October 23, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution Email

FROM: Chris Caruso Magee
                                    Configuration Manager, NCEP Central Operations

SUBJECT: Scheduled Operational Changes and Upgrades

NCO College Park

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

RFC #1403 - Removed http access to tgftp directories from IDP operational web servers. This was formerly configured (but not opened to outside users) due to the previous expectation that weather.noaa.gov would move to IDP. With tgftp soon to go live in IDP the http site is potential source of confusion, so it should be removed. Implemented on October 19 at 1200Z.

RFC #1404 – NCOSRV Dataflow - Copied over a LDM script that was updated on 1 server to the other 7 servers. This was an implementation mistake and should have been copied over when first completed. Implemented on October 19 at 1200Z.

RFC #1405 - LSF v9.1.2 - IBM modified LSF queues to use the 8 dev_serv2 nodes on the development machine to run real-time tests of the CFS to diagnose an ongoing job failure. Implemented on October 19 at 1400Z.

RFC #1406 – WCOSS Dataflow - Modified the DBNet tables on WCOSS to send a new AQM product out in support of the parallel AQM. Implemented on October 20 at 1600Z.

RFC #1407 - NHC_Guidance v1.0.10 – In order to prevent job failures caused by an inability to connect to CPHC (to send an alert/notification file), moved the copy of the data to a location in the script prior to the script's trying to connect to CPHC. Implemented on October 21 at 2000Z.

The following will be implemented the week of October 26, 2015:

RFC #1408 – NCOSRV Dataflow – Modify the FTPS Mirror script on NCOSRV to be able to handle pulling data from the NESDIS PDA system. To be implemented on October 26 at 1200Z.

RFC #1409 – WCOSS - TSM - IBM will upgrade the firmware and OS on the TSM server in Orlando. This upgrade has already been done in Reston. To be implemented on October 26 at 1200Z.

RFC #1410 – NCODF Dataflow - Begin ingesting Probability of Severe Thunderstorms NDFD (National Digital Forecast Database) data into the IDP common data area. This was requested by the IDP NowCoast developers. To be implemented on October 26 at 1400Z.

RFC #1411 - Add configuration for aviationweather.gov to the operational IDP environment for pre-live testing. To be implemented on October 26 at 1400Z.

RFC #1412 – Allow the NHC network to access data.femadata.com to allow for sharing of products for forecast briefings between NHC and FEMA. To be implemented on October 26 at 1600Z.

RFC #1414 – WCOSS Dataflow - The DBNet software on WCOSS is being modified to set up a mechanism to make WMOID-headed datasets available on the parallel NOMADS site for evaluation. To be implemented on October 27 at 1200Z.

RFC #1415 – This RFC is in support of on-boarding the Marine Chart Division's (MCD) Chart Tile Service (CTS) application. The operational systems will be built and configured. Part of the system will be deployed on the existing Intranet web and application server clusters. These systems will need their configuration updated, so they can support the CTS application and be put behind the Citrix Load Balancer. The operational postgresql 9.3 cluster needs to be completed for this work as well. To be implemented beginning October 27 at 1200Z and be completed on October 28.

RFC #1416 – WCOSS Dataflow - The DBNet software on WCOSS is being modified to begin routing lightning datasets a new way to the LDM software. This is required because of an upcoming change to the format of these data. To be implemented on October 27 at 1200Z.

RFC #1417 – wave_multi_2 v3.0.9 - Increase the number of nodes used by the Wave Multi 2 (Hurricane Wave) forecast job from 40 nodes to 48 nodes in order to prevent job failures caused by a lack of memory on one of the model's MPI tasks. To be implemented on October 27 at 1230Z.

The following items are in progress:

RFC #1379 – WCOSS Dataflow v1.71.0 - Modify the Dataflow Mirror Utility on WCOSS to begin pulling in the FNMOC data from IDP instead of the Gateway.

This is in support of the NWSTG transition. Until the IDP BB servers are stood up in CP, the SDMs' BB will be the only FNMOC flags. The SDM will keep the same procedures as they do today and notify Tech Control. Tech Control will continue to be the POC with FNMOC. The granularity of number of files missing will be added to Dataflow's BB to match with current TG output. Was to be implemented on October 15 at 1200Z; FNMOC transition issues have caused this to be delayed. New implementation start date is October 27. Expected completion date is TBD.

The following NCO RFC was approved with an implementation date TBD:

RFC #1357 – RTOFS global v1.1.0 – Major upgrade of the Global RTOFS model. See the TIN at: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-36global-rtofsaaa.htm for details. This was advertised as having an October 6 implementation date but this implementation is being postponed due to a delay in the Navy's HYCOM model upgrade. Once the HYCOM upgrade is implemented, the Global RTOFS will be scheduled for implementation. Notification will be given in advance so users may prepare for any changes which may affect them. This upgrade of the Global RTOFS was approved by the NCEP Director.

