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ALASKA WFO NON-PRECIPIATION WEATHER PRODUCTS SPECIFICATION

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This supplement supersedes Alaska Region Supplement (ARS) 07-2002, Alaska WFO Non-Precipitation Weather Products Specification, dated December 20, 2004, applicable to National Weather Service Instruction (NWSI) 10-515.

The following changes were made in this issuance:

1. Revised criteria for issuing wind advisories.
2. Revised criteria for issuing dense fog advisories in select zones.
3. Updated examples in Appendix A.
4. Corrected headlines for examples in Appendix B.
5. Added a product example containing experimental VTEC code for Fairbanks in Appendix C.
6. Added Appendix D – Waiver for the Issuance of product category SPS instead of HWO for Winter Storm Outlooks.
7. Added Appendix E – Waiver for the Optional Issuance of Advisory Statements.

The section numbers in this supplement correspond to the relevant section numbers in NWSI 10-515.

Signed

10/26/05

Laura K. Furgione
Regional Director

Date

WFO Non-Precipitation Weather Products Specification

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3. Non-Precipitation Outlook (product category SPS).

3.2 Issuance Guidelines. Because the Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO) has not been implemented in the Alaska Region, weather forecast offices (WFO) in Alaska will use the product category SPS to issue Non-Precipitation Weather Outlooks.

3.2.2 Issuance Criteria. WFOs will issue Non-Precipitation Outlooks when conditions are favorable for a non-precipitation hazardous weather event to develop over part or all of the forecast area in the three to five day forecast period, or beyond the point normally covered by a watch. Non-Precipitation Outlooks are issued when there is a **60 percent or greater** chance of a hazardous non-precipitation weather event exceeding the local criteria.

3.2.2.1 Non-Precipitation Outlook Products. WFOs will issue the following non-precipitation outlook products:

Outlook Product Name	Issuance Criteria
Extreme Cold Outlook	Extreme cold forecast to exceed local Extreme Cold Warning criteria in the next three to five days.
Freeze Outlook	Freeze event forecast to exceed Freeze Warning criteria in the next three to five days during the frost/freeze season.
High Wind Outlook	High wind event forecast to exceed High Wind Warning criteria in the next three to five days.

Table 1 – WFO Outlook Products

3.3 Technical Description.

3.3.3 Mass News Disseminator (MND) Product Type Line. The Non-Precipitation Outlook MND line will include one of the following product names:

- a. “EXTREME COLD OUTLOOK”
- b. “FREEZE OUTLOOK”
- c. “HIGH WIND OUTLOOK”

4. Non-Precipitation Watches (product category NPW).

4.2 Issuance Guidelines.

4.2.2 Issuance Criteria. WFOs will issue a Non-Precipitation Watch when conditions are favorable for a hazardous non-precipitation weather event to develop over part or all of the forecast area, but the occurrence is uncertain. Non-Precipitation Watches are issued for the second, third, or occasionally fourth forecast periods, when there is a **60 percent or greater**

chance of a hazardous non-precipitation weather event meeting or exceeding local warning criteria.

4.2.2.1 Non-Precipitation Watch Products. WFOs will issue the following non-precipitation watch products:

Watch Product Name	Issuance Criteria
Extreme Cold Watch	Conditions are favorable for an extreme cold event to meet or exceed local Extreme Cold Warning criteria in the next 12 to 48 hours.
Freeze Watch	Conditions are favorable for a freeze event to meet or exceed local Freeze Warning criteria in the next 12 to 48 hours during the frost/freeze season.
High Wind Watch	Conditions are favorable for a high wind event to meet or exceed local High Wind Warning criteria in the next 12 to 48 hours.

Table 2 – WFO Watch Products

5. Non-Precipitation Weather Warnings (product category NPW).

5.2 Issuance Guidelines. WFOs will follow the issuance guidelines in NWSI 10-515. In addition, the following guidance is given with respect to the Alaska Region’s weather service offices (WSO).

WFOs may delegate the responsibility for long-duration advisory and warning product issuance to WSOs in their service area. Standard operating procedures supporting this policy will be documented in the WFO and WSO Station Duty Manuals. Where this product delegation arrangement is in practice, all warning and advisory statements prepared by the WSO should be coordinated with, and agreed to by, the WFO shift team leader before they are disseminated. The coordination and concurrence should be documented in the duty logs and/or warning checklists at the WFO and WSO.

The WSO staff will contact the area WFO shift team leader when, in the opinion of the WSO staff, warning or advisory conditions are likely and there is no warning or advisory in effect or being coordinated by the area WFO. Reports of event approaching or achieving warning or advisory thresholds in or near the WSO service area are useful as evidence. The WFO should coordinate with the WSO and resolve any proposed WSO actions within 15 minutes of the initiated contact or as soon as completion of other higher priority actions permits.

There may be occasions at a WSO when the coordination and concurrence cannot be accomplished in a timely enough manner to support the protection of life and property. In this case, the WSO should issue the warning product and accomplish the coordination and concurrence as soon as contact can be made with the WFO shift team leader.

