August 12, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution Email

FROM: Chris Caruso Magee
Configuration Manager, NCEP Central Operations

SUBJECT: Scheduled Operational Changes and Upgrades for CPC, OPC, and WPC

Climate Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of August 8, 2016:

RFC #703 – mpp-driver v1.3.1 – Add code to copy NAEFS forecast images to $WEB_OUT so they'll be visible on the public web page. To be implemented on August 15 at 1400Z.

RFC #704 - On CPC's Compute Farm, install new application CreatePrecipitationSummary, a Perl script that takes CPC's operational UPA (Unified Precipitation Analysis) precip grid, can create summary products (accumulations, percent of normal, anomalies) for any user-specified time period, and can output in various formats (geoTIFF, binary, kml, ascii). Two driver scripts come with the installation to create a suite of binary and geoTIFF products intended for CPC operations (WK34 verification, JAWF, drought monitor, etc.). To be implemented on August 16 at 1300Z.

RFC #705 - On CPC's Compute Farm, install new application CreateTemperatureAnomalies, a Perl script that takes CPC's operational merged_tmean 5- and 7-day observations and computes 7- and 14-day temperature anomaly binary grids at 0.5 and 1.0 degree resolution with both smoothed climos and climos with harmonics. This is intended for WK34 forecast verification. To be implemented on August 16 at 1400Z.

The following RFCs are in progress:

RFC #697 – Install the new Global Standardized Precipitation Index web pages on the RZDM. Was to be implemented on August 8 at 1200Z.

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of August 15, 2016 may affect CPC:

None

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect CPC:

None

Ocean Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

RFC #706 – forecaster_login.csh v16.08.11 – For a new OPC workstation, modified the forecaster login script to appear on the middle monitor instead of the left-most. This was done to mitigate a change to the way the DISPLAY variable is set in fvwm on RHEL6. Implemented on August 11 at 1415Z.

The following will be implemented the week of August 15, 2016:

RFC #707 – compare.php v16.08.15 - Update the icing rate algorithm comparison page to only allow approved inputs. To be implemented on August 15 at 1330Z.

The following RFCs are in progress:

None

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of August 15, 2016 may affect OPC:

RFC #2201 – marine.weather.gov v2.5.10 – Fix the XML button from Marine Point Forecast; as it currently breaks if the point does not have an associated observation station. The bug fix allows the XML to return the forecast without observation. To be implemented on August 15 at 1200Z.

RFC #2205 – NAM MOS v3.2.1 – Update the NAM MOS to include: a) updated regression equations for temperatures (temperature, dew point temperature, and max/min temperature); cool and warm season; 00Z and 12Z cycles; and b) updated regression equations for winds (u-wind, v-wind, and wind speed); cool and warm season; 00Z and 12Z cycles. To be implemented on August 16 at 1200Z.

RFC #2210 – MAG v3.11.0 - Upgrade the MAG website to v3.11.0. One of the highlights of this release is that GFS model output on the MAG will be updated to provide hourly forecasts through forecast hour 120. The full list of updates in v3.11.0 are listed on the web page below: http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/version_updates.php . To be implemented on August 16 at 1430Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect OPC:

None

Weather Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of August 15, 2016:

RFC #708 - The Day 4-7 Winter Weather scripts will be upgraded. The cron scripts which run on the Compute Farm and the interactive scripts run by WPC forecasters will be altered to synchronize times stamps for NDFD delivery. Code will also be added to the interactive script run by the forecasters to convert grid files to grib2, and disseminate via DBNET Alert to NCO-Silver Spring. To be implemented beginning August 18 at 1600Z and is scheduled to be completed by September 1.

RFC #709 - The 1-hour snowfall rate scripts will be upgraded to use hourly max snowfall rate and a rime modified Baxter climatological SLR (Snow-to-Liquid Ratio) from the NAMX. A script to generate model implicit snowfall members from the GEFS, ECENS, and SREF will be implemented, as well as a script to compute a super blend of deterministic model implicit snowfall solutions. Both the deterministic and probabilistic forecast output will be evaluated in the 2017 WWE (Winter Weather Experiment) and objectively verified from October through May. To be implemented beginning August 18 at 2100Z and is scheduled to be completed by September 15.

The following RFCs are in progress:

RFC #702 - Add the Continuous Ranked Probability Score (CRPS) to the WPC forecast verification system (fvs). This allows WPC to characterize the performance of an entire suite of probabilistic forecast products with a single number. The Hersbach CRPS formulation supports quantile reliability diagrams and decomposition of CRPS into reliability, resolution, and uncertainty components. Implementation began on August 9 at 1200Z and is scheduled to be completed by August 25.

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of August 8, 2016 may affect WPC:

RFC #2205 – NAM MOS v3.2.1 – Update the NAM MOS to include: a) updated regression equations for temperatures (temperature, dew point temperature, and max/min temperature); cool and warm season; 00Z and 12Z cycles; and b) updated regression equations for winds (u-wind, v-wind, and wind speed); cool and warm season; 00Z and 12Z cycles. To be implemented on August 16 at 1200Z.

RFC #2210 – MAG v3.11.0 - Upgrade the MAG website to v3.11.0. One of the highlights of this release is that GFS model output on the MAG will be updated to provide hourly forecasts through forecast hour 120. The full list of updates in v3.11.0 are listed on the web page below: http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/version_updates.php . To be implemented on August 16 at 1430Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect WPC:

None

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

---- OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ----

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.

Users who wish to view their network utilization via the Scrutinizer appliance may request access from NCO/IWSB. Please send an account request to the NCWCP Helpdesk at NCWCP.helpdesk@noaa.gov.