

NOUS41 KWBC 281912  
PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 09-38  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
312 PM EDT WED OCT 28 2009

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

FROM: ELI JACKS  
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: DAY 4 TO 8 CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK ELEMENT IN THE NATIONAL  
DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE /NDFD/ TRANSITIONS FROM  
EXPERIMENTAL TO OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1 2009

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY DECEMBER 1 2009 AT 1400 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL  
TIME /UTC/...THE DAY 4 TO 8 CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK ISSUED BY THE  
STORM PREDICTION CENTER /SPC/ IN THE NDFD WILL TRANSITION FROM  
EXPERIMENTAL TO OPERATIONAL STATUS.

THE NWS BEGAN ISSUING THE DAY 4 TO 8 CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK GRID  
EXPERIMENTALLY ON SEPTEMBER 30 2008. GRID POINT VALUES ARE  
EITHER 5 /FIVE/ OR 0 /ZERO/. A GRID POINT VALUE OF 5 /FIVE/ IS A  
POINT WHERE AT LEAST A 30 PERCENT PROBABILITY FOR SEVERE  
THUNDERSTORMS EXISTS. THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO A HIGHER END SLIGHT  
RISK THREAT. A GRID POINT VALUE OF 0 /ZERO/ IS A POINT WHERE  
EITHER THE PREDICTABILITY OF SEVERE WEATHER OR THE POTENTIAL FOR  
SEVERE WEATHER IS TOO LOW. THIS ELEMENT IS AVAILABLE FROM THE  
NDFD ONCE A DAY AT 1200 UTC FOR THE CONTERMINOUS U.S. /CONUS/  
AND THE 16 PRE-DEFINED NDFD CONUS SUBSECTORS.

NWS WILL PROVIDE MORE DETAILS REGARDING THE DAY 4 TO 8  
CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK ELEMENT 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  
LOWERCASE/:

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

WITH THIS IMPLEMENTATION...THE DAY 4 TO 8 CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK  
ELEMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM NDFD IN FOUR OF THE STANDARD  
METHODS:

- GRIDDED BINARY 2 /GRIB2/ FILES VIA HYPERTEXT TRANSFER  
PROTOCOL /HTTP/ AND FILE TRANSFER PROTOCOL /FTP/
- EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE /XML/ VIA THE SIMPLE OPEN ACCESS  
PROTOCOL /SOAP/ SERVICE

- GRAPHICS MARKUP LANGUAGE /GML/ VIA THE WEB FEATURE SERVICE /WFS/
- GRAPHICS VIA WEB BROWSER

THIS CHANGE PRIMARILY AFFECTS USERS WHO PULL NDFD ELEMENTS IN THE GRIB2 FORMAT FROM THE NWS FTP SERVER ...EITHER VIA THE INTERNET OR THE FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SERVER ACCESS SERVICE...AND USERS WHO PULL HTML FILES FROM THE NWS HTTP SERVER. THOSE USERS WILL NEED TO PULL THESE ELEMENTS FOR THE DOMAINS OF INTEREST FROM A DIFFERENT UNIFORM RESOURCE LOCATOR /URL/ AND MAY NEED TO UPDATE PROCEDURES AND SCRIPTS TO ENSURE CONTINUED RECEIPT OF THE DATA.

FOR USERS WHO KEY ON THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ SUPER HEADINGS TO ACCESS NDFD ELEMENTS...THE LIST OF WMO SUPER HEADINGS FOR STORM PREDICTION CENTER ELEMENTS IS ONLINE AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/DATAMGMT/DOC/SPC.HTML](http://www.weather.gov/datamgmt/doc/spc.html)

USERS OF THE NDFD IN XML VIA THE SOAP SERVICE...VIA THE NDFD WMS IN GML AND USERS WHO VIEW THE ONLINE NDFD GRAPHICS VIA WEB BROWSER ARE NOT IMPACTED BY THIS IMPLEMENTATION. THESE USERS CAN CONTINUE THE SAME METHODS THEY CURRENTLY USE TO ACQUIRE THESE ELEMENTS FROM THE DOMAIN OF INTEREST.

DETAILS REGARDING THIS IMPLEMENTATION...INCLUDING SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR HTTP AND FTP USERS...ARE AVAILABLE AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/SPC\\_SWODY48\\_IMPLM.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/spc_swody48_implem.htm)

GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESSING AND USING NDFD ELEMENTS IS AVAILABLE AT /USER LOWERCASE/:

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

IF DECEMBER 1 2009 IS A CRITICAL WEATHER DAY...THIS IMPLEMENTATION MAY BE POSTPONED. USERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THAT DECISION VIA A TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE /TIN/ AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

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

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

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THESE PRODUCTS...PLEASE CONTACT:

DR. RUSSELL SCHNEIDER	GREGORY GROSSHANS
CHIEF SCIENCE SUPPORT BRANCH	METEOROLOGIST
STORM PREDICTION CENTER	STORM PREDICTION CENTER
NORMAN OKLAHOMA	NORMAN OKLAHOMA
405-325-2066	405-325-2462

RUSSELL.SCHNEIDER@NOAA.GOV

GREGORY.GROSSHANS@NOAA.GOV

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

KEVIN SCHARFENBERG  
NWS SEVERE STORMS SERVICES COORDINATOR  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES  
NORMAN OKLAHOMA  
KEVIN.SCHARFENBERG@NOAA.GOV

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

DAVID RUTH  
CHIEF...MESOSCALE PREDICTION BRANCH  
NWS OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND  
DAVID.RUTH@NOAA.GOV

TINS SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO THE NDFD ARE AVAILABLE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/TINS.HTM](http://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NDFD/TINS.HTM)

NWS NATIONAL TINS ARE AVAILABLE AT /USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM)

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