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NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

<u>NWS Connect: A Growing Toolset for Partner Support, Community
Engagement and Service Equity</u>

National Weather Service (NWS) Ken's 10 Team initiatives have been
chartered to transform the agency with a new operating model focused on
probabilistic-based Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS). This
will require a mobile workforce that is agile and nimble with the ability to
engage eye to eye with our partners. A key to meeting that goal is
providing the tools that live in the cloud to support remote work
environments and seamless mutual aid support. These tools must also
increase our capacity to understand, interpret, and communicate risk-based
probabilistic information. NWS Connect will be the suite of tools to meet the
demands of probabilistic IDSS management and delivery, in addition to
supporting critical community engagement with a focus on socially
vulnerable communities. The Initial Operating Capability (IOC) of NWS
Connect is being rolled out internally to NWS during 2024. IOC is centered
around a common database that allows NWS offices to manage partner
information and the delivery of IDSS. Meanwhile, the IDSS Engine, a
system being developed in parallel to NWS Connect, will allow for
visualization and alerting of a range of possible weather related outcomes
via foundational probabilistic datasets. The IDSS Engine is linked directly

with NWS Connect to allow for seamless interrogation of partner thresholds for a variety of water and weather hazards. An update on IOC, IDSS Engine, and on NWS Connect's integration with NWSChat 2.0 will be presented.

Presentation Theme: The theme of this poster is to provide an update on NWS Connect, a toolset the National Weather Service (NWS) is rolling out to enable modern and consistent support to the Emergency Management community and other NWS partners. The NWS Connect system is being built in an iterative, agile fashion. Direct feedback from partners at IAEM would thus be considered for future iterations in our development process.

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