NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION 30-1204
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Maintenance, Logistics and Facilities
Configuration Management, NWSPD 30-12

SITE IDENTIFIERS

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This directive supersedes NWSI 30-1204, *Site Identifiers*, dated July 27, 2018. Changes have been made to grammar, spelling, dates, names, headers, and the website link in section 4.1 was updated to clarify roles and actions if a site ID is to be reused after a site move of more than 1 mile.

BURNETT.WILLIAM.HOWELL.1122662078
Digitally signed by BURNETT.WILLIAM.HOWELL.1122662078
Date: 2024.07.22 14:16:28 -05'00'

Dr. William Burnett Date
Acting Director, Office of Observations

Site Identifiers

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1. Purpose

The Office of Observations (OBS) assigns Site Identifiers (SIDs) to identify equipment locations used to support National Weather Service (NWS) operations. Configuration Management (CM) dictates the proper identification of equipment to document the physical characteristics of configuration items. SIDs provide the first level of configuration identification and give location reference points to equipment data.

The NWS uses three-character, alphanumeric SIDs for locations reporting weather data to the aviation community. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) assigns these SIDs via the Services Branch Configuration Management Section (OBS32-3). All other locations use five-character alphanumeric SIDs assigned by OBS32-3.

There are also four-character alphabetic International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Identifiers. The assignment process differs for three-character SIDs and four-character ICAO Identifiers. Additionally, SIDs and ICAO Identifiers do not always correlate.

SID information and NWS metadata are similar but have significant data element differences. Additional details on the use and maintenance of SIDs and the NWSLI system can be found in the NWSLI User Information for Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EL5EC1irFoyOch17oCXCtb7OacZXUM4sFHM9yzNQU2M/edit?usp=sharing.

2. Configuration Control of Site Identifiers (SIDs)

The NWS uses SIDs within weather products and various NWS databases to quickly identify equipment locations. Because a broad audience uses SIDs, OBS formally controls SID changes through the SID Request Process. OBS32-3 manages the SID Request Process. It coordinates with the FAA, NWS Headquarters, or Regional Focal Points. OBS32-3 manages these changes to avoid unauthorized modifications to site information.

3. NWS Location Identifier (NWSLI) System

The NWSLI System is the official database for SID information developed and maintained by OBS32-3. Any NWS field site can use the NWSLI Data Entry System to initiate a SID Request Form. Authorized users can use the NWSLI User Interface System to generate SID information reports. The NWSLI Data Entry System and NWSLI User Interface are on the OBS32-3 homepage at https://cbits.nws.noaa.gov. An NWSLI account and password are needed to access either system. WFO sites should contact their Regional Focal Point to get an NWSLI password. All other users should contact OBS32-3.

4. Site Identifier (SID) Information

SID information consists of the following data elements:

1) Site Identifier (three- or five-character SID)
2) Site Name
3) Site Detail
4) Latitude
5) Longitude
6) City
7) State/Area
8) Mileage (from the nearest city)
9) County, Parish, Borough, or Census Area
10) Country
11) NWS Region
12) Station Type
13) ICAO ID (if applicable)
14) Cooperative Program Area SID
15) Electronics Technician SID
16) Hydrologic Service Area SID
17) River Forecast Center SID
18) County Warning Area SID
19) Program Acronym (may be more than one per SID)
20) Program Identifier (may be more than one per SID)
21) Program Owner/Administrator (may be more than one per SID)
22) Program Category (may be more than one per SID)
23) Program Elevation (may be more than one per SID)

4.1 Site Identifier (SID)

The SID is the three- or five-character designation for an equipment location. Three-character SIDs are alphanumeric. Five-character SIDs contain a three-letter prefix, usually a mnemonic of the city or station name, and a two-character alphanumeric SID state code. See Appendix A for SID state codes. A single SID cannot cover more than a one-mile radius; however, OBS32-3 can assign multiple SIDs within a one-mile radius. Whenever equipment is moved more than one mile, it is recommended that a new SID be requested, but this is optional and at the discretion of

the WFO that manages the site. If a SID is going to be reused following such a move, the Site ID information must be updated in NWSLI to reflect the new location. Once a SID has been deleted from the database, it can only be reused for another equipment location by requesting the NWSLI Program Manager to release the deleted SID into the system for use again. This change is accomplished by an office working with their Regional NWSLI Program Manager.

