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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 15-28: Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
235 PM EDT Thu Jun 11 2015

To: Subscribers:
- Family of Services
- NOAA Weather Wire Service
- Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- NOAAPORT
Other NWS partners and NWS employees

From: Mark Tew
Acting Chief, Analysis and Mission Support Division

Subject: Amended: Increasing Frequency of Updates to the
National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) Effective
Tuesday, June 30, 2015

Amended to include information on GRIB2 encoding for grid
updates issued at the bottom of the hour

Effective Tuesday, June 30, 2015, at 1400 Coordinated Universal
Time (UTC), the NDFD will increase the frequency of updates for
forecast Days 1-3 in the Conterminous United States (CONUS) from
once per hour to twice per hour. Updated files will begin
posting several minutes before the bottom of each hour and
several minutes before the top of each hour. This change will
reduce the latency of near-term hourly resolution forecasts that
became operational in the CONUS in August 2014 (TIN 14-15).

For NDFD elements that use GRIB2 Product Definition Template
4.0, the forecast time (Octet 19-22) will be specified in
minutes (30, 90, 150, etc.) rather than hours (1, 2, 3, etc.)
for updates issued at the bottom of the hour. Units used
(minutes or hours) are specified in Section 4, Octet No. 18.

Information on NDFD GRIB2 encoding can be found at:

http://graphical.weather.gov/docs/grib_design.html

Information on GRIB2 Product Definition Template 4.0 is at:

http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/docs/grib2/grib2_temp4-0.shtml

This change primarily affects users who pull NDFD elements in
the Gridded Binary 2 (GriB2) format from the NWS file transfer
protocol server (FTP), either via the Internet or the Family of
Services server access service, and users who pull these files
from the NWS hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) server.

To access NDFD CONUS grids for Days 1-3, use the following URLs:

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/>

or

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/>

General information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at:

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

If June 30, 2015, is a critical weather day, this implementation may be postponed. Partners and 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

For technical questions regarding NDFD data, please contact:

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For more information regarding this notice, please contact:

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TINs specifically related to NDFD are online at:

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

All national TINs are online at:

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

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