Service Description Document Experimental NWS Translation Website April 2024

Part 1 – Mission Connection

a) Service Description:

National Weather Service (NWS) website to display translated versions of NWS text products. The translations are generated by language models trained by Artificial Intelligence (AI). The framework built from initial translation pilots, utilizing the language learning software, has proven that high translation accuracy can be maintained while saving bilingual forecasters critical time to spend on forecasting. In addition, this innovation allows the NWS to scale into translating languages that the NWS does not have existing bilingual expertise nor require full-time translators on staff.

b) Purpose/Intended Use:

The National Weather Service (NWS) has made great strides towards accomplishing the Weather-Ready Nation goal. Being able to effectively communicate hazards and weather information to communities with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is an important part due to the fact that the majority of NWS products are only distributed in English. To ensure access to hazardous weather information for multilingual communities, the NWS use of a language model trained by AI will allow quick and automated translations that can be incorporated into NWS operations for multiple languages which will help ensure all communities have access to actionable weather information.

The NWS Translate webpage is a public interface which allows users to display a range of translated NWS text products, hazard information and forecast information. Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Samoan and Vietnamese are being translated currently with nearterm plans for French. More languages will continue to be added in the future. There will be opportunities for comment and review on the new capabilities.

c) Audience/Users:

Public, partners, media, NWS forecasters.

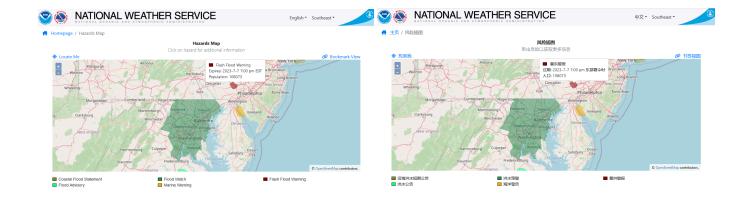
d) Presentation Format:

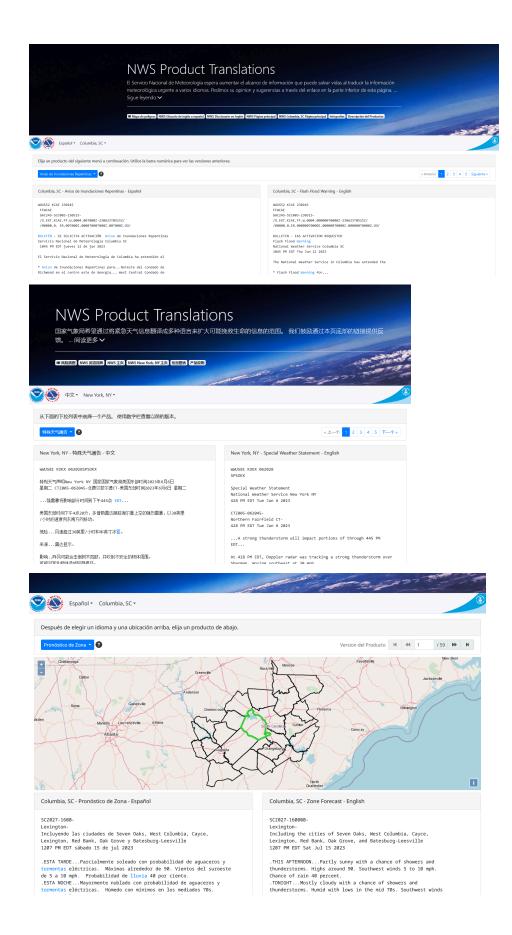
The website provides for selection of different language options and once the NWS office and text product is chosen, the translated and English version of that text product display on the same page.

Capabilities are also being investigated for future implementation to introduce services for translations into CAP format, posting translated text into the NWS API, and/or automated social media posts in multiple languages.

Features of the website include:

- Navigation, instructions and descriptions available in each of the supported languages
- A "Watch, Warning and Advisory (WWA)" or Hazard Map available in each of the supported languages
- Geo-location services to assist users in selecting their local office,
- Tooltips for glossary terms to define select words and phrases and display alternate terms in their preferred language
- Links to download text products
- Permalinks to text products
- Alert banners when select short-fused hazards (SVR, TOR, FFW, SQW, EWW) are in effect for the selected CWA, with links to the hazard map page
- Translated versions of selected NWS Weather Safety Infographics and information for social media posts
- Translated weather forecasts by choosing a location from the hazard map.

