The MJO remained generally weak over the past several days, as indicated by both the RMM index and CPC velocity potential index. The latter index continues to be contaminated by the lower frequency ENSO variability. The subseasonal coherent tropical variability continues to be dominated by atmospheric Kelvin wave activity, the strongest of which currently has its enhanced phase near 80W over the East Pacific.

Enhanced convection was observed during the past week across most of the Pacific basin primarily along and north of the equator with suppressed convection evident across the Maritime continent. This low frequency signal continues to be consistent with the high amplitude ENSO event given the time of year. Moisture from this enhanced Pacific convection interacted with the extratropical circulation in the northern hemisphere and resulted in enhanced precipitation across the southern continental U.S. resulting in flooding rains in some areas.

Dynamical model forecasts of the RMM index generally indicate some strengthening of the MJO signal during Week-1, but this is likely due only to interaction between ongoing Kelvin wave activity and the
ENSO base state. Statistical models are somewhat out of phase with this assessment, further suggesting that the MJO will not be a major player in the pattern of anomalous tropical convection over the next two weeks.

The depicted areas favoring anomalously wet or dry conditions are made utilizing the base state as well as the consensus between the coupled CFS and ECMWF dynamical ensemble systems. Some interesting areas to note include below-average rainfall favored over parts of the Arabian Sea and Indian subcontinent, where the monsoon onset over that region is likely to be delayed. Parts of the southwestern Indian Ocean are more likely to see enhanced convection, which is consistent with the ongoing warm ENSO event. Enhanced rainfall is favored east of Taiwan and south of Japan associated with the Meiyu front during Week-1, but uncertainty increases during Week-2. Elsewhere, shapes are more or less consistent with the low-frequency state and adjusted to reflect reasonable agreement between the dynamical models.

Tropical cyclogenesis is highly likely over the East Pacific early in the period, consistent with a Kelvin wave moving through the region. Elsewhere, tropical cyclone formation is expected to be limited, though slight risks of formation exist in the western North Pacific and East Pacific during Weeks 1 and 2, respectively.

Depicted areas of suppressed or enhanced rainfall over Africa are produced in collaboration with CPC's Africa Desk.