

# New NWS Online Spot Program

## Part I – Submit Spot Request



- Your National Weather Service produces a wide variety of forecasts around the clock using a database consisting of thousands of forecast points.
- Extra meteorological detail can be added to any of these forecast points via a spot forecast.
- A spot forecast is a detailed site-specific forecast issued for wildfires, prescribed burns, HAZMAT incidents, search and rescue operations, etc. and are available upon request anytime.
- The following presentation details our new online spot program and the process of requesting/receiving a spot forecast.



**Experimental**

The Spot Forecast Request is an experimental product/service that will be posted to this page for evaluation until the end of the year. During this period, we encourage your comments or suggestions for improvements using the electronic survey provided. Your feedback will help us determine product/service utility, if modifications are needed, and whether the product/service should become part of our operational suite.

**Spot Forecast Request**

**NOTICE** - This interface is intended to be used solely for the relay of forecast information to the National Weather Service. Submissions sent through this online form are intended for internal agency use. We are required (by e-Gov Act of 2002) to explicitly state that submission of any information is voluntary. For further information please read our Privacy Policy and Disclaimer. False statements on this form may be subject to prosecution under the False Statement Accountability Act of 1996 (18 U.S.C. § 1001) or other statutes.

**Incident and Decision Support Forecast Request**

This site is the National Weather Service interface to requesting, filling, and monitoring spot forecasts issued by our Forecast Offices and National Centers.

[Click here to provide 'Spot Webpage Testing Feedback'](#)

**Submit Spot Request**   **Interactive Request:**  
Request a spot forecast using an interactive map, with or without a Lat/Lon of the incident.

**Monitor Spot Forecasts**   **Monitor:**  
Use this to monitor existing spot requests and forecasts.

- www.weather.gov/spot
- Two Options On This Page
  - Submit Spot Request
  - Monitor Spot Forecasts
- Since this is a new program, it is encouraged that you contact us after you submit a spot request to ensure we have received it.
- When using the new online spot request page in real time, select the Submit Spot Request button to continue.



## Experimental NWS Spot Forecast Request

### Spot Forecast Request

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### Step 1: Establish incident location using A or B below.

#### A. Set request location using nearest street address.

**Note 1:** Valid entries are street address, zip code, city, state, or latitude & longitude.  
**Note 2:** Latitude & Longitude will return the nearest street address. For exact latitude and longitude points use Step B entry below.  
**Note 3:** City, State, and Zip Code will return a geographic centers.



## Establish A Location One Of Two Ways (Option A)

- Enter location in the blue “Enter Location” box using a street address, zip code, city, state, or a latitude & longitude.
- Select the PLOT ADDRESS and your location will show up on the map (next slide).
- You will be able to fine tune the point if its not the exact location you wish.

**B. Set request location using latitude & longitude, USNG, or drag the map pointer to spot location below.**

**Note 1:** If the map below does not appear you may enter your decimal Lat/Lon below.  
**Note 2:** To start over click the Reload button on your Web Browser.  
**Note 3:** Latitude, Longitude information should be entered in **WGS84/NAD83** coordinates in order to ensure accurate forecast locations.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Decimal Degree Latitude, Longitude</b><br/>                 West Longitudes Are Negative<br/>                 Example: <u>25.6319,-80.2025</u></p> <p><input type="text" value="49.0291, -95.1926"/> <input type="button" value="PLOT"/></p>   | <p><b>United States National Grid (USNG)</b><br/>                 Valid for points between 84N and 80S Latitude<br/>                 Require 13 character grid - 10 meter precision<br/>                 Example: <u>18SUJ2348064Z</u></p> <p><input type="text" value="15U UQ 3972 3300"/> <input type="button" value="PLOT"/></p> |
| <p><b>Degree, Minute, Seconds</b><br/>                 Can accept decimal minutes as an input<br/>                 Example: <u>25 deg 19 min 23 sec W</u></p> <p><input type="text" value="49"/> deg <input type="text" value="1"/> min <input type="text" value="45"/> sec <input type="button" value="N"/> <input type="button" value="W"/></p> <p><input type="text" value="95"/> deg <input type="text" value="11"/> min <input type="text" value="33"/> sec <input type="button" value="W"/></p> <p><input type="button" value="PLOT"/></p> | <p><b>Elevation</b><br/>                 Latitude &amp; Longitude value used to determine elevation.<br/>                 If elevation data is in error, changes can be made<br/>                 on the second page of this spot request.</p> <p><input type="text" value="1061"/> FT</p>  |



## Establish Location One Of Two Ways (Option B)

- A. If you did not have a specific location as in option A, you can “left click” and drag the pointer to a specific location.
- B. Fine tune your point by zooming in/out on the map until you find the spot you are looking for. You can change the map to Satellite view for more detail.

