

New SPOT Program

Customer Tutorial
Hazmat & Search and Rescue



New SPOT Program

weather.gov/spot

Critical Information

- New Spot page currently available for testing and customer familiarization.
- One page for entire nation
- New Spot page Operational Oct 17, 2016
 - The old spot page will be **decommissioned** with redirects for customers to new site.

New Front Page of NWS Spot 2.0

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.

**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.

[Click here for support or feedback](#)

New Submit Spot Request

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.

Enter Location

PLOT ADDRESS

- OR -

B. Set request location using latitude & longitude, USNG, or the map pointer 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.

Decimal Degree Latitude, Longitude
West Longitudes Are Negative
Example: 25.6310 -80.2023

39.1189, -94.5207

PLOT

United States National Grid (USNG)
Valid for points between 84N and 80S Latitude
Require 13 character grid - 10 meter precision
Example: 18SUU23480047

15S UD 6853 3107

PLOT

Degree, Minute, Seconds
Can accept decimal minutes as an input
Example: 25 deg 10 min 23 sec W

39 deg 7 min 8 sec N
94 deg 31 min 15 sec W

PLOT

Elevation

Latitude & Longitude value used to determine elevation.
If elevation data is in error, changes can be made on the second page of this spot request.

891 FT





Incident Location

- Uses Google Map functions for the user to **drag and drop** marker to spot location, including zoom capability.
- Three geographic location boxes will prefill based on placement of marker:
 - Lat/Lon – Decimal Degrees
 - Lat/Lon – Deg/Min/Sec
 - U.S. National Grid Coordinates
- The user can also enter this information manually using format of choice.
 - Other two boxes will prefill, and map will zoom to help refine location if needed.
- Disclaimer statement (Note 3) alerts user that if the lat/lon is not entered in **WGS 84/NAD 83** the location of the spot may be incorrect.

New Submit Spot Request

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



Submit Spot Request Changes

- New step is to select the incident type like “HAZMAT Land” or Search and Rescue (SAR).
- Selection is important because it determines what weather elements will be offered to the customer on the next page of the request form.
- This is a major enhancement over the old page.

Submit Spot Request - Page 2 (top)

Spot Forecast Incident Type: **HAZMAT Land**

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:

Location

(WGS84 / NAD83 preferred)

(*)Latitude: 7.5' Quad:

(*)Longitude:

Elevation: Feet

(Elevation preferred in feet)



Submit Spot Request Notes

- When the Submit button is pressed, page two of the form appears.
- This form is tailored by the responsible forecast office per requested incident type. A forecast office can configure the offered forecast formats, time steps, and forecast elements.
- Required fields are highlighted in red.
- Top section added a field for email address.

Submit Spot Request - Page 2 (middle)

Forecast Information

DELIVER FORECAST

Date : 09/18/2016

Time : As Soon As Possibl ▾

FORECAST STARTING

Date : 09/18/2016

Time : 22:00 ▾

TIMEZONE

(Local Time)

MOUNTAIN ▾

Combined ▾ FORECAST FORMAT

3 Hr ▾

3 Hr ▾

3 Hr ▾

3 Hr ▾

Tabular Time
Table Interval

Tonight

Monday

Monday
Night

Tuesday

Select
All
Periods

Sky/Weather

Chance of
Precipitation

Surface Wind

Temperature

Humidity

Precipitation Amount

Mixing Height

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

Submit Spot Request Notes

- Weather Elements requested section has been considerably revamped.
- Forecast Deliver date/time has been added. Users can get forecasts ASAP or enter in when the forecast is needed.
 - An notification to the forecast office will be created for a request when the Forecast Deliver time is within the next 6 hours.
- Ignition date/time has been replaced with the Forecast Start date/time.
 - Note - "Forecast Starting" time can only be within 24 hours of "Deliver Forecast" time.
- The first forecast period will be dynamic based on the Forecast Start Time. For example "today", "tonight", "this afternoon", etc.



