A Summary of the NWSChat on Slack Demonstration

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The NWSChat system allows direct, real time communication between NWS offices and their partners. Surveys have indicated it is one of the most important tools we have for providing Decision Support Services to our partners. Beginning in 2019, the NWS Office of Dissemination took action to improve and replace the aging system, which grew far faster and more widely than ever anticipated, resulting in technical failures. Stage one and two of this effort has stabilized the existing system. Stage three concerns finding a viable, long-term replacement to NWSChat. As part of the third stage, a demonstration was conducted in October of 2021 with a number of NWS offices in the Southern Region using a customized Slack instance to communicate with their partners. This talk will discuss this demonstration, how Slack was customized, and the results of the demonstration.