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Technical Implementation Notice 11-10 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Timothy McClung
 Chief, Science Plans Branch
 Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Amended: Change to Wave Model Products: Effective Date Postponed

Amended to postpone this implementation until late December or early January 2012 due to the need for further evaluation. In addition, due to the large file size of the multi_1.txxz.spec_tar file currently being disseminated via the NCEP server, NCEP will begin making this spectral output file available in compressed format with the filename multi_1.txxz.spec_tar.gz. In a future implementation in 2012, the non-compressed file will be removed from the NCEP server, so NWS encourages users to begin transitioning to the compressed version now.

Effective January 2012 at a date to be determined, NCEP will modify the spectral output grid products from the Multi-grid Global Wave Model.

This model is run using WAVEWATCH-III v3.14. Recent upgrades of the model to v3.14 increased the spectral resolution of the model from a 25x24 spectral domain (frequency and direction) to a 50x36 domain. For backward compatibility, however, the spectral output from the model was kept at 25x24. This upgrade will change the spectral output to match the internal model domain.

The key changes are as follows:

1. The frequency spectrum will now start from 0.035 (instead of 0.0412).
2. The logarithmic increment will now be 1.07 (as opposed to 1.1). i.e., the next frequency will be 7% higher as opposed to 10% higher earlier.
3. There will be 50 frequency components as opposed to the earlier 25 frequency components (with the highest resolved frequency being 0.963 as opposed to 0.406 earlier).
4. There will be 36 directional components as opposed to the 24 directional components earlier. This means that the directional resolution will now be 10 degrees as opposed to 15 degrees earlier.

The spectral output files from these models are disseminated via the NCEP server at:

<http://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/wave/prod/> and
<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/wave/prod/>

The following files will be affected:

akw.txxx.spec_tar enp.txxx.spec_tar
multi_1.txxx.spec_tar
multi_2.txxx.spec_tar
nah.txxx.spec_tar
nph.txxx.spec_tar
wna.txxx.spec_tar

where xx is the model cycle.

This change will not affect the non-spectral output files from these models. The spectral products that are changing are not available on NOAAport or in the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS).

Sample output files reflecting this spectral resolution change are available at:

<ftp://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/waves/develop/>

Details about the NCEP Multi-grid Wave Models are online at:

<http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/waves/index2.shtml>

For questions regarding these model changes, please contact:

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For questions regarding the dataflow aspects of these data sets, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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