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Service Change Notice 18-76 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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 Meteorological Development Laboratory

Subject: Updated: Changes to Ensemble Kernel Density Model Output
Statistics (EKDMOS): Effective October 3, 2018

Updated to reflect the new implementation date of Wednesday, October 3, 2018. This is being set to correspond with the new implementation date of the National Blend of Models (NBM) v3.1.

Effective on or about Wednesday, October 3, 2018, beginning with the 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) run, the Meteorological Development Laboratory (MDL) will implement V2.2 of EKDMOS. In this version, EKDMOS will begin running four times daily to support the National Blend of Models (NBM). The 00 UTC and 12 UTC runs of EKDMOS have been moved to an earlier start time and will be available at ~0700 UTC and ~1900 UTC, respectively. The 06 UTC and 18 UTC runs have been added to include updated guidance and will be available at ~1100 UTC and ~2300 UTC, respectively.

EKDMOS grids for the CONUS, Alaska, and Hawaii have been updated to use the latest unified terrain files. EKDMOS grids for Alaska have been expanded to cover the entire National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) domain to support the NBM. The Alaska grids will be clipped prior to conversion to gridded binary version two (GRIB2). This change will be transparent to current users.

This implementation of EKDMOS will also introduce additional Model Output Statistics (MOS) inputs alongside the North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS) models. These include the Global Forecast System-based MOS (GFSMOS), North American Model-based MOS (NAMMOS), European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting-based MOS (ECMWF MOS), ECMWF ensemble MOS, and the Localized Aviation MOS Program (LAMP). They will all be equally weighted with the current ensemble systems.

EKDMOS forecasts for probabilistic apparent temperature, wind speed and probabilistic Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF), along with the EKDMOS text products, will become operational with this implementation. The text products will continue to be available on webpages maintained by MDL:

https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~naefs_ekdmoss/text_prods_v2_oper.php

Additional information on this implementation, including model inputs used for each element and run, can be found at the following link:

https://www.weather.gov/mdl/ekdmoss_v2.2

Beginning approximately one month prior to the implementation date, users may find parallel data for download on NOAA's Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS) at the following link:

<http://para.nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/noaaoprt/ekd/>

EKDMOS GRIB2 files for the CONUS and Alaska can be found on NCEP's TGFTP server at the following link:

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.mosekd/>

Gridded images, text products and meteograms for all domains will continue to be available on the EKDMOS web page (this page is not operationally supported and guidance may not be current):

http://www.weather.gov/mdl/ekdmoss_home

In the event that the implementation date is declared a Critical Weather Day (CWD), or significant weather is occurring, or forecast to occur, implementation of this change will occur at 1200 UTC on the next weekday not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring.

For questions regarding this change to EKDMOS guidance, please contact:

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Links to EKDMOS products and descriptions are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/mdl/ekdmoss_home

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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