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Public Information Statement 21-57  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
240 PM EDT Mon Aug 30 2021

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: Soliciting Comments until April 30, 2022 on the Experimental  
Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI) Day 4 Extension

The NWS is soliciting comments on the Experimental WSSI Day 4 Extension until April 30, 2022. Experimental WSSI Day 4 values will be produced for 116 NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) across the contiguous 48 states.

The purpose of the Experimental WSSI Day 4 Extension is to:

(1) Assist NWS operational forecasters in maintaining situational awareness of the possible significance of winter weather-related impacts based upon a combination of inputs from the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD), National Blend of Models (NBM) and Weather Prediction Center (WPC) at longer lead times than the current Days 1-3 Operational WSSI.

(2) Enhance communication with external partners, media and the general public of the potential societal impacts due to expected winter hazards and their geographical and temporal distributions in the Day 4 time period. The experimental WSSI Day 4 does not depict official watches or warnings and should always be used in context with official NWS forecasts, watches and warnings.

The Experimental WSSI Day 4 Extension will be updated twice daily (0900 Coordinated Universal Time [UTC], 21 UTC) using the 0700 UTC and 1900 UTC runs of the NBM. No communication system changes are required to view this web-based information.

The WSSI website is available at:

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/wwd/wssi/wssi.php>

Additional information is provided in the Product Description Document (PDD) at the link below:

[https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD\\_ExpWSSIDay4Extension\\_2021.pdf](https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpWSSIDay4Extension_2021.pdf)

Comments may be submitted via the survey link below. The survey link will also be available on the WFO webpages:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpWSSIDay4Extension\\_2021](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpWSSIDay4Extension_2021)

If comments and experimental evaluation are favorable, the product may be transitioned to operational status on a nationwide scale. User notification will be provided prior to operational implementation.

If you have questions, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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