5.2.2 Issuance Criteria.

5.2.2.1 Non-Precipitation Warning Products. WFOs will issue the following non-precipitation weather warning products:

Warning Product Name	Issuance Criteria
Dust Storm Warning	Widespread or localized blowing dust reducing visibility to 1/4 mile or less for at least three hours. Sustained winds of 25 mph or greater are usually required.
Extreme Cold Warning	Air temperatures exceeding locally defined criteria for a prolonged period of time. Typical criteria: shelter temperatures -50°F or colder and air temperatures remaining below -40°F up to the 700-mb level for at least three days.
Freeze Warning	Minimum shelter temperature forecast to be 32°F or less during the frost/freeze season. The frost/freeze season is locally defined and usually spans the growing season until the first hard freeze (>28°F) occurs toward the end of the season.
High Wind Warning	Wind speeds forecast to meet or exceed locally defined warning criteria.

Table 3 – WFO Warning Products

Warning and advisory thresholds for non-precipitation weather hazards for all Alaska zones are given in Appendix A.

6. Non-Precipitation Weather Advisories (product category NPW).

6.2 Issuance Guidelines.

6.2.2 Issuance Criteria.

6.2.2.1 Non-Precipitation Weather Advisory Products. WFOs will issue advisories based upon regionally and locally defined criteria. Advisory products (NPW) are used to elaborate on the timing and intensity of hazardous weather events, and they should be issued for events that are expected to affect transportation and commerce or will otherwise impact the public in such a way that additional forecast or call-to-action information is needed to support public safety. Advisory products are particularly useful for early or late season events and for events that are climatologically unusual or infrequent.

Certain areas of the state experience a relatively high frequency of advisory-level conditions. For these events, the issuance of an advisory statement product (NPW) is optional for offices not using Graphical Hazards Generator (GHG) software; however, in all cases, an advisory headline is required in the Zone Forecast Product (ZFP) and the Short Term Forecast (NOW). These headlines will adhere to the guidelines established by NWSI 10-515. WFO Management will determine which zones and event types, if any, fit this criterion, and this information will be documented in the Station Duty Manual.

Special Instructions for Volcanic Ashfall Events:

For Ashfall Advisory events, WFO forecasters will coordinate closely with the Alaska Aviation Weather Unit (AAWU) lead forecaster on composition of the NPW. The AAWU lead forecaster also serves as lead forecaster for the Anchorage Volcanic Ash Advisory Center (VAAC). The Anchorage VAAC is responsible for the preparation and dissemination of aviation products (SIGMETs, Volcanic Ash Advisories) associated with the event.

Immediately upon learning of a possible volcanic event, the VAAC will collect additional information from various sources (the Alaska Volcano Observatory, the Center Weather Service Unit, the U.S. Air Force 11th Operational Weather Squadron at Elmendorf Air Force Base, other VAACs) and will have the most current and accurate information about the volcanic event. WFO forecasters must ensure there is consistency between their NPW and the VAAC's products. In all cases, the VAAC lead forecaster will have the final determination concerning key points in the event.

WFOs will issue the following non-precipitation weather advisories based upon the issuance guidelines above:

Advisory Name	Issuance Criteria
Ashfall Advisory	No minimum threshold. Airborne ash plume resulting in ongoing deposition at the surface. Ashfall may originate directly from a volcanic eruption or from the resuspension (by wind) of a significant amount of relic ash.
Blowing Dust Advisory	Widespread or localized blowing dust reducing visibility to 1 mile or less for at least one hour. Winds of 25 mph are usually required.
Dense Fog Advisory	Widespread or localized fog reducing visibility to 1/4 mile or less for at least one hour.
Dense Smoke Advisory	Widespread or localized smoke reducing visibility to 1/4 mile or less for at least one hour.
Wind Advisory	Wind speeds forecast to meet or exceed locally defined advisory criteria for at least one hour.

Frost Advisory	Minimum shelter temperature forecast to be 33-36°F during the frost/freeze season for a certain time duration, on nights with good radiational cooling conditions (e.g., light winds and clear skies). The frost/freeze season is locally defined, based upon the growing season.
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Table 4 – WFO Advisory Types

Warning and advisory thresholds for non-precipitation weather hazards for all Alaska zones are given in Appendix A.

The WFO shift team leader may authorize a WSO in the WFO’s service area to issue advisory products for selected zones. For more information, see Section 5.2 above.

6.2.2.2 Non-Precipitation Weather Advisory Exceptions.

- a. Wind advisories. In Alaska Region, wind advisories are optional as defined by local criteria. Such criteria are noted in Table A-1c, and will be documented in the Station Duty Manual. In lieu of advisories, headlines will be used in the ZFP to highlight significant wind events that do not meet warning criteria. These headlines will adhere to the format stated in ARS 09-2004.
- b. Dense fog advisories. According to customer outreach, dense fog does not meet the advisory criteria of “hazardous” as defined in NWSI 10-515 for all zones in Alaska Region. This is due to the frequency of dense fog in many maritime locations and the lack of highway thoroughfares. In lieu of advisories, headlines will be used in the ZFP to highlight the occurrence of dense fog. Such headlines will adhere to the format stated in ARS 09-2004. Dense fog advisories will be issued for the zones noted in Table A-1a.

