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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 02-52  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
530 PM EDT WED SEP 18 2002

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

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

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF U.S. DROUGHT OUTLOOK ON NOAAPORT AND FAMILY OF  
SERVICES...EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 17 2002

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 17 2002...THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER /CPC/ WILL ISSUE  
THE U.S. DROUGHT OUTLOOK ON NWS DISSEMINATION SYSTEMS /LISTED IN THE  
ADDRESSEE SECTION ABOVE/ ONCE A MONTH ON A THURSDAY NEAR THE MIDDLE OF THE  
MONTH AROUND 3:00 P.M. EASTERN LOCAL TIME. THE OUTLOOK IS VALID FOR THE  
FOLLOWING THREE AND A HALF MONTHS. CPC WILL ISSUE THE GRAPHIC PRODUCT  
UNDER THE FOLLOWING PRODUCT IDENTIFIERS:

GRAPHIC:  
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADING - PMNV88 KWNC  
ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM /AWIPS/ ID - RBGDRK

THE PRODUCT HAS ALREADY BEEN ISSUED FOR SEVERAL YEARS ON THE CPC WEBSITE  
AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

CPC WILL ALSO ISSUE UNSCHEDULED UPDATES AT OTHER TIMES IF NEEDED.

CPC ISSUES THE DROUGHT OUTLOOK SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THEIR ONE-MONTH AND  
THREE-MONTH TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OUTLOOKS. THE DROUGHT OUTLOOK  
IS USED FOR SEASONAL PLANNING BY AGRICULTURAL...WATER SUPPLY AND FIRE  
WEATHER MANAGERS.

CPC DEPICTS GENERAL LARGE-SCALE TRENDS BASED ON SUBJECTIVELY DERIVED  
PROBABILITIES GUIDED BY NUMEROUS INDICATORS...INCLUDING SHORT- AND LONG-  
RANGE STATISTICAL AND DYNAMIC FORECASTS. CPC INDICATES PREDICTED TRENDS  
FOR ONGOING DROUGHT AREAS DEPICTED IN THE WEEKLY U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR AS  
WELL AS POSSIBLE AREAS OF NEW DROUGHTS THAT MAY DEVELOP.

CPC USES FOUR CATEGORIES TO DEPICT EXPECTED DROUGHT CONDITIONS...PLUS A FIFTH CATEGORY FOR NO DROUGHT EXPECTED. THESE ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

DROUGHT TO PERSIST OR INTENSIFY  
DROUGHT ONGOING - SOME IMPROVEMENT  
DROUGHT LIKELY TO IMPROVE - IMPACTS EASE  
DROUGHT DEVELOPMENT LIKELY  
NO DROUGHT EXPECTED

CPC WILL ALSO ISSUE A CONCURRENT DROUGHT OUTLOOK DISCUSSION DETAILING THE ATMOSPHERIC...HYDROLOGIC AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE TRENDS OF DROUGHT AREAS. THIS DISCUSSION WILL BE ISSUED UNDER THE FOLLOWING PRODUCT IDENTIFIERS:

TEXT:  
WMO HEADING - FXUS22 KWNC  
AWIPS ID - PMDDRK

CPC WILL INCLUDE AN EXPLANATION OF THE RATIONALE BEHIND THE OUTLOOK WITH A DISCUSSION OF THE WEIGHTS GIVEN TO VARIOUS TOOLS USED IN THE OUTLOOK AND THE CONFIDENCE IN THOSE TOOLS. CPC WILL HIGHLIGHT THE REASONING BEHIND MONTHLY CHANGES IN DROUGHT OUTLOOK CONDITIONS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...CONTACT:

DOUG LECOMTE  
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER  
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND  
PHONE: 301-763-8000 EXT. 7567

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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