

# National Weather Service Update

2021 KEMA Conference



Photo courtesy of Grady Dixon

Information and Discussion about Recent and Future  
NWS Topics of Interest



National Weather Service



# **Destructive T-Storm Tags**

Getting the Word Out When it Matters

# Severe T-Storm Destructive Tag - **New**


**NWS Severe Thunderstorm Warnings**

**Impact-Based Warning (IBW)**  
**Damage Threat Categories and Criteria**

	Minimum WIND Trigger	and/or	Minimum HAIL Trigger (size diameter)
<b>"Base"</b>	<b>*58</b> mph		<b>1.00"</b> (quarter-size)
<b>Considerable</b>	<b>70</b> mph		<b>1.75"</b> (golfball-size)
<b>Destructive</b>	<b>80</b> mph		<b>2.75"</b> (baseball-size)

*\*60 mph will appear in the warning*

**Enables a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) through FEMA IPAWS**



**WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERTS CAPABLE**



# Severe T-Storm Destructive Tag - **New**

- **WEA will trigger** off of the “Destructive” IBW tag (only)
- Will trigger **ONLY ONCE** per each ETN
- Can occur in either the initial SVR or an update SVS (doesn't matter) -- whichever product has the first instance of this tag.

## NWS Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

### Impact-Based Warning (IBW) Damage Threat Categories and Criteria

Minimum  
WIND Trigger

Minimum  
HAIL Trigger (size diameter)

“Base”

**\*58** mph

and/or

**1.00”** (quarter-size)

**\*60** mph will appear  
in the warning

Considerable

**70** mph

and/or

**1.75”** (golfball-size)

**Destructive**

**80** mph

and/or

**2.75”** (baseball-size)

Enables a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) through FEMA IPAWS



# Severe T-Storm Destructive Tag - **New**

```
BULLETIN - IMMEDIATE BROADCAST REQUESTED
Severe Thunderstorm Warning
National Weather Service Hastings NE
956 PM CDT Fri Jul 9 2021

The National Weather Service in Hastings has issued a

* Severe Thunderstorm Warning for...
Northern Franklin County in south central Nebraska...
Northwestern Webster County in south central Nebraska...
Southwestern Adams County in south central Nebraska...
Southern Kearney County in south central Nebraska...

* Until 1045 PM CDT.

* At 956 PM CDT, a severe thunderstorm was located over Hildreth, or
16 miles southeast of Holdrege, moving east at 30 mph.

HAZARD...60 mph wind gusts and half dollar size hail.

SOURCE...Radar indicated.

IMPACT...Hail damage to vehicles is expected. Expect wind damage
to roofs, siding, and trees.

* This severe thunderstorm will be near...
Hildreth around 1000 PM CDT.
Upland around 1015 PM CDT.

Other locations in the path of this severe thunderstorm include
Campbell and Bladen.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

For your protection move to an interior room on the lowest floor of a
building.

&&

LAT...LON 4037 9916 4044 9851 4011 9860 4023 9918
4027 9918
TIME...MOT...LOC 0256Z 273DEG 28KT 4034 9910

HAIL...1.25IN
WIND...60MPH
```

- **Where are the tags in the 1<sup>st</sup> place?**
  - Severe Weather Warnings
  - Tornado Warnings
  - Flash Flood Warnings
  - Special Weather Statements

```
&&

LAT...LON 4037 9916 4044 9851 4011 9860 4023 9918
4027 9918
TIME...MOT...LOC 0256Z 273DEG 28KT 4034 9910

HAIL...1.25IN
WIND...60MPH
```

Example of a “base tag”



# Severe T-Storm Destructive Tag - **New**


## NWS Warning Tag

**THUNDERSTORM DAMAGE  
THREAT...DESTRUCTIVE**  
HAIL THREAT...RADAR INDICATED  
MAX HAIL SIZE...3.00 IN  
WIND THREAT...OBSERVED  
MAX WIND GUST...80 MPH

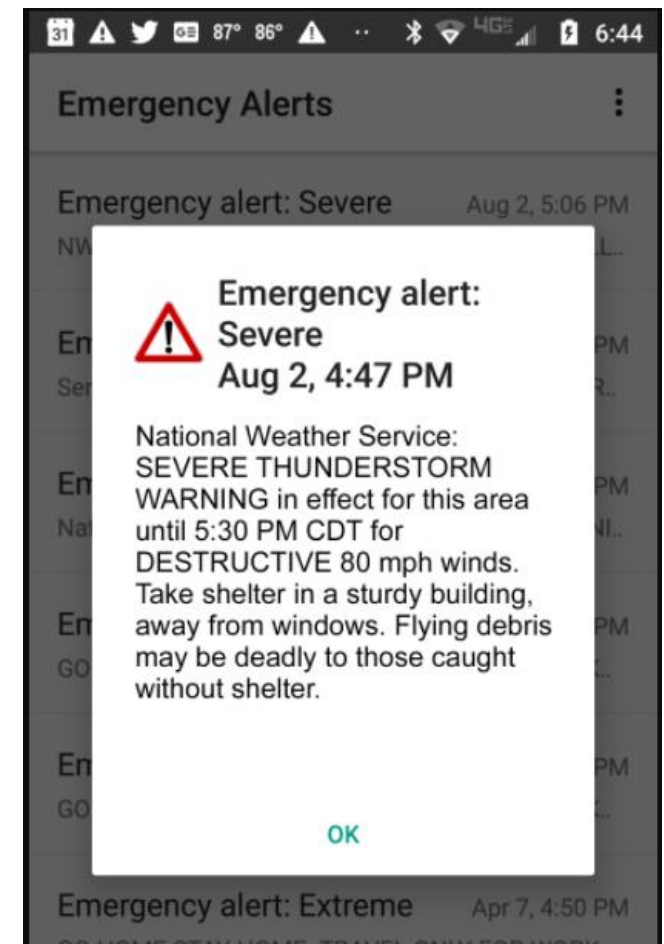
becomes →

Remember: Wind Speed and Hail Size

<b>12</b>	Hurricane Force	over 75 mph	Severe and extensive damage. Roofs can be peeled off. Windows broken. Trees uprooted. RVs and small mobile homes overturned. Moving automobiles can be pushed off the roadways. Corn down.
-----------	-----------------	-------------	--

2.75 inches	
Baseball	
4.00 inches	
Softball	
4.50 inches	
Grapefruit	

## Your Phone



# Severe T-Storm Destructive Tag - **New**

## NWS Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

### Impact-Based Warning (IBW) Damage Threat Categories and Criteria

Minimum  
WIND Trigger

Minimum  
HAIL Trigger (size diameter)

"Base"

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and/or

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**Destructive**

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Enables a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) through FEMA IPAWS

WIRELESS  
EMERGENCY  
ALERTS  
CAPABLE



# WEA Product Activation - Reminder

## NWS WEA Activation Schedule

<b>Tornado Warning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New warning</li><li>• Threat is upgraded to catastrophic</li><li>• Any additional updates with catastrophic</li></ul>
<b>Flash Flood Warning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New warning <b>if</b> threat tag is considerable or catastrophic (most are not)</li><li>• Threat is upgraded to considerable</li><li>• Threat is upgraded to catastrophic</li></ul>
<b>Severe Thunderstorm Warning</b>	Activate for first occurrence (i.e. new or updated warning) of a <u>destructive threat</u>
<b>Hurricane/Typhoon Warning</b>	Activate for new warning
<b>Storm Surge Warning</b>	Activate for new warning
<b>Extreme Wind Warning</b>	Activate for new warning
<b>Tsunami Warning</b>	Activate for new warning
<b>Dust Storm Warning</b>	Activate for new warning.
<b>Snow Squall Warning</b>	Activate for new warning







