

NOUS41 KWBC 212015
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-44
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
415 PM EDT THU AUG 21 2003

TO FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER
WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
/NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...NWS EMPLOYEES

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

SUBJECT PROBABILITY FORMAT CHANGES TO ONE-MONTH AND THREE-MONTH
OUTLOOKS...EFFECTIVE THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18 2003

ON SEPTEMBER 18 2003...THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER /CPC/ WILL
MAKE A CHANGE TO PROBABILITIES EXPRESSED FOR THE ABOVE
NORMAL...NEAR NORMAL...AND BELOW NORMAL CATEGORIES IN ONE-MONTH
AND THREE-MONTH OUTLOOKS. CPC WILL NO LONGER EXPRESS PROBABILITY
ANOMALIES FROM 33 PERCENT AND INSTEAD USE THE ACTUAL PROBABILITIES
FOR THE CATEGORIES.

WE PROPOSED THIS CHANGE IN A NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION
STATEMENT ISSUED ON JUNE 19 2003...AND ASKED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON THE PROPOSAL THROUGH JULY 18 2003. ON JULY 23 2003...THE
COMMENT PERIOD WAS EXTENDED UNTIL AUGUST 18 2003 VIA AN UPDATED
NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MESSAGE. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR
FEEDBACK.

BACKGROUND...

CPC EXPRESSES THE OUTLOOKS IN A 3-CATEGORY PROBABILISTIC FORMAT
AS THE CHANCE THE MEAN TEMPERATURE OR TOTAL PRECIPITATION FOR THE
PERIOD WILL FALL INTO THE MOST LIKELY OF THREE CLASSES...

ABOVE BELOW OR NEAR NORMAL

CPC DEFINES THE CLASSES AS CLIMATOLOGICALLY EQUALLY LIKELY...
THE TOP 10 CASES OF A THIRTY YEAR RECORD DEFINE THE ABOVE
CATEGORY /A/...THE MIDDLE 10 CASES DEFINE THE NORMAL CATEGORY
/N/... AND THE BOTTOM 10 CASES DEFINE THE BELOW CATEGORY /B/.
FOR AREAS WHERE A FAVORED CLASS CANNOT BE DETERMINED...CPC WILL
INDICATE THOSE AREAS WITH EC /FOR EQUAL CHANCES/.

CHANGE...

FOR THE MOST LIKELY CLASS...CPC WOULD INDICATE THE TOTAL
PROBABILITY INSTEAD OF THE PROBABILITY ANOMALY FROM THE 33
PERCENT CLIMATOLOGICAL VALUE. THE CONTOURS OF A FAVORED CATEGORY
WOULD BE 33+ PERCENT...40 PERCENT...50 PERCENT...AND HIGHER
VALUES IN INCREMENTS OF 10 PERCENT.

CPC WILL STILL INDICATE THE MOST LIKELY CLASS WITH SOLID CONTOUR LINES ON THE MAPS AND LABEL THE CENTERS OF MAXIMUM PROBABILITY ANOMALY WITH THE LETTERS A...N...OR B TO DENOTE THE MOST LIKELY CLASS. FOR AREAS WHERE A FAVORED CLASS CANNOT BE DETERMINED... CPC WILL STILL INDICATE THOSE AREAS WITH EC AND HAVE NO CONTOURS.

THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THIS PROPOSAL...

1. THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK MAPS FOR CONTIGUOUS U.S. AND ALASKA

LEAD TIME IS INDICATED BY THE NUMBER IN THE WMO HEADING AND LAST LETTER IN THE AWIPS ID /I.E. 01 AND A HAVE A LEAD TIME OF 0.5 MONTH... 02 AND B HAVE A LEAD TIME OF 1.5 MONTHS... ETC./.

TEMPERATURE		PRECIPITATION	
WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
PTIW/01-13/ KWBC	RBGLT/A-M/	PEIW/01-13/ KWBC	RBGLE/A-M/

ON THE WEB /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/>

2. ONE-MONTH OUTLOOK MAPS FOR CONTIGUOUS U.S. AND ALASKA

TEMPERATURE		PRECIPITATION	
WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
PTIV98 KWNC	RBG9MT	PEIV98 KWNC	RBG9ME

ON THE WEB /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

3. ONE-MONTH AND THREE MONTH HAWAIIAN TEXT OUTLOOKS
/TOTAL PROBABILITY FOR MOST LIKELY CLASS FOR SELECTED CITIES/

WMO HEADING - FXHW40 KWBC AWIPS ID - PMDHCO

ON THE WEB /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/...

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/fxhw40.html>

IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTION...PLEASE CONTACT

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NOAA/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
CLIMATE PREDCITION CENTER - W/NP51
5200 AUTH RD.
CAMP SPRINGS MD 20746
PHONE 301-763-8000 EXT 7528

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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