

NOUS41 KWBC 201430 AAE
PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 15-39 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1030 AM EDT Tue Oct 20 2015

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From: Tim McClung, Chief Operations Officer
 NWS Office of Science and Technology Integration

Subject: Amended: Extra-Tropical Storm Surge (ETSS) Model and Post-Processing Upgrades: Effective November 3, 2015

Amended to change effective date to November 3, 2015.

On Tuesday, November 3, 2015, beginning with the 1200 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) cycle, the Extra-Tropical Storm Surge (ETSS) model will be upgraded to:

- Use a new Alaska basin which lets water flow through the Bering Strait.
- Include overland calculations of water level inundation based on surge plus tide for all U.S. coastal areas.

The surge plus tide enhancement is possible because ETSS now has gridded tides in all computation domains. For the East and Gulf of Mexico, it uses 37 constituents from Advanced Circulation's (ADCIRC's) EC-2014 grid. For the West Coast and Alaska, it uses 13 constituents from Oregon State University's TPXO Global Tidal model.

The products are available on the following three dissemination sites:

- NCEP server (aka NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS)):

As of November 3, 2015, the updated products will be available here:

<http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/etss/prod/>

As part of NCEP's standard 30-day parallel testing, the updated products are already experimental available here:

<http://para.nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/etss/para/>

Several changes will occur as described below.

Product name changes:

The newer station text format products will now have a name as follows:

etss.tHHz.stormsurge.RGN.txt

where HH is the cycle hour and RGN is the region (est=East coast, gom=Gulf of Mx, wst=West coast, ber=New Alaska Basin, gok=Gulf of Alaska). Previously, the region had used the following convention: e=East coast, g=Gulf of Mexico, w=West coast, k=Gulf of Alaska, a=Bering Sea, z=Arctic).

New surge plus tide products:

The gridded surge plus tide products will be labeled etss.tHHz.stormtide.con2p5km.grib2 for the contiguous U.S. (CONUS) and etss.tHHz.stormtide.ala3km.grib2 for Alaska.

The newer station-based text format surge plus tide products will be labeled etss.tHHz.stormtide.RGN.txt, where HH is the cycle hour and RGN is the region (est=East coast, gom=Gulf of Mx, wst=West coast, ber=New Alaska Basin, gok=Gulf of Alaska).

New higher resolution (625 m) products for East coast and Gulf of Mexico:

- Surge plus tide guidance on the 625 m National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) CONUS grid will be labeled etss.tHHz.stormtide.con625m.grib2, where HH is the cycle hour.
- Tide only guidance on the 625 m NDFD CONUS grid will be labeled etss.tHHz.tide.con625m.grib2, where HH is the cycle hour.

NWS server (aka NDGD): UNCHANGED.

As a reminder, the 2.5 km CONUS (ds.etss-2p5.bin) products will continue to be available in the National Digital Guidance Database (NDGD) here:

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.slosh/AR.conus>

Similarly, the 3.0 km Alaska (ds.etss-3p0.bin) products will continue to be available in the NDGD here:

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.slosh/AR.alaska>

Satellite Broadcast Network

Gridded Data - UNCHANGED.

As a reminder, the surge only CONUS five km and 2.5 km gridded products as well as the surge only Alaska six km and three km gridded products will continue to be available over the Satellite Broadcast Network (SBN).

As a reminder, the 2.5 and three km World Meteorological Organization (WMO) headers are as follows:

WMO Heading	Region
MHU... KNHC	NDFD CONUS 2.5 km grid
MHR... KNHC	NDFD Alaska three km grid
LHU... KNHC	NDFD CONUS five km grid (deprecated)
LHR... KNHC	NDFD Alaska six km grid (deprecated)

The "... " in the WMO heading will be replaced by DHH where D is the day of the forecast. A=Day 0, B=Day 1,..., F=Day 5 and HH is the hour of day when the forecast is valid. A full chart of the header combinations per forecast cycle is available here:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mdl/etsurge/docs/headers2.xls>

Once the Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) is ready to handle the higher resolution gridded products (likely fall 2015), NCEP will discontinue the old products with WMO headings: "LHU... KNHC" and "LHR... KNHC".

Standard Hydrologic Exchange Format (SHEF) Data - REMOVING SRAK70-TIDTWA:

NCEP is merging the Arctic SHEF file into the Bering SHEF file now that the Bering and Arctic basins are a single Bering- Beaufort-Chukchi basin. The SHEF WMO headers are as follows:

WMO Heading	Region
SRUS70 KWNO	CONUS
SRAK70 KWNO	Alaska

AWIPS IDs:

AWIPS ID	Region
TIDTWE	U.S. East Coast
TIDTWG	Gulf of Mexico
TIDTWP	U.S. West Coast
TIDTWC	Gulf of Alaska
TIDTWB	Alaskan Bering Sea Coast

In particular, TIDTWA for the Alaskan Arctic Coast is no longer used as those stations are now in TIDTWB.

If you have any questions about these changes and additions to the Extra-Tropical Storm Surge guidance, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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