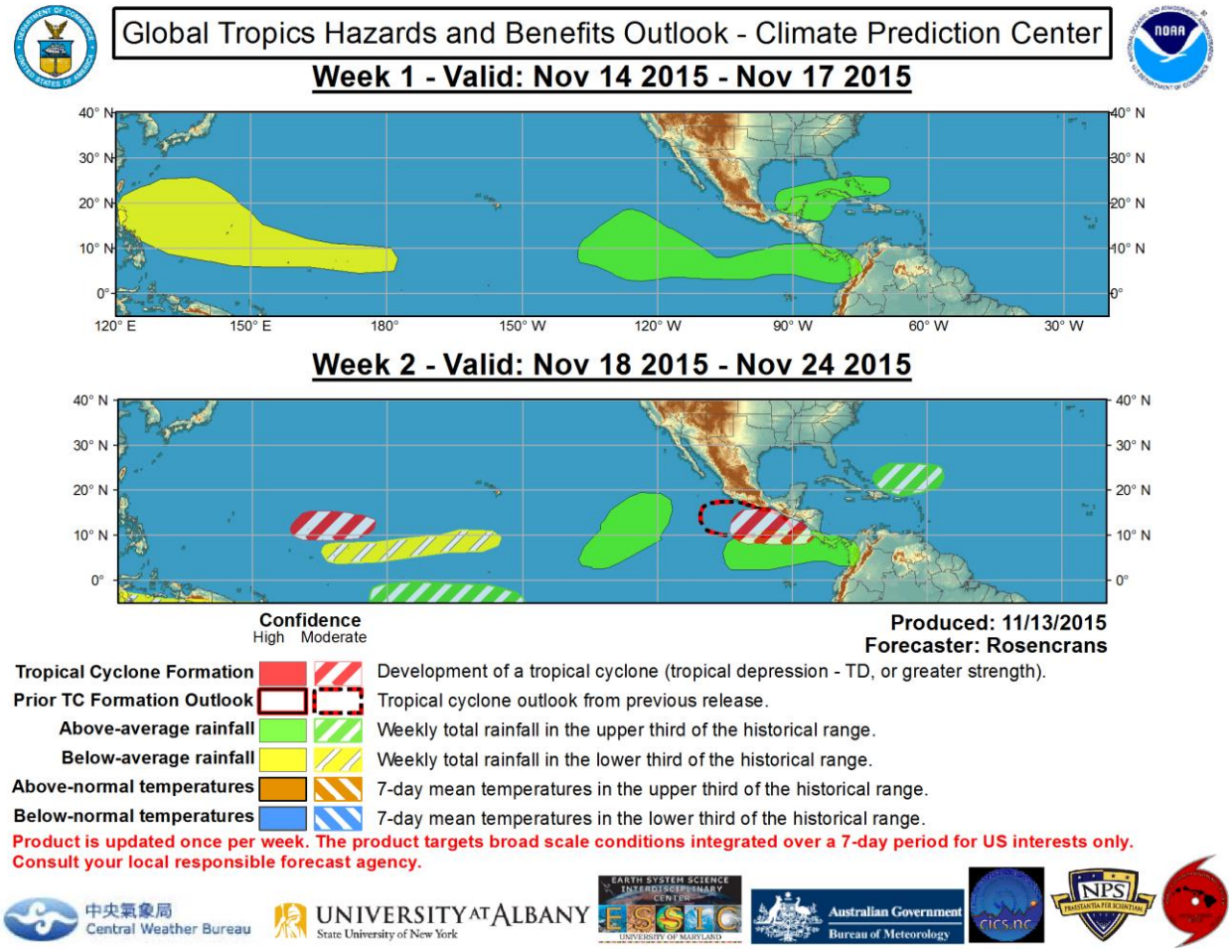

The Wheeler-Hendon RMM-based MJO index continues to depict an MJO signal, but does have some breakdown of the signal. The CPC Velocity Potential based index indicates a complete breakdown of the upper-level MJO signal. Therefore, the MJO is not likely to play a major role in convection during the next two weeks. The upper and lower level wind anomaly structures are beginning to resemble canonical El Nino patterns slightly more than the previous 2 weeks, when intraseasonal variability had disrupted the pattern.

Tropical cyclone formation odds are slightly enhanced in some models over the eastern Pacific, near 10N/135W. Additionally, there are some signals for tropical cyclone formation near the Turks and Caicos, although the signal is weak in the multi-model ensemble tropical cyclogenesis tool. During Week-2, CFS outputs depict more tropical cyclone activity over the East Pacific and West-Central Pacific, which would be consistent with a return toward El Nino conditions dominating the pattern. Elsewhere, tropical cyclone formation signals remain relatively unchanged.

The above-average and below-average precipitation shapes have been adjusted to account for the latest model outputs.

---------- Previous discussion follows ----------

Variability in convection and atmospheric structure consistent with MJO activity continued, with the center of anomalously active convection over the eastern Indian Ocean. Many of the forecast models predict that MJO activity will weaken during the next two weeks. Some foreast tools are indicating the potential for Kelvin waves to impact the pattern, espeically over the Indian Ocean and Pacific.

Tropical cyclone Megh developed over the Arabian Sea and made landfall in Yemen. Tropical Storm Kate developed near the Bahamas, and is forecast to move northeast and out to sea. Currently, no direct impacts to the CONUS are anticipated. During the next week, tropical cyclone formation odds are enhanced over the Bay of Bengal. Later in week-1, some models are also indicating a slight increase in tropical cyclone formation odds over the central Pacific, both north and south of the equator, and over the East Pacific. Both of those slight increases are likely linked to Kelvin wave passage as the atmosphere responds to the convection over the Indian Ocean.

Enhanced convection is expected over the eastern Indian Ocean, associated with the potential tropical cyclone, and the central and eastern Pacific due to the return toward El Nino conditions. Below average precipitation is favored over the western, North Pacific, and southern portions of the Maritime Continent.

During week 2, a return to a scenario where El Nino dominates the pattern of tropical convection is likely. Therefore, above average rains are likely over the East Pacific, portions of Central and South America, and near the Date Line but south of the equator. Suppressed convection is likely for the southern Maritime Continent, and a small portion of the Central Pacific.

Forecasts for Africa are done in collaboration with CPC's Africa Desk and based on model forecast guidance and regional scale anomaly features.