



Experimental NHC/TAFB Gridded Marine Forecasts on the National Digital Forecast Database

On Wednesday March 20, 2013, at 1200 UTC, the National Hurricane Center/Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB) began providing, *on an experimental basis*, to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) gridded forecasts of marine weather elements over their offshore waters forecast area of responsibility (AOR) in the Atlantic basin. Gridded forecasts are not yet available over the high seas forecast AOR in the Atlantic and East Pacific basins.

The gridded marine parameters include Surface (10 m) winds, 10 m wind gusts, significant wave heights and marine hazards. These grids are produced by forecasters through the AWIPS Graphical Forecast Editor (GFE) and are experimental. The grids should be available by 0330, 0930, 1530 and 2130 UTC each day.

The gridded marine forecasts can be viewed at:

<http://preview.weather.gov/graphical/>

The gridded data will be available for download via http and ftp at:

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.001-003/>

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.004-007/>

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.001-003/>

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.oceanic/VP.004-007/>

Background information on the NDFD can be found at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/ndfd/>

Technical information on accessing the gridded data can be found at the "Access Data" link:

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

The experimental gridded marine forecasts on the NHC web site at

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tafb/gridded_marine/ will be removed from the NHC website once the complete oceanic grids are available over the high seas areas of responsibility.

Users must go to the <http://preview.weather.gov/graphical/> website to access the gridded marine forecasts over the offshore waters area.

A Public Information Statement has been issued and is available at

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/news/20130321_pns_ndfd.php

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