**From:** Umar, Muhammad  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** Jeff Budai - NOAA Affiliate  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

Hi Jeff,

Thank you for your email. I have a follow up question.

All the data that we are downloading for the entire CONUS area from [ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.rtma/AR.conus/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__tgftp.nws.noaa.gov_SL.us008001_ST.opnl_DF.gr2_DC.ndgd_GT.rtma_AR.conus_&d=DQMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=UP0cn5BP58XlVQ5LPrlkCfbdapb-QiXPK20-KDzLZS8&s=JlHN7UxGqaYoYxClSwf_RSSorfJxtwH6QxNL1V3jhQY&e=) have 2,953,665 data records. The data that I downloaded from the link in your email contains only 739,297 records, about 1/4th of the original. Do you know if the data is being resampled at a lower resolution before storing in the archives? Is there a way I can request a higher resolution data?

Thank you.

Umar M.

Illinois State Water Survey

**From:** Jeff Budai - NOAA Affiliate [<mailto:jeff.budai@noaa.gov>]   
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 8, 2017 7:58 AM  
**To:** Umar, Muhammad <[umar83@illinois.edu](mailto:umar83@illinois.edu)>; [ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov)  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

NDFD data by WMO header may be ordered off of tape:  <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/has/HAS.FileAppRouter?datasetname=9959_02&subqueryby=STATION&applname=&outdest=FILE>

---------- Forwarded message ----------  
From: **NCEI Info - NOAA Service Account** <[ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 3:53 PM  
Subject: Fwd: FW: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data  
To: Jeff Budai - NOAA Affiliate <[jeff.budai@noaa.gov](mailto:jeff.budai@noaa.gov)>

Hi Jeff,

This customer has been getting the run around on questions regarding NOMADS. We were told to forward it to your team in Asheville. Could you please help this customer with their request? Thanks so much!

Katie Boseo

NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)

[Ocean Data](http://www.nodc.noaa.gov/) | [Geophysical Data](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/) | [Climate Data](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/)

*​*

*Connect with us on Facebook for*[*climate*](http://www.facebook.com/NOAANCEIclimate)*and*[*ocean and geophysics*](http://www.facebook.com/NOAANCEIoceangeo)*information,   
and follow us on Twitter at*[*@NOAANCEIclimate*](http://www.twitter.com/NOAANCEIclimate)*and*[*@NOAANCEIocngeo*](http://www.twitter.com/NOAANCEIocngeo)*.*

---------- Forwarded message ----------  
From: **Umar, Muhammad** <[umar83@illinois.edu](mailto:umar83@illinois.edu)>  
Date: Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 10:04 AM  
Subject: FW: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data  
To: "[ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov)" <[ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov)>

Hi,

I have been trying to get in contact with someone at [ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov) but after few emails and almost a month long wait, I haven’t heard from anyone yet. The web page doesn’t have a phone number to call so I am not sure what else can I do to get to talk to somebody. I’ll appreciate if you could forward my email to a relevant person. The email is attached below.

Thanks,  
Umar

**From:** Umar, Muhammad   
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2017 11:46 AM  
**To:** '[ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov)' <[ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

Hi,

I have been trying to get in touch with some body at NCEI for some time now to get some of my questions answered about the archive NDGD data but I am unable to get any response. I have copied my previous correspondence below and hoping that I can get in contact with someone who knows what is and what is not being uploaded on the NOMADS servers. Basically, I want to find out if all the data that is available daily on NOAA’s ftp server is being archived on NOMADS servers because I couldn’t find couple of variables like cloud cover and wind speed data. If I am asking this question at wrong forum, please guide me to the correct person/resources.

Thank you.

Umar M.

ISWS

**From:** Umar, Muhammad   
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** '[ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov)' <[ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.nomads.info@noaa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

Hi,

I had contacted NOAA through [ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov) couple of days ago but I haven’t heard anything back yet (attached below), probably because that wasn’t the right location for my inquiry. I have some questions about the NDGD archive data stored at NOMADS ftp servers ([ftp://nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov/NDGD/201501/20150101/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov_NDGD_201501_20150101_&d=DwMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=VTN-M9BZxDS1nfOsmrMVPvgBekLdRvwZhmgCfE-yfQQ&s=uIOKdp1NFleN-Mdomr9jsdWQM5rSO0GiYmv5LMgbxxc&e=)). We, at Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) are in need of archived NDGD data for 2014 and 2015 but we found that some of the data is not readily available. For example total cloud cover (tcdc.bin in NWS ftp server [ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.rtma/AR.conus/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__tgftp.nws.noaa.gov_SL.us008001_ST.opnl_DF.gr2_DC.ndgd_GT.rtma_AR.conus_&d=DQMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=UP0cn5BP58XlVQ5LPrlkCfbdapb-QiXPK20-KDzLZS8&s=JlHN7UxGqaYoYxClSwf_RSSorfJxtwH6QxNL1V3jhQY&e=)) and wind speed data are missing from data at NOMADS server. Please take a look at this (and email correspondence below to David from NWS) and let me know how can I download the data if it is available somewhere but I missed it.

