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From:   Judy Ghirardelli
Chief, Decision Support Division
Meteorological Development Laboratory

Subject: Soliciting Comments through March 19, 2023 on the Proposed
Removal of AutoNowCaster Products from the Multi-Radar, Multi-
Sensor Application

The NWS is accepting public comments until March 19, 2023 on the proposed
removal of the AutoNowCaster (ANC) products from the Multi-Radar, Multi-
Sensor (MRMS) application. ANC currently provides two products: 1) Convective Likelihood, which indicates regions where new storm initiation and/or the growth/sustainment of advecting storms is more, or less, likely, and 2) Final Forecast, which indicates 60-minute extrapolation of existing storms with reflectivities ≥ 35 dBZ (including growth and decay), and areas where new storms are likely to initiate, with three levels of new storm initiation.

The ANC data are currently available:

A. on the NCEP Local Data Manager (LDM):
Convective Likelihood products:
/nfsdata/realtime/outgoing/grib2/ANC/MRMS_ANC_ConvectiveLikelihood_00.00_YYYYMMDD-HHMM00.grib2.gz

Final Forecast products:
/nfsdata/realtime/outgoing/grib2/ANC/MRMS_ANC_FinalForecast_00.00_YYYYMMDD-HHMM00.grib2.gz

where YYYY is the 4 digit year, MM is the 2-digit month, DD is the 2-digit day, HH is the 2-digit hour, and MM is the 2-digit minutes

B. on NCEP Web Services:
Convective Likelihood products:
https://mrms.ncep.noaa.gov/data/2D/ANC/MRMS_ANC_ConvectiveLikelihood/

with file names:
MRMS_ANC_ConvectiveLikelihood.latest.grib2.gz
MRMS_ANC_ConvectiveLikelihood_00.00_YYYYMMDD-HHMM00.grib2.gz

Final Forecast products:
https://mrms.ncep.noaa.gov/data/2D/ANC/MRMS_ANC_FinalForecast/

with file names:
MRMS_ANC_FinalForecast.latest.grib2.gz
MRMS_ANC_FinalForecast_00.00_YYYYMMDD-HHMM00.grib2.gz

C. on the MRMS Operational Product Viewer
https://mrms.nssl.noaa.gov/qvs/product_viewer/ under the Product Type: AutoNowCaster

These products are not disseminated on the Satellite Broadcast Network (SBN).

ANC was incorporated into MRMS in the mid-2000s and is no longer being actively supported or upgraded, with required licenses soon expiring. In addition, increasingly, similar types of information are now being provided by other models that are receiving upgrades, such as the High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) model and the Localized Aviation MOS Program (LAMP) forecast guidance. For more information on these alternative systems, please refer to following sources:

HRRR: https://rapidrefresh.noaa.gov/
LAMP: https://vlab.noaa.gov/web/mdl/lamp (for LAMP guidance for convection and lightning, please refer to: https://www.nws.noaa.gov/mdl/gfslamp/cnvltg.php/)

If feedback supports this change, the NWS will send a Service Change Notice before removing the above products.

For providing comments on the above changes, please use the feedback form which can be accessed via this link:

https://forms.gle/95tXTabb9M13Ut3E7

Alternatively, you can provide comments by sending an email with “Feedback on Removal of AutoNowCaster Products” in the email subject to:

Judy Ghirardelli
Email: judy.ghirardelli@noaa.gov
Meteorological Development Laboratory
Decision Support Division Chief
DOC/NOAA/National Weather Service
Silver Spring, MD

and/or

Wendy Sellers
Email: Wendy.Sellers@noaa.gov
OSTI Research to Operations (R2O) Transition Manager
National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

NNNN