



**NOAA National Weather Service
Weather Forecast Office – Reno
2350 Raggio Pkwy
Reno, NV 89512**

weather.gov/reno

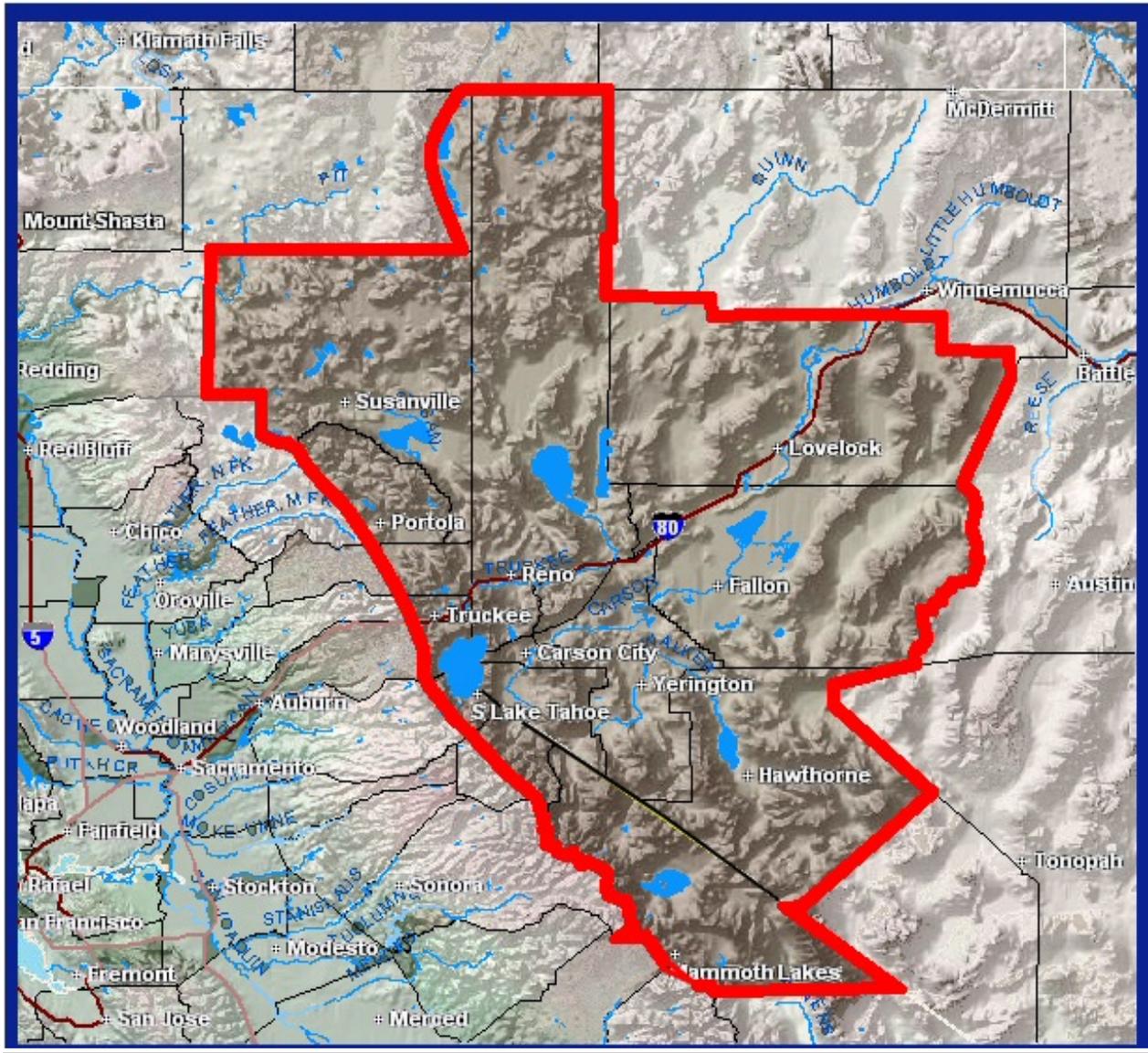
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Products and Media Guide

For Western Nevada and Northeastern California

March 2015

WFO Reno CWA (County Warning Area)

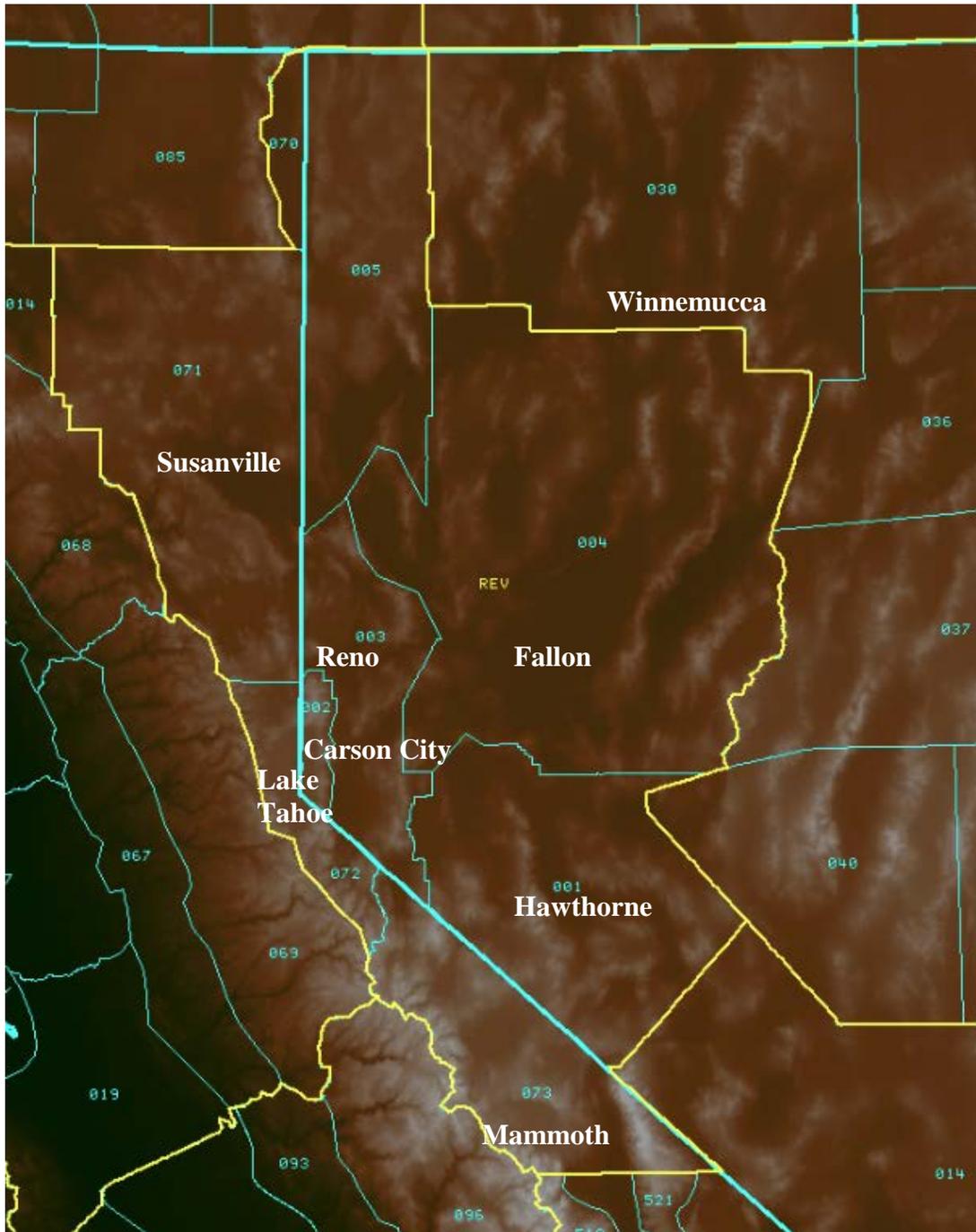


NWS Reno forecast area (red line) with counties (thin black lines).

The National Weather Service forecast office in Reno, Nevada is responsible for 8 counties in Nevada (Washoe, Carson City, Churchill, Storey, Douglas, Pershing, Mineral, Lyon) and 9 counties in California covering the eastern lee side slopes of the Sierra Nevada mountain range in Northeastern California (Mono, Alpine, El Dorado, Sierra, Nevada, Plumas, Lassen, Placer, and Modoc). The 35,677 square miles is equivalent in size to the states of Indiana or Maine, and covers approximately 768,000 people as of 2011.

