

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ALASKA REGION SUPPLEMENT 06-2002**

**APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-513**

**December 5, 2006**

*Operations and Services*

*Public Weather Services, NWSPD 10-5*

*WFO Winter Weather Products Specification, NWSI 10-513*

**ALASKA WFO WINTER WEATHER PRODUCTS SPECIFICATION**

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

**OPR:** W/AR1x2 (A. Fish)

**Certified by:** W/AR1 (J. Partain)

**Type of Issuance:** Routine

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**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:** This supplement supersedes Alaska Region Supplement (ARS) 06-2002, Alaska WFO Winter Weather Products Specification, dated November 9, 2005, applicable to National Weather Service Instruction (NWSI) 10-513.

- 1) Corrected Freezing Rain Advisory criteria for WFO Fairbanks zones in Table A-1a.
- 2) Added Snow Advisory criteria for WFO Anchorage zone 131 in Table A-1b.
- 3) Updated Snow Warning and Advisory criteria for Fairbanks zones in Table A-1b.
- 4) Reordered Tables A-1a – A-1c.
- 5) Clarified Winter Storm Warning/Winter Weather Advisory criteria wording, and added wording from NWSI 10-513 6.2.2.2.
- 2) Corrected Examples 1 and 7 in Appendix B.

The section numbers in this supplement correspond to the relevant section numbers in NWSI 10-513.

Signed

Laura K. Furgione  
Regional Director

November 21, 2006

Date

## WFO Winter Weather Products Specification

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### 4. Winter Storm Outlook (product category SPS)

4.2 Issuance Guidelines. Because the Hazardous Weather Outlook (HWO) has not been implemented in the Alaska Region, weather forecasts offices (WFO) in Alaska will use the product category SPS to issue Winter Storm Outlooks.

4.2.2 Issuance Criteria. WFOs will issue Winter Storm Outlooks when conditions are favorable for a major winter storm to develop over part or all of the forecast area in the three to seven day forecast period, or beyond the point normally covered by a watch. Winter Storm Outlooks are issued when there is a **60 percent or greater** chance of a hazardous winter weather event exceeding the local warning criteria.

5. Winter Storm Watches (product category WSW).

5.2 Issuance Guidelines

5.2.2 Issuance Criteria. 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. Winter Storm Watches are issued for the second, third, or occasionally fourth forecast periods, when there is a **60 percent or greater** chance of a hazardous winter weather event meeting or exceeding local warning criteria.

6. Winter Weather Warnings (product category WSW).

6.2 Issuance Guidelines. WFOs will follow the issuance guidelines in NWSI 10-513. 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 should 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.

6.2.2 Issuance Criteria

6.2.2.1 Winter Weather Warning Products. WFOs in Alaska will issue the winter weather warnings listed in NWSI 10-513. Due to the complexity and nature of winter storm events in Alaska, Winter Storm Warnings may include non-precipitation hazards meeting locally defined or warning criteria. The permissible combinations of hazards are defined in Appendix A, Table A-1c.

The WFO shift team leader may authorize a WSO in the WFO's service area to issue winter weather warnings for selected zones. For more information, see Section 5.2 above. WSOs issuing winter weather warnings will follow the same criteria as their service area WFO.

**Special instructions for freezing rain:** Occasionally, significant rainfall occurs during the cold season in northern Alaska when the land is extremely cold soaked. Under these conditions, rain freezes on contact with ground surfaces and severely impacts transportation and commerce. To clearly convey information to our partners and customers, the terminology FREEZING RAIN WARNING may be used in lieu of ICE STORM WARNING in product headlines and warning text under these circumstances. Instructions and criteria for issuing Freezing Rain Warnings will be documented in the WFO Station Duty Manual.

7. Winter Weather Advisories (product category WSW).

7.2 Issuance Guidelines

7.2.2 Issuance Criteria. WFOs will issue advisories based upon regionally and locally defined criteria. Advisory products (WSW) 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 (WSW) 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 10-513. 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.

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.

7.2.2.1 Winter Weather Advisory Products. Due to the complexity and nature of winter storm events in Alaska, Winter Weather Advisories may include non-precipitation hazards meeting locally defined or advisory criteria. The permissible combinations of hazards are defined in Appendix A, Table A-1c. In this table, frequent is defined as occurring for at least half of the event duration. While occasional is defined as occurring less than one-half of the event duration.

