

**Alicia Bentley and Geoff Manikin** 

Model Evaluation Group (MEG) Webinar 10 August 2023

Contributions from: Bo Cui and Binbin Zhou



### What is NAEFS?





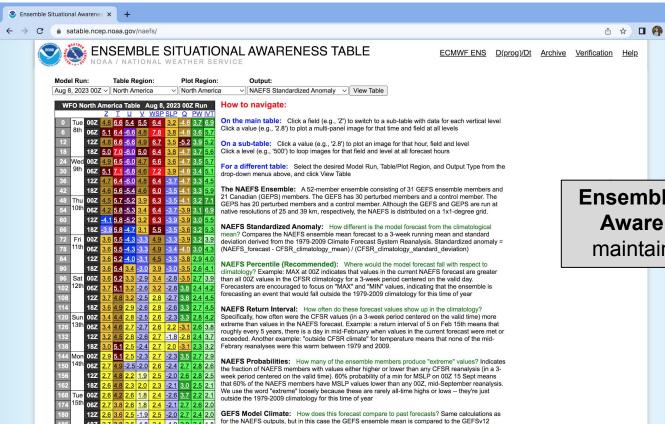
- North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS) version 1.0 became operational on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006
- NAEFS is run jointly by the U.S. National Weather Service and Meteorological Service of Canada to provide a large, bias-corrected global ensemble as part of a multi-national agreement between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico
- NAEFS is run four times a day (00Z, 06Z, 12Z, 18Z)
- Each run produces forecast files every 3 hours from F000 out to F192, and then every 6 hours out to F384



#### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



### Where have you seen NAEFS forecasts?



references climatology (2000-2019). The current forecast is placed in the context of referencess with

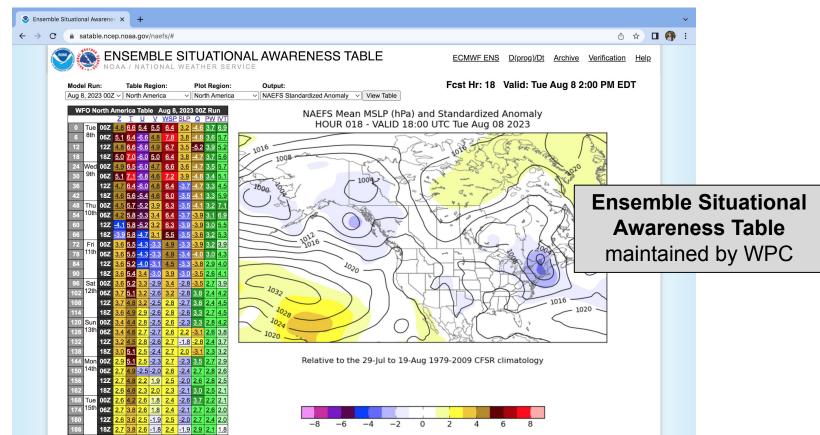
Awareness Table
maintained by WPC



#### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



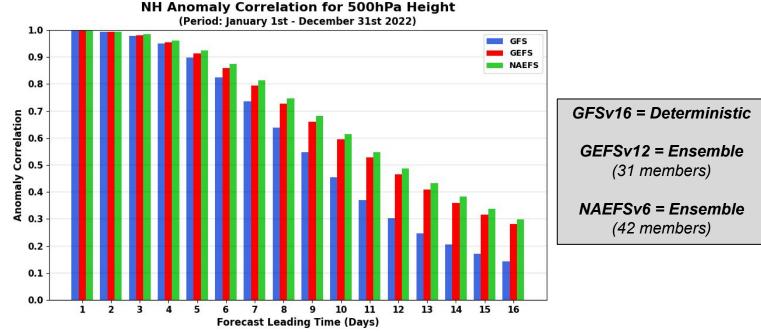
### Where have you seen NAEFS forecasts?











- GFSv16 is a deterministic global model that had "useful skill" (i.e., ACC score ≥ 0.6) out to ~8.4 days in 2022
- GEFSv12 is a global ensemble (31 members) that had "useful skill" out to ~9.9 days in 2022
- NAEFSv6 is a bias-corrected global ensemble (42 members) that had "useful skill" out to ~10.2 days in 2022



### **NAEFS Bias Correction**



Parameter	Level	Total: 51
HGT	10, 50, 100, 200, 250, 500, 700, 850, 925, 1000 hPa	10
TMP	2m, 2mMax, 2mMin; 10, 50, 100, 200, 250, 500, 700, 850, 925, 1000 hPa	13
UGRD	10m; 10, 50, 100, 200, 250, 500, 700, 850, 925, 1000 hPa	11
VGRD	10m; 10, 50, 100, 200, 250, 500, 700, 850, 925, 1000 hPa	11
VVEL	850 hPa	1
PRES	Surface	1
PRMSL	Pressure Reduced to Mean Sea Level	1
WIND	10m	1
DPT	2m	1
RH	2m	1

Link to NAEFS bias-corrected file inventory: [Click here] | Link to NAEFS forecast files on NOMADS: [Click here]



### Changes in the NAEFSv7 Upgrade



 Increased ensemble membership from 42 to 52 members by including the 10 GEFS members that were added during the GEFSv12 upgrade

$$NAEFSv6 = 21 GEFS + 21 CMCE$$
  
 $NAEFSv7 = 31 GEFS + 21 CMCE$ 

- Updated calibration of parameters to account for new GEFS members
- Updated GEFS bias-corrected precipitation from 21 to 31 members (The Meteorological Service of Canada does not send us bias-corrected precipitation forecasts, so "NAEFS" precipitation = bias-corrected GEFS)
- We expect NAEFSv7 to be as good as or slightly better than NAEFSv6



### Recap of the NAEFSv7 Field Evaluation



- Assess the statistical performance of the NAEFSv7 parallel
- Provide a few examples of bias-corrected precipitation forecasts
- Review the comments and recommendations from NWS Centers/Regions
- Share a summary and outline next steps

