PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER

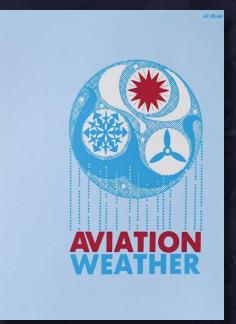




WELCOME







CENTRAL AVIATION WEATHER





National Weather Service State College, PA

Charles Ross

Aviation Focal Point

Aaron Tyburski

Commercial, Instrument/Multi-engine

National Weather Service
New York Center Weather Service Unit

Kirt Squires

Aviation Forecaster



Pennsylvania Aviation



Topics covered

- Pennsylvania Aviation
- NWS Aviation Services
- NWS Center Weather Service Unit New York Presentation

Let's keep this interactive and laid back

- Ask Questions
- Comments Welcome



Our Office in State College







NWS Offices Nationwide







NWS Background



Issues weather and water forecasts

- Public
 - Daily
 - Long Range
 - Severe weather
 - Aviation
- Rivers
- Coastal / Marine

Issues weather warnings

- Tornado, Severe Thunderstorms, Flooding
- Special Marine
- Aviation Icing, Turbulence, Convection



NWS Background

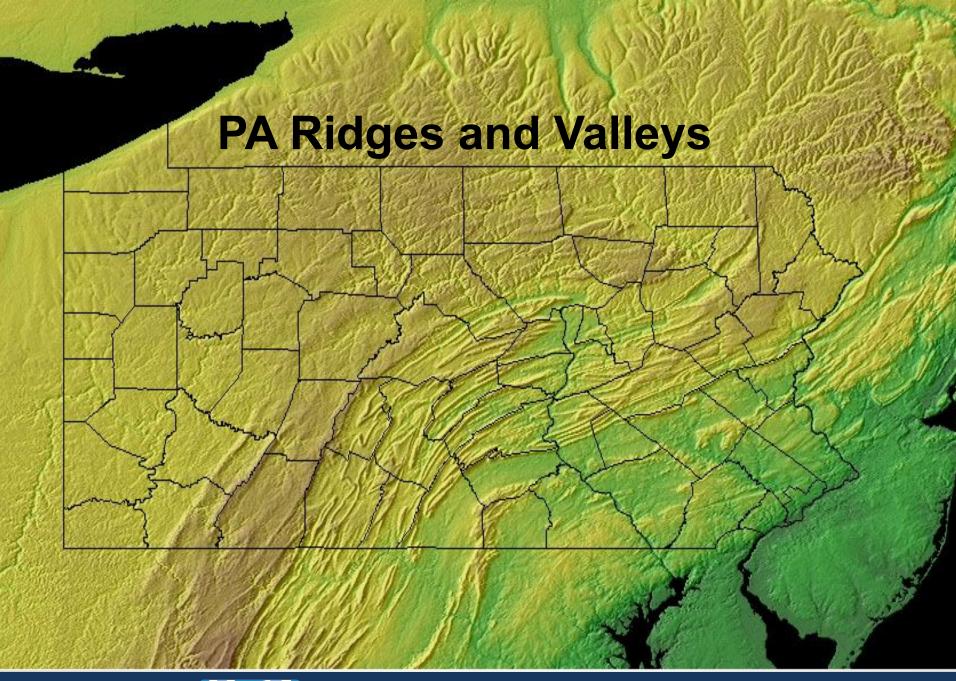


- NWS in the Aviation Community
 - National: Aviation Weather Center (AWC)
 - Regional: Center Weather Service Units (CWSUs)
 - Local: NWS Offices





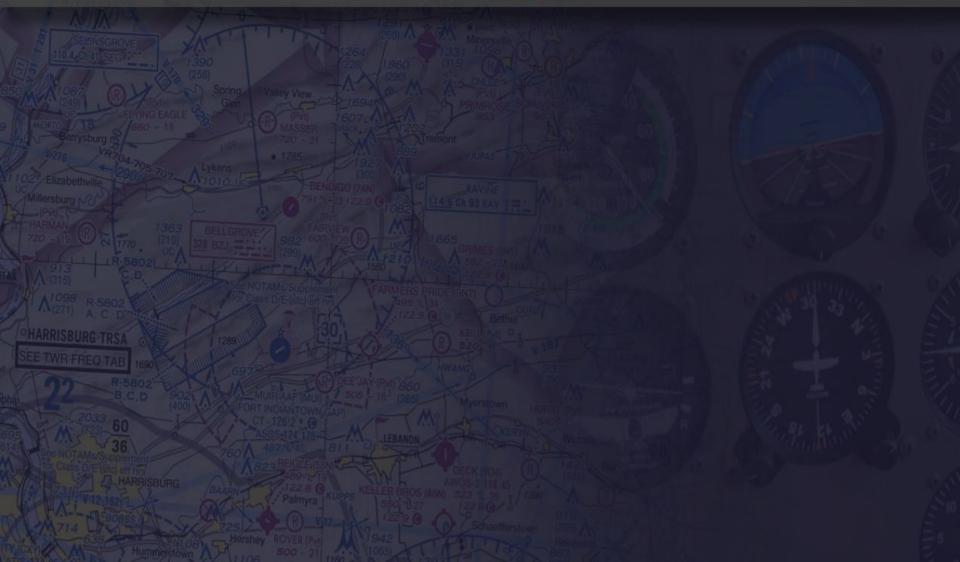
- Pennsylvania is a challenging place for General Aviation
 - Topography
 - Long rolling ridges and deep valleys
 - Weather
 - Low Ceilings and reduced visibility
 - Icing in clouds
 - Thunderstorms in summer



