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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 10-35...Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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To: Subscribers:
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-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
-NOAAPORT
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From: Tim McClung
Chief, Science Plans Branch
Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Amended: Horizontal Resolution change for CONUS RTMA on NDGD Postponed until September 28, 2010.

Due to system software issues requiring NCEP to reschedule the change on its supercomputers, NCEP is postponing the effective date of the resolution changes for the CONUS RTMA from September 14 until September 28. A clarification on the filenames on the NCEP server is also included in this amendment.

On Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 1200 coordinated universal time (UTC) the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will change the horizontal resolution of the Real-Time Mesoscale Analysis (RTMA) for the contiguous United States (CONUS) on the National Digital Guidance Database (NDGD).

The RTMA is a set of gridded surface analyses and surface analysis uncertainty fields made available at an hourly temporal frequency. The CONUS RTMA are now made available on both NOAAPORT and the NDGD at a horizontal resolution of 5 kilometers (km). The CONUS RTMA will change from a horizontal resolution of 5 TO 2.5 km on the NDGD with the exception of the GOES Effective Cloud Amount which will remain at a horizontal resolution of 5 km.

Only the CONUS RTMA on the NDGD will change resolution, the RTMA available on NOAAPORT will continue to be available at a horizontal resolution of 5 km. The 2.5 km RTMA products will be added to NOAAPORT in the coming months. A separate Technical Implementation Notice (TIN) will be issued announcing that change.

The grids listed in Table 1 below will change to a resolution of 2.5 km. The grids listed in Table 2 will continue to be provided at a horizontal resolution of 5 km.

Table 1: Filenames for CONUS RTMA at 2.5 km on NDGD

Filename	RTMA Parameter
ds.temp.bin	Temperature
ds.utemp.bin	Temperature Analysis Uncertainty
ds.td.bin	Dewpoint Temperature
ds.utd.bin	Dewpoint Temperature Uncertainty
ds.wspd.bin	Wind Speed
ds.uwspd.bin	Wind Speed Analysis Uncertainty
ds.wdir.bin	Wind Direction
ds.uvdir.bin	Wind Direction Analysis Uncertainty
ds.precipa.bin	Accumulated Precipitation
ds.press.bin	Surface Pressure Analysis
ds.upress.bin	Surface Pressure Analysis Uncertainty
ds.terrainh.bin	Model Terrain Height

TABLE 2: Filenames for CONUS RTMA at 5 km on NDGD

Filename	RTMA Parameter
ds.sky.bin	GOES Effective Cloud Amount

The RTMA data for the CONUS is available from NDGD at (use lowercase except for SL, ST, DF, DC, GT, and AR):

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.rtma/AR.conus/

Under the main directory for the CONUS RTMA, twenty-four subdirectories exist on the NDGD, one for each hour of the day, RT.00, RT.01, RT.02 through RT.23.

Experimental 2.5km RTMA data for the CONUS is currently available at:

ftp://ftp.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/mmbpll/rtma/hres/parallel

Note that this is experimental data and may not be consistently available at all times.

The RTMA data for CONUS at 2.5 km horizontal resolution will be made available once the processing is running in parallel at NCEP in early August. The data will be available via http and ftp on the NCEP server:

http://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/rtma2p5/para

Or

ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/rtma2p5/para/

There are three files for each hour located on this server. Files with names such as rtma2p5.t00z.2dvaranl_ndfd.grb2 contain all of the RTMA analysis fields and the associated errors with the

exception of precipitation. Files with names such as rtma2p5.t00z.2dvarges_ndfd.grb2 contain the first guess fields used by the RTMA. Files with names such as rtma2p5.t00z.pcpn_ndfd.grb2 contain the precipitation analysis.

NCEP will continue to refine the RTMA. Users may provide feedback on the experimental RTMA products at:

http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=RTMA

For questions regarding the RTMA please contact:

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All national Technical Implementation Notices are available online at:

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

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