

# HAZARD SIMPLIFICATION



## How are NWS Heat Products Changing?



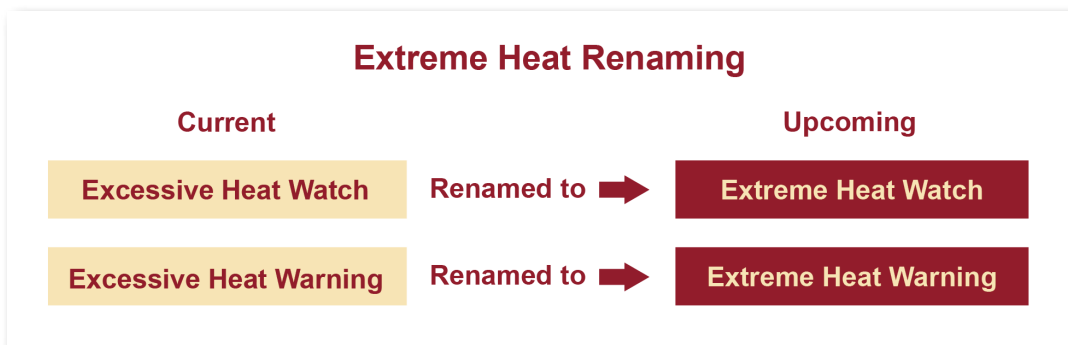
The National Weather Service (NWS) is renaming its heat watch and warning products to improve messaging of these hazards and provide better decision-making services.



### What is new?

The Excessive Heat Watch and Warning will be renamed to the Extreme Heat Watch and Warning. No changes will be made to Heat Advisory.

### Nationwide Implementation in March 2025



## What Do You Need To Know?

- As part of the ongoing NWS Hazard Simplification Project, the NWS is acting upon data collected during public and partner engagements, surveys, and social science research, leading to the renaming of Heat Watch and Warning products.
- The name change seeks to improve communication and messaging of hazardous heat and better convey that heat is dangerous.
- The name change will align our terminology with the Extreme Cold Watch and Warning products and what other agencies, media, academia, and organizations are using.

## What would this look like?

*Changes highlighted in yellow*

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE  
National Weather Service Sioux Falls SD  
158 PM CDT Mon Jun 24 2025

IAZ020>022-031-032-NEZ013-014-SDZ069>071-250100-  
/O.NEW.KFSD.XH.W.0001.250624T1858Z-250625T0100Z/  
Plymouth-Cherokee-Buena Vista-Woodbury-Ida-Dixon  
Dakota-Yankton-  
Including the cities of Ponca, Wakefield, Sioux City, Le  
Mars, Storm Lake, Allen, North Sioux City, Cherokee, South  
Sioux City, Jefferson, Vermillion, Beresford, and Yankton  
158 PM CDT Mon Jun 24 2025

...EXTREME HEAT WARNING IN EFFECT UNTIL 8 PM CDT  
THIS EVENING...

\* WHAT...Dangerously hot conditions with heat index values  
up to 111.

\* WHERE...In Iowa, Buena Vista, Cherokee, Plymouth, Ida,  
and Woodbury Counties. In Nebraska, Dakota and Dixon  
Counties. In South Dakota, Clay, Union, and Yankton  
Counties.

\* WHEN...Until 8 PM CDT this evening.