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PNSWSH

Technical Implementation Notice 15-28 Amended
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
235 PM EDT Thu Jun 11 2015

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

From: Mark Tew
           Acting Chief, Analysis and Mission Support Division

Subject: Amended: Increasing Frequency of Updates to the National Digital
Forecast Database (NDFD): Effective Tuesday, June 30, 2015

Amended to include information on gridded binary version two (GRIB2)
encoding for grid updates issued at the bottom of the hour.

Effective Tuesday, June 30, 2015, at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time
(UTC), the NDFD will increase the frequency of updates for forecast Days
1-3 in the Conterminous United States (CONUS) from once per hour to twice
per hour. Updated files will begin posting several minutes before the
bottom of each hour and several minutes before the top of each hour. This
change will reduce the latency of near-term hourly resolution forecasts
that became operational in the CONUS in August 2014 (Technical
Implementation Notice (TIN) 14-15).

For NDFD elements that use GRIB2 Product Definition Template 4.0, the
forecast time (Octet 19-22) will be specified in minutes (30, 90, 150,
etc.) rather than hours (1, 2, 3, etc.) for updates issued at the bottom
of the hour. Units used (minutes or hours) are specified in Section 4,
Octet No. 18.

Information on NDFD GRIB2 encoding can be found at:

http://graphical.weather.gov/docs/grib_design.html

Information on GRIB2 Product Definition Template 4.0 is at:

http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/docs/grib2/grib2_temp4-0.shtml

This change primarily affects users who pull NDFD elements in the GRIB2 format from the NWS file transfer protocol server (FTP), either via the Internet or the Family of Services server access service, and users who pull these files from the NWS hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) server.

To access NDFD CONUS grids for Days 1-3, use the following URLs:

ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/

or

http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/

General information on accessing and using NDFD elements is online at:

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

If June 30, 2015 is a critical weather day, this implementation may be postponed. Partners and users will be notified of that decision via a TIN as far in advance as possible.

For general questions regarding NDFD data, please email:

nws.ndfd@noaa.gov

For technical questions regarding NDFD data, please contact:

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For more information regarding this notice, please contact:

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TINs specifically related to NDFD are online at:

http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/tins.htm

National Technical Implementation Notices are online at:

https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive

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