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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...COMMENT REQUEST NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC 1043 AM EDT WED MAR 5 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:

-FAMILY OF SERVICES

-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE

-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK

-NOAAPORT

OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: BILL PROENZA

DIRECTOR...NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SOUTHERN REGION

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENTS SOLICITED ON EXPERIMENTAL HOURLY PRECIPITATION ESTIMATE WEB-BASED INFORMATION SERVICE: EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 27 2008

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 27 2008...THE NWS SOUTHERN REGION STARTED PRODUCING AN EXPERIMENTAL HOURLY PRECIPITATION ESTIMATE INFORMATION SERVICE.

DATA FROM GROUND-BASED RAIN GAGES ARE COMBINED WITH HOURLY PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES FROM DOPPLER RADAR TO DERIVE THESE HOURLY MULTISENSOR PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES. THE PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES ARE UPDATED HOURLY AT APPROXIMATELY 58 MINUTES PAST THE HOUR.

THE SERVICE PROVIDES PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES IN SHAPEFILE GRAPHICAL FORMAT WHICH ALLOWS USERS TO DOWNLOAD FILES IN GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM /GIS/-BASED SOFTWARE. THE SUITE OF GRAPHICS INCLUDES PRECIPITATION FOR THE LAST HOUR...THREE HOURS...SIX HOURS...12 HOURS...24 HOURS...48 HOURS...72 HOURS...AND SINCE 1200 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ FOR THE CURRENT DAY.

THE SERVICE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTP://WWW.SRH.NOAA.GOV/RFCSHARE/PRECIP ANALYSIS HOURLY.PHP

MORE INFORMATION ON THIS EXPERIMENTAL SERVICE MAY BE FOUND AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTP://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/PDD/PDDREGIONALPRECIP.PDF

THE FEEDBACK PERIOD FOR THIS EXPERIMENTAL INFORMATION SERVICE WILL EXTEND THROUGH JANUARY 2009. NWS ENCOURAGES ITS PARTNERS AND CUSTOMERS TO FILL OUT A SURVEY ON THIS NEW SERVICE. CLICK ON THE SURVEY/FEEDBACK TAB ABOVE THE MAP TO FILL OUT OUR SURVEY.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS EXPERIMENTAL INFORMATION SERVICE...PLEASE CONTACT:

KAI ROTH

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FORECAST CENTER

SLIDELL LOUISIANA

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NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE

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