*C – when moving the pointer around on the map, information related to the latitude and longitude will automatically adjust in the blue boxes as well as providing you with the elevation.*



## Step 2: Select the incident type for the request.

**Set Incident Type** ←

**Fire**  
 Wildfire     Prescribed Fire

**Hazardous Materials**  
 HAZMAT Land     HAZMAT Inland Waterway

**Search and Rescue**  
 SAR Land     SAR Water

Marine  
 Other (Volcano, Earthquake, Special Event)

## Step 3: Proceed to detailed incident request form.

After setting your location and incident type above, click on the 'Generate A Spot Request' button below to proceed to the SPOT request form.

Generate A Spot Request

## Select The Incident Type

- Now that you have your location set, you can select an incident type.
- Note there are more options to choose from than in the past.
- For this tutorial, we will select Prescribed Fire and click Generate A Spot Request.
- **NOTE - the program now offers more options for spot requests related to HAZMAT, Search and Rescue, Marine, and Others.**



## Spot Forecast Request

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Request Page

National Weather Service Spot Program Links

Monitor Page

### Spot Forecast Incident Type: Prescribed Fire

#### Spot Request Contact Information



(\*) PROJECT NAME:

For NWS Spot forecast policy, see section 4.0 in NWS Instruction 10-401 at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/010.htm>

(\*) Requesting Agency:

(\*) Requesting Official:

(\*) E-mail address:

(\*) Phone number:

Phone Extension:

Contact Person:

FAX number:

#### Reason For Prescribed Fire Spot Request

- Under the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services (USFS, BLM, NPS, USFWS, BIA)
- State, tribal or local fire agency working in coordination with a federal participant in the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services.
- Essential to public safety, e.g. due to the proximity of population centers or critical infrastructure.

## Spot Request Contact Information

- Boxes shaded in red are required. This page is essentially the same as the previous online spot program.



**Location** ←

(WGS84 / NAD83 preferred)

(\*)Latitude: 44.6241      7.5' Quad:

(\*)Longitude: -72.6900

Elevation:      TOP      BOTTOM

1147     

Feet      Feet

(Elevation preferred in feet)

→ **Fire Weather Supplemental Information**

Drainage:       Size:   
(In Acres)

Aspect:       Fuel Type:

**Sheltering**

Full     Partial     Unsheltered

## Location And Supplemental Information

- Boxes shaded in red are required. NOTE - Location and elevation will already be filled in based on the spot you chose on the map.
- Although nothing is required in the Fire Weather Supplemental Information section any additional information you can add in there will be of value to the spot forecast.



## Forecast Information

### DELIVER FORECAST

Date: **08/09/2016**  
 Time: **As Soon As Possible**



### FORECAST STARTING

Date: **08/09/2016**  
 Time: **21:00**

### TIMEZONE

(Local Time)  
**EASTERN**

Combined FORECAST FORMAT

2 Hr

2 Hr

2 Hr

2 Hr

Tabular Time Table Interval

| Tonight                  | Wednesday                | Wednesday Night          | Thursday                 |                            | Select All Periods       |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                            |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sky/Weather                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Temperature                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Humidity                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chance of Precipitation    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Begin/End of Precipitation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wind (20 FT)               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mixing Height              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transport Winds            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Haines Index               | <input type="checkbox"/> |



## NOAA Hysplit Model

Would you like to include a run of the Hysplit Model with this request? If so please verify your email address above as this will be used to send you the hysplit model run.

- YES
- NO

## Remarks



- A. Check your Deliver Forecast & Forecast Starting times (use pulldowns to change times). (local time 00:00 = midnight, 12:00 = noon, 18:00 = 6pm)
- B. NOAA Hysplit Model (tracks where smoke, particulates, chemicals may go over time).
- C. Remarks box available to provide us with relevant information related to incident.
- D. Select elements you want forecasted. Can choose by element, day, or all periods.



