

Greater Ketchikan Local Emergency Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1200 hrs. by Chairman Steve Rydeen.

Attendance was gathered by sign in sheet.

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Minutes from the July 11th meeting were unavailable.

Old Business

No new business.


New Business

The entire meeting consisted of a presentation by Wes Adkins and Jake Byrd of the National Weather Service (from Juneau). Their PowerPoint presentation is included with the minutes.


Roundtable


No roundtable

Meeting adjourned at 1300




National Weather Service Juneau & Impact-Based Decision Support









Ketchikan

NWS Juneau
Wes Adkins
Jake Byrd



What is the National Weather Service?




- A federal agency
- A component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Our agency falls under the US Department of Commerce
- Headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland, just outside of Washington, DC



National Weather Service Our Mission and Vision



Our Mission:


To provide weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters, and ocean areas for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy.






Our Vision:


A Weather-Ready Nation: society is prepared for and responds to weather-dependent events.




What is meant by Weather-Ready Nation(WRN)?




- WRN initiative is about helping our nation become more resilient to increasing extreme weather, water, and climate events by integrating with and thus preparing the community for impacts associated with these events.






National Weather Service

Today We...






Collaborate as a Diverse Group of Specialists including...

- Meteorologists
- Hydrologists
- Technicians
- Geophysicists
- Engineers
- And Many Others


Are a public service team of 5,000 employees working in...


- 122 Weather Forecast Offices including Juneau
- 13 River Forecast Centers
- 9 National Centers
- 7 Administrative Offices
- And various other local offices around the US.




National Weather Service

on an Average Day







- Collects around 200 million weather and river observations
- Issues around 4000 forecasts
- Posts around 135 warnings




NWS Juneau




- Staff includes 15 Forecasters, 1 Hydrologist, 3 Technicians, 1 Information Technology Officer, and 5 Administrators
- Issues forecasts for the public, mariners, aviators, land and emergency managers
- Posts watches/warnings/advisories for winds, snow, flooding, and fog
- Operates 24 hours a day/7 days a week including all holidays
- Holds responsibility for weather watch from Cape Suckling southeast to the Dixon Entrance.
- Marine responsibilities cover the Inside Passages as well as the Gulf of Alaska west to 144° W and south to 54° N.
- Works other NWS offices in Alaska and Environment Canada




NWS Juneau Area of Responsibility








NWS Juneau

Southeast Alaska and Florida




Two Regions of Similar Size. But Southeast Alaska is covered by one WFO while Florida is covered by 7 if Mobile, Alabama is included which covers portions of the FL Panhandle. Also, while Southeast includes 6 small media markets with diverse weather, Florida WFOs handle 1 to 2 larger media markets with much more homogeneous weather.







Weather Means Different Things To Different People





- **Aviators:** Wind Speed/Direction, Turbulence, Cloud Heights (Ceiling), Visibility, Precipitation
- **Mariners:** Wind, Waves, Freezing Spray
- **Public/Media:** Current Observations, Forecasts, Cloud Cover, Temperatures, Precipitation (Type and Amount)
- **Public Land Managers:** Lightning, Temps, Humidity, Winds
- **Public Utilities:** Temps, Wind, Ice
- **Outdoor Workers:** Temps, Precipitation Amount, Lightning, Wind Speed
- **Search and Rescue:** All of the Above



Examples of using GIS within operations at WFO Juneau


Operational zone based hazard maps






Geographic Information Systems



- Allows visual representation of data
- Detailed information at the push of a button





NWS Juneau Hydrology Program



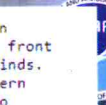
- Monitor River/Lake Levels for Streams of Southeast Alaska.
- Crucial Part of Warning Network for Dam Failures
- Watch/Warning program where Flooding is expected.





