

NOUS41 KWBC 281920
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICE 02-31
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
220 PM EST MON OCT 28 2002

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/
SUBSCRIBERS
NOAAPORT SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...CUSTOMERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: ESTHER ATKINS
CHIEF...INTEGRATED OPERATIONS BRANCH

SUBJECT: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EXPERIMENTAL NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST
DATABASE...EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2 2002

AN EXPERIMENTAL VERSION OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ NATIONAL
DIGITAL DATABASE /NDFD/ WILL BE AVAILABLE BEGINNING DECEMBER 2 2002. THIS
EXPERIMENTAL VERSION OF THE NDFD IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO 1) ALLOW HIGH
VOLUME USERS TO GET A FEEL FOR THE SPECIFICS OF THE DATABASE /FTP
LOCATION...FORMAT...GEOGRAPHIC SECTORS...WEATHER FORECAST ELEMENTS...ETC./
AND 2) TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM THOSE USERS ON POTENTIAL REFINEMENTS TO
THE NDFD. BE CAUTIONED THAT THE NDFD IS PRESENTLY EXPERIMENTAL AND IS NOT
INTENDED FOR REDISTRIBUTION OR OPERATIONAL USE AT THIS TIME.

WHEN THE NDFD BECOMES OPERATIONAL...IT WILL ALLOW THE NWS TO PROVIDE NEAR-
REAL TIME...COORDINATED FORECASTS THAT ARE WIDELY ACCESSIBLE IN A GRIDDED
FORMAT. THIS GRIDDED FORMAT /VERSION 2 GRIDDED BINARY /GRIB2// CAN BE
READILY DECODED FOR THOSE THAT WISH TO CREATE DERIVED PRODUCTS FROM THE
FORECAST PARAMETERS/VALUES CONTAINED WITHIN THE NDFD.

INITIALLY...THE EXPERIMENTAL NDFD WILL MAKE AVAILABLE DATA FOR TWO SECTORS
WITHIN THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES /CONUS/ AT A SPATIAL RESOLUTION OF 5
KILOMETERS. DATA FROM ADDITIONAL SECTORS WILL BE ADDED TO THE NDFD
PERIODICALLY UNTIL THE DATABASE IS FULLY POPULATED. FILES WILL CONTAIN
FORECASTS FOR DAYTIME MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE...NIGHTTIME MINIMUM
TEMPERATURE...PROBABILITY OF PRECIPITATION /POP12/...SURFACE
TEMPERATURE...DEW POINT TEMPERATURE...SKY COVER...WIND DIRECTION AND WIND
SPEED...OUT TO SEVEN DAYS. UPDATES TO THE NDFD WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT
THE TOP OF EACH HOUR. FORECAST GRIDS FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS WILL BE
INTRODUCED DAILY AT 1800 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/.

FILES FOR THE MID-ATLANTIC SECTOR WILL CONTAIN FORECAST MOSAICS OVER THE COUNTY WARNING AREAS OF THE FOLLOWING SIX NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ IN THE EASTERN UNITED STATES:

FFC - ATLANTA GEORGIA
GSP - GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG SOUTH CAROLINA
JKL - JACKSON KENTUCKY
MRX - KNOXVILLE/TRI CITIES TENNESSEE
RLX - CHARLESTON WEST VIRGINIA
RNK - BLACKSBURG VIRGINIA

FILES FOR THE CENTRAL PLAINS SECTOR WILL CONTAIN FORECAST MOSAICS OVER THE COUNTY WARNING AREAS OF THE FOLLOWING SEVEN NWS WFOS IN THE CENTRAL UNITED STATES:

EAX - KANSAS CITY/PLEASANT HILL MISSOURI
ICT - WICHITA KANSAS
OAX - OMAHA NEBRASKA
OUN - OKLAHOMA CITY/NORMAN OKLAHOMA
SGF - SPRINGFIELD MISSOURI
TOP - TOPEKA KANSAS
TSA - TULSA OKLAHOMA

MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE CONTENT OF THESE FILES AND FTP INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE URL LISTED BELOW /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DATAMGMT/DOC/NDFDINDEX.HTML](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/datamgmt/doc/ndfdindex.html)

A CUSTOMER FEEDBACK SURVEY FORM FOR THE NDFD CAN BE FOUND ON THE OFFICE OF SERVICES NATIONAL CATALOGUE OF NWS PRODUCTS WEBPAGE...ACCESSIBLE VIA THE URL ABOVE. UNTIL THE FORM IS MADE INTERACTIVE...RESPONSES SHOULD BE E-MAILED TO:

NWSPRODUCTS@NOAA.GOV

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NOTICE...PLEASE CONTACT:

ESTHER ATKINS
CHIEF - INTEGRATED OPERATIONS BRANCH
NWS HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF CLIMATE...WATER AND WEATHER SERVICES
EMAIL: ESTHER.ATKINS@NOAA.GOV

IF YOU HAVE TECHNICAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE NDFD DATA...PLEASE CONTACT:

DAVID RUTH
CHIEF - MESOSCALE PREDICTION BRANCH
NWS HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
EMAIL: DAVID.RUTH@NOAA.GOV

THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO POSTED ON THE NWS DATA MANAGEMENT CHANGE NOTICES
WEBPAGE AT THE URL LISTED BELOW /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/DATAMGMT/NOTICES.SHTML](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/datamgmt/notices.shtml)

NATIONAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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