



TFX AWIPS Upgrade

National Weather Service - Great Falls

Issued: 1:00 PM Friday, May 16, 2025

The National Weather Service in Great Falls will be conducting a required, scheduled update to their Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) system from 5 AM MDT Monday, May 19th through sometime Wednesday, May 21st. The NWS uses the AWIPS computer system to display and integrate weather and water information, and to send life-saving information, such as weather and water warnings, to the public.

During the time of the update, forecast operations will be conducted via normal service-backup procedures through our neighboring office in Missoula to minimize any potential interruption to services. No impacts to our core services of forecast products and weather watches, warnings and advisories are expected during this period. However, impacts will occur to the following services:

- NOAA Weather Transmitters: All NOAA Weather Radio transmitters maintained by NWS Great Falls will be off air through the time of the install. This includes the following transmitters in southwest and central Montana: Bozeman, Lewistown, Browning, Dillon, Belgian Hill (Conrad), Great Falls, Helena, and Havre.
- Some routine climate text products such as the Daily Climate Report (CLI), Preliminary Monthly Climate Data (CF6), and Regional Temperature and Precipitation (RTP) will not be updated.
- Recorded forecast information on our public phone line will be unavailable.
- Locally-generated graphical forecast maps that are hosted in numerous places on weather.gov/tfx will not be updated.

It is highly suggested to have another way of receiving weather alerts if you usually rely on NOAA Weather Radio, such as Wireless Emergency Alerts on a cell phone. The forecast office in Great Falls will remain open and staffed throughout this period for public and partner phone calls and additional functions that can be completed without AWIPS.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact us at nws.greatfalls@noaa.gov or via our public phone line at (406) 453-2081.