

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CENTRAL REGION SUPPLEMENT 02-2003  
APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-513  
MARCH 27, 2003***

***Operations and Services  
Public Weather Services NWSPD 10-5  
WFO Winter Weather Products Specification NWSI 10-513  
Central Region Winter Weather Products Specification***

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**NOTICE:** This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>.

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***SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:*** This instruction supercedes Regional Operations Manual Letter C-15-00, Winter Weather Warnings, dated December 1, 2000, filed with Weather Service Operations Manual (WSOM) Chapter C-42.

The section numbers in this Supplement refer to the section numbers in NWSI 10-513.

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(Signed by)                      March 13, 2003  
Dennis H. McCarthy                      Date  
Regional Director

WFO Winter Weather Products Specification

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1. Introduction. The section numbers in this Supplement refer to the section numbers in NWSI 10-513.

3. Winter Storm Outlook (product category SPS).

3.2 Issuance Guidelines. In Central Region, the Hazardous Weather Outlook (product category HWO) is the preferred product to convey winter storm potential.

3.2.2 Issuance Criteria. Hazardous Weather Outlooks are described in the Central Region Supplement with NWSI 10-517 (Multi-Purpose Weather Products Specification).

4. Winter Storm Watches (product category WSW)

4.2.2 Issuance Guidelines. WFOs will issue a Winter Storm Watch when conditions are favorable for a hazardous winter weather event to develop over part or all of the forecast area, but the occurrence is uncertain. If the forecaster is highly confident the event will occur (e.g., greater than 80 percent confident), the forecaster should issue a warning as described in 5.2.2 of NWSI 10-513 and 5.2.2 of this Supplement.

5. Winter Weather Warnings (product category WSW).

5.2 Issuance Guidelines. See NWSI 10-513

5.2.2 Issuance Criteria. In Central Region, warning criteria applicable to issuing winter weather warnings are defined as an average snowfall with an accumulation equaling or exceeding 6 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or an average snowfall with an accumulation equaling or exceeding 8 inches or more in 24 hours or less with the following exceptions:

A. A snowfall in the mountains of Colorado, Wyoming, and eastern Utah with an average accumulation locally defined by customer requirements and coordinated with Chief, Central Region Services Division.

B. A snowfall in Kentucky, a portion of southern Missouri, a portion of southern Illinois, and a portion of southern Indiana with an average accumulation equaling or exceeding 4 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 6 inches or more in 24 hours or less.

C. A snowfall along the shores of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with an average accumulation equaling or exceeding 8 inches or more in 12 hours or less, or 10 inches or more in 24 hours or less.

5.2.2.1 Winter Weather Warning Products. To achieve product consistency, Central Region forecasters are strongly encouraged to coordinate winter weather warning product types.

On occasion, a Wind Chill Warning (NPW) may be required for an event which has evolved from a winter weather warning ( e.g., Winter Storm Warning). Rather than issuing a separate product for the same event, forecasters may include a description of the non precipitation event within the text of a WSW.

Refer to Appendix A for WFO-specific heavy snow and winter storm warning criteria.

6. Winter Weather Advisories (product category WSW).

6.2 Issuance Guidelines. See NWSI 10-513

6.2.2 Issuance Criteria Winter Weather Advisory criteria should be established locally based on a thorough assessment of customer requirements.