APPENDIX A – Zone Specific Non-Precipitation Weather Advisory and Warning Criteria

Zones (WFO)	Advisory Threshold	Warning Threshold
Volcanic Ashfall		
All Zones	No minimum threshold. Airborne ash plume resulting in ongoing deposition at the surface. Ashfall may originate directly from a volcanic eruption or from the resuspension (by wind) of a significant amount of relic ash.	None
Blowing Dust		Dust Storm
All Zones	Widespread or localized blowing dust reducing visibility to 1 mile or less , but greater than 1/4 mile for one hour or more.	Widespread or localized blowing dust reducing visibility to 1/4 mile or less for three hours or more.
Dense Fog		
017-029 (Juneau) 101-121 (Anchorage) 125 west of the Whittier Tunnel (Anchorage) 131, 141-145 (Anchorage) 222-226 (Fairbanks)	Widespread or localized fog reducing visibility to 1/4 mile or less for one hour or more.	None
Dense Smoke		
017-029 (Juneau) 101-195 (Anchorage)	Widespread or localized smoke reducing visibility to 1/4 mile or less for one hour or more.	None
201-226 (Fairbanks)	Widespread or localized smoke reducing visibility to 1 mile or less for one hour or more.	None

Table A-1a – Non-precipitation advisory and warning thresholds for Alaska zones.

Zones (WFO)	Advisory Threshold	Warning Threshold
Extreme Cold		
101-195 (Anchorage) 201-226 (Fairbanks)	None	Shelter temperatures -50°F or colder and air temperatures remaining below -40°F up to the 700-mb level for at least three days.
Frost		Freeze
017-029 (Juneau)	Minimum shelter temperature forecast to be 30-35°F for less than a 6 hour period, such that plant damaging frost will develop, between May 1 and the end of the growing season . The growing season ends when the first hard freeze (>28°F) occurs.	Minimum shelter temperature forecast to be 32°F or less for at least 6 hours and/or 28°F or less for any length of time between May 1 and the end of the growing season . The growing season ends when the first hard freeze (>28°F) occurs.
101 and 111 (Anchorage)	None	Minimum shelter temperature forecast to be 32°F or less between June 1 and September 15 .
201-221, 223-226 (Fairbanks)	None	None
222 (Fairbanks)	Minimum shelter temperature forecast to be below 35°F from June 1 to September 1 .	None

Table A-1b – Non-precipitation advisory and warning thresholds for Alaska zones.

Zones (WFO)	Advisory Threshold	Warning Threshold
Wind		High Wind
017-029 (Juneau)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 40 mph – 59 mph.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 60 mph or more.
101-195 (Anchorage)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 43 mph - 72 mph. Optionally use “strong wind” headline in lieu of an advisory.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 73 mph or more.
201-212, 214 (Fairbanks)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 40 mph – 59 mph. Optionally use “strong wind” headline in lieu of an advisory.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 60 mph or more.
213 (Fairbanks)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 50 mph – 59 mph. Optionally use “strong wind” headline in lieu of an advisory.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 60 mph or more.
215-221, 224 (Fairbanks)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 40 mph – 49 mph.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 50 mph or more.
222 (Fairbanks)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 35 mph – 49 mph.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 50 mph or more.
223, 225, 226 (Fairbanks)	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 50 mph – 69 mph.	Sustained wind or frequent gusts of 70 mph or more.

Table A-1c – Non-precipitation advisory and warning thresholds for Alaska zones.

APPENDIX B – Examples of NWS Alaska Non-Precipitation Weather Products

1. Description. The examples shown in this Appendix are consistent with the national format policies for watches, warnings, and statements.
2. Non-Precipitation Outlook.

WWAK83 PAFG 201356
SPSAFG

EXTREME COLD OUTLOOK
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FAIRBANKS AK
500 AM AST TUE JAN 20 2004

AKZ218>226-221300-

SOUTHEASTERN BROOKS RANGE-UPPER KOYUKUK VALLEY-YUKON FLATS AND SURROUNDING UPLANDS-CENTRAL INTERIOR-MIDDLE TANANA VALLEY-DELTANA AND TANANA FLATS-UPPER TANANA VALLEY AND THE FORTYMILE COUNTRY-DENALI-EASTERN ALASKA RANGE-INCLUDING...ARCTIC VILLAGE...WISEMAN... COLDFOOT...CHANDALAR D.O.T. CAMP...INIYAKUK LAKE...ALLAKAKET...HUGHES...BETTLES...CARIBOU MOUNTAIN...GOBBLERS KNOB...FORT YUKON...VENETIE...CENTRAL...CIRCLE ...STEVENS VILLAGE...BEAVER...CHALKYITSIK...BIRCH CREEK...CIRCLE HOT SPRINGS ..EAGLE SUMMIT ...TWELVEMILE SUMMIT... NENANA...ANDERSON...TANANA...MINTO... MANLEY HOT SPRINGS...RAMPART...LAKE MINCHUMINA...LIVENGOOD...FAIRBANKS...FORT WAINWRIGHT...EIELSON AFB...ESTER...NORTH POLE...MOOSE CREEK...TWO RIVERS...FOX ...CHATANIKA...CHENA HOT SPRINGS...SOURDOUGH CAMP...SALCHA...DELTA JUNCTION... FORT GREELY ...HARDING/BIRCH LAKE...DRY CREEK...DOT LAKE...HEALY LAKE...TOK...TANACROSS...EAGLE...TETLIN...NORTHWAY...ALCAN...CHICKEN... BOUNDARY...HEALY ...DENALI NATIONAL PARK...CARLO CREEK... KANTISHNA...BLACK RAPIDS... DONNELLY DOME...TRIMS CAMP...EAGLE TRAIL...MINERAL LAKE

500 AM AST TUE JAN 21 2003

...EXTREME COLD EXPECTED FOR INTERIOR ALASKA LATER THIS WEEK...

