



International Civil Aviation Organization

Fifteenth Meeting of the Communication/Navigation/Surveillance and Meteorology Sub-Group of APANPIRG (CNS/MET/SG/15)

Bangkok, Thailand 25-29 July 2011

Agenda Item 8: Regional Implementation of the World Area Forecast System (WAFS)

3) other WAFS (ISCS/WIFS & SADIS/SADIS Secure FTP issues

CHANGES TO ACCESSING WIFS

(Presented by the United States of America)

SUMMARY

This paper conveys changes that WIFS users may need to make to access WIFS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 WIFS is operational and currently permits WIFS users to access the three individual WIFS services via their site-specific Uniform Resource Locator (URL). However, the WIFS Service provider is migrating the WIFS service to a common National Weather Service (NWS) infrastructure that simplifies access to WIFS services. This migration requires the WIFS users to modify their WIFS software to use one common URL.

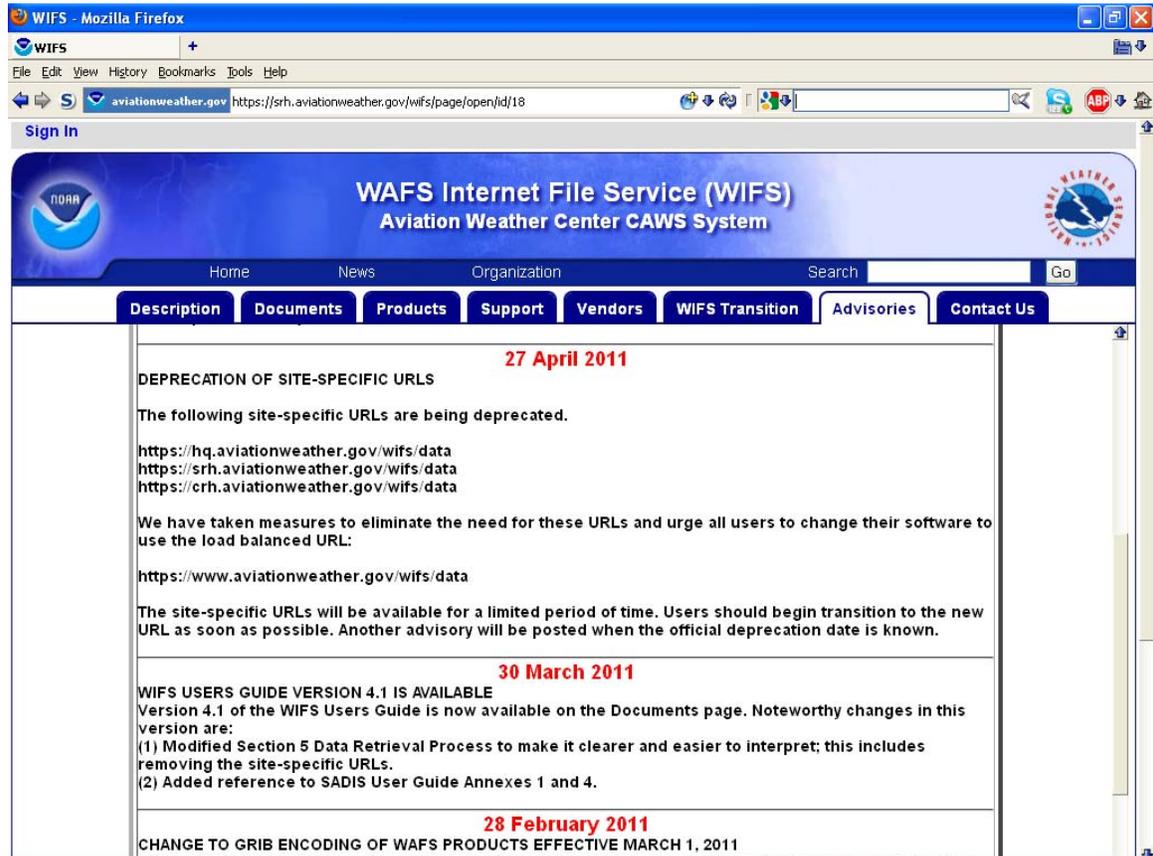
2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In all of the versions of the WIFS Users Guide up to, and including, V4.0, under the Data Retrieval Process section, WIFS users were instructed that they could bypass a universal load-balancer and were designated a primary WIFS server based upon the first letter of their State name. If their primary WIFS server was unavailable then WIFS users should employ a round-robin approach to access data off one of the two other WIFS servers.

2.2 Starting in V4.1 of the WIFS Users Guide, under Section 5 Data Retrieval Process, WIFS users are now instructed to access WIFS services using a single common URL (www.aviationweather.gov/wifs/data) as the server-specific URLs are being taken out-of-service.

2.3 The WIFS Users Guide also instructs the users to access the WIFS Advisory page on the WIFS Support Web-site (www.aviationweather.gov/wifs) for the latest information on this issue. (See figure below).

2.4 It should also be noted that WIFS users should periodically access the WIFS Advisories page for any interim updates to the WIFS Users Guide. Interim updates that impact the way users access WIFS services will be posted on this WIFS support website page before being rolled into the WIFS Users Guide.



In addition to interim updates being posted on the Advisories page, the WIFS service provider will also generate a WIFS Admin message (NOXX10KKCI) containing the same information on the interim update to the WIFS Users Guide.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Given the above information the above conclusion is proposed:

Draft Conclusion 15/xx - Currency of WIFS User Guide and Administrative Messages

That, ICAO be invited to issue a State letter to remind States that it is their responsibility to monitor administrative messages on WIFS and that they should periodically access the WIFS Advisories page for any interim updates to the WIFS Users Guide for changes in the operations of WIFS.

4. Action by the Meeting

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) Discuss any relevant matters as appropriate