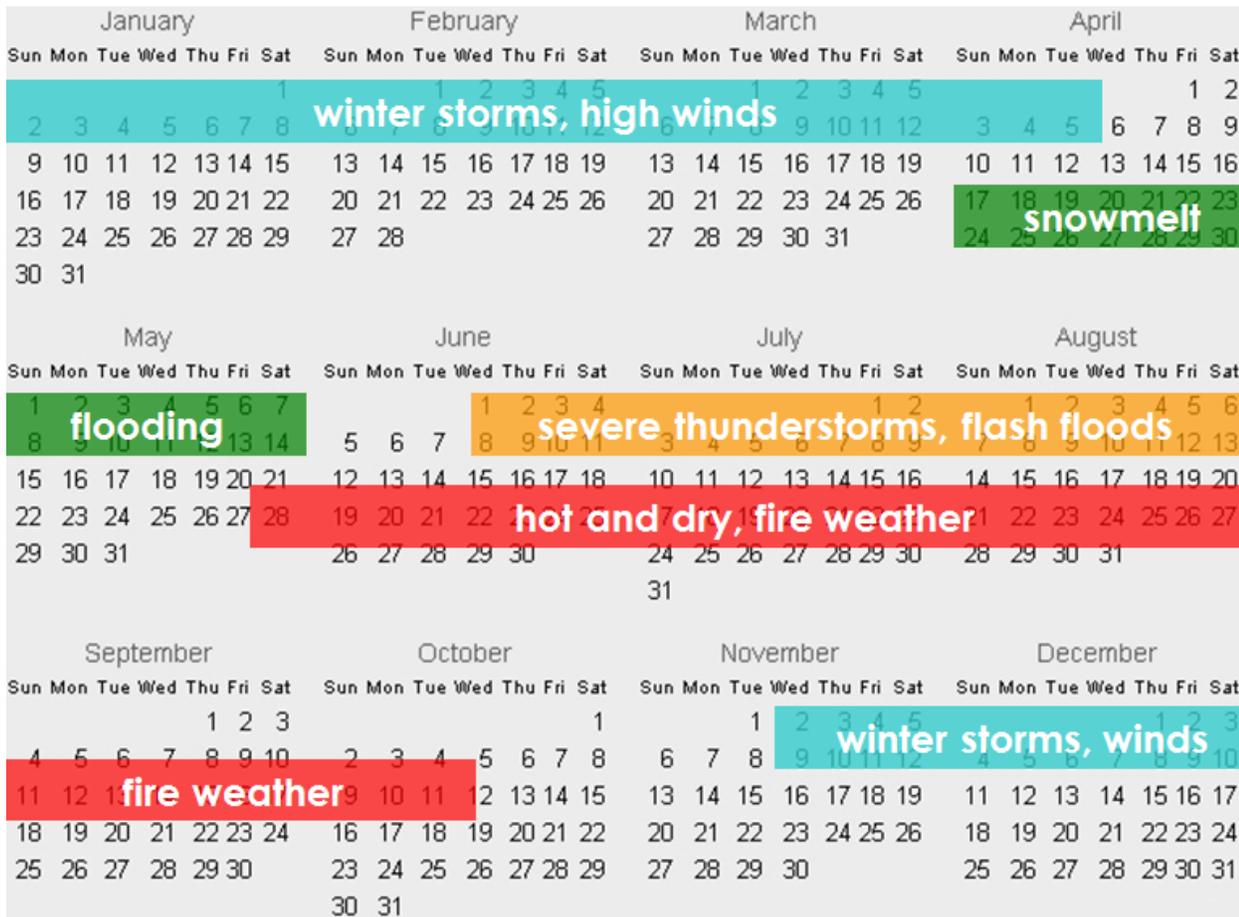
Since many counties in Reno's CWA are either large in size or include wide variations in climatology and/or elevation, portions of some counties may be included in more than one forecast zone. Several

counties in California extend across the Sierra Crest, but WFO Reno only produces forecasts for portions of these counties east of the crest.



Forecast zones (light blue), CWA boundaries (yellow), and state boundaries (thick light blue).

The Reno CWA experiences a wide variety of weather, summarized below. Yes that does include the rare tornado, but luckily not hurricanes.



Winter is overall the busiest time in the Reno CWA with occasional large storms bringing abundant moisture across the Pacific Ocean (sometimes referred to as Atmospheric Rivers). These can dump several feet of snow in the Sierra in a day or two. Winter storms benefit the extensive local ski industry, but create major travel problems especially along I-80 which is one of the busiest commercial transportation corridors in the US. A big forecast challenge is how much of the heavy rain/snow will make it into western Nevada which typically sees a rain-shadow effect. If the precipitation spills over, then significant amounts of snow can impact populated areas such as Reno and Carson City.

If the snow-levels are high enough, above 8000 feet, then heavy rains can lead to flooding along mainstem-rivers such as the Truckee and Carson. These major storms can also produce high winds, with gusts above 100 mph on the Sierra peaks. Downslope winds may accompany these winter storms, creating wind gusts above 70 mph in the immediate lee of the Sierra including Reno and the Highway 395 corridor. Some of these storms have produced widespread wind damage in the past, and can create severe turbulence for commercial flights into Reno.

During cold air masses, “inside sliders” can produce a few inches of snow in western Nevada, and lake effect snow can occur in autumn and winter downwind of Lake Tahoe, Pyramid Lake, and Mono Lake. Fog is rare outside the Sierra valleys, but can happen during prolonged cold inversions in western Nevada. These same inversions can bring periods of poor air quality to the Reno-Sparks area.

The spring transition season is often cool with a sudden warm-up in May, punctuated by what seems to be an annual occurrence of cold, rainy upper lows around Memorial Day. If the snowpack is above normal and/or the heat kicks in earlier than normal, snowmelt flooding along the rivers and streams can be a problem.

Thunderstorms herald the start of summer, normally in June but sometimes in May. These storms are normally pulse-type non-severe storms that originate off the high terrain. Storms can become more numerous during monsoon moisture surges from the Southwest, and once or twice a year episodes of severe thunderstorms do happen. High winds and dense blowing dust are the most common hazards from storms in the area; flash flooding can occur in particularly moist air masses; large hail and tornadoes are rare but have happened. Lightning is a common cause of wildfire starts in the region during the summer, even from storms that are otherwise producing heavy rain.

Fire weather is the bread-and-butter of the CWA...it's essentially our "severe weather". Most summer days are accompanied by dry, gusty winds such as the Washoe Zephyr. This almost daily wind impacts areas around Reno, Carson City, and into the Great Basin with late afternoon and early evening westerlies around 20-30 mph. During stronger wind events, the combination of wind and low humidity can result in critical fire weather such that if a fire starts it can spread rapidly.

Fall is typically quiet in the Reno CWA, with decreasing temperatures while remaining away from the primary storm track. Early season winter storms can happen in October but major ones are rare.

Services Available to the Media

NWS Reno is happy to provide interviews, both over the phone and in-person, on local weather topics and events. Please contact our office to arrange one. We do ask you provide at least a couple hours notice for in-person interviews. We have a spectacular view of the city from our office so outdoor shots and interviews are an option.

As always, please call our office if you have questions about our forecasts or need specific data. We are also normally available on NWS Chat (contact us for more info). We will refer requests for extensive historical data or climate forecasts to the [Western Region Climate Center](#) and the [NOAA Climate Prediction Center](#), respectively.

If you're new to the area, we can also provide you with shadowing and orientation sessions with our forecasters to help familiarize yourself with the area's weather. Contact chris.smallcomb@noaa.gov to discuss this.

Key Contact Information

National Weather Service
2350 Raggio Pkwy.
Reno, NV 89512

The Following Numbers are for use by the **general public**:

- Public Line: (775) 673-8100
- Weather Forecast Recording: (775) 673-8130

Administrative Staff

Meteorologist-In-Charge (MIC)
Jon Mittelstadt

Jon.Mittelstadt@noaa.gov

Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM)
Chris Smallcomb

Chris.Smallcomb@noaa.gov

Science and Operations Officer (SOO)
Brian Brong

Brian.Brong@noaa.gov

Service Hydrologist (SH)
Mark Faucette - Acting

Mark.Faucette@noaa.gov

Observing Program Leader (OPL)
Scott McGuire

Scott.McGuire@noaa.gov

Electronic Systems Analyst (ESA)
Mike Freitas

Mike.Freitas@noaa.gov

Information Technology Officer (ITO)
David Pike

David.Pike@noaa.gov

Administrative Support Assistant (ASA)
Diana Simpson

Diana.Simpson@noaa.gov

Communication of Weather Products

Internet

Each NWS office has their own web page, which includes a large amount of information, including the latest forecasts and warnings, current conditions, river forecasts, as well as links to local radar and satellite data. Additional weather information is available from universities, other government agencies and private sector companies.

Since there is a brief delay from when a product is released to when it gets to the web and because internet servers can go down without notice, you should not rely solely on the web for short-fused warnings or for updates in rapidly changing weather situations.

www.weather.gov

This is the homepage for the entire NWS, where you can access NWS forecast offices nationwide.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HOME FORECAST PAST WEATHER WEATHER SAFETY INFORMATION CENTER NEWS SEARCH ABOUT

Local forecast by "City, ST" or ZIP code
Enter location ...
[Location Help](#)

Coldest Weather of the Season Affecting Central and Eastern U.S.
An arctic air mass is invading the Midwest and parts of the eastern U.S., bringing with it the coldest air so far this season for many locations. Highs on Tuesday and Wednesday remaining below zero for parts of the Upper Midwest, in the single digits to teens across the Ohio Valley and into the Northeast and in the 20s and 30s from the Mid-Atlantic into southern New England.
[Read More...](#)

ACTIVE ALERTS FORECAST MAPS RADAR RIVERS, LAKES, RAINFALL AIR QUALITY SATELLITE PAST WEATHER

Customize Your Weather.gov
City, ST
Enter Your City, ST or ZIP Code
 Remember Me

[Privacy Policy](#)

Winter Hazards Simplification
Confused by winter weather watches, warnings & advisories?
Click here to help NWS simplify our products.

Created: 01/22/13 at 16:47 UTC

American Samoa Guam Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands
Click on the map above for detailed alerts or [Public Alerts in XML/CAP v1.1 and ATOM Formats](#)

weather.gov/reno

Below is a screen capture of the NWS Reno homepage

National Weather Service Forecast Office
Reno, NV

Home News Organization FAQ Search

Get Local Forecast for:
Enter location ...
GO Search Help

Facebook YouTube Twitter
XML RSS Feeds

Current Hazards
Watches / Warnings
Outlooks
NOAA Watch
Storm Reports
Current Conditions
Observations
Radar
Satellite
Precipitation
Remote Data
Reno Webcam
Forecasts
Forecast Discussion
Local Area
Activity Planner
Aviation Weather
Fire Weather
Severe Weather
Hurricane Center
Lake Forecasts
Snow / Avalanche
Hydrology
Rivers and Lakes
Hydrology
Climate
Local
National
Drought
More...
Climate portal
Weather Safety
Preparedness
Weather Radio
SkyWarn™
Lightning Safety
Kids Page
Additional Info
Items of Interest
Other Useful Links
Education Resources

Top News of the Day

Last 30 Products Issue Forecast by City

Weather Story
Inversion to Break Wednesday
A cold front will cross through the forecast area Wednesday with an increase in clouds and light rain. This will reduce the inversion of fog to a layer of clouds.

