

NOUS41 KWBC 261930 AAA  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-108 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
230 PM EST Thu Feb 26 2021

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

From:       Michelle Hawkins, Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services  
              Branch

Subject: Updated: The Special Avalanche Bulletin (SAB) will  
              become authorized for use at additional Weather  
              Forecast Offices (WFO) effective December 16, 2020

Updated to correct WMO headers for WFOs Anchorage and Juneau  
below.

The NWS conducted a comprehensive review of all NWS  
dissemination pathways for avalanche information, including a  
Public Comment period on the use of the SAB. Based upon the  
feedback received, the SAB has been approved for use at  
additional WFOs effective December 16, 2020.

In the contiguous United States, authorized alerting authorities  
at some state, federal, and local non-profit avalanche centers  
provide avalanche information in addition to Avalanche Watches  
and Warnings. NWS offices can convey these messages in SAB text  
products via NWS dissemination systems and NOAA Weather Radio  
(NWR). This bulletin can serve to alert users of high avalanche  
risk in advance, in addition to providing sub-warning avalanche  
information.

In Alaska, NWS will use the SAB to relay Avalanche Watches and  
Warnings from authorized alerting authorities at these avalanche  
centers.

In accordance with Federal Communications Commission (FCC)  
Rules, the SAB information is not conveyed to the EAS; however,  
in accordance with state and local EAS plans, Avalanche Watches

and Warnings from alerting authorities may be disseminated via NWR Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) and the EAS.

The following WFOs remain authorized to issue SAB products:

WFO	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Billings	WWUS85 KBYZ	SABBYZ
Boise	WWUS85 KBOI	SABBOI
Boulder	WWUS85 KBOU	SABCO
Las Vegas	WWUS85 KVEF	SABVEF, SABLAS
Missoula	WWUS85 KMSO	SABFCA, SABGPI, SABMSO
Pocatello	WWUS85 KPIH	SABPIH
Portland	WWUS86 KPQR	SABPQR
Reno	WWUS85 KREV	SABREV
Riverton	WWSU85 KRIW	SABRIW
Salt Lake City	WWUS85 KSLC	SABSLC
Seattle	WWUS86 KSEW	SABSEW

The following WFOs will be authorized to issue SAB products for the first time on or after December 16, 2020. Therefore, users may need to update their databases to begin receiving these messages:

WFO	WMO Header	AWIPS ID
Gray	WWUS81 KGYX	SABGYX
Albuquerque	WWUS85 KABQ	SABABQ
Grand Junction	WWUS85 KGJT	SABGJT
Medford	WWUS86 KMFR	SABMFR
Pendleton	WWUS86 KPDT	SABPDT
Spokane	WWUS86 KOTX	SABOTX
Great Falls	WWUS85 KTFX	SABTFX
Anchorage	WWAK88 PAFC	SABAFC
Juneau	WWAK87 PAJK	SABAJK

If you have questions or comments regarding the Special Avalanche Bulletin, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:  
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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