THE COLDEST WEATHER IN A DECADE IS APPEARING MORE AND MORE LIKELY FOR MOST OF INTERIOR ALASKA LATE THIS WEEK AND INTO EARLY NEXT WEEK. HIGH PRESSURE BUILDING OVER THE BERING SEA WILL ALLOW VERY COLD AIR THAT HAS BEEN OVER THE ARCTIC OCEAN NORTH OF ALASKA TO POUR SOUTHWARD OVER THE REGION. COMBINED WITH CLEAR SKIES...TEMPERATURES WILL DROP TO LEVELS COMPARABLE TO THOSE OBSERVED IN LATE JANUARY AND EARLY FEBRUARY 1993...AND POSSIBLY APPROACHING THE COLD SNAP OF LATE JANUARY 1989.

TEMPERATURES IN THE 60S BELOW ARE LIKELY ON THE YUKON FLATS AND IN SOME VALLEYS IN THE KOYUKUK BASIN BY FRIDAY NIGHT. THE EXTREME COLD COULD PERSIST UNTIL AT LEAST MONDAY.

IN THE TANANA VALLEY...TEMPERATURES WILL BE STRONGLY DEPENDENT ON HOW MUCH CLOUDINESS REMAINS OVER THE AREA FROM A PERSISTENT STORM IN THE NORTHEAST GULF OF ALASKA. IN THE ABSENCE OF CLOUDS...TEMPERATURES OF 40 TO 65 BELOW ARE LIKELY THIS WEEKEND. IF CLOUDS PERSIST...TEMPERATURES WOULD BE 10 TO 30 DEGREES HIGHER.

IN THE FAIRBANKS AREA...DEEP COLD WILL BRING DENSE ICE FOG. TEMPERATURES IN THE URBAN AREA ARE MODERATED BY THE ICE FOG...BUT

TEMPERATURES LOWER THAN 50 BELOW IN TOWN ARE LIKELY THIS WEEKEND IF CLOUDS FROM THE STORM IN THE GULF OF ALASKA MOVE OUT OF THE AREA.

RESIDENTS OF NORTHERN AND WESTERN INTERIOR ALASKA SHOULD PREPARE NOW FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF DEEP COLD THAT MAY SERIOUSLY DISRUPT AIR TRAVEL.

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RT JAN 04 (Optional line)

3. Non-Precipitation Watch.

WWAK72 PAFC 151845
NPWALU

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ANCHORAGE AK
1100 AM ADT FRI OCT 15 2004

AKZ181-160100-
ALASKA PENINSULA AK-
INCLUDING...COLD BAY...SAND POINT
1100 AM ADT FRI OCT 15 2004

...HIGH WIND WATCH IN EFFECT FROM SATURDAY MORNING THROUGH SATURDAY EVENING...

EAST TO SOUTHEAST WINDS OF 45 TO 75 MPH ARE POSSIBLE ACROSS THE ALASKA PENINSULA BEGINNING EARLY SATURDAY. THE STRONGEST WINDS ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR BY SATURDAY AFTERNOON...AND WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO DIMINISH SATURDAY NIGHT.

A WATCH MEANS CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR HAZARDOUS WEATHER TO DEVELOP IN AND CLOSE TO THE WATCH AREA. PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO CLOSELY MONITOR THIS WEATHER SITUATION. PREPARATIONS FOR THIS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS WEATHER EVENT SHOULD BEGIN NOW.

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4. Non-Precipitation Weather Warning.

WWAK77 PAJK 072351
NPWAJK
URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JUNEAU AK
1100 AM ADT FRI MAY 7 2004

...HARD FREEZE TONIGHT ACROSS THE NORTHERN PANHANDLE...

.COLD HIGH PRESSURE OVER NORTHWEST CANADA AND NORTHERN SOUTHEAST ALASKA WILL ALLOW TEMPERATURES TO FALL BELOW FREEZING FOR MOST OF TONIGHT. RECORD LOW TEMPERATURES ARE POSSIBLE IN MANY AREAS.

AKZ021-022-024-025-081500-
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO CAPE SUCKLING COASTAL AREA AK- GLACIER BAY AK -NORTHERN LYNN CANAL AK-JUNEAU BOROUGH+EASTERN CHICHAGOF+ ADMIRALTY ISLAND AK- INCLUDING...YAKUTAT...GUSTAVUS...SKAGWAY...HAINES...JUNEAU... HOONAH...ANGOON
1100 AM ADT FRI MAY 7 2004

...FREEZE WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 10 PM THIS EVENING UNTIL 7 AM AST SATURDAY MORNING...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN JUNEAU ALASKA HAS ISSUED A FREEZE WARNING. UNSEASONABLY COLD AIR WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE INTO THE NORTHERN HALF OF SOUTHEAST ALASKA TONIGHT. TEMPERATURES OVERNIGHT WILL FALL INTO THE 20S...WITH THE COLDEST READINGS IN WIND SHELTERED AREAS. A HARD FREEZE IS EXPECTED IN THIS AREA.

