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Public Information Statement 20-42
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
315 PM EDT Mon Jun 8 2020

To:       Subscribers:
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From:     Jason Levit
          Chief, Verification, Post-Processing, Product
          Generation Branch
          NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center
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Subject: Soliciting Public Comments on the Removal of Certain gaugeQC
Products through July 8, 2020

The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) is soliciting
comments on the removal of certain gauge QC products.

The following products will be removed from NCEP Web Services, including
NOAA National Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS)
and FTP:

For FTP and NOMADS, the following 'gaugeqc' directories and their
contents will be removed:

ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data1/nccf/com/hourly/prod/gaugeqc/
https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data1/nccf/com/hourly/prod/gaugeqc/

The 'gaugeqc' directory in the above ftp and nomads sites contain four
files, created each day around 04:06 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC):

current.eval: gauges flagged as questionable
current.evalH: hourly gauges flagged as questionable
(a subset of current.eval, with latitude/longitude information added)
current.good: gauges passed quality control check
current.goodH: hourly gauges passed quality control check (a set of
current.good, with latitude/longitude information added)

Explanations above the QC flags in the above good/eval[H] gauge listings:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/12U4R08S7B6icgeXiUOOsVion2EXToHKC/view?us
p=sharing

The gaugeQC program was developed by Earth Systems Research Laboratory
(ESRL) with the NCEP Environmental Modeling Center (EMC):

https://ams.confex.com/ams/pdfpapers/95173.pdf

The program was developed in the mid 2000's and used by the NCEP Stage II quantitative precipitation estimate (QPE) analysis (at the time the sole source for pcpRTMA) to screen out questionable hourly gauges. With Real Time Mesocale Analysis (RTMA)/Unrestricted Mesoscale Analysis (URMA) v2.8, scheduled to be implemented in late June 2020, pcpRTMA begins using Multi Radar, Multi System (MRMS) QPE as its source, and the Stage II analysis is discontinued (MRMS QPE has fully matured and can replace the Stage II). With the decommission of the Stage II, the gaugeQC program is no longer needed, and since by now its function is subsumed by the Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System (MADIS) and MRMS' gaugeQC function, we propose to discontinue this gaugeQC program.

NWS will collect comments on this proposed product removal for 30 days. If approved, a Service Change Notice will be issued giving 30 days of notice of the termination date.

Send comments on this proposal to:

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For questions on the data flow aspects, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification/

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