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Technical Implementation Notice 16-38  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
747 AM EDT Thu Oct 27 2016

To:       Subscribers:  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          -NOAAPort  
          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:     Eli Jacks  
          Chief, Forecast Services Division

Subject: Addition of Grids for the 0.25 Inch (~6 mm) Threshold of  
Experimental Day 4-7 Winter Weather Outlook as an Experimental Element in  
the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) for the CONUS: Effective  
October 11, 2016

Effective October 11, 2016, at 1930 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), NWS  
will add grids for the 0.25 inch (~6 mm) threshold of the Experimental Day  
4-7 Winter Weather Outlook to the National Digital Forecast Database  
(NDFD) as an experimental element for the Continental United States  
(CONUS).

The Experimental Day 4-7 Winter Weather Outlook, produced by the NWS  
National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Weather Prediction  
Center (WPC), is a forecast depicting the probability of winter  
precipitation (snow/sleet) exceeding 0.25 inches (~6 mm) water equivalent  
over a 24-hour period (Valid Time 12 UTC-12 UTC).

The product is comprised of 4 separate grids containing the forecast for  
Days 4, 5, 6 and 7. The product is updated daily at approximately 0900  
UTC and 1930 UTC.

More details on the Experimental Day 4-7 Winter Weather Outlook product,  
as well as its technical description and scientific basis, are available  
in the Product Description Document (PDD):

<https://products.weather.gov/PDD/ExplDay4to7WinterWeatherOutlookinNDFD.pdf>

These experimental grids will be available from 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, either via the Internet may  
need to update their procedures and scripts to access this new element.

The new file will be available for download at the following links effective October 11, 2016:

GRIB2 files:

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.04-007/ds.p24less0025.bin>

<http://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.04-007/ds.p24less0025.bin>

Graphics and XML services for the experimental grids will become available within 30 days of the experimental release of the GRIB2 file into the NDFD.

NDFD online graphics: <http://digital.weather.gov/>

XML SOAP service: <http://preview.weather.gov/xml/>

Information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at:  
<http://ndfd.weather.gov/technical.htm>

Comments and feedback on these experimental elements are welcome through March 31, 2017 at:

GRIB2 users:

<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>

NDFD online graphics:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=gfp>

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  
NWS/STI/Digital Forecast Services Branch  
National Weather Service Headquarters  
Silver Spring, MD  
301-427-9457  
[david.ruth@noaa.gov](mailto:david.ruth@noaa.gov)

For questions regarding this notice, please contact:

James Nelson  
NWS/WPC/Development and Training Branch  
National Centers for Environmental Prediction  
College Park, MD  
301-683-1493  
[james.a.nelson@noaa.gov](mailto:james.a.nelson@noaa.gov)

Technical Implementation Notices (TINs) specifically related to the NDFD are online at:

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

National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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