

NOUS41 KWBC 062050  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 26-91  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
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To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:       David Michaud, Director  
              NWS Central Operations

Subject: Upgrade Nearshore Wave Prediction System to v1.5: Effective on  
or about November 09, 2026

Effective November 9, 2026, beginning with the 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) run, the National Weather Service (NWS) will implement an upgrade to the Nearshore Wave Prediction System (NWPS) to version 1.5. In the event that the implementation date is declared a Critical Weather Day (CWD), an Enhanced Caution Event (ECE), or other significant weather is occurring or is anticipated to occur, implementation of this change will take place the next weekday not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring.

This upgrade expands Probabilistic Rip Risk and Wave Runup data to eleven WFOs in the Western and Southern Regions listed below:

LOX, MTR, EKA, MFR, PQR, SEW, SGX, BRO, LCH, LIX and CRP.

New products will be available at the following locations/names:

[NOMADS](#):

Rip probability products:

[https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/\\${region}.YYYYMMDD/\\${wfo}/\\${CYC}/CG1/nwps.t\\${CYC}z.5m\\_cg1\\_ripprob.\\${wfo}.txt](https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/CG1/nwps.t${CYC}z.5m_cg1_ripprob.${wfo}.txt)

Runup products:

[https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/\\${region}.YYYYMMDD/\\${wfo}/\\${CYC}/CG1/nwps.t\\${CYC}z.20m\\_cg1\\_runup.\\${wfo}.txt](https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/CG1/nwps.t${CYC}z.20m_cg1_runup.${wfo}.txt)

In these 11 domains additional wave runup and rip current products will also be included on the CG1 (overall domain) grids grib2 file

(nwps.t\${CYC}z.cg1.\${wfo}.grib2):

- \* Erosion Occurrence Probability (%) - EROSNP
- \* Overwash Occurrence Probability (%) - OWASHP
- \* Total Water Level Accounting for Tide, Wind and Waves (m) - TWLWAV
- \* Total Water Level Increase due to Waves (m) - RUNUP
- \* Mean Increase in Water Level due to Waves (m) - SETUP
- \* Time-varying Increase in Water Level due to Waves (m) - SWASH
- \* Total Water Level Above Dune Toe (m) - TWLDT
- \* Total Water Level Above Dune Crest (m) - TWLDC
- \* Rip current probability (%) - RIPCOP

For WFO EKA (WR), an additional nested grid (CG2) will be added to transmit high-resolution wave-current interaction results for the Humboldt Bay Spit. Grib2 Product for this computational grid will be available at the following locations/names:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/eka/${CYC}/CG2/nwps.t${CYC}z.cg2.eka.grib2
```

For PQR, the CG2 nested domain that covered the Grays Harbor Bar is moved to SEW domain and stored as CG2. Grib2 Product for this computational grid will be available at the following locations/names:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/sew/${CYC}/CG2/nwps.t${CYC}z.cg2.sew.grib2
```

New Files:

Wind only runs for EKA and SEW will be located in the cg3 file and will be available at the following location:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/(eka|sew)/${CYC}/CG3/nwps.t${CYC}z.cg3.(eka|sew).grib2
```

Additionally, this release will rename products to comply with NCO standards with the changes listed below:

NOMADS:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/${gridID}/${wfo}_nwps_${gridID}_YYYYMMDD_${cyc}00.grib2 -> nwps.t${CYC}z.${gridID}.${wfo}.grib2
```

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/CG0/${wfo}_nwps	CG0_Trkng_YYYYMMDD_${cyc}00.grib2 -> nwps.t${CYC}z.cg0.trkng.${wfo}.grib2
```

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/CG1/nwps.t${CYC}z.20m	CG1_runup.${wfo}.txt -> nwps.t${CYC}z.20m_cg1_runup.${wfo}.txt
```

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/CG01/nwps.t${CYC}z.5m	CG1_ripprob.${wfo}.txt -> nwps.t${CYC}z.5m_cg1_ripprob.${wfo}.txt
```

All spc2d outputs will be renamed to ensure letters are all lower case. Renamed files will be available at:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/${region}.YYYYMMDD/${wfo}/${CYC}/CG1/nwps.t${CYC}.spc2d_${buoyID}_cg1.${wfo}.txt
```