### Observations

(\*) When submitting an observation, the yellow fields are required in addition to at least one weather element.

| WX OB 1                               | WX OB 2                               | WX OB 3                               | WX OB 4                               | WX OB 5                               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob    | <input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob    | <input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob    | <input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob    | <input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob    |
| (*)Site: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Site: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Site: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Site: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Site: <input type="text"/>         |
| (*)Date: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Date: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Date: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Date: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Date: <input type="text"/>         |
| (*)Time: <input type="text"/> (Local) | (*)Time: <input type="text"/> (Local) | (*)Time: <input type="text"/> (Local) | (*)Time: <input type="text"/> (Local) | (*)Time: <input type="text"/> (Local) |
| (*)Elev: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Elev: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Elev: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Elev: <input type="text"/>         | (*)Elev: <input type="text"/>         |
| Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>        |
| Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>        | Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>        |
| Temp: <input type="text"/>            | Temp: <input type="text"/>            | Temp: <input type="text"/>            | Temp: <input type="text"/>            | Temp: <input type="text"/>            |
| WB: <input type="text"/>              | WB: <input type="text"/>              | WB: <input type="text"/>              | WB: <input type="text"/>              | WB: <input type="text"/>              |
| RH: <input type="text"/>              | RH: <input type="text"/>              | RH: <input type="text"/>              | RH: <input type="text"/>              | RH: <input type="text"/>              |
| Td: <input type="text"/>              | Td: <input type="text"/>              | Td: <input type="text"/>              | Td: <input type="text"/>              | Td: <input type="text"/>              |
| Sky: <input type="text"/>             | Sky: <input type="text"/>             | Sky: <input type="text"/>             | Sky: <input type="text"/>             | Sky: <input type="text"/>             |
| Wx: <input type="text"/>              | Wx: <input type="text"/>              | Wx: <input type="text"/>              | Wx: <input type="text"/>              | Wx: <input type="text"/>              |
| Rmks: <input type="text"/>            | Rmks: <input type="text"/>            | Rmks: <input type="text"/>            | Rmks: <input type="text"/>            | Rmks: <input type="text"/>            |

### Submit Spot Request

Clicking the button below will create a one time spot request.

This request will be processed and a forecast will be generated by the servicing forecast office at the time they receive the spot request.

At any time until the expiration of this forecast, another immediate spot request may be generated off of the original request. Additionally, the immediate spot request can be converted into a scheduled request by contacting your servicing forecast office.

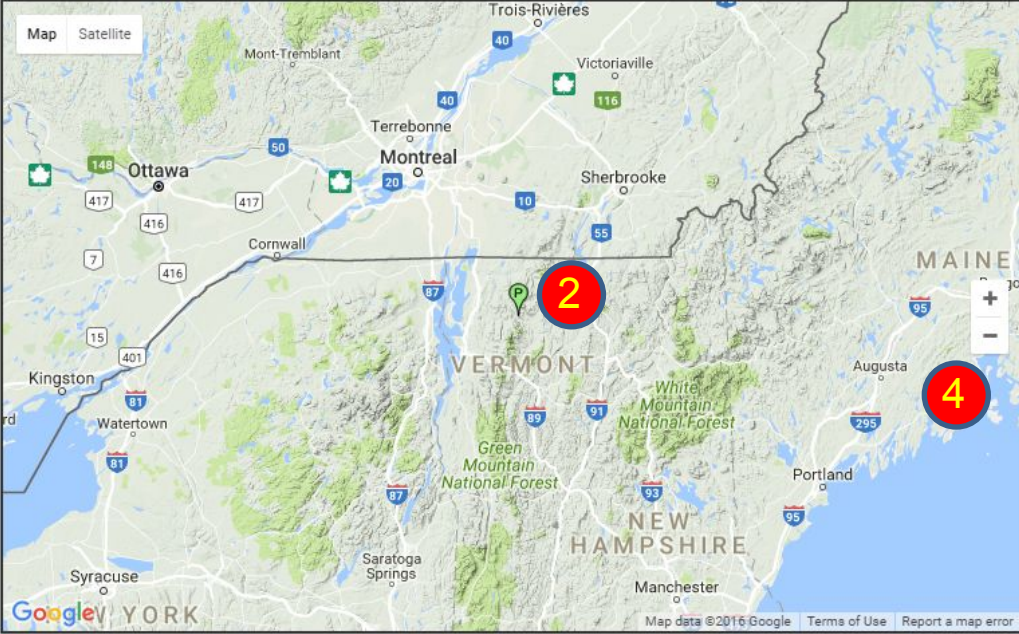


▪ Input any observations and select Submit Request




Request Page
National Weather Service Spot Program Links
Monitor Page

## NWS Spot Forecast Monitor 1



**Submit New Spot Request**

 Calendar

**Spot Monitor Legend** A

- W W = Wildfire
- P P = Prescribed
- H H = Hazmat
- S S = SAR
- M M = Marine
- Completed
- Pending
- Question

