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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 11-35 Amended  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
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To:           Subscribers:  
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              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Tim McClung  
              Chief, Science Plans Branch  
              Office of Science and Technology

Subject: Amended: Changes and Additions to NAM-DNG Products, Including  
Distribution of New High-Resolution DNG Effective Date of NOAAPort  
Activation: December 4, 2012

Amended to set the implementation date to add these products to NOAAPort  
to Tuesday, December 4, 2012.

The modifications to the current North American Mesoscale (NAM) Model  
Downscaled Numerical Guidance (DNG), as part of the upgrade of the NAM  
prediction system, were implemented when the NAM upgrade was completed on  
October 18, 2011. This amended Technical Implementation Notice (TIN)  
covers the addition of these products to NOAAPort. No changes are being  
made at this time to the content of the products.

Effective with the upgrade of the North American Mesoscale (NAM)  
prediction system, and inclusion of high resolution nests (see [TIN 11-16](#)),  
the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will modify and  
enhance the suite of NAM Downscaled Numerical Guidance (NAM-DNG).

The current NAM-DNG products are distributed to the Continental U.S.  
(CONUS), Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico out to 84 hours over the Advanced  
Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) Satellite Broadcast Network  
(SBN)/NOAAPort and are available on the NCEP server. The new NAM nests  
are run only to 60 hours, but are run at resolutions much closer to the  
National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) forecast grids used in the DNG  
than the 12km NAM, now called the parent grid.

After the modification of existing NAM-DNG is implemented, as stated in  
[TIN 11-16](#), the first 60 hours (54 hours) of the current 0000 and 1200  
Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) (0600 and 1800 UTC), NAM-DNG will come  
from the NAM nests instead of from the 12km NAM parent.

--CONUS: 4km NAM nest will feed 5km NAM-DNG  
--Alaska: 6km NAM nest will feed 5.9km NAM-DNG  
--Hawaii, Puerto Rico: 3km NAM nests will feed 2.5km NAM-DNG

In this way, only slight downscaling (or upscaling in the case of CONUS) is required. Currently, all systems downscale from 12km.

After the change, there may be some unavoidable amount of discontinuity between the NAM-nest-based 60-hour (54-hour for 0600 and 1800 UTC) and the NAM-parent-based 63-hour (57-hour for 0600 and 1800 UTC) guidance. These modifications will occur when the NAM upgrade, detailed in TIN 11-16 linked below, is implemented later this summer.

[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/tins/tin11-16nam\\_changes\\_aad.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/tins/tin11-16nam_changes_aad.pdf)

The enhancement of NAM-DNG will come from the addition of NAM-DNG for CONUS and Alaska at double the present NDFD resolution through the 60 hours covered by the NAM nests.

For CONUS, the 4km NAM nest will feed a 2.5km NAM-DNG. For Alaska, the 6km NAM nest will feed a 3km NAM-DNG. Output will be made available every three hours from 0-60 hours for all four NAM cycles.

These new high-resolution NAM-DNG products will be available on the NCEP server when the NAM upgrade is implemented. In addition, simulated composite reflectivity will be added to output for both the modified and enhanced NAM-DNG. The new high-resolution NAM-DNG products will be made available on NOAAPort on Tuesday, December 4, 2012.

The grids listed below in Table 1 for CONUS and Table 2 for Alaska will be available at double NDFD resolutions.

NCEP will remove the coarser 5km CONUS and 5.9km Alaska NAM-DNG products from NOAAPort and all other distribution methods once sufficient time has passed to allow software upgrades. A separate announcement will be sent before removing these products.

Table 1: NAM-DNG Products Available over CONUS at 2.5km Resolution and their Associated World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Headers

WMO Header	NAM-DNG Parameter
[L M]AJ*** KWBE	Dewpoint Temperature
[L M]AJ*** KWBE	Cloud Cover
[L M]AJ*** KWBE	Wind Speed
[L M]AJ*** KWBE	Wind Direction
[L M]AJ*** KWBE	Wind Gust Speed
[L M]DJ*** KWBE	Probability of Precipitation (3-, 6- and 12-hourly)
[L M]EJ*** KWBE	Total Precipitation (3-, 6- and 12-hourly)
[L M]HJ*** KWBE	Boundary Layer Height or Wet Bulb Zero Height
[L M]KJ*** KWBE	Visibility
[L M]RJ*** KWBE	Minimum/Maximum Relative Humidity (3- and 12-hourly)
[L M]SJ*** KWBE	Snow depth (3- and 6-hourly)
[L M]TJ*** KWBE	Temperature
[L M]TJ*** KWBE	Minimum/Maximum temperature (3- and 12-hourly)
[L M]UJ*** KWBE	U Component of Wind
[L M]VJ*** KWBE	V Component of Wind

[L|M]ZJ\*\*\* KWBE Simulated Composite Reflectivity

Table 2: NAM-DNG Products Available over Alaska at 3km Resolution and their Associated WMO Headers

WMO Header	NAM-DNG Parameter
[L M]AK*** KWBE	Dewpoint Temperature
[L M]AK*** KWBE	Cloud Cover
[L M]AK*** KWBE	Wind Speed
[L M]AK*** KWBE	Wind Direction
[L M]AK*** KWBE	Wind Gust Speed
[L M]DK*** KWBE	Probability of Precipitation (3-, 6- and 12-hourly)
[L M]EK*** KWBE	Total Precipitation (3-, 6- and 12-hourly)
[L M]HK*** KWBE	Boundary layer Height or Wet Bulb Zero Height
[L M]KK*** KWBE	Visibility
[L M]RK*** KWBE	Minimum/Maximum Relative Humidity(3- and 12-hourly)
[L M]SK*** KWBE	Snow depth (3- and 6-hourly)
[L M]TK*** KWBE	Temperature
[L M]TK*** KWBE	Minimum/Maximum Temperature (3- and 12-hourly)
[L M]UK*** KWBE	U Component of Wind
[L M]VK*** KWBE	V Component of Wind
[L M]ZK*** KWBE	Simulated Composite Reflectivity

A website outlining all of the NAM-DNG WMO headers is online at:

[www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/nam\\_dng\\_wmoheaders.shtml](http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/nam_dng_wmoheaders.shtml)

The NAM-DNG grids are made available from the NCEP server at:

<ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nam/prod/>  
or <http://www.ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/data/nccf/com/nam/prod>

There are files for the four nests: smartconus, smartak, smarthe and smartpr followed by the two-digit forecast hour. The CONUS files will be named smartconus for the 5km and smartconus2p5 for the 2.5km. Similarly, Alaska files will be smartak for the 6km grids and smartak3 for the 3km grids.

For questions regarding the NAM-DNG, please contact:

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National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

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

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