When requesting a new SID, make sure to coordinate the ID with the River Forecast Center - RFC. Sometimes, there will be an older, compatible SID that is not in use that they will recommend to use.

Before completing the Station Information section, ensure to click circle sweep to identify additional SIDs already in the area. Additionally, when adding a new station, ensure the SID is available by clicking "Check SID" before submission.

4.2 Station Name

The station name is the official name of the equipment location. The station name does not have to correspond to the city or state of the equipment location.

4.3 Station Detail

Additional identifying information is used to describe the equipment location. This is also a good location to place any other important identifying information for the location because this field is displayable in the database. Some examples include "Closed COOPAB 39-1234", "CoCoRaHS SD-MD-1 that calls the office daily", "USGS Station 435344103322100 stand-alone rain gage", "Inactive precip station, ID can be reused in the future if needed," etc.

4.4 Latitude and Longitude

Latitude and longitude of a site in whatever units calculated to the nearest second. The latitude and longitude can differ from the actual equipment location. Acceptable formats for latitude and longitude are degrees, minutes, seconds (34.45.56N), and decimal degrees (34.7912). The latitude and longitude of a site should be calculated to the nearest second, and the allowable precision of this field should be to the nearest ten thousandths. Thus, anything over 4 decimal places will be rounded. The equipment owner typically determines the latitude and longitude reference point. For NWS-owned equipment, each program office typically has a defined standard for use. For instance, COOP sites use the latitude and longitude of the rain gauge. For FAA airport SIDs, the FAA determines the latitude and longitude reference point. Example of FAA site: https://adip.faa.gov/agis/public/#/airportData/RAP

4.5 City

The city is the nearest city to the equipment location. The SID requestor must select a city in the same state/area and country as the equipment location but does not have to choose a city in the same county/borough. The SID requestor must select a city listed in the Rand McNally Commercial Atlas for all equipment locations in the United States.

4.6 State/Area

The state/area is the state/area code of the equipment location. Appendix A lists valid state/area codes.

4.7 Mileage

The mileage is the distance (statute miles) and direction from the city. The SID requestor must round mileage to the whole mile and use one of the 16 compass points for direction.

4.8 County/Borough /Parish/Census Area

This is the nearest county/borough/parish/census area to the equipment location. The SID requestor must select a county/borough/parish/census area in the same state/area and country as the equipment location. The SID requestor must select a county listed in the Rand McNally Commercial Atlas for all United States equipment locations.

4.9 Country

The two-character Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) Code for the country of the equipment location.

4.10 NWS Region

The NWS Region is the numeric code identifying the NWS Region's administrative responsibility over the station.

The region codes are as follows:

a) 1 = Eastern Region

b) 2 = Southern Region

c) 3 = Central Region

d) 4 = Western Region

e) 5 = Alaska Region

f) 6 = Pacific Region

g) 7 = International Sites

h) 8 = All Other Sites

i) 9 = National Data Buoy Center

4.11 Station Type

The station type is the station category code describing the equipment location. Appendix B lists valid station-type codes.

4.12 ICAO ID

The four-letter ICAO Identifier, where applicable. Not all SIDs have a corresponding ICAO Identifier.

4.13 Cooperative Program Area SID

This is the SID of the office having cooperative program responsibility over the station.

4.14 Electronics Technician SID

This is the SID of the office having maintenance responsibility over the station.

4.15 Hydrologic Service Area SID

This is the SID of the associated WFO having hydrologic warning responsibility.

