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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement, Comment Request  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington, DC  
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-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
-NOAAPORT  
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From: John Derber, Acting Chief  
Global Climate and Weather Modeling Branch  
NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

Subject: Soliciting Public Comments through February 20,  
2013, on the Removal of NCEP's Legacy Global  
Forecast System (GFS) Low-Resolution Products

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) is proposing to stop producing some legacy low-resolution gridded products from the Global Forecast System (GFS), and stop disseminating them via NOAAPORT and the NWS ftp server. The NWS is seeking comments on this proposed change through February 20, 2013.

The operational GFS model is currently run at a resolution of T574L64, approximately 27 km. Today output is made available from the GFS on grids ranging in resolution from 5km up to 5 degrees latitude/longitude. Many of these legacy low-resolution grids are available for limited forecast hours and fields, and are not produced for all cycles of the GFS. The same information is provided on finer-resolution grids. In addition, many of these products have been removed from the NCEP ftp server and are only distributed via NOAAPORT and the NWS ftp server. Removing these legacy products will free up compute and network resources for newer products.

Operational GFS output is distributed via NOAAPORT, the NWS FTP server, the NOMADS system

<http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov>

and the NCEP ftp server. Output is available from 00-192 hours every 3 hours and from 204-384 hours every 12 hours for the 00Z, 06Z, 12Z, 18Z cycle times. Output is available on multiple resolutions and output grids, including 0.5 degree, 1.0 degree, and 2.5 degree grids. A catalogue of GFS output products and their availability on multiple ftp servers can be found at

<http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/>

Listed below are the gridded products available on NOAAPORT and the NWS ftp server that NCEP is proposing to remove.

Grid	Resolution	Area	Map Projection
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Family of Service (FOS) grids

#21	5x2.5	0-180E, 0-90N	latitude/longitude
#22	5x2.5	180W-0, 0-90N	latitude/longitude
#23	5x2.5	0-180E, 90S-0	latitude/longitude
#24	5x2.5	180W-0, 90S-0	latitude/longitude
#25	5x5	0-355E, 0-90N	latitude/longitude
#26	5x5	0-355E, 90S-0	latitude/longitude

AWIPS grids

#201	381 km	N. Hemisphere	Polar Stereographic
#202	190.5 km	CONUS	Polar Stereographic
#203	190.5 km	Alaska	Polar Stereographic
#204	160 km	Hawaii	Mercator
#205	190.5 km	Puerto Rico	Polar Stereographic

WAFS grids -- only the 00Z cycle grids for hours 96 through 168 are proposed for removal

#37	1.25x1.25	0-90N, 330-60E	latitude/longitude
#39	1.25x1.25	0-90N, 150-240E	latitude/longitude
#40	1.25x1.25	0-90N, 240-330E	latitude/longitude

The AWIPS grid #201 products are available on NOAAPORT in both GRIB1 and GRIB2 format, and both are proposed for removal. More information about the model grids listed above is available at

<http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/docs/on388/tableb.html>

WMO headers for these products slated for removal are listed at:

[http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/docs/gfs\\_legacy\\_remove.shtml](http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/docs/gfs_legacy_remove.shtml)

In addition to being available on NOAAPORT, many of these grids are available on the NWS FTP server at:

[ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/MT.mrf\\_CY.00/RD.yyyymmdd/PT.grid\\_DF.bb/](ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/MT.mrf_CY.00/RD.yyyymmdd/PT.grid_DF.bb/) and

[ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/MT.gfs\\_CY.zz/RD.yyyymmdd/PT.grid\\_DF.bb/](ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/MT.gfs_CY.zz/RD.yyyymmdd/PT.grid_DF.bb/)

where yyyyymmdd is the 4-digit year, 2-digit month, and 2-digit day, and zz is the 2-digit model cycle.

NWS will evaluate all comments to determine whether to proceed with this change. If approved, a TIN will be issued giving 30 days notice of the implementation date.

Send comments on this proposal to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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