CCFP 2014

Overview of the Collaborative Convective Forecast Product

NOAA/NWS/Aviation Weather Center

Jan 30, 2014

CCFP 2014 Changes

No change to CCFP forecast criteria or valid times for 2014. Forecast valid times are still 4-6-8 hours after issuance time.

Some changes have been made to the collaboration software and interface.

ASB will provide a demonstration of collaboration software changes.

CCFP 2014 Schedule

Begin: 3 Mar, 0300 EST

End: 31 Oct, 1900 EDT

(Southern Ontario/Quebec: 1 Apr-30 Sep)

Schedule for Final Graphics:

0300 through 2100 (Eastern time, every 2 hours)

30 minute Collaboration Sessions:

:15 through :45 during hour prior to Final Graphics

chats open not later than :15

chats close automatically at :45

CCFP in Canada

- **Covers far southern Ontario/Quebec.**
- **Produced by Met Services Canada (Montreal).**
- **MSC has final responsibility for their area.**
- **ZMP/ZOB/ZBW direct chat input to MSC.**
- **AWC draws finals per MSC maps/chat.**
- **MSC participation begins April 1 and ends September 30.**

AWC CCFP shifts

Mid shift 0000-0800 Central

produces 07z, 09z, 11z, 13z cycles (DST)

Day shift 0700-1500 Central

produces 15z, 17z, 19z cycles (DST)

Eve shift 1300-2100 Central

produces 21z, 23z, 01z cycles (DST)

CCFP desk not staffed from 2100-0000 Central

CCFP 2014 Forecasters

Mike McCoy (13th season)

Bill Barlow (11th season)

JoAnn Becker (6th season)

Ingrid Greenwall (1st season)

Gregory Harris (1st season)

CCFP 2hr Production Cycle

- **AWC develops preliminary maps (1 hr 15 min)**
- **AWC opens chat *at/before h:15***
- **Participants log into chat (30 min)**
- **Participants collaborate on changes to prelims**
- **AWC moderates chat, considers suggestions**
- **Chat closes automatically *at h:45***
- **AWC edits maps/transmits finals (15 min)**
- **Reset for next production cycle**

CCFP Minimum Criteria

Polygon of at least 3000 sq mi in which there is at least subjective low (25-49%) confidence in:

25% or greater coverage of the following:

40+ dbz Composite Reflectivity

and

FL250+ Echo Tops

Lightning is not part of CCFP criteria.

What CCFP is and is not:

CCFP is *not* a Thunderstorm forecast

CCFP is *not* a Terminal forecast

CCFP is *not* a TRACON forecast

***CCFP is* an *Echo Tops/Coverage* forecast, used for *en-route*, strategic planning.**

Usually, if tops criteria is met, reflectivity criteria is also met.

CCFP Echo Tops

Labeled as follows, inside each area:

25000→29000 MSL = "290"

30000→34000 MSL = "340"

35000→39000 MSL = "390"

40000+ MSL = ">400"

If an area is too small, or areas are nested, top labels may be outside of areas, connected via arrows. Tops are not shown on the chat whiteboard but are displayed on the preliminary maps.

CCFP Echo Tops example

Need *Scattered* (>25%) coverage

Example: within an area we forecast…

isol 400+, wdly sct 350-390, ***sct 300-340*****,** bkn 250-290

<10% 10-24% *25-39%* 40-74%

Graphic will show sparse coverage and *340* tops

*CCFP tops are **not** MAX tops*

CCFP Confidence

Subjective confidence in minimum criteria,

(25% coverage of FL250+ echo tops)

regardless of attributes shown on the polygon.

Confidence indicated via color of polygon.

Low confidence (25-49%) in grey

High confidence (50-100%) in blue

CCFP Coverage

Sparse (Low) 25-39% (hatching)

Medium 40-74% (lines)

High 75-100% (solid fill)

Important note

For med or high coverage, confidence is blue (high)

Confidence (by definition) refers to meeting minimum criteria (25% coverage of FL250+ tops and 40+ dbz composite reflectivity), regardless of the attributes shown via the polygon.