# Snow Squalls

A “Flurry” of Flurries



# Snow Squall– **New/Ongoing**

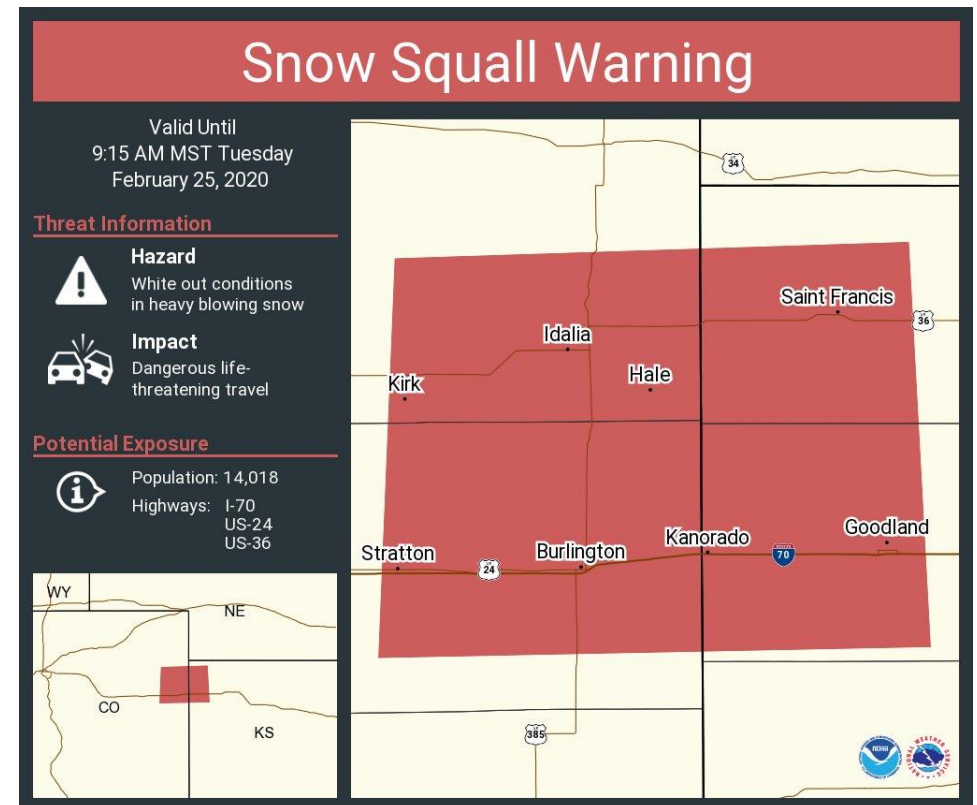
- **NWS is seeking input regarding Snow Squalls and WEA**
  - NWS proposes adding “TAGS” to characterize snow squall impacts
- **What is a Snow Squall Warning?**

# Snow Squall– **New/Ongoing**

- **NWS is seeking input regarding Snow Squalls and WEA**
  - NWS proposes adding “TAGS” to characterize snow squall impacts

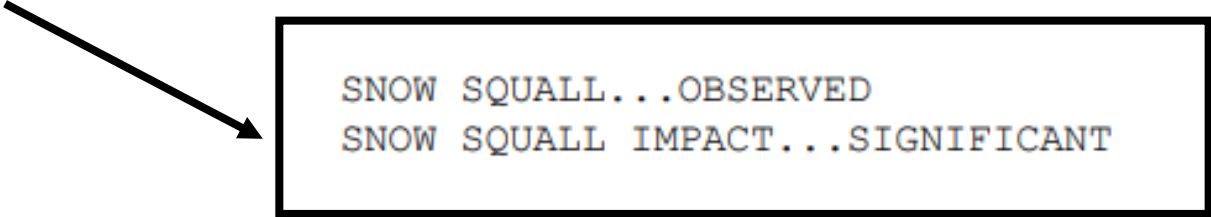
- **What is a Snow Squall Warning?**

- 30-60 minute warning polygon
- Intense, short lived burst of heavy snow
- Gusty winds – Very low visibility



# Snow Squall– **New/Ongoing**

- **“General” Tag: Will NOT trigger WEA**
  - Used frequently when snow squalls observed/expected but mitigating actions can reduce the threat to safe travel
- **“Significant” Tag: WILL Trigger WEA**
  - Substantial threat to safe travel, such that WEA is warranted to alert all devices in the path of the squall
    - Same as Flash Flood Warnings



```
SNOW SQUALL...OBSERVED  
SNOW SQUALL IMPACT...SIGNIFICANT
```

- **Survey is open until October 15<sup>th</sup>**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PropIBWTagsforSnowSquallWarnings2021>





# Special Weather Statement

Starting to Make a Comeback

# Special Weather Statement Changes - **New**

1. Format change to “Hazard – Source – Impact”
1. Generic, editable headline atop all SPSs
1. The Significant Weather Advisory is **NO LONGER** included in the headline (it is “retired”)

```
Special Weather Statement
National Weather Service Dodge City KS
709 PM CDT Sat Aug 21 2021

KSZ086-087-220045-
Seward KS-Meade KS-
709 PM CDT Sat Aug 21 2021

...A strong thunderstorm will impact portions of east central Seward
and west central Meade Counties through 745 PM CDT...

At 709 PM CDT, Doppler radar was tracking a strong thunderstorm near
Plains, or near Kismet, moving northeast at 20 mph.

HAZARD...Winds in excess of 40 mph and penny size hail.

SOURCE...Radar indicated.

IMPACT...Gusty winds could knock down tree limbs and blow around
unsecured objects. Minor damage to outdoor objects is
possible.
```



# Special Weather Statement Changes - **New**

- **Landspout wording will be included in the SPS (if necessary)**

- Additional explanation included as well (not shown)

- **Two tags added for landspouts**

**Landspout...Possible**  
**Landspout...Observed**

Special Weather Statement  
National Weather Service Green Bay WI  
140 AM CDT Mon May 18 2020

WIZ031-037>039-074-180730-  
Southern Oconto County WI-Waupaca WI-Shawano WI-Outagamie WI-  
Brown WI-  
140 AM CDT Mon May 18 2020

...A strong thunderstorm will impact portions of northwestern Brown, east central Waupaca, southern Oconto, northern Outagamie and eastern Shawano Counties through 230 AM CDT...

At 140 AM CDT, Doppler radar was tracking a strong thunderstorm capable of producing a landspout 7 miles north of New London, or 19 miles northeast of Waupaca, moving northeast at 20 mph.

HAZARD...Landspouts, winds in excess of 40 mph, and nickel size hail.

SOURCE...Radar indicated.