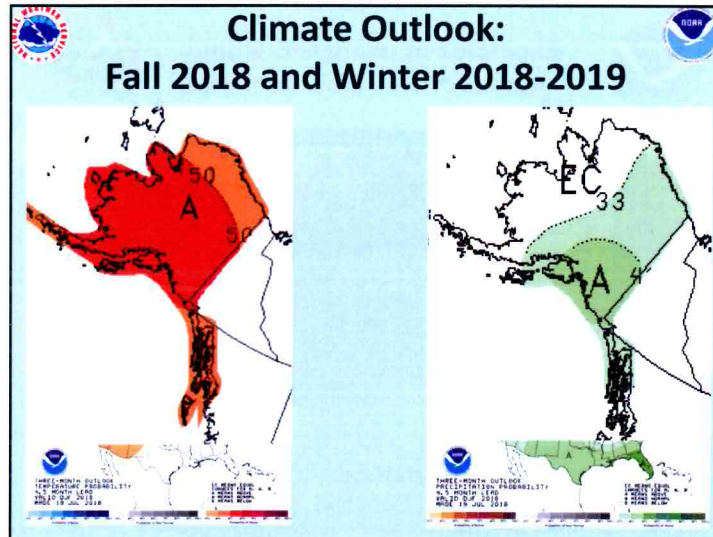
DISCUSSION...Remnants of a strong front over the southern panhandle track to the east through Tuesday morning. This front produced bands of moderate to heavy rainfall and strong winds. Rainfall amounts ranged from 1 to 3 inches over the northern panhandle. A period of dry weather expected Wednesday into Thursday for the southern panhandle while weak short waves may keep scattered rain showers for the northern regions. With soaked fuels and RH values above 40% there are still no current fire weather concerns.



AKZ028-161200-
Southern Inner Channels-
Including the cities of Ketchikan and Metlakatla
357 AM AKDT Tue Aug 14 2018

	Tue	Tue Night	Wed
Cloud cover	MCLDY	PCLDY	PCLDY
Precip type	Showers	None	None
Chance precip (%)	100	10	10
Temp (24h trend)	61-65 (-2)	48-52 (-4)	63-67
RH % (24h trend)	65-69 (-2)	89-93 (-7)	53-57
20ftWnd-rdg/PM(mph)	W 5-15	W 5-15	W 5-15
CWR	40	0	0

REMARKS...None.



IDSS – What is it?

- Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS) is forecast advice and interpretative services to assist core partners' decision-making when weather, water, or climate has a direct impact on the protection of lives and property; thus creating a weather-ready nation.

NWS Juneau and Emerging IDSS

NWS Juneau continues to expand IDSS capabilities to new venues including, but not limited to:

- Spot Forecasts
- Core Partner Briefings
- Social Media
- Interviews (Media)
- Conference Calls
- On-Site Deployment
- Webinars & Video Briefings (Expanding in Fall 2018)
- Podcasts (Starting Fall 2018)

Spot Forecasts

Spot forecasts are detailed point based forecasts for incidents and events such as:

- Fires (ongoing)
- Search and Rescue
- Oil Spills
- Salvage and Recovery


We put top priority on a spot forecast

- This means dropping our routine duties until support is completed.


weather.gov/spot

Please be as detailed as you possibly can in the remarks box.

- Let us know if you need marine or land conditions or both.
- Be as accurate as you can either typing the lat. and long. or using the map
- Provide a current weather observation if at all possible



On-Site Deployment





- For high profile or extremely impactful events and exercises on-site deployment can be available and/or requested.

Disaster Mitigation and Recovery

- I.E. Tsunami's, Mudslides, Earthquakes, Large Scale Search and Rescue Operations, Extreme Flooding, Large Scale Infrastructure Destruction.
- Can be incorporated into training exercise as well.

- Our newest scheduling allows for 2 weather service forecasters to be regularly available for on-site deployment.




Webinars and Video Briefings






- Currently investing in more sophisticated equipment (better video and audio capabilities) in order to enrich our current core partner briefings
- May also be used to directly communicate with the public via social media and our website.




Webinars and Video Briefings



Flood Warning: Mendenhall & Taiya Rivers

 2 to 3 inches of rainfall in addition to what has already fallen

 Mendenhall River & Taiya River

 Taiya River: Until 1:30 AM Thursday
Mendenhall River: 10:00 AM Friday


 Taiya River: Chilkoot Trail orientation & navigation becomes difficult. Water will be knee deep or higher in places along the lower part of the trail

 Mendenhall River: Water will inundate Mendenhall Campground & Skaters Cabin Road





Created: 8/8/2018 1:00 PM

weather.gov/juneau
facebook.com/NWSAlaska
@NWSJuneau #akwx



NWS Juneau Podcast





A new method of strictly auditory communication available both regularly and on demand in order to:

- Discuss weather related topics
- Communicate weather forecast challenges
- Educate and interact with listeners



NWS Juneau and Ketchikan Media



- NWS Juneau relies on local media as force multipliers for impactful weather messaging.
- We directly tag media @krbdradio, @kdnnews @sitnews in social media posts.
- Ahead of very impactful weather events we may issue media advisories or contact media directly.








Photo credit: Rosie Roppel

Thank you for your partnership!

Questions?



