



Two NWS Products Open to Feedback

By: NWS Staff

The National Weather Service (NWS) is currently seeking comment on two products that you may have seen utilized by your local Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs): the Experimental Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook (GHWO) and the Experimental Severe Weather Impact Graphics seen posted on social media.

The GHWO graphically displays the risk associated with a wide range of meteorological threats for the next 1-7 days. It is currently experimentally available for 117 WFOs. More information can be found in the original [Public Information Statement](#) and in the image slide (top right).

Your feedback on the GHWO can be sent through this [associated survey](#).

The Severe Weather Impact Graphics are watch and warning graphics that are automatically tweeted by national or local NWS Twitter accounts when a WFO issues the associated product. The list of warnings and products produced include: Tornado, Severe Thunderstorm, Flash Flood, Snow Squall, Dust Storm, Extreme Wind (Tropical landfall), Special Marine Warning, and Special Weather Statements. More information can be found in this [Public Information Statement](#) and the image slide (bottom right).

Your feedback on the Severe Weather Impact Graphics can be sent through this [associated survey](#).

The feedback window for both the GHWO and the Severe Weather Impact Graphics ends on **April 30th, 2023**. Thank you for your help!

We want YOUR Feedback!

Experimental Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook

What is the Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook?

- Graphically displays threat risk of various meteorological elements
- Risk levels available for the next 2-7 days
- Currently experimentally available at 117 Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs)

Follow the QR Code or link in the post to a survey to provide your feedback!

Deadline:
April 30, 2023

We want YOUR Feedback!

Severe Weather Impact Graphics

What are the Severe Weather Impact Graphics?

- Watch/Warning images autotweeted on Forecast Offices Twitter/National accounts when the office issues the product.
- Includes Tornado, Severe Thunderstorm, Flash Flood, Snow Squall, Dust Storm, Extreme Wind (Tropical landfall), Special Marine Warning, Special Weather Statement
- Images tweeted in Spanish by some offices, and includes ALT TXT for screen readers for the vision impaired.

Follow the QR Code or link in the post to a survey to provide your feedback!

Deadline:
April 30, 2023

WFO Memphis Kicks Off Year Two of PERiLS Research Campaign

By: NWS Staff

On February 8, 2023, WFO Memphis, Tennessee, hosted a media day to kick off the second year of [PERiLS \(Propagation, Evolution, and Rotation in Linear Storms\)](#), one of the largest and most comprehensive severe storm field campaigns to date. Scientists and researchers funded by NOAA and the [National Science Foundation](#) were in Memphis to discuss their plans and showcase instruments used to gather observations across portions of the southeast United States as part of the research project.

During the severe storm field campaign, scientists and researchers will leverage dozens of in-situ and ground-based remote sensing platforms to characterize the near-storm environments and internal storm processes associated

with tornado-producing quasi-linear convective systems (QLCSs) and other non-classical tornadic storms. They will gather data in predefined areas from the Missouri Bootheel southward to the Gulf Coast and from the mid- and lower-Mississippi Valley eastward to the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.

For the media day, scientists from about a dozen organizations were onsite to showcase a variety of unique tools that will be used during the experiment to gather weather observations, including mobile radars, uncrewed aerial systems, trucks with instruments attached, and different kinds of portable devices designed to measure lightning and the atmosphere within and around storms. They also launched a weather balloon that will be used during the campaign.

Staff from WFO Memphis conducted tours of the operations floor and discussed how the experimental data collected by the researchers from the PERiLS research project will be used in real-time by NWS forecasters in the region.

About 55 NOAA/NWS meteorologists will join researchers in the field, gathering data ahead of storms and assisting with damage surveys after the storms. Several NWS forecast offices will launch supplemental weather balloons as needed to support the project.



Many ground-based remote sensing platforms that characterize the near-storm environments that were on display on February 8.