IMPACT...Minor damage to outdoor objects is possible. Gusty winds

LANDSPOUT...POSSIBLE  
MAX HAIL SIZE...0.88 IN  
MAX WIND GUST...40 MPH



# Special Weather Statement on Twitter - **New**



- **Special Weather Statement “auto-Tweet”**
- **Familiar format**
- **September 22**
- **Thoughts/issues?**

**COMING SOON!**

**NWS Topeka** @NWSTopeka

A special weather statement has been issued for Courtland KS, Republic KS until 1:15 AM CDT

### Special Weather Statement

Valid Until  
1:15 AM CDT Monday  
August 23, 2021

**Threat Information**

- WIND**  
50 MPH
- HAIL**  
Nickel Sized Possible
- LIGHTNING**  
Frequent lightning possible

**Safety Information**

- Seek indoor shelter
- Do not drive through flooded roadways

Map showing affected areas: Courtland, Republic, Belleville, Munden, Scarville.

Logos: NOAA, NWS Topeka







# Non-Weather Emergency Messages

It's Been 20 Years in the Making

# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**

- **Approved authorities can tap into NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards for Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEM)**



- **Can trigger...**
  - NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards Alarm
  - Emergency Alert System
  - Wireless Emergency Alerts

ADR	Administrative Message
AVA	Avalanche Watch
AVW	Avalanche Warning
BLU	Blue Alert
CAE	Child Abduction Emergency
CDW	Civil Danger Warning
CEM	Civil Emergency Message
EQW	Earthquake Warning
EVI	Evacuation Immediate
FRW	Fire Warning
HMW	Hazardous Materials Warning
LAE	Local Area Emergency
LEW	Law Enforcement Warning
NUW	Nuclear Power Plant Warning
RHW	Radiological Hazard Warning
SPW	Shelter In Place Warning
TOE	Telephone Outage Emergency
VOW	Volcano Warning
DMO	Practice/Demo Warning

# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**

Source: [https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_aa-complete\\_06-2021.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_aa-complete_06-2021.pdf)

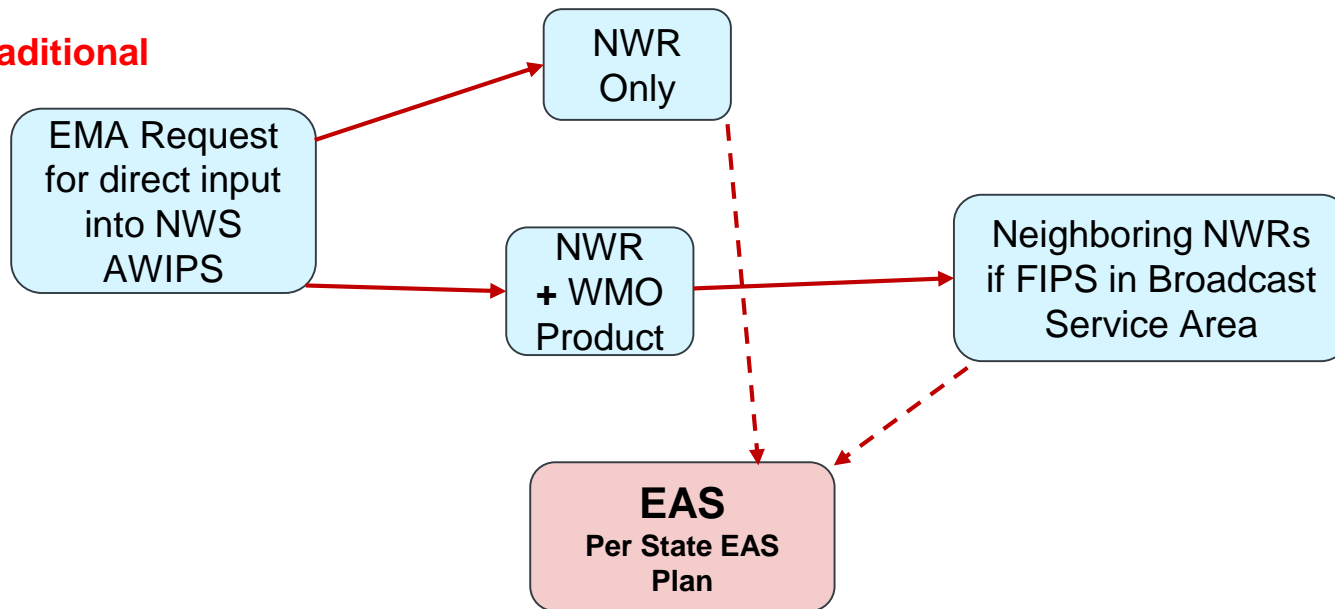
- **Kansas Approved Alerting Authorities (June 2021)**
- **Follow the State EAS Plan**
  - [https://www.kansastag.gov/AdvHTML\\_doc\\_upload/State%20Emergency%20Alert%20System%20Plan%202013.pdf](https://www.kansastag.gov/AdvHTML_doc_upload/State%20Emergency%20Alert%20System%20Plan%202013.pdf)
- **Configure you software properly**
- **Coordinate with local NWS office**
- **You can practice!**

200375	KS Anderson County
201569	KS Baldwin City
200395	KS City of Coffeyville
201924	KS Clark County
200848	KS Coffey County Emergency Management
201183	KS Cowley County Emergency Communications
201942	KS Elk County
201388	KS Ford County Communications
200294	KS Fort Riley
200975	KS Franklin County
200760	KS Graham County Sheriff's Office
201501	KS Greenwood County Emergency Management
202027	KS Harvey County
200919	KS Hutchinson-Reno County Emergency Communications Center
200078	KS Johnson County Kansas Division of Emergency Management
200548	KS Kansas Division of Emergency Management
201145	KS Kingman County Sheriff's Office
201945	KS Labette County Emergency Management
201120	KS Lyon County Emergency Communications Center
201865	KS Neosho County
200353	KS Pottawatomie County Emergency Management
202038	KS Rice County Emergency Management
200840	KS Riley County Emergency Management
200029	KS Sedgwick County Emergency Management
201318	KS Shawnee County Emergency Management
202045	KS Wilson County
200075	KS Wyandotte County Emergency Management Agency



