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PNSWSH

Public Information Statement  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
1105 AM EDT Fri Aug 28 2015

To:           Subscribers:  
              -Family of Services  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:         Mark Tew  
              Acting Chief, Analysis and Mission Support Division

Subject: Soliciting Comments on an Experimental Precipitation Potential Index to be Added to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) for the Conterminous United States (CONUS) from September 29, 2015, through December 31, 2015

Effective Tuesday, September 29, 2015, at 1400 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), through December 31, 2015, NWS will be accepting comments on an experimental Precipitation Potential Index (PPI) in the National Digital Forecast Database:

[www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=PPI-NDFD](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=PPI-NDFD)

The experimental PPI will be available in the Conterminous United States (CONUS) for forecast days 1-3 at 1-hour temporal resolution for the first 36 hours from NDFD issuance time, and at 3-hour temporal resolution after the first 36 hours through forecast day 3.

PPI provides greater detail regarding precipitation timing than currently is available from NDFD 12-hour Probability of Precipitation forecasts. More information regarding PPI is available in the Product Description Document (PDD) in the online catalog of experimental NWS products and services:

[http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD\\_NDFD%20Experimental%20PPI.pdf](http://products.weather.gov/PDD/PDD_NDFD%20Experimental%20PPI.pdf)

To access NDFD CONUS grids for Days 1-3, use the following URLs:

<ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/>

or

<http://weather.noaa.gov/pub/SL.us008001/ST.expr/DF.gr2/DC.ndfd/AR.conus/>

The PPI file will have a World Meteorological Organization (WMO) super heading of: ZPUZ98 KWBN

And a file name of: ds.ppi.bin

NDFD forecasts can be viewed via the NDFD map viewer at:

<http://digital.weather.gov/>

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

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

If September 29, 2015 is a critical weather day, this implementation will be postponed. Partners and users will be notified of that decision via another Public Information Statement and a new implementation date will be established.

After the comment period, the NWS will evaluate any comments and decide whether to proceed with operational implementation of the in the NDFD.

For general questions regarding NDFD data, please email:

[nws.ndfd@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.ndfd@noaa.gov)

For technical questions regarding NDFD data, please contact:

David Ruth  
Chief, Digital Forecast Services Branch  
NOAA/NWS Office of Science and Technology Integration  
Silver Spring, MD  
[david.ruth@noaa.gov](mailto:david.ruth@noaa.gov)

For questions regarding this notice, please contact:

Andy Horvitz  
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[andy.horvitz@noaa.gov](mailto:andy.horvitz@noaa.gov)

NDFD Public Information Notices are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/ndfd/tins.htm>

National Public Information Statements are online at:

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

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