#### **NAEFSv7 Official Evaluation Webpage**

https://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/users/meg/naefsv7





### **Statistical Performance of NAEFSv7 Parallel**



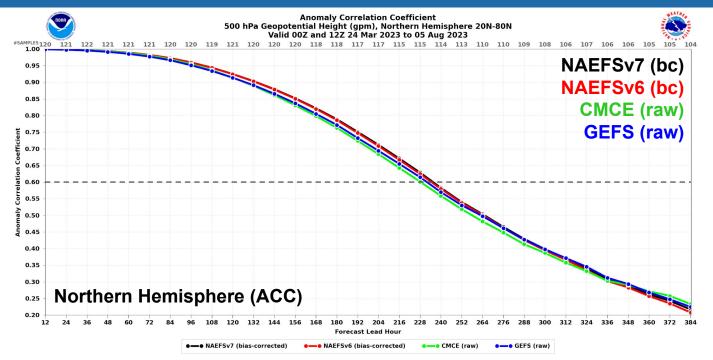
- Statistics and verification graphics for the NAEFSv7 Official Evaluation were produced using the METplus-based EMC Verification System (EVS)
- Verification graphics showing the NAEFSv7 parallel, NAEFSv6, GEFS, and CMCE (3/24/23–8/5/23) can be found here: <u>NAEFSv7 verif. webpage</u>









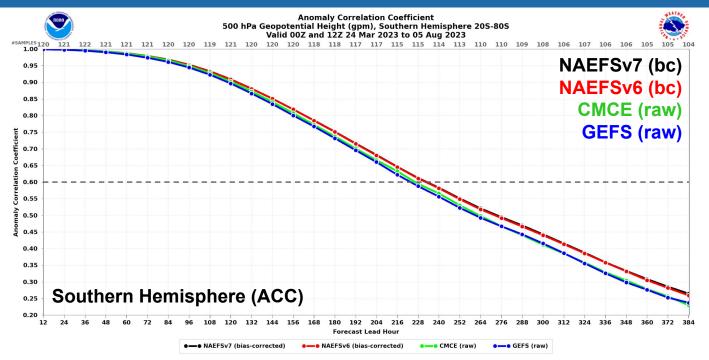


- NAEFSv7 and NAEFSv6 were very similar at Days 1–6; NAEFSv7 had slightly higher ACC at Days 7–11
- Bias-corrected NAEFSv7 performed better than its raw GEFS and CMCE inputs (benefit of bias-correction)
- NAEFSv7 had "useful skill" (i.e., ACC score ≥ 0.6) for the longest of the models compared (out to ~9.83 days)







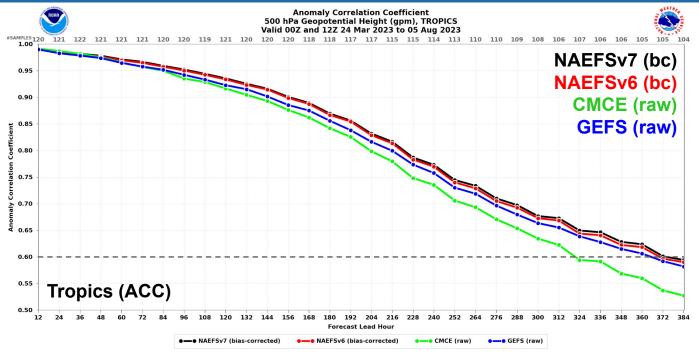


- NAEFSv7 and NAEFSv6 were very similar at Days 1–10; NAEFSv7 had slightly higher ACC at Days 11–13
- Bias-corrected NAEFSv7 performed better than its raw GEFS and CMCE inputs (benefit of bias-correction)
- NAEFSv7 had "useful skill" (i.e., ACC score ≥ 0.6) for slightly longer than NAEFSv6 (out to ~9.75 days)







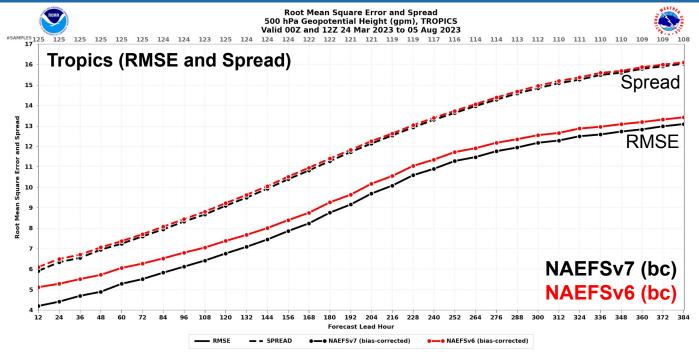


- NAEFSv7 had slightly higher ACC than NAEFSv6 in the tropics at almost all forecast lead times (Days 1–16)
- Bias-corrected NAEFSv7 performed better than its raw GEFS and CMCE inputs (benefit of bias-correction)









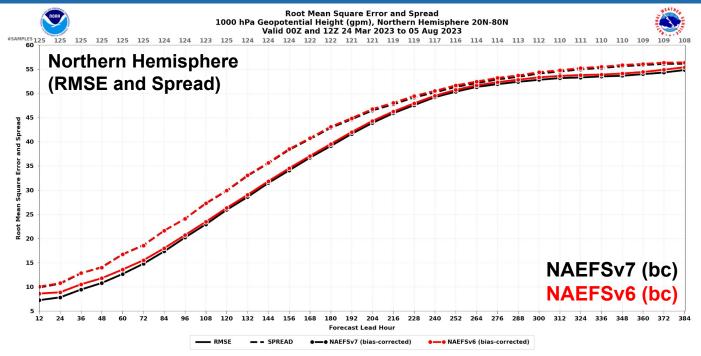
- NAEFSv7 had slightly higher ACC than NAEFSv6 in the tropics at almost all forecast lead times (Days 1–16)
- Bias-corrected NAEFSv7 performed better than its raw GEFS and CMCE inputs (benefit of bias-correction)
- NAEFSv7 had lower RMSE than NAEFSv6 and very similar ensemble spread at all forecast lead times









