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Service Change Notice 21-97  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1030 AM EDT Wed Nov 24 2021

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              Other NWS partners and NWS employees

From:         Marina Timofeyeva  
              Chief, NWS Climate Services Branch

Subject:      Depiction of the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Week 3-4  
              Temperature and Precipitation Outlook Maps will Change on or  
              About January 7, 2022

On or about January 7, 2022, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) will change the depiction of temperature and precipitation outlook maps for the Week 3-4 forecasts.

The display changes are recommendations from a social science study between CPC and the University of Maryland Cooperative Institute for Satellite Earth System Studies (CISESS) where one component of the project was to use survey and focus group results to reduce understandability challenges and improve clarity and visualization of the outlook maps.

The changes include (1) removing unnecessary areas where no forecast information was provided, (2) changing legend and other annotations to improve clarity and (3) providing a substantial upgrade in image quality utilizing ArcGIS shapefile output already available as part of the current forecast process.

The URLs for the current product page and a page with examples of the new depiction are listed below, respectively:

<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/WK34/>  
<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/new-cpc-images-review>

The changes only impact CPC Week 3-4 Temperature/Precipitation stand-alone outlook images.

For any questions regarding these changes please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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