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Public Information Statement 19-02 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
130 AM EDT Thu Apr 30 2020

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

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

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments until April 30, 2021,
 on Addition of Probabilistic Snow Grids for select
 WFOs as an experimental element in NDFD for CONUS

Update to correct link for NDFD online graphics from
<https://digital.weather.gov/>
to
<https://digital.mdl.nws.noaa.gov/>
and to remove references to the XML SOAP service.

The NWS is soliciting comments until April 30, 2021, on providing experimental Probabilistic Snow Grids for select Contiguous United States (CONUS) Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) in the NWS' National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD). These grids became available February 26, 2019 at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), and the experimental period has been extended through the 2020-2021 winter season.

The grids show the 10% and 90% exceedance percentiles, representing a Low End Amount (a 90% chance of higher snowfall) and a High End Amount (a 10% chance of higher snowfall) to complement the existing NWS deterministic snowfall forecasts (most likely amount).

Grids will be valid for 24, 48, and 72-hour periods out to 72 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1 beginning with the 2200 UTC issuance.

They will be valid for 24, 48, and 72-hour periods out to 72 hours from 1200 UTC Day 1 beginning with the 1100 UTC issuance.

As with deterministic snowfall forecasts in NDFD, the Probabilistic Snow Grids will be updated every 30 minutes.

More details on the Experimental Probabilistic Snow Grids, including participating offices, technical description, and scientific basis are available in the Product Description Document:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_Experimental_ProbSnow_Grids_in_NDFD_021319.pdf

These experimental grids 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)
- Graphics via Web browser

Users who pull NDFD elements in GRIB2 format via the Internet may need to update their procedures and scripts to access this new element.

GRIB2 files (via ftp or https):

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.0_01-003/ds.snow24e10.bin

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.0_01-003/ds.snow24e90.bin

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.0_01-003/ds.snow48e10.bin

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.0_01-003/ds.snow48e90.bin

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.0_01-003/ds.snow72e10.bin

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.0_01-003/ds.snow72e90.bin

NDFD online graphics for the experimental grids are available at the following link:

<https://digital.mdl.nws.noaa.gov/>

Information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at: https://www.weather.gov/mdl/ndfd_home

Comments and feedback on the proposal to eventually implement these experimental elements at all applicable NWS offices are welcome through April 30, 2021 at:

Probabilistic Snow Grids:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProbSnowGridsinNDFD>

For general questions regarding NDFD data, please email:

nws.ndfd@noaa.gov

For technical questions regarding NDFD data please contact:

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