A trough will move through the Pacific Northwest on ...more...

Watches & Warnings Observations Forecast Graphics Rivers & Lakes Climate Fire Weather Detailed Hazards Local

Western Nevada Weather Map FAQs | Glossary

Click on the map below for the latest forecast.

Read watches, warnings & advisories

Dense Fog Advisory
Air Stagnation Advisory
High Wind Watch
Hazardous Weather Outlook

Last map update: Jan, 22nd 2013 at 8:48:47 am PST

Latest Conditions at Reno, NV Choose Your Front Page Site

Jan 22
7:55 am PST **20 °F**
(54 minutes old) Partly Cloudy (-7 °C)
Wind: Calm RH: 84% DewPt: 16 °F More Details (KRNO) XML View

Click Images For More Information

Social Media Radar Satellite Weather Map

Stay Connected

Social Media

NWS Reno, along with most other NWS forecast offices, makes extensive use of social media to disseminate pertinent weather information and interesting facts, pictures, and videos. We do not always transmit warning information via social media, so use other sources for that. Feel free to comment on and/or share any of our social media posts. Currently NWS Reno is active on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Reno.gov>), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/NWSReno>), and YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/NWSReno>).

There are two relatively new specific tools we use to highlight significant weather on our website and social media pages: **Weather Stories and Briefings**. The Weather Stories are static images that convey key messages about upcoming weather events using eye catching graphics. Below is a recent example. Media are free to use these Weather Stories in their articles or broadcasts.

Valley Inversions Ending Sunday



Photo: View of Reno from the NWS Office Sat, Jan 5th 2013

Impacts

- Air pollution trapped in valleys
- Valley freezing fog and haze
- Reduced visibility
- Improving conditions by Sunday

Washoe County Air Quality Information:

- A **Red Burn Code** is in effect for: Reno, Sparks, and Southern Washoe County from Washoe Valley to Silver Knolls.
- www.ourcleanair.com
- 775-785-4110

The video Weather Briefings are normally reserved for higher impact storms. These short briefings contain multiple slides with one of our meteorologists discussing the key elements of an upcoming storm. Normally these briefings are no longer than 4-5 minutes. Visit our [YouTube](#) page for examples of recent briefings.

Emergency Alert System (EAS)

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national system developed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which allows the NWS and others access to commercial radio and television stations for announcing emergency messages to the public. The NWS in Reno has access to this system through the NOAA All Hazards Radio. The LP1 station for EAS in the area is KOH (AM 780). The radio system includes Specific Area Message Encoders (SAME) that allows for transmitted tones to directly trigger radio and television station EAS equipment. For more information on SAME codes, emergency managers or broadcasters should visit:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/dissemination/eas_codes.shtml

NOAA All Hazards Radio

NOAA All Hazards Radio consists of NWS and privately owned radio transmitters that broadcast the latest weather and hydrologic information directly from the NWS office. Weather messages are sent to the radio console system for broadcast. The program cycle repeats approximately every 5 minutes (longer in busy weather) and includes the latest forecasts, weather observations, and warnings for the listening area covered by the transmitter. In addition to weather products, other emergency information may be broadcast as needed. Radio receivers can be purchased from various electronic stores.

During severe weather events, the NWS can pre-empt the routine weather broadcasts and substitute special warning messages. When life threatening weather is anticipated, the NWS can also activate specially designed warning receivers. The receivers either sound an alarm to indicate that an emergency exists, or they are automatically turned on so that the warning message is heard. Some radio receivers can be programmed to only alarm for specific counties and for specific warnings. These severe weather warnings are alarmed and broadcast as soon as issued by NWS personnel. NOAA All Hazards Radio system is the fastest way to receive warning information.

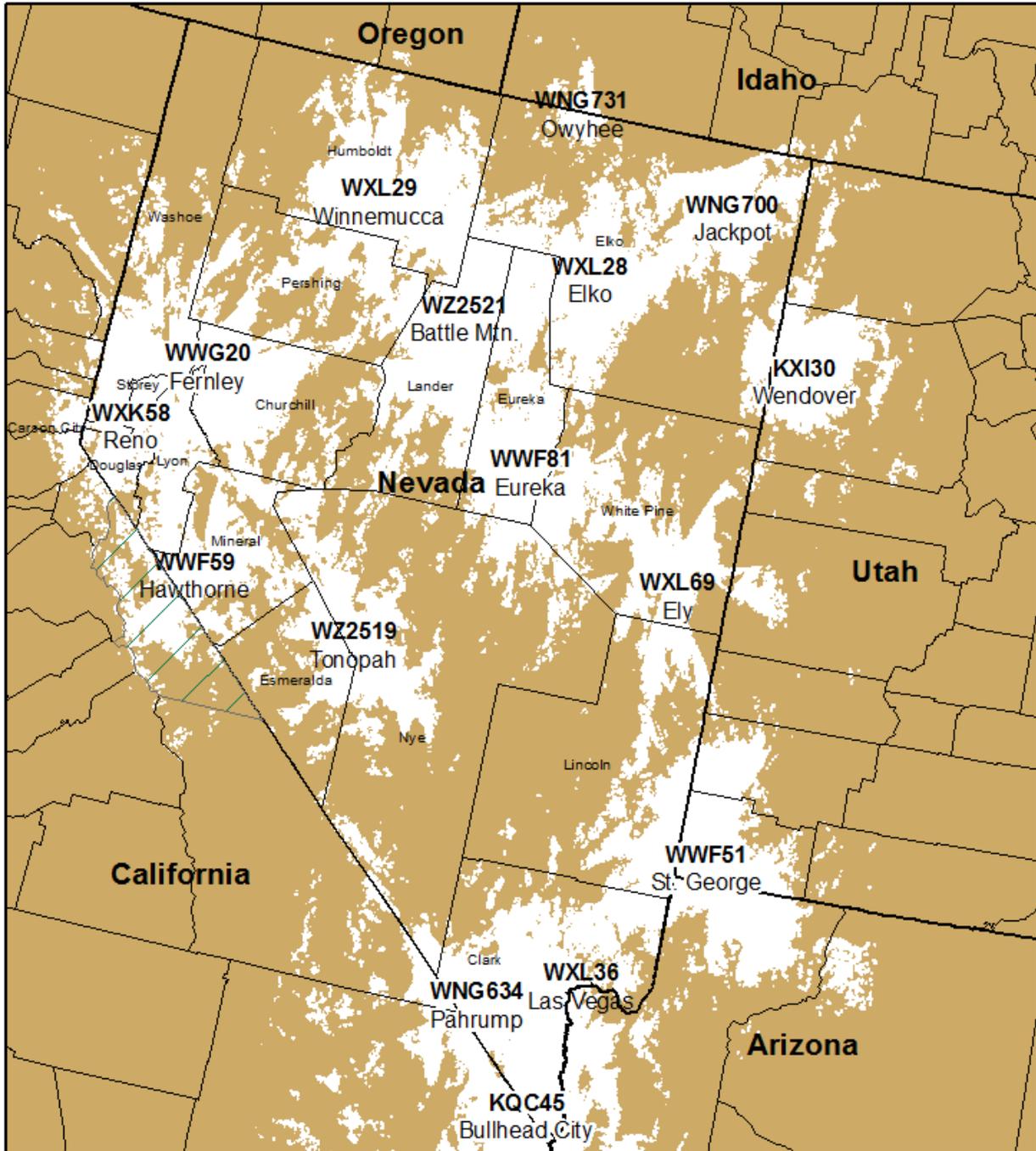
Commercial radio and TV stations are authorized to rebroadcast any material transmitted over the NOAA All Hazards Radio system.

The NOAA All Hazards Radio broadcasts over transmitters utilizing one of seven frequencies in the 162 MHz range:

162.400 MHz	162.425 MHz	162.450 MHz	162.475 MHz	162.500 MHz	162.525 MHz	162.550 MHz
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The broadcasts can usually be heard out to 40 miles from the transmitter site. The effective range depends on many factors, particularly the height of the broadcast antenna, terrain, transmitter output power, quality of the receiver, and type of receiving antenna. The number of transmitters has increased greatly in the past few years, and most of the population is within listening range of at least one transmitter. Visit <http://weather.gov/nwr> to see coverage maps of weather radio transmitters nationwide. A map of transmitter sites broadcasting from NWS Reno and approximate coverage areas are on the following pages.

Nevada NWR Coverage Map



Legend

- Coverage Area
- Not Covered

Coverage map as of January 28, 2013

California NWR Coverage Map



Coverage map as of January 28, 2013

National Warning System (NAWAS)

Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Warning System (NAWAS) is a comprehensive dedicated network of telephone circuits connecting more than 1,500 state and federal warning points throughout the United States. Although NAWAS is a national system, the day-to-day operation is under the control of individual states. Each state has its own plan for the use of NAWAS during weather emergencies.

NAWAS is used to warn the public, through local governments, about potential loss of life and/or property. Such threatening situations are not limited to weather or hydrologic events. The warning message can also include information on dam breaks, earthquakes, volcanoes, major fires, other civil emergencies and terrorist attacks. The NWS in Reno uses NAWAS to relay all weather warnings to state police posts and offices of emergency services that are responsible for particular areas. These state police posts and emergency services offices then relay the warning to local city or county police and the appropriate personnel.

