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Service Change Notice 22-43
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1210 PM EDT Mon May 2 2022

To: Subscribers:
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From: Robyn Heffernan, Acting Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services
 Branch

Subject: Wet Bulb Globe Temperature Grids in the National Digital
 Forecast Database Will Transition to Operational Status on June
 1, 2022

Effective June 1, 2022 at 1400 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC), the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) grids in the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) will transition from experimental to operational status.

The WBGT is a composite parameter that estimates the effect of temperature, humidity, wind chill, and solar radiation on humans. This parameter is an effective means of assessing heat risk to people involved in physical outdoor activity as it measures heat stress on the body in direct sunlight.

NWS will provide gridded forecasts of WBGT in the NDFD for the contiguous U.S. (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.

In addition, WBGT is currently planned to be added to the hourly weather graph. More information will be provided when a completion date is known.

NDFD online graphics will be available operationally at:
<https://digital.mdl.nws.noaa.gov/>

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

tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.hawaii/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin

tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.hawaii/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.guam/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.guam/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin
tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin

Please see NWS Product Description Document (PDD) for more details:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_OplWetBulbGlobeTemperature_2022.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

Policy questions related to WBGT can be directed to:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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

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