**APPENDIX A – Zone Specific Winter Weather Advisory and Warning Criteria**

<b>Zones (WFO)</b>	<b>Advisory Threshold</b>	<b>Warning Threshold</b>
<b>Snow</b>		<b>Heavy Snow</b>
<b>017-026 (Juneau)</b>	<b>4-5 inches in 12 hours</b>	<b>6 inches in 12 hours or 12 inches in 24 hours</b>
<b>027-028 (Juneau)</b>	<b>3-5 inches in 12 hours</b>	<b>6 inches in 12 hours or 12 inches in 24 hours</b>
<b>029 (Juneau)</b>	<b>8-11 inches in 12 hours</b>	<b>12 inches in 24 hours</b>
<b>101, 111, 121, 141, 145, 151, 155, 161, 171, 181, 185, 191, 195 (Anchorage)</b>	<b>6-11 inches in 12 hours or 12-23 inches in 24 hours</b>	<b>12 inches in 12 hours or 24 inches in 24 hours</b>
<b>125, and 135 (Anchorage)</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>24 inches in 12 hours</b>
<b>131 (Anchorage)</b>	<b>18-23 inches in 12 hours</b>	<b>24 inches in 12 hours</b>
<b>201-214 (Fairbanks)</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>6 inches in 24 hours</b>
<b>215-224 (Fairbanks)</b>	<b>4-7 inches in 24 hours or less</b>	<b>8 inches in 24 hours or less</b>
<b>225, 226 (Fairbanks)</b>	<b>6-11 inches in 24 hours or less</b>	<b>12 inches in 24 hours or less</b>
<b>Blowing Snow</b>		<b>Blizzard</b>
<b>All Zones</b>	Sustained wind or frequent gusts <b>greater than or equal to 25 mph</b> accompanied by blowing snow (with or without falling snow), <b>occasionally</b> reducing <b>visibility to ¼ mile or less</b> for 3 hours or more	Sustained wind or frequent gusts <b>greater than or equal to 35 mph</b> accompanied by falling and/or blowing snow, <b>frequently</b> reducing <b>visibility to less than ¼ mile</b> for 3 hours or more
<b>Snow and Blowing Snow</b>		
<b>All Zones</b>	Snowfall accumulation meeting <b>Snow Advisory</b> criteria (defined above) <b>and</b> wind with visibility meeting <b>Blowing Snow Advisory</b> criteria	

**Table A-1a** – Winter weather advisory and warning thresholds for Alaska zones.

<b>Zones (WFO)</b>	<b>Advisory Threshold</b>	<b>Warning Threshold</b>
	<b>Freezing Rain</b>	<b>Ice Storm</b> <b>(Note instructions in 5.2.2.1)</b>
<b>017-029 (Juneau)</b> <b>101-195 (Anchorage)</b>	Ice accumulation (freezing rain and/or freezing drizzle) <b>Trace to 0.25 inch</b>	Ice accumulation of <b>0.25 inch or greater</b>
<b>201-214 (Fairbanks)</b>	Ice accumulation (freezing rain) <b>0.01 inch to less than 0.10 inch</b>	Ice accumulation of <b>0.10 inch or greater</b>
<b>215-226 (Fairbanks)</b>	Ice accumulation (freezing rain and/or freezing drizzle) <b>Trace to 0.10 inch</b>	Ice accumulation of <b>0.10 inch or greater</b>
	<b>Wind Chill</b>	<b>Wind Chill</b>
<b>017-029 (Juneau)</b>	<b>-30° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>	<b>-55° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>
<b>101-195 (Anchorage)</b>	<b>-40° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>	<b>-60° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>
<b>201-206 (Fairbanks)</b>	<b>-50° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>	<b>-60° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>
<b>207-226 (Fairbanks)</b>	<b>-40° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>	<b>-60° F</b> with 15 mph sustained winds for <b>3 hours or more</b>

