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FROM: Bruce Entwistle
Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

SUBJECT: Operational Implementation of AWC Extended Traffic Flow Management (TFM) Convective Forecast (TCF)
Effective February 28, 2019

Effective February 28, 2019 at 1900 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC), the experimental Extended TCF produced by the NWS Aviation Weather Center (AWC) will transition to operational status. The effective date of this change is sooner than specified by NWS policy (NWS Instruction 10-1805). The reduction of the normal advance lead time was approved after coordination with the primary consumer of the product.

The Extended TCF graphics are produced every 2 hours, 24 hours a day and valid at 10-, 12-, 14-, 16-, 18-, 20-, 22-, 24-, 26-, 28- and 30-hours after issuance time. The TCF domain is the Flight Information Regions (FIR) covering the 48 contiguous states and adjacent coastal waters.

The Extended TCF is used by air traffic management decision makers in support of convective weather mitigation strategies within the National Airspace System (NAS). It is designed to meet the needs of TFM decision makers at the Air Traffic Control System Command Center (ATCSCC), FAA Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) Traffic Management Units (TMU), and airline and corporate Flight Operations Centers (FOC). The Extended TCF issuance supports the FAA’s Strategic Planning (SP) webinar.

The Extended TCF provides the meteorological information necessary to meet the needs of the FAA pursuant to Title 49 United States Code Section 44720.

Extended TCF dissemination:
- Posted on the Aviation Weather Center website: https://aviationweather.gov/tcf/extended
- NWS Telecommunications Gateway
The Product Description Document can be found at:

For questions regarding the Extended TCF, please contact:
Jonathan Leffler
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
Aviation Weather Center
Phone:  816-584-7239
Email:  Jonathan.Leffler@noaa.gov

NWS Service Change Notices are online at:
https://www.weather.gov/notification/

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