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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 22-55  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1230 PM EDT Fri Aug 26 2022

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users, and Employees

From:         Daniel Roman, Acting Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Public Comment Period for the Transition of the South Central  
Alaska Mountain Forecast from the Recreational Forecast Issued by Weather  
Forecast Office (WFO) Anchorage through September 26, 2022

WFO Anchorage is soliciting comments and feedback through September 26,  
2022 regarding the potential transition of the South Central Alaska  
Mountain Forecast from the REC to the AVG.

WFO Anchorage currently utilizes the Recreational Forecast product (REC)  
to provide partners and members of the public weather information for  
winter-time backcountry conditions for select locations in South Central  
AK, specifically for snow amounts, winds and other integral conditions for  
avalanche potential.

The experimental Avalanche Weather Guidance (AVG) product could be used to  
replace the REC should it become operational. The AVG would provide more  
detailed Avalanche weather information and forecasts in 6-hour intervals  
across more localized areas than the REC. This would result in an  
improvement over the REC forecast and eliminate the need for it. As the  
issuing office for both the REC and the AVG, WFO Anchorage is seeking to  
potentially transition to the new AVG, thereby providing a better product  
for its user groups.

For an example of a previous Recreational (REC) product:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/rec\\_forecast\\_example.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/rec_forecast_example.pdf)

The experimental Avalanche Weather Guidance (AVG) product will look like  
it does in the example below, but with an additional discussion and  
graphics included in the product. The site will also include a map of  
each localized area with graphical versions of the forecast included.

<https://www.weather.gov/afc/avalancheweather>

Link to example Avalanche Weather Guidance (AVG) from WFO Anchorage:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/afc\\_avg.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/afc_avg.pdf)

Please submit comments regarding the transition of the REC to the AVG at:

[anchorage.weather@noaa.gov](mailto:anchorage.weather@noaa.gov)

Additional questions and comments can be directed to:

Noelle Runyan, Acting Meteorologist-in-Charge  
Aviva Braun, Warning Coordination Meteorologist  
WFO Anchorage, AK  
[noelle.runyan@noaa.gov](mailto:noelle.runyan@noaa.gov)

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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