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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 15-21
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
-Family of Services
-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
-NOAAPORT
Other NWS partners, Users and Employees

From: Rebecca Cosgrove
Chief, NCEP Production Management Branch

Subject: Discontinuation of the NCEP FTP Server Effective
August 18, 2015

Effective on August 18, 2015, at 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will discontinue the NCEP FTP (FTPPRD) server. At that time, all data that was available on FTPPRD will only be available on the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS) server. Data on this server will not be accessible via FTP downloads. Rather, FTP customers will be required to transition to http for data downloads.

The benefit of this change is that NOMADS http data will be transitioned to a Content Delivery Network (CDN) with increased server redundancy. This change will provide greater reliability and improved up time for web content and data availability. In addition, transitioning this content to a CDN will remove reliance on the NCEP network for http downloads, which is expected to provide improved download performance for http users.

On August 18, 2015, NCEP will discontinue the following data dissemination services:

<ftp://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov>
<http://ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov>
<ftp://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov>
<http://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov>
<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov>
<http://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov>

All data at the above sites will be available at the following sites:

<http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov>
<http://www.nomads.ncep.noaa.gov>

The directory structure for http data on NOMADS is similar to the data structure at the discontinued FTPPRD sites:

<http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/model/prod>
<http://www.nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/model/prod>

Note the /pub/ field and the variable /model/ field in the directory structure on NOMADS.

Users are encouraged to establish parallel feeds of the data from NOMADS starting May 15, 2015.

Available tools for http data downloads include wget or cURL. Information about how to use wget can be found at:

http://www.gnu.org/software/wget/manual/html_node/Simple-Usage.html

For information about how to use cURL for fast downloading of grib2 files, please reference:

http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/txt_descriptions/fast_downloading_grib.shtml

For questions regarding data retrievals from NOMADS, contact:

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For questions regarding the transition to the CDN, contact:

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NWS National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notif.htm>

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