

NOUS41 KWBC 251930 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, Users and 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 (WFOs):  
Effective December 16, 2020

Updated to correct World Meteorological Organization (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 (CONUS), 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(s)
---	-----	-----
Billings, MT	WWUS85 KBYZ	SABBYZ
Boise, ID	WWUS85 KBOI	SABBOI
Boulder, CO	WWUS85 KBOU	SABCO
Las Vegas, NV	WWUS85 KVEF	SABVEF, SABLAS
Missoula, MT	WWUS85 KMSO	SABFCA, SABGPI, SABMSO
Pocatello, ID	WWUS85 KPIH	SABPIH

Portland, OR	WWUS86 KPQR	SABPQR
Reno, NV	WWUS85 KREV	SABREV
Riverton, WY	WWSU85 KRIW	SABRIW
Salt Lake City, UT	WWUS85 KSLC	SABS LC
Seattle, WA	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
---	-----	-----
Portland/Gray, ME	WWUS86 KGYX	SABGYX
Albuquerque, NM	WWUS85 KABQ	SABABQ
Grand Junction, CO	WWUS85 KGJT	SABGJT
Medford, OR	WWUS86 KMFR	SABMFR
Pendleton, OR	WWUS86 KPDT	SABPDT
Spokane, WA	WWUS86 KOTX	SABOTX
Great Falls, MT	WWUS83 KTFX	SABTFX
Anchorage, AK	WWAK88 PAFC	SABAFC
Juneau, AK	WWAK87 PAJK	SABAJK

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

Michael Muccilli  
 Winter Weather Program Coordinator  
 NWS Headquarters  
 Silver Spring, MD  
[michael.muccilli@noaa.gov](mailto:michael.muccilli@noaa.gov)

Claudia Bell  
 Meteorology Program Manager  
 NWS Western Region Headquarters  
 Salt Lake City, UT  
[claudia.bell@noaa.gov](mailto:claudia.bell@noaa.gov)

David Kochevar  
 Aviation, Winter and Space Weather Program Manager  
 Environmental and Scientific Services Division (ESSD)  
 NWS Alaska Region Headquarters  
 Anchorage, AK  
[david.kochevar@noaa.gov](mailto:david.kochevar@noaa.gov)

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

NNNN