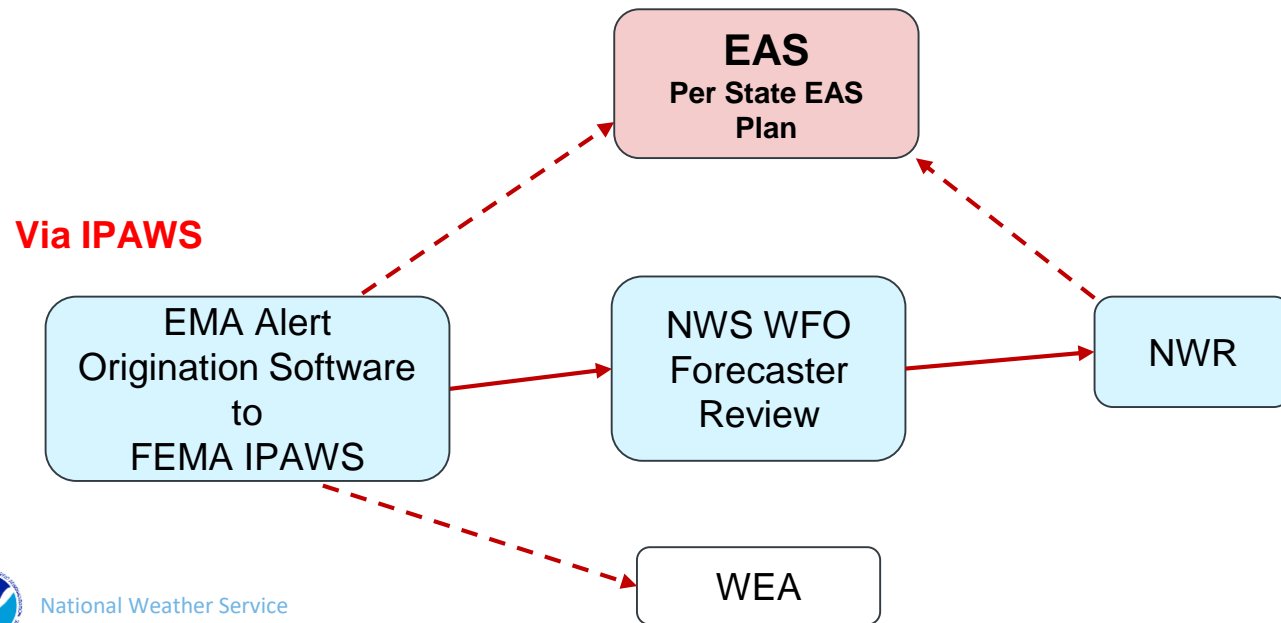
# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**

**Traditional**



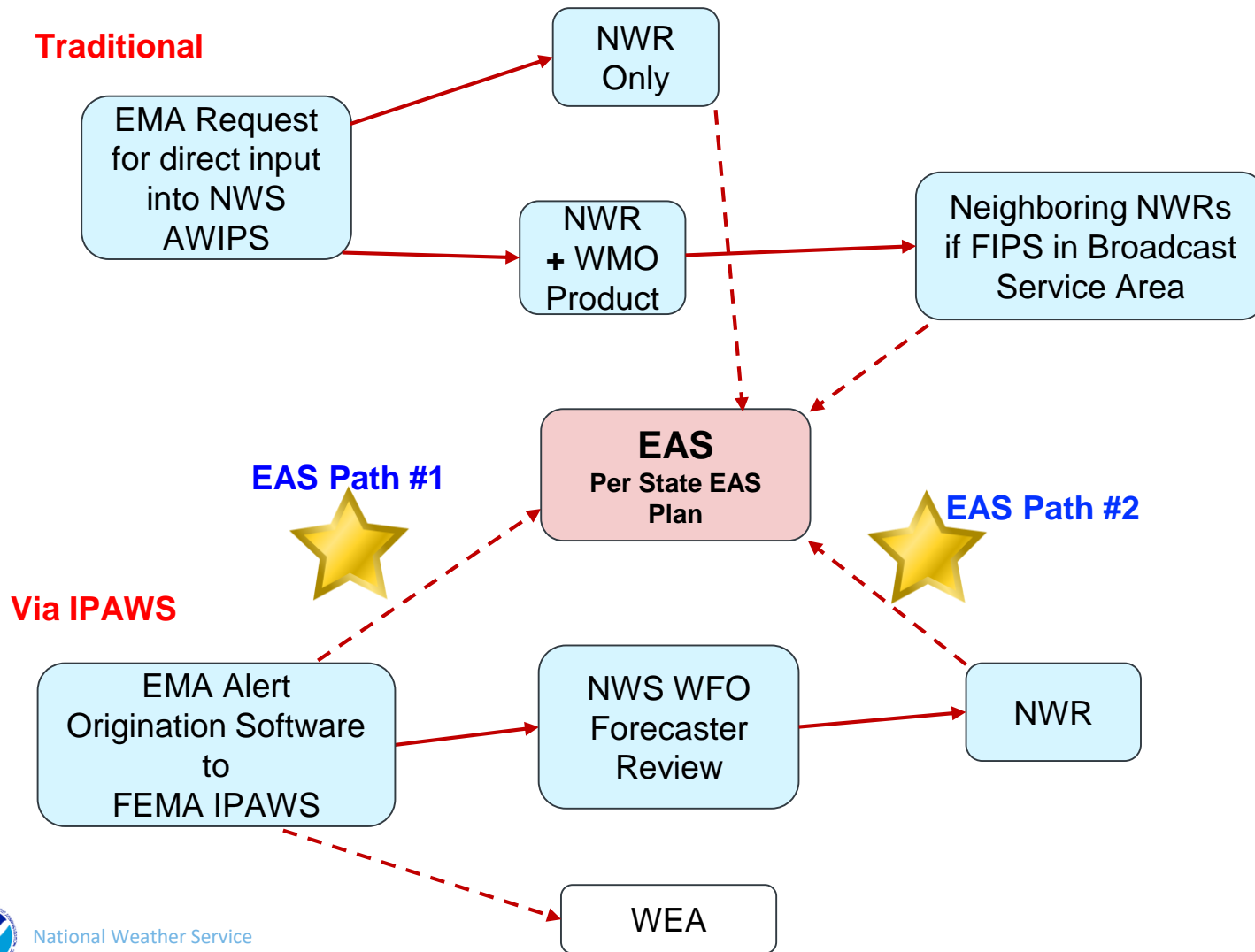
- **It is possible to trigger EAS twice!**
  - Be aware. Don't let this happen.

# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**



- **It is possible to trigger EAS twice!**
  - Be aware. Don't let this happen.

# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**



- It is possible to trigger **EAS twice!**
  - Be aware. Don't let this happen.

# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**

NEC001-110552-

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED  
CIVIL DANGER WARNING  
NE ADAMS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
RELAYED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HASTINGS NE  
1152 PM CDT TUE AUG 10 2021

...ACTIVE SHOOTER IN PROGRESS...

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS TRANSMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF ADAMS  
COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

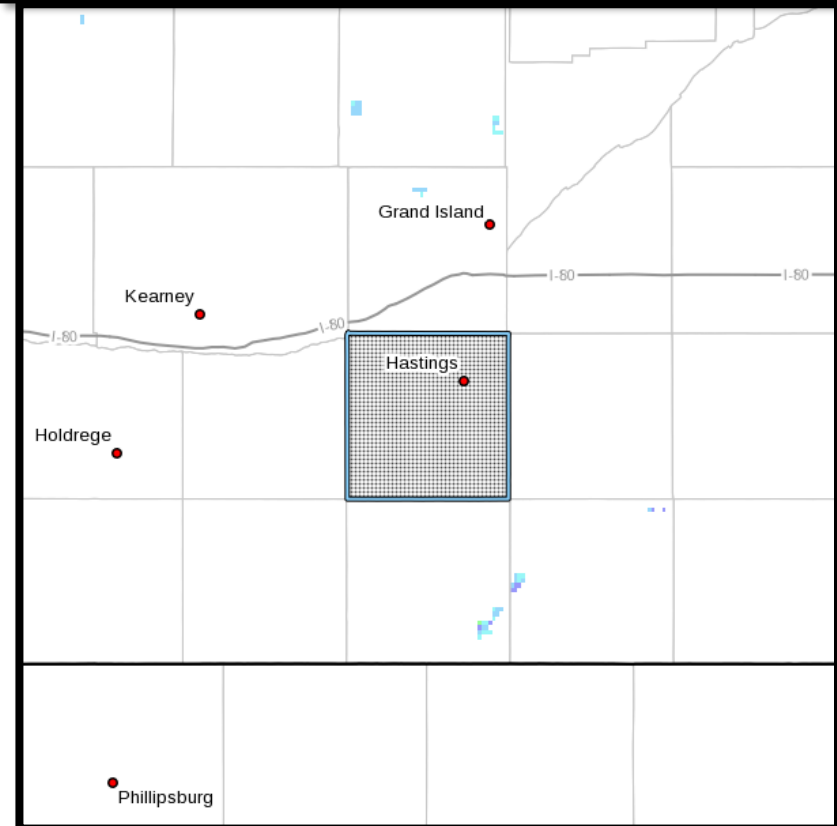
THERE IS AN ACTIVE SHOOTER CURRENTLY IN JUNIATA NE AROUND THE N.  
BRASS AREA. SHELTER IN PLACE IMMEDIATELY

