

NOAA National Weather Service Hazard Simplification (Haz Simp) Program

Program Background

The National Weather Service (NWS) Watch, Warning, and Advisory (WWA) system has been in place for decades; it serves a critical need for the public and our partners for the dissemination of meteorological information.

Results from a series of informal data collection efforts conducted since 2011 indicates that it is time for NWS to conduct a thorough analysis of the WWA system. The NWS is calling this effort the Hazards Simplification Project (Haz Simp). Haz Simp is a component of the National Severe Storms Lab project entitled "Facilitating a Continuum of Environmental Threats" (FACETS).

Program Scope

The Haz Simp project is a building block towards the future of meteorological forecasting. The Haz Simp team is not proposing any changes to the operational system at this time. All opportunities are carefully being considered through social science and feedback from users in the field.

There are currently three envisioned solutions the NWS may consider:

- Keep the current WWA system,
- Make small to moderate changes, or
- Make a transformational change.

The final decision will be based on the data and feedback we collect from employees, core partners and the public. Existing functions may be realigned or eliminated based on feedback from NOAA stakeholder groups such as: Emergency Managers, Academia and, Broadcast Meteorologists.

The NWS is currently looking at the Marine products. There is a public survey available at the following web address (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRZFG2X>) until October 12th that asks questions about some proposed changes. If you have not already done so, please take this survey. The input will help drive which products may be affected.

