

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

November 2023

Share Your Feedback on the Experimental National Water Prediction Service Website

By: NWS Staff

From November 15 through December 15, the NWS will be soliciting feedback on the proposed replacement of the <u>Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) website</u> with the <u>experimental National Water Prediction Service</u> (<u>NWPS</u>) website. The NWPS website features the next generation of water forecast services, data, and water related information and combines data from AHPS and the Office of Water Prediction (OWP) website. During this time, feedback can be provided via this <u>link</u>. The NWS will evaluate all feedback and determine the need for changes prior to the final deployment of NWPS, scheduled for March 2024.

Currently, river observations and forecast information are hosted on AHPS, providing near real-time river data and forecast information, probabilistic information, static Flood Inundation Maps (FIMs), and Quantitative Precipitation Estimates (QPE). Separately, <u>National Water Model (NWM) guidance</u> is hosted on an <u>Office of Water Prediction</u> (<u>OWP) website</u>, providing an interactive map and an Image Viewer for NWM output, as well as general information about OWP, the NWM, and FIM.

The AHPS and OWP web features are being combined and enhanced in a unified NWPS website, greatly improving the delivery of water resources information and including new tools to inform partners and the American public to make critical water decisions!

Highlights of the NWPS features include:

- Combined one-stop features of AHPS and OWP webpages
- Dynamic maps with more flexible query and viewing options for real-time river observations and forecasts, precipitation estimates, and improved meteorological and hydrological data support
- Gauge location pages with hydrographs generated upon request, probabilistic graphics, and flood inundation maps (where available)
- National Water Model hydrographs at the scale of individual river reaches, providing complementary guidance for all rivers and streams nationally



NWPS combines and expands features from the AHPS and OWP websites into one webpage.

- <u>Application Program Interface (API)</u> data services to allow users to include NWPS information directly into their own applications and services
- Mobile-compatible interface

You can learn more about the journey of modernizing Hydrologic Web Information Dissemination through this <u>Web</u> <u>StoryMap</u> and <u>Fact Sheet</u>.

Comments Needed for Experimental NWS Translation Website

By: Monica Parker, Aware Editor

As part of the ongoing Weather-Ready Nation goal to ensure weather preparedness for all communities, the NWS is inviting comments and feedback on its experimental translation website. This website translates NWS text products and information to multiple languages using a language model trained by Artificial Intelligence (AI). The translation website currently offers English, Spanish, and Simplified Chinese language options and is seeking comments in these languages. Samoan, Vietnamese, and other languages will be added in the future.

Because most NWS products are available only in English, accessibility options for communities with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) are crucial for reliably communicating hazards and weather information. The quick and automated translations enabled by an Al-trained model will help ensure that the NWS can more effectively provide actional weather information to multilingual communities.

To participate in the <u>English</u>, <u>Spanish</u>, or <u>Chinese</u> surveys, or to read more detailed information on the NWS translation website, please visit the original <u>Public Information Statement</u>.

Updated Solar Cycle Prediction Product Webpage Available for Feedback

By: Monica Parker, Aware Editor

The NWS is seeking comments on an experimental webpage on the Space Weather Prediction Testbed (WSPT) that features an updated prediction for Solar Cycle 25. Using the latest observations of the international sunspot number and the 10.7 cm radio flux, the webpage provides a more accurate prediction for the progression of solar activity through the year 2032, as well as a number of products that will be updated on a monthly basis (around the 2nd day of the month) to reflect new observations. The updated prediction enhances two existing public webpages that currently include the Solar Cycle 25 prediction.



For more information on the experimental webpage, please visit the original Public Information Statement.

Seeking Feedback on Experimental Snow Ratio Grids in NDFD

By: Monica Parker, Aware Editor

With a snowy winter ahead, it's the ideal season to offer feedback on the experimental Snow Ratio Grids. The NWS is accepting comments through April 30, 2024 on the addition this experimental element to the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD).

Snow ratio, or snow-to-liquid ratio, is defined as the ratio of snow accumulation to its melted liquid equivalent. This ratio value is often used to quantify the consistency of snow, such as light and fluffy snow versus heavy, wet snow. The consistency of snow is important for decision support.

For more information on the experimental Snow Radio Grids, their availability, and use, please visit the original <u>Public Information Statement</u>.

Winter Weather Program Hosts Annual Partners Webinar

By: The National Winter Program Staff



The National Weather Service Winter Program, in partnership with the Weather Prediction Center (WPC), held the annual Winter Partners Webinar on October 19 to share updates with partners about NWS winter weather products and services. This annual briefing drew the largest turnout in the program's history – over 650 participants from state and local governments, federal agencies both in and beyond NOAA, the private sector, the academic community, and the broadcast community.

The briefing covered many topics, including updates to the Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI), the Probabilistic WSSI (WSSI-P), the Modernized Heavy Snow Watch/Warning Criteria that will be implemented this season, and updates on the Avalanche Weather Initiative. Special attention was called to the Winter Program's new ice initiatives, including several poll questions that asked the audience how ice impacts affect their decision making and whether they preferred that the NWS provide elevated flat ice or radial ice measurements. The overall vision of the Winter Weather Program and the latest safety and outreach materials were also provided.

To view the webinar materials, visit the NWS <u>Weather-Ready Nation Calendar</u>, which includes links to the <u>Slide Deck</u> and the <u>Recorded Briefing</u> with Q&A.

Heads Up: End of Hurricane Season Summary

By: Doug Hilderbrand, Aware Editor

Keep a lookout for the news release of the National Hurricane Center's summary. This summary will wrap up the 2023 Hurricane Season, which ends on November 30.



Aware

NOAA's National Weather Service, Analyze, Forecast and Support Office

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