Permalink for page bookmark  
X:198.206.38.103

**Active Spot Forecasts** B

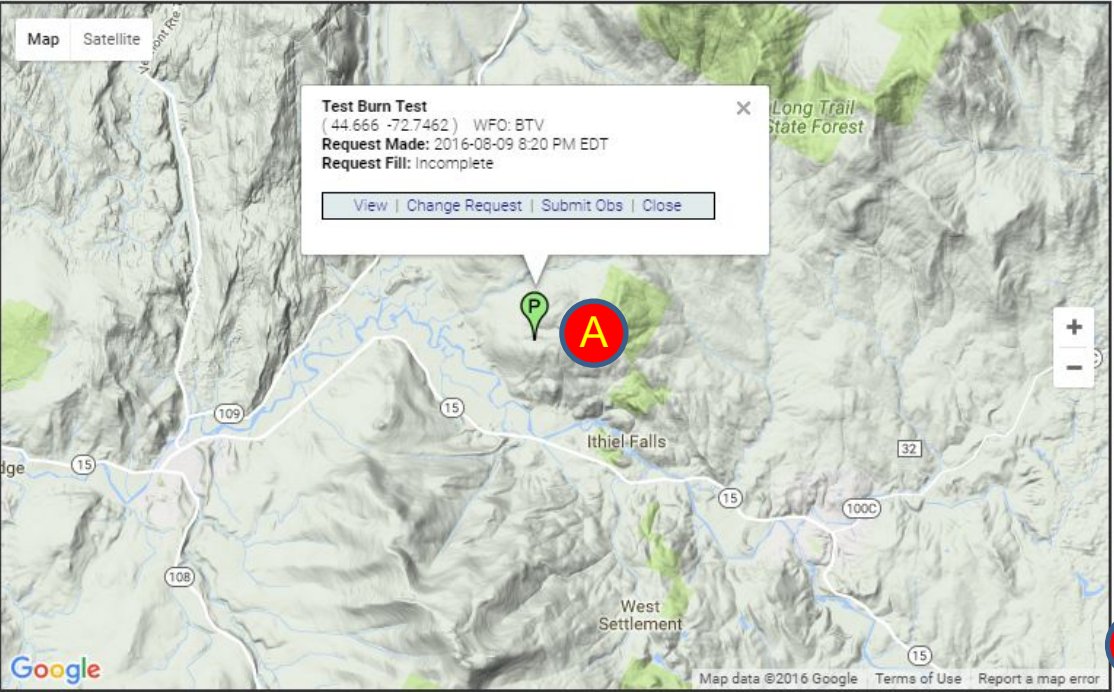
| Name           | Type/Start Time                      | Status          | WFO | Actions                             |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Test Burn Test | Prescribed<br>2016-08-09 9:00 PM EDT | Request pending | BTV | Change Request   Submit Obs   Close |

1. Once you submit the spot request you will be taken to the NWS Spot Forecast Monitor page.
2. You will see a pin for the location of the spot.
3. Note you may see other pins for current/previous spot requests.
4. Zooming in/out on map will change how many spot requests get shown.


- A. Note the Spot Monitor Legend to the right of the map. The green color indicates your spot request is pending and the NWS is working on the forecast.
- B. Below the map is the spot request you submitted. If you need to change the request or submit an observation you can do so using the links under the Actions column.

Request Page
National Weather Service Spot Program Links
Monitor Page









## NWS Spot Forecast Monitor




**Submit New Spot Request**

 Calendar

**Spot Monitor Legend**

-  W = Wildfire
-  P = Prescribed
-  H = Hazmat
-  S = SAR
-  M = Marine
-  Completed
-  Pending
-  Question

 Permalink for page bookmark  
X:198.206.38.103

| Active Spot Forecasts |                                      |                 |     |                                     |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Name                  | Type/Start Time                      | Status          | WFO | Actions                             |
| Test Burn Test        | Prescribed<br>2016-08-09 9:00 PM EDT | Request pending | BTV | Change Request   Submit Obs   Close |

## Other Functionality

- A. You can zoom in on the map and click the pin for additional information.
- B. You can click the Permalink for page bookmark and then copy the web address in the browser to share with anyone else that may need information related to the spot.



