JOB SHEET 2-4-45
SETTING PRODUCT ALERTS

INTRODUCTION

The first step in setting alerts is to determine which threshold values area appropriate for the time of year and/or weather scenario. Then enter these thresholds values in Alert Area 1 or 2. Note that ten separate alerts can be set for each alert area.

For example, widespread precipitation covers the display but nothing severe is indicated. If you set the VIL threshold at 45, you will receive an alert the first time this criterion is met or exceeded in either Alert Area. For more information on alerts and their use, see the information Sheet in your lab guide.

OBJECTIVE

Using the Alert Processing Menu, you will be able to:

a. display the current Alert Threshold Values screen and determine the alert values associated with each alert.

b. display the Alert Processing Edit screen and edit the alert types, thresholds, and send product columns for Alert Area 1 or 2.

REEFERENCE

NWS EHB 6-531-1, USERS GUIDE: PUP/RPGOP, Section 13.1.2

PROCEDURE

ALERT THRESHOLD VALUES SCREEN

1. From the Main Menu, type **AD** and press **RETURN**.

   - The Adaptation Data Menu displays.

2. a. At the Adaptation Data Menu, type **A,T** and press **RETURN.**

      - The *current* Alert Threshold Values screen displays.

1

MAIN MENU

COMMAND: **AD**
FEEDBACK:

Enter command and press return. For assistance, press the HELP button (F5).

(C)ONTROL
(S)TATUS
(D)ISPLAY
(R)OUTINE PRODUCT SET
(G)EN AND DISTRIBUTE PRODUCTS
(T)IME LAPSE
(A)RCHIVE
(U)SER FUNCTION
(AD)APTATION DATA
(M)ONITOR PERFORMANCE
(H)ELP

UNACKNOWLEDGED ALERTS
ACKNOWLEDGED ALERTS
SYSTEM STATUS

ALPHA PRODUCT QUEUE INDICATOR
RPG PRODUCT REQUEST STATUS

2a

ADAPTATION DATA MENU

COMMAND: **AD,A,T**
FEEDBACK:

Enter command.

(R)OUTINE PRODUCT SETS, <RPS-ID>, (E)DIT *
(L)EFT DISPLAY RATE ***, <seconds>
(R)IGHT DISPLAY RATE***, <seconds>
(RE)PLACE WITH, <RPS-ID> [R for current list]
(A)LERT PROCESSING, <Alert-Area> *
(T)HRESHOLD VALUES
(B)ACKGROUND MAP ASSOCIATIONS, <PROD-ID#> *
(O)VERLAY ASSOCIATIONS, <PROD-ID#> *
(C)URSOR HOME LOCATION ***, <LATITUDE> ***, <LONGITUDE>
<PASSWORD> **

* Footnote: Enters edit screen at this point.
** Footnote: To modify other categories. (Extended Adaptation Data Menu.)
*** Footnote: Current value displayed if command ends at this point.

2. b. The Alert Threshold Values screen is for information purposes only and cannot be edited. Notice there are three pages of values, a separate one for each Grid, Volume, and Forecast. Each group has a Category number, Name, Units of Measure, and up to six threshold values. An excellent discussion of these "Groups" is in the Alerts Information Sheet in your Lab Guide.

NOTE: The values found on our Alert Threshold Values screen are the initial values found in the FMH-11. The values at your RPG are probably different as they reflect your meteorological situation and are determined by your local Unit Radar Committee.

c. CAT - Category Code Number - each Product has a preset category code number. In this example, the category code for VIL is 6.

d. UNITS - The units in which the meteorological phenomena are measured. For example: SWP is measured in percent(%), while Echo Tops is measure in Kft.

e. Threshold Codes T1-T6 - The thresholds codes are assigned to represent various meteorological values at the UCP and require URC permission to change. In the example on the next page, T1 represents 15kts in velocity, or 30 VIL, or 30% SWP, etc.

3. Use **F6/F7** (Page Back/Forward), or the **P,1(2,3)** commands at the bottom of each page, to view all three pages. You will refer to these values when setting your alerts.

