

NOUS41 KWBC 161920  
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 06-07  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
220 PM EST THU FEB 16 2006

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /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: GLENN AUSTIN  
DIGITAL SERVICES TRANSITION MANAGER  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER...AND WEATHER SERVICES

SUBJECT: NWS NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE /NDFD/  
IMPROVEMENTS: RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND APPARENT  
TEMPERATURE ELEMENTS TO BECOME OPERATIONAL ON  
MARCH 15 2006 /MARCH 16 LOCAL GUAM TIME/

REFER TO: TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ 06-04 SENT  
FEBRUARY 6 2006...MOST RECENT NDFD OPERATIONAL  
READINESS STATUS MESSAGE

THIS IS THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF MESSAGES TO PROVIDE MORE  
SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE MARCH 15 2006 IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE /NDFD/ ELEMENTS...AS  
PROMISED IN TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ 06-04.

ON MARCH 15 2006 AT 1400 UNIVERSAL COORDINATED TIME /UTC/...  
/MARCH 16 AT MIDNIGHT LOCAL GUAM TIME/...THE APPARENT  
TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY EXPERIMENTAL FORECAST ELEMENTS  
IN THE NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE /NDFD/ WILL BE  
UPGRADED TO OPERATIONAL STATUS. IF THE IMPLEMENTATION DAY IS A  
CRITICAL WEATHER DAY...THE IMPLEMENTATION MAY BE POSTPONED. IN  
THAT CASE...USERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THAT DECISION AS FAR IN  
ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

THE NDFD FORECAST ELEMENTS BEING UPGRADED COVER THE COTERMINOUS  
U.S. /CONUS/...THE 16 REGIONAL SUBSECTORS OF THE CONUS...PUERTO  
RICO/ VIRGIN ISLANDS...HAWAII...AND GUAM.

THIS CHANGE AFFECTS USERS WHO PULL THESE ELEMENTS IN GRIDDED  
BINARY /GRIB2/ FORMAT FROM THE NWS FILE TRANSFER PROTOCOL /FTP/  
SERVER...EITHER VIA THE INTERNET OR VIA THE FAMILY OF SERVICES  
SERVER ACCESS SERVICE. THOSE USERS WILL NEED TO PULL THESE  
ELEMENTS FROM A DIFFERENT URL/S/ TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE  
RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND APPARENT TEMPERATURE DIGITAL FORECASTS.  
PARTNERS AND CUSTOMERS WHO ACCESS THESE ELEMENTS VIA FTP MAY NEED  
TO UPDATE PROCEDURES AND/OR SCRIPTS TO ENSURE CONTINUED ACCESS TO

RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND APPARENT TEMPERATURE. SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR FTP USERS REGARDING THIS CHANGE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/OPER\\_IMPLM.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/oper_implem.htm)

THIS CHANGE WILL BE TRANSPARENT TO USERS OF THE NDFD NATIONAL GRAPHICAL FORECASTS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/FORECASTS/GRAPHICAL/SECTORS/](http://www.weather.gov/forecasts/graphical/sectors/)

AND USERS OF THE NDFD EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE /XML/ VIA WEB SERVICE:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/XML/](http://www.weather.gov/xml/)

THESE CUSTOMERS CAN USE THE SAME METHODS THEY ARE CURRENTLY USING TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND APPARENT TEMPERATURE ELEMENTS FROM THE NDFD.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND APPARENT TEMPERATURE WERE ADDED AS EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS TO NDFD IN JUNE 2005. THESE ELEMENTS ARE DERIVED FROM THE OPERATIONAL TEMPERATURE...DEWPOINT...AND WIND NDFD ELEMENTS.

FORECAST ELEMENTS REMAINING IN EXPERIMENTAL STATUS FOR THE CONUS... THE 16 REGIONAL SUBSECTORS...PUERTO RICO/VIRGIN ISLANDS...HAWAII...AND GUAM ARE:

- SKY COVER
- SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT
- QUANTITATIVE PRECIPITATION FORECAST
- SNOW AMOUNT

USERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK ON BOTH EXPERIMENTAL AND OPERATIONAL NDFD ELEMENTS VIA THE BRIEF ONLINE SURVEY AND COMMENT FORM POSTED AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=NDFD-GRIDS](http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=ndfd-grids)

IN DECEMBER...WE COMPLETED A REVIEW OF MORE THAN 2000 RESPONSES NWS RECEIVED FROM NDFD USERS VIA OUR ONLINE SURVEYS. WE APPRECIATE ALL THE COMMENTS AND ARE USING THEM TO PLAN SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS IN BOTH THE REMAINING EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS AS WELL AS THE OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS. MEANWHILE TECHNICAL REVIEWS OF EACH OF THE EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS CONTINUE. ALTHOUGH SPECIFIC DATES FOR UPGRADING THESE ELEMENTS FROM EXPERIMENTAL TO OPERATIONAL STATUS HAVE NOT BEEN SET...IT WILL LIKELY BE SOMETIME THIS YEAR. USERS WILL RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS NOTICE OF A DECISION TO DECLARE ADDITIONAL NDFD ELEMENTS OPERATIONAL OR TO ADD MORE EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS TO NDFD.

RELATED NDFD WEB SITES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS FOR THESE URLS/:

CONTENT OF THE NDFD GRIDDED DATA FILES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCESSING THE OPERATIONAL AND EXPERIMENTAL GRID ELEMENTS IN EITHER GRIDDED BINARY /GRIB2/ FORMAT OR EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE /XML/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/TECHNICAL.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/technical.htm)  
[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/XML/](http://www.weather.gov/xml/)

STATUS OF NDFD ELEMENTS:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/RESOURCES/OPER\\_STATUS\\_TABLE.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/resources/oper_status_table.pdf)

NDFD VERIFICATION INFORMATION:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NDFD/VERIFICATION/](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ndfd/verification/)

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENTS /PDD/ FOR THE NDFD FORECAST ELEMENT DATA FILES AND GRAPHICS:

[HTTP://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/VIEWLISTE.PHP](http://products.weather.gov/viewliste.php)

NDFD VARIABLE DEFINITIONS:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/DEFINITIONS.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/definitions.htm)

THE 16 REGIONAL SUBSECTORS OF THE CONUS:

GIF IMAGES /PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING URL IS CASE SENSITIVE AND SHOULD BE ENTERED EXACTLY AS SHOWN BELOW/:

[http://www.weather.gov/mdl/ndfd\\_grib2decoder/dataloc.php](http://www.weather.gov/mdl/ndfd_grib2decoder/dataloc.php)

FLASH APPLICATION /ROLLOVER DISPLAY/:  
[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/COVERAGE.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/coverage.htm)

FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE NDFD...PLEASE EMAIL:

[NWS.NDFD@NOAA.GOV](mailto:NWS.NDFD@NOAA.GOV)

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

CHRIS ALEX  
DIGITAL SERVICES  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER...AND WEATHER SERVICES  
1325 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND 20910  
EMAIL: [CHRISTINE.ALEX@NOAA.GOV](mailto:CHRISTINE.ALEX@NOAA.GOV)

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

DAVID RUTH  
CHIEF...MESOSCALE PREDICTION BRANCH  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
1325 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND 20910  
EMAIL: DAVID.RUTH@NOAA.GOV

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

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

\$\$  
NNNN