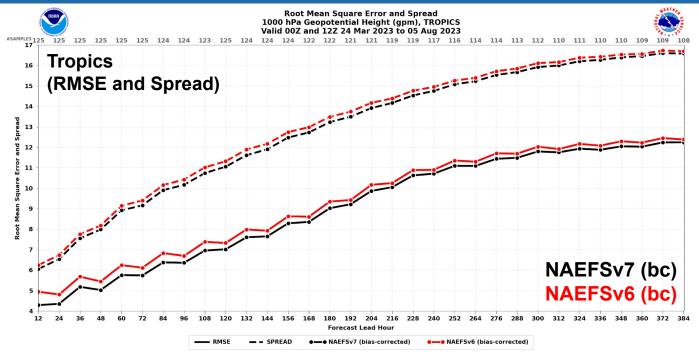


- In the NH, NAEFSv7 had lower RMSE than NAEFSv6 at Days 1–3 and slightly lower RMSE at Days 4–16
- In the SH, NAEFSv7 was very similar to NAEFSv6 in both RMSE and spread values (not shown)







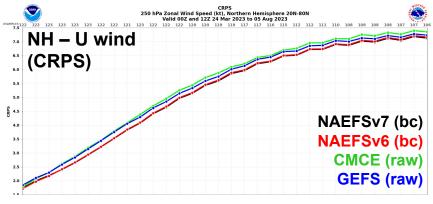


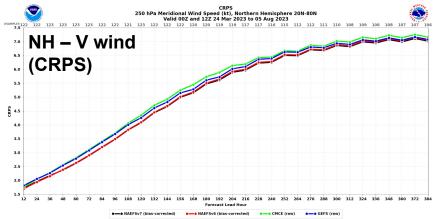
- In the NH, NAEFSv7 had lower RMSE than NAEFSv6 at Days 1–3 and slightly lower RMSE at Days 4–16
- In the SH, NAEFSv7 was very similar to NAEFSv6 in both RMSE and spread values (not shown)
- In the tropics, NAEFSv7 had lower RMSE than NAEFSv6 and less ensemble spread at all forecast lead times



### NAEFSv7: 250-hPa U and V Winds





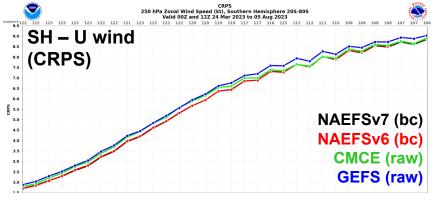


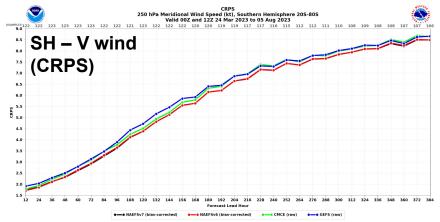
- <u>C</u>ontinuous <u>R</u>anked <u>P</u>robability <u>S</u>core (CRPS)
  measures the accuracy of a set of probabilistic
  forecasts (the lower the CRPS, the better)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly lower CRPS than NAEFSv6 in the Northern Hemisphere (NH), and both have lower CRPS than raw inputs (GEFS/CMCE)



### NAEFSv7: 250-hPa U and V Winds





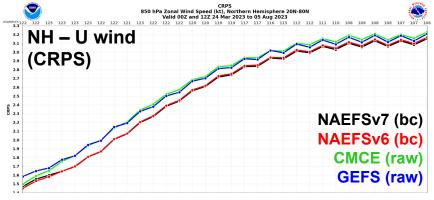


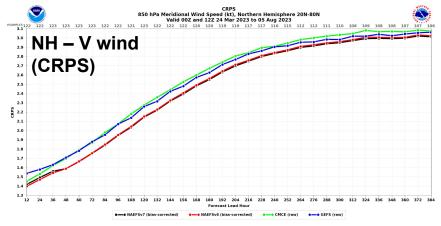
- <u>C</u>ontinuous <u>R</u>anked <u>P</u>robability <u>S</u>core (CRPS)
  measures the accuracy of a set of probabilistic
  forecasts (the lower the CRPS, the better)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly lower CRPS than NAEFSv6 in the Northern Hemisphere (NH), and both have lower CRPS than raw inputs (GEFS/CMCE)
- NAEFSv7 and NAEFSv6 had very similar CRPS in the Southern Hemisphere (SH)
- NAEFSv7 and NAEFSv6 had very similar CRPS in the Tropics as well (not shown)



### NAEFSv7: 850-hPa U and V Winds





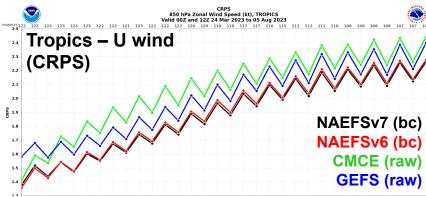


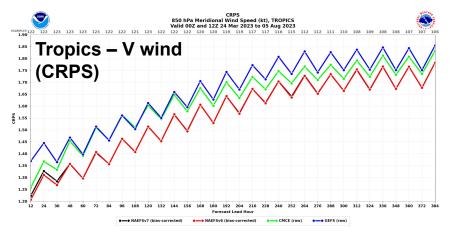
- <u>Continuous Ranked Probability Score (CRPS)</u> measures the accuracy of a set of probabilistic forecasts (the lower the CRPS, the better)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly lower CRPS than NAEFSv6 in the NH, and both have lower CRPS than raw inputs (GEFS/CMCE)
- NAEFSv7 and NAEFSv6 had very similar CRPS in the SH (not shown)



