Internet Weather Sites for NTSB Investigators

Updated June 2012

Archived Weather Data

Synoptic Conditions


University of Wyoming – 30 day archive of main synoptic conditions with radar coded data: http://weather.uwyo.edu/surface/front.html

NW Storm Prediction Center (SPC) – unanalyzed surface and upper air charts archived back to 1998: http://www.spc.noaa.gov/obswx/maps/

Weather Observations

The following links provides basic information of what observations sites exist in each region, their location, identifier, type of system, and elevation. Other sites provide observation data for the available sites in the telecommunications gateway for transmission.

NWS Station listing – displays reporting sites in a state or country broadcasted the through the telecommunications gateway. http://www.nws.noaa.gov/tg/siteloc.shtml

FAA station listing - source for observations by state, which provides 72 hour history of METARs for reporting locations: http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/weather/asos/?state=CO

ASOS/AWOS Site Map – provides map of ASOS/AWOS sites and access to past 3 day weather reports in tabular format: http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/weather/asos/

NCDC NOAA Port Text Data – obtain all official NWS text products such as METARs, TAFs, Area Forecasts, In-flight Advisories (SIGMETs/AIRMETs), PIREPs, winds and temperature aloft forecasts, etc. Data available from 2001: http://hurricane.ncdc.noaa.gov/pls/plhas/has.dsselect

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov
http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access
http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/land-based-station-data

NWS Hourly Observations - quality controlled local climatological data (LCD), provides observation in table form of all meteorological elements: http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD

Plymouth State Weather –METARs, Meteogram, decoded weather observations since 1998: http://vortex.plymouth.edu/statlog-u.html

University of Wyoming – METARs for the last 29 days: http://weather.uwyo.edu/surface/meteogram

NCAR-RAP – Surface weather provides graphic plot of observations and raw METARs for the past 60 hours: http://weather.rap.ucar.edu/surface/

MesoWest – plot of NWS and Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) used by the U.S. Forestry Service for fire weather support: http://mesowest.utah.edu/index.html

RAWS archive site: http://www.raws.dri.edu/

Upper Air Data
The following upper air sites provide observed and/or model sounding data to plot temperature, moisture, and wind structure of the atmosphere:

University of Wyoming – sounding, wind profiler, and limited upper air charts: http://weather.uwyo.edu/upperair

NWS Air Resources laboratory (ARL) – model sounding data: http://www.arl.noaa.gov/ready/amet.html

Satellite Imagery
The following links provide archive Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) imagery for North America.

NOAA GOES 90-day archive under GOES East (West) Archive: http://www.goes.noaa.gov

Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) – NexSat archive satellite imagery for CONUS and international satellite sectors for approximately the last 30 days: http://www.nrlmry.navy.mil/NEXSAT.html
**Radar Data**

Several sites that provide limited weather radar data.

**NCAR-RAL** – NEXRAD images from WSR-88D radars and regional reflectivity images for the past 5 days: [http://www.rap.ucar.edu/weather/radar/](http://www.rap.ucar.edu/weather/radar/)


**Plymouth State Weather** – archive Radar Coded Message (RCM) Maps. Provides a composite radar image based from RAREP (SD) data similar to a radar summary image: [http://vortex.plymouth.edu/rcm-u.html](http://vortex.plymouth.edu/rcm-u.html)

**Lightning Data**

**Lightning data from NASA** – satellite lightning detection: [http://thunder.nsstc.nasa.gov/data/lisbrowse.html](http://thunder.nsstc.nasa.gov/data/lisbrowse.html)

**Marine Weather Data**

**NOAA National Data Buoy Center** – Buoy reports: [http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/index.shtml](http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/index.shtml)


**Unisys Sea Surface Temperatures** – image and archive maps of SST: [http://weather.unisys.com/archive/index.html](http://weather.unisys.com/archive/index.html)

**Astronomical Data**


**Airport & Flight Track Data**

**AirNav** – Airport data, location, elevation, magnetic variation, weather, runways, available approaches, etc. for U.S. Airports, also provides navigation aids and airspace fixes. [http://www.airnav.com/](http://www.airnav.com/)

**Flight Aware** – basic flight track data: [http://flightaware.com/live/](http://flightaware.com/live/)
Reference material

META/TAF Decode page from NWS: 

Aviation Weather Services AC-00-45G – Basic reference manual for NWS/FAA weather data: 

Weather Glossary: http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=spoterglossary

Converters and Calculators

Units – temperature, moisture, pressure and wind speed conversions includes density altitude calculations. http://www.srh.noaa.gov/epz/?n=wxcalc

Conversion charts and calculator from NCDC: 
http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/conversion/mppconversion.html