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Public Information Statement 25-23
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Daryl Kleist
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 Modeling and Data Assimilation Branch
 NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

Subject: Soliciting Comments through May 14, 2025 on the
Proposed Upgrade of the Global Forecast System (GFS) to Version
16.4.0

NWS is soliciting comments through May 14, 2025, on a proposed
upgrade of the operational GFS to version 16.4.0.

The proposed upgrade includes the following changes in the
Global Data Assimilation System (GDAS) to improve analysis and
forecast skill through the addition of new observations.

- Conventional observations:
 - * Enable assimilation of WindBorne balloon-based in situ observations
 - * Enable assimilation of saildrone observations
- Retrieved ozone from satellite:
 - * Assimilate ozone retrieval from NOAA-19 Ozone Mapper and Profiler Suite (OMPS)
- Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) radio occultation observations:
 - * Assimilation of observations from the Sentinel-6 satellite
 - * Modification to observation error model
- Satellite radiances:
 - * Enable Global Precipitation Measurement Mission (GPM) Microwave Imager (GMI) radiance assimilation
- Bug fixes:
 - * Fix to address a bias in ship pressure observations
 - * Jacobian check to improve minimization
- Preparation for upcoming observations:
 - * Meteorological Operational satellite-Second Generation (Metop-SG):

** Infrared Atmospheric Sounding Interferometer-New Generation
(IASI-NG)
** Microwave Sounder (MWS)
* Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite 19
(GOES-19):
** Clear Sky Radiances (CSR)

Please submit comments, questions, or requests on the proposed
upgrade to:

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