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Public Information Statement, Comment Request  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
1008 AM EST Wed Feb 1 2012

To:           Subscribers:  
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From:         Bill Lapenta, Acting Director  
              Environmental Modeling Center  
              National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)

Subject: Soliciting Public Comments on Modification of Product  
Dissemination Time of Hurricane Weather Research and Forecast (HWRF)  
System Products through March 9, 2012

NCEP is proposing to upgrade the Hurricane Weather Research and Forecast (HWRF) modeling system in May 2012. This upgrade would result in HWRF products being distributed to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and to the public up to 20 minutes later than the current distribution time. The NWS is seeking comments on this proposed upgrade and resultant distribution schedule change by March 9, 2012.

The proposed upgrades to the HWRF modeling system would be:

- Inclusion of a very high-resolution storm-following third nest operating at 3 km horizontal resolution within a 9 km intermediate domain and 27 km outer domain.
- A centroid-based nest motion algorithm for accurate storm tracking.
- Improved vortex initialization applicable for 3 km horizontal resolution and upgraded Gridpoint Statistical Interpolation (GSI).
- Improved Planetary Boundary Layer (PBL), convection and microphysics parameterizations.
- Improved synthetic satellite products for Geostationary Orbiting Environmental Satellite (GOES) and microwave imagers.
- A very high temporal resolution tracker product.

The benefits to the user community would be improved hurricane track, intensity and structure prediction.

The delayed delivery time would affect all HWRF products distributed through NOAAPort, the NWS ftp server and the NCEP ftp/http server.

More details about the HWRF are available at:

<http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/hwrf/>

At the close of the public comment period, NWS will evaluate the comments to determine whether to proceed with this upgrade to the HWRF as planned. If a decision is made to move forward, a Technical Implementation Notice will be issued containing the implementation date and more details about the upgrade and resultant product delays.

Please send comments on this proposal to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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