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PNSWSH

TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 10-05  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
130 PM EST TUE JAN 12 2010

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

FROM: THERESE PIERCE  
CHIEF...MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES WEATHER BRANCH

SUBJECT: INCREASE IN TEMPORAL RESOLUTION TO SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT GRID  
IN THE NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE /NDFD/: EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17 2010

EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17 2010 AT 1400 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME  
/UTC/...THE NDFD SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT ELEMENT WILL TRANSITION TO A  
TEMPORAL RESOLUTION OF EVERY SIX HOURS FROM THE PRESENT EVERY 12 HOURS.  
THIS CHANGE WILL OCCUR ACROSS THE ENTIRE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES  
/CONUS/...PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS... HAWAII AND GUAM  
SECTORS...INCLUDING ALL 16 CONUS SUBSECTORS.

THE WAVE HEIGHT GRID IN THE ALASKA SECTOR WILL CONTINUE TO BE PRODUCED  
EVERY 12 HOURS AND REMAIN IN EXPERIMENTAL STATUS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT GRID IS THE AVERAGE WAVE HEIGHT /TROUGH TO  
CREST/ OF THE ONE-THIRD HIGHEST WAVES VALID FOR THE TOP OF THE DESIGNATED  
HOUR. SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT IS THE COMBINATION OF WIND WAVES AND SWELL.  
THE SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT GRID WILL NOW BE ISSUED EVERY SIX HOURS OUT TO  
120 HOURS.

THIS CHANGE PRIMARILY AFFECTS USERS WHO PULL NDFD ELEMENTS IN THE GRIDDED  
BINARY VERSION TWO /GRIB2/ FORMAT FROM THE NWS FILE TRANSFER PROTOCOL  
/FTP/ SERVER...EITHER VIA THE INTERNET OR THE FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/  
SERVER ACCESS SERVICE...AND USERS WHO PULL HTML FILES FROM THE NWS  
HYPERTEXT TRANSFER PROTOCOL /HTTP/ SERVER. THOSE USERS WILL NOW BE ABLE  
TO PULL THIS ELEMENT AT A FINER TIME SCALE RESOLUTION.

THE SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT GRID WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE FROM THE  
NDFD IN THE FOLLOWING STANDARD METHODS:

GRIDDED BINARY 2 /GRIB2/ FILES VIA HYPERTEXT TRANSFER PROTOCOL /HTTP/ AND  
FILE TRANSFER PROTOCOL /FTP/

EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE /XML/ VIA SIMPLE OBJECT ACCESS PROTOCOL /SOAP/  
GRAPHICS VIA WEB BROWSER

GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESSING AND USING NDFD ELEMENTS IS ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

IF FEBRUARY 17 2010 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 NDFD DATA...PLEASE EMAIL:

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

FOR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS REGARDING NDFD DATA...PLEASE CONTACT:

DAVID RUTH  
CHIEF...MESOSCALE PREDICTION BRANCH  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND  
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FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NOTICE...PLEASE CONTACT:

DAVID SOROKA  
MANAGER - MARINE AND COASTAL SERVICES WEATHER BRANCH  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES  
SILVER SPRING MARYLAND  
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TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO THE NDFD ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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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