

October 09, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution Email

FROM: Christine Caruso Magee
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SUBJECT: Scheduled Operational Changes and Upgrades for
CPC, OPC, and WPC

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

RFC #459 – Made a minor change to the dynamic display too, in which a file name that's queried to generate valid forecast dates was changed to point to a file name that is always current. Occasionally, there is no below normal temperature on the map, so a static dummy file is used to generate the dynamic display. Precipitation files are better since they are never empty over the US/AK domain. Implemented on October 7 at 1700Z. (CPC)

RFC #460 – Moved the start time of the cron job that converts ECMWF grib data to gempak grids forward by 20 minutes. This allows for earlier viewing of the ECMWF ensembles in NMAP. Implemented on October 7 at 1800Z. (WPC)

The following will be implemented the week of October 12, 2015:

RFC #461 – Changed the NAEFS grid ingest to Auto-forecast from accessing gempak files to accessing IEEE binary files directly. To be implemented on October 13 at 1200Z. (CPC)

RFC #462 – Modify script 'mkqpfgrb2.sh' to increase the number of grib2 WPC QPF files saved on the ftp server from 1 day to 7 days. To be implemented on October 13 at 1200Z. (WPC)

RFC #463 – Add a couple of scripts to operations to automatically tweet the CONUS national high/low product created by WPC once per day. The scripts will be added to the Compute Farm cron. To be implemented on October 13 at 1300Z. (WPC)

RFC #464 – Modify 5 tables NMAP2 uses to allow access of OPC freezing spray grids in NMAP2. To be implemented on October 13 at 1430Z. (OPC)

RFC #465 – The NCEI (NCDC) climate division data retrieval process has been revised to accept the new Alaska climate divisions. This will provide CPC access to these new climate divisions. To be implemented on October 13 at 1500Z. (CPC)

RFC #466 – Add a 14-day timescale to graphics production as requested by the CPC Director. The website to be updated is located at http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/tanal/temp_analyses.php . To be implemented on October 13 at 1800Z. (CPC)

The following CPC OPC WPC RFC(s) are in progress:

RFC #384 – The salinity fields in NOS's CBOFS model have drifted this summer by about 4 PSU, negatively impacting the Ecological Forecasts which use the CBOFS for Vibrio Vulnificus and Sea Nettle forecasts. A bias correction has been developed by the Ecological Forecast Pathogens group. This correction will be applied every 2 weeks through early fall or until the CBOFS model has been corrected. The Vibrio and Sea Nettles web pages will be restarted each time after the salinity correction has been implemented. Implementation began on July 22 at 2100Z and should be completed by October 27. (OPC)

RFC #440 – Initial implementation of GEMPAK-based NCEP model (GFS, GEFS, and GDAS) products for the international domains generated with collaboration of NCO. NCO makes the tar files available on the Compute Farm and CPC needs to untar them and transfer them to the web server. CPC will ensure the web page is labeled 'experimental' until NCO provides 24/7 support. Implementation began on September 21 at 0430Z; was to be completed by September 24; problems encountered during implementation are pushing the completion date back to October 15. (CPC)

RFC #446 - Point NMAP2 to the new SREF file names after the SREF upgrade is implemented. Was to be implemented on September 29 at 1200Z. Because the SREF upgrade has been delayed until a date TBD, this RFC will also be delayed until the SREF is implemented. (OPC)

RFC #458 – Add a new region (CONUS) to the Vibrio Doubling Times web page. This region is based on NAM 12km forecasts. Was to be implemented on October 7 at 1400Z; still waiting to be scanned so this is delayed until the week of October 12. (OPC)

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of October 12, 2015 may affect CPC, OPC, and/or WPC:

None

The following NCO RFC(s) are in progress and may affect the local Centers:

RFC #1350 – IBM will replace the Aspera shared storage on WCOSS with GPFS WAN replication. The /sss directories will be made unavailable to users while IBM makes the updates and then restripes the data. Implementation began on October 8 and should be completed on October 11.

RFC #1359 – NCODF Dataflow v2.11.0 – Modify DBNet on NCODF to begin sending Himawari data to Alaska Region, OPCN, and HPCN, slowly, over a 2 week period, to ensure the sites can handle the volume of data. Implementation began on October 7 and should be completed on October 22.

The following NCO RFC(s), which may affect the local Centers, was approved with an implementation date TBD:

RFC #1357 – RTOFS global v1.1.0 – Major upgrade of the Global RTOFS model. See the TIN at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-36global-rtofsaaa.htm> for details. This was advertised as having an October 6 implementation date but this implementation is being postponed due to a delay in the Navy's HYCOM model upgrade. Once the HYCOM upgrade is implemented, the Global RTOFS will be scheduled for implementation. Notification will be given in advance so users may prepare for any changes which may affect them. This upgrade of the Global RTOFS was approved by the NCEP Director.

The following NCO RFC(s), which may affect the local Centers, are on hold:

RFC #1309 – SREF v7.0.4 – Major upgrade of the SREF, including increasing the total members from 21 to 26, increase vertical levels, and other changes. This was approved at the Sep. 24 NCO CCB for a September 29 implementation, but it was not approved by the NCEP Director at the Sep. 25 briefing, so it is on hold until a future date.

RFC #1320 – Himawari v1.2 – Himawari was to be declared operational on IDP effective September 30 at 1200Z. This was approved at the Sep. 24 NCO CCB but was not approved by the NCEP Director at the Sep. 28 briefing, so it is on hold until a future date.

RFC #1370 – GEFS v11.0.3 – Major GEFS upgrade. See the TIN at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-43gefsaab.htm> for specifics. This was scheduled for an October 14 implementation and was conditionally approved at the October 8 NCO CCB, but it was not approved by the NCEP Director at the October 9 briefing, so it is on hold until a future date.

Please note that security-related RFCs are never listed in the RFC memo.

---- OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ----

1. The CPC/OPC/WPC Configuration Management documents are available at <https://sites.google.com/a/noaa.gov/nws-ncep-nco-cm/>.

Please review these documents if you have questions prior to submitting changes for CPC/OPC/WPC configurable items.