2
b-e

ALERT THRESHOLD VALUES (00:35 03/17/94) Page 1 of 3

COMMAND: AD,
FEEDBACK: **EXECUTED - AD,A,T**
GRID GROUP

CAT	NAME	UNITS	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
1	VELOCITY	kt	15	25	35	40	50	60
2	COMPOSITE REFL	dBZ	20	30	40	50	60	70
3	ECHO TOPS	Kft	30	40	50	60		
4	SEVR WTHR PROB	%	30	40	50	60	70	
6	VERT INTEG LIQ	Kg/M2	30	40	45	50	55	65

VOLUME GROUP P,2
FORECAST GROUP P,3

2
b-e

ALERT THRESHOLD VALUES (00:35 03/17/94) Page 2 of 3

COMMAND:
FEEDBACK: **EXECUTED - P,2**

VOLUME GROUP

CAT	NAME	UNITS	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
7	VEL AZ DISPL	kt	15	20	25	30	35	40
8	MAX HAIL SIZE	in	0.25	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50
9	MESOCYCLONE		UNCOR	3DCOR	MESO			
10	TORN VRTX SIGN		DET					
11	MAX STORM REFL	dBZ	35	40	45	50	55	60
12	PROB HAIL	%	10	20	30	50	70	90
13	PROB SVR HAIL	%	10	20	30	50	70	90
14	STORM TOP	Kft	20	30	40	50	60	70
15	MAX 1HR PRECIP	in	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0		

GRID GROUP P,1
FORECAST GROUP P,3

2
b-e

ALERT THRESHOLD VALUES (00:35 03/17/94) Page 3 of 3

COMMAND:
FEEDBACK: **EXECUTED - P,3**

FORECAST GROUP

CAT	NAME	UNITS	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
25	MAX HAIL SIZE	in	0.25	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50
26	MESOCYCLONE		3DCOR	MESO	UNCOR			
27	TORN VRTX SIGN		DET					
28	MAX STORM REFL	dBZ	35	40	45	50	55	60
29	PROB HAIL	%	10	20	30	50	70	90
30	PROB SVR HAIL	%	10	20	30	50	70	90
31	STORM TOP	Kft	20	30	40	50	60	70

GRID GROUP P,1
VOLUME GROUP P,2

ALERT PROCESSING

4. Press **F2** (Return to Previous Menu).

   - This command returns you to the Adaptation Data Menu.

5. a. Type **A,1** and press **RETURN**.

      - The Alert Processing Edit Screen displays and the cursor is positioned at line 1, under Category Code, in Alert Area 1.

   b. The Alert Processing Edit Screen shows the alert criteria currently valid in <u>each</u> alert area at your PUP. These are not the <u>alerts</u> in effect, just the criteria your PUP is using to generate alerts. (Recall, alerts which are currently in effect can be found via (S)tatus (Al)erts (JS2-4-13).

   c. Category Code definitions are identical to those listed on the Alert Threshold Values Screenand are listed on the right side of the screen for easier reference.

5a

ADAPTATION DATA MENU

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

Enter command.

(R)OUTINE PRODUCT SETS, <RPS-ID>, (E)DIT *
(L)EFT DISPLAY RATE ***, <seconds>
(R)IGHT DISPLAY RATE***, <seconds>
(RE)PLACE WITH, <RPS-ID> [R for current list]
(A)LERT PROCESSING, **<Alert-Area> ***
(T)HRESHOLD VALUES
(B)ACKGROUND MAP ASSOCIATIONS, <PROD-ID#> *
(O)VERLAY ASSOCIATIONS, <PROD-ID#> *
(C)URSOR HOME LOCATION ***, <LATITUDE> ***, <LONGITUDE>
<PASSWORD> **

* Footnote: Enters edit screen at this point.
** Footnote: To modify other categories. (Extended Adaptation Data Menu.)
*** Footnote: Current value displayed if command ends at this point.

5b,c

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	2	N
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10			

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

6. Change the Threshold Code for Velocity (Category Code 1) to **50 kts**. Refer to the Threshold Values Screens to see your Threshold Code for 50kts. In this example, 50 kts is T5...so **5** would be typed under Threshold Code. (You, however, will type the appropriate code value for your PUP.)

7. Under the column headed SEND PROD type **Y**.

- This tells the RPG to send the "alert-paired product" if and when it generates this alert. For example, the velocity product depicts 50kts of wind which automatically generates an Alert Message. If you specify Y, it also generates a one-time request to the RPG to send the Product paired with this alert to your PUP.