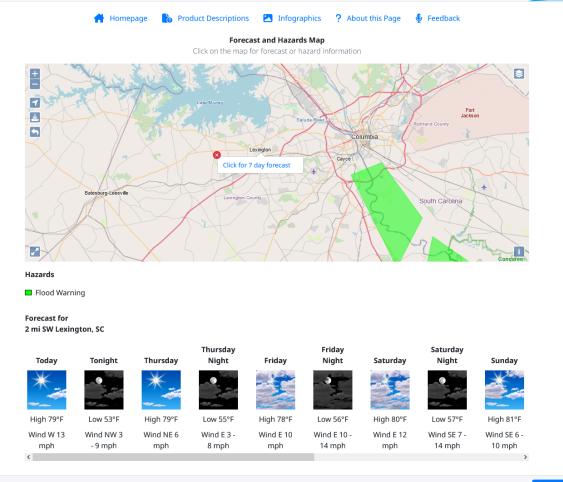




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NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

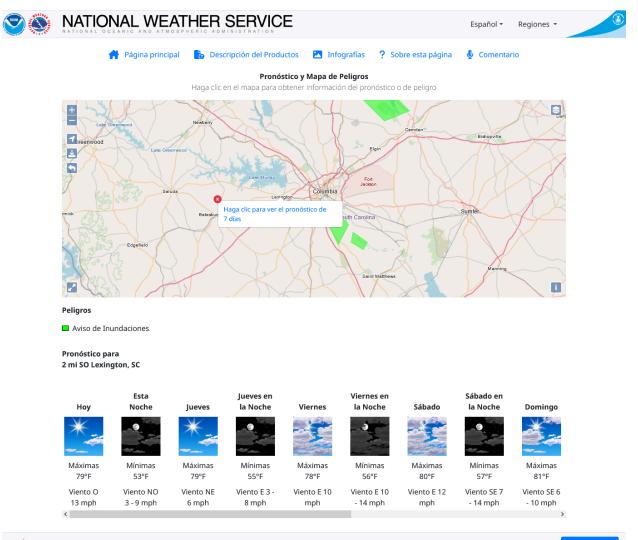


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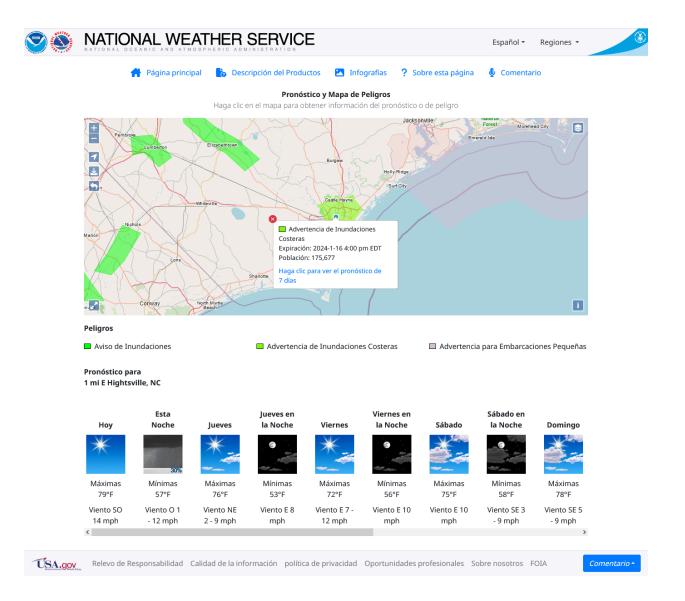
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The service is available at: www.weather.gov/translate

e) Feedback Method:

User feedback is extremely important to improve the website and evaluate the translations. Public comment/review will help for future experimental and/or operational implementation.

Feedback will be collected via email to: <u>nws.translate@noaa.gov</u> for general comments. For targeted feedback, we invite users to respond to our survey link below.

English Survey: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpNWSTranslationWebsite_2023</u> Spanish Survey: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SitioWebDeTraduccionExpDelSNM</u> Chinese Survey: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpNWSTranslationWebsiteChinese</u> Vietnamese Survey: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpNWSTranslationWebsiteVietnamese</u>

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