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Public Information Statement 26-18  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
355 PM EDT Fri Mar 13 2026

To:           Subscribers:  
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From:        Wanqiu Wang  
              Chief, Operational Monitoring Branch Chief  
              NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

Subject: Soliciting Comments through April 20, 2026 on the  
Upcoming Change in the Delivery Time of the Ultraviolet Index  
(UVI) Forecast

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) will be soliciting Comments through April 20, 2026 on the Upcoming Change in the Delivery Time of the Ultraviolet Index (UVI) Forecast. CPC will be changing the delivery time of the NWS Ultraviolet Index (UVI) forecast model from 1830Z to 2130Z. This change is the result of the proposed replacement of the GEFS aerosol products with the Global Chemistry and Aerosol Forecast System (GCAFS) version 1.0. The UVI model relies on aerosol products from the GEFS aerosol forecasts to provide dynamic fidelity to the UVI forecasts particularly in regions affected by wildfire, smoke, and haze. Because the GCAFS aerosol forecasts will be available 3 hours later than the GEFS aerosol forecasts, the UVI products will also be available 3 hours later. The quality of the UVI products using the GCAFS aerosol forecasts are comparable to the current operational products.

More information on the proposed GEFS GCAFSv1.0 implementation can be found at:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf\\_2026/pns26-07\\_GCAFSv1.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf_2026/pns26-07_GCAFSv1.pdf)

These timing changes will be reflected in the UVI products found at:

[https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/stratosphere/uv\\_index/uv\\_current.shtml](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/stratosphere/uv_index/uv_current.shtml)

And on NOMADS at:

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/uvi/prod/>

<https://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/uvi/prod/>

Please send comments on this proposal through April 20, 2026 to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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