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Public Information Statement 18-28 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
120 PM EDT Tue Sep 14 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: Updated: Soliciting Comments on the Experimental Avalanche
Weather Guidance Product through April 30, 2022

Updated to extend the comment period through April 30, 2022 and extend use
of this product to 27 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs).

During the winter of 2020-2021, the experimental Avalanche Weather
Guidance (AVG) product was produced at select WFOs across the United
States. These products provided the local avalanche centers with forecast
meteorological parameters critical to the centers' forecasts of avalanche
conditions and risk. The forecasts were also used by state and local
departments of transportation, emergency management, search and rescue
operations, commercial entities, recreation areas, and backcountry
enthusiasts in helping 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
forecast information provided is critical in assisting avalanche
forecasters predicting avalanche stability and avalanche threats to life.

This season, beginning on or about November 1, 2021, the NWS is expanding
the scope of the product to include 27 WFOs (up from 24 WFOs last season).
Other changes include improving the display to allow for variable time
resolution and providing both a 12-hour and 24-hour clock. These changes
were made based on user feedback. This experimental AVG will be available
as a text-based product via NWS web pages and other NWS dissemination
systems.

The following WFOs will provide experimental AVG products beginning on or
about November 1, 2021. Users may need to update their databases to begin
receiving these products:

WFO	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
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Albuquerque, NM	FWUS45 KABQ	AVGABQ
Great Falls, MT	FWUS45 KTFX	AVGTFX
Missoula, MT	FWUS45 KMSO	AVGGPI, AVGMSO
Pendleton, OR	FWUS46 KPDT	AVGPDT
Pocatello, ID	FWUS45 KPIH	AVGPIH

WFO ---	WMO Header -----	AWIPS ID -----
Reno, NV	FWUS45 KREV	AVGREV
Riverton, WY	FWUS45 KRIW	AVGRIW
Burlington, VT	FWUS41 KBTV	AVGBTV
Portland/Gray, ME	FWUS41 KGYX	AVGGYX
Boulder, CO	FWUS45 KBOU	AVGBOU
Grand Junction, CO	FWUS45 KGJT	AVGGJT
Pueblo, CO	FWUS45 KPUB	AVGPUB
Billings, MT	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

A Product Description Document for the Experimental AVG is provided here:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpAvalancheWeatherGuidance_2021.pdf

The NWS is seeking comments on the Experimental AVG products through April 30, 2022 via the online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AvalancheWeatherGuidance2021-2022>

After the comment and review period has ended, an assessment will be made to determine the next steps for the AVG products for the 2022-2023 winter season.

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

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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