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Technical Implementation Notice 12-27
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From: Tim McClung
 Chief, Science Plans Branch
 Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Upgrade to Automated Sea Ice Concentration Analysis: Effective
June 19, 2012

On or about Tuesday June 19, 2012, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will make the following changes to the Automated Sea Ice Concentration Analysis to improve performance:

1. Use a weather filter not dependent on the 22 GHz channel of the F-15 satellite. That channel is known to be contaminated by instrumental cross-talk. This change will reduce the misdiagnosis of points as being weather-contaminated, and hence unusable, or to falsely use points as sea ice that are actually weather.

2. Include passive microwave observations from DMSP F-17 SSMI-S in sea ice concentration analysis to do the following:

- Use a new sensor type (SSMI-S rather than SSMI).
- Use a much younger instrument (Five years versus the 13 of F-15).
- Prepare for use of continuing satellite series (F-18 launched 2009, F-19 and F-20 scheduled for launch) with the same instrument.

Data format, volume, and delivery will not be affected by this implementation.

The Ice Concentration analysis products are available on the NCEP Server at:

<http://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/omb/prod/sice.YYYYMMDD>

or

<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/omb/prod/sice.YYYYMMDD>

where YYYYMMDD corresponds to the four-digit year, two-digit month and two-digit day.

The data are also available on NOAAPort with the World Meteorological

Organization (WMO) headers EEWA88 KWBN, OEXA88 KWBN, OENA88 KWBN and OESA88 KWBN.

For more information on ice concentration analysis, see The Environmental Modeling Center (EMC) website:

<http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/seaice/>

For questions regarding the scientific content of the Sea Ice Concentration Analysis, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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