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Service Change Notice 16-48
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Fiona Horsfall
 Chief, Climate Services Branch

Subject: Experimental Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook will Become
Operational: Effective May 15, 2017

Effective May 15, 2017, the experimental NWS Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook will transition to operational. This new product closes the gap in the forecast time scales between the Week 2 and 1-month outlook products that the CPC issues as part of its seamless suite of outlooks. The objective of the product is to highlight regions where above or below average 2-week mean temperature is favored as well as provide advance notice of potential temperature pattern changes to further assist decision makers in weather and climate sensitive activities in their decisions.

The audience for this product includes:

- NWS local and regional field structure.
 - Local, state, regional and national government entities (emergency management and planning).
 - Private sector (energy, water resource management, financial, and other industries).
- General public and others.

The Weeks 3-4 temperature outlook maps consist of two categories (above or below average). The shading depicts the favored category, either above average (A) or below average (B) for 2-week mean temperature with the solid contour lines giving the probability (>50 percent) of this more likely category (above or below). In areas where the likelihoods of 2-week mean temperature are similar to climatological probabilities and a category cannot be favored, equal chances (EC: 50 percent probability for each category) is indicated. In addition, a text prognostic map discussion will be provided explaining the rationale behind the forecast. Outlook updates will be provided weekly on Friday.

Further information on the Weeks 3-4 temperature outlook can be found in the Product Description Document located at:

http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD_CPC_Week3-4Outlooks.pdf

The Week 3-4 temperature outlooks can be accessed at:

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/WK34/index.php>

For more information, please contact:

Jon Gottschalck
Chief, Operational Prediction Branch
NWS / Climate Prediction Center
College Park, MD
Telephone: 301-683-3349
Email: jon.gottschalck@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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