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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...COMMENT REQUEST  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
200 PM EST FRI DEC 5 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:  
-FAMILY OF SERVICES  
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE  
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK  
-NOAAPORT  
-WEB OPERATIONS CENTER  
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: JORDAN ALPERT...NCEP/ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING CENTER  
RICK HACKENBERG...NCEP CENTRAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: SOLICITING PUBLIC COMMENTS BY JANUARY 16 2009 ON PROPOSED UPGRADE  
OF HIGH AVAILABILITY ANONYMOUS FTP SERVICES AT THE WEB OPERATIONS CENTER  
/WOC/ AND APPLICATIONS FOR SERVING DATA FROM THE NOAA OPERATIONAL MODEL  
ARCHIVE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM /NOMADS/

NWS IS SOLICITING COMMENTS BY JANUARY 16 2009 ON AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF  
NOAA/S INFORMATION DATABASE...THE MODEL OUTPUT DATA FROM  
ATMOSPHERIC...OCEAN AND CLIMATE NUMERICAL WEATHER PREDICTION /NWP/ MODELS.  
THIS DATA IS OPERATIONALLY PREPARED AT THE NATIONAL CENTERS FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION /NCEP/. THE NOAA OPERATIONAL MODEL ARCHIVE AND  
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM /NOMADS/ BEGAN AS A PILOT PROJECT DESIGNED TO PROVIDE  
A SERVICE ORIENTED FRAMEWORK FOR:

- A DIGITAL ARCHIVE AND REAL TIME DISTRIBUTION OF NOAA/S OPERATIONAL  
WEATHER MODELS.
- AN INNOVATIVE DATA ACCESS PHILOSOPHY TO PROMOTE INTEROPERABLE ACCESS  
ACROSS THE GEOSCIENCES.
- AN INTEGRATOR OF COMMON WEB SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE  
DISCOVERY...ACCESS AND TRANSPORT OF DATA.
- REAL-TIME AND RETROSPECTIVE FORMAT INDEPENDENT ACCESS TO CLIMATE...OCEAN  
AND WEATHER MODEL DATA.

NWS IS SEEKING COMMENTS ON A PROPOSED UPGRADE PROVIDING HIGH AVAILABILITY  
NOMADS APPLICATIONS FOR SERVING MODEL DATA ON THE WOC SERVER. IN ADDITION  
TO ANONYMOUS FTP SERVICES AT THE WOC...NCEP WOULD INTRODUCE THE FOLLOWING  
NOMADS WEB-BASED ACCESS APPLICATIONS:

1. GRIB\_FILTER: PROVIDES ACCESS TO GRIDDED BINARY /GRIB/ DATA WITH SUB-  
SETTING THROUGH TIME...SPACE AND VARIABLES USING TRADITIONAL BUT ENHANCED  
FTP PROCESSES. DATA ARE PROVIDED IN RAW GRIB FORMAT ONLINE AND RESULTS  
ARE REPACKAGED GRIB FILES STREAMED TO THE USER/S WORKSTATION. WEB  
INTERFACES COMMUNICATE THE USERS REQUEST AND HTTP PROTOCOL IS USED TO  
DELIVER RESULTS.

2. OPENDAP /GDS/DODS/ SERVER: THE OPEN SOURCE PROJECT FOR A NETWORK DATA  
ACCESS PROTOCOL /OPENDAP/ IMPLEMENTED UNDER THE GRADS DATA SERVER /GDS/

DISTRIBUTED OCEAN DATA SYSTEM /DODS/ PROVIDES SIMPLE FILE-LEVEL ACCESS/DOWNLOAD VALUES OF ENTIRE FILES OR ONE OR MORE VALUES FROM THE MATRIX OF SERVER GRIB DATA HOLDINGS.

THESE CHANGES ARE MADE TO ADDRESS A GROWING NEED FOR REMOTE ACCESS TO HIGH VOLUME NWP MODEL DATA. A MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THESE CHANGES CAN BE FOUND AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://NOMADS.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/](http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/)

AND VIA A SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT UNDER THE HEADING SERVICE DOCUMENT AT THE ABOVE WEBSITE.

PLEASE SEND COMMENTS ON THESE PROPOSED CHANGES BY JANUARY 16 2009 TO:

[JORDAN.ALPERT@NOAA.GOV](mailto:JORDAN.ALPERT@NOAA.GOV)

FOR QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

NCEP NOMADS HIGH AVAILABILITY TECHNICAL SUPPORT:  
NCEP NCO PMB HELPDESK  
301-763-8000 X 7198

SCIENCE/DATA QUESTIONS:

JORDAN ALPERT  
[JORDAN.ALPERT@NOAA.GOV](mailto:JORDAN.ALPERT@NOAA.GOV)  
301-763-8000 X 7205

NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

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

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