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Public Information Statement 22-42 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1200 PM EDT Thu Apr 4 2024

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From: Dr. Thomas Graziano
 Director, Office of Water Prediction

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments on Changing the Issuance Cycle of the Experimental Flood Hazard Outlook (FHO) Product through June 30, 2024

Updated to change the issuance cycle of the Experimental Flood Hazard Outlook (FHO) Product from once to twice daily.

The NWS is soliciting comments and feedback on the Experimental Flood Hazard Outlook (FHO) through June 30, 2024. The FHO is intended to provide a coordinated inland hydrologic flood graphic for use in regional and national Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS) briefings and support broad messaging of flood threat to NWS stakeholders and Federal water partners. These partners include the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The intent of this product is to replace the current Significant River Flood Outlook product when the FHO becomes operational.

This experimental product combines a depiction of current flood conditions based on the latest river level observations with an assessment of flood risk leveraging various sources of NWS water resources forecast information. These sources of information include National Water Model guidance, official River Forecast Center (RFC) deterministic and probabilistic forecasts, and Weather Prediction Center (WPC) excessive rainfall outlooks.

This experimental product is issued daily, typically around 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), and will be increased to twice daily on or about May 7, 2024. The added morning issuance will occur typically around 1200 UTC during Daylight Saving Time / 1300 UTC during Standard Time. With the change to routine twice-daily issuance, there will no longer be a separate 1130 UTC issuance during tropical events.

The graphical depiction of the flood threat with key messages is made available as an interactive GIS service and a static graphic linked below the interactive map on the National Water Prediction Service (NWPS):

<https://water.noaa.gov>

More information about the Experimental FHO can be found in the Product Description Document linked below:

https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/PDDs/PDD_Flood_Hazard_Outlook_Product_ExpExt.pdf

Note that the link to the Product Description Document above has been changed with this update to add the additional morning issuance time.

No other changes have been made to the FHO from the version provided during the previous comment period.

Please provide feedback on the Experimental FHO as a replacement for the current Significant River Flood Outlook, at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExtExp_FHO_2023_24

If you have additional questions or comments, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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