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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...COMMENT REQUEST  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
200 PM EST FRI DEC 5 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:  
-FAMILY OF SERVICES  
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE  
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK  
-WEB OPERATIONS CENTER  
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: JORDAN ALPERT...ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING CENTER /EMC/  
RICK HACKENBERG...NCEP CENTRAL OPERATIONS /NCO/

SUBJECT: SOLICITING PUBLIC COMMENTS BY JANUARY 16 2009 ON  
PROPOSED UPGRADE OF HIGH AVAILABILITY ANONYMOUS FTP  
SERVICES AT THE WEB OPERATIONS CENTER /WOC/ AND  
APPLICATIONS FOR SERVING DATA FROM THE NOAA OPERATIONAL  
MODEL ARCHIVE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM /NOMADS/

NWS IS SOLICITING COMMENTS BY JANUARY 16 2009 ON A KEY COMPONENT  
OF ITS INFORMATION DATA BASE: THE MODEL OUTPUT DATA FROM  
ATMOSPHERIC...OCEAN AND CLIMATE NUMERICAL WEATHER PREDICTION /NWP/  
MODELS. THIS DATA IS OPERATIONALLY PREPARED AT THE NATIONAL  
CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION /NCEP/. THE NOAA OPERATIONAL  
MODEL ARCHIVE AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM /NOMADS/ BEGAN AS A PILOT  
PROJECT DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A SERVICE ORIENTED FRAMEWORK FOR:

- A DIGITAL ARCHIVE AND REAL TIME DISTRIBUTION OF NOAA'S  
OPERATIONAL WEATHER MODELS
- AN INNOVATIVE DATA ACCESS PHILOSOPHY TO PROMOTE INTEROPERABLE  
ACCESS ACROSS THE GEOSCIENCES
- AN INTEGRATOR OF COMMON WEB SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT  
THE DISCOVERY...ACCESS...AND TRANSPORT OF DATA
- REAL-TIME AND RETROSPECTIVE FORMAT INDEPENDENT ACCESS TO  
CLIMATE...OCEAN...AND WEATHER MODEL DATA.

NWS IS SEEKING COMMENTS ON A PROPOSED UPGRADE PROVIDING HIGH  
AVAILABILITY NOMADS APPLICATIONS FOR SERVING MODEL DATA ON THE WOC  
SERVER. IN ADDITION TO ANONYMOUS FTP SERVICES AT THE WOC...NCEP  
WOULD INTRODUCE THE FOLLOWING NOMADS WEB BASED ACCESS  
APPLICATIONS:

1. GRIB\_FILTER: PROVIDES ACCESS TO BINARY GRIB DATA WITH SUB-  
SETTING THROUGH TIME...SPACE AND VARIABLES USING TRADITIONAL  
BUT ENHANCED FTP PROCESSES. DATA ARE PROVIDED IN RAW GRIB  
FORMAT ONLINE AND RESULTS ARE REPACKAGED GRIB FILES STREAMED TO  
USER WORKSTATIONS. WEB INTERFACES COMMUNICATE USER REQUESTS AND  
HTTP PROTOCOL IS USED TO DELIVER RESULTS.

2. OPENDAP /GDS/DODS/ SERVER: THE OPEN SOURCE PROJECT FOR A NETWORK DATA ACCESS PROTOCOL /OPENDAP/ IMPLEMENTED UNDER THE GRADS DATA SERVER /GDS/ DISTRIBUTED OCEAN DATA SYSTEM /DODS/ PROVIDES SIMPLE FILE-LEVEL ACCESS/DOWNLOAD VALUES OF ENTIRE FILES OR ONE OR MORE VALUES FROM THE MATRIX OF SERVER GRIB DATA HOLDINGS.

THESE CHANGES ARE MADE TO ADDRESS A GROWING NEED FOR REMOTE ACCESS TO HIGH VOLUME NWP MODEL DATA. A MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THESE CHANGES CAN BE FOUND AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://NOMADS.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/](http://NOMADS.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/)

AND VIA SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT UNDER THE HEADING SERVICE DOCUMENT AT THE ABOVE WEBSITE

SEND COMMENTS ON THESE PROPOSED CHANGES BY JANUARY 16 2009 TO

JORDAN.ALPERT@NOAA.GOV.

FOR QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

NCEP NOMADS HIGH AVAILABILITY TECHNICAL SUPPORT:  
NCEP NCO PMB HELPDESK  
301-763-8000X7198

SCIENCE/DATA QUESTIONS:  
JORDAN ALPERT  
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NWS PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM)

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