

NOUS41 KWBC 051930  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notification 21-73  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
330 PM EDT Thu Aug 5 2021

To:           Subscribers  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPORT  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Jeffrey Craven  
              NWS Office of Science and Technology Integration  
              Meteorological Development Laboratory

Subject:      Update to the National Blend of Models (NBM) Quantile Mapping  
              and Dressing (QMD) to Fix an Issue with Probability of  
              Precipitation Values in the Alaska Domain Effective on or about  
              August 17, 2021

Effective on or about Tuesday August 17, 2021, beginning with the 1200  
Universal Time Coordinated (UTC) model run, the NWS NCEP Central  
Operations will implement an update to the National Blend of Models (NBM)  
Quantile Mapping and Dressing (QMD).

In the event that the implementation date is declared a Critical Weather  
Day (CWD), or significant weather is occurring or is anticipated to occur,  
implementation of this change will occur at 1200 UTC on the next weekday  
not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring.

In late-July, NWS Forecast Offices in Alaska identified calibrated  
Probability of Precipitation (PoP) values for 6-, 12-, and 24-hour periods  
that did not agree with the accompanying calibrated Percentiles of  
Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts (PQPF).

Upon investigation, it was determined that an incorrect land/water binary  
mask is being used for the Alaska domain, leading to un-calibrated PoP  
values in the product output. This update will apply the correct mask,  
allowing for the calibrated PoP values to be outputted to the QMD PoP  
Alaska product where available.

The locations on NOMADS of the affected files include:

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/blend/prod/blend.YYYYMMDD/C/core>

File names are blend.tCCz.core.fHHH.ak.grib2

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/blend/prod/blend.YYYYMMDD/C/qmd>

File names are blend.tCCz.qmd.fHHH.ak.grib2

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/blend/prod/blend.YYYYMMDD/C/text>

File names are blend\_nbetx.tCCz, blend\_nbptx.tCCz, blend\_nbstx.tCCz, and blend\_nbxtx.tCCz, respectively.

In the above paths, YYYYMMDD is the 8-digit year, month, and day, respectively; CC is the Blend cycle time; and HHH is the forecast projection.

A list of the headers that affect PoP06 and PoP12 over Alaska include:

For POP06:

YUAB12 KVEC  
YUAB18 KVEC  
YUAB24 KVEC  
YUAC06 KVEC  
YUAC12 KVEC  
YUAC18 KVEC  
YUAC24 KVEC  
YUAD06 KVEC  
YUAD12 KVEC  
YUAD18 KVEC  
YUAD24 KVEC  
YUAE06 KVEC  
YUAE12 KVEC  
YUAE18 KVEC  
YUAE24 KVEC  
YUAF06 KVEC  
YUAF12 KVEC  
YUAF18 KVEC  
YUAF24 KVEC  
YUAG06 KVEC  
YUAG12 KVEC  
YUAG18 KVEC  
YUAG24 KVEC  
YUAH06 KVEC  
YUAH12 KVEC  
YUAH18 KVEC  
YUAH24 KVEC  
YUAI06 KVEC

YUAI12 KWEC  
YUAI18 KWEC  
YUAI24 KWEC  
YUAJ06 KWEC  
YUAJ12 KWEC  
YUAJ18 KWEC  
YUAJ24 KWEC  
YUAK06 KWEC  
YUAK12 KWEC  
YUAK18 KWEC  
YUAK24 KWEC  
YUAL06 KWEC  
YUAL12 KWEC  
YUAL18 KWEC  
YUAL24 KWEC  
YUAM06 KWEC  
YUAM12 KWEC

For POP12:

YDAB12 KWEC  
YDAB24 KWEC  
YDAC12 KWEC  
YDAC24 KWEC  
YDAD12 KWEC  
YDAD24 KWEC  
YDAE12 KWEC  
YDAE24 KWEC  
YDAF12 KWEC  
YDAF24 KWEC  
YDAG12 KWEC  
YDAG24 KWEC  
YDAH12 KWEC  
YDAH24 KWEC  
YDAI12 KWEC  
YDAI24 KWEC  
YDAJ12 KWEC  
YDAJ24 KWEC  
YDAK12 KWEC  
YDAK24 KWEC  
YDAL12 KWEC  
YDAL24 KWEC

Any questions, comments or requests regarding this implementation should be directed to the contacts below.

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For questions regarding the dataflow for NWS/NCEP services, please contact:

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A webpage describing the NBM can be found at:

[http://www.weather.gov/mdl/nbm\\_home](http://www.weather.gov/mdl/nbm_home)

NWS National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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