



## Weather-Ready Nation

#### David J. Nicosia

Warning Coordination Meteorologist NOAA-National Weather Service Binghamton, NY



### **Extreme Weather**

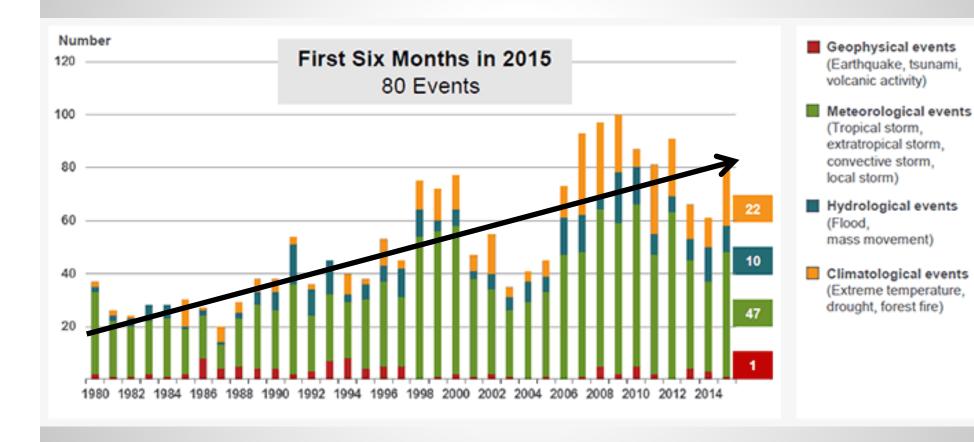






## U.S. Natural Disaster Trends Increased Vulnerability to Extreme Events





#### PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATIONS December 24, 1964 to December 31, 2014 -FEMA PECIONI V **FEMA REGION I** SEVERE **TOTAL = 241** FARTHOLIAKE . **TOTAL = 158 FEMA REGION II** ERE ICE STORM (1) EARTHQUAKE (1) TORNADO (1) FIRE (1), DROUGHT (2) **FEMA REGION II** COASTAL STORM (1) SNOW (12) -EARTHQUAKE (1) OTHER (1)\*\* SEVERE TORNADO (1 STORM FIRE (1 (52)DROUGHT (2). **TOTAL = 138** SEVERE ICE STORM (3): **FEMA REGION IX FEMA REGION III** SNOW (12) -FLOOD (59) RNADO (2) HURRICANE (4 HURRICANE FARTHQUAKE\* FLOOD (27)(37)TOTAL = 183 **TOTAL = 138** SEVERE STORM (33) ENTIAL DECLARATIONS DROUGHT (7) FISHING LOSSES (5) COASTAL STORM (15) TSUNAMI (3) County Designation OTHER (16) **DISASTERS BY TYPE** FREEZING (18) Frequency COASTAL OTHER (2)\*\* SNOW (2 **EARTHQUAKE (26)** STORM (2) None/Unclassified ERFEZING (2 SEVERE STORM (817) SEVERE STORM SNOW (5) 1 - 5 FREEZING (7 SEVERE ICE STORM (47) SEVERE ICE STORM (11) SEVERE ICE STORM (13) 6-9 TYPHOON (49) TORNADO (32) 10 - 13 SNOW (58) 14 - 18 19 - 29 **TORNADO (127)** FLOOD (611) **TOTAL = 283** HURRICANE (65) **FEMA REGION IV FEMA REGION VI** MAPPED TOTAL = 2,019\* **TOTAL = 355**

**HURRICANE (174)** 



## Increasing Vulnerability



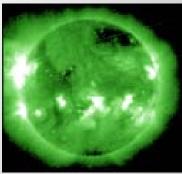
Becoming a <u>Weather-Ready Nation</u> is about building community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather.











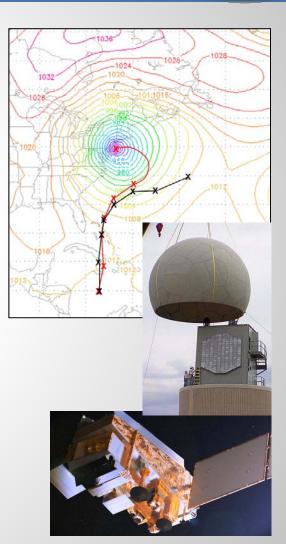


### Your National Weather Service



To achieve far-reaching national preparedness for climate, water, and weather events, NWS is:

- Developing new decision support services (DSS).
- Improving technology to track and forecast storms
- Expanding dissemination efforts





#### Building a Weather-Ready Nation:

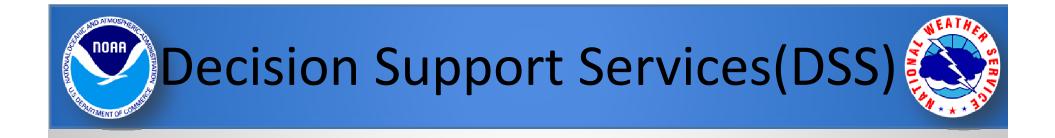


- Integrate social and physical sciences
- Delivery of warnings focus on the "last mile"
- Assess and update warning dissemination strategy
- Improve outreach and education









The NWS is focused on providing Impact-based Decision Support Services(IDSS) to core partners



Outcome: Communities are better prepared and more resilient





### Keys to Successful Decision Support



- Having a full understanding of societal impacts
- Making information relevant to decision makers
- Working with community leaders, other agencies, and America's Weather Enterprise as force multipliers

#### **Strategic Outcome:**

A Weather-Ready Nation

- Ready
- Responsive
- Resilient





### It's All About Partnerships









## National Weather Service Decision Support to New York State

#### **Scott Whittier**

Warning Coordination Meteorologist NOAA-National Weather Service Burlington, VT





### **Decision Support Services**



The NWS is focused on providing Impact-based **Decision Support Services** to core partners



**Outcome:** Communities are better prepared and more resilient

How does the NWS accomplish this?





