

Weather Activity Planner

Product Description Document

December 2003

Part I – Mission Connection

a. Product Description – The Weather Activity Planner is an internet based query tool that allows any customer seeking to plan a weather-sensitive activity to access the National Weather Service’s high resolution National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) from a local Weather Forecast Office (WFO) and search for the range of weather parameters applicable to their planned activity. The Weather Activity Planner provides forecast weather parameters at the nearest grid point requested by the customer. The customer inputs the range of weather parameters important to their activity and either clicks on the location of interest on a map, or enters the latitude and longitude coordinates of the location. The web site software searches the NDFD and returns a graphical table depicting when the requested weather parameters will be met during the next seven days.

b. Purpose – The forecast information provided by the Weather Activity Planner provides standard forecast information in graphic form for a location which is described by a point in the NDFD. The Weather Activity Planner allows for rapid querying and visual scanning of a seven days of hourly gridded forecast data. By allowing customers to query the NDFD, they can more efficiently plan their activity.

c. Audience – The Weather Activity Planner is intended for use by the general public. Anyone needing standard NWS forecast information displayed in an easily viewed graphic may find the Planner useful. The forecast data accessed by the Weather Activity Planner is the identical data accessed by other NWS graphical and point-and-click forecasts, and is available to anyone via the internet.

d. Presentation Format – The Weather Activity Planner Prescribed is a web based graphical query tool. Input boxes are used to submit values of weather parameters to be searched. The output is a web page with a color-coded table displaying when each entered value is present. Links are available to access all other NWS text and web-based material.

e. Feedback Method – We are always seeking to improve our products based on user feedback. An OMB approved form may be used to submit comments about this new product. It is available on or within the web site containing the experimental product.

Technical comments for the Weather Activity Planner may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Dan Arnold
7220 NW 101st Ter.
Kansas City, MO 64153-2371
or email comments to: dan.arnold@noaa.gov

Part II – Technical Description

a. Format and Science Basis – The Weather Activity Planner is composed of hourly forecast information of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, probability of precipitation, and sky cover for the entire seven day forecast period.

b. Product Availability – The Weather Activity Planner is a customer initiated query and display of the official NWS Digital Forecast Database. It is available on the local office web page at all times with the most current forecast Digital Forecast Database data available.

c. Other Information –