Thanks,

Umar

ISWS

**From:** Umar, Muhammad   
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:00 PM  
**To:** '[ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov)' <[ncei.info@noaa.gov](mailto:ncei.info@noaa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

Hi,

I have questions about NWS daily data that is being archived at NOMADS web site ([ftp://nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov/NDGD/201501/20150101/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov_NDGD_201501_20150101_&d=DwMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=VTN-M9BZxDS1nfOsmrMVPvgBekLdRvwZhmgCfE-yfQQ&s=uIOKdp1NFleN-Mdomr9jsdWQM5rSO0GiYmv5LMgbxxc&e=)). We were in contact with David Ruth at NWS (see below) and was told that the archived daily data that is currently available on [ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.rtma/AR.conus/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__tgftp.nws.noaa.gov_SL.us008001_ST.opnl_DF.gr2_DC.ndgd_GT.rtma_AR.conus_&d=DQMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=UP0cn5BP58XlVQ5LPrlkCfbdapb-QiXPK20-KDzLZS8&s=JlHN7UxGqaYoYxClSwf_RSSorfJxtwH6QxNL1V3jhQY&e=) can be accessed through NOMADS servers. However, we are facing difficulties in locating some of the data. For example, the file tcdc.bin through daily NWS server has WMO header of LAIA98  KNES \*, but this files is missing from the NOMADS daily folders. Similarly, wind speed data was also missing in the corresponding file ‘LNIA98 KWBR \*’. Could you please guide us how we can access the data or point me to right person to get this information from?

Thank you.

Umar M.

Illinois State Water Survey

**From:** David.Ruth [<mailto:david.ruth@noaa.gov>]   
**Sent:** Friday, January 20, 2017 10:42 AM  
**To:** Umar, Muhammad <[umar83@illinois.edu](mailto:umar83@illinois.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

I'm afraid that I can't help with that.   You would best contact NCEI (formerly NCDC) about their archives.

[https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.ncei.noaa.gov_&d=DwMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=AsiGtGAtIFYJ01e02UdgJn_qf7-FxW3e6l8BUIiBq6U&s=r6LW2JEfg-TH1Je3gA5hQNokilG9JjqXwd4ZTecpGes&e=)

DR

On 1/20/2017 10:46 AM, Umar, Muhammad wrote:

Hi David,

Thank you for your prompt response. I am sorry for bothering you again on this. I have checked the WMO headers for sky.bin and tcdc.bin in the text editor. Their WMO headers are as follows;

Sky.bin – LAMA98 KNES \*

Tcdc.bin – LAIA98 KWBR \*

But both of these WMO headers are absent from the archived data (NOMADS). Do you know, by any chance, if they are stored with a different file name or not stored at all for whatever reason?

Thanks again,

Umar

**From:** David Ruth [<mailto:david.ruth@noaa.gov>]   
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2017 9:21 PM  
**To:** Umar, Muhammad [<umar83@illinois.edu>](mailto:umar83@illinois.edu)  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

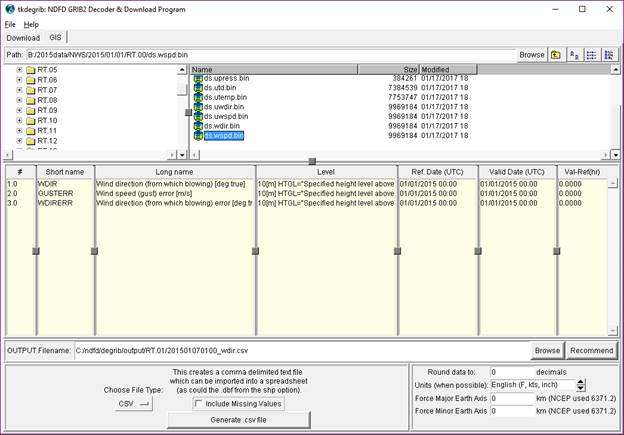
Glad to learn you are making progress.  
  
I don't really know how RTMA grids that share the same WMO headers aggregate in the NOMADS archive directories.   Each grid has a unique header in NDFD.   If degrib can't find all the grids you think should be there, you can always search for the header with a text editor to confirm.  
  
Sky.bin was upgraded to TCDC.bin a couple years ago.   I would recommend using tcdc instead of sky.  
  
