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Public Information Statement 22-10 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1035 AM EDT Wed Oct 16 2024

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

From:        Stephen W. Bieda III, Ph.D., Chief  
              Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments until May 31, 2025 on Snow Ratio  
Grids as an Experimental Element in the National Digital Forecast  
Database (NDFD)

Updated to extend the comment period through May 31, 2025.

Through May 31, 2025, the NWS will continue soliciting comments on the  
addition of Snow Ratio Grids as an experimental element in the NDFD.

NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) predict the snow-to-liquid ratio  
(SLR) averaged over a 6-hour period where the Quantitative Precipitation  
Forecast (QPF) is greater than or equal to one-tenth (0.1) of an inch.  
This value, defined as the ratio of snow accumulation to its melted  
liquid equivalent, is used to quantify the consistency of snow, ranging  
from light and fluffy snow to heavy wet snow, and is therefore important  
for decision support.

These grids will be available in NDFD every six (6) hours out to 72 hours  
from 0000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) Day 1 when new forecast  
projections are introduced at 00 UTC on Day 0, and out to 84 hours from  
0000 UTC Day 1 beginning at 1100 UTC Day 1.

The Snow Ratio grids represent an average over the 6-hour period and will  
be available from WFOs located in the contiguous United States (CONUS),  
Alaska, and Hawaii.

More details on the Experimental Snow Ratio Grids, including a technical  
description and scientific basis are available in the Product Description  
Document:

[https://nsdesk.servicenowservices.com/api/g\\_noa/nwspc/res2/e32bdde81b851e100d690f67624bcb30](https://nsdesk.servicenowservices.com/api/g_noa/nwspc/res2/e32bdde81b851e100d690f67624bcb30)

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

The experimental grids will be available for download in gridded binary version two (GRIB2) format via both [https:](https://) and [ftp:](ftp://) from the NWS Telecommunications Gateway FTP (TGFTP) server.

For CONUS:

<tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.001-003/ds.snowratio.bin>

For Alaska:

<tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.alaska/VP.001-003/ds.snowratio.bin>

For Hawaii:

<tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.hawaii/VP.001-003/ds.snowratio.bin>

Graphics and XML services are available at:

NDFD online graphics:

<https://digital.weather.gov> and <https://graphical.weather.gov/>

XML SOAP service:

<https://digital.weather.gov/xml>

Information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at:

<https://vlab.noaa.gov/web/mdl/ndfd>

Comments and feedback on these experimental elements for eventual implementation across NWS, are welcome through May 31, 2025 at:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpSnowRatioGridsinNDFD\\_2024-2025](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpSnowRatioGridsinNDFD_2024-2025)

For questions regarding this product, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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