

**Each row of the NFDRS product represents a forecast for a given station. Each forecast element is separated by a comma. Here is what a sample WBCFWMWBC product looks like on AWIPS:**

WBCFWMWBC  
TTAA00 KWBC DDHHMM  
FCST,440901,970222,13,2,62,45,1,2,SW,18,,71,55,90,40,3,1,N  
NNNN

Specifically, here is what's in the product WBCFWMWBC:

- 1) FCST = Tells the NFDRS the following is a forecast.
- 2) xxxxxx = Six digit station number. Initially, WBC will issue forecasts only for these sites:

- 440901 - Luray, VA (Page County)

- 3) Tomorrow's date (e.g., 970220 is February 21, 1997)
- 4) Time of forecast (e.g., 13 = 1300 Local Time = 1 PM)
- 5) A one digit code for weather forecast at time of observation 1300 LOCAL (1PM) tomorrow. The following are valid codes:

0 = clear  
1 = scattered clouds  
2 = broken clouds  
3 = overcast  
4 = fog  
5 = drizzle  
6 = rain  
7 = snow, sleet, freezing rain  
8 = showers over or in sight of station  
9 = thunderstorms

- 6) Temperature forecast at 1pm tomorrow (degrees F)
- 7) Humidity forecast at 1pm tomorrow (0-100 percent)
- 8) Lightning activity from 1pm today through midnight tonight. See following note.
- 9) Lightning activity from midnight tonight to midnight the upcoming (next) day. See following note.

**NOTE ON LIGHTNING ACTIVITY ENTRIES 8 and 9:**

*The codes really have more to do with areal coverage than anything. Here is basically the breakdown:*

- 1) No lightning forecast.
- 2) Isolated thunderstorms (10 percent areal coverage).
- 3) Widely scattered thunderstorms (10-20 percent coverage).
- 4) Scattered thunderstorms (30-40 percent areal coverage).
- 5) Numerous thunderstorms (>50 percent coverage). Frequent lightning potential.
- 6) Frequent lightning from "dry" thunderstorms (we will likely never use this here at WBC).

- 10) Wind direction forecast for 1pm tomorrow (2 letter XX format, use ordinal compass points, e.g., S, SW, NE).
- 11) Wind speed (mph) forecast for 1pm tomorrow.
- 12) MISSING ELEMENT for fuel moisture - LEAVE BLANK (fire officials compute this).

- 13) High temperature forecast (deg F) next 24 hours (occurring either today or tomorrow).
- 14) Low temperature forecast (deg F) next 24 hours (occurring either today or tomorrow).
- 15) Humidity maximum (%) over next 24 hours (1pm today-1pm tomorrow).
- 16) Humidity minimum (%) over next 24 hours (1pm today-1pm tomorrow).
- 17) Precipitation duration (in hours) through 5am the next morning.
- 18) Precipitation duration (in hours) 5am to 1pm the next day.
- 19) Y or N - to indicate a snow pack or soaked ground. If you indicate a "Y" here, don't even bother tinkering with the rest of the numbers. They get "zeroed out" on the user's end.

**NOTE: On an active weather day, you are NOT expected to spend any time on issuing the WBCFWMLWX product. Run it and send it! It is most important to fire management officials when the weather is dry.**