

Experimental National Forecast Chart

Part 1 – Mission Connection

a. Product Description – An interactive chart depicting forecast weather conditions across the contiguous United States (CONUS) and adjacent areas of Canada and Mexico. Please refer to the full description of the current service here:

http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/html/about_Gudes.shtml

b. Purpose – This product allows the user to evaluate forecast information and specific hazards over the next three days across the CONUS.

c. Audience - The target audience is very broad includes all of the weather enterprise, federal decision makers, and the general public.

d. Presentation Format – The forecasts are presented on an interactive Weather Prediction Center (WPC) web page at:

<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/exper/nationalforecastchart/map.php>

These displays are intended to replace the current legacy National Forecast Chart, available at:

http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/national_forecast/natfcst.php.

Static “snapshots” of the new experimental chart will also be provided to support existing and continuing uses by NOAA and others.

<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/exper/nationalforecastchart/nfc-static.php>

e. Feedback Method – Comments regarding the Experimental National Forecast Chart should be sent to:

NOAA/NCEP
Greg Carbin
5830 University Research Court
College Park, MD 20740
(301) 683-1494
Gregory.Carbin@noaa.gov

A survey link is included on the web page and is also available at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=GUDES>

Part II – Technical Description

a. Format and Science Basis – The Experimental National Forecast Chart will be comprised of Geographic Information System (GIS)-based information and displayed on a web-based map using ESRI online services. In addition to presentation improvements over the static chart, the experimental version includes the ability to turn hazards on and off and to zoom to an area of interest.

b. Product Availability – The current day’s chart is updated twice a day, once in the early morning (by 5 am EST, 10 UTC), and again late in the afternoon (by 5 pm EST, 22 UTC). The charts for Days 2 and 3 are currently only updated daily at 5am EST, 10 UTC.

c. Additional Information – The experimental period of one year will allow WPC to collect extensive feedback on the new versions of the map and work to incorporate this feedback into the display of this National Weather Service resource.