The estofs directory within the ofs.YYYYMMDD will be changing to stofs to match the models name change from Extratropical Surge and Tide Operational Forecast System to Surge and Tide Operational Forecast

System. The files within the stofs directory will also change to reflect the stofs name. Eg:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/ofs.YYY
YMMDD/${MODEL}/wave_estofs_waterlevel_1788048000_YYYYMMDD_${CYC}_ffff.dat
->
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/ofs.YYYYMMDD/${M
ODEL}/wave_stofs_waterlevel_1788048000_YYYYMMDD_${CYC}_
ffff.dat
```

The tar files will be renamed to include the cycle. Example:

```
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/ofs.YYY
YMMDD/${MODEL}/${wfo}_output.tar ->
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/prod/ofs.YYY
YMMDD/${MODEL}/nwps.t${CYC}z.${wfo}_output.tar
```

Please note that in the above file names:

- YYYYMMDD is the date
- CYC is the forecast cycle (00,06,12,18)
- MODEL is either rtofs or stofs
- gridID will be the Computational Grid for each domain (e.g CG1,CG2, etc.,) and will be consistently lowercase letters in all file names (not paths)
- buoyID will be the station ID for the point outputs. In cases where it contains letters, they will all be converted to lowercase e.g :  
nwps.tl2z.spc2d\_Big\_Rock\_CG1.mhx.txt  
>> nwps.tl2z.spc2d\_big\_rock\_cg1.mhx.txt

Timing changes:

Of the 12 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) transitioning from nested regular grids to unstructured meshes, eight will deliver products on all grids (main and nested) 10-30 minutes later than the current version due to longer forecast job runtimes: EKA, LOX, LWX, BRO, LCH, LIX, PQR and MTR. AER, AFG, AJK, and MFR will see delays on CG0 and CG1 grids, while products from their remaining nested domains will arrive 10-40 minutes earlier.

While not moving to an unstructured mesh, WFO SEW products will also arrive 25-30 minutes later due to transitioning to a higher-resolution structured grid to support rip current and runup guidance products.

Remaining domains that have not had grid or product upgrades will see delivery times improve by 5 to 15 minutes due to core model optimizations.

WMO Product Information:

Additional WMO headed data will be available for the new EKA and SEW products. Information regarding these headers can be found here:

[https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/docs/wmo\\_nwpsv1\\_5.txt](https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/docs/wmo_nwpsv1_5.txt)

Discontinued Products:

As we transition 12 Weather Forecast Offices from nested regular grids to unstructured meshes, native model output from these

meshes will be interpolated back to the existing regular grid series. Consequently, nested domain runs along with their associated spectral point output files will be discontinued. This change exclusively affects the subset of domains that originally produced these outputs: LOX, MTR, EKA, MFR, PQR, AJK, AER, AFG, and LIX.

Discontinued Product Pattern:  
nwps.tcc.spc2d.NNNNN\_CG{2|3|4|5}.\${wmo}.txt

In these unstructured domains, CG1 spectral point outputs will serve as replacements for the discontinued products.

A consistent parallel feed of NWPS model data will be available on the NWS servers via the following URLs:  
<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nwps/para>

NCEP encourages users to ensure their decoders are flexible and are able to adequately handle changes in content order, changes in the scaling factor component within the product definition section (PDS) of the Gridded Binary (GRIB) files, and any volume changes which may be forthcoming. These elements may change with future NCEP model implementations. NCEP will make every attempt to alert users to these changes prior to any implementations.

Development versions of NWPS were previously distributed at the following location:

<ftp://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/nwps/dev/>

Distribution of this data to <https://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/nwps/> will end on or about Nov 9, 2026, when NWPSv1.5 becomes operational.

For users who previously accessed development data from the non-operational Polar server, you must transition to the operational NOMADS distribution mechanism.

Please submit comments, questions, or requests pertaining to this upgrade to:

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[saeideh.banihashemi@noaa.gov](mailto:saeideh.banihashemi@noaa.gov)

For questions about 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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