I.5 CREATION OF OPERATIONAL FORECAST SYSTEM USER DATA FILES

This Chapter describes the programs used to size and create the data files used by the Operational Forecast System (OFS).

The OFS files store the parametric and hydrometeorologic for a user. The size of each file is different for each user and is based on the size of the forecast area.

There are two steps in the process of creating the OFS files. The first is to compute the size of the files. The second is to create the files.

Program FILESIZE computes the size of the files.

Program FILECRAT creates the files.

Steps in Initializing Files

1. Determine user parameters (see Section VI.2.2A [Hyperlink].

2. Run program FILESIZE (see Section I.5-FILESIZE [Hyperlink]) to compute the size of the files.

    The program creates a card output file that can be used as the input file for program FILECRAT.

3. Run program FILECRAT (see Section I.5-FILECRAT [Hyperlink]) to create the files.

4. Run program PRDUTIL (see Section VI.6.4 [Hyperlink]) to define the types of data to be stored in the Processed Data Base.

5. Run programs PPINIT (see Section VI.3.3 [Hyperlink]) and FCINIT (see Section VI.3.4 [Hyperlink]) to define the parametric information needed by the Operational Forecast System.

File Size Units

The size of the files is computed in units of tracks which can be defined as follows:

    o a track is a group of one or more blocks

    o a block is a group of one or more records

    o a record is a group of one or more words