## **Decision Support Services**



Listening, engaging with our partners

Adopting/Integrating ICS

- Various ways of providing DSS services
  - Event driven support
  - Planning/training support



## **NWS Decision Support Services Event Driven Support**



- "Heads up" Situational Awareness e-mails
  - Leading up to an event
  - Planning purposes
  - Issuance criteria varies across the state due to partner/customer needs
  - Provides more detail than standard forecasts





## Heads Up/Situational Awareness e-mails All Offices

Hello Emergency Managers and Partners,

A winter storm system will continue to produce freezing rain this morning, with heavy rain this afternoon. Gusty winds will continue across mainly the higher terrain today. Below is a summary of the winter weather headlines for the following areas:

Winter Storm Warning: western Adirondacks until 4 pm today.

Winter Weather Advisory: eastern Catskills, greater Capital Region, Taconics, Mid Hudson Valley, Berkshires, and Litchfield County in northwest Connecticut, until 10 am today

Winter Weather Advisory: Mohawk Valley, Lake George/Saratoga region, southeast Adirondacks, and southern Vermont, until 1 pm today

Precipitation is expected to change to rain for most of the area this morning into the early afternoon.

Poor drainage flooding and ponding of water on roadways will be possible due to heavy precipitation amounts combined with excess runoff over frozen ground, mainly this afternoon.

Please see the attached updated briefing slides for further details, including timing, precipitation types, amounts, and impacts for the ongoing winter storm.

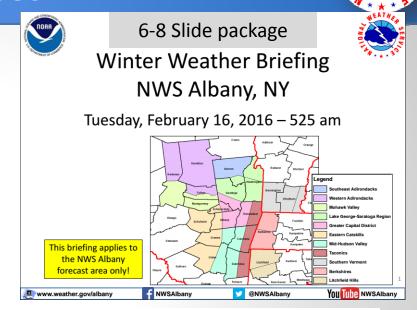
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via:

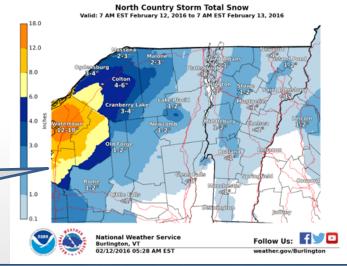
- 1. Email: alb.stormreport@noaa.gov
- NWSChat at https://nwschat.weather.gov/live/
- 3. Social Media: Facebook and Twitter
- 4. Telephone: (518) 435-9575

Sincerely.

NWS Albany Staff

Attachment(s)









# NWS Decision Support Services Event Driven Support



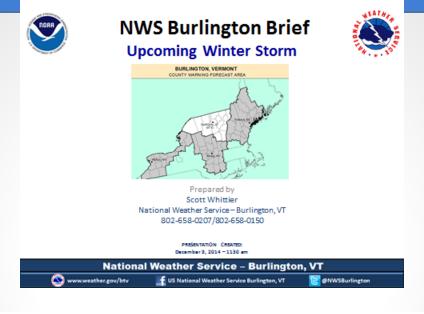
- Event-driven Conference Calls/Briefings
  - Conference Calls
    - Guests -"Subject matter expert"
    - Hosts NWS initiated calls
  - Bigger, Greater Impact events



### Special Event Conference Call Brief All Offices



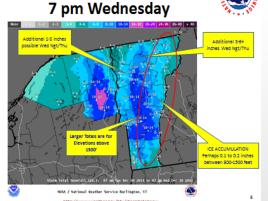
Higher End Events
Greater / Major Impacts



Snowfall Forecast thru

More Specifics
More Impact Oriented







#### **Potential Impacts**



- Hazardous Travel
  - Tuesday afternoon evening commute through early (pre-dawn) Wednesday morning
  - Snowfall rates 1-2 inches per hour at times
  - Wednesday morning commute
  - No direct weather issues, perhaps spotty Freezing drizzle
  - Wednesday Evening (Phase #2)
    - Accumulating Snow Falling...esp N NY, Northern Half VT
- Power Outages
  - Greatest Threat in VT / Champlain Valley NY
    - . Snow/Water Ratios 10:1 or less rather than 15:1
    - · Mixed Snow/Rain/Sleet will add weight
    - . Gusty winds to 20-30 mph inspots

weather.gov/btv | @NWSBurlington www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Burlington.gov





# **NWS Decision Support Services**Situational Awareness/Planning Role



### Weekly Briefs and/or Conference Calls (BUF, BTV)

- Increase "Big Picture" Situational Awareness
- Keep partnerships, line of communications open
- "Reaching out"...trust is being built before NEXT event





## Weekly Briefing - WED Burlington, Buffalo





#### NWS Burlington Weekly Brief

Valid: Feb 3 - 10, 2016



National Weather Service – Burlington, VT 802-658-0207/802-658-0150

> PRESENTATION CREATED: 2/16/2016 10:31 AM

National Weather Service - Burlington, VT

Weekly Weather Briefing National Weather Service – Buffalo NY

Week of February 10 - 16

Applies to NWS Buffalo Area of Responsibility Only

Please note

The information contained in this briefing is time sensitive



National Weather Service - Buffalo NY - www.weather.gov/buf http://www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Buffalo.gov on FACEBOOK @NWSBuffalo on TWITTER



- Situational Awareness / Planning
  - Weekly Duty Officers brief
- Focus: Potential High Impact events
- Short/Brief (8-10 slides)
- 10-15 minute phone call
  - Keeping lines of communication open
- Situational Awareness / Planning
- Detailed weekly forecast and synopsis
- Climate section
- 10-15+ slides
- No phone call





