

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Experimental Product
DATE: June 09, 2003***

EXPERIMENTAL IFPS DIGITAL FORECAST PAGE

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. **Product/Service Description:**

The experimental IFPS Digital Forecast Page provides an interface for the public to access weather information from the NWS gridded forecast (IFPS) database. The gridded forecast is maintained 24/7 by all 24 Western Region Forecast Offices as part of the national NWS IFPS program.

2. **Purpose/Intended Use:**

This experimental web page is designed to provide users an interface to access weather information from the NWS IFPS gridded database.

3. **Audience:**

The audience is the public, emergency managers and public officials. Customary users of NWS services.

4. **Presentation Format:**

All interactions occurs via a web page. The web page provides a interface for the public to access weather information from the NWS IFPS gridded database. The user selects a location (point) on a map to generate a forecast, a process similar to the current corporate NWS public forecast pages.. The user also selects how the forecast information will be provided, text, meteogram or graphic. In addition, new formats are available such as XML and SVG, which were recommended by a recent NRC report on NWS services. The user also selects the length of the forecast, i.e. 1 to 7 days. The web software finds the nearest point in the 2.5km gridded forecast database to the point selected and provides the information in the format that was selected by the user. The web interface is available for all 24 Western Region Forecast Offices. The information is consistent with the type of information provided by the current suite of public text services offered by the NWS public program. The information is derived from the NWS gridded forecast databse (IFPS). The IFPS program has been formally announced and briefed at industry events, such as the Annual AMS conference.

5. **Feedback Method:**

Most feedback comes from user feedback. Feedback can be provided by mail:

Andy Edman/ Don Britton/Carl Gorski
National Weather Service
125 South State - Rm 1311
Salt Lake City, UT 84138
Phone 801-524-5131

E-mail comments or questions can be sent to Digital.Feedback@noaa.gov

6. **Example/URL:**

<http://ifps.wrh.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/dwf?siteID=TFX1>

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/prototypedf_tab.html can be used to access all 24 Forecast Office pages

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

This product was developed to provide the public access to the NWS Forecast Office IFPS gridded database. The users define the product format and forecast length for a location that is clickable from a map. The underlying digital forecast fields are created via IFPS/GFE. Standard grid editing tools are employed, which are available at every WFO. A 2.5 km resolution is inherent in these data sets. The IFPS program has been formally announced and briefed at industry events, such as the Annual AMS conference.

2. **Availability:**

This interactive web page is available 24/7. The underlying digital forecast fields are updated a minimum of twice a day, and as conditions merit.

3. **Additional Information:**

Traditional public weather forecasts are produced and maintained for each Forecast Office as part of the NWS suite of public products. Examples are GTFZFPGETF and are also available on the web for each office.