Emergency Managers' Weather Information Network (EMWIN)

The Emergency Managers' Weather Information Network (EMWIN) is a low cost method for receiving NWS information. The system, including a small satellite dish, is purchased by the user. The data is received free of charge using a small satellite dish receiving system connected to a personal computer or by a repeat radio broadcast. The data is accessed and displayed using Windows based point and click software. The latest weather and flood warnings, watches, forecasts, statements, observations, and other data are automatically stored, along with some weather graphics like the radar summary and some satellite imagery. The data are available nationwide directly from satellites and the system can be purchased by anyone, although it is intended to be used *primarily* by emergency managers and public safety officials who need timely weather information to make critical decisions. For more information access the EMWIN home page at <http://www.weather.gov/emwin/index.htm>

HazCollect

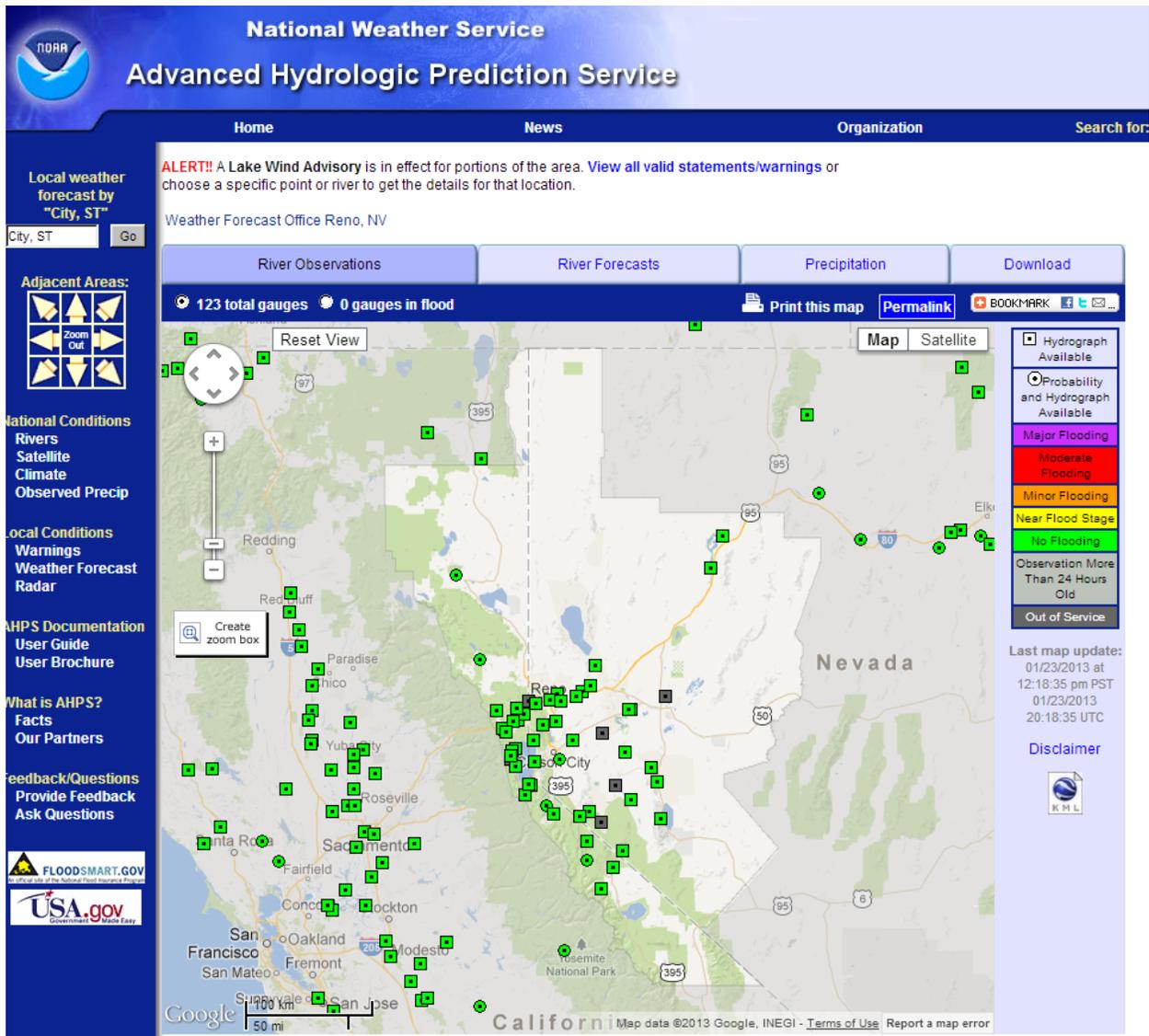
HazCollect, the NWS's All-Hazards Emergency Message Collection System, allows for the efficient distribution of Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEMs). NWEMs created by government officials with public warning authority (e.g. emergency managers) are distributed through the NWS dissemination infrastructure, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, other national systems, and to the nation's Emergency Alert System (EAS). More info can be found here: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hazcollect/>

Local Hydrologic Information

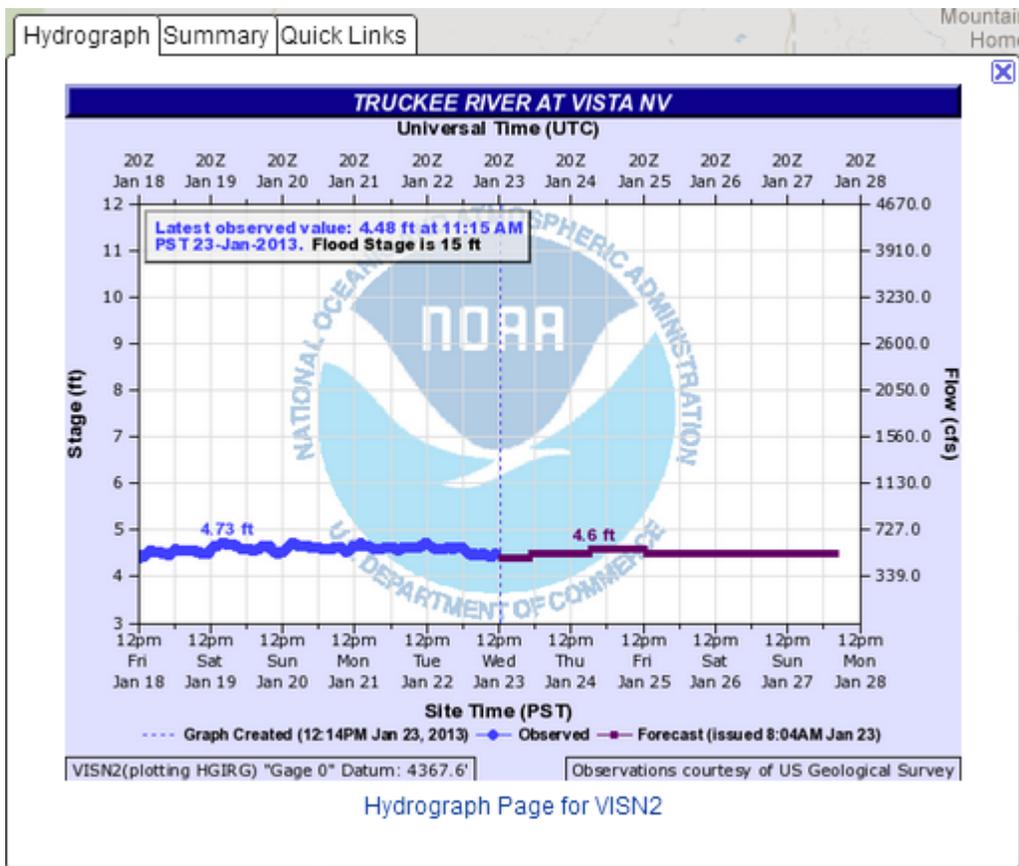
There are two basic places to access information on river and water supply forecasts from the NWS.

1) NWS Reno website, click on the “Rivers and Lakes” tab in the left-hand menu

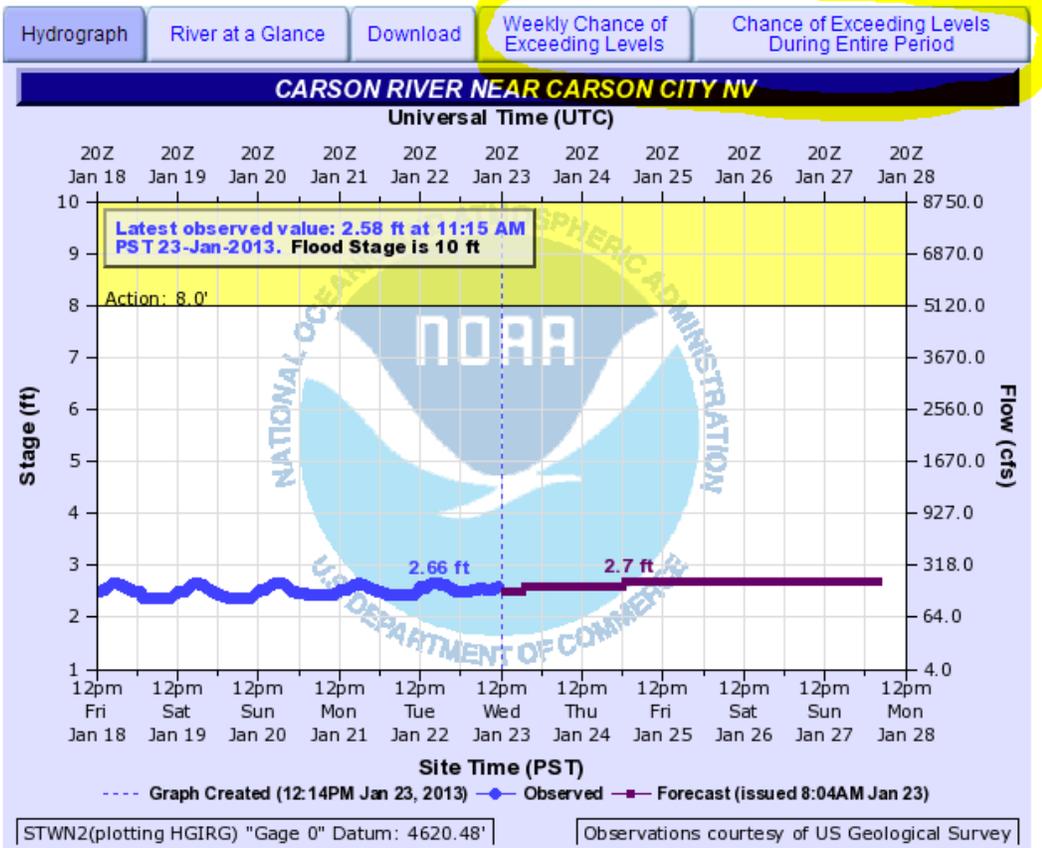
This will take you to the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS). Here’s the direct [link](#).



