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Public Information Statement 20-06
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
840 AM EST Tue Mar 3 2020

To: Subscribers:
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From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Services Branch

Subject: Soliciting Comments on the Termination of the Model Diagnostic Discussion (PMDHMD) and 500-mb Height Preference Graphics through April 14, 2020

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is seeking public comment through April 14, 2020 on the proposed termination of the Model Diagnostic Discussion (PMDHMD) and the 500-millibar Height Preference Graphics. In lieu of these products, model analysis and preference information will be provided through other existing discussion and graphical products.

The purpose of the PMDHMD is to provide an evaluation of numerical weather prediction model guidance including trends, differences and preferences; however, WPC routinely provides analysis of model guidance in a variety of other discussions, including:

- Excessive Rainfall Outlook, QPFERD, Days 1 to 3
- Heavy Snow Discussion, QPFHSD, Days 1 to 3
- Extended Forecast Discussion, PMDEPD, Days 3 to 7

The QPFERD, QPFHSD and PMDEPD also reflect forecaster thoughts and preferences at the conclusion of the collaborative forecast process, which integrates thoughts from other NWS forecast offices and better matches model preference information delivered on a local level in products such as the Area Forecast Discussion (AFD).

Under this proposed change, model diagnostic information will continue to be conveyed through the QPFERD, QPFHSD and PMDEPD, particularly as it relates to the placement and timing of regions of hazardous weather.

Additionally, WPC would terminate the 500-millibar Height Preference Graphics currently generated for forecast hours 36 to 84. These graphics are online at:

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/h5pref/h5pref.shtml>

More advanced graphical tools comparing model guidance, including climatological context, are available from the WPC Forecast Tools site:

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/#page=tl5>

WPC will continue to generate 500-mb height forecast graphics and information for the Day 3 to 7 period at:

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/medr/medr500.shtml>

For questions regarding the implementation, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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