4.16 River Forecast Center SID

This is the SID of the associated RFC for the station.

4.17 County Warning Area SID

This is the SID of the associated WFO for the station.

4.18 Program Acronym

This is the program code describing the specific equipment or service at the site. A station may have more than one program acronym code. Appendix C lists valid program acronym codes. Please contact OBS32-3 to request new program acronyms.

4.19 Program Identifier

This is the program-specific designator identifying the specific equipment or service. A station may have more than one program identifier.

4.20 Program Owner/Administrator

This is the agency or entity responsible for administrative responsibility or ownership of the equipment. A station may have more than one program owner/administrator. Appendix D lists valid owners/administrators. Please contact OBS32-3 to request new program owner codes.

4.21 Program Category

The program category provides more detailed information about the equipment under configuration management control. A station may have more than one program category.

4.22 Program Elevation

The program elevation is the foot elevation (above mean sea level) for a particular program category .

5. NWSLI Approval Process

The NWSLI Data Entry System automatically routes completed forms to the appropriate Regional Focal Point for review and approval. After the Regional Focal Point has completed the assessment, the change is complete and copied to the official database. Evaluation is limited to 15 days before a submission is automatically approved and forwarded to the next level of review. As a result, the SID approval cycle from start to end should take no more than 30 days. Note: 3-digit IDs Require approval at the NWSHQ level.

6. NWSLI Rejection Process

The NWSLI Data Entry System includes numerous data validation features to ensure SID request forms are verified to the fullest extent before they reach NWS Headquarters. Reviewers evaluate the form's accuracy based on a variety of criteria. If the reviewer determines there is an error on the form that needs correcting, NWSLI Data Entry System users will receive an email explaining the reason for rejection from the reviewer. Users can resubmit rejected forms through the NWSLI Data Entry System by choosing the "Process Rejected Form" option to facilitate SID Request Form processing.

Appendix A - State/Area Codes

Appendix A lists the State/Area Code of the equipment location, the State/Area Name, and the two-character alphanumeric SID State Code.

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
AK	ALASKA	A2
AL	ALABAMA	A1
AR	ARKANSAS	A4
AS	AMERICAN SAMOA	A7
AZ	ARIZONA	A3
CA	CALIFORNIA	C1
CO	COLORADO	C2
CT	CONNECTICUT	C3
DC	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	D2
DE	DELAWARE	D1
FL	FLORIDA	F1
GA	GEORGIA	G1
GM	GULF OF MEXICO	G5
GU	GUAM	G8
HI	HAWAII	H1
IA	IOWA	I4
ID	IDAHO	I1
IL	ILLINOIS	I2
IN	INDIANA	I3

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
KS	KANSAS	K1
KY	KENTUCKY	K2
LA	LOUISIANA	L1
MA	MASSACHUSETTS	M3
MD	MARYLAND	M2
ME	MAINE	M1
MI	MICHIGAN	M4
MN	MINNESOTA	M5
MO	MISSOURI	M7
MP	MARIANA ISLANDS	M9
MS	MISSISSIPPI	M6
MT	MONTANA	M8
NC	NORTH CAROLINA	N7
ND	NORTH DAKOTA	N8
NE	NEBRASKA	N1
NH	NEW HAMPSHIRE	N3
NJ	NEW JERSEY	N4
NM	NEW MEXICO	N5
NV	NEVADA	N2
NY	NEW YORK	N6
OH	OHIO	O1

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
OK	OKLAHOMA	O2
OR	OREGON	O3
P1	PACIFIC REGION I	P5
P2	PACIFIC REGION II	P6
P3	PACIFIC REGION III	P7
P4	PACIFIC REGION IV	P8
PA	PENNSYLVANIA	P1
RI	RHODE ISLAND	R1
SC	SOUTH CAROLINA	S1
SD	SOUTH DAKOTA	S2
TN	TENNESSEE	T1
TX	TEXAS	T2
UT	UTAH	U1
VA	VIRGINIA	V2
VI	VIRGIN ISLANDS	V3
VT	VERMONT	V1
WA	WASHINGTON	W1
WI	WISCONSIN	W3
WV	WEST VIRGINIA	W2
WY	WYOMING	W4
AB	ALBERTA	Q1

