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Public Information Statement  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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From: Fiona Horsfall  
Chief, Climate Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting comments on Experimental Week 3-4  
Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks through  
September 18, 2016

Effective September 18, 2015, and continuing through September 18, 2016, the NWS is seeking user feedback on weekly experimental Week 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlooks.

The Climate Prediction Center issues temperature and precipitation outlooks for the Week 2 and 1-month outlook periods. At the current time, no products exist for the intermediate time scale (i.e., Weeks 3-4) between these two forecast time horizons. This change would close this gap in the NWS suite of outlooks. The objective of the product is to highlight regions where above or below average 2-week mean temperature and total precipitation are favored, as well as provide advance notice of potential temperature and precipitation pattern changes to further assist decision makers in weather and climate sensitive activities in their decisions.

The audience for this experimental product includes

- NWS local and regional field structure
- Local, state, regional and national government entities (emergency management and planning)
- Private sector (energy, water resource management, financial, etc. industries)
- Public and other users

The experimental Week 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlook maps consist of two categories (above- or below-average). The shading depicts the favored category, either above-average (A) or below-average (B) for 2-week mean temperature or 2-week total accumulated precipitation with the solid contour lines giving the probability (>50 percent) of this more likely category (above or below). In areas where the likelihoods of 2-week mean temperature or 2-week total accumulated precipitation amounts are similar to

climatological probabilities and a category cannot be favored, equal chances (EC; 50 percent probability for each category) is indicated. In addition, NWS will provide a text prognostic map discussion explaining the rationale behind the forecast. The outlooks will be issued weekly on Friday's between 3 and 4 pm Eastern time.

Further information on the experimental Week 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlooks can be found in the Product Description Document located at:

[http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD\\_CPC\\_Week3-4\\_Outlooks.pdf](http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD_CPC_Week3-4_Outlooks.pdf)

The experimental Week 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlooks can be accessed at:

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/WK34/index.php>

Please provide feedback on the outlooks at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=EW34TPO>

For questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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