## **NWS Decision Support Services**



#### "Heads up" Situational Awareness e-mails

- Leading up to an event
- Planning purposes
- Issuance criteria varies across the state due to partner/customer needs
- Provides more detail than standard forecasts

#### Event-driven Conference Calls/Briefings

- Conference Calls (Guests-"Subject matter expert" or Hosts)
- Bigger, Greater Impact events

#### Weekly Briefs and/or Conference Calls (BUF, BTV,BGM?)

- Increase "Big Picture" Situational Awareness
- Keep partnerships, line of communications open
- "Reaching out"...trust is being built before NEXT event
- Daily Conference Calls to NYC FAA and NYC EM (NYC)

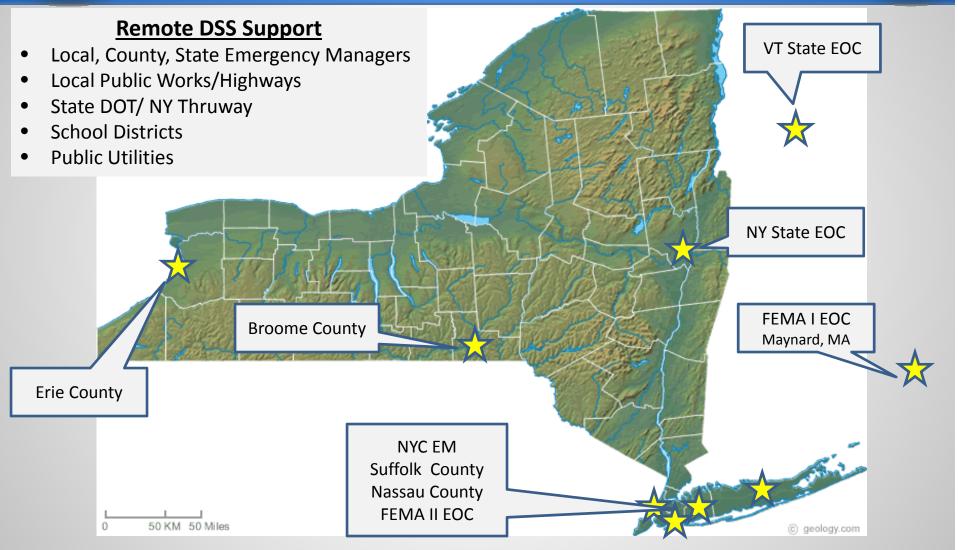




## **NWS Decision Support Services**



Weather Emergency Deployments (On-site)





## **NWS Decision Support Services**



- Large Scale Public Gatherings with Government (Local, County, State, Federal) Command Centers
  - County, State Fairs
  - Watkins Glen NASCAR with Schuyler County EM
  - Multiple events in NYC area (Superbowl XLVIII, Papal Visit, etc.)
  - Ask your local office for more details
- **Routine/Non-routine on-site DSS** 
  - Gives NWS personnel opportunity to train for future big events
  - Allows decision makers to "pick the brain" of NWS
  - Allows NWS personnel "insight in decision making process and to interject if feel message is "unclear"





# NWS Decision Support Services Planning/Logistics Role



- Table-top and Full Scale Exercises
  - VT Full Scale Exercise (Inland Flooding-Tropical Storm) September 2010
    - Worked with NHC, NERFC, FEMA I, VT Nat'l Guard, VT DEMHS
  - VT Nat Guard ICE-X Joint Staff Exercise(2012)/VT Vigilant Guard(2016)
  - NY Hydro Dam EAP/TTX
  - NY State Department of Health Weather Exercises
  - NY Various County Exercises
- Post Storm Summaries to Support PDA requests
- Participate in After Action Reports
  - Irene (2011), Lee (2011), Sandy (2012), Buffalo LES (2014), Blizzard (2016)







# Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS) Technology

#### **Steve DiRienzo**

Warning Coordination Meteorologist NOAA-National Weather Service Albany, NY





#### Overview



- Some of the tools the National Weather Service brings to the party:
- 1) NWS Chat
- 2) NYS Responds (DLAN)
- 3) NWS Damage Assessment Toolkit (DAT)
- 4) HYSPLIT
- 5) NWS Mobile Workstation (Thin Client)



## 1) NWS Chat

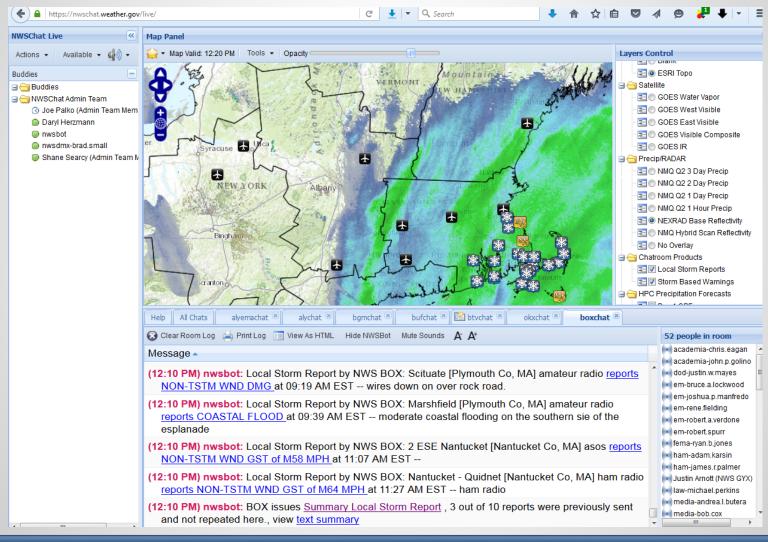


- NWSChat: Instant Messaging program for sharing critical weather information.
- Weather information is exchanged in real-time with the media and emergency response community.
- NWS partners can use NWSChat as a way to seek clarification of the NWS communication stream.
- Emergency manager only chat rooms available.