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
BC	BRITISH COLUMBIA	Q2
MB	MANITOBA	Q3
NB	NEW BRUNSWICK	B3
NF	NEWFOUNDLAND	N9
NS	NOVA SCOTIA	S4
NW	NW TERRITORIES	Q5
ON	ONTARIO	Q6
PE	PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	E1
PQ	QUEBEC	Q7
SK	SASKATCHEWAN	Q8
YK	YUKON	Q9
AG	AGUASCALIENTES	A5
BJ	BAJA CALIFORNIA	B1
BR	BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR	B7
CH	CHIHUAHUA	C6
CI	COLIMA	C8
CL	COAHUILA	C7
CM	CAMPECHE	C4
CP	CHIAPAS	C5
DF	DISTRITO FEDERAL	D3
DR	DURANGO	D4

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
GJ	GUANAJUATO	G2
GR	GUERRERO	G3
HD	HIDALGO	H2
JL	JALISCO	J1
MC	MICHOACAN	C9
MR	MORELOS	R2
MX	MEXICO	X1
NL	NUEVO LEON	L2
NR	NAYARIT	R3
OX	OAXACA	O4
PB	PUEBLA	P9
QO	QUINTANA ROO	X4
QR	QUERETARO	Q4
SL	SAN LUIS POTOSI	S3
SN	SINALOA	S5
SO	SONORA	S6
TB	TABASCO	T3
TL	TLAXCALA	T5
TP	TAMAULIPAS	T4
VC	VERACRUZ	V4
YC	YUCATAN	Y1

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
ZC	ZACATECAS	Z1
AC	ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	A9
AY	ANTARCTICA	A6
BD	BERMUDA	B6
BE	BELGIUM	B5
BF	BAHAMAS	B4
CJ	CAYMAN ISLANDS	Y2
CN	CHINA	H4
CQ	NORTHERN MARIANA ISL	X3
CU	CUBA	X2
ES	EL SALVADOR	E2
GC	GREECE	G7
GE	GERMANY	G6
GT	GUATEMALA	G4
HA	HAITI	H5
HO	HONDURAS	H3
IC	ICELAND	I6
IO	BR INDIAN OCEAN TERR	I8
IT	INTERNATIONAL WATERS	I5
IY	ITALY	I7
JA	JAPAN	R5

State/Area Code	State/Area Name	SID Code
JM	JAMAICA	J2
NY	NETHERLAND ANTILLES	A8
NU	NICARAGUA	R6
PO	PORTUGAL	L3
RK	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	R4
SP	SPAIN	S7
ST	ST KITTS-NEVIS	S8
TW	TAIWAN	T6

Appendix B – Station Type Codes

Station Type Code. Appendix B lists the Station Category Code describing the equipment location.

Station Type Code	Station Type Name
ASC	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER
AWC	AVIATION WEATHER CENTER
AWSC	AGRICULTURAL WEATHER SERVICE CENTER
BUOY	BUOY
COMMS	COMMUNICATION FACILITY
CWSU	CENTER WEATHER SERVICE UNIT
ETUNIT	EL TECH UNIT
FCSTPT	FORECAST POINT
FSS	FLIGHT SERVICE STATION
IC	INTERNATIONAL CENTER
MARINE	COOPERATIVE STATION MARINE OTHER
METRO	METROPOLITAN AREA
MIL	MILITARY
NAWAU	NATIONAL AVIATION WEATHER ADVISORY UNIT
NCDC	NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER
NDBC	NATIONAL DATA BUOY CENTER
NHC	NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER
NLSC	NATIONAL LOGISTICS SUPPLY CENTER
NRC	NATIONAL RECONDITIONING CENTER
NRCS	NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
NSC	NOAA SUPPORT CENTER
NSO	NUCLEAR SUPPORT OFFICE