Request Page

National Weather Service Spot Program Links

Monitor Page









## NWS Spot Forecast Monitor



Submit New Spot Request



### Spot Monitor Legend

-  W = Wildfire
-  P = Prescribed
-  H = Hazmat
-  S = SAR
-  M = Marine
-  Completed
-  Pending
-  Question

Permalink for page bookmark  
X:198.206.38.103

### Active Spot Forecasts

| Name           | Type/Start Time                      | Status                            | WFO | Actions            |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Test Burn Test | Prescribed<br>2016-08-09 9:00 PM EDT | Completed: 2016-08-09 8:56 PM EDT | BTV | Submit Obs   Close |



## Completed Forecast

- Pin color will change to red indicating forecast is complete. Click the name of your request in the Active Spot Forecasts section below the map to see the forecast.



## Test Burn Test

### Prescribed Fire

Forecast Start Time: 2016-08-09 9:00 PM EDT  
 Request Time: 2016-08-09 8:20 PM EDT  
**Forecast Complete At: 2016-08-09 8:56 PM EDT**

Requested By: National Weather Service  
 Contact: Eric Evenson  
 Phone: 802-658-0207  
 Fax:



**Location Legal:**  
 Lat/Lon: 44.666 / -72.7462  
 Quad:  
 Calculated: 44.666 / -72.7462

Elevation: 1136  
 Drainage:  
 Aspect:  
 Size:  
 Fuel Type:

| Observations              |      |      |      |      |    |    |    |     |    |      |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|----|----|----|-----|----|------|
| Site                      | Date | Elev | Wind | Temp | WB | RH | Td | Sky | Wx | Rmks |
| No observations available |      |      |      |      |    |    |    |     |    |      |

| Requested Parameters               | Remarks |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| X X . . Sky/Weather                |         |
| X X . . Temperature                |         |
| X X . . Humidity                   |         |
| X X . . Chance of Precipitation    |         |
| X X . . Begin/End of Precipitation |         |
| X X . . Wind (20 FT)               |         |
| X X . . Mixing Height              |         |
| X X . . Transport Winds            |         |
| X X . . Haines Index               |         |

- The forecast page will show you the data you input for the spot as well as two maps showing the location of the spot request.
- Note – to ensure you have received the forecast you will receive a call from the NWS. Or feel free to call if you have any questions related to the forecast.



**Forecast:**

SPOT FORECAST FOR TEST BURN TEST...NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BURLINGTON VT  
 855 PM EDT TUE AUG 9 2016

FORECAST IS BASED ON IGNITION TIME OF 2100 EDT ON AUGUST 09.  
 IF CONDITIONS BECOME UNREPRESENTATIVE...CONTACT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (123) 456-7890, IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS WITH THIS FORECAST.

.DISCUSSION...  
 TEST DISCUSSION FOR THE TEST BURN TEST.

.REST OF TONIGHT...

SKY/WEATHER.....MOSTLY CLEAR (20-30 PERCENT).  
 BEGIN/END OF PCPN...  
 MIN TEMPERATURE.....AROUND 62.  
 MAX HUMIDITY.....87 PERCENT.  
 WIND (20 FT).....LIGHT WINDS.  
 CHANCE OF PCPN.....0 PERCENT.  
 MIXING HEIGHT.....1000-1500 FT AGL.  
 TRANSPORT WINDS.....SOUTHWEST 7 TO 14 MPH.  
 HAINES INDEX.....3 OR VERY LOW POTENTIAL FOR LARGE PLUME  
 DOMINATED FIRE GROWTH.

| TIME (EDT)         | 9 PM | 11 PM | 1 AM | 3 AM | 5 AM |
|--------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| SKY (%).....       | 13   | 8     | 10   | 19   | 41   |
| WEATHER COV.....   |      |       |      |      |      |
| WEATHER TYPE....   | NONE | NONE  | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| TSTM COV.....      |      |       |      |      |      |
| TEMP.....          | 75   | 70    | 65   | 62   | 62   |
| RH.....            | 54   | 63    | 73   | 84   | 87   |
| 20 FT WIND.....    | SE 3 | S 5   | S 3  | SE 3 | SE 5 |
| 20 FT WIND GUST.5  |      |       | 10   | 10   | 10   |
| CHC OF PCPN (%)..0 | 0    | 0     | 0    | 0    | 10   |
| HAINES INDEX....4  | 4    | 3     | 3    | 3    | 3    |

- And here is the forecast related to your spot request.
  
