

NOUS41 KWBC 221200 AAA
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 09-30...AMENDED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
800 AM EDT THU OCT 22 2009

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
-NOAAPORT
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: TIM MCCLUNG
SCIENCE PLANS BRANCH CHIEF
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBJECT: AMENDED: UPGRADE TO REAL TIME OCEAN FORECAST SYSTEM:
EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 4 2009

REFER TO: TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ 09-30
TRANSMITTED ON SEPTEMBER 14 2009.

AMENDED TO POSTPONE THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE UNTIL WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 4 2009.

ON NOVEMBER 4 2009...BEGINNING WITH THE 0000 UTC COORDINATED
UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ RUN...THE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION /NCEP/ WILL MAKE SEVERAL CHANGES TO
THE REAL TIME OCEAN FORECAST SYSTEM /RTOFS/. THESE CHANGES
ARE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE OF THE ATLANTIC FORECAST
AND ASSIMILATION SYSTEM.

THE MODEL CHANGES INCLUDE:

1. CHANGE SEA SURFACE HEIGHT /SSH/ ASSIMILATION QUALITY
CONTROL CRITERIA AND MASK TO EXPOSE MORE OF THE REGION TO
SSH DATA.
2. RESET BASIN AVERAGE SSH AND UPDATE MEAN DYNAMIC TOPOGRAPHY
TO BETTER MATCH OPEN BOUNDARY CONDITIONS.
3. ADD BOGUS SSH ANOMALY DATA OFFSHORE OF THE MID ATLANTIC
BIGHT TO CONTROL GULF STREAM PATH.
4. UPDATE TIDAL ELEVATIONS AND TRANSPORT BOUNDARY CONDITIONS
FROM THE GLOBAL INVERSE TIDE MODEL TPX07.

THE COMBINED EFFECT OF THESE CHANGES HAS RESULTED IN THE
FOLLOWING IMPROVEMENTS TO MODEL PERFORMANCE:

1. SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN SPURIOUS CURRENTS AND EDDIES IN

THE TROPICAL ATLANTIC AND EQUATORIAL ZONES.

2. MORE REALISTIC GULF STREAM AND LOOP CURRENT IN THE GULF OF MEXICO WHICH COMPARES WELL WITH OBSERVED PATHS.
3. BETTER AGREEMENT WITH MEASURED TRANSPORTS FROM AOML CABLE DATA NEAR 27 N FROM FLORIDA TO THE BAHAMAS.
4. SIGNIFICANTLY BETTER REPRESENTATION OF WATER TEMPERATURE AND SALINITY AT THE WORLD OCEAN CIRCULATION EXPERIMENT /WOCE/ SECTIONS.
5. REDUCTION IN SST ERRORS WHEN COMPARED TO INSITU DATA.
6. SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN REPRODUCTION OF MESOSCALE FEATURES NEAR U.S. EAST COAST AS SHOWN IN INDEPENDENT SSH ANALYSIS BASED ON JASON-1 AND JASON-2 ALTIMETER DATA.

DATA FORMAT VOLUME AND DELIVERY WILL NOT BE IMPACTED BY THIS IMPLEMENTATION.

A CONSISTENT PARALLEL FEED OF DATA WILL BECOME AVAILABLE ON THE NCEP FTP SERVER ONCE THE MODEL IS RUNNING IN PARALLEL ON THE NCEP CENTRAL COMPUTING SYSTEM ON SEPTEMBER 15 2009. AT THIS TIME THE PARALLEL DATA WILL BECOME AVAILABLE VIA THE FOLLOWING URL /USE LOWERCASE/:

[FTP://FTP.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/PUB/DATA/NCCF/COM/OFS/PARA](ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/ofc/para)

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING CENTER /EMC/ HAS A PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE WHICH CAN PROVIDE USERS MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RTOFS /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://POLAR.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/OFS/INDEX.SHTML](http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/ofc/index.shtml)

NCEP ENCOURAGES ALL USERS TO ENSURE THEIR DECODERS ARE FLEXIBLE AND ARE ABLE TO ADEQUATELY HANDLE CHANGES IN CONTENT...PARAMETER FIELDS CHANGING ORDER...CHANGES IN THE SCALING FACTOR COMPONENT WITHIN THE PDS OF THE GRIB FILES AND ANY VOLUME CHANGES WHICH MAY OCCUR. THESE ELEMENTS MAY CHANGE WITH FUTURE NCEP MODEL IMPLEMENTATIONS. NCEP WILL MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO ALERT USERS TO THESE CHANGES PRIOR TO ANY IMPLEMENTATIONS.

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SCIENTIFIC CONTENT OF THE RTOFS...PLEASE CONTACT:

AVICHAL MEHRA
NCEP/EMC
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND 20746
301-763-8000 X7208
AVICHAL.MEHRA@NOAA.GOV

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE DATAFLOW ASPECTS OF THESE DATA

SETS...PLEASE CONTACT:

REBECCA COSGROVE
NCEP/NCO DATAFLOW TEAM
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND 20746
301-763-8000 X 7198
NCEP.LIST.PMB-DATAFLOW@NOAA.GOV

NWS NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT
/USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm)

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