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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 21-60
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
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From: Thomas Cuff
 Director, NWS Office of Observations

Subject: Seeking Comments through October 8, 2021 on Changing the Geographic Coverage of GOES-R SCMI Data Available via the Satellite Broadcast Network

In calendar year 2022, the National Weather Service (NWS) Office of Observations is proposing changes to the geographic coverage of Sectorized Cloud and Moisture Imagery (SCMI) data products from Geostationary Orbiting Environmental Satellite (GOES)-R satellites (GOES-16, GOES-17, and the upcoming GOES-18) distributed via the Satellite Broadcast Network (SBN). These changes are as follows:

1) Cease transmission of all reduced-resolution southern hemisphere imagery, for all bands (1-16).

Justification: NWS has limited forecast operations in the southern hemisphere. NWS Pacific Region has a GOES Rebroadcast (GRB) antenna to provide data to American Samoa and monitor oceanic service areas in the southern hemisphere.

2) Cease creation/transmission of the GOES-West SCMI Hawaii Regional sector, for all bands (1-16).

This change would retire the following World Meteorological Organization (WMO) headers (per [Service Change Notice 18-106](#)):

TIRH01 KNES	TIRH02 KNES	TIRH03 KNES	TIRH04 KNES
TIRH05 KNES	TIRH06 KNES	TIRH07 KNES	TIRH08 KNES
TIRH09 KNES	TIRH10 KNES	TIRH11 KNES	TIRH12 KNES
TIRH13 KNES	TIRH14 KNES	TIRH15 KNES	TIRH16 KNES

Justification: The Hawaii Regional SCMI sector was established before the GOES-West Contiguous U.S. (CONUS) (PACUS) sector was adjusted to cover Hawaii. Data products for the PACUS sector arrive twice as frequently to provide adequate coverage of Hawaii.

3) Increase the spatial resolution of Channel 13 (Infrared (IR) Window) to full (2 km) resolution (for northern hemisphere).

Justification: This is an important band for general monitoring of weather systems outside of CONUS (including over Canada) and an important alternative source for the National Centers that provide services to our oceanic areas.

There are alternative ways to access and use data and imagery from GOES-R satellites. These are detailed in the [Beginner's Guide to GOES-R Series Data](#). In particular, the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\) Big Data Program](#) provides access to GOES-R Data/Imagery hosted by various cloud service providers. Furthermore, [NOAA's CLASS archive](#) provides access to these and many other NOAA data, and to a help desk, which can answer questions via email.

We invite comments on these proposed changes through October 8, 2021 via the survey linked below:

[https://bit.ly/GOES SCMI Changes Survey](https://bit.ly/GOES_SCMI_Changes_Survey)

We will review all feedback we receive and will notify users via a Service Change Notice (SCN) of any future changes.

For questions or comments pertaining to these proposed changes, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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