

NOUS41 KWBC 071910
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-97
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
310 PM EDT Fri Oct 7 2022

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

Subject: The Avalanche Weather Guidance Product Will Transition to
 Operational Status, Effective November 9, 2022

The Avalanche Weather Guidance Product (AVG) will transition to Operational Status, effective November 9, 2022 at 25 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs).

During the winter of 2021-2022, the experimental AVG product was issued from 25 WFOs across the United States. These products provided the local avalanche centers with forecast meteorological parameters critical to the centers' predictions of avalanche conditions and risk. The AVG products were also used by state and local departments of transportation, emergency management, search and rescue operations, commercial entities, recreation areas, and backcountry enthusiasts to help them prepare for weather conditions that they should expect to encounter in avalanche-prone areas. Feedback received on this product has been positive, with comments highlighting that the NWS Avalanche Weather Guidance is critical in assisting avalanche specialists' predictions for avalanche stability and avalanche threats to life.

This season, effective November 9, 2022, the NWS is transitioning the Avalanche Weather Guidance product into operational status. The AVG will be available as a text-based product via NWS web pages and other NWS dissemination systems.

The following WFOs will provide AVG products:

WFO	WMO Heading	AWIPS ID
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Albuquerque	FWUS45 KABQ	AVGABQ
Great Falls	FWUS45 KTFX	AVGTFX
Missoula	FWUS45 KMSO	AVGMSO
Pendleton	FWUS46 KPDT	AVGPDT
Pocatello	FWUS45 KPIH	AVGPIH
Reno	FWUS45 KREV	AVGREV
Riverton	FWUS45 KRIW	AVGRIW
Burlington	FWUS41 KBTV	AVGBTV
Gray	FWUS41 KGYX	AVGGYX

*Boulder	FWUS45 KBOU	AVGBOU
Billings	FWUS45 KBYZ	AVGBYZ
Boise	FWUS45 KBOI	AVGBOI
Elko	FWUS45 KLKN	AVGLKN
Flagstaff	FWUS45 KFGZ	AVGFGZ
Hanford	FWUS46 KHNX	AVGHNX
Las Vegas	FWUS45 KVEF	AVGVEF
Medford	FWUS46 KMFR	AVGMFR
Oxnard	FWUS46 KLOX	AVGLOX
Portland, OR	FWUS46 KPQR	AVGPQR
Salt Lake City	FWUS45 KSLC	AVGSLC
Seattle	FWUS46 KSEW	AVGSEW
Spokane	FWUS46 KOTX	AVGOTX
Anchorage	FWAK48 PAFC	AVGAFC
Fairbanks	FWAK49 PAFG	AVGAFG
Juneau	FWAK47 PAJK	AVGAJK

* WFO Boulder issues the AVG for the entire state of Colorado.

A Product Description Document for the AVG is provided here:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_OplAvalancheWeatherGuidance_2022.pdf

If you have questions or comments regarding the Avalanche Weather Guidance, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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