Submit Spot Request Notes

- Customer can now select the following (dependent on what responsible forecast office offers):
 - Forecast format - Narrative only, both Narrative and Tabular data, and Tabular data only
 - Tabular time interval for each period (if applicable)
- Easier to select/deselect weather elements by period and by weather element.
- Added the ability to request the Hysplit model output.



HYSPLIT Feature (Plume Trajectory Model)

- There is a radio button on the Spot Request page to request a HYSPLIT Trajectory run.
- The HYSPLIT model will run per its current defaults in the current spot webpage.
 - NAM 12 forecast model
 - Static levels of 500, 1500 and 3000 meters above ground level (roughly 1600, 5000 and 10000 ft)
 - Trajectory run based on start time only
- The output is emailed to the address input at the top of the request form.
- There may be more options available to customize these runs in the future.



Weather Elements

- **HAZMAT Land Core Elements**

- Sky/Weather
- Temperature
- Humidity
- Wind
- Precipitation Amount
- Chance of precipitation
- Mixing Height

- **SAR Land Core Elements**

- Sky/Weather
- Temperature
- Humidity
- Wind
- Probability of precipitation

- All elements are selectable by the user by forecast period.

Submit Spot Request - Page 2 (bottom)

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 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (*) Site: <input type="text"/> |
| (*) Date: <input type="text"/> |
| (*) Time: <input type="text"/> |
| (*) Elev: <input type="text"/> |
| Wind Dir: <input type="text"/> |
| Wind Spd: <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"/> |
| 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"/> |
| Sky: <input type="text"/> | Sky: <input type="text"/> | Sky: <input type="text"/> | Sky: <input type="text"/> |
| Wc: <input type="text"/> | Wc: <input type="text"/> | Wc: <input type="text"/> | Wc: <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 .



Submit Spot Observation Notes

- Observation entry is a bit more standardized with the use of dropdown menus.
- Pressing the submit button will send an alarmed notification message to the local forecast office just like the old web page did.

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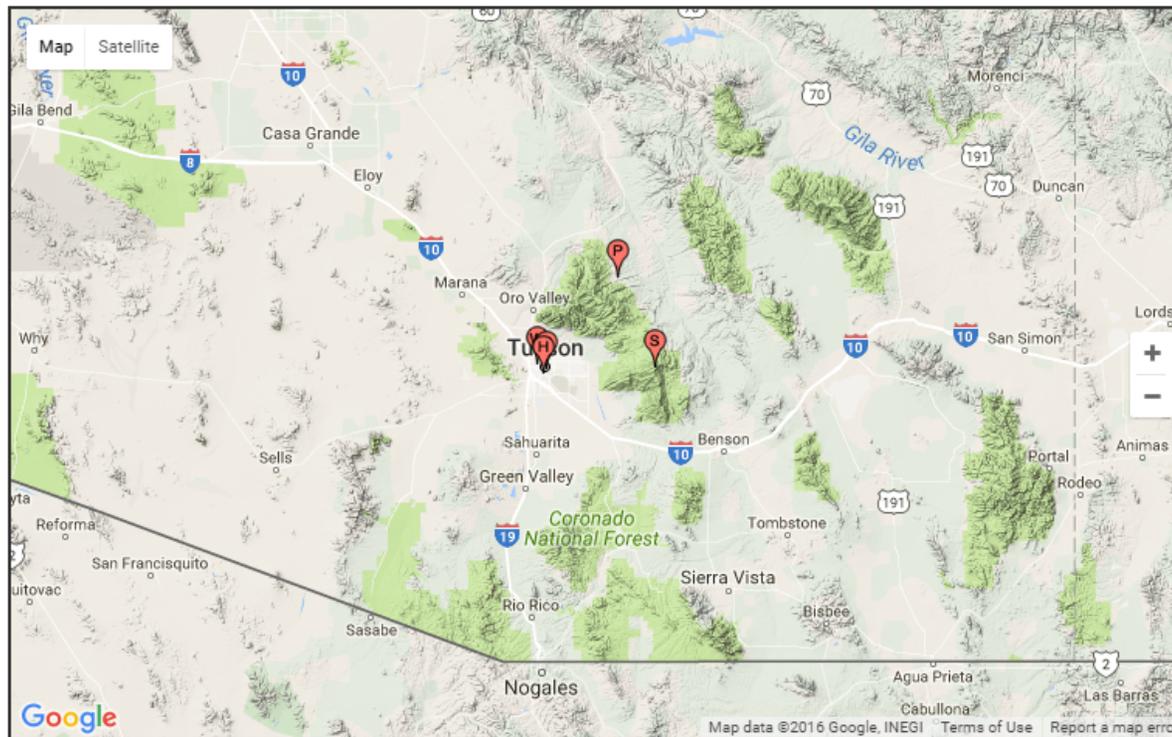
Monitor:

Use this to monitor existing spot requests and forecasts.

[Click here for support or feedback](#)

New Monitor Spot Forecasts

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:140.90.75.204, 140.90.75.204

Active Spot Forecasts

| Name | Type/Start Time | Status | WFO | Actions |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Test | Prescribed 2016-09-18 8:00 PM MST | Completed: 2016-09-18 7:06 PM MST | TWC | Submit Obs |
| SAR Test | SAR | Completed: 2016-09-10 6:02 AM MST | TWC | Submit Obs |
| HAZMET Test | HAZMAT | Completed: 2016-09-10 5:55 AM MST | TWC | Submit Obs |
| Prescribed Test | Prescribed 2016-09-10 6:00 AM MST | Completed: 2016-09-10 5:06 AM MST | TWC | Submit Obs |
| Wildfire Test | Wildfire | Completed: 2016-09-10 4:41 AM MST | TWC | Submit Obs |



Monitor Spot Forecasts Map

- Significant overhaul of this page.
- Map uses Google API, so anyone can zoom in and out/shift map.
- New Spot Monitor has all incidents on one page. When an incident is finished, then the incident will be closed by the forecast office.
- On the current Spot, multiple requests for the same incident would clutter up the display with multiple lines. On the new Spot, there will only be one line per incident. Only the latest forecast will be available.
- Requests can be corrected from the Monitor Spot Forecasts page via “Change Request.”



Monitor Spot Forecast – Submit Obs

- A “Submit Obs” link has been added for each incident in the table in the “Action” column.
- This allows customers to enter observations for an incident without having to submit a new request.
- All observations for the incident will be databased and available to the forecaster.
- Forecasters will not need to look at multiple requests to analyze observations.

New Forecast Page

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](#)

***NEW!**

***NEW!**



Forecast Page – Immediate Forecast Update

- New Action: “Request Immediate Forecast Update” link on bottom of forecast page.
- If a customer realizes that the forecast is not representative of current conditions, then they would click this link to get an immediate updated forecast.
- If an NWS forecaster realizes the forecast is not representative or will become unrepresentative, they would click this link to start the process of updating the forecast.

Forecast Page – Copy Info

- **There are now 2 different “Copy Info” options:**
 - **Copy Info into Spot Request for New Incident**
 - Customers use this link to retain all of their contact information for a specific incident type, but request a spot for a new and separate incident.
 - **Copy Info into New Spot Request for this Incident**
 - The customer will use this link to get another forecast for the same incident. Unlike “Request Immediate Forecast Update”, the customer will get Page 2 of the request process. Weather elements can be adjusted and the forecast delivery date/time can be changed, etc.
 - This allows customers to easily schedule the next needed forecast for an incident without having to re-enter most of the information.
 - Allows new observations submitted to remain with the request.
 - The lat/lon of the incident cannot be changed with this option.



Questions, Comments

If you have any questions, concerns or need something clarified, please don't hesitate to call us at the NWS Tucson office at 520-670-5160 anytime 24/7.

Or if it is not as time sensitive you can email me at

carl.cerniglia@noaa.gov