Clicking on each of the points below will bring up a hydrograph that contains observations for the past five days, and five-day forecasts if available. An example is shown below.

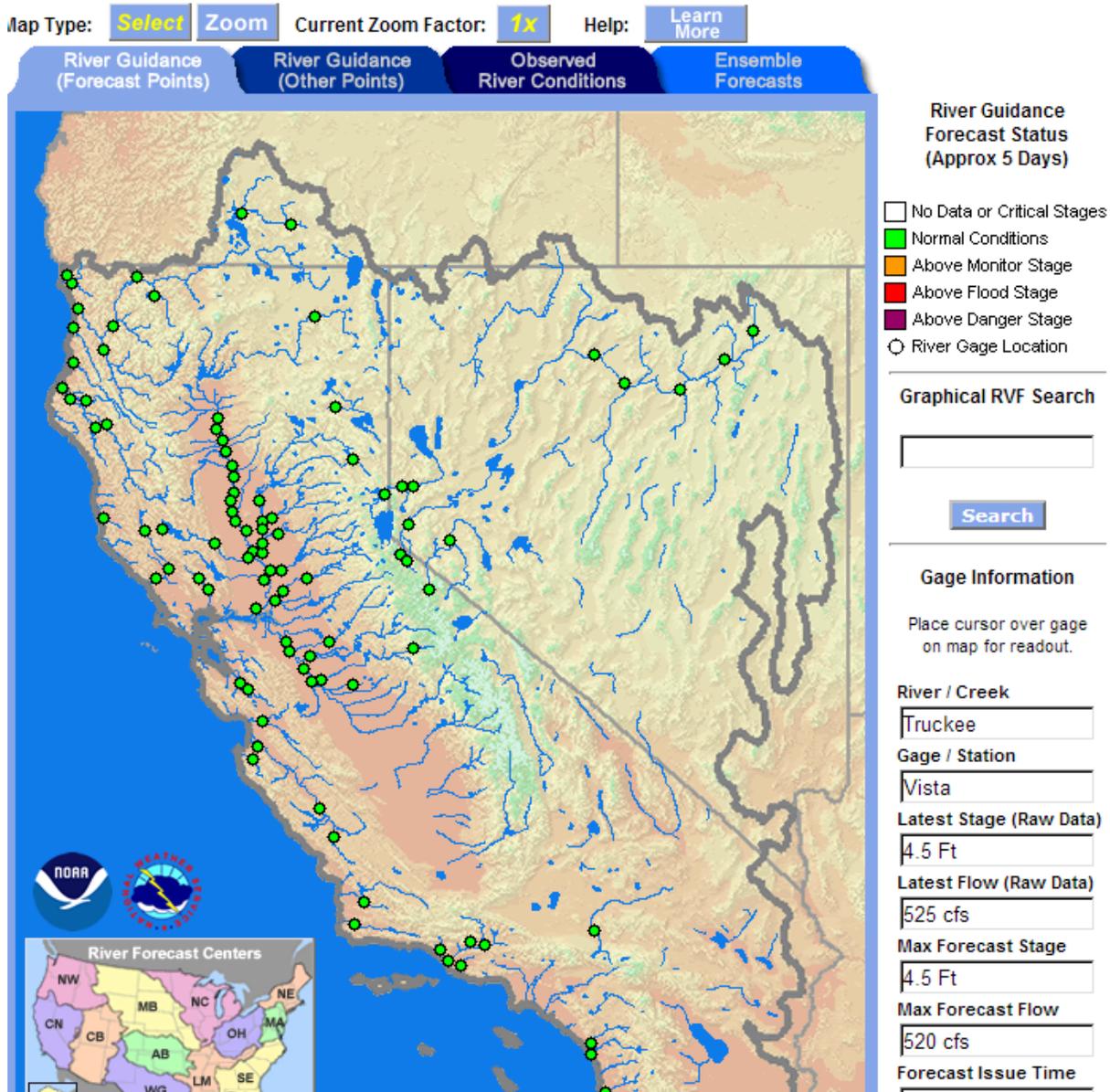


Clicking on the hydrograph pop-up window takes you to a page with more complete information for that particular forecast point. This includes location information, impacts, and historical floods info. Some points (e.g. Carson River near Carson City) have longer range outlooks using probabilities. These can be accessed in the tabs near the top of the page:

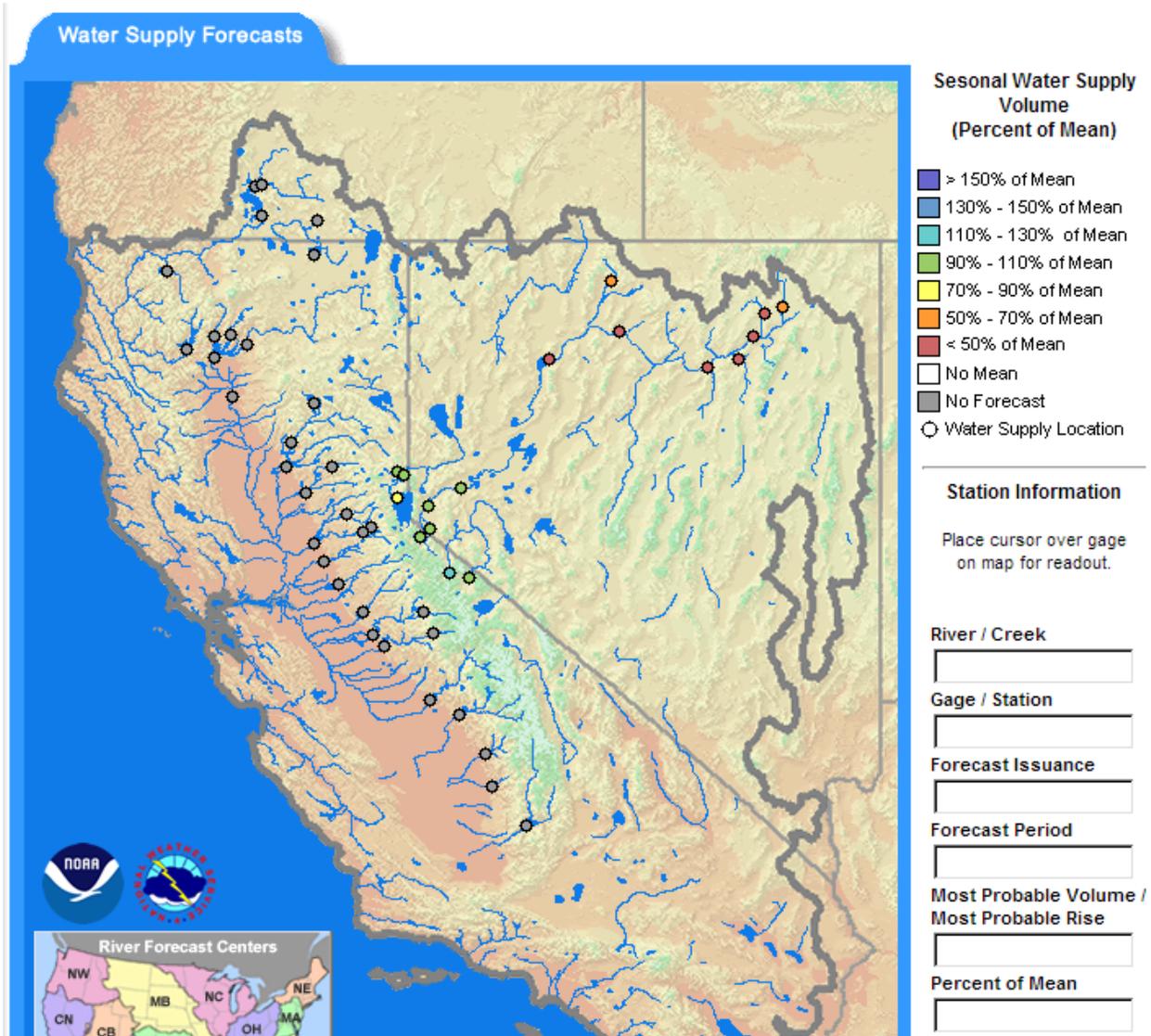


2) The California-Nevada River Forecast Center Website (<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/>)

A similar map to the AHPS page is presented. Clicking on the points will bring up pages specific to that point. There are some subtle differences with the AHPS pages, including a display of the amount of precipitation and/or melt going into the river forecast models.



The CNRFC also produces daily water supply outlooks during the winter and spring. These can be accessed via the left-hand menu by clicking on “Water Supply”. A map similar to below will load:



Clicking on the points will yield more specific information on water supply forecasts for that point. Those plots can be somewhat complicated. Contact the CNRFC or NWS Reno Hydrologist for more info.

NWS Reno Product Guide

The National Weather Service in Reno, Nevada issues a variety of products covering western Nevada and eastern California including the Sierra Nevada Mountains. These products are used by the media, emergency managers, and the public. This guide gives a summary of the products, including necessary header information. Products may be issued earlier or later depending on circumstances to include hazardous weather delays and equipment failures.

