National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NWS and GA Safety

Cyndie Abelman
NOAA/NWS Aviation Weather Services
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Photo courtesy of Aaron A. Gilstad of North Dakota Atmospheric Resource Board
A few topics...

- NTSB Recommendations
- Training
- Modernization
NTSB Recommendations

- Consistent weather information
  - Aviation weather information should be consistent with other user’s information
    - Public, marine, aviation, etc. should be consistent
- Mountain wave activity
  - Provide a specific product for mountain wave activity
- Enhance communication within the NWS
  - Ensure mutual situational awareness
- Standardized guidance on weighting PIREPs
  - Promote consistent determination of hazard severity
  - Assist in product issuance
Where do we go from here?

- NWS provides a response to the NTSB within 90 days
- We work with our partners and users to determine a way forward

A few things in progress...
NTSB Recommendations

Digital Aviation Services

- Using NDFD for consistent forecast elements
**NTSB Recommendations**

**Mountain Wave Activity**

- AWC Aviation Weather Testbed developing new tool

Images:
- 48-Hour Forecast Valid 15 UTC 20 March 2014
- 12-Hour Forecast Valid 15 UTC 20 March 2014
- Visible Satellite Image 15Z 20 March 2014

Visible Satellite Image 15Z 20 March 2014:
- Aircraft Tracks
- Eddy Dissipation Rate (EDR; ≥ “moderate” in boxes)
- Mountain Wave in PIREP remarks (wave icon)
Training

- Partnership with AOPA Air Safety Institute
  - Provide funding through a Grant for online GA weather training
  - Topics like:
    - Thunderstorms and ATC
    - Ceiling and Visibility
    - Precipitation and Icing
    - Airmasses and Fronts
    - VFR into IMC
  - Over 200,000 views since 2006
- AWC provides guest presenter for webinars
Other Changes

Transition of Area Forecast

- NWS needs to modernize our aviation products and services
  - Area Forecast largely unchanged for years
  - No forecast for IFR
  - No forecast of weather under 3000 sq mi
  - Character limitations resulting in weather information left out of forecast
- Transition to digital products already in place
- FAA has notice in Federal Register for comment until August 4, 2014