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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-97
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
310 PM EDT Fri Oct 7 2022

To: Subscribers:
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 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
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From: Daniel Roman, Acting Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: The Avalanche Weather Guidance Product Will Transition to
Operational Status: Effective November 9, 2022

The Avalanche Weather Guidance Product (AVG) will transition to
Operational Status, effective November 9, 2022 at 25 Weather Forecast
Offices (WFOs).

During the winter of 2021-2022, the experimental AVG product was issued
from 25 WFOs across the United States. These products provided the local
avalanche centers with forecast meteorological parameters critical to the
centers' predictions of avalanche conditions and risk. The AVG products
were also used by state and local departments of transportation,
emergency management, search and rescue operations, commercial entities,
recreation areas and backcountry enthusiasts to help them prepare for
weather conditions that they should expect to encounter in avalanche-
prone areas. Feedback received on this product has been positive, with
comments highlighting that the NWS Avalanche Weather Guidance is critical
in assisting avalanche specialists' predictions for avalanche stability
and avalanche threats to life.

This season, effective November 9, 2022, the NWS is transitioning the
Avalanche Weather Guidance product into operational status. The AVG will
be available as a text-based product via NWS webpages and other NWS
dissemination systems.

The following WFOs will provide AVG products:

WFO	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Albuquerque, NM	FWUS45 KABQ	AVGABQ
Great Falls, MT	FWUS45 KTFX	AVGTFX
Missoula, MT	FWUS45 KMSO	AVGMSO
Pendleton, OR	FWUS46 KPDT	AVGPDT
Pocatello, ID	FWUS45 KPIH	AVGPIH
Reno, NV	FWUS45 KREV	AVGREV
Riverton, WY	FWUS45 KRIW	AVGRIW
Burlington, VT	FWUS41 KBTV	AVGBTV
Gray, ME	FWUS41 KGYX	AVGGYX

*Boulder, CO	FWUS45 KBOU	AVGBOU
Billings, CO	FWUS45 KBYZ	AVGBYZ
Boise, ID	FWUS45 KBOI	AVGBOI
Elko, NV	FWUS45 KLKN	AVGLKN
Flagstaff, AZ	FWUS45 KFGZ	AVGFGZ
Hanford, CA	FWUS46 KHNX	AVGHNX
Las Vegas, NV	FWUS45 KVEF	AVGVEF
Medford, OR	FWUS46 KMFR	AVGMFR
Oxnard, CA	FWUS46 KLOX	AVGLOX
Portland, OR	FWUS46 KPQR	AVGPQR
Salt Lake City, UT	FWUS45 KSLC	AVGSLC
Seattle, WA	FWUS46 KSEW	AVGSEW
Spokane, WA	FWUS46 KOTX	AVGOTX
Anchorage, AK	FWAK48 PAFC	AVGAFC
Fairbanks, AK	FWAK49 PAFG	AVGAFG
Juneau, AK	FWAK47 PAJK	AVGAJK

* WFO Boulder issues the AVG for the entire state of Colorado.

A Product Description Document for the AVG is provided here:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_OplAvalancheWeatherGuidance_2022.pdf

If you have questions or comments regarding the Avalanche Weather Guidance, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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