#### **NWS Chat**



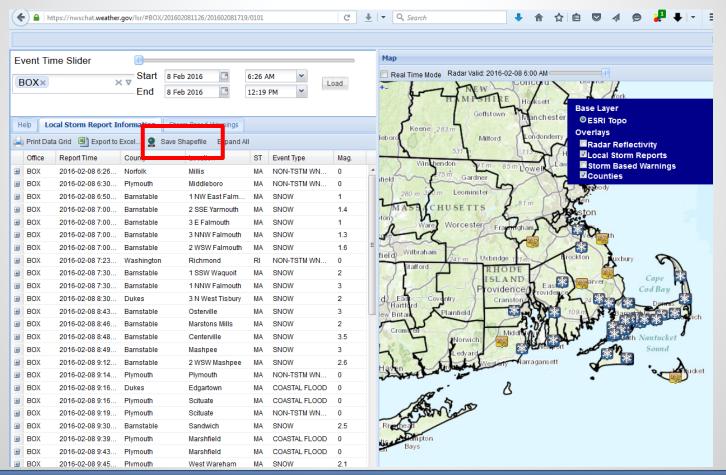




#### **NWS Chat**



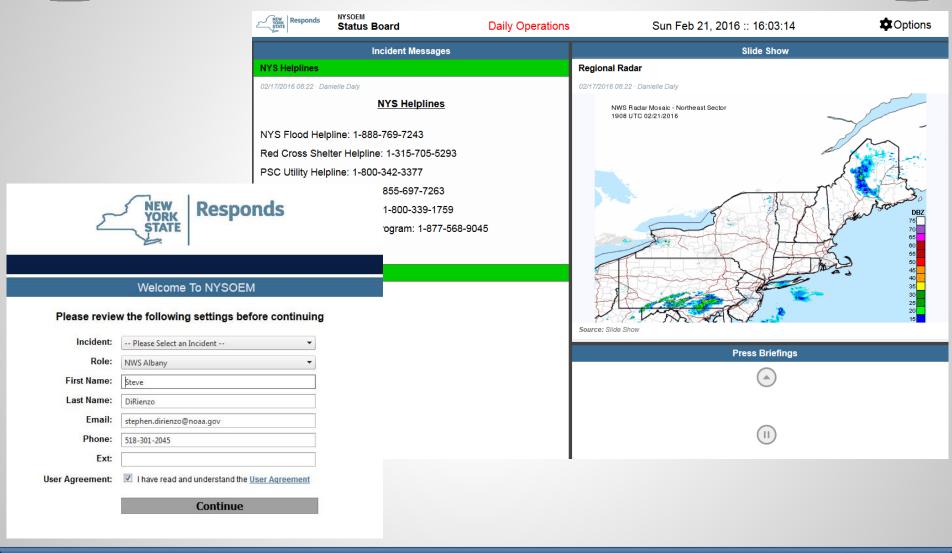
## **Export Shape Files of Snowfall Reports**





## 2) NYS Responds (DLAN)







### NYS Responds (DLAN)



- The National Weather Service (NWS) offices in New York have accounts.
- If we can't come to an EOC, we can upload briefings, or other weather information via NYS Responds.



## 3) HYSPLIT Plume Dispersion Modeling (HAZMAT/Fire)

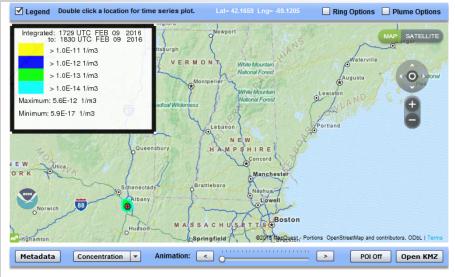


- The accidental or intentional release of chemical, biological or nuclear agents can have significant health, safety, national security, economic, and ecological implications.
- HYSPLIT is used to track and forecast the release of radioactive material, volcanic ash, wildfire smoke, and pollutants from various emission sources.
- NWS HYSPLIT graphics can be generated in as little as 15 minutes.



# HYSPLIT Plume Dispersion Modeling (HAZMAT/Fire)



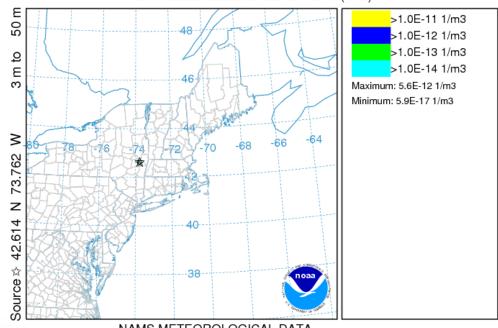


	MORE RESULTS	Click on text link or dropdown menu to view images in a new window.						
L		GIF Plo	ts	Animate	d GIF Plots	PDF Plots	Google Earth	Flash Maps
(	Concentration Grid 1		•	.gif	Java	.pdf	.kmz	.kmz
F	Particle Positions		•	.gif	Java	.pdf	.kmz	-
1	Time of Arrival	ne of Arrival .gif		-	-	.pdf	.kmz	.kmz

- Create customer link to these products.
- Zipped file of all graphics and diagnostics (for redistribution)

#### NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL

Dilution Factor (1/m3) averaged between 0 m and 100 m Integrated from 1729 09 Feb to 1830 09 Feb 16 (UTC) Unit Release started at 1729 09 Feb 16 (UTC)