**Table A-1b** – Winter weather advisory and warning thresholds for Alaska zones.

Zones (WFO)	Advisory Threshold	Warning Threshold
	Winter Weather	Winter Storm
<p><b>All Zones</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter weather event having <b>more than one hazard</b> meeting or exceeding locally defined 12 and/or 24 hour <b>advisory criteria</b>, but remaining below warning criteria</li> </ul> <p>The combination of events must include at least one of the individual winter advisory elements defined in Tables A-1a and A-1b. Examples: snow advisory with freezing rain advisory; wind chill advisory with wind advisory; snow advisory with wind advisory when visibility is not restricted to ¼ mile (i.e., not a snow and blowing snow advisory)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter weather event having <b>more than one hazard</b> meeting or exceeding locally defined 12 and/or 24 hour <b>warning criteria</b> (this may include high wind)</li> <li>• <b>Mixed precipitation</b> events, even if only <b>one precipitation type</b> meets or exceeds <b>warning criteria</b></li> <li>• <b>Snow accumulation</b> meets or exceeds locally defined <b>warning criteria</b> in combination with wind between 25-34 mph and blowing snow with visibility occasionally reduced to ¼ mile or less for three hours (meeting <b>blowing snow advisory criteria</b>, but below blizzard criteria)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Exception:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple hazard events meeting <b>blizzard-warning criteria will be issued as Blizzard Warnings, not</b> as Winter Storm Warnings</li> </ul>

**Table A-1c** – Winter weather advisory and warning thresholds for Alaska zones.

## APPENDIX B – Examples of NWS Alaska Winter Weather Products

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

2. Winter Storm Outlook.

WWAK82 PAFG 031356  
SPSWCZ

WINTER STORM OUTLOOK  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FAIRBANKS AK  
600 AM ADT SUN OCT 3 2004

AKZ207>210-216-217-040200-  
CHUKCHI SEA COAST-LOWER KOBUK AND NOATAK VALLEYS-UPPER KOBUK AND  
NOATAK VALLEYS-BALDWIN PENINSULA AND SELAWIK VALLEY-NORTHERN AND  
INTERIOR SEWARD PENINSULA-LOWER KOYUKUK AND MIDDLE YUKON VALLEYS-  
INCLUDING...POINT HOPE...SHISHMAREF...KIVALINA...ESPENBERG...  
NOATAK... KIANA...RED DOG MINE...AMBLER...SHUNGNAK...KOBUK...  
KOTZEBUE...SELAWIK...NOORVIK...BUCKLAND...DEERING...CANDLE...  
COUNCIL...HAYCOCK...PILGRIM SPRINGS...SERPENTINE HOT SPRINGS  
...TAYLOR...GALENA...NULATO...HUSLIA... KALTAG...RUBY...KOYUKUK  
600 AM ADT SUN OCT 3 2004

...THE FIRST MAJOR WINTER STORM OF THE SEASON IS EXPECTED TO IMPACT  
THE WESTERN INTERIOR AND NORTHWESTERN COAST BY MIDWEEK...

A STRONG LOW PRESSURE SYSTEM IS EXPECTED TO DEVELOP OVER THE CHUKCHI  
SEA LATE TUESDAY INTO WEDNESDAY. THIS SYSTEM COULD CAUSE BLIZZARD  
CONDITIONS ACROSS THE NORTHWEST COAST AND HEAVY SNOW OVER PORTIONS  
OF THE WESTERN INTERIOR ON WEDNESDAY.

PERSONS IN...OR PLANNING TRAVEL THROUGH...NORTHWESTERN ALASKA AND THE  
WESTERN INTERIOR SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF HAZARDOUS  
WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS WEDNESDAY. PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE  
LATEST WEATHER FORECAST INFORMATION AS THIS WINTER WEATHER SITUATION  
CONTINUES TO UNFOLD.

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JL OCT 04 (Optional)

3. Winter Storm Watch.

WWAK47 PAJK 062157  
WSWAJK

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JUNEAU AK  
100 PM AST SAT MAR 6 2004

...SOUTHERN PANHANDLE COULD SEE OVER A FOOT OF NEW SNOW BY MONDAY...



.A WARM FRONT MOVING INTO THE SOUTHERN PANHANDLE ON SUNDAY COMBINED WITH ARCTIC AIR FROM THE CANADIAN INTERIOR WILL LIKELY RESULT IN HEAVY SNOWFALL ACROSS THE SOUTHERN PANHANDLE.

AKZ027>029-070400-  
DIXON ENTRANCE TO CAPE DECISION COASTAL AREA-SOUTHERN INNER CHANNELS-  
MISTY FJORDS-  
INCLUDING...CRAIG...KLAWOCK...KETCHIKAN...METLAKATLA...HYDER  
100 PM AST SAT MAR 6 2004

...WINTER STORM WATCH IN EFFECT FROM SUNDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SUNDAY NIGHT...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN JUNEAU ALASKA HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WATCH. LOCALLY HEAVY SNOW IS EXPECTED IN THE SOUTHERN PANHANDLE SUNDAY AND SUNDAY NIGHT. 6 TO 12 INCHES OF SNOW COULD ACCUMULATE BY SUNDAY NIGHT IN THE SOUTHERN INNER CHANNELS AND ALONG THE SOUTHERN OUTER COAST... AND 12 TO 16 INCHES OF NEW SNOW IS EXPECTED IN THE HYDER AREA BY LATE SUNDAY.

