

NOUS41 KWBC 291515
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 24-101
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1115 AM EDT Tue Oct 29 2024

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

From: Dave Michaud, Director
 NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Minor RTMA and URMA Upgrade to Version 2.10.9 (RTMA) and 2.10.7 (URMA): Effective on October 29, 2024

Effective on October 29, 2024, beginning with the 1500 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) cycle (RTMA) and 0900 UTC cycle (URMA), the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will upgrade the Real-Time Mesoscale Analysis (RTMA), its 15-minute updating counterpart, RTMA with Rapid Updates (RTMA-RU), and the Unrestricted Mesoscale Analysis (URMA). The changes consist of:

1. Updating the "RTMA weather status list" files intended for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to add an additional station to the output for Hawaii. The new station is PHJR (John Rodgers Field Kalaeloa Airport).

The current "RTMA weather status list" files are located on the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS)/FTPFRD at:

https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/rtma/prod/airport_temps
https://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/rtma/prod/airport_temps/
ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/rtma/prod/airport_temps/

with the following filename format:
(rtma_sector).FAA_T_stn_analysis_values.txt

Where rtma_sector is: akrtma, gurtma, hirtma, prrtma, rtma2p5

2. A bug affecting the quality control of wind gust observations has been addressed.

3. A mesonet provider (SNOTEL) has been removed from the trusted provider list in coordination with the Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs).

4. Several stations have been added to the fixed reject list for wind speed and gust at the request of the Key West, FL and Portland, OR WFOs.

More information about the RTMA, URMA and RTMA-RU is available at:

<https://vlab.noaa.gov/web/715073/home>

NCEP encourages users to ensure their decoders are flexible and are able to adequately handle changes in content order, changes in the scaling factor component within the product definition section (PDS) of the gridded binary (GRIB) files, and any volume changes that may be forthcoming. These elements may change with future NCEP model implementations. NCEP will make every attempt to alert users to these changes prior to any implementations.

Questions, comments or requests regarding this change should be directed to the contacts below.

For questions regarding science changes, please contact:

Daryl Kleist
NCEP/EMC Modeling and Data Assimilation Branch
College Park, MD
rtma.feedback.vlab@noaa.gov

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

Margaret Curtis
NCEP Central Operations Dataflow Team Lead
ncep.pmb.dataflow@noaa.gov

National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

NNNN