

NOUS41 KWBC 191820  
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-68  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
220 PM EDT Tue Jul 19 2022

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

From:         Vijay Tallapragada  
              Chief, Modeling and Data Assimilation Branch  
              NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

Subject:      Correction of the Specification of Elevation of the Great Lakes  
              in the High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) Effective on or  
              about July 19, 2022

Effective on or about July 19, 2022 with the 1200 Coordinated Universal  
Time (UTC) cycle, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)  
will make an update to the High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) data via  
all transmission methods.

A) Changes to Specification of Elevation of the Great Lakes

The HRRR upgrade in December 2020 inadvertently included an incorrect  
specification of the height of the Great Lakes, with a value of 0 used at  
all Great Lakes grid points. This has led to problems with the low-level  
wind, sea level pressure, and other near-surface fields in the model,  
particularly when the prevailing wind direction is offshore. This fix  
reverts to the correct lake elevations that were used in previous versions  
of the HRRR.

If you have any questions regarding this change please contact:

Vijay Tallapragada  
MDAB Branch Chief, Environmental Modeling Center  
College Park, Maryland  
301-683-3672  
[Vijay.Tallapragada@noaa.gov](mailto:Vijay.Tallapragada@noaa.gov)

If you have questions regarding the data flow aspects please contact:

Anne Myckow  
Team Lead, NCEP Central Operations Dataflow Team  
[ncep.pmb.dataflow@noaa.gov](mailto:ncep.pmb.dataflow@noaa.gov)

National Service Changes Notices are online at:

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

NNNN