A WATCH MEANS CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR HAZARDOUS WINTER 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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CM MAR 04 (Optional)

#### 4. Blizzard Warning.

WWAK42 PAFC 262358  
WSWALU  
URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ANCHORAGE AK  
500 PM AST WED FEB 25 2004

AKZ181-260800-  
ALASKA PENINSULA-  
INCLUDING...COLD BAY...SAND POINT  
500 PM AST WED FEB 25 2004

...BLIZZARD WARNING IN EFFECT UNTIL 11 PM AST THIS EVENING...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN ANCHORAGE HAS ISSUED A BLIZZARD WARNING. NORTHWEST WINDS 30 MPH GUSTING TO 55 MPH WILL REDUCE VISIBILITY TO NEAR ZERO IN SNOW AND BLOWING SNOW THIS EVENING. CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE BEFORE MIDNIGHT AS WINDS DIMINISH TO WEST 15 TO 25 MPH.

A WARNING MEANS A SERIOUS THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY IS OCCURRING OR IMMINENT. ALL TRAVEL OR OUTDOOR ACTIVITY IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED.

THE NEXT STATEMENT IS SCHEDULED AT 1100 PM AST.

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ALBANESE FEB 04 (Optional)

5. Winter Storm Warning.

WWAK47 PAYA 090100  
WSWYAK

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE YAKUTAT AK  
400 PM AST THU JAN 8 2004

AKZ017-091300-  
CAPE FAIRWEATHER TO CAPE SUCKLING COASTAL AREA-  
INCLUDING...YAKUTAT  
400 PM AST THU JAN 8 2004

...WINTER STORM WARNING IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM AST FRIDAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN YAKUTAT HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WARNING. HEAVY SNOW IS EXPECTED IN THE YAKUTAT AREA THIS EVENING WITH ACCUMULATIONS OF 8 TO 10 INCHES BY MIDNIGHT. SNOWFALL RATES WILL LIKELY BE 1 TO 2 INCHES PER HOUR LATE THIS EVENING. AFTER MIDNIGHT ...THE HEAVY SNOW IS EXPECTED TO TURN INTO FREEEZING RAIN FOR A FEW HOURS BEFORE CHANGING TO RAIN TOMORROW MORNING.

A WARNING MEANS A SERIOUS THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY IS OCCURRING OR IMMINENT. MOTORISTS SHOULD USE EXTREME CAUTION DUE TO POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS. DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS...BOATS...AND OTHER STRUCTURES MAY RESULT FROM HEAVY SNOW LOADING IF SNOW IS NOT CLEARED PERIODICALLY.

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JLE JAN 04 (Optional)

6. Winter Weather Advisory.

WWAK47 PAJK 271556  
WSWAJK

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JUNEAU AK  
700 AM AST TUE JAN 27 2004

AKZ020-021-025-026-272200-  
GLACIER BAY-EASTERN CHICHAGOF ISLAND-JUNEAU BOROUGH AND NORTHERN ADMIRALTY ISLAND-INNER CHANNELS FROM KUPREANOF ISLAND TO ETOLIN ISLAND-INCLUDING...GUSTAVUS...HOONAH...JUNEAU...PETERSBURG...WRANGELL...KAKE  
700 AM AST TUE JAN 27 2004

...FREEZING RAIN ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 1 PM AST THIS AFTERNOON...

FREEZING DRIZZLE AND RAIN WILL CONTINUE TO PRODUCE SLIPPERY CONDITIONS ON ROADS AND WALKWAYS IN THE COMMUNITIES OF GUSTAVUS...HOONAH...JUNEAU ...PETERSBURG...WRANGELL...AND KAKE THIS MORNING. EXPECT LESS THAN A QUARTER INCH ICE ACCUMULATION. THE FREEZING PRECIPITATION SHOULD BECOME MIXED WITH RAIN AS THE TEMPERATURES WARM INTO THE 30S THROUGH EARLY AFTERNOON.

AN ADVISORY MEANS A POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS EVENT IS OCCURRING OR IMMINENT. MOTORISTS SHOULD USE EXTREME CAUTION DUE TO POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS.