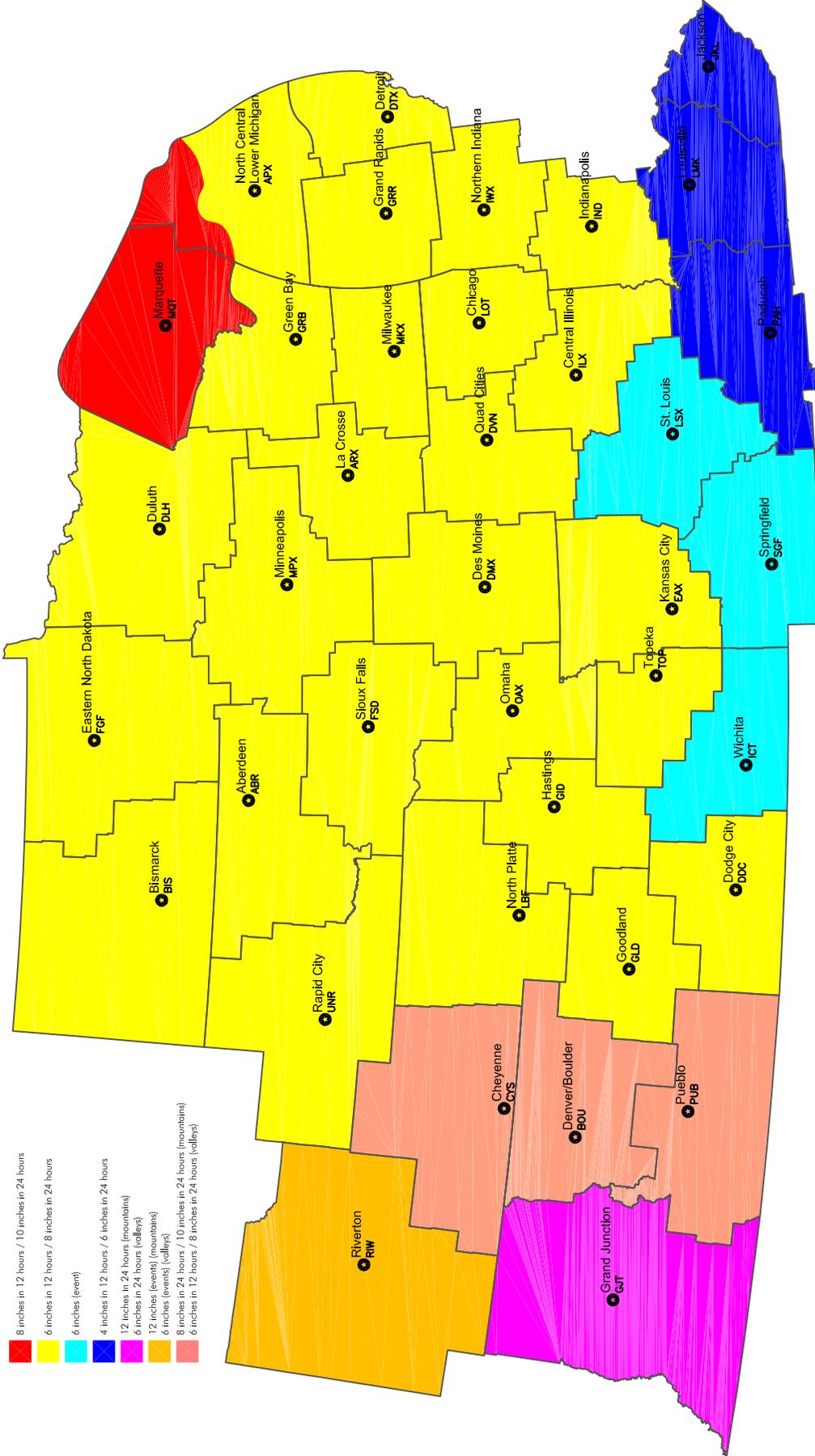
6.2.2.1 Winter Weather Advisory Products.

To achieve product consistency, Central Region forecasters are encouraged to coordinate winter weather advisory product types.

