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Public Information Statement 19-24 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
145 PM EDT Mon May 18 2020

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather
 Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting comments on experimental
 provision of Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT)
 grids in the NDFD through September 30, 2020

Updated to include link to experimental WBGT grids
and updated point of contact.

Effective on or about August 23, 2019, and continuing
through September 30, 2020, the NWS is seeking user
feedback on experimental Wet Bulb Globe Temperature
(WBGT) grids in the National Digital Forecast
Database (NDFD). The WBGT experimental grids can be
viewed here:

<https://digital.mdl.nws.noaa.gov/>

NWS currently uses the Heat Index to convey heat risk
during summer heat events. While the heat index is
useful for sedentary populations, research has proven
that the WBGT is a more effective means of assessing
heat risk to persons involved in physical activity. The
WBGT is a composite parameter that estimates the effect
of temperature, humidity, wind chill, and solar
radiation on humans, while the Heat Index only takes
into account temperature and humidity.

Based upon engagement with core partners, particularly
emergency management officials, the NWS has identified
the need to provide WBGT forecasts because it is
becoming an increasingly needed parameter by partners in
Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS)
activities. In particular, WBGT is important for those
partners who need a numerical (finite) value, rather
than a threat index, to determine necessary
modifications to their respective activities in the
interest of protecting life.

To better meet users' needs, NWS will provide gridded forecasts of WBGT in the NDFD on an experimental basis for the Continental United States (CONUS), Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico. CONUS data will be available hourly out to 36 hours from NDFD issuance time, then every 3 hours out to 72 hours from 0000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) Day 1, then every 6 hours out to 168 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1. Data for Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico will be available every 3 hours out to 72 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1, then every 6 hours out to 168 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1.

After the implementation date, WBGT data for forecast days 1-3 and forecast days 4-7 will be made available via https and ftp from the following URLs:

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https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.conus/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.conus/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.hawaii/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.hawaii/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.guam/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.guam/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.puertori/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR
.puertori/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
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ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.c onus/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.c onus/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.h awaii/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.h awaii/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.g uam/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.g uam/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.p uertori/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.n
dfd/AR.p uertori/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
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Please see NWS Product Description Document (PDD) for more

details:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpWetBulbGlobeTemperature_2019.pdf

NDFD GRIB2 files can be downloaded and displayed by the user with software available for download at the following URL:

https://www.weather.gov/mdl/degrib_home

Users are encouraged to provide feedback on this experimental service by using the brief survey and comment form available online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WetBulbGlobeTemp>

Questions related to WBGT can be directed to:

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Policy questions related to WBGT can be directed to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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