A FREEZE WARNING MEANS THAT A SIGNIFICANT FREEZE IS IMMINENT.

PLANTS SUBJECT TO DAMAGE FROM FROST OR SUB-FREEZING TEMPERATURES SHOULD BE GIVEN APPROPRIATE PROTECTION.

PETS AND LIVESTOCK SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH ADEQUATE SHELTER FROM THE COLD.

TONIGHTS KILLING FROST WILL END THE GROWING SEASON.

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EWP MAY 04 (Optional line)

5. Non-Precipitation Weather Advisory.

WWAK73 PAFG 031455
NPWALU

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FAIRBANKS AK
700 AM ADT TUE AUG 3 2004

AKZ222-032300-
MIDDLE TANANA VALLEY-
INCLUDING...FAIRBANKS...FORT WAINWRIGHT...EIELSON AFB...ESTER...
NORTH POLE...MOOSE CREEK...TWO RIVERS...FOX...CHATANIKA...CHENA
HOT SPRINGS...SOURDOUGH CAMP
700 AM ADT TUE AUG 3 2004

...DENSE SMOKE ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 PM ADT THIS EVENING...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN FAIRBANKS HAS ISSUED A DENSE SMOKE ADVISORY. SEVERAL WILDFIRES BURNING NEAR FAIRBANKS ARE CONTRIBUTING TO A THICK BLANKET OF SMOKE OVER THE FAIRBANKS AREA. VISIBILITIES ARE REDUCED TO LESS THAN A QUARTER OF A MILE IN SOME LOCATIONS. CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE SOMEWHAT LATE THIS EVENING AS SOME RAIN SHOWERS AND BREEZY CONDITIONS DEVELOP.

WHEN SMOKE IS PRESENT...CHILDREN...THE ELDERLY...AND THOSE WITH EXISTING RESPIRATORY OR HEART AILMENTS ARE ADVISED TO REDUCE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND REMAIN INDOORS. OTHERS ARE ADVISED TO MINIMIZE PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO THE SMOKE.

ACCORDING TO THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION...PARTICULATE CONCENTRATIONS FROM SMOKE MAY VARY DURING THE NEXT 3 TO 5 DAYS DEPENDING ON WIND DIRECTION AND FIRE ACTIVITY. AIR QUALITY LEVELS ARE LIKELY TO REACH VERY UNHEALTHY TO HAZARDOUS AS LONG AS THE FIRES PERSIST.

THIS STATEMENT WILL BE UPDATED AROUND 2 PM AST.

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6. Ashfall Advisories.

WWAK72 PAFC 110056
NPWALU

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ANCHORAGE AK
400 PM AST SAT JAN 10 2004

AKZ161-110700-
BRISTOL BAY AK-
INCLUDING...KING SALMON...NAKNEK...DILLINGHAM...PILOT POINT
400 PM AST SAT JAN 10 2004

...ASHFALL ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 PM AST THIS EVENING...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN ANCHORAGE HAS ISSUED AN ASHFALL ADVISORY. THE ST. AUGUSTINE VOLCANO ERUPTED AT 230 PM THIS SATURDAY AFTERNOON. ASH IS MOVING NORTHWEST TOWARD BRISTOL BAY. THE LEADING EDGE OF THE ASH CLOUD SHOULD REACH THE KING SALMON AREA AROUND 500 PM. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THE FALLOUT FROM THE ASH CLOUD IS REACHING THE GROUND.

AN ADVISORY MEANS A POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS EVENT IS OCCURRING OR IMMINENT. REMAIN AT HOME OR INDOORS. REDUCE OUTSIDE ACTIVITY. KEEP WINDOWS AND DOORS CLOSED. DO NOT EXERCISE OR SMOKE. DO NOT BURN WOOD IN STOVES OR FIREPLACES IF THE WOOD HAS VOLCANIC ASH ON IT.

THIS STATEMENT WILL BE UPDATED AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

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WWAK71 PAFC 121705
NPWAER

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ANCHORAGE AK
900 AM ADT THU AUG 12 2004

AKZ145-122300-
SUSITNA VALLEY-
INCLUDING...TALKEETNA...WILLOW...CANTWELL
900 AM ADT THU AUG 12 2004

...ASHFALL ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 3 PM AST THIS AFTERNOON...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN ANCHORAGE HAS ISSUED AN ASHFALL ADVISORY. A LIGHT COATING OF ASH WAS REPORTED THIS MORNING BY A SPOTTER AT HAYES RIVER...JUST NORTH OF MT SPURR VOLCANO. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SATELLITE SHOWS A SUSPICIOUS CLOUD MOVING OVER THE WESTERN SUSITNA VALLEY. THIS CLOUD IS ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT 20 MILES WIDE AND IS MOVING NORTH AT 15 MPH.

AT THIS TIME...THE ALASKA VOLCANO OBSERVATORY SHOWS NO SEISMIC ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED WITH MT SPURR BUT IS CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE.

ANY ASH APPEARS TO BE CONFINED TO LEVELS BELOW 14 THOUSAND FEET.