- The product paired with this alert is determined at the UCP. The PUP users' only option is whether to receive it. The product, in this instance, may be an SWV centered on the storm in question. The paired-alert product does not need to be on your RPS List to be received. Putting a Y in this column acts as a one-time request for this product once the alert is generated.

6

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	**5**	N
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10			

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

7

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	**Y**
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10			

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

CHANGING ALERT PHENOMENA

To delete an alerting phenomena from an alert area, simply use the TAB key to move to the line in question and then overwrite the data with blanks. To add another alert type, move to the first blank line and type in the pertinent information. Press Return to save the changes. Remember that there can only be 10 alert types for each alert area. If you wish to add a type and 10 types have already been defined, you must either delete or type over a line.

8. Press **TAB** until you reach the first blank line in Area 1.

- If all 10 lines are full, pick a line and type over it.

9. Type **28** for "Category Code"

- This is the *Maximum Storm Reflectivity* from the Forecast Group. You may notice that Alert types found in the Forecast Group duplicate those found in other groups. You will get an alert for these types even though the alerting phenomena are outside your alert area! These are phenomena that are outside your alert area but are **forecast**, using the computer generated storm motion, to move into the alert area within the time covered by the Storm Track forecast. This may be useful if one would like a little notice of a storm's strength before it enters your area of concern.

10. Type **3** for the "Threshold Code".

- You will see that on the third page of your Alert Threshold Values, page 4 of 14 in this Job Sheet, T3 corresponds to 45 dBZ.

11. Type **N** under "Send Products".

- In this case, the Alert-paired product is not sent when the alert is generated.

12. Press **RETURN**.

- The changes are saved and no other action is necessary. Notice that Alert 28 slides in numerical order.

8

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	Y
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10			

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

9
10
11

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	Y
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10	**28**	**3**	**N**

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

CHANGING ALERT AREAS

You may have the same alert types in both alert areas, or different types in each. If you want to move an alert type to the other Alert Area, you must delete it from one alert area, and then add it to the other.

13. At the Main Menu, type **AD,A,1** and press **RETURN**.

- The Alert Processing Edit Screen displays with the curser placed on line 1.

14. Press **TAB** until you reach the line containing Category Code 28.

15. **Space** through the line until it is blank and press **RETURN**.

- This line is no longer in Alert Area 1 and line 10 becomes blank again.

14

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	Y
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	28	3	N
9	30	4	Y
10	31	4	Y

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

15

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,1**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	Y
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8			
9	30	4	Y
10	31	4	Y

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

16. At the command line, type **2** next to the **AD,A** and press **RETURN**.

- The cursor is now on line 1 of Alert Area 2. The only way to get from Alert Area 1 to Alert Area 2 (or vice versa) is to go back to the Adaptation Data Menu and specify the other area.

17. At the first blank line, or on any line if all are already defined, type the following information:

28 3 N

- This entry sets Category ***28*** (the max reflectivity from the forecast group), to alert at Threshold 3 (45 dBZ), with the option NOT to send a product. Note, if your value, on the Alert Threshold Values screen, are different choose the threshold code closet to 45 dBZ.

18. Press **RETURN**.

- This line is now saved in Alert Area 2.

END

16

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,2**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	Y
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10			

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used

17

ALERT PROCESSING EDIT SCREEN

COMMAND: **AD,A,2**
FEEDBACK:

For assistance, press HELP button.

ALERT AREA 1

#	Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	1	5	Y
2	2	3	Y
3	3	3	Y
4	7	3	Y
5	9	1	Y
6	11	4	N
7	25	3	Y
8	30	4	Y
9	31	4	Y
10			

ALERT AREA 2

Cat Code	Thresh Code	Send Prod
1	2	N
3	3	Y
7	3	Y
9	1	Y
11	6	Y
25	3	Y
28	**3**	**N**

CATEGORY CODES

GRID GROUP
1. Velocity
2 Comp Refl
3. Echo Tops
4. SWP
5. Not Used
6. VIL

VOLUME GROUP
7. VAD
8. Max Hail Size
9. MESO
10. TVS
11. Max Storm Ref
12. Prob Hail
13. Prob SVR Hail
14. Storm Top
15. Max 1Hr Precip
16-24 Not Used

FORECAST GROUP
25. Max Hail Size
26. MESO
27. TVS
28. Max Storm Refl
29. Prob Hail
30. Prob Svr Hail
31. Storm Top
32-41 Not Used