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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-55
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
435 PM EDT THU SEP 27 2001

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

FROM: THOMAS GRAZIANO
CHIEF...SERVICES BRANCH
HYDROLOGIC SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: NEW FLOOD OUTLOOK PRODUCT...SECOND STAGE OF TESTING BEGINS
OCTOBER 1 2001

...THIS NEW GRAPHICAL PRODUCT IS NOT AVAILABLE ON NOAA WEATHER WIRE
SERVICE...

REFERENCE: [SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE /SCN/ 01-40](#). THIS MESSAGE WILL BE
RETRANSMITTED ON FRIDAY...SEPTEMBER 28 2001.

ON SEPTEMBER 1 2001...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BEGAN THE FIRST STAGE
OF TESTING A NEW GRAPHICAL FLOOD OUTLOOK PRODUCT. THIS PRODUCT IDENTIFIES
AREAS ACROSS THE NATION WHERE THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT RIVER
FLOODING OVER THE SUBSEQUENT FIVE DAYS.

THIS PRODUCT IS INTENDED TO ALERT EMERGENCY MANAGERS AND OTHERS THAT A
POTENTIAL FOR RIVER FLOODING EXISTS. OFFICIAL FLOOD WARNINGS AND
FORECASTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ISSUED BY THE WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES
/WFOS/. THE WEB-BASED PRODUCT WILL PROVIDE AN ENTRY POINT FOR USERS
SEEKING MORE DETAILED HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION PROVIDED BY RIVER FORECAST
CENTERS /RFCS/ AND WFOS.

SIGNIFICANT FLOODING IS DEFINED AS FLOODING THAT ADVERSELY AFFECTS
ROADS...RESIDENTIAL...COMMERCIAL...INDUSTRIAL AND/OR AGRICULTURAL AREAS
AND MAY REQUIRE THE EVACUATION OF PEOPLE AND/OR LIVESTOCK. THIS NEW
OUTLOOK WILL FOCUS ON FLOODING ALONG RIVERS AND DOES NOT ADDRESS THE
POTENTIAL FOR FLASH FLOODING.

DURING THE FIRST STAGE /WHICH EXTENDS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO 30
2001/...INDIVIDUAL OUTLOOKS ARE BEING PROVIDED BY FOUR RIVER FORECAST
CENTERS /RFC/ SERVING COASTAL STATES FROM TEXAS TO NEW JERSEY. THEY
CONSIST OF INTERNET-BASED GRAPHICS SHOWING AREAS WHERE SIGNIFICANT
FLOODING IS CONSIDERED POSSIBLE OR LIKELY AS WELL AS WHERE IT IS IMMINENT
OR ALREADY OCCURRING.

OUTLOOKS PRODUCED DURING THE FIRST STAGE OF TESTING ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESSES /USE LOWER CASE/:

MIDDLE ATLANTIC RFC:

[HTTP://MARFCHP1.MET.PSU.EDU/FOP](http://MARFCHP1.MET.PSU.EDU/FOP)

SOUTHEAST RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/SERFC/FOP](http://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/SERFC/FOP)

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/LMRFC/FOP](http://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/LMRFC/FOP)

WEST GULF RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/WGRFC/FOP/WGRFCFOP.HTML](http://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/WGRFC/FOP/WGRFCFOP.HTML)

A SECOND STAGE OF TESTING IS PLANNED TO START ON OCTOBER 1 WHEN ALL RFCS COVERING THE CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES /CONUS/ AND ALASKA WILL PROVIDE VIA THE INTERNET A FLOOD OUTLOOK FOR THEIR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

AN ADDITIONAL MAP SHOWING FLOOD POTENTIAL FOR THE CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES /WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADER: PENJ88 KWNH...ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ ID: RBGWNH/ WILL BE ASSEMBLED BY THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PREDICTION CENTER OF THE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION. IT WILL BE DISSEMINATED OVER THE SATELLITE BROADCAST NETWORK /SBN/ AND NOAAPORT...THE FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/...THE EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/...AS WELL AS THE INTERNET.

THE FLOOD OUTLOOK COVERING ALASKA WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET.

DURING TESTING...THE OUTLOOK WILL NORMALLY BE MADE AVAILABLE EACH AFTERNOON. HOWEVER...THERE MAY BE OCCASIONS WHEN ISSUANCE COULD BE DELAYED OR EVEN MISSED.

IN ADDITION TO THE INTERNET ADDRESSES ABOVE...OUTLOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1 2001 AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

NATIONAL MOSAIC:

[HTTP://WWW.HPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/NATIONALFLOODOUTLOOK](http://WWW.HPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/NATIONALFLOODOUTLOOK)

ALASKA-PACIFIC RFC:

[HTTP://AKRFC.ARH.NOAA.GOV/MAPS/FOP.HTML](http://AKRFC.ARH.NOAA.GOV/MAPS/FOP.HTML)

NORTHWEST RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.NWRFC.NOAA.GOV/FOP.HTML](http://WWW.NWRFC.NOAA.GOV/FOP.HTML)

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.WRH.NOAA.GOV/CNRFC/FOP.HTM](http://WWW.WRH.NOAA.GOV/CNRFC/FOP.HTM)

COLORADO BASIN RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.CBRFC.NOAA.GOV/FOP/FOP.CGI](http://WWW.CBRFC.NOAA.GOV/FOP/FOP.CGI)

MISSOURI RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/MBRFC/FOP.HTML](http://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/MBRFC/FOP.HTML)

NORTH-CENTRAL RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.CRH.NOAA.GOV/NCRFC/FLOOD_OUTLOOKS/FOP.HTML](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/ncrfc/flood_outlooks/fop.html)

OHIO BASIN RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/ER/OHRFC/FOP.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/er/ohrfc/fop.htm)

ARKANSAS-RED RIVER RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/ABRFC/FOP/ABRFCFOP.HTML](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/abrfc/fop/abrfcfop.html)

NORTHEAST RFC:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/ER/NERFC/FOP](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/er/nerfc/fop)

THE FLOOD OUTLOOK PRODUCT IS EXPECTED TO BECOME FULLY OPERATIONAL IN NOVEMBER. AT THAT TIME...USERS CAN EXPECT EACH RFC TO UPDATE THE OUTLOOK FOR THEIR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY BY 4 PM EASTERN TIME AND POST IT TO THE INTERNET. A FLOOD OUTLOOK COVERING THE CONUS...A MOSAIC OF THE OUTLOOKS PREPARED BY RFCS...WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE EACH DAY AT APPROXIMATELY 4 PM EASTERN TIME. THE NATIONAL MOSAIC WILL BE DISTRIBUTED OVER THE SAME SYSTEMS USED DURING THE SECOND STAGE OF TESTING INDICATED ABOVE.

INFORMATION ON THE ROLL OUT OF THIS PRODUCT...INCLUDING WEB LINKS TO THESE NEW FLOOD OUTLOOKS...CAN BE FOUND AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OH/HIC/FLOOD_OUTLOOK/INDEX.HTML](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hic/flood_outlook/index.html)

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WELCOMES PUBLIC FEEDBACK. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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

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

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