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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 23-70 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1240 PM EDT Tue Jul 18 2023

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Marina Timofeyeva  
              Chief, NWS Climate Services Branch

Subject: Updated: The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Operational Drought Outlooks (DOs) will Begin Including the U.S. Virgin Islands on or about August 17, 2023

Updated to make users aware that due to data representation differences, the addition of the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) to the CPC Drought Outlooks will require the addition of new point layers to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) web services hosted by the Integrated Dissemination Program (IDP). The addition will require grouping of new layers with existing, thereby changing layer order and numbering and require minor code changes for downstream users.

On or about August 17, 2023, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) will include the USVI on the depiction of the operational Monthly and Seasonal Drought Outlooks.

The proposed change addresses requests from the NWS Southern Region and interest from partners and stakeholders from the USVI. The minor changes are (1) to increase the inset box size already in place for Puerto Rico on the DO forecast maps and (2) include text related to the USVI in the forecast discussion when applicable.

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The URLs for the current product page and a page showing an example of the new depiction are given below, respectively:

[https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/season\\_drought.png](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/season_drought.png)

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

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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