Routine Weather Products

Zone Forecast Product [[link to ZFP](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: FPUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOZFPREV

Typically Issued: 3 AM and 3 PM, updated as needed

The Zone Forecast Product is a text product issued by the Reno NWS to explicitly state expected weather conditions within each zone through 7 days. Descriptive forecast information includes weather types, general cloud coverage, high and low temperatures and trends, probability of measurable precipitation, wind speed and direction. Watches, Warnings, and Advisories along with other significant weather are headlined. The 7 days of the forecast are split into 12-hour time periods.

National Digital Forecast Database/Point Forecasts

FOS/WMO Header: N/A

AWIPS Header: N/A

Typically Issued: 3 AM and 3 PM, updated as needed

Forecasters issue forecasts in gridded form via the National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD), which are updated as necessary day or night. From this database, point forecasts are available for locations in the NWS Reno area of responsibility at our website. Just click on a spot on the website map to get a point forecast. Graphical forecasts in a “map” form are also available on the same site.

Area Forecast Discussion [[link to AFD](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: FXUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOAFDREV

Typically Issued: 3 AM and 3 PM, updated as needed

The Area Forecast Discussion describes the meteorological reasoning used by the forecaster in developing the forecasts along with an evaluation of forecast confidence and key uncertainties. (Available on the internet with a glossary). The discussion consists of a short term section (Days 1-3), long term section (Days 4-7), an aviation section, and the current advisories, watches, and warnings when applicable.

Point Forecast Matrix [[link to PFM](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: FOUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOPFMREV

Always issued at 230 AM and 230 PM, updated as needed

The Point Forecast Matrix is a site specific forecast for numerous sites throughout the forecast area. It provides a forecast in tabular style format out to 7 days.

State Forecast Table [[link to SFT](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: FPUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSFTREV

Always issued at 230 AM and 230 PM, updated as needed

The Tabular State Forecast Product provides a 7 day forecast of daily predominant daytime weather from 6am to 6pm, forecast high and low temperatures and probability of precipitation for selected cities throughout Western Nevada, the Eastern Sierra, and Northeast California.

Recreation Forecast [[link to page](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: SXUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORECREV

Typically Issued: 3 AM and 3 PM, updated as needed

The Recreation Forecast Product provides a detailed forecast for Lake Tahoe at lake level and for Pyramid Lake at lake level. Elements specific to boaters are included, such as winds and wave heights. Lake Wind Advisories will be highlighted when in effect. Water temperature observations are included as available.

Short Term Forecast

FOS/WMO Header: FPUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONOWREV

Typically Issued: as needed

The Short Term Forecast is used to pinpoint weather occurring over an area that is meteorologically significant over the next 1-3 hours. It is concise on when, where and what weather will happen.

Climate Products [[link to climate data](#)]

Daily Climate Summary

FOS/WMO Header: CDUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOCLIRNO and RNOCLITVL

Typically Issued: 2 AM and 5 PM

The Climate Summary give detailed daily weather statistics (usually for yesterday) from the Reno-Tahoe International Airport and South Lake Tahoe Airport, including temperature, precipitation, degree days, wind, humidity, sunrise/sunset, and record temperature data for the following day. Precipitation data includes both calendar year and water year totals, percent of normal values, and comparisons to normal. The climate normal period is 1981-2010 and the climate record period is 1888-2013 (for Reno) and 1968-2013 (for South Lake Tahoe).

Preliminary Climatological Data

FOS/WMO Header: CXUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOCF6RNO and RNOCF6TVL

Typically Issued: 2 AM

Daily weather statistics from the Reno-Tahoe International and South Lake Tahoe Airports for the month, including temperatures, precipitation, degree days, wind and sky cover. In addition, monthly statistics such as average temperatures and departures from normal, degree days, and rainfall are also included.

Monthly Climate Report

FOS/WMO Header: CXUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOCLMRNO and RNOCLMTVL

Typically Issued: 7 AM on the 1st of each month

The Monthly Climate Report gives an overview of the past month's weather from the Reno-Tahoe International and South Lake Tahoe Airports. It includes temperature, precipitation, degree days, pressure, wind and sky cover data. Normal values and departures from normal are also included.

Hourly Weather Roundup

FOS/WMO Header: ASUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORWRNV

Typically Issued: 10 minutes after each hour

The Hourly Weather Roundup is a text product which gives hourly weather for all of Nevada and the Northern and Central Sierra. It includes the following weather elements: sky/weather, temperature, dew point, relative humidity, wind, pressure, and remarks.

Morning and Evening Temperature and Precipitation Summary

FOS/WMO Header: ASUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORTPREV

Typically Issued: 1130 AM and 530 PM

The temperature and precipitation summary contains maximum and minimum temperatures, 24 hour precipitation, 24 hour snow fall and snow depth at sites through the county warning area.

Nevada State Temperature and Precipitation Summary

FOS/WMO Header: ASUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORTPNV

Typically Issued: 530 AM and 530 PM

The state temperature and precipitation summary contains maximum and minimum temperatures, 24 hour precipitation, 24 hour snow fall and snow depth at ASOS (Automated Surface Observing Station) sites through the state of Nevada.

Public Information Statement

FOS/WMO Header: NOUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOPNSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Public Information Statement is a text product which is issued to inform the public about certain important information which may or may not be weather related. This information can range from NOAA weather radio outages to storm total snowfall summaries to astronomical phenomenon.

Record Event Report

FOS/WMO Header: SXUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORERREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Record Event Report is sent out when any record is tied or broken at one of the NWS offices or a site where the NWS has sufficient climatological records to establish a record (at least 30 years). This would include record highs/lows and record rain or snowfall. A Record Event Report will state what type of record has been broken, what the old record was, and what the new record is.

Free Text Message

FOS/WMO Header: NWUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFTMRGX

Typically Issued: As needed

The Radar Free Text Message notifies users of radar outages that are planned because of maintenance. Another notification message is sent when the radar is restored to operational status.

Severe Weather Products

Hazardous Weather Outlook

FOS/WMO Header: FLUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOHWOREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Hazardous Weather Outlook is used to alert users of potential winter storms, severe thunderstorms, fire weather, non-precipitation or flood hazards that may occur within the next 7 days. It is designed to be a “heads up” to expected hazardous weather and its potential impact. The hazards that are included in the products include any current advisory, watch or warning in days one through seven (with the exception of short term events like severe thunderstorms or tornadoes and flash flooding). A spotter activation summary is also included.

Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Watch (rare in Reno forecast area)

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS20 KNWS

AWIPS Header: RNOSEL# (# is 0-9)

Typically Issued: As needed

The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) in Norman, Oklahoma issues tornado and severe thunderstorm watches for the country. Each watch is assigned a number, with the numbering system restarting at one at the beginning of each New Year. A watch means conditions are favorable for severe weather to occur and to be alert for any warnings issued by your local WFO office.

Watch Outline Update (rare in Reno forecast area)

FOS/WMO Header: WOUS64 KNWS

AWIPS Header: RNOWOU# (# is 0-9)

Typically Issued: As needed

The Watch Outline Update (WOU) product is a product issued by the Storm Prediction Center (SPC) in Norman Oklahoma to outline all counties included in a certain numbered severe thunderstorm or tornado watch. This product is updated after the top of every hour for watches that are in effect.

Watch County Notification (rare in Reno forecast area)

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWCNREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Watch County Notification (WCN) product is a product issued by WFO Reno. Once SPC issues the Watch Outline Update message (WOU), then WFO Reno will issue a WCN to outline counties in our forecast area in a tornado or severe thunderstorm watch. The WCN product is also issued to cancel, extend in time, or extend in area portions of a watch.

Tornado Warning (rare in Reno forecast area)

FOS/WMO Header: WFUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOTORREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Tornado Warning is issued when a tornado is imminent or occurring. Most warnings are issued based on radar depictions of rotation in storms while others are issued based on storm spotter reports.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WUUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSVRREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Severe Thunderstorm warning is issued when severe weather is imminent or occurring. Warnings are issued based on radar or spotter reports. A Severe Thunderstorm is defined as a storm that produces 58 mph winds or greater and/or 1 inch hail or larger in diameter. Tornadoes can develop quickly in severe thunderstorms and may occur even though a Tornado Warning is not in effect.

Severe Weather Statement

FOS/WMO Header: WUUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSVSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

Severe Weather Statements (SVS) provide the public, media, and emergency managers with updated information on current tornado and severe thunderstorm warnings. Included are updated location and timing information and any storm reports. Our goal is to issue at least one SVS while the warning is active. The SVS is also issued at the expiration of a warning or to cancel a warning early.

Special Weather Statement

FOS/WMO Header: WUUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSPSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Special Weather Statement (SPS) is more often used to augment the current forecast and highlight significant short-term weather that is not already covered in an advisory, watch, or warning product. Examples include a line of strong, but not severe, thunderstorms...or an area of moderately intense snow showers. The SPS can also be used to highlight significant forecast weather more generally out to Day 7.

Local Storm Report [[link to LSR maps](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: NWUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOLSRREV

Typically Issued: As needed

Local Storm Report (LSR) products are used to relay information on severe or other significant storm events to the media, emergency managers, and other NWS offices. LSR is used for both summer severe weather events and winter weather events. LSRs are normally issued as reports are received.

Winter Storm Products

Winter Storm Watch

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWSWREV (virtually all winter weather products are issued under this)

Typically Issued: As needed

A Winter Storm Watch is issued when the conditions are favorable for hazardous winter weather conditions to develop, but the occurrence is still uncertain. It is typically issued 2 to 4 days before a major event is expected to begin. Information included is the affected area, reason issued, potential snowfall amounts or ice accumulations, and the uncertainty involved.

Winter Storm Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWSWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Winter Storm Warning is issued whenever a combination of hazardous winter weather (typically heavy snow and strong winds) is expected and confidence is high. It is important to note that WFO Reno and its surrounding offices have different criteria for issuing winter storm warnings due to the varying topography, and these criteria can be amended due based on time of year (e.g. lower in early season) or impact/timing (e.g. rush hours).

