



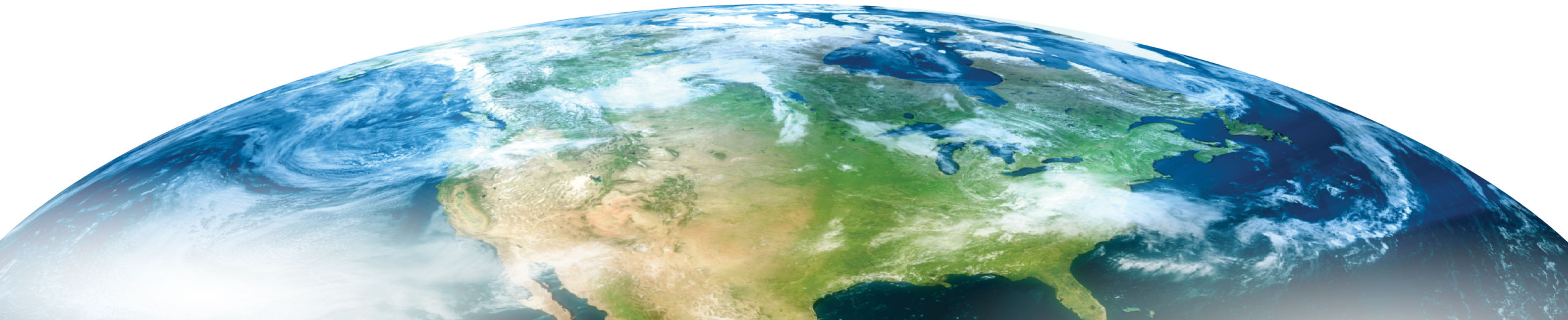
Next**GEN**

# ANG-C6 Weather Needs Portal (WNP)

Presented by: Rebecca E. Kotten

Presented to: 2023 FPAW Annual Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 15 November 2023



# Outline

- Overview of ANG-C6 Weather Needs Portal (WNP)
- Review of Closed WNP Items (2)
- Review of Open WNP Items (7)
- Open Discussion and Q&A

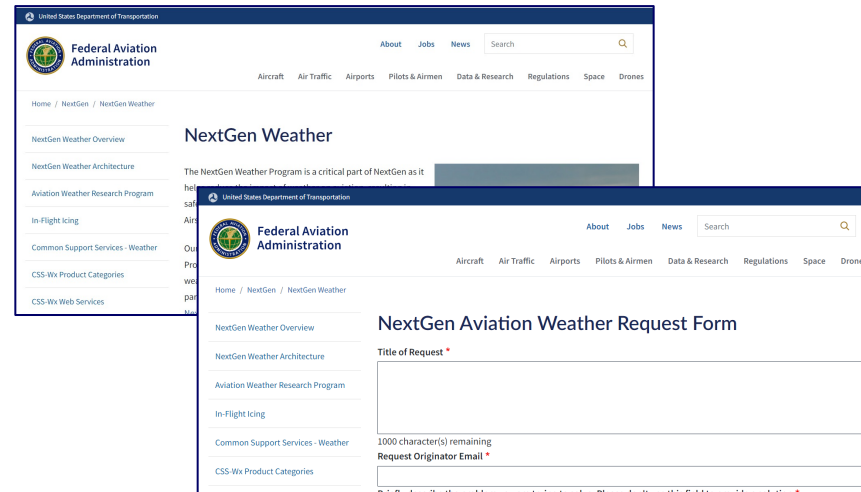


# Overview of ANG-C6 WNP

- Website for aviation stakeholders to submit requests for weather-related products and services to the FAA's Aviation Weather Division (ANG-C6)

<https://www.faa.gov/nextgen/programs/weather/suggestions/>

- Requests are directed to the Policy & Requirements Branch (ANG-C64)
  - [9-AWA-ANG-C64-WxReqs@faa.gov](mailto:9-AWA-ANG-C64-WxReqs@faa.gov)
  - [Rebecca.E.Kotten@faa.gov](mailto:Rebecca.E.Kotten@faa.gov)
- Template asks for:
  - Description of problem
  - Existing operational gaps
  - Benefits to aviation
  - Potential users
  - Proposed solution



The top screenshot shows the FAA NextGen Weather overview page. The sidebar menu includes: Home / NextGen / NextGen Weather, NextGen Weather Overview, NextGen Weather Architecture, Aviation Weather Research Program, In-Flight Icing, Common Support Services - Weather, CSS-Wx Product Categories, and CSS-Wx Web Services. The main content area is titled 'NextGen Weather' and contains introductory text about the program.

The bottom screenshot shows the 'NextGen Aviation Weather Request Form'. It includes a 'Title of Request' field, a 'Request Originator Email' field, and a large text area for the request description. A character count shows '1000 character(s) remaining'. A note at the bottom states: 'Briefly describe the problem you are trying to solve. Please don't use this field to provide a solution.'



