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Public Information Statement 23-14
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Douglas C. Young, Chief
 Digital and Graphical Information Support Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on Prototype NWSChat 2.0 Application through
April 3, 2023

The National Weather Service is soliciting comments through April 3, 2023 on the prototype NWSChat 2.0 instant messaging system. NWS is planning to replace the NWSChat application with a new version titled, NWSChat 2.0 on or about August 1, 2023. The prototype NWSChat 2.0 will test access and usage with NWS users and partners in the NWS Pacific Region, starting on March 2, 2023.

More information on the timeline and resources for NWSChat 2.0 may be found at www.noaa.gov/NWSChat.

NWSChat 2.0 will operate using the same or similar policy to the current NWSChat. NWSChat 2.0 will continue to provide NWS Core Partners and offices the ability to rapidly respond to evolving weather, water, climate events and other significant events where NWS support is needed by our Core Partners. NWSChat is a primary vehicle for the delivery of Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS). For more information about NWS IDSS and the description of NWS Core Partners who may have access to NWSChat2.0, visit:

<https://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01024curr.pdf>

The major areas of changed functionality include:

- Migration to the Slack platform - <https://slack.com/>; Access to NWSChat is free of any charge
- Ability for account holders to communicate information via multimedia on environmental conditions (e.g., upload photo)
- Elimination of NWSChat specific map displays of weather information
- Cross-device compatibility (Desktop, Mobile, Web)for NWSChat 2.0 access.

For additional information, please see the Service Description Document (SDD) for NWSChat 2.0 at:

[https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/SDD NWS Chat 2.0 2023.pdf](https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/SDD_NWS_Chat_2.0_2023.pdf)

The NWS will evaluate all comments from Pacific Region account holders and other NWS stakeholders during this comment and review period and will decide what further changes are needed, if any, in preparation for a nationwide operational deployment later this year. All stakeholders will be provided the opportunity to test usage during an extended experimental comment and review period. If there are any further changes to NWSChat 2.0 prior to the planned transition date, they will be part of future notifications. Current NWSChat account holders will be notified directly prior to the transition, with instructions on migrating to the new NWSChat 2.0 environment.

For questions or comments regarding the information in this notice, please contact:

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

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