- Please contact us if you have any questions related to the forecast.
  
- The remainder of the forecast will appear on the next slide.



.WEDNESDAY...

SKY/WEATHER.....MOSTLY CLOUDY (65-75 PERCENT). A CHANCE OF SHOWERS AND A SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS.

BEGIN/END OF PCPN...

MAX TEMPERATURE.....AROUND 84.

MIN HUMIDITY.....57 PERCENT.

WIND (20 FT).....SOUTHWEST WINDS 5 TO 9 MPH. GUSTY AND ERRATIC WINDS EXPECTED NEAR THUNDERSTORMS UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON.

CHANCE OF PCPN.....40 PERCENT.

MIXING HEIGHT.....1600-3000 FT AGL...INCREASING TO 3800-5400 FT AGL IN THE AFTERNOON.

TRANSPORT WINDS.....SOUTHWEST 12 TO 14 MPH.

HAINES INDEX.....3 OR VERY LOW POTENTIAL FOR LARGE PLUME DOMINATED FIRE GROWTH.

| TIME (EDT)        | 6 AM   | 8 AM   | 10 AM  | NOON   | 2 PM | 4 PM |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|------|
| SKY (%).....      | 64     | 71     | 75     | 63     | 50   | 48   |
| WEATHER COV.....  | S CHC  | CHANCE | CHANCE | CHANCE |      |      |
| WEATHER TYPE....  | RNSHWR | RNSHWR | RNSHWR | RNSHWR | NONE | NONE |
| TSTM COV.....     | S CHC  | S CHC  | S CHC  | S CHC  |      |      |
| TEMP.....         | 63     | 66     | 73     | 79     | 83   | 84   |
| RH.....           | 87     | 84     | 73     | 67     | 59   | 59   |
| 20 FT WIND.....   | SE 5   | S 5    | S 6    | S 8    | SW 9 | SW 8 |
| 20 FT WIND GUST.. | 10     | 10     | 10     | 10     | 15   | 15   |
| CHC OF PCPN (%).. | 20     | 40     | 40     | 30     | 10   | 10   |
| HAINES INDEX....  | 3      | 3      | 3      | 3      | 3    | 3    |

\$\$

FORECASTER...EVENSON

REQUESTED BY...ERIC EVENSON

TYPE OF REQUEST...PRESCRIBED

.TAG 1600203.0/BTV

.EMAIL ERIC.EVENSON@NOAA.GOV

- And here is the rest of the forecast related to your spot request.
- Again, please contact us if you have any questions related to the forecast.





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Please Provide Feedback:

Send Feedback

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**NWS Actions:** [Correct Forecast](#)

[Printer Friendly Version of Forecast](#)

[Back to Forecast Monitor](#)

[Copy Info to Spot Request for a New Incident](#)

[Copy Info to New Spot Request for this Incident](#)

[Request Immediate Forecast Update](#)

[Delete Request](#)



National Weather Service  
1325 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Page Author: NWS Internet Services Team  
Web Master: w-nws.webmaster@noaa.gov

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- At the bottom of the forecast is a section for feedback. It is encouraged to leave feedback related to the forecast and/or how the operations fared. It will help us improve our forecasts and services for future spot requests.



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Please Provide Feedback:

Send Feedback

---

**NWS Actions:** [Correct Forecast](#)

[Printer Friendly Version of Forecast](#)

[Back to Forecast Monitor](#)

[Copy Info to Spot Request for a New Incident](#)

[Copy Info to New Spot Request for this Incident](#)

[Request Immediate Forecast Update](#)

[Delete Request](#)

- Links at the bottom of the page that may be of value to you include:
  - *Printer Friendly Version of Forecast* – self explanatory
  - *Back to Forecast Monitor* – a link back to the NWS Spot Forecast Monitor page.
  - *Copy Info to Spot Request for a New Incident*: takes you to the spot request page to select a location, but has the spot request contact information from your last spot.
  - *Copy Info to New Spot Request for this Incident*: keeps location and contact information you entered for this spot to expedite the process of submitting a new spot quicker.
  - *Request Immediate Forecast Update*: if forecast is not representative and you need an update. You will be taken to a page that gives you a chance to submit a weather observation if you have one. If not click the “Request Update” button to submit the request for a new spot forecast.
  - *Delete Request*: use this link to delete the spot forecast request altogether.



This has been an overview of the new NWS online spot program and the simple steps needed to request/receive a spot forecast. There is additional functionality that we would be more than happy to bring to your attention.