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER



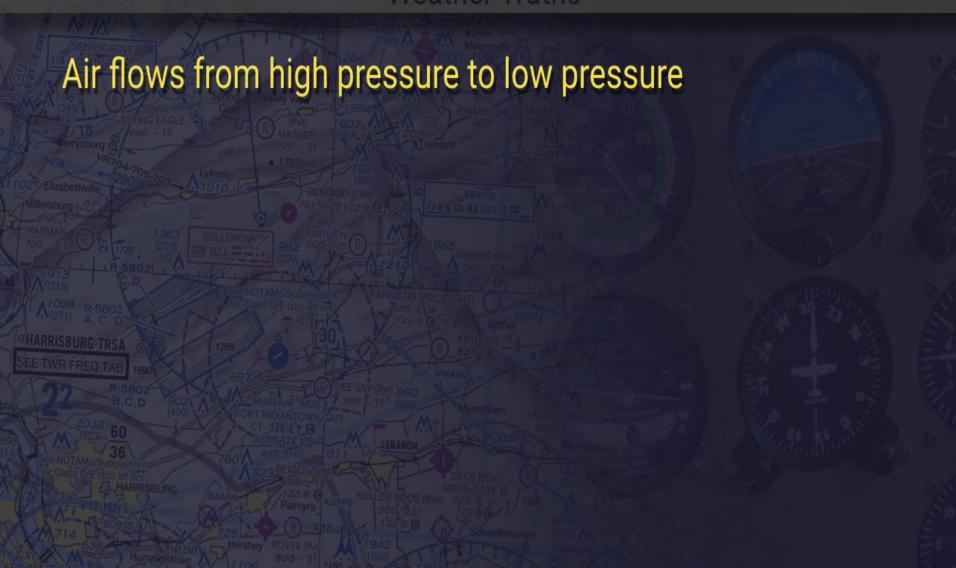




PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER



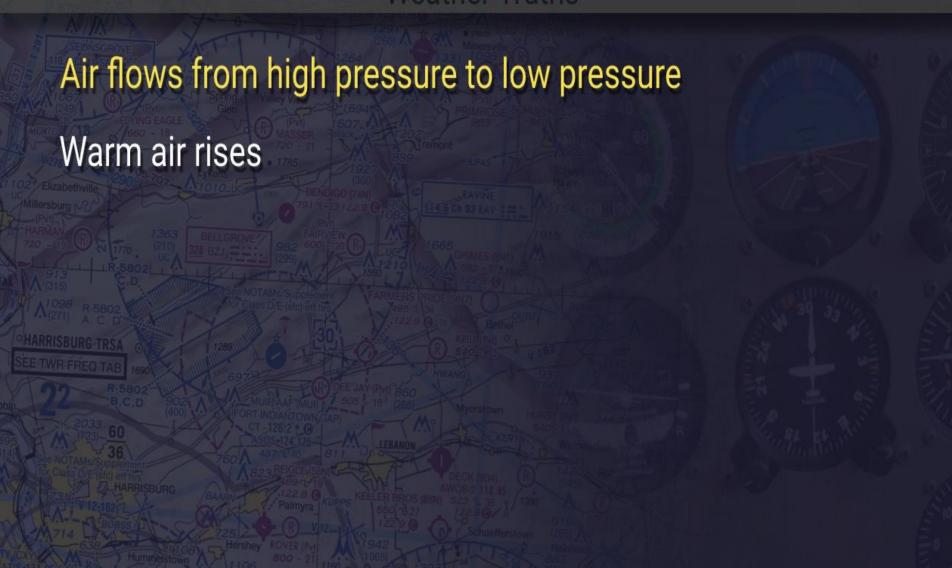




PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER



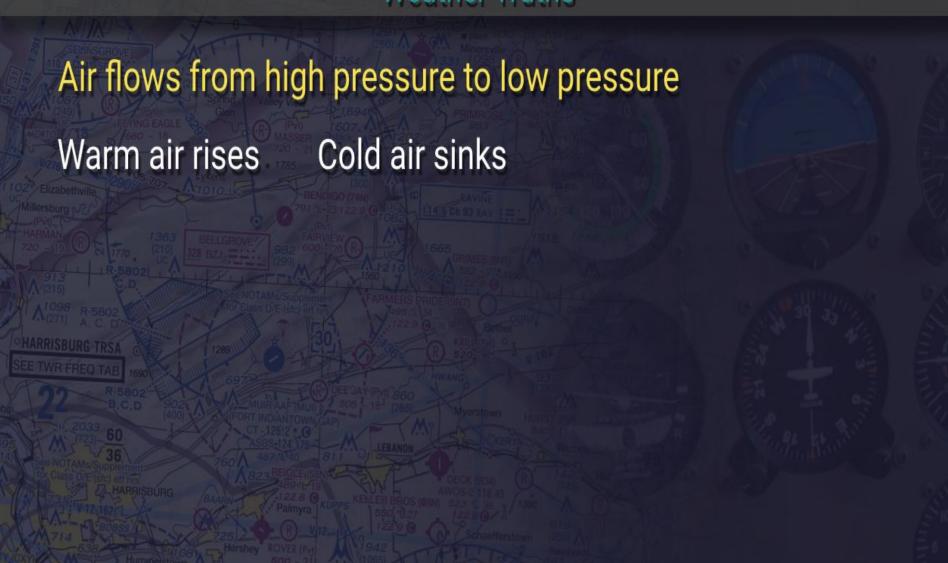




PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER







PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Weather Truths

Air flows from high pressure to low pressure

Cold air sinks Warm air rises

Moisture coexists with air

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Weather Truths

Air flows from high pressure to low pressure

Warm air rises Cold air sinks

Moisture coexists with air

When air is lifted, it cools and moisture condenses out

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Weather Truths

Air flows from high pressure to low pressure

Warm air rises Cold air sinks

Moisture coexists with air

When air is lifted, it cools and moisture condenses out

Water freezes at 32 degrees F ... Sometimes!

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Weather Truths

Air flows from high pressure to low pressure

Warm air rises Cold air sinks

Moisture coexists with air

When air is lifted, it cools and moisture condenses out

Water freezes at 32 degrees F ... Sometimes!

Laws of physics apply to the atmosphere

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Aviation Truths



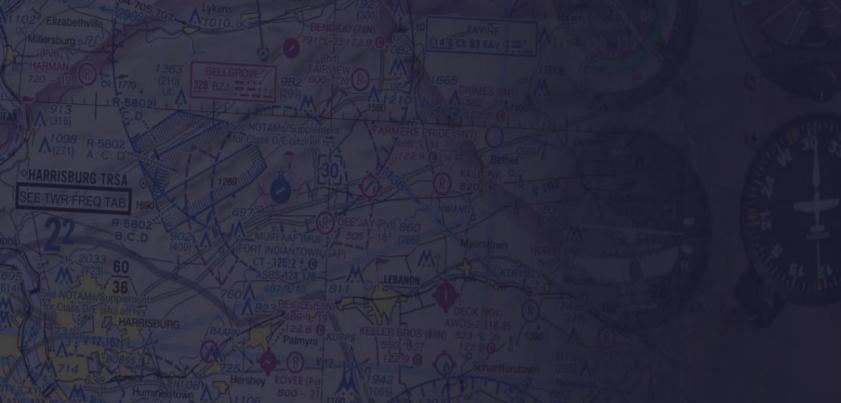
PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Aviation Truths

Once wheels depart the earth, an aircraft is at the mercy of the airmass it's flying through.



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Aviation Truths

Once wheels depart the earth, an aircraft is at the mercy of the airmass it's flying through.

The atmosphere can overpower any aircraft.

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





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The atmosphere can overpower any aircraft.

You can't see through clouds or fog.

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Aviation Truths

Once wheels depart the earth, an aircraft is at the mercy of the airmass it's flying through.

The atmosphere can overpower any aircraft.

You can't see through clouds or fog.

Ice loves to form on cold metal surfaces.

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Aviation Truths

Once wheels depart the earth, an aircraft is at the mercy of the airmass it's flying through.

The atmosphere can overpower any aircraft.

You can't see through clouds or fog.

Ice loves to form on cold metal surfaces.

If you don't have enough air going over the wings, gravity always wins.



Aviation in PA - CIGS and VSBY



Definitions:

- Proper Ceilings and Visibility are most important for visual flight flying
- Ceiling measurement of the height of the base of the lowest cloud deck that cover more than half of the sky
- Visibility measure of the distance at which an object can be clearly discerned



Aviation in PA - Observations



ASOS: Automated Surface Observing System

- Used for aviation and general meteorological purposes (i.e. climate data)
- Weather reported hourly
- SPECIs issued when significant weather changes occur
- Supported by observer who issues corrections (COR) to observation when needed (i.e. frozen precipitation correction).
- Wind direction reported in magnetic direction
- A02: means that the site is automated and HAS a precipitation sensor
- AO1 means there is no precipitation sensor. This does not mean the site is un-manned.
- AUTO: in the metar observation, then there is no observer.
- Maintained by NWS, DOD, and sometimes FAA

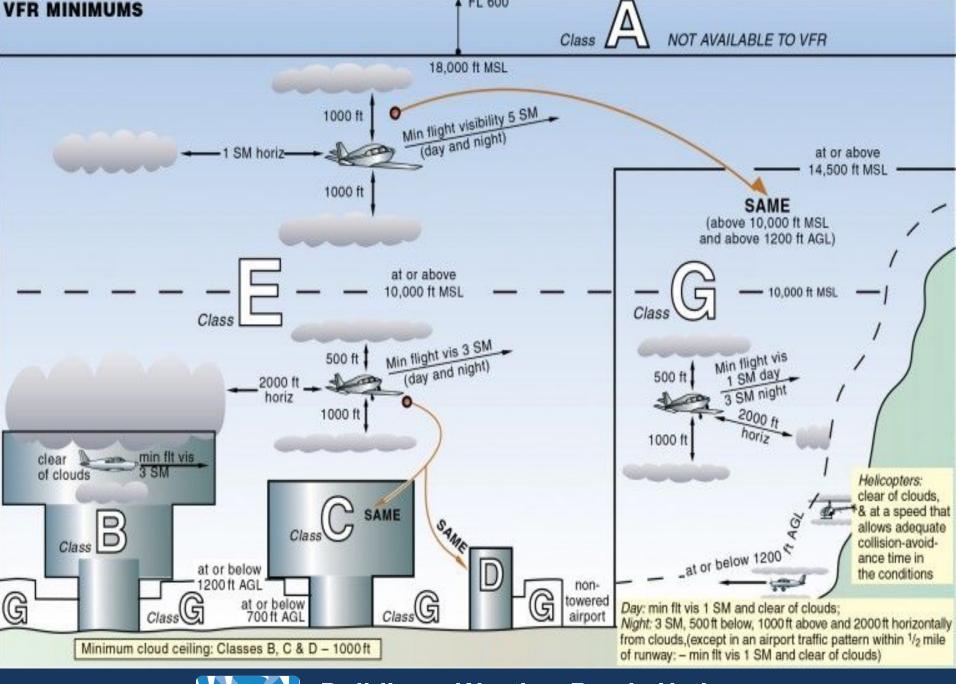


Aviation in PA - Observations



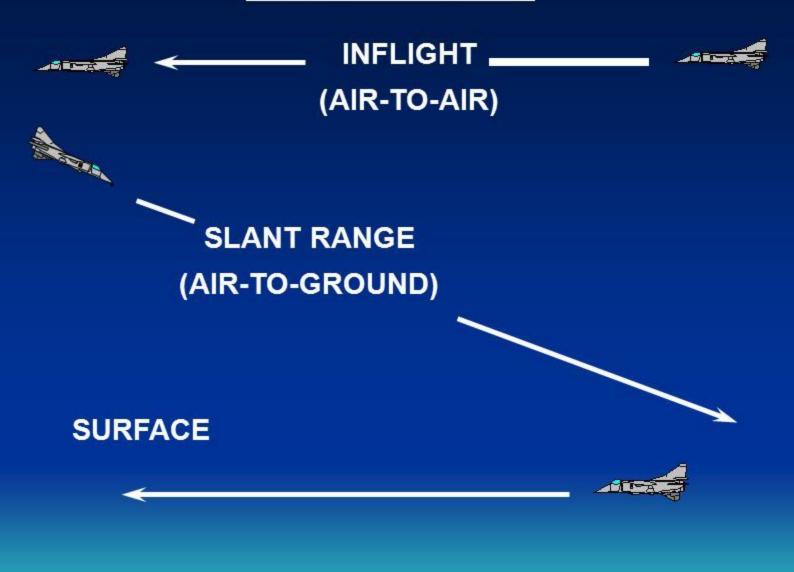
KJST 261151Z 31007KT 2SM +SN BKN005 02/02 A2994 RMK AO2 SLP139 60014 70036 T00210028 10211 20200 53001

