

**Experimental New Space Weather Forecast Discussion  
Product Description Document (PDD)  
November 20, 2012**

**Part 1 - Mission Connection**

a. Product Description - A plain language Space Weather Forecast Discussion detailing recently observed space weather data, model guidance, and plain text forecaster rationale to compliment to the new 3-Day Space Weather Forecast product, tailored to sophisticated users and scientific perspectives.

b. Purpose - In conjunction with the new simplified 3-Day space weather forecast product, the need remains for the dissemination of detailed scientific information, observed data, forecaster rationale. The new discussion product will enhance the level of detail of such data, through a consolidated format, at a higher cadence (every 12hrs) than ever before.

c. Audience - The scientific community, sophisticated users requiring more detailed information, general public, emergency managers, electronic media, NOAA, NWS, NASA, FEMA and other federal, state, and local government agencies.

d. Presentation Format - The experimental forecast discussion product will be accessible by subscribing to the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) Product Subscription Service (PSS) at <https://pss.swpc.noaa.gov/Login> on NWS Weather Wire, and also via the SWPC website <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/index.html>.

e. Feedback Method - Comments will be accepted from 12 January 2013 through 12 February 2013. Comments can be made via the web form at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=SWFD>

Technical and policy questions regarding this experimental forecast product may be addressed to:

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**Part II – Technical Description**

a. Format and Science Basis -The experimental discussion product was developed to continue the legacy practice of providing a comprehensive account of space weather information to an existing customer base while; enhancing the level of detail, increasing the cadence (every 12 hrs), and reducing size and format constraints of existing product offerings.

The new 3-day forecast discussion product details expected space weather conditions under each of the four segments of operational and scientific focus; Solar Activity, Energetic Particles, Solar Wind, and Geospace. Unlike existing forecast products, the new discussion product will be issued twice a day and detail how observed space weather data influences forecaster rationale in a free form format, consistent with other NWS terrestrial weather discussions.

**b. Availability** - The experimental forecast product will be accessible by subscribing to the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) Product Subscription Service (PSS) at <https://pss.swpc.noaa.gov/Login> as well as NWS Weather Wire, and also via the SWPC website <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/index.html>.