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Service Change Notice 26-12 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
115 PM EST Tue Mar 3 2026

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From: David Michaud, Director
 NCEP Central Operations

Subject: Updated: Notification of Upgrading the Climate Data Assimilation System (CDAS) to the Conventional Observation Reanalysis (COfRe) Effective March 18, 2026.

Updated to change the effective date to March 18 and to include additional CDAS path on tgftp server which will no longer be available.

Effective on or about March 18, 2026, the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations (NCO) will be implementing an upgrade for the Climate Data Assimilation System (CDAS) to the Conventional Observation Reanalysis (COfRe).

In the event that the implementation date is declared a Critical Weather Day (CWD), an Enhanced Caution Event (ECE), or other significant weather is occurring or is anticipated to occur, implementation of this change will take place at 1200 UTC on the next weekday not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring.

The scientific and technical enhancements include the following:

COfRe is a climate atmospheric reanalysis from 1950-present, and replaces CDAS which is the real-time extension of the NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis (1948-present). COfRe is like CDAS, an atmospheric reanalysis that uses externally produced Sea Surface Temperature (SST), sea ice and snow analyses for boundary conditions. However, COfRe uses more modern versions of these analyses. COfRe is a UFS-based system (circa 2020 codes) which uses an Ensemble Kalman filter to assimilate conventional observations as well as Atmospheric Motion Vectors (AMV). CDAS is a MRF-based system (circa 1995 operational codes) that assimilates conventional observations, as well as AMV and satellite temperature retrievals.

The data files for COfRe will be available on the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution Service (NOMADS) at the following location:

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/core/>

The data files for CDAS will no longer be available as of March 18, 2026 at the following locations:

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/cdas/>

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/cdas2/>

https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/MT.cdask_CY.00/RD.YYYYMMDD/PT.grid_DF.gr2/

where YYYYMMDD is the date.

Sample CORE files are available at the following location:

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/core/para/>

At the provided CORE URL, new CORE files have the following paths and regexes:

```
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/flx/core.tRRz.flx.memMMM[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/flx/core.tRRz.flx.ensmean[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/flx_stats/core.tRRz.flx.ensstats[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/nceppost/core.tRRz.pgb.ensmean.anl[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/nceppost/core.t[HH+06]z.pgb.ensmean.f003[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/spost/core.tRRz.spgb.memMMM.anl[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/spost/core.tRRz.spgb.ensmean.anl[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
/core.YYYYMMDD/HH/post/spost_stats/core.tRRz.spgb.ensstats[.grib2,.grib2.idx]
```

where YYYYMMDD is the date, HH is the forecast cycle (00,06,12,18), RR is the hour of the reference time (forecast cycle + [03,06]), and MMM is the ensemble member (001-080 inclusive).

The grib version 1 files have been replaced by grib version 2.

For questions regarding these model changes, please contact:

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For questions regarding the data flow aspects of these datasets, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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