### NAEFSv7: 850-hPa U and V Winds





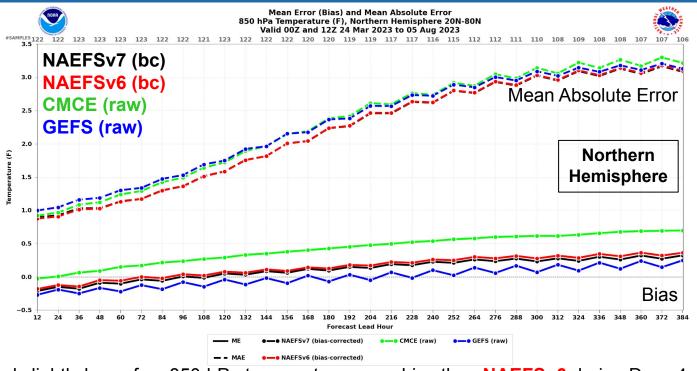


- <u>C</u>ontinuous <u>R</u>anked <u>P</u>robability <u>S</u>core (CRPS)
  measures the accuracy of a set of probabilistic
  forecasts (the lower the CRPS, the better)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly lower CRPS than NAEFSv6 in the NH, and both have lower CRPS than raw inputs (GEFS/CMCE)
- NAEFSv7 and NAEFSv6 had very similar CRPS in the SH (not shown)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly lower CRPS than NAEFSv6 in the Tropics for U (zonal) wind, with similar values for V (meridional) wind



### NAEFSv7: 850-hPa Temperature



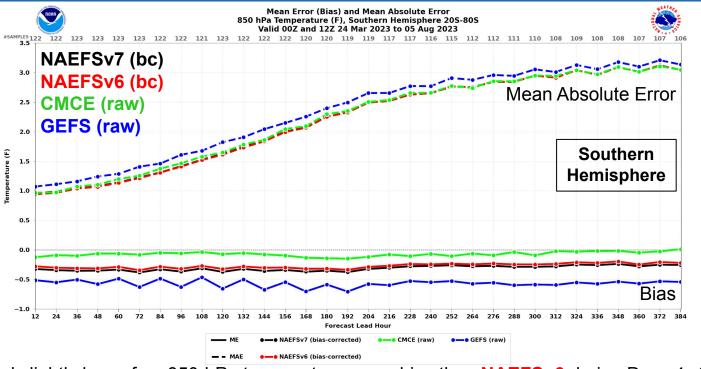


• NAEFSv7 had slightly less of an 850-hPa temperature warm bias than NAEFSv6 during Days 4–16 over the NH and Mean Absolute Error (MAE) values that were comparable to NAEFSv6 during all forecast lead times







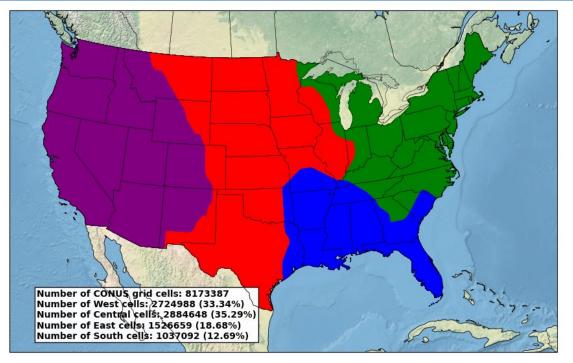


- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of an 850-hPa temperature warm bias than NAEFSv6 during Days 4–16 over the NH and Mean Absolute Error (MAE) values that were comparable to NAEFSv6 during all forecast lead times
- NAEFSv7 had a slightly larger 850-hPa temperature cold bias than NAEFSv6 over the SH at Days 1–16



### NAEFSv7: 2-m Temp. and 10-m U/V Winds





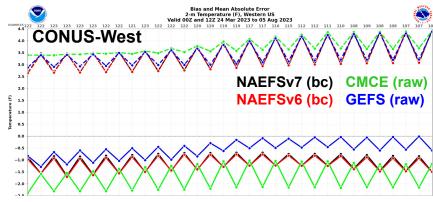
- A meaningful examination of near-surface parameters (e.g., 2-m temperature, 10-m wind) requires that the CONUS be separated into four sub-regions (West, Central, East, and South) and that Alaska is its own region
- The plot above shows the four CONUS sub-regions, created by combining similar Bukovsky Regions (see link)

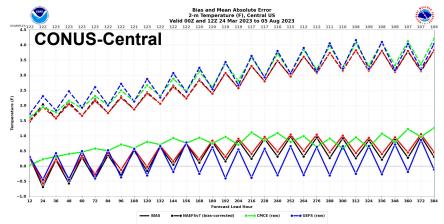




### NAEFSv7: 2-m Temperature







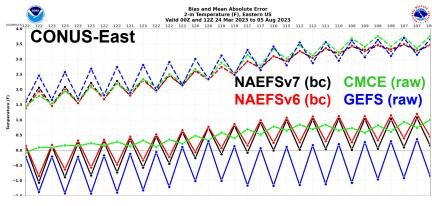
- NAEFSv7 had a comparable cold bias to
   NAEFSv6 over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a warm bias than NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at Days 5–16

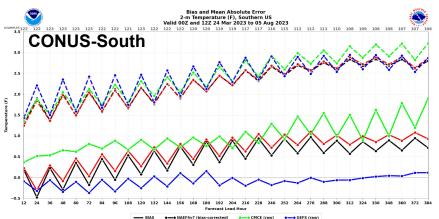




### NAEFSv7: 2-m Temperature





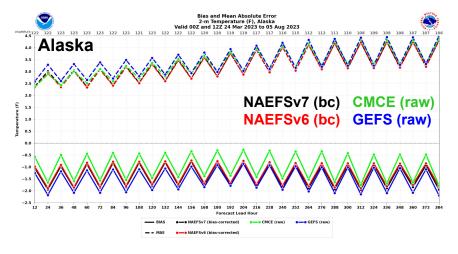


- NAEFSv7 had a comparable cold bias to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a warm bias than NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at Days 5–16
- NAEFSv7 had slightly more of a cold bias than NAEFSv6 over CONUS-East at Days 1–4 and slightly less of a warm bias at Days 8–16
- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a warm bias than NAEFSv6 over CONUS-South at Days 4–16



