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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 15-16 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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To: Subscribers:
     -NOAA Weather Wire Service
     -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
     -NOAAPORT
     Other NWS users and employees

From: Allison Allen
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Subject: Updated: Tropical Cyclone Threat Grids in the National
     Digital Forecast Database will Transition to
     Operational Effective June 1, 2017

Updated to add Tropical Cyclone (Hurricane) Threat Grids from
WFO Honolulu to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD)
beginning on or around June 1, 2017.

Effective on or around June 1, 2017, the Tropical Cyclone Threat
Grids available on the NWS NDFD will add threat grids issued by
Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu. Since their initial
implementation, the Tropical Cyclone Threat Grids have been
renamed the Hurricane Threat Grids.

The Hurricane Threat grids consist of four elements:

- Wind
- Storm surge
- Flooding rain
- Tornado

There are five levels to describe each Hurricane Threat grid.
Some minor modifications were made to the names of these threat
levels since their initial implementation based on input from
social scientists:

- Little to None (changed to add Little)
- Elevated (changed from Low)
- Moderate
- High
- Extreme

The Hurricane Threat elements provide the reasonable worst case
scenario, taking into account the forecast magnitude of the
hazard, along with the associated uncertainty of the forecast.
The elements are currently produced by coastal WFOs along the
Atlantic and Gulf coasts, including San Juan, PR, whenever

tropical cyclone watches and warnings are in effect for their area of responsibility (AOR). WFO Honolulu will begin issuing Hurricane Threat Grids on or around June 1, 2017, whenever tropical cyclone watches and warnings are in effect for its area of responsibility (AOR)

Because the grids do not convey specific timing, they are valid for the duration of the event. NWS will provide updates at least every 6 hours shortly after the Central Pacific Hurricane Center's advisory package is released and will cease when tropical cyclone watches and warnings are no longer in effect for WFO Honolulu's AOR.

Additional details regarding these grids are available in the Product Description Document at:

https://products.weather.gov/PDD/TCThreatGridsNDFD.pdf

The Hurricane Threat Grids from WFO Honolulu will be available from the NDFD in the following standard methods:

- Gridded Binary Version 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

Users who pull NDFD elements in GRIB2 format may need to update their procedures and scripts in order to access these new elements. The GRIB2 files are available online at:

Hawaii Sector

http://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.hawaii/VP.001-003/

CONUS Sector
ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.001-003/

Puerto Rico Sector

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.001-003/

with the following file names used:

Wind   ds.tcwt.bin
Storm Surge   ds.tcsst.bin
Flooding Rain   ds.tcfrt.bin
Tornado   ds.tctt.bin

For users who key on the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) super heading to access NDFD elements, the super headings are:

Geographical Area	Threat Element	WMO Header
Hawaii	Wind	ZWSZ98 KWBN
Hawaii	Storm Surge	ZSSZ98 KWBN
Hawaii	Flooding Rain	ZFSZ98 KWBN
Hawaii	Tornado	ZYSZ98 KWBN
CONUS	Wind	ZWUZ98 KWBN
CONUS	Storm Surge	ZSUZ98 KWBN
CONUS	Flooding Rain	ZFUZ98 KWBN
CONUS	Tornado	ZYUZ98 KWBN
Puerto Rico	Wind	ZWAZ98 KWBN
Puerto Rico	Storm Surge	ZSAZ98 KWBN
Puerto Rico	Flooding Rain	ZFAZ98 KWBN
Puerto Rico	Tornado	ZYAZ98 KWBN

Graphics for the threat grids will be available in the Tropical
grid group at:

http://digital.weather.gov/

Information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at:

http://ndfd.weather.gov/technical.htm

For general questions regarding NDFD data, please email:

NWS.NDFD@noaa.gov

For technical questions regarding NDFD data, please contact:

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If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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Public notifications specifically related to NDFD are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/tins.htm

National Technical Implementation Notices, Public Information
Statements, and Service Change Notices are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm

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