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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 02-21  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
940 AM EDT WED SEP 25 2002

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS  
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/  
SUBSCRIBERS  
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS  
OTHER NWS CUSTOMERS...PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: HUA-LU PAN  
CHIEF...GLOBAL CLIMATE AND WEATHER MODELING BRANCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING CENTER  
NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION

SUBJECT: NEW METHOD FOR FINDING THE LOWEST TROPOSPHERIC FREEZING LEVEL IN  
THE NCEP GLOBAL FORECAST SYSTEM...EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 29 2002

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING CHANGES HAVE NO IMPACT ON NOAA WEATHER WIRE  
SUBSCRIBERS.

THIS MESSAGE DETAILS FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE UPGRADE OF THE NCEP GLOBAL  
FORECAST SYSTEM /GFS/ CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 29 2002. THE LAST  
MESSAGE ON THIS TOPIC WAS [TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ 02-  
17](#)...TRANSMITTED ON AUGUST 22 2002.

WHEN THE NCEP GLOBAL FORECAST SYSTEM IS UPGRADED...AN ADDITIONAL CHANGE  
WILL BE MADE TO HOW THE FREEZING LEVEL INFORMATION IS REPORTED IN THE  
OUTPUT GRIDDED BINARY /GRIB/ FILES. CURRENTLY...THE LOWEST FREEZING LEVEL  
REPORTED IS LIMITED TO THE HEIGHT OF THE MODEL TERRAIN. IN THE NEW  
VERSION OF THE GFS...IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE FREEZING LEVELS BELOW  
MODEL TERRAIN. FOR SITUATIONS WHERE THE TROPOSPHERIC FREEZING LEVEL IS  
NOT ABOVE GROUND...THE MODEL WILL EXTRAPOLATE DOWNWARD USING A 6.5 K/KM  
LAPSE RATE TO FIND A THEORETICAL FREEZING LEVEL.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE CHANGES TO THE NCEP GLOBAL FORECAST  
SYSTEM...PLEASE CONTACT:

HUA-LU PAN  
NCEP/CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND  
PHONE: 301-763-8000 EXT. 7234  
EMAIL: [HUALU.PAN@NOAA.GOV](mailto:HUALU.PAN@NOAA.GOV)

NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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