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 /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
         EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/
         SUBSCRIBERS
         NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS
         OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND 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 PROBABILITES 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 STATEMENT. 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
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 WILL 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 WILL BE AFFECTED BY THIS CHANGE:

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

LEAD TIME IS INDICATED BY THE NUMBER IN THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADING AND LAST LETTER IN THE ADVANCED WEATHER
INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ ID /I.E...01 AND A HAVE A LEAD TIME
OF 0.5 MONTHS...02 AND B HAVE A LEAD TIME OF 1.5 MONTHS...ETC./.

TEMPERATURE	PRECIPITATION
WMO HEADINGS AWIPS IDS	WMO HEADINGS AWIPS IDS
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PTIW/01-13/ KWBC RBGLT/A-M/	PEIW/01-13/ KWBC RBGLE/A-M/

ON THE WEB /USE LOWER CASE/:

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
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PTIV98 KWNC RBG9MT	PEIV98 KWNC RBG9ME

ON THE WEB /USE LOWER CASE/:

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/:

HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/PRODUCTS/PREDICTIONS/90DAY/FXHW40.HTML

IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

ED O/LENIC
NOAA/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND
PHONE: 301-763-8000 EXT. 7528

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

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