#### NAMS METEOROLOGICAL DATA

Job ID: 24591 Job Start: Tue Feb 9 17:30:27 UTC 2016
Release: lat.: 42.613900 Ion.: -73.762500 Hgt: 3 to 50 m
Pollutant: - Unspecified
Release Quantity: 1 mass Start: 16 02 09 17 29 Duration: 4 hrs, 0 min
Pollutant Averaging/Integration Period: 1 hrs and 0 min
Dry Deposition rate: 0 cm/s Wet Removal: None #Part: -10000
Meteorology: 1200Z 9 Feb 2016 - NAMHUS
Produced by user: stephen.dirienzo





## 4) NWS Damage Assessment Toolkit (DAT)

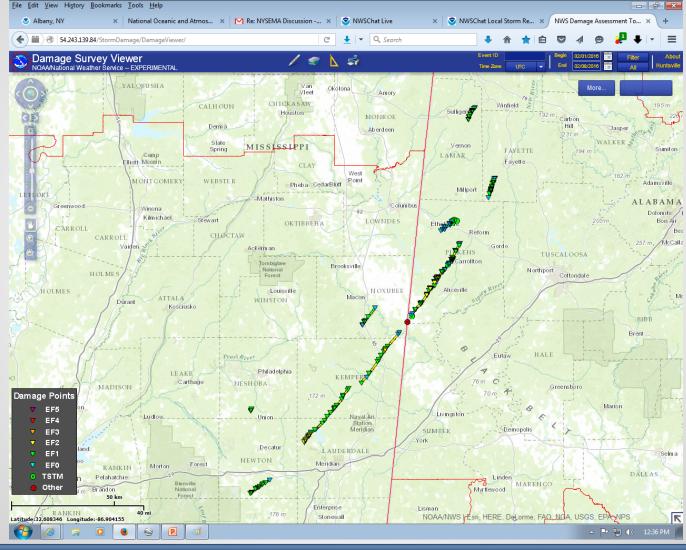


- The National Weather Service is tasked with conducting post storm damage assessments following significant severe weather or flooding events.
- The Toolkit is a GIS-based framework for collecting, storing, and retrieving damage survey data.
- Data from individual locations are collected using software run on laptops or other mobile devices and transmitted to a central geospatial database.



## NWS Damage Assessment Toolkit







## 5) NWS Mobile Workstation

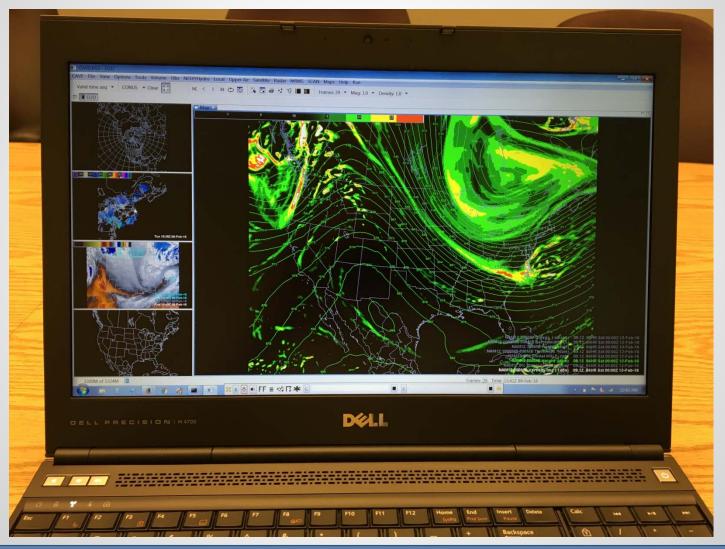


- Designed for National Weather Service remote access of the latest observed weather data and forecast model data.
- Used by Incident Meteorologists (IMETs) in the field during hazardous incidents such as wild land fires (Sullivan County -May 2015) to provide critical decision making support to emergency management officials.
- Works with LAN, WIFI or Cell connection.



## **NWS Mobile Workstation**









### Summary



 The NWS has a variety of tools to provide information to the emergency management community.

#### Goals:

- Enhance environmental intelligence/situational awareness.
- Aid in informed decision making when weather is a factor.





# National Weather Service and NOAA Websites

### **Judith Levan**

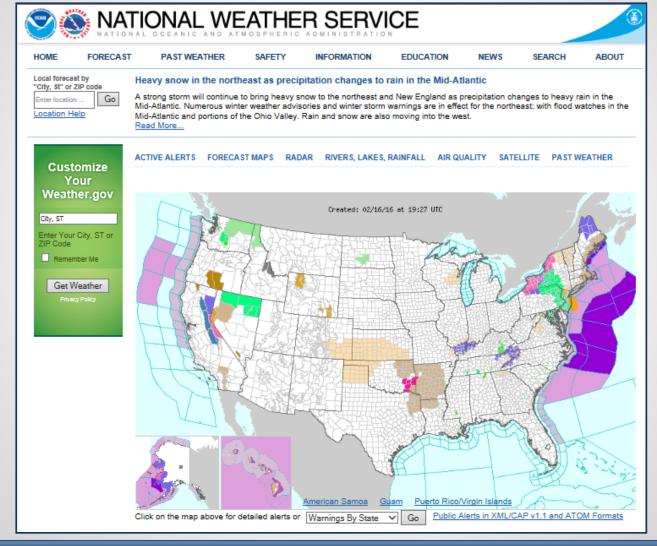
Warning Coordination Meteorologist NOAA-National Weather Service Buffalo, NY