*Scan this QR Code to  
go directly to the WNP  
Submission Form*

# Overview of ANG-C6 WNP

1. Description of problem
  - Problem statement
  - Clearly state the need, its impacts, etc. without mentioning proposed solution
2. Existing operational gaps
  - List the existing detriments and areas that are at a disadvantage without this information
3. Benefits to aviation
  - List the “pros” – why would fulfilling this need benefit the aviation domain?
4. Potential users
  - Clearly state the impacted users of the proposed change
5. Proposed solution
  - Explain the desired solution to the problem statement
6. Other background information
  - List any other information that would be important for ANG-C6 to know



# Review of Closed WNP Items

- NOAA/NCEP Flight Level Height
  - Problem: Assessing accuracy of flight level height calculations
  - Requestor: Eugene Fortunato, FAA
  - Solution: Need met through other means; closed April 2021\*
- Operational Understanding of Weather Forecast Quality
  - Problem: Operators need better understanding of accuracy and stability of weather forecast information
  - Requestor: Vern Payne, FAA
  - Solution: Coordination with ANG-C61 (Bass\*); closed July 2021\*

Note: Change of WNP lead in January 2022; change of C61 Manager in May 2023





# Review of Closed WNP Items

- Miscellaneous requests
  - New TAF for KSTK (Logan County, CO)
  - Student opportunities
  - TV interviews
  - NextGen Weather Processor (NWP) implementation status
  - Climatological data
  - Chemtrails



# Review of Open WNP Items

- ASOS Improved Present Weather Sensor
  - Problem: Automated ASOS systems cannot detect drizzle, freezing drizzle, ice pellets, or hail, which are important for aircraft deicing/anti-icing operations
  - Requestor: Randy Baker, UPS
  - Status: ANG-C63 (McGettigan, Passetti) finalized tech transfer to FAA AJM-3 and NWS; NWS ASOS Technical Advisory Committee has all necessary documentation and are *considering* the documentation for inclusion in the PWS procurement
- ASOS Cloud Ceilings up to 25,000 ft
  - Problem: Reporting of cloud ceilings up to 25,000 ft would support frost and fog forecasting for aviation
  - Requestor: Randy Baker, UPS
  - Status: ANG-C61 (Colavito) conducted literature review; Weather Community of Interest (COI) adopted as Problem Statement 54. Operational Needs Analysis found the change is within scope of FAA program requirements. COI sub-team is currently analyzing any safety impacts of the change. A Safety Risk Management (SRM) panel review may be needed before the change is approved.



# Review of Open WNP Items

- METAR Snow Intensities based on Liquid Water Equivalent (LWE)
  - Problem: LWE is a more accurate measurement than visibility for snow intensity and has impacts on determining holdover times (HOT) for de-icing
  - Requestor: Randy Baker, UPS
  - Status: Presented to FAA Weather COI Winter Weather Special Weather Action Team (SWAT) (DiVito) as a Problem Statement
- Operational Assimilation of Disparate Automated In-Situ Turbulence Sensing Applications
  - Problem: New and emerging automated turbulence sensing technologies are available, and research is needed to identify calibration criteria
  - Requestor: Nathan Polderman, United
  - Status: Recommendation in NTSB Turbulence Safety Report; FAA funding MITRE to do collaboration study, which is about to begin Phase 2





# Review of Open WNP Items

- Global Rapid Turbulence Forecast, “Nowcast” (GTG-N)
  - Problem: Request for FAA to research and develop a global “Nowcast” turbulence model”
  - Requestor: Matthew Eckstein, Delta Airlines
  - Status: ANG-C61 intends to fund research pending funding availability, but ANG-C64 needs to validate requirement. Work will begin with validated requirement
- Removal of Tower Visibility from METAR/SPECI
  - Problem: At airports with tall towers, tower visibility vs. surface visibility can differ, which impacts RVR; moving tower visibility into RMK section would alleviate issue
  - Requestor: Randy Baker, UPS
  - Status: FAA ANG and AFS need to discuss further and determine path forward



# Review of Open WNP Items

- Enhancements for PIREP Detection
  - Problem: “We would like to be able to better identify conditions which warrant PIREP solicitation and dissemination by ATC, as well as determine the origin of a PIREP report (e.g., ATC or Pilot).”
  - Requestor: Zach McElwain, FAA
  - Status: Will be forwarded to Weather COI PIREP SWAT (Pokodner)



# Open Discussion & Q&A

- Any feedback for ANG-C6?
  - How can we improve the WNP?
  - Are there better avenues for communication?
  - Are there gaps between ANG-C6 and user community?



# Thank you!

For questions, concerns, or more information, please contact:

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