

# Automated Weather Systems- The User Perspective



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# ASOS/AWOS

- **Overall, no complaints from members on either system**
- **No accidents/incidents where ASOS/AWOS have been a casual factor that we're aware of**
- **Need to be looking at opportunity where other types of surface observations are available, federal or non federal**
- **Weather cameras/non certified systems**



# Weather Cameras



## Alaska FAA Weather Camera Program

- Near real-time weather information to pilots
- Sometimes co-located with AWOS units
- Efforts being made to place cameras in mountain passes which lack other observations

# Compare current to clear day image

METARs

Supplemental Weather

TAFs

Image Times in UTC. (ADT = UTC - 8) (AST = UTC - 9)

Latest NorthEast (039° true) Camera Image

Clear Day Image (NorthEast)



NorthEast Cam

NorthEast Loop...



SouthWest Cam

SouthWest Loop...

# Video Loop provides trend information

Summit NorthEast Image Loop

UTC 16:38:10 Local 08:38:10

Summit

Back

Play

Play Once

Stop

Forward

Slower

Faster

Set Start

Set End

Reset

*Click a frame to jump to that image*



Fri 03 Aug 2012 14:20:44 UTC  
Fri 03 Aug 2012 06:20:44 AKDT

Summit - NorthEast  
See <http://avcams.faa.gov> for more information



FAA supplementary weather product.

# Added value of the camera...

McKinley Park

UTC 16:46:32 Local 08:46:32

Images

METARs

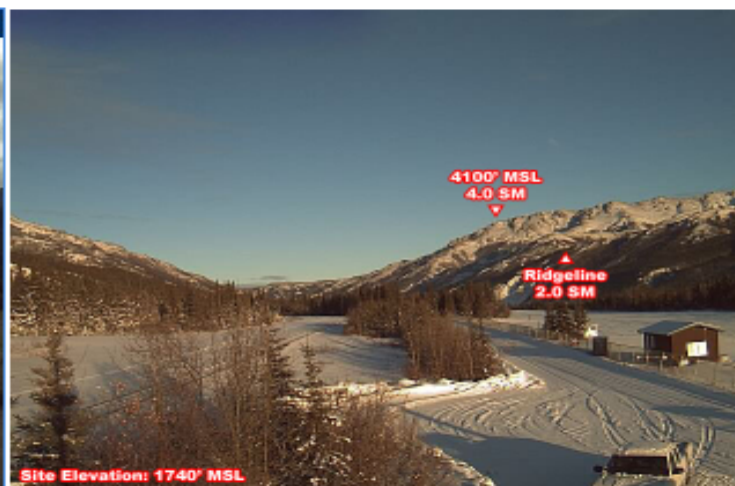
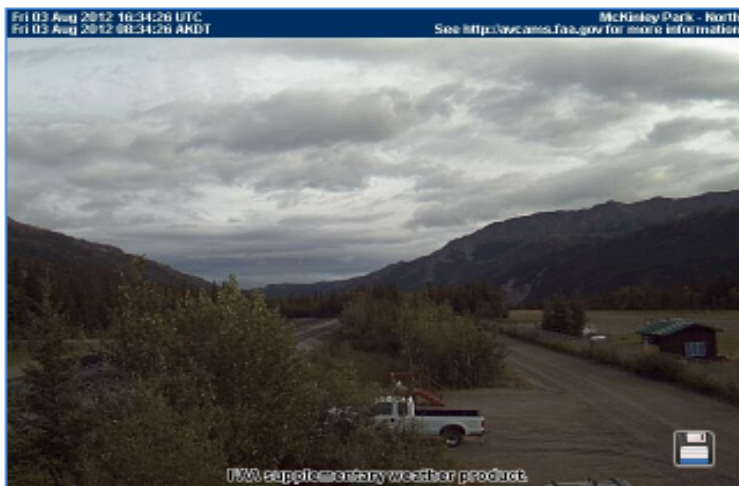
Supplemental Weather

TAFs

Image Times in UTC. (ADT = UTC - 8) (AST = UTC - 9)

Latest North (004° true) Camera Image

Clear Day Image (North)



North Cam

North Loop...



South Cam

South Loop...

AWOS at the time: **PAIN AP 3 1636Z CLR 10 46 43 00000 998**

Click **Latest Image** or **Clear Day Image** to view at full scale.

# Alaska Weather Camera



## Benefits:

- **Improved weather situational awareness**
- **Aid pilots in making better decisions**
- **Fills gaps where no other weather data is available**

## Limitations:

- **Daytime only information**

## Future:

- **Need research to evaluate low-light or thermal sensors**
- **Consider human factors of data presentation**



# Exploring options: Certified vs. Non-Certified



## Low cost technology

- **As Alaskan NWS observers (A-PAID) are being replaced, we need to explore options that provide critical access to surface weather**
- **While understanding that the FAA and NWS are working together on options, regardless of if it is certified or non certified, any enchantment is a safety plus**
- **Weather data must be distributed to users via all normal weather delivery modes**





# Contact Information

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