Station Type Code	Station Type Name
NSSFC	NATIONAL SEVERE STORMS FORECAST CENTER
NWC	NATIONAL WATER CENTER
NWSFO	NEXRAD WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE
NWSH	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
NWSRH	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
NWSNC	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NATIONAL CENTER
NWSO	NEXRAD WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE
NWSTC	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TRAINING CENTER
NWSTTC	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER
PMO	PORT METEOROLOGICAL OFFICER
RESCH	RESEARCH ACTIVITIES
RFC	RIVER FORECAST CENTER
TC	TSUNAMI CENTER
WF	WEATHER FACILITY
WFO	WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE
WOS	WEATHER OBSERVATION STATION
WPC	WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER
WSCMO	WEATHER SERVICE CONTRACT MET. OBSERVATORY
WSFO	WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE
WSMO	WEATHER SERVICE METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY
WSO	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE
WSO-AG	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE - AGRICULTURE

Station Type Code	Station Type Name
WSO-AV	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE - AVIATION
WSO-FW	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE - FIRE WEATHER
WSO-R	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE - RADAR
WSO-SP	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE - SPLIT OPERATION (RESIDUAL)
WSO/COE	WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE/CORP OF ENGINEERS
WSR	WEATHER SURVEILLANCE RADAR

Appendix C – Program Acronym Codes

Program Acronym Codes. Appendix C lists the Program Acronym Codes describing a site's specific equipment or service.

In general, it is best to avoid assigning multiple stations to the same NWSLI even if they are in the exact same geographical location or very close proximity, but this is not always possible. For example, WxCoder sites are often set up to report under the same ID as NWS COOP equipment and hydrology data from non-NWS owned equipment at the same station, i.e., precipitation and temperature from the NWS and pool level from equipment run by a site operator. Additionally, in some setups, such as at a Weather Forecast Office, it is impossible to separate out equipment due to the required use of utilizing a consistent 3-letter site ID for all programs. In scenarios where there are multiple programs using the same SID, one program's equipment has to serve as the centroid of the station for latitude and longitude purposes. The following will be followed as a hierarchy in determining what to use as the center of a station with multiple programs. If the first program does not exist, the next highest program will be used, and so on.

For 5-character IDs:

1) COOP - due to NCEI archiving metadata for years that cannot be altered, this must be maintained for legacy purposes of data as long as the COOP site is actively reporting.
2) Hydro - any hydrology program including HYDRO, AHOS, ALERT, NWIS, and IFLOWS, as these have locations specifically sensitive to hydrographs.
3) RAWS - these are maintained in data archives at NCEI and Regional Climate Centers.
4) Other programs not listed above include OTHER.

For 3-character IDs:

1) ASOS or AWOS - the FAA is very sensitive to these matching the location of pressure sensors.
2) Upper Air - the baseline elevation of the station is important for data and sounding archives.
3) Radar
4) COOP
5) Snow Paid - since some 3 letter airport sites have this and the data is used for Climate
6) AWIPS
7) NOAA Weather Radio
8) Other programs not listed above, including OTHER