[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notification/tin15-08rtma\_urma\_aaa.htm](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.nws.noaa.gov_om_notification_tin15-2D08rtma-5Furma-5Faaa.htm&d=DwMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=VTN-M9BZxDS1nfOsmrMVPvgBekLdRvwZhmgCfE-yfQQ&s=1mLXlTMx1lgib_JJDOPtXrAsI6hoYHE_pb0RrLdlWs4&e=)  
  
DR  
  
On 1/19/2017 4:41 PM, Umar, Muhammad wrote:

Hi David,

We have made some progress on getting the archived daily weather data. However, I have a follow up question. On the web site for archived data ([ftp://nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov/NDGD/201501/20150101/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov_NDGD_201501_20150101_&d=DwMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=VTN-M9BZxDS1nfOsmrMVPvgBekLdRvwZhmgCfE-yfQQ&s=uIOKdp1NFleN-Mdomr9jsdWQM5rSO0GiYmv5LMgbxxc&e=)), there are few data files from the daily data ([ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.rtma/AR.conus/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__tgftp.nws.noaa.gov_SL.us008001_ST.opnl_DF.gr2_DC.ndgd_GT.rtma_AR.conus_&d=DwMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=VTN-M9BZxDS1nfOsmrMVPvgBekLdRvwZhmgCfE-yfQQ&s=9CZf6aSaeNUorDN66SoJQLB_NubZiGtxjuTaZjxHJvY&e=)) that seems to be lumped up in one file as you can see they have same file names in the table below (highlighted).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No | FTP daily data | Corresponding Nomads files |
| 3 | ds.sky.bin | LAMA98 KNES 090000 |
| 9 | ds.uwdir.bin | LNIA98 KWBR 090000 |
| 10 | ds.uwspd.bin | LNIA98 KWBR 090000 |
| 11 | ds.wdir.bin | LNIA98 KWBR 090000 |
| 12 | ds.wspd.bin | LNIA98 KWBR 090000 |

However, when I open this file (LNIA98\_KWBR\*) in degrib, I could only see three data records for wind direction,wind speed error, and wind direction error, but wind direction field is missing (see attached picture). Please ignore names in the degrib file below. I renamed them for my own ease but these are files from nomads.



My second question is regarding sky cover data. Opening daily downloaded sky cover binary file shows WMO header as LAMA98 KNES\* (first table) but that file is not available in the archived folders. Could you please provide some guidance to where I am going wrong?

I appreciate your help in this.

Umar

**From:** nws.ndfd [<mailto:david.ruth@noaa.gov>]   
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 2, 2016 8:17 PM  
**To:** Umar, Muhammad [<umar83@illinois.edu>](mailto:umar83@illinois.edu)  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry about NDGD/NDFD data

1)  NDGD contains both forecasts and observations.  
2)  RTMA is an analysis of observations.  
3)  RTMA is hourly data.   It does not represent an entire day.  
  
David Ruth  
Meteorological Development Lab  
National Weather Service, NOAA  
  
On 11/2/2016 7:28 PM, Umar, Muhammad wrote:

Hi,

My name is Umar. I am currently working at Illinois State Water Survey. For one of our projects, we are downloading NDGD data daily at 10am from the FTP server at this location;

[ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/ST.opnl/DF.gr2/DC.ndgd/GT.rtma/AR.conus/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=ftp-3A__tgftp.nws.noaa.gov_SL.us008001_ST.opnl_DF.gr2_DC.ndgd_GT.rtma_AR.conus_&d=DQMD-g&c=8hUWFZcy2Z-Za5rBPlktOQ&r=pdb-q92HxowbTlzX_9VuTlfIN1pEg8wMtukxbsmhEJM&m=UP0cn5BP58XlVQ5LPrlkCfbdapb-QiXPK20-KDzLZS8&s=JlHN7UxGqaYoYxClSwf_RSSorfJxtwH6QxNL1V3jhQY&e=)

I have couple of questions about the data.

1) Is the NDGD data measured data or forecast data like NDFD?

2) If it is a forecast data, where can I find the accuracy assessment for the data or document about the calibration procedure?

3) From my understanding, the data is being updated hourly, so if we download the data at 10am, could that be used as a representative of the entire day?

I tried to find answers to these questions on your website but didn't find exactly what I was looking for. I apologize if it is there and I couldn't find it.

Thank you for your help.

Umar

--

Jeffrey W. Budai  
Meteorologist - Federal Government Contractor  
NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)

Data Stewardship Division (DSD)  
151 Patton Ave  
Asheville, NC 28801  
[jeff.budai@noaa.gov](mailto:jeff.budai@noaa.gov)

Phone: [828-271-4454](tel:828-271-4454)

Customer Support:  [828-271-4800](tel:828-271-4800) or <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/contact>

*The newly formed NCEI merges the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), the National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC), and the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC).*

*Facebook:* [*http://www.facebook.com/NOAANationalClimaticDataCenter*](http://www.facebook.com/NOAANationalClimaticDataCenter) *Twitter: @NOAANCDC @NOAAOceanData*