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Service Change Notice 20-80 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1130 AM EDT Wed Oct 12 2022

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

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

Subject: Updated: Enhancements to the Winter Storm Severity Index:
 Effective October 11, 2022

Updated with enhancements of features and impact definitions for the
Winter Storm Severity Index.

Effective October 11, 2022, the web-based Operational Days 1-3 Winter
Storm Severity Index (WSSI) for 116 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) across
the CONUS will feature updated impact definitions, new static images for
the CONUS and WFO perspectives, and an elimination of the limited
category. The changes also include a new Winter Weather Area depicting
where NWS forecasts are expecting winter weather.

The purpose of the WSSI is to provide NWS forecasters, partners, and the
public with an indication of the severity of winter weather hazards and
the potential for related societal impacts. The WSSI does not depict
official warnings and should always be used in context with official NWS
forecasts and warnings.

The WSSI will continue to be updated every two hours at approximately 0100
Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 0300 UTC, 0500 UTC, etc. No
communication system changes are required to view this web-based
information.

Additional information is provided in the Product Description Document
(PDD) at the link below:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_OplWSSI_2020-2021.pdf

For questions regarding the WSSI, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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