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From: Jeffrey Craven
 NWS Office of Science and Technology Integration
 Meteorological Development Laboratory

Subject: Soliciting Comments on the Upgrade of Experimental
 National Blend of Models Guidance through
 June 27, 2018

The Statistical Modeling Branch (SMB) of the Meteorological Development Laboratory (MDL) is proposing to update the National Blend of Models (NBM) this summer. The NWS is seeking comments on this proposed upgrade through June 27, 2018. An SCN will be issued at least 30 days prior to the implementation of this upgraded product.

This upgrade will incorporate additional global and mesoscale models over the CONUS, OCONUS, and Oceanic domains. More importantly though, this upgrade will enable the NBM to continue to fill NWS Service Program gaps for several key weather elements in the realm of aviation, fire weather, and marine weather. Additionally, MDL/SMB proposes to generate a first generation NBM text bulletin suite similar to that of the Global Forecast System (GFS)-based Model Output Statistics (MOS). We note though that the guidance in these bulletins will reflect the value of the closest grid point to the station listed in the bulletin and is not guidance developed at the station. It is anticipated that these upgrades will benefit the NWS in its mission towards better Impact Decision Support Services.

For those users with a NOAA email account, NBM GRIB2 files can be downloaded from the following location:

https://veritas.nws.noaa.gov/blend/doc_material/NBMAvailability.html

Otherwise, GRIB2 data can be downloaded from:

CONUS Domain:
<https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~downloads/nbm/grib2blendv31/>

Alaska Domain:
<https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~downloads/nbm/grib2blendv31ak/>

Hawaii Domain:

<https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~downloads/nbm/grib2blendv31hi/>

Puerto Rico Domain:

<https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~downloads/nbm/grib2blendv31pr/>

Oceanic Domain:

<https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~downloads/nbm/grib2blendv31oc/>

Users may find parallel NBM V3.1 text bulletins at:

<https://sats.nws.noaa.gov/~downloads/nbm/bulk-text/>

A more detailed discussion on the format and timing of the NBM text bulletins can be found in its Product Description Document (PDD):

https://www.weather.gov/media/mdl/nbm/PDD_Experimental_NBM_Text_Messages_2018.pdf

All or a portion of the NBM text bulletins can be obtained by visiting an interactive graphical user interface:

https://www.weather.gov/mdl/nbm_text

The NWS will evaluate all comments on this NBM upgrade including the new NBM text bulletins to determine whether to proceed with this upgrade.

Any questions, comments or requests regarding this implementation should be directed to the contacts below. We will review any feedback and decide whether to proceed.

For questions regarding the implementation of NBM guidance, please contact:

David Rudack
MDL/Silver Spring, Maryland
301-427-9456
David.Rudack@noaa.gov

or

Jeff Craven
MDL/Silver Spring, Maryland
301-427-9475
Jeffrey.Craven@noaa.gov

A web page describing the NBM can be found at:

http://w2.weather.gov/mdl/nbm_home

NWS National Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

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