- Used for aviation and general meteorological purposes (i.e. climate data)
- KJST: Station Identifier Johnstown Airport
- 261151Z: Date / Time in Zulu
- 2SM: Visibility in statute miles
- +SN: Precipitation type and intensity
- BKN005: Cloud base and height
- 02/02: Temperature / Dewpoint temperature (°C)
- A2994: Altimeter / Pressure (i.e. 29.94 inches of mercury)
- A02: indicates that the site is automated and HAS a precipitation sensor.
- AO1: indicates there is no precip sensor. This does not mean the site is un-manned. AUTO after the ID in the metar observation: there is no observer.
- SLP 139: pressure 1030.9 hPA (millibars)
- 60014: 6 hourly precipitation
- 70036: 24 hourly precipitation
- T02060200: Temperature and Dewpoint to nearest tenth of a degree
- 10211: 6-hour maximum temperature
- 20200: 6-hour minimum temperature
- 53001: 3-hour pressure tendency 30.01 Hg (inches of mercury)



▲ FL 600

PILOT VISIBILITIES



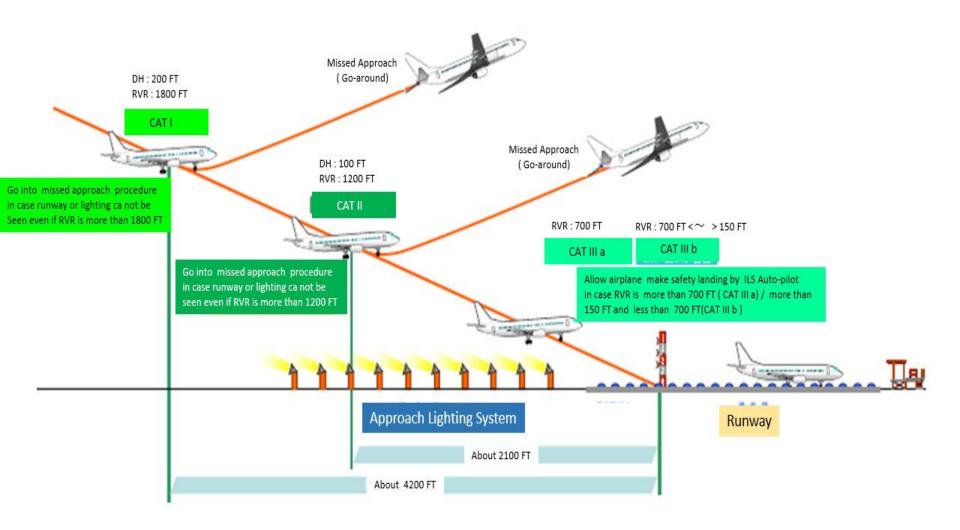


Figure : Ministry of Land ,Infrastructure , Transport and Tourism Japan http://www.mlit.go.jp/common/001020334.pdf



MDT

UNV

AGC

PITTSBURGH, PA

200 - 1/2

200 - 1/2

THRESH A

200 - 3/4

700 - 2

800 - 2

THRESH B

600 - 2

1000 - 3

1000 - 3

THRESH C

1000 - 3

Aviation in PA



TAF Amendments for Area Airports

CENTRAL	PENNSYLVANIA, PA	Α					
	THRESH A	THRESH B	THRESH C	THRESH D	THRESH E	THRESH F	APPROACH
A00	200 - 1/2	800 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3		ILS or LOC RWY 21
BFD	300 - 1	600 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3		ILS or LOC RWY 32
IPT	300 - 3/4	1000 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3		ILS or LOC RWY 27
JST	200 - 1/2	600 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3		CAT E- Additional fuel required when forecas
LNS	200 - 1/2	700 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3		
MDT	200 - 1/2	700 - 2	1000 - 3	2000 - 5	2000 - 3		

CAT D-MVFR

3000 - 5

3000 - 5

THRESH D

3000 - 5

CAT C-IFR

2000 - 3

2000 - 3

THRESH E

2000 - 3

THRESH CAT B- Airport can not be

<2000/3

ums

BVI	300 - 1	800 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	used as an alternate
DUJ	200 - 1/2	600 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	CAT A- Airfield minimu
FKL	200 - 1/2	600 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	ILS RWY 21
HLG	200 - 1	700 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	ILS RWY 03
LBE	200 - 1/2	1200 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	ILS RWY 24
MGW	300 - 1/2	600-2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	ILS RWY 18
PIT	200 - 1/2	400 - 1	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	ILS RWY 10L, 10R, 28L, 28R
ZZV	200 - 3/4	600 - 2	1000 - 3	3000 - 5	2000 - 3	ILS RWY 22





Definitions:

- LIFR Low Instrument Flight Rules
 - Ceilings < 500' and/or 1 mile vsby
- IFR Instrument Flight Rules
 - Ceilings between 500 and 100' and/or 1-3 mile vsby
- MVFR Marginal Visual Flight Rules
 - Ceilings between 1000 and 3000 and/or 3-5 mile vsby
- VFR Visual Flight Rules
 - Ceilings > 3000' and vsby > 5 miles





Definitions:

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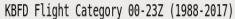


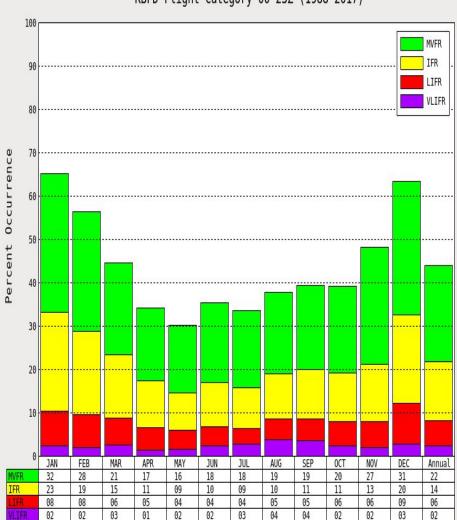
Time for a poll question!



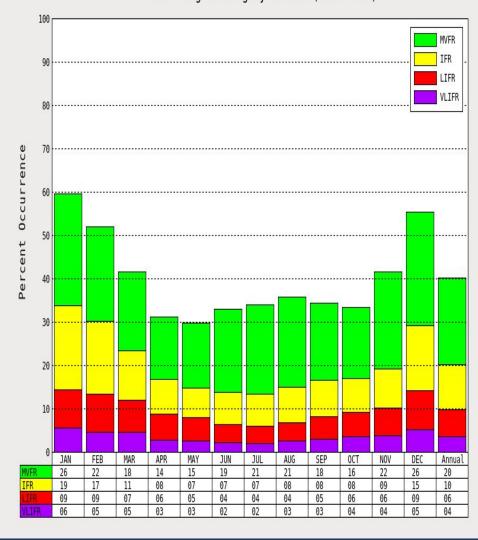
Central PA Flight Categories







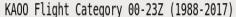
KJST Flight Category 00-23Z (1988-2017)

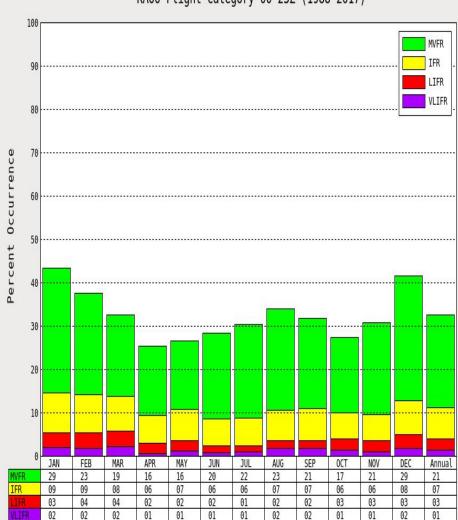




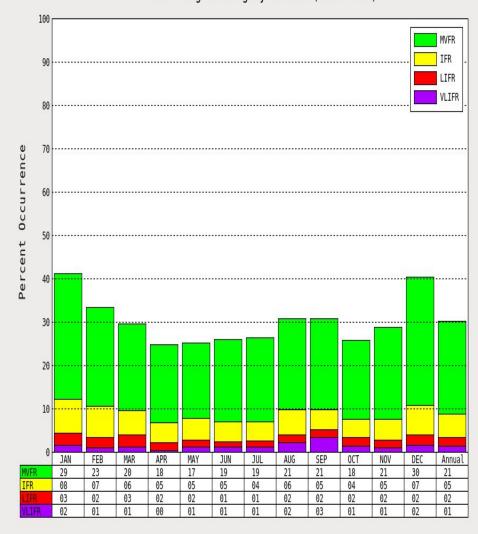
Central PA Flight Categories







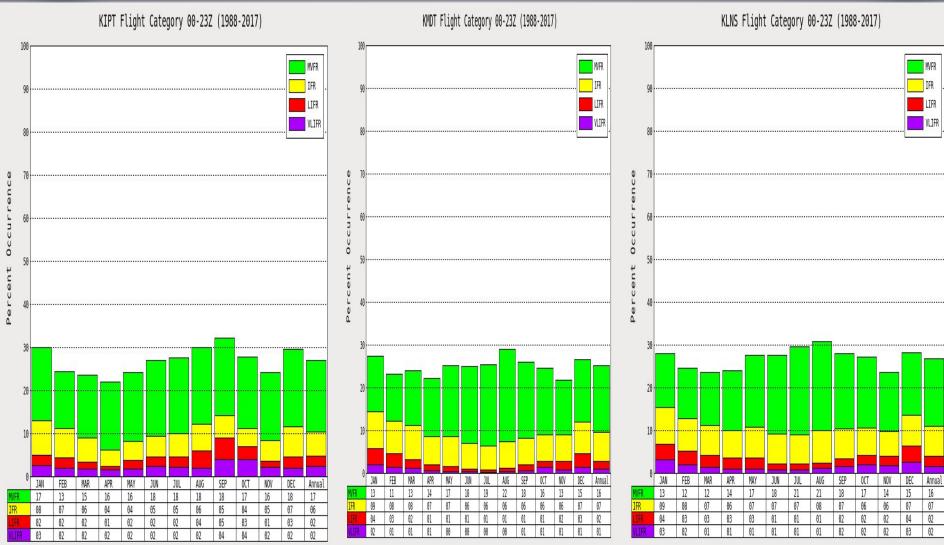
KUNV Flight Category 00-23Z (1988-2017)





Central PA Flight Categories





PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Icing



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Icing

The effects of icing on an aircraft are cumulative

Weight Increases

Thrust is Reduced

Lift is Diminished

Drag Increases

Aircraft icing can occur in cloud or in precipitation

Supercooled water droplets

Cold-soaked airframe

FZRA / FZDZ / IP in ob

Frost

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Icing

Snow, ice or frost on the aircraft during preflight?