Snow Criteria: For valley locations in Western Nevada and Eastern California (generally below 5,000'): 4" or more in 12 hours or 6" or more in 24 hours. For the Sierra Nevada and mountains of Eastern California between 5,000 and 7,000 feet: 8" or more in 12 hours or 12" or more in 24 hours; for locations above 7,000 feet: 12" or more in 12 hours or 18" or more in 24 hours.

Blizzard Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWSWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Blizzard Warning will be issued when sustained winds or frequent gusts of 35 mph or more with the visibility frequently below 1/4 mile in snow or blowing snow is occurring or expected for at least 3 hours. Blizzards pose serious threats to life and blizzard warnings are essentially the winter equivalent of a tornado warning.

Ice Storm Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWSWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

An Ice Storm Warning is issued when significant or damaging accumulations of ice are expected during freezing rain situations, usually 1/4 inch accumulation or greater. This is a very rare occurrence in the Reno forecast area.

Winter Weather Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWSWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Winter Weather Advisory is issued for snow, blowing snow, freezing rain, and/or sleet, with amounts below warning criteria. It is important to note that WFO Reno and its surrounding offices have different criteria for issuing winter weather advisories due to the varying topography, and these criteria can be amended due based on time of year (e.g. lower in early season) or impact/timing (e.g. rush hours).

Snow Criteria: For valley locations in Western Nevada and Eastern California (generally below 5,000'): 2-4" in 12 hours or 3-6" in 24 hours. For the Sierra Nevada and mountains of Eastern California between 5,000 and 7,000 feet: 4-8" in 12 hours or 6-12" in 24 hours; for locations above 7,000 feet: 6-12" in 12 hours or 9-18" in 24 hours.

Freezing Rain Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOWSWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Freezing Rain Advisory is issued when mainly freezing rain is expected to occur, but accumulations are expected to remain less than ¼ inch. Freezing rain is rare occurrence in the Reno forecast area but can occur after persistent valley inversions.

Avalanche Guidance

FOS/WMO Header: FWUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSAGREV

Typically Issued: 500 AM

Provides a backcountry forecast for the Sierra Nevada, which is used by the Sierra Avalanche and Eastern Sierra Avalanche Centers to produce avalanche forecasts and warnings.

Avalanche Bulletin

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSABREV

Typically Issued: 715 AM, If needed

Issued if either Avalanche Center expects an avalanche danger of considerable AND there are extenuating circumstances i.e. first sunny day or deep instabilities.

Avalanche Watch

FOS/WMO Header: WOUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOAVAREV

Typically Issued: 715 AM, If needed

Issued if either Avalanche Center expects extreme or high avalanche danger within the next 2 days.

Avalanche Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WOUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOAVWREV

Typically Issued: 715 AM, If needed

Issued if either Avalanche Center expects extreme or high avalanche danger, usually within 24 hours. These are situations where avalanche are (nearly) certain and there is a serious threat to life and property.

Fire Weather Products

Fire Weather Planning Forecast [[link to FWF](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: FNUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFWFREV

Typically Issued: 730 AM year-round, and also 330 PM in fire season (roughly May-Oct)

The Fire Weather Planning Forecast includes a forecast of relative humidity, hours of sunshine, precipitation amount, temperature, Lightning Activity Level (LAL) and wind. The FWF includes a brief synopsis of key weather of importance to the fire community over the next 7 days.

Fire Weather Point Forecast

FOS/WMO Header: FNUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFWMREV

Typically Issued: 400 PM in fire season (roughly May-Oct)

The Fire Weather Point Forecast produces a forecast at specific points in a specialized format which fire weather models utilize for various fire weather indices.

Fire Weather Watch

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORFWREV

Typically Issued: As needed, when fuels are sufficiently dry/cured

The Fire Weather Watch is issued for dangerous fire weather conditions for a combination of low relative humidity, strong winds and warm temperatures expected from 1 to 3 days in advance.

Watches can also be issued for widespread threat of dry lightning. This watch is issued after coordination with federal and state fire officials.

Red Flag Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORFWREV

Typically Issued: As needed, when fuels are sufficiently dry/cured

The Red Flag Warning is issued for dangerous fire weather conditions for a combination of low relative humidity, strong winds and warm temperatures. These warnings are typically issued 24 to 36 hours in advance of the critical fire weather event. Warnings can also be issued for widespread threat of dry lightning. This warning is issued after coordination with federal and state fire officials.

Dense Smoke Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Dense Smoke Advisory will be issued when heavy smoke is significantly reducing visibilities and also when the smoke is posing health concerns making it difficult to see and breathe.

Spot Forecast

FOS/WMO Header: FNUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFWSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

Spot forecasts are generated upon user request for prescribed burns or wildfires and provide specific point forecasts to the area impacted.

Aviation Products

Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) [[aviation page](#)]

FOS/WMO Header: FTUS80 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOTAFRNO, RNOTAFTRK, RNOTAFTVL, RNOTAFCXP, RNOTAFMMH

Typically Issued: 0540, 1140, 1740, and 2340 UTC; updated as needed

The Terminal Aerodrome Forecast is used by the general aviation community and by the commercial airline industry as a planning tool for upcoming flights. The TAF forecasts wind, visibility, weather, obstructions to visibility, and sky conditions within 5 nautical miles of the airport. Non-convective low-level wind shear will also be forecast if significant. WFO Reno issues TAFs for the airports at Reno, Truckee, South Lake Tahoe, Carson City, and Mammoth Lakes.

Soaring Forecast

FOS/WMO Header: UXUS97 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOSRGREV

Typically Issued: 700 AM

The Soaring forecast consists of local indices used for non-powered aircraft, current upper-air sounding winds and temperatures aloft, aviation weather forecasts, the local area forecast, and the sunrise and sunset data.

Hydrology/Flooding Products

Hydrologic Outlook

FOS/WMO Header: FGUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOESFREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Hydrologic Outlook is a long range probabilistic outlook from the Service Hydrologist and various other federal agencies. It normally is issued for the water supply outlook and snow pack conditions, but can also be issued as a long-lead time heads up for flooding potential due to storms and/or snow melt.

Hydrologic Summary

FOS/WMO Header: FGUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNORVSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Hydrologic Summary gives river stage, lake or reservoir capacity values at various points in the Reno NWS forecast area.

Flood Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WGUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFLWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Flood Warning is issued when forecast river points in the Reno warning area are forecast to be at flood levels or higher. This product can also be issued to cover widespread non-river flooding.

Flood Statement

FOS/WMO Header: WGUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFLSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Flood Statement is issued for river forecast points that are experiencing flooding or to update a flood warning. The product will detail when crests are forecast to occur and a forecast of river levels for the next 6 days. This product can also be used to update information on non-river flood warnings.

Flash Flood Watch

FOS/WMO Header: WGUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFFAREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Flash Flood Watch is issued when the threat for widespread flash flooding exists from heavy rainfall and/or melting snow combined with heavy rainfall. These can also be issued for specific recent burn scars which are more susceptible to flash flooding from even just a moderate rain.

Flash Flood Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WGUS55 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFFWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Flash Flood Warning is issued when the threat for widespread flash flooding is imminent or occurring. Flash flooding is normally characterized as fast, moving water. This product carries a similar urgency to a severe thunderstorm and tornado warning.

Flash Flood Statement

FOS/WMO Header: WGUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFFSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Flash Flood Statement is issued to follow up or cancel any Flash Flood Warnings that are in effect, and to provide the most updated information possible of the flash flooding threat.

Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WGUS85 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOFLSREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory is issued when flooding is a threat to urban areas or small streams, but the effects are not expected to be life threatening.

Reduced Visibility Products

Dense Fog Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV (all reduced visibility products are issued under this header)

Typically Issued: As needed

The Dense Fog Advisory is issued when widespread visibilities are at or below $\frac{1}{4}$ mile for an extended period of time.

Freezing Fog Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Freezing Fog Advisory is issued when widespread visibilities are at or below $\frac{1}{4}$ mile for an extended period of time with temperatures near or below freezing. Rime ice is expected to accumulate in the areas where the advisory has been issued. Slick roadways can be a problem in these situations.

Blowing Dust Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Blowing Dust Advisory is issued when widespread visibilities are at or below 1 mile but above $\frac{1}{4}$ mile due to blowing dust for any extended period of time.

Dust Storm Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Dust Storm Warning is issued during prolonged dry periods when strong winds can produce widespread visibilities in blowing dust at or below $\frac{1}{4}$ mile for any extended period of time.

Heat, Cold, Wind Related Products

Heat Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV (all reduced heat, cold, and wind products are issued under this header)

Typically Issued: As needed

A Heat Advisory may be issued when either of these two criteria is expected to be met (typically in valley locations, below 5000 feet): 1) High temperature expected to reach or exceed 105 degrees for at least 2 consecutive days; 2) High temperature expected to reach or exceed 100 degrees and the low temperature at or above 70 degrees for at least 2 consecutive days.

Wind Chill Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

Wind Chill Warning criteria varies by elevation. For areas below 7000 feet, wind chill values are expected to be below -20 F (must occur with at least 10 mph of wind) for at least an hour. For areas above 7000 feet (only applies to populated areas and ski resorts) wind chill values are expected to be below -35 F (must occur with at least 10 mph of wind) for at least an hour. If a Winter Storm Warning or Blizzard Warning is currently in effect, a Wind Chill Warning is not issued. *WFO Reno does not issue Wind Chill Advisories, only Warnings.*

Frost Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Frost Advisory is issued if winds are light and overnight low temperatures drop into the lower to middle 30s during the growing season. Frost develops under conditions similar to dew, except temperatures at the surface fall to freezing. *Frost Advisories are currently not issued by WFO Reno, but nearby WFO's do.*

Freeze Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Freeze Warning is issued when low temperatures of 30 degrees or less are forecast for a 50% or more of the agricultural and urban areas of a forecast zone during the growing season. The growing season is approximately May 15 through October 15, but can be adjusted if plant growth takes place early in a warm year. A **Freeze Watch** can be issued as a heads-up and precursor to a Warning, up to 3 days in advance when forecast confidence is medium. Colder non-agricultural areas such as low lying drainage basins, mountains, and high elevation valleys do not require the issuance of a freeze warning.

