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Public Information Statement 22-70 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Jason Levit
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Subject: Updated: Soliciting Public Comments on Changes to Hurricane
Forecast Model Output in the Upcoming Hurricane Analysis and Forecast
System (HAFS) through January 7, 2023

Updated comment period end date.

The Environmental Modeling Center (EMC) at the National Centers for Environmental Predictions (NCEP) is working towards replacing the Hurricane Weather and Research (HWRF) and the Hurricanes in a Multi-scale Ocean-coupled Non-hydrostatic (HMON) models with the new Hurricane Analysis and Forecast System (HAFS) in early summer of 2023. Since HAFS is a new hurricane modeling system that uses a different dynamic core and model physics than the current operational systems, HWRF and HMON, some of the current products produced by HWRF and HMON will be removed in HAFS. The NWS is seeking comments on this proposed change through January 7, 2023.

The following two variables will no longer be available in HAFS because HAFS uses different microphysics algorithms from HWRF and HMON:

TCOND: Condensate temperature from Ferrier-Aligo Microphysics
RIME: Rime factor from Ferrier-Aligo Microphysics

The following three variables will no longer be available in HAFS because they can be derived from the surface friction velocity (FRICV) and surface change coefficient (SFEXC) which are available in HAFS output:

CD10: Drag coefficient at 10 m above the ground
CH10: Heat exchange coefficient at 10 m above the ground
CD30: Drag coefficient at 30 m above the ground

Currently, HWRF and HMON data is distributed on the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS), and HAFS will be as well. This change therefore, affects data transmitted via that platform.

If these product changes are 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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