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Public Information Statement 22-51
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
450 PM EDT Mon Aug 8 2022

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Greg Schoor, Acting Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on NWS Western Region HeatRisk Prototype
through September 30, 2022

The NWS Western Region HeatRisk prototype is a consistent, science-based approach that leverages generalized heat-health science with local climatology and heat-health statistics to produce a daily value of expected heat risk for each 24-hour period within any upcoming 7-day forecast period. This expected heat risk is not only based on afternoon heat, but also on the effects of overnight temperature in terms of how it either mitigates or augments the effects of daytime heat.

Real-time access to the HeatRisk product can be obtained through each Western Region Weather Forecast Office (WFO) webpage, under the "Forecasts" tab. It can also be obtained through the interactive webpage, which completely covers the following states within the NWS Western Region: Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Nevada, Washington and Utah. Additionally, portions of Colorado and Wyoming (in NWS Central Region) and New Mexico (in NWS Southern Region) are also available.

The HeatRisk risk-based categorization framework is a straightforward numeric (0-4) color-based (green/yellow/orange/red/magenta) system. This type of messaging framework provides the public and NWS partners with an uncomplicated manner of risk-based heat-related categorizations to aid in decision-making.

The HeatRisk prototype is available from the following URL:

<https://www.wrh.noaa.gov/wrh/heatrisk/>

Please see NWS Product Description Document (PDD) for more details:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_PrototypeHeatRiskforWR_2022.pdf

The feedback gathered during this comment period will be used to inform the potential experimental expansion of HeatRisk to the rest of the contiguous U.S. (CONUS). Users are encouraged to provide feedback on this prototype through September 30, 2022 by using the brief survey available online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HeatRiskPrototype2022>

Questions related to HeatRisk scientific approach can be directed to:

Michael Staudenmaier
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Western Region Headquarters
Salt Lake City, UT
Email: michael.staudenmaier@noaa.gov

Policy questions related to HeatRisk can be directed to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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