

NOUS41 KWBC 161854
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 04-49
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
230 PM EDT THU SEP 16 2004

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

FROM: GREG MANDT
DIRECTOR...OFFICE OF CLIMATE WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES

SUBJECT: UPDATE...NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NATIONAL DIGITAL
FORECAST DATABASE (NDFD) STATUS

REFER TO:TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 04-34 SENT
JUNE 30 2004

ON DECEMBER 1 2004...PORTIONS OF THE NDFD WILL BECOME AN OFFICIAL
NWS PRODUCT. SPECIFICALLY...THE NWS HAS DETERMINED THAT 3 OF THE
INITIAL 12 EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS WILL BE DECLARED OFFICIAL.
THESE THREE OFFICIAL ELEMENTS INCLUDE:

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE
PROBABILITY OF PRECIPITATION /POP12/

THESE OFFICIAL ELEMENTS WILL BE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING URL ON
DECEMBER 1.../USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/ EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING
CAPITALS: SL...ST...DF...DC...AR

[FTP://TGFTP.NWS.NOAA.GOV/SL.US008001/ST.OPNL/DF.GR2/DC.NDFD/AR.CONUS/](ftp://TGFTP.NWS.NOAA.GOV/SL.US008001/ST.OPNL/DF.GR2/DC.NDFD/AR.CONUS/)

THIS REPRESENTS AN INITIAL OPERATING CAPABILITY /IOC/ FOR NDFD.
THE NWS EXPECTS TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY...
ACCURACY...CONSISTENCY AND TIMELINESS OF THE GRID ELEMENTS AFTER
NDFD IOC. UNTIL THE NWS COMPLETES BACKUP SERVER UPGRADES ON
MARCH 1 2005...USERS MAY EXPERIENCE SERVICE DELAYS ON RARE
OCCASIONS.

THE NWS IS WORKING TO IMPROVE NDFD CONSISTENCY AND ACCURACY ON
DAYS WITH LARGE...WIDESPREAD WEATHER EVENTS. EXPERIMENTAL NDFD
VERIFICATION INFORMATION FOR USERS IS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING
URL.../USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NDFD/VERIFICATION/](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NDFD/VERIFICATION/)

THE NINE REMAINING ELEMENTS FROM THE ORIGINAL SET WILL RETAIN THEIR EXPERIMENTAL STATUS WHILE THEY ARE IMPROVED AND EVALUATED. USERS WILL BE GIVEN 30 DAYS NOTICE WHEN AN ELEMENT MOVES FROM EXPERIMENTAL TO OFFICIAL STATUS. THE NWS WILL ANNOUNCE BY DECEMBER 15 2004 WHICH ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS WILL BE TRANSITIONED TO OFFICIAL NWS PRODUCTS ON JANUARY 15 2005.

THESE NINE EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS INCLUDE:

SKY COVER
QUANTITATIVE PRECIPITATION FORECAST /QPF/
SNOW AMOUNT
WEATHER
WIND DIRECTION
WIND SPEED
TEMPERATURE
DEW POINT
SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT

THESE ELEMENTS...ALONG WITH ALL OTHER EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS... WILL CONTINUE TO BE ACCESSED AT THE FOLLOWING URL.../USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/ EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING CAPITALS:
SL...ST...DF...DC...AR

[FTP://TGFTP.NWS.NOAA.GOV/SL.US008001/ST.EXPR/DF.GR2/DC.NDFD/AR.CONUS/](ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/sL.US008001/ST.EXPR/DF.GR2/DC.NDFD/AR.CONUS/)

THERE WILL BE NO OVERLAP OF DATA BETWEEN THE TWO DIRECTORIES. ONCE AN ELEMENT BECOMES OFFICIAL AND MOVES TO THE OPERATIONAL DIRECTORY...IT WILL NO LONGER BE ACCESSIBLE IN THE EXPERIMENTAL DIRECTORY.

USERS OF THE EXPERIMENTAL GRID PRODUCTS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON WHICH ELEMENTS ARE MOST NEEDED...AND WHICH APPEAR READY TO BE DESIGNATED OFFICIAL. A BRIEF SURVEY AND COMMENT FORM IS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING URL.../USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

<http://www.weather.gov/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=NDFD-GRIDS>

DATA FROM THE NDFD ARE PROVIDED IN GRIB /GRIDDED BINARY/ FORMAT. MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE CONTENT OF THESE FILES AND FTP INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE URL LISTED BELOW /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NDFD/TECHNICAL/TECHNICAL.HTM](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NDFD/TECHNICAL/TECHNICAL.HTM)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NOTICE...PLEASE CONTACT:

LEROY SPAYD
CHIEF...METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION
NWS HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF CLIMATE WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES
EMAIL: LEROY.SPAYD@NOAA.GOV

IF YOU HAVE TECHNICAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE NDFD DATA...PLEASE
CONTACT:

DAVID RUTH
CHIEF...MESOSCALE PREDICTION BRANCH
NWS HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
EMAIL: DAVID.RUTH@NOAA.GOV

THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO POSTED ON THE NWS DATA MANAGEMENT CHANGE
NOTICES WEB PAGE AT THE URL LISTED BELOW /USE LOWER CASE
LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DATAMGMT/NOTICES.SHTML](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/datamgmt/notices.shtml)

THIS AND ALL OTHER NWS TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE
POSTED ON /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

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