SHELTER IN PLACE IMMEDIATELY AND LOCK ALL WINDOWS AND DOORS.  
THIS  
IS FOR THE JUNIATA AREA AND 2 MILES EAST OF JUNIATA NEBRASKA

## Civil Danger Warning

**CDW for Adams County, NE**

*Sent via email and SMS at 1153 pm CDT, Aug 10th 2021*



# Non-Weather Emergency Messages on Weather Radio - **New**



NEC001-110929-

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED  
CIVIL EMERGENCY MESSAGE  
NE ADAMS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
RELAYED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HASTINGS NE  
329 AM CDT WED AUG 11 2021

...SHELTER IN PLACE LIFTED. NO THREAT REMAINS IN THE AREA...

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS TRANSMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF ADAMS  
COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

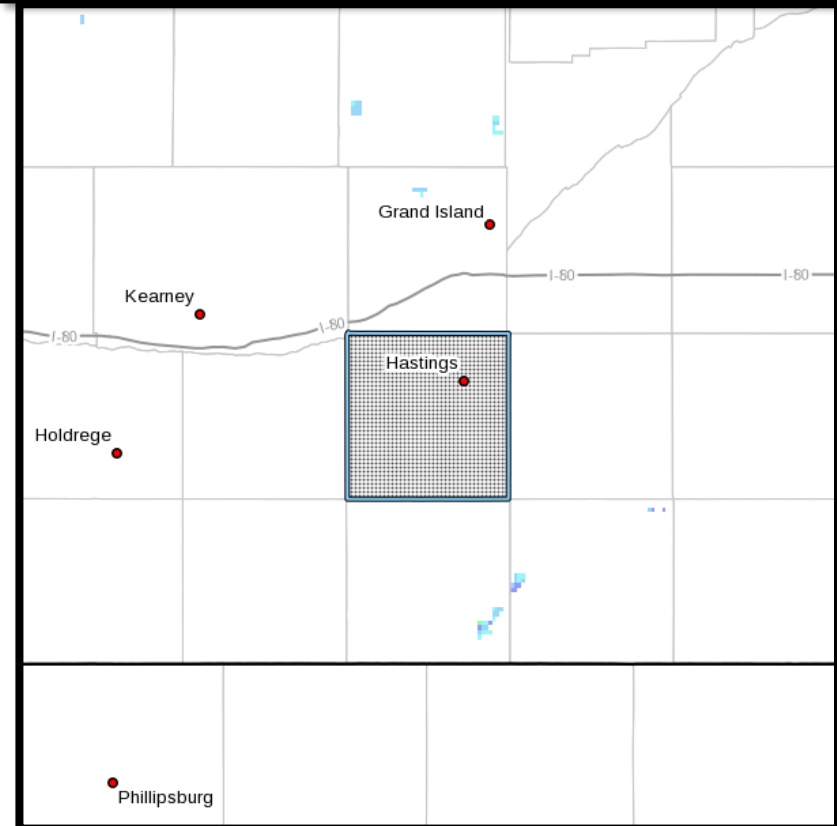
THE ACTIVE SHOOTER SCENE HAS BEEN CLEARED AND NO THREAT TO THE  
PUBLIC REMAINS. PLEASE STAY AWAY FROM THE AREA AS THE  
INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

THERE IS NO LONGER A THREAT TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE SHELTER IN  
PLACE HAS BEEN LIFTED. PLEASE CONTINUE TO STAY AWAY FROM THE  
AREA  
AS THE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