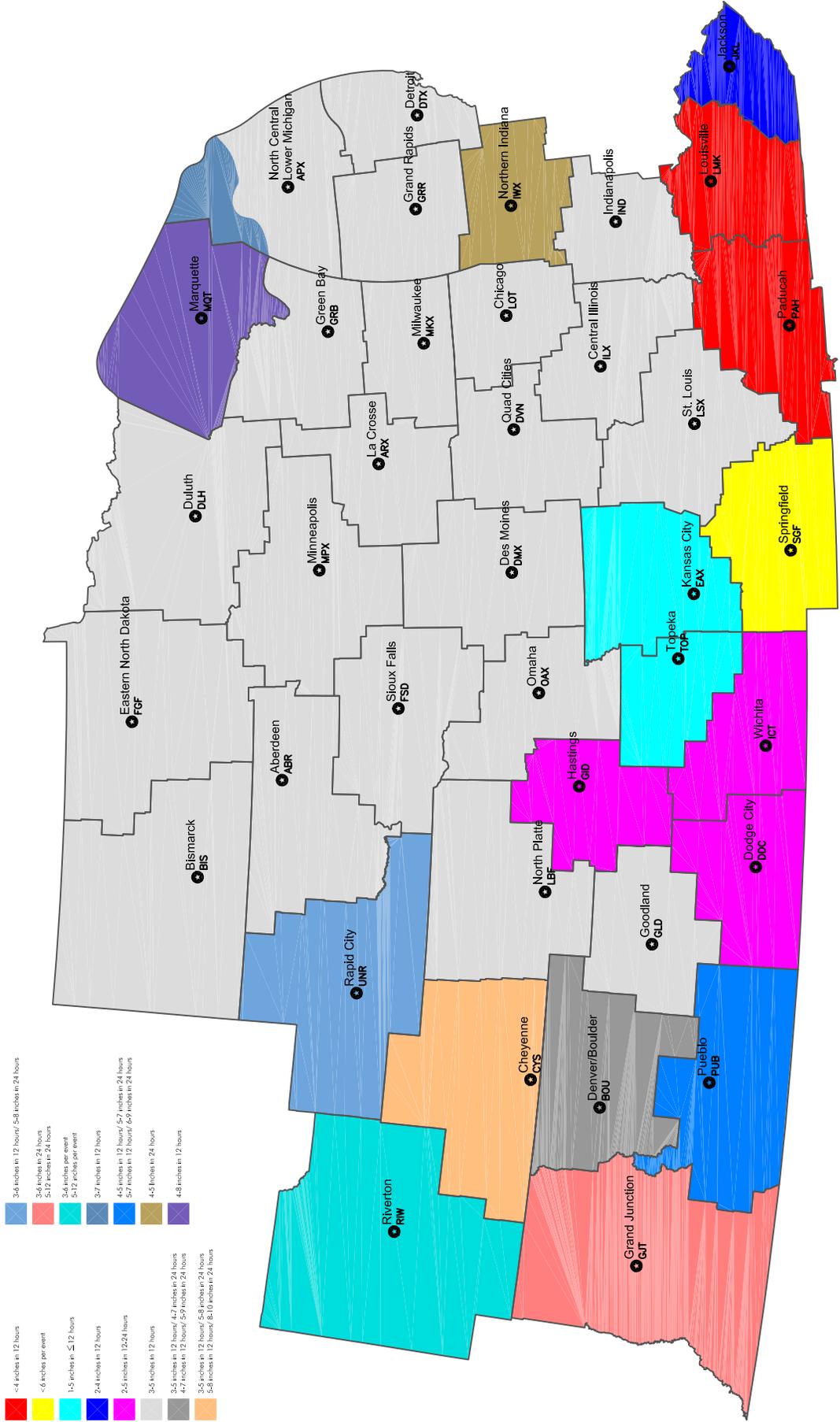
On occasion, a non precipitation weather advisory (i.e., blowing snow advisory) may be required for an event which has evolved from a winter weather advisory (WSW). Rather than issuing a separate product for the same event, forecasters may include a description of the non precipitation event within the text of the WSW.

Refer to Appendix A for WFO-specific winter weather advisory criteria for snow.

SNOW CRITERIA - WARNING



SNOW CRITERIA - ADVISORY



APPENDIX B

Examples

1. Winter Storm Warning

WWUS43 KGRB 030200  
WSWGRB

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GREEN BAY WI  
800 PM CST SUN JAN 2 2002

...WINTER STORM APPROACHING THE MIDWEST...

