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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 20-04
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Bruce Entwistle
 Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments through March 21, 2020 on the Termination of the Ceiling and Visibility Analysis Static Imagery on or around March 31, 2020

The NWS is requesting comments through March 21, 2020 on the proposed termination of the National Ceiling and Visibility Analysis (NCVA) display at:

<https://www.AviationWeather.gov/cva>

The NCVA display produced by the Aviation Weather Center (AWC) is a real-time analysis of current ceiling and visibility conditions across the Contiguous United States (CONUS). It is categorized into flight restrictions and the potential for mountain obscuration on a 5 km National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) grid. AWC updates the NCVA every five minutes using predefined Automated Surface Observing Stations (ASOS) across the CONUS plus southern Canada and a GOES-derived cloud mask.

Due to NWS modernization of web utilities and outdated computing resources (which present an IT security risk), and outdated satellite masking dependencies, this product has become unsupportable and is no longer scientifically valid.

The NCVA will be replaced by the 15-minute analysis of the Gridded Local Aviation Model Output Statistics (MOS) Product (GLMP) developed by the NWS Meteorological Development Laboratory (MDL). The GLMP runs on the NOAA supported supercomputing system and is produced on a 2.5 km NDFD grid.

The GLMP gridded ceiling and visibility analysis depiction may be viewed as a part of AWC Experimental Helicopter and Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) Tool at:

<https://testbed.AviationWeather.gov/hemst>

AWC plans to transition to operational status in the near future.

The GLMP depiction is also available from MDL at:

https://www.weather.gov/mdl/lamp_gridded

Please direct comments on the termination of this product to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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