## Civil Danger Warning

**CDW for Adams County, NE**

*Sent via email and SMS at 1153 pm CDT, Aug 10th 2021*







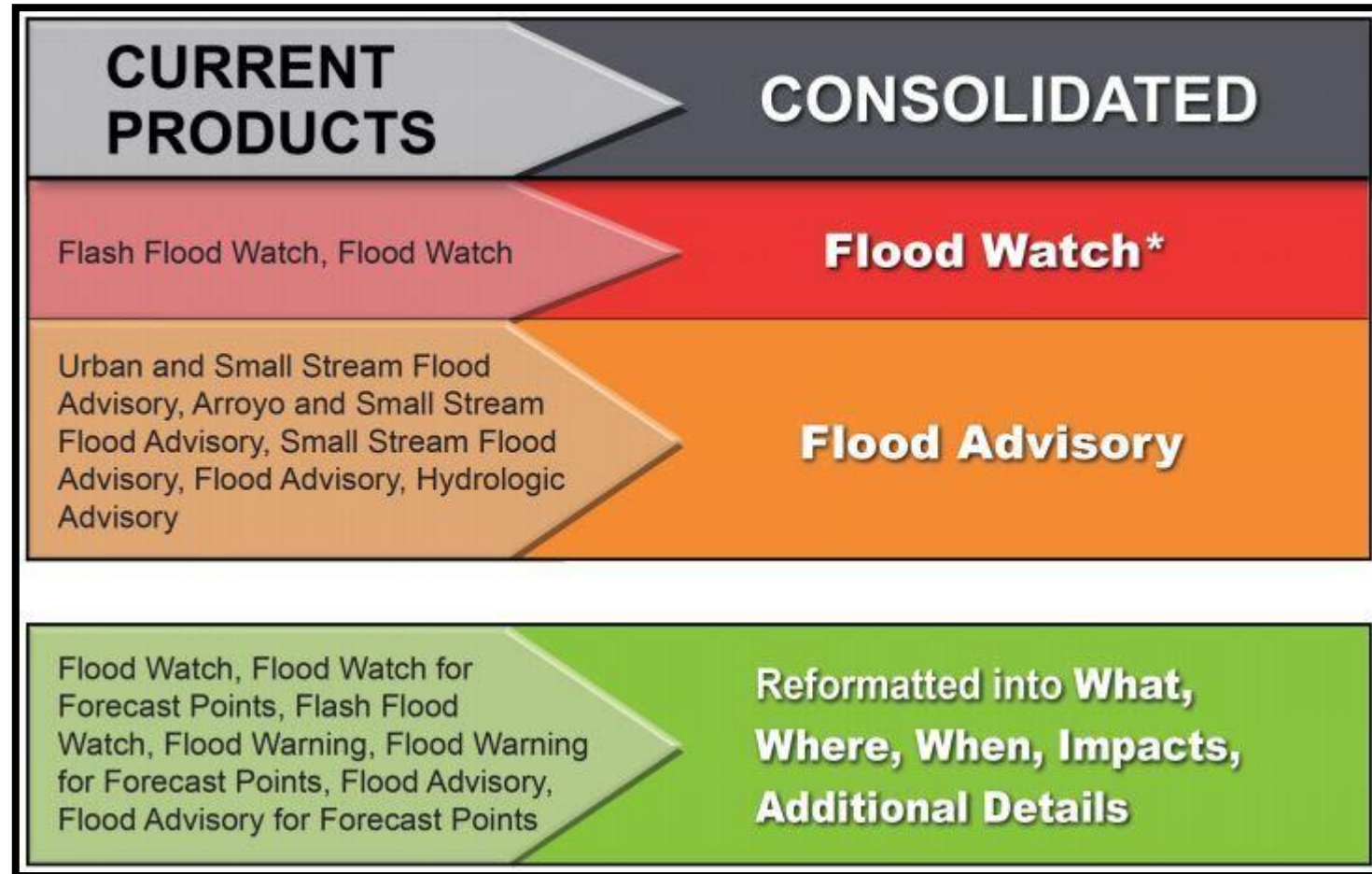
# Simplification Update

NWS is Finally Making the Move

# Flood Product Simplification- **New**

## WORK IN PROGRESS

- Just one “watch”
- Just one “advisory”
- Reformat to “What”, “Where”, “When”, and “Impacts”



# More Changes in 2024 – Reminder

**WORK IN PROGRESS**

## Visualizing the Major Change

What Will Remain  
the Same?

**WATCH**

*What should I do? - Prepare!*



**WARNING**

*What should I do? - Take action!*



What Will Change?

ADVISORY  
&  
SPECIAL WEATHER  
STATEMENT

*Become*



**PLAIN LANGUAGE HEADLINES**

An event less serious than a Warning is *happening*

*What should I do? - Exercise caution* to avoid impacts.



# More Changes in 2024 – Reminder

## Examples using Special Weather Statement and Plain Language Wording

"Wind Advisory in effect"

could become...

"WINDY: Westerly winds today gusting to 40 mph"

"Coastal Flood Advisory in effect"

could become...

"CAUTION: Coastal flooding expected today"

"Wind Chill Advisory in effect"

could become...

"VERY COLD TONIGHT: Wind chills between -5F and -10F"

## National Weather Service Simplifying the Hazard Messaging Headline System

**WORK IN PROGRESS**

**NOW**  
NWS decision made  
to remove use of  
Advisory & Special  
Weather Statements

2021

Update NWS policy, software  
and display systems

Test the new hazard  
messaging headline system

Hold feedback webinars  
(partners, public, and workforce) to  
determine new plain language headlines

Public education, partner  
outreach, and forecaster training

2024

New hazard messaging  
headline system **Goes Live!**

weather.gov/hazsimp





# NWSChat Update

We Know it's an Issue...but NWS is Working on it.

# NWSChat Changes – **New/Ongoing**

- **BOTTOM LINE: Attempt to make platform more stable until it is replaced**
  - Mostly changes to background/operating structure
  - Some MINOR changes to operational interface (NWSChat Live)

- **Expected late November 2021**



- **NWS is testing “Slack”** (maybe 2023)
  - Stay tuned



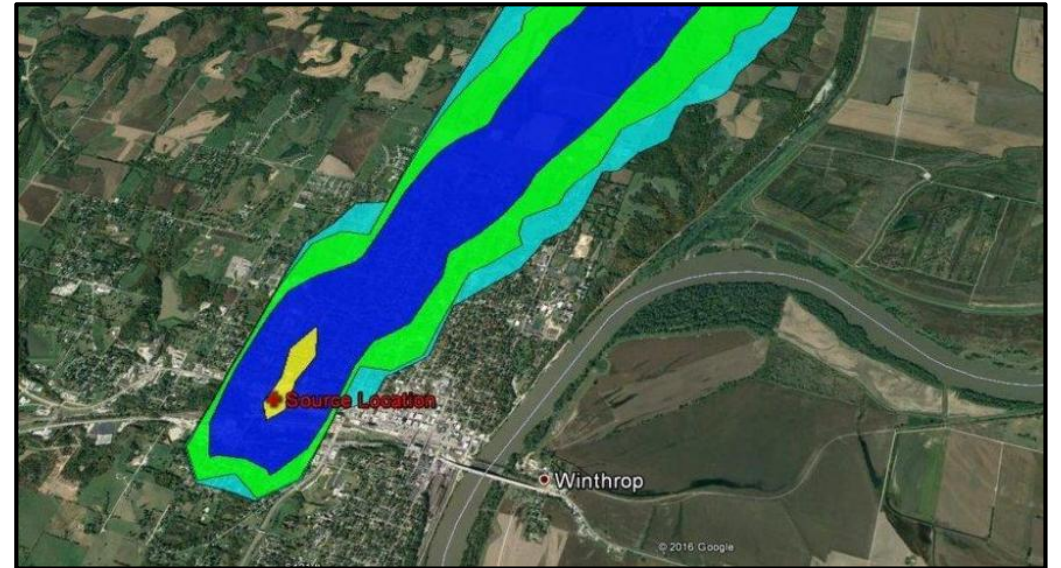


# Forecasting the Plume

More Interagency Collaboration is the Forecast

# Plume Model – Ongoing

- **NWS moving to leverage partners**
  - NWS plumes can be used for general/quick aerosols (smoke) for planning
- **Need more specifics?**
  - Get KDEM/CAMEO model for expertise
- **NWS and IMAAC**
  - Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center



Atchison, KS - October 21, 2016







# Weather Support for Events

We Think There are More Events Out There

# Event Support – Ongoing

- **Submit your Fall/Winter Events for Weather Support**



# Event Support – Ongoing

## • Event Support Confirmation Email

### • NWS Forecast Page



Weather Support Requested For  
**Aksarben Stock Show**

**Fonner Park**  
at 700 E Stolley Park Rd, Grand Island, NE  
40.9059304282825 -98.3282345974993

Mon Sep 20 2021 06:00:00 GMT-0500 (Central Daylight Time)  
until  
Mon Sep 27 2021 20:00:00 GMT-0500 (Central Daylight Time)

### IDSS Forecast Point Weather Information

[NWS Forecast Page For Your Event](#)

This resource should be referred to for forecast outlook information.

### NWS Weather Support Contact Information

For immediate weather concerns or questions,  
contact the NWS Hastings, NE at 800-528-2914

Prior to your event, please contact the NWS at any time via the phone number above or the contact emails below to discuss event details and the weather information that will be most valuable for public safety including sheltering options and time-to-shelter requirements.