CCFP Convective Lines

Two Types of Convective Lines

Solid Line (75-100%, solid purple)

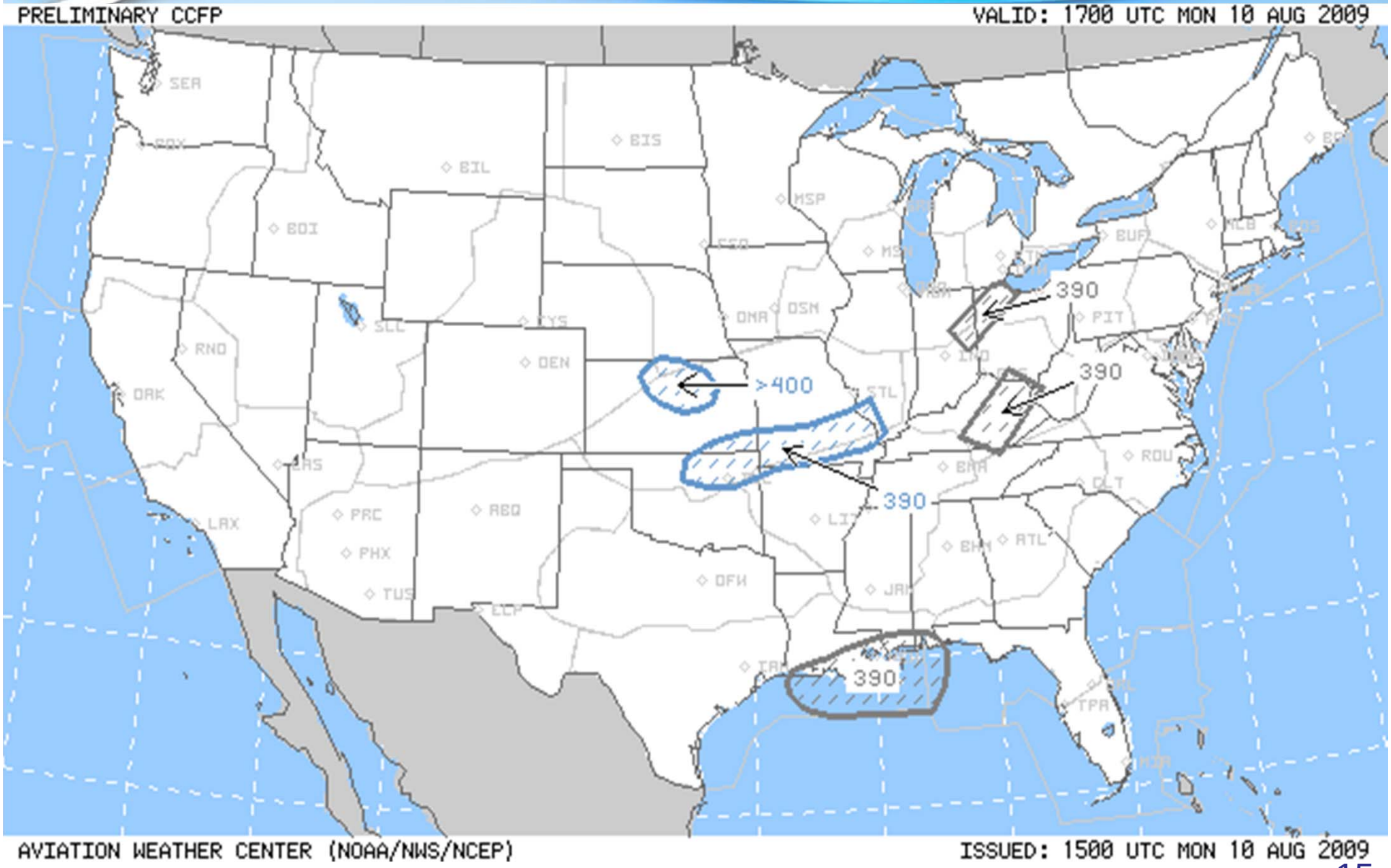
Medium Line (40-74%, dashed purple)

Note:

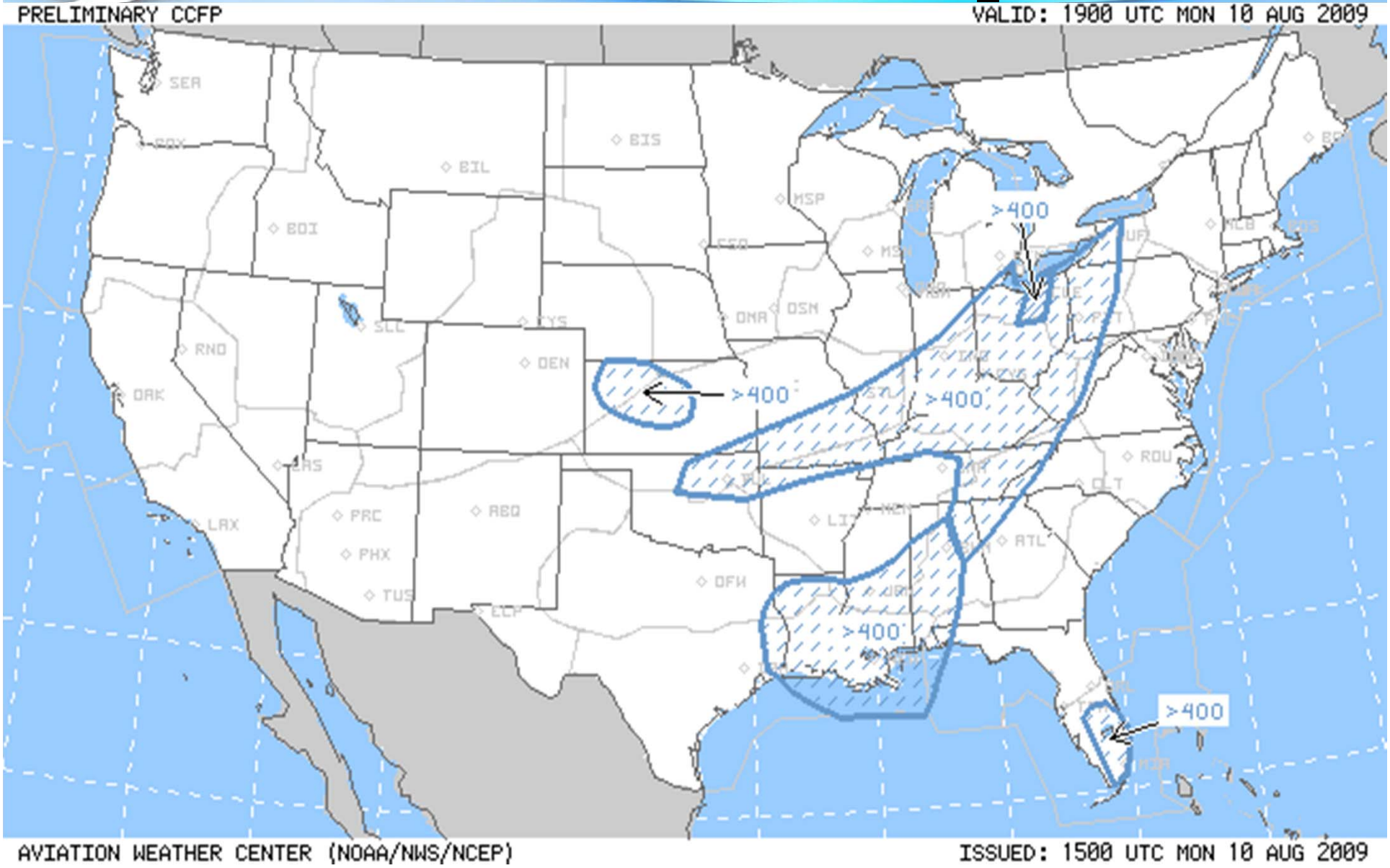
Lines can stand alone or be included within areas.

Forecast confidence is assumed to be high for all lines.

