

RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Friends and Partners in Aviation Weather (FPAW)¹ Meeting

In person

On 4/17/2019 at 0815 EST

The Friends and Partners in Aviation Weather (FPAW) held their spring meeting on April 16 and 17, 2019. During the morning of April 17, 2019, a session was held to discuss the “Next Generation of HEMS² Weather Tool.” The session started off with a historical discussion of where the HEMS Weather Tool had come from, where it was presently, and some ideas on the future of the HEMS Weather Tool. During the question and answer portion of the session, a question was asked if the HEMS Weather Tool could incorporate or overlay the Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR) information. The Aviation Weather Center (AWC) responded that they did not think there would be an issues preventing adding TDWR overlay to the HEMS Weather Tool and would take it as an action item to see if feasible and on what time scale it could be added or accomplished. TDWR locations are found in figure 1. TWDR coverage areas in feet above ground level are found in figure 2. Another question was asked regarding any thoughts on providing visual information to pilots on the map regarding coverage limitations on the radar at low altitudes. The answer detailed how human factors is important and providing TDWR would fix that problem. During a question directed at the audience about risks or challenges they foresaw facing HEMS, a comment was made regarding the importance of understanding how the HEMS tool is being used by its users now and reassessing assumptions made at the beginning of the project to address any differences in use.

¹ Link to FPAW agenda and presentations: <https://ral.ucar.edu/events/2019/friends-and-partners-in-aviation-weather>

² Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS)



Figure 1 – TDWR locations

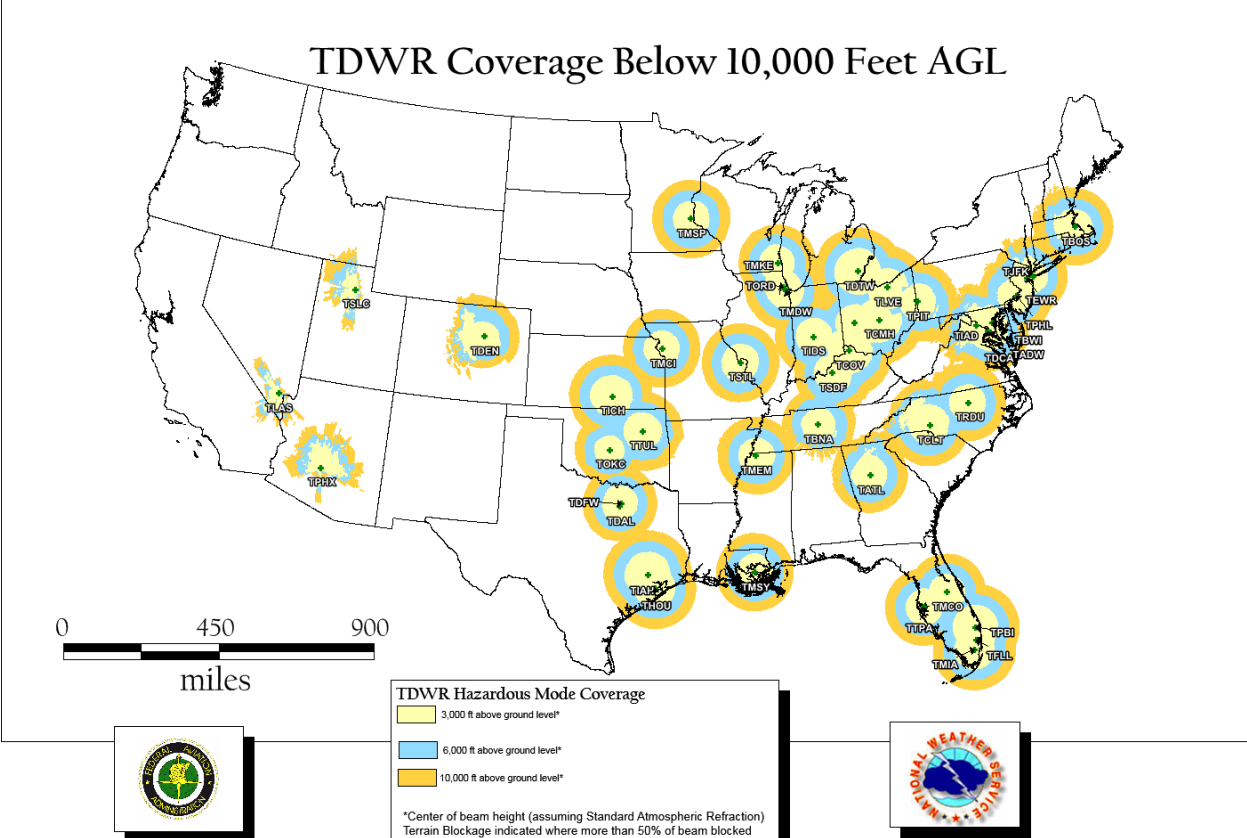


Figure 2 – TDWR coverage

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