The primary and backup contacts for non-time-sensitive support and pre-event planning are Michael Moritz - [michael.moritz@noaa.gov](mailto:michael.moritz@noaa.gov) , Jeremy Wesely - [jeremy.wesely@noaa.gov](mailto:jeremy.wesely@noaa.gov)  
Use this link to access the [NWS Hastings, NE webpage](#)  
Another useful link is to the local [Weather Story Graphics](#)

### Event IDSS Request Form Submission Details

Event Name: Request: Aksarben Stock Show  
Location: 700 E Stolley Park Rd, Grand Island, NE  
Venue Name: Fonner Park  
Primary Contact Info: Jon Rosenlund: [jonr@grand-island.com](mailto:jonr@grand-island.com)  
Secondary Contact Info: Bill Ogg: [bogg@statefair.org](mailto:bogg@statefair.org)  
Briefing Contact Time: 0600 each day of the event  
Start Date/Time (UTC): 2021-09-20 11:00 UTC  
End Date/Time (UTC): 2021-09-28 01:00 UTC  
Hours of Operation (if different than start/end): 0800-2000 Central  
Estimated Attendance: 2,500 - 5,000  
Assigned Lat/Long: 40.9059304282825, -98.3282345974993  
Detailed Notes and Requests: Similar information as the State Fair: Severe weather potential, temp, wind, precip (potential and type)



# Event Support – Ongoing

- **NWS Forecast Page**

- Always updated – Can be Bookmarked – Shared – Various Formats

**Hourly Table**

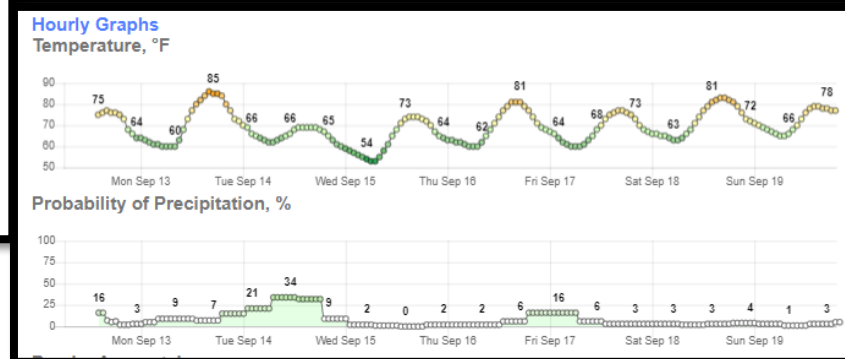
Day of week:	Sunday 9/12											Monday 9/13					
Time:	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM
Weather:																	
Temperature (°F):	74	75	76	77	76	76	75	73	68	66	64	64	63	62	61	61	60
Heat Index, °F:	74	75	76	77	76	76	75	73	68	66	64	64	63	62	61	61	60
Wind Speed (mph):	10	10	12	12	10	9	8	8	8	7	6	6	6	6	5	5	3
Wind Gust (mph):	15	15	16	16	15	13	13	12	13	10	10	10	10	9	7	7	6
Wind Direction (°):	40	40	50	60	60	60	60	50	50	50	40	40	40	40	40	30	30
Wind Direction:																	
Prob. of Precip. (%):	16	16	16	7	5	6	2	2	2	3	3	3	5	5	5	9	9
Prob. of Thunder (%):	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Precip. Amount (in.):				0.00						0.00					0.00		
Snow (in.):				0.0						0.0					0.0		
Ice (in.):				0.00						0.00					0.00		
Dew Point (°F):	62	63	63	64	64	64	64	63	63	63	62	61	60	60	60	59	59
RH (%):	66	66	64	64	66	66	69	71	84	90	93	90	90	93	97	93	96
Sky Cover (%):	44	45	45	46	52	58	64	59	39	34	43	38	46	51	60	69	72

**Weekly Summary**

	Sun Sep 12	Mon Sep 13	Tue Sep 14	Wed Sep 15	Thu Sep 16	Fri Sep 17	Sat Sep 18
Max Temp, °F	78	86	72	76	83	79	85
Max Heat Index, °F	77	88	69	74	83	77	85
Min Temp, °F	60	60	60	53	60	59	63
Max Wind, mph	12	6	10	10	14	10	15
Min Wind, mph	6	2	3	2	7	6	10
Max Wind Gust, mph	16	10	16	15	22	18	20
Max Cloud Cover, %	64	72	84	36	15	38	16
Min Cloud Cover, %	34	24	31	0	5	12	3
Max Prob. of Precip., %	16	15	34	2	16	16	4
Max RH, %	93	97	97	100	96	87	90
Min RH, %	64	50	78	57	60	60	55
Max Dew Point, °F	64	69	63	60	66	65	67
Min Dew Point, °F	62	58	59	53	58	56	60

**Outlooks**

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Severe Thunderstorm	Non-Severe	Non-Severe	Non-Severe
Excessive Rainfall	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms
	Not Expected	Not Expected	Not Expected



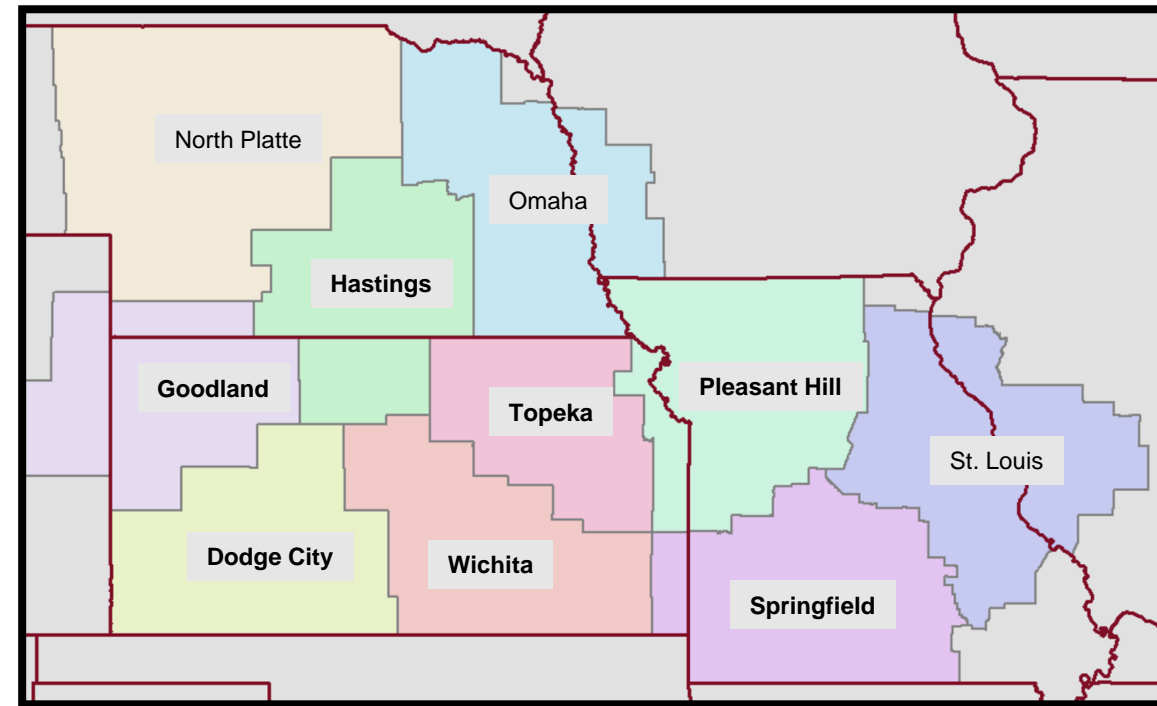


# Trying to Communicate More Often

It's Hard for Introverted Meteorologists to Get Out Information  
Sometimes

# Watch-Warning Information Gap


- **Filling the void of Information before, during and after warnings**
  - Summer 2021 Test
- **More NWSChat posts**
- **More social media posts**
- **Livestream and Open Webinars**
- **Meteorological Discussions**



**Did you notice any difference?**

# Watch-Warning Information Gap

## Example: Social Media Post from NWS Goodland



### Storms Pushing Towards East Colorado

July 4, 2021  
7:55 PM MT

Eastern areas should be in the clear

#### What, Where, When


Storms that moved across the eastern half of the region this afternoon and evening have pushed west.