### www.weather.gov







### Office Websites















### Some standardization



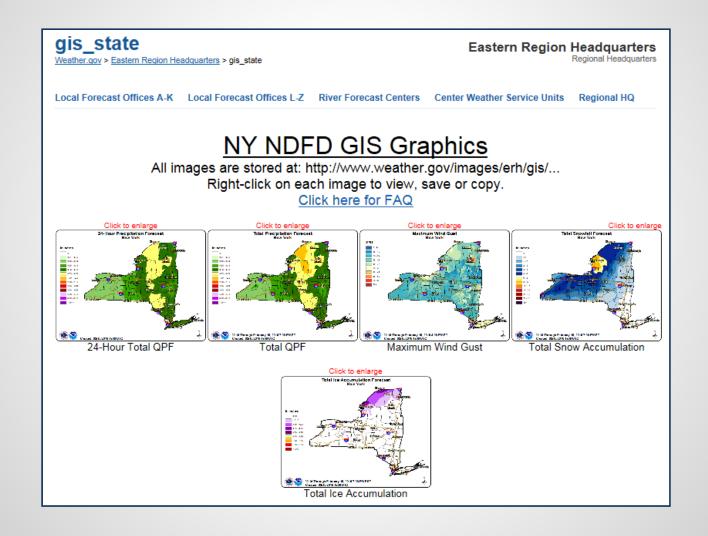






# www.weather.gov/erh/gis







## **Activity Planner**



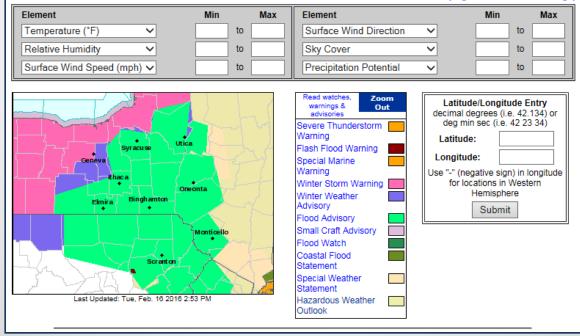
#### Weather Activity Planner

Welcome to the **Weather Activity Planner**. Please enter the range of weather parameters required for your activity. Then, either click the approximate location on the map below, or enter the specific latitude and longitude and hit submit. This will query the forecast grids to find when your weather requirements will be met at the nearest grid point over the next 7 days. Public **comments and suggestions** are encouraged.

This application generates products from a digital forecast data base. It is intended to allow a user to define and produce a forecast for general planning purposes only. As any weather or hydrologic event evolves, updated forecasts and warnings are issued by the NWS. Customers are urged to obtain the latest official forecast information prior to engaging in any weather sensitive activity, and to monitor forecasts for updates during such activities.

The **Weather Activity Planner** is NOT meant to replace a spot forecast request. **Weather Activity Planner** surface winds are a gridded representation of projected, local surface winds at a 5km or 2.5km resolution. The surface winds returned do NOT account for fuel type, sheltering or slope aspect. Users can select either surface wind speeds or 20 foot winds (if the 20 foot wind grid is available). If precise wind forecasts are needed, please submit a spot forecast request to your servicing Weather Forecast Office.