THE NEXT STATEMENT ON THE EVENT WILL BE ISSUED AS DETAILS BECOME AVAILABLE.

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7. Combined Non-Precipitation Weather Warning/Advisory/Watch Statement.

WWAK77 PAJK 312102
NPWAJK
URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JUNEAU AK
NOON AST SUN OCT 31 2004

...POWERFUL HALLOWEEN STORM TO IMPACT TRICK-OR-TREATING...

.A VERY STRONG LOW PRESSURE SYSTEM WILL SLOWLY MOVE FROM THE EASTERN GULF AND INTO THE NORTHERN PANHANDLE THIS EVENING. HIGH WINDS AND WIDESPREAD RAIN WILL DEVELOP.

AKZ027>029-010300-
DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE DECISION COASTAL AREA-SOUTHERN INNER CHANNELS-MISTY FJORDS-
INCLUDING...CRAIG...KLAWOCK...KETCHIKAN...METLAKATLA...HYDER
NOON AST SUN OCT 31 2004

...HIGH WIND WATCH IS CANCELLED...

THE HIGH WIND WATCH FOR THE SOUTHERN PANHANDLE TONIGHT HAS BEEN CANCELLED. THE STORM IN THE EASTERN GULF WILL MOVE INTO THE NORTHERN PANHANDLE THIS EVENING. HIGH WINDS ARE NO LONGER EXPECTED IN YOUR AREA. RAIN WILL OCCUR TONIGHT AND SOUTHERLY WINDS WILL BE IN THE 20 TO 30 MPH RANGE.

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AKZ018>023-025-010300-
TAIYA INLET AND KLONDIKE HIGHWAY-HAINES BOROUGH AND LYNN CANAL-GLACIER BAY-EASTERN CHICHAGOF ISLAND-SALISBURY SOUND TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER COASTAL AREA-CAPE DECISION TO SALISBURY SOUND COASTAL AREA-JUNEAU BOROUGH AND NORTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLAND-
INCLUDING...SKAGWAY...HAINES...GUSTAVUS...HOONAH...PELICAN...SITKA...PORT ALEXANDER...JUNEAU
NOON AST SUN OCT 31 2004

...HIGH WIND WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 6 PM THIS EVENING UNTIL 7 AM AST MONDAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN JUNEAU HAS ISSUED A HIGH WIND WARNING. A HIGH WIND WARNING IS IN EFFECT TONIGHT FOR THE CAPE DECISION TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER COASTAL AREA...NORTHERN LYNN CANAL...GLACIER BAY...JUNEAU BOROUGH...EASTERN CHICHAGOF AND NORTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLANDS. SOUTHEASTERLY WINDS WILL INCREASE THIS EVENING TO THE 40 TO 60 MPH RANGE. WIND GUSTS IN EXCESS OF 70 MPH ARE EXPECTED IN EXPOSED LOCATIONS.

WINDS WILL TURN SOUTHWESTERLY AFTER MIDNIGHT BUT REMAIN VERY STRONG INTO MONDAY MORNING...ESPECIALLY ALONG THE OUTER COAST. WINDS WILL DIMINISH SHORTLY AFTER SUNRISE MONDAY.

A WARNING MEANS DANGEROUS STORM CONDITIONS ARE IMMINENT OR VERY LIKELY TO DEVELOP IN YOUR AREA THIS EVENING. PLEASE TAKE THE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT YOUR LIFE AND PROPERTY. BE SURE TO SECURE LOOSE OBJECTS OUTSIDE AND WATCH FOR BLOWING DEBRIS TONIGHT. CONTINUE TO MONITOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO...LOCAL NEWS REPORTS OR THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HOMEPAGE AT WWW.ARH.NOAA.GOV FOR UPDATES ON THIS STORM.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED AROUND 600 PM AST.

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AKZ024-026-010300-
EASTERN BARANOF ISLAND AND SOUTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLAND-INNER CHANNELS FROM KUPREANOF ISLAND TO ETOLIN ISLAND-

INCLUDING...ANGOON...PETERSBURG...WRANGELL...KAKE
NOON AST THU SUN 31 2004

...WIND ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM 6 PM THIS EVENING UNTIL 7 AM AST
MONDAY...

A WIND ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT TONIGHT FOR THE CENTRAL INNER CHANNELS FROM
KUPREANOF ISLAND TO ETOLIN ISLAND. A POWERFUL AUTUMN STORM WILL MOVE THROUGH
SOUTHEAST ALASKA RESULTING IN STRONG WINDS AND HEAVY RAINFALL. SOUTHEASTERLY
WINDS WILL INCREASE THIS EVENING INTO THE 30 TO 45 MPH RANGE. WIND GUSTS IN
EXCESS OF 50 MPH ARE ALSO EXPECTED.

WINDS WILL TURN SOUTHERLY AFTER MIDNIGHT BUT REMAIN STRONG INTO MONDAY
MORNING. WINDS WILL DIMINISH SHORTLY AFTER SUNRISE MONDAY.

AN ADVISORY MEANS HAZARDOUS STORM CONDITIONS ARE IMMINENT OR VERY LIKELY TO
DEVELOP IN THIS AREA. CONTINUE TO MONITOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO...LOCAL NEWS
REPORTS OR THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HOMEPAGE AT WWW.ARH.NOAA.GOV FOR
UPDATES ON THIS IMPENDING STORM.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED AROUND 600 PM AST.