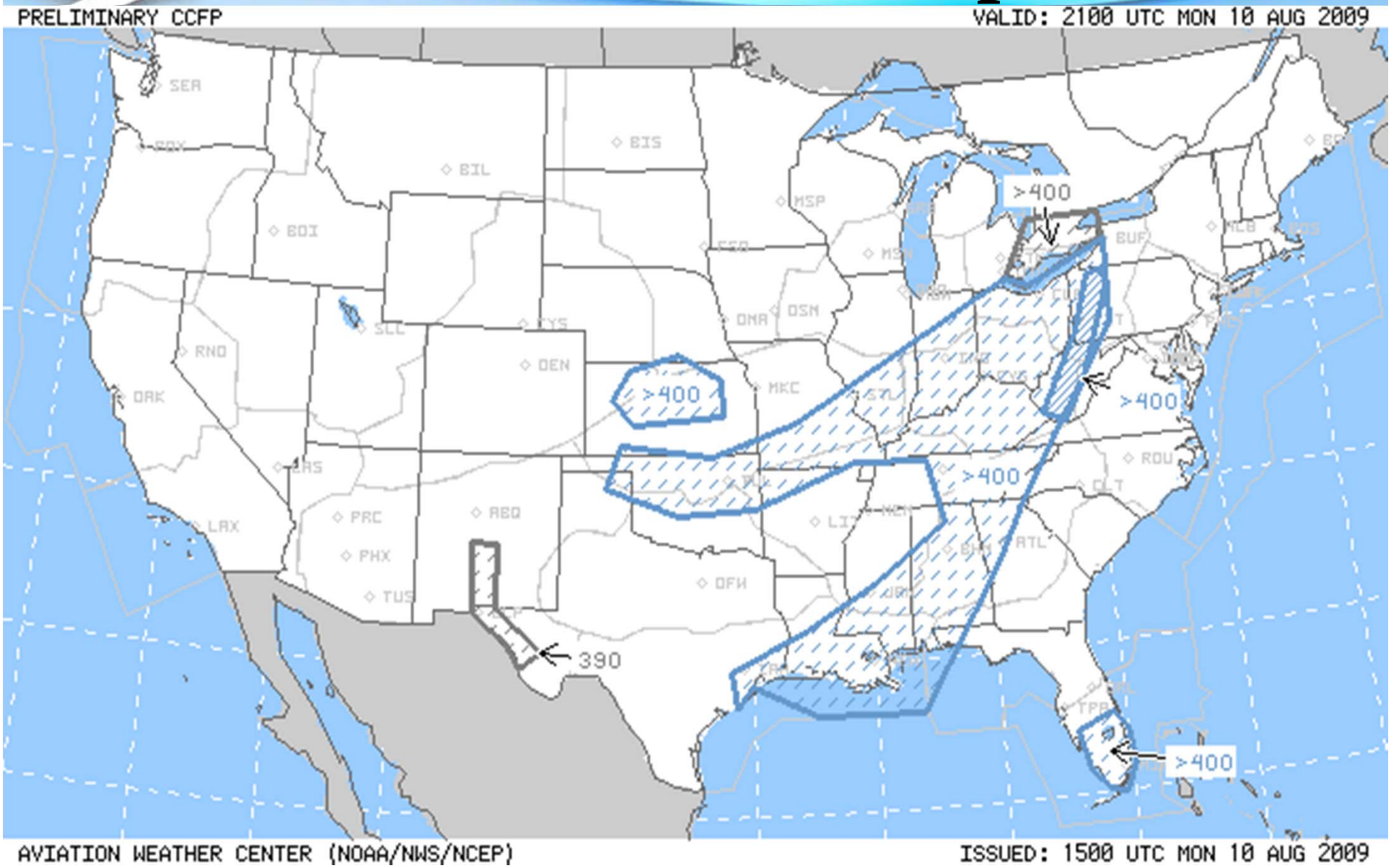
CCFP example



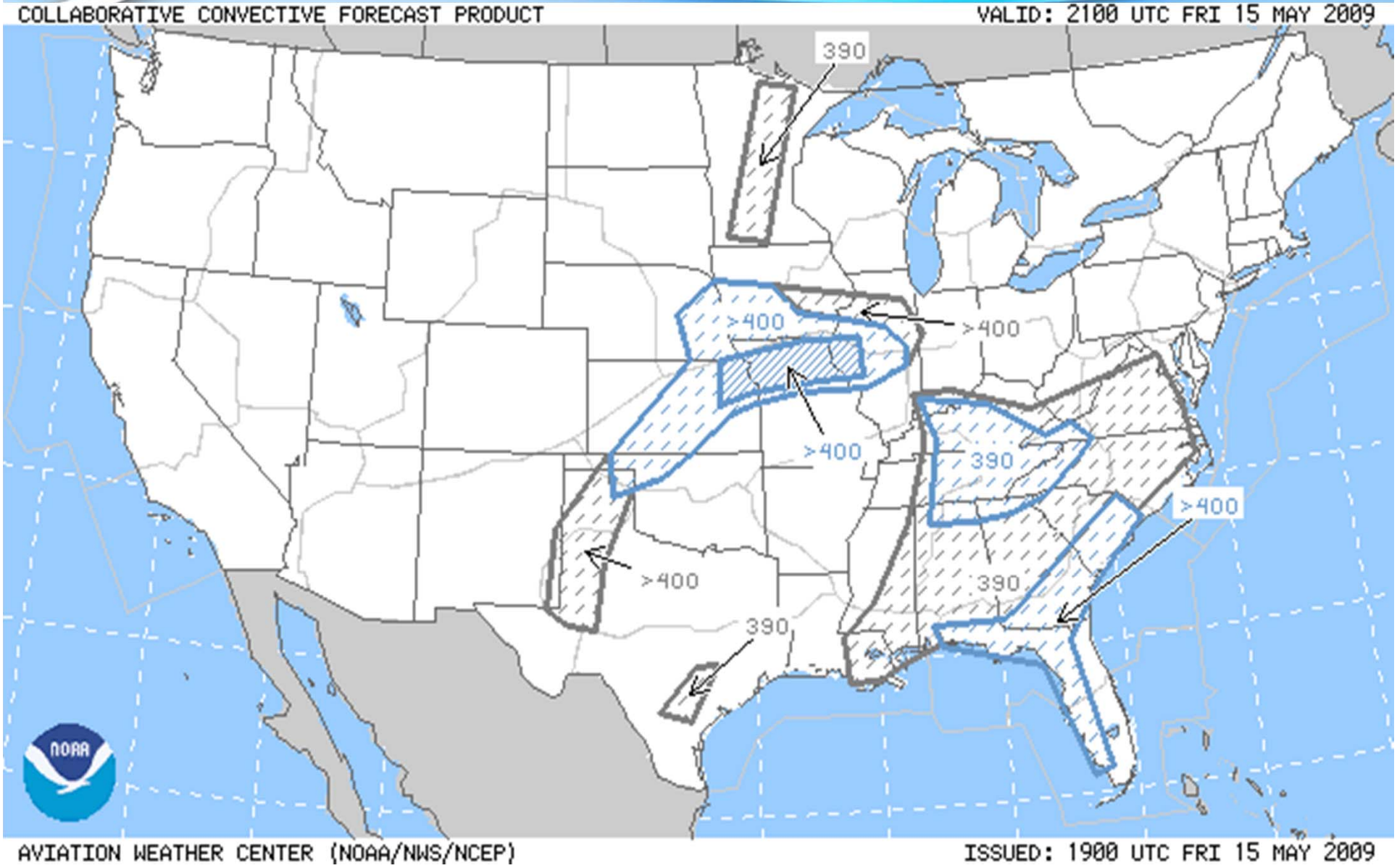
CCFP example



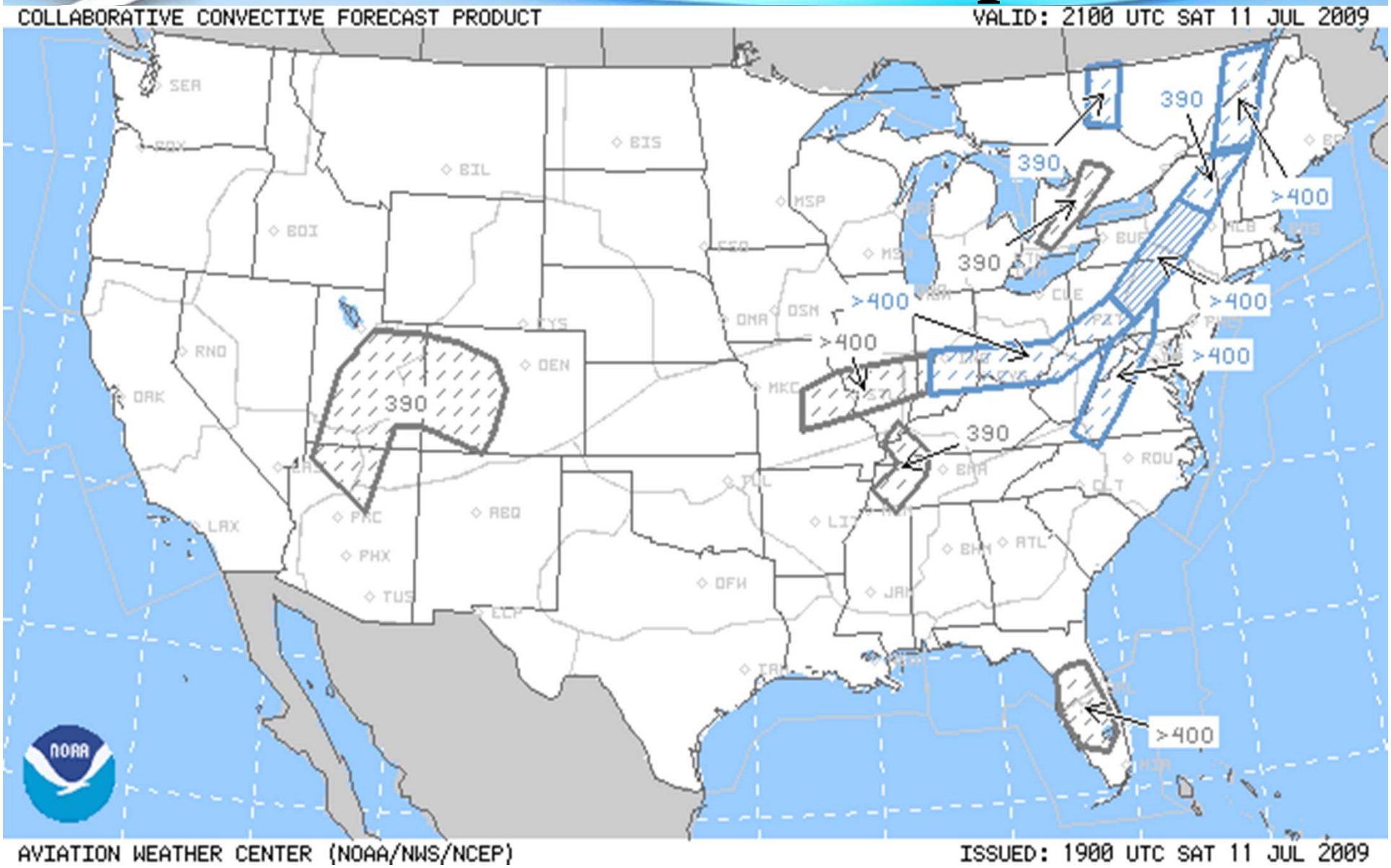
CCFP example



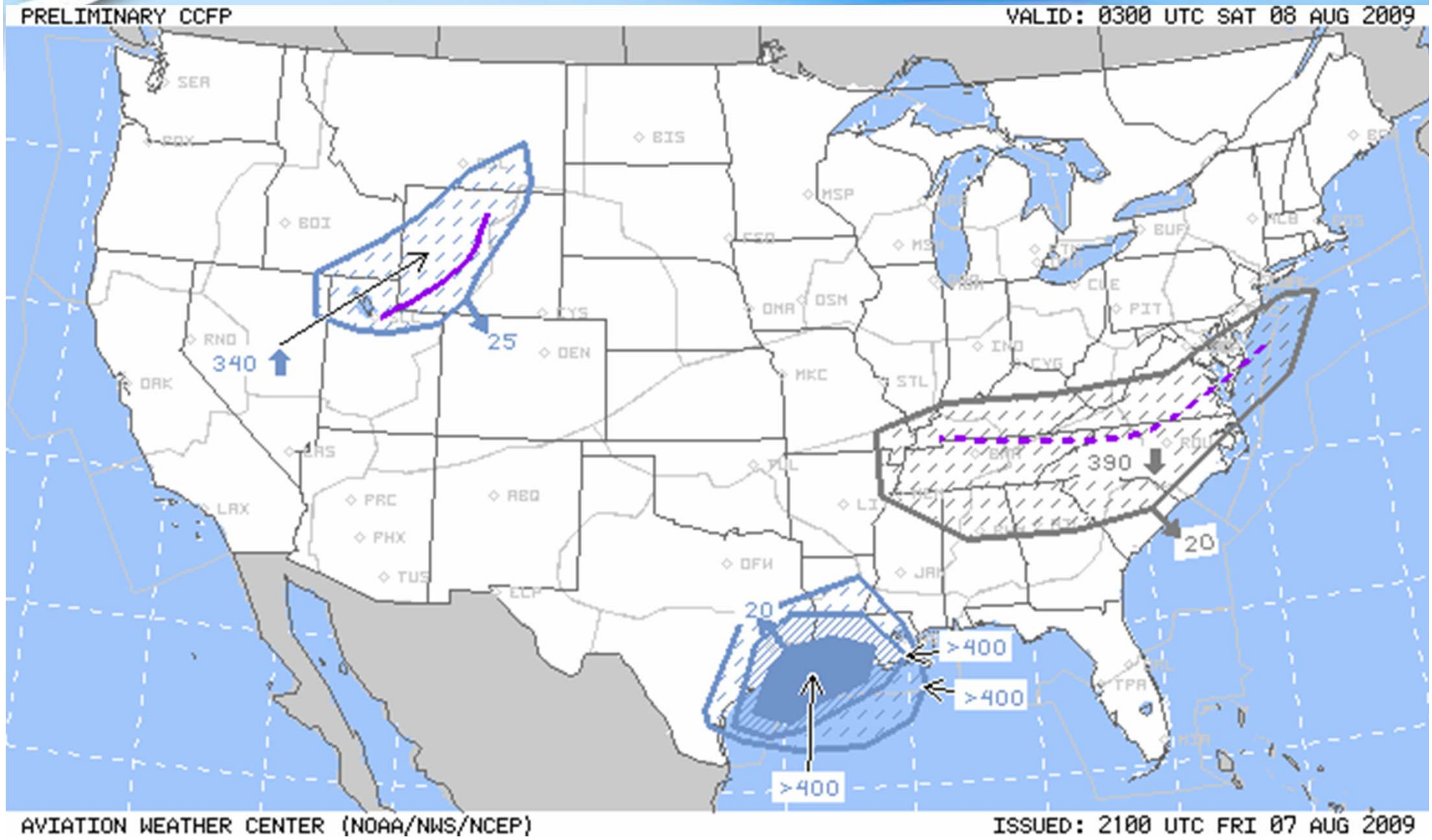
CCFP example



CCFP example



CCFP example



Reference Documents

www.aviationweather.gov/products/ccfp

CCFP Quick Reference Guide

CCFP Product Description Document

Contains description of CCFP ASCII coded text message, which is the official CCFP product

