

NWS Outlook for Future Collection/Distribution Systems

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ABSTRACT

The first step in making future use of data from the variety of sensors in place today is to develop and maintain a thorough inventory of observing systems and mesonets. The inventory would then provide the information necessary, when used in conjunction with an understanding of data requirements, to scope the collection and dissemination needs for this (currently unavailable) data. It is anticipated that dissemination over the Internet will play an increasing role in moving products, derived from whatever data is collected, to the users.

At some point in the future we expect to have an integrated four-dimensional data base, easily accessible in one place, supported by a metadata base to bring in non-standard data and information. That higher-resolution data will be needed to support higher resolution models and open systems. In the future users will require more dynamic formats and extraction software that will allow them to identify only the data they need before transporting it to the point of use.