### NAEFSv7: 2-m Temperature



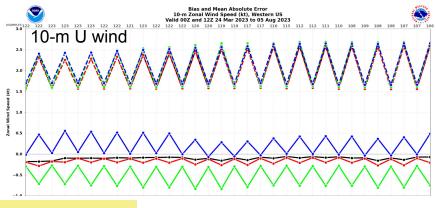


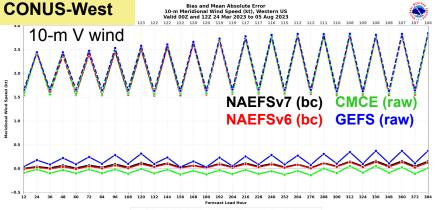
- NAEFSv7 had a comparable cold bias to
   NAEFSv6 over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a warm bias than NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at Days 5–16
- NAEFSv7 had slightly more of a cold bias than NAEFSv6 over CONUS-East at Days 1–4 and slightly less of a warm bias at Days 8–16
- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a warm bias than
   NAEFSv6 over CONUS-South at Days 4–16
- NAEFSv7 had a comparable cold bias to NAEFSv6 over Alaska at all lead times









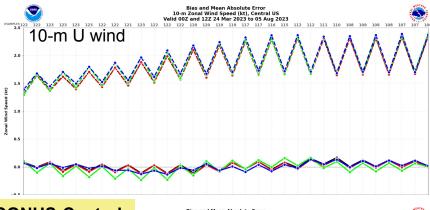


 NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a low 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 and a comparable high 10-m V windspeed bias over CONUS-West at all lead times







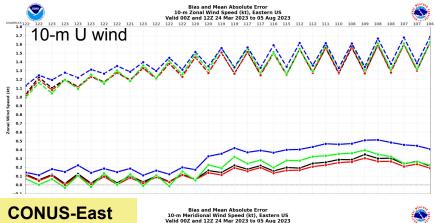


- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a low 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 and a comparable high 10-m V windspeed bias over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had comparable 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at all lead times (no 10-m U wind-speed bias and high V wind-speed bias)









Bias and Mean Absolute Error
10-m Wind

10-m V wind

NAEFSv7 (bc) CMCE (raw)
NAEFSv6 (bc) GEFS (raw)

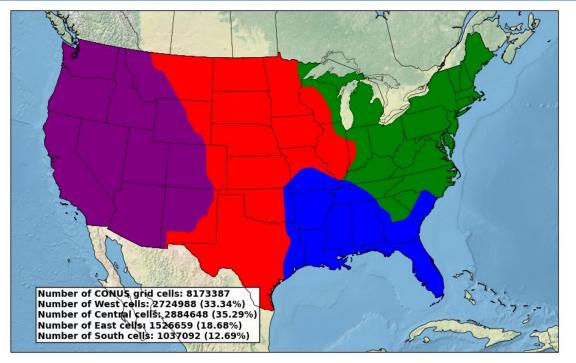
NAEFSv6 (bc) GEFS (raw)

- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a low 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 and a comparable high 10-m V windspeed bias over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had comparable 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at all lead times (no 10-m U wind-speed bias and high V wind-speed bias)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly more of a high 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 at Days 7–16 and a comparable high 10-m V wind-speed bias over CONUS-East at Days 1–16



### NAEFSv7: 2-m Temp. and 10-m U/V Winds



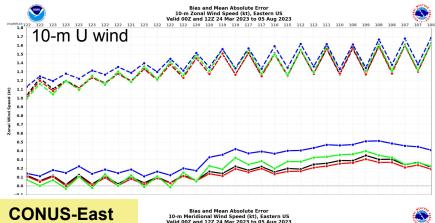


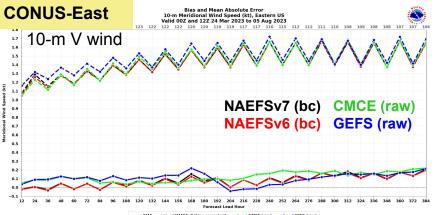
- A meaningful examination of near-surface parameters (e.g., 2-m temperature, 10-m wind) requires that the CONUS be separated into four sub-regions (West, Central, East, and South) and that Alaska is its own region
- The plot above shows the four CONUS sub-regions, created by combining similar Bukovsky Regions (see link)









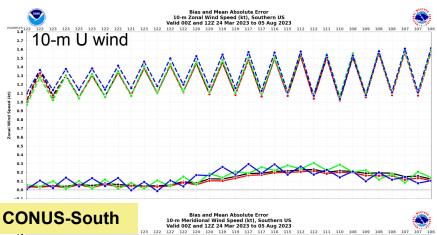


- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a low 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 and a comparable high 10-m V windspeed bias over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had comparable 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at all lead times (no 10-m U wind-speed bias and high V wind-speed bias)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly more of a high 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 at Days 7–16 and a comparable high 10-m V wind-speed bias over CONUS-East at Days 1–16









10-m V wind

10-m V wind

NAEFSv7 (bc) CMCE (raw)

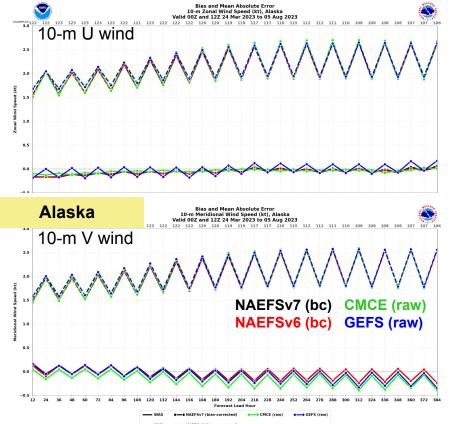
NAEFSv6 (bc) GEFS (raw)

- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a low 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 and a comparable high 10-m V windspeed bias over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had comparable 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at all lead times (no 10-m U wind-speed bias and high V wind-speed bias)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly more of a high 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 at Days 7–16 and a comparable high 10-m V wind-speed bias over CONUS-East at Days 1–16
- NAEFSv7 had comparable high 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-South at all lead times







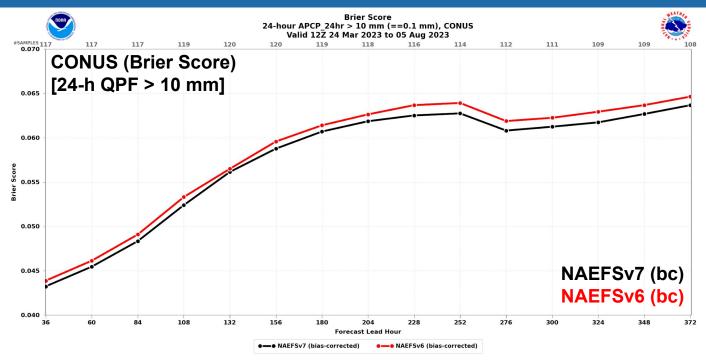


- NAEFSv7 had slightly less of a low 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 and a comparable high 10-m V windspeed bias over CONUS-West at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had comparable 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-Central at all lead times (no 10-m U wind-speed bias and high V wind-speed bias)
- NAEFSv7 had slightly more of a high 10-m U wind-speed bias than NAEFSv6 at Days 7–16 and a comparable high 10-m V wind-speed bias over CONUS-East at Days 1–16
- NAEFSv7 had comparable high 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over CONUS-South at all lead times
- NAEFSv7 had comparable 10-m U and V wind-speed biases to NAEFSv6 over Alaska at all lead times









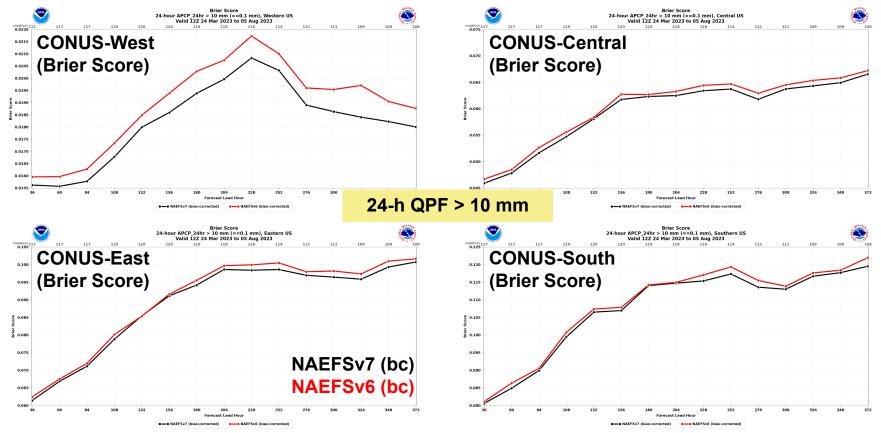
- Of the parameters evaluated, bias-corrected 24-h precipitation showed the most improvement in NAEFSv7
- Brier Scores for various 24-h QPF thresholds (>1, 5, 10, 25, 50 mm) were notably better in NAEFSv7
- Brier Scores were also notably better in NAEFSv7 in all four CONUS sub-regions (West, Central, East, South)





## **NAEFSv7: Precipitation**



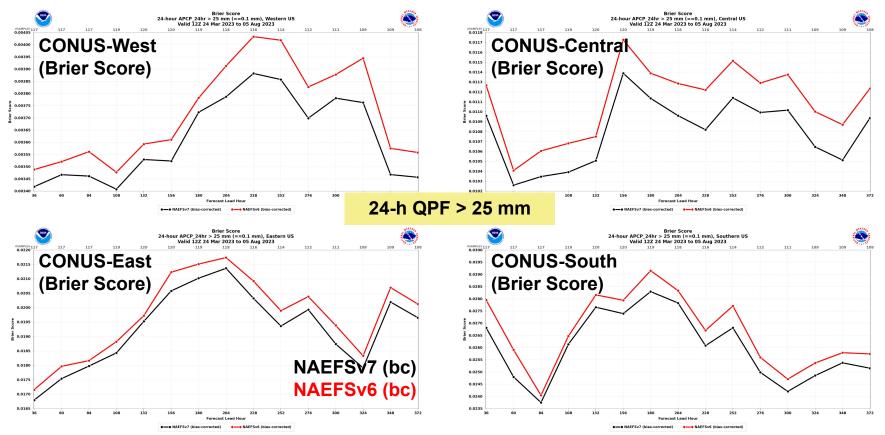






# **NAEFSv7: Precipitation**

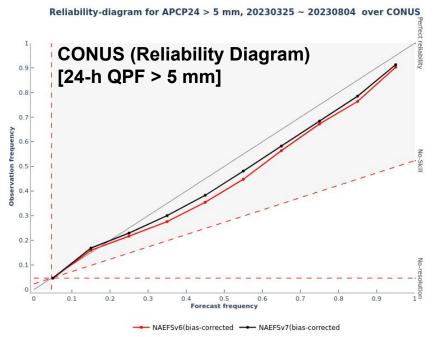


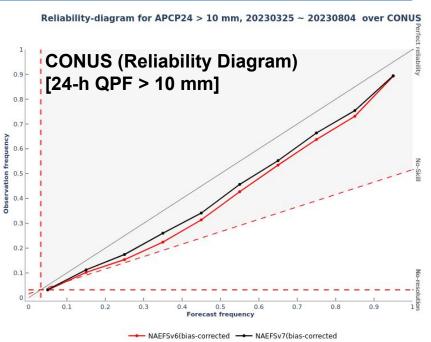




## NAEFSv7: Precipitation







- Reliability Diagrams of 24-h QPF at different thresholds (>1, >5, >10, >25, >50 mm) all showed improvement in **NAEFSv7**, where improvement is indicated by a line being closer to the diagonal "perfect reliability line"
- NAEFSv7 bias-corrected 24-h QPF even had some skill at >50 mm, whereas NAEFSv6 did not (not shown)



#### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



## **Summary of NAEFSv7 Verification Statistics**

Parameter	Remarks	Improvement Neutral Degradation
500-hPa Geo. Height	Comparable in the NH and SH; slight improvement in the	tropics at all forecast lead times
4000 bBs Css Usinht	Slight improvement in the NH in the short range;	comparable in the SH;

slight improvement in the tropics at all forecast lead times

1000-nPa Geo. Height 250-hPa U/V Winds Slight improvement in the NH at all lead times; comparable in the SH and tropics

Slight improvement in the NH at all lead times; comparable in the SH; 850-hPa U/V Winds slight improvement in U wind in the tropics with comparable V wind

Slight improvement in the NH warm bias at all lead times;

850-hPa Temperature slightly larger cold bias in the SH; comparable in the tropics Comparable over CONUS-West and Alaska; slight decrease in the warm bias over CONUS-Central/East/South at longer lead times; 2-m Temperature

slight increase in the cold bias over CONUS-East at shorter lead times Comparable over CONUS-Central, CONUS-South, and Alaska; slight improvement in 10-m U/V Winds

U wind low bias over CONUS-West; slight increase U wind high bias over CONUS-East Improvement over all CONUS sub-regions and thresholds, modest skill at >50 mm;

24-h Precipitation comparable frequency bias for most CONUS sub-regions



#### Recap of the NAEFSv7 Field Evaluation



- Assess the statistical performance of the NAEFSv7 parallel
- Provide a few examples of bias-corrected precipitation forecasts
- Review the comments and recommendations from NWS Centers/Regions
- Share a summary and outline next steps

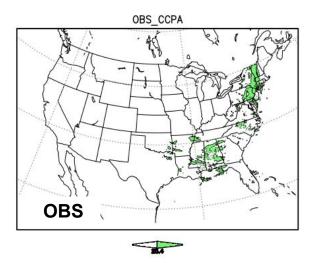
#### **NAEFSv7 Official Evaluation Webpage**



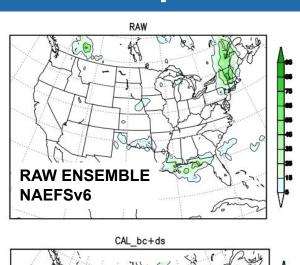
## **QPF Case Example: VT Flooding**

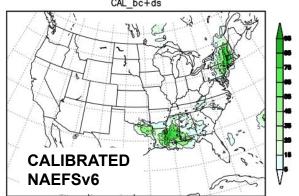


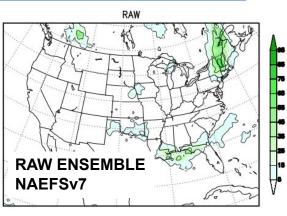
# DAY 2-3 PROB of 24h QPF > 1"

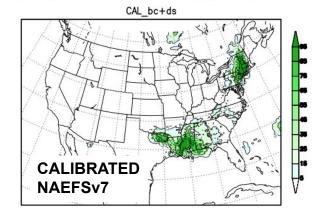


QPF images courtesy of Bo Cui







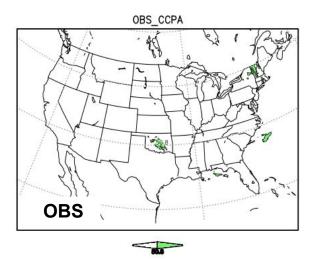




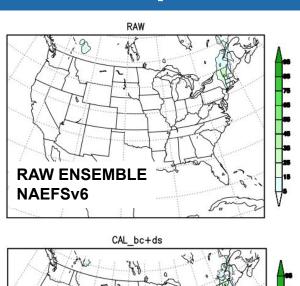
## **QPF Case Example: VT Flooding**

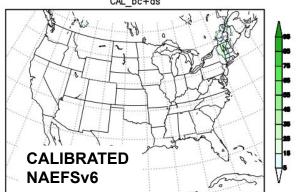


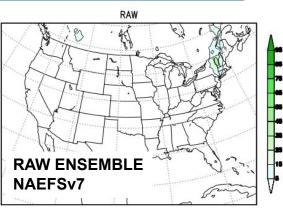
DAY 2-3 PROB of 24h QPF > 2"

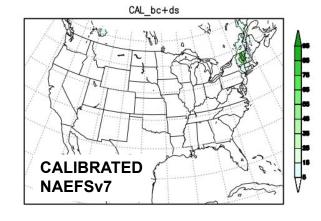


QPF images courtesy of Bo Cui







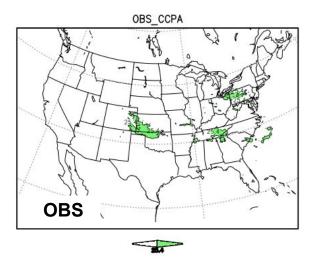




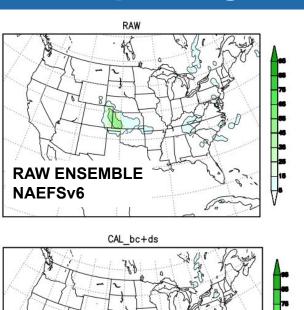
## **QPF Case Example: High Plains MCS**