Via AWIPS…

FAUS28 KKCI (4hr forecast)

FAUS29 KKCI (6hr forecast)

FAUS30 KKCI (8hr forecast)

CCFP Collaboration

- ✓ During collaboration, early input is helpful for the sake of effective time management. But we realize this is not always practical for CWSUs.
- ✓ If a CWSU is not in chat, we ***may*** solicit another opinion.
- ✓ ***AWC role*** in collaboration is to (a) produce prelim maps, and (b) produce final maps after considering input. AWC should acknowledge requests for change and provide an explanation if the change will not be made.
- ✓ ***CWSU/WFO/Airline role*** in collaboration is to (a) okay prelim maps, or (b) provide meteorological rationale for forecast changes. If there is a difference of opinion, AWC will make the final decision on maps.
- ✓ For Canadian area, AWC issues what MSC wants. MSC takes input from adjacent CWSUs. ***If MSC is not in chat, areas for Canada reflect MSC prelim maps.***
- ✓ Generally, prefer for CWSUs to comment on own airspace. Understandable for occasional comments on adjacent space.
- ✓ Prefer ***not*** to receive phone calls during/after chat. Desirable for issues to be resolved in chat. ***Occasional*** calls to/from AWC may be needed.

Questions/Discussion?

For additional information, please contact

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