RFC #1393 – ETSS v2.1.0 – Major upgrade for the ExtraTropical Storm Surge model. See the TIN at http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-39etssaaa.htm for details on the changes included in this upgrade. Was to be implemented on October 20 at 1200Z; Alaska Region asked for more time to evaluate. NCEP Director's brief has been rescheduled for October 30. If the NCEP Director approves, this may be implemented as early as November 3.

The following have been delayed from their initially advertised implementation dates and are on hold:

RFC #1320 – Himawari v1.2 – Himawari was to be declared operational on IDP effective September 30 at 1200Z. This was approved at the Sep. 24 NCO CCB but was not approved by the NCEP Director at the Sep. 28 briefing, so it is on hold until a future date.

RFC #1370 – GEFS v11.0.3 – Major GEFS upgrade. See the TIN at: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-43gefsaab.htm for specifics. This was scheduled for an October 14 implementation and was conditionally approved at the October 8 NCO CCB, but it was not approved by the NCEP Director at the October 9 briefing, so it is on hold until a future date.

NCO Silver Spring – NWSTG

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of October 26, 2015:

None

The following items are in progress:

RFC #1289 – In support of SNMP (simple network management protocol) monitoring of TG systems and appliances from the EM7 monitoring tool, install, configure, and start snmpd on all TG systems and enable SNMP on NetApp appliances at site A and site B. Implementation began on September 17 at 1400Z, was to be completed by September 30; was further delayed due to CWD and higher priority tasks. A decision on whether or not to proceed with this RFC is pending.

RFC #1380 – The FNMOC data pull of Grib2-bundled and ocean data are being transitioned to IDP in CP. IDSB at SS no longer needs to pull the data from FNMOC and also monitor the pull. This RFC is to stop that process. The pull of Grib2-bundled data and BB monitoring of it was to be discontinued on October 15 at 1400Z; FNMOC transition issues have caused this to be pushed back to October 21. The pull of ocean data and BB monitoring of it will be discontinued at a date TBD after October 21. This should be completed by October 28.

RFC #1387 - The replication servers at site A and site B crashed with signal 11 once every 10 - 14 days. SAP has suggested we upgrade it to the next version to fix the issue. There are 4 production replication servers. We will do the upgrade one server at a time and start at site B first. Implementation to begin on October 19 at 1330Z and be completed by November 30.

NCO Silver Spring – One NWSnet (OPSnet)

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

RFC #4265 – Granted access to/from NWSTG to IDP in support of the system migration to IDP. Implemented on October 21 at 1400Z.

The following will be implemented the week of October 26, 2015:

RFC #4125 – Grant remote access to a NWSTG TDL system for a developer. To be implemented on October 26 at 1400Z.

RFC #4241 Implement access for new Alaska region subnets in support of their migration to a new IP addressing scheme. To be implemented beginning October 26 at 1400Z and is expected to take up to 2 weeks to be completed.

RFC #4266 – Grant access from WR WFO Reno to Campbell Scientific data logger site so WFO Reno has access to their weather observation stations. To be implemented on October 26 at 1400Z.

RFC #4268 – Grant access from WR VPN to WR WFO Reno systems using Remote Desktop Protocol. To be implemented on October 27 at 1400Z.

RFC #4271 – Grant access from multiple Navy locations to NDBC system metoc.ndbc.noaa.gov using SSH. To be implemented on October 27 at 1400Z.

NCO Kansas City

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of October 26, 2015:

None

The following items are in progress:

RFC #1402 – Redirect traffic from the legacy Pacific Region site to the weather.gov content management system (CMS) pages. Redirect some field office names to Southern Region pages. Implementation began on October 21 at 1500Z, was to be completed on October 22.

NCO OCONUS

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of October 26, 2015:

RFC #1413 – Make a change to advertise routes between the NCEP network
and OCONUS sites to the CenturyLink cloud and on to Alaska and Pacific
Region. Due to OPSnet advertising the NCEP subnets, the traffic between the
NCEP network and OCONUS sites was going asymmetrically, and NTWC had
lost connectivity to their web service. To be implemented on October 26 at
1900Z.

NCO Boulder

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of October 26, 2015:

RFC #1418 – Replace copper and fiber cables with proper length cables. To be
implemented beginning on October 27 at 1400Z and should be completed by
October 29.

RFCs that are security-related are not included in the RFC Memo.

---- OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ----

1. The WCOSS Implementation Standards are available at

http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/docs/.

Please adhere to these standards when submitting changes for the WCOSS.

2. Upcoming major changes to NCEP's production suite and details on any product or timing changes associated with upcoming implementations can be viewed at the following website:

   http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/changes/

   Test data for major changes should be available six weeks prior to implementation. Anyone wishing to receive formal notice of the final pre-implementation testing and the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes can subscribe to the Model Evaluation mailing list via:

   https://lstsrv.ncep.noaa.gov/mailman/listinfo/ncep.list.modelevalinfo

3. Maintenance of subscriptions to the Scheduled Operational Changes and Upgrades mailing list can be performed via the following website:

   https://lstsrv.ncep.noaa.gov/mailman/listinfo/ncep.list.rfcmemo