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PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...COMMENTS REQUESTED
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
812 AM EDT WED MAY 6 2009

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

FROM: ROBERT BUNGE
INTERNET DISSEMINATION OFFICER
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

SUBJECT: COMMENTS REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 31 2009 ON EXPERIMENTAL SERVICE
ALLOWING NDFD USERS TO IDENTIFY UPDATED NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE
/NDFD/ GRIDS

EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY MAY 1 2009...AT APPROXIMATELY 1500 COORDINATED
UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/...NWS WILL ESTABLISH AN INTERNET SERVICE THAT ALLOWS
GENERAL REGULARLY-DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION IN BINARY FORM VERSION TWO
/GRIB2/ DOWNLOAD USERS TO DETERMINE WHICH FILES HAVE BEEN RECENTLY
UPDATED. THE RECENTLY UPDATED GRIDS SERVICE /RUGS/ CAN BE USED TO AVOID
DOWNLOADING NDFD FILES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN MODIFIED.

RUGS IS A WEB SERVICE BASED ON THE ATOM SYNDICATION FORMAT. SERVICE USERS
SUBMIT AN HTTP REQUEST TO THE SERVICE CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING INPUTS:

LOCATIONTYPE: USERS INDICATE WHAT TYPE OF LOCATION INPUT THEY WILL
PROVIDE. SUPPORTED LOCATION TYPES INCLUDE WFO IDENTIFIER, NDFD SECTOR
NAME, STATE ABBREVIATION, OR GRID POINT.
LOCATION: LIST OF LOCATION VALUES APPROPRIATE FOR THE LOCATION TYPE.
ELEMENT: LIST OF NDFD ELEMENT IDENTIFIERS.
ISSUANCESEARCHTIME: TIME TO START SEARCHING FOR UPDATED FILES.
SEARCHSTARTTIME: TIME TO START SEARCHING FOR UPDATED VALID TIMES WITHIN AN
UPDATED FILE.
SEARCHENDTIME: TIME TO STOP SEARCHING FOR UPDATED VALID TIMES WITHIN AN
UPDATED FILE.
SHOWCHANGEDTIMES: REQUESTS VALID TIMES THAT CHANGED IN AN UPDATED FILE.

RUGS RETURNS AN ATOM DOCUMENT CONTAINING URLS TO UPDATED GRIB2 FILES AS
CONSTRAINED BY USER INPUT. USERS CAN THEN DOWNLOAD THE FILES BY ACCESSING
THE URL.

USERS CAN PROVIDE FEEDBACK ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTAL RUGS SERVICE AT THE
FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE EXCEPT FOR RUGS/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=RUGS](http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=rugs)

A 6-MONTH PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD WILL BEGIN ON THE DATE OF ACTIVATION AND END ON OCTOBER 31 2009.

MORE DETAILS REGARDING RUGS WILL BE PROVIDED IN A SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT WHICH WILL BE ADDED TO THE ONLINE CATALOG OF NWS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION DATE. REFER TO /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://PRODUCTS.WEATHER.GOV/VIEWLISTE.PHP](https://products.weather.gov/viewliste.php)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING RUGS IS AVAILABLE ON THE SERVICE HOME PAGE /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/FORECASTS/XML/RUGS](http://www.weather.gov/forecasts/xml/rugs)

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS SERVICE...PLEASE CONTACT:

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

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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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