Are you sure it's all gone?

CENTRAL AVIATION WEATHER

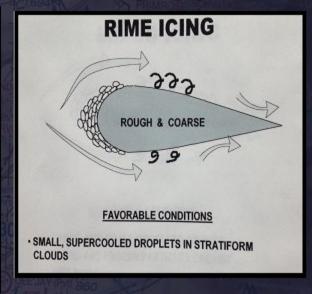




Icing

Icing types

CLEAR ICING CLEAR, SMOOTH, AND GLOSSY FAVORABLE CONDITIONS LARGE DROPLETS IN CUMULIFORM CLOUDS, FREEZING RAIN, OR TERRAIN EFFECTS





Difficult to discern types from flight deck

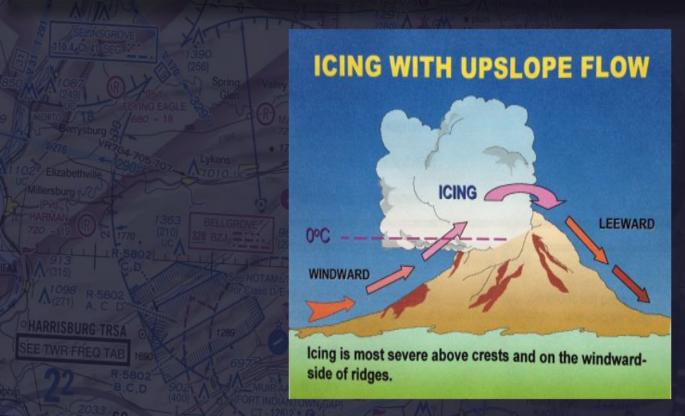
Because you just got really busy

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





lcing



Pennsylvania ridges and valleys

Every ridge line you cross is another chance for icing

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Trace

Stratus clouds

Light

- Stratus clouds and weak weather-producing system
- · Widespread weak cumulus or stratocumulus clouds

Moderate

- Nimbostratus clouds and weather-producing system
- · Stratocumulus and turbulent mixing
- Light freezing rain, freezing drizzle
- · Extensive vertically-developed cumuliform clouds

Severe

- Nimbostratus clouds and strong weather-producing system
- Freezing rain
- Cumulonimbus

Each aircraft will handle icing differently

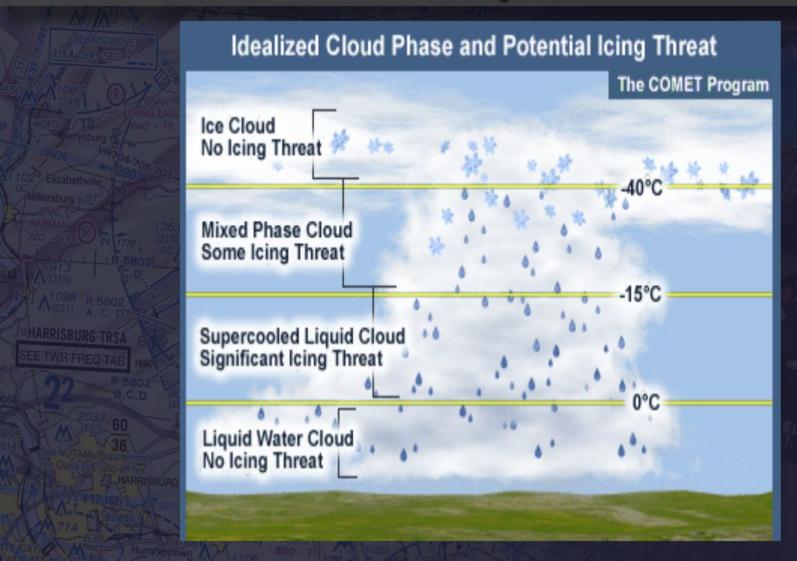
Got de-ice boots or hot bleed air? Great! If not, get to a warmer altitude