\$\$
AKZ017-010300-
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO CAPE SUCKLING COASTAL AREA-
INCLUDING...YAKUTAT
NOON AST SUN OCT 31 2004

...HIGH WIND WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT MONDAY MORNING...

A HIGH WIND WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT MONDAY MORNING FOR THE CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO
CAPE SUCKLING COASTAL AREA. A POWERFUL AUTUMN STORM WILL MOVE THROUGH
SOUTHEAST ALASKA TONIGHT AND UP INTO NORTHWEST BRITISH COLUMBIA MONDAY
MORNING. BREEZY AND RAINY CONDITIONS TONIGHT MAY TURN DESTRUCTIVE MONDAY
MORNING AS STRONG HIGH PRESSURE BUILDS OVER THE NORTHERN GULF.

WESTERLY WINDS COULD INCREASE MONDAY MORNING INTO THE 40 TO 60 MPH RANGE. WIND
GUSTS IN EXCESS OF 70 MPH ARE ALSO POSSIBLE.

A WATCH MEANS CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR POWERFUL WINDS TO DEVELOP IN AND
CLOSE TO THE WATCH AREA. NOW IS THE TIME TO BEGIN TAKING THE NECESSARY
PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT YOUR LIFE AND PROPERTY. PLEASE CONTINUE TO MONITOR
NOAA WEATHER RADIO...LOCAL NEWS REPORTS OR THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
HOMEPAGE AT WWW.ARH.NOAA.GOV FOR UPDATES ON THIS POTENTIAL HIGH WIND EVENT.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED AROUND 600 PM AST.
\$\$

CFD OCT 04 (Optional line)

8. Zone Forecast matching the combination Warning/Advisory/Watch Statement.

FPAK57 PAJK 312120 AAA
ZFPAJK
ALASKA ZONE WEATHER FORECAST...UPDATED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JUNEAU AK
1220 PM AST SUN OCT 31 2004

AKZ017-010100-
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO CAPE SUCKLING COASTAL AREA
INCLUDING...YAKUTAT
1220 PM AST SUN OCT 31 2004

NWS ARS 07-2002 NOVEMBER 9, 2005
(NWSI 10-515)

UPDATED TREND IN AFTERNOON FORECAST

...HIGH WIND WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT MONDAY MORNING...

.THIS AFTERNOON...RAIN DEVELOPING BY EVENING. EAST WINDS 15 MPH. HIGHS NEAR 50. CHANCE OF RAIN 80 PERCENT.
.TONIGHT...RAINY AND WINDY. NORTHEAST WINDS 20 TO 30 MPH. LOWS IN THE LOWER 40S. CHANCE OF RAIN NEAR 100 PERCENT.
.MONDAY...STRONG WINDS. WEST WINDS 30 TO 50 MPH WITH GUSTS IN EXCESS OF 70 MPH POSSIBLE. SHOWERS. HIGHS NEAR 50. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 90 PERCENT.
.MONDAY NIGHT...STRONG WEST WINDS DECREASING TO 15 TO 25 MPH BY SUNSET. SHOWERS LIKELY. LOWS 35 TO 40. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 60 PERCENT.
(ETC...)

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AKZ018>023-025-010300-
TAIYA INLET AND KLONDIKE HIGHWAY-HAINES BOROUGH AND LYNN CANAL-GLACIER BAY-
EASTERN CHICHAGOF ISLAND-SALISBURY SOUND TO CAPE FAIRWEATHER COASTAL AREA-CAPE
DECISION TO SALISBURY SOUND COASTAL AREA-JUNEAU BOROUGH AND NORTHERN ADMIRALTY
ISLAND-
INCLUDING...SKAGWAY...HAINES...GUSTAVUS...HOONAH...PELICAN...
SITKA...PORT ALEXANDER...JUNEAU
1220 PM AST SUN OCT 31 2004

UPDATED FOR HIGH WIND WARNING

...HIGH WIND WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 6 PM TONIGHT UNTIL 7 M AST MONDAY...

.THIS AFTERNOON...RAIN DEVELOPING. SOUTHEAST WINDS INCREASING TO 25 MPH. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 50S. CHANCE OF RAIN 90 PERCENT.
.TONIGHT...DANGEROUS WINDS. SOUTH WINDS 40 TO 60 MPH WITH GUSTS IN EXCESS OF 70 MPH. RAIN. LOWS IN THE MID 40S.
.MONDAY...STRONG SOUTHWEST WINDS DECREASING TO 15 TO 25 MPH. SHOWERS HIGHS 50 TO 55. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 90 PERCENT.
.MONDAY NIGHT...MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS. WEST WINDS 10 TO 20 MPH. LOWS NEAR 40. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 40 PERCENT.
(ETC...)

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AKZ024-026-010300-
EASTERN BARANOF ISLAND AND SOUTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLAND-INNER CHANNELS FROM
KUPREANOF ISLAND TO ETOLIN ISLAND-
INCLUDING...ANGOON...PETERSBURG...WRANGELL...KAKE
1220 PM AST SUN OCT 31 2004

UPDATED FIRST PERIOD

...WIND ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM 6 PM TONIGHT UNTIL 7 AM AST MONDAY...