Wind Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Wind Advisory is issued when sustained wind speeds of 30-39 mph that will persist for three hours or longer, or for any gusts of 45-57 mph. *Wind Advisories are not issued above 7000 feet.*

Lake Wind Advisory

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Lake Wind Advisory is issued when sustained wind of 20+ mph or gusts 30+ mph over lake surfaces are expected for over 3 hours. During the winter season, Lake Wind Advisories are only issued for Lake Tahoe and Pyramid Lake. In summer they are issued for all lakes. If a Wind Advisory is issued for a particular area, a Lake Wind Advisory is not issued.

High Wind Watch

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The High Wind Watch is issued for the potential for sustained winds of 40 mph or higher for one hour and/or gusts to 58 mph or greater. A watch is typically issued 1-3 days in advance of the occurrence of the event.

High Wind Warning

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNONPWREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The High Wind Warning is issued when sustained winds of 40 mph or higher for one hour and/or gusts to 58 mph or higher are imminent within the next 1-2 days. Above 7000 feet, warnings are issued for sustained winds 50+ mph and/or gusts 75+ mph (excluding ridge tops). High profile vehicles such as semi-trailers and mobile homes will be especially vulnerable to the strong winds.

Non-Weather Emergency Products

Civil Emergency Message

FOS/WMO Header: WOUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOCEMREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Civil Emergency Message is initiated by local, state, county or law enforcement officials to inform the public of critical non-weather related information. This can include: toxic and or chemical releases, severe air pollution events, evacuations, and 911 outages.

Air Quality Alert

FOS/WMO Header: AEUS75 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOAQAREV

Typically Issued: As needed

Air quality alerts and/or burn bans for the Reno/Sparks area are relayed from the Washoe County Health Department via this product. Air Stagnation Advisories can also be issued from the NWS for periods of prolonged inversions and light winds.

Earthquake Report

FOS/WMO Header: SEUS65 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOEQRREV

Typically Issued: As needed

A Preliminary earthquake report will be issued if an earthquake is felt in the area. Updated information will be issued once the intensity of the earthquake is known.

Child Abduction Emergency – AMBER Alert

FOS/WMO Header: NZUS45 KREV

AWIPS Header: RNOCAEREV

Typically Issued: As needed

The Child Abduction Emergency Message or Amber Alert is used by law enforcement to advise the public of a child abduction. Information contained within the Amber Alert will detail the child, the abductor and any other specific information pertaining to the abduction.

VTEC (Valid Time Event Code)

VTEC was designed for use by media and other means of communication to better track certain event times and expirations. On the next page is a one-pager summarizing the VTEC information.

- P-VTEC will be used for most NWS watch, warning and advisory products.
- H-VTEC is used only for hydrology products.

Below is an example VTEC-encoded product. The yellow highlight is the P-VTEC code, which is described on the following page.

```
WFUS55 KREV 291454
TORREV
NVC027-291530-
/O.NEW.KREV.TO.W.0001.110629T1454Z-110629T1530Z/

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED
TORNADO WARNING
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RENO NV
754 AM PDT WED JUN 29 2011

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN RENO HAS ISSUED A

* TORNADO WARNING FOR...
  EXTREME EAST CENTRAL PERSHING COUNTY IN WEST CENTRAL NEVADA...

* UNTIL 830 AM PDT

* AT 751 AM PDT...NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A
  SEVERE THUNDERSTORM CAPABLE OF PRODUCING A TORNADO OVER EXTREME
  EAST CENTRAL PERSHING COUNTY...OR 17 MILES SOUTHWEST OF VALMY...
  MOVING NORTHEAST AT 30 MPH.
```

Here's an example of a product with H-VTEC...in this case a flood warning. The H-VTEC is the second highlighted line. The P-VTEC is the first line.

```
WGUS45 KREV 021619
FLWREV

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED
FLOOD WARNING
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RENO NV
819 AM PST SUN DEC 2 2012

NVC005-029-031-510-030215-
/O.NEW.KREV.FA.W.0002.121202T1619Z-121203T0215Z/
/OO000.O.ER.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.OO/
STOREY NV-DOUGLAS NV-WASHOE NV-CARSON CITY NV-
819 AM PST SUN DEC 2 2012

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN RENO HAS ISSUED A

* FLOOD WARNING FOR URBAN AREAS AND SMALL STREAMS IN...
  CARSON CITY IN WESTERN NEVADA...
  THIS INCLUDES THE CITY OF CARSON CITY...
  WESTERN DOUGLAS COUNTY IN WESTERN NEVADA...
  THIS INCLUDES THE CITY OF GARDNERVILLE...
  WESTERN STOREY COUNTY IN WESTERN NEVADA...
  THIS INCLUDES THE CITY OF VIRGINIA CITY...
  SOUTHWESTERN WASHOE COUNTY IN WESTERN NEVADA...
  THIS INCLUDES THE CITIES OF...RENO...INCLINE VILLAGE...

* UNTIL 615 PM PST SUNDAY
```

P-VTEC String: /k.aaa.cccc.pp.s.####.yymmddThhnnZ_B-yymmddThhnnZ_E/
H-VTEC String: /nwsli.s.ic.yymmddThhnnZ_B.yymmddThhnnZ_C.yymmddThhnnZ_E.fr/

P-VTEC String
Event Group
 k - Product Class (O, T, E, X)
 aaa - Action (NEW, CON, EXT, EXA, EXB, UPG, CAN, EXP, COR, ROU)
 cccc - Office ID (e.g., KLWX)
 pp - Phenomena (e.g., BZ, FF - see table)
 s - Significance (W, A, Y, S, F, O, N)
 #### - Event Tracking Number (ETN) - (e.g., 0001, 0002, etc.)
 ETN is coded as 0000 for ROU events.

Product Class (k)	Actions (aaa)	Phenomena (pp)
O - Operational product	NEW - New event	AF - Ashfall
T - Test product	CON - Event continued	AS - Air Stagnation
E - Experimental product	EXT - Event extended (time)	BS - Blowing Snow
X - Experimental VTEC in an Operational product	EXA - Event extended (area)	BW - Brisk Wind
	EXB - Event extended (both time and area)	BZ - Blizzard
	UPG - Event upgraded	CF - Coastal Flood
	CAN - Event cancelled	DS - Dust Storm
	EXP - Event expired	DU - Blowing Dust
	COR - Correction	EC - Extreme Cold
	ROU - Routine	EH - Excessive Heat
		EW - Extreme Wind
		FA - Areal Flood
		FF - Flash Flood
		FG - Dense Fog
		FL - Flood
		FR - Frost
		FW - Fire Weather
		FZ - Freeze
		GL - Gale
		HF - Hurricane Force Wind
		HI - Inland Hurricane
		HS - Heavy Snow
		HT - Heat
		HU - Hurricane
		HW - High Wind
		HY - Hydrologic
		HZ - Hard Freeze
		IP - Icestorm
		IS - Ice Storm
		LB - Lake Effect Snow and Blowing Snow
		LE - Lake Effect Snow
		LO - Low Water
		LS - Lakeshore Flood
		LW - Lake Wind
		MA - Marine
		MB - Small Craft for Rough Bar
		MC - Snow and Blowing Snow
		SC - Small Craft
		SE - Hazardous Seas
		SI - Small Craft for Winds
		SM - Dense Smoke
		SN - Snow
		SR - Storm
		SU - High Surf
		SV - Severe Thunderstorm
		SW - Small Craft for Hazardous Seas
		TI - Inland Tropical Storm
		TO - Tornado
		TR - Tropical Storm
		TS - Tsunami
		TY - Typhoon
		UP - Ice Accretion
		WC - Wind Chill
		WI - Wind
		WS - Winter Storm
		WW - Winter Weather
		ZF - Freezing Fog
		ZR - Freezing Rain

H-VTEC String
Event Group
 nwsli - NWS Location Identifier
 s - Flood Severity (0, N, 1, 2, 3, U)
 ic - Immediate Cause (ER, SM, etc.)
 fr - Flood Record (NO, NR, UU, OO)

NWS Location Identifier (nwsli)	Flood Timing	Immediate Cause (ic)
FALK2 - Sample NWSLI - first three characters unique to a point, last two characters unique to the state/territory	yymmddThhnnZ _B - time flood stage/flow is exceeded	ER - Excessive Rainfall
00000 - NWSLI is coded as zeros for areal products	yymmddThhnnZ _C - time of maximum stage/flow	SM - Snowmelt
	yymmddThhnnZ _E - time for fall below flood stage/flow	RS - Rain and Snowmelt
		DM - Dam or Levee Failure
		IJ - Ice Jam
		GO - Glacier-Dammed Lake Outburst
		IC - Rain and/or Snowmelt and/or Ice Jam
		FS - Upstream Flooding plus Storm Surge

Flood Severity (s)
 N - None
 0 - areal flood or flash flood products
 1 - Minor
 2 - Moderate
 3 - Major
 U - Unknown

Flood Record Status (fr)
 NO - A record flood is not expected
 NR - Near record or record flood expected
 UU - Flood without a period of record to compare
 OO - For areal flood warnings, areal flash flood products, and flood advisories (point and areal)

Flood Record Status (fr)
 FT - Upstream Flooding plus Tidal Effects
 ET - Elevated Upstream Flow plus Tidal Effects
 WT - Wind and/or Tidal Effects
 DR - Upstream Dam or Reservoir Release
 MC - Other Multiple Causes
 OT - Other Effects
 UU - Unknown