#### [English Units - Click to Change]

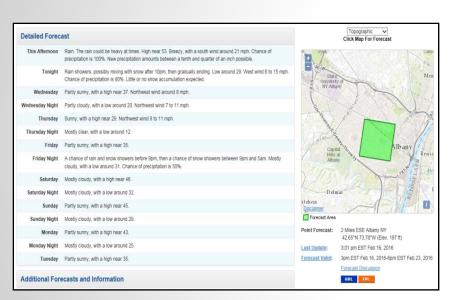


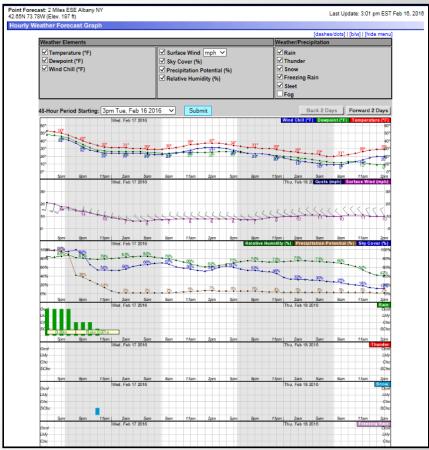




# "Point and Click" Hourly Weather Graph



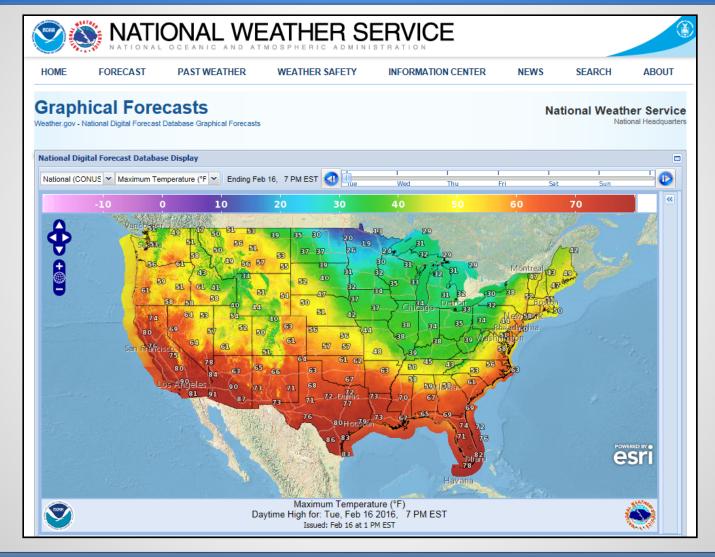






# digital.weather.gov

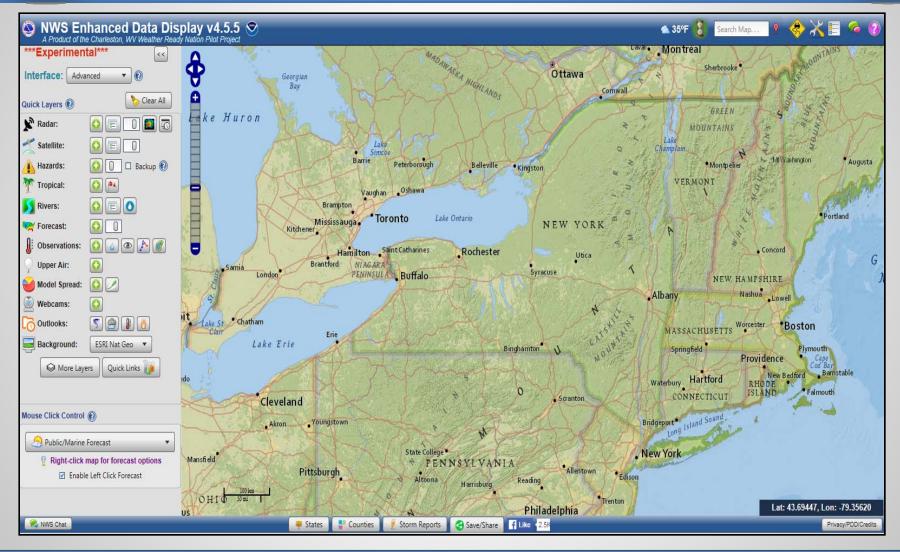






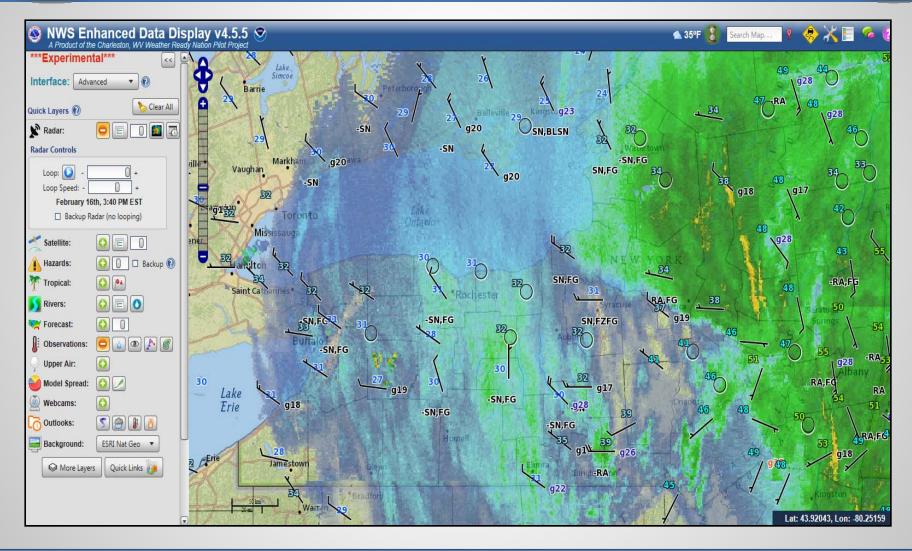
# preview.weather.gov/edd







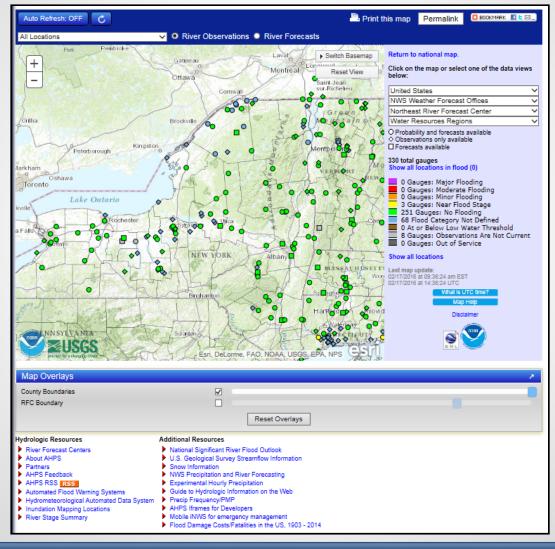






## water.weather.gov







### www.nws.noaa.gov/gis



#### National Weather Service GIS Data Portal

Many of the National Weather Service data sets are available in formats that are able to be imported directly into Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Data formats include downloadable shapefiles, web services, KML files and geo referenced images.

As more data is made available in these formats, links to the data will be added to these pages. Click one of the GIS format links below in to start exploring the NWS GIS data currently available! Questions?

#### Web Services

This page contains links to data that are distributed via web server technology in the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). In addition, some of the NWS data is available as geo-referenced image files such as geo-gifs.

#### **KML**

Keyhole Markup Language (KML) is used by a variety of GIS and mapping applications and the specifications are freely available to the public and available to the user community without charge or restriction. KML is an XML-based language for managing the display of three-dimensional geospatial data in the programs Google Earth, Google Maps, Google Mobile, ArcGIS Explorer, WorldWind and other GIS viewers. The word Keyhole is an earlier name for the software that became Google Earth; the software was produced in turn by Keyhole, Inc., which was acquired by Google in 2004. (more about KML)

#### **Shapefile**

Shapefiles are a geospatial vector data format for geographic information systems software. Shapefiles spatially describe points, lines and polygons. A "Shapefile" commonly refers to a collection of files with ".shp", ".shx", ".dbf", and other extensions on a common prefix name (i.e., "lakes.shp"). SHP files can be viewed in GIS viewers as well as more sophisticated GIS applications. (more about Shapefiles)

National Weather Service Base maps are available in Shapefiles. The AWIPS map database catalog contains background map data in Shapefile format that are used by the National Weather Service (NWS) for use by the user community. These data consist of a variety of official NWS forecast zones and county designations used by be NWS. In addition other data that might be of interest and that are used by the (NWS) Advanced Weather Information Processing System (AWIPS) are available through the catalog.