#### Lightning & Threats

Lightning remains a threat for locations along and west of the Colorado border. Gusty winds and large hail cannot be ruled out at this time.

#### Actions

If you hear thunder or see lightning, take shelter in a building or a hard topped vehicle.



**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
U.S. Department of Commerce

**National Weather Service**  
Goodland, Kansas



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## Example: NWSChat Posts from NWS Wichita (5/8/21)

20:25 <nwsbot> Storm Prediction Center issues Mesoscale Discussion #561[watch probability: 80%]

Link: <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/md/2021/md0561.html>

20:54 <nwsICT-roger.martin> Good afternoon everyone. After coordinating with SPC, a Severe Thunderstorm Watch will be issued shortly for a small part of north-central KS to catch the initial storms that are expected to develop within the next couple of hours. The watch is a smaller, and shorter (time-wise), one as the expectation is that another watch will be needed later to catch the late evening/nighttime timeframe.

22:51 <nwsICT-roger.martin> Right now, the environment favors higher-based cells with a limited tornado threat as they near/enter Russell/Barton Counties. The tornado threat may slightly increase in the 7-9pm timeframe along the I-70 corridor east of Russell/Great Bend. Still, the greatest hazards are expected to be large hail (possibly 2", or greater) and wind gusts to 70 mph.

23:56 <nwsICT-roger.martin> [Radar Update] - We're closely watching storms in Ellis and Osborne Counties as they converge on Russell County...

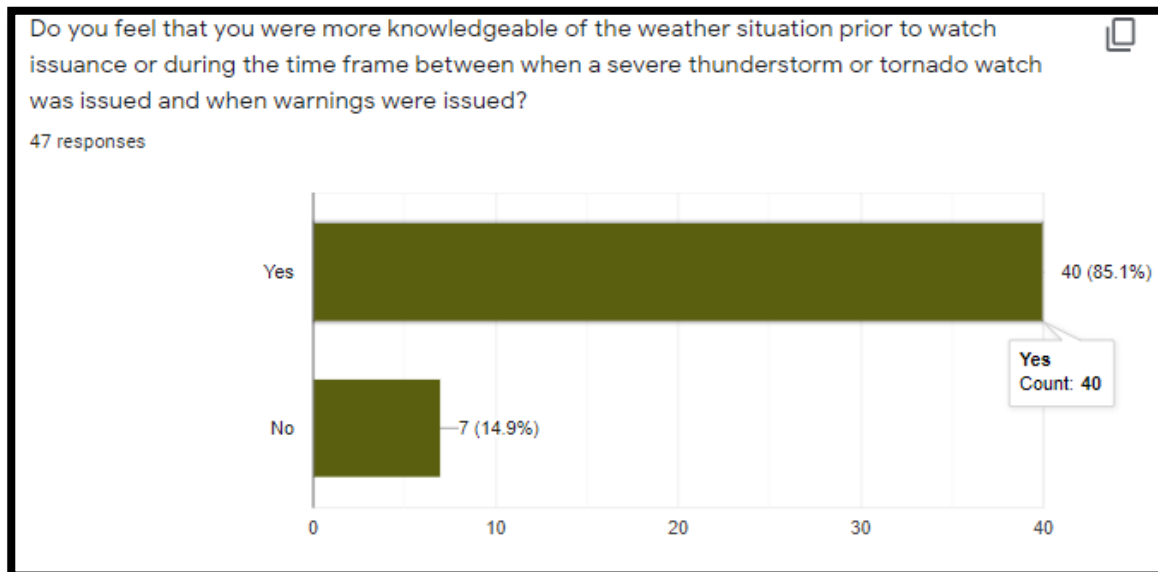




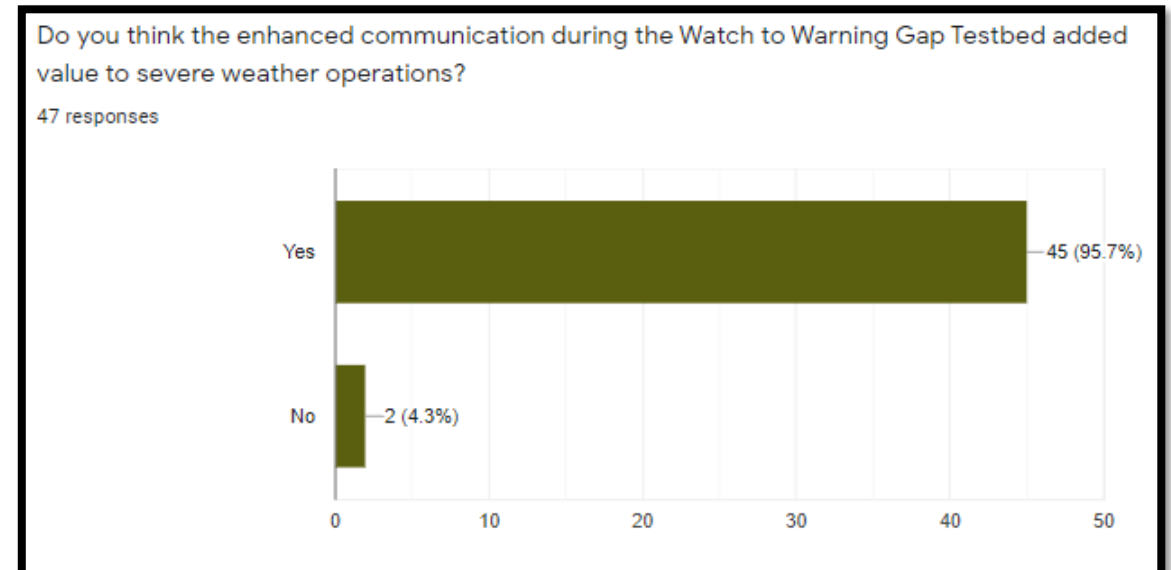
# Watch-Warning Information Gap

- ***“Tell them what you know when you know it” – Chance Hayes***

**85% of survey respondents were more knowledgeable in the Watch-Warning Gap timeframe**



**96% of survey respondents said the information added value to severe weather operations**



# COVID Practices – Ongoing

- **Bottom Line: NWS is 100% committed to meeting your needs (and our mission)**
- **NOAA/NWS currently working through new policy**
- **Talk with your WCM/Local NWS office**
  - Each office has some flexibility but also social, staffing and individual concerns to consider

Biden is requiring the vast majority of federal workers to get vaccinated or face disciplinary measures.



# Questions or Comments?

## NOAA National Weather Service Forecast Offices Warning Coordination Meteorologists

Andy Bailey – Pleasant Hill, MO  
Chance Hayes – Wichita, KS  
Ryan Husted – Goodland, KS  
Jeff Hutton – Dodge City, KS  
Mike Moritz – Hastings, NE  
Chad Omitt - Topeka, KS  
Steve Runnels – Springfield, MO

September 16, 2021  
KEMA Conference  
Invited Speakers

