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Public Information Statement 20-85
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
410 PM EST Wed Nov 18 2020

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From: Brian Gross, Acting Director
 National Centers for Environmental Prediction

Subject: Seeking Comments on Proposed Changes to User Access of NCEP Web Services through December 18, 2020

The NWS National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) is seeking public comments through December 18, 2020 on the management of user access of the NCEP Web Services.

As demand for data continues to grow across NCEP websites, we are proposing to put new limits into place to safeguard our web services. The frequency of how often these websites are accessed by the public has created limitations and infrastructure constraints. To add new or upgraded streams of data, there has to be a reduction in the number of connections into our system. The mitigation will reduce the strain on our infrastructure, ensuring a more robust level of service for all users.

For example, a possible mitigation would lower the limit of the number of connections to 60 per minute for a given user accessing any of the websites below. This would be a cumulative limit for any type of data request across any website. A "head" request will count towards the limit the same as a "get" request.

Websites affected, both ftp and https, would include:

nomads.ncep.noaa.gov
<ftp.ncep.noaa.gov>
<www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov>
ftpprd.ncep.noaa.gov
mag.ncep.noaa.gov
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov
aviationweather.gov
weather.gov
alerts.weather.gov
w1.weather.gov
w2.weather.gov/climate
w2.weather.gov/dmawds
airquality.weather.gov
graphical.weather.gov
digital.weather.gov

ra4-gifs.weather.gov
hamradio.noaa.gov
weather.gov/spot
water.weather.gov
marine.weather.gov
forecast.weather.gov
mobile.weather.gov
ocean.weather.gov
radar.weather.gov
api.weather.gov
tsunami.gov
madis.ncep.noaa.gov
madis-data.ncep.noaa.gov
hads.ncep.noaa.gov
amdar.ncep.noaa.gov
mrms.ncep.noaa.gov/data
water.noaa.gov
inws.ncep.noaa.gov
iris.ncep.noaa.gov
nowcoast.ncep.noaa.gov
idpgis.ncep.noaa.gov
gisc-washington.ncep.noaa.gov
cts.ncep.noaa.gov
charts.noaa.gov
tileservice.charts.noaa.gov
radar2pub.ncep.noaa.gov
radar3pub.ncep.noaa.gov
ocean.ncep.noaa.gov
www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov
vlab.ncep.noaa.gov
emc.ncep.noaa.gov
polar.ncep.noaa.gov
hysplit.ncep.noaa.gov
ctbto.ncep.noaa.gov
www.ncep.noaa.gov
www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov
www.lib.ncep.noaa.gov
mageval.ncep.noaa.gov

This list is not all inclusive. Any direct URLs such as "origin," or any non-operational URLs such as "dev," "qa" or "preview" will also be impacted.

NCEP will be holding a virtual public forum to discuss this and other mitigation options on December 8, 2020, at 2 pm EST. Please register for the meeting at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6331491940012140301>

Please send questions and comments regarding this mitigation plan to:

Carissa Klemmer
Chief, NCO Implementation and Data Services Branch
mdp.feedback@noaa.gov

We will review any feedback we receive and will notify users via a Service Change Notice (SCN) of any operational changes.

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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