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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement Corrected
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Eli Jacks
 Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject: Corrected: Experimental Ice Accumulation Grids to be Added to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) for CONUS Only Effective October 12, 2011

Correction: The Product Description Document, linked below, has been updated to include the addition of the Green Bay, Wisconsin, Weather Forecast Office and to reflect the date of October 12, 2011 for experimental status.

Effective Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), Ice Accumulation grids will be added to NDFD on an experimental basis at a number of NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) over the Conterminous United States (CONUS) only. The WFOs issuing these grids are shown in the Product Description Document (PDD) available online at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/ice.pdf>

The experimental Ice Accumulation grids are the expected average ice thickness on all exposed surfaces (in hundredths of inches) during a 6-hour period. An Ice Accumulation grid will be specified whenever at least a trace of ice accumulation is forecast for any hour during a valid period. The Ice Accumulation grids will be added to the NDFD CONUS sector and to the 16 pre-defined NDFD CONUS subsectors for each 6-hour period out to 48 hours from 00 UTC Day 1.

More details regarding these new elements are available in the PDD in the online catalog of experimental NWS products and services at:

<http://products.weather.gov/viewliste.php>

With this implementation, these forecasts will be available from NDFD in the standard methods:

- GRIdded Binary version 2 (GRIB2) files via Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
- eXtensible Markup Language (XML) via Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) and Representational State Transfer (REST)

- Graphics via web browser

Users who pull NDFD elements in GRIB2 format, either via the Internet or via the Family of Services server access service may need to update their procedures and scripts to access these new elements.

For customers who key on the World Meteorological Organization super headings to access NDFD elements, the super headings for the experimental Ice Accumulation grids are:

Geographic Area	WMO Header
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Central Great Lakes	YZFZ98 KWBN
Central Mississippi Valley	YZHZ98 KWBN
Central Plains	YZKZ98 KWBN
Central Rockies	YZNZ98 KWBN
CONUS	YZUZ98 KWBN
Eastern Great Lakes	YZEZ98 KWBN
Mid-Atlantic	YZCZ98 KWBN
Northeast	YZBZ98 KWBN
Northern Plains	YZJZ98 KWBN
Northern Rockies	YZMZ98 KWBN
Pacific Northwest	YZPZ98 KWBN
Pacific Southwest	YZQZ98 KWBN
Southeast	YZDZ98 KWBN
Southern Mississippi Valley	YZIZ98 KWBN
Southern Plains	YZLZ98 KWBN
Southern Rockies	YZOZ98 KWBN
Upper Mississippi Valley	YZGZ98 KWBN

Customers who use the NDFD in XML via Web service or the online graphical NDFD images can use the same methods they currently use to acquire these new experimental elements. The NDFD Ice Accumulation graphics will be labeled experimental.

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

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

If October 12, 2011 is declared a critical weather day, this implementation may be postponed. In that case, partners and users will be notified of that decision via an updated Public Information Statement (PNS) as far in advance as possible.

Comments and feedback on the experimental NDFD Ice Accumulation grids will be accepted through May 1, 2012. Links to online surveys for NDFD customers are:

- GRIB2 users:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=ndfd-grids>

- Users OF XML SOAP service:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=xmlsoap>

- NDFD online graphics:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=gfp>

These new Ice Accumulation grids will remain experimental until all feedback is assessed and a technical analysis is completed. At that time, the NWS will determine whether to transition these experimental elements to operational status, discontinue them, or revise and retain them as experimental elements.

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 general questions regarding the Ice Accumulation grids or this PNS, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notifications/archive>

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