

Airspace Capacity: Operational Pain Points and Needs 4/11/21 Case Study

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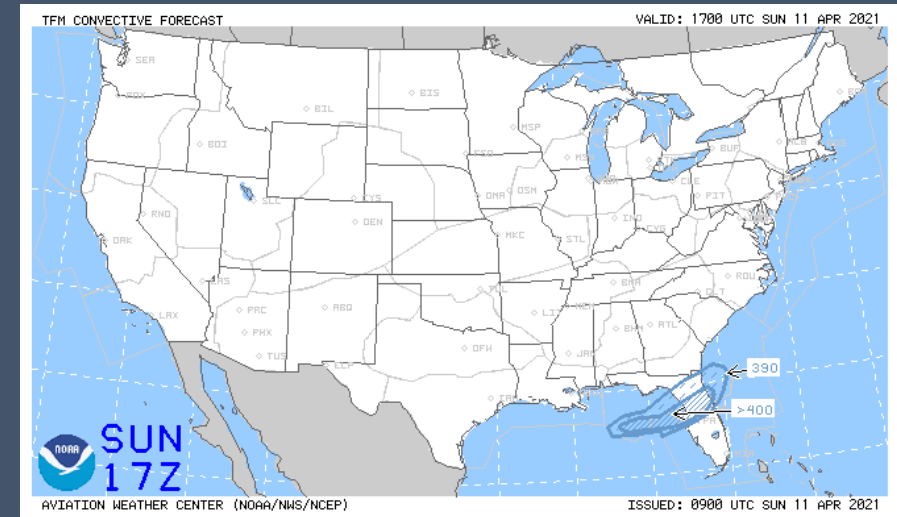
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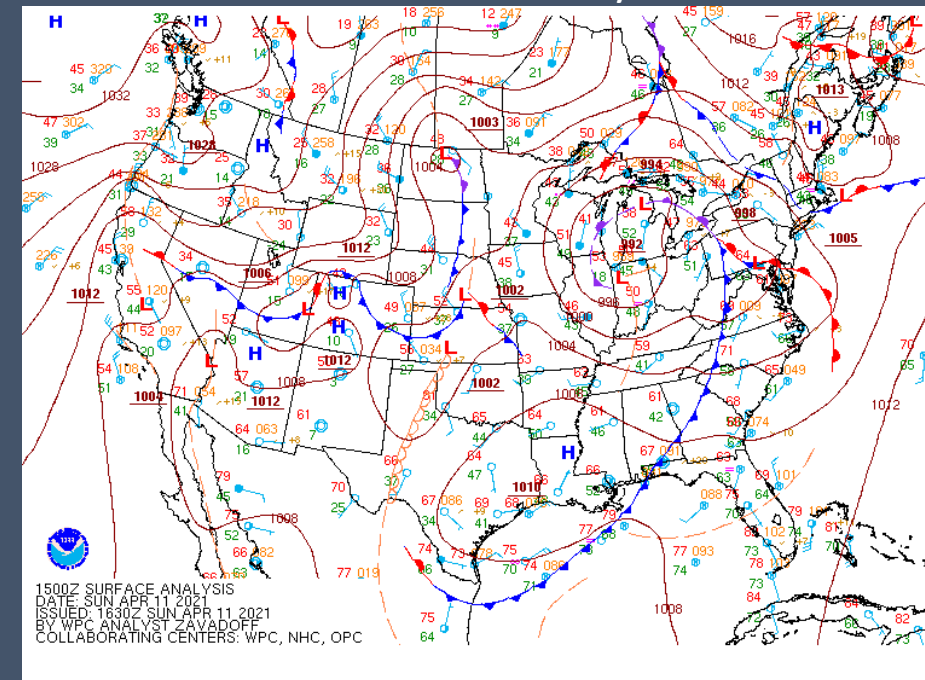
Event Synopsis

- On 4/11/21, low pressure and associated cold front generated strong convection with high tops and extensive lightning across the state
- Convection was well forecasted on TCF and Aviation Impact Graphic from ATCSCC
- Two AFPs (FL1 and FL2) were issued to manage the demand for the initial impacts to north and central Florida
- Additional mitigation was needed, and an all-Florida landing GS advisory was issued
- As convection continued pushed south, a ZMA GS was issued

