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From:     Brian Gross
Acting Director
National Centers for Environmental Prediction

Subject:  Updated: Changes to HRRRv3 Smartinit Output in Support of RTMA/URMA Upgrade: Effective July 23, 2020

Updated to reflect that these changes only affect contiguous U.S. (CONUS) products and not the winds in Alaska.

Effective on or about July 23, 2020, beginning with the 1200 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) cycle, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will update the operational High-Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) Version 3 downscaling Smartinit code to support the upgrade of the Real-Time Mesoscale Analysis (RTMA), the Unrestricted Mesoscale Analysis (URMA) and the RTMA Rapid-Update (RTMA-RU).

This update will include product changes for data on the Satellite Broadcast Network SBN/NOAAPort

Data sent with the following headers will see changes in characteristics (slightly stronger wind speeds in some instances) due to the revised wind downscaling:

CONUS 10m winds
YUCB98 KWBY
YVCB98 KWBY
NCEP urges all users to ensure their decoders can handle changes in content order and volume changes. These elements may change with future NCEP model implementations. NCEP will make every attempt to alert users to these changes before implementation.

Questions, comments or requests regarding this change should be directed to the contacts below. NCEP will evaluate all comments to determine whether to proceed with this update.

For questions regarding these changes, please contact:

Geoff Manikin  
NCEP/EMC Modeling and Data Assimilation Branch  
College Park, MD  
301-683-3695  
geoffrey.manikin@noaa.gov

For questions regarding the data flow aspects of these data sets, please contact:

Anne Myckow  
NOAA NCEP/NCO Dataflow Team Lead  
College Park, MD  
301-683-0567  
ncep.pmb.dataflow@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:  
https://www.weather.gov/notification/

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