.THIS AFTERNOON...RAIN DEVELOPING. SOUTHEAST WINDS INCREASING TO 25 MPH. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 50S. CHANCE OF RAIN 80 PERCENT.
.TONIGHT...VERY WINDY. SOUTH WINDS 30 TO 45 MPH WITH GUSTS TO 55 MPH. OCCASIONAL RAIN. LOWS IN THE UPPER 40S.
.MONDAY...SOUTHWEST WINDS DECREASING TO 10 TO 20 MPH IN THE MORNING. SHOWERS. HIGHS NEAR 55. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 80 PERCENT.
.MONDAY NIGHT...MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH ISOLATED SHOWERS. LIGHT WINDS. LOWS 40 TO 45. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 20 PERCENT.
(ETC...)

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AKZ027>029-010300-
DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE DECISION COASTAL AREA-SOUTHERN INNER CHANNELS-MISTY
FJORDS-
INCLUDING...CRAIG...KLAWOCK...KETCHIKAN...METLAKATLA...HYDER
1220 PM AST SUN OCT 31 2004

UPDATED TO CANCEL HIGH WIND WATCH

...HIGH WIND WATCH IS CANCELLED...

.THIS AFTERNOON...RAINY AND WINDY. SOUTHEAST WINDS 25 MPH GUSTING TO 35 MPH.
HIGHS IN THE LOWER 50S.

.TONIGHT...WINDY. SOUTH WINDS 20 TO 30 MPH. OCCASIONAL SHOWERS. LOWS IN THE
UPPER 40S.

.MONDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS. SOUTHWEST WINDS TO 15 MPH.
NEAR RECORD WARMTH WITH HIGHS IN THE UPPER 50S. CHANCE OF SHOWERS 40 PERCENT.

.MONDAY NIGHT...BECOMING PARTLY CLOUDY. AREAS OF FOG FORMING. LIGHT WINDS.
LOWS 40 TO 45.

(ETC...)

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DRAFT

APPENDIX C – Example of Experimental VTEC in WFO Fairbanks NPW Product

WWAK73 PAFG 061840
NPWAFG

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FAIRBANKS AK
1040 AM ADT TUE SEP 6 2005

AKZ222-062200-
/X.NEW.PAFG.FG.Y.0109.050906T1840Z-050906T2200Z/
MIDDLE TANANA VALLEY-
INCLUDING...FAIRBANKS...FORT WAINWRIGHT...EIELSON AFB...ESTER...
NORTH POLE...MOOSE CREEK...TWO RIVERS...FOX...CHATANIKA...CHENA
HOT SPRINGS...SOURDOUGH CAMP
1040 AM ADT TUE SEP 6 2005

...DENSE FOG ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 2 PM ADT THIS AFTERNOON...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN FAIRBANKS HAS ISSUED A DENSE FOG
ADVISORY...WHICH IS IN EFFECT UNTIL 2 PM ADT THIS AFTERNOON.

DENSE FOG WILL CONTINUE UNTIL EARLY THIS AFTERNOON WHEN TEMPERATURES
RISE AND CAUSE THE FOG TO DISSIPATE.

A DENSE FOG ADVISORY MEANS VISIBILITIES WILL FREQUENTLY BE
REDUCED TO NEAR ZERO.

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APPENDIX D

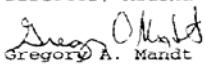
Waiver for the Issuance of product category SPS instead of HWO
for Non-Precipitation Outlooks



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3283

NOV 19 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard C. Przywarty
Director, Alaska Region

FROM: 
Gregory A. Mandt
Director, Office of Climate, Water,
and Weather Services

SUBJECT: Waiver from Hazardous Weather Outlook Product

Your request for a waiver from the Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO) product per National Weather Service Instruction 10-517 is approved.

I anticipate the HWO policy to change as we receive feedback from our customers. One change that has already been proposed is for segmentation. If changes in the national HWO policy occur, this waiver will be rescinded. Of course, you will be able to request a new waiver to the new policy if you desire.

cc:

W/CS22 - James R. Lee
W/CS22 - Richard J. Okulski



APPENDIX E

Waiver for the Optional Issuance of Advisory Statements



~~U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE~~
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3283

September 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: Laura K. Furgione
Director, Alaska Region

FROM: Dennis H. McCarthy *D. H. McCarthy*
Director, Office of Climate, Water,
and Weather Services

SUBJECT: Waiver Request from Mandatory Advisory Bulletins

REFERENCE: W/AR letter, same subject, dated September 21, 2005

Your request for a waiver from the mandatory issuance of Winter Weather (WSW) and Non-Precipitation (NPW) Advisories per National Weather Service Instructions 10-513 (*WFO Winter Weather Products Specification*, dated December 7, 2004) and 10-515 (*WFO Non-Precipitation Weather Products Specification*, dated December 24, 2004) is approved.

We understand the potential workload impact and additional length to the Weather Bulletins if the mandatory issuances of advisories were applied to Alaska Region (AR) at this time. As a result, a policy waiver is granted for AR WFOs until they become operational using Graphical Hazard Generation/Valid Time Event Code (GHG/VTEC) software for public products.

cc: W/OS22 - E. Jacks
W/OS22 - M. Tew
W/OS22 - A. Thomas