17Z TCF

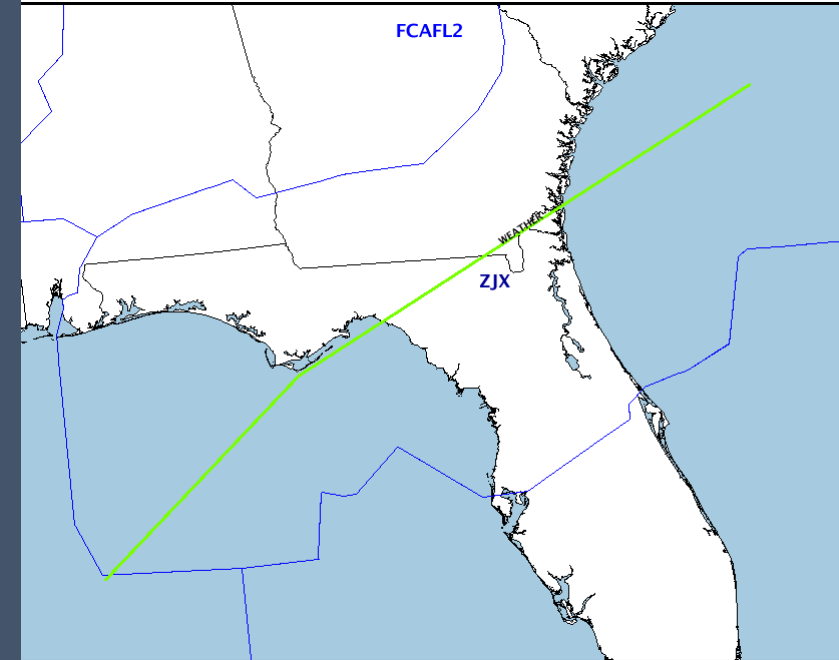
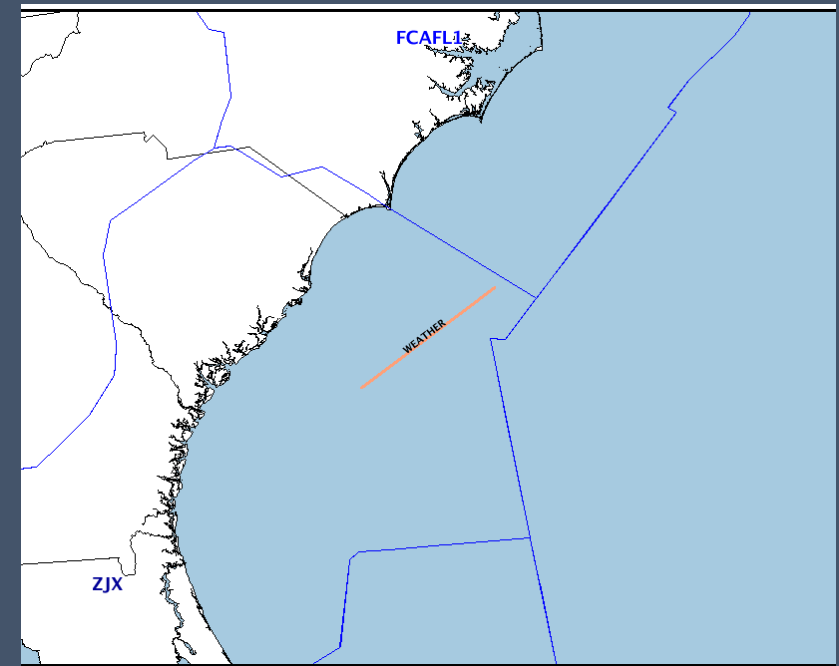


15Z Surface Analysis



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Video

Impacts

Delta:

- 212 Cancellations impacting 19,214 customers over two-day period
- 26 Diversions
- 45 Gate Returns
- Total delay count is not accurate given the lack of EDCTs in the ground stops
- An advisory based GS is extremely challenging, coupled with a plan that is in constant flux yields an inability to manage our flights

American:

- 330 Cancellations impacting 36,434 customers over two-day period
- 24 Diversions
- 25 Gate Returns (FLA)
- 50 Gate Returns (non-FLA)
- Getting flights into MIA without ability to get flights out of MIA exacerbated customer impact
- Limited diversion alternate availability due to all FLA impact

Future Needs

- More scientific method to assess needed airspace reduction (geographically, temporally, and capacity)
- Targeted geographical FCAs
- Dynamic FCAs
- More dynamic recovery of airspace