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CM JAN 04 (Optional)

7. Combination of Winter Weather Events.

WWAK42 PAFG 160059  
WSWWCZ

URGENT- WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FAIRBANKS AK  
400 PM AST WED DEC 15 2004

...A MAJOR WINTER STORM WILL IMPACT NORTHWEST ALASKA THURSDAY...

.THE STRONGEST STORM TO STRIKE NORTHWEST ALASKA IN THE PAST YEAR WILL APPROACH THE BERING STRAIT THURSDAY. IT WILL GENERATE SNOW AND VERY HIGH WINDS. BLIZZARD CONDITIONS AND COASTAL FLOODING ARE ALSO POSSIBLE.

AKZ207-213-160700-  
CHUKCHI SEA COAST-ST LAWRENCE ISLAND+[ AND ]BERING STRAIT COAST-  
INCLUDING...POINT HOPE...SHISHMAREF...KIVALINA...RED DOG PORT...  
GAMBELL...SAVOONGA...BREVIG MISSION...TELLER...LITTLE DIOMEDE...  
WALES  
400 PM AST WED DEC 15 2004

...WINTER STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 10 AM AST THURSDAY UNTIL  
10 AM AST FRIDAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN FAIRBANKS HAS ISSUED A WINTER STORM WARNING. SOUTH WINDS TO 60 MPH WITH GUSTS TO 75 MPH ARE EXPECTED IN THE BERING STRAIT STARTING THURSDAY MORNING AND CONTINUING INTO FRIDAY. THE WIND WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DRIVING MIX OF RAIN AND SNOW.

A WARNING MEANS A SERIOUS THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY IS OCCURRING...IMMINENT...OR HIGHLY LIKELY. ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WITHOUT DELAY TO PROTECT AND SECURE STRUCTURES. LOOSE OBJECTS THAT MAY BE BLOWN AROUND OR DAMAGED IN THE WIND SHOULD BE BROUGHT INDOORS.

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AKZ201-208-211-160700-  
WESTERN ARCTIC COAST-LOWER KOBUK AND NOATAK VALLEYS-SOUTHERN SEWARD  
PENINSULA COAST-  
INCLUDING...WAINWRIGHT...ATQASUK...POINT LAY...NOATAK...KIANA...RED DOG  
MINE...NOME...WHITE MOUNTAIN...GOLOVIN  
400 PM AST WED DEC 15 2004

...BLIZZARD WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT THURSDAY EVENING UNTIL FRIDAY AFTERNOON...

STRONG SOUTHWEST WINDS OF 35 TO 50 MPH AND BLOWING SNOW ARE EXPECTED TO REDUCE VISIBILITY BELOW ONE QUARTER MILE THURSDAY NIGHT AND FRIDAY. LOW WIND CHILLS WILL ACCOMPANY THE STORM ALONG WITH CONSIDERABLE FALLING AND DRIFTING SNOW.

A WATCH MEANS CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR HAZARDOUS WINTER 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. TRAVEL AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITY WILL BE VERY DANGEROUS ONCE THE STORM HITS.

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**APPENDIX C – Example of Experimental VTEC in WFO Fairbanks WSW Product**

WWAK41 PAFG 091209  
WSWNSB

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FAIRBANKS AK  
409 AM ADT THU JUN 9 2005

AKZ201-202-092000-  
/X.NEW.PAFG.ZR.Y.0012.050609T1209Z-050609T2000Z/  
WESTERN ARCTIC COAST-NORTHERN ARCTIC COAST-  
INCLUDING...WAINWRIGHT...ATQASUK...POINT LAY...CAPE LISBURNE...  
BARROW...ALAKTAK...PITT POINT...NULAVIK  
409 AM ADT THU JUN 9 2005

...FREEZING RAIN ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL NOON ADT TODAY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN FAIRBANKS HAS ISSUED A FREEZING  
RAIN ADVISORY...WHICH IS IN EFFECT UNTIL NOON ADT TODAY.

A FREEZING RAIN ADVISORY MEANS THAT PERIODS OF FREEZING RAIN OR  
FREEZING DRIZZLE WILL CAUSE TRAVEL DIFFICULTIES. USE CAUTION WHEN  
TRAVELING.

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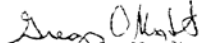
**APPENDIX D – Waiver for the Issuance of Product Category SPS instead of HWO for  
Winter Storm Outlooks**



**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 E. Lee  
W/CS22 - Richard J. Okulski



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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 *Dennis 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

