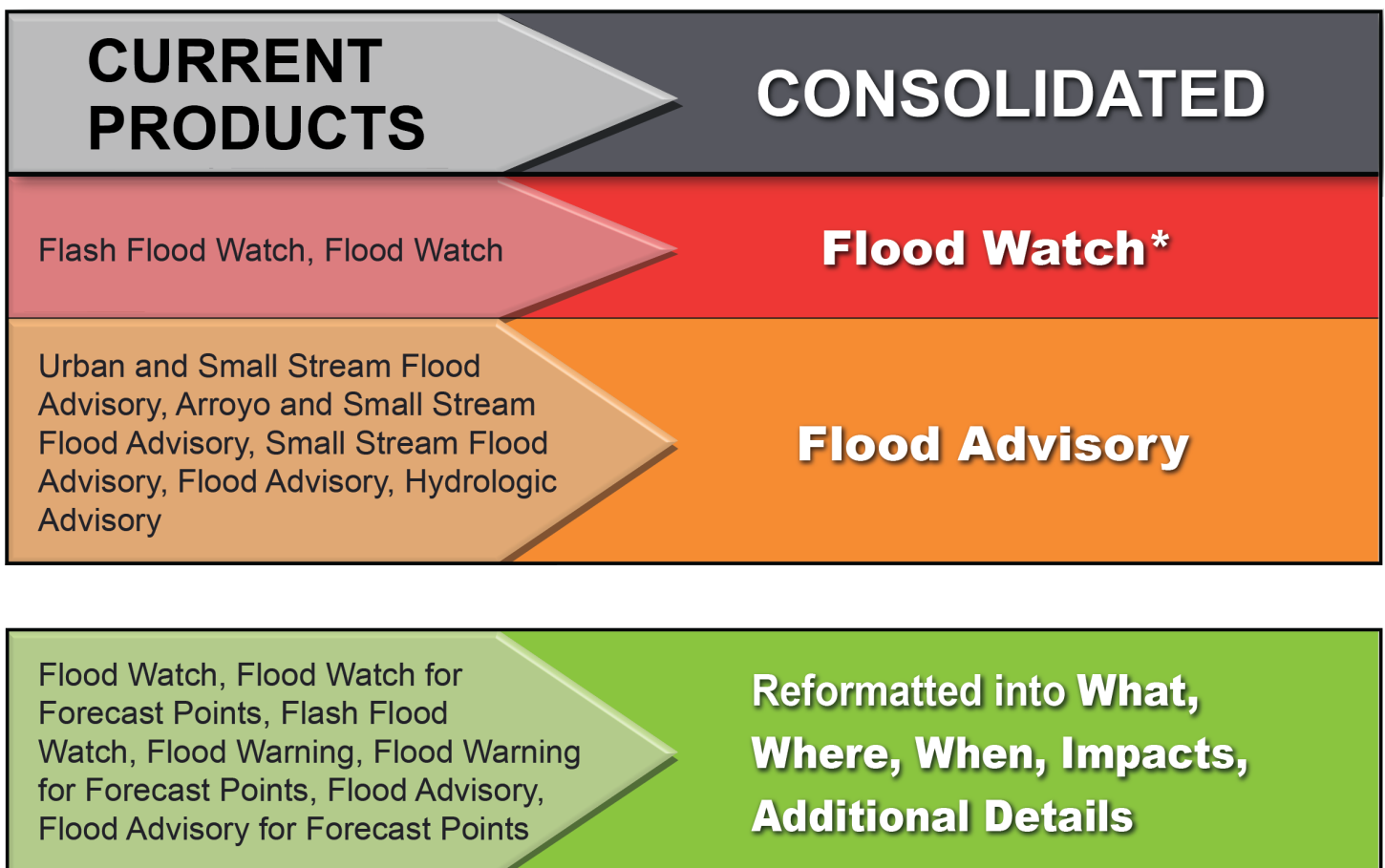
# National Weather Service

## Simplification of NWS Flood Products

### Consolidation and/or Reformatting of Flood Products

A Weather-Ready Nation is about readying your community for extreme weather, water, and climate events. The Hazard Simplification project is designed to simplify the communication of information and improve the understanding and utility of forecasts and warnings. To serve this purpose, the National Weather Service will consolidate and/or reformat Flood Watches, Warnings, and Advisories, beginning late summer 2021.

### What will change?



**\*Flash Flood Watches** will still be issued when conditions include:

- Possibility of flash flooding due to non-convective causes (e.g., dam or levee failure, ice jam)
- Possibility of flash flooding and debris flows caused by excessive rainfall on burn scars or in debris flow- and landslide-prone areas

The **Flash Flood Warning** and **Flash Flood Statement** will remain in Impact-Based Warning (IBW) format.

## Flood Product Examples - Current vs. Consolidated and/or Reformatted

Flash Flood Watches (FF.A) and Flood Watches (FA.A) will be consolidated into one Flood Watch product (FA.A) when the immediate cause is excessive rainfall.

### Current

WGUS61 KLWX 240013  
FFALWX

URGENT - IMMEDIATE BROADCAST REQUESTED  
Flood Watch  
National Weather Service Baltimore MD/Washington DC  
813 PM EDT Thu Jul 23 2020

DCZ001-240600-  
/O.NEW.KLWX.FF.A.0012.200724T0013Z-200724T0600Z/  
/00000.0.ER.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.OO/  
District of Columbia-  
813 PM EDT Thu Jul 23 2020

...FLASH FLOOD WATCH IN EFFECT UNTIL 2 AM EDT  
FRIDAY...

The National Weather Service in Sterling Virginia  
has issued a

- \* Flash Flood Watch for The District of Columbia.
- \* Until 2 AM EDT Friday
- \* Slow moving thunderstorms are developing across the Washington DC Metropolitan Area this evening. Localized rainfall amounts up to two inches in an hour are possible. These amounts could lead to flash flooding, especially along small streams and in poor drainage urban areas.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

A Flash Flood Watch means that conditions may develop that lead to flash flooding. Flash flooding is a very dangerous situation.

You should monitor later forecasts and be prepared to take action should Flash Flood Warnings be issued.

### Consolidated and Reformatted

WGUS61 KLWX 240013  
FFALWX

URGENT - IMMEDIATE BROADCAST REQUESTED  
Flood Watch  
National Weather Service Baltimore MD/Washington DC  
813 PM EDT Thu Jul 23 2020

DCZ001-240600-  
/O.NEW.KLWX.FA.A.0012.200724T0013Z-200724T0600Z/  
/00000.0.ER.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.OO/  
District of Columbia-  
813 PM EDT Thu Jul 23 2020

...FLOOD WATCH IN EFFECT UNTIL 2 AM EDT FRIDAY...

- \* WHAT...Flash flooding is possible due to heavy rain.
- \* WHERE...The District of Columbia.
- \* WHEN...Until 2 AM EDT Friday.
- \* IMPACTS...Heavy rain could lead to flash flooding, especially along small streams and in poor drainage areas.
- \* ADDITIONAL DETAILS...Slow moving thunderstorms are developing across the Washington DC Metropolitan Area this evening. Localized rainfall amounts up to two inches in an hour are possible.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

You should monitor later forecasts and be prepared to take action should Flash Flood Warnings be issued.

Additional examples of consolidated and/or reformatted flood products are available at:

[weather.gov/hazardsimplification/repairprogress](https://weather.gov/hazardsimplification/repairprogress)