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
AHOS	AUTOMATED HYDROLOGICAL OBSERVING STATION	Used for non-USGS, non-mesonet, and non-ALERT river and/or rainfall gauges. **If** USGS gage, use **NWIS** instead; if in a mesonet, use the proper mesonet description; if in the ALERT network, use ALERT instead. (e.g., IFC gages, etc.)
AKICE	Alaska Snow and Ice	Used for observations in Alaska related to ice break up on rivers and mountain temperatures at various elevations.
ALERT	AUTOMATED LOCAL EVALUATION IN REAL-TIME (EVENT)	Use for ALERT and ALERT2 networks. Three additional links for information. Link 1, Link 2, and Link 3.
AMOS	AUTOMATED METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVING STATION	Observing a system that is not part of a mesonet and isn't an AHOS. These stations often include multiple meteorological sensors. (e.g., SuperAWOS (non-commissioned AWOS), CWOP when needed, rapid deploy gages, etc.).
ARC	AUTOMATIC REMOTE COLLECTOR	This program is outdated and no longer used.
AROS	AUTOMATED RADIOSONDE OBSERVING SYSTEM	
ASOS	AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM	For ASOS sites. 3-character IDs only.
ARSR11	ARSR11	This is for the airport surveillance radar. Click here for more information.
AUTOB	AUTOMATED METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVING SYSTEM	This program is outdated and no longer used.
AWIPS	ADVANCED WEATHER INTERACTIVE PROCESSING SYSTEM	AWIPS sites
AWOS	AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVING SYSTEM	For the AWOS program. 3-character IDs only.

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
AWSS	AUTOMATED WEATHER SENSORS SYSTEM	FAA Network. Additional Information
BASIC	BASIC (CONTRACT OBSERVING STATION)	This program is outdated and no longer used.
BSAWRS	SUPPLEMENTAL AVIATION WEATHER REPORTING STATION (AWOS BACKUP)	This program is outdated and no longer used.
BUOY	BUOY	This is the program for buoy stations. Click here for more information.
AHOS	AUTOMATED HYDROLOGICAL OBSERVING STATION	Used for non-USGS, non-mesonet, and non-ALERT river and/or rainfall gages. **If** USGS gage, use **NWIS** instead; if in a mesonet, use the proper mesonet description; if in the ALERT network, use ALERT instead. (e.g., IFC gages, etc.).
C-MAN	COASTAL MARINE AUTOMATED NETWORK	C-MAN Network specific to NDBC. This program may no longer exist. More information.
CADAS	CENTRALIZED AUTOMATIC DATA ACQUISITION SYSTEM	This program is outdated and no longer used.
CCOOP	CELLULAR COOP	Cellular COOP stations, data must match SIS
COOPA	COOPERATIVE STATION CLIMATE	COOPA stations, data must match SIS
COOPAB	COOPERATIVE STATION CLIMATE - HYDRO	COOPAB stations, data must match SIS
COOPABC	COOPERATIVE STATION CLIMATE - HYDRO - MET	COOPABC stations, data must match SIS
COOPAC	COOPERATIVE STATION CLIMATE - MET	COOPAC stations, data must match SIS
COOPB	COOPERATIVE STATION HYDRO	COOPB stations, data must match SIS

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
COOPBC	COOPERATIVE STATION HYDRO - MET	COOPBC stations, data must match SIS
COOPC	COOPERATIVE STATION LOCAL OR MET	COOPC stations, data must match SIS
COOPM	COOPERATIVE STATION - MODERNIZED	
CRS	CONSOLE REPLACEMENT SYSTEM	This program is outdated and no longer used.
CTGN	COASTAL TIDE GAGE NETWORKS	Use this program for stations in the Coastal Tide Gage Network.
DART	DEEP OCEAN ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING OF TSUNAMIS	Use this program for stations associated with Deep Ocean Assessment and reporting of Tsunamis.
FIREWX	FIRE WEATHER	It is limitedly used for fire weather stations. It can be used for fire tower observations, reporting sites, or manual curing observation sites. Do not use it for RAWS sites.
GLOS	GREAT LAKES OBSERVING SYSTEM	This program is for stations in the Great Lakes Observing System. For more information, click here.
GMS	GEOSTATIONARY METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE	This program is outdated and no longer used.
GOES	GEOSTATIONARY OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE	Use this for stations with a NESDIS ID.
HFRADAR	HIGH FREQUENCY RADAR	This program is used for high-frequency radar sites. For more information,.
HTG	HYDRO TIDE GAGE	Used for tide gages in the hydrology program.
HYDRO	HYDROLOGY	Used for manual hydro reporting. (e.g., frost depth, amateur radio, spotters, manual rainfall reports, AGTAP network, etc.) Do NOT use