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





lcing

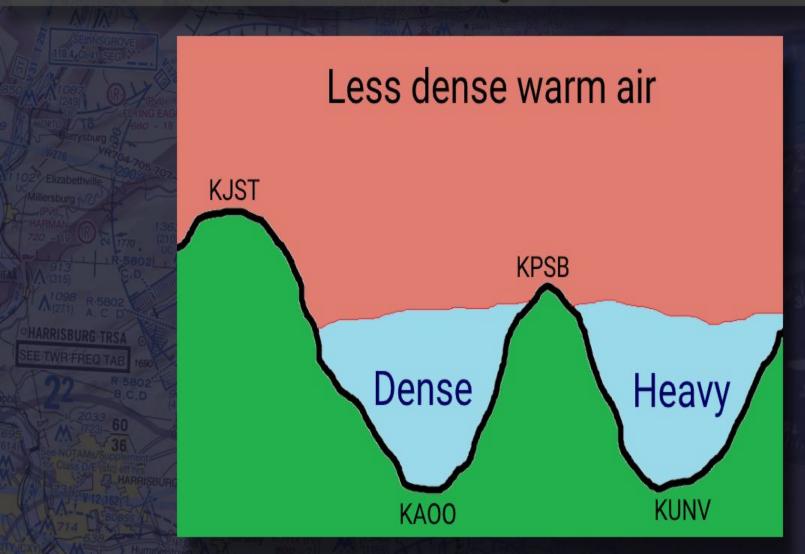


PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Icing

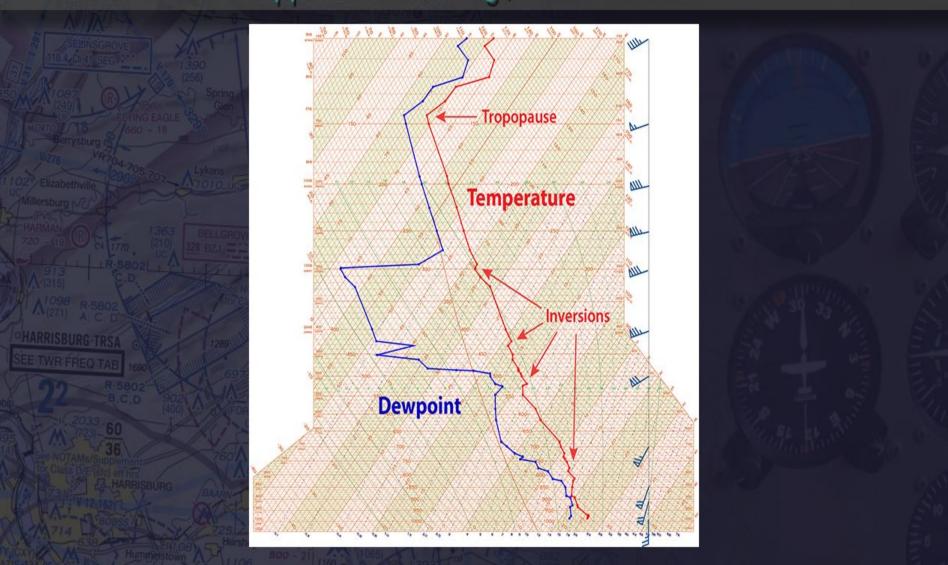


PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





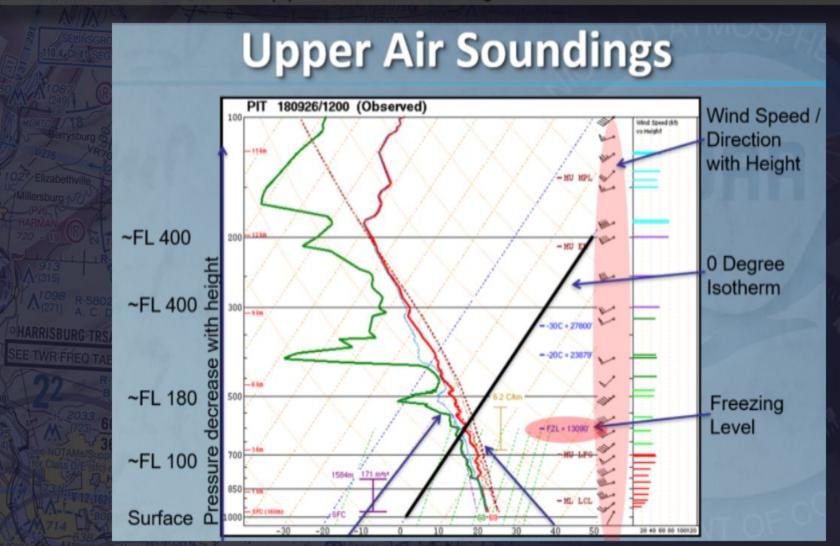
Upper Air Sounding / Skew-T Chart



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER



Upper Air Sounding / Skew-T Chart

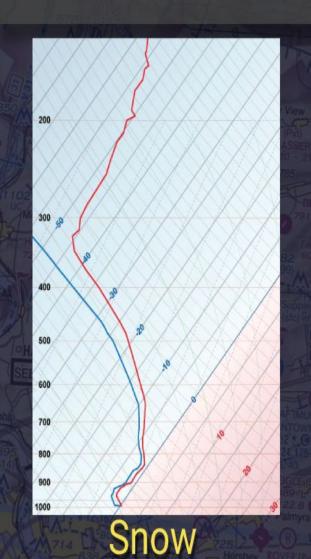


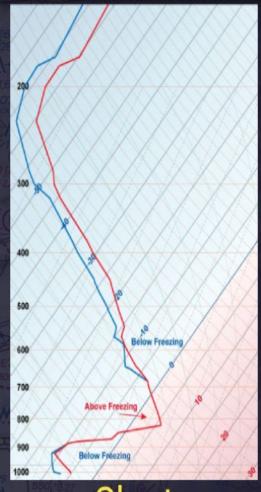
PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Icing







Sleet

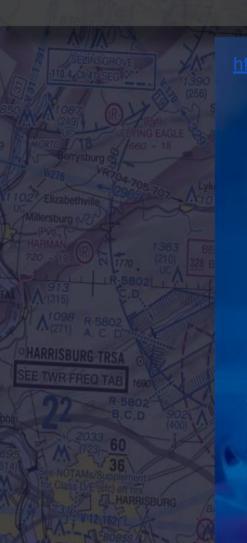
Freezing Rain

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Upper Air Sounding / Skew-T Chart



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHm4itwxpVY&t=6s **Real Pilot Stories:**

Icing Encounter

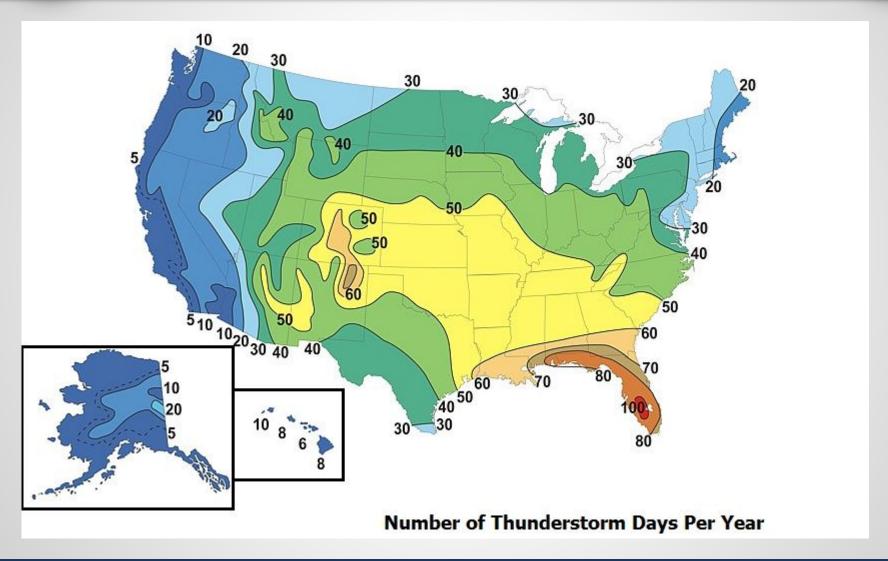
- Location: Central Pennsylvania
- Pilot: Heath Wells
- ATC: Terry Pitts, Stacy Parham, Mike Wilson
- Aircraft: Cessna 172
- Date: December 2005

A brand-new IFR rating, an airplane full of family and an icy winter storm over the mountains combined to teach Heath Wells some valuable – and nearly fatal – lessons about instrument flying.



Aviation in PA - Thunderstorms





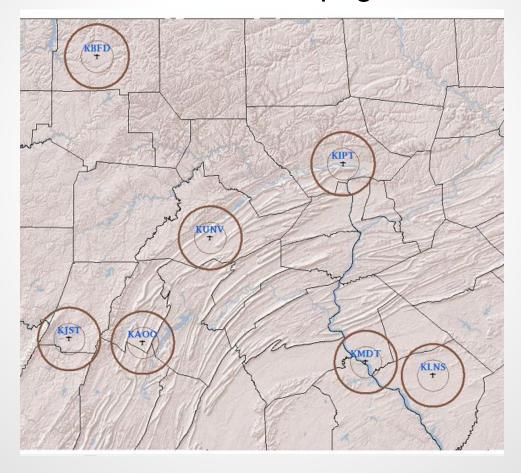




NWS Offices



NWS State College Aviation Webpage



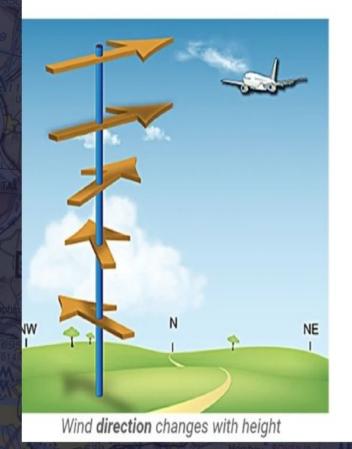
CENTRAL AVIATION WEATHER



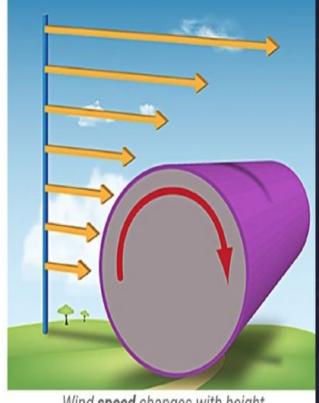


Wind Shear

irectional Shear



Speed Shear



Wind **speed** changes with height.

A change in wind speed or direction over a relatively short distance.

Can be horizontal or vertical.

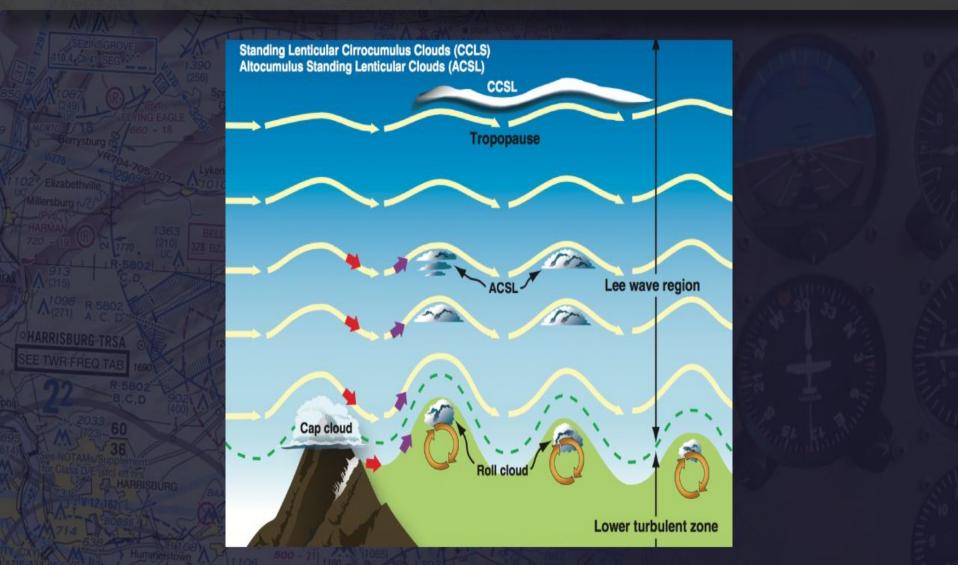
Causes a "rolling" or "twisting" of the air column.

PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





Wind Shear

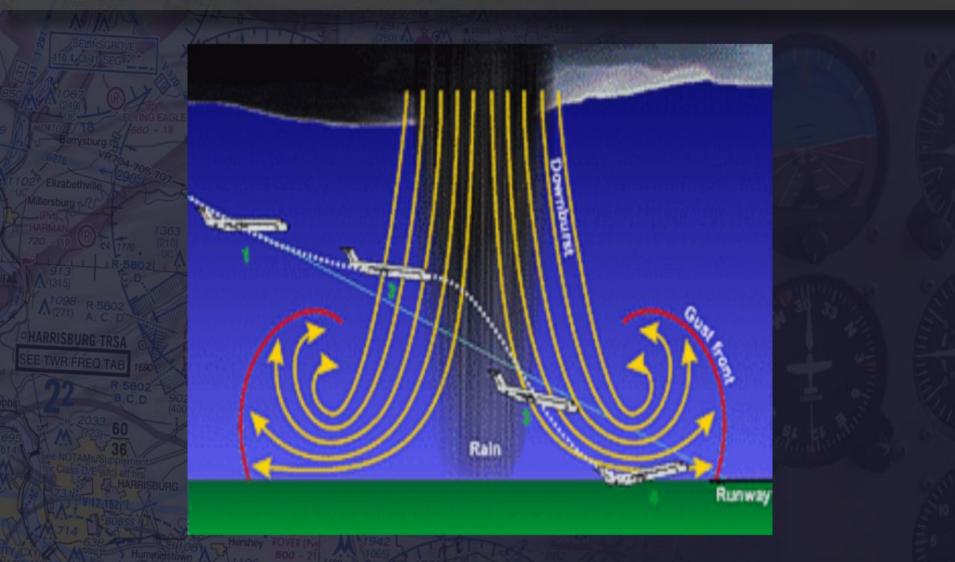


PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER



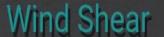


Wind Shear



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION WEATHER





KMEM 081503Z 0815/0912 20006KT P6SM SCT100 BKN250 FM082100 21006KT P6SM VCSH SCT050 BKN200 FM090000 18005KT P6SM -RA OVC015 FM090200 18010KT 2SM -RA BR BKN008 OVC015 WS020/20045KT=

Compare the wind direction and speed in the "WS" section to the prevailing wind



Terminal Aerodrome Forecast



Interpretation:

- TAF is a <u>concise</u> statement of the expected meteorological conditions significant to aviation to impact an airport during the 24-hour forecast period.
 - 30-hour TAFs issued for 32 airports across the country (KPIT).
- An airport is defined as the area within 5 statute miles of the center of an airport's runway complex.
- Updated every 6 hours (00Z, 06Z, 12Z, 18Z)
 - 3-hourly amendments issued as well.



TAF Example



KIPT 261134Z 2612/2718 23010KT 6SM -SHRA BR OVC015

FM261500 25013KT 5SM -SHRA VCTS OVC010CB FM262000 30012KT P6SM OVC035 WS020/25045KT FM262300 33005KT P6SM SCT100 FM270900 VRB03KT 4SM BR OVC250



TAF Example



Flight Categories		
Flight Category	Ceiling (feet)	Visibility (SM)
VLIFR	< 200 and/or	< 1/2
LIFR	< 500 and/or	< 1
IFR	≥ 500 to < 1,000 and/or	≥1 to < 3
MVFR	≥1,000 to ≤3,000 and/or	≥3 and ≤5
VFR	> 3,000 and	> 5

Critical Amendment Critera - CAC		
Flight Category	Impact	
MVFR	≤ 3000 ft and/or ≤ 5 sm	
Must File Alternate	< 2000 ft and/or < 3 sm	
IFR	< 1000 ft and/or < 3 sm	
Alternate Landing Minimums (airport dependent)	600 ft and/or 2 sm	
Airfield Landing Minimums (airport dependent)	200 ft and/or ½ sm	

 Federal Aviation Regulations state that when flying under instrument flight rules alternate fuel and airport are required unless the ceiling AND visibility are >/= to 2000' AND 3SM.



Center Weather Service Units (CWSUs)



Joint FAA / NWS weather support units

Staffed 16 hours per day by NWS personnel
Staffed 24 hours per day by Traffic Management Unit personnel





CWSU Products



- CWA: Center Weather Advisory
 - Aviation weather warning for conditions meeting or approaching national in-flight advisory criteria (AIRMET / SIGMET)
 - Used to provide real-time or near-term guidance during en-route or terminal environments
 - Valid for up to 2 hours
- MIS: Meteorological Impact Statement
 - Unscheduled flow control and flight operations planning forecast
 - Details weather conditions expected to adversely impact air traffic flow
 - Valid up to 12 hours after issuance time

