

NOUS41 KWBC 161557  
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-14  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
1100 AM EST FRI MAR 16 2001

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER  
WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL  
WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...NWS  
EMPLOYEES

FROM: ROBERT E. LIVEZEY  
CHIEF...CLIMATE SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: BASE PERIOD MEANS FOR CLIMATE OUTLOOKS TO BE UPDATED  
FROM 1961-1990 MEANS TO 1971-2000 MEANS...EFFECTIVE  
THURSDAY APRIL 12 2001

EFFECTIVE THURSDAY APRIL 12 2001...THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER  
/CPC/ WILL BEGIN USING THEIR 1971-2000 BASE PERIOD MEANS /BPM/  
FOR TEMPERATURE...PRECIPITATION...AND 500 MILLIBAR HEIGHTS AS  
REFERENCE IN THE CLIMATE OUTLOOKS LISTED BELOW. THE 1971-2000  
BPMS WILL REPLACE THE 1961-1990 BPMS. THE NEW 1971-2000 BPMS WILL  
BE AVAILABLE ON CPC/S WEB SITE AT <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>  
/USE LOWER CASE/ BY AROUND MARCH 23 2001.

THESE CPC BPMS ARE INTENDED FOR CPC/S CLIMATE OUTLOOKS ONLY. THE  
OFFICIAL 1971-2000 CLIMATOLOGICAL NORMALS...ISSUED BY THE  
NATIONAL CLIMATE DATA CENTER /NCDC/...WILL BE USED IN THE DAILY  
AND MONTHLY STATION CLIMATE REPORTS ISSUED BY NWS WEATHER  
FORECAST OFFICES /WFO/ STARTING JANUARY 1 2002. SEE QUESTIONS  
AND ANSWERS BELOW THE PRODUCT LISTS FOR MORE INFORMATION  
EXPLAINING CPC BPMS AND NCDC NORMALS. INFORMATIONAL NOTES ON  
HEATING AND COOLING DEGREE DAYS FOLLOW THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

...LISTS OF CPC OUTLOOKS USING BPMS AS REFERENCE...

LIST 1 OF 4: 6- TO 10-DAY AND 8- TO 14-DAY OUTLOOK PRODUCTS

OUTLOOK CHARTS/ISSUED DAILY

WMO HEADING AWIPS ID AROUND 400 PM EASTERN TIME/

PEIY47 KWBC	RBG96E	6- TO 10-DAY PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
PNNT51 KWBC	RBG96T	6- TO 10-DAY TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
PHBV50 KWBC	RBG96H	6- TO 10-DAY MEAN 500 MB HEIGHTS
PHNT50 KWNC	RBG96C	6- TO 10-DAY MEAN 500 MB HEIGHT ANOMALY
PETT00 KWNC	RBG98E	8- TO 14-DAY PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
PTTU98 KWNC	RBG98T	8- TO 14-DAY TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
PHTT50 KWNC	RBG98H	8- TO 14-DAY MEAN 500 MB HEIGHTS
PHTT51 KWNC	RBG98C	8- TO 14-DAY MEAN 500 MB HEIGHT ANOMALY

NOTE: THE TEXTUAL PROGNOSTIC DISCUSSION FOR THE 6- TO 10-DAY AND 8- TO 14-DAY OUTLOOKS IS ISSUED MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY CONCURRENTLY WITH THE OUTLOOK CHARTS UNDER WMO HEADING FXUS06 KWBC...PIL ID NMCPMDMRD...AND AWIPS ID PMDMRD.

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LIST 2 OF 4: MONTHLY /30-DAY/ OUTLOOK /EXCEPT HAWAII/...ISSUED ONCE A MONTH ON A THURSDAY AROUND MID MONTH ABOUT 300 PM EASTERN TIME.

#### MONTHLY OUTLOOK CHARTS

LEAD TIME	PRECIPITATION	TEMPERATURE
	WMO HEADING AWIPS ID	WMO HEADING AWIPS ID
0.5 MONTH	PEIV98 KWNC RBG9ME	PTIV98 KWNC RBG9MT

NOTE: A TEXTUAL PROGNOSTIC DISCUSSION FOR THE MONTHLY OUTLOOK IS ISSUED CONCURRENTLY UNDER WMO HEADING OF FXUS07 KWBC...PIL ID NMCPMD30D...AND AWIPS ID PMD30D.

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LIST 3 OF 4: SEASONAL /3-MONTH/ OUTLOOKS /EXCEPT HAWAII/...ISSUED ONCE A MONTH ON A THURSDAY AROUND MID MONTH ABOUT 300 PM EASTERN TIME.

#### SEASONAL OUTLOOK CHARTS

LEAD TIME	PRECIPITATION	TEMPERATURE
	WMO HEADING AWIPS ID	WMO HEADING AWIPS ID
0.5 MONTH	PEIW01 KWBC RBGLPA	PTIW01 KWBC RBGLTA
1.5 MONTH	PEIW02 KWBC RBGLPB	PTIW02 KWBC RBGLTB
2.5 MONTH	PEIW03 KWBC RBGLPC	PTIW03 KWBC RBGLTC
3.5 MONTH	PEIW04 KWBC RBGLPD	PTIW04 KWBC RBGLTD
4.5 MONTH	PEIW05 KWBC RBGLPE	PTIW05 KWBC RBGLTE
5.5 MONTH	PEIW06 KWBC RBGLPF	PTIW06 KWBC RBGLTF
6.5 MONTH	PEIW07 KWBC RBGLPG	PTIW07 KWBC RBGLTG
7.5 MONTH	PEIW08 KWBC RBGLPH	PTIW08 KWBC RBGLTH
8.5 MONTH	PEIW09 KWBC RBGLPI	PTIW09 KWBC RBGLTI
9.5 MONTH	PEIW10 KWBC RBGLPJ	PTIW10 KWBC RBGLTJ
10.5 MONTH	PEIW11 KWBC RBGLPK	PTIW11 KWBC RBGLTK
11.5 MONTH	PEIW12 KWBC RBGLPL	PTIW12 KWBC RBGLTL
12.5 MONTH	PEIW13 KWBC RBGLPM	PTIW13 KWBC RBGLTM

