

NOUS41 KWBC 021355
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 19-37
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
955 AM EST Mon Dec 2 2019

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From: Jason Levit
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Subject: Soliciting Public Comments on the Removal of Products
 from the Global Ensemble Forecast System (GEFS)
 through December 31, 2019

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) is soliciting comments through December 31, 2019, on removing certain products from the Global Ensemble Forecast System (GEFS).

The products listed below are forecast data produced by the GEFS at a 2.5 x 2.5 degree spatial resolution, 1.25 x 1.25 degree spatial resolution, and at 1.0 x 1.0 degree spatial resolution. Currently, the highest spatial resolution data produced by the GEFS is at 0.5 x 0.5 degrees. NCEP is proposing to not produce data at the 2.5, 1.25, and 1.0 degree resolutions. The 0.5 x 0.5 degree GEFS data will be the only resolution produced under this proposal.

These changes will occur when the next version of the GEFS, Version 12, is implemented into operations, tentatively scheduled for August 2020.

The following products will be removed from NCEP Web Services, including NOMADS grib filter, OpenDAP, FTP, TGFTP and SBN/NOAAPORT:

For FTP, NOMADS and OpenDAP, data and files from the following list:

<https://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/gens/prod/>
<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/gens/prod/>

- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/pgrb2a
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/pgrb2alr
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/pgrb2b
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/pgrb2blr
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/pgrb2ap5/*.anl
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/pgrb2bp5/*.anl
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/CC/wafs
- gefs.YYYYMMDD/00/ensstat

Where YYYYMMDD is the initialization year, month, and day, and CC is the model cycle (00, 06, 12, and 18 UTC), with the exception of the ensstat directory, which is only generated at 00 UTC.

The data in the pgrb2alr and pbgr2blr directories represent all forecast fields from the GEFS at a 2.5 x 2.5 degree resolution. The data in the pgrb2a and pgrb2b directories represent all forecast fields from the GEFS at a 1.0 x 1.0 degree resolution. These products are replaced by the data in the pgrb2ap5 and pgrb2bp5 directories, which are at a 0.5 x 0.5 degree resolution.

Only the analysis files (*.anl) data in the pgrb2ap5 and pbgr2bp5 directories are proposed for removal. The initial forecast hour (f000) data files in these directories contain the information in the *.anl files so the *.anl files are redundant.

The data in the wafs directories is of 1.25 x 1.25 degree resolution and only contains information from selected variables and 10 ensemble members. The 0.5 x 0.5 degree forecast files in the pgrb2ap5 and pgrb2bp5 directories contain all members and are of a higher resolution with all variables, and replace the wafs data.

For TGFTP, data and files from the following list:

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/
- MT.ensg_CY.CC/RD.YYYYMMDD/PT.grid_DF.gr2_RE.high
- MT.ensg_CY.CC/RD.YYYYMMDD/PT.grid_DF.gr2_RE.low

Where YYYYMMDD is the initialization year, month, and day, and CC is the model cycle (00, 06, 12, and 18 UTC). These data contain GEFS variables at both 2.5 and 1.0 degree resolution, and contain data also available using the NOMADS and FTP services, so this data is considered a duplicate.

For SBN/NOAAPORT, GRIB1 data containing WAFS38, WAFS39 and WAFS40 data. These files contain data at 1.25 x 1.25 degree resolution for select regions with only 10 GEFS members and has been replaced by the data files at 0.5 x 0.5 degree resolution with full ensemble membership over the entire globe.

For a list of WMO headers that will be removed for these GRIB1 products, please use the following HTML links:

<https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/noaaport/wafs38.ens.header.out>
<https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/noaaport/wafs39.ens.header.out>
<https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/noaaport/wafs40.ens.header.out>

For SBN/NOAAPORT, GRIB2 data at 1.25 X 1.25 degree resolution for bias corrected precipitation and 2 meter temperature. These files are data created by the North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS), and interpolated to a 1.25 x 1.25 degree resolution during GEFS data production. These products are produced by the NAEFS at a 0.5 x 0.5 degree spatial resolution, and are therefore redundant.

For a list of WMO headers that will be removed for these GRIB2 products, please use the following HTML links:

https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/noaaport/gefs_naefs_2tmp.header.out

https://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/noaaport/gefs_naefs_apcp.header.out

The 1.0 x 1.0 degree data currently available to NWS Forecast Offices and National Service Centers AWIPS systems via the data delivery method on openDaP and NOMADS, will be replaced with 0.5 x 0.5 degree data.

NWS will collect comments on this proposed product removal for 30 days. If product removal is approved, a Service Change Notice will be issued giving 30 days of notice of the termination date.

Send comments on this proposal to:

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