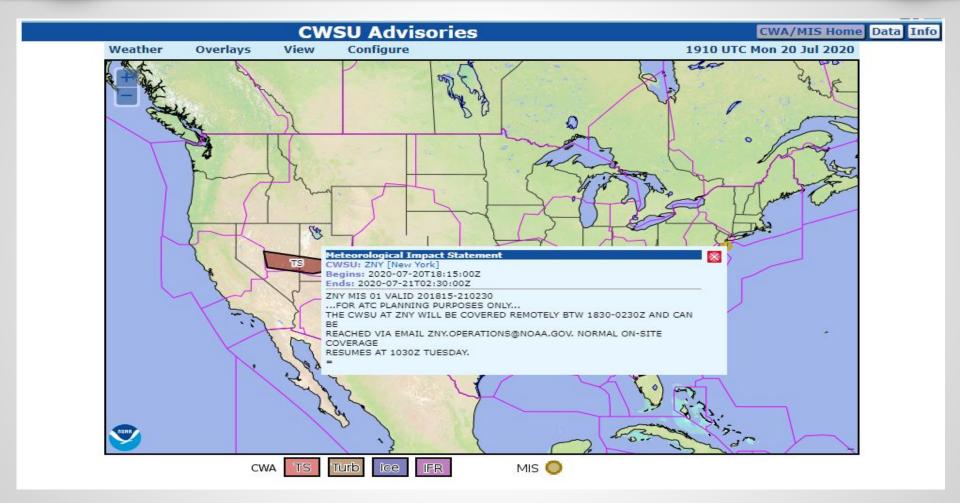
NWS CWS





CWSU: CWA& MIS Products

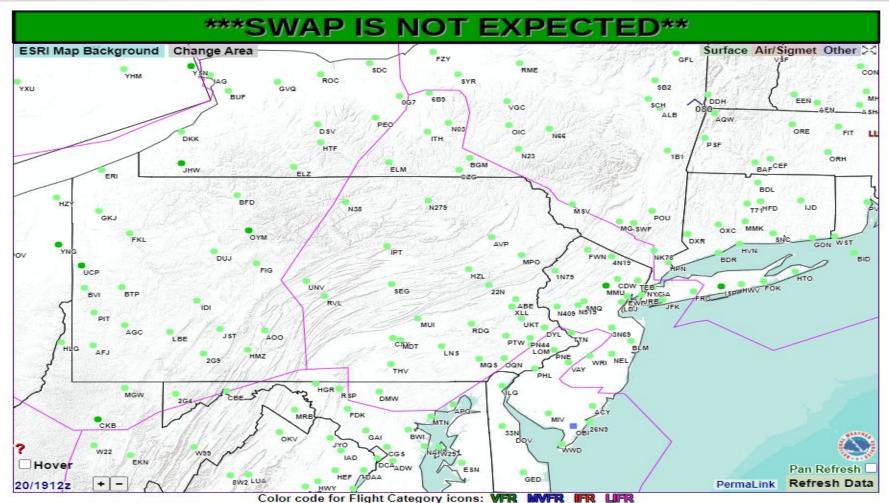






CWSU New York

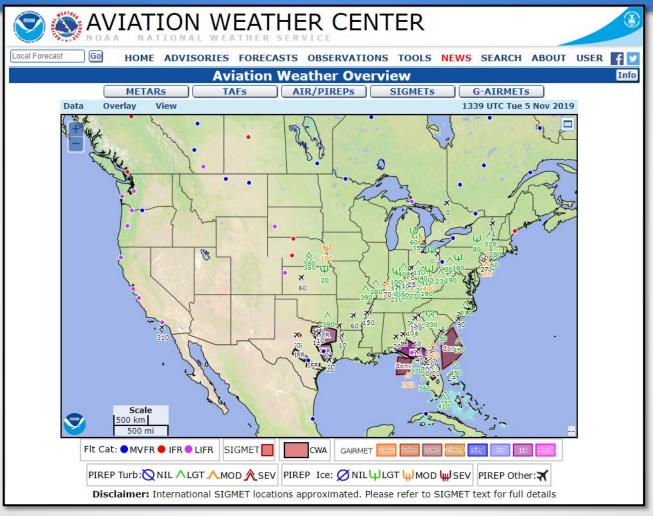






National Support



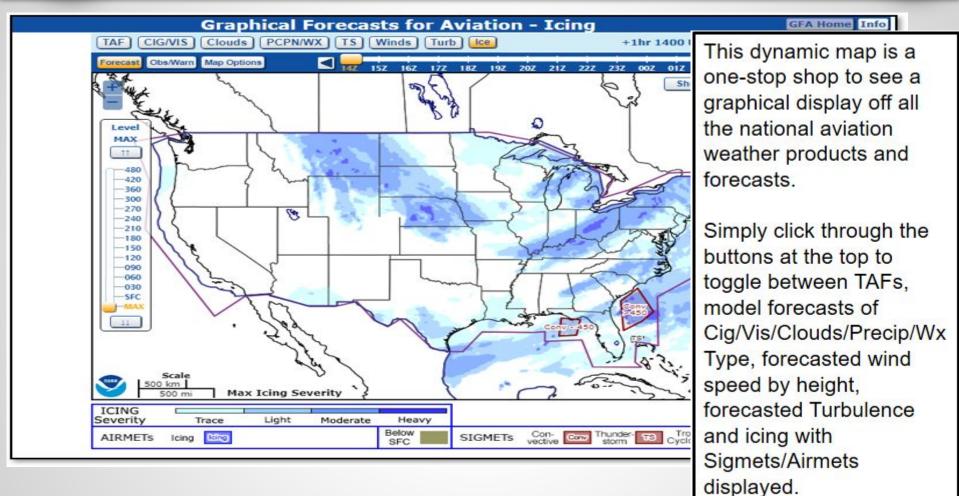






Graphical Aviation Forecasts



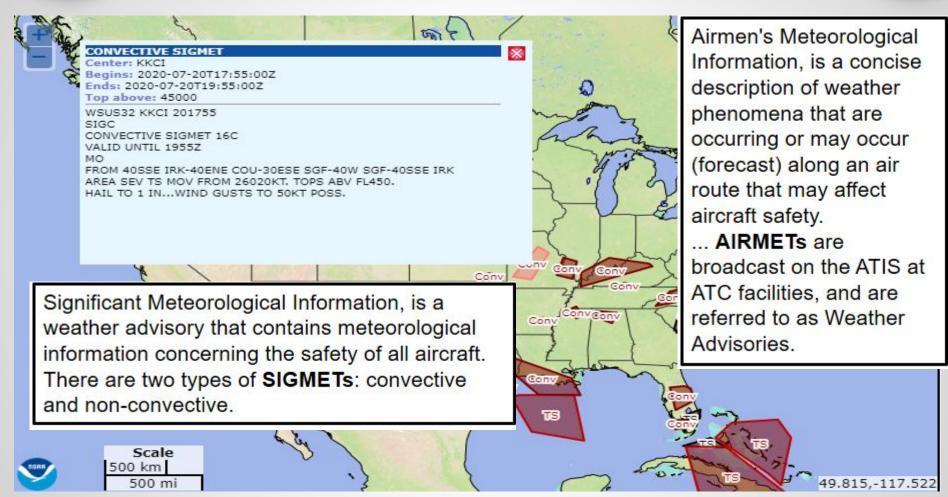






SIGMETS / AIRMETS



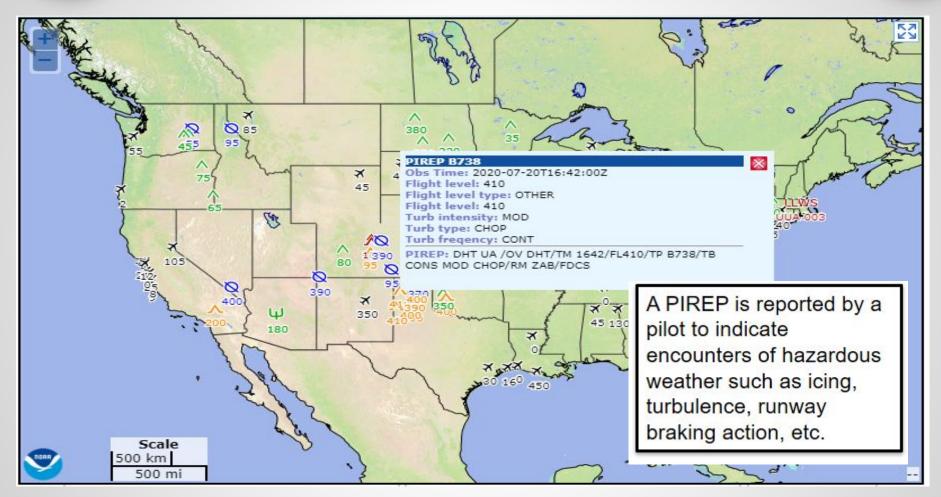






Pilot Reports - PIREPS



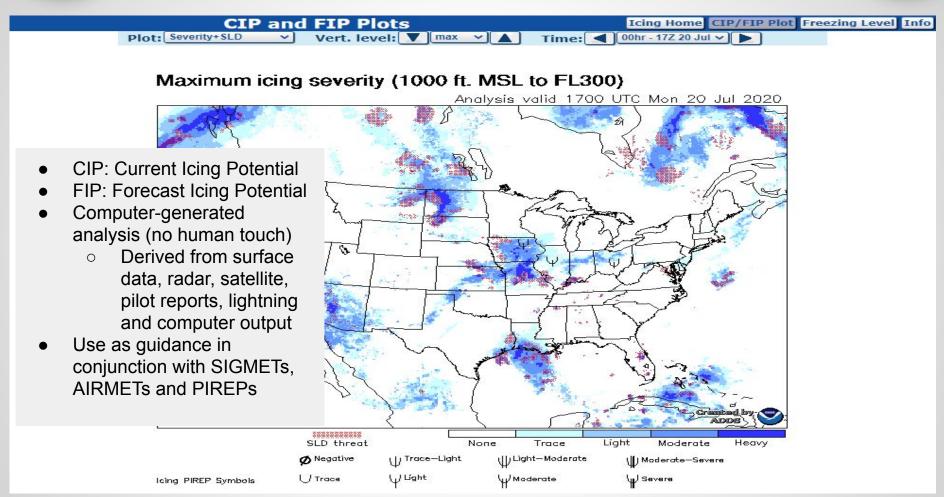






Icing Guidance: CIP & FIP



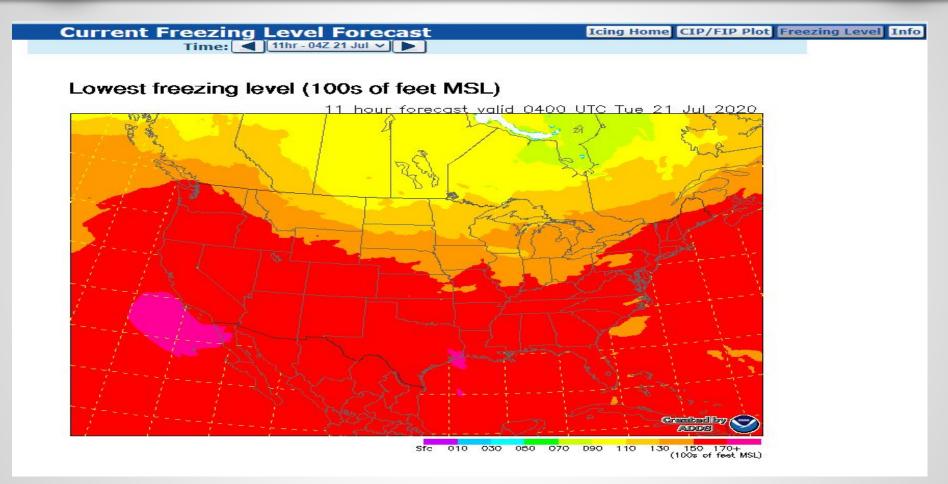






Icing: Freezing Level Forecasts



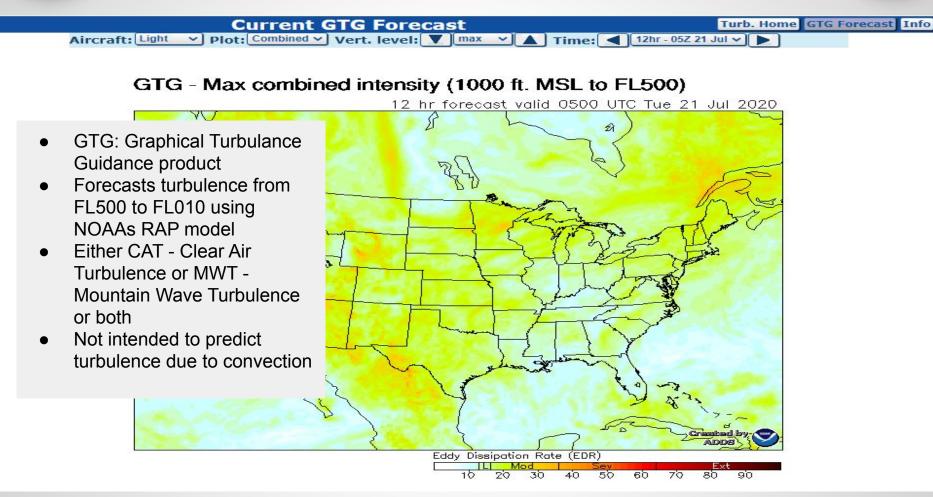






Turbulence: GTG







TCF: Traffic Convective Forecast



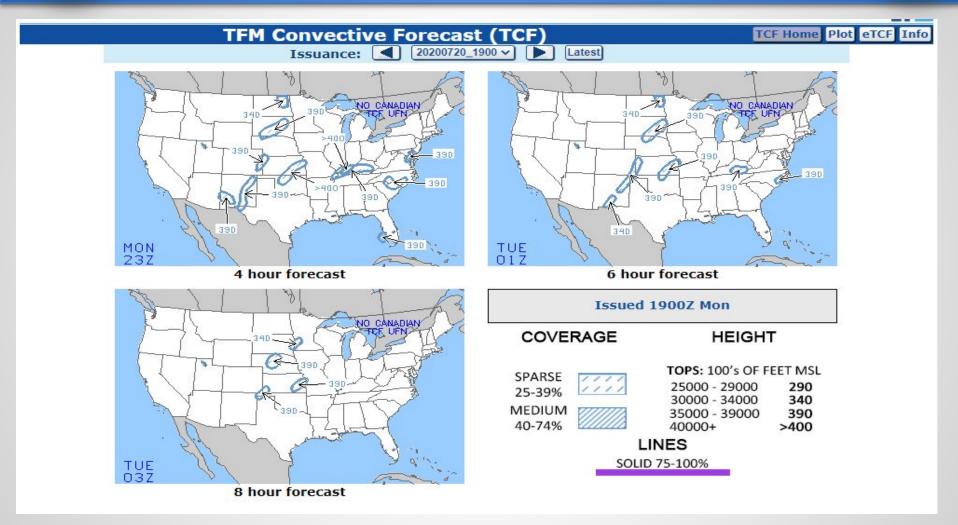
- •The TCF is a high confidence graphical representation of forecasted convection meeting specific criteria of coverage, intensity, and echo top height. The TCF graphics are produced every 2 hours and valid at 4-, 6-, and 8- hours after issuance time.
- •Areas of convection in the TCF include any area of convective cells containing (at a minimum):
 - -Composite radar reflectivity of at least 40 dBZ;
 - -Echo tops at or above FL250;
 - -Coverage (a & b) of at least 25% of the polygon area;
