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Service Change Notice 21-71 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Marina Timofeyeva
 Chief, NWS Climate Services Branch

Subject: Updated: The Depiction of the Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day,
8-14 Day, Monthly and Seasonal Outlook Temperature and Precipitation
Static Maps Will Change on or about September 15, 2021

Updated to include a link to an example of the new graphic appearance.

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) will change the depiction of temperature and precipitation outlook maps for the 6-10 day, 8-14 day, monthly and seasonal forecasts on or about September 15, 2021. Comparable changes to the Week 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlook maps will change at a later date to be announced.

The display changes are recommendations from a social science study between CPC and the University of Maryland Cooperative Institute for Satellite Earth System Studies (CISESS) where one component of the project was to use survey and focus group results to reduce understandability challenges and improve clarity and visualization of the outlook maps.

The changes include (1) removing unnecessary areas where no forecast information was provided; (2) improved legend and other annotations to improve clarity and (3) substantial upgrade in image quality utilizing ArcGIS shapefile output already available as part of the current forecast process.

The URLs for the current products referred to above are:

<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/610day/>
<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/lead14/
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/

The changes listed above will not impact users that already utilize output from these outlooks such as ArcGIS shapefile and KMZ/KML data files. There will be no format changes to these files, and no code adjustments are necessary. The changes only impact CPC static outlook images.

The URL for an example of the new graphic appearance is:

<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/new-cpc-images-review/>

For any questions regarding these changes, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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