

Main online sources nationwide

[National Data Buoy Center](#) — latest reports from buoys and light houses, plus links to satellite wind data and recent weather trends.

[Ocean Predictions Center](#) — best place for US weather maps and text reports and links to other data.

[National Hurricane Center](#) — for tropical weather or to monitor hurricanes. Not for local weather unless you live in hurricane zones.

Getting started with GRIB data

[ugrib](#) — a free software GRIB viewer and convenient interface (from Belgium) for downloading wind, pressure, and precip forecasts for anywhere in the world.

[Overview of GRIB data and procedures](#) — from a British meteorologist sailor with an in-depth website on this and related topics. He lists most of the GRIB options online. Starpath online weather course is still the best source for how to use this data.

Samples special to Puget Sound waters

[West Point Lighthouse](#) — one of many places from NDBC for current observations, forecasts, and history with useful graphs.

[Overview of Puget Sound winds](#) — all stations on one map for good overview, updated hourly.

[Live Ferry reports](#) — wind speed and direction live on each crossing all along the routes.

[Dial a buoy](#) — cell phone weather. Call 888-701-8992 and enter 1 + station code. (Samples: West Point 74791, Smith island 74791, Lesser Antilles! 41100.)

[Weather by email from NWS](#) — send an email to ftpmail@weather.noaa.gov with the word "help" in the body of the message to get back instructions.

[Weather by email from Saildocs](#) — send a blank email to info@saildocs.com to get back the initial help file.

[UW Atmospheric Sciences Resources](#) — many in-depth sources for those who want best and latest local data.

[NWS Seattle "city weather"](#) — now includes a nice hourly forecast for 5 days.

Where to learn more

[Starpath Weather Trainer software](#) — a complete home study course on weather on one CD.

[Starpath online course in marine weather](#) — How to take weather into account for the planning and navigation of voyages, local or global, using the latest technologies in the light of the time-honored skills of maritime tradition.

For sailors, powerboaters, and paddlers.