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Technical Implementation Notice 14-06 National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC 240 PM EST Thu Jan 30 2014

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From: Hendrik Tolman, Chief

Marine Modeling and Analysis Branch NCEP/Environmental Modeling Center

Subject: Discontinuation of RTOFS-ET-WPA: Episodic Tracer for Western

Pacific: Effective March 4, 2014

Effective on or about Tuesday, March 4, 2014, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) will discontinue the Real-Time Ocean Forecast System (RTOFS) Episodic Tracer for Western Pacific, (RTOFS-ET-WPA) ocean tracer model, and cease dissemination of the output products.

The RTOFS-ET-WPA was implemented in July 2012 to model the contamination created by the Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster after the tsunami of March 11, 2011. The implementation charter for this model stated that it would be discontinued after dispersion of the material reached a level of concentration comparable to that of the background contamination levels in the Pacific Ocean. That condition has been met, so this model is being turned off.

The RTOFS-ET-WPA output had been made available only on the NCEP FTP server at:

ftp://ftp.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/rtofs/prod/

and on the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS) server at:

http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/rtofs/prod/

with filenames such as rtofs_et_WPAb_3dz*.nc

For questions regarding this change, please contact:

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