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Service Change Notice 15-04
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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FROM: David Novak
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SUBJECT: Downscaled version of WPC Probabilistic Winter
Precipitation Forecasts (GRIB only) Effective
February 26, 2015

Effective Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will add a downscaled version of the Probabilistic Winter Precipitation Forecasts (PWPF) of snow and ice accumulation.

Currently smooth probabilistic information is provided on the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) 5 km horizontal resolution grid. WPC will add a downscaled version of the PWPF data on the 2.5 km NDFD grid. The addition only affects GRIB data and is not reflected in web or GIS products. The addition is based on numerous stakeholder requests and is part of continual product improvement. The downscaling uses monthly PRISM data. Enhanced product detail is most evident in the western United States, with lessor effects in the East.

Current 5 km PWPF snow and ice forecasts in GRIB2 format are available at:

<ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pwpf/conus/>

The additional downscaled PWPF snow and ice forecasts in GRIB2 format will be available after 1800 UTC, February 26, 2015, at:

ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pwpf/conus_2.5km

No changes will be made to WMO headers or web products; however, grid file sizes for the full PWPF suite will increase from approximately 2 mb to as much as 100 mb in aggregate size.

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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