

**Experimental  
National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD)  
Map Viewer  
NWS Product Description  
Document (PDD)**

**Part 1 - Mission Connection**

- a. Product Description – The [National Digital Forecast Database \(NDFD\)](#) contains a seamless mosaic of digital weather forecasts from National Weather Service (NWS) field offices and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). A new experimental map viewer enables users to interactively zoom and roam experimental NDFD forecast grids displayed at full resolution.
- b. Purpose – Operational static images displayed on weather.gov were conceived and implemented nearly a decade ago, and do not take advantage of the capabilities of modern web browsers. It is impractical to generate static images from the full-resolution NDFD for all forecast times. The experimental NDFD viewer provides more efficient and effective data display and interaction. It enables users to interactively zoom and roam experimental NDFD forecast grids displayed at full spatial and temporal resolution.
- c. Audience - The general public, emergency managers, electronic media, NOAA, and other federal, state, and local government agencies.
- d. Presentation Format – The experimental NDFD map viewer can be accessed at:  
  
<http://preview.weather.gov/graphical>
- e. Feedback Method – The comment period for the experimental NDFD map viewer will extend through May 31, 2013.

Links to surveys are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=wxmap>

The map viewer may be adjusted during this period to address comments and suggestions, and to correct any problems.

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

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

For general questions regarding NDFD data, please email:

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

## **Part II – Technical Description**

### **a. Format and Science:**

The experimental map viewer is in response to numerous comments and suggestions for more efficient and effective data display and interaction. The experimental map viewer takes advantage of the capabilities of modern web browsers. It enables users to interactively zoom and roam experimental NDFD forecast grids displayed at full spatial and temporal resolution.

This map viewer is Section 508 and DOC security compliant.

**b. Product Availability** – This experimental map viewer is expected to be available consistently 24/7 via standard NWS web services. The underlying NDFD forecasts are updated according to NWS Directives and Instructions.

**c. Additional Information** – Detailed information about the NDFD is also [available online](#).