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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 26-78
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: David Michaud, Director
NCEP Central Operations
National Centers for Environmental Prediction

Subject: Upgrade to HYSPLIT 9.1 to Couple the Rapid Refresh Forecast System (RRFS) into HYSPLIT and retire the coupling of the North American Mesoscale Model (NAM)and the High Resolution Ensemble Forecast (HREF) with HYSPLIT. Effective Oct 14, 2026

On Oct 14 , 2026, the HYSPLIT transport and dispersion model version 9.0 will be upgraded to version 9.1. In case of Critical Weather Day or declaration of Enhanced Caution status, this upgrade may be delayed to the next business day. This version includes the following upgrades:

- Coupling the Rapid Refresh Forecast System (RRFS) into HYSPLIT
- Retiring the coupling of the North American Mesoscale Model (NAM) with HYSPLIT.
- Retiring the coupling of the High Resolution Ensemble Forecast (HREF) with HYSPLIT.

This upgrade will increase the data volume for input, output, post-process fields and products due to the proposed higher spatial and vertical resolution.

Specifically, ARL-Packed format meteorological input files will be extended as follows:

- Add RRFS forecasts formatted for HYSPLIT, over multiple domains including North American (na), Hawaii (hi), Alaska (ak) ,Puerto Rico (pr) and fire weather (firewx):
  - hysplit.tCCz.rrfs.${domain}
Where domain = na, hi, pr, firewx
  - hysplit.tCCz.rrfsfHH.${domain}
Where domain = ak,conus
where HH = forecast hour (00, 06, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42)

- Add RRFS archived formatted for HYSPLIT, over multiple domains including North American (na), Hawaii (hi), Alaska (ak) and Puerto Rico (pr):
  - hysplit.tCCz.rrfsa.${domain}
Where domain = na,ak,hi,pr

For all the files listed above,
where CC = 00, 06, 12, 18 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) cycle

ARL-Packed format meteorological input files will be removed as follows:

hysplit.tCCz.nama
hysplit.tCCz.namf
hysplit.tCCz.namsa
hysplit.tCCz.namsa.AK
hysplit.tCCz.namsa.HI
hysplit.tCCz.namsf
hysplit.tCCz.namsf.AK
hysplit.tCCz.namsf.FW
hysplit.tCCz.namsf.FW.center.txt
hysplit.tCCz.namsf.HI
hysplit.tCCz.namsfHH.CONUS
where HH = forecast hour (00, 06, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42)

hysplit.tCCz.rens.hiresw.m0M
Where M = ensemble member (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

hysplit.tCCz.rens.hrrr.m0M
Where M = ensemble member (1, 2)

hysplit.tCCz.rens.nam.m0M
Where M = ensemble member (1, 2)

where CC = 00, 06, 12, 18 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) cycle

The expected product delay due to using the new RRFS products:

- canned_wfo.YYYYMMDD/$LOC_tCCz.* -~45 - 50 min late

- dustcs.YYYYMMDD/dustcs.t06z.{sfc,pbl}.1hr{.grib2,_227.grib2} ~11 - 15 min late
- dustcs.YYYYMMDD/dustcs.t12z.{sfc,pbl}.1hr{.grib2,_227.grib2} ~45 - 50 min late

NOTE: These changes will only be applicable to CONUS results. Alaska and Hawaii will continue using CMAQ v4

Current model data is available here:
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/hysplit/prod/

An event driven parallel feed of the HYSPLITv9.1 data is available on the NCEP sites at the following URLs:
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/hysplit/para/

Send any comments on the science aspects of this upgrade to:

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For questions on the dataflow aspects, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification

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