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
		for automated river gages (AHOS), USGS sites (NWIS), and river forecast center modeled points (RFCSIM). It can be used for inactive sites with a note in station detail that the ID can be reused for a future site if needed.
IFLOWS	INTEGRATED FLOOD AND OBSERVATION WARNING SYSTEM	Used for stations in the IFLOWS program. AFWS owner/operator networks in KY, NC, NY, PA, TN, VA, and WV. More information here.
LAWRS	LIMITED AVIATION WEATHER REPORTING STATION	FAA LAWRS program. Check individual airports in AirNav to see if there is a LAWRS site.
MARINE	COOPERATIVE STATION MARINE OTHER	There are other categories for the marine program when no other program is available. Do NOT use for MARS sites. Use BUOY for NBDC sites and GLOS for Great Lakes Observing Stations.
MARS	MARINE REPORTING STATION/COAST GUARD	MARS Network of observations. Collected and relayed to NWS by Coast Guard. Additional Information
MESO-HW	MESONET - DOT HIGHWAY	Use for any DOT Highway mesonet or RWIS sites.
MESO-PR	MESONET - PRIVATELY OWNED	Use with privately owned mesonets.
MESO-SC	MESONET - SCHOOL OWNED	Use with school/university-owned mesonets.
MESO-ST	MESONET - STATE OWNED	Use with state-owned mesonets.
MESO-UMRB	MESONET - UPPER MISSOURI RIVER BASIN	This is for stations in the Upper Missouri River Basin Network, a program funded by the USACE.
MESO-WMD	MESONET - WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT	Mesonet for Water Management Districts (Can be used for flood districts and sanitary districts, too). Be sure to coordinate with other offices to ensure consistency

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
MROS	MANUAL RADIOSONDE OBSERVING SYSTEM	
NERRS	NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVES	Use with NERRS Stations.
NF- OBS	NON-FEDERAL OBSERVATION STATION	This is an official FAA program. Sites with this designation must be in the FAA program. Click here for more information.
NWCSIM	NATIONAL WATER CENTER SIMULATION	Used for National Water Model output, specifically for total water level forecasts. The site may or may not have equipment at the location.
NWIS	NATIONAL WATER INFORMATION SYSTEM	Used for USGS stations (active or inactive). **Make sure the program ID is the USGS number**.
NWR	NOAA WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTER	Used for NWR.
NWRP	NOAA WEATHER RADIO PERIPHERAL EQUIPMENT	Used for NWR.
NWRTS	NOAA WEATHER RADIO VHF TRANSMITTING STATION	Used for NWR.
NWRU	NOAA WEATHER RADIO UHF RADIO LINK	Used for NWR.
NYWSM	NEW YORK WATER SUPPLY MESONET	This is only for sensors that belong to the New York City Department of Environment Protection (NYC DEP) Water Supply Mesonet sites.
OTHER	ALL OTHER PROGRAMS	Used as a last resort for other programs not listed. Requires explanation to regional approvers to use. (This can be used or new equipment until the program can be added).
PROF	PROFILER (UA)	PSL UA Profilers. Click here for more information.
RAMOS	REMOTE AUTOMATED	This program is outdated and no longer used.