Special thanks goes out to **Brian Carcione**, Chief of the Science and Training Branch at NWS Southern Region Headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas, who was a featured speaker discussing how NWS offices will have access to PERiLS data in real-time for severe weather operations during the campaign.

Also check out the [NOAA News release](#) about the project.

NWS Tampa Bay Meteorologists Participate in Multi-Agency Aviation and Fire Exercise

By: Daniel Noah, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at Tampa Bay



The National Weather Service Office Tampa Bay office expanded fire weather partner interaction before the 2023 Florida Fire Season. The interaction with fire customers provided a better understanding of fire crew needs and the limitations of a forecast. Meteorologists visited the local area Florida Forecast Service and participated in a two day burn exercise, after which, members of a fire crew visited NWS Tampa Bay.

Over a dozen meteorologists visited the local Florida Forest Service (FFS) office to discuss how weather and forecasts impact wildfires and prescribed burns in Florida. Firefighter and public safety are the most important objectives for the FFS. Other topics included discussions on fire tools, tactics, and techniques to safely address fire control or suppression.

Meteorologists from NWS Tampa Bay then worked with numerous state, county, and city agencies and operational personnel during the annual two day FFS aviation exercise with live fire at the Alafia River State Park. The NWS team provided weather briefings and forecasts during the on-site exercise for aviation and field crews. The meteorologists worked with fire weather tools, equipment, and observed safety protocols, all under the watchful eye of the FFS Safety Officer. Fire crews discussed importance of wind speed and direction, low humidity, and dry fuels, especially in the increasing wildland-urban interface areas in Florida.

The FFS brought two dozen members of various fire crews to the National Weather Service office in Ruskin to better familiarize the NWS and FFS personnel with fire weather products and services while expanding agency cooperation and collaboration. These interactions have already led to addition scheduled visits and exercises with other agencies involved in fire weather.

U.S. Coast Guard Seventh District Commander Visits Florida Keys NWS

By: NWS Staff

The Florida Keys National Weather Service team works closely with the command staff, officers, and enlisted men and women of U.S. Coast Guard Sector Key West to support the protection of life and property nearshore as well as the safety of life at sea across the Straits of Florida and southeastern Gulf of Mexico. Meteorologists at WFO Key West have exchanged both familiarization and training visits with the Sector Commander, CAPT Jason Ingram, as well as hosted visits of multiple Coast Guard groups. These types of visits allow members of the USCG to see how the forecasts that are used in their everyday briefings are developed, helping forecasters learn how weather directly impacts USCG operations and giving both groups a chance to interact directly.

On February 2, the Commander of the Seventh Coast Guard District Rear Admiral Brendan McPherson, his Aide Lieutenant Penny, and Command Master Chief Aaron Zimmer made an impromptu visit to the Florida Keys National Weather Service for an early morning weather balloon launch. The Seventh USCG District, headquartered in Miami, is responsible for all Coast Guard operations in the Southeast United States and the Caribbean Basin, including Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. It encompasses an area of 1.8 million square miles and shares operational borders with 34 foreign nations and territories.



From left to right: Meteorologist **Nancy Barnhardt**, Meteorologist **Justin McReynolds**, Meteorologist-In-Charge **Chip Kasper**, RADM **Brendan McPherson**, Command Master Chief **Aaron Zimmer**, Electronics System Analyst **Charlie Coffman**



RADM **Brendan McPherson** assisting Meteorologist **Justin McReynolds** during the morning balloon launch.

Meteorologist-In-Charge **Chip Kasper** welcomed the group and took them up the balloon tower to watch the morning balloon launch. Meteorologist **Justin McReynolds** explained the process of the balloon launch and data collection, and RADM **Brendan McPherson** was able to assist Justin with releasing the balloon. After heading back downstairs, Justin explained the value of the data that were being received from the radiosonde and how we use it in our forecast process.

It was an honor to host RADM **McPherson** and his team, and we look forward to future visits and a continuing productive relationship with our Coast Guard partners!



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