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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-14...AMENDED  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
310 PM EDT THU APR 5 2001

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

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

SUBJECT: AMENDED: BASE PERIOD MEANS /BPM/ FOR CLIMATE OUTLOOKS TO BE  
UPDATED FROM 1961-1990 MEANS TO 1971-2000 MEANS...EFFECTIVE THURSDAY MAY  
17 2001

AMENDED TO CHANGE EFFECTIVE DATE FROM APRIL 12 TO MAY 17 2001. ALL OTHER  
INFORMATION REMAINS THE SAME. NOTE IN PARAGRAPH BELOW THAT NEW 1971-2000  
BPM DATA IS NOW ON THE WEB.

EFFECTIVE THURSDAY MAY 17 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 ARE AVAILABLE ON CPC/S WEBSITE AT /USE  
LOWER CASE/: [HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov). CLICK ON OUTLOOKS LINK...THEN  
SCROLL DOWN TO 1971-2000 BASE PERIOD MEANS LINK AND CLICK AGAIN. OR...GO  
DIRECTLY TO 1971-2000 BPMS AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/PRODUCTS/PREDICTIONS/NEW CLIMATES/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/new_climates/)

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 /WFOS/ 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 CPC OUTLOOKS USING BPMS AS REFERENCE...

LIST ONE OF FOUR. 6- TO 10-DAY AND 8- TO 14-DAY OUTLOOK PRODUCTS

WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID	OUTLOOK CHARTS/ISSUED DAILY 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 WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADING FXUS06 KWBC...PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION LIST /PIL/ ID NMCPCMDMRD...AND ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ ID PMDMRD.

LIST TWO OF FOUR. 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 NMCPCMD30D...AND AWIPS ID PMD30D.

LIST THREE OF FOUR. 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 NMCPCMD90D...AND AWIPS ID PMD90D.

LIST FOUR OF FOUR. 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 UNDER WMO HEADING FXHW40 KWBC...PIL ID NMCPCMDHCO...AND AWIPS ID PMDHCO.

...QUESTIONS /Q/ AND ANSWERS /A/ ON CPC BPMS VERSUS NCDC NORMALS...

Q ONE OF THREE - 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.

Q TWO OF THREE - 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.

Q THREE OF THREE - WILL CPC USE NCDC NORMALS AFTER JANUARY 1 2002 TO ADJUST ITS 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 ONE OF TWO - 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 WEBSITE 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 RESPECTIVELY /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 TWO OF TWO - 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 RESPECTIVELY /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 OVER THE INTERNET TO THE  
PUBLIC LIAISON AT:

[HTTP://WWW.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/MAIL\\_LIAISON.SHTML](http://www.ncep.noaa.gov/mail_liaison.shtml) /LOWER CASE LETTERS/ OR  
CONTACT:

CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER OPERATIONS BRANCH  
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND

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

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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