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Technical Implementation Notice 12-35
NOAA's National Ocean Service Headquarters Washington DC
Related by National Weather Service Washington DC
250 PM EDT Mon Jul 30 2012

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From: Peter Stone
Chief, Oceanographic Division
NOS Center for Operational Oceanographic
Products and Services (CO-OPS)

Subject: Changes in lateral open boundary conditions for the
National Ocean Service's new Operational Forecast
System for the Columbia River and Estuary (CREOFS),
Effective September 25, 2012

Effective September 25, 2012, beginning at 1500 Coordinated
Universal Time (UTC), 10:00 AM EDT, the NOAA/National Ocean
Service CREOFS will be forced by NCEP's global operational Real-
Time Ocean Forecast System (RTOFS). CREOFS field outputs will be
separated into multiple NetCDF files. For the nowcast cycle, the
field output NetCDF file name is like

`nos.creoifs.fields.n{HH}.t{YYYYMMDD}.t{CYC}z.nc`

For forecast cycle, the field output NetCDF file name is like

`nos.creoifs.fields.f{HH}.t{YYYYMMDD}.t{CYC}z.nc`

where HH is the nowcast/forecast hour (i.e. 00, 01,...48) and CYC
is the model cycle runtime, i.e., 03, 09, 15, 21.

CREOFS will provide users with nowcast (analyses of near present)
and forecast guidance of the three-dimensional physical
conditions of the Columbia River and Estuary, including surface
water levels and 3-D water currents, water temperature, and
salinity out to 48 hours.

Currently, most of NOS' 3-D Operational Forecast Systems (OFS)
rely on NCOM for their lateral ocean boundary conditions. The
Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVO) is transitioning to a new
computer system and only plans to transition Global HYCOM to the
new system. Therefore, NAVO will stop running Global NCOM in
September, 2012. Global RTOFS runs at NCEP on the same computer

system as the NOS OFS; thereby making G-RTOFS model outputs directly accessible to NOS OFS. As a result, G-RTOFS is the first choice for lateral ocean open boundary conditions for all NOS OFS. The Navy's Global HYCOM will serve as a backup for NCEP's G-RTOFS. G-HYCOM uses the same numerical ocean model and has similar system configurations as NCEP's RTOFS making the outputs from both G-RTOFS and G-HYCOM similar and comparable.

Gridded and point forecast guidance from CREOFS will be available in netCDF files on the NCEP server at NOAA's Web Operations Centers (WOC) (<ftp://ftp.prdd.ncep.noaa.gov>) in the directory

</pub/data/nccf/com/nos/prod/creofs.yyyymmdd>

at NOS/CO-OPS OPeNDAP server

<http://opendap.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/netcdf/>

and at CO-OPS THREDDS server

<http://opendap.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/thredds/catalog.html>

CREOFS output is displayed on the CO-OPS web page at,

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov>

Additional information about CREOFS can be found at

<http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/models.html>

CREOFS predictions are used by commercial and recreational mariners and fishermen, emergency managers, search and rescue operations, and NWS marine weather forecasters. The development and implementation of CREOFS was a joint project of the NOS/Office of Coast Survey (OCS), the NOS/Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS), NWS/NCEP/NCO and the Oregon Health & Science University. CREOFS is monitored 24 x 7 by both NCO/NCEP and CO-OPS Continuous Real-Time Monitoring System (CORMS) personnel.

If you have any questions concerning these changes, please contact:

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or

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For questions regarding the dataflow aspects with respect to the NCEP server at the WOC, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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