

NOUS41 KWBC 021720
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Public Information Statement 20-50
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring, MD
120 PM EDT Thu Jul 2 2020

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

Subject: Seeking comments through August 2, 2020 on proposed replacement
 of RIDGE I radar webpage with RIDGE II radar webpage

NWS is proposed to replace the Radar Integrated Display with Geospatial Elements (RIDGE) Radar Version I webpage with the Version II webpage. NWS is soliciting comments on the proposed RIDGE II radar webpage through August 2, 2020.

RIDGE I operational URL: <https://radar.weather.gov>

RIDGE II preview URL **: <https://preview-radar.weather.gov/>

**At this time the URL is currently only intended for users to provide feedback. Users should not set up operational feeds from it.

The RIDGE Version II would replace RIDGE Version I of FLASH with HTML5 and Javascript with a web-based and mobile-friendly display that uses Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor (MRMS) datasets on an interactive map containing Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) compliant layers. Along with the included radar products, users would also have the ability to display NWS long- and short-fused Watches, Warnings, and Advisories.

The web map is optimized for small and large screen devices. Users can bookmark a particular perspective of the map or select and save the perspective of a particular radar. As a result, there would no longer be a need for the individual web pages that display specific Weather Surveillance Radar-1988 Doppler (WSR-88D) products. These webpages (ex. <https://radar.weather.gov/radar.php?rid=aaa>; where 'aaa' is the 3-letter identifier of the radar) will be discontinued along with RIDGE I.

For further details, please see the Product Description Document:
https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpRidgeII_2020.pdf

The preview geoTIF images can be accessed at:
<https://mrmst.ncep.noaa.gov/data/RIDGEII/>

If approved for replacement, the NWS will issue a Service Change Notice (SCN) detailing when the RIDGE II webpage will be supported operationally. The SCN would also specify the transition period from RIDGE I to RIDGE II. At that point, the current RIDGE I webpage (<https://radar.weather.gov>) would run in-parallel with the new RIDGE II webpage for 75 days to enable users to transition to RIDGE II. At the end of the 75 days RIDGE II will replace RIDGE I.

The NWS will evaluate all comments during this period and will determine any additional and immediate need for changes, based on public feedback. Please provide feedback through the NWS survey at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProposedRidge2>

For questions regarding the information in this notice, please contact:

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NWS Public Information Notices are online at:
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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