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Service Change Notice 13-56
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
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From: Cynthia Abelman
 Chief, Aviation Services Branch

Subject: Operational Implementation of World Area Forecast System Grids
Visualization: Effective September 25, 2013

Effective at 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), Wednesday September 25, 2013, NWS is making the World Area Forecast System Grids (WAFS) Visualization operationally available.

The WAFS Grids Visualization is a set of graphics created from existing operational WAFS gridded forecast data which are a part of the existing NWS GFS model product suite. These gridded forecasts are produced and disseminated operationally in the gridded binary version two (GRIB2) data format. This visualization website allows the gridded data to be displayed as a multi-colored image with a color-coded key provided to relate the colors to numerical values. The images will be provided for each time step and flight level in the WAFS Global Grids.

The WAFS Global Grids Visualization is available to provide developers and users of the WAFS Global Gridded data in GRIB2 coded format to view a properly decoded and graphically displayed version of the data set. It also will support NWS World Area Forecast Center (WAFC) forecasters to produce High- and Mid-level Significant Weather (SIGWX) charts that are consistent with the WAFS Global Grids GRIB2 formatted forecasts.

The WAFS Global Grids Visualization will only be available at:

<http://www.aviationweather.gov/wafs>

The WAFS Global Grids are produced by the WAFS Washington, in support and in accordance with United States international agreements to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and its global members.

If you have any questions about this experimental forecast, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

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