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Public Information Statement 19-24 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
145 PM EDT Mon May 18 2020

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners and Employees

From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Soliciting Comments on Experimental Provision
of Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) Grids in the NDFD through
September 30, 2020

Updated to include link to experimental WBGT grids and updated
point of contact.

Effective on or about August 23, 2019, and continuing through
September 30, 2020, the NWS is seeking user feedback on
experimental Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) grids in the
National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD). The WBGT
experimental grids can be viewed here:

<https://digital.mdl.nws.noaa.gov/>

NWS currently uses the Heat Index to convey heat risk during
summer heat events. While the heat index is useful for
sedentary populations, research has proven that the WBGT is a
more effective means of assessing heat risk to persons involved
in physical activity. The WBGT is a composite parameter that
estimates the effect of temperature, humidity, wind chill, and
solar radiation on humans, while the Heat Index only takes into
account temperature and humidity.

Based upon engagement with core partners, particularly emergency
management officials, the NWS has identified the need to provide
WBGT forecasts because it is becoming an increasingly needed
parameter by partners in Impact-based Decision Support Services
(IDSS) activities. In particular, WBGT is important for those
partners who need a numerical (finite) value, rather than a
threat index, to determine necessary modifications to their

respective activities in the interest of protecting life.

To better meet users' needs, NWS will provide gridded forecasts of WBGT in the NDFD on an experimental basis for the Continental United States (CONUS), Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico. CONUS data will be available hourly out to 36 hours from NDFD issuance time, then every 3 hours out to 72 hours from 0000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) Day 1, then every six hours out to 168 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1. Data for Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico will be available every three hours out to 72 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1, then every six hours out to 168 hours from 0000 UTC Day 1. After the implementation date, WBGT data for forecast days 1-3 and forecast days 4-7 will be made available via https and ftp from the following URLs:

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.hawaii/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.hawaii/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.guam/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.guam/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

<https://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin>

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

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<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.guam/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

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<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.001-003/ds.wbgt.bin>

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.puertori/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin>

[uertori/VP.004-007/ds.wbgt.bin](#)

Please see NWS Product Description Document (PDD) for more details:

https://nws.weather.gov/products/PDD/PDD_ExpWetBulbGlobeTemperature_2019.pdf

NDFD gridded binary version 2 (GRIB2) files can be downloaded and displayed by the user with software available for download at the following URL: https://www.weather.gov/mdl/degrib_home.

Users are encouraged to provide feedback on this experimental service by using the brief survey and comment form available online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WetBulbGlobeTemp>

Questions related to WBGT can be directed to:

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Policy questions related to WBGT can be directed to:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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