.A DEVELOPING WINTER STORM ACROSS THE CENTRAL PLAINS IS FORECAST TO INTENSIFY AND MOVE NORTHEAST TOWARD THE SOUTHERN TIP OF LAKE MICHIGAN BY MONDAY EVENING. A BAND OF HEAVY...WET SNOW WILL FALL ACROSS CENTRAL AND FAR NORTHEAST WISCONSIN. TO THE SOUTH OF THE SNOW...A MIX OF SNOW AND SLEET IS EXPECTED TONIGHT...BEFORE CHANGING TO ALL SNOW. LESSER AMOUNTS OF SNOW ARE EXPECTED IN FAR NORTHERN WISCONSIN...FARTHEST FROM THE CENTER OF THE STORM.

AS THE STORM APPROACHES MONDAY...EAST TO NORTHEAST WINDS WILL BE ON THE INCREASE...CREATING BLOWING AND DRIFTING OF THE SNOW MONDAY AND MONDAY EVENING. MUCH COLDER TEMPERATURES WILL RETURN TO THE AREA TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY...WITH LOW TEMPERATURE READINGS WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING BELOW ZERO AT MOST LOCATIONS.

CONDITIONS WILL DETERIORATE RAPIDLY AS THE WINTER STORM MOVES TOWARD THE REGION. SLOW DOWN AND ALLOW EXTRA TIME WHEN TRAVELING. KEEP AN EXTRA FLASHLIGHT...FOOD...AND WATER IN YOUR CAR IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

STAY TUNED TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

WIZ011>013-18>021-030-031-073-030500-  
LINCOLN-LANGLADE-MENOMINEE-MARATHON-SHAWANO-FOREST-FLORENCE-  
MARINETTE-NORTHERN OCONTO-  
INCLUDING TOMAHAWK...ANTIGO AND WAUSAU

...WINTER STORM WARNING TONIGHT AND MONDAY...

AN APPROACHING WINTER STORM WILL BRING SNOW TO THE  
REGION...STARTING TONIGHT AND CONTINUING THROUGH MONDAY. TOTAL  
STORM AMOUNTS OF 6 TO 9 INCHES ARE EXPECTED BY MONDAY EVENING.  
BLUSTERY EAST TO NORTHEAST WINDS WILL CREATE BLOWING AND DRIFTING  
OF THE SNOW ON MONDAY.

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JKL  
[WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/GRB](http://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/GRB)

2. Winter Weather Advisory

WWUS43 KGRB 121600  
WSWGRB

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GREEN BAY WI  
1000 AM CST TUE DEC 12 2002

...FREEZING RAIN AND SLEET HEADED TOWARD NORTHEAST WISCONSIN...

.AN AREA OF LOW PRESSURE WILL MOVE ACROSS THE REGION TODAY. WARM  
AIR MOVING NORTH AHEAD OF THE SYSTEM WILL PRODUCE LIGHT FREEZING  
RAIN AND SLEET ACROSS NORTHEAST WISCONSIN.

THE WINTRY MIX OF PRECIPITATION WILL END LATE THIS AFTERNOON AS THE  
WEATHER SYSTEM MOVES INTO MICHIGAN.

IF TRAVELING...SLOW DOWN AND ALLOW EXTRA TIME TO REACH YOUR  
DESTINATION.

STAY TUNED TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM  
THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN GREEN BAY.

WIZ022-038>040-073-074-122100-  
SOUTHERN MARINETTE-SOUTHERN  
OCONTO-DOOR-OUTAGAMIE-BROWN-KEWAUNEE-  
INCLUDING STURGEON BAY...APPLETON...GREEN BAY AND ALGOMA

...WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY TODAY...

A MIXTURE OF FREEZING RAIN AND SLEET WILL CONTINUE THROUGH LATE THIS  
AFTERNOON. ALTHOUGH ACCUMULATIONS OF ICE WILL BE LIGHT...ROADS AND  
SIDEWALKS WILL BECOME SLIPPERY.

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JKL

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