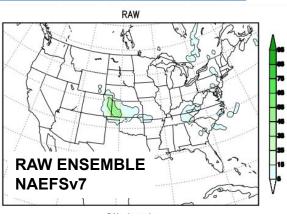
# DAY 3-4 PROB of 24h QPF > 1"

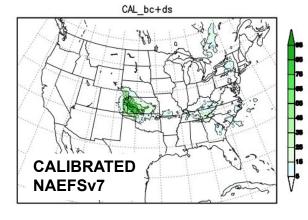


QPF images courtesy of Bo Cui











#### Recap of the NAEFSv7 Field Evaluation



- Assess the statistical performance of the NAEFSv7 parallel
- Provide a few examples of bias-corrected precipitation forecasts
- Review the comments and recommendations from NWS Centers/Regions
- Share a summary and outline next steps

#### NAEFSv7 Official Evaluation Webpage



#### **NAEFSv7** Field Evaluation



#### Information that users were asked to provide:

- What are your overall impressions of NAEFSv7 relative to NAEFSv6?
- What is your recommendation?

The questions were kept simple due to the limited scope of the proposed upgrade.

Evaluations were requested from each NWS Region, as well as WPC and CPC. Eastern Region and CPC were unable to participate due to resource limitations.

Thank you to all who submitted formal recommendations and to those who provided subjective feedback during the evaluation period!



## **NWS Southern Region**



- Reliability for very light QPF is slightly worse in the CONUS-South in NAEFSv7
- Overall, though, it seemed like the QPF was slightly improved in NAEFSv7
- Bigger diurnal swings in 2m temperature ACC in the South compared to some other regions, but this is similar to NAEFSv6
- Would have liked to have seen forecast images
- Supports implementation of NAEFSv7



#### **NCEP Weather Prediction Center (WPC)**



- Differences in the stats between NAEFSv6 and NAEFSv7 were overall minor
  - Biggest differences were in QPF
- Noted some improvement in 500-hPa ACC over the Tropics, as well as lower RMSE
- Better reliability and Brier Score in NAEFSv7 for 24-h QPF for 5, 10, 25 mm thresholds
- Some improvement in the warm bias in NAEFSv7 over the Central/Southern/Eastern CONUS in the medium-to-long range, but the cool bias is slightly worse
- Overall, NAEFSv7 offers limited improvement but certainly doesn't degrade the forecast
- Supports implementation of NAEFSv7



### **NWS Western Region**



- Some small improvements and some small areas of degradation
- Mostly very similar performance due to small scope of changes
- Would like to have seen forecast images, especially from a real-time parallel
- Supports implementation of NAEFSv7



#### NWS Alaska Region



- Based on the limited amount of data available, NAEFSv7 performs very similarly to NAEFSv6
- Supports implementation of NAEFSv7



### **NWS Central Region**



- Based on the verification statistics, it was difficult to find any characteristics of NAEFSv7 that reflected vast improvement over the current operational NAEFS
- Some improvement in NAEFSv7, relative to v6, at Day 8 and beyond
  - The two systems were overall indistinguishable on Days 1–7
- Slight edge for NAEFSv6 on precip bias scores
- It is a challenge to assess an upgrade with only verification statistics
  - Would have much preferred to have at least a short period of forecast graphics available for v6/v7 comparisons
- Neutral regarding proposed implementation of NAEFSv7



#### **NWS Pacific Region**



- Based on the provided verification statistics, it appears NAEFSv7 performs similarly to NAEFSv6
- Supports implementation of NAEFSv7



**Weather Prediction** 

Center (WPC)

#### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



## Overall Impressions of NAFFSv7

STATES OF AM	o voi an improsorono or rivizir ovi	
Center/Region	Recommendation	Key Remarks

Few overall differences, but NAEFSv7 slightly better. Slightly

overall for precip.

Performance is overall very similar between NAEFSv6 and v7.

**Southern Region Implement** 

worse for small precip thresholds, but perhaps slightly better Differences in objective verification overall pretty minor. Some

**Implement** 

improvement in 500-hPa heights over Tropics. Better QPF Brier Scores and reliability for 5, 10, 25 mm thresholds. Some improvement in longer-range warm bias for East, South, and Central. Cool bias slightly worse at shorter forecast ranges.

**Alaska Region Implement** 

**Improvement** 

Neutral Degradation



Center/Region

#### NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



## **Overall Impressions of NAEFSv7**

**Key Remarks** 

-		
Western Region	Implement	Some small improvements, some slight degradation. Very similar overall performance, as expected due to the small scope of the changes.

Tough to find any vast improvement with NAEFSv7. Some slight improvement at Day 8 and beyond. Slight edge for NAEFSv6 **Central Region** Neutral

with precip bias.

**Pacific Region Implement** NAEFSv7 performs very similarly to NAEFSv6.

Recommendation



#### Recap of the NAEFSv7 Field Evaluation



- Assess the statistical performance of the NAEFSv7 parallel
- Provide a few examples of bias-corrected precipitation forecasts
- Review the comments and recommendations from NWS Centers/Regions
- Share a summary and outline next steps

#### NAEFSv7 Official Evaluation Webpage



## **Overall Impressions (MEG and Evaluators)**



- Some slight improvement in NAEFSv7 relative to NAEFSv6, especially for the majority of precipitation stats
- Overall, NAEFSv7 performed very similarly to NAEFSv6
- The similar performance of NAEFSv7 is not surprising given the limited scope of the changes – the primary purpose of this upgrade is the utilize all 31 GEFS members in NAEFS (which were added in GEFSv12, but not included yet)
- Evaluators support the proposed NAEFSv7 upgrade





#### **NAEFSv7 Next Steps**



EMC Science briefing: 8/22/23

NCEP Director briefing: 8/25/23

Code handoff to NCO: 9/1/23

NCO 30-day IT test: 10/30/23-11/28/23

Implementation date: ~11/28/23



#### NAEFSv7 Official Evaluation Webpage