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
	METEOROLOGICAL SYSTEM	
RAWS	REMOTE AUTOMATED WEATHER STATION	Use for RAWS sites. **Make sure the program ID is a WIMS number**.
RFCSIM	RIVER FORECAST CENTER SIMULATION POINT	Locations used for model simulations by the RFC.
RSOIS	RADIOSONDE SURFACE OBSERVATION INSTRUMENTATION SYS	RSOIS locations. Currently not being used.
S	SYNOPTIC OBSERVATION	This program is outdated and no longer used.
S/B	COMBINED SYNOPTIC AND BASIC CONTRACT OBSERVATION	This program is outdated and no longer used.
SATP-I	SATELLITE PHONE - IRIDIUM	Iridium Satellite comms for Hydro gauge.
SAWRS	SUPPLEMENTARY AVIATION WEATHER REPORTING STATION	This program is outdated and no longer used.
SAWRS - II	SUPPLEMENTAL AVIATION WEATHER REPORTING STATION (ASOS BACKUP)	This program is outdated and no longer used.
SCAN	SOIL CLIMATE ANALYSIS NETWORK	NRCS SCAN Network
SNOCOR	SNOW COURSE	Used for Snow Course sites (NRCS locations here)
SNOTEL	SNOW TELEMETRY	Used for SNOTEL sites (NRCS locations here)
SNOWPAID	SNOW PAID	NWS Snow Paid sites.
TAO	TAO BUOY	Only used for Equatorial Pacific stations (TAO Buoy stations).
TDWR	TERMINAL DOPPLER	Used for terminal doppler weather radar

Program Acronym	Program Name	Guidance on when to use
	WEATHER RADAR	stations.
TRS	TELEMETRY RECEIVE SYSTEM	This program is outdated and no longer used.
UA	UPPER AIR OBSERVATION	For upper-air sites.
UCOOP	UNOFFICIAL COOPERATIVE STATION	This program is outdated and no longer used.
USCRN	UNITED STATES CLIMATE REFERENCE NETWORK	For NCEI USCRN program locations.
USHCN-M	US HISTORICAL CLIMATOLOGY NETWORK MODERNIZED	This program is outdated and no longer used.
USRCRN	UNITED STATES REGIONAL CLIMATE REFERENCE NETWORK	For NCEI USCRN program locations.
UWFP	UPPER WINDS FORECAST POINT	Only used in Alaska.
VOS	VOLUNTEER OBSERVING SHIPS	Only for the VOS program.
WSR88D	WEATHER SURVEILLANCE RADAR (NEXRAD)	For WSR88D.

Appendix D – Owner/Administrator Codes

Owner/Administrator Codes. Appendix D lists valid Owner/Administrator Codes.

Owner/Admin Code	Owner/Admin Name
CITY	CITY
CNTY	COUNTY
DOC	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DOC/ERL	ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES
DOC/IOOS	INTEGRATED OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM
DOC/NCEI	NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
DOC/NDBC	NATIONAL DATA BUOY CENTER
DOC/NESDIS	NAT'L. ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, & INFORMATION SERVICE
DOC/NMFS	NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
DOC/NOAA	NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
DOC/NOS	NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
DOC/NWS	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
DOC/NWSH	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
DOC/OAR	OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH
DOD	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DOD/USA	U.S. ARMY
DOD/USACE	U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
DOD/USAF	U.S. AIR FORCE
DOD/USMC	U.S. MARINE CORPS
DOD/USN	U.S. NAVY
DOE	DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Owner/Admin Code	Owner/Admin Name
DOE/NRC	NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
DOI	DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
DOI/BIA	BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
DOI/BLM	BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
DOI/FWS	US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
DOI/NPS	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DOI/USBR	U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
DOI/USGS	U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DOS/IBWC	DEPT OF STATE - INTL BOUNDARY WATER COMMISSION
DOT	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DOT/FAA	FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
DOT/USCG	U.S. COAST GUARD
IFC	IOWA FLOOD CENTER
NASA	NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
OGA	OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY
PRIV	PRIVATE INDUSTRY/NON-GOVERNMENT
STATE	STATE
STATE/ANG	AIR NATIONAL GUARD
TVA	TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
TXDOT	TEXAS DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
USDA	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
USDA/NRCS	NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
USDA/SCS	SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
USDA/USFS	USDA FOREST SERVICE