NOTE: A TEXTUAL PROGNOSTIC DISCUSSION FOR THE SEASONAL OUTLOOKS IS ISSUED CONCURRENTLY UNDER WMO HEADING OF FXUS05 KWBC...PIL ID NMCPMD90D...AND AWIPS ID PMD90D.

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LIST 4 OF 4: HAWAIIAN MONTHLY AND SEASONAL OUTLOOKS...ISSUED ONCE A MONTH ON A THURSDAY AROUND MID MONTH ABOUT 300 PM EASTERN TIME.

THE TEXTUAL HAWAIIAN OUTLOOK/CLIMATOLOGICAL BULLETIN IS ISSUED UNDER WMO HEADING FXHW40 KWBC...PIL ID NMCPCMDHCO...AND AWIPS ID PMDHCO.

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...QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON CPC BPMS VS. NCDC NORMALS...

Q1 OF 3 - WHY DOES CPC COMPUTE THEIR OWN BASE PERIOD MEANS /BPMS/ RATHER THAN USE NCDC'S OFFICIAL NORMALS?

A: CPC COMPUTES SEVERAL STATISTICS (E.G. 500 MB HEIGHTS... TERCILES OF TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK CLASSES /ABOVE...NEAR NORMAL OR MEDIAN...AND BELOW/ FOR USE IN THE CLIMATE OUTLOOKS WHICH ARE NOT PART OF THE NORMALS PROCESS AT NCDC. ALSO...CPC COMPUTES AREAL INFORMATION FOR AREAS OTHER THAN NCDC/S DESIGNATED CLIMATE REGIONS.

Q2 OF 3 - WHY DOES NCDC NEED MORE TIME TO PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE ITS OFFICIAL NORMALS THAN CPC DOES FOR ITS BPMS?

A: CPC DOES NOT REQUIRE THE PRECISION THAT NCDC DOES FOR THE OFFICIAL NORMALS. CPC/S APPLICATION IS NOT AS SENSITIVE TO SUCH FACTORS AS STATION MOVES AND INSTRUMENT CHANGES...WHICH ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO OTHER USERS SUCH AS THE WEATHER DERIVATIVE INDUSTRY AND UTILITIES. NCDC PROCESSES ALL DATA THROUGH EXTENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL...CORRECTS DATA FOR DISCONTINUITIES SUCH AS STATION MOVES AND INSTRUMENT CHANGES...AND FILLS IN MISSING DATA.

Q3 OF 3 - WILL CPC USE NCDC NORMALS AFTER JANUARY 1 2002 TO ADJUST ANY OF ITS BPMS?

A: CPC IS NOT EXPECTED TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS BPMS SINCE THE SMALL DIFFERENCES WOULD GENERALLY BE INCONSEQUENTIAL FOR CPC/S OUTLOOK PURPOSES. HOWEVER...IN THE UNLIKELY SITUATION THAT THIS IS NOT THE CASE...ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE.

...NOTES ON HEATING AND COOLING DEGREE DAYS /HDD AND CDD/...

NOTE 1 OF 2 - CPC/S WEEKLY POPULATION WEIGHTED HDD AND CDD OUTLOOKS WILL USE NCDC/S 1971-2000 NORMAL HDD AND CDD INFORMATION AND 2000 CENSUS DATA BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2002. THE CPC HDD/CDD OUTLOOKS ARE ISSUED ONLY ON THE CPC WEB SITE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/cdus/degree\\_days/ddf\\_index.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/cdus/degree_days/ddf_index.html)

USE OF NCDC 1971-2000 CDD/HDD NORMALS AND 2000 CENSUS DATA FOR CPC POPULATION WEIGHTED HDD/CDD OUTLOOKS WILL BEGIN AT THE START OF THE COOLING AND HEATING SEASONS /JANUARY 1 2002 AND JULY 1 2002 RESPECTIVELY/. THIS AVOIDS DISCONTINUITIES IN USE OF CDD/HDD NORMALS AND CENSUS DATA DURING THE HDD AND CDD SEASONS.

NOTE 2 OF 2 - LIKewise...USE OF NCDC 1971-2000 CDD/HDD NORMALS FOR STATION DAILY AND MONTHLY CLIMATE REPORTS ISSUED BY WFOS WILL BEGIN AT THE START OF THE COOLING AND HEATING SEASONS /JANUARY 1 2002 AND JULY 1 2002 RESPECTIVELY/ TO AVOID DISCONTINUITIES IN USE OF CDD/HDD NORMALS DURING THE HDD AND CDD SEASONS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...EITHER SEND E-MAIL TO THE PUBLIC LIAISON AT:

[http://www.ncep.noaa.gov/mail\\_liaison.shtml](http://www.ncep.noaa.gov/mail_liaison.shtml) /USE LOWER CASE/

OR WRITE TO:

CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER  
OPERATIONS BRANCH - W/NP53  
WORLD WEATHER BUILDING  
5200 AUTH ROAD  
CAMP SPRINGS MD 20746

THIS NOTICE AND OTHER SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES CAN BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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