# Command Reference: ReadNwsCard()

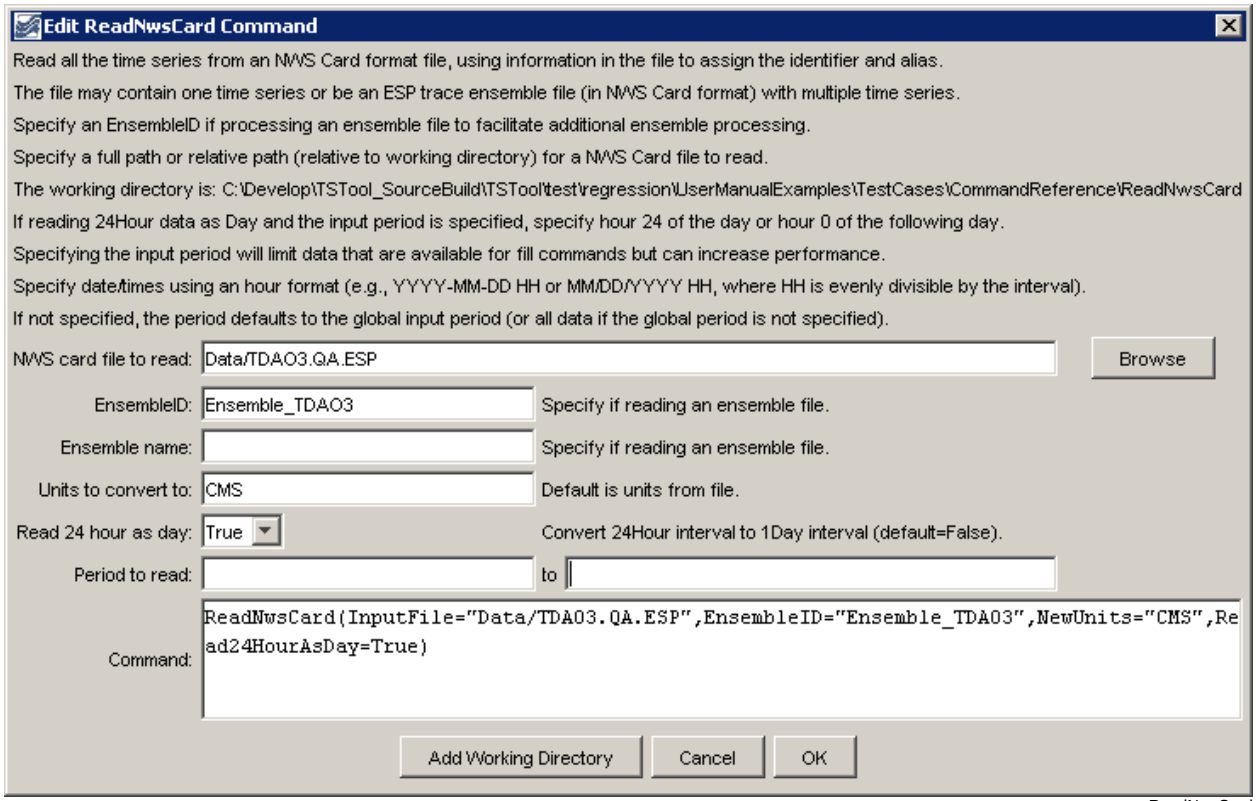
## Read all time series from an National Weather Service CARD file

Version 08.15.00, 2008-05-09

The `ReadNwsCard()` command reads all the time series in a National Weather Service River Forecast System CARD file (see the **NWSCard Input Type Appendix**). This command can be used to read the single time series format or ensemble format file, such as generated by the National Weather Service ESPADP software. Use the `TS Alias = ReadNwsCard()` command to read a single time series from an NWS Card file.

If an ensemble file is read, each trace will be identified by the historical year for the start of the trace, and will be available as a time series for other commands.

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the syntax for the command. The path to the file can be absolute or relative to the working directory. The ***Browse*** button can be used to select the file to read (if a relative path is desired, remove the leading path after the select).




ReadNwsCard

**ReadNwsCard() Command Editor**

The command syntax is as follows:

```
ReadNwsCard(Parameter=Value,…)
```

**Command Parameters**

| Parameter | Description | Default |
|---|---|---|
| `InputFile` | The name of the NWS Card input file to read, surrounded by double quotes to protect spaces and other special characters. | None – must be specified. |
| `EnsembleID` | Specify when reading an ensemble file to cause an ensemble object to be created, which can be referenced by other commands. | Do not create an ensemble object. |
| `EnsembleName` | The ensemble name corresponding to `EnsembleID`. | None. |
| `NewUnits` | The units to convert to after the read. | Do not convert the units. |
| `Read24HourAsDay` | If `True`, read `24Hour` time series as if the data were `Day` interval. Because NWS Card format uses hours 1 to 24, treating as `24Hour` results in values being saved at hour zero of the next day. Reading as `Day` interval causes the values to be stored without the shift. | `False` – read as hourly and shift data at hour 24 to zero of the next day. |
| `InputStart` | Not used with ensembles. The start of the period to read – specify if the read period should be different from the global query period. If `Read24HourAsDay=True`, specify the period using either hour 24 of the start day, or hour 0 of the next day. This parameter must be specified to hour precision with hour's aligning with the file's data. | Use the global input period or if not specified read all the data in the file. |
| `InputEnd` | Not used with ensembles. The end of the period to read – specify if the read period should be different from the global query period. If `Read24HourAsDay=True`, specify the period using either hour 24 of the start day, or hour 0 of the next day. This parameter must be specified to hour precision | Use the global input period or if not specified read all the data in the file. |

The following command file reads a card file containing one time series, reading `24Hour` data as `Day`:

```
ReadNwsCard(InputFile="Data\03567500.CARD",InputStart="1960-01-01
24",InputEnd="2005-12-31 24",Read24HourAsDay=True)
```

The following example command reads an ensemble file, converts the data (from `CFS`) to `CMS`, and reads `24Hour` data as `Day`:

```
ReadNwsCard(InputFile="Data/TDAO3.QA.ESP",EnsembleID="Ensemble_TDAO3",
NewUnits="CMS",Read24HourAsDay=True)
```