#### **NWS Alerts as CAP**

NWS provides access to watches, warnings, advisories, and other similar products in the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) and Atom Syndication Format (ATOM)...







The following links will either	provide kml/kmz files, will link	you to a page with those to	one of files, or displa	we into in a GIS viewer

Current Weather	Forecasts	Past Weather
Watches & Warnings	Your Local Weather Forecast	Doppler Radar
Current Weather Warnings		NWS Radar archive data
Severe Weather Watches and warnings	MOS Guidance	
includes SPC outlooks)	GFS Meteograms	Normals, Means, Extremes
lash Flooding - basins and otteams	GFS Meleograms	NCDC Climate Atlas of the United States
	GOES Sounding Skew-T	NCDC GIS Portal
Doppler Radar Real Time Radar	GOED COUNTING DICKY 1	
CONUS radar fron NSSL	River Gage Forecasts	Severe Weather
Radar Locations		Storm Reports: Tornado, Wind and Hail
tadar Educations	Tropical Cyclone forecast models	1950-2006 Database: Tornado, Large Hail.
Surface Observations		Damaging Wind Reports Tornadoes: 1950-2008 track and icons
Metar Obs	WPC Products:	Tornadoes: 1950-2008 track and icons
AWS Obs	Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts (QPFs)	
PRSWXNET Obs	5-Day Significan River Flood Outlook Winter Weather Forecasts	Rain/Snowfall
MesoWest Obs	Alaska Analyses and Forecasts	CoCoRaHS Observations NOHRSC Snow Data
Other Surface Obs	CONUS Sruface Analyses	NUMRSC Show Data
rom NSSL	CONVO SILIALE AIIAIVSES	
10-minute Surface Observations	SPC Convective Outlooks:	Hurricanes
Hourly Observations	Day 1 Convective Outlook	Past Atlantic Storm Tracks
	Day 2 Convective Outlook	Past East/Central Pacific Storm Tracks
Satellite	Day 3 Convective Outlook	
Satellites	Day 4 to 8 Convective Outlook	
	SPC Fire Weather Outlooks:	
Remote Gages	Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook	
River Gages: Observed	Day 2 Fire Weather Outlook	
6now Gages: w/ labels   w/o labels	Day 3 Fire Weather Outlook	
	Day 4 Fire Weather Outlook	
Great Lakes	Day 5 Fire Weather Outlook	
Vave Height	Day 6 Fire Weather Outlook	
22	Day 7 Fire Weather Outlook	
Vater Temperature	Day 8 Fire Weather Outlook	
	CPC Outlooks:	
Surface Fronts	CPC Day 3-7 Precipitation Outlook	
ast and Present Synoptic Features	CPC Day 3-7 Temperature Outlook	
	CPC Day 3-7 Soils Outlook	
	CPC Day 8-14 Precipitation Outlook	
	CPC Day 8-14 Temperature Outlook	
	CPC Day 8-14 Soils Outlook	
	Fire Weather	Additional Info
	Current Spot Forecast Sites	Coastal Estuarine Bathymetry
	Fire Weather Categorized Observations	nowCOAST web mapping portal
	MODIS fires	Upper Air thanks reports
		Opper Air trialiks reports

	National Weather Service Data in Shapefile Format				
ı	Shapefiles are an open published de-facto industry and government standard GIS format viewable by many, commercial and Open Source GIS Desktop and sever applications. See a list of free Shapefile viewers below. Questions?				
ı	The following links will either provide shapefiles, will link you to a page with these type of files, or displays info in a GIS viewer.				
C	Current Weather	Forecasts	Past Weather		
Watches & Warnings  • Current Weather Warnings  • Weather Hazards Assessments  River And Flooding Data  • Observed and Forecast AHPS River Gauges  Other Current Data  Alaska Ice and Sea Surface Temperature		Flood/Flash Flood Flash Flood Guidance Significant River Flood Outlook Gridded Flash Flood  Precipitation Forecasts Frequency Estimates  Extended U.S Temperature and Precipitation Seasonal Outlooks  Hurricanes Forecast Tracks, Storm Surges and more  Outlooks SPC Outlooks	1950-2006 Database of Tornado, Large Hall, and Damaging Wind Reports      Rain/Snowfall     + Hourly Precipitation Analysis      Hurricanes     + Historic Hurricane Tracks		
		Fire Weather	Additional Info		
		MODIS Fires     Western Region Digital Forecasts	Heat Index     Global Sea Surface Temperature     Drought Monitoring     Soil Moisture     Evaporation     Precipitation     Runoff     Temperature		







# Regional and National NWS Efforts to Support Local Offices in High Profile and High Impact Events

#### John Koch

Meteorological Service Division, Deputy Chief NOAA-National Weather Service Eastern Region Headquarters – Bohemia, NY







#### NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EASTERN REGION



### **Highlights**

- 16 states
- Population of approximately 100 million
- 16 of the top
   50 media
   markets





- Examples of high profile and high impact events
  - Hurricane Sandy
  - Record breaking Blizzards
  - Democratic and Republican National Conventions
  - Presidential Inaugurations
  - Papal visit
  - Holiday celebrations in major cities
  - Super Bowl XLVIII





- Administrative/Operational
  - Pre-position support staff to supplement local offices
  - Planning and coordination calls with National centers
  - Activate Eastern Region Regional Operations Center
  - Provide on-site support
  - Provide briefings to FEMA Regions I, II and III





- Training (national)
  - Professional Development Series
    - ICS coursework
    - communication
  - Decision Support Services (DSS) Bootcamp (KC)
  - Effective Hurricane Messaging Course (NHC)





Training (regional)

- DSS Roadshow (new in 2016)
  - Communication
  - Media training
  - On-site and remote support
  - Tailored to local office needs



### **NWS Contact Information**