 - -Forecaster confidence of at least 50% (High) that criteria (a, b, & c) will be met.
- •Lines of convection in the TCF include any lines of convective cells:
 - -Composite radar reflectivity of at least 40 dBZ having a length of at least 100 nautical miles (NM); and
 - -Having a linear coverage of 75% or greater; and
 - -Having echo tops at or above FL250.
 - -Forecaster confidence of at least 50% (High) that criteria (a, b, & c) will be met.
 - -All four of the threshold criteria listed above for both areas and lines of convection are required for inclusion in the TCF. This is defined as the minimum TCF criteria.
- Available March 1 through October 31





TCF: Traffic Convective Forecast



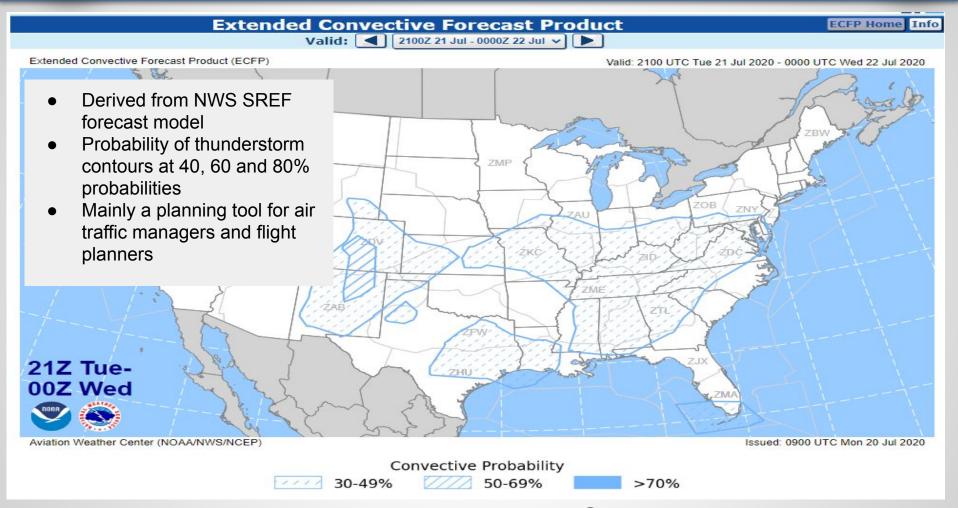






ECFP: Extended Convective Forecast Product



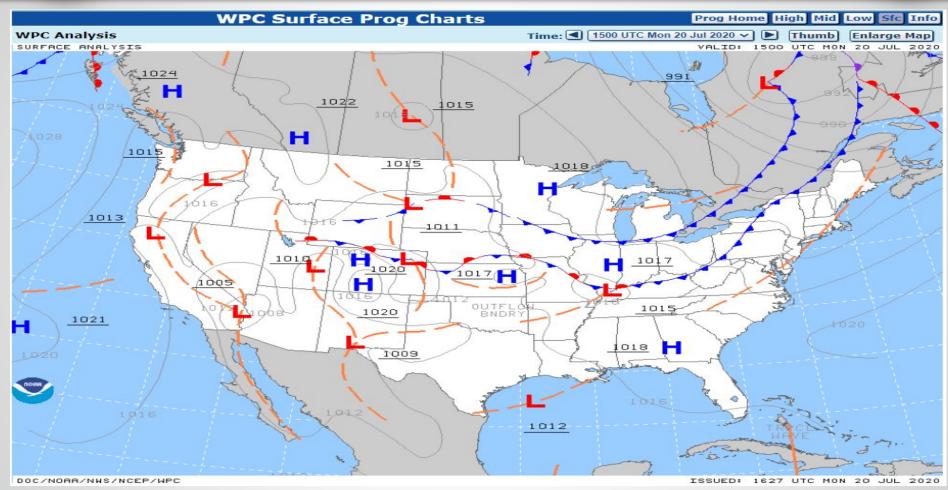






Surface Plot Analysis



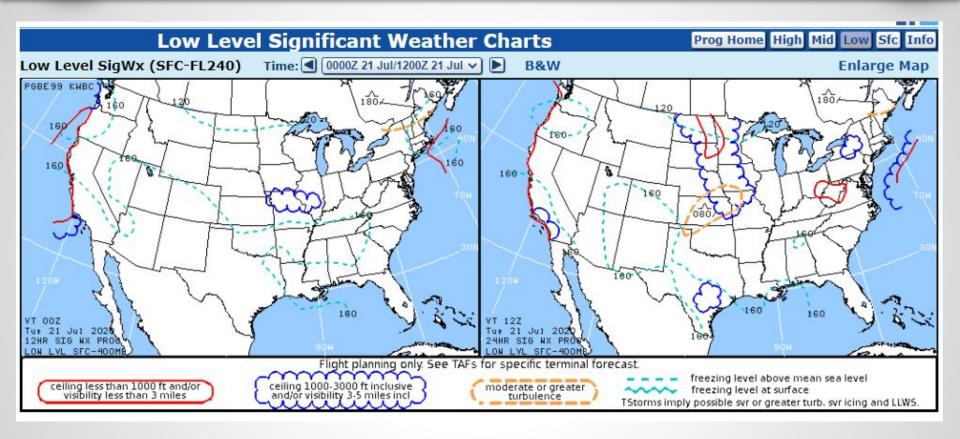






Low Level Significant Weather Charts



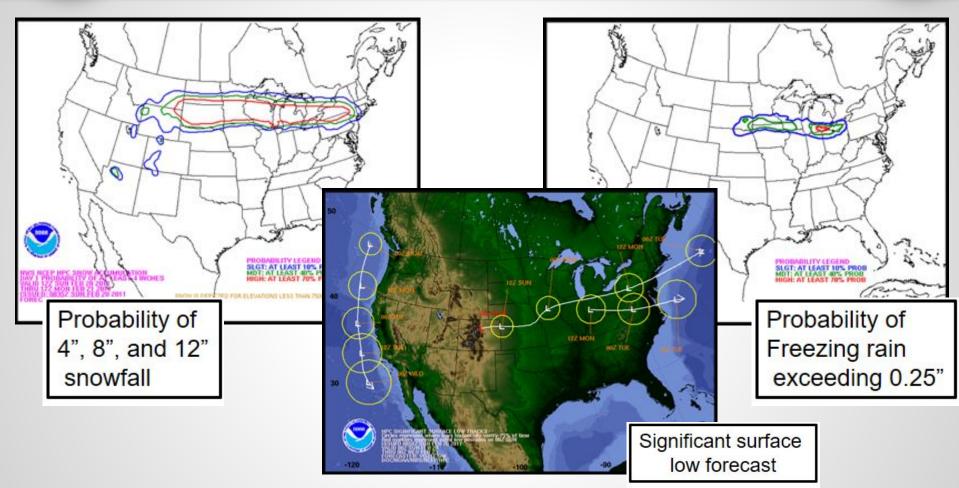






WPC Winter Forecasts





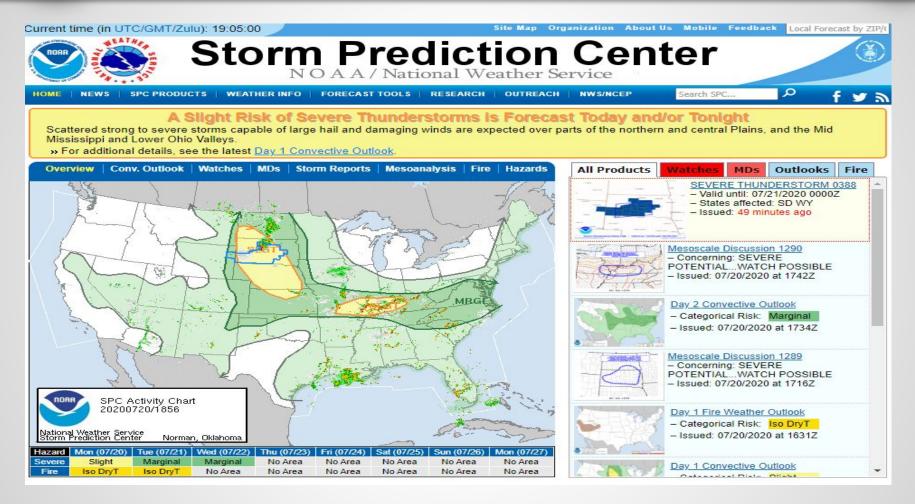
Weather Prediction Center





National Support





Storm Prediction Center





Thanks For spending the evening with us!



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