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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-58
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
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From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Termination of the Model Diagnostic Discussion (PMDHMD) and 500-mb Height Preference Graphics on August 15, 2020

Effective at 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), August 15, 2020, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will terminate the Model Diagnostic Discussion (PMDHMD) and the Day 1-3 500-millibar Height Preference Graphics:

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

In lieu of the PMDHMD, WPC routinely provides analysis of model guidance and preference information in the following discussions:

- 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).

Additionally, the 500-millibar Height Preference Graphics that are currently generated for forecast hours 36 to 84 will be terminated.

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

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