

NOUS41 KWBC 221325  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 17-20  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
825 AM EST Wed Feb 22 2017

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From:         David Novak  
              Director, Weather Prediction Center

Subject:      Upgrade to WPC Probabilistic Quantitative  
              Precipitation Forecasts over CONUS: Effective May 10, 2017

Effective Wednesday, May 10, 2017, beginning with the 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) issuance, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction Center (WPC) will change the Probabilistic Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (PQPF) products as follows:

- Upgrade all products from the 5-km resolution National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) grid to a 2.5-km resolution grid which fully covers the Northwest River Forecast Center basin
- Provide additional probabilistic grids describing the distribution standard deviation and the 5th, 25th, 75th and 95th percentile values of the cumulative distribution function
- Issue the 6-, 24- and 72-hour accumulation grids four times per day

All products will be disseminated on the Satellite Broadcast Network (SBN), NOAAPort, and an ftp server in GRIB2 format.

Test grids for the 2.5-km products will be available in GRIB2 format with World Meteorological Organization (WMO) headers on or about Wednesday, February 22, 2017, on the WPC ftp server:

[ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/test\\_2p5km\\_pqpf/conus/pqpf\\_6hr](ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/test_2p5km_pqpf/conus/pqpf_6hr)

[ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/test\\_2p5km\\_pqpf/conus/pqpf\\_24hr](ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/test_2p5km_pqpf/conus/pqpf_24hr)

[ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/test\\_2p5km\\_pqpf/conus/pqpf\\_72hr](ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/test_2p5km_pqpf/conus/pqpf_72hr)

Upon implementation on May 10, 2017, the 2.5-km grids will be available via ftp at:

[ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/conus/pqpf\\_6hr](ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/conus/pqpf_6hr)

[ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/conus/pqpf\\_24hr](ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/conus/pqpf_24hr)

[ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/conus/pqpf\\_72hr](ftp://ftp.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/conus/pqpf_72hr)

The new 2.5-km resolution data will replace the 5-km products and reuse the existing 5-km WMO headers. Additional headers will be allocated to accommodate the new probabilistic grids. A listing of the WMO headers affected by this change notice is provided at the URL below:

[http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/WPC\\_PQPF\\_SCN.pdf](http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pqpf/WPC_PQPF_SCN.pdf)

For questions regarding the implementation please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive#scn>

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