NOUS41 KWBC 251520 AAD
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement, Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
1115 AM EDT Fri Sep 25 2015

To: Subscribers:
-Family of Services
-NOAA Weather Wire Service
-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
-NOAAPORT
Other NWS partners, users and employees

From: Mike Dion
Acting Chief, Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami
Services Branch

Subject: Amended: Experimental Period Extended until
July 31, 2016, for the Experimental Gridded Marine
Offshore and High Seas Forecasts in the National
Digital Forecast Database (NDFD)

Amended for Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch to update its offshore and high seas gridded marine forecasts every 3 hours out to 72 hours

Effective Tuesday December 1, 2015, the NWS National Hurricane Center's (NHC) TAFB will provide 3-hourly temporal gridded marine forecasts out to 72 hours. Beyond 72 hours, temporal resolution will continue at 6-hourly increments.

TAFB will continue to provide to the NDFD, on an experimental basis, gridded forecasts of five marine weather elements over their offshore waters and high seas forecast areas of responsibility (AOR) in the Atlantic and Pacific basins. The National Centers for Environmental Prediction's (NCEP) Ocean Prediction Center (OPC) will continue to provide to the NDFD, on an experimental basis, gridded forecasts of five marine weather elements over their offshore waters in the Atlantic and Pacific basins. NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau, AK, will continue to provide six weather elements over their offshore waters on an experimental basis to the NDFD in the Arctic Ocean, Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska basins.

OPC plans to add the high seas forecast grids on an experimental basis in 2017. Offshore and high seas forecast grids from WFO Honolulu, HI, are expected to be added in the near future. An amended Public Information Statement will be issued at that time.

The gridded marine parameters include 10-meter wind speed, 10-meter wind direction, 10-meter wind gusts, significant wave

heights and marine hazards. The Alaska offices also produce a weather grid.

The upper right latitude, longitude for this new oceanic grid is 79.99N, 10.71E. The lower left corner lies directly on NCEP Gridpoint 204, which coincides with all other Pacific region NDFD grids. The lower left latitude, longitude for this grid is 30.42S, 129.91E. Specific information on the grid domain can be found at:

http://graphical.weather.gov/docs/ndfdSRS.htm

Areas of the offshore grids that coincide with the NDFD CONUS grid are included in the CONUS mosaic.

Each offshore and high seas producer updates its grids at least four times per day.

The experimental marine grids are online at:

http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.001-003/

http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.004-007/

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.001-003/

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.004-007/

More details regarding these elements are available in the Product Description Document in the online catalog of Experimental NWS products and services available at:

http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD%20OFF%20HSF%20Grids%202015.pdf

Forecasts for these zones will be available from NDFD in the following standard methods:

-Gridded Binary version 2 (GRIB2) files via Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
-Extensible Markup Language (XML) via Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP)
-Graphics via Web browser

Graphics for the oceanic grid are available via the NDFD map viewer located at:

http://digital.weather.gov/

Information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at:

http://ndfd.weather.gov/technical.htm

Comments and feedback on all these experimental Offshore and High Seas NDFD elements, including the current oceanic grid configuration (in current Mercator projection or some users prefer latitude/longitude projection) are welcome at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=EGOSWHSMF

GRIB2 users:

http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=ndfd-grids

Users OF XML SOAP service:

http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=xmlsoap

NDFD online graphics:

http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=gfp

These Offshore and High Seas Marine elements will remain experimental until at least July 31, 2016, when the NWS will assess feedback and completes a technical analysis. At that time, the NWS will determine whether to move these experimental elements to operational status, discontinue them, or revise and extend the experimental feedback period. Users will be notified of that decision via another Public Information Statement and a new implementation date will be established.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact:

Richard May
NWS Marine Meteorologist
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
301-427-9378
Richard.May@noaa.gov

For general questions regarding NDFD data, please email:

NWS.NDFD@noaa.gov

For technical questions regarding NDFD data, please contact:

David Ruth
NWS/STI/Digital Forecast Services Branch
National Weather Service Headquarters
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
301-427-9457
David.Ruth@noaa.gov

NDFD Public Information Statements are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/tins.htm

National Public Information Notices are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm

NNNN