MAG Frequently Asked Questions

As of MAG v3.4.0, the HRW-NMM-* products are now made from the NMMB (Nonhydrostatic Multiscale Meteorological Model on the B grid).

Why don't forecast loops work on my browser?

The animation mechanism has been through several changes. The latest version is done in JavaScript, removing the requirement for the computer system to have either Flash or Java enabled for the browser. The loops and individual images should display and animate on any platform that supports JavaScript, including most mobile platforms.

Why do loop images "flicker" when I view them?

We have found that using the large (1280 x 1024) image size option when animating (looping) images on Firefox in Windows; can produce a flickering effect that causes the images not to be displayed correctly. To avoid this problem, use either Google Chrome or Microsoft Internet Explorer when animating using the large image size, or use the medium size if constrained to Firefox.

What happened to the left/right arrow keys that used to step through the images in a loop?

One of the requirements for the looping of the images that we fulfilled with this latest release was to allow looping on smart phones/mobile devices and to ensure the looping was HTML-5 compliant.   In order to satisfy these requirements, some of the previous functionality with the flash looper was not available in the Javascript version. On the looping pages there are left and right arrows in the upper left of the image but they do not have keyboard shortcut keys associated with them.

As a workaround, view an individual image and advance to other images with "shortcut keys" - use "k" to advance and "j" to go back to the previous image.

The Javascript animation module used by MAG, jsani, was developed at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC).

Why don't my old URL paths work anymore?

The MAG web site has changed the main path in its direct access urls. For customers that used to access images directly with a url formatted like this:

http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/GemPakTier/MagGemPakImages/gfs/12/gfs_namer_015_250_wnd_ht.gif

The new direct image url is formatted like this:

http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/12/gfs_namer_015_250_wnd_ht.gif

• Notice /GemPakTier/MagGemPakImages is replaced with /data

• Also from the older site: remove any references to /NCOMAGWEB/appcontroller

To assist with the transition, there wereentries in our server tables to automatically redirect requests using the old URLs (that contain GemPakTier/MagGemPakImages) to use the updated links.. **We have removed the automatic redirections as of release of MAGv3.4, in June of 2014**.

Why don't the shortcut keys 'j' and 'k' work anymore in Firefox?

You may have inadvertently turned on the Firefox option to automatically start searching for text when you type.

Navigate to:
Firefox > Options > Advanced

Uncheck the box "Search for text when I start typing"

Why doesn't clicking the 'zoom' button on the looping page enlarge the image?

To use the zoom feature in the looping module:

- Click on the zoom button once to enable zoom mode (button now displays 'un-zoom').
- Click on map to zoom. Continue to click on the map until desired magnification is reached.
- View any sections of the image the move outside the frame by dragging the image across the frame.
- Click on the un-zoom button once to exit zoom mode and return image back to its original size (button now displays 'zoom').

The Javascript animation module used by MAG, jsani, was developed at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC).

How can I create a bookmark for the latest version of a particular cycle and forecast hour of a product?

For instance, you want to bookmark a link to the GFS NAMER 10m_wnd_precip image for the latest 12z cycle, forecast hour 012.

Navigate to the image. Above the image, a URL is displayed. In this case:

http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/data/gfs/12/gfs_namer_012_10m_wnd_precip.gif

Copy this into your browser and bookmark it.

If large and small images are available for this product, the filenames will end in"_l.gif" for the large files and "_s.gif" for the small ones. Edit the url filename and bookmark it.

How can I create a bookmark for the forecast hours available for the latest cycle of a particular product?

For instance, you want to bookmark a link to the NAM WNATL 850_pw_ht forecast hours available for the latest cycle.

Navigate to the parameter page (choose MODEL GUIDANCE -> NAM -> WNATL -> 850_pw_ht). Examine the URL to your browser window, it will look similar to this:

http://mag.ncep.noaa.gov/model-guidance-model-parameter.php?group=Model%20Guidance&model=nam&area=wnatl**&cycle=20140114%2018%20UTC**&param=850_pw_ht&fourpan=no&imageSize=M

Edit the URL to remove the cycle portion (in **bold**). Bookmark it.

If large and small images are available than the imageSize field will present. You may specify large files by changing "imageSize=M" to "imageSize=L" for large files and "imageSize=S" for small ones.

<u>Known Issues</u>

Intermittent table rendering issue in Internet Explorer 10

An occasional problem has been seen regarding rendering tables in IE10 where a value will be missing in the table of forecast hours displayed for a model cycle. Reloading the page will display the missing hour.

"Assert Failure" window displayed in Firefox 25.

An 'Assert Failure' error window has been seen when clicking on the Frequently Asked Questions link in Firefox 25. This has not been reproduced.

If you experience problems while using the Model Analysis and Guidance web site, [please let](#) [us know](#). We test as much as possible, but it is not possible to test every operation on every browser and every Operating System. If you experience a recurring problem, please try to send us as much detail as possible surrounding the problem, what exactly happened, and the steps to reproduce the problem. We will try to address the issue or acknowledge its existence in this section.