

NOUS41 KWBC 061201  
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 08-49  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
800 AM EDT FRI JUN 6 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:  
-FAMILY OF SERVICES  
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE  
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK  
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: KEN GRAHAM  
CHIEF...METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: HAZARD ELEMENT TO BECOME EXPERIMENTAL IN THE NATIONAL  
DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE /NDFD/ ON JULY 08 2008 AT  
1400 UTC /JULY 09 2008 AT MIDNIGHT LOCAL TIME IN GUAM/

REFER TO: TIN 08-50 ANNOUNCING QPF...SKY AND SNOW ELEMENTS  
BECOMING OPERATIONAL IN THE NDFD ON THE SAME DATE

EFFECTIVE JULY 08 2008 AT 1400 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME  
/UTC/...JULY 09 2008 AT MIDNIGHT LOCAL TIME IN GUAM...NWS WILL  
ADD THE HAZARD ELEMENT TO THE NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE  
/NDFD/ IN EXPERIMENTAL STATUS.

THE HAZARD ELEMENT WILL CONTAIN ALL THE ACTIVE LONG DURATION  
WATCH...WARNING...AND ADVISORY HAZARDS AVAILABLE FROM THE NDFD AT  
A 5 KILOMETER SPATIAL RESOLUTION FOR THE CONTERMINOUS U.S.  
/CONUS/...THE 16 PRE-DEFINED NDFD CONUS SUBSECTORS...ALASKA...  
PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS...HAWAII AND GUAM. THE HAZARD  
GRIDS ARE ISSUED FOR ONE HOUR PERIODS OUT TO 72 HOURS THEN AT 6  
HOUR PERIODS OUT TO 120 HOURS.

SUPPLEMENTAL NDFD HAZARD IMAGES WILL BECOME AVAILABLE IN  
EXPERIMENTAL STATUS AT THREE HOURLY RESOLUTION TO 72 HOURS AND  
SIX HOURLY RESOLUTION FOR DAYS 4 AND 5. THIS REDUCED TEMPORAL  
RESOLUTION FOR THE NDFD HAZARD IMAGES WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE NWS  
WEB FARM HAS SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO GENERATE ONE HOURLY  
RESOLUTION IMAGES.

THE HAZARD GRIDS DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING HAZARDS:

- TORNADO WARNING
- SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING
- EXTREME WIND WARNING
- FLASH FLOOD WARNING
- SPECIAL MARINE WARNING
- AREAL FLOOD WARNING
- FLOOD WATCH FOR FORECAST POINTS
- FLOOD WARNING FOR FORECAST POINTS

IN ADDITION...ALASKA REGION WFOS WILL NOT PROVIDE MARINE HAZARD GRIDS.

MORE DETAILS REGARDING THE HAZARDS ELEMENT WILL BE PROVIDED IN A PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT /PDD/ WHICH WILL BE ADDED TO THE ONLINE CATALOG OF NWS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE. REFER TO /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

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

A DETAILED LISTING OF ALL HAZARDS INCLUDED IN THE HAZARDS ELEMENT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PDD: SEE APPENDIX A.

WITH THIS IMPLEMENTATION...THE HAZARD GRIDS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM NDFD IN THREE OF THE STANDARD METHODS:

- GRIDDED BINARY /GRIB2/ FILES VIA HYPERTEXT TRANSFER PROPOCOL /HTTP/ AND FILE TRANSFER PROTOCOL /FTP/
- IN EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE /XML/ VIA SIMPLE OBJECT ACCESS PROTOCOL /SOAP/
- GRAPHICS VIA WEB BROWSER

THE HAZARD GRIDS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE IN GEOGRAPHY MARKUP LANGUAGE /GML/ THROUGH THE NDFD WEB FEATURE SERVICE /WFS/.

USERS WHO PULL NDFD ELEMENTS IN GRIDDED BINARY EDITION 2 /GRIB2/ FORMAT FROM THE NWS ANONYMOUS FILE TRANSFER PROTOCOL /FTP/ SERVER OR THE HYPERTEXT TRANSFER PROTOCOL /HTTP/ SERVER...MAY NEED TO UPDATE THEIR PROCEDURES AND SCRIPTS TO ACCESS THIS NEW ELEMENT.

FOR CUSTOMERS WHO KEY ON THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ SUPER HEADINGS TO ACCESS NDFD ELEMENTS...THE LIST OF SUPER HEADINGS FOR THE EXPERIMENTAL HAZARDS ELEMENT IS ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/RESOURCES/HAZARD\\_WMO\\_HDG\\_NDFD.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/resources/HAZARD_WMO_HDG_NDFD.PDF)

CUSTOMERS WHO USE THE NDFD IN XML VIA WEB SERVICE OR THE ONLINE NDFD GRAPHICS VIA WEB BROWSER CAN USE THE SAME METHODS THEY CURRENTLY USE TO ACQUIRE THESE NEW EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS. THE HAZARDS NDFD GRAPHICS WILL BE LABELED EXPERIMENTAL.

MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT ACCESSING THESE NEW ELEMENTS USING THE STANDARD NDFD ACCESS METHODS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/HAZARDS\\_NDFD\\_EXPER\\_IMPLM.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/HAZARDS_NDFD_EXPER_IMPLM.HTM)

IF JULY 08 2008 IS A CRITICAL WEATHER DAY...THIS IMPLEMENTATION MAY BE POSTPONED. IN THAT CASE USERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THAT DECISION VIA A TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESSING AND USING NDFD ELEMENTS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USER LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

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

COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK ON THE EXPERIMENTAL HAZARDS ELEMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH JANUARY 8 2009. LINKS TO ONLINE SURVEYS FOR NDFD CUSTOMERS ARE /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

GRIB2 USERS:

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

USERS OF THE NDFD IMAGES:

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

THE NEW HAZARDS ELEMENT WILL REMAIN EXPERIMENTAL UNTIL ALL FEEDBACK RECEIVED BY THE CLOSE OF THE COMMENT PERIOD HAS BEEN ASSESSED AND A TECHNICAL ANALYSIS IS COMPLETED. AT THAT TIME NWS WILL DETERMINE WHETHER TO TRANSITION THESE EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS TO OPERATIONAL STATUS... DISCONTINUE THEM...OR REVISE AND RETAIN THEM AS EXPERIMENTAL ELEMENTS.

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

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

FOR 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](mailto:DAVID.RUTH@NOAA.GOV)

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NOTICE...PLEASE CONTACT:

MARK TEW  
NATIONAL MARINE PROGRAM LEADER  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES  
MARINE AND COASTAL WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH  
1325 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND 20910  
EMAIL: [MARK.TEW@NOAA.GOV](mailto:MARK.TEW@NOAA.GOV)

NWS TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES RELATED TO NDFD ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

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

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

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

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