

National Weather Service

Product Description Document (PDD)

Experimental Product

January, 2014

Adaptable NWS Forecast/Warning/Observation Widget and Web Page

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Service Description:

This tool is meant to allow any web developer the ability to add National Weather Service (NWS) point forecast, warning, and observation displays directly to their own web pages with no coding necessary. This type of tool is often known as a “widget” and is defined as portion of a webpage and does something useful with information fetched from another website (in this case, the NWS’s) and displayed in place. NWS widgets are an oft-requested feature by a broad range of NWS customers, or would be customers.

As this widget is adaptable, it has the capability of being embedded in a customer’s web page at varying widths while adapting to the allotted width by dynamically altering the content as appropriate. Example links are provided in section 4 below. An added benefit to this adaptability, is the ability for this widget to be used in its stand-alone format as a forecast warning, and observation web page that works seamlessly from standard PC screens, to tablets, to smartphones.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

This tool’s simple integration into any web page, will allow a broad range of users the ability to embed NWS forecast warning, and observation data seamlessly, while providing for a consistent look and feel, and assurance that NWS data is being used as intended.

In addition, this tool’s ability to be used across a broad variety of devices, from PC to smartphone, meets the frequently requested ability for our core customers to more-easily access data on mobile devices while having the ability to view the same page at their PC.

3. Audience:

Given the ability to be easily embedded in web development projects or simply be used directly on ones PC or mobile device, the audience base is wide: ranging from the general public to our core customers.

4. Presentation Format:

The tool has two primary presentation options:

- i. *embedded within a PC-based (non-mobile) web page:*
<http://innovation.srh.noaa.gov/NWSwidget/about.php>
- ii. *stand-alone in a mobile/smartphone web browser*
<http://innovation.srh.noaa.gov/NWSwidget/?lat=31.7699559&lon=-106.4968055>

5. Feedback Method:

Comments or suggestions for this product will be directed to:

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phone: 817-978-1100x122
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Part 2 – Technical

1. Format and Science Basis:

All pages are built using HTML 5 and JavaScript, leveraging the open source jQuery and the adaptive design (dynamically adapting from PC to mobile devices) Twitter Bootstrap framework. They are built on a foundation of HTML to ensure compatibility with a wide range of web-enabled devices.

2. Availability:

This tool will be made available on the Southern Region webfarm.