Subject: Update to High-Resolution Ensemble Forecast (HREF): Effective September 13, 2022

Effective on or about September 13, 2022, beginning with the 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) run, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will upgrade the HREF system to correct an issue with the mean sea level pressure (MSLP) field. 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.

HREF output product change

A correction is made to how the HRRR member is processed for input into the HREF system. The MSLP field from the HRRR now will be included in the HREF mean and spread MSLP products with this change; previously the HRRR members were not being included in the calculations of these HREF MSLP products.

These changes will be present in the files noted below on both the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS) and ftpprd web services:

https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/href/prod/
ftp://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/href/prod

NOTE: The ftpprd link only works for FTP-enabled web browsers.

As the HRRR only provides members for the contiguous U.S. (CONUS) and Alaska domains, these are the only products impacted by the change.

href.tCCz.ak.mean.fFF.grib2 href.tCCz.ak.sprd.fFF.grib2
href.tCCz.conus.mean.fFF.grib2 href.tCCz.conus.sprd.fFF.grib2

This update will also change answers for Satellite Broadcast Network
(SBN)/NOAAPort output for the CONUS and Alaska domains for the “mean” output files.

NCEP urges all users to ensure their decoders can handle changes in content order, changes in the scaling factor component within the product definition section (PDS) of the gridded binary (GRIB) files, 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.

Any questions, comments or requests regarding this implementation should be directed to the contacts below. We will review any feedback and decide whether to proceed.

For questions regarding model products, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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