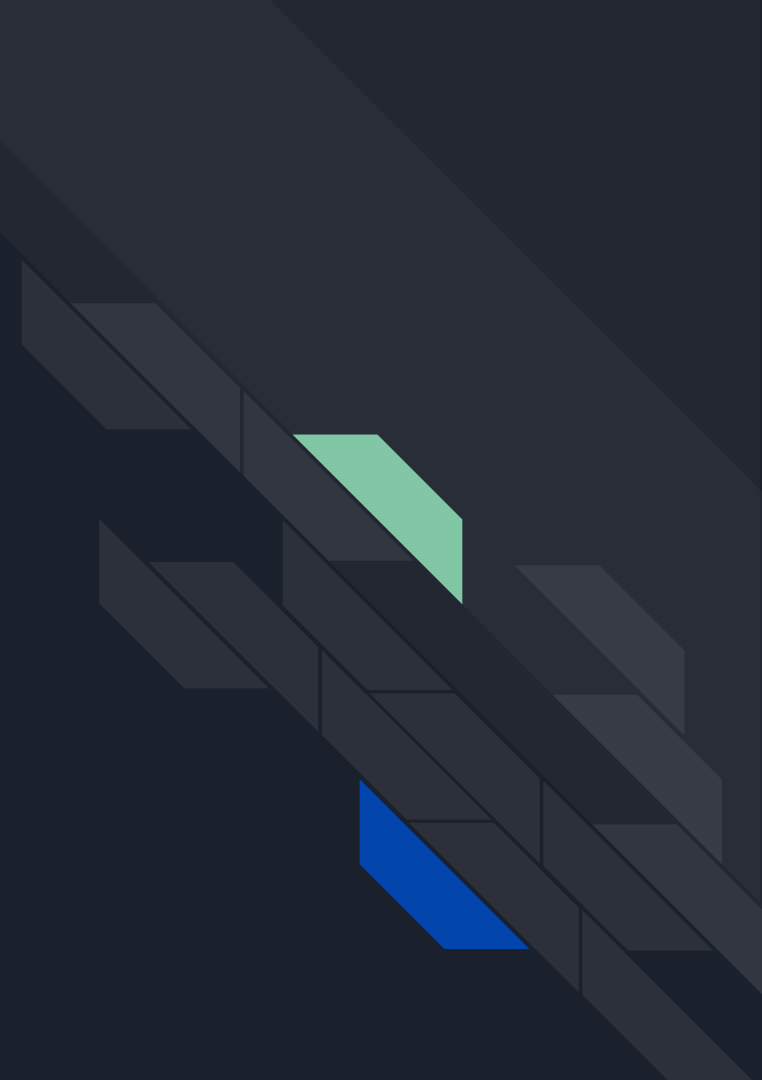


A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consisting of two overlapping parallelograms. The front one is blue and the back one is a light greenish-blue. They are set against a dark blue background with diagonal stripes.

Practical Application of Satellite for Pilots

By: Meteorologist Steve Hannah
NWS WFO Elko

Satellite Pros and Cons





Satellite Pros

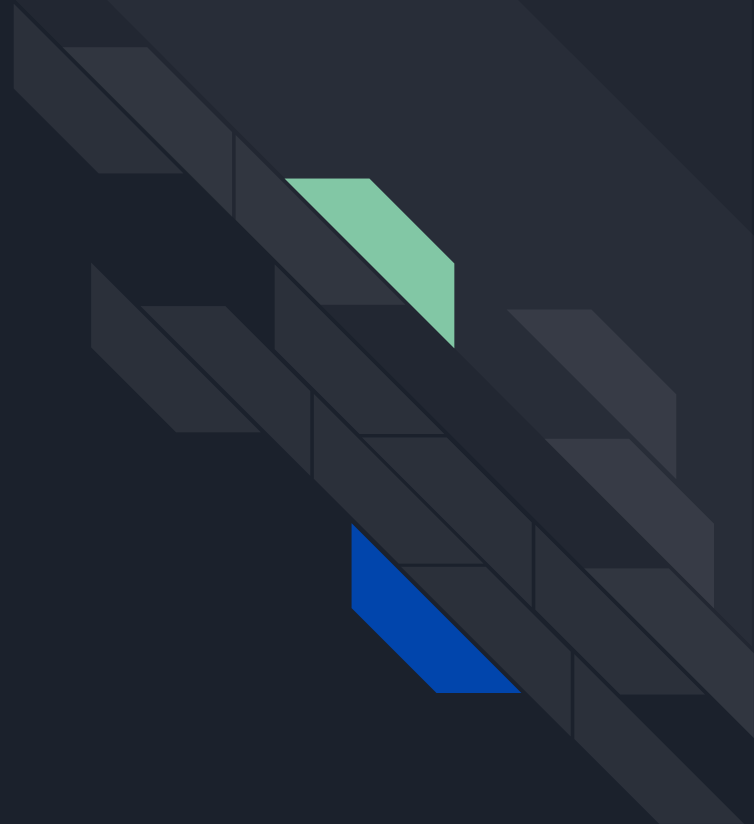
- ***Real Time:*** Satellite imagery shows what is going on in near real time with typical 5 minute refresh rate, with a few 1 min refresh rate windows.
- ***Color Imagery:*** Different color imagery can identify different weather conditions.
- ***Coverage:*** Weather satellite imagery covers nearly the entire globe.
- ***Detailed:*** Satellite can show weather features that other sources (such as radar) cannot.
- ***Free:*** Weather satellite imagery is free and can be accessed from any area with internet connection.



Satellite CONS

- ***Parallax:*** This is where a weather feature looks to be in one area on Satellite but is in fact in a slightly different area, this is caused by the viewing angle of the satellite. ONLY AFFECTS SOME WEBSITES, usually showing “raw” imagery. see [HERE](#) more details.
- ***Obscuration:*** Features of interest can be obscured by clouds and such above it. This is because the weather satellite as a top down view.
- ***High Data Usage:*** Satellite can use a lot of data and may take a while to load in low internet speed areas.
- ***Resolution:*** Satellite will have low resolution when zoomed in, about a 0.5km square pixel.
- ***Timing:*** Day/night makes a difference, you can't use visible imagery at night.

NWS Satellite Page



RAMMB/CIRA Slider (Also NOAA)



College of DuPage



TakeAway

Use Satellite to Have a Safe Flight

