

NOUS41 KWBC 092020
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Public Information Statement 21-60
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
420 PM EDT Wed Sep 8 2021

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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 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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Or

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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